The US National Virtual Observatory

Open SkyQuery, SkyNodes, and ADQL

Status and Future Plans

Maria A. Nieto-Santisteban Johns Hopkins University



IVOA Victoria, Canada



Issues with Open SkyQuery

People (want to) use OSQ but at the same time the 5k row limitation discourage them

- Why the 5K?
 - OSQ and SkyNodes are synchronous
 - Inefficient transfer format between nodes (VOTable)
 - Lack of mechanisms to manage results (VOSpace)
- We are working on solving the 5k limit with mid and long term plans
- ADQL issues
 - The XML representation is not helping
 - SkyNodes lack methods using ADQL/s directly



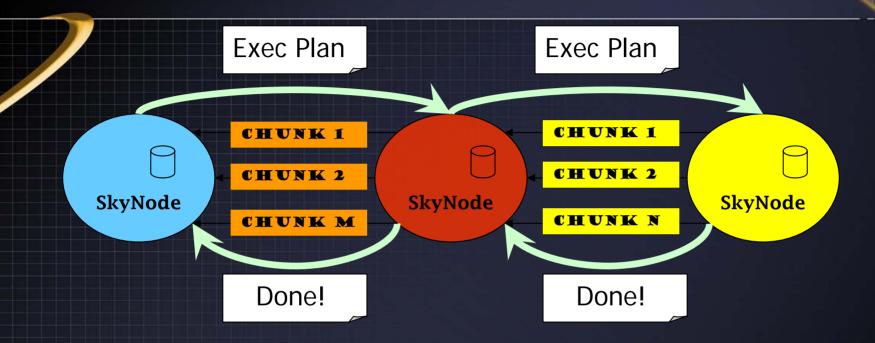
OSQ and SkyNode Development

- Dev.openskyquery.net
- Implements ADQL 0.91
- Solves many know bugs
 - Displays ROI using SIAP services
 - Portal still limited to 5k
 - SkyNodes can change the limit for individual access
- Why is not dev.openskyquery.net "live"? – ADQL/SkyNode 1.0 not finished yet – SkyNodes not hosted at JHU would fail

Two-Steps Development Plan

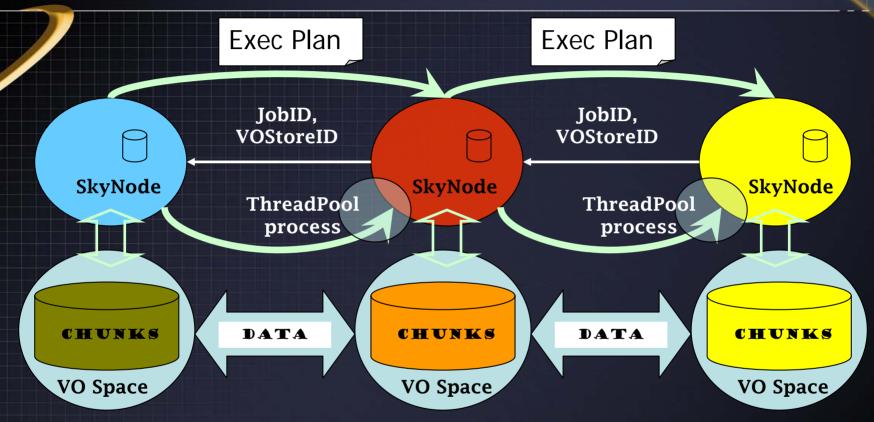
- Mid term -> bring 5k to 50k
 - Add pipeline processing in the current implementation
 - Optimize queries at the DB level
 - Implement XMATCH using zones instead of HTM
- Long term –> Unlimited rows
 - Put results into VOSpace
 - Add Asynchronism
 - Add Authentication

Mid term SkyNode design



- SkyNodes split results in chunks
- Chunks are processed by the next node as soon as they are available
- It requires a queue/tracking mechanism checking no data has been lost
- Working in preliminary prototype stage
- It allows already queries that return about 50K rows

Long term SkyNode design



The next step (unlimited size problem) needs:

- A (VO)Space to put results. Mechanisms for fast transfer and space management
- Asynchronous mechanisms that allow long time query execution
- Authentication procedures to let users access their results

Improvements at the DBMS level

- Optimizing schema and queries
- Zones and Parallelism
 - ZoneID = floor (dec + 90.0 / ZoneHeight)
 - Improves in many (most) cases the performance of neighborhood searches
 - It is based on relational algebra only
 - => full independency from HTM libraries
 - Provides a simple base for partitioning and parallelism
 - XMATCH can be efficiently processed in parallel using zones

ADQL issues @ the portal

- The ADQL CORE + Extensions design doesn't quite work for OSQ (as a federation of databases)
- OSQ will support

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- Single Node Multiple Tables (including REGION constraints)
- XMATCH Queries (multiple nodes)
- OSQ cannot support Multiple Node Multiple Table queries
 - It is not feasible to do full table JOINs across federation of nodes. Such capabilities require environments as CasJobs

Future Plans

- Mid Term
 - Fix some of the loose ends in the development portal
 - Add the minimum changes to bring the 5k limit to 50k
 - Add zones to do XMATCH and neighbor searches
- Long Term

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- Multithreaded SkyNode
- Threadpool procedures
- Message Queue management and efficient data transfer
 - Format: MTOM, gzip, VOTable?
- Footprint services to optimize XMATCH and Region queries
- A (VO)Space to put results. Mechanisms for fast transfer and space management
- Asynchronous mechanisms that allow long time query execution
- Authentication procedures to let users access their results
- Ferriswheel next generation
 - Putting in sync (federated) SkyNodes to optimize query processing

