

Phys 60441  
Techniques of Radio Astronomy  
Part 1: Python Programming  
**LECTURE 3**

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# Tuples

- Lists and strings are examples of sequences.
- A tuple is also a sequence of elements separated by commas and which can be enclosed by parentheses (round brackets) but need not be.

```
>>> t = 12345, 54321, 'hello!'
>>> t[0]
>>> t
>>> u = t, (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
>>> u
```

Tuples may be nested (need to specify brackets here to make it clear)

- BUT elements of a list *can* be changed (mutable), elements of a string and a tuple *cannot* be changed.
- Tuples are useful for storing (x,y) coordinate pairs

# Dictionaries

- Sequences are indexed by numbers i.e. 0<sup>th</sup> element, 1<sup>st</sup> element etc.
- Dictionaries are indexed by *keys*, (which can be any immutable element e.g. strings, numbers, tuples containing immutable elements)
- A dictionary is an unordered set of *key : value* pairs enclosed in curly brackets, with each key unique

```
>>> diameter = {'Lov' : 76, 'Cam' : 32, 'Pic' : 25}
>>> diameter['Are'] = 305
>>> diameter['Pic']
>>> diameter
>>> del diameter['Are']
>>> diameter.keys()
>>> 'Cam' in diameter
>>> for t, d in diameter.iteritems():
...     print t, d
...
...
```

Like using enumerate() function in a sequence



“Num-Pie”

<http://numpy.scipy.org>

“Sci-Pie”

<http://www.scipy.org>

<http://matplotlib.sourceforge.net/>

- **Python** is a general purpose programming language. It is interpreted and dynamically typed and is very suited for interactive work and quick prototyping, while being powerful enough to write large applications in.
- **NumPy** is a Python extension module, written mostly in C, that defines the numerical array and matrix types and basic operations on them.
- **SciPy** is another Python library that uses NumPy to do advanced maths, signal processing, optimization, statistics and much more.
- **matplotlib** is a Python library that facilitates publication-quality interactive plotting.

# NumPy - ndarray

To use NumPy, SciPy, matplotlib you need to connect to one of cosmogp2, cosmogp3... Cosmogp6 (ssh -X cosmogp2)

- NumPy's main object is the homogeneous multidimensional array called `ndarray`.
  - This is a table of elements (usually numbers), all of the same type, indexed by a tuple of positive integers. Typical examples of multidimensional arrays include vectors, matrices, images and spreadsheets.
  - Dimensions usually called axes, number of axes is the rank

```
[7, 5, -1]
```

An array of rank 1 i.e. It has 1 axis of length 3

```
[[ 1.5, 0.2, -3.7],  
 [ 0.1, 1.7, 2.9]]
```

An array of rank 2 i.e. It has 2 axes, the first length 3, the second of length 3 (a matrix with 2 rows and 3 columns)

# ndarray attributes

- **ndarray.ndim**
  - the number of axes (dimensions) of the array i.e. the *rank*.
- **ndarray.shape**
  - the dimensions of the array. This is a tuple of integers indicating the size of the array in each dimension. For a matrix with  $n$  rows and  $m$  columns, shape will be  $(n,m)$ . The length of the shape tuple is therefore the rank, or number of dimensions, `ndim`.
- **ndarray.size**
  - the total number of elements of the array, equal to the product of the elements of shape.
- **ndarray.dtype**
  - an object describing the type of the elements in the array. One can create or specify dtype's using standard Python types. NumPy provides many, for example `bool_`, `character`, `int_`, `int8`, `int16`, `int32`, `int64`, `float_`, `float8`, `float16`, `float32`, `float64`, `complex_`, `complex64`, `object_`.
- **ndarray.itemsize**
  - the size in bytes of each element of the array. E.g. for elements of type `float64`, `itemsize` is 8 ( $=64/8$ ), while `complex32` has `itemsize` 4 ( $=32/8$ ) (equivalent to `ndarray.dtype.itemsize`).
- **ndarray.data**
  - the buffer containing the actual elements of the array. Normally, we won't need to use this attribute because we will access the elements in an array using indexing facilities.

# Examples of ndarray

```
>>> import numpy
>>> a = numpy.arange(10).reshape(2,5)
>>> a
```

Creates an array with element values 0 to 9, reshaped to have 2 rows and 5 columns.

Try typing `a.shape`, `a.ndim`, `a.size`, `a.dtype.name`, `a.itemsize`

```
>>> import numpy
>>> b = numpy.array ( [ [1.5, 2., 3], [4, 5, 6] ] )
```

Use array function to create arrays. This is an array of floats.

```
>>> from numpy import *
>>> c = array( [ [1,2], [3,4] ], dtype=complex )
```

Note way of calling array depends on how numpy is imported

Can explicitly define type of array

```
>>> d = array( 1,2,3,4)
```

ERROR! Need square brackets to define a *list* of elements.

```
>>> zeros ( (3,4) )
>>> ones ( (2,3,4) )
>>> arange ( 1, 10, 2 ) # range from 1 to 10 spaced by 2
>>> linspace ( 0, 2*pi, 100 ) # 100 numbers from 0 to  $2\pi$ 
```

There are several useful ways of creating special arrays.

# Arithmetic operations

- Operations apply element by element

```
>>> a = array ( [ [2,2], [2,2] ] )  
>>> b = ones( (2,2) )  
>>> a+b  
>>> 3*b  
>>> a*b  
>>> dot(a,b) # also use mat(a)*mat(b)  
>>> a *= 2  
>>> b += 10
```

```
>>> a = random.random ( (2,3) )  
>>> a.sum()  
>>> a.min()  
>>> a.max(axis=1) # max of each row
```

Careful! \* is not a matrix product

$a *= 2$  means  $a = 2*a$

There are lots of other functions that apply to ndarrays.



# Indexing, slicing & iterating

- Just like with lists and other sequences (e.g. strings)

```
>>> a = random.random ( (10) )
>>> a[0]    # first element
>>> a[2:5]  # 3rd element to 5th element
>>> b = random.random ( (4,5) )
>>> b[0]    # first row
>>> b[2,3]  # element in 3rd row, 4th column
>>> b[:, 1] # 2nd column
>>> for row in b:
...     print row
...
>>> for element in b.flat:
...     print element,
...
>>>
```

Iterate over rows (1<sup>st</sup> axis)

Iterate over all elements

# A simple NumPy example

- NumPy offers a large number of useful functions, see [http://www.scipy.org/Numpy\\_Example\\_List](http://www.scipy.org/Numpy_Example_List)
- Calculate min, max, mean, standard deviation, median of a list of numbers in a 1-dimensional array

```
>>> a = random.random ( (10) )  
>>> a.min()  
>>> a.max()  
>>> a.mean()  
>>> a.std()  
>>> median(a)
```

# Read and write text file

(ex11.py)

```
>>> from numpy import *
```

```
>>> data = loadtxt("myfile.txt") # myfile.txt contains 4 columns of numbers
```

```
>>> t,z = data[:,0], data[:,3] # data is a 2D numpy array, t is 1st col, z is 4th col
```

```
>>> t,x,y,z = loadtxt("myfile.txt", unpack=True) # to automatically unpack all columns
```

```
>>> t,z = loadtxt("myfile.txt", usecols = (0,3), unpack=True) # to select just a few columns
```

```
>>> data = loadtxt("myfile.txt", skiprows = 7) # to skip 7 rows from top of file
```

```
>>> data = loadtxt("myfile.txt", comments = '!') # use '!' as comment char instead of '#'
```

```
>>> data = loadtxt("myfile.txt", delimiter=';') # use ';' as column separator instead of whitespace
```

```
>>> data = loadtxt("myfile.txt", dtype = int) # file contains integers instead of floats
```

Matplotlib also provides similar functions called save and load

Also genfromtxt

```
>>> from numpy import *
```

```
>>> savetxt("myfile.txt", data) # data is 2D array
```

```
>>> savetxt("myfile.txt", x) # if x is 1D array then get 1 column in file.
```

```
>>> savetxt("myfile.txt", (x,y)) # x,y are 1D arrays. 2 rows in file.
```

```
>>> savetxt("myfile.txt", transpose((x,y))) # x,y are 1D arrays. 2 columns in file.
```

```
>>> savetxt("myfile.txt", transpose((x,y)), fmt='%6.3f') # use new format instead of '%.18e'
```

```
>>> savetxt("myfile.txt", data, delimiter = ';') # use ';' to separate columns instead of space
```

For binary files see

<http://www.scipy.org/Cookbook/InputOutput>

# SciPy

- SciPy is an Open Source library of scientific tools for Python. It depends on the NumPy library, and it gathers a variety of high level science and engineering modules together as a single package. SciPy provides modules for
  - statistics
  - optimization
  - numerical integration
  - linear algebra
  - Fourier transforms
  - signal processing
  - image processing
  - ODE solvers
  - special functions
  - and more...
- See <http://docs.scipy.org/doc/scipy/reference/tutorial/>

# Example: Numerical integration

- Integrate a Bessel function  $j_v(2.5,x)$  from 0 to 4.5:  $I = \int_0^{4.5} J_{2.5}(x) dx.$

```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> import scipy as sp
>>> from scipy import integrate # scipy sub-packages have to be imported separately
>>> from scipy import special
>>> result = integrate.quad(lambda x: special.jv(2.5,x), 0, 4.5)
>>> print result
```

A lambda function is a small anonymous function that is restricted to a single expression – here  $x$  is the argument and the function calculates the Bessel function for value  $x$

Limits of integration

```
>>> I = sqrt(2/pi)*(18.0/27*sqrt(2)*cos(4.5)-4.0/27*sqrt(2)*sin(4.5)+ :
...     sqrt(2*pi)*special.fresnel(3/sqrt(pi))[0])
>>> print I
```

Compare to analytical solution

$$I = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \left( \frac{18}{27} \sqrt{2} \cos(4.5) - \frac{4}{27} \sqrt{2} \sin(4.5) + \sqrt{2\pi} \text{Si} \left( \frac{3}{\sqrt{\pi}} \right) \right), \quad \text{Si}(x) = \int_0^x \sin \left( \frac{\pi}{2} t^2 \right) dt.$$