



## COMP 1023 Introduction to Python Programming Python Basic Operations

Dr. Cecia Chan, Prof. SC Cheung, Dr. Alex Lam, Dr. Desmond Tsoi

Department of Computer Science & Engineering  
The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Hong Kong SAR, China



# Introduction

- According to what we covered in the last topic, now you should know the following:
  - The **basic structure** of Python programs.
  - Python programs can “**memorize**” data through objects referenced by variables.
  - Using **input** and **print** functions, we can **read data from and write data** to I/O devices (e.g., keyboard, monitor, etc.).
- In this topic, we will continue to discuss more about Python programming, particularly the basic operations that Python programs can perform.
- Topics to be discussed include:
  - Arithmetic** operations (also known as mathematical operations).
  - Relational** (Comparison) operations.
  - Logical** operations.
  - Other** operations.



# Part I

## Arithmetic Operations



# Arithmetic Operations

- In Python, the following arithmetic operations are supported:

Symbol(s)	Meaning	Example	Result
+	Addition	34 + 1	35
-	Subtraction	34.0 - 0.1	33.9
*	Multiplication	300 * 30	9000
/	Float division	1 / 2	0.5
//	Integer division	1 // 2	0
**	Exponentiation	4 ** 0.5	2.0
%	Remainder	20 % 3	2

- +, -, \*, /, //, \*\*, % are called arithmetic operators.
- The input (or arguments) around the operators are called arithmetic operands.

## Note

To improve readability, Python allows us to use underscores to separate digits in a number literal. For example:

```
value = 232_45_4519  
amount = 23.24_4545_4519_3415
```

However, 45\_ or \_45 is incorrect. The underscore must be placed between two digits.

# What Can You Conclude From These?

Operator(s)	Example	Result
+	1 + 2	3
	1 + 2.0	3.0
	1.0 + 2	3.0
	1.0 + 2.0	3.0
-	1 - 2	-1
	1 - 2.0	-1.0
	1.0 - 2	-1.0
	1.0 - 2.0	-1.0
*	1 * 2	2
	1 * 2.0	2.0
	1.0 * 2	2.0
	1.0 * 2.0	2.0
/	1 / 2	0.5
	1 / 2.0	0.5
	1.0 / 2	0.5
	1.0 / 2.0	0.5

- In Python, if one of the operands for `+`, `-`, `*` is of float type, the result of the operation will also be float.  
In fact, this also applies to `//`, `**`, and `%`, which we will introduce later.
- For `/`, the result will always be float.

## Note

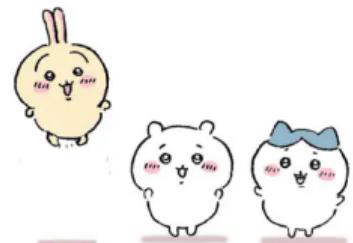
If an integer and a float are involved in a binary operation, Python automatically converts the integer to a float value. This is called implicit type conversion.



# Arithmetic Operations

```
def main(): # Filename: arithmetic_operations.py
    # Addition
    print('1 + 2 =', 1 + 2, 'and type is', type(1 + 2))
    print('1 + 2.0 =', 1 + 2.0, 'and type is', type(1 + 2.0))
    print('1.0 + 2 =', 1.0 + 2, 'and type is', type(1.0 + 2))
    print('1.0 + 2.0 =', 1.0 + 2.0, 'and type is', type(1.0 + 2.0))
    # Subtraction
    print('1 - 2 =', 1 - 2, 'and type is', type(1 - 2))
    print('1 - 2.0 =', 1 - 2.0, 'and type is', type(1 - 2.0))
    print('1.0 - 2 =', 1.0 - 2, 'and type is', type(1.0 - 2))
    print('1.0 - 2.0 =', 1.0 - 2.0, 'and type is', type(1.0 - 2.0))
    # Multiplication
    print('1 * 2 =', 1 * 2, 'and type is', type(1 * 2))
    print('1 * 2.0 =', 1 * 2.0, 'and type is', type(1 * 2.0))
    print('1.0 * 2 =', 1.0 * 2, 'and type is', type(1.0 * 2))
    print('1.0 * 2.0 =', 1.0 * 2.0, 'and type is', type(1.0 * 2.0))
    # Division
    print('1 / 2 =', 1 / 2, 'and type is', type(1 / 2))
    print('1 / 2.0 =', 1 / 2.0, 'and type is', type(1 / 2.0))
    print('1.0 / 2 =', 1.0 / 2, 'and type is', type(1.0 / 2))
    print('1.0 / 2.0 =', 1.0 / 2.0, 'and type is', type(1.0 / 2.0))

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```



# Output of Arithmetic Operations

```
1 + 2 = 3 and type is <class 'int'>
1 + 2.0 = 3.0 and type is <class 'float'>
1.0 + 2 = 3.0 and type is <class 'float'>
1.0 + 2.0 = 3.0 and type is <class 'float'>

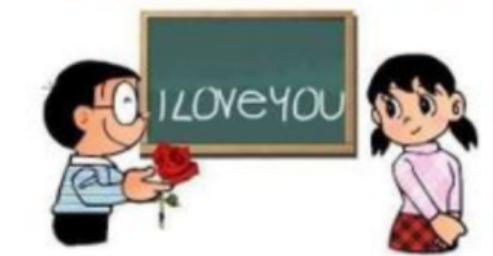
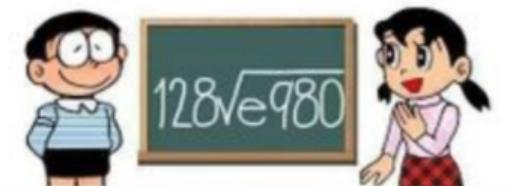
1 - 2 = -1 and type is <class 'int'>
1 - 2.0 = -1.0 and type is <class 'float'>
1.0 - 2 = -1.0 and type is <class 'float'>
1.0 - 2.0 = -1.0 and type is <class 'float'>

1 * 2 = 2 and type is <class 'int'>
1 * 2.0 = 2.0 and type is <class 'float'>
1.0 * 2 = 2.0 and type is <class 'float'>
1.0 * 2.0 = 2.0 and type is <class 'float'>

1 / 2 = 0.5 and type is <class 'float'>
1 / 2.0 = 0.5 and type is <class 'float'>
1.0 / 2 = 0.5 and type is <class 'float'>
1.0 / 2.0 = 0.5 and type is <class 'float'>
```

Can you solve this ?

Hmmm ... I can't



## Integer Division (//)

- The operator `//` is used for **integer division**, also known as **floor division**.
- The `//` operator divides two numbers and returns the **largest integer that is less than or equal to the result** (the floor of the division).
- Examples:
  - `5 // 2` returns 2, because 5 divided by 2 is 2.5, and the largest integer less than or equal to 2.5 is 2.
  - `5.0 // 2` returns 2.0, because the result is a float.
  - `5 // 2.0` also returns 2.0.
  - `5.5 // 2` returns 2.0, as the largest integer less than or equal to 2.75 is 2.
  - `5.5 // -2` returns `-3.0`, as the largest integer less than or equal to `-2.75` is `-3`.



## Exponentiation (\*\*)

- The operator `**` is used for **exponentiation**, which **raises a number (the base) to the power of another number** (the exponent).
- Examples:
  - `2 ** 3` evaluates to 8, because it is equivalent to  $2^3 = 8$ .
  - `4.0 ** 0.5` evaluates to 2.0, because it is equivalent to  $4.0^{0.5} = 4.0^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sqrt{4.0} = 2.0$ .
  - `2 ** -2` evaluates to 0.25, because it is equivalent to  $2^{-2} = \frac{1}{2^2} = 0.25$ .
  - `2 ** 3 ** 2` evaluates to 512, because it is equivalent to  $2^{(3**2)}$ , which is  $2^9$  and equals 512.



# Modulo Operation (%)

- The arithmetic operator % is referred to as the “modulo operator”, “mod operator”, or simply “mod”.
- It is used to find the remainder after integer division.

The image shows four examples of integer division and one example of modulo operation. On the left, there are four division problems:

- $\begin{array}{r} 2 \\ \hline 3 \sqrt{7} \\ \hline 6 \\ \hline 1 \end{array}$
- $\begin{array}{r} 0 \\ \hline 7 \sqrt{3} \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$
- $\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ \hline 4 \sqrt{12} \\ \hline 12 \\ \hline 0 \end{array}$
- $\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ \hline 8 \sqrt{26} \\ \hline 24 \\ \hline 2 \end{array}$

On the right, there is one modulo operation example:

$$13 \overline{) 20} \quad \begin{matrix} 1 & \leftarrow \text{Quotient} \\ \hline 13 & \leftarrow \text{Dividend} \\ 7 & \leftarrow \text{Remainder} \end{matrix}$$

- The modulo operator has many useful applications in computer programs:
  - Testing whether a number is even or odd: `number % 2 == 0` for even numbers, `number % 2 == 1` for odd numbers.
  - Finding individual digits of a number: `number % 10` gives the least significant digit (rightmost digit) of the number.
  - Finding the last four digits of an HKID number: `ID % 10000`.

# Modulo Operations

```
# Filename: mod_operations.py
# An example demonstrating mod operations
def main():
    print('1023 % 2 is', 1023 % 2)          # Remainder when 1023 is divided by 2
    print('1023 % 10 is', 1023 % 10)        # Remainder when 1023 is divided by 10
    print('1023 % 100 is', 1023 % 100)       # Remainder when 1023 is divided by 100
    print('1023 % 1000 is', 1023 % 1000)      # Remainder when 1023 is divided by 1000
    # Last 4 digits of ID
    print('The last 4 digits of ID: 8121232 % 10000 is', 8121232 % 10000)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

## Output:

```
The result of 1023 % 2 is 1
The result of 1023 % 10 is 3
The result of 1023 % 100 is 23
The result of 1023 % 1000 is 23
The last 4 digits of ID: 8121232 % 10000 is 1232
```

# Display Time

- This program converts an amount of time given in seconds into minutes and remaining seconds.

```
# Filename: display_time.py
# A program that obtains minutes and remaining seconds from an amount of time in seconds
def main():
    # Prompt the user for input
    seconds = int(input("Enter an integer for seconds: "))

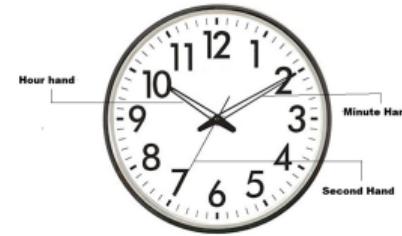
    # Calculate minutes and remaining seconds
    minutes = seconds // 60  # Calculate whole minutes
    remaining_seconds = seconds % 60  # Calculate remaining seconds

    # Display the result
    print(seconds, "seconds is", minutes, "minutes and", remaining_seconds, "seconds")

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

## Output:

```
Enter an integer for seconds: 500
500 seconds is 8 minutes and 20 seconds
```



## More about Modulo Operations

- The operands of the modulo operator can be positive or negative integers or floats.
- For  $a \% b$ , it is computed based on the following formula:

$$r = a - (a // b) * b$$

- Examples:
  - $10 \% 3 = 10 - (10 // 3) * 3 = 10 - 3 * 3 = 1$
  - $10 \% -3 = 10 - (10 // -3) * (-3) = 10 - (-4) * (-3) = 10 - 12 = -2$
  - $-10 \% 3 = -10 - (-10 // 3) * 3 = -10 - (-4) * 3 = -10 + 12 = 2$
  - $-10 \% -3 = -10 - (-10 // -3) * (-3) = -10 - 3 * (-3) = -10 + 9 = -1$
  - $-5.3 \% 3 = -5.3 - (-5.3 // 3) * 3 = -5.3 - (-2) * 3 = -5.3 + 6 = 0.7$
  - $5.3 \% -3 = 5.3 - (5.3 // -3) * (-3) = 5.3 - (-2) * (-3) = 5.3 - 6 = -0.7$
  - $-5.3 \% -3 = -5.3 - (-5.3 // -3) * (-3) = -5.3 - 1 * (-3) = -5.3 + 3 = -2.3$

Can you calculate  $6.4 \% -1.7$ ?

# Subtraction and Negation Operations (-)

- The operator – is used as both a **binary subtraction** operator and a **unary negation** operator.
  - The **binary subtraction** operator takes **2 operands** (e.g.,  $10 - 20$ ).
  - The **unary negation** operator takes **1 operand** (e.g.,  $-3$ ).

```
# Filename: subtraction_negation.py
```

```
def main():
    print("The result of 10 - 20 is", 10 - 20) # Subtraction
    print("This is", -3)                      # Negation

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

## Output:

```
The result of 10 - 20 is -10
This is -3
```



# Expressions

- In programming, we often need to include values and operations; the technical term for these is expressions.
- An **expression** is a **simple value or a combination of operations that produces a value**.
- Examples:
  - Simplest expressions (just an integer or a floating-point literal): 89 or 30.23.
  - A combination of operations that produces a value:

$$(3 * 7) + (4 * 4) + 8$$

(The resulting value of the above expression is 45).

The **process** of obtaining the value of an expression is called **evaluation**.

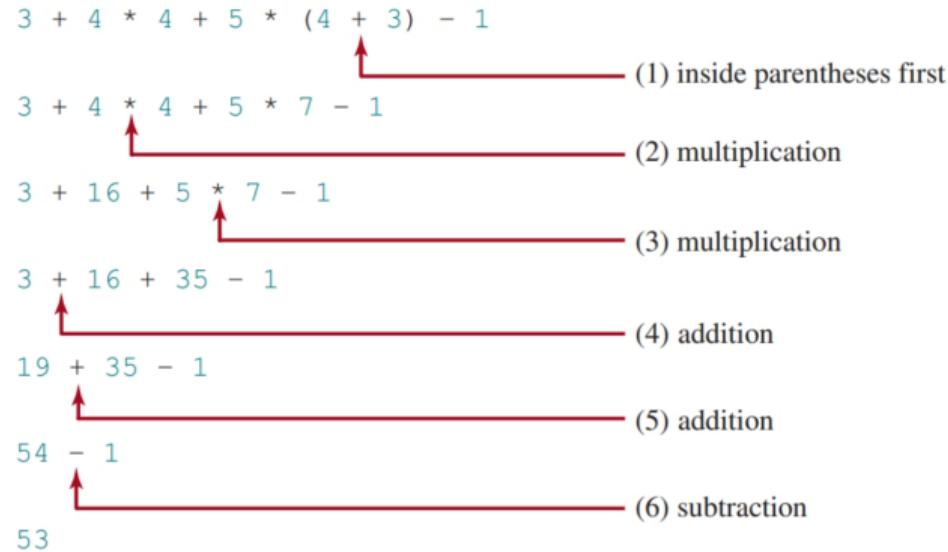


# Precedence of Arithmetic Operators

**Q:** If there are multiple operators involved in an expression, how should we evaluate it?

- This is determined by the precedence of operators.
- Operator precedence determines the order in which operations are performed in an expression.
- For arithmetic expressions, there are three levels of precedence:
  - Exponentiation (`**`) is applied first.
  - Multiplication (`*`), float division (`/`), integer division (`//`), and remainder (`%`) operators are applied next. If an expression contains several of these operations, they are applied from left to right.
  - Addition (`+`) and subtraction (`-`) operators are applied last. If an expression contains multiple addition and subtraction operators, they are also applied from left to right.
- Can I override these rules?  
Yes, by using parentheses `( )`.

# Precedence of Arithmetic Operators



- This diagram illustrates the **precedence of arithmetic operators** in Python.
- Higher precedence operators are evaluated before lower precedence operators.
- Use parentheses to override the default precedence rules.

# Precedence of Arithmetic Operators

# Filename: precedence\_arithmetic\_operators.py

```
def main():
    print("The result of 3 + 4 * 4 + 5 * (4 + 3) - 1 is",
          3 + 4 * 4 + 5 * (4 + 3) - 1)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

## Output:

The result of 3 + 4 \* 4 + 5 \* (4 + 3) - 1 is 53



# Arithmetic Operations on Variables

- Arithmetic operators can also be applied to variables.
- The precedence of operations remains the same when using variables.
- This example demonstrates various arithmetic operations on variables:

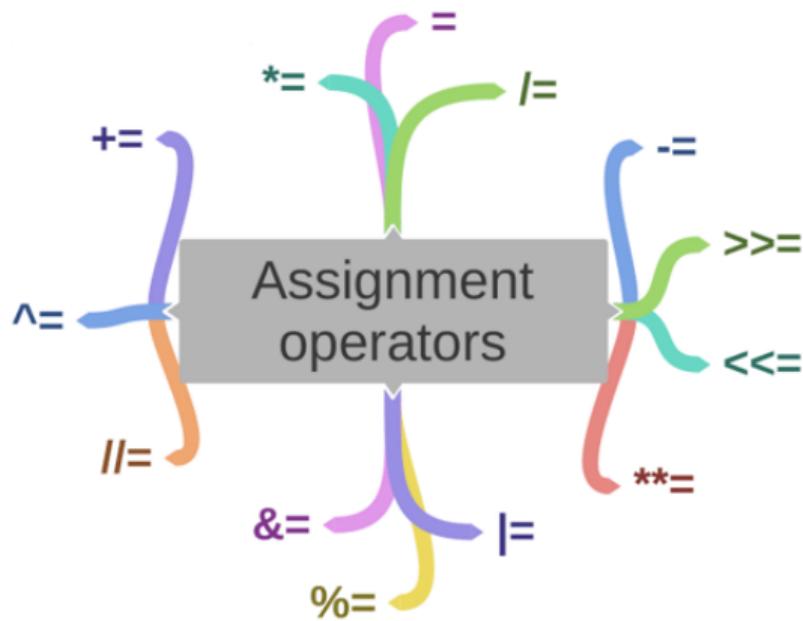
```
def main():  
    a, c = 10, 22  
    b, d = 20.1, 18.9  
    print("Addition:", a + b)  
    print("Subtraction:", a - b)  
    print("Multiplication:", a * b)  
    print("Division:", a / b)  
    # The following has a precision error  
    print("Combination:", a * 10 + b / c - d + 6)  
  
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    main()
```

## Output:

```
Addition: 30.1  
Subtraction: -10.100000000000001  
Multiplication: 201.0  
Division: 0.49751243781094523  
Combination: 88.013636363636365
```

# Part II

## Assignment Operation



# Assignment Operation

- The assignment operator = is used to assign a value to a variable that references an object.

## Syntax

```
<var name> = <initial value>
# Cascading assignment
<var name1> = <var name2> = <initial value>
# Simultaneous assignments
<var name1>, <var name2>, ... = <initial value1>, <initial value2>, ...
<var name> = <expression>
<var name1> = <var name2> = <expression>
<var name1>, <var name2>, ... = <expression1>, <expression2>, ...
```

where <var name> or <var nameN> is the variable name in the program, referring to its location in memory; <initial value> or <initial valueN> is the value initially assigned to the object referenced by a variable (this is called **initialization**); <expression> or <expressionN> refers to a value obtained from operations.

# Assignment Operation

- Examples:

# Simultaneous assignments

```
x, y = 3, 4 # Create objects with values 3 and 4 and referenced by x and y
x = 2 + 9    # Create an object with the result of 2 + 9 (11) and referenced by x
x = y        # Create an object to store the value of y (4) and referenced by x
x = x + 1    # Create an object to store the value of x + 1 (5) and referenced by x
```

- Common Confusion:

- Many students may get confused because assignment statements, such as  $x = x + 1$ , do not follow traditional mathematical rules.
- In mathematics, no real number can satisfy the equation  $x = x + 1$ .

However, in programming, we are simply assigning the value of  $(x + 1)$  to the variable  $x$ . This is not a mathematical equation, but an assignment operation.



# Assignment Operation

```
# Filename: bmi_example.py

def main():
    weight, height = 195, 70 # Initialize weight and height
    bmi = weight / (height * height) * 703 # Calculate BMI
    print("Previous BMI:", bmi)

    weight = 180 # Update weight
    bmi = weight / (height * height) * 703 # Recalculate BMI
    print("Current BMI:", bmi)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

## Output:

```
Previous BMI: 27.976530612244897
Current BMI: 25.82448979591837
```



# What is Wrong in This Code?

```
def main():
    count = count + 1 # Error: count is not defined yet
    print(count)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

- An **error occurs** in the line `count = count + 1` because the **variable count has not been defined** before this line.
- To fix it, we can **define the object referenced by the variable count first**:

```
def main():
    count = 1           # Initialize count
    count = count + 1  # Increment count by 1
    print(count)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

# Simultaneous Assignments and Cascading Assignments

```
# Filename: simultaneous_cascading_assignment.py
```

```
def main():
    x, y = 10, 20 # Simultaneous assignments
    ''' This is equivalent to:
        x = 10
        y = 20 '''
    print(x, y)
```

**Output:**

```
10 20
1 1 1
```

```
i = j = k = 1 # Cascading assignments
```

```
''' This is equivalent to:
    k = 1
    j = k
    i = j '''
    print(i, j, k)
```

```
if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```



# Assignment Operation - Swapping Two Variables

```
# Filename: swapping.py
def main():
    x = 5
    y = 10

    # Swap x with y
    x, y = y, x
    print(f"x: {x}, y: {y}")

    ''' x, y = y, x
    is equivalent to:
        temp = x
        x = y
        y = temp '''
if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

## How it Works?

We will discuss this in detail when we talk about tuples!

- **Tuple Packing:** On the right side of the assignment `(y, x)`, Python **creates a tuple** containing the current values of `y` and `x`. For example, if `x` is 5 and `y` is 10, the expression `(y, x)` evaluates to the tuple `(10, 5)`.
- **Tuple Unpacking:** On the left side of the assignment, the values from this tuple are **unpacked into the variables** `x` and `y`. In this case, `x` will get the value of 10, and `y` will get the value of 5.

# Augmented Assignment Operations

- Python allows augmented assignment operations to simplify coding.

Operator	Description	Example	Equivalent
<code>+=</code>	Addition assignment	<code>i += 8</code>	<code>i = i + 8</code>
<code>-=</code>	Subtraction assignment	<code>i -= 8</code>	<code>i = i - 8</code>
<code>*=</code>	Multiplication assignment	<code>i *= 8</code>	<code>i = i * 8</code>
<code>/=</code>	Float division assignment	<code>i /= 8</code>	<code>i = i / 8</code>
<code>//=</code>	Integer division assignment	<code>i //= 8</code>	<code>i = i // 8</code>
<code>%=</code>	Remainder assignment	<code>i %= 8</code>	<code>i = i % 8</code>
<code>**=</code>	Exponentiation assignment	<code>i **= 8</code>	<code>i = i ** 8</code>

These augmented assignment operators are syntactic sugar, providing more convenient and expressive ways to perform operations that could be done with more verbose syntax.

- Example:

- `x /= 4 + 5.5 + 1.5` is equivalent to `x = x / (4 + 5.5 + 1.5)`.

## Note

There are no spaces in augmented assignment operators. For example, `+=` should not have a space.

# Augmented Assignment Operation

# Filename: augmented\_assignment.py

```
def main():
    account = 2000.0
    income = 1000.0
    print("Account =", account, ", income =", income)
    account += income # Augmented assignment to update account
    print("Account =", account, ", income =", income)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

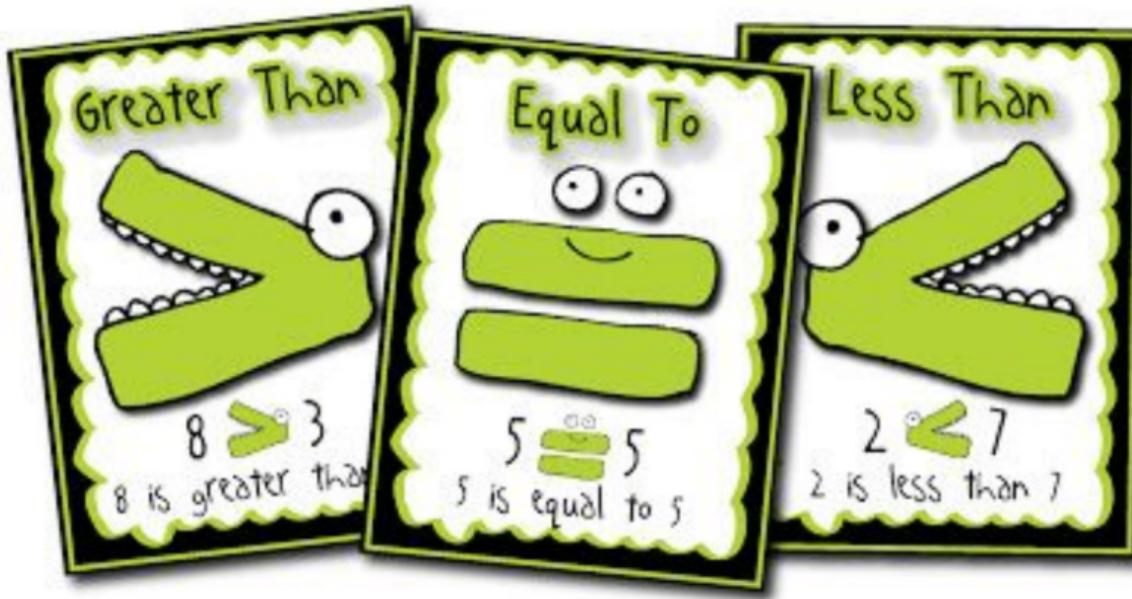
## Output:

```
Account = 2000.0 , income = 1000.0
Account = 3000.0 , income = 1000.0
```



# Part III

## Relational (Comparison) Operations



# Relational Operations

- Relational (comparison) operators define the relationships between values.

Operator	Maths Symbol	Description	Example (radius is 5)	Result
<	<	less than	radius < 0	False
<=	$\leq$	less than or equal to	radius $\leq$ 0	False
>	>	greater than	radius > 0	True
$\geq$	$\geq$	greater than or equal to	radius $\geq$ 0	True
$=$	$=$	equal to	radius $=$ 0	False
$\neq$	$\neq$	not equal to	radius $\neq$ 0	True

- The result of the comparison is a Boolean value: True or False.

```
radius = 5  
print(radius > 0) # Prints True
```



# Relational Operations

```
def main(): # Filename: relational_operations.py
    x = 10
    y = 20
    x_greater_than_y = (x > y)
    x_greater_equal_y = (x >= y)
    x_less_than_y = (x < y)
    x_less_equal_y = (x <= y)
    x_equal_y = (x == y)
    x_not_equal_y = (x != y)

    print("x, y:", x, y)
    print("x > y:", x_greater_than_y)
    print("x >= y:", x_greater_equal_y)
    print("x < y:", x_less_than_y)
    print("x <= y:", x_less_equal_y)
    print("x == y:", x_equal_y)
    print("x != y:", x_not_equal_y)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

## Output:

```
x, y: 10 20
x > y: False
x >= y: False
x < y: True
x <= y: True
x == y: False
x != y: True
```



# Part IV

## Logical Operations



A



B



A AND B



A OR B



NOT A

# Logical Operations

- There are three **logical operators** in Python:

Operator	Description
not	logical negation
and	logical conjunction
or	logical disjunction

- Logical operators combine two Boolean values and produce a single Boolean result based on the corresponding **truth table**.

Truth Table				
p	q	p and q	p or q	not p
True	True	True	True	False
True	False	False	True	False
False	True	False	True	True
False	False	False	False	True

- The variables *p* and *q* can be Boolean literal values or evaluated Boolean values from expressions.

# Logical Operations

- Return True if  $x$  is in the range [3, 10]:

```
in_range = ( (x >= 3) and (x <= 10) )
```

Python supports chained comparison operators:

```
# in_range = ( 3 <= x <= 10 ) # Equivalent statement
```

- Return True if  $|x| > 1$ :

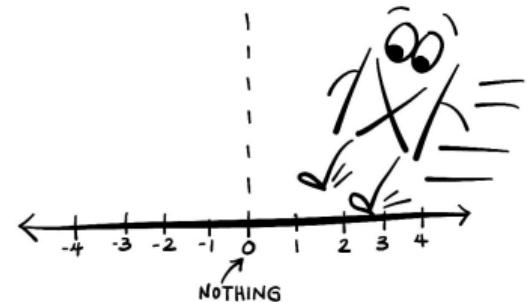
- `abs_x_greater_than_1 = ( (x > 1) or (x < -1) )`

- Return True if  $x$  is not equal to 0. The two statements below are equivalent:

- `non_zero = (x != 0)`

- `non_zero = not(x == 0)`

ABSOLUTE VALUE WILL STOP AT  
NOTHING TO STAY POSITIVE!



## Example: Determining Leap Years

- A leap year has 366 days. The February of a leap year has 29 days.
- A leap year is divisible by 4 but not by 100, or divisible by 400

```
def main(): # Filename: leap_year.py
    year = int(input("Enter a year: "))

    # Check if the year is a leap year
    is_leap_year = (year % 4 == 0 and year % 100 != 0) or \
                   (year % 400 == 0)

    # Display the result
    print(year, "is a leap year?", is_leap_year)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()
```

### Output:

```
Enter a year: 2000
2000 is a leap year? True
```



# Short Circuiting or Lazy Operations

- Short-circuiting is a technique where the execution of a boolean expression containing 'or' and 'and' operators is halted as soon as the truth value of the expression is determined.
- This technique makes computation faster by not evaluating the remaining expressions once the truth value is established.

Operation	Notes
p <b>or</b> q	q is executed only if p is False
p <b>and</b> q	q is executed only if p is True

- The evaluation of expressions takes place from left to right.

```
print(True or 2/0)      # Evaluates to True, 2/0 is not evaluated  
print(False or 2/0)     # This raises an error, since 2/0 is evaluated
```

```
print(False and 2/0)    # Evaluates to False, 2/0 is not evaluated  
print(True and 2/0)     # This raises an error, since 2/0 is evaluated
```

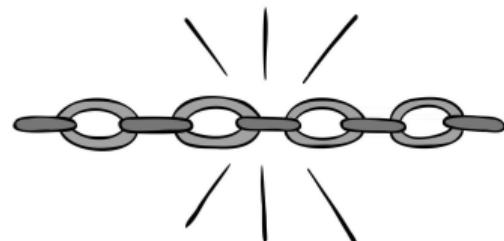
# Chain Operators in Python

- Chain operators allow you to combine multiple comparisons in a single expression.
- They evaluate to 'True' if all comparisons are 'True'.
- Example:

$$5 > x > 3$$

This checks if  $x$  is greater than 3 and less than 5.

The expression  $5 > x > 3$  is equivalent to  $x < 5$  and  $x > 3$ .



# Part V

## Other Operations



# Identity Operations

- Identity operators check if **two variables refer to the same object** in memory.
- There are two identity operators:
  - **is**: Returns **True** if both operands refer to the same object.
  - **is not**: Returns **True** if both operands do not refer to the same object.
- Use identity operators when you need to check if two variables point to the same object, not just if they are equal in value.

```
a = 1  
b = 1  
print(a is b)      # Print True  
print(a is not b) # Print False
```

Since both a and b are assigned the value 1, and Python caches small integers (typically between -5 and 256), both a and b refer to the same integer object in memory. Therefore, `print(a is b)` evaluates to **True**, and `print(a is not b)` evaluates to **False**.

# Python Caches Small Integers

- Python caches small integers for efficiency, typically in the range of -5 to 256. But the range of these cached integers can vary depending on the platform and the Python implementation.
- This means that when you create an integer within this range, Python reuses the same object instead of creating a new one.

```
x = 100; y = 100  
print(x is y) # Print True
```

- The is operator confirms that both x and y point to the same object in memory.
- This caching mechanism can lead to performance improvements and reduced memory usage.
- However, integers outside this range are not cached:

```
a = 1000; b = 1000  
print(a is b) # Print True in VS Code, but False in Colab
```

- In Colab, a and b are different objects in memory.

Caching small integers is an optimization technique employed by Python to enhance performance for frequently used values.

# Membership Operations

- Membership operators check if **an item exists within a collection**. They return a boolean value **True** or **False**.
- There are two membership operators:
  - **in**: Returns **True** if the specified item exists in a sequence; **False** otherwise.
  - **not in**: Returns **True** if the specified item does not exist in a sequence; **False** otherwise.

## Note

More details will be provided when discussing collections!



# Associativity of Operators

- Associativity refers to the order in which operators of the same precedence are evaluated in an expression.
- In Python, operators can be left-to-right associative or right-to-left associative.
- Left-to-right Associative Operators:
  - Most arithmetic operators (e.g., `+`, `-`, `*`, `/`) are left-to-right associative.  
 $10 / 5 * 2$  is evaluated as  $(10 / 5) * 2 = 4$
- Right-to-left Associative Operators:
  - The exponentiation operator (`**`) is right-to-left associative.  
 $2 ** 3 ** 2$  is evaluated as  $2 ** (3 ** 2) = 2 ** 9 = 512$



# Operator Precedence from High (Top) to Low (Down)

Operator	Description	Associativity
<code>**</code>	Exponentiation	Right-to-left
<code>+, -</code>	Unary plus and minus	Right-to-left
<code>*, /, //, %</code>	Multiplication, division, integer division, and modulus	Left-to-right
<code>+, -</code>	Binary addition and subtraction	Left-to-right
<code>&lt;, &lt;=, &gt;, &gt;=</code>	Relational operators	Left-to-right
<code>==, !=</code>	Equality operators	Left-to-right
<code>is, is not</code>	Identity operators	Left-to-right
<code>in, not in</code>	Membership operators	Left-to-right
<code>not</code>	Logical negation	Left-to-right
<code>and</code>	Logical conjunction	Left-to-right
<code>or</code>	Logical disjunction	Left-to-right
<code>=, +=, -=, **=, /=, //=, %=, **=</code>	Assignment and augmented assignment operators	Right-to-left

Reference: <https://docs.python.org/3/reference/expressions.html>

Do not rely solely on precedence rules when writing your program.

- Be cautious: logical `and` is evaluated before logical `or`.
- Example: `(p or q and r)` is equivalent to `(p or (q and r))`. Use parentheses to clarify your intention.

# Floating Point Errors in Python

- Occur due to the way floating point numbers are represented in computer memory.
- Can lead to precision loss and unexpected results in calculations.
- Common Causes:
  - Precision Limitations:
    - Floating point numbers have limited precision (typically 15-17 decimal digits).
    - Example: `0.1 + 0.2` may not equal `0.3`.
  - Rounding Errors:
    - Operations can introduce small errors due to rounding.
    - Example: `print(0.1 + 0.2 == 0.3)` results in `False`.
- Handling Floating Point Errors:
  - Use the `math.isclose()` function for comparisons:

```
import math
print(math.isclose(0.1 + 0.2, 0.3)) # Print True
```
  - Consider using the `decimal` module for higher precision:

```
from decimal import Decimal
print(Decimal('0.1') + Decimal('0.2') == Decimal('0.3')) # Print True
```

# Common Pitfalls in Python Programming

- Confusion between Assignment and Equality:
  - The assignment operator `=` is used to assign values to variables.
  - The equality operator `==` is used to compare two values.
  - Common mistake: Using `=` when you meant to use `==`.
- Misunderstanding Operator Precedence:
  - Operators have different levels of precedence, which affects the order of operations.
  - Example: In the expression `a + b * c`, multiplication is performed before addition.
  - Common mistake: Assuming operations will be executed from left to right without considering precedence.
- Using `is` vs. `==`:
  - The `is` operator checks for identity (same object in memory), while `==` checks for equality (same value).
  - Common Mistake: Using `is` to compare values instead of `==`.

# Key Terms

- Arithmetic operators/operations
- Assignment operator/operations
- Augmented assignment operators/operations
- Cascading assignments
- Evaluations
- Expressions
- Exponentiation
- Identity operators/operations
- Integer division
- Lazy operator
- Logical operators
- Membership operators/operations
- Modulo operation
- Negation operator/operation
- Operands
- Operators
- Precedence
- Relational operators/operations
- Short-circuit evaluation
- Simultaneous assignments
- Syntactic sugar
- Truth table

## Review Questions

Fill in the blanks in each of the following sentences about the Python environment.

1. In Python, three main types of operations are \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.
2. `+`, `-`, `*`, `/`, `//`, `**`, `%` are called \_\_\_\_\_, and the arguments around them are called \_\_\_\_\_.
3. When evaluating an expression with values of an `int` type and a `float` type, Python automatically converts the \_\_\_\_\_ type value to a \_\_\_\_\_ type value.
4. `//` is used for \_\_\_\_\_.
5. `**` is used for \_\_\_\_\_.
6. `%` is called the \_\_\_\_\_ operator, and is used to find the \_\_\_\_\_ after integer division.

Answer: 1. arithmetic, relational, logical, 2. operators, operands, 3. int, float, 4. integer division, 5. exponentiation, 6. modulo, remainder.

## Review Questions

Fill in the blanks in each of the following sentences about the Python environment.

7. \_\_\_\_\_ is used as both a binary operator and a unary operator.
8. An \_\_\_\_\_ is a simple value or a combination of operations that produces a value.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ can be used to force the order of evaluation to occur in any sequence.
10. The \_\_\_\_\_ is used to assign a value to an object referenced by a variable.
11. The operators in arithmetic expressions are evaluated in the order determined by the rules of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Python provides \_\_\_\_\_ operators: `+=`, `-=`, `*=`, `/=`, `//=`, and `%=`.
13. The \_\_\_\_\_ operators (`<`, `<=`, `==`, `!=`, `>`, `>=`) yield a Boolean value.
14. Python uses \_\_\_\_\_ to represent `True`, and \_\_\_\_\_ for `False`.

Answer: 7. Operator `-`, 8. expression, 9. Parenthesis, 10. assignment operator, 11. parenthesis, operator precedence, 12. augmented assignment, 13. relational (or comparison), 14. `(1)`, `(0)`.

## Review Questions

Fill in the blanks in each of the following sentences about the Python environment.

15. \_\_\_\_\_ values are considered **True** in a Boolean context, while \_\_\_\_\_ values are evaluated as **False**.
16. The logical operators \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ operate with Boolean values and variables.
17. \_\_\_\_\_ is a technique where the execution of a boolean expression containing **or** and **and** operators is halted.
18. Logical \_\_\_\_\_ is evaluated before logical \_\_\_\_\_.
19. \_\_\_\_\_ operators check if two variables refer to the same object in the memory.
20. \_\_\_\_\_ operators check if an item exists, or does not exist within a sequence.

Answer: 15. Non-zero, zero, 16. **and**, **or**, **not**, 17. Short circuiting, 18. **and**, **or**, 19. Identity, 20. Membership

## Further Reading

- Read Sections 2.5 - 2.6, 2.8 - 2.12, 3.2, 3.10, and 3.15 of “Introduction to Python Programming and Data Structures” textbook.



That's all!

Any questions?

