

# 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 Narray:  

```
taxi.max()
```
- Max value for each row in a 2D Narray (returns a 1D Narray):  

```
taxi.max(axis=1)
```
- Max value for each column in a 2D Narray (returns a 1D Narray):  

```
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 Narray and a list of lists is called a 2D Narray. 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