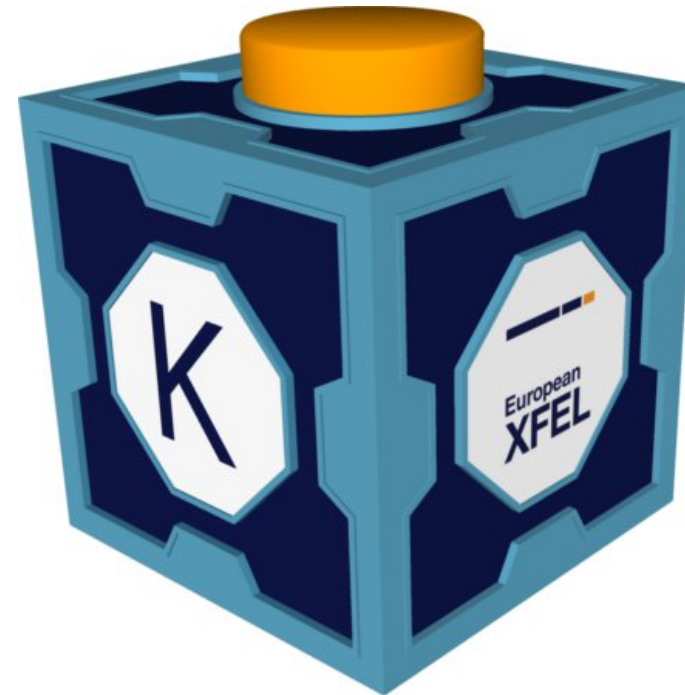

European XFEL GUI Strategy & Karabo GUI Platform

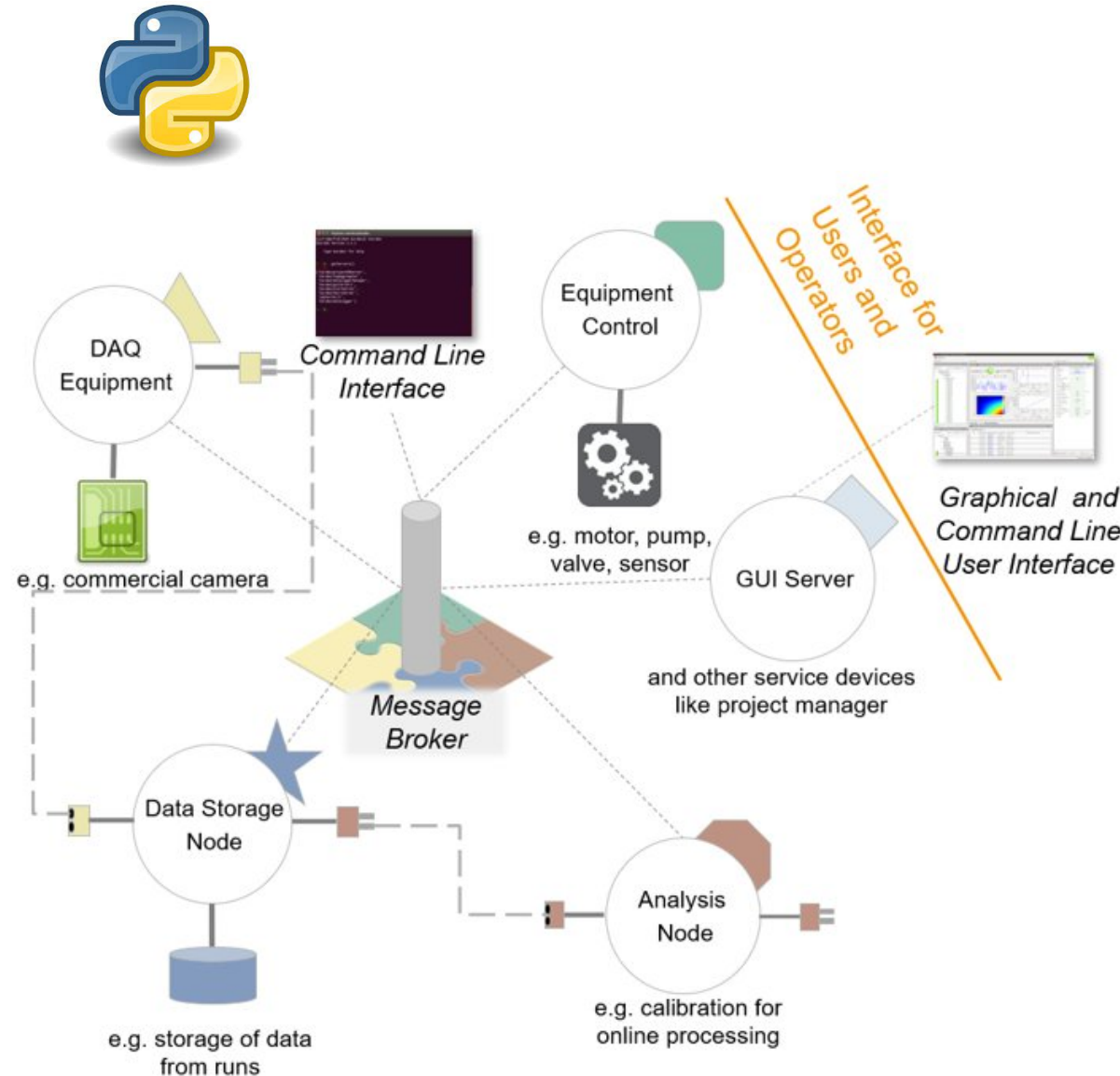


D. Göries for the Controls Group



Karabo in a nut shell: Architecture

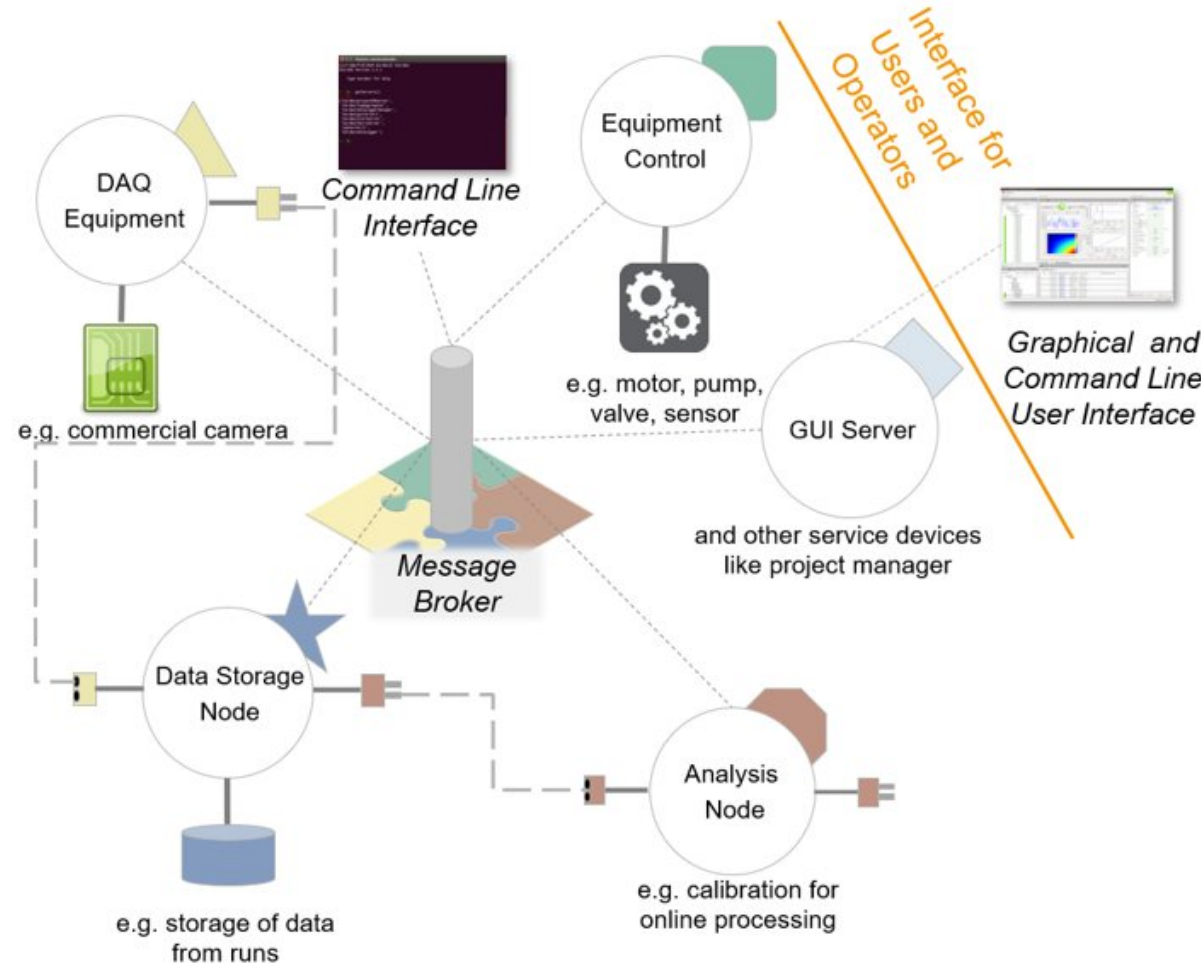
- Central Message Broker (Control and slow data)
 - Currently: OpenMQ
 - Soon interchangeable: RabbitMQ, MQTT, Redis
- Event driven:
 - Data propagates through the system when values change – push not polling
 - **Data logging backend**
- Message driven:
 - Signal – Slot paradigm
 - Asynchronous core, synchronous convenience in middleware



Karabo in a nut shell: Architecture

- Peer-2-peer connections (scientific/large) data
 - Scatter / Gather / Copy / Distribute
 - Block / Drop on congestion
 - TCP
 - Capable of saturating a 10G line
Comparable performance with ZeroMQ

- **GUI Server:**
 - **Gateway to the Control system**
 - **TCP Connection to Clients**



KaraboGui – The Cockpit

- * **Python** software contained in karabo framework
- * Separate package installation
- * Based on **Qt** Library and **Traits**
- * Nowadays standard asynchronous server - client approach
- * Extensible via „gui-extensions“, a plugin updater for more widgets and controllers
- * **Core feature: Scene Designer / Scene Model Interpreter**

The screenshot shows the KaraboGui interface with the following components:

- System Topology:** A tree view showing the hierarchy of devices and components. The root is 'Host - Server - Class - Device'. Under 'Host', there is a device 'exflcon53n0'. Under 'Server', there is 'cppSPB/loop_xtd9_cam'. Under 'Class', there is 'AravisBaslerCamera'. Under 'Device', there are several sub-devices including 'SPB_XTD9_PPU/CAM/CAMERA', 'SPB_XTD9_SCR/CAM/CAMERA', 'cppServer/sa1_beckhoff_spare', 'BeckhoffCom', 'SA1_BR_SYS/PLC/SPB', 'BeckhoffPlcMonitor', 'SA1_BR_SYS/PLC/SPB_PLCCOM', 'BeckhoffDigitalOutput', and several 'SPB_XTD9_ATT/DCTRL/ARM' and 'SPB_XTD9_CRL/DCTRL/LENS' devices.
- Configuration Editor:** A table showing the current values for various properties of the selected device.

Property	Current value on device	Value
ServerID	cppServer/sa1_beckh...	
DeviceID	SPB_XTD9_PPU/TEMP...	
Visibility	0	
DeviceID	SPB_XTD9_PPU/TEMP...	
ClassID	BeckhoffDigitalOutput	
Class version	Beckhoff-4.10.2-2.13.7	
Karabo version	2.13.7	
ServerID	cppServer/sa1_beckh...	
Host	exflcon53n0	
Process ID	30420	
State	OFF	
Status		
Alarm condition	none	
Locked by		
- Log Console:** A log window at the bottom showing system messages and errors. The most recent error is: "2022-09-15 13:04:44 - ERROR - skipping malformed topology entry for Macro-tp1-a0002a6a-46ad-4bde-a3e8-a64a92de9d23-manualAlignNozzle".

Development: Principles of the KaraboGui

- * Dependencies leaned towards community efforts (Spyder / PyQtGraph)
 - * **Conda** feedstocks for **Qt / QtPy / PyQtGraph**
- * Strict typing and events with **traits** package (enthought)
 - * As much code as possible is **factored out** to trait models and controllers
- * Tests are provided with **gitlab** ci (unit) and **squish** test suite and **robot** framework (integration). Very high test coverage
- * **Processing** is limited to a **single thread** - ordering of messages
 - * Critical: The application is entirely event driven -> pressure on code development
- * Only a few major releases a year (Coupled to karabo kernel release)

User: Principles of the KaraboGui

- * Graphical User Interface for **Controls**
 - * Limited data analysis inside application
 - * Move analysis algorithms outside to karabo devices or other frameworks and view the results
- * **One** application with large toolset serving the Operator needs
 - * Configuration Management (Karabo Projects / Comparison Features / Generic Configurator Panel)
 - * **Panel (Scene) building (generic panels, linking of scenes, synoptic views)**
 - * Tight integration with controls system archival features (however, should not be main application for this purpose)
 - * IPython Console Panel
 - *

Distribution (Cloud Structure) - Karabo Projects

- * Stored in database domains
- * Further Elements
 - * Scenes (Panels)
 - * Macros
 - * Servers / Devices
 - * Configurations
 - * Linked Projects (SubProjects)
- * **Technical: NoSQL eXistDB**
- * Currently, in operation we have **~1200** projects with **~6000** scenes

Load from: Remote Cache

SCS

Name	Last Modified	
BECKHOFF_OVERVIEW	2021-04-06 09:59:33	5efb5
CAMERAS	2018-07-23 17:33:04	8247k
DETLAB_GOTTHARD_DAQ_RUN_MGMT	2019-11-20 16:04:17	5f410
DSSC_ONLINE_CAL	2020-10-30 11:49:27	94de
DSSC POWER	2020-10-21 10:56:35	3b00

System Topology | Device Topology | Projects

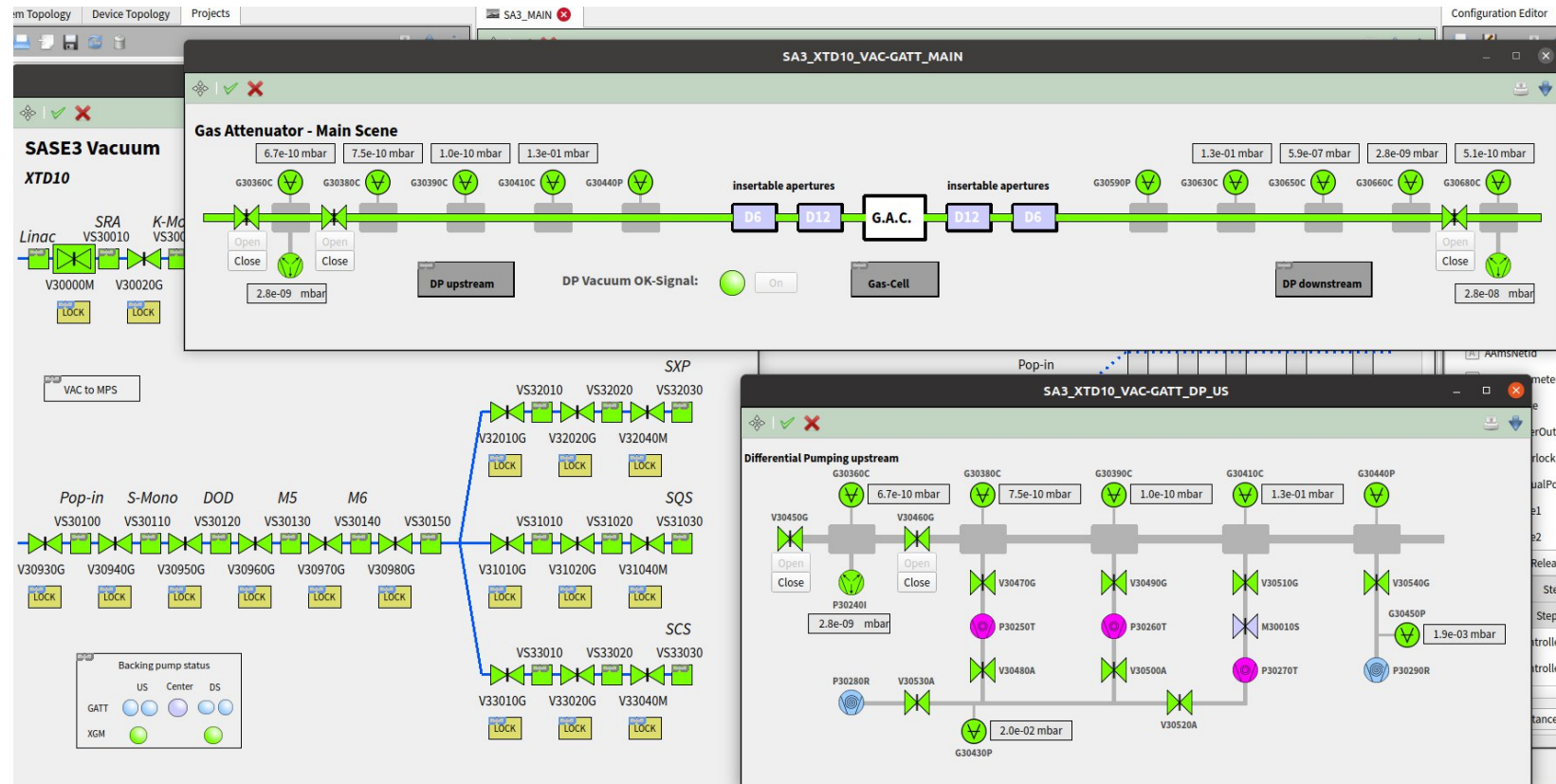
Find: Aa * No results

Projects

- MAIN
 - Macros
 - BeckhoffReset
 - Scenes
 - SCS_VACUUM_old
 - SCS_VACUUM
 - SCS_MAIN
 - ROUGH-VALVES
 - FCCD
 - GPC
 - SCS_MAIN_CHEM
 - Device Servers
 - Subprojects
 - SCS_KBS
 - Macros
 - Scenes
 - Device Servers
 - cppServer/scs_loop_2
 - SCS_RR_SYS/PLC/2
 - controlRoom/center
 - SCS_KBS_HFM/MDL/A...
 - SCS_KBS_VFM/MDL/AV...
 - Subprojects
 - SCS_KBS_VAC
 - SCS_KBS_HFM
 - SCS_KBS_VDM

The Core Feature: The Scene

- * Scenes are composed of so-called controllers that contain a widget.
- * Scenes have two modes: **Control** and **Edit** (toggle)
- * **Edit**: Elements can be dragged from various sources onto the scene
- * **Control**: Interact with elements on scene to execute and reconfigure device slots and properties



The Core Feature: The Scene

⚙️
✓
✗

All SCR in

All SCR out

Stop all SCR

Opt. SCR in

Opt. SCR out

Opt. UNKNOWN

Exp. SCR in

Exp. SCR out

Exp. UNKNOWN

XTD9_SCR

Screen scene

Screen average

Camera

Stop

ACQUIRING

10.1 Hz

Motion

SCR in

SCR out

15.0 mm

CCW Limit

MKB_SCR-1

Screen scene

Screen average

Camera

Acquire

ON

0.0 Hz

Motion

SCR in

SCR out

Stop

0.0 mm

CCW Limit

AlignOverview

JetAlignment

0. Preprocessing Input

preprocessing/moving_average: 10 10 Reconfigure

2. Reconstructed images

real

preprocessing/roi: 827,935,651,759 827,935,651,759

imaginary

x0, x1, y0, y1

1. Combined image

preprocessing/center: 1082,1136 1082,1136 # x, y

preprocessing/beamstop_size: 35 35

3. Processed images

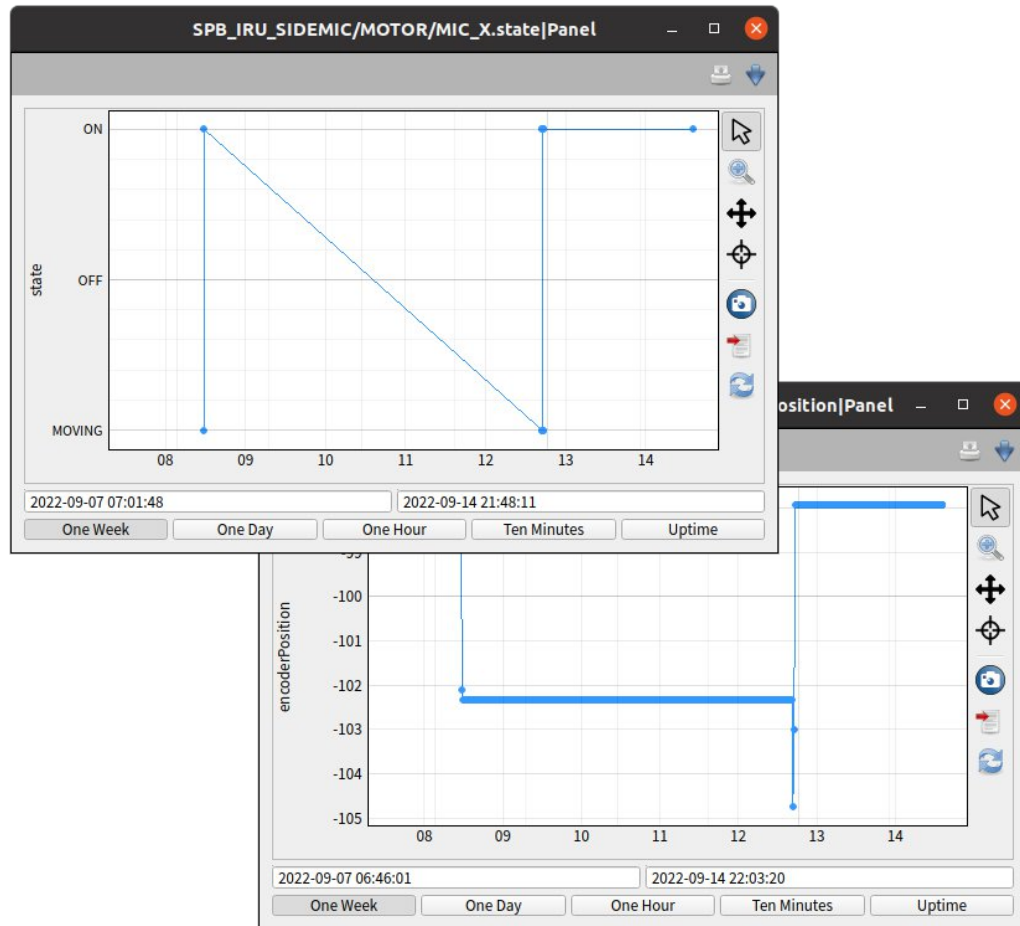
real

preprocessing/propagation_distance: 0.6 0.6

preprocessing/phase_rotation: -0.15 -0.15

imaginary

The Core Feature: The Scene



The figure displays a complex SCADA control panel for 'IRU Side'. It features three sections for 'Side Microscope Motion' (X, Y, Z axes), each with 'Act / Enc', 'Target', and 'Step size' fields, along with 'Reset', 'Start', and 'STOP' buttons. Below these is a 'Crosshair/Marker' configuration section with 'Position', 'Width', and 'Height' fields. At the bottom is a 'Jet Alignment' section for the 'Injector X stepper' with three control buttons (0.01, 0.05, 0.2 mm). On the right side, a large panel shows 'Current Value' and 'Historic Values' with a scrolling log of data entries and configuration details.

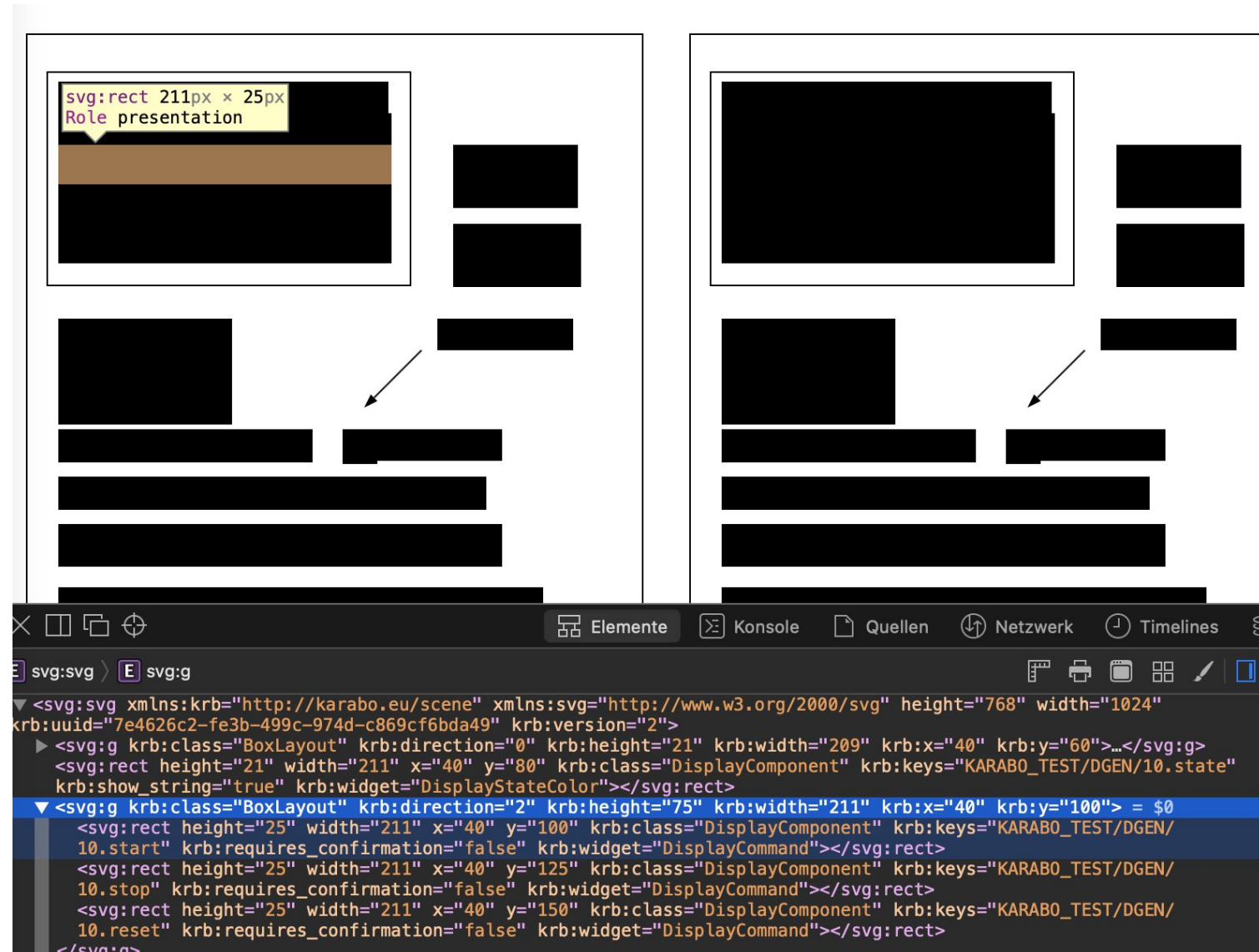
- * Double – clicking properties can provide quick archival features such as trendlines (state, alarm, plain old data). For string data we provide a scrolling panel.

* Standardized coloring of State and Alarm Information

* Booleans can be configured!

The Core Feature: The Scene

- * Linked to every widget controller is a widget model.
- * Separation of model and ui code facilitates external tools and applications
- * Scenes are stored as *.svg
- * **Can be edited outside Karabo**
 - * Include images, artwork, ...
 - * Inkscape



The Core Feature: The Scene

- * Scenes can be translated to device code with **scene2py [deviceId]**
- * Scenes can be embedded into devices and retrieved via protocol
 - * **Panels shipped with devices**
 - * Developer can steer the operator
- * Device provided scenes retrieved by double click on device in any navigation or project panel (first name)

```

from karabo.common.scenemodel.api import (
    BorderLayoutModel, CheckBoxModel, ColorBoolModel, ComboBoxModel,
    DisplayCommandModel, DisplayLabelModel, DisplayProgressBarModel,
    DisplayStateColorModel, DisplayTextLogModel, DoubleLineEditModel,
    EditableListModel, ErrorBoolModel, FixedLayoutModel, LabelModel,
    LineEditModel, RectangleModel, SceneModel, TableElementModel,
    UnknownWidgetDataModel, write_scene)

def get_plot(deviceId):
    """This method is used to generate a generic plot scene of the karabacon
    """
    scene0 = RectangleModel(height=415.0, stroke='#000000', stroke_width=2.0,
                             width=903.0, x=12.0, y=608.0)
    scene10 = LabelModel(font='Sans Serif,10,-1,5,50,0,0,0,0,0',
                         foreground='#000000', height=39.0,
                         parent_component='DisplayComponent', text='Stop Scan',
                         width=67.0, x=226.0, y=622.0)
    scene11 = DisplayCommandModel(height=39.0,
                                   keys=['{}.stop'.format(deviceId)],
                                   parent_component='DisplayComponent',
                                   width=90.0, x=293.0, y=622.0)
    scene1 = BorderLayoutModel(height=49.0, width=167.0, x=221.0, y=617.0,
                                children=[scene10, scene11])
    scene20 = LabelModel(font='Sans Serif,10,-1,5,50,0,0,0,0,0',
                         foreground='#000000', height=38.0,
                         parent_component='DisplayComponent',
                         text='Toggle scan', width=79.0, x=37.0, y=683.0)
    scene21 = DisplayCommandModel(height=38.0,
                                   keys=['{}.pause'.format(deviceId)],
                                   parent_component='DisplayComponent',
                                   width=91.0, x=116.0, y=683.0)
    scene2 = BorderLayoutModel(height=52.0, width=180.0, x=32.0, y=678.0,
                                children=[scene20, scene21])
    scene3 = DisplayTextLogModel(height=281.0,
                                   keys=['{}.status'.format(deviceId)],
                                   parent_component='DisplayComponent',
                                   width=876.0, x=22.0, y=736.0)

    scene4 = UnknownWidgetDataModel(
        attributes={
            '{http://karabo.eu/scene}class': 'DisplayComponent',
            '{http://karabo.eu/scene}keys': '{}.output.schema.data'.format(
                deviceId),
            '{http://karabo.eu/scene}widget': 'Scantool-Base'},
        height=596.0, keys=['{}.output.schema.data'.format(deviceId)]
    )

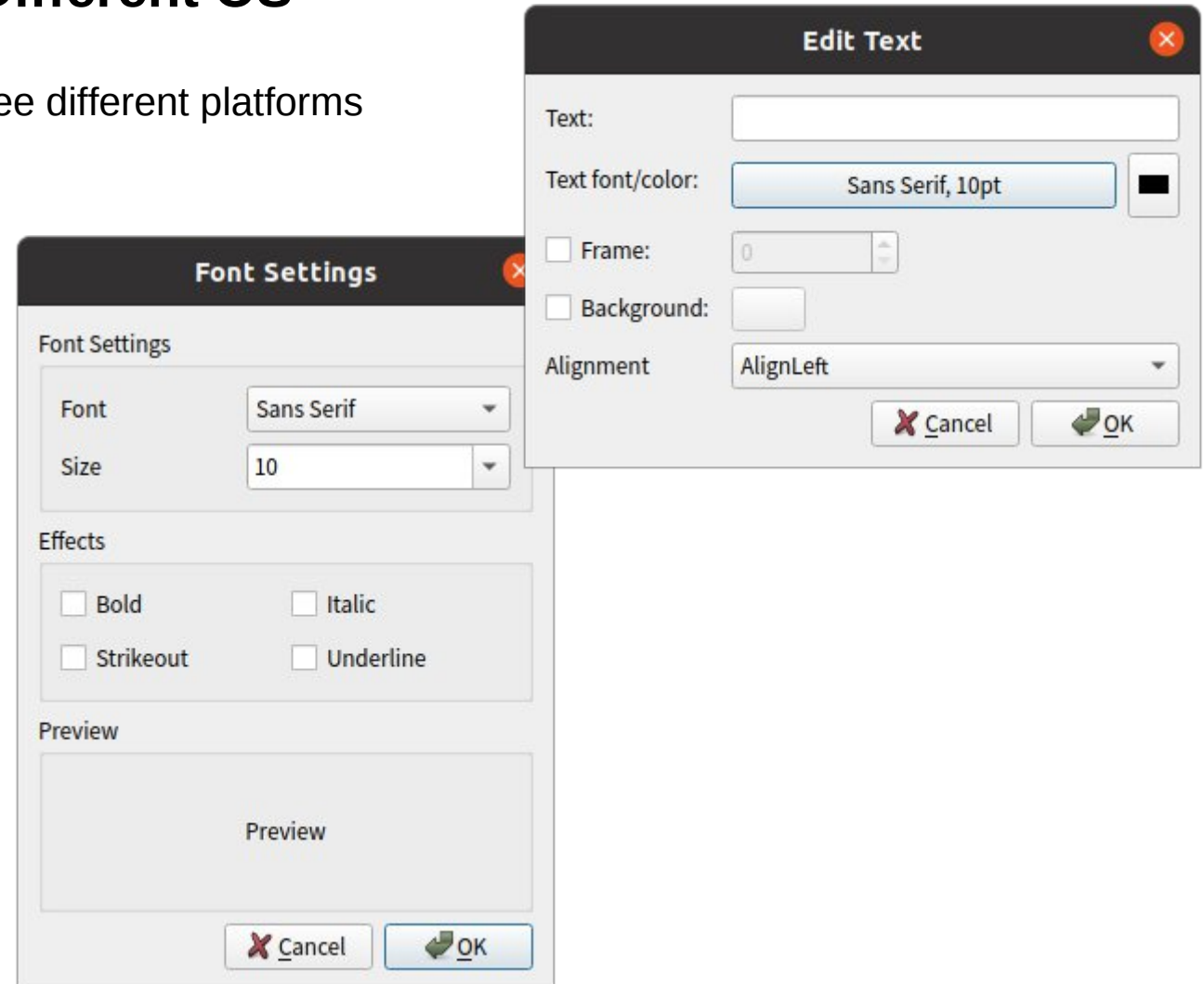
```

The Scene - Challenge: Performance

- * At European XFEL we typically have to deal with very large data sizes
 - * Detectors can provide large image data
 - * Fast digitizers provide arrays with a **million** data points
- * Development of an own image controller that is significantly faster than the upstream software on github
 - * Only **render what is required** (widget size and zoom consideration) increases performance by several magnitudes
- * Translation of the well-known **Largest – Triangle - Three - Buckets** algorithm to C-Extension code to be able to downsample and view large datasets in a PyQt application.
 - * Used by other applications as well: <https://pypi.org/project/lttbc/>
 - * E.g. by a plotly resampler nowadays

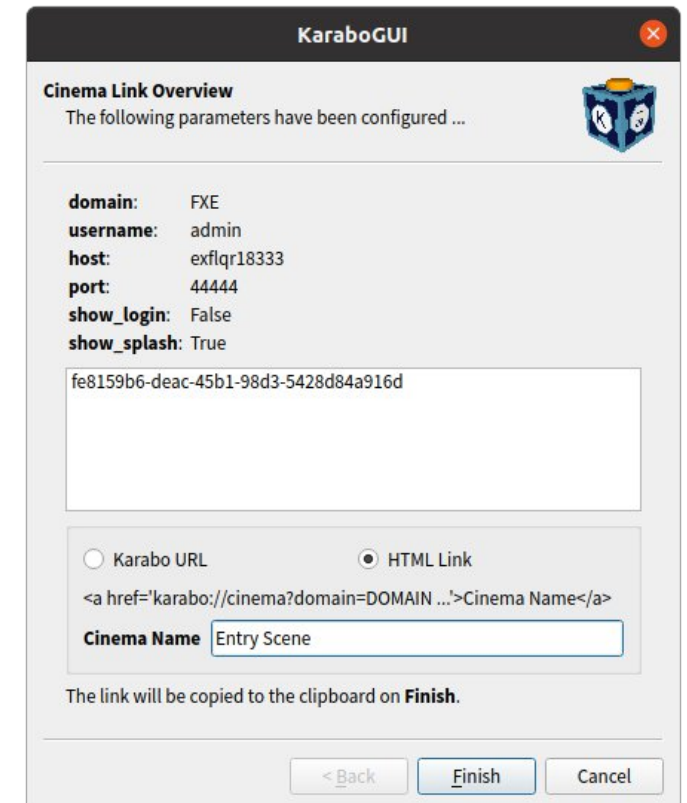
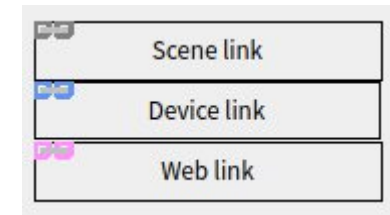
The Scene - Challenge: Compatibility Different OS

- * karaboGui is now supported and tested (**Squish**) on three different platforms
 - **Linux**
 - **Windows**
 - **MacOS (May 2020)**
- Shipment of fonts (open source) with limited selection:
 - Monospaced, Serif, Sans Serif



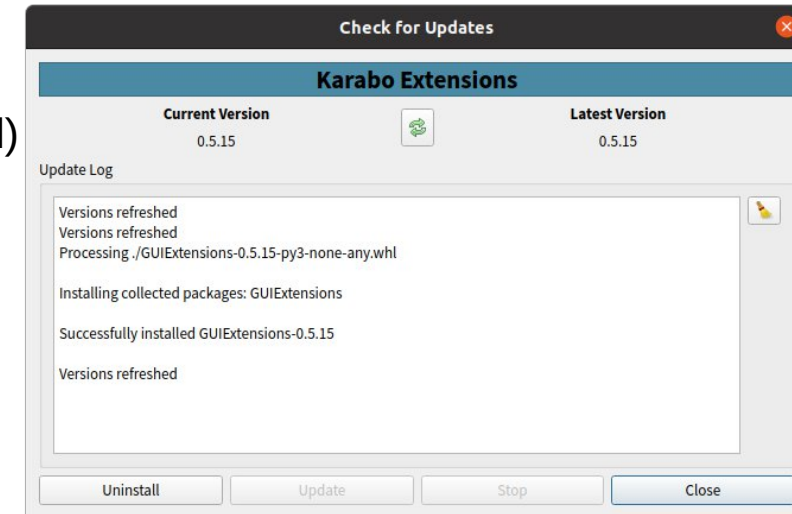
The Scene - Challenge: Compatibility between applications

- * Limited but very well tested layouts and grouping of widgets
 - * Fixed Layout, Vertical Layout, Horizontal Layout
 - * Grid layout at the moment not available (but planned to make its comeback)
- * Flat hierarchy on the scene with scene or web links (Web browser feeling)
- **Children positions inside layouts must be always synchronized and calculated**
- * KaraboGui can be started via **URI scheme handler** from web applications in **karabo-cinema** or **karabo-theatre** mode
 - * Open single scenes (panels standalone) in control mode
 - * Links can be integrated into any web form



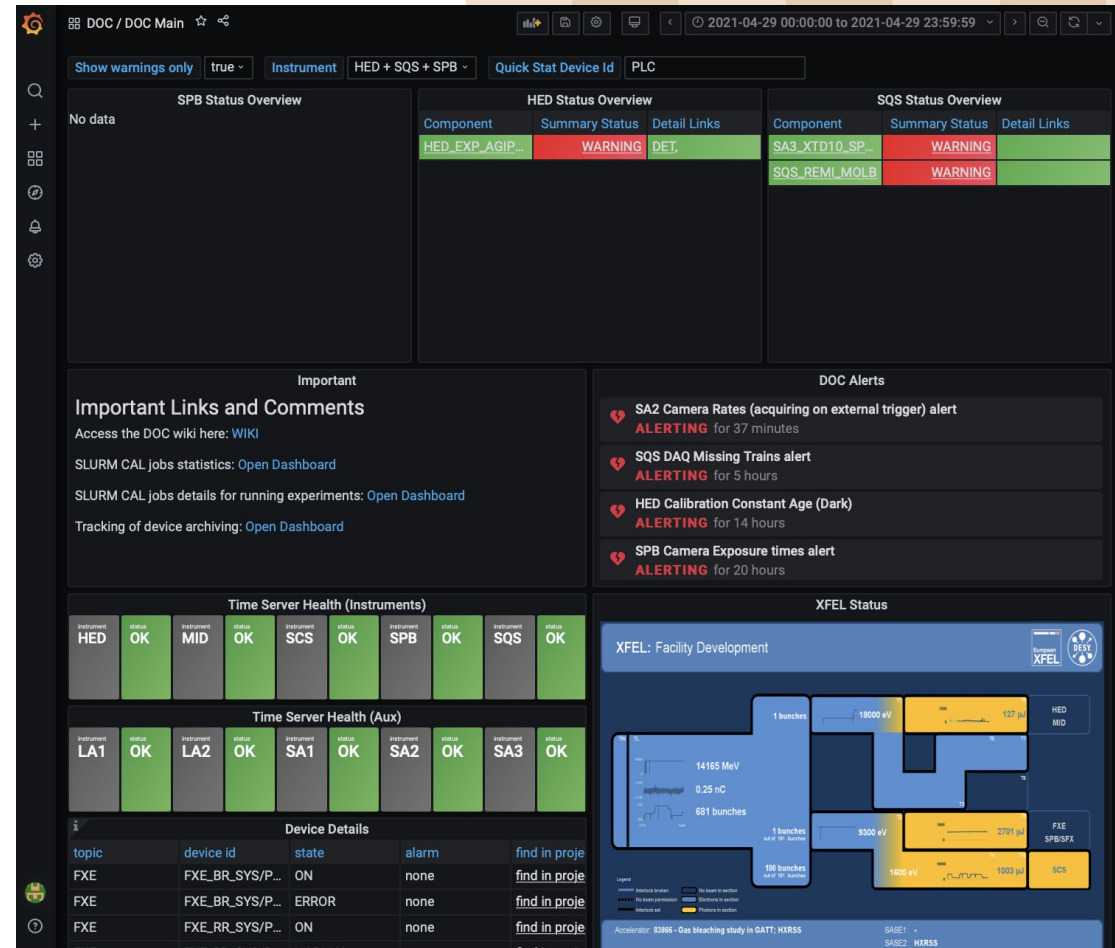
New UI features - Deployment

- * The karaboGui is coupled to the framework (gui server and core devices protocol) and has around **2 releases** a year.
 - * Treated as a basic **interpreter** that should provide most basic and generic features
- * **Ansible** is used for deployment on client machines in the control hutches
 - * Provide own **CONDA** Mirror for Gui dependencies in the company network
- * No control about user laptops: handshake of minimum client version on gui server device
- * **GUI Extensions updater**
 - * Another gitlab repository with additional controllers and applications that can be used by the karaboGui, to provide features on short lead time.



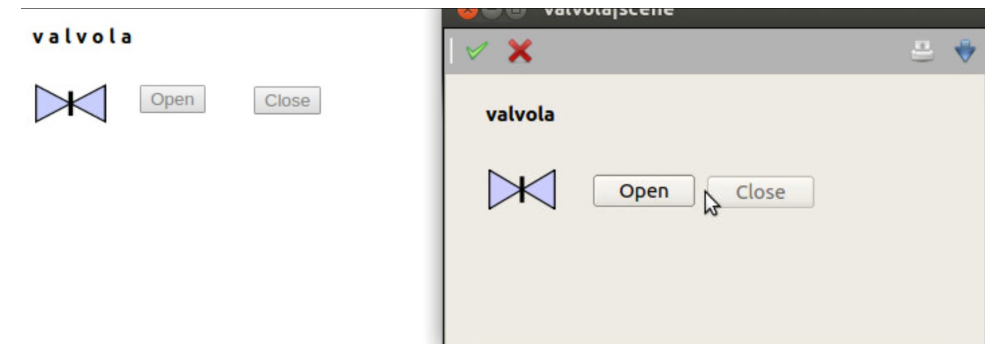
Alternative Monitoring Route: Integration with Grafana

- * All slow control data (send via broker) is stored via data logger devices into a time series database
- * **InfluxDB**
- * Have **Grafana** as additional front-end to monitor control system status (**Data Operation Center**)
- * Embed KaraboGui links into Grafana Dashboards
- * Future: Add **Kapacitor** to the stack for automated notifications from **InfluxDB** data



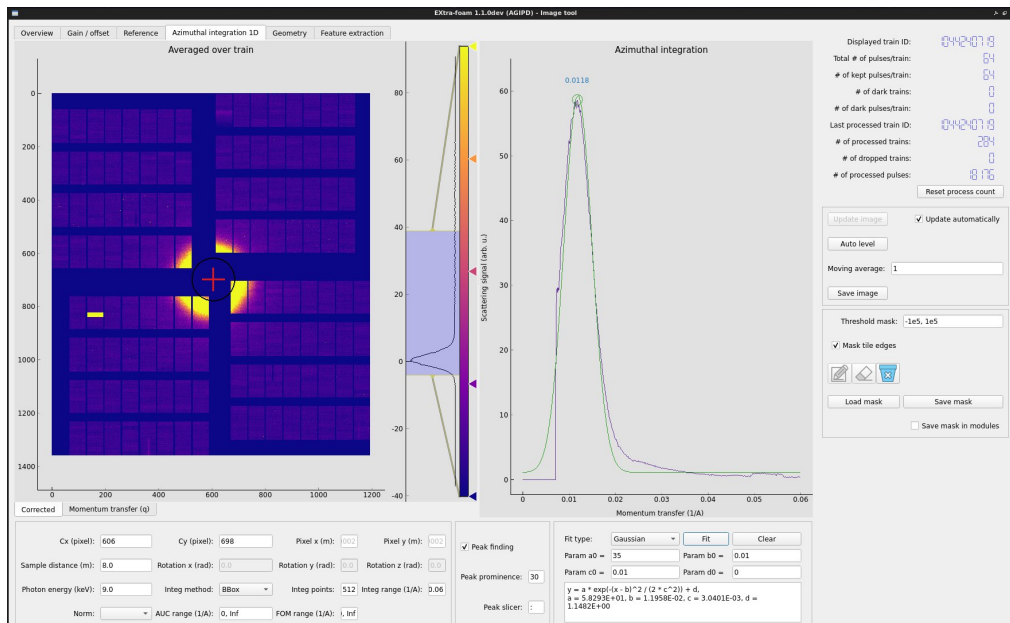
Future – Hybrid between Qt and Web

- * The scene model is ui technology independent
- * **Provide WebGui that can translate the scene model and provide user interface**
 - * Use Gui Server device as entry to the control system
- * Prototyping possible candidates started using **Angular** and **React**
 - * **Build karabo scene in editor -> Direct Web form**
 - * Example: Simple valve scene
- * Considering various back-end designs: Open for discussion, among others: GRPC, binary data on web sockets, ...
- * **Motivation: Encapsulate scene in web form to preserve integrity and combine with other web services and control systems**

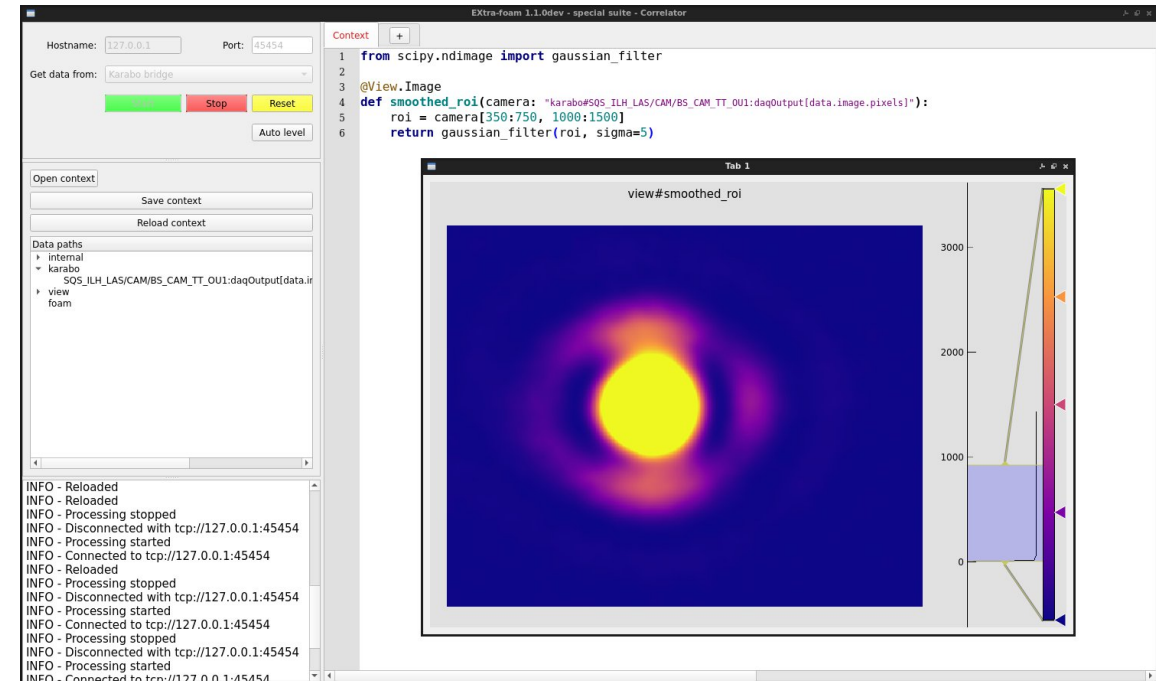


Data Analysis – Other Rich Client Applications

EXTRA-foam



EXTRA-metro



- * Similar technology stack as the karaboGui
- * Qt, traitlets, IPython with jupyter notebooks etc...
- * Not part of this presentation, but there are more ..

Overview – Who does what?

- * **Controls Group** at European XFEL maintains Karabo Framework and has two teams
- * **Development team** responsible for maintaining and developing the **karaboGui** (both in Qt and Web form)
 - * Dedicated test engineer in the development team
 - * Includes infrastructure of extensions (Gitlab CI)
- * **Instrument Control Integration team**
 - * Does not develop karaboGui, they develop karabo devices, scenes provided directly by devices
 - * Advanced integration team members develop controllers for GUI Extensions
- * **Beamline scientists and operators**
 - * Do not develop GUI, they develop macros and scenes.

Thank you!