

How to count the occurrence of certain item in an ndarray in Python?

256 In Python, I have an ndarray `y` that is printed as `array([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1])`. I'm trying to count how many 0s and how many 1s are there in this array.

But when I type `y.count(0)` or `y.count(1)`, it says

★ numpy.ndarray object has no attribute count
60 What should I do?

python numpy multidimensional-array count

edited Jun 21 '18 at 9:16



Ivan

5,507

3 15 45

asked Feb 22 '15 at 22:05



mflowwww

1,520

3 11 16

7 Can't you use sum and length function, since you only have ones and zeros? – [nikaltipar](#) Feb 22 '15 at 22:07

In this case, it is also possible to simply use `numpy.count_nonzero`. – [Mong H. Ng](#) Mar 31 at 17:50

24 Answers

423

```
>>> a = numpy.array([0, 3, 0, 1, 0, 1, 2, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 3, 4])
>>> unique, counts = numpy.unique(a, return_counts=True)
>>> dict(zip(unique, counts))
{0: 7, 1: 4, 2: 1, 3: 2, 4: 1}
```

Non-numpy way:

Use [collections.Counter](#);

```
>> import collections, numpy

>>> a = numpy.array([0, 3, 0, 1, 0, 1, 2, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 3, 4])
>>> collections.Counter(a)
Counter({0: 7, 1: 4, 3: 2, 2: 1, 4: 1})
```

edited Jan 24 '18 at 9:31

answered Feb 22 '15 at 22:10



ozgur

29.7k

14 56 85

2 That would be ```unique, counts = numpy.unique(a, return_counts=True) dict(zip(unique, counts))``` – [shredding](#) Mar 16 '16 at 13:14

13 If you want the dictionary, `dict(zip(*numpy.unique(a, return_counts=True)))` – [Seppo Enarvi](#) Apr

28 '16 at 13:19

- 2 What if I want to access the number of occurrences of each unique elements of the array without assigning to the variable - counts. Any hints on that ? – [sajis997](#) Dec 24 '16 at 23:08

I have the same goal as @sajis997. I want to use 'count' as an aggregating function in a groupby – [p_sutherland](#) Mar 15 '18 at 16:34

@sajis997 if you do a groupby on the desired level of aggregation and use np.count_nonzero as the aggregate function it will return the number of occurrences of a each unique value – [p_sutherland](#) Mar 15 '18 at 16:52

What about using [numpy.count_nonzero](#) , something like

183

```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> y = np.array([1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 0, 2, 3, 3, 3, 0, 0, 2, 2, 0])

>>> np.count_nonzero(y == 1)
1
>>> np.count_nonzero(y == 2)
7
>>> np.count_nonzero(y == 3)
3
```

edited Oct 12 '17 at 14:33

answered Feb 22 '16 at 9:14

[Aziz Alto](#)

9,114 3 47 46

- 12 This answer seems better than the one with the most upvotes. – [Alex](#) Dec 31 '17 at 17:16

- 1 I don't think this would work for `numpy.ndarray` as OP originally asked. – [LYu](#) Jul 28 '18 at 20:55

- 3 @LYu - the y is an np.ndarray in this answer. Also - most if not all np.something functions work on ndarrays without problem. – [mmagnuski](#) Jul 29 '18 at 19:34

Personally, I'd go for: `(y == 0).sum()` and `(y == 1).sum()`

102

E.g.

```
import numpy as np
y = np.array([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1])
num_zeros = (y == 0).sum()
num_ones = (y == 1).sum()
```

answered May 5 '16 at 20:51

[Gus Hecht](#)

1,021 1 5 2

- 1 It's definitely the easiest to read. The question is which is fastest, and most space efficient – [frank](#) May 30 '18 at 19:02

Mightbe less space efficient than `numpy.count_nonzero(y==0)`, since it evaluates the vector `(y==0)` –

For your case you could also look into [numpy.bincount](#)

30

```
In [56]: a = np.array([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1])
```

```
In [57]: np.bincount(a)
```

```
Out[57]: array([8, 4]) #count of zeros is at index 0 : 8
           #count of ones is at index 1 : 4
```

answered Feb 22 '15 at 23:45



Akavall

43.6k 33 148 187

This code may be one of the fastest solutions for larger arrays I experimented. Getting the result as a list is a bonus, too. Thanx! – [Youngsup Kim](#) Oct 24 '18 at 22:56

1 Not that `numpy.bincount` works for integers only. – [Skippy le Grand Gourou](#) Feb 24 at 10:39

Convert your array `y` to list `l` and then do `l.count(1)` and `l.count(0)`

17

```
>>> y = numpy.array([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1])
>>> l = list(y)
>>> l.count(1)
4
>>> l.count(0)
8
```

edited Feb 22 '15 at 22:19

answered Feb 22 '15 at 22:12



Milind Dumbare

2,078 2 13 31

```
y = np.array([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1])
```

15

If you know that they are just `0` and `1` :

```
np.sum(y)
```

gives you the number of ones. `np.sum(1-y)` gives the zeroes.

For slight generality, if you want to count `0` and not zero (but possibly 2 or 3):

```
np.count_nonzero(y)
```

gives the number of nonzero.

But if you need something more complicated, I don't think numpy will provide a nice `count` option. In that case, go to collections:

```
import collections
collections.Counter(y)
> Counter({0: 8, 1: 4})
```

This behaves like a dict

```
collections.Counter(y)[0]
> 8
```

edited Feb 22 '15 at 22:15

answered Feb 22 '15 at 22:10



Joel

11.4k 28 59

If you know exactly which number you're looking for, you can use the following;

13

```
lst = np.array([1,1,2,3,3,6,6,6,3,2,1])
(lst == 2).sum()
```

returns how many times 2 is occurred in your array.

answered Nov 22 '17 at 10:31



CanCeylan

1,400 7 28 46

```
y.tolist().count(val)
```

6

with val 0 or 1

Since a python list has a native function `count`, converting to list before using that function is a simple solution.

answered May 19 '16 at 19:14



michael

147 1 8

Honestly I find it easiest to convert to a pandas Series or DataFrame:

6

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
```

```
df = pd.DataFrame({'data':np.array([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1])})
print df['data'].value_counts()
```

Or this nice one-liner suggested by Robert Muil:

```
pd.Series([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1]).value_counts()
```

edited Sep 11 '17 at 17:41

answered Oct 28 '16 at 17:58



[wordsforthewise](#)

3,888 3 31 53

4 Just a note: don't need the DataFrame or numpy, can go directly from a list to a Series: `pd.Series([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1]).value_counts()` – [Robert Muil](#) Feb 2 '17 at 20:14 ✎

Awesome, that's a nice one-liner. Big up – [wordsforthewise](#) Sep 11 '17 at 17:43

What about `len(y[y==0])` and `len(y[y==1])` ?

6

answered Mar 11 '16 at 18:29



[Anas](#)

637 11 20

Yet another simple solution might be to use `numpy.count_nonzero()`:

5

```
import numpy as np
y = np.array([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1])
y_nonzero_num = np.count_nonzero(y==1)
y_zero_num = np.count_nonzero(y==0)
y_nonzero_num
4
y_zero_num
8
```

Don't let the name mislead you, if you use it with the boolean just like in the example, it will do the trick.

answered Oct 4 '16 at 9:30



[NaZo](#)

51 1 1

To count the number of occurrences, you can use `np.unique(array, return_counts=True)` :

5

```
In [75]: boo = np.array([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1])

# use bool value `True` or equivalently `1`
In [77]: uniq, cnts = np.unique(boo, return_counts=1)
In [81]: uniq
Out[81]: array([0, 1])    #unique elements in input array are: 0, 1

In [82]: cnts
Out[82]: array([8, 4])    # 0 occurs 8 times, 1 occurs 4 times
```

edited Oct 4 '18 at 23:37

answered Dec 23 '16 at 19:57



kmario23

21.7k 5 72 83

No one suggested to use `numpy.bincount(input, minlength)` with `minlength = np.size(input)`, but it seems to be a good solution, and definitely the *fastest*:

4

```
In [1]: choices = np.random.randint(0, 100, 10000)
```

```
In [2]: %timeit [ np.sum(choices == k) for k in range(min(choices),
max(choices)+1) ]
100 loops, best of 3: 2.67 ms per loop
```

```
In [3]: %timeit np.unique(choices, return_counts=True)
1000 loops, best of 3: 388 µs per loop
```

```
In [4]: %timeit np.bincount(choices, minlength=np.size(choices))
100000 loops, best of 3: 16.3 µs per loop
```

That's a crazy speedup between `numpy.unique(x, return_counts=True)` and `numpy.bincount(x, minlength=np.max(x))` !

edited Oct 24 '18 at 8:19

answered Mar 17 '17 at 16:19



Næreen

448 6 14

hows it compare to histogram? – [john ktejik](#) Oct 22 '18 at 3:02

@johnktejik `np.histogram` does not compute the same thing. No point comparing the three approaches I propose with the `histogram` function, sorry. – [Næreen](#) Oct 24 '18 at 8:20

1 @Næreen `bincount` only works for integers though, so it works for the OP's problem, but maybe not for the generic problem described in the title. Also have you tried using `bincount` with arrays with very big ints? – [Imperishable Night](#) Oct 27 '18 at 13:19

@ImperishableNight no I haven't tried with large ints, but anyone is welcome to do so and post their own benchmark :-) – [Næreen](#) Oct 30 '18 at 17:47

I'd use `np.where`:

4

```
how_many_0 = len(np.where(a==0.)[0])
how_many_1 = len(np.where(a==1.)[0])
```

answered Oct 19 '15 at 14:15



MaxG

78 7

You can use dictionary comprehension to create a neat one-liner. More about dictionary

comprehension [can be found here](#)

2

```
>>>counts = {int(value): list(y).count(value) for value in set(y)}
>>>print(counts)
{0: 8, 1: 4}
```

This will create a dictionary with the values in your ndarray as keys, and the counts of the values as the values for the keys respectively.

This will work whenever you want to count occurrences of a value in arrays of this format.

edited Dec 3 '18 at 16:18

answered Dec 3 '18 at 16:12



CB Madsen

61 3

A general and simple answer would be:

1

```
numpy.sum(MyArray==x) # sum of a binary list of the occurrence of x (=0 or 1)
in MyArray
```

which would result into this full code as exemple

```
import numpy
MyArray=numpy.array([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1]) # array we want to
search in
x=0 # the value I want to count (can be iterator, in a list, etc.)
numpy.sum(MyArray==0) # sum of a binary list of the occurrence of x in MyArray
```

Now if MyArray is in **multiple dimensions** and you want to count the occurrence of a distribution of values in line (= pattern hereafter)

```
MyArray=numpy.array([[6, 1],[4, 5],[0, 7],[5, 1],[2, 5],[1, 2],[3, 2],[0, 2],[2,
5],[5, 1],[3, 0]])
x=numpy.array([5,1]) # the value I want to count (can be iterator, in a list,
etc.)
temp = numpy.ascontiguousarray(MyArray).view(numpy.dtype((numpy.void,
MyArray.dtype.itemsize * MyArray.shape[1]))) # convert the 2d-array into an
array of analyzable patterns
xt=numpy.ascontiguousarray(x).view(numpy.dtype((numpy.void, x.dtype.itemsize *
x.shape[0]))) # convert what you search into one analyzable pattern
numpy.sum(temp==xt) # count of the searched pattern in the list of patterns
```

edited Nov 18 '16 at 16:19

answered Nov 18 '16 at 16:04



sol

537 2 7 25

Since your ndarray contains only 0 and 1, you can use `sum()` to get the occurrence of 1s and `len()-sum()` to get the occurrence of 0s.

1

```
num_of_ones = sum(array)
num_of_zeros = len(array)-sum(array)
```

answered Jan 12 '17 at 17:40



Sabeer Ebrahim

55 1 1 7

This can be done easily in the following method

1

```
y = np.array([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1])
y.tolist().count(1)
```

edited Oct 22 '16 at 0:25



Eli Sadoff

4,890 6 23 44

answered Oct 21 '16 at 21:37



user7055304

11 2

For generic entries:

0

```
x = np.array([11, 2, 3, 5, 3, 2, 16, 10, 10, 3, 11, 4, 5, 16, 3, 11, 4])
n = {i:len([j for j in np.where(x==i)[0]]) for i in set(x)}
ix = {i:[j for j in np.where(x==i)[0]] for i in set(x)}
```

Will output a count:

```
{2: 2, 3: 4, 4: 2, 5: 2, 10: 2, 11: 3, 16: 2}
```

And indices:

```
{2: [1, 5],
 3: [2, 4, 9, 14],
 4: [11, 16],
 5: [3, 12],
10: [7, 8],
11: [0, 10, 15],
16: [6, 13]}
```

edited Nov 6 '18 at 11:21

answered Nov 6 '18 at 11:12



deckard

335 3 7

It involves one more step, but a more flexible solution which would also work for 2d arrays and more complicated filters is to create a boolean mask and then use `.sum()` on the mask.

0

```
>>>y = np.array([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1])
>>>mask = y == 0
```



```
>>>>mask.sum()
8
```

answered Dec 24 '15 at 22:35



Thomas

198 3 10

take advantage of the methods offered by a Series:

0

```
>>> import pandas as pd
>>> y = np.array([0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1])
>>> pd.Series(y).value_counts()
0      8
1      4
dtype: int64
```

answered Jun 13 at 10:33



Sébastien Wieckowski

158 1 8

You have a special array with only 1 and 0 here. So a trick is to use

0

```
np.mean(x)
```

which gives you the percentage of 1s in your array. Alternatively, use

```
np.sum(x)
np.sum(1-x)
```

will give you the absolute number of 1 and 0 in your array.

answered May 6 at 16:28



CathyQian

185 13

If you don't want to use numpy or a collections module you can use a dictionary:

0

```
d = dict()
a = [0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1]
for item in a:
    try:
        d[item]+=1
    except KeyError:
        d[item]=1
```

result:

```
>>>d  
{0: 8, 1: 4}
```

Of course you can also use an if/else statement. I think the Counter function does almost the same thing but this is more transparant.

answered Jul 8 '16 at 14:41



JLT

440 4 13

▲ Numpy has a module for this. Just a small hack. Put your input array as bins.

-1 `numpy.histogram(y, bins=y)`

▼ The output are 2 arrays. One with the values itself, other with the corresponding frequencies.

answered Apr 26 '17 at 10:37



Ishan Tomar

591 1 7 16

isn't 'bins' supposed to be a number? – [john ktejik](#) Oct 22 '18 at 3:07

Yes @johnktejik you're right. This answer does *not* work. – [Næreen](#) Oct 24 '18 at 8:21