

---

# **ctyped Documentation**

*Release 0.8.0*

**Igor 'idle sign' Starikov**

**Nov 21, 2019**



---

## Contents

---

<b>1</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Requirements</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>7</b>
3.1	Quickstart . . . . .	7
3.2	Sniffing . . . . .	8
3.3	Library . . . . .	9
3.4	Utils . . . . .	12
	<b>Python Module Index</b>	<b>15</b>
	<b>Index</b>	<b>17</b>



<https://github.com/idlesign/ctyped>



# CHAPTER 1

---

## Description

---

*Build ctypes interfaces for shared libraries with type hinting*

**Requires Python 3.6+**

- Less boilerplate;
- Logical structuring;
- Basic code generator (.so function -> ctyped function);
- Useful helpers.





## CHAPTER 2

---

### Requirements

---

1. Python 3.6+



### 3.1 Quickstart

```
from typing import Callable
from ctypes.toolbox import Library
from ctypes.types import CInt

# Define a library.
lib = Library('mylib.so')

# Structures are defined with the help of `structure` decorator
@lib.structure
class Box:

    one: int
    two: str
    innerbox: 'Box' # That'll be a pointer.

# Type less with function names prefixes.
with lib.scope(prefix='mylib_'):

    # Describe function available in the library.
    @lib.function(name='otherfunc')
    def some_func(title: str, year: int) -> str:
        ...

    @lib.f # `f` is a shortcut for function.
    def struct_func(src: Box) -> Box:
        ...

    with lib.s(prefix='mylib_grouped_', int_bits=64, int_sign=False): # `s` is a
↳ shortcut for scope.

        class Thing(CInt):
```

(continues on next page)

(continued from previous page)

```

@lib.method(int_sign=True) # Override `int_sign` from scope.
def one(self, some: int) -> int:
    # Implicitly pass Thing instance alongside
    # with explicitly passed `some` arg.
    ...

@lib.m # `m` is a shortcut for method.
def two(self, some:int, cfunc: Callable) -> int:
    # `cfunc` is a wrapper, calling an actual ctypes function.
    result = cfunc()
    # If no arguments, the wrapper will try to detect them automatically.
    return result + 1

@lib.function
def get_thing() -> Thing:
    ...

# Or you may use classes as namespaces.
@lib.cls(prefix='common_', str_type=CCharsW)
class Wide:

    @staticmethod
    @lib.function
    def get_utf(some: str) -> str:
        ...

# Bind ctypes types to functions available in the library.
lib.bind_types()

# Call function from the library. Call ``mylib_otherfunc``
result_string = some_func('Hello!', 2019)
result_wide = Wide.get_utf('some') # Call ``common_get_utf``

# Now to structures. Call ``mylib_struct_func``
mybox = struct_func(Box(one=35, two='dummy', innerbox=Box(one=100)))
# Let's pretend our function returns a box inside a box (similar to what's in the_
↳params).
mybox.one # Access box field value.
mybox.innerbox.one # Access values from nested objects.

thing = get_thing()

thing.one(12) # Call ``mylib_mylib_grouped_one``.
thing.two(13) # Call ``mylib_mylib_grouped_two``

```

## 3.2 Sniffing

To save some time on function definition you can use ctyped automatic code generator.

It won't give you fully functional code, but is able to lower typing chore.

```
from ctyped.sniffer import NmSymbolSniffer
```

(continues on next page)

(continued from previous page)

```
# We sniff library first.
sniffer = NmSymbolSniffer('/here/is/my/libsome.so')
sniffed = sniffer.sniff()

# Now let's generate ctyped code.
dumped = sniffed.to_ctyped()

# At last we save autogenerated code into a file.
with open('library.py', 'w') as f:
    f.write(dumped)
```

There's also a shortcut to sniff an already defined library:

```
...
sniffed = lib.sniff()
dumped = result.to_ctyped()
```

### 3.3 Library

```
class ctyped.library.Library (name: Union[str, pathlib.Path], *, autoload:
    bool = True, prefix: Optional[str] = None,
    str_type: Type[ctyped.types.CastedTypeBase] = <class
    'ctyped.types.CChars'>, int_bits: Optional[int] = None, int_sign:
    Optional[bool] = None)
```

Main entry point to describe C library interface.

Basic usage:

```
lib = Library('mylib')

with lib.scope(prefix='mylib_'):

    @lib.function()
    def my_func():
        ...

lib.bind_types()
```

#### Parameters

- **name** – Shared library name or filepath.
- **autoload** – Load library just on Library object initialization.
- **prefix** – Function name prefix to apply to functions in the library.  
Useful when C functions have common prefixes.
- **str\_type** – Type to represent strings.
  - CChars - strings as chars (ANSI) **default**
  - CCharsW - strings as wide chars (UTF)

---

**Note:** This setting is global to library. Can be changed on function definition level.

---

- **int\_bits** – int length to use by default.

Possible values: 8, 16, 32, 64

---

**Note:** This setting is global to library. Can be changed on function definition level.

---

- **int\_sign** – Flag. Whether to use signed (True) or unsigned (False) ints.

---

**Note:** This setting is global to library. Can be changed on function definition level.

---

### **bind\_types()**

Deduces ctypes argument and result types from Python type hints, binding those types to ctypes functions.

**cls** (\*, *prefix*: *Optional[str] = None*, *str\_type*: *Optional[ctypes.types.CastedTypeBase] = None*, *int\_bits*: *Optional[int] = None*, *int\_sign*: *Optional[bool] = None*)  
Class decorator. Allows common parameters application for class methods.

```
@lib.cls(prefix='common_', str_type=CCharsW)
class Wide:

    @staticmethod
    @lib.function()
    def get_utf(some: str) -> str:
        ...
```

### **Parameters**

- **prefix** – Function name prefix to apply to functions under the manager.
- **str\_type** – Type to represent strings.
- **int\_bits** – int length to be used in function.
- **int\_sign** – Flag. Whether to use signed (True) or unsigned (False) ints.

**f** (*name\_c*: *Union[str, Callable, None] = None*, \*, *wrap*: *bool = False*, *str\_type*: *Optional[ctypes.types.CastedTypeBase] = None*, *int\_bits*: *Optional[int] = None*, *int\_sign*: *Optional[bool] = None*) → Callable  
Shortcut for `.function()`.

**function** (*name\_c*: *Union[str, Callable, None] = None*, \*, *wrap*: *bool = False*, *str\_type*: *Optional[ctypes.types.CastedTypeBase] = None*, *int\_bits*: *Optional[int] = None*, *int\_sign*: *Optional[bool] = None*) → Callable  
Decorator to mark functions which exported from the library.

### **Parameters**

- **name\_c** – C function name with or without prefix (see `.scope(prefix=)`). If not set, Python function name is used.
- **wrap** – Do not replace decorated function with ctypes function, but with wrapper, allowing pre- or post-process ctypes function call.

Useful to organize functions to classes (to automatically pass `self`) to ctypes function to C function.

```

class Thing(CObject):

    @lib.function(wrap=True)
    def one(self, some: int) -> int:
        # Implicitly pass Thing instance alongside
        # with explicitly passed `some` arg.
        ...

    @lib.function(wrap=True)
    def two(self, some:int, cfunc: Callable) -> int:
        # `cfunc` is a wrapper, calling an actual ctypes function.
        # If no arguments provided the wrapper will try detect
        ↪them
        # automatically.
        result = cfunc()
        return result + 1

```

- **str\_type** – Type to represent strings.

---

**Note:** Overrides the same named param from library level (see `__init__` description).

---

- **int\_bits** – int length to be used in function.

---

**Note:** Overrides the same named param from library level (see `__init__` description).

---

- **int\_sign** – Flag. Whether to use signed (True) or unsigned (False) ints.

---

**Note:** Overrides the same named param from library level (see `__init__` description).

---

**load()**

Loads shared library.

**m** (*name\_c: Optional[str] = None, \*\*kwargs*)

Shortcut for `.method()`.

**method** (*name\_c: Optional[str] = None, \*\*kwargs*)

Decorator. The same as `.function()` with `wrap=True`.

**s = None**

Shortcut for `.scope()`.

**sniff()** → `ctyped.sniffer.SniffResult`

Sniffs the library for symbols.

Sniffing result can be used as ‘ctyped’ code generator.

**structure** (\*, *pack: Optional[int] = None, str\_type: Optional[ctyped.types.CastedTypeBase] = None, int\_bits: Optional[int] = None, int\_sign: Optional[bool] = None*)

Class decorator for C structures definition.

```

@lib.structure
class MyStruct:

    first: int

```

(continues on next page)

```
second: str
third: 'MyStruct'
```

### Parameters

- **pack** – Allows custom maximum alignment for the fields (as #pragma pack(n)).
- **str\_type** – Type to represent strings.
- **int\_bits** – int length to be used in function.
- **int\_sign** – Flag. Whether to use signed (True) or unsigned (False) ints.

## 3.4 Utils

**class** `ctyped.utils.ErrorInfo` (*num, code, msg*)  
Create new instance of ErrorInfo(num, code, msg)

**code**  
Alias for field number 1

**msg**  
Alias for field number 2

**num**  
Alias for field number 0

**class** `ctyped.utils.FuncInfo` (*name\_py, name\_c, annotations, options*)  
Create new instance of FuncInfo(name\_py, name\_c, annotations, options)

**annotations**  
Alias for field number 2

**name\_c**  
Alias for field number 1

**name\_py**  
Alias for field number 0

**options**  
Alias for field number 3

`ctyped.utils.c_callback` (*use\_errno: bool = False*) → Callable  
Decorator to turn a Python function into a C callback function.

```
@lib.f
def c_func_using_callback(hook: CPointer) -> int:
    ...

@c_callback
def hook(num: int) -> int:
    return num + 10

c_func_using_callback(hook)
```

**Parameters** `use_errno` –



`ctyped.utils.get_last_error()` → `ctyped.utils.ErrorInfo`  
Returns last error (`errno`) information named tuple:

```
(err_no, err_code, err_message)
```



**C**

`ctyped.library`, 9

`ctyped.utils`, 12



## A

annotations (*ctyped.utils.FuncInfo attribute*), 12

## B

bind\_types() (*ctyped.library.Library method*), 10

## C

c\_callback() (*in module ctyped.utils*), 12

cls() (*ctyped.library.Library method*), 10

code (*ctyped.utils.ErrorInfo attribute*), 12

ctyped.library (*module*), 9

ctyped.utils (*module*), 12

## E

ErrorInfo (*class in ctyped.utils*), 12

## F

f() (*ctyped.library.Library method*), 10

FuncInfo (*class in ctyped.utils*), 12

function() (*ctyped.library.Library method*), 10

## G

get\_last\_error() (*in module ctyped.utils*), 12

## L

Library (*class in ctyped.library*), 9

load() (*ctyped.library.Library method*), 11

## M

m() (*ctyped.library.Library method*), 11

method() (*ctyped.library.Library method*), 11

msg (*ctyped.utils.ErrorInfo attribute*), 12

## N

name\_c (*ctyped.utils.FuncInfo attribute*), 12

name\_py (*ctyped.utils.FuncInfo attribute*), 12

num (*ctyped.utils.ErrorInfo attribute*), 12

## O

options (*ctyped.utils.FuncInfo attribute*), 12

## S

s (*ctyped.library.Library attribute*), 11

sniff() (*ctyped.library.Library method*), 11

structure() (*ctyped.library.Library method*), 11