DC1 Closeout Feb 12-13 2004



AST Softwar

Data Challenge 1 Closeout Lessons Learned Already



R.Dubois



Fallout from DC1 (so far)

- SciTools did not run on windows at the last minute
 - Release Manager needs to run Windows builds
 - Now running glitch with IExternal
 - Awaiting dedicated windows servers from SLAC SCS
 - RM will also provide standardized user facility with all GR, ST builds available, just as for SLAC linux.
- We discovered problems with sources and ACD ribbons late
 - Better unit tests for sources; and system tests for ACD as well as better review process when major changes made to subsystems
 - Need better tabulation of MC Source IDs in the data header
 - Need to revive and update/upgrade system tests!
 - Should check backgrounds in detail (given signal problems)
- Manual handling of the processing
 - No pipeline, manual concatenation etc of files. Error prone.
 - OPUS now beginning to function. Can run DC1 jobs and mostly write results to processing database
 - Wrote tools to handle concatenations
 - No checking of file integrity



Fallout 2

- Large failure rate in batch jobs (~10%)
 - Most fixed now; remaining few percent will be tricky to find
 - Need to run a new batch of jobs in debug to see what's going on
- Tools are not checking inputs much, eg:
 - Easy to get Likelihood into infinite loops with inputs in wrong order etc
 - Input checking has been added
 - GRBobsSpectrum doesn't check that it can read the ascii photon list
- Code distribution scripts were written manually
 - And we need to rationalize how they run wrt environment variables etc
 - Testing "Release Area" feature of CMT
 - May buy InstallShield installer for the rest
- We lowered the bar in several places:
 - No backgrounds; "approximated" background rejection cuts
 - No onboard filter
 - No pipeline (OPUS) almost running now
 - No CALDB implemented



Tools & Data

- Pat has volunteered to install these on SLAC linux
 - FTOOLS
 - XSpec
 - AstroRoot

– What else do we need?

- We'll add these to the Windows servers when they arrive
- SLAC Data Server to be revamped
 - Code rewrite in conjunction with upgrades to OPUS, SysTests & Release Manager
 - Need to optimize Root queries & investigate other speedups
 - Improvements to user documentation



Dataset Generation

- We have the CPU capacity to generate large datasets
 - viz 150M background events for rejection studies
 - Run at SLAC (Heather) and Lyon (Berrie)
 - (bb)ftp'ed Merit tuples to SLAC
 - Ditto for full tree files for requested events that failed rejection cuts
 - Done "by hand"
 - Starting to test out farm at Perugia
 - ~750 GB per shot & on tape in Lyon.
 - We will want to develop a more coordinated, automatic scheme for multi-farms
 - GRID for GLAST??
- Would be nice to tie code version into data have it recorded in the output files headers.



ScienceTools Organization

- After first release of ST, Toby Burnett (UW) and James Peachey (SSC) as co-architects
- Johann Cohen-Tanugi and Jim Chiang acting as "Release Managers" for ScienceTools