

3. Introduction to Conditionals

Boolean expressions

The If-Else Construct

And, or, not

What We Cannot Do So Far

We don't know how to make a computation depend upon a condition.

IF the value of the arithmetic expression $\text{Dice1} + \text{Dice2}$ is 7, THEN increase the value of `GamesWon` by 1.

The If-Else Construct Solves this Problem

We introduce this language feature while considering the behavior of a quadratic function

$$q(x) = x^2 + bx + c$$

on a given interval $L \leq x \leq R$.

Assume Variables

b, c, L, R
are Initialized

```
b = input( 'Enter b' : )
```

```
c = input( 'Enter c' : )
```

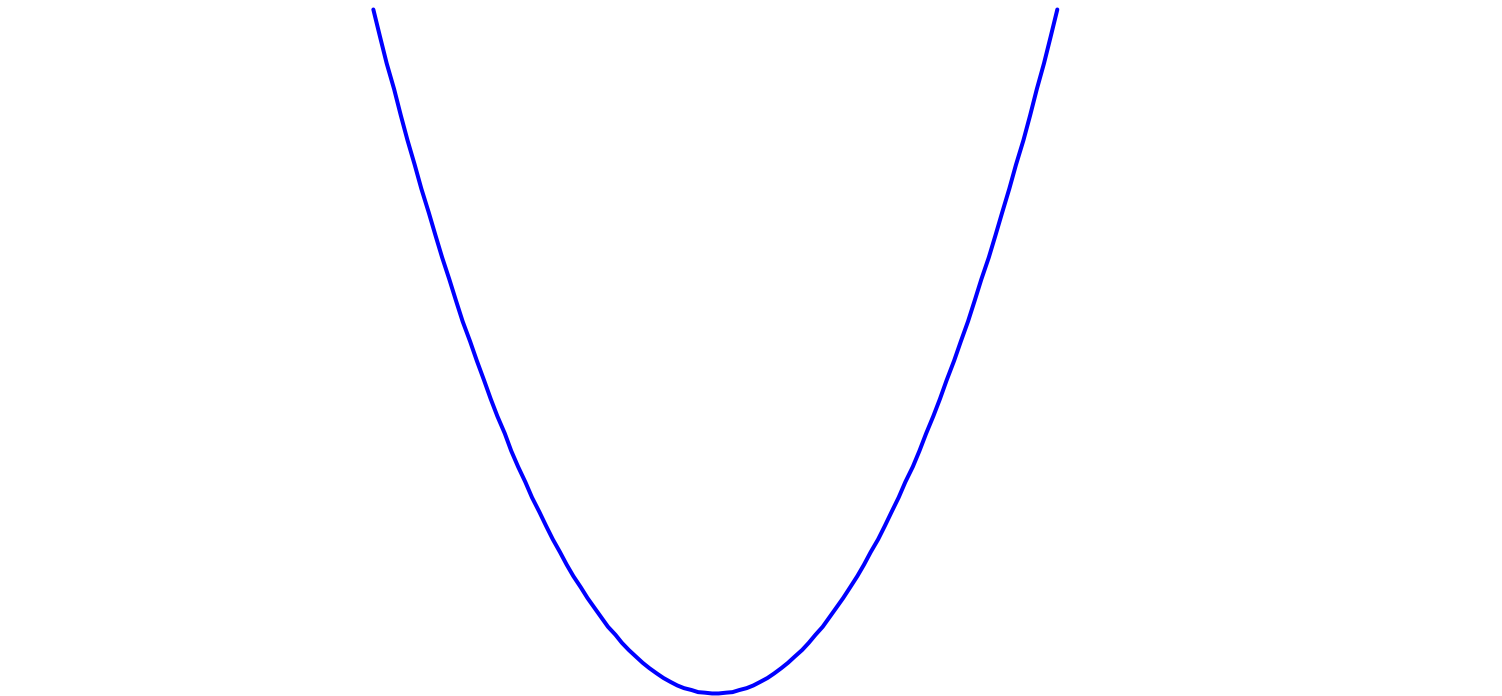
```
L = input( 'Enter L' : )
```

```
R = input( 'Enter R' : )
```

The Situation

$$q(x) = x^2 + bx + c$$

• $x_c = -b/2$



Insight Through

L

R

Problem 1

Because the coefficient of x^2 is 1, the parabola always has the same shape (down, then up).

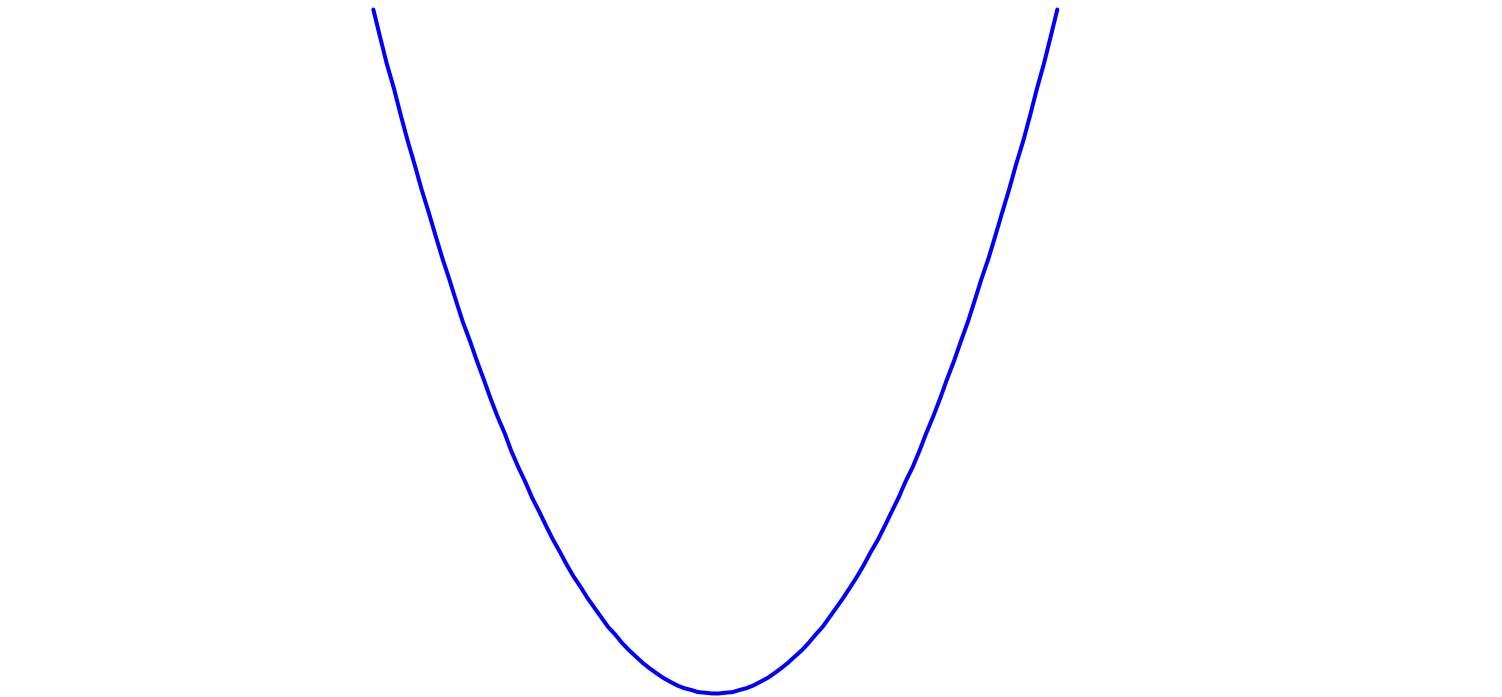
Its low point occurs at $x = -b/2$.

Over the interval $[L, R]$, does the parabola only go up (increasing)?

No!

$$q(x) = x^2 + bx + c$$

• $x_c = -b/2$



Insight Through

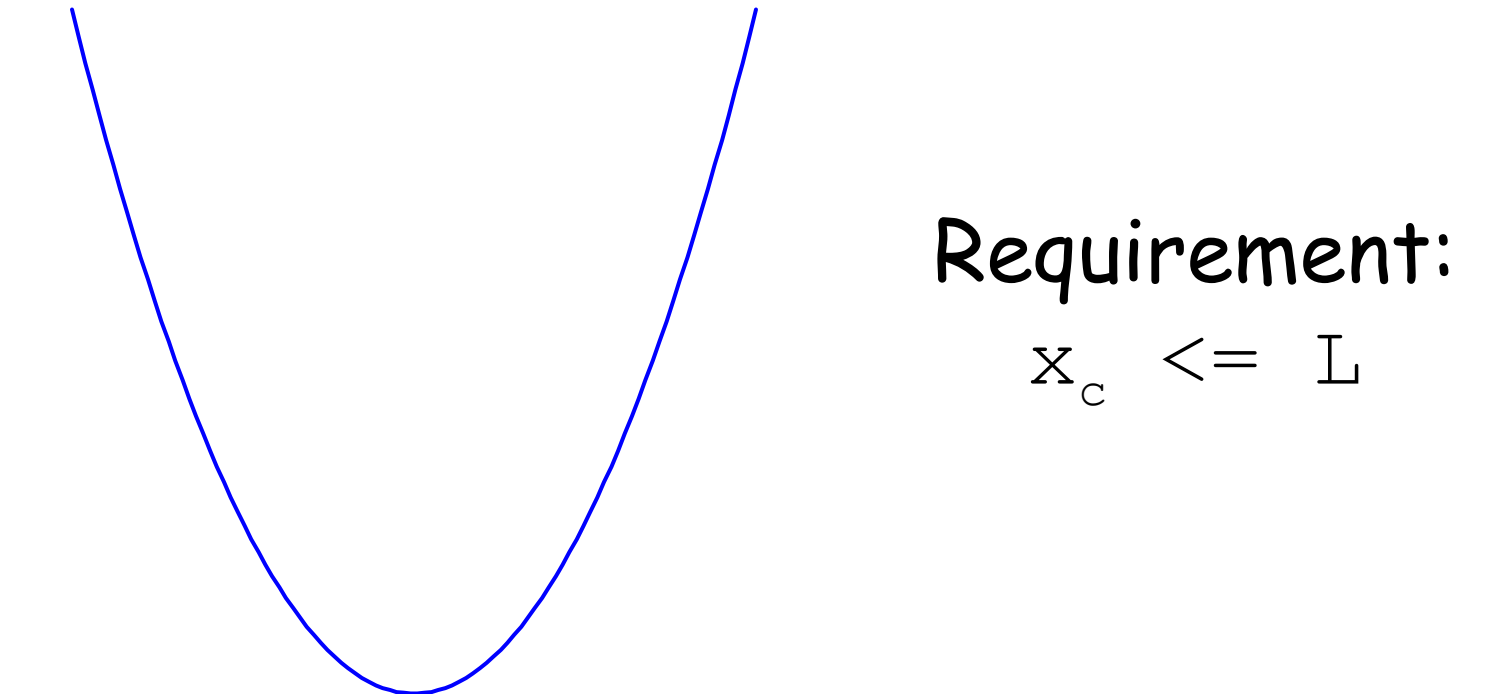
L

R

Yes!

$$q(x) = x^2 + bx + c$$

- $x_c = -b/2$



Requirement:

$$x_c \leq L$$

Insight Through

L

R

Solution Fragment

```
xc = -b/2;  
if ( xc <= L )  
    disp( 'Yes' )  
else  
    disp( 'No' )  
end
```

Problem 2

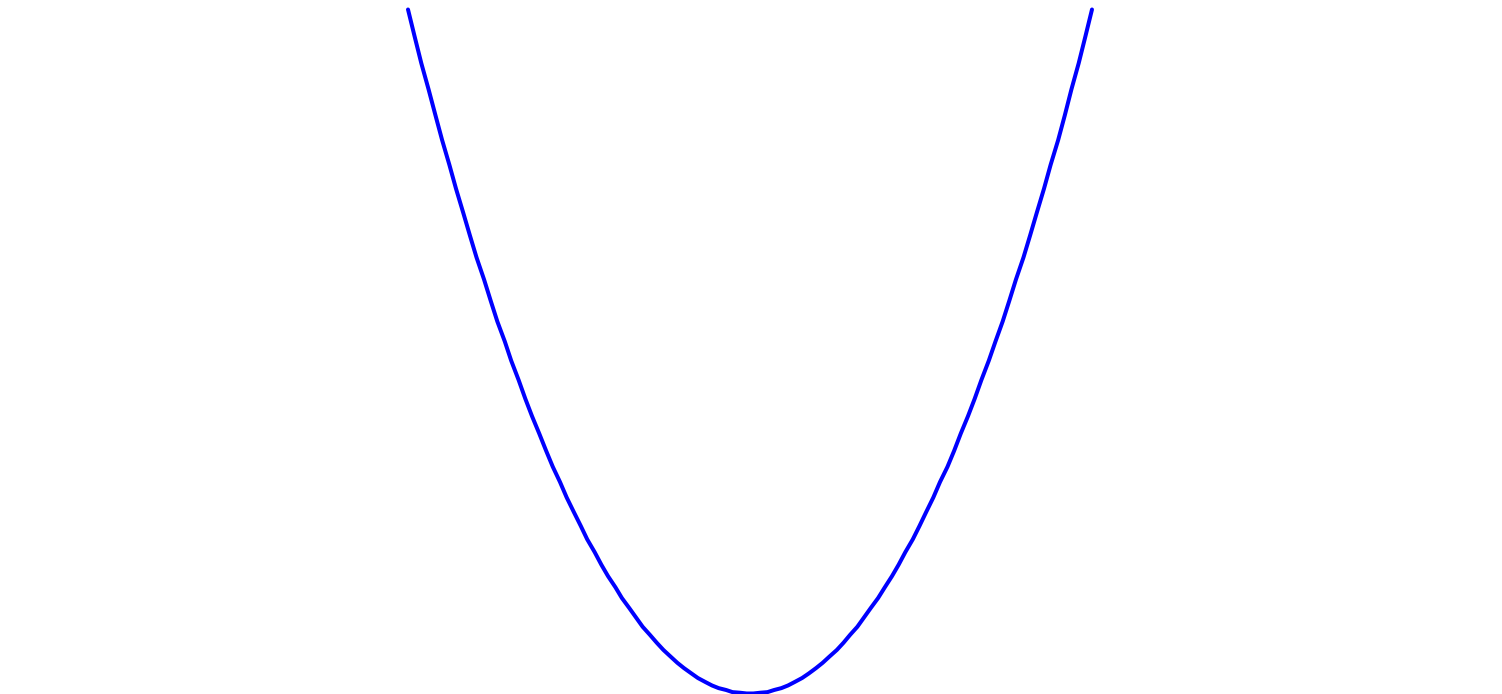
Can we determine the maximum value that the quadratic function reaches for any x in the interval $[L,R]$?

(There are two ways to answer this question!)

Maximum at L

$$q(x) = x^2 + bx + c$$

• $x_c = -b/2$



Insight Through

L

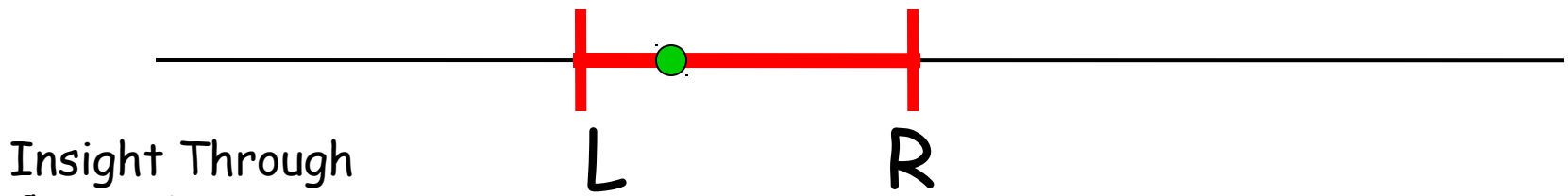
R

Maximum at R

$$q(x) = x^2 + bx + c$$

- $x_c = -b/2$

Depends on whether x_c is to the right or left of the interval midpoint.



Solution Fragment

```
xc = -b/2;  
Mid = (L+R)/2;  
if ( xc <= Mid )  
    maxVal = R^2 + b*R + c  
else  
    maxVal = L^2 + b*L + c  
end
```

Problem 3

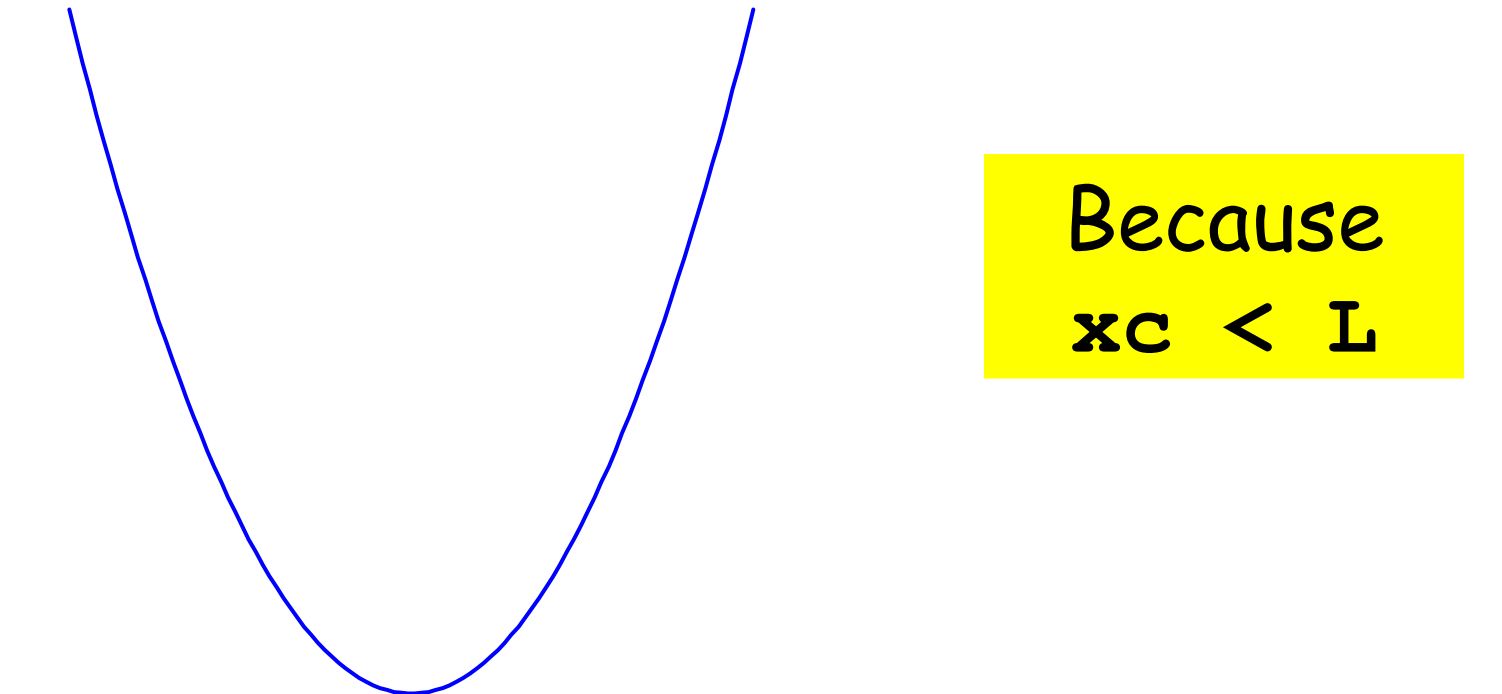
Can we report whether the point x_c is in the interval $[L,R]$?

(Harder question: can we report the minimum value of the quadratic function in $[L,R]$?)

No!

$$q(x) = x^2 + bx + c$$

- $x_c = -b/2$



Because
 $x_c < L$

Insight Through

L

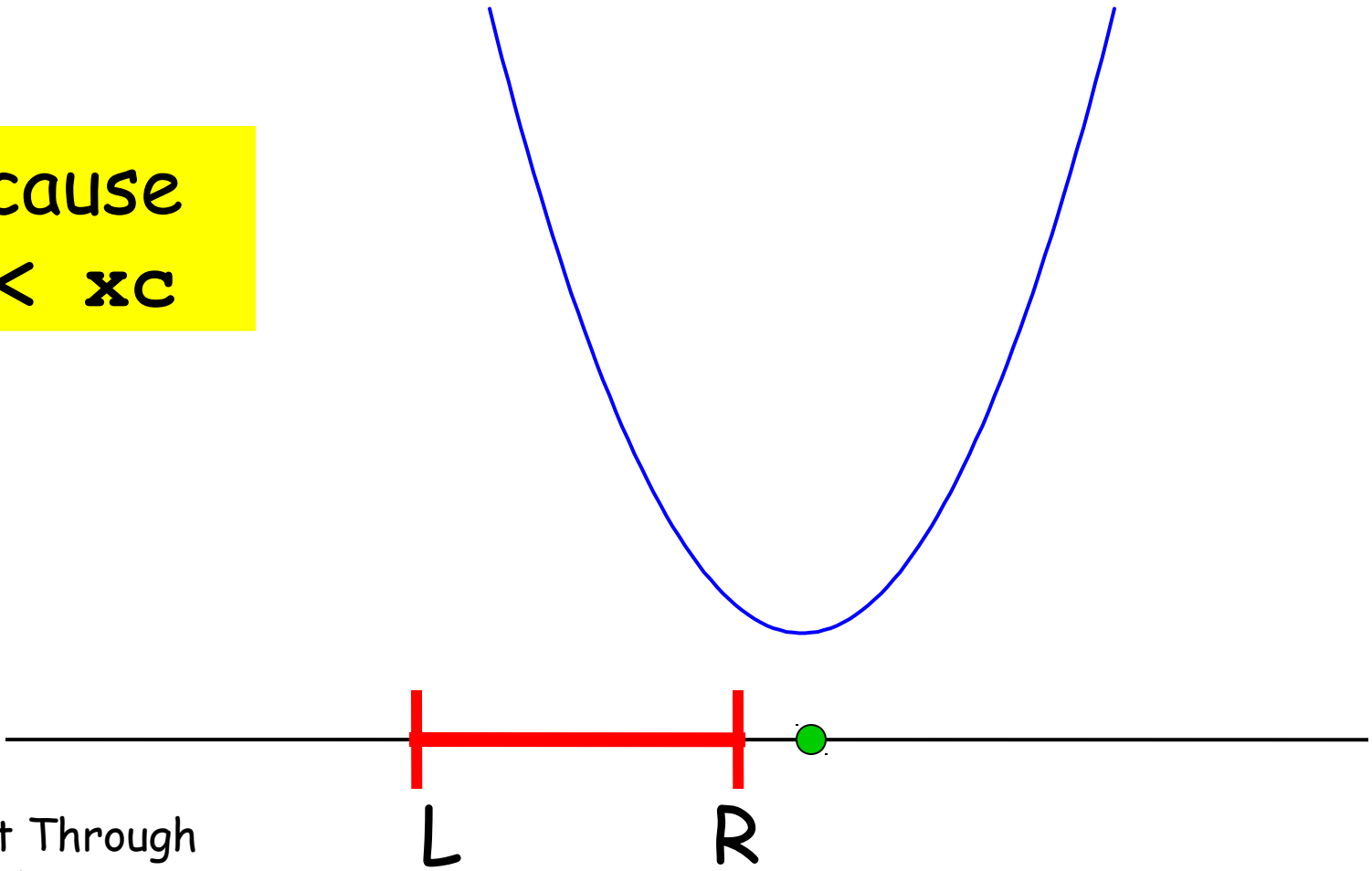
R

No!

$$q(x) = x^2 + bx + c$$

• $x_c = -b/2$

Because
 $R < x_c$



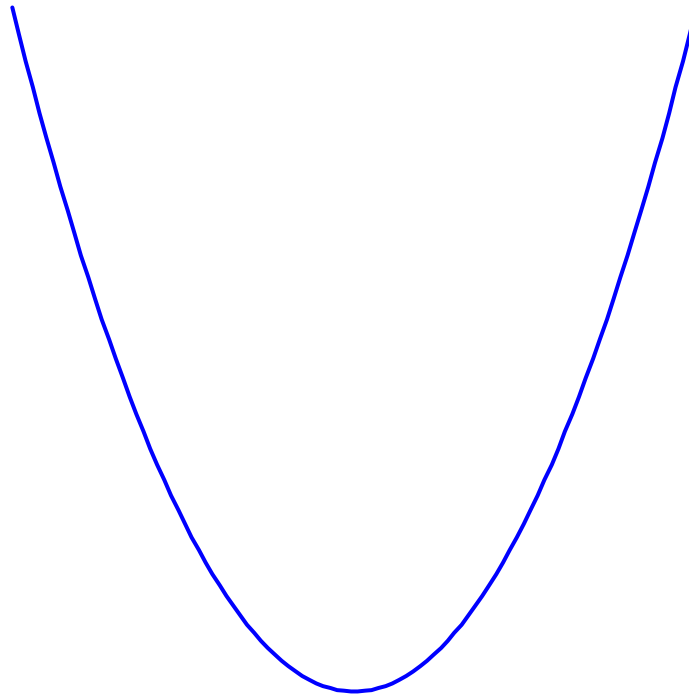
Insight Through

Yes!

$$q(x) = x^2 + bx + c$$

• $x_c = -b/2$

Because
 $L \leq x_c$
and
 $x_c \leq R$



Insight Through

L

R

Solution Fragment

```
xc = -b/2;  
if (L <= xc) && (xc <= R)  
    disp('Yes')  
else  
    disp('No')  
end
```

Legal Math, Illegal MATLAB: $L \leq xc \leq R$

Saying the Opposite

x_c is in the interval $[L,R]$ if

$$L \leq x_c \quad \text{and} \quad x_c \leq R$$

x_c is not in the interval $[L,R]$ if

$$x_c < L \quad \text{or} \quad R < x_c$$

Another Solution

```
xc = -b/2;  
if (xc < L) || (R < xc)  
    disp('No')  
else  
    disp('Yes')  
end
```

The `if-else` Construct

`if`

boolean expression

Commands to execute if the
expression is TRUE

`else`

Commands to execute if the
expression is FALSE

`end`

Boolean Expressions

$(xc < L) \ || \ (R < xc)$

Their value is either true or false.

Connected by logical operators:
and, or, not

Boolean Expressions

`(xc < L) || (R < xc)`

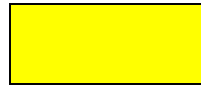
Their value is **either true or false**.

The AND, OR, and NOT operators can be used to build more complicated expressions.

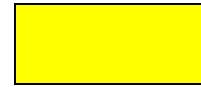
Relational Operators

<	Less than
>	Greater than
<=	Less than or equal to
>=	Greater than or equal to
==	Equal to
~=	Not equal to

The And Operator &&



&&



F

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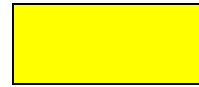
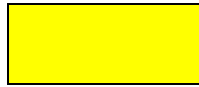
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The Or Operator ||



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The not Operator \sim



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The ELSEIF Statement

For the quadratic problem, suppose we wanted to know whether xc was in $[L,R]$, OR to the left OR to the right.

We have three possible results, so we need a more complicated statement than IF or IF/ELSE.

The ELSEIF statement follows an IF statement, but includes a new condition.

IF/ELSEIF/ELSE

```
if ( xc < L )
    disp ( 'XC is left of [L,R].' )
elseif ( L <= xc && xc <= R )
    disp ( 'XC is in the interval [L,R]' )
else
    disp ( 'XC is to the right of [L,R]' )
end
```

(We could have used a simpler "elseif"!)

Question Time

What is the value of **X** and **Y** after the following script is executed:

```
X = 6; Y = 8;  
If ( X < Y )  
    Y = Y/2;  
else  
    X = X/2;  
end
```

A: X is 3 and Y is 4

C: X is 5 and Y is 4

B: X is 6 and Y is 8

D: X is 3 and Y is 8