

Introduction to Computer Programming

1.3 Operators



Comparison Operators

Comparison operators (`==`, `!=`, `<`, `>`) compare values and return a *Boolean* value: `True` or `False`

Commonly used comparison operators:

<code>==</code>	Equality
<code>!=</code>	Inequality
<code>></code>	Greater than
<code><</code>	Less than
<code>>=</code>	Greater than or equal to
<code><=</code>	Less than or equal to

Examples:

In [18]:

```
print(10 < 9)
```

False

In [2]:

```
print(15 < 20)
```

True

In [4]:

```
print(20 <= 20)
```

True

In [2]:

```
A = 1
B = 2
C = type(A) == type(B)
print(C)
```

True

Logical Operators

Comparison operators compare two values.

Logical operators combine *multiple* expressions/variables with True / False (boolean) values and output a *single* True / False (boolean) value.

Logical operators:

and

or

not

X and Y

Output:

True if statement X **and** statement Y *both* true.

Otherwise False .

X or Y

Output:

True if statement X **or** statement Y true.

Otherwise False .

Examples:

10 < 9 False

20 <= 20 True

In [20]:

```
print(10 < 9 and 20 <= 20)
```

False

In [30]:

```
print(10 < 9 or 20 <= 20)
```

True

In Python, the `not` operator negates a statement, e.g.:

In [6]:

```
a = 12
print(a < 0)
print(not a < 0)
```

False

True

Operator Precedence

1. Parentheses
2. Exponents
3. Multiplication, Division, Floor Division and Modulo (left to right)
4. Addition and Subtraction (left to right)
5. Comparison Operators (left to right)
6. Boolean not
7. Boolean and
8. Boolean or

Note that the comparison operators (`>=` , `<=` , `<` and `>`) are evaluated before the logical operators (`and` , `or`).

Example: Write a program, using comparison and logical operators, that answers questions based on the current time of day:

Is it lunchtime?

True if current time is between lunch start and end times.

False if not.

In [11]:

```
# Variables
time = 9.00          # current time
lunch_starts = 13.00 # time lunch starts
lunch_ends = 14.00  # time lunch ends

# Logical and comparison operators to lunchtime True / False value
lunchtime = time >= lunch_starts and time < lunch_ends

print("Is it lunchtime?", lunchtime)
```

Is it lunchtime? False

If we change the value of `time` , the program output changes.

Stacking Comparison Operators

Extract from example program:

```
lunchtime = time >= lunch_starts and time < lunch_ends
```

We can rewrite *stacking* the comparison operators:

```
time >= lunch_starts and time < lunch_ends
```

is the same as

```
lunch_starts <= time < lunch_ends
```

Summary

- **Arithmetic operators** (+, -, /, *) are used with numeric values to perform common mathematical operations (behave differently with strings).
- **Comparison operators** (==, !=, <, >) compare two *variables*.
 - The outcome of a comparison is a *Boolean* (True or False) value.
- **Logical operators** (and , or) compare Boolean True or False values, such as the outcomes of two *comparison operations*, to form logic statements.
 - The outcome of a logical operation is a *Boolean* (True or False) value.
 - The logical `not` operator returns the inverse Boolean value of a comparison.

In-class Demos

Example 1:

Write a program that creates 3 variables, `A` , `B` and `C` , with numerical values, and outputs a statement that tells the user if the values include any negative numbers.

None and does not include any negative numbers.

In []:

Example 2:

Write a program that answers two questions based on the current time of day:

Is it lunchtime?

True if time between lunch start and end times.

False if not.

Is it time for work?

True if time between work start and end times *and not* lunchtime.

False if not.

In []:

In []: