

Python Programming for Data Processing and Climate Analysis

Jules Kouatchou and Hamid Oloso

Jules.Kouatchou@nasa.gov and Amidu.o.Oloso@nasa.gov



Goddard Space Flight Center
Software System Support Office
Code 610.3

March 25, 2013

Training Objectives

We want to introduce:

- **Basic concepts of Python programming**
- **Array manipulations**
- Handling of files
- 2D visualization
- EOFs

Special Topics

Based on the feedback we have received so far, we plan to have a hand-on presentation on the following topic(s):

F2Py: Python interface to Fortran

Tentative Date: April 29, 2013 at 1:30pm

Obtaining the Material

Slides for this session of the training are available from:

<https://modelingguru.nasa.gov/docs/DOC-2322>

You can obtain materials presented here on *discover* at

`/discover/nobackup/jkouatch/pythonTrainingGSFC.tar.gz`

After you untar the above file, you will obtain the directory `pythonTrainingGSFC/` that contains:

```
Examples/  
Slides/
```

Settings on *discover*

We installed a Python distribution. To use it, you need to load the modules:

```
module load other/comp/gcc-4.5-sp1
module load lib/mkl-10.1.2.024
module load other/SIVO-PyD/spd_1.7.0_gcc-4.5-sp1
```

What Have We Learned So Far?

Strings	<code>'spam', "guido's"</code>
Lists	<code>[1, [2,'tree'], 4]</code>
Dictionaries	<code>'food':'spam', 'taste':'yum'</code>
Tuples	<code>(1,'spam', 4, 'U')</code>
NumPy Arrays	<code>arange(a, b, m)</code> <code>linspace(a, b, n)</code> <code>array(list)</code>

What Will be Covered Today

1 Matplotlib

- 2D Plot
- 3D Plot
- Basemap toolkit

2 netCDF4

3 H5Py

4 Visualization Session

Matplotlib

Useful Links for Matplotlib

- **Video Presentation**

http://videlectures.net/mloss08_hunter_mat

- **User's Guide**

<http://mural.uv.es/parmur/matplotlib.pdf>

- **Image Galery**

<http://matplotlib.sourceforge.net/gallery.html>

What is Matplotlib?

- Library for making 2D plots of arrays in Python
- Makes heavy use of Numpy and other extension code to provide good performance
- Can be used to create plots with few commands

What Can we Do with Matplotlib?

You can generate plots, histograms, power spectra, bar charts, error charts, scatter plots, etc., with just a few lines of code.

Two Main Interfaces of Matplotlib

pyplot

- Provides a Matlab-style state-machine interface to the underlying object-oriented plotting library in matplotlib.
- Preferred method of access for interactive plotting.

pylab

- Combines the pyplot functionality (for plotting) with the Numpy functionality (for mathematics and for working with arrays) in a single namespace, making that namespace (or environment) even more Matlab-like.
- Formerly preferred method of access for interactive plotting, but still available.

pyplot vs. pylab

pyplot:

```
import matplotlib.pyplot  
import numpy as np
```

```
x = np.arange(0, 10, 0.2)  
y = np.sin(x)
```

```
matplotlib.pyplot.plot(x, y)
```

```
matplotlib.pyplot.show()
```

pylab:

```
from pylab import *
```

```
x = arange(0, 10, 0.2)  
y = sin(x)
```

```
plot(x, y)
```

```
show()
```

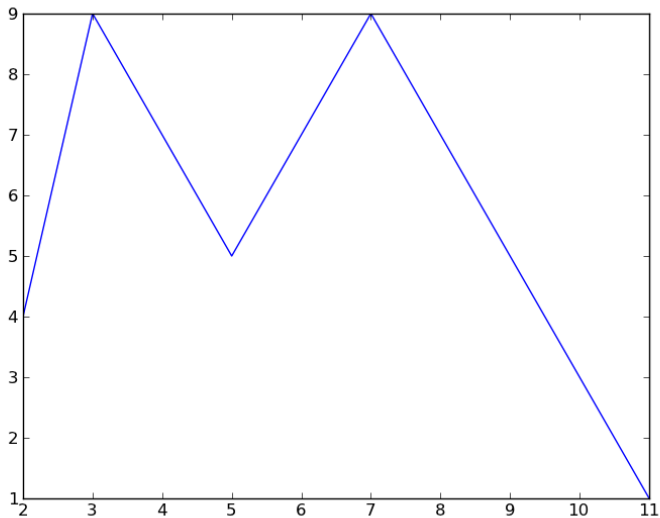
Syntax for Plotting

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3
4 x = [...]           # define the points on the x-axis
5 y = [...]           # define the points on the y-axis
6
7 plt.plot(x,y)
8 plt.show()         # display the plot on the screen
```

Creating a Basic Graph

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3
4 x = [2, 3, 5, 7, 11]
5 y = [4, 9, 5, 9, 1]
6 plt.plot(x, y)
7 plt.show()
```

Basic Graph



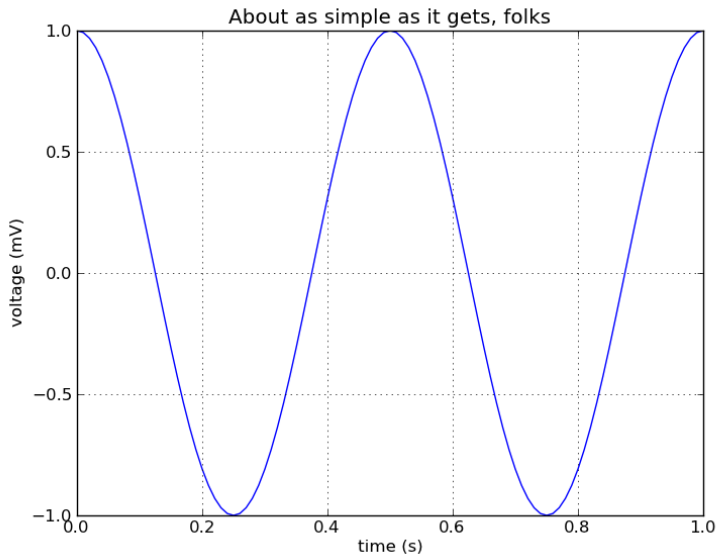
Some pyplot Functions

```
plot(x,y)
xlabel('string')           # label the x-axis
ylabel('string')          # label the y-axis
title('string')           # write the title of the plot
grid(true/false)         # adds grid boxes
savefig('fileName.type') # type can be png, ps, pdf, etc
show()                    # display the graph on the screen
xlim(xmin,xmax)          # set/get the xlimits
ylim(ymin,ymax)          # set/get the ylimits
hold(True/False)         # to overlay figures on the same graph
```

Code for Plotting the Cosine Function

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python
2 import math
3 import numpy as np
4 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
5
6 t = np.arange(0.0, 1.0+0.01, 0.01)
7 s = np.cos(2*2*math.pi*t)
8 plt.plot(t, s)
9
10 plt.xlabel('time (s)')
11 plt.ylabel('voltage (mV)')
12 plt.title('About as simple as it gets, folks')
13 plt.grid(True)
14 plt.savefig('simple_plot')
```

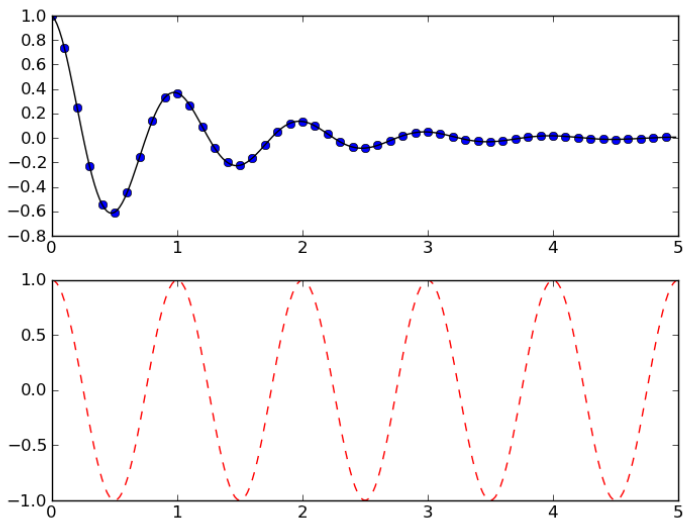
Simple Cosine Plot



Two Figures on the Same Plot

```
1 import numpy as np
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3
4 def f(t):
5     return np.exp(-t) * np.cos(2*np.pi*t)
6
7 t1 = np.arange(0.0, 5.0, 0.1)
8 t2 = np.arange(0.0, 5.0, 0.02)
9
10 plt.figure(1)
11 plt.subplot(211)
12 plt.plot(t1, f(t1), 'bo', t2, f(t2), 'k')
13
14 plt.subplot(212)
15 plt.plot(t2, np.cos(2*np.pi*t2), 'r--')
16 plt.show()
```

Graph of Two Figures on the Same Plot



Syntax for Plotting Multiples Figures and Axes

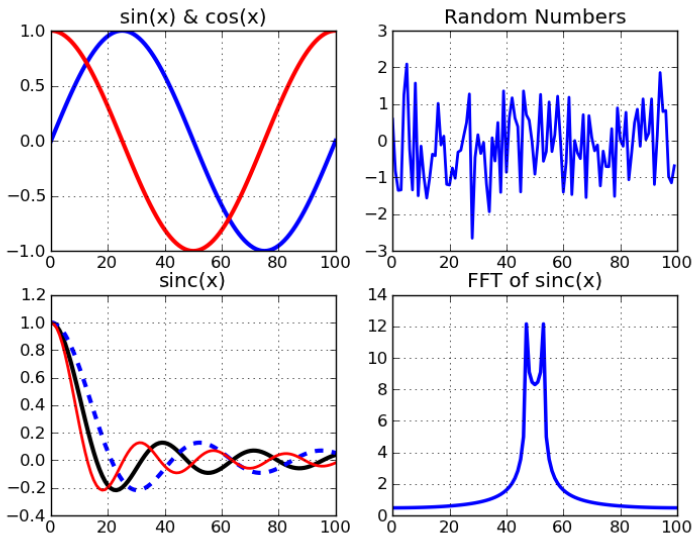
```
figure(num)
# allows to plot multiple figures at the same time
# can be called several times
# num: reference number to keep tract of the figure object

subplot(numrows, numcols, fignum)
# fignum range from numrows*numcols
# subplot(211) is identical to subplot(2,1,1)
```

Sample Code for Plotting Four Figures and Axes

```
1 plt.subplot(2,2,1)
2 plt.plot(x,y01,linewidth=3); plt.hold(True)
3 plt.plot(x,y02,'r',linewidth=3)
4
5 plt.subplot(2,2,2)
6 plt.plot(y03,linewidth=2)
7
8 plt.subplot(2,2,3)
9 plt.plot(x,y04,'k',linewidth=3); plt.hold(True)
10 plt.subplot(2,2,3)
11 plt.plot(x,y05,'--',linewidth=3)
12 plt.subplot(2,2,3)
13 plt.plot(x,y06,'r',linewidth=2)
14
15 plt.subplot(2,2,4)
16 plt.plot(Y04,linewidth=2.5)
```

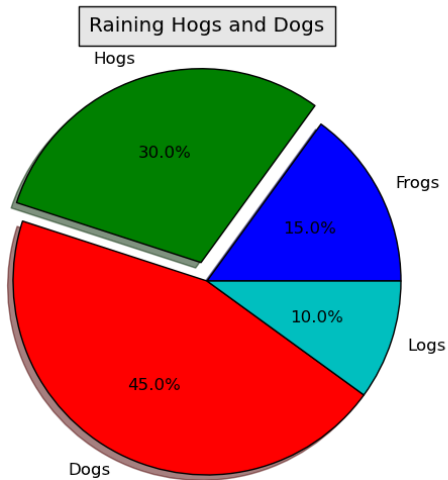
Example of Graph with Four Figures on the Same Plot



Sample Pie Chart

```
1 figure(1, figsize=(6,6))
2 ax = axes([0.1, 0.1, 0.8, 0.8])
3
4 labels = 'Frogs', 'Hogs', 'Dogs', 'Logs'
5 fracs = [15, 30, 45, 10]
6
7 explode=(0, 0.05, 0, 0)
8
9 pie(fracs, explode=explode, labels=labels)
```

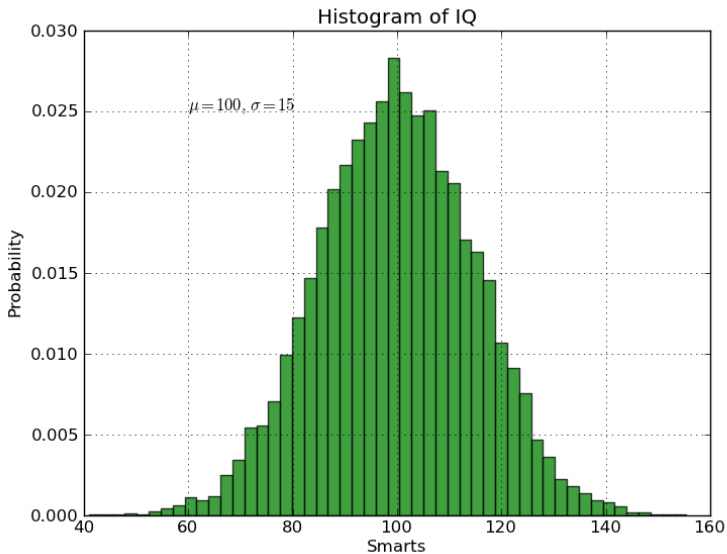
Graph for a Pie Chart



Sample Histogram

```
1 import numpy as np
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3
4 mu, sigma = 100, 15
5 x = mu + sigma * np.random.randn(10000)
6
7 # the histogram of the data
8 n, bins, patches = plt.hist(x, 50, normed=1, \
9                             facecolor='g', alpha=0.75)
10
11 plt.xlabel('Smarts')
12 plt.ylabel('Probability')
13 plt.title('Histogram of IQ')
14 plt.text(60, .025, r'$\mu=100, \sigma=15$')
15 plt.axis([40, 160, 0, 0.03])
16 plt.grid(True)
```

Graph for an Histogram



Using Mathematical Expressions in Text

- Matplotlib accepts TeX equation expressions in any text.
- Matplotlib has a built-in TeX parser
- To write the expression $\sigma_i = 15$ in the title, you can write:

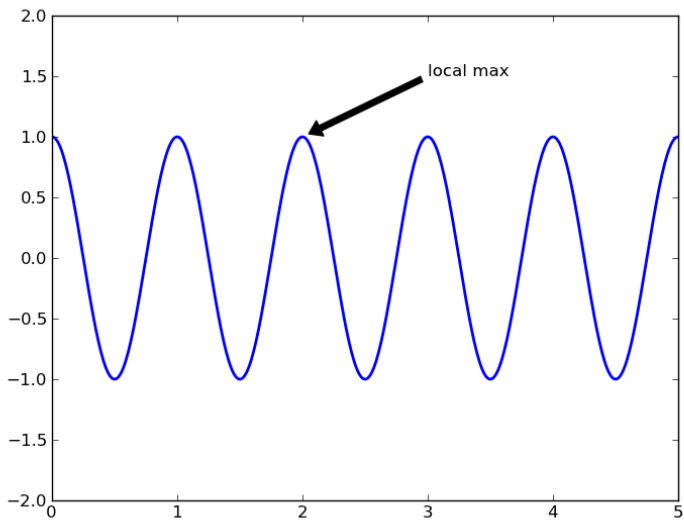
```
plt.title(r'$\sigma_i=15$')
```

where `r` signifies that the string is a raw string and not to treat backslashes and python escapes.

Sample Code for Annotating Text

```
1 import numpy as np
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3
4 ax = plt.subplot(111)
5 t = np.arange(0.0, 5.0, 0.01)
6 s = np.cos(2*np.pi*t)
7 line, = plt.plot(t, s, lw=2)
8
9 plt.annotate('local max', xy=(2, 1), \
10             xytext=(3, 1.5), \
11             arrowprops=dict(facecolor='black', \
12             shrink=0.05), )
13
14 plt.ylim(-2,2)
15 plt.show()
```

Graph for Annotating Text

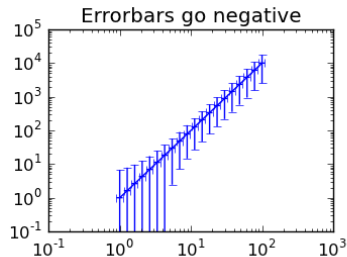
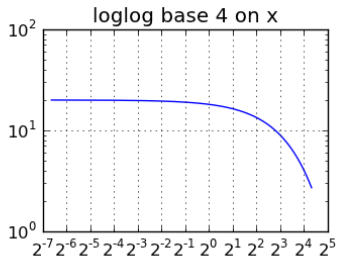
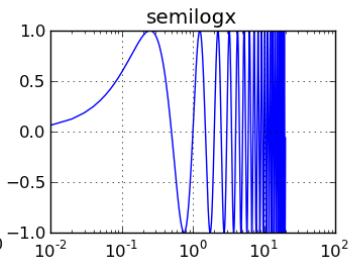
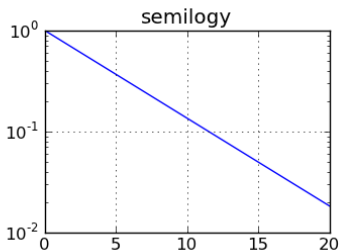


Log Plots

Use the following pyplot functions:

```
semilogx() # make a plot with log scaling on the x axis  
semilogy() # make a plot with log scaling on the y axis  
loglog()   # make a plot with log scaling on the x and y axis
```

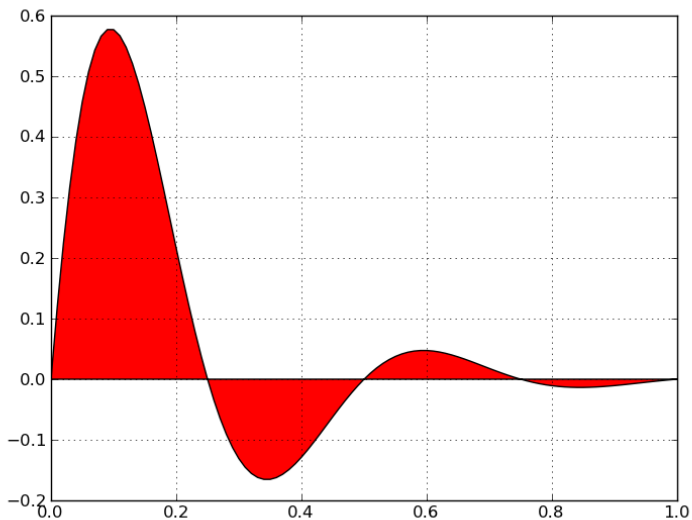

Graph with Log Plots



Sample Code for Plot with Fill

```
1 import numpy as np
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3
4 t = np.arange(0.0, 1.01, 0.01)
5 s = np.sin(2*2*np.pi*t)
6
7 plt.fill(t, s*np.exp(-5*t), 'r')
8 plt.grid(True)
9 plt.show()
```

Graph for Plot with Fill



Legend

Call signature:

```
legend(*args, **kwargs)
```

- Place a legend on the current axes at location *loc*
- Labels are a sequence of strings
- *loc* can be a string or an integer

Sample Legend Commands

```
# make a legend with existing lines
```

```
legend()
```

```
# automatically generate the legend from labels
```

```
legend( ('label1', 'label2', 'label3') )
```

```
# Make a legend for a list of lines and labels
```

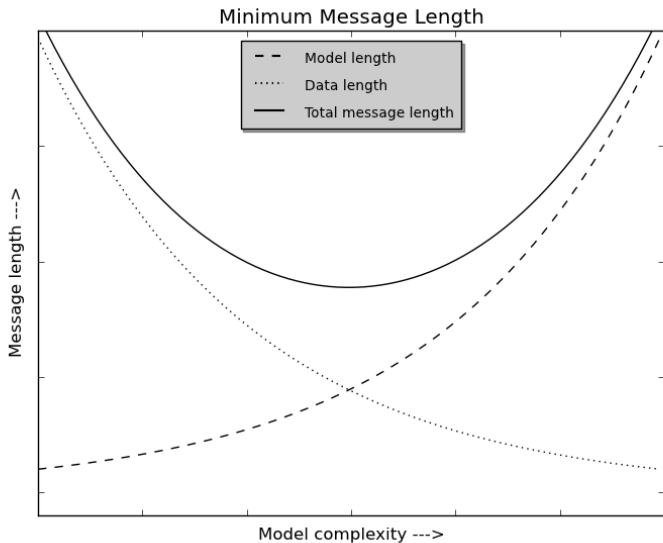
```
legend( (line1, line2, line3), ('label1', 'label2', 'label3') )
```

```
# make a legend at a given location, using a location argument
```

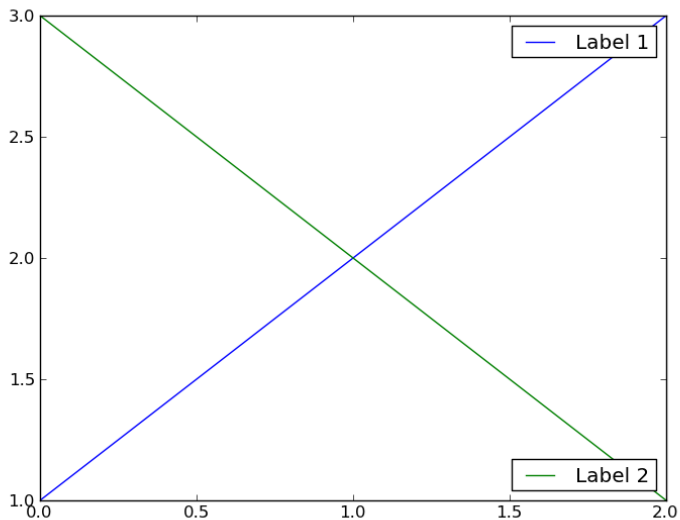
```
legend( ('label1', 'label2', 'label3'), loc='upper left')
```

```
legend( (line1, line2, line3), ('label1', 'label2', 'label3'), loc=
```

A Graph with Legend

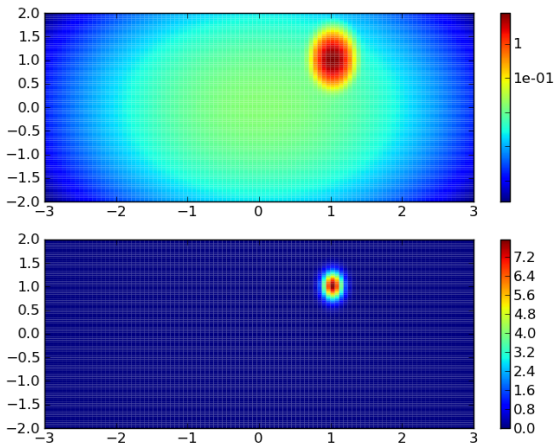


Another Graph with Legend



Colorbar

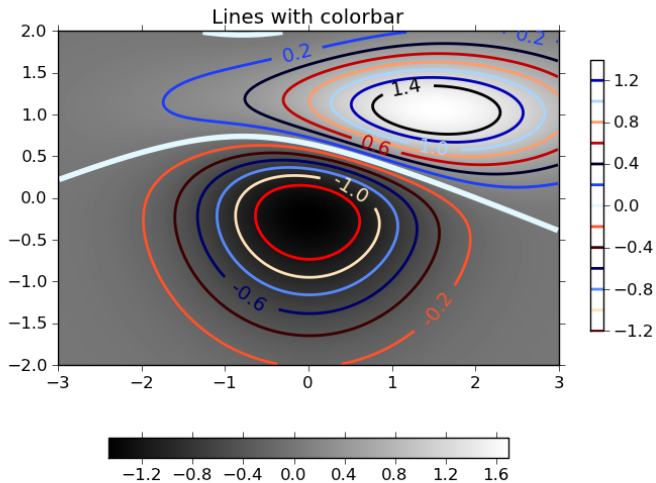
You need to include the call: `colorbar()`



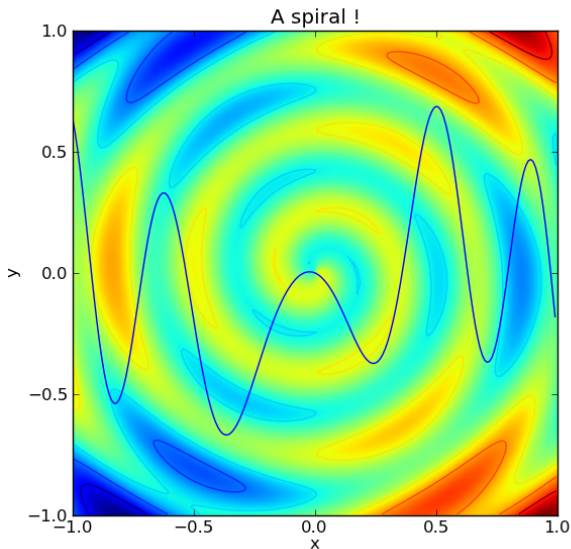
Contour Plot

```
# Make a contour plot of an array Z.  
# The level values are chosen automatically  
contour(Z)  
  
# X, Y specify the (x, y) coordinates of the surface  
contour(X, Y, Z)  
  
# contour N automatically-chosen levels  
contour(Z,N)  
contour(X,Y,Z,N)  
  
# draw contour lines at the values specified in sequence V  
contour(Z,V)  
contour(X,Y,Z,V)  
  
# fill the (len(V)-1) regions between the values in V  
contourf(..., V)
```

A Graph with Contour Plot



Another Graph with Contour Plot



The mplot3d Module

- The mplot3d toolkit adds simple 3d plotting capabilities to Matplotlib by supplying an axis object that can create a 2d projection of a 3d scene.
- It produces a list of 2d lines and patches that are drawn by the normal Matplotlib code.
- The resulting graph will have the same look and feel as regular 2d plots.
- Provide the ability to rotate and zoom the 3d scene.

3d Graphs

Matplotlib's 3D capabilities were added by incorporating:

```
1 from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import Axes3D
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3
4 fig = plt.figure()
5 ax = Axes3D(fig)
6 x = ...
7 y = ...
8 z = ...
9 ax.plot(x,y,z, ...)
```

Example of 2D Function

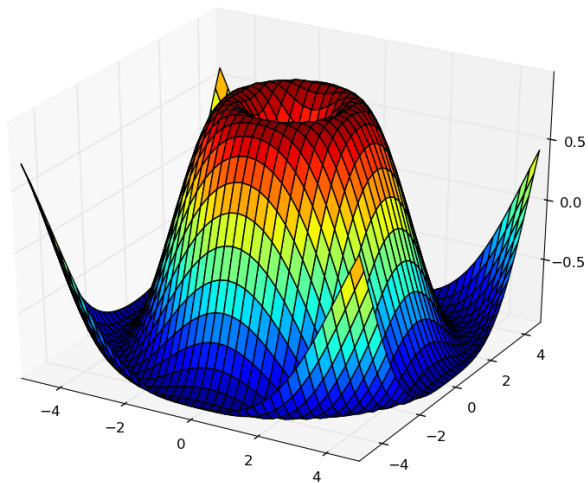
Assume that we want to plot the function:

$$z = \sin(\sqrt{x^2 + y^2})$$
$$-5 \leq x, y \leq 5$$

Code for Plotting 2D Function

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python
2
3 from mpl_toolkits.mplot3d import Axes3D
4 from matplotlib import cm
5 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
6 import numpy as np
7
8 fig = plt.figure()
9 ax = Axes3D(fig)
10 X = np.arange(-5, 5, 0.25)
11 Y = np.arange(-5, 5, 0.25)
12 X, Y = np.meshgrid(X, Y)
13 R = np.sqrt(X**2 + Y**2)
14 Z = np.sin(R)
15 ax.plot_surface(X, Y, Z, rstride=1, cstride=1, cmap=cm.j
16
17 plt.show()
```

3D Surface Demo



Manipulating Images

```
1 from pylab import imread, imshow
2
3 a = imread('myImage.png')
4
5 imshow(a)
```

Plotting Geographical Data Using Basemap

- Matplotlib toolkit
- Collection of application-specific functions that extends Matplotlib functionalities
- Provides an efficient way to draw Matplotlib plots over real world maps
- Useful for scientists such as oceanographers and meteorologists.

Defining a Basemap Object

```
1 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
2 from mpl_toolkits.basemap import Basemap
3 import numpy as np
4
5 # Lambert Conformal map of USA lower 48 states
6 m = Basemap(llcrnrlon=-119,
7 llcrnrlat=22,
8 urcrnrlon=-64,
9 urcrnrlat=49,
10 projection='lcc',
11 lat_1=33,
12 lat_2=45,
13 lon_0=-95,
14 resolution='h',
15 area_thresh=10000)
```

Arguments for Defining a Basemap Object

`projection`: Type of map projection used

`lat_1`: First standard parallel for lambert conformal, albers equal area and equidistant conic

`lat_2`: Second standard parallel for lambert conformal, albers equal area and equidistant conic.

`lon_0`: Central meridian (x-axis origin) - used by all projections

`llcrnrlon`: Longitude of lower-left corner of the desired map domain

`llcrnrlat`: Latitude of lower-left corner of the desired map domain

`urcrnrlon`: Longitude of upper-right corner of the desired map domain

`urcrnrlat`: Latitude of upper-right corner of the desired map domain

`resolution`: Specifies what the resolution is of the features added to the map (such as coast lines, borders, and so on), here we have chosen high resolution (h), but crude, low, and intermediate are also available.

`area_thresh`: Specifies what the minimum size is for a feature to be plotted. In this case, only features bigger than 10,000 square kilometer

Defining Borders

```
1 # draw the coastlines of continental area
2 m.drawcoastlines()
3
4 # draw country boundaries
5 m.drawcountries(linewidth=2)
6
7 # draw states boundaries (America only)
8 m.drawstates()
```

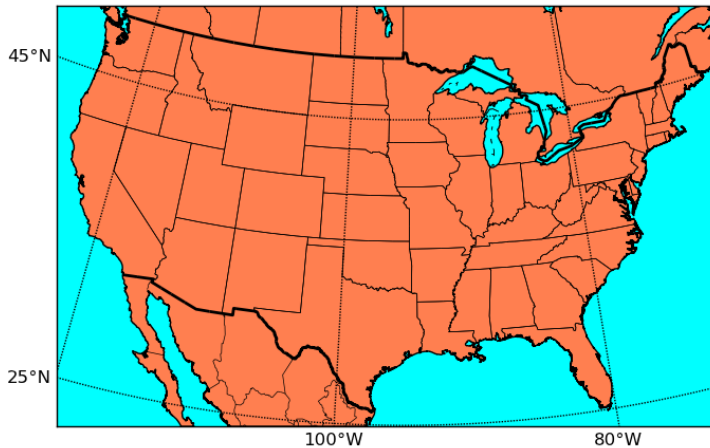
Coloring the Map

```
1 # fill the background (the oceans)
2 m.drawmapboundary(fill_color='aqua')
3
4 # fill the continental area
5 # we color the lakes like the oceans
6 m.fillcontinents(color='coral',lake_color='aqua')
```

Drawing Parallels and Meridians

```
1 # We draw a 20 degrees graticule of parallels and
2 # meridians for the map.
3 # Note how the labels argument controls the
4 # positions where the graticules are labeled
5 # labels=[left, right, top, bottom]
6
7 m.drawparallels(np.arange(25,65,20),labels=[1,0,0,0])
8 m.drawmeridians(np.arange(-120,-40,20),labels=[0,0,0,1])
```

US Map



Using Satellite Background

```
1 # display blue marble image (from NASA)
2 # as map background
3 m.bluemarble()
```

US Map with Satellite Background



Cities over a Map

```
1 cities = ['London', 'New York', 'Madrid', 'Cairo',  
2           'Moscow', 'Delhi', 'Dakar']  
3 lat = [51.507778, 40.716667, 40.4, 30.058, 55.751667,  
4        28.61, 14.692778]  
5 lon = [-0.128056, -74, -3.683333, 31.229, 37.617778,  
6        77.23, -17.446667]  
7  
8 m = Basemap(projection='ortho', lat_0=45, lon_0=10)  
9 m.drawmapboundary()  
10 m.drawcoastlines()  
11 m.fillcontinents()  
12  
13 x, y = m(lon, lat)  
14 plt.plot(x, y, 'ro')  
15 for city, xc, yc in zip(cities, x, y):  
16     plt.text(xc+250000, yc-150000, city, bbox=dict(  
17             facecolor='yellow', alpha=0.5)
```

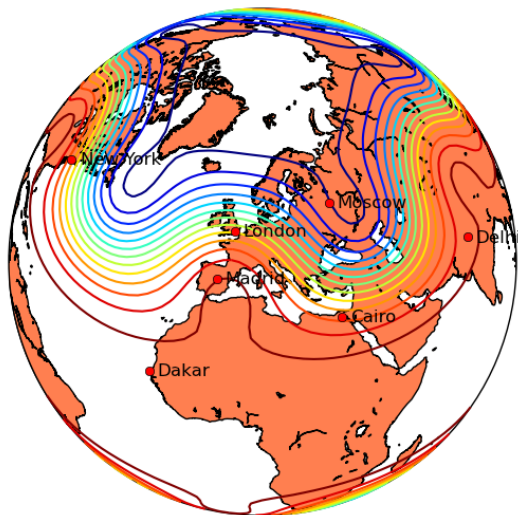
Graph of Cities over a Map



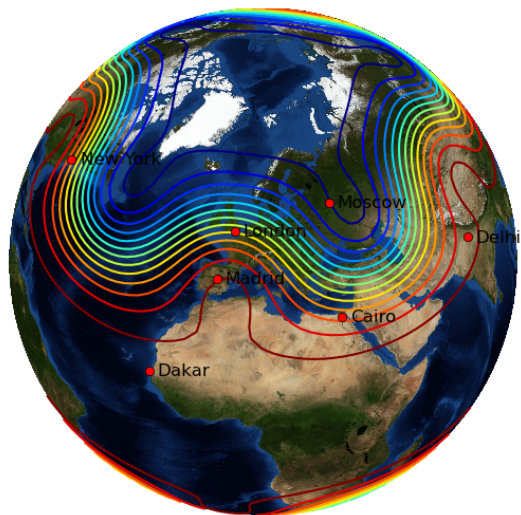
Plotting Data over a Map

```
1 # make up some data on a regular lat/lon grid.
2 nlats = 73; nlons = 145; delta = 2.*np.pi/(nlons-1)
3 lats = (0.5*np.pi-delta*np.indices((nlats,nlons))[0,:,:])
4 lons = (delta*np.indices((nlats,nlons))[1,:,:])
5 wave = 0.75*(np.sin(2.*lats)**8*np.cos(4.*lons))
6 mean = 0.5*np.cos(2.*lats)*((np.sin(2.*lats))**2 + 2.)
7
8 # compute native map projection coordinates of
9 # lat/lon grid.
10 x, y = m(lons*180./np.pi, lats*180./np.pi)
11
12 # contour data over the map.
13 CS = m.contour(x,y,wave+mean,15,linewidths=1.5)
```

Graph of Data over a Map



Graph of Data over a Map with Satellite Background



netCDF4

Useful Links for netCDF4

■ Introduction

<http://netcdf4-python.googlecode.com/svn/trunk/docs/netCDF4-module.html>

What is netCDF4?

- Python interface to the netCDF version 4 library.
- Can read and write files in both the new netCDF 4 and the netCDF 3 format.
- Can create files that are readable by HDF5 utilities.
- Relies on NumPy arrays.

Opening a netCDF File

```
from netCDF4 import Dataset
ncFid = Dataset(ncFileName, mode=modeType, format=fileFormat)
ncFid.close()
```

modeType can be: 'w', 'r+', 'r', or 'a'

fileFormat can be: 'NETCDF3_CLASSIC', 'NETCDF3_64BIT',
'NETCDF4_CLASSIC', 'NETCDF4'

Creating Dimensions in a netCDF File

```
1 time = ncFid.createDimension('time', None)
2 lev  = ncFid.createDimension('lev', 72)
3 lat  = ncFid.createDimension('lat', 91)
4 lon  = ncFid.createDimension('lon', 144)
5
6 print ncFid.dimensions
```

Creating Variables in a netCDF File

```
1 times = ncFid.createVariable('time','f8',('time',))
2 levels = ncFid.createVariable('lev','i4',('lev',))
3 latitudes = ncFid.createVariable('lat','f4',('lat',))
4 longitudes = ncFid.createVariable('lon','f4',('lon',))
5
6 temp = ncFid.createVariable('temp','f4', \
7                             ('time','lev','lat','lon',))
```

Adding Variable Attributes in a netCDF File

```
1 ncFid.description = 'Sample netCDF file'  
2 ncFid.history = 'Created for GSFC on March 25, 2013'  
3 ncFid.source = 'netCDF4 python tutorial'  
4 latitudes.units = 'degrees north'  
5 longitudes.units = 'degrees east'  
6 levels.units = 'hPa'  
7 temp.units = 'K'  
8 times.units = 'hours since 0001-01-01 00:00:00.0'  
9 times.calendar = 'gregorian'
```

Writing Data in a netCDF File

```
1 import numpy
2 latitudes[:] = numpy.arange(-90,91,2.0)
3 longitudes[:] = numpy.arange(-180,180,2.5)
4 levels[:] = numpy.arange(0,72,1)
5
6 from numpy.random import uniform
7 temp[0:5,:,:,:] = uniform(
8     size=(5,levels.size,latitudes.size,
9         longitudes.size))
```

Reading Data from a netCDF File

```
1 ncFid = Dataset('myFile.nc4', mode='r')
2 time = ncFid.variables['time'][:]
3 lev   = ncFid.variables['lev'][:]
4 lat   = ncFid.variables['lat'][:]
5 lon   = ncFid.variables['lon'][:]
6
7 temp  = ncFid.variables['temp'][:]
```


H5py

Useful Links for H5py

- **Quick Start Guide**

<http://www.h5py.org/docs/intro/quick.html>

What is H5py?

- A Python-HDF5 interface
- Allows interaction with with files, groups and datasets using traditional Python and NumPy syntax.
- No need to know anything about HDF5 library.
- The files it manipulates are "plain-vanilla" HDF5 files.

Opening a HDF5 File

```
import h5py
hFid = h5py.File('myfile.h5', modeType)
hFid.close()
```

modeType can be: 'w', 'w-', 'r+', 'r', or 'a'

Creating Dimensions in a HDF5 File

```
1 lat = numpy.arange(-90,91,2.0)
2 dset = hFid.require_dataset('lat', shape=lat.shape)
3 dset[...] = lat
4 dset.attrs['name'] = 'latitude'
5 dset.attrs['units'] = 'degrees north'
6
7 lon = numpy.arange(-180,180,2.5)
8 dset = hFid.require_dataset('lon', shape=lon.shape)
9 dset[...] = lon
10 dset.attrs['name'] = 'longitude'
11 dset.attrs['units'] = 'degrees east'
12
13 lev = numpy.arange(0,72,1)
14 dset = hFid.require_dataset('lev', shape=lev.shape)
15 dset[...] = lev
16 dset.attrs['name'] = 'vertical levels'
17 dset.attrs['units'] = 'hPa'
```

Creating Variables in a HDF5 File

```
1 from numpy.random import uniform
2 arr = np.zeros((5,lev.size,lat.size,lon.size))
3 arr[0:5,:,:,:] = uniform(
4     size=(5,lev.size,lat.size,lon.size))
5 dset = hFid.require_dataset('temp', shape=arr.shape)
6 dset[...] = arr
7 dset.attrs['name'] = 'temperature'
8 dset.attrs['units'] = 'K'
```

Creating Groups in a HDF5 File

```
1 gpData2D = hFid.create_group('2D_Data')
2 sgpLand  = gpData2D.create_group('2D_Land')
3 sgpSea   = gpData2D.create_group('2D_Sea')
4
5 gpData3D = hFid.create_group('3D_Data')
```

Writing Data in a Group

```
1 temp = gpData3D.create_dataset('temp', data=arr)
2 temp.attrs['name'] = 'temperature'
3 temp.attrs['units'] = 'K'
```


Reading Data from a HDF5 File

```
1 hFid = h5py.File('myFile.h5', 'r')
2 lev  = hFid['lev'].value
3 lat  = hFid['lat'].value
4 lon  = hFid['lon'].value
5 time = hFid['time'].value
6
7 temp1 = hFid['temp'].value
8
9 temp2 = hFid['3D_Data']['temp'].value
10
11 hFid.close()
```

Visualizing Gridded Data

Goals

- Access a netCDF file
- Retrieve data from the netCDF file
- Manipulate and plot the data

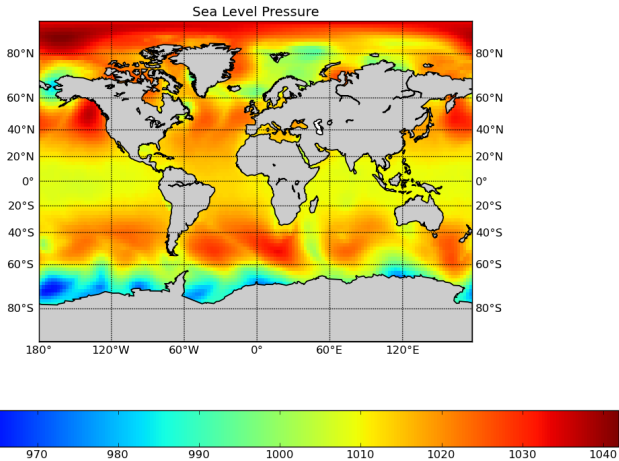
Code for Reading SLP

```
1 ncFid = Dataset(fileName, mode='r')
2
3 lat   = ncFid.variables['lat'][:]
4 lon   = ncFid.variables['lon'][:]
5
6 slp   = 0.01*ncFid.variables['SLP'][:]
7
8 ncFid.close()
9
10 nlat = lat.size - 1
11 nlon = lon.size - 1
12
13 mySLP = slp[0,:,:]
```

Code for Plotting

```
1 fig = plt.figure(1,figsize=(15,8),dpi=75)
2 ax = fig.add_axes([0.05,0.05,0.9,0.85])
3 m = Basemap(projection='mill',
4             llcrnrlat=lat[0], urcrnrlat=lat[nlat],
5             llcrnrlon=lon[0], urcrnrlon=lon[nlon] )
6 m.drawcoastlines(linewidth=1.25)
7 m.fillcontinents(color='0.8')
8 m.drawparallels(np.arange(-80,81,20),labels=[1,1,0,0])
9 m.drawmeridians(np.arange(-180,180,60),labels=[0,0,0,1])
10 im = m.imshow(mySLP,
11              interpolation='nearest',
12              extent=[lon[0], lon[nlon], lat[0], lat[nlat]],
13              cmap=plt.cm.jet)
14 plt.colorbar(orientation='hoirzontal',shrink=.8)
15 plt.title('Sea Level Pressure')
16 plt.savefig('fig_slp.png')
17 plt.show()
```

Plot of SLP



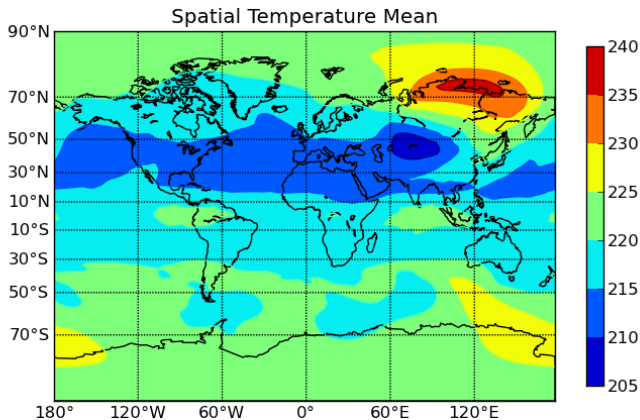
Define a Generic Function for Contour Plots

```
1 def bmContourPlot(var, lats, lons, figName, figTitle):
2     plt.figure()
3     latLow  = lats[0]; latHigh = lats[-1]
4     lonLow  = lons[0]; lonHigh = lons[-1]
5     m = Basemap(projection='mill',
6                 llcrnrlat=latLow, urcrnrlat=latHigh,
7                 llcrnrlon=lonLow, urcrnrlon=lonHigh,
8                 resolution='c')
9     m.drawcoastlines()
10    m.drawparallels(np.arange(latLow, latHigh+1, 30.))
11    m.drawmeridians(np.arange(lonLow, lonHigh+1, 60.))
12    longrid, latgrid = np.meshgrid(lons, lats)
13    x, y = m(longrid, latgrid)
14    m.contour(x, y, var); m.contourf(x, y, var)
15    plt.title(figTitle)
16    plt.colorbar(shrink=.8)
17    plt.savefig(figName + '.png')
18    plt.show()
```

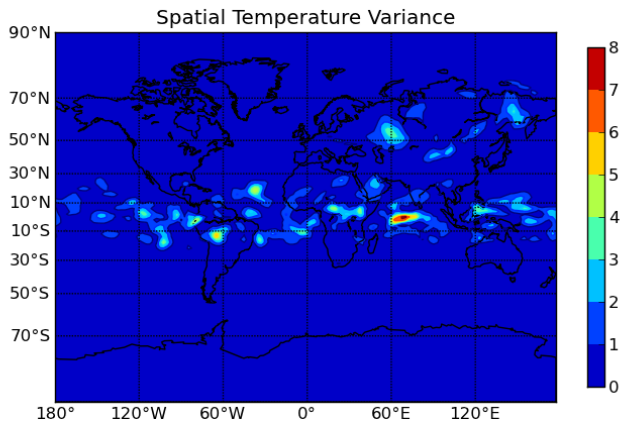
Code for Plotting Mean and Variance of Temperature at 500mb

```
1 time = ncFid.variables['time'][:]
2 lev  = ncFid.variables['lev'][:]
3 lat  = ncFid.variables['lat'][:]
4 lon  = ncFid.variables['lon'][:]
5 T    = ncFid.variables['T'][:]
6
7 level500 = 29 # level of interest
8 T500 = T[:,level500,:,:) # time, lat, lon
9 T500mean = np.mean(T500,0)
10 T500var  = np.var(T500,0)
11
12 bmContourPlot(T500mean, lat, lon, 'fig_TempMean',
13                'Spatial Temperature Mean')
14 bmContourPlot(T500var, lat, lon, 'fig_TempVariance',
15                'Spatial Temperature Variance')
```


Plot of the Mean of Temperature



Plot of the Variance of Temperature

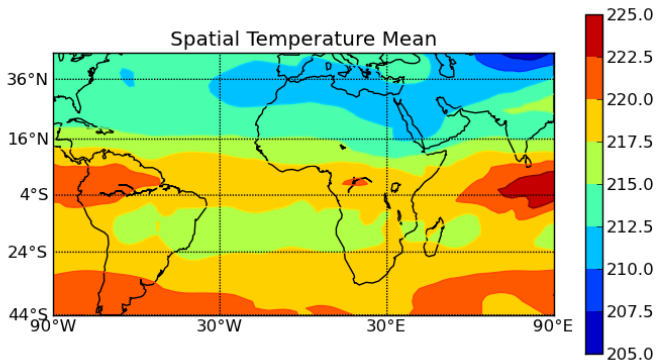


Slicing the Data

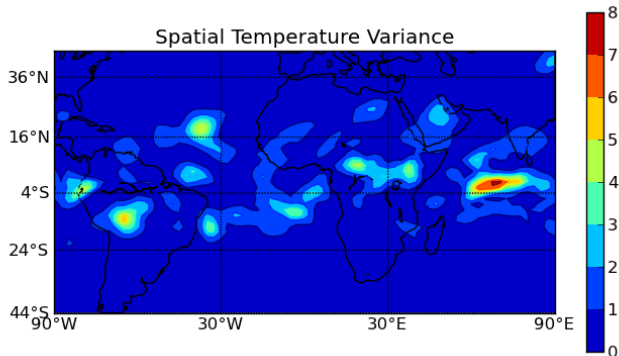
Assume that we want to plot the data in prescribed latitude and longitude ranges.

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python
2
3 import numpy as np
4
5 def sliceLatLon(lat, lon, (minLat, maxLat), \
6                     (minLon, maxLon)):
7     indexLat = np.nonzero((lat[:] >= minLat) &
8                           (lat[:] <= maxLat))[0]
9     indexLon = np.nonzero((lon[:] >= minLon) &
10                           (lon[:] <= maxLon))[0]
11     return indexLat, indexLon
```

Plot of the Mean of Temperature (Slice)



Plot of the Variance of Temperature (Slice)



References I



Hans Petter Langtangen.

A Primer on Scientific Programming with Python.

Springer, 2009.



Johnny Wei-Bing Lin.

A Hands-On Introduction to Using Python in the Atmospheric and Oceanic Sciences.

<http://www.johnny-lin.com/pyintro>, 2012.



Drew McCormack.

Scientific Scripting with Python.

2009.



Sandro Tosi.

Matplotlib for Python Developers.

2009.