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# **ConfigUpdater Documentation**

***Release 3.0.1***

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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.

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

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## 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 [module 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
```

(continues on next page)



(continued from previous page)

```
.comment("Some specific project options")
.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 call 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 master 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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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
2002	PSF	yes	2.2	and above	2.1.1	2001-now	PSF	yes							

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## 1.5 Changelog

### 1.5.1 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

### 1.5.2 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

### 1.5.3 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

### 1.5.4 Version 1.1.3

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

### 1.5.5 Version 1.1.2

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

### 1.5.6 Version 1.1.1

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

### 1.5.7 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`

### 1.5.8 Version 1.0.1

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



### 1.5.9 Version 1.0

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

### 1.5.10 Version 0.3.2

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

### 1.5.11 Version 0.3.1

- Require Python `>= 3.4` with `python_requires`

### 1.5.12 Version 0.3

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

### 1.5.13 Version 0.2

- Added a `to_dict()` function

### 1.5.14 Version 0.1.1

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

### 1.5.15 Version 0.1

- First release

## 1.6 configupdater

### 1.6.1 configupdater package

#### Submodules

#### configupdater.block module

Together with `container` this module forms the basis of the class hierarchy in **ConfigUpdater**.

The *Block* is the parent class of everything that can be nested inside a configuration file, e.g. comments, sections, options and even sequences of white space.

**exception** configupdater.block.**AlreadyAttachedError**(*block: Union[str, configupdater.block.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`.

**args**

**with\_traceback()**

Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

**class** configupdater.block.**Block**(*container: Optional[Container] = None*)

Bases: abc.ABC

Abstract Block type holding lines

Block objects hold original lines from the configuration file and hold a reference to a container wherein the object resides.

The type variable T is a reference for the type of the sibling blocks inside the container.

**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*) → configupdater.block.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*) → configupdater.block.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**() → configupdater.block.B

Remove and return this block from container

**has\_container**() → bool

Checks if this block has a container attached

**property lines: list[str]**

**property next\_block: Optional[configupdater.block.Block]**

Next block in the current container

**property previous\_block: Optional[configupdater.block.Block]**

Previous block in the current container

**property updated: bool**

True if the option was changed/updated, otherwise False

**class** configupdater.block.**Comment**(*container: Optional[Container] = None*)

Bases: [configupdater.block.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*) → configupdater.block.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*) → configupdater.block.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**() → configupdater.block.B  
 Remove and return this block from container

**has\_container**() → bool  
 Checks if this block has a container attached

**property lines: list[str]**

**property next\_block: Optional[configupdater.block.Block]**  
 Next block in the current container

**property previous\_block: Optional[configupdater.block.Block]**  
 Previous block in the current container

**property updated: bool**  
 True if the option was changed/updated, otherwise False

**exception** configupdater.block.NotAttachedError(*block: Union[str, configupdater.block.Block] = 'The block'*)  
 Bases: Exception  
 {block} is not attached to a container yet. Try to insert it first.

**args**

**with\_traceback**()  
 Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

**class** configupdater.block.Space(*container: Optional[Container] = None*)  
 Bases: configupdater.block.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*) → configupdater.block.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*) → `configupdater.block.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**() → `configupdater.block.B`

Remove and return this block from container

**has\_container**() → `bool`

Checks if this block has a container attached

**property lines:** `list[str]`

**property next\_block:** `Optional[configupdater.block.Block]`

Next block in the current container

**property previous\_block:** `Optional[configupdater.block.Block]`

Previous block in the current container

**property updated:** `bool`

True if the option was changed/updated, otherwise False

## configupdater.builder module

Core of the fluent API used by **ConfigUpdater** to make editing configuration files easier.

**class** `configupdater.builder.BlockBuilder`(*container: Container, idx: int*)

Bases: `object`

Builder that injects blocks at a given index position.

**comment**(*text: str, comment\_prefix='#'*) → `configupdater.builder.T`

Creates a comment block

**Parameters**

- **text** (*str*) – content of comment without #
- **comment\_prefix** (*str*) – character indicating start of comment

**Returns** `self` for chaining

**option**(*key, value: Optional[str] = None, \*\*kwargs*) → `configupdater.builder.T`

Creates a new option inside a section

**Parameters**

- **key** (*str*) – key of the option
- **value** (*str or None*) – value of the option
- **\*\*kwargs** – are passed to the constructor of `Option`

**Returns** `self` for chaining

**section**(*section: Union[str, Section]*) → configupdater.builder.T

Creates a section block

**Parameters** **section** (str or Section) – name of section or object

**Returns** self for chaining

**space**(*newlines: int = 1*) → configupdater.builder.T

Creates a vertical space of newlines

**Parameters** **newlines** (*int*) – number of empty lines

**Returns** self for chaining

## configupdater.configupdater module

As the main entry point of the ConfigUpdater library, this module is responsible for combining the data layer provided by the `configupdater.document` module and the parsing capabilities of `configupdater.parser`.

To complete the API, this module adds file handling functions, so that you can read a configuration file from the disk, change it to your liking and save the updated content.

**exception** configupdater.configupdater.**AlreadyAttachedError**(*block: Union[str, configupdater.block.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`.

**args**

**with\_traceback()**

Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

**class** configupdater.configupdater.**Comment**(*container: Optional[Container] = None*)

Bases: `configupdater.block.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*) → configupdater.block.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*) → configupdater.block.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()** → `configupdater.block.B`  
Remove and return this block from container

**has\_container()** → `bool`  
Checks if this block has a container attached

**property lines:** `list[str]`

**property next\_block:** `Optional[configupdater.block.Block]`  
Next block in the current container

**property previous\_block:** `Optional[configupdater.block.Block]`  
Previous block in the current container

**property updated:** `bool`  
True if the option was changed/updated, otherwise False

```
class configupdater.configupdater.ConfigUpdater(allow_no_value=False, *, delimiters: Tuple[str, ...] =
                                                ('=', ':'), comment_prefixes: Tuple[str, ...] = ('#', ';'),
                                                inline_comment_prefixes: Optional[Tuple[str, ...]] =
                                                None, strict: bool = True, empty_lines_in_values:
                                                bool = True, space_around_delimiters: bool = True)
```

Bases: `configupdater.document.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*: `Union[str, configupdater.section.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

**append**(*block*: `configupdater.container.T`) → `configupdater.container.C`

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

**property first\_block:** `Optional[configupdater.container.T]`

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

Gets an option value for a given section.

**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** – if the key is not found and fallback is provided, it will be returned. `None` is a valid fallback 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

**Return type** *Option*

**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** whether 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()** → collections.abc.Iterator[configupdater.container.T]

Iterate over all blocks inside container.

**iter\_sections()** → collections.abc.Iterator[*configupdater.section.Section*]

Iterate only over section blocks

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

**property last\_block:** Optional[configupdater.container.T]

**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, encoding: Optional[str] = None*) → configupdater.configupdater.T

Read and parse a filename.

**Parameters**

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

**read\_file**(*f: collections.abc.Iterable[str], source: Optional[str] = None*) → configupdater.configupdater.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>*) → `configupdater.configupdater.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[`configupdater.section.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: Union[None, str, collections.abc.Iterable[str]] = None*) → `configupdater.document.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`

**property structure:** list[~T]

**property syntax\_options:** collections.abc.Mapping

**to\_dict**() → dict[str, dict[str, typing.Optional[str]]]  
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: 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*) → configupdater.configupdater.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.configupdater.NoConfigFileReadError

Bases: configparser.Error

Raised when no configuration file was read but update requested.

**args**

**with\_traceback**()

Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

**exception** configupdater.configupdater.NoneValueDisallowed

Bases: SyntaxWarning

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

**args**

**classmethod** warn(*option*)

**with\_traceback**()

Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

**exception** configupdater.configupdater.NotAttachedError(*block: Union[str, configupdater.block.Block]*  
= 'The block')

Bases: Exception

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

**args**

**with\_traceback**()

Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

```
class configupdater.configupdater.Option(key: str, value: Optional[str] = None, container:
    Optional[Section] = None, delimiter: str = '=',
    space_around_delimiters: bool = True, line: Optional[str] =
    None)
```

Bases: [configupdater.block.Block](#)

Option block holding a key/value pair.

**key**  
name of the key  
**Type** str

**value**  
stored value  
**Type** str

**updated**  
indicates name change or a new section  
**Type** bool

**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: Optional[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.

**attach(container: Container) → configupdater.block.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() → configupdater.block.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 lines: list[str]**

**property next\_block: Optional[configupdater.block.Block]**  
Next block in the current container

**property previous\_block:** `Optional[configupdater.block.Block]`

Previous block in the current container

**property raw\_key:** `str`

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

**property section:** `Section`

**set\_values**(*values*: `collections.abc.Iterable[str]`, *separator*=`'\n'`, *indent*=`' '`)

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** (*str*) – indentation depth in case of line separator

**property updated:** `bool`

True if the option was changed/updated, otherwise False

**property value:** `Optional[str]`

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

```
NONSPACECRE = re.compile('\s')
```

```
OPTCRE = re.compile('\n (?P<option>.*?) # very permissive!\n \s*(?P<vi>=|:)\s* #  
any number of space/tab,\n # followed by any of t, re.VERBOSE)
```

```
OPTCRE_NV = re.compile('\n (?P<option>.*?) # very permissive!\n \s*(?: # any  
number of space/tab,\n (?P<vi>=|:)\s* # optionally followed , re.VERBOSE)
```

```
SECTCRE = re.compile('\n \[\n (?P<header>[^\]]+)\n # very permissive!\n \[\n # \]\n (?P<raw_comment>.*') , re.VERBOSE)
```

**optionxform**(*string: str*) → str

**read**(*filename: str, encoding: Optional[str] = None*) → *configupdater.document.Document*

**read**(*filename: str, encoding: str, into: configupdater.parser.D*) → *configupdater.parser.D*

**read**(*filename: str, \*, into: configupdater.parser.D, encoding: Optional[str] = 'None'*) → *configupdater.parser.D*

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: collections.abc.Iterable[str], source: Optional[str]*) → *configupdater.document.Document*

**read\_file**(*f: collections.abc.Iterable[str], source: Optional[str], into: configupdater.parser.D*) → *configupdater.parser.D*

**read\_file**(*f: collections.abc.Iterable[str], \*, into: configupdater.parser.D, source: Optional[str] = 'None'*) → *configupdater.parser.D*

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: str, source: str = '<string>'*) → *configupdater.document.Document*

**read\_string**(*string: str, source: str, into: configupdater.parser.D*) → *configupdater.parser.D*

**read\_string**(*string: str, \*, into: configupdater.parser.D, source: str = "<string>"*) → *configupdater.parser.D*

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

**property syntax\_options:** *collections.abc.Mapping*

**class** *configupdater.configupdater.Section*(*name: str, container: Optional[Document] = None*)

Bases: *configupdater.block.Block*, *configupdater.container.Container*[Union[*Option*, *Comment*, *Space*]], *collections.abc.MutableMapping*[str, Option]

Section block holding options

**name**

name of the section

**Type** str

**updated**

indicates name change or a new section

**Type** bool

**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*) → configupdater.section.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*) → configupdater.block.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: configupdater.option.Option*) → configupdater.section.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*) → configupdater.section.S

Add a Space object to the section

Used during initial parsing mainly

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

**append**(*block: configupdater.container.T*) → configupdater.container.C

**attach**(*container: Container*) → configupdater.block.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: Optional[str] = None*) → *configupdater.option.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**() → configupdater.block.B

Remove and return this block from container

**property document: Document**

**property first\_block: Optional[configupdater.container.T]**

**get**(key: str) → Optional[*configupdater.option.Option*]  
**get**(key: str, default: *configupdater.section.T*) → Union[*configupdater.option.Option*, *configupdater.section.T*]  
 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) → *configupdater.builder.BlockBuilder*  
 Returns a builder inserting a new block at the given index

**Parameters** idx (int) – index where to insert

**items**() → list[typing.Tuple[str, *configupdater.option.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**() → collections.abc.Iterator[*configupdater.container.T*]  
 Iterate over all blocks inside container.

**iter\_options**() → collections.abc.Iterator[*Option*]  
 Iterate only over option blocks

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

**property last\_block:** Optional[*configupdater.container.T*]

**property lines:** list[str]

**property name:** str

**property next\_block:** Optional[*configupdater.block.Block*]  
 Next block in the current container

**option\_blocks**() → list['Option']  
 Returns option blocks

**Returns** list of *Option* blocks

**Return type** list

**options**() → list[str]  
 Returns option names

**Returns** list of option names as strings

**Return type** list

**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.

**property previous\_block:** `Optional[configupdater.block.Block]`

Previous block in the current container

**property raw\_comment**

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

**set**(*option: str, value: Union[None, str, collections.abc.Iterable[str]] = None*) → `configupdater.section.S`

Set an option for chaining.

**Parameters**

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

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

**property structure:** `list[~T]`

**to\_dict**() → `dict[str, typing.Optional[str]]`

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`: `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.configupdater.Space`(*container: Optional[Container] = None*)

Bases: `configupdater.block.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*) → `configupdater.block.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*) → `configupdater.block.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()** → `configupdater.block.B`  
 Remove and return this block from container

**has\_container()** → `bool`  
 Checks if this block has a container attached

**property lines:** `list[str]`

**property next\_block:** `Optional[configupdater.block.Block]`  
 Next block in the current container

**property previous\_block:** `Optional[configupdater.block.Block]`  
 Previous block in the current container

**property updated:** `bool`  
 True if the option was changed/updated, otherwise False

### configupdater.container module

Together with `block` this module forms the basis of the class hierarchy in **ConfigUpdater**.

The `Container` is the parent class of everything that can contain configuration blocks, e.g. a section or the entire file itself.

**class** `configupdater.container.Container`  
 Bases: `abc.ABC`, `Generic[configupdater.container.T]`  
 Abstract Mixin Class describing a container that holds blocks of type `T`

**append**(*block: configupdater.container.T*) → `configupdater.container.C`

**property first\_block:** `Optional[configupdater.container.T]`

**iter\_blocks()** → `collections.abc.Iterator[configupdater.container.T]`  
 Iterate over all blocks inside container.

**property last\_block:** `Optional[configupdater.container.T]`

**property structure:** `list[~T]`

### configupdater.document module

This module focus in the top level data layer API of ConfigUpdater, i.e. how to access and modify the sections of the configurations.

Differently from `configparser`, the different aspects of the ConfigUpdater API are split between several modules.

**class** `configupdater.document.Document`  
 Bases: `configupdater.container.Container`[`Union[Section, Comment, Space]`], `collections.abc.MutableMapping[str, configupdater.section.Section]`

Access to the data manipulation API from **ConfigUpdater**.

A Document object tries to implement a familiar *dict-like* interface, via `MutableMapping`. However, it also tries to be as compatible as possible with the `stdlib`'s `ConfigParser`. This means that there are a few methods that will work differently from what users familiar with *dict-like* interfaces would expect. The most notable example is `get()`.

A important difference between ConfigUpdater's Document model and ConfigParser is the behaviour of the Section objects. If we represent the type of a *dict-like* (or `MutableMapping`) object by `M[K, V]`, where `K` is the type of its keys and `V` is the type of the associated values, ConfigUpdater's sections would be equivalent to `M[str, Option]`, while ConfigParser's would be `M[str, str]`.

This means that when you try to access a key inside a section in ConfigUpdater, you are going to receive a `Option` object, not its value. To access the value of the option you need to call `Option.value`.

**add\_section**(*section*: Union[str, configupdater.section.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

**append**(*block*: configupdater.container.T) → configupdater.container.C

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

**property first\_block**: Optional[configupdater.container.T]

**get**(*section*: str, *option*: str) → configupdater.option.Option

**get**(*section*: str, *option*: str, *fallback*: configupdater.document.T) → Union[configupdater.option.Option, configupdater.document.T]

Gets an option value for a given section.

**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** – if the key is not found and fallback is provided, it will be returned. `None` is a valid fallback 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

**Return type** Option

**get\_section**(*name*: str) → Optional[configupdater.section.Section]

**get\_section**(*name*: str, *default*: configupdater.document.T) → Union[configupdater.section.Section, configupdater.document.T]

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** whether the section exists

**Return type** bool

**items**() → list[typing.Tuple[str, *configupdater.section.Section*]]

**items**(*section: str*) → list[typing.Tuple[str, *configupdater.option.Option*]]

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**() → collections.abc.Iterator[*configupdater.container.T*]

Iterate over all blocks inside container.

**iter\_sections**() → collections.abc.Iterator[*configupdater.section.Section*]

Iterate only over section blocks

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

**property last\_block:** *Optional*[*configupdater.container.T*]

**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.

**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[*configupdater.section.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: Union[None, str, collections.abc.Iterable[str]] = None*) → configupdater.document.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

**property structure:** list[~T]

**to\_dict**() → dict[str, dict[str, typing.Optional[str]]]

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: 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

**validate\_format**(*\*\*kwargs*)

Call ConfigParser to validate config

**Parameters** **kwargs** – are passed to configparser.ConfigParser

**Raises** `configparser.ParsingError` – if syntax errors are found

**Returns** True when no error is found

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

## configupdater.option module

Options are the ultimate mean of configuration inside a configuration value.

They are always associated with a *key* (or the name of the configuration parameter) and a *value*.

Options can also have multi-line values that are usually interpreted as a list of values.

When editing configuration files with ConfigUpdater, a handy way of setting a multi-line (or comma separated value) for an specific option is to use the `set_values()` method.

**exception** `configupdater.option.NoneValueDisallowed`

Bases: `SyntaxWarning`

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

**args**

**classmethod** `warn(option)`

**with\_traceback()**

Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

**class** `configupdater.option.Option(key: str, value: Optional[str] = None, container: Optional[Section] = None, delimiter: str = '=', space_around_delimiters: bool = True, line: Optional[str] = None)`

Bases: `configupdater.block.Block`

Option block holding a key/value pair.

**key**

name of the key

**Type** str

**value**

stored value

**Type** str

**updated**

indicates name change or a new section

**Type** bool

**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: Optional[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.

**attach**(*container: Container*) → configupdater.block.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**() → configupdater.block.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 lines: list[str]**

**property next\_block: Optional[configupdater.block.Block]**

Next block in the current container

**property previous\_block: Optional[configupdater.block.Block]**

Previous block in the current container

**property raw\_key: str**

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

**property section: Section**

**set\_values**(*values: collections.abc.Iterable[str], separator='\n', indent=' '*)

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** (*str*) – indentation depth in case of line separator

**property updated: bool**

True if the option was changed/updated, otherwise False

**property value: Optional[str]**

## configupdater.parser module

Parser for configuration files (normally \*.cfg/\*.ini)

A configuration file consists of sections, lead by a “[section]” header, and followed by “name: value” entries, with continuations and such in the style of RFC 822.

The basic idea of **ConfigUpdater** is that a configuration file consists of three kinds of building blocks: sections, comments and spaces for separation. A section itself consists of three kinds of blocks: options, comments and spaces. This gives us the corresponding data structures to describe a configuration file.

A general block object contains the lines which were parsed and make up the block. If a block object was not changed then during writing the same lines that were parsed will be used to express the block. In case a block, e.g. an option, was changed, it is marked as *updated* and its values will be transformed into a corresponding string during an update of a configuration file.

---

**Note:** ConfigUpdater is based on Python’s ConfigParser source code, specially regarding the `parser` module. The main parsing rules and algorithm are preserved, however ConfigUpdater implements its own modified version of the abstract syntax tree to support retaining comments and whitespace in an attempt to provide format-preserving document manipulation. The copyright and license of the original ConfigParser code is included as an attachment to ConfigUpdater’s own license, at the root of the source code repository; see the file LICENSE for details.

---

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

Bases: `configparser.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.

**args**

**with\_traceback()**

Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

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

Bases: `configparser.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.

**args**

**with\_traceback()**

Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

**exception** `configupdater.parser.InconsistentStateError`(*msg, fname='<??>', 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.

**args**

**with\_traceback()**

Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

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

Bases: [configparser.ParsingError](#)

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

**append**(*lineno, line*)

**args**

**property filename**

Deprecated, use `'source'`.

**with\_traceback**()

Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

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

Bases: [configparser.Error](#)

A requested option was not found.

**args**

**with\_traceback**()

Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

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

Bases: [configparser.Error](#)

Raised when no section matches a requested option.

**args**

**with\_traceback**()

Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

**class** configupdater.parser.**Parser**(*allow\_no\_value=False, \*, delimiters: Tuple[str, ...] = ('=', ':'),  
comment\_prefixes: Tuple[str, ...] = ('#', ';'), inline\_comment\_prefixes:  
Optional[Tuple[str, ...]] = None, strict: bool = True,  
empty\_lines\_in\_values: bool = True, space\_around\_delimiters: bool =  
True, optionxform: 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.

**NONSPACECRE** = `re.compile('\s')`



```
OPTCRE = re.compile('\n (?P<option>.*?) # very permissive!\n \\s*(?P<vi>=|:|)\s* #
any number of space/tab,\n # followed by any of t, re.VERBOSE)
```

```
OPTCRE_NV = re.compile('\n (?P<option>.*?) # very permissive!\n \\s*(?: # any
number of space/tab,\n (?P<vi>=|:|)\s* # optionally followed , re.VERBOSE)
```

```
SECTCRE = re.compile('\n \\[ # [\n (?P<header>[^\]]+) # very permissive!\n \\] # ]\n
(?P<raw_comment>.*') , re.VERBOSE)
```

**optionxform**(string: str) → str

**read**(filename: str, encoding: Optional[str] = None) → [configupdater.document.Document](#)

**read**(filename: str, encoding: str, into: configupdater.parser.D) → configupdater.parser.D

**read**(filename: str, \*, into: configupdater.parser.D, encoding: Optional[str] = 'None') →  
configupdater.parser.D

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: collections.abc.Iterable[str], source: Optional[str]) → [configupdater.document.Document](#)

**read\_file**(f: collections.abc.Iterable[str], source: Optional[str], into: configupdater.parser.D) →  
configupdater.parser.D

**read\_file**(f: collections.abc.Iterable[str], \*, into: configupdater.parser.D, source: Optional[str] = 'None')  
→ configupdater.parser.D

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: str, source: str = '<string>') → [configupdater.document.Document](#)

**read\_string**(string: str, source: str, into: configupdater.parser.D) → configupdater.parser.D

**read\_string**(string: str, \*, into: configupdater.parser.D, source: str = "<string>") →  
configupdater.parser.D

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

**property syntax\_options:** collections.abc.Mapping

**exception** configupdater.parser.ParsingError(source=None, filename=None)

Bases: configparser.Error

Raised when a configuration file does not follow legal syntax.

**append**(*lineno*, *line*)

**args**

**property filename**  
Deprecated, use `'source'`.

**with\_traceback**()  
Exception.with\_traceback(tb) – set self.\_\_traceback\_\_ to tb and return self.

### configupdater.section module

Sections are intermediate containers in **ConfigUpdater**'s data model for configuration files.

They are at the same time containers that hold options and blocks nested inside the top level configuration *Document*.

---

**Note:** Please remember that *Section.get()* method is implemented to mirror the `ConfigParser` API and do not correspond to the more usual `get()` method of *dict-like* objects.

---

**class** configupdater.section.**Section**(*name*: str, *container*: Optional[Document] = None)

Bases: `configupdater.block.Block`, `configupdater.container.Container`[Union[Option, Comment, Space]], `collections.abc.MutableMapping`[str, Option]

Section block holding options

**name**  
name of the section  
**Type** str

**updated**  
indicates name change or a new section  
**Type** bool

**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) → configupdater.section.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) → configupdater.block.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*: configupdater.option.Option) → configupdater.section.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*) → *configupdater.section.S*

Add a Space object to the section

Used during initial parsing mainly

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

**append**(*block: configupdater.container.T*) → *configupdater.container.C*

**attach**(*container: Container*) → *configupdater.block.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: Optional[str] = None*) → *configupdater.option.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**() → *configupdater.block.B*

Remove and return this block from container

**property document: Document**

**property first\_block: Optional[configupdater.container.T]**

**get**(*key: str*) → *Optional[configupdater.option.Option]*

**get**(*key: str, default: configupdater.section.T*) → *Union[configupdater.option.Option, configupdater.section.T]*

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*) → *configupdater.builder.BlockBuilder*

Returns a builder inserting a new block at the given index

**Parameters** **idx** (*int*) – index where to insert

**items**() → *list[typing.Tuple[str, configupdater.option.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()** → collections.abc.Iterator[configupdater.container.T]  
Iterate over all blocks inside container.

**iter\_options()** → collections.abc.Iterator[Option]  
Iterate only over option blocks

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

**property last\_block:** Optional[configupdater.container.T]

**property lines:** list[str]

**property name:** str

**property next\_block:** Optional[configupdater.block.Block]  
Next block in the current container

**option\_blocks()** → list[Option]  
Returns option blocks

**Returns** list of *Option* blocks

**Return type** list

**options()** → list[str]  
Returns option names

**Returns** list of option names as strings

**Return type** list

**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.

**property previous\_block:** Optional[configupdater.block.Block]  
Previous block in the current container

**property raw\_comment**  
Raw comment (includes comment mark) inline with the section header

**set(option: str, value: Union[None, str, collections.abc.Iterable[str]] = None)** → configupdater.section.S  
Set an option for chaining.

**Parameters**

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

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

**property structure:** list[~T]

**to\_dict()** → dict[str, typing.Optional[str]]  
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: 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

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