

PLACET

User experiences with PLACET and examples of use for the Drive Beam

CLIC Workshop 2008

Erik Adli, CERN/University of Oslo, October 16th 2008

Lots of input by A. Latina is gratefully acknowledged



Outline

- What is PLACET?
- Personal experiences with the Drive Beam work
- Example script [put on CVS for future reference]:
 - **TCL**: Create a sliced beam for a FODO lattice with PETS
 - **Octave**: lattice manipulation and beam-based alignment using PLACET octave



What is PLACET?

- General tracking code for non-periodic machines
- Supports fast tracking of particle beams or sliced beams (**realistic beams** with large number of particles can be created and simulated easy)
- Can be used for practically all parts of the CLIC machine with the exception of the damping rings and injectors (no space-charge, $v=c$). Especially strong support for **wake fields** in accelerating and decelerating structures
- Powerful build-in features for analyzing effects of misalignment and alignment/feedback schemes, automating simulation and generation of statistics for a large number of random machines
- Code used by a large part of CLIC beam dynamics team



Code and development

- Written by **D. Schulte (CERN)** + major update by code keeper up to April 2008: **A. Latina (FNAL)**

<https://savannah.cern.ch/projects/placet/>

- Current code keeper **B. Dalena (CERN)**
- However, all interested collaborators are **welcome to join** as co-developers and contribute directly to the cvs-repository
 - Typically: if you have implemented a nice PLACET update, element or algorithm you think could be of general use, please consider adding it to the repository (ask to be added to "placet-developers" mailing list)



Personal start-up experiences

- Interpreter: TCL
 - I was almost blank to TCL, but much better to start with than an own-defined language like in MADX (TCL: powerful language, lot's of online help)
- Documentation: was too poor to start working alone, good examples and/or help from experts needed
 - Recently: **documentation has improved a lot**
 - And: a lot of good **example scripts** are now in CVS
- However, once I did get my hands on the interpreter and the basics: found the code very efficient



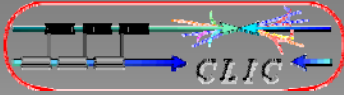
Placet-octave

- Last year a new interface added to **PLACET: Octave interface**, created by **A. Latina** (now at FNAL)
- Octave: “open source MATLAB clone” → if you know MATLAB you also know Octave
- Lattice and beam can be manipulated directly with Octave commands [**O.M. more compact code** than C for e.g. matrix-operations]
 - E.g. anywhere in your lattice definition you can insert Octave parts
- I find the Octave interface both extremely clean and powerful [I was a hard-core MATLAB user before], and it allows new and intuitive ways to perform lattice manipulation – **a GREAT addition to PLACET**
- Placet-octave seems to have reached a **mature** stage (very well working and robust) – however, it covers **only a subset of Tcl commands**



Example script

- Example shows: typical use of PLACET using both **Tcl interpreter** and **Octave interpreter**, by using a TBL-like lattice
 - Sliced Drive Beam beam
 - FODO cell with PETS
 - NB: if main linac structures shall be used, please refer to examples with Main Linac please see “example1.tcl” etc. in the same directory and this example (beams and wake fields defined in a different way for Main Linac structures)
- "Interactive part" using **placet-octave**
 - Beam-based alignment / dispersion calculations



Example script

Example script: minimal self-consistent Drive Beam decelerator
(code is divided into parts and well-commented for your reference)

Tcl-interface :

- Part 1: Define the beam
- Part 2: Define lattice component parameters (e.g. Cavities)
- Part 3: Define the lattice
- Part 4: Track
- Part 5: Data processing

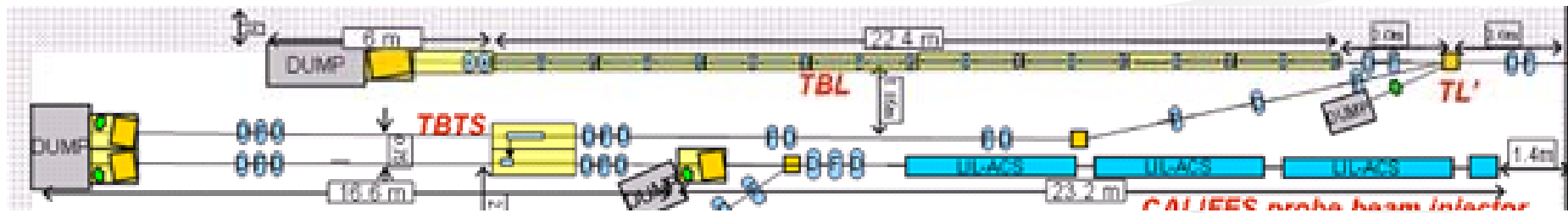
Octave-interface :

- Part 6: Beam-based alignment and lattice manipulation

This last part will be shown “interactively” – to show the ease of use of the Octave interface. For the rest: please download and read the (well-commented) example



(max 5. minutes demo session)





Conclusions

- My opinion: PLACET has classical “power versus learning curve” issue
- For using PLACET most efficiently one need to know two languages (TCL and Octave)
 - But: BIG advantage that languages are main stream computer languages, with well-defined behaviour and lot’s of online help (unlike e.g. MAD scripting language)
 - Some many purposes: only the Tcl interface will be of needed
- To get started with PLACET: I would advice to start with a simple example from the example folder, understand it, and build-on from there



PLACET contact point

- PLACET download:

<https://savannah.cern.ch/projects/placet/>

- The current PLACET code keeper (from July 2008):
Barbara Dalena (CERN)

Barbara.Dalena@cern.ch

- general questions about PLACET can be sent here

- For questions about this example and related issues please feel free to also contact me:

Erik.Adli@cern.ch