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# RayPyNG

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raypyng provides a simple API to work with RAY-UI, a software for optical simulation of synchrotron beamlines and x-ray systems developed by Helmholtz-Zentrum Berlin. More information at [this link](#).



## INSTALL

raypyng will work only if using a Linux or a macOS distribution.

### 1.1 Install RAY-UI

Download the RAY-UI installer from [this link](#), and run the installer.

### 1.2 Install xvfb

xvfb is a virtual X11 framebuffer server that let you run RAY-UI headless

Install xvfb:

```
sudo apt install xvfb
```

---

**Note:** xvfb-run script is a part of the xvfb distribution and runs an app on a new virtual X11 server.

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### 1.3 Install raypyng

- You will need Python 3.8 or newer. From a shell (“Terminal” on OSX), check your current Python version.

```
python3 --version
```

If that version is less than 3.8, you must update it.

We recommend installing raypyng into a “virtual environment” so that this installation will not interfere with any existing Python software:

```
python3 -m venv ~/raypyng-tutorial  
source ~/raypyng-tutorial/bin/activate
```

Alternatively, if you are a [conda](#) user, you can create a conda environment:

```
conda create -n raypyng-tutorial "python>=3.8"  
conda activate raypyng-tutorial
```

- Install the latest versions of raypyng and ophyd. Also, install IPython (a Python interpreter designed by scientists for scientists).

```
python3 -m pip install --upgrade raypyng ipython
```

- Start IPython:

```
ipython --matplotlib=qt5
```

The flag `--matplotlib=qt5` is necessary for live-updating plots to work.

Or, if you wish you use raypyng from a Jupyter notebook, install a kernel like so:

```
ipython kernel install --user --name=raypyng-tutorial --display-name "Python↵  
↵(raypyng)"
```

You may start Jupyter from any environment where it is already installed, or install it in this environment alongside raypyng and run it from there:

```
pip install notebook  
jupyter notebook
```



## TUTORIAL

## 2.1 Minimal example

raypyng is not able to create a beamline from scratch. To do so, use RAY-UI, create a beamline, and save it. What you save is .rml file, which you have to pass as an argument to the `Simulate` class. In the following example, we use the file for a beamline called *elisa*, and the file is saved in `rml/elisa.rml`. The `hide` parameter can be set to true only if *xvfb* is installed.

```
from raypyng import Simulate
rml_file = 'rml/elisa.rml'

sim = Simulate(rml_file, hide=True)
elisa = sim.rml.beamline
```

The elements of the beamline are now available as python objects, as well as their properties. If working in ipython, tab autocompletion is available. For instance to access the source, a dipole in this case:

```
# this is the dipole object
elisa.Dipole
# to access its parameter, for instance, the photonFlux
elisa.Dipole.photonFlux
# to access the value
elisa.Dipole.photonFlux.cdata
# to modify the value
elisa.Dipole.photonFlux.cdata = 10
```

To perform a simulation, any number of parameters can be varied. For instance, one can vary the photon energy of the source, and set a certain aperture of the exit slits:

```
# define the values of the parameters to scan
energy    = np.arange(200, 7201, 250)
SlitSize  = np.array([0.1])

# define a list of dictionaries with the parameters to scan
params = [
    {elisa.Dipole.photonEnergy:energy},
    {elisa.ExitSlit.totalHeight:SlitSize}
]

#and then plug them into the Simulation class
sim.params=params
```

It is also possible to define coupled parameters. If for instance, one wants to increase the number of rays with the photon energy

```
# define the values of the parameters to scan
energy    = np.arange(200, 7201, 250)
nrays     = energy*100
SlitSize  = np.array([0.1])

# define a list of dictionaries with the parameters to scan
params = [
    {elisa.Dipole.photonEnergy:energy, elisa.Dipole.numberRays:nrays},
    {elisa.ExitSlit.totalHeight:SlitSize}
]

#and then plug them into the Simulation class
sim.params=params
```

The simulations files and the results will be saved in a folder called *RAYPy\_simulation\_* and a name of your choice, that can be set. This folder will be saved, by default, in the folder where the program is executed, but it can eventually be modified

```
sim.simulation_folder = '/home/raypy/Documents/simulations'
sim.simulation_name = 'test'
```

This will create a simulation folder with the following path and name

```
/home/raypy/Documents/simulations/RAYPy_simulation_test
```

Sometimes, instead of using millions of rays, it is more convenient to repeat the simulations and average the results. We can set which parameters of which optical elements can be exported. The number of rounds of simulations can be set like this:

```
# repeat the simulations as many times as needed
sim.repeat = 1
```

One can decide whether want RAY-UI or raypyng to do a preliminary analysis of the results. To let RAY-UI analyze the results, one has to set:

```
sim.analyze = True # let RAY-UI analyze the results
```

In this case, the following files are available to export:

```
print(sim.possible_exports)
> ['AnglePhiDistribution',
> 'AnglePsiDistribution',
> 'BeamPropertiesPlotSnapshot',
> 'EnergyDistribution',
> 'FootprintAbsorbedRays',
> 'FootprintAllRays',
> 'FootprintOutgoingRays',
> 'FootprintPlotSnapshot',
> 'FootprintWastedRays',
> 'IntensityPlotSnapshot',
> 'IntensityX',
```

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```
> 'IntensityYZ',
> 'PathlengthDistribution',
> 'RawRaysBeam',
> 'RawRaysIncoming',
> 'RawRaysOutgoing',
> 'ScalarBeamProperties',
> 'ScalarElementProperties']
```

To let raypyng analyze the results set:

```
sim.analyze = False # don't let RAY-UI analyze the results
sim.raypyng_analysis=True # let raypyng analyze the results
```

In this case, only these exports are possible

```
print(sim.possible_exports_without_analysis)
> ['RawRaysIncoming', 'RawRaysOutgoing']
```

The exports are available for each optical element in the beamline, ImagePlanes included, and can be set like this:

```
## This must be a list of dictionaries
sim.exports = [{elisa.Dipole:['ScalarElementProperties']},
               {elisa.DetectorAtFocus:['ScalarBeamProperties']}
               ]
```

Finally, the simulations can be run using

```
sim.run(multiprocessing=5, force=True)
```

where the *multiprocessing* parameter can be set either to `False` or to an int, corresponding to the number of parallel instances of RAY-UI to be used. Generally speaking, the number of instances of RAY-UI must be lower than the number of cores available. If the simulation uses many rays, monitor the RAM usage of your computer. If the computation uses all the possible RAM of the computer the program may get blocked or not execute correctly.

## 2.2 Exports

### 2.2.1 Analysis performed by RAY-UI

If you decided to let RAY-UI do the analysis, you should expect the following files to be saved in your simulation folder:

- one file for each parameter you set with the values that you passed to the program. If for instance, you input the Dipole numberRays, you will find a file called *input\_param\_Dipole\_numberRays.dat*
- one folder called *round\_n* for each repetition of the simulations. For instance, if you set `sim.repeat=2` you will have two folders *round\_0* and *round\_1*
- inside each *round\_n* folder you will find the beamline files modified with the parameters you set in *sim.params*, these are the *.rml* files, that can be opened by RAY-UI.
- inside each *round\_n* folder you will find your exported files, one for each simulation. If for instance, you exported the *ScalarElementProperties* of the Dipole, you will have a list of files *0\_Dipole-ScalarElementProperties.csv*

## 2.2.2 Analysis performed by raypyng

If you decided to let raypyng do the analysis, you should expect the following files to be saved in your simulation folder:

- one file for each parameter you set with the values that you passed to the program. If for instance, you input the Dipole `numberRays`, you will find a file called *input\_param\_Dipole\_numberRays.dat*
- one folder called *round\_n* for each repetition of the simulations. For instance, if you set `sim.repeat=2` you will have two folders *round\_0* and *round\_1*
- inside each *round\_n* folder you will find the beamline files modified with the parameters you set in *sim.params*, these are the *.rml* files, that can be opened by RAY-UI.
- inside each *round\_n* folder you will find your exported files, one for each simulation. If for instance, you exported the *RawRaysOutgoing* of the Dipole, you will have a list of files *0\_Dipole-RawRaysOutgoing.csv*
- for each *RawRaysOutgoing* file, raypyng calculates some properties, and saves a corresponding file, for instance *0\_Dipole\_analyzed\_rays.dat*. Each of these files contains the following information:
  - SourcePhotonFlux
  - NumberRaysSurvived
  - PercentageRaysSurvived
  - PhotonFlux
  - Bandwidth
  - HorizontalFocusFWHM
  - VerticalFocusFWHM
- In the simulation folder, all the for each exported element is united (and in case of more rounds of simulations averaged) in one single file. For the dipole, the file is called *Dipole.dat*

## 2.3 Recipes

Documentation is still not available, see the examples.

## 2.4 List of examples available and short explanation

In the example folder, the following examples are available:

- *example\_simulation\_analyze.py* simulate a beamline, let Ray-UI do the analysis
- *example\_simulation\_noanalyze.py* simulate a beamline, let raypyng do the analysis
- *example\_eval\_noanalyze\_and\_analyze.py* plots the results of the two previous simulations
- *example\_simulation\_Flux.py* simulations using the flux recipe, useful if you intend to simulate the flux of your beamline
- *example\_simulation\_RP.py* simulations using the resolving power (RP) recipe, useful if you intend to simulate the RP of your beamline. The reflectivity of every optical element is switched to 100% and not calculated using the substrate and coating(s) material(s). The information about the Flux of the beamline is therefore not reliable.
- *example\_beamwaist.py*: raypyng can plot the beam waist of the x-rays across your beamline. It performs simulations using the beam waist recipe, and it exports the *RawRaysOutgoing* file from each optical element. It then

uses a simple geometrical x-ray tracer to propagate each ray until the next optical element and plots the results (both top view and side view). This is still experimental and it may fail.



## SIMULATION

### 3.1 Simulate

**class** raypyng.simulate.**Simulate**(*rml=None, hide=False, ray\_path=None, \*\*kwargs*)

A class that takes care of performing the simulations with RAY-UI

**property analyze**

Turn on or off the RAY-UI analysis of the results. The analysis of the results takes time, so turn it on only if needed

**Returns**

True: analysis on, False: analysis off

**Return type**

bool

**property exports**

The files to export once the simulation is complete. for a list of possible files check self.possible\_exports and self.possible\_exports\_without\_analysis.

It is expected a list of dictionaries, and for each dictionary the key is the element to be exported and the value are the files to be exported

**property params**

The parameters to scan, as a list of dictionaries. For each dictionary the keys are the parameters elements of the beamline, and the values are the values to be assigned.

**property path**

The path where to execute the simulations

**Returns**

by default the path is the current path from which the program is executed

**Return type**

string

**property possible\_exports**

A list of the files that can be exported by RAY-UI

**Returns**

list of the names of the possible exports for RAY-UI

**Return type**

list

**property possible\_exports\_without\_analysis**

A list of the files that can be exported by RAY-UI when the analysis option is turned off

**Returns**

list of the names of the possible exports for RAY-UI when analysis is off

**Return type**

list

**property raypyng\_analysis**

Turn on or off the RAYPyNG analysis of the results.

**Returns**

True: analysis on, False: analysis off

**Return type**

bool

**property repeat**

The simulations can be repeated an arbitrary number of times. If the statistics are not good enough using 2 millions of rays is suggested to repeat them instead of increasing the number of rays

**Returns**

the number of repetition of the simulations, by default is 1

**Return type**

int

**property rml**

RMLFile object instantiated in init

**rml\_list()**

This function creates the folder structure and the rml files to simulate. It requires the param to be set. Useful if one wants to create the simulation files for a manual check before starting the simulations.

**run(recipe=None, /, multiprocessing=True, force=False)**

This method starts the simulations. params and exports need to be defined.

**Parameters**

- **recipe** (*SimulationRecipe*, *optional*) – If using a recipe pass it as a parameter. Defaults to None.
- **multiprocessing** (*boolint*, *optional*) – If True all the cpus are used. If an integer n is provided, n cpus are used. Defaults to True.
- **force** (*bool*, *optional*) – If True all the simulations are performed, even if the export files already exist. If False only the simulations for which are missing some exports are performed. Defaults to False.

**save\_parameters\_to\_file(dir)**

save all the user input parameters to file. It takes the values from the SimulationParams class

**Parameters**

**dir** (*str*) – the folder where to save the parameters

**property simulation\_name**

A string to append to the folder where the simulations will be executed.



## 3.2 SimulationParams

**class** raypyng.simulate.**SimulationParams**(*rml=None, param\_list=None, \*\*kwargs*)

A class that takes care of the simulations parameters, makes sure that they are written correctly, and returns the the list of simulations that is requested by the user.

**property** **params**

The parameters to scan, as a list of dictionaries. For each dictionary the keys are the parameters elements of the beamline, and the values are the values to be assigned.

**property** **rml**

RMLFile object instantiated in init



## RECIPES

raypyng provides some recipes to make simulations, that simplify the syntax in the script. Two recipes are provided, one to make resolving power simulations, one to make flux simulations.

## 4.1 Resolving Power

```
class raypyng.recipes.ResolvingPower(energy_range: range, exported_object: ObjectElement, /, *args,  
                                     source: Optional[ObjectElement] = None, sim_folder:  
                                     Optional[str] = None)
```

Resolving Power Simulations, reflectivity is automatically switched off for all elements

## 4.2 Flux

```
class raypyng.recipes.Flux(energy_range: range, exported_object: ObjectElement, /, *args, source:  
                           Optional[ObjectElement] = None, sim_folder: Optional[str] = None)
```

Flux simulations, reflectivity is automatically switched on for all elements



## PROCESS SIMULATION FILES

### 5.1 PostProcess rays analyzed by raypyng

**class** raypyng.postprocessing.PostProcess

class to post-process the data. At the moment works only if the exported data are RawRaysOutgoing

**cleanup**(*dir\_path: Optional[str] = None, repeat: int = 1, exp\_elements: Optional[list] = None*)

This functions reads all the temporary files created by `self.postprocess_RawRays()` saves one file for each exported element in `dir_path`, and deletes the temporary files. If more than one round of simulations was done, the values are averaged.

#### Parameters

- **dir\_path** (*str, optional*) – The path to the folder to cleanup. Defaults to None.
- **repeat** (*int, optional*) – number of rounds of simulations. Defaults to 1.
- **exp\_elements** (*list, optional*) – the exported elements names as str. Defaults to None.

**extract\_nrays\_from\_source**(*rml\_filename*)

Extract photon flux from rml file, find source automatically

#### Parameters

**rml\_filename** (*str*) – the rml file to use to extract the photon flux

#### Returns

the photon flux

#### Return type

str

**postprocess\_RawRays**(*exported\_element: Optional[str] = None, exported\_object: Optional[str] = None, dir\_path: Optional[str] = None, sim\_number: Optional[str] = None, rml\_filename: Optional[str] = None*)

The method looks in the folder `dir_path` for a file with the filename: `filename = os.path.join(dir_path, sim_number+exported_element + '-' + exported_object+'.csv')` for each file it calculates the number of rays, the bandwidth, and the horizontal and vertical focus size, it saves it in an array that is composed by `[n_rays, bandwidth, hor_focus, vert_focus]`, that is then saved to `os.path.join(dir_path, sim_number+exported_element+'_analyzed_rays.npy')`

#### Parameters

- **exported\_element** (*list, optional*) – a list of containing the exported elements name as str. Defaults to None.

- **exported\_object** (*str*, *optional*) – the exported object, tested only with RawRaysOutgoing. Defaults to None.
- **dir\_path** (*str*, *optional*) – the folder where the file to process is located. Defaults to None.
- **sim\_number** (*str*, *optional*) – the prefix of the file, that is the simulation number with a \_prepended, ie 0\_. Defaults to None.

## 5.2 PostProcess rays analyzed by RAY-UI

**class** raypyng.postprocessing.PostProcessAnalyzed

class to analyze the data exported by RAY-UI

**moving\_average**(*x*, *w*)

Computes the moving average with window *w* on the array *x*

**Parameters**

- **x** (*array*) – the array to average
- **w** (*int*) – the window for the moving average

**Returns**

the *x* array once the moving average was applied

**Return type**

np.array

**retrieve\_bw\_and\_focusSize**(*folder\_name: str*, *oe: str*, *nsimulations: int*, *rounds: int*)

Extract the bandwidth and focus size if RAY-UI was run in analyze mode. It requires ScalarBeamProperties to be exported for the desired optical element

**Parameters**

- **folder\_name** (*str*) – the path to the folder where the simulations are
- **oe** (*str*) – the optical element name
- **nsimulations** (*int*) – the number of simulations
- **rounds** (*int*) – the number of rounds of simulations

**Returns**

the bandwidth *foc\_x* np.array: the horizontal focus *foc\_y* np.array: the vertical focus

**Return type**

bw np.array

**retrieve\_flux\_beamline**(*folder\_name*, *source*, *oe*, *nsimulations*, *rounds=1*, *current=0.3*)

This function takes as arguments the name of the simulation folder, the exported object in RAY-UI and there number of simulations and returns the flux at the optical element in percentage and in number of photons, and the flux produced by the dipole. It requires ScalarBeamProperties to be exported for the desired optical element, if the source is a dipole it requires ScalarElementProperties to be exported for the Dipole

**Parameters**

- **folder\_name** (*str*) – the path to the folder where the simulations are
- **source** (*str*) – the source name
- **oe** (*str*) – the optical element name

- **nsimulations** (*int*) – the number of simulations
- **rounds** (*int*) – the number of rounds of simulations
- **current** (*float*, *optional*) – the ring current in Ampere. Defaults to 0.3.

**Returns****photon\_flux** (**np.array**)

[the photon flux at the optical element] **flux\_percent** (**np.array**) : the photon flux in percentage relative to the source **source\_Photon\_flux** (**np.array**) : the photon flux of the source

**else:**

**flux\_percent** (**np.array**) : the photon flux in percentage relative to the source

**Return type**

if the source is a Dipole





## RAY-UI API

## 6.1 RayUIRunner

**class** raypyng.runner.**RayUIRunner**(*ray\_path=None, ray\_binary='rayui.sh', background=True, hide=False*)

RayUIRunner class implements all logic to start a RayUI process

**property isrunning**

Check weather a process is running and rerutn a boolean

**Returns**

returns True if the process is running, otherwise False

**Return type**

bool

**kill()**

kill a RAY-UI process

**property pid**

Get process id of the RayUI process

**Returns**

PID of the process if it running, None otherwise

**Return type**

\_type\_

**run()**

Open one instance of RAY-UI using subprocess

**Raises**

**RayPyRunnerError** – if the RAY-UI executable is not found raise an error



## 7.1 RMLFile

```
class raypyng.rml.RMLFile(filename: Optional[str] = None, /, template: Optional[str] = None)
    Read/Write wrapper for the Ray RML files

    read(file: Optional[str] = None)
        read rml file

        Parameters
            file (str, optional) – file name to read. If set to None will use template file name defined
            during initilizatio of the class. Defaults to None.

    write(file: Optional[str] = None)
        Write the rml to file

        Parameters
            file (str, optional) – filename . Defaults to None.
```

## 7.2 BeamlineElement

```
class raypyng.rml.BeamlineElement(name: str, attributes: dict, **kwargs)

    add_cdata(cdata)
        Store cdata

    add_child(element)
        Store child elements.

    get_attribute(key)
        Get attributes by key

    get_elements(name=None)
        Find a child element by name

    get_full_path()
        Returns the full path of the xml object

        Returns
            path of the xml object

        Return type
            str
```

**resolvable\_name()**

Returns the name of the objects, removing lab.beamline.

**Returns**

name of the object

**Return type**

str

## 7.3 ObjectElement

```
class raypyng.rml.ObjectElement(name: str, attributes: dict, **kwargs)
```

**add\_cdata(cdata)**

Store cdata

**add\_child(element)**

Store child elements.

**get\_attribute(key)**

Get attributes by key

**get\_elements(name=None)**

Find a child element by name

**get\_full\_path()**

Returns the full path of the xml object

**Returns**

path of the xml object

**Return type**

str

**resolvable\_name()**

Returns the name of the objects, removing lab.beamline.

**Returns**

name of the object

**Return type**

str

## 7.4 ParamElement

```
class raypyng.rml.ParamElement(name: str, attributes: dict, **kwargs)
```

**add\_cdata(cdata)**

Store cdata

**add\_child(element)**

Store child elements.

**get\_attribute(key)**

Get attributes by key

**get\_elements**(*name=None*)

Find a child element by name

**get\_full\_path**()

Returns the full path of the xml object

**Returns**

path of the xml object

**Return type**

str

**resolvable\_name**()

Returns the name of the objects, removing lab.beamline.

**Returns**

name of the object

**Return type**

str



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