Purchase Management with Python

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1 Introduction

I developed this program for two reasons. Firstly, to significantly reduce the time and number of errors in the wine ordering process. Secondly, to create a bespoke purchase management system to facilitate the tracking, reconciliation and payment of multiple orders from multiple suppliers in a time efficient manner.

A description of the development process and implementation follows. Please get in touch at dan@dan-sharp.com if you have any feedback.

2 Ordering Process and Potential for Automation.

The wine ordering process can be broken down into smaller steps.

- 1. Compile the orders.
- 2. Entering orders into a spreadsheet.
- 3. Copy and paste orders into email and send.

The third step is the time consuming process. This step also doesn't require any specialised knowledge or intuition. It's just a repetitive process and thus ripe for automation. Although it is possible to automate the order compiling process through analysis of past sales etc, this gets very complicated, very quickly. The greatest cost:benefit ratio comes from automating the emailing process.

3 The Interface

To keep the development time short I decided to use Excel as the interface. This meant I didn't have to spend time learning to build a GUI. Excel is also pretty

A	В	С	D
ORDERS			
ORDERS			
Company	Product	Units	LUC
3 Infinite Wine Imports	Home-schooled "Organic" Prosecco	24	14.51
4 Brian Cox	Eulers Falanghina		19.80
5 0511 477 77	Hubble Bubble Morgon	8	22.84
6 brian@infinity.com.au	Titan Pinot Grigio		26.50
7	New Glenn 'Titan' Vino Bianco	48	24.83
8			
9			
10 CC EMAIL			
11 accounts@danstearooms.com.au			
12 BCC EMAIL			
13			
14 PERSONAL EMAIL MESSAGE			
15 Dear Brian, Thank you for the tasting last week. We will pour the Home-schooled prosecco by the glass. Please			
16			
17			
18 INVOICE NOTES			
19 Please email invoice to accounts@danstearooms.com			
20			
21			

Figure 1: Wine ordering spreadsheet example.

universal, almost everyone has at least an elementary knowledge of spreadsheets. Python also interacts very nicely with Excel thanks to the openpyxl library.

While the spreadsheet can take any form, each 'order block' needs to have exactly the same layout to be read correctly. The information in each order block (typically arranged by supplier) must be spaced at multiples of the same integer. In the example below, each block is separated by 20 cells. The order block length is set by changing the value of the INCREMENT constant. Arranged like the this new blocks can be added indefinitely (at least until the end of the spreadsheet).

In each block there is the company name, sales representative and email address. I've also included a cell for CC and BCC emails. The personal message field is for the main body of the email. There is also a cell for notes such as delivery instructions.

4 How It Works

The program is broken down into several modules. Each module uses one or two functions to complete a specific step in the algorithm. The complete code for each module is included in the appendix.

The main program is order.py When run, it opens the order spreadsheet and selects the active sheet. A for loop iterates over each order block, and a nested for loop iterates over each cell in each block. It calls the <code>is_empty</code> function to check if any cell in the order quantity column contains data. If the cell is not empty the product, quantity and price cells are added to their respective lists.

When the end of the order block is reached the three lists are compiled into a dictionary called order.

The generate_table module converts the dictionary into a pandas dataframe. The tax and total columns are created in pandas. I have included a total with and without GST, but any tax or price calculations can be done such as adding WET tax.

The dataframe is plotted as a table and saved as order.png. Whilst this is probably not the most elegant or efficient way to handle data it was the easiest way to insert order tables of different sizes into a pdf file. In the future I would like to write the order dictionary directly into the pdf.

The module <code>generate_pdf</code> creates the purchase order pdf using a package called report labs. Depending on how proficient you are at document design, this can be as detailed as you like. The company details from the order block are written into the pdf and the order table is inserted.

The unique PO reference is created by the <code>generate_po_ref</code> function. It is the first three letters of the supplier name, and the last five characters of the current date and time in hexadecimal. The PO reference can be absolutely anything simply by changing the function.

This module also saves a copy of the pdf in a series of folders called 'Draft Orders' with sub folders labelled with the current date and company.

A Pandas dataframe is created with the details of each draft order is created and printed in the console as pictured below. This allows you to check the purchase orders before they are sent and verify the amount spent to make sure no spending caps are being exceeded. This function can also be altered to make sure order are large enough for free freight and throw up a warning if not.

The send_drafts function takes three inputs. 'Y' calls send_message function and send all orders in the dataframe. 'N' deletes the drafts folder and any other input prints Invalid input and recalls the function.

Lastly the date, PO reference, and total cost of the order are saved into the order spreadsheet. This is very useful as it allows the person receiving the order to easily check if there are any pricing discrepancies.

After all order blocks in the active sheet have been iterated over the workbook is saved and the orders in the 'Draft Orders' folder are moved into the 'Sent Orders' folder.

The 'Sent Orders' folder contains dated folders with all companies that orders were sent to on those dates. This allows any PO to be found quickly by date or company.

5 Conclusion

I have been using this program for the past few months. It has reduced the ordering time required per week from 90 to 20 minutes. The larger the number of suppliers the more time is saved. The greatest benefit has been in stock control and accounting. Because of the unique PO reference number each order can be pinned to an invoice payment and reconciliation is much simpler. Cost control is also much easier because the invoice total can easily be checked against the order sheet.

The program is also very easy to adapt to different email systems and companies. For example, it is easy to implement a module that emails all purchase orders

DANS TEAROOMS Purchase Order 57-97 Ploughshare St Trinity 2024 05 8060 9999 danstearooms.com Brian Cox Infinite Wine Imports 0511 477 77 brian@infinity.com.au PO REF: INFEE99D DATE: 09-06-2020 Hubble Bubble Morgon New Glenn 'Titan' Vino Bianco 1311.02 1191.84 Notes: Please include PO reference on invoice. Please email invoice to accounts@danstearooms.com **DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS:** Deliver between 10am & 5pm Monday - Friday Use loading dock on Lens St For any issues please contact: dan@danstearooms.com

Figure 2: Purchase order pdf created from first order block in figure 1.

for the month to the accounting team, or rejects orders if they are over a certain budget cap.

```
(base) Users-MacBook-Pro-3:wine_ordering user$ Ipython order.py
[Hello!
Compiling orders...
0 email
                                            brian@infinity.com.au
                                          Infinite Wine Imports
company
body
             Dear Brian, Thank you for the tasting last wee...
             Draft Orders/09-06-2020/Infinite Wine Imports/...
po
                                   accounts@danstearooms.com.au
cc_email
bcc_email
                                                           None
cost
                                                        1895.07
Name: 0, dtype: object
                                     monkeyallen@chimpimports.com
1 email
company
                                                   Monkey Wines
body
             Hi Robin, Greating catching up on Wednesday. ...
             Draft Orders/09-06-2020/Monkey Wines/MONEE99F.pdf
ро
cc_email
                                   accounts@danstearooms.com.au
bcc_email
                                                           None
cost
                                                        1358.68
Name: 1, dtype: object
2 email
                                      frysquared@cagedwines.co.nz
company
                                                     Cage Vinos
             Dear Hannah, Hope you had a great weekend? May...
body
               Draft Orders/09-06-2020/Cage Vinos/CAGEE9A1.pdf
ро
cc_email
                                   accounts@danstearooms.com.au
bcc_email
                                                           None
                                                           1320
cost
Name: 2, dtype: object
You have 3 draft orders with a total cost inc GST of: $4573.75.
Send orders?: Y/N
Sending order to Infinite Wine Imports
Sending order to Monkey Wines
Sending order to Cage Vinos
Ordering completed.
Have a nice day!
```

Figure 3: Command line screen printout for three orders.

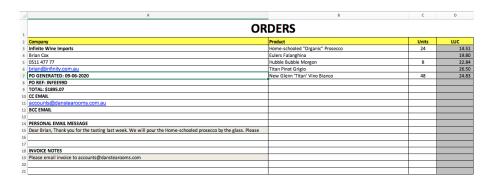


Figure 4: Order spreadsheet from figure 1 after order has been sent.

Thank you for reading if you got this far. If you would like to utilize this code it is available on my GitHub.

6 Appendix

```
2 Created on Mon May 11 17:21:19 2020
_{\rm 4} Purpose: To compile, generate purchase order and email orders from
      an Excel spreadsheet.
6 Author: Daniel Sharp
9 import os
10 import openpyxl
import generate_po_ref as pr
import generate_date as gd
import generate_table as gt
import generate_pdf as gp
import is_empty as ie
16 import send_drafts as sd
17 import pandas as pd
18 import time
19 import shutil
20
21 INCREMENT = 20 # Define order block length. Change to worksheet
      specifications.
22
print('Hello!\n \nCompiling orders...\n')
24
vb = openpyxl.load_workbook('Order Sheet/order_sheet_2020.xlsx') #
      Open order workbook.
sheet = wb.active # Select active sheet
row_count = sheet.max_row # Get length of sheet
29 start = 3 # Start value of first order block.
30 end = 21 # End value of first order block.
31
32 cost_list = [] # Create empty cost list.
33 email_list = []
34 company_list = []
35 body_list = []
36 po_list = []
37 cc_list = []
38 bcc_list = []
40 drafts = {}
41
42 for order_blocks in range(0,row_count): # Select worksheet rows to
      iterate over.
43
      order = {} # Create empty order dictionary.
44
      units_list = [] # Create empty number of units list.
45
      product_list = [] # Create empty product list
46
      luc_list = [] # Create empty price list.
47
48
      for cell_value in range(start, end): # Iterate over cells in
49
      order block.
      date = gd.generate_date() # Call date function.
```

```
po_ref = pr.generate_po_ref() # Call generate po refernce
51
      function.
52
          company = sheet.cell(start,1).value # Get company name from
53
       spreadsheet
          if ie.is_empty(company) == True: # If no company in cell,
54
      break out of loop.
              break
          full_name = sheet.cell(start + 1, 1).value # Get email
57
      recipient.
          mobile = sheet.cell(start + 2, 1).value # Get mobile number
          email = sheet.cell(start + 3, 1).value # Get company email.
59
          cc_email = sheet.cell(start + 8, 1).value # Get cc email.
60
          bcc_email = sheet.cell(start + 10, 1).value # Get bcc email
61
          filename = company[0:3].upper() + po_ref # Create unique PO
62
       reference.
          notes = sheet.cell(start + 16, 1).value # Get invoice notes
63
          body = sheet.cell(start + 12, 1).value # Get email body.
64
          suffix = '.pdf'
65
          po = os.path.join('Draft Orders',date, company, filename +
66
      suffix) # Defines PO attachment name.
          quantity = sheet.cell(cell_value,3).value # Get quantity
68
      ordered.
69
          if ie.is_empty(quantity) == False: # Create order if a
70
      number of units is specified.
71
              product = sheet.cell(cell_value,2).value # Create list
72
      of products ordered.
              product_list.append(product)
73
74
              units = sheet.cell(cell_value,3).value # Create list of
75
       units ordered.
              units_list.append(units)
76
77
              luc = sheet.cell(cell_value,4).value # Create list of
      prices.
              luc_list.append(luc)
79
80
          order['Units'] = units_list # Create order dictionary of
81
      lists
          order['Product'] = product_list
82
          order['LUC'] = luc_list
83
84
      if ie.is_empty(units_list) == False: # If units list is not
      empty create order pdf and email.
          gt.generate_table(order) # Create order table and PO pdf.
86
          gp.generate_pdf(company, filename, full_name, mobile, email
87
       , date, notes)
           email_list.append(email)
89
          company_list.append(company)
```

```
body_list.append(body)
91
            po_list.append(po)
92
            cc_list.append(cc_email)
93
            bcc_list.append(bcc_email)
94
95
            cost = gt.generate_table(order)
96
97
            cost_list.append(cost)
98
            sheet.cell(start + 4, 1).value = 'PO GENERATED: ' + date #
       Save date, PO ref and cost to spreadsheet.
            sheet.cell(start + 5, 1).value = 'PO REF: ' + filename
100
            sheet.cell(start + 6, 1).value = 'TOTAL: $' + cost
101
102
103
            cost = float(cost)
104
            drafts['email'] = email_list
105
            drafts['company'] = company_list
106
            drafts['body'] = body_list
107
108
            drafts['po'] = po_list
            drafts['cc_email'] = cc_list
drafts['bcc_email'] = bcc_list
109
110
            drafts['cost'] = cost_list
111
            print('* * *\n')
112
            time.sleep(1)
113
114
        start += INCREMENT # Increment start and end values to next
115
       block.
        end += INCREMENT
116
117
wb.save('Order Sheet/order_sheet_2020.xlsx') # Save workbook
119
if ie.is_empty(cost_list) == False:
        df = pd.DataFrame(drafts)
121
       df['cost'] = df['cost'].astype(float)
122
       num_orders = len(df.index)
123
124
       total_cost = round(df['cost'].sum(),2)
125
126
       for i,j in df.iterrows():
           print(i,j)
127
128
            print()
129
        if num_orders == 1:
130
131
           print(f'You have {num_orders} draft order with a total cost
        inc GST of: ${total_cost}.\n')
        else:
132
           print(f'You have {num_orders} draft orders with a total
133
       cost inc GST of: ${total_cost}.\n')
134
       sd.send_drafts(df)
135
136
        shutil.rmtree('Draft Orders/') # Delete drafts.
137
138
139 else:
       print("You haven't placed any orders dumb dumb! Ask your Mum if
140
        you can have another go.")
print('Ordering completed.\nHave a nice day!')
```

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
2 # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
3 """
4 Created on Sat May 9 09:49:40 2020
6 @author: Daniel Sharp
9 # Import libaries
10 import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
12
def generate_table(order):
14
      Generate table from order dictionary. Calculate tax and insert
15
      total columns and rows.
16
      Parameters
17
      order : TYPE Dictionary of lists.
19
         DESCRIPTION. Dict with order columns as keys, values are
20
      order "Units", "Product", "LUC".
21
22
      Returns
23
      total_cost : TYPE float.
24
          DESCRIPTION. Total cost of order inc tax.
25
26
27
28
      df = pd.DataFrame.from_dict(order) # Create dataframe.
29
30
      df[['Units', 'LUC']] = df[['Units', 'LUC']].apply(pd.to_numeric
31
      ) # Convert units & LUC to numeric type.
      df['Total ex GST'] = df['LUC'] * df['Units'] # Calculate
32
      product total ex GST.
      df[['Units', 'LUC', 'Total ex GST']] = df[['Units', 'LUC', '
33
      Total ex GST']].apply(pd.to_numeric)
      df['Total inc GST'] = df['LUC'] * df['Units'] * 1.1 # Calculate
34
       GST.
35
      df = df.round({'LUC': 2, 'Units': 0, 'Total ex GST': 2, 'Total
36
      inc GST':2}) # Round to two decimal places.
      df = df.set_index('Product')
37
38
      df.loc['Total'] = df[['Total ex GST', 'Total inc GST']].sum().
39
      reindex(df.columns, fill_value='') # Sum totals.
      df = df.round({'LUC': 2, 'Units': 0, 'Total ex GST': 2, 'Total
40
      inc GST':2}) #Round totals.
      df.reset_index(level=0, inplace=True)
      df = df.set_index('Product')
42
      df.reset_index(level=0, inplace=True)
43
      total_cost = str(df.loc[df.index[-1], 'Total inc GST']) #
44
      Create total cost string.
45
      table = pd.DataFrame(df) # Plot dataframe as table.
46
table = plt.table(cellText=df.values, colLabels=table.columns,
```

```
loc='left',colColours=['darkorange']*df.shape[1], colWidths
      =[0.8,0.1,0.12,0.2,0.2])
      table.auto_set_font_size(False)
48
       table.set_fontsize(8) # Set font size to 8.
49
      plt.axis('off')
50
      plt.savefig('order.png', bbox_inches='tight') #Save order table
51
        as .png
      plt.clf()
52
return total_cost
#!/usr/bin/env python3
2 # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
3 """
4 Created on Sat May 9 09:49:40 2020
6 @author: Daniel Sharp
9 from reportlab.pdfgen import canvas
10 from reportlab.lib.units import mm
11 import os.path
12 import pathlib
13 import os
14 import coord as cd
15
17 def generate_pdf(company, filename, full_name, mobile, email, date,
18
      Draws pdf document. Inserts details from spreadsheet.
19
20
      Self commenting.
21
      Returns
23
      None. Saves PO in Draft Orders folder.
24
25
26
27
      pdf = os.path.join('Draft Orders', date, company)
28
29
       pathlib.Path(pdf).mkdir(parents=True, exist_ok=True)
30
31
       pdf = os.path.join('Draft Orders', date, company, filename + '.
32
      pdf')
33
       c = canvas.Canvas(pdf, bottomup=1)
34
35
      c.drawImage('order.png',42.5, 300, width=850,
36
      preserveAspectRatio=True, anchor='c')
37
38
       c.rect(15, 15, 565, 810, stroke=1, fill=0)
      c.rect(45, 240, 500, 400, stroke=1, fill=0)
c.rect(45, 45, 500, 160, stroke=1, fill=0)
39
40
41
42
      c.setFont('Helvetica-Bold', 25)
43
      c.drawString(*cd.coord(125,279, mm), text='Purchase Order')
```

```
45
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(15,279, mm), text='DANS TEAROOMS')
46
47
       c.setFont('Helvetica-Bold', 14)
48
49
       # c.drawImage('Black logo - no background.png',40, 740, width
50
       =50, preserveAspectRatio=True, mask='auto', anchor='c')
51
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(15, 270, mm), text='57-97 Ploughshare St
52
       ')
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(15, 265, mm), text='Trinity 2024')
c.drawString(*cd.coord(15, 260, mm), text='05 8060 9999')
53
54
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(15, 255, mm), text='danstearooms.com')
55
56
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(30, 215, mm), text=full_name)
c.drawString(*cd.coord(30, 210, mm), text=company)
c.drawString(*cd.coord(30, 205, mm), text=mobile)
57
58
59
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(30, 200, mm), text=email)
60
61
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(132.5,215, mm), text='PO REF: ' +
62
       filename)
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(132.5,210, mm), text='DATE: ' + date)
63
64
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(25, 60, mm), text='DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS
65
       : ')
66
       c.setFont('Helvetica-Bold', 12)
67
68
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(30 ,120, mm), text='Notes:')
69
70
       c.setFont('Helvetica', 12)
71
72
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(30 ,115, mm), text='Please include PO
73
       reference on invoice.')
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(30 ,110, mm), text=notes)
74
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(25, 55, mm), text='Deliver between 10am
76
       & 5pm Monday - Friday')
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(25, 50, mm), text='Use loading dock on
77
       Lens St')
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(25, 35, mm), text='For any issues please
       contact: ')
       c.drawString(*cd.coord(25, 30, mm), text='dan@danstearooms.com'
80
81
       c.showPage()
   c.save()
82
#!/usr/bin/env python3
2 # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
4 Created on Sat May 9 16:25:59 2020
6 @author: Daniel Sharp
7 | 11 11 11
9 def generate_po_ref():
```

```
11 Convert date and time to hexidecimal.
12
     Returns
13
14
      hexNum : TYPE Hexidecial Number
15
        DESCRIPTION. Last five characters of the current date and
16
      time in hexidecimal.
17
18
     from datetime import datetime
19
20
     now = datetime.now()
21
     date_time = now.strftime("%d%m%Y%H%M%S")
22
     int_date_time = int(date_time)
23
     intNum = int_date_time
24
     po_ref = hex(intNum).upper()[-5:]
25
26
return po_ref
```

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
2 # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
4 Created on Mon May 11 22:06:45 2020
6 @author: Daniel Sharp
9 from datetime import datetime
10
def generate_date():
12
13
14
     Returns
15
16
date : TYPE String
     DESCRIPTION. Current date.
18
19
20
21
     now = datetime.now() # current date and time
22
     date = now.strftime("%d-%m-%Y")
date = str(date)
23
24
return date
```

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
"""

Created on Sun May 24 22:27:50 2020

author: user
"""

import generate_date as gd
import send_loop as sl
import move_files as ml
```

```
13 date = gd.generate_date()
def send drafts(df):
16
      df.to_string(index=False)
17
      value = input("Send orders?: Y/N\n")
18
      value = value.upper()
19
20
      if value == 'Y':
21
22
          for i in range(len(df)):
23
               email = df.iloc[i, 0]
24
               company = df.iloc[i, 1]
25
               body = df.iloc[i, 2]
26
               po = df.iloc[i, 3]
27
               cc_email = df.iloc[i, 4]
28
               bcc_email = df.iloc[i, 5]
29
30
31
               print(f'Sending order to {company}')
               sl.send_loop(email, company, body,po,cc_email,bcc_email
32
      )
33
               ml.move_files(company, po)
34
35
      elif value == 'N':
36
          print('Orders not sent.')
37
38
39
          print('Invalid input. Please try again.')
40
          send_drafts(df)
41
#!/usr/bin/env python3
2 # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
4 Created on Tue May 26 22:34:27 2020
6 @author: user
8 import generate_date as gd
9 import os.path
10 import pathlib
11 import os
12 import shutil
date = gd.generate_date()
15
def move_files(company,po):
17
      filename = po[-12:]
18
19
20
      destination = os.path.join('Sent Orders', date, company)
21
      pathlib.Path(destination).mkdir(parents=True, exist_ok=True)
22
23
      destination = os.path.join('Sent Orders', date, company,
24
      filename)
25
      source = os.path.join('Draft Orders', date, company, filename)
```

```
27
    for item in source:
shutil.copy(source, destination)
#!/usr/bin/env python3
2 # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
4 Created on Sat May 9 09:49:40 2020
6 @author: Daniel Sharp
9 def is_empty(any_structure):
10
     Check if any container is empty.
11
12
     Parameters
13
14
     any_structure : TYPE Any data container.
15
        DESCRIPTION.
16
17
    Returns
18
19
    bool
20
      DESCRIPTION. True if container is empty. False if contains
21
     any data.
22
23
24
    if any_structure:
        return False
25
26
    else:
27 return True
#!/usr/bin/env python3
2 # -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
4 Created on Sat May 9 10:02:48 2020
6 @author: Daniel Sharp
9 def coord(x, y, unit=1):
10
     Converts pdf spacing co-ordinates to metric.
11
12
13
14
    x, y = x * unit, y * unit
return x, y
```