

# Another introduction to Python Import

A gentle introduction to import

Nan Wang, 2022.5.28 Python Meetup Shanghai



王楠

- **2020–now, Co-founder & CTO, Jina AI**
- **2017–20, Senior Researcher, Tencent**
- **2015–17, Data scientist, Zalando, Germany**
- **2009–14, Ph. D., Ruhr-Universität Bochum, Germany**

# Forbes

## FORBES AI30 DACH 2020

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## Jina.ai raises \$30M for its neural search platform

Frederic Lardinois @fredlrd / 7:00 PM GMT+8 · November 22, 2021

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Berlin-based Jina.ai, an open source startup that helps its users find information in their unstructured data (including videos and images), today announced that it has raised a \$30 million Series A funding round led by Canaan Partners. New investors Mango Capital, as well as existing investors GGV Capital, SAPIO and Yuncy Partners also participated in this round, which brings the company's total funding to \$39 million to date.

Jina.ai CEO and co-founder Han Xiao, who co-founded the company together with Nan Wang and Bing He, explained that the idea behind neural search is to use deep learning neural networks to go beyond traditional keyword-based search tools. Making use of relatively new machine learning technologies like transfer learning and representation learning, the company's core Jina framework can help developers quickly build search tools for their specific use cases.

"Given an image, audio, video or whatever — we first use deep neural networks to translate this data format into a universal representation," Xiao explained. "In this case, it's mostly a mathematic vector — 100-dimensional vectors. And then, the matching [algorithm] does not count how many letters match but counts the mathematical distance, the vector distance between these two vectors. In this way, you can basically use this kind of methodology to solve all kinds of data search problems or relevance problems."

Xiao described Jina as akin to TensorFlow for search (with TensorFlow being Google's open source machine learning framework). Just like TensorFlow or PyTorch defined the design pattern of how people design AI systems, Jina wants to define how people build neural search systems — and become the de facto standard for doing so in the process.

## Jina AI Raises \$30 Million to Build Neural Search

By Ben Schwartz | Nov 30, 2021

CHANNEL: Information Management

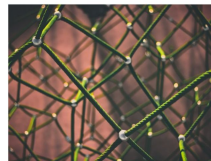


PHOTO: CLINT ADAM ON UNsplash

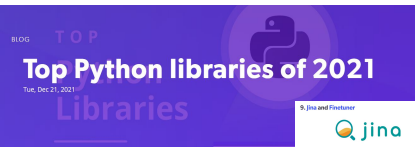
Neural search company Jina AI announced \$30 million in Series A financing this month. Founded in 2020, the Berlin-based company has now raised a total of \$39 million. The latest funding round was led by Westport, Conn.-based venture capital firm Canaan Partners.

The idea behind "neural search" is to enable businesses to build search solutions that generate insights from unstructured data that lead to more effective business decisions. Jina AI's core project, Jina, is an open-source program being built on GitHub which users can utilize to create their own cloud-native neural search solution. Jina AI said this can be done in a matter of hours and matches businesses' need for a lightweight development cycle.

# PUBLIC NOISES

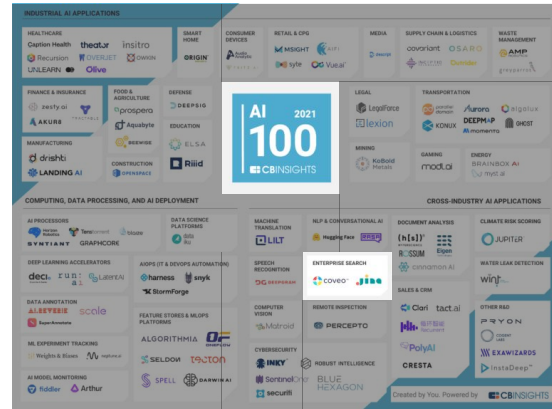
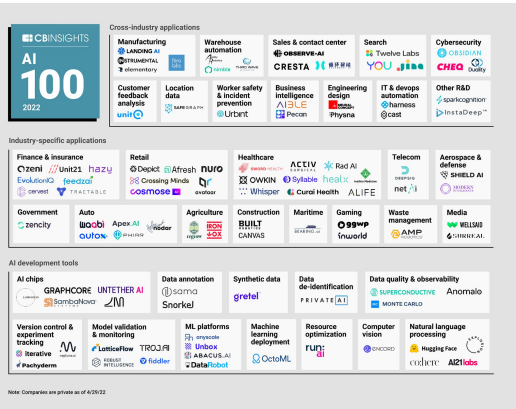
Mattermost

## Open Source Projects Contribute to in 2022



Open-source growth and venture capital investment: Data, databases, challenges, and opportunities  
Then we have Jina AI, a neural search ecosystem for businesses and developers. In terms of databases and data-related platforms....  
7 Jul 2021

Jina and Pretrainer





introduction

# Jina

 jina-ai / jina

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Jina: Cloud-native neural search framework for *any* kind of data

- **Top 1** on GitHub Trending <sup>1</sup>
- **Top 10** Python Libraries 2021 <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>. 2021.8.21, 2021.10.24, 2021.12.24

<sup>2</sup>. <https://tryolabs.com/blog/2021/12/21/top-python-libraries-2021>

# CONTENT

## 01 Demos

`ModuleNotFoundError`

## 02 Modules

Do we really understand module?

## 03 Behind `import`

What's happened behind ``import m``?

## 04 Import in Jina

How `import` is solved in Jina?

# Demos

01

<https://github.com/nan-wang/python-meetup-intro-import-2022.git>

# Demo 1: module importing

```
demo1
├── main.py
└── module_foo.py
```



## Demo 2: intra-package importing

```
demo2
├── main.py
└── pkg_foo
    ├── __init__.py
    ├── module_bar.py
    └── module_foo.py
```

```
$ python main.py

1 import pkg_foo.module_foo
2 Traceback (most recent call last):
3   File "main.py", line 1, in <module>
4     from pkg_foo.module_foo import print_foo
5   File "/Users/nw/demo2/pkg_foo/module_foo.py", line 4,
6     in <module>
7     from module_bar import bar_var
8 ModuleNotFoundError: No module named 'module_bar'
```

## Demo 2: intra-package importing

```
demo2
├── main.py
└── pkg_foo
    ├── __init__.py
    ├── module_bar.py
    └── module_foo.py
```



demo2/pkg\_foo/module\_foo.py

```
1 -from module_bar import bar_var
2 +from .module_bar import bar_var
```

## Demo 3: package importing

```
demo3
├── pkg_foo
│   ├── __init__.py
│   ├── module_bar.py
│   └── module_foo.py
└── scripts
    └── main.py
```

```
$ python scripts/main.py

1 Traceback (most recent call last):
2   File "scripts/main.py", line 1, in <module>
3     from pkg_foo.module_foo import print_foo
4 ModuleNotFoundError: No module named 'pkg_foo'
```

## Demo 3: package importing

```
demo3
├── pkg_foo
│   ├── __init__.py
│   ├── module_bar.py
│   └── module_foo.py
└── scripts
    └── main.py
```



\$ python scripts/main.py

```
1 Traceback (most recent call last):
2   File "scripts/main.py", line 1, in <module>
3     from ..pkg_foo.module_foo import print_foo
4 ImportError: attempted relative import with no known
  parent package
```

## Demo 3: package importing

```
demo3
├── pkg_foo
│   ├── __init__.py
│   ├── module_bar.py
│   └── module_foo.py
└── scripts
    └── main.py
```

```
scripts/main.py

1 -from ..pkg_foo.module_foo import print_foo
2 +import sys
3 +sys.path.append('/Users/nanwang/Codes/jina-ai/python-
  meetup-hangzhou-2022/demo3')
4 +
5 +from pkg_foo.module_foo import print_foo
```

# Why do we fix in different ways?



demo2/pkg\_foo/module\_foo.py

```
1 -from module_bar import bar_var  
2 +from .module_bar import bar_var
```



scripts/main.py

```
1 -from ..pkg_foo.module_foo import print_foo  
2 +import sys  
3 +sys.path.append('/Users/nanwang/Codes/jina-ai/python-  
  meetup-hangzhou-2022/demo3')  
4 +  
5 +from pkg_foo.module_foo import print_foo
```

# **Module**

02

# Let's take a second look at Module

*A module is a file containing Python definitions and statements.*

*You can think of packages as the directories on a file system  
and modules as files within directories*

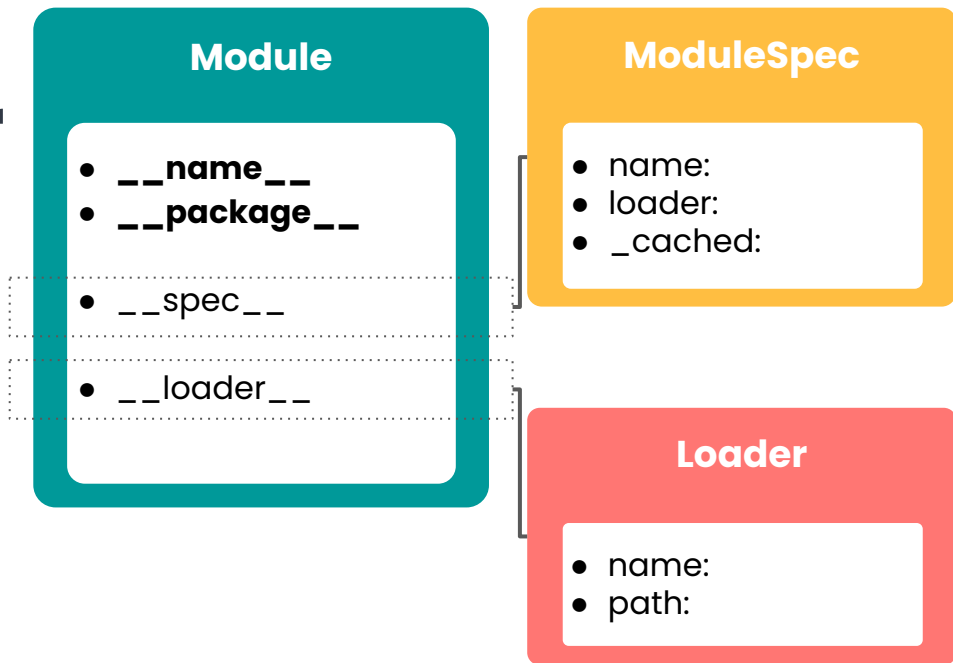
*..., but **don't take this analogy too literally** since packages  
and modules need not originate from the file system.*

— <https://docs.python.org/3/reference/import.html>



# Module, ModuleSpec & Loader

- **Module:** An object that serves as an organizational unit of Python code.
- **Module spec:** An encapsulation of the module's import-related information
- **Loader:** An object that loads a module.



## Behind import

02

# Import module

*Find*

*Load*

```
import m
```



```
__import__('m')
```



importlib/\_bootstrap.py

```
1 def __import__(name, globals=None, locals=None,  
  fromlist=(), level=0):  
2     ...
```

```
import m
```

```
from foo_pkg import m
```

```
from m import bar
```

```
from ..m import bar
```

```
from m import *
```

```
import foo_pkg.m
```

```
__import__('m', globals(), locals(), None, 0)
```

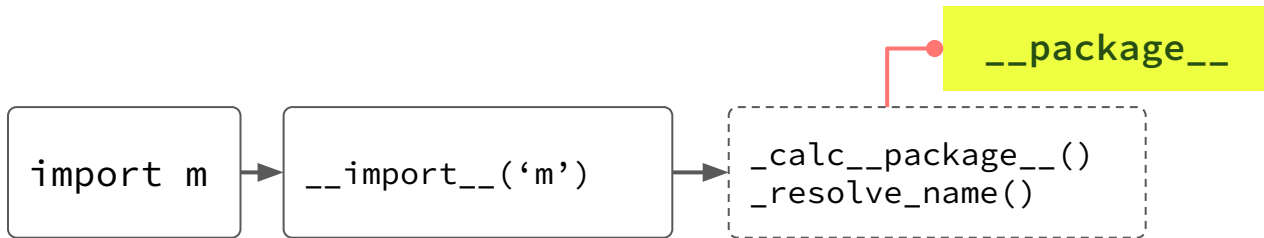
```
__import__('pkg', globals(), locals(), ['m'], 0)
```

```
__import__('m', globals(), locals(), ['bar'], 0)
```

```
__import__('m', globals(), locals(), ['bar'], 2)
```

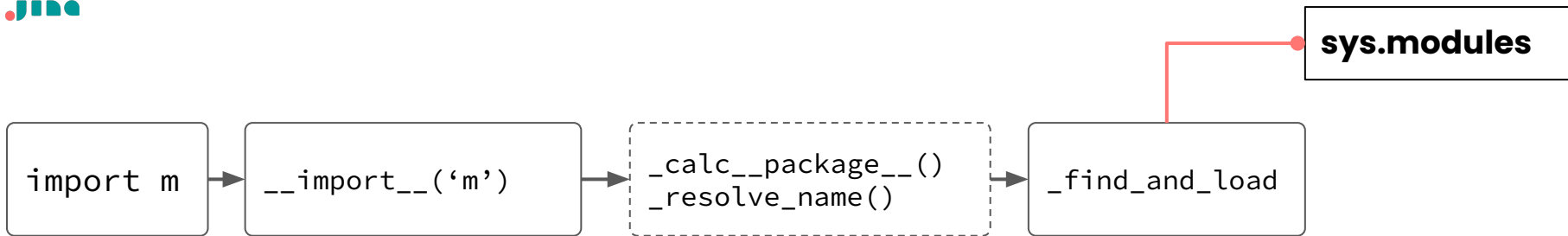
```
__import__('m', globals(), locals(), ['*'], 0)
```

```
__import__('foo_pkg.m', globals(), locals(), None, 0)
```



### Optional:

Calculate current module for  
relative imports.

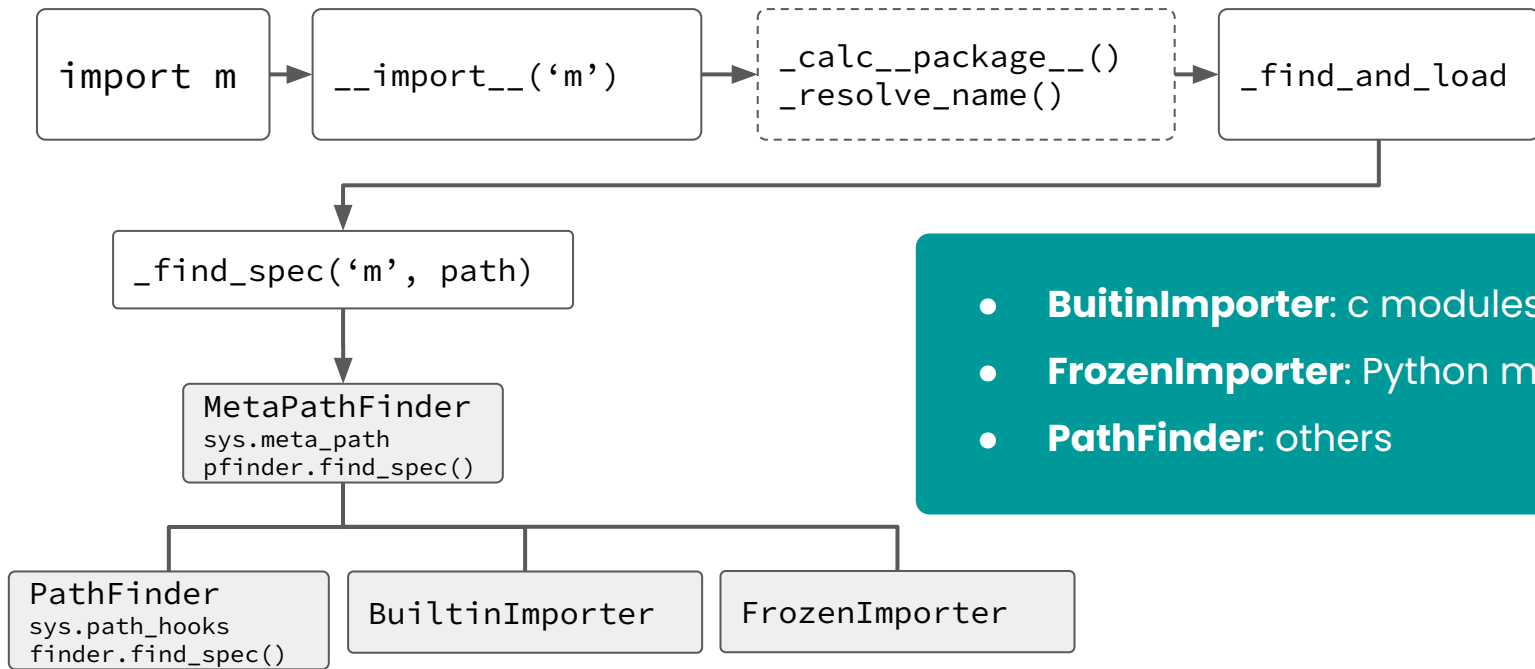


### Finder:

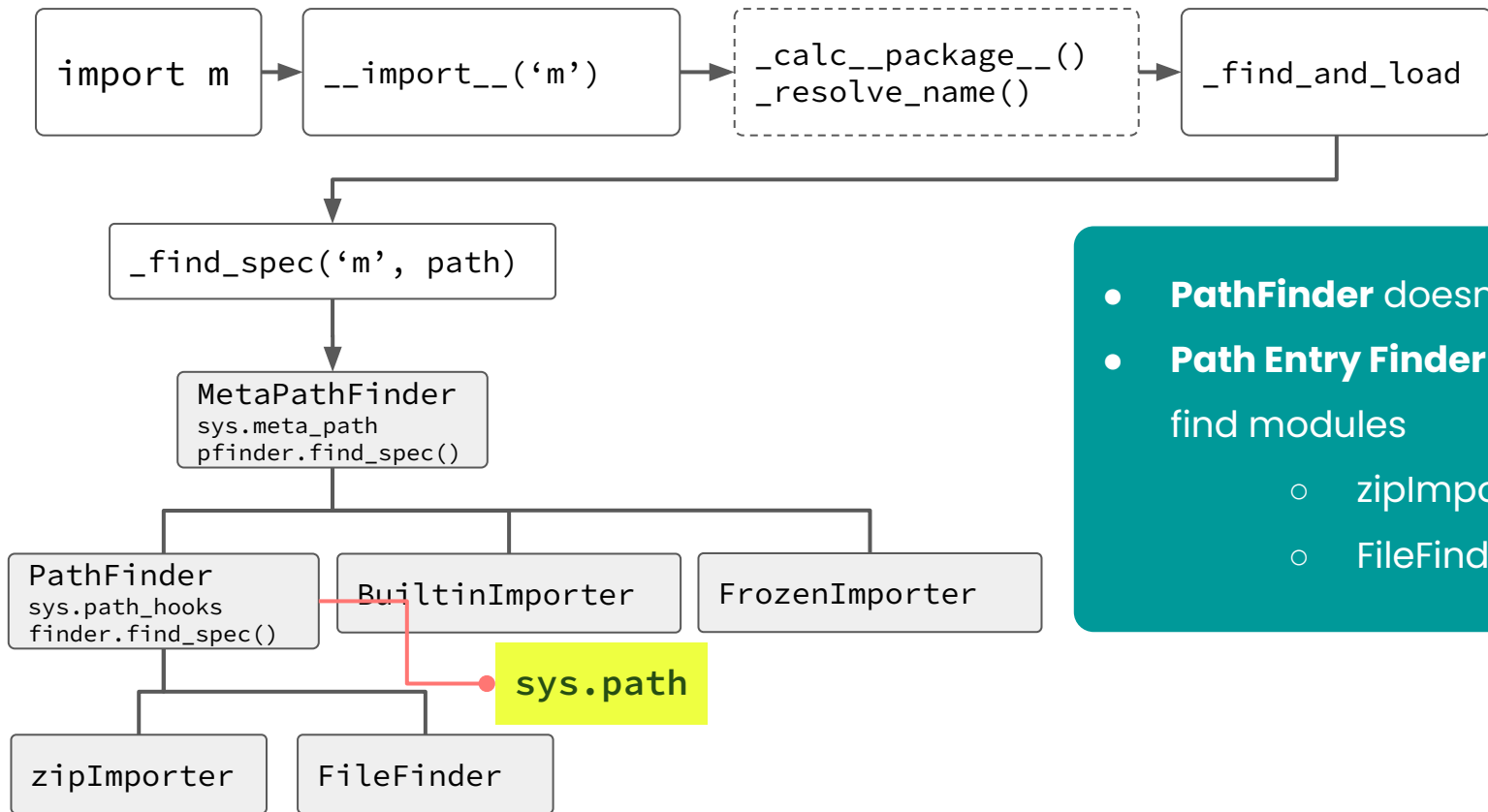
An object that tries to find the loader for a module that is being imported.

### Loader:

An object that loads a module

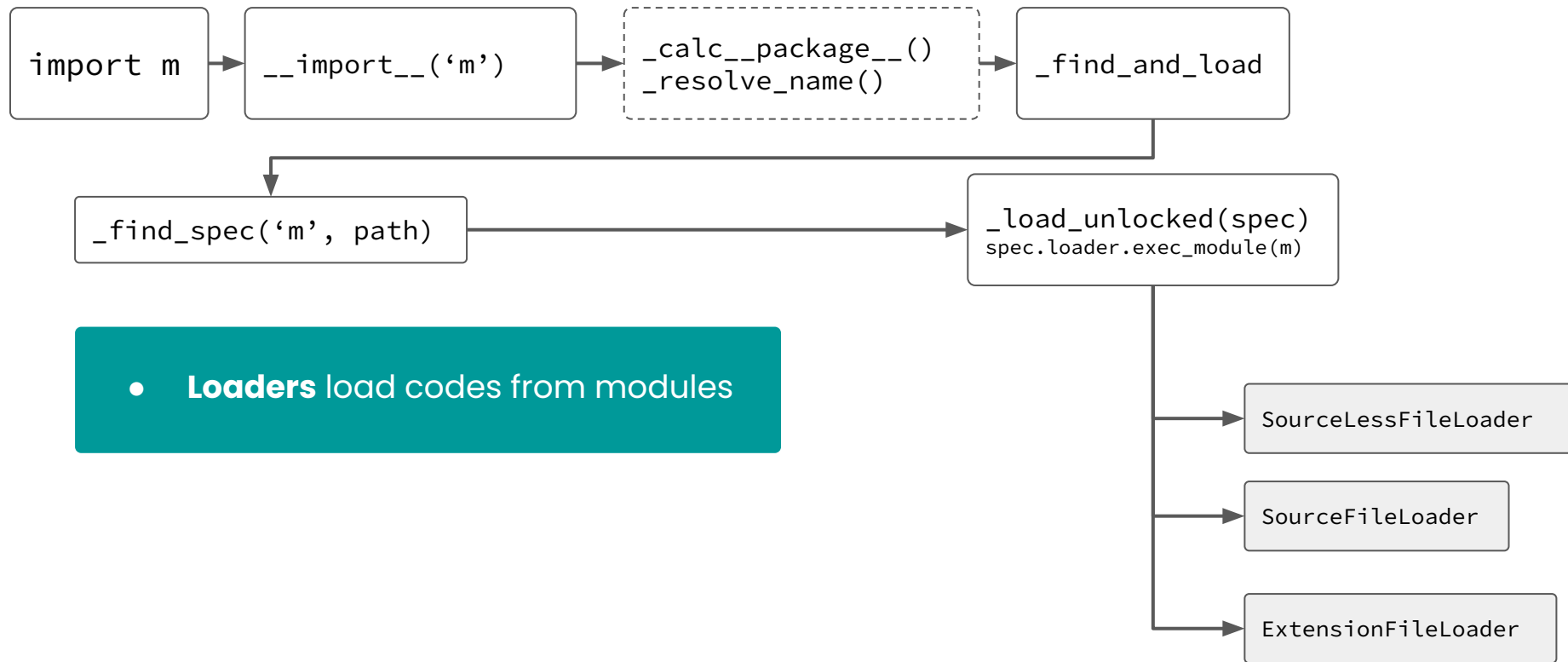


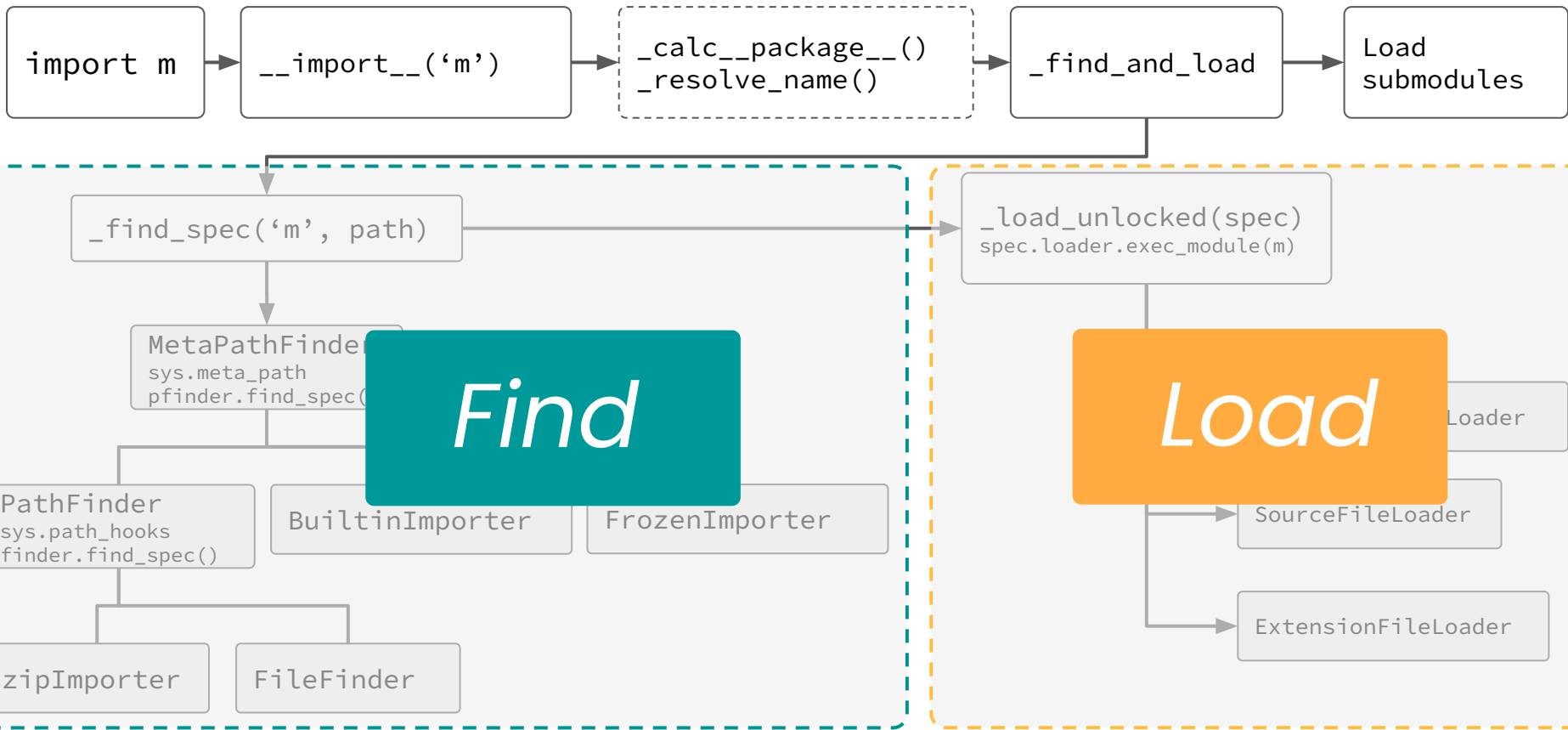
- **BuitinImporter:** c modules compiled
- **FrozenImporter:** Python modules compile
- **PathFinder:** others



- **PathFinder** doesn't do search
- **Path Entry Finder** knows how to find modules
  - `zipImporter`
  - `FileFinder`

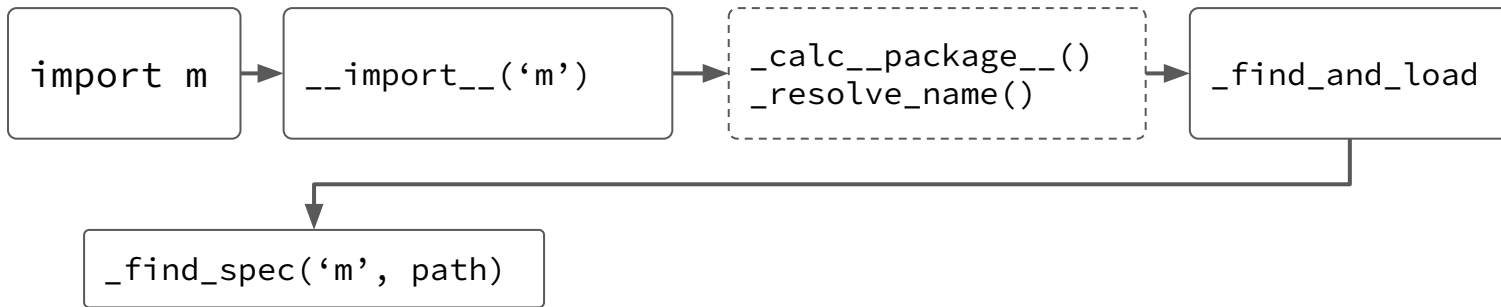






# Let's go back to our confusing demos





```

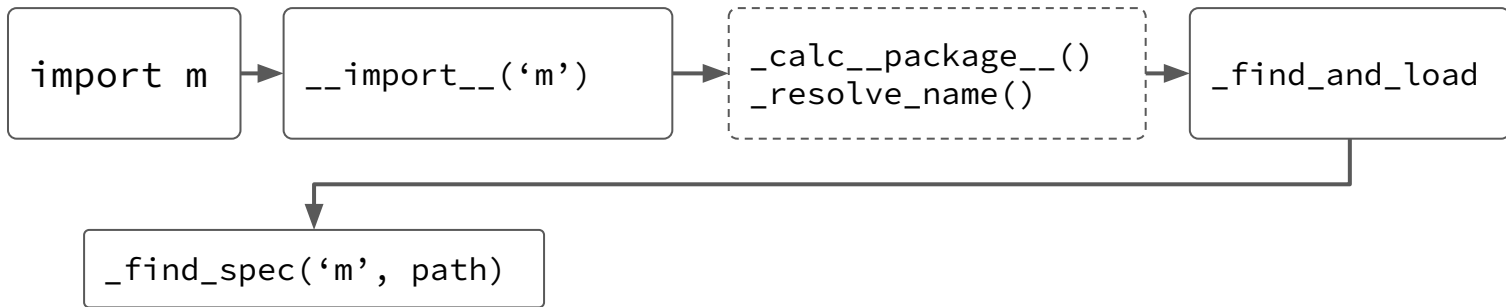
pkg_foo/module_foo.py

1 from module_bar import bar_var
2 ...
  
```

```

$ python main.py

1 import pkg_foo.module_foo
2 Traceback (most recent call last):
3   File "main.py", line 1, in <module>
4     from pkg_foo.module_foo import print_foo
5   File "/Users/nw/demo2/pkg_foo/module_foo.py", line 4,
    in <module>
6     from module_bar import bar_var
7 ModuleNotFoundError: No module named 'module_bar'
8
  
```



```

demo2/pkg_foo/module_foo.py

1 -from module_bar import bar_var
2 +from .module_bar import bar_var
  
```

```

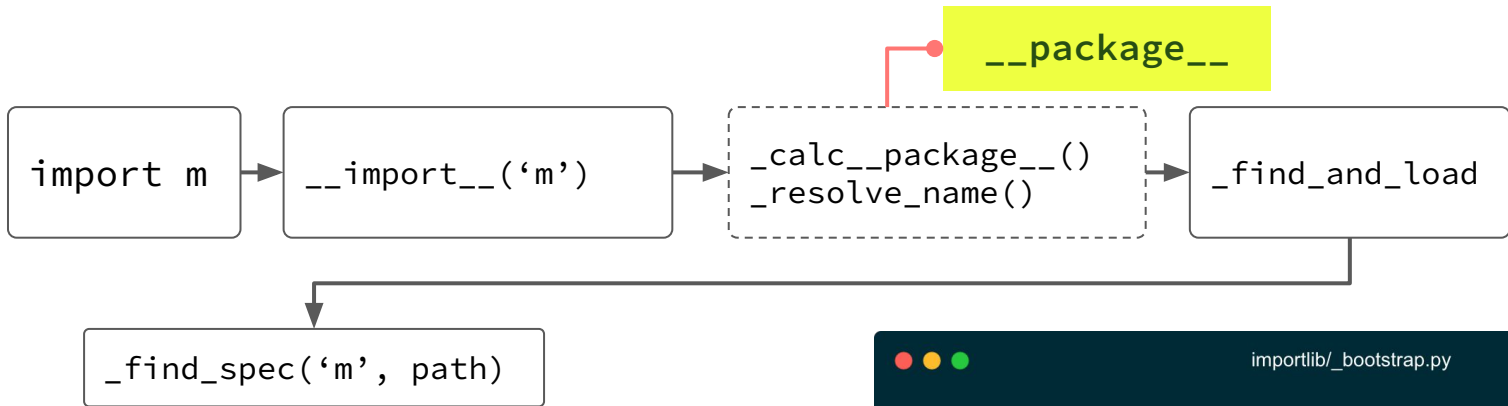
from m import b_v

from .m import b_v
  
```

```

__import__('m', globals(), locals(), ['b_v'], level=0)

__import__('m', globals(), locals(), ['b_v'], level=1)
  
```



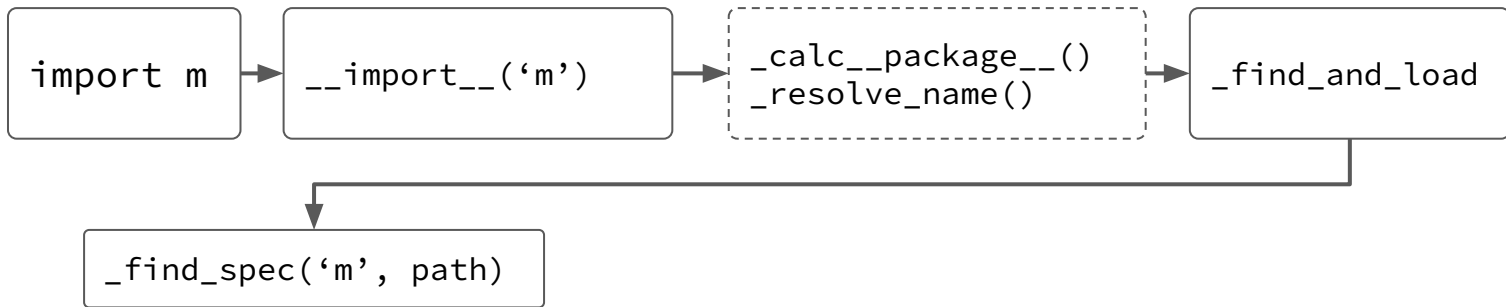
## .\_\_package\_\_

module	None
submodule	parent.__name__
package	__name__

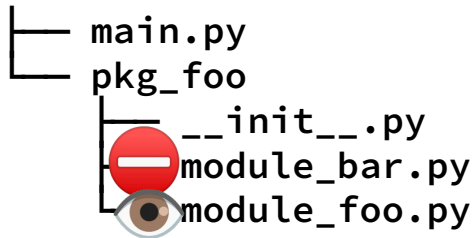
```

importlib/_bootstrap.py

1 def _calc__package__(globals):
2     """Calculate what __package__ should be.
3
4     __package__ is not guaranteed to be defined or could
5     be set to None
6     to represent that its proper value is unknown.
7
8     """
9     package = globals.get('__package__')
10    spec = globals.get('__spec__')
11    ...
12    return package
  
```



demo2



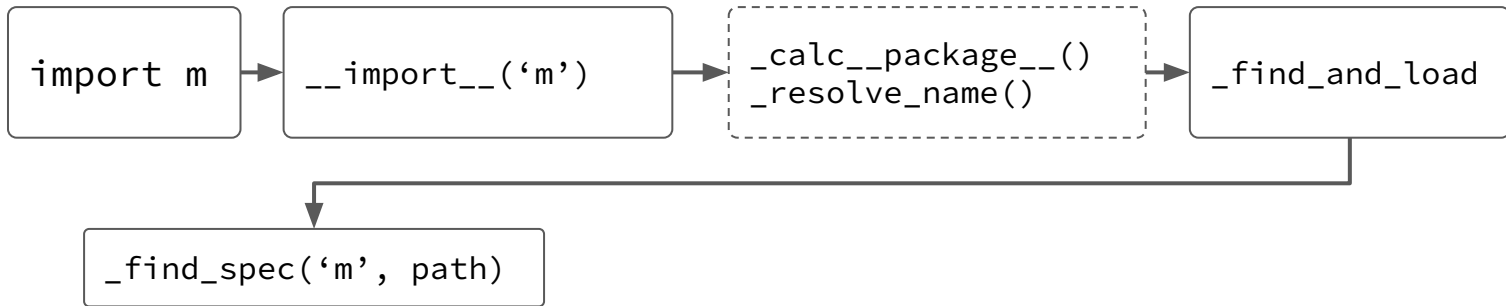
-> from p\_foo.m\_foo import print\_foo

-> from **m\_bar** import var\_bar

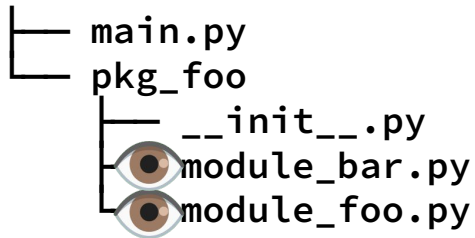
\_\_package\_\_

from **m\_bar**      None

from .m\_bar      'pkg\_foo'



demo2



-> from p\_foo.m\_foo import print\_foo

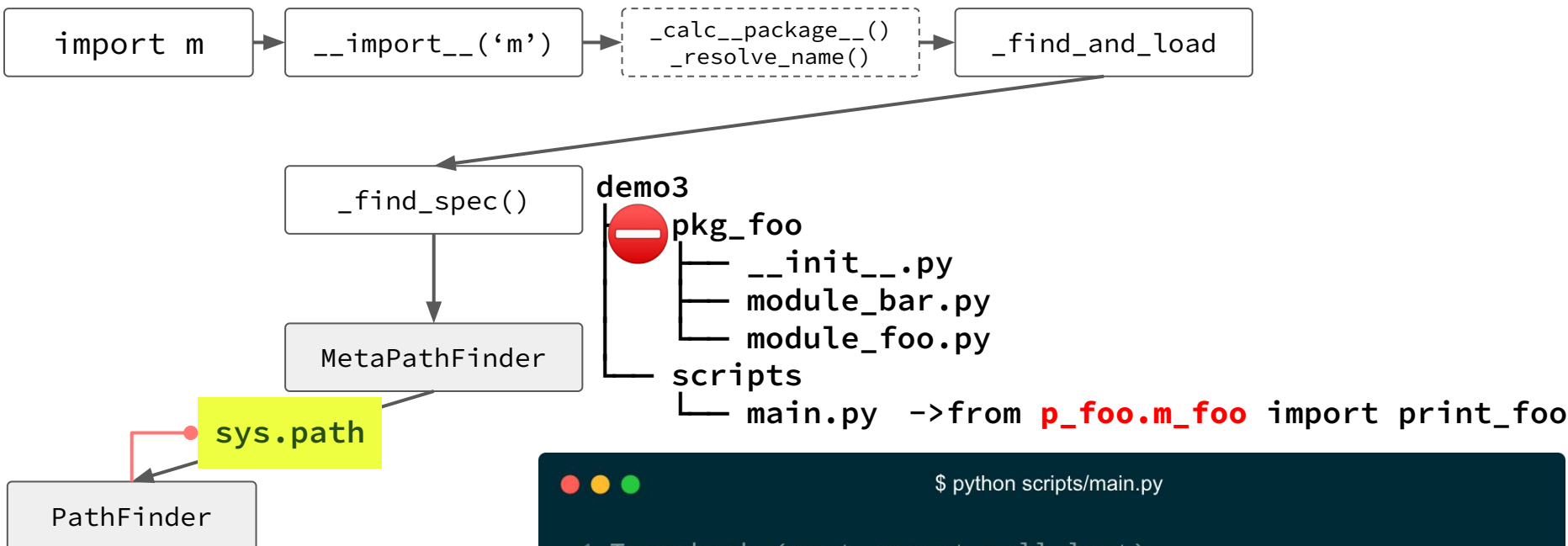
-> from **.m\_bar** import var\_bar  
-> path='.../demo3/pkg\_foo/'

	<u>__package__</u>
from <b>m_bar</b>	None
from <b>.m_bar</b>	'pkg_foo'



## Revisit Demo 2

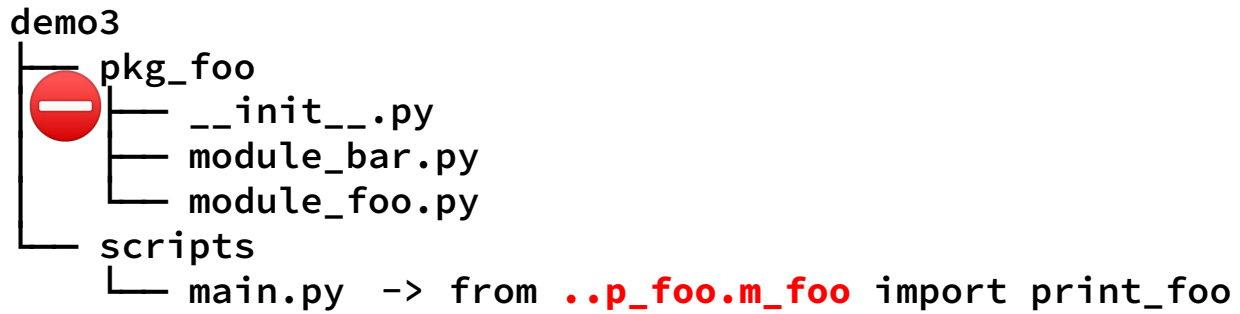
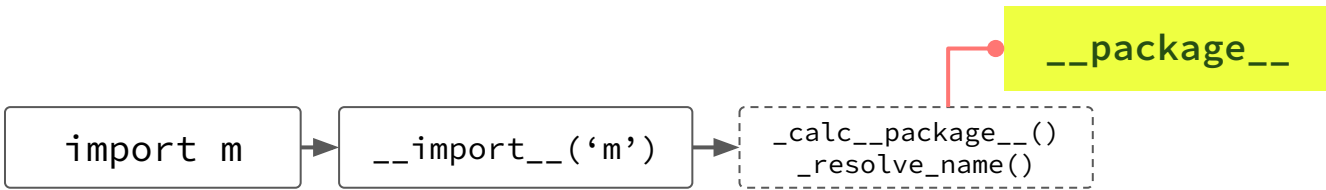
- Relative import use **\_\_package\_\_** of the current module
- Absolute import must have module locations in **sys.path**



```

$ python scripts/main.py

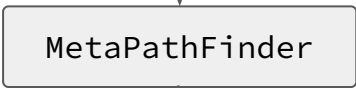
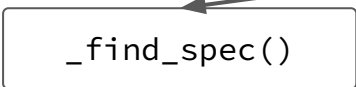
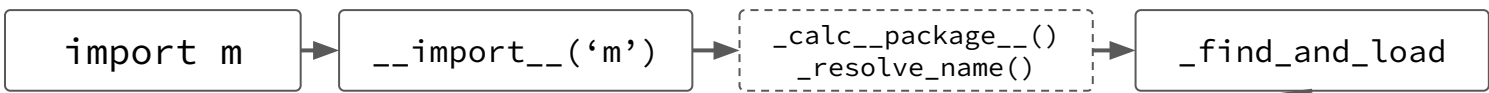
1 Traceback (most recent call last):
2   File "scripts/main.py", line 1, in <module>
3     from pkg_foo.module_foo import print_foo
4 ModuleNotFoundError: No module named 'pkg_foo'
  
```



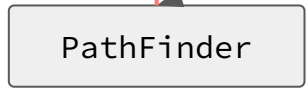
```

$ python scripts/main.py

1 Traceback (most recent call last):
2   File "scripts/main.py", line 1, in <module>
3     from ..pkg_foo.module_foo import print_foo
4 ImportError: attempted relative import with no known
  parent package
  
```



**sys.path**



demo3



```

demo3
├── pkg_foo
│   ├── __init__.py
│   ├── module_bar.py
│   └── module_foo.py
└── scripts
    └── main.py
  
```

```

-> import sys
sys.path.append('.')
from p_foo.m_foo import print_foo
  
```

## Revisit Demo 3

- Relative import only works for packages
- **sys.path** includes an invocation-dependent current directory
- Absolute import must have module locations in **sys.path**

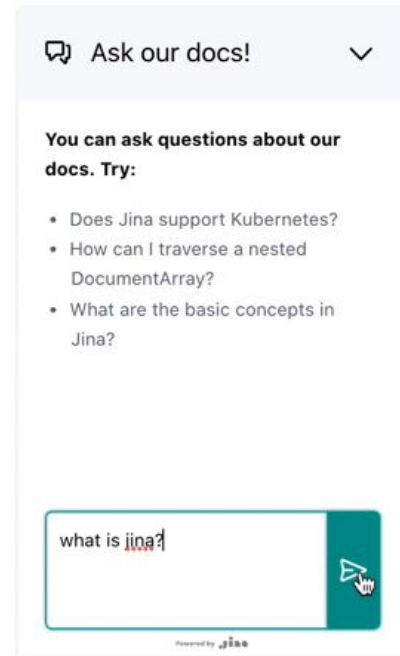
## **How do we use import in Jina**

04

What is Neural Search?

# Question-Answer Chatbot

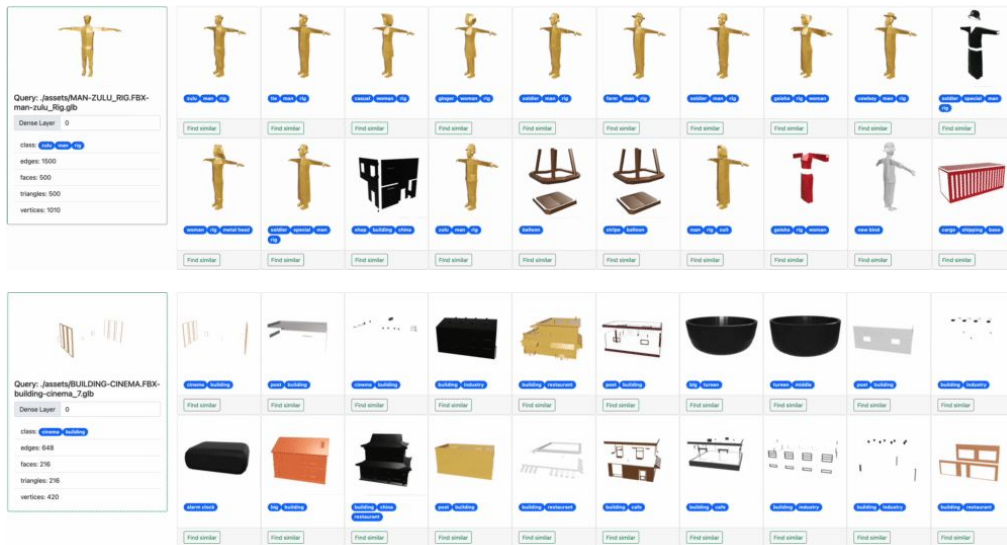
Answer arbitrary questions in a closed  
domain



## What is Neural Search?

# 3D Mesh Look-alike

Easily find “look-alike” assets in game development



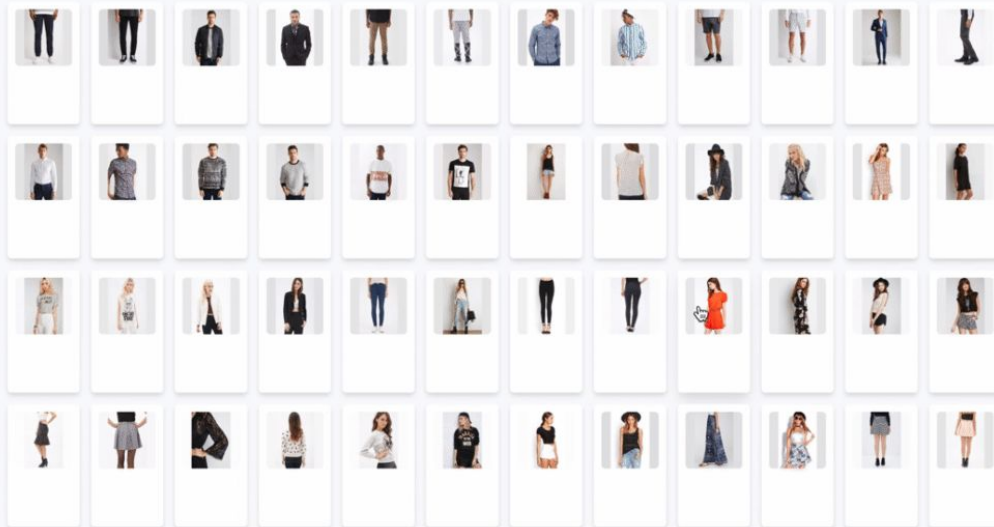


What is Neural Search?

# Find Similar Fashion Items

Given a fashion item, find top-k most visually similar fashion items in stock.

Example Queries



## Product Landscape

# Jina Ecosystem, Comprehensive **End2end** Neural Search Experience

Production



### DocsQA

From DocsQA bot to user interaction analytics for business insights.



### Finetuner API

Hosted Finetuning product aiming to solve last-mile search fine-tuning fitting enterprise reliability and availability expectations.



### Jina Now

Self-service ordering kiosks for building Neural Search System.

**And more**  
...

OSS



### DocArray

targets at data scientists and AI engineers, focus on monolith programming, wrapping all vector databases (horizontal)



### Jina

targets at scaling out local solution built via DocArray to the cloud (vertical)



### Hub

OSS provides extensive opensource executors as NSS component for user to plug and play



### Finetuner

Oss version solve basic finetuning elements with loads of manual settings to set up search results finetune

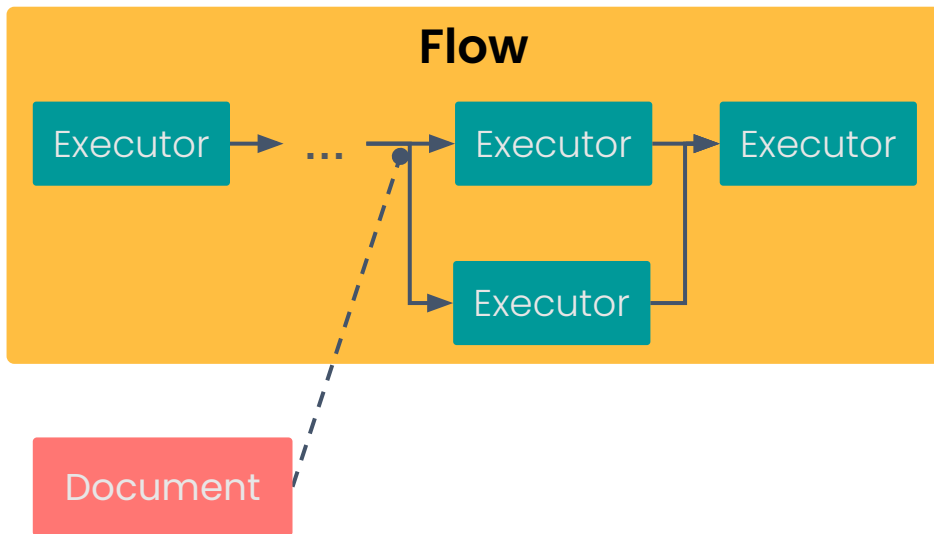


### Clip-as-Service

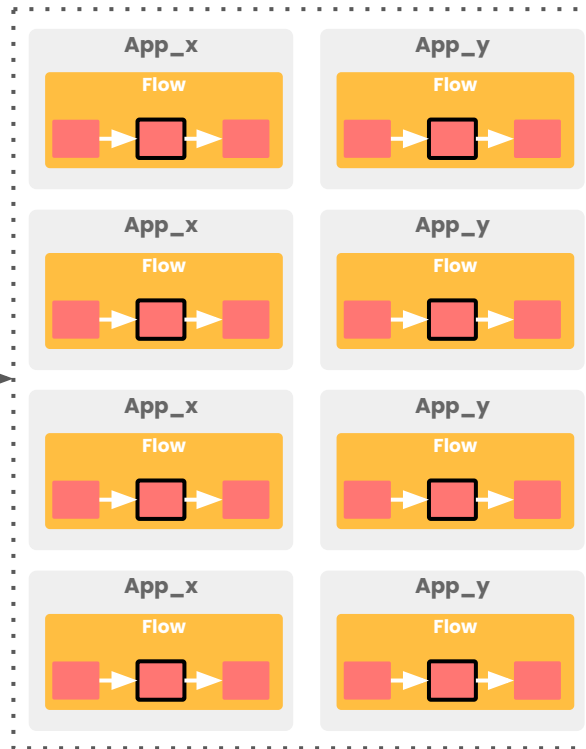
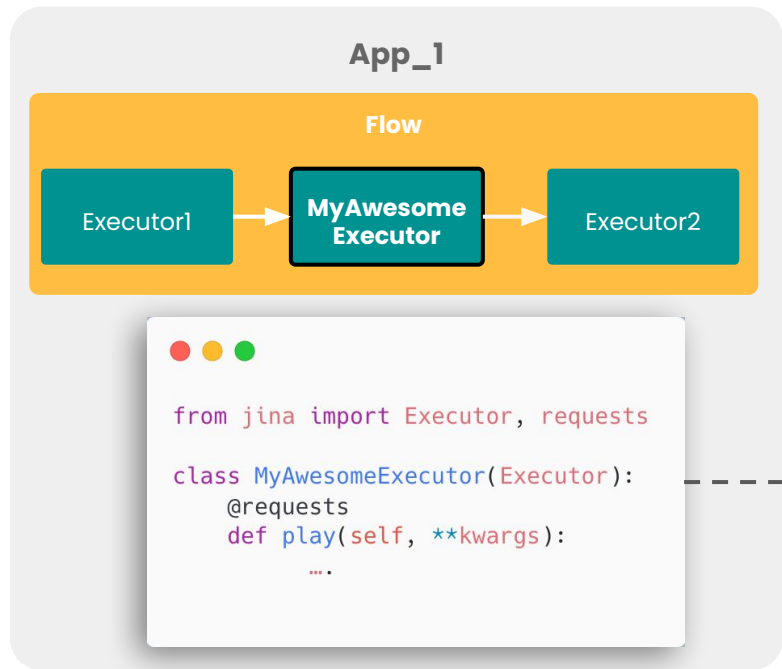
Embed images and sentences into fixed-length vectors with CLIP. The upgrade of Bert-as-Service

### 3 Basic Concepts

- **D**ocument: the basic data type
- **E**xecutor: a component to perform a single or a group of tasks
- **F**low: orchestrates Executors into a processing pipeline



# Share your awesome Executor



# How we do imports in Jina?

```
jina/importer.py

1  def add_modules(*paths):
2      """
3      Import modules from paths.
4
5      :param paths: Paths of the modules.
6      """
7      from jina.jaml.helper import complete_path
8
9      paths = [complete_path(m) for m in paths]
10
11     for p in paths:
12         ...
13         _path_import(p)
```

```
jina/importer.py

1  def _path_import(absolute_path: str):
2      import importlib.util
3
4      try:
5          default_spec_name = 'user_module'
6          user_module_name =
7              os.path.splitext(os.path.basename(absolute_path))[0]
8              if user_module_name == '__init__':
9                  spec_name = default_spec_name
10             elif user_module_name not in sys.modules:
11                 spec_name = user_module_name
12             else:
13                 spec_name = f'{default_spec_name}.'
14                 {user_module_name}'
15             spec =
16                 importlib.util.spec_from_file_location(spec_name,
17                 absolute_path)
18             module = importlib.util.module_from_spec(spec)
19             sys.modules[spec_name] = module
20             spec.loader.exec_module(module)
21     except Exception as ex:
22         ...
```

# Find

# Load

```
importlib.util.spec_from_file_location('m', '/path/to/m')
```

config.yml

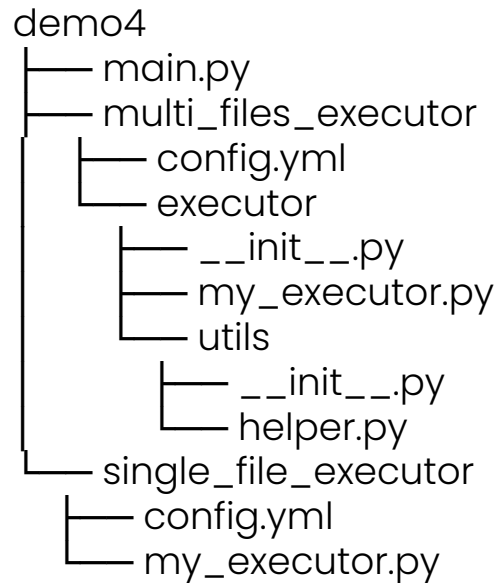
YAML Parser

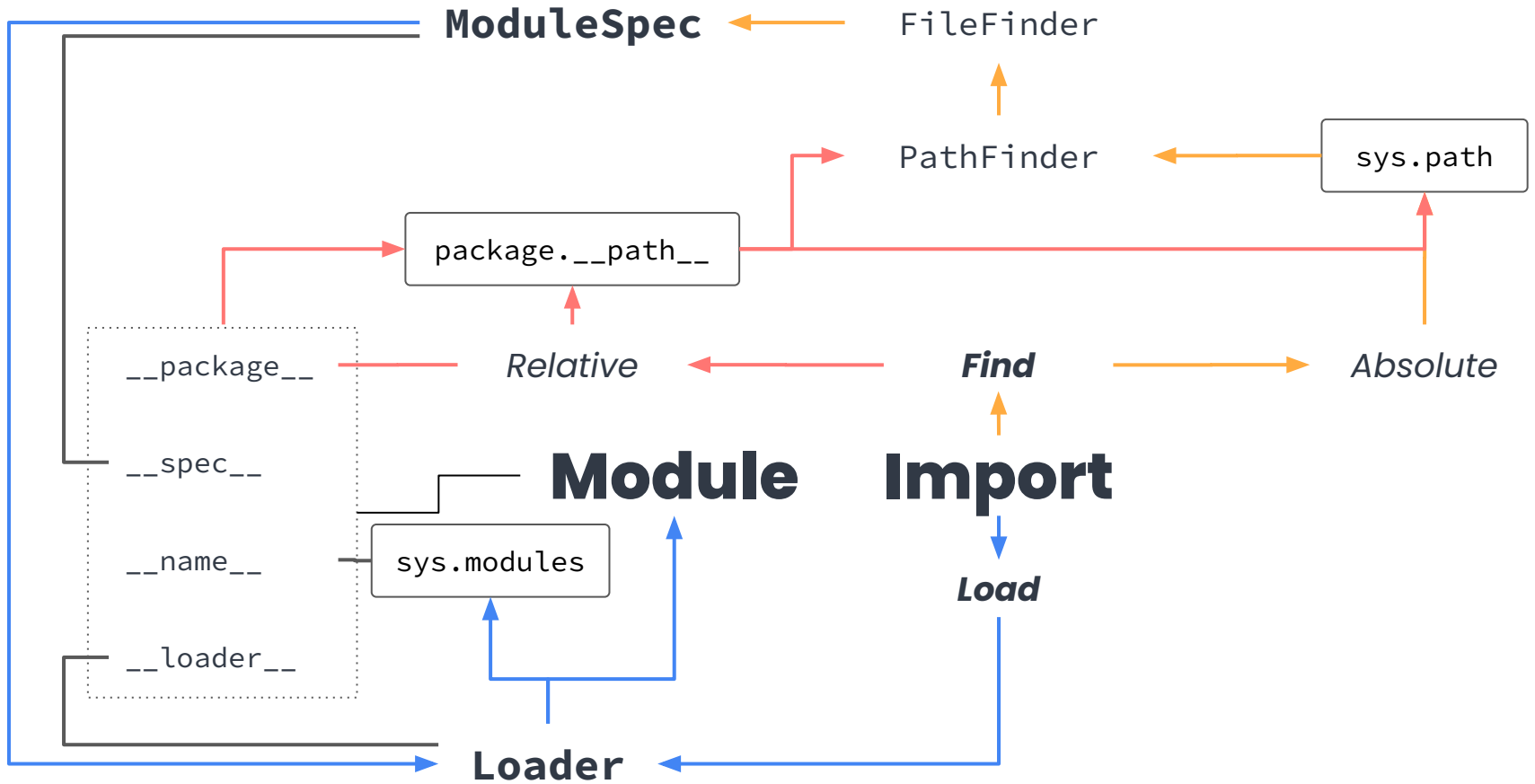
```
importlib.util.module_from_spec(spec)  
sys.modules[spec_name] = module  
spec.loader.exec_module(module)
```

## Demo 4

```
python main.py

1      pod0@89564[I]:ready and listening
2      pod1@89564[I]:ready and listening
3      gateway@89564[I]:ready and listening
4      Flow@89564[I]:🔥 Flow is ready to use!
5      🔗 Protocol:          GRPC
6      🏠 Local access:      0.0.0.0:62062
7      🔒 Private network:    172.20.4.128:62062
8      this is Foo
9      this is Bar. i get help var: helper
```

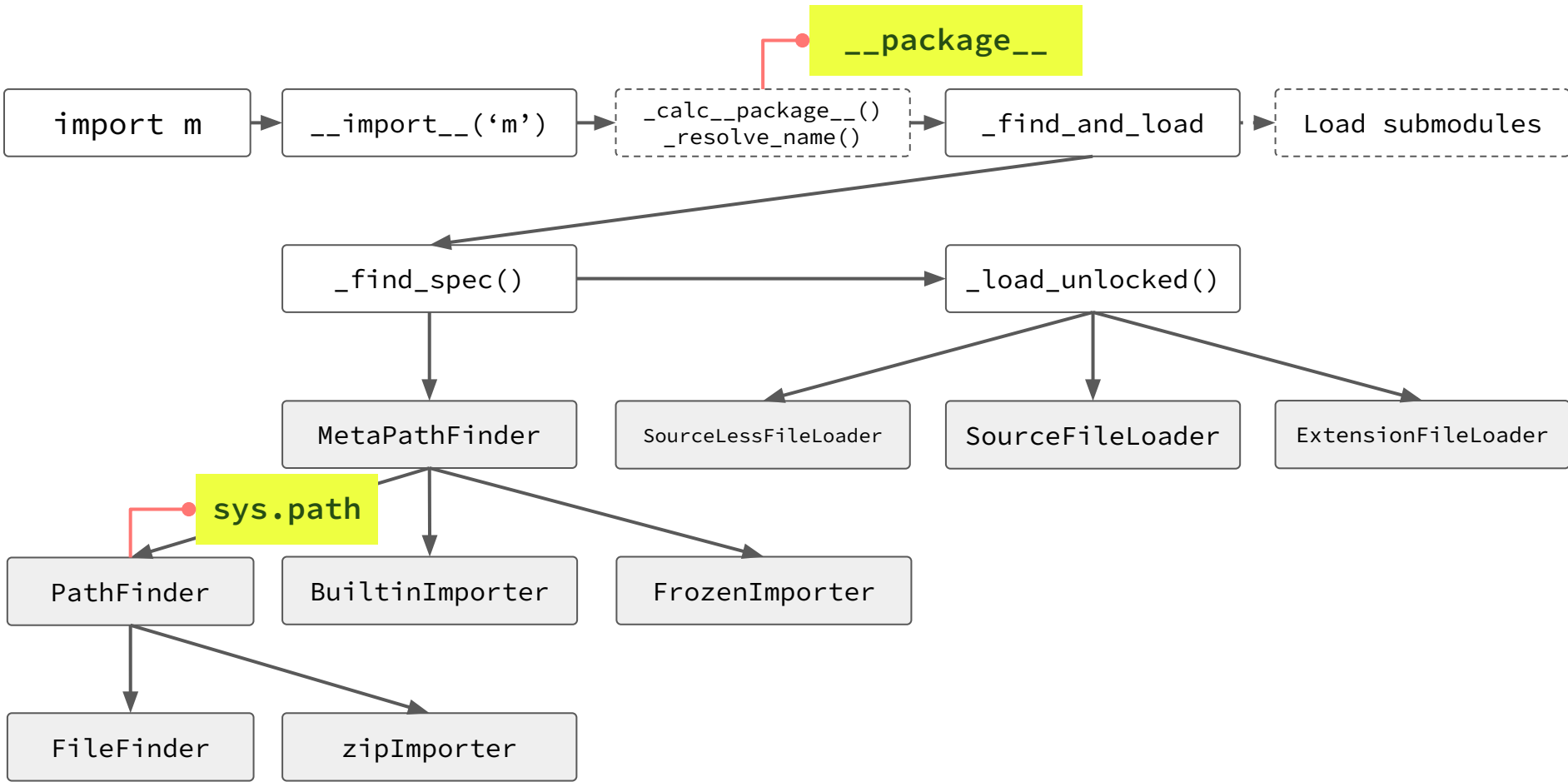






# Take-home Messages

- **import**的过程包含两个步骤: 查找**ModuleSpec**和加载**Module**.
- 相对路径需要使用当前模块的 **\_\_package\_\_** 信息
  - 相对路径只对**package**有效
- 绝对路径只查找 **sys.path**
  - **sys.path** 自动包含当前python脚本的运行目录



# Reference

- [Python behind the scenes #11: how the Python import system works](#)
- official documentation: [5. The import system — Python 3.10.2 documentation](#)
- import usage in procastinate: [from hat import rabbit](#)
- import developer talk: [How Import Works - Brett Cannon - PyConAr 2012](#)

**Smart code goes into the libraries  
Boring code goes into the projects.**

**Get bored?**  
**Wanna write smart code?**

# WE ARE HIRING



[jobs.jina.ai](https://jobs.jina.ai)

