



LARGE SYNOPTIC SURVEY TELESCOPE

Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST) Chilean Data Access Center

William O'Mullane, Donald Petravick

LDM-572

Latest Revision: 2017-12-12

This LSST document has been approved as a Content-Controlled Document by the LSST DM Change Control Board. If this document is changed or superseded, the new document will retain the Handle designation shown above. The control is on the most recent digital document with this Handle in the LSST digital archive and not printed versions. Additional information may be found in the corresponding DM RFC.

Abstract

This document describes the Chilean DAC.



Change Record

Version	Date	Description	Owner name
	2017-08-20	Initial version.	W. O'Mullane, D. Petravick
1.0	2017-12-12	Approved in RFC-419.	W. O'Mullane, T. Jenness

Document source location: <https://github.com/lsst/LDM-572>

1 Introduction

The Memorandum of Understanding with Chile [Document-11622] roughly defines a Data Access Center (DAC) at the Base Facility in Chile. In this document we would like to begin to specify more precisely what this Data Access Center would look like and the full range of services it will provide. This should be seen as an initial discussion document to allow our Chilean colleagues to collaborate with us to define the Chilean DAC.

2 The Chilean DAC

The Chilean DAC should be very similar to the US DAC at NCSA. We will therefore deploy the LSST Science Platform (LSP) in Chile as the interface to the system, just as we do for the US DAC. The LSP is now well documented with the vision given in LSE-319, with more formal requirements in LDM-554 and the design in LDM-542.

The DAC will require other software, some hardware, and of course data to function as a DAC. We go through these in the following sections.

2.1 Software and Services

The components (“Aspects”) of the Science Platform: Portal, Data Access Services (DAX), and Notebooks (JupyterLab) will be deployed in Chile in the same manner as at NCSA. The baseline design is to use Kubernetes to deploy Docker containers, an approach we are currently using in our prototype systems. The Platform gives access, through the Notebook Aspect, to several versions of the LSST Software Stack allowing processing of image data and catalogs. This interface will also allow users to spawn batch jobs to process large amounts of data. Such batch jobs will have to be written using the installed batch system.

The Science Platform provides a “user workspace” which allows users to upload images and other files, and to create databases, as well as store temporary results. While users of the Chilean DAC will have access to the US DAC, *user workspace data* is bound to the site where it was created.¹

All the regular security and other services will also be deployed in Chile as in NCSA. The entire system will be administered from NCSA in Illinois; thus, if new versions of software are

¹The user workspaces at the two DACs will be accessible via the Internet via VOSpace and the DAX Web services, but with reduced performance compared to their local use within each DAC.

deployed in Illinois, they will also be deployed in Chile.

In addition we will need to work together to get the authentication system of the Chilean Grid integrated with the LSST system [LSE-279] – thus we should be able to authenticate users using Grid credentials, and furthermore we should be able to access Grid resources from the DAC using the same credentials.

2.2 Hardware and infrastructure

The Chilean MOU provides for a DAC which is 10% of the size of the US DAC. The Data Release 2² user computing resources at the US DAC are currently intended to comprise [LDM-144]:

- Computing: 2,400 cores (\approx 18 TFLOPs)
- File storage: \approx 4 PB (user file workspace: VOSpace or equivalent)
- Database storage: \approx 3 PB (user database workspace)

Hence the Chilean DAC would at a minimum have:

- Computing: 240 cores (\approx 1.8 TFLOPs)
- File storage: \approx 400 TB (user file workspace: VOSpace or equivalent)
- Database storage: \approx 300 TB (user database workspace)

In addition see Section 2.3. There will be additional computing capacity as required to support the operation of the Data Access services themselves as well as the Portal.

2.2.1 Networks

Access to the DAC will of course require networks and we have done better than planned with a 200 Gbps links. A priority scheme is being put in place to ensure availability of this network for Chilean academic use, through our \$7M USD investment in REUNA. REUNA (the Chilean Research and Educational Network, similar to Internet2 in the US) is our primary network operator in Chile and connects networks on the AURA observatory site in the Elqui Valley with

²Data Release 2 is used as a reference because the compute and storage resources required to support it are covered by the MREFC construction budget.

the AURA Campus in La Serena, and on to Santiago where there is a connection point with the LSST international networks to the United States [LSE-78]. REUNA will provide connections in Santiago for non-LSST segments and LSST segments to La Serena. Thus, priority access is available to the LSST Chilean Data Access center in La Serena from any institution that has access to REUNA networks.

REUNA also connects the LSST segments to the National Laboratory for High Performance Computing Center (NLHPC) at the University of Chile in Santiago. Both REUNA and AURA are formal members of the NLHPC. NLHPC has constructed a high-bandwidth ring in Santiago, managed by REUNA. The LSST segments will be connected with the Santiago NLHPC ring, enabling high-throughput data transfers as well as high-quality connectivity. AURA and REUNA will work with NLHPC to ensure a shared authorization and authentication service to provide for integrated access and services. These connectivity elements will enable grid-based access from any REUNA-connected institution to the NLHPC.

Leveraging AURA's membership in Internet2, and REUNA as an Internet2 peer in Chile, LSST will transit Internet2 traffic from Chilean astronomy institutions connected to REUNA to an Internet2 peering point in North America. Chilean astronomy Internet2 traffic on the REUNA networks will be carried on the LSST international segments to Florida. From there, the traffic will be directed to a US-based Internet2 peering point. The availability and bandwidth on the LSST international segments will be determined by treating the Chilean Internet2 traffic as one of several priority groups. When other higher priority traffic is present, the Chilean astronomy Internet2 traffic will remain in a queue. When there is no higher priority traffic, the Chilean astronomy Internet2 traffic will be transited. In this way, the Chilean Internet2 traffic will be transferred on an "as available" basis.

We shall measure the network performance and under nominal conditions we will ensure that Chilean academic priorities are met on the network. REUNA will manage the north/south link hence we should be able to achieve this easily. We must ensure with REUNA that traffic coming into USA also meets the NSF acceptable use policy for the NSF funded US network – there is no problem with academic traffic.

2.3 Data

The LSST raw data and data products, both nightly and from Data Releases, will be stored on disk at the Base Facility. The types of data and modes of access are indicated in Table 1. The table includes "virtual data products" which are recreated on demand rather than retained

TABLE 1: Primary data products and their retention methods. Virtual here means generated on request.

Data product	Mode of retention
Raw Images	Files
Coadded Images	Files
Difference Images	Files
Objects	Relational Tables
Sources	Relational Tables
Forced Sources	Relational Tables
DIA objects	Relational Tables
DIA sources	Relational Tables
SS Objects	Relational Tables
Alerts	Key-Value Store (TBC)
External Catalogs	Relational Tables
Postage Stamp Images	Virtual
Processed Visit Images	Virtual
Observatory Metadata	Relational Tables
Observatory Metadata	Files

in persisted form. The storage and other resources required to support the released data products are in addition to the user workspace resources described above in Section 2.2.

3 Conclusion

We will put a useful scientific archive and data analysis service in the Base Facility in Chile. This should enable local science activities and also provide seamless access to further resources at NCSA.

4 References

- [1] **[LDM-554]**, Ciardi, D., Dubois-Felsmann, G., 2017, *Science Platform Requirements*, LDM-554, URL <https://ls.st/LDM-554>
- [2] **[LDM-542]**, Dubois-Felsmann, G., Lim, K.T., Wu, X., et al., 2017, *LSST Science Platform Design*, LDM-542, URL <https://ls.st/LDM-542>

- [3] **[LDM-144]**, Freemon, M., Pietrowicz, S., Alt, J., 2016, *Site Specific Infrastructure Estimation Model*, LDM-144, URL <https://ls.st/LDM-144>
- [4] **[LSE-319]**, Jurić, M., Ciardi, D., Dubois-Felsmann, G., 2017, *LSST Science Platform Vision Document*, LSE-319, URL <https://ls.st/LSE-319>
- [5] **[LSE-78]**, Lambert, R., Kantor, J., Huffer, M., et al., 2017, *LSST Observatory Network Design*, LSE-78, URL <https://ls.st/LSE-78>
- [6] **[Document-11622]**, Smith, W., Vera, V.P., 2011, *Supplementary and Clarifying Agreement between the Universidad de Chile and AURA covering the use of the LSST on Cerro Pachon*, Document-11622, URL <https://ls.st/Document-11622>
- [7] **[LSE-279]**, Withers, A., 2017, *Concept of Operations for Unified LSST Authentication and Authorization Services*, LSE-279, URL <https://ls.st/LSE-279>

5 Acronyms

Acronym	Description
AURA	Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy
DAC	Data Access Center
LSST	Large Synoptic Survey Telescope
NCSA	National Center for Supercomputing Applications
NLHPC	ENational Laboratory for High Performance Computing Center
NSF	National Science Foundation
REUNA	Red Universitaria Nacional
SS	Subsystem Scientist
TFLOP	Tera FLOP
US	United States
USA	United States of America