

Meeting Notes

12th of November 2024

- SciCatLive Demo
 - Reviewed:
 - documentation
 - folders structure
 - how to start environment and configure it
 - Environmental variables vs profile (docker specific)
 - environmental variables are used when there are dependencies between services which require configuration changes
 - profiles are docker specific and do not cross-influence services
 - Can docker configuration be converted to kubernetes? What is the effort?
 - SciCatLive can be used as a development environment. In such case it does not start the services, they need to be started manually
 - A custom database dump (snap-shot) can be used in the dev environment
 - SciCatLive dev is set up so VSCode attaches to the code/repo inside the containers
 - Any branch of any repo can be checked out while working in scicatlive dev
 - Dev vs Prod:
 - in Prod, scicatlive perform the complete transpilation workflow to start all the services correctly
 - in Dev, It just retrieve the repos and allow the user to access the typescript
 - Offer a kubernetes equivalent: Helm charts can be created from docker compose scripts
 - There are tools that convert docker compose to helm.
 - Bjorn has some experience with such tools. They require a lot of post-processing
 - A SciCat kubernetes operator could be a solution to migrate to kubernetes.
 - For production, we do not need helm charts for everything. Most likely only for FE and BE
 - Helm charts for BE and FE already exist.
 - SciCatLive currently targets 4 use cases:
 - Local tests
 - Development

- Small labs and facilities with minimal IT support
- Cross-checking dependencies between services
- PRs
 - Bjorn will check open PR and solve or provide feedback
 - Open PR will be assigned randomly to collaborators to boost involvement and project activity
- SciCatCon 2025
 - Confirmed to be held in Copenhagen.
 - Working on funding
 - A poll will be created to decide exact dates
<https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/ej5QkPvd>
 - ½ + 1 + ½ day format.
 - In the poll we listed only the first day

SDK roadmap proposal

Following the discussion during the last collaboration meeting, I propose the following roadmap forward regarding the SDK:

- *Finalize auto generation of javascript and python SDKs CI/CD. **COMPLETED***
- *Create SDK and openapi file as artifacts at every merge to master.*

COMPLETED

Artifacts should be named according to the following shema:

sdk-<language>[-<additional-options>]-<git-commit-id>.zip

- Publish them automatically on the language specific platforms with the following names:
 - javascript: scicat-sdk-js
 - python: scicat-sdk-py
 - python-pydantic: scicat-sdk-pydantic

COMPLETED

- Publishing platforms are:
 - javascript: npm-js
 - python: pypi

COMPLETED

- Renamed python packages to address naming issues: **COMPLETED**
- Clearly state that SDKs are provided as they are, with no guarantee.
No testing is done on SDKs during CI/CD.
- Include new languages as needed. ***It has been requested to produce typescript based on angular and only on nodejs***
- refactor pySciCat to extend scicat-sdk-py, with backward compatibility, additional functionalities and validation and include testing like the ones included in discarded PR.
- Proposed pySciCat as the low level SciCat python library, providing the following:
 - additional functionalities,
 - extensive testing
 - backward compatibility
 - different release cycle from the SDK due to human revisions
- After 6/12 months evaluate if having scicat-sdk-py and pySciCat is sustainable and the most sensible solution.
We will adapt the road map forward based on the outcome.
- Refactor FE to use new SDK: ***in progress***

This roadmap is recorded in the following github issues:

<https://github.com/SciCatProject/scicat-backend-next/issues/1403>

Proposed Agenda

26th of November 2024

- Current releases updates
- Discussions
 - Dedicated URL
 - Branding: logo, tagline, project mission
 - Project leadership and governance:
 - technical committee,
 - project advisory board
 - users support groups
 - releases: leader, team, external reviewer
 - Datasets details
 - configurable view
 - interface definition
 - third parties custom view components
- SciCatCon 2025
 - Poll: <https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/ej5QkPvd>
- PR and issues
- Additional topics

Open discussions for future features

currently not scheduled on any release

- Proposed types for Scientific Metadata, Issue #984
 - <https://github.com/SciCatProject/scicat-backend-next/issues/984>
- Metadata entry schema
 - The overall metadata schema is free for the user to design their own structure
 - SciCat will impose a schema at the entry level to be able to interpret and visualize the values reducing uncertainty and wrong interpretation
 - <https://github.com/SciCatProject/scicat-backend-next/issues/939#issuecomment-1874033672>
 -
- Dataset hierarchy
 - Proposed solution:
 - unify the dataset schema
 - add dataset type: collection (specialized type of derived dataset)
 - add relationships and leverage them to build a hierarchy
 - <https://github.com/SciCatProject/scicat-backend-next/issues/805>
- Independent endpoint for datasets scientific metadata management
 - <https://github.com/SciCatProject/scicat-backend-next/issues/954>
 - As we use SciCat as our platform to curate our dataset, it is becoming more important to be able to add, update or delete individual scientific metadata entries
 - High priority
- Dataset history and update history
 - should we create a stand alone collection for update history?
 - should we track any changes made to datasets?
 - should we track changes made to other objects?

SciCat Collaborators Zoom meeting details

Topic: SciCat Collaborators Meeting

Time: Feb 6, 2024 04:00 PM Copenhagen

Every 2 weeks on Tue, until Dec 24, 2024, 24 occurrence(s)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ess-eu.zoom.us/j/61405959531?pwd=MllyYm12RS9RNEdGTzR3bXRvNGp5Zz09>

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