

# Cython with PyCharm community

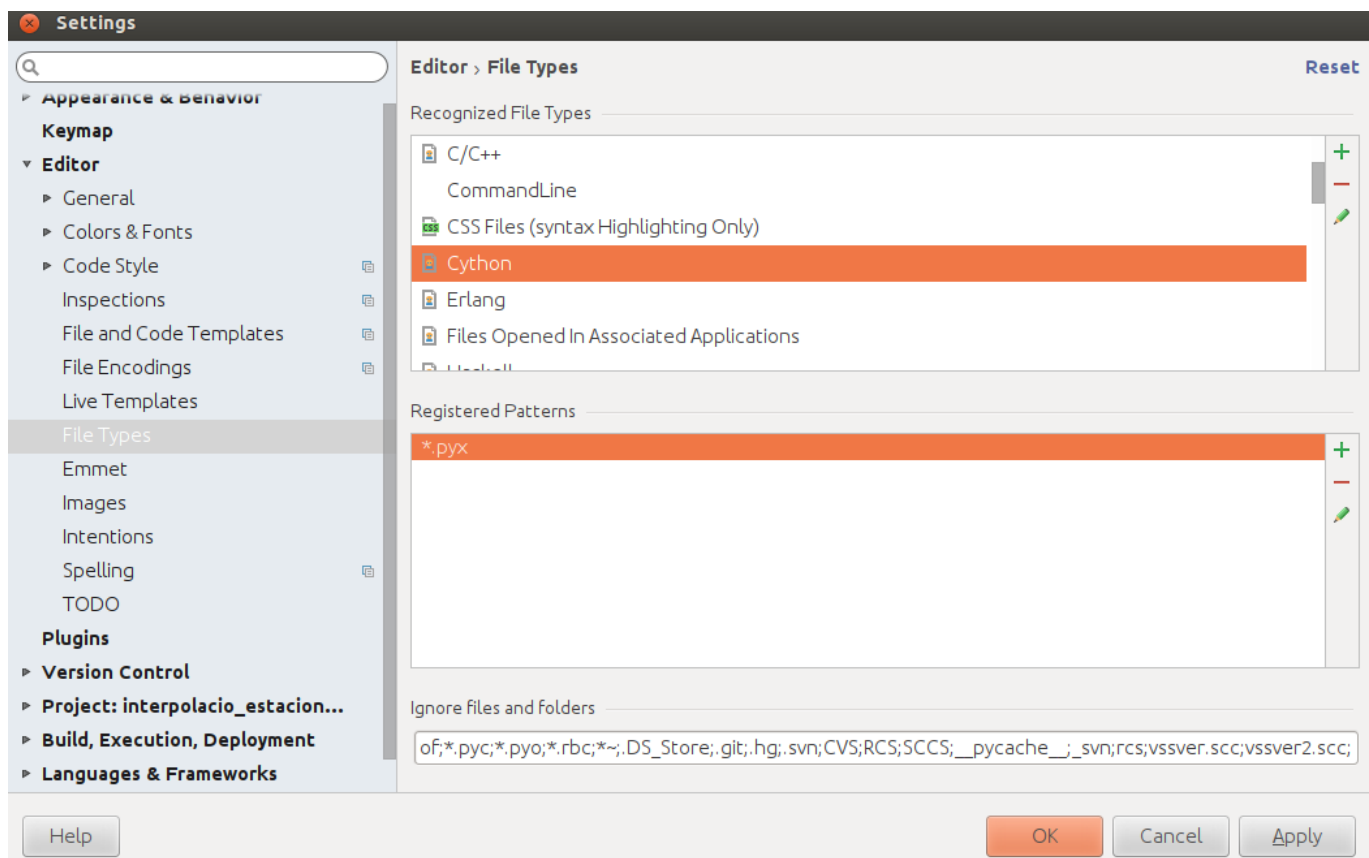
Apr 20, 2017

Some time ago, I explained how to use coverage and pylint with PyCharm community. Cython is also covered by PyCharm professional, but not the community edition, which makes working with cython a bit uncomfortable.

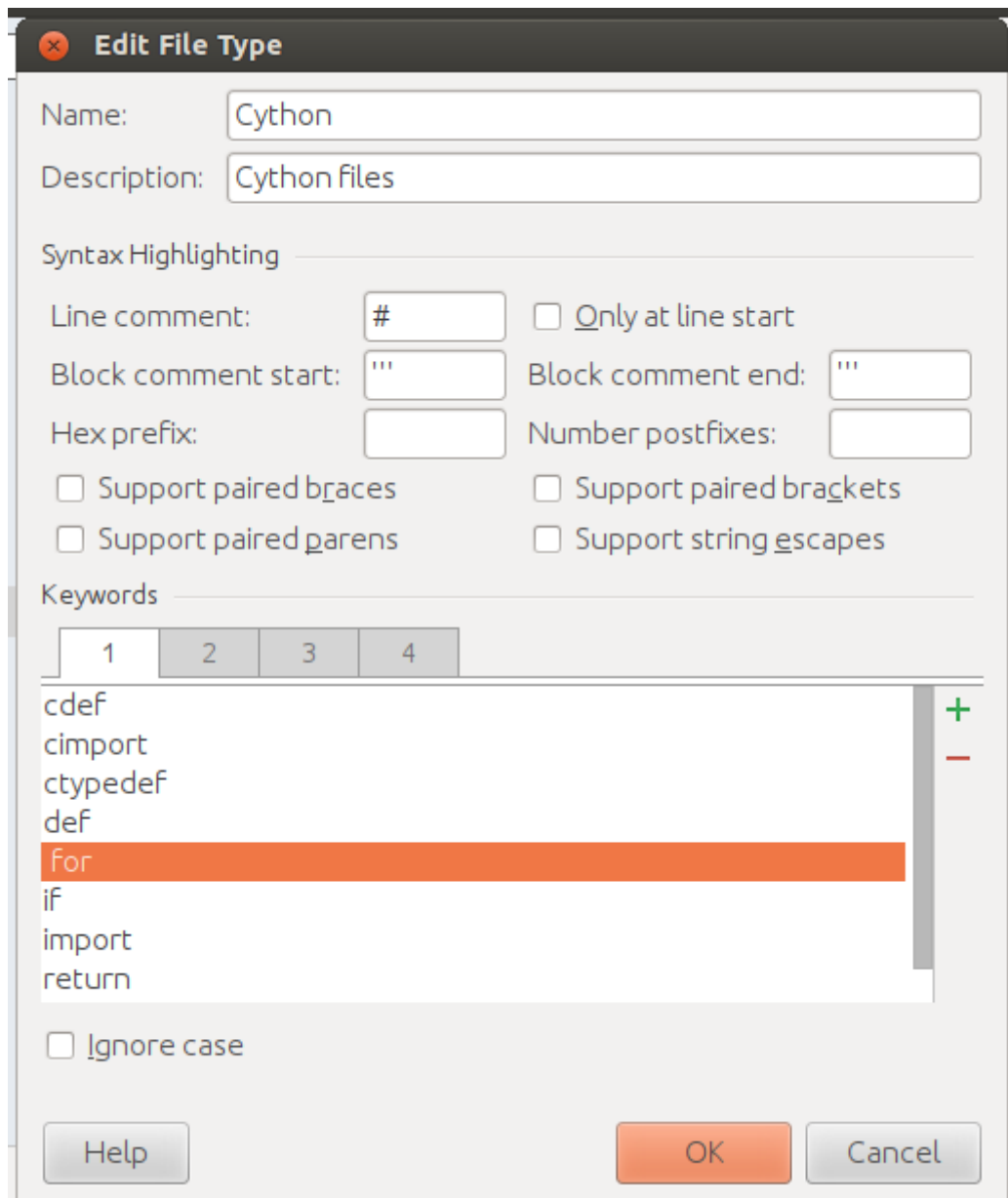
Here is how I managed to do it.

## Syntax highlighting

cython files end with `.pyx`. The syntax is similar to python, but the program doesn't recognize the file. Also, it has some special words that would give error in python, such as `cdef`. So a new file type must be created. Go to `File->Settings->Editor->File Types` and add a file type:



Then, edit it to make it good for the cython syntax:



Since there are many words to add, and no way to do it fast, I have exported my settings in this file, which you can import from *File->Import Settings*. I'll try to keep it updated by adding more keywords.

## Compiling the cython file

As explained in the official cython basic tutorial, the best way to compile the files is creating a *setup.py* file with the compilation options:

```
from distutils.core import setup
from Cython.Build import cythonize

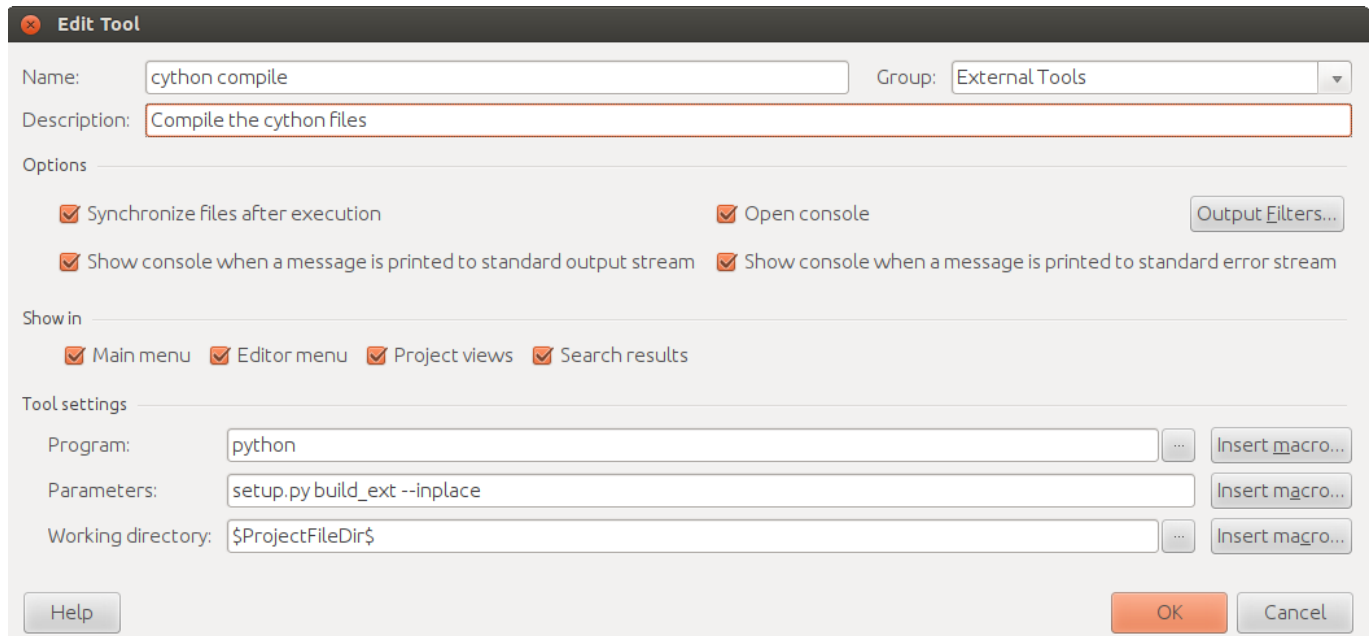
setup(
    ext_modules = cythonize("helloworld.pyx")
)
```

The compilation is then made by running:

```
python setup.py build_ext --inplace
```

Is possible to automatize this with an *external tool*:

Open *File->Settings->Tools->External tools* and click the + button. You will get a window that has to be filled like this:



**Edit Tool**

Name:  Group:

Description:

Options

☒ Synchronize files after execution ☒ Open console

☒ Show console when a message is printed to standard output stream ☒ Show console when a message is printed to standard error stream

Show in

☒ Main menu ☒ Editor menu ☒ Project views ☒ Search results

Tool settings

Program:

Parameters:

Working directory:

You can run the compilation by going to *tools->External tools->cython compile* any moment or right clicking the file name at the project pane. Then, re-run it by clicking on the play button on the lower pane.

Usually, all the cython files will be compiled at once with the *setup.py*, so there is no need for creating special configurations depending on the file.

## Links

- The settings file
- Coverage with Pycharm community
- PyCharm
- Cython
- Cython basic tutorial
- New file types in PyCharm