IT LAB 2018: Elements of Machine Learning

Introduction to Python

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Why Python?

Because it's easy!

- Python is easy!
- ```
  print("Hello World")              # Very simple to print. No hassle!
  ```

  No semicolons, no type specifications. No memory management. Everything's handled internally.
- Python can be fast by using existing libraries.
  (C library) $->$ (Python Wrapper) $->$ (Call from Python). Simple!
  ```

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- Python can be fast by using existing libraries. (C library) $->$ (Python Wrapper) $->$ (Call from Python). Simple! Simple to use but not to build ourselves, though some tools exist to help. [2, 1]
- Python is powerful as it's a general purpose programming language and a specialized tool for someone who doesn't want to interface with the system.
  - You can create threads and call system processes.
  - File reading and writing is a snap!
  - You can interface with the system libraries to leverage other tools to assist you.
  - You can create automated tools all in python which can integrate easily with your code and help you monitor your algorithms, test and debug.
  ```

Why Python?

Also because it's versatile and Powerful

- Python is a scripted language so it's easy to run and evaluate statements. No long compile times!
- Python has what's called *duck typing* and garbage collection via reference counting.
- Python has developed a HUGE ecosystem. There are tonnes of libraries!
- Python numpy interfaces with the BLAS and LAPACK libraries if they exist on your system so linear algebra is really fast.
- There's lots of example code out there for you if you get stuck, including Neural Networks, Statistical Models, Simulations, Machine Learning Models etc.
- We'll use *iPython*.

Introduction to Python

The Basics

- These are equivalent

```
print('Hello world')
print("Hello world")
```

- Functions are simple

```
def add(num1, num2):
    num3 = num1 + num2
    return num1, num2, num3
```

- A lot of the syntax is C style

```
if foo == "var":
    func()
else:
    pass
```

Introduction to Python

The Basics contd.

- A lot of the syntax is C style

```
for i in range(100):
    print(i)

j = 10
while j:
    print("looping")
    j -= 1

# There's no ++ or -- though. It just avoids confusion.
# For more details see http://csapp.cs.cmu.edu/3e/docs/chistory.html
# Nor is there a switch statement. Use multiple if/else clauses
```

- There are a few basic data types, but each type is wrapped
  Everything in Python is an object, and almost everything has attributes and methods. All functions have a built-in attribute doc, which returns the doc string defined in the function's source code. The sys module is an object which has (among other things) an attribute called path. And so forth.

- ```
  print(int.__doc__, sum.__doc__) ## Here int is a type and sum is a function
  ```
  ```

Introduction to Python

Operators and Strings

- With standard C style operators:

```
3 + 2                    # addition
3 - 2                    # subtraction
3 * 2                    # multiplication
3 % 2                    # remainder
(3 + 2) ** 3             # exponentiation
```

Introduction to Python

Operators and Strings

- With standard C style operators:

```
3 + 2                                   # addition
3 - 2                                   # subtraction
3 * 2                                   # multiplication
3 % 2                                   # remainder
(3 + 2) ** 3                            # exponentiation
```

- Strings can be specified with either a single or double quote

```
'spam eggs'          # single quotes
'doesn\'t'           # use \' to escape the single quote...
"doesn't"            # ...or use double quotes instead
'"Yes," he said.'    # same thing with single and double quotes inverted
"\"Yes,\" he said."
'"Isn\'t," she said.'                   # a mix
'C:\some\name'                          # What does this print?
```

Introduction to Python

Data Structures

- Multiline strings

```
r'C:\some\name'  # note the r before the quote
# A string literal starting and ending with """ can span multiple lines
"""
Something
    Something else
Something else else
"""
# They're quite simple
'1' + '2'                       # Can be easily concatenated
'1' - '2'                       # Though not subtracted
'1'*3                           # Can be multiplied
'1'/3                           # but not divided
```

Introduction to Python

Data Structures

- Multiline strings

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```

- The simplest data structure. They're a bit like the strings.

```
def func():
    pass                                        # does nothing
[1, 2, 3, "somestring", [func, [1, 2, {}]]]  # A list can hold anything
[]                                           # Empty list
[1, 2, 3] + [func, [1, 2, {}]]  # Gives [1, 2, 3, func, [1, 2, {}]]
[1, 2, 3].append(23)            # cannot do [1, 2, 3] + 23
```

Introduction to Python

Data Structures contd.

- But the two can't be mixed.

```
[1] + 'string'                  # Gives error
print([1], 'string')            # print converts it automatically though
```

- In fact, in most cases you can't mix types. There's no implicit type conversion. But if types can mix, they're usually subtypes of a more general type. Like both Integer and Float are subtypes of Number, and Number has certain properties which allows them to be added/subtracted etc. together.

```
2 + 3.5                         # int + float

for i in [1, 2, 3]:             # iterating over a list
    print(i)

for i in range(10):             # Careful, range is not a list!
    print(i)

[1, 2, 3] + range(10)       # Doesn't work
range(10)[0]                # range type can also be subscripted. Why?
```

Introduction to Python

Data Structures contd.

- Although explicit type conversions are allowed.

```
# But the types have to support that
str(2) + '345or_some_text'      # works
[1, 2, 3] + list(range(10))     # also works
```

- List indexing:

```
l = list(range(100))            # lists are also zero indexed
l[0: 20]                        # Start from 0, take 20 elements
l[0: 20: 3]                     # 0 to 20, but step_size == 3
m = l                           # m is a reference to l
m[0] = 'test'                   # l also changes

# But if we allocate new memory for m
l = list(range(100))
m = l[0: 20: 3]
m[0] = "test"                   # This will not change l

# However, with types that are not dynamic
u = 3; v = u                    # (not recommended style)
v = 2; print(u)                 # u doesn't change
```

Introduction to Python

Exercises!

- What will the following code print and why?

```
print('test'[0])
print([1, 2, 3] * 3)
l = [[1, 2, 3] * 3]
l[0][0] = 0; print(l)
l = [[1, 2, 3]] * 3
l[0][0] = 0; print(l)
```

- Scope:

```
a = 10
def func():
    a = 5
    print(a)                    # prints 5
print(a)

def func():
    print(a)                    # prints 10
```

Introduction to Python

Scope

- Scope contd.:

```
def func():
    a = 5
    for i in range(1):
        a = 2
    print(a)                        # prints 2. for has modified a as a was in sco
func()
print(a)                            # prints 10 as the variable in global scope is

a = True; b = False
if a:
    c = True
print(c)                            # c exists, is not local to if
del a, b, c

a = True; b = False
if b:
    c = True
print(c)                            # c doesn't exist
```

Introduction to Python

List Operations

Lists are objects of type `iterator`. (Numpy) Arrays can also be iterated.

- You should lookup these common functions on lists yourself: index, pop, append, copy, reverse, sort
- Some more examples are given at this link `http://openbookproject.net/thinkcs/python/english3e/lists.html`
- We'll demonstrate some list comprehensions and move on to dictionaries, sets and numpy.

```
a = [l for l in range(10)]       # equivalent to a = list(range(10))
a = [l for l in range(10) if l % 2 == 0]  # list with a condition
a = [l ** 2 for l in range(10)
     if l % 2 == 0]           # list with a condition and an expression
a = [func(str(l), l ** 2)
     for l in range(100)
     if l  % 2 == 0]             # Even more complicated

# Also notice that the following isn't allowed
a = func(str(b), b) /
    2
a = func(str(b), b) / \
    2                            # But this is
```

Introduction to Python

Dictionaries and sets

Dictionaries are unordered (key, value) pairs.

```
a = {}                                  # empty dictionary
a = {'one': 1, 2: 2, 'three': [1, 2, 3],
     'four': {'one': 1, 'two': 2}}  # keys can be anything
a['one']                                 # retuns 1
a = {['one', 'two']: 1, 'two': 2}  # But not types that can change
b = set()                                # empty set
b = {'one', 2, 'three'}

'one' in a                              # membership test, checks only in keys
'two' in b; 1 in [1, 'two', 3]  # works for lists too

for k, v in a.items():                  # a.iteritems() for python2
    a[k] = func(v)

a.keys(); a.values()                    # To get only keys or values
```

Introduction to Python

Dictionaries and Sets compared to Lists

Dictionaries are much faster because they're indexed.

```
# simple operaton for testing existence
5 in [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]             # Returns True
5 in {1, 2, 3, 4, 5}             # Returns True
2 not in [1, 2, 3]               # Returns False

# The latter should be faster, but internal optmizations render it the same
%timeit 5 in [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]
%timeit 5 in {1, 2, 3, 4, 5

[1, 2, 3, 4, 5].index(5)         # Returns 4
{1, 2, 3, 4, 5}.index(5)         # Sets don't have an index

a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]; a.pop(4)    # Returns and deletes 5 from list
a = {1, 2, 3, 4, 5}; a.pop(4)  # Error. set.pop() pops random item
a = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]; a.remove(4)    # Removes 4 from the set
```

Introduction to Python

Very quickly classes!

```
# some more function definition and usage
def foo(a, b=10, *args, **kwargs):
    print(a)
    print(b)
    for arg in args:
        print(args)                 # simply print
    for k, v in kwargs:
        print(kwargs)

foo(a)                              # b defaults to 10, args, kwargs are optional
foo(a, 5, [1, 2, 3], {'one': 1, 'two': 2})  # passing args and kwargs


class Foo():                # can be anything but capitalized by convention
    a = 10                  # class member. Common to all instances
    def __init__(self, arg1, arg2='test', *args, **kwargs):  # constructor/initiali
        self.var = arg1  # accessible to all functions of class but not outside

    def foo(self, args):            # Note the 'self' keyword here and in __init__
        pass

foo = Foo(a, b)                     # *args and **kwargs are optional
```

Introduction to Python

Instantiating and Communicating among Classes

```
class Foo():                    # equivalent to class Foo(object)
    def __init__(cls, arg, *args, **kargs):
        cls.arg = arg
        cls.__arg = 'hidden'

    def func(cls, arg):
        cls.arg = arg
        print(cls.arg)

foo = Foo('test')
print(foo.arg)                  # prints test
foo2 = Foo('test2')
print(foo2.arg)                 # prints test2
foo.__arg                       # no such variable? why?
foo._Foo__arg                   # additional measure to hide
```

Introduction to Python

Instantiating and Communicating among Classes

```
class Foo():                    # equivalent to class Foo(object)
    def __init__(self, cls, arg, *args, **kargs):
        self.arg = arg
        self.cls = cls

    def func(self):
        print(self.arg)
        self.cls.func_2()

class Foo_2():
    def __init__(self, arg):
        self.arg = arg

    def func_2(self, arg=None):
        if arg:
            print(arg)
        else:
            print(self.arg)

foo2 = Foo_2('string')
foo = Foo(foo2, 'test')
foo.func()          # the function also calls the other object's function
```

Introduction to Python

Modules, OS and file handling

```
import os
import sys, io
from os import path
import os.path as path             # both do the same thing

# but if only the first style is used then you have to specify the full module path
os.path.exists('/home/user')    # checks if the file path exists
os.path.join('/home', 'user')   # joins a path taking care of the / 'es
os.path.isdir('/home/user')     # os.path.isfile(), os.path.islink()
os.path.abspath('.')            # gives full path of the relative path
os.mkdir('/home/user/test_dir')  # makes a directory os.rmdir()

f = open('test', '2')                  # opens the file for reading in the pwd
content = f.write('content')
f.flush()
f.close()
```

Introduction to Python

with syntax

- *with* syntax is used with objects that support some automatic exception handling

```
with open('test', 'rw') as f:
    old_content = f.read()
    f.write('some_new_content')
# closing the file is handled automatically
```

- The cleanup code like file closing, memory freeing (though not required because of python's GC), foreign/C objects freeing etc. is performed automatically, and if an error occurs, it is safely thrown.
- You can have your own function be compatible with the the *with* clause but we won't go into that. Search online for it!

Introduction to Python

Environment: anaconda, ipython and pip

Anaconda

- Download `https://www.anaconda.com/download/#linux`
- Install `https://conda.io/docs/user-guide/install/index.html`
- Set path before using.
  $>export PATH=`path_to_conda/bin`:$PATH.
- conda help
- Anaconda ships with a lot of pre-compiled packages so you don't have to maintain them.

Introduction to Python

pip

pip: Python package management

- apt-get install python3-pip. dnf install python3-pip. zypper install python3-pip
- pip3 search <package_name>. Searches packages at PyPI.
- pip3 install. Installs packages.
- pip3 freeze. Lists install packages.
- pip3 install -U. Forces an upgrade
- pip3 uninstall. Uninstalls packages
- pip3 install –user. Installs in the user namespace.
- As an exercise to get familiar with it, we'll install the packages we'll be using using pip
- pip3 install –user -U numpy scipy matplotlib ipython scikit-learn scikit-image pillow

Introduction to Python

pip

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Introduction to Python

iPython!

We also have iPython!

- Start by opening up ipython. Type `ipython3` at the terminal.
- help(something) shows help for it.
- tab auto completes a variable (functions are also variables, sort of).
- `Ctrl-{a,e,b,f}` go `{start-of-line, end-of-line, back-one-char, forward-one-char}`
- `Alt-{b,f}` go `{back-one-word, forward-one-word}`
- `Ctrl-{p,n,k,y}` do `{previous-command, next-command, kill-line (cut), yank (paste, not necessarily a line)}`
- `Ctrl-{Space, w}` do `{set-mark, kill-region (can use C-y to yank)}`
- `Ctrl-{r,s}` do `{search-command-backward, search-command-forward}`
- `Alt-{d,\}` does `{delete-word, delete-horizontal-space}`

Introduction to Python

more iPython!

- `%quickref` lists a whole lot of useful commands. You can check it out at leisure.
- `%run` runs a python script from iPython.
- `%paste` pastes text preserving formatting, from clipboard (requires tk installed in ubuntu).
- `%timeit, %%timeit` time a single line and multiline commands.
- `%pdb` turns ON/OFF automatic python debugger.
- `lsmagic` lists all the available iPython macros (magics).
- If you have a newer version of iPython, `automagic` will be on so you can just do `run ./myscript.py` instead of `%run ./myscript.py`.

Some String Operations

- String is not really a list in python but it feels like it.

```
list('abcde')
Out[312]: ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e']  # returns a list

# str has some simple functions for convenience
a = 'This is a test'
a.startswith('This')                 # True
a.endswith('test')                   # True
'donkey' in a                        # False
'test' in a                          # True
a.find('test')                       # returns the index 10
a.upper()                            # returns upcase string. DOESN'T CONVERT STRIN
a.lower()
a.strip()                            # Removes surrounding whitespace
a.split()                            # returns a list of words, breaking the string
a.split('t')                         # now breaks at letter 't', is useful for remo
a.replace('This', 'Miss')            # Replaces the said string

# We'll briefly mention map, filter
map(int, ['1', '2', '3', '4', '5'])  # Converts to a list of numbers
filter(lambda x: x < 3, [1, 2, 3, 4, 5])  # Filters elements satisfying condit

# lambda is a simple anonymous function, for quick tasks!
lambda x: True if x[0] else False  # What does this do?
lambda *args: print([type(arg) for arg in args])  # What does this do?
f = lambda x: True if x[0] else False  # Not recommended syntax. Use def
```

Introduction to Python

Exercises! (again)

- Write a small lambda function that given a number (say 4) generates a list of tuples like so
- `[(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 4), (4, 5)]`
- Now instead of the second number simply being one greater than the previous one, have it be the output of a user supplied function.

```
func(4, ufunc)
```

gives

```
[(1, ufunc(1)), (2, ufunc(2)), (3, ufunc(3)), (4, ufunc(4))]
```

- How do you sort a list of tuples according to just the first number of each tuple? [hint: look at the documentation of list.sort]
- Now, what's the simplest (perhaps a pythonic) way to convert this list (or any list) of tuples to a dictionary?

Introduction to Python

Exercises! (cond.)

- ```
  # argparse is a module that parses command line arguments in python
  import argparse

  def main():
      parser = argparse.ArgumentParser(description="test")
      parser.add_argument('--datadir', '-d', type=str, default='.',
                          help='location of the log data')
      args = parser.parseargs()
      print(args.datadir)

  main()
  ```

- Let's say I wanted to give the arguments parser a list to parse. Notice the `type=str`. That determines the type of the argument which is parsed. But there's no inbuilt datatype list that it can parse. How can you parse it?
- Create a class that simply keeps track of the number of instances it has, and prints the total number each time a new instance is created. [hint: recall the difference between class variables and instance variables]
  ```

Introduction to Python

Exercises! (contd.)

- Just like `map`, `reduce` is a function that takes a list but it also takes an intial value as an argument, and instead of simply applying the function on each element of the list, it applies it along with the initial value and continues it through the list until the list is reduced to a single value.
  Can you use it to `join` a list of lists into a single list?

```
from functools import reduce
# help(reduce) gives reduce(func, sequence[, initial]) -> value
# turn this [[1,2,3], [3,4,5], [4,5,6]] to [1,2,3,3,4,5,4,5,6]
```

- Write a complete program which takes a directory as argument, reads all the files in there with a '.py' extension and for each file, lists the following to stdout.
  1. All the import modules with a fully qualified name, .e.g., `from os import path` should be shown as `os.path`
  2. All the classes in the files, with all the functions
  3. All the functions which are not members of any class.

Python (contd.)

Exercises! (contd.)

- Write a program that reads a CSV file which has ; as the delimiter, as comment and it takes the last two columns, lowercases the strings and writes it to another CSV file.

References I

[1] *Automatic Wrapper and Interface Generator*. https://github.com/StatisKit/AutoWIG. Accessed: 2017-12-01.

[2] *Simplified Wrapper and Interface Generator*. http://www.swig.org/. Accessed: 2017-12-01.