

WURM, 01-12-2025 13:00 CET WURMng Oord room  
Present: BobE, Aard, Des, Wybren, Paul, Mark, Marjolein

Plenary announcements:

- AI experiments/webinar knowledge sharing necessary, discuss what we know / learned [suggestion: add Benito, better still: ask VLOPS]
- From the CBD
  - HDDs will be replaced, other options N/A (only heard the outcome not the discuss:o) Some will send HDDs, some will send cash
  - GDPR: JIVE to prepare all docs (as far as I'm concerned strip everything) b/c we're the legal entity
  - Northstar to POLARIS: aim for initial deployment June 2026 CIP
  - task-force for more dynamic scheduling

Des: some work on PolConvert, prob = core dump, no idea why (mem mgmt?). RADPS work: LSQ impl in Pythen; George M interested on mem performance in CASA6: compare casacore fft with numpy fft (much faster, less dep. on order of axes). Helping w/ db migration; new DBMS stricter on default value (eg on vex2db). HOPS doc accepted by Arpad on Zenodo.

Bob: automatic flexbuff transfers: Ir had two broken HDDs (not 100% broken, not entire #FAILure = difficult for s/w to handle); after removal from system ok, manually transferred. MartinL xfer from Km: not enough mem in machine, still using jivesab 2.9.0: moved to other machine + new vsn, now ok 300-500 Mbps. Worked on script to migrate MMost users to Keycloak. Keycloak: w/ Wybren LDAP combined w MMost end up with two users; investigating login flow to couple to existing account. POLARIS deployment: attended eMerlin webinar - ppl starting to realise PIs don't ask for resources, i.e. use planobs approach. db migration / archive script had enum that isn't defined: new DBMS more strict (fixed). Mail from SURF that "a Northstar account compromised": passwd reset and user mailed. BobC busy w/ DOIs "can we put them into production"?

Mark: attended ADASS, poster on GPU corr, interest from DZA; statistical anal. of correlation process (DZA building small-D large N array). IVOA meeting: Karsten from Ef (unlocking Ef archive) and PaulH present. W. PaulH: samplers issue, want to use sfxc for corr (CPU first). IVOA: several archives have prob w/ crawlers, mitigation (= passwd? not really); analysis what LLM crawlers do: just following links, and DOIs, focus on HTML. RB cluster (ASTRON) Blackwell performance = expect 16 x 8 abps real time on 4 x RTX PRO 4000. MPC code integrated w/ prototype: working. Spectral line EHT WG meeting: HOPS 4 status: basics working, but not spectral line processing. CASA uses too much memory. EHT: testing data not PolConverted, do mixed post processing / PolCvt downstream. Some CASA tests added during last sprint (two sprints / quarter).

Wybren: Large power outage, surprisingly little broken; some machines restarted automatic probably b/c bios battery dead. fb22 Zabbix template changed. db0 migration (w/ Bob, Des, Paul) prob w/ federated tables → plugin did not exist, try new/other plugin(s). PapersDB problem solved (query now takes 15-25 ms now); remaining:

test db and backup/restore procedure. Nextcloud day last week: everybody happy w/ Trump b/c it's forcing everyone away, leading to migration tool frenzy from "Big Tech system X" to open-source; observation re. Schleswig Holstein process = political support was main driver for succes; seem that federation of > 1 Nextcloud facilitates easy integration. GPU server: working, handed to Mark/Aard [MK: TC cor working, sfxc not]. Deb13 DHCP settings not honoured, some hiccups: need manual logon on Deb13 before can use Ansible; working in principle on Deb13: need to switch at some point [PB: new Ansible is needed for Deb13, can we do old system w/ new Ansible?]. GPU server ~ 900 W full power (GPUs), ~ 1100 W the CPU + NIC. Paul built new EFI Raid method. Want to install Anubis (proof-of-work system) on gitea/code (some downtime needed) [PB: test w/ shadow].

Aard: large FFTs in GPU cor fixed (was not) but now it's really fixed; coherent dedispersion: very long FFS not on CUFFTdx, back to CUFFT, brainstorming w/ JohnR; plan B is to try open source FFT implementation. Mail from Lim (OSO) → VGOS w/ sfxc some hiccups; fourfit not more than 16 BBCs. eduGAIN federation of metadata using pyff/MDQ (dis MDQ server) but does not parse XML: need pyff to go from XML to JSON; need to be on correct category: accepting terms is not enough, ended up in metadata hell, will take some time. Asked to present at AstroORDAS next week (ACME).

Paul: asterics site down 70 days now; placeholder links to archive.org (!) staus: 'no priority'. GPU server installed after some hiccups. SWEEPS: gluster done, pretty ok; more isolation needed between SWEEPS and local staff: group for JIVE would impact all servers w/ JIVE accountants. In VLOPS: manual check for source posn's discussed. Power outage: 1 1/2 hr (2hr max UPS). Worked on EEE upgrade. ASTRON new network segmentation breaks stuff for us (e.g. bastion, ...), now have 9 Dec meeting w/ ICT planned. RB link ticket closed [MK: immediate need gone, but we don't have GH 200, may want to still use: JohnR did work on the cluster to make that possible]. MMost/GitLab integration n/a from v11 (just released), v10 integration out of support next year. WR paper submitted (again) – accepted.

Marjo: KVN planning to do 4x32 Gaps real-time correlation next year w/ own GPU based corr. XA0: one 12 m VGOS for international, already building 2x 18m for Chinese "VGOS", working towards having five on site (track mutiple things at the same time), Chinese RFSoc board (based on Xilinx FPGA) does 8x 2GHz ADC, building own digital backend.