

# White Box Testing

# CYCLOMATIC COMPLEXITY

- ***Cyclomatic complexity*** is a software metric that provides a quantitative measure of the logical complexity of a program.
- Cyclomatic complexity **defines number of independent paths** which can be further used in development of test cases.

# Complexity is computed in one of three ways:

1. The number of regions of the flow graph corresponds to the cyclomatic complexity.

2. Cyclomatic complexity  $V(G)$  for a flow graph  $G$  is defined as

$$\underline{V(G) = E - N + 2} \text{ (McCabe Complexity Measure)}$$

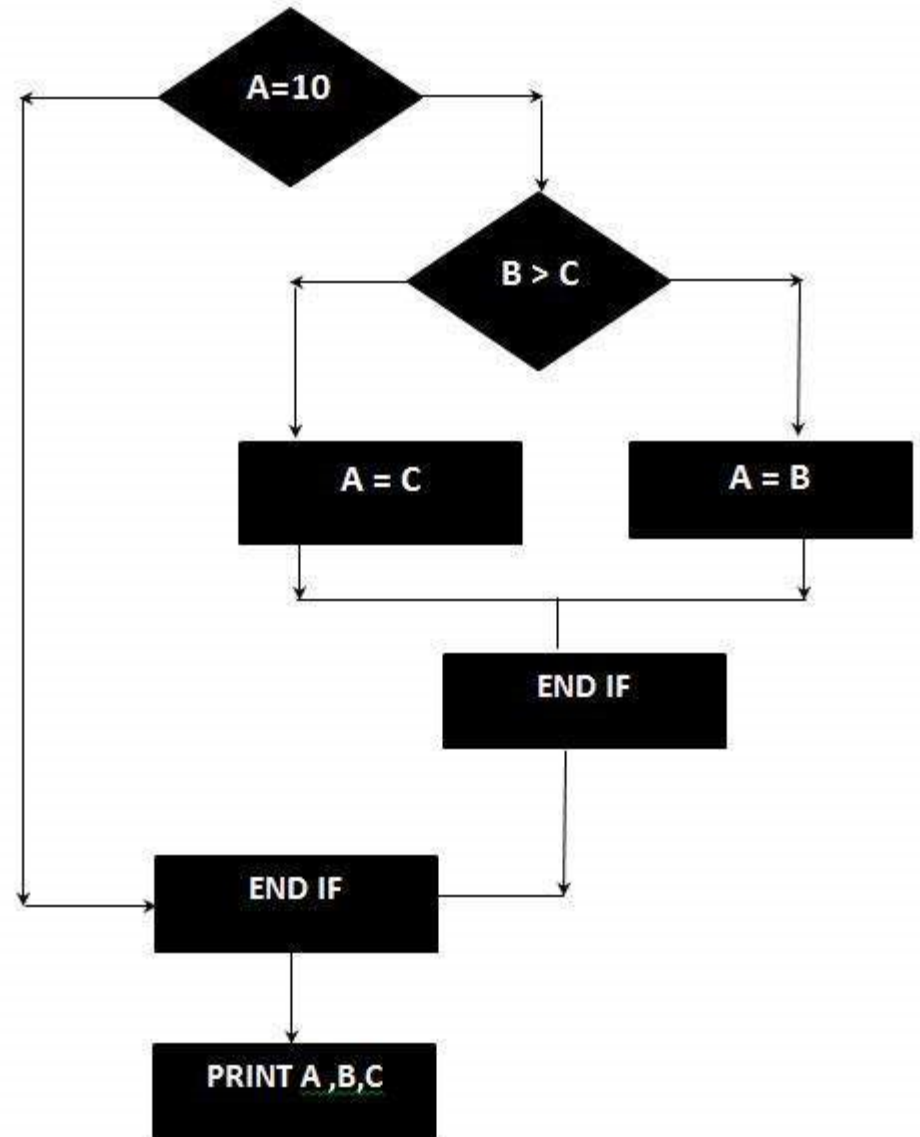
where  $E$  is the number of flow graph edges and  $N$  is the number of flow graph nodes.

3. Cyclomatic complexity  $V(G)$  for a flow graph  $G$  is also defined as

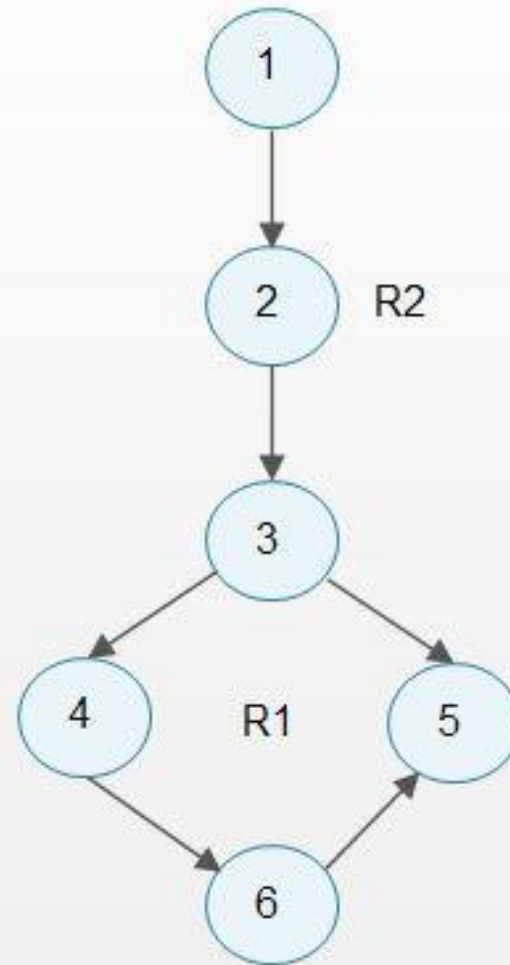
$$\underline{V(G) = P + 1}$$

where  $P$  is the number of predicate nodes contained in the flow graph  $G$ .

```
IF A = 10 THEN
  IF B > C THEN
    A = B
  ELSE
    A = C
  ENDIF
ENDIF
Print A
Print B
Print C
```



```
procedure greater;  
integer: x, y, z = 0;  
enter the value of x;  
enter the value of y;  
if x > y then  
z = x;  
else  
z = y;  
end greater
```



**Flow graph to Find the Greater between Two Numbers**

# **Determine all independent paths through the program**

For the flow graph depicted the independent paths are listed below.

P1: 1-2-3-4-6

P2: 1-2-3-5-6

# Compute the cyclomatic complexity

CC = 2 as there two regions R1 and R2

or

CC  $6 \text{ edges} - 6 \text{ nodes} + 2 = 2$

or

CC  $1 \text{ predicate node} + 1 = 2.$