
Cognitive Algorithms

Python Introduction

The aim of this document is to familiarize yourself with Python. It introduces you to general concepts that you need to complete the homework. However, it does not cover all aspects and you might attend the course “Python Programming for Machine Learning” for deeper insight.

Throughout this course, we will use Python 2.7 (not Python 3.6). We recommend you install “Anaconda”, which is an open source distribution for Python. You can download it for free at <https://www.continuum.io/downloads>. We will use “Spyder” in this tutorial, which is an IDE and already included in “Anaconda” (see: https://docs.continuum.io/anaconda/ide_integration#spyder for further information). See <https://pythonhosted.org/spyder/> for an introduction to “Spyder”.

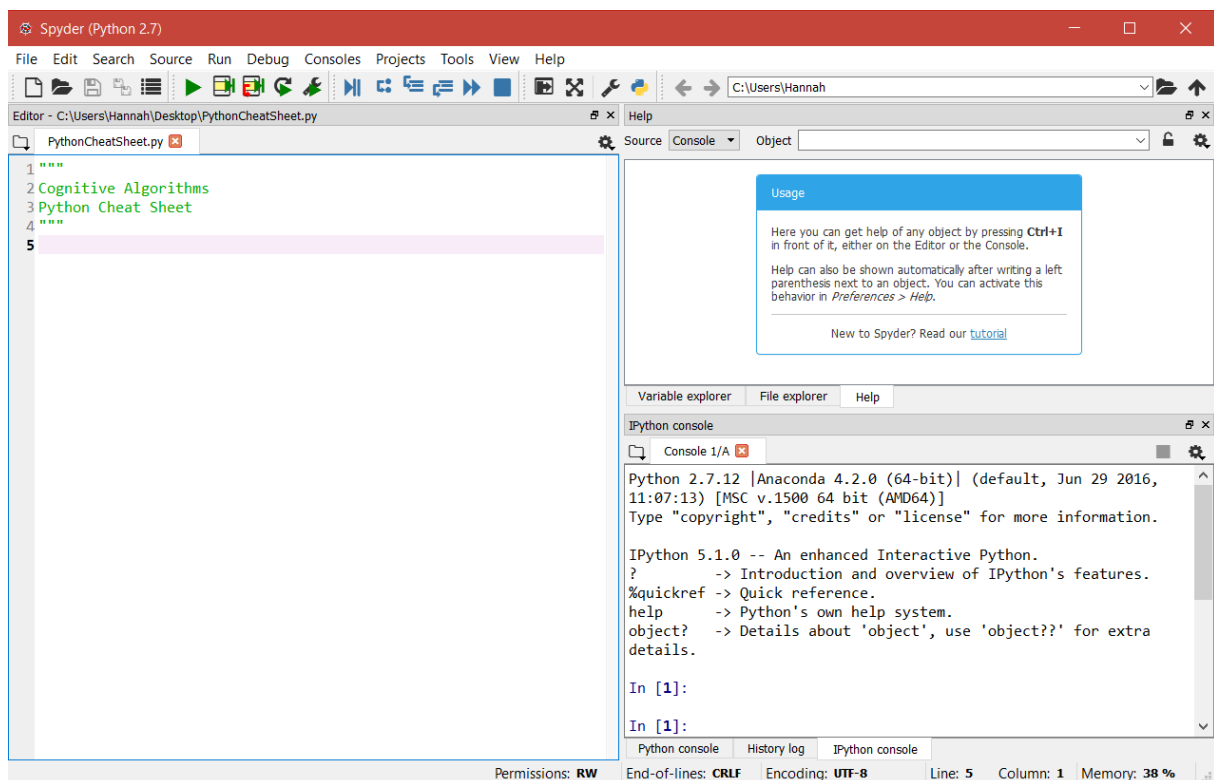


Figure 1: IDE “Spyder” with editor (left), console (right, lower) and help (right, upper)

Variable Types

Python has many built-in types like any other programming language - some of them are shown below. You can print the value of a variable on the console using the print command. Two strings can be concatenated using ‘+’.

```

1 ### Variable Types
2 a = True           # bool
3 b = False          # bool
4
5 c = 0              # int
6
7 d = 0.5            # float
8
9 e = 'b'            # string
10 f = 'Hello world!' # string
11 g = "Hello world!" # string
12
13 print a
14 print c
15 print d
16 print f
17 print f == g
18 print 'Are f and g the same? ' + str(f == g)
19

```

```

In [77]: runfile('C:/Users/Hannah/Desktop/PythonCheatSheet.py', wdir='C:/Users/Hannah/Desktop')
True
0
0.5
Hello world!
True
Are f and g the same? True

```

Python uses typed objects but untyped variable names, as shown in this simple example.

```

25 print 'Variable g was a ' + str(type(g)) + ' : ' + g
26 g = 0.33
27 print 'Now it is a ' + str(type(g)) + ' : ' + str(g)
28

```

```

In [4]: runfile('C:/Users/Hannah/Desktop/PythonCheatSheet.py', wdir='C:/Users/Hannah/Desktop')
Variable g was a <type 'str'> : Hello world!
Now it is a <type 'float'> : 0.33

```

Standard Modules

There are many modules and packages that already implement useful functions. We will often need NumPy, SciPy and Matplotlib for the homework. You should put the import commands as first line of your code. Use `.` to indicate that you want to call a function of an imported module.

```

1 ### Packages
2 import numpy
3 print numpy.log(1)    # calculates ln(1)
4

```

```

In [79]: runfile('C:/Users/Hannah/Desktop/PythonCheatSheet.py', wdir='C:/Users/Hannah/Desktop')
0.0

```

You might declare an abbreviation for the imported module, to shorten the notation

```

5 import numpy as np
6 print np.log(1)
7

```

Arrays and Indexing

Arrays are implemented in NumPy and SciPy. A mathematical matrix can be implemented as `numpy.matrix` or and 2 dimensional `numpy.array`. Both types are similar, but not the same. Which one to use, depends on the task. Note, that 1d matrices and arrays differ in shape, although they hold the same data.

```

1 import numpy as np
2
3 ### Arrays and Indexing
4 A = [0,1,2,3] # list
5 B = np.array([0,1,2,3]) # 1d array
6 C = np.matrix([0,1,2,3]) # vector
7 D = np.array([[0,1,2,3],[4,5,6,7]]) # (ndArray) 2d array
8 E = np.matrix([[0,1,2,3],[4,5,6,7]]) # matrix
9
10 F = np.array([0,3,1,2])
11
12 print A
13 print 'A - type: ' + str(type(A)) + ' , shape: ' + str(np.shape(A))
14 print A
15 print 'B - type: ' + str(type(B)) + ' , shape: ' + str(np.shape(B))
16 print B
17 print 'C - type: ' + str(type(C)) + ' , shape: ' + str(np.shape(C))
18 print C
19 print 'D - type: ' + str(type(D)) + ' , shape: ' + str(np.shape(D))
20 print D
21 print 'E - type: ' + str(type(E)) + ' , shape: ' + str(np.shape(E))
22 print E
23

```

```

In [81]: runfile('C:/Users/Hannah/Desktop/PythonCheatSheet.py', wdir='C:/Users/Hannah/Desktop')
[0, 1, 2, 3]
A - type: <type 'list'> , shape: (4L,)
[0, 1, 2, 3]
B - type: <type 'numpy.ndarray'> , shape: (4L,)
[0 1 2 3]
C - type: <class 'numpy.matrixlib.defmatrix.matrix'> , shape: (1L, 4L)
[[0 1 2 3]]
D - type: <type 'numpy.ndarray'> , shape: (2L, 4L)
[[0 1 2 3]
 [4 5 6 7]]
E - type: <class 'numpy.matrixlib.defmatrix.matrix'> , shape: (2L, 4L)
[[0 1 2 3]
 [4 5 6 7]]

```

We get a single entry or multiple entries using `[.]`. We show examples for the matrix E, but similar can be done for the array D. You are encouraged to try it yourself.

```

In [83]: B[0]
Out[83]: 0

In [84]: E[0,0]
Out[84]: 0

In [85]: E[0]
Out[85]: matrix([[0, 1, 2, 3]])

In [86]: E[0,:]
Out[86]: matrix([[0, 1, 2, 3]])

In [87]: E[:,0]
Out[87]:
matrix([[0],
        [4]])

In [88]: E[:, 1:3]
Out[88]:
matrix([[1, 2],
        [5, 6]])

```

```

In [89]: E[:, 2:]
Out[89]:
matrix([[2, 3],
        [6, 7]])

In [90]: E[:, :2]
Out[90]:
matrix([[0, 1],
        [4, 5]])

In [91]: E[:, F]
Out[91]:
matrix([[0, 3, 1, 2],
        [4, 7, 5, 6]])

```

Functions

We can also write our own functions. Since we have no explicit typing, it is important to write comments for each input and output variable.

```

1 import numpy as np
2
3 ### Functions
4 def foo(A, B, c):
5     '''
6     Calculates the sum of A and scaled B. B is scaled using c.  $X = A + c*B$ 
7
8     Usage:      X = foo(A, B, c)
9     Input:      A : (N,) array
10                B : (N,) array
11                c : scalar
12     Returns:    X : (N,) array
13
14     '''
15     X = A + c*B
16     return X
17
18 Y1 = np.ones([11,])           # 1d array filled with ones
19 Y2 = np.linspace(0, 10, 11)   # [0, 1, ..., 10]
20 c = 2.
21 X = foo(Y1,Y2,c)
22 print Y1
23 print Y2
24 print X
25

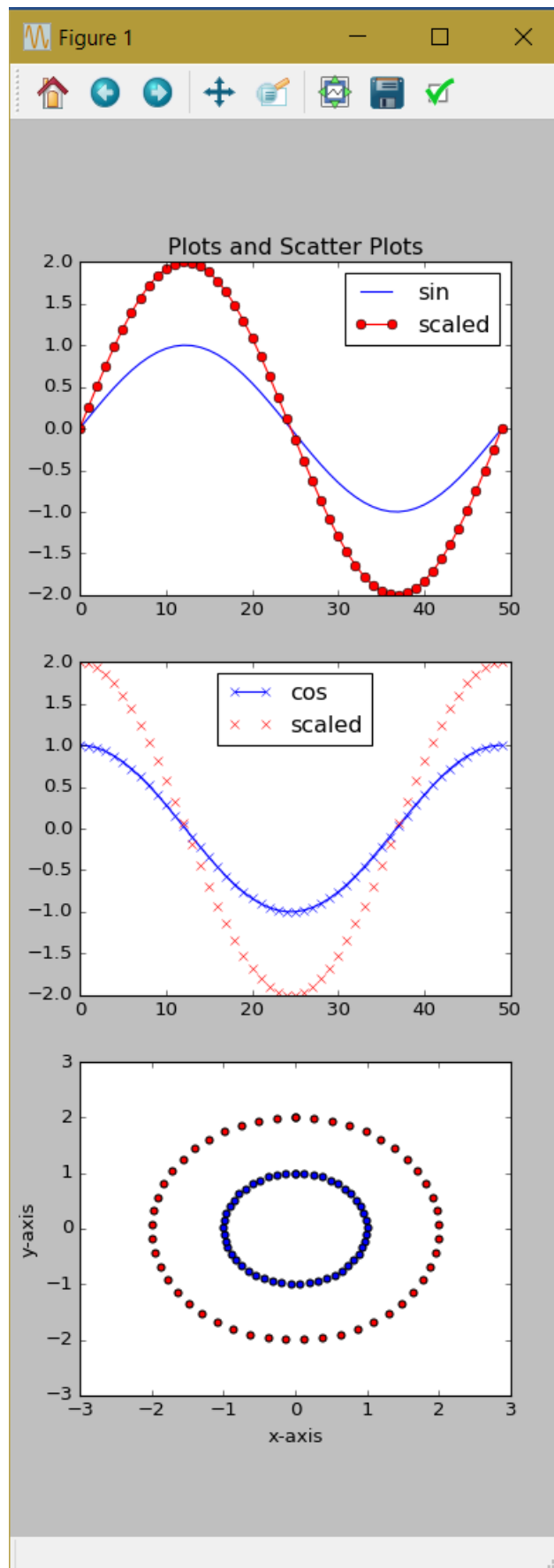
```

```
In [94]: runfile('C:/Users/Hannah/Desktop/PythonCheatSheet.py', wdir='C:/Users/Hannah/Desktop')
[ 1.  1.  1.  1.  1.  1.  1.  1.  1.  1.  1.]
[ 0.  1.  2.  3.  4.  5.  6.  7.  8.  9. 10.]
[ 1.  3.  5.  7.  9. 11. 13. 15. 17. 19. 21.]
```

Plotting

We often wish to visualize the data. The module `matplotlib.pyplot` already implements useful functions to draw functional or scatter plots and to individualize those plots.

```
5 import numpy as np
6 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
7
8 ### Plotting
9 theta = np.linspace(0, 2*np.pi, 50)    # 50 evenly spaced numbers in [0, 2pi]
10 y_sin = np.sin(theta)                  # calculates sinus and cosinus for ...
11 y_cos = np.cos(theta)                  # ... every value in theta
12 scaling = 2.
13
14 plt.figure()                           # creates an empty figure
15
16 plt.subplot(3,1,1)                     # creates 3 plots in that figure
17 plt.title('Plots and Scatter Plots')   # title of the plot
18 plt.plot(y_sin)                         # draws sinus in first plot
19 plt.plot(scaling*y_sin, 'r-o')          # scaled sinus in red with marker '-o'
20 plt.legend(['sin', 'scaled'])           # legend for the two drawn functions
21
22 plt.subplot(3,1,2)                     # select second plot
23 plt.plot(y_cos, '-x')                  # cosinus
24 plt.plot(scaling*y_cos, 'rx')          # scaled cosinus in red
25 plt.legend(['cos', 'scaled'], loc='upper center') # legend at another position
26
27 plt.subplot(3,1,3)                     # select third plot
28 plt.scatter(y_sin, y_cos)              # draws a scatter plot
29 plt.scatter(scaling*y_sin, scaling*y_cos, c='r')
30 plt.xlabel('x-axis')                   # label for the axis
31 plt.ylabel('y-axis')
32
```



Loops

As we will see in the homework, loops are slow in Python, so you should avoid them and use matrix operands or functions of NumPy or SciPy instead. However, the syntax is straight forward:

```
5 import numpy as np
6
7 for i in xrange(5,10):           # for i in [5, 10[
8     if np.mod(i, 2) == 0:        # i modulo 2
9         print str(i) + ' is even.'
10    else:
11        print str(i) + ' is odd.'
12
```



```
In [27]: runfile('C:/Users/Hannah/Desktop/PythonCheatSheet.py', wdir='C:/Users/Hannah/Desktop')
5 is odd.
6 is even.
7 is odd.
8 is even.
9 is odd.
```