

Python Standard Library

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- The Python Standard Library offers ready to import modules for most common tasks in Programming with Python.
- These modules help a lot as they perform many useful tasks are kept away from the core language to avoid bloating.
- Some Useful resources.
 - Documentation of Modules -
<https://docs.python.org/3/library/>
 - Tutorial on their usage -
<https://docs.python.org/3.3/tutorial/stdlib.html>
 - Module of the Week by Doug Hellmann -
<https://pymotw.com/2/contents.html>
 - The Python Standard Library By Example Book -
<https://doughellmann.com/blog/the-python-standard-library-by-example/>

Counter()

Counter() is used to count the number of occurrences of a unique element in a sequence. Example,

```
from collections import Counter
list = [ 'Orange', 'Apple', 'Mango', 'Orange' ]
list_counter = Counter(list)
list_counter
Counter({ 'Apple': 1, 'Mango': 1, 'Orange': 2})
```

The most_common() function returns all elements in descending order, or just the top count elements if given a count:

```
list_counter.most_common()
[( 'Orange', 2), ( 'Mango', 1), ( 'Apple', 1)]
```

Deque

Deque is a special data structure that is a combination of both Stack and Queue. A deque is a double-ended queue.

- Its useful to add and delete elements from both ends of the sequence.
- The function `popleft()` removes the leftmost item and `pop()` removes the rightmost element.
- A deque could be used to create a palindrome checker as follows.

Palindrome Checker Using Deque

```
def palindrome_checker(word):  
    from collections import deque  
    dq = deque(word)  
    while len(dq) > 1:  
        if dq.popleft() != dq.pop():  
            return False  
    return True
```

```
palindrome_checker('racecar')
```

```
True
```

```
palindrome_checker('hello')
```

```
False
```

Iterate with Itertools

Itertools contains special-purpose iteration functions that come in handy in a lot of scenarios.

`chain()` runs through each argument as though they are all part of one iterable:

```
import itertools
for item in itertools.chain([1, 2], ['one', 'two']):
    print(item)
```

`cycle()` is an infinite iterator, cycling through its arguments:

```
import itertools
for item in itertools.cycle([1, 2]):
    print(item)
```

Iterate with Itertools

`accumulate()` calculates accumulated values. By default, it calculates the sum:

```
import itertools
for item in itertools.accumulate([1, 2, 3, 4]):
    print(item)
```

If a function is passed as the second argument to `accumulate()`, it will supersede the default addition operation.

```
def multiply(a, b):
    return a * b
```

```
import itertools
for item in itertools.accumulate([1, 2, 3, 4],
    multiply):
    print(item)
```

The function should take two arguments and return a single result.



Print Pretty Statements with pprint()

pprint pretty prints data for us.

```
data = [ (i, { 'a': 'A', 'b': 'B', 'c': 'C',  
              'd': 'D', 'e': 'E' })  
          for i in range(3)  
        ]  
from pprint import pprint  
  
# Check the difference between  
print(data)  
pprint(data)
```


Summary

- We learned how Python pushed all the custom, advanced functionalities into its Standard library so that the language would not become too bloated.
- We learned how to use different tools such as Counter, Deque, itertools and pprint to make our code deliver more.
- We learned how to import these modules into our code as and when we need, even selectively, rather than importing the entire package.