

The BEC Scanning Approach – Devices Get Ready!

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What is the challenge?

16 different beamline with mostly similar devices, yet different requirements and expectations during operation.

How do we avoid hard-coding beamline specific device logic in scans?

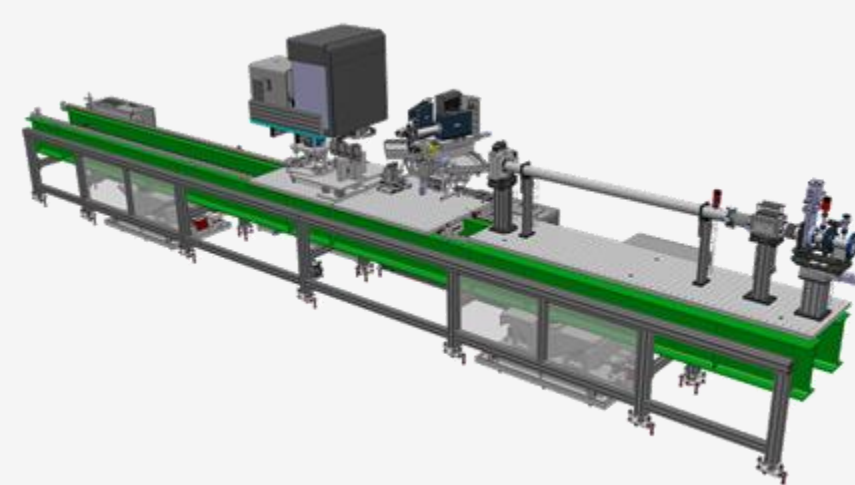
Ophyd Devices

Unified interface regardless of the underlying control layer and device type.



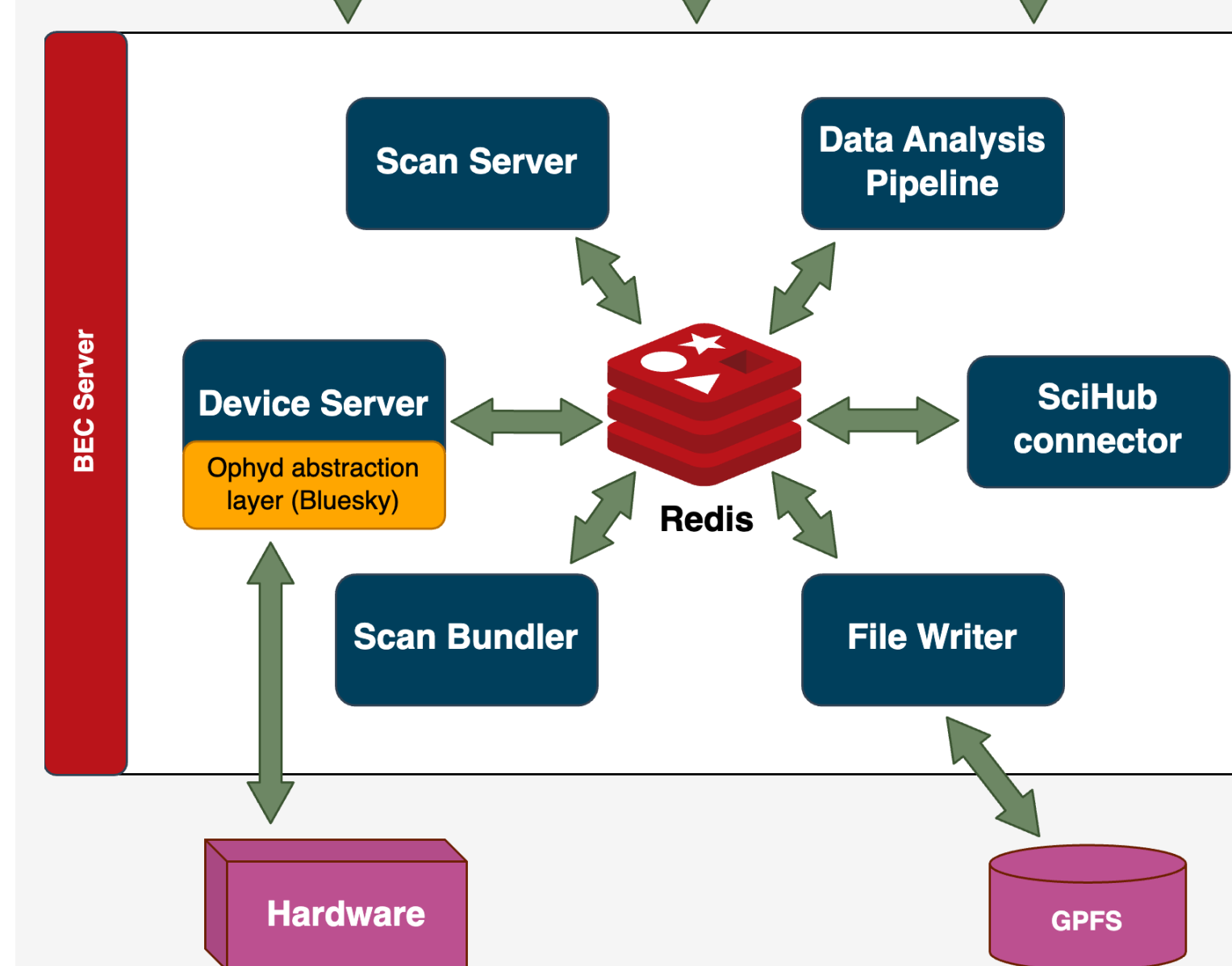
Extensive support of EPICS devices through ophyd.

Non-EPICS devices (i.e. REST, ZMQ or TCP communication) are integrated with the same abstract interface.

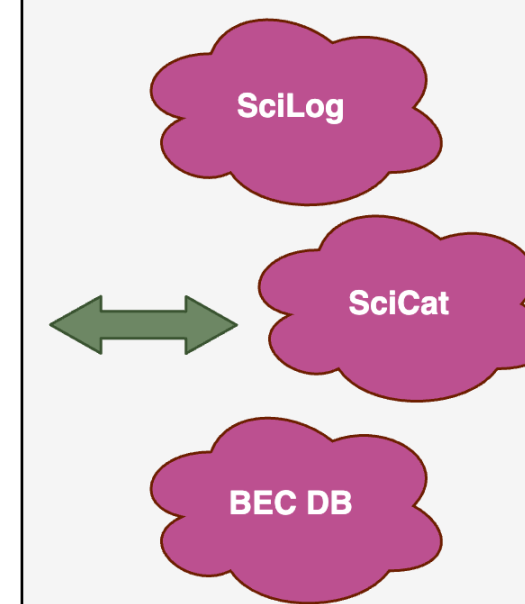


What is BEC?

BEC is a Beamline Experiment Control system with a service-oriented architecture for orchestrating and steering the experiment at research facilities.



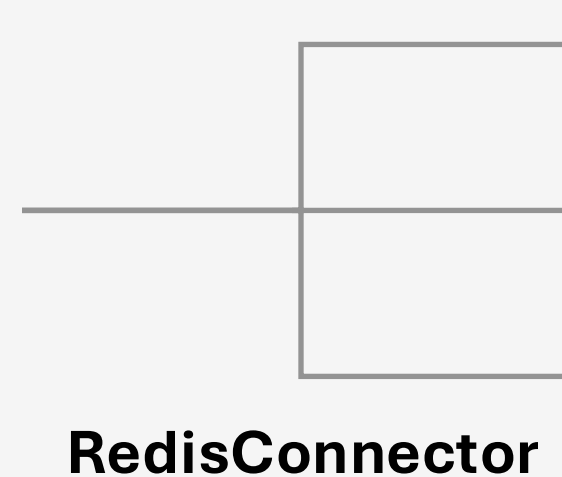
Interoperability as key requirement: Electronic logbook, archiving solution & data processing pipelines.



Dedicated database to store and query scan metadata for future usage.

BEC events

- I. **RedisConnector**: wrapper around redis-py
- II. **MessageEndpoints**: validate operations
- III. **BECMessage**: pydantic models



MessageEndpoints

- scan_status(scan_id=...)
- file_event(name=...)
- device_read(device=...)

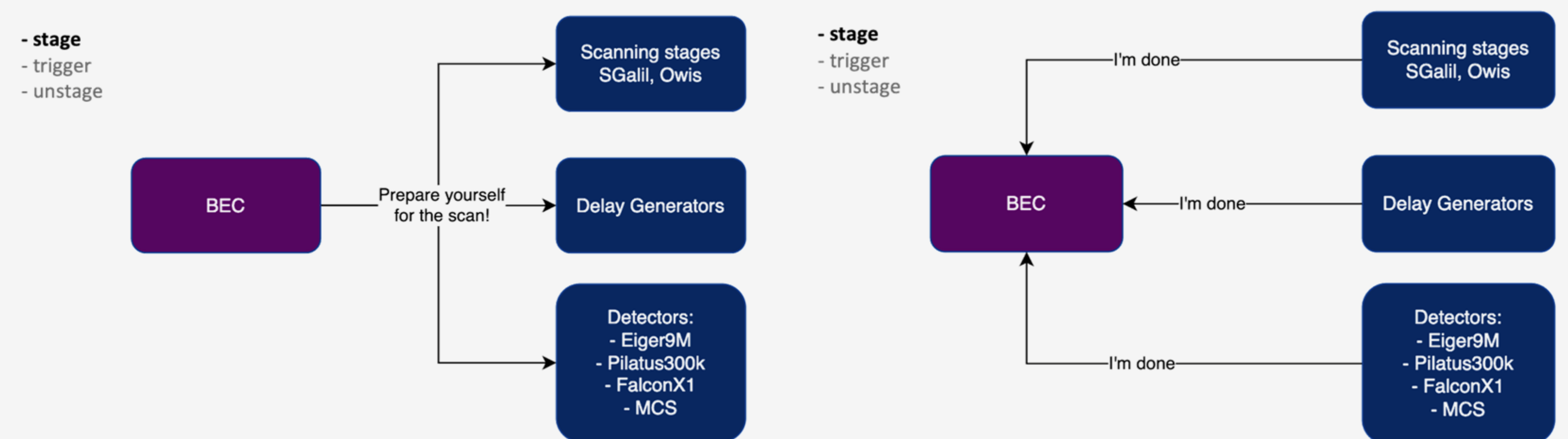
BECMessages

- ScanStatusMessage(content, metadata)
- FileMessage (content, metadata)
- DeviceMessage(content, metadata)

Scan Hierarchy in BEC

- open** Emit scaninfo via ScanStatusMessage
- stage** Inform devices to prepare for the scan
- pre_scan** Execution of time critical actions
- “core”** Scan loop
- complete** Report on data acquisition, success or failure
- unstage** If necessary, revert/remove scan-specific logic
- close** Close the scan, emit event that scan is done

Bootstrap Approach



Devices

- Detector control unit
- Temperature controller
- Trigger device
- Motor controller

Methods

- stage
- trigger
- complete
- ...

Custom Prepare Actions

Two type of scans: **step** and **fly**. Upon *stage*, *trigger*, *complete*, etc. **beamline-specific actions** are executed on the devices.

```
def on_stage(self):
    self.exp_time.set(self.scaninfo.exp_time)

def on_trigger(self):
    if self.scaninfo.scan_type == 'step':
        self.trigger_pv.set(1)
    elif self.scaninfo.scan_type == 'fly':
        pass
```

Conclusion

- Unified interface for all devices
- Disentangle device logic from scan logic
- Flexible thanks to BEC's event system

All beamlines can share the scans despite different hardware or triggering schemes.