

Coding is Coding – Python

November 5, 2024

1 Coding is Just Coding

Once you learn one coding language, you can read (and sometimes even write) in a lot of other coding languages. Today we're going to go through how to code what we did on the first day in Python (another popular coding language). The syntax is slightly different, but you can still read a lot of it. The point of this is to realize that if someone hands you a code script in a different language, you shouldn't freak out.

1.1 Getting started

In R Studio, create a python script. This will require the `retricate` package and you may also need to install the `IRkernel` package, as well. Install both.

We're now going to go through what we did on day one.

Open a .py script

2 Basic Data Types

```
[1]: # Andie Creel / January 2024 / Goal: Redo day one in python

# Run basic arithmetic

2 + 3

# variable assingment is done with an '=' sign, instead of the '<-' sign
a = 2
b = 3

print(a + b)

# Numeric -- integer: no decimal points
myInt = 1

# Numeric -- floating point: decimal points
myNum = 2.4
```

```

# logical (Boolean): a true/false statement. Use parentheses to evaluate if
↳ something is true or false
myBool_1 = (3 < 4)
myBool_2 = (3 > 4)

# character (string)
myChar_a = "a"
myChar_b = 'b'

```

5

3 Ways to store datatypes

You will need to install the `numpy` package by running `pip install numpy` in the terminal. NumPy is the main package for scientific computing in python.

3.1 Vectors and Matrices

Notice that indexing in python starts at 0, rather than 1 (as it did in R). In python, we just use lists instead of vectors.

```

[2]: import numpy as np

# Lists can contain elements of different data types
myList_n = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
print(myList_n[0])

myList_s = ["str", "b", "c"]
print(myList_s[0])

myList_all = ["str", 1, True]
print(myList_all)

```

```

1
str
['str', 1, True]

```

```

[3]: # NumPy array (similar to R matrix): should contain elements of the same data
↳ type
# In this case, we're creating a 2x5 matrix
# the . here works similar to %>% in dplyr
myMat_n = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]).reshape(2, 5)
myMat_n

```

```

[3]: array([[ 1,  2,  3,  4,  5],
           [ 6,  7,  8,  9, 10]])

```

3.2 Lists

```
[4]: # Lists: Can contain elements of different data types, including other lists or arrays
myList = [2, "c", myMat_n]

# Accessing the first element of the list
myList[0] # returns numeric (2 in this case)
```

```
[4]: 2
```

```
[5]: myList[1] # returns C
```

```
[5]: 'c'
```

```
[6]: myList[2] # returns the matrix
```

```
[6]: array([[ 1,  2,  3,  4,  5],
          [ 6,  7,  8,  9, 10]])
```

3.3 Data frames

To work with data frames, we need to install and load the `pandas` package. Run `pip install pandas` in your terminal.

```
[7]: import pandas as pd

# Create a DataFrame from the NumPy array
myDF = pd.DataFrame(myMat_n)
myDF
```

```
[7]:    0  1  2  3  4
0  1  2  3  4  5
1  6  7  8  9 10
```

```
[8]: # Print column names (initially they are just integer indices)
print(myDF.columns)
```

```
RangeIndex(start=0, stop=5, step=1)
```

Unlike R, python automatically names unnamed columns with integers.

```
[9]: # Rename the columns
myDF.columns = ["age_yr", "weight_lb", "income_$", "height_ft", "height_in"]
myDF
```

```
[9]:    age_yr  weight_lb  income_$  height_ft  height_in
0         1         2         3         4         5
1         6         7         8         9         10
```

```
[10]: # investigate one column (index is the left column, value is the right column)
myDF['age_yr']
```

```
[10]: 0    1
      1    6
      Name: age_yr, dtype: int64
```

```
[11]: # Create a new column
myDF['nonsense'] = myDF['age_yr'] + myDF['weight_lb']
myDF['nonsense']
```

```
[11]: 0     3
      1    13
      Name: nonsense, dtype: int64
```

```
[12]: # Create a DataFrame
myPpl = pd.DataFrame({
    'gender': ["Male", "non-binary", "Female"],
    'male': [True, False, False],
    'height': [152, 171.5, 165],
    'weight': [81, 93, 78],
    'age': [42, 38, 26]
})

# Reference one column (either of these work)
myPpl['male']
```

```
[12]: 0     True
      1    False
      2    False
      Name: male, dtype: bool
```

```
[13]: myPpl.male
```

```
[13]: 0     True
      1    False
      2    False
      Name: male, dtype: bool
```

4 Functions

def stands for definition. The syntax for writing a function is different, and is a good example of how white space is important in python (notice that there are no parentheses).

```
[14]: def myF(x):
      y = x - x**2
      return y
```

```
myF(.5)
```

```
[14]: 0.25
```

5 Loops

Loops are another example where you can read the code even if you don't know python. However, they have some different syntax with the range function, specifically that the last value is excluded.

```
[15]: # Notice that 5 doesn't print
for i in range(1, 5): # range(start, stop) in Python is inclusive of start and
    ↪ exclusive of stop
    print(i)
```

```
1
2
3
4
```

```
[16]: # combining loop and function
for i in range(1,5):
    y = myF(i/4)
    print(y)
```

```
0.1875
0.25
0.1875
0.0
```

6 If Else Statements

Same example as day one: Our RA did not record men's ages right and all men are actually 3 years younger than what's recorded.

The major thing we need to be aware with in Python is use of the `.loc` function, which lets us reference cells with their column names and row index.

```
[17]: # Initialize new column
myPpl['age_new_m'] = myPpl['age']

# Iterating through the DataFrame using the row (i) and column (male) to
    ↪ reference the location
for i in range(len(myPpl)):
    if myPpl.loc[i, 'male']:
        myPpl.loc[i, 'age_new_m'] = myPpl.loc[i, 'age'] - 3

print(myPpl)
```

	gender	male	height	weight	age	age_new_m
0	Male	True	152.0	81	42	39
1	non-binary	False	171.5	93	38	38
2	Female	False	165.0	78	26	26

7 Advanced

I wrote this in a Jupyter Notebook, which is the python version of an R notebook. To write a Jupyter Notebook using R, you need to do a few additional (and advanced) steps.

In an R console, run `install.packages('IRkernel')`

In the Terminal, run `jupyter notebook`

This will open up a Jupyter Notebook host in your web browser. You can create a new .ipynb file (aka a Jupyter Notebook).

Unlike an R Markdown file, you cannot automatically knit it to an HTML or pdf document. However, you can download it as an HTML, or you can download a LaTeX file and compile the LaTeX file to a PDF on your computer (which is a more advanced step than downloading the HTML).

[]: