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# pyangext Documentation

*Release 0.0.1*

**(none)**

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**pyang** + sensible **extensions**



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## Contents

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### 1.1 pyangext

Sensible extensions for `pyang`

#### 1.1.1 What's this all about?

`YANG` is a data modeling language born in the context of configuration and management of network devices (like routers and other internet-related stuff). It is envisioned to work with XML data encoding and remote procedure calls (so 2000s ...), but it is extremely flexible and can be used for a multitude of purposes. In turn, `pyang` is a python project that provides parsing, validation, transformation and code generation functionalities. Despite of being extensible, the `pyang` code is a little bit complex, and the documentation scarce. This makes the task of building plugins difficult.

`pyangext` aims to provide a common foundation for plugins, wrapping `pyang` features, and making easier to use it programmatically outside `pyang` own code-base.

##### **If you are one of the `pyang` authors...**

You guys have done an amazing job, please don't feel upset about this documentation. I'm trying to make it interesting and a little bit funny. The ultimate goal is to have an amazing `pyang` environment, and if you would like to merge `pyangext` inside `pyang`, please let me know.

#### 1.1.2 Getting Started

##### **If you are not a plugin writer**

Well, `pyangext` will not exactly change your life... but you can have a little benefit from it, so let's **install all the things!**

```
sudo pip install pyangext
# drop sudo if you are using a virtualenv or pyenv
```

There are some python packages that register themselves as `pyang` plugins using `setuptools` entry-points. While `pyang` does not natively support it, `pyangext` will consider it and generate a complete plugin path. You can activate it by doing:

```
eval $(pyangext --export-path)
```

If you like it, you can also include it in your `.(ba|z)shrc` file.

**DONE**

## If you ARE a plugin writer

You have probably noticed that `pyang` does not support the standard `setuptools` entry-points way of writing plugins. Instead it requires that the user either copies the plugin to the `pyang` plugins directory, or changes manually the `PYANG_PLUGINPATH` env var. Sometimes this makes difficult to describe how to use your plugin, e.g. `pyangbind`.

Using `pyangext` you can:

1. Create an empty plugin package inside your project (folder with just and empty `__init__.py` file inside).
2. Put just your plugin modules inside it (`.py` files containing `pyang_plugin_init` function).
3. Register a `setuptools` entry-point under the `yang.plugins` section, with the name of your plugin, pointing to that function.
4. Ask your users in the documentation to use `eval $(pyangext --export-path)` before running `pyang`, or exchange the `pyang` shell command by `pyangext run` with the same arguments.
5. Distribute your package using PyPI/pip tools.

Additionally `pyangext` provides two other submodules with functions that can be used in your code. The `pyangext.utils` module provides functions like `create_context`, `parse`, `dump`, `walk`. These functions are very useful, and a little example is provided below:

```
from pyangext.utils import create_context, dump, find, parse, walk
ctx = create_context(keep_comments=True, features=['if:if-mib'])
ast = parse('leaf id { type int32; }', ctx) # tree-ish structure
print(dump(ast, ctx)) # produce YANG code
used_types = walk(ast,
                  select=lambda node: node.keyword == 'type',
                  apply=lambda node: node.arg)
# => ['int32']
int32_nodes = find(ast, 'type', 'int32') # list with 1 object
```

`pyang.Context` object plays a central role in the `pyang` architecture. The `create_context` can be used to create this object in a similar way it is created by the `pyang` CLI.

The `pyangext.definitions` on the other hand provides some constants like the `BUILT_IN_TYPES` list.

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**Note:** There are few well known issues with `create_context` and `parse` functions preventing them to be used by standalone python scripts, like the lack of YANG deviation support. Despite they can be used in most situations, the preferred way of manipulating the YANG Abstract Syntax Tree (AST) is yet writing a plugin.

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**See also:**

`pyangext.cli` `pyangext.utils`

## 1.1.3 Stuff Doesn't Work

This work was tested and I think it's stable, but any feedback you can give me on this would be gratefully received (see section **Reporting a Bug** at [Contribution Guidelines](#)).



### 1.1.4 Can I help?

Yes, please! Contributions of any kind are welcome, and also feel free to ask your questions!

Please take a look at the [Contribution Guidelines](#).

#### Well-known list of TODOs

- Make sure `augment`, `deviation` and `include` work with both `ctx.add_module` and `parse`. (by writing tests and making it pass).
- Use `ctx.add_module` under the hood when a file name is passed to `parse`. If it is a module, why not add it to context as well?
- Make `parse` and `dump` work with `yin` format.

#### Doubts

- Perform `ctx.validate` and `validate_module` under the hood?
- Abstract Context and `i_` magic method?

#### Ultimate Goals

- Allow `pyang` plugins to be written as standalone python scripts. (I think it is better to have small focused scripts, instead of a huge amount of options in the `pyang` CLI)
- Merged into `pyang` own code base.

## 1.2 pyangext

### 1.2.1 pyangext package

#### Submodules

##### pyangext.cli module

Extension for the `pyang` command line interface.

This module includes tools for augmenting `PYANG_PLUGINPATH` with the location of auto-discovered `pyang` plugins.

`Pyang` do not use the `setuptools` to register plugins. Instead it requires that the paths of all directories containing plugins to be present in the `PYANG_PLUGINPATH` environment variable.

`pyangext` reads all entry points under `yang.plugins`, detect the path to the file that contains the function registered, and builds a list with the containing directories.

In this sense, `pyangext run` command can be used as a bridge to the `pyang` command, but using the auto-discovery feature.

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**Note:** Including non `pyang`-plugin python files alongside `pyang`-plugins python files (in the same directory) will result in a `pyang` CLI crash.

It is recommended that the function registered as entry-point follows the proprietary pyang plugin convention, or in other words:

- it should be named `pyang_plugin_init`
  - it should call `pyang.plugin.register_plugin` with an instance of `pyang.plugin.PyangPlugin` as argument.
- 

**See also:**

<https://pythonhosted.org/setuptools/setuptools.html#dynamic-discovery-of-services-and-plugins>

## Command Line Interface

**Usage:** `pyangext [OPTIONS] COMMAND [ARGS]`

**Options:**

<b>-h, --help</b>	Show this message and exit.
<b>-v, --version</b>	Show the version and exit.
<b>--path</b>	Prints the auto discovered plugin path. Python packages that register an entry-point inside <code>yang.plugins</code> will be auto-detected.
<b>--init, --export-path</b>	Prints an export shell statement with the auto discovered plugin path.  This may be used by shell script to configure <code>PYANG_PLUGINPATH</code> environment variable.  Example:
<b>--help</b>	Show this message and exit.

**Commands:**

**call** invoke pyang script with plugin path adjusted using auto-discovery.

`pyangext.cli.export_path(ctx, _, value)`

Prints an export shell statement with the auto discovered plugin path.

This may be used by shell script to configure `PYANG_PLUGINPATH` environment variable.

### Example

```
eval $(pyangext --export-path)
```

`pyangext.cli.print_path(ctx, _, value)`

Prints the auto discovered plugin path.

Packages that register an `yang.plugins` entry-point will be auto-detected.

## pyangext.definitions module

Meta information about YANG modeling language.

**See also:**

<https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc6020>

`pyangext.definitions.BUILT_IN_TYPES` = ['binary', 'bits', 'boolean', 'decimal64', 'empty', 'enumeration', 'identityref']  
Types supported by default in the YANG language.

`pyangext.definitions.DATA_STATEMENTS` = ['container', 'leaf', 'leaf-list', 'list', 'anyxml']  
Statements that denote a data node in the abstract tree.

`pyangext.definitions.HEADER_STATEMENTS` = ['organization', 'contact', 'revision', 'yang-version']  
Descriptive statements used in the header of a module or submodule.

`pyangext.definitions.ID_STATEMENTS` = ['namespace', 'prefix']  
Statements used to identify the module.

`pyangext.definitions.PREFIX_SEPARATOR` = ':'  
Character used to denote prefix in YANG language.

`pyangext.definitions.YANG_KEYWORDS` = ['action', 'anydata', 'anyxml', 'argument', 'augment', 'base', 'belongs-to', 'b']  
YANG language Keywords.

## pyangext.paths module

Automatically discover pyang plugins by reading setuptools entry-points.

`pyangext.paths.discover()`  
Discovers pyang plugins registered using setuptools entry points.

Collects the path for all python modules that have functions registered as an entry point inside `yang.plugins` group.

Ideally the function registered should be named `pyang_plugin_init`. It is also important to not include non-pyang-plugin python modules in the same directory of this module.

**Returns** Array of paths that contains python modules with pyang plugins.

**Reference:** <https://pythonhosted.org/setuptools/setuptools.html#dynamic-discovery-of-services-and-plugins>

`pyangext.paths.expanded()`  
Combines the auto-discovered plugin paths with env `PYANG_PLUGINPATH`.

This function appends paths discovered using `discover` function to the list provided by `PYANG_PLUGINPATH` environment variable. It also removes duplicated entries from the resulting list.

**Returns** Array of paths that contains python modules with pyang plugins.

## pyangext.utils module

Utility belt for working with pyang and pyangext.

`pyangext.utils.create_context(path='.', *options, **kwargs)`  
Generates a pyang context.

The dict options and keyword arguments are similar to the command line options for pyang. For `plugindir` use env var `PYANG_PLUGINPATH`. For `path` option use the argument with the same name, or `PYANG_MODPATH` env var.

### Parameters

- **path** (*str*) – location of YANG modules. (Join string with `os.pathsep` for multiple locations). Default is the current working dir.

- **\*options** – list of dicts, with options to be passed to context. See below.
- **\*\*kwargs** – similar to `options` but have a higher precedence. See below.

#### Keyword Arguments

- **print\_error\_code** (*bool*) – On errors, print the error code instead of the error message. Default `False`.
- **warnings** (*list*) – If contains `error`, treat all warnings as errors, except any other error code in the list. If contains `none`, do not report any warning.
- **errors** (*list*) – Treat each error code container as an error.
- **ignore\_error\_tags** (*list*) – Ignore error code. (For a list of error codes see `pyang --list-errors`).
- **ignore\_errors** (*bool*) – Ignore all errors. Default `False`.
- **canonical** (*bool*) – Validate the module(s) according to the canonical YANG order. Default `False`.
- **yang\_canonical** (*bool*) – Print YANG statements according to the canonical order. Default `False`.
- **yang\_remove\_unused\_imports** (*bool*) – Remove unused import statements when printing YANG. Default `False`.
- **trim\_yin** (*bool*) – In YIN input modules, trim whitespace in textual arguments. Default `False`.
- **lax\_xpath\_checks** (*bool*) – Lax check of XPath expressions. Default `False`.
- **strict** (*bool*) – Force strict YANG compliance. Default `False`.
- **max\_line\_len** (*int*) – Maximum line length allowed. Disabled by default.
- **max\_identifier\_len** (*int*) – Maximum identifier length allowed. Disabled by default.
- **features** (*list*) – Features to support, default all. Format `<modname>: [<feature>, ]*`.
- **keep\_comments** (*bool*) – Do not discard comments. Default `True`.
- **no\_path\_recurse** (*bool*) – Do not recurse into directories in the yang path. Default `False`.

**Returns** Context object for `pyang` usage

**Return type** `pyang.Context`

`pyangext.utils.compare_prefixed(arg1, arg2, prefix_sep=':', ignore_prefix=False)`

Compare 2 arguments : prefixed strings or tuple (`prefix`, `string`)

#### Parameters

- **arg1** (*str or tuple*) – first argument
- **arg2** (*str or tuple*) – first argument
- **prefix\_sep** (*str*) – prefix string separator (default: `' : '`)

**Returns** `bool`

`pyangext.utils.qualify_str(arg, prefix_sep=':')`

Transform prefixed strings in tuple (`prefix`, `string`)

`pyangext.utils.select(statements, keyword=None, arg=None, ignore_prefix=False)`

Given a list of statements filter by keyword, or argument or both.

**Parameters**

- **statements** (*list of pyang.statements.Statement*) – list of statements to be filtered.
- **keyword** (*str*) – if specified the statements should have this keyword
- **arg** (*str*) – if specified the statements should have this argument

keyword and arg can be also used as keyword arguments.

**Returns** nodes that matches the conditions

**Return type** *list*

`pyangext.utils.find(parent, keyword=None, arg=None, ignore_prefix=False)`  
Select all sub-statements by keyword, or argument or both.

**See also:**

function *select()*

`pyangext.utils.dump(node, file_obj=None, prev_indent='', indent_string=' ', ctx=None)`  
Generate a string representation of an abstract syntax tree.

**Parameters**

- **node** (*pyang.statements.Statement*) – object to be represented
- **file\_obj** (*file*) – *file-like* object where the representation will be dumped. If nothing is passed, the method returns a string

**Keyword Arguments**

- **prev\_indent** (*str*) – string to be added to the produced indentation
- **indent\_string** (*str*) – string to be used as indentation
- **ctx** (*pyang.Context*) – context object used to generate string representation. If no context is passed, a dummy object is used with default configuration

**Returns** text content if `file_obj` is not specified

**Return type** *str*

`pyangext.utils.check(ctx, rescue=False)`  
Check existence of errors or warnings in context.

Code mostly borrowed from pyang script.

**Parameters** **ctx** (*pyang.Context*) – pyang context to be checked.

**Keyword Arguments** **rescue** (*bool*) – if `True`, no exception/warning will be raised.

**Raises** `SyntaxError` – if errors detected

**Warns** `SyntaxWarning` – if warnings detected

**Returns** (list of errors, list of warnings), if `rescue` is `True`

**Return type** *tuple*

`pyangext.utils.parse(text, ctx=None)`  
Parse a YANG statement into an Abstract Syntax subtree.

**Parameters**

- **text** (*str*) – file name for a YANG module or text

- **ctx** (*optional pyang.Context*) – context used to validate text

**Returns** Abstract syntax subtree

**Return type** `pyang.statements.Statement`

---

**Note:** The `parse` function can be used to parse small amounts of text. If you plan to parse an entire YANG (sub)module, please use instead:

```
ast = ctx.add_module(module_name, text_content)
```

---

It is also well known that `parse` function cannot solve YANG deviations yet.

---

`pyangext.utils.walk` (*parent*, *select=<function <lambda>>*, *apply=<function <lambda>>*,  
*key='substmts'*)

Recursively find nodes and/or apply a function to them.

**Parameters**

- **parent** (*pyang.statements.Statement*) – root of the subtree where the search will take place.
- **select** – optional callable that receives a node and returns a bool (True if the node matches the criteria)
- **apply** – optional callable that are going to be applied to the node if it matches the criteria
- **key** (*str*) – property where the children nodes are stored, default is `substmts`

**Returns** results collected from the `apply` function

**Return type** `list`

## Module contents

Critical missing features for `pyang` plugin users and authors.

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## 1.4 Developers

- Anderson Bravalheri <[andersonbravalheri@gmail.com](mailto:andersonbravalheri@gmail.com)>

## 1.5 Changelog

### 1.5.1 Version 0.0.1 (2016-06-01)

#### Features

- **ast:**
- add select, find, from\_tuple, append ([67724329](#))
- add walk function to traverse tree ([1f334d3d](#))
- **auto-discover:** add plugins, setuptools way ([10794a94](#))
- **ctx:** add utility function to context creation ([72f43d90](#))
- **parse:** add parse function (str => AST) ([ab3b465b](#))

#### Documentation

- improve doc generation and contents ([e471c595](#))
- **create\_context:** document options for context ([c2ad6d0f](#))
- **project:** improve overall project docs. ([e1b60ecd](#))
- **requirements:** create a separated req file ([94882cd4](#))

#### Test

- **cli:** Add cli tests ([11501c44](#))

## 1.6 How to contribute

Pull-requests and discussions are essential for any open-source project. Any contribution to this project will be considered lovely. Here's just a quick guide to help you in this journey.

Please have in mind that nothing can be considered 100% truth and immutable (including this statement). This project will not adhere to any `strict` way of development.

### 1.6.1 Pull-Requests

Github has two great GREAT articles about contributing: [Contributing to Open Source on GitHub](#) and [Using pull requests](#). Please make sure to read it in your lifetime (everyone that reads became a better person).

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**Note:** Oh man, [guides.github.com](https://guides.github.com) and [help.github.com](https://help.github.com) are astonishing!

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Please, try to keep your commit messages as communicative as possible. There is a good [reference](#) for it as well.

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**Note:** I usually think in the commit itself as an implicit subject of commit message. For example: [This commit] Add .gitignore Also take a look at [this commit message format proposal](#), that borrows some convention from [AngularJS](#).

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Communication is *always* handy! If you have any doubt or would like to discuss your thoughts, you are more than welcome to send me a message! Please comment directly on the code, open an issue, submit a pull request, mention me anywhere... I think GitHub has good tools to help developers communicate and share experiences.

## Code Guidelines

This repository try to adhere to [PEP8](#) as much as possible.

Please make use of tools like [flake8](#), [pylint](#), [isort](#), and [pre-commit](#) before submitting your code. There are configuration files for all these tools in the root of the repository and the easiest way of starting is by doing:

```
sudo pip install pre-commit
# drop sudo if you are using a virtualenv or pyenv
# inside project directory:
pre-commit install
pre-commit run --all-files
```

Please also consider running the test suite before submitting a pull request:

```
python setup.py test
```

## 1.6.2 Reporting a Bug

- Update to the most recent master release if possible. Someone may have already fixed your bug (such a wonderful scenario!)
- Search for similar issues. It's possible somebody has encountered this bug already. In this case comment your experience too!
- Clearly describe the issue including steps to reproduce when it is a bug and preferably send a script that does so. Try to keep all the things fully operational with the exception of the bug you want to demonstrate. (Ok, I admit this is boring, but is probably the fastest way to get thing working).
- Keep up to date with feedback from the project team, maybe you can help us to test ;)
- If possible, submit a Pull Request with a failing test. It would be wonderful to increase the test coverage!
- Consider the challenge of fixing the bug, I'm sure it can be funny or at least very aggrandizing.

## 1.6.3 Requesting a Feature

- Search Issues for similar feature requests. It's possible somebody has already asked for this feature or provided a pull request that we're still discussing.
- Provide a clear and detailed explanation of the feature you want and why it's important to add. Keep in mind that features should be useful to the majority of users and not just a small subset. If you're just targeting a minority of users, consider writing an add-on library.
- If the feature is complex, consider writing some initial documentation for it. If we do end up accepting the feature it will need to be documented and this will also help us to understand it better ourselves.

- Attempt a Pull Request. If you're at all able, start writing some code. We always have more work to do than time to do it. If you can write some code then that will speed the process along.

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**Note:** This guide was partially copied from

- [ember.js](#)
- [factory\\_girl](#)
- [puppet](#)
- [rails](#)

Please consider reading them. They are just great!

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