

# Icsim Conditions System

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# Design

- Separate user interface from implementation
- Separate user interface and implementation from conditions store
  - Conditions objects presented to user are independent of conditions store
- Allow arbitrary, extensible set of conditions
- Thread safe for multi-core implementation
- Conditions dependent on detector/geometry/time (run)
  - Ready for ILC running in 2005!

# Current Implementation

- Current *implementation* is biased towards lcsim's earlier use for detector simulation
  - Run/time dependence mostly ignored
  - Deliberate bias against using databases
    - Support for running with no internet, local databases
  - All conditions packaged in detector/geometry dependent zip files
    - Downloaded on-demand and cached locally
    - Zip files typically contain
      - Property files – simple key value pairs with native Java support
      - XML files – simple to parse using Java's built-in XML support
      - Other format files – require user-written access classes

# User Interface

- Simple Use:
  - `ConditionsManager manager = ConditionsManager.defaultInstance();`
  - `manager.setRun(run); // called by framework`
  - `ConditionsSet conditions = manager.getConditions("DriftConstants");`
  - `Distance d = conditions.getDouble("drift velocity")*driftTime;`
- ConditionsSet will be updated automatically as run number changes
  - If you want to be notified of changes
    - `Conditions.addConditionsListener(myListener);`
- ConditionsSet represents set of key/value pairs
  - Suitable for reading from properties file or SQL table
  - Most common type of conditions object
- Also support:
  - `CachedConditions<T>` – wrapper around arbitrary object
    - Requires a converter to be registered with conditions manager
    - `manager.registerConditionsConverter(myConditionsConverter)`
  - `SubConditions` – allows conditions to contain nested sub-conditions

# Detour – EXO conditions database

- Based on Fermi calibration database
  - Minimalized for use by small, manpower limited experiment
  - Implemented by Joanne Bogart
    - Who also implemented Fermi Conditions System
    - C++ implementation took Joanne a few weeks
      - Significant fraction of this was learning EXO framework, implementing low level database functionality which comes for free with Java
    - Implemented as mysql database hosted by SLAC computing division
      - (read-only) access from anywhere
  - Flexible design, allows conditions data itself to be stored in database itself, or in external files in any format
    - So far all EXO conditions live in database
  - Simple web interface



# Possible way forward

- Get started using existing implementation
  - Conditions stored in properties, xml, etc files in .zip file
- Set up conditions database modeled on Fermi/EXO system
  - Can be hosted at SLAC computer center (mysql)
  - And/or Jlab perhaps using mysql mirroring
- Create new conditions implementation
  - Use Java JDBC to interface to database
  - Possible small tweaks to user interface
  - A few weeks work (for someone)
    - Icsim Conditions/EXO database look to be very compatible
    - Run vs Time issue

# Another Detour – Thread Safety

- Java has build in support for thread safety
  - Especially in multi-core/online environment one may want to be able to process several events in parallel
- Icsim was originally designed to be compatible with multi thread operation but
  - Time/Manpower pressure
  - Inexperience developers
  - Desire to simplify things for users/developers
- Resulted in many “singletons” which make thread safety more difficult (although not impossible)
  - `ConditionsManager.defaultInstance()` // Dangerous!
  - `event.getConditionsManager()` // Good, but not currently available
  - This may need some review/refactoring for online use

# Links

- <https://confluence.slac.stanford.edu/display/ilc/Conditions+Database+Overview>
  - Heavily biased to current implementation
- <http://www.lcsim.org/software/lcsim/1.13/apidocs/org/lcsim/conditions/package-summary.html>
  - Not most recent version?
- <https://confluence.slac.stanford.edu/display/exo/Calibration+Software>
  - Restricted to EXO members – perhaps we can make a copy