

# BUILDING CLIS THAT CLICK

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**BUILDING GOOD COMMAND LINE  
APPLICATIONS IS HARD**

# **IMPORTANT PARTS**

**NAME**

**ARGUMENT PARSING AND VALIDATION \***

**HELP GENERATION \***

**COMMAND STRUCTURE \***

**AUTOCOMPLETION**

**NICE OUTPUT**

**PACKAGING \***

# ARGUMENTS AND HELP

Relatable Post #1864

how I feel in an argument:



[so-relatable.tumblr.com](http://so-relatable.tumblr.com)

# THREE DIFFERENT PARSERS IN THE STDLIB

- getopt
- optparse
- argparse

**I MEAN ARGPARSE IS THE NEW HOTNESS???**

**SERIOUSLY WHO KNOWS HOW  
\*!@%PARSE WORKS ANYWAY**

**NO REALLY HAVE YOU LOOKED AT  
THE DOCS...**



## 15.4.2. ArgumentParser objects

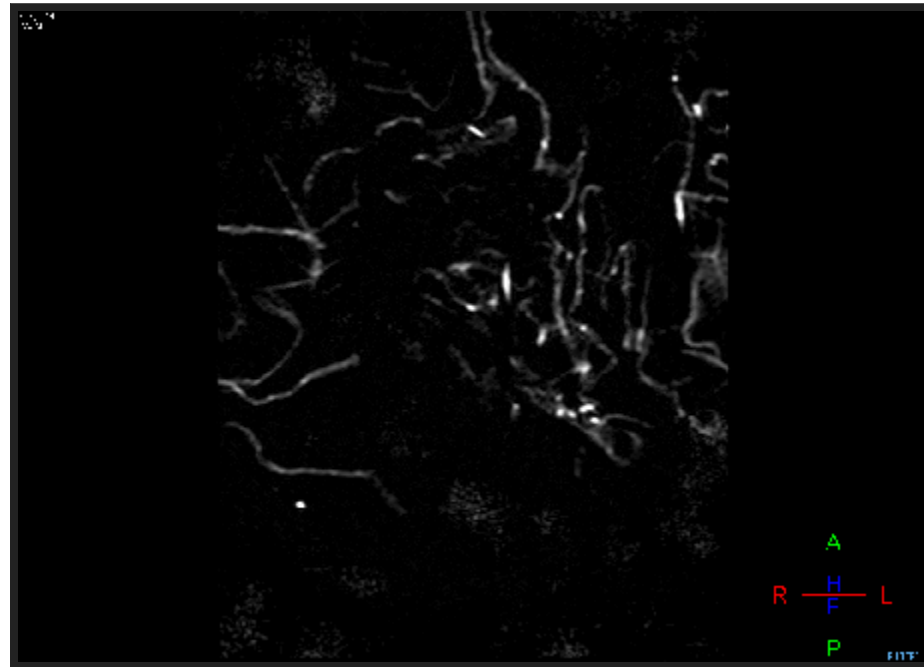
```
class argparse.ArgumentParser(prog=None, usage=None,  
description=None, epilog=None, parents=[],  
formatter_class=argparse.HelpFormatter, prefix_chars='-',  
fromfile_prefix_chars=None, argument_default=None, conflict_handler='error',  
add_help=True)
```

Create a new **ArgumentParser** object. All parameters should be passed as keyword arguments. Each parameter has its own more detailed description below, but in short they are:

- **prog** - The name of the program (default: `sys.argv[0]`)
- **usage** - The string describing the program usage (default: generated from arguments added to parser)
- **description** - Text to display before the argument help (default: none)
- **epilog** - Text to display after the argument help (default: none)
- **parents** - A list of **ArgumentParser** objects whose arguments should also be included
- **formatter\_class** - A class for customizing the help output
- **prefix\_chars** - The set of characters that prefix optional arguments (default: '-')
- **fromfile\_prefix\_chars** - The set of characters that prefix files from which additional arguments should be read (default: `None`)
- **argument\_default** - The global default value for arguments (default: `None`)
- **conflict\_handler** - The strategy for resolving conflicting optionals (usually unnecessary)
- **add\_help** - Add a -h/--help option to the parser (default: `True`)

The following sections describe how each of these are used.

# SERIOUSLY BRAIN CELLS EXPLODE



# HOW BAD IS IT?

- docopt
- Plac
- Cliff
- Clint

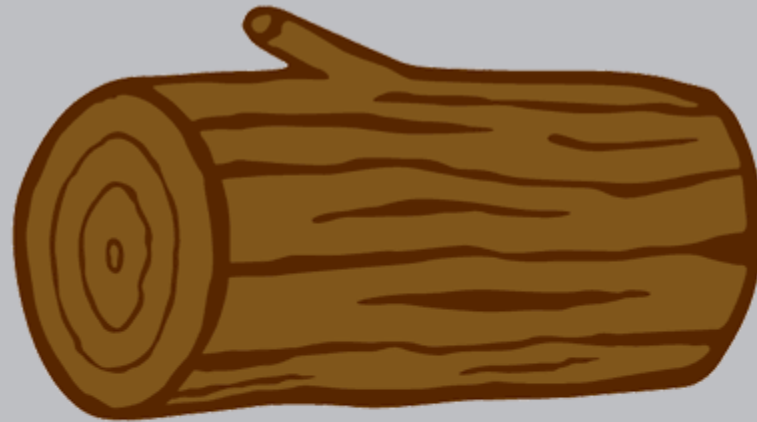
```
import sys
if __name__ == "__main__":
    main(sys.argv)
```

\$ click \_

A pixelated cursor arrow, resembling a classic computer mouse pointer, is positioned in the bottom right corner of the text box. It is composed of black pixels on a white background, with a vertical line and a diagonal line meeting at a point.

**DEMO**

# LOGGING



**IT'S BETTER THAN  
BAD. IT'S GOOD.**

# GOOD LOGGING MESSAGES

- Time
- Module
- Level
- Parseable Messages



2015-05-28 09:25:18,711 - complex.logger - DEBUG - Creating composite: cookies  
2015-05-28 09:25:18,711 - complex.logger - DEBUG - Created composite: cookies

---

# JAM'S LOGGING STYLE



```
import logging

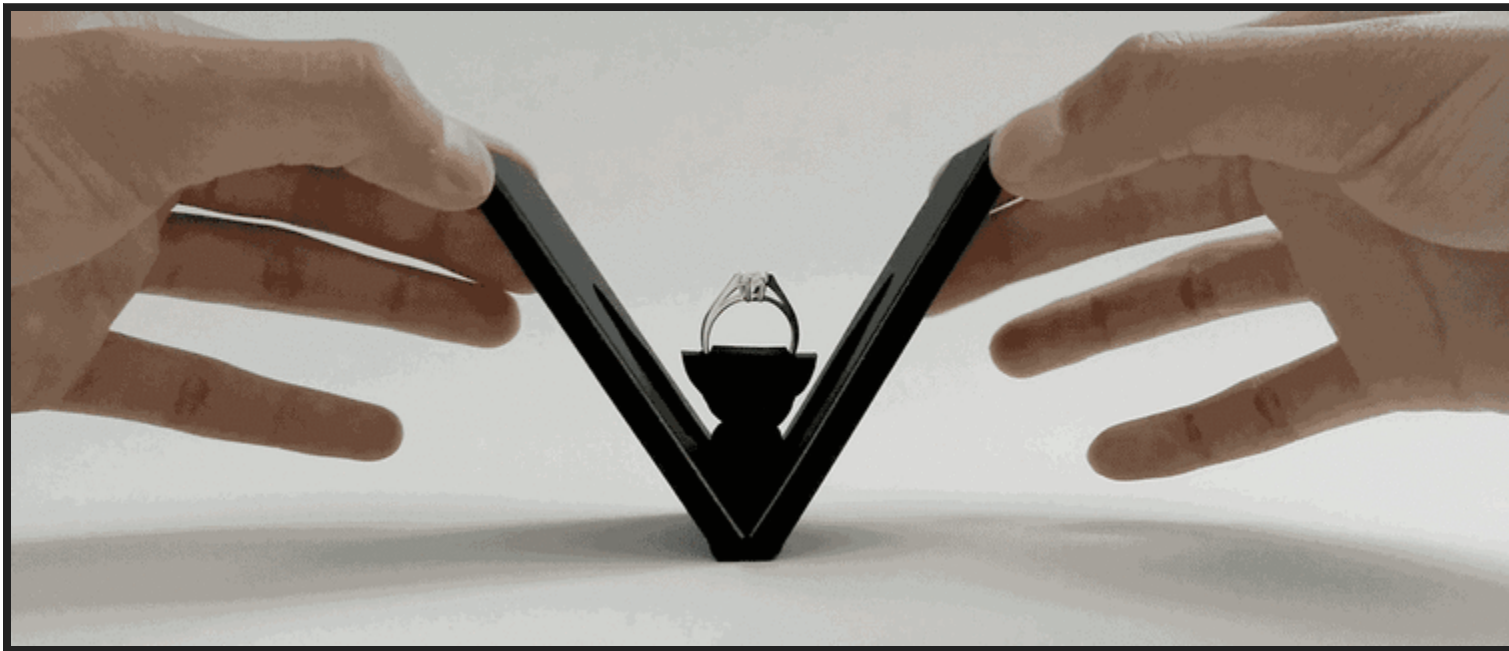
logger = logging.getLogger(__name__)
logger.setLevel(logging.ERROR)
```

```
file_log_handler = logging.FileHandler('complex-cli.log')
logger.addHandler(file_log_handler)

stderr_log_handler = logging.StreamHandler()
logger.addHandler(stderr_log_handler)
```

```
format_string = '%(asctime)s - %(name)s - ' \
                 '%(levelname)s - %(message)s'
formatter = logging.Formatter(format_string)
file_log_handler.setFormatter(formatter)
stderr_log_handler.setFormatter(formatter)
```

# PACKAGING



# FIND OUR MODULE

```
from setuptools import setup, find_packages

setup(
    name='complex',
    version='0.1.2',
    packages=find_packages(),
    include_package_data=True,
```

```
install_requires=[  
    'Click==3.3',  
    ],
```



```
description='A description',  
classifiers=[  
    'License :: OSI Approved :: BSD License',  
    'Programming Language :: Python',  
    'Programming Language :: Python :: 3',  
],
```

```
entry_points=''
[console_scripts]
complex=complex.command:cli
'''
```

```
)
```

# COMPLEX DEMO



# QUESTIONS

@JASONAMYERS