

Joby Take Home Python Coding Test

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jping is a Python script that verifies which addresses are pingable on two subnets. It returns a list of IP addresses that are pingable on one subnet but not the other.

Three options for pinging addresses from Python were evaluated. There were two other options for sending ping packets from Python

- pythonping module: this required running jping as root to use raw sockets.
- built-in ping command using subprocess: this is reliable and feature rich but slower.
- ping3 module with threads: very fast but occasionally misses a ping message.

Using the ping3 module and the built-in ping command were implemented. The default method is to use the built-in ping command.

jping is a CLI app with options for specifying the:

- test subnets
- start/end IP addresses
- number of pings to send to an address
- maximum number of ping threads
- list of IP addresses to be skipped based on their last octet
- which method to use to ping addresses.

The code has been tested on Python 3.8 and should work on newer versions. The code has been tested on Mac OSX and should also work on Linux.

Installing Requirements

```
$ pip install -r requirements.txt
```

Running from Source code

```
$ python3 src/jping.py
```

Command Line Options

```
$ python3 src/jping.py --help
```

```
Usage: jping.py [OPTIONS]
```

```
jping - ping test two subnets.
```

Options:

-a, --subnet-a TEXT	First subnet to test. (default: 192.168.2)
-b, --subnet-b TEXT	Second subnet to test. (default: 192.168.3)
--start INTEGER	Starting IP address in subnet. (default: 1)
--end INTEGER	Ending IP address in subnet. (default: 254)
-e, --excluded-ips TEXT	Quoted, comma seperated list of IP addresses to Example: -e "56, 88, 99".
-c, --ping-count INTEGER	Number of times to attempt pinging IP address.
-q, --quiet	Turn off debug messages.
-p, --ping3	Use ping3 module (faster).
--help	Show this message and exit.

Running Tests

Pytest is used to run two test scripts with a total of 14 tests. To set up the test environment, you must first run

test/add-ip-addresses.sh to add additional IP addresses to the loopback interface (lo0). IP address on the

192.168.2.0/24 and 192.168.3.0/24 are added to the loop back interface. There are

```
$ test/add-ip-addresses.sh $ python3 -m pytest
```