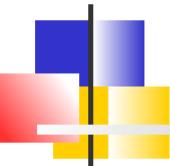


# **Software and Programming I**

---

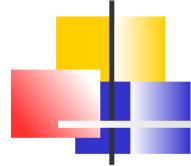
## **Branching and Boolean Expressions**

---



**Roman Kontchakov / Carsten Fuhs**

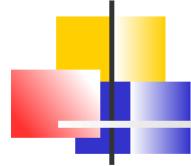
Birkbeck, University of London



# Outline

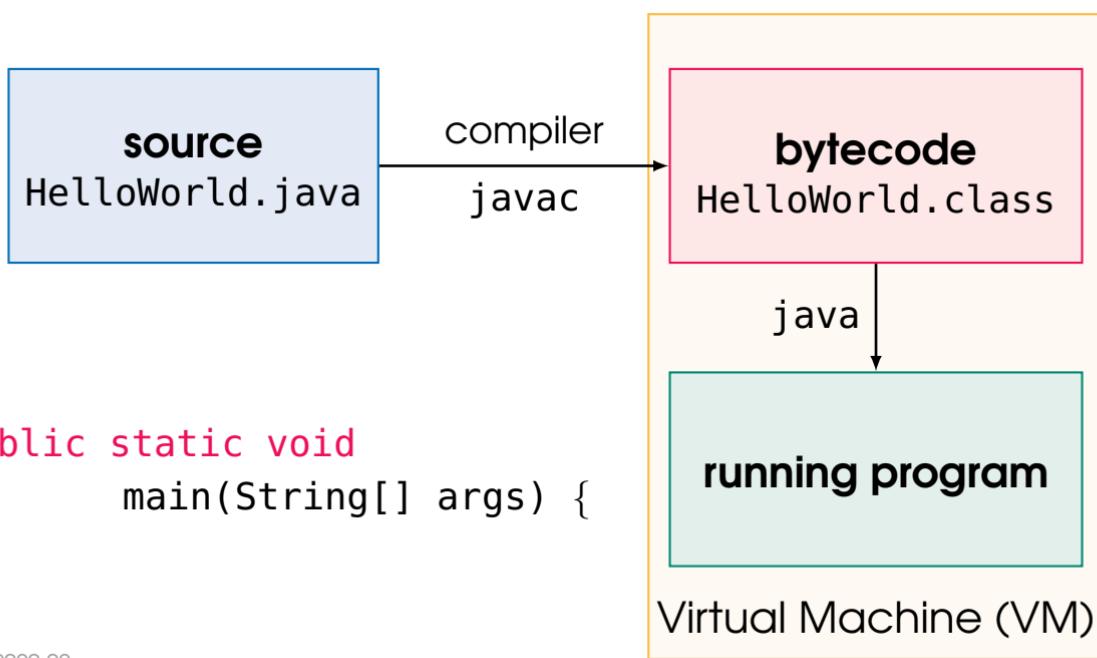
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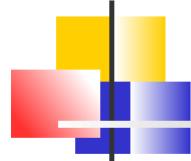
- The `if` statement
- Comparing numbers and strings
- Nested branches
- Boolean variables and expressions
  - Sections 3.1–3.4, 3.7
- Return Statement
  - Section 5.4



# Java Compilation and JRE

---





Python:

```
n = "World"  
print("Hello, " + n + "!")
```

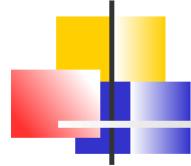
# My First Program

---

```
1 /* HelloWorld.java  
2  Purpose: printing a hello message on the screen  
3 */  
4 public class HelloWorld {  
5     // each program is a class (week 6)  
6     // almost everything in Java is an object  
7     public static void main(String[] args) {  
8         String n = "World";  
9         System.out.println("Hello, " + n + "!");  
10    }  
11 }
```

**NB.** watch out for **semicolons** — they are compulsory

**NB.** names and reserved words are **case-sensitive**



```
Python:  
def sq(x):  
    Python code
```

# Methods

- A **method** is a named sequence of instructions

method name

```
public static int sq(int x) {  
    Java code (sequence of instructions)  
}
```

**parameter**

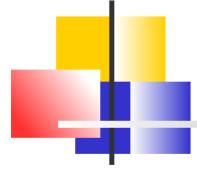
(type and name)

type of **return value**

**void** means the method  
does not return any value

- Parameter values** are supplied when a method is called
- The **return value** is the result that the method computes
- Method  $\approx$  algorithm  $\approx$  function (in Python)

**NB:** until week 6, all methods will be **public static**



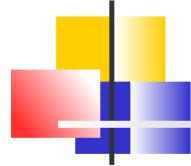
## Example 2: $y = x^2$ as a Method

---

```
1 public class PrintSquares {  
2     public static void main(String[] args) {  
3         printSquare(7);  
4         printSquare(9);  
5     }  
6     public static int sq(int x) { // x is a parameter  
7         int y = x * x; // compute x^2  
8         return y; // return the value  
9     }  
10    public static void printSquare(int n) {  
11        System.out.println(n + " ^2=" + sq(n));  
12    }  
13 }
```

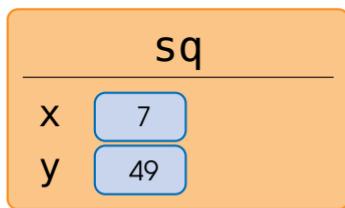
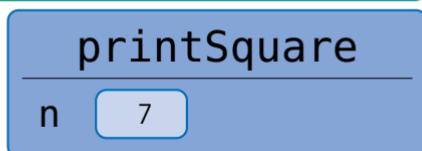
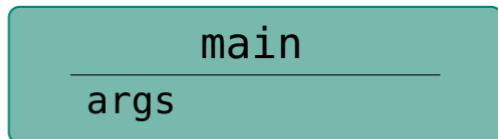
the output:

$7^2=49$
$9^2=81$



# Method Call Stack

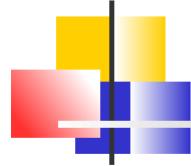
---



printSquare(7);

```
public static void printSquare(int n) {  
    System.out.println(n + " ^2=" + sq(n));
```

```
public static int sq(int x) {  
    int y = x * x;  
    return y;  
}
```



# Method Call Stack

---

main  
-----  
args

printSquare  
-----  
n    9

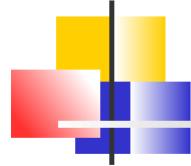
printSquare(7);  
printSquare(9);

$7^2=49$   
 $9^2=81$

```
public static void printSquare(int n) {  
    System.out.println(n + "^2=" + sq(n));  
}
```

evaluated to 81





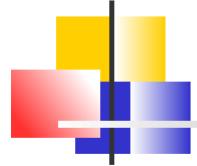
# Method Call Stack

---

main  
\_\_\_\_\_  
args

printSquare(7);  
printSquare(9);

$7^2=49$   
 $9^2=81$



# Return Statement

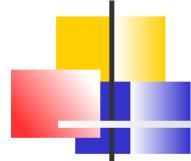
---

The `return` statement

- (1) terminates a method call
- (2) yields the method result

```
1 public static double cubeVolume(double sideLength) {  
2     if (sideLength < 0)  
3         return 0;  
4     // more code  
5     return sideLength * sideLength * sideLength;  
6 }
```

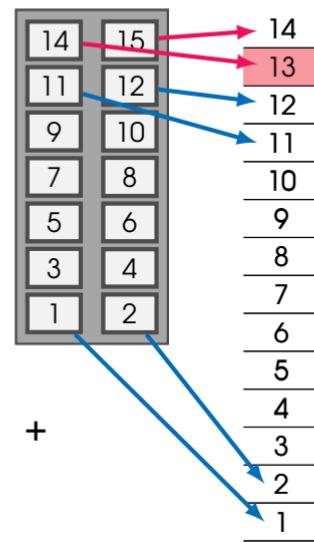
**NB:** if a method has no return value (`void`),  
then it can contain `return`; only (without any value)

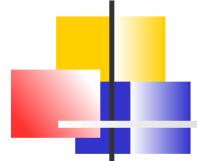


# The if Statement

The `if` statement allows a program to carry out different actions depending on the nature of the data to be processed

```
1 Scanner s = new Scanner(System.in);    floor    actual floor
2 int floor = s.nextInt();
3 int actualFloor;
4 if (floor > 13) {
5     actualFloor = floor - 1;
6 }
7 else {
8     actualFloor = floor;
9 }
10 System.out.println("Actual floor: " +
11                           actualFloor);
```





# Statement Blocks

---

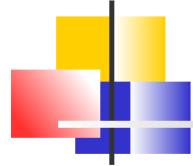
A **block** is a group of 0 or more statements between  
balanced { and }

(in Python: a group of statements indented at the same level)

A **block** can be used anywhere a **single statement**  
is allowed

the following is equivalent to the code on p. 10, lines 3–9

```
1 int actualFloor;  
2 if (floor > 13)  
3     actualFloor = floor - 1;  
4 else  
5     actualFloor = floor;
```



# The Else Branch is Optional

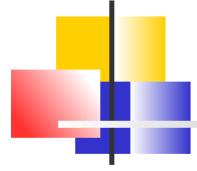
---

The `else` branch is **optional**

```
1 int discountedPrice = originalPrice;  
2 if (originalPrice > 100)  
3     discountedPrice = originalPrice - 10;
```

is **equivalent** to

```
1 int discountedPrice;  
2 if (originalPrice > 100)  
3     discountedPrice = originalPrice - 10;  
4 else  
5     discountedPrice = originalPrice;
```



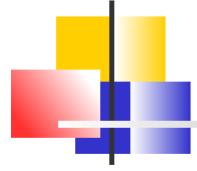
## If: Common Mistakes

---

; is a valid Java statement — it does nothing

**NB:** do not put the semicolon after `if(...)`

```
1 int discountedPrice = originalPrice;
2 if (originalPrice > 100); { // empty statement in if
3     // LOGICAL ERROR: this block is executed anyway
4     discountedPrice = originalPrice - 10;
5 } // it is, however, NOT a syntax (compile) error
```



# Types of Errors

---

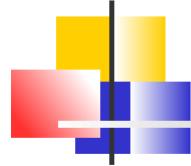
- **compile-time error:** error in syntax (Java grammar) or type detected by the compiler: an error message is produced and **no bytecode** is generated

```
int i = "string"; //incompatible types
```

- **run-time error:** the program is compiled and runs, but the JVM **terminates** execution when the error is encountered

```
int i = 1/0; //ArithmetricException: / by zero  
//StringIndexOutOfBoundsException  
String s = "tomato".substring(0, -2);
```

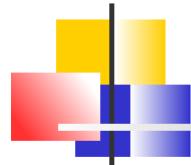
- **logical error:** the program is compiled and runs, but the outputs are **not** as expected



# Constants

---

- the reserved word **final** ensures that the value of the variable never changes:  
`final double BOTTLE_VOLUME = 2;`
- use names for constants  
and avoid “magic numbers”
- “all uppercase with words separated by \_”  
is a coding **convention**  
Java does not check it!



# Comparing Numbers

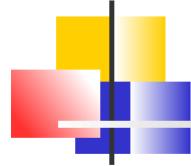
relational operators >,  $\geq$ , <,  $\leq$ , ==, !=  
are applicable to `int`, `double` and other numerical datatypes

**NB:** NOT  $>$  but why not, e.g.,  $\Rightarrow$  instead of  $\geq=?$  (assignment operators, week 3)

## (assignment operators, week 3)

relational operators return **boolean** values (`true` or `false`), which, for example, can be stored in **boolean** variables

```
1 int floor = 2;  
2 int top = 12;  
3 boolean over = floor > top;
```



# Integer Datatypes

---

- `int` 32-bit integers

stand

digits (31 bits)

hexadecimal literals

`0x00000000` is 0

`0x00000001` is 1

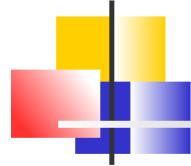
`0xFFFFFFFF` is -1

`0x7FFFFFFF` is 2,147,483,647 = `Integer.MAX_VALUE`

`0x80000000` is -2,147,483,648 = `Integer.MIN_VALUE`

**NB:** do not use , in Java as a digits separator, use the underscore (\_) instead: e.g., `Integer.MIN_VALUE` is `-2_147_483_648`

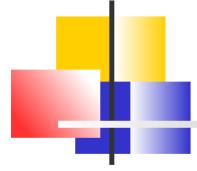
? What is the value of `Integer.MAX_VALUE + 1?`



## Integer Datatypes (2)

---

- **int** 32-bit integers from -2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647
  - span digits (31 bits)
- **long** 64-bit integers from -9,223,372,036,854,775,808 to 9,223,372,036,854,775,807
  - span digits (63 bits)
- **short** 16-bit integers from -32,768 to 32,767
  - span digits (15 bits)
- **byte** 8-bit integers from -128 to 127
  - span digits (7 bits)



# IEEE Floating Point Numbers

- **double**:  $\pm 2.23 \times 10^{-308}$  to  $\pm 1.80 \times 10^{308}$   
with approx. 15 decimal digits  
3 decimal digits (1000)  $\approx$  10 binary digits (1024)

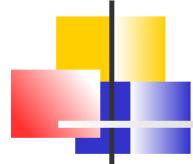
sign	exponent (11 bits)	fraction (52 bits)
------	-----------------------	--------------------

**NB:** **double** literals:  $12.3 = 1.23e1 = 0.123e2 = 123e-1$   
 $12.3 = 1.23 \times 10 = 0.123 \times 10^2 = 123 \times 10^{-1}$

- **float**:  $\pm 1.18 \times 10^{-38}$  to  $\pm 3.4 \times 10^{38}$   
with approx. 7 decimal digits

sign	exponent (8 bits)	fraction (23 bits)
------	----------------------	--------------------

**NB:** **float** should never be used for precise values, e.g., currency;  
use `java.math.BigDecimal` class instead



# Comparing Floating-Point Numbers

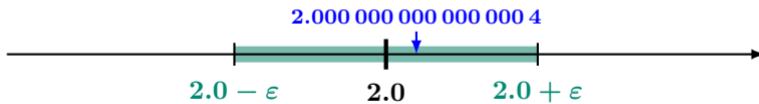
---

arithmetic operations on floating-point numbers

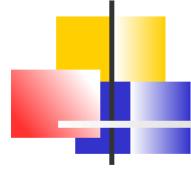
cannot be precise

use small  $\epsilon = 10^{-14}$  to compare floating numbers:

```
1 final double EPSILON = 1e-14;    // 0.000_000_000_000_01
2 double r = Math.sqrt(2.0);
3 // r*r is 2.000_000_000_000_4 rather than 2.0
4 if (Math.abs(r * r - 2.0) < EPSILON) {
5     System.out.println("Math.sqrt(2.0) squared " +
6                         "is approx 2.0");
7 }
```



the interval contains all  $x$   
with  $-ε < x - 2 < ε$   
or, equivalently,  $|x - 2| < ε$



# Strings

---

- strings are sequences of characters:

```
String name = "foo bar";  
           literal
```

A string is **not interpreted**, e.g., the compiler does not replace "\$h" with the value of variable \$h

- the **length** method yields the number of characters  
in the string:

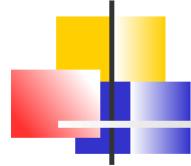
```
int n = name.length();          (in Python: n = len(name))
```

the empty string "" is of **length 0**

- string **positions** are counted starting with **0**

**NB:** there are **no negative** positions

f o o b a r	
position	0 1 2 3 4 5 6



# Comparing Strings

---

"Tomato".substring(0,3).equals("Tom") is true

**NB:** == is **not** useful for strings in Java: (in contrast to Python)

"Tomato".substring(0,3) == ("Tom") is false

why?

Strings are objects (week 6)

s1.compareTo(s2) compares strings **lexicographically**:

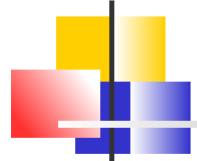
s1.compareTo(s2) < 0 if s1 comes before s2 in the dictionary

s1.compareTo(s2) == 0 if s1 equals s2

s1.compareTo(s2) > 0 if s1 comes after s2 in the dictionary

**NB:** equals and compareTo are **method names** in Java

in Python, use s1 < s2, s1 == s2 and s1 > s2, respectively



# Characters

---

`char` is a 16-bit numerical datatype

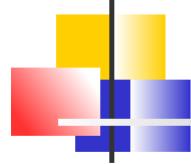
' ' is `0x20` (32), '\n' is `0x0A`, bell is `0x07`, '!' is `0x21`,  
'0'-'9' is `0x30`-`0x39`, 'A'-'Z' is `0x41`-`0x5A`, 'a'-'z' is `0x61`-`0x7A`

Unicode 12.1 (May 2019) contains 137,994 characters covering 150 modern and historic scripts, as well as multiple symbol sets and emoji  
Unicode includes ASCII (as the 128 characters of the Basic Latin range)

**NB. do not confuse** characters ('H') and strings containing a single character ("H")  
(Python has no special datatype for characters: there, 'H' and "H" are both strings)

Class `Character` provides the following methods:

- `Character.isDigit(ch): '0', '1', ..., '9', ...`
- `Character.isLetter(ch): 'A', 'B', ..., 'Z', 'a', 'b', ..., 'z', ...`
- `Character.isUpperCase(ch): 'A', 'B', ..., 'Z', ...`
- `Character.isWhiteSpace(ch): ' ', '\n', ...`



# Nested Branches and the Dangling else

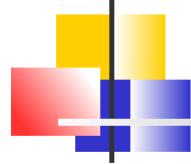
---

What is **wrong** in the following example?

```
1 double shippingCharge = 5.00;
2 if (country.equals("USA"))
3     if (state.equals("HI"))
4         shippingCharge = 10.00; // Hawaii is
5                                     // more expensive
6 else
7     shippingCharge = 20.00; // as are foreign
8                                     // shipments
```

**NB:** the Java compiler does not care about indentation

(in contrast to Python)



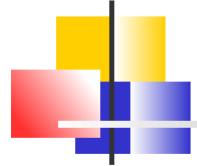
# Nested Branches and the Dangling else

---

```
1 double shippingCharge = 5.00;
2 if (country.equals("USA")) {
3     if (state.equals("HI"))
4         shippingCharge = 10.00; // Hawaii is
5                             // more expensive
6 }
7 else
8     shippingCharge = 20.00; // as are foreign
9                     // shipments
```

**NB:** use curly brackets {} to avoid

the **dangling else** problem



# Boolean Variables and Operators

---

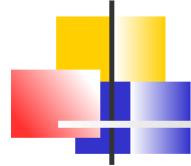
The Boolean type `boolean` has two values, `false` and `true`  
three Boolean operators that combine conditions:

`&&` (and), `||` (or), `!` (not)

A	B	<code>A &amp;&amp; B</code>	A	B	<code>A    B</code>
<code>false</code>	<code>false</code>	<code>false</code>	<code>false</code>	<code>false</code>	<code>false</code>
<code>false</code>	<code>true</code>	<code>false</code>	<code>false</code>	<code>true</code>	<code>true</code>
<code>true</code>	<code>false</code>	<code>false</code>	<code>true</code>	<code>false</code>	<code>true</code>
<code>true</code>	<code>true</code>	<code>true</code>	<code>true</code>	<code>true</code>	<code>true</code>

A	<code>!A</code>
<code>false</code>	<code>true</code>
<code>true</code>	<code>false</code>



## Lazy (Short-Circuit) Evaluation

---

`&&` and `||` are computed using **lazy evaluation**:  
stops as soon as the result is known

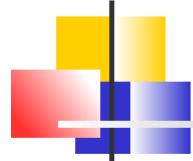
`price/quantity < 10 && quantity > 0`

can result in a run-time error (division by 0) if `quantity` is 0

`quantity > 0 && price/quantity < 10`

never divides by 0

**NB:** do not confuse with `&` and `|`



# Conditional Operator

---

conditional operator **? :**

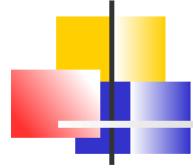
lets us write simple conditional statements as **expressions**

```
1 int actualFloor = (floor > 13) ? floor - 1 : floor;
```

an expression

is equivalent to

```
1 int actualFloor;  
2 if (floor > 13)  
3     actualFloor = floor - 1;  
4 else  
5     actualFloor = floor;
```



## Take Home Messages

---

- The `if` statement allows a program to carry out different actions depending on the data to be processed
- Relational operators are used to compare numbers
- Use `equals` and `compareTo` to compare strings
- `else` is matched with the preceding `if`
- `&&` and `||` are computed lazily
- The `return` statement terminates a method call and yields the method result