



Module 05 – Processes

multiprocessing

- multiprocessing module is responsible for processes creation and management
- multiprocessing API is similar to threading API and it extends the threading module functionality
- Python processes avoid the Global Interpreter Lock (GIL) and take full advantages of multiple processors on a machine
- multiprocessing module includes a lot of useful classes for — processes creation, synchronization and IPC

The multiprocessing.Process class

- We can use the Process class to create a process object
- `Process(group=None, target=None, name=None, args=())`
 - target is the callable object to be invoked by the Process
 - name is the process name
 - args is the argument tuple for the target invocation.
 - group — should be always be None

Process start and join functions

- `start()` - Starts the process's activity.
- `join([timeout])`
 - Block the calling method until the process whose `join()` method is called terminates or until the optional timeout occurs.
 - If timeout parameter specified the calling method will be blocked up to timeout seconds. The `exitcode` will stay `None` until the process is actually finishes (Will be discussed later)''

The Process example

Demo



The Process example

```
from multiprocessing import Process, current_process

def f(val):
    cp = current_process()
    print("In child process: name={}, pid={}, val={}".format(cp.name,
cp.pid, val))

if __name__ == '__main__':
    p = Process(target=f, args=('param_val',))
    p.start()
    p.join()
```

The Process example — cont'd

- In some platform, like windows, the child process goes through the main space before executing the target function. This is why the creation of child process must be 'f' under the: if `__name__ == "__main__"`
- Single-item tuples require a trailing comma:
 - `tpl = (1,)`

join with timeout example

```
import multiprocessing as MP
import time
def func():
    for n in range(1000000000):
        pass
```

```
if __name__ == "__main__":
    p = MP.Process(target=func)
    p.start()
```

```
    p.join(1)
    while p.exitcode is None:
        print("in loop")
    p.join(1)
    time.sleep(1)
```

The output:

In loop
In loop
In loop
In loop

Exchanging data between processes

- When it comes to communicating between processes, the multiprocessing module has two primary methods:
 - Queues
 - Pipes

Exchanging data between processes — Queue

- Multiprocessing Queue main functions:
 - put
 - put_nowait
 - get
 - get_nowait
 - empty / full

Exchanging data between processes — Queue

```
from multiprocessing import Process, Queue
def f(q):
    q.put(["one", "two",3])

if __name__ == '__main__':
    q = Queue()
    p = Process(target=f, args=(q,))
    p.start()
    print(q.get()) #prints (["one", "two",3]
    p.join()
    q.close()
```

Exchanging data between processes — Pipe

- Pipe() returns a pair of connection objects connected by a pipe which by default is duplex (two-way)
 - Each connection object has send() and recv() methods
- A Pipe can only have two endpoints
- A Pipe is much faster

Exchanging data between processes — Pipe

```
from multiprocessing import Process, Pipe
```

```
def f(conn):
```

```
    conn.send(['hello', 'world'])
```

```
    conn.close()
```

```
if __name__ == '__main__':
```

```
    parent_conn, child_conn = Pipe()
```

```
    p = Process(target=f, args=(child_conn,))
```

```
    p.start()
```

```
    print(parent_conn.recv()) # ['hello', 'world']
```

```
    p.join()
```

Synchronization between processes

- Take a look at the following program:

```
import multiprocessing as MP
```

```
import sys
```

```
def loop():
```

```
    for i in range(400):
```

```
        sys.stdout.write(str(i)+" ")
```

```
        sys.stdout.flush()
```

```
        sys.stdout.write("in process ")
```

```
        sys.stdout.flush()
```

```
        sys.stdout.write(MP.current_process().name+ "\n")
```

```
        sys.stdout.flush()
```

Synchronization between processes — cont'd

```
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    MP.Process(target=loop, name="child1").start()  
    MP.Process(target=loop, name="child2").start()  
  
for i in range(400):  
    sys.stdout.write(str(i)+" ")  
    sys.stdout.flush()  
    sys.stdout.write("in process ")  
    sys.stdout.flush() sys.stdout.write(MP.current_process().name+ "\n")  
    sys.stdout.flush()
```

Synchronization between processes-cont'd

- multiprocessing module has 3 classes for process synchronization:
 - Lock - non-recursive lock object
 - Rlock - recursive lock object
 - Semaphore — created with internal counter and can be acquired countertimes before released
- They all support context managers and can be used with with statement
- They all have the following function:
 - acquire(blocking=True, timeout=-1)
 - acquire returns True if the locking were successful and False; otherwise al
 - release()

Multiprocessing Pool

Demo



Multiprocessing Lock example

```
import multiprocessing as mp
import sys

def loop(lock):
    for i in range(400):
        with lock:
            sys.stdout.write(str(i) + " ")
            sys.stdout.flush()

if __name__ == "__main__":
    lock = mp.Lock()
    sys.stdout.write("in process ")
    sys.stdout.flush()
    sys.stdout.write(mp.current_process().name + "\n")
    sys.stdout.flush()
    loop(lock)
```

Multiprocessing Lock example — cont'd

```
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    lock = MP.Lock()  
    MP.Process(target=loop, name="child1", args=(lock,)).start()  
    MP.Process(target=loop, name="child2", args=(lock,)).start()  
  
    for i in range(400):  
        sys.stdout.write(str(i) + " ")  
        sys.stdout.flush()  
  
    sys.stdout.write("in process ")  
    sys.stdout.flush()  
    sys.stdout.write(MP.current_process().name + "\n")  
    sys.stdout.flush()
```

Multiprocessing Pool

- Multiprocessing module contains (among others) a Pool class that can be used for parallelize executing a function across multiple inputs.
- Using a Pool can be a convenient approach for simple parallel processing tasks. Some of Pool tasks are:
 - pool.map
 - pool.map_unordered
 - pool.imap
 - pool.map_async
 - pool.apply
 - etc

Multiprocessing Pool

Demo



Multiprocessing Pool — example

```
from multiprocessing import Pool

def increment(number):
    return number + 1

if __name__ == "__main__":
    numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
    pool = Pool(processes=3)
    incremented_list = pool.map(increment, numbers)
    print(incremented_list) # [2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11]
```

Lab 01

Lab



Questions

