

Lecture 3

DataFrame; Spyder IDE; Scrapping Web-tables with pd.read_html()

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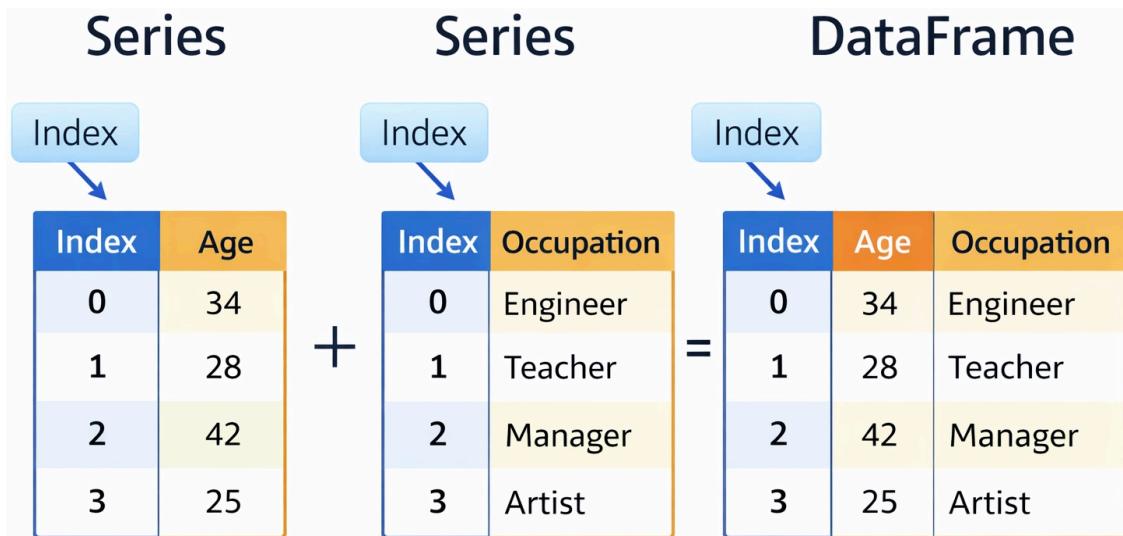
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Pandas Series and DataFrame

Pandas Series and DataFrame



- **Series**: A one-dimensional object containing a sequence of values (like a list).
- **DataFrame**: A two-dimensional table made of multiple **Series** columns sharing a common *index*.



Observations in DataFrame

- **Rows** in a **DataFrame** represent individual units or entities for which data is collected.
- **Examples:**
 - *Student Information*: Each row = one student
 - *Employee Information*: Each row = one employee
 - *Daily S&P 500 Index Data*: Each row = one trading day
 - *Household Survey Data*: Each row = one household

Variables in DataFrame

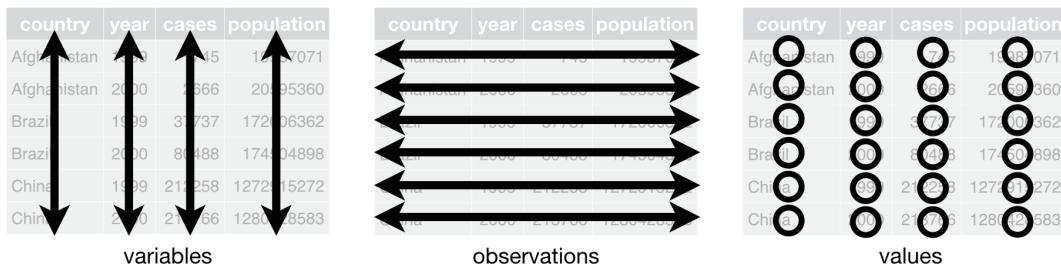
- **Columns** in a **DataFrame** represent attributes or characteristics measured across multiple *observations*.
- **Examples:**
 - *Student Data*: **Name**, **Age**, **Grade**, **Major**
 - *Employee Data*: **EmployeeID**, **Name**, **Age**, **Department**
 - *Customer Data*: **CustomerID**, **Name**, **Age**, **Income**,
HousingType

Note

- In a **DataFrame**, a **variable** is a **column** of data.
- In general programming, a **variable** is the **name of an object**.

Tidy DataFrame

Variables, Observations, and Values



- A **DataFrame** is *tidy* if it follows three rules:
 1. Each **variable** has its own *column*.
 2. Each **observation** has its own *row*.
 3. Each **value** has its own *cell*.
- A tidy **DataFrame** keeps your data organized, making it easier to understand, analyze, and share in any data analysis.



Spyder IDE



Anaconda Distribution

- Anaconda is a free Python distribution that includes Python, Conda (Python environment manager), and many commonly used data analytics packages.
- Install Anaconda from the official download page:
 - [Anaconda Distribution](#)
 - Click **Get Started**, then follow the installer steps for your operating system.



What is a Python Script?

- A Python script (`*.py`) is a plain-text file that contains Python code you can run from your computer (or an IDE like Spyder).
 - It is the standard format for writing **reusable Python programs**, such as data-cleaning pipelines, web scrapers, and automation tasks.
 - Scripts are commonly used in real-world analytics and software projects.
 - Compared to notebooks, scripts are typically better for **organized, production-style code** (functions, modules, and repeatable workflows).
- For **data collection** topics, we will write and run Python scripts mainly in **Spyder**, using **Anaconda Distribution** as our Python environment.



Script Editor

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook interface with three main panes:

- Code Editor:** The left pane displays the Python script `google_trends_api.py`. The code imports pandas, numpy, requests, and time, and defines variables for US states and years.
- Variable Explorer:** The top right pane shows a table of variables and their values. The table includes:

Name	Type	Size	Value
df	DataFrame	(32, 5)	Column names: Unnamed_0, unnamed_1, unnamed_2, unnamed_3, unnamed_4
keywords	list	2	['climate change', '']
month	list	12	[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12]
pi	float	1	3.14192
sep	str	9	September
us_states	list	6	['US-CT', 'US-MA', 'US-NH', 'US-NJ', 'US-NY', 'US-PA']
years	list	16	['2006-01-01', '2006-12-31', '2007-01-01', '2007-12-31', '2008-01-01', '2008-12-31', '2009-01-01', '2009-12-31', '2010-01-01', '2010-12-31', '2011-01-01', '2011-12-31', '2012-01-01', '2012-12-31', '2013-01-01', '2013-12-31']
- Console:** The bottom right pane shows the IPython console output. It includes the definition of `pi`, the assignment of `sep`, and the current cell input.

- From **Script Editor** (red box), we can create, open and edit files.



Console Pane

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook interface with three main panes:

- Code Editor (Left):** Displays the Python script `google_trends_api.py`. The code imports libraries like pandas, numpy, requests, and time, and defines variables such as `us_states` and `years`.
- Variable Explorer (Top Right):** A table showing the variables defined in the current session, including their type, size, and value.
- Console (Bottom Right):** Displays the output of the Python interpreter. It shows the execution of `print(pi)`, which results in a `NameError` because the variable `pi` is not defined. It also shows the assignment of `pi = 3.14192` and the assignment of `sep = 'September'`.

- From **Console Pane** (blue box), we can interact directly with the Python interpreter, and type commands where Python will immediately execute them.

Variable Explorer

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook interface. On the left is the code editor with a file named `google_trends_api.py`. The code imports pandas, numpy, and requests, and defines variables like `df`, `keywords`, `month`, `pi`, `sep`, `us_states`, and `years`. In the center is the Variable Explorer, which lists variables with their type, size, and value. On the right is the IPython Console showing command history and errors.

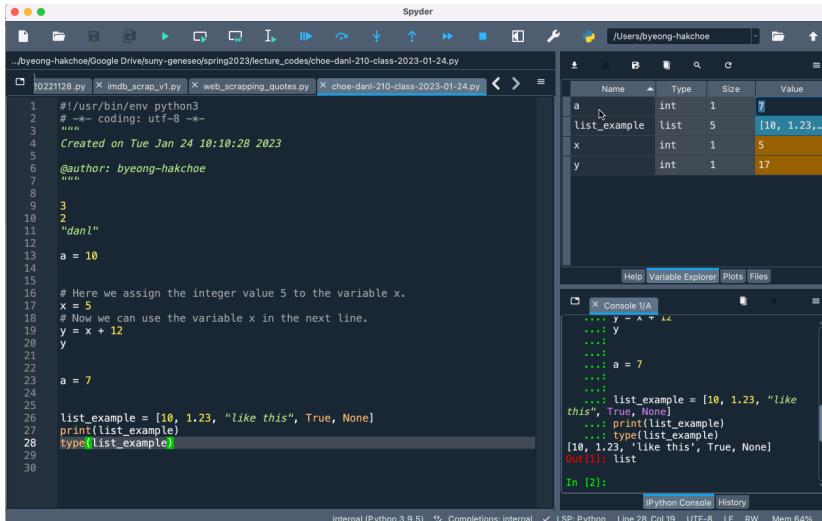
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us_states	list	6	['US-CT', 'US-MA', 'US-NH', 'US-VA', 'US-PA', 'US-VT']
years	list	16	['2006-01-01 2006-12-31', '2007-01-01 2007-12-31', '2008-01-01 2008-12-31', '2009-01-01 2009-12-31', '2010-01-01 2010-12-31', '2011-01-01 2011-12-31', '2012-01-01 2012-12-31', '2013-01-01 2013-12-31']

```
In [13]: print(pi)
NameError: name 'pi' is not defined

In [14]: pi = 3.14192
In [14]: sep = 'September'
In [15]:
```

- From **Variable Explorer** (yellow box), we can see the values of variables, data frames, and other objects that are currently stored in memory.

Data Containers in Variable Explorer



The screenshot shows the Spyder IDE interface. The code editor on the left contains Python code demonstrating variable assignment and data structures. The variable explorer in the center shows a table of variables with their names, types, sizes, and values. The console on the right shows the execution of code and its output.

Code in the editor:

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python3
2 # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
3 """
4 Created on Tue Jan 24 10:10:28 2023
5
6 @author: byeong-hakchoe
7
8
9 3
10 2
11 "danl"
12
13
14 a = 10
15
16 # Here we assign the integer value 5 to the variable x.
17 x = 5
18 # Now we can use the variable x in the next line.
19 y = x + 12
20 y
21
22
23 a = 7
24
25
26 list_example = [10, 1.23, "like this", True, None]
27 print(list_example)
28 type(list_example)
29
```

Variable Explorer table:

Name	Type	Size	Value
a	int	1	7
list_example	list	5	[10, 1.23, "like this", True, None]
x	int	1	5
y	int	1	17

Console output:

```
In [2]: y
Out[2]: 17
In [3]: y
Out[3]: 17
In [4]: a = 7
Out[4]: 7
In [5]: list_example = [10, 1.23, "like this", True, None]
Out[5]: [10, 1.23, "like this", True, None]
In [6]: print(list_example)
Out[6]: [10, 1.23, "like this", True, None]
In [7]: type(list_example)
Out[7]: list
```

- If we double-click the objects such as `list` and `DataFrame` objects, we can see what data are contained in such objects.

Keyboard Shortcuts

- General shortcuts
 - **Undo:** Ctrl + z (command + z for Mac users)
 - **Redo:** Ctrl + Shift + z (command + shift + z for Mac users)
 - **Selection:** Ctrl + Shift + Arrow (   )
 - **Page Up/Down:** Fn +  / 
- Default shortcuts
 - **Comment (#):** Ctrl + 1 (command + 1 for Mac users)
 - **Block-comment:** Ctrl + 4 (command + 4 for Mac users)
 - **Run selection (or a current line):** F9
 - **Run cell:** Ctrl + Enter (# %% defines a cell)



Comments, Code Cells, and Keyboard Shortcuts

```
1 # %%
2 # =====
3 # SECTION TITLE
4 # =====
5 a = 1
```

- The **#** mark is Spyder's **comment** character.
- It is recommended to use a **coding block** (defined by **# %%**) with **block commenting** (Ctrl/Command + 4) for separating code sections.
- To set your keyboard shortcuts,
 - **Preferences > Keyboard Shortcuts > Search “run” and/or “comment”**
 - Set the shortcuts for (1) run selection; (2) run cell; (3) toggle comment; and (4) blockcomment
 - I use **command + return** for **running a current line (selection)**



Scraping web tables with `pd.read_html()`



Scraping Tables with pd.read_html()

- Let's scrap the two tables in the following webpage:
 - [National Park Visitation Sets New Record as Economic Engines](https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/national-park-visitation-sets-new-record-as-economic-engines.html)

```
1 import pandas as pd
2
3 url = "https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/national-park-visitation-sets-new-record-as-econ
4 tables = pd.read_html(url)
5 len(tables)
6 df_0 = tables[0]
```

- `read_html()` read HTML tables into a **list** of **DataFrame** objects.

Setting Column Names

- How can we set the **first row** of a DataFrame as its **column names**?
- How can we **remove** the first row ?

```
1 df_0 = tables[0]
2 df_0.columns = df_0.iloc[0] # Set the first row as column names
3 df_0 = df_0[1:] # Remove the first row
```



Dot Operators, Methods, and Attributes

● Dot operator

- The dot operator (`DataFrame.`) is used for an **attribute** or a **method** on objects.

☒ Method

- A method (`DataFrame.METHOD()`) is a **function** that we can call on a `DataFrame` to perform operations, modify data, or derive insights.
 - e.g., `df.info()`

🕒 Attribute

- An attribute (`DataFrame.ATTRIBUTE`) is a **property** that provides information about the `DataFrame`'s structure or content without modifying it.
 - e.g., `df.columns`



Getting a Summary of a DataFrame

```
1 df_0.info()      # method  
2 df_0.count()    # method
```

```
1 df_0.shape      # attribute  
2 df_0.columns    # attribute
```

- Every `DataFrame` object has a `.info()` method that provides a summary of a DataFrame:
 - Variable names (`.columns`)
 - Number of observations and variables (`.shape`)
 - Number of non-missing values in each variable (`.count()`)
 - ▷ Pandas often displays missing values as `NaN`.

📍 Absolute Pathnames

- An **absolute pathname** tells the computer the *exact location* of a file, starting from the very top folder of your computer.
 - This location never changes, no matter where you are working in Python.
- In Python, you can see the **working directory** — the folder where Python is currently “looking” for files — by running `os.getcwd()` in the **Console**.
- Examples of an absolute pathname for `custdata_rev.csv`:
 - On a Mac:
`/Users/user/documents/data/custdata_rev.csv`
 - On Windows:
`C:\\\\Users\\\\user\\\\Documents\\\\data\\\\custdata_rev.csv`
 - ▷ Note: In Windows, we use **double backslashes** (`\\"`) because a single backslash (`\`) is treated as a special character in R.



Relative Pathnames

- A **relative pathname** specifies the location of a file *relative to the working directory*.
- **Examples of a relative pathname for `custdata_rev.csv`:**
 - Absolute pathname:
`/Users/user/documents/data/custdata_rev.csv`
 - Working directory:
`/Users/user/documents/`
 - Relative pathname:
`data/custdata_rev.csv`



Finding the Absolute Path of a File/Folder

Windows 11

- **Step 1:** Navigate to your folder using File Explorer.
- **Step 2:** Right-click the desired file or folder.
- **Step 3:** Click **Copy as path**.
- **Step 4:** Paste the path into your Python script (**Ctrl + V**).
- **Step 5:** Adjust backslashes in the path:
 - **Option 1:** Replace backslashes (\) with forward slashes (/).
 - **Option 2:** Replace single backslashes (\) with double backslashes (\\).

Mac

- **Step 1:** Navigate to your folder using Finder.
- **Step 2:** Select the file or folder by clicking on it.
- **Step 3:** Copy the path (**Option + Command + C**).
- **Step 4:** Paste the path into your Python script (**Command + V**).



CSV Files

- A **CSV** (comma-separated values) file is a plain text file where each value is separated by a *comma*.
 - CSV files are widely used for storing data from spreadsheets and databases.
- **Example**
 - <https://bcdanl.github.io/data/tvshows.csv>



Exporting a DataFrame as a CSV File with `to_csv()`

- To export `DataFrame` as a `CSV` file, we use the `to_csv()` method.
 - Before exporting, you can set the **working directory (WD)** to organize and manage the location of CSV files.
 - Create a `data` directory within your **WD**. This helps in keeping your data analysis and exports well-organized.

```
1 # Import the os module to interact with the operating system
2 import os
3
4 # Set the working directory path
5 wd_path = 'PATH_TO_YOUR_DATA_FOLDER' # e.g., '/Users/bchoe/Documents/DANL-210'
6 os.chdir(wd_path) # Change the current working directory to wd_path
7 os.getcwd() # Retrieve and return the current working directory
8
9 # index=False to not write the row index in the CSV output
10 df_0.to_csv('data/table.csv', index =False)
```

Scraping Tables with pd.read_html()

Let's do **Classwork 3!**