

Code Quality

Because Therapy Isn't Covered

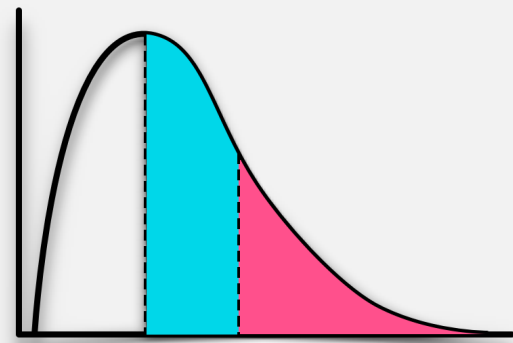
Stefan Fröse, 24.06.2025

whoami

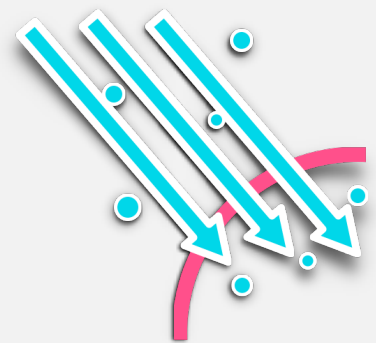
CTAO



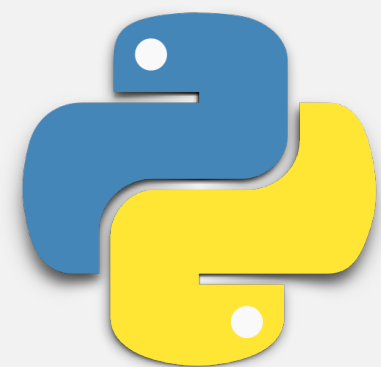
Gamma-ray Astronomy (PhD@TUD0)



Statistics



Air Shower Physics (Taiwan)



Scientific Programming



Why?

```
def f(x, y=0): return [x[i]+y if x[i]>0 else y-x[i] for i in range(len(x))]
```



```
def f(x,y=0):return[x[i]+y if x[i]>0else y-x[i]for i in range(len(x))]
```

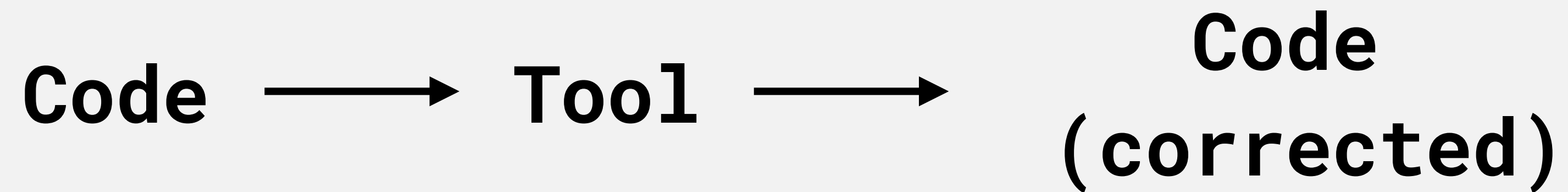
This runs but do you trust it?

The Steps of Code Quality

1. Surface Quality → Readability
2. Semantic Quality → Understanding
3. Testability → Clarity

Static Code Checks

- Runs tools before runtime
- No code execution



Remember

Your code can be
“clean” but still
wrong

Surface Quality

Python's Style Guide

How to format your code

- Python Enhancement Proposals No. 8
- All about Readability
- Five important parts:
 - Code Lay-out
 - Whitespaces
 - Trailing Commas
 - Comments
 - Naming Conventions

Python's Style Guide

Example

```
def calc(x,y):return x+y+1
import os,sys
def DoSomething():print( "Done" )
```



```
import os
import sys
```

```
def calc(x, y):
    return x + y + 1
```

```
def do_something():
    print("Done")
```

Tools

Overview

- `pycodestyle` -> strictly follows PEP8
- `flake8` -> `pyflakes` + `pycodestyle` + plugins
- `black` -> opinionated formatter, ~PEP8 + strict rules (88 chars)
- `isort` -> sorts imports
- `ruff` -> all of the above + ultra fast

Tools

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Recommended: Ruff

Ruff

Installation + Usage

- `'pipx install ruff'` (pipx instead of pip!)
- Linter:
 - `'ruff check'`
 - Output:

```
test.py:1:1: F401 [*] `os` imported but unused
test.py:4:5: E302 expected 2 blank lines, found 1
```
- Formatter:
 - `'ruff format'`
 - Output: Linter hints already applied to files
 - Warning: no auto-sort of imports, do
`'ruff check --select I --fix'`

Ruff

Configuration

- `pyproject.toml` (or `ruff.toml`) in your basedir
- Lots of options!
- Shamelessly stolen from Scientific-Python Cookie
- Be aware of what you use!
- Also check Ruff Docs!

```
[tool.ruff.lint]
extend-select = [
    "B",          # flake8-bugbear
    "I",          # isort
    "ARG",        # flake8-unused-arguments
    "C4",        # flake8-comprehensions
    "EM",        # flake8-errmsg
    "ICN",        # flake8-import-conventions
    "PGH",        # pygrep-hooks
    "PIE",        # flake8-pie
    "PL",        # pylint
    "PT",        # flake8-pytest-style
    "PTH",        # flake8-use-pathlib
    "RET",        # flake8-return
    "RUF",        # Ruff-specific
    "SIM",        # flake8-simplify
    "TID251",     # flake8-tidy-imports.banned-api
    "T20",        # flake8-print
    "UP",        # pyupgrade
    "YTT",        # flake8-2020
]
ignore = [
    "PLR",        # Design related pylint codes
    "RUF012",     # Would require a lot of ClassVar's
]
```

Semantic Quality

Docstrings

- Why? -> Explains what your code does!
- How? -> Triple quotes
(`""" ... """`)
- Complete sentence + explanation of parameters and returns
- Different styles available, choose one, be consistent

Numpy Style

```
def scale(data, factor):  
    """  
        Scale the input data by a constant factor.  
  
        Parameters  
        -----  
        data : np.ndarray  
            Input array to scale.  
        factor : float  
            The scaling factor.  
  
        Returns  
        -----  
        np.ndarray  
            Scaled data array.  
    """
```

→ Hints on types

Numpy Style

```
def scale(data, factor):  
    """  
    Scale the input data by a constant factor.  
  
    Parameters  
    -----  
    data : np.ndarray  
        Input array to scale.  
    factor : float  
        The scaling factor.  
  
    Returns  
    -----  
    np.ndarray  
        Scaled data array.  
    """  
  
scale([1,2,3], 2) -> [1, 2, 3, 1, 2, 3]
```

Type Hints

Overview

- Python is dynamically typed
- Add types to Python to avoid unwanted behaviour
- These types are still not enforced at runtime!
 - But it will enhance the understanding of your code!
- Tools:
 - mypy: `'pip install mypy'` (good for CLI/CI)
 - pyright: ``pip install pyright`` (faster, VSCode integration)

Type Hints

Example

```
def calc(x, y):  
    return x + y
```



```
def calc(x: int, y: int) -> int:  
    return x + y
```

Run Static Type Checker (mypy test.py)

```
calc("abc", "def")
```

test.py:7: error: Argument 1 to "calc" has incompatible type "str"; expected "int" [arg-type]

test.py:7: error: Argument 2 to "calc" has incompatible type "str"; expected "int" [arg-type]

Basic Hints

- Basic python types: `int`, `float`, `str`, `bool`
- Union: ``int | float``
- Optional: ``int | None``
- List: ``list[int]``
- Sequence: ``Sequence[int]`` (`list`, `tuple`, ...)
- Callable: ``Callable[[int], int]`` for methods
- Any: ``Any`` always passes -> The last resort

Any vs. object

- `Any` is a last resort, everything will pass this
- Why you should use `object` as default:
 - `Any` disables type checking for variable
 - catches invalid ops at type check time
 - Type narrowing! (next slide)

```
def with_object(x: object) -> None
    print(x)          # ✓ ok
    str(x)            # ✓ ok
    x + 1             # ✗ error
    x.upper()         # ✗ error
    x.nonexistent()  # ✗ error
```

Type Narrowing

- You function might accept Unions `int | str`
- Need to narrow the type for specific behaviour
- This allows you to keep track of all cases in an easy way
- Check type via `isinstance`

```
def format_id(id: int | str) -> str:  
    return id.zfill(6) # pads with zeros
```

```
format_id(42) # fails  
format_id("42") # "000042"
```

```
def format_id(id: int | str) -> str:  
    # narrow type  
    if isinstance(id, int):  
        id = str(id)  
    return id.zfill(6)
```

```
format_id(42) # "000042"  
format_id("42") # "000042"
```

Type Narrowing

- Other narrowing
 - These are called `TypeGuards`
- `issubclass` checks class
- `callable` checks method

```
def area(x: object) -> None:
    isinstance(x, MyClass):
        return ...
    ...
```

```
from collections.abc import Callable
def area(func: Callable[[int], float]) -> None:
    if callable(func):
        return ...
    ...
```

Type Narrowing

- Custom TypeGuards
- Self-defined function reveals no information about the type after narrowing
- TypeGuards are essentially a bool with extra info
- ``TypeGuard[list[str]]``
- But TypeGuard does not narrow in ``else``
 - For this case use ``TypeIs``

```
def is_str_list(val: list[object]) -> bool:  
    """Determines whether all objects in the list are  
    strings"""  
    return all(isinstance(x, str) for x in val)
```

```
def func1(val: list[object]) -> None:  
    if is_str_list(val):  
        reveal_type(val) # Reveals list[object]  
        print(" ".join(val)) # Error: incompatible type
```

```
from typing import TypeGuard  
def is_str_list(val: list[object]) -> TypeGuard[list[str]]:  
    """Determines whether all objects in the list are  
    strings"""  
    return all(isinstance(x, str) for x in val)
```

Advanced Types

- Lots of other cool features
- `TypeVar`
- `Literal`
- `TypedDict`
- `Annotated`
- `NewType`
- `Final`
- ...

```
from typing import TypedDict
```

```
class Movie(TypedDict):  
    name: str  
    year: int
```

```
movie: Movie = {'name': 'Blade Runner',  
                'year': 1982}
```

Duck Typing

- “If it walks like a duck and it quacks like a duck, then it must be a duck”
- No inheritance need, just implement the methods that define a duck
- If you want to enforce users to implement API use `abc.abstractmethod`
- Duck Typing with `Protocol`

```
from typing import Protocol
```

```
class HasArea(Protocol):  
    def area(self) -> float: ...
```

```
class Circle:  
    def __init__(self, r: float):  
        self.r = r  
  
    def area(self) -> float:  
        return 3.14 * self.r * self.r
```

```
class Square:  
    def __init__(self, a: float):  
        self.a = a  
  
    def area_of_a_square(self) -> float:  
        return self.a * self.a
```

```
def print_area(shape: HasArea) -> None:  
    print(f"Area = {shape.area()}")
```

```
print_area(Circle(2)) # OK  
print_area(Square(3)) # fails
```

Testability

Testability

- Tomorrow lecture on **Testing**
 - You expect behaviour from a function or class
 - You run the function or class and check if it matches expectation
- Testability:
 - Write code that is easily testable
 - “Lower your expectations” = Functions should be simple

Pure Functions

- No side effects
- Same input → same output
- Don't touch globals
- Don't mutate input
 - Makes operations chainable
 - Numpy `a.T.mean().round(2)`

```
log: list[int] = []  
def square(x: int) -> int:  
    result = x * x  
    log.append(result)  
    return result
```

```
def square(x: int) -> int:  
    return x * x
```

```
def double(values: list[int]) -> None:  
    for i in range(len(values)):  
        values[i] *= 2
```

```
def double(values: list[int]) -> list[int]:  
    return [v * 2 for v in values]
```

Raise vs assert

- ``Raise``
 - Use for input validation
 - Use if you want to **shout at the user!**
- ``assert``
 - Internal consistency checks
 - Not for validating user input
 - Use if you want to **shout at the dev!**

```
if x <= 0:  
    raise ValueError("x must be positive")  
  
assert x > 0 # dev mistake if false
```

The Config Singleton

- Singleton is a class with only one instance
- Most common: Config
 - Often: load config once, reuse everywhere
- Brings pain later!
 - Becomes implicit global state
 - Hidden dependencies
 - Hard to override in tests

```
# Taken from MCEq/src/MCEq/config.py
# config.py acts a singleton since namespace

#: parameters for EarthGeometry
r_E = 6391.0e3 # Earth radius in m
h_obs = 0.0 # observation level in m
h_atm = 112.8e3 # top of the atmosphere in m

#: Default parameters for GeneralizedTarget
#: Total length of the target [m]
len_target = 1000.0
#: density of default material in g/cm^3
env_density = 0.001225
env_name = "air"
```

The Config Singleton

- Pydantic:
 - Data validation
 - Uses type hints!
- Create a config class based on `BaseModel`
- Similar to `dataclass` the `BaseModel` has fields
- Dump/Load configs

```
from pydantic import BaseModel
```

```
class Config(BaseModel):  
    name: str  
    debug: bool = False  
    threshold: float = 0.5
```

```
# create config  
cfg = Config(name="MCEq")
```

Automation

The pre-commit Hook

- ``pre-commit`` = tool for automatically doing everything we spoke about
 - Run linter ``ruff``
 - Run ``mypy``
 - Run ``codespell``: Checks typos
 - And much more
- ``pip install pre-commit``

pre-commit

- Configure with `.pre-commit-config.yaml`
- Loads and install each tool
- ``rev``: version tags on GitHub
- Run ``pre-commit install``
- ``pre-commit`` runs automatically during every ``git commit ...``
- Available as GitHub Action
-> Part of CI lecture

repos:

```
- repo: https://github.com/astral-sh/ruff-pre-commit  
# Ruff version.
```

```
rev: v0.12.0
```

```
hooks:
```

```
# Run the linter.
```

```
- id: ruff-check
```

```
args: [ --fix ]
```

```
# Run the formatter.
```

```
- id: ruff-format
```

```
- repo: https://github.com/pre-commit/mirrors-mypy
```

```
rev: v1.16.1
```

```
hooks:
```

```
- id: mypy
```

```
- repo: https://github.com/codespell-project/codespell
```

```
rev: v2.4.1
```

```
hooks:
```

```
- id: codespell
```

Summary

Summary

1. Implement **Surface Quality** to make your code **readable**
2. Implement **Semantic Quality** to make your code **understandable**
3. Implement **Testability** to make your code **verifiable**

Resources

- PEP8
- Scientific Cookie
- pycodestyle
- flake8
- black
- isort
- ruff
- mypy
- pyright
- Google Style Guide
- PEP484-Type Hints
- Type Narrowing
- PEP544-Protocols
- pydantic
- codespell
- pre-commit