

Course contents Applied Numerical Methods with Python and Python Libraries

Module 1 Preamble, Learning to break fall and Foundations

The goal of this module is to introduce a number of fundamental programming features and syntax and how they are supported in Python.

Variables and Functions

- Lexical Structure
- Python Strings
- Fundamental Data Types
- Functions
- Code layout rules

Program Structure

- Scope and Lifetime of Variables
- Control Flow Structure
- Looping and Iteration
- Iterables, Iterators and Tuples

Fundamental data types

- Numbers and Numeric Operations
- Testing for valid numbers
- Analysis of floating-point numbers

Control flow statements

- If and if-else statements
- While statement
- For statement
- Iterators

Expressions and Operators

- What is an expression?
- Operators and operator precedence
- Numeric operations and conversions
- Sequence operations

Data Types

- Vectors and lists
- Deque, queue and priority queue
- Sets
- Associative arrays and dictionaries

Algorithm Analysis

- Asymptotic behaviour of functions
- Asymptotic order; orders of complexity
- Hierarchy of orders
- Order relationships
- Hard Problems

Types of Algorithms

- Searching and sorting
- Merge
- Insertion, remove
- Linear and binary search

Module 2 Object Oriented Programming in Python

In this module we show how to write *correct* object-oriented code in Python by which we mean code that is maintainable and that bears some resemblance to real-life applications.

Creating Classes in Python

- Naming conventions
- My first class A-Z
- Constructors and initialisation
- Creating objects and class instantiation
- Access control issues

Creating Larger Classes

- Composition and Delegation
- Whole-part objects in Python
- Arrays and collections of objects
- Inheritance and subclassing
- Combining inheritance and composition

Fundamental Arrays and Data Structures

- Basic data types
- One-dimensional arrays; matrices
- n-dimensional arrays (`ndarray`)
- Data type objects (`dtype`)
- Tuples, dictionaries and lists

Module 3 Functional Programming (FP) in Python

In this module we discuss the extent to which Python supports programming in a functional style.

Introduction to Higher-order Functions (HOFs)

- What can we do with HOFs?
- Simplify HOFs by lambda forms and lambda expressions
- Lambdas and the lambda calculus
- Apply a function to a collection: `map ()`
- Pass/reject data with `filter ()`

Advanced Functional Programming

- Lazy and eager evaluation
- Applications of `filter ()`
- Generator expressions
- Recursion and reduction
- Folds

- Decorators
- Iterables and *itertools* module

Exception Handling in Python Programs

- Raising exceptions
- Handling exceptions
- Exception hierarchy and built-in exceptions
- User-defined exceptions

Some Standard Library Modules

- *sys* (state of Python interpreter)
- *functools* (functions and types supporting functional programming)
- *heapq* (keep list “nearly sorted”)
- *copy* (deep and shallow copies of objects)

Module 4 Essential Mathematical Structures

Approximation of functions by polynomials is probably one of the most important activities in numerical analysis and its applications.

Polynomials

- 1d, 2d and 3d polynomials
- The algebra of polynomials
- Power series polynomials
- Operations on polynomials

Special Polynomials and Functionality

- Orthogonal polynomials: Chebychev, Legendre, Laguerre, Hermite
- 1d, 2d and 3d orthogonal polynomial grids
- Least Squares fitting
- Spline fitting

Random Sampling

- Simple random data
- Permuting and shuffling randomly
- Continuous and discrete distributions
- Drawing random samples
- Creating histograms

Arrays

- N-dimensional arrays `ndarray`
- Creating and manipulating arrays
- Iterating over arrays
- Applications

Module 5 Fundamental Numerical Methods

This module introduces several important libraries that are needed in many kinds of applications and that we use in later modules.

Integration

- General purpose integration schemes in one, two, three and n dimensions
- Gaussian and Romberg integration

- Trapezoid and Simpson’s rules
- Gaussian quadrature
- roots of orthogonal polynomials

Numerical Solution of Ordinary Differential Equations (ODE, `odeint`)

- Real-valued and complex-valued ODEs
- First-order and higher-order ODEs
- Application areas

Statistics

- Random variables
- Probability and cumulative distribution functions
- T-test, Kolmogorov-Smirnov test
- Test for normality
- Comparing two samples
- Estimation
- Kernel density estimation (KDE)
- Univariate and multivariate estimation
- Applications

An Introduction to Optimisation

- Univariate minimisers and root finders
- Unconstrained and constrained multivariate optimization
- Least squares minimization and curve fitting
- Orthogonal distance regression (ODR)

Module 6 Advanced Numerical Methods

This module is central to all computationally-intensive applications because it discusses *numerical linear algebra* which consists of routines to solve matrix equations, eigenvalue and eigenvector computation as well as matrix decomposition methods based on LAPACK and Matlab. We also discuss interpolation algorithms in one and two dimensions.

Mathematical Functions

- Trigonometric and inverse trigonometric functions
- Rounding
- Sums, products and differences
- Exponential and logarithmic functions

Linear Algebra: Overview

- ATLAS LAPACK and BLAS libraries
- Basic routines
- Computing norms
- LU and Cholesky decomposition

Advanced Linear Algebra

- Eigenvalue and eigenvector computation
- Decomposition: QR, Schur, SVD (Singular Value Decomposition)
- Matrix functions (for example, the exponential of a matrix)
- Special matrices

Matrix Library (`numpy.matlib`)

- Matrix objects
- Creating and initializing matrices
- Using matrices in applications

Interpolation

- Overview of univariate and multivariate interpolation
- Interpolating a 1-d function
- Piecewise polynomial interpolation
- Piecewise linear interpolation in N dimensions
- Interpolation over a 2-d grid
- 2d splines

Module 7 Numerical Solution of Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations (ODE/PDE)

This module introduces modern finite difference (FDM) schemes that approximate the solution of time-dependent partial differential equations, in particular, parabolic PDEs.

Automatic Differentiation (AD) Packages

- What is AD?
- Using AD to compute gradient, Jacobian and Hessian
- Examples: Optimisation and ODE solvers
- Application to sensitivity analysis and Machine Learning (ML)

Solving ODEs Numerically

- Hand-crafted solutions versus `scipy.integrate.odeint`
- Scalar equations and systems of equations
- Stiff and non-stiff problems
- Using `scipy.integrate.odeint`

Some Important Finite Difference Schemes

- Explicit Euler, fully implicit
- Crank Nicolson
- Alternating Direction Explicit (ADE)
- Methods of Lines (MOL) using `scipy.integrate.odeint`

Model PDE: the one-Dimensional Heat Equation

- PDE formulation (initial boundary value problem)
- Finite difference methods for the heat equation

- Using Python libraries
- Creating a working program in Python

Implementing Convection-Diffusion-Reaction (CDR) Equations

- What is CDR?
- Numerical approximation
- Examples and applications

Module 8 Auxiliary Libraries

This module consists of several *utility* libraries for serialisation, multi-dimensional data, date time functions and producing machine code.

Input and Output Essentials

- Load and save MATLAB files
- Birds'-eye overview of HDF5
- Dictionary of `numpy` arrays
- Working with NetCDF files
- Examples and applications

Python with HDF5

- HDF5 tools
- Reading and writing data
- Working with datasets
- Chunking and compression

Financial Functions

- Future and (net) present values
- Computing payments
- Internal Rate of Return (IRR)
- Interest rate computation

Datetime Support Functions

- Business day functions
- Valid business days
- Rolling
- Number of days between two dates

Advanced Statistical Functions

- Overview of (extensive) functions and their applications
- Chi-square test
- Kruskal-Wallis
- Kolmogorov-Smirnov
- Calculating regression line
- Geometric and harmonics means

JIT and fast Machine Code

- Introduction to Numba
- Decorating Python code
- When (and when not) to use Numba

Module 9 Advanced Data Access

Pandas Executive Overview

- Datastructures for multi-dimensional heterogeneous data
- Pandas as client of NumPy
- Essential classes Series and DataFrame
- Data mungling / wrangling tasks
- Transforming and mapping data between formats

Pandas (Data Analysis)

- Data science tools in Python
- Data analysis workflow: DataFrame object
- Working with data operations
- Time series functionality
- Index objects
- Statistical reductions

Python with HDF5 (Hierarchical Data Format)

- Main features in HDF5 for storing large quantities of numerical data
- Two-way communication between arrays and disk
- Attributes and metadata
- Datasets
- Groups and directory-like structures
- Chunked storage

Excel Automation

- The Excel Object Model
- App, Workbook, Sheet, Range, Chart
- Working with DataFrames
- Plotting and Reporting

Excel Functionality

- Excel Add-in
- Read and write Excel data
- An Introduction to SQLite
- Excel and Relational Database Systems (sqlite3)
- Excel and Pandas

Your Trainer

Daniel J. Duffy started the company Datasim in 1987 to promote C++ as a new object-oriented language for developing applications in the roles of developer, architect and requirements analyst to help clients design and analyse software systems for Computer Aided Design (CAD), process control and hardware-software systems, logistics, holography (optical technology) and computational finance.

He used a combination of top-down functional decomposition and bottomup object-oriented programming techniques to create stable and extendible applications.

Previous to Datasim he worked on engineering applications in oil and gas and semiconductor industries using a range of numerical methods (for example, the finite element method (FEM)) on mainframe and mini-computers.

Daniel Duffy has BA (Mod), MSc and PhD degrees in pure, numerical and applied mathematics and has been active in promoting partial differential equation (PDE) and finite difference methods (FDM) for applications in computational finance. He was responsible for the introduction of the Fractional Step (Soviet Splitting) method and the Alternating Direction Explicit (ADE) method in computational finance. He is also the originator of the *exponential fitting method* for time-dependent partial differential equations.

He is also the originator of two very popular C++ online courses (both C++98 and C++11/20) on www.quantnet.com in cooperation with Quantnet LLC and Baruch College (CUNY), NYC. He also trains developers and designers around the world. He can be contacted dduffy@datasim.nl for queries, information and course venues, in-company course and course dates