Reading date and time data in Pandas

WORKING WITH DATES AND TIMES IN PYTHON



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A simple Pandas example

```
# Load Pandas
import pandas as pd
# Import W20529's rides in Q4 2017
rides = pd.read_csv('capital-onebike.csv')
```



A simple Pandas example

```
# See our data
print(rides.head(3))
```

```
End date
          Start date
                                                          Start station \
0 2017-10-01 15:23:25 2017-10-01 15:26:26
                                                   Glebe Rd & 11th St N
                                          George Mason Dr & Wilson Blvd
1 2017-10-01 15:42:57 2017-10-01 17:49:59
                                         George Mason Dr & Wilson Blvd
2 2017-10-02 06:37:10 2017-10-02 06:42:53
                           End station Bike number Member type
         George Mason Dr & Wilson Blvd
                                            W20529
                                                        Member
         George Mason Dr & Wilson Blvd
                                            W20529
                                                       Casual
   Ballston Metro / N Stuart & 9th St N
                                            W20529
                                                        Member
```



A simple Pandas example

```
rides['Start date']
      2017-10-01 15:23:25
     2017-10-01 15:42:57
Name: Start date, Length: 290, dtype: object
rides.iloc[2]
Start date
                                         2017-10-02 06:37:10
End date
                                         2017-10-02 06:42:53
```



Name: 1, dtype: object

Loading datetimes with parse_dates

Loading datetimes with parse_dates

```
# Select Start date for row 2
rides['Start date'].iloc[2]
```

Timestamp('2017-10-02 06:37:10')



Timezone-aware arithmetic

```
# Create a duration column
rides['Duration'] = rides['End date'] - rides['Start date']
# Print the first 5 rows
print(rides['Duration'].head(5))
```

```
0 0 days 00:03:01
1 0 days 02:07:02
2 0 days 00:05:43
3 0 days 00:21:18
4 0 days 00:21:17
Name: Duration, dtype: timedelta64[ns]
```

Loading datetimes with parse_dates

```
rides['Duration']\
   .dt.total_seconds()\
   .head(5)

0    181.0
1   7622.0
```

3 1278.04 1277.0

343.0

Name: Duration, dtype: float64

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Summarizing data in Pandas

```
# Average time out of the dock
rides['Duration'].mean()

Timedelta('0 days 00:19:38.931034482')

# Total time out of the dock
rides['Duration'].sum()
```

```
Timedelta('3 days 22:58:10')
```

Summarizing data in Pandas

```
# Percent of time out of the dock
rides['Duration'].sum() / timedelta(days=91)
```

0.04348417785917786



Summarizing data in Pandas

```
# Count how many time the bike started at each station
rides['Member type'].value_counts()
```

```
Member 236
Casual 54
Name: Member type, dtype: int64

# Percent of rides by member
rides['Member type'].value_counts() / len(rides)

Member 0.814
Casual 0.186
```



Name: Member type, dtype: float64

```
# Add duration (in seconds) column
rides['Duration seconds'] = rides['Duration'].dt.total_seconds()
# Average duration per member type
rides.groupby('Member type')['Duration seconds'].mean()
```

```
Member type
Casual 1994.667
Member 992.280
Name: Duration seconds, dtype: float64
```

```
# Average duration by month
rides.resample('M', on = 'Start date')['Duration seconds'].mean()
```

```
Start date
2017-10-31 1886.454
2017-11-30 854.175
2017-12-31 635.101
Freq: M, Name: Duration seconds, dtype: float64
```



```
Member type
Casual 54
Member 236
dtype: int64
```

rides.groupby('Member type').size()

```
# First ride per group
rides.groupby('Member type').first()
```

```
Duration ...

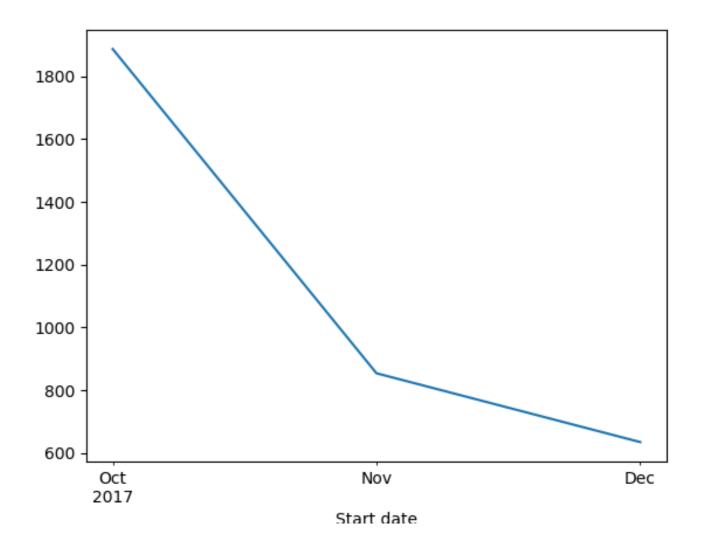
Member type ...

Casual 02:07:02 ...

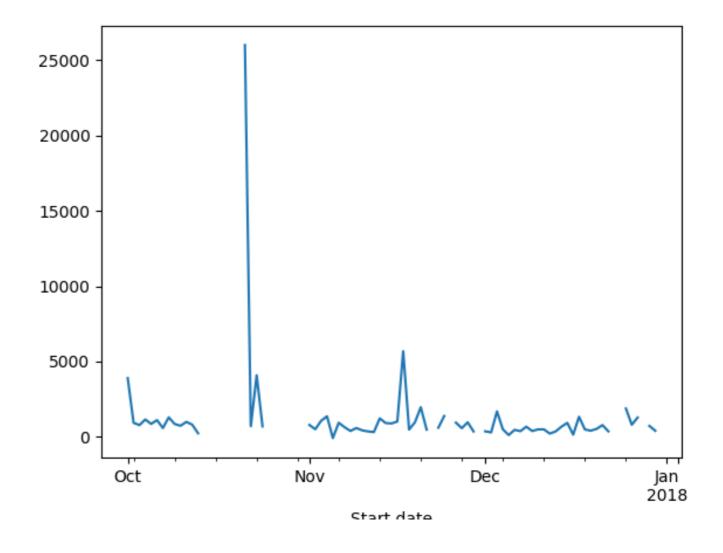
Member 00:03:01 ...
```

Size per group

```
rides\
    .resample('M', on = 'Start date')\
    ['Duration seconds']\
    .mean()\
    .plot()
```



```
rides\
    .resample('D', on = 'Start date')\
    ['Duration seconds']\
    .mean()\
    .plot()
```



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Additional datetime methods in Pandas

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```
rides['Duration'].dt.total_seconds().min()
```

-3346.0



```
rides['Start date'].head(3)
   2017-10-01 15:23:25
   2017-10-01 15:42:57
   2017-10-02 06:37:10
Name: Start date, dtype: datetime64[ns]
rides['Start date'].head(3)\
  .dt.tz_localize('America/New_York')
   2017-10-01 15:23:25-04:00
   2017-10-01 15:42:57-04:00
   2017-10-02 06:37:10-04:00
Name: Start date, dtype: datetime64[ns, America/New_York]
```



```
# Try to set a timezone...
rides['Start date'] = rides['Start date']\
   .dt.tz_localize('America/New_York')
```

```
pytz.exceptions.AmbiguousTimeError: Cannot infer dst time from '2017-11-05 01:56:50', try using the 'ambiguous' argument
```

```
# Handle ambiguous datetimes
rides['Start date'] = rides['Start date']\
    .dt.tz_localize('America/New_York', ambiguous='NaT')

rides['End date'] = rides['End date']\
    .dt.tz_localize('America/New_York', ambiguous='NaT')
```



```
# Re-calculate duration, ignoring bad row
rides['Duration'] = rides['End date'] - rides['Start date']
# Find the minimum again
rides['Duration'].dt.total_seconds().min()
```

116.0



```
# Look at problematic row
rides.iloc[129]
```

```
Duration NaT
Start date NaT
End date NaT
Start station 6th & H St NE
End station 3rd & M St NE
Bike number W20529
Member type Member
Name: 129, dtype: object
```



Other datetime operations in Pandas

```
# Year of first three rows
rides['Start date']\
   .head(3)\
   .dt.year
```

```
# See weekdays for first three rides
rides['Start date']\
   .head(3)\
   .dt.day_name()
```

```
0 2017
1 2017
2 2017
Name: Start date, dtype: int64
```

```
0 Sunday
1 Sunday
2 Monday
Name: Start date, dtype: object
```

Other parts of Pandas

```
# Shift the indexes forward one, padding with NaT
rides['End date'].shift(1).head(3)
```

```
0 NaT
1 2017-10-01 15:26:26-04:00
2 2017-10-01 17:49:59-04:00
Name: End date, dtype: datetime64[ns, America/New_York]
```

Additional datetime methods in Pandas

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Wrap-up

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Recap: Dates and Calendars

- The date() class takes a year, month, and day as arguments
- A date object has accessors like .year , and also methods like .weekday()
- date objects can be compared like numbers, using min(), max(), and sort()
- You can subtract one date from another to get a timedelta
- To turn date objects into strings, use the .isoformat() or .strftime() methods

Recap: Combining Dates and Times

- The datetime() class takes all the arguments of date(), plus an hour, minute, second, and microsecond
- All of the additional arguments are optional; otherwise, they're set to zero by default
- You can replace any value in a datetime with the .replace() method
- Convert a timedelta into an integer with its .total_seconds() method
- Turn strings into dates with .strptime() and dates into strings with .strftime()

Recap: Timezones and Daylight Saving

- A datetime is "timezone aware" when it has its tzinfo set. Otherwise it is "timezone naive"
- Setting a timezone tells a datetime how to align itself to UTC, the universal time standard
- Use the .replace() method to change the timezone of a datetime, leaving the date and time the same
- Use the .astimezone() method to shift the date and time to match the new timezone
- dateutil.tz provides a comprehensive, updated timezone database



Recap: Easy and Powerful Timestamps in Pandas

- When reading a csv, set the parse_dates argument to be the list of columns which should be parsed as datetimes
- If setting parse_dates doesn't work, use the pd.to_datetime() function
- Grouping rows with .groupby() lets you calculate aggregates per group. For example,
 .first(), .min() or .mean()
- .resample() groups rows on the basis of a datetime column, by year, month, day, and so on
- Use .tz_localize() to set a timezone, keeping the date and time the same
- Use .tz_convert() to change the date and time to match a new timezone

Congratulations!

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