



Introduction to Programming

Department of Computer Science and Information
Systems

Lecturers: Tingting Han and Steve Maybank

sjmaybank@dcs.bbk.ac.uk

Autumn 2019 and Spring 2020

Week 6: Relational Operators and Boolean Variables



Revision: Strings

- String literals:
 - "Hello", 'World!'
- Length: `len("Hello")`
 - # value 5
- Convert a number to a string:
 - `str(5)`
 - # value "5"
 - `str(34.2)`
 - # value "34.2"
- String concatenation: `"H"+"W"`
 - # value "HW"



Revision: Strings Indexing

- How are strings indexed?
 - From left to right, starting from 0
- How are individual characters obtained?
 - using [index], e.g. "Cakes"[1]
 - # value "a"
- How to obtain individual characters using negative indices?
 - "Cakes"[-3]
 - # value "k"
- Valid indices for "Cakes"
 - -5? 5? 0? 2.0?
 - -5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4



Revision: Escape Sequences

- \"
 - include the character double quote in a string
 - e.g. "a\"b" len("a\"b")=? print("a\"b") ?
 - len("a\"b")= 3, result is a"b
- \n
 - new line
 - e.g. "*\n*", len("*\n*")=? print("*\n*) ?
 - len("*\n*")=3 result is *
*
- \\
 - include the character backslash in a string
 - e.g. "a\\b" len("a\\b")=? print("a\\b") ?
 - len("a\\b")= 3, result is a\b



Revision: Format Specifiers

- `%5d`, e.g. `print("%5d" % 56)`
 - # three spaces then 56
 - `%5d` place an integer right justified in a field of 5 characters
- `%8.2f`, e.g. `print("%8.2f" % -586.189)`
 - # one space then -586.19
 - `%8.2f` place a floating point number with two digits after the decimal point right justified in a field of 8 characters. The decimal point and the – sign, if present, each count as characters
- `%-9s`, e.g. `print("%-9s" % "Hello")`
 - # Hello then four spaces
 - `%-9s` place a string left justified in a field of 9 characters



Relational Operators

Python	Math Notation	Description



Relational Operators

Python	Math Notation	Description
>	>	Greater than
>=	≥	Greater than or equal



Relational Operators

Python	Math Notation	Description
>	>	Greater than
>=	≥	Greater than or equal
<	<	Less than
<=	≤	Less than or equal



Relational Operators

Python	Math Notation	Description
>	>	Greater than
>=	≥	Greater than or equal
<	<	Less than
<=	≤	Less than or equal
==	=	Equal
!=	≠	Not equal

The result of the comparing two values using relational operators:
True or **False**



Examples of Relational Operators

- $3 \leq 4$
 - True
- $3 = < 4$
 - Error, use \leq , not $= <$
- $3 > 4$
 - False
- $4 < 4$
 - False
- $4 \leq 4$
 - True
- $3 == 5 - 2$
 - True
- $3 != 5 - 1$
 - True
- $3 = 6 / 2$
 - Syntax error, use $==$ to test for equality
- $3 == 6 / 2$
 - True
- $1.0 / 3.0 == 0.333333333$
 - False, the values are close, but not exactly equal
 - $1.0 / 3.0 == 0.3333333333333333333$ is True
- $"10" > 5$
 - Error
 - A string cannot be compared with a number



Relational Operators and Strings

```
name1 = "John"
```

```
name2 = "John"
```

```
name3 = "Smith"
```

- `name1 == name2`

True

- `name1 == name3`

False

- `name1 != name3`

True



Ordering of Single Characters

- All **uppercase letters** come before **lowercase letters**
- **Numbers** come before letters
- The **space** character comes before all printable characters
- **Empty string** comes before all non-empty characters

- Example

`""` < `" "` < `"0"` < `"1"` < `"9"` < `"A"` < `"B"` < `"Z"` < `"a"` < `"b"` < `"z"`

Use `ord()` function to check the value of a character.

E.g., `ord("A")` is 65, `ord(" ")` is 32.

ASCII Chart

Dec	Hex	Name	Char	Ctrl-char	Dec	Hex	Char	Dec	Hex	Char	Dec	Hex	Char
0	0	Null	NUL	CTRL-@	32	20	Space	64	40	@	96	60	`
1	1	Start of heading	SOH	CTRL-A	33	21	!	65	41	A	97	61	a
2	2	Start of text	STX	CTRL-B	34	22	"	66	42	B	98	62	b
3	3	End of text	ETX	CTRL-C	35	23	#	67	43	C	99	63	c
4	4	End of xmit	EOT	CTRL-D	36	24	\$	68	44	D	100	64	d
5	5	Enquiry	ENQ	CTRL-E	37	25	%	69	45	E	101	65	e
6	6	Acknowledge	ACK	CTRL-F	38	26	&	70	46	F	102	66	f
7	7	Bell	BEL	CTRL-G	39	27	'	71	47	G	103	67	g
8	8	Backspace	BS	CTRL-H	40	28	(	72	48	H	104	68	h
9	9	Horizontal tab	HT	CTRL-I	41	29	)	73	49	I	105	69	i
10	0A	Line feed	LF	CTRL-J	42	2A	*	74	4A	J	106	6A	j
11	0B	Vertical tab	VT	CTRL-K	43	2B	+	75	4B	K	107	6B	k
12	0C	Form feed	FF	CTRL-L	44	2C	,	76	4C	L	108	6C	l
13	0D	Carriage feed	CR	CTRL-M	45	2D	-	77	4D	M	109	6D	m
14	0E	Shift out	SO	CTRL-N	46	2E	.	78	4E	N	110	6E	n
15	0F	Shift in	SI	CTRL-O	47	2F	/	79	4F	O	111	6F	o
16	10	Data line escape	DLE	CTRL-P	48	30	0	80	50	P	112	70	p
17	11	Device control 1	DC1	CTRL-Q	49	31	1	81	51	Q	113	71	q
18	12	Device control 2	DC2	CTRL-R	50	32	2	82	52	R	114	72	r
19	13	Device control 3	DC3	CTRL-S	51	33	3	83	53	S	115	73	s
20	14	Device control 4	DC4	CTRL-T	52	34	4	84	54	T	116	74	t
21	15	Neg acknowledge	NAK	CTRL-U	53	35	5	85	55	U	117	75	u
22	16	Synchronous idle	SYN	CTRL-V	54	36	6	86	56	V	118	76	v
23	17	End of xmit block	ETB	CTRL-W	55	37	7	87	57	W	119	77	w
24	18	Cancel	CAN	CTRL-X	56	38	8	88	58	X	120	78	x
25	19	End of medium	EM	CTRL-Y	57	39	9	89	59	Y	121	79	y
26	1A	Substitute	SUB	CTRL-Z	58	3A	:	90	5A	Z	122	7A	z
27	1B	Escape	ESC	CTRL-[	59	3B	;	91	5B	[	123	7B	{
28	1C	File separator	FS	CTRL-\	60	3C	<	92	5C	\	124	7C	|
29	1D	Group separator	GS	CTRL-]	61	3D	=	93	5D	]	125	7D	}
30	1E	Record separator	RS	CTRL-^	62	3E	>	94	5E	^	126	7E	~
31	1F	Unit separator	US	CTRL-`	63	3F	?	95	5F	`	127	7F	DEL

Extended ASCII Chart

Dec	Hex	Char	Dec	Hex	Char	Dec	Hex	Char	Dec	Hex	Char
128	80	Ç	160	A0	á	192	C0	Ł	224	E0	α
129	81	ù	161	A1	í	193	C1	ł	225	E1	β
130	82	é	162	A2	ó	194	C2	Ŧ	226	E2	Γ
131	83	â	163	A3	ú	195	C3	ŧ	227	E3	π
132	84	à	164	A4	ñ	196	C4	—	228	E4	Σ
133	85	á	165	A5	Ñ	197	C5	†	229	E5	σ
134	86	â	166	A6	*	198	C6	‡	230	E6	μ
135	87	ç	167	A7	°	199	C7	‡	231	E7	ι
136	88	ê	168	A8	ˆ	200	C8	‡	232	E8	φ
137	89	ë	169	A9	˜	201	C9	ƒ	233	E9	θ
138	8A	è	170	AA	˘	202	CA	±	234	EA	Ω
139	8B	ì	171	AB	½	203	CB	∓	235	EB	δ
140	8C	î	172	AC	¼	204	CC	∓	236	EC	∞
141	8D	ï	173	AD	ı	205	CD	≡	237	ED	φ
142	8E	Ā	174	AE	ı	206	CE	≡	238	EE	ε
143	8F	Ă	175	AF	›	207	CF	±	239	EF	Ω
144	90	Ē	176	B0	⋯	208	D0	±	240	F0	≡
145	91	œ	177	B1	⋮	209	D1	∓	241	F1	±
146	92	Æ	178	B2	⋮	210	D2	∓	242	F2	±
147	93	ó	179	B3	|	211	D3	∓	243	F3	±
148	94	ô	180	B4	†	212	D4	Ŏ	244	F4	∫
149	95	ò	181	B5	†	213	D5	ƒ	245	F5	|
150	96	ó	182	B6	†	214	D6	ƒ	246	F6	†
151	97	ù	183	B7	†	215	D7	†	247	F7	†
152	98	ÿ	184	B8	†	216	D8	†	248	F8	†
153	99	Ŏ	185	B9	†	217	D9	†	249	F9	†
154	9A	Ū	186	BA	†	218	DA	†	250	FA	†
155	9B	Ŷ	187	BB	†	219	DB	■	251	FB	√
156	9C	£	188	BC	†	220	DC	■	252	FC	†
157	9D	¥	189	BD	†	221	DD	■	253	FD	†
158	9E	ƒ	190	BE	†	222	DE	■	254	FE	■
159	9F	ſ	191	BF	†	223	DF	■	255	FF	

<https://www.comfront.com/pages/ascii-chart>



Lexicographic Ordering of Strings

- Python's relational operators compare strings in **lexicographic** order.
 - Lexicographic order: similar to the way in a dictionary
 - `string1 < string2`, if `string1` comes before `string2` in a dict.
 - `"Hammer" < "Hello"`
 - `string1 == string2`, if `string1` and `string2` are identical
- How does Python compare strings?
 - E.g. `"catch"` and `"cart"`?
 - `"coal"` and `"coat"`?
 - `"tone"` and `"ton"`?

Summary of Lexicographic Ordering

- Given strings s_1, s_2 , find the **longest string s** such that
 - $s_1 = s + u_1$ $s_2 = s + u_2$ **s is the longest common string** between s_1 and s_2
- If $u_1 == u_2 == ""$, then $s_1 == s_2$ (see Example 5)
- If $u_1 == ""$ and $u_2 != ""$, then $s_1 < s_2$ (see Example 4)
- If $u_1 != ""$ and $u_2 == ""$, then $s_1 > s_2$ (see Example 3)
- If $u_1 != ""$ and $u_2 != ""$, then
 - if $u_1[0] < u_2[0]$ then $s_1 < s_2$ (see Example 2)
 - if $u_1[0] > u_2[0]$ then $s_1 > s_2$ (see Example 1)

	s_1	s_2	u_1	u_2	compare	order
Example 1	"catch"	"cart"	"tch"	"rt"	"t" > "r"	$s_1 > s_2$
Example 2	"coal"	"coats"	"l"	"ts"	"l" < "t"	$s_1 < s_2$
Example 3	"tone"	"ton"	"e"	""	"e" > ""	$s_1 > s_2$
Example 4	"pit"	"pith"	""	"h"	"" < "h"	$s_1 < s_2$
Example 5	"pitch"	"pitch"	""	""	"" == ""	$s_1 == s_2$



Boolean Variables

- Variables of type `bool` have the value `True` or the value `False`, e.g.
 - `failed = False`
 - `passed = True`
- `True` and `False` are special values, not numbers or strings.
- `True` and `False` are reserved words
 - What about `true` and `false`?

Boolean Operators

- A Boolean operator takes one or more Boolean values as input and produces a Boolean value as output.

- Example: `and`

input: two Boolean values `True`, `True`

output: `True`

`and` yields `True` if **both** inputs are `True`



- Wave the `flag` when the road is clear `and` the cars are ready
 - `flag = True and True`
 - The Boolean variable `flag` has the value `True`



Truth Tables

A	B	A and B
True	True	True
True	False	False
False	True	False
False	False	False

Boolean Operators

- A Boolean operator takes one or more Boolean values as input and produces a Boolean value as output.

- Example: `or`

input: two Boolean values `True`, `False`

output: `True`

`or` yields `True` if at least one input is `True`



- **Fail** the game if bumping into a poisonous mushroom `or` time is up
 - `fail` = `True or False`
 - The Boolean variable `fail` has the value `True`



Truth Tables

A	B	A and B
True	True	True
True	False	False
False	True	False
False	False	False

A	B	A or B
True	True	True
True	False	True
False	True	True
False	False	False

Boolean Operators

- A Boolean operator takes one or more Boolean values as input and produces a Boolean value as output.

- Example: `not`

input: ONE Boolean value `False`

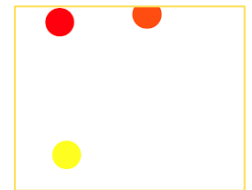
output: `True`

`or` yields `True` if the input is `False`

- Press the button if colour is `not` purple

- `press` = `not isPurple`

- The Boolean variable `press` has the value `False` if `isPurple` is `True`





Truth Tables

A	B	A and B
True	True	True
True	False	False
False	True	False
False	False	False

A	B	A or B
True	True	True
True	False	True
False	True	True
False	False	False

A	not A
True	False
False	True



Boolean Operator Examples

- $0 < 200$ and $200 < 100$
 - False
- $0 < 200$ or $200 < 100$
 - True
- $0 < 200$ or $100 < 200$
 - True
- $x = -7$
 - $0 > x$ or $x < 100$ and $x > 50$
 - $(0 > x$ or $x < 100)$ and $x > 50$ is False
 - $0 > x$ or $(x < 100$ and $x > 50)$ is True
 - The **and** operator has a higher precedence than the **or** operator
 - So $0 > x$ or $x < 100$ and $x > 50$ is True



Boolean Operator Examples

- `0 < 200 and 200 < 100`
 - False
- `0 < 200 or 200 < 100`
 - True
- `0 < 200 or 100 < 200`
 - True
- `x=-7`
 - `0 > x or x < 100 and x > 50`
 - `(0 > x or x < 100) and x > 50` is False
 - `0 > x or (x < 100 and x > 50)` is True
 - The `and` operator has a higher precedence than the `or` operator
 - So `0 > x or x < 100 and x > 50` is True
- `not (0 < 200)`
 - False
- `not (0 < 200) or (100 < 200)`
 - `not ((0 < 200) or (100 < 200))` is False
 - `(not (0 < 200)) or (100 < 200)` is True
 - The `not` operator has a higher precedence than the `and/or` operator
- `frozen == True`
 - `frozen`
 - There is no need to compare a Boolean variable with `True`
- `frozen == False`
 - `not frozen`
 - It is clearer to use `not` than to compare with `False`

The Operators and, or

- Avoid confusing the operators **and**, **or**
- E.g. x in the range 0 to 100 inclusive
 $0 \leq x$ **and** $x \leq 100$
- E.g. x outside the range 0 to 100 inclusive
 $x < 0$ **or** $x > 100$





Chaining Relational Operators

- The expression

```
0 <= value <= 100
```

is equivalent in Python to

```
value >= 0 and value <= 100
```

- The expression

```
a < x > b
```

is equivalent to

```
a < x and x > b
```

- Example:

```
x = 9
```

- `3 < x > 8`
 - True
- `8 < x > 3`
 - True
- `3 < x > 9`
 - False



Short Circuit Evaluation

- Logical expressions `x and y` and `x or y` are evaluated **left to right**.
- Evaluation **stops** when the value of the expression is known.
- Examples:
 - True `or` Anything
True
 - False `and` Anything
False



Short Circuit Evaluation

- Another example:
 - `fun()` is a user-defined function
 - It will print "Yes" in the shell and return True
 - What will the following statements do in the shell?
 - `True and fun()`
 - Print "Yes", True
 - `False and fun()`
 - No print, False
 - `True or fun()`
 - No print, True
 - `False or fun()`
 - Print "Yes", True
- Yet another example:
 - `quantity > 0 and price/quantity < 10`
 - # False if `quantity == 0`



De Morgan's Law

- Motivation example

Charge a higher shipping rate if the destination is **not** within the **continental United States**

- Not US
- part of the US, but not continental: Alaska and Hawaii

```
if not (country == "USA" and state != "AK" and state != "HI") :  
    shippingCharge = 20.00
```

When **not** is applied on the **outermost** level of the condition, it becomes **harder to understand** what it means.



De Morgan's Law

- It tells us how to negate `and` and `or` conditions

- Version 1

`not (A and B)` is the same as `(not A) or (not B)`

- Version 2

`not (A or B)` is the same as `(not A) and (not B)`

- To prove Version 2 from Version 1, write

`not (A or B)`

= `not (not not A or not not B)` #not not = identity

= `not not (not A and not B)` # apply Version 1

= `not A and not B` #not not = identity



Example of De Morgan's Law

- Charge a higher shipping rate if the destination is not within the continental United States
 - part of the US, but not continental: Alaska and Hawaii
- **if not (country == "USA" and state != "AK" and state != "HI") :**
shippingCharge = 20.00
- **if(country != "USA" or state == "AK" or state == "HI") :**
shippingCharge = 20.00

Usually it is a good idea to push negations to the innermost level



PFE Review Question R3.20

- Of the following pairs of strings, which comes first in lexicographic order?
 - > "Tom", "Jerry"
 - < "Tom", "Tomato"
 - > "church", "Churchill"
 - < "car manufacturer", "carburettor"
 - < "36", "A1"
 - < "36", "a1"



Examples

- Let x, y, z be variables with integer values. Construct a Boolean expression that is True if and only if exactly one of x, y, z is equal to zero.
- Construct a Boolean expression with the following truth table, using one or more of the operators and, or, not.

A	B	Expression
True	True	False
True	False	True
False	True	True
False	False	False



Examples

- Let x, y, z be variables with integer values. Construct a Boolean expression that is True if and only if exactly one of x, y, z is equal to zero.
- $(x==0 \text{ and } y!=0 \text{ and } z!=0)$
or $(x!=0 \text{ and } y==0 \text{ and } z!=0)$
or $(x!=0 \text{ and } y!=0 \text{ and } z==0)$



Examples

- Construct a Boolean expression with the following truth table, using one or more of the operators and, or, not.

A	B	Expression
True	True	False
True	False	True
False	True	True
False	False	False

exclusive or

- $(A \text{ and not } B) \text{ or } (\text{not } A \text{ and } B)$
- $(A \text{ or } B) \text{ and not } (A \text{ and } B)$
- $(A \text{ or } B) \text{ and } (\text{not } A \text{ or not } B)$



Saturday Sessions

- One-to-one session
 - Help with your Python questions
- Every Saturday
 - Until 28th March
- 20-min time slots
 - 15:00, 15:20, 15:40, 16:00, 16:20, 16:40, 17:00, 17:20, 17:40
- Venue: MAL 151
- Tutor: Donal
- Free, but you need to book first



How to Book

- By email
 - Put “Booking Out Of Hours Session” in the title
 - State which week you want
- First come first served
 - You may state which slot you prefer, but not always available
- **Book at least one working day in advance**
 - The latest a booking can be made will be on the **Thursday** of that week
- Which email account?
 - fd@dcs.bbk.ac.uk