



DSCI 510

PRINCIPLES OF PROGRAMMING FOR DATA SCIENCE

Itay Hen



CONDITIONAL EXECUTION

Conditional Execution

```
if x == 5:
```

```
    print('x is definitely 5')
```

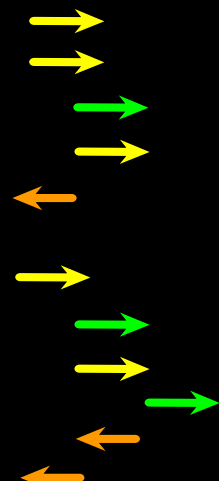
```
print('x may or may not be 5')
```

- Note the colon!
- Note the indentation
- The last line will be executed regardless of the value of x .

Indentation

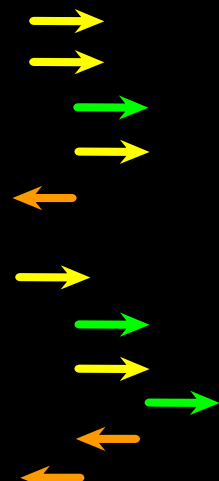
- **Increase indent** indent after an **if** statement or **for** statement (after :)
- **Maintain indent** to indicate the **scope** of the block (which lines are affected by the **if/for**)
- **Reduce indent** back to the level of the **if** statement or **for** statement to indicate the end of the block
- **Blank lines** are ignored - they do not affect **indentation**
- **Comments** on a line by themselves are ignored with regard to **indentation**

increase / maintain after if or for
decrease to indicate end of block



```
x = 5
if x > 2 :
    print('Bigger than 2')
    print('Still bigger')
print('Done with 2')

for i in range(5) :
    print(i)
    if i > 2 :
        print('Bigger than 2')
        print('Done with i', i)
print('All Done')
```



4 spaces 4 spaces

Think About begin/end Blocks

```
x = 5
if x > 2 :
    print('Bigger than 2')
    print('Still bigger')
print('Done with 2')

for i in range(5) :
    print(i)
    if i > 2 :
        print('Bigger than 2')
    print('Done with i', i)
print('All Done')
```

Else

- With an *else* statement, only one block will be executed, either the *if* block or the *else* block

if age >= 18:

 print('you can vote!')

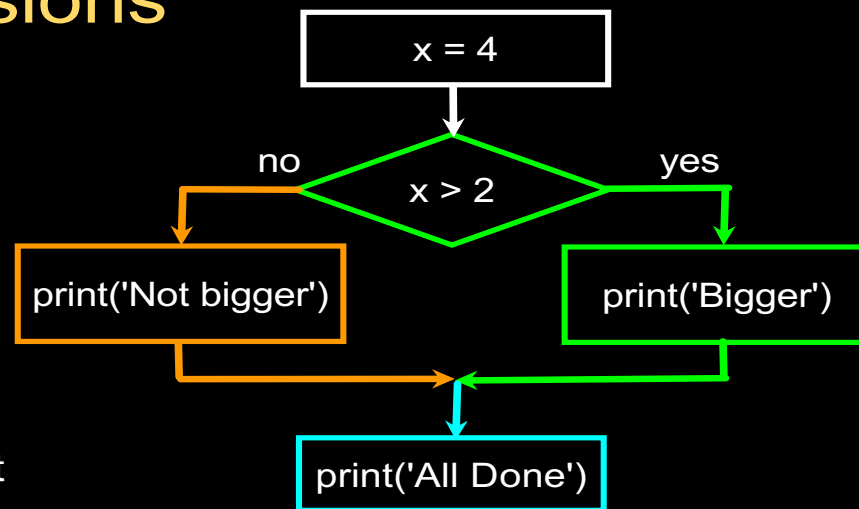
else:

 print("you're too young to vote!")

- (Note the use of double quotes. Why?)
- Same indentation rules apply to *else* as to *if*
- And note the colon again !

Two-way Decisions

- Sometimes we want to do one thing if a logical expression is true and something else if the expression is false
- It is like a fork in the road - we must choose **one or the other** path but not both

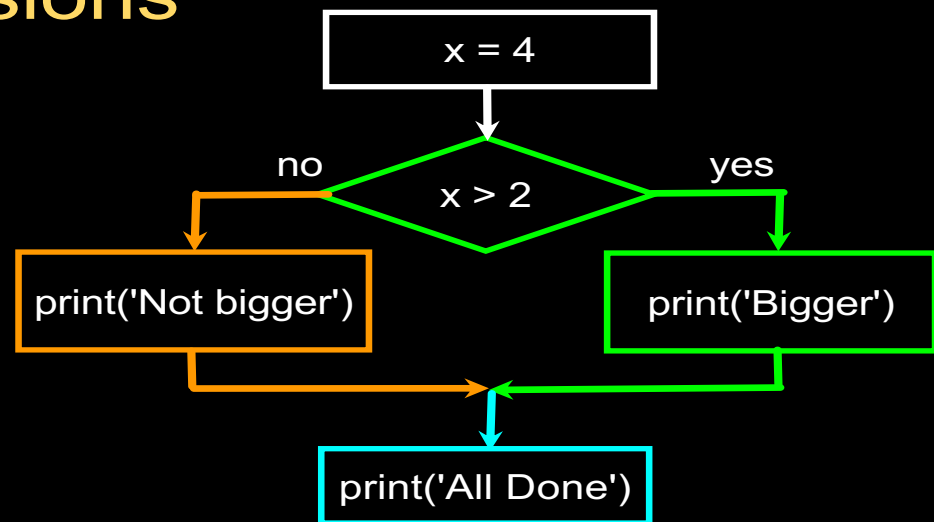


Two-way Decisions with else:

```
x = 4

if x > 2 :
    print('Bigger')
else :
    print('Smaller')

print('All done')
```

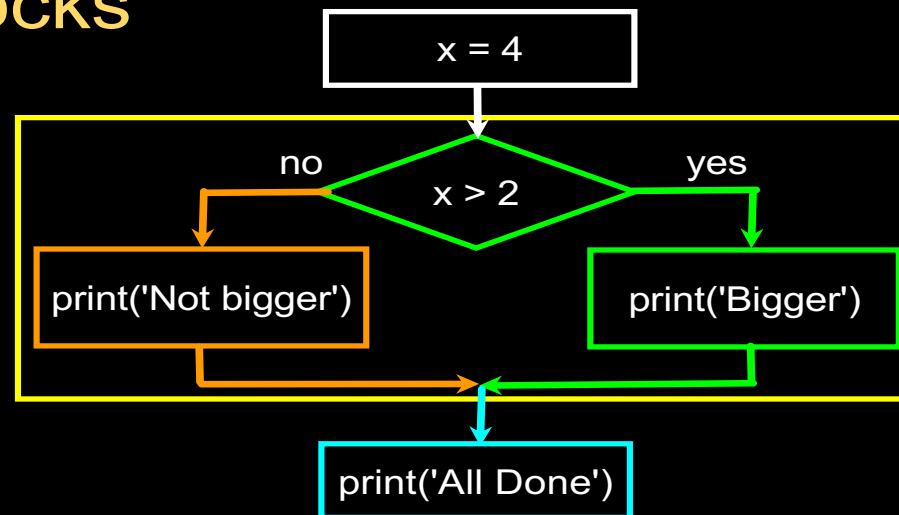


Visualize Blocks

```
x = 4
```

```
if x > 2 :  
    print('Bigger')  
else :  
    print('Smaller')
```

```
print('All done')
```

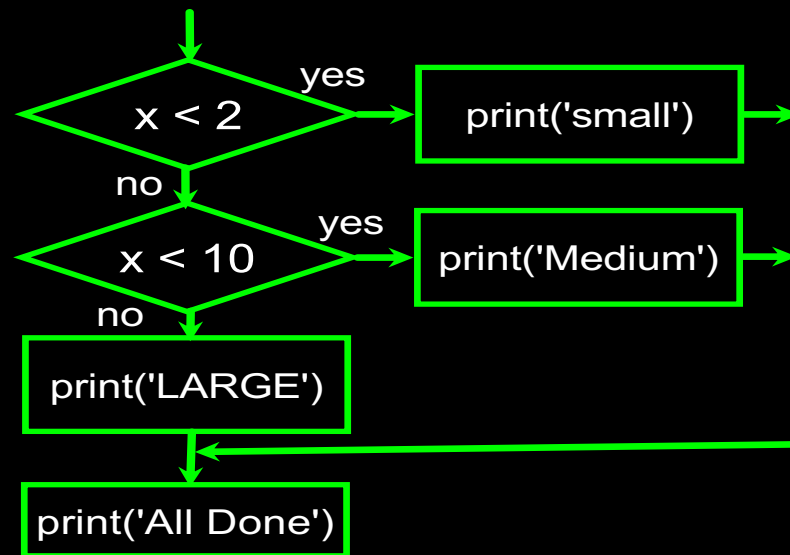


Chained Conditionals - *elif*

- *elif* means “else if”
- If this is true <do something>,
otherwise, if this is true <do something else>
otherwise, if this is true <do something else>
...
- An *else* at the end will catch the case where all the other ones above were false

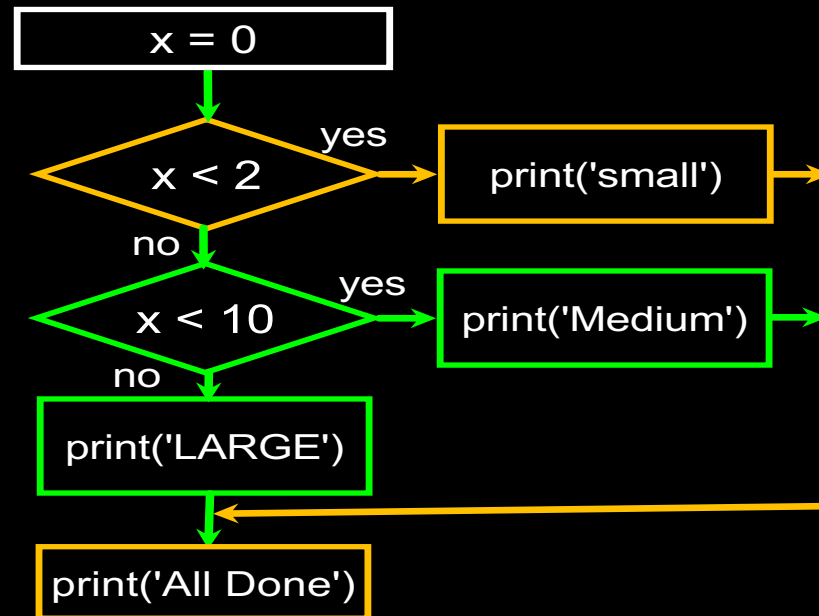
Multi-way

```
if x < 2 :  
    print('small')  
elif x < 10 :  
    print('Medium')  
else :  
    print('LARGE')  
print('All done')
```



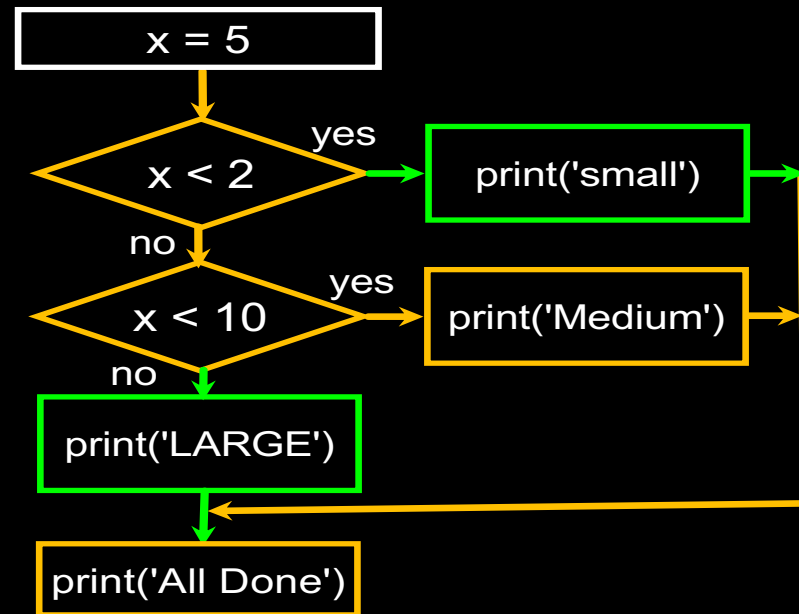
Multi-way

```
x = 0
if x < 2 :
    print('small')
elif x < 10 :
    print('Medium')
else :
    print('LARGE')
print('All done')
```



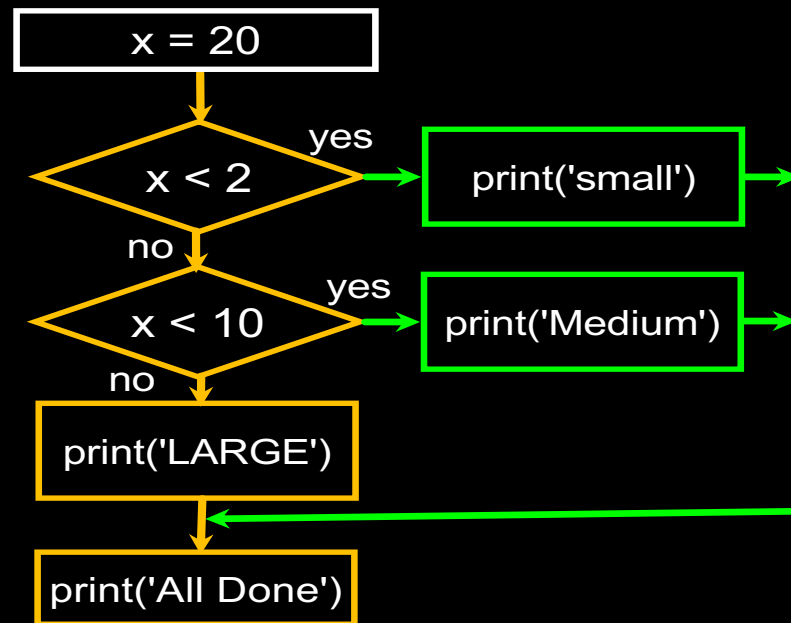
Multi-way

```
x = 5
if x < 2 :
    print('small')
elif x < 10 :
    print('Medium')
else :
    print('LARGE')
print('All done')
```



Multi-way

```
x = 20
if x < 2 :
    print('small')
elif x < 10 :
    print('Medium')
else :
    print('LARGE')
print('All done')
```



Can end with Else, or Not

Good practice to end with else

Multi-way

```
# No Else
x = 5
if x < 2 :
    print('Small')
elif x < 10 :
    print('Medium')

print('All done')
```

```
if x < 2 :
    print('Small')
elif x < 10 :
    print('Medium')
elif x < 20 :
    print('Big')
elif x < 40 :
    print('Large')
elif x < 100:
    print('Huge')
else :
    print('Ginormous')
```


Multi-way Puzzles

Which will never print
regardless of the value for x?

```
if x < 2 :  
    print('Below 2')  
elif x >= 2 :  
    print('Two or more')  
else :  
    print('Something else')
```

'Something else' never prints!

```
if x < 2 :  
    print('Below 2')  
elif x < 20 :  
    print('Below 20')  
elif x < 10 :  
    print('Below 10')  
else :  
    print('Something else')
```

'Below 10' never prints!



What will be printed?

Consider this Python program:

```
n = 15
if n % 2 == 0:
    print(n, 'is a multiple of 2')
elif n % 3 == 0:
    print(n, 'is a multiple of 3')
elif n % 5 == 0:
    print(n, 'is a multiple of 5')
```

What will be printed?



What will be printed?

Consider this Python program:

```
n = 15
if n % 2 == 0:
    print(n, 'is a multiple of 2')
elif n % 3 == 0:
    print(n, 'is a multiple of 3')
elif n % 5 == 0:
    print(n, 'is a multiple of 5')
```

What will be printed?

15 is a multiple of 3

only this one



What will be printed?

But maybe this was really **intended**:

```
n = 15
if n % 2 == 0:
    print(n, 'is a multiple of 2')
if n % 3 == 0:
    print(n, 'is a multiple of 3')
if n % 5 == 0:
    print(n, 'is a multiple of 5')
```

elif replaced by if

elif replaced by if

What will be printed?

```
15 is a multiple of 3
15 is a multiple of 5
```



What could possibly go wrong?
What will be printed?

Consider this Python program:

```
points = 0
score = 100
if score >= 80:
    points = points + 5
elif score >= 90:
    points = points + 10
    print(points, 'points')
```

What will be printed?



What could possibly go wrong?
What will be printed?

Consider this Python program:

```
points = 0
score = 100
if score >= 80:
    points = points + 5
elif score >= 90:
    points = points + 10
print(points, 'points')
```

What will be printed?

Nothing will ever be printed for any score,
because the **elif** block will never be executed.
At the end, there will be 5 points, in silence.



What could possibly go wrong?
What will be printed?

But maybe this was really intended:

```
points = 0
score = 100
if score >= 90:
    points = points + 10
elif score >= 80:
    points = points + 5
print(points, 'points')
```

Stricter condition comes first.

print(...) no longer indented.

What will be printed?

10 points



EXCEPTIONS

try/except

- Sometimes things do not go according to plan
- For example, you may get input you don't expect

```
# Convert Fahrenheit to Celsius
f_temp = input('Temp in Fahrenheit ')
f_temp = float(f_temp)
c_temp = (f_temp - 32.0) * 5.0 / 9.0
print (f_temp, 'Fahrenheit is', c_temp, 'Celsius')
```

- What if someone types something other than a number?
- Let's check it out

try/except

```
try:  
    <a block of code>  
except:  
    <a block of code that will be  
        executed only if there was an  
        error in the block above>
```

- *try/except* blocks are in some sense similar to *if/else* blocks
- A statement in the “try” block is said to *throw* the exception, and the “except” block *catches* it
- **KEEP *try* BLOCKS SMALL!**



LISTS

What is a List?

- A list is a built-in data structure in Python
- Used to store multiple items in a single variable
- Lists are ordered, mutable, and allow duplicates
- Defined using square brackets: []

```
# 1. Empty list
```

```
empty_list = []
```

```
# 2. List of integers
```

```
numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
```

```
# 3. List of strings
```

```
fruits = ["apple", "banana", "cherry"]
```

```
# 4. Mixed data types
```

```
mixed = [1, "hello", 3.14, True]
```

```
# 5. Nested lists (list inside a list)
```

```
matrix = [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6], [7, 8, 9]]
```

```
# 6. List of booleans
```

```
flags = [True, False, True, False]
```

Looking Inside Lists

(Like with strings), we can get at any single element in a list using an index specified in **square brackets**

- Lists are indexed starting at 0
- `len(my_list)` → number of elements
- `sum(numbers)` → adds up numeric elements
- `'apple' in my_list` → checks membership

Joseph	Glenn	Sally
[0]	[1]	[2]

```
>>> friends = ['Joseph', 'Glenn', 'Sally']
>>> print(friends[1])
Glenn
>>> █
```

List Slicing

- *Slicing* allows extracting a portion of a list
- Syntax: `list[start:end:step]` → returns a (sub)list
 - start: index where slice begins (default = 0)
 - end: index where slice stops (exclusive)
 - step: interval between elements (default = 1)

List Slicing

```
# Example list
numbers = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]

# 1. Basic slicing
print(numbers[2:6])    # [2, 3, 4, 5] → from index 2 up to (not including) 6

# 2. Omitting start or end
print(numbers[:5])     # [0, 1, 2, 3, 4] → from start to index 4
print(numbers[5:])     # [5, 6, 7, 8, 9] → from index 5 to end
```

List Slicing

```
# 3. Using step
print(numbers[::2])    # [0, 2, 4, 6, 8] → every 2nd element
print(numbers[1::3])   # [1, 4, 7] → start at index 1, step 3

# 4. Negative indices
print(numbers[-4:])    # [6, 7, 8, 9] → last 4 elements
print(numbers[:-3])    # [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6] → everything except last 3

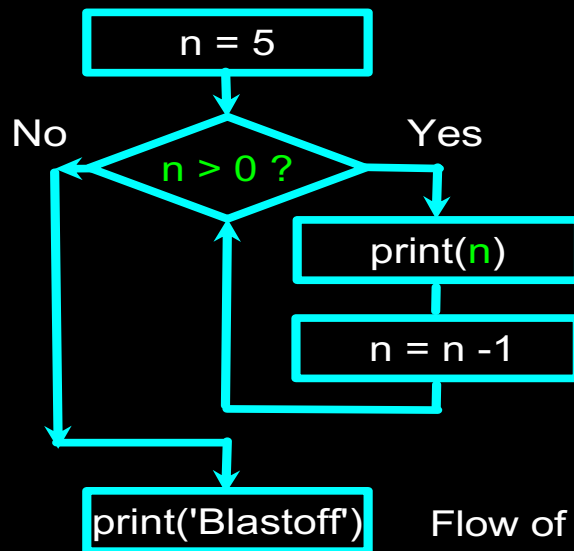
# 5. Reversing with step
print(numbers[::-1])   # [9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0] → reverse the list

# 6. Slice assignment (modifying part of a list)
numbers[2:5] = [20, 30, 40]
print(numbers)         # [0, 1, 20, 30, 40, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
```




ITERATION, LOOPS

Iteration: While loop



Program:

```
n = 5
while n > 0 :
    print(n)
    n = n - 1
print('Blastoff!')
print(n)
```

Output:

5
4
3
2
1
Blastoff!
0

Flow of execution for a *while* statement:

1. Evaluate the condition, yielding True or False.
2. If the condition is *False*, exit the while statement and continue execution at the next statement.
3. If the condition is *True*, execute the body and then go back to step 1.

A Simple while Loop

pythontutor.com

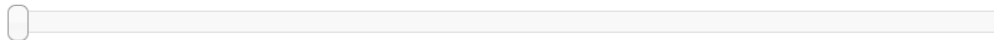
Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
→ 1 n = 5
   2
   3 while n > 0:
   4     print(n)
   5     n -= 1
   6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed

→ next line to execute



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Step 1 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

Frames

Objects

A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
→ 1 n = 5
   2
→ 3 while n > 0:
   4     print(n)
   5     n -= 1
   6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed
→ next line to execute



<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 2 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)



Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 5

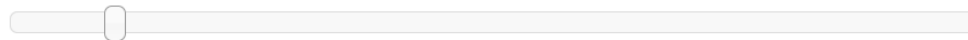
A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
→ 3 while n > 0:
→ 4     print(n)
5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

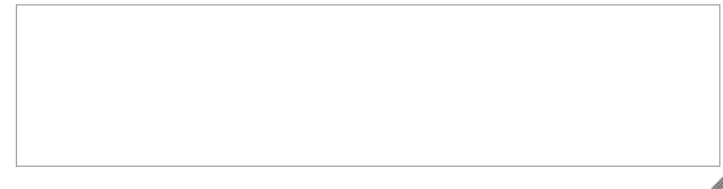
→ line that just executed
→ next line to execute



<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 3 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)



Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 5

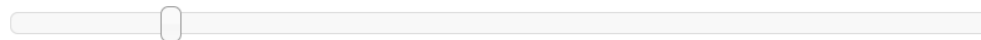
A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
3 while n > 0:
4     print(n)
5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed
→ next line to execute



<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 4 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

5

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 5

A Simple while Loop

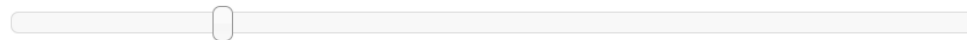
Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
→ 3 while n > 0:
4     print(n)
→ 5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed

→ next line to execute



<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 5 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

5

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 4

A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
→ 3 while n > 0:
→ 4     print(n)
5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed

→ next line to execute



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Step 6 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

5

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 4

A Simple while Loop

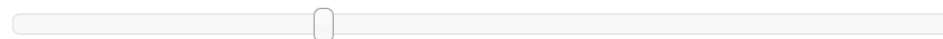
Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
3 while n > 0:
4     print(n)
5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed

→ next line to execute



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Step 7 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

5
4

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 4

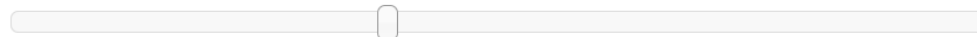
A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
→ 3 while n > 0:
4     print(n)
→ 5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed
→ next line to execute



<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 8 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

5
4

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 3

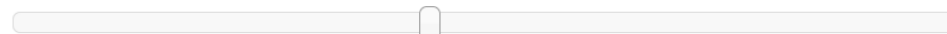
A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
→ 3 while n > 0:
→ 4     print(n)
5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed
→ next line to execute



<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 9 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

```
5
4
```

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 3

A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
3 while n > 0:
4     print(n)
5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed

→ next line to execute



<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 10 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

```
5
4
3
```

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 3

A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
→ 3 while n > 0:
4     print(n)
→ 5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed

→ next line to execute

<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 11 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

5
4
3

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 2

A Simple while Loop

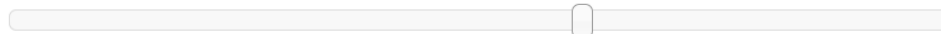
Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
→ 3 while n > 0:
→ 4     print(n)
5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed

→ next line to execute



<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 12 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

5
4
3

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 2

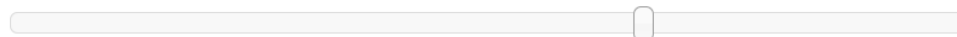
A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
3 while n > 0:
4     print(n)
5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed
→ next line to execute



<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 13 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

5
4
3
2

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 2

A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
→ 3 while n > 0:
4     print(n)
→ 5     n -= 1
6     print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed
→ next line to execute

<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 14 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

```
5
4
3
2
```

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 1

A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
→ 3 while n > 0:
→ 4     print(n)
5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed

→ next line to execute

<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 15 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

```
5
4
3
2
```

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 1

A Simple while Loop

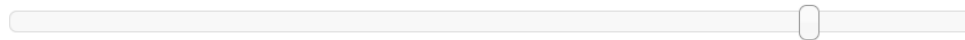
Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
3 while n > 0:
4     print(n)
5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed

→ next line to execute



<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 16 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

```
5
4
3
2
1
```

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 1

A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
→ 3 while n > 0:
4     print(n)
→ 5     n -= 1
6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed

→ next line to execute

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Step 17 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

```
5
4
3
2
1
```

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 0

A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
→ 3 while n > 0:
4     print(n)
5     n -= 1
→ 6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed

→ next line to execute

<< First

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Step 18 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

```
5
4
3
2
1
```

Frames

Objects

Global frame

n 0

A Simple while Loop

Python 3.6
[known limitations](#)

```
1 n = 5
2
3 while n > 0:
4     print(n)
5     n -= 1
→ 6 print("Blastoff!")
```

[Edit this code](#)

→ line that just executed

→ next line to execute

<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Done running (18 steps)

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

```
4
3
2
1
Blastoff!
```

Frames

Objects

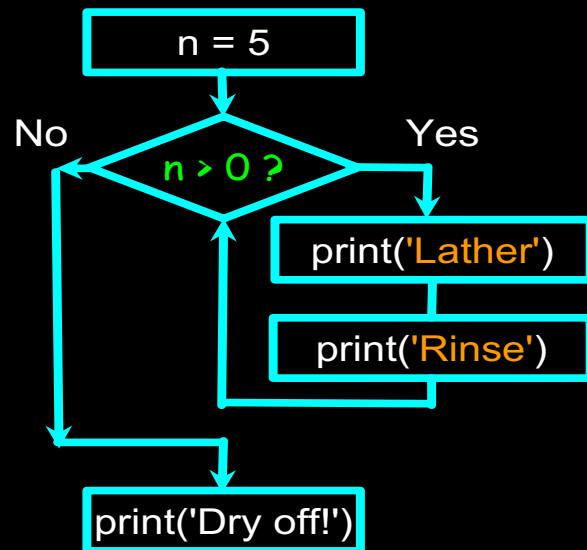
Global frame

n 0

Infinite Loop



An Infinite Loop



```
n = 5
while n > 0 :
    print('Lather')
    print('Rinse')
    print('Dry off!')
```

What is wrong with this loop?

break

- `break` is used within loops to terminate the loop prematurely when a certain condition is met.
- It allows you to exit the loop even if loop's condition is still true.
- It is often used when you want to stop the loop as soon as a specific condition is satisfied.

Breaking out of a Loop

```
while True:
    line = input('> ')
    if line == 'done':
        break
    print(line)
print('Done!')
```

- The `break` statement ends the current loop and jumps to the statement immediately following the loop
- It is like a loop test that can happen anywhere in the body of the loop

Infinite loop with **break**

```
while True:
    line = input('> ')
    if line == 'done':
        break
    print(line)
print('Done!')
```

```
> hi
hi
> how
how
> do
do
> i
i
> exit
exit
> done
Done!
```

- Captures user input
- Checks if user typed 'done'
- If not, print the user input
- If user type 'done' break out of loop

continue

- `continue` is used within loops to skip the current iteration and move to the next iteration of the loop.
- It is often used when you want to skip specific items or conditions within a loop and continue processing the remaining items.

Finishing an iteration with **continue**

<https://pythontutor.com>

```
num = 0
while num < 12:
    num += 1
    if num % 2 == 0:
        continue
    print(f"Processing {num}")
```

- Iterate through numbers 1 to 11
- If the number is an even number, continue to the next iteration
- If the number is an odd number, print "Processing {num}"

Processing 1
Processing 3
Processing 5
Processing 7
Processing 9
Processing 11

What will be printed ?

```
num = 0
while num < 12:
    if num % 2 == 0:
        continue
    print(f"Processing {num}")
    num += 1
```



This is an infinite loop because
num is initialized to 0 and
the condition `num % 2 == 0` will cause the loop
to go to next iteration without incrementing
num.

while: indefinite loop

- A while loop is an *indefinite* loop, because it keeps on iterating an indefinite number of times, until its logical condition becomes False.
- Sometimes we want a loop to iterate a specific number of times