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ImportError: cannot import name NUMPY_MKL

Ask Question

I am trying to run the following simple code

```
import scipy
scipy.test()
```

But I am getting the following error

```
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
  File "C:\Python27\lib\site-packages\spyderlib\widgets\externalshell\sitecustomize.py",
line 586, in runfile
    execfile(filename, namespace)
  File "C:/Users/Mustafa/Documents/My Python Code/SpectralGraphAnalysis/main.py", line 8,
in <module>
    import scipy
  File "C:\Python27\lib\site-packages\scipy\__init__.py", line 61, in <module>
    from numpy._distributor_init import import NUMPY_MKL # requires numpy+mkl
ImportError: cannot import name NUMPY_MKL
```

I am using python 2.7 under windows 10.

I have installed `scipy` but that does not seem to solve the problem

Any help is appreciated.

`python` `windows` `python-2.7` `numpy` `scipy`

edited Jun 4 '17 at 5:23

asked May 17 '16 at 4:52

Steve
555 1 4 12

7 Answers

If you look at the line which is causing the error, you'll see this:

```
from numpy._distributor_init import import NUMPY_MKL # requires numpy+mkl
```

This line comment states the dependency as `numpy+mkl` (`numpy` with [Intel Math Kernel Library](#)). This means that you've installed the `numpy` by `pip`, but the `scipy` was installed by precompiled archive, which expects `numpy+mkl`.

This problem can be easily solved by installation for `numpy+mkl` from whl file from [here](#).

edited Aug 22 '16 at 15:07

answered May 17 '16 at 16:03

VMAtm
23.2k 15 59 78

5 This solution worked for me running Python 2.7.10 on Windows – [ScottMcC](#) May 19 '16 at 2:17

2 @VMAtm Can we have both the installations of `numpy`(from `pip`) and `numpy+mkl`(from precompiled libs) in the same virtualenvs? – [StrawhatLuffy](#) May 20 '16 at 5:31

As far as I know, the answer is no. They are uninstalling each other, as it is a `numpy` at the end, only with some processor instructions (if I understand it well) – [VMAtm](#) May 20 '16 at 7:07

2 Solution worked perfectly on python 2.7 windows 7. Saved me a lot of time thank you a dozen! – [sel](#) Dec 14 '16 at 11:11

`pip install <numpy wheel path> --user` worked for me as I was getting permission issue. – [Amit Kumar](#) Feb 28 '17 at 12:49

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Reinstall `numpy-1.11.0_XXX.whl` (for your Python) from www.lfd.uci.edu/~gohlke/pythonlibs. This file has the same name and version if compare with the variant downloaded by me earlier 29.03.2016, but its size and content differ from old variant. After re-installation error disappeared.

Second option - return back to `scipy 0.17.0` from `0.17.1`

P.S. I use Windows 64-bit version of Python 3.5.1, so can't guarantee that `numpy` for Python 2.7 is already corrected.

edited May 18 '16 at 8:36

answered May 18 '16 at 8:31

Andrew
502 1 5 9

I'm not sure if this is a good solution but it removed the error. I commented out the line:

```
from numpy._distributor_init import import NUMPY_MKL
```

and it worked. Not sure if this will cause other features to break though

answered Jun 24 '16 at 19:17

Lenny
185 8

3 :) The interesting thing is that it really works and there is no such line in the linux version of `scipy`. – [dmitry](#) Jul 14 '16 at 7:20


Solution: If you are using windows make sure you install numpy+mkl instead of just numpy. If you have already installed scipy and numpy, uninstall then using "pip uninstall scipy" and "pip uninstall numpy"

Then download numpy-1.13.1+mkl-cp34-cp34m-win32.whl from <http://www.lfd.uci.edu/~gohlke/pythonlibs/#numpy> and install using pip install numpy-1.13.1+mkl-cp34-cp34m-win32.whl Note: in cp34-cp34m 34 represent the version of python you are using, so download the relevant version.

Now download scipy from <http://www.lfd.uci.edu/~gohlke/pythonlibs/#scipy> (appropriate version for your python and system) and install using "pip install scipy-0.19.1-cp34-cp34m-win32.whl"


Your numpy and Scipy both should work now. These binaries by Christoph Gohlke makes it very easy to install python packages on windows. But make sure you download all the dependent packages from there.

edited Jan 10 at 4:09
 lucid_dreamer
 154 1 9

answered Aug 10 '17 at 11:56
 user3046442
 159 2 6

I reverted to python 3.4 from 3.6 as i was having issues installing scipy with python 3.6 – user3046442 Aug 10 '17 at 11:58


The reason for the error is you upgraded your numpy library of which there are some functionalities from scipy that are required by the current version for it to run which may not be found in scipy. Just upgrade your scipy library using python -m pip install scipy --upgrade. I was facing the same error and this solution worked on my python 3.5.


answered Apr 7 at 6:04
 Simbarashe Mupfurrurwa
 11 4

From your log its clear that `numpy` package is missing. As mention in the [PyPI package](#):

The SciPy library depends on NumPy, which provides convenient and fast N-dimensional array manipulation.

So, try installing `numpy` package for python as you did with `scipy`.

edited May 17 '16 at 5:03
 JRodDynamite
 7,652 2 21 41

answered May 17 '16 at 4:58
 manoj prashant k
 119 9

3 I also had that installed. For some reason I had to close Spyder and run it again and that solved the problem. Thanks anyway. – Steve May 17 '16 at 5:05

2 This error arises even if numpy is present, if numpy has not been compiled with MKL support. – KDN Jan 12 '17 at 19:38

Worked. thanks my scikit was from [lfd.uci.edu/~gohlke/pythonlibs](http://www.lfd.uci.edu/~gohlke/pythonlibs) So had to use the numpy from the same distro – Anuvrat Tiku Jul 9 '17 at 14:15

I recently got the same error when trying to load scipy in jupyter (python3.x, win10), although just having upgraded to numpy-1.13.3+mkl through pip. The solution was to simply upgrade the scipy package (from v0.19 to v1.0.0).

answered Dec 8 '17 at 9:35
 E. V.
 23 1 7

I just wanted to provide a fix I used when encountering a very similar problem. – E. V. Dec 8 '17 at 12:22