

WURM, 30-01-2023 11:00 ZWURM (JIVE Zoomroom#2)

Present Mark, Bob, Aard, Ilse, Paul, Des, Wybren, Marjolein

Plenary announcements/discussion:

- Marjolein thanks Bob, Aard, and Des for their talks at the TOG last week; some provoked more discussion than others, and that discussion seemed more towards politics than towards technical issues. Specifically the BlackholeTOM developments/automatic scheduling triggered a flavoured response from some in the audience;

- JIVE was asked whether they'd like to take part in the security awareness campaign that NWO-I is organising; NWO-I does not do that themselves but hired an external company (so far so good). In order to be able to collect statistics and e.g. send phishing mails some of our private data (name, email, institute, number of years of service) is shared with the external company, who themselves have subcontracted some of these tasks to yet another party. Marjolein has read the data processing agreement (DPA). It's properly documented what data is shared with whom and for how long the data will be retained so it's clear that someone has done their homework. The legal grounds for sharing this information contain a bit of a circular reasoning. "Legitimate interest" and "Legal obligation" are both mentioned in the DPA, where the obligation says "GDPR requires us to protect our data so we must share it with a third party to better protect it". Just wanted to share this with the most vocal and critical group within JIVE. [Comments: most of this information can be scraped from our website(s) or other places except number of service years; as long as no address, phone numbers & cet are shared it's quite ok]

Wybren: Mk6s now all ready for production, needed new key for signing the repository (key distribution wasn't up-to-date); certificate for evn-vo available. Spent quite some time on improving Ansible setup. Hours of fun with the (very) old HBA: after qst of archive2 not booting w/ card installed only way to make it boot was to disable the option-ROM of the card. So either the BIOS has a bug or the (very) old f/w crashes it. Experimenting w/ sssd (an LDAP caching daemon): didn't fix fail2ban issue and found out that better understanding of LDAP is needed. [Paul: it would be an idea to move away from Bionic] Yes definitely.

Ilse: NOVA community day last week. Got round to comparing rPICARD results w/ Jupyter notebook: found some small diffs, suspect subtle differences in flagging; not large enough to worry but large enough to have to understand where it's coming from. RadioAstron data: very large data set, chose scan at random which was probably not the best algorithm b/c got weird results. BHTOM developments: write EVN proposal for short observation to see if any compact emission for certain targets-of-interest exists. Federated identities such as ORCID: policies documented but not EU-based so not necessarily GDPR compliant. [Discussion follows on why certain IdPs could be allowed or not; [MarkK: usually not legal issue but practical, e.g. in case of abuse want to be able to trace to natural person] [Marjolein: eduGAIN guarantees this, ORCID doesn't] [Ilse: advantage of ORCID is

that if someone chages institute ID remains same] Needs some more thought on which identity to use and for what purpose(s)]. CASA user committee report was submitted, now forming a reply: recurring question "spectral line calibration status?"; seems to work but not verified good results, can start on this after CASA VLBI school [MarkK: the model of telling the user "there's the software, have a go!" doesn't work, need to invest time+effort to proactively support users, this should be on user- and science support group]

BobE: attended TOG last week. Module in perl script to fetch EOPs failed silently; changing is a bit involved since some scripts depend on /aps3/ content; updated to get file with different content. Webpage(s) on old.jive.eu w/ disk pack tracking info don't work anymore (three php pages); one of the three can go, others used by operators too: what to do? Relocate and if so where, to services? Note: rewrite to Python considered but not viable, too many special cases. [MarkK: aren't we running too many things on services?] [Discussion follows; Des runs several apps there too, probably good idea to start documenting who is running what on services, can also help improve services' home page (which Marjolein thinks could do with a good overhaul to make it more useful). Investigate reverse proxy on services such that actual services can be hosted on dedicated/isolated VMs in stead of trying to configure one machine to run everything and its mother]. SumaM reported an ANTAB editor issue when processing a two-pass exp with different #-of-channels between the passes, put on todo list. TOM effort: need to put test observations in to get stations to d/l and verify generated VEX file; meeting with AEON, LCO staff last week: request to browse EVN TOM code, will put on JIVE's own github. pySCHED/numpy issue ongoing.

Aard: attended TOG last week; probably need wiki page for EVN Monitor - where? [Marjolein: MPIfR's deki remains source of EVN status etc., TOG administrative bits will move to JIVE]. Received bug report from external sfxc user: source names from VEX file messed up w/ long names, found 10-char limit in one(1) place, 16 everywhere else. Will sit with Benito this week to show automated FRB correlation. Got permission to log in to DAS-6 cluster in preparation of RADIOBLOCKS work. Continued setting up SATOSA proxy; stick with (old) SAML b/c translation turns out to be complicated.

Mark: EOP hiccup, correlated with EOPs predicted too far into the future; recorreling exps still on disk, one e-VLBI exp could be fixed w/ the novel EOP correction script running on the MS and create a new FITS file; before publishing this FITS file needs to be vetted by e.g. BobC. Loading old VLBA data in CASA: extra corrections required b/c old VLBA corr could saturate w/ long integration times (AC amp misses bits); obs contains K+Q band organised in different freqgroups, which casacore does not handle correctly. EHT C&P meeting: "someone" approached to do calibration training, unavail; currently uncertainty in the project requires documenting procedures for (new, future, previously unexposed to cal) members. Writing of ESCAPE WP3 paper on OSSR finalising. Accessing DAS-6 headnode from sfxc revealed routing issue; JohnR

fixed.

Des: attended TOG last week, caught illness, WfH b/c of aftermath. Raised issue of image-of-the-day permalink which didn't link to the image of the day itself (found+fixed). New feedback mechanism introduced + demonstrated at TOG, found it broke randomly w/ unhandled mysqldb exception, now using Flask's own mysql module: haven't seen breakage since. Running 3(three) Flask apps on services ("feature": one dies takes others with it), also running several outside Flask environment. EHT busy week on writing polarisation paper: invited to review internally and would like to volunteer if ok [Marjolein: yes please].

Paul: old HBA in archive2: all disks visible w/o physically moving them; discuss next steps w/ BenitoM; started to support/configure webserver, found existing archive web config contains "surprises": mess in dir, several scripts in hidden DIR (but world readable) read passwords from "encrypted" files, sometimes even plaintext: this will require a lot of change to fix and have the machine automatically come up fully functional after a reboot may be difficult; can start by removing unused stuff and change permissions/ownerships to start. Debian11 migration - now that many machines have already been brought to this O/S Deb12 is out ...