

Notes from NeXus Tech VC 16/7/2008

NeXus 4.2

There is still a bit of work to do, but it should be ready to tag by end of next week (25th July) and the testing can then start.

The Python and IDL bindings are finished - C++ just needs a bit more work and some read tests adding. Peter would also like to add an nxtranslate enhancement to reduce a file create / delete overhead.

Action: Remove remaining old python stuff from contrib directory (Freddie)

Action: Create a simple program that reports that a file is a NeXus file or not (NeXus files look like HDF or XML otherwise) (Freddie)

Action: Add doxygen documentation to install kit (Freddie)

Action: Look at adding the java utils to the kit - maybe in contrib (Stuart)

Action: Check outstanding trac tickets in preparation for 4.2 tag (Mark Koennecke)

Action: Add nxtranslate enhancement (Peter)

Action: finish C++ API (Peter/Freddie)

XML Schema

Good progress has been made - can validate XML files and also HDF files after using nxconvert to generate an XML file. The XML files can be validated using either xmllint (part of libxml2) or an external validation web page. The NeXus XML API has been modified to add an "xsi:schemaLocation" tag to aid validation. The prototype schema files are currently at

<http://svn.nexusformat.org/definitions/trunk/schema/>

It was agreed that once the initial schema files are completed they would be announced to nexus-committee and contact then made with Pete Jemian regarding SAX XML.

Action: Continue Nexus DTD -> schema migration (Freddie)

Action: Add an option to nxconvert to generate an XML file with no data for quicker validation (Freddie)

Action: look at combining nxconvert + xmllint into a single nxvalidate command - libxml2 has some schema support and another option is to use Java or Xerces (Freddie + Stuart)

Action: Generate a single big schema file as well as the separate ones on the web (Freddie)