

**High-Performance Python with C Programming**

**Course Number:** PYTH-278  
**Duration:** 3 days

**Overview**

Accelebrate's High-Performance Python with C training course focuses on supporting legacy C code for Python Extensions and writing new highly performant code with Cython. This course also teaches attendees how to employ the NumPy C API to make NumPy arrays available in C routines.

**Prerequisites**

Attendees must have completed Accelebrate's [C Programming for Python Developers](file:////training/c-programming-python-developers) course or have equivalent experience, including many years of continuous Python and C experience.

**Materials**

All Advanced C/Python training students receive comprehensive courseware.

**Software Needed on Each Student PC**

* A virtual machine (VM) with all tools pre-installed will be provided.
* Students will receive setup instructions for their local machine, but no support will be provided in class to get it working if it has problems.
* Students will need RDP or SSH to access the VM; even those planning to work locally need remote access if their local setup has problems.

**Objectives**

* Profile Python applications to identify performance bottlenecks
* Understand the speed gains of Cython and C extensions and how to choose the best option for a given application.
* Interface Python with C using ctypes FFI, C extensions, and Cython
* Debug Python and C code using VS Code
* Use the NumPy C API

**Outline**

* Introduction
* Profiling and Debugging
  + Debugging Python and C code with VS Code
  + Profiling Python Applications
  + Speed Gains of Cython
  + Speed Gains of C Extensions
  + CPU-bound vs. IO-bound
  + How to Choose the Best Option
* Interfacing Python with C
  + CTypes FFI
  + C Extensions
  + Cython
* CTypes FFI
  + Compile C code to a Shared Object
  + Load Shared Object into Python
  + Call C Functions from Python
  + Python Structure Class
  + Python Binary Formatted Strings
* C Extensions
  + Learn to use the Python C API documentation
  + Basic Structure of a C Extension
  + Compiling C Extensions
  + Import C Extensions in Python
  + Packaging C Extensions
  + Using PyObject
  + Managing Memory and Reference Counting
  + Challenges of Multithreaded Programming and the GIL
  + Challenges of Asynchronous Programming
* NumPy and C Extensions
  + Learn to use the NumPy C API documentation
  + Using NumPy Arrays with C Code
  + Passing NumPy Arrays to a C Extension
  + Creating NumPy Arrays in a C Extension
  + Using the NumPy C API
* Cython
  + What is Cython?
  + Installing Cython
  + Compile Python Code
  + Python Code Decorations with Cython
  + Create Python Extensions with Cython
  + Challenges of Multithreaded Programming and the GIL
  + Challenges of Asynchronous Programming
* Conclusion