

Doing Maths in Python

Addition using the Plus sign (+)

If we want to see how maths works in Python, let's use the print command to see what happens. So as we saw previously, the plus sign (+) can be used to join together two strings, but it can also be used to add up two numbers, as follows:

```
print(19 + 91)
```

And we will see this output:

```
110
```

So if the numbers don't have double quotes around them, Python treats them as numbers, and adds them up.

Subtraction using the Minus sign (-)

The minus sign (-) can be used to subtract two numbers, as follows:

```
print(19 - 91)
```

And we will see this output:

```
-72
```

So again, because the numbers don't have double quotes around them, Python treats them as numbers, and subtracts them.

Multiplication using the Multiply sign (*)

As we mentioned previously, the multiply sign in Python (and many other programming languages) is the star sign (*), so as long as the values are two numbers, they will be multiplied as follows:

```
print(19 * 91)
```

And we will see this output:

```
1729
```

So again, Python treats them as numbers, and multiplies them.

Division using the Divide sign (/)

The divide sign in Python (and many other programming languages) is the forward slash (/), so as long as the values are two numbers, they will be divided, for example:

```
print(19 / 91)
```

And we will see this output:

```
0.2087912087912088
```

So as we can see, Python divides the two numbers (both of which are whole numbers), and the result is a number with decimal places. In Maths (and in computers) we have a special name for any number that has a decimal place; we call it a *Real Number*. So for example 0.20879 is a Real Number, so is 3.14159, and so is 93.0 - as long as it has a decimal place, it is a Real Number, if the number doesn't have a decimal place, we call it a *Natural Number*. So, for example, 93, -34, 2 are all Natural Numbers.