

Based on a conversation with James Howison.

1. They have submitted the "[Scientific Software Production and Collaboration](#)" paper to Computer Supported Collaborative Work conference (sponsored by IEEE or ACM in March 2011). They expect to hear back soon.
2. They have submitted an OCI proposal, "[SciSIP: The Scientific Software Network Map](#)". I gave him some comments on the 2-page proposal. The proposal includes a plan to automate finding science use of software by:
 - Mining paper text and citation lists (not too effective because software is not cited or mentioned in a standard way)
 - Some software packages produce artifacts in papers that are recognizable (e.g. OSG Graphs make it clear that the OSG data collection system was used). Unfortunately, this may show graphing software rather than the scientific software that produced the data.
 - Instrumenting software so that it reports back to software owners when it is used. (Debian distribution agent monitors use.) Condor surveyed users and non-users about having code report back on its use and found users were OK with it but non-users had privacy concerns.
 - If Agencies required software use to be reported on quarterly reports, this would encourage the collection of the use data by agents or in some other way.
3. The original OSG project has morphed:
 - They wanted to look at code running on OSG but discovered there is not a good way to discover what code has run. They tried to do it with STAR but found it time consuming and incomplete.
 - This led to paper to discuss differences and implications on project ecosystems of the Large Physics Collaborations, Structural Biology, & Microbiology through bioinformatics.
 - Now they plan to study the BLAST algorithm and its various software implementations and their re-architecting the software to provide a clean way to write extensions so that packages of extensions could be shared.
4. I suggested that the EXTENCI VM project with STAR might create a way to get real data on use by science and introduced him to Sebastian. (He already knew Jerome Lauret.)
5. The Software Institute Workshop in DC Sept. 2010 discussed the possibility of setting up a group that maintained repositories for science

software (aka Science Forge) that would collect data and automatically cite the software when used by a science group.

6. He wondered if we have a way (specific words) if someone wanted to recognize and cite us in a paper? The words we recommend are: *"This research was done using resources provided by the Open Science Grid, which is supported by the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science"*
7. Jim suggested that we might find the VisTa paper of use in designing the future OSG. (I pointed out the table in Appendix D for example)
8. Some notes from review of "[The VistA Ecosystem: Current Status and Future Directions](#)":

Core values of Open Source Projects

- People should act for the good of the community.
- People should get credit for their contributions.
- Sharing information is important.
- Helping others is important.
- Voluntary cooperation is important.
- Reputation garnered from contributions is important.

Great comparison table starting on page 71 (page 77 in the pdf).

Characteristic areas:

- General (background, founding principles, etc.)
- Technical Architecture
- Governance
- Intellectual Property

VistA paths

- Organized into areas and in each area, the paper identifies key questions. The areas are:
 - Technical platform: The technical characteristics of the platform that provide common functionality and support integration of contributions from multiple participants.
 - Governance regime: The particular way that decisions are distributed over decision- makers and decision-making mechanisms, supporting both coherence and innovation.
 - Collaborative infrastructure: collaboration technology, practices, and culture that support effective communication and coordination of participants.
 - Business opportunities: Viable strategies for generating and appropriating value in the context of a socio-technical ecosystem.