

String Functions in C

Did you know string manipulation in C is so easy?



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Ever wondered how many different mechanisms exists to install a third party Python package? Well there are few ways out there, but we will cover the most prominently used here.

1. Disutils
2. pip
3. easy_install

Disutils

It is the Python Distribution Utilities (Disutils). With Disutils, building and installing a module distribution is usually one simple command to run from a terminal:

```
# python setup.py install
```

To install any Python module, you will have to download the package, may require to unzip the source. This distribution of module will have a setup file, setup.py, which tells how to build and install the module.

You can however split this installation in 2 steps: build and install. This is accomplished by following 2 commands

```
# python setup.py build
# python setup.py install
```

distutils is the original build and distribution system first added to the Python standard library in 1998. While direct use of distutils is being phased out, it still laid the foundation for the current packaging and distribution infrastructure, and it not only remains part of the standard library, but its name lives on in other ways (such as the name of the mailing list used to coordinate Python packaging standards development).

pip

pip is an Python package installer. Starting with Python 3.4, it is included by default with the Python binary installers. You can install it for other version of Python as shown below.

```
# apt-get install python-pip
```

Once you have **pip** installed, you can install third party Python packages using it. For example, you can install Django using pip.

```
# pip install Django==1.7.1
Downloading/unpacking Django==1.7.1
  Downloading Django-1.7.1-py2.py3-none-any.whl (7.4MB): 7.4MB downloaded
Installing collected packages: Django
Successfully installed Django
Cleaning up...
```

The following command will install the latest version of a module and its dependencies from the Python Packaging Index:

```
# python -m pip install Django==1.7.1
# python -m pip install 'Django>=1.7.1'
```

Or you can upgrade an installed Python package using pip as

```
python -m pip install --upgrade
```

Some pros of pip are it can work with version control repositories (currently only Git, Mercurial, and Bazaar repositories), logs output extensively, and prevents partial installs by downloading all requirements before starting installation.

However it does not use egg files, although it does preserve egg metadata. Some setuptools features are not yet supported, and some custom setup.py features won't work.

easy_install

easy_install program is part of **setuptools** that lets you automatically download, build, install, and manage Python packages. Setuptools is a collection of enhancements to the Python distutils (for Python 2.6 and up) that allow developers to more easily build and distribute Python packages, especially ones that have dependencies on other packages.

An **easy_install** script will be installed in the normal location for Python scripts on your platform.

With **easy_install**, you can install a package by name, searching PyPI for the latest version, and automatically downloading, building, and installing it:

```
easy_install [packagename]
```

With **easy_install**, you can download a source distribution from a specified URL, automatically building and installing it:

```
easy_install http://example.com/path/to/examplePackage-1.2.3.tgz
```

Use **easy_install** to install package from an already-downloaded .egg file:

```
easy_install ~somefolder/samplePackage-1.2.1-py2.3.egg
```

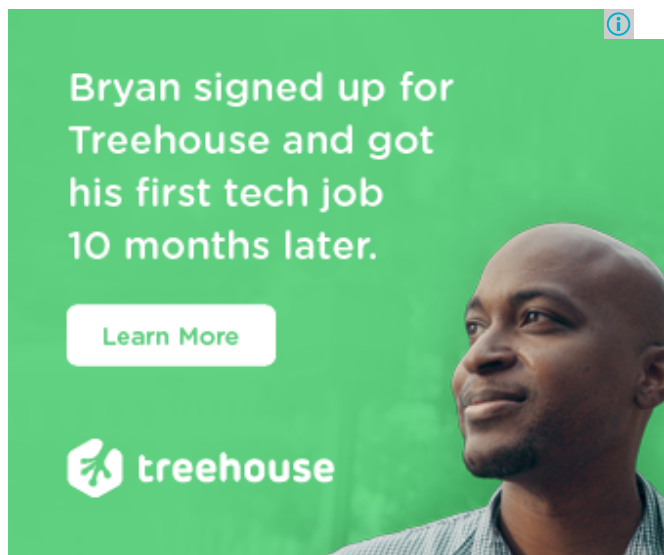
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