

ZWURM, 15-11-2021 13:00 ZWURM; back to WfH (COVID-19 wk88)

Present Ilse, BobE, Aard, Des, Mark, Paul, Harro

Plenary announcements: Dutch gov't recommends "WfH unless not possible" so back to full ZWURM, no hybriding. The leave / hours accounting form has defaulted to "be at the office" since Oct 1, so please check if you miss any hours; otherwise contact HR and get them accounted. Remember: AVOM form to sell/buy leave hours submission deadline is Dec 1. Harro will attend Workplacepride event @ DIFFER (TU/e campus) this week, if not cancelled.

Ilse: NOVA ISC took lot of time preparing, meeting full day + closing dinner; hybrid worked well, specifically for people w/ 10 min presentation, saved a lot of travelling; participation was ~50/50 between online and on-site. Flagging in spectral line mode: now know how (after experimenting), next good implementation pending; Gabor+Suma both interested, Gabor no CASA nor notebook experience = ideal guinea pig; weekly mtng between parties. CASA VLBI paper: working on verification steps AIPS vs CASA; got AIPS working on notebook that returned from repair. This week EHT(1+ng) meetings.

Aard: summer student of few years ago submitted paper, journal requires publishing of data; in this case "filterbank" format – not supported by archive web code (yet); vlcoffee topic w/ BobC/ZsoltP on if to support this and then how (wider discussion: other EVN data products than visibilities); emergency plan: put on Zenodo (it's < 50 GB). Committing notebook back to archive version control 'gitea': set OAuth authenticator outside Jupyterhub and gitea to safeguard client secret (only in external service memory); KlaasK @ASTRON faced same problem, used CERN software; not attractive since drags in whole CERN s/w suite whilst OAuth authenticator already included in Jupyterhub distro.

Des: wideband fringe fit mode was broken between main and branch; now working again; got data from MichaelJ – works for high SNR but still not for low SNR cases (≤ 3); have idea how to address and will spend this week testing that hypothesis.

Bob: attended 12th Gaia alerts workshop, discussing e.g. BlackholeTOM; takeaway: figure out science case(s) first, try manual, see what needs automating later; bhtom backend VM installed by Paul, probably do some more dev to verify infrastructure between TOM Toolkit and our backend whilst still fresh. During corr floor improvement downtime move Python code from svn to git.

Mark: overlapping/clashing IVOA+ngEHT meetings, focus on ngEHT; latter getting science teams thinking about instrument; tech plan = add 5-10 dishes worldwide, several options (diameter, amount) with price tag – scientists do not converge on one particular configuration yet; invited talks (e.g. MariaR on improving astrometry); outreach through YouTube/Insta: spend lot of time filtering word(s) from responses or else algorithm kicks out /

doesn't work; rumour: HOPS4 in c++? IVOA meeting: discussion on how radio meta data into ObsCore? Separate table with extra column in ObsCore to perform JOIN (req. modifying EVN archive VO service); NenuFAR: investigated PSRFITS to ObsCore mapping, can be done, relevant to JIVE since EVN / SFXC can yield PSRFITS too. Shutdown sfxc a-d nodes; nightly test now on e-h, ran ok several nights, want to shutdown tonight before e-VLBI (@AardK: check any data still on a-d and move elsewhere). European Data Provider forum (23-25 Nov), part of SOC, will give EVN VO talk, also SOC duties take time. Attended EU-VGOS meeting, interesting PolConvert - trying to validate, run into HOPS fourfit issues as limiting factor over and over again. This week: CASA VLBI tech meeting = subset of CASA VLBI coord mtng, especially in light of new hire for CASA VLBI dev @NRAO, can discuss specific VLBI tickets in deep tech detail.

Paul: fb17 (Ys) arrived, put in rack and installed and deployed same day; some tech issues: had 3x eth cards (two too many), missing one cable so four disks not connected; eth cards now spare (discuss w/ Ys what to do), cable we still had. Ordering network equipment from FiberStore in 2021 is hilarious (wooden table comes to mind). Installed small Zabbix environment to see if can fulfill our monitoring demands. Flapping links between switches; now six broken optics, will ask for warranty. Fixing these also fixed NME ftp fringestest transmission woes of this week's NME(s). New archive machine ordered. Got old taperobot + 29 LT05 tapes from ICT: very easy to handle! During floor reinforcement downtime: upgrade Mattermost and ProCurve switches (difficult to ssh into); have found bug but want to be on latest f/w before reporting.