# Computational Science and Scientific Computing Workshop

Data Programming - Python as a scientific computing tool

Elliot S. Menkah, Ph.D Daniella N. Apeadu

National Institute for Mathematical Sciences Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology

October 15, 2025

#### modules

## Modules - import, help, dir

There are lots of libraries in Python that can be imported to use rather than having to build your own. This makes life much easier.

#### E.g. math

```
1 >>> import math
```

Docs of modules can be viewed with the **help** and **dir** methods.

```
1 >>> help(< module >)
2 >>> help(math)
3 ...
4 ...
5 ...
6 >>> dir(math) or >>> print(dir(math))
7
```

help gives a comprehensive documentation of the module. dir gives you the symbols contained in the method concerned.

## Modules - import, help, dir

```
1 >>> help(math.log)
2 ...
3 ...
4 ...
```

import math place the math class in current environment.

```
1 >>> math.log(10)
2 2.3025
3 >>> math.cos(2 * math.pi)
4 1.0
```

## Modules - More on import

Partial or selective importation of modules.

In the event of wanting to import only a few symbols into your namespace, the **from** statement is made use of.

```
>>> from math import < symbol or method >
>>> from math import cos
>>> cos(90)
-0.4480736161291701
```

#### Multiple methods can be imported

```
1 >>> from math import cos, pi
2 >>> cos(2 * pi)
3 1.0
```

## Plotting - Matplotlib

## Matplotlib

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

plt.plot(X_data, Y_data)
plt.title("Title of plot")
plt.xlabel("X Axis Lable")
plt.ylabel("Y axis Label")

plt.savefig("NameOfFile.png")
```

Listing: Plottin with Matplotlib

## functions

## **Functions**

#### Functions in Python are defined by the keyword def

```
1 >>> def func(x):
2 ...     res = x + 1
3 ...     return res
4 ...
5 >>> d = func(4)
6 >>> d
7 5
```

## Python scripts

## Script

```
#! /usr/bin/python

print("Hello World")
```

#### **Terminal**

```
python3 hello.py
```

#### Exercises 3

Convert your code from Exercise 1 into a function (that returns a value), where the initial condition,  $\mathbf{u}$ , and the time,  $\mathbf{t}$ , are arguments.

arrays and multidimensional vectors

## Handling Arrays & Multidimensional Vectors

#### **Vector Operation**

$$\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \sum_{i=0}^{N} a_i b_i$$

$$= (20 - 3 5) \begin{pmatrix} 15 \\ -2.249 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= 20(15) - 3(-2.249) + 5(1)$$

$$= 300 + 6.747 + 5$$

$$= 311.747$$

## Handling Arrays & Multidimensional Vectors

#### **Multidimensional Arrays**

$$\begin{bmatrix} 20 & 15 & 10 & 45 \\ -3 & -2.249 & 7 & 1.751 \\ 5 & 1 & 3 & 9 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 20 \\ -3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 15 \\ -2.249 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 7 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 45 \\ 1.751 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

file I/O, exceptions and assertions

## File I/O

#### keyword: open

```
1 >>> fh = open("demofile.txt", "a")
2 >>> fh.write("My data file \n")
3 >>> fh.write("Results: %d", res)
4 >>> fh.close
5
```

## **Exceptions and Assertions**

This is a way to handle expected and unexpected errors.

- 1. Exceptions Handling
- 2. Assertion

```
1 try:
 # Runs First
3 < code >
4 except:
5 # Runs if exceptions occurs in try block
6 < code >
7 else:
8 # Executes if try block succeeds.
9 < code >
10 finally:
# This code always runs executes.
12 < code >
```

## **Exceptions and Assertions**

#### Exception Example

```
1 def read_file(path):
  """ Return the content of a file at path"""
3 try:
4 fh = open(path, mode="rb")
5 data = f.read()
6 return data
7 except FileNotFoundError as err:
8 raise
o else:
10 fh.close
11 finally:
print("Leaving file read routine")
```

# Python Basics - End

End of Basics. Questions ? Review

## Numerical and Scientific Python

Numerical and Scientific Python Numpy and Scipy libraries

## Numerical Python - NumPy

Arrays could be made from:

- 1. Python list or tuples
- 2. Using functions that are dedicated to generating numpy arrays, such as *arange*, *linspace*, etc.
- 3. Reading data from files

```
from numpy import as np
v = array([1,2,3,4])
----
[1,2,3,4]
```

```
M = np.array([[1, 2], [3, 4]])
-----
array([[1, 2],
[3, 4]])
5
```

#### Exercises 4

Using the python programming language, write a code that implements the solution or finds the roots of the non-linear equation:

$$3x^2 + 2x - 1 = 0$$
 using the

- 1. Bisection Method
- 2. Newton-Raphson's Method
- 3. Secant Method as separate functions.

#### Classes

#### Classes in Python are defined by the keyword class

```
1 >>> class myfunctions:
2 ...
3 ...     def add(x):
4 ...          res = x + 2
5 ...          return res
6 >>>
7 >>> yy = myfunctions.add(7)
8 >>> yy
9
10
```

## End of talk

Thank you