

COMP 10280

Programming I (Conversion)

John Dunnion

School of Computer Science
University College Dublin

COMP 10280 Programming I (Conversion)/Lecture 8

Outline

Conditional statement

Boolean conditions

Chained expressions

Leap years

String operations

Conditional statement (1)

```
if num > 0:  
    print( 'Number_is_positive.' )  
elif num == 0:  
    print( 'Number_is_equal_to_0' )  
else :  
    print( 'Number_is_negative.' )
```

Conditional statement (2)

```
if num == 0:  
    print( 'Number_is_equal_to_0' )  
elif num > 0:  
    print( 'Number_is_positive.' )  
else :  
    print( 'Number_is_negative.' )
```

Conditional statement (3)

```
if num > 0:  
    print( 'Number_is_positive.' )  
elif num == 0:  
    print( 'Number_is_equal_to_0' )  
elif num < 0:  
    print( 'Number_is_negative.' )
```

Boolean conditions (1)

- We have already seen the three Boolean operators: `and`, `or` and `not`
- These can be used to create complex **Boolean conditions**

```
if num_hours < 0 or num_hours > 168:  
    print( 'Number_of_hours_worked_per_week_shoul  
        _positive_and_be_a_maximum_of_168! ')
```

Boolean conditions (2)

- Consider the following:

```
if num > 20:  
    if num % 2 == 0:  
        print( 'Number_is_even_and_greater_than_20 '
```

- and

```
if num > 20 and num % 2 == 0:  
    print( 'Number_is_even_and_greater_than_20 ')
```

Boolean conditions (3)

- Consider the following:

```
if num > 20 and num % 2 == 0:  
    print( 'Number_is_even_and_greater_than_20 ')
```

- and

```
if num > 20 or num % 2 == 0:  
    print( 'Number_is_even_and_greater_than_20 ')
```


Boolean conditions (4)

- Consider the following:

```
if num_hours < 0 or num_hours > 168:  
    print( 'Number_of_hours_worked_per_week_'  
          'should_be_positive_and_be_a_maximum_of_168!')
```

- and

```
if num_hours < 0 and num_hours > 168:  
    print( 'Number_of_hours_worked_per_week_'  
          'should_be_positive_and_be_a_maximum_of_168!')
```

Short-circuiting the evaluation of Boolean conditions

(1)

- In Python, Boolean expressions are evaluated **from left to right**
- If the Python interpreter works out that it knows the result of a Boolean expression, ie there is no point in evaluating the rest of an expression, it stops the evaluation and does not carry out the computations in the rest of the expression
- When the evaluation of a Boolean expression stops because the overall value is already known, it is called **short-circuiting** the evaluation.

Short-circuiting the evaluation of Boolean conditions

(2)

```
>>> a = 30
>>> b = 5
>>> a >= 20 and a / b > 4
True
>>> a = 10
>>> b = 2
>>> a >= 20 and a / b > 4
False
```

Short-circuiting the evaluation of Boolean conditions (3)

```
>>> a = 10
>>> b = 0
>>> a >= 20 and a / b > 4
False
>>> a = 25
>>> b = 0
>>> a >= 20 and a / b > 4
```

```
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<pyshell#16>", line 1, in <module>
    a >= 20 and a / b > 4
ZeroDivisionError: division by zero
```

Short-circuiting the evaluation of Boolean conditions

(4)

- The fourth calculation failed because Python was evaluating `a / b` and `b` was 0 which caused a runtime error
- The third calculation did not fail because the first part of the expression, `a >= 20`, evaluated to `False` and thus the expression `a / b` wasn't evaluated because of the short-circuit rule
- The Boolean condition in this example can be constructed to strategically place a **guard** expression just before the sub-expression that might cause an error

Short-circuiting the evaluation of Boolean conditions

(5)

- Consider the following:

```
>>> a = 30
```

```
>>> b = 5
```

```
>>> a >= 20 and b != 0 and a / b > 4
```

```
True
```

```
>>> a = 10
```

```
>>> b = 2
```

```
>>> a >= 20 and b != 0 and a / b > 4
```

```
False
```

Short-circuiting the evaluation of Boolean conditions (6)

```
>>> a = 30
>>> b = 0
>>> a >= 20 and b != 0 and a / b > 4
False
>>> a = 30
>>> b = 0
>>> a >= 20 and a / b > 4 and b != 0
```

```
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<pyshell#20>", line 1, in <module>
    a >= 20 and a / b > 4 and b != 0
ZeroDivisionError: division by zero
```

Short-circuiting the evaluation of Boolean conditions

(7)

- In the second calculation, `a >= 20` is `False` and the evaluation stops at the first `and`
- In the third calculation, `b != 0` is `False` and the evaluation stops at the second `and`
- We say that the expression `b != 0` acts as a **guard** to ensure that we only execute `a / b` if `b` is non-zero
- In the fourth calculation, the expression `b != 0` is *after* the expression `a / b`, and so the expression fails with an error

Chained expressions

- In Python, comparisons can be **chained**
- $x < y \leq z$ is equivalent to $x < y$ and $y \leq z$, except that y is evaluated only once (but in both cases z is not evaluated at all if $x < y$ is found to be false)
- Formally, if a, b, c, \dots, y, z are expressions and $op1, op2, \dots, opN$ are comparison operators, then $a \ op1 \ b \ op2 \ c \ \dots \ y \ opN \ z$ is equivalent to $a \ op1 \ b$ and $b \ op2 \ c$ and \dots and $y \ opN \ z$, except that each expression is evaluated at most once.
- Note that $a \ op1 \ b \ op2 \ c$ does not imply any kind of comparison between a and c , so that $x < y > z$ is perfectly legal
- Note that such chained expressions will **not** work in most other languages!

Leap years (1)

- (From Wikipedia!)
- A **leap year** (also known as an intercalary year or a bissextile year) is a year containing one additional day (or, in the case of lunisolar calendars, a month) added to keep the calendar year synchronized with the astronomical or seasonal year
- Because seasons and astronomical events do not repeat in a whole number of days, calendars that have the same number of days in each year drift over time with respect to the event that the year is supposed to track
- By inserting (also called **intercalating**) an additional day or month into the year, the drift can be corrected
- A year that is not a leap year is called a **common year**

Leap years (2)

Algorithm (from Wikipedia)

The following pseudocode determines whether a year is a leap year or a common year in the Gregorian calendar:

```
if (year is not exactly divisible by 4) then (it is a common year)
else
if (year is not exactly divisible by 100) then (it is a leap year)
else
if (year is not exactly divisible by 400) then (it is a common year)
else (it is a leap year)
```

Leap years (3)

Prompt the user for a year

Read the year

if year ≥ 0 then

if (year mod 4 = 0 and year mod 100 \neq 0)

or year mod 400 = 0 then

Print("Year is a leap year")

else

Print("Year is not a leap year")

else

Tell the user that the year must be ≥ 0

Program finishes

Leap years (4)

Ask the user to enter a year

```
year = int(input('Enter_a_year:_'))
```

```
print('Year_entered:', year)
```

```
if year >= 0:
```

```
    if (year % 4 == 0 and year % 100 != 0)  
        or year % 400 == 0:
```

```
        print(year, 'is_a_leap_year.')
```

```
    else:
```

```
        print(year, 'is_not_a_leap_year.')
```

```
else:
```

```
    print('Year_must_be_greater_than_0.')
```

```
print('Finished!')
```

Strings and sequence types

- Strings are one of several **sequence types** in Python
- Strings share a number of operations with all sequence types

Length of a string

- The **length** of a string can be found using the `len` function

```
>>> x = 'abcdef '
```

```
>>> len(x)
```

```
6
```

```
>>> len('abcd ')
```

```
4
```

```
>>>
```

Indexing into a string (1)

- Individual characters can be extracted from a string by **indexing**
- In Python, **all indexing starts at 0**

```
>>> x = 'abcdef '
```

```
>>> x[1]
```

```
'b'
```

```
>>> x[0]
```

```
'a'
```

```
>>> 'abcd' [2]
```

```
'c'
```

```
>>> x[6]
```

Traceback (most recent call last):

File "<pyshell#61>", line 1, in <module>

x[6]

IndexError: string index out of **range**

Indexing into a string (2)

- Since Python uses 0 to access the first element of a string, the last element of a string of length 4, for example, is accessed using the index 3
- Negative numbers are used to index from the end of a string

```
>>> x = 'abcdef'
```

```
>>> x[-1]  
'f'
```

```
>>> x[-6]  
'a'
```

```
>>> x[-7]
```

Traceback (most recent call last):

```
File "<pyshell#67>", line 1, in <module>  
    x[-7]
```

IndexError: string index out of **range**

```
>>>
```

Slicing a string (1)

- Extracting a substring from a string is called **slicing**
- If `s` is a string, the expression `s[start:end]` denotes the substring of `s` that starts at index `start` and ends at index `end - 1`
- The slice ends at index `end - 1` so that expressions such as `s[0:len(s)]` have the value you might expect

```
>>> x = 'abcdef'
```

```
>>> x[3:5]
```

```
'de'
```

```
>>> x[0:len(x)]
```

```
'abcdef'
```

```
>>> x[3:3]
```

```
''
```

```
>>>
```

Slicing a string (2)

- If the value before the colon is omitted, it defaults to 0
- If the value after the colon is omitted, it defaults to the length of the string
- If both values are omitted, both defaults apply
- Thus `s[:]` is the same as `s[0:len(s)]`

```
>>> x = 'abcdef'
```

```
>>> x[:4]
```

```
'abcd'
```

```
>>> x[3:]
```

```
'def'
```

```
>>> x[:]
```

```
'abcdef'
```

```
>>>
```