Selenium Python Bindings

Release 2

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Note: This is not an official documentation. Official API documentation is available here.

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CHAPTER

ONE

INSTALLATION

1.1 Introduction

Selenium Python bindings provides a simple API to write functional/acceptance tests using Selenium WebDriver. Through Selenium Python API you can access all functionalities of Selenium WebDriver in an intuitive way.

Selenium Python bindings provide a convenient API to access Selenium WebDrivers like Firefox, Ie, Chrome, Remote etc.. The current supported Python versions are 2.6, 2.7, 3.2 and 3.3.

This documentation explains Selenium 2 WebDriver API. Selenium 1 / Selenium RC API is not covered here.

1.2 Downloading Python bindings for Selenium

You can download Python bindings for Selenium from the PyPI page for selenium package. You can also use easy_install or pip to install the bindings:

```
easy_install selenium
or:
pip install selenium
```

You may consider using virtualenv to create isolated Python environments.

1.3 Detailed instructions for Windows users

Note: You should have internet connection to perform this installation.

- 1. Install Python 2.7 using the MSI available in python.org download page.
- $2. \ \ Create \ a \ folder \ named \ \ C: \ \ \ \ seltests \ and \ download \ virtual env. py \ script \ into \ that \ folder.$
 - If you have downloaded and saved the program properly, please make sure virtualenv.py file exists at this location in your system: C:\seltests\virtualenv.py
- 3. Start a command prompt (using the cmd.exe program), then change to the C:\seltests folder and run the virtualenv.py script as given below.

```
C:
cd C:\seltests
C:\Python27\python.exe virtualenv.py selenv
```

This step will create a folder named C:\seltests\selenv which contains a virtual Python.

4. Use the pip command as given below to install selenium

```
C:\seltests\selenv\Scripts\pip.exe install selenium
```

Now installation has been completed! You can proceed to test your Selenium scripts.

Now you can run your test scripts using the virtual Python. For example, if you have created a Selenium based script and saved it inside C:\seltests\my_selenium_script.py, you can run it like this.

C:\seltests\selenv\Scripts\python.exe C:\seltests\my_selenium_script.py

1.4 Downloading Selenium server

Note: The Selenium server is only required, if you want to use the remote WebDriver. See the *Using Selenium with remote WebDriver* section for more details.

Selenium server is a Java program. Java Runtime Environment (JRE) 1.6 or newer version is recommended to run Selenium server.

You can download Selenium server 2.x from the download page of selenium website. The file name should be something like this: selenium-server-standalone-2.x.x.jar. You can always download the latest 2.x version of Selenium server.

If Java Runtime Environment (JRE) is not installed in your system, you can download the JRE from the Oracle website. If you are using a GNU/Linux system and have root access in your system, you can also use your operating system instructions to install JRE.

If *java* command is available in the PATH (environment variable), you can start the Selenium server using this command:

```
java -jar selenium-server-standalone-2.x.x.jar
```

Replace 2.x.x with actual version of Selenium server you downloaded from the site.

If JRE is installed as a non-root user and/or if it is not available in the PATH (environment variable), you can type the relative or absolute path to the *java* command. Similarly, you can provide relative or absolute path to Selenium server jar file. Then, the command will look something like this:

```
/path/to/java -jar /path/to/selenium-server-standalone-2.x.x.jar
```

CHAPTER

TWO

GETTING STARTED

2.1 Simple Usage

If you have installed Selenium Python bindings, you can start using it from Python like this.

```
from selenium import webdriver
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
driver = webdriver.Firefox()
driver.get("http://www.python.org")
assert "Python" in driver.title
elem = driver.find_element_by_name("q")
elem.send_keys("selenium")
elem.send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
assert "Google" in driver.title
driver.close()
```

The above script can be saved into a file (eg:-python_org_search.py), then it can be run like this:

```
python_org_search.py
```

The python which you are running should have the selenium module installed.

2.2 Walk through of the example

The *selenium.webdriver* module provides all the WebDriver implementations. Currently supported WebDriver implementations are Firefox, Chrome, Ie and Remote. The *Keys* class provide keys in the keyboard like RETURN, F1, ALT etc.

```
from selenium import webdriver
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
```

Next, the instance of Firefox WebDriver is created.

```
driver = webdriver.Firefox()
```

The *driver.get* method will navigate to a page given by the URL. WebDriver will wait until the page has fully loaded (that is, the "onload" event has fired) before returning control to your test or script. It's worth noting that if your page uses a lot of AJAX on load then WebDriver may not know when it has completely loaded.:

```
driver.get("http://www.python.org")
```

The next line is an assertion to confirm that title has "Python" word in it:

```
assert "Python" in driver.title
```

WebDriver offers a number of ways to find elements using one of the find_element_by_* methods. For example, the input text element can be located by its name attribute using find_element_by_name method. Detailed explanation of finding elements is available in the Locating Elements chapter:

```
elem = driver.find_element_by_name("q")
```

Next we are sending keys, this is similar to entering keys using your keyboard. Special keys can be send using *Keys* class imported from *selenium.webdriver.common.keys*:

```
elem.send_keys("selenium")
elem.send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
```

After submission of the page, you should be reached in the Google site:

```
assert "Google" in driver.title
```

Finally, the browser window is closed. You can also call *quit* method instead of *close*. The *quit* will exit entire browser where as *close* will close one tab, but if it just one tab, by default most browser will exit entirely.:

```
driver.close()
```

2.3 Using Selenium to write tests

Selenium is mostly used for writing test cases. The *selenium* package itself doesn't provide a testing tool/framework. You can write test cases using Python's unittest module. The other choices as a tool/framework are py.test and nose.

In this chapter, we use *unittest* as the framework of choice. Here is the modified example which uses unittest module. This is a test for *python.org* search functionality:

```
import unittest
from selenium import webdriver
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
class PythonOrgSearch(unittest.TestCase):
    def setUp(self):
        self.driver = webdriver.Firefox()
    def test_search_in_python_org(self):
        driver = self.driver
        driver.get("http://www.python.org")
        self.assertIn("Python", driver.title)
        elem = driver.find_element_by_name("q")
        elem.send_keys("selenium")
        elem.send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
        self.assertIn("Google", driver.title)
    def tearDown(self):
        self.driver.close()
if __name__ == "__main__":
    unittest.main()
```

You can run the above test case from a shell like this:

The above results shows that, the test has been successfully completed.

2.4 Walk through of the example

Initially, all the basic modules required are imported. The unittest module is a built-in Python based on Java's JUnit. This module provides the framework for organizing the test cases. The *selenium.webdriver* module provides all the WebDriver implementations. Currently supported WebDriver implementations are Firefox, Chrome, Ie and Remote. The *Keys* class provide keys in the keyboard like RETURN, F1, ALT etc.

```
import unittest
from selenium import webdriver
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
```

The test case class is inherited from *unittest.TestCase*. Inheriting from *TestCase* class is the way to tell *unittest* module that, this is a test case:

```
class PythonOrgSearch(unittest.TestCase):
```

The *setUp* is part of initialization, this method will get called before every test function which you are going to write in this test case class. Here you are creating the instance of Firefox WebDriver.

```
def setUp(self):
    self.driver = webdriver.Firefox()
```

This is the test case method. The first line inside this method create a local reference to the driver object created in *setUp* method.

```
def test_search_in_python_org(self):
    driver = self.driver
```

The *driver.get* method will navigate to a page given by the URL. WebDriver will wait until the page has fully loaded (that is, the "onload" event has fired) before returning control to your test or script. It's worth noting that if your page uses a lot of AJAX on load then WebDriver may not know when it has completely loaded.:

```
driver.get("http://www.python.org")
```

The next line is an assertion to confirm that title has "Python" word in it:

```
self.assertIn("Python", driver.title)
```

Note: The assertIn API is only available in Python 2.7 and above.

WebDriver offers a number of ways to find elements using one of the *find_element_by_** methods. For example, the input text element can be located by its *name* attribute using *find_element_by_name* method. Detailed explanation of finding elements is available in the *Locating Elements* chapter:

```
elem = driver.find_element_by_name("q")
```

Next we are sending keys, this is similar to entering keys using your keyboard. Special keys can be send using *Keys* class imported from *selenium.webdriver.common.keys*:

```
elem.send_keys("selenium")
elem.send_keys(Keys.RETURN)
```

After submission of the page, you should be reached in the Google site. You can confirm it by asserting "Google" in the title:

```
self.assertIn("Google", driver.title)
```

The *tearDown* method will get called after every test method. This is a place to do all cleanup actions. In the current method, the browser window is closed. You can also call *quit* method instead of *close*. The *quit* will exit all entire browser where as *close* will close one tab, but if it just one tab, by default most browser will exit entirely.:

```
def tearDown(self):
    self.driver.close()
```

Final lines are some boiler plate code to run the test suite:

```
if __name__ == "__main__":
    unittest.main()
```

2.5 Using Selenium with remote WebDriver

To use the remote WebDriver, you should have Selenium server running. To run the server, use this command:

```
java -jar selenium-server-standalone-2.x.x.jar
```

While running the Selenium server, you could see a message looks like this:

```
15:43:07.541 INFO - RemoteWebDriver instances should connect to: http://127.0.0.1:4444/wd/hub
```

The above line says that, you can use this URL for connecting to remote WebDriver. Here are some examples:

from selenium.webdriver.common.desired_capabilities import DesiredCapabilities

```
driver = webdriver.Remote(
   command_executor='http://127.0.0.1:4444/wd/hub',
   desired_capabilities=DesiredCapabilities.CHROME)

driver = webdriver.Remote(
   command_executor='http://127.0.0.1:4444/wd/hub',
   desired_capabilities=DesiredCapabilities.OPERA)

driver = webdriver.Remote(
   command_executor='http://127.0.0.1:4444/wd/hub',
   desired_capabilities=DesiredCapabilities.HTMLUNITWITHJS)
```

The desired capabilities is a dictionary, so instead of using the default dictionaries, you can specifies the values explicitly:

CHAPTER

THREE

NAVIGATING

The first thing you'll want to do with WebDriver is navigate to a link. The normal way to do this is by calling get method:

```
driver.get("http://www.google.com")
```

WebDriver will wait until the page has fully loaded (that is, the onload event has fired) before returning control to your test or script. It's worth noting that if your page uses a lot of AJAX on load then WebDriver may not know when it has completely loaded. If you need to ensure such pages are fully loaded then you can use waits.

3.1 Interacting with the page

Just being able to go to places isn't terribly useful. What we'd really like to do is to interact with the pages, or, more specifically, the HTML elements within a page. First of all, we need to find one. WebDriver offers a number of ways to find elements. For example, given an element defined as:

```
<input type="text" name="passwd" id="passwd-id" />
you could find it using any of:
element = driver.find_element_by_id("passwd-id")
element = driver.find_element_by_name("passwd")
element = driver.find_element_by_xpath("//input[@id='passwd-id']")
```

You can also look for a link by its text, but be careful! The text must be an exact match! You should also be careful when using *XPATH in WebDriver*. If there's more than one element that matches the query, then only the first will be returned. If nothing can be found, a NoSuchElementException will be raised.

WebDriver has an "Object-based" API; we represent all types of elements using the same interface. This means that although you may see a lot of possible methods you could invoke when you hit your IDE's auto-complete key combination, not all of them will make sense or be valid. Don't worry! WebDriver will attempt to do the Right Thing, and if you call a method that makes no sense ("setSelected()" on a "meta" tag, for example) an exception will be raised.

So, you've got an element. What can you do with it? First of all, you may want to enter some text into a text field:

```
element.send_keys("some text")
```

You can simulate pressing the arrow keys by using the "Keys" class:

```
element.send_keys(" and some", Keys.ARROW_DOWN)
```

It is possible to call *send_keys* on any element, which makes it possible to test keyboard shortcuts such as those used on GMail. A side-effect of this is that typing something into a text field won't automatically clear it. Instead, what you type will be appended to what's already there. You can easily clear the contents of a text field or textarea with *clear* method:

```
element.clear()
```

3.2 Filling in forms

We've already seen how to enter text into a textarea or text field, but what about the other elements? You can "toggle" the state of checkboxes, and you can use "setSelected" to set something like an *OPTION* tag selected. Dealing with *SELECT* tags isn't too bad:

```
select = driver.find_element_by_xpath("//select")
all_options = select.find_elements_by_tag_name("option")
for option in all_options:
    print "Value is: %s" % option.get_attribute("value")
    option.click()
```

This will find the first "SELECT" element on the page, and cycle through each of it's OPTIONs in turn, printing out their values, and selecting each in turn.

Once you've finished filling out the form, you probably want to submit it. One way to do this would be to find the "submit" button and click it:

```
# Assume the button has the ID "submit" :)
driver.find_element_by_id("submit").click()
```

Alternatively, WebDriver has the convenience method "submit" on every element. If you call this on an element within a form, WebDriver will walk up the DOM until it finds the enclosing form and then calls submit on that. If the element isn't in a form, then the NoSuchElementException will be raised:

```
element.submit()
```

3.3 Drag and drop

You can use drag and drop, either moving an element by a certain amount, or on to another element:

```
element = driver.find_element_by_name("source")
target = driver.find_element_by_name("target")

from selenium.webdriver import ActionChains
action_chains = ActionChains(driver)
action_chains.drag_and_drop(element, target)
```

3.4 Moving between windows and frames

It's rare for a modern web application not to have any frames or to be constrained to a single window. WebDriver supports moving between named windows using the "switch_to_window" method:

```
driver.switch_to_window("windowName")
```

All calls to driver will now be interpreted as being directed to the particular window. But how do you know the window's name? Take a look at the javascript or link that opened it:

```
<a href="somewhere.html" target="windowName">Click here to open a new window</a>
```

Alternatively, you can pass a "window handle" to the "switch_to_window()" method. Knowing this, it's possible to iterate over every open window like so:

```
for handle in driver.window_handles:
    driver.switch_to_window(handle)
```

You can also swing from frame to frame (or into iframes):

```
driver.switch_to_frame("frameName")
```

It's possible to access subframes by separating the path with a dot, and you can specify the frame by its index too. That is:

```
driver.switch_to_frame("frameName.0.child")
```

would go to the frame named "child" of the first subframe of the frame called "frameName". **All frames are evaluated** as if from *top*.

3.5 Popup dialogs

Selenium WebDriver has built-in support for handling popup dialog boxes. After you've triggerd and action that would open a popup, you can access the alert with the following:

```
alert = driver.switch_to_alert()
```

This will return the currently open alert object. With this object you can now accept, dismiss, read its contents or even type into a prompt. This interface works equally well on alerts, confirms, prompts. Refer to the API documentation for more information.

3.6 Navigation: history and location

Earlier, we covered navigating to a page using the "get" command (driver.get("http://www.example.com")) As you've seen, WebDriver has a number of smaller, task-focused interfaces, and navigation is a useful task. To navigate to a page, you can use *get* method:

```
driver.get("http://www.example.com")
```

To move backwards and forwards in your browser's history:

```
driver.forward()
driver.back()
```

Please be aware that this functionality depends entirely on the underlying driver. It's just possible that something unexpected may happen when you call these methods if you're used to the behaviour of one browser over another.

3.7 Cookies

Before we leave these next steps, you may be interested in understanding how to use cookies. First of all, you need to be on the domain that the cookie will be valid for:

```
# Go to the correct domain
driver.get("http://www.example.com")

# Now set the cookie. This one's valid for the entire domain
cookie = {"key": "value"})
driver.add_cookie(cookie)

# And now output all the available cookies for the current URL
all_cookies = driver.get_cookies()
for cookie_name, cookie_value in all_cookies.items():
    print "%s -> %s", cookie_name, cookie_value
```

3.8 Next, next steps!

This has been a high level walkthrough of WebDriver and some of its key capabilities. You may want to look at the *Test Design Considerations* chapter to get some ideas about how you can reduce the pain of maintaining your tests and how to make your code more modular.

CHAPTER

FOUR

LOCATING ELEMENTS

There are vaious strategies to locate elements in a page. You can use the most appropriate one for your case. Selenium provides the following methods to locate elements in a page:

- find_element_by_id
- find_element_by_name
- find_element_by_xpath
- find_element_by_link_text
- find_element_by_partial_link_text
- find_element_by_tag_name
- find_element_by_class_name
- find_element_by_css_selector

To find multiple elements (these methods will return a list):

- find_elements_by_name
- find_elements_by_xpath
- find_elements_by_link_text
- find_elements_by_partial_link_text
- find_elements_by_tag_name
- find_elements_by_class_name
- find_elements_by_css_selector

4.1 Locating by Id

Use this when you know *id* attribute of an element. With this strategy, the first element with the *id* attribute value matching the location will be returned. If no element has a matching *id* attribute, a NoSuchElementException will be raised.

For instance, conside this page source:

The form element can be located like this:

```
login_form = driver.find_element_by_id('loginForm')
```

4.2 Locating by Name

Use this when you know *name* attribute of an element. With this strategy, the first element with the *name* attribute value matching the location will be returned. If no element has a matching *name* attribute, a NoSuchElementException will be raised.

For instance, conside this page source:

The username & password elements can be located like this:

```
username = driver.find_element_by_name('username')
password = driver.find_element_by_name('password')
```

This will give the "Login" button as it occur before the "Clear" button:

```
continue = driver.find_element_by_name('continue')
```

4.3 Locating by XPath

XPath is the language used for locating nodes in an XML document. As HTML can be an implementation of XML (XHTML), Selenium users can leverage this powerful language to target elements in their web applications. XPath extends beyond (as well as supporting) the simple methods of locating by id or name attributes, and opens up all sorts of new possibilities such as locating the third checkbox on the page.

One of the main reasons for using XPath is when you don't have a suitable id or name attribute for the element you wish to locate. You can use XPath to either locate the element in absolute terms (not advised), or relative to an element that does have an id or name attribute. XPath locators can also be used to specify elements via attributes other than id and name.

Absolute XPaths contain the location of all elements from the root (html) and as a result are likely to fail with only the slightest adjustment to the application. By finding a nearby element with an id or name attribute (ideally a parent element) you can locate your target element based on the relationship. This is much less likely to change and can make your tests more robust.

For instance, conside this page source:

The form elements can be located like this:

```
login_form = driver.find_element_by_xpath("/html/body/form[1]")
login_form = driver.find_element_by_xpath("//form[1]")
login_form = driver.find_element_by_xpath("//form[@id='loginForm']")
```

- 1. Absolute path (would break if the HTML was changed only slightly)
- 2. First form element in the HTML
- 3. The form element with attribute named id and the value loginForm

The username element can be located like this:

```
username = driver.find_element_by_xpath("//form[input/@name='username']")
username = driver.find_element_by_xpath("//form[@id='loginForm']/input[1]")
username = driver.find_element_by_xpath("//input[@name='username']")
```

- 1. First form element with an input child element with attribute named name and the value username
- 2. First input child element of the form element with attribute named id and the value loginForm
- 3. First input element with attribute named 'name' and the value *username*

The "Clear" button element can be located like this:

```
clear_button = driver.find_element_by_xpath("//input[@name='continue'][@type='button']")
clear_button = driver.find_element_by_xpath("//form[@id='loginForm']/input[4]")
```

- 1. Input with attribute named *name* and the value *continue* and attribute named *type* and the value *button*
- 2. Fourth input child element of the form element with attribute named id and value loginForm

These examples cover some basics, but in order to learn more, the following references are recommended:

- · W3Schools XPath Tutorial
- W3C XPath Recommendation
- XPath Tutorial with interactive examples.

There are also a couple of very useful Add-ons that can assist in discovering the XPath of an element:

- XPath Checker suggests XPath and can be used to test XPath results.
- Firebug XPath suggestions are just one of the many powerful features of this very useful add-on.
- XPath Helper for Google Chrome

4.4 Locating Hyperlinks by Link Text

Use this when you know link text used within an anchor tag. With this strategy, the first element with the link text value matching the location will be returned. If no element has a matching link text attribute, a NoSuchElementException will be raised.

For instance, conside this page source:

The continue.html link can be located like this:

```
continue_link = driver.find_element_by_link_text('Continue')
continue_link = driver.find_element_by_partial_link_text('Conti')
```

CHAPTER

FIVE

TEST DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

5.1 Page Objects

Page objects is a design pattern used for web automated testing.

Few links:

- 1. http://code.google.com/p/selenium/wiki/PageObjects
- 2. http://www.theautomatedtester.co.uk/tutorials/selenium/page-object-pattern.htm
- 3. http://pragprog.com/magazines/2010-08/page-objects-in-python
- 4. http://docs.seleniumhq.org/docs/06_test_design_considerations.jsp

WEBDRIVER API

Note: This is not an official documentation. Official API documentation is available here.

This chapter cover all the interfaces of Selenium WebDriver.

Recommended Import Style

The API definitions in this chapter shows the absolute location of classes. However the recommended import style is as given below:

```
from selenium import webdriver
```

Then, you can access the classes like this:

```
webdriver.Firefox
webdriver.FirefoxProfile
webdriver.Chrome
webdriver.ChromeOptions
webdriver.Ie
webdriver.Opera
webdriver.PhantomJS
webdriver.Remote
webdriver.DesiredCapabilities
webdriver.ActionChains
webdriver.TouchActions
webdriver.Proxy
```

The special keys class (Keys) can be imported like this:

```
from selenium.webdriver.common.keys import Keys
```

The exception classes can be imported like this (Replace the TheNameOfTheExceptionClass with actual class name given below):

```
from selenium.common.exceptions import [TheNameOfTheExceptionClass]
```

Conventions used in the API

Some attributes are callable (or methods) and others are non-callable (properties). All the callable attributes are ending with round brackets.

Here is an example for property:

• current_url

URL of the current loaded page.

```
Usage:
     driver.current_url
Here is an example for a method:
   • close()
     Closes the current window.
     Usage:
     driver.close()
6.1 Exceptions
Exceptions that may happen in all the webdriver code.
exception selenium.common.exceptions.ElementNotSelectableException (msg=None,
                                                                               screen=None,
                                                                               stack-
                                                                               trace=None)
     Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.InvalidElementStateException
exception selenium.common.exceptions.ElementNotVisibleException (msg=None,
                                                                           screen=None,
                                                                           stacktrace=None)
     Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.InvalidElementStateException
     Thrown to indicate that although an element is present on the DOM, it is not visible, and so is not able to be
     interacted with.
exception selenium.common.exceptions.ErrorInResponseException (response, msg)
     Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
     An error has occurred on the server side.
     This may happen when communicating with the firefox extension or the remote driver server.
exception selenium.common.exceptions.ImeActivationFailedException (msg=None,
                                                                             screen=None,
                                                                             stack-
                                                                             trace=None)
     Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
     Indicates that activating an IME engine has failed.
exception selenium.common.exceptions.ImeNotAvailableException (msg=None,
                                                                        screen=None, stack-
                                                                        trace=None)
     Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
     Indicates that IME support is not available. This exception is thrown for every IME-related method call if IME
     support is not available on the machine.
exception selenium.common.exceptions.InvalidCookieDomainException (msg=None,
                                                                             screen=None,
                                                                             stack-
```

Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException

Thrown when attempting to add a cookie under a different domain than the current URL.

trace=None)

```
exception selenium.common.exceptions.InvalidElementStateException (msg=None,
                                                                          screen=None.
                                                                          stack-
                                                                          trace=None)
    Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
exception selenium.common.exceptions.InvalidSelectorException (msg=None,
                                                                      screen=None, stack-
                                                                      trace=None)
    Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.NoSuchElementException
    Thrown when the selector which is used to find an element does not return a WebElement. Currently this only
    happens when the selector is an xpath expression is used which is either syntactically invalid (i.e. it is not a
    xpath expression) or the expression does not select WebElements (e.g. "count(//input)").
exception selenium.common.exceptions.InvalidSwitchToTargetException (msg=None,
                                                                             screen=None,
                                                                             stack-
                                                                             trace=None)
    Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
    The frame or window target to be switched doesn't exist.
exception selenium.common.exceptions.MoveTargetOutOfBoundsException (msg=None,
                                                                             screen=None,
                                                                             stack-
                                                                             trace=None)
    Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
    Indicates that the target provided to the actions move() method is invalid
exception selenium.common.exceptions.NoAlertPresentException (msg=None,
                                                                     screen=None,
                                                                                   stack-
                                                                     trace=None)
    Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
exception selenium.common.exceptions.NoSuchAttributeException (msg=None,
                                                                      screen=None, stack-
                                                                      trace=None)
    Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
    find_element_by_* can't find the element.
exception selenium.common.exceptions.NoSuchElementException (msg=None,
                                                                   screen=None.
                                                                                   stack-
                                                                   trace=None)
    Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
    find_element_by_* can't find the element.
exception selenium.common.exceptions.NoSuchFrameException (msg=None, screen=None,
                                                                 stacktrace=None)
     Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.InvalidSwitchToTargetException
exception selenium.common.exceptions.NoSuchWindowException (msg=None, screen=None,
                                                                  stacktrace=None)
    Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.InvalidSwitchToTargetException
exception selenium.common.exceptions.RemoteDriverServerException (msg=None,
                                                                         screen=None,
                                                                         stack-
                                                                         trace=None)
    Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
```

6.1. Exceptions 21

```
exception selenium.common.exceptions.StaleElementReferenceException (msg=None,
                                                                                screen=None.
                                                                                stack-
                                                                                trace=None)
     Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
     Indicates that a reference to an element is now "stale" — the element no longer appears on the DOM of the
     page.
exception selenium.common.exceptions.TimeoutException (msg=None, screen=None, stack-
                                                               trace=None)
     Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
     Thrown when a command does not complete in enough time.
exception selenium.common.exceptions.UnableToSetCookieException (msg=None,
                                                                           screen=None,
                                                                           stacktrace=None)
     Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
     Thrown when a driver fails to set a cookie.
exception selenium.common.exceptions.UnexpectedTagNameException (msg=None,
                                                                           screen=None,
                                                                           stacktrace=None)
     Bases: selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException
     Thrown when a support class did not get an expected web element
exception selenium.common.exceptions.WebDriverException (msg=None,
                                                                               screen=None,
                                                                 stacktrace=None)
     Bases: exceptions. Exception
6.2 Action Chains
The ActionChains implementation
class selenium.webdriver.common.action_chains.ActionChains(driver)
     Bases: object
     Generate user actions. All actions are stored in the ActionChains object. Call perform() to fire stored actions.
     click(on element=None)
         Clicks an element.
             Args
                 • on_element: The element to click. If None, clicks on current mouse position.
     click and hold(on element=None)
         Holds down the left mouse button on an element.
             Args
                 • on_element: The element to mouse down. If None, clicks on current mouse position.
```

Args

context_click(on_element=None)

Performs a context-click (right click) on an element.

• on_element: The element to context-click. If None, clicks on current mouse position.

double_click (on_element=None)

Double-clicks an element.

Args

• on_element: The element to double-click. If None, clicks on current mouse position.

drag_and_drop (source, target)

Holds down the left mouse button on the source element, then moves to the target element and releases the mouse button.

Args

- source: The element to mouse down.
- target: The element to mouse up.

drag_and_drop_by_offset (source, xoffset, yoffset)

Holds down the left mouse button on the source element, then moves to the target element and releases the mouse button.

Args

- source: The element to mouse down.
- xoffset: X offset to move to.
- yoffset: Y offset to move to.

key_down (value, element=None)

Sends a key press only, without releasing it. Should only be used with modifier keys (Control, Alt and Shift).

Args

- key: The modifier key to send. Values are defined in Keys class.
- target: The element to send keys. If None, sends a key to current focused element.

key_up (value, element=None)

Releases a modifier key.

Args

- key: The modifier key to send. Values are defined in Keys class.
- target: The element to send keys. If None, sends a key to current focused element.

move_by_offset (xoffset, yoffset)

Moving the mouse to an offset from current mouse position.

Args

- xoffset: X offset to move to.
- yoffset: Y offset to move to.

move_to_element (to_element)

Moving the mouse to the middle of an element.

Args

• to element: The element to move to.

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```
move_to_element_with_offset (to_element, xoffset, yoffset)
```

Move the mouse by an offset of the specificed element. Offsets are relative to the top-left corner of the element.

Args

- to_element: The element to move to.
- xoffset: X offset to move to.
- yoffset: Y offset to move to.

perform()

Performs all stored actions.

release(on element=None)

Releasing a held mouse button.

Args

• on_element: The element to mouse up.

send keys(*keys to send)

Sends keys to current focused element.

Args

• keys_to_send: The keys to send.

send_keys_to_element (element, *keys_to_send)

Sends keys to an element.

Args

- element: The element to send keys.
- keys_to_send: The keys to send.

6.3 Alerts

```
class selenium.webdriver.common.alert.Alert (driver)
    Bases: object

accept()
    Accepts the alert available

dismiss()
    Dismisses the alert available

send_keys (keysToSend)
    Send Keys to the Alert

text
    Gets the text of the Alert
```

6.4 Special Keys

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```
class selenium.webdriver.common.keys.Keys
    Bases: object
ADD = u'\ue025'
```

```
ALT = u' \setminus ue00a'
ARROW_DOWN = u'ue015'
ARROW\_LEFT = u'ue012'
ARROW_RIGHT = u'ue014'
ARROW_UP = u'ue013'
BACK SPACE = u'ue003'
CANCEL = u' \setminus ue001'
CLEAR = u' \cdot ue005'
COMMAND = u' \setminus ue03d'
CONTROL = u' \setminus ue009'
DECIMAL = u' \setminus ue028'
DELETE = u' \setminus ue017'
DIVIDE = u' \setminus ue029'
DOWN = u' \setminus ue015'
END = u' \setminus ue010'
ENTER = u' \cdot ue007'
EQUALS = u' \cdot ue019'
ESCAPE = u' \setminus ue00c'
F1 = u' \setminus ue031'
F10 = u' \cdot ue03a'
F11 = u' \setminus ue03b'
F12 = u' \cdot ue03c'
F2 = u' \setminus ue032'
F3 = u' \cdot ue033'
F4 = u' \cdot ue034'
F5 = u' \cdot ue035'
F6 = u'\ue036'
F7 = u' \cdot ue037'
F8 = u' \setminus ue038'
F9 = u' \cdot ue039'
HELP = u' \setminus ue002'
HOME = u'ue011'
INSERT = u' \setminus ue016'
LEFT = u'\setminus ue012'
LEFT_ALT = u'ue00a'
```

LEFT_CONTROL = u'\ue009'

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```
LEFT SHIFT = u' \cdot ue008'
META = u' \setminus ue03d'
MULTIPLY = u'ue024'
NULL = u' \setminus ue000'
NUMPAD0 = u'ue01a'
NUMPAD1 = u'ue01b'
NUMPAD2 = u'ue01c'
NUMPAD3 = u'ue01d'
NUMPAD4 = u'ue01e'
NUMPAD5 = u'ue01f'
NUMPAD6 = u' \setminus ue020'
NUMPAD7 = u' \setminus ue021'
NUMPAD8 = u' \setminus ue022'
NUMPAD9 = u'ue023'
PAGE DOWN = u'ue00f'
PAGE UP = u'ue00e'
PAUSE = u' \setminus ue00b'
RETURN = u' \setminus ue006'
RIGHT = u' \setminus ue014'
SEMICOLON = u' \cdot ue018'
SEPARATOR = u'ue026'
SHIFT = u' \setminus ue008'
SPACE = u' \setminus ue00d'
SUBTRACT = u' \setminus ue027'
TAB = u' \setminus ue004'
UP = u' \setminus ue013'
```

6.5 Firefox WebDriver

firefox_profile

6.6 Chrome WebDriver

Bases: selenium.webdriver.remote.webdriver.WebDriver

Controls the ChromeDriver and allows you to drive the browser.

You will need to download the ChromeDriver executable from http://code.google.com/p/chromedriver/downloads/list

```
quit()
```

Closes the browser and shuts down the ChromeDriver executable that is started when starting the ChromeDriver

6.7 Remote WebDriver

The WebDriver implementation.

Controls a browser by sending commands to a remote server. This server is expected to be running the Web-Driver wire protocol as defined here: http://code.google.com/p/selenium/wiki/JsonWireProtocol

Attributes

- command_executor The command.CommandExecutor object used to execute commands.
- error_handler errorhandler.ErrorHandler object used to verify that the server did not return an error.
- session_id The session ID to send with every command.
- capabilities A dictionary of capabilities of the underlying browser for this instance's session.
- proxy A selenium.webdriver.common.proxy.Proxy object, to specify a proxy for the browser to use.

```
add_cookie (cookie_dict)
```

Adds a cookie to your current session.

Args

• cookie_dict: A dictionary object, with required keys - "name" and "value"; optional keys - "path", "domain", "secure", "expiry"

```
Usage: driver.add_cookie({ 'name' : 'foo', 'value' : 'bar'}) driver.add_cookie({ 'name' : 'foo', 'value' : 'bar', 'path' : '/'}) driver.add_cookie({ 'name' : 'foo', 'value' : 'bar', 'path' : '/', 'secure':True})
```

back()

Goes one step backward in the browser history.

Usage driver.back()

close()

Closes the current window.

Usage driver.close()

create_web_element(element_id)

Creates a web element with the specified element_id.

delete_all_cookies()

Delete all cookies in the scope of the session.

Usage driver.delete_all_cookies()

delete_cookie(name)

Deletes a single cookie with the given name.

Usage driver.delete_cookie('my_cookie')

execute (driver_command, params=None)

Sends a command to be executed by a command.CommandExecutor.

Args

- driver_command: The name of the command to execute as a string.
- params: A dictionary of named parameters to send with the command.

Returns The command's JSON response loaded into a dictionary object.

execute_async_script (script, *args)

Asynchronously Executes JavaScript in the current window/frame.

Args

- script: The JavaScript to execute.
- *args: Any applicable arguments for your JavaScript.

Usage driver.execute_async_script('document.title')

execute_script (script, *args)

Synchronously Executes JavaScript in the current window/frame.

Args

- script: The JavaScript to execute.
- *args: Any applicable arguments for your JavaScript.

Usage driver.execute_script('document.title')

find_element (by='id', value=None)

'Private' method used by the find_element_by_* methods.

Usage Use the corresponding find_element_by_* instead of this.

find_element_by_class_name (name)

Finds an element by class name.

Args

• name: The class name of the element to find.

```
Usage driver.find_element_by_class_name('foo')
find_element_by_css_selector(css_selector)
     Finds an element by css selector.
         Args
             • css selector: The css selector to use when finding elements.
         Usage driver.find_element_by_css_selector('#foo')
find_element_by_id (id_)
     Finds an element by id.
         Args
             • id_ - The id of the element to be found.
         Usage driver.find_element_by_id('foo')
find_element_by_link_text (link_text)
     Finds an element by link text.
         Args
             • link_text: The text of the element to be found.
         Usage driver.find_element_by_link_text('Sign In')
find element by name (name)
     Finds an element by name.
         Args
             • name: The name of the element to find.
         Usage driver.find_element_by_name('foo')
find_element_by_partial_link_text(link_text)
     Finds an element by a partial match of its link text.
         Args
             • link_text: The text of the element to partially match on.
         Usage driver.find_element_by_partial_link_text('Sign')
find_element_by_tag_name (name)
     Finds an element by tag name.
         Args
             • name: The tag name of the element to find.
         Usage driver.find_element_by_tag_name('foo')
find_element_by_xpath (xpath)
     Finds an element by xpath.
         Args
             • xpath - The xpath locator of the element to find.
         Usage driver.find_element_by_xpath('//div/td[1]')
find_elements(by='id', value=None)
     'Private' method used by the find_elements_by_* methods.
         Usage Use the corresponding find elements by * instead of this.
```

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find_elements_by_class_name (name) Finds elements by class name. Args • name: The class name of the elements to find. Usage driver.find elements by class name('foo') find_elements_by_css_selector(css_selector) Finds elements by css selector. Args • css_selector: The css selector to use when finding elements. **Usage** driver.find_element_by_css_selector('#foo') ${\tt find_elements_by_id}\,(id_)$ Finds multiple elements by id. Args • id - The id of the elements to be found. Usage driver.find_element_by_id('foo') find_elements_by_link_text(text) Finds elements by link text. Args • link text: The text of the elements to be found. Usage driver.find_elements_by_link_text('Sign In') find_elements_by_name (name) Finds elements by name. Args • name: The name of the elements to find. Usage driver.find_elements_by_name('foo') find_elements_by_partial_link_text(link_text) Finds elements by a partial match of their link text. Args • link_text: The text of the element to partial match on. Usage driver.find_element_by_partial_link_text('Sign') find_elements_by_tag_name (name)

Finds elements by tag name.

Args

• name: The tag name the use when finding elements.

Usage driver.find_elements_by_tag_name('foo')

find_elements_by_xpath(xpath)

Finds multiple elements by xpath.

Args

xpath - The xpath locator of the elements to be found.

```
Usage driver.find_elements_by_xpath("//div[contains(@class, 'foo')]")
forward()
     Goes one step forward in the browser history.
         Usage driver.forward()
get (url)
     Loads a web page in the current browser session.
get_cookie (name)
     Get a single cookie by name. Returns the cookie if found, None if not.
         Usage driver.get_cookie('my_cookie')
get_cookies()
     Returns a set of dictionaries, corresponding to cookies visible in the current session.
         Usage driver.get_cookies()
get_screenshot_as_base64()
     Gets the screenshot of the current window as a base64 encoded string which is useful in embedded
         images in HTML.
         Usage driver.get_screenshot_as_base64()
get screenshot as file(filename)
     Gets the screenshot of the current window. Returns False if there is any IOError, else returns True.
         Use full paths in your filename.
         Args
             • filename: The full path you wish to save your screenshot to.
         Usage driver.get_screenshot_as_file('/Screenshots/foo.png')
get_window_position (windowHandle='current')
     Gets the x,y position of the current window.
         Usage driver.get window position()
get window size(windowHandle='current')
     Gets the width and height of the current window.
         Usage driver.get_window_size()
implicitly_wait (time_to_wait)
     Sets a sticky timeout to implicitly wait for an element to be found, or a command to complete. This
         method only needs to be called one time per session. To set the timeout for calls to exe-
         cute_async_script, see set_script_timeout.
         Args
             • time_to_wait: Amount of time to wait (in seconds)
         Usage driver.implicitly_wait(30)
is_online()
     Returns a boolean if the browser is online or offline
```

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```
maximize window()
     Maximizes the current window that webdriver is using
quit()
     Quits the driver and closes every associated window.
         Usage driver.quit()
refresh()
     Refreshes the current page.
         Usage driver.refresh()
save_screenshot (filename)
     Gets the screenshot of the current window. Returns False if there is any IOError, else returns True. Use
     full paths in your filename.
set_page_load_timeout (time_to_wait)
     Set the amount of time to wait for a page load to complete before throwing an error.
         Args
              • time to wait: The amount of time to wait
         Usage driver.set_page_load_timeout(30)
set script timeout(time to wait)
     Set the amount of time that the script should wait during an execute_async_script call before throw-
         ing an error.
         Args
              • time to wait: The amount of time to wait (in seconds)
         Usage driver.set_script_timeout(30)
set_window_position (x, y, windowHandle='current')
     Sets the x,y position of the current window. (window.moveTo)
         Args
              • x: the x-coordinate in pixels to set the window position
              • y: the y-coordinate in pixels to set the window position
         Usage driver.set_window_position(0,0)
set_window_size (width, height, windowHandle='current')
     Sets the width and height of the current window. (window.resizeTo)
         Args
              • width: the width in pixels to set the window to
              • height: the height in pixels to set the window to
```

Usage driver.set_window_size(800,600)

```
start_client()
```

Called before starting a new session. This method may be overridden to define custom startup behavior.

```
\verb|start_session|| (desired_capabilities, browser_profile=None)|
```

Creates a new session with the desired capabilities.

Args

- browser_name The name of the browser to request.
- · version Which browser version to request.
- platform Which platform to request the browser on.
- javascript enabled Whether the new session should support JavaScript.
- browser_profile A selenium.webdriver.firefox.firefox_profile.FirefoxProfile object. Only used if Firefox is requested.

stop_client()

Called after executing a quit command. This method may be overridden to define custom shutdown behavior.

switch_to_active_element()

Returns the element with focus, or BODY if nothing has focus.

Usage driver.switch_to_active_element()

switch to alert()

Switches focus to an alert on the page.

Usage driver.switch_to_alert()

switch_to_default_content()

Switch focus to the default frame.

Usage driver.switch_to_default_content()

switch_to_frame (frame_reference)

Switches focus to the specified frame, by index, name, or webelement.

Args

• frame_reference: The name of the window to switch to, an integer representing the index, or a webelement that is an (i)frame to switch to.

```
Usage driver.switch_to_frame('frame_name') driver.switch_to_frame(1) driver.switch_to_frame(driver.find_elements_by_tag_name("iframe")[0])
```

switch_to_window(window_name)

Switches focus to the specified window.

Args

• window_name: The name or window handle of the window to switch to.

Usage driver.switch to window('main')

application_cache

Returns a ApplicationCache Object to interact with the browser app cache

current url

Gets the URL of the current page.

Usage driver.current_url

current_window_handle

Returns the handle of the current window.

Usage driver.current_window_handle

desired_capabilities

returns the drivers current desired capabilities being used

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name

Returns the name of the underlying browser for this instance.

Usage

• driver.name

orientation

Gets the current orientation of the device

Usage orientation = driver.orientation

page_source

Gets the source of the current page.

Usage driver.page_source

title

Returns the title of the current page.

Usage driver.title

window handles

Returns the handles of all windows within the current session.

Usage driver.window_handles

6.8 WebElement

```
WebElement implementation.
```

```
class selenium.webdriver.remote.webelement.LocalFileDetector
    Bases: object
    classmethod is_local_file(*keys)
```

 ${\bf class} \; {\tt selenium.webdriver.remote.webelement.WebElement} \; ({\it parent}, id_)$

Bases: object

Represents an HTML element.

Generally, all interesting operations to do with interacting with a page will be performed through this interface.

clear()

Clears the text if it's a text entry element.

click()

Clicks the element.

```
find_element (by='id', value=None)
```

${\tt find_element_by_class_name}\ (name)$

Finds an element by their class name.

find_element_by_css_selector(css_selector)

Find and return an element by CSS selector.

${\tt find_element_by_id}\,(id_)$

Finds element by id.

find_element_by_link_text (link_text)

Finds element by link text.

```
find_element_by_name (name)
    Find element by name.
find_element_by_partial_link_text (link_text)
find_element_by_tag_name (name)
find element by xpath (xpath)
    Finds element by xpath.
find_elements(by='id', value=None)
find_elements_by_class_name (name)
    Finds elements by their class name.
find_elements_by_css_selector(css_selector)
    Find and return list of multiple elements by CSS selector.
find_elements_by_id(id_)
find_elements_by_link_text(link_text)
find_elements_by_name (name)
find_elements_by_partial_link_text (link_text)
find_elements_by_tag_name (name)
find_elements_by_xpath (xpath)
    Finds elements within the elements by xpath.
get attribute(name)
    Gets the attribute value.
is_displayed()
    Whether the element would be visible to a user
is enabled()
    Whether the element is enabled.
is selected()
    Whether the element is selected.
send keys(*value)
    Simulates typing into the element.
submit()
    Submits a form.
value of css property (property name)
    Returns the value of a CSS property
id
location
    Returns the location of the element in the renderable canvas
location_once_scrolled_into_view
    CONSIDERED LIABLE TO CHANGE WITHOUT WARNING. Use this to discover where on the screen
    an element is so that we can click it. This method should cause the element to be scrolled into view.
    Returns the top lefthand corner location on the screen, or None if the element is not visible
```

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parent

size

Returns the size of the element

tag_name

Gets this element's tagName property.

text

Gets the text of the element.

APPENDIX: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Another FAQ: https://code.google.com/p/selenium/wiki/FrequentlyAskedQuestions

7.1 How to use ChromeDriver?

Download the latest chromdriver from download page. Unzip the file:

```
unzip chromedriver_linux32_x.x.x.zip
```

You should see a chromedriver executable. Now you can instance of Chrome WebDriver like this:

```
driver = webdriver.Chrome(executable_path="/path/to/chromedriver")
```

The rest of the example should work as given in other other documentation.

7.2 Does Selenium 2 supports XPath 2.0 ?

Ref: http://seleniumhq.org/docs/03_webdriver.html#how-xpath-works-in-webdriver

Selenium delegate XPath queries down to the browser's own XPath engine, so Selenium support XPath supports whatever the browser supports. In browsers which don't have native XPath engines (IE 6,7,8), Selenium support XPath 1.0 only.

7.3 How to scroll down to the bottom of a page?

Ref: http://blog.varunin.com/2011/08/scrolling-on-pages-using-selenium.html

You can use the *execute_script* method to execute javascript on the loaded page. So, you can call the JavaScript API to scroll to the bottom or any other position of a page.

Here is an example to scroll to the bottom of a page:

```
driver.execute_script("window.scrollTo(0, document.body.scrollHeight);")
```

The window object in DOM has a scrollTo method to scroll to any position of an opened window. The scrollHeight is a common property for all elements. The *document.body.scrollHeight* will give the height of the entire body of the page.

7.4 How to auto save files using custom Firefox profile?

Ref: http://stackoverflow.com/questions/1176348/access-to-file-download-dialog-in-firefox Ref: http://blog.codecentric.de/en/2010/07/file-downloads-with-selenium-mission-impossible/

The first step is to identify the type of file you want to auto save.

To identify the content type you want to download automatically, you can use curl:

```
curl -I URL | grep "Content-Type"
```

Another way to find content type is using the requests module, you can use it like this:

```
import requests
print requests.head('http://www.python.org').headers['content-type']
```

Once the content type is identified, you can use it to set the firefox profile preference: browser.helperApps.neverAsk.saveToDisk

Here is an example:

```
import os

from selenium import webdriver

fp = webdriver.FirefoxProfile()

fp.set_preference("browser.download.folderList",2)

fp.set_preference("browser.download.manager.showWhenStarting",False)

fp.set_preference("browser.download.dir", os.getcwd())

fp.set_preference("browser.helperApps.neverAsk.saveToDisk", "application/octet-stream")

browser = webdriver.Firefox(firefox_profile=fp)

browser.get("http://pypi.python.org/pypi/selenium")

browser.find_element_by_partial_link_text("selenium-2").click()
```

In the above example, application/octet-stream is used as the content type.

The browser.download.dir option specify the directory where you want to download the files.

7.5 How to use firebug with Firefox?

First download the Firebug XPI file, later you call the add extension method available for the firefox profile:

```
from selenium import webdriver

fp = webdriver.FirefoxProfile()

fp.add_extension(extension='firebug-1.8.4.xpi')

fp.set_preference("extensions.firebug.currentVersion", "1.8.4") #Avoid startup screen
browser = webdriver.Firefox(firefox_profile=fp)
```

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REFERENCES

- Official API: http://selenium.googlecode.com/svn/trunk/docs/api/py/index.html
- Blog post explaining how to use headless X for running Selenium tests: http://coreygoldberg.blogspot.com/2011/06/python-headless-selenium-webdriver.html
- Jenkins plugin for headless Selenium tests: https://wiki.jenkins-ci.org/display/JENKINS/Xvnc+Plugin

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