

# Conditionals

October 31, 2021

## 1 Conditional Execution

### 1.1 Topics

- conditional executions
- comparison operators
- types of conditional statements
- switch statement
- using conditional statements in functions
- ternary conditional operator
- logical operators
- passing arguments to `main()` and using them

### 1.2 Conditional execution

- so far, our programs executed top to bottom starting from `main()`
  - statement by statement
  - functions change the execution flow from call to definition
- it's important that computer skips or executes certain block of code
  - computer needs to decide to do that to produce useful programs
- **conditional statements** let computer think or make decisions based on data
  - similar to what humans do!
  - e.g. what are the criteria/conditions that help you pick a college?
    - \* which major or class should I pick?
    - \* should I go to class today?
- conditional statements compare data values to create conditions
  - the outcome of which is boolean `true` or `false`

#### 1.2.1 Comparison operators

- **comparison operators** are used to compare data values
  - thus, creating a condition
- comparison operators are binary operators that take two operands
- following table shows comparison operators that compare left hand side value with the right hand side

symbol	example	description
<code>==</code>	<code>x == y</code>	is x equal to y?
<code>!=</code>	<code>x != y</code>	is x not equal to y?

symbol	example	description
>	x > y	is x greater than y ?
>=	x >= y	is x greater than or equal to y?
<	x < y	is x less than y ?
<=	x <= y	is x less than or equal to y?

- result of comparison expression (condition) is **true** or **false** boolean value
  - technically, it's **1** and **0**
  - where, **1** -> true and **0** -> false

```
[1]: #include <iostream> // for std io
#include <cassert> // for assert()
#include <string> // for C++ string
using namespace std;
```

```
[2]: // comparison operators examples
1 == 1
```

[2]: true

```
[3]: int x = 10;
int y = 20;
```

```
[4]: // is x equal to y?
cout << (x == y);
```

0

```
[5]: // let's print true or false using io manipulator
// is x not equal to y?
cout << boolalpha << (x != y);
```

true

```
[6]: cout << (x > y);
```

false

```
[7]: cout << (x < y);
```

true

```
[8]: cout << (x >= y);
```

false

```
[9]: cout << (x <= y);
```

true

### 1.3 Types of conditional statements

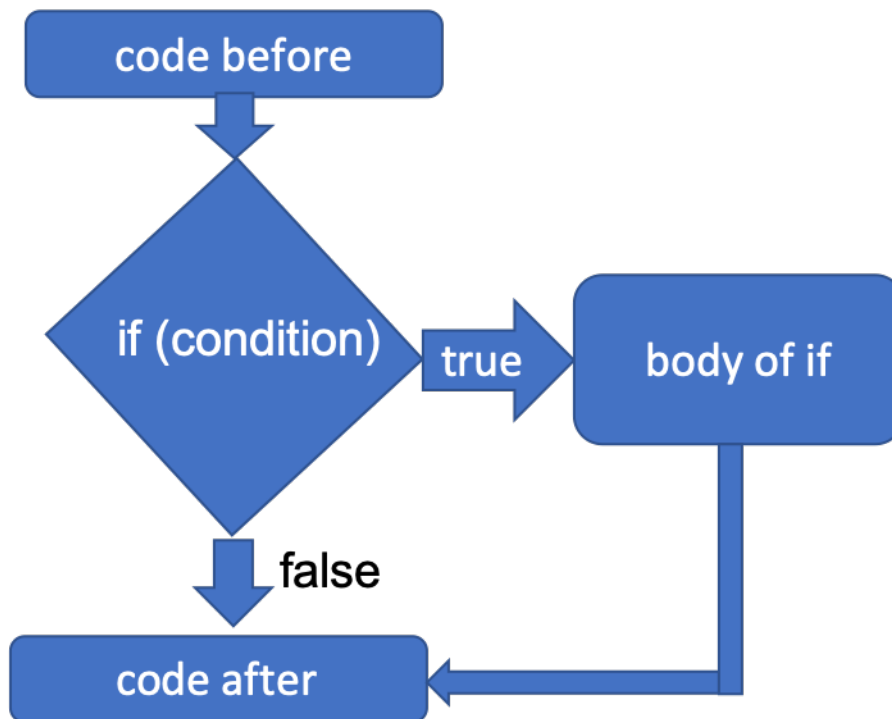
- there are 3 types of conditional statements:
  1. one-way selector
  2. two-way selector
  3. multi-way selector

#### 1.3.1 one-way selector

- simplest form of conditional statement
- syntax:

```
if (condition) {  
    // body of if  
    // block of code to execute  
}
```

- the block of code inside if statement executes iff condition evaluates to true
  - skips the block, otherwise!
- the following flow-chart demonstrates the flow of if statement execution



**Fig. C++ if statement**

```
[10]: // examples
cout << "stuff before if\n";
if (true) { // true is always true; same as true == true
    cout << "body of if\n";
}
cout << "stuff after if\n";
```

```
stuff before if
body of if
stuff after if
```

```
[11]: cout << "stuff before if\n";
if (false) { // false always evaluates to false; same as false == true
    cout << "body of if\n";
}
cout << "stuff after if\n";
```

```
stuff before if
stuff after if
```

```
[12]: // check if a given number is positive
int num;
```

```
[13]: cout << "enter a whole number: ";
cin >> num;
if (num > 0) {
    cout << num << " is positive\n";
}
cout << "Good bye!";
```

```
enter a whole number: 100
100 is positive
Good bye!
```

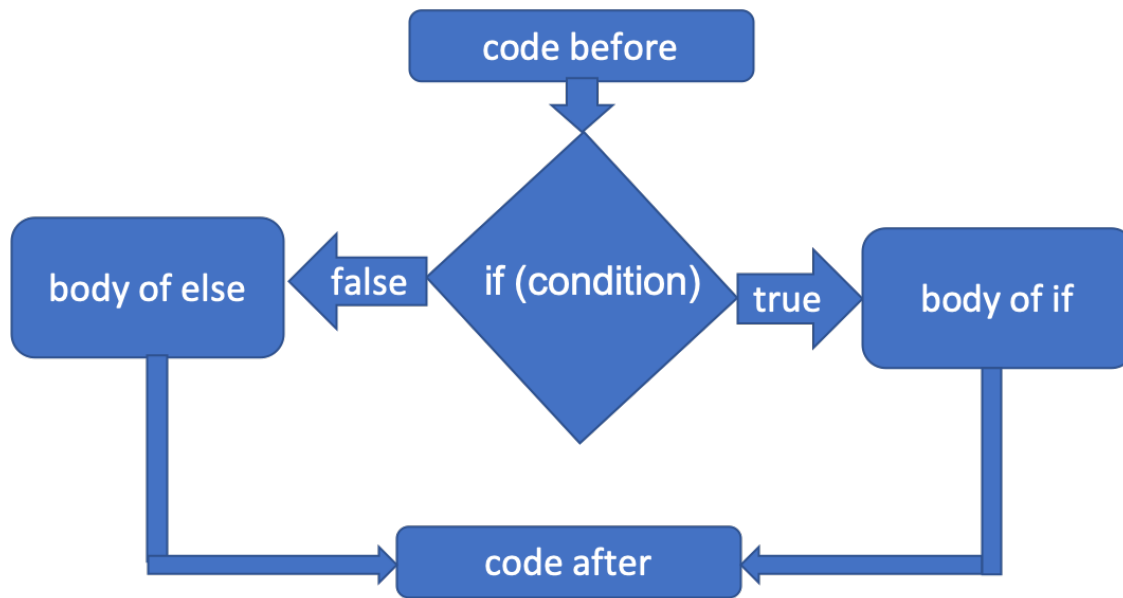
### 1.3.2 Visualize one-way selector in [pythontutor.com](http://pythontutor.com)

#### 1.3.3 Two-way selector

- provides alternative execution
- analogy is a true/false type question
  - you have to pick one or the other
- syntax:

```
if (condition) {
    // body of if
}
else {
    // otherwise, body of else
}
```

- if the condition is true, body of if executes
- otherwise, body of else executes
- the following flowchart demonstrates the flow of if else statement



**Fig. C++ if else statement**

```

[14]: // determine if the given number is positive or negative
cout << "Enter a whole number: ";
cin >> num;
if (num > 0) {
    cout << num << " is positive\n";
}
else {
    cout << num << " is negative\n";
}
cout << "Good bye!";
// run it few times providing +ve and -ve numbers
  
```

```

Enter a whole number: 99
99 is positive
Good bye!
  
```

```

[14]: @0x10c49bed0
  
```

#### 1.3.4 Visualize two-way selector in [pythontutor.com](https://pythontutor.com)

#### 1.3.5 Multi-way selector

- sometimes one may have to pick one outcome from several options
  - analogy is multiple-choice question with only one correct answer!

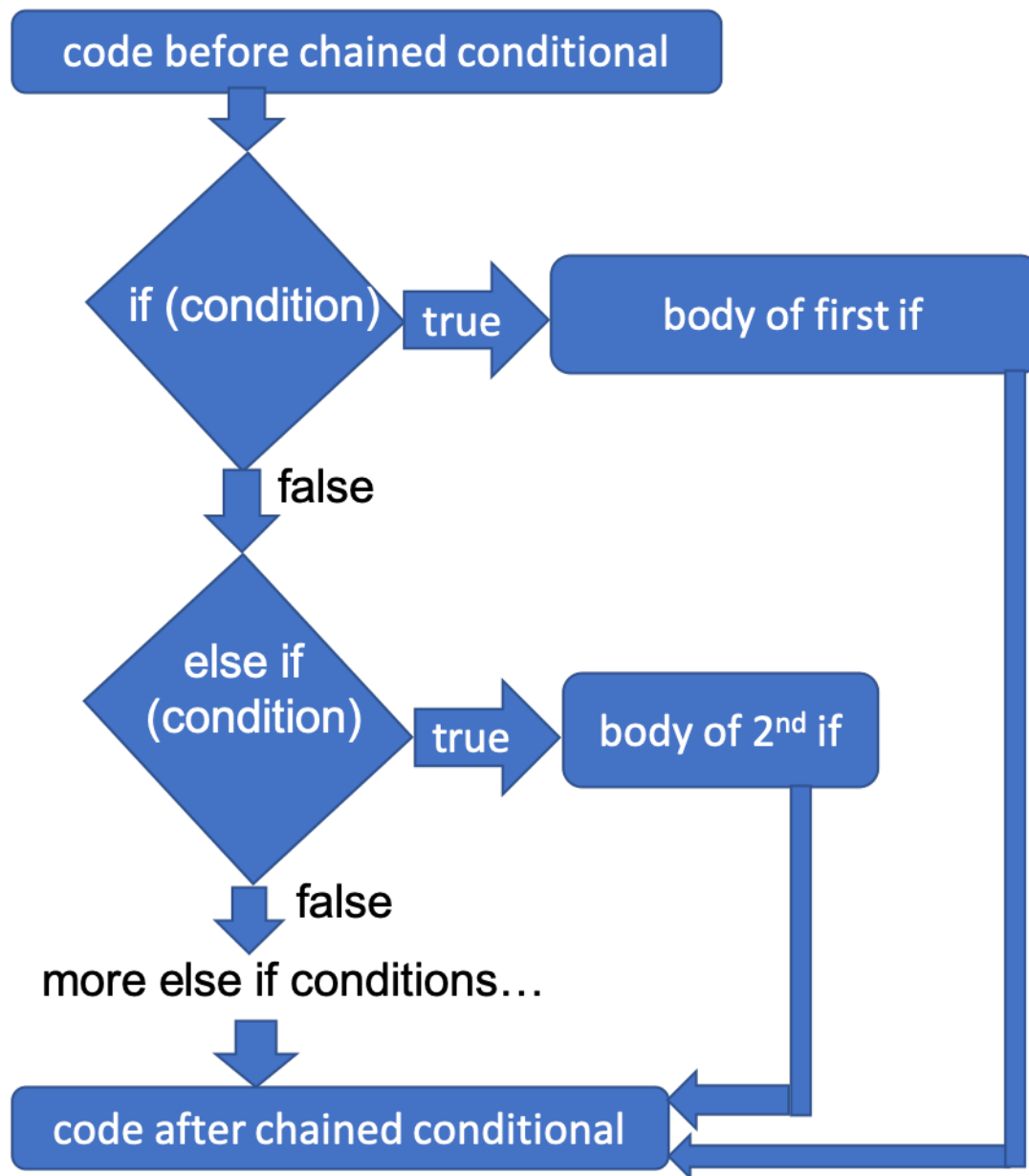
- we can achieve this by chaining a series of **else ifs**
- also called chained conditionals
- syntax:

```

if (condition) {
    // first if block
}
else if(condition) {
    // 2nd if block
}
else if(condition) {
    // 3rd if block
}
...
else {
    // alternative
}

```

- check condition starting from the first **if statement**
- if the condition is true, execute the corresponding if block
  - skip the rest of the chained conditions if any
- otherwise, check next condition
  - so on and so forth...
- execute else alternative if not a single condition is evaluated true
- the following flowchart depicts the chained conditional execution



**Fig. C++ Chained if-else-if statements**

**1.3.6 NOTE:**

- since the condition is checked from top to bottom, the order of checking condition matters in some problems!

```
[15]: // determine if a given number is 0, positive, or negative
cout << "enter a whole number: ";
cin >> num;
```

```

if (num > 0)
    // if a block has only one statement; {} can be ignored!
    cout << num << " is positive\n";
else if (num < 0)
    cout << num << " is negative\n";
else
    cout << "the entered number is 0\n";

cout << "Good bye!";

```

enter a whole number: -9  
-9 is negative  
Good bye!

### 1.3.7 Demo program that determines letter grade (A-F) given numeric grade (0-100)

- write a program that converts numeric grade into the corresponding letter grade
- letter grade criteria:

```

grade >= 90 -> A
grade >= 80 -> B
grade >= 70 -> C
grade >= 60 -> D
grade < 60 -> F

```

```

[16]: // variable to store the numeric grade
float grade;

```

```

[17]: // Implementation I
// does this solution give correct answer?
// order of checking condition matters!
cout << "Enter a grade: ";
cin >> grade;

if (grade < 60)
    cout << grade << "is an F!\n";
else if (grade >= 60)
    cout << grade << " is a D.\n";
else if (grade >= 70)
    cout << grade << "is a C.\n";
else if (grade >= 80)
    cout << grade << " is a B.\n";
else if (grade >= 90)
    cout << grade << " is an A!\n";

cout << "Good bye!";

```

Enter a grade: 90  
90 is a D.



Good bye!

```
[18]: // Implementation II
// how about this solution; does this give correct answer?
cout << "Enter a grade: ";
cin >> grade;

if (grade >= 90) {
    cout << grade << " is an A! :))\n";
    cout << "Awesome job!\n";
}
else if(grade >= 80) {
    cout << grade << " is a B. :)\n";
    cout << "Great job! So close to acing... keep working!\n";
}
else if(grade >= 70) {
    cout << grade << " is a C. :|\n";
    cout << "Good job! work harder to get a B or an A\n";
}
else if(grade >= 60) {
    cout << grade << " is a D. :(\n";
    cout << "Sorry, D isn't good enough to move on to CS2\n. Work very hard!";
}
else {
    cout << grade << " is an F. :((\n";
    cout << "Sorry, that's a fail. Work really really hard to pass!!\n";
}

cout << "Good bye!\n";
```

```
Enter a grade: 90
90 is an A! :))
Awesome job!
Good bye!
```

```
[19]: // Implementation III - using function
char find_letter_grade(float grade) {
    if (grade >= 90)
        return 'A';
    else if(grade >= 80)
        return 'B';
    else if(grade >= 70)
        return 'C';
    else if(grade >= 60)
        return 'D';
    else
        return 'F';
}
```

```
}
```

```
[20]: // manually test find_letter_grade function
cout << "Enter a numeric grade: ";
cin >> grade;
char l_grade = find_letter_grade(grade);
cout << grade << " is equivalent to " << l_grade << endl;
if (l_grade == 'A')
    cout << "Awesome job! :))\n";
```

Enter a numeric grade: 75

75 is equivalent to C

```
[21]: // automatically test find_letter_grade function
void test_find_letter_grade() {
    assert(find_letter_grade(100) == 'A');
    assert(find_letter_grade(40) == 'F');
    assert(find_letter_grade(89) == 'B');
    // TODO: test for every possible outcome
    cerr << "all test casses passed!" << endl;
}
```

```
[22]: test_find_letter_grade();
```

all test casses passed!

### 1.3.8 Visualize multi-way selector in [pythontutor.com](http://pythontutor.com)

## 1.4 Nested conditionals

- one or more type of conditional statements can be nested inside another conditional statement
- syntax:

```
if (condition) {
    // do something
    if (condition) {
        // do something..
    }

    if (condition) {
        // do something
    }
    else {
        // do something else
    }
}
else {
    // do something else...
```

```

        if (condition) {
            // do something
        }
    }

```

```

[24]: // a program that determines if a given number is 0, even or odd and positive
      ↪ or negative
      // the order of condition doesn't matter in this example
      cout << "enter a whole number: ";
      cin >> num;
      if (num > 0) {
          cout << num << " is positive ";
          // check if the number is even or odd
          if (num %2 == 0)
              cout << "and even\n";
          else
              cout << "and odd\n";
      }
      else if (num < 0) {
          cout << num << " is negative ";
          // check if the number is even or odd
          if (num %2 == 0)
              cout << "and even\n";
          else
              cout << "and odd\n";
      }
      else
          cout << "the entered number is 0\n";

      cout << "Good bye!";

```

```

enter a whole number: -75
-75 is negative and odd
Good bye!

```

#### 1.4.1 Visualize nested conditional execution in [pythontutor.com](https://pythontutor.com)

```

[ ]: // TODO: Convert the above program as a function

```

### 1.5 Conditional operator

- C++ provides a ternary conditional operator
- takes 3 operands
- syntax:

```
(condition) ? expression1 : expression2;
```

- the value of (condition) is evaluated
- if the condition is true, expression1 is used as the result

- otherwise expression2 is used as the result
- simply, a shortcut for:

```
if (condition) {
    expression1;
}
else {
    expression2;
}
```

```
[25]: // application of conditional operator
// write a program that determines if a given number is odd or even
```

```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>
using namespace std;
```

```
[26]: int number;
```

```
[27]: cout << "Enter an Integer number: ";
cin >> number;
cout << number << " is " << ((number%2 == 0) ? "even" : "odd");
```

Enter an Integer number: 45

45 is odd

## 1.6 Logical operators

- often times programs need to evaluate complex logics involving two or more logical expressions (conditions)
- C++ provides three logical operators to evaluate complex boolean expressions

operator	alternative	example	description
&&	and	cond1 && cond2	Is condition 1 true AND condition 2 is also true?
	or	cond1    cond2	Is condition 1 is true OR condition 2 is true?
!	not	!condition	Is NOT condition true or false?

- && and || are binary operators
- ! is an unary operator
- can also use alternative names **and** and **or** and **not** in-place of the symbols
- symbols usage are more common compared to names in C/C++
- let's say if **a** and **b** are logical expression resulting **true (T)** or **false (F)**
  - the following truth table provides the final outcome of these logical operators

### 1.6.1 Truth table for && (and)

a	b	a && b
T	T	T
T	F	F
F	T	F
F	F	F

### 1.6.2 Truth table for || (or)

a	b	a    b
T	T	T
T	F	T
F	T	T
F	F	F

### 1.6.3 Truth table for ! (not)

a	! a
T	F
F	T

### 1.6.4 Order of evaluation

- if all three operators are found in the same expression:
  - ! is evaluated first, && second and finally ||
- complete C++ operator precedence order can be found here:  
[https://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/language/operator\\_precedence](https://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/language/operator_precedence)

```
[29]: // && examples
// determine if a number is even and positive
cout << "enter a whole number: ";
cin >> num;
if (num > 0 and num%2 == 0)
    cout << "number is even and positive\n";
else
    cout << "I don't know much about " << num << " except that it's an
    ↪integer\n";
```

```
enter a whole number: 50
number is even and positive
```

```
[30]: // || or example
// write a program that determines if someone can retire.
// if a person owns a Ferrari or has 1 Million dollors in savings then the
    ↪person can retire
```

```
string has_ferrari;  
long savings;
```

```
[31]: cout << "Do you own a Ferarrai? Enter [y|yes]: ";  
cin >> has_ferrari;  
cout << "How much in savings do you have in dollars? ";  
cin >> savings;  
if (has_ferrari == "yes" or has_ferrari == "y" or savings >= 1000000)  
    cout << "Congratulations, you can retire now!\n";  
else  
    cout << "Sorry, no cigar! Keep working...\n";
```

```
Do you own a Ferarrai? Enter [y|yes]: yes  
How much in savings do you have in dollars? 0  
Congratulations, you can retire now!
```

```
[32]: // ! example  
// redo retirement calculator  
cout << "Do you own a Ferarrai? Enter [y|yes]: ";  
cin >> has_ferrari;  
cout << "How much in savings do you have in dollars? ";  
cin >> savings;  
if (!(has_ferrari == "yes" || has_ferrari == "y" or savings >= 1000000))  
    cout << "Sorry, no cigar! Keep working...\n";  
else  
    cout << "Congratulations, you can retire now!\n";
```

```
Do you own a Ferarrai? Enter [y|yes]: no  
How much in savings do you have in dollars? 10  
Sorry, no cigar! Keep working...
```

## 1.7 Passing arguments to main

- `main( )` can also take arguments
- since `main` is never called, arguments are provided when the program is ran from a terminal
- the program doesn't have to interactively prompt user to enter required data
- syntax:

```
int main(int argc, char* argv[]) {  
    // argc is total no. of arguments provided to the program  
    // automatically calculated by the system based on the no. of arguments  
    // argc is atleast 1  
    // argv is an array of char* (c_string; similar in concept to C++ string)  
    // contains name of the program and all the user provided arguments  
  
    // body of main  
    return 0;  
}
```

- pass space separated arguments to main or program
- use double quotes for arguments with spaces
- all the arguments are treated as C-string
  - must convert numeric arguments to numeric types

```
$ programName.exe arg1 arg2 arg3 "multiple word arguments" ...
```

```
$ git add "Filename.cpp" # add and "Filename.cpp" are arguments to git's main()
```

### 1.7.1 demo programs

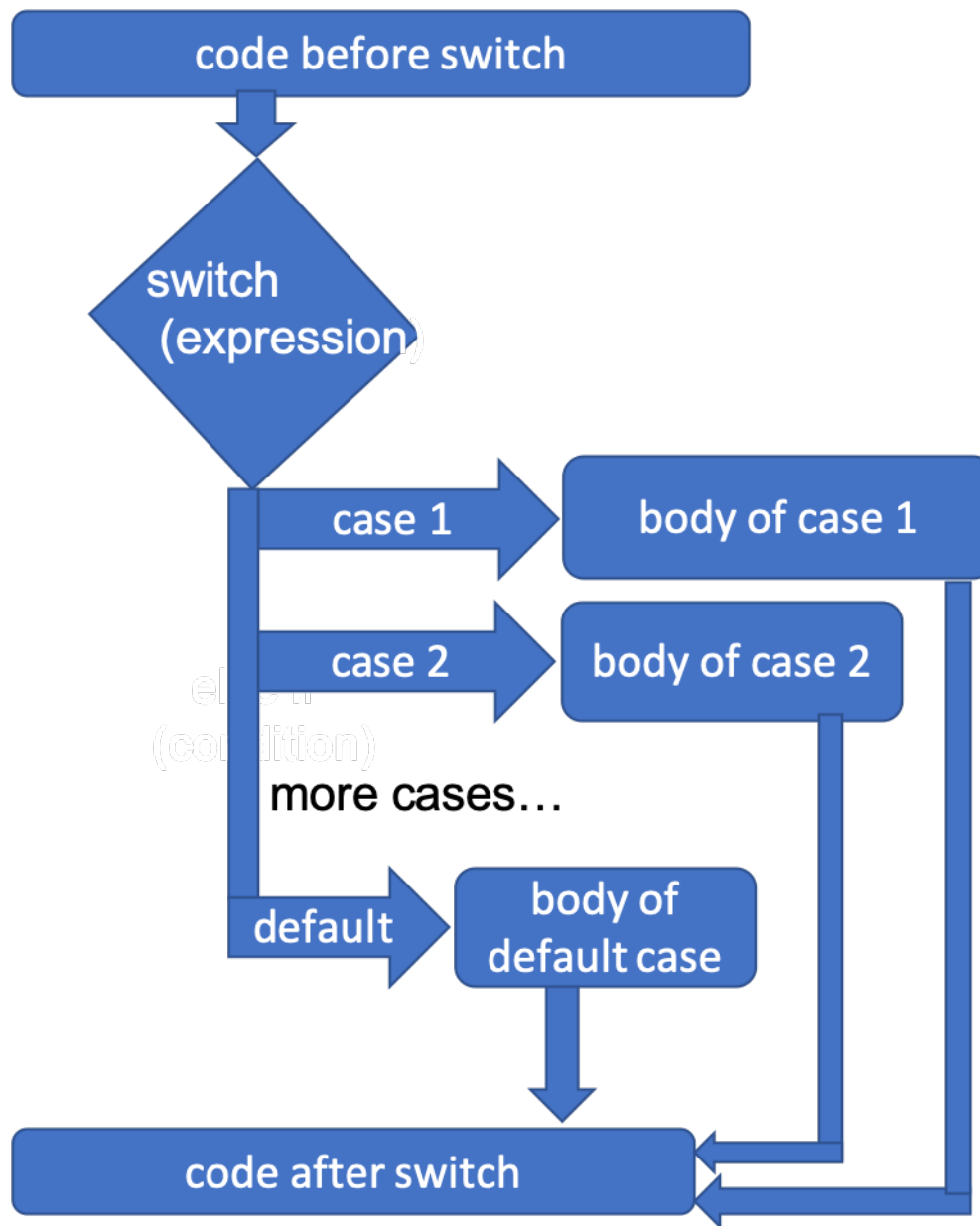
1. simple demo [demos/conditionals/main\\_arg1/main\\_arg1.cpp](#)
2. more useful demo: [demos/conditionals/main\\_arg2.cpp](#)
3. Kattis Hello World problem with test case: [hello](#)

## 1.8 Switch statement

- switch statment is very similar to chained conditional or multi-way selector
- allows a variable to be tested for equality against a list of values
- each value is called a case
- syntax:

```
switch(integral-expression) {
    case constant-expression:
        statement(s);
        break; // optional
    case constant-expression:
        statements(s);
        break; // optional
    // more case statements
    default: // Optional
        statements(s);
}
```

- switch only works on integral type variables (int, char, long, etc.)
- when break statement is reached, switch terminates
- if no break statement is encountered, the statements following that case will execute until a break statement is reached or switch statments terminates
- the following figure demonstrates the flow of execution in switch statement



**Fig. C++ Switch Statement**

```
[33]: // e.g. of a switch statement
      // determine name of the day given the number 1-7
      unsigned int day;
```

```
[34]: cout << "Enter day of the week 1-7: ";
      cin >> day;
```

Enter day of the week 1-7: 6



```
[35]: // comment out break; and see the result
switch(day) {
    case 1:
        cout << "Day is Sunday\n";
        break;
    case 2:
        cout << "Day is Monday\n";
        break;
    case 3:
        cout << "Day is Tuesday\n";
        break;
    case 4:
        cout << "Day is Wednesday\n";
        break;
    case 5:
        cout << "Day is Thursday\n";
        break;
    case 6:
        cout << "Day is Friday\n";
        break;
    case 7:
        cout << "Day is Saturday\n";
        break;
    default:
        cout << day << " is not a valid day!\n";
        //break; not required!
}
```

Day is Friday

### 1.8.1 Menu-driven CLI interface

- command-line interface (CLI), though not as intuitive as Graphical User Interface (GUI), is still used widely
- airline reservation systems, check-in and printing boarding passes, point-of-sale (POS) terminals at big companies such as Lowe's, Home Depot, etc. use CLI
- a lot of text-based games used CLI as well
- a good application of switch statement is in developing menu-driven CLI

### 1.8.2 write a menu-driven C++ program that calculates various statistics of any 2 numbers

```
[36]: #include <iostream>
#include <string>
#include <cassert>
#include <cmath>
```

```
#include <iomanip>
#include <sstream>

using namespace std;
```

```
[37]: template<class T>
T add(T val1, T val2) {
    return val1 + val2;
}
```

```
[38]: template<class T>
T subtract(T val1, T val2) {
    return val1 - val2;
}
```

```
[39]: template<class T>
T larger(T val1, T val2) {
    return val1 >= val2 ? val1 : val2;
}
```

```
[40]: template<class T>
double average(T val1, T val2) {
    return add(val1, val2)/2.0;
}
```

```
[41]: int getMenuOption() {
    // A Simple CLI-based calculator
    int option;
    cout << "Enter one of the following menu options: [1-6]\n"
         << "1 -> Add\n"
         << "2 -> Subtract\n"
         << "3 -> Larger\n"
         << "4 -> Average\n"
         << "5 -> Multiply\n"
         << "6 -> Quit\n";
    cin >> option;
    return option;
}
```

```
[42]: void program() {
    float n1, n2;
    int option;
    option = getMenuOption();
    if (option == 6) {
        cout << "Good bye...\n";
        return;
    }
}
```

```

    cout << "Enter two numbers separated by space: ";
    cin >> n1 >> n2;
    switch(option) {
        case 1:
            cout << n1 << " + " << n2 << " = " << add<float>(n1, n2) << endl;
            break; // terminate switch
        case 2:
            cout << n1 << " - " << n2 << " = " << subtract<float>(n1, n2) << \n
            << endl;
            break;
        case 3:
            cout << "larger between: " << n1 << " and " << n2 << " is " << \n
            << larger<float>(n1, n2) << endl;
            break;
        case 4:
            cout << "average of " << n1 << " and " << n2 << " = " << \n
            << average<float>(n1, n2) << endl;
            break;
        default:
            cout << n1 << " x " << n2 << " = " << n1*n2 << endl;
            break;
    }
}

```

```

[43]: // TODO: run this many times...
      program();

```

Enter one of the following menu options: [1-6]

```

1 -> Add
2 -> Subtract
3 -> Larger
4 -> Average
5 -> Multiply
6 -> Quit
1

```

Enter two numbers separated by space: 3 105

3 + 105 = 108

### 1.8.3 Note: a loop would work better for menu-driven program

- loop is covered in next chapter

### 1.8.4 A complete demo program is here: [demos/conditionals/menu/menu.cpp](#)

### 1.8.5 Rectangle demo program [demos/conditionals/rectangle/main.cpp](#)

- An improved Rectangle program from previous chapter that calls automated test when user wants to by passing argument to the main

## 1.9 Exercises

1. Write a program that helps someone decide where to go eat lunch depending on amount of money one has in their pocket.
2. Improve exercise 1 by using function(s) and writing at least 3 test cases for each function.
3. Write a program that determines whether someone is eligible to vote in the US federal election.
  - see sample solution here [exercises/conditionals/vote1/voting\\_eligibility.cpp](#)
4. Improve exercise 3 by using function(s) and writing at least 3 test cases for each function.
  - see sample solution here [exercises/conditionals/vote2/voting\\_eligibility\\_v2.cpp](#)
5. Write a function `day_name` that converts an integer number 0 to 6 into the name of a day. Assume day 0 is “Sunday”. Return “Invalid Day” if the argument to the function is not valid.

```
[45]: // code stub for Exercise 5
string day_name(int day) {
    // FIXME - complete the rest
    return "";
}
```

```
[ ]: // Here are some tests that should pass for day_name function defined above
void test_day_name() {
    assert(day_name(3) == "Wednesday");
    assert(day_name(6) == "Saturday");
    assert(day_name(42) == "Invalid Day");
    cout << "all test cases passed for day_name()\n";
}
```

6. Improve exercise 5 as a complete program with algorithm steps, `main()`, etc.
7. Write a function that helps answer questions like “Today is Wednesday. I leave on holiday in 19 days time. What day will that be?” So, the function must take a day name and a delta argument (the number of days to add) and should return the resulting day name.

```
[ ]: // Exercise 6 hints
string day_add(string dayName, int delta) {
    // FIXME
}
```

```
[ ]: // Exercise 6 test function
// here are some tests that should pass
void test_day_add() {
    assert(day_add("Monday", 4) == "Friday");
    assert(day_add("Tuesday", 0) == "Tuesday");
    assert(day_add("Tuesday", 14) == "Tuesday");
    assert(day_add("Sunday", 100) == "Tuesday");
    assert(day_add("Sunday", -1) == "Saturday");
}
```

```

assert(day_add("Sunday", -7) == "Sunday");
assert(day_add("Tuesday", -100) == "Sunday");
cout << "all test cases passed for day_add()";
}

```

8. Improve Exercise 7 as a complete program with algorithm steps, main(), etc.
9. Write a C++ program including algorithm steps that calculates area and perimeter of a triangle given three sides.
  - must define and use separate functions to calculate area and perimeter
  - write at least 3 test cases for each function
  - Hint: use Heron's formula to find area with three sides.
  - define and use function to determine if 3 sides form a triangle
10. Write a C++ program including algorithm steps that calculates Body Mass Index (BMI) of a person.
  - must use as many functions as possible
  - write at least 3 test cases for each function
  - more info on BMI - [https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/educational/lose\\_wt/BMI/bmicalc.htm](https://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/health/educational/lose_wt/BMI/bmicalc.htm)
  - Formula [here](#).
  - a sample solution is provided at [exercises/conditionals/BMI/BMI\\_v3.cpp](#)
    - **an improved version that interprets the BMI result**

## 1.10 Kattis Problems

- almost all Kattis problems require conditional statements
  - following are some problems that can be solved based on the concepts learned from Ch1-6
  - solve each problem using function(s)
  - write at least 3 test cases for each function
1. Take Two Stones - <https://open.kattis.com/problems/twostones>
    - Hint: check even or odd
  2. Laptop Sticker - <https://open.kattis.com/problems/laptopsticker>
    - Hint: basic math
  3. Sort Two Numbers - <https://open.kattis.com/problems/sorttwonumbers>
    - Hint: compare two numbers and print their order
  4. FYI - <https://open.kattis.com/problems/fyi>
    - Hint: string.find() and condition
  5. Astrological Sign - <https://open.kattis.com/problems/astrologicalsign>
    - 12 outer conditions; for each month check two data ranges
  6. Right-ofWay - <https://open.kattis.com/problems/vajningsplikt>
    - many cases just follow the cases for yield as required and everything else is No yield

## 1.11 Summary

- we learned about another fundamental concepts: conditional execution
- learned with examples 3 different types of conditional statements
- learned how to use conditional statements in functions
- learned about ternary conditional operator (condition) ? exp1 : exp2

- a short cut for alternative execution
- learned about comparison and logical operators; order of precedence
- learned passing and using arguments to `main( )`
- finally, exercise and sample solutions

[ ]: