

Topic 4: Decisions

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Recommended Readings

- Strongly Recommended Exercises
 - The Python Workbook, 3rd Edition: 42, 43, 50, and 62; or
 - The Python Workbook, 2nd Edition: 39, 40, 46, and 57
- Recommended Exercises
 - The Python Workbook, 3rd Edition: 40, 47, 52, 54, 63, and 64; or
 - The Python Workbook, 2nd Edition: 37, 44, 48, 50, 58, and 59
- Recommended Readings
 - The Python Workbook, 2nd or 3rd Edition: Chapter 2

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Review

- What kinds of statements have we seen so far?
 - Assignment statements
 - Input statements
 - Output statements
- These are generally necessary, but not sufficient, to solve “interesting” problems

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Example

- Determine the state of gold when it is at a given temperature
 - Gold is solid when the temperature less than 1064 degrees Celsius
 - Gold is liquid when the temperature is between 1064 and 2856 degrees Celsius
 - Otherwise gold is gaseous

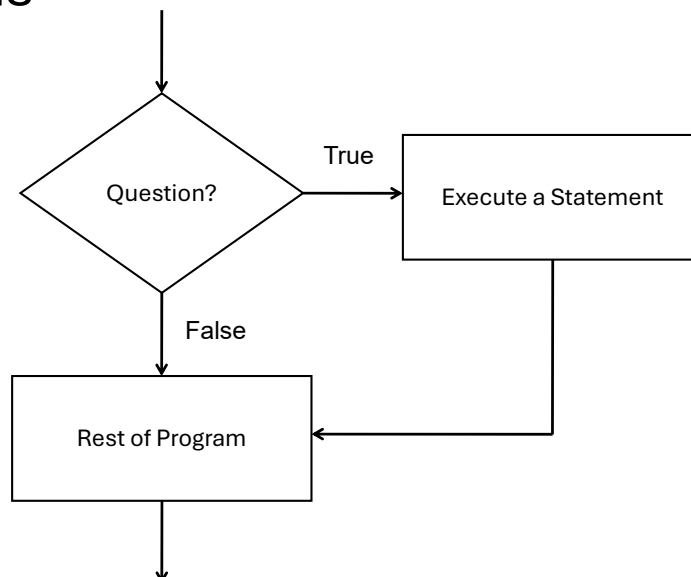
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If Statements

- If statements
 - Permit or prevent another statement from executing
 - Start with the word `if`
 - Allow us to test anything that can be determined to be true or false
- General Form:
 - `if condition:`
 body

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Decisions



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Condition

- The condition portion of an if statement must be a Boolean result
 - True or False
 - Can be
 - Value of a variable
 - Result of a function
 - Result of a relational operator
 - ...

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Relational Operators

- Relational operators compare two values
 - Result will be true or false
 - Operators:
 - < less than
 - > greater than
 - <= less than or equal
 - >= greater than or equal
 - == equal
 - != not equal

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Relational Operations

- Values tested can be
 - Variables
 - Literals
 - Results from functions
 - Expressions
 - ...
- Types tested can be
 - Integers, Floats, Booleans, Strings
 - ...

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Gold Example

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Liquid Gold?

- How do we test whether the gold is liquid?
 - temperature must be greater than 1064 degrees Celsius
 - temperature must be less than 2856 degrees Celsius

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Boolean Logic

- A system of logical values and operators
 - Values
 - True, False
 - Operators
 - And
 - Or
 - Not
 - Xor
 - ...
 - Used to form complex conditions

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Boolean Logic

- Truth tables describe the behavior of logical operators

Operand(s)	Result	A	not A
Operand Values	Result Values	0 1	

- The not operator flips the value of its operand

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Boolean Logic

- And operator
 - Takes two operands
 - Produces one result
 - Result is true if and only if both operands are true

A	B	A and B
0	0	
0	1	
1	0	
1	1	

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Boolean Logic

- Or operator
 - Takes two operands
 - Produces one result
 - Result is true if one operand is true (or both operands are true)

A	B	A or B
0	0	
0	1	
1	0	
1	1	

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Boolean Logic

- Exclusive or operator
 - Takes two operands
 - Produces one result
 - Result is true if exactly one operand is true

A	B	A xor B
0	0	
0	1	
1	0	
1	1	

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Boolean Logic

- Python doesn't include an xor operator
- What logical expressions can we use to achieve the same result?

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Boolean Logic

- When is not(A and B) true?

A	B	A and B	not (A and B)
0	0		
0	1		
1	0		
1	1		

- We call this operation nand

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Boolean Logic

- When is not(A or B) true?

A	B	A or B	not (A or B)
0	0		
0	1		
1	0		
1	1		

- We call this operation nor

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Boolean Logic

- Example:
 - Construct a truth table for A and (B or not C):

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Boolean Logic

- Boolean logic is the basis for computation in modern computers
 - Circuits can implement logical operations
 - Arithmetic operations can be built up from logical operations
 - Memory can be constructed by including feedback loops in the circuits

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Gold Example

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Precedence

- Relational and logical operators have lower precedence than mathematical operators
 - Mathematical Operators
 - Relational Operators
 - not
 - and
 - or
 - assignment

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Precedence

- Consider the following expressions:

```
w = 3 + 4 * 5 < 3 * 4 + 5 or 1 / 2 != 0
```

```
a = False  
b = False  
c = True  
x = 5  
if a or b and c or 1 < x and x < 10:  
    print(x)
```

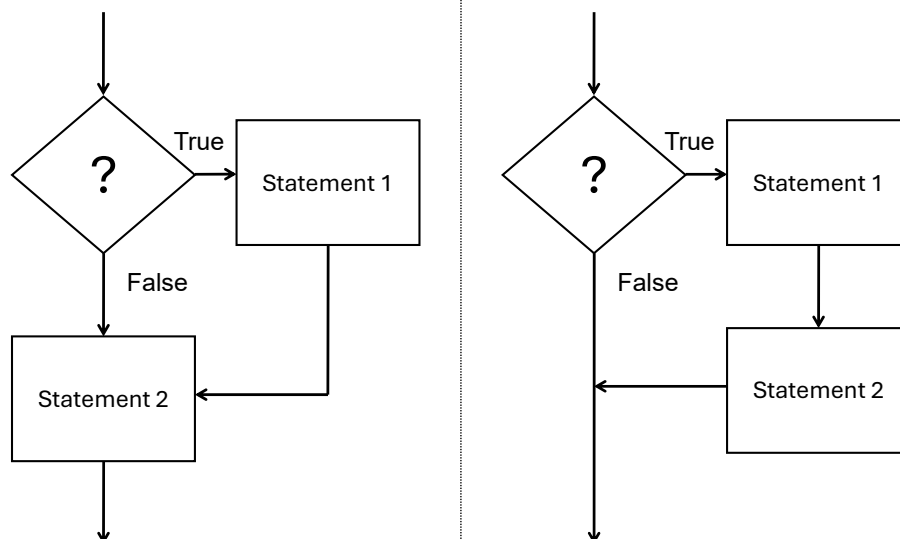
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Equivalent If Statement Conditions

- `if x:` is equivalent to `if x == True:`
- `if not x:` is equivalent to `if x == False:`

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Compound Statements



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Compound Statements

- The body of an if statement
 - May contain one statement
 - May contain many statements
- How do we know which statements are included in the body?
 - Body is determined by indenting
 - Body ends with the next line that is indented the same amount as the `if`

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Compound Statements

```
x = int(input())
print("A")
if x < 0:
    print("B")
    print("C")
print("D")
print("E")
print("F")
```

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If-Then-Else

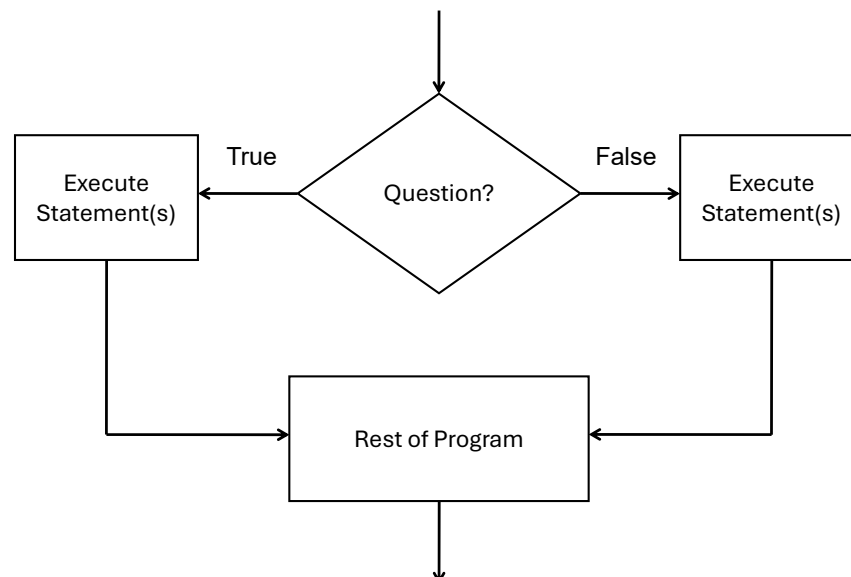
- What if we have a condition
 - want to do something when the condition is true
 - want to do something else when the condition is false

```
if condition:  
    print("Doing something...")
```

```
if not condition:  
    print("Doing something else...")
```

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If-Then-Else



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Gold Example

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Nested If Statements

- An if statement can reside in the body of another if statement
 - How do we expand our program so that it handles all three states?
 - Gold is solid when the temperature less than 1064 degrees Celsius
 - Gold is liquid when the temperature is between 1064 and 2856 degrees Celsius
 - Otherwise gold is gaseous

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Gold Example

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If-Then-Elif-Else

- Allows exactly one of several options to execute
 - Conditions are tested sequentially until one evaluates to True
 - Body of the condition is executed
 - No further conditions are considered once a condition that evaluates to True is found

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Gold Example

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Multiple Elif Example

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Testing

- The process of executing a program in an attempt to locate bugs
 - How many times do we need to run the program?
 - What can't testing do?

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Testing

- Black-box testing
 - Test the program without looking at the source code
 - Tests are generally functional / behavioural
- White-box testing
 - Design test cases for the program by looking at its source code
 - Tests are generally structural

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White Box Test Coverage

- How thoroughly do the cases test the code?
 - Condition Coverage: Every decision point in the program is executed
 - Statement Coverage: Every statement in the program is executed
 - Path Coverage: Every possible path through the program is executed

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Testing Example

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The Dangers of Floating Point Numbers

- Floating point numbers approximate real numbers
 - Can cause problems when testing for equality

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Wrapping Up

- Three kinds of decision statements
 - If statement
 - If-Else statement
 - If-Elif-...-Elif-Else statement
- Each makes it possible to change the flow of control through the program

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Wrapping Up

- More complex control flow requires
 - Additional design
 - Additional testing
 - Black box
 - White box

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Where Are We Going?

- What if we want to do something several times?
 - A fixed number of times?
 - A number of times entered by the user?
 - Keep doing something until a specific event occurs?
- Next Up: Repetition

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