

PyMOL Command Reference

This is the list of all PyMOL commands which can be used in the PyMOL command line and in PML scripts. The command descriptions found in this file can also be printed to the PyMOL text buffer with the [help](#) command. Example:

```
PyMOL>help color ...
```

The list of arguments for a command (the "usage") can be queried on the command line with a questionmark. Example:

```
PyMOL>color \? Usage: color color [, selection [, quiet [, flags ]]]
```

The square brackets ("[" and "]") indicate optional arguments and are not part of the syntax.

If the PyMOL command interpreter doesn't understand some input, it passes it to the Python interpreter. This means that single-line Python expressions can be put into PML scripts or typed into the command line. Prefixing a line with a slash (/) forces the interpreter to pass it to Python. See also the [python](#) command to input multi-line Python scripts.

This file can be generated on the PyMOL command line:

```
PyMOL>cmd.write_html_ref('pymol-command-ref.html')
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abort

DESCRIPTION

"abort" abruptly terminates execution of the PyMOL command script without executing any additional commands.

SEE ALSO

[embed](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#embed>), [skip](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#skip>), [python](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#python>)

api: pymol.helping.abort

accept

DESCRIPTION

"accept" is an internal method for handling of session file security.

api: pymol.moving.accept

alias

DESCRIPTION

"alias" binds routinely-used command inputs to a new command keyword.

USAGE

```
alias name, command
```

ARGUMENTS

name = string: new keyword

command = string: literal input with commands separated by semicolons.

EXAMPLE

```
alias my\_scene, hide; show ribbon, polymer; show sticks, organic; show nonbonded, solvent
```

```
my\_scene
```

NOTES

For security reasons, aliased commands are not saved or restored in sessions.

SEE ALSO

cmd.extend, [api](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#api)

api: pymol.commanding.alias

align

DESCRIPTION

"align" performs a sequence alignment followed by a structural superposition, and then carries out zero or more cycles of refinement in order to reject structural outliers found during the fit. "align" does a good job on proteins with decent sequence similarity (identity >30%). For comparing proteins with lower sequence identity, the "super" and "cealign" commands perform better.

USAGE

```
align mobile, target [, cutoff [, cycles
    [, gap [, extend [, max\_gap [, object
    [, matrix [, mobile\_state [, target\_state
    [, quiet [, max\_skip [, transform [, reset \]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

mobile = string: atom selection of mobile object

target = string: atom selection of target object

cutoff = float: outlier rejection cutoff in Angstrom {default: 2.0}

cycles = int: maximum number of outlier rejection cycles {default: 5}

gap, extend, max_gap: sequence alignment parameters

object = string: name of alignment object to create {default: (no alignment object)}

matrix = string: file name of substitution matrix for sequence alignment {default: BLOSUM62}

mobile_state = int: object state of mobile selection {default: 0 = all states}

target_state = int: object state of target selection {default: 0 = all states}

transform = 0/1: do superposition {default: 1}

NOTES

If object is specified, then align will create an object which indicates paired atoms and supports visualization of the alignment in the sequence viewer.

The RMSD of the aligned atoms (after outlier rejection!) is reported in the text output. The all-atom RMSD can be obtained by setting `cycles=0` and thus not doing any outlier rejection.

EXAMPLE

```
align protA///CA, protB///CA, object=alnAB
```

SEE ALSO

```
[super](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#super), [cealign](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#cealign), [pair\_fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pair\_fit), [fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit), [rms](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms), [rms\_cur](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms\_cur), [intra\_rms](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra\_rms), [intra\_rms\_cur](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra\_rms\_cur)
```

api: `pymol.fitting.align`

alignto

DESCRIPTION

"alignto" aligns all other loaded objects to the target using the specified alignment algorithm.

USAGE

```
alignto target [, method [, quiet \]]
```

NOTES

Available alignment methods are "align", "super" and "cealign".

EXAMPLE

```
# fetch some calmodulins
fetch 1c1l 1sra 1ggz 1k95, async=0

# align them to 1c1l using cealign
alignto 1c1l, method=cealign
alignto 1c1l, object=all_to_1c1l
```

SEE ALSO

```
[extra\_fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#extra_fit), [align]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#align), [super]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#super), [cealign]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#cealign), [fit]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit), [rms](https://pymol.org/pymol-
command-ref.html#rms), [rms\_cur](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-
ref.html#rms_cur), [intra\_fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-
ref.html#intra_fit)
```

api: pymol.fitting.alignto

alphatoall

DESCRIPTION

Expand any given property of the CA atoms to all atoms in the residue

ARGUMENTS

selection = string: atom selection `\{default: polymer\}`

properties = string: space separated list of atom properties `\{default: b\}`

api: pymol.editing.alphatoall

alter

DESCRIPTION

"alter" changes atomic properties using an expression evaluated within a temporary namespace for each atom.

USAGE

```
alter selection, expression
```

EXAMPLES

```
alter chain A, chain='B'
alter all, resi=str\(\int\(\resi\)+100\)
sort
```

NOTES

Symbols defined `\(* = read only\)`:

name, resn, resi, resv, chain, segi, elem, alt, q, b, vdw, type,
partial_charge, formal_charge, elec_radius, text_type, label,
numeric_type, model*, state*, index*, ID, rank, color, ss,
cartoon, flags

All strings must be explicitly quoted. This operation typically takes several seconds per thousand atoms altered.

You may need to issue a "rebuild" in order to update associated representations.

WARNING: You should always issue a "sort" command on an object after modifying any property which might affect canonical atom ordering (names, chains, etc.). Failure to do so will confound subsequent "create" and "byres" operations.

SEE ALSO

[alter_state](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#alter_state), [iterate](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#iterate>), [iterate_state](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#iterate_state), [sort](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#sort>)

api: pymol.editing.alter

alter_state

DESCRIPTION

"alter_state" changes atom coordinates and flags over a particular state and selection using the Python evaluator with a temporary namespace for each atomic coordinate.

USAGE

```
alter\_state state, selection, expression
```

EXAMPLES

```
alter\_state 1, all, x=x+5  
rebuild
```

NOTES

By default, most of the symbols from "alter" are available for use on a read-only basis.

It is usually necessary to "rebuild" representations once your alterations are complete.

SEE ALSO

[iterate_state](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#iterate_state), [alter](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#alter>), [iterate](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#iterate>)

api: pymol.editing.alter_state

angle

DESCRIPTION

"angle" shows the angle formed between any three atoms.

USAGE

```
angle \[ name \[, selection1 \[, selection2 \[, selection3 \]\]\]\]
```

NOTES

"angle" alone will show the angle angle formed by selections `\(pk1\)`, `\(pk2\)`, `\(pk3\)` which can be set using the "PkAt" mouse action `\(typically, Ctrl-middle-click\)`

PYMOL API

```
cmd.angle\(\(string name, string selection1, string selection2,  
          string selection3\)
```

SEE ALSO

[distance](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#distance>), [dihedral](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#dihedral>)

api: `pymol.querying.angle`

api

DESCRIPTION

API helper function. Get the full function name `\(incl. module\)` of given command.

ARGUMENTS

```
name = string: name of a PyMOL command
```

NOTES

The PyMOL Python Application Programming Interface (API) should be accessed exclusively through the "cmd" module (never "_cmd"!)). Nearly all command-line functions have a corresponding API method.

```
from pymol import cmd
result = cmd.<command-name>( argument , ... )
```

Although the PyMOL core is not multi-threaded, the API is thread-safe and can be called asynchronously by external python programs. PyMOL handles the necessary locking to insure that internal states do not get corrupted. This makes it very easy to build complicated systems which involve direct realtime visualization.

api: pymol.helping.api

as

DESCRIPTION

"as" turns on and off atom and bond representations.

USAGE

```
as representation [, selection ]
```

ARGUMENTS

representation = lines, spheres, mesh, ribbon, cartoon, sticks, dots, surface, labels, extent, nonbonded, nb_spheres, slice, extent, slice, dashes, angles, dihedrals, cgo, cell, callback, volume or everything

selection = string {default: all}

EXAMPLES

```
as lines, name CA+C+N
```

```
as ribbon
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.show\_as(string representation, string selection)
```

NOTES

"selection" can be an object name
"as" alone will turn on lines and nonbonded and hide everything else.

SEE ALSO

```
[show](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#show), [hide]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#hide), [enable]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#enable), [disable]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#disable)
```

api: pymol.viewing.show_as

assign_stereo

DESCRIPTION

Assign "stereo" atom property \(\(R/S stereochemistry\)\).

Requires either a Schrodinger Suite installation \(\(SCHRODINGER environment variable set\)\) or RDKit \(\(rdkit Python module\)\).

USAGE

```
assign\_stereo \[selection \[, state \[, method \]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

selection = str: atom selection \{\{default: all\}\}

state = int: object state \{\{default: -1 \(\(current\)\)\}\}

method = schrodinger or rdkit: \{\{default: try both\}\}

api: pymol.stereochemistry.assign_stereo

attach

DESCRIPTION

"attach" adds a single atom on to the picked atom.

USAGE

```
attach element, geometry, valence
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.attach\(\( element, geometry, valence \)
```

api: pymol.editing.attach

backward

DESCRIPTION


```
"backward" moves the movie back one frame.
```

USAGE

```
backward
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.backward\(\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[mset](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mset), [forward]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#forward), [rewind]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rewind)
```

api: pymol.moving.backward

bg_color

DESCRIPTION

```
"bg_color" sets the background color.
```

USAGE

```
bg_color \[ color \]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
color = string: color name or number \{default: black\}
```

EXAMPLES

```
bg_color grey30
```

```
bg_color
```

NOTES

```
To obtain a transparent background, "unset opaque_background", and  
then use "ray".
```

SEE ALSO

```
[set_color](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#set\_color), [ray]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#ray)
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.bg\_color\ (string color\)
```

api: pymol.viewing.bg_color

bond

DESCRIPTION

"bond" creates a new bond between two selections, each of which should contain one atom.

USAGE

```
bond \[atom1, atom2 \[,order\]\]
```

NOTES

The atoms must both be within the same object.

The default behavior is to create a bond between the `\(lb\)` and `\(rb\)` selections.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.bond\ (string atom1, string atom2\)
```

SEE ALSO

[unbond](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#unbond>), [fuse](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fuse>), [attach](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#attach>), [replace](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#replace>), [remove_picked](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#remove_picked)

api: pymol.editing.bond

button

DESCRIPTION

"button" can be used to redefine what the mouse buttons do.

USAGE

```
button button, modifier, action
```

ARGUMENTS

```
button = left, middle, right, wheel, double\_left, double\_middle,  
        double\_right, single\_left, single\_middle, or single\_right
```

```
modifiers = None, Shft, Ctrl, CtSh, CtAl, CtAl, CtAS,
```

```
actions = None, Rota, Move, MovZ, Slab, +Box, -Box, Clip, MovS,  
          +/-, PkAt, Pk1, MvSZ, Sele, Orig, Menu, PkAt, Pk1 RotO, MovO,  
          MVOZ, MovA, PkAt, PkTB, MvSZ MvAZ, DrgM, RotZ, PkBd, ClpN,  
          ClpF
```

NOTES

Changes made using the button command are easily overridden when the user iterates through the mouse modes. This behavior needs to be changed.

Obsolete actions: lb, mb, rb, +lb, +mb, +rb, +lbX, -lbX,

Unsupported, Internal, or Future Actions: RotD, MovD, MvDZ, RotF, MovF, MvFZ, TorF, RotV, MovV, MvVZ, DgMZ, DgRT

PYMOL API

```
cmd.button\<(string button, string modifier, string action\<)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[config\_mouse](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#config\_mouse)
```

api: pymol.controlling.button

cache

DESCRIPTION

```
"cache" manages storage of precomputed results, such as  
molecular surfaces.
```

USAGE

```
cache action \[, scenes \[, state \]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
action = string: enable, disable, read\_only, clear, or optimize
```

```
scenes = string: a space-separated list of scene names \<(default: '')\<)
```

```
state = integer: state index \<(default: -1\<)
```

EXAMPLES

```
cache enable
cache optimize
cache optimize, F1 F2 F5
```

NOTES

"cache optimize" will iterate through the list of scenes provided (or all defined scenes), compute any missing surfaces, and store them in the cache for later reuse.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.cache(string action, string scenes, int state, int quiet)
```

api: pymol.exporting.cache

callout

DESCRIPTION

Create a new screen-stabilized callout object.

ARGUMENTS

name = str: object name

label = str: label text

pos = str or list: anchor in model space as 3-float coord list or atom selection. If empty, don't draw an arrow. `{default: }`

screen = str or list: position on screen as 2-float list between `[-1,-1]` (lower left) and `[1,1]` (upper right) or "auto" for smart placement. `{default: auto}`

api: pymol.experimenting.callout

capture

UNDOCUMENTED

api: pymol.viewing.capture

cartoon

DESCRIPTION

"cartoon" changes the default cartoon representation for a set of atoms.

USAGE

```
cartoon type, selection
```

ARGUMENTS

```
type = automatic, skip, loop, rectangle, oval, tube, arrow, dumbbell
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.cartoon\<(string type, string selection\)
```

EXAMPLES

```
cartoon rectangle, chain A
```

```
cartoon skip, resi 145-156
```

NOTES

This command is rarely required since the default "automatic" mode chooses cartoons according to the information in the PDB HELIX and SHEET records.

api: pymol.viewing.cartoon

cd

DESCRIPTION

"cd" changes the current working directory.

USAGE

```
cd \
```

SEE ALSO

[pwd](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pwd>), [ls](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#ls>), [system](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#system>)

api: pymol.externing.cd

cealign

DESCRIPTION

"cealign" aligns two proteins using the CE algorithm.

USAGE

```
cealign target, mobile \[, target\_state \[, mobile\_state \[, quiet \[,  
  guide \[, d0 \[, d1 \[, window \[, gap\_max, \[, transform  
  \]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]
```

NOTES

If "guide" is set PyMOL will align using only alpha carbons, which is the default behavior. Otherwise, PyMOL will use all atoms. If "quiet" is set to -1, PyMOL will print the rotation matrix as well.

Reference: Shindyalov IN, Bourne PE (1998) Protein structure alignment by incremental combinatorial extension (CE) of the optimal path. Protein Engineering 11(9) 739-747.

EXAMPLES

```
cealign protA///  
CA, protB///  
CA  
  
# fetch two proteins and align them  
fetch 1rlw 1rsy, async=0  
cealign 1rlw, 1rsy
```

SEE ALSO

```
[align](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#align), [pair\_fit]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pair_fit), [fit]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit), [rms](https://pymol.org/pymol-  
command-ref.html#rms), [rms\_cur](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-  
ref.html#rms_cur), [intra\_rms](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-  
ref.html#intra_rms), [intra\_rms\_cur](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-  
ref.html#intra_rms_cur), [super](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#super)
```

api: pymol.fitting.cealign

center

DESCRIPTION

"center" translates the window, the clipping slab, and the origin to a point centered within the atom selection.

USAGE

```
center \[ selection \[, state \[, origin \[, animate \]\]\]\]
```

EXAMPLES

```
center chain B  
center 145/
```

ARGUMENTS

```
selection = string: selection-expression or name pattern \(\default: "all"\).  
  
state = 0 \(\default\) use all coordinate states  
  
state = -1 use only coordinates for the current state  
  
state > 0 use coordinates for a specific state  
  
origin = 1 \(\default\) move the origin  
  
origin = 0 leave the origin unchanged
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.center\(\string selection, int state, int origin\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[origin](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#origin), [orient]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#orient), [zoom]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#zoom)
```

api: pymol.viewing.center

centerofmass

DESCRIPTION

```
calculates the center of mass. Considers atom mass and occupancy.
```

ARGUMENTS

```
selection = string: atom selection \{\default: all\}  
  
state = integer: object state, -1 for current state, 0 for all states  
\{\default: -1\}
```

NOTES

```
If occupancy is 0.0 for an atom, set it to 1.0 for the calculation  
\(assume it was loaded from a file without occupancy information\).
```

SEE ALSO

```
[get\_extent](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#get\_extent)
```

api: pymol.querying.centerofmass

check

DESCRIPTION

"check" is unsupported command that may eventually have something to do with assigning forcefield parameters to a selection of atoms.

api: pymol.experimenting.check

clean

DESCRIPTION

Note: This operation is limited to 999 atoms.

Run energy minimization on the given selection, using an MMFF94 force field.

ARGUMENTS

```
selection = str: atom selection to minimize  
present = str: selection of fixed atoms to restrain the minimization  
state = int: object state \{default: -1 \{(current)\}\}  
fix = UNUSED  
restraing = UNUSED  
method = UNUSED  
async = 0/1: run in separate thread \{default: 0\<}  
save\_undo = UNUSED  
message = Message to display during async minimization
```

EXAMPLE

```
# minimize ligand in binding pocket  
clean organic, all within 8 of organic
```

api: pymol.computing.clean

clip

DESCRIPTION

"clip" alters the positions of the clipping planes.

USAGE


```
clip mode, distance \[, selection \[, state \]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

mode = near, far, move, slab, or atoms

distance is a floating point value

selection = atom selection \((for mode=atoms only)\)

EXAMPLES

```
clip near, -5          # moves near plane away from you by 5 A
clip far, 10           # moves far plane towards you by 10 A
clip move, -5         # moves the slab away from you by 5 A
clip slab, 20         # sets slab thickness to 20 A
clip slab, 10, resi 11 # clip 10 A slab about residue 11

clip atoms, 5, pept   # clip atoms in "pept" with a 5 A buffer
                     # about their current camera positions
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.clip\(\string mode, float distance, string selection, int state\)
```

SEE ALSO

[zoom](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#zoom>), [orient]
(<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#orient>), [reset]
(<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#reset>)

api: pymol.viewing.clip

cls

DESCRIPTION

"cls" clears the output buffer.

USAGE

```
cls
```

api: pymol.commanding.cls

color

DESCRIPTION

"color" changes the color of objects or atoms.

USAGE

```
color color \[, selection \]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
color = string: color name or number
```

```
selection = string: selection-expression or name-pattern  
corresponding to the atoms or objects to be colored  
\{default: \{all\}\}.
```

NOTES

```
when using color ramps, the ramp can be used as a color.
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.color\(\string color, string selection, int quiet\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[color\_deep](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#color\_deep), [set\_color]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#set\_color), [recolor]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#recolor)
```

EXAMPLE

```
color cyan  
color yellow, chain A
```

```
api: pymol.viewing.color
```

color_deep

DESCRIPTION

```
Unset all object and atom level \(\not global\) color settings and  
apply given color.
```

ARGUMENTS

```
color = str: color name or number
```

```
name = str: object name or pattern \{default: all\}
```

SEE ALSO

```
[color](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#color), [unset\_deep]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#unset\_deep)
```

api: pymol.viewing.color_deep

conda

DESCRIPTION

Experimental and limited conda wrapper for PyMOL bundles. Automatically passes "--yes" to "conda install".

EXAMPLE

```
conda install biopython
```

api: pymol.externing.conda

config_mouse

DESCRIPTION

"config_mouse" sets the current mouse configuration ring.

USAGE

```
config\_mouse ring
```

EXAMPLES

```
config\_mouse three\_button  
config\_mouse two\_button  
config\_mouse one\_button
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.config\_mouse(string ring, int quiet)
```

SEE ALSO

[mouse](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mouse>), [button]
(<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#button>)

api: pymol.controlling.config_mouse

copy

DESCRIPTION

"copy" creates a new object that is an identical copy of an existing object.

USAGE

```
copy target, source \[, zoom \]
```

NOTES

Currently, this command only works for molecular objects.

SEE ALSO

[create](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#create>)

api: pymol.creating.copy

copy_to

DESCRIPTION

Copies selection to object ``name`` (all states) and by default renames chain, segi and ID identifiers to avoid naming conflicts.

ARGUMENTS

name = str: object name to modify

selection = str: atom selection (will be copied to ``name``)

rename = str: space separated list of identifiers to rename
{default: chain segi ID}

SEE ALSO

[create](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#create>), [fuse](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fuse>)

api: pymol.editing.copy_to

count_atoms

DESCRIPTION

"count_atoms" returns a count of atoms in a selection.

USAGE

```
count_atoms \[ selection \[, quiet \[, state \]\]\]
```

api: pymol.querying.count_atoms

count_discrete

DESCRIPTION

Count the number of discrete objects in selection.

USAGE

```
count\_discrete selection
```

api: pymol.querying.count_discrete

count_frames

DESCRIPTION

"count_frames" returns the number of frames defined for the PyMOL movie.

USAGE

```
count\_frames
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.count\_frames\(\)
```

SEE ALSO

[frame](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#frame>), [count_states](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#count_states)

api: pymol.querying.count_frames

count_states

DESCRIPTION

"count_states" returns the number of states in the selection.

USAGE

```
count\_states
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.count\_states\(string selection\)
```

SEE ALSO

[frame](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#frame)

api: pymol.querying.count_states

create

DESCRIPTION

"create" creates a new molecule object from a selection. It can also be used to create states in an existing object.

USAGE

```
create name, selection \[,source\_state \[,target\_state \] \]
```

ARGUMENTS

name = string: name of object to create or modify

selection = string: atoms to include in the new object

source_state = integer: \{default: 0 -- copy all states\}

target_state = integer: -1 appends after last state \{default: 0\}

copy_properties = boolean: \{default: false\} copies properties from source
\\(last of the same properties survives with multiple
objects\\)

PYMOL API

```
cmd.create\\(string name, string selection, int state,  
int target\_state, int discrete\\)
```

NOTES

If the source and target states are zero \\(default\\), then all states will be copied. Otherwise, only the indicated states will be copied.

SEE ALSO

[load](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load), [copy]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#copy), [extract]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#extract)

api: pymol.creating.create

cycle_valence

DESCRIPTION

"cycle_valence" cycles the valence on the currently selected bond.

USAGE

```
cycle\_valence \[ h\_fill \]
```

ARGUMENTS

h_fill = 0 or 1: updated hydrogens too? \{default: 1 \}(yes\)\}

EXAMPLE

```
cycle\_valence
```

NOTES

If the h_fill flag is true, hydrogens will be added or removed to satisfy valence requirements.

This function is usually connected to the DELETE key and "CTRL-W".

PYMOL API

```
cmd.cycle\_valence\(\int h\_fill\)
```

SEE ALSO

[remove_picked](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#remove_picked),
[attach](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#attach>), [replace]
(<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#replace>), [fuse]
(<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fuse>), [h_fill]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#h_fill)

api: pymol.editing.cycle_valence

decline

DESCRIPTION

"decline" is an internal method for handling of session file security.

api: pymol.moving.decline

delete

DESCRIPTION

```
"delete" removes objects and named selections
```

USAGE

```
delete name
```

ARGUMENTS

```
name = name\s\ of object\s\ or selection\s\, supports wildcards \(\*\)
```

EXAMPLES

```
delete measure\*      # delete all objects which names start with "measure"  
delete all           # delete all objects and selections
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.delete \ (string name = object-or-selection-name \)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[remove](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#remove)
```

api: pymol.commanding.delete

deprotect

DESCRIPTION

```
"deprotect" reverses the effect of the "protect" command.
```

USAGE

```
deprotect \ (selection\)
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.deprotect\ (string selection\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[protect](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#protect), [mask]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mask), [unmask]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#unmask), [mouse]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mouse), editing
```

api: pymol.editing.deprotect

desaturate

DESCRIPTION

Desaturate the colors in the given selection.

ARGUMENTS

```
selection = str: atom selection \{default: all\}
a = float \[0..1\]: desaturation factor \{default: 0.5\}
```

api: pymol.experimenting.desaturate

deselect

DESCRIPTION

"deselect" disables any and all visible selections

USAGE

```
deselect
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.deselect\(\)
```

api: pymol.selecting.deselect

diagnostics

DESCRIPTION

Get system level diagnostics data

USAGE

```
diagnostics \[ filename \]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
filename = str: If given, write output to text file
```

api: pymol.diagnosing.diagnostics

dihedral

DESCRIPTION

"dihedral" shows dihedral angles formed between any four atoms.

USAGE

```
dihedral \[ name \[, selection1 \[, selection2 \[, selection3 \[, selection4  
\]\]\]\]
```

NOTES

"dihedral" alone will show the dihedral angle formed by selections
\(pk1\), \<(pk2\), \<(pk3\), and \<(pk4\), which can be set using the "PkAt"
mouse action \<(typically, Ctrl-middle-click\)

PYMOL API

```
cmd.dihedral\<(string name, string selection1, string selection2,  
string selection3, string selection4\)
```

SEE ALSO

[distance](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#distance>), [angle]
(<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#angle>)

api: pymol.querying.dihedral

dir

DESCRIPTION

List contents of the current working directory.

USAGE

```
ls \[pattern\  
dir \[pattern\  
\]
```

EXAMPLES

```
ls  
ls \*.pm1
```

SEE ALSO

[cd](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#cd>), [pwd](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pwd>), [system](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#system>)

api: pymol.externing.ls

disable

DESCRIPTION

"disable" turns off display of one or more objects and/or selections.

USAGE

```
disable name
```

ARGUMENTS

name = name-pattern or selection.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.disable\<(string name\)
```

SEE ALSO

[show] (<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#show>), [hide] (<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#hide>), [enable] (<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#enable>)

api: pymol.viewing.disable

distance

DESCRIPTION

"distance" creates a new distance object between two selections.

USAGE

```
distance \[name \[, selection1 \[, selection2 \[, cutoff \[, mode \\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

name = string: name of the distance object to create

selection1 = string: first atom selection

selection2 = string: second atom selection

cutoff = float: longest distance to show

mode = 0: all interatomic distances

mode = 1: only bond distances

mode = 2: only show polar contact distances

```
mode = 3: like mode=0, but use distance\_exclusion setting

mode = 4: distance between centroids \ (does not support
          dynamic\_measures; new in PyMOL 1.8.2\ )

mode = 5: pi-pi and pi-cation interactions

mode = 6: pi-pi interactions

mode = 7: pi-cation interactions

mode = 8: like mode=3, but cutoff is the ratio between
          distance and sum of VDW radii

state = int: object state to create the measurement object in
and to get coordinates from \ {default: 0 \ (all states\)\ }

state1, state2 = int: overrule 'state' argument to measure distances
between different states \ {default: use state\ }
```

EXAMPLES

```
distance mydist, 14/CA, 29/CA

distance hbonds, all, all, 3.2, mode=2
```

NOTES

The distance wizard makes measuring distances easier than using the "dist" command for real-time operations.

"dist" alone will show distances between selections \ (pk1\) and \ (pk1\), which can be set using the PkAt mouse action \ (usually CTRL-middle-click\).

PYMOL API

```
cmd.distance\ (string name, string selection1, string selection2,
              string cutoff, string mode \ )
```

api: pymol.querying.distance

drag

DESCRIPTION

"drag" activates dragging for a selection, enabling the user to manipulate the atom coordinates of the atoms using mouse controls similar to those for controlling the camera.

USAGE

```
drag \ [ selection \ ]
```

ARGUMENTS

selection = string: atoms to drag. If not provided, and dragging is active, then dragging is instead deactivated.

NOTES

Currently, the selection of atom to drag must all reside in a single molecular object.

api: pymol.editing.drag

draw

DESCRIPTION

"draw" creates an OpenGL-based image of the current frame.

USAGE

```
draw [width [,height [,antialias \]]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

width = integer `{default: 0 (current)}`

height = integer `{default: 0 (current)}`

antialias = integer `{default: -1 (use antialias setting)}`

EXAMPLES

```
draw
draw 1600
```

NOTES

Default width and height are taken from the current viewpoint. If one is specified but not the other, then the missing value is scaled so as to preserve the current aspect ratio.

Because this feature uses the OpenGL rendering context to piece together the image, it does not work when running in the command-line only mode.

On certain graphics hardware, "unset opaque_background" followed by "draw" will produce an image with a transparent background. However, better results can usually be obtained using "ray".

PYMOL API

```
cmd.draw\(int width, int height, int antialias, int quiet\)
```

SEE ALSO

[ray](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#ray>), [png](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#png>), [save](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#save>)

api: pymol.viewing.draw

dss

DESCRIPTION

"dss" defines secondary structure based on backbone geometry and hydrogen bonding patterns.

USAGE

```
dss selection, state
```

ARGUMENT

```
selection = string: \{default: \{all\}\}
```

```
state = integer: \{default: 0 -- all states\}
```

EXAMPLE

```
dss
```

NOTES

with PyMOL, heavy emphasis is placed on cartoon aesthetics, and so both hydrogen bonding patterns and backbone geometry are used in the assignment process. Depending upon the local context, helix and strand assignments are made based on geometry, hydrogen bonding, or both.

This command will generate results which differ slightly from DSSP and other programs. Most deviations occur in borderline or transition regions. Generally speaking, PyMOL is more strict, thus assigning fewer helix/sheet residues, except for partially distorted helices, which PyMOL tends to tolerate.

WARNING: This algorithm has not yet been rigorously validated.

If you dislike one or more of the assignments made by dss, you can use the alter command to make changes \((followed by "rebuild")\). For example:

```
alter 123-125/, ss='L'
```

```
alter pk1, ss='S'  
alter 90/, ss='H'  
rebuild
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.dss\(string selection, int state\)
```

api: pymol.editing.dss

dump

DESCRIPTION

The dump command writes the geometry of an isosurface, isomesh, isodot, or map object to a simple text file. Each line contains one vertex in case of representations, or one grid point in case of a map.

For surface objects, XYZ coordinates and the normal are exported. Three lines make one triangle \(\code{like GL_TRIANGLES}\).

For mesh objects, XYZ coordinates are exported \(\code{no normals}\). The vertices form line strips \(\code{like GL_LINE_STRIP}\), a blank line starts a new strip.

For dot objects, XYZ coordinates are exported.

For map objects, XYZ coordinates and the value at the point are exported. This forms a grid map.

USAGE

```
dump filename, object, state=1, quiet=1
```

ARGUMENTS

```
filename = str: file that will be written  
object = str: object name
```

EXAMPLE

```
fetch lubq, mymap, type=2fofc, async=0  
  
dump gridmap.txt, mymap  
  
isosurface mysurface, mymap  
dump surfacegeometry.txt, mysurface  
  
isomesh mymesh, mymap  
dump meshgeometry.txt, mymesh  
  
isodot mydot, mymap, quiet=1  
dump dotgeometry.txt, mydot
```

SEE ALSO

COLLADA export

api: pymol.experimenting.dump

edit

DESCRIPTION

"edit" picks atoms or a bond for editing.

USAGE

```
edit selection1 \[, selection2 \[, selection3 \[, selection4 \[, pkresi \[,  
pkbond \]\]\]\]\]
```

NOTES

If only one selection is provided, an atom is picked.

If two selections are provided, the bond between them is picked (by default, if one exists).

PYMOL API

```
cmd.edit\(\string selection1, string selection2,  
          string selection3, string selection4,  
          int pkresi, int pkbond, int quiet\)
```

SEE ALSO

[unpick](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#unpick>), [remove_picked](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#remove_picked), [cycle_valence](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#cycle_valence), [torsion](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#torsion>)

api: pymol.editing.edit

edit_mode

DESCRIPTION

"edit_mode" switches the mouse into editing mode, if such a mode is available in the current mouse ring.

api: pymol.controlling.edit_mode

embed

DESCRIPTION

"embed" delimits a block of data embedded in a PyMOL command script.

USAGE

```
embed key [, type [, sentinel \]]
```

ARGUMENTS

key = string: unique identifier for the data

type = pdb, mol, mol2, sdf, xplor

sentinel = string: a unique string signalling the end of the data `{default: embed end}`

EXAMPLE

```
embed wats, pdb
HETATM  1  O  WAT  1  2.573 -1.034 -1.721
HETATM  2  H1 WAT  1  2.493 -1.949 -1.992
HETATM  3  H2 WAT  1  2.160 -0.537 -2.427
HETATM  4  O  WAT  2  0.705  0.744  0.160
HETATM  5  H1 WAT  2 -0.071  0.264  0.450
HETATM  6  H2 WAT  2  1.356  0.064 -0.014
embed end
```

NOTES

only text data formats can be used with embed

SEE ALSO

[abort](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#abort>), [skip](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#skip>), [python](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#python>)

api: pymol.helping.embed

enable

DESCRIPTION

"enable" turns on display of one or more objects and/or selections.

USAGE

```
enable name
```

ARGUMENTS

```
name = name-pattern or selection.
```

NOTES

If name matches a selection name, then selection indicator dots are shown for atoms in that selection. If name is a selection-expression, then all objects with atoms in that selection are enabled.

For an object's content to be displayed in the 3D viewer, the object must be enabled AND at least one of the available representations must be shown.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.enable\<(string object-name\<)
```

EXAMPLES

```
enable target\_protein # enables the target\_protein object
```

```
enable 1dn2.\* # enables all entities starting with 1dn2.
```

```
enable \*lig # enables all entities ending with lig
```

SEE ALSO

```
[show](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#show), [hide]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#hide), [disable]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#disable)
```

api: pymol.viewing.enable

ending

DESCRIPTION

```
"ending" goes to the end of the movie.
```

USAGE

```
ending
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.ending\<(\)
```

api: pymol.moving.ending

extra_fit

DESCRIPTION

Like "intra_fit", but for multiple objects instead of multiple states.

ARGUMENTS

```
selection = string: atom selection of multiple objects \{default: all\}

reference = string: reference object name \{default: first object in selection\}

method = string: alignment method \{command that takes "mobile" and "target"
arguments, like "align", "super", "cealign" \{default: align\}

... extra arguments are passed to "method"
```

SEE ALSO

```
[align](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#align), [super]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#super), [cealign]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#cealign), [intra_fit]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra_fit), util.mass_align
```

api: pymol.fitting.extra_fit

extract

DESCRIPTION

"extract" is simply a shorthand way calling the "create" command with the extract argument activated, so that atoms in the new object are removed from the source object.

USAGE

```
extract name, selection \[, source_state \[, target_state \]\]
```

SEE ALSO

```
[create](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#create)
```

api: pymol.creating.extract

fab

DESCRIPTION

Build a peptide

ARGUMENTS

```
input = str: sequence in one-letter code

name = str: name of object to create \{default: \}

ss = int: Secondary structure 1=alpha helix, 2=antiparallel beta, 3=parallel
beta, 4=flat
```

EXAMPLE

```
fab ACDEFGH
fab ACDEFGH, helix, ss=1
```

api: pymol.editor.fab

feedback

DESCRIPTION

"feedback" changes the amount of information output by pymol.

USAGE

```
feedback action, module, mask
```

ARGUMENTS

```
action = set, enable, or disable

module = string: a space-separated list of modules or simply "all"

mask = string: a space-separated list of output categories or simply
"everything"
```

NOTES

"feedback" alone will print a list of the available module choices

PYMOL API

```
cmd.feedback\ (string action,string module,string mask\)
```

EXAMPLES

```
feedback enable, all , debugging
feedback disable, selector, warnings actions
feedback enable, main, blather
```

api: pymol.feedingback.feedback

fetch

DESCRIPTION

"fetch" downloads a file from the internet \((if possible)\)

USAGE

```
fetch code [, name [, state [, finish [, discrete [, multiplex
    [, zoom [, type [, async [, path \]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

code = a single PDB identifier or a list of identifiers. Supports 5-letter codes for fetching single chains \((like 1a00A)\).

name = the object name into which the file should be loaded.

state = the state number into which the file should loaded.

type = str: cif, pdb, pdb1, 2fofc, fofc, emd, cid, sid \{default: cif
\(default was "pdb" up to 1.7.6\)\}

async__ = 0/1: download in the background and do not block the PyMOL
command line \{default: 0 -- changed in PyMOL 2.3\}

PYMOL API

```
cmd.fetch\((string code, string name, int state, int finish,
    int discrete, int multiplex, int zoom, string type,
    int async, string path, string file, int quiet\)
```

NOTES

When running in interactive mode, the fetch command loads structures asynchronously by default, meaning that the next command may get executed before the structures have been loaded. If you need synchronous behavior in order to insure that all structures are loaded before the next command is executed, please provide the optional argument "async=0".

Fetch requires a direct connection to the internet and thus may not work behind certain types of network firewalls.

api: pymol.importing.fetch

fit

DESCRIPTION

"fit" superimposes the model in the first selection on to the model in the second selection. Only matching atoms in both selections will be used for the fit.

USAGE

```
fit mobile, target \[, mobile\_state \[, target\_state \[, quiet  
  \[, matchmaker \[, cutoff \[, cycles \[, object \]\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
mobile = string: atom selection  
  
target = string: atom selection  
  
mobile\_state = integer: object state \{default=0, all states\<}  
  
target\_state = integer: object state \{default=0, all states\<}  
  
matchmaker = integer: how to match atom pairs \{default: 0\<}  
  -1: assume that atoms are stored in the identical order  
  0/1: match based on all atom identifiers \{segi,chain,resn,resi,name,alt\<}  
  2: match based on ID  
  3: match based on rank  
  4: match based on index \{same as -1 \?\}  
  
cutoff = float: outlier rejection cutoff \{only if cycles>0\<} \{default: 2.0\<}  
  
cycles = integer: number of cycles in outlier rejection refinement \{default:  
0\<}  
  
object = string: name of alignment object to create \{default: None\<}
```

EXAMPLES

```
fit protA, protB
```

NOTES

Since atoms are matched based on all of their identifiers \{including segment and chain identifiers\<}, this command is only helpful when comparing very similar structures.

SEE ALSO

```
[align](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#align), [super]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#super), [pair\_fit]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pair\_fit), [rms]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms), [rms\_cur]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms\_cur), [intra\_fit]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra\_fit), [intra\_rms]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra\_rms), [intra\_rms\_cur]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra\_rms\_cur)
```

api: pymol.fitting.fit

fix_chemistry

DESCRIPTION

"fix chemistry" is an unsupported feature.

api: pymol.editing.fix_chemistry

flag

DESCRIPTION

"flag" sets the indicated flag for atoms in the selection and clears the indicated flag for atoms not in the selection.

USAGE

```
flag flag, selection \[, action \]
```

ARGUMENTS

action = reset: `\{default\}` set flag for atoms in selection and clear it for all others

action = set: set the flag for atoms in selection, leaving other atoms unchanged

action = clear: clear the flag for selected atoms, leaving other atoms unchanged

EXAMPLES

```
flag free, \(\resi 45 x; 6\)
```

NOTES

This is primarily useful for passing selection information into Chempy models, which have a 32 bit attribute "flag" which holds this information.

If the 'auto_indicate_flags' setting is true, then PyMOL will automatically create a selection called "indicate" which contains all atoms with that flag after applying the command.

SPECIAL FLAGS

* Flags 0-5 are reserved for molecular modeling

focus	0 = Atoms of Interest \(\i.e. a ligand in an active site\) \\ free	1 = Free Atoms \(\free to move subject to a force-field\) \\ restrain	2 = Restrained Atoms \(\typically harmonically constrained\) \\ 3 = ...
-------	---	--	--

```
fix      3 = Fixed Atoms \ (no movement allowed) \
exclude  4 = Atoms which should not be part of any simulation
study    5
```

* Flags 6-7 are for protein and nucleic acid classification

* Flags 8-15 are free for end users to manipulate

* Flags 16-21 are reserved for external GUIs and linked applications

* Flags 22-23 are for temporary use only \ (flag 23 used for coverage tracking when assigning parameters in chempy.champ.assign\)

* Flags 24-31 are reserved for PyMOL internal usage

```
exfoliate 24 = Remove surface from atoms when surfacing \
ignore     25 = Ignore atoms altogether when surfacing \
no\_smooth 26 = Do not smooth atom position
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.flag\ (int flag, string selection, string action="reset",
           int indicate=0\)
```

api: pymol.editing.flag

fnab

DESCRIPTION

Builds a nucleotide acid from sequence

USAGE

```
fnab input \[, name \[, type \[, form \[, dbl\_helix \]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

input = str: Sequence as an array of one letter codes

name = str: Name of the object to create \ {default: obj\}

mode = str: "DNA" or "RNA"

form = str: "A" or "B"

dbl_helix = bool \ (0/1\): flag for using double helix in DNA

EXAMPLE

```
fnab ATGCGATAC
fnab ATGCGATAC, name=myDNA, mode=DNA, form=B, dbl\_helix=1
fnab AAUUUCCG, mode=RNA
```


api: pymol.editor.fnab

focal_blur

DESCRIPTION

Creates fancy figures by introducing a focal blur to the image.
The object at the origin will be in focus.

USAGE

```
focal_blur [ aperture [, samples [, ray [, filename ]]]]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
aperture = float: aperture angle in degrees {default: 2.0}
samples = int: number of images for averaging {default: 10}
ray = 0/1: {default: 0}
filename = str: write image to file {default: temporary}
```

AUTHORS

Jarl Underhaug, Jason Vertrees and Thomas Holder

EXAMPLES

```
focal_blur 3.0, 50
```

api: pymol.experimental.focal_blur

fork

DESCRIPTION

"spawn" launches a Python script in a new thread which will run concurrently with the PyMOL interpreter. It can be run in its own namespace (like a Python module, default), a local name space, or in the global namespace.

USAGE

```
spawn file [, namespace ]
```

NOTES

The default namespace for spawn is "module".

The best way to spawn processes at startup is to use the `-l` option
(see "help launching").

SEE ALSO

[run] (<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#run>)

api: pymol.parsing.spawn

forward

DESCRIPTION

"forward" moves the movie one frame forward.

USAGE

forward

PYMOL API

cmd.forward(\)

SEE ALSO

[mset] (<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mset>), [backward]
(<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#backward>), [rewind]
(<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rewind>)

api: pymol.moving.forward

fragment

DESCRIPTION

"fragment" retrieves a 3D structure from the fragment library,
which is currently pretty meager (just amino acids).

USAGE

fragment name

api: pymol.creating.fragment

frame

DESCRIPTION

```
"frame" sets the viewer to the indicated movie frame.
```

USAGE

```
frame frame
```

ARGUMENTS

```
frame = integer: frame number to display
```

EXAMPLE

```
frame 10
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.frame\<( int frame\_number \)
```

NOTES

```
Frame numbers are 1-based.
```

SEE ALSO

```
[count\_states](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#count\_states)
```

```
api: pymol.moving.frame
```

full_screen

DESCRIPTION

```
"full\_screen" enables or disables full screen mode.
```

USAGE

```
full\_screen \[toggle\]
```

EXAMPLES

```
full\_screen  
full\_screen on  
full\_screen off
```

NOTES

This does not work correctly on all platforms. If you encounter trouble, try using the maximize button on the viewer window instead.

api: pmg_qt.pymol_qt_gui.full_screen

fuse

DESCRIPTION

"fuse" joins two objects into one by forming a bond. A copy of the object containing the first atom is moved so as to form an approximately reasonable bond with the second, and that copy is then merged with the first object.

USAGE

```
fuse \[ selection1 \[, selection2 \[, mode \[, recolor \[, move \]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

selection1 = str: single atom selection \ (will be copied to object 2\)

selection2 = str: single atom selection

mode = int: \ {default: 0\}

3: don't move and don't create a bond, just combine into single object

recolor = bool: recolor C atoms to match target \ {default: 1\}

move = bool: \ {default: 1\}

NOTES

Each selection must include a single atom in each object. The atoms can both be hydrogens, in which case they are eliminated, or they can both be non-hydrogens, in which case a bond is formed between the two atoms.

SEE ALSO

```
[bond] (https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#bond), [unbond] (https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#unbond), [attach] (https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#attach), [replace] (https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#replace), [fuse] (https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fuse), [remove\_picked] (https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#remove\_picked)
```

api: pymol.editing.fuse

get

DESCRIPTION

"get" prints out the current value of a setting.

USAGE

```
get name \[, selection \[, state \]\]
```

EXAMPLE

```
get line\_width
```

ARGUMENTS

name = string: setting name

selection = string: object name \(\selections not yet supported\)

state = integer: state number

NOTES

"get" currently only works with global, per-object, and per-state settings. Atom level settings get be queried with "iterate" \(\e.g. iterate all, print s.line_width\)

PYMOL API

```
cmd.get\(\string name, string object, int state, int quiet\)
```

SEE ALSO

[set](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#set>), [set_bond](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#set_bond), [get_bond](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#get_bond)

api: pymol.setting.get

get_angle

DESCRIPTION

"get_angle" returns the angle between three atoms. By default, the coordinates used are from the current state, however an alternate state identifier can be provided.

USAGE

```
get\_angle atom1, atom2, atom3, \[,state \]
```

EXAMPLES

```
get\_angle 4/n,4/c,4/ca  
get\_angle 4/n,4/c,4/ca,state=4
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.get\_angle(atom1="pk1",atom2="pk2",atom3="pk3",state=-1)
```

api: pymol.querying.get_angle

get_area

DESCRIPTION

Get the surface area of an selection. Depends on the "dot_solvent" setting. with "dot_solvent=off" (default) it calculates the solvent excluded surface area, else the surface accessible surface.

USAGE

```
get\_area \[ selection \[, state \[, load\_b \]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

load_b = bool: store per-atom surface area in b-factors {default: 0}

SEE ALSO

"dot_solvent" setting, "dots" representation ([show](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#show) dots)

api: pymol.querying.get_area

get_bond

DESCRIPTION

"get_bond" gets per-bond settings for all bonds which exist between two selections of atoms.

USAGE

```
get\_bond name, selection1 \[, selection2 \]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
name = string: name of the setting

selection1 = string: first set of atoms

selection2 = string: seconds set of atoms \{default: \(selection1)\}
```

EXAMPLE

```
get\_bond stick\_transparency, \*/n+c+ca+o
```

NOTES

The following per-bond settings are currently implemented. Others may seem to be recognized but will currently have no effect when set at the per-bond level.

```
\* valence
\* line\_width
\* line\_color
\* stick\_radius
\* stick\_color
\* stick\_transparency
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.get\_bond \(\ string name,
              string selection1,
              string selection2,
              int state, int updates, quiet=1\)
```

api: pymol.setting.get_bond

get_chains

DESCRIPTION

Print the list of chain identifiers in the given selection.

USAGE

```
get\_chains \[ selection \[, state \]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
selection = str: atom selection \{default: all\}

state = int: CURRENTLY IGNORED
```

api: pymol.querying.get_chains

get_dihedral

DESCRIPTION

"get_dihedral" returns the dihedral angle between four atoms. By default, the coordinates used are from the current state, however an alternate state identifier can be provided.

By convention, positive dihedral angles are right-handed \(\text{looking down the atom2-atom3 axis}\).

USAGE

```
get\_dihedral atom1, atom2, atom3, atom4 \[,state \]
```

EXAMPLES

```
get\_dihedral 4/n,4/c,4/ca,4/cb  
get\_dihedral 4/n,4/c,4/ca,4/cb,state=4
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.get\_dihedral\(\text{atom1},\text{atom2},\text{atom3},\text{atom4},\text{state}=-1\)
```

api: pymol.querying.get_dihedral

get_distance

DESCRIPTION

"get_distance" returns the distance between two atoms. By default, the coordinates used are from the current state, however an alternate state identifier can be provided.

USAGE

```
get\_distance atom1, atom2, \[,state \]
```

EXAMPLES

```
get\_distance 4/n,4/c  
get\_distance 4/n,4/c,state=4
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.get\_distance\(\text{atom1}="pk1",\text{atom2}="pk2",\text{state}=-1\)
```

api: pymol.querying.get_distance

get_extent

DESCRIPTION

"get_extent" returns the minimum and maximum XYZ coordinates of a selection as an array:
`\[\[min-X , min-Y , min-Z \], \[max-X , max-Y , max-Z \]\]`

PYMOL API

```
cmd.get\_extent\(\string selection="\(all\) ", state=0 \)
```

api: pymol.querying.get_extent

get_position

DESCRIPTION

"get_position" returns the 3D coordinates of the center of the viewer window.

api: pymol.querying.get_position

get_property

DESCRIPTION

Get an object-level property

ARGUMENTS

```
propname = string: Name of the property  
name = string: Name of a single object  
state = int: Object state, 0 for all states, -1 for current state  
\{default: 0\}
```

api: pymol.properties.get_property

get_property_list

DESCRIPTION

Get all properties for an object \(\for a particular state\) as a list

ARGUMENTS

```
object = string: Name of a single object

state = int: Object state, 0 for all states, -1 for current state
\{default: 0\}
```

api: pymol.properties.get_property_list

get_renderer

DESCRIPTION

```
Prints OpenGL renderer information.
```

api: pymol.querying.get_renderer

get_sasa_relative

DESCRIPTION

```
Calculates the relative per-residue solvent accessible surface area
and optionally labels and colors residues. The value is relative to
full exposure of the residue, calculated by removing all other
residues except its two next neighbors, if present.
```

```
Loads a value between 0.0 \{fully buried\} and 1.0 \{fully exposed\}
into the b-factor property, available in "iterate", "alter" and
"label" as "b".
```

USAGE

```
get\_sasa\_relative \[ selection \[, state \[, vis \[, var \]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
selection = str: atom selection \{default: all\}

state = int: object state \{default: 1\}

vis = 0/1: show labels and do color by exposure \{default: \!quiet\}

var = str: name of property to assign \{default: b\}

quiet = 0/1: print results to log window

outfile = str: filename, write to file instead of log window \{default: \}
```

EXAMPLE

```
fetch lubq, async=0
get\_sasa\_relative polymer
```

PYTHON API

```
cmd.get\_sasa\_relative\(...\) -> dict
```

SEE ALSO

[get_area] (https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#get_area) with "load_b=1" argument.

api: pymol.util.get_sasa_relative

get_symmetry

DESCRIPTION

"get_symmetry" can be used to obtain the crystal and spacegroup parameters for a molecule or map.

USAGE

```
get\_symmetry object-name-or-selection
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.get\_symmetry\(...\) (string selection, int state, int quiet\)
```

api: pymol.querying.get_symmetry

get_title

DESCRIPTION

"get_title" retrieves a text string to the state of a particular object which will be displayed when the state is active.

USAGE

```
set\_title object, state
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.set\_title\(...\) (string object, int state, string text\)
```

api: pymol.querying.get_title

get_type

DESCRIPTION

"get_type" returns a string describing the named object or selection or the string "nonexistent" if the name is unknown.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.get\_type\<(string object-name\)
```

NOTES

Possible return values are

```
"object:molecule"  
"object:map"  
"object:mesh"  
"object:slice"  
"object:surface"  
"object:measurement"  
"object:cgo"  
"object:group"  
"object:volume"  
"selection"
```

SEE ALSO

```
get\_names
```

api: pymol.querying.get_type

get_version

DESCRIPTION

"get_version" returns a tuple of length six containing text, floating point, and integer representations of the current PyMOL version number, build date as unix timestamp, GIT SHA and SVN code revision so far available.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.get\_version\<(int quiet\)
```

api: pymol.querying.get_version

get_view

DESCRIPTION

"get_view" returns and optionally prints out the current view information in a format which can be embedded into a command script and can be used in subsequent calls to "set_view".

If a log file is currently open, get_view will not write the view matrix to the screen unless the "output" parameter is 2.

USAGE

```
get\_view \[output\]
```

ARGUMENTS

output = 0: output matrix to screen

output = 1: do not output matrix to screen

output = 2: force output to screen even if log file is open

output = 3: return formatted string instead of a list

NOTES

Contents of the view matrix:

* 0 - 8: column-major 3x3 matrix which rotates model space to camera space

* 9 - 11: origin of rotation relative to camera \((in camera space)\)

* 12 - 14: origin of rotation \((in model space)\)

* 15: front plane distance from the camera

* 16: rear plane distance from the camera

* 17: orthoscopic flag \((+/-)\) and field of view \((if abs\((value)\) > 1)\)

The camera always looks down -Z with its +X left and its +Y down.

Therefore, in the default view, model +X is to the observer's right, +Y is upward, and +Z points toward the observer.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.get\_view\((output=1, quiet=1)\)
```

SEE ALSO

[set_view](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#set_view)

api: pymol.viewing.get_view

get_viewport

DESCRIPTION

"get_viewport" returns and optionally prints out the screen viewport size

If a log file is currently open, get_viewport will not write the view matrix to the screen unless the "output" parameter is 2.

USAGE

```
get\_viewport \[output\]
```

ARGUMENTS

output = 0: output matrix to screen

output = 1: do not output matrix to screen

output = 2: force output to screen even if log file is open

output = 3: return formatted string instead of a list

PYMOL API

```
cmd.get\_viewport\(\output=1, quiet=1\)
```

api: pymol.viewing.get_viewport

gradient

DESCRIPTION

"gradient" creates a gradient object from a map object.

USAGE

```
gradient name, map \[, minimum \[, maximum \[, selection \[, buffer \[, state  
  \[, carve \[, source\_state \[, quiet \]\]\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

map = the name of the map object to use.

minimum, maximum = minimum and maximum levels \(\default: full map range\)

selection = an atom selection about which to display the mesh with an additional "buffer" \(\if provided\).

SEE ALSO

```
[load](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load), [isomesh]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#isomesh)
```

api: pymol.creating.gradient

group

DESCRIPTION

"group" creates or updates a group object: a container for organizing objects into a hierarchy.

USAGE

```
group name \[, members \[, action \]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

name = string: name of the group

members = string: space-separated list of objects to include in the group

action = add, remove, open, close, toggle, auto, empty, purge, excise

ACTIONS

add: add members to group
remove: remove members from group \ (members will be ungrouped)\
empty: remove all members from group
purge: remove all members from group and delete them
excise: remove all members from group and delete group
open: expand group display in object menu panel
close: collapse group display in object menu panel
toggle: toggle group display in object menu panel
auto: add or toggle
ungroup: DEPRECATED, use ungroup command

EXAMPLE

```
group kinases, 1oky 1pkg 1t46 1uwh 1z5m
group kinases, open
group kinases, close
```

NOTES

Group objects can typically be used as arguments to commands. In such cases, the command should be applied to all members of the group. If the group is used as a selection, then all atoms in all objects in the group should be included in the selection.

When a group object is open, objects can be added or removed from the group by right-clicking and dragging in the control panel.

SEE ALSO

[`ungroup`](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#ungroup>), [`order`](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#order>), "group_auto_mode" setting

api: `pymol.creating.group`

h_add

DESCRIPTION

"h_add" adds hydrogens onto a molecule based on current valences.

USAGE

```
h_add \[ selection \[, state \]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
selection = string \{default: \{all\}\}
```

```
state = int \{default: 0 \{all states\}\}
```

NOTES

Because PDB files do not normally contain bond valences for ligands and other nonstandard components, it may be necessary to manually correct ligand conformations before adding hydrogens.

SEE ALSO

[`h_fill`](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#h_fill)

api: `pymol.editing.h_add`

h_fill

DESCRIPTION

"h_fill" removes and replaces hydrogens on the atom or bond picked for editing.

USAGE

```
h\_fill
```

NOTES

This is useful for fixing hydrogens after changing bond valences.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.h\_fill\(\)
```

SEE ALSO

[edit](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#edit>), [cycle_valence](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#cycle_valence), [h_add](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#h_add)

api: pymol.editing.h_fill

h_fix

DESCRIPTION

"h_fix" is an unsupported command that may have something to do with repositioning hydrogen atoms.

api: pymol.editing.h_fix

help

DESCRIPTION

"help" prints out the online help for a given command.

USAGE

```
help command
```

api: pymol.helping.help

help_setting

DESCRIPTION

Print documentation for a setting.

USAGE

```
help\_setting name
```

api: pymol.helping.help_setting

hide

DESCRIPTION

```
"hide" turns off atom and bond representations.
```

USAGE

```
hide \[ representation \[, selection \]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
representation = lines, spheres, mesh, ribbon, cartoon,  
sticks, dots, surface, labels, extent, nonbonded, nb\_spheres,  
slice, extent, slice, dashes, angles, dihedrals, cgo, cell, callback,  
or everything
```

```
selection = string: a selection-expression or name-pattern
```

EXAMPLES

```
hide lines, all  
hide ribbon
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.hide\(\string representation, string selection\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[show] (https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#show), [enable]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#enable), [disable]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#disable)
```

api: pymol.viewing.hide

id_atom

DESCRIPTION

```
"id\_atom" returns the original source id of a single atom, or  
raises an exception if the atom does not exist or if the selection  
corresponds to multiple atoms.
```

PYMOL API

```
list = cmd.id\_atom\ (string selection\)
```

api: pymol.querying.id_atom

identify

DESCRIPTION

"identify" returns a list of atom IDs corresponding to the ID code of atoms in the selection.

PYMOL API

```
list = cmd.identify\ (string selection="\ (all\)", int mode=0\)
```

NOTES

mode 0: only return a list of identifiers \ (default\
mode 1: return a list of tuples of the object name and the identifier

api: pymol.querying.identify

index

DESCRIPTION

"index" returns a list of tuples corresponding to the object name and index of the atoms in the selection.

PYMOL API

```
list = cmd.index\ (string selection="\ (all\)"\)
```

NOTE

Atom indices are fragile and will change as atoms are added or deleted. Whenever possible, use integral atom identifiers instead of indices.

api: pymol.querying.index

indicate

DESCRIPTION

"indicate" shows a visual representation of an atom selection.

USAGE

```
indicate \ (selection\)
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.count\ (string selection\)
```

api: pymol.selecting.indicate

intra_fit

DESCRIPTION

"intra_fit" fits all states of an object to an atom selection in the specified state. It returns the rms values to python as an array.

USAGE

```
intra_fit selection \[, state\]
```

ARGUMENTS

selection = string: atoms to fit

state = integer: target state

PYMOL API

```
cmd.intra_fit\ ( string selection, int state \)
```

EXAMPLES

```
intra_fit \ ( name CA \)
```

PYTHON EXAMPLE

```
from pymol import cmd  
rms = cmd.intra_fit\ ("(name CA)", 1\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit), [rms]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms), [rms_cur]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms\_cur), [intra_rms]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra\_rms), [intra_rms_cur]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra\_rms\_cur), [pair_fit]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pair\_fit)
```

api: pymol.fitting.intra_fit

intra_rms

DESCRIPTION

"`intra_rms`" calculates rms fit values for all states of an object over an atom selection relative to the indicated state. Coordinates are left unchanged. The rms values are returned as a python array.

EXAMPLE

```
from pymol import cmd
rms = cmd.intra\_rms("\(name CA\)",1\)\
print rms
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.intra\_rms\(string selection, int state\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit), [rms]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms), [rms\_cur]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms_cur), [intra\_fit]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra_fit), [intra\_rms\_cur]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra_rms_cur), [pair\_fit]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pair_fit)
```

api: `pymol.fitting.intra_rms`

intra_rms_cur

DESCRIPTION

"`intra_rms_cur`" calculates rms values for all states of an object over an atom selection relative to the indicated state without performing any fitting. The rms values are returned as a python array.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.intra\_rms\_cur\( string selection, int state\)
```

PYTHON EXAMPLE

```
from pymol import cmd
rms = cmd.intra\_rms\_cur("\(name CA\)",1\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit), [rms]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms), [rms\_cur]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms_cur), [intra\_fit]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra_fit), [intra\_rms]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra_rms), [pair\_fit]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pair_fit)
```

api: pymol.fitting.intra_rms_cur

invert

DESCRIPTION

"invert" inverts the stereo-chemistry of atom `\(pk1\)`, holding attached atoms `\(pk2\)` and `\(pk3\)` immobile.

USAGE

```
invert
```

NOTES

The invert function is usually bound to CTRL-E in Editing Mode.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.invert\(\ \)
```

api: pymol.editing.invert

isodot

DESCRIPTION

"isodot" creates a dot isosurface object from a map object.

USAGE

```
isodot name, map \[, level \[, selection \[, buffer \[, state
\[, carve \[, source\_state \[, quiet \]\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

map = the name of the map object to use.

level = the contour level.

selection = an atom selection about which to display the mesh with an additional "buffer" `\(if provided\)`.

NOTES

If the dot isosurface object already exists, then the new dots will be appended onto the object as a new state.

SEE ALSO

[load](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load>), [isomesh](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#isomesh>)

api: pymol.creating.isodot

isolevel

DESCRIPTION

"isolevel" changes the contour level of a isodot, isosurface, or isomesh object.

USAGE

```
isolevel name, level, state
```

api: pymol.creating.isolevel

isomesh

DESCRIPTION

"isomesh" creates a mesh isosurface object from a map object.

USAGE

```
isomesh name, map, level \[, selection \[, buffer \[, state \[, carve \]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

name = the name for the new mesh isosurface object.

map = the name of the map object to use for computing the mesh.

level = the contour level.

selection = an atom selection about which to display the mesh with an additional "buffer" (if provided).

state = the state into which the object should be loaded (default=1) (set state=0 to append new mesh as a new state)

carve = a radius about each atom in the selection for which to include density. If "carve" is not provided, then the whole brick is displayed.

NOTES

If the mesh object already exists, then the new mesh will be appended onto the object as a new state (unless you indicate a state).

state > 0: specific state

state = 0: all states

state = -1: current state

source_state > 0: specific state

source_state = 0: include all states starting with 0

source_state = -1: current state

source_state = -2: last state in map

SEE ALSO

[isodot](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#isodot>), [load](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load>)

api: pymol.creating.isomesh

isosurface

DESCRIPTION

"isosurface" creates a new surface object from a map object.

USAGE

```
isosurface name, map, level [, selection [, buffer [, state [, carve  
]]]]]
```

ARGUMENTS

name = the name for the new mesh isosurface object.

map = the name of the map object to use for computing the mesh.

level = the contour level.

selection = an atom selection about which to display the mesh with an additional "buffer" (if provided).

state = the state into which the object should be loaded (default=1) (set state=0 to append new surface as a new state)

carve = a radius about each atom in the selection for which to include density. If "carve=" not provided, then the whole brick is displayed.

NOTES

If the surface object already exists, then the new surface will be appended onto the object as a new state \ (unless you indicate a state\).

SEE ALSO

[isodot](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#isodot>), [isomesh](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#isomesh>), [load](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load>)

api: pymol.creating.isosurface

iterate

DESCRIPTION

"iterate" iterates over an expression within a temporary namespace for each atom.

USAGE

```
iterate selection, expression
```

EXAMPLES

```
stored.net\_charge = 0
iterate all, stored.net\_charge = stored.net\_charge + partial\_charge
print stored.net\_charge
```

```
stored.names = \[\]
iterate all, stored.names.append\(name\)
print stored.names
```

NOTES

Unlike with the "alter" command, atomic properties cannot be altered. For this reason, "iterate" is more efficient than "alter".

SEE ALSO

[iterate_state](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#iterate_state), [alter](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#alter>), [alter_state](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#alter_state)

api: pymol.editing.iterate

iterate_state

DESCRIPTION

```
"iterate\_state" is to "alter\_state" as "iterate" is to "alter"
```

USAGE

```
iterate\_state state, selection, expression
```

EXAMPLES

```
stored.sum\_x = 0.0  
iterate\_state 1, all, stored.sum\_x = stored.sum\_x + x  
print stored.sum\_x
```

SEE ALSO

```
[iterate](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#iterate), [alter]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#alter), [alter\_state]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#alter\_state)
```

api: pymol.editing.iterate_state

join_states

DESCRIPTION

The reverse of `split_states`. Create a multi-state object from a selection which spans multiple objects.

ARGUMENTS

```
name = string: name of object to create or modify  
  
selection = string: atoms to include in the new object  
  
mode = int: how to match states \{default: 2\<}  
0: Create discrete object, input objects can be \{totally\<} different  
1: Assume identical topology \{same number of atoms and matching atom  
  identifiers\<} in all input objects  
2: Assume matching atom identifiers in all input objects, but also  
  check for missing atoms and only include atoms that are present  
  in all input objects  
3: match atoms by sequence alignment, slowest but most robust option
```

EXAMPLE

```
fragment ala  
fragment his  
join\_states multi, \{ala|his\<}, mode=0
```

api: pymol.creating.join_states

label

DESCRIPTION

"label" labels one or more atoms in a selection by evaluating an Python expression referencing properties for each atom.

USAGE

```
label \[ selection \[, expression \]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

selection = string: a selection-expression

expression = string: a Python expression that can be converted to a string

EXAMPLES

```
label chain A, chain
label name CA, "%s-%s" \% \ (resn, resi\)
label resi 200, "%1.3f" \% partial\_charge
```

NOTES

The symbols defined in the label name space for each atom are:

```
name, resi, resn, resv, chain, segi, model, alt, q, b, type,
index, rank, ID, ss, vdw, elec\_radius, label, elem, geom,
flags, color, cartoon, valence, formal\_charge, partial\_charge,
numeric\_type, text\_type, stereo
```

All strings in the expression must be explicitly quoted.

This operation typically takes several seconds per thousand atoms labelled.

To clear labels, simply omit the expression or set it to ''.

api: `pymol.viewing.label`

load

DESCRIPTION

"load" can be used to read molecules, crystallographic maps and other volumetric data, PyMOL sessions, and some other types of content.

USAGE

```
load filename \[, object \[, state \[, format \[, finish \[, discrete \[, quiet
\[, multiplex \[, zoom \[, partial \[, mimic \[, object\_props
\[, atom\_props \]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

filename = string: file path or URL

object = string: name of the object `\{default: filename prefix\}`

state = integer: number of the state into which the content should be loaded, or 0 for append `\{default:0\}`

format = pdb, ccp4, etc. `\{default: use file extension\}\):` format of data file

partial = for session files, the partial flag loads the session while preserving what is currently loaded in PyMOL. If it is set to 2, then the view that is in the session gets set to the current view

object_props = argument specifies whether properties should be loaded into PyMOL. If it is a space-delimited list, then only these properties will get loaded. If it is a `'*'`, then all properties get loaded. If an empty string, then no properties get loaded. `\{default: use load_object_props_default setting\}`

atom_props = argument specifies whether atom properties should be loaded into PyMOL. If it is a space-delimited list, then only these properties will get loaded. If it is a `'*'`, then all properties get loaded. If an empty string, then no properties get loaded. `\{default: use load_atom_props_default setting\}`

EXAMPLES

```
load 1dn2.pdb
```

```
load file001.pdb, ligand
```

```
load http://delsci.com/sample.pdb
```

```
load file002.mae, ligand, object\_props=\*
```

NOTES

The file extension is used to determine the format unless the format is provided explicitly.

If an object name is specified, then the file is loaded into that object. Otherwise, an object is created with the same name as the file prefix.

If a state value is not specified, then the content is appended after the last existing state `\(if any\)`.

Supported molecular file formats include: pdb, mol, mol2, sdf,

xyz, and others.

Supported map formats include: xplor, ccp4, phi, mtz, and others.

All supported file formats are covered in the reference documentation under File Formats.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.load\  
(string filename, string object-name, integer state,  
 string format, int finish, int discrete, int quiet,  
 int multiplex, int zoom, int partial, string object\  
_props,  
 string atom\  
_props\  
)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[save](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#save), [load\  
_traj]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load_traj), [fetch]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fetch)
```

api: pymol.importing.load

load_embedded

DESCRIPTION

"load\
_embedded" loads content previously defined in the current PyMOL command script using the "embed" command.

USAGE

```
load\  
_embedded \[ key \[, name \[, state \[, finish \[, discrete \[, quiet  
\]\]\]\]\]\]
```

EXAMPLE

```
embed wats, pdb  
HETATM 1 O WAT 1 2.573 -1.034 -1.721  
HETATM 2 H1 WAT 1 2.493 -1.949 -1.992  
HETATM 3 H2 WAT 1 2.160 -0.537 -2.427  
HETATM 4 O WAT 2 0.705 0.744 0.160  
HETATM 5 H1 WAT 2 -0.071 0.264 0.450  
HETATM 6 H2 WAT 2 1.356 0.064 -0.014  
embed end  
  
load\  
_embedded wats
```

NOTES

This approach only works with text data files.

api: pymol.importing.load_embedded

load_mtz

DESCRIPTION

Load a MTZ file as two map objects `\(fofc, 2fofc\)` or if amplitudes and phases column names are given, as one map object.

USAGE

```
load\_mtz filename \[, prefix \[, amplitudes, phases \[, weights  
  \[, reso\_low \[, reso\_high \]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

filename = str: filename

prefix = str: object name or prefix `\{default: filename without extension\}`

amplitudes = str: amplitudes column name, guess if blank `\{default: \}`

phases = str: phases column name, required if amplitudes are given `\{default: \}`

weights = str: weights column name, optional `\{default: None\}`

reso_low = float: minimum resolution `\{default: 0, read from file\}`

reso_high = float: maximum resolution `\{default: 0, read from file\}`

api: `pymol.importing.load_mtz`

load_png

DESCRIPTION

"load_png" loads and displays a PNG file from disk.

USAGE

```
load\_png filename
```

NOTES

If the displayed image is too big for the window, it will be reduced 2-fold repeatedly until it fits.

api: `pymol.viewing.load_png`

load_traj

DESCRIPTION

"load_traj" reads trajectory files.

Most of the trajectory formats listed here are supported:
<http://www.ks.uiuc.edu/Research/vmd/plugins/molfile/>

USAGE

```
load\_traj filename \[,object \[,state \[,format \[,interval \[,average \]  
                \[,start \[,stop \[,max \[,selection \[,image \[,shift  
                \]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

filename = str: path to trajectory file

object = str: name of the molecular object where the trajectory should be appended as states \{default: guess from filename or last object in list\}

state = int: first object state to populate, or 0 to append after last state \{default: 0\}

format = str: file format \{default: guess from extension\}

interval = int: interval to take frames from file \{default: 1\}

average = int: \? \{trj only, possibly broken\}

start = int: first frame to load from file \{default: 1\}

stop = int: last frame to load from file, or -1 to load all \{default: -1\}

max = int: maximum number of states to load, or 0 to load all \{default: 0\}

selection = str: atom selection to only load a subset of coordinates \{default: all\}

image = 0/1: residue-based period image transformation \{trj only\}

shift = float-3: offset for image transformation \{default: \{0,0,0\}

plugin = str: name of VMD plugin to use \{default: guess from magic string of from format\}

PYMOL API

```
cmd.load\_traj\(\filename,object='',state=0,format='',interval=1,  
              average=1,start=1,stop=-1,max=-1,selection='all',image=1,  
              shift="\[0.0,0.0,0.0\]"\)
```

NOTES

You must first load a corresponding topology file before attempting to load a trajectory file.

PyMOL does not know how to wrap the truncated octahedron used by Amber. You will need to use the "ptraj" program first to do this.

The average option is not a running average. To perform this type of average, use the "smooth" command after loading the trajectory file.

SEE ALSO

[load](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load)

api: pymol.importing.load_traj

loadall

DESCRIPTION

Load all files matching given globbing pattern

USAGE

```
loadall pattern [, group ]
```

EXAMPLE

```
loadall \*.pdb
```

api: pymol.importing.loadall

log

DESCRIPTION

"log" writes a command to the log file (if one is open).

`\`text\`` and/or `\`alt_text\`` must include the terminating line feed.

ARGUMENTS

```
text = str: PyMOL command (optional if alt\_text is given)
alt\_text = str: Python expression (optional)
```

SEE ALSO

[log_open](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#log_open), [log_close](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#log_close)

api: pymol.commanding.log

log_close

DESCRIPTION

"log_close" closes the current log file \{(if one is open)\}.

USAGE

```
log_close
```

SEE ALSO

[log](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#log>), [log_open](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#log_open)

api: pymol.commanding.log_close

log_open

DESCRIPTION

"log_open" opens a log file for writing.

USAGE

```
log_open \[ filename \[, mode \]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

filename = str: file to write to \(.pm1 or .py\) \{default: log.pm1\}

mode = w/a: "w" to open an empty log file, "a" to append \{default: w\}

SEE ALSO

[log](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#log>), [log_close](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#log_close)

api: pymol.commanding.log_open

ls

DESCRIPTION

List contents of the current working directory.

USAGE

```
ls \[pattern\  
dir \[pattern\  

```

EXAMPLES

```
ls  
ls \*.pm1
```

SEE ALSO

[cd](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#cd>), [pwd](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pwd>), [system](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#system>)

api: pymol.externing.ls

madd

DESCRIPTION

"madd" extends the existing movie specification using the same syntax as mset.

SEE ALSO

[mset](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mset>), [mdo](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mdo>), [mplay](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mplay>), [mclear](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mclear>)

api: pymol.moving.madd

map_double

DESCRIPTION

"map_double" resamples a map at twice the current resolution.

NOTES

The amount of memory required to store the map will increase eight-fold.

USAGE

```
map_double map_name, state
```

api: pymol.editing.map_double

map_halfve

DESCRIPTION

"map_halfve" resamples a map at half the current resolution.

USAGE

```
map_halfve map_name, state
```

NOTES

The amount of memory required to store the map will decrease eight-fold.

SEE ALSO

[map_double](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#map_double)

api: pymol.editing.map_halfve

map_new

DESCRIPTION

"map_new" creates a map object using one of the built-in map generation routines. This command not yet fully supported.

USAGE

```
map_new name [, type [, grid [, selection [, buffer [, box [, state  
]]]]]]
```

ARGUMENTS

name = string: name of the map object to create or modify

type = vdw, gaussian, gaussian_max, coulomb, coulomb_neutral, coulomb_local

grid = float: grid spacing

selection = string: atoms about which to generate the map

buffer = float: cutoff

state > 0: use the indicated state

state = 0: use all states independently with independent extents

state = -1: use current global state

state = -2: use effective object state(s)

```
state = -3: use all states in one map
```

```
state = -4: use all states independent states by with a unified extent
```

NOTES

```
This command can be used to create low-resolution surfaces of protein structures.
```

```
api: pymol.creating.map_new
```

map_set

DESCRIPTION

```
"map\_set" provides a number of common operations on and between maps.
```

USAGE

```
map\_set name, operator, operands, target\_state, source\_state
```

```
operator may be "minimum, maximum, average, sum, or difference"
```

EXAMPLES

```
map my\_sum, add, map1 map2 map3  
map my\_avg, average, map1 map2 map3
```

NOTES

```
source\_state = 0 means all states  
target\_state = -1 means current state
```

```
experimental
```

SEE ALSO

```
[map\_new](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#map\_new)
```

```
api: pymol.editing.map_set
```

map_set_border

DESCRIPTION

```
"map\_set\_border" is a function \ (reqd by PDA) which allows you to set the level on the edge points of a map
```

USAGE

```
map\_set\_border name, level
```

NOTES

unsupported.

SEE ALSO

```
[load](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load)
```

api: pymol.editing.map_set_border

map_trim

DESCRIPTION

"map_trim" is an unsupported command that may have something to do with reducing the extent of a map to cover just a single selection of atoms.

api: pymol.editing.map_trim

mappend

DESCRIPTION

"mappend" associates additional command line operations with a particular movie frame. These "generalized movie commands" will be executed every time the numbered frame is played.

USAGE

```
mappend frame: command
```

ARGUMENTS

```
frame = integer: the frame to modify
```

```
command = literal command-line text
```

EXAMPLE

```
mappend 1: hide everything; show sticks  
mappend 60: hide sticks; show spheres  
mappend 120: hide spheres; show surface
```

NOTES

The "mset" command must first be used to define the movie before "mdo" statements will have any effect. Redefinition of the movie clears any existing movie commands specified with mdo or mappend.

SEE ALSO

[mset](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mset>), [madd](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#madd>), [mdo](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mdo>), [mplay](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mplay>), [mstop](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mstop>)

api: pymol.moving.mappend

mask

DESCRIPTION

"mask" makes it impossible to select the indicated atoms using the mouse. This is useful when you are working with one molecule in front of another and wish to avoid accidentally selecting atoms in the background.

USAGE

```
mask \(selection\)
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.mask\(string selection="\(all\)" \)
```

SEE ALSO

[unmask](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#unmask>), [protect](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#protect>), [deprotect](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#deprotect>), [mouse](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mouse>)

api: pymol.controlling.mask

matrix_copy

DESCRIPTION

"matrix_copy" copies a transformation matrix from one object to another.

USAGE

```
matrix\_copy source\_name, target\_name
```

NOTES

This command is often used after a protein structure alignment to bring other related objects into the same frame of reference.

SEE ALSO

[[matrix_reset](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#matrix_reset)](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#matrix_reset), [[align](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#align)](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#align), [[fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit)](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit), [[pair_fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pair_fit)](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pair_fit)

api: pymol.editing.matrix_copy

matrix_reset

DESCRIPTION

"matrix_reset" resets the transformation for an object.

USAGE

```
matrix\_reset name [, state [, mode ]]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
name = str: object name

state = int: object state \{default: 1\}

mode = int: \{default: -1 = matrix\_mode or 0\}
0: transformation was applied to coordinates
1: reset TTT matrix \{movie transformation\}
2: reset state matrix
```

SEE ALSO

[[matrix_copy](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#matrix_copy)](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#matrix_copy), [[align](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#align)](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#align), [[super](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#super)](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#super), [[fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit)](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit), [[pair_fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pair_fit)](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pair_fit)

api: pymol.editing.matrix_reset

mclear

DESCRIPTION

"mclear" clears the movie frame image cache.

USAGE

```
mclear
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.mclear\(\)
```

api: pymol.moving.mclear

mcopy

DESCRIPTION

"mcopy" copies key frames and movie commands

Usage like "mmove".

SEE ALSO

[mmove](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mmove>), [mdelete](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mdelete>), [minsert](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#minsert>)

api: pymol.moving.mcopy

mdelete

DESCRIPTION

"mdelete" removes frames from camera view and object motions.

ARGUMENTS

count = int: number of frames to delete, or -1 to delete all the way to the end `\{default: -1\}`

frame = int: first frame to delete, or 0 for current frame `\{default: 0\}`

EXAMPLE

```
# delete frames 81 to 90  
mdelete 10, 81
```

SEE ALSO

[minsert](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#minsert>), [mmove](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mmove>)

api: pymol.moving.mdelete

mdo

DESCRIPTION

"mdo" defines \ (or redefines\) the command-line operations associated with a particular movie frame. These "generalized movie commands" will be executed every time the numbered frame is played.

USAGE

```
mdo frame: command
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.mdo\ ( int frame, string command \ )
```

EXAMPLE

```
// Creates a single frame movie involving a rotation about X and Y

load test.pdb
mset 1
mdo 1, turn x,5; turn y,5;
mplay
```

NOTES

These commands are usually created by a PyMOL utility program (such as movie.rock). Command can actually contain several commands separated by semicolons ';'

The "mset" command must first be used to define the movie before "mdo" statements will have any effect. Redefinition of the movie clears any existing mdo statements.

SEE ALSO

[mset] (<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mset>), [mplay] (<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mplay>), [mstop] (<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mstop>)

api: pymol.moving.mdo

mdump

DESCRIPTION

"mdump" dumps the current set of movie commands as text output.

USAGE

```
mdump
```

SEE ALSO

```
[mplay](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mplay), [mset]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mset), [mdo](https://pymol.org/pymol-
command-ref.html#mdo), [mclear](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mclear),
[mmatrix](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mmatrix)
```

api: pymol.moving.mdump

mem

DESCRIPTION

```
"mem" Dumps current memory state to standard output. This is a
debugging feature, not an official part of the API.
```

api: pymol.experimenting.mem

meter_reset

DESCRIPTION

```
"meter\_reset" resets the frames per second counter.
```

USAGE

```
meter\_reset
```

api: pymol.viewing.meter_reset

middle

DESCRIPTION

```
"middle" goes to the middle of the movie.
```

USAGE

```
middle
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.middle\(\)
```

api: pymol.moving.middle

minsert

DESCRIPTION

"minsert" adds frames into camera view and object motions.

ARGUMENTS

count = int: number of frames to insert

frame = int: insert before "frame" if frame > 0, otherwise insert before the current frame \{default: 0\}

SEE ALSO

[mdelete](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mdelete>), [mmove](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mmove>), [madd](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#madd>)

api: pymol.moving.mininsert

mmatrix

DESCRIPTION

"mmatrix" sets up a matrix to be used for the first frame of the movie.

USAGE

```
mmatrix action
```

ARGUMENTS

action = clear, store, or recall

NOTES

This command ensures that the movie always starts from the same camera view.

"mmatrix" should not be used when controlling the camera using "mview".

PYMOL API

```
cmd.mmatrix\<( string action \)
```

EXAMPLES

```
mmatrix store
```

mmove

DESCRIPTION

"mmove" moves key frames and movie commands

ARGUMENTS

target = int: frame to move to

source = int: frame to move from, 0 for current frame `\{default: 0\}`

count = int: number of frames to move

SEE ALSO

[mcopy](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mcopy>), [mdelete](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mdelete>), [minsert](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#minsert>)

morph

DESCRIPTION

Creates an interpolated trajectory between two or multiple conformations. If the two input objects are not the same, match them based on sequence alignment.

This command supports two methods: `rigimol` and `linear`. `RigiMOL` is an incentive feature and only available to official PYMOL sponsors. `Linear` morphing is quick and robust but likely to produce distorted intermediates.

ARGUMENTS

name = string: name of object to create

sele1 = string: atom selection of first conformation

sele2 = string: atom selection of second conformation `\{default: <sele1>\}`

state1 = int: sele1 state `\{default: 1\}`. If state1=0 and sele1 has N states, create N morphings between all consecutive states and back from state N to 1 (so the morph will have `N*steps` states). If state2=0, create N-1 morphings and stop at last state.

state2 = int: sele2 state `\{default: 2 if sele1=sele2, else 1\}`

refinement = int: number of sculpting refinement cycles to clean

```
distorted intermediates \{default: 3\}
```

```
steps = int: number of states for sele2 object \{default: 30\}
```

```
method = string: rigimol or linear \{default: rigimol\}
```

EXAMPLE

```
fetch lakeA 4akeA, async=0  
align lakeA, 4akeA  
morph mout, lakeA, 4akeA
```

api: pymol.morphing.morph

mouse

DESCRIPTION

"mouse" cycles through the mouse modes defined in the current mouse configuration ring.

USAGE

```
mouse
```

api: pymol.controlling.mouse

move

DESCRIPTION

"move" translates the camera about one of the three primary axes.

USAGE

```
move axis, distance
```

EXAMPLES

```
move x, 3  
move y, -1
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.move\(string axis, float distance\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[turn](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#turn), [rotate]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rotate), [translate]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#translate), [zoom]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#zoom), [center]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#center), [clip]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#clip)
```

api: pymol.viewing.move

movie.load

UNDOCUMENTED

api: pymol.movie.load

movie.nutate

UNDOCUMENTED

api: pymol.movie.nutate

movie.pause

UNDOCUMENTED

api: pymol.movie.pause

movie.produce

DESCRIPTION

Export a movie to an MPEG file.

Requires FREEMOL.

ARGUMENTS

filename = str: filename of MPEG file to produce

mode = draw or ray: `\{default: check "ray_trace_frames" setting\}`

first = int: first frame to export `\{default: 1\}`

last = int: last frame to export `\{default: last frame of movie\}`

preserve = 0 or 1: don't delete temporary files `\{default: 0\}`

quality = 0-100: encoding quality `\{default: 90 (movie_quality setting)\}`

api: pymol.movie.produce

movie.rock

UNDOCUMENTED

api: pymol.movie.rock

movie.roll

UNDOCUMENTED

api: pymol.movie.roll

movie.screw

UNDOCUMENTED

api: pymol.movie.screw

movie.sweep

UNDOCUMENTED

api: pymol.movie.sweep

movie.tdroll

AUTHOR

Byron DeLaBarre

USAGE

```
movie.tdroll\<(rangx,rangey,rangez,skip=1,mset=0\)
```

rangex/y/z = rotation range on respective axis
enter 0 for no rotation.

skip is angle increment in each frame

Use skip to reduce final movie size or to speed up rotation.

EXAMPLE

```
movie.tdroll 360,360,360,5
```

api: pymol.movie.tdroll

movie.zoom

UNDOCUMENTED

api: pymol.movie.zoom

mplay

DESCRIPTION

```
"mplay" starts the movie.
```

USAGE

```
mplay
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.mplay\(\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[mstop](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mstop), [mset]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mset), [mdo](https://pymol.org/pymol-
command-ref.html#mdo), [mclear](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mclear),
[mmatrix](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mmatrix)
```

api: pymol.moving.mplay

mpng

DESCRIPTION

```
"mpng" writes movie frames as a series of numbered png files.
```

USAGE

```
mpng prefix \[, first \[, last \[, preserve \[, modal \[, mode \[, quiet
\[, width \[, height \]\]\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
prefix = string: filename prefix for saved images -- output files
will be numbered and end in ".png"
```

```
first = integer: starting frame \{default: 0 \{(first frame)\}\}
```

```
last = integer: last frame \{default: 0 \{(last frame)\}\}
```

```
preserve = 0/1: Only write non-existing files \{default: 0\}
```

```
modal = integer: will frames be rendered with a modal draw loop
```

```
mode = int: 2=ray, 1=draw, 0=normal \{default: -1, check
ray\_trace\_frames or draw\_frames\}
```



```
width = int: width in pixels \{default: current viewport\}
```

```
height = int: height in pixels \{default: current viewport\}
```

NOTES

If the "ray_trace_frames" variable is non-zero, then the frames will be ray-traced. Note that this can take many hours for a long movie with complex content displayed.

Also, be sure to avoid setting "cache_frames" when rendering a long movie to avoid running out of memory.

Arguments "first" and "last" can be used to specify an inclusive interval over which to render frames. Thus, you can write a smart Python program that will automatically distribute rendering over a cluster of workstations. If these options are left at zero, then the entire movie will be rendered.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.mpng(string prefix, int first, int last)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[png](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#png), [save]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#save)
```

api: pymol.moving.mpng

mse2met

DESCRIPTION

```
Mutate selenomethionine to methionine
```

api: pymol.editing.mse2met

mset

DESCRIPTION

```
"mset" sets up a relationship between molecular states and movie frames. This makes it possible to control which states are shown in which frame.
```

USAGE

```
mset specification \[ ,frame \]
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.mset\<( string specification \[, int frame\] \)
```

EXAMPLES

```
# simplest case, one state -> one frame

mset 1

# ten frames, all corresponding to state 1

mset 1 x10

# the first thirty frames are state 1
# the next 15 frames pass through states 1-15
# the next 30 frames are of state 15
# the next 15 frames iterate back to state 1

mset 1 x30 1 -15 15 x30 15 -1
```

SEE ALSO

[madd](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#madd>), [mdo](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mdo>), [mplay](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mplay>), [mclear](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mclear>)

api: pymol.moving.mset

mstop

DESCRIPTION

"mstop" stops playing of the movie.

USAGE

```
mstop
```

SEE ALSO

[mplay](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mplay>), [mset](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mset>), [mdo](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mdo>), [mclear](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mclear>), [mmatrix](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mmatrix>)

api: pymol.moving.mstop

mtoggle

DESCRIPTION

```
"mtoggle" toggles playing of the movie.
```

api: pymol.moving.mtoggle

multifilesave

DESCRIPTION

For a selection that spans multiple molecular objects and/or states, save each object and/or state to a separate file. Takes a filename argument with placeholders:

```
\{name\} : object name  
\{state\} : state number  
\{title\} : state title  
\{num\} : file number  
\{\} : object name \{first\} or state \{second\}
```

EXAMPLES

```
multifilesave /tmp/\{name\}.pdb  
multifilesave /tmp/\{name\}-\{state\}.cif, state=0  
multifilesave /tmp/\{\}-\{\}.cif, state=0  
multifilesave /tmp/\{\}-\{title\}.sdf, state=0
```

api: pymol.exporting.multifilesave

multisave

DESCRIPTION

"multisave" will save a multi-entry PDB file.

Every object in the given selection `\(pattern\)` will have a HEADER and a CRYST `\(if symmetry is defined\)` record, and is terminated with END. Loading such a multi-entry PDB file into PyMOL will load each entry as a separate object.

This behavior is different to the "save" command, where a multi-object selection is written "flat" to a PDB file, without HEADER or CRYST records.

ARGUMENTS

```
filename = string: file path to be written

pattern = str: atom selection \ (before 1.8.4: object name pattern\

state = int: object state \(-1=current, 0=all\) \{default: -1\}

append = 0/1: append to existing file \{default: 0\}

format = str: file format \{default: guess from extension, or 'pdb'\}
```

api: pymol.exporting.multisave

mview

DESCRIPTION

"mview" stores camera and object matrices for use in movie interpolation.

USAGE

```
mview \[action \[, first \[, last \[, power \[, bias \[, simple
\[, linear \[, object \[, wrap \[, hand \[, window \[, cycles \[, scene
\[, cut \[, quiet \]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
action = str: one of store, clear, reset, purge, interpolate,
uninterpolate, reinterpolate, toggle, toggle\_interp, smooth
\{default: store\}

first = int: frame number or 0 for current frame \{default: 0\}

power = float: slow down animation at keyframe \ (0.0\) or not \ (1.0\)
\{default: 0.0\}

object = str: name of object for object keyframes, or empty for
global \ (camera\) keyframes \{default: \}

scene = str: name of scene to store scene with key frame \{default: \}

cut = float 0.0-1.0: scene switch moment \ (0.0: beginning of transition,
1.0: end of transition\) \{default: 0.5\}

auto = -1/0/1: if freeze=0, then auto reinterpolate after store, clear,
or toggle \{default: -1 = use movie\_auto\_interpolate\}

state = int: if > 0, then store object state \{default: 0\}

freeze = 0/1: never auto reinterpolate \{default: 0\}
```

SEE ALSO

```
[mplay](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mplay), [mset]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mset), [mdo](https://pymol.org/pymol-
command-ref.html#mdo), [mclear](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mclear),
[mmatrix](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mmatrix)
```

api: pymol.moving.mview

order

DESCRIPTION

"order" changes the ordering of names in the control panel.

USAGE

order names, sort, location

ARGUMENTS

names = string: a space-separated list of names

sort = yes or no \{default: no\}

location = top, current, or bottom \{default: current\}

EXAMPLES

```
order 1dn2 1fgh 1rnd      # sets the order of these three objects
order \*,yes             # sorts all names
order 1dn2\_ \*, yes     # sorts all names beginning with 1dn2\_
order 1frg, location=top # puts 1frg at the top of the list
```

PYMOL API

cmd.order\((string names, string sort, string location\)

NOTES

"order" can also be used to reorder objects within a group.

SEE ALSO

```
[set\_name](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#set_name), [group]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#group)
```

api: pymol.controlling.order

orient

DESCRIPTION

"orient" aligns the principal components of the atoms in the selection with the XYZ axes.

USAGE

```
orient \[ selection \[, state \[, animate \]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

selection = a selection-expression or name-pattern `\{default: \{all\}\}`

state = 0: use all coordinate states `\{default\}`

state = -1: uses only coordinates for the current state

state > 0: uses coordinates for a specific state

EXAMPLES

```
orient organic
```

NOTES

The function is similar to the orient command in X-PLOR.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.orient\(string object-or-selection, int state, float animate\)
```

SEE ALSO

[zoom](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#zoom>), [origin](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#origin>), [reset](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#reset>)

api: pymol.viewing.orient

origin

DESCRIPTION

"origin" sets the center of rotation about a selection. If an object name is specified, it can be used to set the center of rotation for the object `\(for use in animation and editing\)`.

USAGE

```
origin \[ selection \[, object \[,position, \[, state \]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
selection = string: selection-expression or name-list  $\{\text{default: (all)}\}$ 
state = 0  $\{\text{default}\}$  use all coordinate states
state = -1 use only coordinates for the current state
state > 0 use coordinates for a specific state
```

EXAMPLES

```
origin chain A
origin position=[1.0,2.0,3.0]
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.origin(string object-or-selection)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[zoom](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#zoom), [orient]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#orient), [reset]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#reset)
```

api: pymol.viewing.origin

overlap

DESCRIPTION

"overlap" is an unsupported command that sums up $\sum (\text{VDW}_i + \text{VDW}_j) - \text{distance}_{ij} / 2$ between pairs of selected atoms.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.overlap(string selection1, string selection2 [, int state1=1, int state2=1,
float adjust=0.0])
```

NOTES

It does not compute the volume overlap, selections with more atoms will have a larger sum.

api: pymol.querying.overlap

pair_fit

DESCRIPTION

"pair_fit" fits matched sets of atom pairs between two objects.

USAGE

```
pair\_fit selection, selection, \[ selection, selection \[ ... \]\]
```

EXAMPLES

```
# superimpose protA residues 10-25 and 33-46 to protB residues 22-37 and 41-54:  
  
pair\_fit protA/10-25+33-46/CA, protB/22-37+41-54/CA  
  
# superimpose ligA atoms C1, C2, and C4 to ligB atoms C8, C4, and C10,  
respectively:  
  
pair\_fit ligA////C1, ligB////C8, ligA////C2, ligB////C4, ligA////C3,  
ligB////C10
```

NOTES

So long as the atoms are stored in PyMOL with the same order internally, you can provide just two selections. Otherwise, you may need to specify each pair of atoms separately, two by two, as additional arguments to pair_fit.

Script files are usually recommended when using this command.

SEE ALSO

```
[fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit), [rms]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms), [rms\_cur]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms\_cur), [intra\_fit]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra\_fit), [intra\_rms]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra\_rms), [intra\_rms\_cur]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra\_rms\_cur)
```

api: pymol.fitting.pair_fit

phi_psi

DESCRIPTION

"phi_psi" return the phi and psi angles for a protein atom selection.

USAGE

api: pymol.querying.phi_psi

pi_interactions

DESCRIPTION

Find pi-pi and pi-cation interactions.

Identical to `cmd.distance(..., mode=5, label=0)`

SEE ALSO

[distance](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#distance>)

api: `pymol.querying.pi_interactions`

pip

DESCRIPTION

Experimental and limited pip support for installing additional Python packages into PyMOL's bundled Python distribution. Type "pip help" for more information.

EXAMPLE

```
pip install tkintertable
```

api: `pymol.externing.pip`

png

DESCRIPTION

"png" saves a PNG format image file of the current display.

USAGE

```
png filename [, width [, height [, dpi [, ray]]]]
```

ARGUMENTS

filename = string: file path to be written

width = integer or string: width in pixels (without units), inches (in) or centimeters (cm). If unit suffix is given, dpi argument is required as well. If only one of width or height is given, the aspect ratio of the viewport is preserved. {default: 0 (current)}

height = integer or string: height (see width) {default: 0 (current)}

dpi = float: dots-per-inch {default -1.0 (unspecified)}

ray = 0 or 1: should ray be run first {default: 0 (no)}

EXAMPLES

```
png image.png
png image.png, dpi=300
png image.png, 10cm, dpi=300, ray=1
```

NOTES

PNG is the only image format supported by PyMOL.

SEE ALSO

[mpng](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mpng>), [save](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#save>)

PYMOL API

```
cmd.png\  
(string filename, int width, int height, float dpi,  
 int ray, int quiet\  
)
```

api: pymol.exporting.png

pop

DESCRIPTION

"pop" provides a mechanism of iterating through an atom selection atom by atom, where each atom is sequentially assigned to the named selection.

USAGE

```
pop name, source
```

EXAMPLE

```
select src, name CA

python
while cmd.pop\  
( "tmp", "src" ):
    cmd.zoom\  
( "tmp", 2, animate=1 )
    for a in range\  
( 30 ):
        cmd.refresh\  
( )
        time.sleep\  
( 0.05 )
python end
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.deselect\  
( )
```

api: pymol.selecting.pop

protect

DESCRIPTION

"protect" protects a set of atoms from transformations performed using the editing features. This is most useful when you are modifying an internal portion of a chain or cycle and do not wish to affect the rest of the molecule.

USAGE

```
protect \(\selection\)
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.protect\(\string selection\)
```

SEE ALSO

[deprotect](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#deprotect>), [mask](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mask>), [unmask](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#unmask>), [mouse](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mouse>), editing

api: pymol.editing.protect

pseudoatom

DESCRIPTION

"pseudoatom" adds a pseudoatom to a molecular object, and will create the molecular object if it does not yet exist.

USAGE

```
pseudoatom object \[, selection \[, name \[, resn \[, resi \[, chain  
  \[, segi \[, elem \[, vdw \[, hetatm \[, b \[, q \[, color \[, label  
  \[, pos \[, state \[, mode \[, quiet \]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]
```

NOTES

"pseudoatom" can be used for a wide variety of random tasks where one must place an atom or a label in 3D space.

api: pymol.creating.pseudoatom

pwd

DESCRIPTION

```
Print current working directory.
```

USAGE

```
pwd
```

SEE ALSO

```
[cd](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#cd), [ls](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#ls), [system](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#system)
```

api: pymol.externing.pwd

python

DESCRIPTION

"python" delimits a block of literal Python code embedded in a PyMOL command script.

EXAMPLE

```
python

for a in range\ (1,10\):
    b = 10 - a
    print a, b

python end
```

NOTES

Literal Python blocks avoid the annoying requirement of having to use explicit line continuation markers for multi-line Python commands embedded within Python scripts.

SEE ALSO

```
[abort](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#abort), [embed](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#embed), [skip](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#skip)
```

api: pymol.helping.python

quit

DESCRIPTION

"quit" terminates the program.

USAGE

```
quit \[code\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
code = int: exit the application with status "code" \{default: 0\}
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.quit\(\int code\)
```

api: pymol.commanding.quit

ramp_new

DESCRIPTION

"ramp_new" creates a color ramp based on a map potential value or based on proximity to a molecular object.

USAGE

```
ramp\_new name, map\_name \[, range \[, color \[, state \[, selection \[,  
beyond \[, within \[, sigma \[, zero \]\]\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

name = string: name of the ramp object

map_name = string: name of the map \(\text{for potential}\) or molecular object \(\text{for proximity}\)

range = list: values corresponding to slots in the ramp

color = list: colors corresponding to slots in the ramp

state = integer: state identifier

selection = selection: for automatic ranging

beyond = number: with automatic ranging, are we excluding values beyond a certain distance from the selection?

within = number: with automatic ranging, are we only including values within a certain distance from the selection?

sigma = number: with automatic ranging, how many standard deviations from the mean do we go?

zero = integer: with automatic ranging, do we force the central value to be zero?

EXAMPLES

```
ramp\_new e\_pot\_color, e\_pot\_map, \[-10,0,10\], \[red,white,blue\]
```

NOTES

Color ramps are extremely powerful but complicated to use.

In the simplest case, they can be used to color representations based on the potential values found in a map object at the corresponding positions in space.

In another simple case, representations can be colored based on proximity to a target. Note that since ramp targets must themselves be real objects (not merely selections), the "create" command may be needed in order to generate an appropriate target.

In more complicated cases, they can be used to color representations on one object based atoms found in another.

Ramps can operate recursively. In other words, the output color from one ramp can be used as the input color for another. For example, you could color by map potential within a certain distance of the target object, beyond which, a uniform color is applied.

PYMOL API

```
def ramp\_new(string name, string map\_name, list range, list color,  
             int state, string selection, float beyond, float  
             within, float sigma, int zero, int quiet)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[ramp\_update](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#ramp_update), [load]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load), [color](https://pymol.org/pymol-  
command-ref.html#color), [create](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-  
ref.html#create), slice, [gradient](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-  
ref.html#gradient)
```

api: pymol.creating.ramp_new

ramp_update

DESCRIPTION

"ramp_update" updates range and/or color of a color ramp.

USAGE

```
ramp\_update name \[, range \[, color \]\]
```

EXAMPLES

```
ramp\_new e\_pot\_color, e\_pot\_map, \[-10,0,10\], \[red,white,blue\  
ramp\_update e\_pot\_color, range=\[-15,0,15\  
ramp\_update e\_pot\_color, color=\[green,white,orange\  

```

SEE ALSO

```
[ramp\_new] (https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#ramp\_new)
```

api: `pymol.creating.ramp_update`

ray

DESCRIPTION

"ray" creates a ray-traced image of the current frame. This can take some time (up to several minutes, depending on image complexity).

USAGE

```
ray \[width \[,height \[,antialias \[,angle \[,shift \[,renderer \[,quiet  
  \[,async \]\]\]\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
width = integer \{default: 0 \{current\}\}  
height = integer \{default: 0 \{current\}\}  
antialias = integer \{default: -1 \{use antialias setting\}\}  
angle = float: y-axis rotation for stereo image generation  
  \{default: 0.0\  
shift = float: x-axis translation for stereo image generation  
  \{default: 0.0\  
renderer = -1, 0, 1, or 2: respectively, default, built-in,  
  pov-ray, or dry-run \{default: 0\  
async = 0 or 1: should rendering be done in a background thread?
```

EXAMPLES

```
ray  
ray 1024,768  
ray renderer=2
```

NOTES

Default width and height are taken from the current viewpoint. If one is specified but not the other, then the missing value is scaled so as to preserve the current aspect ratio.

angle and shift can be used to generate matched stereo pairs

renderer = 1 uses PovRay. This is Unix-only and you must have "povray" in your path. It utilizes two temporary files: "tmp_pymol.pov" and "tmp_pymol.png".

See "help faster" for optimization tips with the builtin renderer. See "help povray" for how to use PovRay instead of PyMOL's built-in ray-tracing engine.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.ray\(int width, int height, int antialias, float angle,  
        float shift, int renderer, int quiet, int async\)
```

SEE ALSO

[draw](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#draw>), [png](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#png>), [save](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#save>)

api: pymol.viewing.ray

rebond

DESCRIPTION

Discard all bonds and do distance based bonding.

ARGUMENTS

oname = str: object name

state = int: object state \{default: -1 \{(current state)\}\}

api: pymol.editing.rebond

rebuild

DESCRIPTION

"rebuild" forces PyMOL to recreate geometric objects in case any of them have gone out of sync.

USAGE


```
rebuild \[selection \[, representation \]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
selection = string \{default: all\}
```

```
representation = string: \{default: everything\}
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.rebuild\(\string selection, string representation\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[refresh](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#refresh)
```

api: pymol.viewing.rebuild

recolor

DESCRIPTION

```
"recolor" forces reapplication of colors to existing objects.
```

USAGE

```
recolor \[selection \[, representation \]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
selection = string \{default: all\}
```

```
representation = string \{default: everything\}
```

NOTES

```
This command often needs to be executed after "set\_color" has been used to redefine one or more existing colors.
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.recolor\(\string selection = 'all', string representation = 'everything'\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[color](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#color), [set\_color](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#set\_color)
```

api: pymol.viewing.recolor

redo

DESCRIPTION

"redo" reapplies the conformational change of the object currently being edited.

USAGE

```
redo
```

SEE ALSO

[undo](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#undo>), push_undo

api: pymol.editing.redo

reference

UNDOCUMENTED

api: pymol.editing.reference

refresh

DESCRIPTION

"refresh" causes the scene to be redrawn as soon as the operating system allows it to be done.

USAGE

```
refresh
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.refresh\(\)
```

SEE ALSO

[rebuild](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rebuild>)

api: pymol.viewing.refresh

refresh_wizard

DESCRIPTION

```
"refresh\_wizard" is in unsupported internal command.
```

api: pymol.wizarding.refresh_wizard

reinitialize

DESCRIPTION

```
"reinitialize" reinitializes the program by deleting all objects and restoring the default program settings.
```

USAGE

```
reinitialize
```

api: pymol.commanding.reinitialize

remove

DESCRIPTION

```
"remove" eliminates the atoms in a selection from their respective molecular objects.
```

USAGE

```
remove selection
```

EXAMPLES

```
remove resi 124
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.remove\<( string selection \)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[delete](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#delete)
```

api: pymol.editing.remove

remove_picked

DESCRIPTION

```
"remove\_picked" removes the atom or bond currently picked for editing.
```

USAGE

```
remove\_picked \[ hydrogens \]
```

NOTES

This function is usually connected to the DELETE key and "CTRL-D".

By default, attached hydrogens will also be deleted unless hydrogen-flag is zero.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.remove\_picked\(integer hydrogens\)
```

SEE ALSO

[attach](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#attach>), [replace](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#replace>)

api: pymol.editing.remove_picked

rename

DESCRIPTION

"rename" creates new atom names which are unique within residues.

USAGE

```
rename selection \[, force \]
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.rename\(string selection, int force \)
```

SEE ALSO

[alter](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#alter>)

api: pymol.editing.rename

replace

DESCRIPTION

"replace" replaces the picked atom with a new atom.

USAGE

```
replace element, geometry, valence \[, h\_fill \[, name \]\]
```

NOTES

Immature functionality. See code for details.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.replace\(\string element, int geometry, int valence, int h\_fill,  
            string name\)
```

SEE ALSO

[remove](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#remove>), [attach](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#attach>), [fuse](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fuse>), [bond](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#bond>), [unbond](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#unbond>)

api: pymol.editing.replace

replace_wizard

DESCRIPTION

"replace_wizard" is an unsupported internal command.

api: pymol.wizarding.replace_wizard

reset

DESCRIPTION

"reset" restores the rotation matrix to identity, sets the origin to the center of mass \(\approx.\) and zooms the window and clipping planes to cover all objects. Alternatively, it can reset object matrices.

USAGE

```
reset \[ object \]
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.reset\(\)
```

api: pymol.viewing.reset

resume

DESCRIPTION

"resume" executes a log file and opens it for recording of additional commands.

USAGE

```
resume filename
```

SEE ALSO

[log](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#log>), [log_close](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#log_close)

api: pymol.commanding.resume

rewind

DESCRIPTION

"rewind" goes to the beginning of the movie.

USAGE

```
rewind
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.rewind\(\)
```

api: pymol.moving.rewind

rms

DESCRIPTION

"rms" computes a RMS fit between two atom selections, but does not transform the models after performing the fit.

USAGE

```
rms \(\selection\), \(\target-selection\)
```

EXAMPLES

```
fit \(\ mutant and name CA \), \(\ wildtype and name CA \)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit), [rms\_cur]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms_cur), [intra\_fit]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra_fit), [intra\_rms]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra_rms), [intra\_rms\_cur]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra_rms_cur), [pair\_fit]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pair_fit)
```

api: pymol.fitting.rms

rms_cur

DESCRIPTION

"rms_cur" computes the RMS difference between two atom selections without performing any fitting.

USAGE

```
rms\_cur \(selection\), \(selection\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit), [rms]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms), [intra\_fit]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra_fit), [intra\_rms]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra_rms), [intra\_rms\_cur]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra_rms_cur), [pair\_fit]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pair_fit)
```

api: pymol.fitting.rms_cur

rock

DESCRIPTION

"rock" toggles Y axis rocking.

USAGE

```
rock
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.rock\(\)
```

api: pymol.viewing.rock

rotate

DESCRIPTION

"rotate" rotates the atomic coordinates of atoms in a selection about an axis. Alternatively, it modifies the matrix associated with a particular object or object state.

USAGE

```
rotate axis, angle [, selection [, state [, camera [, object  
    [, origin ]]]]]]
```

ARGUMENTS

axis = x, y, z, or float vector: axis about which to rotate

angle = float: degrees of rotation

selection = string: atoms whose coordinates should be modified `{default: all}`

state > 0: only the indicated state is modified

state = 0: all states are modified

state = -1: only the current state is modified `{default}`

camera = 0 or 1: is the axis specific in camera coordinates? `{default: 1}`

object = string: object name (only if rotating object matrix) `{default: None}`

origin = float vector: origin of rotation `{default: None}`

EXAMPLES

```
rotate x, 45, pept  
rotate [1,1,1], 10, chain A
```

NOTES

Behavior differs depending on whether or not the "object" parameter is specified.

If object is None, then the atomic coordinates are modified directly, and all representation geometries will need to be regenerated to reflect the new atomic coordinates.

If object is set to an object name, then the selection field is ignored and instead of translating the atomic coordinates, the object matrix is modified. This option is only intended for use in animations and is not yet fully supported.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.rotate\([list-or-string axis, float angle, string selection,  
            int state, int camera, string object\)
```

api: pymol.editing.rotate

run

DESCRIPTION

"run" executes an external Python script in a local name space, the main Python namespace, the global PyMOL namespace, or in its own namespace \[as a module\].

USAGE

```
run file \[, namespace \]
```

ARGUMENTS

file = string: a Python program, typically ending in .py or .pym.

namespace = local, global, module, main, or private \{default: global\}

NOTES

Due to an idiosyncrasy in Pickle, you can not pickle objects directly created at the main level in a script run as "module", \[because the pickled object becomes dependent on that module\].
workaround: delegate construction to an imported module.

SEE ALSO

[spawn](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#spawn>)

api: pymol.parsing.run

save

DESCRIPTION

"save" writes content to a file.

USAGE

```
save filename \[, selection \[, state \[, format \]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
filename = string: file path to be written  
selection = string: atoms to save \{default: \{all\}\}  
state = integer: state to save \{default: -1 \{current state\}\}
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.save\(\string file, string selection, int state, string format\)
```

NOTES

The file format is automatically chosen if the extension is one of the supported output formats: pdb, pqr, mol, sdf, pk1, pkla, mmd, out, dat, mmod, cif, pov, png, pse, psw, aln, fasta, obj, mt1, wr1, dae, idtf, or mol2.

If the file format is not recognized, then a PDB file is written by default.

For molecular files and where applicable and supported:

* if state = -1 \{default\}, then only the current state is written.

* if state = 0, then a multi-state output file is written.

SEE ALSO

```
[load](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load), get\_model
```

api: pymol.exporting.save

scene

DESCRIPTION

"scene" saves and restores scenes. A scene consists of the camera view, all object activity information, all atom-wise visibilities, all atom-wise colors, all representations, the global frame index, and may contain a text message to display on playback.

USAGE

```
scene \[key \[,action \[, message, \[ new\_key=new-key-value \]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

key = string, new, auto, or *: use new for an automatically numbered new scene, use auto for the current scene \((if one exists)\), and use * for all scenes \((clear and recall actions only)\).

action = store, recall, insert_after, insert_before, next, previous, update, rename, or clear: \((default = recall)\). If rename, then a new_key argument must be explicitly defined.

message = string: a text message to display with the scene.

new_key = string: the new name for the scene

EXAMPLES

```
scene \*

scene F1, store
scene F2, store, Please note the critical hydrogen bond shown in yellow.

scene F1
scene F2

scene F1, rename, new\_key=F5
```

NOTES

Scenes F1 through F12 are automatically bound to function keys provided that "set_key" has not been used to redefine the behaviour of the respective key.

SEE ALSO

[view](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#view>), [set_view](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#set_view), [get_view](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#get_view)

api: pymol.viewing.scene

scene_order

DESCRIPTION

"scene_order" changes the ordering of scenes.

USAGE

scene_order names, sort, location

ARGUMENTS

```
names = string: a space-separated list of names

sort = yes or no \{default: no\}

location = top, current, or bottom \{default: current\}
```

EXAMPLES

```
scene\_order \*,yes
scene\_order F6 F4 F3
scene\_order 003 006 004, location=top
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.scene\_order\(\string names, string sort, string location\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[scene](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#scene)
```

api: pymol.viewing.scene_order

sculpt_activate

DESCRIPTION

"sculpt_activate" enables sculpting for the given object. The current geometry \(\bond lengths, angles, etc.\) of the given state is remembered as the reference geometry.

ARGUMENTS

```
object = str: name of a single object or "all"

state = int: object state or 0 for current state \{default: 0\}
```

SEE ALSO

```
[sculpt\_iterate](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#sculpt\_iterate),
[sculpt\_deactivate](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#sculpt\_deactivate)
```

api: pymol.editing.sculpt_activate

sculpt_deactivate

DESCRIPTION

"sculpt_deactivate" deactivates sculpting for the given object and clears the stored restraints.

ARGUMENTS

```
object = str: name of a single object or "all"
```

SEE ALSO

```
[sculpt\_activate](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#sculpt_activate)
```

api: pymol.editing.sculpt_deactivate

sculpt_iterate

DESCRIPTION

```
"sculpt\_iterate" performs a simple energy minimization of atomic coordinates based on the geometry restraints which were defined with the "sculpt\_activate" invocation and which are selected in the "sculpt\_field\_mask" setting. Sculpting currently supports local geometry restraints and vdw repulsion, but no solvation or electrostatic effects.
```

ARGUMENTS

```
object = str: name of a single object or "all"
```

```
state = int: object state or 0 for current state \{default: 0\}
```

```
cycles = int: number of iterations \{default: 10\}
```

SEE ALSO

```
commands: [sculpt\_activate](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#sculpt_activate), [sculpt\_deactivate](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#sculpt_deactivate)  
settings: "sculpting" setting, all "sculpt\_\\*" settings
```

api: pymol.editing.sculpt_iterate

sculpt_purge

DESCRIPTION

```
"sculpt\_purge" is an unsupported feature.
```

api: pymol.editing.sculpt_purge

select

DESCRIPTION

"select" creates a named atom selection from a selection-expression.

USAGE

```
select name, selection \[, enable \[, quiet \[, merge \[, state \[, domain  
\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

name = a unique name for the selection

selection = a selection-expression

NOTES

If a selection-expression with explicit surrounding parentheses is provided as the first argument, then the default selection name is used as the name argument.

EXAMPLES

```
select chA, chain A  
select \(\ resn HIS \)  
select near142, resi 142 around 5
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.select\(\string name, string selection\)
```

SEE ALSO

[delete](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#delete>)

api: pymol.selecting.select

set

DESCRIPTION

"set" changes global, object, object-state, or per-atom settings.

USAGE

```
set name \[,value \[,selection \[,state \]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
name = string: setting name

value = string: a setting value \{default: 1\}

selection = string: name-pattern or selection-expression
\{default:'' \{global\}\}

state = a state number \{default: 0 \{per-object setting\}\}
```

EXAMPLES

```
set orthoscopic

set line\_width, 3

set surface\_color, white, 1hpv

set sphere\_scale, 0.5, elem C
```

NOTES

The default behavior (with a blank selection) is global. If the selection is "all", then the setting entry in each individual object will be changed. Likewise, for a given object, if state is zero, then the object setting will be modified. Otherwise, the setting for the indicated state within the object will be modified.

If a selection is provided as opposed to an object name, then the atomic setting entries are modified.

The following per-atom settings are currently implemented. Others may seem to be recognized but will have no effect when set on a per-atom basis.

```
\* sphere\_color
\* surface\_color
\* mesh\_color
\* label\_color
\* dot\_color
\* cartoon\_color
\* ribbon\_color
\* transparency \{for surfaces\}
\* sphere\_transparency
```

Note that if you attempt to use the "set" command with a per-bond setting over a selection of atoms, the setting change will appear to take, but no change will be observed. Please use the "set_bond" command for per-bond settings.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.set\{string name, string value, string selection, int state,
        int updates, int quiet\}
```

SEE ALSO

```
[get](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#get), [set\_bond]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#set_bond)
```

api: pymol.setting.set

set_atom_property

DESCRIPTION

```
Set an atom-level property
```

USAGE

```
set\_atom\_property name, value \[, selection \[, state \[, proptype \]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
name = string: Name of the property
```

```
value = str/int/float/bool: value to be set
```

```
selection = string: a selection-expression  
\{default: all\}
```

```
proptype = int: The type of the property, -1=auto, 1=bool, 2=int,  
3=float, 5=color, 6=str. Type -1 will detect int \(\digits only\), float,  
and bool \(\true/false/yes/no\). \{default: -1\}
```

```
state = int: Object state, 0 for all states, -1 for current state  
\{default: 0\}
```

EXAMPLE

```
set\_atom\_property myfloatprop, 1.23, elem C  
set\_atom\_property myfloatprop, 1234, elem N, proptype=3  
set\_atom\_property myboolprop, TRUE, elem O  
set\_atom\_property mystrprop, false, elem O, proptype=6  
set\_atom\_property mystrprop, One Two, elem C  
iterate all, print\(elem, p.all\  
alter all, p.myboolprop = True  
alter all, p.myfloatprop = None # clear
```

SEE ALSO

```
[set\_property](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#set_property), [iterate]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#iterate), [alter]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#alter)
```

api: pymol.properties.set_atom_property

set_bond

DESCRIPTION

"set_bond" changes per-bond settings for all bonds which exist between two selections of atoms.

USAGE

```
set_bond name, value, selection1 [, selection2 ]
```

ARGUMENTS

name = string: name of the setting

value = string: new value to use

selection1 = string: first set of atoms

selection2 = string: seconds set of atoms `{default: (selection1)}`

EXAMPLE

```
set_bond stick_transparency, 0.7, */n+c+ca+o
```

NOTES

The following per-bond settings are currently implemented. Others may seem to be recognized but will currently have no effect when set at the per-bond level.

```
/* valence
/* line_width
/* line_color
/* stick_radius
/* stick_color
/* stick_transparency
```

Note that if you attempt to use the "set" command with a per-bond setting over a selection of atoms, the setting change will appear to take, but no change will be observed.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.set_bond ( string name, string value,
              string selection1,
              string selection2,
              int state, int updates, log=0, quiet=1)
```

api: pymol.setting.set_bond

set_color

DESCRIPTION

"set_color" defines a new color using the red, green, and blue \ (RGB\) color components.

USAGE

```
set\_color name, rgb
```

ARGUMENTS

name = string: name for the new or existing color

rgb = list of numbers: \ [red, green, blue\] each and all in the range \ (0.0, 1.0\) or \ (0, 255\)

EXAMPLES

```
set\_color red, \ [ 1.0, 0.0, 0.0 \ ]
```

```
set\_color yellow, \ [ 255, 255, 0 \ ]
```

NOTES

PyMOL automatically infers the range based on the input arguments.

It may be necessary to issue "recolor" command in order to force recoloring of existing objects.

SEE ALSO

[recolor](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#recolor>)

PYMOL API

```
cmd.set\_color\ (string name, list-of-numbers rgb, int mode \ )
```

api: pymol.viewing.set_color

set_dihedral

DESCRIPTION

"set_dihedral" changes the dihedral angle formed between the four bonded atoms provided. The atoms must be acyclic.

USAGE

```
set\_dihedral atom1, atom2, atom3, atom4, angle \ [, state \ [, quiet \ ]\ ]
```

NOTES

Because `set_dihedral` uses the molecular editing capability, numbered "pk" atom selections (if any) will be redefined by this operation.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.set\_dihedral\(\string atom1, string atom2, string atom3, string atom4,  
float angle, int state, int quiet\)
```

api: `pymol.editing.set_dihedral`

set_geometry

DESCRIPTION

"`set_geometry`" changes PyMOL's assumptions about the proper valence and geometry of atoms in the selection.

USAGE

```
set\_geometry selection, geometry, valence
```

NOTES

Immature functionality. See code for details.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.set\_geometry\(\string selection, int geometry, int valence\)
```

SEE ALSO

[`remove`](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#remove>), [`attach`](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#attach>), [`fuse`](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fuse>), [`bond`](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#bond>), [`unbond`](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#unbond>)

api: `pymol.editing.set_geometry`

set_key

DESCRIPTION

"`set_key`" binds a specific python function to a key press.

New in PyMOL 1.6.1: second argument can also be a string in PyMOL command syntax.

USAGE

```
set\_key key, command
```

EXAMPLE

```
set\_key F1, as cartoon, polymer; as sticks, organic
```

PYMOL API (ONLY)

```
cmd.set\_key\(\( string key, function fn, tuple arg=\(\), dict kw=\{\}\)\)
```

PYTHON EXAMPLE

```
from pymol import cmd

def color\_blue\(\(object\): cmd.color\("blue",object\)

cmd.set\_key\('F1' , color\_blue, \("object1" \) \)
// would turn object1 blue when the F1 key is pressed and

cmd.set\_key\('F2' , color\_blue, \("object2" \) \)
// would turn object2 blue when the F2 key is pressed.

cmd.set\_key\('CTRL-C' , cmd.zoom \)
cmd.set\_key\('ALT-A' , cmd.turn, \('x',90\) \)
```

KEYS WHICH CAN BE REDEFINED

```
F1 to F12
left, right, pgup, pgdn, home, insert
CTRL-A to CTRL-Z
ALT-0 to ALT-9, ALT-A to ALT-Z
```

SEE ALSO

```
[button](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#button), [alias]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#alias)
```

api: pymol.controlling.set_key

set_name

DESCRIPTION

```
"set\_name" changes the name of an object or selection.
```

USAGE

```
set\_name old\_name, new\_name
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.set\_name\_(string old\_name, string new\_name\_)
```

api: pymol.editing.set_name

set_property

DESCRIPTION

```
Set an object-level property
```

USAGE

```
set\_property name, value \[, object \[, state \[, proptype \]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

name = string: Name of the property

value = str/int/float/bool: value to be set

object = string: Space separated list of objects or `*` for all objects
{default: `*`}

proptype = int: The type of the property, -1=auto, 1=bool, 2=int, 3=float, 5=color, 6=str. Type -1 will detect int (digits only), float, and bool (true/false/yes/no). {default: -1}

state = int: Object state, 0 for all states, -1 for current state
{default: 0}

EXAMPLE

```
fragment ala  
set\_property myfloatprop, 1234, ala, proptype=3  
get\_property myfloatprop, ala
```

SEE ALSO

```
[get\_property](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#get\_property),  
[get\_property\_list](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-  
ref.html#get\_property\_list), [set\_atom\_property](https://pymol.org/pymol-  
command-ref.html#set\_atom\_property)
```

api: pymol.properties.set_property

set_symmetry

DESCRIPTION

"set_symmetry" defines or redefines the crystal and spacegroup parameters for a molecule or map object.

USAGE

```
set\_symmetry selection, a, b, c, alpha, beta, gamma, spacegroup
```

ARGUMENTS

```
selection = str: object name pattern
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.set\_symmetry\(\(string selection, float a, float b, float c,  
float alpha, float beta, float gamma, string spacegroup\)
```

api: pymol.editing.set_symmetry

set_title

DESCRIPTION

"set_title" attaches a text string to the state of a particular object which can be displayed next to the object name when that state is active. This is useful for display the energies of a set of conformers.

USAGE

```
set\_title object, state, text
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.set\_title\(\(string object, int state, string text\)
```

api: pymol.editing.set_title

set_view

DESCRIPTION

"set_view" sets viewing information for the current scene, including the rotation matrix, position, origin of rotation, clipping planes, and the orthoscopic flag.

USAGE

```
set\_view \[ view \]
```

EXAMPLE

```
set\_view \(\
  0.999876618, -0.000452542, -0.015699286,\
  0.000446742,  0.99999821, -0.000372844,\
  0.015699454,  0.000365782,  0.999876678,\
  0.000000000,  0.000000000, -150.258514404,\
  11.842411041, 20.648729324,  8.775371552,\
  118.464958191, 182.052062988,  0.000000000 \)
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.set\_view\<(string-or-sequence view\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[get\_view] (https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#get\_view)
```

api: pymol.viewing.set_view

show

DESCRIPTION

"show" turns on representations for objects and selections.

USAGE

```
show \[ representation \[, selection \]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

representation = lines, spheres, mesh, ribbon, cartoon, sticks, dots, surface, labels, extent, nonbonded, nb_spheres, slice, extent, slice, dashes, angles, dihedrals, cgo, cell, callback, or everything

selection = string: a selection-expression or name-pattern

NOTES

with no arguments, "show" alone turns on lines for all bonds and nonbonded for all atoms in all molecular objects.

EXAMPLES

```
show
show ribbon
show lines, \ (name CA+C+N\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[hide](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#hide), [enable]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#enable), [disable]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#disable)
```

api: pymol.viewing.show

skip

DESCRIPTION

"skip" delimits a block of commands that are skipped instead of being executed.

EXAMPLE

```
skip

# the following command will not be executed
color blue, all

skip end
```

NOTES

If the "skip" command is commented out, the subsequent "skip end" can be left in place, and will have no effect upon execution of subsequent commands.

SEE ALSO

```
[abort](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#abort), [embed]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#embed), [python]
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#python)
```

api: pymol.helping.skip

slice_new

DESCRIPTION

"slice_map" creates a slice object from a map object.

USAGE

```
slice_map name, map, \[opacity, \[resolution, \[state, \[source_state\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

name = the name for the new slice object.

map = the name of the map object to use for computing the slice.

opacity = opacity of the new slice `\(default=1\)`

resolution = the number of pixels per sampling `\(default=5\)`

state = the state into which the object should be loaded `\(default=1\)`
`\(set state=0 to append new mesh as a new state\)`

source_state = the state of the map from which the object should be loaded `\(default=0\)`

SEE ALSO

[isomesh](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#isomesh>), [isodot](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#isodot>), [load](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load>)

api: pymol.creating.slice_new

smooth

DESCRIPTION

"smooth" performs a window average of coordinate states.

USAGE

```
smooth \[ selection \[, passes \[, window \[, first \[, last \[,  
ends\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

ends = 0 or 1: controls whether or not the end states are also smoothed using a weighted asymmetric window

NOTES

This type of averaging is often used to suppress high-frequency vibrations in a molecular dynamics trajectory.

This function is not memory efficient. For reasons of flexibility, it uses two additional copies of every atomic coordinate for the calculation. If you are memory-constrained in visualizing MD trajectories, then you may want to use an external tool such as ptraj to perform smoothing before loading coordinates into PyMOL.

SEE ALSO

```
[load\_traj](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load_traj)
```

api: pymol.editing.smooth

sort

DESCRIPTION

"sort" reorders atoms in the structure. It usually only necessary to run this routine after an "alter" command which has modified the names of atom properties. Without an argument, sort will resort all atoms in all objects.

USAGE

```
sort \[object\]
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.sort\(\string object\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[alter](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#alter)
```

api: pymol.editing.sort

space

DESCRIPTION

"space" selects a color palette \(\or color space\).

USAGE

```
space space \[, gamma\]
```

ARGUMENTS

space = rgb, cmyk, or pymol: \{default: rgb\}

gamma = floating point gamma transformation

EXAMPLES

```
space rgb  
space cmyk  
space pymol
```

NOTES

whereas computer displays use the RGB color space, computer printers typically use the CMYK color space. The two spaces are non-equivalent, meaning that certain RGB colors cannot be expressed in the CMYK space and vice-versa. And as a result, molecular graphics images prepared using RGB often turn out poorly when converted to CMYK, with purplish blues or yellowish greens.

"space cmyk" forces PyMOL to restrict its use of the RGB color space to subset that can be reliably converted to CMYK using common tools such as Adobe Photoshop. Thus, what you see on the screen is much closer to what you will get in print.

Analog video systems as well as digital video compression codecs based on the YUV color space also have incompatibilities with RGB. Oversaturated colors usually cause the most problems.

Although PyMOL lacks "space yuv", "space pymol" will help PyMOL avoid oversaturated colors can cause problems when exporting animations to video.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.space\<(string space, float gamma\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[color](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#color)
```

api: pymol.importing.space

spawn

DESCRIPTION

"spawn" launches a Python script in a new thread which will run concurrently with the PyMOL interpreter. It can be run in its own namespace \<(like a Python module, default\), a local name space, or in the global namespace.

USAGE

```
spawn file \[, namespace \]
```

NOTES

The default namespace for spawn is "module".

The best way to spawn processes at startup is to use the -l option \<(see "help launching"\).

SEE ALSO

```
[run](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#run)
```

api: pymol.parsing.spawn

spectrum

DESCRIPTION

"spectrum" colors atoms with a spectrum of colors based on an atomic property.

USAGE

```
spectrum [expression [, palette [, selection [, minimum [, maximum [, byres  
]]]]]]
```

ARGUMENTS

expression = count, b, q, pc or properties["key"]: respectively, atom count, temperature factor, occupancy, partial charge or a user defined numeric atom property {default: count}

palette = string: palette name or space separated list of colors {default: rainbow}

selection = string: atoms to color {default: (all)}

minimum = float: {default: None (automatic)}

maximum = float: {default: None (automatic)}

byres = integer: controls whether coloring is applied per-residue {default: 0}

EXAMPLES

```
spectrum b, blue_red, minimum=10, maximum=50
```

```
spectrum count, rainbow_rev, chain A, byres=1
```

```
spectrum properties["some_score"], red yellow white
```

NOTES

Available palettes include:

```
blue_green blue_magenta blue_red blue_white_green  
blue_white_magenta blue_white_red blue_white_yellow blue_yellow  
cbmr cyan_magenta cyan_red cyan_white_magenta cyan_white_red  
cyan_white_yellow cyan_yellow gcbmry green_blue green_magenta  
green_red green_white_blue green_white_magenta green_white_red  
green_white_yellow green_yellow green_yellow_red magenta_blue
```

```
magenta\_cyan magenta\_green magenta\_white\_blue
magenta\_white\_cyan magenta\_white\_green magenta\_white\_yellow
magenta\_yellow rainbow rainbow2 rainbow2\_rev rainbow\_cycle
rainbow\_cycle\_rev rainbow\_rev red\_blue red\_cyan red\_green
red\_white\_blue red\_white\_cyan red\_white\_green red\_white\_yellow
red\_yellow red\_yellow\_green rmbc yellow\_blue yellow\_cyan
yellow\_cyan\_white yellow\_green yellow\_magenta yellow\_red
yellow\_white\_blue yellow\_white\_green yellow\_white\_magenta
yellow\_white\_red yrmbcg
```

PYMOL API

```
def spectrum\ (string expression, string palette,
              string selection, float minimum, float maximum,
              int byres, int quiet\)
```

api: pymol.viewing.spectrum

spheroid

DESCRIPTION

"spheroid" averages trajectory frames together to create an ellipsoid-like approximation of the actual anisotropic motion exhibited by the atom over a series of trajectory frames.

USAGE

```
spheroid object, average
```

```
average = number of states to average for each resulting spheroid state
```

api: pymol.experimenting.spheroid

splash

UNDOCUMENTED

api: pymol.commanding.splash

split_chains

DESCRIPTION

```
Create a single object for each chain in selection
```

SEE ALSO

```
[split\_states] (https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#split\_states)
```

split_states

DESCRIPTION

"split_states" separates a multi-state molecular object into a set of single-state molecular objects.

USAGE

```
split_states object [, first [, last [, prefix \\]\]]
```

EXAMPLE

```
load docking_hits.sdf
split_states docking_hits, prefix=hit
delete docking_hits
```

SEE ALSO

[join_states](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#join_states)

stereo

DESCRIPTION

"stereo" activates or deactivates stereo mode.

USAGE

```
stereo [toggle]
```

ARGUMENTS

toggle = on, off, crosseye, walleye, quadbuffer, sidebyside, geowall, or openvr

EXAMPLES

```
stereo on
stereo off
stereo crosseye
```

NOTES

"quadbuffer" is the default stereo mode if hardware stereo is available. otherwise, "crosseye" is the default.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.stereo\ (string toggle\)
```

api: pymol.viewing.stereo

super

DESCRIPTION

"super" performs a residue-based pairwise alignment followed by a structural superposition, and then carries out zero or more cycles of refinement in order to reject outliers.

USAGE

```
super mobile, target \[, object=name \]
```

NOTES

By adjusting various parameters, the nature of the initial alignment can be modified to include or exclude various factors including sequence similarity, main chain path, secondary \& tertiary structure, and current coordinates.

EXAMPLE

```
super protA////CA, protB////CA, object=supAB
```

SEE ALSO

```
[align](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#align), [pair\_fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pair\_fit), [fit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fit), [rms](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms), [rms\_cur](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rms\_cur), [intra\_rms](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra\_rms), [intra\_rms\_cur](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#intra\_rms\_cur)
```

api: pymol.fitting.super

symexp

DESCRIPTION

"symexp" creates all symmetry-related objects for the specified object that occur within a cutoff about an atom selection.

USAGE

symexp prefix, object, selection, cutoff

NOTES

The newly objects are labeled using the prefix provided along with their crystallographic symmetry operation and translation.

SEE ALSO

[load](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load)

api: pymol.creating.symexp

symmetry_copy

DESCRIPTION

"symmetry_copy" copies symmetry information from one object to another.

USAGE

```
symmetry\_copy source\_name, target\_name, source\_state, target\_state
```

ARGUMENTS

```
source\_name = str: object name  
target\_name = str: object name pattern  
source\_state = int: object state \ (maps only)\  
target\_state = int: object state \ (maps only)\
```

NOTES

Molecular objects don't support individual states yet.

api: pymol.editing.symmetry_copy

system

DESCRIPTION

"system" executes a command in a subshell under Unix or windows.

USAGE

```
system command
```

PYMOL API


```
cmd.system\(string command,int async=0\)
```

NOTES

`async` can only be specified from the Python level \(\(not the command language\)\)

if `async` is 0 \(\(default\)\), then the result code from "system" is returned in r

if `async` is 1, then the command is run in a separate thread whose object is returned

SEE ALSO

[ls](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#ls), [cd](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#cd), [pwd](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#pwd)

api: pymol.externing.system

toggle

DESCRIPTION

"toggle" toggles the visibility of a representation within a selection.

USAGE

```
toggle \[ representation \[, selection \]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

`representation` = string: named representation \{\(default: lines\)\}

`selection` = string: atom selection \{\(default: all\)\}

NOTES

If the representation is enabled for any atom in the selection, it will be turned off.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.toggle\(string representation, string selection\)
```

SEE ALSO

[show](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#show), [hide](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#hide)

api: pymol.viewing.toggle

torsion

DESCRIPTION

"torsion" rotates the torsion on the bond currently picked for editing. The rotated fragment will correspond to the first atom specified when picking the bond \ (or the nearest atom, if picked using the mouse\).

USAGE

```
torsion angle
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.torsion\ ( float angle \ )
```

SEE ALSO

[edit](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#edit>), [unpick](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#unpick>), [remove_picked](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#remove_picked), [cycle_valence](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#cycle_valence)

api: pymol.editing.torsion

translate

DESCRIPTION

"translate" translates the atomic coordinates of atoms in a selection. Alternatively, it modifies the matrix associated with a particular object or object-state.

USAGE

```
translate vector \[, selection \[, state \[, camera \[, object \]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
vector = float vector: translation vector

selection = string: atoms whose coordinates should be modified \{default: all\}

state > 0: only the indicated state is modified

state = 0: all states are modified

state = -1: only current state is modified \{default\}

camera = 0 or 1: is the vector in camera coordinates? \{default: 1 \yes\}

object = string: object name \only if rotating object matrix\ \{default:
None\}
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.translate\list vector, string selection, int state, int
            camera, string object\)
```

EXAMPLES

```
translate \[1,0,0\], name CA
```

NOTES

"translate" can be used to translate the atomic coordinates of a molecular object. Behavior differs depending on whether or not the "object" parameter is specified.

If object is None, then translate translates atomic coordinates according to the vector provided for the selection and in the state provided. All representation geometries will need to be regenerated to reflect the new atomic coordinates.

If object is set to an object name, then selection is ignored and instead of translating the atomic coordinates, the object's overall representation display matrix is modified. This option is for use in animations only.

The "camera" option controls whether the camera or the model's axes are used to interpret the translation vector.

api: pymol.editing.translate

turn

DESCRIPTION

```
"turn" rotates the camera about one of the three primary axes,
centered at the origin.
```

USAGE

```
turn axis, angle
```

EXAMPLES

```
turn x, 90  
turn y, 45
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.turn\<(string axis, float angle\<)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[move](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#move), [rotate]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#rotate), [translate]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#translate), [zoom]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#zoom), [center]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#center), [clip]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#clip)
```

api: pymol.viewing.turn

unbond

DESCRIPTION

```
"unbond" removes all bonds between two selections.
```

USAGE

```
unbond atom1,atom2
```

ARGUMENTS

```
atom1 = string \{default: \{pk1\}\}
```

```
atom2 = string \{default: \{pk2\}\}
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.unbond\<(selection atom1, selection atom2\<)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[bond](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#bond), [fuse]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fuse), [remove\_picked]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#remove\_picked), [attach]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#attach), detach, [replace]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#replace)
```

api: pymol.editing.unbond

undo

DESCRIPTION

"undo" restores the previous conformation of the object currently being edited.

USAGE

```
undo
```

SEE ALSO

[redo](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#redo>), push_undo

api: pymol.editing.undo

ungroup

DESCRIPTION

"ungroup" removes an object from a group object, returning it to the top level.

USAGE

```
ungroup name
```

SEE ALSO

[group](<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#group>)

api: pymol.creating.ungroup

uniquify

DESCRIPTION

Make ``identifier`` unique with respect to reference selection.

ARGUMENTS

```
identifier = str: atom identifier \(\chain, segi, etc.\)

selection = str: atom selection to modify

reference = str: atom selection whose identifiers must not be
present in the first selection \{default: \!selection\}
```

EXAMPLE

```
fetch 1a00 1hbb, async=0
uniquify chain, 1hbb
# 1hbb now has chains E,F,G,H
```

api: pymol.editing.uniquify

unmask

DESCRIPTION

"unmask" reverses the effect of "mask" on the indicated atoms.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.unmask\(\ string selection="\(\all\)" \)
```

USAGE

```
unmask \(\selection\)
```

SEE ALSO

[mask] (<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mask>), [protect] (<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#protect>), [deprotect] (<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#deprotect>), [mouse] (<https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#mouse>)

api: pymol.controlling.unmask

unpick

DESCRIPTION

"unpick" deletes the special "pk" atom selections \(\pk1, pk2, etc.\) used in atom picking and molecular editing.

USAGE

```
unpick
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.unpick\(\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[edit](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#edit)
```

api: pymol.editing.unpick

unset

DESCRIPTION

"unset" clear non-global settings and zeros out global settings.

WARNING: The behavior for global settings is subject to change.
To set a setting to zero, do "set settingname, 0".

USAGE

```
unset name \[,selection \[,state \]\]
```

EXAMPLE

```
unset orthoscopic  
unset surface\_color, 1hpv  
unset sphere\_scale, elem c
```

NOTES

If selection is not provided, unset changes the named global setting to a zero or off value.

If a selection is provided, then "unset" undefines per-object, per-state, or per-atom settings.

PYMOL API

```
cmd.unset\(\string name, string selection, int state, int updates,  
int log\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[set](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#set), [set\_bond]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#set_bond)
```

api: pymol.setting.unset

unset_bond

DESCRIPTION

"unset_bond" removes a per-bond setting for a given set of bonds.

USAGE

```
unset name [,selection [, selection [,state ]]\]
```

api: pymol.setting.unset_bond

unset_deep

DESCRIPTION

Unset all object, object-state, atom, and bond level settings.

Note: Does currently NOT unset atom-state level settings. Check for atom-state level settings with:

```
PyMOL> iterate _state 1, \*, print(list(s\))
```

Unset e.g. atom-state level "label_screen_point" (index 728) with:

```
PyMOL> alter _state 1, \*, del s[728]
```

ARGUMENTS

settings = str: space separated list of setting names or empty string for all settings {default: \}

object = str: name of one object or * for all objects {default: *}

api: pymol.setting.unset_deep

update

DESCRIPTION

"update" transfers coordinates from one selection to another.

USAGE

```
update (target-selection),(source-selection)
```

EXAMPLES

```
update target,(variant)
```

NOTES

Currently, this applies across all pairs of states. Fine control will be added later.

SEE ALSO

[load](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#load)

api: pymol.editing.update

util.cbab

Wrapper around "color atomic"

api: pymol.util.cbab

util.cbac

Wrapper around "color atomic"

api: pymol.util.cbac

util.cbag

Wrapper around "color atomic"

api: pymol.util.cbag

util.cbak

Wrapper around "color atomic"

api: pymol.util.cbak

util.cbam

Wrapper around "color atomic"

api: pymol.util.cbam

util.cbao

Wrapper around "color atomic"

api: pymol.util.cbao

util.cbap

Wrapper around "color atomic"

api: pymol.util.cbap

util.cbas

Wrapper around "color atomic"

api: pymol.util.cbas

util.cbaw

Wrapper around "color atomic"

api: pymol.util.cbaw

util.cbay

Wrapper around "color atomic"

api: pymol.util.cbay

util.cbc

Color all chains a different color

api: pymol.util.cbc

util.chainbow

Color all chains in rainbow

api: pymol.util.chainbow

util.cnc

Wrapper around "color atomic"

api: pymol.util.cnc

util.rainbow

Legacy spectrum coloring routine. Don't use.

Use instead: `spectrum`

api: pymol.util.rainbow

util.ss

Legacy secondary structure assignment routine. Don't use.

```
Use instead: dss
```

api: pymol.util.ss

valence

DESCRIPTION

```
"valence" modifies the valences of all existing bonds formed between two atom selections.
```

USAGE

```
valence 2, \(\name C\), \(\name O\)
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.valence\(\string selection1, selection2\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[unbond](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#unbond), [fuse](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#fuse), [attach](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#attach), [replace](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#replace), [remove\_picked](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#remove\_picked)
```

api: pymol.editing.valence

vdw_fit

DESCRIPTION

```
"vdw\_fit" is an unsupported feature.
```

api: pymol.editing.vdw_fit

view

DESCRIPTION

```
"view" saves and restore camera views.
```

USAGE

```
view key \[, action \[, animate\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

```
key = string or \*
```

```
action = store, recall, clear: \{default: recall\}
```

NOTES

views F1 through F12 are automatically bound to function keys provided that "set_key" has not been used to redefine the behaviour of the respective key, and that a "scene" has not been defined for that key.

EXAMPLES

```
view 0, store  
view 0
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.view\<(string key, string action\)
```

SEE ALSO

```
[scene](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#scene), [set\_view]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#set\_view), [get\_view]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#get\_view)
```

api: pymol.viewing.view

viewport

DESCRIPTION

"viewport" changes the size of the graphics display area.

USAGE

```
viewport width, height
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.viewport\<(int width, int height\)
```

api: pmg_qt.pymol_qt_gui.viewport

volume

DESCRIPTION

"volume" creates a volume object from a map object.

USAGE

```
volume name, map \[, ramp \[, selection \[, buffer \[, state \[, carve  
\]\]\]\]\]
```

ARGUMENTS

name = the name for the new volume object.

map = the name of the map object to use for computing the volume.

ramp = str: named color ramp `\{default: \}`

selection = an atom selection about which to display the mesh with
an additional "buffer" `\(if provided\)`.

carve = a radius about each atom in the selection for which to
include density. If "carve" is not provided, then the whole
brick is displayed.

NOTES

If the volume object already exists, then the new volume will
overwrite the existing object.

EXAMPLE

```
fetch loky, async=0  
fetch loky, type=2fofc, async=0  
volume lokyVol, loky\_2fofc
```

SEE ALSO

```
[map\_new](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#map\_new), [isosurface]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#isosurface), [isomesh]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#isomesh), [volume\_color]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#volume\_color), [volume\_ramp\_new]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#volume\_ramp\_new)
```

api: pymol.creating.volume

volume_color

DESCRIPTION

Set or get the volume colors.

ARGUMENTS

```
name = str: volume object name
```

```
ramp = str, list or empty: named ramp, space delimited string or list  
with \(\(x, color, alpha, ...\) or \(\(x, r, g, b, alpha, ...\) values. If empty,  
get  
the current volume colors.
```

EXAMPLE

```
fetch 1a00, map, type=2fofc  
volume vol, map  
volume\_color vol, .8 cyan 0. 1. blue .3 2. yellow .3
```

api: pymol.colorramping.volume_color

volume_panel

DESCRIPTION

```
Open an interactive volume ramp panel
```

ARGUMENTS

```
name = str: name of volume object
```

api: pymol.colorramping.volume_panel

volume_ramp_new

DESCRIPTION

```
Register a named volume ramp which can be used as a preset  
when creating or coloring volumes. The name will appear in the  
internal menu at "A > volume" and "C".
```

ARGUMENTS

```
name = string: name of the new ramp
```

```
ramp = list: space delimited list of value, color, alpha
```

EXAMPLE

```
volume\_ramp\_new pink1sigma, \<\  
  0.9 violet 0.0 \<\  
  1.0 magenta 0.3 \<\  
  1.5 pink 0.0
```

SEE ALSO

```
[volume](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#volume), [volume\_color]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#volume_color)
```

api: pymol.colorramping.volume_ramp_new

window

DESCRIPTION

```
"window" controls the visibility of PyMOL's output window
```

USAGE

```
window \[ action \[, x \[, y \[, width \[, height \]\]\]\]\]
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.window\(\(string action, int x, int y, int width, int height\)
```

api: pymol.viewing.window

wizard

DESCRIPTION

```
"wizard" launches one of the built-in wizards. There are special  
Python scripts which work with PyMOL in order to obtain direct user  
interaction and easily perform complicated tasks.
```

USAGE

```
wizard name
```

PYMOL API

```
cmd.wizard\(\(string name\)
```

EXAMPLE

```
wizard distance # launches the distance measurement wizard
```

api: pymol.wizarding.wizard

zoom

DESCRIPTION

"zoom" scales and translates the window and the origin to cover the atom selection.

USAGE

```
zoom \[ selection \[, buffer \[, state \[, complete \[, animate \]\]\]\]\]
```

EXAMPLES

```
zoom  
zoom complete=1  
zoom 142/, animate=3  
zoom \(\chain A\)
```

ARGUMENTS

selection = string: selection-expression or name pattern `\{default: all\}`

buffer = float: distance `\{default: 0\}`

state = 0: uses all coordinate states `\{default\}`

state = -1: uses only coordinates for the current state

state > 0: uses coordinates for a specific state

complete = 0 or 1: will insure no atoms centers are clipped

animate < 0: uses the default animation duration

animate = 0: no animation

animate > 0: animates using the provided duration in seconds

PYMOL API

```
cmd.zoom\(\string selection, float buffer, int state, int complete,  
int animate\)
```

NOTES

The zoom command normally tries to guess an optimal zoom level for visualization, balancing closeness against occasional clipping of atoms out of the field of view. You can change this behavior by setting the complete option to 1, which will guarantee that the atom positions for the entire selection will fit in the field of an orthoscopic view.

To absolutely prevent clipping, you may also need to add an additional buffer `\(typically 2 Å\)` to account for graphical representations which extend beyond the atom coordinates.

SEE ALSO


```
[origin](https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#origin), [orient]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#orient), [center]  
(https://pymol.org/pymol-command-ref.html#center)
```

api: pymol.viewing.zoom