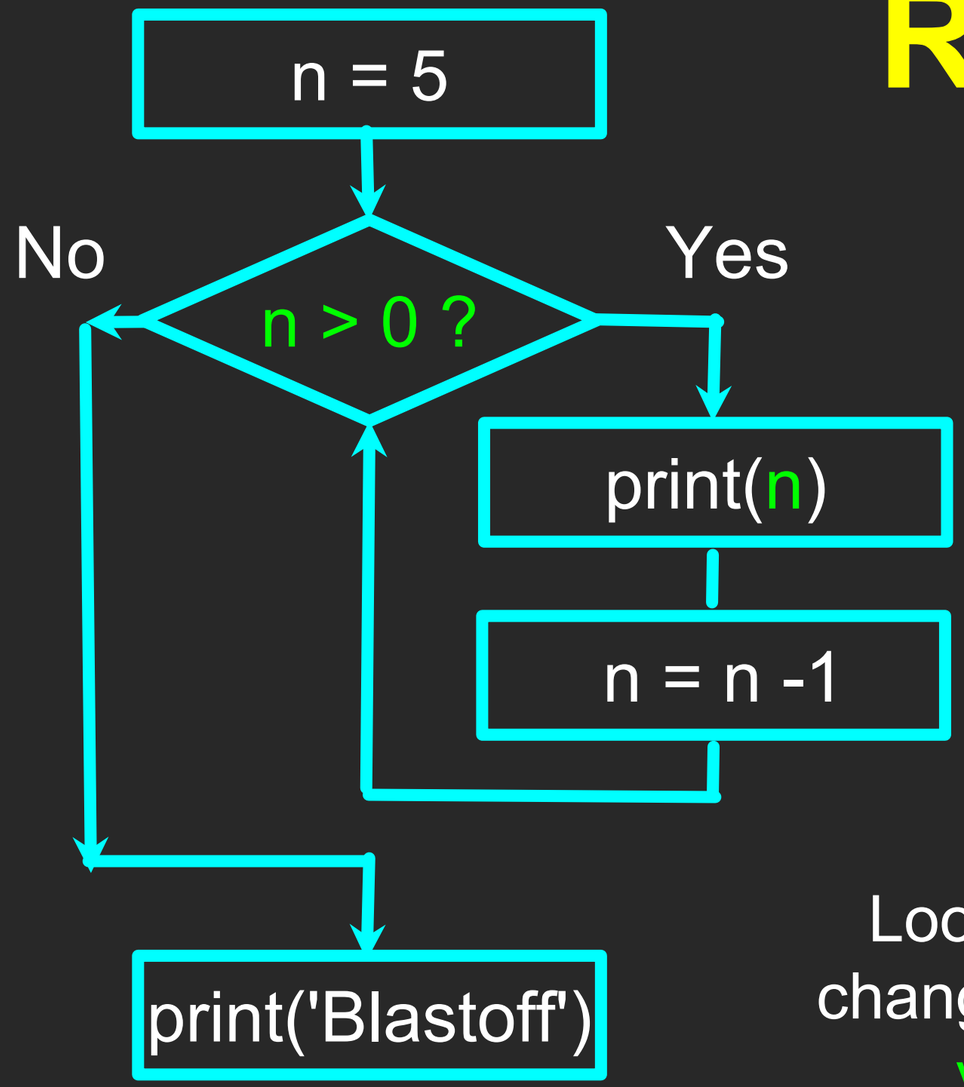
Loops and Iteration

Chapter 5

Python for Everybody
www.py4e.com

Repeated Steps



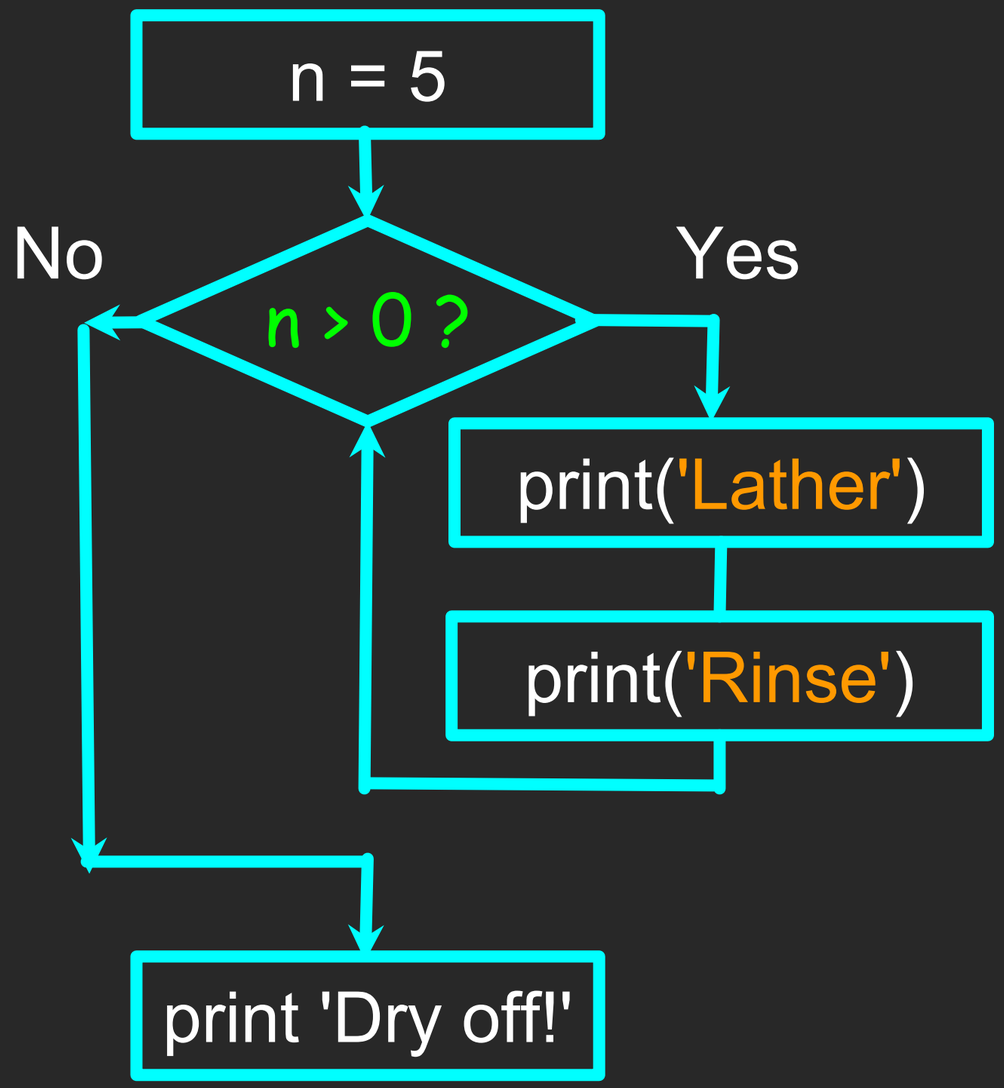
Program:

```
n = 5
while n > 0 :
    print(n)
    n = n - 1
print('Blastoff!')
print(n)
```

Output:

```
5
4
3
2
1
Blastoff!
0
```

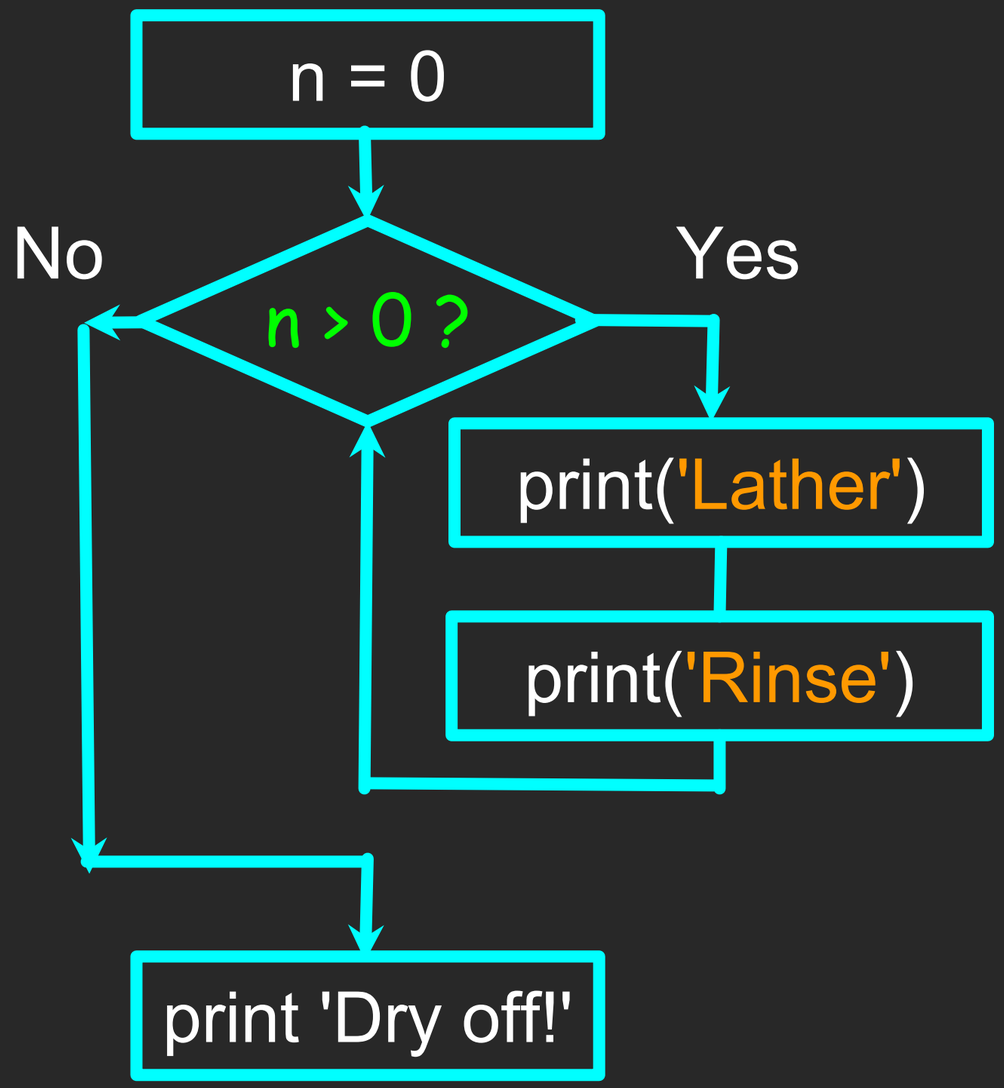
Loops (repeated steps) have iteration variables that change each time through a loop. Often these iteration variables go through a sequence of numbers.



An Infinite Loop

```
n = 5
while n > 0 :
    print('Lather')
    print('Rinse')
print('Dry off!')
```

What is wrong with this loop?



Another Loop

```
n = 0
while n > 0 :
    print('Lather')
    print('Rinse')
print('Dry off!')
```

What is this loop doing?

Breaking Out of a Loop

- The break statement ends the current loop and jumps to the statement immediately following the loop
- It is like a loop test that can happen anywhere in the body of the loop

```
while True:
    line = input('> ')
    if line == 'done' :
        break
    print(line)
print('Done!')
```

```
> hello there
hello there
> finished
finished
> done
Done!
```

Breaking Out of a Loop

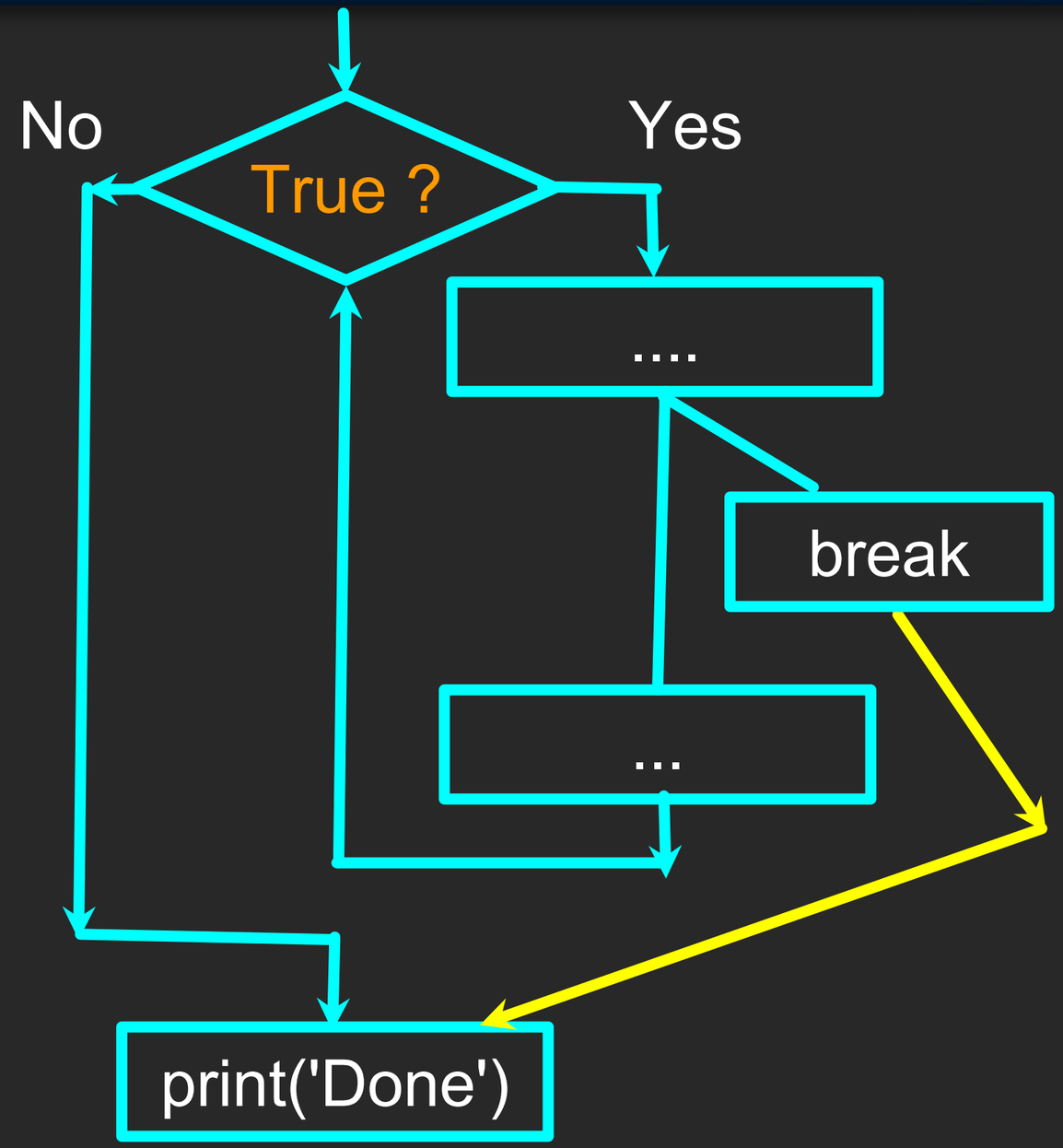
- The break statement ends the current loop and jumps to the statement immediately following the loop
- It is like a loop test that can happen anywhere in the body of the loop

```
while True:
    line = input('> ')
    if line == 'done' :
        break
    print(line)
print('Done!')
```

```
> hello there
hello there
> finished
finished
> done
Done!
```

```
while True:
    line = input('> ')
    if line == 'done' :
        break
    print(line)
print('Done!')
```

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transporter_(Star_Trek)



Finishing an Iteration with Continue

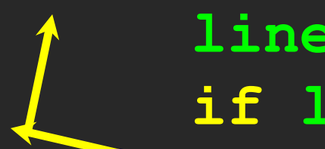
The continue statement ends the current iteration and jumps to the top of the loop and starts the next iteration

```
while True:
    line = input('> ')
    if line[0] == '#' :
        continue
    if line == 'done' :
        break
    print(line)
print('Done!')
```

```
> hello there
hello there
> # don't print this
> print this!
print this!
> done
Done!
```

Finishing an Iteration with Continue

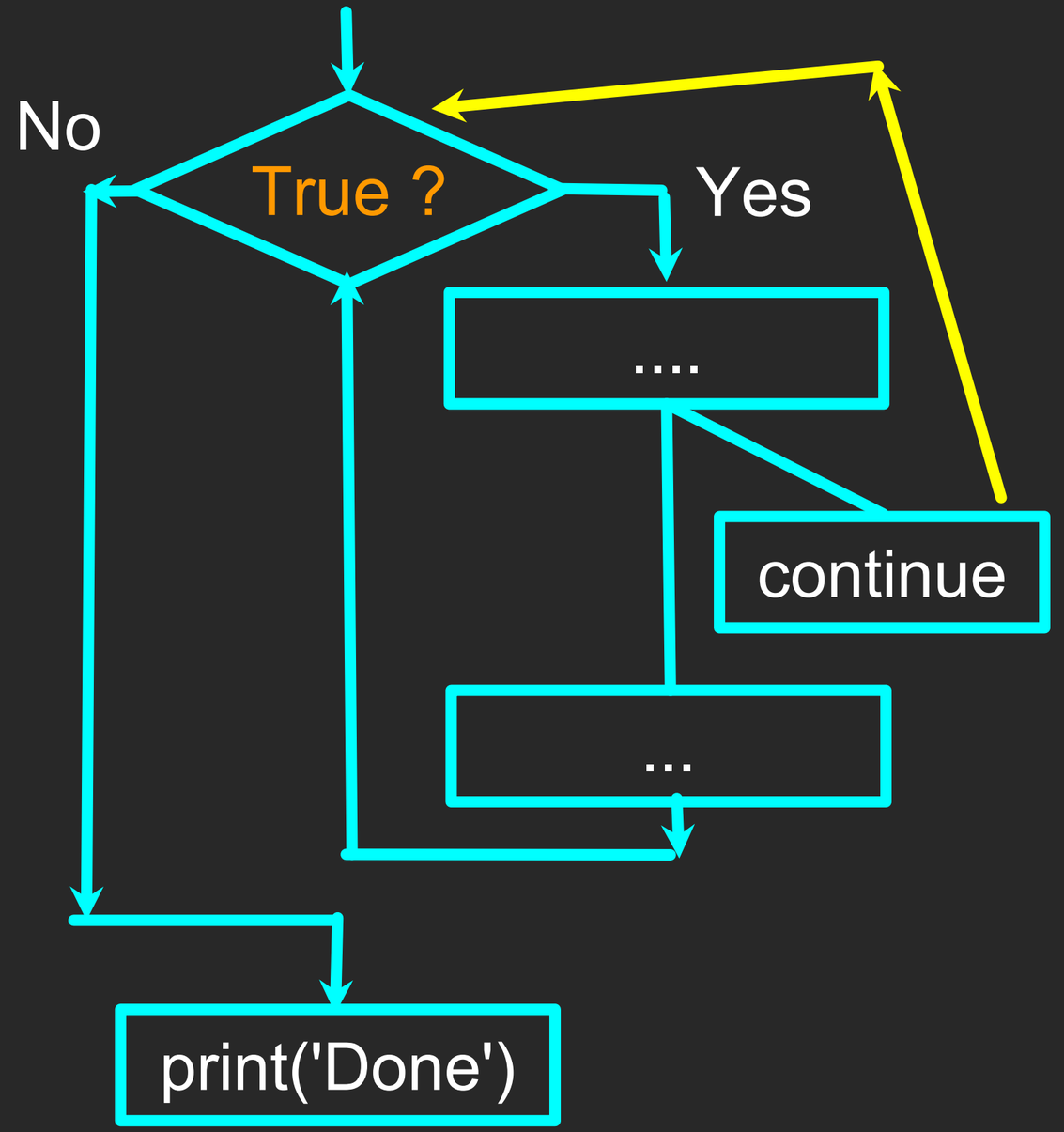
The continue statement ends the current iteration and jumps to the top of the loop and starts the next iteration



```
while True:
    line = input('> ')
    if line[0] == '#' :
        continue
    if line == 'done' :
        break
    print(line)
print('Done!')
```

```
> hello there
hello there
> # don't print this
> print this!
print this!
> done
Done!
```

```
while True:
    line = raw_input('> ')
    if line[0] == '#' :
        continue
    if line == 'done' :
        break
    print(line)
print('Done!')
```



Indefinite Loops

- While loops are called “indefinite loops” because they keep going until a logical condition becomes False
- The loops we have seen so far are pretty easy to examine to see if they will terminate or if they will be “infinite loops”
- Sometimes it is a little harder to be sure if a loop will terminate

Definite Loops

Acknowledgements / Contributions

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