

# vowpalwabbit.pyvw

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Python binding for pylibvw class

`class` `vowpalwabbit.pyvw`. **SearchTask**(*vw*, *sch*, *num\_actions*)

Bases: `object`

Search task class

## Methods

<code>example</code> ( <i>self</i> [, <i>initStringOrDict</i> , <i>labelType</i> ])	Create an example <code>initStringOrDict</code> can specify example as VW formatted string, or a dictionary <code>labelType</code> can specify the desire label type
<code>learn</code> ( <i>self</i> , <i>data_iterator</i> )	Train search task by providing an iterator of examples.
<code>predict</code> ( <i>self</i> , <i>my_example</i> [, <i>useOracle</i> ])	Predict on the example

`__init__`(*self*, *vw*, *sch*, *num\_actions*)

**Parameters:** **vw** : *vw object*

**sch** : *search object*

**num\_actions** : *integer*

The number of actions with the object can be initialized with

**Returns:** **self** : *SearchTask*

### See also:

`pyvw.vw`

`example`(*self*, *initStringOrDict*=None, *labelType*=0)

Create an example `initStringOrDict` can specify example as VW formatted string, or a dictionary `labelType` can specify the desire label type

**Parameter** **initStringOrDict** : *str/dict*

**S:** Example in either string or dictionary form

**labelType** : *integer*

- 0 : IDEFAULT
- 1 : IBINARY
- 2 : IMULTICLASS
- 3 : ICOST\_SENSITIVE
- 4 : ICONTEXTUAL\_BANDIT
- 5 : IMAX
- 6 : ICONDITIONAL\_CONTEXTUAL\_BANDIT

The integer is used to map the corresponding labelType using the above available options

**Returns:** **out** : *Example*

**learn**(*self*, *data\_iterator*)

Train search task by providing an iterator of examples.

**Parameters:** **data\_iterator:** **iterable objects**

Consists of examples to be learned

**Returns:** **self** : *SearchTask*

**predict**(*self*, *my\_example*, *useOracle=False*)

Predict on the example

**Parameters:** **my\_example** : *Example*

example used for prediction

**useOracle** : *bool*

**Returns:** **out** : *integer*

Prediction on the example

*class* vowpalwabbit.pyvw. **abstract\_label**

Bases: *object*

An abstract class for a VW label.

## Methods

*from\_example*(*self*, *ex*) grab a label from a given VW example

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*\_\_init\_\_*(*self*)

Initialize self. See `help(type(self))` for accurate signature.

**from\_example**(*self*, *ex*)

grab a label from a given VW example

*class* vowpalwabbit.pyvw. **cbandits\_label**(*costs=[]*, *prediction=0*)

Bases: `vowpalwabbit.pyvw.abstract_label`

Class for contextual bandits VW label

## Methods

`from_example`(*self*, *ex*) grab a label from a given VW example

---

**\_\_init\_\_**(*self*, *costs=[]*, *prediction=0*)

Initialize self. See `help(type(self))` for accurate signature.

**from\_example**(*self*, *ex*)

grab a label from a given VW example

*class* vowpalwabbit.pyvw. **cost\_sensitive\_label**(*costs=[]*, *prediction=0*)

Bases: `vowpalwabbit.pyvw.abstract_label`

Class for cost sensitive VW label

## Methods

`from_example`(*self*, *ex*) grab a label from a given VW example

---

**\_\_init\_\_**(*self*, *costs=[]*, *prediction=0*)

Initialize self. See `help(type(self))` for accurate signature.

**from\_example**(*self*, *ex*)

grab a label from a given VW example

*class* vowpalwabbit.pyvw. **example**(*vw*, *initStringOrDictOrRawExample=None*, *labelType=0*)

Bases: `pylibvw.example`

The example class is a (non-trivial) wrapper around `pylibvw.example`. Most of the wrapping is to make the interface easier to use (by making the types safer via `namespace_id`) and also with added python-specific functionality.

## Methods

<code>ensure_namespace_exists(self, ns)</code>	Check to see if a namespace already exists.
<code>erase_namespace()</code>	Remove all the features from a given namespace
<code>feature(self, ns, i)</code>	Get the i-th hashed feature id in a given namespace
<code>feature_weight(self, ns, i)</code>	Get the value(weight) associated with a given feature id
<code>get_action_scores()</code>	Get action scores from example prediction
<code>get_cbandits_class(arg1, arg2)</code>	Assuming a contextual_bandits label type, get the label for a given pair (i=0..
<code>get_cbandits_cost(arg1, arg2)</code>	Assuming a contextual_bandits label type, get the cost for a given pair (i=0..
<code>get_cbandits_num_costs()</code>	Assuming a contextual_bandits label type, get the total number of label/cost pairs
<code>get_cbandits_partial_prediction(arg1, arg2)</code>	Assuming a contextual_bandits label type, get the partial prediction for a given pair (i=0..
<code>get_cbandits_prediction()</code>	Assuming a contextual_bandits label type, get the prediction
<code>get_cbandits_probability(arg1, arg2)</code>	Assuming a contextual_bandits label type, get the bandits probability for a given pair (i=0..
<code>get_costsensitive_class(arg1, arg2)</code>	Assuming a cost_sensitive label type,

	get the label for a given pair (i=0..
<code>get_costsensitive_cost(arg1, arg2)</code>	Assuming a cost_sensitive label type, get the cost for a given pair (i=0..
<code>get_costsensitive_num_costs()</code>	Assuming a cost_sensitive label type, get the total number of label/cost pairs
<code>get_costsensitive_partial_prediction(arg1, arg2)</code>	Assuming a cost_sensitive label type, get the partial prediction for a given pair (i=0..
<code>get_costsensitive_prediction()</code>	Assuming a cost_sensitive label type, get the prediction
<code>get_costsensitive_wap_value(arg1, arg2)</code>	Assuming a cost_sensitive label type, get the weighted-all-pairs recomputed cost for a given pair (i=0..
<code>get_decision_scores()</code>	Get decision scores from example prediction
<code>get_example_counter()</code>	Returns the counter of total number of examples seen up to and including this one
<code>get_feature_id(self, ns, feature[, ns_hash])</code>	Get the hashed feature id for a given feature in a given namespace.
<code>get_feature_number()</code>	Returns the total number of features for this example
<code>get_ft_offset(arg1)</code>	Returns the feature offset for this example (used, eg, by multiclass classification to bulk offset all features)
<code>get_label(self[, label_class])</code>	Given a known label class (default is simple_label), get the corresponding label structure for this

	example.
<code>get_loss()</code>	Returns the loss associated with this example
<code>get_multiclass_label()</code>	Assuming a multiclass label type, get the true label
<code>get_multiclass_prediction()</code>	Assuming a multiclass label type, get the prediction
<code>get_multiclass_weight()</code>	Assuming a multiclass label type, get the importance weight
<code>get_multilabel_predictions()</code>	Get multilabel predictions from example prediction
<code>get_ns(self, id)</code>	Construct a namespace_id
<code>get_partial_prediction()</code>	Returns the partial prediction associated with this example
<code>get_prob()</code>	Get probability from example prediction
<code>get_scalars()</code>	Get scalar values from example prediction
<code>get_simplelabel_initial()</code>	Assuming a simple_label label type, return the initial (baseline) prediction
<code>get_simplelabel_label(arg1)</code>	Assuming a simple_label label type, return the corresponding label (class/regression target/etc.)
<code>get_simplelabel_prediction()</code>	Assuming a simple_label label type, return the final prediction
<code>get_simplelabel_weight()</code>	Assuming a simple_label label type, return the importance weight
<code>get_tag()</code>	Returns the tag associated with this example

<code>get_topic_prediction()</code>	For LDA models, returns the topic prediction for the topic id given
<code>get_total_sum_feat_sq()</code>	The total sum of feature-value squared for this example
<code>get_updated_prediction()</code>	Returns the partial prediction as if we had updated it after learning
<code>iter_features(self)</code>	Iterate over all feature/value pairs in this example (all namespace included).
<code>learn(self)</code>	Learn on this example (and before learning, automatically call <code>setup_example</code> if the example hasn't yet been setup).
<code>namespace()</code>	Get the namespace id for namespace $i$ (for $i = 0..$
<code>num_features_in(self, ns)</code>	Get the total number of features in a given namespace
<code>num_namespaces()</code>	The total number of namespaces associated with this example
<code>pop_feature(self, ns)</code>	Remove the top feature from a given namespace
<code>pop_namespace(self)</code>	Remove the top namespace from an example
<code>push_feature(self, ns, feature[, v, ns_hash])</code>	Add an unhashed feature to a given namespace
<code>push_feature_dict()</code>	Add a (Python) dictionary of namespace/feature-list pairs
<code>push_feature_list()</code>	Add a (Python) list of features to a given namespace
<code>push_features(self, ns, featureList)</code>	Push a list of features to a given namespace.

<code>push_hashed_feature(self, ns, f[, v])</code>	Add a hashed feature to a given namespace.
<code>push_namespace(self, ns)</code>	Push a new namespace onto this example.
<code>set_label_string(self, string)</code>	Give this example a new label
<code>set_test_only()</code>	Change the test-only bit on an example
<code>setup_example(self)</code>	If this example hasn't already been setup (ie, quadratic features constructed, etc.), do so.
<code>sum_feat_sq(self, ns)</code>	Get the total sum feature-value squared for a given namespace
<code>unsetup_example(self)</code>	If this example has been setup, reverse that process so you can continue editing the examples.
<code>__init__(self, vw, <i>initStringOrDictOrRawExample=None, labelType=0</i>)</code>	Construct a new example from vw.

**Param vw** : *vw*  
**eters:** vw model

**initStringOrDictOrRawExample** : *dict/string/None*

If `initString` is `None`, you get an “empty” example which you can construct by hand (see, eg, `example.push_features`). If `initString` is a string, then this string is parsed as it would be from a VW data file into an example (and “`setup_example`” is run). if it is a dict, then we add all features in that dictionary. finally, if it’s a function, we (repeatedly) execute it `fn()` until it’s not a function any more(for lazy feature computation). By default is `None`

**labelType** : *integer*

- 0 : IDEFAULT
- 1 : IBINARY
- 2 : IMULTICLASS
- 3 : ICOST\_SENSITIVE
- 4 : ICONTEXTUAL\_BANDIT
- 5 : IMAX
- 6 : ICONDITIONAL\_CONTEXTUAL\_BANDIT

The integer is used to map the corresponding `labelType` using the above available options

**Retur self** : *Example*  
**ns:**

**See also:**

`pyvw.vw`

**ensure\_namespace\_exists**(*self, ns*)

Check to see if a namespace already exists.

**Parameters:** **ns** : *namespace*

If namespace exists does, do nothing. If it doesn’t, add it.

**feature**(*self, ns, i*)

Get the *i*-th hashed feature id in a given namespace

**Parameters:** **ns** : *namespace*

namespace used to get the feature

**i** : *integer*

to get i-th hashed feature id in a given ns. It must range from 0 to self.num\_features\_in(ns)-1

**Returns:** **f** : *integer*

i-th hashed feature-id in a given ns

**feature\_weight**(*self, ns, i*)

Get the value(weight) associated with a given feature id

**Parameters:** **ns** : *namespace*

namespace used to get the feature id

**i** : *integer*

to get the weight of i-th feature in the given ns. It must range from 0 to self.num\_features\_in(ns)-1

**Returns:** **out** : *float*

weight(value) of the i-th feature of given ns

**get\_feature\_id**(*self, ns, feature, ns\_hash=None*)

Get the hashed feature id for a given feature in a given namespace. feature can either be an integer (already a feature id) or a string, in which case it is hashed.

**Parameters:** **ns** : *namespace*

namespace used to get the feature

**feature** : *integer/string*

If integer the already a feature else will be hashed

**ns\_hash** : *Optional, by default is None*

The hash of the namespace

**Returns:**     **out** : *integer*  
                   Hashed feature id

**Note:**

If `-hash all` is on, then `get_feature_id(ns,"5") != get_feature_id(ns, 5)`. If you've already hashed the namespace, you can optionally provide that value to avoid re-hashing it.

`get_label(self, label_class=<class 'vowpalwabbit.pyvw.simple_label'>)`

Given a known label class (default is `simple_label`), get the corresponding label structure for this example.

**Parameters:** **label\_class** : *label classes*

Get the label of the example of `label_class` type, by default is `simple_label`

`get_ns(self, id)`

Construct a `namespace_id`

**Parameters:** **id** : *namespace\_id/str/integer*

id used to create namespace

**Returns:**     **out** : *namespace\_id*

`namespace_id` created using parameter passed (if `id` was `namespace_id`, just return it directly)

`iter_features(self)`

Iterate over all feature/value pairs in this example (all namespace included).

`learn(self)`

Learn on this example (and before learning, automatically call `setup_example` if the example hasn't yet been setup).

`num_features_in(self, ns)`

Get the total number of features in a given namespace

**Parameters:** **ns** : *namespace*  
Get the total features of this namespace

**Returns:** **num\_features** : *integer*  
Total number of features in the given ns

**pop\_feature**(*self, ns*)

Remove the top feature from a given namespace

**Parameters:** **ns** : *namespace*  
namespace from which feature is popped

**Returns:** **out** : *bool*  
True if feature was removed else False as no feature was there to pop

**pop\_namespace**(*self*)

Remove the top namespace from an example

**Returns:** **out** : *bool*  
True if namespace was removed else False as no namespace was there to pop

**push\_feature**(*self, ns, feature, v=1.0, ns\_hash=None*)

Add an unhashed feature to a given namespace

**Parameters:** **ns** : *namespace*  
namespace in which the feature is to be pushed

**f** : *integer*  
feature

**v** : *float*  
The value of the feature, by default is 1.0

**ns\_hash** : *Optional, by default is None*  
The hash of the namespace

**push\_features**(*self, ns, featureList*)

Push a list of features to a given namespace.

**Parameters:** **ns** : *namespace*

namespace in which the features are pushed

**featureList** : *list*

Each feature in the list can either be an integer (already hashed) or a string (to be hashed) and may be paired with a value or not (if not, the value is assumed to be 1.0)

## Examples

---

```
>>> from vowpalwabbit import pyvw
>>> vw = pyvw.vw(quiet=True)
>>> ex = vw.example('1 |a two features |b more features here')
>>> ex.push_features('x', ['a', 'b'])
>>> ex.push_features('y', [('c', 1.), 'd'])
>>> space_hash = vw.hash_space('x')
>>> feat_hash = vw.hash_feature('a', space_hash)
>>> ex.push_features('x', [feat_hash]) # 'x' should match the space_hash!
>>> ex.num_features_in('x')
3
>>> ex.num_features_in('y')
2
```

---

**push\_hashed\_feature**(*self, ns, f, v=1.0*)

Add a hashed feature to a given namespace.

**Parameters:** **ns** : *namespace*

namespace in which the feature is to be pushed

**f** : *integer*

feature

**v** : *float*

The value of the feature, be default is 1.0

**push\_namespace**(*self, ns*)

Push a new namespace onto this example. You should only do this if you're sure that this example doesn't already have the given namespace

**Parameters:** **ns** : *namespace*

namespace which is to be pushed onto example

**set\_label\_string**(*self, string*)

Give this example a new label

**Parameters:** **string** : *str*

a new label to this example, formatted as a string (ala the VW data file format)

**setup\_example**(*self*)

If this example hasn't already been setup (ie, quadratic features constructed, etc.), do so.

**sum\_feat\_sq**(*self*, *ns*)

Get the total sum feature-value squared for a given namespace

**Parameters:** **ns** : *namespace*

Get the total sum feature-value squared of this namespace

**Returns:** **sum\_sq** : *float*

Total sum feature-value squared of the given ns

**unsetup\_example**(*self*)

If this example has been setup, reverse that process so you can continue editing the examples.

*class* vowpalwabbit.pyvw. **example\_namespace**(*ex*, *ns*, *ns\_hash=None*)

Bases: [object](#)

The `example_namespace` class is a helper class that allows you to extract namespaces from examples and operate at a namespace level rather than an example level. Mainly this is done to enable indexing like `ex['x'][0]` to get the 0th feature in namespace 'x' in example `ex`.

**Methods**

<a href="#">iter_features</a> ( <i>self</i> )	iterate over all feature/value pairs in this namespace.
<a href="#">num_features_in</a> ( <i>self</i> )	Return the total number of features in this namespace.
<a href="#">pop_feature</a> ( <i>self</i> )	Remove the top feature from the current namespace; returns True if a feature was removed, returns False if there were no features to pop.
<a href="#">push_feature</a> ( <i>self</i> , feature[, v])	Add an unhashed feature to the current namespace (fails if setup has already run on this example).

`push_features(self, ns, featureList)` Push a list of features to a given namespace.

---

`__init__(self, ex, ns, ns_hash=None)`

Construct an example\_namespace

**Parameters:** **ex** : *Example*

examples from which namespace is to be extracted

**ns** : *namespace\_id*

Target namespace

**ns\_hash** : *Optional, by default is None*

The hash of the namespace

**Returns:** **self** : *example\_namespace*

`iter_features(self)`

iterate over all feature/value pairs in this namespace.

`num_features_in(self)`

Return the total number of features in this namespace.

`pop_feature(self)`

Remove the top feature from the current namespace; returns True if a feature was removed, returns False if there were no features to pop.

`push_feature(self, feature, v=1.0)`

Add an unhashed feature to the current namespace (fails if setup has already run on this example).

**Parameters:** **feature** : *integer/str*

Feature to be pushed to current namespace

**v** : *float*

Feature value, by default is 1.0

`push_features(self, ns, featureList)`

Push a list of features to a given namespace.

**Parameters:** **ns** : *namespace*

namespace to which feature list is to be pushed

**featureList** : *list*

Each feature in the list can either be an integer (already hashed) or a string (to be hashed) and may be paired with a value or not (if not, the value is assumed to be 1.0).

**See example.push\_features for examples.**

vowpalwabbit.pyvw. **get\_prediction**(*ec*, *prediction\_type*)

Get specified type of prediction from example

**Parameters:** **ec** : *Example*

**prediction\_type**

- pSCALAR : Scalar prediction type
- pSCALARS : Multiple scalar-valued prediction type
- pACTION\_SCORES : Multiple action scores prediction type
- pACTION\_PROBS : Multiple action probabilities prediction type
- pMULTICLASS : Multiclass prediction type
- pMULTILABELS : Multilabel prediction type
- pPROB : Probability prediction type
- pMULTICLASSPROBS : Multiclass probabilities prediction type
- pDECISION\_SCORES : Decision scores prediction type

**Returns:** **out** : *integer/list*

Prediction according to parameter prediction\_type

## Examples

---

```
>>> from vowpalwabbit import pyvw
>>> import pylibvw
>>> vw = pyvw.vw(quiet=True)
>>> ex = vw.example('1 |a two features |b more features here')
>>> pyvw.get_prediction(ex, pylibvw.vw.pSCALAR)
0.0
```

---

```
class vowpalwabbit.pyvw.multiclass_label(label=1, weight=1.0,
prediction=1)
```

Bases: `vowpalwabbit.pyvw.abstract_label`

Class for multiclass VW label with prediction

## Methods

`from_example(self, ex)` grab a label from a given VW example

---

`__init__(self, label=1, weight=1.0, prediction=1)`

Initialize self. See help(type(self)) for accurate signature.

`from_example(self, ex)`

grab a label from a given VW example

`class vowpalwabbit.pyvw.multiclass_probabilities_label(label, prediction=None)`

Bases: `vowpalwabbit.pyvw.abstract_label`

Class for multiclass VW label with probabilities

## Methods

`from_example(self, ex)` grab a label from a given VW example

---

`__init__(self, label, prediction=None)`

Initialize self. See help(type(self)) for accurate signature.

`from_example(self, ex)`

grab a label from a given VW example

`class vowpalwabbit.pyvw.namespace_id(ex, id)`

Bases: `object`

The `namespace_id` class is simply a wrapper to convert between hash spaces referred to by character (eg 'x') versus their index in a particular example. Mostly used internally, you shouldn't really need to touch this.

`__init__(self, ex, id)`

Given an example and an id, construct a `namespace_id`.

**Parameters:** **ex** : *Example*

example used to create a namespace id

**id** : *integer/str*

The id can either be an integer (in which case we take it to be an index into `ex.indices[]`) or a string (in which case we take the first character as the namespace id).

**Returns:** **self** : *namespace\_id*

```
class vowpalwabbit.pyvw.simple_label(label=0.0, weight=1.0, initial=0.0,
prediction=0.0)
```

Bases: `vowpalwabbit.pyvw.abstract_label`

Class for simple VW label

## Methods

`from_example(self, ex)` grab a label from a given VW example

---

`__init__(self, label=0.0, weight=1.0, initial=0.0, prediction=0.0)`

Initialize self. See `help(type(self))` for accurate signature.

`from_example(self, ex)`

grab a label from a given VW example

```
class vowpalwabbit.pyvw.vw(arg_str=None, **kw)
```

Bases: `pylibvw.vw`

The `pyvw.vw` object is a (trivial) wrapper around the `pylibvw.vw` object; you're probably best off using this directly and ignoring the `pylibvw.vw` structure entirely.

## Methods

`audit_example()` print example audit information

---

`example(self[, stringOrDict, labelType])` Create an example  
`initStringOrDict` can specify  
example as VW formatted  
string, or a dictionary  
`labelType` can specify the  
desired label type

---

<code>finish(self)</code>	stop VW by calling finish (and, eg, write weights to disk)
<code>finish_example(self, ex)</code>	Should only be used in conjunction with the parse method
<code>get_arguments()</code>	return the arguments after resolving all dependencies
<code>get_id()</code>	return the model id
<code>get_label_type()</code>	return parse label type
<code>get_prediction_type()</code>	return prediction type
<code>get_search_ptr()</code>	return a pointer to the search data structure
<code>get_stride()</code>	return the internal stride
<code>get_sum_loss()</code>	return the total cumulative loss suffered so far
<code>get_weight(self, index[, offset])</code>	Get the weight at a particular position in the (learned) weight vector.
<code>get_weighted_examples()</code>	return the total weight of examples so far
<code>hash_feature()</code>	given a feature string (arg2) and a hashed namespace (arg3), hash that feature
<code>hash_space()</code>	given a namespace (as a string), compute the hash of that namespace
<code>learn(self, ec)</code>	Perform an online update
<code>learn_multi()</code>	given a list pyvw examples, learn (and predict) on those examples
<code>num_weights(self)</code>	Get length of weight vector.
<code>parse(self, str_ex[, labelType])</code>	Returns a collection of examples for a multiline example learner or a single example for a single example learner.
<code>predict(self, ec[, prediction_type])</code>	Just make a prediction on the example
<code>predict_multi()</code>	given a list of pyvw examples, predict on that example
<code>run_parser()</code>	parse external data file

<code>save(self, filename)</code>	save model to disk
<code>set_weight()</code>	set the weight for a particular index
<code>setup_example(arg1, arg2)</code>	given an example that you've created by hand, prepare it for learning (eg, compute quadratic feature)
<code>unsetup_example()</code>	reverse the process of setup, so that you can go back and modify this example

### init\_search\_task

`__init__(self, arg_str=None, **kw)`

Initialize the vw object.

**Parameters:** `arg_str` : *str*

The command line arguments to initialize VW with, for example “-audit”. By default is None.

**\*\*kw** : *Using key/value pairs for different options available*

**Returns:** `self` : *vw*

### Examples

```
>>> from vowpalwabbit import vw
>>> vw1 = pyvw.vw('--audit')
>>> vw2 = pyvw.vw(audit=True, b=24, k=True, c=True, l2=0.001)
>>> vw3 = pyvw.vw("--audit", b=26)
>>> vw4 = pyvw.vw("-q", ["ab", "ac"])
```

`example(self, stringOrDict=None, labelType=0)`

Create an example `initStringOrDict` can specify example as VW formatted string, or a dictionary `labelType` can specify the desire label type

**Parameter** **initStringOrDict** : *str/dict*

**S:** Example in either string or dictionary form

**labelType** : *integer*

- 0 : IDEFAULT
- 1 : IBINARY
- 2 : IMULTICLASS
- 3 : ICOST\_SENSITIVE
- 4 : ICONTEXTUAL\_BANDIT
- 5 : IMAX
- 6 : ICONDITIONAL\_CONTEXTUAL\_BANDIT

The integer is used to map the corresponding labelType using the above available options

**Returns:** **out** : *Example*

**finish**(*self*)

stop VW by calling finish (and, eg, write weights to disk)

**finish\_example**(*self*, *ex*)

Should only be used in conjunction with the parse method

**Parameters:** **ex** : *Example*

example to be finished

**get\_weight**(*self*, *index*, *offset=0*)

Get the weight at a particular position in the (learned) weight vector.

**Parameters:** **index** : *integer*

position in the learned weight vector

**offset** : *integer*

By default is 0

**Returns:** **weight** : *float*

Weight at the given index

**init\_search\_task**(*self*, *search\_task*, *task\_data=None*)

**learn**(*self*, *ec*)

Perform an online update

**Parameters:** **ec** : *example/str/list*

examples on which the model gets updated

**num\_weights**(*self*)

Get length of weight vector.

**parse**(*self*, *str\_ex*, *labelType=0*)

Returns a collection of examples for a multiline example learner or a single example for a single example learner.

**Parameter** **str\_ex** : *str/list of str*

**S:** string representing examples. If the string is multiline then each line is considered as an example. In case of list, each string element is considered as an example

**labelType** : *integer*

- 0 : IDEFAULT
- 1 : IBINARY
- 2 : IMULTICLASS
- 3 : ICOST\_SENSITIVE
- 4 : ICONTEXTUAL\_BANDIT
- 5 : IMAX
- 6 : ICONDITIONAL\_CONTEXTUAL\_BANDIT

The integer is used to map the corresponding labelType using the above available options

**Returns:** **ec** : *list*

list of examples parsed

## Examples

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```
>>> from vowpalwabbit import pyvw
>>> model = pyvw.vw(quiet=True)
>>> ex = model.parse("0:0.1:0.75 | a:0.5 b:1 c:2")
>>> len(ex)
1
>>> model = vw(quiet=True, cb_adf=True)
>>> ex = model.parse([" | a:1 b:0.5", "0:0.1:0.75 | a:0.5 b:1 c:2"])
>>> len(ex) # Shows the multiline example is parsed
2
```

---

**predict**(*self*, *ec*, *prediction\_type=None*)

Just make a prediction on the example

**Parameters:** **ec** : *Example/list/str*  
examples to be predicted

**prediction\_type** : *optional, by default is None*  
if provided then the matching return type is used otherwise the learner's prediction type will determine the output.

**Returns:** **prediction** : *Prediction made on each examples*

**save**(*self, filename*)  
save model to disk