:mod:\linecache\ --- Random access to text lines

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.. module:: linecache
 :synopsis: Provides random access to individual lines from text files.

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Unknown directive type "sectionauthor".

.. sectionauthor:: Moshe Zadka <moshez@zadka.site.co.il>

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

Unknown interpreted text role "source".

The mod:'linecache' module allows one to get any line from a Python source file, while attempting to optimize internally, using a cache, the common case where many lines are read from a single file. This is used by the mod:'traceback' module to retrieve source lines for inclusion in the formatted traceback.

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The :func:'tokenize.open' function is used to open files. This function uses :func:'tokenize.detect_encoding' to get the encoding of the file; in the absence of an encoding token, the file encoding defaults to UTF-8.

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The <u>mod</u>: linecache module defines the following functions:

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Unknown directive type "function".

.. function:: getline(filename, lineno, module globals=None)

Get line *lineno* from file named *filename*. This function will never raise an exception --- it will return ``''`` on errors (the terminating newline character will be included for lines that are found).

.. index:: triple: module; search; path

If a file named *filename* is not found, the function first checks for a :pep: `302` ``_loader__`` in *module_globals*.

If there is such a loader and it defines a ``get_source`` method, then that determines the source lines

(if ``get_source()`` returns ``None``, then ``''`` is returned).

Finally, if *filename* is a relative filename, it is looked up relative to the entries in the module search path, ``sys.path``.

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Unknown directive type "function".

.. function:: clearcache()

Clear the cache. Use this function if you no longer need lines from files previously read using :func:`getline`.

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Unknown directive type "function".

.. function:: checkcache(filename=None)

Check the cache for validity. Use this function if files in the cache may have changed on disk, and you require the updated version. If *filename* is omitted, it will check all the entries in the cache.

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 \dots function:: lazycache(filename, module_globals)

Capture enough detail about a non-file-based module to permit getting its lines later via :func:`getline` even if *module_globals* is ``None`` in the later call. This avoids doing I/O until a line is actually needed, without having to carry the module globals around indefinitely.

.. versionadded:: 3.5

Example:

```
>>> import linecache
>>> linecache.getline(linecache.__file__, 8)
'import sys\n'
```