Cocoa Development With Objective-C And Python

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Following

Final prep for @macaduk today.

grahamgilbert / **macaduk_2016** PRIVATE

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4:00 AM - 1 Feb 2016

Walthamstow, London

I'm quite the slacker, so when I saw this Tweet from Graham I was all like...

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Source Code

github.com/futureimperfect/macaduk-pyobjc-demo

github.com/futureimperfect/MacADUKDemo

Agenda

1. What is Cocoa?
2. Python Demo
3. Objective-C Demo
4. Wrap up and questions

Cocoa

Foundation: Provides things like NSString, NSDictionary, NSArray, NSUserDefaults. It's root class is NSObject.

AppKit: Windows, buttons, text fields, etc.

CoreData: SQLite behind the scenes, but abstracts this from the developer.

Cocoa is a wrapper framework which includes Foundation, AppKit, and CoreData

- **Foundation:** Utility classes, primitive objects
- **AppKit:** UI system framework (UIKit in CocoaTouch)
- **CoreData:** Object persistence framework

Pyobjc

Pros	Cons
Rapid Prototyping	(Lack Of) Community Support
No brackets	lots.of_and_(underscores, ambiguity)

Not that much easier to use despite being Python because you're using the same APIs. In some cases it might even be more awkward than Objective-C because all colons are replaced with underscores, and the arguments are pushed to the right, (between parentheses).

The message dispatch would read [lots of:underscores and:ambiguity]; in Objective-C.

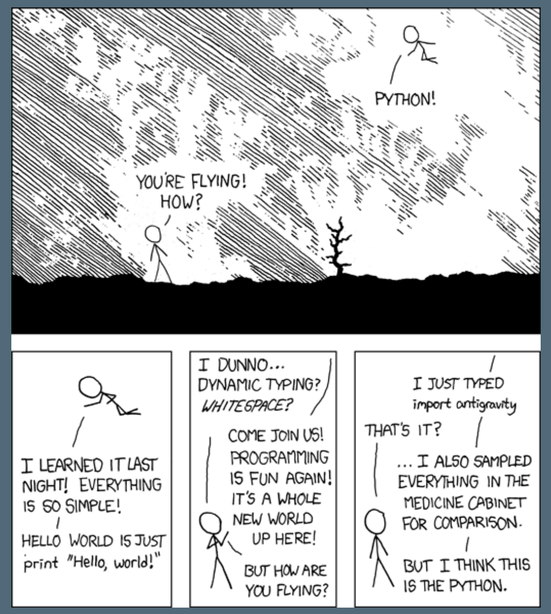
From the official documentation:

"Objective-C objects communicate with each other by sending messages. The syntax for messages is somewhere in-between Python's positional and keyword arguments. Specificlaly, Objective-C message dispatch uses positional arguments, but parts of the message name (called "selector" in Objective-C terminology) are interleaved with the arguments."

"In order to have a lossless and unambiguous translation between Objective-C messages and Python methods, the Python method name equivalent is simply the selector with colons replaced by underscores. Since each colon in an Objective-C selector is a placeholder for an argument, the number of underscores in the PyObjC-ified method name is the number of arguments that should be given."

An Objective-C message looks like this:

[someObject doSomething:arg1 withSomethingElse:arg2];



Objective-C

Pros	Cons
Community Support	Not Swift
Performant	Brackets
Battle Tested	Pointers

What We're Building, Part 1

Terminal — macaduk_demo.py — 41×15

```
# WiFi Info

RSSI: -46 dBm
Noise: -90 dBmm
Interface Name: en0
Tx Rate: 217.00
Channel: 116
```

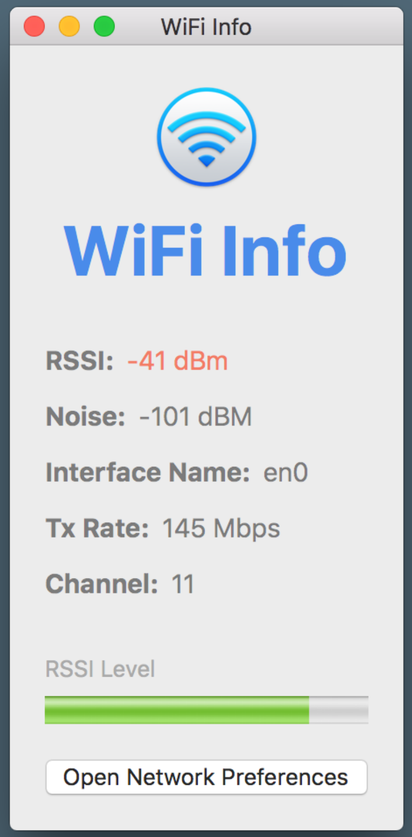
Use 

Use pip

Use 

```
from Cocoa import CWInterface
interface = CWInterface.interface()
interface_name = interface.interfaceName()
rssi = interface.rssiValue()
noise = interface.noiseMeasurement()
tx_rate = interface.transmitRate()
channel = interface.channel()
do_stuff(interface_name_, rssi, noise,
tx_rate, channel)
```

What We're Building, Part 2



What We Covered

How to build a simple Cocoa app

How to use CoreWLAN in Python and Objective-C

How not to use GIFs in a presentation

We used it to retrieve RSSI, channel, interface name, noise, and Tx Rate

Can also be used to configure the network and set AirPort power, for instance.

developer.apple.com

pythonhosted.org/pyobjc