# ALGORITHMS, FLOWCHARTS PSEUDO CODE PROGRAMS Lesson 5

# Introduction to Algorithms

- A sequence of instructions.
- A procedure or formula for solving a problem.
- It was created mathematician, Mohammed ibn-Musa al-Khwarizmi.
- Often used for calculation, data processing and programming.
- Algorithms can be expressed in any language.
- Algorithms for making things will often be divided into sections;
  - The parts/components/ingredients (**inputs**) required to accomplish the task
  - actions/steps/methods (**processing**) to produce the required outcome (**output**).
- For example to build a model car, the parts (**inputs**) are needed plus instructions on how to assemble the car (**processing**) and the result is the car (**output**).

- Pseudocode (which means fake code, because its not really programming code) specifies the steps required to accomplish the task.
- Pseudocode is a type of structured English that is used to specify an algorithm.
- Pseudocode cannot be compiled nor executed, and there are no real formatting or syntax rules.

# Algorithms

### **Pseudocode**

### Example of Pseudocode:

```
Ready and open subscriber file

Get a record

Do while more records

If current subscriber subscription count is > 3 then

Output the record

Get another record

end
```

### **Advantages of Pseudocode**

- Reduced complexity.
- Increased flexibility.
- Ease of understanding.

### Why is Pseudocode Necessary?

- The programming process is a complicated one.
- You must first understand the program specifications.
- Then you need to organize your thoughts and create the program.
- You must break the main tasks that must be accomplished into smaller ones in order to be able to eventually write fully developed code.
- Writing Pseudocode will save you time later during the construction & testing phase of a program's development.

### **How to Write Pseudocode Statements?**

There are six basic computer operations

- A computer can receive information Read (information from a file)
   Get (information from the keyboard)
- 2. A computer can put out information
  Write (information to a file) Display (information to the screen)
- 3. A computer can perform arithmetic
  Use actual mathematical symbols or the words for the symbols
  Example:

Add number to total Total = total + number +, -, \*, /
Calculate, Compute also used

- 4. A computer can assign a value to a piece of data
- i. to give data an initial value

Initialize, Set

ii. to assign a value as a result of some processing

iii. to keep a piece of information for later use

Save, Store

5. A computer can compare two piece of information and select one of two alternative actions

IF condition THEN

some action

**ELSE** 

alternative action

**ENDIF** 

6. A computer can repeat a group of actions

WHILE condition (is true) some action

**ENDWHILE** 

FOR a number of times some action

**ENDFOR** 

### **Data Dictionaries**

- The pseudo code by itself doesn't provide enough information to be able to write program code.
- Data Dictionaries are used to describe the data used in the Pseudo Code.
- The standard data types used in Pseudo Code are Integer, Double, String, Char and Boolean.

Name	Data Type	Description
number1	Integer	The first number to be added
number2	Integer	The second number to be added
total	Integer	The total of number1 and number2 added together

### Example 1:

Program Specification:

Write a program that obtains two integer numbers from the user. It will print out the sum of those numbers.

Pseudocode:

Prompt the user to enter the first integer
Prompt the user to enter a second integer
Compute the sum of the two user inputs
Display an output prompt that explains the answer as the sum
Display the result

### Example 2:

Finding average of any three numbers.

We might usually specify the procedure of solving this problem as "add the three numbers and divide by three". Here, Read (or Ask) and Write (or Say) are implied. However in an algorithm, these steps have to be made explicit. Thus a possible algorithm is:

```
Step 1 Start
```

Step 2 Read values of X, Y, Z

Step 3 
$$S = X + Y + Z$$

Step 4 
$$A=S/3$$

Step 5 Write value of A

Step 6 Stop

Example 3: Finding biggest of two numbers.

```
Step 1 Start
Step 2 Read A, B
Step 3 If A > B, then BIG = A, otherwise BIG = B
Step 4 Write BIG
Step 5 Stop
```

### Example 4: Calculate pay.

```
Step 1 Start
Step 2 Input hours
Step 3 Input rate
Step 4 pay = hours * rate
Step 5 Print pay
Step 6 End
```

### **Exercise:**

Write a Pseudocode for these problems.

- 1. S = (A + B + C) / Y
- 2. Convert from Celsius to Fahrenheit.

(Multiply by 9, then divide by 5, then add 32)

- 3. Area of Circle  $(\pi r^2)$
- 4. Volume of Sphere  $(4/3 \pi r^3)$
- 5. Average speed =  $\frac{\text{Distance traveled}}{\text{Time taken}}$

# Algorithms

### **Flowchart**

- A **flowchart** is a graphical representation of analgorithm.
- These flowcharts play a vital role in the programming of a problem and are quite helpful in understanding the logic of complicated and lengthy problems.
- Once the **flowchart** is drawn, it becomes easy to write the program in any high level language.
- A flowchart can therefore be used to:
  - Define and analyze processes
  - Build a step-by-step picture of the process for analysis, discussion, or communication
  - Define, standardize or find areas for improvement in a process

### **Flowchart Symbols**

Start and end symbols



- Represented as lozenges, ovals or rounded rectangles
- Usually containing the word "Start" or "End", or another phrase signalling the start or end of a process, such as "submit enquiry" or "receive product".

### **Flowchart Symbols**

### Arrows

- Showing what's called "flow of control" in computer science.
- An arrow coming from one symbol and ending at another symbol.
- Represents that control passes to the symbol the arrow points to.

### **Flowchart Symbols**

**Processing steps** 



- Represented as rectangles.
- Examples: "Add 1 to X"; "replace identified part"; "save changes" or similar.

### **Flowchart Symbols**

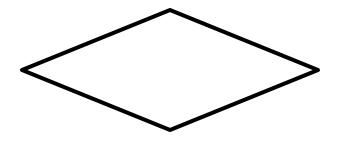
Input/Output



- Represented as a parallelogram.
- Examples: Get X from the user; display X.

### **Flowchart Symbols**

### **Conditional or decision**



- Represented as a diamond (rhombus).
- These typically contain a Yes/No question or True/False test.

### **Flowchart Symbols**

**Display** 



• Indicates a process flow step where information is displayed to a person (e.g., PC user, machine operator).

### **Rules for Flowchart**

- 1. Every flow chart has a START symbol and a STOP symbol.
- 2. The flow of sequence is generally from the top of the page to the bottom of the page. This can vary with loops which need to flow back to an entry point.
- 3. Use arrow-heads on connectors where flow direction may not be obvious.
- 4. There is only one flow chart per page.
- 5. A page should have a page number and a title.
- 6. A flow chart on one page should not break and jump to another page
- 7. A flow chart should have no more than around 15 symbols (not including START and STOP).

# Advantages of Using Flowcharts

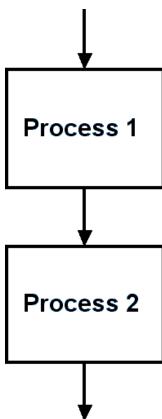
- **Communication**: Flowcharts are better way of communicating the logic of a system to all concerned.
- **Effective analysis**: With the help of flowchart, problem can be analysed in more effective way.
- **Proper documentation**: Program flowcharts serve as a good program documentation.
- Proper Debugging: The flowchart helps in debugging process.
- Efficient Program Maintenance: The maintenance of operating program becomes easy with the help of flowchart. It helps the programmer to put efforts more efficiently on that part

### **Basic Control Structures**

### A. Sequence

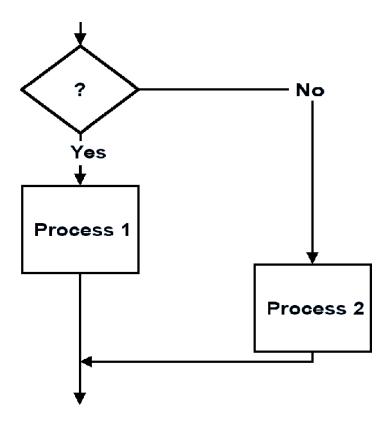
• Steps that execute in sequence are represented by symbols that follow each other top to bottom or left to right.

• Top to bottom is the standard.



### B. Selection

- Once the condition is evaluated, the control flows into one of two paths.
- Once the conditional execution is finished, the flows rejoin before leaving the structure.

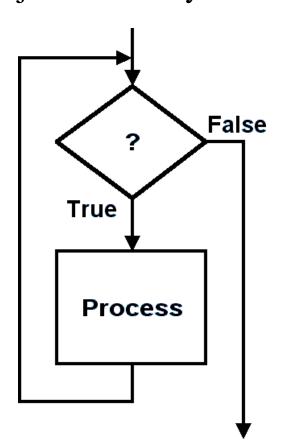


### C. Loop

• Either the processing repeats or the control leaves the structure.

• Notice that the return line joins the entry line before the

question.



### Example 1:

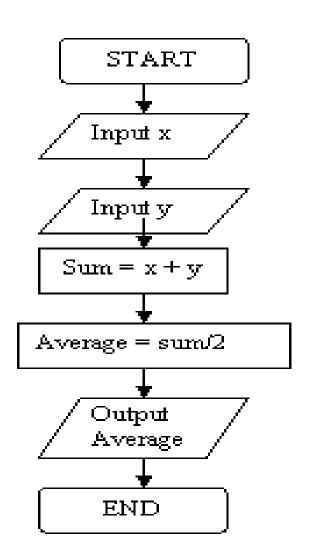
### **Algorithm:**

Input: two numbers x and y

Output: the average of x and y

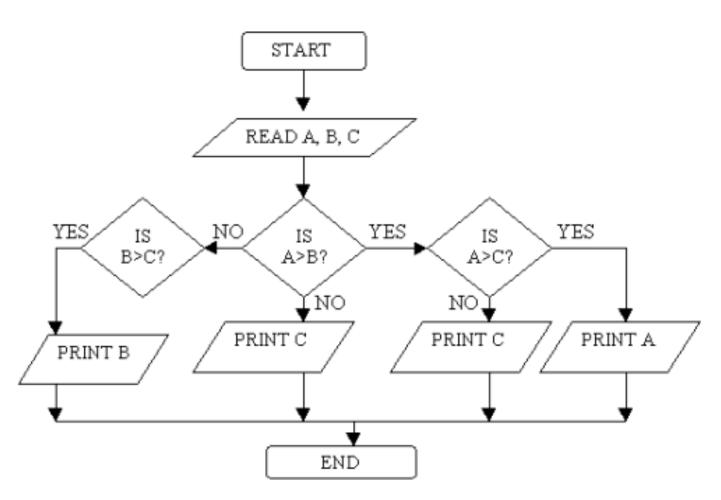
Steps:

- 1. input x
- 2. input y
- 3. sum = x + y
- 4. average = sum / 2
- 5. output average



### Example 2:

Draw a flowchart to find the largest of three numbers A, B, and C.



# THANK YOU