



# PYTHON FOR GEOSPATIAL ANALYSIS

COURSE GUIDE (V1): 2024  
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# Python for Geospatial Analysis

A specialist course

**Audience:** This is a course for GIS analysts, scientists, engineers, surveyors, and other analysts working with geospatial data sets.

**Context:** Spatial data is ubiquitous and location analytics are more important than ever. A well drawn map is not only beautiful to look at, but can change how you see the world. In the last 10 years Python has become the go-to language for scientific computing and spatial science.

**Overview:** You will learn to work with and analyze general, scientific, and geospatial datasets in many useful formats and learn to solve a wide range of analytical problems in Python for geospatial applications. You will also learn about the elegance and power of the Python language and the breadth of its amazing ecosystem of powerful packages for geospatial analysis.

**Format:** Live instructor-led training (online). Each topic is a mixture of expert instruction, worked examples, and hands-on exercises with help from the instructor(s).

**Expert instructors:** See bios below.

**Duration:** 5 days

**Modules:** You are welcome to mix and match days or split them across multiple sessions (see dates below).

Days 1–5: Python for Geospatial Analysis

Days 1–2: Introduction to Python

Days 3–5: for graduates of Python Charmers courses or people with significant Python experience (3–6 months)

**Price:**

Regular course (5 days): AUD \$4,250 (excl GST)

Modular / partial courses: AUD \$900 (excl GST) per day

**Dates (February – December 2024):**

18–19 March (days 1–2) and 25–27 March 2024 (days 3–4)

29 April–3 May 2024

3–7 June 2024

24–28 June 2024

12–16 August 2024

21–25 October 2024

9–13 December 2024

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# Skills & Activities

## Skills

**Days 1–2:** You will gain a solid understanding of the Python language and experience using Python for a wide range of scripting and data-manipulation tasks with data in a variety of useful formats; and creating beautiful statistical graphics and simple dashboards.

**Day 3:** You will learn about time-series analysis; manipulating vector/matrix data; performing Monte Carlo simulations; clustering; outlier / anomaly detection.

**Days 4:** You will learn all about working with geospatial data using Python, including accessing spatial data formats (shapefiles, KML, raster and vector formats), analyzing raster and vector geospatial datasets; and visualizing the results on a map.

**Day 5:** You will gain an overview of available scientific routines, including for linear algebra, curve fitting, optimization, constructing statistical models, solving ODEs, signal and image processing, and easily handling scientific units with uncertainties. You will also learn how to scale up to large datasets, how to speed up slow code, and parallelize it across multiple cores or a cluster.

## Activities

**Exercises:** There will be practical exercises throughout the training course. These will be challenging and fun, and the solutions will be discussed after each exercise and provided as source code. During the exercises, the trainer will offer help and suggestions.

**Worked examples:** To prepare you for the exercises, the trainer will present worked examples and demos and help you to follow along on your own computer.



# Topic outline

## Day 1: Python basics

Day 1 covers how to use Python for basic scripting and automation tasks, including tips and tricks for making this easy:

- Why Python? What's possible?
- The *Jupyter* notebook for rapid prototyping
- Modules and packages
- Python concepts: an introduction through examples
- Essential data types: strings, tuples, lists, dicts, file paths
- Worked example: retrieving real-time data from a REST web API
- Raising and handling exceptions

# Topic outline

## Day 2: Handling, analyzing, and presenting data

Python offers amazingly productive tools like Pandas for working with different kinds of data. Day 2 gives a thorough introduction to analyzing and visualizing data easily:

- Reading and writing essential data formats:  
CSV, Excel, SQL, time-series (others on request)
- Indexing and selecting data in *Pandas*
- Data fusion: joining & merging datasets
- Summarization with “group by” operations; pivot tables
- Visualization and statistical graphics with *Plotly Express*
- Worked example: creating automated reports
- Creating interactive dashboards with *Streamlit*

# Topic outline

## Day 3: Further data analytics

Day 3 shows you how to manipulate matrix/vector data, hierarchical data, and time-series. It also demonstrates the powerful tools of Monte Carlo simulation, interpolation, and outlier / anomaly detection:

- Introduction to *NumPy* for manipulating vector and matrix data: data types, powerful indexing, reshaping, *ufuncs*
- Monte Carlo simulation and applications
- Data transformations: stack, unstack, melt, transform
- Time-series analysis: parsing dates; resampling; interpolation
- Interpolation and linear regression
- Outlier and anomaly detection with *pyod*; applications to time-series

# Topic outline

## Day 4: Spatial analysis in Python

Day 4 will provide a comprehensive tutorial in working with geospatial data using Python. It will cover spatial data access, spatial analysis, and visualizing the results on a map.

- Reading & writing vector data with *Geopandas* and *GDAL/OGR*
- Projections with *Geopandas* and *pyproj*
- Introduction to vector analysis with *Geopandas*
- Reading and writing with common raster formats (including *NetCDF*)
- Introduction to raster analysis with *xarray*
- Creating beautiful maps and overlaying statistical data
- Introduction to raster and vector image analysis with *scikit-image* and *Geopandas*

# Topic outline

## Day 5: Scientific computing with Python

Day 5 teaches you specialized tools in Python for scientific and engineering computing. It gives you a comprehensive introduction to *SciPy* and related packages, and other specialized topics on request, such as scaling up numerical code to larger datasets.

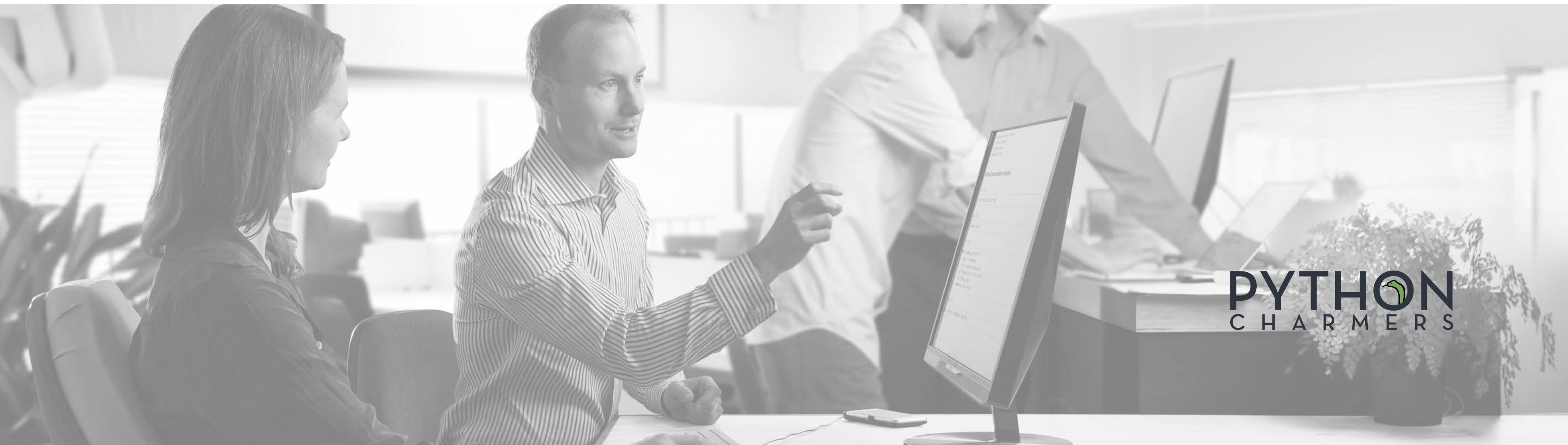
- Handling scientific data formats
- Handling scientific units and uncertainties
- Dense & sparse linear algebra
- Clustering and dimensionality reduction
- Statistical modelling and density estimation
- Optimization and curve fitting
- Other topics on request, such as:
  - Integration / ODEs
  - Signal & image processing
  - Speeding up numerical code
  - Parallel and distributed computing with *dask*





## Personal help

We are happy to offer on-the-spot problem-solving after each day of the training for you to ask one-on-one questions — whether about the course content and exercises or about specific problems you face in your work and how to solve them. If you would like us to prepare for this in advance, you are welcome to send us background info before the course.



## Other information

**Format:** Courses are conducted online via live video meeting and using Python Charmers' cloud notebook server for coding and sharing code with the trainer(s).

**Computer:**

- **Hardware:** we recommend  $\geq 8$  GB of RAM and a webcam.  
Preferably also multiple screens and a quiet room (or headset mic).
- **Software:** a modern browser: *Chrome, Firefox, or Safari* (not *IE* or *Edge*);  
and *Zoom*

**Timing:** Most courses will run from 9:00 to roughly 17:00 (AEST/AEDT) each day, with breaks of 50 minutes for lunch and 20 minutes each for morning and afternoon tea.

**Certificate of completion:** We will provide you a certificate if you complete the course and successfully answer the majority of the exercise questions.

**Materials:** You will have access to all the course materials online. We will also mail you cheat sheets and a USB stick with all the materials for reference.

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# Instructor bio



**Henry Walshaw**

Henry has almost 15 years of experience in Python application development and has trained hundreds of people in how to use Python from organisations including AGL, the Bureau of Meteorology, ESRI, the NSW Department of Finance, National Australia Bank, and Telstra.

Henry's core technical expertise relates to the development and analysis of large scale spatial datasets (primarily using Python), and communicating this understanding to both subject matter experts and the general public.

Before joining Python Charmers, Henry worked in both government and industry — at Geoscience Australia, the Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment, and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); as a consultant with Sinclair Knight Merz (SKM), a manager at we-do-IT, and as CTO of a startup. He holds a Bachelors in Computational Science.



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# Instructor bio



**Dr Edward Schofield**

Ed has consulted to or trained over 3000 people from dozens of organisations in data analytics using Python, including Atlassian, Barclays, Cisco, CSIRO, Dolby, Harvard University, IMC, Singtel Optus, Oracle, Shell, Telstra, Toyota, Verizon, and Westpac. He is well-known in the Python community as a former release manager of *SciPy* and the author of the widely used *future* package. He regularly presents at conferences in data science and Python in Australia and internationally.

Ed holds a PhD in machine learning from Imperial College London. He also holds BA and MA (Hons) degrees in mathematics and computer science from Trinity College, University of Cambridge. He has 20+ years of experience in programming, teaching, and public speaking.



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# Instructor bio



**Dr Robert Layton**

Robert is the author of the book “Data Mining in Python”, published by Packt. He provides analysis, consultancy, research and development work to businesses, primarily using Python. Robert has worked with government, financial and security sectors, in both a consultancy and academic role. He is also a Research Fellow at the Internet Commerce Security Laboratory, investigating cybercrime analytics and data-mining algorithms for attribution and profiling.

Robert is a contributor to the Python-based *scikit-learn* open source project for machine learning and writes regularly on data mining for a number of outlets. He was the author of the website “LearningTensorflow.com”, sold to DataBricks. He has presented at a number of international conferences in Python, data analysis, and its applications.



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### **About Python Charmers®**

Python Charmers is a leading global provider of training in data science and software development, based in Australia and Singapore. Since 2010, Python Charmers has given over 600 training courses and bootcamps to over 6,000 delighted people from organizations such as AGL, Atlassian, Barclays, CSIRO, Cisco, Deloitte, Dolby, IMC, pwc, Singtel Optus, Shell, Sportsbet, Telstra, Toyota, Verizon, Westpac, and Woolworths. Python Charmers specializes in teaching programming and data science to scientists, engineers, data analysts, quants, and computer scientists.

Python Charmers' trainers boast years of experience with data science, data analytics, statistical modelling, and programming, and deep roots in the open source community, as both speakers at events and contributors to well-known open source projects for data science, including *NumPy*, *SciPy*, *Scikit-Learn*, *Pandas*, *Matplotlib*, *NetworkX*, *Dash*, and *Future*.

**Testimonials:** Testimonials from past participants of similar bootcamps and training courses are available at

<https://pythoncharmners.com/testimonials/>

**Questions:** We are happy to customise this program further on request. Please let us know if you would like to discuss this or have any other questions.

**Contact:**

Phone: +61 1300 963 160

Email: [info@pythoncharmners.com](mailto:info@pythoncharmners.com)

Web: [pythoncharmners.com](https://pythoncharmners.com)

The logo for Python Charmers, featuring the word "PYTHON" in a large, bold, sans-serif font, with a small green Python snake icon integrated into the letter "O". Below "PYTHON" is the word "CHARMERS" in a smaller, all-caps, sans-serif font.

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