MXCuBE web meeting 16 Dec. 2020

Participants:

- Marcus Oscarsson, Antonia Beteva, J Florial (ESRF, EMBL-Grenoble)
- Rasmus Fogh (GPhL)
- Martin Savko, (SOLEIL)
- Roberto Borghese (Elettra)
- Michael Hellmig (HZB)
- Ivars Karpics (EMBL Hamburg)
- Jordi Andreu (ALBA).
- Bo-Yi Liao (NSRRC)

Repository changes for packaging

The proposal (previously discussed) is to make a Python package of the hardware repository, with setup script (etc.) that could be put on PyPi. This could be installed with the -e option, which would put in a symbolic link so you could update the code via git or editing without having to reinstall.

The proposal is accepted, none dissenting. MO volunteers to be in charge of the change.

IK proposes to change the HardwareReopsitory name while we are at it, to fit with the PEP8 guidelines. After some discussion this is accepted. It is pointed out that there is a difference between the package name and the module name – the latter must be directory on the python path and so should be intelligible and unlikely to conflict with what other groups might come up with. It is agreed to

- Put up an issue to agree on a name for the HardwareRepository module.

- RF (first draft) and MO to make a PR

- If we decide to rename HardwareObjects, it should be to hardware_objects (i.e. change only casing).

- This should be made ready for merging by mid-January.

Further refactoring

The need for better Continuous Integration and more tests was agreed, but no actions were proposed.

The next thing to do is introducing AbstractProcedures. This will be for version 3.2.

Release planning and roll-out

The first stable (stabilised?) version after the big refactoring will be called 3.1. Many beamlines plan to put 3.1 onto their beamlines, at least for testing, during the first half of 2021:

- IK (EMBL-Hamburg) wants to put 3.1 on beamlines (at least for testing) over the winter shutdown, i.e.Jan/Feb 2021, COVID lockdowns permitting.

- MS (SOLEIL) also wants to install the new version o PX2.

- JA (ALBA) will announcing a freeze on new scientific features and start moving on to the new version in the first half of 20201

- RB (Elettra) has tried (unsuccessfully) to set up a version for trying out, and will continue these efforts.

- MH (HZB) is planning to clean up local hardware objects over the upcoming lockdown, and then start moving on to version 3.1.

- EMBL-Grenoble made no specific pronouncements but are known to be tracking the refactored version fairly closely already.

Given this situation, it was agreed that we should aim to have version 3.1 ready with refactoring completed by the end of Jan 2021.

Next Meetings

Agreed for 6 January 2021.

Rasmus Fogh, Global Phasing   Dec 17, 2020