
ConfigUpdater Documentation

Release 3.2

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CONTENTS

1	Contents	3
1.1	Usage	3
1.2	Contributing	6
1.3	License	7
1.4	Contributors	11
1.5	Changelog	11
1.6	API Reference	13
2	Indices and tables	29
	Python Module Index	31
	Index	33



The sole purpose of [ConfigUpdater](#) is to easily update an INI config file with no changes to the original file except the intended ones. This means comments, the ordering of sections and key/value-pairs as well as their cases are kept as in the original file. Thus ConfigUpdater provides complementary functionality to Python's [ConfigParser](#) which is primarily meant for reading config files and writing *new* ones. Read more on how to use [ConfigUpdater](#) in the [usage page](#).

The key differences to [ConfigParser](#) are:

- minimal invasive changes in the update configuration file,
- proper handling of comments,
- only a single config file can be updated at a time,
- the original case of sections and keys are kept,
- control over the position of a new section/key

Following features are **deliberately not** implemented:

- interpolation of values,
- propagation of parameters from the default section,
- conversions of values,
- passing key/value-pairs with `default` argument,
- non-strict mode allowing duplicate sections and keys.

Note

ConfigUpdater is mainly developed for [PyScaffold](#).

CONTENTS

1.1 Usage

First install the package with:

```
pip install configupdater
```

Now we can simply do:

```
from configupdater import ConfigUpdater

updater = ConfigUpdater()
updater.read("setup.cfg")
```

which would read the file `setup.cfg` that is found in many projects.

To change the value of an existing key we can simply do:

```
updater["metadata"]["author"].value = "Alan Turing"
```

At any point we can print the current state of the configuration file with:

```
print(updater)
```

To update the read-in file just call `updater.update_file()` or `updater.write("filename")` to write the changed configuration file to another destination. Before actually writing, `ConfigUpdater` will automatically check that the updated configuration file is still valid by parsing it with the help of `ConfigParser`.

Many of `ConfigParser`'s methods still exists and it's best to look them up in the [API reference](#). Let's look at some examples.

1.1.1 Adding and removing options

Let's say we have the following configuration in a string:

```
cfg = """
[metadata]
author = Ada Lovelace
summary = The Analytical Engine
"""
```

We can add an *license* option, i.e. a key/value pair, in the same way we would do with `ConfigParser`:

```
updater = ConfigUpdater()
updater.read_string(cfg)
updater["metadata"]["license"] = "MIT"
```

A simple `print(updater)` will give show you that the new option was appended to the end:

```
[metadata]
author = Ada Lovelace
summary = The Analytical Engine
license = MIT
```

Since the license is really important to us let's say we want to add it before the `summary` and even add a short comment before it:

```
updater = ConfigUpdater()
updater.read_string(cfg)
(updater["metadata"]["summary"].add_before
    .comment("Ada would have loved MIT")
    .option("license", "MIT"))
```

which would result in:

```
[metadata]
author = Ada Lovelace
# Ada would have loved MIT
license = MIT
summary = Analytical Engine calculating the Bernoulli numbers
```

Using `add_after` would give the same result and looks like:

```
updater = ConfigUpdater()
updater.read_string(cfg)
(updater["metadata"]["author"].add_after
    .comment("Ada would have loved MIT")
    .option("license", "MIT"))
```

Let's say we want to rename `summary` to the more common `description`:

```
updater = ConfigUpdater()
updater.read_string(cfg)
updater["metadata"]["summary"].key = "description"
```

If we wanted no `summary` at all, we could just do `del updater["metadata"]["summary"]`.

1.1.2 Adding and removing sections

Adding and remove sections just works like adding and removing options but on a higher level. Sticking to our *Ada Lovelace* example, let's say we want to add a section options just before `metadata` with a comment and two new lines to separate it from `metadata`:

```
updater = ConfigUpdater()
updater.read_string(cfg)
(updater["metadata"].add_before
    .comment("Some specific project options"))
```

(continues on next page)

(continued from previous page)

```
.section("options")
.space(2))
```

As expected, this results in:

```
# Some specific project options
[options]

[metadata]
author = Ada Lovelace
summary = The Analytical Engine
```

We could now fill the new section with options like we learnt before. If we wanted to rename an existing section we could do this with the help of the name attribute:

```
updater["metadata"].name = "MetaData"
```

Sometimes it might be useful to inject a new section not in a programmatic way but more declarative. Let's assume we have thus defined our new section in a multi-line string:

```
sphinx_sect_str = """
[build_sphinx]
source_dir = docs
build_dir = docs/_build
"""
```

With the help of two ConfigUpdater objects we can easily inject this section into our example:

```
sphinx = ConfigUpdater()
sphinx.read_string(sphinx_sect_str)
sphinx_sect = sphinx["build_sphinx"]

updater = ConfigUpdater()
updater.read_string(cfg)

(updater["metadata"].add_after
 .space()
 .section(sphinx_sect.detach()))
```

The `detach()` method will remove the `build_sphinx` section from the first object and add it to the second object. This results in:

```
[metadata]
author = Ada Lovelace
summary = The Analytical Engine

[build_sphinx]
source_dir = docs
build_dir = docs/_build
```

Alternatively, if you want to preserve `build_sphinx` in both `ConfigUpdater` objects (i.e., prevent it from being removed from the first while still adding a copy to the second), you can also rely on `stdlib's copy.deepcopy()` function instead of `detach()`:

```
from copy import deepcopy

(updater["metadata"].add_after
 .space()
 .section(deepcopy(sphinx_sect)))
```

This technique can be used for all objects inside ConfigUpdater: sections, options, comments and blank spaces.

Shallow copies are discouraged in the context of ConfigUpdater because each configuration block keeps a reference to its container to allow easy document editing. When doing editions (such as adding or changing options and comments) based on a shallow copy, the results can be unreliable and unexpected.

For more examples on how the API of ConfigUpdater works it's best to take a look into the [unit tests](#) and read the references.

1.2 Contributing

ConfigUpdater is an open-source project and needs your help to improve. If you experience bugs or in general issues, please file an issue report on our [issue tracker](#). If you also want to contribute code or improve the documentation it's best to create a Pull Request (PR) on Github. Here is a short introduction how it works.

1.2.1 Code Contributions

Submit an issue

Before you work on any non-trivial code contribution it's best to first create an issue report to start a discussion on the subject. This often provides additional considerations and avoids unnecessary work.

Create an environment

Before you start coding we recommend to install [Miniconda](#) which allows to setup a dedicated development environment named configupdater with:

```
conda create -n configupdater python=3 virtualenv pytest pytest-cov
```

Then activate the environment configupdater with:

```
source activate configupdater
```

Clone the repository

1. [Create a Github account](#) if you do not already have one.
2. Fork the [project repository](#): click on the *Fork* button near the top of the page. This creates a copy of the code under your account on the GitHub server.
3. Clone this copy to your local disk:

```
git clone git@github.com:YourLogin/configupdater.git
```

4. Run `python setup.py develop` to install configupdater into your environment.
5. Install pre-commit:

```
pip install pre-commit
pre-commit install
```

PyScaffold project comes with a lot of hooks configured to automatically help the developer to check the code being written.

6. Create a branch to hold your changes:

```
git checkout -b my-feature
```

and start making changes. Never work on the main branch!

7. Start your work on this branch. When you're done editing, do:

```
git add modified_files
git commit
```

to record your changes in Git, then push them to GitHub with:

```
git push -u origin my-feature
```

8. Please check that your changes don't break any unit tests with:

```
python setup.py test
```

Don't forget to also add unit tests in case your contribution adds an additional feature and is not just a bugfix.

9. Use [flake8](#) to check your code style.
10. Add yourself to the list of contributors in `AUTHORS.rst`.
11. Go to the web page of your ConfigUpdater fork, and click "Create pull request" to send your changes to the maintainers for review. Find more detailed information [creating a PR](#).

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1.3.1 A. HISTORY OF THE SOFTWARE

Python was created in the early 1990s by Guido van Rossum at Stichting Mathematisch Centrum (CWI, see <http://www.cwi.nl>) in the Netherlands as a successor of a language called ABC. Guido remains Python’s principal author, although it includes many contributions from others.

In 1995, Guido continued his work on Python at the Corporation for National Research Initiatives (CNRI, see <http://www.cnri.reston.va.us>) in Reston, Virginia where he released several versions of the software.

In May 2000, Guido and the Python core development team moved to BeOpen.com to form the BeOpen PythonLabs team. In October of the same year, the PythonLabs team moved to Digital Creations, which became Zope Corporation. In 2001, the Python Software Foundation (PSF, see <https://www.python.org/psf/>) was formed, a non-profit organization created specifically to own Python-related Intellectual Property. Zope Corporation was a sponsoring member of the PSF.

All Python releases are Open Source (see <http://www.opensource.org> for the Open Source Definition). Historically, most, but not all, Python releases have also been GPL-compatible; the table below summarizes the various releases.

Release Derived Year Owner GPL- from compatible? (1)

0.9.0 thru 1.2	1991-1995	CWI	yes	1.3 thru 1.5.2	1.2	1995-1999	CNRI	yes	1.6	1.5.2	2000	CNRI	no	2.0	1.6
2000	BeOpen.com	no	1.6.1	1.6	2001	CNRI	yes	(2)	2.1	2.0+1.6.1	2001	PSF	no	2.0.1	2.0+1.6.1
2001	PSF	yes	2.1.1	2.1+2.0.1	2001	PSF	yes	2.1.2	2.1.1	2002	PSF	yes	2.1.3	2.1.2	2002
2001-now	PSF	yes													

Footnotes:

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- (2) According to Richard Stallman, 1.6.1 is not GPL-compatible, because its license has a choice of law clause. According to CNRI, however, Stallman’s lawyer has told CNRI’s lawyer that 1.6.1 is “not incompatible” with the GPL.

Thanks to the many outside volunteers who have worked under Guido’s direction to make these releases possible.

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1.5 Changelog

1.5.1 Version 3.2

- Option `prepend_newline` in `set_values` to optionally avoid new lines, issue #104
- Fix square brackets not parsed in section names, issue #122

1.5.2 Version 3.1.1

- Preserve indentation of section when there are comments, issue #92

1.5.3 Version 3.1

- Prevent modifying multi-line values directly with `value`, issue #87
- Added `append` method to `Option` for editing multi-line values
- Added `as_list` method to `Option` to handle multi-line values more easily

1.5.4 Version 3.0.1

- Fix error when parsing unindented comments in multi-line values, issue #73
- Fix invalid string produced when `allow_no_value = False`, issue #68

1.5.5 Version 3.0

- Added type hinting, issue #16
- Fix parsing error of indented comment lines, issue #25
- Allow handling of raw section comment, issue #25
- More unit testing of `optionxform`, issue #55
- Allowing sections/options to be copied from one document to the other, issue #47
- New logo, issue #29
- Whole API was rechecked by @abravalheri and changed for consistency, issue #19

1.5.6 Version 2.0

- Changes in parser, i.e. comments in multi-line option values are kept
- Issue #14 is fixed
- Parameter `empty_lines_in_values` is now activated by default and can be changed
- Renamed `sections_blocks` to `section_blocks` for consistency
- Renamed `last_item` to `last_block` for consistency
- Added `first_block`
- Reworked some internal parts of the inheritance hierarchy
- Added `remove` to remove the current block
- Added `next_block` and `previous_block` for easier navigation in section

1.5.7 Version 1.1.3

- Added fallback option to `ConfigUpdater.get` reflecting `ConfigParser`

1.5.8 Version 1.1.2

- Fix wrongly modifying input in `Option.set_value` #11

1.5.9 Version 1.1.1

- Fix iterating over the `items()` view of a section breaks #8

1.5.10 Version 1.1

- Validate format on write by default (can be deactivated)
- Fixed issue #7 with mixed-case options
- Fixed issue #7 with `add_before/add_after` problem
- Fixed issue #7 with wrong duplicate mixed-case entries
- Fixed issue #7 with duplicate options after `add_after/before`

1.5.11 Version 1.0.1

- More sane error message if `read_file` is misused
- Also run unittests with Windows

1.5.12 Version 1.0

- Fix: Use `n` instead of `os.linesep` where appropriate

1.5.13 Version 0.3.2

- Added Github and documentation link into the project's metadata

1.5.14 Version 0.3.1

- Require Python ≥ 3.4 with `python_requires`

1.5.15 Version 0.3

- Added a `insert_at` function at section level
- Some internal code simplifications

1.5.16 Version 0.2

- Added a `to_dict()` function

1.5.17 Version 0.1.1

- Allow for flexible comment character in `comment(...)`

1.5.18 Version 0.1

- First release

1.6 API Reference

exception `configupdater.AlreadyAttachedError`(*block: str | Block = 'The block'*)

Bases: `Exception`

{block} has been already attached to a container.

Try to remove it first using `detach` or create a copy using `stdlib's copy.deepcopy`.

add_note(*note, / (Positional-only parameter separator (PEP 570))*)

Add a note to the exception

with_traceback(*tb, /*)

Set `self.__traceback__` to `tb` and return `self`.

exception `configupdater.AssignMultilineValueError`(*block: str | Block = 'The block'*)

Bases: `Exception`

Trying to assign a multi-line value to {block}. Use the `set_values` or `append` method to accomplish that.

add_note(*note, /*)

Add a note to the exception

with_traceback(*tb, /*)

Set `self.__traceback__` to `tb` and return `self`.

class `configupdater.Comment`(*container: Container | None = None*)

Bases: `Block`

Comment block

property `add_after: BlockBuilder`

Block builder inserting a new block after the current block

property `add_before: BlockBuilder`

Block builder inserting a new block before the current block

add_line(*line: str*) → B

PRIVATE: this function is not part of the public API of Block. It is only used internally by other classes of the package during parsing.

Add a line to the current block

Parameters

line (*str*) – one line to add

attach(*container: Container*) → B

PRIVATE: Don't use this as a user!

Rather use *add_** or the bracket notation

property container: Container

Container holding the block

property container_idx: int

Index of the block within its container

detach() → B

Remove and return this block from container

has_container() → bool

Checks if this block has a container attached

property next_block: Block | None

Next block in the current container

property previous_block: Block | None

Previous block in the current container

property updated: bool

True if the option was changed/updated, otherwise False

class configupdater.**ConfigUpdater**(*allow_no_value=False, *(Keyword-only parameters separator (PEP 3102)), delimiters: Tuple[str, ...] = ('=', ':'), comment_prefixes: Tuple[str, ...] = ('#', ';'), inline_comment_prefixes: Tuple[str, ...] | None = None, strict: bool = True, empty_lines_in_values: bool = True, space_around_delimiters: bool = True)*

Bases: Document

Tool to parse and modify existing cfg files.

ConfigUpdater follows the API of ConfigParser with some differences:

- inline comments are treated as part of a key's value,
- only a single config file can be updated at a time,
- the original case of sections and keys are kept,
- control over the position of a new section/key.

Following features are **deliberately not** implemented:

- interpolation of values,
- propagation of parameters from the default section,
- conversions of values,
- passing key/value-pairs with `default` argument,

- non-strict mode allowing duplicate sections and keys.

ConfigUpdater objects can be created by passing the same kind of arguments accepted by the [Parser](#). After a ConfigUpdater object is created, you can load some content into it by calling any of the `read*` methods ([read\(\)](#), [read_file\(\)](#) and [read_string\(\)](#)).

Once the content is loaded you can use the ConfigUpdater object more or less in the same way you would use a nested dictionary. Please have a look into [Document](#) to understand the main differences.

When you are done changing the configuration file, you can call [write\(\)](#) or [update_file\(\)](#) methods.

add_section(*section: str* | [Section](#))

Create a new section in the configuration.

Raise DuplicateSectionError if a section by the specified name already exists. Raise ValueError if name is DEFAULT.

Parameters

section (*str* or [Section](#)) – name or Section type

clear() → None. Remove all items from D.

get(*section, option, fallback=UniqueValues._UNSET*)

Gets an option object for a given section or a fallback value.

Warning

Please notice this method works differently from what is expected of `MutableMapping.get()` (or `dict.get()`). Similarly to `configparser.ConfigParser.get()`, will take least 2 arguments, and the second argument does not correspond to a default value.

This happens because this function is not designed to return a [Section](#) of the [ConfigUpdater](#) document, but instead a nested [Option](#).

See [get_section\(\)](#), if instead, you want to retrieve a [Section](#).

Parameters

- **section** (*str*) – section name
- **option** (*str*) – option name
- **fallback** (*T*) – if the key is not found and fallback is provided, the fallback value will be returned. None is a valid fallback value.

Attention

When option is not present, the fallback value itself is returned. If you want instead to obtain a new Option object with a default value associated with it, you can try the following:

```
configupdater.get("section", "option", fallback=Option("name", value))
```

... which roughly corresponds to:

```
configupdater["section"].get("option", Option("name", value))
```

Raises

- **NoSectionError** – if section cannot be found
- **NoOptionError** – if the option cannot be found and no fallback was given

Returns

Option object holding key/value pair when it exists. Otherwise, the value passed via the fallback argument itself (type T).

get_section(*name*, *default=None*)

This method works similarly to `dict.get()`, and allows you to retrieve an entire section by its name, or provide a default value in case it cannot be found.

has_option(*section: str*, *option: str*) → bool

Checks for the existence of a given option in a given section.

Parameters

- **section** (*str*) – name of section
- **option** (*str*) – name of option

Returns

whether the option exists in the given section

Return type

bool

has_section(*key*) → bool

Returns whether the given section exists.

Parameters

key (*str*) – name of section

Returns

wether the section exists

Return type

bool

items(*section=UniqueValues._UNSET*)

Return a list of (name, value) tuples for options or sections.

If section is given, return a list of tuples with (name, value) for each option in the section. Otherwise, return a list of tuples with (section_name, section_type) for each section.

Parameters

section (*str*) – optional section name, default UNSET

Returns

list of *Section* or *Option* objects

Return type

list

iter_blocks() → Iterator[T]

Iterate over all blocks inside container.

iter_sections() → Iterator[*Section*]

Iterate only over section blocks

keys() → a set-like object providing a view on D's keys

options(*section: str*) → list[str]

Returns list of configuration options for the named section.

Parameters

section (*str*) – name of section

Returns

list of option names

Return type

list

optionxform(*optionstr*) → str

Converts an option key for unification

By default it uses `str.lower()`, which means that ConfigUpdater will compare options in a case insensitive way.

This implementation mimics ConfigParser API, and can be configured as described in `configparser.ConfigParser.optionxform()`.

Parameters

optionstr (*str*) – key name

Returns

unified option name

Return type

str

pop(*k[, d]*) → v, remove specified key and return the corresponding value.

If key is not found, d is returned if given, otherwise `KeyError` is raised.

popitem() → (k, v), remove and return some (key, value) pair

as a 2-tuple; but raise `KeyError` if D is empty.

read(*filename: str | bytes | PathLike, encoding: str | None = None*) → T

Read and parse a filename.

Parameters

- **filename** (*str*) – path to file
- **encoding** (*str*) – encoding of file, default None

read_file(*f: Iterable[str], source: str | None = None*) → T

Like `read()` but the argument must be a file-like object.

The `f` argument must be iterable, returning one line at a time. Optional second argument is the `source` specifying the name of the file being read. If not given, it is taken from `f.name`. If `f` has no `name` attribute, `<???` is used.

Parameters

- **f** – file like object
- **source** (*str*) – reference name for file object, default None

read_string(*string: str, source=<string>*) → T

Read configuration from a given string.

Parameters

- **string** (*str*) – string containing a configuration

- **source** (*str*) – reference name for file object, default '<string>'

remove_option(*section: str, option: str*) → bool

Remove an option.

Parameters

- **section** (*str*) – section name
- **option** (*str*) – option name

Returns

whether the option was actually removed

Return type

bool

remove_section(*name: str*) → bool

Remove a file section.

Parameters

name – name of the section

Returns

whether the section was actually removed

Return type

bool

section_blocks() → list[*Section*]

Returns all section blocks

Returns

list of *Section* blocks

Return type

list

sections() → list[str]

Return a list of section names

Returns

list of section names

Return type

list

set(*section: str, option: str, value: None | str | Iterable[str] = None*) → D

Set an option.

Parameters

- **section** – section name
- **option** – option name
- **value** – value, default None

setdefault(*k[, d]*) → D.get(k,d), also set D[k]=d if k not in D

to_dict() → dict[str, dict[str, str | None]]

Transform to dictionary

Returns

dictionary with same content

Return type

dict

update(*[E,]**F*) → None. Update D from mapping/iterable E and F.

If E present and has a .keys() method, does: for k in E.keys(): D[k] = E[k] If E present and lacks .keys() method, does: for (k, v) in E: D[k] = v In either case, this is followed by: for k, v in F.items(): D[k] = v

update_file(*validate: bool = True*) → T

Update the read-in configuration file.

Parameters

validate (*Boolean*) – validate format before writing

validate_format(***kwargs*)

Given the current state of the ConfigUpdater object (e.g. after modifications), validate its INI/CFG textual representation by parsing it with ConfigParser.

The ConfigParser object is instead with the same arguments as the original ConfigUpdater object, but the *kwargs* can be used to overwrite them.

See `validate_format()`.

values() → an object providing a view on D's values

write(*fp: TextIO, validate: bool = True*)

Write an .cfg/.ini-format representation of the configuration state.

Parameters

- **fp** (*file-like object*) – open file handle
- **validate** (*Boolean*) – validate format before writing

exception `configupdater.DuplicateOptionError`(*section, option, source=None, lineno=None*)

Bases: `Error`

Raised by strict parsers when an option is repeated in an input source.

Current implementation raises this exception only when an option is found more than once in a single file, string or dictionary.

add_note(*note, /*)

Add a note to the exception

with_traceback(*tb, /*)

Set self.__traceback__ to tb and return self.

exception `configupdater.DuplicateSectionError`(*section, source=None, lineno=None*)

Bases: `Error`

Raised when a section is repeated in an input source.

Possible repetitions that raise this exception are: multiple creation using the API or in strict parsers when a section is found more than once in a single input file, string or dictionary.

add_note(*note, /*)

Add a note to the exception

with_traceback(*tb*, /)

Set self.__traceback__ to *tb* and return self.

exception configupdater.**InconsistentStateError**(*msg*, *fpname*='<???'>', *lineno*: int = -1, *line*: str = '???')

Bases: `Exception`

Internal parser error, some of the parsing algorithm assumptions was violated, and the internal state machine ended up in an unpredicted state.

add_note(*note*, /)

Add a note to the exception

with_traceback(*tb*, /)

Set self.__traceback__ to *tb* and return self.

exception configupdater.**MissingSectionHeaderError**(*filename*, *lineno*, *line*)

Bases: `ParsingError`

Raised when a key-value pair is found before any section header.

add_note(*note*, /)

Add a note to the exception

with_traceback(*tb*, /)

Set self.__traceback__ to *tb* and return self.

exception configupdater.**NoConfigFileReadError**

Bases: `Error`

Raised when no configuration file was read but update requested.

add_note(*note*, /)

Add a note to the exception

with_traceback(*tb*, /)

Set self.__traceback__ to *tb* and return self.

exception configupdater.**NoOptionError**(*option*, *section*)

Bases: `Error`

A requested option was not found.

add_note(*note*, /)

Add a note to the exception

with_traceback(*tb*, /)

Set self.__traceback__ to *tb* and return self.

exception configupdater.**NoSectionError**(*section*)

Bases: `Error`

Raised when no section matches a requested option.

add_note(*note*, /)

Add a note to the exception

with_traceback(*tb*, /)

Set self.__traceback__ to *tb* and return self.

exception configupdater.**NoneValueDisallowed**

Bases: SyntaxWarning

Cannot represent <{option} = None>, it will be converted to <{option} = ">. Please use allow_no_value=True with ConfigUpdater.

add_note(note, /)

Add a note to the exception

with_traceback(tb, /)

Set self.__traceback__ to tb and return self.

exception configupdater.**NotAttachedError**(block: str | Block = 'The block')

Bases: Exception

{block} is not attached to a container yet. Try to insert it first.

add_note(note, /)

Add a note to the exception

with_traceback(tb, /)

Set self.__traceback__ to tb and return self.

class configupdater.**Option**(key: str, value: str | None = None, container: Section | None = None, delimiter: str = '=', space_around_delimiters: bool = True, line: str | None = None)

Bases: Block

Option block holding a key/value pair.

property **add_after**: BlockBuilder

Block builder inserting a new block after the current block

property **add_before**: BlockBuilder

Block builder inserting a new block before the current block

add_line(line: str)

PRIVATE: this function is not part of the public API of Option. It is only used internally by other classes of the package during parsing.

add_value(value: str | None)

PRIVATE: this function is not part of the public API of Option. It is only used internally by other classes of the package during parsing.

append(value: str, **kwargs) → Option

Append a value to a multi-line value

Parameters

- **value** (str) – value
- **kwargs** – keyword arguments for *set_values*

as_list(separator='\n') → list[str]

Returns the (multi-line/element) value as a list

Empty list if value is None, single-element list for a one-element value and an element for each line in a multi-element value.

Parameters

separator (str) – separator for values, default: line separator

attach(*container: Container*) → B

PRIVATE: Don't use this as a user!

Rather use *add_** or the bracket notation

property container: Container

Container holding the block

property container_idx: int

Index of the block within its container

detach() → B

Remove and return this block from container

has_container() → bool

Checks if this block has a container attached

property key: str

Key string associated with the option.

Please notice that the option key is normalized with *optionxform*().

When the option object is detached, this method will raise a *NotAttachedError*.

property next_block: Block | None

Next block in the current container

property previous_block: Block | None

Previous block in the current container

property raw_key: str

Equivalent to *key*, but before applying *optionxform*().

set_values(*values: Iterable[str], separator='\n', indent: str | None = None, prepend_newline=True*)

Sets the value to a given list of options, e.g. multi-line values

Parameters

- **values** (*iterable*) – sequence of values
- **separator** (*str*) – separator for values, default: line separator
- **indent** (*optional str*) – indentation in case of line separator. If *prepend_newline* is *True* 4 whitespaces by default, otherwise determine automatically if *None*.
- **prepend_newline** (*bool*) – start with a new line or not, resp.

property updated: bool

True if the option was changed/updated, otherwise False

property value: str | None

Value associated with the given option.

value_start_idx() → int

Index where the value of the option starts, good for indentation

```
class configupdater.Parser(allow_no_value=False, *, delimiters: ~typing.Tuple[str, ...] = ('=', ':'),
                           comment_prefixes: ~typing.Tuple[str, ...] = ('#', ';'), inline_comment_prefixes:
~typing.Tuple[str, ...] | None = None, strict: bool = True, empty_lines_in_values:
bool = True, space_around_delimiters: bool = True, optionxform:
~typing.Callable[[str], str] = <class 'str'>)
```

Bases: `object`

Parser for updating configuration files.

ConfigUpdater's parser follows ConfigParser with some differences:

- inline comments are treated as part of a key's value,
- only a single config file can be updated at a time,
- the original case of sections and keys are kept,
- control over the position of a new section/key.

Following features are **deliberately not** implemented:

- interpolation of values,
- propagation of parameters from the default section,
- conversions of values,
- passing key/value-pairs with `default` argument,
- non-strict mode allowing duplicate sections and keys.

read(*filename*, *encoding=None*, *into=None*)

Read and parse a filename.

Parameters

- **filename** (*str*) – path to file
- **encoding** (*Optional[str]*) – encoding of file, default `None`
- **into** (*Optional[Document]*) – object to be populated with the parsed config

read_file(*f*, *source=None*, *into=None*)

Like `read()` but the argument must be a file-like object.

The *f* argument must be iterable, returning one line at a time. Optional second argument is the *source* specifying the name of the file being read. If not given, it is taken from *f.name*. If *f* has no *name* attribute, `<???` is used.

Parameters

- **f** – file like object
- **source** (*Optional[str]*) – reference name for file object, default `None`
- **into** (*Optional[Document]*) – object to be populated with the parsed config

read_string(*string*, *source='<string>'*, *into=None*)

Read configuration from a given string.

Parameters

- **string** (*str*) – string containing a configuration
- **source** (*str*) – reference name for file object, default `'<string>'`
- **into** (*Optional[Document]*) – object to be populated with the parsed config

exception configupdater.**ParsingError**(*source*, **args*)

Bases: `Error`

Raised when a configuration file does not follow legal syntax.

add_note(*note*, /)

Add a note to the exception

with_traceback(*tb*, /)

Set self.__traceback__ to *tb* and return self.

class configupdater.**Section**(*name*: *str*, *container*: *Document* | *None* = *None*, *raw_comment*: *str* = "")

Bases: `Block`, `Container`[`Option` | `Comment` | `Space`], `MutableMapping`[*str*, `Option`]

Section block holding options

property **add_after**: `BlockBuilder`

Block builder inserting a new block after the current block

property **add_before**: `BlockBuilder`

Block builder inserting a new block before the current block

add_comment(*line*: *str*) → *S*

Add a `Comment` object to the section

Used during initial parsing mainly

Parameters

line (*str*) – one line in the comment

add_line(*line*: *str*) → *B*

PRIVATE: this function is not part of the public API of `Block`. It is only used internally by other classes of the package during parsing.

Add a line to the current block

Parameters

line (*str*) – one line to add

add_option(*entry*: `Option`) → *S*

Add an `Option` object to the section

Used during initial parsing mainly

Parameters

entry (`Option`) – key value pair as `Option` object

add_space(*line*: *str*) → *S*

Add a `Space` object to the section

Used during initial parsing mainly

Parameters

line (*str*) – one line that defines the space, maybe whitespaces

attach(*container*: *Container*) → *B*

PRIVATE: Don't use this as a user!

Rather use `add_*` or the bracket notation

clear() → *None*. Remove all items from *D*.

property container: `Container`

Container holding the block

property container_idx: `int`

Index of the block within its container

create_option(*key: str, value: str | None = None*) → *Option*

Creates an option with kwargs that respect syntax options given to the parent ConfigUpdater object (e.g. `space_around_delimiters`).

Warning

This is a low level API, not intended for public use. Prefer `set()` or `__setitem__()`.

detach() → `B`

Remove and return this block from container

get(*key, default=None*)

This method works similarly to `dict.get()`, and allows you to retrieve an option object by its key.

has_container() → `bool`

Checks if this block has a container attached

has_option(*key*) → `bool`

Returns whether the given option exists.

Parameters

option (*str*) – name of option

Returns

whether the section exists

Return type

`bool`

insert_at(*idx: int*) → `BlockBuilder`

Returns a builder inserting a new block at the given index

Parameters

idx (*int*) – index where to insert

items() → `list[Tuple[str, Option]]`

Return a list of (name, option) tuples for each option in this section.

Returns

list of (name, *Option*) tuples

Return type

`list`

iter_blocks() → `Iterator[T]`

Iterate over all blocks inside container.

iter_options() → `Iterator[Option]`

Iterate only over option blocks

keys() → a set-like object providing a view on D's keys

property name: `str`

Name of the section

property next_block: `Block | None`

Next block in the current container

option_blocks() \rightarrow `list[Option]`

Returns option blocks

Returns

list of *Option* blocks

Return type

list

options() \rightarrow `list[str]`

Returns option names

Returns

list of option names as strings

Return type

list

pop(*k*, *d*) \rightarrow *v*, remove specified key and return the corresponding value.

If key is not found, *d* is returned if given, otherwise `KeyError` is raised.

popitem() \rightarrow (*k*, *v*), remove and return some (key, value) pair

as a 2-tuple; but raise `KeyError` if *D* is empty.

property previous_block: `Block | None`

Previous block in the current container

property raw_comment

Raw comment (includes comment mark) inline with the section header

set(*option*: *str*, *value*: *None* | *str* | *Iterable[str]* = *None*) \rightarrow *S*

Set an option for chaining.

Parameters

- **option** – option name
- **value** – value, default `None`

setdefault(*k*, *d*) \rightarrow *D.get(k,d)*, also set *D[k]=d* if *k* not in *D*

to_dict() \rightarrow `dict[str, str | None]`

Transform to dictionary

Returns

dictionary with same content

Return type

dict

update(*[E,]**F*) \rightarrow *None*. Update *D* from mapping/iterable *E* and *F*.

If *E* present and has a `.keys()` method, does: for *k* in *E.keys()*: *D[k] = E[k]* If *E* present and lacks `.keys()` method, does: for (*k*, *v*) in *E*: *D[k] = v* In either case, this is followed by: for *k*, *v* in *F.items()*: *D[k] = v*

property updated: `bool`

True if the option was changed/updated, otherwise False

values() → an object providing a view on D's values

class configupdater.**Space**(*container: Container | None = None*)

Bases: `Block`

Vertical space block of new lines

property add_after: `BlockBuilder`

Block builder inserting a new block after the current block

property add_before: `BlockBuilder`

Block builder inserting a new block before the current block

add_line(*line: str*) → `B`

PRIVATE: this function is not part of the public API of `Block`. It is only used internally by other classes of the package during parsing.

Add a line to the current block

Parameters

line (*str*) – one line to add

attach(*container: Container*) → `B`

PRIVATE: Don't use this as a user!

Rather use `add_*` or the bracket notation

property container: `Container`

Container holding the block

property container_idx: `int`

Index of the block within its container

detach() → `B`

Remove and return this block from container

has_container() → `bool`

Checks if this block has a container attached

property next_block: `Block | None`

Next block in the current container

property previous_block: `Block | None`

Previous block in the current container

property updated: `bool`

True if the option was changed/updated, otherwise False

INDICES AND TABLES

- `genindex`
- `modindex`
- `search`

PYTHON MODULE INDEX

C

`configupdater`, [13](#)

A

[add_after \(configupdater.Comment property\)](#), 13
[add_after \(configupdater.Option property\)](#), 21
[add_after \(configupdater.Section property\)](#), 24
[add_after \(configupdater.Space property\)](#), 27
[add_before \(configupdater.Comment property\)](#), 13
[add_before \(configupdater.Option property\)](#), 21
[add_before \(configupdater.Section property\)](#), 24
[add_before \(configupdater.Space property\)](#), 27
[add_comment\(\) \(configupdater.Section method\)](#), 24
[add_line\(\) \(configupdater.Comment method\)](#), 13
[add_line\(\) \(configupdater.Option method\)](#), 21
[add_line\(\) \(configupdater.Section method\)](#), 24
[add_line\(\) \(configupdater.Space method\)](#), 27
[add_note\(\) \(configupdater.AlreadyAttachedError method\)](#), 13
[add_note\(\) \(configupdater.AssignMultilineValueError method\)](#), 13
[add_note\(\) \(configupdater.DuplicateOptionError method\)](#), 19
[add_note\(\) \(configupdater.DuplicateSectionError method\)](#), 19
[add_note\(\) \(configupdater.InconsistentStateError method\)](#), 20
[add_note\(\) \(configupdater.MissingSectionHeaderError method\)](#), 20
[add_note\(\) \(configupdater.NoConfigFileReadError method\)](#), 20
[add_note\(\) \(configupdater.NoneValueDisallowed method\)](#), 21
[add_note\(\) \(configupdater.NoOptionError method\)](#), 20
[add_note\(\) \(configupdater.NoSectionError method\)](#), 20
[add_note\(\) \(configupdater.NotAttachedError method\)](#), 21
[add_note\(\) \(configupdater.ParsingError method\)](#), 24
[add_option\(\) \(configupdater.Section method\)](#), 24
[add_section\(\) \(configupdater.ConfigUpdater method\)](#), 15
[add_space\(\) \(configupdater.Section method\)](#), 24
[add_value\(\) \(configupdater.Option method\)](#), 21
[AlreadyAttachedError](#), 13
[append\(\) \(configupdater.Option method\)](#), 21

[as_list\(\) \(configupdater.Option method\)](#), 21
[AssignMultilineValueError](#), 13
[attach\(\) \(configupdater.Comment method\)](#), 14
[attach\(\) \(configupdater.Option method\)](#), 21
[attach\(\) \(configupdater.Section method\)](#), 24
[attach\(\) \(configupdater.Space method\)](#), 27

C

[clear\(\) \(configupdater.ConfigUpdater method\)](#), 15
[clear\(\) \(configupdater.Section method\)](#), 24
[Comment \(class in configupdater\)](#), 13
[configupdater module](#), 13
[ConfigUpdater \(class in configupdater\)](#), 14
[container \(configupdater.Comment property\)](#), 14
[container \(configupdater.Option property\)](#), 22
[container \(configupdater.Section property\)](#), 24
[container \(configupdater.Space property\)](#), 27
[container_idx \(configupdater.Comment property\)](#), 14
[container_idx \(configupdater.Option property\)](#), 22
[container_idx \(configupdater.Section property\)](#), 25
[container_idx \(configupdater.Space property\)](#), 27
[create_option\(\) \(configupdater.Section method\)](#), 25

D

[detach\(\) \(configupdater.Comment method\)](#), 14
[detach\(\) \(configupdater.Option method\)](#), 22
[detach\(\) \(configupdater.Section method\)](#), 25
[detach\(\) \(configupdater.Space method\)](#), 27
[DuplicateOptionError](#), 19
[DuplicateSectionError](#), 19

G

[get\(\) \(configupdater.ConfigUpdater method\)](#), 15
[get\(\) \(configupdater.Section method\)](#), 25
[get_section\(\) \(configupdater.ConfigUpdater method\)](#), 16

H

[has_container\(\) \(configupdater.Comment method\)](#), 14
[has_container\(\) \(configupdater.Option method\)](#), 22
[has_container\(\) \(configupdater.Section method\)](#), 25

has_container() (*configupdater.Space* method), 27
 has_option() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 16
 has_option() (*configupdater.Section* method), 25
 has_section() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 16

I

InconsistentStateError, 20
 insert_at() (*configupdater.Section* method), 25
 items() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 16
 items() (*configupdater.Section* method), 25
 iter_blocks() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 16
 iter_blocks() (*configupdater.Section* method), 25
 iter_options() (*configupdater.Section* method), 25
 iter_sections() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 16

K

key (*configupdater.Option* property), 22
 keys() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 16
 keys() (*configupdater.Section* method), 25

M

MissingSectionHeaderError, 20
 module
 configupdater, 13

N

name (*configupdater.Section* property), 25
 next_block (*configupdater.Comment* property), 14
 next_block (*configupdater.Option* property), 22
 next_block (*configupdater.Section* property), 26
 next_block (*configupdater.Space* property), 27
 NoConfigFileReadError, 20
 NoneValueDisallowed, 20
 NoOptionError, 20
 NoSectionError, 20
 NotAttachedError, 21

O

Option (*class in configupdater*), 21
 option_blocks() (*configupdater.Section* method), 26
 options() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 16
 options() (*configupdater.Section* method), 26
 optionxform() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 17

P

Parser (*class in configupdater*), 22
 ParsingError, 23
 pop() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 17

pop() (*configupdater.Section* method), 26
 popitem() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 17
 popitem() (*configupdater.Section* method), 26
 previous_block (*configupdater.Comment* property), 14
 previous_block (*configupdater.Option* property), 22
 previous_block (*configupdater.Section* property), 26
 previous_block (*configupdater.Space* property), 27

R

raw_comment (*configupdater.Section* property), 26
 raw_key (*configupdater.Option* property), 22
 read() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 17
 read() (*configupdater.Parser* method), 23
 read_file() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 17
 read_file() (*configupdater.Parser* method), 23
 read_string() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 17
 read_string() (*configupdater.Parser* method), 23
 remove_option() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 18
 remove_section() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 18

S

Section (*class in configupdater*), 24
 section_blocks() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 18
 sections() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 18
 set() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 18
 set() (*configupdater.Section* method), 26
 set_values() (*configupdater.Option* method), 22
 setdefault() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 18
 setdefault() (*configupdater.Section* method), 26
 Space (*class in configupdater*), 27

T

to_dict() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 18
 to_dict() (*configupdater.Section* method), 26

U

update() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 19
 update() (*configupdater.Section* method), 26
 update_file() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 19
 updated (*configupdater.Comment* property), 14
 updated (*configupdater.Option* property), 22
 updated (*configupdater.Section* property), 26
 updated (*configupdater.Space* property), 27

V

validate_format() (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 19

[value](#) (*configupdater.Option* property), 22
[value_start_idx\(\)](#) (*configupdater.Option* method), 22
[values\(\)](#) (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 19
[values\(\)](#) (*configupdater.Section* method), 27

W

[with_traceback\(\)](#) (*configupdater.AlreadyAttachedError* method), 13
[with_traceback\(\)](#) (*configupdater.AssignMultilineValueError* method), 13
[with_traceback\(\)](#) (*configupdater.DuplicateOptionError* method), 19
[with_traceback\(\)](#) (*configupdater.DuplicateSectionError* method), 19
[with_traceback\(\)](#) (*configupdater.InconsistentStateError* method), 20
[with_traceback\(\)](#) (*configupdater.MissingSectionHeaderError* method), 20
[with_traceback\(\)](#) (*configupdater.NoConfigFileReadError* method), 20
[with_traceback\(\)](#) (*configupdater.NoneValueDisallowed* method), 21
[with_traceback\(\)](#) (*configupdater.NoOptionError* method), 20
[with_traceback\(\)](#) (*configupdater.NoSectionError* method), 20
[with_traceback\(\)](#) (*configupdater.NotAttachedError* method), 21
[with_traceback\(\)](#) (*configupdater.ParsingError* method), 24
[write\(\)](#) (*configupdater.ConfigUpdater* method), 19