

# PyDevice – New Features and Updates

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# PyDevice Brief Introduction

- Extend EPICS records functionality with the power of Python
- Integrates into existing IOCs
  - Leverage IOC core functionality
  - Coexist with EPICS extensions
  - Quick and robust adoption
- Broad compatibility
  - Python2 & Python3
  - EPICS 3.14.12.x – EPICS 7.0.x

<http://github.com/klemenv/PyDevice>

```
# Keep running values in Python array
record(ao, "BeamPower:Cache") {
    field(DTYP, "pydev")
    field(DOL, "BeamPower CP")
    field(OUT, "@beampower.append(VAL)")
    field(FLINK, "BeamPower:Avg")
}

# Using Python built-in functions for average calc
record(ai, "BeamPower:Avg") {
    field(DTYP, "pydev")
    field(INP, "@sum(beampower)/len(beampower)")
    field(FLINK, "BeamPower:Std")
}

# numpy one-liner for standard deviation
record(ai, "BeamPower:Std") {
    field(DTYP, "pydev")
    field(INP, "@numpy.std(beampower)")
}
```

# Supporting More EPICS Base Records

## waveform

- Python excels at processing arrays
- Support for most element types
  - (U)CHAR, (U)SHORT, (U)LONG, FLOAT, DOUBLE, STRING
- Input and output arrays may differ in size but not type

## lsl / lso

- EPICS 3.15 and later
- String size inherited from EPICS base, default 65,535
- Useful for file paths, URLs

# New pycalcRecord

- Similar to aSub record but invokes Python for processing inputs
- Passing multiple parameters to Python expressions:
  - Functions
  - Formulas
- Selectable input and output field types and size
- Python code unaware of record semantics

Generating 1000 samples of quadratic function

```
record(pycalc, "Quadratic:X") {  
    field(INPA, "Quadratic:X:LowLimit")  
    field(INPB, "Quadratic:X:HighLimit")  
    field(CALC, "list(np.linspace(A,B,1000))")  
    field(MEVL, "1000")  
}  
  
record(pycalc, "Quadratic:Y") {  
    field(INPA, "2")  
    field(INPB, "-5.0")  
    field(INPC, "7")  
    field(INPH, "Quadratic:X CP")  
    field(CALC, "list(A*np.array(H)**2+B*np.array(A)+C)")  
    field(MEVL, "1000")  
}
```

# Escaping Fields is Now Optional

Before

```
pydev("VAL=834.2")  
  
record(ao, "Number:Print") {  
    field(DTYP, "pydev")  
    field(VAL, "419.5")  
    field(OUT, "@print(%VAL%)")  
}
```

After

```
pydev("VAL=834.2")  
  
record(ao, "Number:Print") {  
    field(DTYP, "pydev")  
    field(VAL, "419.5")  
    field(OUT, "@print(VAL)")  
}
```

Does it print  
834.2 or 419.5?

More pitfalls

```
record(ao, "Equal") {  
    field(DTYP, "pydev")  
    field(VAL, "419.5")  
    field(OUT, "@VAL=%VAL%")  
}
```

```
record(ao, "Macros") {  
    field(DTYP, "pydev")  
    field(OUT, "@print($(HIGH))")  
}
```



Escape with %  
whenever  
possible!

# Concurrent Record Processing

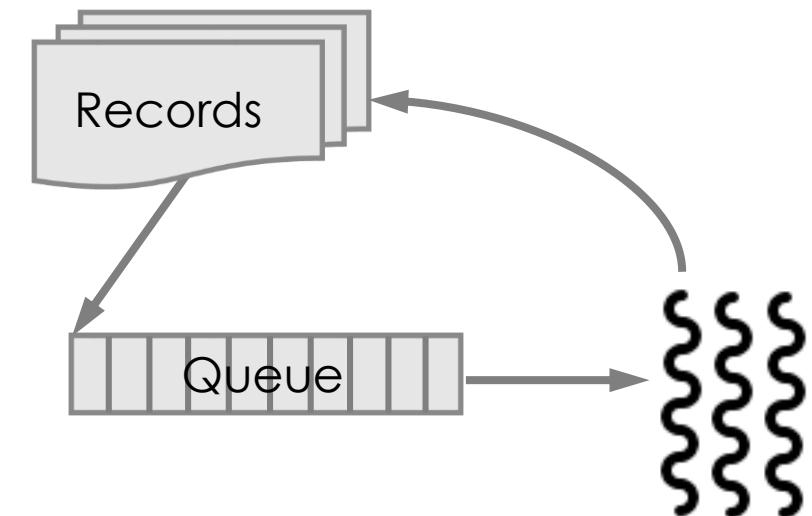
- Allow processing multiple records concurrently

- as long as CPython code releases GIL,
  - or runs out of allocated time slice\*
  - Generally, it runs pretty well!



\* Python 2: `sys.setcheckinterval()`  
Python 3: `sys.setswitchinterval()`

- Configurable number of worker threads
  - `epicsEnvSet("PYDEV_NUM_THREADS", "10")`
  - All worker threads busy => requests queued in FIFO



# Simpler Build Mechanism

## PyDevice folder

Choose Python version in **configure/CONFIG\_SITE**

```
PYTHON_CONFIG=python39-config
```

## IOC folder

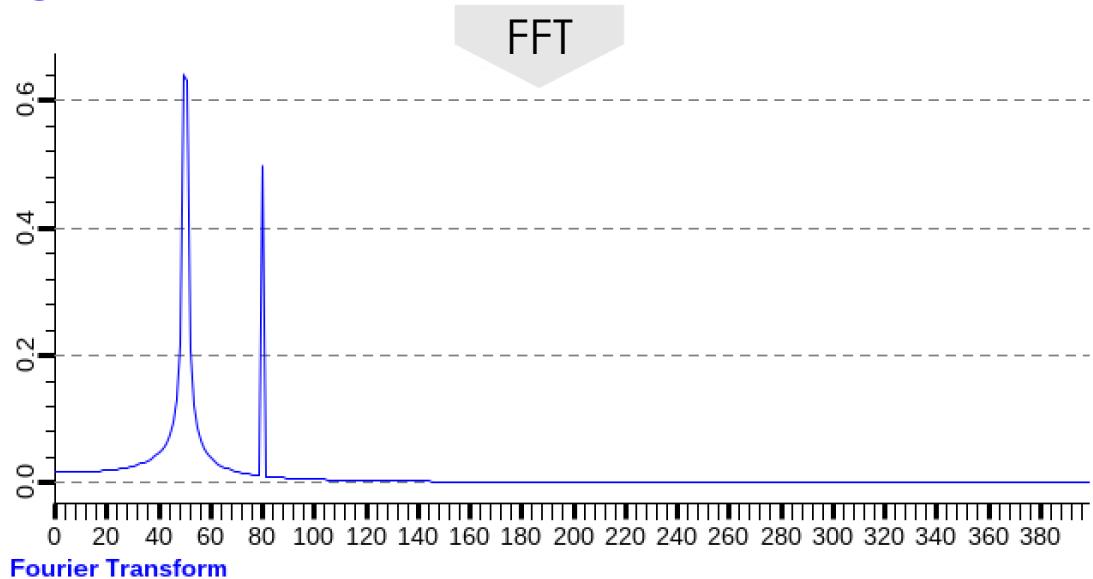
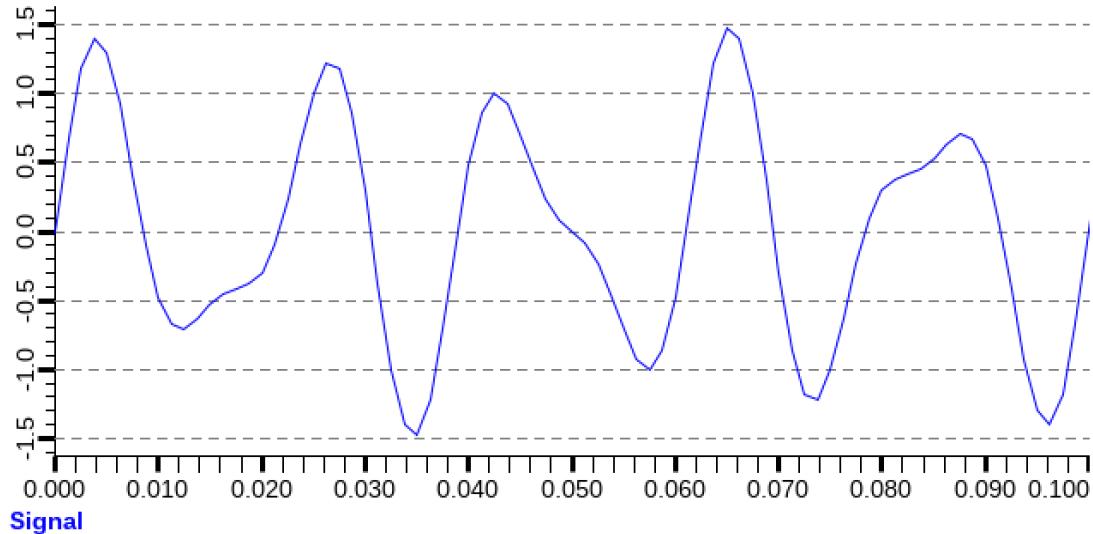
Add to IOC **configure/RELEASE**

```
PYDEVICE=/path/to/PyDevice
```

Add to IOC **iocApp/src/Makefile**

```
include $(PYDEVICE)/configure/CONFIG.PyDevice
ioc_DBD += pydev.dbd
ioc_LIB += pydev
```

# Example – Fast Fourier Transform with scipy



```
record(waveform, "signal:X") {  
    field(DTYP, "pydev")  
    field(NELM, "600")  
    field(FTVL, "DOUBLE")  
    field(INP, "@np.linspace(0, 0.75, 600, endpoint=False)")  
}  
  
record(pycalc, "Signal:Y") {  
    field(INPA, "Signal:X")  
    field(CALC, "np.sin(100*np.pi*A)+.5*np.sin(160*np.pi*A)")  
    field(MEVL, "600")  
    field(FTVL, "DOUBLE")  
}  
  
record(waveform, "signal:FFT:X") {  
    field(DTYP, "pydev")  
    field(NELM, "300")  
    field(FTVL, "DOUBLE")  
    field(INP, "@scipy.fft.fftfreq(600, 0.00125)[:600//2]")  
}  
  
record(pycalc, "Signal:FFT:Y") {  
    field(INPA, "Signal:Y")  
    field(MEA, "600")  
    field(CALC, "2.0/600 * np.abs(scipy.fft.fft(A)[0:600//2])")  
    field(MEVL, "300")  
    field(FTVL, "DOUBLE")  
}
```

# Example – Steerable Optics Evaluation

**Scan Builder**

Scan Title: Scanning X  
Select Motor: X  
Start Position: -2100  
End Position: 2100  
Step Size: 100  
Delay: 10.0 s  
ID: 201  
State: Running  
Percent Complete: 20 %  
Submit  
Abort & Stop

**Filename & Manual Data Capture**

File Name: 20210714\_scan\_x\_-2100\_2100\_100  
Capture Control: Write On Demand  
Status: Capture  
Capture Every: 10 s  
Last Row: 8  
File Size: 0.003 MB  
Max Allowed File Size: 1000.000 MB  
Open File: /home/controls/var/data/20210714\_scan\_x\_-2100\_2100\_100\_0.csv  
Previous File:  
Message:  
Data Capture Details

**Saved Parameters**

Alias Name	PV Name	Current Value	Captured Value
X	SB03:Mot:Optics1:X	-1300	-1400
Y	SB03:Mot:Optics1:Y	0	0
Pitch	SB03:Mot:Optics1:Pitch	0	0
Yaw	SB03:Mot:Optics1:Yaw	0	0
Roll	SB03:Mot:Optics1:Roll	0	0
XCalc	SB03:Mot:Optics1:X_C	-1300	-1400
YCalc	SB03:Mot:Optics1:Y_C	-0	0
PitchCalc	SB03:Mot:Optics1:Pitch_C	-0	-0
YawCalc	SB03:Mot:Optics1:Yaw_C	-0	0
RollCalc	SB03:Mot:Optics1:Roll_C	-0	-0
XRange	SB03:Mot:Optics1:XRange_C	2128	2127
YRange	SB03:Mot:Optics1:YRange_C	828	727
PitchRange	SB03:Mot:Optics1:PitchRange_C	1018	895
YawRange	SB03:Mot:Optics1:YawRange_C	1018	895
RollRange	SB03:Mot:Optics1:RollRange_C	1541	1356
M1	SB03:Mot:Optics1:M1	-82.664	-86.150
M2	SB03:Mot:Optics1:M2	-172.393	-175.843

**Builds a series of motor positions and submits the scan to ScanServer**

**Monitor motor related parameters for later analysis**

**Save parameters values to CSV file**

# Example – Managing Remote Experiments

The screenshot shows a control panel for managing remote experiments. On the left, there are several status indicators for Source, Vacuum, Choppers, and Software Status. A green arrow points from the 'Remote Experiments' button in the Software Status section to a callout box labeled 'Currently active users by executing remote SSH commands'. The main central area is titled 'Remote Experiments management' and displays a table of active user sessions. A callout box for the 'Remote User sessions enabled' toggle switch states: 'Controls Linux PAM authentication and disconnects active sessions when being disabled'. Another callout box for the table header indicates: 'Proposal ID is an instrument wide PV controlling data acquisition, sample activation calculation etc.'. At the bottom, it shows 'Remote Experiments for currently selected IPTS proposal 26739 are allowed' and a note about members of the current proposal being permitted to connect.

Source  
Beam Power 0 kW  
Moderator 36.3 F  
Accelerator

Vacuum BL18\_Vacuum

Choppers Choppers  
Televac  
AlarmEnabled  
Env Mon

Software Status IOC Status  
Data / Reduction  
Archiver Status  
ThinLinc mgmt  
Remote Experiments

Motors Chopper  
SP  
SP  
Attenuator  
Sample

Remote Experiments management

Remote User sessions enabled:

Users on remote experiments workstation bl18-remote.sns.gov

User	User id	Since	CPU	MEM	Terminate
Garrett C. [REDACTED]	arr	Jan07	14.6 %	0.2 %	X
			0.0 %	0.0 %	
			0.0 %	0.0 %	
			0.0 %	0.0 %	
			0.0 %	0.0 %	

Refresh

Currently active users by executing remote SSH commands

Remote Experiments for currently selected IPTS proposal 26739 are allowed

Following members of current proposal are permitted to connect to bl18-remote.sns.gov and conduct experiments remotely:  
None - remote user sessions are disabled

Show Help

Controls Linux PAM authentication and disconnects active sessions when being disabled

Proposal ID is an instrument wide PV controlling data acquisition, sample activation calculation etc.

Interface with experiment's proposal database

# Time for Questions? (and answers)