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Introducing shaq, a CLI for Shazam

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This is another tool announcement post, this time for [shaq](#).



As the demo implies, `shaq` does just one thing: it listens to an audio source and sends the results to [Shazam](#) for fingerprinting. If a match is found, it prints it.

As usual, you can install it from [PyPI](#) using `pip` or `pipx`:

```
1 pip install shaq
2 # or:
3 pipx install shaq
```

```
4
5 shaq --help
```

Usage

By default `shaq` listens to the system microphone (helpfully supplied through [portaudio](#)) and writes its findings as plain text, but you can tell it to detect from an arbitrary input instead:

```
1 # shaq analyzes the first 10 seconds by default
2 shaq --input mystery.mp3
3
4 # analyze a longer segment
5 shaq --input mystery.mp3 --duration 15
6
7 # anything with an audio track that ffmpeg can handle can be an input
8 shaq --input another-mystery.mp4
```

...as well as to emit JSON:

```
1 shaq --listen --duration 5 --json | jq '[.track.title, .track.subtitle]'
```

produces:

```
1 [
2   "Mendacity",
3   "Max Roach"
4 ]
```

Under the hood, `shaq` is a relatively thin wrapper around [PyAudio](#), [pydub](#), and [shazamio](#).

For the moment, `shaq` only supports fixed durations. Once I get bored again, I plan to add:

- Support for “rolling” detections, i.e. “listen until you get a match”;
- Support for timeranges in file inputs, i.e., “15 seconds starting at 00:12:13”.

But why?

I am a [compulsive scrobbler](#); I record almost everything I listen to, including phonograph records.

For records, I currently use [Vinyl Scrobbler](#) to scrobble records as I play them and it works very nicely (it even puts scrobbles in the future so that they end up mostly synchronized with the actual record!).

At the same time, it's *slightly* more manual than I'd prefer: I'd like to be able to put a record on and have scrobbles come through *automatically* as each track starts. This is why I made `shaq`: my plan is to hook the (unused) headphones channel on my receiver into a Raspberry Pi, which will then run `shaq` either continuously or on a transition trigger (i.e., noise drop between tracks).

The Pi will then scrobble based on `shaq`'s results, satisfying my desire to be simultaneously too lazy to click a single button on my computer while also physically flipping big chunks of vinyl every 20 minutes.

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