# Monkey Type, Monkey Do One Million Monkeys Will Eventually Write Correct Type Hints

Moshe Zadka – https://cobordism.com

2020

### Acknowledgement of Country

Belmont Ancestral homeland of the Ramaytush Ohlone

### Python Type Hints

- Not a new idea
- ▶ ...but now, checked!

#### Example

```
def add(x: float, y: float) \rightarrow str:
return str(x + y)
```

```
def add_with_extra(x: float, y: float) -> str:
    return str(x + y + extra())
def extra():
    return "0.1"
```

```
Type Error in add_with_extra

def add_with_extra(x: float, y: float) -> str:
    return str(x + y + extra())

def extra() -> str:
    return "0.1"
```

```
Type Error in extra

def add_with_extra(x: float, y: float) -> str:
    return str(x + y + extra())

def extra() -> float:
    return "0.1"
```

# Making Progress on Typing

Now do the same

# Making Progress on Typing

Now do the same on your 1000 line project

# Making Progress on Typing

Now do the same on your 1000 line project or your 10,000 line project

### Progressive Non-linear Benefits

Simple model:

$$P_B(Q) = Q^2$$
  
So

 $ightharpoonup P_B(0.9) 0.8$  Yay

# Progressive Non-linear Benefits

#### Simple model:

$$P_B(Q) = Q^2$$
  
So

- $ightharpoonup P_B(0.9) 0.8 \text{ Yay}$
- $\triangleright$   $P_B(0.5) 0.25 \text{ OK...}$

### Progressive Non-linear Benefits

#### Simple model:

$$P_B(Q)=Q^2$$

So

- $ightharpoonup P_B(0.9) 0.8 \text{ Yay}$
- $\triangleright$   $P_B(0.5) 0.25 \text{ OK...}$
- $ightharpoonup P_B(0.2)$  0.04 Can't make a case to management

# How Do You Know What the Types Are?

- Comments?
- ► Docs?
- ► Ducks?

## Classical Empiricism

The only way to gain knowledge is to interact with the world

# monkeytype: Type instrumentation

- ► Slow-down
- Actual data

## monkeytype in prod

Like Facebook, you have .... millions of servers?

### Maybe not monkeytype in prod

That sounds a bit scary

#### Your Test Suite

- ► Runs through all your code (right?)
- Over and over
- On many machines

#### **Tests**

- ► Common case
- Corner cases
- ► Weird cases?

#### Test Isolation

Little risk

# Running Tests Normally

$$tox -e py38$$

\$ ./.tox/py38/bin/pip install monkeytype

```
$ ./.tox/py38/bin/monkeytype run —m virtue regret ^^
Like Python's —m
```

```
$ ./.tox/py38/bin/monkeytype run —m virtue regret
^^^^
Test runner
```

```
$ ./.tox/py38/bin/monkeytype run —m virtue regret ^^^^^
Location
```

# Data Ready, Calculate Types

\$ ./.tox/py38/bin/monkeytype stub regret

#### Types Ready, Write Code

\$ ./.tox/py38/bin/monkeytype apply regret.\_api

# Check the Monkey

```
$ git diff
--- a/regret/_api.py
+++ b/regret/_api.py
```

### Check the Monkey

```
- def inheritance(self, version):
+ def inheritance(self, version: str) -> Callabl
```

## Check the Monkey

```
def callable (
         self.
         version,
         replacement=None,
         removal_date=None,
         addendum=None.
     ):
         version: str,
+
         replacement: Optional[Callable]=None,
+
         removal_date: Optional[date]=None,
+
         addendum: Optional[str]=None,
       -> Callable:
```

#### Take Credit From Monkey

- \$ git checkout —b add—types
- $\$  git commit -a -m 'Add types to functions. I did i

#### Take Credit From Monkey

\$ git checkout -b add—types \$ git commit -a -m 'Add types to functions. I did i Open a PR

# Circular Imports

MonkeyType does not support them

#### Circular Imports

MonkeyType does not support them and they're everywhere.

#### Circular Imports

MonkeyType does not support them and they're everywhere. (But probably good to get rid of anyway.)

# Types Specificity

Under

# Types Specificity

Under and over

#### Conclusion

- ► Types help non-linearly
- ➤ You already have tests (right?)
- ► Get a leg up from the monkey