

Statistical Natural Language Processing

Python Refresher I

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¹Based on slides by Kuan Yu.

Outline

Installation

Arithmetics

Data Structures

Sequences: List, Tuple, Range, Str
Set, Frozenset, Dict

Control Structures

Functions

More: File I/O, Statements, ...

Installation

Check if Python 3.x.x (!) is already installed: `python3 -V` (or `python -V`)

If it is not:

Ubuntu:

```
sudo apt-get update  
sudo apt-get install python3
```

Homebrew (Mac OS):

```
brew update  
brew install python3
```

otherwise:

<https://www.python.org/downloads/release/python-365/>
<https://www.anaconda.com/download/>²

²It is difficult to install certain useful Python libraries (like SciPy) on Windows. Luckily, SciPy is already included in Anaconda.

Packages

package management via pip[‡]

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

<https://packaging.python.org/tutorials/installing-packages/>

NumPy

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

[‡]might be pip3 on your machine

Running Python code

Read-eval-print loop (REPL):

```
python3
```

```
>>> help()
```

```
>>> quit()
```

```
# or CTRL-D (Unix)
```

```
# or CTRL-C/CTRL-Z (Windows)
```

Run code from files:

```
python3 path/to/my/script.py
```

IDEs (PyCharm, ...)

Arithmetics

```
>>> 1 == 1
True
>>> 1 == 1.0
True
>>> 1 == int("1")
True
>>> 1 == float("1")
True
>>> # bool is a subclass of int
... 1 == True
True
>>> 0 == False
True
```

Arithmetics

```
>>> (1 + 2) * 3
```

```
9
```

```
>>> 4 ** 2
```

```
16
```

```
>>> 4 ** 0.5
```

```
2.0
```

```
>>> # float division is the default
```

```
... 5 / 3
```

```
1.6666666666666667
```

```
>>> 5 // 3
```

```
1
```

Sequences

```
>>> mylist = ['a', 'b', 3, 'd', 'e']
>>> mylist[0] # indexing
'a'
>>> mylist[4] == mylist[-1] == 'e'
True
>>> mylist[:2] # slicing
['a', 'b']
>>> mylist[-2:]
['d', 'e']
>>> mylist[1:4]
['b', 3, 'd']
>>> mylist[::2] # steps
['a', 3, 'e']
>>> mylist[::-1]
['e', 'd', 3, 'b', 'a']
```

Sequences

```
>>> mylist = ['a', 'b', 3, 'd', 'e']
>>> mylist + ['f', 'g']
['a', 'b', 3, 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g']
>>> mylist * 2
['a', 'b', 3, 'd', 'e', 'a', 'b', 3, 'd', 'e']
>>> 'b' in mylist
True
>>> 'c' not in mylist
True
>>> otherlist = [1, 1, 3, 3, 2, 4, 1]
>>> otherlist.count(3)
2
>>> otherlist.index(1) # first occurrence
0
>>> otherlist.index(1, 2) # first occurrence at/after index 2
6
>>> len(otherlist)
7
```

Sequences

```
>>> otherlist = [1, 1, 3, 3, 2, 4, 1]
>>> # for sequences of numbers
... sum(otherlist)
15
>>> min(otherlist)
1
>>> max(otherlist)
4
```

```
>>> nestedlist = [['a', 'b', 'c'], [1, 2, 3], 4]
>>> len(nestedlist)
3
>>> nestedlist[0]
['a', 'b', 'c']
>>> nestedlist[0][1]
'b'
```

Sequences

```
>>> l = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e']
>>> for idx, elem in enumerate(l):
...     '{} at index {}'.format(elem, idx)
...
'a at index 0'
'b at index 1'
'c at index 2'
'd at index 3'
'e at index 4'
>>> {elem: idx for idx, elem in enumerate(l)}
{'b': 1, 'e': 4, 'c': 2, 'd': 3, 'a': 0}
>>> l2 = ['v', 'w', 'x', 'y', 'z']
>>> {elem_1: elem_2 for elem_1, elem_2 in zip(l, l2)}
{'b': 'w', 'e': 'z', 'c': 'x', 'd': 'y', 'a': 'v'}
```

List

List: a **mutable** array

```
>>> mylist = ['a', 'b', 3, 'd', 'e']
>>> mylist[2] = 'c'
>>> mylist
['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e']
>>> mylist += ['f', 'g']
>>> mylist.extend(['h', 'i'])
>>> mylist.append('j')
>>> mylist
['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i', 'j']
>>> mylist.remove('c')
>>> mylist
['a', 'b', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i', 'j']
>>> mylist.insert(2, 'c')
>>> mylist
['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f', 'g', 'h', 'i', 'j']
```

List

List: a **mutable** array

```
>>> mylist = ['a', 'b', 3, 'd', 'e']
>>> elem = mylist.pop(2)
>>> "elem: {}, mylist: {}".format(elem, mylist)
"elem: 3, mylist: ['a', 'b', 'd', 'e']"
>>> elem = mylist.pop()
>>> "elem: {}, mylist: {}".format(elem, mylist)
"elem: e, mylist: ['a', 'b', 'd']"
>>> mylist.reverse()
>>> mylist
['d', 'b', 'a']
>>> mylist.sort()
>>> mylist
['a', 'b', 'd']
>>> mylist.clear()
>>> mylist
[]
```

Tuple

Tuple: an **immutable** array

- ▶ the general sequence operations also work for tuples

```
>>> mytuple = (1, 2, 3, 4)
>>> mytuple[-2:]
(3, 4)
>>> mytuple + (5, 6) # returns a new tuple
(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)
>>> len(mytuple)
4
>>> 2 in mytuple
True
>>> # immutable!
... mytuple[0] = 2
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 2, in <module>
TypeError: 'tuple' object does not support item assignment
```

Range

Range: an **immutable** sequence of numbers

- ▶ the general sequence operations also work for ranges
- ▶ takes a small amount of memory that does not increase with the length of the sequence

```
>>> myrange = range(10) # 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9
>>> myrange[8]
8
>>> myrange[: -3]
range(0, 7)
>>> 7 in myrange
True
>>> tuple(myrange)
(0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9)
>>> list(range(1, 9)) # creating ranges is similar to slicing
[1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8]
>>> list(range(1, 10, 2))
[1, 3, 5, 7, 9]
```

String

String: an **immutable** sequence of Unicode code points

- ▶ the general sequence operations also work for strings

```
>>> s = 'linguistics' # double or triple quotes work too
>>> long_string = 'this is a very, very, very, very, ' \
...             'very, very, very, very long string'
>>> s[-2]
'c'
>>> s[-2:]
'cs'
>>> s.count('i')
3
>>> 'g' in s
True
```

String

```
>>> 'g' in s
True
>>> 'ling' in s # subsequence testing
True
>>> 'computational {}'.format(s)
'computational linguistics!'
>>> t = "  I'm surrounded by whitespace \n"
>>> t.strip()
'I'm surrounded by whitespace'
>>> t.split() # default delimiter: whitespace
['I'm', 'surrounded', 'by', 'whitespace']
```

Set

Set: a **mutable**, unordered collection of hashable objects

- ▶ mutable containers (sets, dictionaries) are **not** hashable

```
>>> myset = {3, 2, 'a', 'b'}
>>> # collection operations
... 5 in myset
False
>>> len(myset)
4
>>> # set-theoretic operations
... mysubset = {2, 3}
>>> mysubset.issubset(myset)
True
>>> myset.intersection(mysubset)
{2, 3}
```

Frozenset

Frozenset: an **immutable** set

```
>>> myset = {3, 2, 'a', 'b'}
>>> myfrozenset = frozenset(['a', 'b', 2, 3])
>>> myset == myfrozenset # compares members
True
```

Dictionary

Dictionary: a **mutable** mapping from hashable objects to arbitrary objects

```
>>> mydict = {'a': 1, 'b': 2, 'c': 3}
>>> mydict['a']
1
>>> mydict.items()
dict_items([('b', 2), ('c', 3), ('a', 1)])
>>> mydict.keys()
dict_keys(['b', 'c', 'a'])
>>> mydict.values()
dict_values([2, 3, 1])
>>> # can be used as a switch
... switchdict = {'sum': sum, 'len': len, 'min': min}
>>> switchdict['len'](mydict)
3
```

Comparisons

```
>>> 1 < 2 < 3
True
>>> True or 1/0 # lazy! no ZeroDivisionError
True
>>> not False and not None and not 0 \
... and not ' ' and not () and not [] and not {}
True
>>> l = [1, 2, 3]
>>> m = [1, 2, 3]
>>> # equality
... l == m
True
>>> # identity
>>> l is m
False
>>> l is not m
True
```

if, elif, else
not, and, or

Loops and List Comprehension

```
>>> squares = []
>>> for n in range(10):
...     squares += [n * n]
...
>>> squares
[0, 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, 64, 81]
>>> n # loops don't create a lexical scope!
9
>>>
>>> # as a one-liner (list comprehension)
... squares = [n * n for n in range(10)]
>>>
>>> some_squares = [x for x in squares if x % 3 == 0]
>>> some_squares
[0, 9, 36, 81]
```

Loops

```
>>> my_set = {'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e'}
>>> while True:
...     elem = my_set.pop() # removes a random member
...     if elem == 'c':
...         break
...     print(elem)
...
a
>>> my_set
{'e', 'b', 'd'}
```

Iterators

```
>>> my_set = {'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e'}
>>> it = iter(my_set)
>>> while True:
...     try:
...         print(next(it))
...     except StopIteration:
...         break
...
a
c
e
b
d
```

Functions

```
def count_vowels(s, vowels=('a', 'e', 'i', 'o', 'u')):
    counts = {}
    for vowel in vowels:
        counts[vowel] = s.count(vowel)
    return counts
    # or all in one line:
    # return {vowel: s.count(vowel) for vowel in vowels}

print(count_vowels('linguistics'))
# {'u': 1, 'a': 0, 'o': 0, 'e': 0, 'i': 3}
```

built-in functions:

<https://docs.python.org/3/library/functions.html>

Functions

```
def my_function(arg1, arg2='default value', *args, **kwargs):  
    print('obligatory:', arg1)  
    print('optional:', arg2)  
    print('optional (positional):', args)  
    print('optional (with keyword):', kwargs)
```

```
my_function(0, 1, 2, 3, 4, five=5, six=6)  
# obligatory: 0  
# optional: 1  
# optional (positional): (2, 3, 4)  
# optional (with keyword): {'five': 5, 'six': 6}  
  
my_function(0)  
# obligatory: 0  
# optional: default value  
# optional (positional): ()  
# optional (with keyword): {}
```

Functions

```
def my_function(arg1, arg2='default value', *args, **kwargs):  
    print('obligatory:', arg1)  
    print('optional:', arg2)  
    print('optional (positional):', args)  
    print('optional (with keyword):', kwargs)
```

```
my_list = [3, 4, 5]  
my_function(0, *my_list) # unpacks the list  
# obligatory: 0  
# optional: 3  
# optional (positional): (4, 5)  
# optional (with keyword): {}
```

Functions

Avoid using mutable default arguments:

```
>>> def add(x, l=[]):
...     l.append(x)
...     return l
...
>>> add(1)
[1]
>>> add(2)
[1, 2]
>>> def add(x, l=None):
...     if l is None:
...         l = []
...     l.append(x)
...     return l
...
>>> add(1); add(2)
[1]
[2]
```

Functions

Functions can return multiple objects:

```
>>> def square_and_cube(x):  
...     return x**2, x**3  
...  
>>> n = 3  
>>> s, c = square_and_cube(n)  
>>> 'n: {}, s: {}, c: {}'.format(n, s, c)  
'n: 3, s: 9, c: 27'
```

File I/O

```
f = open('file.txt', 'w', encoding='utf8')
f.write('Hi!')
f.close()
```

```
# Using `with` closes the input stream automatically,
# even if an exception is raised!
```

```
with open('file.txt', 'w', encoding='utf8') as f:
    f.write('Hi!')
```

```
with open('file2.txt', 'r', encoding='utf8') as f:
    for line in f:
        print(line + '!!')
```

```
with open('file2') as f:
    list_of_lines = f.readlines()
```

<https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/inputoutput.html>

Statements

```
import my_module
import my_module as mm
from my_module import my_identifier
```

```
my_list = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e']
```

```
# `assert` is useful for debugging
assert len(my_list) == 5
```

```
# Use `pass` when you need a syntactic placeholder:
def implement_me():
    pass # nothing happens
```

```
del my_list
# Referring to `my_list` now raises a NameError
```

break, continue

return, yield

try, except, finally, raise

More

Parse strings as Python expressions with `eval`:

```
>>> s = "[ 'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e' ]"
>>> type(s)
<class 'str'>
>>> l = eval(s)
>>> l
[ 'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e' ]
>>> type(l)
<class 'list'>
>>>
>>> getattr(l, 'append')('f')
>>> l
[ 'a', 'b', 'c', 'd', 'e', 'f' ]
```

Links



Installing Python and Pip

<https://www.python.org/downloads/release/python-365/>

<https://www.anaconda.com/download/>

<https://packaging.python.org/tutorials/installing-packages/>



IDEs for Python

<https://wiki.python.org/moin/IntegratedDevelopmentEnvironments>



Python 3 Documentation

<https://docs.python.org/3/library/index.html>

<https://docs.python.org/3/reference/index.html>

<https://docs.python.org/3/tutorial/index.html>



PEP 8: Style Guide for Python

<https://www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-0008/>