Science Tools Update, September 9, 2008

Science Tools Working Group

The current release version of the Science Tools remains v9r7p1. Reminder: Toby has pointed out that in this release and apparently others since mid-July the packages related to pulsar tools did not compile under Windows. Some other unit tests failed in the Windows builds as well, although theses may not indicate fundamental problems.

The current HEAD build (1.682) differs from v9r7p1 primarily in the skymaps and pointlike packages.

I forgot again this week to check with Richard this week about whether SCS has provided RHEL5/gcc4 systems on the farm for the Release Manager to use. I'd assume that no news is no news. In any case, the RM is not making builds for gcc4 and I think we do not yet have a complete set of the external libraries built under gcc4.

The agenda for the tutorial session on high-level analyses for next Monday morning at the collaboration meeting is posted. Please note that this session will be followed in the afternoon by one on on (mostly open) issues for high-level analysis.

Data products: The proposed additions to FT1 and FT2 contents attracted a total of one comment; see here and here. An additional change to FT2 will be proposed, to add a column to include the equivalent of the Run Quality flag. And we expect to start using the already-existing LAT_MODE column. When implemented (you'll get word), these columns will be available for generating GTIs with gtmktime to filter out time ranges by LAT configuration or data quality.

Databases and related utilities

No new news; note that Tony and Tom S. will be giving must-see presentations in the tutorial session mentioned above.

Likelihood analysis

No news

GRB tools

No news

Pulsar tools

From Masa: "As mentioned earlier, we are working on ephemeris status reporting feature, such as warning messages for glitches and timing noise stored in a pulsar database."

Regarding the Windows build problems mentioned above, Masa writes: "I guess they are all caused by the problem reported as the following JIRA issue, although I am not absolutely sure.

https://jira.slac.stanford.edu/browse/STGEN-54

It is fixed with pulsarDb v6r1 as mentioned in my response to the JIRA issue, but the version has another problem. James will be tagging v6r1p1 with the fix, and the problem will go away, I hope."

Aous reported a problem last week running **gtpphase** in Science Tools **v9r7p1**. As far as I know this is not resolved, although indications from Eric W. are that although the error message complained about the FT2 file the code may be getting tripped up when the user specifies a list of FT1 files rather than a single FT1 file for the event file input.

Observation simulation

No news

User interface and infrastructure (& utilities)

No news, although you may be interested in the command line interface to Hera, the service developed by HEASARC to allow FTOOL and HEASOFT users to run tasks remotely on HEASARC computers. It doesn't have any immediate application for LAT data analysis, but is a noteworthy achievement, and the SSC will be releasing the Standard Analysis Environment Science Tools early next year.

Source Catalog

Did not meet last week.