Building Java Programs

Chapter 5

Lecture 5-4: do/while loops, assertions

reading: 5.1, 5.5

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The do/while loop

- do/while loop: Performs its test at the end of each repetition.
 - Guarantees that the loop's {} body will run at least once.

do/while question

• Modify the previous Dice program to use do/while.

```
2 + 4 = 6
3 + 5 = 8
5 + 6 = 11
1 + 1 = 2
4 + 3 = 7
You won after 5 tries!
```

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do/while answer

break

- break statement: Immediately exits a loop.
 - Can be used to write a loop whose test is in the middle.
 - The loop's test is often changed to true ("always repeat").

• break is considered to be bad style by some programmers.

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Sentinel loop with break

Assertions

reading: 5.5

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Logical assertions

• assertion: A statement that is either true or false.

Examples:

- Java was created in 1995.
- The sky is purple.
- The capital of North Dakota is Bismarck.
- Mr. Marty met a monkey.
- x divided by 2 equals 7. (depends on the value of x)
- An assertion might be false ("The sky is purple" above), but it is still an assertion because it is a true/false statement.

Reasoning about assertions

Suppose you have the following code:

```
if (x > 3) {
      // Point A
      x--;
} else {
      // Point B
      x++;
      // Point C
}
// Point D
```

- What do you know about x's value at the three points?
 - Is x > 3? Always? Sometimes? Never?

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Assertions in code

- We can make assertions about our code and ask whether they are true at various points in the code.
 - Valid answers are ALWAYS, NEVER, or SOMETIMES.

```
System.out.print("Type a nonnegative number: ");
double number = console.nextDouble();
// Point A: is number < 0.0 here? (SOMETIMES)

while (number < 0.0) {
    // Point B: is number < 0.0 here? (ALWAYS)
    System.out.print("Negative; try again: ");

    number = console.nextDouble();
    // Point C: is number < 0.0 here? (SOMETIMES)
}

// Point D: is number < 0.0 here? (NEVER)</pre>
```

Reasoning about assertions

Right after a variable is initialized, its value is known:

```
int x = 3;
// is x > 0? ALWAYS
```

In general you know nothing about parameters' values:

```
public static void mystery(int a, int b) {
// is a == 10? SOMETIMES
```

But inside an if, while, etc., you may know something:

```
public static void mystery(int a, int b) {
    if (a < 0) {
        // is a == 10? NEVER
        ...
    }
}</pre>
```

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Assertions and loops

At the start of a loop's body, the loop's test must be true:

```
while (y < 10) {
    // is y < 10? ALWAYS
    ...
}</pre>
```

After a loop, the loop's test must be false:

```
while (y < 10) {
    ...
}
// is y < 10? NEVER</pre>
```

Inside a loop's body, the loop's test may become false:

```
while (y < 10) {
    y++;
    // is y < 10? SOMETIMES
}</pre>
```

"Sometimes"

- Things that cause a variable's value to be unknown (often leads to "sometimes" answers):
 - reading from a Scanner
 - reading a number from a Random object
 - a parameter's initial value to a method
- If you can reach a part of the program both with the answer being "yes" and the answer being "no", then the correct answer is "sometimes".

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Assertion example 1

Which of the following assertions are true at which point(s) in the code? Choose ALWAYS, NEVER, or SOMETIMES.

			<u> </u>
	х < у	х == у	z == 0
Point A	SOMETIMES	SOMETIMES	ALWAYS
Point B	NEVER	SOMETIMES	SOMETIMES
Point C	SOMETIMES	NEVER	NEVER
Point D	SOMETIMES	SOMETIMES	NEVER
Point E	ALWAYS	NEVER	SOMETIMES

Assertion example 2

Which of the following assertions are true at which point(s) in the code? Choose ALWAYS, NEVER, or SOMETIMES.

	next == 0	prev == 0	next == prev
Point A	SOMETIMES	ALWAYS	SOMETIMES
Point B	NEVER	SOMETIMES	SOMETIMES
Point C	NEVER	NEVER	ALWAYS
Point D	SOMETIMES	NEVER	SOMETIMES
Point E	ALWAYS	SOMETIMES	SOMETIMES

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Assertion example 3

Which of the following assertions are true at which point(s) in the code? Choose ALWAYS, NEVER, or SOMETIMES.

у > 0	y % 2 == 0
SOMETIMES	SOMETIMES
ALWAYS	SOMETIMES
ALWAYS	ALWAYS
ALWAYS	SOMETIMES
ALWAYS	NEVER
SOMETIMES	ALWAYS
NEVER	ALWAYS
	SOMETIMES ALWAYS ALWAYS ALWAYS ALWAYS SOMETIMES