Effective Programming Practices for Economists

Reproducible Research

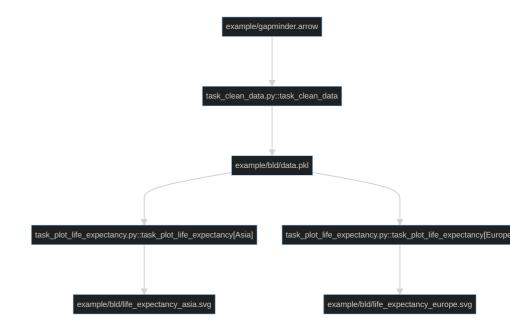
Re-using pytask functions

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1 tasks, 2 products



2 tasks, 1 product each



Contents of task_plot_life_expectancy.py

```
BLD = Path(__file__).parent / "bld"

products = {
    "Asia": BLD / "life_expectancy_asia.svg",
    "Europe": BLD / "life_expectancy_europe.svg"
}

def task_plot_life_expectancy(
    data_file=BLD / "data.pkl",
    produces=products,
):
    df = pd.read_pickle(data_file)
    for region, fig_file in produces.items():
        fig = _plot_life_expectancy(df[df["continent"] == region])
        fig.write_image(fig_file)
```

Contents of task_plot_life_expectancy.py

```
from pytask import task
BLD = Path(__file__).parent / "bld"
for region in ("Asia", "Europe"):
    @task(id=region)
    def task_plot_life_expectancy(
        data_file=BLD / "data.pkl",
        produces=BLD / f"life_expectancy_{region.lower()}.svg",
        region=region,
        df = pd.read_pickle(data_file)
        fig = _plot_life_expectancy(df[df["continent"] == region])
        fig.write_image(produces)
```

Verify Dependency graph (DAG, tree)

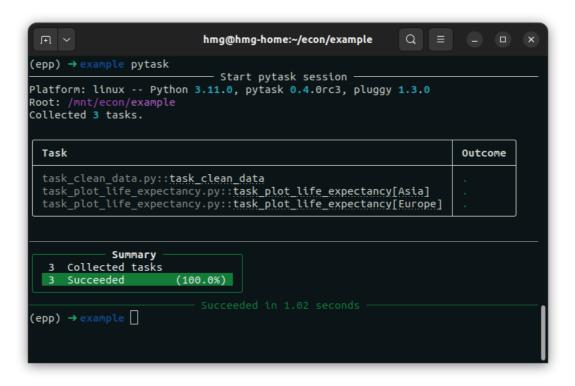
- Inspect function signatures to build a dependency graph
- Tasks for each region appear
- Additional dependency: `region` variable(ignore for now)

```
hma@hma-home:~/econ/example
 epp) → example pytask collect --nodes

    Start pytask session -

Platform: linux -- Python 3.11.0, pytask 0.4.0rc3, pluggy 1.3.0
Root: /mnt/econ/example
Collected 3 tasks.
Collected tasks:
    «Module example/task clean data.py»
        <Function task clean data.py::task clean data>
               <Dependency example/gapminder.arrow>
               <Product example/bld/data.pkl>
     <Module example/task plot life expectancy.py>
        task_plot_life_expectancy.py::task_plot_life_expectancy[Asia]
               <Dependency example/bld/data.pkl>
           example/task_plot_life_expectancy.py::task_plot_life_expe
           ctancy[Asia]::region>
            <Product example/bld/life expectancy asia.svg>
        task plot life expectancy.py::task plot life expectancy[Europ
               <Dependency example/bld/data.pkl>
           example/task_plot_life_expectancy.py::task_plot_life_expe
           ctancy[Europe]::region>
            <Product example/bld/life_expectancy_europe.svg>
(epp) → example
```

Run pytask



Delete plot and run again

→ hmg@hmg-home:~/econ/example	Q =	- 0	×
(epp) → example rm bld/life_expectancy_europe.svg (epp) → example pytask ————————————————————————————————————			
Platform: linux Python 3.11.0, pytask 0.4.0rc3, pluggy 1.3.0 Root: /mnt/econ/example Collected 3 tasks.			
Task		Outcome	
task_plot_life_expectancy.py::task_plot_life_expectanc	y[Europe]		
			_
Summary 3 Collected tasks 1 Succeeded (33.3%) 2 Skipped because unchanged (66.7%) ———————————————————————————————————			_

Looping over tasks

- Define your function as usual, but within a loop body
- Set an id based on the running variable(s) via `@task(id=running_var)`
- Set path arguments based on running variable
- Could pass other Python objects, like running variable itself

Looping over tasks or over products?

- Whatever makes your project structure clearer!
- Same style of graphs based on the same dataset: Probably loop over products
- Model specifications: Loop over tasks
- Long running tasks: Loop over tasks
- Looping over tasks yields more granular structure