

# **Chapter 4 – Decisions**

## **Chapter Goals**

- To be able to implement decisions using if statements
- To understand how to group statements into blocks
- To learn how to compare integers, floating-point numbers, strings, and objects
- To recognize the correct ordering of decisions in multiple branches
- To program conditions using Boolean operators and variables
- TTo understand the importance of test coverage

### The if Statement

• The if statement lets a program carry out different actions

depending on a condition

```
if (amount <= balance)
  balance = balance - amount;</pre>
```

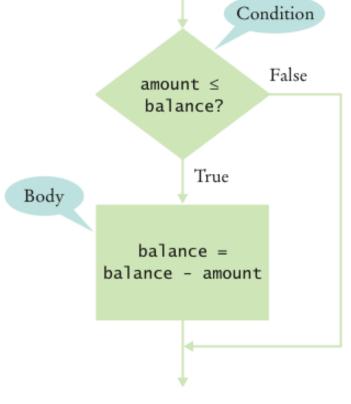


Figure 1
Flowchart for an if Statement

### The if/else Statement

```
if (amount <= balance)
  balance = balance - amount;
else
  balance = balance - OVERDRAFT_PENALTY</pre>
```

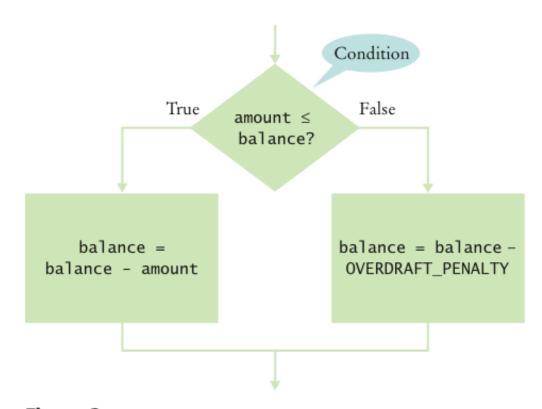


Figure 2 Flowchart for an if/else Statement

### **Statement Types**

Simple statement:

```
balance = balance - amount;
```

Compound statement:

```
if (balance >= amount) balance = balance - amount;
```

## Also loop statements — Chapter 6

Block statement:

```
double newBalance = balance - amount;
balance = newBalance;
```

# Syntax 4.1 The if Statement

```
Syntax
             if (condition)
                                     if (condition)
                statement
                                         statement,
                                     else
                                        statement,
Example
                                                  A condition that is true or false.
                                                  Often uses relational operators: == != < <= >=
                                                                         Pon't put a semicolon here!
Braces are not required
if the body contains a
                           if (amount <= balance)</pre>
single statement.
                               balance = balance - amount;
                                                                              If the condition is true, the statement(s)
                                                                               in this branch are executed in sequence;
                           else
                                                                               if the condition is false, they are skipped.
                               System.out.println("Insufficient funds");
                               balance = balance - OVERDRAFT PENALTY;
 Omit the else branch
                                                                                      If condition is false, the statement(s)
 if there is nothing to do.
                                                                                      in this branch are executed in sequence;
                                                                                      if the condition is true, they are skipped.
                                     Lining up braces
                                      is a good idea.
```

### Self Check 4.1

Why did we use the condition amount <= balance and not amount < balance in the example for the if/else statement?

**Answer:** If the withdrawal amount equals the balance, the result should be a zero balance and no penalty.

### Self Check 4.2

## What is logically wrong with the statement

```
if (amount <= balance)
  newBalance = balance - amount;
  balance = newBalance;</pre>
```

### and how do you fix it?

**Answer:** Only the first assignment statement is part of the if statement. Use braces to group both assignment statements into a block statement.

# **Comparing Values: Relational Operators**

## Relational operators compare values

Java	Math Notation	Description		
>	>	Greater than		
>=	2	Greater than or equal		
<	<	Less than		
<=	≤	Less than or equal		
==	=	Equal		
!=	<b>≠</b>	Not equal		

## **Comparing Values: Relational Operators**

The == denotes equality testing:

```
a = 5; // Assign 5 to a if (a == 5) ... // Test whether a equals 5
```

Relational operators have lower precedence than arithmetic operators:

```
amount + fee <= balance
```

## **Comparing Floating-Point Numbers**

#### Consider this code:

```
double r = Math.sqrt(2);
double d = r * r - 2;
if (d == 0)
    System.out.println("sqrt(2)squared minus 2 is 0");
else
    System.out.println("sqrt(2)squared minus 2 is not 0 but " + d);
```

### It prints:

```
sqrt(2) squared minus 2 is not 0 but 4.440892098500626E-16
```

## **Comparing Floating-Point Numbers**

- To avoid roundoff errors, don't use == to compare floating-point numbers
- To compare floating-point numbers test whether they are *close* enough:  $|x y| \le \varepsilon$

```
final double EPSILON = 1E-14;
if (Math.abs(x - y) <= EPSILON)
   // x is approximately equal to y</pre>
```

• ε is a small number such as 10<sup>-14</sup>

## **Comparing Strings**

 To test whether two strings are equal to each other, use equals method:

```
if (string1.equals(string2)) . . .
```

• Don't use == for strings!

```
if (string1 == string2) // Not useful
```

- == tests identity, equals tests equal contents
- Case insensitive test:

```
if (string1.equalsIgnoreCase(string2))
```

### **Comparing Strings**

- string1.compareTo(string2) < 0 means: string1 comes before string2 in the dictionary
- string1.compareTo(string2) > 0 means: string1 comes after string2
- string1.compareTo(string2) == 0 means: string1 equals string2
- "car" comes before "cargo"
- All uppercase letters come before lowercase:
  - "Hello" comes before "car"

## **Lexicographic Comparison**

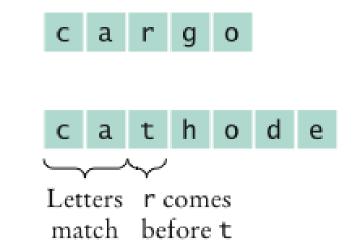


Figure 3
Lexicographic Comparison

# **Syntax 4.2 Comparisons**

```
Examples
                                      These quantities are compared.
                             floor > 13
                                            One of: == != < <= > >=
      Check that you have
       the right direction:
     > (greater) or < (less)
                                                    Check the boundary condition:
                                               Po you want to include (>=) or exclude (>)?
                             floor == 13
                                          Checks for equality.
          Use ==, not =.
                             String input;
                             if (input.equals("Y"))
                                               Use equals to compare strings.
                             double x; double y; final double EPSILON = 1E-14;
                             if (Math.abs(x - y) < EPSILON)</pre>
                                           Checks that these floating-point numbers are very close.
```

### **Comparing Objects**

- == tests for identity, equals for identical content
- Rectangle box1 = new Rectangle(5, 10, 20, 30);
  Rectangle box2 = box1;
  Rectangle box3 = new Rectangle(5, 10, 20, 30);
- box1 != box3, but box1.equals(box3)
- box1 == box2
- Caveat: equals must be defined for the class

# **Object Comparison**

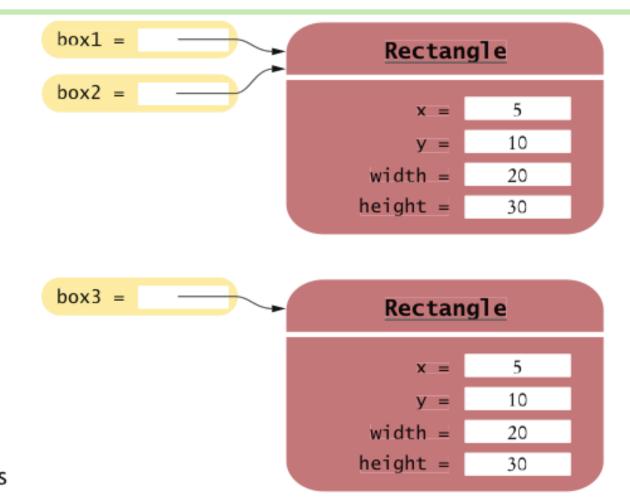


Figure 4 Comparing Object References

## Testing for null

null reference refers to no object:

```
String middleInitial = null; // Not set
if ( ... )
  middleInitial = middleName.substring(0, 1);
```

Can be used in tests:

- Use ==, not equals, to test for null
- null is not the same as the empty string ""

# **Relational Operator Examples**

Table 1 Relational Operator Examples							
Expression	Value	Comment					
3 <= 4	true	3 is less than 4; <= tests for "less than or equal".					
3 =< 4	Error	The "less than or equal" operator is <=, not =<, with the "less than" symbol first.					
3 > 4	false	> is the opposite of <=.					
4 < 4	false	The left-hand side must be strictly smaller than the right-hand side.					
4 <= 4	true	Both sides are equal; <= tests for "less than or equal".					
3 == 5 - 2	true	== tests for equality.					
3 != 5 - 1	true	!= tests for inequality. It is true that 3 is not $5-1$ .					
3 = 6 / 2	Error	Use == to test for equality.					
1.0 / 3.0 == 0.333333333	false	Although the values are very close to one another, they are not exactly equal. See Common Error 4.3.					
<b>1</b> 10" > 5	Error	You cannot compare a string to a number.					
"Tomato".substring(0, 3).equals("Tom")	true	Always use the equals method to check whether two strings have the same contents.					
"Tomato".substring(0, 3) == ("Tom")	false	Never use == to compare strings; it only checks whether the strings are stored in the same location. See Common Error 5.2 on page 180.					
"Tom".equalsIgnoreCase("TOM")	true	Use the equalsIgnoreCase method if you don't want to distinguish between uppercase and lowercase letters.					

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### Self Check 4.3

What is the value of s.length() if s is

- a. the empty string ""?
- b. the string " " containing a space?
- c. null?

Answer: (a) 0; (b) 1; (c) an exception occurs.

### Self Check 4.4

Which of the following comparisons are syntactically incorrect? Which of them are syntactically correct, but logically questionable?

```
String a = "1";
String b = "one";
double x = 1;
double y = 3 * (1.0 / 3);
   a. a == "1"
   b. a == null
   c. a.equals("")
   d. a == b
   e. \quad a == x
   f. \quad x == y
   g. x - y == null
   h. x.equals(y)
```

Answer: Syntactically incorrect: e, g, h. Logically questionable:

a, d, f.

## Multiple Alternatives: Sequences of Comparisons

```
• if (condition<sub>1</sub>)
    statement<sub>1</sub>;
else if (condition<sub>2</sub>)
    statement<sub>2</sub>;
    ...
else
    statement<sub>4</sub>;
```

- The first matching condition is executed
- Order matters:

```
if (richter >= 0) // always passes
    r = "Generally not felt by people";
else if (richter >= 3.5) // not tested
    r = "Felt by many people, no destruction";
```

### Multiple Alternatives: Sequences of Comparisons

• Don't omit else:

```
if (richter >= 8.0)
    r = "Most structures fall";
if (richter >= 7.0) // omitted else--ERROR
    r = "Many buildings destroyed";
```

## ch04/quake/Earthquake.java

```
/**
        A class that describes the effects of an earthquake.
     * /
    public class Earthquake
 5
 6
        private double richter;
 8
        /**
            Constructs an Earthquake object.
            @param magnitude the magnitude on the Richter scale
10
        * /
11
        public Earthquake(double magnitude)
12
13
            richter = magnitude;
14
15
16
```

#### **Continued**

## ch04/quake/Earthquake.java (cont.)

```
/**
17
18
           Gets a description of the effect of the earthquake.
19
           @return the description of the effect
20
        * /
21
       public String getDescription()
22
23
           String r;
24
           if (richter >= 8.0)
               r = "Most structures fall";
25
26
           else if (richter \geq 7.0)
27
               r = "Many buildings destroyed";
           else if (richter >= 6.0)
28
               r = "Many buildings considerably damaged, some collapse";
29
           else if (richter >= 4.5)
30
31
               r = "Damage to poorly constructed buildings";
32
           else if (richter >= 3.5)
33
               r = "Felt by many people, no destruction";
34
           else if (richter >= 0)
35
               r = "Generally not felt by people";
36
           else
               r = "Negative numbers are not valid";
37
38
           return r;
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40
```

# ch04/quake/EarthquakeRunner.java

```
import java.util.Scanner;
1
 2
 3
    / * *
       This program prints a description of an earthquake of a given magnitude.
 5
    * /
    public class EarthquakeRunner
 8
       public static void main(String[] args)
10
           Scanner in = new Scanner (System.in);
11
12
           System.out.print("Enter a magnitude on the Richter scale: ");
           double magnitude = in.nextDouble();
13
14
           Earthquake quake = new Earthquake (magnitude);
           System.out.println(quake.getDescription());
15
16
17
```

### **Program Run:**

```
Enter a magnitude on the Richter scale: 7.1 Many buildings destroyed
```

### Multiple Alternatives: Nested Branches

Branch inside another branch:

```
if (condition<sub>1</sub>)
{
    if (condition<sub>1a</sub>)
        statement<sub>1a</sub>;
    else
        statement<sub>1b</sub>;
}
else
    statement<sub>2</sub>;
```

### **Tax Schedule**

If your filing status is Si	ngle	If your filing status is Married	
Tax Bracket	Percentage	Tax Bracket	Percentage
\$0 \$32,000	10%	0 \$64,000	10%
Amount over \$32,000	25%	Amount over \$64,000	25%

### **Nested Branches**

- Compute taxes due, given filing status and income figure:
  - 1. branch on the filing status
  - 2. for each filing status, branch on income level
- The two-level decision process is reflected in two levels of if statements
- We say that the income test is nested inside the test for filing status

### **Nested Branches**

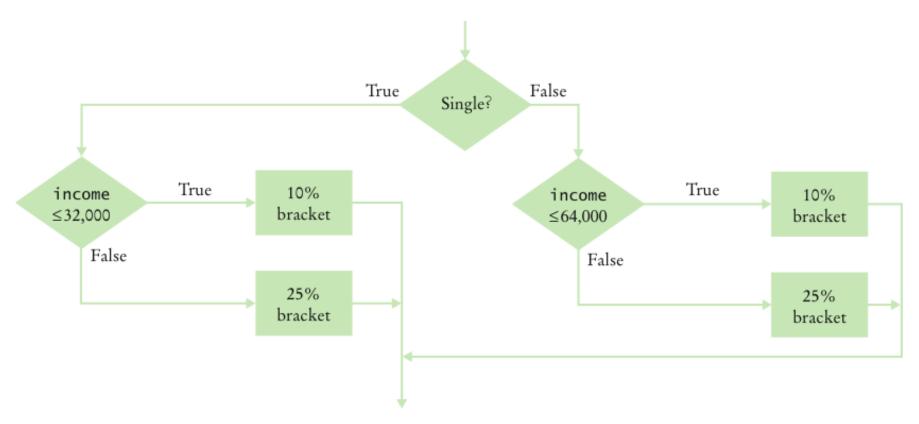


Figure 5 Income Tax Computation Using Simplified 2008 Schedule

## ch04/tax/TaxReturn.java

```
/**
       A tax return of a taxpayer in 2008.
    */
    public class TaxReturn
 5
       public static final int SINGLE = 1;
 6
       public static final int MARRIED = 2;
 8
 9
       private static final double RATE1 = 0.10;
10
       private static final double RATE2 = 0.25;
11
       private static final double RATE1 SINGLE LIMIT = 32000;
       private static final double RATE1 MARRIED LIMIT = 64000;
12
13
14
       private double income;
15
       private int status;
16
```

#### Continued

## ch04/tax/TaxReturn.java (cont.)

```
/**
17
           Constructs a TaxReturn object for a given income and
18
           marital status.
19
20
           @param anIncome the taxpayer income
           @param aStatus either SINGLE or MARRIED
21
        * /
22
        public TaxReturn(double anIncome, int aStatus)
23
24
25
           income = anIncome;
26
           status = aStatus;
27
28
29
        public double getTax()
30
31
           double tax1 = 0;
           double tax2 = 0;
32
33
```

#### Continued

## ch04/tax/TaxReturn.java (cont.)

```
if (status == SINGLE)
34
35
36
               if (income <= RATE1 SINGLE LIMIT)</pre>
37
38
                  tax1 = RATE1 * income;
39
               else
40
41
42
                  tax1 = RATE1 * RATE1 SINGLE LIMIT;
43
                  tax2 = RATE2 * (income - RATE1 SINGLE LIMIT);
44
45
           else
46
47
48
               if (income <= RATE1 MARRIED LIMIT)</pre>
49
50
                  tax1 = RATE1 * income;
51
52
               else
53
54
                  tax1 = RATE1 * RATE1 MARRIED LIMIT;
                  tax2 = RATE2 * (income - RATE1 MARRIED LIMIT);
55
56
57
58
59
           return tax1 + tax2;
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61
```

# ch04/tax/TaxCalculator.java

27

```
import java.util.Scanner;
 2
 3
    /**
       This program calculates a simple tax return.
    */
    public class TaxCalculator
 7
       public static void main(String[] args)
 8
10
          Scanner in = new Scanner(System.in);
11
12
          System.out.print("Please enter your income: ");
          double income = in.nextDouble();
13
14
15
          System.out.print("Are you married? (Y/N) ");
          String input = in.next();
16
17
          int status:
18
          if (input.equalsIgnoreCase("Y"))
19
              status = TaxReturn.MARRIED;
20
          else
21
              status = TaxReturn.SINGLE;
22
          TaxReturn aTaxReturn = new TaxReturn(income, status);
23
24
          System.out.println("Tax: "
25
                 + aTaxReturn.getTax());
26
```

#### Continued

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## ch04/tax/TaxCalculator.java (cont.)

## **Program Run:**

```
Please enter your income: 50000
Are you married? (Y/N) N
Tax: 11211.5
```

The if/else/else statement for the earthquake strength first tested for higher values, then descended to lower values. Can you reverse that order?

#### **Answer:** Yes, if you also reverse the comparisons:

```
if (richter < 3.5)
    r = "Generally not felt by people";
else if (richter < 4.5)
    r = "Felt by many people, no destruction";
else if (richter < 6.0)
    r = "Damage to poorly constructed buildings";</pre>
```

Some people object to higher tax rates for higher incomes, claiming that you might end up with less money after taxes when you get a raise for working hard. What is the flaw in this argument?

Answer: The higher tax rate is only applied on the income in the higher bracket. Suppose you are single and make \$31,900. Should you try to get a \$200 raise? Absolutely: you get to keep 90 percent of the first \$100 and 75 percent of the next \$100.

## Using Boolean Expressions: The boolean Type



- George Boole (1815-1864): pioneer in the study of logic
- value of expression amount < 1000 is true or false
- boolean type: one of these 2 truth values

# **Using Boolean Expressions: Predicate Method**

A predicate method returns a boolean value:

```
public boolean isOverdrawn()
{
   return balance < 0;
}</pre>
```

Use in conditions:

```
if (harrysChecking.isOverdrawn())
```

• Useful predicate methods in Character class:

```
isDigit
isLetter
isUpperCase
isLowerCase
```

## **Using Boolean Expressions: Predicate Method**

- if (Character.isUpperCase(ch)) ...
- Useful predicate methods in Scanner class: hasNextInt() and hasNextDouble():

```
if (in.hasNextInt()) n = in.nextInt();
```

# Using Boolean Expressions: The Boolean Operators

```
• && and
• || or
•! not
•if (0 < amount && amount < 1000) . . .
•if (input.equals("S") || input.equals("M")) . .
•if (!input.equals("S")) . . .</pre>
```

# && and || Operators

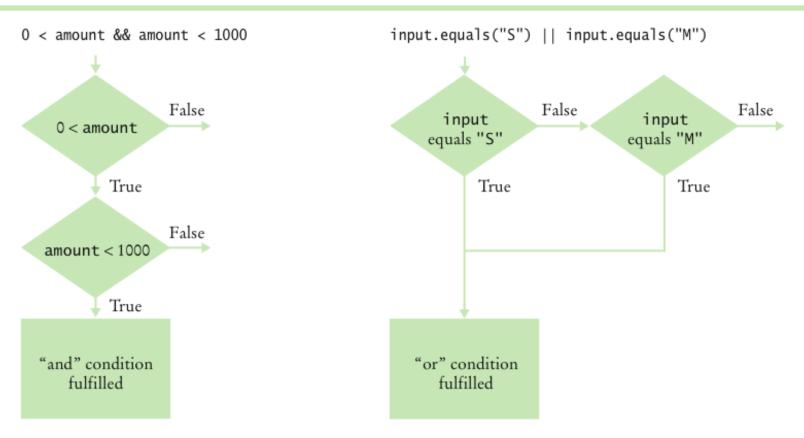


Figure 6 Flowcharts for && and || Combinations

# **Boolean Operators**

Table 3 Boolean Operators				
Expression	Value	Comment		
0 < 200 && 200 < 100	false	Only the first condition is true.		
0 < 200    200 < 100	true	The first condition is true.		
0 < 200    100 < 200	true	The    is not a test for "either-or". If both conditions are true, the result is true.		
0 < 100 < 200	Syntax error	<b>Error:</b> The expression 0 < 100 is true, which cannot be compared against 200.		
0 < x    x < 100	true	<b>Error:</b> This condition is always true. The programmer probably intended 0 < x && x < 100. (See Common Error 5.5).		
0 < x && x < 100    x == -1	(0 < x && x < 100)    x == -1	The && operator binds more strongly than the    operator.		
!(0 < 200)	false	0 < 200 is true, therefore its negation is false.		
frozen == true	frozen	There is no need to compare a Boolean variable with true.		
frozen == false	!frozen	It is clearer to use! than to compare with false.		

## **Truth Tables**

A	В	<b>A</b> & & <b>B</b>
true	true	true
true	false	false
false	Any	false

A	В	A     B
true	Any	true
false	true	true
false	false	false

A	!A
true	false
false	true

# **Using Boolean Variables**

- private boolean married;
- Set to truth value:

```
married = input.equals("M");
```

Use in conditions:

```
if (married) ... else ... if (!married) ...
```

- Also called flag
- It is considered gauche to write a test such as

```
if (married == true) ... // Don't
```

Just use the simpler test

```
if (married) ...
```

#### When does the statement

```
system.out.println (x > 0 || x < 0);
print false?</pre>
```

**Answer:** When  $\times$  is zero.

Rewrite the following expression, avoiding the comparison with false:

```
if (character.isDigit(ch) == false) ...
```

**Answer:** if (!Character.isDigit(ch)) ...

## **Code Coverage**

- Black-box testing: Test functionality without consideration of internal structure of implementation
- White-box testing: Take internal structure into account when designing tests
- Test coverage: Measure of how many parts of a program have been tested
- Make sure that each part of your program is exercised at least once by one test case
  - E.g., make sure to execute each branch in at least one test case

## **Code Coverage**

- Include boundary test cases: Legal values that lie at the boundary of the set of acceptable inputs
- Tip: Write first test cases before program is written completely → gives insight into what program should do

How many test cases do you need to cover all branches of the getDescription method of the Earthquake class?

Answer: 7.

Give a boundary test case for the EarthquakeRunner program. What output do you expect?

Answer: An input of 0 should yield an output of "Generally not felt by people". (If the output is "Negative numbers are not allowed", there is an error in the program.)

# Logging

```
public double getTax() { ....
  if (status == SINGLE)
  { System.out.println("status is SINGLE");} }

Logger.getGlobal().info("status is SINGLE");
Logger.getGlobal().setLevel(Level.OFF);
```