

# CALL A C API FROM PYTHON BECOMES MORE ENJOYABLE WITH CFFI

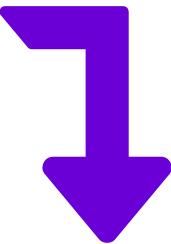
JEAN-SÉBASTIEN BEVILACQUA



# **WHY PYTHON EXTENSION ?**

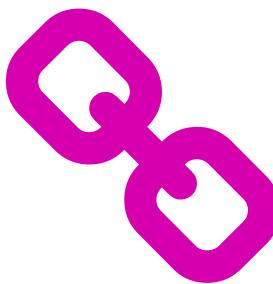
# WHY PYTHON EXTENSION ?

ACCESSING LOW-LEVEL API  
OPENGL / VULKAN



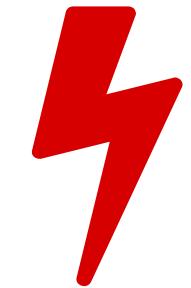
# **WHY PYTHON EXTENSION ?**

**LINKING TO EXISTING C LIBRARY**

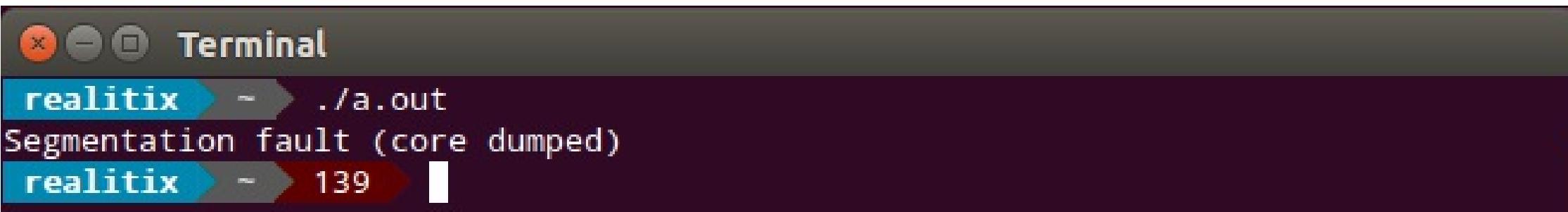


# WHY PYTHON EXTENSION ?

IMPROVING PERFORMANCE



# OUR GOOD FRIEND IS ALWAYS HERE !



```
realitix - ./a.out
Segmentation fault (core dumped)
realitix - 139
```

A photograph of a person from behind, wearing a light blue hoodie and a brown backpack, standing on a road and hitchhiking. Their right arm is extended, pointing towards the left. The background is a blurred landscape of trees and foliage.

*I'M TOTALLY LOST  
WITH  
CPYTHON API*

# *APPLICATION* PROGRAMMING INTERFACE



*APPLICATION* BINARY INTERFACE

# **WHY ABI ?**

# CYTHON

# CYTHON

## INCREMENTAL OPTIMIZATION

### PY++

# CYTHON

```
def fib(int n):
    cdef int a = 0
    cdef int b = 1
    while b < n:
        print(b)
        a, b = b, a + b
```

# CYTHON

ABI / API

# C TYPES

BUILT-IN / ABI ONLY



# CTYPES

```
from ctypes import cdll, Structure, c_int, c_double

lib = cdll.LoadLibrary('./vector.so')

# ctypes Point structure
class Point(Structure):
    _fields_ = [('x', c_int), ('y', c_int)]

# Initialize Point[2] argument
points_array = (Point * 2)((1, 2), (3, 4))

# Get vector_size from library
vector_size_fn = lib.vector_size
vector_size_fn.restype = c_double

# Call vector_size with ctypes
size = vector_size_fn(points_array)
print('out = {}'.format(size))
```

# CFFI ENLIGHTENED

IN-LINE : IMPORT TIME

OUT-OF-LINE : INSTALL TIME

# ABI / IN-LINE

```
from cffi import FFI
ffi = FFI()

ffi.cdef("int printf(const char *format, ...);")

C = ffi.dlopen(None)

arg = ffi.new("char[]", "world")
C.printf("hello %s\n", arg)
```

# **ABI / IN-LINE**

## **DEMO**

# API / OUT-OF-LINE

```
from cffi import FFI
ffibuilder = FFI()

ffibuilder.set_source("_example",
    r"""#include <sys/types.h>
    #include <pwd.h>
    """
)

ffibuilder.cdef("""
    struct passwd {
        char *pw_name;
        ...
    };
    struct passwd *getpwuid(int uid);
"""
)

if __name__ == "__main__":
    ffibuilder.compile(verbose=True)
```

# **API / OUT-OF-LINE**

**RUNNING**

A photograph showing a close-up of a person's lower leg and foot. The person is wearing dark blue jeans and a dark, worn boot. They are standing on a large, dark, textured object, possibly a piece of machinery or a large rock, which is resting on a ground covered in debris, rubble, and broken concrete. The background is out of focus, showing more of the same debris and rubble.

REBUILD

# STATISTICS

VULKAN API

C HEADER : 5088 LOC

XML DESCRIPTION : 6461 LOC

# STATISTICS

C WRAPPER

GENERATED C FILE : 62705 LOC

GENERATOR : 1057 PY-LOC / 1141 C-LOC

# **STATISTICS**

**CFFI WRAPPER**

**GENERATED PYTHON FILE : 4859**

**LOC**

**GENERATOR : 692 PY-LOC**

# **HOW IT WORKS ?**

# JINJA2 TEMPLATE

# JINJA2 TEMPLATE

## C EXTENSION

```
└── converters.c -> 423
└── custom_functions.c -> 103
└── custom_structs.c -> 59
└── extension_functions.c -> 32
└── functions.c -> 8
└── header.c -> 11
└── init.c -> 68
└── init_unions
    └── vkclearcolorvalue.c -> 69
        └── vkclearvalue.c -> 36
└── macros.c -> 111
└── main.c -> 122
└── objects.c -> 99
└── jfilter.py -> 542
Total: 1683
```

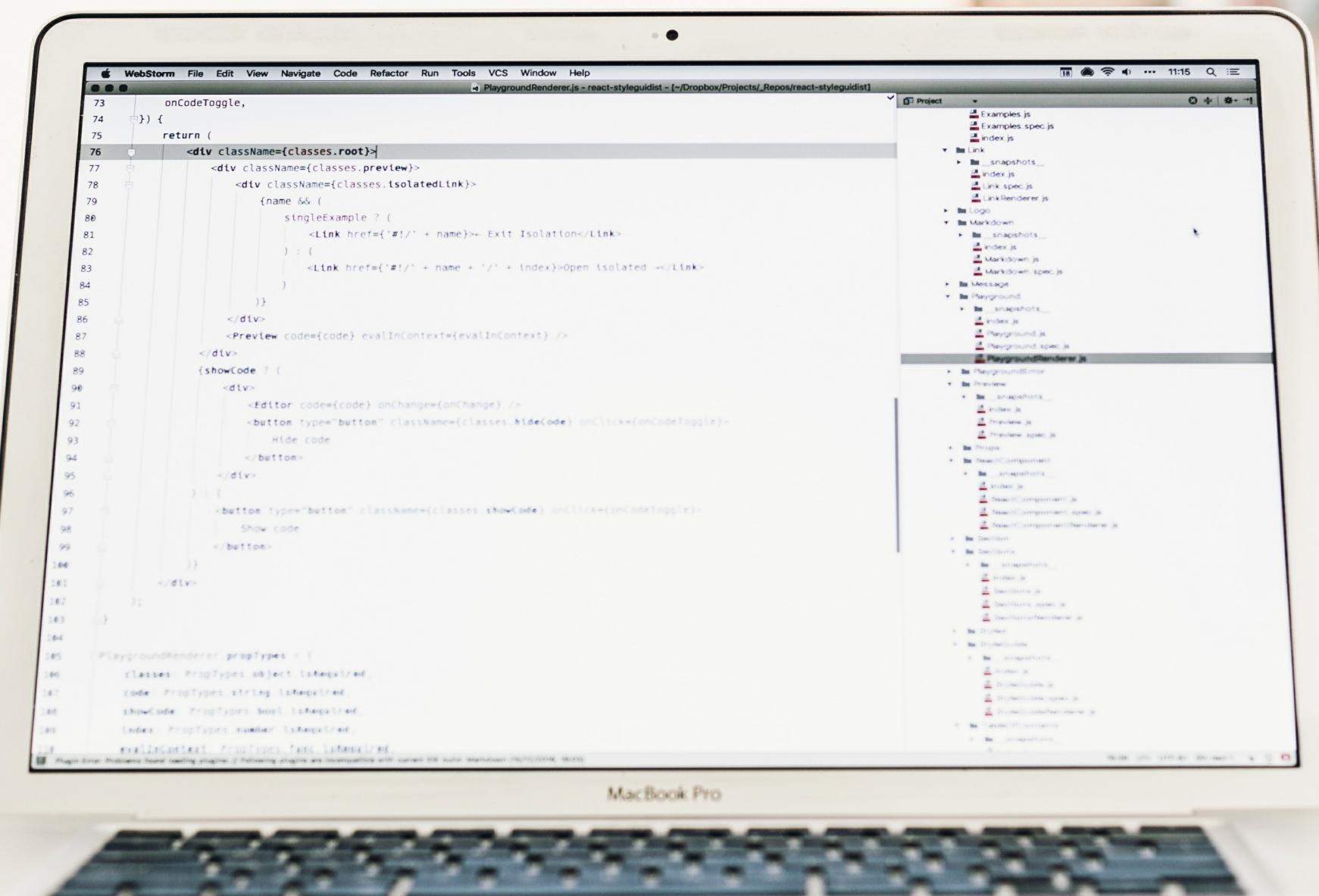
# JINJA2 TEMPLATE

**CFI EXTENSION**

vulkan.template.py -> 340

**ONLY ONE SMALL FILE**

# SHOW ME THE CODE !



# CONSTANTS

## C EXTENSION

```
PyModule_AddIntConstant(module, {{name}}, {{value}});
```

## CFFI EXTENSION

```
{{name}} = {{value}}
```

# OBJECTS

# OBJECTS

## C EXTENSION

NEW (MALLOC)

DEL (FREE)

INIT

GET (FOR EACH MEMBER)

# OBJECTS

## CFFI EXTENSION

```
def __new__(ctype, **kwargs):
    _type = ffi.typeof(ctype)

    ptrs = {}
    for k, v in kwargs.items():
        # convert tuple pair to dict
        ktype = dict(_type.fields)[k].type
        if ktype.kind == 'pointer':
            ptrs[k] = _cast_ptr(v, ktype)

    init = dict(kwargs, **{k: v for k, (v, _) in ptrs.items()})
    return ffi.new(_type cname + '*', init)[0]
```

# *FAST API MODE*



# **SHADERC WRAPPER**

# FOLDER DESIGN

```
├── _cffi_build  
│   └── pyshaderc_build.py  
├── shaderc.h  
└── pyshaderc  
    ├── __init__.py  
    └── setup.py
```

# DEFINITION

```
ffi = FFI()  
with open('shaderc.h') as f:  
    ffi.cdef(f.read())
```

# BUILDING

```
ffi = FFI()
with open('shaderc.h') as f:
    source = f.read()

ffi.set_source('_pyshaderc', source, libraries=['shaderc_combined'])

if __name__ == '__main__':
    ffi.compile()
```

# USE

# USE

```
from pyshaderc._pyshaderc import ffi, lib
```

# USE

```
def compile_into_spirv(raw, stage, suppress_warnings=False):
    # initialize compiler
    compiler = lib.shaderc_compiler_initialize()

    # compile
    result = lib.shaderc_compile_into_spv(compiler, raw, len(raw), stage, b"main")
```

# USE

```
length = lib.shaderc_result_get_length(result)
output_pointer = lib.shaderc_result_get_bytes(result)

tmp = bytearray(length)
ffi.memmove(tmp, output_pointer, length)
spirv = bytes(tmp)

return spirv
```

# SETUPTOOLS INTEGRATION

```
setup(  
    ...  
    cffi_modules=["_cffi_build/pyshaderc_build.py:ffi"]  
)
```

# DEMO TIME !



**GIVE A TRY TO CFFI !**

**@REALITIX**

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