The making of BornAgain

Jan Burle, Céline Durniak, Jonathan Fisher, Marina Ganeva, David Li, Walter Van Herck, Gennady Pospelov, Joachim Wuttke

> Scientific Computing Group at MLZ Jülich Center for Neutron Science





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Outline

- Introduction
- Software architecture
- Demonstration
- Under the hood
- Closing remarks



bornagainproject.org

development started in April, 2012

Contact Home Screenshots Download Documentation Forums About LATEST RELEASE Release-1.5.1 2016-02-18 **SEARCH** Simulate your GISAS experiment **USER LOGIN** Username * Welcome to BornAgain BornAgain is a software package to simulate and fit small-angle scattering at grazing incidence. Password * It supports analysis of both X-ray (GISAXS) and neutron (GISANS) data. Its name, BornAgain, indicates the central role of the distorted wave Born approximation in the physical description of the scattering process. The software provides a generic framework for modeling multilayer · Create new account samples with smooth or rough interfaces and with various types of embedded nanoparticles. · Request new password Read more Log in

Grazing Incidence Small Angle Scattering

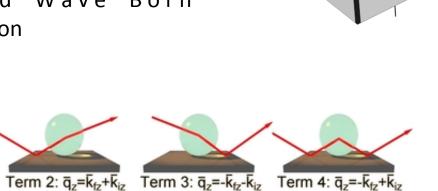
Experiment

 the beam is directed on a surface with a very small incident angle

2D detector records the intensity of scattered wave giving access to lateral and vertical sample structure information

Simulation

 Intensity is calculated from known sample structure using Distorted Wave Born Approximation



$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega} = \left\langle \left| F_{\rm DWBA} \right|^2 \right\rangle \! S(q_\parallel)$$

Motivation



Support for specific instruments at MLZ

Serve our users, support in house research, at Maria and REFSANS instruments

Limited functionality of existing software

- No support for polarized neutrons, limitations in sample geometry
- Usability issues, lack of support

High Data Rate Processing and Analysis initiative (HDRI)

- Call to create simulation software for non-expert users for GISAS field
- Provide functionality/extensibility for broader usage

IsGISAXS as an example

Successful software which is a de facto standard in the user community

IsGISAXS: a **program** for grazing-incidence small-angle X-ray scattering analysis of supported islands

R Lazzari - Journal of Applied Crystallography, 2002 - scripts.iucr.org

This paper describes a Fortran **program**, **IsGISAXS**, for the simulation and analysis of grazing-incidence small-angle X-ray scattering (GISAXS) of islands supported on a substrate. As is usual in small-angle scattering of particles, the scattering cross section is ...

Cited by 257 Related articles All 7 versions Cite

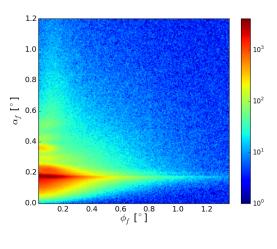
- Simulation in DWBA
- FORTRAN 90, 13k lines of code
- No longer actively supported

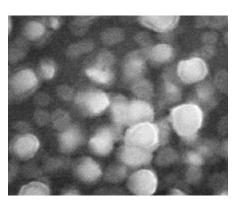
IsGISAXS parameter file

```
GISAXS SIMULATIONS : INPUT PARAMETERS
# Base filename
isgi_2-types-of-particles
Diffuse, Multilayer, Number of index slices, Polarization
# Framework
  DWBA
             DA
                                       25
                                                       Wl min(nm), Wl max(nm), nWl,
# Beam Wavelenght :
                            Wl_distribution,
                                           Sigma Wl/Wl,
                Lambda(nm),
                                                          0.08
                                                                    0.12
# Beam Alpha_i
               : Alpha_i(deg), Ai_distribution, Sigma_Ai(deg), Ai_min(deg), Ai_max(deg), nAi, xAi
                   0.2
                               none
                                                     0.15
                : 2Theta_i(deg), Ti_distribution, Sigma_Ti(deg), Ti_min(deg), Ti_max(deg), nTi, XTi
# Beam 2Theta i
                                                0.5
                                                            -0.5
                                                                         0.5
                                  none
# Substrate : n-delta_S,
                       n-beta_S,
                                 Layer thickness(nm), n-delta_L,
                                                             n-beta_L,
                                                                      RMS roughness(nm)
                         2.e-8
                                                    1.E-05
                                                              5.E-07
# Particle : n-delta_I,
                       n-beta_I,
                                  Depth(nm), n-delta_SH,
                                                        n-beta SH
          6.E-04
                       2.e-8
                                           8.E-04
                                                        2.e-8
```

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User needs

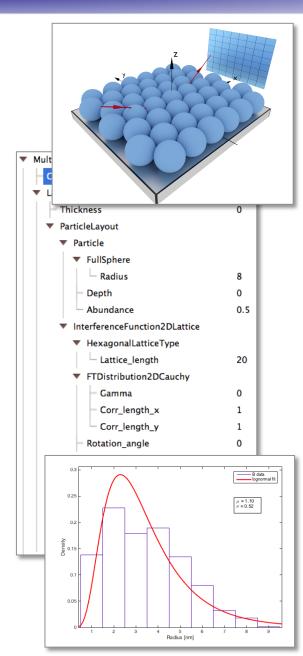








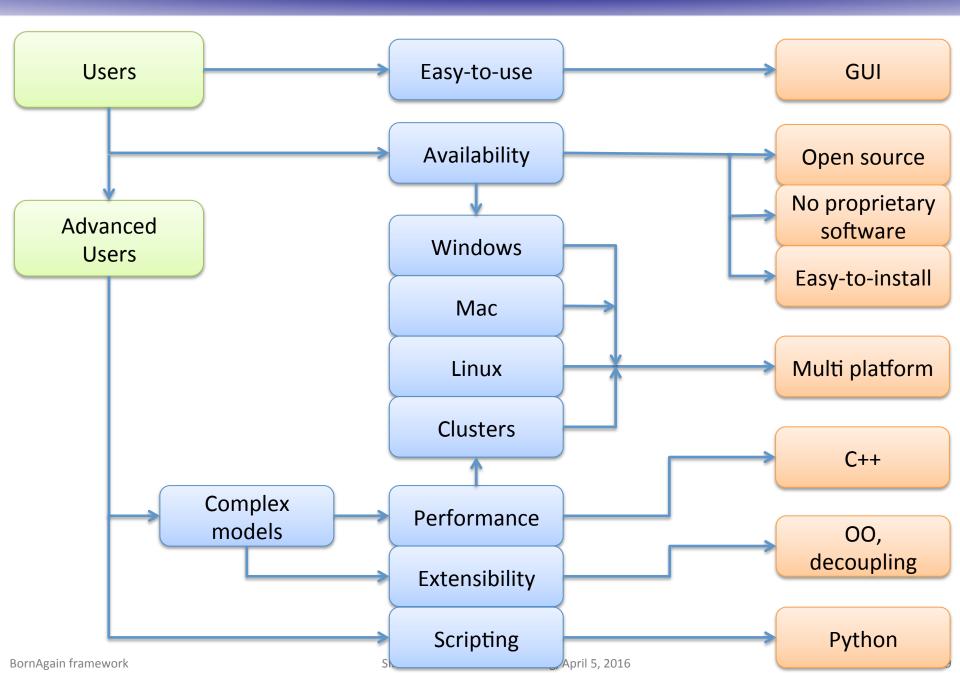




User needs

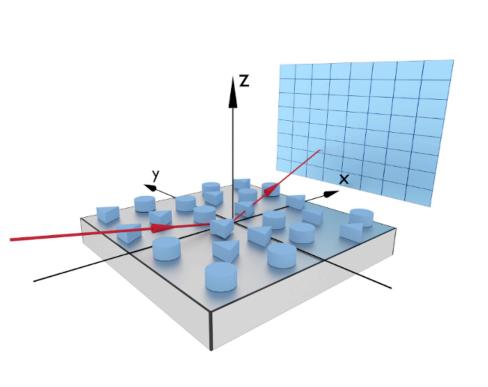


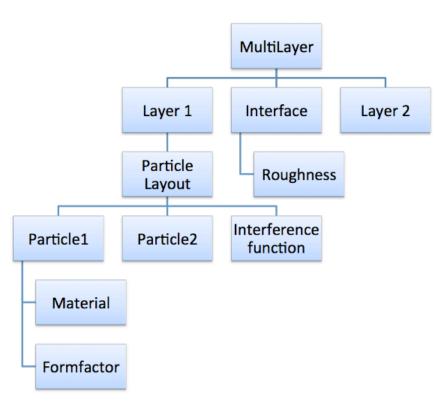
Requirements



Software Architecture

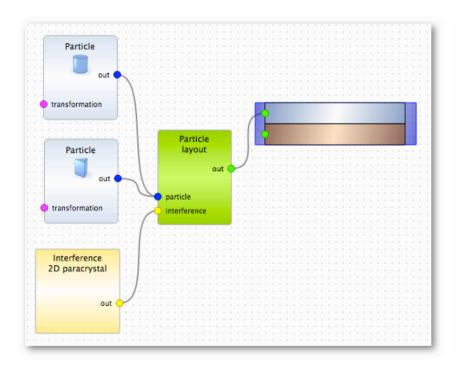
- Open-source framework written in C++, interfaced with Python
 - distributed under GPL3 license
- Multi-platform
 - Unix flavors, source code
 - Windows, binary installer package
 - Mac OS, binary installer package
- Object-oriented approach for sample description





Software Architecture

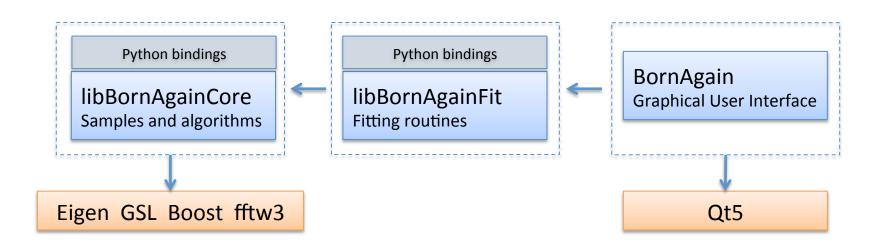
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 - Windows, binary installer package
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```
# defining materials
m_air = HomogeneousMaterial("Air", 0.0, 0.0)
m substrate = HomogeneousMaterial("Substrate", 6e-6, 2e-8)
m particle = HomogeneousMaterial("Particle", 6e-4, 2e-8)
# collection of particles
cylinder_ff = FormFactorCylinder(5*nanometer, 5*nanometer)
cylinder = Particle(m_particle, cylinder_ff)
prism_ff = FormFactorPrism3(10*nanometer, 5*nanometer)
prism = Particle(m_particle, prism_ff)
particle_layout = ParticleLayout()
particle_layout.addParticle(cylinder, 0.0, 0.5)
particle_layout.addParticle(prism, 0.0, 0.5)
# air layer with particles and substrate form multi layer
air layer = Layer(m air)
air_layer.addLayout(particle_layout)
substrate_layer = Layer(m_substrate)
multi layer = MultiLayer()
multi layer.addLayer(air layer)
multi layer.addLayer(substrate layer)
```

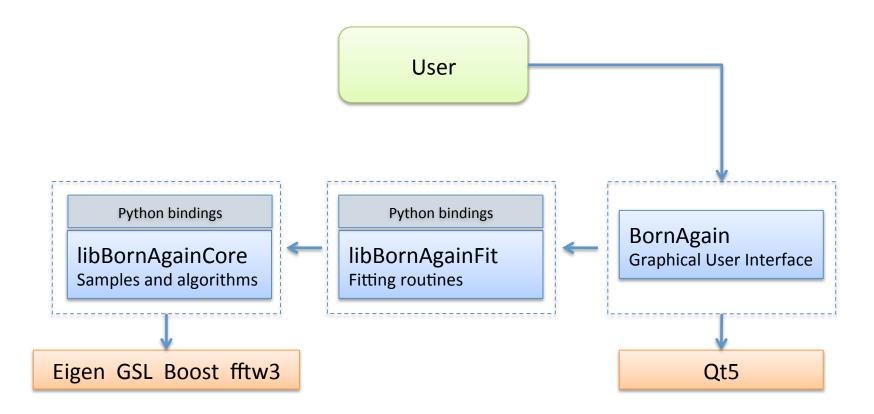
Package structure

- C++ kernel for simulation description and fitting
- Python bindings
- Graphical User Interface
- Well established Open Source libraries as external dependencies
- CMake based



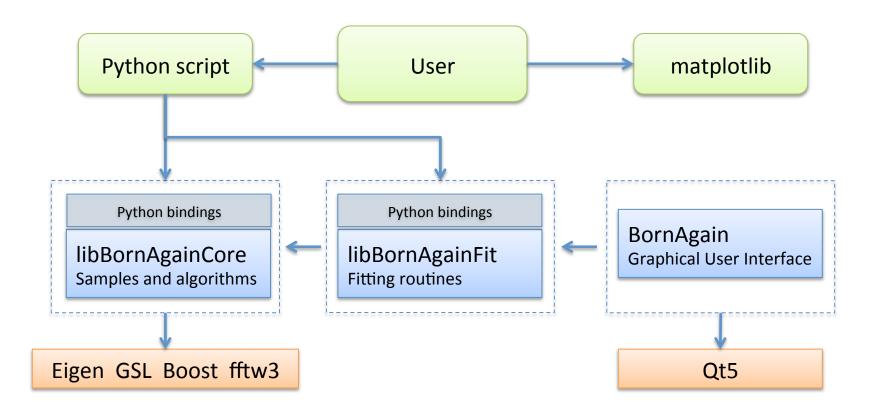
Working with BornAgain

- Using Graphical User Interface
- Running Python script with simulation description



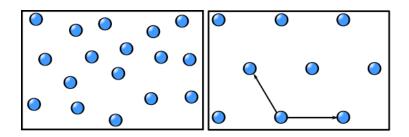
Working with BornAgain

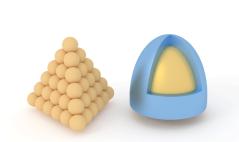
- Using Graphical User Interface
- Running Python script with simulation description



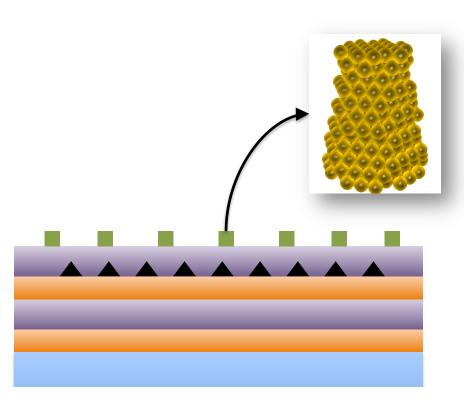
Functionality

- X-rays, non-polarized and polarized neutrons
- Arbitrary number of layers
- Simple and composite particles
- Correlated positions
- Rough interfaces
- Nanoparticle assemblies
- Off-specular geometry, beam divergence





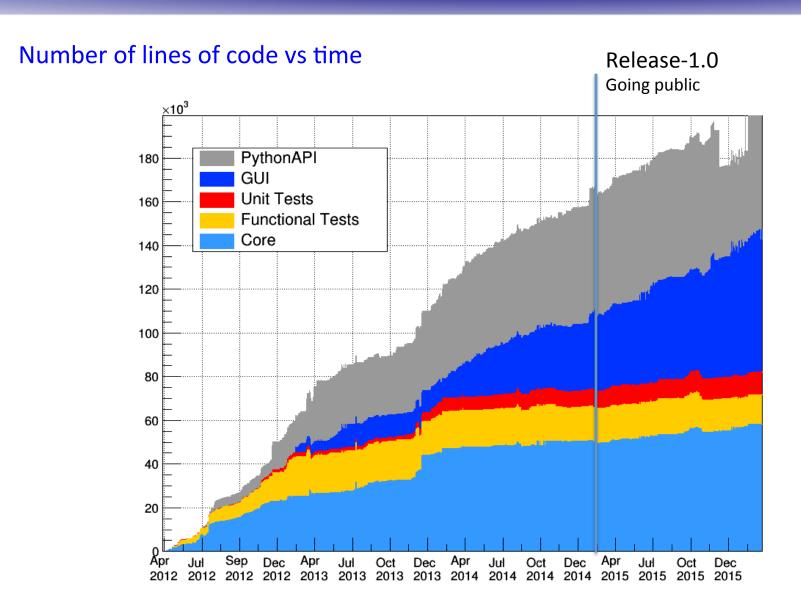




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- Demonstration
- Under the hood
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Under the hood



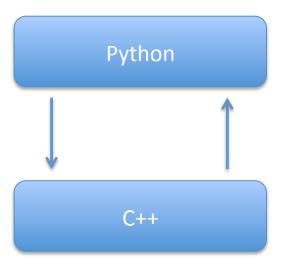
Development tools

- Version control system (git)
- Issue tracking (redmine)
- Nightly build, CI (teamcity -> docker + vagrant + buildbot)
- Unit tests (googletest, QtTest)
- Functional tests
- Release procedure
- Other
 - Google analytics
 - slack
 - Doxygen
 - Valgrind, Coverity, MacOS/Instruments
 - Blender/Inkscape

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C++/Python relationship

Extension writing Python access to C++



Embedding
C++ access to the Python
interpreter

Wrapper function

- Converts function arguments from Python to C, returns results in Python expected form
- Has to be registered for Python interpreter

function.c

```
int fact(int n)
{
    if (n <= 1)
        return 1;
    else
        return n * fact(n - 1);
}</pre>
```

wrapper.c

```
#include <Python.h>
PyObject *wrap_fact(PyObject *self, PyObject *args)
   int n, result;
    if (!PyArg_ParseTuple(args, "i:fact", &n))
        return NULL;
    result = fact(n);
    return Py_BuildValue("i", result);
static PyMethodDef exampleMethods[]
    = {{"fact", wrap_fact, 1}, {NULL, NULL}};
void initexample()
   PyObject *m;
   m = Py_InitModule("example", exampleMethods);
```

Choosing technology to wrap a complex C/C++ application

- External dependencies?
- O What is the performance?
- o Build system integration?
- O Is wrapping code on Python side or on C++ side?
- O How much code should be written additionally?
- Should I affect or duplicate existing C++ code?
- O How big is the community?
- o Is it possible to fully automate wrappers generation?
- O Do I need bindings with another languages?

After careful consideration we have chosen boost::python

Choosing technology to wrap a complex C/C++ application

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- Do I need bindings with another languages?

Difficulties with C++11, accompanying code generators (gccxml, py++) were obsolete. After careful consideration we have chosen

boost::python

3 years later... After careful consideration we have switched to

SWIG

SWIG bindings in BornAgain (starting from next release 1.6)

Binding generation is governed by a SWIG interface file

```
%{
#include "ISample.h"
%}
%include "ISample.h"
%feature("director") ISample;
```

libBornAgainCore.i

- Interface file can be fine-tuned to ignore certain methods of classes or tweak existing one
 - No change to the original C++ code is required
- Generation of bindings is done via Swig executable

```
$ swig libBornAgainCore.i
```

Produces additionally 130k lines of C++, 25k lines of Python

Achieved results

```
from bornagain import *

def buildSample():
    air = HomogeneousMaterial("Air", 0.0, 0.0)
    gold = HomogeneousMaterial("Gold", 6e-4, 2e-8)

    cylinder_ff = FormFactorCylinder(5.0, 5.0)
    cylinder = Particle(gold, cylinder_ff)
    particle_layout = ParticleLayout(cylinder)

    air_layer = Layer(m_ambience)
    air_layer.addLayout(particle_layout)

    multi_layer = MultiLayer()
    multi_layer.addLayer(air_layer)

    return multi_layer
```

```
#include "MultiLayer.h"
                                             C++
std::unique_ptr<ISample> buildSample()
    HomogeneousMaterial air("Air", 0.0, 0.0);
    HomogeneousMaterial gold("Gold", 6e-4, 2e-8);
    FormFactorCylinder ff_cylinder(5.0, 5.0);
   Particle cylinder(gold, ff cylinder);
    ParticleLayout particle layout(cylinder);
    Layer air_layer(air);
    air_layer.addLayout(particle_layout);
   std::unique_ptr<MultiLayer> result
            = std::make_unique<MultiLayer>();
    result->addLayer(air_layer);
   return result;
```

Achieved results

- Supports both Python 2.7 and 3
- Generated code is portable (compiles with gcc, clang and Visual Studio)
- Supports shared ownership, transfer of ownership
- Automatic conversion between many C++ types/containers and those on Python side
 - std::string/Python string, std::vector/Python list, std::map/Python dict
- Allows custom conversions
 - vector<vector<double>> -> Numpy array
- Python docstring is made out of C++ doxygen comments
- Cross-language polymorphism

```
class IFitObserver {
    virtual void update(FitSuite *suite);
};

class FitSuite {
    void attach(IFitObserver *observer);
    void runFit() {
        observer->update(this);
    }
};
```

```
class DrawObserver(IFitObserver):
    def __init__(self):
        IFitObserver.__init__(self)

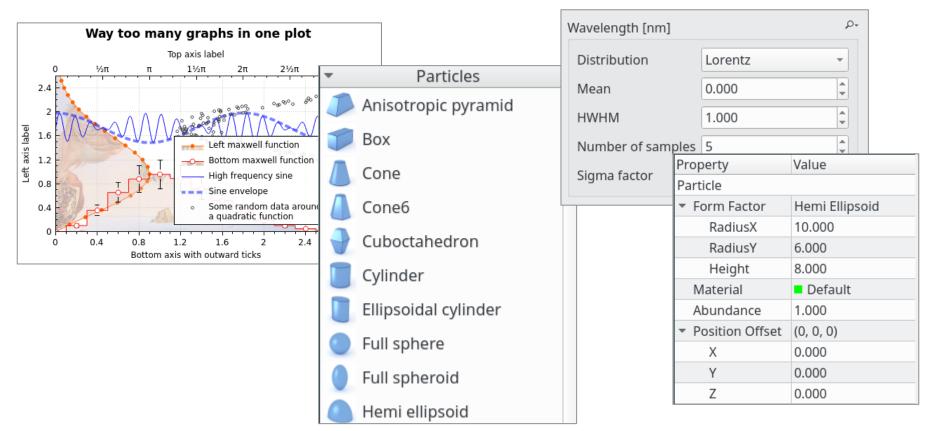
def update(self, fit_suite):
        pyplot.imshow(fitSurobserver)

observer = DrawObserver()

fitSuite = FitSuite()
fitSuite.attach(observer)
```

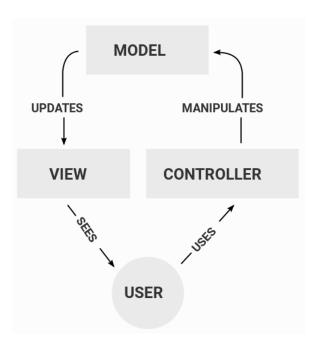
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- 60k lines of code, Qt5 based, C++
- Additional 3rd party code (included in source tree)
 - QCustomPlot (scientific graphics)
 - Qt-manhattan-style (few styles/widgets borrowed from Qt creator code)
 - Qt-propertybrowser-framework (dynamic property editors generation)



The Model/View architecture

The data (model), user interface (view) and interactions (controller) are separated

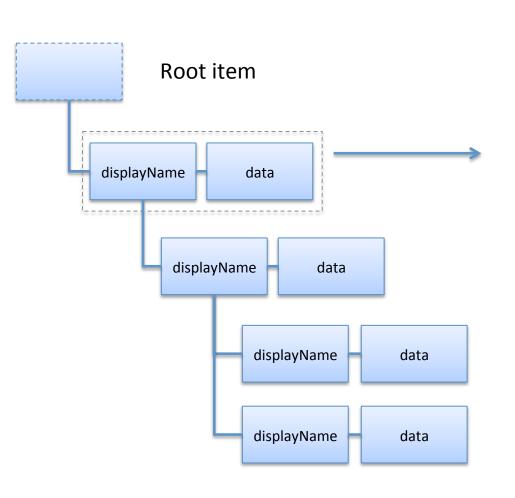


Advantages

- Same data can be displayed in many views
- Increased flexibility and reuse
- Possibility to unit-test GUI logic outside of GUI context

Presentation Model

- Holds all the data (sample parameters, presentation attributes, widgets status)
- Every row in the model corresponds to SessionItem



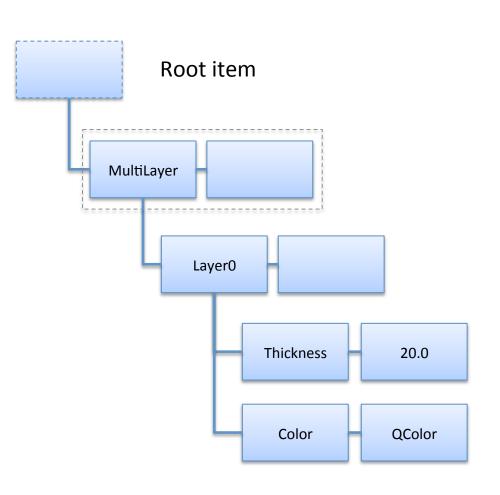
```
class SessionModel
{
    SessionItem *rootItem;
};

class SessionItem
{
    QString itemType;
    QString displayName;
    QVariant data;

    vector<SessionItem *> children;
};
```

Presentation Model

- Holds all the data (sample parameters, presentation attributes, widgets status)
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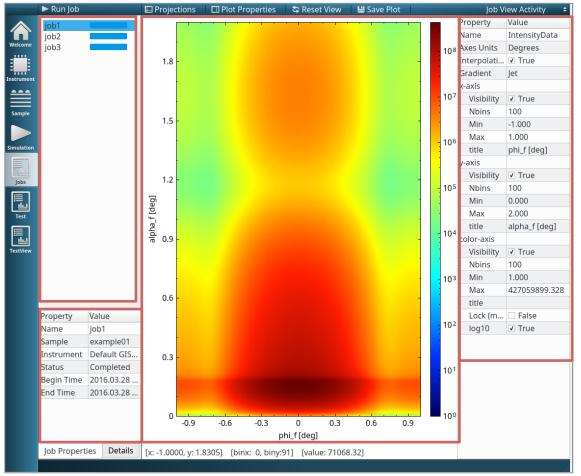
```
class SessionModel
{
    SessionItem *rootItem;
};

class SessionItem
{
    QString itemType;
    QString displayName;
    QVariant data;

    vector<SessionItem *> children;
};
```

Presentation Model and its Views

- Part of presentation model related to job results
- Job views representing different items of job model



Name	Value
▼ job1	
Name	job1
Identifier	{82fe6cab-9cdd-4e36}
Sample	example01
Instrument	Default GISAS
Status	
Begin Time	2016.03.28 18:09:29
End Time	2016.03.28 18:09:29
Comments	
Progress	100
Number of Threads	8
Run Policy	
• example01	
▶ Default GISAS	
IntensityData	
Name	IntensityData
Axes Units	
Projections	false
Interpolation	true
Gradient	
Property Panel Flag	true
▼ x-axis	
BasicAxis	
y-axis	
BasicAxis	
Visibility	true
Nbins	100
Min	0
Max	2
title	alpha_f [deg]
▼ color-axis	
AmplitudeAxis	
Visibility	true
Nbins	100
Min	1
Max	4.2706e+08
title	
Lock (min, max)	false
log10	true

Presentation Model

Conform to QAbstractItemModel interface

```
signals:
    void dataChanged(const QModelIndex &topLeft, const QModelIndex &bottomRight);
    void rowsInserted(const QModelIndex &parent, int first, int last);
```

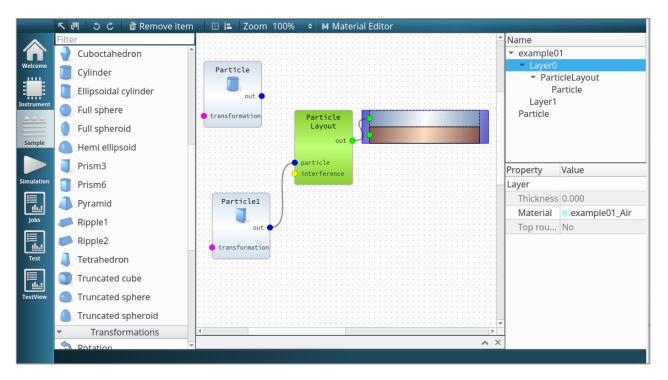
- Various proxy models allows to hide certain model parts from the view
- Serialization is done via XML stream
 - Saving the model in file, drag-and-drop, copying/cloning across the model
- Additional machinery allows non-Qt objects to be notified on SessionItem change

```
Widget::Widget(SessionItem *item)
{
    item->mapper()->setOnSiblingsChange([this]() { onSiblingsChange(); });
}
void Widget::onSiblingsChange()
{
    // do something special when any of siblings of given item are changed
}
```

GUI main features

All activities are done through the model

- Drag and Drop action adds an item to the model
 - Graphics scene gets notified and draws new item
- Connection of items through node editor leads to request to change the parent in the model
 - Graphics scene gets notified and draws connection



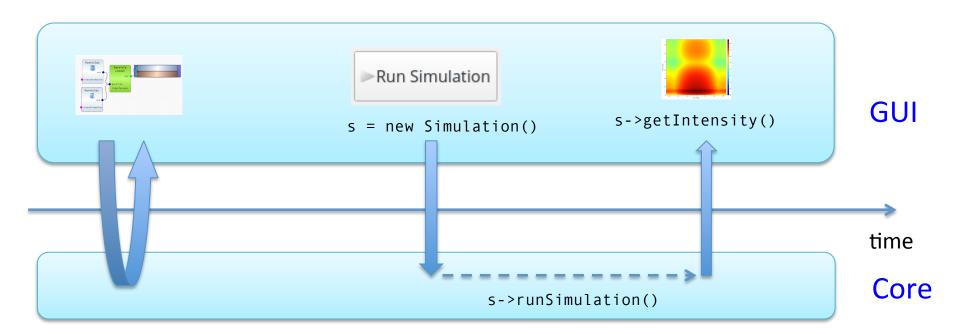
▼ example01	
xpos	-252.5
ypos	434
Cross Correlation Length	0
▼ Layer0	
xpos	14
ypos	0
Thickness	0
Material	
Top roughness	
ParticleLayout	
xpos	-374.5
ypos	434
Approximation	
Total particle density	1
▼ Particle	
xpos	-524.5
ypos	584
▼ Form Factor	
 AnisoPyramid 	
Length	20
Width	16
Height	13
Alpha	60
▼ Prism3	
Length	10
Height	5
Material	
Abundance	0.5
Position Offset	
▶ Layer1	.]
Name	example(
▶ Particle	

GUI main features

GUI / Core relationship

Converts domain objects (standard samples, library materials etc) into their GUI counterparts

Generates core domain simulation object, runs it in non-GUI thread Knows how to retrieve simulation results



Core is Qt-independent and fully unaware of GUI existence

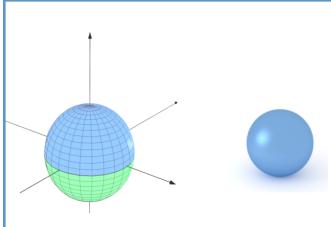
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Unit tests

Core library (google-test, 330 tests), GUI models (QtTest, 60 tests)

Functional tests

- Runs simulation for certain geometry, produces intensity plot
- Compares the plot with the reference
 - simulation from previous day
 - simulation through different chain (Core/GUI/Python)
 - simulation of identical samples obtained in different way



- Create particle composition from two hemi spheres
- Assign same material to them
- Compare with normal full sphere, same material, same radius
- Scattering intensities should be identical

Functional tests for Core/GUI/Python domains

- When new functionality is implemented the corresponding standard simulation is added to the factory
- Corresponding intensity data is generated and saved for future reference.

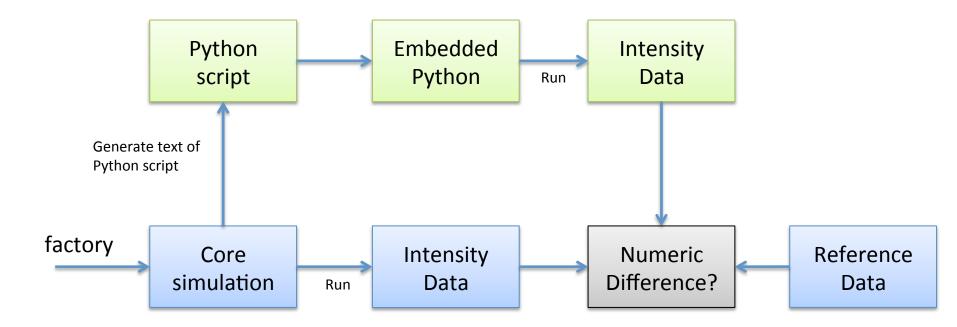
make check launches test simulations for all 3 domains

139/146 Test #139: GUISu	ite/BoxCompositionRotateZandY Passed	0.06 sec				
Start 140: GUISu	ite/BoxStackComposition					
140/146 Test #140: GUISu	ite/BoxStackComposition Passed	0.06 sec				
Start 141: GUISu	ite/SimulationWithMasks					
141/146 Test #141: GUISu	ite/SimulationWithMasks Passed	0.23 sec				
Start 142: GUISu	ite/RectDetectorGeneric					
142/146 Test #142: GUISu	ite/RectDetectorGeneric Passed	0.06 sec				
Start 143: GUISu	ite/RectDetectorPerpToSample					
143/146 Test #143: GUISu	ite/RectDetectorPerpToSample Passed	0.06 sec				
Start 144: GUISu	ite/RectDetectorPerpToDirectBeam					
144/146 Test #144: GUISu	ite/RectDetectorPerpToDirectBeam Passed	0.06 sec				
Start 145: GUISu	ite/RectDetectorPerpToReflectedBeam					
145/146 Test #145: GUISu	ite/RectDetectorPerpToReflectedBeam Passed	0.06 sec				
Start 146: GUISu	ite/RectDetectorPerpToReflectedBeamDpos					
	ite/RectDetectorPerpToReflectedBeamDpos Passed	0.06 sec				
100% tests passed, 0 tests failed out of 146						
Total Test time (real) = 58.81 sec						
[100%] Built target check						

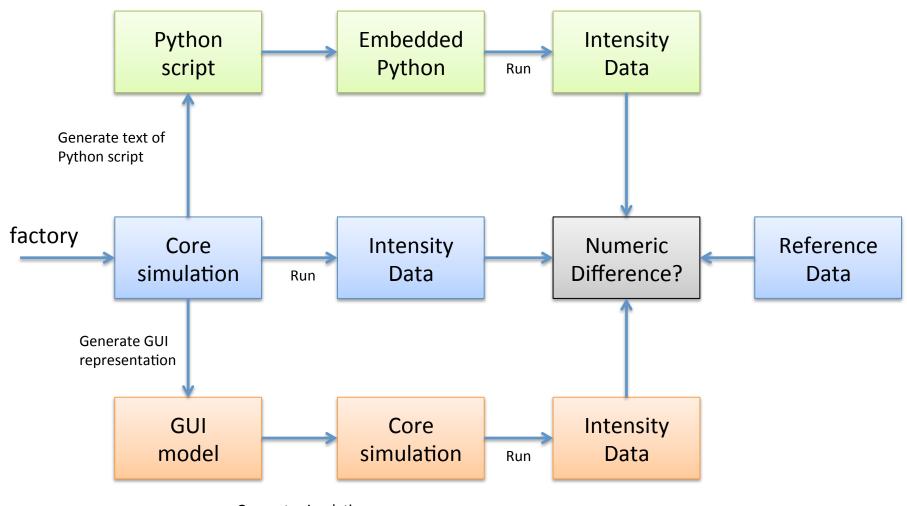
Functional tests for Core/GUI/Python domains



Functional tests for Core/GUI/Python domains



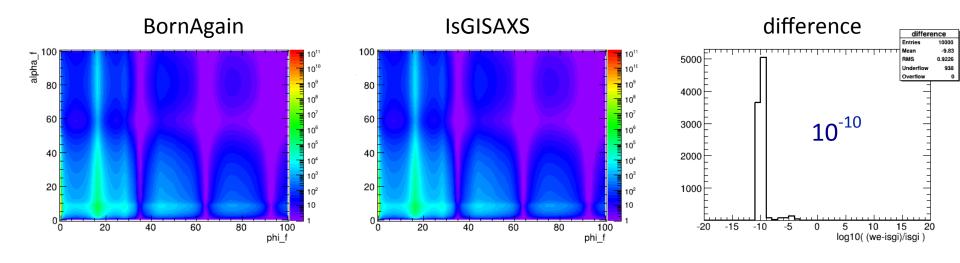
Functional tests for Core/GUI/Python domains



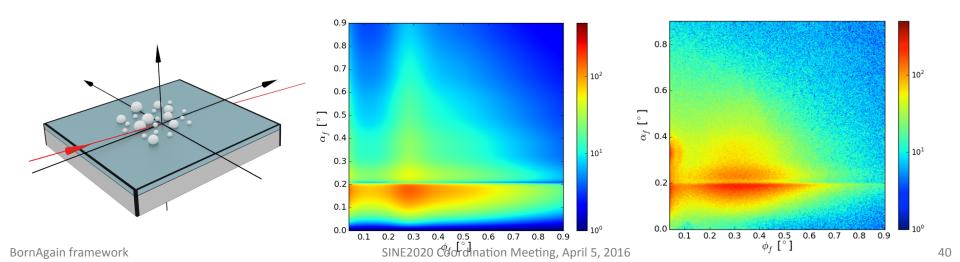
Generate simulation from GUI model

Validation

Validation against existing software



Validation against experimental data



Closing remarks

Horizon 2020 Initiative

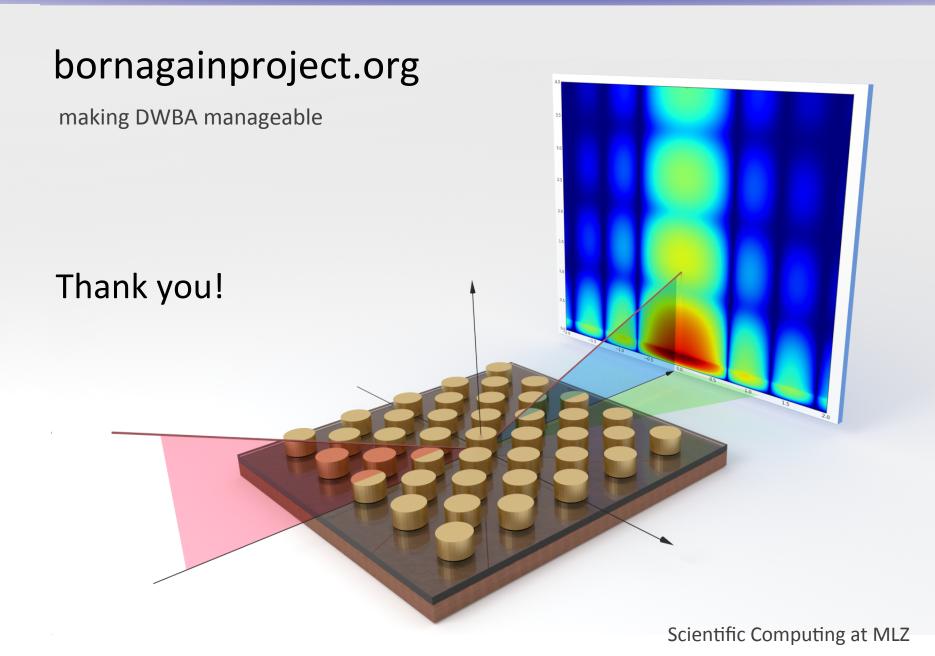
- BornAgain as a community project for GISAS and Reflectometry
- Fitting of GISAS, Off-Specular and Specular data in a single framework

Further software development tasks

- Fitting in GUI (prototype in next release)
- Real sample representation using Qt3D
- Switch to Qt installer framework to create MacOS and Windows installers

Further kernel development

- Implement specular intensity
- Magnetic roughness and magnetic domains

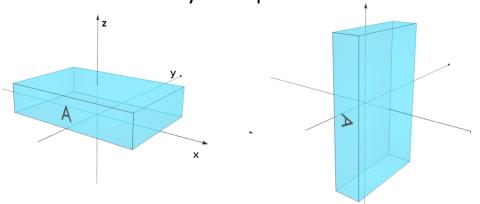




Self validation

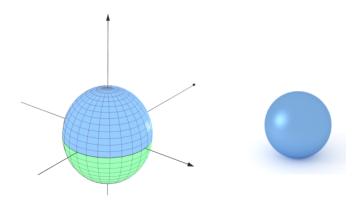
Part of new BornAgain's functionality can be validated via BornAgain itself

Rotation machinery example



- Create box (30,20,6)
- RotateY by 90 degrees
- Compare with non-rotated box (6,20,30)
- Scattering intensities should be identical

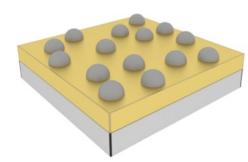
Particle compositions example

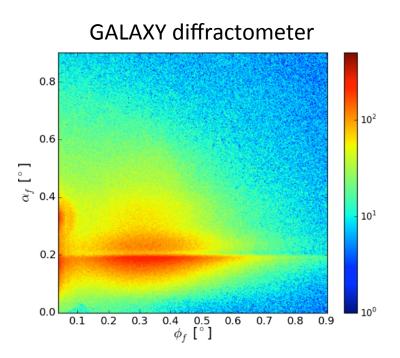


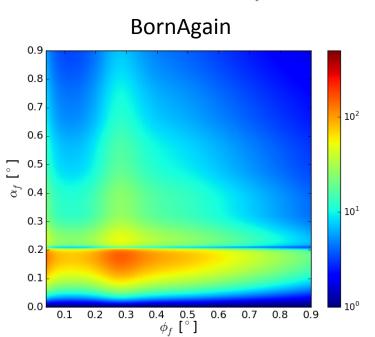
- Create particle composition from two hemi spheres
- Assign same material to them
- Compare with normal full sphere, same material, same radius
- Scattering intensities should be identical

Validation against experimental data

Fitting of 3 layers system with Ag nanoparticles with broad size distribution



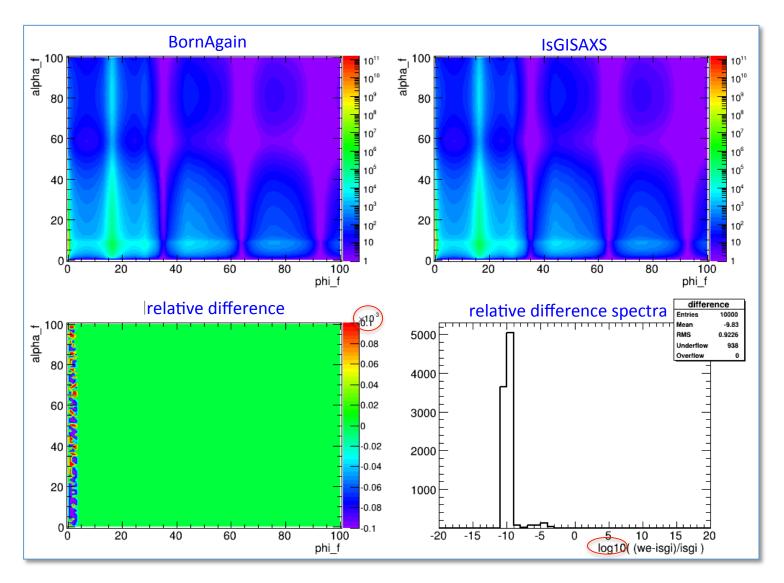




http://apps.jcns.fz-juelich.de/doku/sc/_media/dpg-berlin-talk1.pptx

Validation against IsGISAXS

BornAgain results mostly coincide with IsGisaxs on numerical level



Existing software

Package	Application	Platform	License
IsGISAXS	Nanostructures on surfaces	Windows, Unix	GNU Public
FitGISAXS	Buried nanostructures	IgorPRO	GNU Public + IgorPRO
HipGISAXS	Buried nanostructures	Unix, HPC Computing	Berkeley, non- commercial

IsGISAXS as a starting point:

Successful software which is a de facto standard in the user community

IsGISAXS: a **program** for grazing-incidence small-angle X-ray scattering analysis of supported islands

R Lazzari - Journal of Applied Crystallography, 2002 - scripts.iucr.org

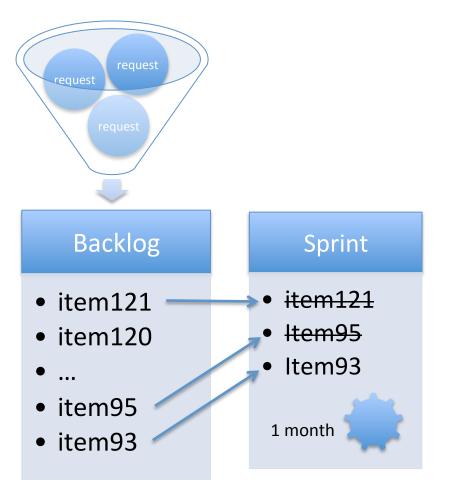
This paper describes a Fortran **program**, **IsGISAXS**, for the simulation and analysis of grazing-incidence small-angle X-ray scattering (GISAXS) of islands supported on a substrate. As is usual in small-angle scattering of particles, the scattering cross section is ...

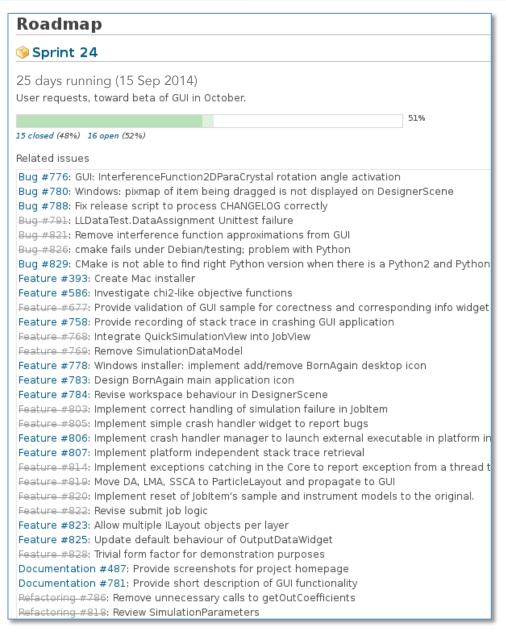
Cited by 257 Related articles All 7 versions Cite

- Simulation in DWBA
- o FORTRAN 90, 13k lines of code
- No longer actively supported

Agile development

 Workflow consist of sprint cycles every 4-6 weeks during which the team create finished portions of product





BornAgain

Tracker

Bug

Bug

Refactoring

Envelope task

Envelope task

Envelope task

Documentation

Documentation

Testing

Testing

Testing

Testing

Feature

Refactoring

Refactoring

Feature

Feature

Refactoring

Envelope task

Documentation

Bug

Bug

Refactoring

Status

New

Sprint

Backlog

In Progress

In Progress

In Progress

New

Sprint

Sprint

Sprint

Sprint

Sprint

Sprint

Backlog

Sprint

Backlog

Sprint

New

In Progress

Sprint

New

Backlog

Sprint

Bug and issue tracker

Normal presence of some boost components not checked by cmake

reequilibrate hierarchy levels in online docs

Vagrant: Provide Yosemite Vagrant box

MSC switches hopefully obsolete

Unify treatment of numeric constants.

Buildbot: provide tutorial how to add new configuration

GUI: add Monte-Carlo integration option in the simulation

Core: remove ProgramOptions from the simulation

update internal information about performance tests

provide substantial unit tests for factor computations

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bold math symbols broken under Texlive2015

Normal core functional test machinery: simplify, or at least explain

GUI: take care about margins in ColorMapPlot

Fix numerous "features" introduced by latest major GUI refactoring

Drupal: update installation instructions, tutorials for coming release 1.6

Buildbot: provide set of configurations for buildbot-based BornAgain's builds

GUI: Make real time simulation aware of current zoom level to speed up the

Buildbot: install agent on scgmini and attach Mavericks/Yousemite vagrant boxes

Subject

Add filter

% Done

Created

09 Mar 2016 10:58

08 Mar 2016 17:24

04 Mar 2016 13:55

03 Mar 2016 13:56

03 Mar 2016 13:56

03 Mar 2016 13:56

03 Mar 2016 13:28

19 Feb 2016 13:54

19 Feb 2016 13:46

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18 Feb 2016 17:30

11 Feb 2016 17:32

11 Feb 2016 14:48

08 Feb 2016 10:31

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04 Feb 2016 11:21 02 Feb 2016 19:35

02 Feb 2016 15:02

02 Feb 2016 14:27

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02 Feb 2016 11:47

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Assignee Target version

Sprint 31

wuttke

david

http://apps.jcns.fz-juelich.de/redmine/projects/bornagain/issues

Overview Activity Roadmap Issues New issue Calendar Wiki Repository Settings Issues

Revise boost libraries usage

Unix build tasks

Mac build tasks

Win build tasks

performance

Pre-release actions

open ~

Priority

Normal

Normal

Urgent

Normal

Urgent

Normal

Normal

High

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