

# Decision-Making

2024 Winter APS 105: Computer Fundamentals  
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Lecture 7  
1.0.0

## We Can Compare Characters

Recall: characters are **encoded** using ASCII  
Encoded means converted into bytes

'0' < '1' < '2' < '3' < '4' < '5' < '6' < '7' < '8' < '9'  
<  
'A' < 'B' < 'C' < 'D' < 'E' < ... < 'W' < 'X' < 'Y' < 'Z'  
<  
'a' < 'b' < 'c' < 'd' < 'e' < ... 'w' < 'x' < 'y' < 'z'

## We Can Use Arithmetic with Characters

The characters '0' through '9' are sequential, the values increase by 1

Examples:

'0' + 2 → '2'

'0' + 5 → '5'

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The characters '0' through '9' are sequential, the values increase by 1

Examples:

'0' + 2 → '2'

'0' + 5 → '5'

The characters 'A' through 'Z' are sequential as well as 'a' through 'z'

A upper case character + 32 results in the lower case of that character

Examples:

'A' + 2 → 'C'

'a' + 3 → 'd'

'o' - 1 → 'n'

## Let's Write a Program to That Looks for a Letter

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int main(void) {
    printf("Enter a character: ");
    char c = '\0';
    scanf("%c", &c);
    if ((c >= 'A' && c <= 'Z') || (c >= 'a' && c <= 'z')) {
        printf("You entered a letter!\n");
    }
    else {
        printf("You did not enter a letter!\n");
    }
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

## We Could Create Variables to Make Our Code More Readable

```
#include <stdbool.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int main(void) {
    printf("Enter a character: ");
    char c = '\0';
    scanf("%c", &c);
    bool isUppercaseLetter = c >= 'A' && c <= 'Z';
    bool isLowercaseLetter = c >= 'a' && c <= 'z';
    if (isUppercaseLetter || isLowercaseLetter) {
        printf("You entered a letter!\n");
    }
    else {
        printf("You did not enter a letter!\n");
    }
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

## The Compiler Optimizes Logic Operators, Like “Or”

You may write: (complex condition 1) || (complex condition 2)

In the case (complex condition 1) evaluates to true,  
the compiler will not evaluate (complex condition 2)

**Evaluate** is computing the result of an expression

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**Evaluate** is computing the result of an expression

Since the left-hand side of the || operator is true, the final result must true  
The value of the right-hand side does not matter



## **The Compiler Also Optimizes the “And” Logic Operator**

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You may write: (complex condition 1) && (complex condition 2)

In the case (complex condition 1) evaluates to false,  
the compiler will not evaluate (complex condition 2)

The compiler calls this **lazy evaluation**

## The Compiler Also Optimizes the “And” Logic Operator

We can do a similar optimization for the && operator

You may write: (complex condition 1) && (complex condition 2)

In the case (complex condition 1) evaluates to false, the compiler will not evaluate (complex condition 2)

The compiler calls this **lazy evaluation**

Since the left-hand side of the && operator is false, the final result must false  
The value of the right-hand side does not matter

## We Can Re-Write Logic Statements Using De Morgan's Laws

The laws state that:

$\!(A \ || \ B) \ == \ !A \ \&\& \ !B$

$\!(A \ \&\& \ B) \ == \ !A \ || \ !B$

## We Can Re-Write Logic Statements Using De Morgan's Laws

The laws state that:

```
!(A || B) == !A && !B
```

```
!(A && B) == !A || !B
```

If I wanted to only check for a character being not a letter, I might use:

```
!(isUppercaseLetter || isLowercaseLetter)
```

## We Can Re-Write Logic Statements Using De Morgan's Laws

The laws state that:

```
!(A || B) == !A && !B
```

```
!(A && B) == !A || !B
```

If I wanted to only check for a character being not a letter, I might use:

```
!(isUppercaseLetter || isLowercaseLetter)
```

I could re-write this as:

```
(!isUppercaseLetter && !isLowercaseLetter)
```

## **Beware: Ensure You Use Brackets to Get What You Mean**

What happens if I removed the brackets from:

```
!(isUppercaseLetter || isLowercaseLetter))
```

So, I wrote this instead:

```
!isUppercaseLetter || isLowercaseLetter)
```

Are these two expressions equivalent?

## **Beware: Ensure You Use Brackets to Get What You Mean**

What happens if I removed the brackets from:

```
!(isUppercaseLetter || isLowercaseLetter))
```

So, I wrote this instead:

```
(!isUppercaseLetter || isLowercaseLetter)
```

Are these two expressions equivalent?

No, the second is the same as:

```
((!isUppercaseLetter) || isLowercaseLetter)
```

Remember, unary operators have higher precedence!



## Beware: ; is a Statement

You may write something like:

```
if (isUppercaseLetter || isLowercaseLetter); {  
    printf("You entered a letter!\n");  
}
```

When you run this, no matter what, it always prints you entered a letter

## Beware: ; is a Statement

You may write something like:

```
if (isUppercaseLetter || isLowercaseLetter); {  
    printf("You entered a letter!\n");  
}
```

When you run this, no matter what, it always prints you entered a letter

This is because ; by itself is an empty statement that does nothing

When the condition is true, it does nothing

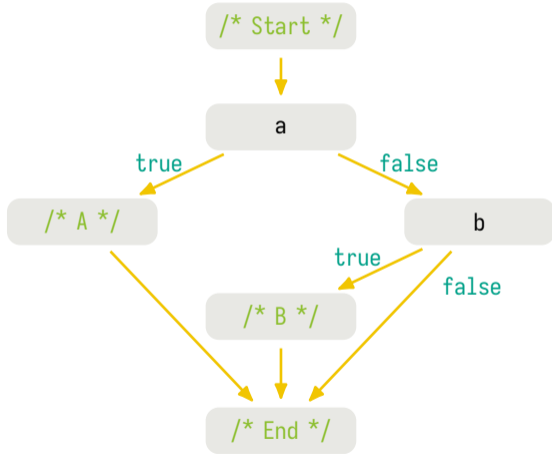
We either do nothing then run printf, or jump to printf

## We Can Chain If Statements Together

You can write:

```
/* Start */  
if (a) {  
    /* A */  
    /* This only runs if a is true. */  
}  
else if (b) {  
    /* B */  
    /* This only runs if a is false and b is true. */  
}  
/* End */
```

## The Flow of the Previous Program



## We Can Write Nested If Statements

```
if (a) {  
    if (b) {  
        /* Statements */  
    }  
}
```

We can put an `if` statement inside an `if` statement

Each time we begin an `if`, we add another level of indentation

## What Should Try to Be as Concise as Possible

Instead of writing:

```
if (a) {  
    if (b) {  
        /* Statements */  
    }  
}
```

We should write:

```
if (a && b) {  
    /* Statements */  
}
```

In general, the fewer levels of indentation you have, the easier it is to read

## Let's Write a Program to Find the Maximum of 3 Integers

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int main(void) {
    printf("Enter 3 integers: ");
    int x = 0, y = 0, z = 0;
    scanf("%d%d%d", &x, &y, &z);
    /* TODO */
    int max;
    printf("Maximum: %d\n", max);
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

## I'll Only Write the Code After the `scanf` (to Save Space)

```
int main(void) {
    int max;
    if (x >= y) {
        if (x >= z) { max = x; }
        else      { max = z; }
    }
    else if (y >= x) {
        if (y >= z) { max = y; }
        else      { max = z; }
    }
    else {
        max = z;
    }
    printf("Maximum: %d\n", max);
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```



## Can We Get Rid of the Nested Ifs?

The structure looks similar to:

```
if (a) {  
    if (b) {  
        /* Statements */  
    }  
}
```

Except there's an `else`, however all the `else` statements are the same

## We Can Get Rid of the Nested Ifs

```
int main(void) {
    int max;
    if (x >= y && x >= z) {
        max = x;
    }
    else if (y >= x && y >= z) {
        max = y;
    }
    else {
        max = z;
    }
    printf("Maximum: %d\n", max);
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

## In Fact, We Can Get Rid of the **else**

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int main(void) {
    printf("Enter 3 integers: ");
    int x = 0, y = 0, z = 0;
    scanf("%d%d%d", &x, &y, &z);
    int max = z;
    if (x >= y && x >= z) {
        max = x;
    }
    else if (y >= x && y >= z) {
        max = y;
    }
    printf("Maximum: %d\n", max);
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```