

QT BASED GUI SYSTEM FOR EPICS CONTROL SYSTEMS

Ricardo Fernandes

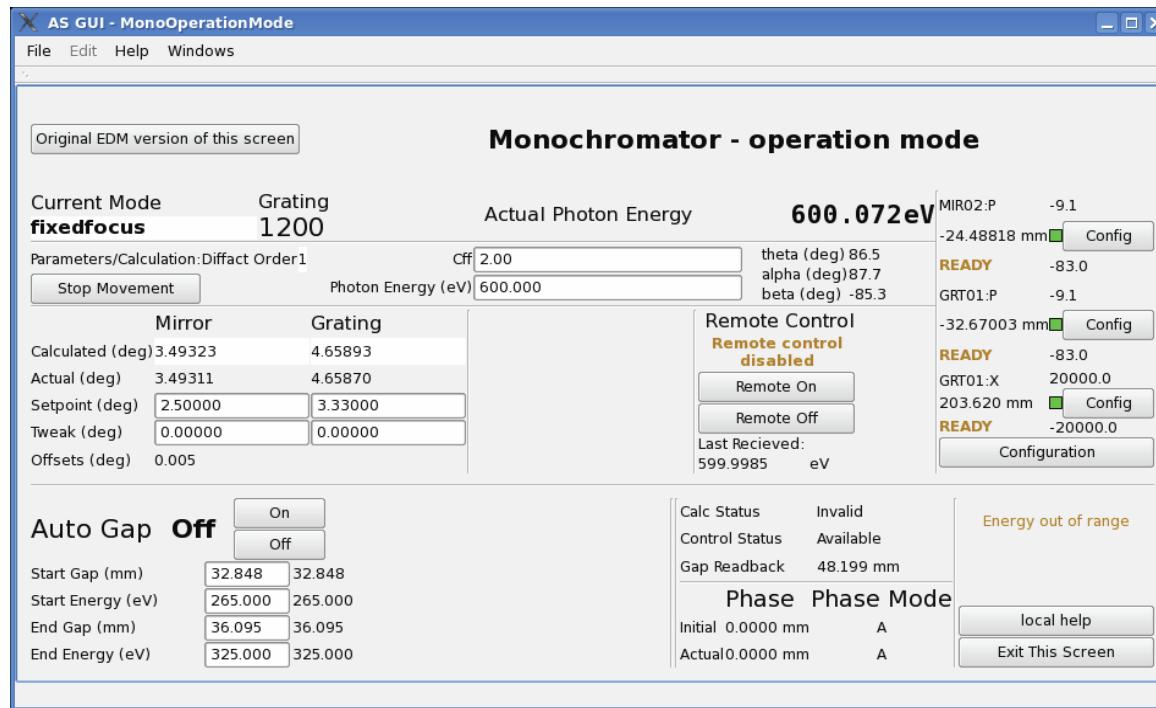
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by



What is the QE Framework?



- Developed and maintained by the Australian Synchrotron
- Implemented in C++ and using Qt
- Display EPICS data (PVs) using appropriate Qt widgets



Benefits

- Reduce usage of different GUI systems (EDM, MEDM, ...)
- Rapid development of control system GUIs
- Development of console-based applications (e.g. servers)
- Able to run in different platforms

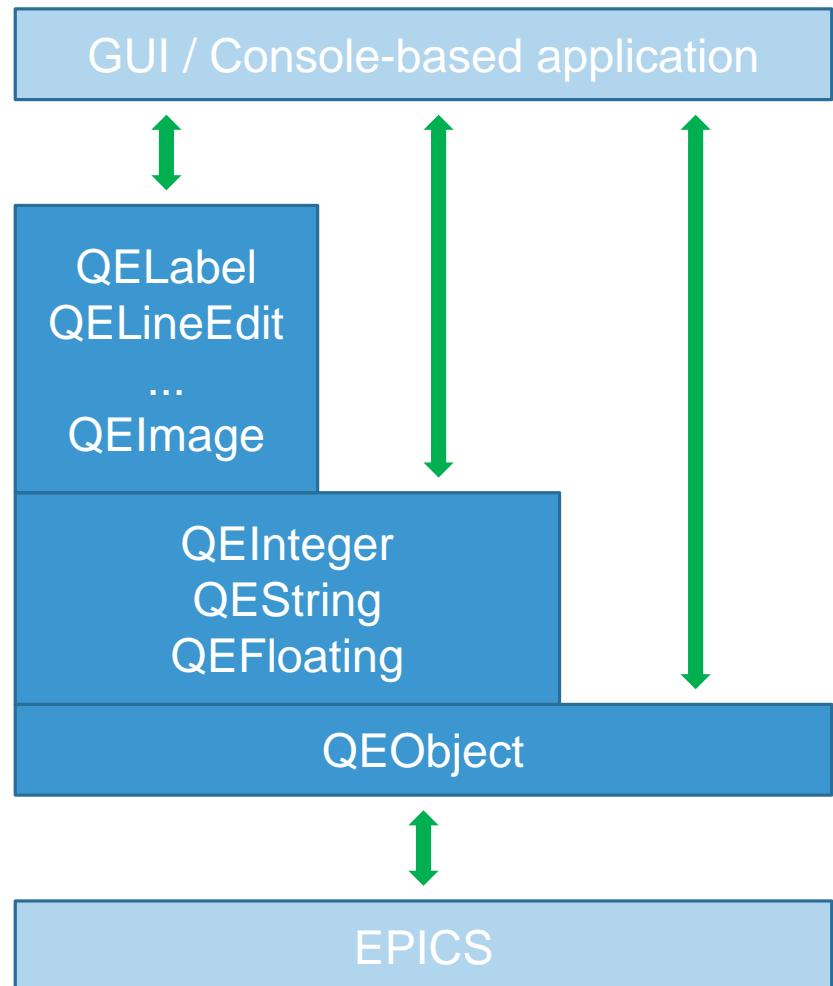


```
rhydера@andrew:~/Perforce/rhydера_linux/Dev/SBS/4_Controlt _ + ×
File Edit View Terminal Tabs Help
./QCaMonitor SR11BCM01:CURRENT_MONITOR
2010-09-21 17:12:59.479000000: SR11BCM01:CURRENT_MONITOR 165.424 mA
2010-09-21 17:12:59.909000000: SR11BCM01:CURRENT_MONITOR 165.423 mA
2010-09-21 17:13:02.063000000: SR11BCM01:CURRENT_MONITOR 165.422 mA
2010-09-21 17:13:03.145000000: SR11BCM01:CURRENT_MONITOR 165.421 mA
2010-09-21 17:13:04.219000000: SR11BCM01:CURRENT_MONITOR 165.420 mA
2010-09-21 17:13:05.296000000: SR11BCM01:CURRENT_MONITOR 165.419 mA
2010-09-21 17:13:06.427000000: SR11BCM01:CURRENT_MONITOR 165.417 mA
2010-09-21 17:13:09.780000000: SR11BCM01:CURRENT_MONITOR 165.416 mA
2010-09-21 17:13:10.851000000: SR11BCM01:CURRENT_MONITOR 165.413 mA
2010-09-21 17:13:13.123000000: SR11BCM01:CURRENT_MONITOR 165.412 mA
2010-09-21 17:13:14.255000000: SR11BCM01:CURRENT_MONITOR 165.409 mA
```

QE Framework Overview



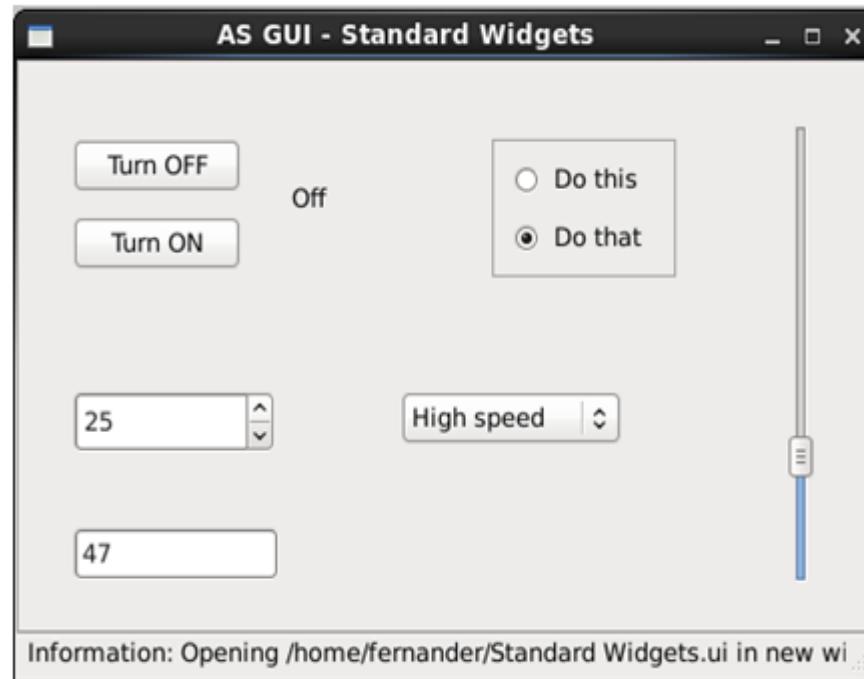
- Composed by 28 C++ classes
- Organized in 3 logical groups
 - Data objects (4 classes)
 - Standard widgets (10 classes)
 - Extended widgets (14 classes)



QE Framework Overview (Standard Widgets)



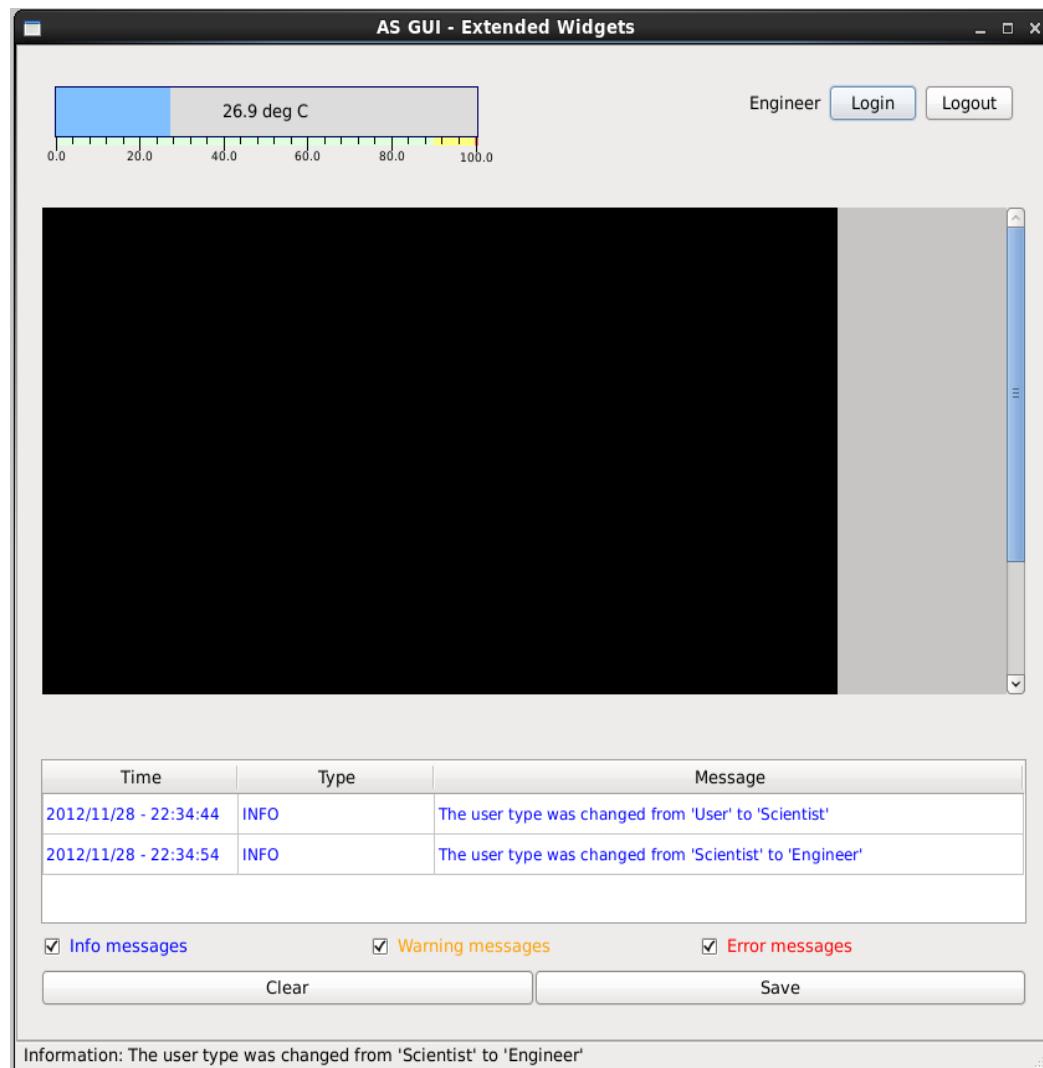
- QEComboBox
- QEForm
- QEFrame
- QEGroupBox
- QELabel
- QELineEdit
- QEPushButton
- QERadioButton
- QESlider
- QESpinBox



QE Framework Overview (Extended Widgets)



- QEAnalogProgressBar
- QEBitStatus
- QEFileBrowser
- QEImage
- QELink
- QELog
- QELogin
- QEPeriodic
- QEPlot
- QEPvProperties
- QERecipe
- QEScript
- QEShape
- QEStripChart



How to Use the QE Framework



- Programmatically via C++

```
void show(void)
{
    QFrame *myFrame;
    QELabel *myLabel;

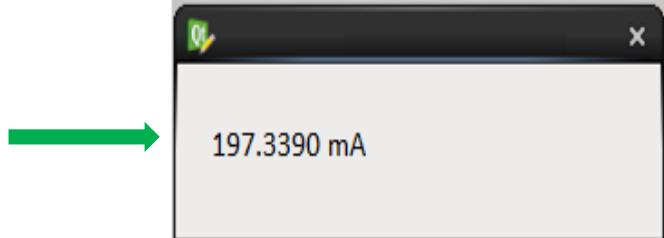
    myFrame = new QFrame();

    //creates object called 'myLabel' of type QELabel (belonging to QE framework)
    myLabel = new QELabel();

    //connects 'myLabel' to the PV called 'MACHINE_CURRENT'
    myLabel->setVariableName("MACHINE_CURRENT");

    //adds 'myLabel' to the frame layout and display machine current
    myFrame->layout()->addWidget(myLabel);

    myFrame->show();
}
```



- “Code-free” (drag & drop operations)
 - Creation of user interfaces through Qt Designer
 - Presentation of user interfaces through QEgui

Qt Designer

File Edit Form View Settings Window Help

Widget Box

<Filter>

- Phonon::VideoPlayer
- Phonon::SeekSlider
- Phonon::VolumeSlider
- EPICS Widgets
 - QEAnalogProgressBar
 - QBitStatus
 - QEConfiguredLayout
 - QEFileBrowser
 - QELabel
 - QELogin
 - QELog
 - QEPvProperties
 - QRRecipe
 - QEScript
 - QEStripChart
 - QEPeriodic
 - QESubstitutedLabel
 - QLineEdit
 - QPushButton
 - QRadioButton
 - QShape
 - QSlider
 - QSpinBox
 - QComboBox
 - QEForm
 - QEPlot
 - QEImage
 - QEAnalogIndicator
 - QBitStatus
 - QEFrame
 - QEGroupBox
 - QELink

Object Inspector

Object Class

New Form

templates/forms

- Dialog with Buttons Bot...
- Dialog with Buttons Right
- Dialog without Buttons
- Main Window
- Widget
 - Widgets
 - Custom Widgets

Embedded Design

Device: None

Screen Size: Default size

Show this Dialog on Startup

Open... Recent Close Create

Property Editor

Property Value

Future Developments



- Testing
- Export the framework into Python
- Further separation between data and graphical classes
- Support of EPICS v4

Location

- Official website: <http://sourceforge.net/projects/epicsqt/>
- Subversion repository: <https://epicsqt.svn.sourceforge.net/svnroot/>

The screenshot shows the SourceForge project page for the EPICS QT Framework. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links for Find Open Source Software, Browse, Blog, Support, Jobs, Newsletters, Resources, Register, and Log In. Below the navigation bar, the project title "EPICS QT Framework" is displayed with a "Beta" badge. It shows contributions from "andrewstarritt, glennjackson, rhyder". A brief description states: "EPICS Channel Access API extended into the QT framework." Below this, there are social sharing buttons for Add a Review, 5 Downloads (This Week), Tweet, Google+, and Like, along with a "Download" button for "epicsqt-1.1.8-src.tar.gz". To the right, a "Features" section lists: "Code Free EPICS GUI development", "Code Rich EPICS GUI development", and "Console EPICS app development". Below the download button, there are three screenshots of the software interface: "Beam position and current", "Beam Current", and "Offset". Under the "Description" section, it says: "Experimental Physics and Industrial Control System (EPICS) Channel Access (CA) API extended into the QT framework. Designed for rapid development of control system graphical interfaces. Initially developed by Glenn Jackson, Anthony Owen, and Andrew Rhyder at the Australian Synchrotron". At the bottom, there's a link to "EPICS QT Framework Web Site >".

Acknowledgements



- Andrew Rhyder (main author)
- Andrew Starritt
- Glenn Jackson
- Anthony Owen



Thank you!

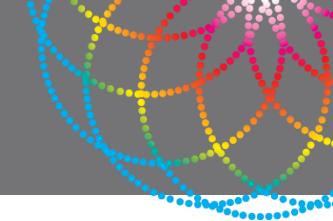
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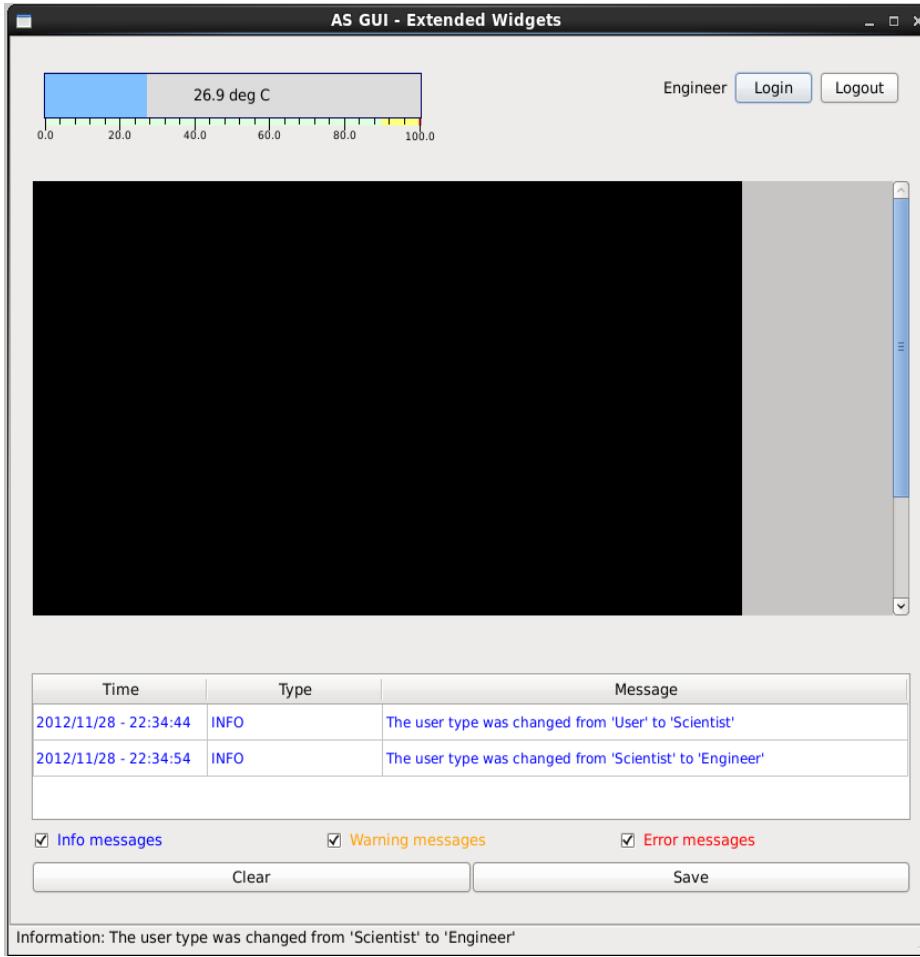
Australian Government



Framework Overview (Extended Widgets)



- QEAnalogProgressBar
- QEBitStatus
- QEFileBrowser
- QEImage
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- QEPeriodic
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- QEPvProperties
- QERecipe
- QEScript
- QEShape
- QEStripChart



QEAnalogProgressBar	
variable	SR08FE01TES02:TEMPERATURE_MONITOR
variableSubstitutions	
variableAsToolTip	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
enabled	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
allowDrop	<input type="checkbox"/>
visible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
messageSourceId	0
userLevelUserStyle	
userLevelScientistStyle	
userLevelEngineerStyle	
userLevelVisibility	User
userLevelEnabled	User
precision	4
useDbPrecision	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
leadingZero	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
trailingZeros	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
addUnits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
localEnumeration	
format	Default
radix	10
notation	Fixed
arrayAction	Ascii
arrayIndex	0
useDbDisplayLimits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
alarmSeverityDisplayStyle	none

Framework Overview (Data Objects)



- QEObject
- QEInteger
- QEString
- QEFloating

```
// Stream data to the logger
source = new QEString( pv, this, &format );
QObject::connect( source, SIGNAL( string( const QString& ) ),
                  logger, SLOT( log( const QString& ) ) );
```

Metrics



- Scenario
- Environment
 - 3 Ghz quad-core processor (2 GB of RAM)
 - Linux Fedora 16
 - EPICS 3.14.12
 - Qt 4.8
- Result
 - 7000 updates per second!

