

# *Introduction*

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## 1. Objective

- What is computer science?
- What is a computer?
- What are the main components of computer hardware?
- What is science?
- Where is the science in computer science?
- What is an algorithm?
- What is software development?
- What is computer programming?
- What is a computer programming language?

## 2. Computing History

- The Von Neumann architecture is still the key model: CPU, memory, long-term storage, communication bus, and peripherals
- First computers were hard-wired, had to physically exchange cables to create different programs
- Early systems included ENIAC, ILLIAC, and UNIVAC (late 1940's)
- Machines cost hundreds of thousands of dollars, require tens of thousands of vacuum tubes and relays, huge space requirements, breakdowns frequent

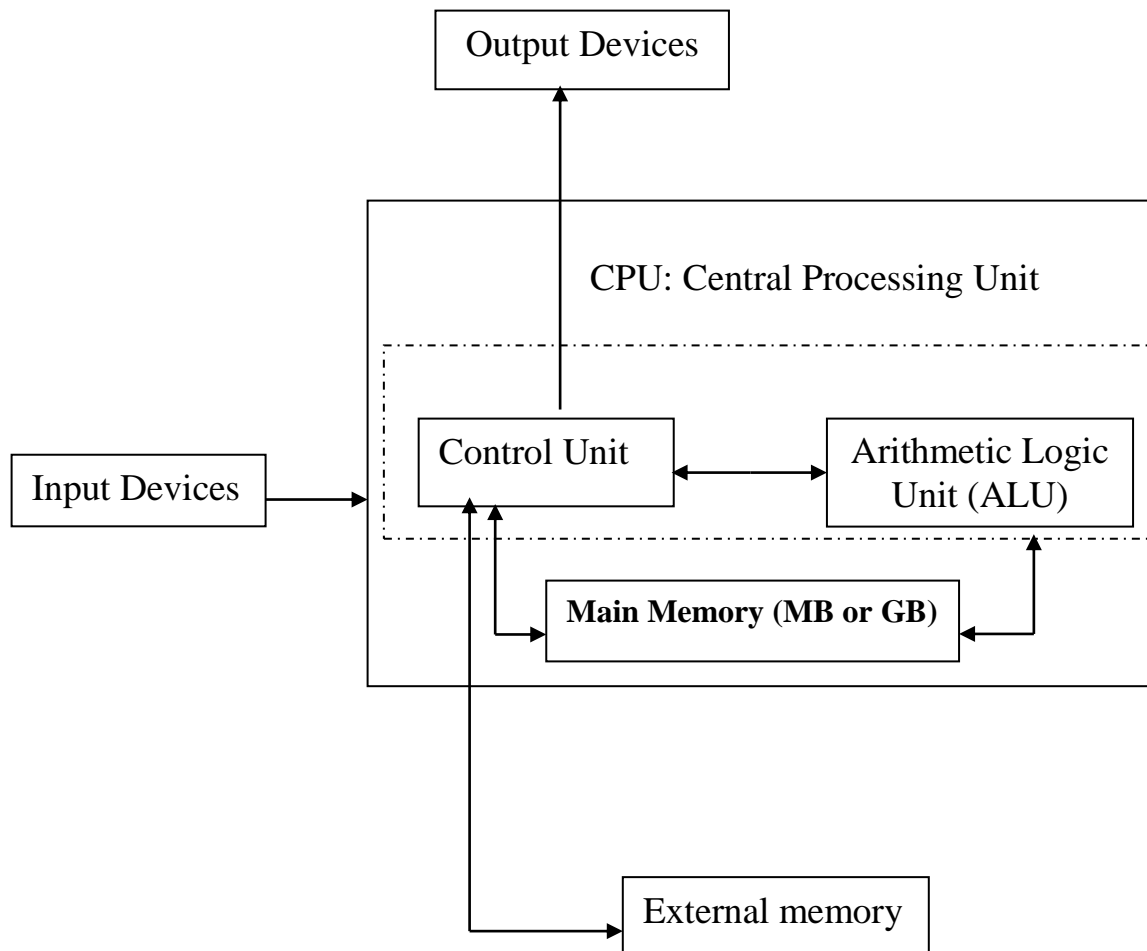
### 3. Computer Taxonomy

- Supercomputers:
  - The world fastest Mid 1970's Cray Research develops the CRAY I
  - Parallel operation
- Mainframes:
  - Still large enough to fill a small room
  - Best at large amounts of I/O
  - Supports 50 to 1000 simultaneous users
  - Massive storage
- Minicomputer:
  - Can fit in a closet
  - Supports 2 to 50 simultaneous users
- Microcomputer:
  - Workstations, Sun
  - Desktop sized
  - Generally supports one user
  - Portables, laptops, notebooks
- Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) or Handheld Computer:
  - Palm, Visor, TRG,
  - Palm size
  - More than just an organizer
  - Special-purpose computers
  - Embedded

- Dedicated use
- Not easily programmable, firmware

#### 4. Components of a computer

- Main memory
- Secondary memory
- Central Processor unit
- I/O devices
- Computer networks



- Bit - an acronym for Binary Digit. A bit is either 0 or 1.

- Byte - a group of 8 bits. 00000000 through 11111111.
- Counting in binary and decimal.

Dec	Binary
0	0000
1	0001
2	0010
3	0011
4	0100
5	0101
6	0110
7	0111
8	1000

- Central Processing Unit – CPU
  - The component that executes instructions in order to process input data and generate output.
- Arithmetic Logic Unit-ALU.
  - Performs arithmetic and logical operations. Stores data temporarily in an accumulator or registers.
- Control Unit

- Responsible for retrieving instructions to be executed, retrieving necessary data, and sending both to the ALU for processing.
- **Secondary Storage**
  - Stores information that needs to be retrieved later. Different than primary storage (RAM).
  - Additional Storage (larger)
  - Permanent
  - Examples: Hard Disks, CD-ROMs, Etc.

## **5. Computer Software**

- Software is instructions and associated data, stored in electronic format, that direct the computer to perform some task.
- Categories of software:
  - System
  - Applications
- Categories of Systems software
  - Operating systems
  - Utility programs
- Categories of Applications software
  - Productivity software
  - Education
  - Entertainment

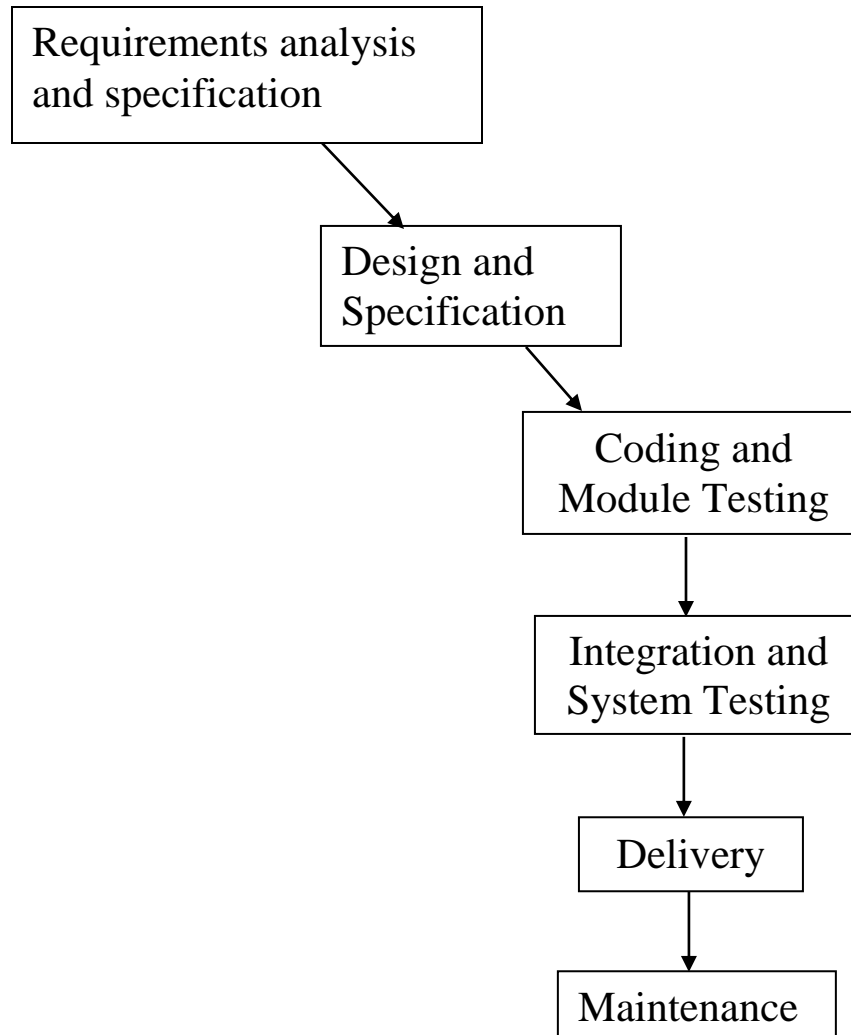
## **6. Computer Networks**

- Why Network?
- Classifications of Networks: LAN, WAN, Etc.
- Connecting to the Network

## **7. Problem solving and programming:**

- It is a very challenging task
- It takes a plain English description of a problem and transforms it to a digital computer solution
- Successful solutions require the following:
  - Capture the requirements of the problem right from the beginning
  - Have a clear definition of what is the set of inputs and what is the set of outputs
  - Limit the scope of the problem: Do not solve the universal problem.
  - Use any information about the problem: formulas, equations, etc.
- Have a complete test plan for your solution.

## 8. The Software Development method



## 9. Programming languages

- A Programming language is a notational system for describing tasks/computations in a machine and human readable form.
- Most computer languages are designed to facilitate certain operations and not others: numerical computation, or text manipulation, or I/O.
- More broadly, a computer language typically embodies a particular *programming paradigm*.
- Every language has syntax and semantics:
  - **Syntax:** The syntax of a program is the form of its declarations, expressions, statements and program units.
  - **Semantic:** The semantic of a program is concerned with the meaning of its program.
- Machine language:
  - The lowest level language: The language of the CPU.
  - It consists of binary strings that represent Instructions: 0's and 1's.
- Assembly languages:

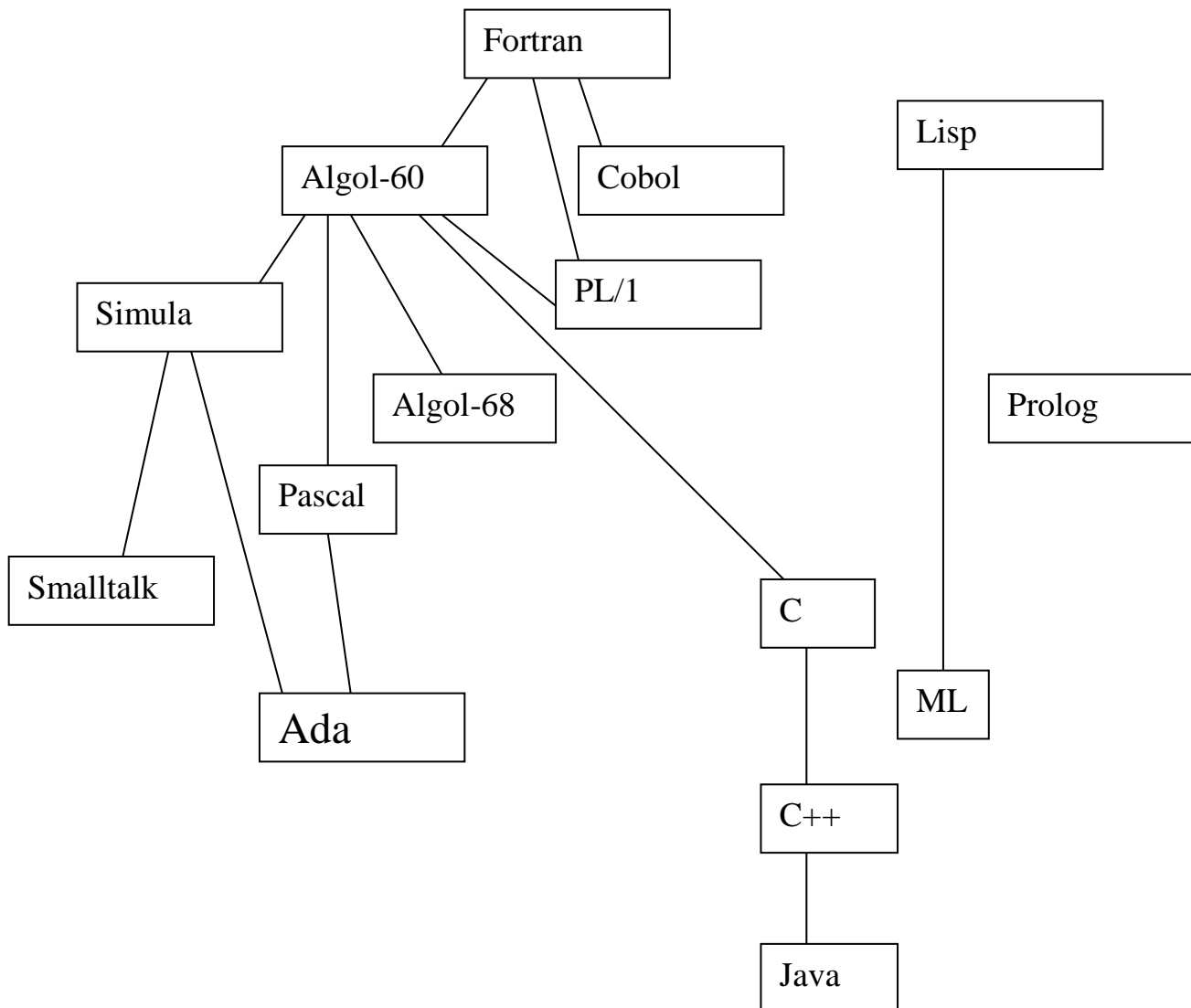
- Abbreviations for machine language
- High-level languages:
  - Use program statements - words and algebra-type expressions.
  - Developed in the 50's and 60's.
  - After a program is written in one of the high-level languages, it must be either **compiled** or **interpreted**.

## 10. Programming paradigms

- The paradigms are not exclusive, but reflect the different emphasis of language designers. Most practical languages embody features of more than one paradigm.
- **Classification:**

Imperative/ Algorithmic	Declarative		Object-Oriented
	Functional Programming	Logic Programming	
Algol Cobol PL/1 Ada C Modula-3	Lisp Haskell ML Miranda APL	Prolog	Smalltalk Simula C++ Java

- Language History:



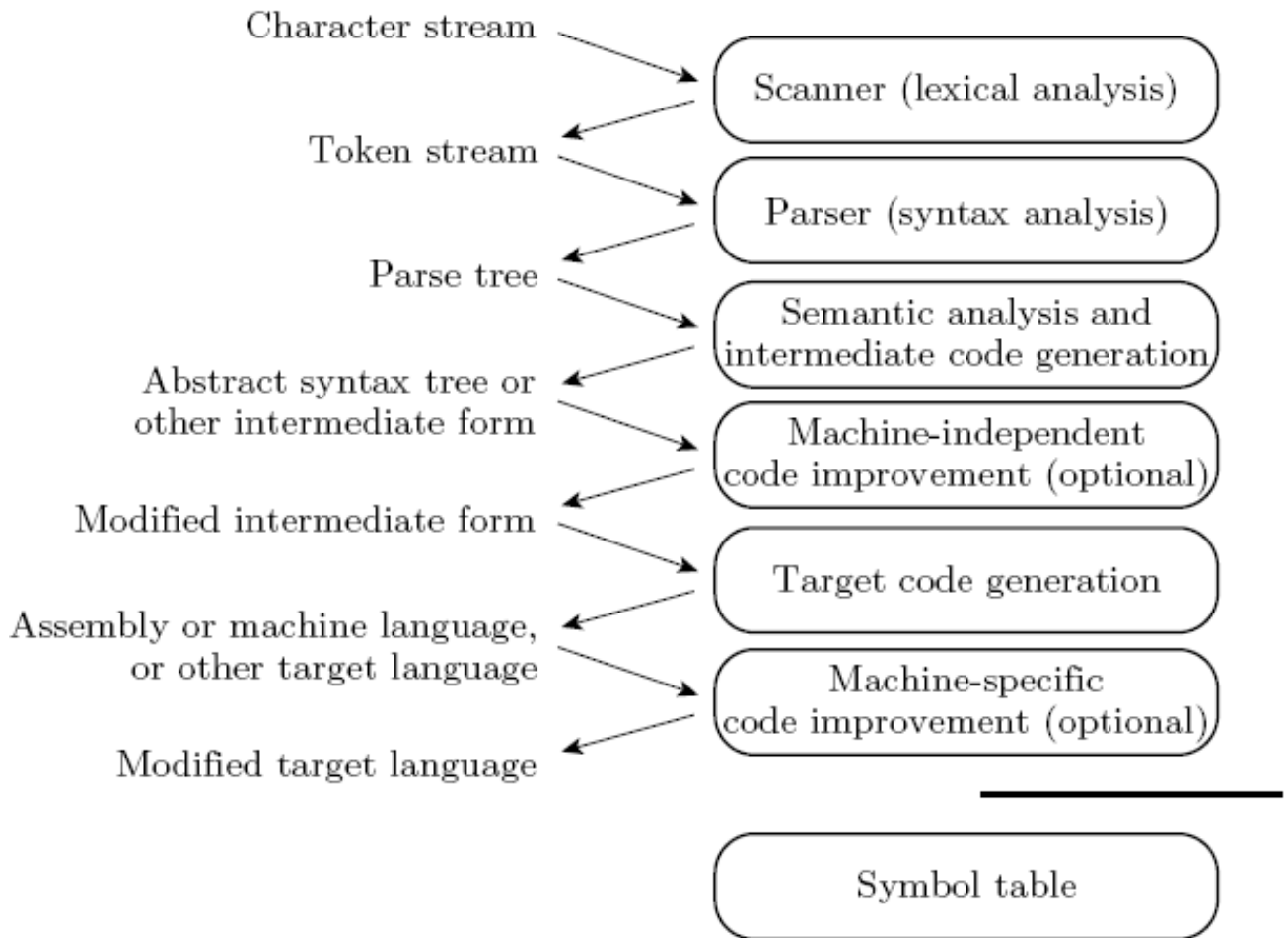
## 11. Imperative paradigms

- It is based on commands that update variables in storage. The Latin word *imperare* means “to command”.
  - The language provides statements, such as *assignment statements*, which explicitly change the *state* of the memory of the computer.
  - This model closely matches the actual executions of computer and usually has high execution efficiency.
- Many people also find the imperative paradigm to be a more natural way of expressing themselves.

## 12. Running Your Program

- **Interpreter:**
  - An **interpreter** program translates the program statements into machine language one line at a time
- **Compiler:**
  - A **compiler** program rewrites the program into machine language that the CPU can understand. This is done all at once and the program is saved in this new form. A compiled program is generally considerably larger than the original.

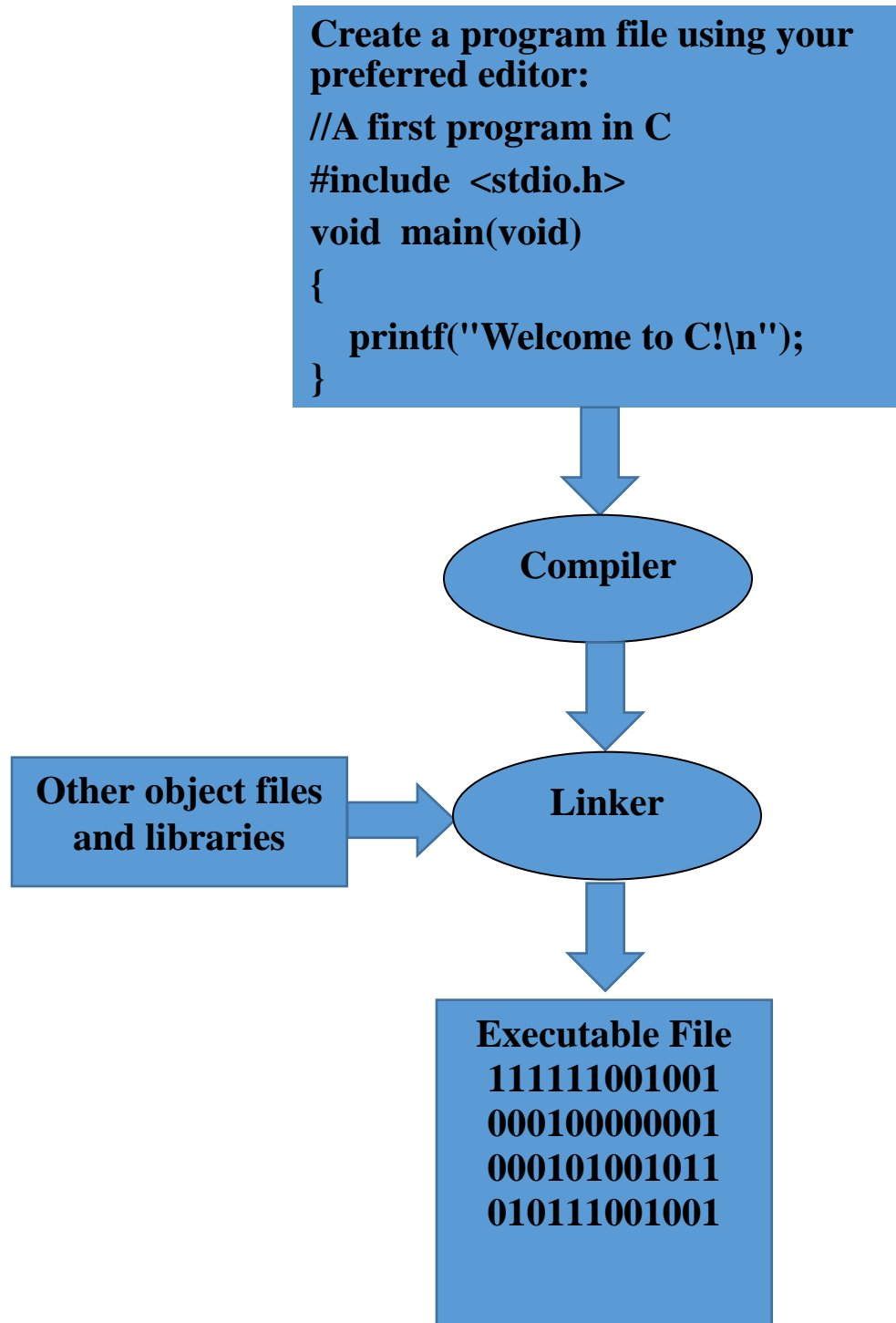
- Phase of Compilation (From Scott's class notes)



### 13. Processing of a high-level language program

- What is a computer program?
  - **A computer program** is a set of detailed directions telling the computer exactly what to do, one step at a time. A program can be as short as one line of code, or as long as several millions lines of code.

- Steps to execute a program:



## **Programming Errors**

- **Syntax** Errors: You need to speak the language!
- **Run Time** Errors: illegal operations?
- **Semantic** Errors: You need to review your algorithm!