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**syntactic**

*Release 0.1.3*

**Jan 09, 2020**



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<https://syntactic.readthedocs.io/>  
Customizable syntax for Python.



# CHAPTER 1

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## Possible uses

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- Experimenting with possible language features.
- Boilerplate reduction.



### 2.1 Unicode lambdas

```
from __syntax__ import unicode_lambda  
func =  $\lambda x: x + 1$ 
```

is equivalent to

```
func = lambda x: x + 1
```

### 2.2 SQL template literals

Embedded sql:

```
from __syntax__ import sql_literals  
engine.query(sql`SELECT author FROM books WHERE name = {book} AND author = {author}`)
```

is equivalent to:

```
engine.query('SELECT author FROM books WHERE name = ? AND author = ?', [book, author])
```



## CHAPTER 3

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### Limitations

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The example transformers are written in a fragile way. They are intended only as inspiration rather than production-ready transformers. If you want to add some production-ready ones, pull-requests are welcome.



## CHAPTER 4

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### Related work

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Several projects have explored manipulating Python syntax.

- [MacroPy](#)
- [future-fstrings](#)
- [experimental](#)



## 5.1 Overview

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<https://syntactic.readthedocs.io/>

Customizable syntax for Python.

### 5.1.1 Possible uses

- Experimenting with possible language features.
- Boilerplate reduction.

### 5.1.2 Examples

#### Unicode lambdas

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from __syntax__ import unicode_lambda  
  
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is equivalent to

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### SQL template literals

Embedded sql:

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engine.query(sql`SELECT author FROM books WHERE name = {book} AND author = {author}`)
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engine.query('SELECT author FROM books WHERE name = ? AND author = ?', [book, author])
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### 5.1.3 Limitations

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### 5.1.4 Related work

Several projects have explored manipulating Python syntax.

- [MacroPy](#)
- [future-fstrings](#)
- [experimental](#)

## 5.2 Installation

### 5.2.1 Basic

With pip:

```
pip install syntactic
```

With Poetry:

```
poetry add syntactic
```

### 5.2.2 With optional command-line tool

With pip:

```
pip install 'syntactic[cli]'
```

With Poetry:

```
poetry add 'syntactic[cli]'
```

## 5.3 Usage

### 5.3.1 Create a new custom syntax

#### 1. Make a transformer

Create a function that takes the original unicode source string and returns a new unicode source string.

```
def unicode_lambdas(source: str) -> str:
    """Convert unicode lambdas into regular lambdas."""
    return source.replace("λ", "lambda ")
```

- Put that function in a module named `__syntax__.py`. It may be in a package.

### 5.3.2 Use a custom syntax

- Install `syntactic`.
- Install a module that provides a custom syntax plugin.
- In the module where you want to use the syntax, put the `syntactic` coding declaration at the top of the file.

```
# coding: syntactic
```

- In the module where you want to use the syntax, import the desired syntax.

```
from __syntax__ import unicode_lambdas
```

If the module is in a package, namespace the import as normal. For example:

```
from syntactic.examples.__syntax__ import unicode_lambdas
```

- Write code using the custom syntax. The full module should look like this:

```
# coding: syntactic

from __syntax__ import unicode_lambdas

add_one = λx: x+1

print(add_one(1))
```

- Run the module using the python environment where `syntactic` is installed. The output should be:

```
2
```

### 5.3.3 View transformed syntax

View the expanded form of a Python file by using the optional command-line tool.

1. Ensure Syntactic's `cli` extra is installed.
2. Use `python -m syntactic show <filename>`.

## 5.4 Reference

### 5.4.1 syntactic package

#### Submodules

#### syntactic.app module

Support for custom syntax.

**class** `syntactic.app.IncrementalDecoder` (*errors='strict'*)

Bases: `codecs.BufferedIncrementalDecoder`

A buffered incremental decoder for custom syntax.

**class** `syntactic.app.StreamReader` (*stream, errors='strict'*)

Bases: `encodings.utf_8.StreamReader`

decode is deferred to support better error messages

**stream**

Get the stream.

`syntactic.app.decode` (*source\_bytes, errors='strict'*)

Decode the utf-8 input and transform it with the named transformers.

`syntactic.app.get_transformer_pairs` (*source*)

Return the module and function names of requested transformers.

Searches for `from __syntax__ import ...`

**Return type** `List[Tuple[str, str]]`

`syntactic.app.main` ()

Register the codec with Python.

#### syntactic.cli module

#### syntactic.examples module

#### Module contents

Syntactic provides custom syntax for Python.

## 5.5 Contributing

Contributions are welcome, and they are greatly appreciated! Every little bit helps, and credit will always be given.

### 5.5.1 Bug reports

When reporting a bug please include:

- Your operating system name and version.
- Any details about your local setup that might be helpful in troubleshooting.
- Detailed steps to reproduce the bug.

### 5.5.2 Documentation improvements

syntactic could always use more documentation, whether as part of the official syntactic docs, in docstrings, or even on the web in blog posts, articles, and such.

### 5.5.3 Feature requests and feedback

The best way to send feedback is to file an issue at <https://github.com/metatooling/syntactic/issues>.

If you are proposing a feature:

- Explain in detail how it would work.
- Keep the scope as narrow as possible, to make it easier to implement.
- Remember that this is a volunteer-driven project, and that code contributions are welcome :)

### 5.5.4 Development

To set up *syntactic* for local development:

1. Fork *syntactic* (look for the “Fork” button).
2. Clone your fork locally:

```
git clone git@github.com:your_name_here/syntactic.git
```

3. Create a branch for local development:

```
git checkout -b name-of-your-bugfix-or-feature
```

Now you can make your changes locally.

4. When you’re done making changes, run all the checks, doc builder and spell checker with *tox* one command:

```
tox
```

5. Commit your changes and push your branch to GitHub:

```
git add .
git commit -m "Your detailed description of your changes."
git push origin name-of-your-bugfix-or-feature
```

6. Submit a pull request through the GitHub website.

## Pull Request Guidelines

If you need some code review or feedback while you're developing the code just make the pull request.

For merging, you should:

1. Include passing tests (run `tox`)<sup>1</sup>.
2. Update documentation when there's new API, functionality etc.
3. Add a file in `changelog.d/` describing the changes. The filename should be `{id}.{type}.rst`, where `{id}` is the number of the GitHub issue or pull request and `{type}` is one of `breaking` (for breaking changes), `deprecation` (for deprecations), or `change` (for non-breaking changes). For example, to add a new feature requested in GitHub issue #1234, add a file called `changelog.d/1234.change.rst` describing the change.
4. Add yourself to `AUTHORS.rst`.

## Tips

To run a subset of tests:

```
tox -e envname -- pytest -k test_myfeature
```

To run all the test environments in *parallel* (you need to `pip install detox`):

```
detox
```

## 5.6 Authors

- Metatooling - <https://github.com/metatooling/>

## 5.7 Changelog

### 5.7.1 0.1.0 (2019-12-30)

#### Changes

- First release on PyPI.

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## 5.8 Indices and tables

- [genindex](#)
- [modindex](#)
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<sup>1</sup> If you don't have all the necessary python versions available locally you can rely on Travis - it will run the tests for each change you add in the pull request.  
It will be slower though ...

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