

Using IPython for interactive work »

Warning

This documentation is for an old version of IPython. You can find docs for newer versions [here](#).

Built-in magic commands

Line magics

%alias

Define an alias for a system command.

`%alias alias_name cmd` defines `alias_name` as an alias for `cmd`

Then, typing `alias_name params` will execute the system command `cmd params` (from your underlying operating system).

Aliases have lower precedence than magic functions and Python normal variables, so if `foo` is both a Python variable and an alias, the alias can not be executed until `del foo` removes the Python variable.

You can use the `%l` specifier in an alias definition to represent the whole line when the alias is called. For example:

```
In [2]: alias bracket echo "Input in brackets: <%l>"
In [3]: bracket hello world
Input in brackets: <hello world>
```

You can also define aliases with parameters using `%s` specifiers (one per parameter):

```
In [1]: alias parts echo first %s second %s
In [2]: %parts A B
first A second B
In [3]: %parts A
Incorrect number of arguments: 2 expected.
parts is an alias to: 'echo first %s second %s'
```

Note that `%l` and `%s` are mutually exclusive. You can only use one or the other in your aliases.

Aliases expand Python variables just like system calls using `!` or `!!` do: all expressions prefixed with `$` get expanded. For details of the semantic rules, see PEP-215:

<http://www.python.org/peps/pep-0215.html>. This is the library used by IPython for variable expansion. If you want to access a

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true shell variable, an extra \$ is necessary to prevent its expansion by IPython:

```
In [6]: alias show echo
In [7]: PATH='A Python string'
In [8]: show $PATH
A Python string
In [9]: show $$PATH
/usr/local/lf9560/bin:/usr/local/intel/compiler70/ia32/bin:...
```

You can use the alias facility to access all of \$PATH. See the %rehash and %rehashx functions, which automatically create aliases for the contents of your \$PATH.

If called with no parameters, %alias prints the current alias table.

%alias_magic

```
%alias_magic [-l] [-c] name target
```

Create an alias for an existing line or cell magic.

Examples

```
In [1]: %alias_magic t timeit
Created `%t` as an alias for `%timeit`.
Created `%%t` as an alias for `%%timeit`.

In [2]: %t -n1 pass
1 loops, best of 3: 954 ns per loop

In [3]: %%t -n1
...: pass
...:
1 loops, best of 3: 954 ns per loop

In [4]: %alias_magic --cell whereami pwd
UsageError: Cell magic function `%%pwd` not found.
In [5]: %alias_magic --line whereami pwd
Created `%whereami` as an alias for `%pwd`.

In [6]: %whereami
Out[6]: u'/home/testuser'
```

positional arguments:

name Name of the magic to be created. target Name of the existing line or cell magic.

optional arguments:

-l, --line Create a line magic alias.
-c, --cell Create a cell magic alias.

%autocall

Make functions callable without having to type parentheses.

Usage:

```
%autocall [mode]
```

The mode can be one of: 0->Off, 1->Smart, 2->Full. If not given, the value is toggled on and off (remembering the previous state).

In more detail, these values mean:

0 -> fully disabled

1 -> active, but do not apply if there are no arguments on the line.

In this mode, you get:

```
In [1]: callable
Out[1]: <built-in function callable>

In [2]: callable 'hello'
-----> callable('hello')
Out[2]: False
```

2 -> Active always. Even if no arguments are present, the callable object is called:

```
In [2]: float
-----> float()
Out[2]: 0.0
```

Note that even with autocall off, you can still use '/' at the start of a line to treat the first argument on the command line as a function and add parentheses to it:

```
In [8]: /str 43
-----> str(43)
Out[8]: '43'
```

all-random (note for auto-testing)

%automagic

Make magic functions callable without having to type the initial %.

Without arguments it toggles on/off (when off, you must call it as %automagic, of course). With arguments it sets the value, and you can use any of (case insensitive):

- on, 1, True: to activate
- off, 0, False: to deactivate.

Note that magic functions have lowest priority, so if there's a variable whose name collides with that of a magic fn, automagic won't work for that function (you get the variable instead). However, if you delete the variable (del var), the previously shadowed magic function becomes visible to automagic again.

%bookmark

Manage IPython's bookmark system.

%bookmark <name> - set bookmark to current dir
%bookmark <name> <dir> - set bookmark to <dir>
%bookmark -l - list all

bookmarks %bookmark -d <name> - remove bookmark
%bookmark -r - remove all bookmarks

You can later on access a bookmarked folder with:

```
%cd -b <name>
```

or simply '%cd <name>' if there is no directory called <name>
AND there is such a bookmark defined.

Your bookmarks persist through IPython sessions, but they are associated with each profile.

%cd

Change the current working directory.

This command automatically maintains an internal list of directories you visit during your IPython session, in the variable `_dh`. The command %dhist shows this history nicely formatted. You can also do 'cd -<tab>' to see directory history conveniently.

Usage:

cd 'dir': changes to directory 'dir'.

cd -: changes to the last visited directory.

cd -<n>: changes to the n-th directory in the directory history.

cd -foo: change to directory that matches 'foo' in history

cd -b <bookmark_name>: jump to a bookmark set by %bookmark

(note: cd <bookmark_name> is enough if there is no

directory <bookmark_name>, but a bookmark with the name exists.) 'cd -b <tab>' allows you to tab-complete bookmark names.

Options:

-q: quiet. Do not print the working directory after the cd command is executed. By default IPython's cd command does print this directory, since the default prompts do not display path information.

Note that !cd doesn't work for this purpose because the shell where !command runs is immediately discarded after executing 'command'.

Examples

```
In [10]: cd parent/child  
/home/tsuser/parent/child
```

%colors

Switch color scheme for prompts, info system and exception handlers.

Currently implemented schemes: NoColor, Linux, LightBG.

Color scheme names are not case-sensitive.

Examples

To get a plain black and white terminal:

```
%colors nocolor
```

%config

configure IPython

```
%config Class[.trait=value]
```

This magic exposes most of the IPython config system. Any Configurable class should be able to be configured with the simple line:

```
%config Class.trait=value
```

Where value will be resolved in the user's namespace, if it is an expression or variable name.

Examples

To see what classes are available for config, pass no arguments:

```
In [1]: %config
Available objects for config:
    TerminalInteractiveShell
    HistoryManager
    PrefilterManager
    AliasManager
    IPCompleter
    PromptManager
    DisplayFormatter
```

To view what is configurable on a given class, just pass the class name:

```
In [2]: %config IPCompleter
IPCompleter options

IPCompleter.omit__names=<Enum>
  Current: 2
  Choices: (0, 1, 2)
  Instruct the completer to omit private method names
  Specifically, when completing on ``object.<tab>``.
  When 2 [default]: all names that start with '_'
  will be excluded.
  When 1: all 'magic' names (``__foo__``) will be
  excluded.
  When 0: nothing will be excluded.
IPCompleter.merge_completions=<CBool>
  Current: True
  Whether to merge completion results into a single
  list
  If False, only the completion results from the
  first non-empty
  completer will be returned.
IPCompleter.limit_to__all__=<CBool>
```

```
Current: False
Instruct the completer to use __all__ for the
completion
Specifically, when completing on ``object.<tab>``.
When True: only those names in obj.__all__ will be
included.
When False [default]: the __all__ attribute is
ignored
IPCompleter.greedy=<CBool>
Current: False
Activate greedy completion
This will enable completion on elements of lists,
results of
function calls, etc., but can be unsafe because the
code is
actually evaluated on TAB.
```

but the real use is in setting values:

```
In [3]: %config IPCompleter.greedy = True
```

and these values are read from the user_ns if they are variables:

```
In [4]: feeling_greedy=False
In [5]: %config IPCompleter.greedy = feeling_greedy
```

%debug

```
%debug [--breakpoint FILE:LINE] [statement [statement
...]]
```

Activate the interactive debugger.

This magic command support two ways of activating debugger. One is to activate debugger before executing code. This way, you can set a break point, to step through the code from the point. You can use this mode by giving statements to execute and optionally a breakpoint.

The other one is to activate debugger in post-mortem mode. You can activate this mode simply running %debug without any argument. If an exception has just occurred, this lets you inspect its stack frames interactively. Note that this will always work only on the last traceback that occurred, so you must call this quickly after an exception that you wish to inspect has fired, because if another one occurs, it clobbers the previous one.

If you want IPython to automatically do this on every exception, see the %pdb magic for more details.

positional arguments:

statement Code to run in debugger. You can omit this in cell

magic mode.

optional arguments:

--breakpoint <FILE:LINE>, -b <FILE:LINE>

Set break point at LINE in FILE.

%dhist

Print your history of visited directories.

%dhist -> print full history
%dhist n -> print last n entries only
%dhist n1 n2 -> print entries between n1 and n2 (n2 not included)

This history is automatically maintained by the %cd command, and always available as the global list variable `_dh`. You can use %cd -<n> to go to directory number <n>.

Note that most of time, you should view directory history by entering `cd -<TAB>`.

%dirs

Return the current directory stack.

%doctest_mode

Toggle doctest mode on and off.

This mode is intended to make IPython behave as much as possible like a plain Python shell, from the perspective of how its prompts, exceptions and output look. This makes it easy to copy and paste parts of a session into doctests. It does so by:

- Changing the prompts to the classic >>> ones.
- Changing the exception reporting mode to 'Plain'.
- Disabling pretty-printing of output.

Note that IPython also supports the pasting of code snippets that have leading '>>>' and '...' prompts in them. This means that you can paste doctests from files or docstrings (even if they have leading whitespace), and the code will execute correctly. You can then use '%history -t' to see the translated history; this will give you the input after removal of all the leading prompts and whitespace, which can be pasted back into an editor.

With these features, you can switch into this mode easily whenever you need to do testing and changes to doctests, without having to leave your existing IPython session.

%edit

Bring up an editor and execute the resulting code.

Usage:

%edit [options] [args]

%edit runs IPython's editor hook. The default version of this hook is set to call the editor specified by your \$EDITOR environment variable. If this isn't found, it will default to vi under Linux/Unix and to notepad under Windows. See the end of this docstring for how to change the editor hook.

You can also set the value of this editor via the `TerminalInteractiveShell.editor` option in your configuration file. This is useful if you wish to use a different editor from your typical default with IPython (and for Windows users who typically don't set environment variables).

This command allows you to conveniently edit multi-line code right in your IPython session.

If called without arguments, `%edit` opens up an empty editor with a temporary file and will execute the contents of this file when you close it (don't forget to save it!).

Options:

`-n <number>`: open the editor at a specified line number. By default, the IPython editor hook uses the unix syntax `'editor +N filename'`, but you can configure this by providing your own modified hook if your favorite editor supports line-number specifications with a different syntax.

`-p`: this will call the editor with the same data as the previous time it was used, regardless of how long ago (in your current session) it was.

`-r`: use 'raw' input. This option only applies to input taken from the user's history. By default, the 'processed' history is used, so that magics are loaded in their transformed version to valid Python. If this option is given, the raw input as typed as the command line is used instead. When you exit the editor, it will be executed by IPython's own processor.

`-x`: do not execute the edited code immediately upon exit. This is mainly useful if you are editing programs which need to be called with command line arguments, which you can then do using `%run`.

Arguments:

If arguments are given, the following possibilities exist:

- If the argument is a filename, IPython will load that into the editor. It will execute its contents with `execfile()` when you exit, loading any code in the file into your interactive namespace.
- The arguments are ranges of input history, e.g. `"7 ~1 / 4-6"`. The syntax is the same as in the `%history` magic.
- If the argument is a string variable, its contents are loaded into the editor. You can thus edit any string which contains python code (including the result of previous edits).
- If the argument is the name of an object (other than a string), IPython will try to locate the file where it was defined and open the editor at the point where it is defined. You can use `%edit` function to load an editor exactly at the point where 'function' is defined, edit it and have the file be executed automatically.

- If the object is a macro (see %macro for details), this opens up your specified editor with a temporary file containing the macro's data. Upon exit, the macro is reloaded with the contents of the file.

Note: opening at an exact line is only supported under Unix, and some editors (like kedit and gedit up to Gnome 2.8) do not understand the '+NUMBER' parameter necessary for this feature. Good editors like (X)Emacs, vi, jed, pico and joe all do.

After executing your code, %edit will return as output the code you typed in the editor (except when it was an existing file). This way you can reload the code in further invocations of %edit as a variable, via _<NUMBER> or Out[<NUMBER>], where <NUMBER> is the prompt number of the output.

Note that %edit is also available through the alias %ed.

This is an example of creating a simple function inside the editor and then modifying it. First, start up the editor:

```
In [1]: edit
Editing... done. Executing edited code...
Out[1]: 'def foo():\n    print "foo() was defined in an
editing
session"\n'
```

We can then call the function foo():

```
In [2]: foo()
foo() was defined in an editing session
```

Now we edit foo. IPython automatically loads the editor with the (temporary) file where foo() was previously defined:

```
In [3]: edit foo
Editing... done. Executing edited code...
```

And if we call foo() again we get the modified version:

```
In [4]: foo()
foo() has now been changed!
```

Here is an example of how to edit a code snippet successive times. First we call the editor:

```
In [5]: edit
Editing... done. Executing edited code...
hello
Out[5]: "print 'hello'\n"
```

Now we call it again with the previous output (stored in _):

```
In [6]: edit _
Editing... done. Executing edited code...
hello world
Out[6]: "print 'hello world'\n"
```

Now we call it with the output #8 (stored in _8, also as Out[8]):

```
In [7]: edit _8
Editing... done. Executing edited code...
hello again
Out[7]: "print 'hello again'\n"
```

Changing the default editor hook:

If you wish to write your own editor hook, you can put it in a configuration file which you load at startup time. The default hook is defined in the `IPython.core.hooks` module, and you can use that as a starting example for further modifications. That file also has general instructions on how to set a new hook for use once you've defined it.

%env

Get, set, or list environment variables.

Usage:

```
%env: lists all environment variables/values %env
var: get value for var %env var val: set value for var
%env var=val: set value for var %env var=$val: set
value for var, using python expansion if possible
```

%gui

Enable or disable IPython GUI event loop integration.

%gui [GUINAME]

This magic replaces IPython's threaded shells that were activated using the (pylab/wthread/etc.) command line flags. GUI toolkits can now be enabled at runtime and keyboard interrupts should work without any problems. The following toolkits are supported: wxPython, PyQt4, PyGTK, Tk and Cocoa (OSX):

```
%gui wx      # enable wxPython event loop integration
%gui qt4|qt   # enable PyQt4 event loop integration
%gui qt5      # enable PyQt5 event loop integration
%gui gtk      # enable PyGTK event loop integration
%gui gtk3     # enable Gtk3 event loop integration
%gui tk       # enable Tk event loop integration
%gui osx      # enable Cocoa event loop integration
              # (requires %matplotlib 1.1)
%gui         # disable all event loop integration
```

WARNING: after any of these has been called you can simply create an application object, but DO NOT start the event loop yourself, as we have already handled that.

%history

```
%history [-n] [-o] [-p] [-t] [-f FILENAME] [-g [PATTERN
[PATTERN ...]]]
          [-l [LIMIT]] [-u]
          [range [range ...]]
```

Print input history (`_i<n>` variables), with most recent last.

By default, input history is printed without line numbers so it can be directly pasted into an editor. Use `-n` to show them.

By default, all input history from the current session is displayed. Ranges of history can be indicated using the syntax:

`4`

Line 4, current session

`4-6`

Lines 4–6, current session

`243/1-5`

Lines 1–5, session 243

`~2/7`

Line 7, session 2 before current

`~8/1-~6/5`

From the first line of 8 sessions ago, to the fifth line of 6 sessions ago.

Multiple ranges can be entered, separated by spaces

The same syntax is used by `%macro`, `%save`, `%edit`, `%rerun`

Examples

```
In [6]: %history -n 4-6
4:a = 12
5:print a**2
6:%history -n 4-6
```

positional arguments:

range

optional arguments:

- `-n` print line numbers for each input. This feature is only available if numbered prompts are in use.
- `-o` also print outputs for each input.
- `-p` print classic `'>>>'` python prompts before each input. This is useful for making documentation, and in conjunction with `-o`, for producing doctest-ready output.
- `-t` print the 'translated' history, as IPython understands it. IPython filters your input and converts it all into valid Python source before executing it (things like magics or aliases are turned into function calls, for example). With this option, you'll see the native history instead of the user-entered version: `'%cd /'` will be seen as `'get_ipython().magic("%cd /")'` instead of `'%cd /'`.
- `-f` *FILENAME*: instead of printing the output to the screen, redirect it to the given file. The file is

always overwritten, though *when it can*, IPython asks for confirmation first. In particular, running the command 'history -f FILENAME' from the IPython Notebook interface will replace FILENAME even if it already exists *without* confirmation.

-g <[*PATTERN* [*PATTERN* ...]]>

treat the arg as a glob pattern to search for in (full) history. This includes the saved history (almost all commands ever written). The pattern may contain '?' to match one unknown character and '*' to match any number of unknown characters. Use '%hist -g' to show full saved history (may be very long).

-l get the last n lines from all sessions. Specify n
<[*LIMIT*]> as a single arg, or the default is the last 10 lines.

-u when searching history using -g, show only unique history.

%install_default_config

%install_default_config has been deprecated.

%install_ext

Download and install an extension from a URL, e.g.:

```
%install_ext https://bitbucket.org/birkenfeld/ipython-  
physics/raw/d1310a2ab15d/physics.py
```

The URL should point to an importable Python module – either a .py file or a .zip file.

Parameters:

-n filename : Specify a name for the file, rather
than taking it from
the URL.

%install_profiles

%install_profiles has been deprecated.

%killbgscripts

Kill all BG processes started by %%script and its family.

%load

Load code into the current frontend.

Usage:

%load [options] source

where source can be a filename, URL, input history range,
macro, or element in the user namespace

Options:

–r <lines>: Specify lines or ranges of lines to load from the source. Ranges could be specified as x–y (x..y) or in python–style x:y (x..(y–1)). Both limits x and y can be left blank (meaning the beginning and end of the file, respectively).

–s <symbols>: Specify function or classes to load from python source.

–y : Don’t ask confirmation for loading source above 200 000 characters.

–n : Include the user’s namespace when searching for source code.

This magic command can either take a local filename, a URL, an history range (see %history) or a macro as argument, it will prompt for confirmation before loading source with more than 200 000 characters, unless –y flag is passed or if the frontend does not support raw_input:

```
%load myscript.py
%load 7-27
%load myMacro
%load http://www.example.com/myscript.py
%load -r 5-10 myscript.py
%load -r 10-20,30,40: foo.py
%load -s MyClass,wonder_function myscript.py
%load -n MyClass
%load -n my_module.wonder_function
```

%load_ext

Load an IPython extension by its module name.

%loadpy

Alias of %load

%loadpy has gained some flexibility and dropped the requirement of a .py extension. So it has been renamed simply into %load. You can look at %load’s docstring for more info.

%logoff

Temporarily stop logging.

You must have previously started logging.

%logon

Restart logging.

This function is for restarting logging which you’ve temporarily stopped with %logoff. For starting logging for the first time, you must use the %logstart function, which allows you to specify an optional log filename.

%logstart

Start logging anywhere in a session.

%logstart [-o|-r|-t] [log_name [log_mode]]

If no name is given, it defaults to a file named 'ipython_log.py' in your current directory, in 'rotate' mode (see below).

'%logstart name' saves to file 'name' in 'backup' mode. It saves your history up to that point and then continues logging.

%logstart takes a second optional parameter: logging mode. This can be one of (note that the modes are given unquoted):

append

Keep logging at the end of any existing file.

backup

Rename any existing file to name~ and start name.

global

Append to a single logfile in your home directory.

over

Overwrite any existing log.

rotate

Create rotating logs: name.1~, name.2~, etc.

Options:

- log also IPython's output. In this mode, all
 - o commands which generate an Out[NN] prompt are recorded to the logfile, right after their corresponding input line. The output lines are always prepended with a '#[Out]# ' marker, so that the log remains valid Python code.

Since this marker is always the same, filtering only the output from a log is very easy, using for example a simple awk call:

```
awk -F'#\[Out\]# ' '{if($2) {print $2}}'
ipython_log.py
```

- log 'raw' input. Normally, IPython's logs contain the processed input, so that user lines are logged in their final form, converted into valid Python. For example, %Exit is logged as _ip.magic("Exit"). If the -r flag is given, all input is logged exactly as typed, with no transformations applied.
- put timestamps before each input line logged
- t (these are put in comments).

%logstate

Print the status of the logging system.

%logstop

Fully stop logging and close log file.

In order to start logging again, a new %logstart call needs to be made, possibly (though not necessarily) with a new filename, mode and other options.

%lsmagic

List currently available magic functions.

%macro

Define a macro for future re-execution. It accepts ranges of history, filenames or string objects.

Usage:

%macro [options] name n1-n2 n3-n4 ... n5 .. n6 ...

Options:

-r: use 'raw' input. By default, the 'processed' history is used, so that magics are loaded in their transformed version to valid Python. If this option is given, the raw input as typed at the command line is used instead.

-q: quiet macro definition. By default, a tag line is printed to indicate the macro has been created, and then the contents of the macro are printed. If this option is given, then no printout is produced once the macro is created.

This will define a global variable called name which is a string made of joining the slices and lines you specify (n1,n2,... numbers above) from your input history into a single string. This variable acts like an automatic function which re-executes those lines as if you had typed them. You just type 'name' at the prompt and the code executes.

The syntax for indicating input ranges is described in %history.

Note: as a 'hidden' feature, you can also use traditional python slice notation, where N:M means numbers N through M-1.

For example, if your history contains (print using %hist -n):

```
44: x=1
45: y=3
46: z=x+y
47: print x
48: a=5
49: print 'x',x,'y',y
```

you can create a macro with lines 44 through 47 (included) and line 49 called my_macro with:

```
In [55]: %macro my_macro 44-47 49
```

Now, typing my_macro (without quotes) will re-execute all this code in one pass.

You don't need to give the line-numbers in order, and any given line number can appear multiple times. You can assemble macros with any lines from your input history in any order.

The macro is a simple object which holds its value in an attribute, but IPython's display system checks for macros and executes them as code instead of printing them when you type their name.

You can view a macro's contents by explicitly printing it with:

```
print macro_name
```

%magic

Print information about the magic function system.

Supported formats: -latex, -brief, -rest

%matplotlib

```
%matplotlib [gui]
```

Set up matplotlib to work interactively.

This function lets you activate matplotlib interactive support at any point during an IPython session. It does not import anything into the interactive namespace.

If you are using the inline matplotlib backend in the IPython Notebook you can set which figure formats are enabled using the following:

```
In [1]: from IPython.display import
        set_matplotlib_formats

In [2]: set_matplotlib_formats('pdf', 'svg')
```

The default for inline figures sets `bbox_inches` to 'tight'. This can cause discrepancies between the displayed image and the identical image created using `savefig`. This behavior can be disabled using the `%config` magic:

```
In [3]: %config InlineBackend.print_figure_kwargs =
        {'bbox_inches':None}
```

In addition, see the docstring of `IPython.display.set_matplotlib_formats` and `IPython.display.set_matplotlib_close` for more information on changing additional behaviors of the inline backend.

Examples

To enable the inline backend for usage with the IPython Notebook:

```
In [1]: %matplotlib inline
```

In this case, where the matplotlib default is TkAgg:


```
In [2]: %matplotlib
Using matplotlib backend: TkAgg
```

But you can explicitly request a different GUI backend:

```
In [3]: %matplotlib qt
```

positional arguments:

gui Name of the matplotlib backend to use ('gtk', 'gtk3', 'inline',

'nbgg', 'notebook', 'osx', 'qt', 'qt4', 'qt5', 'tk', 'wx').

If given, the corresponding matplotlib backend is used, otherwise it will be matplotlib's default (which you can set in your matplotlib config file).

%notebook

```
%notebook [-e] filename
```

Export and convert IPython notebooks.

This function can export the current IPython history to a notebook file. For example, to export the history to "foo.ipynb" do "%notebook -e foo.ipynb". To export the history to "foo.py" do "%notebook -e foo.py".

positional arguments:

filename Notebook name or filename

optional arguments:

-e, -- export Export IPython history as a notebook. The filename argument is used to specify the notebook name and format. For example a filename of notebook.ipynb will result in a notebook name of "notebook" and a format of "json". Likewise using a ".py" file extension will write the notebook as a Python script

%page

Pretty print the object and display it through a pager.

%page [options] OBJECT

If no object is given, use _ (last output).

Options:

-r: page str(object), don't pretty-print it.

%pastebin

Upload code to Github's Gist paste bin, returning the URL.

Usage:

%pastebin [-d "Custom description"] 1-7

The argument can be an input history range, a filename, or the name of a string or macro.

Options:

–d: Pass a custom description for the gist. The default will say

“Pasted from IPython”.

%pdb

Control the automatic calling of the pdb interactive debugger.

Call as ‘%pdb on’, ‘%pdb 1’, ‘%pdb off’ or ‘%pdb 0’. If called without argument it works as a toggle.

When an exception is triggered, IPython can optionally call the interactive pdb debugger after the traceback printout. %pdb toggles this feature on and off.

The initial state of this feature is set in your configuration file (the option is InteractiveShell.pdb).

If you want to just activate the debugger AFTER an exception has fired, without having to type ‘%pdb on’ and rerunning your code, you can use the %debug magic.

%pdef

Print the call signature for any callable object.

If the object is a class, print the constructor information.

Examples

```
In [3]: %pdef urllib.urlopen
urllib.urlopen(url, data=None, proxies=None)
```

%pdoc

Print the docstring for an object.

If the given object is a class, it will print both the class and the constructor docstrings.

%pfile

Print (or run through pager) the file where an object is defined.

The file opens at the line where the object definition begins. IPython will honor the environment variable PAGER if set, and otherwise will do its best to print the file in a convenient form.

If the given argument is not an object currently defined, IPython will try to interpret it as a filename (automatically adding a .py extension if needed). You can thus use %pfile as a syntax highlighting code viewer.

%pinfo

Provide detailed information about an object.

‘%pinfo object’ is just a synonym for object? or ?object.

%pinfo2

Provide extra detailed information about an object.

'%pinfo2 object' is just a synonym for object?? or ??object.

%popd

Change to directory popped off the top of the stack.

%pprint

Toggle pretty printing on/off.

%precision

Set floating point precision for pretty printing.

Can set either integer precision or a format string.

If numpy has been imported and precision is an int, numpy display precision will also be set, via `numpy.set_printoptions`.

If no argument is given, defaults will be restored.

Examples

```
In [1]: from math import pi

In [2]: %precision 3
Out[2]: u'%.3f'

In [3]: pi
Out[3]: 3.142

In [4]: %precision %i
Out[4]: u'%i'

In [5]: pi
Out[5]: 3

In [6]: %precision %e
Out[6]: u'%e'

In [7]: pi**10
Out[7]: 9.364805e+04

In [8]: %precision
Out[8]: u'%r'

In [9]: pi**10
Out[9]: 93648.047476082982
```

%profile

Print your currently active IPython profile.

See Also

prun : run code using the Python profiler

(`prun()`)

%prun

Run a statement through the python code profiler.

Usage, in line mode:

`%prun [options] statement`

Usage, in cell mode:

`%%prun [options] [statement] code... code...`

In cell mode, the additional code lines are appended to the (possibly empty) statement in the first line. Cell mode allows you to easily profile multiline blocks without having to put them in a separate function.

The given statement (which doesn't require quote marks) is run via the python profiler in a manner similar to the `profile.run()` function. Namespaces are internally managed to work correctly; `profile.run` cannot be used in IPython because it makes certain assumptions about namespaces which do not hold under IPython.

Options:

`-l <limit>` you can place restrictions on what or how much of the profile gets printed. The limit value can be:

- A string: only information for function names containing this string is printed.
- An integer: only these many lines are printed.
- A float (between 0 and 1): this fraction of the report is printed (for example, use a limit of 0.4 to see the topmost 40% only).

You can combine several limits with repeated use of the option. For example, `-l __init__ -l 5` will print only the topmost 5 lines of information about class constructors.

`-r` return the `pstats.Stats` object generated by the profiling. This object has all the information about the profile in it, and you can later use it for further analysis or in other functions.

`-s <key>` sort profile by given key. You can provide more than one key by using the option several times: `'-s key1 -s key2 -s key3...'`. The default sorting key is 'time'.

The following is copied verbatim from the profile documentation referenced below:

When more than one key is provided, additional keys are used as secondary criteria when there is equality in all keys selected before them.

Abbreviations can be used for any key names, as long as the abbreviation is unambiguous. The following are the keys currently defined:

Valid Arg	Meaning
"calls"	call count
"cumulative"	cumulative time
"file"	file name

Valid Arg	Meaning
"module"	file name
"pcalls"	primitive call count
"line"	line number
"name"	function name
"nfl"	name/file/line
"stdname"	standard name
"time"	internal time

Note that all sorts on statistics are in descending order (placing most time consuming items first), where as name, file, and line number searches are in ascending order (i.e., alphabetical). The subtle distinction between "nfl" and "stdname" is that the standard name is a sort of the name as printed, which means that the embedded line numbers get compared in an odd way. For example, lines 3, 20, and 40 would (if the file names were the same) appear in the string order "20" "3" and "40". In contrast, "nfl" does a numeric compare of the line numbers. In fact, `sort_stats("nfl")` is the same as `sort_stats("name", "file", "line")`.

- T save profile results as shown on screen to a text
<filename> file. The profile is still shown on screen.
- D save (via `dump_stats`) profile statistics to given
<filename> filename. This data is in a format understood by
the `pstats` module, and is generated by a call to
the `dump_stats()` method of profile objects. The
profile is still shown on screen.
- q suppress output to the pager. Best used with -T
and/or -D above.

If you want to run complete programs under the profiler's control, use `%run -p [prof_opts] filename.py [args to program]` where `prof_opts` contains profiler specific options as described here.

You can read the complete documentation for the profile module with:

```
In [1]: import profile; profile.help()
```

%psearch

Search for object in namespaces by wildcard.

`%psearch [options] PATTERN [OBJECT TYPE]`

Note: ? can be used as a synonym for %psearch, at the beginning or at the end: both `a*?` and `?a*` are equivalent to `%psearch a*`. Still, the rest of the command line must be

unchanged (options come first), so for example the following forms are equivalent

```
%psearch -i a* function -i a* function? ?-i a* function
```

Arguments:

PATTERN

where PATTERN is a string containing * as a wildcard similar to its use in a shell. The pattern is matched in all namespaces on the search path. By default objects starting with a single _ are not matched, many IPython generated objects have a single underscore. The default is case insensitive matching. Matching is also done on the attributes of objects and not only on the objects in a module.

[OBJECT TYPE]

Is the name of a python type from the types module. The name is given in lowercase without the ending type, ex. StringType is written string. By adding a type here only objects matching the given type are matched. Using all here makes the pattern match all types (this is the default).

Options:

-a: makes the pattern match even objects whose names start with a single underscore. These names are normally omitted from the search.

-i/-c: make the pattern case insensitive/sensitive. If neither of these options are given, the default is read from your configuration file, with the option InteractiveShell.wildcards_case_sensitive. If this option is not specified in your configuration file, IPython's internal default is to do a case sensitive search.

-e/-s NAMESPACE: exclude/search a given namespace. The pattern you specify can be searched in any of the following namespaces: 'builtin', 'user', 'user_global', 'internal', 'alias', where 'builtin' and 'user' are the search defaults. Note that you should not use quotes when specifying namespaces.

'Builtin' contains the python module builtin, 'user' contains all user data, 'alias' only contain the shell aliases and no python objects, 'internal' contains objects used by IPython. The 'user_global' namespace is only used by embedded IPython instances, and it contains module-level globals. You can add namespaces to the search with -s or exclude them with -e (these options can be given more than once).

Examples

```
%psearch a*          -> objects beginning with an a
%psearch -e builtin a* -> objects NOT in the builtin
space starting in a
%psearch a* function  -> all functions beginning with
an a
%psearch re.e*         -> objects beginning with an e
in module re
%psearch r*.e*         -> objects that start with e in
modules starting in r
%psearch r*.* string   -> all strings in modules
beginning with r
```

Case sensitive search:

```
%psearch -c a*      list all object beginning with
lower case a
```

Show objects beginning with a single _:

```
%psearch -a _*      list objects beginning with a
single underscore
```

%psource

Print (or run through pager) the source code for an object.

%pushd

Place the current dir on stack and change directory.

Usage:

```
%pushd ['dirname']
```

%pwd

Return the current working directory path.

Examples

```
In [9]: pwd
Out[9]: '/home/tsuser/sprint/ipython'
```

%pycat

Show a syntax-highlighted file through a pager.

This magic is similar to the cat utility, but it will assume the file to be Python source and will show it with syntax highlighting.

This magic command can either take a local filename, an url, an history range (see %history) or a macro as argument

```
%pycat myscript.py
%pypat 7-27
%pypat myMacro
%pypat http://www.example.com/myscript.py
```

%pylab

```
%pylab [--no-import-all] [gui]
```

Load numpy and matplotlib to work interactively.

This function lets you activate pylab (matplotlib, numpy and interactive support) at any point during an IPython session.

%pylab makes the following imports:

```
import numpy
import matplotlib
from matplotlib import pylab, mlab, pyplot
np = numpy
plt = pyplot

from IPython.display import display
from IPython.core.pylabtools import figsize, getfigs

from pylab import *
from numpy import *
```

If you pass `--no-import-all`, the last two `*` imports will be excluded.

See the `%matplotlib` magic for more details about activating matplotlib without affecting the interactive namespace.

positional arguments:

gui Name of the matplotlib backend to use ('gtk', 'gtk3', 'inline', 'nbagg', 'notebook', 'osx', 'qt', 'qt4', 'qt5', 'tk', 'wx'). If given, the corresponding matplotlib backend is used, otherwise it will be matplotlib's default (which you can set in your matplotlib config file).

optional arguments:

`--no-import-all`

Prevent IPython from performing `import *` into the interactive namespace. You can govern the default behavior of this flag with the `InteractiveShellApp.pylab_import_all` configurable.

%quickref

Show a quick reference sheet

%recall

Repeat a command, or get command to input line for editing.

%recall and %rep are equivalent.

- %recall (no arguments):

Place a string version of last computation result (stored in the special `'_'` variable) to the next input prompt. Allows you to create elaborate command lines without using copy-paste:

```
In[1]: l = ["hei", "vaan"]
In[2]: "".join(l)
Out[2]: heivaan
In[3]: %recall
In[4]: heivaan_ <== cursor blinking
```

%recall 45

Place history line 45 on the next input prompt. Use %hist to find out the number.

%recall 1-4

Combine the specified lines into one cell, and place it on the next input prompt. See %history for the slice syntax.

%recall foo+bar

If foo+bar can be evaluated in the user namespace, the result is placed at the next input prompt. Otherwise, the history is searched for lines which contain that substring, and the most recent one is placed at the next input prompt.

%rehashx

Update the alias table with all executable files in \$PATH.

This version explicitly checks that every entry in \$PATH is a file with execute access (os.X_OK), so it is much slower than %rehash.

Under Windows, it checks executability as a match against a '|'–separated string of extensions, stored in the IPython config variable win_exec_ext. This defaults to 'exe|com|bat'.

This function also resets the root module cache of module completer, used on slow filesystems.

%reload_ext

Reload an IPython extension by its module name.

%rerun

Re-run previous input

By default, you can specify ranges of input history to be repeated (as with %history). With no arguments, it will repeat the last line.

Options:

–l <n> : Repeat the last n lines of input, not including the current command.

–g foo : Repeat the most recent line which contains foo

%reset

Resets the namespace by removing all names defined by the user, if called without arguments, or by removing some types of objects, such as everything currently in IPython's In[] and Out[] containers (see the parameters for details).

Parameters

–f : force reset without asking for confirmation.

–s : 'Soft' reset: Only clears your namespace, leaving history intact.

References to objects may be kept. By default (without this option), we do a ‘hard’ reset, giving you a new session and removing all references to objects from the current session.

in : reset input history

out : reset output history

dhist : reset directory history

array : reset only variables that are NumPy arrays

See Also

reset_selective : invoked as %reset_selective

Examples

```
In [6]: a = 1

In [7]: a
Out[7]: 1

In [8]: 'a' in _ip.user_ns
Out[8]: True

In [9]: %reset -f

In [1]: 'a' in _ip.user_ns
Out[1]: False

In [2]: %reset -f in
Flushing input history

In [3]: %reset -f dhist in
Flushing directory history
Flushing input history
```

Notes

Calling this magic from clients that do not implement standard input, such as the ipython notebook interface, will reset the namespace without confirmation.

%reset_selective

Resets the namespace by removing names defined by the user.

Input/Output history are left around in case you need them.

%reset_selective [-f] regex

No action is taken if regex is not included

Options

-f : force reset without asking for confirmation.

See Also

reset : invoked as %reset

Examples

We first fully reset the namespace so your output looks identical to this example for pedagogical reasons; in practice you do not need a full reset:

```
In [1]: %reset -f
```

Now, with a clean namespace we can make a few variables and use `%reset_selective` to only delete names that match our regexp:

```
In [2]: a=1; b=2; c=3; b1m=4; b2m=5; b3m=6; b4m=7;
b2s=8

In [3]: who_ls
Out[3]: ['a', 'b', 'b1m', 'b2m', 'b2s', 'b3m', 'b4m',
'c']

In [4]: %reset_selective -f b[2-3]m

In [5]: who_ls
Out[5]: ['a', 'b', 'b1m', 'b2s', 'b4m', 'c']

In [6]: %reset_selective -f d

In [7]: who_ls
Out[7]: ['a', 'b', 'b1m', 'b2s', 'b4m', 'c']

In [8]: %reset_selective -f c

In [9]: who_ls
Out[9]: ['a', 'b', 'b1m', 'b2s', 'b4m']

In [10]: %reset_selective -f b

In [11]: who_ls
Out[11]: ['a']
```

Notes

Calling this magic from clients that do not implement standard input, such as the ipython notebook interface, will reset the namespace without confirmation.

`%run`

Run the named file inside IPython as a program.

Usage:

```
%run [-n -i -e -G]
      [( -t [-N<N>] | -d [-b<N>] | -p [profile options]
) ]
      ( -m mod | file ) [args]
```

Parameters after the filename are passed as command-line arguments to the program (put in `sys.argv`). Then, control returns to IPython's prompt.

This is similar to running at a system prompt `python file args`, but with the advantage of giving you IPython's tracebacks, and of loading all variables into your interactive namespace for further use (unless `-p` is used, see below).

The file is executed in a namespace initially consisting only of `__name__=='__main__'` and `sys.argv` constructed as indicated. It thus sees its environment as if it were being run as a stand-alone program (except for sharing global objects such as previously imported modules). But after execution, the IPython interactive namespace gets updated with all variables defined in

the program (except for `__name__` and `sys.argv`). This allows for very convenient loading of code for interactive work, while giving each program a 'clean sheet' to run in.

Arguments are expanded using shell-like glob match. Patterns `'*'`, `'?'`, `'[seq]'` and `'[!seq]'` can be used. Additionally, tilde `'~'` will be expanded into user's home directory. Unlike real shells, quotation does not suppress expansions. Use *two* back slashes (e.g. `*`) to suppress expansions. To completely disable these expansions, you can use `-G` flag.

Options:

- `__name__` is NOT set to `'__main__'`, but to the running file's name without extension (as python does under `import`). This allows running scripts and reloading the definitions in them without calling code protected by an `if __name__ == "__main__"` clause.
- run the file in IPython's namespace instead of an empty one. This is useful if you are experimenting with code written in a text editor which depends on variables defined interactively.
- ignore `sys.exit()` calls or `SystemExit` exceptions in the script being run. This is particularly useful if IPython is being used to run unittests, which always exit with a `sys.exit()` call. In such cases you are interested in the output of the test results, not in seeing a traceback of the unittest module.
- print timing information at the end of the run. IPython will give you an estimated CPU time consumption for your script, which under Unix uses the `resource` module to avoid the wraparound problems of `time.clock()`. Under Unix, an estimate of time spent on system tasks is also given (for Windows platforms this is reported as 0.0).

If `-t` is given, an additional `-N<N>` option can be given, where `<N>` must be an integer indicating how many times you want the script to run. The final timing report will include total and per run results.

For example (testing the script `uniq_stable.py`):

```
In [1]: run -t uniq_stable

IPython CPU timings (estimated):
User   :    0.19597 s.
System:         0.0 s.

In [2]: run -t -N5 uniq_stable

IPython CPU timings (estimated):
Total runs performed: 5
Times :      Total      Per run
User   :    0.910862 s,   0.1821724 s.
System:         0.0 s,         0.0 s.
```

- run your program under the control of `pdb`, the Python debugger. This allows you to execute your program step by

step, watch variables, etc. Internally, what IPython does is similar to calling:

```
pdb.run('execfile("YOURFILENAME")')
```

with a breakpoint set on line 1 of your file. You can change the line number for this automatic breakpoint to be <N> by using the -bN option (where N must be an integer). For example:

```
%run -d -b40 myscript
```

will set the first breakpoint at line 40 in myscript.py. Note that the first breakpoint must be set on a line which actually does something (not a comment or docstring) for it to stop execution.

Or you can specify a breakpoint in a different file:

```
%run -d -b myotherfile.py:20 myscript
```

When the pdb debugger starts, you will see a (Pdb) prompt. You must first enter 'c' (without quotes) to start execution up to the first breakpoint.

Entering 'help' gives information about the use of the debugger. You can easily see pdb's full documentation with "import pdb;pdb.help()" at a prompt.

- run program under the control of the Python profiler module p (which prints a detailed report of execution times, function calls, etc).

You can pass other options after -p which affect the behavior of the profiler itself. See the docs for %prun for details.

In this mode, the program's variables do NOT propagate back to the IPython interactive namespace (because they remain in the namespace where the profiler executes them).

Internally this triggers a call to %prun, see its documentation for details on the options available specifically for profiling.

There is one special usage for which the text above doesn't apply: if the filename ends with .ipy[nb], the file is run as ipython script, just as if the commands were written on IPython prompt.

- specify module name to load instead of script path. Similar to the -m option for the python interpreter. Use this option last if you want to combine with other %run options. Unlike the python interpreter only source modules are allowed no .pyc or .pyo files. For example:

```
%run -m example
```

will run the example module.

- disable shell-like glob expansion of arguments.

G

%save

Save a set of lines or a macro to a given filename.

Usage:

%save [options] filename n1-n2 n3-n4 ... n5 .. n6 ...

Options:

-r: use 'raw' input. By default, the 'processed' history is used, so that magics are loaded in their transformed version to valid Python. If this option is given, the raw input as typed as the command line is used instead.

-f: force overwrite. If file exists, %save will prompt for overwrite unless -f is given.

-a: append to the file instead of overwriting it.

This function uses the same syntax as %history for input ranges, then saves the lines to the filename you specify.

It adds a '.py' extension to the file if you don't do so yourself, and it asks for confirmation before overwriting existing files.

If -r option is used, the default extension is .ipy.

%sc

Shell capture – run shell command and capture output (DEPRECATED use !).

DEPRECATED. Suboptimal, retained for backwards compatibility.

You should use the form 'var = !command' instead. Example:

"%sc -l myfiles = ls ~" should now be written as

"myfiles = !ls ~"

myfiles.s, myfiles.l and myfiles.n still apply as documented below.

%sc [options] varname=command

IPython will run the given command using `commands.getoutput()`, and will then update the user's interactive namespace with a variable called `varname`, containing the value of the call. Your command can contain shell wildcards, pipes, etc.

The '=' sign in the syntax is mandatory, and the variable name you supply must follow Python's standard conventions for valid names.

(A special format without variable name exists for internal use)

Options:

- l: list output. Split the output on newlines into a list before assigning it to the given variable. By default the output is stored as a single string.
- v: verbose. Print the contents of the variable.

In most cases you should not need to split as a list, because the returned value is a special type of string which can automatically provide its contents either as a list (split on newlines) or as a space-separated string. These are convenient, respectively, either for sequential processing or to be passed to a shell command.

For example:

```
# Capture into variable a
In [1]: sc a=ls *py

# a is a string with embedded newlines
In [2]: a
Out[2]: 'setup.py\nwin32_manual_post_install.py'

# which can be seen as a list:
In [3]: a.l
Out[3]: ['setup.py', 'win32_manual_post_install.py']

# or as a whitespace-separated string:
In [4]: a.s
Out[4]: 'setup.py win32_manual_post_install.py'

# a.s is useful to pass as a single command line:
In [5]: !wc -l $a.s
      146 setup.py
      130 win32_manual_post_install.py
      276 total

# while the list form is useful to loop over:
In [6]: for f in a.l:
...:     !wc -l $f
...:
      146 setup.py
      130 win32_manual_post_install.py
```

Similarly, the lists returned by the -l option are also special, in the sense that you can equally invoke the .s attribute on them to automatically get a whitespace-separated string from their contents:

```
In [7]: sc -l b=ls *py

In [8]: b
Out[8]: ['setup.py', 'win32_manual_post_install.py']

In [9]: b.s
Out[9]: 'setup.py win32_manual_post_install.py'
```

In summary, both the lists and strings used for output capture have the following special attributes:

```
.l (or .list) : value as list.
.n (or .nlstr): value as newline-separated string.
.s (or .spstr): value as space-separated string.
```

%set_env

Set environment variables. Assumptions are that either “val” is a name in the user namespace, or val is something that evaluates to a string.

Usage:

`%set_env var val`: set value for var
`%set_env var=val`: set value for var
`%set_env var=$val`: set value for var, using python expansion if possible

%sx

Shell execute – run shell command and capture output (!! is short-hand).

`%sx command`

IPython will run the given command using `commands.getoutput()`, and return the result formatted as a list (split on ‘\n’). Since the output is `_returned_`, it will be stored in ipython’s regular output cache `Out[N]` and in the ‘_N’ automatic variables.

Notes:

1) If an input line begins with ‘!!’, then %sx is automatically invoked. That is, while:

```
!!ls
```

causes ipython to simply issue `system('ls')`, typing:

```
!!ls
```

is a shorthand equivalent to:

```
%sx ls
```

2) %sx differs from %sc in that %sx automatically splits into a list, like ‘%sc -l’. The reason for this is to make it as easy as possible to process line-oriented shell output via further python commands. %sc is meant to provide much finer control, but requires more typing.

3) Just like %sc -l, this is a list with special attributes:

```
.l (or .list) : value as list.  
.n (or .nlstr): value as newline-separated string.  
.s (or .spstr): value as whitespace-separated string.
```

This is very useful when trying to use such lists as arguments to system commands.

%system

Shell execute – run shell command and capture output (!! is short-hand).

`%sx command`

IPython will run the given command using `commands.getoutput()`, and return the result formatted as a list (split on 'n'). Since the output is `_returned_`, it will be stored in ipython's regular output cache `Out[N]` and in the `'_N'` automatic variables.

Notes:

1) If an input line begins with `!!`, then `%sx` is automatically invoked. That is, while:

```
!ls
```

causes ipython to simply issue `system('ls')`, typing:

```
!!ls
```

is a shorthand equivalent to:

```
%sx ls
```

2) `%sx` differs from `%sc` in that `%sx` automatically splits into a list, like `%sc -l`. The reason for this is to make it as easy as possible to process line-oriented shell output via further python commands. `%sc` is meant to provide much finer control, but requires more typing.

3) Just like `%sc -l`, this is a list with special attributes:

```
.l (or .list) : value as list.  
.n (or .nlstr): value as newline-separated string.  
.s (or .spstr): value as whitespace-separated string.
```

This is very useful when trying to use such lists as arguments to system commands.

%tb

Print the last traceback with the currently active exception mode.

See `%xmode` for changing exception reporting modes.

%time

Time execution of a Python statement or expression.

The CPU and wall clock times are printed, and the value of the expression (if any) is returned. Note that under Win32, system time is always reported as 0, since it can not be measured.

This function can be used both as a line and cell magic:

- In line mode you can time a single-line statement (though multiple ones can be chained with using semicolons).
- In cell mode, you can time the cell body (a directly following statement raises an error).

This function provides very basic timing functionality. Use the `timeit` magic for more control over the measurement.

Examples

```
In [1]: %time 2**128
CPU times: user 0.00 s, sys: 0.00 s, total: 0.00 s
Wall time: 0.00
Out[1]: 340282366920938463463374607431768211456L
```

```
In [2]: n = 1000000
```

```
In [3]: %time sum(range(n))
CPU times: user 1.20 s, sys: 0.05 s, total: 1.25 s
Wall time: 1.37
Out[3]: 499999500000L
```

```
In [4]: %time print 'hello world'
hello world
CPU times: user 0.00 s, sys: 0.00 s, total: 0.00 s
Wall time: 0.00
```

Note that the time needed by Python to compile the given expression will be reported if it is more than 0.1s. In this example, the actual exponentiation is done by Python at compilation time, so while the expression can take a noticeable amount of time to compute, that time is purely due to the compilation:

```
In [5]: %time 3**9999;
CPU times: user 0.00 s, sys: 0.00 s, total: 0.00 s
Wall time: 0.00 s
```

```
In [6]: %time 3**999999;
CPU times: user 0.00 s, sys: 0.00 s, total: 0.00 s
Wall time: 0.00 s
Compiler : 0.78 s
```

%timeit

Time execution of a Python statement or expression

Usage, in line mode:

```
%timeit [-n<N> -r<R> [-t|-c] -q -p<P> -o] statement
```

or in cell mode:

```
%%timeit [-n<N> -r<R> [-t|-c] -q -p<P> -o] setup_code
code code...
```

Time execution of a Python statement or expression using the timeit module. This function can be used both as a line and cell magic:

- In line mode you can time a single-line statement (though multiple ones can be chained with using semicolons).
- In cell mode, the statement in the first line is used as setup code (executed but not timed) and the body of the cell is timed. The cell body has access to any variables created in the setup code.

Options: -n<N>: execute the given statement <N> times in a loop. If this value is not given, a fitting value is chosen.

-r<R>: repeat the loop iteration <R> times and take the best result. Default: 3

-t: use time.time to measure the time, which is the default on Unix. This function measures wall time.

-c: use time.clock to measure the time, which is the default on Windows and measures wall time. On Unix, resource.getrusage is used instead and returns the CPU user time.

-p<P>: use a precision of <P> digits to display the timing result. Default: 3

-q: Quiet, do not print result.

-o: return a TimeitResult that can be stored in a variable to inspect
the result in more details.

Examples

```
In [1]: %timeit pass
10000000 loops, best of 3: 53.3 ns per loop

In [2]: u = None

In [3]: %timeit u is None
10000000 loops, best of 3: 184 ns per loop

In [4]: %timeit -r 4 u == None
1000000 loops, best of 4: 242 ns per loop

In [5]: import time

In [6]: %timeit -n1 time.sleep(2)
1 loops, best of 3: 2 s per loop
```

The times reported by %timeit will be slightly higher than those reported by the timeit.py script when variables are accessed. This is due to the fact that %timeit executes the statement in the namespace of the shell, compared with timeit.py, which uses a single setup statement to import function or create variables. Generally, the bias does not matter as long as results from timeit.py are not mixed with those from %timeit.

%unalias

Remove an alias

%unload_ext

Unload an IPython extension by its module name.

Not all extensions can be unloaded, only those which define an unload_ipython_extension function.

%who

Print all interactive variables, with some minimal formatting.

If any arguments are given, only variables whose type matches one of these are printed. For example:

```
%who function str
```

will only list functions and strings, excluding all other types of variables. To find the proper type names, simply use `type(var)` at a command line to see how python prints type names. For example:

```
In [1]: type('hello')\nOut[1]: <type 'str'>
```

indicates that the type name for strings is 'str'.

`%who` always excludes executed names loaded through your configuration file and things which are internal to IPython.

This is deliberate, as typically you may load many modules and the purpose of `%who` is to show you only what you've manually defined.

Examples

Define two variables and list them with `who`:

```
In [1]: alpha = 123\n\nIn [2]: beta = 'test'\n\nIn [3]: %who\nalpha    beta\n\nIn [4]: %who int\nalpha\n\nIn [5]: %who str\nbeta
```

`%who_ls`

Return a sorted list of all interactive variables.

If arguments are given, only variables of types matching these arguments are returned.

Examples

Define two variables and list them with `who_ls`:

```
In [1]: alpha = 123\n\nIn [2]: beta = 'test'\n\nIn [3]: %who_ls\nOut[3]: ['alpha', 'beta']\n\nIn [4]: %who_ls int\nOut[4]: ['alpha']\n\nIn [5]: %who_ls str\nOut[5]: ['beta']
```

`%whos`

Like `%who`, but gives some extra information about each variable.

The same type filtering of `%who` can be applied here.

For all variables, the type is printed. Additionally it prints:

- For {},[],(): their length.
- For numpy arrays, a summary with shape, number of elements, typecode and size in memory.
- Everything else: a string representation, snipping their middle if too long.

Examples

Define two variables and list them with whos:

```
In [1]: alpha = 123

In [2]: beta = 'test'

In [3]: %whos
Variable    Type      Data/Info
alpha      int       123
beta       str       test
```

%xdel

Delete a variable, trying to clear it from anywhere that IPython's machinery has references to it. By default, this uses the identity of the named object in the user namespace to remove references held under other names. The object is also removed from the output history.

Options

-n : Delete the specified name from all namespaces, without checking their identity.

%xmode

Switch modes for the exception handlers.

Valid modes: Plain, Context and Verbose.

If called without arguments, acts as a toggle.

Cell magics

%%bash

%%bash script magic

Run cells with bash in a subprocess.

This is a shortcut for %script bash

%%capture

```
%capture [--no-stderr] [--no-stdout] [--no-display]
[output]
```

run the cell, capturing stdout, stderr, and IPython's rich display() calls.

positional arguments:

output The name of the variable in which to store output. This is a

utils.io.CapturedIO object with stdout/err attributes for the text of the captured output. CapturedOutput also has a show() method for displaying the output, and __call__ as well, so you can use that to quickly display the output. If unspecified, captured output is discarded.

optional arguments:

- no-stderr Don't capture stderr.
- no-stdout Don't capture stdout.
- no-display Don't capture IPython's rich display.

%%html

Render the cell as a block of HTML

%%javascript

Run the cell block of Javascript code

%%latex

Render the cell as a block of latex

%%perl

%%perl script magic

Run cells with perl in a subprocess.

This is a shortcut for %%script perl

%%pypy

%%pypy script magic

Run cells with pypy in a subprocess.

This is a shortcut for %%script pypy

%%python

%%python script magic

Run cells with python in a subprocess.

This is a shortcut for %%script python

%%python2

%%python2 script magic

Run cells with python2 in a subprocess.

This is a shortcut for %%script python2

%%python3

%%python3 script magic

Run cells with python3 in a subprocess.

This is a shortcut for %%script python3

%%ruby

%%ruby script magic

Run cells with ruby in a subprocess.

This is a shortcut for `%%script ruby`

`%%script`

```
%shebang [--proc PROC] [--bg] [--err ERR] [--out OUT]
```

Run a cell via a shell command

The `%%script` line is like the `#!` line of script, specifying a program (bash, perl, ruby, etc.) with which to run.

The rest of the cell is run by that program.

Examples

```
In [1]: %%script bash
...: for i in 1 2 3; do
...:   echo $i
...: done
1
2
3
```

optional arguments:

- The variable in which to store Popen instance. This is
proc used only when `-bg` option is given.
PROC
- bg Whether to run the script in the background. If
given, the only way to see the output of the
command is with `-out/err`.
- The variable in which to store stderr from the script.
err If the script is backgrounded, this will be the stderr
ERR *pipe*, instead of the stderr text itself.
- The variable in which to store stdout from the script.
out If the script is backgrounded, this will be the stdout
OUT *pipe*, instead of the stderr text itself.

`%%sh`

`%%sh` script magic

Run cells with sh in a subprocess.

This is a shortcut for `%%script sh`

`%%svg`

Render the cell as an SVG literal

`%%writefile`

```
%writefile [-a] filename
```

Write the contents of the cell to a file.

The file will be overwritten unless the `-a` (`-append`) flag is specified.

positional arguments:

filename file to write

optional arguments:

`-a, --append` Append contents of the cell to an existing file. The file will be created if it does not exist.