Scheduling a Python script

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1 Introduction

There are multiple ways that a user can automate a Python script. Whether one wants the script/program to run once every 24 hours or once every 5 minutes, one can choose from a variety of options to achieve that task.

2 Windows Task Scheduler

Assuming that the OS being used by the user is Microsoft Windows, the most common method to schedule a task is to use a Task Scheduler. "You can use the Task Scheduler to execute tasks such as starting an application, sending an email message, or showing a message box. Tasks can be scheduled to execute in response to these events, or triggers." [1]

3 Schedule Library in Python

Another really easy way to schedule a Python script is to use the Schedule library which exists in Python. "Schedule is in-process scheduler for periodic jobs that use the builder pattern for configuration. Schedule lets you run Python functions (or any other callable) periodically at pre-determined intervals using a simple, human-friendly syntax."[2]

4 Conclusion

This document shows the most common ways to schedule a script or a task. There are many more options that I didn't mention such as a **Cron Scheduler** which is a useful tool that a user can use if they are using Linux as their OS. The above examples were written assuming that the script is programmed in Python.

References

[1] **Task Scheduler for developers**
https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/win32/taskschd/task-scheduler-start-page

[2] **Python — Schedule Library**
https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/python-schedule-library/