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PyDM: A Python alternative to EDM

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While a laboratory environment can present a number of unique computational challenges, the display and modification of information is a global issue with global solutions. PyDM, an interface between the open-source Qt framework and EPICS Channel Access, offers a cross-platform alternative to existing display managers. By packaging a set of tools specifically for the display of EPICS data within the easily configurable PyQt environment, PyDM maintains all of the capabilities of EDM while presenting the user with a flexible environment to create screens. In this presentation, a general overview of the structure of the PyDM application is given, as well as a brief description of recent developments and deployments at SLAC. This includes the potential to use PyDM's plugin system to unify Data Acquisition and EPICS information in a single user interface, as well as the creation of screens programmatically generated at runtime.

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