





Dash Python > Partial Property Updates

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Partial Property Updates

New in Dash 2.9. To get the most out of this page, make sure you've read about Basic Callbacks in the Dash

Most of the callback examples we've seen in earlier chapters updated an entire property when the callback ran. In cases where we only want to update a small part of a property, for example, a title on a graph, this is inefficient. It means all the property's data (the complete figure in this case) is sent back across the network, even though most of the data hasn't changed. Improve your app performance by making partial property updates when a full update is not required.

The Dash Patch Class

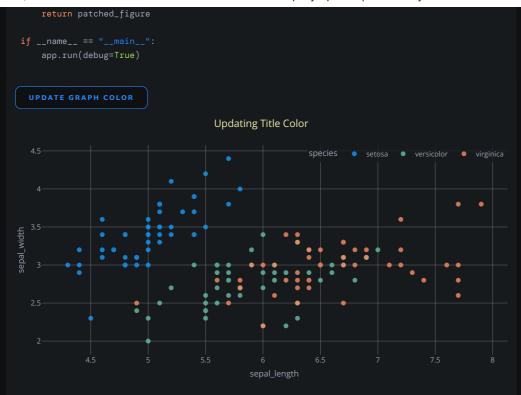
Partial property updates use the Patch class, which you can import with from dash import Patch. Instantiate a Patch object in a callback to make partial updates to a callback output. This Patch object defines the changes that should be made to the property. Possible changes include assigning a new value, merging a dictionary, and appending an item to a list. The operations are defined by the Patch object within your callback but executed in the browser client in Dash's frontend.

Updating Title Color with a Partial Update

Here's an example of using a Patch to update only the graph's title font color:

```
Ф
import random
df = px.data.iris()
       html.Button("Update Graph Color", id="update-color-button-2"),
       dcc.Graph(figure=fig, id="my-fig"),
@callback(Output("my-fig", "figure"), Input("update-color-button-2", "n_clicks"))
def my_callback(n_clicks):
   patched_figure = Patch()
   patched_figure["layout"]["title"]["font"]["color"] = new_color
```





Let's take a closer look at what's happening here:

1. First, we import the Patch class:

```
from dash import Patch
```

2. We define our callback inputs and outputs in the same way as with a standard callback:

```
@callback(
    Output('my-fig', 'figure'),
    Input('update-color-button-2', 'n_clicks')
)
```

3. In our callback, we create a Patch object. Here, we call it patched_figure, but the naming is arbitrary. This patched_figure will define the changes that Dash should make to the figure.

```
patched_figure = Patch()
```

4. Then, we define an assignment change, telling Dash that we want this part of the figure to be the value in new_color.

```
patched_figure['layout']['title']['font']['color'] = new_color
```

5. We return our patched_figure:

```
return patched_figure
```

6. Once the callback returns the Patch object, in the frontend, Dash assigns the value in new_color to ['layout']['title']['font']['color'] on the figure.

In this example, we updated the **title's font color** by instructing Dash to update <code>['layout']['title']['font']</code> on the figure. For more details on how to explore the property attributes of a Graph Objects Figure see the "Exploring the Structure of Properties" section below.

▶ Here's how you would update the title font color without partial property updates



Performance

Let's look at the difference when doing a partial update instead of a full update. The graph in our earlier example uses a small data set of 150 rows. Here the size difference is relatively small -9.5 kB for the full update vs 380 B for the partial update.

Full Output Size

Name	Initiator	Size
aatamnago, woop,oaom	<u> </u>	()
dash-update-component	dash_renderer.v2_8_0m1676304142.min.js:2	9.5 kB

Patch Output Size

Name	Initiator	Size
	<u> </u>	V
dash-update-component	dash renderer.v2 8 0m1676304142.min.js:2	380 B

However, in a graph with a much larger data set, the size of a full output increases, whereas the size of the response for our partial update to the title stays the same. Here's the response size of the same example, but using a data set of 45000 rows in the graph. The full output size is 368 kB, while the partial update stays the same at 380 B.

Full Output Size

Name	Initiator	Size
aatammago, moopjoacm	<u>wayma prampara</u>	()
dash-update-component	dash_renderer.v2_8_0m1676304142.min.js:2	368 kB

Patch Output Size

Name	Initiator	Size
	adon_rondoronte_o_onnrondoon_ranningon_	0.00
dash-update-component	dash renderer.v2 8 0m1676304142.min.js:2	380 B

Partial Update Methods

There are multiple ways you can use Patch objects to make partial updates.

Although all the methods outlined below are always available when using a Patch object, they won't work with every property or attribute type. For, example, prepend, extend, and append work with lists while update works with dictionaries. See the Exploring the Structure of Properties section below for more details on understanding the property you are updating.

Assign

In the example above, we use assignment with the Patch object. We assign new_color like this:

```
patched_figure['layout']['title']['font']['color'] = new_color
```

You can also use dot notation. So you could assign new_color like this:

patched_figure.layout.title.font.color = new_color

To use dot notation to assign to a property attribute, the attribute name must be a valid Python identifier.

Examples of Assigning New Data

In this example, we update the values on the y-axis based on the dropdown selection.

from dash import Dash, html, dcc, Input, Output, Patch, callback
import plotly.express as px



Ð

```
app = Dash()
# Get data
          dcc.Graph(figure=fig, id="new-data-graph"),
@callback(Output("new-data-graph", "figure"), Input("candidate-select", "value"))
def update_figure(value):
     patched_fig = Patch()
     patched_fig["data"][0]["y"] = df[value].values
     return patched_fig
     app.run(debug=True)
Joly
                                                                                                   142-Norman McLaren

142-Norman McLaren

142-Norman McLaren

142-Norman McLaren
         10<sub>1-8</sub>0<sub>18-</sub>0<sub>1</sub>-3ant-arrited
- sant-bacques
Liesse
                                                                                             141-Côte-de-Liesse
```

Here's another example. Here we update the marker color based on the selected values in a dropdown. In this example, we check which values the user has selected and then return a list with the color of those data points as red and any other data points as blue.



```
def update_markers(countries):
    updated_markers = [
        "red" if i in country_count else "blue" for i in range(len(df) + 1)
     return patched_figure
     app.run(debug=True)
Updating Point Colors
Select...
   30k
```

Append

Patch has an append method you can use to add to property attributes that are lists. It works like appending to a list in Python, adding the item to the end. It is useful for adding to a component's children and for adding data to axes on a figure.

Example with X and Y Axes of a Graph

By appending to the X and Y data arrays of a graph, we can add additional data points. In this example, we start with a graph with no data and append to both the X and Y axes each time the button is selected.



```
dcc.Graph(figure=fig, id="append-example-graph"),
def add_data_to_fig(n_clicks):
    patched_figure = Patch()
    patched_figure["data"][0]["x"].append(current_time)
    patched_figure["data"][0]["y"].append(random_value)
    return patched_figure
    app.run(debug=True)
```

Example of Append with Pattern-Matching Callbacks

With **Pattern-Matching Callbacks**, we can add content dynamically to our layout. Often, we'll want to add to one component's children. In this example, the children of 'dropdown-container-2' starts out as an empty list. Each time the display_dropdowns callback runs, a new dropdown is appended to the children of 'dropdown-container-2' using a Patch object.

```
from dash import Dash, dcc, html, Input, Output, ALL, Patch, callback

app = Dash(__name__, suppress_callback_exceptions=True)

app.layout = html.Div(
    [
            html.Button("Add Filter", id="add-filter-2", n_clicks=0),
            html.Div(id="dropdown-container-2", children=[]),
            html.Div(id="dropdown-container-output-2"),
        ]
)

@callback(
      Output("dropdown-container-2", "children"),
        Input("add-filter-2", "n_clicks"),
)

def display_dropdowns(n_clicks):
    patched_children = Patch()
        new_dropdown = dcc.Dropdown(
```

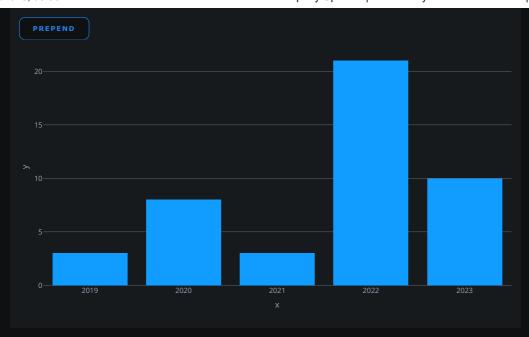


For additional examples, see the **Pattern-Matching Callbacks** page.

Prepend

The prepend method adds the provided value to the start of the list. Here we prepend to both the X and Y axes.



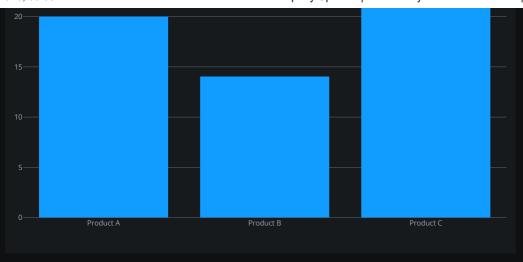


Extend

The extend method works like extending a list in Python. Use it by providing an iterable whose values will be added to the end of the list.

UPDATE PRODUCTS





Maximum Number of Values

Each time you extend a list, it adds to the existing data. It's not currently possible to limit the maximum number of values in the list. This is something we hope to support in the future. To do this currently, you'll need to use assignment and replace the entire list with a new one with the exact number of values you want.

Example with a Dataframe

Here's another example of using extend. In this example, we add rows from a dataframe to a Datatable's data on each click (after 10 clicks we stop updating the table).

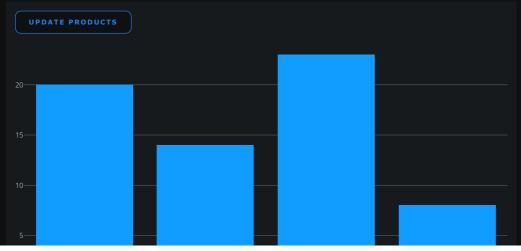
ADD ROWS					
sepal_length	sepal_width	petal_length	petal_width	species	species_id
5.1	3.5	1.4	0.2	setosa	
4.9	3	1.4	0.2	setosa	



4.7 3.2 1.3 0.2 setosa 1 4.6 3.1 1.5 0.2 setosa 1 5 3.6 1.4 0.2 setosa 1 5.4 3.9 1.7 0.4 setosa 1 4.6 3.4 1.4 0.3 setosa 1 5 3.4 1.5 0.2 setosa 1 4.4 2.9 1.4 0.2 setosa 1 4.9 3.1 1.5 0.1 setosa 1 ** * 1 / 15 *						
5 3.6 1.4 0.2 setosa 1 5.4 3.9 1.7 0.4 setosa 1 4.6 3.4 1.4 0.3 setosa 1 5 3.4 1.5 0.2 setosa 1 4.4 2.9 1.4 0.2 setosa 1 4.9 3.1 1.5 0.1 setosa 1	4.7	3.2	1.3	0.2	setosa	1
5.4 3.9 1.7 0.4 setosa 1 4.6 3.4 1.4 0.3 setosa 1 5 3.4 1.5 0.2 setosa 1 4.4 2.9 1.4 0.2 setosa 1 4.9 3.1 1.5 0.1 setosa 1	4.6	3.1	1.5	0.2	setosa	1
4.6 3.4 1.4 0.3 setosa 1 5 3.4 1.5 0.2 setosa 1 4.4 2.9 1.4 0.2 setosa 1 4.9 3.1 1.5 0.1 setosa 1	5	3.6	1.4	0.2	setosa	1
5 3.4 1.5 0.2 setosa 1 4.4 2.9 1.4 0.2 setosa 1 4.9 3.1 1.5 0.1 setosa 1	5.4	3.9	1.7	0.4	setosa	1
4.4 2.9 1.4 0.2 setosa 1 4.9 3.1 1.5 0.1 setosa 1	4.6	3.4	1.4	0.3	setosa	1
4.9 3.1 1.5 0.1 setosa 1	5	3.4	1.5	0.2	setosa	1
	4.4	2.9	1.4	0.2	setosa	1
« < <u>1</u> / 15 > »	4.9	3.1	1.5	0.1	setosa	1
					« « 1	/ 15 > »

Insert

Use insert to add to a list at a specific index. The insert method takes two arguments: the index to insert at and the data to add. In this example, we add "Product B" after "Product A" by inserting its X and Y data at index 1.

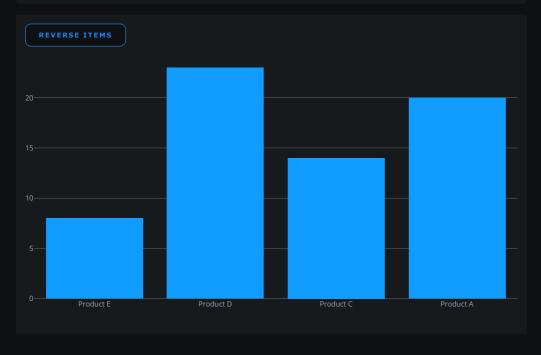






Reverse

Using reverse you can reverse the order of items in a list. Here, we reverse the data on the X and Y axes of the figure.

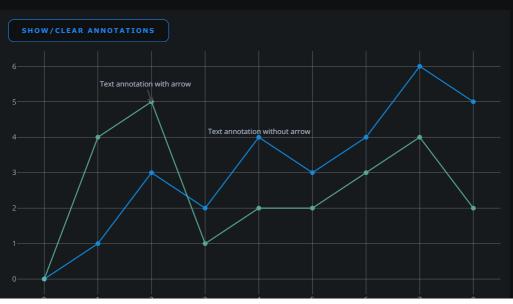


Clear

Use clear to remove all items in a list. **annotations** is a list of dictionaries on the graph's layout. In this example, we clear the list when the button is selected. The next time the button is selected we add the



```
annotations back.
                                                                                               Ð
  import plotly.graph_objects as go
          go.Scatter(x=[0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8], y=[0, 1, 3, 2, 4, 3, 4, 6, 5]),
                      arrowhead=1,
                      showarrow=False,
                      yshift=10,
          dcc.Graph(id="clear-example", figure=fig),
  @callback(Output("clear-example", "figure"), Input("clear-button", "n_clicks"))
  def add_data_to_fig(n_clicks):
      patched_figure = Patch()
```





Update

For a property attribute that is a dictionary, you can use the update method to merge another dictionary into it. In this example, the RadioItems component's options are created as a dictionary. The initial dictionary has three key-value pairs, and when the button is selected, three additional key-value pairs are merged into it.

Note: update performs a single-level merge, not a deep merge.

```
Ð
from dash import Dash, dcc, html, Input, Output, Patch, callback
app.layout = html.Div(
def update_output(value):
@callback(
    prevent_initial_call=True,
def update_output(n_clicks):
    app.run(debug=True)
  New York City
You have selected Montreal
```

Delete

You can also make partial updates that delete parts of a property's data. In this example, we delete the first row of the table by deleting the element in data at index 0:

```
from dash import Dash, dash_table, html, Input, Output, Patch, callback
import pandas as pd

df = pd.read_csv("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/plotly/datasets/master/solar.csv")
```



```
dash_table.DataTable(
@callback(
def delete_records(n_clicks):
    del patched_table[0]
    return patched_table
    app.run(debug=True)
        State Number of Solar Plants Installed Capacity (MW) Average MW Per Plant Generation (GWh)
  New Mexico
North Carolina
    New York
```

Remove

You can also make partial updates that remove parts of a property's data that matches a given value. In this example, when the button is selected, we remove all items in the Checklist that are in the list canandian_cities.



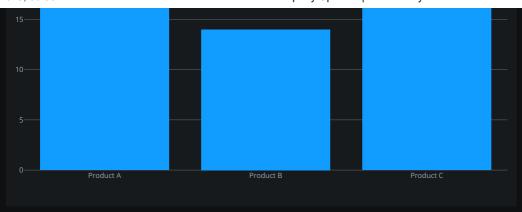
```
else:
    canadian_cities = ["Montreal", "Toronto", "Vancouver"]
    patched_list = Patch()
    for x in canadian_cities:
        patched_list.remove(x)
    return patched_list

if __name__ == "__main__":
    app.run(debug=True)

REMOVE ITEMS
Boston
Montreal
New York
Toronto
San Francisco
Vancouver
```

Math Operations

Patch also supports math operations, for example, to increment, decrement, multiply, and divide values. In this example, we increment the value on the y-axis when a bar is selected.



Method Summary

• There are multiple ways you can use Patch objects to make partial updates:

```
Lists: prepend, extend, append, reverse, finsert, clear, remove, and assignment using =

Dictionaries: update, and assignment using =

Strings: assignment using =

Numbers: assignment using =
```

• **The location of the update can be specified with square bracket or dot notation:** For example, both of these are valid:

```
patched_figure = Patch()
patched_figure['layout']['title'] = 'New Title'

patched_figure = Patch()
patched_figure.layout.title = 'New Title'
```

o But dot notation does not work for list indices, as it can only be used with valid Python identifiers.

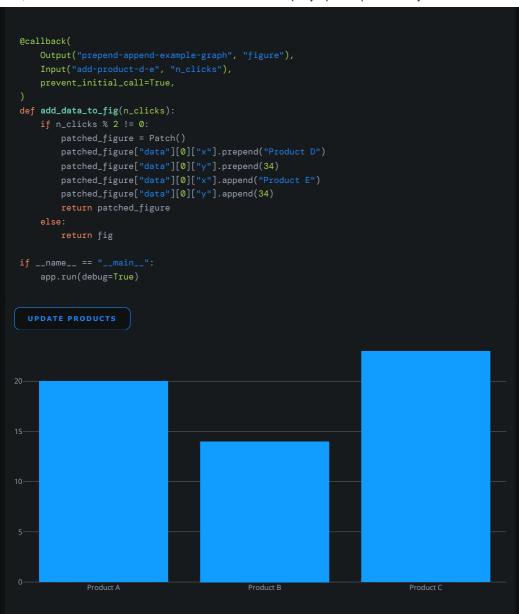
```
patched_figure = Patch()
patched_figure['data'][0]['y'] = [1, 2, 3]
```

Replacing patched_figure['data'][0]['y'] = [1, 2, 3] with patched_figure.data.0.y = [1, $\overline{2}$, $\overline{3}$] in the above example would not work.

Combining Patch Methods

You can combine the different Patch methods mentioned above. In this example, we use prepend and append with the same object to update the same attribute. The operations are applied in the order that they are defined in the callback.





Using Patches on Multiple Outputs

You can use multiple Patch objects within a callback. In this example, we create one Patch object, patched_figure to append to the figure data, and we create another Patch object, patched_table, to update the DataTable 's data property.

```
from dash import Dash, html, dcc, Input, Output, Patch, dash_table, callback
from plotly import graph_objects as go

app = Dash()

# Initial data for the figure and datatable
x = ["Product A", "Product B", "Product C"]
y = [20, 14, 23]

table_data = [{"Product": x_value, "Value": y_value} for x_value, y_value in zip(x, y)]

# Additional data for the figure and datatable
additional_products_x = ["Product D", "Product E", "Product F"]
additional_products_y = [10, 24, 8]

fig = go.Figure(data=[go.Bar(x=x, y=y)])

app.layout = html.Div(
    [
        html.Button("Update Products", id="add-additional-products"),
        dcc.Graph(figure=fig, id="multiple-outputs-fig"),
```





Allowing Duplicate Callback Outputs

Sometimes you'll want to update the same component-property pair from multiple callback outputs. For example, you could have one callback output to update the color of a graph, and another callback output to update the data. You can do this by setting allow_duplicate=True on any outputs that are used more than once.

You can also use allow_duplicate to do full updates on one callback output and a partial update on another. In this example, clicking one button deletes the first row of the data. The second button sends the full data back to the component.

When using duplicate callback outputs (with allow_duplicate=True), the order in which callbacks that run at the same time are updated is not guaranteed. See **Duplicate Callback Outputs**.



```
from dash import Dash, dash_table, html, Input, Output, Patch, callback
import pandas as pd
df = pd.read_csv("https://raw.githubusercontent.com/plotly/datasets/master/solar.csv")
# Returning all records from the dataframe to the component when the reload button is clicked
@callback(
def reload_data(n_clicks):
@callback(
   Output("table-example-for-delete", "data", allow_duplicate=True),
def delete_records(n_clicks):
    del patched_table[0]
    app.run(debug=True)
```

DELETE FIRS	T ROW RELOAD DA	ТА		
State	Number of Solar Plants	Installed Capacity (MW)	Average MW Per Plant	Generation (GWh)
California	289	4395	15.3	10826
Arizona	48	1078	22.5	2550
Nevada	11	238	21.6	557
New Mexico	33	261	7.9	590
Colorado	20	118	5.9	235
Texas	12	187	15.6	354
North Carolina	148	669	4.5	1162
New York	13	53	4.1	84

Exploring the Structure of Properties

To make partial updates to a property, you need to know the structure of the property you want to update. To understand the structure of any component property, check out the reference docs for it. For example, you'll find the reference docs for each Dash Core Component at the end of the component's page. For example, **the Dropdown properties**.

Graph Objects

As we've seen in the examples above, a great use for partial updates is updating individual parts of Plotly.py Graph Objects Figure objects, which you can pass to the figure parameter of a dcc.Graph component.



Often you'll only want to update a small detail on a graph, such as a color, and avoid sending all the graph's data back to the browser.

To do this successfully, you'll need to understand the structure of a Figure.

Here is an example of the structure of a simple Figure object.

In our first Patch example above, we assigned a color to the title.

```
patched_figure['layout']['title']['font']['color'] = new_color
```

Similarly, we could update the title's text, which is currently set to sample figure:

```
patched_figure['layout']['title']['text'] = "my new title text"
```

When working with a Figure, you can see its structure by printing it.

```
fig = px.line(x=["a","b","c"], y=[1,3,2], title="sample figure")

fig.update_layout(
    title_font_color="red"
)
print(fig)
```

See the The Figure Data Structure in Python page in the Graphing Library docs for more details.

Limitations

A Patch object is a representation of the operation to apply to part of an output property. It doesn't give
you access to a property's values. For example, the following won't work:

```
patch_output = Patch()
formatted_property = f"My prop: {patch_output["my_prop"]}"
```

If you need access to the property's value, use **State** on your callback.

- Patch is not available on clientside callbacks.
- Each time you extend a list, it adds to the existing data. It's not currently possible to limit the maximum number of values in the list.

Dash Python > Partial Property Updates



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