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# **All Yarns Are Beautiful Documentation**

*Release 1*

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August 17, 2014



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## 1.1 Main AYAB GUI module

Provides an Interface for users to operate AYAB using a GUI.

**class** `ayab.ayab.GenericThread` (*function, \*args, \*\*kwargs*)  
A generic thread wrapper for functions on threads.

**class** `ayab.ayab.GuiMain`  
GuiMain is the main object that handles the instance of AYAB's GUI from `ayab_gui.UiForm`.

GuiMain inherits from `QMainWindow` and instanciates a window with the form components form `ayab_gui.UiForm`.

**apply\_image\_transform** (*transform\_type, \*args*)  
Executes an image transform specified by key and args.

Calls a function from `transform_dict`, forwarding args and the image, and replaces the `QtImage` on scene.

**flip\_image** ()  
Public mirror current Image function.

**getSerialPorts** ()  
Returns a list of all USB Serial Ports

**invert\_image** ()  
Public invert current Image function.

**load\_image\_from\_string** (*image\_str*)  
Loads an image into `self.ui.image_pattern_view` using a temporary `QGraphicsScene`

**load\_pil\_image\_on\_scene** (*image\_obj*)  
Loads the PIL image on a `QtScene` and sets it as the current scene on the Image View.

**mirror\_image** ()  
Public mirror current Image function.

**rotate\_left** ()  
Public rotate left current Image function.

**rotate\_right** ()  
Public rotate right current Image function.

**set\_enabled\_plugin** (*plugin\_name=None*)  
Enables plugin, sets up gui and returns the `plugin_object` from the plugin selected on `module_dropdown`.

**smart\_resize()**  
Executes the smart resize process including dialog .

**updateProgress** (*progress*)  
Updates the Progress Bar.

**update\_file\_selected\_text\_field** (*route*)  
Sets self.image\_file\_route and ui.filename\_lineedit to route.

## 1.2 Knitting Plugin API

**class** `ayab.plugins.knitting_plugin.KnittingPlugin` (*callbacks\_dict*)

A generic plugin implementing a state machine for knitting.

Subclasses inherit the basic State Machine defined in `__init__`.

**cleanup\_ui** (*ui*)  
Cleans up and reverts changes to ui done by `setup_ui`.

**get\_configuration\_from\_ui** (*ui*)  
Loads options dict with a given parent QtGui object. Required for save-load functionality.

**Returns** A dict with configuration.

**Return type** dict

**onconfigure** (*e*)  
Callback when state machine executes `configure(parent_ui = parent, options={})`

This state gets called to configure the plugin for knitting. It can either be called when first configuring the plugin, when an error had happened and reset is necessary. The parent ui is expected to hold an object with properties.

**Parameters** `parent_ui` – An object having already been set up by `setup_ui`.

**onfinish** (*e*)  
Callback when state machine executes `finish()`.

When `finish()` gets called, the plugin is expected to be able to restore it's state back when `configure()` gets called. Finish should trigger a Process Completed notification so the user can operate accordingly.

**onknit** (*e*)  
Callback when state machine executes `knit()`.

Starts the knitting process, this is the only function call that can block indefinitely, as it is called from an instance of `QThread`, allowing for processes that require timing and/or blocking behaviour.

**setup\_ui** (*parent\_ui*)  
Sets up UI, usually as a child of `parent_ui.ui.knitting_options_dock`.

While the whole `parent_ui` object is available for the plugin to modify, plugins authors are **strongly** encouraged to only manipulate the `knitting_options_dock`, plugins have full access to the parent UI as a way to fully customize the GUI experience.

**Parameters** `parent_ui` – A `PyQt.QMainWindow` with the property `parent_ui.ui.knitting_options_dock`, an instance of `QDockWidget` to hold the plugin's UI.



## 1.3 AYAB Control Plugin

Handles the serial communication protocol.

This module handles serial communication, currently works in a synchronous way. `AyabCommunication` uses an internal `PySerial.Serial` object to connect to the device. The initializer can also be overridden with a dummy serial object.

**class** `ayab.plugins.ayab_plugin.ayab_communication.AyabCommunication` (*serial=None*)  
Class Handling the serial communication protocol.

`__del__` ()

Handles on delete behaviour closing serial port object.

`close_serial` ()

Closes serial port.

`cnf_line` (*lineNumber, lineData, flags, crc8*)

Sends a line of data via the serial port.

Sends a line of data to the serial port, all arguments are mandatory. The data sent here is parsed by the Arduino controller which sets the knitting needles accordingly.

### Parameters

- **lineNumber** (*int*) – The line number to be sent.
- **lineData** (*bytes*) – The bytearray to be sent to needles.
- **flags** (*bytes*) – The flags sent to the controller.
- **crc8** (*bytes, optional*) – The CRC-8 checksum for transmission.

`open_serial` (*pPortname=None*)

Opens serial port communication with a portName.

`read_line` ()

Reads a line from serial communication.

`req_info` ()

Sends a request for information to controller.

`req_start` (*startNeedle, stopNeedle*)

Sends a start message to the controller.



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## Serial Communication Protocol

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Here is a sequence diagram with the serial communication knitting protocol.



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## Building AYAB

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### 3.1 Build process for Development

AYAB's GUI is built in Python, based on PyQt4. To develop for it, you must have a set of packages installed.

- Python 2.7+ (Python 3 is not yet supported.)
- PyQt4
- PySerial
- Fysom
- Yapsy
- Pillow (PIL)

You can install most of this packages (except for Python 2.7 and PyQt4) either using your distribution's package manager or using Pip if available. The full list of requirements is available on the `requirements.txt` file on the software directory. The `setup.py` file also includes the dependencies that can be installed via pip so you can install using a Virtual Environment.

If you are in Windows, you can either install [Python for Windows](#), [PyQt4 for Windows](#) and [pip and easy\\_install](#). An easier alternative is installing a bundle such as [WinPython](#).

After installing all requirements, you can run AYAB directly using `python2 ayab_devel_launch.py`.

To build you can use `python setup.py sdist`. It will generate a `.tar.gz` file on `dist/`. This is a `tar.gz` file that you can install using `easy_install` or the bundled `setup.py`.

### 3.2 Build process for Deploy

Windows packages are built using `py2exe python setup.py py2exe`.



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## Plugin API Overview

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### 4.1 Plugin Class

AYAB features a simple but powerful API for implementing APIs for Knitting Machine hacks. Plugins are based on Yapsy. While knowledge in Yapsy is useful, it is not complex to get started.

Plugin modules are specified by a `.yapsy-plugin` file, and a Python module, specified in said file.

A class extending `KnittingPlugin` is required to create a plugin. Methods not overridden on subclasses will raise `NotImplementedError`.

**class** `ayab.plugins.knitting_plugin.KnittingPlugin` (*callbacks\_dict*)

A generic plugin implementing a state machine for knitting.

Subclasses inherit the basic State Machine defined in `__init__`.

**cleanup\_ui** (*ui*)

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Callback when state machine executes `finish()`.

When `finish()` gets called, the plugin is expected to be able to restore its state back when `configure()` gets called. Finish should trigger a Process Completed notification so the user can operate accordingly.

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Starts the knitting process, this is the only function call that can block indefinitely, as it is called from an instance of `QThread`, allowing for processes that require timing and/or blocking behaviour.

### **setup\_ui** (*parent\_ui*)

Sets up UI, usually as a child of `parent_ui.ui.knitting_options_dock`.

While the whole `parent_ui` object is available for the plugin to modify, plugin authors are **strongly** encouraged to only manipulate the `knitting_options_dock`, plugins have full access to the parent UI as a way to fully customize the GUI experience.

**Parameters** `parent_ui` – A `PyQt.QMainWindow` with the property `parent_ui.ui.knitting_options_dock`, an instance of `QDockWidget` to hold the plugin's UI.

## 4.2 Building UIs

The `setup_ui` function gets called when the plugin gets selected on the main UI dropdown. The function `clean_ui` gets called on disposal. Usually the parent UI will only modify `parent_ui.ui.knitting_options_dock`, as it is the specified container for the knitting options. You can load generated modules using `pyuic`, by instantiating the dock, setting up autogenerated UI and then setting up behaviour.

UIs are expected to have a limited horizontal width, as children of the dock are not expected to overflow horizontally.



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## Indices and tables

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