## **Contents**

	Ackn	page vii	
1	Intro	1	
	1.1	About this book	1
	1.2	About Python	2
	1.3	Installing Python	5
	1.4	The command line	6
2	The core Python language I		8
	2.1	The Python shell	8
	2.2	Numbers, variables, comparisons and logic	9
	2.3	Python objects I: strings	27
	2.4	Python objects II: lists, tuples and loops	41
	2.5	Control flow	56
	2.6	File input/output	66
	2.7	Functions	70
3	Interlude: simple plotting with pylab		84
	3.1	Basic plotting	84
	3.2	Labels, legends and customization	89
	3.3	More advanced plotting	97
4	The core Python language II		102
	4.1	Errors and exceptions	102
	4.2	Python objects III: dictionaries and sets	110
	4.3	Pythonic idioms: "syntactic sugar"	121
	4.4	Operating system services	131
	4.5	Modules and packages	137
	4.6	An introduction to object-oriented programming	147

5	IPython and IPython Notebook		160
	5.1	IPython	160
	5.2	IPython Notebook	174
6	Num	184	
	6.1	Basic array methods	184
	6.2	Reading and writing an array to a file	216
	6.3	Statistical methods	225
	6.4	Polynomials	232
	6.5	Linear algebra	247
	6.6	Matrices	256
	6.7	Random sampling	262
	6.8	Discrete Fourier transforms	272
7	Matp	280	
	7.1	Matplotlib basics	280
	7.2	Contour plots, heatmaps and 3D plots	317
8	SciPy		333
	8.1	Physical constants and special functions	333
	8.2	Integration and ordinary differential equations	355
	8.3	Interpolation	374
	8.4	Optimization, data-fitting and root-finding	380
9	Gene	402	
	9.1	Floating point arithmetic	402
	9.2	Stability and conditioning	410
	9.3	Programming techniques and software development	415
Appen	dix A Sol	lutions	424
	Inde:		445