NumPy Introduction

What is NumPy?

NumPy is a Python library used for working with arrays.

It also has functions for working in domain of linear algebra, fourier transform, and matrices.

NumPy was created in 2005 by Travis Oliphant. It is an open source project and you can use it freely.

NumPy stands for Numerical Python.

Why Use NumPy?

In Python we have lists that serve the purpose of arrays, but they are slow to process.

NumPy aims to provide an array object that is up to 50x faster than traditional Python lists.

The array object in NumPy is called `ndarray`, it provides a lot of supporting functions that make working with `ndarray` very easy.

Arrays are very frequently used in data science, where speed and resources are very important.

Import NumPy

Once NumPy is installed, import it in your applications by adding the import keyword:

```
import numpy
```

Now NumPy is imported and ready to use.

Example

```
import numpy
arr = numpy.array([1, 2, 3, 4, 5])
print(arr)
```

NumPy as np

NumPy is usually imported under the np alias.

alias: In Python alias are an alternate name for referring to the same thing.

Create an alias with the as keyword while importing:

import numpy as np

Now the NumPy package can be referred to as np instead of numpy.

Example

```
import numpy as np
arr = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4, 5])
print(arr)
```

Checking NumPy Version

The version string is stored under __version__ attribute.

Example

```
import numpy as np
print(np.__version__)
```

NumPy Creating Arrays

Create a NumPy ndarray Object

NumPy is used to work with arrays. The array object in NumPy is called ndarray.

We can create a NumPy ndarray object by using the array() function.

Example

```
import numpy as np

arr = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4, 5])

print(arr)

print(type(arr))
```

type(): This built-in Python function tells us the type of the object passed to it. Like in above code it shows that arr is numpy.ndarray type.

To create an ndarray, we can pass a list, tuple or any array-like object into the array() method, and it will be converted into an ndarray:

Example

Use a tuple to create a NumPy array:

```
import numpy as np

arr = np.array((1, 2, 3, 4, 5))

print(arr)
```

Dimensions in Arrays

A dimension in arrays is one level of array depth (nested arrays).

nested array: are arrays that have arrays as their elements.

0-D Arrays

0-D arrays, or Scalars, are the elements in an array. Each value in an array is a 0-D array

Example

Create a 0-D array with value 42

```
import numpy as np

arr = np.array(42)

print(arr)
```

1-D Arrays

An array that has 0-D arrays as its elements is called uni-dimensional or 1-D array.

These are the most common and basic arrays.

Example

Create a 1-D array containing the values 1,2,3,4,5:

```
import numpy as np

arr = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4, 5])

print(arr)
```

2-D Arrays

An array that has 1-D arrays as its elements is called a 2-D array.

These are often used to represent matrix or 2nd order tensors.

NumPy has a whole sub module dedicated towards matrix operations called numpy.mat

Example

Create a 2-D array containing two arrays with the values 1,2,3 and 4,5,6:

```
import numpy as np

arr = np.array([[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6]])

print(arr)
```

Check Number of Dimensions?

NumPy Arrays provides the ndim attribute that returns an integer that tells us how many dimensions the array have.

Example

Check how many dimensions the arrays have:

```
import numpy as np

a = np.array(42)

b = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4, 5])

c = np.array([[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6]])

d = np.array([[[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6]], [[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6]]])

print(a.ndim)

print(b.ndim)

print(c.ndim)

print(d.ndim)
```

NumPy Array Indexing

Access Array Elements

Array indexing is the same as accessing an array element.

You can access an array element by referring to its index number.

The indexes in NumPy arrays start with 0, meaning that the first element has index 0, and the second has index 1 etc.

Example

Get the first element from the following array:

```
import numpy as np

arr = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4])

print(arr[0])
```

Example

Get the second element from the following array.

```
import numpy as np

arr = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4])

print(arr[1])
```

Access 2-D Arrays

To access elements from 2-D arrays we can use comma separated integers representing the dimension and the index of the element.

Think of 2-D arrays like a table with rows and columns, where the dimension represents the row and the index represents the column.

Example

Access the element on the first row, second column:

```
import numpy as np

arr = np.array([[1,2,3,4,5], [6,7,8,9,10]])

print('2nd element on 1st row: ', arr[0, 1])
```

Example

Access the element on the 2nd row, 5th column:

```
import numpy as np

arr = np.array([[1,2,3,4,5], [6,7,8,9,10]])

print('5th element on 2nd row: ', arr[1, 4])
```

Access 3-D Arrays

To access elements from 3-D arrays we can use comma separated integers representing the dimensions and the index of the element.

Example

Access the third element of the second array of the first array:

```
import numpy as np
arr = np.array([[[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6]], [[7, 8, 9], [10, 11, 12]]])
print(arr[0, 1, 2])
```

Negative Indexing

Use negative indexing to access an array from the end.

Example

Print the last element from the 2nd dim:

```
import numpy as np
arr = np.array([[1,2,3,4,5], [6,7,8,9,10]])
print('Last element from 2nd dim: ', arr[1, -1])
```