

# areaDetector: What's New?

Mark Rivers

GeoSoilEnviroCARS, Advanced Photon Source

University of Chicago



# Outline

- Last TWG areaDetector talk was 2009
  - Won't try cover everything since then!
- Changes in the last year, R2-0, R2-1, R2-2
- New and improved drivers
- New and improved plugins
- Future plans

# Moved areaDetector to github

- areaDetector was getting too big.
  - New releases being held up waiting for testing on one detector types, etc.
- Hard to collaborate with other sites using APS Subversion repository
  - git and github provide much better tools for multi-site collaborations
- Moved in December 2013, with R2-0 release in April 2014
- Split into 3 “core” repositories, and separate repositories for each detector

# New Organization

## **areaDetector**

Top-level module

RELEASE files, documentation, Makefile

### **ADCore**

Core module

Base classes, plugins,  
simDetector,  
documentation

### **ADBinaries**

Binary libraries for  
Windows (HDF5,  
GraphicsMagick)

### **ADProsilica**

Prosilica driver

### **ADPilatus**

Pilatus driver

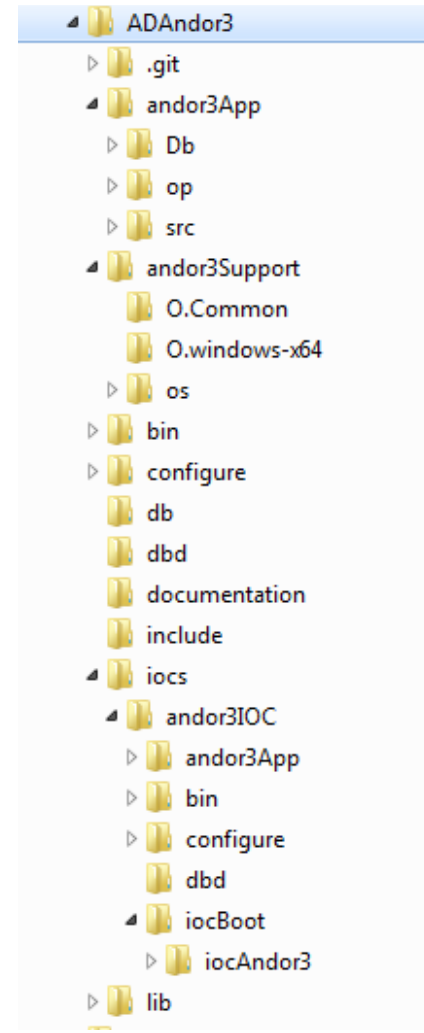
...

- Each box above is a separate git repository
- Can be released independently
- Hosted at <http://github.com/areaDetector> project
- Each repository is a submodule under areaDetector/areaDetector
- Can clone individual repositories, or clone the entire project with  
`git clone -recursive https://github.com/areaDetector.git`

# New Organization

## Top-level area

Name	Date modified	Type
.git	10/17/2014 4:54 PM	File folder
ADADSC	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADAndor	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADAndor3	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADBinaries	10/17/2014 5:38 PM	File folder
ADBruker	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADCore	10/17/2014 5:39 PM	File folder
ADFireWireWin	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADLightField	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADmar345	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADmarCCD	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADPerkinElmer	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADPilatus	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADPixirad	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADPointGrey	10/17/2014 4:54 PM	File folder
ADProsilica	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADPSL	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADPvCam	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
ADQImaging	10/17/2014 5:01 PM	File folder
ADRoper	10/17/2014 5:00 PM	File folder
ADURL	10/17/2014 5:40 PM	File folder
aravisGigE	10/17/2014 5:02 PM	File folder
configure	10/17/2014 4:51 PM	File folder
documentation	10/17/2014 5:00 PM	File folder
ffmpegServer	10/17/2014 4:59 PM	File folder
ffmpegViewer	10/17/2014 4:55 PM	File folder
firewireDCAM	10/17/2014 4:53 PM	File folder
.gitignore	3/6/2014 2:13 PM	GITIGNORE File
.gitmodules	10/14/2014 6:45 PM	GITMODULES File
INSTALL_GUIDE.md	9/17/2014 5:02 PM	MD File
makeADPrebuilt	4/4/2014 3:18 PM	File
makeADPrebuilt_Current	4/4/2014 3:59 PM	File
Makefile	3/5/2014 1:57 PM	File
makePrebuiltAndor	4/15/2014 4:02 PM	File
README.md	3/26/2014 9:21 PM	MD File
RELEASE.md	10/15/2014 12:18 ...	MD File

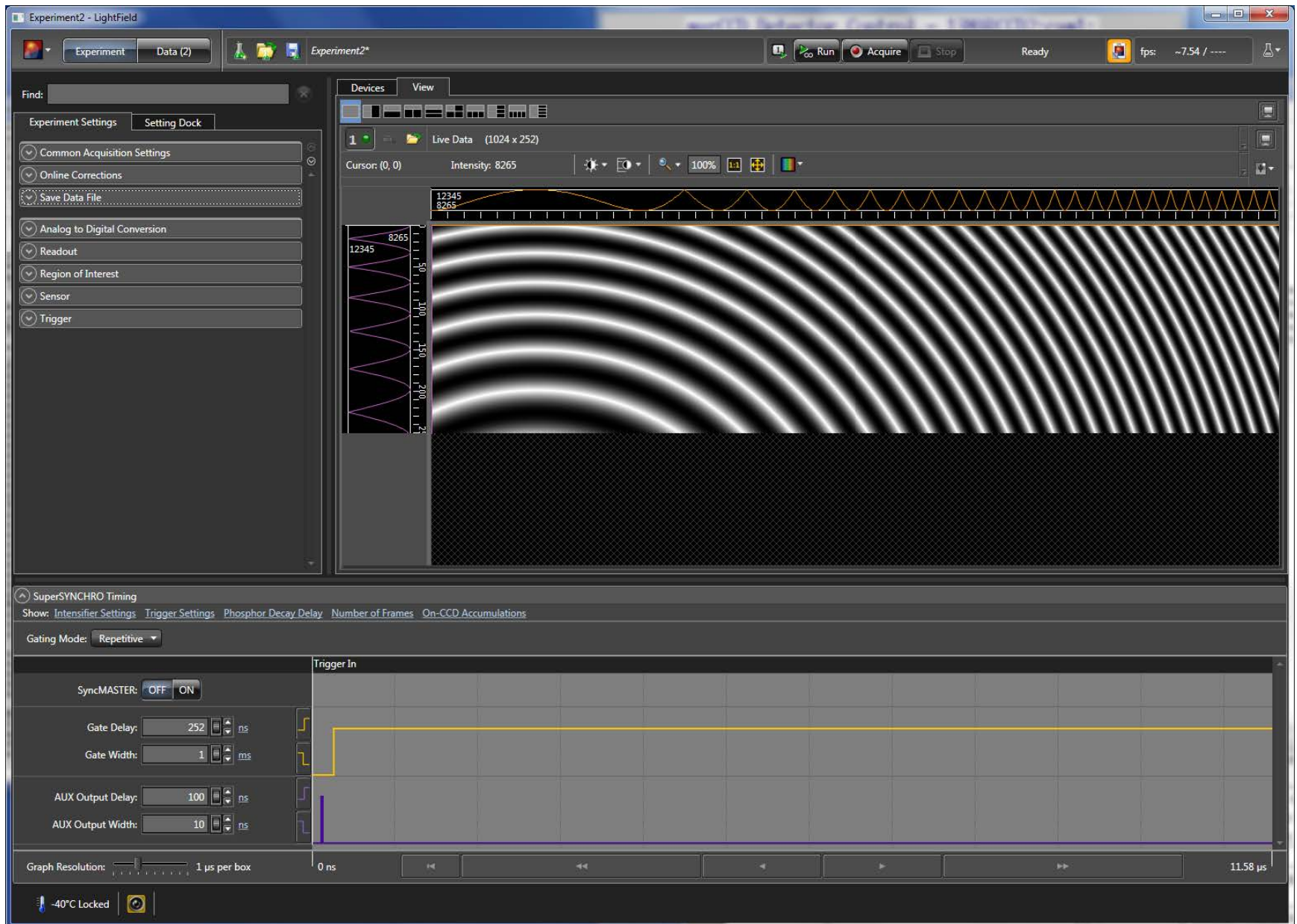


- andor3App/ builds only a driver library, and depends only on base and asyn
- iocs/ builds an application and depends on autosave, busy, etc. Can disable building this.

# New or improved drivers

- ADAndor3 driver for sCMOS cameras from Andor
- ADLightField driver for Princeton Instruments cameras using their LightField application
- ADAndor added Shamrock spectrometer control for Andor cameras
- ADmarCCD added support for triggered acquisition using new high-speed (-HS) detectors from Rayonix
- ADPSL major rewrite of Photonic Sciences Limited driver to support new server features
- PICAM driver (ADPiCam)
  - Princeton Instruments cameras, including recent models
  - Controlled via PICAM C library
  - Written by John Hammonds

# LightField driver



# LightField driver

LightField.adl

## Area Detector Control - 13LF1:cam1:

### Setup

asyn port **LF1**  
EPICS name **13LF1:cam1:**  
Manufacturer **Princeton Instrument**  
Model **PIXIS: 100BR**  
**Connected**  
Connection    
Debugging

### Shutter

Shutter Type   
LF Shutter Mode   
Status: Det. **Closed** EPICS **Closed**  
Open/Close    
Delay: Open  Close   
EPICS shutter setup

### Spectrometer

[860nm, 300] [1] [0]  
Grating   
Center wavelength  **750.000**  
Entrance width  **100**  
Exit port  **Front**

### Plugins

### Collect

Exposure time  **5.000**  
Acquire Period  **0.000**  
# Accumulations  **0**  
# Exposures  **1**  
# Frames  **1**  
# Exposures Complete **0**  
# Frames Complete **1535**  
# Acquisitions  **0**  
# Acquisitions Complete **0**  
Image Mode  **Normal**  
Trigger Mode   
Acquire   **Done**  
Detector State **Idle**  
Ready to Run **Ready**  
Image counter  **1535**  
Image Rate **0.0**  
Array Callbacks  **Disable**

### Readout

	X	Y
Sensor Size	<b>1340</b>	<b>100</b>
Binning	<input type="text" value="1"/> <b>1</b>	<input type="text" value="1"/> <b>1</b>
Region Start	<input type="text" value="0"/> <b>0</b>	<input type="text" value="78"/> <b>78</b>
Region Size	<input type="text" value="1340"/> <b>1340</b>	<input type="text" value="10"/> <b>10</b>
Reverse	<input type="button" value="No"/> <b>No</b>	<input type="button" value="No"/> <b>No</b>
Image Size	<b>1340</b>	<b>10</b>
Image Size (bytes)		<b>26800</b>
Gain	<input type="button" value="Low"/> <b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>
Data type		<b>UInt16</b>
Temperature	<input type="text" value="-75.000"/> <b>-75.000</b>	<b>-75.000</b>
Actual temperature		<b>-75.000</b>

### Intensifier

Int. Enable  **Disable**  
Intensifier Gain  **0**  
Gating Mode  **Repetitive**  
Trigger Frequency  **1e+001**  
SyncMaster  **Enable**  
SyncMaster2 Delay  **1.00e-004**  
Rep. Gate Width  **5.00e-002**  
Rep. Gate Delay  **0.00e+000**  
Seq. Start Width  **0.00e+000**  
Seq. Start Delay  **0.00e+000**  
Seq. End Width  **0.00e+000**  
Seq. End Delay  **0.00e+000**  
Aux I/O Width  **2.00e-006**  
Aux I/O Delay  **0.00e+000**

### Experiment

PIXIS 5\_29\_2013.lfe  
Experiment

### Attributes

File



## Detector drivers (continued)

- Generic GigE driver (aravisGigE)
  - Should work with any GigEVision compliant camera. From Tom Cobb at Diamond.
  - Controlled using the Aravis reverse-engineered GigEVision library
- QImaging driver (ADQImaging)
  - QImaging cameras.
  - Controlled using Qimaging SDK
  - Written by Arthur Glowacki
- ADPvAccess
  - Driver that receives NDArrays over EPICS V4
  - Allows plugins to run in an EPICS IOC on a different machine than the detector
  - Written by David Hickin from Diamond.
  - Another version by Bruno Martins from BNL will likely be part of ADCore R3-0.

## Detector drivers (continued)

- Perkin Elmer Dexela driver (ADDexela)
  - For Perkin Elmer Dexela CMOS flat-panel detectors
  - Written by Mark Rivers
- Quantum Detectors Merlin driver (ADMerlin)
  - For Merlin Medipix3 detector
  - Written by Giles Knapp at Diamond
- ADFastCCD
  - Driver for LBNL FastCCD.
  - Written by Stuart Wilkins at NSLS-II

# Point Grey driver

- New driver for all cameras from Point Grey using their FlyCap2 SDK.
- Firewire, GigE and USB 3.0
- High performance, low cost
- Example: Model GS3-U3-23S6M
  - 1920 x 1200 global shutter CMOS
  - No smear • Distortion-free
  - Dynamic range of 73 dB
  - Peak QE of 76%
  - Read noise of 7e-
  - Max frame rate of 162 fps (~400 MB/S, 4X faster than GigE)
  - USB 3.0 interface
  - \$1,295
  - Comparable to PCO Edge and Andor Zyla for 10X less money

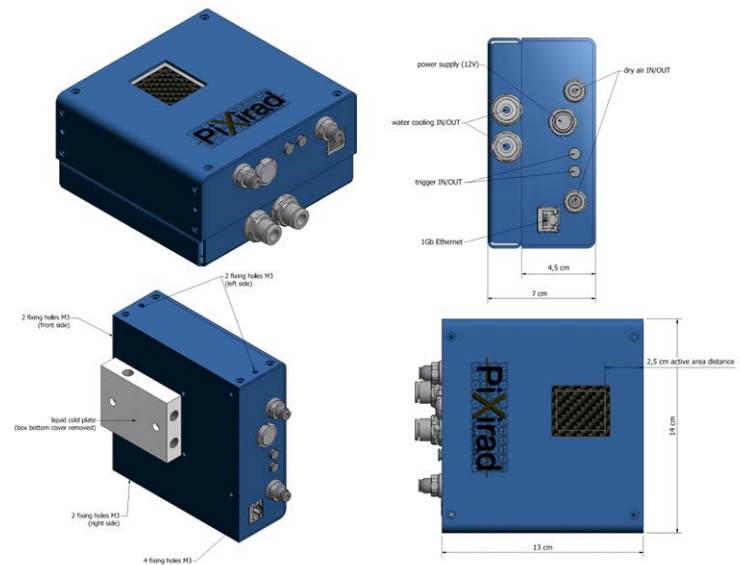
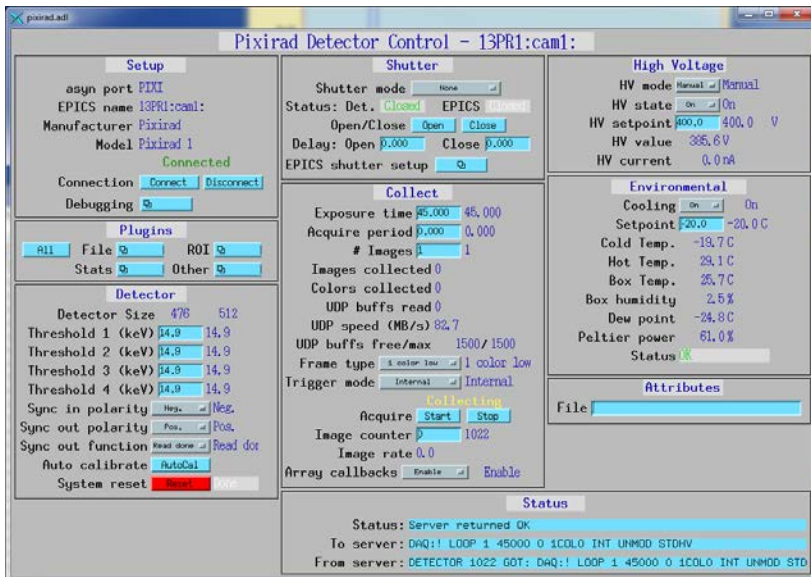


Mono  
Sensor



# R2-0: Pixirad driver

- New driver for Pixirad CdTe pixel array detector
- Similar to Pilatus, but CdTe gives very high efficiency to 80 keV or more
- 2 energy thresholds, so 2 different energy images simultaneously
- In detector pool



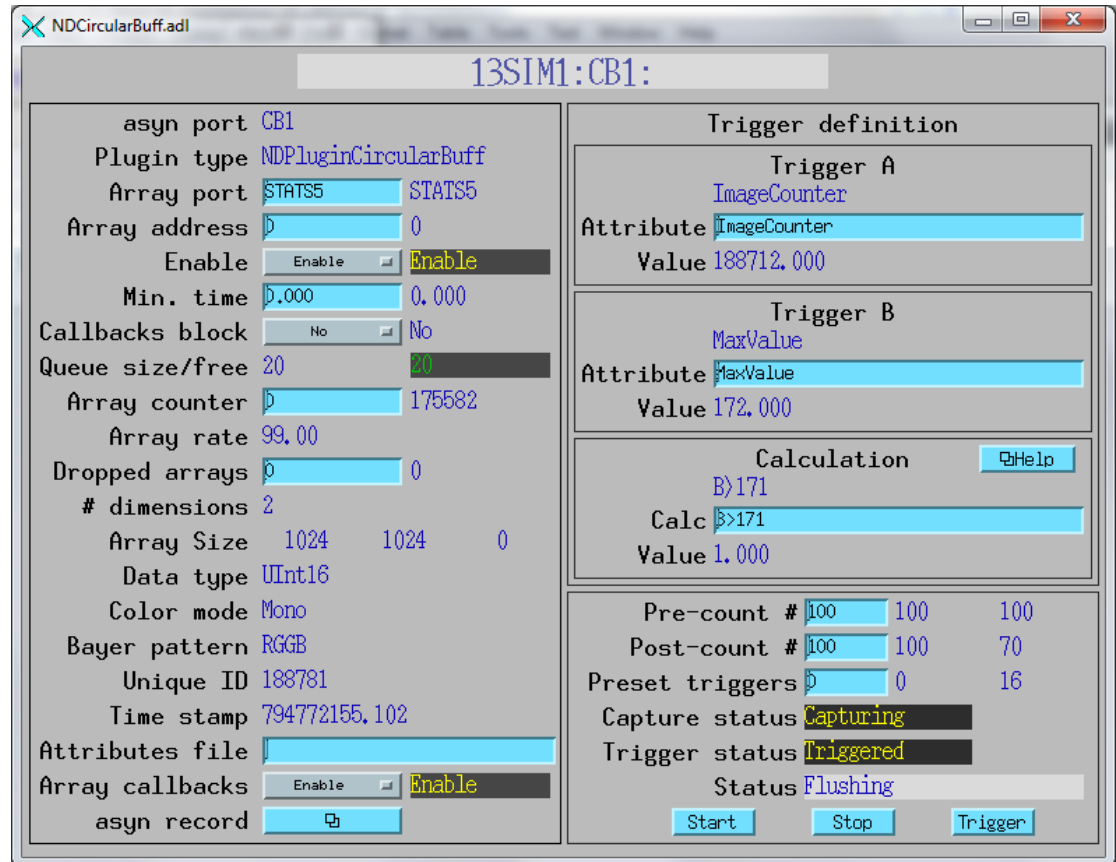
# NDAttributes

- Detector drivers and plugins read files like this to add NDAttributes to the arrays
- Values can come from driver/plugin, EPICS PVs, or user-written functions
- Can be written to files, used to control downstream plugins, etc.

```
<?xml version="1.0" standalone="no" ?>
<!-- Attributes -->
<Attributes>
  <Attribute name="Acquiretime" type="PARAM" source="ACQ_TIME" datatype="DOUBLE" description="Camera acquire time"/>
  <Attribute name="CameraModel" type="PARAM" source="MODEL" datatype="STRING" description="CameraModel"/>
  <Attribute name="Comment1" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMDPG1:TIF1:FileTemplate" dbrtype="DBR_STRING" description="Comment 1"/>
  <Attribute name="Comment2" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMDPG1:TIF1:FilePath" dbrtype="DBR_STRING" description="Comment 2"/>
  <Attribute name="Comment3" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMDPG1:TIF1:FileName" dbrtype="DBR_STRING" description="Comment 3"/>
  <Attribute name="SampleX" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:m85.RBV" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Bottom X stage translation"/>
  <Attribute name="SampleOmega" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:m38.RBV" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Sample rotation"/>
  <Attribute name="RotationSpeed" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:m38.VELO" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Sample rotation speed"/>
  <Attribute name="SampleY" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:m90.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Sample vertical height"/>
  <Attribute name="SampleXCent" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:m91.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Sample X centering"/>
  <Attribute name="SampleYCent" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:m89.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Sample Y centering"/>
  <Attribute name="CameraX" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:m33.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Camera X position"/>
  <Attribute name="CameraY" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:m34.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Camera Y (focus) position"/>
  <Attribute name="CameraZ" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:m35.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Camera Z position"/>
  <Attribute name="CameraDistance" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:m70.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Camera distance"/>
  <Attribute name="CameraRotation" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:m37.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Camera rotation"/>
  <Attribute name="ExposureTime" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:SIS1:LINEOutputWidth" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="SIS output width=exposure time"/>
  <Attribute name="ExposurePeriod" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:SIS1:Dwell" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="SIS Dwell=exposure period"/>
  <Attribute name="LiftHeight" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:m22.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Lift table height"/>
  <Attribute name="LiftX" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:XAS:t1.EX" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Lift table X"/>
  <Attribute name="LiftAX" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:XAS:t1.EAX" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Lift table AX"/>
  <Attribute name="LiftY" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:XAS:t1.EY" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Lift table Y"/>
  <Attribute name="LiftAY" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:XAS:t1.EAY" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Lift table AY"/>
  <Attribute name="LiftZ" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:XAS:t1.EZ" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Lift table Z"/>
  <Attribute name="LiftAZ" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:XAS:t1.EAZ" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Lift table AZ"/>
  <Attribute name="Energy" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMA:E:E_RBV" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Monochromator energy"/>
  <Attribute name="BeamOffset" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMA:E:height" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Monochromator offset"/>
  <Attribute name="MonoFBSetpoint" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMA:mono_pid1.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Mono feedback setpoint"/>
  <Attribute name="MonoFBReadback" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMA:mono_pid1.CVAl" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Mono feedback readback"/>
  <Attribute name="MonoFBOnOff" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMA:mono_pid1.FBON" dbrtype="DBR_STRING" description="Mono feedback on/off"/>
  <Attribute name="BMDslitHSize" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:BMDHsize.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="BMD horizontal slit size"/>
  <Attribute name="BMDslitVSize" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:BMDVsize.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="BMD vertical slit size"/>
  <Attribute name="BMDslitHCenter" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:BMDHcenter.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="BMD horizontal slit center"/>
  <Attribute name="BMDslitVCenter" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:BMDVcenter.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="BMD vertical slit center"/>
  <Attribute name="KeithleyGain" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:A3sens_num.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_STRING" description="Keithley gain"/>
  <Attribute name="KeithleyUnits" type="EPICS_PV" source="13BMD:A3sens_unit.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_STRING" description="Keithley units"/>
  <Attribute name="RingCurrent" type="EPICS_PV" source="S:SRcurrentAI.VAL" dbrtype="DBR_NATIVE" description="Ring current"/>
</Attributes>
```

# NDPluginCircularBuff

- Buffers NDArrays in a circular buffer.
- 2 NDAttributes can be used in trigger equation.
- Outputs the arrays when trigger calculation is true, or when forced.
- Supports pre-trigger and post-trigger samples
- Written by Alan Greer at Observatory Sciences



# NDPluginAttribute

- Extracts NDAttributes from an NDArray and publishes as scalar and time-series arrays
- Written by Matt Pearson at ORNL

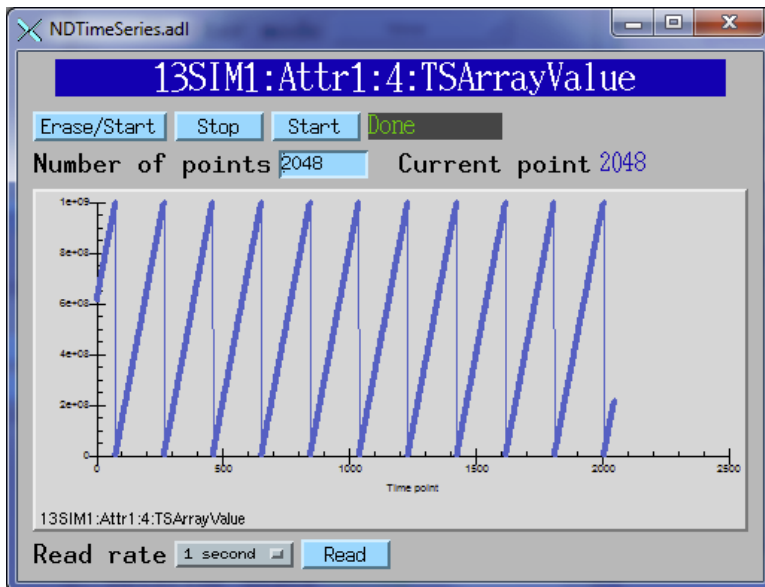
13SIM1:Attr1:

asyn port ATTR1  
Plugin type NDPluginAttribute  
Array port SIM1 SIM1  
Array address 0 0  
Enable Enable  
Min. time 0.000 0.000  
Callbacks block No No  
Queue size/free 20 20  
Array counter 0 21278  
Array rate 99.00  
Dropped arrays 0 0  
# dimensions 2  
Array Size 1024 1024 0  
Data type UInt16  
Color mode Mono  
Bayer pattern RRGB  
Unique ID 22187  
Time stamp 794693669, 745  
Attributes file  
Array callbacks Disable Disable  
asyn record

Reset Reset

Time Series  
Erase/Start Stop Start Done  
Number of points 1000  
Current point 1000  
Read rate 1 second Read

Attributes Combined attributes



13SIM1:Attr1:

Attribute	Value	Value sum	Plot
1 \$DArrayUniqueId NDArrayUniqueId	21103, 0000	1595656483523, 000	
2 \$DArrayTimeStamp NDArrayTimeStamp	794693658, 799	12804202991983, 842	
3 \$DArrayEpicsTSSec NDArrayEpicsTSSec	794693658, 000	11821946448876, 000	
4 \$DArrayEpicsTSnSec NDArrayEpicsTSnSec	803800535, 000	6914445440038, 000	
5 ImageCounter ImageCounter	21103, 0000	191029395, 000	
6 ID_Energy ID_Energy	7, 9233	80064, 7131	
7 RingCurrent RingCurrent	101, 9130	875840, 5048	
8 AcquireTime AcquireTime	0, 0010	6, 9830	

Time Series  
Erase/Start Stop Start Acquiring

Number of points 1000  
Current point 328  
Read rate 1 second Read

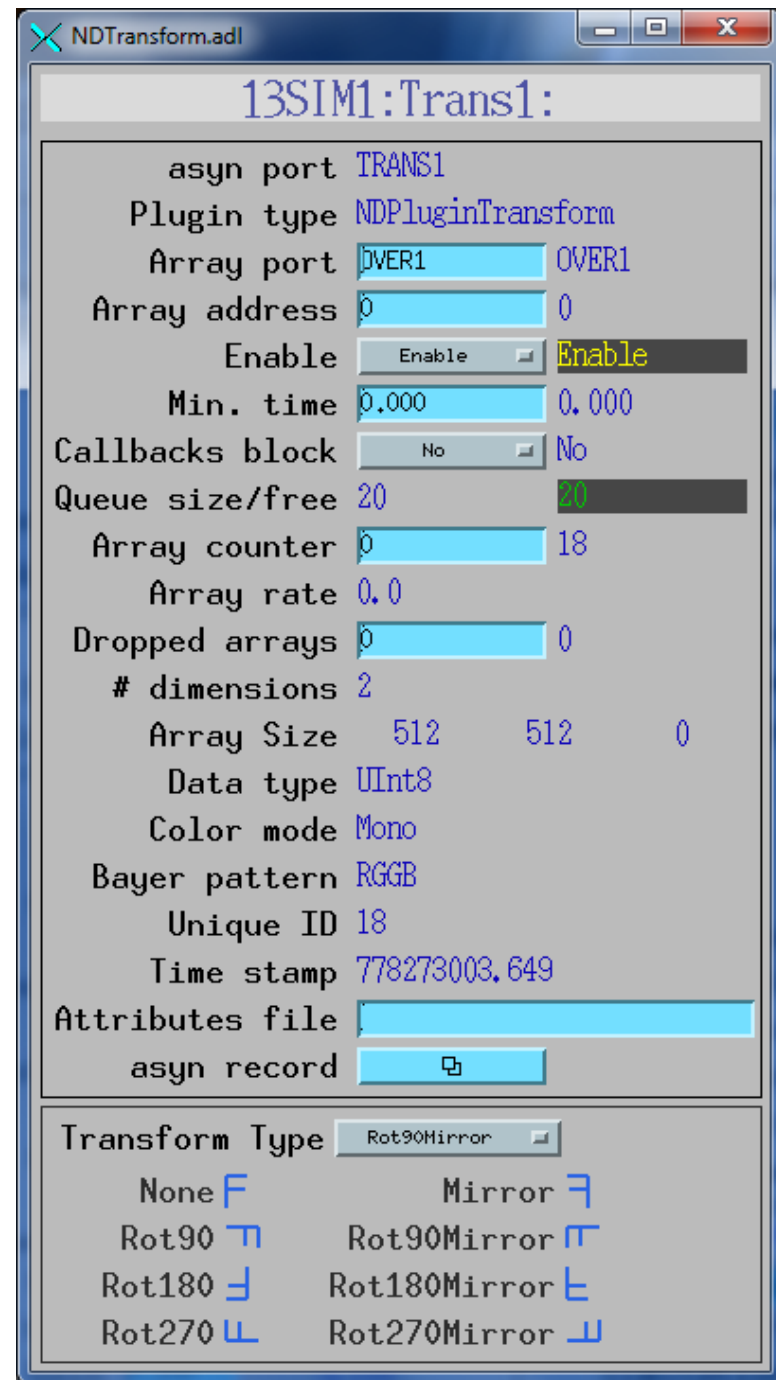
Reset Reset





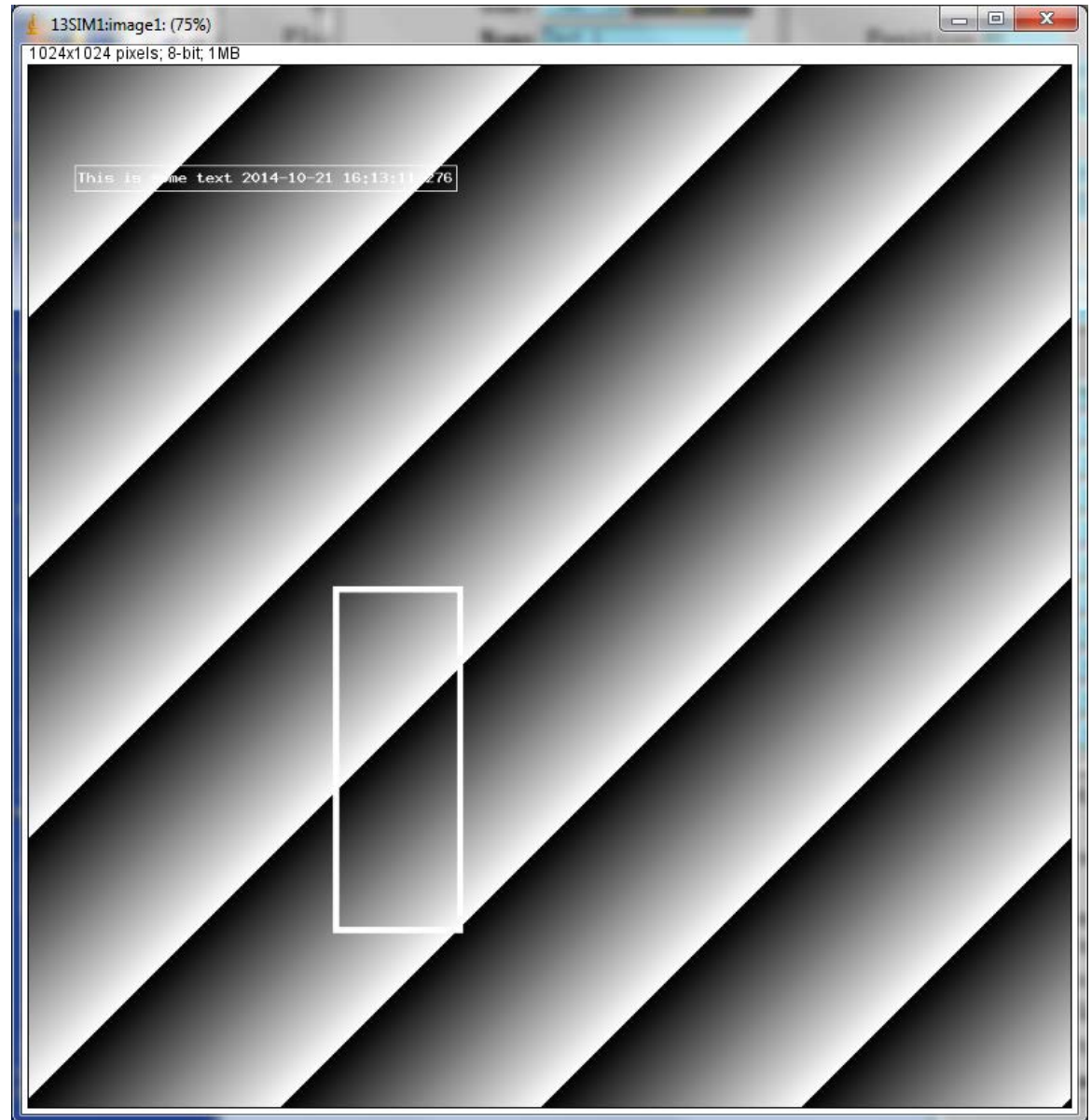
# NDPluginTransform improvements

- Greatly simplified: just 8 operations including null operation
- 13-85 times faster than previous releases depending on data type, color mode



# NDPluginOverlay

- Added support for text overlays (Keith Brister, LS-CAT)
- Added support for line widths in cross and rectangle overlays (Matt Pearson, ORNL)



# Other Recent Plugins

- **ffmpegServer**
  - MJPEG server that allows viewing images in a Web browser. From DLS.
  - Puts compressed images on the network, greatly reducing bandwidth compared to uncompressed channel access arrays.
  - Written by Tom Cobb from Diamond
- **ADPvAccess**
  - Plugin that sends NDArrays over EPICS V4
  - Allows plugins to run in an EPICS IOC on a different machine than the detector
  - Written by David Hickin from Diamond.
- **ADPluginEdge**
  - Does edge detection using the OpenCV Canny function
  - Written by Keith Brister at LS-CAT

# NDPluginFile

NDFileHDF5.adl

13SIM1:HDF1:

asyn port	FileHDF1
Plugin type	NDFileHDF5 ver1.8.7
Array port	ROI1 ROI1
Array address	0 0
Enable	Enable Enable
Min. time	0.000 0.000
Callbacks block	No No
Queue size/free	20 20
Array counter	0 0
Array rate	0.00
Dropped arrays	0 0
# dimensions	2
Array Size	100 100 0
Data type	Int16
Color mode	Mono
Bayer pattern	RGGB
Unique ID	256
Time stamp	793664041.080
Attributes file	
asyn record	

File path	/home/epics/scratch/	Exists: Yes
File name	test_C	Create dir. depth 0 0 Help
File name	test_C	Temp. suffix
Next file #	5 5	Lazy open No No
Auto increment	Yes Yes	
Filename format	%s%s_%3.3d.h5	Example: %s%s_%3.3d.h5
Last filename	/home/epics/scratch/test_C_004.h5	
Save file	Save Done	Read file Read Done
Write mode	Single Single	# Capture 10 10 1
Capture	Start Stop	Delete driver file No No
Write status	Write OK	
Write message		

Compression	None None	Extra dimensions
# data bits	8 8	# (0-2) 0 0
Data bits offset	0 0	Size N 1 1
SZip # pixels	16 16	Name N frame number n
Zlib level	6 6	Size X 1 1
Store performance	Yes Yes	Name X scan dimension X
Store attributes	Yes Yes	Size Y 1 1
Run time	0.003	Name Y scan dimension Y
I/O speed	50.4	

Default layout selected

Exists: Yes

XML File name

New

# NDPluginFile Recent Features

- File plugins can now create directories
  - CreateDirectory record controls whether directories are created if they don't exist.
    - Zero (default), no directories are created.
    - Negative, then absolute value is the maximum of directories that will be created (i.e. -1 will create a maximum of one directory to complete the path, -2 will create a maximum of 2 directories).
    - Positive, then at least that many directories in the path must exist (i.e. a value of 1 will create all directories below the root directory and 2 will not create a directory in the root directory).

# NDPluginFile Recent Features

- “Lazy-open”
  - Normally files in stream mode are opened when Capture PV is set to 1
  - This requires that there have already been an NDArray received by that plugin with the correct dimensions and attributes
  - “Lazy-open” is selected the file is not opened until the first NDArray callback happens after Capture is set to 1.
  - Simpler for users, but poorer performance, can lead to dropped arrays
- File plugins can write files with a temporary suffix and then rename the file after writing is complete.
  - Allows rsync, etc. to be used to copy files, with guarantee that they are complete

# File Plugin Enhancements

- **NDFileTIFF**
  - Supports any NDArray data type
  - Stores NDAttributes as ASCII user tags, up to 490.
- **NDFileHDF5**
  - Now supports using an XML file to define the layout and placement of NDArrays and NDAttributes in the HDF5 file.
  - Can be used to create NeXus-compliant files without using NDFileNeXus plugin
  - NDFileNeXus will probably be deprecated in a future release.
  - Major project, collaboration of APS and Diamond (Arthur Glowacki, Ulrik Pedersen, Alan Greer).

# NDFileHDF5

## XML file to define file layout

```
<xml>
  <group name="entry">
    <attribute name="NX_class" source="constant" value="NXentry" type="string"></attribute>
    <group name="instrument">
      <attribute name="NX_class" source="constant" value="NXinstrument" type="string"></attribute>
      <group name="detector">
        <attribute name="NX_class" source="constant" value="NXdetector" type="string"></attribute>
        <dataset name="data" source="detector" det_default="true">
          <attribute name="NX_class" source="constant" value="SDS" type="string"></attribute>
          <attribute name="signal" source="constant" value="1" type="int"></attribute>
          <attribute name="target" source="constant" value="/entry/instrument/detector/data"
            type="string"></attribute>
        </dataset>
        <group name="NDAttributes">
          <attribute name="NX_class" source="constant" value="NXcollection" type="string"></attribute>
          <dataset name="ColorMode" source="ndattribute" ndattribute="ColorMode">
            </dataset>
          </group>
          <!-- end group NDAttribute -->
        </group>
        <!-- end group detector -->
      <group name="NDAttributes" ndattr_default="true">
        <attribute name="NX_class" source="constant" value="NXcollection" type="string"></attribute>
      </group>
      <!-- end group NDAttribute (default) -->
      <group name="performance">
        <dataset name="timestamp" source="ndattribute"></dataset>
      </group>
      <!-- end group performance -->
    </group>
    <!-- end group instrument -->
    <group name="data">
      <attribute name="NX_class" source="constant" value="NXdata" type="string"></attribute>
      <hardlink name="data" target="/entry/instrument/detector/data"></hardlink>
      <!-- The "target" attribute in /entry/instrument/detector/data is used to
        tell Nexus utilities that this is a hardlink -->
    </group>
    <!-- end group data -->
  </group>
  <!-- end group entry -->
</xml>
```



# Other Recent Enhancements

- Added new attribute type, `NDAAttrSourceFunct`. This type of attribute gets its value from a user-defined C++ function. It can thus be use to get any type of metadata. Previously only EPICS PVs and driver/plugin parameters were available as metadata.
- `$(P)$(R)ADCVersion_RBv` provides version of `ADCore`. This allows CA clients to alter their behavior depending on version of `ADCore` used to build the plugin or driver.
- `simDetectorNoIOC`
  - Example standalone C++ application that instantiates a `simDetector` without running an EPICS IOC
  - Shows that `areaDetector` drivers and plugins only depend on `libCom` and `asyn` libraries. Can be used from other control systems.

# Future Ideas (R3-0?)

- Simplify NDPluginFile base class and way file saving works
  - Remove the Single/Stream/Capture mode.
- Two parameters
  - # NDArrays to save (already present)
  - # NDArrays per file (new)
  - This allows saving only 1 array per HDF5 file, which is not possible now in Stream mode.
- Capture mode can be replaced:
  - Make input queue large enough OR
  - Use new NDPluginCircularBuffer

# Future Ideas

- Put more functionality into ADDriver base class
  - Currently it does not do much, all code is in each driver for:
    - Doing callbacks to plugins
    - Processing new exposure time with writeFloat64 function
  - writeFloat64 in ADDriver base class would call setExposure() in derived class
  - Derived class would call ADDriver::doPluginCallbacks(), which would handle setting attributes, getting timestamp, calling plugins, etc.
- This is the way the Model 3 motor driver, which also uses asynPortDriver, is written
- Demultiplexor/multiplexor plugin
  - Allow multiple plugins to work on the same data stream when it saturates a single core

# Future Ideas

- Extend areaDetector concepts to other types of detectors:
  - ADCs
  - Electrometers
  - Waveform digitizers
  - Oscilloscopes?
- They all produce 1-D (or 2-D for multi-channel inputs) arrays that could benefit from plugins for file saving, FFTs, ROI extraction, digital filtering, etc.
- We can't currently use the areaDetector file plugins to save MCA data, for example.

# Future Ideas

- Export NDArrays via EPICS V4
- David Hickin (DLS) has demonstrated:
  - A plugin that exports NDArrays as V4 objects over Channel Access
  - An ADDriver that receives the V4 objects on another machine and has its own set of plugins
- Allows using multiple machines, and multiple processes, not just multiple cores in a single IOC for plugin processing

# areaDetector Collaboration

- The move to GitHub has really helped areaDetector become a collaborative effort
- Many more people are contributing via additions and bug fixes.
- Make changes in their fork on github and then issue a “pull request”.
- Collaboration meeting ~monthly on Google Hangout (U. Pedersen, M. Rivers, A. Glowacki, M. Pearson, M. Kraimer, N. Rees, D. Hickin, T. Cobb)
- In-person meetings ~2 times/year.
- Developed a road-map, following it pretty well.