

Key point: *Common elementary programming errors often involve undeclared variables, uninitialized variables, integer overflow, unintended integer division, and round-off errors.*

Common Error 1: Undeclared/Uninitialized Variable and Unused Variables

Example 1: undeclared variable

```
double interestRate = 0.05;
double interest = interestrate * 45;    //Variable interestrate has never been declared.
                                         //Recall Java is case sensitive:
                                         //interestrate and interestRate are different
                                         //identifiers
```

Example 2: unused variable

```
double interestRate = 0.05;
double taxRate = 0.05;                //Variable taxRate is never used and should be
                                         //discarded.
                                         //An IDE, like NetBeans, will notify the programmer
                                         //when a variable is not used.

double interest = interestRate * 45;
System.out.println("Interest is " + interest);
```

Common Error 2: Integer Overflow

Example 1: Unintended positive to negative sign reversal

```
int value = 2147483647 + 1;            //value will actually be -2147483648
```

7	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	2147483647
+								1	1
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
7	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	F	1's complement
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2's complement

Example 2: Unintended negative to positive sign reversal

```
int value = -2147483648 - 1;          //value will actually be 2147483647
```

Common Error 3: Round-off Errors

Example 1: Inexact floating-point computation

```
System.out.println(1.0 - 0.1 - 0.1 - 0.1 - 0.1 - 0.1);
```

//Displays 0.5000000000000001, not 0.5, and

```
System.out.println(1.0 - 0.9);
```

//Displays 0.09999999999999998, not 0.1

Integers are stored precisely – floating-point values are approximate.

Common Error 4: Unintended Integer Division

Example 1: A floating-point result is desired but an integer result is computed

```
//incorrect
int number1 = 1;
int number2 = 2;
double average = (number1 + number2) / 2;    //average = 1.0

//correct
int number1 = 1;
int number2 = 2;
double average = (number1 + number2) / 2.0;    //average = 1.5
```

Common Pitfall 1: Redundant Input Objects

Example 1: Two scanners

//Bad Code

```
Scanner input = new Scanner(System.in);
System.out.print("Enter an integer: ");
int v1 = input.nextInt();
```

```
Scanner input = new Scanner(System.in);
```

//A new scanner is created and
//assigned to variable input
//making the original scanner
//inaccessible

```
System.out.print("Enter an double value: ");
double v2 = input.nextDouble();
```

//Good Code

```
Scanner input = new Scanner(System.in);
System.out.print("Enter an integer: ");
int v1 = input.nextInt();
System.out.print("Enter an double value: ");
double v2 = input.nextDouble();
```