ZWURM, 06-09-2021  13:00 (ZWURM through Zoom because of #COVID19 house quarantaine/wk78)

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

Plenary announcements: An intern from a RuG EVN PI will work at ASTRON and also spend time on correlating EVN data; JIVE will not be responsible for the internship program but it is expected the student will have to learn in-depth about VLBI correlation and how the EVN is organized from pre- to post correlation and JIVE staff is kindly asked to work with the intern on the subject matter as questions emerge.

Aard: CASA6.3 released, fixes many issues that were present in 6.2! Not all hunky-dory though: Jupytercasa based on Ubuntu 18.04 => no updates to Python for a long time; switch to Ubuntu 20.04 = +KernSuite, -Py3 begot async. IPython kernel we use as basis for Jupytercasa kernel breaks /everything/ because it now fully async based: require multi-thread safe calls of API and is mess with when to call which flavour: not _everything_ fixed so far: CASA operates by traversing the stack trace — doesn't work in async IPython kernel. [Ilse: NRAO writes notebooks, how do they fix this?] NRAO uses plain Python kernel = no async but (1) requires "boot" cell at start of notebook to include all modules that are needed, (2) plotms cannot be easily wrapped to have figures in notebook (our kernel does, NRAO doesn't!) and (3) log from task output behind button impossible (very useful feature of our Jupytercasa kernel). Ilse found bug in Jupyterhub: cells disappear in notebook; could not reproduce; [Ilse: happened when copying notebook in the Jupyterhub terminal, copying outside worked just fine.] Got question from Benito: CASA fringefit task on multi-phase center data with all sources in one MS? [Des: data selection outside fringefit so _should_ work but untested].

Ilse: Spent time on the EVN notebooks/pipelines, Des' memory fix ticket checked, produces same results to decimal fraction so hopefully accepted for next release; start making changes to spectral line notebook since supp.sci. reluctant to do so. JustinL distributed VLBA CASA data reduction document, reviewed it, sent comments. This week NAEIC, NOVA ISC and EHT meetings.

Des: Continue with polarization combination stacking in fringefit. Have learned a lot about javascript, progress has been made in last decade, is not all made out of #FAIL. Waiting on DOI test account to continue with that.

Paul: New backplane into fb5, disk in fb1 and root-disk in fb0. ASTRON firewall upgrade during holiday, spent overtime, had prepared our end good, seemed to work out of the box. Be aware: 24 Sept will start to remove racks from correlator room to be able to upgrade floor, will try to keep main services (e.g. Mattermost) alive, but expect lots of server downtime. CLONETS-DS meeting next week on T&F distribution in Europe, need to present poster on benefit for VLBI.

BobE: JonQ: "one exp finished but not marked done at our end for removal?" Genuine bug in auto xfer: added new state in xfer database to discriminate better. Moved CCS python modules from svn to git and start documentation: continue old PDF document, found that gitea doesn't allow upload of PDF. Warn DesS that controlmk5 is now under git as well.

Harro: FranzK busy with cornerturning complex VDIF in jive5ab, output labelled as non-complex VDIF unconditionally, so tried to fix that. EskilV submitted e-transfer daemon feature request to allow logging to file i.s.o. to syslog unconditionally. Have git branches for both, waiting for user feedback.