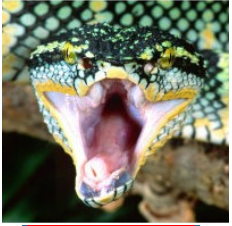
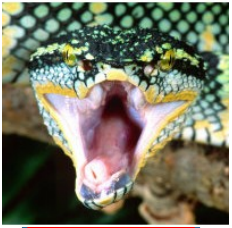


# OpenCPI's Application Control Interface (ACI)



# Agenda

- Introduction
- Creating a new Application
- A Simple Example
- Compiling ACI Applications
- Control Plane
- Accessing the Data Plane
- Python Interface



# Introduction

- The ACI is an API for executing XML-based OpenCPI applications within a C++ or Python context
- Useful when 'ocpirun' cannot supply the necessary programmatic and/or dynamic creation or control of an XML-based application
  - The contents of the application XML (OAS) need to be constructed programmatically
  - The main program needs to directly connect to the ports of the running application
  - An XML-based application needs to be run repeatedly in the same process
  - Some attributes or properties of the XML application need to be dynamically configured or read throughout execution of the application
- Useful for standalone applications or test fixtures



# Creating a New Application

- ACI applications are placed under the `applications/` subdirectory of an OpenCPI project
- New ACI applications can be created with the `ocpidev` tool as follows:
  - `$ ocpidev create application ${appname}`
- If `${appname}` was `demo-aci-app`, the following directory and files should be created as follows:

```
applications/  
|-- demo-aci-app/  
|   |-- demo-aci-app.cc  
|   |-- demo-aci-app.xml  
|   `-- Makefile  
`-- Makefile
```



# A Simple Example

```
#include "OcpApi.hh"
namespace OA = OCPI::API;
...
int main()
{
    try {
        OA::Application app("demo-aci-app.xml");
        app.initialize();
        app.start();
        app.wait();
    } catch (std::string &e) {
        std::cerr << "Error: " << e << std::endl;
    }
}
```

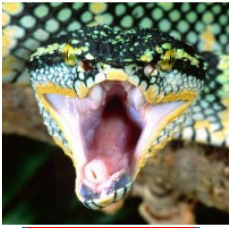


# Compiling ACI Applications

- Compiling an ACI application is similar to building other OpenCPI assets
- The '`--rcc-platform`' option can be used to build for various software platforms
- From the lower level directory:  

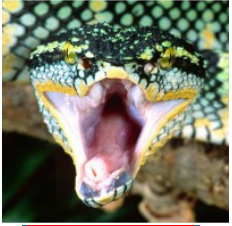
```
$ ocpidev build --rcc-platform centos7 --rcc-platform xilinx13_3
```
- From top-level of directory:  

```
$ ocpidev build application demo-aci-app --rcc-platform xilinx13_3
```



# Using the Control Plane

- Control plane operations in OpenCPI consist of getting and setting properties of components
- In the ACI, there are a few different options for getting and setting properties depending on performance, accuracy, and simplicity requirements



# Getting Properties – Option 1

```
...
    OA::Application app("demo-aci-app.xml");
    app.initialize();
    std::string value;
    app.getProperty("bias", "biasValue", value);
    std::cout << value << "\n";
...
    app.start();
    while (true) {
        ...
    }
    catch (std::string &e) {
        std::cerr << "Error: " << e << std::endl;
    }
}
```

- Simplest interface but all string-based, so slowest for real-time processing.





# Getting Properties – Option 2

```
...
    OA::Application app("demo-aci-app.xml");
    app.initialize();
    unsigned int ivalue = app.getPropertyValue("bias", "biasValue");
    std::cout << ivalue << "\n";
...
    app.start();
    while (true) {
        ...
    }
    catch (std::string &e) {
        std::cerr << "Error: " << e << std::endl;
    }
}
```

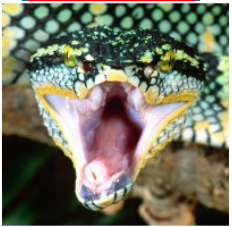
- Template based and simple, but can have C++ 'promoting' issues if you don't explicitly state the type using `getPropertyValue<type>( )`. Gives proper native types, which is sometimes more convenient.



# Getting Properties – Option 3

```
...
    OA::Application app("demo-aci-app.xml");
    app.initialize();
    OA::Property biasValue(app, "bias.biasValue");
    std::cout << biasValue.getULongValue();
...
    app.start();
    while (true) {
        ...
    }
    catch (std::string &e) {
        std::cerr << "Error: " << e << std::endl;
    }
}
```

- Fastest, lowest level, "I know exactly what to expect," with possible optimizations to direct memory-mapped access.



# Setting Properties

...

```
OA::Application app("myapp.xml");  
app.initialize();  
app.setProperty("bias", "biasValue", "15");
```

```
app.setPropertyValue<unsigned int>("bias", "biasValue", 16);
```

```
OA::Property biasValue(app, "bias.biasValue");  
biasValue.setULongValue(17);
```

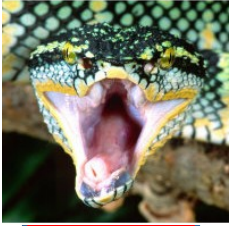
...

```
app.start();  
while (true) {  
    ...  
}  
catch (std::string &e) {  
    std::cerr << "Error: " << e << std::endl;  
}  
}
```



# Accessing the Data Plane

- Data can be written into or read from External Ports of an OpenCPI application using the ACI's ExternalPort and ExternalBuffer classes
- Useful for interfacing with other applications external to OpenCPI that use a different protocol or transport layer
- Leaves the data formatting and opcode up to the user for increase flexibility



# Accessing the Data Plane

```
#include "OcpiApi.hh"
namespace OA = OCPI::API;
...
int main()
{
    try {
        OA::Application app("demo-aci-app.xml");
        app.initialize();
        OA::ExternalPort &toApp = app.getPort("in");
        OA::ExternalPort &fromApp = app.getPort("out");
        app.start();
        while (true) {
            ...
        }
        catch (std::string &e) {
            std::cerr << "Error: " << e << std::endl;
        }
    }
}
```



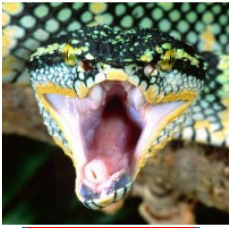
# Example of Sending Data *to* an Application

```
size_t sendBytesToApp(uint8_t *sendPtr, size_t sendSize, ExternalPort &port)
{
    uint8_t *dataPtr = NULL;
    size_t dataSizeBytes = 0;
    OA::ExternalBuffer *dataBuffer = NULL;

    // Get a buffer to fill
    do {
        dataBuffer = port.getBuffer(dataPtr, dataSizeBytes);
    } while(!dataBuffer);

    // Fill the buffer
    const size_t transferSizeBytes = std::min(sendSize, dataSizeBytes);
    memcpy(dataPtr, sendPtr, transferSizeBytes);

    // Actually push N bytes on the port with opcode 0
    dataBuffer->put(transferSizeBytes, 0);
    return transferSizeBytes; // Tell caller
}
```



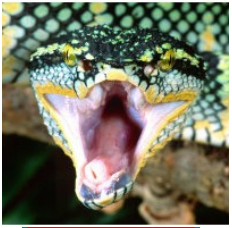
# Example of Getting Data *from* an Application

```
size_t getBytesFromApp(uint8_t *recvPtr, size_t recvSize, ExternalPort &port)
{
    uint8_t *dataPtr = NULL;
    size_t dataSizeBytes = 0;
    uint8_t opCode;
    bool endOfData;
    OA::ExternalBuffer *dataBuffer = NULL;

    // Get a buffer of data
    do {
        dataBuffer = port.getBuffer(dataPtr, dataSizeBytes, opCode, endOfData);
    } while(!dataBuffer);

    // Fill the out buffer with the data
    const size_t transferSizeBytes = std::min(recvSize, dataSizeBytes);
    memcpy(recvPtr, dataPtr, transferSizeBytes);

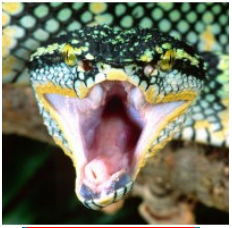
    // Release the buffer
    dataBuffer->release();
    return transferSizeBytes; // Tell caller
}
```



# SWIG Python Interface (Beta)

- OpenCPI has released SWIG bindings for the ACI in the 1.3 release which allows users to access the ACI from within a python interpreter
- The required libraries are provided in the `opencpi-interface-python` package
- Once installed, the ACI can be imported into a python script:  

```
$ python  
>>> import OcpiApi as OA
```
- It is mostly a 1:1 translation from C++ ACI functions to python
  - There are some exceptions due to differences in language features





# A Simple Python Example

```
import OcpiApi as OA
try:
    app = OA.Application("demo-aci-app.xml")
    app.initialize()
    app.start()
    app.wait()
except Exception as e:
    print "Error: " + str(e)
```

