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# ArangoDB Python Driver Documentation

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# CHAPTER 1

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## Features support

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Driver for Python is not entirely completed. It supports **Connections to ArangoDB with custom options**, **Collections**, **Documents**, **Indexes** **Cursors** and partially **Edges**.

Presentation about [Graph Databases and Python](#) with real-world examples how to work with **arango-python**.

**ArangoDB** is an open-source database with a flexible data model for documents, graphs, and key-values. Build high performance applications using a convenient sql-like query language or JavaScript/Ruby extensions.

More details about **ArangoDB** on [official website](#). Some [blog posts](#) about this driver.



# CHAPTER 2

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## Getting started

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### Installation

Library is in early alpha so it's not on PyPi yet. To install use *pip*:

```
pip install arango
```

### Usage example

It's quite simple to start work with **ArangoDB**:

```
from arango import create

# create connection to database
conn = create(db="test")

# create database itself
conn.database.create()

# create collection with name `test_collection`
conn.test_collection.create()
# create document
conn.test_collection.documents.create({"sample_key": "sample_value"})
# get first document
doc = conn.test_collection.documents().first
# get document body
doc.body

# get all documents in collection
for doc in conn.test_collection.query.execute():
    print doc.id
```

```
# work with AQL
conn.test_range.create()

for n in range(10):
    conn.test_range.documents.create({
        "n": n,
        "mult": n * n})

conn.test_range.query.filter(
    filter("n == 1 || n == 5")).execute()

# delete database
conn.database.delete()
```



## Collections

Collections is something similar to tables in SQL databases world. Collection consist from **documents** and *Edges*.

It's quite easy to create collection:

```
from arango import create

# here we define connection to Arango
c = create(db="test")

# make sure database exists
c.database.create()

# here we creating collection explicitly
c.test.create()

assert len(c.collections()) == 1

# here we creating edges collection
c.test_edges.create_edges()

assert len(c.collections()) == 2
```

Collection test being created.

---

**Note:** It's not necessary to create collection before adding documents to it. You can specify `createCollection` as keyed argument during creation of new **Document**

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If you don't want to create collection explicitly use

```
# here we creating document AND collection
c.test.documents.create({"sample": 1}, createCollection=True)
```

## Get list of collections

To get list of **Collections** simply call connection like `c()`

For example:

```
# here we creating collection explicitly
c.test.create()

assert c(), ["test"]
```

**class** `arango.collection.Collections` (*connection*)  
connection) for Collections

`__call__` (\*args, \*\*kwargs)  
Return list of collections within current database

`__getattr__` (name)  
Accessible as property by default.

`__getitem__` (name)  
In case property used internally by Collections it's possible to use dict-like interface, for example  
.database used internally as link to database instance but feel free to use dict-like interface to create  
collection with name database: `voca["database"]`

## Collection

Arango DB provide rich API to manipulate collections Collection instance methods is quite rich. Here is documentation which describe *Collections REST Api*

**class** `arango.collection.Collection` (*connection=None, name=None, id=None, createCollection=True, response=None*)

Represent single collection with certain name

`__len__` ()  
Exactly the same as `count` but it's possible to use in more convenient way

```
c.test.create()

assert c.test.count() == len(c.test)
```

**cid**  
Get collection name

**count** ()  
Get count of all documents in collection

**create** (*waitForSync=False, type=2, \*\*kwargs*)  
Create new **Collection**. You can specify `waitForSync` argument (boolean) to wait until collection will be synced to disk

**create\_edges** (\*args, \*\*kwargs)  
Create new **Edges Collection** - special kind of collections to keep information about edges.

**delete()**

Delete collection

**documents**

Get *Documents* related to Collection.

Technically return instance of *Documents for Collection instance* object

**edges**

Get *Edges* related to Collection.

Technically return instance of *Edges for Collection instance* object

If this method used to query edges (or called with no arguments) it may generated exceptions:

- `DocumentIncompatibleDataType`

In case you're not provided VERTEX of the Edge which should be instance or subclass of *Document*

More about `DocumentIncompatibleDataType`

**index**

Get **Indexes** related to Collection

**info(resource='')**

Get information about collection. Information returns **AS IS** as raw Response data

**load()**

Load collection into memory

**properties(\*\*props)**

Set or get collection properties.

If `**props` are empty eq no keyed arguments specified then this method return properties for current **Collection**.

Otherwise method will set or update properties using values from `**props`

**query**

Create Query Builder for current collection.

```
c.test.create()
c.test.docs.create({"name": "sample"})

assert len(c.test.query.execute()), 1
```

**rename(name=None)**

Change name of Collection to name.

Return value is `bool` if success or error respectively.

This method may raise exceptions:

- `InvalidCollection`

This one may be generated only in case very low-level instantiation of Collection and if base collection proxy isn't provided More about `InvalidCollection`

- `CollectionIdAlreadyExist`

If Collection with new name already exist this exception will be generated. More about `CollectionIdAlreadyExist`

- `InvalidCollectionId`

If Collection instantiated but name is not defined or not set. More about `InvalidCollectionId`

Sample usage:

```
c.test.create()

c.test.rename("test2")
assert "test2" in c()
```

**truncate()**

Truncate current **Collection**

**unload()**

Unload collection from memory

## Documents

Documents in ArangoDB are JSON objects. These objects can be nested (to any depth) and may contains lists. Each document is unique identified by its document handle.

Usage example:

```
from arango import create

# connection & collection `test`
c = create(db="test")
c.database.create() # make sure database exists
c.test.create()

# create FROM document
document = c.test.documents.create({
    "sample_key": "sample_value"
})

assert document.get("sample_key") == "sample_value"

assert c.test.documents().count != 0
```

## Documents for Collection instance

Documents are accessible via collection instance for example `connection.collection.sample_collection.documents`. Usually this expressions looks lot shorter.

Basically via *docuemnts* shortcut accessible **Docuemnts Proxy** - Proxy object which have several shortcuts and produce Resultset object.

Below described basic method within Documents proxy:

```
class arango.document.Documents(collection=None)
    Proxy object to handle work with documents within collection instance

    count
        Get count of all documents in Collection

    create(*args, **kwargs)
        Shortcut for new documents creation

    create_bulk(docs, batch=100)
        Insert bulk of documents using HTTP Interface for bulk imports.
```

```
docs = [
    {"name": "doc1"},
    {"name": "doc2"},
    {"name": "doc3"}]
response = c.test.documents.create_bulk(docs)

assert response == {
    u'created': 3, u'errors': 0,
    u'empty': 0, u'error': False}, "Docs are not created"
```

Actually, it's possible to use **Headers and values import** in this call (and first element in docs have to be attribute names and every element in docs array have to be list). In this case you don't need to pass key/value pair for every document.

```
docs = [
    ["name"],
    ["doc1"],
    ["doc2"],
    ["doc3"]]
response = c.test.documents.create_bulk(docs)

assert response == {
    u'created': 3, u'errors': 0,
    u'empty': 0, u'error': False}, "Docs are not created"
```

**delete** (*ref\_or\_document*)

Delete document shortcut

*ref\_or\_document* may be either plain reference or Document instance

**load** (*doc\_id*)

Load particular document by id *doc\_id*.

**Example:**

```
doc_id = c.test.documents.create({"x": 2}).id
doc = c.test.documents.load(doc_id)

assert doc.body["x"] == 2
```

**update** (*ref\_or\_document*, \**args*, \*\**kwargs*)

Update document

*ref\_or\_document* may be either plain reference or Document instance

## Document

Document instance methods consist from basic **CRUD** methods and several shortcuts to more convenient work with documents.

**class** `arango.document.Document` (*collection=None, id=None, rev=None, resource\_url=None, connection=None*)

Particular instance of Document

**body**

Return whole document.

This property setter also should be used if overwriting of whole document is required.

```
doc_id = c.test.documents.create({"x": 2}).id

doc = c.test.documents.load(doc_id)
assert doc.body["x"] == 2

doc.body = {"x": 1}
doc.save()

assert c.test.documents.load(doc_id).body["x"] == 1
```

**create** (*body*, *createCollection=False*, *\*\*kwargs*)

Method to create new document.

Possible arguments: [\*waitForSync\*](#)

Read more about additional arguments [\*Documents REST Api\*](#)

This method may raise `DocumentAlreadyCreated` exception in case document already created.

Return document instance (*self*) or `None`

**delete** ()

Delete current document.

Return `True` if success and `False` if not

**get** (*name=None*, *default=None*)

This method very similar to `dict`'s `get` method. The difference is that *default* value should be specified explicitly.

To get specific value for specific key in body use and default (*fallback*) value 0

```
c.test.documents().first.get(name="sample_key", default=0)
```

**id**

Id of the [\*Document\*](#) instance

**rev**

Revision of the [\*Document\*](#) instance

**save** (*\*\*kwargs*)

Method to force save of the document.

*kwargs* will be passed directly to `requests` arguments.

**update** (*newData*, *save=True*, *\*\*kwargs*)

Method to update document.

This method is **NOT** for overwriting document body. In case document is `list` it will **extend** current document body. In case it's `dict` - **update** document body with new data.

To overwrite document body use `body` setter.

In case `save` argument set to `False` document will not be updated until `save()` method will be called.

This method may raise `EdgeNotYetCreated` exception in case you trying to update edge which is not saved yet.

Exception `DocumentIncompatibleDataType` will be raised in case body of the document isn't either `dict` or `list`.

## AQL Queries

Query Builder is abstraction layer around **AQL** to work with it in more *pythonic* way.

Simplest start point is to use `arango.collection.Collection.query`.

Simple example:

```
from arango import collection as c

# create collection
c.test1.create()

c.test1.docs.create({"name": "John", "email": "john@example.com"})
c.test1.docs.create({"name": "Jane", "email": "jane@example.com"})

c.test1.query.filter("obj.name == 'John'").build_query()

c.test1.delete()
```

will generate AQL query:

```
FOR obj IN test
  FILTER obj.name == 'John'
RETURN
  obj
```

## AQL Query Builder API

This API typically accesible via `query` method of collection instance.

Builder methods to generate AQL query:

**class** `arango.aql.AQLQuery` (*connection=None, collection=None, no\_cache=False*)

An abstraction layer to generate simple AQL queries.

**bind** (*\*\*kwargs*)

Bind some data to AQL Query. Technically it's just a proxy to `arango.cursor.Cursor.bind` method which attach variables to the Cursor.

It's mostly for avoding any kind of query injetions.

```
data = c.test.query.filter("obj.name == @name") \
    .bind(name="Jane") \
    .execute().first

assert data != None
assert data.body["name"] == "Jane"
```

**build\_query** ()

Build AQL query and return it as a string. This is good start to debug generated AQL queries.

**collect** (*\*pairs, \*\*kwargs*)

Specify **COLLECT** operators, it's possible to use it multiple times

```
COLLECT variable-name = expression
COLLECT variable-name = expression INTO groups
```

In python

```
c.test.query
    .collect("emails", "u.email")
    .collect("names", "u.name", into="eml")
    .result(emails="eml",
            names="names")
```

**cursor** (*\*\*kwargs*)

Method to provide custom arguments for *arango.cursor.Cursor* instance. All keywords arguments except `bindVars` may be changed.

**execute** (*wrapper=None*)

Execute query: create cursor, put binded variables and return instance of *arango.cursor.Cursor* object

**filter** (*condition*)

Filter query by condition *condition*. It's possible to add multiple filter expressions.

```
FILTER condition
```

For exmaple code in python

```
c.test.query
    .filter("a==b && c==d")
    .filter("d == m")
```

**iter** (*name*)

FOR cycle temporary variable, variable-name in AQL expression:

```
FOR variable-name IN expression
```

**let** (*name, value*)

Add LET operation

```
LET variable-name = expression
```

**limit** (*count, offset=None*)

Limit results with *count* items. By default *offset* is 0.

```
query.limit(100, offset=10)
```

**over** (*expression*)

*expression* in FOR cycle

```
FOR variable-name IN expression
```

**result** (*\*args, \*\*kwargs*)

Expression which will be added as RETURN of AQL. You can specify:

- single name, like `q.result("u")`
- named arguments, like `q.result(users="u", members="m")` which transform into `RETURN {users: u, members: m}`
- fields named argument, like `q.result(fields={"key-a": "a"})` to work with names which are not supported by Python syntax.



**sort** (\*args)

Sort result by criterias from args.

```
query.sort("u.email", "u.first_name DESC")
      .sort("u.last_name")
```

Helpers to work with query variables and functions.

**arango.aql.V**(name)

Factory for defining variables in requests. By default in functions arguments which are dicts all fields wrapped with double quotes ". To specify members of variables defined above V factory should be used.

```
expect = 'MERGE({"user1": u.name}, {"user1": "name"}) '
assert F.MERGE(
    {"user1": V("u.name")},
    {"user1": "name"}).build_query() == expect
```

**class arango.aql.FuncFactory**

AQL Function factory. This is F object in `arango.aql` module.

```
from arango.aql import F

c.test.query.over(F.PATH("a", "b", "c")).execute()
```

Execute query:

```
FOR obj IN PATH(a, b, c)
RETURN obj
```

## Making raw queries with AQL

Now it's possible to query database by using *Arango Query Language (AQL)*.

This functionality implementation based on *HTTP Interface for AQL Query Cursors* and provide lazy iterator over dataset and with ability to customize (wrap) result item by custom wrapper.

Alternative way to do such kind of functionality is by using *Documents REST Api* which is not implemented in driver.

**class arango.cursor.Cursor**(connection, query, count=True, batchSize=None, bind-  
Vars=None, wrapper=<bound method type.load of <class  
'arango.document.Document'>>)

Work with **Cursors** in ArangoDB. At the moment, it's common routine to work with **AQL** from this driver.

---

**Note:** the server will also destroy abandoned cursors automatically after a certain server-controlled timeout to avoid resource leakage.

---

- **query** - contains the query string to be executed (mandatory)
- **count** - boolean flag that indicates whether the number of documents found should be returned as "count" attribute in the result set (optional). Calculating the "count" attribute might have a performance penalty for some queries so this option is turned off by default.
- **batchSize** - maximum number of result documents to be transferred from the server to the client in one roundtrip (optional). If this attribute is not set, a server-controlled default value will be used.

- `bindVars` - key/value list of bind parameters (optional).
- **wrapper** - by default it's `Document.load` class, wrap result into

**bind** (*bind\_vars*)

Bind variables to the cursor

**first**

Get first element from resultset

**last**

Return last element from current bulk. It's **NOT** last result in *entire dataset*.

## Custom data wrapper for raw queries

It's not necessary to wrap all documents within `Document` object. Cursor do it by default but you can provide custom wrapper by overriding `wrapper` argument during execution of `connection.query` method.

---

**Note:** Also it's possible to provide custom wrapper via `arango.aql.AQLQuery.cursor` method during building of the AQL query:

```
c.test1.query.cursor(wrapper=lambda conn, item: item)
    .filter("obj.name == 'John'").build_query()
```

wrapper should accept two arguments:

- `connection` - first argument, current connection instance
- `item` - dictionary with data provided from ArangoDB query

```
from arango import c

wrapper = lambda conn, item: item

c.collection.test.create()
c.collection.test.documents.create({"1": 2})

# create connection to database
for item in c.query("FOR d in test RETURN d", wrapper=wrapper):
    item
```

## Indexes

Indexes are used to allow fast access to documents. For each collection there is always the primary index which is a hash index for the document identifier.

Usage example:

```
from arango import create

# here we define connection to Arango
c = create()

# here we creating collection explicitly
```

```

c.test.create()

# create `hash` index for two fields: `name` and `num`,
# not unique
c.test.index.create(["name", "num"])

# create unique `hash` index for `slug` field
c.test.index.create(
    "slug",
    index_type="hash",
    unique=True
)

```

**class** arango.index.**Index** (collection=None)

Interface to work with Indexes

**\_\_call\_\_** ()

Get list of all available indexes. Returns tuple with indentifiers and original response

```

...
c.test.index()

```

**create** (fields, index\_type='hash', unique=False)

Create new index. By default type is *hash* and *unique=False*

fields may be either str, list or tuple.

This method may generate WrongIndexType exception in case index\_type isn't allowed for Arango DB

**delete** (field\_id)

Return tuple of two values: - bool success or not deletion - original response

**get** (field\_id, force\_read=False)

Get index by id

## Edges

An edge is an entity that represents a connection between two documents. The main idea of edges is that you can build your own graph (tree) between sets of documents and then perform searches within the document hierarchy.

In order to define a vertex, `from_document` and `to_document` should be specified during the creation of the edge:

```

from arango import create

c = create()
c.test.create()

# create FROM document
from_doc = c.test.documents.create({
    "sample_key": "sample_value"
})

# create TO document
to_doc = c.test.documents.create({
    "sample_key1": "sample_value1"
})

```

```
})

# creating edge with custom data
c.test.edges.create(from_doc, to_doc, {"custom": 1})
```

**Warning:** Code below should be implemented by using AQL ([AQL Queries](#)). Not implemented at the moment.

```
# getting edge by document
# c.test.edges(from_doc)

# getting with direction
# c.test.edges(from_doc, direction="in")

# assert c.test.edges(from_doc).first.from_document == from_doc
# assert c.test.edges(from_doc).first.to_document == to_doc
```

## Edges for Collection instance

Edges are accessible via a collection instance, for example `connection.collection.sample_collection.edges`. Usually this expressions looks lot shorter.

Basically via *edges* shortcut accessible **Edges Proxy** - Proxy object which have several shortcuts and produce Resultset object.

Below described basic method within Edges proxy:

```
class arango.edge.Edges(collection=None)
    Proxy objects between Collection and Edge. Edges in general very related to Document.

    create(*args, **kwargs)
        Create new Edge

    delete(ref)
        Delete Edge by reference

    update(ref, *args, **kwargs)
        Update Edge by reference
```

## Making queries

**Warning:** This functionality not implmented yet. Use **AQL** - [AQL Queries](#) section with custom wrapper to work with Edges.

More details in [Edges REST Api](#) documentation of **ArangoDB**

## Edge

Edge instance methods consist from basic **CRUD** methods and additional methods specific obly for **Edges**:

```
class arango.edge.Edge(collection=None, _id=None, _rev=None, _from=None, _to=None, **kwargs)
    Edge instance object
```

**body**

This property return Edge content

**create** (*from\_doc*, *to\_doc*, *body=None*, *\*\*kwargs*)

Method to create new edge. *from\_doc* and *to\_doc* may be both **document-handle** or instances of Document object.

Possible arguments: *waitForSync*

Read more about additional arguments *Edges REST Api*

This method may raise `EdgeAlreadyCreated` exception in case edge already created.

Return edge instance (*self*) or `None`

**delete** ()

Method to delete current edge. If edge deleted this method return `True` and in other case `False`

**from\_document**

From vertex, return instance of Document or `None`

**get** (*name=None*, *default=None*)

This method very similar to dict's `get` method. The difference is that *default* value should be specified explicitly.

To get specific value for specific key in body use and default (*fallback*) value 0:

```
edge.get(name="sample_key", default=0)
```

**id**

Id of the *Edge* instance

**rev**

Revision of the *Edge* instance

**save** (*\*\*kwargs*)

Method to save Edge. This is useful when edge updated several times via `update`

Possible arguments: *waitForSync*

Read more about additional arguments *Edges REST Api*

**to\_document**

To vertex, return instance of Document or `None`

**update** (*body*, *from\_doc=None*, *to\_doc=None*, *save=True*, *\*\*kwargs*)

Method to update edge. In case **from\_doc** or **to\_doc** not specified or equal to `None` then current *from\_document* and *to\_document* will be used.

In case *save* argument set to `False` edge will not be updated until `save()` method will be called.

This method may raise `EdgeNotYetCreated` exception in case you trying to update edge which is not saved yet.

Exception `EdgeIncompatibleDataType` will be raised in case body of the edge isn't dict.

## Database

Database is abstraction over single one database within ArangoDB. With basic API you can **create**, **delete** or **get details** about particular database.

**Note:** Currently ArangoDB REST API support of getting list of databases. Driver doesn't support this functionality at the moment. However it's quite easy to implement using `conn.connection.client` and `conn.url(db_prefix=False)`.

---

```
from arango import create

c = create(db="test")
c.database.create()

c.database.info["name"] == "test"
c.database.delete()
```

**class** `arango.db.Database(connection, name)`

ArangoDB starting from version 1.4 work with multiple databases. This is abstraction to manage multiple databases and work within documents.

**create** (*ignore\_exist=True*)

Create new database and return instance

**delete** (*ignore\_exist=True*)

Delete database

**info**

Get info about database

## Exceptions

### Exceptions Overview

All `arango-python` exceptions are placed into `arango.exceptions` module. Feel free to import it like this:

```
from arango.exceptions import InvalidCollection
```

### List of exceptions

## Glossary

**Arango Query Language (AQL)** [Querying documents and graphs in one database with AQL](#)

**Collections REST Api** This is an introduction to ArangoDB's Http Interface for collections. [HttpCollection](#)

**Documents REST Api** Arango DB Http Interface for Documents. More details in [RestDocument](#)

**Edges REST Api** REST API for manipulate I thought HTTP interface of ArangoDB. Documentation about [RestEdge](#)

**HTTP Interface for AQL Query Cursors** *Description of HTTP Cursor REST API* on **ArangoDB** website: [HttpCursor](http://www.arangodb.org/manuals/current/HttpCursor.html) <<http://www.arangodb.org/manuals/current/HttpCursor.html>>‘\_

**Indexes REST Api** ArangoDB's Http Interface for Indexes. [HttpIndex](#)

**waitForSync** This argument may be `True` or `False`. If it's `True` then you'll get response from the server when *Document*, *Edge* or *Collection* will be saved on disk.

## Guidelines

There's several simple rules which I want to follow during development of this project:

- All new features should be documented
- All new features should have *unit* and *integration* tests
- Code Coverage should be high, at least 95%
- If something might be property it **have to be** property





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### Arango versions, Platforms and Python versions

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Supported versions of ArangoDB: **1.1x** and **1.2x**

This release support **Python 3.3**, *Python 2.7*, *PyPy 1.9*.



## CHAPTER 5

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### Indices and tables

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