NeXus at ESRF

CALIPSOPIus JRA2/LEAPS WG3 IT/ UmbrellaID Meeting

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- ESRF NeXus interpretation for raw data
- ESRF NeXus interpretation for processed data
- Other ESRF NeXus Uses: Metadata storage
- Status



HDF5/NeXus – ESRF Interpretation for Raw Data

NXroot

Top level. One per file.

NXentry

One group per measurement

NXinstrument

Describe the instrument. Only one per NXentry

measurement (@NXcollection)

Flattened view of everything measured

Only one per NXentry

sample (@NXsample)

Define the physical state of the sample during the scan

NXdata

The default data to be plotted. One NXdata group per plot user (@NXuser)

Details of a user, i.e., name, affiliation, email address, etc

NXsubentry

Data or links to data for particular analysis

Exclusive Acquisition Domain

Almost exclusive Acquisition Domain

User/Scientist Domain

User/Scientist Domain

Administrative Domain (GDPR? DOI?)

Analysis Domain



Measurement Group Convention

Name-based convention followed by ESRF and Sardana (MAX IV, ALBA...)



Application Definitions

- Their goal is to enable interpretation and analysis of the data
- Unfortunately great ideas can be badly implemented

NXxas

entry

```
definition="NXxas"
start_time
title
instrument@NXinstrument
monochromator@NXmonochromator
energy
incoming_beam@NXdetector
data
absorbed_beam@NXdetector
data
```



. . . .

 In 2010 it was communicated to the NIAC that multiple techniques were quite common (SAXS/WAXS, FLUO/DIFF,...)

• It was decided to create a new field NXsubentry containing the relevant information for each technique

ESRF only considers application definitions in subentries

• But the NIAC kept imposing all the rest of the structure in the subentry (see nexusformat.org documentation on NXsubentry)

The actual analysis applications do not need the structure !!!!!



Application Definitions as Understood by the ESRF

- Only the relevant part for the analysis required
- If they are actual items or links to items is irrelevant
- If there are no programs using the definitions the later are useless
- They should come from developers or communities (not just NIAC) NXxas

```
entry
whatever_name@NXsubentry
definition="NXxas"
energy
i0
it
```

DISCLAIMER

I'm not advocating the use of NXxas (in any of the shown forms)



HDF5/NeXus: Requirements for Processed Data

- NeXus conventions are fairly clear in what concerns raw data
- How to store processed data in HDF5 files?
 - Needs
 - Program used
 - Configuration parameters
 - Results
 - Minimize file creation
 - More than one data treatment step into the file
 - Describe data treatment sequence



NeXus: ESRF Implementation for Processed Data (v1)

Goals can be achieved with "extended" NXprocess groups

entry

start_time end time title process_name@NXprocess program_name version date sequence_index configuration@NXcollection if HDF5 supported by program configuration@format="ini" or "json" or ... if string results@NXcollection or NXdata if plot

Just a name based convention added to NXprocess



NeXus: ESRF Implementation for Processed Data (v2)

 A 100% pure NeXus way to specify the configuration: NXnote entry

process_name@NXprocess program_name version date sequence index configuration@NXnote file name type data results@NXcollection or NXdata if just a plot

The key point is that the configuration can be used back. We have to be able to feed the original program with it.



ICAT – NeXus Mapping





Metadata Collection Architecture





ICAT – NeXus Mapping

- Clear mapping from existing NeXus conventions to ICAT
 - ICAT key = Class1Class2Class3_dataset@attribute
 - NeXus current and mode in class Source inside class Instrument:
 - InstrumentSource_current
 - InstrumentSource_mode

Technique or beamline specific information as NXsubentry based keys

<prove NX_class="NXsubentry" groupName="EM"> <protein_acronym ESRF_description="Protein acronym" NAPItype="NX_CHAR">\${EM_protein_acronym}</protein_acronym> <voltage ESRF_description="Voltage" NAPItype="NX_CHAR">\${EM_voltage} <magnification ESRF_description="Magnification" NAPItype="NX_CHAR">\${EM_magnification} <images_count ESRF_description="Number of images in movie" NAPItype="NX_CHAR">\${EM_magnification} <magnification ESRF_description="Number of images in movie" NAPItype="NX_CHAR">\${EM_images_count}/images_count <position_x ESRF_description="Position X" NAPItype="NX_CHAR">\${EM_position_x} <position_y ESRF_description="Position Y" NAPItype="NX_CHAR">\${EM_position_x} <dose_initial ESRF_description="Dose initial" NAPItype="NX_CHAR">\${EM_dose_initial} <dose_initial ESRF_description="Dose initial" NAPItype="NX_CHAR">\${EM_dose_initial} <dose_per_frame ESRF_description="Dose per frame" NAPItype="NX_CHAR">\${EM_dose_initial} <dose_per_frame ESRF_description="Dose per frame" NAPItype="NX_CHAR">\${EM_dose_per_frame> <spherical_aberration ESRF_description="Spherical aberration" NAPItype="NX_CHAR">\${EM_spherical_aberration} <amplitude_contrast ESRF_description="Amplitude contrast" NAPItype="NX_CHAR">\${EM_amplitude_contrast}</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplitude_contrast</amplit



ICAT – NeXus Mapping

•Collected files as list inside an NXcollection group named measurement

ev325-CG_summer-CG_summer	TextVie	w - files - /entry_0000: CG_summer - CG_summer_hires1/measurement/ - ev325-CG_summer-CG_summer_hire
🙀 entry_0000: CG_summer - C	Text	
∽ 🚰 MX		Dat
	0	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer hires1/ev325-CG_summer-CG_summer hires1 h5
	1	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/cG_summer/CG_summer hies3/zap/CG_summer hies3/xap/CG_summer hies3/zap/CG_summer/cG_summer hies3/zap/CG_summer hies3/zap/C
- 😫 end_time	2	/dta/wisitor/ev/25/id2//CG summer/CG summer hires//za//CG summer hires/ via00.0001.0000.0131.eff
-B folder path		/data/visitor/ev325/id21/cG summer/CG summer hites1/za/CG summer hites1_via00_0001_0000_0170_edf
	4	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/za//CG summer hires1 xiast 0.001 0.000 0.018.edf
e 🙀 instrument	5	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/za//CG summer hires1 viast 0052 0000 0000.edf
🕈 🔄 attenuator	6	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zab/CG summer hires1 xiast 0001 0000 0024.edf
- 🖨 positioners	7	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zab/CG summer hires1 xia00 0001 0000 0105.edf
EN	8	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xiast 0001 0000 0181.edf
_ ≣ ⊿ name	9	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zab/CG summer hires1 xia00 0038 0000 0000.edf
— 🔛 value	10	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zab/CG summer hires1 xia00 0001 0000 0090.edf
🕈 🖼 detector01	11	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xia00 0001 0000 0083.edf
EN	12	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xiast 0001 0000 0076.edf
— 🙀 name	13	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xia00 0001 0000 0187.edf
🕈 🖏 positioners	14	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xiast 0001 0000 0096.edf
- 🗳 name	15	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xia00 0026 0000 0000.edf
EN control	16	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xia00 0001 0000 0130.edf
- Ex value	17	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xiast 0001 0000 0160.edf
🗢 🛀 detector02	18	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xia00 0012 0000 0000.edf
• 📟 insertion device	19	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xia00 0001 0000 0042.edf
	20	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xia00 0001 0000 0038.edf
🕈 🖏 gap	21	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xiast 0001 0000 0172.edf
— 🔛 name	22	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xia00 0001 0000 0137.edf
- 🕒 value	23	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xia00 0001 0000 0194.edf
	24	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xiast 0001 0000 0097.edf
🕶 🛄 taper	25	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xiast 0027 0000 0000.edf
🛉 🔙 monochromator	26	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xia00 0001 0000 0164.edf
- 🚍 crystal	27	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xiast_0001_0000_0119.edf
	28	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xia00_0001_0000_0109.edf
- 🙀 d_spacing	29	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xiast_0001_0000_0009.edf
- 🖹 reflection	30	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG summer/CG summer hires1/zap/CG summer hires1 xia00 0001 0000 0059.edf
- Et type	31	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xia00_0001_0000_0113.edf
EA type	32	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xiast_0032_0000_0000.edf
🗆 🔛 usage	33	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xiast_0001_0000_0058.edf
– 🔛 energy	34	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xia00_0045_0000_0000.edf
- wavelength	35	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xiast_0001_0000_0171.edf
A wavelength	36	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xia00_0034_0000_0000.edf
- 🛃 name	37	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xia00_0006_0000_0000.edf
🕶 🔛 optics	38	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xiast_0001_0000_0137.edf
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primary_site	40	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xiast_0001_0000_0021.edf
🗝 🛄 secondary_slit	41	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xmap_x2c_00_0001_0000.edf
🕶 🛀 slits	42	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xia00_0001_0000_0006.edf
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- Gource	44	/data/visitor/ev325/id21/CG_summer/CG_summer_hires1/zap/CG_summer_hires1_xia00_0022_0000_0000.edf
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Status of NeXus @ ESRF – Raw Data

Acquisition

SPEC

• Not worth native output. Use *silx convert* if desired

- Bliss
 - NeXus native output operational but concurrent access issues
 - Studying to externalize via REDIS + memcached
 - Data Analysis and not Control responsible of data writing?



Status of NeXus @ ESRF – Data Analysis

Data Analysis

- Capability to read HDF5 files (preferred data analysis I/O format)
- Unified API to access all data formats
- Support of NeXus NXdata I/O in viewers and analysis codes
- Provide provenance via NXprocess (pyFAI, PyMca, PyNX,...)
 - Only one NeXus application definition supported (NXcxi)



Status of NeXus @ ESRF - Metadata

- Data Policy and NeXus
 - Mirror ICAT and NeXus master file done
 - External links between master file and raw HDF5 files desirable

Ideally one should aim at processing a dataset from its master file



The Weight of Legacy

Adoption of HDF5/NeXus has been slower at the ESRF than at other synchrotrons due to the raw data being acquired in different formats. Detector output in HDF5 and the deployment of Bliss are speeding things up.

User experience with HDF5 files has to be better than with legacy formats HDF5 should not be the question but the answer.

Concerning data analysis, ESRF started to provide HDF5 support in 2009. Currently making convenient **use of the NeXus formalism as output and as integral part of the ESRF data policy**.





