Downloading data using curl

DATA PROCESSING IN SHELL



Susan Sun
Data Person



What is curl?

curl:

- is short for Client for URLs
- is a Unix command line tool
- transfers data to and from a server
- is used to download data from HTTP(S) sites and FTP servers

Checking curl installation

Check curl installation:

man curl

If curl has **not** been installed, you will see:

curl command not found.

For full instructions, see https://curl.haxx.se/download.html.

Browsing the curl Manual

If curl is installed, your console will look like this:

```
curl(1)
                                                     Curl Manual
                                                                                                              curl(1)
NAME
      curl - transfer a URL
SYNOPSIS
       curl [options] [URL...]
DESCRIPTION
       curl is a tool to transfer data from or to a server, using one of the supported protocols (DICT, FILE, FTP,
      FTPS, GOPHER, HTTP, HTTPS, IMAP, IMAPS, LDAP, LDAPS, POP3, POP3S, RTMP, RTSP, SCP, SFTP, SMB, SMBS, SMTP,
       SMTPS, TELNET and TFTP). The command is designed to work without user interaction.
      curl offers a busload of useful tricks like proxy support, user authentication, FTP upload, HTTP post, SSL con-
      nections, cookies, file transfer resume, Metalink, and more. As you will see below, the number of features will
```



Browsing the curl Manual

Press Enter to scroll.

Press q to exit.

Learning curl Syntax

Basic curl syntax:

```
curl [option flags] [URL]
```

URL is required.

```
curl also supports HTTP, HTTPS, FTP, and SFTP.
```

For a full list of the options available:

```
curl --help
```

Downloading a Single File

Example:

A single file is stored at:

https://websitename.com/datafilename.txt

Use the optional flag -0 to save the file with its original name:

curl -0 https://websitename.com/datafilename.txt

To rename the file, use the lower case -o + new file name:

curl -o renameddatafilename.txt https://websitename.com/datafilename.txt

Downloading Multiple Files using Wildcards

Oftentimes, a server will host multiple data files, with similar filenames:

```
https://websitename.com/datafilename001.txt
https://websitename.com/datafilename002.txt
...
https://websitename.com/datafilename100.txt
```

Using Wildcards (*)

Download every file hosted on https://websitename.com/ that starts with datafilename and ends in .txt:

```
curl -0 https://websitename.com/datafilename*.txt
```



Downloading Multiple Files using Globbing Parser

Continuing with the previous example:

```
https://websitename.com/datafilename001.txt
https://websitename.com/datafilename002.txt
...
https://websitename.com/datafilename100.txt
```

Using Globbing Parser

The following will download every file sequentially starting with datafilename001.txt and ending with datafilename100.txt.

```
curl -0 https://websitename.com/datafilename[001-100].txt
```



Downloading Multiple Files using Globbing Parser

Continuing with the previous example:

```
https://websitename.com/datafilename001.txt
https://websitename.com/datafilename002.txt
...
https://websitename.com/datafilename100.txt
```

Using Globbing Parser

```
Increment through the files and download every Nth file (e.g. datafilename010.txt , datafilename020.txt , datafilename100.txt )
```

```
curl -0 https://websitename.com/datafilename[001-100:10].txt
```



Preemptive Troubleshooting

curl has two particularly useful option flags in case of timeouts during download:

- -L Redirects the HTTP URL if a 300 error code occurs.
- -C Resumes a previous file transfer if it times out before completion.

Putting everything together:

```
curl -L -O -C https://websitename.com/datafilename[001-100].txt
```

- All option flags come before the URL
- Order of the flags does not matter (e.g. -L -C -O is fine)

Happy curl-ing!

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Downloading data using Wget

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What is Wget?

Wget:

- derives its name from World Wide Web and get
- native to Linux but compatible for all operating systems
- used to download data from HTTP(S) and FTP
- better than curl at downloading multiple files recursively

Checking Wget Installation

Check if Wget is installed correctly:

which wget

If Wget has been installed, this will print the location of where Wget has been installed:

/usr/local/bin/wget

If Wget has not been installed, there will be no output.

Wget Installation by Operating System

Wget source code: https://www.gnu.org/software/wget/

Linux: run sudo apt-get install wget

MacOS: use homebrew and run brew install wget

Windows: download via gnuwin32

Browsing the Wget Manual

Once installation is complete, use the man command to print the Wget manual:

NAME
Wget - The non-interactive network downloader.

SYNOPSIS
wget [option]... [URL]...

DESCRIPTION
GNU Wget is a free utility for non-interactive download of files from the Web. It supports HTTP, HTTPS, and FTP protocols, as well as retrieval through HTTP proxies.

Wget is non-interactive, meaning that it can work in the background, while the user is not logged on. This allows you to start a retrieval and disconnect from the system, letting Wget finish the work. By contrast, most of the Web browsers require constant user's presence, which can be a great hindrance when transferring a lot of data.



Learning Wget Syntax

```
Basic Wget syntax:
```

```
wget [option flags] [URL]
```

URL is required.

```
Wget also supports HTTP, HTTPS, FTP, and SFTP.
```

For a full list of the option flags available, see:

```
wget --help
```

Downloading a Single File

Option flags unique to Wget:

- -b : Go to background immediately after startup
- -q: Turn off the Wget output
- -c : Resume broken download (i.e. continue getting a partially-downloaded file)

wget -bqc https://websitename.com/datafilename.txt

Continuing in background, pid 12345.



Have fun Wget-ing!

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Advanced downloading using Wget

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Multiple file downloading with Wget

Save a list of file locations in a text file.

```
cat url_list.txt

https://websitename.com/datafilename001.txt
https://websitename.com/datafilename002.txt
...
```

Download from the URL locations stored within the file url_list.txt using -i.

```
wget -i url_list.txt
```



Setting download constraints for large files

Set upper download bandwidth limit (by default in bytes per second) with --limit-rate .

Syntax:

```
wget --limit-rate={rate}k {file_location}
```

Example:

```
wget --limit-rate=200k -i url_list.txt
```

Setting download constraints for small files

Set a mandatory pause time (in seconds) between file downloads with --wait .

Syntax:

```
wget --wait={seconds} {file_location}
```

Example:

```
wget --wait=2.5 -i url_list.txt
```

curl versus Wget

curl advantages:

- Can be used for downloading and uploading files from 20+ protocols.
- Easier to install across all operating systems.

Wget advantages:

- Has many built-in functionalities for handling multiple file downloads.
- Can handle various file formats for download (e.g. file directory, HTML page).

Let's practice!

DATA PROCESSING IN SHELL



Getting started with csvkit

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What is csvkit?

csvkit:

- is a suite of command-line tools
- is developed in Python by Wireservice
- offers data processing and cleaning capabilities on CSV files
- has data capabilities that rival Python, R, and SQL
- documentation: https://csvkit.readthedocs.io/en/latest/

csvkit installation

```
Install csvkit using Python package manager pip:
```

```
pip install csvkit
```

Upgrade csvkit to the latest version:

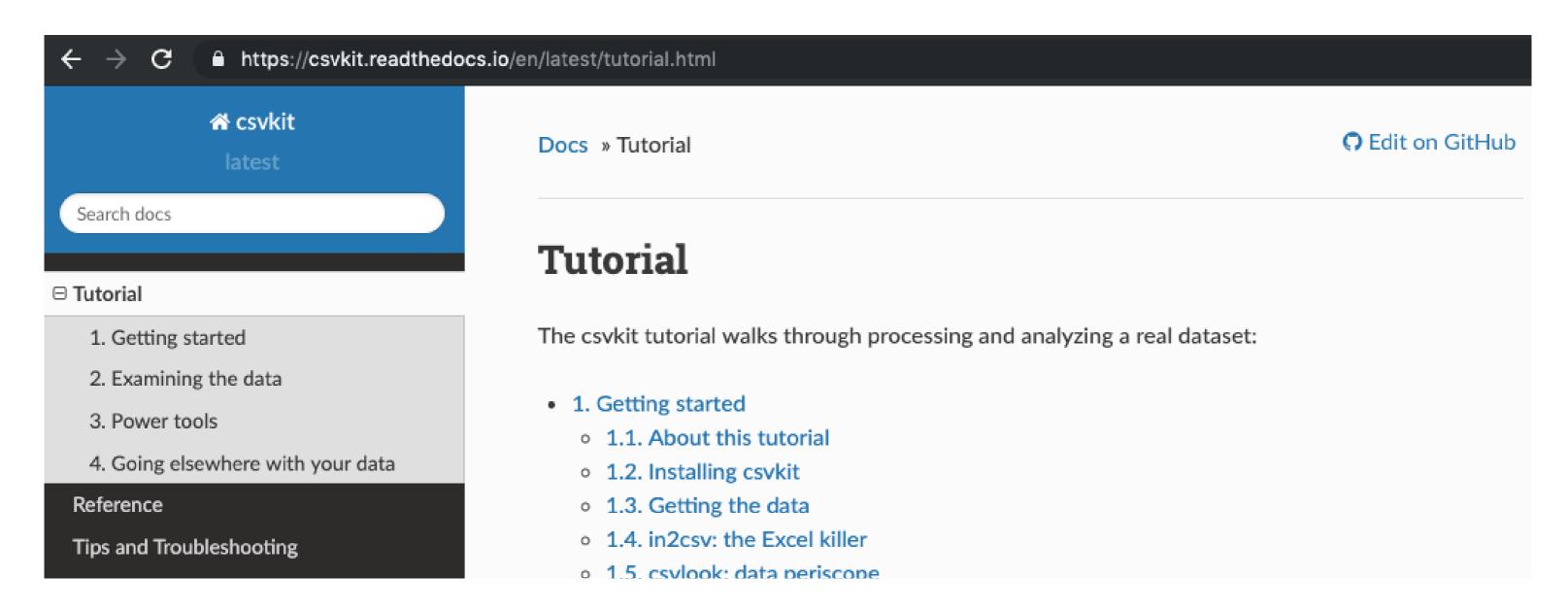
```
pip install --upgrade csvkit
```

Full instructions:

https://csvkit.readthedocs.io/en/latest/tutorial.html.

Browsing the csvkit manual

Web-based documentation: https://csvkit.readthedocs.io/en/latest/tutorial.html



Web-based documentation:

https://csvkit.readthedocs.io/en/latest/scripts/in2csv.html

Command line-based documentation:

```
in2csv --help
in2csv -h
```

Syntax:

in2csv SpotifyData.xlsx > SpotifyData.csv

Prints the first sheet in Excel to console and does not save

in2csv SpotifyData.xlsx

- > redirects the output and saves it as a new file SpotifyData.csv
- > SpotifyData.csv

```
Use --names or -n option to print all sheet names in SpotifyData.xlsx.
```

```
in2csv -n SpotifyData.xlsx
```

```
Worksheet1_Popularity
Worksheet2_MusicAttributes
```

Use --sheet option followed by the sheet "Worksheet1_Popularity" to be converted.

```
in2csv SpotifyData.xlsx --sheet "Worksheet1_Popularity" > Spotify_Popularity.csv
```



in2csv does not print logs to console.

in2csv SpotifyData.xlsx --sheet "Worksheet1_Popularity" > Spotify_Popularity.csv

Sanity check:

ls

SpotifyData.xlsx Spotify_Popularity.csv backup bin

csvlook: data preview on the command line

csvlook: renders a CSV to the command line in a Markdown-compatible, fixed-width format

Documentation:

```
csvlook -h
```

```
usage: csvlook [-h] [-d DELIMITER] [-t] [-q QUOTECHAR] [-u {0,1,2,3}] [-b]
[-p ESCAPECHAR] [-z FIELD_SIZE_LIMIT] [-e ENCODING] [-L LOCALE]
[-S] [--blanks] [--date-format DATE_FORMAT]
```

csvlook: data preview on the command line

Syntax:

```
csvlook Spotify_Popularity.csv
```



csvstat: descriptive stats on CSV data files

csvstat : prints descriptive summary statistics on all columns in CSV (e.g. mean, median, unique values counts)

Documentation:

csvstat -h

```
usage: csvstat [-h] [-d DELIMITER] [-t] [-q QUOTECHAR] [-u {0,1,2,3}] [-b]
[-p ESCAPECHAR] [-z FIELD_SIZE_LIMIT] [-e ENCODING] [-S] [-H]
[-K SKIP_LINES] [-v] [-1] [--zero] [-V] [--csv] [-n]
```

csvstat: descriptive stats on CSV data files

Syntax:

```
csvstat Spotify_Popularity.csv
```

```
1. "track_id"

Type of data: Text
Contains null values: False
Unique values: 24
Longest value: 22 characters
Most common values: 118GQ70Sp6pMqn6w1oKuki (1x)
6S7cr72a7a8RVAXzDCRj6m (1x)
```



Let's try some csvkit!

DATA PROCESSING IN SHELL



Filtering data using csvkit

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What does it mean to filter data?

We can create a subset of the original data file by:

- 1. Filtering the data by column
- 2. Filtering the data by row

csvcut: filters data using **column** name or position

csvgrep: filters data by row value through exact match, pattern matching, or even regex

csvcut : filters and truncates CSV files by column name or column position

Documentation:

```
csvcut -h
```

```
usage: csvcut [-h] [-d DELIMITER] [-t] [-q QUOTECHAR] [-u {0,1,2,3}] [-b]
[-p ESCAPECHAR] [-z FIELD_SIZE_LIMIT] [-e ENCODING] [-S] [-H]
[-K SKIP_LINES] [-v] [-l] [--zero] [-V] [-n] [-c COLUMNS]
```

Use --names or -n option to print all column names in Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv.

csvcut -n Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv

- 1: track_id
- 2: danceability
- 3: duration_ms

```
1: track_id
```

- 2: danceability
- 3: duration_ms

Returns the first column in the data, by **position**:

```
csvcut -c 1 Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv
```

```
track_id
118GQ70Sp6pMqn6w1oKuki
6S7cr72a7a8RVAXzDCRj6m
```



```
1: track_id
```

- 2: danceability
- 3: duration_ms

Returns only the first column in the data, by name:

```
csvcut -c "track_id" Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv
```

```
track_id
118GQ70Sp6pMqn6w1oKuki
6S7cr72a7a8RVAXzDCRj6m
```



```
1: track_id
```

- 2: danceability
- 3: duration_ms

Returns the second and third column in the data, by **position**:

```
csvcut -c 2,3 Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv
```

danceability,duration_ms

- 0.787,124016.0
- 0.777,128016.0
- 0.79599999999999,132742.0



```
1: track_id
2: danceability
3: duration_ms
```

Returns the second and third column in the data, by name:

```
csvcut -c "danceability","duration_ms" Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv
```

```
danceability,duration_ms
0.787,124016.0
0.777,128016.0
0.795999999999,132742.0
```



csvgrep: filtering data by row value

csvgrep:

- filters by row using exact match or regex fuzzy matching
- must be paired with one of these options:
- -m : followed by the exact row value to filter
- -r : followed with a regex pattern
- -f: followed by the path to a file

Documentation:

csvgrep -h



csvgrep: filtering data by row value

```
Find in Spotify_Popularity.csv where track_id = 5RCPsfzmEpTXMCTNk7wEfQ
```

```
csvgrep -c "track_id" -m 5RCPsfzmEpTXMCTNk7wEfQ Spotify_Popularity.csv
```

```
track_id,popularity
5RCPsfzmEpTXMCTNk7wEfQ,7.0
```

```
csvgrep -c 1 -m 5RCPsfzmEpTXMCTNk7wEfQ Spotify_Popularity.csv
```

```
track_id, popularity
5RCPsfzmEpTXMCTNk7wEfQ, 7.0
```



Let's do data filtering with csvkit!

DATA PROCESSING IN SHELL



Stacking data and chaining commands with csvkit

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csvstack: stacks up the rows from two or more CSV files

Documentation:

csvstack -h

```
usage: csvstack [-h] [-d DELIMITER] [-t] [-q QUOTECHAR] [-u {0,1,2,3}] [-b]
[-p ESCAPECHAR] [-z FIELD_SIZE_LIMIT] [-e ENCODING] [-S] [-H]
[-n GROUP_NAME] [--filenames]
```

Stack two similar files Spotify_Rank6.csv and Spotify_Rank7.csv into one file.

Preview the data to check schema:

```
csvlook Spotify_Rank6.csv
```

```
csvlook Spotify_Rank7.csv
```



Syntax:

```
csvstack Spotify_Rank6.csv Spotify_Rank7.csv > Spotify_AllRanks.csv
csvlook Spotify_AllRanks.csv
```



```
csvstack -g "Rank6","Rank7" \
Spotify_Rank6.csv Spotify_Rank7.csv > Spotify_AllRanks.csv

csvlook Spotify_AllRanks.csv
```



```
csvstack -g "Rank6","Rank7" -n "source" \
Spotify_Rank6.csv Spotify_Rank7.csv > Spotify_AllRanks.csv
```

csvlook Spotify_AllRanks.csv



; links commands together and runs sequentially

csvlook SpotifyData_All.csv; csvstat SpotifyData_All.csv

&& links commands together, but only runs the 2nd command if the 1st succeeds

csvlook SpotifyData_All.csv && csvstat SpotifyData_All data.csv

> re-directs the output from the 1st command to the location indicated as the 2nd

in2csv SpotifyData.xlsx > SpotifyData.csv

uses the output of the 1st command as input to the 2nd

Example:

Output of csvcut is not well formatted:

```
csvcut -c "track_id", "danceability" Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv
```

```
track_id,danceability
118GQ70Sp6pMqn6w1oKuki,0.787
6S7cr72a7a8RVAXzDCRj6m,0.777
7h2qWpMJzIVtiP30E8VDW4,0.795
3KVQFxJ5CWOcbxdpPYdi4o,0.815
```



Example (continued):

```
Re-format csvcut 's output by piping the output as input to csvlook:
```

```
csvcut -c "track_id","danceability" Spotify_Popularity.csv | csvlook
```



Let's put everything together!

DATA PROCESSING IN SHELL



Pulling data from databases

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sql2csv: documentation

sql2csv:

- executes an SQL query on a large variety of SQL databases (e.g. MS SQL, MySQL, Oracle, PostgreSQL, Sqlite)
- outputs the result to a CSV file

Documentation:

```
sql2csv -h
```

```
usage: sql2csv [-h] [-v] [-l] [-V] [--db CONNECTION_STRING] [--query QUERY]
[-e ENCODING] [-H]
[FILE]
```

sql2csv: querying against the database

Sample syntax:

```
sql2csv --db "sqlite:///SpotifyDatabase.db" \
    --query "SELECT * FROM Spotify_Popularity" \
    > Spotify_Popularity.csv
```

1. Establishing database connection:

- --db is followed by the database connection string
- SQLite: starts with sqlite:/// and ends with .db
- Postgres & MySQL: starts with postgres:/// or mysql:/// and with no .db

sql2csv: querying against the database

Sample syntax:

```
sql2csv --db "sqlite:///SpotifyDatabase.db" \
    --query "SELECT * FROM Spotify_Popularity" \
    > Spotify_Popularity.csv
```

2. Querying against the database:

- --query is followed by the SQL query string
- Use SQL syntax compatible with the database
- Write query in one line with no line breaks

sql2csv: querying against the database

Sample syntax:

```
sql2csv --db "sqlite:///SpotifyDatabase.db" \
--query "SELECT * FROM Spotify_Popularity" \
> Spotify_Popularity.csv
```

3. Saving the output:

- > : re-directs output to new local CSV file
- Otherwise, will only print query results to console

Let's practice!

DATA PROCESSING IN SHELL



Manipulating data using SQL syntax

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csvsql: documentation

csvsql:

- applies SQL statements to one or more CSV files
- creates an in-memory SQL database that temporarily hosts the file being processed
- suitable for small to medium files only

Documentation:

```
csvsql -h
```

```
usage: csvsql [-h] [-d DELIMITER] [-t] [-q QUOTECHAR] [-u {0,1,2,3}] [-b]
[-p ESCAPECHAR] [-z FIELD_SIZE_LIMIT] [-e ENCODING] [-L LOCALE]
```

csvsql: applying SQL to a local CSV file

Sample syntax:

ls

Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv

csvsql: applying SQL to a local CSV file

Sample syntax:

```
csvsql --query "SELECT * FROM Spotify_MusicAttributes LIMIT 1" \
    Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv
```

track_id, danceability, duration_ms, instrumentalness, loudness, tempo, time_signature 118GQ70Sp6pMqn6w1oKuki, 0.787, 124016.0, 0.784, -10.457, 119.988, 4.0



csvsql: applying SQL to a local CSV file

Sample syntax:

```
csvsql --query "SELECT * FROM Spotify_MusicAttributes LIMIT 1" \
data/Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv | csvlook
```

csvsql: applying SQL to a local CSV file

Sample syntax:

```
csvsql --query "SELECT * FROM Spotify_MusicAttributes LIMIT 1" \
    data/Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv > OneSongFile.csv
```

ls

OneSongFile.csv

csvsql: joining CSVs using SQL syntax

Sample syntax:

```
csvsql --query "SELECT * FROM file_a INNER JOIN file_b..." file_a.csv file_b.csv
```

Note:

- SQL Query must be written in one line, no breaks
- Indicate CSV files in order of appearance in SQL

Let's practice!

DATA PROCESSING IN SHELL



Pushing data back to database

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csvsql: documentation

csvsql:

- execute SQL statements directly on a database
- supports both creating tables and inserting data.

More option arguments:

- --insert
- --db
- --no-inference & --no-constraints

csvsql: pushing data back to database

Sample syntax:

```
csvsql --db "sqlite:///SpotifyDatabase.db" \
    --insert Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv
```

Note:

- 1. Line break is used to keep code clean and readable
- 2. Use three forward slashes to initiate database name
- 3. End with file extension .db for SQLITE database

csvsql: pushing data back to database

Sample syntax:

```
csvsql --db "sqlite:///SpotifyDatabase.db" \
    --insert Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv
```

Documentation:

```
csvsql -h
```

```
--insert In addition to creating the table, also insert the data into the table. Only valid when --db is specified.
```

csvsql: pushing data back to database

Sample syntax:

```
csvsql --no-inference --no-constraints \
    --db "sqlite:///SpotifyDatabase.db" \
    --insert Spotify_MusicAttributes.csv
```

Documentation:

```
csvsql -h
```

```
--no-inference Disable type inference when parsing the input.
--no-constraints Generate a schema without length limits or null checks.
```

Let's practice!

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Python on the command line

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Python basics

Python

- comes pre-installed on MacOS, Linux
- needs to be user-install for Windows instructions here
- can be used with GUI interfaces (e.g Jupyter Notebook, Spyder, PyCharm, etc.)
- can also be accessed directly via the command line interface

Using Python documentation

Documentation:

```
man python
-V , --version
    Prints the Python version number of the executable and exits.
python --version
```

DataCamp

Python 3.5.2

Using Python documentation

Example 1: using native Python

which python

/usr/bin/python

Example 2: using Anaconda Python

which python

/anaconda3/bin/python



The Python interactive session

To activate a Python interactive session in the terminal:

```
python
```

```
Python 3.5.2 (default, Nov 23 2017, 16:37:01)
[GCC 5.4.0 20160609] on linuxType "help", "copyright", "credits" or
"license" for more information.
>>>
```

The Python interactive session

Inside the interactive session, only use Python syntax:

```
>>> print('hello world')
hello world
```

To exit the Python session and return to terminal:

```
>>> exit()
$
```

Python interactive session alternative

Python interactive session:

- easy to activate, intuitive
- not good for code reproducibility

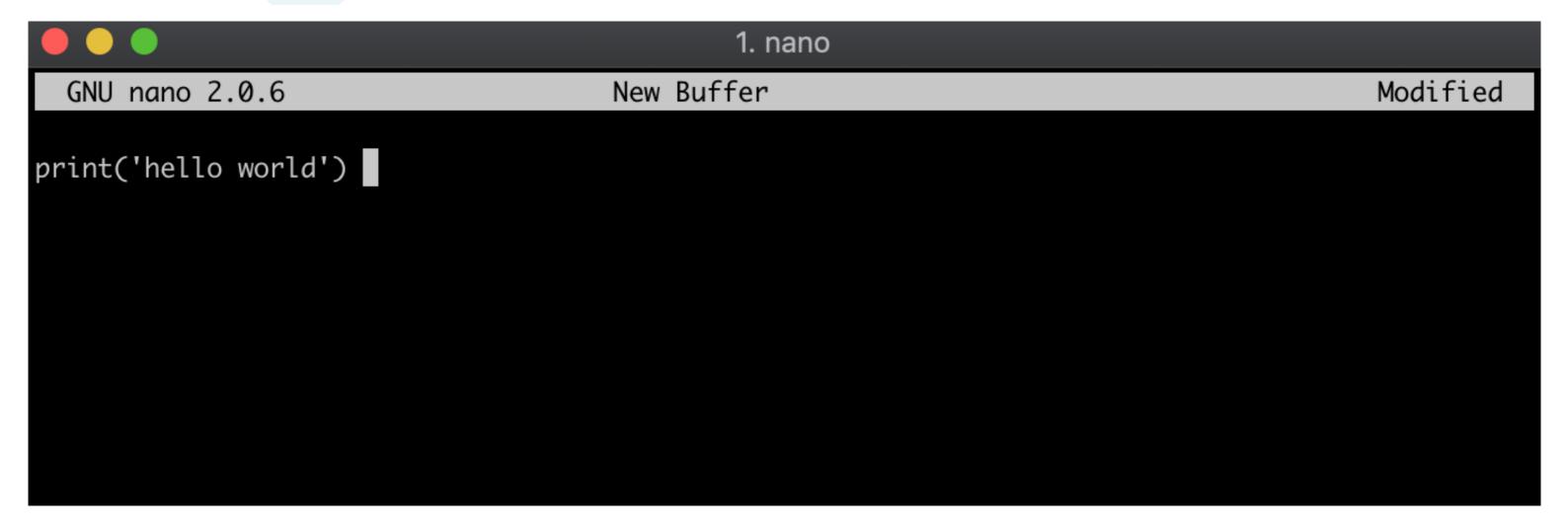
Alternative:

- save Python commands in a Python .py script
- execute script by calling python + script

Python script execution on the command line

Method 1

• Create a .py file using a text editor on the command line (e.g. nano, Vim, Emacs)



Python script execution on the command line

Method 2

• Create a .py file by echo -ing the Python syntax into the hello_world.py file, instantiating the Python file in the same step.

```
echo "print('hello world')" > hello_world.py
```

Sanity check file content:

```
cat hello_world.py
```

```
print('hello world')
```

Python script execution on the command line

Make sure in the same directory as the .py file:

ls

hello_world.py

Execute .py file by preceding filename with python:

python hello_world.py

hello world



Let's practice!

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Python package installation with pip

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Python standard library

Python standard library has a collection of:

- built-in functions (e.g. print())
- built-in packages (e.g. math, os)

Data science packages like **scikit-learn** and **statsmodel**:

- are **NOT** part of the Python standard library
- can be installed through pip, the standard package manager for Python, via the command line

Using pip documentation

Documentation:

```
pip -h
```

```
Usage:
 pip <command> [options]
Commands:
 install
                Install packages.
 uninstall
                Uninstall packages.
  freeze
                Output installed packages in requirements format.
  list
                List installed packages.
```



Using pip documentation

Documentation:

```
pip --version
```

pip 19.1.1 from /usr/local/lib/python3.5/dist-packages/pip (python 3.5)

python --version

Python 3.5.2

Upgrading pip

If pip is giving an upgrade warning:

```
WARNING: You are using pip version 19.1.1, however version 19.2.1 is available. You should consider upgrading via the 'pip install --upgrade pip' command.
```

Upgrade pip using itself:

```
pip install --upgrade pip
```

```
Collecting pip

| ######################### 1.4MB 10.7MB/s

Successfully installed pip-19.2.1
```



pip list

pip list : displays the Python packages in your current Python environment

```
pip list
```

pip install one package

pip install installs the package specified and any other dependencies

```
pip install scikit-learn
```



pip install a specific version

By default, pip install will always install the latest version of the library.

pip install scikit-learn

Successfully built sklearn

Installing collected packages: joblib, scipy, scikit-learn, sklearn

Successfully installed joblib-0.13.2 scikit-learn-0.21.3 scipy-1.3.0 sklearn-0.0



pip install a specific version

To install a specific (or older) version of the library:

```
pip install scikit-learn==0.19.2
```

```
Collecting scikit-learn==0.19.2

Downloading https://files.pythonhosted.org/packages/b6/e2/a1e254a4a4598588d4fe88b45ab8

|############################# 4.9MB 15.6MB/s

Installing collected packages: scikit-learn

Successfully installed scikit-learn-0.19.2
```



Upgrading packages using pip

Upgrade the Scikit-Learn package using pip:

```
pip install --upgrade scikit-learn
```

```
Collecting scikit-learn

Downloading https://files.pythonhosted.org/packages/1f/af/e3c3cd6f61093830059138624dbc

|############################ 6.6MB 41.5MB/s

Requirement already satisfied, skipping upgrade: numpy>=1.11.0 in /usr/local/lib/python3

Collecting scipy>=0.17.0 (from scikit-learn)

Installing collected packages: scipy, joblib, scikit-learn

Successfully installed joblib-0.13.2 scikit-learn-0.21.3 scipy-1.3.0
```



pip install multiple packages

To pip install multiple packages, separate the packages with spaces:

pip install scikit-learn statsmodels

Upgrade multiple packages:

pip install --upgrade scikit-learn statsmodels

pip install with requirements.txt

requirements.txt file contains a list of packages to be installed:

cat requirements.txt

scikit-learn
statsmodel

Most Python developers include requirements.txt files in their Python Github repos.

pip install with requirements.txt

-r allows pip install to install packages from a pre-written file:

```
-r, --requirement <file>
Install from the given requirements file. This option can be used multiple times.
```

In our example:

```
pip install -r requirements.txt
```

is the same as

pip install scikit-learn statsmodel

Let's practice!

DATA PROCESSING IN SHELL



Data job automation with cron

DATA PROCESSING IN SHELL



Susan SunData Person



What is a scheduler?

- Scheduler runs jobs on a pre-determined schedule
- Commercial schedulers: Airflow, Luigi, Rundeck, etc.
- cron scheduler is
 - simple
 - o free
 - customizable
 - purely command-line
 - native to MacOS and Linux

What is cron?

Cron:

- is a time-based job-scheduler
- comes pre-installed in MacOS, Unix
- can be installed in Windows via Cygwin or replaced with Windows Task Scheduler
- is used to automate jobs like system maintenance, bash scripts, Python jobs, etc.

What is crontab?

Crontab is a central file to keep track of cron jobs.

crontab -1

no crontab for <username>

Documentation:

man crontab

Add a job to crontab

Method 1: modify crontab using a text editor (e.g. nano, Vim, Emacs)

Method 2: echo the scheduler command into crontab

```
echo "* * * * python create_model.py" | crontab
```

Check if the job is properly scheduled:

```
crontab -l
```

```
* * * * * python create_model.py
```



Learning to time a cron job

The most frequent schedule for cron jobs is **one minute**.

Breaking down the time component for a cron job:

```
.----- minute (0 - 59)
| .----- hour (0 - 23)
| | .---- day of month (1 - 31)
| | | .---- month (1 - 12) OR jan, feb, mar, apr ...
| | | | .--- day of week (0 - 6) (Sunday=0 or 7) OR sun, mon, tue, wed ...
| | | | | | ** * * * command-to-be-executed
```

Learning to time a cron job

```
* * * * python create_model.py
```

Interpretation:

- Run every minute of every hour of every day of every month and of every day of the week.
- In short, run every minute

Further resources:

• Use https://crontab.guru/ to see more ways to schedule a cron job

Let's practice!

DATA PROCESSING IN SHELL



Course recap

DATA PROCESSING IN SHELL



Susan SunData Person



Data downloading on the command line

- How to download data files via curl and wget
- Documentations, manuals (e.g. man curl , wget --help)
- Multiple file downloads (e.g. wget --limit-rate=200k -i url_list.txt)

Data processing on the command line

- Introduction to command line data toolkit: csvkit
- Convert files to csv using in2csv
- Print preview using csvlook , csvstat
- Filter data using csvcut , csvgrep
- Append multiple data files using csvstack

Database manipulation on the command line

- Database manipulation using sql2csv , csvsql
- Advanced SQL-like ETL commands using csvkit

Building data pipelines on the command line

- Execute Python on the command line
- Python package management using pip
- Automate Python model and build pipelines with cron

Thank you! So long!

DATA PROCESSING IN SHELL

