

MESS 2011 Python/ObsPy Introduction

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• ... we want to unify data from different sources in a common structure.

```
st = read("file.mseed")
st += read("file.sac")
st += client_arclink.getWaveform(...)
st += client_iris.getWaveform(...)
```



• ... they know how to behave by themselves if we tell them once.

```
utcdatetime + 10
st += st2
st.filter("lowpass", freq=1)
```



... there is less room for user errors.

```
#st = client.getWaveform(..., channel="BHZ")
st = client.getWaveform(..., channel="HHZ")
data = st[0].data

data = obspy.signal.lowpass(data, freq=1, df=20)
```



• ... the code gets much shorter and better readable.

How about...

```
st = read("file")
from obspy.signal import lowpass
num_traces = len(st)
for i in range(num_traces):
    df = st[i].stats.sampling_rate
    st[i].data = lowpass(st[i].data, freq=1, df=df)
```

...against:

```
st = read("file")
st.filter("lowpass", freq=1)
```



ObsPy Data Types – Overview

- UTCDateTime
 - extension of the Python datetime object
 - stores a time stamp
- Stats
 - extension of the Python dict object
 - stores header information of waveforms
- Trace
 - stores a single-channel, continuous piece of waveform data
 - consisting of waveform data and header information
- Stream
 - stores multiple traces (e.g. Z, N, E traces of one station)
- all of them defined in obspy.core
 - ▶ from obspy.core import UTCDateTime



ObsPy Data Types - UTCDateTime

- UTCDateTime
 - used to handle all time information in ObsPy
 - ▶ initialize via

```
t = UTCDateTime("2011-02-21T08:00:00.00Z")
t = UTCDateTime(2011, 2, 21, 8)
```

•

- several attributes/methods
 - (e.g. t.microsecond, t.julday, t.weekday(), ...)
- ▶ important operations
 - subtracting two UTCDateTime objects gives time difference in seconds
 - ► adding/subtracting int/float returns new UTCDateTime object
- ► see ObsPy documentation



Exercises - UTCDateTime

- the morning sessions start at 8 and are 3 hours..
 we are superstitious and want to have the coffee break 1234 seconds and 5 microseconds before the session ends. What time is the break?
- assume you had your last cup of coffee yesterday at breakfast. How many minutes did you last with that cup of coffee?
- how many days from today is your birthday this year?
- what day of week is it?
- you want to have your birthday party at the first saturday after your birthday, what date is the party?
- some of your friends always seem to find an excuse not to come..
 for the next fifty years print the date of your party sticking to that scheme
- again, we are superstitious and do not leave the house on friday 13th..
 print a list of dates and count the days we have to take off from now till the end of next year..



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ObsPy Data Types - Stats

- Stats header information for waveform data
 - contains at least the following keys
 - stats.network network code (str)
 - stats.station station code (str)
 - stats.location location code (str)
 - stats.channel channel code (str)
 - stats.starttime time of first sample (UTCDateTime)
 - stats.sampling_rate sampling rate in Hz (float)
 - stats.npts number of samples (int)
 - derived keys
 - stats.endtime time of last sample (UTCDateTime)
 - stats.delta time interval between two samples (float)
 - optional keys
 - stats._format format of original data file (str, e.g. "MSEED")
 - stats.paz poles, zeros, sensitivity and gain of instrument (dict)
 - ▶ stats.coordinates longitude, latitude and elevation of station (dict)
 - **.**..
 - see ObsPy documentation



ObsPy Data Types - Trace

- Trace continuous waveform data
 - ▶ usually constructed internally during read(...) or getWaveform(...)
 - consists of
 - tr.data waveform data as a numpy.ndarray instance
 - tr.stats header information as a Stats instance
 - ▶ built-in methods
 - ▶ tr.id complete channel id in SEED standard (e.g. "BW.RJOB..BHZ")
 - tr.plot() shows preview plot of trace
 - tr.copy() returns copy of trace (most operations work in-place)
 - ▶ tr.trim(starttime, endtime) cut trace to specified time span
 - ▶ tr.filter("type", **kwargs) filter waveform data
 - tr.simulate(paz_remove, paz_simulate, **kwargs)
 apply instrument correction/simulation
 - ▶ tr.write("filename", "format") write waveform to local file
 - ▶ .
 - many built-in methods on tr.data (numpy.ndarray)!
 - ► see ObsPy documentation
 - ▶ see Numpy documentation ndarray



ObsPy Data Types - Stream

- Stream collection of Trace objects in a list-like container
 - ▶ usually returned by a read(...) or getWaveform(...) call
 - print st prints summary of all traces
 - ▶ print len(st) prints number of traces in stream
 - list-like operations
 - ▶ st[i] return trace at index i
 - st.append(tr) add a single trace
 - st.extend(st) add a list of traces
 - ▶ st.remove(tr) remove specified trace from stream
 - ▶ st.pop(i) remove trace at specified index and return it
 - st.sort(...) sort traces in stream according to specified criteria
 - other built-in methods
 - st.select(**kwargs)
 return new stream with matching traces (e.g. component="Z")
 - ▶ st.merge (method) merge traces with identical id
 - ► st.printGaps() prints summary of gaps in the stream
 - ▶ many built-in methods of Trace (trim, filter, simulate,...)
 - see ObsPy documentation



Getting Help..

IPython

- get help for a function: >>> command?
- have a look at the implementation: >>> command??
- search for variables/functions/modules starting with "ab": >>> ab<Tab>
- what's the value? >>> variable
- what's the type? >>> type (variable)
- which variables are assigned anyway?? >>> whos
- what attributes/methods are there? >>> variable.<Tab>
- get help for a variable's method: >>> variable.command?
- what functions are available in a module? >>> module.<Tab>



Getting Help..

- ObsPy web pages
 - ► Tutorial
 - ▶ http://obspy.org/wiki/ObspyTutorial
 - ► file:///home/messuser/obspy/tutorial/ObspyTutorial.html
 - ► API
 - ► http://docs.obspy.org/
 - ► file:///home/messuser/obspy/docs/index.html
- Python/Numpy/Scipy API
 - ▶ http://docs.python.org/
 - ▶ file:
 - ///home/messuser/obspy/python/python-docs/index.html
 - http://docs.scipy.org/doc/numpy/reference/
 - ► file:///home/messuser/obspy/python/numpy-docs/index.html
 - ► http://docs.scipy.org/doc/scipy/reference/
 - ► file:///home/messuser/obspy/python/scipy-docs/index.html



How to Work on the Practicals..

- Fither...
 - work line by line in IPython shell
 - when it's working: save history and condense it

```
>>> %history [number_of_lines] [-n] [-f output_file]
```

- or..
 - work on your program in a text editor
 - in a second window, run program in an IPython shell and continue work at the end

```
$ ipython -i
>>> run -i PROGRAM.PY
```

- (caution: best do this in a "fresh" IPython shell)
- extend program with appropriate lines of code and run it again in a new IPython shell