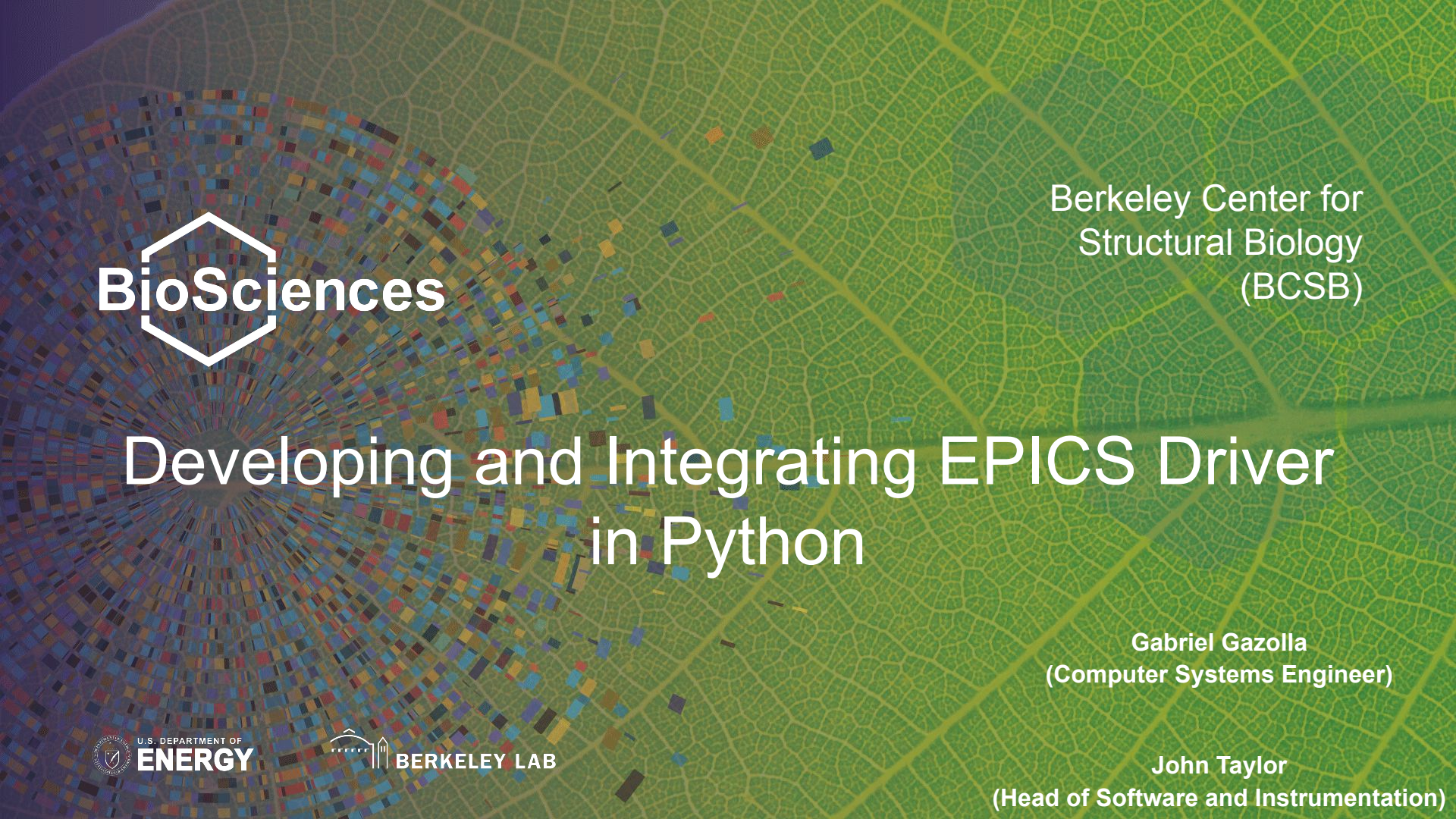


Berkeley Center for
Structural Biology
(BCSB)

Developing and Integrating EPICS Driver in Python

Gabriel Gazolla
(Computer Systems Engineer)

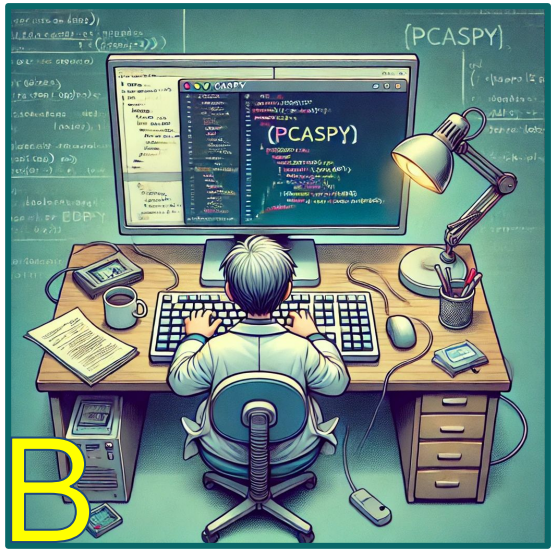
John Taylor
(Head of Software and Instrumentation)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

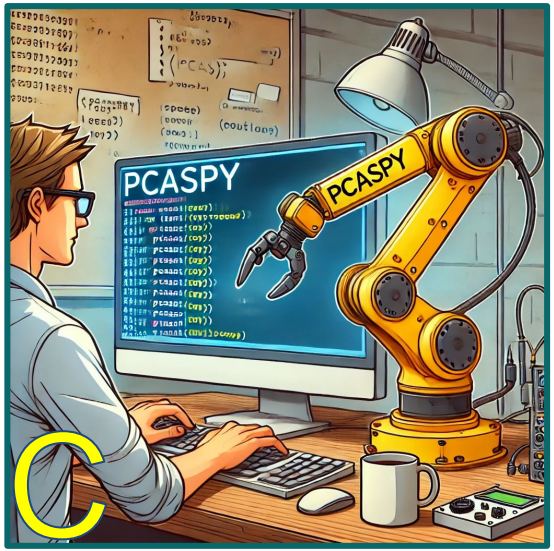
BERKELEY LAB

Agenda & Objectives

Learn what PCASpy is capable of.



Be able to understand and read a PCASpy implementation.



Implement a basic PCASpy driver.

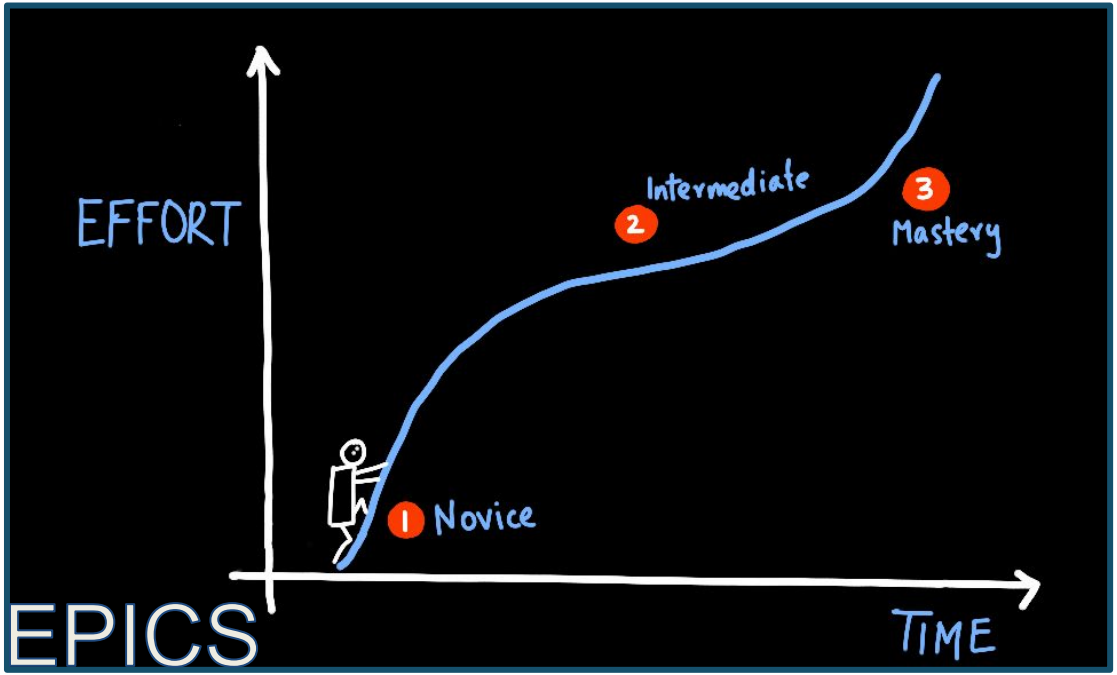
What is the motivation for this talk ?

BioSciences

```
1
2
3  var global = 10;
4
5  function fun() {
6
7      var local = 5;
8
9  }
10
11
12
13
```

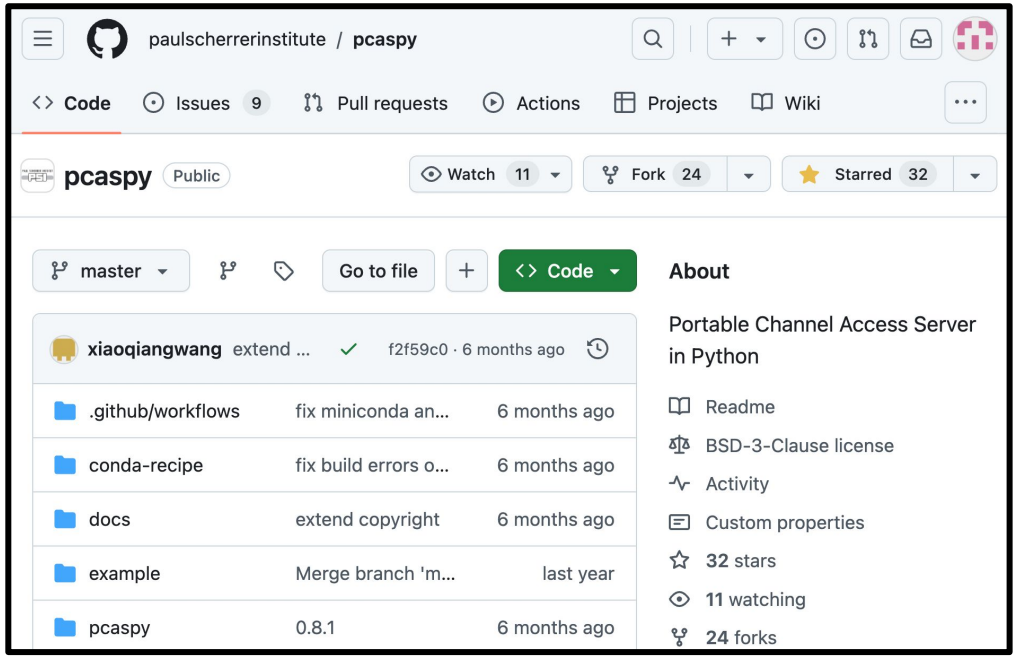
global variable

local variable



What is PCASpy ?

PCASpy /'pi:kas,pai/ provides not only the low level python binding to EPICS Portable Channel Access Server but also the necessary high level abstraction to ease the server tool programming.



Paul Scherrer Institute

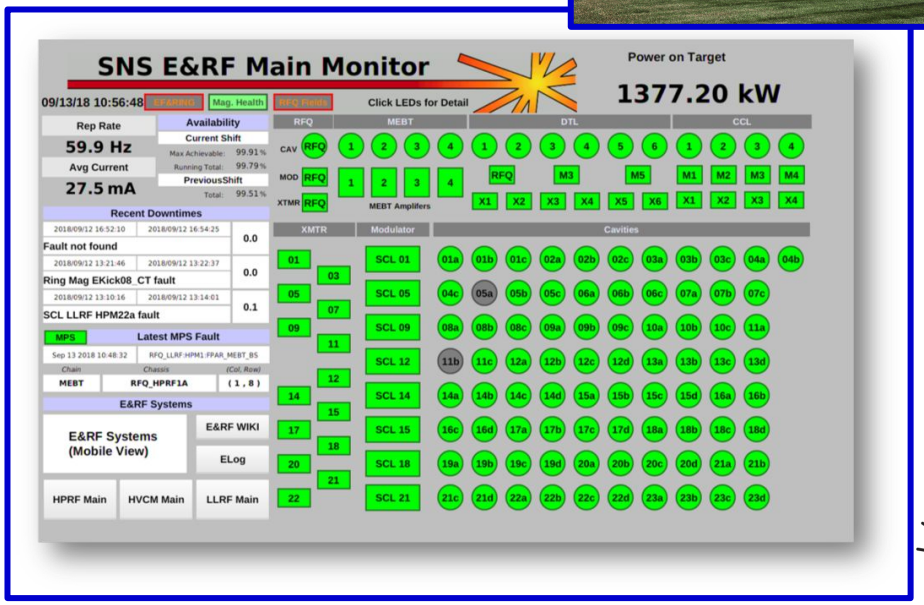
4.5 ★★★★½ 104 Google reviews

Research institute in Würenlingen, Switzerland

PCASpy Example

BioSciences

controlssoftware.sns.ornl.gov



```
gabrielgazolla$ caget SNS:POWER_ON_TARGET
```

```
python                                                    Copy

def getSNS_PowerOnTarget():
    def webparser(): return "<html>Power: 450kW</html>"  # Simulated HT
    def parse_power(html): return int(html.split("Power: ")[1].split("k

    html = webparser()
    power = parse_power(html)
    return power  # Power is in kilowatts (kW)
```

```
gabrielgazolla$ 1377.20
```

Problem is transformed into: "**Do I know how to implement a get/set for the function I need?**

PCASpy Example


```
gabrielgazolla$ caput ORNL:OLCF:SUMMIT_TEMP 70
```

PY

python Copy

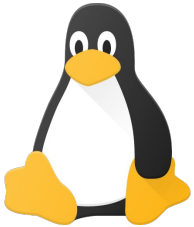
```python
def setORNL_OLCF_SummitTemp(temp):
    MIN, MAX = 65, 85
    def status(): return "ok"
    def apply(temp): return "ok" if MIN <= temp <= MAX else "fail"

    if status() != "ok":
        return "Error: Tower offline."

    return f"Set to {temp}°F." if apply(temp) == "ok" else f"Error: {te
```

Problem is transformed into: “**Do I know how to implement a set for the function I need?**

Agenda & Objectives

Learn what PCASpy is capable of.

How to install PCASpy ?



PCASpy

What is Anaconda ?

PREREQUISITE

BioSciences

Anaconda is a distribution of the Python and R programming languages for scientific computing that aims to simplify package management and deployment.

ANACONDA

CONDA Cheatsheet

Quick Start

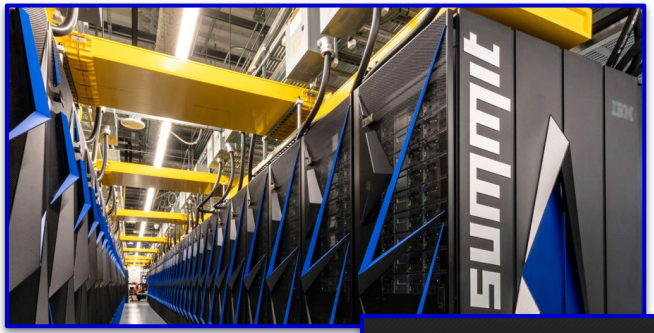
Tip: It is recommended to create a new environment for any new project or workflow.

verify conda install and check version	`conda info`
update conda in base environment	`conda update -n base conda`
install latest anaconda distribution	`conda install anaconda`
create a new environment (tip: name environment descriptively)	`conda create --name ENVNAME`
activate environment (do this before installing packages)	`conda activate ENVNAME`

Channels and Packages

Tip: Package dependencies and platform specifics are automatically resolved when using conda.

list installed packages	`conda list`
list installed packages with source info	`conda list --show-channel-urls`
update all packages	`conda update --all`
install a package from specific channel	`conda install -c CHANNELNAME PKGNAME` `conda install CHANNELNAME::PKGNAME`
install package with AND logic	`conda install "PKGNAME>2.5,<3.2"`
install package with OR logic	`conda install "PKGNAME [version='2.5|3.2']"`

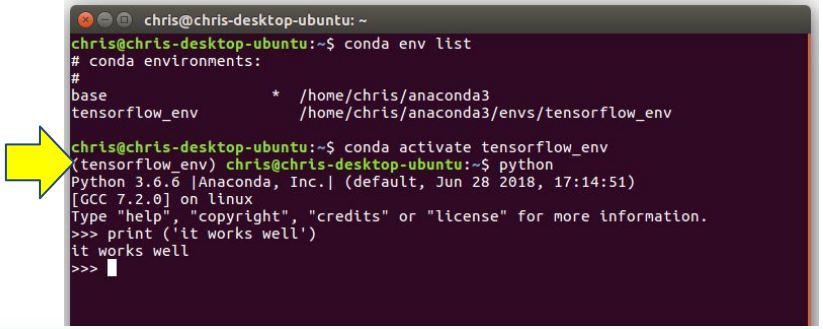


#root

Using Conda

PREREQUISITE

BioSciences



ANACONDA

Using environments

Create a new environment named py35, install Python 3.5	`conda create --name py35 python=3.5`
Activate the new environment to use it	WINDOWS: `activate py35` LINUX, macOS: `source activate py35`
Get a list of all my environments, active environment is shown with *	`conda env list`

LearningPCASpy

LearningPCASpy

Installing EPICS Base with Conda

BioSciences

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You must login to search private packages

epics

Filters

Type: All Access: All Platform: All

Favorites	Downloads	Artifact (owner / artifact)	Platforms
1	342123	conda-forge / pyepics 3.5.7 Python interface to Epics Channel Access copy conda	linux-64 osx-64 osx-arm64 win-32 win-64
0	183260	conda-forge / epicscorelibs 7.0.7.99.0.2 EPICS core libraries packaged as a "python" module copy conda	linux-64 osx-64 win-64
0	128035	conda-forge / epics-base 7.0.7.0 EPICS Base Library conda	linux-64 osx-64 osx-arm64 win-64
0	30212	lightsource2-tag / epics-base 3.15.6 EPICS Base Library conda	linux-64 osx-64
0	27758	conda-forge / epics-pypdb 0.1.5 Python tools for EPICS Process Database conda	noarch

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conda-forge / packages / epics-base 7.0.7.0

EPICS Base Library

Conda | Files | Labels | Badges

License: EPICS
Home: http://www.aps.anl.gov/epics
128035 total downloads
Last upload: 1 year and 4 months ago

Installers

Info: This package co

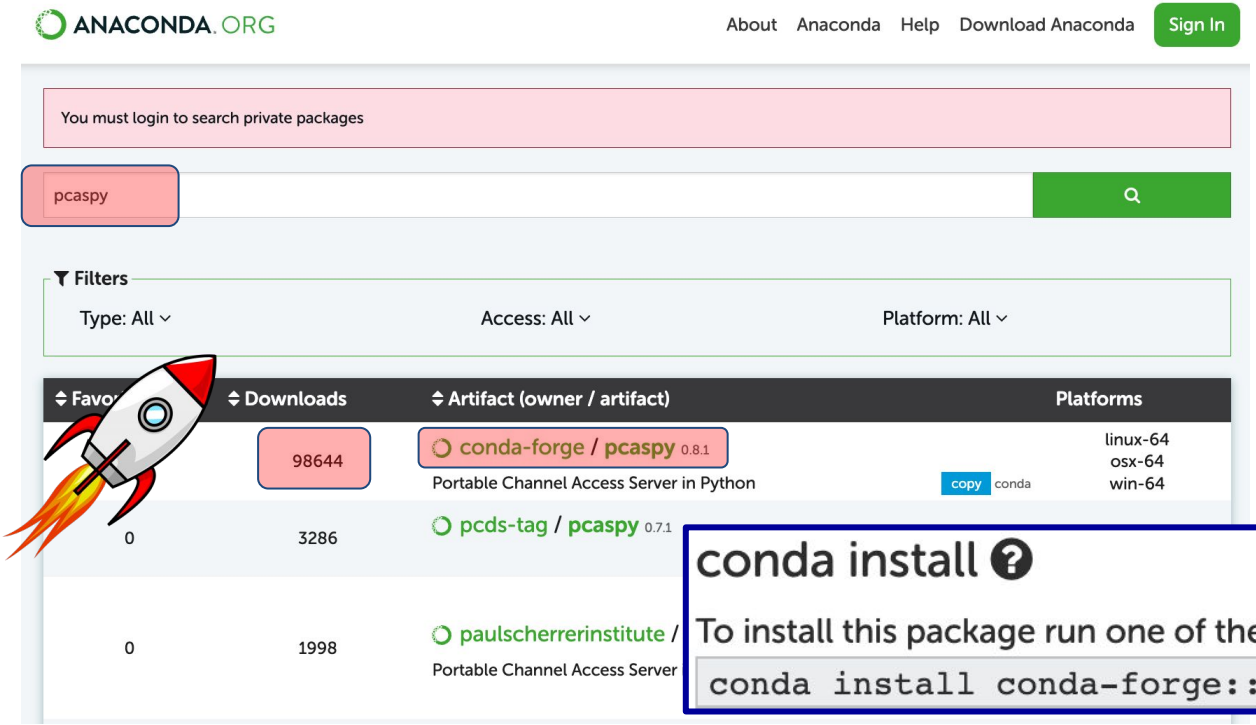
osx-64 v7.0.7.0
win-64 v7.0.7.0
linux-64 v7.0.7.0
osx-arm64 v7.0.7.0

conda install

To install this package run one of the following:

```
conda install conda-forge::epics-base
conda install conda-forge/label/cf202003::epics-base
```

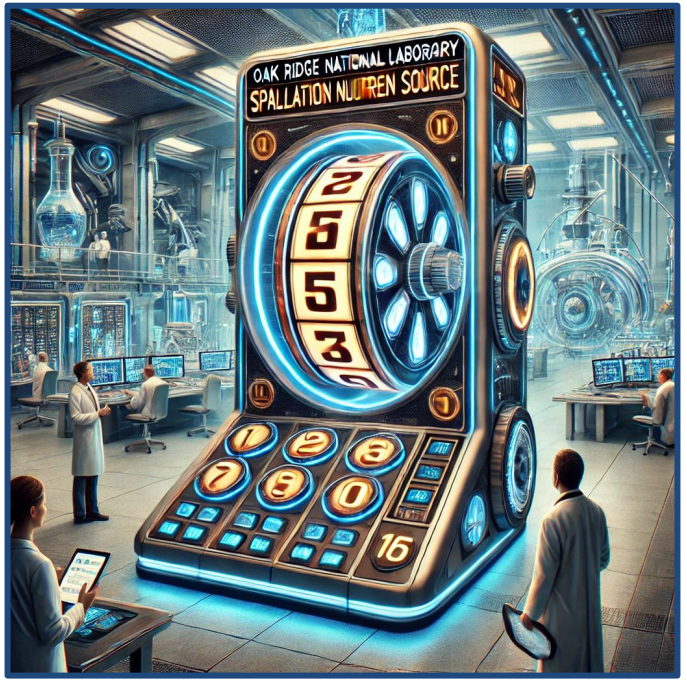
Installing PCASpy - Easy Installation



Hello World! example using PCASpy

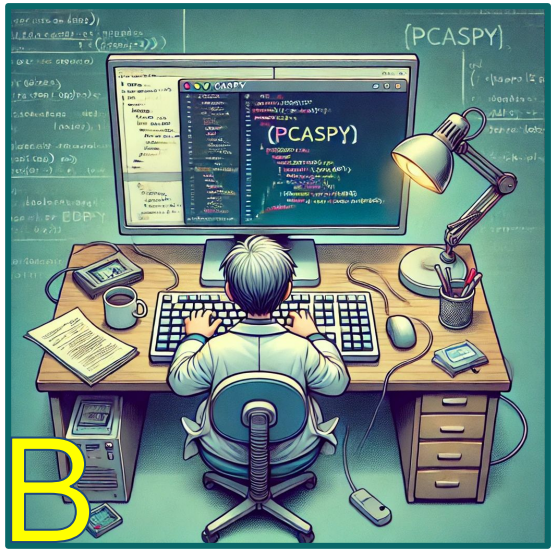
```
[root@bl201-usbserver1 ~]# caget ORNL:RNDVALUE
ORNL:RNDVALUE                  9

[root@bl201-usbserver1 ~]# caget ORNL:RNDVALUE
ORNL:RNDVALUE                  6

[root@bl201-usbserver1 ~]# caput ORNL:SETMAX 100
Old : ORNL:SETMAX                10
New : ORNL:SETMAX                100

[root@bl201-usbserver1 ~]# caget ORNL:RNDVALUE
ORNL:RNDVALUE                  95
```

Random Number Generator [1,N]

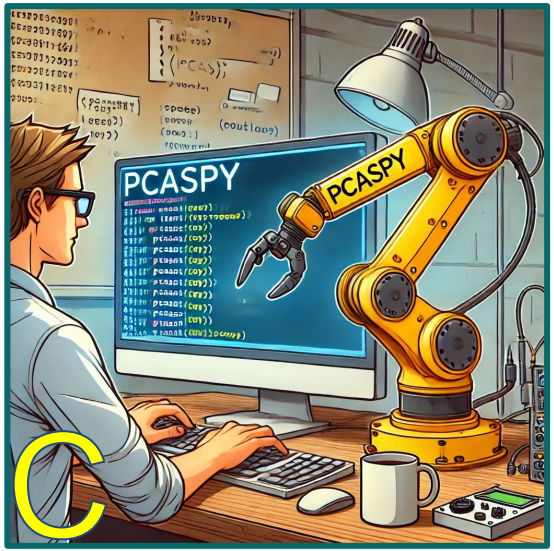


Agenda & Objectives

Learn what PCASpy is capable of.



Be able to understand and read a PCASpy implementation.



Implement a basic PCASpy driver.

PCASPy - EPICS - Random Number Generator

PCASpy

BioSciences

```python
from pcaspy import Driver, SimpleServer
import random
import time

# Define the PV prefix and PV database
prefix = 'ORNL:'

pvdb = {

    'RNDVALUE': {
        'type': 'int',  # Ensuring the value is an integer
    },

    'SETMAX': {
        'type': 'int',  # The maximum limit for random number generation
        'value': 10,    # Default value for SETMAX
    },
}
```

```python
if __name__ == '__main__':

    # Initialize the server
    server = SimpleServer()
    server.createPV(prefix, pvdb)
    driver = SimpleDriver()

    print("Starting EPICS PV server...")

    while True:
        server.process(0.1)
        time.sleep(0.1)
```

```
(microDXP) [root@bl201-usbserver1 Temp]# python randomPCASPY.py
Starting EPICS PV server...
```

PCASPy - EPICS - Random Number Generator

BioSciences

```python
class SimpleDriver(Driver):

    def __init__(self):

        super(SimpleDriver, self).__init__()
        self.max_value = 10  # Default maximum value for random number generation
        self.setParam('SETMAX', self.max_value)  # Initialize SETMAX
        self.update_random_value()
```

```python
    def read(self, reason):
        if reason == 'RNDVALUE':
            self.update_random_value()  # Update random value whenever it is read
        return self.getParam(reason)

    def write(self, reason, value):
        if reason == 'SETMAX':
            self.set_max_value(value)
        return True
```

```
[root@bl201-usbserver1 ~]# caget ORNL:RNDVALUE
ORNL:RNDVALUE                  9
```

```
[root@bl201-usbserver1 ~]# caput ORNL:SETMAX 100
Old : ORNL:SETMAX                10
New : ORNL:SETMAX                100
```

PCASPy - EPICS - Random Number Generator

BioSciences

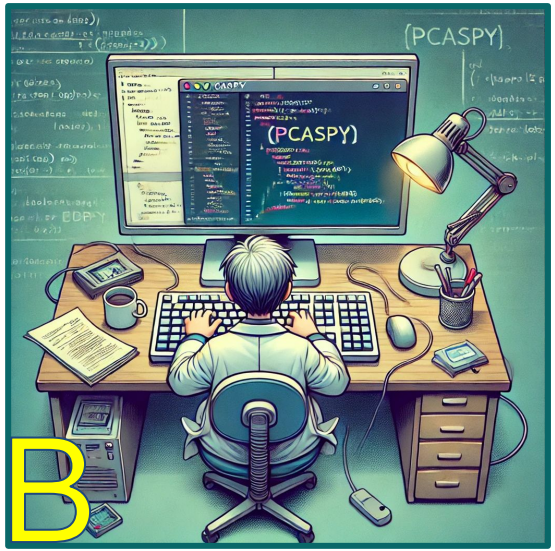
```
29      def update_random_value(self):
30          """
31          Generates a random value between 1 and the current
            max_value and updates the RNDVALUE PV.
32          """
33          random_value = random.randint(1, self.max_value)
34          self.setParam('RNDVALUE', random_value)
```

```
36      def set_max_value(self, new_max):
37          """
38          Updates the max_value parameter and ensures it is at
            least 1.
39          """
40          if new_max < 1:
41              new_max = 1
42          self.max_value = new_max
43          self.setParam('SETMAX', self.max_value)
44          self.update_random_value()
```

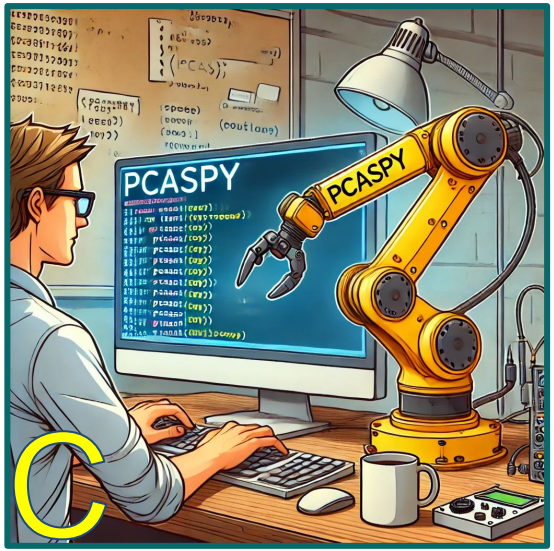
Agenda & Objectives

BioSciences

Learn what PCASpy is capable of.



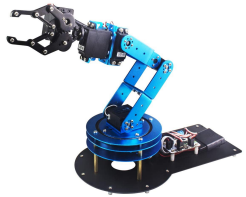
Be able to understand and read a PCASpy implementation.



Implement a basic PCASpy driver.

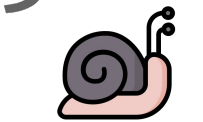
Limitations

BioSciences

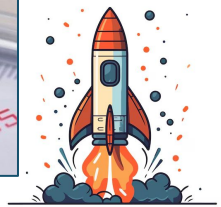


python™

Speed | Trade Off | Real Time Requirements



PCASpy

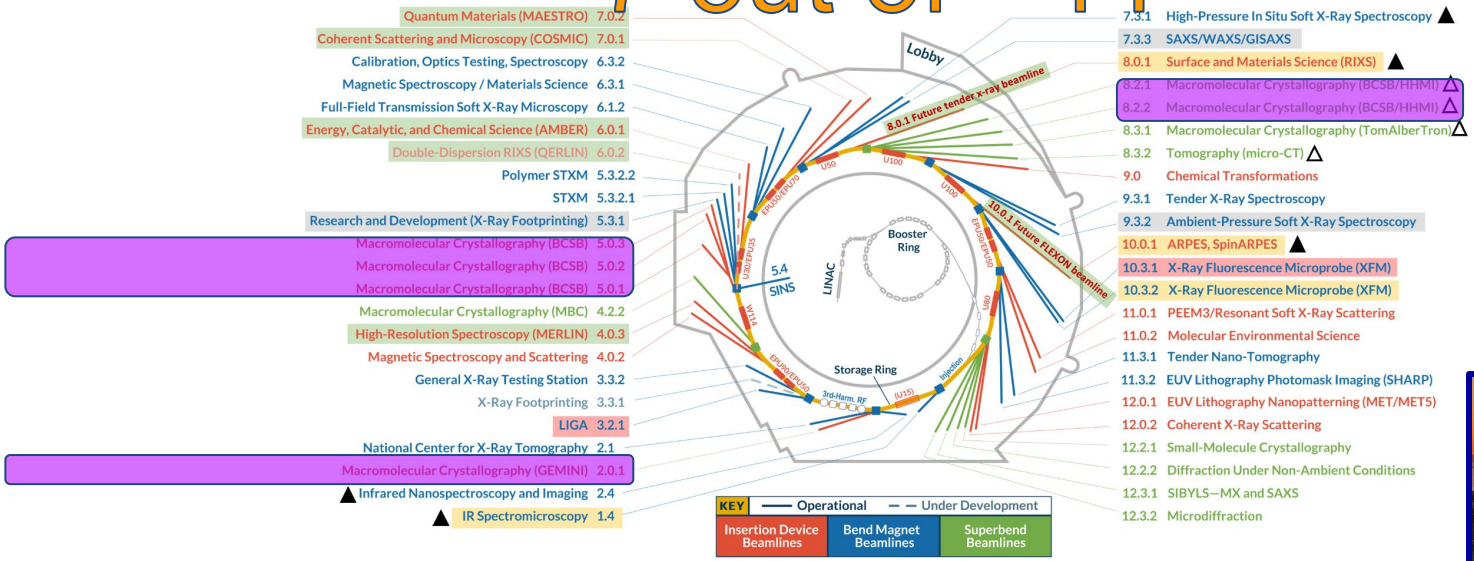


EPICS

Real Case Scenario at BCSB (LBL)

The **Berkeley Center for Structural Biology** brings over 20 years of experience to beamline management and innovation. We operate six high-throughput protein crystallography beamlines at the Advanced Light Source at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory.

7 out of ~44



EPICS

microDXP

The microDXP is a complete, low power compact digital spectroscopy card design for a wide range of handheld, benchtop and other embedded applications, lowering cost and speeding time-to-market. Its small size allows for very compact assemblies and its low power consumption assures thermal stability and extended battery life.

Digitization Frequency (MHz) Choose an option

LabVIEW

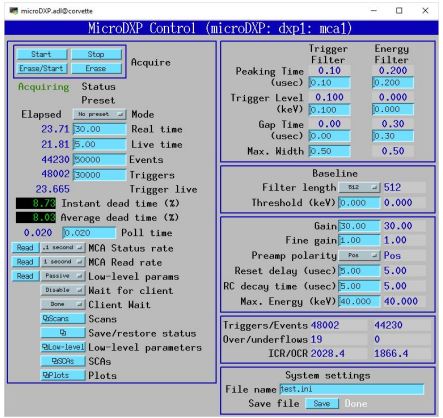
DXP - EPICS software for XIA Digital Signal Processing Systems

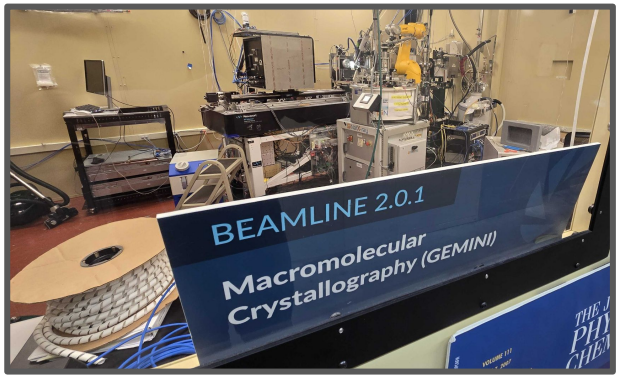
Release 6-1

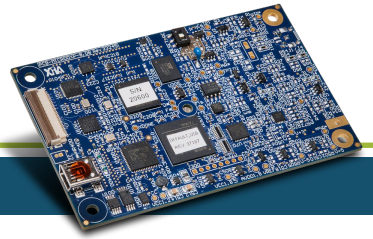
December 7, 2023

Mark Rivers

University of Chicago







epics-modules / **dxp**

6 Open ✓ 4 Closed

Author ▾ Label ▾ Assignee ▾ Sort ▾

- **There are some errors When I use dxp-R6-0 on CentOS Stream8 System** — 3
  #12 opened 3 weeks ago by 1458861693
- **How to set parameters of Ketek Detector in EPICS dxp module on Linux?** — 10
  #11 opened on Jun 4 by 1458861693
- **Some errors when using dxp-R6-1 module on ketek SDD detector** — 103
  #10 opened on Dec 20, 2023 by 1458861693

MarkRivers commented 3 weeks ago — Member

Look at issue #10.

it describes very similar problems. It only happens on Linux with the MicroDXP. There is no problem on Windows or other XIA modules like Saturn or Mercury.

Some Linux systems work fine and some fail. XIA thinks it is a firmware issues. You should add your observations to #10.

Using Serial Communication Over USB

BioSciences

XIA

Instruments That Advance The Art

microDXP

RS-232 Communications Specification

Version 3.32

June 29, 2018

microDXP Hardware Revision: H (8)

XIA LLC
31057 Genstar Rd
Hayward, CA 94544 USA
Email: support@xia.com
Tel: (510) 401-5760; Fax: (510) 401-5761
http://www.xia.com/

Using Serial Communication Over USB

BioSciences

```
301  ################
302  ### Imports ###
303  ################
304
305  import usb.core
306  import usb.util
307  import time
308
```

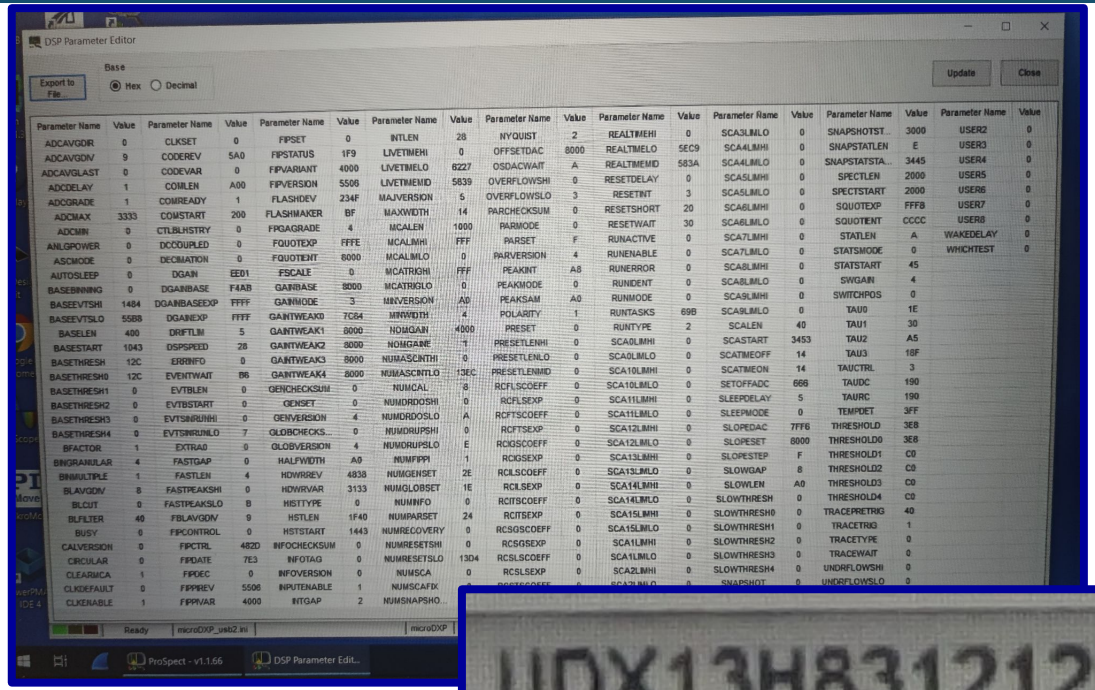
```
418  ##############
419  ### Data ###
420  ############
421
422
423  # Informing we will send X Bytes
424  A_____________= "00000A000000000001"
425
426  A_bin_______= bytes.fromhex(A)
427  A_bin_size = len(A_bin)
428
429  # Command 0x02 - Read MCA
430  B_____________= "1B020500000000100215"
431
432  B_bin_______= bytes.fromhex(B)
433  B_bin_size = len(B_bin)
434
435  # Informing we will read X Bytes
436
437  C_____________= "002000400000010000"
438  C_bin_______= bytes.fromhex(C)
439  C_bin_size = len(C_bin)
440
441  # Expected Return  : 27, 0, 3, 0, 0, 0, 0, 3
442  # Actual   Return  : 27, 0, 3, 0, 0, 0, 0, 3 (Good!)
443  # Hex Translation. : 1B 00 03 00 00 00 00 03
444
445  # Reading 512 bytes
446  D_____________= ""
447
```

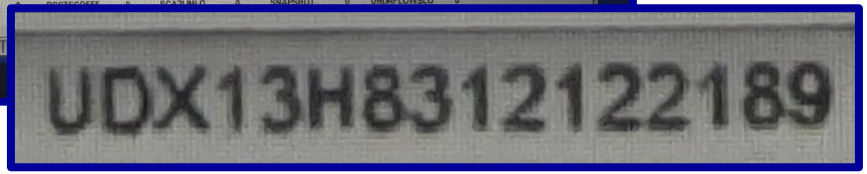
```
464  try:
465
466      # Packet 01 (A) - Informing we will send 6 Bytes
467      print("1) Sending " + A + " to EP_0x1. [" + str(A_bin) + " , Size: " + str(A_bin_size) + " bytes]")
468      #EP_0x1.write(A_bin,1000)
469
470      # Packet 02 (B) -  Command 0x00 - Start Run
471      print("2) Sending " + B + " to EP_0x6. [" + str(B_bin) + " , Size: " + str(B_bin_size) + " bytes]")
472      #EP_0x6.write(B_bin,1000)
473
474      #Packet 03 (C) - Informing we will read 512 Bytes
475      print("3) Sending " + C + " to EP_0x1. [" + str(C_bin) + " , Size: " + str(C_bin_size) + " bytes]")
476      EP_0x1.write(C_bin,1000)
477
478      #Packet 04 (D) - Reading 512 bytes from Device
479      print("4) Reading from EP_0x82, 512 bytes.")
480      #D = EP_0x82.read(16384)
481      D = dev.read(EP_0x82.bEndpointAddress,16384)
482
483      print(D)
```

Using Serial Communication Over USB

BioSciences

```
418  ##############
419  ### Data ###
420  #############
421
422
423  # Informing we will send X Bytes
424  A_____________= "00000A000000000001"
425
426  A_bin_______= bytes.fromhex(A)
427  A_bin_size = len(A_bin)
428
429  # Command 0x02 - Read MCA
430  B_____________= "1B020500000000100215"
431
432  B_bin_______= bytes.fromhex(B)
433  B_bin_size = len(B_bin)
434
435  # Informing we will read X Bytes
436
437  C_____________= "002000400000010000"
438  C_bin_______= bytes.fromhex(C)
439  C_bin_size = len(C_bin)
440
441  # Expected Return  : 27, 0, 3, 0, 0, 0, 0, 3
442  # Actual   Return  : 27, 0, 3, 0, 0, 0, 0, 3 (Good!)
443  # Hex Translation. : 1B 00 03 00 00 00 00 03
444
445  # Reading 512 bytes
446  D_____________= ""
447
```





caget BL201-MICRODXP:RUNNUMBER

BioSciences

```python
# Prefix for the EPICS Process Variables (PVs)
prefix = 'BL201-MICRODXP:'

# Define the Process Variable database
pvdb = {

    ###################################
    ### Define PVs for reading data ###
    ###################################

    'MCA': {
        'type': 'int',
        'count': 8192,
        'value': 'NULL',
    },

    'MCASUM': {
        'type': 'int',
        'value': -1,
    },

    'RUNNUMBER': {
        'type': 'int',
        'value': -1,
    },

    'RUNSTATE': {
        'type': 'string',
    },
```

```python
#############
### Class ###
#############

2 usages
class MyDriver(Driver):

    # Constructor
    def __init__(self):

        # Initialize the base Driver class
        super(MyDriver, self).__init__()

        # Create an instance of MicroDXP for
        self.myMicroDXP = MicroDXP()
```

```python
    1 usage
    def getRunNumber(self):
        return self.myMicroDXP.epics_getRunNumber()
```

```python
    def epics_getRunNumber(self):

        print("EPICS, start of epics_getRunNumber()")
        print("EPICS, end of epics_getRunNumber()")

        return self.runNumber
```

```python
# Handle read requests for PVs
2 usages (2 dynamic)
def read(self, reason):

    # Dispatch read request to appr

    #
    if reason == 'MCA':
        return self.getMCA()

    if reason == 'MCA2FILE':
        return self.getMCA2File()

    if reason == 'MCASUM':
        return self.getMCASum()

    #
    if reason == 'RUNNUMBER':
        return self.getRunNumber()
```

Tip: Running the IOC inside a Conda Environment

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```
screen -S pyMicroDXP -X stuff ^c
cd /opt/iocs/pyMicroDXP
screen -S pyMicroDXP -d -m ./pyMicroDXPActivate.sh
```

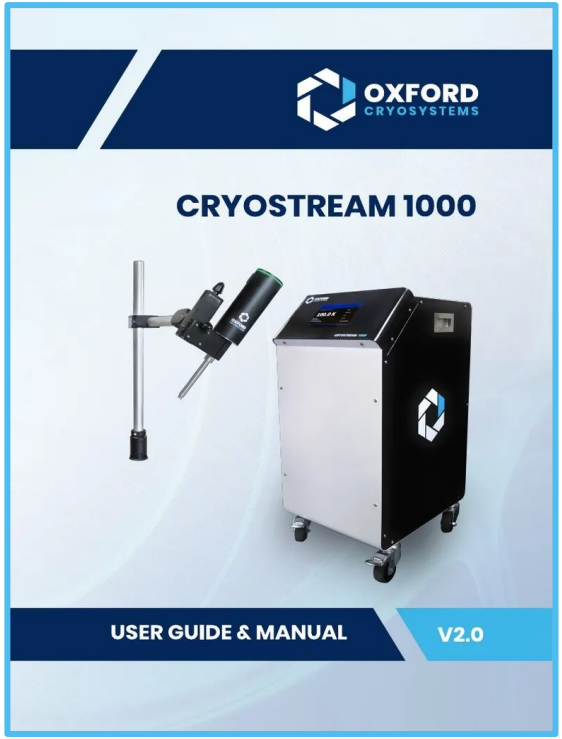
Virtual Session

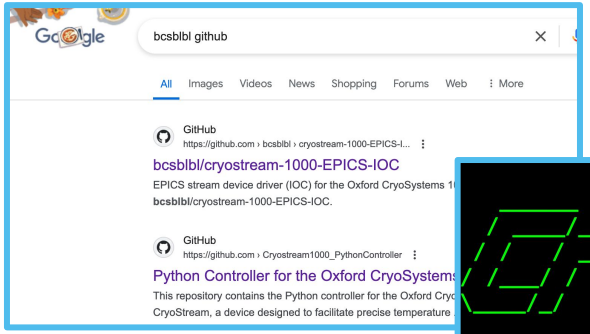
```
[root@bl201-usbserver1 pyMicroDXP]# conda env list
# conda environments:
#
base                     /root/anaconda3
LutMaker                 /root/anaconda3/envs/LutMaker
microDXP                 /root/anaconda3/envs/microDXP
xmagix                   /root/anaconda3/envs/xmagix
```

Listing Virtual Environments

```
conda run -n microDXP python /opt/iocs/pyMicroDXP/epicsIOC.py
```

Running in the background inside a Conda Environment


OXFORD CRYOSYSTEMS
CRYOSTREAM 1000
USER GUIDE & MANUAL
V2.0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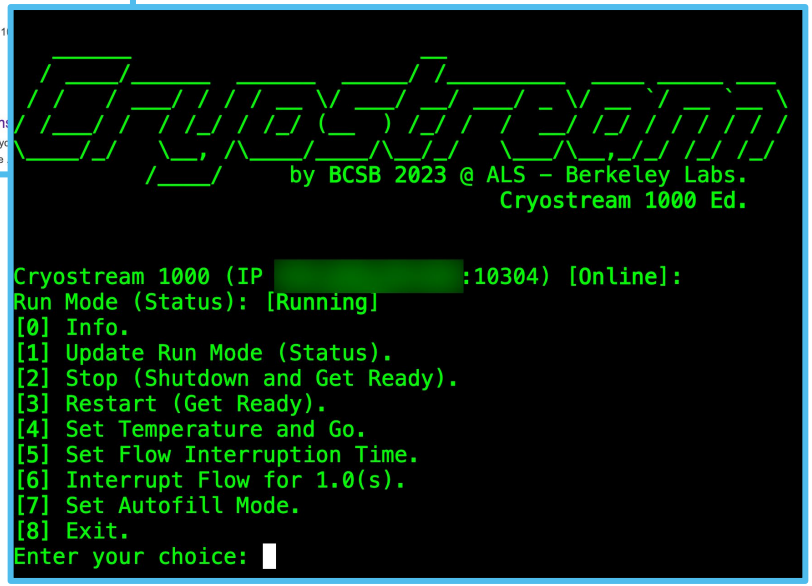
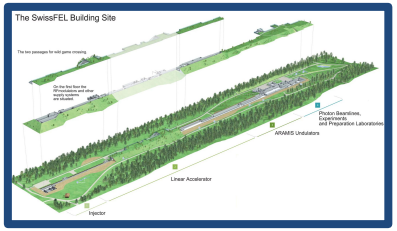
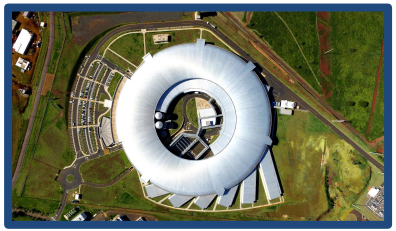
GitHub
https://github.com › bcsblbl › cryostream-1000-EPICS-I...
bcsblbl/cryostream-1000-EPICS-IOC
EPICS stream device driver (IOC) for the Oxford CryoSystems
bcsblbl/cryostream-1000-EPICS-IOC.
GitHub
https://github.com › Cryostream1000_PythonController
Python Controller for the Oxford CryoSystems
This repository contains the Python controller for the Oxford Cryo
CryoStream, a device designed to facilitate precise temperature


by BCSB 2023 @ ALS – Berkeley Labs.
Cryostream 1000 Ed.
Cryostream 1000 (IP :10304) [Online]:
Run Mode (Status): [Running]
[0] Info.
[1] Update Run Mode (Status).
[2] Stop (Shutdown and Get Ready).
[3] Restart (Get Ready).
[4] Set Temperature and Go.
[5] Set Flow Interruption Time.
[6] Interrupt Flow for 1.0(s).
[7] Set Autofill Mode.
[8] Exit.
Enter your choice:

Some Success Stories from GitHub

BioSciences





Open **Success Stories** #15

xiaoqiangwang opened this issue on May 8, 2015 · 10 comments

xresende commented on Mar 15, 2019

At this point we are commissioning the Sirius storage ring (Brazilian Synchrotron Light Laboratory) and various current power supply IOCs have been running using PCASpy as EPICS server library.
SIRIUS PS IOC github repo

shadowguy commented on Sep 3, 2019 Contributor

We are using a PCASpy based IOC in SwissFEL Aramis to control a Shimadzu HPLC pump, the reason for choosing PCASpy over a traditional IOC is that we wanted to use the device's web interface, and Python offered a simpler option (the requests library) over C/C++ and curl based solutions. It has also been deployed successfully at the Australian Synchrotron.
GitHub Repo

MarcoMontevechi commented on Apr 4, 2022 • edited

We used succesfully a pcaspy IOC to controll an MCPS36 motor controller in Brazilian Synchrotron Light Laboratory. We chose to use pcaspy because the controller used commands with complex syntax and PVs which interacted with each other.

Agenda & Objectives

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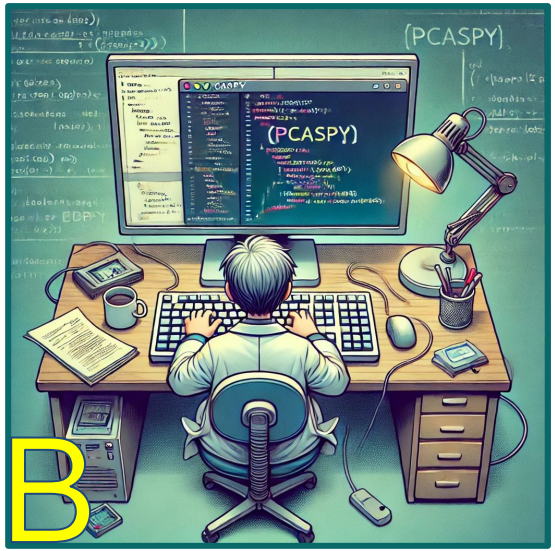
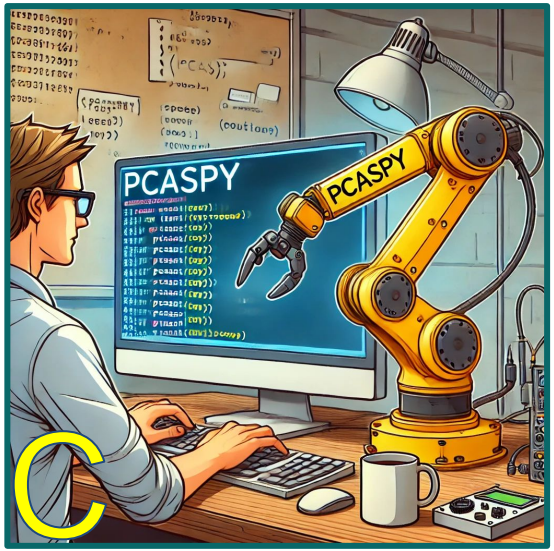
Learn what PCASpy is capable of.



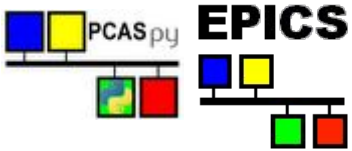
Be able to understand and read a PCASpy implementation.



Implement a basic PCASpy driver.

Closing Remarks (1/2)

BioSciences



- PCASPy simplifies certain aspects of working with EPICS but introduces its own set of challenges in the process.

- Additional effort is required to establish Python code.

- Best suited for non-real-time critical applications due to its Python foundation.

Closing Remarks (2/2)

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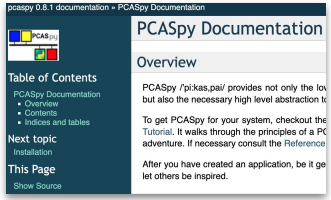
- Not a universal solution but useful as a tool for specific cases requiring new driver implementation.



- This presentation covered the basics; there are many more advanced features to explore and learn.

Acknowledgments

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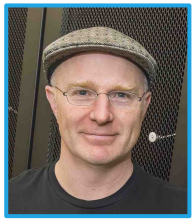
Questions and Discussion

BioSciences

Software and Instrumentation (SWI) Group at BCSB.



John Taylor

Head of SWI

jrtaylor@lbl.gov

Gabriel Gazolla

Computer Systems Engineer

gabrielgazolla@lbl.gov