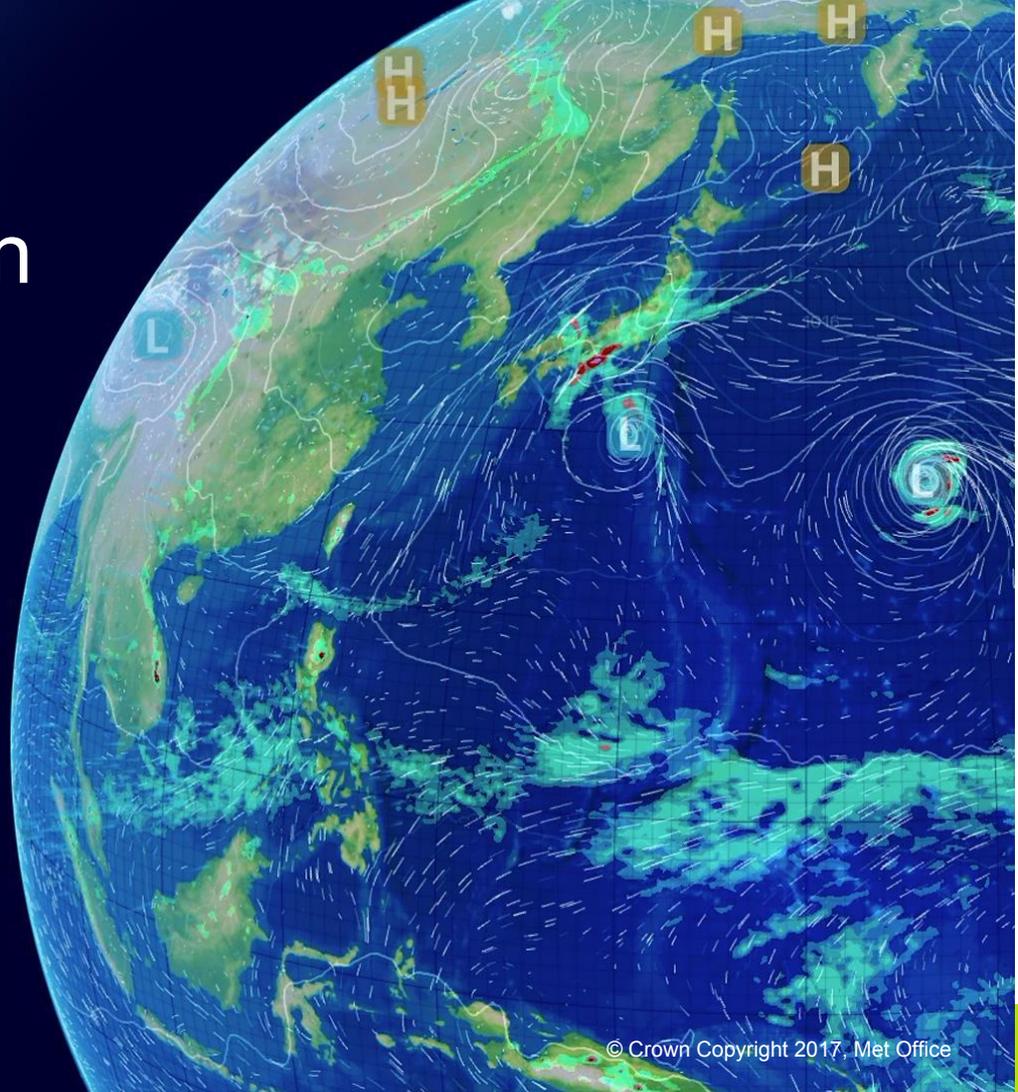


SciTools: our history in a nutshell

Phil Elson & Bill Little

Lead developers

Analysis, Visualisation and Data Team



SciTools: what we're (not) selling...



SciTools: what is it?



A GitHub umbrella organisation for scientific tools

Funding for ~9 FTEs to develop open source solutions to Met Office use cases



- Training material
- nc-time-axis
- conda-recipes-scitools
- tephi
- cube_browser
- antigrain-regridding
- conda-testenv
- tehuti
- conda-rpms
- mo_pack
- ...



SciTools: Iris' beginnings

27 Nov 2009:

11:52 Changeset [2] by itwl

4 adds 1 delete in /

Restructure project to comply with expected idldev base directory

15 Jan 2010:

15:59 Changeset [8] by ithr

1 add in `prototypes/load.pro`

First PP->cube prototype

8 Mar 2010:

17:12 Changeset [115] by itpe

6 edits 3 adds in `prototypes/ont`

Further ontology work, including useful iris python module

Bill Little:

The first commit

**Richard
Hattersley:**

The first IDL prototype

Phil Elson:

The first python prototype



SciTools: Iris' beginnings

Commits on Aug 6, 2012



Added additional test for the cube summary

bjlittle committed on 6 Aug 2012



e27c72d



Cube summary misalignment and coordinate name clipping. Fixes #4.

bjlittle committed on 6 Aug 2012



d46edcf



Initial commit

rhattersley committed on 6 Aug 2012



61ac271



Commits on Aug 7, 2012



Converted test doc-string to a comment.

bjlittle committed on 7 Aug 2012



c240560



Graceful netCDF unit loading.

bjlittle committed on 7 Aug 2012



34a68ac



Updated system_tests

pelson committed on 7 Aug 2012



a6979ed



Fixed unit usage and updated a warning to be more explicit.

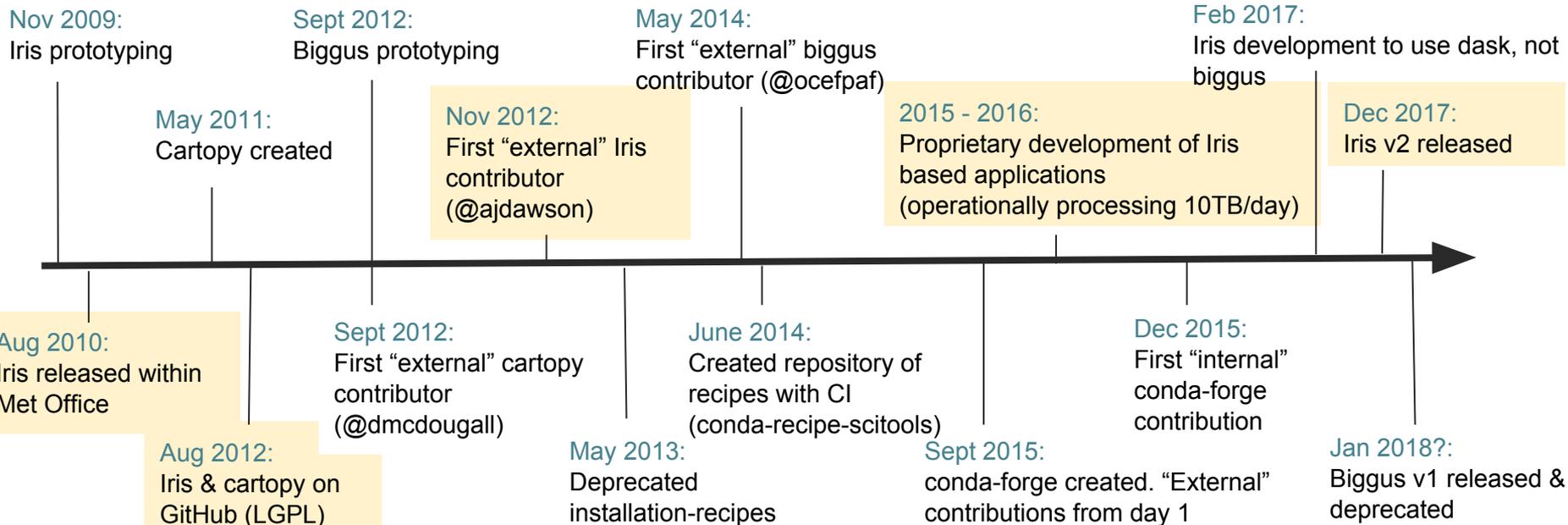
pelson committed on 7 Aug 2012



cab3034

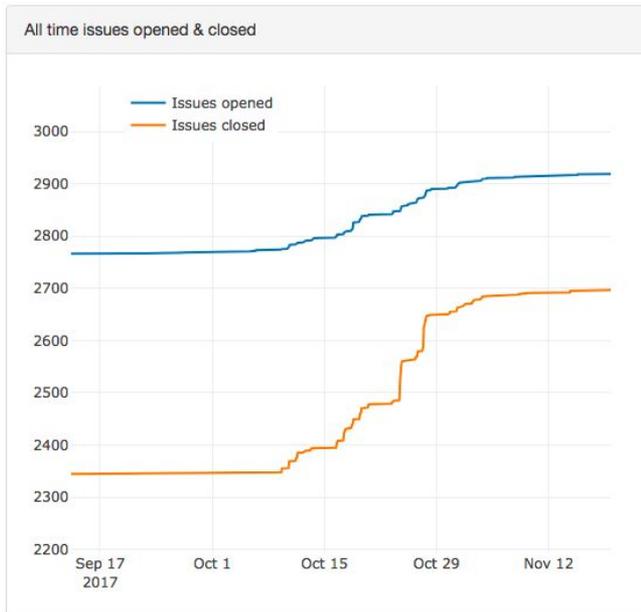
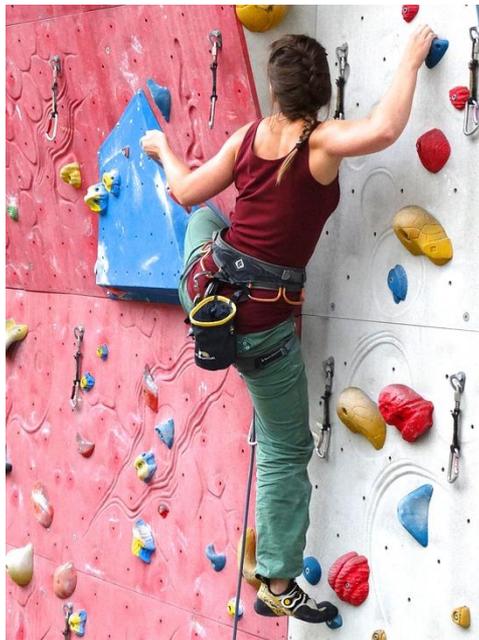


SciTools: timeline



SciTools: working as a team within an organisation

Agile (Scrum)



<https://repohealth.info>

~~BDFL~~

Steering council



SciTools: balancing team efforts



- Mad as a box of frogs
- Priorities are fluid and conflicting
- Maintaining group focus
- Growing together & gaining momentum
- Sharing knowledge, skills & expertise
- Telling users what they want
- Support & consultancy keeps us honest
- Balancing paymaster vs community demands
- Success begets harder problems.



SciTools: challenges

Not responsive
enough

Documenting scope
and aims

Fast moving
ecosystem

Business interest vs
open source

LGPL & CLAs

Thinly spread
team

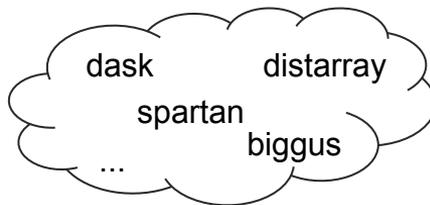
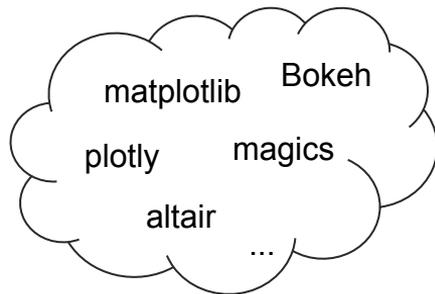
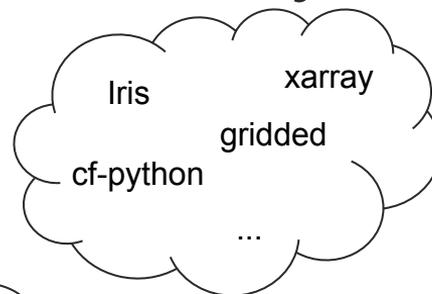
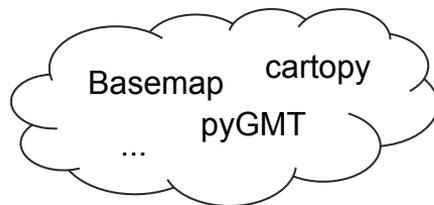
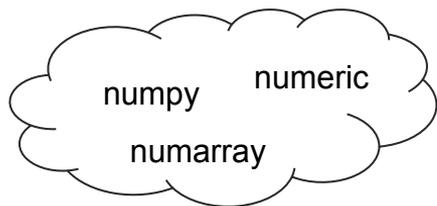
Face-to-face
vs
open discussion

Unnecessary
duplication of
effort

Stability
vs
new functionality



SciTools: part of a bigger community



SciTools: it's not all about making new things

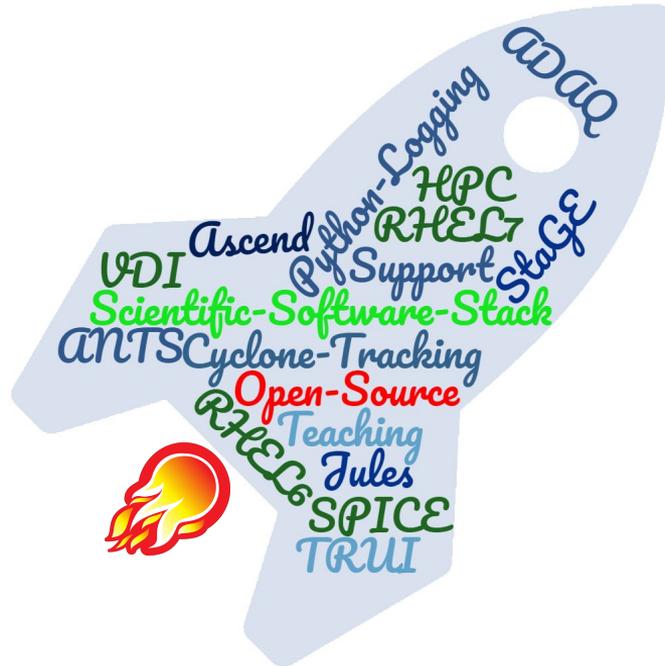
SITUATION:
THERE ARE
14 COMPETING
STANDARDS.



SciTools: major successes



SciTools: major successes for the Met Office



SciTools: reflecting on what we've learnt...



- The sobering responsibility of parenthood
- Building a community is hard
- Infinite problems vs finite effort
- Re-prioritise and re-assess
- *"It's worse than that, he's dead Jim"*
- Community vs ownership vs leadership
- Same problem, different organisation
- Global collaboration with local utility
- "If you build (on) it, they will come".



SciTools: where next?

