

The growth of the ICAT family

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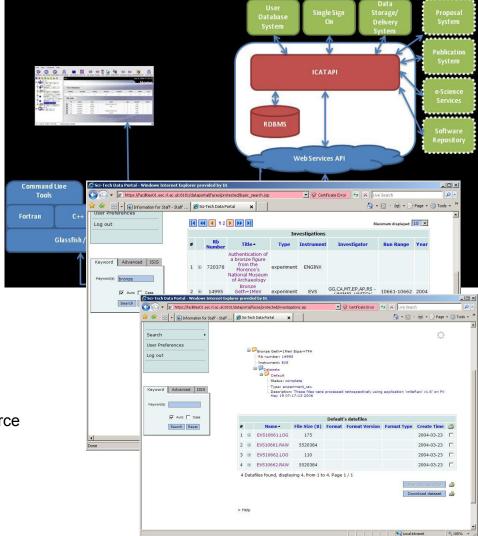
"Ancient" History

... provide a metadata catalogue and related components to support large-facility experimental data, ... from proposal through to publication.

Model - Catalogue - GUI

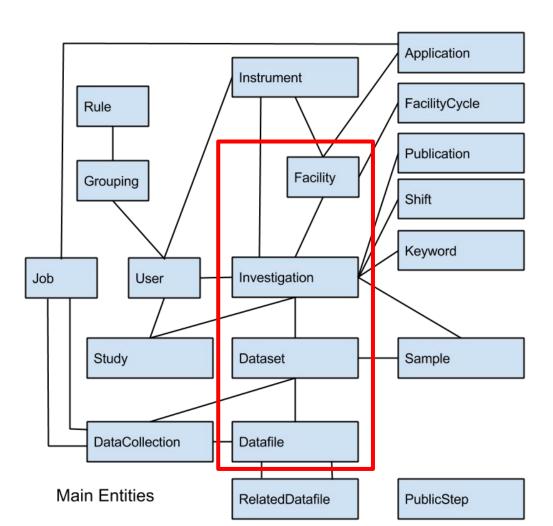
2001: CLRC Data Portal

2008: ICAT server with SOAP and Glassfish became open source



The model

- Diagram only shows high level view.
- Many to many on diagram relationships are actually implemented by two many to one relationships



The schema

- Entities are identified by an object in the many to one direction and one or more naming fields.
 - For example a Datafile
 is identified by its
 Dataset and a name.
 This also means that a
 Datafile cannot exist
 without a Dataset and
 that it can only be 'part
 of' one Dataset.

Datafile A data file

Uniqueness constraint: dataset, name

From auto generated documentation

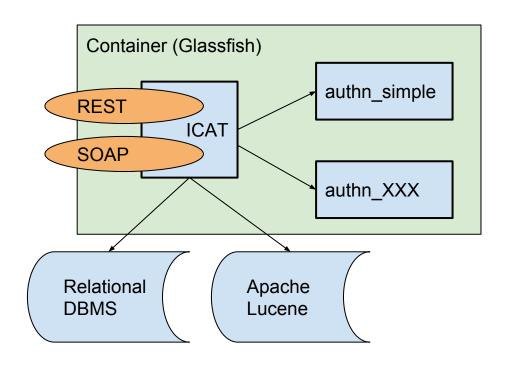
Card	Class	Field	Description
0,*	<u>DataCollectionDatafile</u>	dataCollectionDatafiles	
0,*	RelatedDatafile	sourceDatafiles	
1,1	Dataset	dataset	The dataset which holds this file
0,*	RelatedDatafile	destDatafiles	
0,*	<u>DatafileParameter</u>	parameters	
0,1	<u>DatafileFormat</u>	datafileFormat	

Field	Туре	Description	
name String [255] NOT NULL		A name given to the file	
fileSize	Long	Expressed in bytes	
location	String [255]	The logical location of the file - which may also be the physical location	
checksum	String [255]	Checksum of file represented as a string	
doi	String [255]	The Digital Object Identifier associated with this data file	
description	String [255]	A full description of the file contents	

ICAT Server

- Java EE application inside container
- REST and SOAP interfaces
- Pluggable authenticators
- RDBMS and Lucene
- Rule based authorization

- Generic calls to:
 - Write
 - Update
 - Search
 - Delete



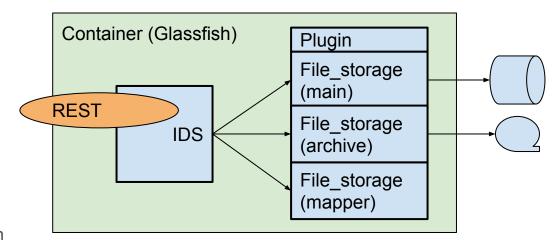
Rule Based Authorization

- Rules to implement a policy
- Such as:
 - All experimental data are public after n days
 - All Investigation records are public
 - Those users related to an investigation can read all Datasets and their related Datafiles and Parameters.
- JPQL SELECT statements define a View.
- Can also define permissions for those in a "group"



IDS Server

- ICAT Data Server for storing and retrieving files
- Can use two level storage if not practical to keep all data on low latency storage
 - IDS manages movement
 between main and archive
 storage. Calls to read data not in
 main storage triggers restore
 and returns failure.
 - Can use explicit archive and restore calls



IDS Server - calls

Storing a file

- Send in the id of the dataset and name of file
- Look up dataset in ICAT and check that can write
- Use the plugin to write the file
- Catalog the datafile in ICAT
- Return the id of the new datafile

Reading one file

- Check with ICAT that file is readable
- If file in main storage plugin streams data directly to the user

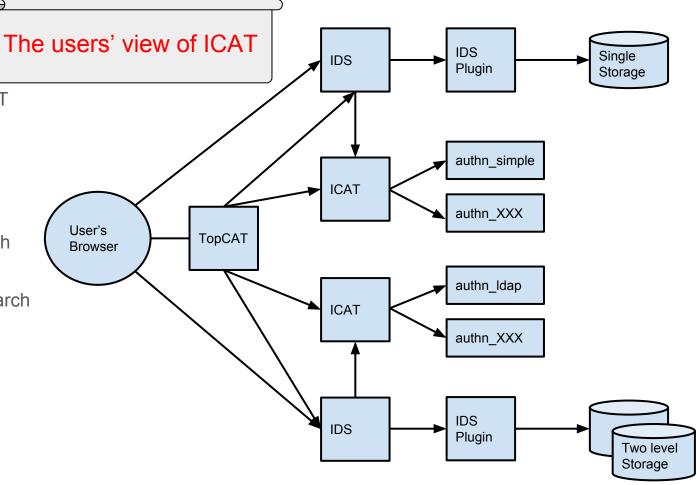
Reading multiple files

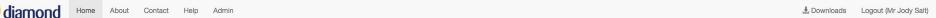
- Check with ICAT that all files are readable
- The same mechanism but a zip file is created on the fly

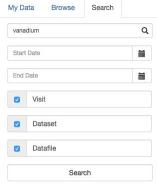


Interface to multiple ICAT and IDS servers

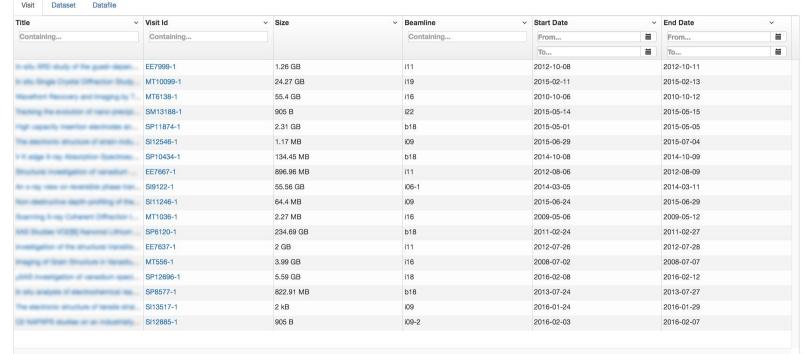
- Highly configurable
- Facility dependent view
- New interface written with Angular JS
- Makes use of lucene search
- Download mechanisms:
 - o http(s)
 - smartclient
 - various PollCATs
- Pluggable







Search Results

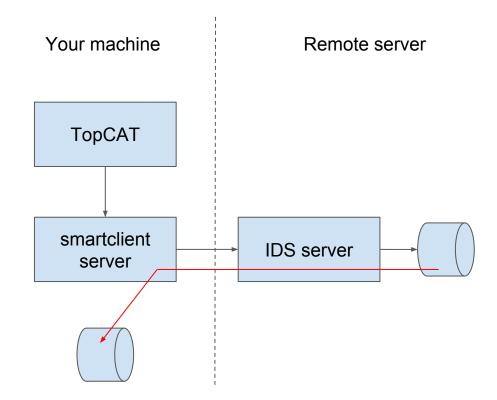


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localhost:10080/#/

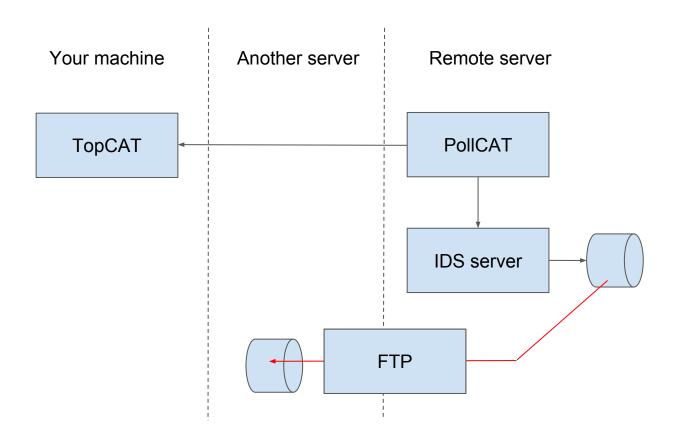
smartclient

- No infrastructure required
- Self contained distributions for Windows, RedHat, Debian, Mac
- Parallel streams of data to your filesystem running in the background



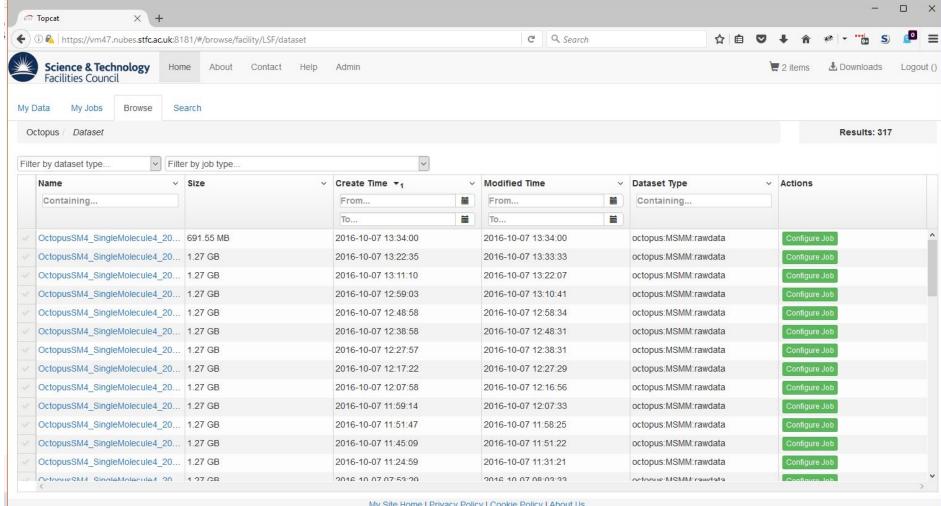
PolICAT

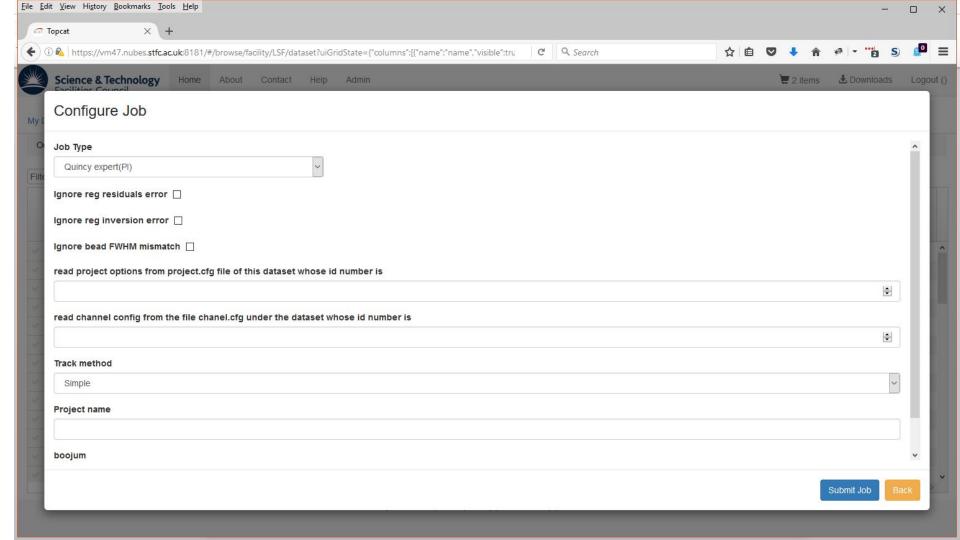
- PollCAT polls the IDS until data ready
- Then moves it via a plugin

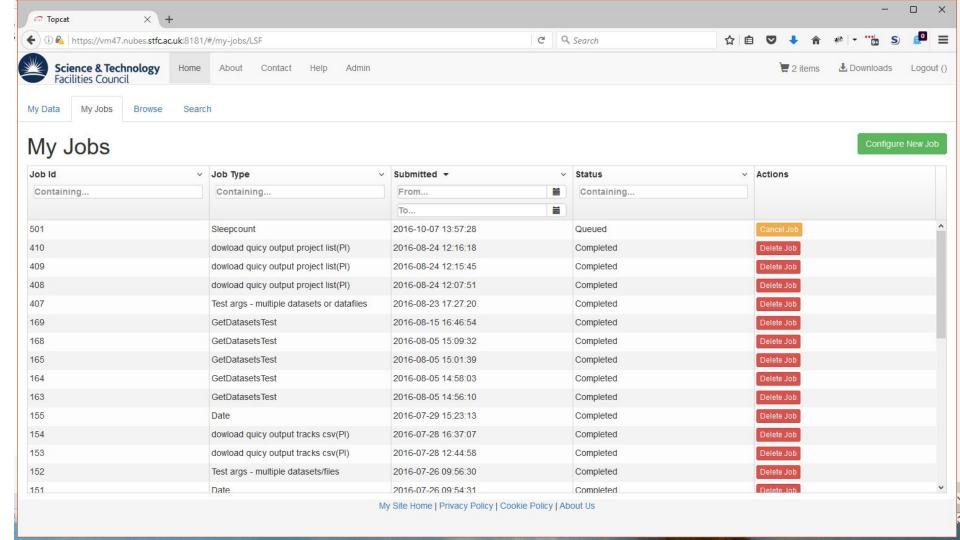


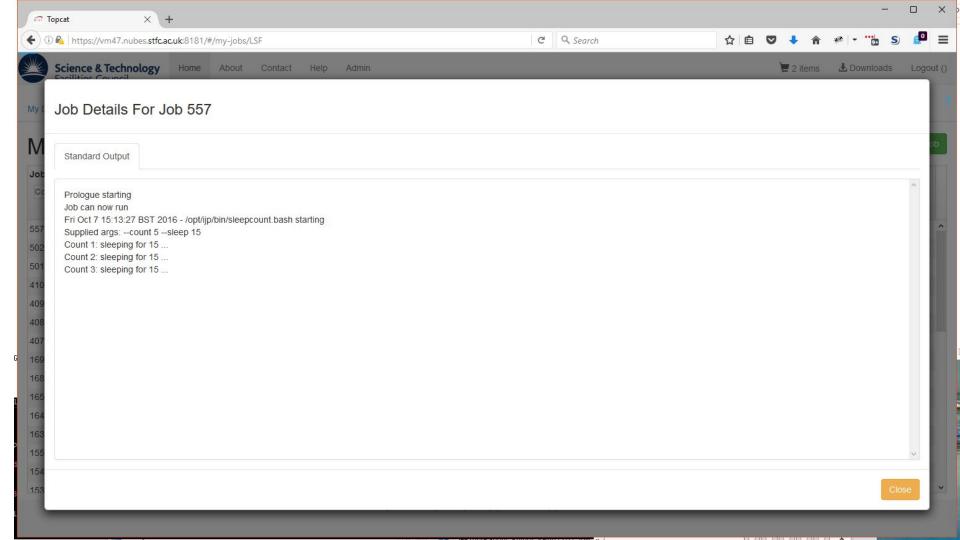
IJP

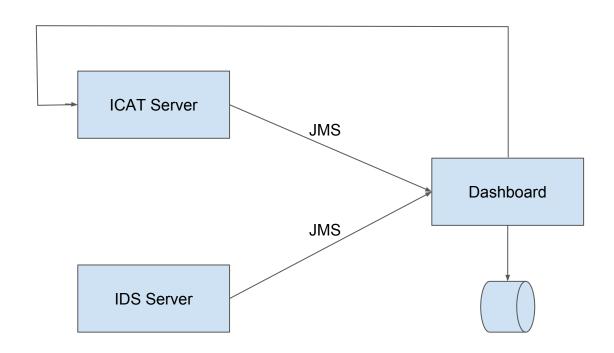
- ICAT Job Portal
- Was a standalone component
- Now implemented as a TopCAT plugin so feels like TopCAT

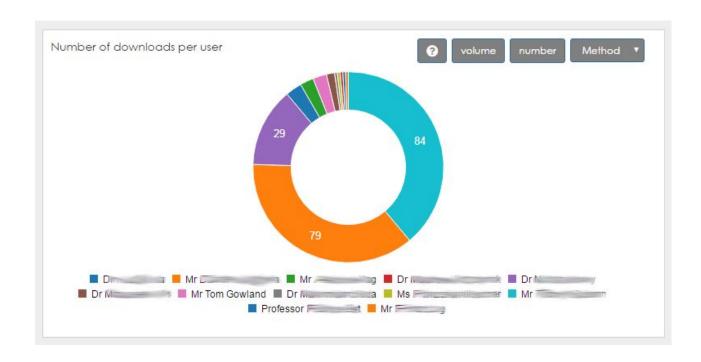


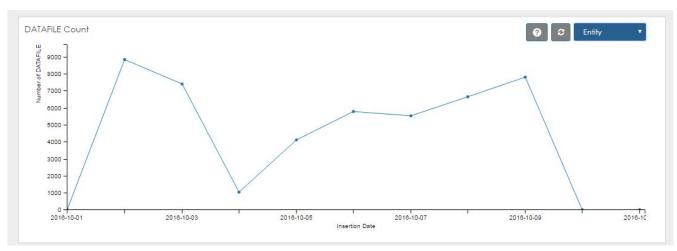


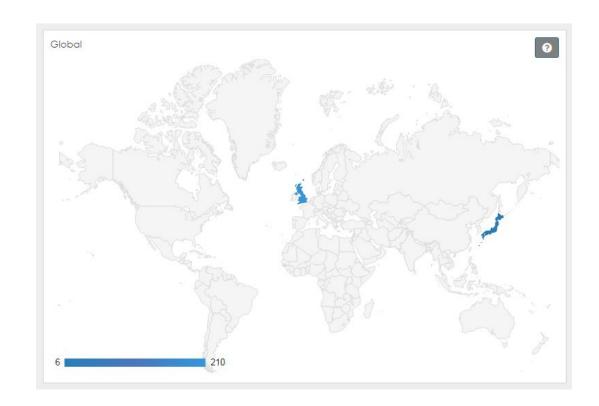












Conclusion

- The model is practical
- Loose coupling and plugins provide flexibility to support many facilities
- The ICAT project is very much alive

https://icatproject.org

