Python for R users

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Why learn Python?

- Teaching

  - GCSE in Computer Science is now based on Python. Soon most UGs will know it.

  - MSc in Data Science is based on it.

  - Could replace R and Matlab for UG teaching.

  - Greater job market share

- Research
  - R is very good for Statistics but limited for other uses
  - Python is multi-talented
    - Machine Learning
    - Data munging
    - Image processing
    - Symbolic manipulation
    - Text processing
    - Web scraping
    - Optimization
    - Signal processing
    - And many more - 113,000 packages on PyPI
  - Full featured programming language

Getting Started

- Recommend the Anaconda distribution of Python
- Python 3 preferred to Python 2 for new users
- Try converting some simple R scripts to Python