Python Basics

June 20th 2018 Xiangyu Qu

Use package manager (pip)

Show version and root of pip	pipversion or pip3version
List all installed packages	pip3 list
Show information about a specific installed package	pip3 show [package-name] (e.g. pip3 show numpy)
Search for a specific package in PyPI repository	pip3 search [package-name]
Install packages	pip3 install [package-name 1] [package-name 2]
Uninstall packages	pip3 uninstall [package-name 1] [package-name 2]
Upgrade a package	pip3 installupgrade [package-name]
Install a specific version of a package	pip3 install [package-name]==version
	(e.g. pip3 install numpy==1.14.3)
Check dependencies	pip3 check
Most important one	pip3help

Python virtual environment

Create a virtual environment

in python3.4 and above: python3 –m venv [some optional arguments] path/to/environment/directory

in python3.3 and python2: virtualenv [some optional arguments] path/to/environment/directory

example: python3 -m venv --system-site-packages ./workshop

Activate a virtual environment

bash: source <virtual environment directory>/bin/activate

cmd.exe: <virtual environment directory>\Scripts\activate.bat

Exit a virtual environment

deactivate

Get help

- Numpy is a scientific computation library for Python
- It is very similar to MATLAB. For a side-by-side comparison, visit http://scipy.github.io/old-wiki/pages/NumPy for Matlab Users
- The basic unit for computation in Numpy is ndarray, which is similar to array in MATLAB. Numpy ndarray is 0 indexed, MATLAB array is 1 indexed

• Create array from a list of numbers and element access

Numpy

```
In[2]: import numpy as np
In[3]: a = np.array([1, 2, 3])
In[4]: print(a)
[1 2 3]
In[5]: a = np.array([[1, 2], [3, 4]])
In[6]: print(a)
[[1 2]
    [3 4]]
In[7]: print('rank:',a.ndim,'shape:',a.shape,'number of elements:',a.size)
rank: 2 shape: (2, 2) number of elements: 4
In[8]: print('a[0] =',a[0,0])
a[0] = 1
```

Create array from built-in functions

Numpy

```
In[17]:
In [17]: a = np.ones((2,2))
In[18]: print(a)
[[1. 1.]
 [1. 1.]]
In[19]: print(np.zeros((2, 2)))
[[0. 0.]
 [0. 0.]]
In[20]: print(np.full((2, 2), 0.5))
[[0.5 \ 0.5]]
 [0.5 0.5]]
In[21]: print(np.eye(2))
[[1. 0.]
 [0. 1.]]
In[22]: print(np.random.rand(2, 2))
[[0.7881301 0.14243331]
 [0.63433755 0.03357696]]
```

```
>> ones(2,2)
ans =

1 1
1 1
>> disp(zeros(2,2))
0 0
0 0
>> disp(eye(2))
1 0
0 1
>> disp(rand(2))
0.8147 0.1270
0.9058 0.9134
>>
```

• Array indexing: slicing; syntax: b = a[i:j] ::== return all elements between i and j-1

Numpy

```
In[2]: import numpy as np
In[3]: a = np.array([[1,2,3,4], [5,6,7,8], [9,10,11,12]])
In[4]: print(a)
[[1 2 3 4]
[5 6 7 8]
[ 9 10 11 12]]
In [5]: b = a [1:3, 1:]
In[6]: print(b)
[[ 6 7 8]
 [10 11 12]]
In[7]: print(a[0:1, :])
[[1 2 3 4]]
In[8]: print(a[1:2, :-2])
[[5 6]]
In[9]: print('integer row index:',a[0,:].ndim)
integer row index: 1
In[10]: print('slice row index:',a[0:1,:].ndim)
slice row index: 2
```

• Array indexing: get a slice with another integer array or Boolean array

```
In[11]: print(a[[0,1,2], [2,1,0]])
[3 6 9]
In[12]: print(np.array([a[0,2], a[1,1], a[2,0]]))
[3 6 9]
In[13]: b = np.array([0,1,2])
In[14]: print(a[b, b[::-1]])
[3 6 9]
In[15]: print(a)
[[1 2 3 4]
[5 6 7 8]
 [ 9 10 11 12]]
In[16]: a[b, b[::-1]] += 10
In[17]: print(a)
[[ 1 2 13 4]
[5 16 7 8]
 [19 10 11 12]]
```

```
In[20]: print(a)
[[ 1  2 13  4]
  [ 5 16  7  8]
  [19 10 11 12]]
In[21]: print(a[a > 6])
[13 16  7  8 19 10 11 12]
In[22]: a[a>6] = -a[a>6]
In[23]: print(a)
[[ 1  2 -13  4]
  [ 5 -16  -7  -8]
  [-19 -10 -11 -12]]
```

• Note: in Numpy, a slicing operation does not create a new copy of the original data but another view of the data; changes on slice will change the corresponding values in the original array, and vice versa

```
In[23]: a_array = np.random.rand(3,3)
In[24]: print(a_array)
[[0.18939277 0.66030958 0.42553664]
 [0.27264523 0.24132075 0.38122089]
 [0.40534569 0.64090631 0.35929866]]
In[25]: a slice = a array[:2,:2]
In[26]: print(a_slice)
[[0.18939277 0.66030958]
 [0.27264523 0.24132075]]
In[27]: a slice[1,1] = 0
In[28]: print(a_array)
[[0.18939277 0.66030958 0.42553664]
 [0.27264523 0.
                        0.38122089]
 [0.40534569 0.64090631 0.35929866]]
In[29]: a_array[0, 0] = -1
In[30]: print(a slice)
[[-1.
               0.660309581
 [ 0.27264523 0.
```

• Array math: default Numpy array arithmetics are elementwise, where in MATLAB defaults are linear algebra

Numpy


```
(a));
>> a * b
ans =
    1.5000
              1.5000
    3.5000
              3.5000
>> inv(a)
ans =
   -2.0000
              1.0000
    1.5000
             -0.5000
>> repmat(a,3,2)
ans =
                        4
           2
                  3
```

• Consider following code:

```
In[35]: a = np.ones((3,3))
In[36]: b = np.ones((3))
In[37]: a + b = ?
```

• will it be

- Broadcasting
 - 1. Two arrays are considered compatible if they have the same size in corresponding dimensions, or, if one array has a size of 1 in that dimension.
 - 2. If one array has lower rank than the other one, prepend the lower rank array with 1's until two arrays are of same rank
 - 3. Given that two arrays are compatible but have different shape, during computation, start from trailing dimension, the array with dimension size 1 is copied along that dimension so that the dimension size matches the other.

Broadcasting

```
In[48]: a = np.ones((3,1,3,))
In[49]: b = np.full((3,1),2,dtype='float32')
In[50]: a.ndim
Out[50]: 3
In[51]: b.ndim
Out[51]: 2
```

- 1. Prepend dimension of b with 1's so that b.shape becomes (1, 3, 1)
- 2. Copy b along third dimension. After copying, b.shape becomes (1, 3, 3)
- 3. Copy a along second dimension. After copying, a.shape becomes (3, 3, 3)
- 4. Copy b along first dimension. After copying, b.shape becomes (3, 3, 3)

Exercise

Generate a random positive semi-definite 5x5 2D array

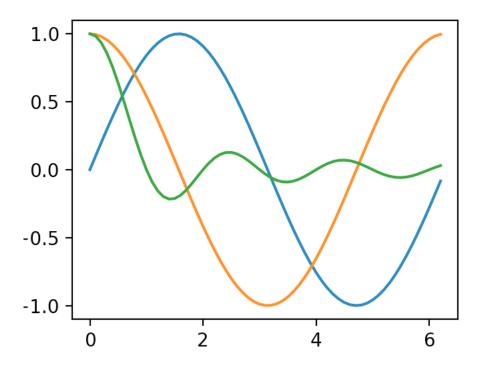
Hints:

- 1. Create a symmetric matrix by adding a random matrix with its transpose
- 2. Apply eigen decomposition to the matrix; (use np.linalg.eig)
- 3. Set all negative eigen values to 0; (use Boolean indexing)
- 4. Compute $Q\Lambda Q^T$; (eigenvalues are stored in a rank 1 array, check out np.diag() function to construct a diagonal matrix from it)

Matplotlib

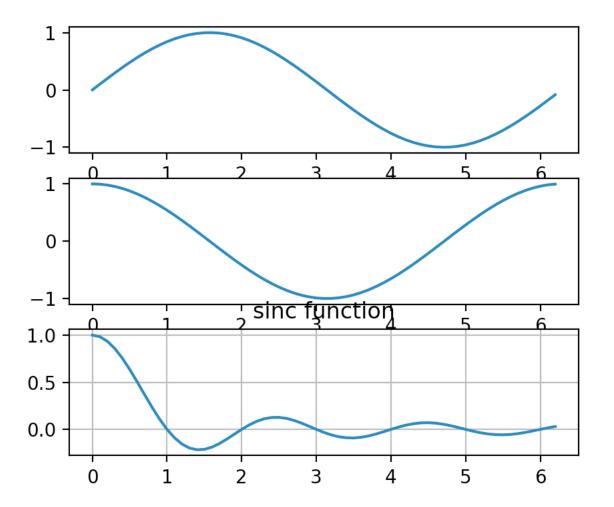
• Matplotlib is a plotting library for Numpy. It can be used to display images, but we will focus on plotting functions

```
In[2]: import numpy as np
In[3]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
Backend MacOSX is interactive backend. Turning interactive mode on.
In[4]: x = np.arange(0, 2*np.pi, 0.1)
In[5]: fx = np.sin(x)
In[6]: gx = np.cos(x)
In[7]: hx = np.sinc(x)
In[8]: plt.plot(x, fx)
Out[8]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x111f09c88>]
In[9]: plt.plot(x, gx)
Out[9]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x114cb1438>]
In[10]: plt.plot(x, hx)
Out[10]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x114cbc518>]
```



Matplotlib

```
In[11]: plt.subplot(3,1,1)
Out[11]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0
In[12]: plt.plot(x, fx)
Out[12]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x114037358>]
In[13]: plt.subplot(3,1,2)
Out[13]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0
In[14]: plt.plot(x, qx)
Out[14]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x1140792e8>]
In[15]: plt.subplot(3,1,3)
Out[15]: <matplotlib.axes._subplots.AxesSubplot at 0
In[16]: plt.plot(x, hx)
Out[16]: [<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x1140de208>]
In[17]: plt.grid
Out[17]: <function matplotlib.pyplot.grid(b=None, wh
In[18]: plt.grid()
In[19]: plt.title('sinc function')
Out[19]: Text(0.5,1,'sinc function')
```



Functions

Python functions are defined using keyword **def**

Function can take keyword arguments and can return multiple outputs

```
In[42]: def ReLU(x, print_result=False, get_grad=False):
            grad = None
   ...:
            if type(x) == list:
                out = [ele * (ele > 0) for ele in x]
                if get_grad == True:
   ...:
                    grad = [int(ele > 0) for ele in x]
   ...:
            else:
                out = x * (x > 0)
   ...:
                if get_grad == True:
   ...:
                    grad = int(x>0)
   ...:
            if print_result == True:
   ...:
                print('output:',out)
   ...:
                print('gradient:',grad)
   ...:
            return out, grad
   ...:
```

```
In[43]: y, y_grad = ReLU(10, True)
output: 10
gradient: None
In[44]: y, y_grad = ReLU([-1.5, -3, 10], get_grad=True)
In[45]: print('output:',y,'\ngradient:',y_grad)
output: [-0.0, 0, 10]
gradient: [0, 0, 1]
```

Functions

Note: in Python, functions can 'see' variables outside of their own scope; when a variable is used in an expression, it first checks within its own scope, then it looks at the enclosing scope

Exercise

Create a function that optimizes over a convex quadratic function using gradient descent. Plot the function value during training using plot functions in Matplotlib library

The input quadratic function will be put in the form $f(\bar{x}) = \bar{x}^T A \bar{x} + \bar{b}^T \bar{x} + c$

The function head should be

def quad_prog(A, b, c=0, enable_plot=True, max_itr=1000, step_size=0.01):

The function should return the optimal value and optimal solution

return optim val, optim x

Hints:

- 1. You may assume that the input matrix **A** is symmetric
- 2. Gradient of a quadratic equation: $\nabla f_x = (A + A^T)\bar{x} + \bar{b}^T$
- 3. Gradient descent: $x^k = x^{k-1} \eta \nabla f_x$

Numbers: only 3 intrinsic types – integer, double precision float, no single precision float, and complex

```
x = 3
print(type(x)) # Prints "<class 'int'>"
print(x) # Prints "3"
print(x + 1) # Addition; prints "4"
print(x - 1) # Subtraction; prints "2"
print(x * 2) # Multiplication; prints "6"
print(x / 2) # division; prints "1.5" in python 3.x and "1" in python 2.x; for integer division in python 3.x, use x //2 or int(x/2)
print(x ** 2) # Exponentiation; prints "9"
x += 1
print(x) # Prints "4"
x *= 2
print(x) # Prints "8"
y = 2.5
print(type(y)) # Prints "<class 'float'>"
print(y, y + 1, y * 2, y ** 2) # Prints "2.5 3.5 5.0 6.25"
z = int(y) # convert from float to integer
print(z, type(z)) # Prints "2 <class 'int'>"
z = float(x) # convert from integer to float
print(z, type(z)) # Prints "8.0 <class 'float'>"
```

Boolean type: Boolean in python is a subtype of integer, represented by reserved keywords: **True** and **False** In addition to False object, all following are also evaluated to **false** in a truth value testing

- None
- zero of any numeric types: 0, 0.0, 0j
- any empty sequence: ", (), []
- any empty mapping: {}
- instances of user-defined classes. If __len__() method returns zero or __bool__() method returns False

```
Python 3.6.5 (default, Apr 25 2018
In[2]: int(True)
Out[2]: 1
Out[2]: 1
In[3]: int(False)
Out[3]: 0
In[4]: bool(0)
Out[4]: False
In[5]: bool(0.1)
Out[5]: True
In[2]: (True + True) ** (False)
Out[2]: 1
In[3]: ((True + False) * (3 * True)) ** (True + True)
Out[3]: 9
```

Booleans operations: Python uses English words (and, or, not) instead of symbols.

Both and and or operator follows short-circuit logic:

x and y: if x is false then x, else y

x or y: if x is true then x, else y

not operator has higher precedence than **and** and **or**, but lower precedence than other operators, so

Note: All Boolean results evaluated from an expression/function are either True/1 or False/0, except for and and or. Operator and and or always return one of its operands

Strings: there is no char type in python; a char is a string of length 1

```
hello = 'hello'  # String literals can use single quotes
 world = "world" # or double quotes; it does not matter.
 print(hello) # Prints "hello"
 print(len(hello)) # String length; prints "5"
 hw = hello + ' ' + world # String concatenation
 print(hw) # prints "hello world"
 hw12 = '%s %s %d' % (hello, world, 12) # sprintf style string formatting
 print(hw12) # prints "hello world 12"
s = "hello"
print(s.capitalize()) # Capitalize a string; prints "Hello"
print(s.upper())  # Convert a string to uppercase; prints "HELLO"
print(s.rjust(7))  # Right-justify a string, padding with spaces; prints " hello"
print(s.center(7))  # Center a string, padding with spaces; prints " hello "
print(s.replace('l', '(ell)')) # Replace all instances of one substring with another;
                             # prints "he(ell)(ell)o"
print(' world '.strip()) # Strip leading and trailing whitespace; prints "world"
```

Containers: List, tuple, set, and dictionary

List: Elements contained in a list can be accessed with index. Python list index starts with 0. A list may contain elements of different data type. Lists are enclosed by square brackets []

Tuple: Creation and element access of tuple are the same as list. However, tuples are **immutable**; you cannot reassign a value to a tuple element. Also, tuples are hashable and can be used as keys for dictionary, lists cannot. Tuples are enclosed by parenthesis (). One can create a tuple with single element by appending a comma to the object ('helloTuple',)

```
nums = list(range(5))  # range is a built-in function that creates a list of integers
print(nums)  # Prints "[0, 1, 2, 3, 4]"

print(nums[2:4])  # Get a slice from index 2 to 4 (exclusive); prints "[2, 3]"

print(nums[2:])  # Get a slice from index 2 to the end; prints "[2, 3, 4]"

print(nums[:2])  # Get a slice from the start to index 2 (exclusive); prints "
print(nums[:])  # Get a slice of the whole list; prints "[0, 1, 2, 3, 4]"

print(nums[:-1])  # Slice indices can be negative; prints "[0, 1, 2, 3]"

nums[2:4] = [8, 9]  # Assign a new sublist to a slice
print(nums)  # Prints "[0, 1, 8, 9, 4]"
```

Containers: List, tuple, set, and dictionary

Looping over list and tuple

```
In[13]: alist = list(range(2)) + ['car'] + [0.617] + [True]
In[14]: for a_element in alist:
           print(type(a_element), a_element)
   ...:
<class 'int'> 0
<class 'int'> 1
<class 'str'> car
<class 'float'> 0.617
<class 'bool'> True
In[15]: atuple = ('elephant', 1869, False, 2.33, (), [])
In[16]: for idx, a_element in enumerate(atuple):
            print(idx, type(a_element), a_element)
   ...:
   ...:
0 <class 'str'> elephant
1 <class 'int'> 1869
2 <class 'bool'> False
3 <class 'float'> 2.33
4 <class 'tuple'> ()
5 <class 'list'> []
```

Containers: List, tuple, set, and dictionary

Set: A set represents a collection of **unordered**, **unique**, **immutable** objects. It cannot be indexed by subscripts, but can be iterated/looped over (in the same way as list and tuple).

```
In[32]: a_set = {'dog','cat'}
In[33]: a_set.add(3.14)
In[34]: print(a set)
{3.14, 'cat', 'dog'}
In[35]: a_set.pop()
Out[35]: 3.14
In[36]: a_set = {'dog','cat'}
In[37]: a_set.add(3.14)
In[38]: print(a set)
{3.14, 'cat', 'dog'}
In[39]: a_set.add('Siri')
In[40]: print(a_set)
{3.14, 'cat', 'dog', 'Siri'}
In[41]: a_set.pop()
Out[41]: 3.14
In[42]: a set.pop()
Out[42]: 'cat'
```

Containers: List, tuple, set, and dictionary

Dictionary: A dictionary stores (key, value) pairs, where key can be any hashable object and value can be any arbitrary object.

```
In[2]: months = {'Jan':31, 'Feb':28, 'Mar':31}
In[3]: print(months['Feb'])
28
In[4]: months['April'] = 30
In[5]: print(months['April'])
30
In[6]: 'Mar' in months
Out[6]: True
In[7]: months.pop('Mar')
Out[7]: 31
In[8]: print(months)
{'Jan': 31, 'Feb': 28, 'April': 30}
```

```
In[9]: months['May']
Traceback (most recent call last):
   File "/usr/local/Cellar/python/3.6.5/Frameworks/Python.framexec(code_obj, self.user_global_ns, self.user_ns)
   File "<ipython-input-9-4e508fae9bf4>", line 1, in <module>months['May']
KeyError: 'May'
In[10]: months.get('May')
In[11]: months.get('May','N/A')
Out[11]: 'N/A'
In[12]: print(months.get('May'))
None
```

Containers: List, tuple, set, and dictionary

Looping over Dictionary

```
In[16]: d = {'1+1=':2, 'Purdue':['West Lafayette','IN','47907'], 0: True, 1: False, 3.14:'PI'}
In[17]: for key in d:
            print('key:',key,'value:',d[key])
   ...:
key: 1+1= value: 2
key: Purdue value: ['West Lafayette', 'IN', '47907']
key: 0 value: True
key: 1 value: False
key: 3.14 value: PI
In[18]: for key, val in d.items():
            print('key:',key,'| value:',val,'| type of val:',type(val))
  ...:
key: 1+1= | value: 2 | type of val: <class 'int'>
key: Purdue | value: ['West Lafayette', 'IN', '47907'] | type of val: <class 'list'>
key: 0 | value: True | type of val: <class 'bool'>
key: 1 | value: False | type of val: <class 'bool'>
key: 3.14 | value: PI | type of val: <class 'str'>
```

Classes

Python functions are defined using keyword **def**

```
class Greeter(object):
   # Constructor
   def __init__(self, name):
       self.name = name # Create an instance variable
   # Instance method
   def greet(self, loud=False):
       if loud:
           print('HELLO, %s!' % self.name.upper())
       else:
           print('Hello, %s' % self.name)
g = Greeter('Fred') # Construct an instance of the Greeter class
g.greet() # Call an instance method; prints "Hello, Fred"
g.greet(loud=True) # Call an instance method; prints "HELLO, FRED!"
```