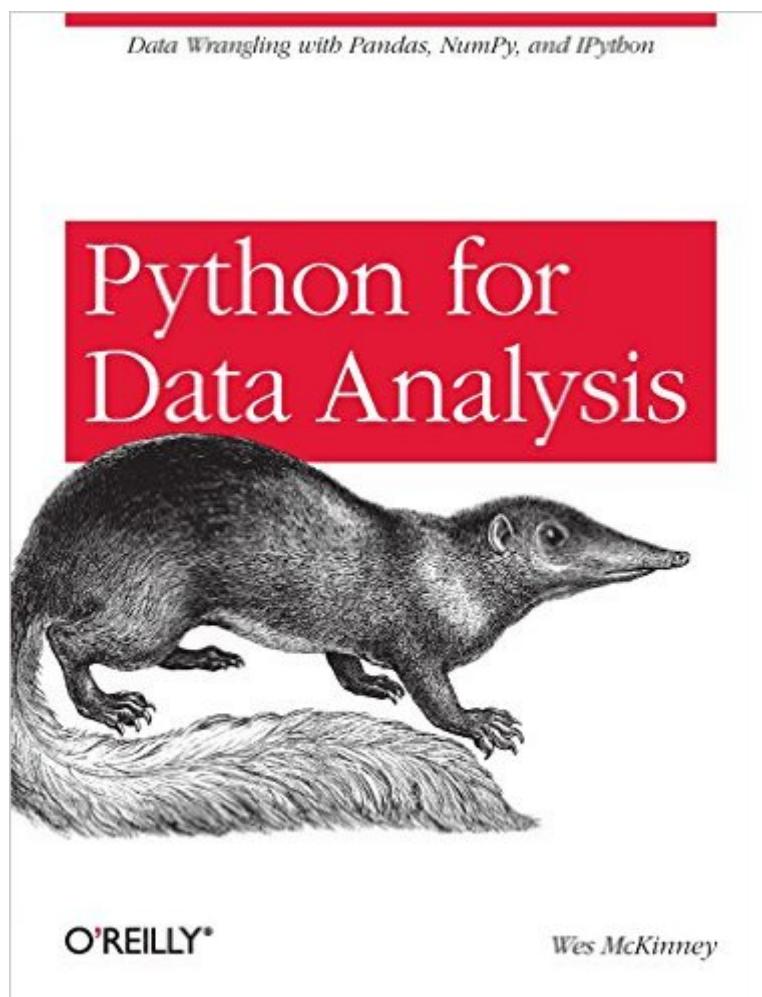


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Python For Data Analysis: Data Wrangling With Pandas, NumPy, And IPython



Synopsis

Python for Data Analysis is concerned with the nuts and bolts of manipulating, processing, cleaning, and crunching data in Python. It is also a practical, modern introduction to scientific computing in Python, tailored for data-intensive applications. This is a book about the parts of the Python language and libraries you'll need to effectively solve a broad set of data analysis problems. This book is not an exposition on analytical methods using Python as the implementation language. Written by Wes McKinney, the main author of the pandas library, this hands-on book is packed with practical cases studies. It's ideal for analysts new to Python and for Python programmers new to scientific computing. Use the IPython interactive shell as your primary development environment. Learn basic and advanced NumPy (Numerical Python) features. Get started with data analysis tools in the pandas library. Use high-performance tools to load, clean, transform, merge, and reshape data. Create scatter plots and static or interactive visualizations with matplotlib. Apply the pandas groupby facility to slice, dice, and summarize datasets. Measure data by points in time, whether it's specific instances, fixed periods, or intervals. Learn how to solve problems in web analytics, social sciences, finance, and economics, through detailed examples.

Book Information

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form. As an example, a collection of news articles could be processed into a word frequency table which could then be used to perform sentiment analysis. Most users of spreadsheet programs like Microsoft Excel, perhaps the most widely used data analysis tool in the world, will not be strangers to these kinds of data. What Is This Book About? This book is concerned with the nuts and bolts of manipulating, processing, cleaning, and crunching data in Python. It is also a practical, modern introduction to scientific computing in Python, tailored for data-intensive applications. This is a book about the parts of the Python language and libraries you'll need to effectively solve a broad set of data analysis problems. This book is not an exposition on analytical methods using Python as the implementation language. When I say "data", what am I referring to exactly? The primary focus is on structured data, a deliberately vague term that encompasses many different common forms of data, such as:

- Multidimensional arrays (matrices).
- Tabular or spreadsheet-like data in which each column may be a different type (string, numeric, date, or otherwise). This includes most kinds of data commonly stored in relational databases or tab- or comma-delimited text files.
- Multiple tables of data interrelated by key columns (what would be primary or foreign keys for a SQL user).
- Evenly or unevenly spaced time series.

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