

Building Geoprocessing Tools

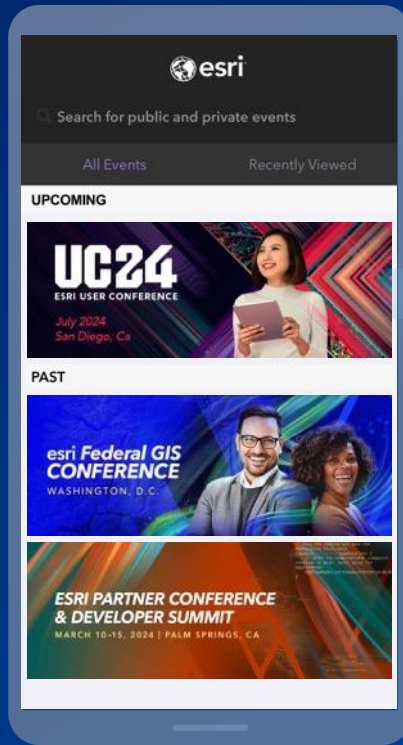
Dave Wynne, Sean Lim

ESRI USER CONFERENCE 2024

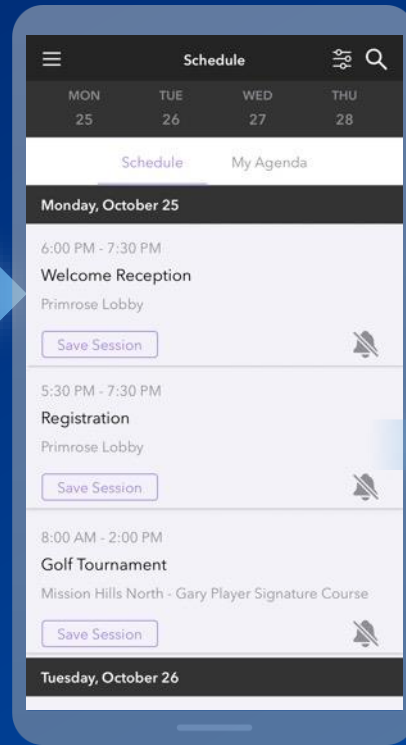
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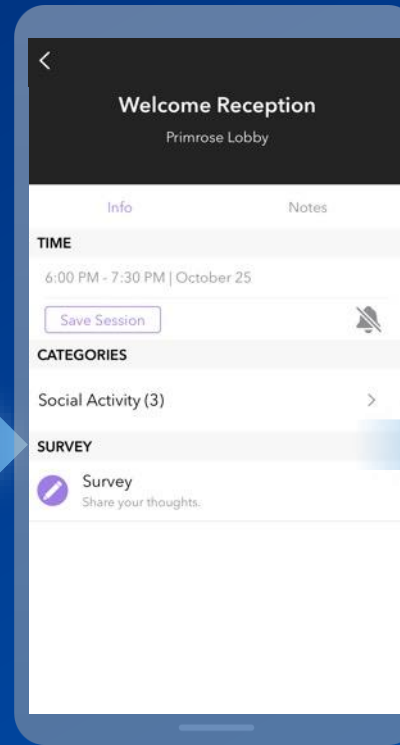
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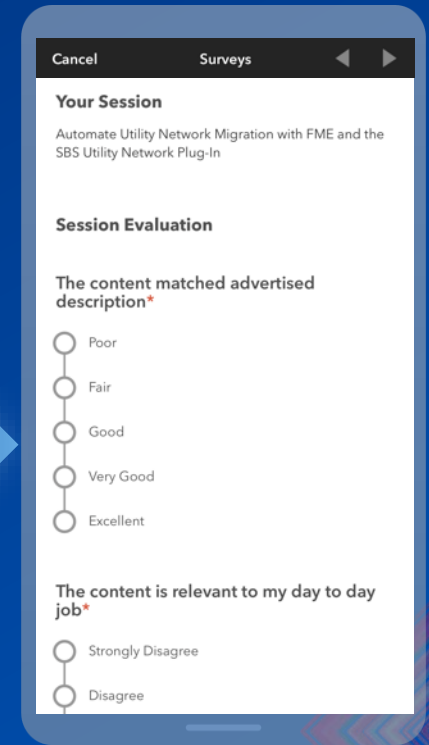
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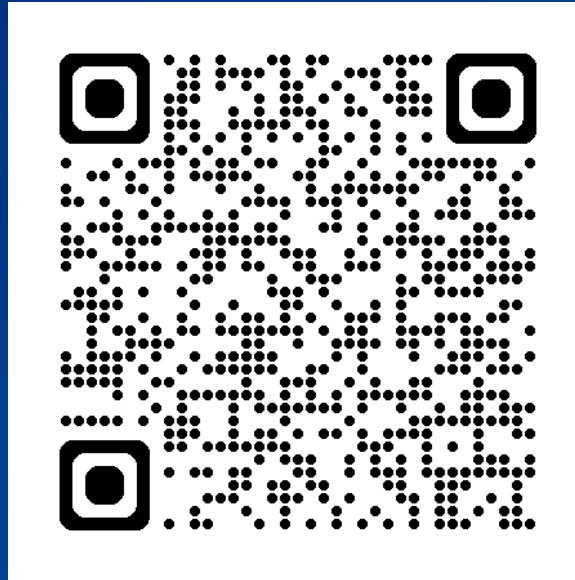
Agenda

- Introduction to tools and toolboxes
- Parameters
- Source code
- Validation
- Sharing your tools
- Questions

Building Geoprocessing Tools

Slides
and demo tools

https://esriurl.com/tool_workshop_2024



Introduction to tools and toolboxes

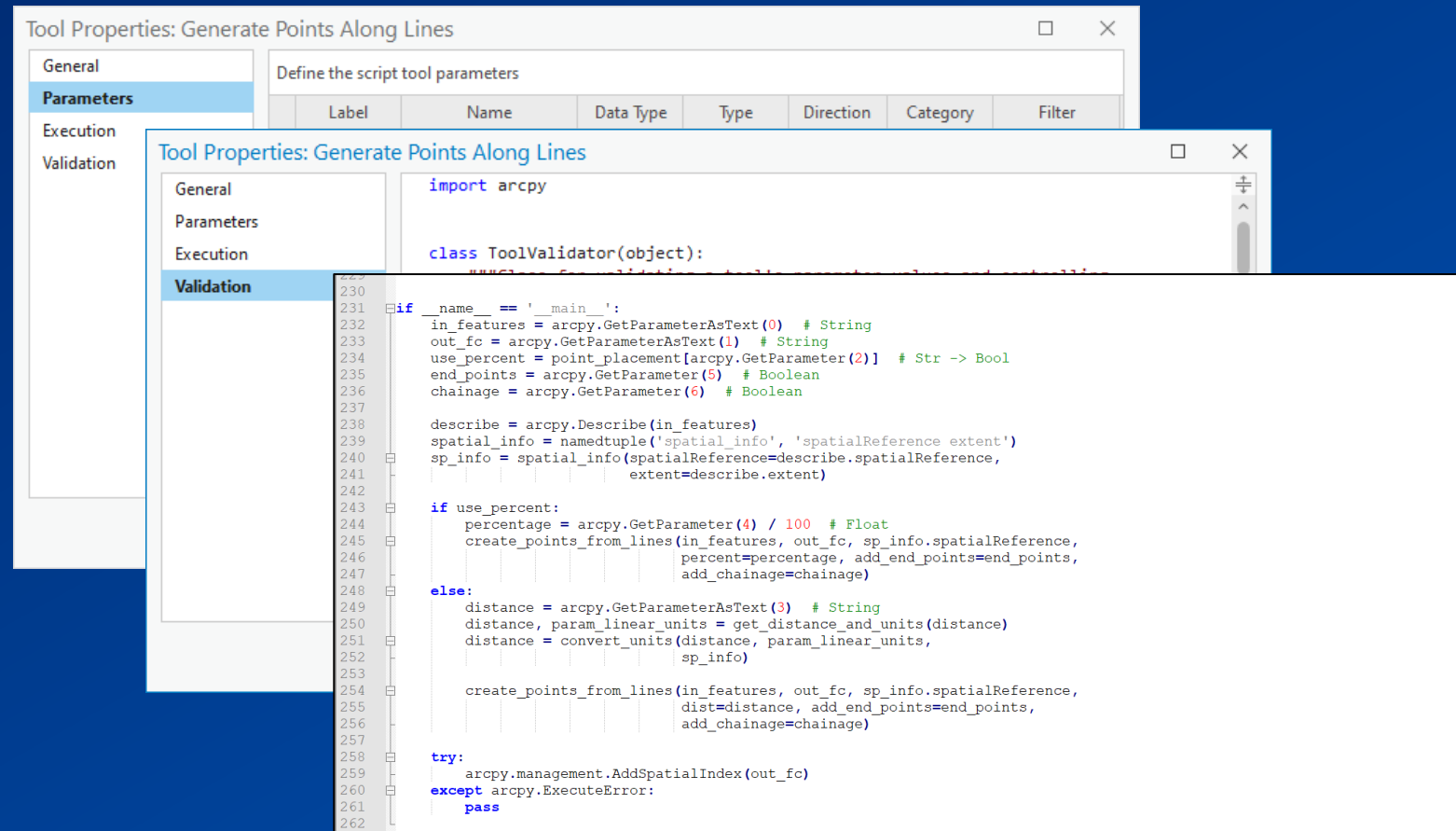


What is a script tool?

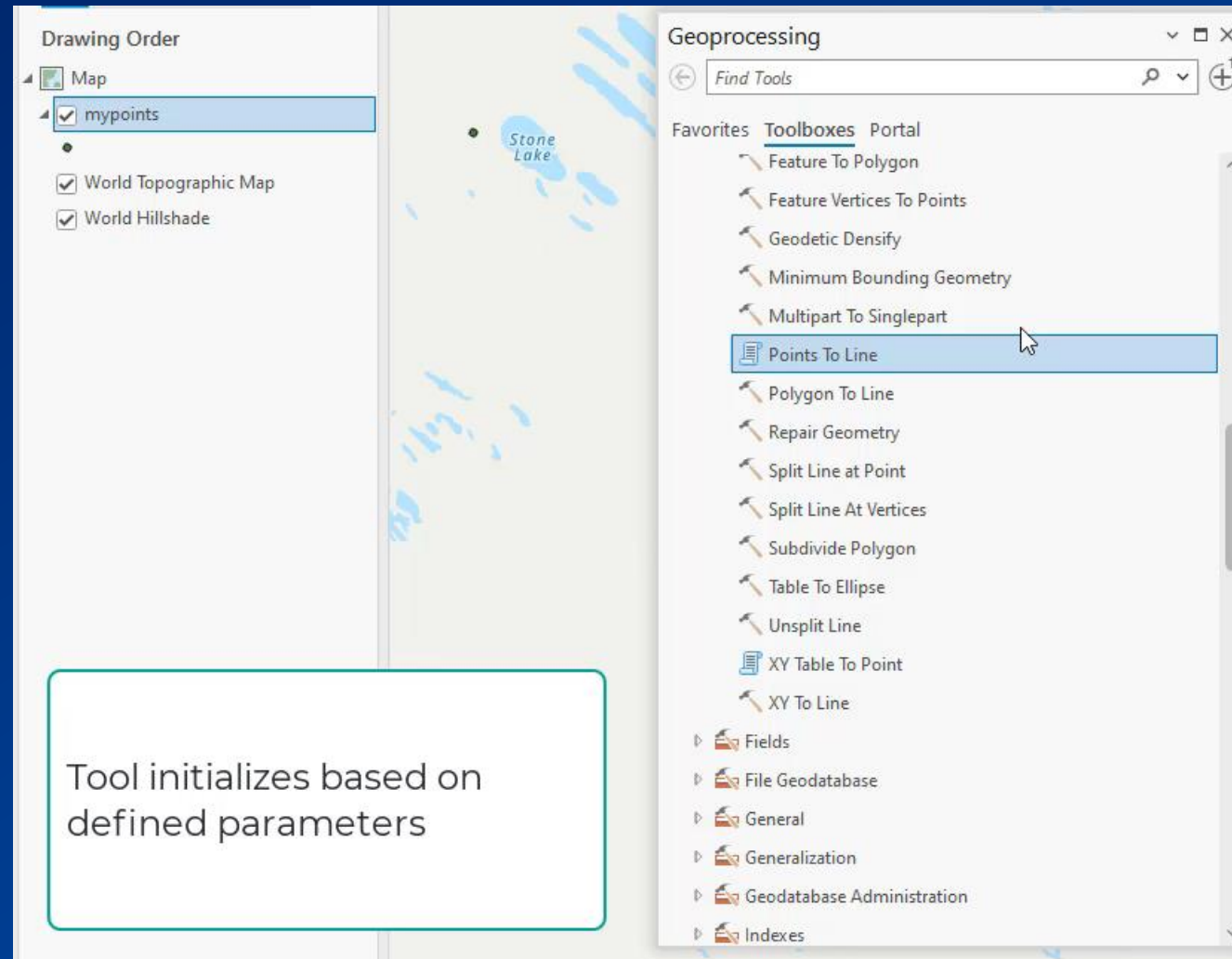
- Geoprocessing tool based on your Python code
- Looks and behaves like a built-in tool
- Use in multiple ways
 - Geoprocessing pane
 - ArcPy
 - ModelBuilder
 - A geoprocessing service
- Share with others

Anatomy of a tool

- Parameters
- Validation code
- Source code
- And
 - High-level details
 - Documentation



How a tool works



Toolboxes

- Tools are organized in a toolbox
- We can build Python-based tools in 3 formats:
 - ArcGIS toolbox (.atbx)
 - Legacy toolbox (.tbx)
 - Python toolbox (.pyt)

Pick your toolbox format

	Legacy toolbox	ArcGIS toolbox	Python toolbox
First release	Desktop 9.0	Pro 2.9	Desktop 10.1
Notable fact	Mature <i>(but still supported)</i>	Next generation	All Python
Format	Binary	Compressed JSON-based format	Python in a .pyt file
Why?	Original	Better cross-release compatibility & persistence	All Python <i>(can create entirely in any editor)</i>
Supports script tools	Yes	Yes	Yes
Supports model tools	Yes	Yes	No

Parameters



Parameters

https://esriurl.com/gp_define_parameters

- Parameters are how you interact with a tool
- Parameters provide simple rules
 - Does an input exist?
 - Is the input the right type?
 - Is this value an expected keyword?

Parameter properties

Label	Filter
Name	Dependency
Data type	Default
Multiple values	Environment
Type	Symbology
Direction	Enabled
Category	Display order
	Control

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Parameter properties

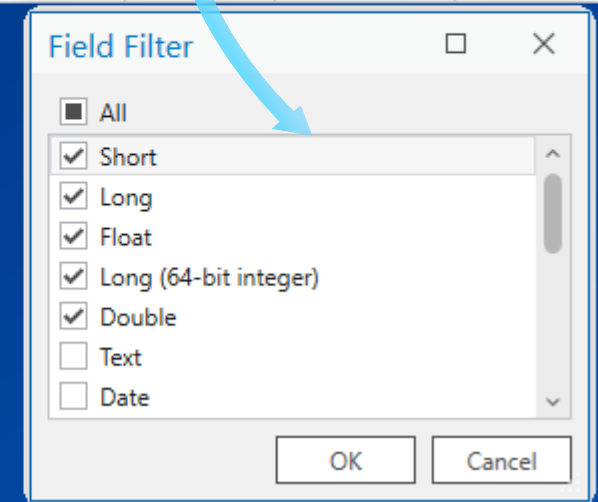
- Data type
 - The type of value the parameter will accept
 - More than 160 options
- Direction
 - Input or output
- Type
 - Required, Optional, or Derived
 - Derived—A value returned by the tool

	Label	Name	Data Type	Type	Direction
0	Input Features	Input_Features	Feature Layer	Required	Input
1	Output Feature Class	Output_Feature_Class	Feature Class	Required	Output
2	Point Placement	Point_Placement	String	Required	Input

Dependencies and filters

	Label	Name	Data Type	Type	Direction	Category	Filter	Dependency
0	Input Feat...	Input_Features	Feature La...	Required	Input			
1	Fields	Fields	[Field]	Required	Input		Field ▾ ...	Input_Features
*			String	Required	Input			

- Dependency
 - Associate a parameter with another one
 - For example, a Field or SQL Expression data type to a data source
- Filter
 - Limit options by value or by type



Tool Properties: Shift Features

General		Label	Name	Data Type
Parameters	0	Input Features	in_features	Feature Layer
Execution	1	Linear Unit	Linear_Unit	String
Validation	2	X Distance	x_distance	Double
Environments	3	Y Distance	y_distance	Double
	4	Output	Output	Feature Layer
	*			String

Demo: Parameters

https://esriurl.com/shift_features_tool

Changing a parameter's control

https://esriurl.com/gp_controls

- For some parameters, you can change the default appearance
- Use the controlCLSID property with a GUID-like string



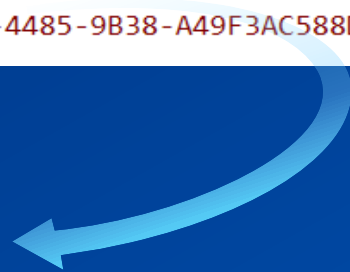
Number of Neighbors

```
class ToolValidator:  
    # Class to add custom behavior and properties to the tool and tool parameters.  
  
    def __init__(self):  
        # Set self.params for use in other validation methods.  
        self.params = arcpy.GetParameterInfo()  
        self.params[1].controlCLSID = '{C8C46E43-3D27-4485-9B38-A49F3AC588D9}'
```



Number of Neighbors

2 1000



Tool source code



Accessing parameter values

https://esriurl.com/gp_access_parameters

- In a script tool, access parameter values using one of:
 - GetParameterAsText – values returned as a string
 - GetParameter – values returned as a dynamic type
 - GetParameter is best for Boolean and numeric types
- For derived parameters, returns values back to the tool using:
 - SetParameterAsText or SetParameter

Tool messages

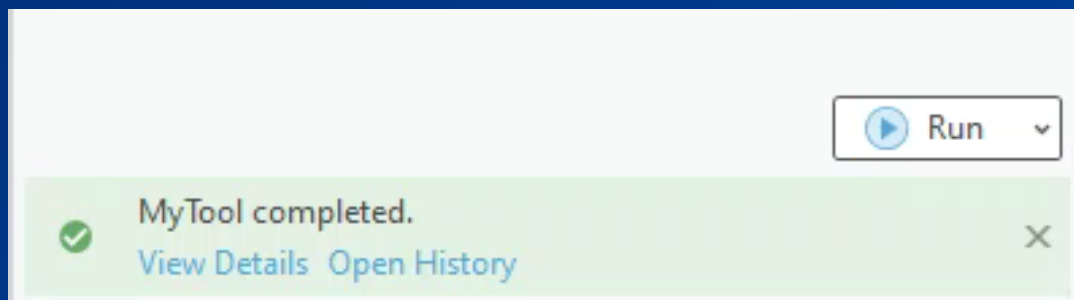
https://esriurl.com/gp_messages

- Relay information using arcpy message functions
 - AddMessage
 - AddWarning
 - AddError
 - AddIDMessage – use Esri standard ID codes
- Note: Error messages are just messages, they will not end the script
 - Best to exit your code soon after, such as Python's `sys.exit()`

Tool progressor

https://esriurl.com/gp_progressor



- Relay simple information to the Geoprocessing pane
- Provide messages and increments using:
 - SetProgressor
 - SetProgressorPosition
 - SetProgressorLabel
 - ResetProgressor



```
5 feature_count = int(arcpy.management.GetCount(in_features)[0])
6
7 # Set up the progressor to update every 5% of the features
8 if feature_count > 20:
9
10     arcpy.SetProgressor(
11         type="STEP",
12         message="Processing features ... ",
13         min_range=0,
14         max_range=100,
15         step_value=5)
16
17     step = feature_count // 20
18
19 for i in range(1, feature_count + 1):
20
21     # Your data processing goes here
22
23
24 if feature_count > 20:
25     if i % step == 0:
26         # Update the progressor message
27         arcpy.SetProgressorLabel(
28             "Processing feature {0}...".format(i))
29
30         # Update the progressor position
31         arcpy.SetProgressorPosition()
```

Tool Properties: Shift Features

General
Parameters
Execution
Validation
Environments

Script File   C:\Users\davi4075\Documents\ArcGIS\Packages\Shift Features\Shift Features\Shift

```
from lib2to3.pytree import convert
import arcpy
from convert_spatial_units import standardize_units, convert_linear_units

def ShiftFeatures(in_fc: str, in_shift_x: float, in_shift_y: float) -> None:
    """
    Shift Features tool
    Function: offset feature vertices by X and Y distance

    Args:
        in_fc (string): input feature class
        in_shift_x (string): amount of change to X coordinate to shift feature
        in_shift_y (string): amount of change to Y coordinate to shift feature
    """
    try:
        desc = arcpy.Describe(in_fc)
        # Error if data has a join, not supported with da cursors
        joined = True if desc.OIDFieldName.lower().rsplit(
            ".", 1)[0] == desc.baseName.lower() else False
    except:
        pass
```

Demo: Source code

https://esriurl.com/shift_features_tool

Validation



Validation

https://esriurl.com/gp_validation

- Validation is interactive—runs every time a parameter is modified
- Parameters provide some simple validation by default
- Refine tool behavior with additional validation
 - Parameter interaction
 - Calculate defaults
 - Enable or disable parameters
 - Set parameter errors and messages
 - Define characteristics of your output (for ModelBuilder)

```
class ToolValidator:
    """
    Class to add custom behavior and properties to
    the tool and tool parameters.
    """

    ...

    def updateParameters(self):
        """Modify parameter values and properties."""

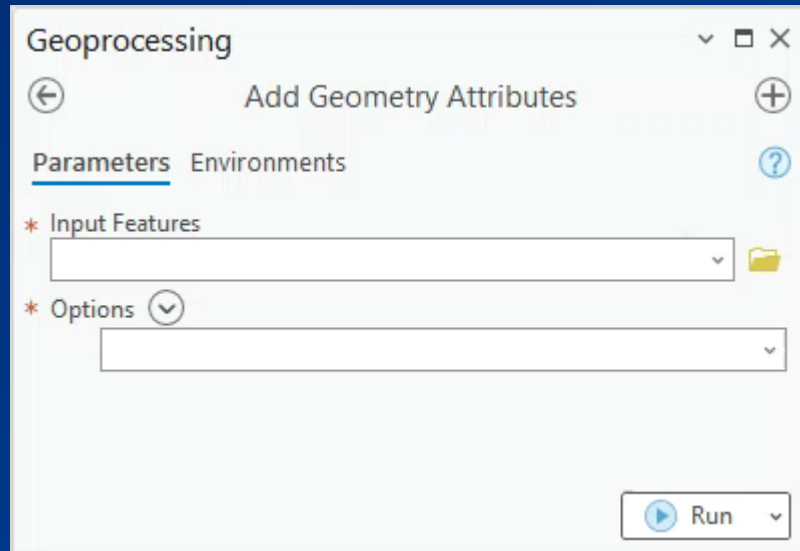
        return

    def updateMessages(self):
        """Customize messages for the parameters."""

        return
```

updateParameters

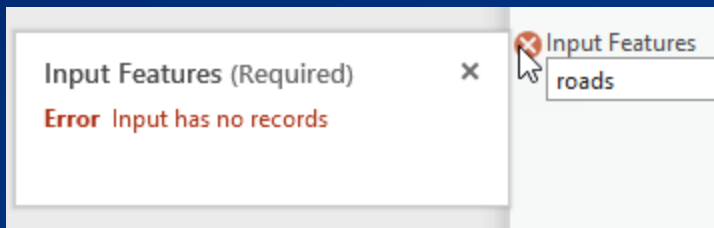
- updateParameters allows you to change certain parameter characteristics
 - Values
 - Filters
 - Enabled
 - Etc.



```
def updateParameters(self):  
    """Modify parameter values and properties."""  
  
    in_features = self.params[0].value  
    if in_features:  
        shape_type = arcpy.Describe(in_features).shapeType  
        if shape_type == 'Polygon':  
            self.params[1].filter.list = ['AREA', 'LENGTH', 'CENTROID']  
  
        elif shape_type == 'Polyline':  
            self.params[1].filter.list = ['LENGTH', 'CENTROID']  
  
        else:  
            self.params[1].filter.list = ['CENTROID']  
    else:  
        self.params[1].filter.list = ['AREA', 'LENGTH', 'CENTROID']  
  
    return
```

updateMessages

- Provide warnings or errors before running the tool
- Provide information in Geoprocessing pane in real time



```
def updateMessages(self):  
    """Customize messages for the parameters."""  
  
    in_features = self.params[0].value  
  
    if in_features:  
        selection = arcpy.Describe(in_features).FIDSet  
  
        if not selection:  
            self.params[0].setErrorMessage('Input has no selection')  
  
    return
```


Tool Properties: Shift Features

General
Parameters
Execution
Validation
Environments

```
class ToolValidator:
    # Class to add custom behavior and properties to the tool and tool parameters.

    def __init__(self):
        # set self.params for use in other function
        self.params = arcpy.GetParameterInfo()

    def initializeParameters(self):
        # Customize parameter properties.
        # This gets called when the tool is opened.
        return

    def updateParameters(self):
        # Modify parameter values and properties.
        # This gets called each time a parameter is modified, before
        # standard validation.
        return

    def updateMessages(self):
        # Customize messages for the parameters.
        # This gets called after standard validation.
        self.params[0].clearMessage()
        self.params[0].setIDMessage("WARNING", 230001, 'The input features will be updated.')
        #self.params[0].setWarningMessage('The input features will be updated')
        desc = arcpy.Describe(self.params[0])
        if desc.SpatialReference.type == 'Geographic':
            self.params[0].setErrorMessage("Input feature layers must be projected.")
        return
```

Demo: Validation

https://esriurl.com/shift_features_tool

https://esriurl.com/validation_game

postExecute

https://esriurl.com/gp_postprocessing

- Validation method that is called when a tool finishes
- Use for interacting with the map and modifying symbology

```
def postExecute(self):  
    """This method takes place after outputs are processed and added to the display."""  
  
    try:  
        project = arcpy.mp.ArcGISProject('CURRENT')  
        active_map = project.activeMap  
  
        if active_map:  
            out_layer = active_map.listLayers(os.path.basename(self.params[0].valueAsText))[0]  
  
            symbology = out_layer.symbology  
            symbology.updateRenderer('SimpleRenderer')  
            symbology.renderer.symbol.applySymbolFromGallery('Airport')  
            symbology.renderer.symbol.size = 12  
            out_layer.symbology = symbology  
  
    except Exception:  
        pass  
  
    return
```


Sharing



Sharing

https://esriurl.com/gp_sharetools

- In many cases, you will be creating a tool for others
- There are several options for sharing tools:
 - Geoprocessing sample
 - Geoprocessing package
 - Web tool
 - Geoprocessing service
- In every Pro release, tools are added and enhanced
 - Use Analyze Toolbox For Version / Save Toolbox To Version tools to analyze your tools

Shift Features



ArcGIS Pro script tool for moving features by distance.

 Geoprocessing sample by [slim_esri](#)

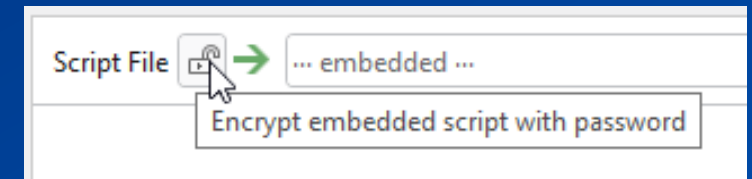
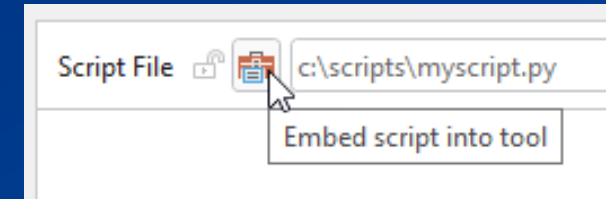
Item created: Sep 1, 2023 Item updated: Sep 1, 2023
Number of downloads: 0

Demo: Sharing a geoprocessing package

https://esriurl.com/shift_features_tool

Embedding and encryption

- You can embed code in .atbx and .tbx toolboxes
 - The source file is embedded by default
 - One less file to manage
- When embedded the file can be encrypted
- Python toolboxes also support encryption
 - The entire .pyt file is encrypted



Questions

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/dave-wynne/>

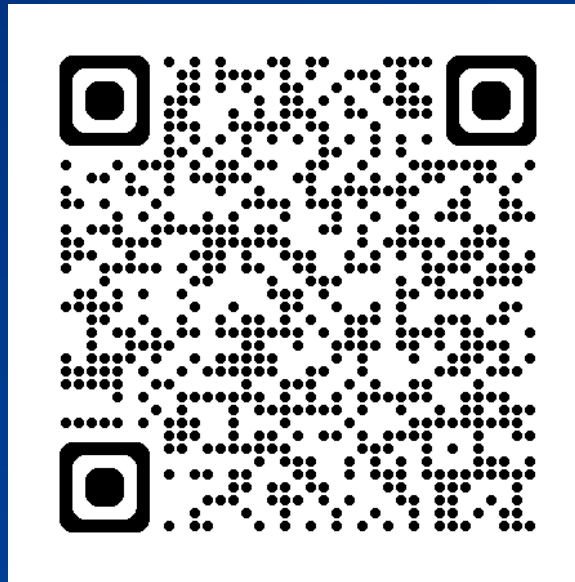
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/seanlimhy/>



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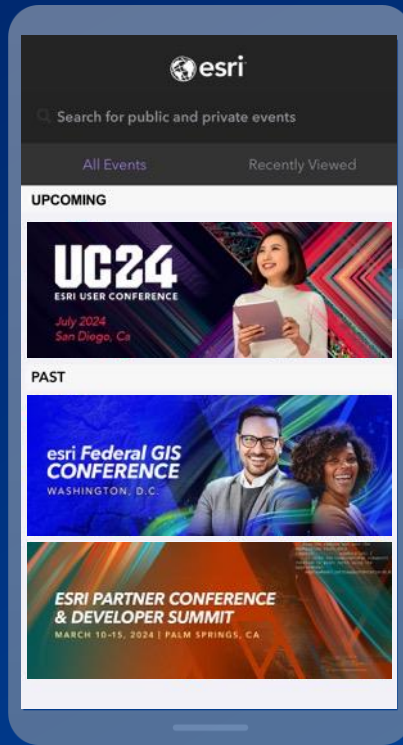
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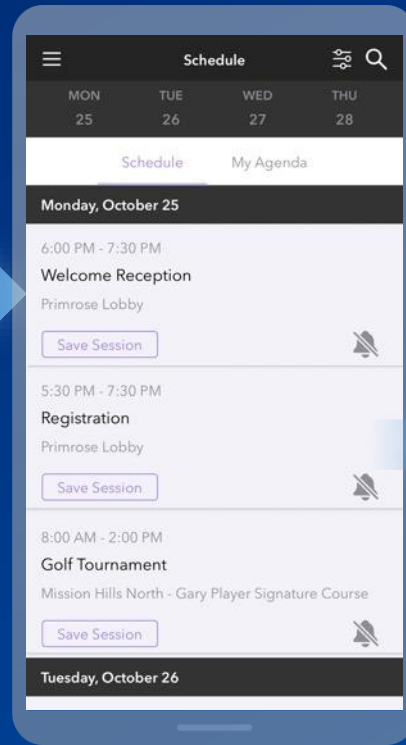


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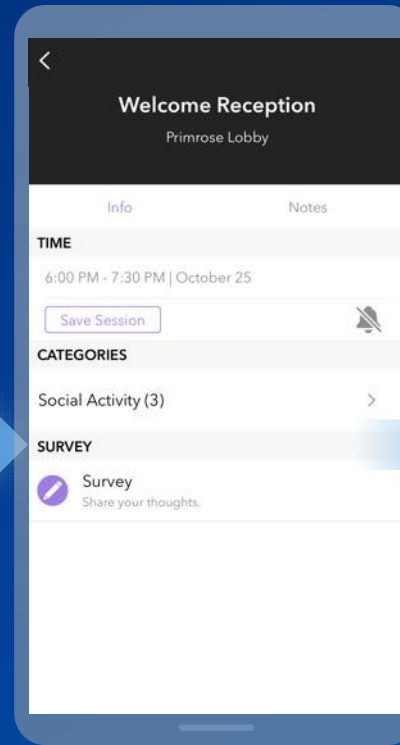
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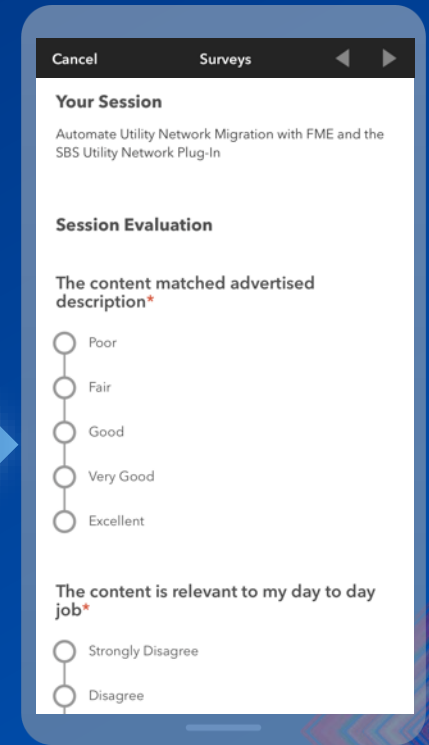
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