October2012

Incubator board report, October 2012

The biggest news this month that of the OpenOffice project,
along with Cordova and Isis, becoming ready to graduate from
the Incubator. As noted below, we feel that these projects are
capable of governing themselves as standalone TLPs according
to Apache policies and the Apache Way, and recommend the board
to accept the respective resolutions.

In other news, Jukka Zitting announced his intention to resign
as the IPMC chair due to changes in personal life. Discussion
about and nominations for the next IPMC chair are open, and we
expect to have a related resolution ready in time for the
November board meeting.

o Community

  There were no changes to the Incubator PMC since our last report.
  The IPMC currently has 168 members.

  The following podlings are requesting graduation to Apache TLPs:

  - Apache Cordova
  - Apache Isis
  - Apache OpenOffice

  The Incubator PMC recommends the board to accept the respective resolutions.

  The following proposals for new incubating projects are being voted on:

  - Apache Helix
  - Apache Ripple

  In addition there seems to be some interest in reviving the earlier idea of
  bringing the BeanShell project (http://beanshell.org/) to the ASF through
  the Incubator.

  Meanwhile the AWF podling was retired due to inactivity, and the Kitty
  podling is voting to retire itself for the same reason.

  JSPWiki is our oldest podling with over five years in the Incubator.
  Activity in JSPWiki was very low for a few years and they've yet to
  create their first Apache release. Earlier this year they discussed
  leaving the Incubator and the ASF since they clearly weren't making
  much progress. That discussion led to some revival of activity and
  the decision to continue in the Incubator. Unfortunately the podling
  no longer has enough active mentors, which has led to some trouble
  with premature attempts at cutting releases or graduating. Despite
  these troubles the podling is making progress, and with sufficient
  help from the IPMC they might well become ready to graduate within
  a few quarters.

o Releases

  The following incubating releases were made since our last report:

  - September 20th, 2012: Apache Crunch 0.3.0-incubating
  - September 24th, 2012: Apache Ambari 0.9-incubating
  - October 1st, 2012: Apache Cordova 2.1.0-incubating
  - October 8th, 2012: Apache Syncope 1.0.2-incubating
  - October 12th, 2012: Apache Kafka 0.7.2-incubating

  The Wookie podling has an open crypto export issue that's blocking
  their release. Since it looks like the issue can be resolved in time
  and the podling can demonstrate ability to cut releases, they can
  proceed towards graduation already before the resolution of that issue.

We discussed key signing and various ways of getting more podling
release managers into the Apache web of trust. No concrete actions
have yet come out of that discussion, but there's been plenty of
good ideas that may end up being implemented after a while.

o Legal / Trademarks

The DeviceMap podling encountered a tricky issue with unclear
ownership of a data file they planned to use. The resolution for
now is to steer clear of trouble by not including that file.
See the DeviceMap report and the mentioned issue for more details.

A somewhat related question came up from CloudStack about how to
handle files that we can't redistribute due to upstream licensing
or Apache policies. They had a few such files in imported version
history, and the consensus was that it's fine as long as such files
are removed from the heads of all active branches (so they won't be
included in releases) and that there's no need to modify older
revisions as long as something like that is not explicitly requested.

o Infrastructure

The infra team started looking at ways to streamline the various
tasks related to podling setup and graduation. In practice this
would mean making podling infra resemble more that of a standalone
TLP (for example with separate podling.incubator.apache.org or even
podling.apache.org domains), which seems like a reasonable thing
to do as long as the incubation disclaimers remain prominent.

-------------------- Summary of podling reports --------------------

Still getting started at the Incubator (2 podlings)

  Blur, Drill

  These projects are still getting started, so no immediate progress
  towards graduation is yet expected.

Not yet ready to graduate (11 podlings)

  No release: Celix, Cloudstack, JSPWiki, VXQuery
  Low activity: Chukwa, DeviceMap, Kitty, Tashi
  Low diversity: EasyAnt, Mesos, ODF Toolkit

  We expect the next quarterly report of projects in this category to
  include a summary of their actions and progress in solving these issues.

Ready to graduate (1 podling)

  Kafka

  We expect this project to graduate within the next quarter.

Blur

(incubating since August 2012)

Apache Blur is a search platform capable of searching massive amounts of
data in a cloud computing environment.

Issues needing Board/Incubator PMC Attention:

  - None.

Key Activities:

  - Git repo is just now in place - code cloned from Github and updated
    to latest revision so the code cleanup (package naming, licensing, etc.)
    are in the works.

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  - We decided to add a wiki and thanks to infra@ that's now up.

  - Website is created and CMS-ified.

  - Public Blur hack sessions/meetups are being held (Mondays) at
    Near Infinity with summaries posted on dev list.

Community:

  - Issues are being created and worked with discussions of
    new features and modifications on the mail-list.

  - Subscriptions: users@ - 19[+2]; dev@ - 21[+3]

Signed-off-by: twilliams

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Celix

Celix is an implementation of the OSGi Specification in C.

Celix entered incubation on November 2, 2010.

Over the last months we have focused on creating a first release for Celix.
As is mentioned in the graduation plan [1] we hope that a release will create
more community. We have prepared the code base and website for release
and we are very close to making a release.

The previous report [2] mentioned that we are working on a "Native-OSGi",
which could attract more community. This discussion continued in July on
the mailing list, but got quiet after that. There will be a talk about
Native-OSGi for ApacheCon EU and EclipseCon EU and we expect that this
will create attention for Celix.

Most important issues to address before we can graduate:

  Make a first release, growing the community and attracting more committers.

Any issues the Incubator PMC or ASF board need to be aware of:

  None at this time

How has the community developed since the last report:

  There has been a small decrease on activity on the mailing list,
  hopefully this is a temporary decrease due to the holidays. We did
  receive patches from a contributor.

How has the project developed since the last report:

  We are still working towards a first release. The code base has been
  prepared for release and the website got some attention based on the
  shepherd's view from last report.

[1]: http://incubator.apache.org/celix/community/boardreports/boardreports.html#2012-04
[2]: http://incubator.apache.org/celix/community/boardreports/boardreports.html#2012-07

Signed-off-by: marrs, jukka, wave

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Chukwa

Chukwa is an open source data collection system for monitoring large
distributed systems. Chukwa is built on top of the Hadoop Distributed
File System (HDFS), HBase and Map/Reduce framework and inherits Hadoop's
scalability and robustness. Chukwa also includes a flexible and powerful
toolkit for displaying, monitoring and analyzing results to make the best
use of the collected data.

Incubating since July, 2010.
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- Mailing lists have some activities.
      - 2 new committers since July.
      - 3 new contributors submitted patches since last report in July.

Most important issues to address:

   Growing the community, especially a new release manager

Any issues that the Incubator PMC or ASF Board might wish/need to be aware of:

   None at this time.

How has the community developed since the last report:

   Plan to release version 0.6 to fix some of the major bugs in version 0.5.

How has the project developed since the last report:

   More patches are received from new committer and contributors.
   The new patches are better quality to polish Chukwa code base for
   0.6 release. Chukwa community need to train new release manager to
   release Chukwa 0.6 to ensure the community can continue to flourish.
   The previous concern of inactive development is less concerning than
   during January to July time frame.

Signed-off-by: cdouglas, berndf, jukka

CloudStack

CloudStack is an IaaS ("Infrastracture as a Service") cloud orchestration
platform. CloudStack has been in incubation since 2012-04-16

A list of the three most important issues to address in the move towards
graduation

   1. Continuing to build the community and increase diversity
   2. Shipping a release
   3. Transfer trademark, etc. to Apache

Any issues that the Incubator PMC (IPMC) or ASF Board wish/need to be aware of?

   No issues at this time

How has the community developed since the last report?

   The project has continued to improve its diversity, adding
   Chip Childers, John Kinsella, and Wido den Hollander to the PPMC
   and 3 new committers since the month of August. (Mice Xia, Jason
   Bausewein, and Joe Brockmeier.) We have also taken on a new mentor,
   Noah Slater.

   Contributors and committers have been active in promoting CloudStack
   at events, such as LinuxCon, Ohio LinuxFest, PuppetConf, a get-together
   at Schuberg Philis, and a number of other events.

   The community is participation at LinuxCon EU and ApacheCon EU and
   a number of other events through the remainder of 2012.

   Citrix is acting as primary sponsor of a CloudStack Collaboration
   Conference for November 30 through December 2 in Las Vegas. The
   conference is open to the community, and programming for the event
   will be chosen by a committee that includes members of the CloudStack
   community outside Citrix.

How has the project developed since the last report?

   The pending 4.0 release has been branched. The project has made a great
   deal of progress towards the 4.0 release, handling a number of technical
   issues (such as a move to Maven) and resolving almost all known legal
   issues that would pose an obstacle to a release. The sole remaining

blocker is under discussion and should be resolved shortly.

  The Jira instance for CloudStack was stood up in early September. License
  checks have been automated to ensure that we remain compliant with Apache
  guidelines going forward.

Signed-off-by: nslater, mfranklin

DeviceMap

Apache DeviceMap is a data repository containing device information, images
and other relevant information for all sorts of mobile devices, e.g.
smartphones and tablets.

Entered incubation on January 3rd, 2012.

There are no issues that require the Incubator PMC's or the board's attention.

No new committers or PPMC members, and very low activity so far, but the
OpenDDR code that was mentioned in the incubation proposal has just been
donated, which should help motivate people to become more active.

The donation included a data file with had been subject to a DMCA takedown
request while hosted at Github. After some discussion we decided to exclude
that file from the donation, as the ownership of part of that data is hard
to establish. Details at https://issues.apache.org/jira/browse/DMAP-11 which
also links to threads on general@incubator.a.o.

The next steps are preparing that code for a first release, and discussing
how to best integrate the data that OpenDDR has been collecting themselves
and as such can be contributed without problems.

Signed-off-by: bdelacretaz (mentor), jukka

Drill

Drill's goal is to build an open source clone of Dremel with appropriate
extensions to foster greater flexibility.

Drill has been incubating since September of 2012.

Since last month, we have been working on infrastructure. A prototype
web-site is ready and several code contributions are nearly ready to commit.

Graduation is still very far away, but the community activity has been high
and the mailing list has been active. Numerous public presentations have
been made and several Drill Users' Groups have been formed and meetings held.

Most important issues to address before we can graduate:

  Get the basics in place, build up a working code base, make releases
  (that is, everything)

Any issues the Incubator PMC or ASF board need to be aware of:

  None at this time

How has the community developed since the last report:

  Several active contributors outside the current committer group
  have emerged. We are working to bind these new contributors into the
  community and several appear likely to become committers over time.

How has the project developed since the last report:

  The community has begun to gel nicely and significant code contributions
  have moved forward.

Signed-off-by: Ted Dunning acting for Grant Ingersoll

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EasyAnt

EasyAnt is a build system based on Apache Ant and Apache Ivy.
Incubating since 2011-01-31.

Since the last report, there were discussion about the graduation process of
EasyAnt. There was confusion about what would be its final place - either a TLP
or a subproject of the Ant TLP - and the implication about the 'graduation'
process.

Things have been cleared with a vote: the EasyAnt project members are willing
to join the Ant TLP. So there is no actual need for a full classical graduation
process.

Then a vote happend in the Ant project about accepting EasyAnt as a subproject.
It failed, there were some concerns about the activity of the project. There
were actually no veto, but an unsufficent number of binding +1.

So it has been decided to try again in a few month after showing some nice
activity on the EasyAnt project.

A little bit later, some Ant PMC members wrote that they were 'unplugged' when
the vote happend and were sorry to have missed it. A good sign for a retry of
the vote.

About the activity of the project since the last report: one committer did
some great job making the code base ready to be released. One other committer
was active on the dev mailing list. We have also seen some non committers
asking questions about the use of the project.

The next step for the project:

 - doing a release: it will show that the EasyAnt committers are dedicated to
   maintain it and keep it going
 - shortly after that, ask the Ant PMC again to accept EasyAnt as a subproject
 - if accepted, EasyAnt could then leave the Incubator.

Signed-off-by: ant, bodewig, jukka

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JSPWiki

JSPWiki has been incubating since September 2007.

JSPWiki is a JSP-based wiki program.

Still following the objective of making the first Apache release:

A few JIRA issues were raised in this period due to incorrect handling of
external dependencies. They have been fixed, so there aren't any other
technical issues blocking a release. A new RC and a release vote has been
cast in jspwiki-dev, with 10 +1 (6 from PPMC members). However, we don't
have any IPMC vote yet, so the release thread was forwarded to general
on Friday 26th.

It's likely that we will have our first Apache release during the first
weeks of October.

The main issues blocking graduation keep being the same as in the last
report: resolution acceptance, community and IPMC graduation vote, the
latter requiring at least one ASF release.

The developer list currently has 91 subscribers; and the user list has
186 subscribers.

Signed-off-by: jukka
IPMC comments: See paragraph on JSPWiki in the report summary.

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Kafka
(introduced to Apache incubator on Jul 4, 2011)

Kafka provides an extremely high throughput distributed publish/subscribe
messaging system. Additionally, it supports relatively long term persistence
of messages to support a wide variety of consumers, partitioning of the
message stream across servers and consumers, and functionality for loading
data into Apache Hadoop for offline, batch processing.

A list of the three most important issues to address in the move towards
graduation:

  None. We started a graduation discussion on our mailing list. This was
  slightly delayed due to focus on the development of the intra-cluster
  replication feature.

Any issues that the Incubator PMC or ASF Board might wish/need to be aware of:

  None.

How has the community developed since the last report

  The mailing list continues been very active with bug reports, patch
  submissions, feature requests and use case discussions. [(Jul,Aug,Sep):
  kafka-users (155, 164, 126); kafka-dev (445, 532, 589)].

  Received and reviewed several major patches especially in the 0.8 branch.

How has the project developed since the last report.

  Intra-cluster replication (KAFKA-50): Development has been very steady on
  this feature. (Hence the double volume of emails on kafka-dev since the
  last report.) We set up a development dashboard at
  https://cwiki.apache.org/confluence/display/KAFKA/Kafka+replication+development
  that gives an overview of the remaining work for that release.

  The vote for Kafka 0.7.2 is currently underway. This will be the third
  Kafka release after its introduction to Apache incubator.

Signed-off-by: cdouglas, bmargulies

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Kitty

(No report. Kitty is voting to retire itself due to inactivity.)

By Shepherd: Retirement VOTE thread is +3 to retire with no other votes.
            It has not been closed, but was started on October 1.

Signed-off-by: Wave (shepherd)

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Mesos

Mesos is a scalable cluster manager that can dynamically share resources
between multiple computing frameworks, including Hadoop, Spark, MPI, and Storm.

Mesos entered incubation on December 23, 2010.

Progress since the last report:

  - Added mesos-0.9.0-incubating.jar to Maven central.
  - Improved build to include warnings and errors.
  - Fixes related to ZooKeeper usage to deal with network partitions.
  - Committed cgroups isolation module and additional updates and fixes.
  - Numerous updates to webui, including preliminary access to files of
    running frameworks.
  - Lots of reviews (https://reviews.apache.org/dashboard/?view=to-group&group=mesos).

Top priorities prior to graduation:
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  - Continue to grow community (lots of questions on the mailing list).
  - Add more committers
  - Establish a 6-week release cadence.

Issues for Incubator PMC or ASF Board:

  Not all committers have access to Jenkins, which makes updating tests
  a slow bottlenecked process.

Signed-off-by: tomwhite, jukka
IPMC comments: Jenkins access granted.

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ODF Toolkit

The ODF Toolkit is a set of Java modules that allow programmatic creation,
scanning and manipulation of OpenDocument Format (ISO/IEC 26300 == ODF)
documents. Unlike other approaches which rely on runtime manipulation of
heavy-weight editors via an automation interface, the ODF Toolkit is
lightweight and ideal for server use.

ODF Toolkit entered incubation on Aug 1st, 2011.
Our last release was January 14th, 2012.

We voted in our most recent committer on September 27th, 2012.

Most important issues to address:

  Growing the community, especially attracting new developers. Generally
  we'd be pleased to attract 2 or 3 additional active committers, have
  another release, and then we think we'd be well-positioned for graduation.

Any issues that the Incubator PMC or ASF Board might wish/need to be aware of:

  None at this time.

How has the community developed since the last report:

  We successfully completed two GSoC projects. However neither led to longer
  term engagement with the project.

  We've seen an increase in incoming patches from users, and have a new
  active contributors.  One was just voted in as a Committer/PPMC member.

How has the project developed since the last report:

  Working on next release.

Signed-off-by: bmargulies

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Tashi

2012-October Tashi Incubator Status Report

Tashi has been incubating since September 2008.

The Tashi project aims to build a software infrastructure for cloud
computing on massive internet-scale datasets (what we call Big Data).
The idea is to build a cluster management system that enables the Big
Data that are stored in a cluster/data center to be accessed, shared,
manipulated, and computed on by remote users in a convenient, efficient,
and safe manner.

Tashi originally encompassed just the tools to manage virtual machines
using Xen and QEMU, but has been merged with Zoni, which manages the
physical aspects of a cluster like power control, network settings and
handing out physical machines.

Activities July-October:
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In the period from July to October, the project did not ask to make
another incubating release, but is ready to start the process for a new
release incorporating the development efforts of the last 6 months.

Development efforts this period have included providing a separate
administration client, allowing addition of users and networks, and host
reservations and availability for scheduling.

The project has received code contributions from one non-committer in
this period. Diogo Gomes provided support for deriving the IP addresses
of guests automatically, without having to scan the subnet. Thanks Diogo!

Additional stability and user experience improvements were also
committed.

Upcoming software goals are to investigate what is needed to support
IPv6, replace RPyC, and to provide the ability to hand out server slices
(operating system level virtualization). Besides CPU and memory, disk
storage should also be a schedulable resource.

The project has a user community, but it is small. Growth mostly has
happened by word of mouth. To show potential users at large the utility
of this project, the author of this report is creating web pages to
demonstrate how to accomplish distributed computing tasks. Base images
of (free) OS installs will be provided to allow new users to get started
quickly. Hopefully this will increase visibility of the project.

Items to be resolved before graduation:

  - Generate more publicity for the project.
  - Develop members of the user community to submit feature extensions.

Signed-off-by: mfranklin

VXQuery

The VXQuery Project implements a standard compliant XML Query
processor for parallel evaluation.
It has been in incubation since 2009-07-06.

VXQuery was able to maintain the increased level of activity that was
reported in the July report and made significant progress towards completing
the XQuery functionality.

The remaining top issue is a release. Recently the preparations for the
first release have started and they are still ongoing. Release artifacts
should be available and voted on in the next few weeks.

Signed-off-by: jochen, jukka