

Computing and Astroparticle Physics 2nd ASPERA workshop, 30-31 May 2011 Barcelona, Spain



Computing Model for Fermi Large Area Telescope

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Overview



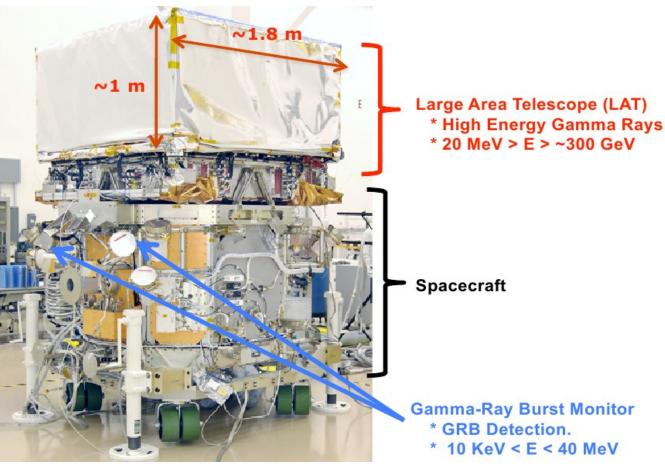
- Fermi cheat sheet
- Data Processing Model: the LAT Pipeline
 - Design consideration & Pipeline description
 - Monitoring, Alerts, Automatic Science
 - Data catalog, access and selection tools
- Science Software Development:
 - GlastRelease : Event Reconstruction
 - ScienceTools: Science analysis "toolkit"



The Fermi observatory







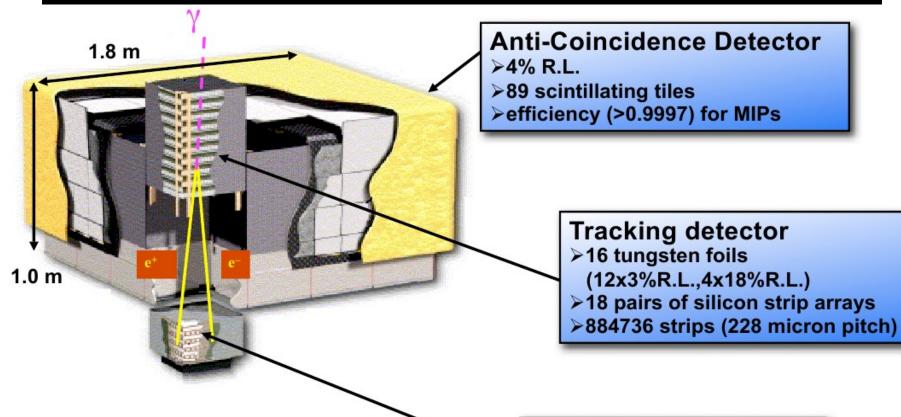
5 year nominal, possibly 10 year mission (No expandable)

Sky survey is the nominal observation mode



The Fermi Large Area Telescope (LAT)





Trigger

- ➤ Overall HW Trigger Rate ~few KHz
- ➤ Software Filters Reduce Rate
- ➤ Downlink: ~400-500 Hz
- ➤ Rate after Ground Cuts: ~few Hz

Calorimeter

- ▶ 8.5 radiation lengths
- >8 layers cesium iodide logs
- ≻1536 logs total (1200kg)



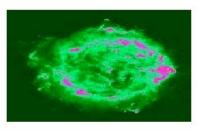




Unidentified sources



Active Galactic Nuclei



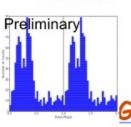
Cosmic ray acceleration

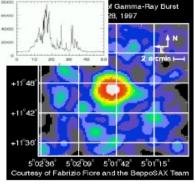


Fermi Science



Pulsars





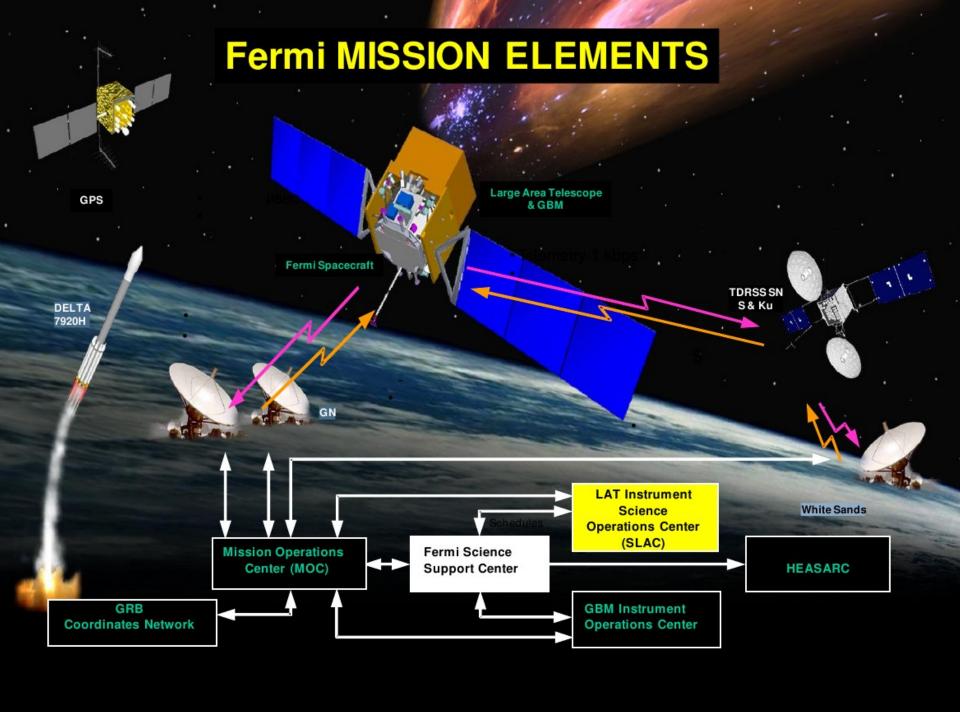




Quantum Gravity?



Dark matter





Design Considerations



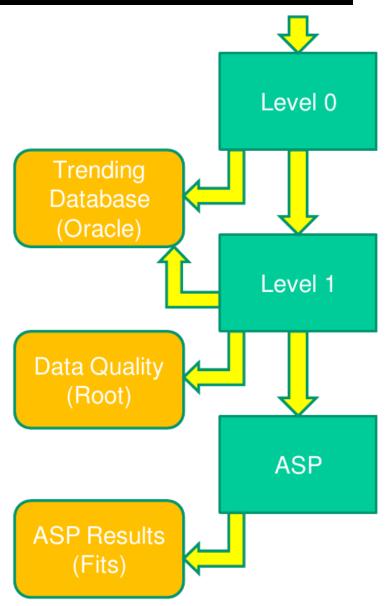
- Generic pipeline processing to support simultaneous running
 - Automatic trigger of prompt processing & monitoring
 - Reprocessing and/or Simulations (should have no impact on above)
- Aim: full processing before next download (8/day → 3hrs goal)
 - Distributed computing taking advantage of the massive "embarrassing" parallelism of the problem (2000 jobs, 800 cores)
 - <0.01% jobs need manual intervention
- Scaling
 - 10 years of operations foreseen: Many hundreds of terabytes of data
 - Hundreds of millions of datasets and processes
- Reliability
 - 10's of thousands of batch jobs per day
 - 43k in a day is our record (approx 40k CPU-hrs)
- Ease of use within collaboration : web based frontend



Data Processing Flow at SLAC



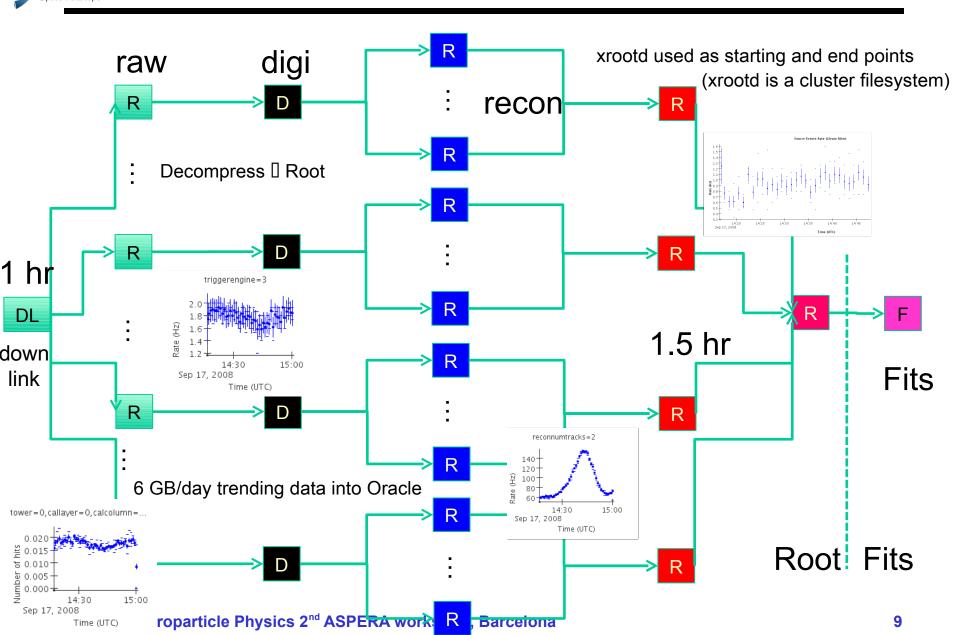
- Downlink from Goddard Space Flight Center
 - ~8 downloads per day
 - 15 GB total daily
- Level 0 Processing
 - Automatically launched as data arrives
 - Decode & repackage incoming data
 - Split science data from telemetry data
- Level 1 Processing
 - Full event reconstruction: 750 GB/day
 - Data Quality Monitoring
 - Transfer science summary files to Fermi Science Support Center - 200 MB/day
 - Immediately available to the public
- ASP (Automated Science Processing)
 - GRB and Flare detection
 - Spectral analysis (Routine Science Processing)
- 120,000 quantities continuously monitored
 - Mixture of Oracle, Root, Fits data





Level 1 Processing Many-Ringed Circus

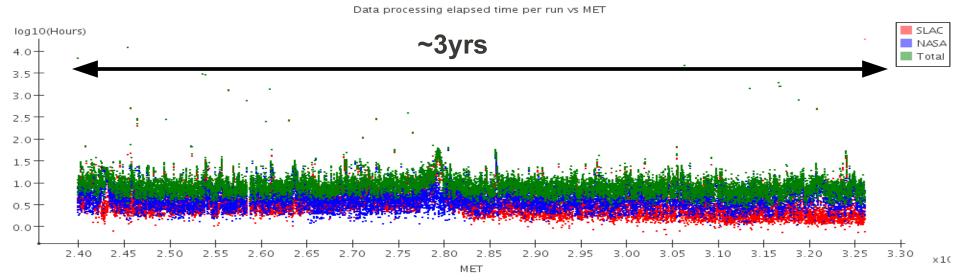




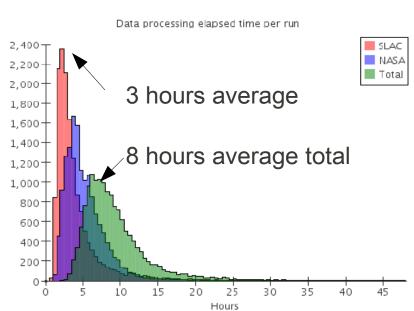


Pipeline Performance and Reliability





Elapsed time between data being recorded on satellite and arriving at SLAC (blue), and between arriving at SLAC and being totally processed (red), and total elapsed time (green). Almost all data is fully processed <24 hours after being recorded.





Pipeline Implementation

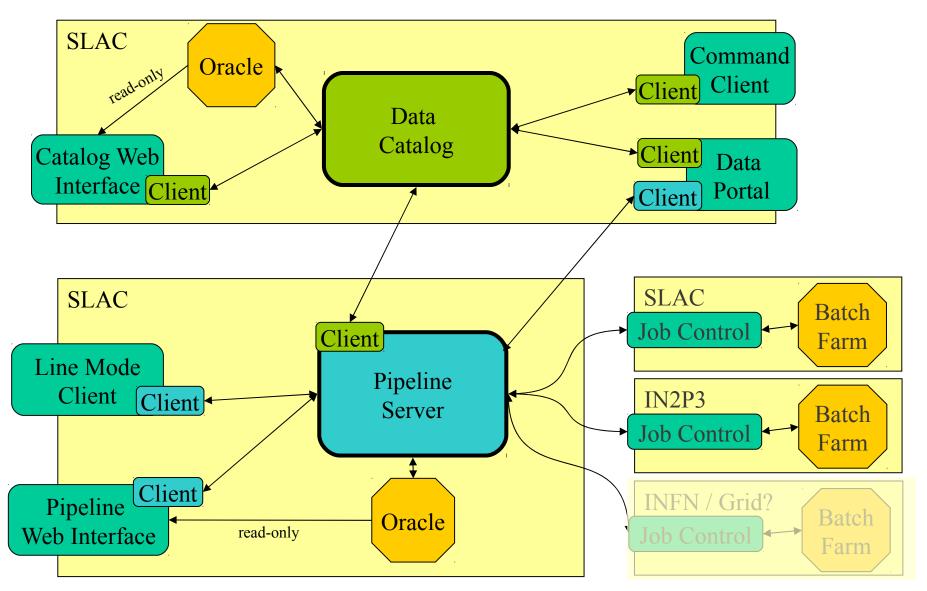


- Pipeline, Web Servers implemented in Java
 - Apache tomcat web server
 - Redundant servers for reliability, scalability
 - Java Server Pages (JSP) for web pages
 - Extensive use of 3rd party and custom tag libraries
 - DisplayTag for tabular data
 - AIDA tld for dynamic plot generation
 - JMX for monitoring, control
 - JaSIG CAS single-signon for user authentication
- Extensive use of database for storing state, history
 - Oracle (10g, 11)
 - Java Stored Procedures for performance
 - GridControl for performance, tuning, montitoring



Pipeline Implementation







Principal Computing Resources



- SLAC compute farm (Fermi allocation)
 - 1600 CPUs in batch farm running LSF (+ peak loads of >3000)
 - 1100 TB disk xroot 32 TB raid 10 Sun thumpers
 - 1500 TB tape in robotic silo (HPSS)
- Lyon compute farm (CCIN2P3, France)
 - 1200 CPUs in batch farm running BQS
 - few TB disk allocated for all Fermi uses (transfer generated files to SLAC)
 - seamlessly used by pipeline from SLAC
- Plans for using Italian GRID
- Extensive use of relational DB
 - Two 'Niagara' redundant Oracle servers each with 1.5 TB raid disk
 - Science monitoring
 - LAT+Spacecraft 'housekeeping' trending
 - Bookkeeping (dataCatalog, processing config, etc.)
 - Science data (e.g., GRB catalog)
 - Resource trending



Resource Monitoring



Use open source tools to watch resources and services

Ganglia for usage – trends for loads, I/O

Oracle, xrootd, afs, nfs, linux servers, ...

Nagios for function – aliveness etc

- Many standard functions: ping, database checks, ...
- Customisable with plugins to check anything
- email, pager alerts with warning levels and history

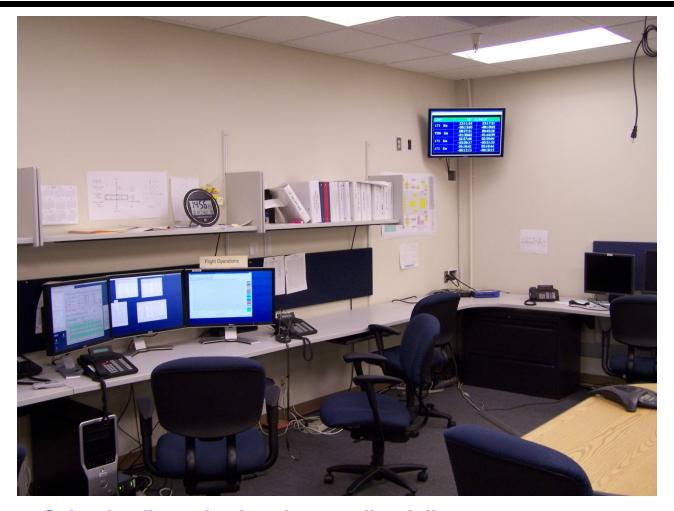
Our own trending system to track performance & resource usage

Be generous with info stored in the database!



ISOC Control Room



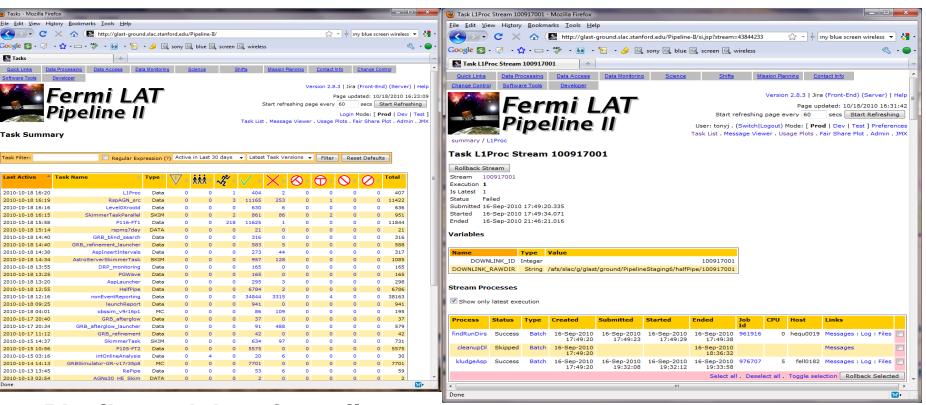


- "Duty Scientists" monitoring data quality daily
- All of the data processing and data quality monitoring can be done from the web



Processing Pipeline Web Interface





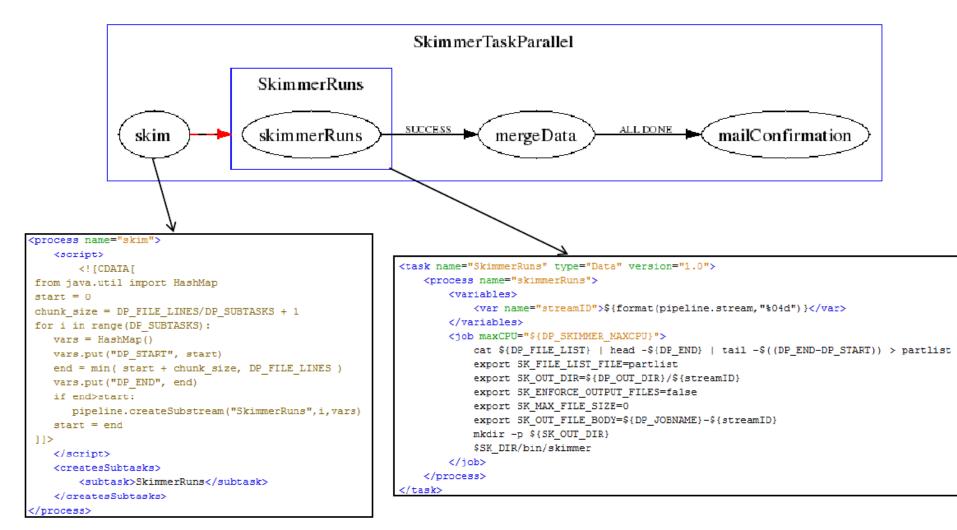
- Pipeline web interface allows
 - Many views of data processing, down to log files of individual jobs
 - Job submission (but normally done from command line)
 - If jobs do fail they can be "rolled back" directly from the web interface



Anatomy of a Pipeline Task



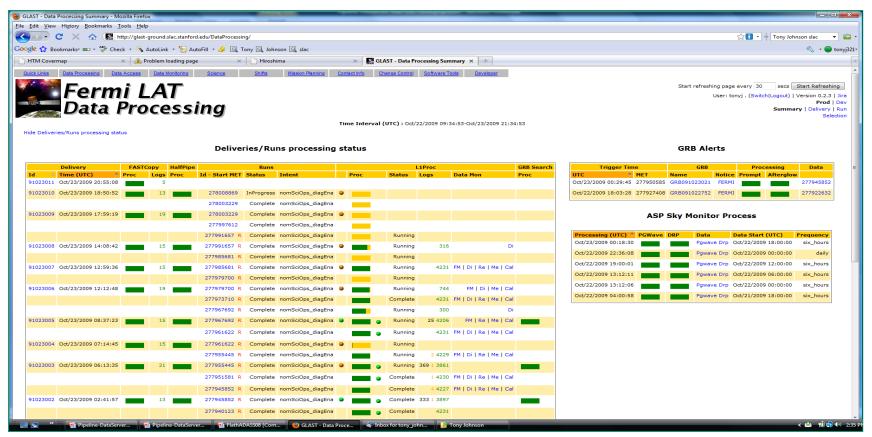
Tasks, Subtasks, Processes, Streams, specified in user written XML





Monitoring Data Processing





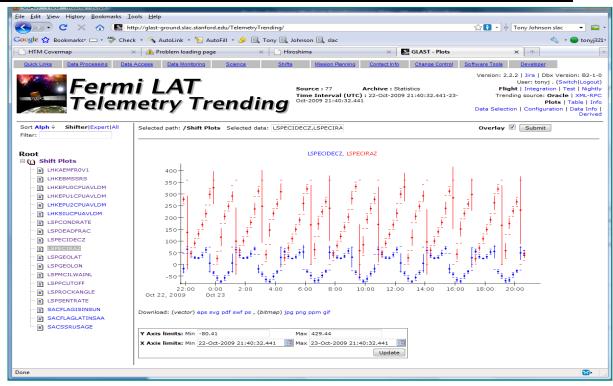
Web interface allows

- Quick overview of data processing
- Flags runs requiring further attention
- Allows "drill-down" to isolate/identify problems



Telemetry Trending





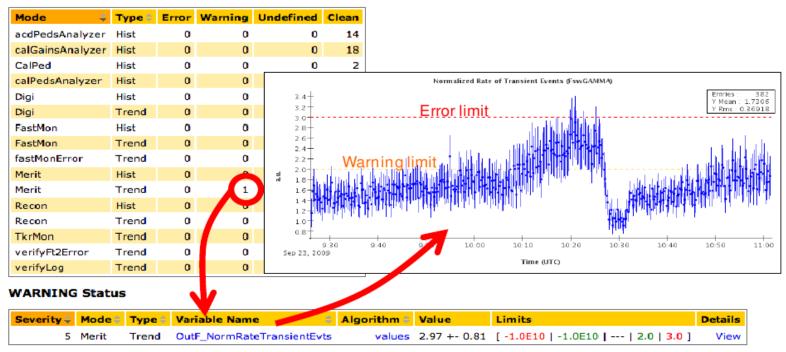
- Web interface allows
 - Dynamic selection of time period
 - Dynamic overlay of quantities
 - Customized tree to draw attention to important plots
 - Can be customized for individuals or groups
- Cross trending of housekeeping and level 1 data



Automated Alarms



Alarms for run 275390766



- Automated alarms are used to alert duty scientists to anomalies
- Use fixed limits and reference histograms
- Many quantities are highly orbit dependent, so particle fluxes, geomagnetic variables must be taken into account
 - 20 different alarm algorithms



Data Access



Fermi data is immediately available to the public

- Via Fermi Science Support Center
- ISOC supports collaboration data servers which provide

Full access to data via web based "data catalog"

- Access to public files plus extended event formats
- Search based on arbitrary "meta-data" associated with datasets

Web based event display for looking at detailed reconstruction of individual events

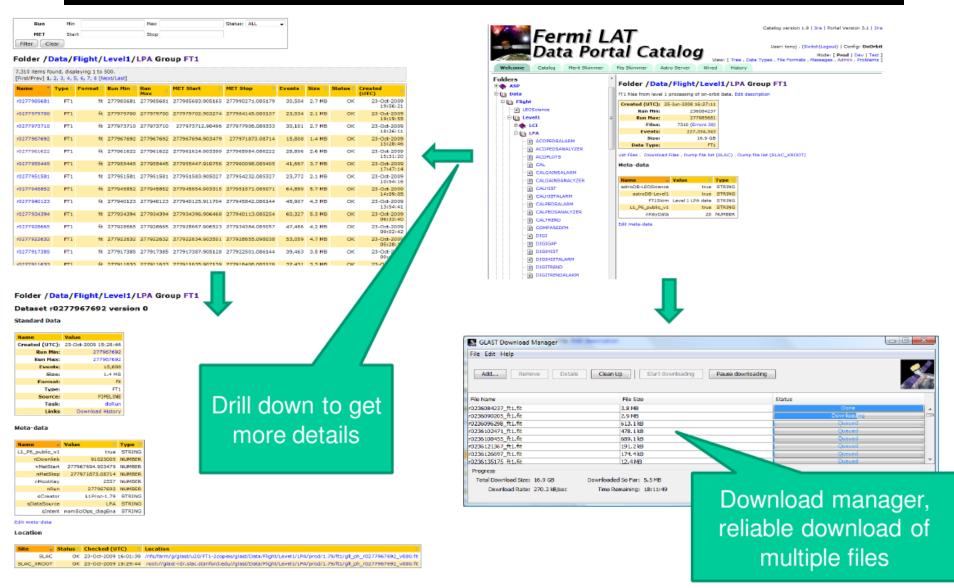
Web based data selection tools

With support for producing Root and Fits files



Data Catalog Web Interface



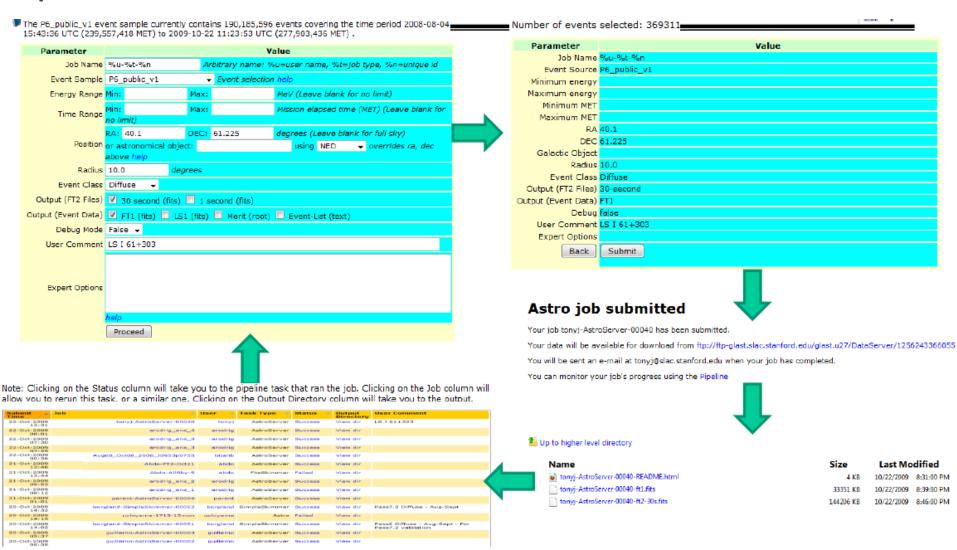




"Astro" Server Web Interface



"duplicates" for use internal to the collaboration the NASA FSSC official data server





Lessons Learned on Reliability



Failure rates have to be very low when running hundreds of thousands of jobs!

- use local disks as much as possible, staging input and output files back to networked storage.
- nfs has been fragile when asked to handle hundreds of simultaneous connections

Defined pre-emptive queues on 900 cores for prompt processing: if all jobs slots busy, someone else's jobs are suspended

Auto-rollback of failed jobs by pipeline: Biggest failure rate is transient errors

Auto-restart sick batch machines: Sick machines are sinks for failing jobs since they quickly return to an available state

Control access to the database: We limit access to the pipeline server for bulk processing

Be vigilant and give yourself time to react:

- nagios with warning levels on disk space to give us heads up on imminent disasters
- ganglia to watch loads

Test ahead of time! We used full scale operations simulations and data challenges to stress the systems



Software



- The LAT collaboration develops and manages 2 software
 - GlastRelease: the workhorse underneath the pipeline (simulation, digitization, reconstruction, rejection & classification)
 - ScienceTools: the analysis toolkit to do science with the LAT data
- GlastRelease is internal to the collaboration
- ScienceTools is a deliverable as per NASA mandate (remember that Fermi is an 'observatory': the data are public, and so are the means to analyze them)
- Both software share codes, but their requirements are different
 - Different data products
 - All detailed/structured files to be in ROOT
 - High level analysis only in FITS
 - Different code structures



GlastRelease: close to HEP standards



Package	Description	Provider
ACD, CAL, TKR Recon	Data reconstruction	LAT
ACD, CAL, TKR Sim	Instrument sim	LAT
GEANT4	Particle transport sim	G4 worldwide collaboration
xml	Parameters	World standard
Root 5.26.00	C++ object I/O	HEP standard
Gaudi	Code skeleton	CERN standard
doxygen	Code doc tool	World standard
Visual C++/gnu	Development envs	World standards
CMT (now Scons)	Code mgmt tool	HEP standard
ViewCvs	cvs web viewer	World standard
cvs	File version mgmt	World standard



ScienceTools: High Level Analysis



Output of a telescope (for "event" data) :

- Location on sky, time, energy, quality
- Very simple output ntuple : implemented in Root and FITS

NASA mandates that all its space missions use FITS as a data format (In use for 25+ years)

Format fully documented and files self documenting

- File headers are an integral part of the format
- Interface library supplied for popular languages

And that the data/software be made public (1 year hiatus negociated)

Funds a Science Support Center to interface to the public :

- Instrument teams not asked to do this (10+ FTEs for Fermi)
- Charter is to support the Fermi data "forever"



ScienceTools: Fits/FTOOLS model



The analysis model is atomic operations with files used as the messengers

- Linked together with scripts (called pipelines)
- Designed for sequential simple processing
 - Not made for (parallel) batch processing
 - Very easy to step on the parameter files
 - No structures/objects in the files: Images or tables

FITS headers are nice

- Intrinsic to the files: all tools respect the header
- Carries processing history etc etc

LAT collaboration mitigation : ScienceTools to python!



Software Development Approach



Divide code into packages (small is beautiful):

- CVS for versioning (with web access): obsolete but legacy
- CMT (now scons) for code management (cross-platform mandatory)

Extensive use of electronic communications: Web conferencing (evo), Instant Messaging (icq)

Software Development on Windows or linux; compute cycles on linux

Documentation and coding reviews enforce coding rules

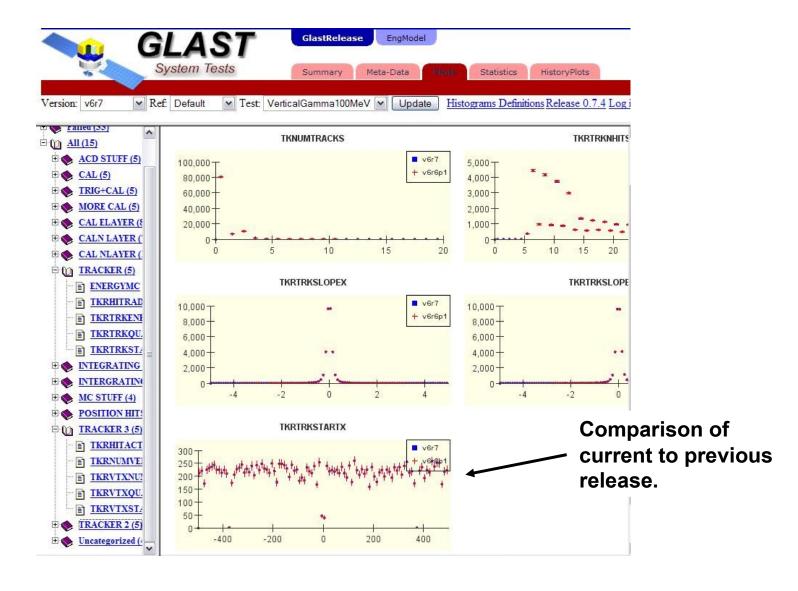
Most important: "Continuous integration"

- Eliminate surprises for incoming code releases
- Build code when packages are tagged; alert owners to failures in build or running of <u>unit tests</u>. Results tracked in database.
- Developing comprehensive <u>system tests</u> in multiple source configurations. Track results in database; web viewable.



System Tests



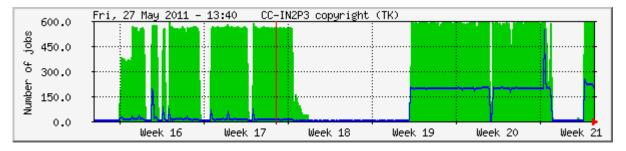




Conclusions



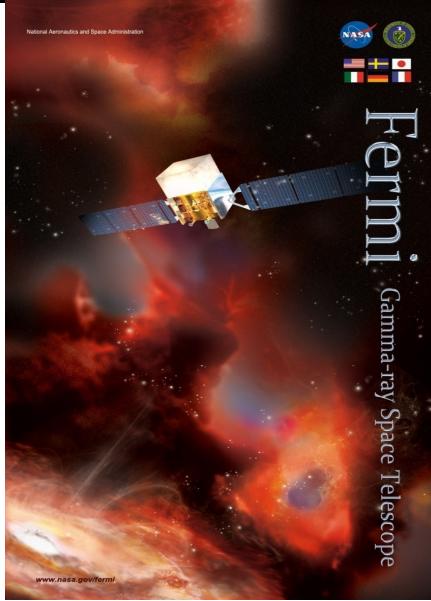
- Fermi data pipeline, data catalog and monitoring tools in production use for 4 years
 - Have proved very reliable for data processing
 - Web based tools : monitoring load distributed world wide
- Design decision: avoid tight coupling to specific experiment
 - EXO, CDMS, being evaluated for use by JWST
- Support submission of pipeline jobs to more systems
 - Currently support LSF (SLAC), BQS (Lyon), Condor
 - Adding support for Grid Engine, EEGE Grid
- Increase interactivity of web apps (AJAX, Web 2.0, GWT)



Fermi LAT Pipeline processing at IN2P3



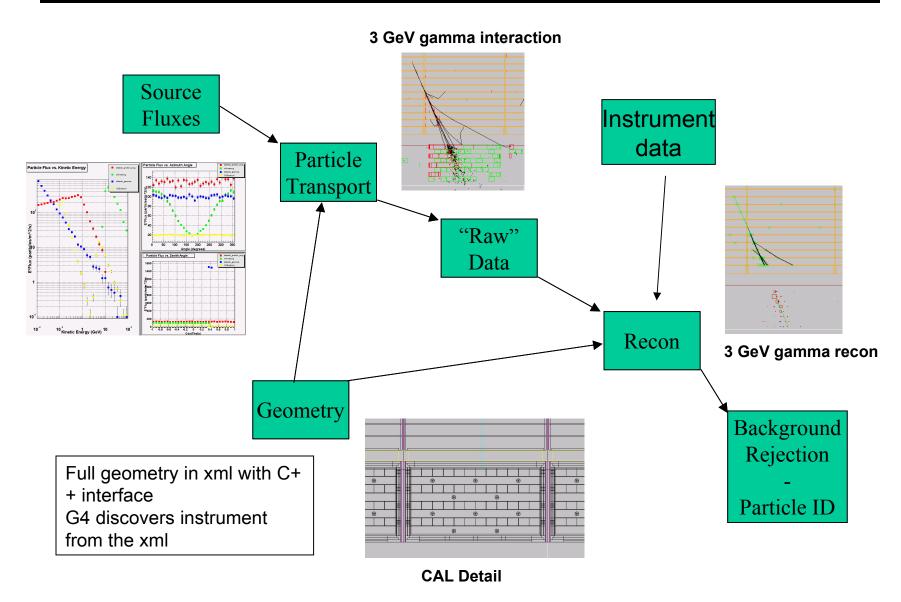
More slides.....



J. Cohen-Tanugi



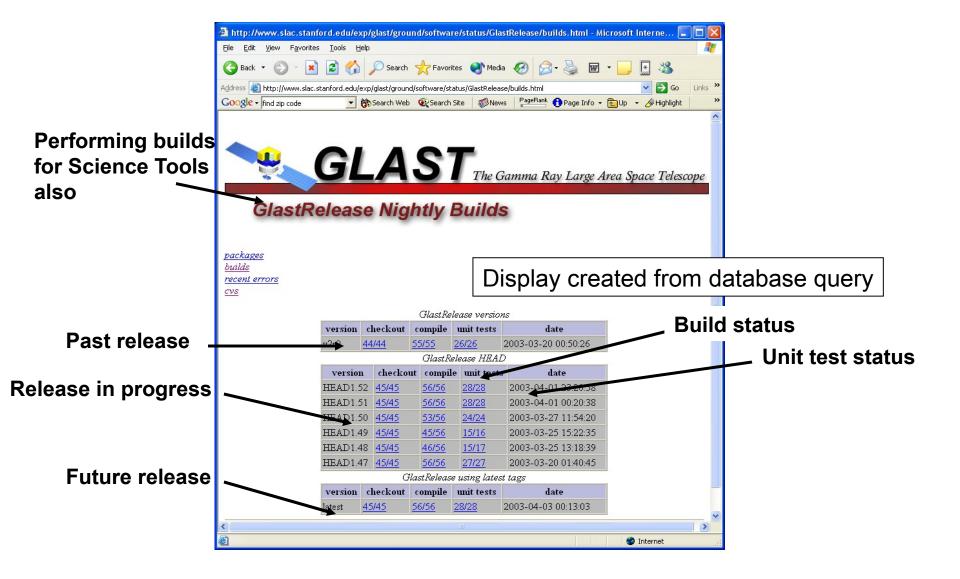






Code Builds

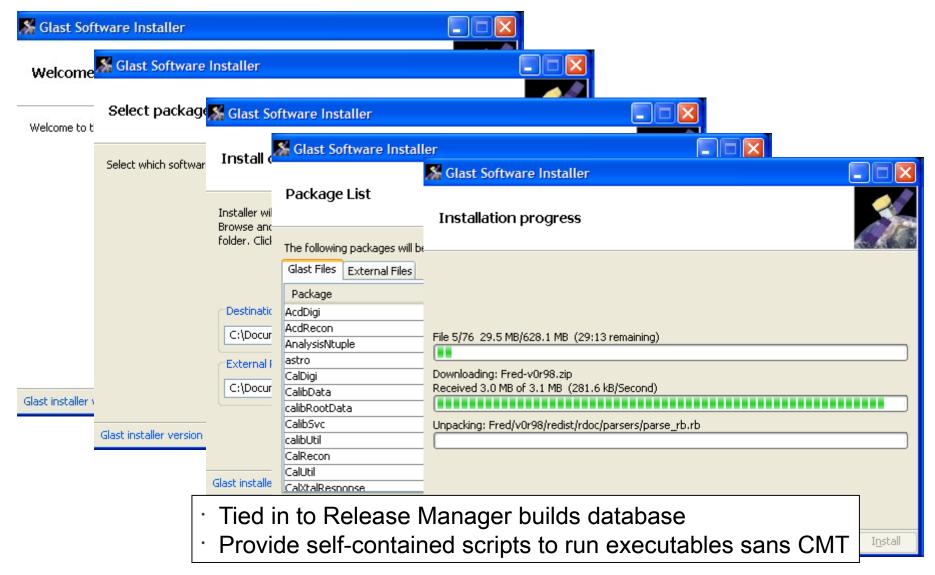






Code Distribution







Issues Tracker; CCB; wiki



User JIRA web issues tracker

Commercial product

Handles bugs, features, improvements

Full user/group management

"roadmaps" for version evolution

Change Control Board: Data Processing Operations

Code used in pipeline – sim/recon; executive scripts; pipeline itself

Require documentation of all changes – preferably backed up by JIRA issues

Demonstration that fixes work; system tests on sim/recon

Using wiki tool to record actions

4-person board - adjudicated by email so far

Wiki

Confluence - Fermi now totally addicted to it

Commercial product (Atlassian – same parent as JIRA)

Simple web editing independent of user OS

Space management; same groups and users as JIRA



Data & Service Challenges



Ground software is amalgam of HEP instrument software and Astro FTOOLS

Adopt HEP's "Data Challenges" to create a series of end-to-end studies: create a progression of ever more demanding studies

Two were performed before launch

Complete buy-in from the Science Working Groups

Deepest sky simulation at GeV energies at the time

Full scale operations simulation performed 3 months before launch

Simulated 1 full week of raw data and fed it to the operations center in scheduled "downlinks"

Ran data quality shifts etc etc

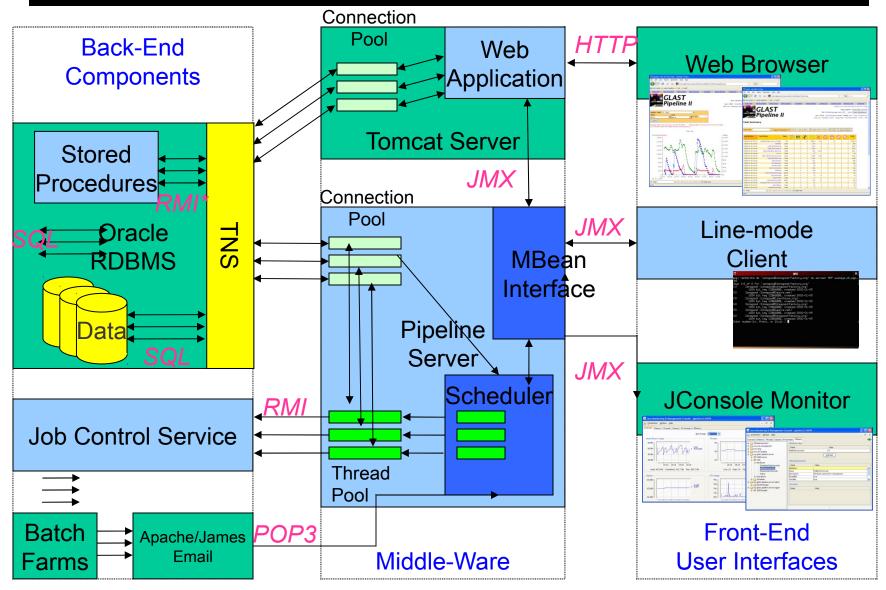
Uncovered many operational problems

All solved in time for launch and a flawless startup.

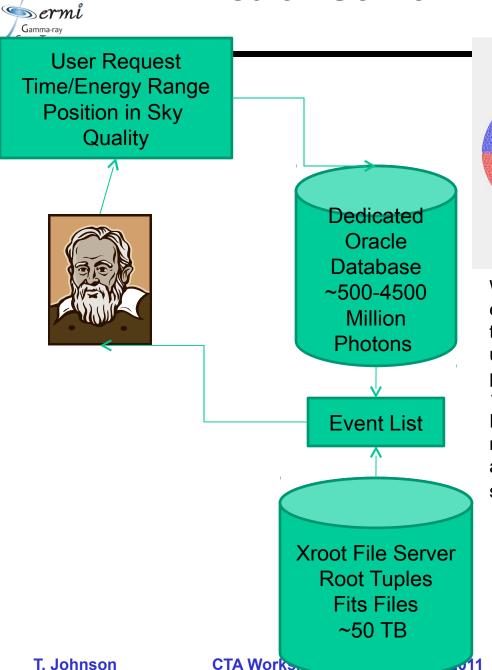


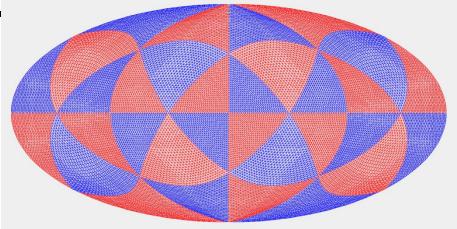
Pipeline Implementation





"Astro" Server Implementation





Within the database events are indexed by time, energy and position using a hierarchical triangular mesh (HTM). Database partitions are used to split the data into 1 week time bins and 32 position bins within each time bin, each containing 1024 HTM regions (shown above). The use of HTM triangles makes it easy to identify which regions are entirely contained in the user request, and which are partially contained and require finer selection (below)



Technologies Used



Database: Oracle

- Java Stored Procedures for performance
- Scheduled Server-side Jobs for monitoring, stats-gathering
- Hierarchical queries

Servers and Client Libraries (Pipeline, Data Catalog): Java

Extensive use of threads, concurrency utilities for performance

Jython interpreter for user scripts, JMX MxBean Interfaces for monitoring/comm.

XML used for processing-task definitions

Pipeline: Apache/Tomcat servers for Web, Apache/James Email server for status notification

JSP for web pages

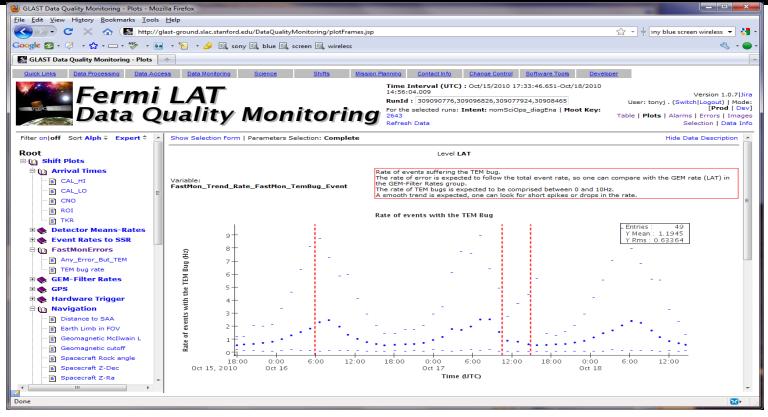
- DisplayTag for tabular data
- AIDA tag libraries for plotting
- Custom tag libraries expose Pipeline client methods

Java Servlets : Serve GraphViz State diagrams



Data Quality Monitoring





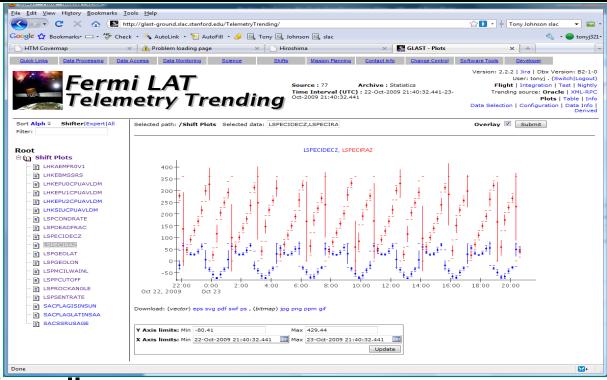
Web interface allows

- Show data from single run or aggregate set of runs
- View description of each plot, View/Print multiple plots
- Customized tree to draw attention to important plots
- Can be customized for individuals or groups



Telemetry Trending





Web interface allows

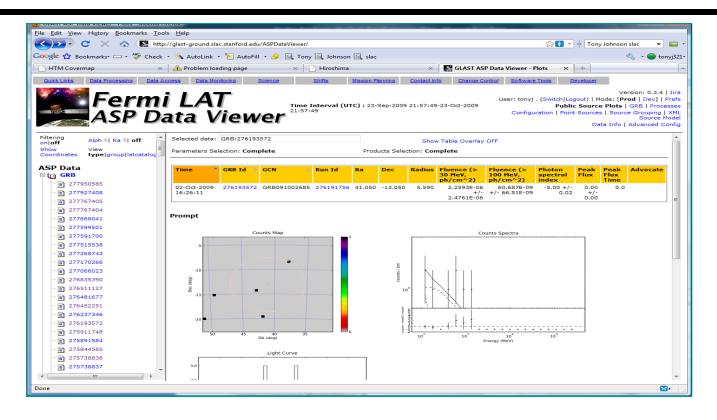
- Dynamic selection of time period
- Dynamic overlay of quantities

Customized tree to draw attention to important plots



Automated Science Processing





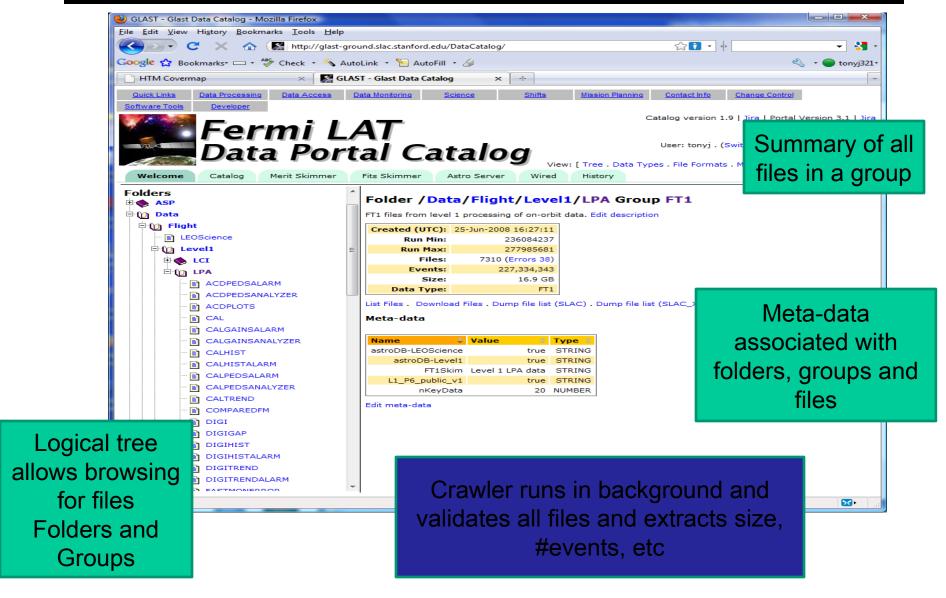
Used to rapidly detect Gamma Ray Bursts or other flaring events

Enabled timely notification of interesting events to external astrophysical community



Data Catalog Web Interface







Front End: Line-mode Clients



Command line tools for direct or scripted interaction with middle-ware

Control Server

- Ping
- Restart
- Shutdown

Upload Task Definitions

Manage processing streams

- Create
- Delete
- Cancel
- Retry from failure point

Query processing history

Plus Interaction with Data Catalog



Front End: Web Interfaces



Provides all administrative functions available in a user-friendly interactive GUI

Interactive displays show active (and historical) processing

Filtering by Task, Process, Status(es), Stream-range, Date-range

Processing Statistics Plots

Provided by AIDA tag library

System throughput plots

Filterable by Task, Date-Range

Individual process statistics plots

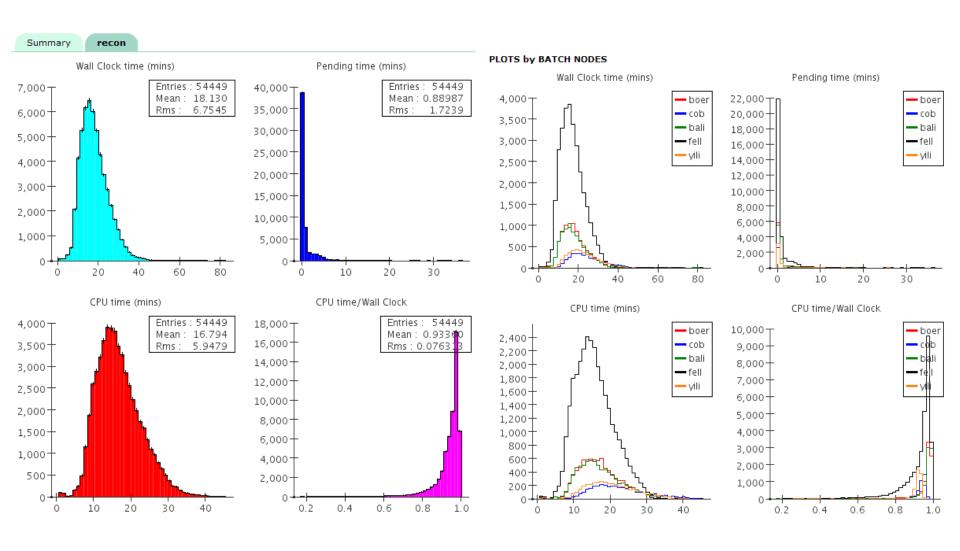
- CPU time (vs Wallclock)
- Pending time
- By Batch Host-type

Task diagrams generated by GraphViz and image-mapped to provide links to task element (Sub-tasks, processes) displays



Front End: Process Detail Plots







Front End: Job Detail Display



Task doChunk Process fastMonHist Stream 81031004.247117860.15155

Type Batch Status Running

 Stream
 81031004.247117860.15155

 CreateDate
 30-Oct-2008 22:46:16.000

 SubmitDate
 30-Oct-2008 23:14:54.482

 StartDate
 30-Oct-2008 23:14:59.000

EndDate CPU Used Memory Used Swap Used

Execution Host boer0105

Exit Code

Working Dir /nfs/farm/g/glast/u15/pipeline-II/prod/log/L1Proc/1.68/doRun/doChunk/fastMonHist/081xxxxxx/031xxx/004/247xxxxxx/117xxx/860/015xxx/155

Log File /nfs/farm/g/glast/u15/pipeline-II/prod/log/L1Proc/1.68/doRun/doChunk/fastMonHist/081xxxxxxx/031xxx/004/247xxxxxxx/117xxx/860/015xxx/155/logFile.txt

 Execution Number 1

 Retry Number 0

 Is Latest 1

 Batch Job ID 423937

Links: View Messages

Variables

Nothing found to display.

Show UpStream Process Instances

Show Downstream Process Instances

Show Created SubStreams

Upstream Process Instances

Wait Condition *	Process 💠	Status 🕏	Type 🕏	Created	Submitted	Started	Ended	Job Id 🕏	CPU 	Host 💠	Links
Success	fastMonTuple	Success	Batch	30-Oct-2008 22:46:16	30-Oct-2008 22:46:26	30-Oct-2008 22:46:33	30-Oct-2008 23:14:31	421514	1646	bali0244	Messages : Log : Files

Downstream Process Instances

Wait Condition 🕏	Process ÷	Status 🕏	Type 🕏	Created	Submitted *	Started 🕏	Ended 	Job Id 🕏	CPU ≑	Host ≑	Links
Success	checkChunk	Waiting	Batch	30-Oct-2008 22:46:17							Messages
DONE	merge Fast Mon Hist	Waiting	Batch	30-Oct-2008 22:45:22							Messages