

WURM, 24-07-2023 13:00 WURM Library meeting room

Present Bob, Aard, Wybren, Des, Paul, Mark, BenitoM, ZsoltP, Marjolein

Plenary: Marjolein invited SuppSci to join in case they want to discuss something – the scheduled vlcoffee of this morning didn't happen, as has been the case for the last ~two months or so. Marjolein mentions she received fresh VDIF MeerKAT data this morning – they co-observed with N22L3 (28 Oct 2022) w/o telling anyone. It was just good luck that we still had the raw exp data on JIVE fbs. [ZsoltP] Apparently the Ghana dish has made progress – we have had contact with SARA0 and Nkutunse staff about upcoming tests; allegedly they have an H-maser now.

Paul: had an "accident" last Wed – trial recovery run to test documented procedure to bring all systems back online after a power failure; most systems back within hour, some improvements were identified (e.g. labelling of some systems) and fixed, and the documentation was improved in a few areas; worry: the old archive machine is now in a state where bringing it back to life could be difficult; related to this: new archive state = mostly in git, BobE working on crontabs and remainder of the php code; all services now running, need to fix dbdump onto new machine [Wybren: after my holiday] when switchover? [BenitoM: on holiday 10 Aug – early Sep] so let's try to have an informal switchover soon, procedure: stop sync, process full exp on new archive, find + fix remaining issues.

Wybren: the HDD-resetting #FAIL (specific type of WD disks in new fb7, trantor2): received firmware update, installed it on some, initiated scrub, no #FAILs so far; reset detected in syslog but Deb12 don't have syslog no more, have to install rsyslog pkg (added to Ansible). [PaulB: just found out that backup status mail #FAILs silently? Haven't seen a status for ~two weeks] [Des: is my script, will look into it]. After cleaning up backups (inc offsite) and what to backup, server again full? W/ MarkK updated casadev to Deb11. Trying to get HDD RMA-ed with new supplier: obviously they don't now how, comms failing. Procedure for adding new machine w/ certificate to cert-check infrastructure? [Des: my script too, talk to me] [Marjolein: maybe document the procedure on Redmine?]

Mark: casadev updated, managed to build branches w/ new build system but requires some manual steps and some tests #FAIL (e.g. DISPLAY env set in screen session, disconnect, but test s/w tries to run tests requiring X11 which then don't work); failed to build casacore b/c the CASA data directory not found (it's on /scratch, which isn't mounted yet). Created new VLBI integration branch for MichaelJ (reading old VLBA data). CASA VLBI mtng: discussing ngCASA future (JWSteeb, NRAO data architect ngVLA), this Wed presentation; VictorS working implementing "LOCIT" AIPS task in CASA (=solving task, needs application w/ CLCOR). [BenitoM: ngCASA effort at NRAO?] many devs will start working on that this year; casa6.6 will be done first; from Oct CASA7 will start, based on new infrastructure, new tasks will be developed in new framework, with easy exchange of data.

Bob: archive scripts, fixing db conn in Perl scripts, changing paths, and imports into relative imports, and includes. log2vex perl version apparently still used, so migrated it to git using cvs2git; continuing separation of scripts and website. Testplan archive2: stop sync, wait for exp to finish on new archive, identify and fix remaining issue(s). Some things run as user `archive`: how to do that? [Paul: possibly via sudoers] BobC might need to be able to run this too. pySCHED ticket: PyQt5 prob on M2 Mac, installs from src, BenitoM solved and shared, but maybe need to move to PyQt6?

Aard: improvements to ShivaniB's gating/frb-finding and make-corr-control-file scripts; currently includes only the VDIF that contains the burst, request is to be able to include (a lot) more data away from the burst to study noise characteristics. Compared running sfxc binary on Ubuntu14, Deb11, Deb12: same binary is consistently subtly different on each O/S (in runtime) - think Ubuntu14 being 20s slower on 18min job. GPU benchmarking A400 GPU: ~10x slower w/o native double precision, however, if delay compensation only done per block on GPU then single precision should be good enough. RADIOBLOCKS telecon: project gets access to NVIDIA Grace Hopper superchip on short time scale; plan is to run sfxc on the ARM cores.

Des: wrapping up loose ends before holiday. We now have /real/ DOIs! Spent time on dask development.

AOB:

[Paul] Support ASTRON's WR rollout/installation at WSRT. Trantor2: updated HDD firmware - when move to Westerbork?

[ZsoltP] AgaS asking about Bonn-Dwingeloo meeting, how about Oct 16.

[Marjolein] ASTRON has responsible disclosure submission form on website and someone anonymous, external, reported the feedback url that it exposes a directory listing with text files, scripts and whatnots, leaking all kinds of information. I've asked ICT to disable directory listing there but the message is that we should nuke the old feedback utility sooner rather than later.