

Introduction to Python and programming

Ruth Anderson

UW CSE 160

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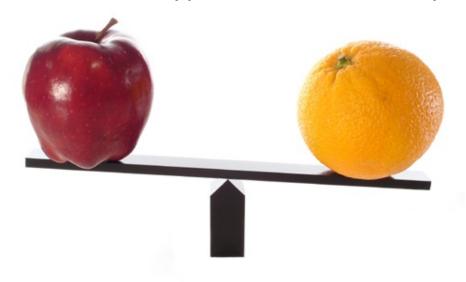
1. Python is a calculator



2. A variable is a container



3. Different types cannot be compared



4. A program is a recipe



0. Don't panic!

- CSE 160 is for beginners to programming
 - (If you know how to program, you don't belong)
- You can learn to program in 10 weeks
 - You will work hard
 - We will work hard to help you
- Ask questions!
 - This is the best way to learn

1. Python is a calculator

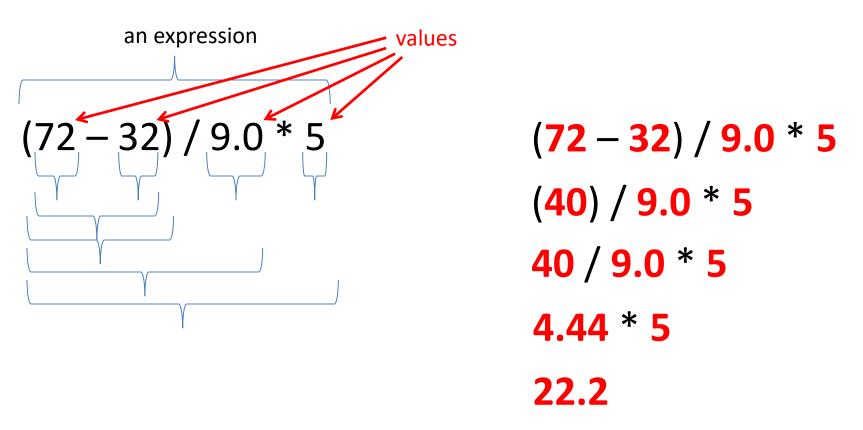


You type *expressions*. Python computes their *values*.

- 5
- 3 + 4
- 44 / 2
- 2 ** 3
- 3*4+5*6
 - If precedence is unclear, use parentheses
- (72 32) / 9 * 5

An expression is evaluated from the inside out

How many expressions are in this Python code?



Another evaluation example

```
(72 - 32) / (9.0 * 5)
(40) / (9.0 * 5)
40 / (9.0 * 5)
40 / (45.0)
40 / 45.0
.888
```

2. A variable is a container



Variables hold values

- Recall variables from algebra:
 - Let x = 2 ...
 - Let y = x ...
- In Python: "varname = expression"

$$pi = 3.14$$

pi

avogadro = 6 * 10 ** 23

avogadro

$$22 = x$$

Error!

Not all variable names are permitted

An **expression** that can be typed into a python interpreter to be evaluated. Not a statement to put into

Nothing printed from an

assignment statement

a python program.

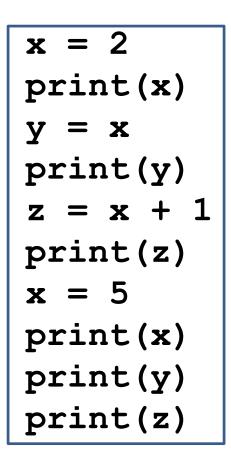
Changing existing variables ("re-binding" or "re-assigning")

```
x = 2
x = 2
x = 2
y = 2
An expression that can be typed into a python interpreter to be evaluated.
x = 5
x Not a statement to put into a python program.
```

- "=" in an assignment is not a promise of eternal equality
 - This is different than the mathematical meaning of "="
- Evaluating an expression gives a new (copy of a) number, rather than changing an existing one

How an assignment is executed

- 1. Evaluate the right-hand side to a value
- 2. Store that value in the variable



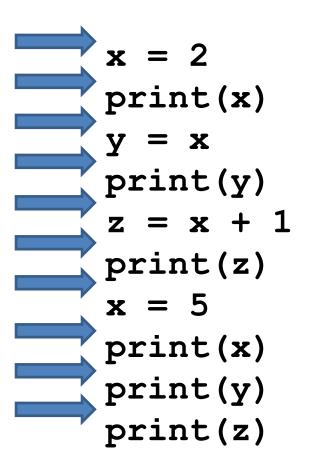
State of the computer:	_	Printed output:
	L	

To visualize a program's execution: http://pythontutor.com

A custom link to this program is here

How an assignment is executed

- 1. Evaluate the right-hand side to a value
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State of the computer:

x: ½ y: 2 z: 3 Printed output:

223523

12

To visualize a program's execution: http://pythontutor.com

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Boolean Expressions (value is True or False)

```
22 > 4
22 < 4
22 == 4
x = 100
22 = 4
x >= 5
x >= 100
x >= 200
not True
not (x >= 200)
3 < 4 and 5 < 6
4 < 3 \text{ or } 5 < 6
temp = 72
```

Also: see a **program** printing these expressions in python tutor

```
# Assignment, not conditional! # Frror!
```

```
Order of Precedence:

Numeric operators: +, *, **

Mixed operators: <, >=, ==

Boolean operators: not, and, or
```

water is liquid = temp > 32 and temp < 212

What do you think?

What is printed out by the following Python code:

```
1) print(2 < 7 \text{ or } 3 > 12)
2) print(not ((2 < 3) and (4 > 100))
3)
  temp = 72
  is liquid = temp > 32 and temp < 212
  print(is liquid)
  temp = 300
  print(is liquid)
```

More expressions: strings

```
A string represents text

'Python'

this_class = "CSE 160"
```

Empty string is not the same as an unbound variable

Operations on strings:

Length: len(this class)

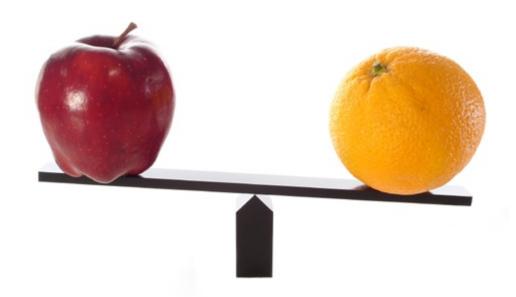
Concatenation:

```
"Ruth" + 'Anderson'
```

Containment/searching:

```
'0' in this_class
"0" in this class
```

3. Different types cannot be compared



Types of values

- Integers (int): -22, 0, 44
 Arithmetic is exact
- Real numbers (float): 2.718, 3.1415
 - float, for "floating point"
 - Arithmetic is approximate
- Strings (str): "I love Python", ""
- Truth values (bool): True, False
 - bool, for "Boolean"

Operations behave differently on different types

$$3.0 + 4.0$$

$$3 + 4$$

$$3 + 4.0$$

Also: see a **program** printing these expressions in python tutor

Don't do this.

Moral: Python *sometimes* tells you when you do something that does not make sense.

Operations behave differently on different types

```
15.0 / 4.0
15 / 4 # Would have been truncated in Python 2.
15.0 / 4
15 / 4.0
See a program printing these expressions in python tutor
```

Type conversion:

```
float(15)
int(15.0)
int(15.5)
int("15")
str(15.5)
float(15) / 4
```

4. A program is a recipe

CORNBREAD

Colvin Run Mill Corn Bread

1 cup cornmeal

1 cup flour

1/2 teaspoon salt

4 teaspoons baking powder

3 tablespoons sugar

1 egg

1 cup milk

1/4 cup shortening (soft) or vegetable oil



Mix together the dry ingredients. Beat together the egg, milk and shortening/oil. Add the liquids to the dry ingredients. Mix quickly by hand. Pour into greased 8x8 or 9x9 baking pan. Bake at 425 degrees for 20-25 minutes.

What is a program?

See this **program** in python tutor

- A program is a sequence of instructions
- The computer executes one after the other, as if they had been typed to the interpreter
- Saving your work as a program is better than retyping from scratch

```
x = 1
y = 2
x + y
print(x + y)
print("The sum of", x, "and", y, "is", x + y)
```

Interlude: The print statement

See this **program** in python tutor

- The print statement always prints one line
 - The next print statement prints below that one
- Write 0 or more expressions inside the parentheses, separated by commas
 - In the output, the values are separated by spaces
- Examples:

```
print(3.1415)
print(2.718, 1.618)
print()
print(20 + 2, 7 * 3, 4 * 5)
print("The sum of", x, "and", y, "is", x + y)
```

Expressions, statements, and programs

An expression evaluates to a value

```
3 + 4
pi * r ** 2
```

A statement causes an effect

```
pi = 3.14159
print(pi)
```

• Expressions appear within other expressions and within statements

```
(fahr - 32) * (5.0 / 9)
print(pi * r ** 2)
```

A statement may not appear within an expression

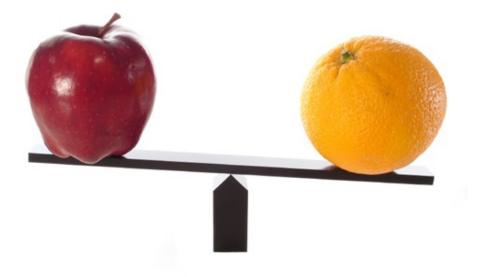
```
3 + print(pi) # Error!
```

- A program is made up of statements
 - A program should do something or communicate information
 - Just evaluating an expression does not accomplish either goal

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