

LOFAR - EGI Meeting

Date: 18 July 2017

Attendees:

Hanno Holties (Astron)

Jose Sabater (University of Edinburgh)

Susana Sanchez (Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía - CSIC)

Enol Fernandez (EGI)

Diego Scardaci (EGI)

LOFAR Central Processing and archive storage infrastructure

Slides uploaded in agenda

Software distributed as docker containers, which are also available for the users

Tier 1 sites based on dCache

Tier 1 also offer compute capabilities, different kinds (more HPC-like in Jülich, more grid-like in SURFSara)

Questions:

Jose: Is the data-staging process the same in LTA?

Hanno: More or less is the same. API.

Jose: it would be nice having information on API.

Enol: sw distributed as a Docker container but you use a batch system. Where do you run the containers?

Hanno: they run on the nodes of the CPE cluster. In other sites, locally compiled applications, also looking into Singularity.

Running LOFAR pipelines in cloud environments

Slides on agenda page

Latest enhancements in the EGI Cloud Services

Slides on agenda page

Questions

Jose: renewal of membership every 6 month?

Diego: VO based access, fedcloud.egi.eu is meant for piloting for 1 year max, and after you can establish a production-level VO with agreements with the provider. Some degree of flexibility is allowed anyhow

Next steps & Follow-up actions

Hanno: how to go from here?

Diego: EOSCPilot and EOSCHub as framework, will need to work together soon. Meeting as a first starting point to start discussion.

Hanno: will look to the info and come up with a list of questions, areas of interest, then find a timeslot in the coming month for a teleconf.

Susana: Can we participate in the EOSCPilot SD?

Hanno: lot of overlap with the pilot, will take it offline, need to be careful since it's a small project

Jose expressed interest on the new features available in the EGI FedCloud:

- AppDB VM Ops dashboard.
- DataHub
- Access via OpenStack interface

Susana will be on maternity leave in the next months. Julian Garrido (jgarrido@iaa.es) will be informed and kept in the loop for next teleconferences.

Action list

- Hanno: Send by mail to EGI a list of questions and areas of interest.
- Diego and Enol: Organise a meeting in August according to the areas of interested suggested by Hanno
- Jose will test the new AppDB VM Ops dashboard
- Jose will evaluate the access via OpenStack interface

Hanno's follow-up by mail

- Data compression algorithm: Although I voiced my expectation that incorporation in the LOFAR software distribution was underway, it appears that this still being discussed. It seems that for users to be able to work with the compressed datasets, an update of CASA will be required and since this package is not maintained by ASTRON it is difficult to say at what timescale the functionality becomes available. People don't expect this to be the case before the end of the year.
- Stager API: Here I was a bit too pessimistic, it seems. The API is available and documented at:
[https://www.astron.nl/lofarwiki/doku.php?id=public:ita_tricks&s\[\]=stager#python_module_for_staging](https://www.astron.nl/lofarwiki/doku.php?id=public:ita_tricks&s[]=stager#python_module_for_staging)