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Subject: How reload (re-import) a modified Python module through the IDL to Python bridge ?

Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Mon, 27 Jun 2016 13:13:24 GMT

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I want to use homemade Python modules through the IDL Python bridge.

While developing such a module (for instance by modifying it in Spyder IDE and running it in an IDLDE session, back and forth), I did not find the right way to (re)import the last modified version of the Python module, in order to use it again, from the still open IDL session.

Is there a way, from IDL or Python side, to solve that ? How does IDL locate the module specified by its name in Python.Import method ?

Thanks to anyone for any clarification.

alx.

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Subject: Re: How reload (re-import) a modified Python module through the IDL to Python bridge ?

Posted by [Helder Marchetto](#) on Mon, 27 Jun 2016 13:25:52 GMT

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On Monday, June 27, 2016 at 2:13:26 PM UTC+1, alx wrote:

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Hi, if you're on the python 2.x side, I think that reload() might do the job.

<https://docs.python.org/2.7/library/functions.html?highlight=reload#reload>

There are some ways of doing this in 3.x using the "imp" module. No experience with that.

By the way, that's the python way. No idea if this works on the idl-python bridge! [probably not :-/]

Cheers,  
Helder

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Subject: Re: How reload (re-import) a modified Python module through the IDL to Python bridge ?

Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Mon, 27 Jun 2016 13:51:24 GMT

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Le lundi 27 juin 2016 15:25:54 UTC+2, Helder a écrit :

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Well. Thanks Helder.

I am using Python 3.4. In this case, the solution (within Python) is the "importlib" module and the reload function, as you said. Spyder is likely doing that.

But my problem is that, from the IDL side, IDL still find (through the Python.Import method) the original version of the module, not the modified one. Note that the original version should have disappeared from disk (since re-edited). Same, even after a full\_reset of IDL (therefore after unloading and reloading the Python dll).

There is likely something to do regarding Python caching, but I must say that I am just a Python newbie...

alx.

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Subject: Re: How reload (re-import) a modified Python module through the IDL to Python bridge ?

Posted by [Helder Marchetto](#) on Mon, 27 Jun 2016 13:57:52 GMT

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On Monday, June 27, 2016 at 2:51:26 PM UTC+1, alx wrote:

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One test could be the deleting of the .pyc file.  
So if you  
import myLib  
then you're creating a file called myLib.pyc.  
Try deleting this when you update the library...

Cheers,  
Helder

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Subject: Re: How reload (re-import) a modified Python module through the IDL to Python bridge ?

Posted by [lecacheux.alain](#) on Mon, 27 Jun 2016 14:14:45 GMT

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```
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That might indeed be the trick.  
But problem: where is this file created ? I cannot find it.  
And how IDL could find it ?

---

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Posted by [Helder Marchetto](#) on Mon, 27 Jun 2016 15:04:30 GMT

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```

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> And how IDL could find it ?

```

So I'm not that much of a Python expert. But here is what I tried:  
I made a file named 'testMyPython.py' containing:

```

def testMyPython():
    print 'here I am'

```

and saved it in: 'c:\pythonTests\'

I then went to the iPython command line and typed:

```

cd 'c:\pythonTests'
import testMyPython
testMyPython.testMyPython()

```

and I get indeed:  
here I am

Meanwhile in the folder c:\pythonTests I now have:  
testMyPython.py  
testMyPython.pyc

Does this make sense to you?

Cheers,  
Helder

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