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Subject: POOL project
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Dear all,

I would like to give you a report completing the POOL review that we did in May. We met with the three experiments (ATLAS, CMS and LHCb) which were using POOL and we tried to identify any steps that could be taken in order to prepare POOL for the LHC startup and for its long-term maintenance. The outcome of the review has been already reported to the Application Area project leader (Pere), who presented it at the last LCG AA review.

Let me list here a few points which are addressing the topics we discussed during our meetings.

- 1) The only POOL module that could be clearly dropped (with respect to the latest POOL release) is PyFileCatalog. All other modules are used by at least one experiment. LFCFileCatalog and RelationFileCatalog, are not used in production, but ATLAS would like to keep them as a possibility. DataSvc module could be potentially dropped in the future (see point 5).
- 2) The new CVS has been setup `pf.cvs.cern.ch:/cvs/PF`. It could potentially be used as the unique repository for the three Persistency Framework projects. The POOL code has been fully migrated to the new repository (no firm plans concerning the migration of CORAL and COOL yet). All the obsolete modules from the old POOL repository have been abandoned reducing the number of the directories in CVS by more than 50%. The old 'contrib' area has been removed, and all the modules have been put on the same level.
- 3) Proposed action: re-assignment of the maintenance responsibility for the different modules. Some modules are maintained by people from the experiments which are not using them anymore, for instance FileCatalog is maintained by CMS which has not interest in it. On the other hand CMS is interested (and is the only user for the time being) in RelationStorageSvc, while ATLAS is the only user of FileCatalog.
- 4) Possible mid-term development: revision of the transaction model. We will look at the current implementation and assess what kind of improvements could be done.
- 5) ATLAS expressed an interest in learning about the LHCb approach of interfacing Gaudi to POOL. A study group looking at the possible common (by ATLAS and LHCb) approach to the persistency could be set up.
- 6) Possible long-term development: review of DataSvc, removal of the dependency of Collections on DataSvc, possible integration of DataSvc within CMSSW (and removal of the DataSvc module from POOL).
- 7) Some minor points: the generation of Doxygene for POOL has been

repaired, a possible replacement for LXR (which does not work on SLC4) is being looked at by SPI.

Please do let me know in case you had any questions or further suggestions concerning the POOL project.

Let me also stress here once again that the POOL project is now in the maintenance phase. Any new development would require additional contribution. Needless to say, however, that we will carry on with the usual tasks, like for instance porting the code to new versions of ROOT and fixing any bugs reported. I would also like to remind you that the latest version of POOL_2_8_0 does not depend on SEAL anymore, which was one of the milestones of the preparation for the 'long-term' maintenance of the code.

Best regards,
Witek