

# COMP 204

## Control flow - Conditionals

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based on material from Mathieu Blanchette, Carlos Oliver and  
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Quiz 5 password

# Recap from last lecture

## Variables in logical comparison

```
1 Weight = float(input("Enter weight (in kg): "))
2 Height = float(input("Enter height (in m): "))
3 userBMI = Weight/(Height**2)
4 LowBMI = 18.5
5 HighBMI = 25
6 userBMI < LowBMI # under weight
7 userBMI >= LowBMI and userBMI <= HighBMI # normal
8 userBMI > HighBMI # overweight
```

## Control flow

Until now, every line of our programs was executed exactly once, from top to bottom. This is very limiting!

- ▶ Conditionals: we may want to only execute a piece of code if a particular condition holds (e.g. if BMI is low, do something)
- ▶ While Loops: We may want to re-use certain pieces of code multiple times (e.g. keep asking someone the same questions until we get the correct answer)
- ▶ For Loops: We may want to perform the same operation on a large number of objects (e.g. change every 'T' to an 'A' and every 'G' to a 'C' in a complementary DNA sequence)

This is achieved using control flow instructions. The control flow of a program determines :

- ▶ Which part of the code should be executed regardlessly
- ▶ Which blocks of code should be executed *only under certain circumstances* (conditional execution, **today lecture**)
- ▶ Which blocks of code should be executed repeatedly, and for how many times

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# Conditionals

We use conditional execution to only execute a block of code if a certain boolean expression is true.

```
1 if booleanCondition:
2     # this block of code is only executed
3     # if booleanCondition is true
4 else:
5     # this block of code is only executed
6     # if booleanCondition is false
7
8 # this is outside the conditional
9 # this gets executed no matter what
```

**IMPORTANT:** In Python, we use indentation (tab character) to indicate what block a line belongs to.

## Example 1 : BMI revisited (demo in class)

```
1 weight = float( input('Please enter your weight: ') )
2 height = float( input('Please enter your height: ') )
3 BMI = weight/(height**2)
4 print('Your BMI is ',BMI)
5
6 if BMI < 18.5 :
7     print("You are underweight") # Lines 7 and 8 are only
8     print("Try to gain weight") # executed if BMI< 18.5
9 else:
10    print("You are not underweight")
11
12 print("Thank you for using the BMI calculator")
```

### Notes:

- ▶ Lines 7 and 8 form a block of code. They are indented together.
- ▶ The block 7-8 only gets executed if BMI < 18.5
- ▶ The block 10 only gets executed is BMI is not < 18.5
- ▶ Line 12 is outside the conditional; it gets executed after the conditional.

## Example 2 : BMI re-revisited

```
1 weight = float( input('Please enter your weight: ') )
2 height = float( input('Please enter your height: ') )
3 BMI = weight/(height**2)
4 print('Your BMI is ',BMI)
5
6 if BMI < 18.5 :
7     print("You are underweight")
8     print("Try to gain weight")
9
10 if BMI >= 18.5 and BMI <24.9:
11     print("Your weight is normal")
12
13 if BMI > 24.9:
14     print("You are overweight")
15
16 print("Thank you for using the BMI calculator")
```

In line 10, we use logical key word “and” to combine two statements “BMI >= 18.5” **and** “BMI < 24.9”



## Example 2 : BMI re-revisited (a logical mistake)

This is almost the same code, but it won't work properly: why?

```
1 weight = float( input('Please enter your weight: ') )
2 height = float( input('Please enter your height: ') )
3 BMI = weight/(height**2)
4 print('Your BMI is ',BMI)
5
6 if BMI < 18.5 :
7     print("You are underweight")
8     print("Try to gain weight")
9
10 if BMI >= 18.5 and BMI <24.9:
11     print("Your weight is normal")
12 else:
13     print("You are overweight")
14
15 print("Thank you for using the BMI calculator")
```

# Chained conditional

To execute exactly one of several blocks, we can use the if-elif-else structure.

```
1 if condition1:
2     # this is executed only if condition1 is true
3 elif condition2:
4     # this is executed only if condition1 is false and
5     # condition2 is true
6 elif condition3:
7     # this is executed only if condition1 is false and
8     # condition2 is false and condition3 is true
else:
    # this is executed only if all three conditions are
    # false
```

## Example 2 : BMI re-re-revisited

This version works correctly.

```
1 weight = float( input('Please enter your weight: ') )
2 height = float( input('Please enter your height: ') )
3 BMI = weight/(height**2)
4 print('Your BMI is ',BMI)
5
6 if BMI < 18.5 :
7     print("You are underweight")
8     print("Try to gain weight")
9 elif BMI >= 18.5 and BMI <24.9:
10    print("Your weight is normal")
11 else:
12    print("You are overweight")
13    print("Try to loose weight")
14
15 print("Thank you for using the BMI calculator")
```

# Nested conditionals

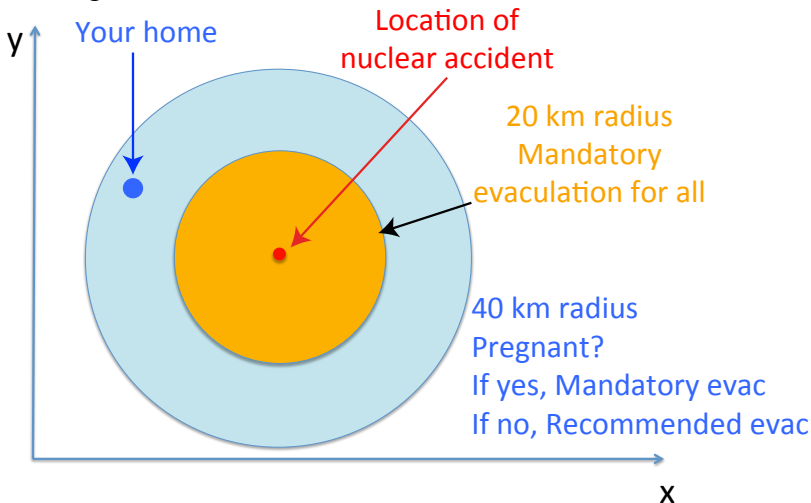
We can have conditionals inside conditionals:

```
1 if condition1:
2     # this is executed only if condition 1 is true
3     if condition2:
4         # this gets executed only if
5         # both conditions 1 and 2 are true
6     else:
7         # this gets executed only if
8         # condition 1 is true but condition 2 is false
9 else:
10    # gets executed only if condition1 is false
11    # we could have more if/else here
12
13 # this is outside the conditional
14 # this gets executed no matter what
```

► Note double indentation

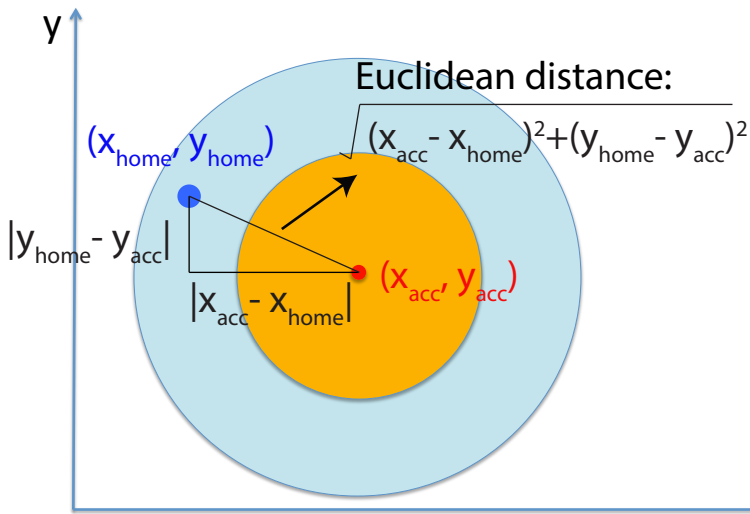
## Example 3: Nuclear accident evacuation

Task: Write a program to provide the correct evacuation message following a nuclear accident.



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## Example 3: Nuclear accident evacuation

```
1 import math # this imports the math module
2
3 xAcc = float(input("Enter x coord. of nuclear accident: "))
4 yAcc = float(input("Enter y coord. of nuclear accident: "))
5 xHome = float(input("Enter x coordinate of home: "))
6 yHome = float(input("Enter y coordinate of home: "))
7
8 distance = math.sqrt((xHome - xAcc)**2 + (yHome - yAcc)**2)
9
10 if distance <= 20:
11     print("You must evacuate")
12 elif distance <= 40:
13     pregnant = input("Are you pregnant? (yes/no) ")
14     if (pregnant == "yes" or pregnant == "Yes" or pregnant
15         == "Y" or pregnant == "y"):
16         print("You must evacuate")
17     else:
18         print("Evacuation is recommended")
19 else:
20     print("No need to evacuate")
```

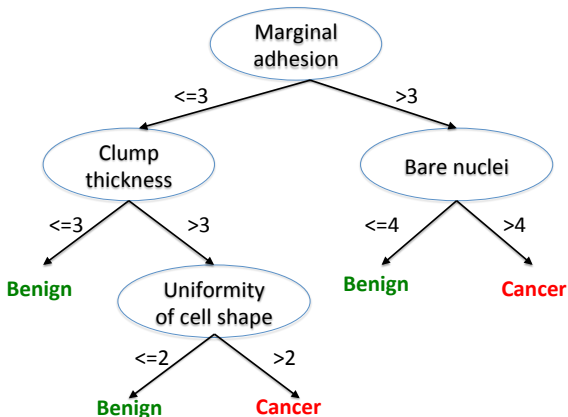
## Example 3: Nuclear accident evacuation (flexible answers)

```
1 import math # this imports the math module
2
3 xAcc = float(input("Enter x coord. of nuclear accident: "))
4 yAcc = float(input("Enter y coord. of nuclear accident: "))
5 xHome = float(input("Enter x coordinate of home: "))
6 yHome = float(input("Enter y coordinate of home: "))
7
8 distance = math.sqrt((xHome - xAcc)**2 + (yHome - yAcc)**2)
9
10 if distance <= 20:
11     print("You must evacuate")
12 elif distance <= 40:
13     pregnant = input("Are you pregnant? (yes/no) ")
14     if (pregnant == "yes" or pregnant == "Yes" or pregnant
15         == "Y" or pregnant == "y"):
16         print("You must evacuate")
17     else:
18         print("Evacuation is recommended")
19 else:
20     print("No need to evacuate")
```



## Example 4: Tumor classification by decision tree

Task: Write a program to guide doctors in their assessment of tumors.



## Example 4: Tumor classification

```
1 # the content of this variable
2 # will be changed by the code below
3 tumorType=""
4
5 adhesion = int(input("Enter marginal adhesion level" ) )
6 if adhesion <=3:
7     clump = int(input("Enter clump thickness"))
8     if clump <=3:
9         tumorType=" Benign"
10        a=""
11    else :
12        uniformity = int(input("Enter uniformity of cell
13 shape" ))
14        if uniformity <=2:
15            tumorType=" Benign"
16        else :
17            tumorType=" Cancer"
18 else :
19     bare = int(input("Enter level of bare nuclei"))
20     if bare <=4:
21         tumorType=" Benign"
22     else :
23         tumorType=" Cancer"
24 print("The tumor type is: ", tumorType)
```

Assignment 1 will be released tonight after midnight