

LArForum.org -reboot

<http://larforum.hep.manchester.ac.uk/>

Andrzej Szlc

Forum/Bulletin Board

- It's a tool widely used in the IT/open source community for ideas/troubleshooting/discussing solutions (e.g. ROOT, ubuntu, linuxquestions.org, CDF and many others...).
- We tried it for MicroBooNE-related LArSOFT help purposes two years ago (A.S. + J. Asaadi)
- After initial success it seemed to wind down (potentially due to 10th floor availability/hardware focus ?)
- Given the number of experiments and international collaborators I think it is worth it to retry.

MICROBOONE	TOPICS	POSTS	LAST POST
Forum Announcements Announcements, Tips and Tricks to use the Forum.	1	1	by andrzej Tue Apr 02, 2013 1:41 pm
LArSOFT Stuff All you ever wanted to know about LArSOFT but were afraid to ask. Subforums: LArSOFT 101, Tips, Tricks and HowTos, Discussion of Algorithms, The Valley of Despair	29	82	by nathanieltagg Thu May 09, 2013 9:39 am
Physics R&D A forum to discuss subjects related to the Physics R&D group. Supernovae, Cosmic Rays, Vertical Slice Tests - whatever you may like. Subforums: Cosmic Rays, SuperNovae detection	0	0	No posts
Calibration WG A forum to discuss all things calibration Moderator: thomas	1	1	by thomas Fri Apr 05, 2013 12:52 pm
SandBox This is a place to play around with the forums or just talk about things unrelated to physics. Or related. Or whatever you like.	1	9	by andrzej Tue Apr 02, 2013 1:56 pm

WHO IS ONLINE

In total there are 2 users online :: 2 registered, 0 hidden and 0 guests (based on users active over the past 5 minutes)
 Most users ever online was 11 on Fri Mar 29, 2013 2:19 pm

Registered users: andrzej, Google [Bot]
 Legend: Administrators, Global moderators, MicroBooNE

What we wanted

- We wanted a platform that would be easily searchable, somewhat informal and allowed easy and quick exchange of information.
- PhpBB (open source) provides most of the functionality:
 - Can divide conversation into subforums/topics
 - Robust search function
 - Formatting options to ease posting code.
 - The user can tailor the level of her/his participation:
 - Notification by chat
 - RSS feed
 - Daily or weekly mail digests
 - Visiting the page.

But we already have “X”, why do we need a forum?

- On MicroBooNE we have many ways of exchanging information, but none of them has all of the functionalities we'd like:
 - Skype chat: Fast, but difficult to find archives – Questions may repeat given enough time.
 - Listserv mailing lists: search function is not good.
 - DocDB – no way to comment/reply quickly/ask questions
 - E-log – no easy structuring into topics.

How to sign up:

- Register: (protected by captcha and password requirements.)
- You need to be approved and added to a relevant group to see anything.
- Groups have different levels of access, i.e. whole parts of forum can be made invisible based on group privileges.

A lot of interest from
Russia, Ukraine etc..
i.e. spam-bots

What is there



larforum.org

A forum to discuss LArTPCs, preferably MicroBooNE

Search... Search

Advanced search

Board index

User Control Panel (0 new messages) • View your posts

{ SMARTFEED } News FAQ Statistics Members Logout [andrzej]

It is currently Thu May 09, 2013 4:23 pm
[Moderator Control Panel]

Last visit was: Thu May 09, 2013 2:01 pm

View unanswered posts • View unread posts • View new posts • View active topics

Mark forums read

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What is there (2)

LArSOFT Stuff

Mark subforums read

FORUM	TOPICS	POSTS	LAST POST
 LArSOFT 101 A Young Lady's/Gentleman's first guide to all things LArSoft.	4	10	by andrzej  Fri Apr 19, 2013 12:16 pm
 Tips, Tricks and HowTos A forum, wherein a young LArSofter may share his knowledge and exploits with his peers.	6	17	by nathanieltagg  Mon Apr 29, 2013 8:57 am
 Discussion of Algorithms A forum where a LArSofter, that has earned his spurs shall discuss the intricacies of algorithms, while sipping on cognac, or another classy beverage of her/his choice.	0	0	No posts
 The Valley of Despair A place where a lost LArSofter shall signal the malfunctioning of Modules, Services or LArSoft in General in the hopes that some gentle soul will fix the problem.	8	41	by echurch  Thu May 09, 2013 6:50 pm
 MicroBooNE hack-day All things related to the MicroBooNE hack-day idea proposed by Wes Moderator: wketchum	7	9	by bjpjones  Mon Apr 22, 2013 8:33 am
 Meeting Minutes Minutes of various get togethers.	2	2	by wketchum  Fri Mar 29, 2013 3:58 pm

Mark topics read • 2 topics • Page 1 of 1

ANNOUNCEMENTS	REPLIES	VIEWS	LAST POST
 Work in progress by andrzej » Fri Mar 29, 2013 2:46 pm	2	17	by bcarts  Mon Apr 01, 2013 4:42 pm

TOPICS	REPLIES	VIEWS	LAST POST
 GEANT by TiaMiceli » Thu Apr 18, 2013 6:40 pm	0	12	by TiaMiceli  Thu Apr 18, 2013 6:40 pm

Display topics from previous: Sort by

What is there (3)

Board index < MicroBooNE < LArSOFT Stuff < The Valley of Despair

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[Moderator Control Panel]

The Valley of Despair

NEWTOPIC* Search this forum... Search

Mark topics read • 8 topics • Page 1 of 1

TOPICS	REPLIES	VIEWS	LAST POST
Standard Reconstruction by nathanieltagg » Tue May 07, 2013 9:44 am	7	18	by echurch Thu May 09, 2013 6:50 pm
Oh Look, a Seg Fault ... from Geometry? (SOLVED!) by wketchum » Thu Apr 25, 2013 3:17 pm	3	14	by brebel Fri Apr 26, 2013 5:26 pm
Weird gdml parsing bug - CLOSED by bjpjones » Mon Apr 01, 2013 5:31 pm	7	44	by bjpjones Thu Apr 04, 2013 12:26 pm
The Grid of Despair (and, frankly, Woe) by adams » Tue Apr 02, 2013 8:21 pm	2	23	by adams Wed Apr 03, 2013 3:49 pm
Service unable to find requested service with compiler type by adams » Wed Apr 03, 2013 10:01 am	4	11	by adams Wed Apr 03, 2013 10:45 am
exception ---- Can't Find Nearest Channel by adams » Mon Apr 01, 2013 11:47 am	7	37	by adams Tue Apr 02, 2013 6:23 pm
Error from larsoft - Geometry Service, SOLVED by adams » Mon Apr 01, 2013 10:53 am	1	25	by andrzej Mon Apr 01, 2013 10:59 am
Recursive #include directive by bcarls » Thu Mar 28, 2013 1:33 pm	2	17	by bcarls Thu Mar 28, 2013 1:36 pm

Display topics from previous: All Topics Sort by Post time Descending Go

NEWTOPIC*

Mark topics read • 8 topics • Page 1 of 1

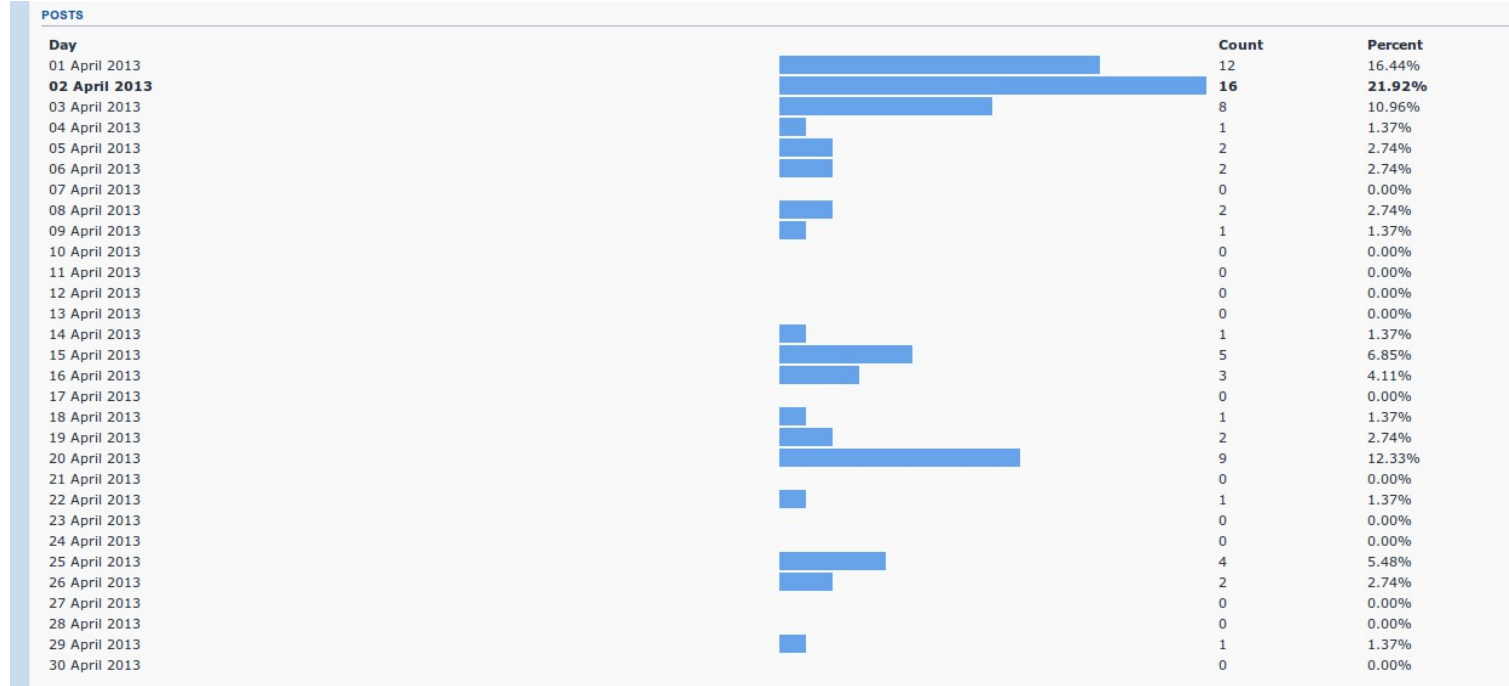
Some Statistics (at peak popularity):

Board index

User Control Panel (0 new messages) • View your posts

{ SMARTFEED } News FAQ **Statistics** Members Logout [andrzej]

1 2 3 4 5



Average topics per day: 0.77

Total posts: 73

Average posts per day: 2.43

Total user registrations: 14

Average registrations per day:
0.47

Most Active Forum: LarSOFT

Users registered: 36 up to now.

Other details

- A user can set their own email digest, RSS feed, or jabber chat notification (gchat works, hangouts had problems – may need to debug)
- The uboone_analysis_tools and uboone_rd list had daily digests that were sent at 5pm every day if there was activity in their respective subforums.
 - Never got email reply to work – this would be extremely useful to get more people involved.
- Relatively easy to add new forums.
- Possible to extend functionality – lots of phpBB modules available (e.g. stats and email digests).

Path Forward

- Forum reinstalled from backups on dedicated server in Manchester.
- Running version phpBB 3.0.12 → 3.1 available, but upgrade seems painful.
- This can then be connected back to larforum.org (FNAL now owns domain name)
- For this to be successful it will be crucial to get experts and “citizen-experts” involved (we have had success with this) in order to reach critical mass.
- More admins/moderators needed as well.
- Do we try to keep it informal or not?

Conclusions

- Setting up an inter-experiment forum driven by the users has the potential of strengthening the community part of LarSoft project.
- It will allow building a knowledge base of existing problems which will save time in the future.
- It should soften the learning curve of LArSoft for people offsite.
- PhpBB is an open-source way of doing this – it's not perfect but it has most of the functionality.
- The server is working, we can try to get the summer students involved to gain critical mass?
- Suggestions/requests?