MATH6005 Introduction to Python. Lecture 3

January 23, 2019

3 Introduction to scientific programming using NumPy

3.1 Topics covered

- Python data science libraries
- Introduction to NumPy
- Numpy arrays (versus Lists)
- Creating 1D NumPy arrays
- Accessing data in numpy arrays
- NumPy dataTypes
- Data wrangling and analysis

3.2 Python data science libraries

There is a whole ecosystem of scientific python libraries built around manipulating, processing and visualising data

- NumPy the fundamental package for numerical computation
- SciPy library numerical algorithms and analysis toolboxes
- Matplotlib high quality 2D plotting tools
- Pandas high performance and easy to use data structures
- SciKit Learn Machine learning

3.3 The import statement (revision)

- The data science modules need to be imported into your Python script before you can us
- This is achieved using the import statement.

```
In [1]: import numpy as np
```

- Here we have imported the numpy package and aliased it as np
- The alias is a shorthand for accessing functions e.g.

1

3.4 Introduction to NumPy

- So far we have used a List for holding 'arrays' of data
- Lists are easy to use and very flexible

- The flexibility of a List means that they are not well suited to scientific computing
- NumPy provides optimised efficient code for managing data (typically quantitative data)
- NumPy is 'closer to the metal'
- For scientific computing you **should** use numpy instead of Python Lists

3.4.1 NumPy Arrays

• The fundermental building block of numpy is the numpy.ndarray

• It looks similar to a list.

In [6]: my_arr[0] = 'foo'

• Let's see what happens if we try to treat it as a List...

- NumPy array are **NOTHING** like a List.
- Array size and datatype are declared **upfront** and data are stored efficiently in memory.
- This improves performance sometimes dramatically.
- The consequences are that arrays only allow variables of 1 data type and size must be known in advance

3.4.2 NumPy Arrays are N-Dimensional

- You can think of a numpy.ndarray as a matrix
- E.g. you could have a (2 x 2) matrix

- Today we will focus on 1d
- We will cover > 1 dimension in the next lecture

3.5 Creating 1-Dimensional Arrays

• Pre-populated Arrays

- Sequences of numbers using np.arange
- Useful when testing code

- Create empty arrays
- NumPy fills it with random data from memory

• Create arrays of zeros

int64

- It is always a good idea to check the shape of your array
- This is useful for 1D and multi-dimentional arrays (covered in Lecture 4)

3.6 Useful properties of NumPy arrays for data science (1)

• Speed of computation

3.7 Useful properties of NumPy arrays for data science (2)

- You can think of a numpy.ndarray as a matrix
- NumPy makes matrix algebra very easy (minimal code) and fast

3.8 Accessing and manipulating data in an NumPy array

- **Tip**: NumPy is strict about datatypes.
- If you put a float (decimal number) into an integer array then it will be truncated

3.8.1 Accessing subsets using slicing

- Access subsets of arrays uses **slicing** notation
- array[start:end:step]
- start is included and end is excluded [start, end)
- **Tip**: if start or end are *ommitted* numpy uses the corresponding index for the start or end of the array
- **Tip**: Don't forget that arrays are **zero** indexed

Slicing: Example 1

```
• matrix = [10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15]
```

• Select array elements 3 through 4

Slicing: Example 2

- matrix = [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9]
- Select the last four elements of the array
- We can do this by ommitting the end parameter

- An alterative way to slice is to use negative notation
- Negative notation e.g. -x is interpreted as length of array x

```
In [25]: slice_matrix = complete_matrix[-4:]
         print('complete matrix: {0}'.format(complete_matrix))
         print('slice of matrix: {0}'.format(slice_matrix))
complete matrix: [0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9]
slice of matrix: [6 7 8 9]
   Slicing: Example 3
   • matrix = [10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19]
   • Select the first three elements of the array
In [13]: complete_matrix = np.arange(10, 20)
         slice_matrix = complete_matrix[0:3] #could also omit the start of 0
         print('original matrix: {0}'.format(complete_matrix))
         print('slice of matrix: {0}'.format(slice_matrix))
original matrix: [10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19]
slice of matrix: [10 11 12]
   • Alternative using negative notation
In [27]: slice_matrix = complete_matrix[0:-7]
         print('original matrix: {0}'.format(complete_matrix))
         print('slice of matrix: {0}'.format(slice_matrix))
original matrix: [10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19]
slice of matrix: [10 11 12]
3.8.2 Accessing data using fancy indexing
In [15]: indexes = [2, 4, 6]
         sub_matrix = complete_matrix[indexes]
         print('original matrix: {0}'.format(complete_matrix))
         print('sub matrix: {0}'.format(sub_matrix))
original matrix: [10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19]
sub matrix: [12 14 16]
```

Watch out!

• A slice is a **view** of the data. It is **not** a copy.

3.9 Practical Example of using NumPy for data analysis

ED attendance data

Data is held in the minor_illness_ed_attends.csv

Description: The number of patients registered at GP surgery who attend ED per week (standardised to 10k of registered patients).

We are going to:

- 1. Read in data from file into a numpy array (data is 1 dimensional)
- 2. Calculate some summary statistics (mean, stdev, percentiles)
- 3. Produce a frequency histogram
- 4. Analyse the mean attendences before week 10 and after and including week 10
- 5. Identify the top 5% of weeks of attendences for further investigation.

Step 1: Read in the data

Step 2: Calculate summary statistics

• NumPy makes it easy to calculate means, stdev and other summary statistics of ndarrays.

```
In [19]: def ed_summary_statistics(data):
             11 11 11
             Returns mean, stdev and 5/95 percentiles of ed data
             Keyword arguments:
             data -- 1d numpy.ndarray containing data to analyse
             mean = data.mean()
             std = data.std()
             min_attends = data.min()
             max_attends = data.max()
             per_95 = np.percentile(data, 95)
             return mean, std, min_attends, max_attends, per_95
In [20]: def print_summary_stats(mean, std, minimum, maximum, per_95):
             Prints summary statistics in formatted text.
             Keyword arguments:
             mean -- mean average
             std -- standard deviation
             minimum -- min value
             maximum -- max value
             print('Mean:\t{0:0.2f}'.format(mean))
             print('Stdev:\t{0:0.2f}'.format(std))
             print('Min:\t{0:0.2f}'.format(minimum))
             print('Max:\t{0:0.2f}'.format(maximum))
             print('95th:\t{0:0.2f}'.format(per_95))
In [41]: mean, std, min_attends, max_attends, per_95 = ed_summary_statistics(ed_data)
         print_summary_stats(mean, std, min_attends, max_attends, per_95)
Mean:
             2.92
Stdev:
              0.71
            1.62
Min:
            5.11
Max:
             3.99
95th:
In [26]: stats = ed_summary_statistics(ed_data)
         type(stats)
Out[26]: tuple
```

Step 4: Frequency histogram

- NumPy has a histogram function.
- You need to specify bins (frequency ranges) and supply the data

Step 5: Before and After analysis

```
In [38]: def sub_group_analysis(data, group_name):
            mean, std, min_attends, max_attends, per_95 = ed_summary_statistics(data)
            print('***{0}'.format(group_name))
            print_summary_stats(mean, std, min_attends, max_attends, per_95)
        week = 10 # the week the intervention begins
        sub_group_analysis(ed_data[0:week-1], 'before')
        sub_group_analysis(ed_data[week:], 'after')
***before
Mean:
            3.06
Stdev:
            0.57
          2.12
Min:
Max:
          3.99
95th:
            3.84
***after
           2.89
Mean:
Stdev:
           0.72
Min:
          1.62
Max:
          5.11
95th:
           3.97
```

Step 6: Find the top 5% of weeks

- A typical solution is to use a loop.
- NumPy privides the where function to simplify and speed up the process

```
In [40]: stats = ed_summary_statistics(ed_data)
#95th percentile is contained in index 4
per_95 = stats[4]
```

```
extreme_week = np.where(ed_data >= per_95)
print(extreme_week)

Out[40]: (array([10, 41, 65]),)
```

3.10 Labs

- You will get chance to practice using basic NumPy in the Labs
- Please have a go before the labs and ask us questions!
- You will need to use NumPy in your final assignment please learn how to use it now!
- Please come along to the correct lab!