

# Python Supplement

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## 1. Core

<code>__name__</code>	Name of an object, function, module, etc. Eg: <code>foo.__name__</code> # Returns 'foo'. Eg: <code>f = foo</code> Eg: <code>f.__name__</code> # Returns 'foo'.
<code>__name__</code>	When not an attribute, it hold the name of the script. If the script is run on its own then <code>__name__ == "__main__"</code> . Else it holds the name of the script. If the script is <code>foo.py</code> Then <code>__name__ == "foo"</code> .
<code>globals()</code> <code>.get('foo')</code>	Gives dictionary representing the global symbol table. Returns the object the name <code>foo</code> .
<code>id(x)</code>	Gives the address of the variable <code>x</code> . Can be used to check if two variables point to the same object. The address cannot be dereferenced like a C pointer.
<code>*</code>	Unpacks a sequence like a list or tuple to function arguments. Eg: <code>l = [1, 2, 3]</code> Eg: <code>foo(*l)</code> Eg: <code>a, *b, c = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]</code> # <code>b = [2, 3, 4]</code>
<code>**</code>	Unpacks a dictionary into keyword arguments. Eg: <code>kwargs = 'a': 1, 'b' = 2.</code> Eg: <code>foo(**kwargs)</code> Inside function <code>foo</code> <code>a</code> and <code>b</code> becomes variables with values 1 and 2 respectively.
<code>zip</code>	Zip two iterables. Eg: <code>x = [1, 2].</code> Eg: <code>y = [3, 4].</code> Eg: <code>w = list(zip(x, y)).</code> Eg: <code>w = [(1, 3), (2, 4)].</code>
<code>enumerate</code>	Enumerate iterables. Eg: <code>for id, x in enumerate(1):.</code> Eg: <code>for id, (x, y) in enumerate(zip(l1, l2)):</code>

### Special Variables and Naming Conventions

<code>_foo</code>	Internal use. Not for public access.
<code>__foo</code>	Name mangling to prevent accidental overrides. Interpreter changes the name to prevent override in child class.
<code>__foo__</code>	Special variables that are part of python, don't create your own.
<code>foo_</code>	To avoid conflict with keywords.
<code>__file__</code>	Path to current script of file.
<code>__name__</code>	Name of the module or <code>"__main__"</code> if run directly.
<code>__version__</code>	Version of the module. Does not work for all (eg: os). Eg: <code>np.__version__</code> Eg: <code>os.__version__</code> . This does not work.

TODO: Generators,

## 2. OS, Shutil, Sys, Etc.

### OS

<code>chdir()</code>	
<code>getcwd()</code>	
<code>listdir()</code>	
<code>makedirs()</code>	Create a directory at the path. Like <code>mkdir -p</code> in bash.
<code>rmdir()</code>	To delete <b>empty</b> directories.
<code>rename()</code>	<code>os.rename(src, dst)</code> . Rename for files and directories.
<code>system()</code>	Execute system commands. Return the exit status. Eg: <code>exit_status = os.system('ls')</code> .

### shutil

<code>rmtree()</code>	<code>shutil.rmtree('mydir')</code> .
<code>move()</code>	<code>shutil.move(src, des)</code> .
<code>copy()</code>	<code>shutil.copy(src, des)</code> . Copy single file without preserving meta data.
<code>copy2()</code>	Copy single file with preserving meta data.
<code>copytree()</code>	Copy entire directory and it's contents.

### os.path

<code>isdir()</code>	
<code>isfile()</code>	
<code>exists()</code>	
<code>join()</code>	
<code>dirname()</code>	
<code>basename()</code>	
<code>abspath()</code>	Return the absolute path to a file. Eg: <code>os.path.abspath('foo')</code> .
<code>realpath()</code>	Real path Resolves any symlinks along the way.

### sys

<code>argv</code>	Command line arguments as a list of strings.
<code>exit()</code>	Exit and return an exit status to the calling process.
<code>version</code>	Get python version.
<code>path</code>	Manage list of search paths for modules. <code>sys.path.append('foo')</code> . Add the directory <code>foo</code> to the path.

#### CAUTION!!

In `sys.path.append()`, relative path is acceptable, but it is relative to the directory from where the script is being executed, not relative to where the script file is located.

#### Best practice:

```
script_dir = os.path.dirname(os.path.abspath(__file__))
sys.path.append(os.path.join(script_dir, \
relative/path/to/directory'))
```