



# Control Flow Statements in Python

Shouke Wei, Ph.D. Professor

Email: shouke.wei@gmail.com

## Objective

- If Conditional Statement
- While Loop
- For Loop

## 1. Conditional Statement

- `if...elif...else` are conditional statements, which
- provide you with the particular conditions to execute code
- helps automate the decision making process

### 1.1 If condition

```
if condition:  
    expression
```

- the simplest form to make a decision based on whether the condition is true or not

```
In [3]: n = 296  
if n % 2 == 0: # true  
    print('n is an even number')
```

n is an even number

### 1.2 if-else condition

```
if condition:  
    expression 1  
else:  
    expression 2
```

- adds an additional step in the decision-making process
- The beginning of an `if-else` statement operates similar to a simple `if` statement; however,

- if the condition is false, instead of printing nothing, the indented expression under `else` will be printed
- An example:

```
In [ ]: n = 287
if n % 2 == 0: # true
    print('n is an even number') # true
else: # not true
    print('n is an odd number')
```

### 1.3 if-elif-else condition

- The most complex of these three conditions
- there are several conditions

```
if condition:
    expression 1
elif condition:
    expression 2
.
.
.
else:
    expression n
```

- you can place as many elif conditions as necessary between the if condition and the else condition ``

```
In [ ]: saleFruit = ['Apple', 'Orange', 'Melon', 'Grape']
stockFruit = ['Apple', 'Orange', 'Melon', 'Grape']

# check if banana is on sale or in storehouse
if 'Banana' in saleFruit:
    print('Banana is selling.')
elif 'Banana' in stockFruit:
    print('Banana is in the storehouse')
else:
    print('Banana is out of stock!')
```

## 2. The While Loops

### 2.1 while loop

```
while <condition>:
    <statement(s)>
```

- Execute a set of statements as long as a condition is true, e.g.

```
In [5]: num = 10

while num > 0:
    num -= 1 # num = num -1
    print(num)
```

```
9
8
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
0
```

### 2.2 The while-else loops

```
while <condition>:
    <statement(s)>
else:
    <additional_statement(s)>
```

- The `else` statement will run a block of code once the condition is no longer true, e.g.

```
In [ ]: n = 1
while n < 7:
    n += 1 # n = n + 1
    print(n)
else:
    print("n is no longer less than 7")
```

## 2.3 The while-if-else loops

```
In [6]: # guess the number

word = ''
while word != 'big':
    word = input('Please input a word with the first letter of b: ')
    if word == 'big':
        print('Great! You got it.')
    else:
        print('Sorry. It is not correct. Please guess it again.')
```

Please input a word with the first letter of b: yes  
Sorry. It is not correct. Please guess it again.  
Please input a word with the first letter of b: but  
Sorry. It is not correct. Please guess it again.  
Please input a word with the first letter of b: big  
Great! You got it.

## 2.4 The break statement

- The `break` statement will stop the loop even if the while condition is still true, e.g.

```
In [1]: n = 1

while n < 7:
    n += 1
    print(n)

    if n == 4:
        break
```

2  
3  
4

## 2.5 The Continue Statement

- The `continue` statement we can stop the current iteration, and continue with the next

```
In [2]: n = 1

while n < 7:
    n +=1

    if n == 4:
        continue
    print(n)
```

```
2
3
5
6
7
```

## 3. For Loops

### 3.1 For Loops

- A for loop is used for iterating over a sequence (a list, a tuple, a dictionary, a set, or a string)

```
for iterating_var in sequence:
    statements
```

```
In [7]: fruitList = ['Apple', 'Cherry', 'Orange', 'Melon', 'Banana', 'Grape']

for items in fruitList:
    print(items)
```

```
Apple
Cherry
Orange
Melon
Banana
Grape
```

### 3.2 The break Statement

- The break statement stops the loop before it would finish looping through all the items

```
In [8]: fruitList = ['Apple', 'Banana', 'Cherry', 'Orange', 'Melon', 'Grape']

for items in fruitList:
    print(items)

    if items == 'Orange':
        break
```

```
Apple
Banana
Cherry
Orange
```

- Exit the loop when item is "Orange", which includes Orange
- The following example also exit the loop when item is "Orange", but "Orange" is not printed

```
In [9]: fruitList = ['Apple', 'Banana', 'Cherry', 'Orange', 'Melon', 'Grape']

for items in fruitList:
    if items == 'Orange':
        break
    print(items)
```

Apple  
Banana  
Cherry

### 3.3 The Continue Statement

- The `continue` statement stops the current iteration of the loop, and continue with the next
- It works as skipping an item

```
In [10]: fruitList = ['Apple', 'Banana', 'Cherry', 'Orange', 'Melon', 'Grape']

for items in fruitList:
    if items == 'Orange':
        continue
    print(items)
```

Apple  
Banana  
Cherry  
Melon  
Grape

### 3.4 range() function

- returns a sequence of numbers, starting from 0 by default, and increments by 1 (by default), and ends at a specified number

```
In [12]: range(6) # not the values of 0 to 6, but the values 0 to 5

for n in range(6):
    print(n)
```

0  
1  
2  
3  
4  
5

- it is possible to specify the starting value by adding a parameter: `range(2, 6)`, which means values from 2 to 6 (but not including 6):

```
In [13]: for n in range(2, 6):
    print(n)
```

2  
3  
4  
5

- it is possible to specify the increment value by adding a third parameter: `range(2, 30, 3)`:

```
In [14]: for n in range(2,10,2):  
         print(n)
```

```
2  
4  
6  
8
```

### 3.5 Else in for loops

- The else keyword in a for loop specifies a block of code to be executed when the loop is finished

```
In [15]: fruitList = ['Apple','Banana','Cherry','Orange','Melon','Grape']  
  
for items in fruitList:  
    print(items)  
  
else:  
    print("This is the end!")
```

```
Apple  
Banana  
Cherry  
Orange  
Melon  
Grape  
This is the end!
```

- If the loop breaks, the else block is not executed.

```
In [16]: fruitList = ['Apple','Banana','Cherry','Orange','Melon','Grape']  
  
for items in fruitList:  
  
    if items == 'Orange':  
        break  
    print(items)  
  
else:  
    print("This is the end!")
```

```
Apple  
Banana  
Cherry
```

### 3.6 Nested Loops

- A nested loop is a loop inside a loop
- The "inner loop" will be executed one time for each iteration of the "outer loop"

```
In [19]: attributeList = ['Red','Big','Sweet']  
fruitList = ['Apple','Banana','Cherry']  
  
for x in attributeList:  
    for y in fruitList:  
        print(x, y)
```

```
Red Apple  
Red Banana  
Red Cherry  
Big Apple  
Big Banana  
Big Cherry  
Sweet Apple  
Sweet Banana  
Sweet Cherry
```