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Special Feature

PL Python Cheatsheet Overview

Reader Comments

A Product of Paragon Corporation

<http://www.paragoncorporation.com/>

<http://www.postgresonline.com/>

FUNCTION CACHING	Operators
IMMUTABLE STABLE VOLATILE	+ - * / // * ** # power operator & ^ == #boolean operators &= ^= = #compound bool << >> #shift operators <<= >>= #compound shift operators
SECURITY CONTEXT	EXCEPTION Handling
SECURITY DEFINER	try: stuff happens return something except (IOError, OSError): return "an error has happened"
CONTROL FLOW	try: stuff happens return something except IOError: return "an IOError" except RuntimeError: return "runtime error" except: return "have no clue what happened"
if foo == 'blah': do_something() for x in somearray: statements [x['somefield'] for x in rv] [1.1*x/(2 + x) for x in range(5)] if some boolean expression: stuff happens while b < n: stuff happens	Common Error States
RETURN constructs	Exception StandardError ArithmeticError FloatingPointError OverflowError ZeroDivisionError EnvironmentError IOError OSError EOFError ImportError RuntimeError SystemError
return somevariable return somearray_variable	Built-in Objects
Common Constructs	plpy execute(sql) #returns a python dictionary object prepare(sql) # returns a prepared plan object TD["new"] # trigger new data TD["old"] # trigger old data TD["when"] # BEFORE, AFTER, UNKNOWN SD
import somepackage #this is a comment a, b = b, a+b alist = ['Jim', 'Guru', 'x3456'] name, title, phone = alist alist = [] #declares empty array adict = {} #declare empty dictionary adict = {'Jim': 'Guru', 'Jimmy' : 'Intern'}	Common Packages and Package Functions
Constants and functions	os -- chdir(path), chmod(path), listdir(path) mkdir(path,[mode]), rmdir(path), unlink(path), write(fp, str), path.exists() math -- pi sys -- argv, modules,path,stdin,stdout, stderr, version, exit(n) time -- time(), clock(), strftime(format, timetuple), sleep(secs)
True False coerce(somestring, ther) dict(..) globals() float(num_string) hasattr(object, name) hash(obj) int(num_string) len(somearray_or dict) long(num_string) map(function, sequence[, sequence, ...]) pow(x, y [, z]) range([start,] end [, step]) xrange(start [, end [, step]]) (#use for big lists) round(x, [numdigits]) slice([start,] stop[, step]) split(pattern,string, [maxsplit]) str(object) zip(seq1[, seq2,...]) somestring.split	COSTING
	COST cost metric ROWS estimated number of rows

Official PostgreSQL 8.3 PL/Python Documentation URL: <http://www.postgresql.org/docs/8.3/interactive/plpython.html>

Official Python documentation: <http://docs.python.org/>

We cover only a subset of what we feel are the most useful constructs that we could squash in a single cheatsheet page

commonly used

¹ New in this release.

PLPYTHON FUNCTION SAMPLES

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION readfile (param_filepath text)
RETURNS text
```

```
AS $$
import os
if not os.path.exists(param_filepath):
return "file not found"
return open(param_filepath).read()
$$ LANGUAGE plpythonu;
```

```
SELECT readfile('/test.htm');
```

--Doing postgresql queries --

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION getmydata (param_numitems integer)
RETURNS SETOF mydata
```

```
AS $$
#lets us grab the first param_numitems records
rv = plpy.execute("SELECT pt_id, pt_observation FROM mydata",param_numitems);
return rv
$$ LANGUAGE plpythonu;
```

```
SELECT *
FROM getmydata(20) As d;
```

--Example Using custom classes and local classes --

```
CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION dofunkyplot (param_anum integer)
RETURNS text
```

```
AS $$
import aplotter
import sys
class WritableObject:
def __init__(self):
self.content = ''
def write(self, string):
self.content = self.content + string
```

```
saveout = sys.stdout
outbuffer = WritableObject()
sys.stdout = outbuffer
#range (param_anum) will return array
#consisting of 0 to param_num - 1 and formula
# gets applied to each element
# [1.1*x/(2 + x) for x in range(2)]-> [0 1.1/3]
aplotter.plot([1.1*x/(2 + x) for x in range(param_anum)])
sys.stdout = saveout
return outbuffer.content
$$ LANGUAGE plpythonu;
```

```
SELECT dofunkyplot(n)
FROM generate_series(5,20, 10) As n;
```