Guide for Packaging Python Scripts into a Debian Package

This guide explains how to package a Python script into a .deb package for installation on Debian-based systems like Kali Linux or Ubuntu.

Prerequisites

- A Python script that is ready to be packaged.
- Access to a Debian-based system (e.g., Kali Linux or Ubuntu).

Step 1: Set Up Folder Structure

1. Create Directories:

Run the following commands to create the necessary folder structure for the package:

mkdir -p myscript/DEBIAN mkdir -p myscript/usr/bin

2. Copy Python Script:

Copy your Python script to the usr/bin directory: cp /path/to/your/script.py myscript/usr/bin/myscript

3. Make the Script Executable:

Ensure the script has execute permissions by running: chmod +x myscript/usr/bin/myscript

Step 2: Create the Control File

1. Create the control File:

Inside the DEBIAN folder, create the control file: nano myscript/DEBIAN/control

2. Add the Following Information:

Enter the following content in the control file:

Package: myscript

Version: 1.0 Architecture: all

Maintainer: Your Name <your.email@example.com>
Description: A brief description of your Python script

Depends: python3, python3-pypdf2

3. Save and Exit:

After editing, save and exit by pressing Ctrl + X, then Y to confirm.

Step 3: Build the Package

1. Build the Debian Package:

To build the package, run the following command from the parent directory of myscript:

dpkg-deb --build myscript

This will generate a .deb file named myscript.deb.

Step 4: Install the Package

1. Install the Package:

To install the package on your system, run: sudo dpkg -i myscript.deb

2. Resolve Dependencies:

If you face any issues with missing dependencies, use this command to automatically resolve them: sudo apt-get install -f

Step 5: Test the Script

1. Run the Script:

After installation, you can run the script directly by typing its name (without .py extension):

myscript

This should execute the script.

Step 6: Uninstall the Package

1. Remove the Package:

If you want to remove the package, use the following command: sudo dpkg -r myscript

2. Clean Up:

Optionally, you can clean up unused packages and dependencies by running: sudo apt-get autoremove

Troubleshooting

• Script Not Running:

Ensure the shebang line (#!/usr/bin/env python3) is at the top of your script, and that it has execute permissions:

chmod +x /usr/bin/myscript

• Missing Dependencies:

If dependencies are missing, run: sudo apt-get install -f to fix them.

Script Runs with python3 but Not Directly:

If the script works with python3 but not directly, make sure the shebang line in your script is correct:

#!/usr/bin/env python3