

CME 193: Introduction to Scientific Python

Lecture 8: Unit testing, more modules, wrap up

Sven Schmit

`stanford.edu/~schmit/cme193`

Contents

- Unit testing
- More modules
- Wrap up
- Exercises

Unit testing

Unit tests: test **individual** pieces of code

For example, for factorial function, test

- $0! = 1$
- $3! = 6$
- etc.

Test driven development

Some write **tests before code**

Reasons:

- Focus on the requirements
- Don't write too much
- Safely refactor code
- When collaborating: don't break other's code
- Faster

Test cases

How to construct test cases?

A *test case* should answer a **single question** about the code,

A test case should

- **Run by itself**, no human input required
- **Determine on its own** whether the test has passed or failed
- Be **separate** from other tests

What to test

- Known values
- Sanity check (for conversion functions for example)
- Bad input
 - Input is too large?
 - Negative input?
 - String input when expected an integer?
- etc: very dependent on problem

unittest

The standard Python module `unittest` helps you write unit tests.

```
import unittest
from my_script import is_palindrome

class KnownInput(unittest.TestCase):
    knownValues = (('lego', False),
                   ('radar', True))

    def testKnownValues(self):
        for word, palin in self.knownValues:
            result = is_palindrome(word)
            self.assertEqual(result, palin)
```

Not complicated, but hard to get started

Alternatives

- Nose
- Pytest

Pytest

- Easy no-boilerplate testing
- Automatically discovers tests

```
$ pip install -U pytest
```

Test discovery: (basics)

- Scans files starting with `test_`
- Run functions starting with `test_`

Example: primes

Create two files in a directory:

- primes.py – Implementation
- test_primes.py – Tests

Initial code

primes.py

```
def is_prime(x):  
    return True
```

test_primes.py

```
from primes import is_prime  
  
def test_is_three_prime():  
    assert is_prime(3)  
  
def test_is_four_prime():  
    assert not is_prime(4)
```

Pytest output

```
$ py.test
```

```
===== test session starts =====
platform darwin -- Python 2.7.9 -- py-1.4.27 -- pytest-2.7.1
rootdir: /Users/sps/Dropbox/cc/cme193/demo/unit_testing, inifile:
collected 2 items

test_primes.py .F

===== FAILURES =====
----- test_is_four_prime -----

    def test_is_four_prime():
>     assert not is_prime(4)
E     assert not True
E     + where True = is_prime(4)

test_primes.py:7: AssertionError
===== 1 failed, 1 passed in 0.03 seconds =====
```

Fixing is_prime

Simplest solution that passes tests:

primes.py

```
def is_prime(x):  
    for i in xrange(2, x):  
        if x % i == 0:  
            return False  
    return True
```

'Premature optimization is the root of all evil' - Donald Knuth

Pytest output

```
$ py.test
```

```
===== test session starts =====  
platform darwin -- Python 2.7.9 -- py-1.4.27 -- pytest-2.7.1  
rootdir: /Users/sps/Dropbox/cc/cme193/demo/unit_testing, inifile:  
collected 2 items  
  
test_primes.py ..  
  
===== 2 passed in 0.01 seconds =====
```

Add more tests

```
from primes import is_prime

def test_is_zero_prime():
    assert not is_prime(0)

def test_is_one_prime():
    assert not is_prime(1)

def test_is_two_prime():
    assert is_prime(2)

def test_is_three_prime():
    assert is_prime(3)

def test_is_four_prime():
    assert not is_prime(4)
```

Pytest output

```
===== test session starts =====
platform darwin -- Python 2.7.9 -- py-1.4.27 -- pytest-2.7.1
rootdir: /Users/sps/Dropbox/cc/cme193/demo/unit_testing, inifile:
collected 5 items

test_primes.py FF...

===== FAILURES =====
----- test_is_zero_prime -----

    def test_is_zero_prime():
>     assert not is_prime(0)
E     assert not True
E     + where True = is_prime(0)

test_primes.py:4: AssertionError
----- test_is_one_prime -----

    def test_is_one_prime():
>     assert not is_prime(1)
E     assert not True
E     + where True = is_prime(1)

test_primes.py:7: AssertionError
===== 2 failed, 3 passed in 0.05 seconds =====
```


Some more tests

- Negative numbers
- Non integers
- Large prime
- List of known primes
- List of non-primes

When all tests pass...

- First make sure all tests pass
- Then optimize code, making sure nothing breaks

Now you can be confident that whatever algorithm you use, it still works as desired!

Contents

- Unit testing
- More modules
- Wrap up
- Exercises

More modules

Quickly go over some useful modules

What else is there?

Also, some nice resources to explore

Pickle

Module for *serializing* and *deserializing* objects in Python.

Save Python object to file with `dump`

Load Python object from file `load`

Very simple and extremely useful.

`cPickle` C implementation: faster

Pickle

Module for *serializing* and *deserializing* objects in Python.

Save Python object to file with `dump`

Load Python object from file `load`

Very simple and extremely useful.

`cPickle` C implementation: faster

Regular expressions

A *regular expression* (RE) specify a set of strings to match.

This module can be used to check whether a particular string matches the RE

I.e.: Find text pattern in string / document

see also:

<https://docs.python.org/2/howto/regex.html#regex-howto>

Very powerful, and not just for Python

Regular expressions

. ^ \$ * + ? { } [] \ () |

[and] are used for specifying a *character class*, e.g. [aeiou],
[A-Z], [A-z], [0-5]

^ is the **complement character**, e.g. [^ 5] matches all
except for a '5'.

\ used to signal various special sequences, including the use
of metacharacters, e.g. \^ to match ^.

characters usually map to characters: 'test' - 'test'

\d matches any decimal digit: '\d' - '[0-9]'

Regular expressions

Suppose you want to find phone numbers:

- 1234567890
- 123-456-7890
- (123) 465 7890
- (123) 456-7890
- etc

How to find all these?

Regular expressions

Pattern:

- Maybe a bracket: `\(?`
- 3 numbers: `\d{3}`
- Maybe a bracket or a hyphen: `[-\)]?`
- Maybe a whitespace: `\s?`
- 3 numbers: `\d{3}`
- Maybe a hyphen or a whitespace: `[-\s]?`
- 4 numbers: `\d{4}`
- End: `$`

Extract the numbers by placing brackets: `(\d{3})` around numbers

```
'\(?(\d{3})[-\)]?\s?(\d{3})[-\s]?(\d{4})$'
```

Regular expressions

Pattern:

- Maybe a bracket: `\(?`
- 3 numbers: `\d{3}`
- Maybe a bracket or a hyphen: `[-\)]?`
- Maybe a whitespace: `\s?`
- 3 numbers: `\d{3}`
- Maybe a hyphen or a whitespace: `[-\s]?`
- 4 numbers: `\d{4}`
- End: `$`

Extract the numbers by placing brackets: `(\d{3})` around numbers

```
'\(?(\d{3})[-\)]?\s?(\d{3})[-\s]?(\d{4})$'
```

Regular expressions

```
import re

pat = '(?(\d{3})[-\s])?\s?(\d{3})[-\s]?(\d{4})$'
repat = re.compile(pat)
string = '(123) 456-7890'
search = repat.search(string)
if search:
    print search.groups()
else:
    print 'not found'
```

How to test?

Unit testing is invented for these kind of problems!

Regular expressions

```
import re

pat = '(?(\d{3})[-\s])?\s?(\d{3})[-\s]?(\d{4})$'
repat = re.compile(pat)
string = '(123) 456-7890'
search = repat.search(string)
if search:
    print search.groups()
else:
    print 'not found'
```

How to test?

Unit testing is invented for these kind of problems!

Regular expressions

```
import re

pat = '\(?(\d{3})[-\)]?\s?(\d{3})[-\s]?(\d{4})$'
repat = re.compile(pat)
string = '(123) 456-7890'
search = repat.search(string)
if search:
    print search.groups()
else:
    print 'not found'
```

How to test?

Unit testing is invented for these kind of problems!

Requests

HTTP library for Python.

```
import requests  
  
r = requests.get('http://google.com')  
  
print r.text
```

Alternative: urllib, urllib2

Speeding up Python

Compared to C or Fortran, Python can be slow.

Ways to improve execution time:

- Pypy: no need to change any code, simply run your code using `pypy script.py`. However, does not work with Numpy etc.
- Numba: A little more work, but works with numpy
- Cython: Most work, fastest

Beautiful soup

Useful for scraping HTML pages.

Such as: finding all links, or specific urls.

Get data from poorly designed websites.

Alternative: Scrapy

APIs

There are several modules that you can use to access APIs of websites

Twitter python-twitter, Tweepy

Reddit PRAW

...

Able to get data or create apps for the ambitious.

Scikits

Additional packages that extend Scipy:

- skikit-aero
- scikit-learn
- scikit-image
- cuda
- odes

Scikit learn

Large Scikit package with a lot of functionality. Sponsored by INRIA (and Google sometimes)

- Classification
- Regression
- Clustering
- Dimensionality reduction
- Model selection
- Preprocessing

Flask

Flask is a “microframework” for web development using Python

```
from flask import Flask
app = Flask(__name__)

@app.route("/<name>")
@app.route("/")
def hello(name="World"):
    return "Hello {}!".format(name)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    app.run()
```

Run the above script, then browse to <http://127.0.0.1:5000/>

In-depth tutorial: <http://blog.miguelgrinberg.com/post/the-flask-mega-tutorial-part-i-hello-world>

Django

Another web development framework using Python

<https://www.djangoproject.com/>

PyMC

A framework for Monte Carlo simulations

Tutorial: <https://camdavidsonpilon.github.io/>

[Probabilistic-Programming-and-Bayesian-Methods-for-Hackers/](https://camdavidsonpilon.github.io/Probabilistic-Programming-and-Bayesian-Methods-for-Hackers/)

Contents

- Unit testing
- More modules
- **Wrap up**
- Exercises

Zen of Python

```
import this
```

Have you fallen in love with Python?

'There's nothing wrong with falling in love with a programming language for her looks. I mean, let's face it - Python does have a rockin' body of modules, and a damn good set of utilities and interpreters on various platforms. Her whitespace-sensitive syntax is easy on the eyes, and it's a beautiful sight to wake up to in the morning after a long night of debugging. The way she sways those releases on a consistent cycle - she knows how to treat you right, you know?..'

<https://www.quora.com/>

Have-I-have-fallen-in-love-with-Python-because-she-is-beautiful

Project and portfolio

Please remember: projects and portfolios due next Thursday at noon.

Coursework checklist:

- Project code (**py** file(s) or **zip**).
- Project write-up (**pdf** file (no word!)).
- All scripts you wrote for class (**zip** with all **py** files). No write up necessary.

Feedback

Thanks a lot!

Hope you enjoyed the class and learnt a lot!

Another feedback form:

goo.gl/3onaCL

or via course website

Questions?

Contents

- Unit testing
- More modules
- Wrap up
- Exercises

Exercises

See course website for exercises for this week.

Let me know if you have any question about exercises or project

Feel free to email me with questions about project