



# Introductory workshop to the PANIC Alarm System

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# Prepare your setup for the workshop:

<https://gitlab.com/tango-controls/panic/-/blob/training/doc/training/setup.md>



A setup using conda (microforge), docker and MailHog have been prepared to make more reproducible the exercises from this training.  
The setup should work in Linux, Mac and Windows, although the last parts of the exercises (speech) may not fully work

# What is an Alarm System?

According to **IEC 62682:2014** "Management of Alarm Systems for the Process Industries" definition

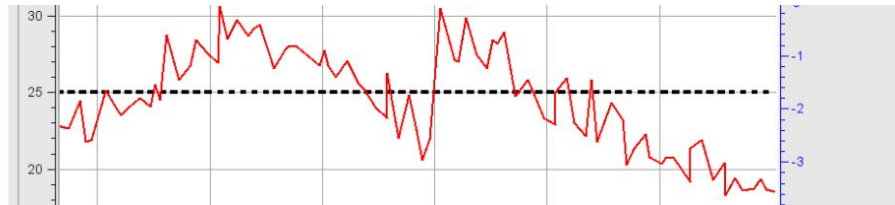
- The primary function of an Alarm System will be to notify abnormal process conditions or equipment malfunctions and support the operator response.
- The Alarm System is NOT part of the protection nor safety systems. Safety and Protection Systems are separate systems following its own regulation.
- The Alarm System is part of the Operator Response, thus it's part of the HMI (including the non-graphical part of it).

# What is PANIC?

PANIC is the Alarm System developed at ALBA to detect and notify abnormal conditions in our controls systems.

The PyAlarm Tango Device Server, which is the core of the PANIC system, was developed in 2008 to provide remote monitoring of ALBA during installation; while engineers and technicians offices where several kilometers far from building site.

PyAlarm simply reads an Alarm Formula, Description and Receivers from the configuration. Then evaluates the formula, given a pre-defined conditions. If the formula activates the alarm, the alarm description is sent to the receivers.



if my/plc/01/Temperature > SETPOINT then :



PyAlarm has been later extended by PANIC API and PANIC GUI to provide extended Alarm capabilities for all ALBA accelerators and laboratories, providing an scalable system with multiple notification services, user authentication, logging, ...

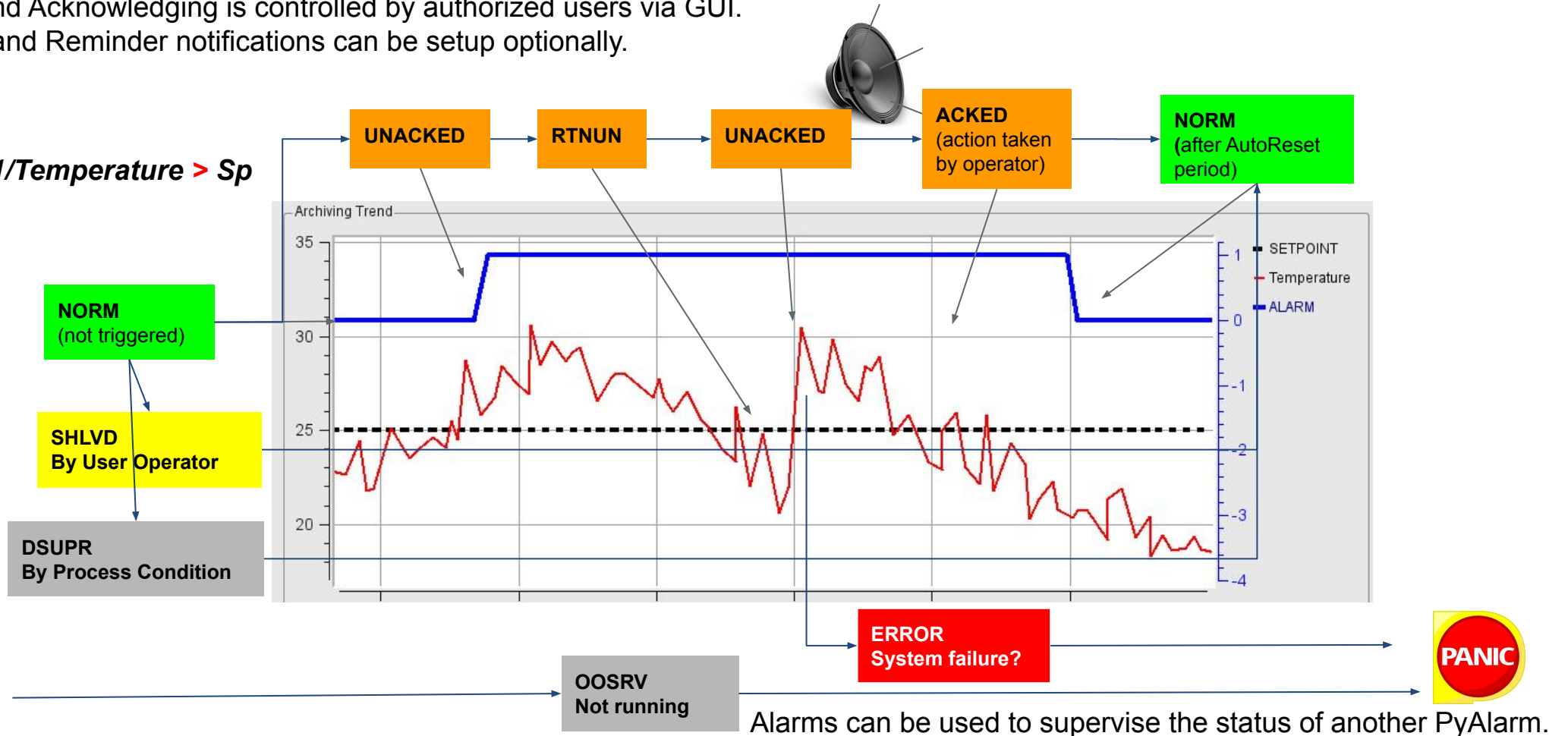
Current Alarm Systems at ALBA provide **1214 Alarms from 28 different Tango Control Systems** (Accelerators, Beamlines, Laboratories, Infrastructures and Cooling facilities and IT Data Center), checking **2568 attributes** at periods between 500 ms and 4h. It is used by many other institutes within the TANGO Community like **ESRF, Max IV, Soleil, Solaris, SKAO, ...**



# PANIC Alarm Cycle (IEC62682)

The process of alarm activation and notification is controlled by PyAlarm and Alarm formulas.  
Disabling and Acknowledging is controlled by authorized users via GUI.  
AutoReset and Reminder notifications can be setup optionally.

*formula = my/plc/01/Temperature > Sp*



# PANIC Architecture

Basic elements that are part of our Alarm System. Alarms are distributed across multiple PyAlarm servers, each of them handling a sub-group of alarms. This becomes transparent to users thanks to the PANIC API and GUI.

## **Alarm Evaluators :**

PANIC PyAlarm or Alarm Handler Tango device servers, that connect to the control system and evaluate alarm formulas.  
As PyAlarm provides evaluation, notification and configuration it is the only element required to build a minimal Alarm System.

## **Notification Services (Annunciators) :**

Additional Tango Device servers executing commands on Alarm Evaluator request (PyAlarm, FestivalDS, ...)

## **PANIC Alarm GUI:**

To provide a graphical interface to users and system administrators. A native Qt client is provided, web-based commercial applications are also available (IC@MS).

## **Configuration Database :**

To store alarm formulas and evaluator configuration, use Tango Database for flexible deployment, or .jive config file for stand-alone service.

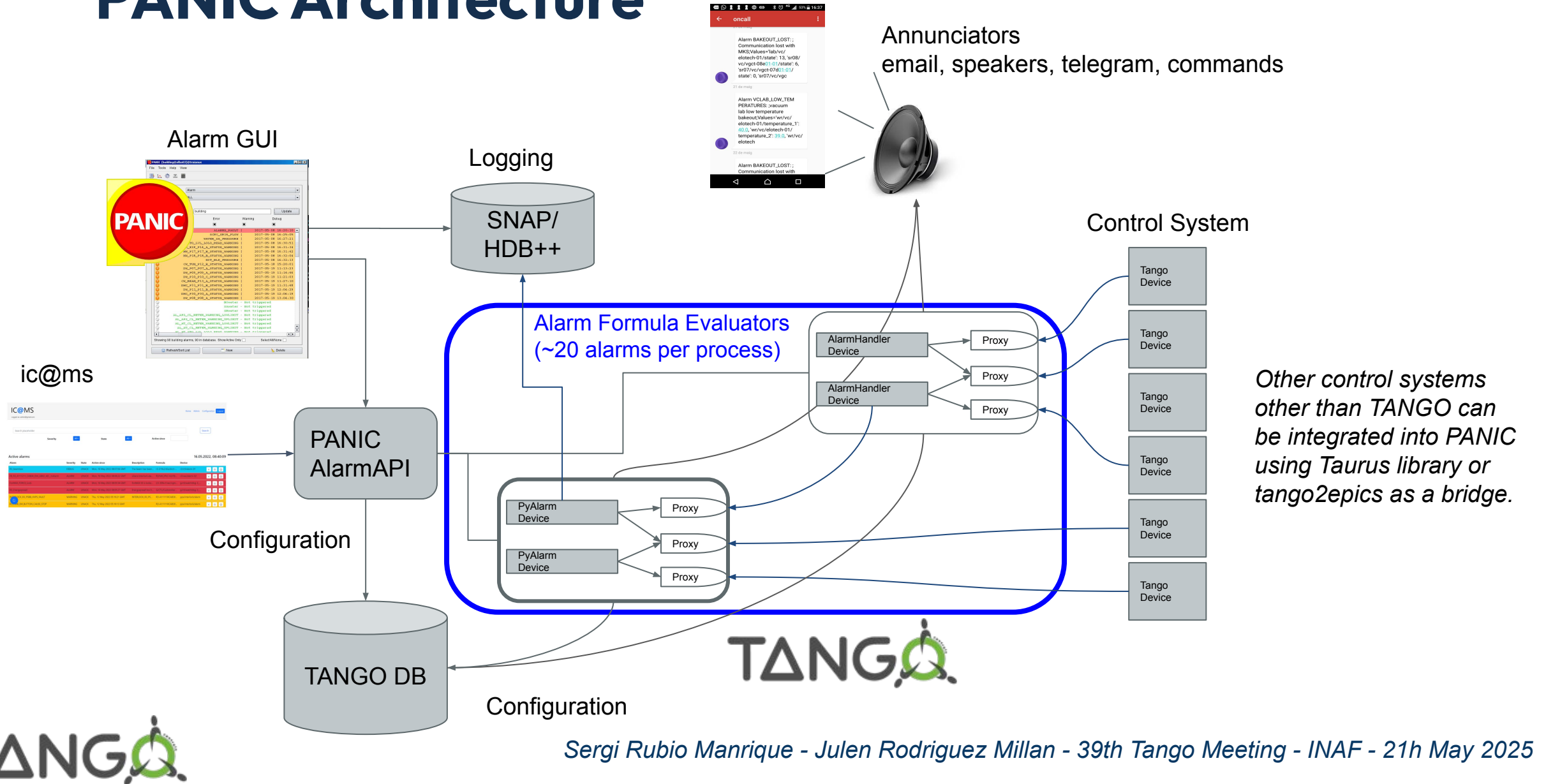
## **Logging Database :**

To store activation / deactivation of alarms, alarm conditions and GUI user comments.

## **PANIC Alarm API:**

Python library for automated configuration, data inspection and development of alarm tools.

# PANIC Architecture





# Guide to Exercises

[https://gitlab.com/tango-controls/panic/-/blob/training/doc/training/exercises\\_guide.md](https://gitlab.com/tango-controls/panic/-/blob/training/doc/training/exercises_guide.md)



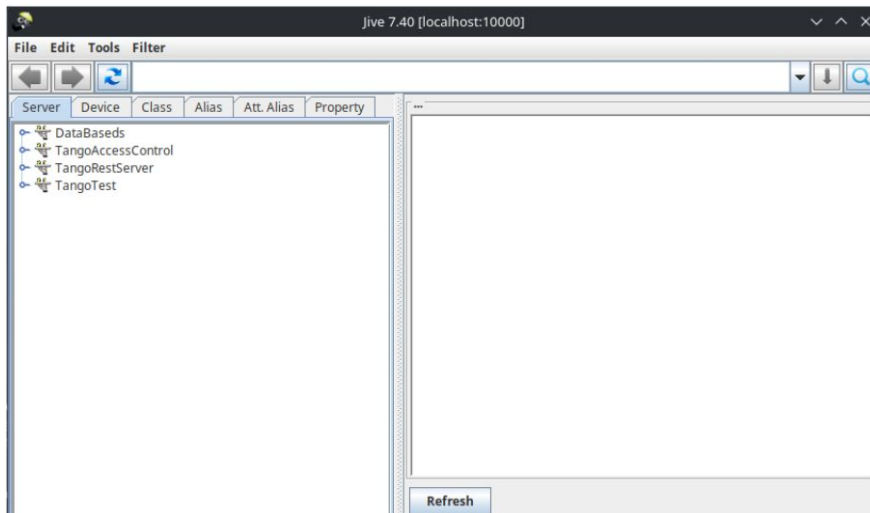
# EX.1 : Create an alarm from Tango Test device.

**1. Open Jive**, the Tango device browser.

```
$ conda activate panic-workshop
```

```
$ export TANGO_HOST=localhost:10000
```

```
$ jive &
```

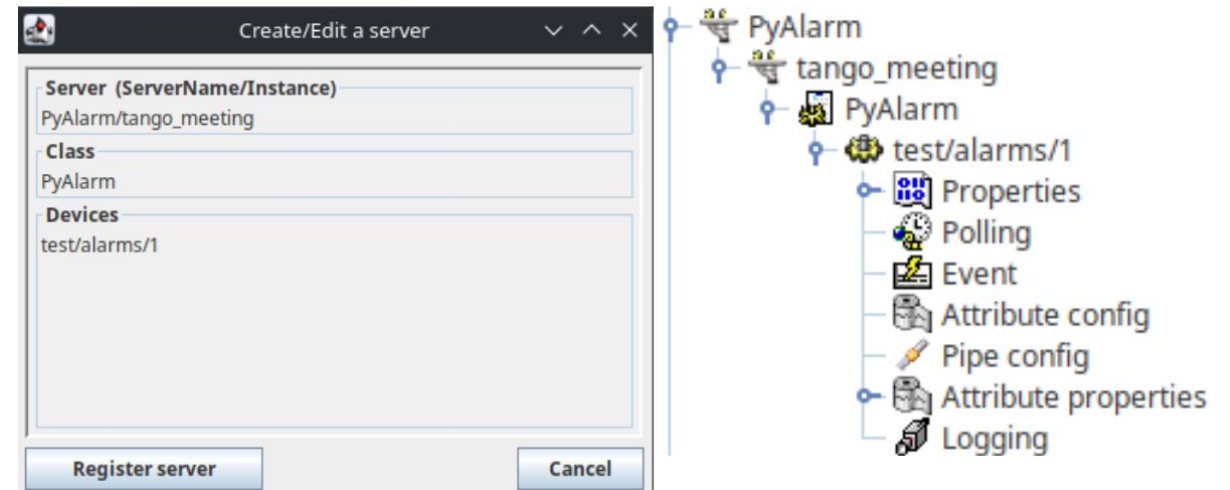


**2. Create a PyAlarm-based server**

Use Jive to create a new server with a PyAlarm device.

Edit -> Create Server

- Instance: PyAlarm/tango\_meeting
- Class: PyAlarm
- Devices: test/alarms/1



# EX.1 : Create an alarm from Tango Test device.

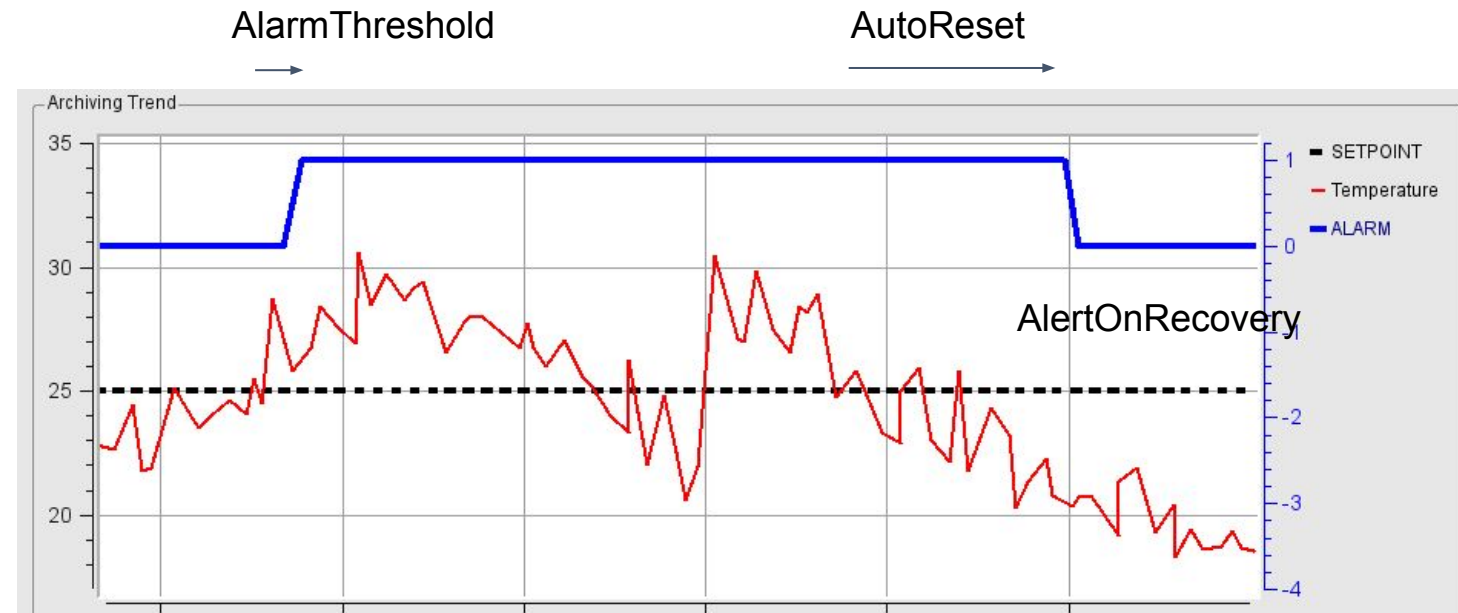
## 3. Set some properties to show alarm cycle

Edit the device properties to enhance speed and auto-reset behavior.

- **AlarmThreshold:** 1
- **AlertOnRecovery:** True
- **AutoReset:** 5
- **Enabled:** True
- **MailMethod:** smtp:localhost:1025
- **PollingPeriod:** 1

Full description of properties:

<https://gitlab.com/tango-controls/panic/-/blob/training/doc/PyAlarmUserGuide.rst>



# EX.1 : Create an alarm from Tango Test device.

## 4. Export the server

Run the following commands in your terminal (we use linux screen to hide traces and recover them later):

```
conda activate panic-workshop
export TANGO_HOST=localhost:10000
screen -dm -S pyalarm PyAlarm tango_meeting -v4
```

or, alternatively:

```
python3 -m panic.ds.PyAlarm tango_meeting -v2
```

This will run a screen with the server output.

For the training we only need to know the following commands:

```
screen -ls
screen -r <session_id>
```

Where `<session_id>` is the id of the screen session you want to attach.

From the screen session you can stop the server with `Ctrl+C` and detach it with `Ctrl+A` then `D`.

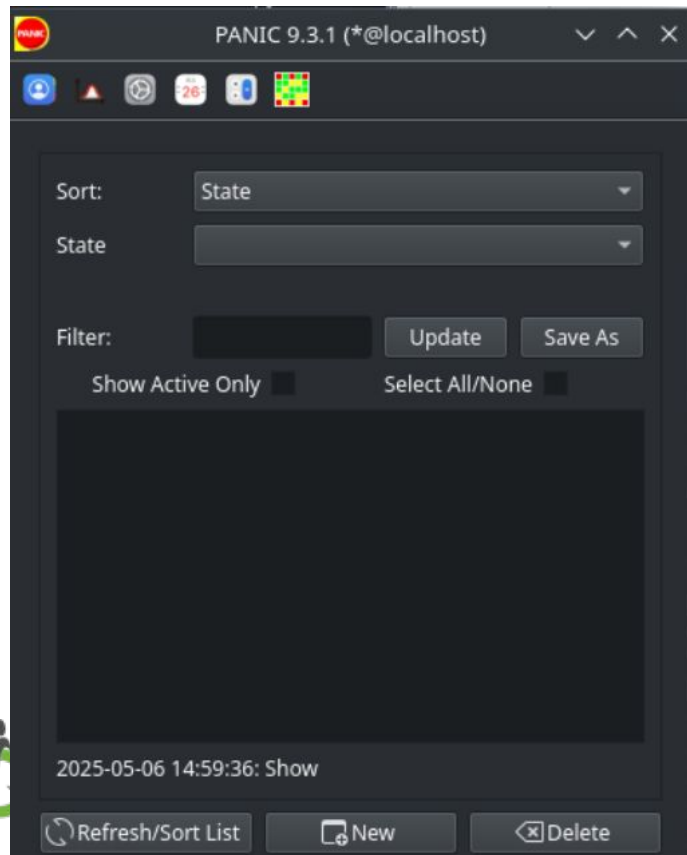
For more details of use screen, see the [screen documentation](#).

# EX.1 : Create an alarm from Tango Test device.

## 5. Open PANIC

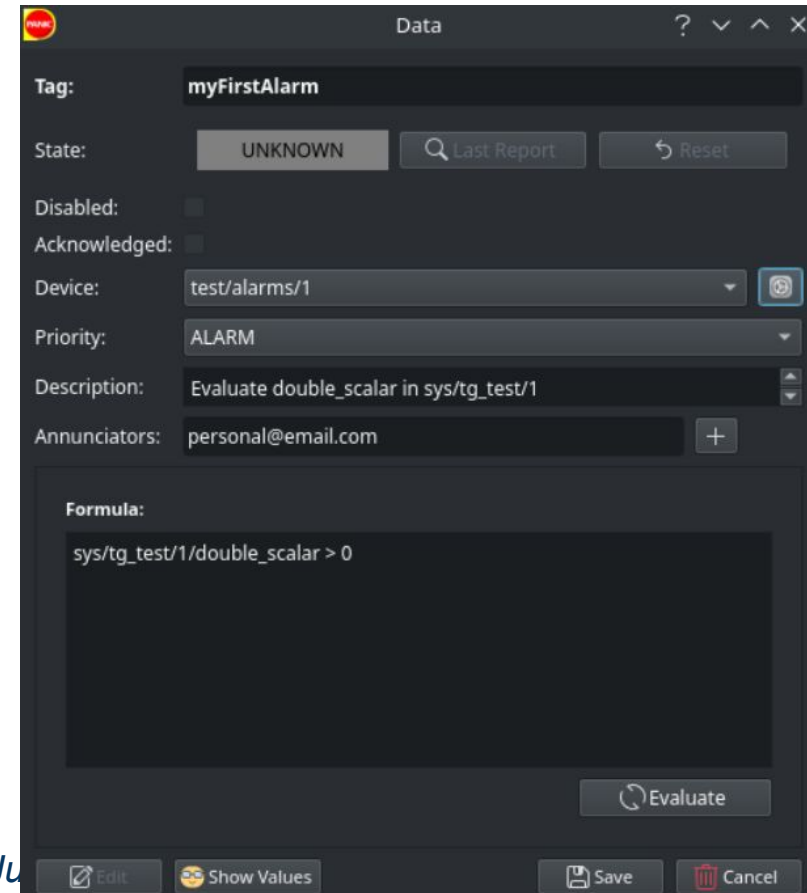
Launch the PANIC GUI to manage alarms.

type "panic" or "python3 -m panic.gui.gui"



## 6. Create an alarm

Create a new alarm using the GUI.



# EX.1 : Create an alarm from Tango Test device.

## 6. Create an alarm

Create a new alarm using the GUI.

### myFirstAlarm Details:

- Tag: myFirstAlarm
- Device: test/alarms/1
- Priority: ALARM
- Description: Evaluate double\_scalar in sys/tg\_test/1
- Annunciators: personalmail@mail.com
- Formula:  
sys/tg\_test/1/double\_scalar > 0

The screenshot displays the Tango Test GUI for configuring an alarm. The main window is titled 'Data' and contains the following fields:

- Tag:** myFirstAlarm
- State:** UNKNOWN (with buttons for 'Last Report' and 'Reset')
- Disabled:** ☐
- Acknowledged:** ☐
- Device:** test/alarms/1
- Priority:** ALARM
- Description:** Evaluate double\_scalar in sys/tg\_test/1
- Annunciators:** personal@email.com

Below these fields is a 'Formula' section with the text: sys/tg\_test/1/double\_scalar > 0. To the right, a 'myFirstAlarm Alarm Formula Preview' window shows the same formula and a table of values:

Values of attributes used in the Alarm formula:	
test/alarms/1/myFirstAlarm	
sys/tg_test/1/double_scalar	-214.70

The 'Evaluate' button is visible at the bottom right of the main window and within the preview window.

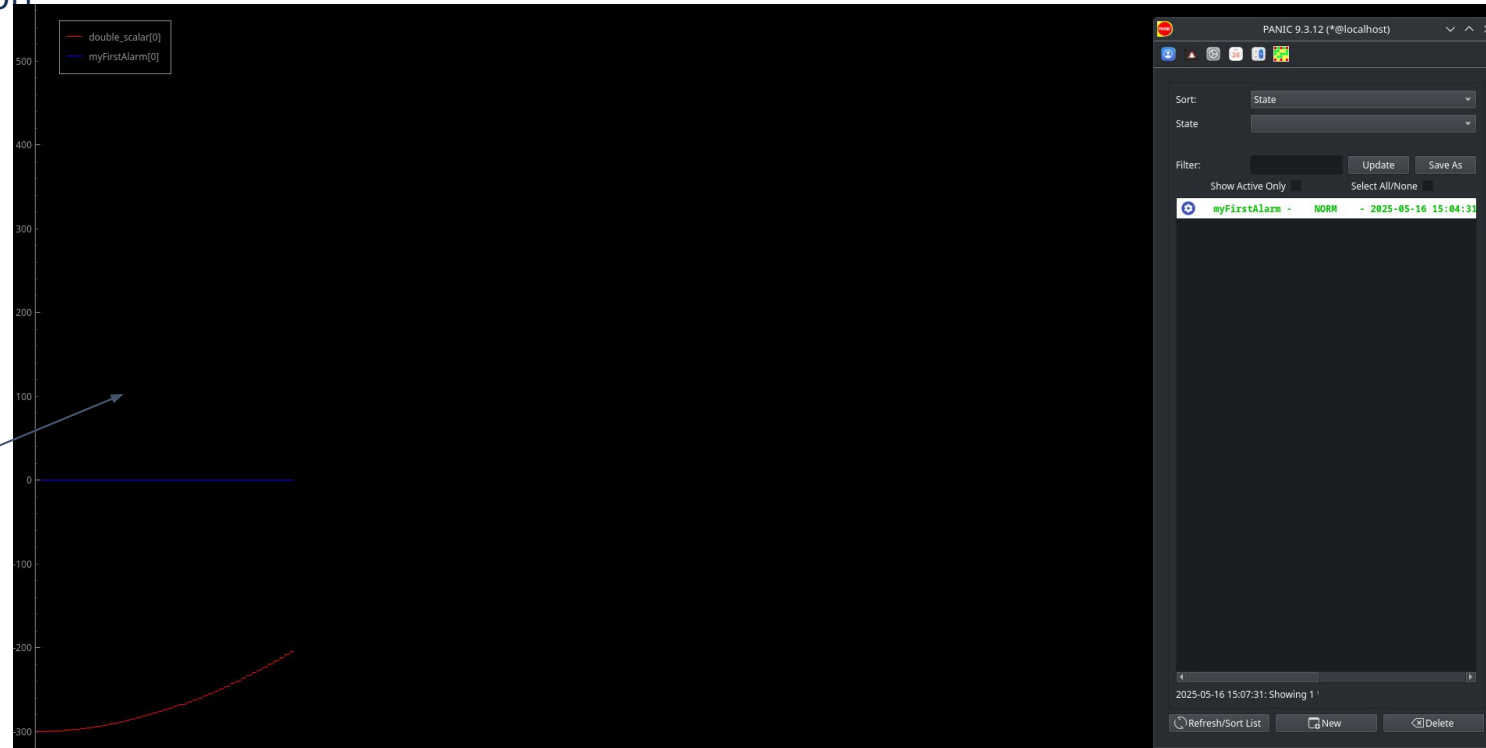
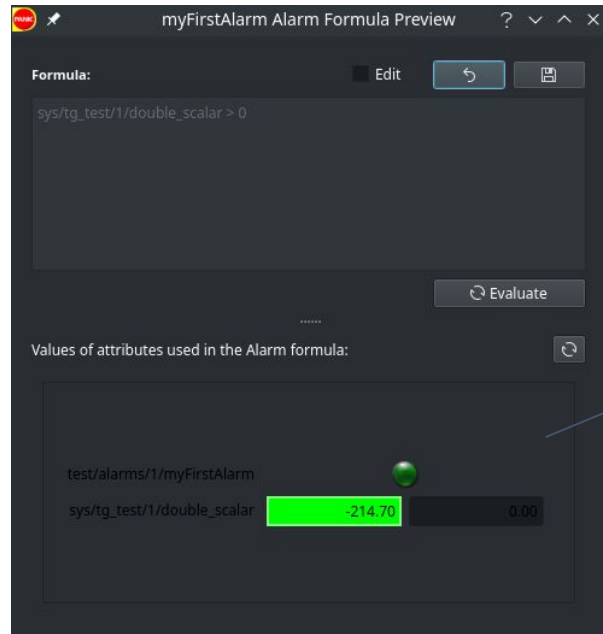


# EX.1 : Create an alarm from Tango Test device.

⚠ The Taurus Trend View is a powerful tool for visualizing the evolution of attributes over time.

Open a taurus trend by a button in the **PANIC GUI menu**. Then select your alarm **and open the "Show Values" preview** panel (also in the PANIC GUI menu) and drag the attributes from that panel to your trend.

See the alarm activity. The alarm will be triggered when the attribute is positive. The alarm is active in the positive wave part of the sinusoidal function



# EX.1 : Create an alarm from Tango Test device.

## 8. Check local email simulation

View the simulated email message triggered by the alarm.

<https://localhost:8025>

```

From localhost
Subject myFirstAlarm ALARM
To personal@email.com

Plain text Source

TAG: myFirstAlarm
ALARM at 2025-05-06 16:09:17

Alarm active since 2025-05-06 16:09:17
AlarmDevice: test/alarms/1
Description: Evaluate double_scalar in sys/tg_test/1
Severity: ALARM
Formula: sys/tg_test/1/double_scalar > 0

Eval: sys/tg_test/1/double_scalar > 0
Result: True

Values are:
sys/tg_test/1/double_scalar: 4.467812274525003

Alarm receivers are:
personal@email.com

PyAlarm Configuration:

test/alarms/1.AlarmThreshold : 1
test/alarms/1.AlertOnRecovery : false
test/alarms/1.AutoReset : 3600.0
test/alarms/1.Enabled : True
test/alarms/1.IgnoreExceptions : True
test/alarms/1.PollingPeriod : 1
test/alarms/1.Reminder : 0
test/alarms/1.RethrowAttribute : False
test/alarms/1.RethrowState : True

```

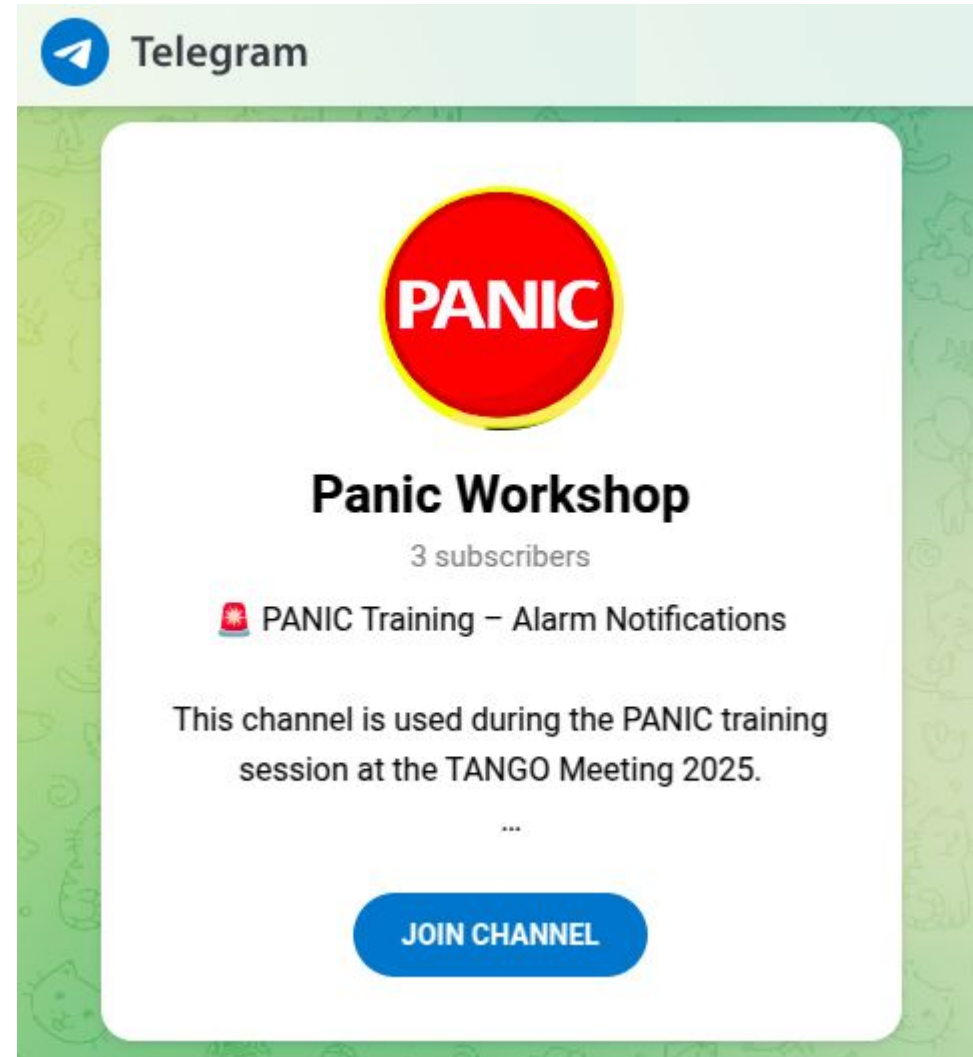
# Telegram Group for the Workshop:

Alarms sent during the exercises will be sent to a telegram group, you may subscribe if you were not able to setup a local mail server.



<https://t.me/+xHAXagP2vdZINzg8>  
TG:-[1002594519846](https://t.me/+xHAXagP2vdZINzg8)

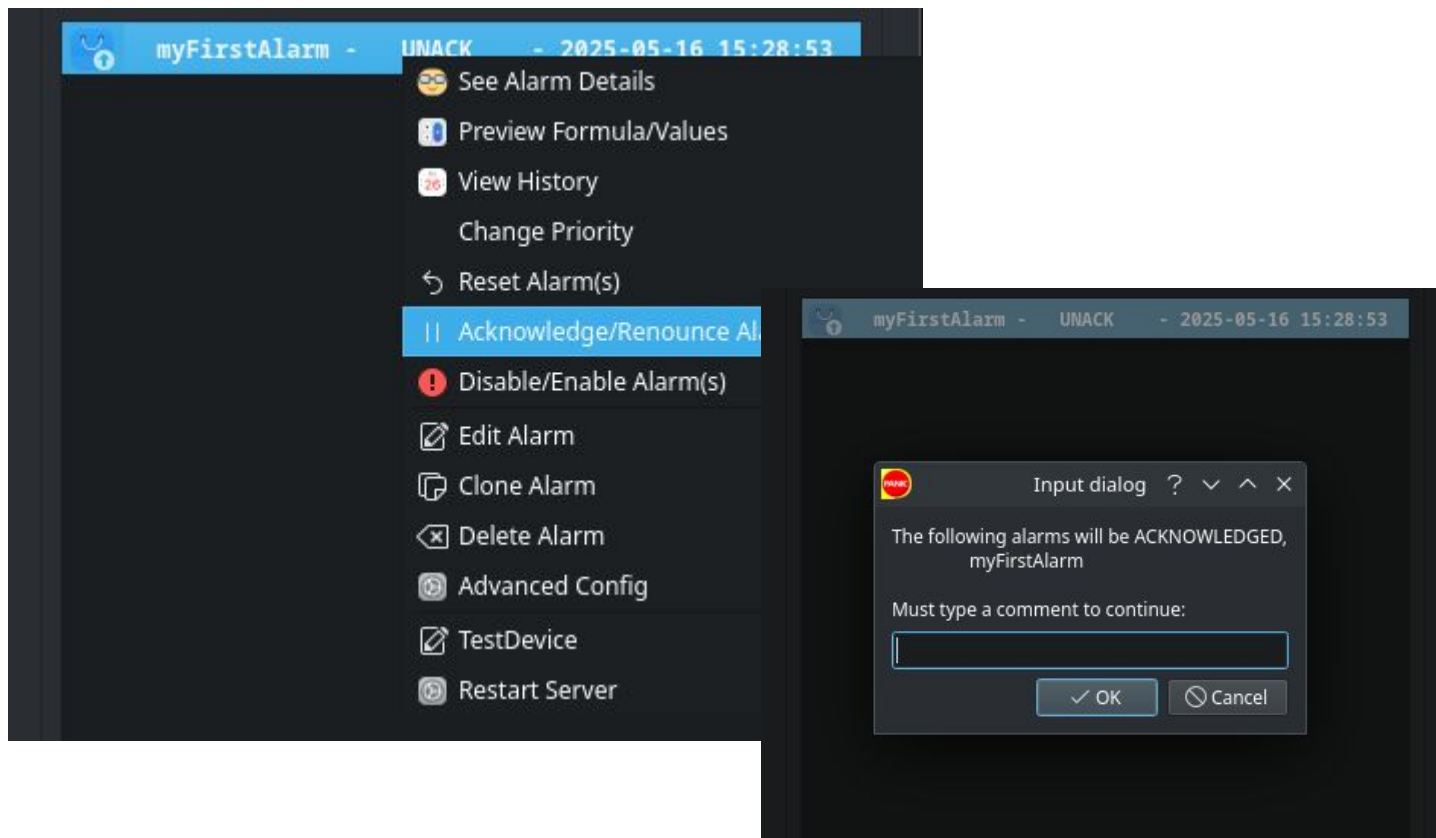
execute: `python3 scripts/setup_telegram.py`  
then, add %WORKSHOP as receiver of your alarms



# EX.1 : Create an alarm from Tango Test device.

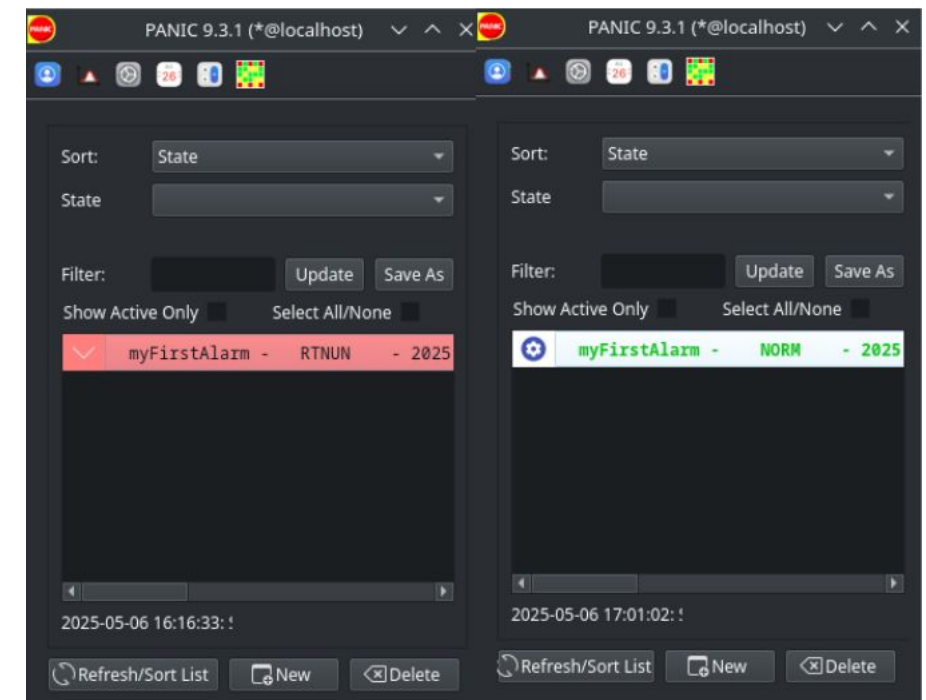
## 9. Acknowledge the alarm

Right-click on the alarm in the Panic GUI and select **"Acknowledge"**.



## 10. Alarm returns to normal state

Once the condition is false, the alarm resets to normal.



# EX.2 : Create an alarm with hysteresis and plot it

## 1. Create DynamicDs by script

To create alarms in this exercise and the next ones, we will use the **DynamicDs** device. It allows to create dynamic attributes and to set their values. Is a good way to simulate the behavior of a Tango device to test alarms.

```
export TANGO_HOST=localhost:10000
```

```
python3 scripts/launch_workshop_simulator.py
```

As the previous exercise, the script will run the server in a screen session. You can use the same commands to attach and detach the screen session.

For a full description of DynamicDS and its Dynamic Attributes behaviour see:

[https://gitlab.com/tango-controls/fandango/-/blob/master/doc/recipes/DynamicDS\\_and\\_Simulators.rst](https://gitlab.com/tango-controls/fandango/-/blob/master/doc/recipes/DynamicDS_and_Simulators.rst)

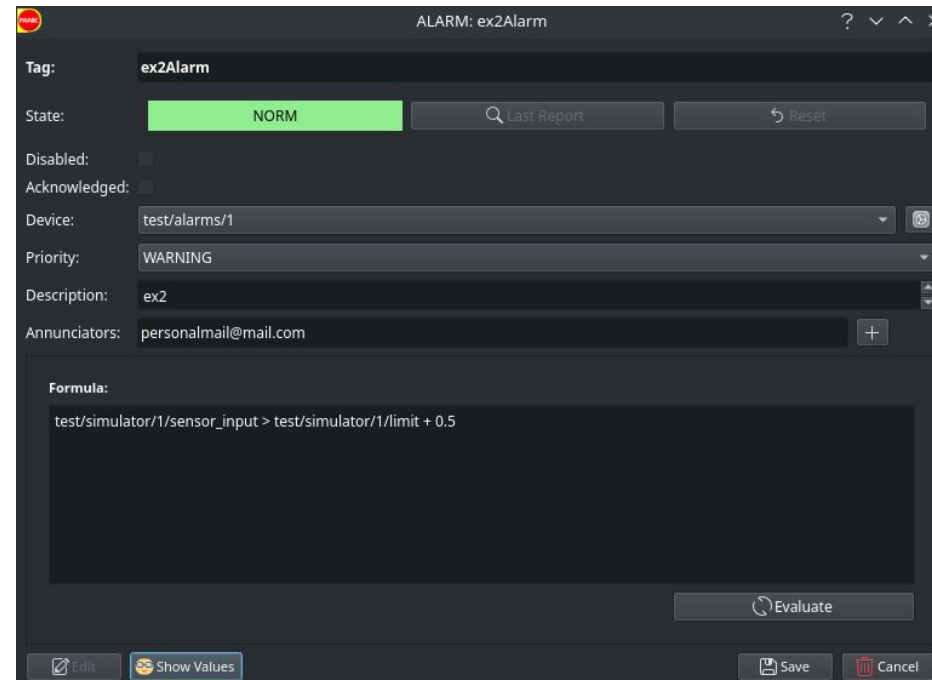


# EX.2 : Create an alarm with hysteresis and plot it

## 2. Create a new alarm

In the PANIC GUI, create a new alarm using the **"Create Alarm"** button

This alarm use an input attribute and a limit attribute. The alarm will be triggered when the input attribute value is greater than the limit attribute value but with a hysteresis of 0.5. This means that the alarm will only be triggered when the input attribute value is greater than the limit attribute value plus 0.5.



ALARM: ex2Alarm

Tag: ex2Alarm

State: **NORM** [Last Report] [Reset]

Disabled: ☐

Acknowledged: ☐

Device: test/alarms/1

Priority: WARNING

Description: ex2

Annunciators: personalmail@mail.com

Formula:

test/simulator/1/sensor\_input > test/simulator/1/limit + 0.5

[Evaluate]

[Edit] [Show Values] [Save] [Cancel]



# EX.2 : Create an alarm with hysteresis and plot it

## ex2Alarm Details:

- **Tag:** ex2Alarm
- **Device:** test/alarms/1
- **Priority:** WARNING
- **Description:** Evaluate sensor input with hysteresis
- **Annunciators:** personalmail@mail.com
- **Formula:**  
test/simulator/1/sensor\_input > test/simulator/1/limit + 0.5

The image shows two overlapping windows from a software interface. The background window is titled 'ALARM: ex2Alarm' and displays the configuration for an alarm. The foreground window is titled 'ex2Alarm Alarm Formula Preview' and shows the formula being used for the alarm.

**ALARM: ex2Alarm Configuration:**

- Tag:** ex2Alarm
- State:** NORM (indicated by a green bar)
- Buttons:** Last Report, Reset
- Disabled:** ☐
- Acknowledged:** ☐
- Device:** test/alarms/1
- Priority:** WARNING
- Description:** ex2
- Annunciators:** personalmail@mail.com
- Formula:** test/simulator/1/sensor\_input > test/simulator/1/limit + 0.5
- Buttons:** Edit, Show Values

**ex2Alarm Alarm Formula Preview:**

- Formula:** test/simulator/1/sensor\_input > test/simulator/1/limit + 0.5
- Buttons:** Edit, Evaluate
- Values of attributes used in the Alarm formula:**
  - test/alarms/1/ex2Alarm: 0.00
  - test/simulator/1/limit: 5.00
  - test/simulator/1/sensor\_input: 0.69

# EX.2 : Create an alarm with hysteresis and plot it

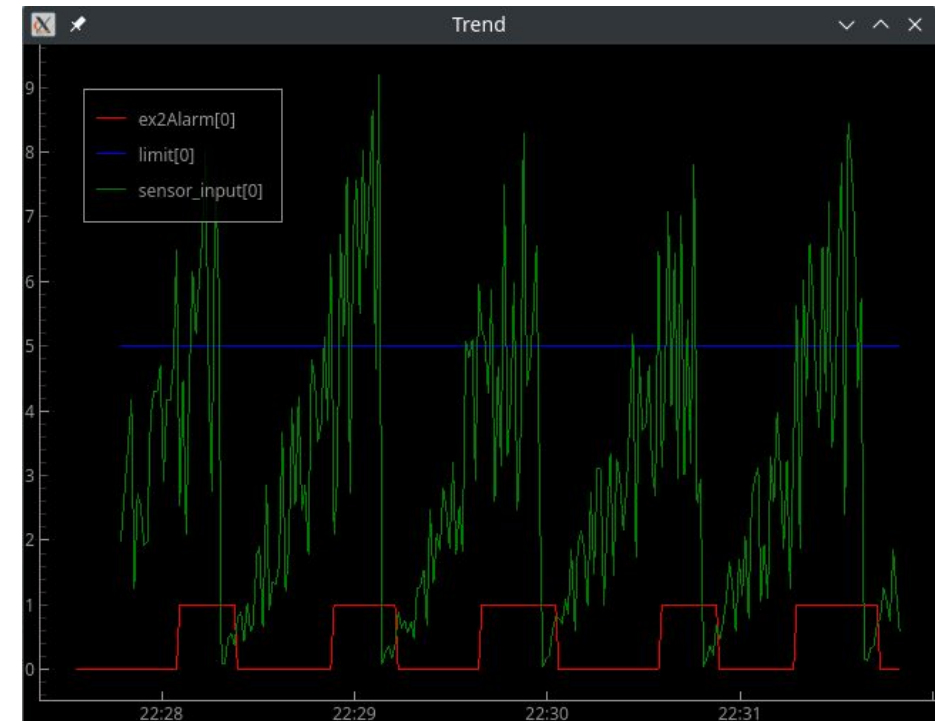
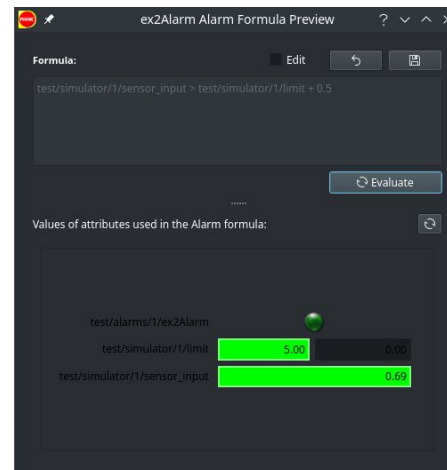
## 3. Plot the alarm

As in the previous exercise, open a taurus trend by a button in the PANIC GUI menu. Then select your alarm and open an alarm evaator (also in the PANIC GUI menu) and drag the attributes to your trend.

This alarm allows to see the alarm state depending on the input attribute value. Principal states are:

- **NORM**: The alarm condition is false. And the alarm is in normal state.
- **UNACK**: The alarm condition is true. And the alarm is in unacknowledged state.
- **ACK**: The alarm condition is true. And the alarm is in acknowledged state.
- **RTNUN**: The alarm condition is false. And the alarm is returned to normal state.

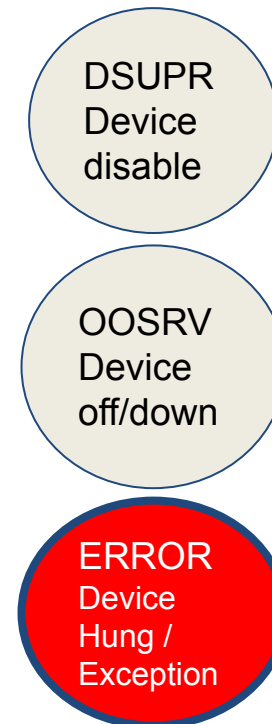
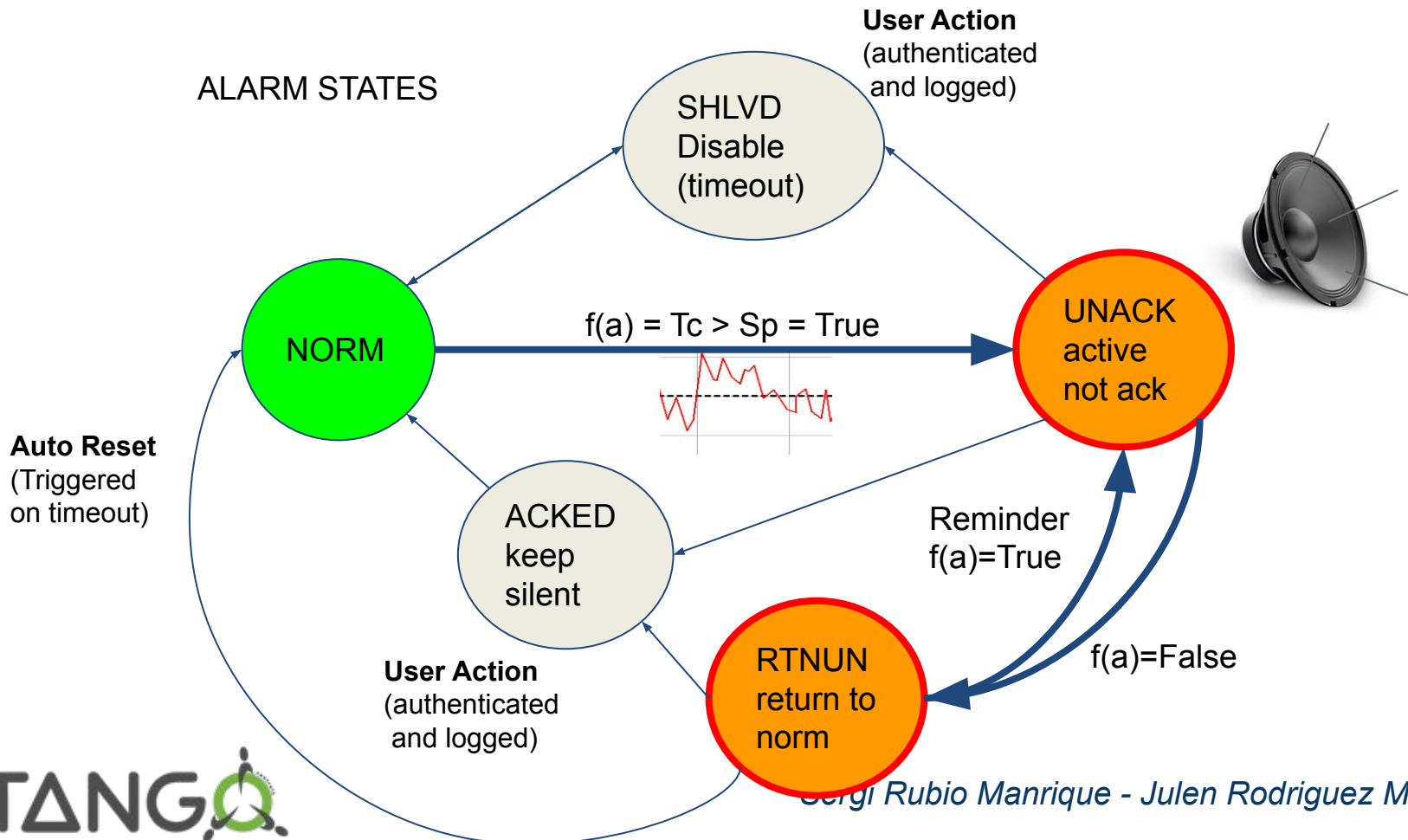
To know more about the alarm states, see the Alarm states documentation in this repository



# PANIC Alarm Cycle (IEC62682)

The process of alarm activation and notification is controlled by PyAlarm and Alarm formulas.  
Disabling and Acknowledging is controlled by authorized users via GUI.  
AutoReset and Reminder notifications can be setup optionally.

## SYSTEM STATES



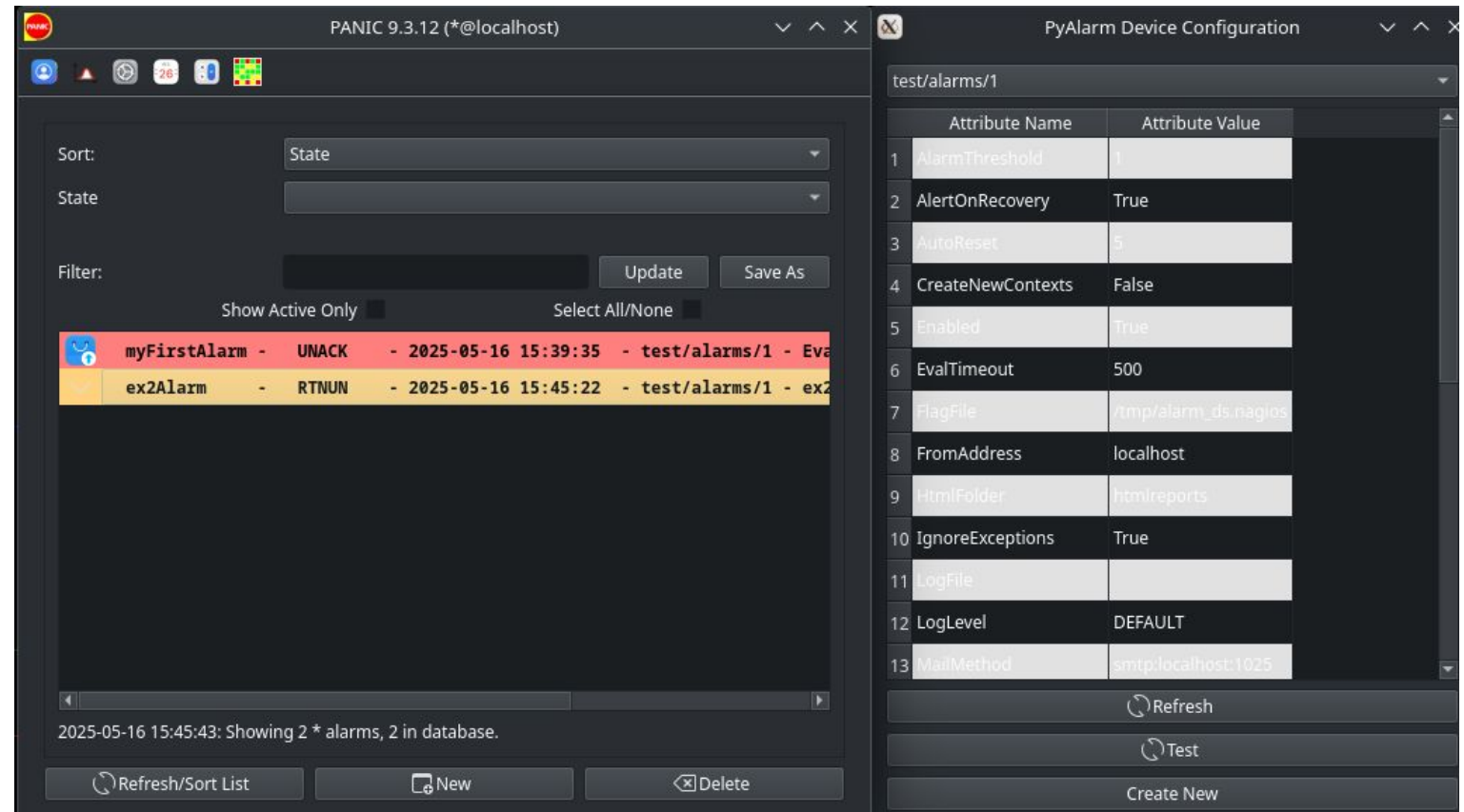
Alarms can be used to supervise the status of another PyAlarm.

# EX.2 : Create an alarm with hysteresis and plot it

## 5. Advanced Config

In the PANIC GUI, try to change the alarm properties by Advanced Config button in the alarm editor.

⚠ The advanced config allows to change the alarm properties by hand. But the workshop is already configured to use the training defaults. So you can change the properties but then revert to the previous values so next exercises will be not affected.



The screenshot shows two windows from the PANIC 9.3.12 application. The main window on the left displays a list of alarms. The status bar at the bottom indicates 'Showing 2 \* alarms, 2 in database.' The right window, titled 'PyAlarm Device Configuration', shows a table of attributes for the selected alarm.

	Attribute Name	Attribute Value
1	AlarmThreshold	1
2	AlertOnRecovery	True
3	AutoReset	5
4	CreateNewContexts	False
5	Enabled	True
6	EvalTimeout	500
7	FlagFile	/tmp/alarm_ds.nagios
8	FromAddress	localhost
9	HtmlFolder	htmlreports
10	IgnoreExceptions	True
11	LogFile	
12	LogLevel	DEFAULT
13	MailMethod	smtp:localhost:1025

## EX.3 : Create an alarm depending on another

For this exercise, we want to create an alarm that depends on another alarm.

In this exercise, we simulate a situation where a detector is powered on while the beam intensity is too high and no attenuation filter is in place.

This combination could easily occur due to a user mistake or automation error, and can lead to:

- Permanent detector damage
- Sensor saturation
- Unusable data or triggered interlocks

The alarm aims to detect not just a high-intensity condition, but a risky action performed in that context — activating a sensitive device under unsafe beam conditions.

It demonstrates how alarms can capture procedural violations, not just limit exceedances.

It is necessary to use the previous exercise alarm to create this alarm as the beam intensity alarm.

# EX.3 : Create an alarm depending on another

## 1. Create a new alarm

An alarm previously created represents its value in a Tango attribute in the PyAlarm device. This attribute is a boolean value that indicates if the alarm is active or not.

ALARM: ex3Alarm

Tag:

State: NORM Last Report Reset

Disabled: ☐

Acknowledged: ☐

Device:  ⚙️

Priority:

Description:

Annunciators:  +

Formula:

```
test/alarms/1/ex2Alarm
and test/simulator/1/detector_on
and not test/simulator/1/filter_inserted
```

⏸️ Evaluate

✎ Edit 👁 Show Values 💾 Save 🗑 Cancel



# EX.3 : Create an alarm depending on another

## ex3Alarm Details:

- **Tag:** ex3Alarm
- **Device:** test/alarms/1
- **Priority:** ALARM
- **Description:** Troiggered when the beam intensity alarm is active, the detector is powered on and the filter is not in place
- **Annunciators:** beamhead@mail.com

### Formula:

test/alarms/1/ex2Alarm

and test/simulator/1/detector\_on

and not test/simulator/1/filter\_inserted

The screenshot shows the configuration window for an alarm named 'ex3Alarm'. The window has a title bar with a red 'TANGO' logo, the text 'ALARM: ex3Alarm', and standard window controls. The configuration fields are as follows:

- Tag:** ex3Alarm
- State:** NORM (indicated by a green button). There are 'Last Report' and 'Reset' buttons next to it.
- Disabled:** ☐
- Acknowledged:** ☐
- Device:** test/alarms/1 (with a gear icon for configuration)
- Priority:** ALARM
- Description:** This alarm is triggered when a detector is powered on while the
- Annunciators:** beamlinehead@mail.com (with a '+' button to add more)

Below these fields is a 'Formula' section with a text area containing the following logic:

```
test/alarms/1/ex2Alarm
and test/simulator/1/detector_on
and not test/simulator/1/filter_inserted
```

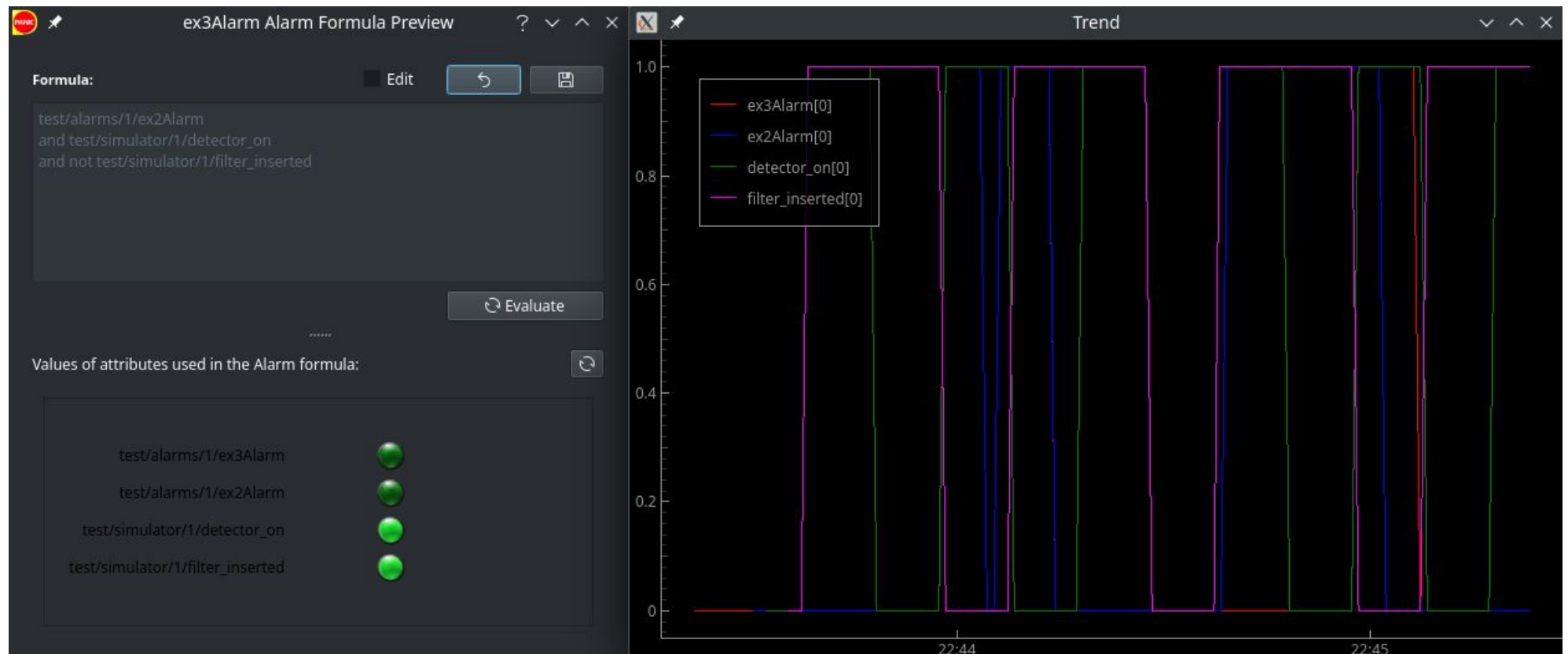
At the bottom right of the formula section is an 'Evaluate' button. The bottom of the window features a toolbar with 'Edit', 'Show Values', 'Save', and 'Cancel' buttons.

# EX.3 : Create an alarm depending on another

## 2. Plot the alarm

The alarm is active when the beam intensity alarm is active, the detector is powered on, and the filter is not in place.

As in the previous exercise, this could serve as a warning to advise control room operators to check the beam intensity. This new alarm, however, could be directed to the beamline responsible to disable the detector and put the filter in place



# EX.4 : Create an alarm using regexp and Panic API

**Create an alarm with regular expressions and panic api** Panic API allows to create alarms with code. This is useful to programmatically create alarms automatically, in cases where the alarm configuration is too complex to be done by hand or improve the maintainability and deployability of the alarms.

For this exercise, an alarm is created using regular expressions to match the attribute names. This is useful to create alarms that match a group of attributes with similar names.

The alarm is triggered when any of the previous exercise alarms are triggered. This is useful to create alarms that match a group of alarms with similar names.

## 1. Create a new alarm

```
python3 scripts/create_ex4AnyAlarmActive.py
```

# EX.4 : Create an alarm using regexp and Panic API

scripts/create\_ex4AnyAlarmActive.py

```
import panic

# Connect to PANIC API
alarms = panic.api()
device = 'test/alarms/1'

# Alarm details
tag = 'ex4AnyAlarmActive'
formula = 'test/alarms/1/myFirstAlarm or any(FIND(test/alarms/1/ex*Alarm))'
description = 'Active if myFirstAlarm or any ex*Alarm is active.'
receivers = 'beamline@cells.es'
severity = 'ALARM'

# Create or update ex4AnyAlarm
if tag not in alarms:
    alarms.add(
        tag = tag,
        device = device,
        formula = formula,
        receivers = receivers,
        severity = severity,
        description = description
    )
    print(f'✅ Created alarm: {tag}')
else:
    alarms[tag].formula = formula
    alarms[tag].description = description
    alarms[tag].severity = severity
    alarms[tag].receivers = receivers
    print(f'🔄 Updated alarm: {tag}')
alarms[tag].write()
```

# EX.4 : Create an alarm using regexp and Panic API

## 2. Formula validation

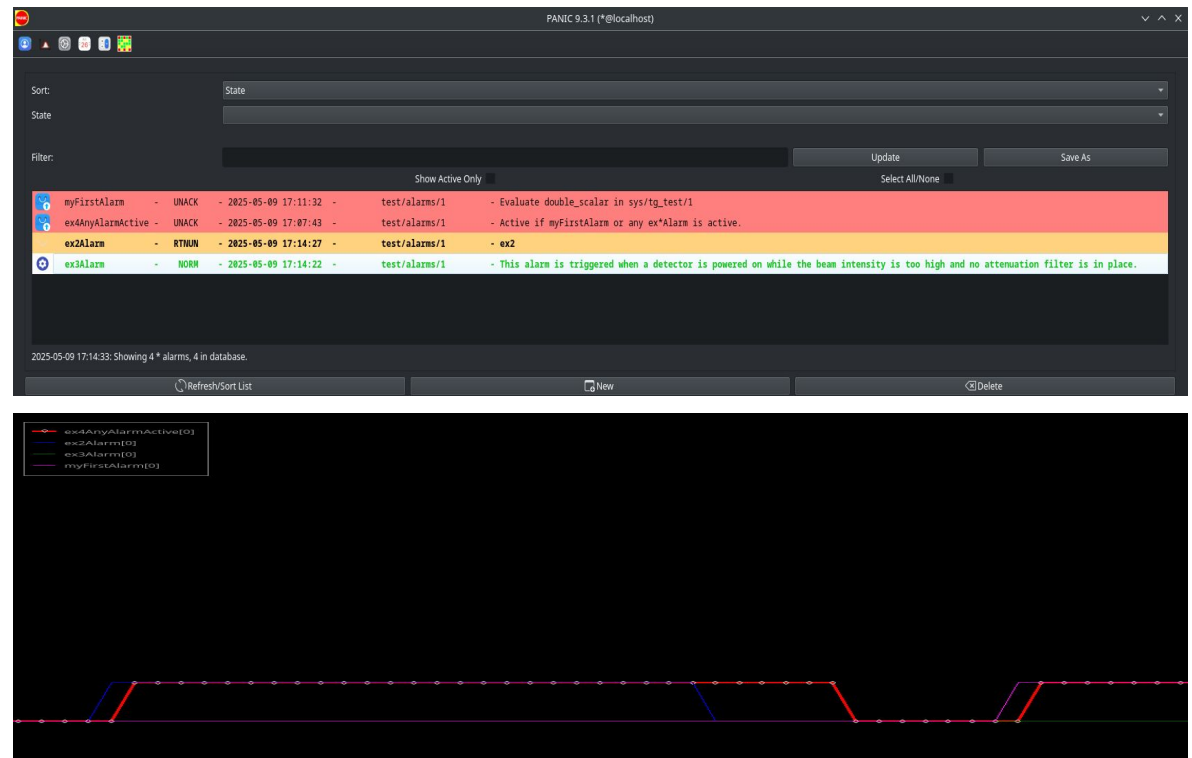
The formula is validated by the alarm evaluator. The formula is a regular expression that matches the attribute names of the ex\*Alarm pattern and also myFirstAlarm.

```
test/alarms/1/myFirstAlarm
or any(FIND(test/alarms/1/ex*Alarm))
```

Play with the API to create  
as many generic alarms  
as you want (on max values from  
tg\_test, on min values, ...)

Many examples of alarms recipes  
are available at:

<https://gitlab.com/tango-controls/panic/-/tree/training/doc/recipes>



# PANIC Alarm Formulas

PANIC Alarms are single-line human readable codes, on which any reference to TANGO attributes, either by direct name or wildcard search, is replaced by its latest acquired value.

explicit alarm:

T1\_ALARM = my/plc/01/Temperature > 45

alarm on attribute quality:

T2\_ALARM = my/plc/02/Temperature.ALARM

alarm on attribute change:

T2\_ALARM = my/plc/02/Temperature.delta > 5

composed alarm:

TG\_ALARM = T1\_ALARM OR T2\_ALARM

alarm on wildcard search:

TS\_ALARM = any( t>SETPOINT for t in FIND(\* /plc/\* /Temperature) )

alarm on aggregated values:

TMax\_ALARM = max( FIND( \* /plc/\* /Temperature )) > 45

In addition to FIND, alarm formulas allow multiple "macros" that allow to access previous values history, timestamp, delta.

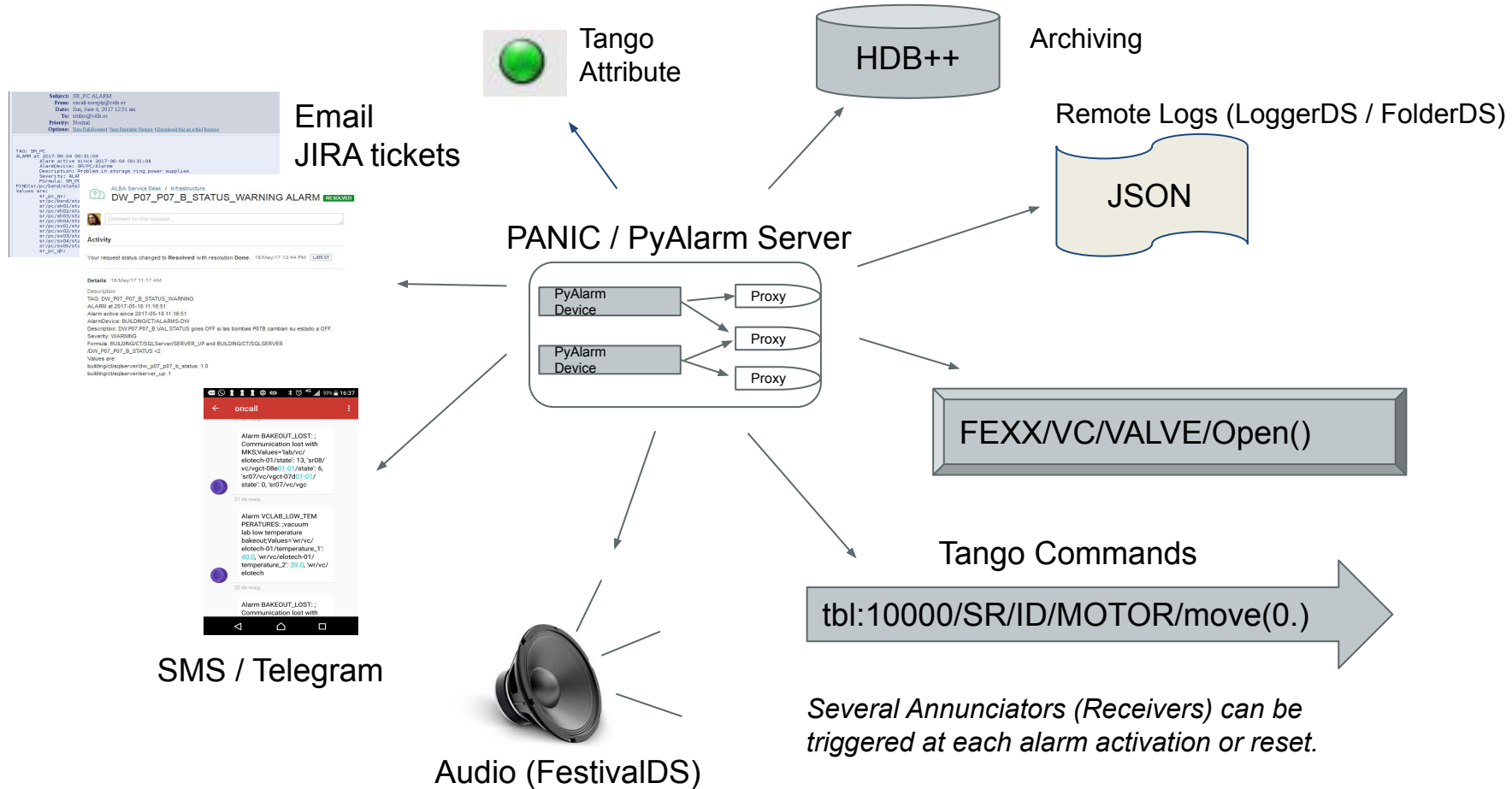


# PANIC Notification Services

PANIC Provides Several notification services, and allow to easily integrate new annunciators via Tango Commands and Scripts.

- **Email** : Provided by PyAlarm, requires the previous configuration of an SMTP email server or the OS mail application.
- **Telegram**: Provided by PyAlarm, it is aimed at sending Telegram messages to groups via Telegram API.
- **SMS**: Provided by PyAlarm, requires a compatible python smslib library and an online provider of html-to-sms services.
- **Sound and Speech**: Provided by FestivalDS device server, publicly available, it allows to play sounds and text-to-speech conversion on Linux systems using the open-source festival library.
- **Tango Commands**: PyAlarm can execute Tango Commands (if previously registered by PANIC Admin). This allows to, in response to an alarm condition, move motors to home positions, open or close valves, switch off heaters, ...
- **OS Scripts**: PyAlarm can execute OS commands (if previously registered by PANIC Admin). This allows to, in response to an alarm condition, restart processes, cleanup logs, execute an script on the command line ...

# PANIC Notification Services



Several Annunciators (Receivers) can be triggered at each alarm activation or reset.

# Prevent Alarm Flooding! (IEC626862)

The standard requires the Alarm System to be carefully tuned to prevent Alarm Flooding or "operator overload".  
This is achieved by carefully adjusting the PyAlarm device configuration.  
This is the most complex process of configuring the Alarm System.

Table 2: KPI's[4]EEMUA

<u>KPI</u>	Acceptable value	Flood
Alarms/Day	12*24*operator	
Alarms/Hour	12/operator [UM]	>=60
Alarms/10mins	2/operator	>=10
Alarm Peaks (N hours with N>30)	(<1%)	
(floods) 10mins with > 10	(<1%)	
TOP 10 recurring alarms	(<5% of total)	
Chattering alarms	0	
Stale alarms/day	< 5	
Priority proportion	80,15,5,1 80% of alarms should not require immediate action	
Unauthorized alarm change	0	

# Extra Content: Telegram

**Create an alarm with Telegram notifications** Panic allows to create alarms with Telegram notifications. This is useful to send notifications to a group of people or to a specific person.

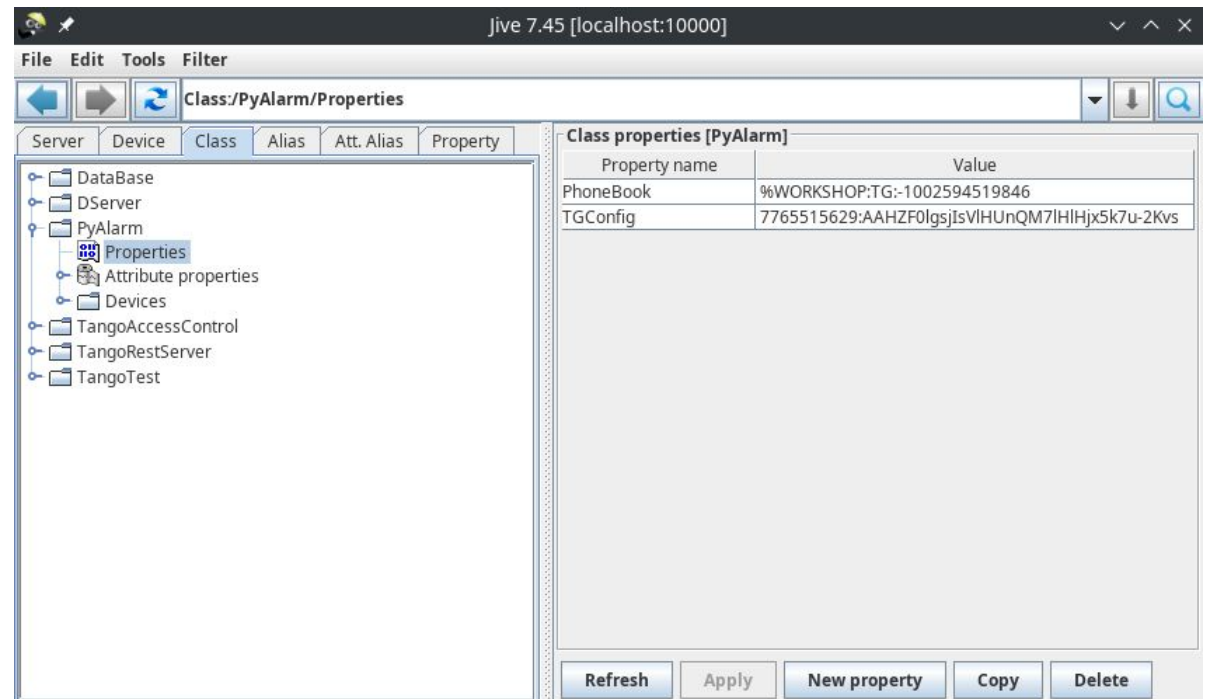
This functionality needs a Telegram account and a bot configuration. To see an overview of this functionality, see the Telegram documentation:

<https://gitlab.com/tango-controls/panic/-/blob/training/doc/recipes/TelegramSetup.rst>

Configuration of notification services may be quite complex, the Phonebook property and widget are used to hide this complexity from the user by defining aliases to common receivers.

To enable Telegram alarms on your local setup (only valid for this workshop):

- execute: `python3 scripts/setup_telegram.py`
- then, add %WORKSHOP as receiver of your alarms



# ExtraContent: Festival and speech alarms

## Create an alarm with physical notifications as a sound alarm

To create an alarm with physical notifications, we will use the FestivalDS device. This device allows to create alarms with sound or visual notifications.

### 1. Install festival

For Debian or Ubuntu:

```
sudo apt-get install festival
```

For MacOS:

```
brew install festvox/cli/festival
```

In order to test the festival DS device, try these commands

```
echo "hello world" | festival --tts
```

If this step fails, then try

```
sudo apt install pulseaudio-utils
```

```
echo "hello world" | padsp festival --tts
```

Remember which of the two commands worked, as we will have to set it up on the next step.

You may also use FestivalDS to play .wav files, this can be tested using

```
aplay /usr/share/sounds/speech-dispatcher/test.wav
```

# ExtraContent: Festival and speech alarms

Create an alarm with physical notifications as a sound alarm

To create an alarm with physical notifications, we will use the FestivalDS device. This device allows to create alarms with sound or visual notifications.

## 2. Execute the script

The script `set_up_festivalds.py` creates a new server with the FestivalDS device and configures `myFirstAlarm` to do actions with the FestivalDS device.

```
python3 scripts/set_up_festivalds.py
```

After running the script, you should restart the `pyAlarm` server to see the changes.

⚠ Remember to stop your `pyAlarm` server screen session using `screen -ls` and `screen -r <session_id>`, using `Ctrl+C` to stop the server and then start it again with the command:

```
PyAlarm tango_meeting -v4
```

When `myFirstAlarm` is triggered, the FestivalDS device will play a sound saying "Caution! You are gaining more control over the PANIC system. Thank you for participating in this workshop."

# PyAlarm Configuration Parameters

Each PyAlarm device is an "evaluation machine" for a list of Alarms, collecting attribute values and recalculating the formulas and alarm states according a pre-defined configuration; independent for each device.

Amongst others, typical configuration parameters would be:

**PollingPeriod:** time in seconds at which alarms will be re-evaluated

**AlarmThreshold:** number of occurrences of each alarm (formula = True) to consider it active (or RTNUN)

**AlertOnRecovery:** whether to send a new notification when the alarm state returns to normal

**Reminder:** whether to send a new notification every X seconds or when alarm oscillates

**AutoReset:** number of seconds after which an alarm in RTNUN goes back to NORM

**StartupDelay:** number of seconds to wait after a reboot before starting evaluating alarms

**Enabled:** a pre-condition to enable/disable the whole PyAlarm device

**EvalTimeout:** maximum time to spent evaluating an alarm

**UseEvents:** whether to use ZMQ events to read attributes

**IgnoreExceptions:** whether to consider an error in a formula as an activation or not

**MaxMessagesPerAlarm:** maximum number of messages to send per day



# PyAlarm Configuration Parameters

In addition to PyAlarm Device properties, we also have Class Properties, that affect the apply to the whole Alarm System.

Amongst others, typical class configuration parameters would be:

**SMSConfig:** configuration of SMS plugin

**MailConfig:** configuration of Mail plugin

**TelegramConfig:** configuration of Telegram plugin

**UserValidator:** python path to the user validator class

**AllowedActions:** scripts that can be executed on alarm

**PanicAdminUsers:** users with admin access to the configuration

**FromAddress:** receiver address to be append to all sent messages

**Phonebook:** aliases to common alarm notification services or groups of receivers

# How Alarm System is used?

PANIC Alarm System is used by all technical and scientific Divisions at ALBA.

As in the same facility (e.g. Linac) we may have different usage depending on the group (Operators, Vacuum, Safety, ...); we use the distributed nature of PANIC to separate alarms of different groups in different processes.

- An specific group (e.g. Vacuum) have permissions to modify their alarms, **but not the others**.
- Some Alarms can be disabled for an specific state during shutdown, without disabling all the system (e.g. keeping cryogenia always on).
- These permissions apply to both Alarm setup and Acknowledge, for each system a short list of "**admins**" have total permissions.

Alarms and formulas are created in different ways depending on user permissions:

- Accelerator Operators are **trained on Tango Controls** System usage, and **have permissions** to create/modify/disable alarms.
- Vacuum Engineers and Technicians are also trained, having different permission levels depending on the laboratory.
- Scientists, Infrastructure Engineers and Safety technicians specify alarm formulas, but then create **Jira tickets** to configure them.

Reaction on alarms:

- **Accelerator Operators** react on **speech and sound** notifications, plus email with alarm summary. **Control Room takes charge of it**.
- **Vacuum and Infrastructure** receive the Alarms on **SMS**, and they react on **OnCall** in case of Vacuum/Cooling/Cryogenia incident.
- **Scientists** may share a **Telegram Group** to receive alarms from their Laboratory/Beamline. Each group decides the reaction to it.

# PANIC User Interface

PANIC is a distributed Alarm System.  
But this is transparent to the user  
thanks to the unified PANIC API and  
GUI.

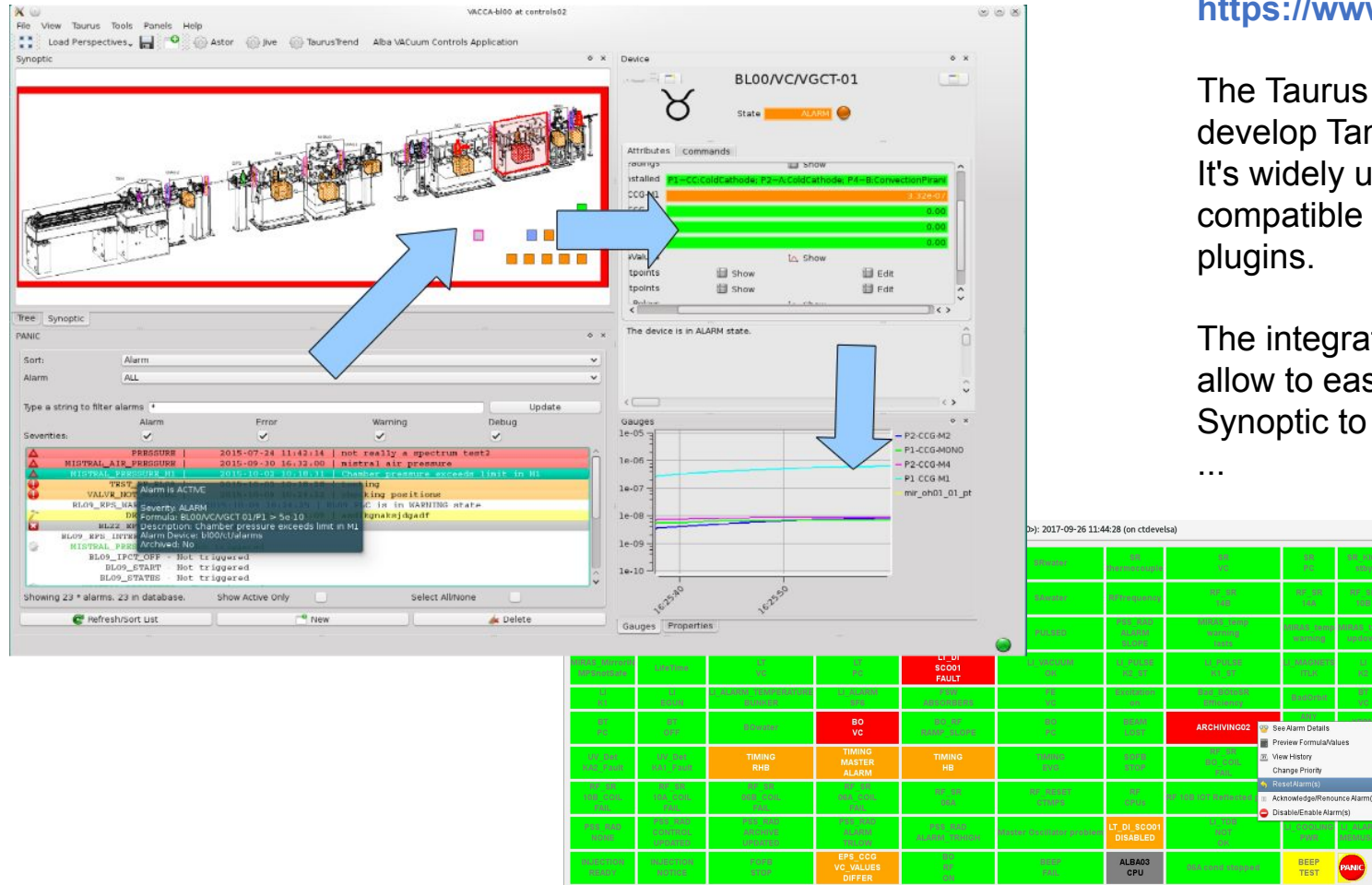
PANIC GUI allows to visualize, create,  
modify, disable, acknowledge, filter and  
configure Alarms in the whole system.

All Editing and Disabling/Acknowledging  
actions are restricted to admins and  
receivers and must be validated by  
authentication plugins (e.g. LDAP).

Admin users can access to each  
PyAlarm configuration and system-side  
setup.

The screenshot displays the PANIC 6.4.0 user interface. The main window shows a list of alarms with columns for Name, State, Time, and Location. A filter bar is at the top. An LDAP login dialog is overlaid on the alarm list, prompting for a user and password. To the right, the 'PyAlarm Device Configuration' window is open, showing settings for the 'SR01\_VACUUM' alarm, including its name, status, severity, and formula. At the bottom, the 'PANIC Alarm Panel' shows a grid of alarm status indicators, with one alarm (BL29\_EFS WARNING) highlighted in red. A context menu is open over this alarm, showing options like 'See Alarm Details', 'Preview Formula/Values', 'View History', 'Change Severity', 'Reset Alarm(s)', 'Acknowledge/Relinquish Alarm(s)', and 'Disable/Enable Alarm(s)'.

# PANIC Integration with Taurus 4 Applications



<https://www.taurus-scada.org/>

The Taurus Library is a python Qt toolkit to develop Tango Controls Graphical Interfaces. It's widely used on the Tango Community and compatible with other Control Systems via plugins.

The integration of PANIC widgets with Taurus allow to easily link Alarms with Synoptics, Synoptic to Device panels, Panels with plots,

...

# Future of PANIC : developments on sight

PANIC and TANGO are technologies in continuous evolution, as well as our scientific facilities and needs.

In the last years, and after collecting the experience of our users at ALBA and all the other institutes currently using PANIC, we have made several proposals of improvement for the PANIC System:

- Improving system responsiveness using ALARM Event from TANGO, executing alarms on hardware/system request, reduce polling.
- Integrate usability / filtering / logging capabilities implemented by Max IV, Soleil, Solaris and S2Innovation (web tools).
- New logging system and better integration with TANGO Archiving (HDB++).
- Alarm Views, provide dashboards per-user to improve filtering on big control systems and prevent operator overload.
- Process and host profiling, extend PANIC capabilities to provide alarms not only on Control System variables but on IT infrastructure.
- Better configuration, allow to have shared setups between control systems, making easier the maintenance.
- Alarm templates, to allow users interacting with multiple systems (e.g. Vacuum) to apply similar alarm formulas on each of the laboratories.
- PyAlarm options rationalization, simplify the parameters to make the configuration more transparent to operators.
- Operation "Contexts" : enable / disable alarms depending on the status (**operation / test / shutdown**).
- **Recover some functionalities lost on the py3 transition, deprecation of functionalities not used.**

# PANIC : Online Resources

Git Repository, tickets and merge requests :

<https://gitlab.com/tango-controls/panic>

<https://gitlab.com/tango-controls/panic/-/blob/training/doc/PyAlarmUserGuide.rst>



Online Documentation and Recipes :

<https://tango-controls.readthedocs.io/projects/panic>

<https://gitlab.com/tango-controls/panic/-/tree/documentation/doc/recipes>



<https://www.tango-controls.org/>

Panic is already available in Conda environments via **pip install**; and in the process of being added to conda-forge:

<https://pypi.org/project/panic>

<https://pypi.org/project/pytango/>

<https://pypi.org/project/fandango>

<https://pypi.org/project/taurus>



IC@MS: commercial PANIC web-client by S2Innovation: <https://s2innovation.com/>

PANIC is a core project within the TANGO Community. An online training course is being prepared using docker for easy deployment. Will be published soon in the tango-controls youtube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@tango-controls>

Time for Questions!



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