# Python Programming Operator Precedence

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### Remember math rules

- How do you solve: 2 + 3 \* 4 6/2
  - \* applied first so  $\Rightarrow$  2 + 12 6/2
  - / division applied  $\Rightarrow$  2 + 12 3
  - Then left to right  $\Rightarrow$  14 3  $\Rightarrow$  11
  - In general: \* / are applied first before +
- What about 2 + **3** \* **(4** 6/2)
  - Inside parentheses first
  - $\circ$  So solve 4-6/2  $\Rightarrow$  4-3  $\Rightarrow$  1
  - $\circ$  Now: 2 + 3 \* 1  $\Rightarrow$  2 + 3  $\Rightarrow$  5
- Math defines for us the order of operations
  - E.g. () is first. \* / are before + -
  - This is called <u>precedence</u>

# **Operator Precedence**

| Precedence  | Operator Sign      | Operator Name                                       |
|-------------|--------------------|---|
| Highest     | **                 | Exponentiation                                      |
| Tech Vidvan | +x, -x, <b>~</b> x | Unary positive, unary<br>negative, bitwise negation |
|             | *, /, //, %        | Multiplication, division, floor, division, modulus  |
|             | +,-                | Addition, subtraction                               |

# Examples

- $\bullet$  1 + 2 \* 3 = 1 + 6 = 7
- 2 \* 3 \*\* 4 \* 5
  - 3 \*\* 4 evaluated first to 81
  - O Now: 2 \* 81 \* 5 = 810
- -2 \*\* 4
  - $\circ$  Tricky.  $-2^4 = -2 * -2 * -2 * -2 = 16$
  - But according to rules \*\* applied before -
  - So it is actually 2\*\*4 = -16

# Parentheses () first

- Expressions in parentheses are always performed first, before expressions that are not parenthesized
- Use parentheses to force order / resolve ambiguity
- 2 + 3 \* (7 6) / 2 : First (7-6)
  - 0 2 + 3 \* 1 / 2
  - 0 2 + 3 / 2
  - $\circ$  2 + 1.5  $\Rightarrow$  3.5

### Several Parentheses

- How to solve?
  - Find some deepest parentheses, compute its expression: and so on till no parentheses
- (a + (b (d \* e))) / (a + c) + ((1+((x+y)\*2)) \* z)• Let a = 1, b = 2, c = 3, d = 4, e = 5, x = 6, y = 7, z = 1•  $(x+y) \Rightarrow (a + (b - (d * e))) / (a + c) + ((1+(13*2)) * z)$ 
  - $\circ \quad (13*2) \Rightarrow (a + (b (d * e))) / (a + c) + ((1+26) * z)$
  - $\circ$  (1+26)  $\Rightarrow$  (a + (b (d \* e))) / (a + c) + (27 \* z)
  - $\circ$  (27 \* z)  $\Rightarrow$  (a + (b (d \* e))) / (a + c) + 27
  - $\circ$  (a+c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a + (b (d \* e))) / 4 + 27
  - $\circ$  (d \* e)  $\Rightarrow$  (a + (b 20)) / 4 + 27
  - $\circ$  (b 20)  $\Rightarrow$  (a + -18) / 4 + 27
  - $(a 18) \Rightarrow -17 / 4 + 27 \Rightarrow -4.25 + 27 \Rightarrow 22.75$

"Acquire knowledge and impart it to the people."

"Seek knowledge from the Cradle to the Grave."