(Note: this is a compiled distribution of ctypes, compiled for cygwin

to allow using the cygwin conversions directly from interpreterInfo. The tests

have been removed to reduce the added size. It is only used by PyDev on cygwin).

Overview

ctypes is a ffi (Foreign Function Interface) package for Python.

It allows to call functions exposed from dlls/shared libraries and

has extensive facilities to create, access and manipulate simpole

and complicated C data types transparently from Python - in other

words: wrap libraries in pure Python.

ctypes runs on Windows, MacOS X, Linux, Solaris, FreeBSD. It may

also run on other systems, provided that libffi supports this

platform.

On Windows, ctypes contains (the beginning of) a COM framework

mainly targetted to use and implement custom COM interfaces.

News

ctypes now uses the same code base and libffi on all platforms.

For easier installation, the libffi sources are now included in

the source distribution - no need to find, build, and install a

compatible libffi version.

Requirements

ctypes 0.9 requires Python 2.3 or higher, since it makes intensive

use of the new type system.

ctypes uses libffi, which is copyright Red Hat, Inc. Complete

license see below.

Installation

Windows

On Windows, it is the easiest to download the executable

installer for your Python version and execute this.

Installation from source

Separate source distributions are available for windows and

non-windows systems. Please use the .zip file for Windows (it

contains the ctypes.com framework), and use the .tar.gz file

for non-Windows systems (it contains the complete

cross-platform libffi sources).

To install ctypes from source, unpack the distribution, enter

the ctypes-0.9.x source directory, and enter

python setup.py build

This will build the Python extension modules. A C compiler is

required. On OS X, the segment attribute live\_support must be

defined. If your compiler doesn't know about it, upgrade or

set the environment variable CCASFLAGS="-Dno\_live\_support".

To run the supplied tests, enter

python setup.py test

To install ctypes, enter

python setup.py install --help

to see the avaibable options, and finally

python setup.py install [options]

For Windows CE, a project file is provided in

wince\\_ctypes.vcw. MS embedded Visual C 4.0 is required to

build the extension modules.

Additional notes

Current version: 0.9.9.3

Homepage: http://starship.python.net/crew/theller/ctypes.html

ctypes license

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