

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:

`10 < 9` is false

`15 < 20` is true

In [18]:

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

False

In [29]:

```
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 boolean expressions and/or values and output a single boolean `True` or `False` 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`

`15 < 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 [7]:

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

`False`

`True`

A simple computer program that uses comparison and logical operators.

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

Is it lunchtime?

True if between lunch start and end times.

False if not.

In [32]:

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

# Logical and comparison operators
lunchtime = time >= lunch_starts and time < lunch_ends

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

Is it lunchtime? False

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

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

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

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.
- **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.

In []:

Example 2:

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

Is it lunchtime?

True if between lunch start and end times.

False if not.

Is it time for work?

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

False if not.

In [1]:

```
# Variables
t = 9.00          # current time
Ls = 13.00        # lunch starts
Le = 14.00        # lunch ends
Ws = 8.00         # work starts
We = 17.00        # work ends

# Lunchtime

# work_time
# not before work or after work or lunchtime

print("Is it work time?", work_time)
print("Is it lunchtime?", lunchtime)
```

```
-----
NameError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-1-4d009a4fd551> in <module>
    13
    14
--> 15 print("Is it work time?", work_time)
    16 print("Is it lunchtime?", lunchtime)

NameError: name 'work_time' is not defined
```

In []: