# **Sunspear Documentation**

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Sunspear in a library for storing activity streams. It is an implementation of the JSON Activity Stream 1.0 specification. Currently, Sunspear only supports Riak as a storage backend, however, it is modular enough to allow the use of custom backend.

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# **User Guide**

# 1.1 Introduction

**Sunspear** is a python library which provides an API to store and manage activity stream items.

# 1.1.1 What it is

**Sunspear** is a library which allows you to add feeds and activity streams to your applications. It serializes these activities and feed items as described in the JSON Activity Stream 1.0 specifications.

The specifications look scary, dull and boring (and they are), but essentially, an activity for:

```
``John Doe`` added ``Jane Doe`` to the group ``Party Planning``
```

#### boils down to:

```
"actor": {
    "objectType": "user",
    "displayName": "John Doe",
    "id": "user:1234", # Totally optional, it will be generated for you if you don't provide one
    "title": "Manager",
    "foo": "bar"
},
"object": {
    "objectType": "user",
    "displayName": "Jane Doe",
    "title": "Devloper",
    "foo": "baz"
},
"target": {
    "objectType": "group",
    "displayName": "Party Planning"
},
"bar": "bee",
"verb": "added"
```

The main takeaway points are:

- An activity is composed of objects.
- An activity must define an actor, verb and object.

- An object must define an object Type and a displayName
- objects and activities may contain arbitrary attributes.

**Note:** For more info, see the specifications for activity and object.

**Sunspear** also implements parts of some extensions to the specificaltions. More specifically, Audience Targeting and Responses.

#### 1.1.2 What it isn't

**Sunspear** strictly deals with storage and retrival of JSON activity stream items. It does not include all adquate indexes that allow you to build a fully fledged feed system.

For indexing, you'll probably want to use something like Sandsnake, a sorted index backed by redis.

### 1.2 Quick Start Guide

# 1.2.1 **Usage**

Sunspear provides a very simple api managing activity stream items

#### Initialize

You initialize sunspear by providing sunspear.clients.SunspearClient with an instance of a backend. All backends are located in sunspear.backends and extend the sunspear.backend:

```
from sunspear.backends.RiakBackend import RiakBackend
from sunspear.clients import SunspearClient

import datetime

client = SunspearClient(RiakBackend(**{
    "host_list": [{'port': 8087}],
    "defaults": {'host': '127.0.0.1'},
}))
```

#### **Create Objects**

Once you have a reference to the SunspearClient, you can, create objects:

```
obj = client.create_object({
    "objectType": "user"
    "displayName": "John Doe",
    "email": "jdoe@gmail.com",
    "id": "user:1234",
})
```

**Note:** If you do not specify the id of an object, one will be automatically generated for you. This also applies for the published date.

#### **Create Activity**

You can also create an activity. As per the JSON Activity Stream 1.0 specifications, an activity must have a verb, actor and an object.

Creating an activity for:

```
John Doe created the team "Marketing"
```

may look something like this:

```
activity = client.create_activity({
    "verb": "create",
    "actor": "user:1234",
    "object": {
        "objectType": "team",
        "displayName": "Marketing",
     },
})
```

Couple of intresting things to note here:

- 1. We used the id for the actor instead of the full blown object because we created the object earlier.
- 2. We didn't specify an id for our team object. One will be automatically generated.
- 3. The verb is arbratry. It can be anything except for response and activity summary verbs. For list a list of common verbs and objects you may want to use, see the Activity Base Schema.
- 4. create\_activity returns the fully parsed activity.

**Note:** The reason you can't use response and activity summary verbs is because **Sunspear** uses some of them internally.

#### **Create Responses**

You can create responses to activities such as liking an activity or replying to an activity. Sunspear supports a few of the response types described here.

All methods that create responses, return the newly created response activity and the original activity the response was created for with the response activity embedded.

**Note:** Sunspear does responses a little bit differently than what is describe in the specifications.

Responses themselves are fully fledged activities and not objects. This was untimatly done to provide maximum flexibility.

#### Create a Reply

You can create replies to activities.

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#### Create a Like

You can like activities.

like\_activity, original\_activity = client.create\_like(activity['id'], "user:1234")

#### **Delete Reply**

```
original_activity = client.delete_reply(reply_activity["id"])
```

#### **Delete Like**

```
original_activity = client.delete_like(reply_activity["id"])
```

#### **Get Activities**

You can get activities by providing a list of ids.

```
client.get_activities([activity["id"], "1234", "3456"])
```

**Note:** If the activity with the id does not exist, it is simply ignored.

# **Get Objects**

You can get objects by providing a list of ids.

```
client.get_objects([obj["id"], "1234", "3456"])
```

**Note:** If the object with the id does not exist, it is simply ignored.

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Developer Guide	

# **API** Guide

# 3.1 Sunspear Client

# 3.1.1 sunspear.clients

```
class sunspear.clients.SunspearClient(backend, **kwargs)
```

The class is used to create, delete, remove and update activity stream items. This is the main class you use to interact with sunspear

#### clear\_all()

Deletes all activity stream data

#### clear\_all\_activities()

Deletes all activities data

#### clear\_all\_objects()

Deletes all objects data

#### create\_activity (actstream\_dict)

Creates an activity. You can provide objects for activities as dictionaries or as ids for already existing objects.

If you provide a dictionary for an object, it is saved as a new object. If you provide an object id and the object does not exist, it is saved anyway, and returned as an empty dictionary when retriving the activity.

**Parameters actstream\_dict** (dict) - a dictionary representing the activity we want to store in the backend.

```
create_like (activity, actor, content='', extra={}, **kwargs)
```

Creates a like for an activity.

#### **Parameters**

- activity (a string or dict) the activity we want to create the sub-item for
- actor (a string or dict) the object creating the sub-activity
- **content** (a string or dict) a string or an object representing the content of the sub-activity
- extra (dict) additional data the is to be included as part of the sub-activity activity

#### create\_object(object\_dict)

Creates an object that can be used as part of an activity. If you specific and object with an id that already exists, that object is overidden.

Parameters object\_dict (dict) - a dictionary representing the object we want to store in the backend

create\_reply (activity, actor, content, extra={}, \*\*kwargs)

Creates a reply for an activity.

#### **Parameters**

- activity (a string or dict) the activity we want to create the sub-item for
- actor (a string or dict) the object creating the sub-activity
- content (a string or dict) a string or an object representing the content of the sub-activity
- extra (dict) additional data the is to be included as part of the sub-activity activity

```
delete_activity (activity_id, **kwargs)
```

Deletes an activity item and all associated sub items

**Parameters activity\_id** (string) - The id of the activity we want to create a reply for

```
delete_like (activity_id, **kwargs)
```

Deletes a like made on an activity. This will also update the corresponding activity.

**Parameters activity\_id** (*string*) – the id of the like activity to delete.

```
delete_reply (activity_id, **kwargs)
```

Deletes a reply made on an activity. This will also update the corresponding activity.

**Parameters activity\_id** (string) – the id of the reply activity to delete.

```
get_activities (activity_ids=[], **kwargs)
```

Gets a list of activities. Specific backends may support other arguments. Please see reference of the specific backends to see all kwargs supported.

**Parameters activity\_ids** (list) – The list of activities you want to retrieve

```
get_backend()
```

The backend the client was initialized with.

**Returns** reference to the backend the client was initialized with.

```
get_objects (object_ids=[])
```

Gets a list of objects by object\_ids.

Parameters object\_ids (list) - a list of objects

# 3.2 Sunspear Client

## 3.2.1 sunspear.backends.base

class sunspear.backends.base.BaseBackend

```
activity_create (activity, **kwargs)
```

Stores a new activity to the backend.

**Parameters activity** (dict) – a dict representing the activity

**Returns** a dict representing the newly stored activity

#### activity\_delete (activity, \*\*kwargs)

Performs the task of actually deleting the activity from the backend.

**Parameters activity** (dict) – a dict representing the activity

#### activity\_exists (activity, \*\*kwargs)

Determins if an activity already exists in the backend.

**Parameters activity** (dict) – the activity we want to determin if it exists

**Returns** True if the activity exists, otherwise False

activity\_get (activity, \*\*kwargs)

# activity\_update(activity, \*\*kwargs)

Performs the actual task of updating the activity in the backend.

**Parameters activity** (dict) – a dict representing the activity

**Returns** a dict representing the newly stored activity

#### clear\_all\_activities()

Clears all activities from the backend.

#### clear\_all\_objects()

Clears all objects from the backend.

## create\_activity (activity, \*\*kwargs)

Stores a new activity in the backend. If an object with the same id already exists in the backend, a SunspearDuplicateEntryException is raised. If an ID is not provided, one is generated on the fly.

Activities that provide objects as dictionaries have their objects processed and stored using create\_obj, and the objects are replaced with their id's within the activity.

**Parameters activity** (dict) – activity we want to store in the backend

Raises SunspearDuplicateEntryException if the record already exists in the database.

**Returns** dict representing the new activity.

#### create\_obj (obj, \*\*kwargs)

Stores a new obj in the backend. If an object with the same id already exists in the backend, a SunspearDuplicateEntryException is raised. If an ID is not provided, one is generated on the fly.

Parameters obj (dict) - obj we want to store in the backend

Raises SunspearDuplicateEntryException if the record already exists in the database.

**Returns** dict representing the new obj.

 $\verb|create_sub_activity| (activity, actor, content, extra={|}, sub_activity\_verb='`, **kwargs)|$ 

Creates a new sub-activity as a child of activity.

#### **Parameters**

- activity (a string or dict) the activity we want to create the sub-item for
- actor (a string or dict) the object creating the sub-activity
- **content** (a string or dict) a string or an object representing the content of the sub-activity

- extra (dict) additional data the is to be included as part of the sub-activity activity
- **sub\_activity\_verb** (string) the verb of the sub activity

**Returns** a tuple containing the new sub activity and the original activity the sub activity was created for.

#### delete\_activity (activity, \*\*kwargs)

Deletes an existing activity from the backend.

**Parameters activity** (dict) – a dict representing the activity

Raises SunspearInvalidActivityException if the activity doesn't have a valid id.

#### delete\_obj (obj, \*\*kwargs)

Deletes an existing obj from the backend.

#### raises:

•SunspearInvalidObjectException - if the obj doesn't have a valid id.

**Parameters** obj (dict) – a dict representing the obj

Raises SunspearInvalidObjectException

#### delete\_sub\_activity (sub\_activity, sub\_activity\_verb, \*\*kwargs)

Deletes a sub\_activity made on an activity. This will also update the corresponding activity.

#### **Parameters**

- **sub\_activity** (*string*) the id of the reply activity to delete
- **sub\_activity\_verb** (*string*) the verb of the sub activity

```
get_activity (activity_ids=[], **kwargs)
```

Gets an activity or a list of activities from the backend.

**Parameters activity\_ids** (list) – a list of ids of activities that will be retrieved from the backend.

**Returns** a list of activities. If an activity is not found, a partial list should be returned.

#### get\_new\_id()

Generates a new unique ID. The default implementation uses unid1 to generate a unique ID.

Returns a new id

```
get_obj (obj_ids=[], **kwargs)
```

Gets an obj or a list of activities from the backend.

**Parameters** ob j (1 i s t) – a list of ids of activities that will be retrieved from the backend.

**Returns** a list of activities. If an obj is not found, a partial list should be returned.

```
obj_create(obj, **kwargs)
```

Stores a new obj to the backend.

**Parameters** obj (dict) – a dict representing the obj

**Returns** a dict representing the newly stored obj

obj\_delete(obj, \*\*kwargs)

#### obj exists(obj, \*\*kwargs)

Determins if an object already exists in the backend.

**Parameters** obj (dict) – the activity we want to determin if it exists

Returns True if the object exists, otherwise False

```
obj_get (obj, **kwargs)
```

obj\_update(obj, \*\*kwargs)

Creates a new sub-activity as a child of activity.

#### **Parameters**

- activity (a string or dict) the activity we want to create the sub-item for
- actor (a string or dict) the object creating the sub-activity
- **content** (a string or dict) a string or an object representing the content of the sub-activity
- extra (dict) additional data the is to be included as part of the sub-activity activity
- **sub\_activity\_verb** (string) the verb of the sub activity
- **sub\_activity\_attribute** (*string*) the attribute in the activity the sub-activity will be a part of

**Returns** a tuple containing the new sub activity and the original activity the sub activity was created for.

```
sub_activity_delete (sub_activity, sub_activity_verb, **kwargs)
```

```
update_activity (activity, **kwargs)
```

Updates an existing activity in the backend. If the object does not exist, it is created in the backend.

**Parameters activity** (dict) – a dict representing the activity

Raises SunspearInvalidActivityException if the activity doesn't have a valid id.

**Returns** a dict representing the newly stored activity

```
update_obj (obj, **kwargs)
```

Updates an existing obj in the backend. If the object does not exist, it is created in the backend.

#### raises:

•SunspearInvalidObjectException - if the obj doesn't have a valid id.

**Parameters** obj (dict) – a dict representing the obj

Raises SunspearInvalidObjectException

**Returns** a dict representing the newly stored obj

# 3.2.2 sunspear.backends.riak

# References

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#### 4.1.1 Authors

Sentry was originally written and is maintained by Numan Sachwani.

A lit of additional contributors can be seen on GitHub.

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