:mod:`copyreg` --- Register :mod:`pickle` support functions

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Unknown directive type "module".

```
.. module:: copyreg
   :synopsis: Register pickle support functions.
```

Source code: :source:`Lib/copyreg.py`

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Unknown directive type "index".

```
.. index::
   module: pickle
   module: copy
```

The :mod:`copyreg` module offers a way to define functions used while pickling specific objects. The :mod:`pickle` and :mod:`copy` modules use those functions when pickling/copying those objects. The module provides configuration information about object constructors which are not classes. Such constructors may be factory functions or class instances.

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```
.. function:: constructor(object)
```

```
   Declares *object* to be a valid constructor.  If *object* is not callable (and
   hence not valid as a constructor), raises :exc:`TypeError`.
```

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Unknown directive type "function".

```
.. function:: pickle(type, function, constructor=None)

   Declares that *function* should be used as a "reduction" function for objects
   of type *type*.  *function* should return either a string or a tuple
   containing two or three elements.

   The optional *constructor* parameter, if provided, is a callable object which
   can be used to reconstruct the object when called with the tuple of arguments
   returned by *function* at pickling time.  A :exc:`TypeError` is raised if the
   *constructor* is not callable.

   See the :mod:`pickle` module for more details on the interface
   expected of *function* and *constructor*.  Note that the
   :attr:`~pickle.Pickler.dispatch_table` attribute of a pickler
   object or subclass of :class:`pickle.Pickler` can also be used for
   declaring reduction functions.
```

Example

The example below would like to show how to register a pickle function and how it will be used:

```
>>> import copyreg, copy, pickle
>>> class C:
...     def __init__(self, a):
...         self.a = a
...
>>> def pickle_c(c):
...     print("pickling a C instance...")
...     return C, (c.a,)
...
>>> copyreg.pickle(C, pickle_c)
>>> c = C(1)
>>> d = copy.copy(c)  # doctest: +SKIP
pickling a C instance...
>>> p = pickle.dumps(c)  # doctest: +SKIP
pickling a C instance...
```