



ALS Facility Updates

Dylan McReynolds

ALS Computing Group

ScicatCon June, 2025



ALS

- 40 beamlines
- 2000 users per year
- 3rd generation
- 1 SciCat beamline
- Photon Sciences Computing Group
 - AI/ML
 - Workflows and Visualization
 - Data Infrastructure



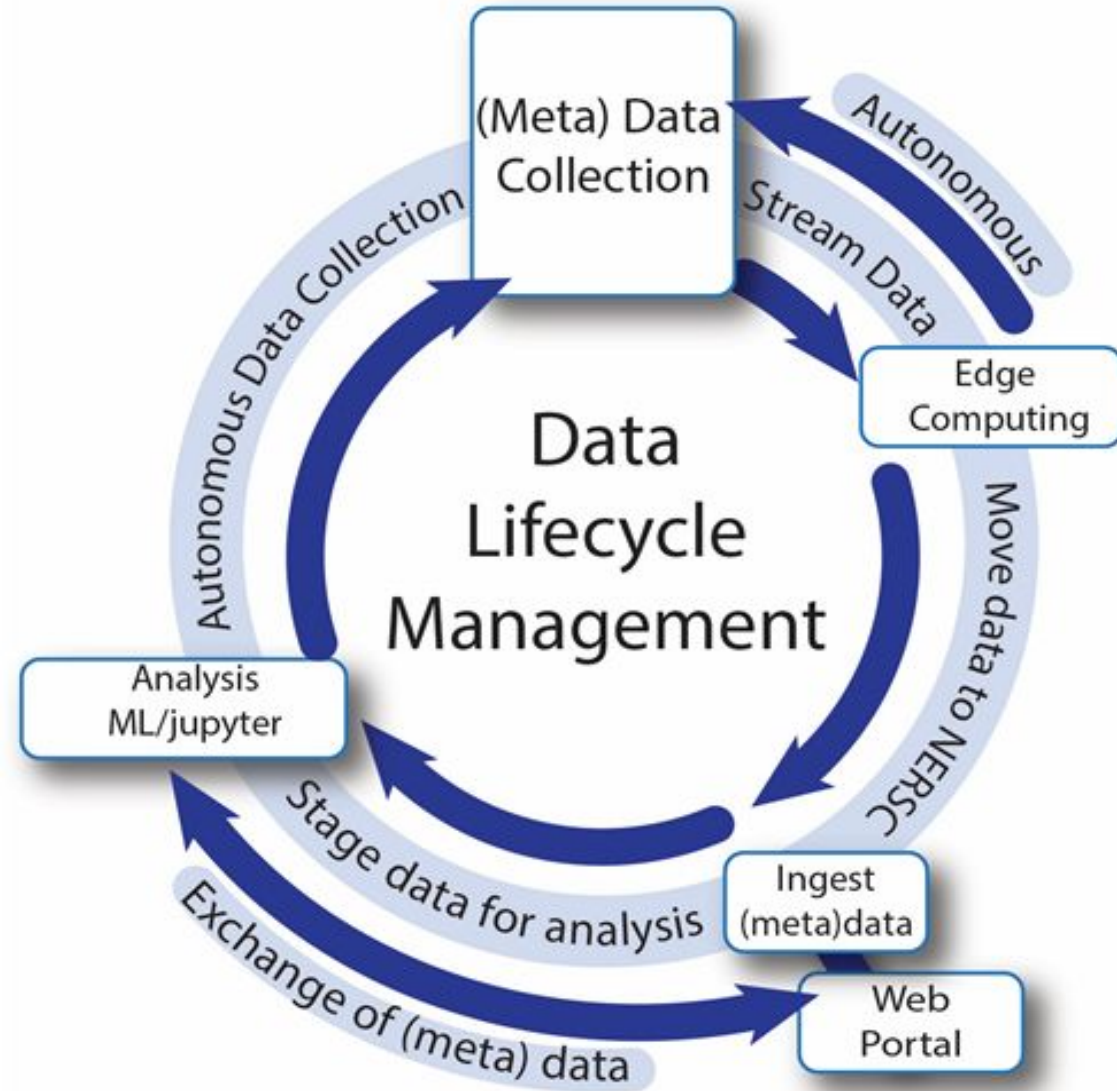
ALS-U

- Dark in 2028
- ~ 2yr Darktime
- 1PB a day?



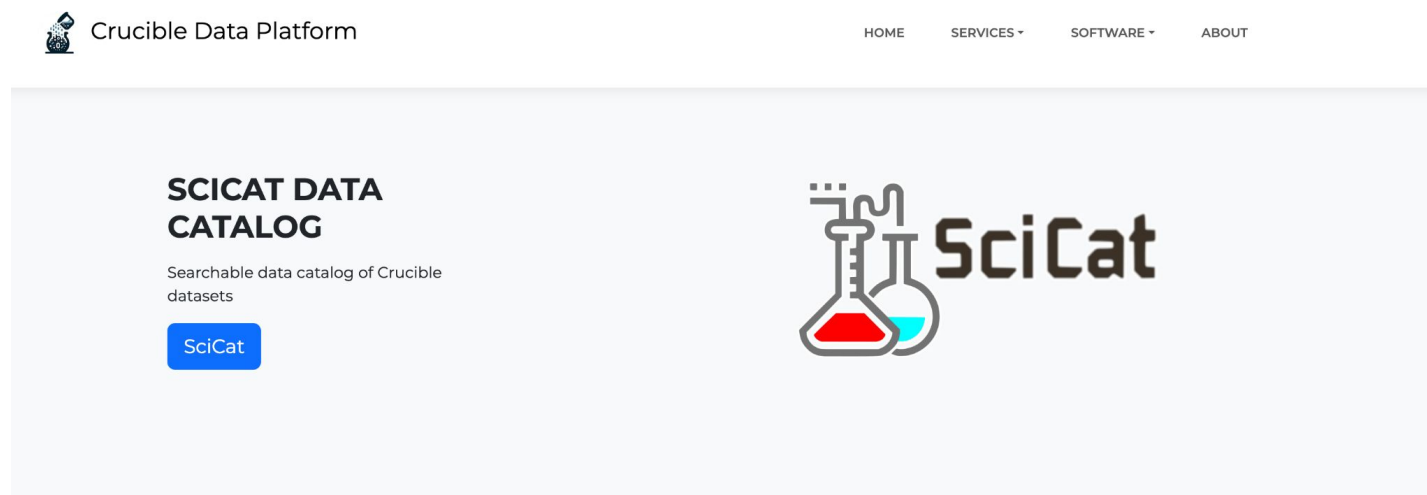
ALS Computing Program

The ALS computing program's mission is to **develop solutions for the mounting data challenge** and **help facilitate compute solutions for the Advanced Light Source**. The computing program addresses the **main challenges of the data lifecycle** in close collaboration with the other four DOE light source facilities.

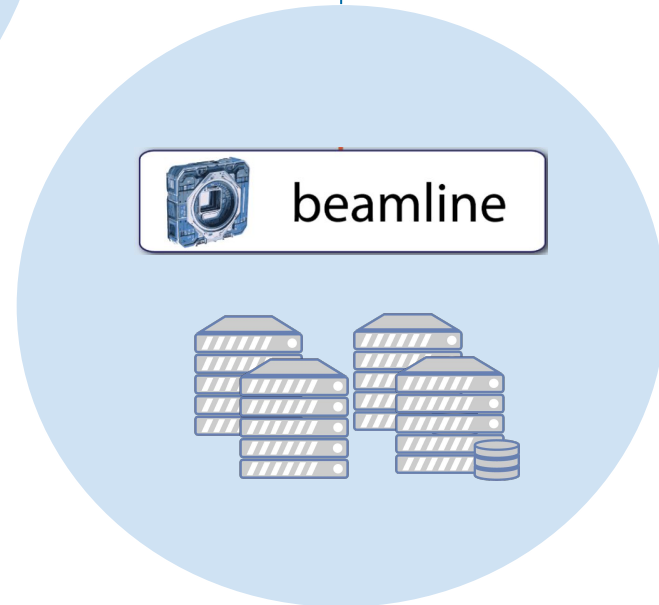
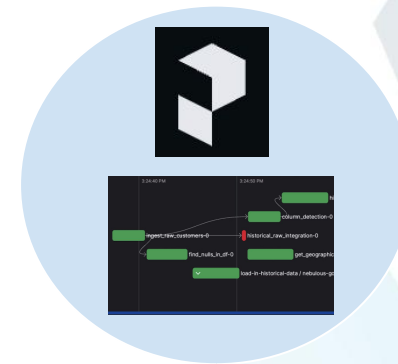
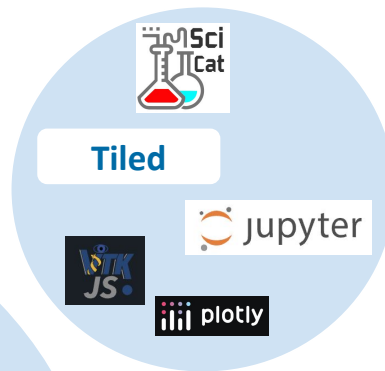
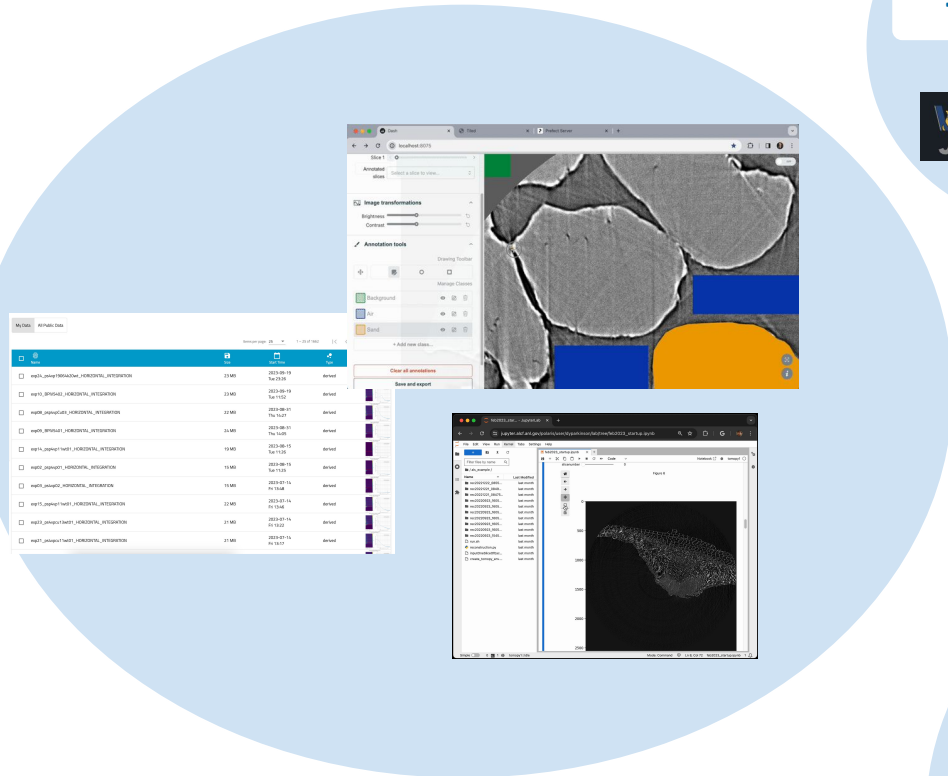


The Molecular Foundry

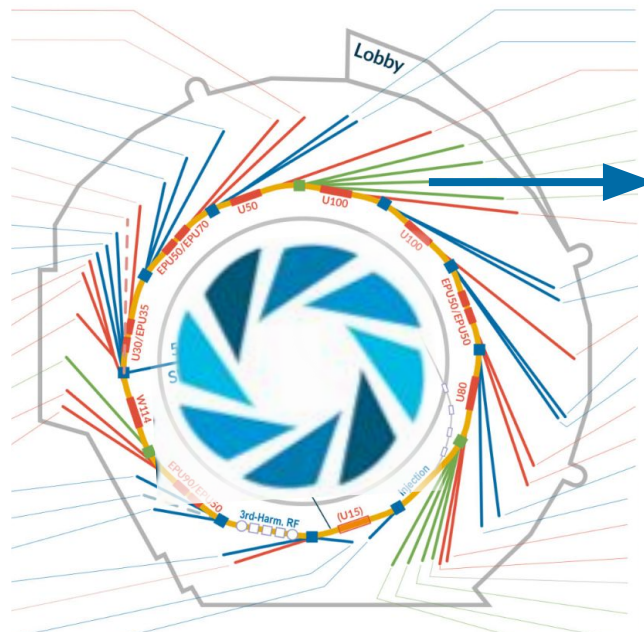
- Sibling facility
- Synthesis / NCEM
- 25% of ALS users are also TMF users
- Crucible Data Platform




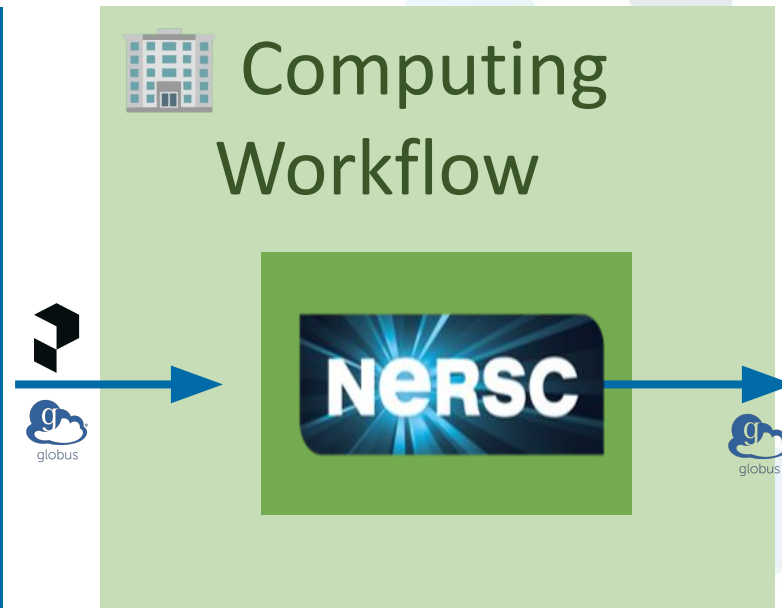
Data Orchestration



ASCR IRI



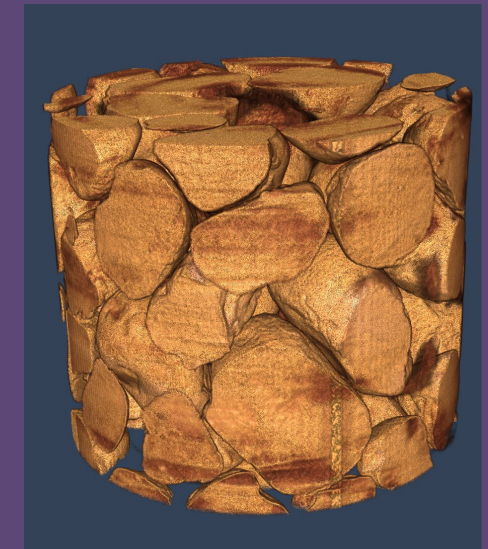
Raja S. and Wiebke K. prepare a sand sample and take a measurement. 



Run full-scale reconstruction at NERSC on-demand, in near real-time.

- File-based
- Streaming

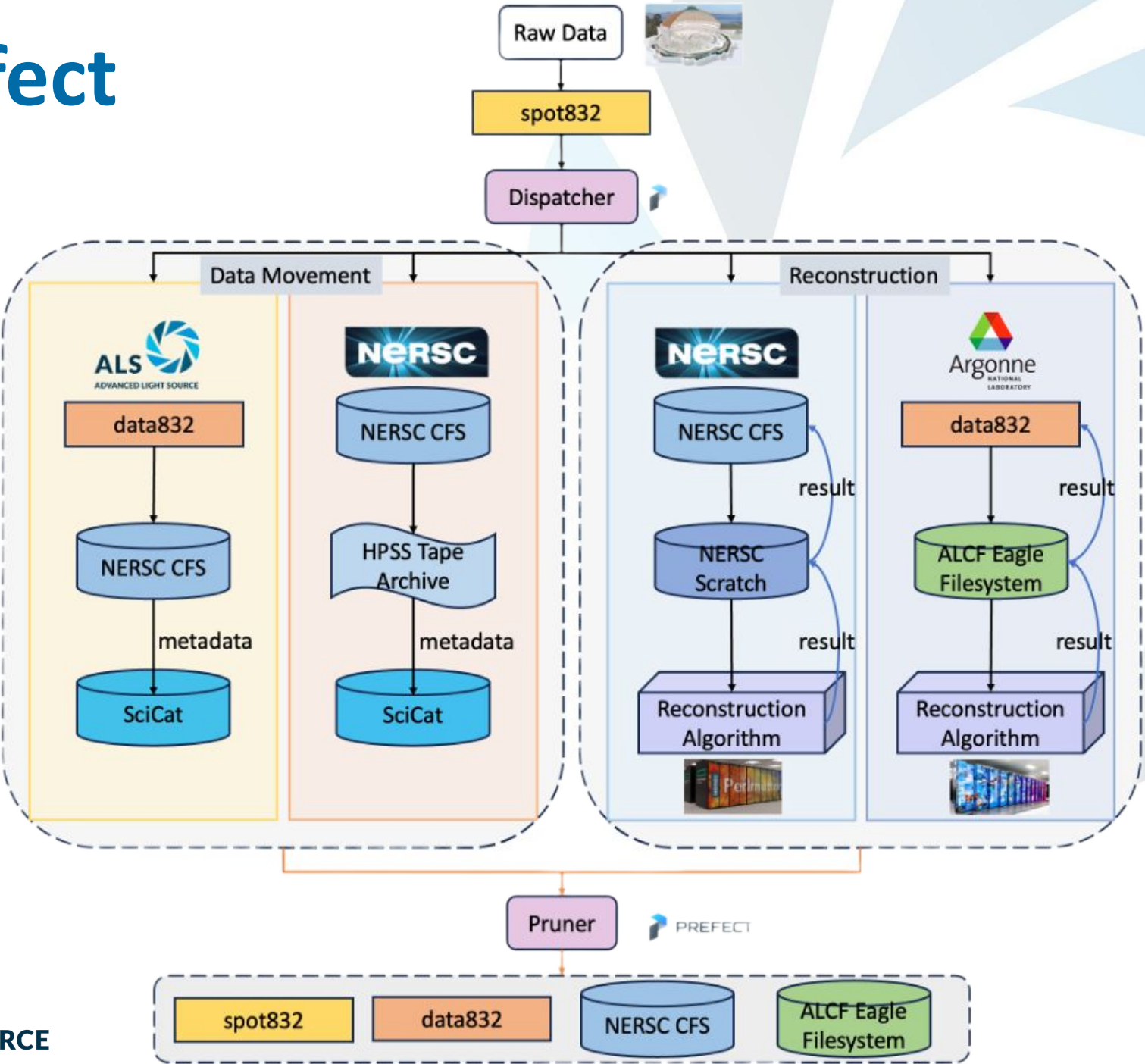
 Visualize Results



View processed scans with intuitive data-driven interactive web applications.

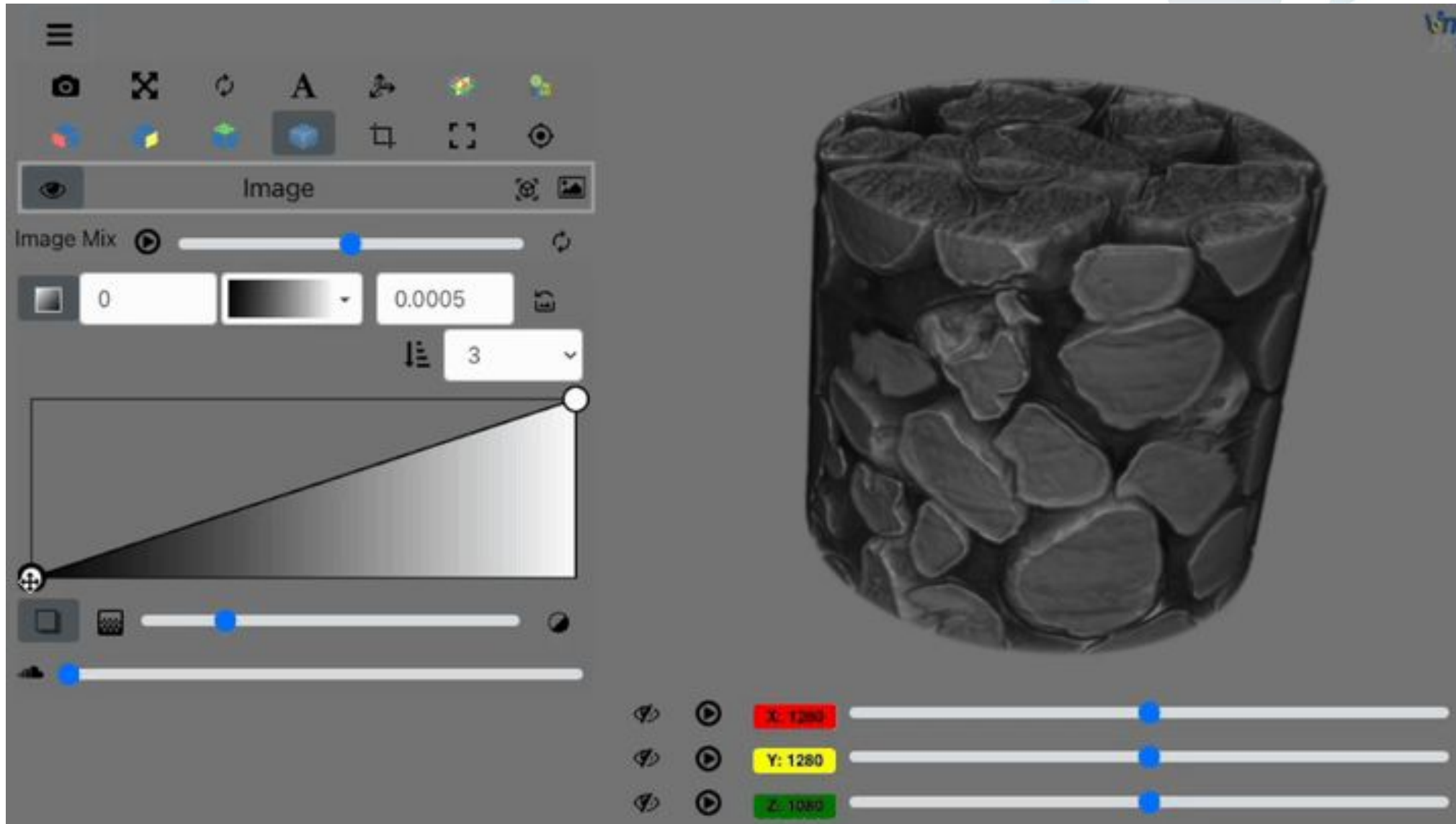
Tomography Prefect Workflow



Workflow Example

- Copy data to HPC
- Ingest metadata into **SciCat**
- Index data in and metadata into **Tiled**
- Run an automated reconstruction
- Create **multi-scale volume pyramid** for visualization
- AI enhanced segmentation
- Copy reconstruction to mid- and long-term storage
- Schedule pruning from intermediary file systems

Visualizations



DOE Data Mandate

- All Data taken at facilities must be open by the end of the 2025
- Will need some catalogs
- A lot of focus on AI



SciCat at ALS by the end of 2025

- 8.3.2 Tomography
- 7.0.1.2 Ptychography
- 7.3.3 Scattering
- 9.3.1 AP-XPS
- 11.0.1.2 AP-XPS/Scattering



Sample Metadata Tracker



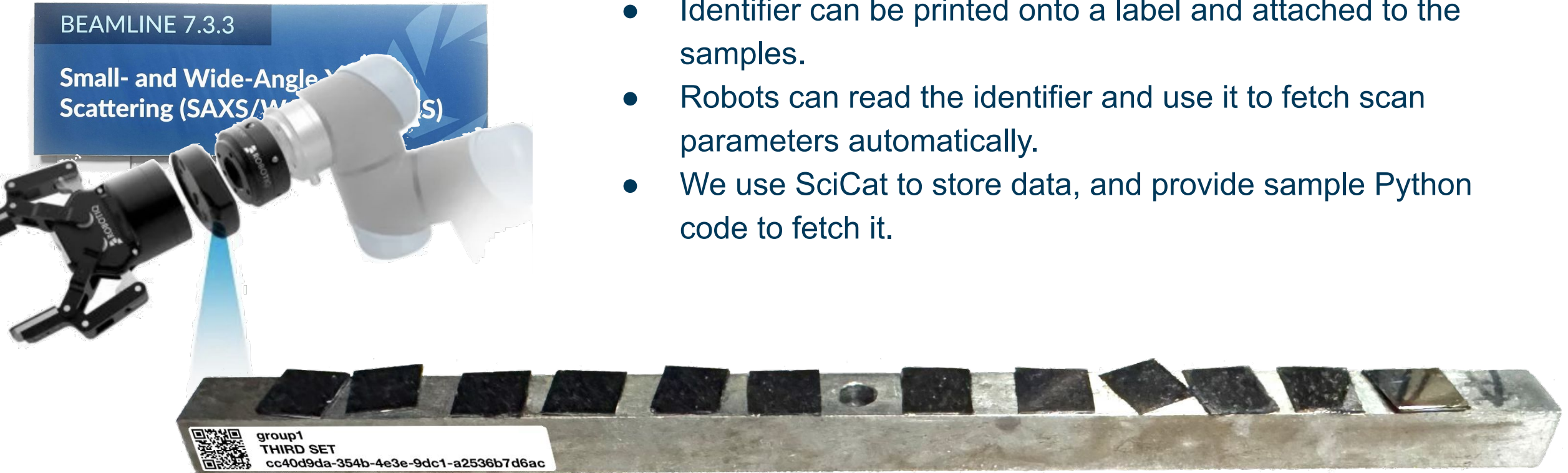
radius

Rapid Deployment of
Instrumentation for
User Science

Photon Science small projects
Spring 2024

BEAMLINE 7.3.3

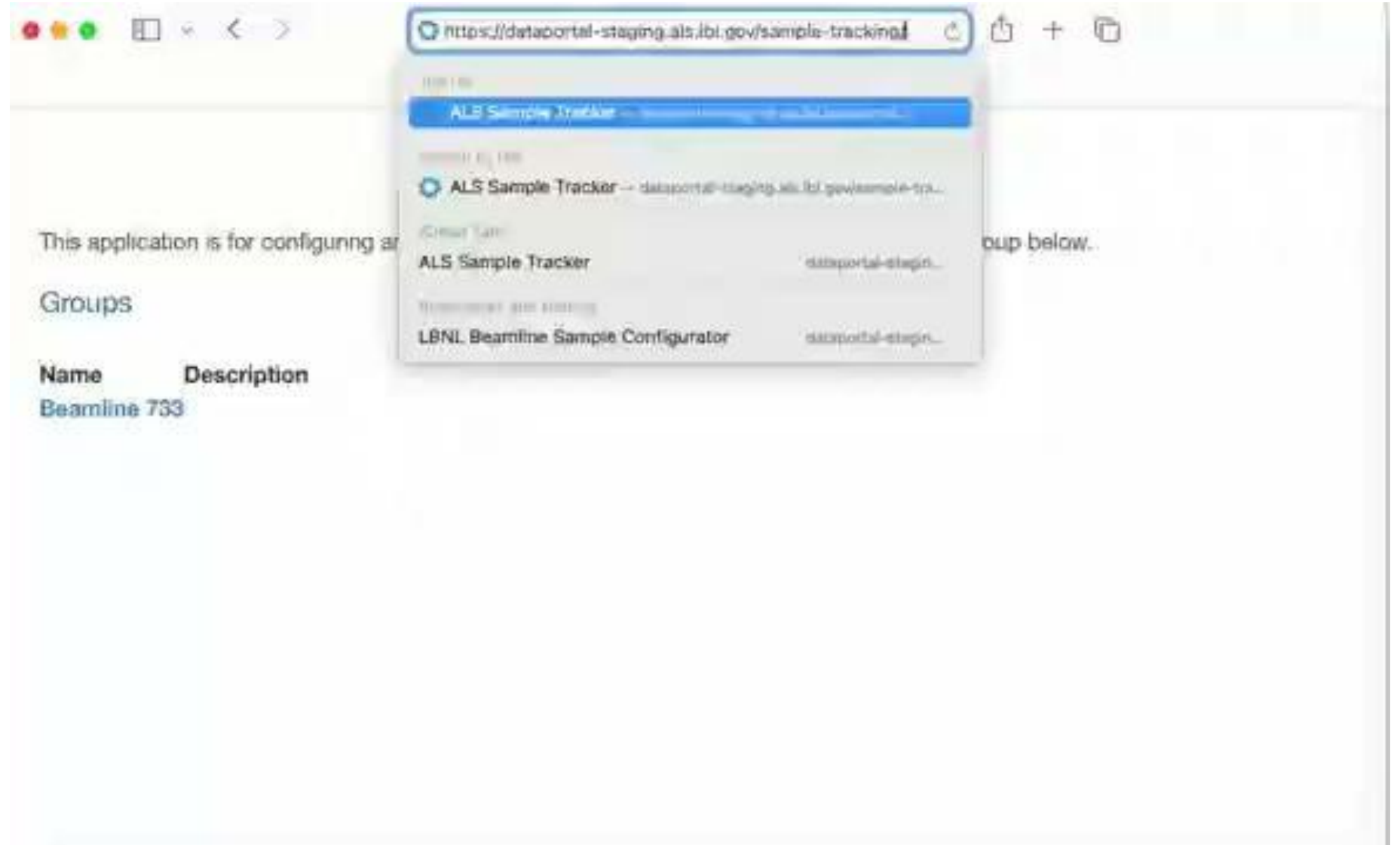
Small- and Wide-Angle X-ray
Scattering (SAXS/WAXS)



- Website where scientists can enter sample parameters in advance, before arriving at ALS.
- Each sample (and sample group) gets a unique identifier than can be used for all downstream operations.
- Identifier can be printed onto a label and attached to the samples.
- Robots can read the identifier and use it to fetch scan parameters automatically.
- We use SciCat to store data, and provide sample Python code to fetch it.

Sample Metadata Tracker

- Users log in with ORCID
- They choose a proposal they have access to.
- Each beamline defines its own parameters.
- Interface validates data, and supports cut/paste and undo/redo.
- Labels print to a standard sheet.
- Persisted into SciCat Samples



Links Enhancement

- Backend Issue #689
- Link templates
- Metadata matching
- Add full links to the detail view
- Currently configuration file
 - selector-like matching based on dataset metadata
- Coordinate with Actions (selection, handlebars)
- Configuration management?

pyscicat

- Fixes for new backend login
- Still thinking about using python SDK



Short Term

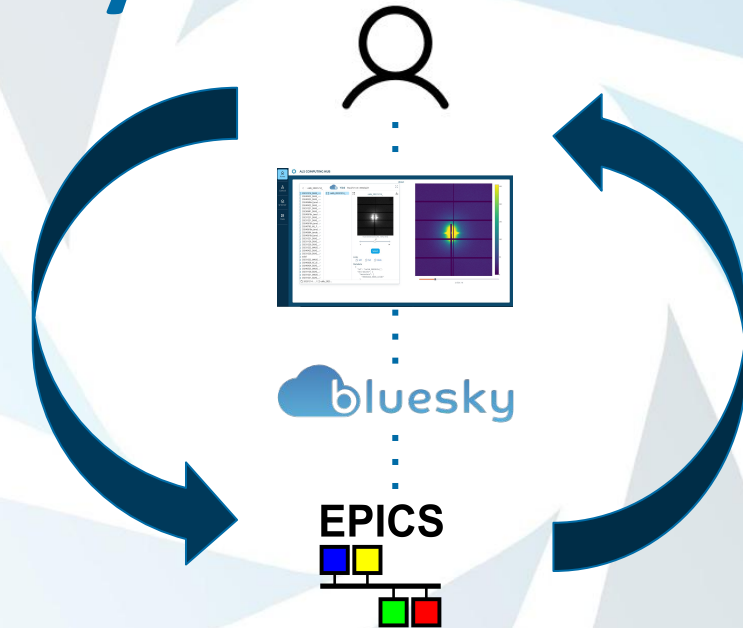
- More beamlines!
- Ingest Derived Data into SciCat
- Ontology / Schema definition and validation
- Integration with more data services
 - Tiled
 - Globus
 - GDrive (TMF Crucible)
- Visualizations
- Migrate deployment to cloud k8s (GKE)
- Implement Elastic

Further Out

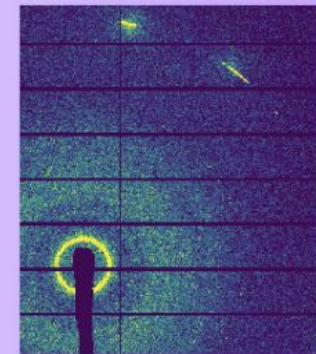
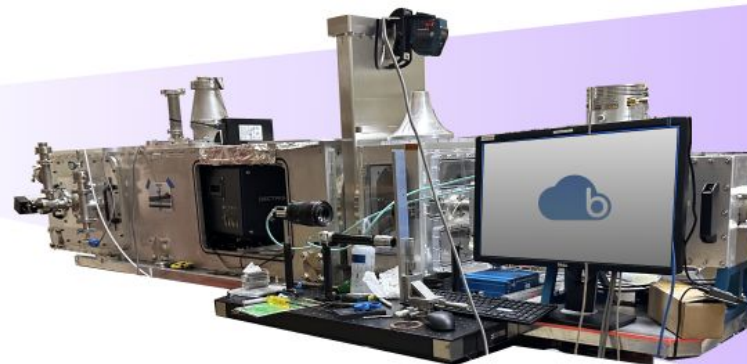
- Data Access (globus, better application, tiled)
- Schemas
- Tagging/Labeling
- Multiple Search Engines
 - Elastic
 - LLMs
 - SciCat Agent
 - Federated Search

Web Based Beamline Controls/Analysis

Modularized React components from Finch UI library

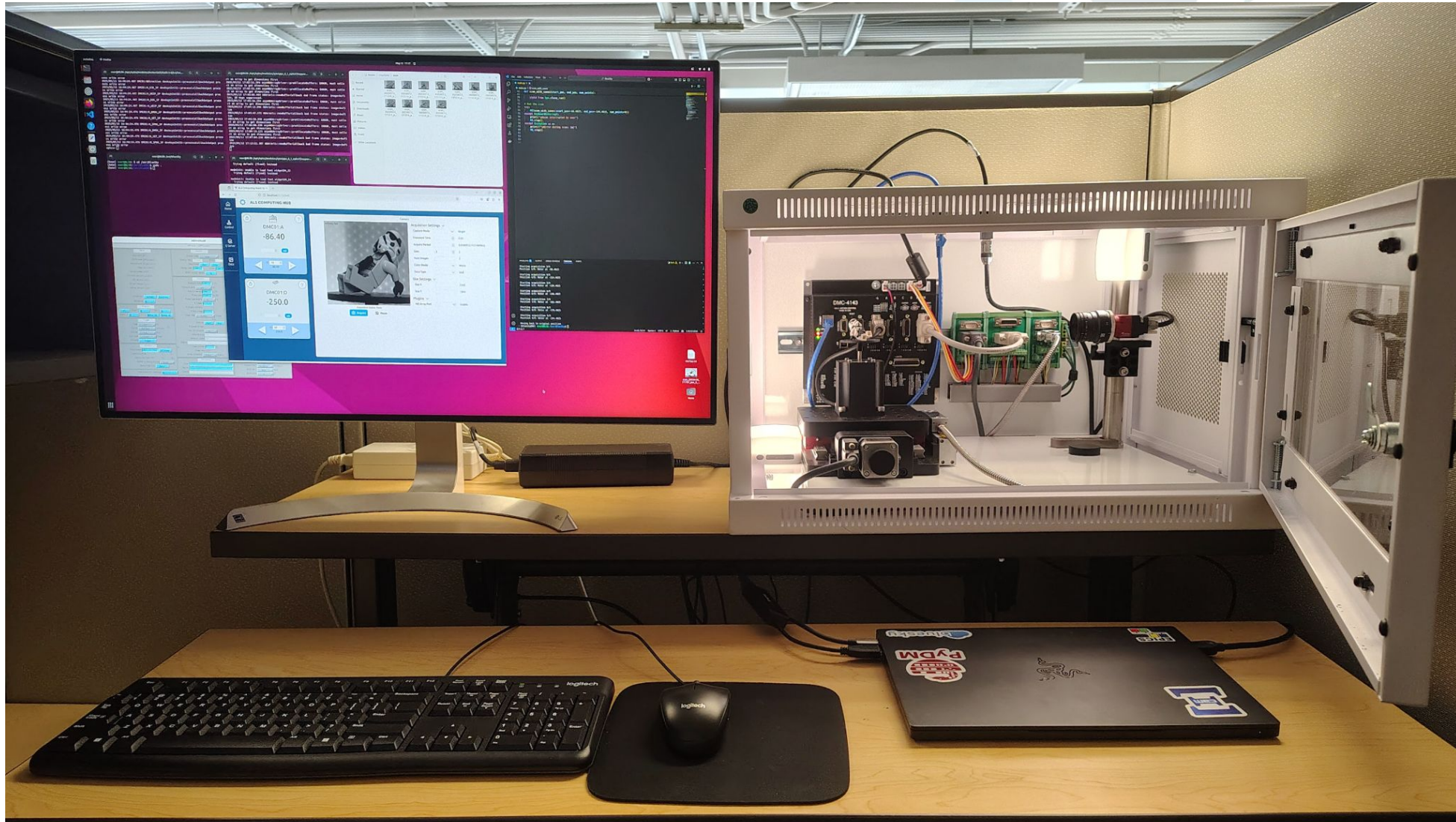


Experimental Orchestration and control with Bluesky





BOLT - Beamline Optics Learning Testbed



BERKELEY LAB



ADVANCED LIGHT SOURCE

Thank You!

ALS

Alex Hexemer
Dula Parkinson
Garrett Birkel
David Abramov
Seij De Leon
Tanny Chavez
Wiebke Köpp
Juliane Reinhardt
Jason Jedd
Tracy Mattox
Mel Sibony
Andrea Jones
Lee Yang
Damon English
Kuldeep Chawla
Karen Fernsler

Scicat Team

All of you!

CRD

Harinarayan Krishnan

NERSC

Bjoern Enders
Spin Team

