Thinking about Problems

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§ 1 Introduction

During preparation for this outline, an article published by the *Mathematical Association of America* caught my attention, in which mathematics is referred to as the *Science of Patterns* [5], this I feel, frames very well the essence of the research we are looking at in this project. Mathematics, generally, is primarily concerned with problem solving (that isn't, however, to say that the problems need to have any application¹), and it's fairly obvious that different strategies work better for different problems. That's what we want to investigate, Different to attack a problem, different ways of thinking, different ways of framing questions.

¹Although Hardy made a good defence of pure math in his 1940s Apology [6], it isn't rare at all for pure math to be found applications, for example much number theory was probably seen as fairly pure before RSA Encryption [12].

The central focus of this investigation will be with computer algebra and the various libraries and packages that exist in the free open source ² space to solve and visualise numeric and symbolic problems, these include:

- Programming Languages and CAS
 - Julia
 - * SymEngine
 - Maxima
 - * Being the oldest there is probably a lot too learn
 - Julia
 - Reduce
 - Xcas/Gias
 - Python
 - * Numpy
 - * Sympy
- Visualisation
 - Makie
 - Plotly
 - GNUPlot

Many problems that look complex upon initial inspection can be solved trivially by using computer algebra packages and our interest is in the different approaches that can be taken to *attack* each problem. Of course however this leads to the question:

Can all mathematical problems be solved by some application of some set of rules?

This is not really a question that we can answer, however, determinism with respect to systems is appears to make a very good area of investigation with respect to finding ways to deal with problems.

This is not an easy question to answer, however, while investigating this problem

Determinism

Are problems deterministic? can the be broken down into a step by step way? For example if we *discover all the rules* can we then simply solve all the problems?

chaos to look at patterns generally to get a deeper understanding of patterns and problems, loops and recursion generally.

To investigate different ways of thinking about math problems our investigation

laplaces demon

but then heisenberg,

but then chaos and meh.

¶ 1.1 Preliminary Problems

1.1.1 Recursion

1.1.2 Iteration and Recursion

To illustrate an example of different ways of thinking about a problem, consider the series shown in $(1)^3$:

²Although proprietary software such as Magma, Mathematica and Maple is very good, the restrictive licence makes them undesirable for study because there is no means by which to inspect the problem solving tecniques implemented, build on top of the work and moreover the lock-in nature of the software makes it a risky investment with respect to time.

³This problem is taken from Project A (44) of Dr. Hazrat's Mathematica: A Problem Centred Approach [7]

$$g(k) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{3}}}{3} \frac{\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{3 + \sqrt{4}}}}{4} \cdot \dots \frac{\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{3 + \dots + \sqrt{k}}}}{k}$$
(1)

let's modify this for the sake of discussion:

$$h(k) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{3 + \sqrt{2}}}{3} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{4 + \sqrt{3 + \sqrt{2}}}}{4} \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{\sqrt{k + \sqrt{k - 1 + \dots \sqrt{3 + \sqrt{2}}}}}{k}$$
(2)

The function h can be expressed by the series:

$$h(k) = \prod_{i=2}^{k} \left(\frac{f_i}{i}\right)$$
 : $f_i = \sqrt{i + f_{i-1}}, f_1 = 1$

Within Python, it isn't difficult to express h, the series can be expressed with recursion as shown in listing 1, this is a very natural way to define series and sequences and is consistent with familiar mathematical thought and notation. Individuals more familiar with programming than analysis may find it more comfortable to use an iterator as shown in listing 2.

```
from sympy import *
   def h(k):
        if k > 2:
            return f(k) * f(k-1)
        else:
            return 1
   def f(i):
9
        expr = 0
        if i > 2:
10
            return sqrt(i + f(i -1))
11
        else:
12
            return 1
13
```

Listing 1: Solving (2) using recursion.

```
from sympy import *
def h(k):
    k = k + 1 # OBOB
    l = [f(i) for i in range(1,k)]
    return prod(1)

def f(k):
    expr = 0
    for i in range(2, k+2):
        expr = sqrt(i + expr, evaluate=False)
    return expr/(k+1)
```

Listing 2: Solving (2) by using a for loop.

Any function that can be defined by using iteration, can always be defined via recursion and vice versa, [4, 3] see also [11,

there is, however, evidence to suggest that recursive functions are easier for people to understand [2]. Although independent research has shown that the specific language chosen can have a bigger effect on how well recursive as opposed to iterative code is understood [10].

The relevant question is which method is often more appropriate, generally the process for determining which is more appropriate is to the effect of:

- 1. Write the problem in a way that is easier to write or is more appropriate for demonstration
- 2. If performance is a concern then consider restructuring in favour of iteration
 - For interpreted languages such **R** and **Python**, loops are usually faster, because of the overheads involved in creating functions [11] although there may be exceptions to this and I'm not sure if this would be true for compiled languages such as **Julia**, **Java**, **C** etc.

Some Functions are more difficult to express with Recursion in

Attacking a problem recursively isn't always the best approach, consider the function g(k) from (1):

$$g(k) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \cdot \frac{\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{3}}}{3} \frac{\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{3 + \sqrt{4}}}}{4} \cdot \dots \frac{\sqrt{2 + \sqrt{3 + \dots + \sqrt{k}}}}{k}$$
$$= \prod_{i=2}^{k} \left(\frac{f_i}{i}\right) \quad : \quad f_i = \sqrt{i + f_{i+1}}$$

Observe that the difference between (1) and (2) is that the sequence essentially *looks* forward, not back. To solve using a for loop, this distinction is a non-concern because the list can be reversed using a built-in such as rev, reversed or reverse in *Python*, R and *Julia* respectively, which means the same expression can be implemented.

To implement recursion however, the series needs to be restructured and this can become a little clumsy, see (3):

$$g(k) = \prod_{i=2}^{k} \left(\frac{f_i}{i}\right) : f_i = \sqrt{(k-i) + f_{k-i-1}}$$
 (3)

Now the function could be performed recursively in Python in a similar way as shown in listing 3, but it's also significantly more confusing because the f function now has k as a parameter and this is only made significantly more complicated by the variable scope of functions across common languages used in Mathematics and Data science such as bash, Python, R and Julia (see section 1.1.3).

If however, the for loop approach was implemented, as shown in listing 4, the function would not significantly change, because the reversed() function can be used to flip the list around.

What this demonstrates is that taking a different approach to simply describing this function can lead to big differences in the complexity involved in solving this problem.

1.1.3 Variable Scope of Nested Functions

§ 2 Outline

- 1. Intro Prob
- 2. Variable Scope
- 3. Problem Showing Recursion
 - All Different Methods
 - Discuss all Different Methods
 - Discuss Vectorisation

```
from sympy import *
   def h(k):
       if k > 2:
            return f(k, k) * f(k, k-1)
       else:
            return 1
   def f(k, i):
9
       if k > i:
           return 1
10
       if i > 2:
11
           return sqrt((k-i) + f(k, k - i -1))
       else:
13
            return 1
14
```

Listing 3: Using Recursion to Solve (1)

```
from sympy import *
def h(k):
    k = k + 1 # OBOB
    l = [f(i) for i in range(1,k)]
    return prod(1)

def f(k):
    expr = 0
    for i in reversed(range(2, k+2)):
        expr = sqrt(i + expr, evaluate=False)
    return expr/(k+1)
```

Listing 4: Using Iteration to Solve (1)

- Is this needed in Julia
- Comment on Faster to go column Wise
- 4. Discuss Loops
- 5. Show Rug
- 6. Fibonacci
 - The ratio of fibonacci converges to ϕ
 - Golden Ratio
 - If you make a rectangle with the golden ratio you can cut it up under recursion to get another one, keep doing
 this and eventually a logarithmic spiral pops out, also the areas follow a fibonacci sequence.
- 7. Discuss isomorphisms for recursive Relations
- 8. Jump to Lorenz Attractor
- 9. Now Talk about Morphogenesis
- 10. Fractals
 - Many Occur in Nature
 - Mountain Ranges, compare to MandelBrot
 - Sun Flowers
 - Show the golden Ratio
 - Fractals are all about recursion and iteration, so this gives me an excuse to look at them
 - Show MandelBrot
 - * Python
 - · Sympy Slow
 - · Numpy Fast
 - * Julia brings Both Benefits
 - · Show Large MandelBrot
 - * Show Julia Set
 - · Show Julia Set Gif
- 11. Things I'd like to show
 - Simulate stripes and animal patterns
 - Show some math behind spirals in Nautilus Shells
 - Golden Rectangle
 - Throw in some recursion
 - Watch the spiral come out
 - Record the areas and show that they are Fibonacci
 - That the ratio of Fibonacci Converges to Phi
 - What on Earth is the Reimann Sphere
 - Lorrenz Attractor
 - How is this connected to the lorrenz attractor
 - What are the connections between discrete iteration and continuous systems such as the julia set and the lorrenz attractor
- 12. Things I'd like to Try (in order to see different ways to approach Problems)
 - Programming Languages and CAS

- Julia
 - * SymEngine
- Maxima
- Julia
- Visualisation
 - Makie
 - Plotly
 - GNUPlot

§ 3 Download RevealJS

So first do M-x package-install ox-reveal then do M-x load-library and then look for ox-reveal

```
1 (load "/home/ryan/.emacs.d/.local/straight/build/ox-reveal/ox-reveal.el")
```

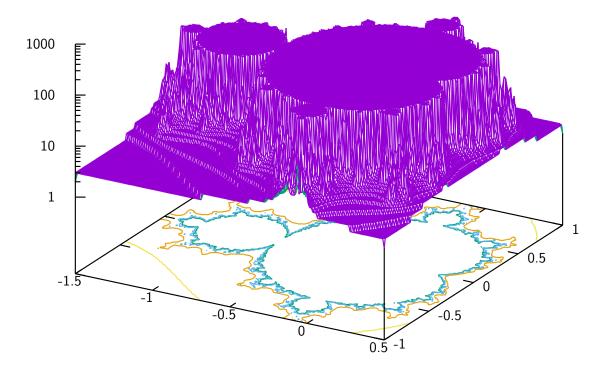
Download Reveal.js and put it in the directory as ./reveal.js, you can do that with something like this:

```
# cd /home/ryan/Dropbox/Studies/2020Spring/QuantProject/Current/Python-Quant/Outline/
wget https://github.com/hakimel/reveal.js/archive/master.tar.gz
tar -xzvf master.tar.gz && rm master.tar.gz
mv reveal.js-master reveal.js
```

Then just do C-c e e R R to export with RevealJS as opposed to PHP you won't need a fancy server, just open it in the browser.

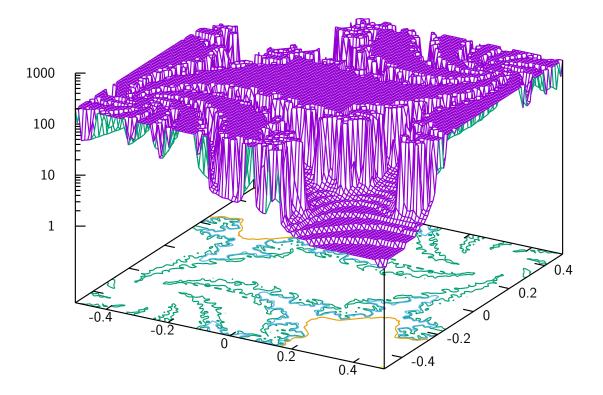
§ 4 GNU Plot

limit of recursion is 250

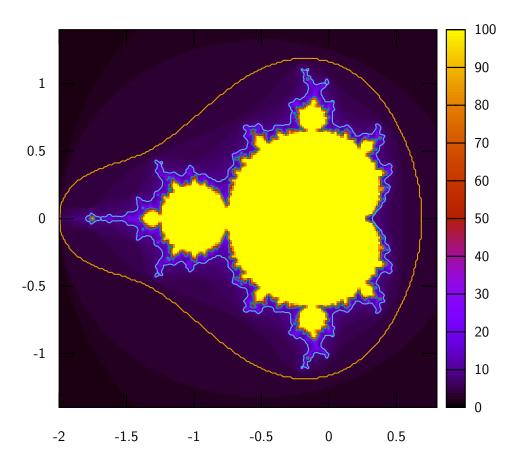


reference for image

#+begin_{src} gnuplot



reference



§ 5 Heres a Gif

So this is a very big Gif that I'm using:

How did I make the Gif??

https://dl.dropboxusercontent.com/s/rbu25urfg8sbwfu/out.gif?dl=0

§ 6 Give a brief Sketch of the project

code /home/ryan/Dropbox/Studies/QuantProject/Current/Python-Quant/ & disown

Here's what I gatthered from the week 3 slides

¶ 6.1 Topic / Context

We are interested in the theory of problem solving, but in particular the different approaches that can be taken to attacking a problem.

Essentially this boils down to looking at how a computer scientist and mathematician attack a problem, although originally I thought there was no difference, after seeing the odd way Roozbeh attacks problems I see there is a big difference.

¶ 6.2 Motivation

¶ 6.3 Basic Ideas

- Look at FOSS CAS Systems
 - Python (Sympy)
 - Julia
 - * Sympy integration
 - * symEngine
 - * Reduce.jl
 - * Symata.jl
- Maybe look at interactive sessions:
 - Like Jupyter
 - Hydrogen
 - TeXmacs
 - org-mode?

After getting an overview of SymPy let's look at problems that are interesting (chaos, morphogenesis and order from disarray etc.)

¶ 6.4 Where are the Mathematics

- Trying to look at the algorithms underlying functions in Python/Sympy and other Computer algebra tools such as Maxima, Maple, Mathematica, Sage, GAP and Xcas/Giac, Yacas, Symata.jl, Reduce.jl, SymEngine.jl
 - For Example Recursive Relations
- Look at solving some problems related to chaos theory maybe
 - Mandelbrot and Julia Sets
- Look at solving some problems related to Fourier Transforms maybe

AVOID DETAILS, JUST SKETCH THE PROJECT OUT.

¶ 6.5 Don't Forget we need a talk

6.5.1 Slides In Org Mode

- Without Beamer
- With Beamer

§ 7 Undecided

7.0.1 Determinant

Computational thinking can be useful in problems related to modelling, consider for example some matrix $n \times n$ matrix B_n described by (4):

$$b_{ij} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2j - i^2}, & \text{if } i > j\\ \frac{i}{i - j} + \frac{1}{n^2 - j - i}, & \text{if } j > i\\ 0 & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$$

$$(4)$$

Is there a way to predict the determinant of such a matrix for large values?

From the perspective of linear algebra this is an immensely difficult problem and there isn't really a clear place to start. From a numerical modelling perspective however, as will be shown, this a fairly trivial problem.

Create the Matrix

Using *Python* and numpy, a matrix can be generated as an array and by iterating through each element of the matrix values can be attributed like so:

```
import numpy as np
n = 2
mymat = np.empty([n, n])
for i in range(mymat.shape[0]):
for j in range(mymat.shape[1]):
print("(" + str(i) + "," + str(j) + ")")
```

(0,0) (0,1)

(1,0)

(1,1)

and so to assign the values based on the condition in (4), an if test can be used:

```
def BuildMat(n):
         mymat = np.empty([n, n])
2
         for i in range(n):
3
              for j in range(n):
                  # Increment i and j by one because they count from zero
                  i += 1; j += 1
                  if (i > j):
                      v = 1/(2*j - i**2)
                  elif (j > i):
9
                      v = 1/(i-j) + 1/(n**2 - j - i)
10
                  else:
12
                  # Decrement i and j so the index lines up
                  i -= 1; j -= 1
14
                  mymat[j, i] = v
15
16
         return mymat
17
     BuildMat(3)
```

Find the Determinant

Python, being an object orientated language has methods belonging to objects of different types, in this case the linalg method has a det function that can be used to return the determinant of any given matrix like so:

```
def detMat(n):
    ## Sympy
    # return Determinant(BuildMat(n)).doit()
    ## Numpy
    return np.linalg.det(BuildMat(n))
    detMat(3)
```

Listing 5: Building a Function to return the determinant of the matrix described in (4)

-0.11928571428571424

Find the Determinant of Various Values

To solve this problem, all that needs to be considered is the size of the n and the corresponding determinant, this could be expressed as a set as shown in (??):

$$\left\{ \det\left(M(n) \right) \mid M \in \mathbb{Z}^{+} \le 30 \right\} \tag{5}$$

where:

• M is a function that transforms an integer to a matrix as per (4)

Although describing the results as a set (5) is a little odd, it is consistent with the idea of list and set comprehension in *Python* [1] and *Julia* [9] as shown in listing 6

Generate a list of values Using the function created in listing 5, a corresponding list of values can be generated:

```
def detMat(n):
    return abs(np.linalg.det(BuildMat(n)))

# We double all numbers using map()
result = map(detMat, range(30))

# print(list(result))
[round(num, 3) for num in list(result)]
```

Listing 6: Generate a list using list-comprehension

```
[1.0,
0.0,
0.0,
```

```
0.119,
0.035,
0.018,
0.013,
0.01,
0.008,
0.006,
0.005,
0.004,
0.004,
0.003,
0.003,
0.002,
0.002,
0.002,
0.002,
0.001,
0.001,
0.001,
0.001,
0.001,
0.001,
0.001,
0.001,
0.001,
0.001,
0.001]
```

Create a Data Frame

```
Matrix.Size Determinant.Value
                            1.000000
1
               1
                            0.000000
2
               2
                            0.000000
3
               3
                            0.119286
4
               4
                            0.035258
5
               5
                            0.018062
6
               6
                            0.013023
7
               7
                            0.009959
8
               8
                            0.007822
9
               9
                            0.006288
              10
                            0.005158
10
11
              11
                            0.004304
```

```
12
              12
                             0.003645
13
              13
                             0.003125
14
              14
                             0.002708
15
              15
                             0.002369
16
              16
                             0.002090
17
              17
                             0.001857
              18
18
                             0.001661
19
              19
                             0.001494
20
              20
                             0.001351
                             0.001228
21
              21
22
              22
                             0.001121
23
              23
                             0.001027
24
              24
                             0.000945
25
              25
                             0.000872
26
              26
                             0.000807
27
              27
                             0.000749
28
              28
                             0.000697
29
              29
                             0.000650
```

Plot the Data frame Observe that it is necessary to use copy, *Julia* and *Python* **unlike** *Mathematica* and *R* only create links between data, they do not create new objects, this can cause headaches when rounding data.

```
from plotnine import *
     import copy
2
3
     df_plot = copy.copy(df[3:])
4
     df_plot['Determinant.Value'] = df_plot['Determinant.Value'].astype(float).round(3)
     df_plot
6
     (
          ggplot(df_plot, aes(x = 'Matrix.Size', y = 'Determinant.Value')) +
9
              geom_point() +
10
              theme_bw() +
11
              labs(x = "Matrix Size", y = "|Determinant Value|") +
12
              ggtitle('Magnitude of Determinant Given Matrix Size')
13
14
     )
15
```

```
<ggplot: (8770001690691)>
```

In this case it appears that the determinant scales exponentially, we can attempt to model that linearly using scikit, this is significantly more complex than simply using R. $^{\circ}$ Irpy

```
import numpy as np
     import matplotlib.pyplot as plt # To visualize
2
     import pandas as pd # To read data
     from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
4
5
     df_slice = df[3:]
6
7
     X = df_slice.iloc[:, 0].values.reshape(-1, 1) # values converts it into a numpy array
8
     Y = df_slice.iloc[:, 1].values.reshape(-1, 1) # -1 means that calculate the dimension
9
      \hookrightarrow of rows, but have 1 column
     linear_regressor = LinearRegression() # create object for the class
10
     linear_regressor.fit(X, Y) # perform linear regression
11
     Y_pred = linear_regressor.predict(X) # make predictions
12
13
14
15
     plt.scatter(X, Y)
16
     plt.plot(X, Y_pred, color='red')
17
     plt.show()
18
```

```
array([5.37864677])
```

Log Transform the Data

The log function is actually provided by sympy, to do this quicker in numpy use np.log()

```
# # # pyperclip.copy(df.columns[0])
# #df['Determinant.Value'] =
# #[ np.log(val) for val in df['Determinant.Value']]

df_log = df

df_log['Determinant.Value'] = [ np.log(val) for val in df['Determinant.Value'] ]
```

In order to only have well defined values, consider only after size 3

```
1    df_plot = df_log[3:]
2    df_plot
```

```
Matrix.Size Determinant.Value
3
              3
                          -2.126234
4
              4
                          -3.345075
5
              5
                          -4.013934
6
              6
                          -4.341001
7
              7
                          -4.609294
8
              8
                          -4.850835
9
              9
                          -5.069048
10
             10
                          -5.267129
             11
                          -5.448099
11
              12
12
                          -5.614501
```

```
13
              13
                           -5.768414
14
              14
                           -5.911529
15
              15
                           -6.045230
              16
16
                           -6.170659
17
              17
                           -6.288765
18
              18
                           -6.400347
              19
19
                           -6.506082
20
              20
                           -6.606547
21
              21
                           -6.702237
22
              22
                           -6.793585
23
              23
                           -6.880964
24
              24
                           -6.964704
25
              25
                           -7.045094
26
              26
                           -7.122390
27
              27
                           -7.196822
28
              28
                           -7.268592
29
              29
                           -7.337885
```

A limitation of the Python plotnine library (compared to Ggplot2 in R) is that it isn't possible to round values in the aesthetics layer, a further limitation with pandas also exists when compared to R that makes rounding data very clusy to do.

In order to round data use the numpy library:

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
df_plot['Determinant.Value'] = df_plot['Determinant.Value'].astype(float).round(3)
df_plot
```

```
Matrix.Size
                   Determinant. Value
3
               3
                                -2.126
4
                                -3.345
               4
               5
5
                                -4.014
6
               6
                                -4.341
7
               7
                                -4.609
8
               8
                               -4.851
9
               9
                               -5.069
10
              10
                               -5.267
11
              11
                               -5.448
12
              12
                               -5.615
              13
                               -5.768
13
14
              14
                                -5.912
              15
                                -6.045
15
16
              16
                                -6.171
17
              17
                                -6.289
18
              18
                                -6.400
19
              19
                               -6.506
20
              20
                                -6.607
21
              21
                                -6.702
22
              22
                               -6.794
              23
23
                               -6.881
24
              24
                               -6.965
25
              25
                               -7.045
26
              26
                               -7.122
27
              27
                               -7.197
              28
                               -7.269
28
```

<ggplot: (8770002281897)>

```
from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
2
     df_slice = df_plot[3:]
3
     X = df_slice.iloc[:, 0].values.reshape(-1, 1) # values converts it into a numpy array
5
     Y = df_slice.iloc[:, 1].values.reshape(-1, 1) # -1 means that calculate the dimension
      \rightarrow of rows, but have 1 column
     linear_regressor = LinearRegression() # create object for the class
     linear_regressor.fit(X, Y) # perform linear regression
     Y_pred = linear_regressor.predict(X) # make predictions
9
10
11
12
     plt.scatter(X, Y)
13
     plt.plot(X, Y_pred, color='red')
14
     plt.show()
15
```

```
m = linear_regressor.fit(X, Y).coef_[0][0]
b = linear_regressor.fit(X, Y).intercept_[0]

print("y = " + str(m.round(2)) + "* x" + str(b.round(2)))
```

```
y = -0.12* x-4.02
```

So the model is:

$$abs(Det(M)) = -4n - 0.12$$

where:

• *n* is the size of the square matrix

To find the largest percentage error for $n \in [30, 50]$ it will be necessary to calculate the determinants for the larger range, compressing all the previous steps and calculating the model based on the larger amount of data:

```
import pandas as pd
2
     data = {'Matrix.Size': range(30, 50),
             'Determinant.Value': list(map(detMat, range(30, 50)))
4
5
     df = pd.DataFrame(data, columns = ['Matrix.Size', 'Determinant.Value'])
6
     df['Determinant.Value'] = [ np.log(val) for val in df['Determinant.Value']]
     from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
9
10
11
     X = df.iloc[:, 0].values.reshape(-1, 1) # values converts it into a numpy array
12
     Y = df.iloc[:, 1].values.reshape(-1, 1) # -1 means that calculate the dimension of
13
     → rows, but have 1 column
     linear_regressor = LinearRegression() # create object for the class
14
     linear_regressor.fit(X, Y) # perform linear regression
15
     Y_pred = linear_regressor.predict(X) # make predictions
17
     m = linear_regressor.fit(X, Y).coef_[0][0]
18
     b = linear_regressor.fit(X, Y).intercept_[0]
19
20
     print("y = " + str(m.round(2)) + "* x" + str(b.round(2)))
^{21}
```

```
y = -0.05 * x-5.92
```

```
Y_hat = linear_regressor.predict(X)
res_per = (Y - Y_hat)/Y_hat
res_per
```

```
array([[-5.41415364e-03],
       [-3.51384602e-03],
       [-1.90798428e-03],
       [-5.74487234e-04],
       [ 5.06726599e-04],
       [ 1.35396448e-03],
       [ 1.98395424e-03],
       [ 2.41201322e-03],
       [ 2.65219545e-03],
       [ 2.71742022e-03],
       [ 2.61958495e-03],
       [ 2.36966444e-03],
       [ 1.97779855e-03],
       [ 1.45336983e-03],
       [ 8.05072416e-04],
       [ 4.09734813e-05],
       [-8.31432011e-04],
       [-1.80517224e-03],
```

```
[-2.87375452e-03],
[-4.03112573e-03]])
```

```
max_res = np.max(res_per)
max_ind = np.where(res_per == max_res)[0][0] + 30

print("The Maximum Percentage error is " + str(max_res.round(4) * 100) + "% which
corresponds to a matrix of size " + str(max_ind))
```

The Maximum Percentage error is 0.27% which corresponds to a matrix of size 39

§ 8 What we're looking for

- Would a reader know what the project is about?
- Would a reader become interested in the upcoming report?
- Is it brief but well prepared?
- Are the major parts or phases sketched out

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