TOOL

IPython Tip Sheet

Help and Autocompletion

- obj? : print documentation about obj
- obj?? : print documentation about obj and any available source code defining it
- obj.<TAB> : list the attributes of obj (accessible via . typed after obj)
- sometext<TAB>: show list of possible completions after any initial characters

IPython Magic Functions (prefaced with %)

Information on magic functions

- %magic : print in-depth information about set of available magic functions
- %lsmagic : print names of all available magic functions
- %timeit?, %lsmagic?, %who? : print help for any magic function by appending ? to the end, e.g., %timeit?, to get information about %timeit

Running code, and inspecting commands and variables

- %run filename: execute the python code in filename, and bring everything from that module's namespace into the current interactive namespace
- %hist : print list of full command history in current session
- %hist -f filename : save list of full command history to filename
- %who : print list of all defined variables
- %whos: print list of all defined variables and their values
- %debug : activate the interactive debugger after an error has occurred (requires knowledge of Python pdb debugger operation)
- %pprint : toggle "pretty printing" on and off (may help with viewing contents of large objects)
- %timeit expression : run specified Python expression, and return information how long it took to run

Interactions with the Operating System (files, etc.)

- %ls : list files in current directory
- %more filename : print the contents of filename to the screen
- %cp : copy one file to another, or to another directory (e.g., %cp file1 file2)
- %mv : rename one file to another, or to another directory (e.g., %mv file1 file2)
- %mkdir directory_name : make a new directory called directory_name
- %cd directory_name: change current directory to specified directory_name
- %pwd : print the current directory
- ![command] : execute the specified command in the system shell (e.g., !ls -l)