

WHY NUMPY?

import numpy as np

Python is slow for numerical computing

- •Python itself is an interpreted language it processes one instruction at a time.
- •Doing heavy number crunching (e.g., multiplying millions of numbers) in plain Python loops is **very slow**.

That's where NumPy comes in.

NumPy is mostly written in C

- •The core of NumPy (ndarray objects and mathematical operations) is implemented in C (and some Fortran).
- •C is a **compiled language**, meaning the code runs directly on your machine's processor → much faster than Python loops.

CREATING ARRAYS

```
a = np.array([1, 2, 3])  # 1D

M = np.array([[1,2,3],[4,5,6]]) # 2D

zeros = np.zeros((3,3))
ones = np.ones(4)

r = np.arange(0,10,2)  # like range()
lin = np.linspace(0,1,5)  # evenly spaced

I = np.eye(3)  # identity
```

Exercise:

Create a 4x2 array of ones and a vector from 10 down to 1.

ARRAY ATTRIBUTES

```
a.shape # tuple of dims
a.ndim # number of dimensions
a.size # total elements
a.dtype # data type
```

INDEXING AND SLICING

Basic Indexing

```
v = np.array([10,20,30,40])
v[0]  # first
v[-1]  # last
v[1:3]  # slice (view)
```

2D Indexing

```
M[1,2] # row 1 col 2
M[:,1] # all rows, col 1
M[0] # first row
```

Copying an array

```
s = v[1:3]
s[0] = 999  # changes original v
copy = v[1:3].copy() # make a copy instead
```

Exercise: slice a 3×4 matrix to get the middle two columns and modify one value.

VECTORIZED OPERATIONS

• Much faster than Python loops. Exercise: compute column-wise mean of a 2D array using vectorized ops.



Compatibility rules:

- dimensions either equal or one is 1;
- NumPy aligns trailing dims.

```
A = np.ones((2,3))
v = np.array([1,2,3])  # shape (3,)
A + v  # v broadcasts across rows => each row + v

a = np.array([[1], [2], [3]])  # shape (3,1)
b = np.array([10, 20, 30])  # shape (3,)

print(a + b)
```

```
import numpy as np
arr = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4])
print(arr + 10)  # [11 12 13 14]
```

Exercise: add a (3,1) column vector to a (3,4) matrix

AGGREGATION AND AXIS

Exercise: compute average per row and per column for a sample matrix.

LINEAR ALGEBRA

```
A = np.array([[1,2],[3,4]])
np.linalg.inv(A)
np.linalg.det(A)
np.linalg.eig(A)
```

Exercise: compute eigenvalues of a simple matrix.

PERFORMANCE COMPARISON PYTHON LIST VS. NUMPY ARRAY

Python talks to C via a "wrapper"

- NumPy provides a Python API (functions like np.array, np.dot, etc.).
- When you call a NumPy function in Python, under the hood it calls optimized C functions.
- This is possible because:
 - Python allows C extensions (modules written in C can be imported in Python).
 - NumPy is such a C extension.

```
import time
n = 1 000 000
L = list(range(n))
start = time.time()
[s*2 for s in L]
print("list time", time.time()-start)
import numpy as np
a = np.arange(n)
start = time.time()
a*2
print("numpy time", time.time()-start)
```

PERFORMANCE COMPARISON PYTHON LIST VS. NUMPY ARRAY

Vectorization vs SIMD

- •NumPy's core vectorization = **looping in C over raw memory buffers** (fast).
- •Some NumPy builds (e.g., with Intel MKL, OpenBLAS, or SIMD instructions like AVX) use CPU vector instructions.
 - This means the CPU itself processes multiple elements in one instruction.
 - Example: adding 4 doubles in one CPU cycle instead of one at a time.
- •That's why performance can differ depending on your NumPy build.