lyse: a data analysis system for process-as-you-go automated data analysis

Chris Billington

March 2, 2012

Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	The lyse API	2
3	Examples	5
	3.1 Single-shot example	5
	3.2 Multi-shot example	6

1 Introduction

yse is a data analysis system which gets *your code* running on experimental data as it is acquired. It is fundamenally based around the ideas of experimental *shots* and analysis *routines*. A shot is one trial of an experiment, and a routine is a Python script, written by you, that does something with the measurement data from one or more shots.

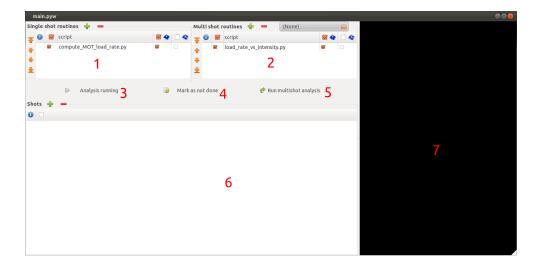
Analysis routines can be either *single-shot* or *multi-shot*. This determines what data and functions are available to your code when it runs. A single-shot routine has access to the data from only one shot, and functions available for saving results only to the hdf5 file for that shot. A a multi-shot routine has access to the entire dataset from all the runs that are currently loaded into lyse, and has functions available for saving results to an hdf5 file which does not belong to any of the shots—it's a file that exists only to save the 'meta results'.

Actually things are far less magical than that. The only enforced difference between a single shot routine and a multi-shot routine is a single variable provided to your code when lyse runs it. Your code runs in a perfectly clean Python environment with this one exception: a variable in the global namespace called path, which is a path to an hdf5 file. If you have told lyse that your routine is a singleshot one, then this path will point to the hdf5 file for the current shot being analysed. On the other hand, if you've told lyse that your routine is a multishot one, then it will be the path to an h5 file that has been selected in lyse for saving results to.

The other differences listed above are conventions only¹, and pertain to how you use the API that lyse provides, which will be different depending on what sort of analysis you're doing.

Here's a screenshot of lyse:

¹Though lyse's design is based around the assumption that you'll follow these conventions most of the time



- 1. Here's where single shot routines can be added and removed, with the plus and minus buttons. They will be executed in order on each shot (more on how that works shortly). They can be reordered, or enabled/disabled with the checkboxes on the left. The checkboxes to the right, underneath the plot icons don't currently do anything, but they are intended to provide control over how plots generated by the analysis routines are displayed and updated.
- 2. Here is where multi-shot routines can be added or removed. The file selection button at the top allows you to select what hdf5 file multi-shot routines will get given (to which they will save their results).
- 3. Allows pausing of analysis. Lyse by default will run all single-shot routines on a shot when it arrives (either via the HTTP server or having been manually added). After all the shots have been processed, only then will the multishot routines be executed. So if you load ten shots in quickly, the multishot routines won't run until they've all been processed by the single-shot routines. However most of the time there will be sufficient delay in between shots arriving that multi-shot routines will be executed pretty much every time a new shot arrives.
- 4. If you want to re-run single-shot analyses on some shots, select them and click this button. They'll then be processed in order.
- 5. This will rerun all the multi-shot analyses.
- 6. Here is where shots appear, either having arrived over HTTP of having been added manually via the file browser (by clicking the plus button). Many columns will populate this part of the screen, one for each global and each of the results (as saved by single-shot routines) present in the shots. A high-priority planned feature is to be able to choose exactly which globals and results are displayed. Otherwise this display is overwhelming to the point of uselessness. The data displayed here represents the entirety of what is available to multi-shot routines via the API provided by lyse.

7. This is where the output of routines is displayed, errors in red. If you're putting print statements in your analysis code, here is where to look to see them. Likewise if there's an exception and analysis stops, look here to see why.

2 The lyse API

So GREAT, you've got a single filepath. What data analysis could you possibly do with that? It might seem like you have to still do the same amount of work that you would without an analysis system! Whilst that's not quite true, it's intentionally been designed that way so that you can run your code outside tyse with very little modification. Another motivating factor is to minimise the amount of magic black box behaviour, such that an analysis routine is actually just an ordinary Python script which makes use of an API designed for our purposes. Tyse is both a program which executes your code, and an API that your code can call on.

To get started, you'll want to begin your analysis routine with:

1 from lyse import *

The lyse module² provides the following one function and two classes:

data(filepath=None, host='localhost'). The data function when called with no arguments obtains the current dataset from a running instance of lyse on the same computer. It returns a pandas DataFrame with the same rows and columns as you see in the main program of lyse. This is a simple way to get at your data, that doesn't require at all that your code is being run from within lyse. You can simply open a python interactive session, type from lyse import *; df = data(), and begin pulling out columns and plotting them against each other. Callin data() this way is intended for pulling data for multi-shot analysis, and should be avoided in single-shot mode.

When called with the host argument, the data function instead connects to a running instance of lyse on that computer, downloading its DataFrame over the network. I'm planning on including automatic SSH tunnelling through bec.physics to allow for us to obtain our data from outside the lab subnet without the need for a VPN.

When called with the filepath argument, the data function instead returns a pandas Series object with the globals and results from just the h5 file specified. This is intended for use in single-shot mode, with the filepath being that single global variable that lyse implants into the namespace, as I mentioned in sec 1.

²importing lyse imports the functions in pythonlib/lyse/__init__.py, whereas the main program is pythonlib/lyse/main.pyw

- Run(h5_path) ³ Sometimes you need more than just the globals and results in single shot mode. In fact, you cannot produce any results without having access to measurement data—that is traces and images. Run objects provide methods for obtaining this data from an h5 file. They also provide methods for saving your results back to the same h5 file.
 - t, V = Run.get_trace(name) Returns an array of times and an array of voltages for an analogue input trace named name, as specified in a call to AnalogIn.acquire in labscript.
 - im = Run.get_image(orientation, label, image) Returns an image (as an array) from the camera with specified orientation (eg side, top), image label (eg fluorescence, absorption), and specific image name (eg OD, atoms, flat).
 - Run.save_result(name, value) Saves a single-value result to the hdf5 file. The result will be saved as an attribute to the group /results/your_script's_filename, with the attribute name. Results saved in this way will be available to subsequent routines in the DataFrames and Series returned by data() under the hierarchy dataframe[your_script's_filename, your_result's_name].
 - Run.save_result_array(name,data) This method saves an array which can be any numpy datatype convertible to hdf5 datatypes (which is pretty much any numpy array, including numpy 'record' arrays—those are the ones with named columns). The array will be saved in a dataset under the group /results/ your_script's_filename, with the dataset's name being name. It will not be accessible alongside globals and single-value results, but can be accessed with the get_result_array method.
 - arr = Run.get_result_array(group,name) This returns a numpy array as
 saved by the save_result_array function. The group argument specifies the name of the group that the result array was saved to within the
 results group of the hdf5 file. This will be then filename of the analysis
 routine which saved the result.
 - Run.set_group(groupname) When running Python in interactive mode, the Run object can't know what filename to use as the hdf5 group name to which results are saved with save_result and save_result_array. So if you try to instantiate a Run object in interactive mode, you'll be prompted to call this method to set what the group name should be instead.
 - t1, V1,...tn, Vn = Run.get_trace(name_1,..., name_n)

A convenience method for getting many traces at once.

Run.save_results(name_1,value_1..., name_n, value_n)

A convenience method for saving many results at once.

arr1,...arrn = Run.get_result_arrays(group, name_1,..., name_n)

A convenience method for getting many result arrays at once, provided they are within the same group.

³There is another argument to this function—no_write=False, but is is intended for use only internally by Sequence, which instantiates many runs but disables their functions for writing to file

```
Run.save_result_arrays(name_1,data_1..., name_n, data_n)
```

A convenience method for saving many result arrays at once.

Sequence (h5_path, run_paths) A Sequence object represents many runs. It provides methods for getting data from the runs, and for saving the results of multi-shot analyses to the file specified by h5_path, which should be the filepath that lyse provides to your multi-shot analysis script. run_paths should be a list of filepaths that you would like to be included in this Sequence. You can pull out these filenames from the DataFrame provided by the data() function with df['filepaths']. You might use this to pass in the filepaths for only a subset of the shots. You can also pass in the entire DataFrame as the run_paths, and if it contains a column called 'filepaths', then those filepaths will be used.

Sequence.runs The sequence object contains a Run object for each of the files in run_paths. Sequence.runs is a dictionary of these Run objects, keyed by filepath. This dictionary is mainly for internal use by the Sequence object, but is included here in case you really do need to delve into the data from individual shots during a multi-shot routine. All methods of these Run objects that would write to their hdf5 file have been disabled.

Sequence.get_result_array Takes the same arguments as Run.get_result_array, and returns a dictionary of result arrays, one for each run, keyed by filepath.

Sequence.get_trace Takes the same arguments as Run.get_result_array, and returns a dictionary of t, V tuples, one for each run, keyed by filepath.

The Sequence object also has the methods save_result, save_result_array, save_results and save_result_arrays, which work identically to equivalent methods in the Run object⁴, the only difference being that you're saving the results to the h5 file associated with the Sequence object, rather than a file associated with a single shot.

3 Examples

3.1 Single-shot example

```
from lyse import *
from pylab import *

# Let's obtain our data for this shot -- globals, image attributes and
# the results of any previously run single-shot routines:
ser = data(path)

# Get a global called x:
x = ser['x']

*Sequence is actually a subclass of Run
```

```
11 # Get a result saved by another single-shot analysis routine which has
12 # already run. The result is called 'y', and the routine was called
13 # 'some_routine':
14 y = ser['some_routine','y']
16 # Image attributes are also stored in this series:
17 w_x2 = ser['side','absorption','OD','Gaussian_XW']
19 # If we want actual measurement data, we'll have to instantiate a Run object:
20 run = Run(path)
22 # Obtaining a trace:
23 t, mot_fluorecence = run.get_trace('mot fluorecence')
25 # Now we might do some analysis on this data. Say we've written a
26 # linear fit function (or we're calling some other libaries linear
27 # fit function):
28 m, c = linear_fit(t, mot_fluorecence)
30 # We might wish to plot the fit on the trace to show whether the fit is any good:
32 plot(t,mot_fluorecence,label='data')
33 plot(t,m*t + x,label='linear fit')
34 xlabel('time')
35 ylabel('MOT flourescence')
36 legend()
37
38 # Don't call show() ! lyse will introspect what figures have been made
39 # and display them once this script has finished running. If you call
40 # show() it won't find anything. lyse keeps track of figures so that new
41 # figures replace old ones, rather than you getting new window popping
42 # up every time your script runs.
44 # We might wish to save this result so that we can compare it across
45 # shots in a multishot analysis:
46 run.save_result('mot loadrate', c)
```

3.2 Multi-shot example

```
1 from lyse import *
2 from pylab import *
3
4 # Let's obtain the dataframe for all of lyse's currently loaded shots:
5 df = data()
6
7 # Now let's see how the MOT load rate varies with, say a global called
8 # 'detuning', which might be the detuning of the MOT beams:
9
10 detunings = df['detuning']
```

```
12 # mot load rate was saved by a routine called calculate_load_rate:
13
14 load_rates = df['calculate_load_rate', 'mot loadrate']
15
16 # Let's plot them against each other:
17
18 plot(detunings, load_rates,'bo',label='data')
19
20 # Maybe we expect a linear relationship over the range we've got:
21 m, c = linear_fit(detunings, load_rates)
22 # (note, not a function provided by lyse, though I'm sure we'll have
23 # lots of stock functions like this available for import!)
24
25 plot(detunings, m*detunings + c, 'ro', label='linear fit')
26 legend()
27
28 #To save this result to the output hdf5 file, we have to instantiate a
29 #Sequence object:
30 seq = Sequence(path, df)
31 seq.save_result('detuning_loadrate_slope',c)
```