Introduction to NumPy: Takeaways 🖻

by Dataquest Labs, Inc. - All rights reserved © 2020

Syntax

SELECTING ROWS, COLUMNS, AND ITEMS FROM AN NDARRAY

• Convert a list of lists into a ndarray:

```
import numpy as np
f = open("nyc_taxis.csv", "r")
taxi_list = list(csv.reader(f))
taxi = np.array(taxi_list)
```

• Selecting a row from an ndarray:

```
second_row = taxi[1]
```

• Selecting multiple rows from an ndarray:

```
all but first row = taxi[1:]
```

• Selecting a specific item from an ndarray:

```
fifth row second column = taxi[4,1]
```

SLICING VALUES FROM AN NDARRAY

• Selecting a single column:

```
second column = taxi[:,1]
```

• Selecting multiple columns:

```
second_third_columns = taxi[:,1:3]
cols = [1,3,5]
second_fourth_sixth_columns = taxi[:, cols]
```

• Selecting a 2D slice:

```
twod_slice = taxi[1:4, :3]
```

VECTOR MATH

- vector a + vector b : Addition
- vector a vector b : Subtraction
- **vector_a** * **vector_b** : Multiplication (this is unrelated to the vector multiplication used in linear algebra).
- vector a / vector b : Division

CALCULATING STATISTICS FOR 1D NDARRAYS

- **ndarray.min()** to calculate the minimum value
- **ndarray.max()** to calculate the maximum value
- **ndarray.mean()** to calculate the mean average value
- **ndarray.sum()** to calculate the sum of the values

CALCULATING STATISTICS FOR 2D NDARRAYS

Max value for an entire 2D Ndarray:

```
taxi.max()
```

Max value for each row in a 2D Ndarray (returns a 1D Ndarray):

```
taxi.max(axis=1)
```

Max value for each column in a 2D Ndarray (returns a 1D Ndarray):

```
taxi.max(axis=0)
```

Concepts

- Python is considered a high-level language because we don't have to manually allocate memory or specify how the CPU performs certain operations. A low-level language like C gives us this control and lets us improve specific code performance, but a tradeoff in programmer productivity is made. The NumPy library lets us write code in Python but take advantage of the performance that C offers. One way NumPy makes our code run quickly is **vectorization**, which takes advantage of **Single Instruction Multiple Data** (SIMD) to process data more quickly.
- A list in NumPy is called a 1D Ndarray and a list of lists is called a 2D Ndarray. NumPy ndarrays use indices along both rows and columns and is the primary way we select and slice values.

Resources

- Arithmetic functions from the NumPy documentation.
- NumPy ndarray documentation



Takeaways by Dataquest Labs, Inc. - All rights reserved © 2020