

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 [1]:

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

True

In [39]:

```
A = 1.0  
B = 2  
C = type(A) == type(B)  
print(C)
```

False

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 [3]:

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

False

In [4]:

```
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. Arithmetic operators (top to bottom)
 - `**` Exponent__
 - `*` , `/` , `//` , `\%` Multiplication, division, floor division, modulo (evaluated left to right)
 - `+` , `-` Addition, subtraction (evaluated left to right)
3. Comparison operators: `<` , `<=` , `>` , `>=` , `!=` , `==` (evaluated left to right)
4. Logical `not`
5. Logical `and`
6. Logical `or`

Example: Write a program, using comparison and logical operators, that answers a question 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 [41]:

```
# Variables
time = 12.00      # current time
lunch_starts = 13.00 # time lunch starts
lunch_ends = 14.00 # time lunch ends

# Logical and comparison operators to find 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** (+, -, /, *)
Used with numeric values to perform mathematical operations (behave differently with strings).
- **Comparison operators** (==, !=, <, >)
Compare two *variables*.
Outcome of a comparison is a *Boolean* (True or False) value.
- **Logical operators** (and , or)
Compare Boolean True or False values (e.g. outcomes of two *comparison operations*) to form logic statements.
Outcome of a logical operation is a *Boolean* (True or False) value.
Logical not operator returns the inverse Boolean value of a comparison.

In-class Demos

Example 1:

Write a program that:

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

In [43]:

```
A, B, C = 1, -1, 7  
  
answer = A<0 or B<0 or C<0  
  
print('negatives?', answer)
```

negatives? True

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 [45]:

```
t = 13.30  
Ls = 13.00  
Le = 14.00  
Ws = 8.00  
We = 17.00  
  
lunchtime = Ls <= t < Le  
  
work_time = Ws <= t < We and not lunchtime  
  
print(lunchtime)  
print(work_time)
```

True
False

In []:

