Conditional Statements

In BusinessObjects, conditional statements are formed simply using the following operators: If(), ElseIf(), Else(). Conditional statements are used to evaluate a logical statement and perform an action depending on whether it's true or false.

Using conditional statements in reports can give more flexibility than filters or can be used to group like objects that would normally be separated by query labels.

This handout will give two application examples for conditional statements:
- Filtering numerical data
- Grouping dissimilar data

If, ElseIf, Else Syntax

Syntax of these arguments is straightforward.   All conditional statements must began with one If.

=If ([Field in Report] = "Desired Value") Then "Do this action"

For additional conditions, ElseIf is used. ElseIf can be used an unlimited number of times.

=If ([Field in Report] = "Desired Value") Then "Do this action"
ElseIf ([Field in Report] = "Desired Value") Then "Do this action"
ElseIf ([Field in Report] = "Desired Value") Then "Do this action"

To perform an action for all other cases not specified by If or ElseIf, Else is used. Else takes no conditions.

=If ([Field in Report] = "Desired Value") Then "Do this action"
ElseIf ([Field in Report] = "Desired Value") Then "Do this action"
ElseIf ([Field in Report] = "Desired Value") Then "Do this action"
Else ("Do this")

Grouping Dissimilar Data

For reporting ease, grouping some data may be necessary. The example in this section will demonstrate how to group G/L account numbers into two categories of expenses: personnel cost and fringe

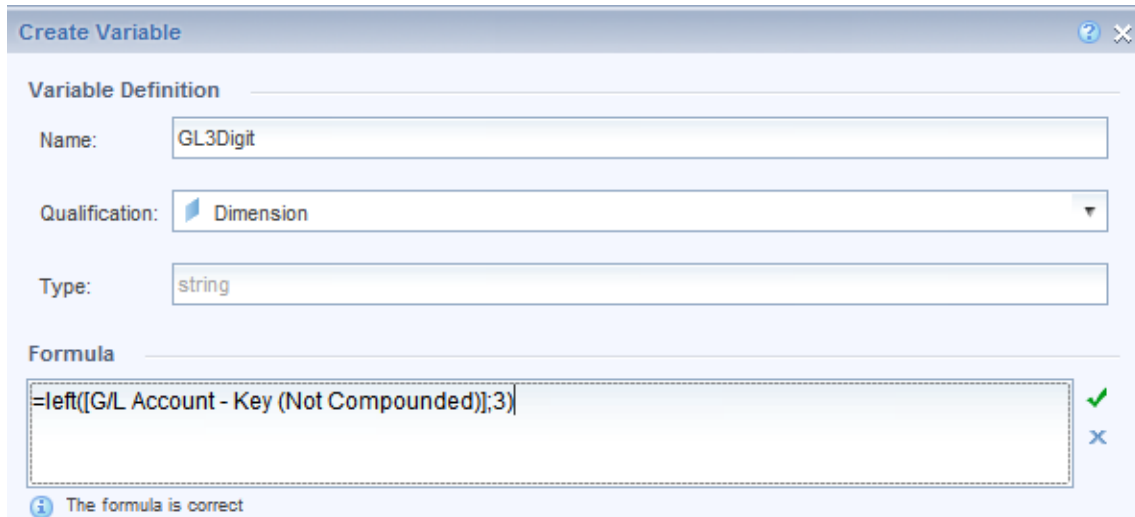This example uses Detail G/L Transaction Report [ZFI_ZGLP_O01_Q003]

Personnel and fringe generally fall in the following ranges:
- Personnel – G/L accounts beginning with 501
- Fringe – G/L accounts beginning with 513

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To begin, we'll need to extract the first three digits of the 10-digit G/L account. For simplicity, we will create a variable that does just this. This variable will be called GL3Digit. It uses Left(). Left() takes two arguments: field name and number of characters to extract.

The formula displayed below will extract 3 characters beginning from the left.

Create Variable

Variable Definition

Name: GL3Digit

Qualification: 🗒 Dimension ▼

Type: string

Formula

=left([G/L Account - Key (Not Compounded)];3)

ⓘ The formula is correct

Using this shortened G/L account will save us from having to enumerate every G/L account in the ranges mentioned above.

To group these shortened G/Ls, our statement will read:
=If([GL3Digit]="501") Then "Personnel Costs"
ElseIf([GL3Digit]="513") Then "Fringe"

Our sample data now is grouped by Personnel Cost and Fringe:

| CostGrouping	GL3Digit	G/L Account - Key (Not Compounded)	Debit/Credit Amount
Fringe	513	5130010000	5,179,932.56
Fringe	513	5130010001	127.46
Fringe	513	5130030000	21,035.88
Fringe	513	5130050000	227.86
Fringe	513	5130080000	697,790.24
Fringe	513	5130310000	2,779,024.86
Fringe	513	5130400000	441,379
Fringe	513	5130500000	29,668.14
Fringe	513	5130610000	3,602,823.85

After removing additional fields, data is neatly grouped data by Personnel Costs and Fringe:

CostGrouping	Debit/Credit Amount
Fringe	12,903,540.58
Personnel Costs	38,597,120.48
	-51,500,661.06

There is a portion of this data which did not meet either condition and is grouped together with no label.

To better understand this logic, consider the following flow chart. When the statement is evaluated, some data will result in no action.
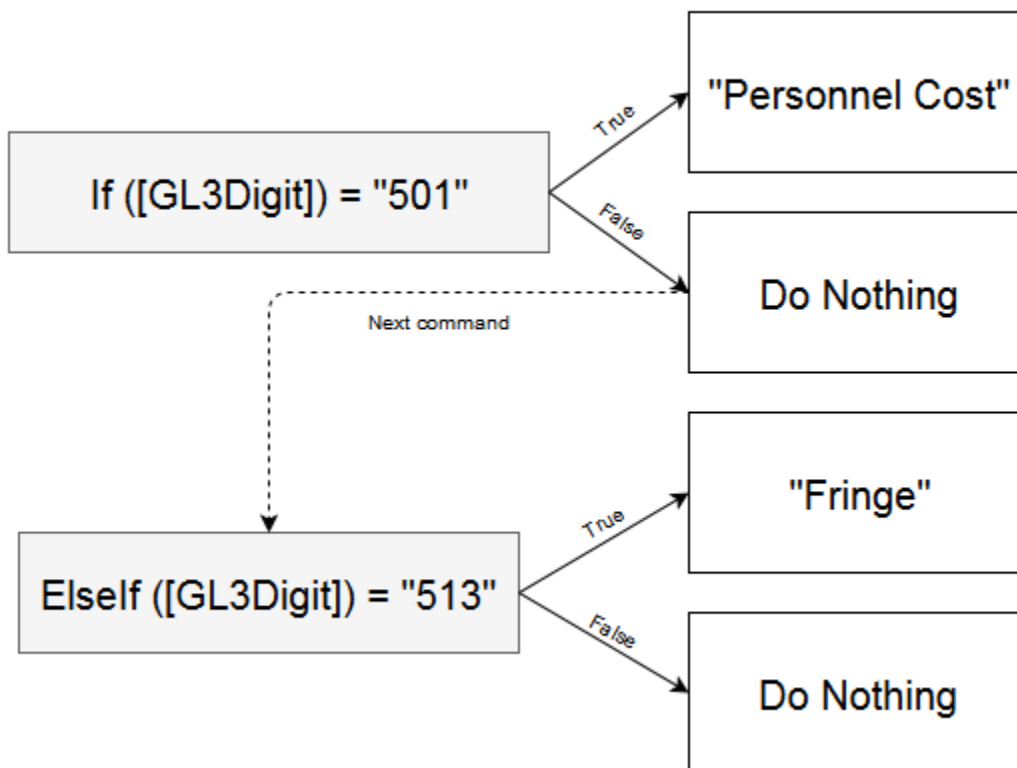
Conditional Statements

Filtering Numerical Data

A report may require numerical data to be displayed a certain way. Using a conditional statement, you can set the parameters for calculations.

This example will utilize G/L Account and Fund to sum amounts for a range of G/Ls in a certain fund.

=If([GL3Digit]="501") Then [Debit/Credit Amount] Where ([Fund – Key (Not Compounded)]="10010000") ElseIf([GL3Digit]="513") Then [Debit/Credit Amount] Where ([Fund – Key (Not Compounded)]="10010000")

GL3Digit	G/L Account - Key (Not Compounded)	Fund - Key (Not Compounded)	New Calc	Debit/Credit Amount
501	5010140000	10010000	185,516.88	185,516.88
501	5010500000	10010000	140	140
501	5010580000	10010000	10,134,102.52	10,134,102.52
501	5010580000	30240000	10,134,102.52	0
501	5010580000	30350001	10,134,102.52	7,704,976.38
501	5010580000	30670000	10,134,102.52	4,627,107.73
501	5010580000	31840000	10,134,102.52	256,608.19

The calculation we created, New Calc, is summing Debit/Credit amount specified in the formula. The repeating values are the result of some of the data in the table meeting are meeting one condition, G/L account, but not meeting the second condition 10010000.

Removing the unnecessary columns, the new calculation sums amounts for fund 10010000 for 501 and 513.

GL3Digit	Debit/Credit Amount	New Calc
501	38,597,120.48	12,193,245.72
513	12,903,540.58	3,872,709.03

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