

Python

Conditions & Recursion

Learning Objectives

- ▶ Introduce integer division
- ▶ Introduce Boolean Arithmetic
- ▶ Discuss conditionals (flow control)
- ▶ Explore recursive algorithms
- ▶ Begin accepting input from the keyboard

Integer Division

- ▶ **Recall:** on a PC, floating point math is susceptible to rounding errors
 - ▶ How does one model store 1/3?
- ▶ There are two division operators which work in the integer domain

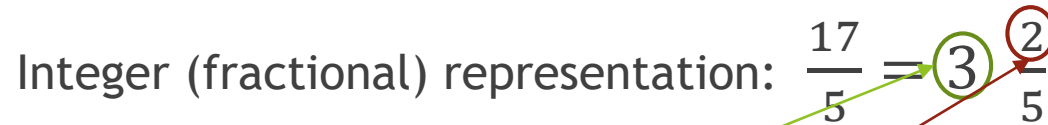
Integer (fractional) representation: $\frac{17}{5} = 3 \frac{2}{5}$

- ▶ How do we get to these numbers?
 - ▶ Floor Division (//)
 - ▶ Returns the integer portion of a division
 - ▶ $17 // 5 = 3$
 - ▶ Modulo Division
 - ▶ Returns the remainder
 - ▶ $17 \% 5 = 2$
- ▶ With the two operations, we can obtain a fractional view

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 - ▶ Use modulo division $153 \% 10 = 3$ (assuming base 10)
- ▶ How can we check to see if one number is evenly divisible by another? (ex. Is 57 evenly divisible by 3?)
 - ▶ Check to see if the remainder is zero (does $57 \% 3 == 0$?)
 - ▶ How can we use this to detect oddness or evenness?

Boolean Algebra

- ▶ Named after Mathematician George Boole who introduced these concepts to the world in “The Mathematical Analysis of Logic”
- ▶ Concepts are either logically true or logically false
 - ▶ Boolean Algebra supports two values, True and False
 - ▶ In most of computer science, including Python, 0 is considered false. Not zero is true.
- ▶ Uses relational and logical operators
- ▶ Note how this lines up to a machine which only works with 0s and 1s

Relational Operators

- ▶ **Recall:** Python uses the = operator to assign a value to a variable
- ▶ Equivalence == (two equal signs)
- ▶ Using a single = for an equivalence test will generate a syntax error

In [3]:

```
x = 5
y = 5
if x == y:
    print("True")
else:
    print("False")
```

Assignment

Equivalence test

True

Relational Operators

| Operation | Meaning |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>X == Y</code> | True when X is equal to Y |
| <code>X != Y</code> | True when X is not equal to Y |
| <code>X > Y</code> | True when X is greater than Y |
| <code>X < Y</code> | True when X is less than Y |
| <code>X >= Y</code> | True when X is greater than or equal to Y (logically inverted from <code>X < Y</code>) |
| <code>X <= Y</code> | True when X is less than or equal to Y (logically inverted from <code>X > Y</code>) |

Each of these operators return a value of type Boolean. That value can be stored.

```
In [6]: a = 5 > 6  
        print(a)
```

False

```
In [5]: a = 5 == 5  
        print(a)
```

True

Logical Operators

- Operators to link Boolean expressions together to create more complex semantics

| Operator | Function |
|----------|---------------------------------------------|
| X and Y | True if and only if X is true and Y is true |
| X or Y | True if X is true or Y is true |
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```
In [7]: x = 5
        y = 5
        if not((x<5) and (y+7)):
            print("True")
        else:
            print("False")
```

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Note the use of
parenthesis and the
mixing of various
operators

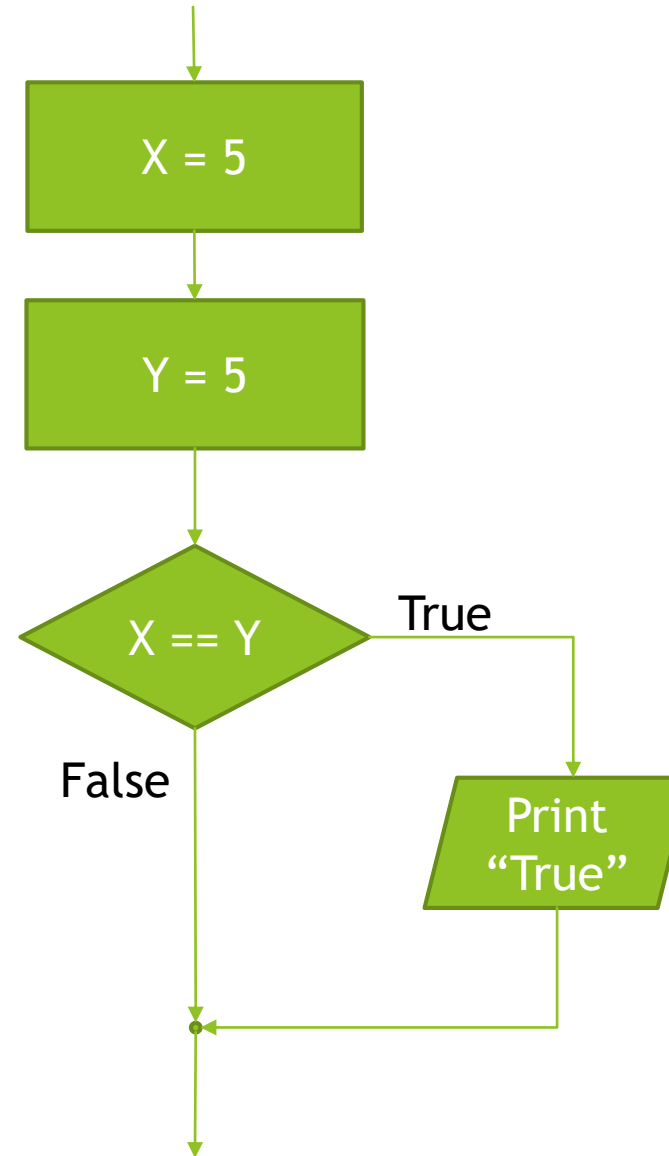
Order of Operations (Precedence)

| Operator |
|------------------------|
| () |
| ** |
| + - (unary) |
| * / % // |
| + - (binary) |
| < <= > >= |
| == != |
| = %= /= //=- += *= **= |
| not |
| and |
| or |

As in traditional Algebra,
operators at the same level
of precedence are
evaluated from left to right

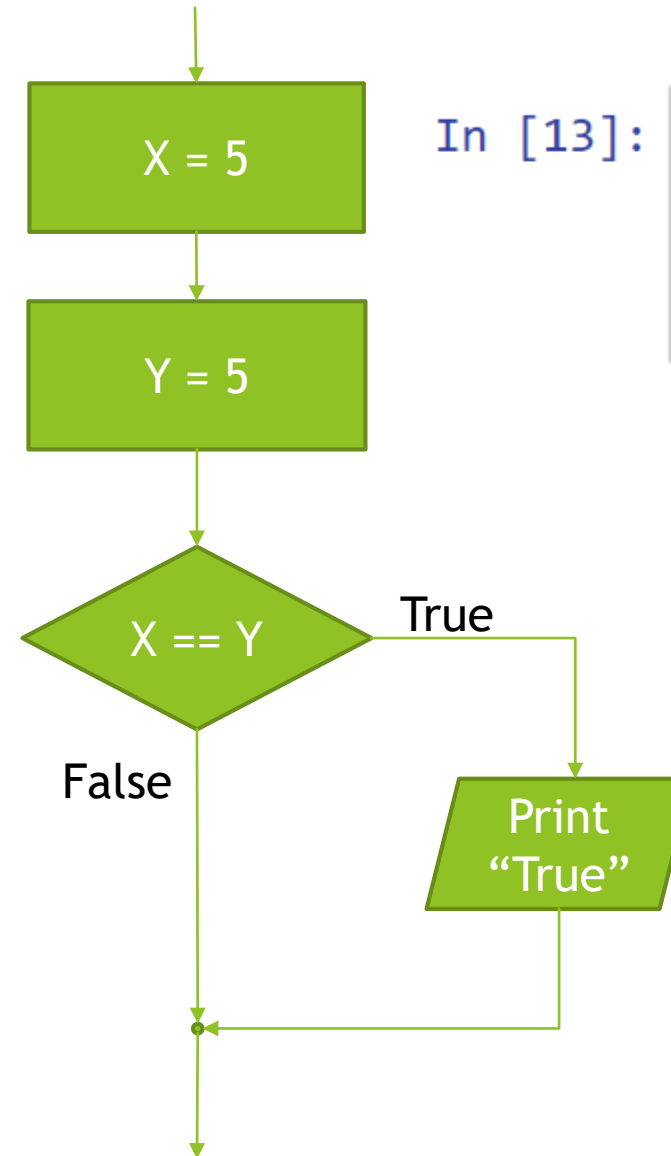
Conditional Execution

- ▶ Sometimes called alternation or decisions
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Conditional Execution

- ▶ Sometimes called alternation or decisions
- ▶ Run a set of statements, if some condition is true
- ▶ Uses the **if** keyword
- ▶ All indented commands run
 - ▶ There isn't a reasonable limit to the number of commands
- ▶ The logic controlling whether the instructions run is called the **boundary condition**



In [13]:

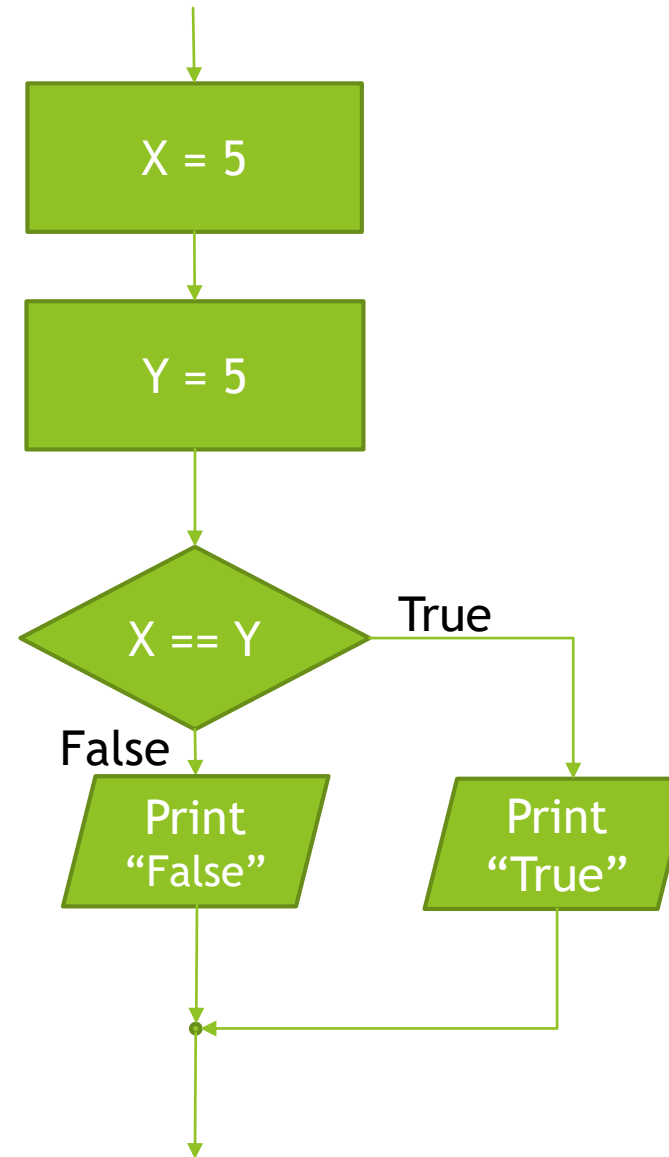
```
x = 5  
y = 5  
if x == y:  
    print("True")
```

True

(x == y) is the boundary condition in this example

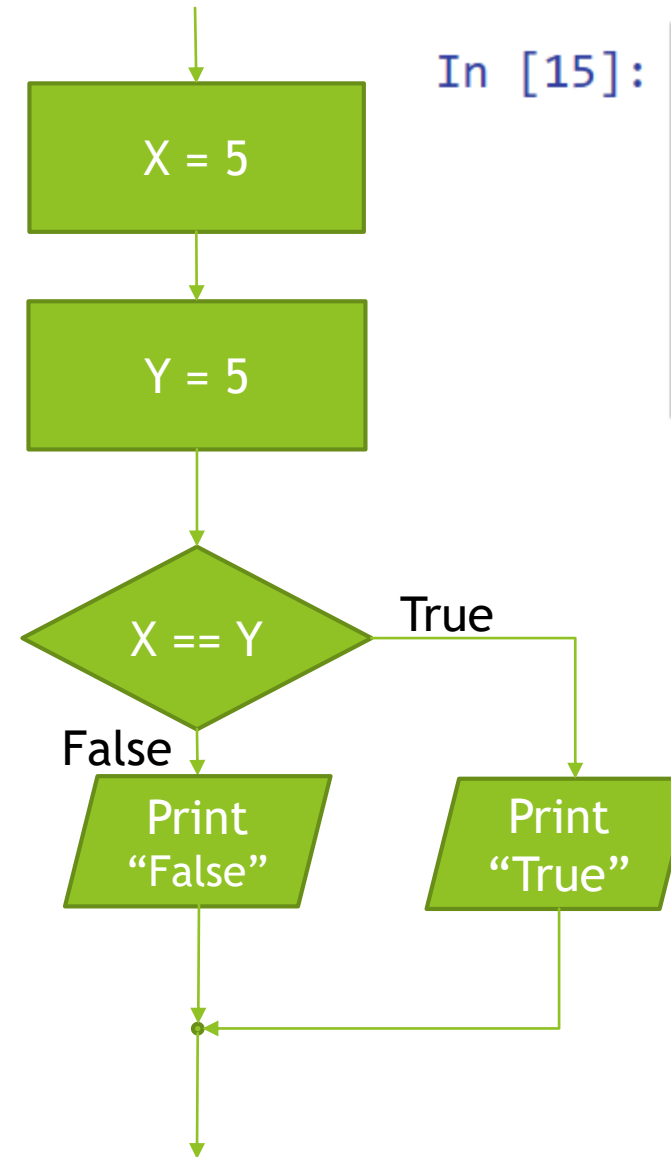
Alternative Execution

- ▶ If a condition is true, run a set of commands, if it is false run a different set of commands
- ▶ Uses the **if** and **else** keywords



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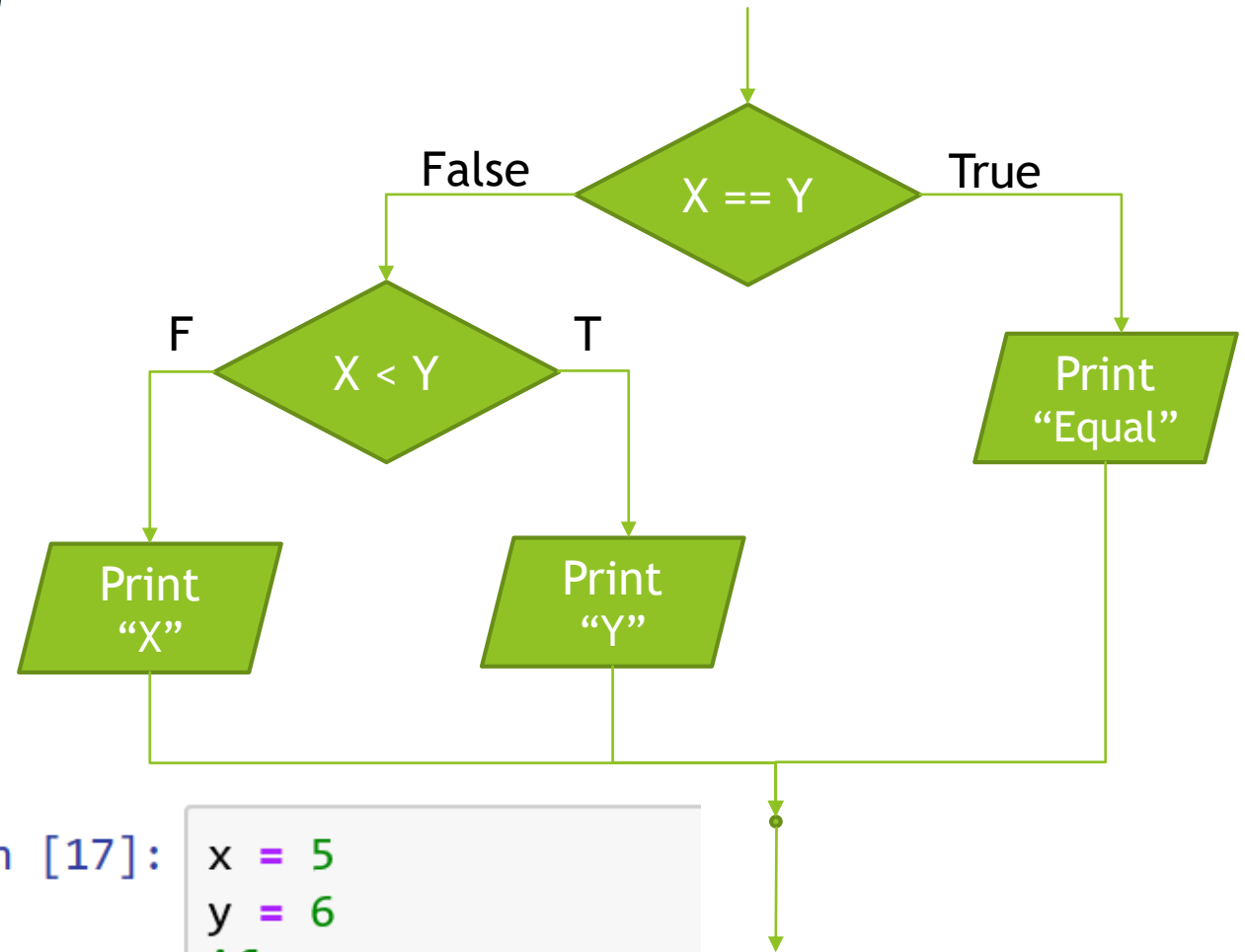
In [15]:

```
x = 5
y = 5
if x == y:
    print("True")
else:
    print("False")
```

True

Chained Conditionals

- ▶ Decisions can be linked in a chain allowing for a choice of many alternatives
- ▶ Uses the **if**, **elif** and **else** keywords
- ▶ Note: the order matters. The flow is directed down the first true conditional



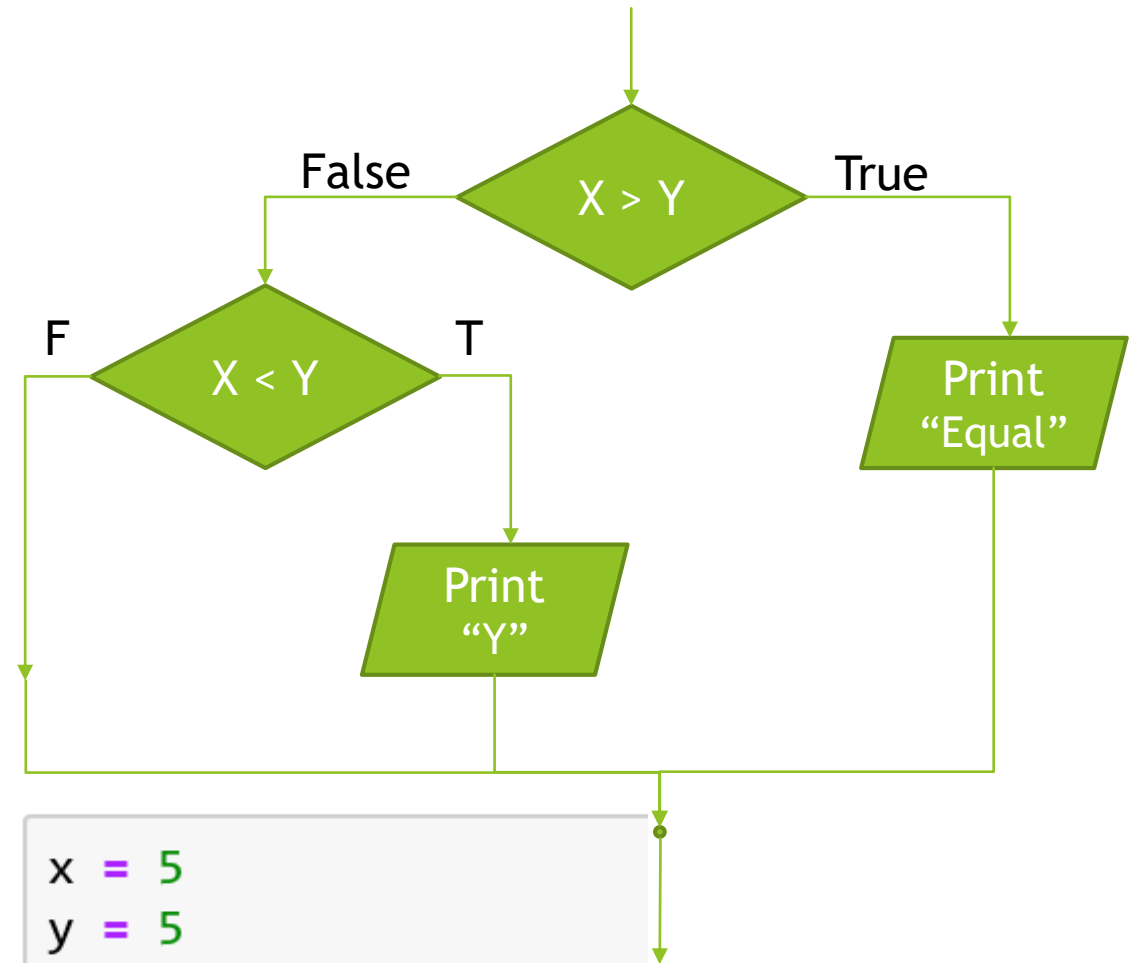
In [17]:

```
x = 5
y = 6
if x == y:
    print("Equal")
elif x < y:
    print("Y")
else:
    print("X")
```

Y

Chained Conditionals

- ▶ When testing code, ensure your test cases go down every branch in every conditional
- ▶ If there is an **elif**, there should always be an **else**
 - ▶ We want the decision tree to be complete
 - ▶ It is ok if the **else** case does nothing. To indicate that it does nothing, use the **pass** keyword



In [19]:

```
x = 5
y = 5
if x > y:
    print("X")
elif x < y:
    print("Y")
else:
    pass #Do nothing
```

Nesting Logic

- ▶ All conditional operations can be nested
 - ▶ Nested is when there is a conditional within the program instructions gated by some other condition
 - ▶ Note the indentation. In python that indentation is required and is considered part of the grammar of the language
 - ▶ Note the “or equal” clauses in the print statements
 - ▶ Generally, if your logic is nested more than a few layers deep, see if there is a more obvious way to write the code

In [28]:

```
z = 7
if x > y:
    print("X is greater than Y", end="")
    if x > z:
        print(" and Z")
    else:
        print(" and less than or equal to Z")
else:
    print("X is less than or equal to Y", end="")
    if x > z:
        print(" and greater than Z")
    else:
        print(" and Z")
```

X is less than or equal to Y and Z

end="" suppresses the newline/carriage return

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X is less than or equal to Y and Z

```
In [29]: if (x > y) and (x > z):
        print("X is greater than Y and Z")
elif (x > y):
    print("X is greater than Y and less than or equal to Z")
elif (x > z):
    print("X is less than or equal to Y and greater than Z")
else:
    print("X is less than or equal to Y and Z")
```

X is less than or equal to Y and Z

Code Refactoring

The process of restructuring existing code without changing its external meaning


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In [28]: z = 7
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X is less than or equal to Y and Z

Which version is better?

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The process of restructuring existing code without changing its external meaning

Resources

- ▶ Bryan Burlingame's course notes
- ▶ Downey, A. (2016) *Think Python, Second Edition* Sebastopol, CA: O'Reilly Media
- ▶ (n.d.). 3.7.0 Documentation. 6. *Expressions* — *Python 3.7.0 documentation*. Retrieved September 11, 2018, from <http://docs.python.org/3.7/reference/expressions.html>