ZWURM, 28-06-2021 13:00 (ZWURM through Zoom because of #COVID19 house quarantaine/wk68)

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

Paul: Almost all failed disks have been replaced; sfxc-g1 scratch area disk #FAIL and replaced; two disks expected from Wb this week, have used two of our own 10TB spares to prevent loss of data but will be re-replaced with proper 8TB replacements. Network issues reported between out.sfxc/eee - fixed, but might be due to fb16 installation (fiber juggling was necessary)? Investigating stackable tape robot since 3 PB tape library is about half price of fb equivalent; turns into useful discussion: tape library requires maintenance (bookkeeping) - but current fb space also micromanaged and HDDs fail which also takes a lot of work, strategy to fan out data of one station over one or more tapes to reduce total loss of data in case of tape #FAIL, vbs recording format has small chunks, need proper intermediate s/w to gobble these up into larger chunks for efficient transfer to/from tape, bookkeeping to keep track of when tape can be erased necessary and is more difficult than e.g. for fb, one fb costs ~1000€ / yr in energy, stackable solution means that can start with small setup to test and mount own tape drives and expand later, so investment is not all or nothing. Paul will draft more detailed plan.

Ilse: EHT collaboration meeting last week took up lot of time at sometimes unfavourable time slot, due to which missed session on feedback on climate survey - will watch recording. Outside that meeting set up gather.town environment for EAS.

Aard: Network issues reported by Bert: MPhC corr very slow, Bert push "Debug" = immediate diagnosis one fb idle for 10min. Jupyterlab app: search ready but still fighting with Tornado framework - parameters get lost (srsly?), but making progress. Finished script to broadcast one thread to all others and used immediately during e-VLBI, trying to diagnose Nt failure: script worked OK but channel mixup wasn't the problem. [Mark] Connected to that, try not to make suggestions in Mattermost that are very improbable - this happens too much anyway, lot of time wasted barking up improbable trees - too many communication channels (mail, Mattermost, ...) and not a single channel where everyone is always actively monitoring and responding. [Adding yet-another-mechanism is obviously not the solution so try to be responsive and share messages across media]

Des: CASA fringefit for MichaelJ now running (w/ help from Mark). PaperDB ready to show to Zsolt but want it running on services i.s.o. own desktop: figure out how to make Flask, uwsgi and Py3 working w/ lighttpd on services; "flup" is not on Py3 apparently. Sent mail to GeorgeM re pol avg approaches (two), no reply yet; can start work on supporting the option in the application.

BobE: Backup s/w DDD changed - can share LTO8 w/ other bakcups, now working on archive system. For that need some test time and a test tape on the LTO8 drive for dev & testing.

Mark: See Ilse for EHT collab meeting. CASA issues worked on: after edge channel flagging VLBA data good enough data to find two erroneous minus signs in co-parallactic angle conversion (for Ho); fix now working, pushed to casacore, expect PR be merged and included in 6.4 release as too late for 6.3 right now. Pushed 6.3 per-scan interpolation ticket; GeorgeM tested on some other data (ALMA?) find this interacts strangely w/ field mapping – mostly cosmetic warnings: code warns it doesn't work but turns out behind the scenes it does; cannot guarantee inclusion in 6.3 release. VLBI integration branch now sort of broken due to many merges/reverts, might need fresh one from 6.3 + fixes. Briefly looked into out.sfxc <-> eee network issue; obvious that if reports are not acted on quickly, others will start to test very improbable hypotheses.