

## Working with QtQuick and Python on a real-life Robotics Project



#### **OVERVIEW**



- From C++ to Python
- Project Structure & Workflow
- Quality Assurance & Issues
- Conclusion

FROM C++ TO PYTHON

### A LONG LONG TIME AGO...



- > 10 years
- Delphi → C++ and Qt















### **OPEN SOURCE**



- Machinekit
- New UI → QtQuickVcp
- Cross-platform





### **OBJECTIONS**



- Not scale-able
- Slow
- Not safe
- Prototyping only
- No mobile OS





### **TORMACH**



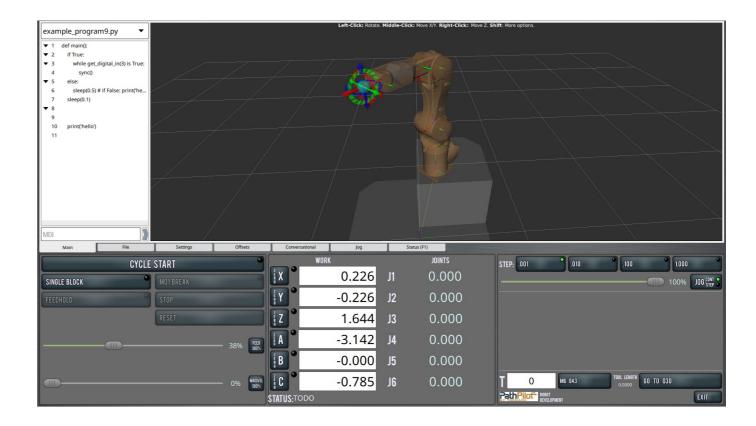
- Affordable CNC
- PathPilot
- User Friendly



### ROBOT PROJECT



- Python widely used
- Gtk2 → ?
- ROS, rospy
- Rviz



### **REASONS**



	Qt/Python	Qt/C++
LOC	1x	2-3x
Development Speed	3-5x	1x
Popularity	3.	5.
Cross-platform	Desktop +, Mobile -	All++
QA	Duck-typing, interpreted,	Static-typing, compiled, memory,
Testing	Duck-typing, no recompile, TDD	Static-typing, templates, compiled
Performance	Slow	Very fast
Features/Bugs	Qt/C++ and wrapper, few users	Qt/C++, many users







### **PYQT OR QT FOR PYTHON?**



	PyQt	Qt for Python
License	GPLv3 or Riverbank Commercial	LGPLv3 or Qt Commercial License
API Completeness	~	~
Tools and Add-ons	pyqtdeploy, QScintilla, Sip	
Community	PyQt, longer history	Qt project, relatively new
Support	500\$ commercial	Qt commercial support
Binding Generator	sip	shiboken

### **PYQT OR QT FOR PYTHON?**



- Wrapper
- python\_qt\_binding
- QtPy

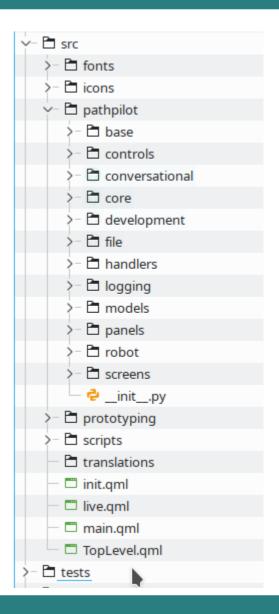
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# PROJECT STRUCTURE & WORKFLOW

### **PROJECT STRUCTURE**



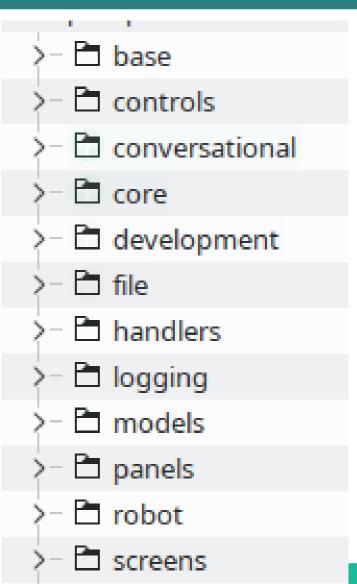
- init/main.qml → production
- live.qml → live coding
- main.py → scripts



### **PROJECT STRUCTURE**



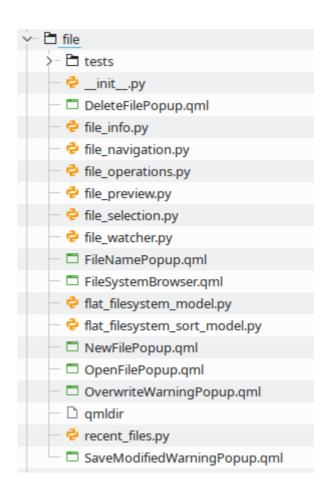
- init/main.qml → production
- live.qml → live coding
- main.py → scripts



### MIXED QML MODULES



- QML and Python
- QML modules
- C++ → external
- Binding



### SCALING UP QML



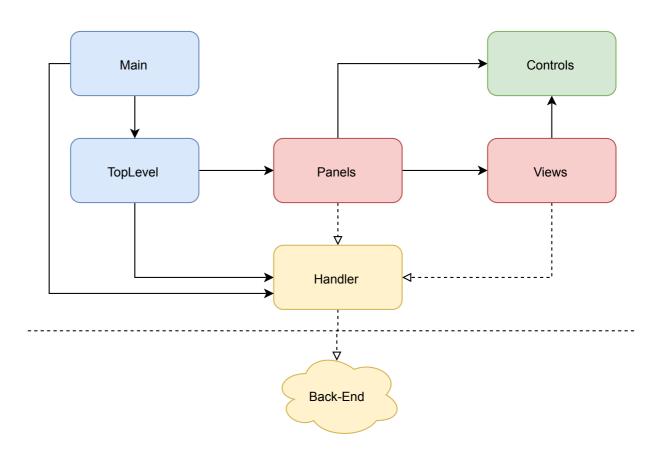
- Small app → straightforward
- Complex HMI → ???
- QtCon 2016
- Neptune 3



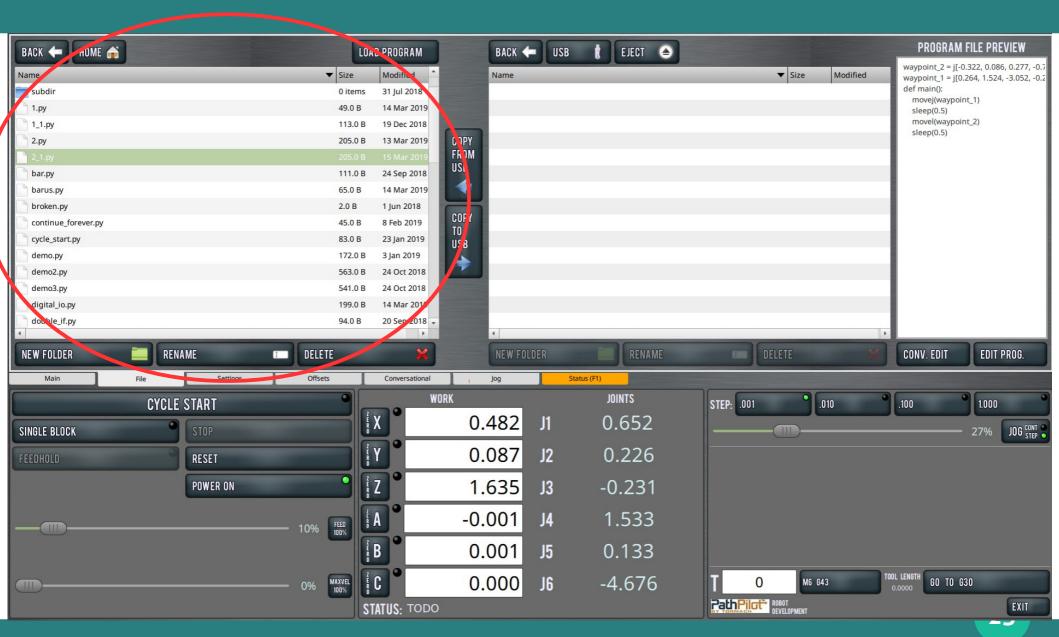
### QML ARCHITECTURE



- Scaling up
- ~Neptune 3



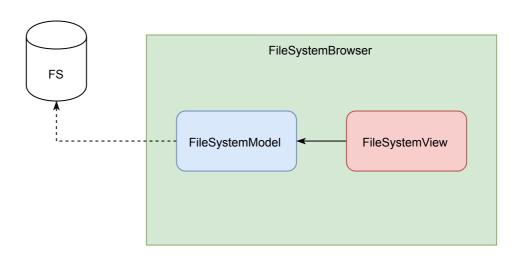




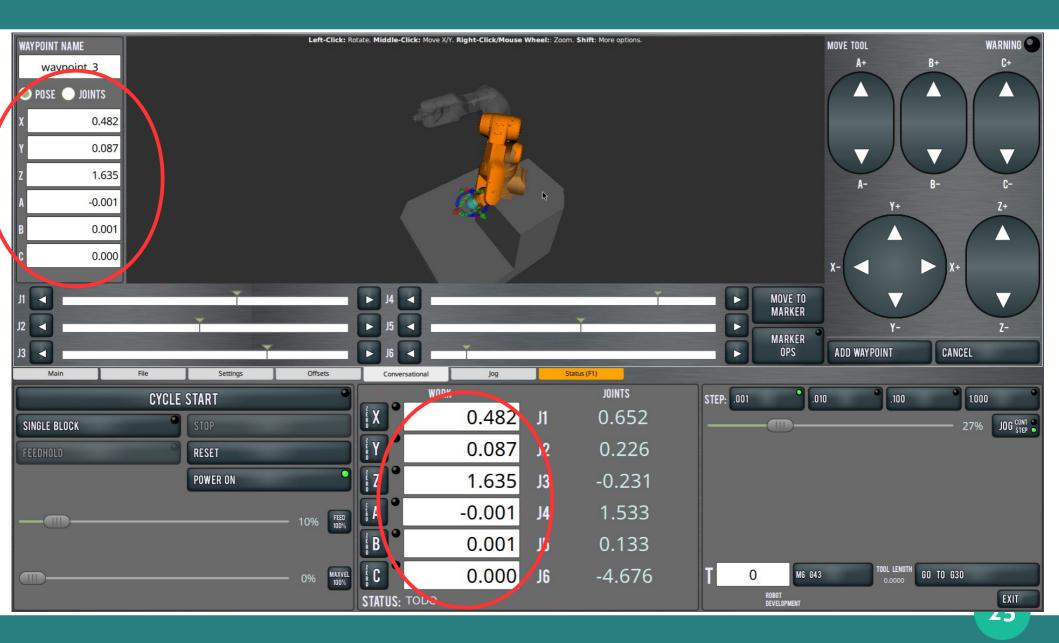


- Good for single use
- Dialogs
- Popups

•

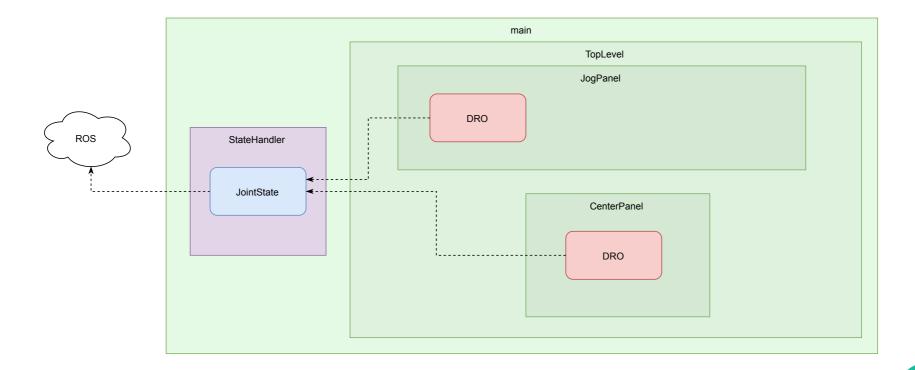








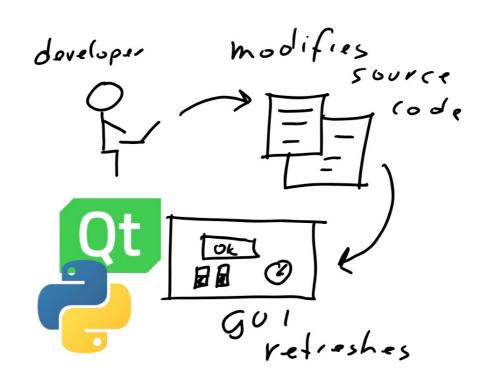
- Access via reference
- Consistent state



### Working with QTQuick & Python



- Live coding
- Short feedback loops



### Working with QTQuick & Python



- Code editor
  - QtCreator → PyCharm → CLion
- QML support
- Python tests







### QUALITY ASSURANCE & ISSUES

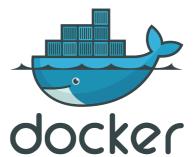
### **Tools**



- Black
- qmlfmt
- Flake8
- Pre-commit
- Docker







### **TESTING**



- TDD
- Pytest
- pytest-qt

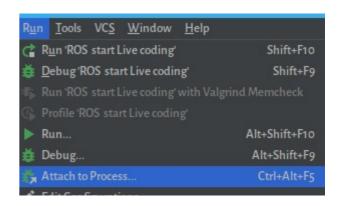


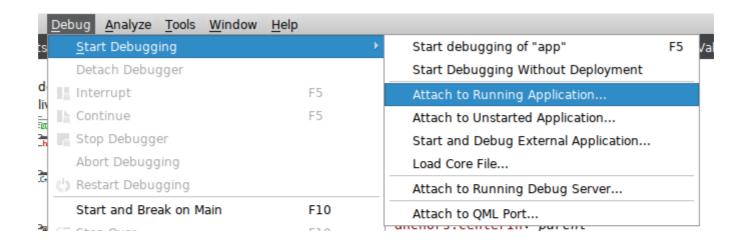
```
# -*- coding: utf-8 -*-
import os
import pytest
from ros_pytest_qt import QtQuickTestWindow
from python_qt_binding.QtGui import QColor
MODULE_PATH = os.path.realpath(os.path.dirname(__file__))
@pytest.fixture
def led window():
    window = QtQuickTestWindow(visible=False, path=MODULE_PATH)
    window.load_data('Led {}')
    return window
def test_led_has_on_color_when_value_is_true(led_window, qtbot):
    led = led_window.item(class_='Led')
    led.onColor = 'red'
    led.offColor = 'blue'
    led.value = True
    assert led.color == QColor('red')
```

#### **MIXED DEBUGGING**



- Qt Creator or CLion
- Attach to Running Application
- Logging





### **QT EVENT-LOOP**



#### • Ctrl-C

```
import sys

from PyQt5.QtGui import QGuiApplication
from PyQt5.QtQml import QQmlApplicationEngine

if __name__ == '__main__':
    app = QGuiApplication(sys.argv)

    engine = QQmlApplicationEngine()
    engine.load('./main.qml')

    sys.exit(app.exec_())
```



### **QT EVENT-LOOP**



#### • Ctrl-C

```
import sys

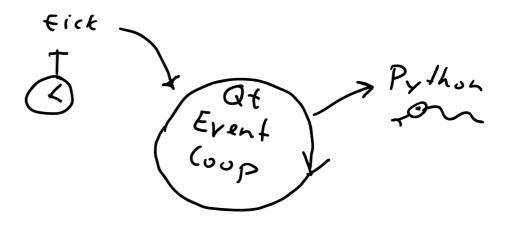
from PyQt5.QtCore import QTimer
from PyQt5.QtGui import QGuiApplication
from PyQt5.QtQml import QQmlApplicationEngine

if __name__ == '__main__':
    app = QGuiApplication(sys.argv)

    engine = QQmlApplicationEngine()
    engine.load('./main.qml')

    timer = QTimer()
    timer.timeout.connect(lambda: None)
    timer.start(100)

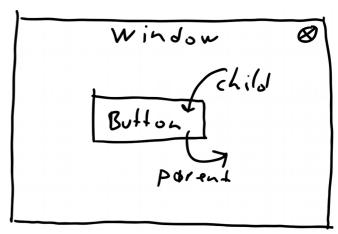
sys.exit(app.exec_())
```



### **LONG-LIVING OBJECTS**



- Python object
- QML component
- Global reference



```
class InteractiveMarker(QObject):

    def __init__(self, parent=None):
        super(InteractiveMarker, self).__init__(parent)

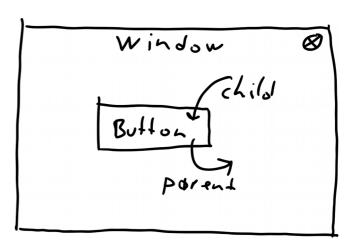
        self.data = None
        self._fb_sub = rospy.Subscriber(
            FEEDBACK_TOPIC, InteractiveMarkerFeedback, self._feedback_received
    )

    def _feedback_received(self, msg):
        self.data = msg.data
```

### **LONG-LIVING OBJECTS**



- Python object
- QML component
- Global reference



```
class InteractiveMarker(QObject):
    def __init__(self, parent=None):
        super(InteractiveMarker, self).__init__(parent)

        self.data = None
        self._fb_sub = rospy.Subscriber(
            FEEDBACK_TOPIC, InteractiveMarkerFeedback, self._feedback_received)
        self.destroyed.connect(lambda: self._fb_sub.unregister())

    def _feedback_received(self, msg):
        self.data = msg.data
```

### **QVARIANT PROPERTY**



### QJSValue

InteractiveMove {

targetPose: [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]

List

```
@Property(QVariant, notify=targetPoseChanged)
                      def targetPose(self):
                           return self._target_pose
                      @targetPose.setter
                      def targetPose(self, value):
                          value = value.toVariant() if isinstance(value, QJSValue) else value
                          if value == self._target_pose:
                               return
                          self._target_pose = value
                           self.targetPoseChanged.emit(value)
move.targetPose = [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]
```

#### **OTHER PROBLEMS**



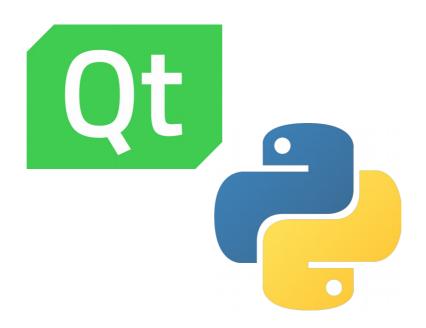
- QML type limit: 60
- PySide2: qmlRegisterSingletonType
- PyQt: QValidator and QQuickItem
- Boilerplate code
- CamelCase vs snake\_case

### Conclusion

#### **CONCLUSION**



- Try Qt for Python
- Use C++ where necessary



### **MORE INFORMATION**



- https://machinekoder.com
- https://github.com/machinekoder



QUESTIONS?