Introduction to Scientific Computing with Python

What Is Python?

Python is an interpreted programming language that allows you to do almost anything possible with a compiled language (C/C++/Fortran) without requiring all the complexity.

PYTHON HIGHLIGHTS

- Interpreted and interactive
- Object-oriented
- "Batteries Included"

- Free
- Portable
- Easy to Learn and Use
- Truly Modular

Interactive Calculator

```
# adding two values
>>> 1 + 1
# setting a variable
>>> a = 1
>>> a
# checking a variables type
>>> type(a)
<type 'int'>
# an arbitrarily long integer
>>> a = 1203405503201
>>> a
1203405503201L
>>> type(a)
<type 'long'>
```

```
# real numbers
>>> b = 1.2 + 3.1
>>> b
4.2999999999999999998
>>> type(b)
<type 'float'>
# complex numbers
>>> c = 2+1.5j
>>> c
(2+1.5j)
```

Complex Numbers

CREATING COMPLEX NUMBERS

EXTRACTING COMPONENTS

```
# to extract real and im
# component
>>> a=1.5+0.5j
>>> a.real
1.5
>>> a.imag
0.5
```

Strings

CREATING STRINGS

```
# using double quotes
>>> s = "hello world"
>>> print s
hello world
# single quotes also work
>>> s = 'hello world'
>>> print s
hello world
```

STRING OPERATIONS

'hello hello '

```
# concatenating two strings
>>> "hello " + "world"
'hello world'

# repeating a string
>>> "hello " * 3
```

STRING LENGTH

```
>>> s = "12345"
>>> len(s)
```

FORMAT STRINGS

```
# the % operator allows you
# to supply values to a
# format string. The format
# string follows
# C conventions.
>>> s = "some numbers:"
>>> x = 1.34
>>> y = 2
>>> s = "%s %f, %d" % (s,x,y)
>>> print s
some numbers: 1.34, 2
```

Multi-line Strings

```
# triple quotes are used
# for mutli-line strings
>>> a = """hello
... world"""
>>> print a
hello
world
# multi-line strings using
# "\" to indicate
continuation
>>> a = "hello " \
... "world"
>>> print a
hello world
```

```
# including the new line
>>> a = "hello\n" \
... "world"
>>> print a
hello
world
```

List objects

LIST CREATION WITH BRACKETS

```
>>> 1 = [10,11,12,13,14]
>>> print 1
[10, 11, 12, 13, 14]
```

CONCATENATING LIST

```
# simply use the + operator
>>> [10, 11] + [12,13]
[10, 11, 12, 13]
```

REPEATING ELEMENTS IN LISTS

```
# the multiply operator
# does the trick.
>>> [10, 11] * 3
[10, 11, 10, 11, 10, 11]
```

range(start, stop, step)

```
# the range method is helpful
# for creating a sequence
>>> range(5)
[0, 1, 2, 3, 4]

>>> range(2,7)
[2, 3, 4, 5, 6]

>>> range(2,7,2)
[2, 4, 6]
```

Indexing

RETREIVING AN ELEMENT

```
# list
# indices: 0 1 2 3 4
>>> 1 = [10,11,12,13,14]
>>> 1[0]
10
```

SETTING AN ELEMENT

```
>>> l[1] = 21
>>> print l
[10, 21, 12, 13, 14]
```

OUT OF BOUNDS

```
>>> 1[10]
Traceback (innermost last):
File "<interactive input>",line 1,in ?
IndexError: list index out of range
```

NEGATIVE INDICES

```
# negative indices count
# backward from the end of
# the list.
#
# indices: -5 -4 -3 -2 -1
>>> 1 = [10,11,12,13,14]

>>> 1[-1]
14
>>> 1[-2]
13
```

More on list objects

LIST CONTAINING MULTIPLE TYPES

```
# list containing integer,
# string, and another list.
>>> 1 = [10,'eleven',[12,13]]
>>> 1[1]
'eleven'
>>> 1[2]
[12, 13]
# use multiple indices to
# retrieve elements from
# nested lists.
>>> 1[2][0]
12
```

LENGTH OF A LIST

```
>>> len(1)
```

DELETING OBJECT FROM LIST

```
# use the <u>del</u> keyword
>>> del 1[2]
>>> 1
[10,'eleven']
```

DOES THE LIST CONTAIN x?

```
# use <u>in</u> or <u>not in</u>
>>> 1 = [10,11,12,13,14]
>>> 13 in 1
1
>>> 13 not in 1
```

Slicing

var[lower:upper]

SLICING LISTS

OMITTING INDICES

```
# omitted boundaries are
# assumed to be the beginning
# (or end) of the list.

# grab first three elements
>>> 1[:3]
[10,11,12]
# grab last two elements
>>> 1[-2:]
[13,14]
```

List methods in action

```
>>> 1 = [10,21,23,11,24]
# add an element to the list
>>> 1.append(11)
>>> print 1
[10,21,23,11,24,11]
# how many 11s are there?
>>> 1.count(11)
2
# where does 11 first occur?
>>> 1.index(11)
3
```

```
# remove the first 11
>>> 1.remove(11)
>>> print 1
[10,21,23,24,11]
# sort the list
>>> 1.sort()
>>> print 1
[10,11,21,23,24]
# reverse the list
>>> 1.reverse()
>>> print 1
[24,23,21,11,10]
```

Dictionaries

Dictionaries store *key/value* pairs. Indexing a dictionary by a *key* returns the *value* associated with it.

DICTIONARY EXAMPLE

```
# create an empty dictionary using curly brackets
>>> record = {}
>>> record['first'] = 'Jmes'
>>> record['last'] = 'Maxwell'
>>> record['born'] = 1831
>>> print record
{'first': 'Jmes', 'born': 1831, 'last': 'Maxwell'}
```

Dictionary methods in action

```
>>> d = { 'cows': 1,'dogs':5,
... 'cats': 3}

# get a list of all keys
>>> d.keys()
['cats','dogs','cows']
```

```
# get a list of all values
>>> d.values()
[3, 5, 1]

# clear the dictionary
>>> d.clear()
>>> print d
{}
```

If statements

if/elif/else provide conditional execution of code blocks.

IF STATEMENT FORMAT

IF EXAMPLE

```
# a simple if statement
>>> x = 10
>>> if x > 0:
...     print 1
... elif x == 0:
...     print 0
... else:
...     print -1
... < hit return >
1
```

Test Values

- True means any non-zero number or non-empty object
- False means not true: zero, empty object, or None

EMPTY OBJECTS

```
# empty objects evaluate false
>>> x = []
>>> if x:
... print 1
... else:
... print 0
... < hit return >
0
```

For loops

For loops iterate over a sequence of objects.

```
for <loop_var> in <sequence>:
     <statements>
```

TYPICAL SCENARIO

```
>>> for i in range(5):
...    print i,
... < hit return >
0 1 2 3 4
```

LOOPING OVER A STRING

```
>>> for i in 'abcde':
... print i,
... < hit return >
a b c d e
```

LOOPING OVER A LIST

```
>>> l=['dogs','cats','bears']
>>> accum = ''
>>> for item in 1:
... accum = accum + item
... accum = accum + ' '
... < hit return >
>>> print accum
dogs cats bears
```

While loops

While loops iterate until a condition is met.

```
while <condition>:
     <statements>
```

WHILE LOOP

```
# the condition tested is
# whether lst is empty.
>>> lst = range(3)
>>> while lst:
... print lst
... lst = lst[1:]
... < hit return >
[0, 1, 2]
[1, 2]
[2]
```

BREAKING OUT OF A LOOP

```
# breaking from an infinite
# loop.
>>> i = 0
>>> while 1:
... if i < 3:
... print i,
... else:
... break
... i = i + 1
... < hit return >
0 1 2
```

Anatomy of a function

The keyword **def** indicates the start of a function.

Function arguments are listed separated by commas. They are passed by *assignment*. More on this later.

Indentation is used to indicate the contents of the function. It is *not* optional, but a part of the syntax.

def add(arg0, arg1):

A colon (:) terminates the function definition.

An optional return statement specifies the value returned from the function. If return is omitted, the function returns the special value **None**.

Our new function in action

```
# how about strings?
>>> x = 'foo'
>>> y = 'bar'
>>> add(x,y)
'foobar'

# functions can be assigned
# to variables
>>> func = add
>>> func(x,y)
'foobar'
```

```
# how about numbers and strings?
>>> add('abc',1)
Traceback (innermost last):
File "<interactive input>", line 1, in ?
File "<interactive input>", line 2, in add
TypeError: cannot add type "int" to string
```

Modules

EX1.PY

```
# ex1.py
PI = 3.1416
def sum(lst):
    tot = lst[0]
    for value in lst[1:]:
        tot = tot + value
    return tot
1 = [0,1,2,3]
print sum(1), PI
```

FROM SHELL

```
[ej@bull ej]$ python ex1.py
6, 3.1416
```

NumPy

NumPy

IMPORT NUMPY

```
>>> from numpy import *
```

>>> import numpy

Array Operations

SIMPLE ARRAY MATH

```
>>> a = array([1,2,3,4])
>>> b = array([2,3,4,5])
>>> a + b
array([3, 5, 7, 9])
```

```
# multiply entire array by
# scalar value
>>> a = (2*pi)/10.
>>> a
0.628318530718
```

MATH FUNCTIONS

```
>>> a*x
array([ 0.,0.628,...,6.283])

# apply functions to array.
>>> y = sin(a*x)
```

Introducing Numeric Arrays

SIMPLE ARRAY CREATION

```
>>> a = array([0,1,2,3])
>>> a
array([0, 1, 2, 3])
```

CHECKING THE TYPE

```
>>> type(a)
<type 'array'>
```

NUMERIC TYPE OF ELEMENTS

```
>>> a.typecode()
'l' # 'l' = Int
```

BYTES IN AN ARRAY ELEMENT

```
>>>
a.itemsize()
4
```

ARRAY SHAPE

```
>>> a.shape (4,)
>>> shape(a) (4,)
```

CONVERT TO PYTHON LIST

```
>>> a.tolist()
[0, 1, 2, 3]
```

ARRAY INDEXING

```
>>> a[0]
0
>>> a[0] = 10
>>> a
[10, 1, 2, 3]
```

Multi-Dimensional Arrays

MULTI-DIMENSIONAL ARRAYS

(ROWS, COLUMNS)

```
>>> shape(a) (2, 4)
```

GET/SET ELEMENTS

ADDRESS FIRST ROW USING SINGLE INDEX

```
>>> a[1]
array([10, 11, 12, 13])
```

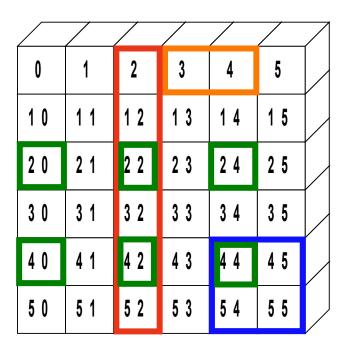
FLATTEN TO 1D ARRAY

```
>>> a.flat
array(0,1,2,3,10,11,12,-1)
```

Array Slicing

SLICING WORKS MUCH LIKE STANDARD PYTHON SLICING

STRIDES ARE ALSO POSSIBLE



Mathematic Binary Operators

```
a + b → add(a,b)
a - b → subtract(a,b)
a % b → remainder(a,b)
```

MULTIPLY BY A SCALAR

```
>>> a = array((1,2))
>>> a*3.
array([3., 6.])
```

ELEMENT BY ELEMENT ADDITION

```
>>> a = array([1,2])
>>> b = array([3,4])
>>> a + b
array([4, 6])
```

```
a * b → multiply(a,b)
a / b → divide(a,b)
a ** b → power(a,b)
```

ADDITION USING AN OPERATOR FUNCTION

```
>>> add(a,b) array([4, 6])
```

Comparison and Logical Operators

```
equal (==) not_equal (!=) greater (>)
greater_equal (>=) less (<) less_equal (<=)
logical_and (and) logical_or (or) logical_xor
logical_not (not)
```

2D EXAMPLE