



Python Programming Loops, conditions and functions

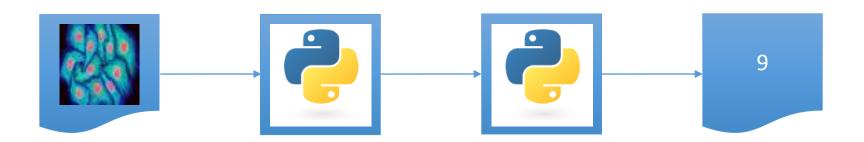
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Using material from Benoit Lombardot, Scientific Computing Facility, MPI CBG

Conditions



• Data science workflows *rarely* look like this

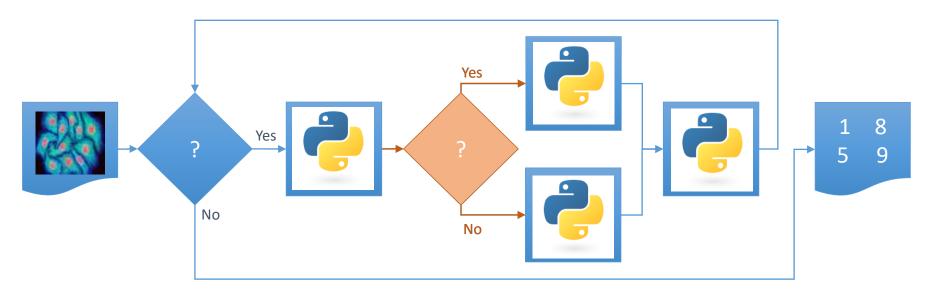


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Data science workflows rather look like this

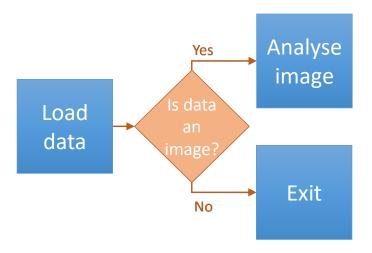
Conditional statement



Conditions

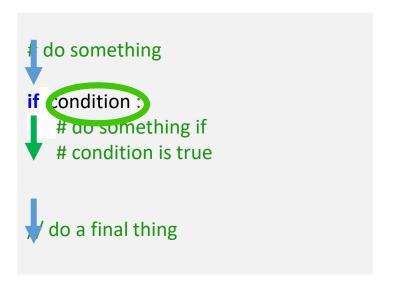


- Conditional statements can be used to
 - Check if pre-requisites are met
 - Check if data has the right format
 - Check if processing results are within an expected range
 - Check for errors



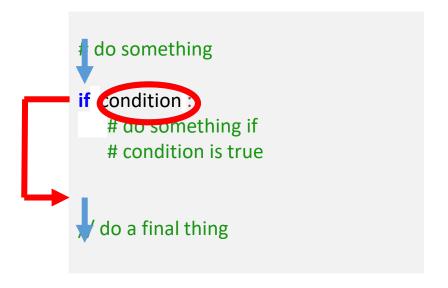


• Depending on a condition, some lines of code are executed or not.





• Depending on a condition, some lines of code are executed or not.





- The if / elif / else statement allows to program alternatives.
- Depending on conditions, only one block is computed
- Indentation is used to mark where a block starts and ends.
- Indentation helps reading blocks,

```
if condition :
    # do something if
    # condition is true

else :
    # do something else if
    # condition is false

# do in any case
```

```
if a == 0 :
    # do something if a = 0

elif a == 1 :
    # do something if a = 1

else :
    # do if a neither 0 nor 1

# do in any case
```



• Comparison operators always have True (1) or False (0) as results.

```
# initialise program
quality = 99.5

# evaluate result
if quality > 99.9:
    print("Everything is fine.")
else:
    print("We need to improve!")
```

Operator	Description	Example
<, <=	smaller or equal to	a < b
>,>=	greater than, greater or equal to	a > b
==	equal to	a == b
!=	not equal to	a != 1

Combined conditions



- Logic operators always take conditions as operands and result in a condition.
 - and
 - or
 - not
- Also combined conditions can be either True (1) or False (0).

```
# initialise program
quality = 99.9
age = 3

if quality >= 99.9 and age > 5:
    print("The item is ok.")
```

```
# initialise program
quality = 99.9

if not quality < 99.9:
    print("The item is ok.")</pre>
```

Conditions with arrays



• Checking contents of lists can be done intuitively using the in statement

```
# initialise program
my_list = [1, 5, 7, 8]
item = 3

if item in list:
    print("The item is in the list.")
else:
    print("There is no", item, "in", my_list)
```

```
# initialise program
my_list = [1, 5, 7, 8]
item = 3

if item not in list:
    print("There is no", item, "in", my_list)
else:
    print("The item is in the list.")
```

Readable code



Rules for readable code

- Every command belongs on its own line
- Insert <u>empty lines to separate</u> important processing steps
- Put <u>spaces</u> between operators and operands, because:

This is easier to read thanthat, or isnt'it?

Indent every conditional block (if/else) using the TAB key

```
# initialise program
a = 5
b = 3
c = 8

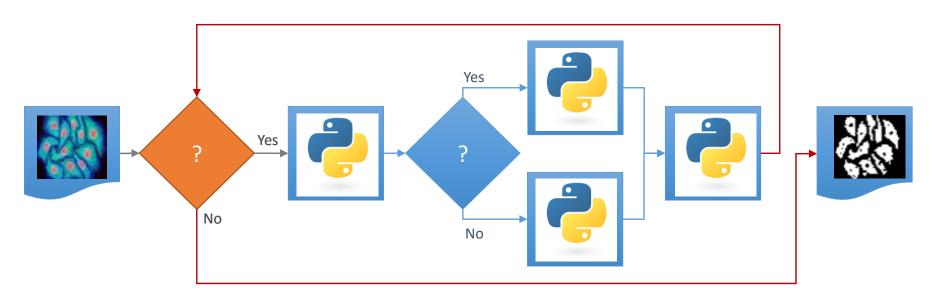
# execute algorithm
d = (a + b) / c

# evaluate result

if a == 5 :
    print("Yin")
else :
    print("Yang")
```



• To repeat actions, you run code in loops



Loop statement

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Loops



- The for statement allows us to execute some lines of code for several times,
- typically for all items in a list

```
# do something

for <variable> in <list> :
    # do something repeatedly

# do something
```

For-loops



Indentation means combining operations to a block

```
# for loops
for i in range(0, 5):
print(i)

File "<ipython-input-15-59c457ae0ac9>", line 3
    print(i)

IndentationError: expected an indented block
```

Don't forget to indent!

```
• Colon necessary

Don't forget the colon!

# for loops
for i in range(0, 5)
    print(i)

File "<ipython-input-13-23157c@ed137>", line 2
    for i in range(0, 5)

SyntaxError: invalid syntax
```

For-loops



• Example list: range (start, excluded limit)

```
# for loops
for i in range(0, 5):
    print(i)
0
1
2
3
4
```

```
animal_set = ["Cat", "Dog", "Mouse"]
for animal in animal_set:
    print(animal)
```

Dog Mouse

Generating arrays within for-loops



There is a long and a short way for creating arrays with numbers.

```
# we start with an empty list
numbers = []

# and add elements
for i in range(0, 5):
    numbers.append(i * 2)

print(numbers)
```

```
numbers = [i * 2 for i in range(0, 5)]
print(numbers)
[0, 2, 4, 6, 8]
```

[0, 2, 4, 6, 8]

Generating arrays within for-loops



Also a combination with the if-statement is possible

```
# we start with an empty list
numbers = []

# and add elements
for i in range(0, 5):
    # check if the number is odd
    if i % 2:
        numbers.append(i * 2)

print(numbers)
[2, 6]
```

```
numbers = [i * 2 for i in range(0, 5) if i % 2]
print(numbers)
[2, 6]
```

While-loops



• While loops keep executing indented code as long as a condition is met:

```
Works the same as
number = 1024
                                         with the if statement
while (number > 1):
    number = number / 2
    print(number)
512.0
256.0
128.0
64.0
32.0
16.0
8.0
4.0
2.0
1.0
```

Executing loops



• Using the break statement, you can leave a loop

```
number = 1024
while (True):
    number = number / 2
    print(number)
    if number < 1:
        break;
512.0
```

256.0

128.0

64.0

32.0

16.0

8.0

4.0

2.0

1.0

0.5

Skipping iterations



• The continue statement allows to skip iterations

Functions



- In case repetitive tasks appear that cannot be handled in a loop, custom functions are the way to go.
- Functions allow to re-use code in different contexts.
- Indentation is crucial.
- Functions must be defined before called

Definition

```
def sum_numbers(a, b):
    result = a + b
    return result
```

```
name (parameters)
```

body commands

return statement (optional)

```
    Call
```

```
c = sum_numbers(4, 5)
print(c)
```

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```
sum_numbers(5, 6)
```

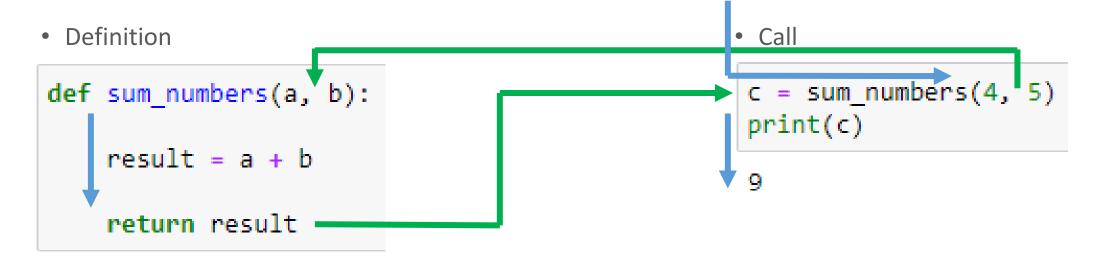
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sum_numbers(3, 4)

Functions



- In case repetitive tasks appear that cannot be handled in a loop, custom functions are the way to go.
- Functions allow to re-use code in different contexts.
- Indentation is crucial.
- Functions must be defined before called



Functions



- Document your functions to keep track of what they do.
- Describe what the functions does and what the parameters are meant to be

• You can then later print the *docsctring* if you can't recall how a function works.

```
print(square.__doc__)
```

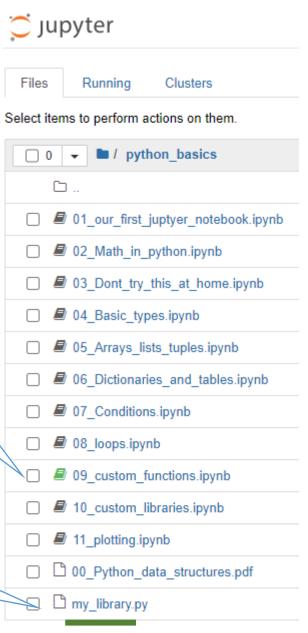
Squares a number by multiplying it with itself and returns its result.

Libraries



- For re-using functions between notebooks / projects, use libraries
- Simple python libraries are .py files containing multiple functions.
- The import statement allows you to import python files from the same folder.

```
from my_library import square
square(5)
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```



Summary



Today, you learned

- Python
 - Conditions
 - Loops
- How to write readable code.

Coming up next

- Image processing with ImageJ and Python
 - Filtering