



# DSCI 510

# PRINCIPLES OF PROGRAMMING FOR DATA SCIENCE

Itay Hen



# CONDITIONAL EXECUTION

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# Conditional Execution

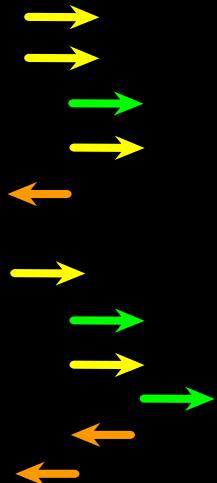
```
if x == 5:  
    print('x is definitely 5')  
print('x may or may not be 5')
```

- 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

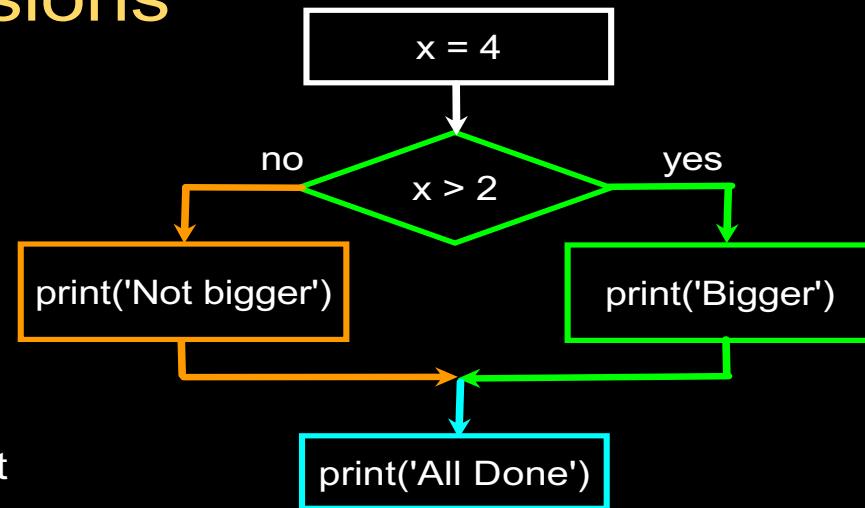
```
if age >= 18:  
    print('you can vote!')
```

```
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 !

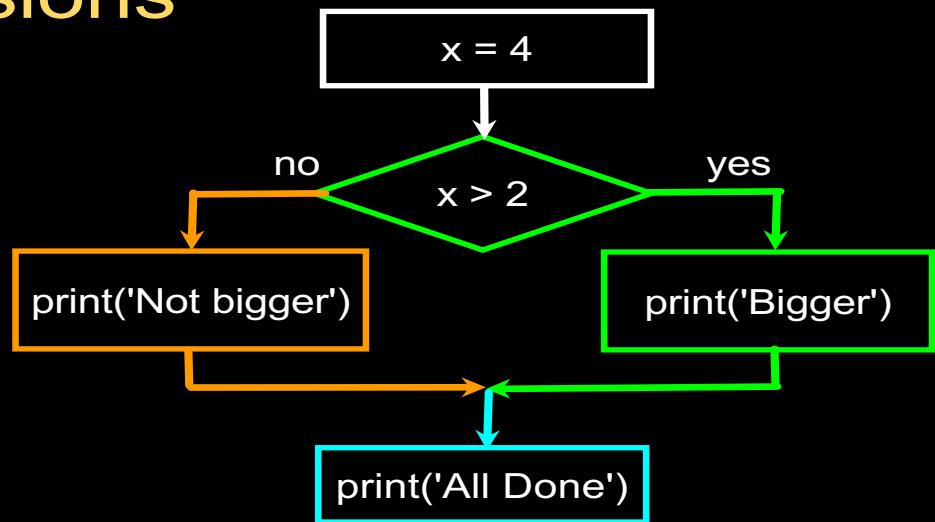
## Two-way Decisions

- 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



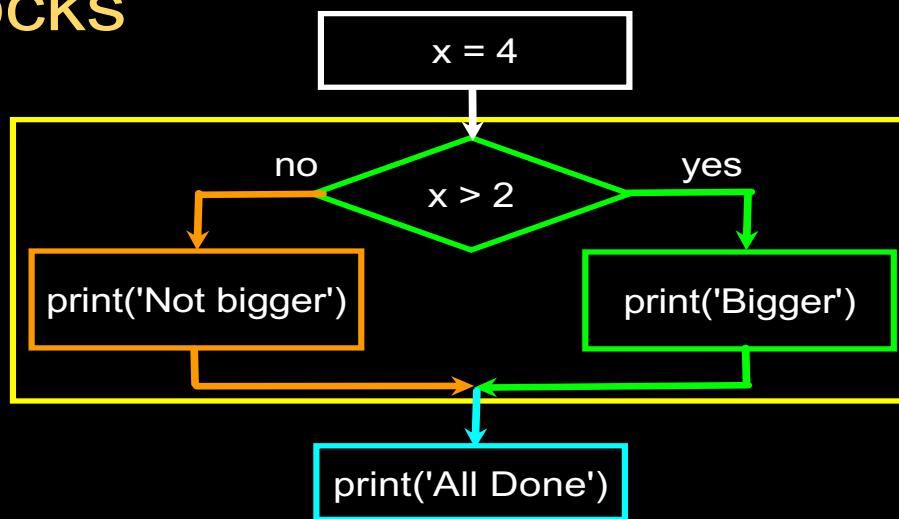
## Two-way Decisions with else:

```
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')
```

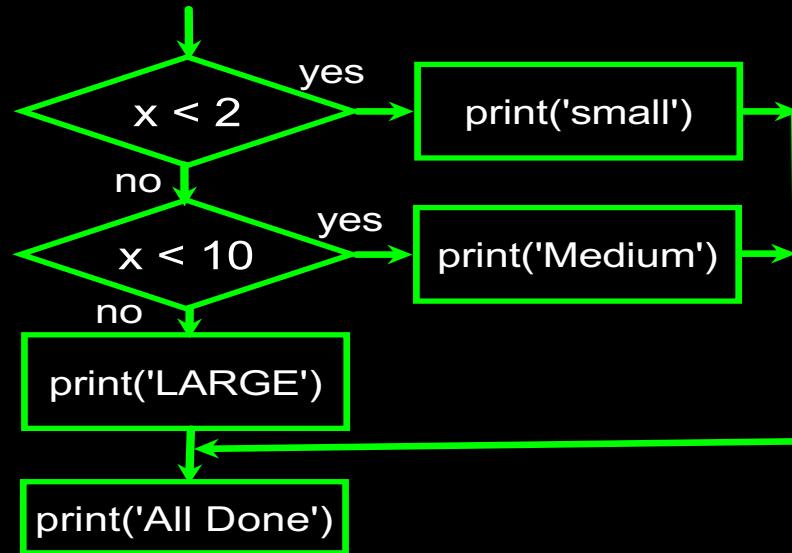


## Chained Conditionals - *elif*

- *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

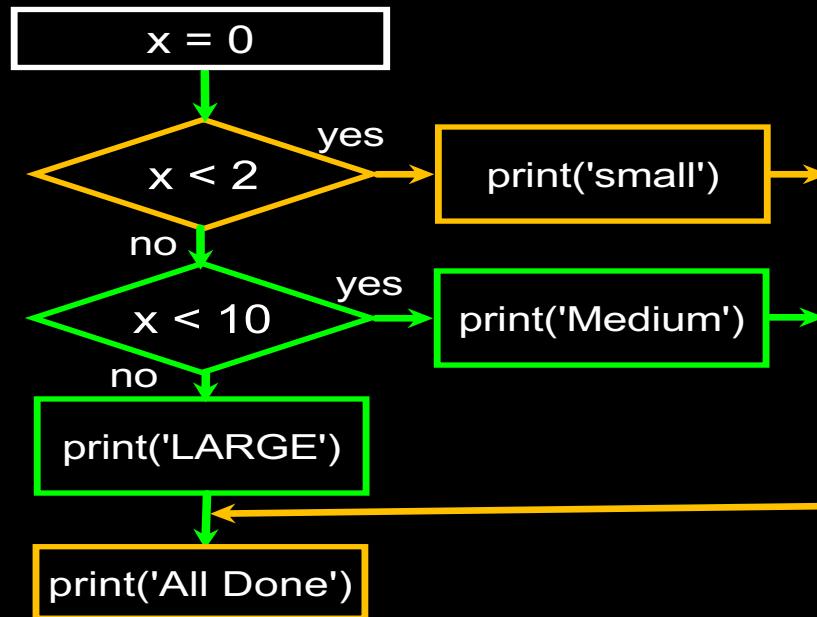
# Multi-way

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



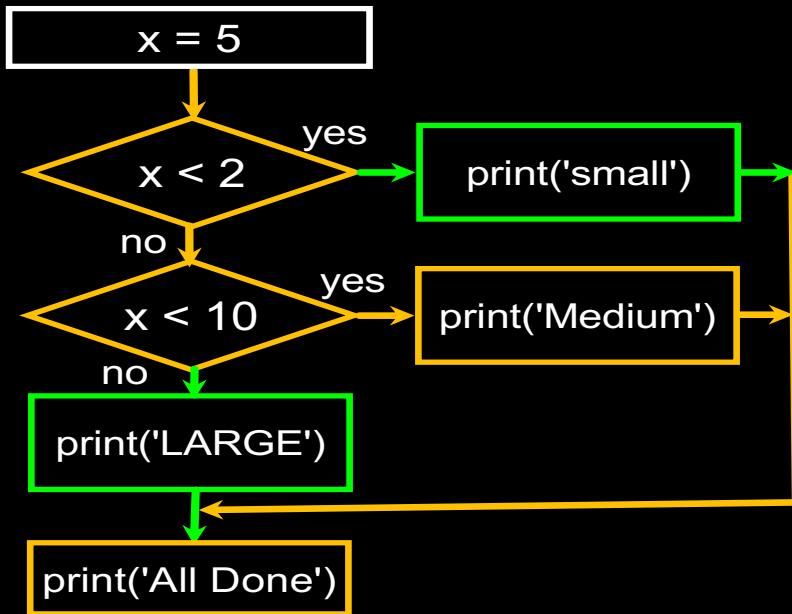
# Multi-way

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



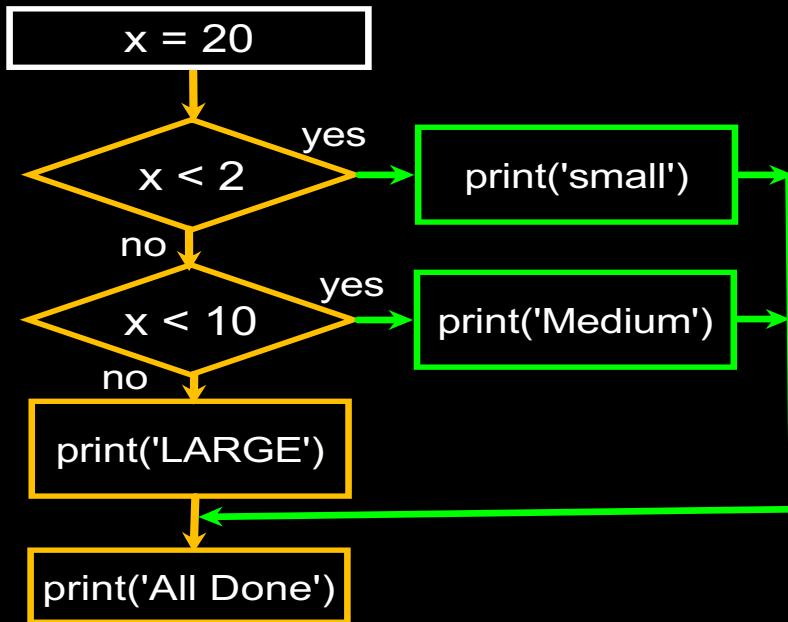
# Multi-way

```
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:           Stricter condition comes first.
    points = points + 10
elif score >= 80:
    points = points + 5
print(points, 'points')  print(...) no longer indented.
```

**What will be printed?**

10 points



# EXCEPTIONS

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## 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

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# 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]
```



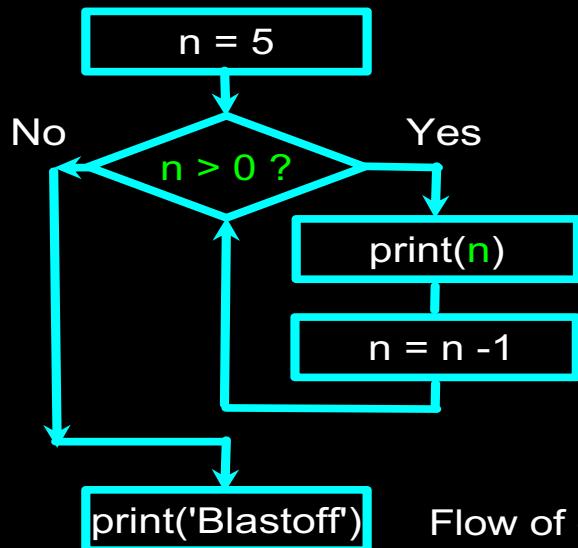
# ITERATION, LOOPS

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# Iteration: While loop



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.

Output:

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

5  
4  
3  
2  
1  
**Blastoff!**  
0

# A Simple while Loop

[pythontutor.com](http://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

<< First < Prev Next > >> Last 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

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

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
---	---

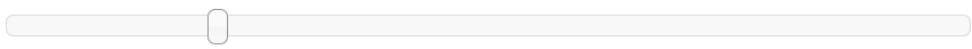
# A Simple while Loop

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

<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

Step 6 of 18

Print output (drag lower right corner to resize)

```
5
```

Frames Objects

Global frame

n	4
---	---

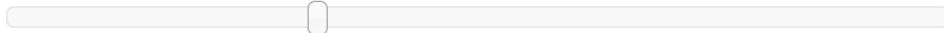
# A Simple while Loop

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



<< First < Prev Next > Last >>

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

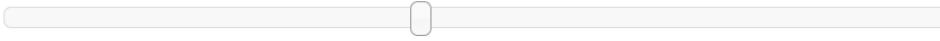
# A Simple while Loop

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

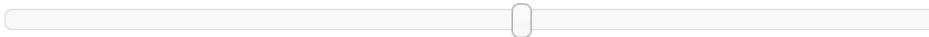
# A Simple while Loop

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

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 > >>

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 > >> 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

<< First < Prev Next > >> Last

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 < Prev Next > >>

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!
```

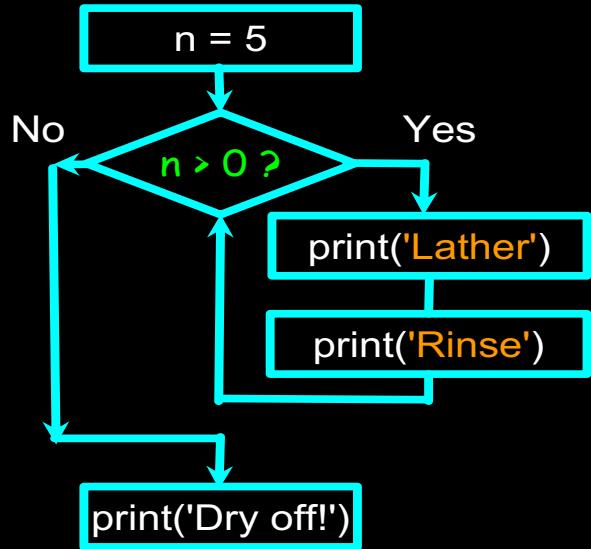
Frames      Objects

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