

Re: How to delete a Python package

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- *From:* zarrg@xxxxxxxxxxx
 - *Date:* 13 Jul 2006 07:33:53 -0700
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Nick Vatamaniuc wrote:

Skip,
I agree. Some kind of a manifest or log file would be great and probably not that hard to implement.
Nick

What's wrong with the "record" option of install:
`python setup.py install --record installed_files`

Then it's pretty easy to do:
`rm -rf `cat installed_files``

Hmm, I guess that's easy on *nix.
Maybe setup *should* support uninstall for consistent cross-platform behavior.

-- George

skip@xxxxxxxxxxx wrote:

Nick> Uninstall support is hard, you would turn distutils (setup.py)
Nick> into a package management system, but wait...! there are already
Nick> package managers that do exactly that (rpm, deb, Windows
Nick> Installer).

Note that I don't really care about uninstall support, certainly not enough to go through the pain of editing distutils. I'd be happy if the installer wrote a MANIFEST file that tells me what files and directories it did install. I'm not as worried about dependencies or overlaps between packages as much as making sure that when I want to get rid of package X I can actually delete all of its files. I also realize that's not truly package management in the rpm/deb sense, but that would be good enough for me.

My message was simply pointing out that telling people "use RPM or DEB" is

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not really acceptable. Not everyone uses Linux. Or Windows. Or Macs. Python is a cross-platform language. Through distutils it includes a basic cross-platform installation facility. It probably ought to also have a corresponding basic cross-platform uninstall facility.

Skip