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# **xlref Documentation**

***Release 1.1.2***

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<https://github.com/vinci1it2000/xlref>

<https://pypi.org/project/xlref/>

<http://xlref.readthedocs.io/>

<https://github.com/vinci1it2000/xlref/wiki/>

<http://github.com/vinci1it2000/xlref/releases/>

<https://donorbox.org/xlref>

data, excel, tables, parser, reference, ranges

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EUPL 1.1+



## ABOUT XLREF

**xlref** is an useful library to capture by a simple reference (e.g., *AI(RD):...RD*) a table with non-empty cells from Excel-sheets when its exact position is not known beforehand.

This code was inspired by the *xleash* module of the [pandalone](#) library. The reason of developing a similar tool was to have a smaller library to install and improve the performances of reading *.xlsx* files.





## INSTALLATION

To install it use (with root privileges):

```
$ pip install xlref
```

Or download the last git version and use (with root privileges):

```
$ python setup.py install
```



## REFERENCE SYNTAX

The *capturing* is preformed according to an excel like reference syntax and the non-empty cells of the targeted excel-sheet. The syntax is defined as follows:

```
[<excel>]#[<sheet>!]<st-cel>[(<moves>)][:<nd-cel>[(<moves>)]][:<expansion>][<filters>]
```

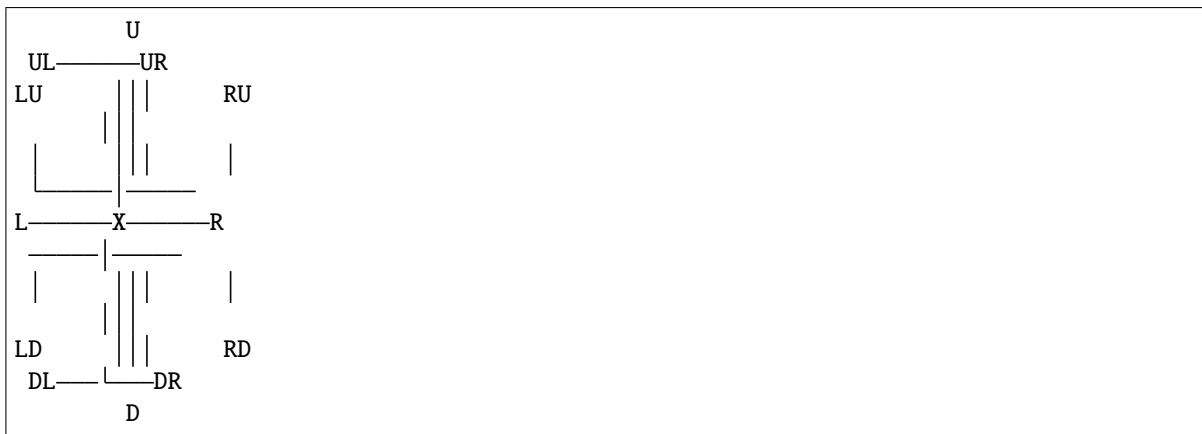
---

**Note:** The fields between square parenthesis are optional.

---

Follows the description of the parameters:

- **excel:** excel file path relative to the parent reference file directory. If not defined, the parent reference excel is inherited.
- **sheet:** excel sheet name if not defined, the parent reference excel sheet name is inherited.
- **st-cel:** first cell coordinate of excel range. The cell coordinate (i.e., *<column><row>*) is defined by a column (letter) and row (number), like in excel. *xlref* allows two special characters ^ and \_, that represents the leftmost/topmost and rightmost/bottommost non-empty cell column/row.
- **moves:** the sequence of primitive directions (i.e., *L*:left, *U*: up, *R*: right, *D*: down) that *xlref* uses iteratively for finding the first non-empty cell. The allowed primitive direction combinations are *L*, *U*, *R*, *D*, *LD*, *LU*, *UL*, *UR*, *RU*, *RD*, *DL*, and *DR*. The following diagram shows the graphically the *moves* from the starting cell *X*:



- **nd-cel:** second cell coordinate of excel range. It has the same syntax of the *st-cel*, but it has an extra special character .. This represents the column or row of the *st-cel* after the application of the *moves*.
- **expansion:** the sequence of primitive directions to expand the captured range.
- **filters:** list of string and or dictionaries that defines the filters to apply iteratively on the captured range.

## 3.1 Reference Reading Steps

The library performs the following steps to read a reference:

1. Open the excel file or inherits the parent's one,
2. Open the sheet by its name or inherits the parent's one,
3. Set the first range cell,
4. Move the first cell according to the specified *moves* until it finds the first non-empty cell,
5. Set the second range cell or inherits the moved first range cell,
6. Move the second cell like in point 4,
7. Expand the range according to the defined *expansions*,
8. Apply the iteratively the filters on the captured range.

## TUTORIAL

A typical example is *capturing* a table with a “header” row and convert into a dictionary. The code below shows how to do it:

```
>>> import xlref as xl
>>> _ref = 'excel.xlsx#ref!A1(RD):RD[%s]'
>>> ref = xl.Ref(_ref % "dict")
>>> ref.range # Captured range.
B2:C25
>>> values = ref.values; values # Captured values.
{...}
>>> values['st-cell-move']
'#D5(RU):H1(DL)'
```

You can notice from the code above that all the values of the dictionary are references. To parse it recursively, there are two options:

1. add the “recursive” filter before the “dict”:

```
>>> values = xl.Ref(_ref % '"recursive", "dict"').values
>>> values['st-cell-move'].tolist()
[[1.0, 2.0, 3.0],
 [4.0, 5.0, 6.0],
 [7.0, 8.0, 9.0]]
```

2. apply a filter onto dictionary’ values using the extra functionality of the “dict” filter:

```
>>> values = xl.Ref(_ref % '{"fun": "dict", "value":"ref"}').values
>>> values['st-cell-move'].tolist()
[[1.0, 2.0, 3.0],
 [4.0, 5.0, 6.0],
 [7.0, 8.0, 9.0]]
```

You have also the possibility to define and use your custom filters as follows:

```
>>> import numpy as np
>>> xl.FILTERS['my-filter'] = lambda parent, x: np.sum(x)
>>> xl.Ref('#D5(RU):H1(DL)["my-filter"]', ref).values
45.0
```

An alternative way is to use directly the methods of the filtered results as follows:

```
>>> xl.Ref('#D5(RU):H1(DL)["sum"]', ref).values  
45.0
```

## CONTRIBUTING TO XLREF

If you want to contribute to **xlref** and make it better, your help is very welcome. The contribution should be sent by a *pull request*. Next sections will explain how to implement and submit a new functionality:

- clone the repository
- implement a new functionality
- open a pull request

### 5.1 Clone the repository

The first step to contribute to **xlref** is to clone the repository:

- Create a personal [fork](#) of the [xlref](#) repository on Github.
- [Clone](#) the fork on your local machine. Your remote repo on Github is called `origin`.
- [Add](#) the original repository as a remote called `upstream`, to maintain updated your fork.
- If you created your fork a while ago be sure to pull `upstream` changes into your local repository.
- Create a new branch to work on! Branch from `dev`.

### 5.2 How to implement a new functionality

Test cases are very important. This library uses a data-driven testing approach. To implement a new function I recommend the [test-driven development cycle](#). Hence, when you think that the code is ready, add new test in `test` folder.

When all test cases are ok (`python setup.py test`), open a pull request.

---

**Note:** A pull request without new test case will not be taken into consideration.

---

## 5.3 How to open a pull request

Well done! Your contribution is ready to be submitted:

- Squash your commits into a single commit with git’s [interactive rebase](#). Create a new branch if necessary. Always write your commit messages in the present tense. Your commit message should describe what the commit, when applied, does to the code – not what you did to the code.
- [Push](#) your branch to your fork on Github (i.e., `git push origin dev`).
- From your fork [open](#) a *pull request* in the correct branch. Target the project’s dev branch!
- Once the *pull request* is approved and merged you can pull the changes from `upstream` to your local repo and delete your extra branch(es).



**DONATE**

If you want to [support](#) the **xlref** development please donate.



## API REFERENCE

The core of the library is composed from the following modules:

It contains a comprehensive list of all modules and classes within `xlref`.

Docstrings should provide sufficient understanding for any individual function.

Modules:

<i>cli</i>	Define the command line interface.
<i>errors</i>	Defines the <code>xlref</code> exceptions.
<i>filters</i>	It provides functions implementations to filter the parsed data.
<i>parser</i>	It provides <code>xlparser</code> reference parser class.
<i>process</i>	Defines the file processing chain model <i>dsp</i> .

### 7.1 cli

Define the command line interface.

#### 7.1.1 xlref

`xlref` command line tool.

```
xlref [OPTIONS] COMMAND [ARGS]...
```

#### Options

##### **--version**

Show the version and exit.

## read

Read recursively the list of xlref data excel references.

OUTPUT\_FILE: output file (format: .json).

INPUT\_REFERENCE: xlref data excel reference.

```
xlref read [OPTIONS] OUTPUT_FILE [INPUT_REFERENCE]...
```

## Options

**-F, --input-file** <input\_file>  
JSON xlref data excel references.

**-v, --verbosity** <LVL>  
Either CRITICAL, ERROR, WARNING, INFO or DEBUG

## Arguments

**OUTPUT\_FILE**  
Required argument

**INPUT\_REFERENCE**  
Optional argument(s)

## 7.2 errors

Defines the xlref exceptions.

## Exceptions

---

InvalidReference

---

InvalidSyntax

---

NoFullCell

---

XlParserError

---

### 7.2.1 InvalidReference

`exception InvalidReference(*args)`

### 7.2.2 InvalidSyntax

`exception InvalidSyntax(*args)`

### 7.2.3 NoFullCell

`exception NoFullCell(*args)`

### 7.2.4 XlParserError

`exception XlParserError(*args)`

## 7.3 filters

It provides functions implementations to filter the parsed data.

### Functions

<i>fdict</i>	Convert the input array into a dictionary.
<i>full</i>	Remove the empty value from each row of the input array.
<i>recursive</i>	Parse recursively all values in the array.
<i>ref</i>	If the input is a valid reference, returns the captured values otherwise the input.

#### 7.3.1 fdict

`fdict(parent, x, key=None, value=None)`

Convert the input array into a dictionary.

#### Parameters

- **parent** (`xlref.parser.Ref`) – Parent parser.
- **x** (`list/numpy.array`) – Array.
- **key** (`str/list`) – Filter applied to keys.
- **value** (`str/list`) – Filter applied to values.

**Returns** Parsed dictionary.

**Return type** `dict`

### 7.3.2 full

**full**(*parent*, *x*)

Remove the empty value from each row of the input array.

**Parameters**

- **parent** (`xlref.parser.Ref`) – Parent parser.
- **x** (`list`/`numpy.array`) – Array.

**Returns** Filtered array.

**Return type** `list`

### 7.3.3 recursive

**recursive**(*parent*, *x*, *dtype=None*)

Parse recursively all values in the array.

**Parameters**

- **parent** (`xlref.parser.Ref`) – Parent parser.
- **x** (`list`/`numpy.array`) – Array.

**Returns** Parsed array.

**Return type** `numpy.array`

### 7.3.4 ref

**ref**(*parent*, *x*)

If the input is a valid reference, returns the captured values otherwise the input.

**Parameters**

- **parent** (`xlref.parser.Ref`) – Parent parser.
- **x** (`object`) – Input value.

**Returns** If the input is a valid reference, returns the captured values otherwise the input.

**Return type** `object`

## Classes

---

`FiltersFactory`

---

### 7.3.5 FiltersFactory

class FiltersFactory

#### Methods

<code>__init__</code>	Initialize self.
<code>clear</code>	
<code>copy</code>	
<code>fromkeys</code>	Create a new dictionary with keys from iterable and values set to value.
<code>get</code>	Return the value for key if key is in the dictionary, else default.
<code>items</code>	
<code>keys</code>	
<code>pop</code>	If key is not found, d is returned if given, otherwise KeyError is raised
<code>popitem</code>	2-tuple; but raise KeyError if D is empty.
<code>setdefault</code>	Insert key with a value of default if key is not in the dictionary.
<code>update</code>	If E is present and has a .keys() method, then does: for k in E: D[k] = E[k] If E is present and lacks a .keys() method, then does: for k, v in E: D[k] = v In either case, this is followed by: for k in F: D[k] = F[k]
<code>values</code>	

#### `__init__`

FiltersFactory.`__init__`(\*args, \*\*kwargs)

Initialize self. See help(type(self)) for accurate signature.

### **clear**

`FiltersFactory.clear()` → None. Remove all items from D.

### **copy**

`FiltersFactory.copy()` → a shallow copy of D

### **fromkeys**

`FiltersFactory.fromkeys(value=None, /)`  
Create a new dictionary with keys from iterable and values set to value.

### **get**

`FiltersFactory.get(key, default=None, /)`  
Return the value for key if key is in the dictionary, else default.

### **items**

`FiltersFactory.items()` → a set-like object providing a view on D's items

### **keys**

`FiltersFactory.keys()` → a set-like object providing a view on D's keys

### **pop**

`FiltersFactory.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**

`FiltersFactory.popitem()` → (k, v), remove and return some (key, value) pair as a 2-tuple; but raise `KeyError` if D is empty.

### **setdefault**

`FiltersFactory.setdefault(key, default=None, /)`  
Insert key with a value of default if key is not in the dictionary.  
Return the value for key if key is in the dictionary, else default.



**update**

`FiltersFactory.update([E], **F) → None`. Update D from dict/iterable E and F.  
If E is present and has a `.keys()` method, then does: for k in E: D[k] = E[k] If E is present and lacks a `.keys()` method, then does: for k, v in E: D[k] = v In either case, this is followed by: for k in F: D[k] = F[k]

**values**

`FiltersFactory.values()` → an object providing a view on D's values

`__init__(*args, **kwargs)`  
Initialize self. See `help(type(self))` for accurate signature.

**7.4 parser**

It provides `xlparser` reference parser class.

**Functions**

---

*compile\_filters*

---

**7.4.1 compile\_filters**

`compile_filters(filters, parent)`

**Classes**

---

*Range*

---

---

*Ref*

---

Reference parser

---

**7.4.2 Range**

`class Range(st_cell, nd_cell)`

## Methods

---

<code>__init__</code>	Initialize self.
<code>get</code>	

---

### `__init__`

`Range.__init__(st_cell, nd_cell)`  
Initialize self. See `help(type(self))` for accurate signature.

### `get`

`Range.get()`  
`__init__(st_cell, nd_cell)`  
Initialize self. See `help(type(self))` for accurate signature.

## 7.4.3 Ref

**class** `Ref(ref, parent=None, cache=None)`  
Reference parser

## Methods

---

<code>__init__</code>	Initialize self.
-----------------------	------------------

---

### `__init__`

`Ref.__init__(ref, parent=None, cache=None)`  
Initialize self. See `help(type(self))` for accurate signature.  
`__init__(ref, parent=None, cache=None)`  
Initialize self. See `help(type(self))` for accurate signature.

## 7.5 process

Defines the file processing chain model *dsp*.

### Functions

<code>load_json</code>	Load the data excel references from files.
<code>merge_references</code>	Merge data excel references.
<code>read_references</code>	Read recursively the list of data excel references.
<code>save_json</code>	Save data output in an JSON file.

### 7.5.1 load\_json

`load_json(input_fpaths)`

Load the data excel references from files.

**Parameters** `input_fpaths` (*list* [*str*]) – File paths of the json data excel references.

**Returns** Data excel references from files.

**Return type** *tuple*

### 7.5.2 merge\_references

`merge_references(input_references=(), file_references=())`

Merge data excel references.

**Parameters**

- `input_references` (*tuple*) – Data excel references from user.
- `file_references` (*tuple*) – Data excel references from files.

**Returns** Full list of data excel references.

**Return type** *list*

### 7.5.3 read\_references

`read_references(references)`

Read recursively the list of data excel references.

**Parameters** `references` (*list*) – Full list of data excel references.

**Returns** Data output.

**Return type** *list*

### 7.5.4 save\_json

**save\_json**(*output\_fpath*, *data*)

Save data output in an JSON file.

**Parameters**

- **output\_fpath** (*str*) – Output file path.
- **data** (*list*) – Data output.

**Returns** File path where output are written.

**Return type** *str*

### Dispatchers

---

<i>dsp</i>	Process Model.
------------	----------------

---

### 7.5.5 dsp

**dsp** = **Processing Model**

Process Model.

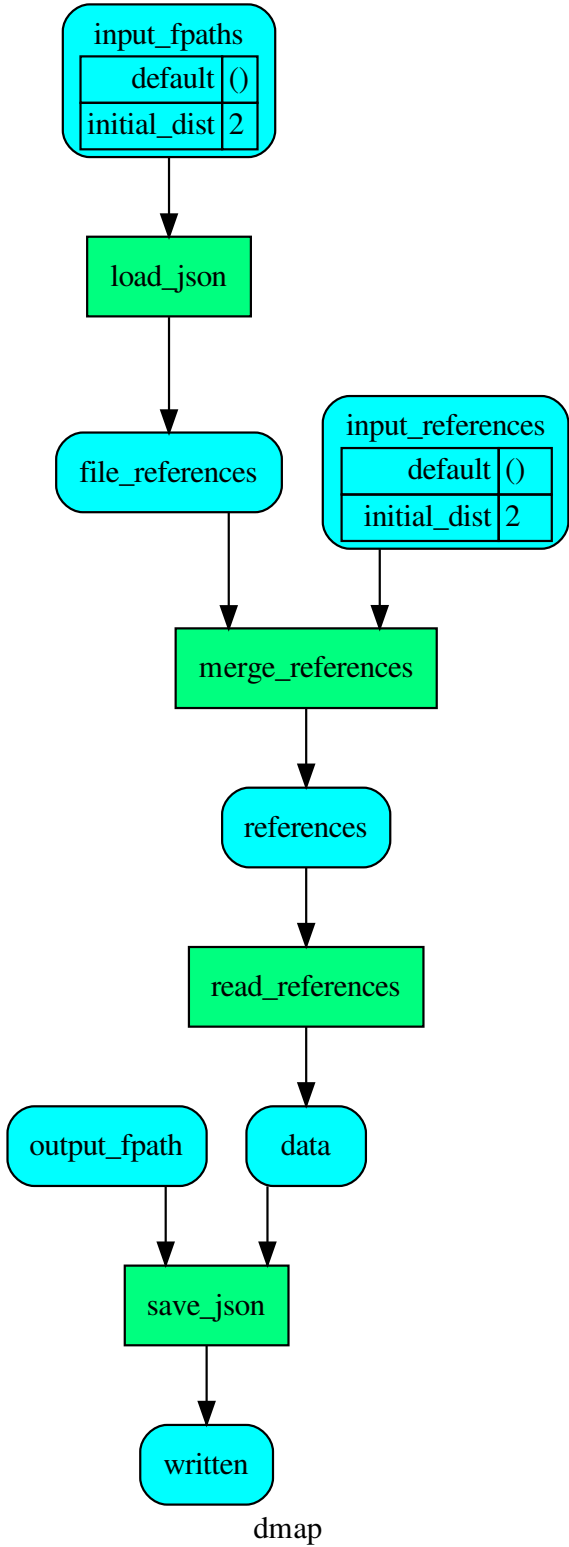


Table 12: **Processing Model's data**

<code>data</code>	Data output.
<code>file_references</code>	Data excel references from files.
<code>input_fpaths</code>	File paths of the json data excel references.
<code>input_references</code>	Data excel references from user.
<code>output_fpath</code>	Output file path.
<code>references</code>	Full list of data excel references.
<code>written</code>	File path where output are written.

Table 13: **Processing Model's functions**

<code><i>load_json</i></code>	Load the data excel references from files.
<code><i>merge_references</i></code>	Merge data excel references.
<code><i>read_references</i></code>	Read recursively the list of data excel references.
<code><i>save_json</i></code>	Save data output in an JSON file.

## CHANGELOG

### 8.1 v1.1.2 (2021-05-19)

#### 8.1.1 Feat

- (core): Update build scripts.

#### 8.1.2 Fix

- (parser): Correct file regex.
- (filter): Correct VisibleDeprecationWarning.
- (doc): Correct readme version.

### 8.2 v1.1.1 (2021-01-04)

#### 8.2.1 Fix

- (doc): Update copyrights.
- (parser): Use *openpyxl* to read excel files instead *xlrd*.

### 8.3 v1.1.0 (2020-11-05)

#### 8.3.1 Feat

- (filters): Remove *merge* option in *dict* filter and add list filters for *key* and *value* options.

### 8.3.2 Fix

- (travis): Correct coverage setting.

## 8.4 v1.0.1 (2020-11-04)

### 8.4.1 Feat

- (filters): Add *merge* option in *dict* filter.

### 8.4.2 Fix

- (parser): Implement case insensitive parser for sheet names.

## 8.5 v1.0.0 (2020-04-07)

First release.



## INDICES AND TABLES

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