

# Getting Started with Python

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- Array Slicing
- Slicing
- Array Mathematics and Broadcasting
- Basic use of Logical
- Loops
- Conditional Execution



# Activating the Virtual Environment

- Activate
  - ▶ Windows: `c:\Anaconda\Scripts\activate.bat` `econ`
  - ▶ \*nix: `source ~/anaconda/bin/activate` `econ`
- One final package to install
  - ▶ All: `pip install pylint`
  - ▶ `pip` is the (soon to be) default Python package installer
- Using `conda`
  - ▶ Updating Anaconda  
`conda update conda`  
`conda update anaconda`
  - ▶ Updating a virtual environment:  
`conda update -n environment packages`
  - ▶ Installing additional packages in a virtual environment:  
`conda install -n environment packages`



# The Python Interpreter

- From inside the virtual environment, run `python`
- Success will show a banner and `>>>`
- The default Python interpreter is not suited to interactive work
- `exit()` to quit



- Interactive Python
  - Run `ipython` from an active environment
- Integrated
  - History
  - Tab completion
  - Help
  - Magic keywords
- Command line switches
  - `pylab`



# IPython QtConsole

- A more sophisticated IPython terminal
  - ▶ On Windows, clearly better than IPython/cmd
  - ▶ On \*nix, better but gains are smaller
- Run `ipython qtconsole` from an active environment
- Command line switches
  - ▶ `colors=linux`
  - ▶ `ConsoleWidget.font_size` (number)
  - ▶ `ConsoleWidget.font_family` (Installed font)
  - ▶ `pylab`
- Pop-up help



- IPython in a web browser
- Allows mixing code, formatted text and  $\text{\LaTeX}$  math
- Install MathJax locally

- ▶ Run `ipython qtconsole` and execute

```
from IPython.external.mathjax import install_mathjax
install_mathjax()
```

- ▶ Need to be connected to the internet
- Should have Chrome or Firefox installed
  - ▶ Internet Explorer and Safari both have issues
- Run `ipython notebook` to start
- Main cell types
  - ▶ Code
  - ▶ Markdown
  - ▶ Heading



- Spyder - Scientific PYthon Development EnviRonment
- More similar to RStudio or MATLAB than other Python IDEs
- Major features:
  - Code editor
  - Object inspector (help)
  - Variable and File explorers
  - Integrated console (Python or IPython)
  - Support for debugging
  - Cell mode
  - Reconfigurable
- PyCharm is a commerical IDE, but has free community edition
  - Steeper learning curve
  - More advanced features:  
Static analysis, Code completion, Code formatting, Block commenting,  
Git Integration, PEP integration, Spell checking, Quick help,  
Refactoring and Renaming, more...





# Immutable Native Data Types

- Integers
- Floats
- Complex Data
- Long Integers
- Boolean
- Strings
- NoneType
- Tuples
- xrange



# Mutable Data Types

Tasks 2.11–2.13, 2.18–2.19

- Lists
  - Revisiting strings
- Dictionaries

Note: more native data types available, but less useful to us

# Slicing

## Tasks 2.14–2.17

- Lists, tuples and strings can all be sliced
  - `[first:last:step]`
  - Lists also support assignment from same-sized variable
- $n$ -element array elements are indexed  $0, 1, \dots, n - 1$
- Shorthands
  - `[0:n:1]`
    - `[:, ::], [0:], [:n], [0:n], [0::], [:n], [:n:]`
  - `[s:n:1], [s:], [s::], [s:n], [s:n]`
  - `[0:e:1], [:e], [:e:]`
  - `[0:n:st], [::st]`
- Negative step counts down
  - `[:, :-1]` is reverse, and is similar to `[n-1::-1]` (but not `[n:0:-1]`)



# NumPy Data Types

Tasks 3.1–3.6

- Array
- Matrix



# Array Slicing

## Tasks 4.1

- Similar to list and string slicing, except for nested lists
- Array slicing supports explicit multi-dimensional slices
  - ▶ 2-d Lists: `things[3][3]`
  - ▶ Arrays: `x[3, 3]`, `x[:3, :3]`, `x[2::2, 1::3]`
  - ▶ Higher-dimensional arrays use high-order slicing
- Arrays can be indexed using two other methods
  - ▶ Numeric indexing
  - ▶ Logical indexing



# flat Slicing

## Tasks 4.2

- `flat` can be used to index the “flattened” version of an array
- `A=array([[0, 1], [2, 3]])`
- `A.flat[:]` is then `array([0, 1, 2, 3])`
- By default, NumPy arrays are stored in *row major* format
  - ▶ First across rows, then down columns
  - ▶ This is why 0 was next to 1 and not 2
  - ▶ Consider `A.T` and `A.T.flat[:]`



- Array mathematics operates element by element
  - ▶ Addition: +
  - ▶ Subtraction: -
  - ▶ Multiplication: \*
    - Linear algebra definition: `dot()`
  - ▶ Division: /
  - ▶ Exponentiation: \*\*
    - Linear algebra definition: `matrix_power()`
    - Must be square,  $X^2 = XX$



- Matrices follow the rule of linear algebra
  - ▶ Matrix multiplication: `*`
    - Element-by-element: `multiply()`
  - ▶ Matrix exponentiation (square): `**`
    - Element-by-element: `power()`



# Broadcasting

## Tasks 4.6–4.8

- NumPy does not respect the laws of matrix addition, subtraction and Hadamard multiplication and division
- Under some circumstance arrays can be *promoted* to be as-if bigger than they are
- Let  $s_1 = (s_{11}, s_{12}, \dots, s_{1k})$  be the shape of array 1, and  $s_2 = (s_{21}, s_{22}, \dots, s_{2m})$  be the shape of array 2
  - ▶ Assume WLOG  $m \geq k$ , let  $n = m - k$
- Two arrays are broadcastable if:
  - ▶ Let  $\tilde{s}_1 = (1, 1, \dots, 1, s_{11}, s_{12}, \dots, s_{1k})$ , then for all  $j$   
 $\tilde{s}_{1j} = s_{2j} \cup s_{1j} = 1 \cup s_{2j} = 1$ 
    - Alternative  $\max(\tilde{s}_{1j}, s_{2j}) / \min(\tilde{s}_{1j}, s_{2j}) \in \{1, \max(\tilde{s}_{1j}, s_{2j})\}$
  - ▶ Either same size *or* at least one is unity
  - ▶ Common broadcast size is  $b_j = \max(\tilde{s}_{1j}, s_{2j})$



# Broadcasting Examples

## Tasks 4.6–4.8

- Note: You can always choose to avoid broadcasting using functions like `tile` to explicitly replicate arrays
  - Still exposed to accidental or unintended broadcasting
- Which are broadcastable?

$x$	$y$	$x + y?$
(1, 2)	( )	
(5, 5)	(5, )	
(5, 5)	(1, 5)	
(5, 5)	(5, 1)	
(1, 2, 3)	(4, 1, 3)	



- Array slices can be used for assignment
  - ▶ Simple if dimension of target same as slice
  - ▶ Also can use broadcasting
    - Scalar:  $A[:, :] = 1$
    - Note that 1 is 0-dimensional, so always broadcastable



# Array Manipulation

Tasks 4.11–4.12

- Basic Information
  - `shape`, `ndim`, `size`
- Reshaping an array
  - `shape`, `reshape`, or `[ :, None ]` (technically a slice)
  - `squeeze`
  - `transpose`, `.transpose()`, `.T`
- Copying an array
  - `copy`
  - `+0.0`
  - Call `array` or `matrix`
- Building
  - `tile`
  - `concatenate`
    - `hstack` or `vstack`



# Array Memory Management

- Slices are views into arrays
- Contain same elements
- Good from performance point of view
  - Use `.flags` to determine if original
- Slices *do not copy*
- Use `copy()` to copy data
  - Or `+0.0`
    - Math ops produce copies
  - Or `array/matrix`



# Operator Precedence

## Tasks 4.12

Operator	Name	Rank
( ), [ ] , ( , )	Parentheses, Lists, Tuples	1
**	Exponentiation	2
+, -	Unary Plus, Unary Minus	3
*, /, //, %	Multiply, Divide, Modulo	4
+, -	Addition and Subtraction	5
<, <=, >, >=	Comparison operators	9
==, !=	Equality operators	9
=, +=, -=, /=, *=, **=	Assignment Operators	13



# Scalar Logical Operations

- NumPy arrays can be used in logical operations
  - Discussion later
- Scalar logical operations evaluate to `True` or `False`
  - `==`, `>`, `<`, `>=`, `<=`, `!=`
    - `==` also works with strings or lists
  - Combine using `and`, `or`, `not`
  - If testing for `None`, use `is` as in `x is None`
- Empty things are generally `False`
  - `None`, `[]`, `(, )`, `”`, `“”`
  - Test using `not`
- Care is needed when testing equality with floating point numbers
  - `allclose` from NumPy may be better

# Loops

## Task 5.1

- for and while loops
- Generic structure of for loop:

```
for i in iterator:  
    # Do something with i
```

- Note: **whitespace** matters!
  - ▶ Tabs or spaces are whitespace
  - ▶ Use only spaces – 4 per level of indentation
- iterator is anything that supports iteration:
  - ▶ array and matrix
  - ▶ range, arange and xrange
  - ▶ list and tuple
- enumerate can be useful when using arrays or lists





# Nested For Loops

## Task 5.2

- for loops can be nested

```
for i in iterator1:  
    for j in iterator2:  
        # Do something with i and j
```

- while loops are similar, but end when a condition is met
- Generically, they are given by

```
while some_condition:  
    # Do something  
    # Update condition
```

- It is important that the condition is updated inside the while loop



# Conditional Flow Control

6.1-6.7

- if statements implement conditional flow control
- Always use *scalar* logical values
- Generic structure

```
if condition:  
    # Code to run if condition true  
elif other_cond:  
    # Code to run if other_cond and not condition  
else:  
    # Code to run if not (condition and other_cond)
```

- elif and else are optional
- Whitespace delimited
- Python has a ternary operator

```
x = a if condition else b
```

# List Comprehensions

6.7-6.9

- List comprehensions are syntactically dense method to build lists
- Basic

```
x = [item for item in iterable]
```

- Can be combined with logicals

```
x = [item for item in iterable if item>0]
```

- ▶ Only items that satisfy the logical condition will be added
- Can use nested loops
- Mostly syntactic sugar, but also have additional optimizations over using `for` and `list.append`



# Calling Functions

## Tasks 5.1–5.2

- Function calls are simple: `function()`
- Functions can return multiple outputs
  - ▶ Take them as a tuple: `out = function()`
  - ▶ Unpack them `a,b,c = function()`
    - Tuple can be unpacked later: `a,b,c = out`
    - Also similar to multiple assignment `a,b,c = x,y,z`
- Two input methods
  - ▶ In order (positional): `function(x,y)`
  - ▶ Keyword: `function(file='input.csv', skiprows=10)`
- Two special constructs
  - ▶ `*args`: Additional positional arguments
  - ▶ `**kwargs`: Additional keyword arguments
- Mandatory vs. optional arguments

```
array(object, dtype=None, copy=True, order=None,  
       subok=False, ndmin=0)
```



# Array generating functions

## Task 5.3

- `arange`
- `linspace`, `logspace`
- `zeros`, `ones`, `empty`
  - See also `zeros_like`, `ones_like`, `empty_like`
- `eye`
- `r_` and `c_`
  - These are special purpose, are not normal functions
  - Use slice-like inputs



# Core Array Functions

## Tasks 6.1–6.7

- `sum`, `prod`, `cumsum`, `cumprod`
  - Importance of `axis`
- `exp`, `log`, `log10`
- `sqrt`, `square`
- `abs`, `sign`
- `diff`
- `around`, `floor` and `ceil`
- Set functions: `unique`, `in1d`, `intersect1d`, `union1d` and `setdiff1d`



# Sorting and Extremes

## Task 6.8

- `sort` vs `.sort`
- `amax` and `amin` or `.max` and `.min`



- Many operations can be used as a function or method
  - `x.dot(x.T), dot(x, x.T)`
  - `x.sum(axis = 0), sum(x, axis=0)`
- Generally a personal choice, some uses may be easier to read than others





# Linear Algebra Functions

## Tasks 12.1–12.2

- Large library of useful linear algebra routines
  - ▶ `inv`, inverse
  - ▶ `det` and `trace`, determinant and trace
  - ▶ `eig` and `svd`, eigenvalues/eigenvectors and singular values
  - ▶ `slogdet`, the signed log determinant
    - More accurate than `log(det(x))`
  - ▶ `pinv` (Moore-Penrose) Pseudo Inverse  $(X'X)^{-1} X'$ 
    - Note that `dot(pinv(x), y)` is more accurate than `dot(inv(dot(x.T, x)), dot(x.T, y))`
  - ▶ `diag`, `tril`, `triu`, diagonal and triangular matrices



# inf and nan

## Tasks 7.1 and 7.4

- `inf` represents infinity
  - `exp(800)`
- `nan` is not a number
  - `exp(800)/exp(1000)`
  - `nan` corrupts other functions, such as `mean`
  - Can use nan-functions to compute values using only non-nan values
    - `nansum`
    - `nanmin` and `nanmax`
    - `isnan`, a logical function
    - NumPy 1.8.0 adds `nanmean`, `nanstd`, `nanvar`

# Numeric Limits

## Tasks 7.2–7.4

- `inf` represents infinity: `exp(800)`
- `nan` is not a number: `exp(800)/exp(1000)`
- Computer math has limits for floating point data
- Computer numbers are of the form  $a \times 10^b$  where  $a$  has about 15 digits stored and  $b$  is within  $\pm 308$ .
  - ▶ Absolute magnitudes
    - `finfo(np.float64).max`, `finfo(np.float64).tiny`
  - ▶ Relative Magnitudes
    - `finfo(np.float64).eps`
- Examples
  - ▶ `1.0 == 1.0 + (finfo(np.float64).eps)/2`
  - ▶ `1.0 == 1.0 + (finfo(np.float64).eps)`
  - ▶ `10.0**30 + 10.0**12 == 10.0**30`
- Best Practices: Scale large/small data

# Importing Data using pandas

- pandas is the main data-management package in the Scientific Python stack
- pandas provides a DataFrame based on NumPy arrays, but with additional features
  - ▶ Meaningful row and column indices
  - ▶ Support for merge/join operations
  - ▶ Lots of other helpful features
- pandas includes a number of importers from common formats
  - ▶ csv, Excel, formatted text, STATA, tables on the web
- Also includes exporters to most common formats



# Examples of Importing Data

## Tasks 8.1

- Federal Reserve Economic Database
  - ▶ Real GDP
  - ▶ `http://research.stlouisfed.org/fred2/data/GDPC1.csv`
- Ken French Data
  - ▶ `http://mba.tuck.dartmouth.edu/pages/faculty/ken.french/ftp/F-F\_Research\_Data\_Factors.zip`
- WorldBank Data: Central Government Debt, % of GDP
  - ▶ `http://api.worldbank.org/v2/en/indicator/gc.dod.totl.gd.zs?downloadformat=excel`
- Files at `http://kevinsheppard.com/wiki/Python\_Course`



# Examples of Saving Data

## Tasks 8.2–8.4

- pandas DataFrames can be directly exported to a range of formats
- When working with data, better to use binary formats since there is never a loss of precision
- Preferred format is h5, which is provided by PyTables
- `rgdp.to_hdf(filename, key, complevel=6, complib='zlib')`
- Saving multiple: HDFStore
  - Works like a dictionary
  - `store = HDFStore(filename, mode, complevel=6, complib='zlib')`
  - `store['var_name']=variable`
  - `store.close()`
- More on pandas next term



# Logical Operator

Tasks 10.1, 10.7

- Logical operators are similar to mathematical operations
  - ▶  $x \text{ L } y$  where L is one of  $>$ ,  $>=$ ,  $<$ ,  $<=$ ,  $==$ ,  $!=$
  - ▶ Scalars or broadcastable arrays
- Logical operators can be joined using `logical_and`, `logical_or`, `logical_not`, `logical_xor`
- `all` and `any` can be used to test multiple operations
- Scalars support short-circuit operators: `and`, `or` and `not`
- Long list of logical information functions: `is*`
  - ▶ `isinf`, `isnan`, `isfinite`, `iscomplex`, `isreal`, `isposinf`, `isneginf`, `isscalar`



# Numeric Indexing

## Tasks 10.3–10.5

- Numeric indexing returns arrays with the same shape as the arrays used as indices
  - Arrays used as indexes **must** be broadcastable
- Simply solution is to use `ix_` if interested in selecting rows and columns
- Scalar selection is different than numeric indexing
  - `x[0]` vs `x[[0]]` or `x[array([0])]`
  - Also `x[0]` vs `x[:,1]`





# Logical Indexing

Task 10.2, 10.6

- Logical statements can be used to select elements of an array
- One dimensional selection is simple
  - `x = arange(5.0)`
  - `y = x < 3`
  - `x[y]`
- Higher dimensional selection vectors **must** be broadcastable
  - Usually use `ix_`
  - See `nonzero` which is used to turn logical indexes into numeric indices



# Writing functions

## Tasks 11.1–11.2

- Functions start with `def`
- Return single value or tuple using `return`
- Whitespace used to denote function boundaries
  - Can use `pass` to explicitly end function
- Functions are available in the same file after they are declared
- Order of inputs determines positions
- Name determines keyword use
- Default values given using form `input = default`
  - Do not use mutable values as defaults, use `None` and test



# Docstrings

## Task 11.5

- Docstrings are the embedded help in IPython
- Standard NumPy-encouraged format for numerical code

```
def l2_norm(x, y)
"""
Computes the L2-normed distance between two vectors

Parameters
-----
x : array-like, 1-dimensional
y : array-like, 1-dimensional

Returns
-----
L2 distance between functions

Notes
-----
The L2 distance is the squareroot of average the squared deviation
of the elements of the vectors
"""
return np.mean((x-y)**2.0)
```



# Allowing arbitrary args and kwargs

## Tasks 11.3–11.4

- Arbitrary arguments can be passed in using `*args`
  - ▶ Appear as tuple in function
- Arbitrary keyword arguments using `**kwargs`
  - ▶ Appear as dictionary in function
  - ▶ Only keywords not in function appear
  - ▶ See `.keys()`



- Use `from file import function`
  - ▶ Also `from file import *`
  - ▶ Also `import file` and then `file.function`

- Variables declared in a function are local to that function
  - ▶ These do not overwrite variables with the same name
- Variables declared before the function are available *read only*
  - ▶ Unless used with `global`
  - ▶ Rarely needed
- Mutable variables passed to functions can be changed, so care is needed
  - ▶ Copy if required
  - ▶ Important to not use inputs for temporary values
- Immutable cannot be changed in a function



- Two methods to generate random numbers
  - ▶ `numpy.random`
  - ▶ `scipy.stats`
    - `scipy.stats.DIST`
- Important to be able to re-produce random sequences
  - ▶ `numpy.random.RandomState()`
  - ▶ `get_state/set_state`



- SciPy contains a large statistics library
  - `scipy.stats`
- Faster to use frozen RV objects for repeated calls
  - Especially true if calls are simple





- Normal
  - norm
- $\chi^2$ 
  - chi2
- $f$ 
  - f
- $\Gamma$ 
  - gamma
- Log-normal
  - lognormal

- Non-linear optimization is provided by `scipy.optimize`
- Usually imported using `import scipy.optimize as opt`
- Main routines
  - ▶ `fmin_bfgs` - Gradient descent (Broyden-Fletcher-Goldfarb-Shanno)
  - ▶ `fmin` - Derivative free (Simplex)
  - ▶ `fmin_slqp` - Constrained (Sequential LS Quadratic Programming)
- All optimizers *minimize*
  - ▶ Not a problem since can multiply by -1



- Optimizers require an objective function
  - Function should take values as first input, usually a 1d numpy array
- Other values (e.g. data) can be passed as additional arguments
  - Usually passed through a tuple
  - Positional arguments, so order matters
- Some optimizers take additional arguments like gradient
  - Improves performance and precision, but not required

- Canonical import name: `pd`
- Provides three key structures that provide meaning to NumPy arrays
  - ▶ `Series` - a 1-dimensional array with a name and index
  - ▶ `DataFrame` - a collection of `Series`, 2-dimensional
  - ▶ `Panel` - a collection of `DataFrames`, 3-dimensional
- pandas data structures are both array-like and dict-like
  - ▶ `np.log(df)`: array-like
  - ▶ `df['series']`: dict-like
- Other features
  - ▶ Reading and writing data
  - ▶ Merging/joining multiple datasets
  - ▶ Quick access to common plots and statistics
  - ▶ Access to underlying NumPy arrays using `values`



- `read_csv`
  - Important keyword arguments: `skiprows`, `index_col`, `parse_dates`, `na_values`
- `read_excel`
  - Requires filename and sheet name, same keyword args
- `read_table`: Read text files, such as tab delimited
  - Important keyword arguments: `sep`
- `read_stata`: Read Stata `.dta` files
- `read_hdf`: Read data from HDF files (h5), which provide compression
  - Important keyword arguments: `complevel`, `complib`
- `read_pickle`: Read the native Python pickle format
- Other: `json`, `sql`, `clipboard`, `html`

# pandas: Exporting Data

- `df.to_csv`: Export to csv
  - ▶ Keyword argument `sep` allows tab delimited
- `df.to_excel`: Export to excel (97 (xls) or 2007+ (xlsx))
  - ▶ Advanced usage allows multiple sheets in a single file
- `df.to_stata`: Write Stata .dta files
- `df.to_hdf`: Writes files to HDF files (h5)
  - ▶ Important keyword arguments: `complevel`, `complib`
- `df.to_pickle`: Writes the native Python pickle format
- `df.to_string`: Output tabular data
- `df.to_latex`: Writes to a latex table
- Others: json, sql, dict

- Series is building block of DataFrame
- `.head()`, `.tail()` (or `.tail(n)`), `.info()`, `.dtype()`
- `.name` to assign a name, or create using the keyword argument `name`
- `.index` to assign an index, or create using the keyword argument `index`
  - `.index.name` to assign name to an index
- Series is array-like, and work with NumPy functions (e.g. `np.log`)
  - Math on multiple series works aligning indices!
- `dropna()` to remove NaNs.
- Series can be created from arrays (or other lists) or dictionaries.
- Slicing a Series can be done
  - Numerically, scalar or slice
  - Using index labels, scalar or slice of these as well

- Main data structure in pandas
- `.head()`, `.tail()` (or `.tail(n)`), `.info()`, `.dtypes()`
- `.describe()` to get a simple summary
- Columns have names, and can be changed or reordered
- Series can be accessed using
  - Dictionary style syntax – `df['series_name']`
  - Attribute syntax `df.series_name`
    - Only Dictionary if name has spaces (avoid this)
- Series can be added to DataFrames
  - Dictionary style adding a series - left join
  - `pd.concat` performs an outer join using tuple of series input
- Multiple series extracted with dictionary-syntax and list of column names
  - Also how columns are re-ordered





# More DataFrame

- Indices can be subsetted or superseded using `reindex`
- Removing rows or columns with NaNs: `dropna`
- Rows extracted using
  - `.ix[slice]`
- Extracting rows and columns
  - `ix[slice, columns]`
  - Pure numeric `ix[:2, :2]` or mixed labels
- Selection comes with same caveats with scalar selection vs slice selection (or arrays)
- Extracting rows: `xs` which is a function (`xs()`)
- Deleting columns or rows
  - `del`
  - `pop`
  - `drop(rows, axis=1)`



# More DataFrames

- Underlying NumPy with `.values`
- Get or set index using `.index`
- Construction from arrays or lists of lists
  - Keyword arguments: `index`, `columns`
  - Can also set later (correct number of elements)
- Also can construct from dict of series
- `.copy()` to copy
- Logical indexing works on rows
- `.drop` to remove rows
  - Can also slice rows to keep
- Sorting
  - `sort_index`
  - `sort()`
    - Keyword arguments: `inplace`
- `pivot` transforms flat data to be converted to more meaningful array



# Multiple Indices

- Can construct indices composed of multiple items
  - Example country and year
- Use `ix[outerIndex]` or `xs(outerIndex)`
- `xs(innerIndex, level=1)` to access inner index
- Direct access to specific elements with `ix[outer, inner]`
- `swaplevel` to alter order for easier access
- `sortlevel` to sort a specific level
- Can fill or drop missing values
  - `.fillna`, `.ffill`, `.bfill`
  - `.interpolate`
  - `.dropna`

# Newton-Cotes Quadrature

- See Judd 1998, Ch. 6–7
- Integrals are the limits of sums, so sums can be used to approximate integrals
- Newton-Cotes

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i f(x_i)$$

- Midpoint Rule
  - ▶ Simple Version

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx (b-a) f\left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right)$$

- ▶ Composite Version

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \frac{(b-a)}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n f(x_j) \text{ where } x_j = a + (j-1/2) \frac{(b-a)}{n}$$



# Better Approximations

## ■ Trapezoid Rule

- ▶ Simple Version

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \frac{b-a}{2} [f(a) + f(b)]$$

- ▶ Composite Version

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \frac{b-a}{2n} \left( \sum_{j=1}^n f(x_j) + \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} f(x_k) \right) \text{ where } x_i = a + i \frac{(b-a)}{n}$$

## ■ Simpson's Rule, based on piecewise quadratic

- ▶ Simple Version

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \left( \frac{b-a}{6} \right) \left[ f(a) + 4f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + f(b) \right]$$

- ▶ Composite Version

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \left( \frac{x_{i+1} - x_i}{6} \right) \left[ f(x_i) + 4f\left(\frac{x_{i+1} + x_i}{2}\right) + f(x_{i+1}) \right] \text{ where } x_i = a + i \frac{(b-a)}{n}$$



Compute values for

1.  $f(x) = x^3$ , where  $x$  is  $[0, 1]$ , with  $n = 100$ .
2.  $f(x) = 1/x$ , where  $x$  is  $[1, 100]$  with  $n = 1000$
3.  $f(x) = x$  where  $x$  is  $[0, 5000]$  with  $n = 5,000,000$ .



- Integrals can be modified to change the range of integration

$$\int_a^b g(y) dy = \int_{\phi^{-1}(a)}^{\phi^{-1}(b)} g(\phi(x)) \phi'(x) dx$$

- Where
  - ▶  $y = \phi(x)$

- Orthogonal polynomials are useful for approximating non-polynomial functions
- Polynomials are orthogonal if

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_a^b f(x)g(x)w(x)dx = 0$$

with respect to a weighting function  $w(x)$

- A family  $\{\phi_n(x)\}$  is mutually orthogonal if

$$\langle \phi_i, \phi_j \rangle = 0 \quad \forall i \neq j$$

- Can also be orthonormal if

$$\langle \phi_i, \phi_i \rangle = 1$$



Family	$w(x)$	$[a, b]$	Definition
Legendre	1	$[-1, 1]$	$P_n(x) = \frac{(-1)^n}{2^n n!} \frac{\partial^n}{\partial x^n} [(1-x^2)^n]$
Chebyshev	$(1-x)^{-1/2}$	$[-1, 1]$	$T_n(x) = \cos(n \cos^{-1} x)$
Gen. Chebyshev	$\left(1 - \left(\frac{2x-a-b}{b-a}\right)^2\right)^{-1/2}$	$[a, b]$	$T_n\left(\frac{2x-a-b}{b-a}\right)$
Laguerre	$\exp(-x)$	$[0, \infty]$	$L_n(x) = \frac{e^x}{n!} \frac{\partial^n}{\partial x^n} (x^n \exp(-x))$
Hermite	$\exp(-x^2)$	$[-\infty, \infty]$	$H_n(x) = (-1)^n \exp(x^2) \frac{\partial^n}{\partial x^n} (\exp(-x^2))$

- Legendre,  $P_0(x) = 1$ ,  $P_1(x) = x$

$$P_{n+1}(x) = \frac{2n+1}{n+1}xP_n(x) - \frac{n}{n+1}P_{n-1}(x)$$

- Chebyshev,  $T_0(x) = 1$ ,  $T_1(x) = x$

$$T_{n+1}(x) = 2xT_n(x) - T_{n-1}(x)$$

- Laguerre,  $L_0(x) = 1$ ,  $L_1(x) = 1 - x$

$$L_{n+1}(x) = \frac{1}{n+1}(2n+1-x)L_n(x) - \frac{n}{n+1}L_{n-1}(x)$$

- Hermite,  $H_0(x) = 1$ ,  $H_1(x) = 2x$

$$H_{n+1}(x) = 2xH_n(x) - 2nH_{n-1}(x)$$



- Gaussian quadrature is similar but solves a related problem

$$\int_a^b f(x) w(x) dx \approx \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i f(x_i)$$

- The weighting function defines different classes
- Have the property that if  $n$  nodes are used, and if  $f$  is a polynomial in  $x$  of degree  $2n - 1$ , then the integral is exact
  - ▶ Newton-Cotes are generally not exact in most non-trivial cases

# Gauss-Chebyshev Quadrature

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) (1-x^2)^{-1/2} dx \approx \frac{\pi}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i)$$

where  $x_i = \cos\left(\frac{2i-1}{2n}\pi\right)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$  are nodes

- Change of variables to get

$$\int_a^b f(y) dy = \frac{b-a}{2} \int_{-1}^1 f\left(\frac{(x+1)(b-a)}{2} + a\right) \frac{(1-x^2)^{1/2}}{(1-x^2)^{1/2}} dx$$

- Linear:  $x = -1 + 2(y-a)/(b-a)$



# Gauss-Chebyshev Quadrature

- So that

$$\int_a^b f(y) dy \approx \frac{\pi(b-a)}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n f\left(\frac{(x_i+1)(b-a)}{2} + a\right) (1-x_i^2)^{1/2}$$

where  $x_i$  are the Gauss-Chebyshev nodes on  $[-1, 1]$ .

- Compute the integral of  $x^\alpha$  for  $\alpha \in \{0.5, 1\}$ ,  $a \in \{0.2, 1\}$  and  $b \in \{2, 5\}$  for  $n \in \{3, 6, 15\}$



# Gauss-Legendre Quadrature

- Similar to Gauss-Chebyshev, only using Gauss-Legendre nodes and weights
  - ▶ Legendre orthogonal polynomials
- After change of variables

$$\int_a^b f(y) dy \approx \frac{b-a}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i f\left(\frac{(x_i+1)(b-a)}{2} + a\right)$$

- ▶  $\omega_i$  and  $x_i$  are the G-L weights and nodes on  $[-1, 1]$ .
  - ▶ Note: G-C uses  $\omega_i = (1-x_i)^{-1/2}$
- Gauss-Legendre has a smaller error than Gauss-Chebyshev in most cases

# Gauss-Legendre Nodes and Weights

- Interested in  $n$  nodes, which are the roots of the  $n$ th order Legendre polynomial
- Polynomials can be constructed using  $P_0(x) = 1$ ,  $P_1(x) = x$

$$P_{n+1}(x) = \frac{2n+1}{n+1}xP_n(x) - \frac{n}{n+1}P_{n-1}(x)$$

- Derivatives are also recursive

$$P'_{n+1}(x) = \frac{n+1}{x^2-1} (xP_n(x) - P_{n-1}(x))$$



# Gauss-Legendre Nodes and Weights

- Roots are not analytical, but can use

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - \frac{f(x_k)}{f'(x_k)}$$

to iterate starting from

$$x_{0,j} = \cos \left( \pi \frac{j - \frac{1}{4}}{n + \frac{1}{2}} \right)$$

for the  $j$ th root

- Weights can be computed from root using

$$w_i = \frac{2}{(1 - x_i^2) [P'_n(x_i)]^2}$$





- Random Number Generation
- Statistical Distributions and Related Quantities
- Plotting
- Non-linear Optimization
- Working with Dates and Times
- Using pandas to Manage Data
- Performance Considerations
- Using Classes to manage Complex Code