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SciLog –An Electronic Logbook for User Experiments

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Properly capturing raw and meta-data during an experiment is rightfully given a high priority. Yet, it is the logbook that aids in putting the decisions made during the experiment and thus also the acquisition strategy itself into context. However, logbooks are frequently lacking a good integration into facility-specific services such as authentication and data acquisition systems and often end up as a burden, especially in stressful situations during an experiment.

SciLog, a logbook system based on MongoDB, Loopback and Angular, aims to alleviate these constraints by providing a flexible and extensible environment as well as a simple and intuitive user interface. At its base it relies on atomic entries in a NoSQL database that can be queried, sorted and displayed to the user's requirements. An integration with facility-specific authorisation systems and the automatic import of new experiment proposals allow for a user experience that is specifically targeted for the challenging environment of experiments at large research facilities.

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