



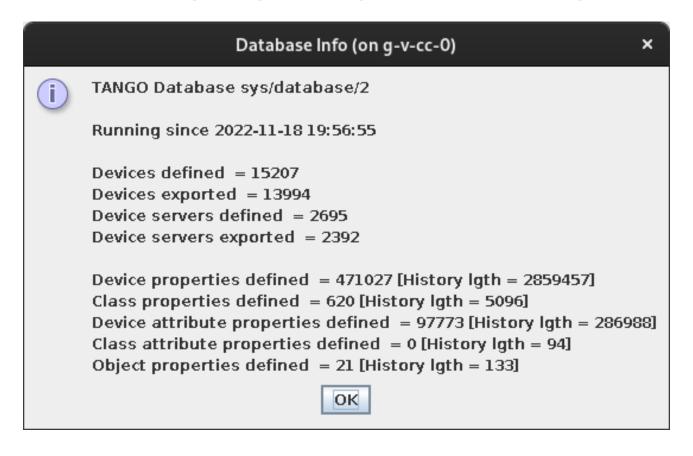
GUI development at MAX IV

Antonio Bartalesi



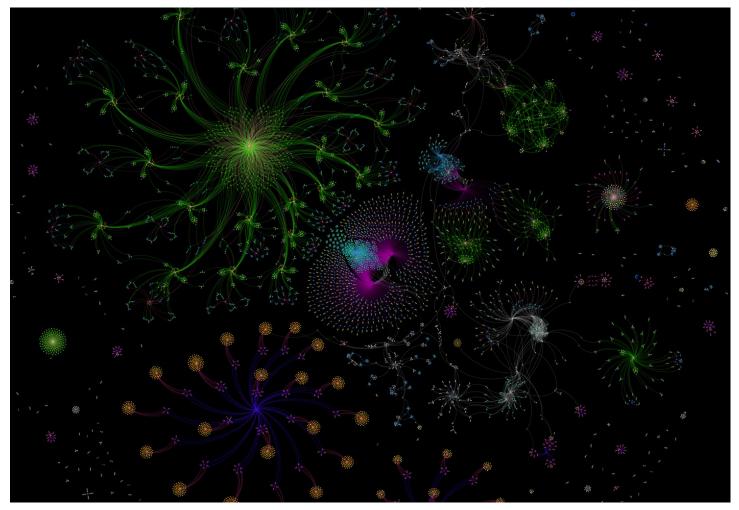
Overview – control system

- 16 Beamlines (1 TangoDB each) ≈ 12500 Tango Devices
- 2 Linac and storage rings (1 TangoDB) ≈ 15000 Tango Devices





A picture of the control system





GUI catalogue

- 114 different standalone GUIs (in Ansible catalogue)
- An estimated 25 GUIs maintained by the beamline staff

How to categorize them? An idea:

- Single purpose GUIs (camera, stategrid...)
- Simple but crowded (many simple tags)
- Synoptics



Categorizing GUIs: Specialized

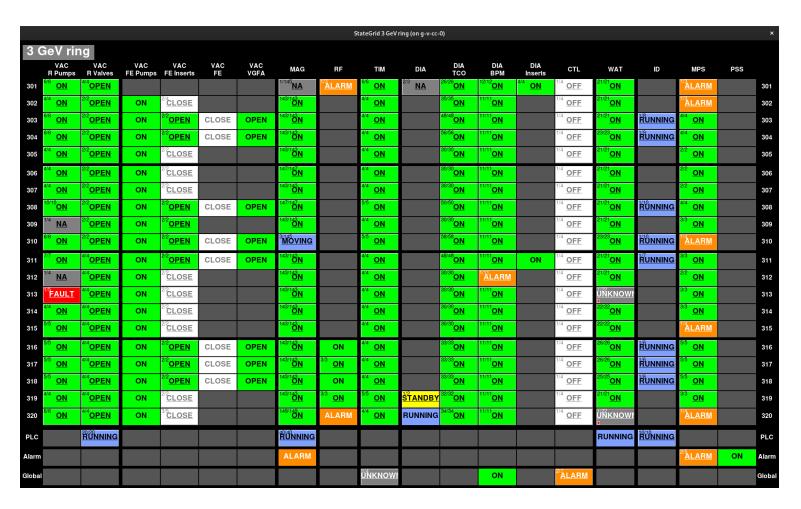


Luxviewer:

- Controls camera
- Basic image processing
- Requires good performance



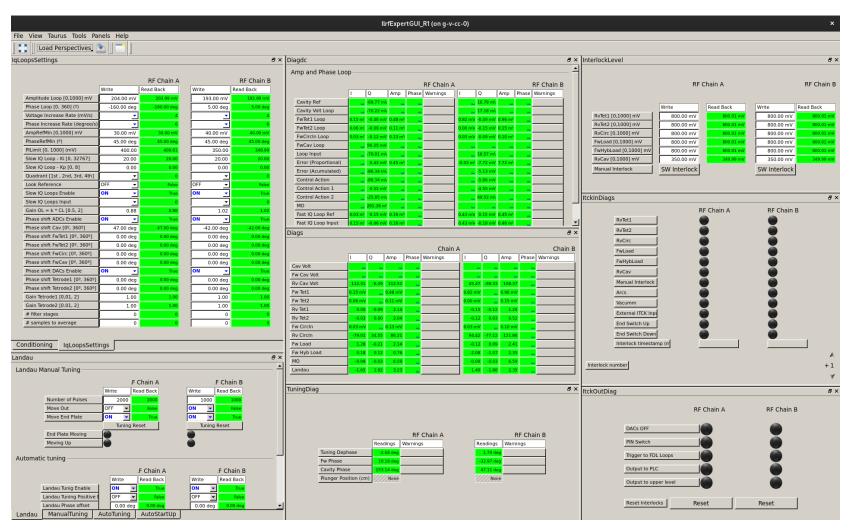
Categorizing GUIs: Specialized



Stategrid: unique task, unique look and features



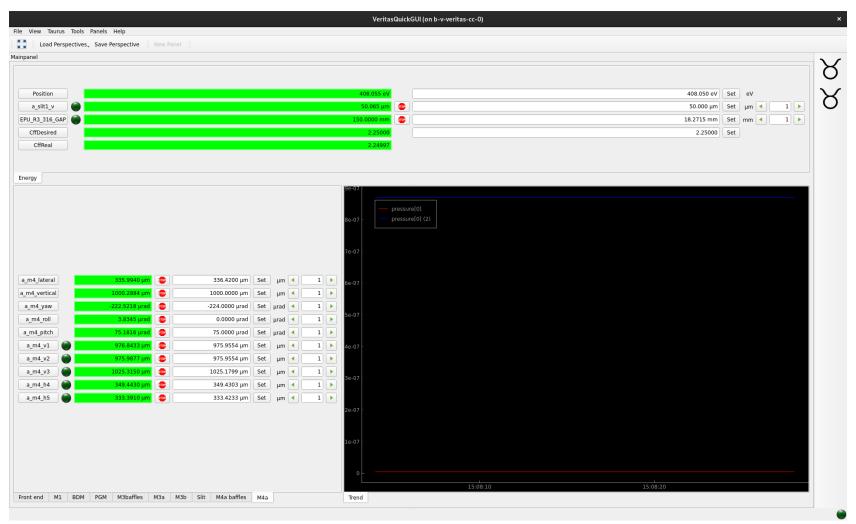
Categorizing GUIs: Simple but Crowded



Usually just a very long list of attributes



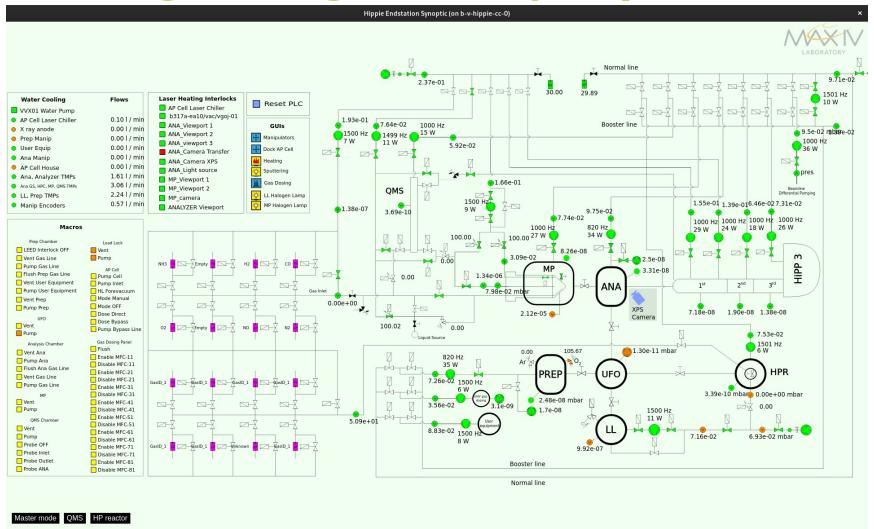
Categorizing GUIs: Simple but Crowded



Occasionally tabs, and a taurus trend

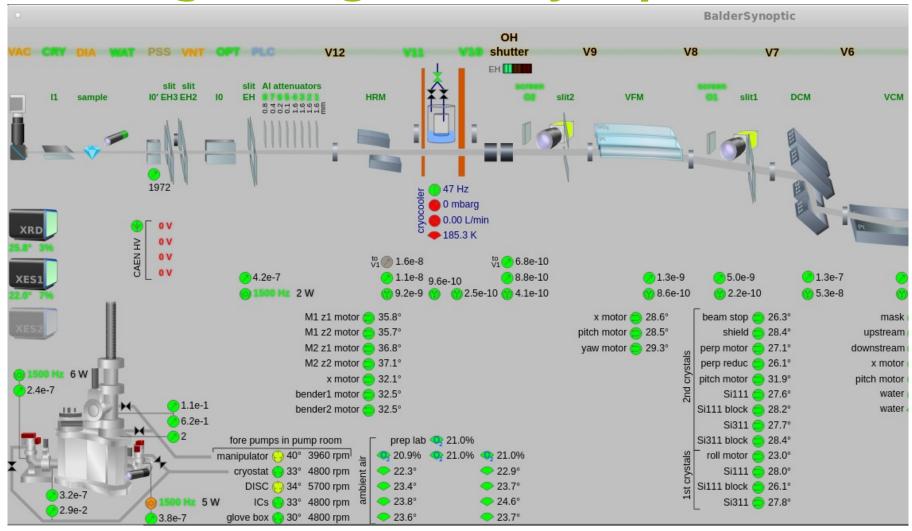


Categorizing GUIs: Synoptics





Categorizing GUIs: Synoptics



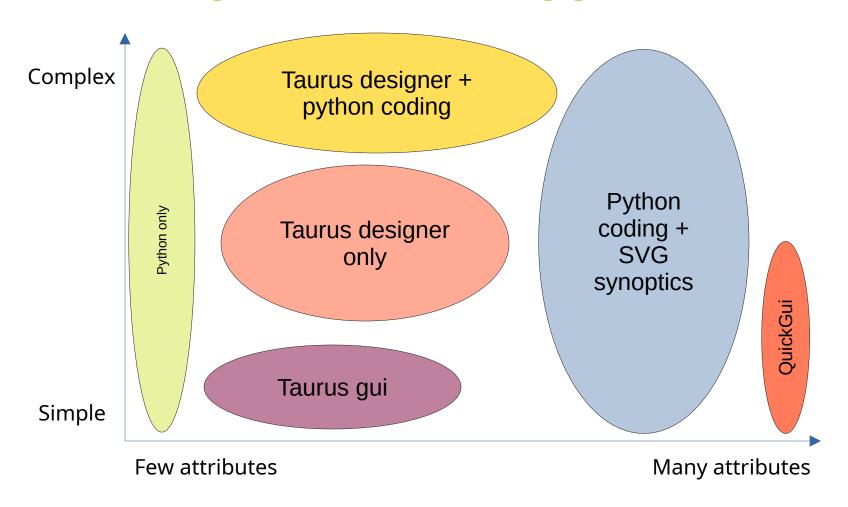


Which development tools?

- Coding in python only
- Taurus designer + python coding
- Taurus designer only (an idea for now)
- Inkscape + SVGSynoptic MAX IV library
- Taurus gui
- Quickgui (MAX IV tool to create gui from yaml files)



Development tools application



This is an observation of what tool is usually choosen



Responsibilities

We see a strong correlation between tool and responsibility:

- SVG: Almost exclusively done by the beamline staff, with inkscape. Software helps to wrap it into an app
- Taurus designer files: can be both the beamline staff and software team
- Python coding: only few beamlines do code
- QuickGui: mostly software team (adoption problem?)
- Taurus gui: beamline staff only
- We have great external collaborators too!



Collaboration with s2:nnovation

Software solutions

3

Developers

Dominika Wojtek Jakub 10+

Migrations to Python 3 / PyQt 5

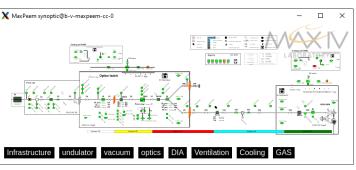
SvgSynoptic StateGrid MaxWidgets 15+

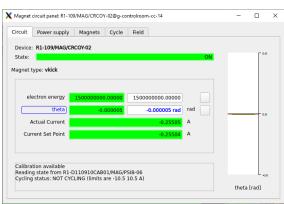
Improved GUIs

LuxViewer ScanGUI QuickGUI

...











Feedback

- We have been using taurus for a long time, and it's fully integrated in our workflows
- We aim to provide tools for the least experienced users, such as svgsynoptics and quickgui, as well as training for tools like the designer
- Extensive use of CI/CD, to allow beamline staff to even deploy (especially synoptics)
- Challenging migration from Taurus 4, still not 100% completed (but it got easier with conda)



Taurus feedback

What we like about Taurus:

- Looks good, native, modern
- Easy to get started, still possible to go in advanced features
- Good performance, scalable (better than taranta)
- Plenty of tools to design different applications

What we would like:

- More polished taurus_pyqtgraph
- Better taurus designer plugins (not all the widgets are there yet)
- More development and continued support, maybe a roadmap?



Conclusions

We believe Taurus to be a mature, performant tool, at the moment an irreplaceable part of our control system.

We have good experience working with it, both in house and with collaborators.

We have very little complains from our users, with some even taking GUI developing in their own hands.

Thank you for the attention!

