

# Lecture 4 - Conditionals

Alexander Lam

# Conditionals

- **if cond then A**

- Check the condition **cond**.
- If it is true, then execute A.
- Otherwise, do nothing.

```
if a < 0 then  
    a = -a
```

- **if cond then A else B**

- Check the condition **cond**.
- If it is true, then execute A.
- Otherwise, execute B.

```
if a < b then  
    answer = a  
else  
    answer = b
```

# Question 1

What does the following code print?

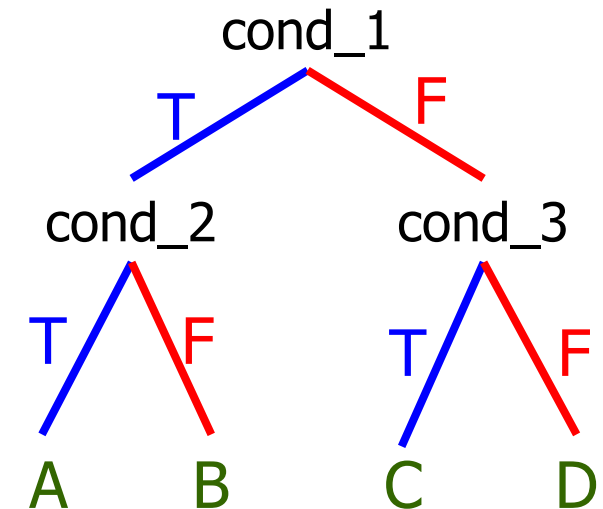
```
a = 50
if a > 50 then
    print("ABC")
else
    print("123")
if a < 50 then
    print("DEF")
else
    print("456")
```

# Nested Conditionals

- Conditionals can be **nested**.

```
if cond_1 then  
  if cond_2 then A  
  else B  
else  
  if cond_3 then C  
  else D
```

- Four types of situations.
  - Cond\_1 **true** and cond\_2 **true**  $\Rightarrow$  A
  - Cond\_1 **true** and cond\_2 **false**  $\Rightarrow$  B
  - Cond\_1 **false** and cond\_3 **true**  $\Rightarrow$  C
  - Cond\_1 **false** and cond\_3 **false**  $\Rightarrow$  D



# Question 2

What is the final value of totalreps after the following code is run?

```
totalreps = 0
for weight in [130, 150, 170, 160, 140]
    reps = 0
    while alex is not tired
        reps = reps + 1
        alex = alexTired(reps, weight)
    totalreps = totalreps + reps
```

```
Function alexTired(reps, weight)
    if weight >= 170 then
        if reps >= 1
            return tired
        else return not tired
    else if weight >= 150 then
        if reps >= 3
            return tired
        else return not tired
    else
        if reps >= 5
            return tired
        else return not tired
```

# Question 3

Given three unequal numbers,  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ , we want to print the correct ordering. Is the following code correct?

```
if a > b then
  if b > c then
    print "a > b > c"
  else
    print "a > c > b"
else
  if b < c then
    print "a < b < c"
  else
    print "a < c < b"
```

```
if a > b then
  if b > c then
    print "a > b > c"
  else
    if a > c then
      print "a > c > b"
    else
      print "c > a > b"
else
  if b < c then
    print "c > b > a"
  else
    if a < c then
      print "b > c > a"
    else
      print "b > a > c"
```

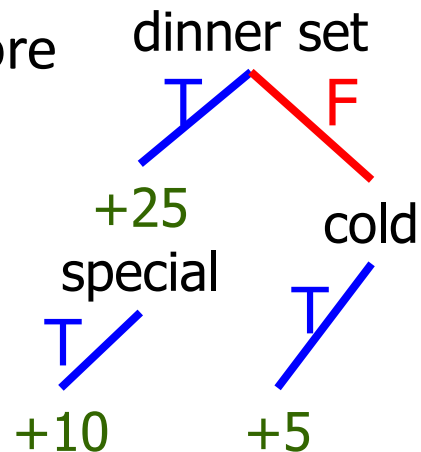
# Indentation

- Consider ordering a dinner dish at a typical cha chaan teng.
  - Cost of dinner main dish is \$80
  - Order dinner set with \$25 more (salad + drink)
  - Special drink in dinner set can be ordered for \$10 more (e.g. lemon coke or red bean ice)
  - All special drinks are cold drinks
  - Standard drink means coffee or tea
  - Standard cold drink at \$5 more

# Question 5

- Consider ordering a dinner dish at a typical cha chaan teng.
  - Cost of dinner main dish is \$80
  - Order dinner set with \$25 more (salad + drink)
  - Special drink in dinner set can be ordered for \$10 more (e.g. lemon coke or red bean ice)
  - All special drinks are cold drinks
  - Standard drink means coffee or tea
  - Standard cold drink at \$5 more

**Is this pseudocode correct?**



```
set cost to 80
if dinner set then
    cost = cost + 25
    if special drink then
        cost = cost + 10
else
    if cold drink then
        cost = cost + 5
return cost
```



# Question 6

- Consider ordering a dinner dish at a typical cha chaan teng.
  - Cost of dinner main dish is \$80
  - Order dinner set with \$25 more (salad + drink)
  - Special drink in dinner set can be ordered for \$10 more (e.g. lemon coke or red bean ice)
  - All special drinks are cold drinks
  - Standard drink means coffee or tea
  - Standard cold drink at \$5 more

**Write correct pseudocode**

Old pseudocode

```
set cost to 80
if dinner set then
    cost = cost + 25
    if special drink then
        cost = cost + 10
else
    if cold drink then
        cost = cost + 5
return cost
```

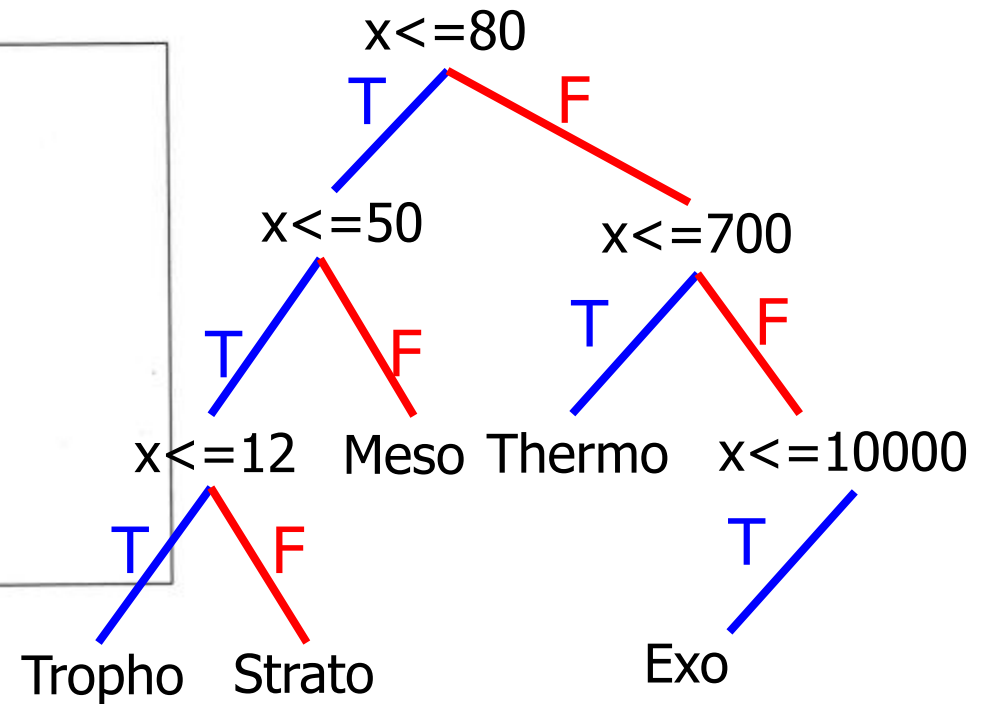
```
set cost to 80
if dinner set then
    cost = cost + 25
    if special drink then
        cost = cost + 10
else
    if cold drink then
        cost = cost + 5
return cost
```

# Question 7 (not on the Blackboard Quiz)

Draw a decision tree to illustrate the following pseudocode.

7. Examine the following pseudocode for determining the location of an object in the major layers of the Earth's atmosphere, based on its distance,  $x$ , in terms of kilometers, from the Earth's surface.

```
if x <= 80
  if x <= 50
    if x <= 12
      return "Troposphere"
    else
      return "Stratosphere"
  else
    return "Mesosphere"
else
  if x <= 700
    return "Thermosphere"
  else if x <= 10000
    return "Exosphere"
```



From 2022 past paper

# Conditionals

- List of conditions
  - Count the number of times for each face of a die.

```
reset count1 to count6 value to zero
for i in [1..1000] do
  face = throw a die
  if face = 1 then count1 = count1 + 1
  if face = 2 then count2 = count2 + 1
  if face = 3 then count3 = count3 + 1
  if face = 4 then count4 = count4 + 1
  if face = 5 then count5 = count5 + 1
  if face = 6 then count6 = count6 + 1
```

- Each condition is **exclusive** from each other.

# Conditionals

- List of conditions
  - Count the number of grades in a class.

```
reset countA to countF value to zero
for each student s in class list L do
  g = score of student s
  if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
  if g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1
  if g >= 55 then countC = countC + 1
  if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
  if g < 40 then countF = countF + 1
```

Is this correct?

- Each condition is **not exclusive** from each other!

# Conditionals

- List of conditions
  - Count the number of grades in a class.

```
reset countA to countF value to zero
for each student s in class list L do
  g = score of student s
  if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
  if 70 <= g < 85 then countB = countB + 1
  if 55 <= g < 70 then countC = countC + 1
  if 40 <= g < 55 then countD = countD + 1
  if g < 40 then countF = countF + 1
```

Is this correct?

- Each condition is **now exclusive** from each other!

# Conditionals

- Chained conditions
  - Count the number of grades in a class.

```
reset countA to countF value to zero
for each student s in class list L do
  g = score of student s
  if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
  else if g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1
  else if g >= 55 then countC = countC + 1
  else if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
  else if g < 40 then countF = countF + 1
```

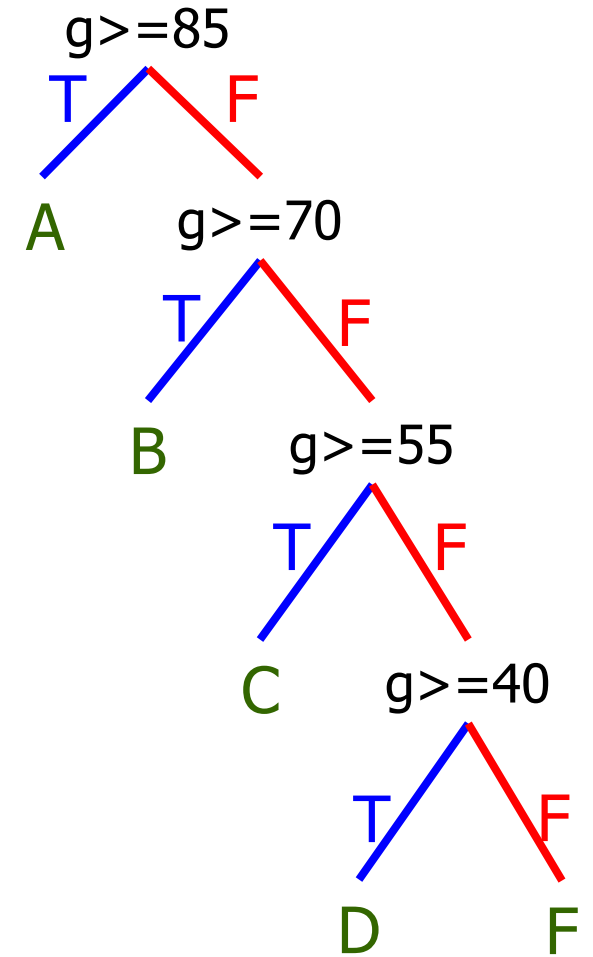
Is this correct?

- Each condition is **not exclusive** from each other, but each in **chain of conditions** is **exclusive**!

# Conditionals

- Chained conditions
  - In Python, else if can be replaced by elif

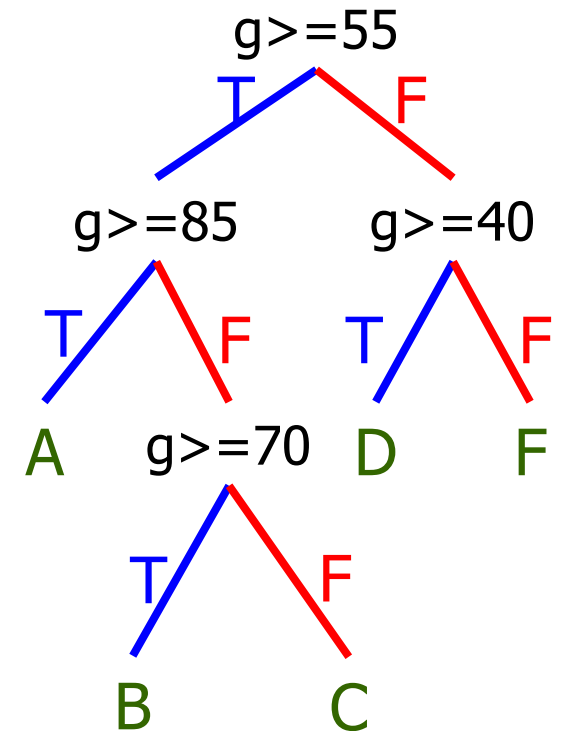
```
reset countA to countF value to zero
for each student s in class list L do
    g = score of student s
    if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
    elif g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1
    elif g >= 55 then countC = countC + 1
    elif g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
    else countF = countF + 1
```



# Nested/multi-way conditions

- Nested/multi-way conditions

```
reset countA to countF value to zero
for each student s in class list L do
  g = score of student s
  if g >= 55 then # pass
    if g >= 85 then
      countA = countA + 1
    else
      if g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1
      else countC = countC + 1
  else
    if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
    else countF = countF + 1
```

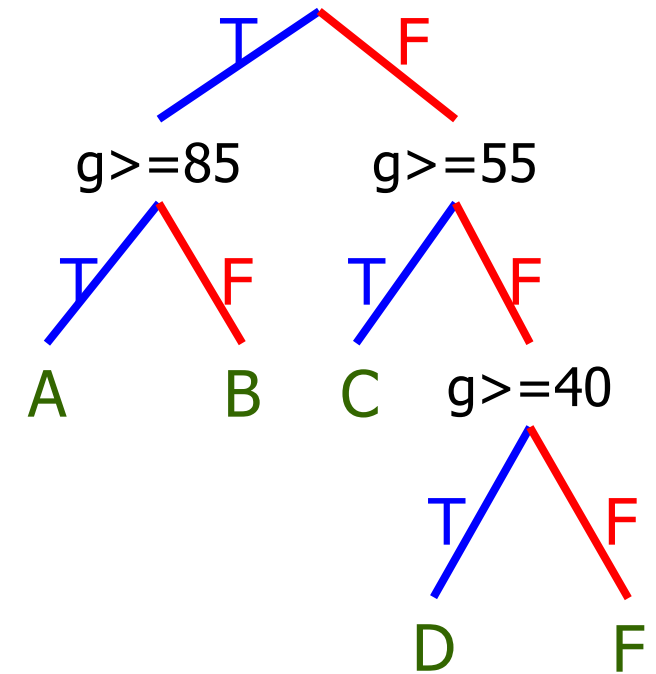




# Question 8

- Conditions can be reordered

```
reset countA to countF value to zero
for each student s in class list L do
  g = score of student s
  if g >= 70 then
    if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
    else countB = countB + 1
  else
    if g >= 55 then
      countC = countC + 1
    else
      if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
      else countF = countF + 1
```

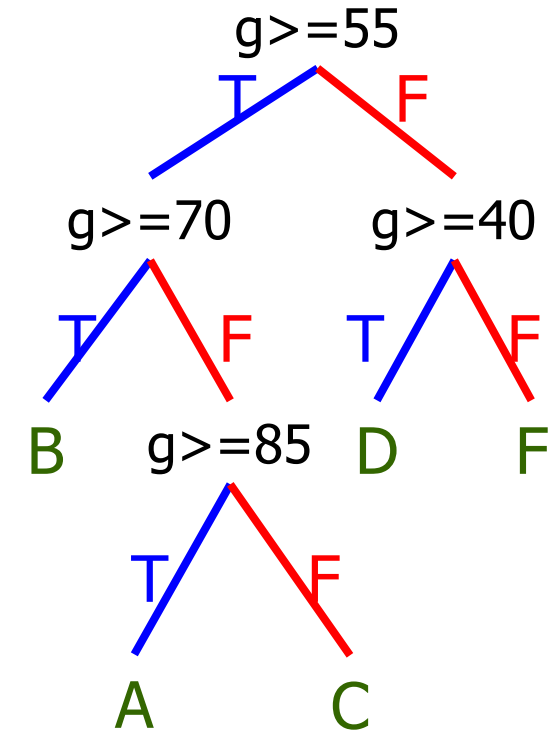


Is this pseudocode correct?

# Question 9

- Conditions can be reordered

```
reset countA to countF value to zero
for each student s in class list L do
  g = score of student s
  if g >= 55 then # pass
    if g >= 70 then
      countB = countB + 1
    else
      if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
      else countC = countC + 1
  else
    if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
    else countF = countF + 1
```



Is this pseudocode correct?

# Efficiency

- Which ordering of conditionals is the best?
- How do we determine which ordering is the best?
- We want to minimize the number of if-statements that are evaluated!
- But what metric?
  - Best-case
  - Worst-case
  - Average-case

# Efficiency – Best-case

- Best-case number of if-statements
  - The student's grade **minimizes** the number of if-statements we need to evaluate.

if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1 if 70 <= g < 85 then countB = countB + 1 if 55 <= g < 70 then countC = countC + 1 if 40 <= g < 55 then countD = countD + 1 if g < 40 then countF = countF + 1	if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1 else if g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1 else if g >= 55 then countC = countC + 1 else if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1 else countF = countF + 1
if g >= 55 then if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1 else if g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1 else countC = countC + 1 else if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1 else countF = countF + 1	if g >= 70 then if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1 else countB = countB + 1 else if g >= 55 then countC = countC + 1 else if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1 else countF = countF + 1

# Efficiency – Worst-case

- Worst-case number of if-statements
  - The student's grade **maximizes** the number of if-statements we need to evaluate.

if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1 if 70 <= g < 85 then countB = countB + 1 if 55 <= g < 70 then countC = countC + 1 if 40 <= g < 55 then countD = countD + 1 if g < 40 then countF = countF + 1	if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1 else if g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1 else if g >= 55 then countC = countC + 1 else if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1 else countF = countF + 1
if g >= 55 then if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1 else if g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1 else countC = countC + 1 else if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1 else countF = countF + 1	if g >= 70 then if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1 else countB = countB + 1 else if g >= 55 then countC = countC + 1 else if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1 else countF = countF + 1

# Efficiency – Average-case

- Average-case number of if-statements
  - We can say that there is an equal number of all grades
  - **A=20%, B=20%, C=20%, D=20%, F=20%**

```
if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
if 70 <= g < 85 then countB = countB + 1
if 55 <= g < 70 then countC = countC + 1
if 40 <= g < 55 then countD = countD + 1
if g < 40 then countF = countF + 1
```

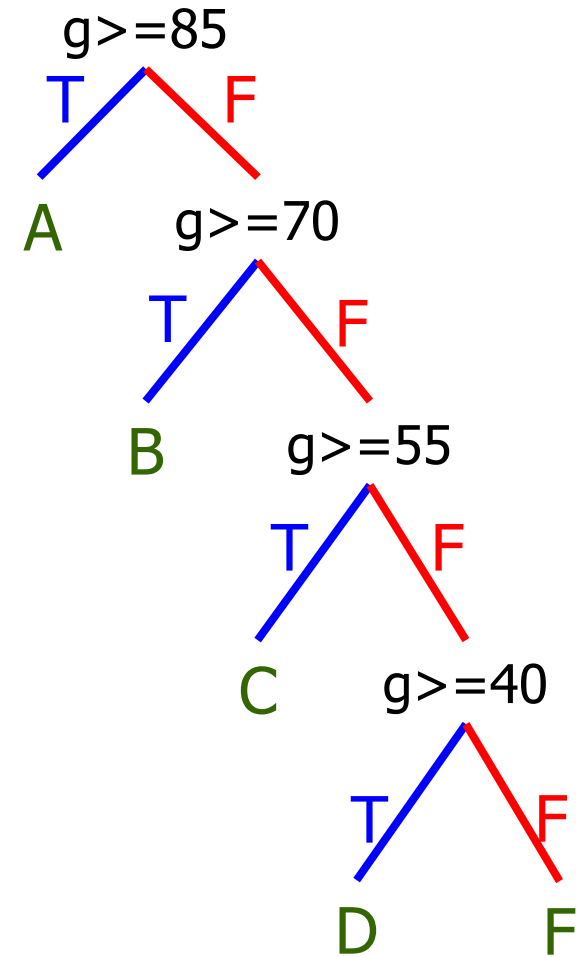
## List of Conditions

# Efficiency – Average-case

- Average-case number of if-statements
  - We can say that there is an equal number of all grades
  - **A=20%, B=20%, C=20%, D=20%, F=20%**

```
if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
else if g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1
else if g >= 55 then countC = countC + 1
else if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
else countF = countF + 1
```

## Chained Conditions

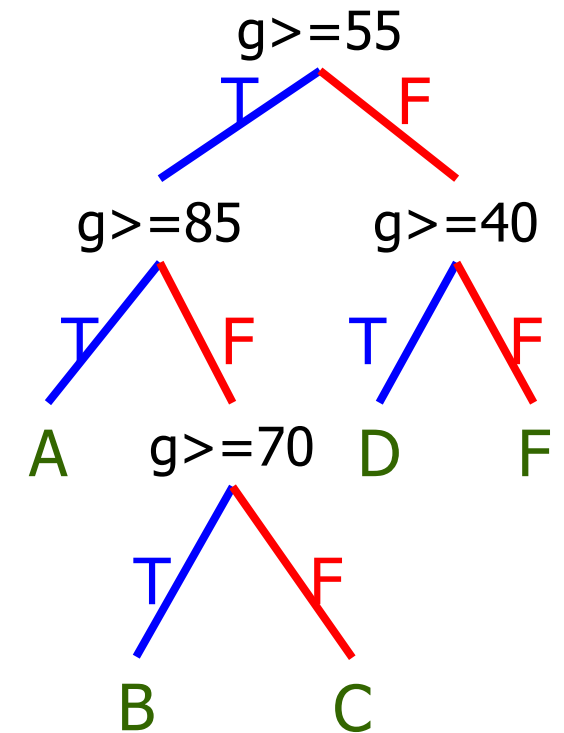


# Efficiency – Average-case Question 10

- **What is the average number of if-statements evaluated per-student?**
  - We can say that there is an equal number of all grades
  - **A=20%, B=20%, C=20%, D=20%, F=20%**

```
if g >= 55 then
  if g >= 85 then
    countA = countA + 1
  else
    if g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1
    else countC = countC + 1
  else
    if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
    else countF = countF + 1
```

## Nested Conditions 1

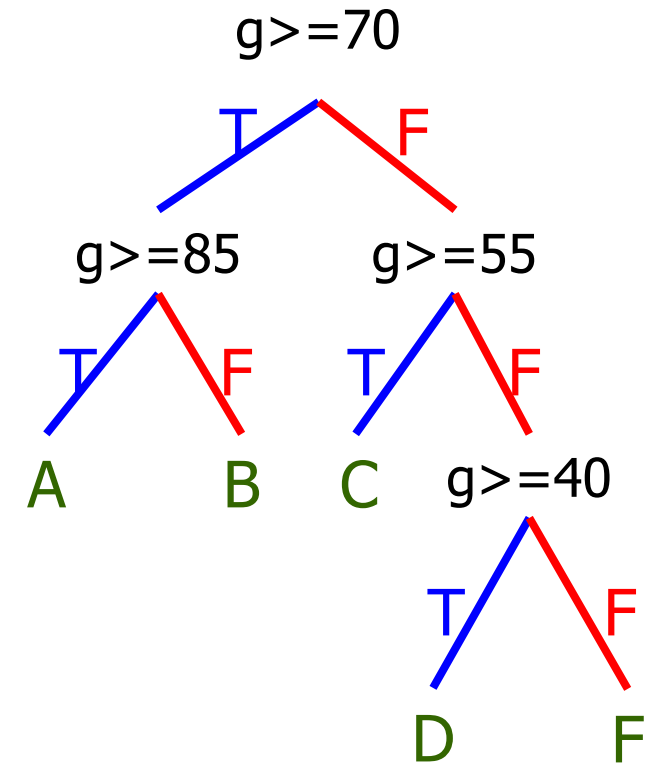




# Efficiency – Average-case Question 11

- **What is the average number of if-statements evaluated per-student?**
  - We can say that there is an equal number of all grades
  - **A=20%, B=20%, C=20%, D=20%, F=20%**

```
if g >= 70 then
  if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
  else countB = countB + 1
else
  if g >= 55 then
    countC = countC + 1
  else
    if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
    else countF = countF + 1
```



## Nested Conditions 2

# Efficiency – Average-case

- Average-case number of if-statements
  - We can take the distribution of students from real-world data
  - **A=20%, B=50%, C=10%, D=10%, F=10%**

```
if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
if 70 <= g < 85 then countB = countB + 1
if 55 <= g < 70 then countC = countC + 1
if 40 <= g < 55 then countD = countD + 1
if g < 40 then countF = countF + 1
```

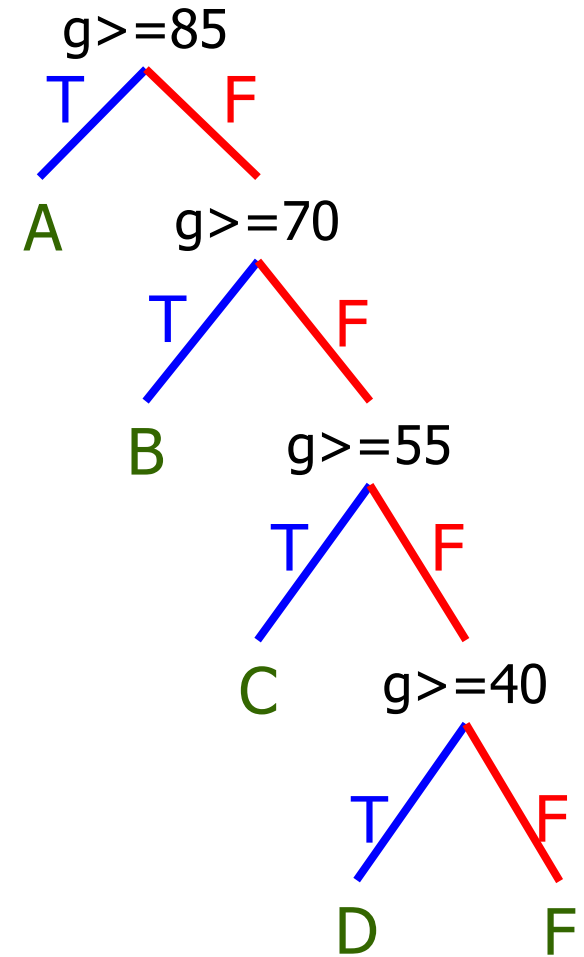
## List of Conditions

# Efficiency – Average-case

- Average-case number of if-statements
  - We can take the distribution of students from real-world data
  - **A=20%, B=50%, C=10%, D=10%, F=10%**

```
if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
else if g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1
else if g >= 55 then countC = countC + 1
else if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
else countF = countF + 1
```

## Chained Conditions

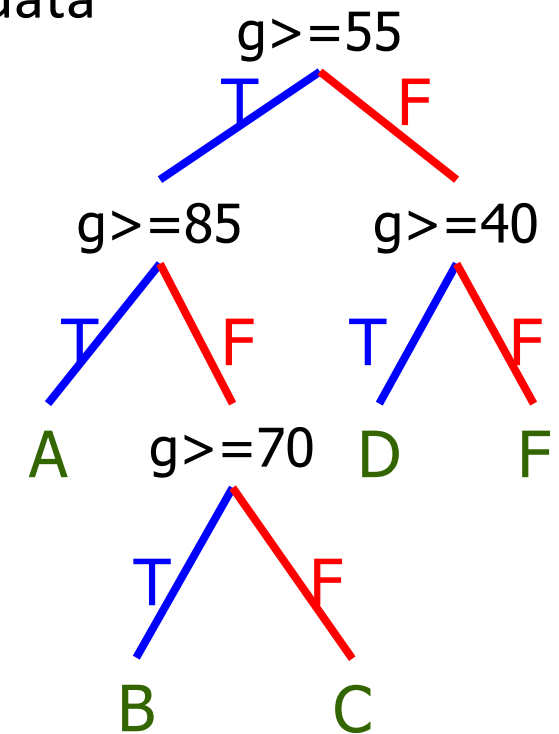


# Efficiency – Average-case Question 12

- **What is the average number of if-statements evaluated per-student?**
  - We can take the distribution of students from real-world data
  - **A=20%, B=50%, C=10%, D=10%, F=10%**

```
if g >= 55 then
  if g >= 85 then
    countA = countA + 1
  else
    if g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1
    else countC = countC + 1
else
  if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
  else countF = countF + 1
```

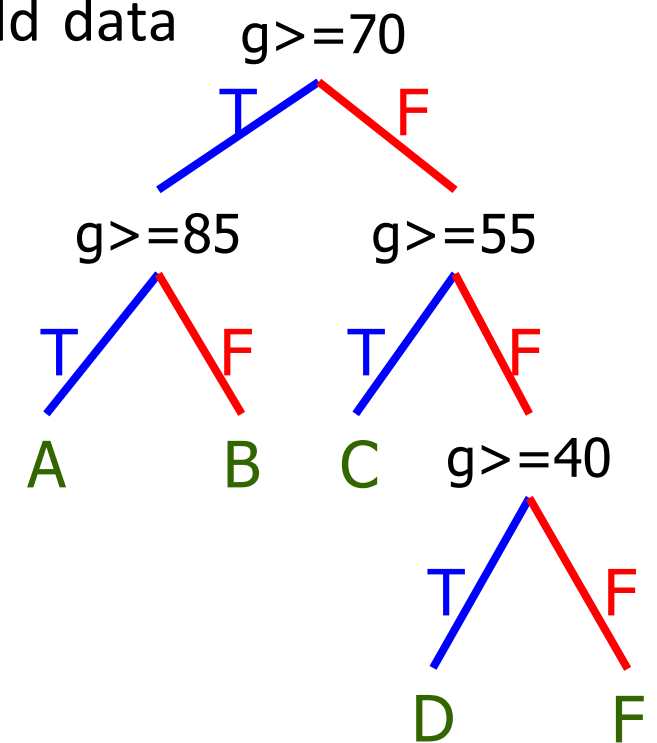
## Nested Conditions 1



# Efficiency – Average-case Question 13

- **What is the average number of if-statements evaluated per-student?**
  - We can take the distribution of students from real-world data
  - **A=20%, B=50%, C=10%, D=10%, F=10%**

```
if g >= 70 then
  if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
  else countB = countB + 1
else
  if g >= 55 then
    countC = countC + 1
  else
    if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
    else countF = countF + 1
```



## Nested Conditions 2

# Efficiency - Summary

	List of conditions	Chained conditions	Nested conditions 1	Nested conditions 2
Best case	5	<b>1</b>	2	2
Worst case	5	4	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
Average case – equal count	5	2.8	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Average case – realistic count	5	2.3	2.6	<b>2.2</b>

Can we beat this?

# Efficiency

- **A=20%, B=50%, C=10%, D=10%, F=10%**

```
if 70 <= g < 85 then countB = countB + 1  
else if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1  
else if g >= 55 then countC = countC + 1  
else if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1  
else countF = countF + 1
```

- $0.5 * 1 + 0.2 * 2 + 0.1 * 3 + 0.1 * 4 + 0.1 * 5 = 2.1 < 2.2$

# Efficiency – Side-note

- In practice, “if  $70 \leq g < 85$ ” takes two operations to evaluate.
  - It is evaluated as “if  $g \geq 70$  and  $g < 85$ ”
- “ $g \geq 70$ ” takes one operation to evaluate
- But for this lecture, we are counting if-statements, not evaluation operations!
  - “if  $70 \leq g < 85$ ” counted as **one** if-statement



# Break Time

- Put your laptops away
- Form groups of 4 to 8 students
- On a piece of paper, write at the top:
  - Group Name
  - Student Names
  - Student Numbers
- Make sure there is room for other writing on your paper

# Alternate Grading System

- Most universities in Australia use the following grading system
  - High Distinction (HD): 85-100
  - Distinction (D): 75-84
  - Credit (C): 65-74
  - Pass (P): 50-64
  - Fail (F): 0-49

# Group Challenge 1: 20 minutes

Alex roughly remembers that in his first year Electrical Engineering course, the grade distribution was:

HD (85-100)	D (75-84)	C (65-74)	P (50-64)	F (0-49)
10%	15%	25%	20%	30%

```
if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
else if g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1
else if g >= 55 then countC = countC + 1
else if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
else countF = countF + 1
```

^For your reference

- Write pseudocode to count the number of students in each grade band.

- The variable  $g$  represents the student's grade

**No Laptops** • Use variables countHD, countD, countC, countP, countF

**Allowed!** • You can only use those variables and {if, else-if, then,  $\geq$ ,  $>$ ,  $\leq$ ,  $<$ ,  $=$ ,  $\neq$ ,  $+$ , 1}

- “if  $a \leq g < b$ ” will be counted as **one** if-statement

- Draw a decision tree which represents the pseudocode.
- Showing your working out, do average-case analysis to find the average number of if-statements evaluated per-student for this grade distribution.
- Submit your sheet to the front when you are done.
- **Team with lowest avg wins. Pseudocode+Tree+Analysis must be correct. Tie-break in favour of earlier submission. Top two teams win a prize.**

# Break Time

- On **two** pieces of paper, write at the top:
  - Group Name
  - Student Names
  - Student Numbers
- Make sure there is room for other writing on your paper

# Group Challenge 2: 15 minutes

Now, the percentages are randomly generated **after** your pseudocode is submitted.

HD (85-100)	D (75-84)	C (65-74)	P (50-64)	F (0-49)
RNG%	RNG%	RNG%	RNG%	RNG%

- On **both pieces of paper**, write pseudocode and a corresponding decision tree to count the number of students in each grade band.

- The same pseudocode and decision tree must be on both pieces of paper.**

- The variable *g* represents the student's grade

- Use variables countHD, countD, countC, countP, countF

- You can only use those variables and {if, else-if, then, >=, >, <=, <, ==, !=, =, +, 1}

- "if  $a \leq g < b$ " will be counted as **one** if-statement

- Submit **one of your sheets** to the front when you are done.

- When the time is up, I will randomly generate the grade distribution. You will then do the average-case analysis on your **other sheet of paper**. **Do not submit this paper (yet).**

- Team with lowest avg wins. Pseudocode+Tree+Analysis must be correct. Tie-break in favour of earlier Sheet1 submission. Top two teams win a prize.**

```
if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
else if g >= 70 then countB = countB + 1
else if g >= 55 then countC = countC + 1
else if g >= 40 then countD = countD + 1
else countF = countF + 1
```

^For your reference

**No Laptops  
Allowed!**

Group Challenge is now over

You can take your laptop out

# Counting if-statement evaluations in Python

```
def countif_2():
    grade_list = [90,70,50,30,60]
    countA, countB, countC, countD, countF = 0, 0, 0, 0, 0
    if_count = 0
    for g in grade_list:
        if g >= 85:
            if_count = if_count+1
            countA = countA + 1
        elif g >= 70:
            if_count = if_count+2
            countB = countB + 1
        elif g >= 55:
            if_count = if_count+3
            countC = countC + 1
        elif g >= 40:
            if_count = if_count+4
            countD = countD + 1
        else:
            if_count = if_count+4
            countF = countF + 1
    print("If-2: Grades",grade_list)
    print("Total if",if_count,"Average",if_count/len(grade_list))
```

Homework: Try  
implement this for the  
other lecture examples!

# Revisiting List of Conditions

- Consider this again:

```
reset countA to countF value to zero
for each student s in class list L do
    g = score of student s
    if g >= 85 then countA = countA + 1
    if 70 <= g < 85 then countB = countB + 1
    if 55 <= g < 70 then countC = countC + 1
    if 40 <= g < 55 then countD = countD + 1
    if g < 40 then countF = countF + 1
```

- Conditions are **mutually exclusive**.
  - Once a count is added, there is no need to check for other if-cases. We could stop the checking and go to next student.
  - This can be done with **continue** in Python/C.



# Counting Inside a Program

```
for g in grade_list:
    if g >= 85:
        if_count = if_count+1
        countA = countA + 1
        continue
    if_count = if_count+1
    if 70 <= g < 85:
        if_count = if_count+1
        countB = countB + 1
        continue
    if_count = if_count+1
    if 55 <= g < 70:
        if_count = if_count+1
        countC = countC + 1
        continue
    if_count = if_count+1
    if 40 <= g < 55:
        if_count = if_count+1
        countD = countD + 1
        continue
    if_count = if_count+1
    if g < 40:
        if_count = if_count+1
        countF = countF + 1
        continue
    if_count = if_count+1
```

**continue** will go directly  
to the next round of loop

Homework: Try implement this too!

# New Consultation Hour!

- Friday 3:30 – 4:30 pm at LibCafe

