

# Python as your next Matlab?

aka Python for Matlab Engineers  
Training Session



# Who is this for?

- You use Matlab for engineering tasks
  - You use Windows
  - You have little or no knowledge of Python
  - You'd like to use Python
- 
- We will focus on interactive use and iterative development, as in Matlab

# Plan of the session

1. Context
2. Introduction to Python
3. Journey towards a Matlab-like Python
  - environment
  - numpy
  - matplotlib
  - I/O
4. Applications
  - data analysis
  - user interface

# 1. Context

# As you know, Python is...

- a general-purpose language
- easy to write, read and maintain (generally)
- interpreted (no compilation)
- garbage collected (no memory management)
- weakly typed (duck typing)
- object-oriented if you want it to
- cross-platform: Linux, Mac OS X, Windows
  - this session will use Windows
  - most of what we present works on other platforms

# Science & Engineering

- Python has been around for quite a while in the scientific and engineering communities, thanks to its ease of use as a "glue" language
- During the past 10 years, Python became a viable end solution for scientific computing, data analysis, plotting...
- This is mostly thanks to lots of efforts from the Open Source community, leading to the availability of mature 3rd-party tools  
e.g. numpy, scipy, matplotlib, ipython...
- Lots of momentum right now

# Why Python?

	Matlab	Python
development model	closed	open
price	\$\$\$	free
learning curve	easy	used to be hard

IMO: Python's advantage is its extreme flexibility  
makes coding fun and rewarding

# Fragmentation

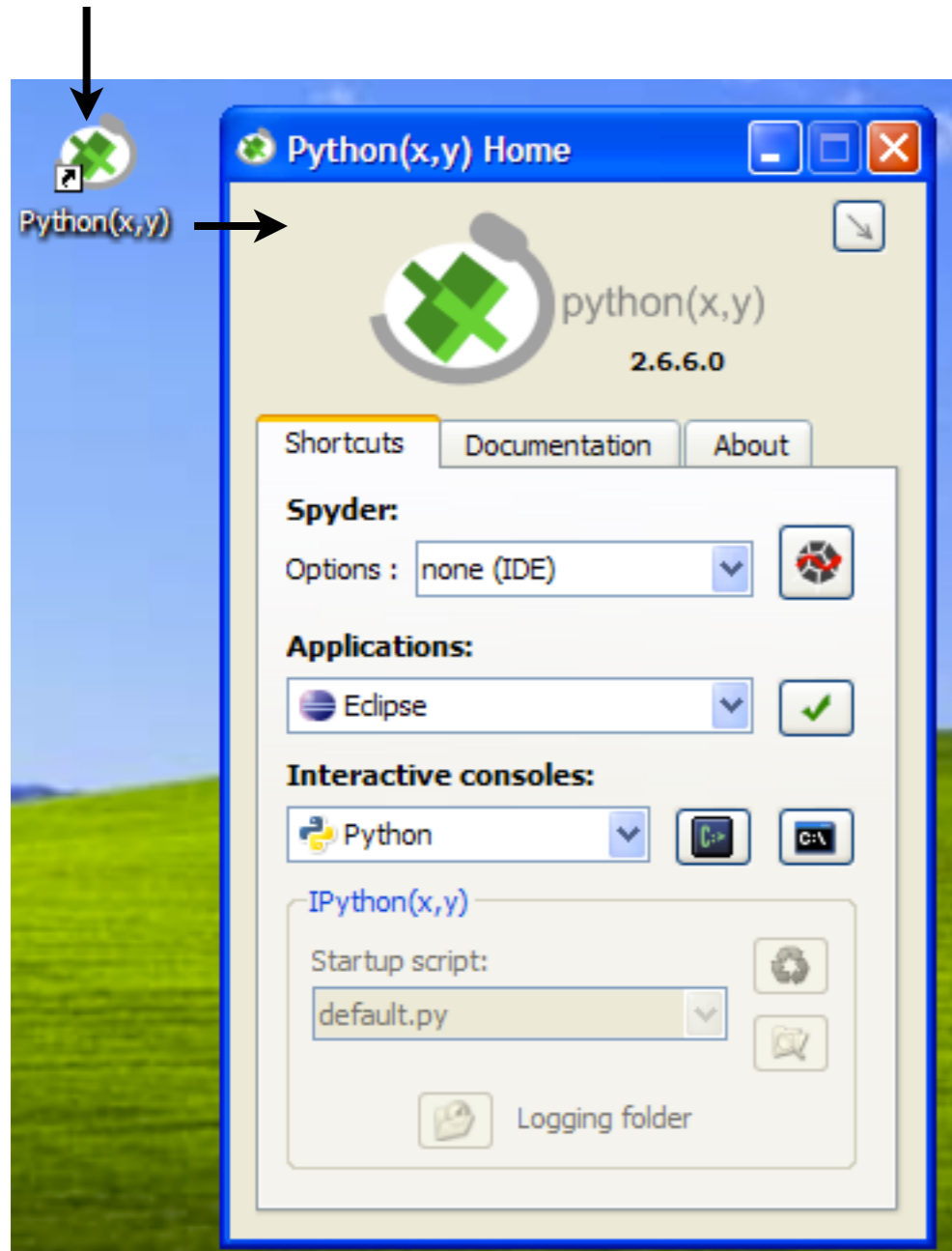
- Problem:
  - fast Python development = lots of different versions
  - lots of packages to install with lots of versions
  - dependencies on each other
    - sometimes on 3rd-party libraries
  - installing the whole stack can be tricky
- Solution: Python distributions
  - Everything in the box
  - Python-CDAT, SAGE, EPD...
  - Today we use Python(x,y) (Windows-only so far)



# Python(x,y)

- <http://www.pythonxy.org>
- If you haven't downloaded and installed it yet, please do it now (full install)
- Also download the [data.zip](#) archive linked to in the Session abstract page and unpack the data files
- Python(x,y) provides
  - A recent version of Python (2.6.6, 2.7 coming up)
  - pre-configured packages and modules for engineering in Python with dependencies
  - Visualization tools
  - improved consoles
  - Spyder (Matlab-like IDE)

# Python(x,y) launcher



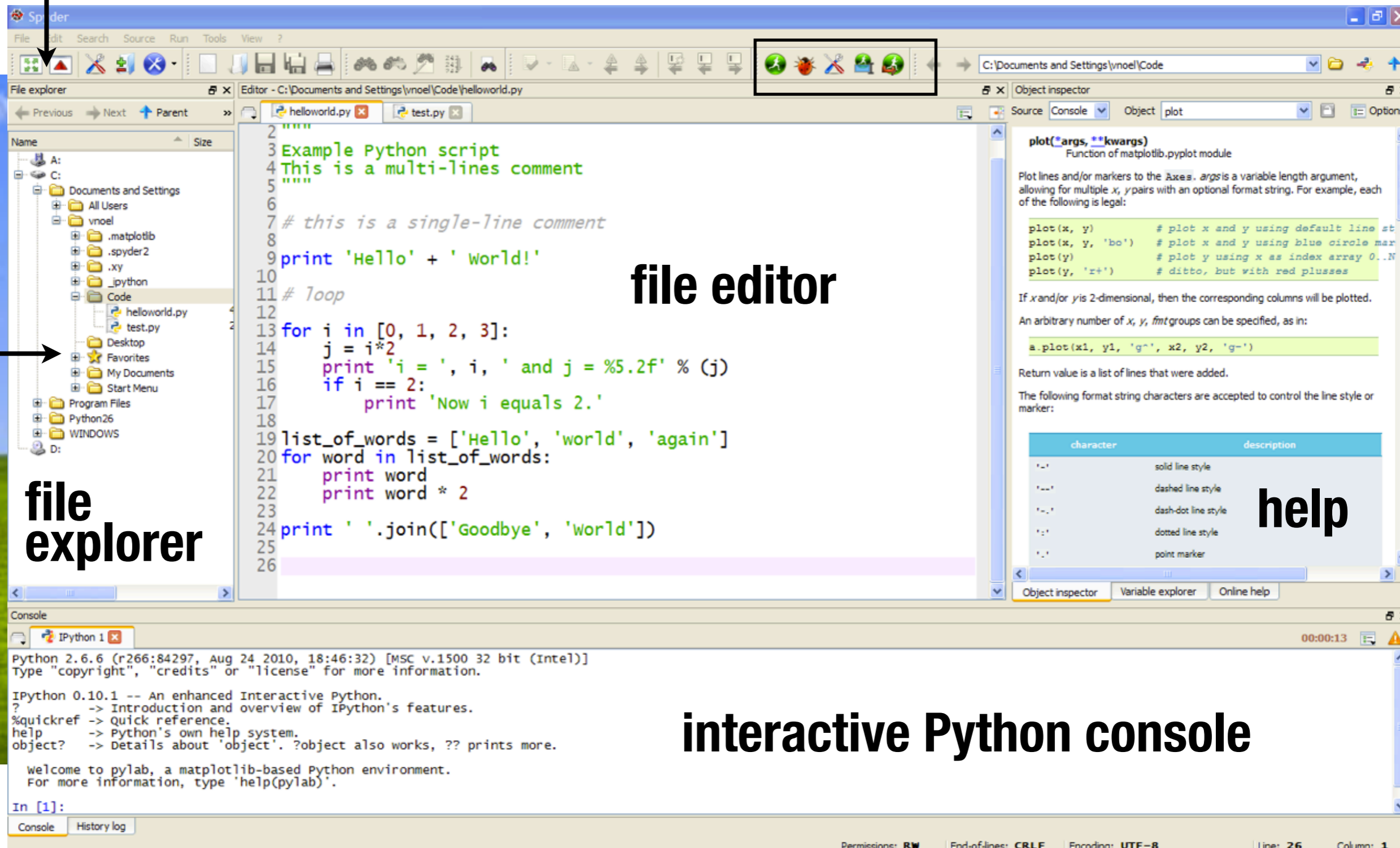
Gives access to

- interactive consoles
- Python-related tools
- Documentation
- Spyder IDE
- can hide in the tray

# Spyder

full screen switches

run toolbar



file explorer

file editor

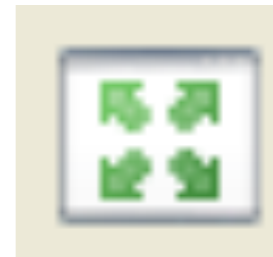
help

interactive Python console

# 2. Python

# Introduction to Python

- Interactive mode for now
  - please put the console in full screen



- Variables
- Functions and flow control
- Exceptions
- Modules
- Scripts

# Variables I 1

<b>Integer</b>	<pre>x = 1 x = int('1')</pre>	$x / 2 ?$
<b>Float</b>	<pre>x = 1. x = float('1')</pre>	$x / 2 ?$
<b>String</b>	<pre>x = 'blablabla' x = '%d:%5.2f' % (1, 3.14)</pre>	single or double quotes Q: 'a' + 'b' ?

# Variables I 2

<b>Arrays</b>	<pre>x = array([1,2,3,4]) # int32 y = array([1.1, 2]) # float64 z = array([]) # empty</pre>	fast, vectorized operations ~ <u>matrices</u>
<b>List</b>	<pre>x = [1, 2, 3] y = ['euro', 'Python', 2011] z = []</pre>	multiple-type arrays ~ <u>cells</u> more flexible
<b>Dictionaries</b>	<pre>p = {1:'a', 'b':23, 'c':{53:'x', 12:0}} p.keys()</pre>	named fields (e.g. parameters) ~ struct
<b>Tuples</b>	<pre>x1 = (1, 2, 3)</pre>	~ read-only lists

# Arrays | creation

> x = array([1, 2.0, 3])

> x = arange([0, 10, 0.1])

> x = zeros([10, 10])

> x = ones([10, 10, 3])



# Arrays | slicing

> `x = array([0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7])`

> `x[start:stop:step]`

- First element index 0 (not 1)
- last element omitted: `x[n1:n1+n]` returns n elements

> `x[5:6] -> array([5])`

> `x[5] -> 5`

> `x[0:5:1] -> array([0, 1, 2, 3, 4])`

- defaults: start=0, end=last element, step=1

> `x[0:5:1] == x[:5:] == x[:5]`

> `x[::2]`

# Arrays | more slicing

```
> x = array([0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7])
```

- Negative indices: from the end

```
> x[-1] -> 7
```

```
> x[-2] -> 6
```

```
> x[-4:-2] -> array([4, 5])
```

- Negative stepping

```
> x[-2:-4:-1] -> array([6, 5])
```

```
> x[::-1]
```

# Arrays | more slicing

```
> x = array([0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7])
```

- Negative indices: from the end

```
> x[-1] -> 7
```

```
> x[-2] -> 6
```

```
> x[-4:-2] -> array([4, 5])
```

- Negative stepping

```
> x[-2:-4:-1] -> array([6, 5])
```

```
> x[::-1]
```

All this slicing gets confusing pretty fast. Remember :

`x[0]`   `x[-1]`   `x[:n]`   `x[-n:]`   `x[::-1]`

# Arrays | views

- A sliced array is a view of the original array

```
> x = ones([4,4])
> y = x[0:2,0:2]
> x[0,0] = 5
> y
array([[ 5.,  1.],
       [ 1.,  1.]])
```

- To get a separate array

```
y = x[0:2,0:2].copy()
```

- not needed most of the time

# Arrays | r\_[]

- `r_[]`
- can replace `array()`
  - > `x = r_[1, 2.0, 3]` = `array([1, 2.0, 3])`
- can create vectors based on slice notation, with floats
  - > `x = r_[1:10:0.1]` # start, stop, step
  - > `x = r_[1:10:100j]` # start, stop, npoints

# Arrays | operations

- Inspection

- > `shape(x)`           # size in matlab
  - > `ndim(x)`
  - > `size(x)`

- Manipulation

- > `x.T`           # `x'` in matlab
  - > `x*y`           # `x.*y` in matlab
  - > `reshape(x, [4, 2])`
  - > `x = append(x, 8)`
  - > `x = append(x, r_[8:20])`
  - > `z = concatenate(x, y)`
  - > `xx, yy = meshgrid(x, y)`

# Arrays | basic math

- math operations on arrays are vectorized, fast (~matlab)
  - > sin, cos, tan...
  - mean, std, median, max, min, argmax...
  - sum, diff, log, exp, floor, bitwise\_and...
  - > xsum = sum(x)
- can be applied on single dimensions

```
> x = ones([4,2])  
> sum(x, 1)  
array([ 2.,  2.,  2.,  2.]
```

# Lists | 1

- contain items of any type (incl. lists)
- strings are lists
  - > `x = [0, 1, 2, 3.0, 'baba']`
  - > `y = [4, 5, x]`
- indexed like 1-dimensional arrays
  - > `y[0] ?`
  - > `y[2][4] ?`
  - > `y[2][4][3] ?`
- very flexible, generic container



# Lists | 2

- Deeply ingrained in Python
- Often you can loose the brackets
  - > `x = [1, 2, 3]`
  - > `a, b, c = x` # works with numeric arrays also
  - > `a, b = b, a`
- numeric arrays and lists are converted when needed
- very useful with functions returning lists
- use them

# Lists | functions

- lots of functions to deal with lists, try those
  - > `x = [5, 2, 8, 5, 3]`
  - > `len(x)`
  - > `x.append('ab')`
  - > `x.extend(['ba', 'abc'])`
  - > `sort(x) # == x.sort()`, sorts in-place
  - > `x.count('a')`
  - > `x.index('a')`
  - > `x.remove('a')`
  - > `x.remove(x[3])`
- array functions work on lists, not the opposite

# Dictionaries

- key-value structures ~ matlab struct
- keys can be any hashable - string, int, float
- > `x = {key1:value1, key2:value2}`
- > `x = {0:12, 'a':37, 'b':{'c':12, 2:23}}`
- > `x['b'][2] -> 23`
- convenient for parameters, named data
- > `params = {'min':3., 'max':10.}`
- > `data = {'dates':dates, 'temperature':temp}`
- > `process_data(data, params)`

# Variables | one last thing

- Python tracks the **content of variables**, not their names. The same content can have several names.
  - In practice, this may or may not be a problem
  - but you need to know about it
- If content has no more names, it is deleted from memory

<code>x=[0,1,2,3]</code> <code>y = x</code>	<code>x</code> → <code>y</code> → [0,1,2,3]
<code>y[1]=5</code>	<code>x</code> → <code>y</code> → [0,5,2,3]

<code>x=[0,1,2,3]</code> <code>y = x[:]</code>	<code>x</code> → [0,1,2,3] <code>y</code> → [0,1,2,3]
<code>y[1]=5</code>	<code>x</code> → [0,1,2,3] <code>y</code> → [0,5,2,3]

the `[:]` syntax requests a copy

# Flow control | for

- **followed by a colon :** and an **indented block**
- indentation directs logic
- no "end" keyword
- for does not iterate on number
- for iterates on elements from "iterables"
  - default iterables: arrays, lists, tuples, dictionaries, strings

```
xlist = [0,1,2,3]
for x in xlist:
    print x*2
for x in 1,2,3:
    print x*2
```

# Flow control I for

- `for i in (0:12):` won't work

- Solutions

> `for i in range(0,12):`

> `for i in r_[0:12]:`

- Useful function 1: `enumerate()`

```
items = ['aa', 'bb', 'cc']
for i, item in enumerate(items):
    print i, item
```

- Useful function 2: `zip()`

```
xlist = r_[0:4]
ylist = ['a', 'b', 'c', 'd']
for x, y in zip(xlist, ylist):
    print x, y
```

# list comprehensions

- An example of Python flexibility
- list manipulation

```
xlist = [0, 1, 2, 3]
ylist = []
for x in xlist:
    ylist.append(x*2)
```



```
xlist = [0, 1, 2, 3]
ylist = [x*2 for x in xlist]
```

- and filtering

```
ylist = [x*2 for x in xlist if x>2]
```

# list comprehensions | 2

- Almost like vectorization

```
coslist = [cos(x) for x in r_[0:3.14:0.01]]  
coslist = cos(r_[0:3:14:0.01])
```

- Works with any variable type

```
males = ['John', 'Albert', 'Bernard']  
names = ['Mr. ' + male for male in males]
```



# Flow control | while and if

- while

```
x = 3
while x < 10:
    print 'x = ', x
    x = x + 1
    # x += 1
```

- if, elif, else

```
if x < 2:
    print 'x is small'
elif x < 4:
    print 'x is not so small'
else:
    print 'x is large'
```

- conditions

```
if x:           # = if x is True:
if not x:
if x==y and (x!=z or x==k):
if x<y<z:       # if (x<y) and (y<z):
if x in xlist:
if x not in xlist:
('a' in 'abc') == True
```

- no switch statement
- break exits a loop
- continue loops around
- pass does nothing

# Scripts!

```
# this is a single-line comment
print 'Hello' + ' world!'

# loop
for i in [0, 1, 2, 3]:
    j = i*2
    print 'i = ', i, ' and j = %5.2f' % (j)
    if i == 2:
        print 'Now i equals 2.'

list_of_words = ['Hello', 'world', 'again']
for word in list_of_words:
    print word
    print word * 2
```



- script extension .py
  - convention
  - please follow it
- Indentation directs logic
- no «end» in blocks
- no end-of-line character ;
- no output without print

# Scripts!

```
# this is a single-line comment
print 'Hello' + ' world!'

# loop

for i in [0, 1, 2, 3]:
    j = i*2
    print 'i = ', i, ' and j = %5.2f' % (j)
    if i == 2:
        print 'Now i equals 2.'

list_of_words = ['Hello', 'world', 'again']
for word in list_of_words:
    print word
    print word * 2
```

comment lines begin with a hash #

indentation can be any number of spaces or tabs, just stay consistent within a same script

linebreaks inside  
containers () [] {}...  
no symbol  
Otherwise \

# Modules

- Functions not in core Python are provided by modules
  - module = regular Python .py file
  - contains definitions of functions, variables, objects
  - Any Python file can be a module
  - modules ~ .m function files
- Python standard library: lots of modules
  - file manipulation, network, web, strings...
- Python(x,y): lots of 3rd-party modules
- A folder of related modules = a package
  - packages ~ Matlab toolboxes
  - scipy, numpy, matplotlib = packages

# Modules I import

- A module must be **imported**
  - > `import mymodule`
- then use any function or object defined in the module, e.g.
  - > `mymodule.fun(x,y) # call the fun function`
- You can import modules or packages

# Modules | import variants

import command	object access	
<code>import mymodule</code>	<code>mymodule.fun()</code>	function calls are hard to write
<code>from mymodule import fun</code>	<code>fun()</code>	function imports are hard to write
<code>from mymodule import *</code>	<code>fun()</code>	convenient but name collisions possible - <b>avoid if possible</b>
<code>import mymodule as my</code>	<code>my.fun()</code>	just right (trust us)

# Modules | \$PYTHONPATH

- Python looks for modules
  - in the same path as the running script
  - in the system-wide modules folder site-packages/
  - In paths specified in \$PYTHONPATH
- Put a .py file in a folder, add the folder to the \$PYTHONPATH: you can import the module from anywhere
  - ~ adding addpath commands to startup.m
- In Spyder, change \$PYTHONPATH from the Tools menu

# Functions

```
def multiply_by_two(x, and_add=0):  
    xnew = x*2.  
    xnew += and_add  
    return xnew
```

- Functions are defined by def
- they return one variable of any type
- `and_add` is a keyword argument with a default value

> `sum(x, 1) == sum(x, axis=1)`

> `y = multiply_by_two(3) ?`

> `y = multiply_by_two(3, and_add=7) ?`

> `y = multiply_by_two(3, 7) ?`



# Exceptions

- Errors trigger exceptions
  - > 'a' + 24
- An exception stops execution
- Most of the time, exception = bug - but not always.

# Exceptions handling

- Exceptions can be caught

```
try:  
    f = open('file.txt', 'r')  
except IOError:  
    print 'Cannot open file'
```

This is the valid way to handle IO error - the exception is not a bug

- ~ try... catch in Matlab
- A plain except catches all exceptions - use with extreme caution

# Misc

```
> del var1, var2      # clear in matlab
> reset              # clear all
> x = nan
  > isnan(x)
  > isinf(x)
  > isfinite(x)
```

# End of Section #2

- There is more to Python
  - Generators
  - Decorators
  - string operations
  - Lambda functions
  - useful modules
    - datetime, csv, json
  - etc.
  - Some Python fun at the end
- <http://www.python.org>

# Section #2 - Lab

Write a Python script that:

- reads command-line parameters
- outputs their total number
- lists them one by one with their position
- prints out each parameter multiplied by two
- try it with a few parameters
- Hints:
  - Command-line parameters are in the argv list from the sys module
    - > `import, print, for, enumerate`

# 3. Journey towards a Matlab-like Python

# 3. Journey towards a Matlab-like Python

1. Environment

# Spyder

- Spyder provides a programming environment similar to recent Matlab
  - file explorer
  - code editor with autocompletion, suggestions
  - improved IPython console
  - contextual help linked to code editor, console
  - variable explorer (editable)
  - continuous code analysis



# Spyder I help system

The screenshot shows the Spyder I interface. The console window displays the following text:

```
IPython 0.10.1 -- An enhanced Interactive Python.  
? -> Introduction and overview of IPython's features  
%quickref -> Quick reference.  
help -> Python's own help system.  
object? -> Details about 'object'. ?object also works  
  
welcome to pylab, a matplotlib-based Python environment  
For more information, type 'help(pylab)'.  
  
In [1]: import math  
In [2]: math.cos
```

An 'Arguments' popup is visible over the console, showing 'x' as a suggested argument. An 'Object inspector' window is open, showing the documentation for the `math.cos` function:

```
Object inspector  
Source Console Object math.cos  
  
cos(...)  
Function of math module  
  
cos(x)  
Return the cosine of x (measured in radians).
```

**argument suggestion** in the console and the editor

**object inspector:** displays documentation for what you type (console/editor)

- in the console
  - > help function
  - > function?
  - > source function

# Spyder | variable explorer

The image shows the Spyder IDE's Variable Explorer and Object Inspector windows. The Variable Explorer window displays a list of variables with their names, types, sizes, and values. The Object Inspector window shows a detailed view of a selected variable, displaying its data as a 4x4 grid of values.

next to the object inspector

Name	Type	Size	Value
e	float	1	2.7182818284590451
h	int32	(40,)	array([ 1, 2, 1, 3, 1, 5, 4
i	int	1	3
j	int	1	6
list_of_words	list	3	<list @ 0x10416918>
pi	float	1	3.1415926535897931
word	str	1	again
x	float64	(4, 4)	array([[ 1., 1., 1., 1.], [ 1., 1., 1., 1.]
xe	float64	(41,)	array([-3.24826008, -3.0880853 , - ...
xlist	int32	(6,)	array([0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5])
y	int32	(4,)	array([6, 7, 8, 9])

	0	1	2	3
0	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
1	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
2	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000
3	1.000	1.000	1.000	1.000

Object inspector | Variable explorer | Find in files

Format | Resize |  Background color

OK | Cancel

# IPython

- In Spyder, the default Python console is **IPython**
  - you've been using it
  - much better than the standard Python console
  - tab completion for functions, modules, variables, files
  - filesystem navigation (`cd`, `ls`, `pwd`)
  - syntax highlighting
  - "magic" commands
    - `%whos`, `%hist`, `%reset`
    - `%run script.py`
    - type `%→` to see them all
    - you can drop the `%` for most of them (e.g `whos`, `run`, `reset`)
  - works fine with `matplotlib`

# Projects

- Spyder, IPython suited for interactive use and iterative development
- Project-oriented development (e.g. full applications): Python(x,y) includes Eclipse and Pydev (Python plug-in for Eclipse)
  - we won't cover that today

# 3. Journey towards a Matlab-like Python

2. Numpy

# numpy

- provides the array variable type
- and all associated functions
- developed since 1995
  - child of Numeric and numarray
  - now stable and mature, v.1.6 released May 2011
  - Python 3 coming up
  - basis for scipy, matplotlib, and lots of others

# numpy | importing

- you've been using numpy
- IPython import all of numpy automatically
  - > `from numpy import *`
- numpy functions can be called without prefix
- convenient for interactive use
- In scripts, favor `from numpy import np`
  - Prefix all numpy functions with np
  - No namespace collision
  - Easier to read and understand your code later
  - Official convention (examples, etc.)

# numpy | boolean indexing

- arrays can be indexed through slicing
- ...or through **boolean indexing**

```
> x = np.r_[0:10:0.1]
> idx = (x > 2.) & (x < 8.) # boolean array
> np.mean(x[idx])
> x[x<2] = 0.
```

- replaces matlab `find`
- Parenthesis are mandatory

```
> idx = x > 2 & x < 8      # won't work
```
- Lots of numpy functions return boolean indexes
  - e.g. `np.isfinite`, `np.isnan`
- Boolean indexing returns a new array (not a view)



# numpy | boolean indexing

> `np.all(x > 3)`

> `np.any(x > 3)`

> `np.sum(x > 3)`

> `np.in1d(x, y)`

- checks if x elements are in y

> `np.argmax(x > 3)`

- index of first element > 3

# numpy | other stuff

- structured arrays
- Some I/O (very limited on purpose)
- Matrix computations : `np.matrix()`
- Interpolation: `np.interp()` (more in scipy)
- Histograms at 1, 2, n dimensions: `np.histogram()`, `np.histogram2d()`, `np.histogramdd()`
- Modules within numpy
  - Random generators: `np.random`
  - Masked arrays: `np.ma`
- more at <http://docs.scipy.org/doc/numpy/reference>

# numpy I Lab

- Write a script to
  - Draw 1000 random elements
  - finds elements  $> 0.5$  and  $< 0.8$
  - compute the mean and standard deviation of the population of these elements
  - Hints:
    - > `np.random.rand()`

# 3. Journey towards a Matlab-like Python

## 3. Matplotlib

# Matplotlib

- Lots of Python plotting modules/packages
  - PyNGL, Chaco, Veusz, gnuplot, Rpy, Pychart...
  - Some in python(x,y)
- Matplotlib emerging as a "standard"
  - all-purpose plot package
  - interactive or publication-ready EPS/PDF, PNG, TIFF
  - based on numpy
  - extensible, popular, stable and mature (v. 1.0.1)
  - Python 3 coming up

# Matplotlib & Matlab

- Matplotlib can be used as an object-oriented framework
- can also follow a "matlab-like" imperative approach, through its pyplot module

```
> import matplotlib.pyplot as plt  
> plt.figure()  
> x = np.r_[0:2*pi:0.01]  
> plt.plot(x, np.sin(x))
```

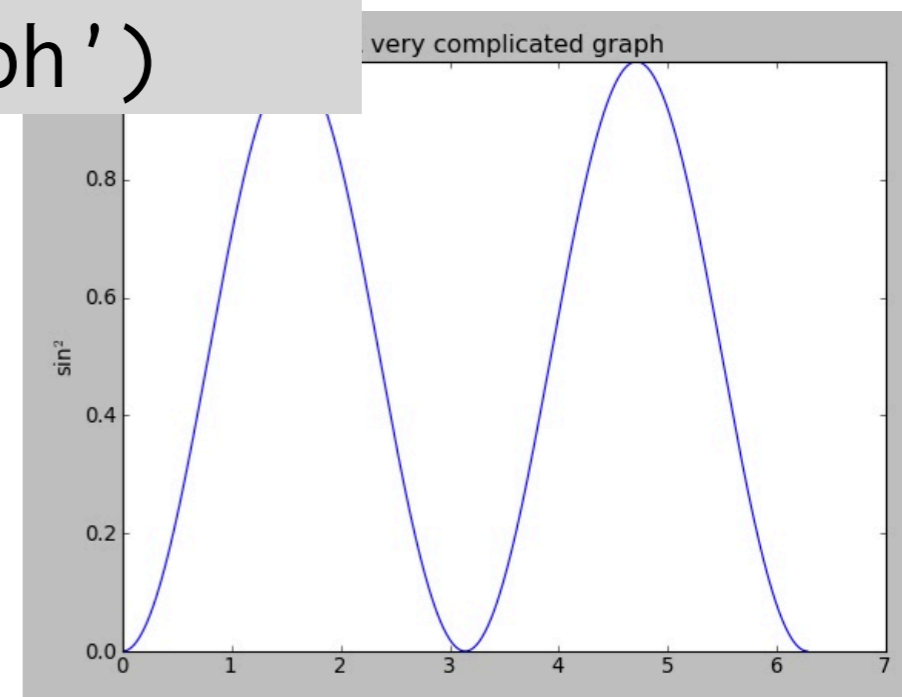
- pyplot functions follow a matlab-like syntax

```
plt.plot, semilogx/y, pcolor, pcolormesh,  
x/ylabel, title, legend, hist, figure, axis,  
subplot, contour, contourf, colorbar, quiver,  
axes, x/ylim, x/yticks...
```

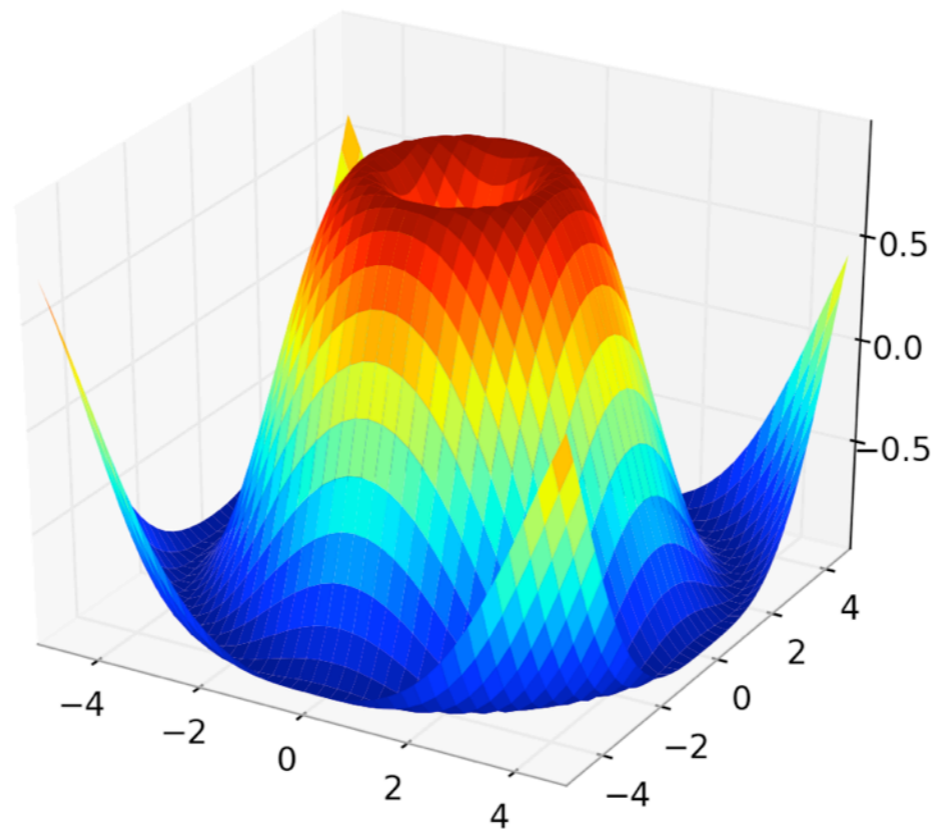
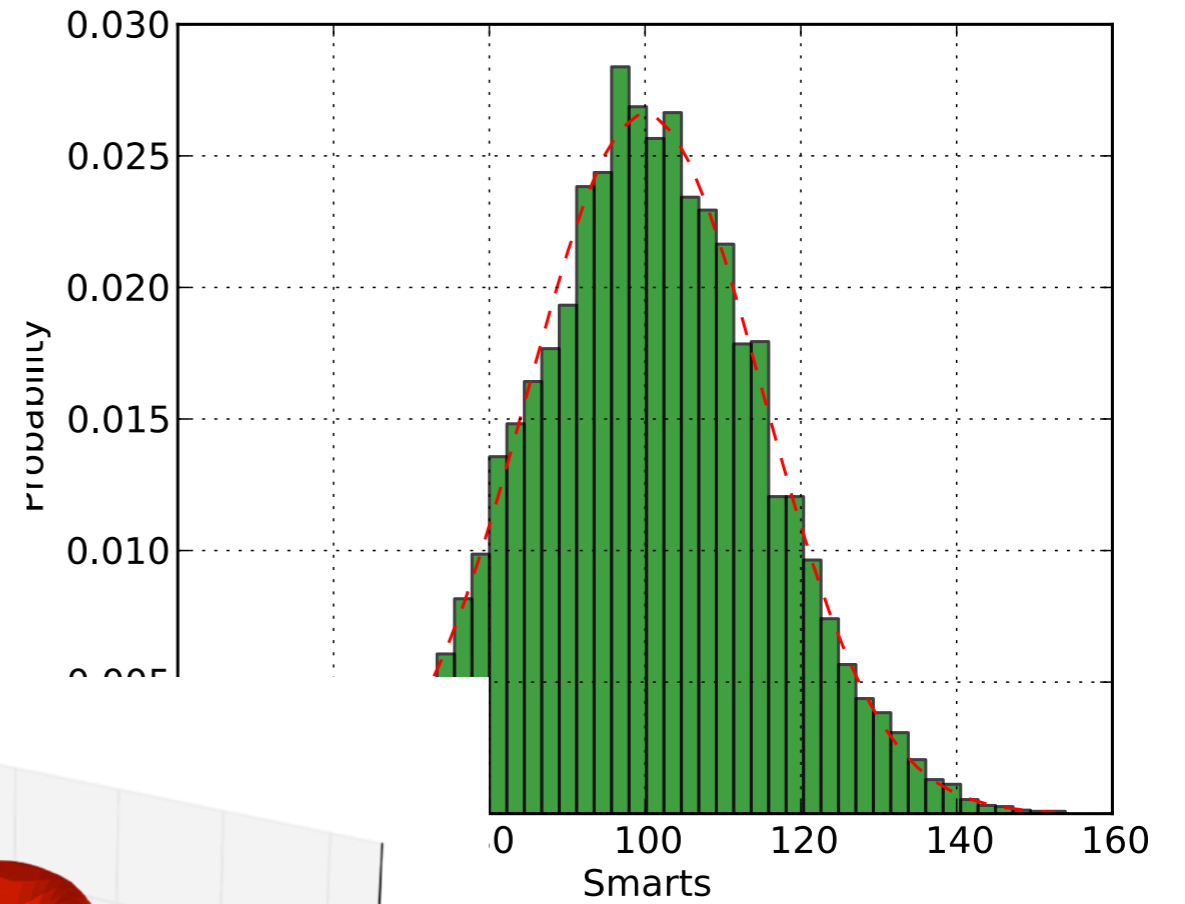
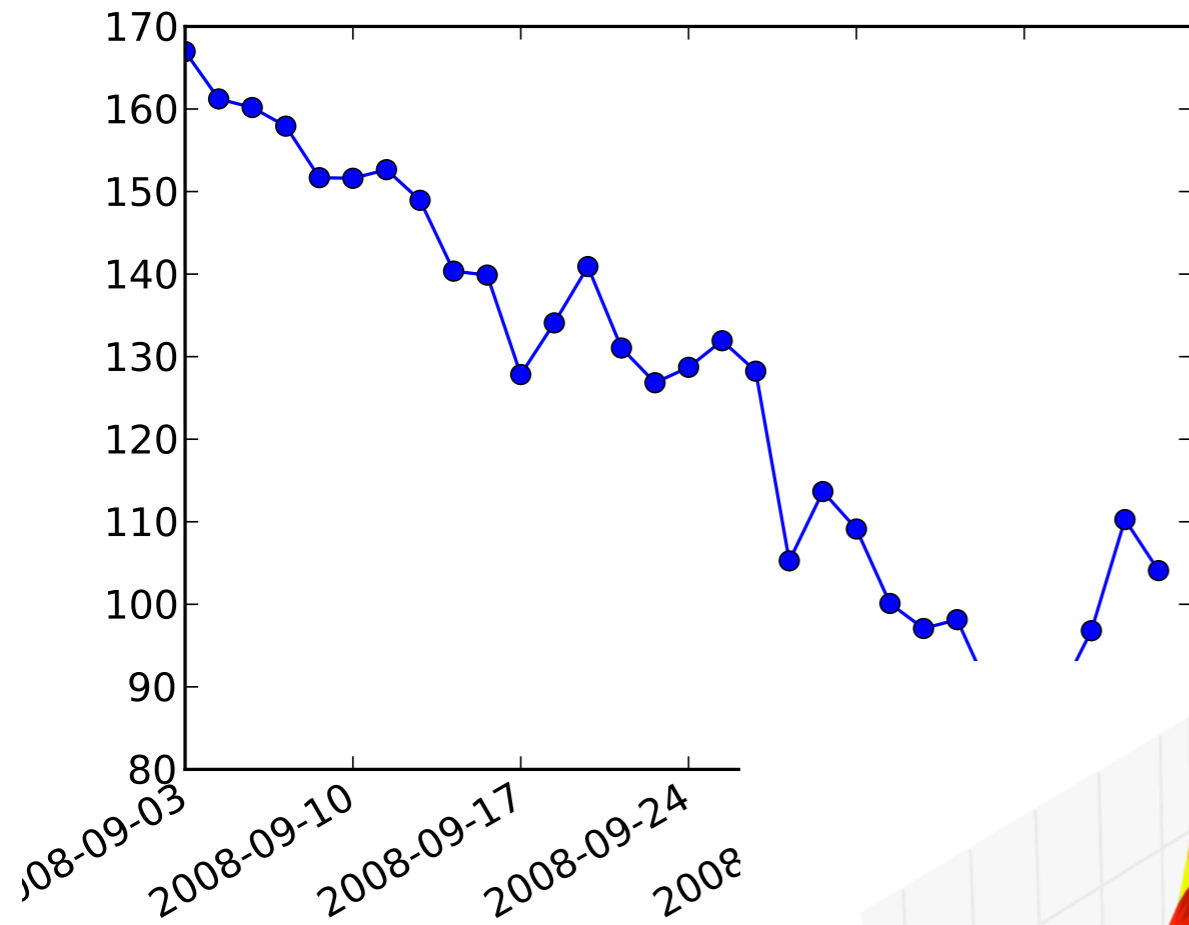
# Matplotlib in python(x,y)

- IPython import all matplotlib.pyplot
- You can drop the plt. prefix for interactive use

```
figure()
x = r_[0:2*pi:0.01]
plot(x, sin(x)**2)
grid()
ylabel('sin2') # latex allowed
title('A very complicated graph')
```



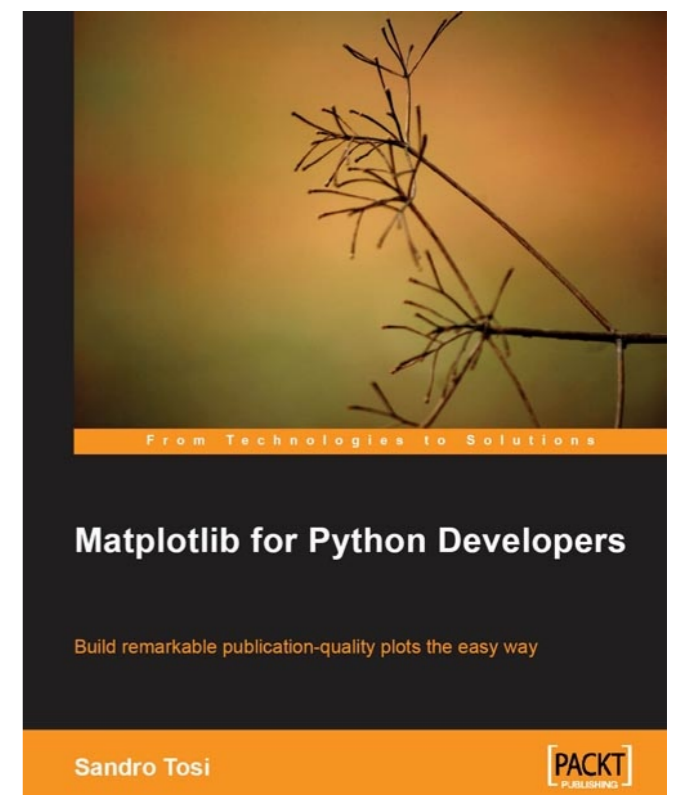
# Examples





# Matplotlib | documentation

- Plotting commands are documented on the matplotlib homepage  
<http://matplotlib.sourceforge.net>
- The matplotlib gallery is a good starting point to find how to do a specific graph  
<http://matplotlib.sourceforge.net/gallery.html>



# Matplotlib | Lab 1

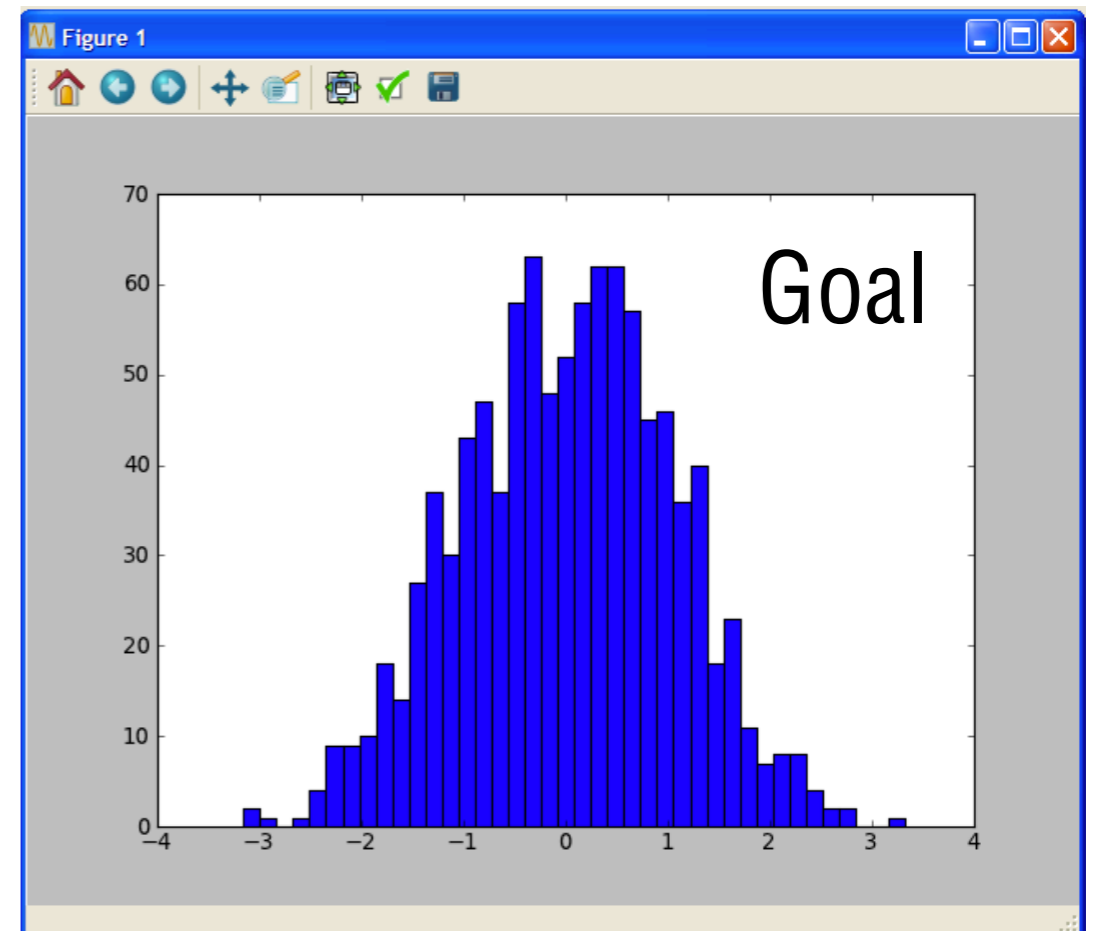
- Write a Python script to
  - draws 1000 samples from a normal distribution
  - show a histogram of the sample distribution (40 bins)

- Hints:

- > `np.random.normal()`

- > `plt.hist()`

- in a script you must call `plt.show()` when you want the figures to appear



# 3. Journey towards a Matlab-like Python

4. I/O

# I/O | ASCII

- Read/write ASCII in pure Python

```
> f = open('test.txt') # 'r' is default
> whole_file_as_a_string = f.read()
> f.close()
> f.readline() # read a single line
> f.readlines() # returns a list of all lines
```

```
f = open('test.txt')
for line in f:
    print line
f.close()
```

```
# saving
f = open('test.txt', 'w')
f.write('bla=%d' % (2))
f.close()
```

# I/O | ASCII

- Read data arrays from ASCII files
  - `data = np.loadtxt('data.txt')`
  - returns a numpy array
  - keyword parameters and defaults
    - `comments` - default `'#'`
    - `delimiter` - default `' '`
    - `converters`={0:datestr2num}
    - `skiprows` - default 0
- `np.savetxt()`

# I/O | npz

- easy way to read/save numpy arrays  
np.savez and np.load
- not very standard, confined to numpy use
- very useful for temporary storage
- ~ 'mat-files'

```
x = np.ones([100, 10])  
y = x * 4.  
np.savez('vars.npz',  
xvar=x, yvar=y)
```

```
# later  
npz = np.load('vars.npz')  
x = npz['xvar']  
y = npz['yvar']
```

# I/O | Matlab files

- Python can read Matlab files
- `matlab` module of the `scipy.io` package
  - > `from scipy.io import matlab`
- `loadmat` returns a dictionary
  - > `mat = matlab.loadmat('file.mat')`
  - > `mat.keys()` -> names of variables
  - > `mat['longitude']` -> longitude array
- Saving
  - > `matlab.savemat('file.mat', {'longitude':lon})`

# I/O | Excel files

- modules `xlrd`, `xlwt`

```
book = xlrd.open_workbook('simple.xls')
print book.sheet_names()
for sheet in book.sheets():
    print sheet.name, sheet.nrows, sheet.ncols
    for irow in range(sheet.nrows):
        for icol in range(sheet.ncols):
            print irow, icol, sheet.cell(irow, icol).value
```

```
sheet = book.sheet_by_index(2)
```

```
sheet = book.sheet_by_name('sheet 1')
```

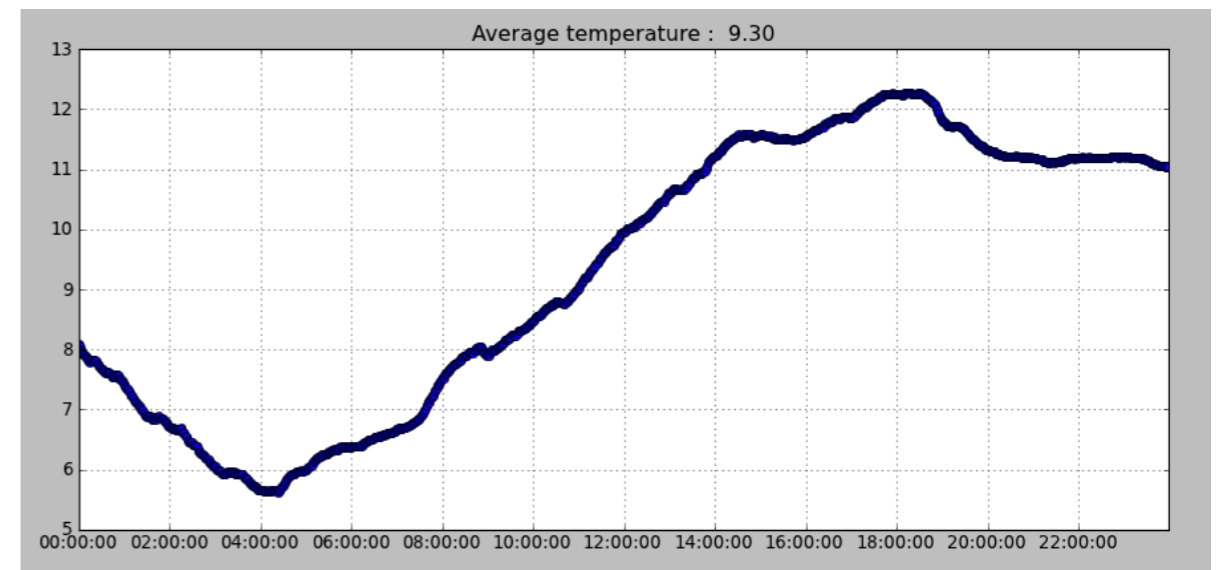


# I/O | scientific datasets

- You might need to read and write datasets in structured and autodocumented file formats such as HDF or netCDF
- netcdf4-python
  - read/write netCDF3/4 files as Python dictionaries
  - supports data compression and packing
- pyhdf, pyh5, pytables : HDF4 and 5 datasets
- pyNIO : GRIB1, GRIB2, HDF-EOS
- in Python(x,y)
- Very good online documentation

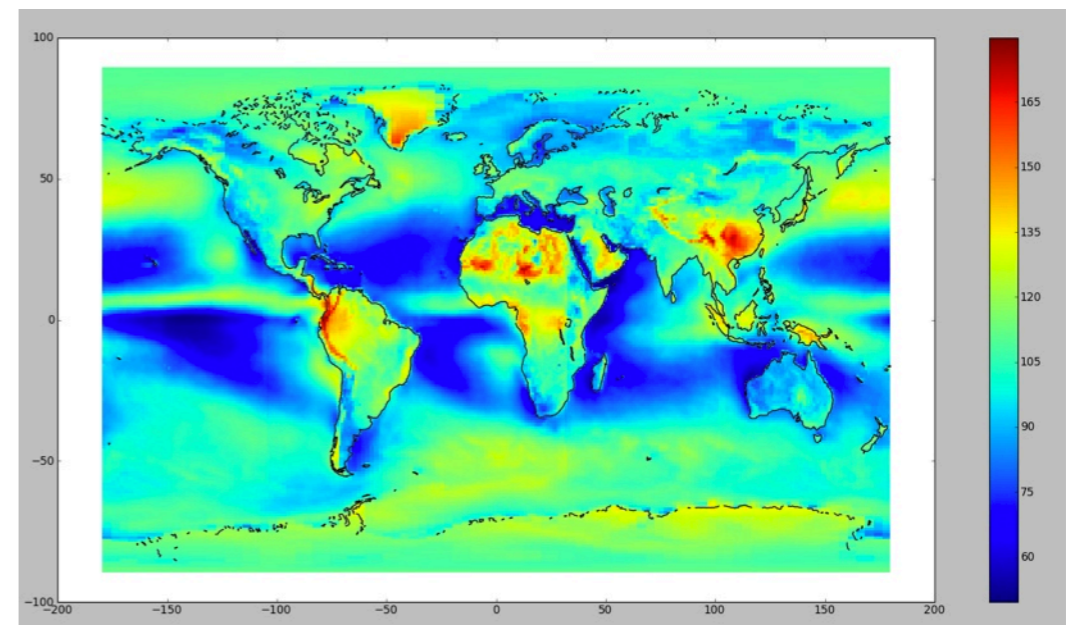
# I/O | Lab

- Write a Python script to:
  - read the contents of the file `meteo2.asc`
  - plot the air temperature as a function of time when the air temperature quality flag is ok (`=0`)
  - display the temperature mean and standard deviation in the title
  - save the temperature in a `npz` file
- Hints:
  - > `help np.loadtxt`
  - > `datestr2num` is in `matplotlib.dates`
  - > `plt.plot_date()`



# End of Section #3 | Lab

- Write a script to
  - read the variables `swup`, `lon`, `lat` from the matlab file `CERES_EBAF_TOA_Terra_Edition1A_200003-200510.mat`
  - average `swup` over the time dimension
  - plot the averaged `swup` as a map
  - plot the continent coastlines over the map in black
    - these are in `coastlines.mat`
  - add a `colorbar()`
- Hints
  - > `plt.pcolormesh()`



# 4. Applications

# 4. Applications

1. Data Analysis

# Scipy

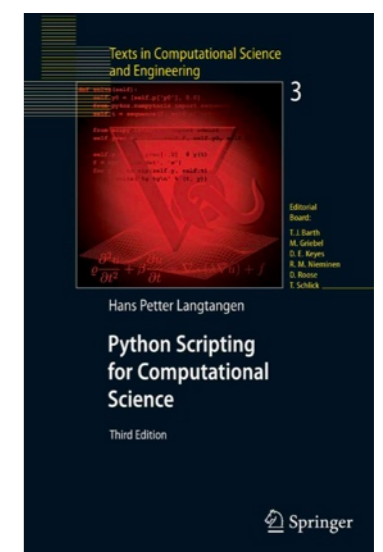
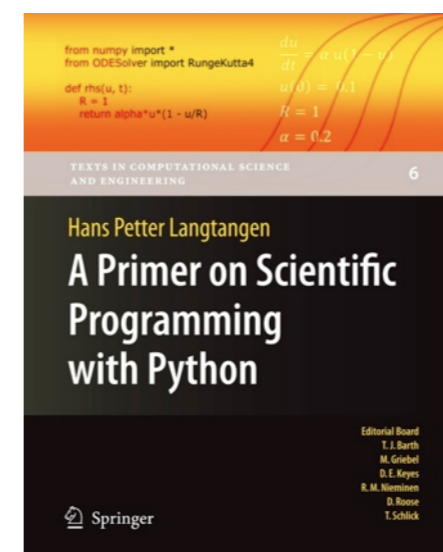
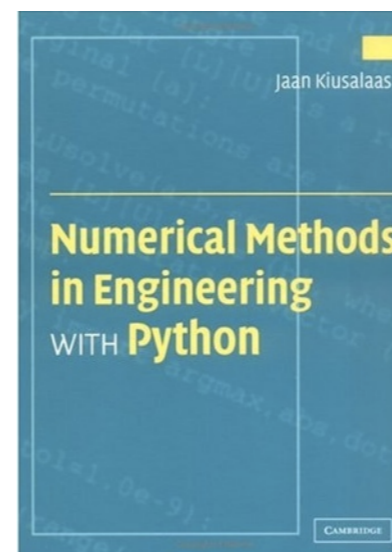
- Scipy is choke full of data analysis functions
- Functions are grouped in sub-packages
  - `scipy.ndimage` - image processing, morphology
  - `scipy.stats`
  - `scipy.signal` - signal processing
  - `scipy.interpolate`
  - `scipy.linalg`, `scipy.odeint`
  - `scipy.fftpack` - Fourier transforms (1d, 2d, etc)
  - `scipy.integrate`...

# Scipy scikits

- SciKits are add-on packages for Scipy
- not in Scipy for various reasons
- <http://scikits.appspot.com>
  - datasmooth
  - odes - equation solvers
  - optimization
  - sound creation and analysis
  - learn - machine learning and data mining
  - cuda - Python interface to GPU libraries
  - ...

# Scipy

- Too much to cover everything
- Scipy packages and modules are tailored for specific users
  - you don't even want to cover everything
- Best ways to find the function you need
  - google
  - tab exploration in IPython
  - > lookfor
    - e.g. `lookfor("gaussian", module="scipy")`

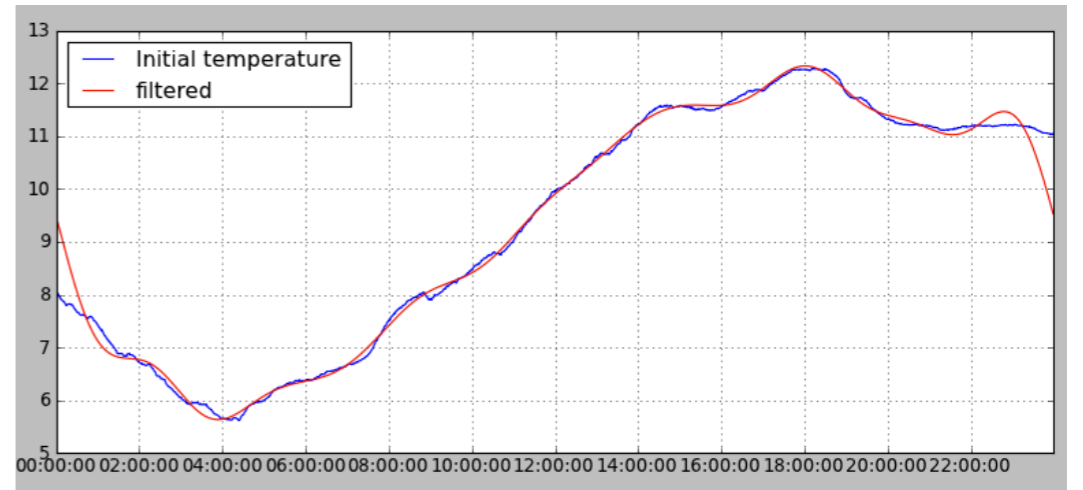




# one example: Scipy.stats

- contains a lot of useful functions
- nanmean/std, nanmin/max, etc.
- pdf/cdf for ~100 distribution families
  - generic syntax: `scipy.stats.<distribution>.<function>`
  - > `from scipy.stats import gamma`
  - > `x = np.r_[0:10:0.1]`
  - > `plt.plot(x, gamma.pdf(x, 2))`
  - > `plt.plot(x, gamma.pdf(x, 2, 3))`
  - catch them all with IPython autocomplete

# scipy I Lab



- write a script to
  - plot air temperature data from the `meteo2.dat` file
  - compute the Fourier transform of the temperature
  - keep only the lowest 10 frequencies
  - compute filtered temperature using inverse Fourier transform
  - plot the initial temperature and the filtered temperature in different colors
  - add a legend (why not)
  - Hints
    - > `from scipy.fftpack import fft, ifft`

# 4. Applications

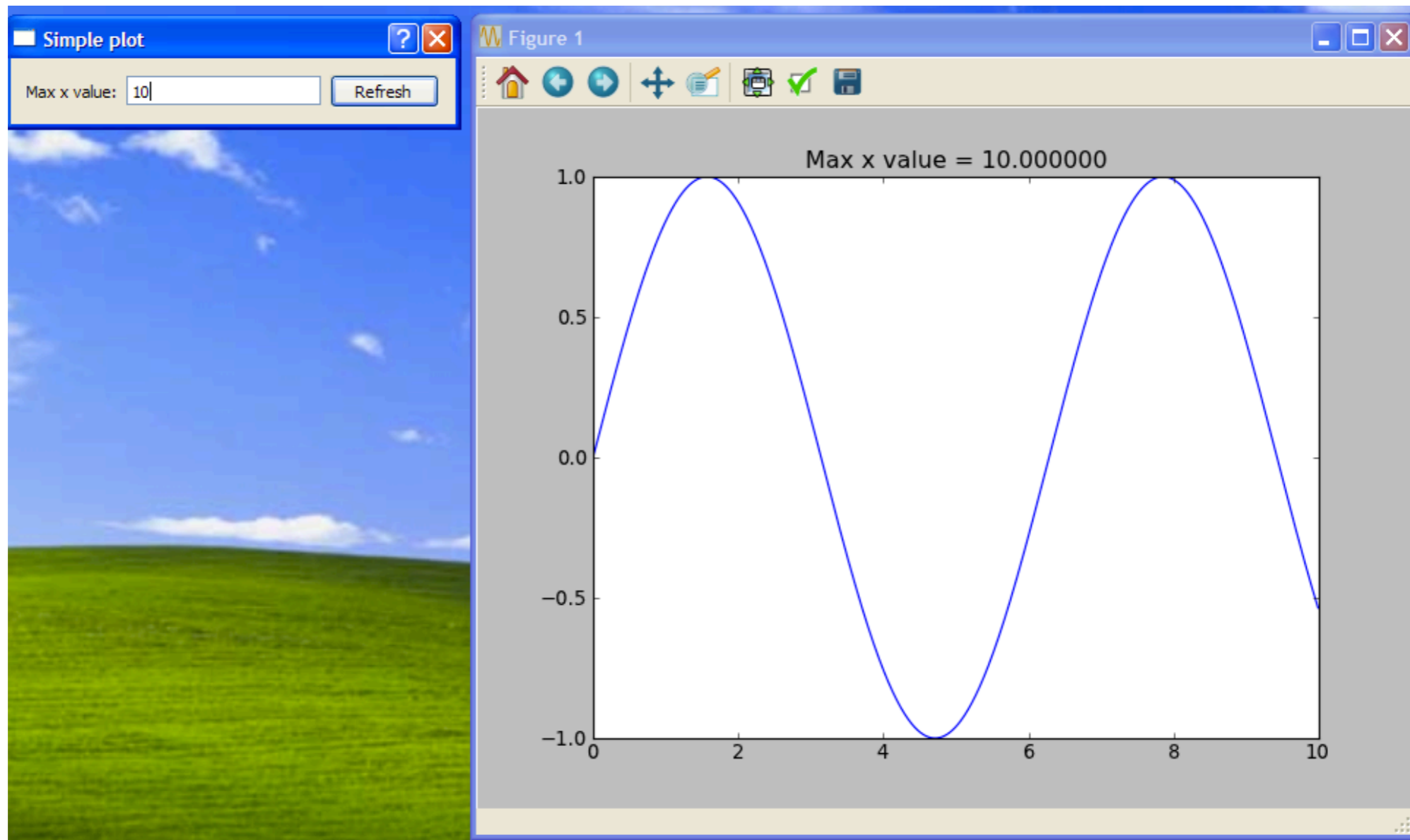
2. User interface

# lots of options

- wxwindows, tk, gtk, matplotlib widgets, etc.
- Qt4
  - The Good
    - well-maintained, developed and documented
    - cross-platform, looks native on every platform
    - Complete Python bindings: PyQt4 (installed by Python(x,y))
  - The Bad: Some OOP required
  - The Ugly
    - Qt and PySide were supported by Nokia for phone interface research, after Microsoft takeover: future unclear...
    - for the near future one of the best choices

# PyQt4

- You can mix Qt4 for the GUI and Matplotlib for plotting
- The best of both worlds



# A bit of OOP

```
class MyObject(object):  
    def __init__(self):  
        self.x = 3  
  
    def print_x(self):  
        print self.x  
  
    def add_to_x(self, y):  
        self.x += y  
  
myobj = MyObject()  
myobj.print_x()  
myobj.add_to_x(5)  
myobj.print_x()
```

class keyword defines an object

`__init__()` method called at object instantiation

1st argument of class methods is always `self`

variables inside the object are accessed with `self.variable`

`myobj` is an instance of `MyObject`

object methods are called with `<object>.<method>`

# the full script : ~40 LOC

```
# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-

import sys

from PyQt4.QtCore import *
from PyQt4.QtGui import *

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np

class Dialog(QDialog):
    def __init__(self, parent=None):
        super(Dialog, self).__init__(parent)
        self.lineEdit = QLineEdit('Max x value')
        layout = QHBoxLayout()
        self.button = QPushButton('Refresh')
        layout.addWidget(QLabel('Max x value:'))
        layout.addWidget(self.lineEdit)
        layout.addWidget(self.button)
        self.setLayout(layout)
        self.lineEdit.setFocus()
        self.connect(self.lineEdit, SIGNAL('returnPressed()'), self.refresh)
        self.connect(self.button, SIGNAL('clicked()'), self.refresh)
        self.setWindowTitle('Simple plot')
        self.max = 2.*np.pi
```

```
def refresh_values(self):
    self.x = np.r_[0:self.max:0.01]
    self.y = np.sin(self.x)

def refresh(self):
    try:
        self.max = np.float(self.lineEdit.text())
    except ValueError:
        print 'Please enter a numeric value'
        return
    self.refresh_values()
    plt.figure(1)
    plt.show()
    plt.clf()
    plt.subplot(111)
    plt.plot(self.x, self.y)
    plt.title('Max x value = %f' % (self.max))
    plt.draw()

app = QApplication(sys.argv)
dialog = Dialog()
dialog.show()
app.exec_()
```

```
# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-

import sys

from PyQt4.QtCore import *
from PyQt4.QtGui import *

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np

class Dialog(QDialog):
    def __init__(self, parent=None):
        super(Dialog, self).__init__(parent)
        self.lineedit = QLineEdit('Max x value')
        layout = QHBoxLayout()
        self.button = QPushButton('Refresh')
        layout.addWidget(QLabel('Max x value:'))
        layout.addWidget(self.lineedit)
        layout.addWidget(self.button)
        self.setLayout(layout)
        self.lineedit.setFocus()
        self.connect(self.lineedit, SIGNAL('returnPressed()'), self.refresh)
        self.connect(self.button, SIGNAL('clicked()'), self.refresh)
        self.setWindowTitle('Simple plot')
        self.max = 2.*np.pi
```



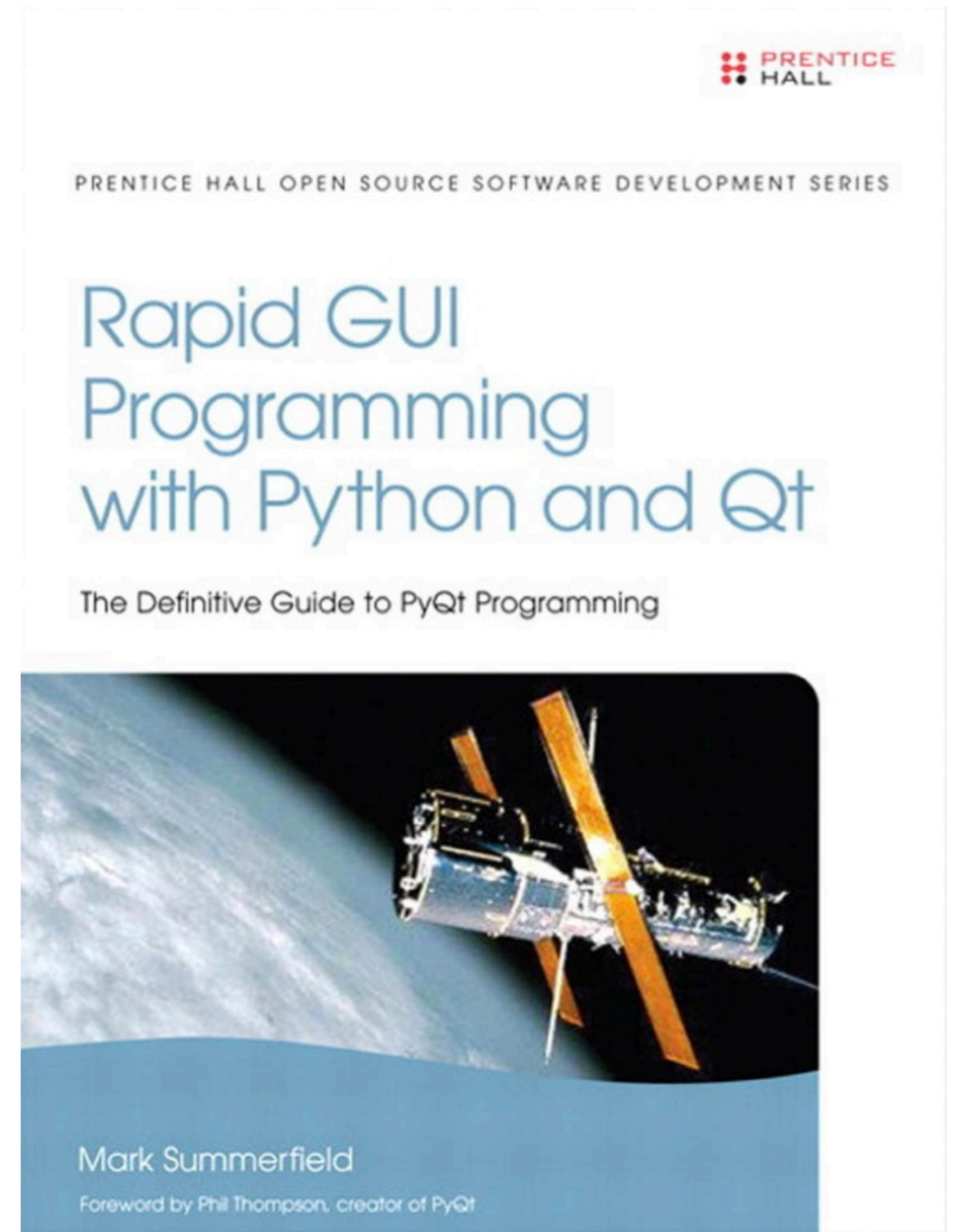
```
def refresh_values(self):
    self.x = np.r_[0:self.max:0.01]
    self.y = np.sin(self.x)

def refresh(self):
    try:
        self.max = np.float(self.lineEdit.text())
    except ValueError:
        print 'Please enter a numeric value'
    self.refresh_values()
    if self.fig is None:
        self.fig = plt.figure()
        plt.show()
    plt.clf()
    plt.subplot(111)
    plt.plot(self.x, self.y)
    plt.title('Max x value = %f' % (self.max))
    plt.draw()
```

```
app = QApplication(sys.argv)
dialog = Dialog()
dialog.show()
app.exec_()
```

# GUI I Lab

- Modify this script so the interface shows two buttons
  - one for plotting  $\cos(x)$
  - one for plotting  $\sin(x)$



A few last things

# Fun with functions

- Like any Python object, a function can have several names

```
def f1(x):                f2 = f1
    return x*2            y = f2(3)
```

- They can be inserted in lists, dictionaries

```
def f1(x):
    return x*2
def f2(x)
    return x*3
```

```
f1list = [f1, f2]
y = [f(3) for f in f1list]
```

```
fdict = {'day':f1, 'night':f2}
period = 'night'
y = fdict[period](3)
```

# Dictionaries & json

- Dictionaries are great to store parameters

```
def process_data(data, params={'min':0, 'max':100}):  
    idx = (data>params['min']) & (data<params['max'])  
    valid_data = data[idx]  
    processed_data = valid_data * 2.  
    return processed_data  
  
process_data(data)  
params={'min':3., 'max':10.}  
process_data(data, params=params)
```

- dictionaries can be easily stored and read in ASCII files using the json module

```
import json  
params = {'xmin':3., 'xmax':10.}  
f = open('file.txt', 'w')  
json.dump(params, f)
```

file.txt  
{"max": 3.0, "min": 0.0}

params=json.load(open('file.txt'))

# The datetime module

```
from datetime import date, datetime,  
                    timedelta
```

```
day1 = date(2006, 12, 1)  
day2 = date(2007, 3, 23)  
delta = day2 - day1 # timedelta object  
print delta.days
```

```
# dec 1st 2006, 5:15 pm  
day1 = datetime(2006, 12, 1, 17, 15)  
delta = timedelta(days=3, seconds=3700)  
day2 = day1 + delta  
  
print day2  
print day2.year, day2.month, day2.day  
print day2.isoformat()  
print day2.toordinal()
```

numpy arrays can contain datetime objects

```
arr = np.array([day1, day2])
```

matplotlib plot them as dates

matplotlib has lots of date formatting functions

```
matplotlib.dates
```

# import gotchas

```
# script1.py
def times2(x):
    return x*2
# stuff
print 'bla'
```

```
# script2.py

import script1
x = script1.times2(3)
print x
```

```
> run script2.py
bla
6
```

commands from script1 are executed  
not really what we wanted

# the solution

```
# script1.py
def times2(x):
    return x*2
if __name__ == '__main__':
    print 'bla'
```

double-underscored object are supposed to be 'private'  
merely a convention, not enforced by the language  
please follow the convention



# why this is nice

```
# day.py
def process_day(day):
    # ...
    return result
if __name__ == '__main__':
    day = 3
    result = process_day(day)
    print result
```

```
# month.py
from day import process_day
days = np.r_[1:32]
for day in days:
    res = process_day(day)
```

thanks