

Introduction to Tweepy

In the previous lesson, we learned how to create a Twitter app. We created the App so that we could post tweets on our Twitter account every time the temperature sensor connected to Bolt crosses a threshold. In this lesson, we shall learn to write the code to read the sensor value, check if the temperature value has crossed the threshold and post the tweet on your account.

Introduction to Tweepy

Tweepy is an easy to use Python library for accessing the Twitter API. Twitter provides APIs to access various functionality related to your Twitter account. These API's work over HTTP protocol, i.e. you can make GET, POST requests to access your Twitter account. You can know more about the Twitter API here (<https://developer.twitter.com/en/docs/api-reference-index>).

So why do we require a library like Tweepy instead of using the Twitter API directly in our code? To answer this question, we shall take a look at the Twitter API to post a tweet on your account. Click here (<https://developer.twitter.com/en/docs/tweets/post-and-engage/api-reference/post-statuses-update>) to see the API. If you scroll down in the link to the **Example Request** sub-section, it displays how the POST request should be made to Twitter in order to post a tweet. If you further scroll down in the same link, for every API request made, Twitter also responds with a Response data which is in JSON format. You can view the sample response in the **Example Response** sub-section. We see that the response is very complex to understand.

The above process to make the API calls over HTTP is not a very intuitive and user-friendly process. Also accessing the information in the response object requires very good knowledge of JSON. To make the process of making the Twitter API requests simpler and to handle the response information in an easier manner, we shall make use of the Tweepy library. The Tweepy library converts all the Twitter APIs into Python functions that you can simply use in your programs and access the Twitter API. It also returns the Twitter APIs data in an object format with methods that we can use to access the data easily.

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Q. How do I cancel the subscription on DigitalOcean, so that it does not charge my card?

Login to the DigitalOcean dashboard,
Click on the icon in the top right corner.
The Menu will drop down from the icon.
Select settings.

The settings page will open up.

[see more \(\)](#)

Q. I am not able to sign into the Twilio account, it is like I have to solve the CAPTCHA in order to sign in? What is meant by CAPTCHA?

Here is a video which will explain to you what is a CAPTCHA: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MWu2UiLLJl8>

Q. How long does the temp_sms.py code send an sms? Does it send sms only once, or does it send sms everytime the temperature goes beyond bounds?

The code will send you an sms everytime the temperature goes beyond its bounds.

However, if you execute the command

```
sudo python temp_sms.py
```

You will need to stay logged into the digital Ocean droplet for the code to keep monitoring the temperature and send you an sms.

[see more \(\)](#)

Q. When I execute temp_email it is showing unexpected indent error. How do I fix this?

In python, the leading whitespace (spaces and tabs) at the beginning of a logical line is used to compute the indentation level of the line, which in turn is used to determine the grouping of statements.

The levels number of white spaces is known as an indentation level.

If you are facing unexpected indent error, it probably means that the white spaces before and after a logical grouping of instructions is different without having any function declaration or any kind of

[see more \(\)](#)

Q. I am getting an indentation error. How do I solve it?

This means that you have not given proper indentation i.e. spaces before the start of each line of code. Do check the code given as part of the tutorial carefully and make suitable changes. I suggest you read the course content again to be sure that there are no errors.

[View more](#)

Ask your doubts to the instructor personally if they are not already answered on forum.



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