

Introduction and survey results

S. White



| The European Synchrotron

Motivation and program

Introduction to AT

Survey results

Open questions

WHAT IS AT?

AT was initially introduced by Terebilo (SLAC) as a toolbox to perform beam dynamics simulations in the late 90s:

- the core of AT is a C tracking engine, based on the Pascal version of the Tracy code, that implements the integrators of the accelerator components
- the user interface was developed in MATLAB

Then AT was integrated in MATLAB Middle Layer (MML), a MATLAB interface for control systems:

- provides a framework and graphical interface for beam dynamics measurements and studies (optic, BBA, ...)
- users scripts can be shared

In 2015, it evolved into an international collaboration ATCOLLAB and AT2.0 was released:

- Github repository (see L. Farvacque's Talk)
- active development in C and MATLAB
- development of a python interface pyAT
- even though it was made compatible with AT2.0, MML is not integrated in this development effort

WHY AN AT WORKSHOP?

AT has a wide users community across many institutes worldwide

The last collaboration meeting was held in 2017, motivated by the creation of AT2.0 and the atcollab. Since then there has not been any general meeting uniting the users community and developers to (re)define a common roadmap

Development has nevertheless been very active with a major addition: the introduction of a python interface (pyAT) initiated by ESRF and DIAMOND

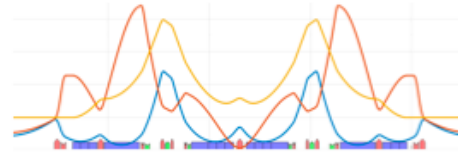
Developments now mostly carried out by ESRF and L. Farvacque. We felt that feedback from the users community was necessary:

- are the design choices in line with users needs?
- are the recent additions useful and used?
- is the documentation sufficient?
- are there missing features to be developed?
- is the development and integration process adequate?
- should we consider an upgrade of MML to pyML or a new MML?

We hope that some answers will be provided during this workshop!

The workshop is financed by the EURIZON European project

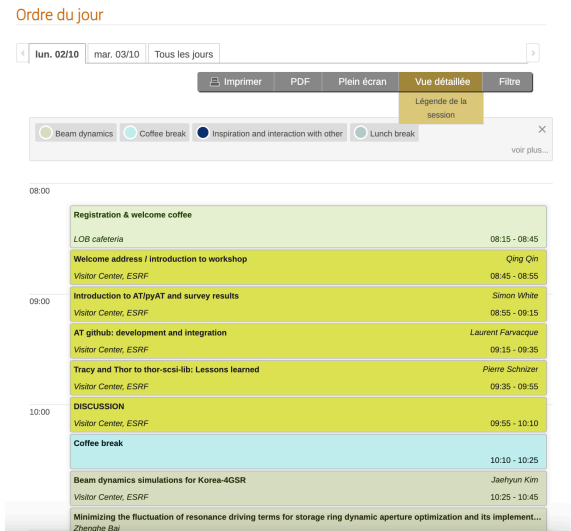
Accelerator
AToolbox **W**orkshop



The program was put together and validated by a scientific committee, trying to represent as much as possible the institutes using AT

Scientific Board

- Laurent Nadolski (SOLEIL)
- Xiaobiao Huang (SLAC)
- Zeus Marti (ALBA)
- Boaz Nash (RADIASOFT)
- Eugene Tan (Australian Synchrotron)
- Laurent Farvacque (ESRF)



Up to date program and material as well as practical information can be found on the indico page

AT developments are integrated through the AT Github repository:

- New release approximately every 6 months
- AT MATLAB/Python/C included, not MML

Most developments are now added first to python and then translated in MATLAB when possible:

- Passmethods made compatible for both interfaces
- Existing MATLAB functions ported to python: DA and lifetime (parallelized), ID kick maps, fast ring etc...
- 6D optics calculations now fully integrated in both interfaces:
 - major changes: interface of many functions adapted
 - backward compatibility broken: previous version allowed to compute 4D optics using 6D tracking data, **wrong**
- Parallelized tracking: OpenMP (MATLAB+Python), MPI, Python multiprocessing (Python only), GPU started (see J-L. Pons talk)
- Single and multi-bunch parallel collective effects (python only)

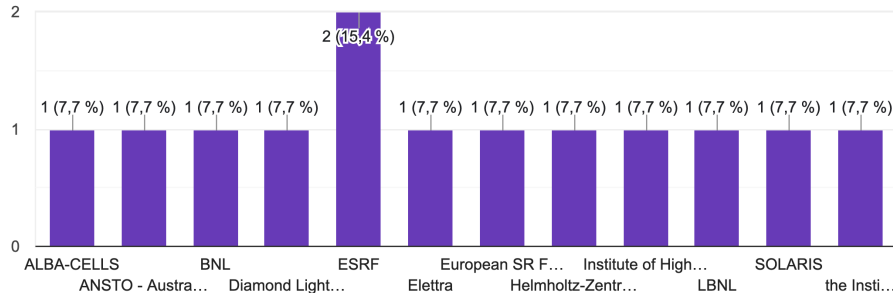
The users community being very diverse it is not clear (at least to me) how these developments were integrated and used by the institutes

SURVEY RESULTS

As a baseline for discussion we have included a short survey in the workshop registration: thanks for taking the time to answer these questions!

(optional) For which research institute do you work?

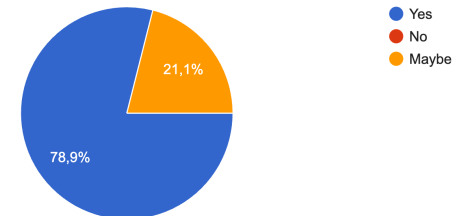
13 réponses



Answers from 11 institutes received

No one thought this workshop was useless

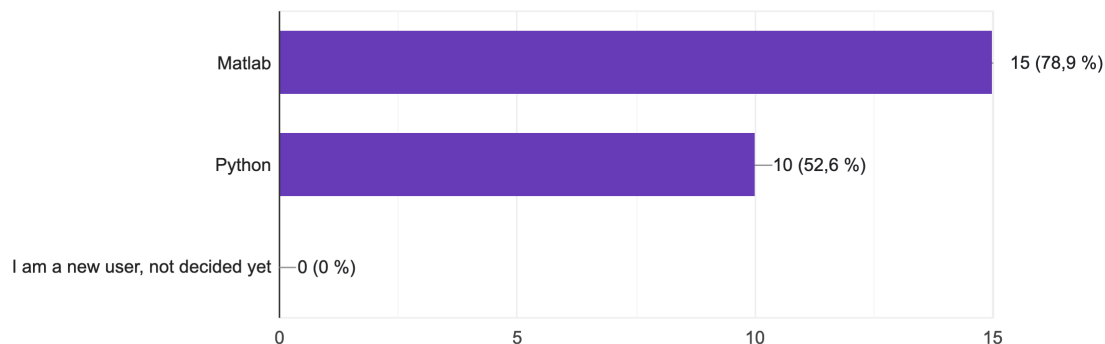
The last collaboration meeting took place several years ago (2017). AT has gone through major changes since then and a complete review could be ...ould be useful and would you like to participate?
19 réponses



WHICH AT VERSION IS USED?

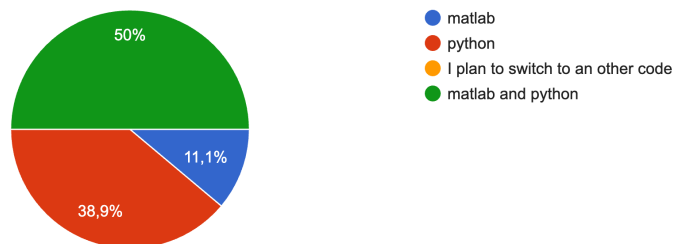
Do you use matlab or python AT?

19 réponses



Which AT do you plan to use in the future?

18 réponses



pyAT widely adopted
MATLAB AT still strong, but MATLAB only users very few

Which version do you use?

Modified by G. Portman for SOLARIS

1.4

I'm not sure

2021

2.0

latest from repository

the latest version on github

I don' t know.

2.0 (since 2017)

Version 2.3

Master

AT2.0

AT1.2

pyAT latest

AT2015

the latest released (0.3.0) and github repo

master

AT main usage

Simulations / modeling (17):

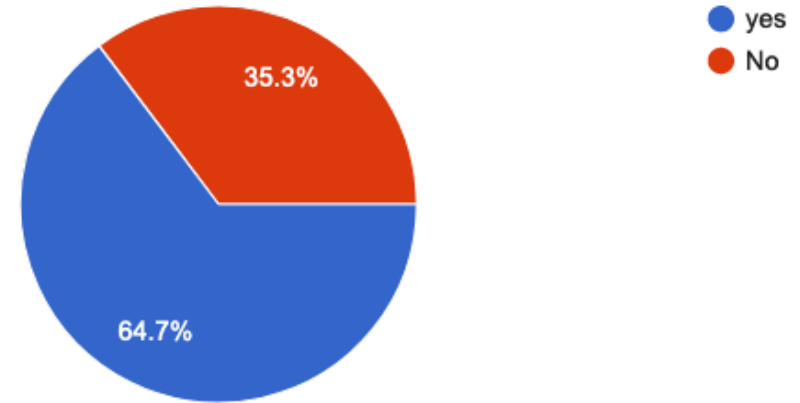
- Lattice design (7)
- Injection (4)
- Commissioning (2)
- Feedback (1)

Operation and control room (6)

AT development (1)

Is AT integrated in your SR control system (ex: MML)

17 responses



AT main usage is storage ring modelling

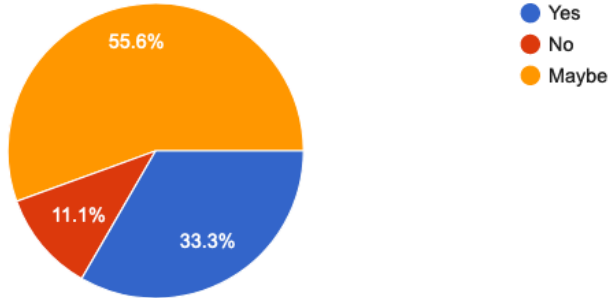
Approximately 65% integrate AT in the control systems (not specified whether MML is used or not)

Very few developers

DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRATION

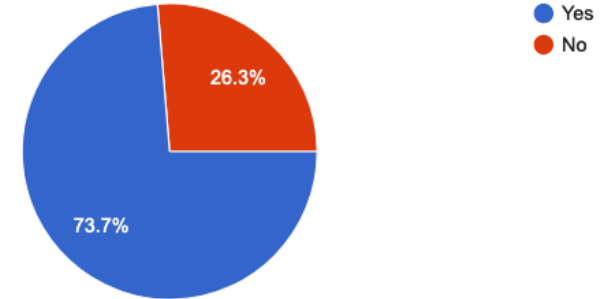
Is the continuous development approach used until now satisfactory?

18 responses



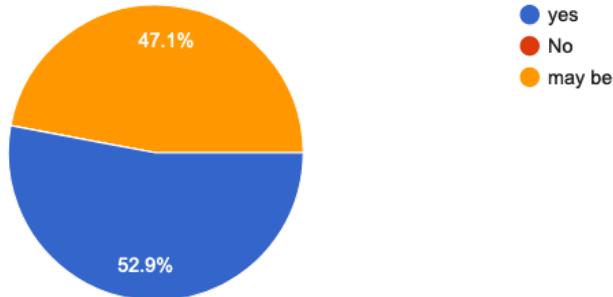
Do you use the github repository atcollab?

19 responses



Would you like more frequent stable code releases with detailed change list?

17 responses



Most users are using the Github repository

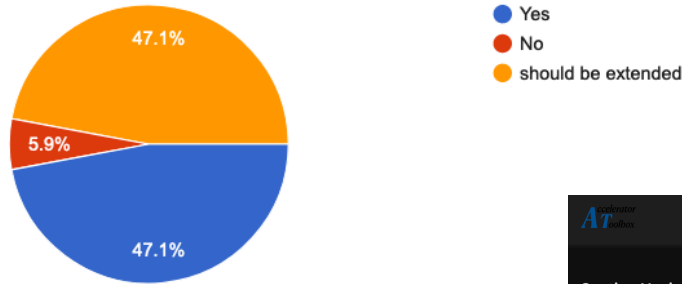
Integration process would need to be improved:

- more frequent releases
- improved reviewing process

But we are lacking reviewers and resources: seek for external founding?

Is the AT documentation (<https://atcollab.github.io/at/index.html>) satisfactory?

17 responses



There seems to be a need to extend / improve the documentation

More detailed docstrings would be sufficient?

**Is there a need for a real manual?
Started for some parts...**

pyAT documentation automatically generated using sphinx
Not done in MATLAB, all docstrings would need to be re-written

A screenshot of the pyAT documentation website. The page has a dark theme. On the left, there is a 'Section Navigation' sidebar with a purple box highlighting the 'How to:' section, which includes links for 'Installation', 'Parallel processing', 'PyAT Primer', 'Cavity Control', and 'Collective'. Below this is a 'Packages:' section with a list of sub-packages: at.acceptance, at.collective, at.lattice, at.load, at.matching, at.physics, at.plot, at.tracking, and at.constants. The main content area on the right features a 'Welcome to pyAT's documentation!' heading, followed by introductory text about the Accelerator Toolbox and pyAT. Below this is a 'Sub-packages' section with a list of sub-packages and their descriptions: at.acceptance (Transverse and longitudinal acceptance of a ring), at.collective (Collective effects), at.lattice (Helper functions for working with AT lattices), at.load (Import/export AT lattice from/to different formats: - .mat files - .m files), at.matching (matching functions), and at.physics (Accelerator physics functions).

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS (WISH LIST FROM THE SURVEY)

Lattice modeling:

- Exact hamiltonian pass methods, improved magnets (dipole) model
- Insertion device model
- 3D field maps

Linac modeling

Advanced modeling:

- Intra-beam scattering and collective effects
- Strong coupling
- Advanced feedback systems
- Beam lines interface
- Non relativistic particles

Functionalities:

- Parallel computing / GPU
- Errors, corrections and optimisation tools

User Interface:

- Improved switching between radiation ON/OFF
- Improved ring parameters calculation interface, possibility to select parameters to compute
- Visualisation for Touschek losses

Control room application:

- PyML
- MML compatibility

Development:

- More stable code
- Extended documentation

AT still has a large users base and is used in many institutes worldwide

Development is still very active

The python interface is being widely adopted

Many new features proposed: **strong interest in further developing and support AT in the future**

Nevertheless:

MATLAB Middle Layer does not seem to follow AT:

- compatibility issue
- is it worth thinking of a replacement (pyML or new MML)?

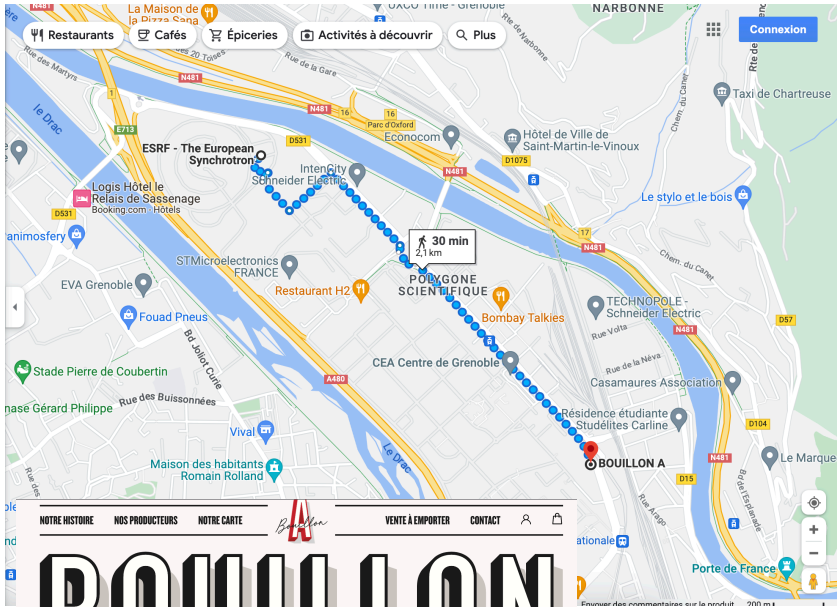
The development is mostly done at ESRF:

- limited resources
- we are lacking developers and reviewers

The MATLAB development relies on L. Farvacque and S. Liuzzo (reviewing) only:

- is this adequate? Can this be sustained over the long term? Shouldn't we have someone attached to an institute following the MATLAB development?
- The risk is that pyAT starts to evolve much faster and diverge to a point where maintaining compatibility between the 2 interface becomes impossible....

PRACTICAL INFORMATION



The workshop dinner will take place on Monday, 2nd October at '[Bouillon A](#)' restaurant in Grenoble.

Warning: There is another restaurant called Le Bouillon downtown Grenoble, **it is not that one**

Lunches will be held at the [EPN campus restaurant](#) in the Guest dining room.

Workshop photo will be taken during the first coffee break, today at 10:10am

Tunnel visit will take place today during lunch break: please try to be on schedule since we have adapted our operation schedule to accommodate this visit

Thanks and have a nice workshop!