Unified Electronic Logbook for 12GeV

Design and Features

Motivation/Benefits

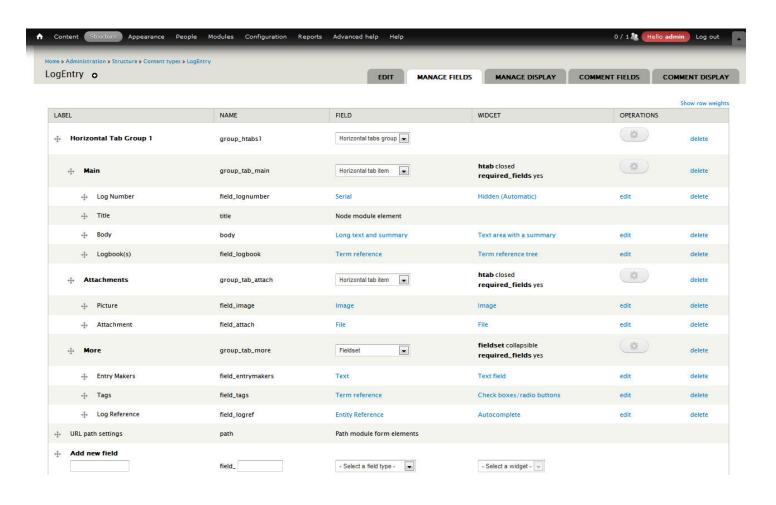
- Common URL scheme to access any logbook or entry
 - (/book/halog, /book/hdlog/rss, /entry/1234567, etc.)
- A Common interface for programs to make entries
- Consistent records-management of logbooks
- Fewer total man-hours to maintain a single system vs. multiple systems.
- Ability to search for and display entries across logbooks (e.g. when troubleshooting or doing forensics after a downtime event)
- Sharing of logbook tools and widgets between Physics and Accelerator divisions.

The Design

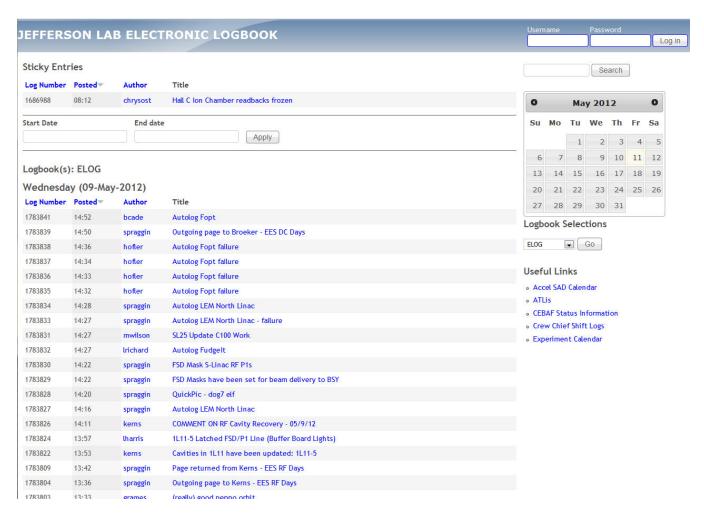
- An electronic logbook system built on the open-source Drupal 7 web-based Content Management System.
 - In use by thousands of sites (http://buytaert.net/tag/drupal-sites/)
 - Already in use at JLAB (cc.jlab.org, cebaf.jlab.org, etc.)
 - Can be administered and extended by non-programmers
- A MySQL database on the back-end.
- An API and programming libraries to ease making entries from Java, Python, Perl, PHP, and C++

Logbook Content Management

- Log entries will be stored as custom Drupal node type(s)
 - Will inherit standard node features such as versioning



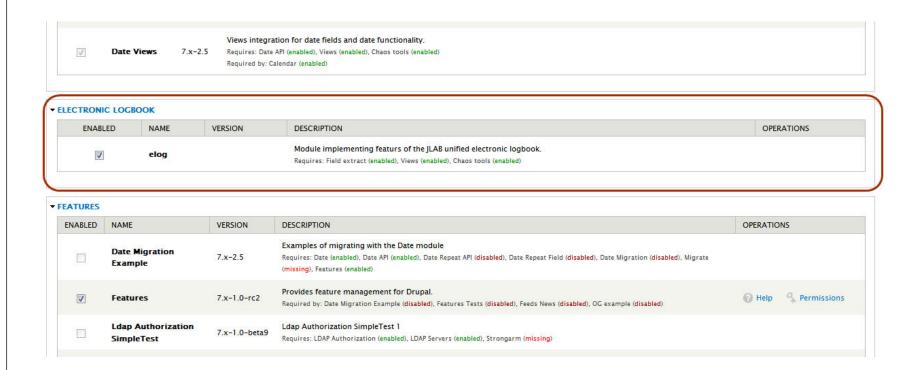
Standard Drupal Modules can reduce custom coding



The Drupal Views Module was used to generate the listing above

Drupal Module

• JLAB-specific features built using the Drupal API and installed as a Drupal module



API for making entries

- The Elog API consists of a set of published XML schemas that correspond to the different types of logentries that are possible.
 - http://logbooks.jlab.org/schema/Logentry.xsd
- Additional Schemas may be defined to extend Logentry for special-purpose log entries.
 For example an OPS-PR
 - http://logbooks.jlab.org/schema/OPS-PR.xsd
- A hall specific type of entry? Run entry?
 - . . .

Client utilities

- Utility libraries will be made available so that clients do not need to deal with creating and validating xml.
- The following languages will be provided at the outset:
 - Java
 - Python
 - Perl
 - Php
 - C++
 - Tcl?
 - Shell Command

XML Example

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1"?>
<Logentry>
   <title>My title</title>
   <created>2012-03-16T12:30:16-04:00</created>
   <body><![CDATA[This is the body of the entry. It could be many</pre>
  paragraphs]]></body>
   <Logbooks>
          <logbook>ELOG</logbook>
          <logbook>CLOG</logbook>
   </Logbooks>
   <Entrymakers>
          <Entrymaker>
                               <username>theo</username>
          </Entrymaker>
          <Entrymaker>
                               <username>cuffe</username>
          </Entrymaker>
   </Entrymakers>
</Logentry>
```

Example: make an entry from a script

Client libraries simplify making entries so that programmers do not need to know the details of the XML schemas

Three lines to make a minimal entry PHP example*

```
require_once('Logentry.inc.php');
$myElog = new LogEntry('TLOG','My title - an entry with no other text');
$lognumber = $myElog->submit();
```

But can also easily add attachments, tags, etc.

```
$myElog->addAttachment('/usr/csmuser/theo/googlesnap02.png','Figure 1');
$myElog->addTag('EndOfRun');
$myElog->notify('user@jlab.org');
$myElog->setSticky(true);
```

* This is just an example used during development that illustrates how to script entries. The officially released library may differ slightly in syntax.

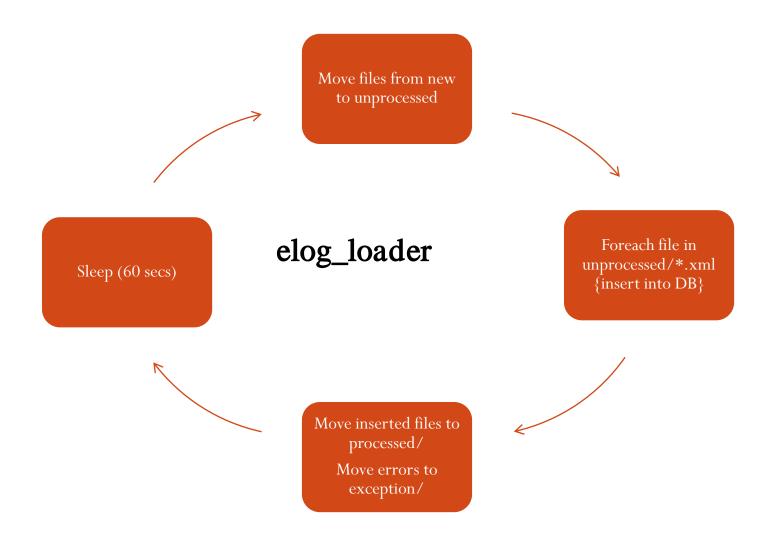
HTTP Submission

- In cases where programs need to submit an entry immediately, the xml file can submitted for immediate processing via HTTP PUT
 - Client lib will do equivalent of /usr/bin/curl -s -T myfile.xml http://logbooks.jlab.org/incoming/myfile.xml
 - If successful, the lognumber assigned by the database will be returned as reference/confirmation.

```
<Response stat="ok">
<msg>Entry saved.</msg>
<lognumber>2047200</lognumber>
<url>https://logbooks.jlab.org/entry/2047200</url>
</Response>
```

- Direct Submission will require submitting authentication details of the author and use SSL.

The elog_loader queue will also be available



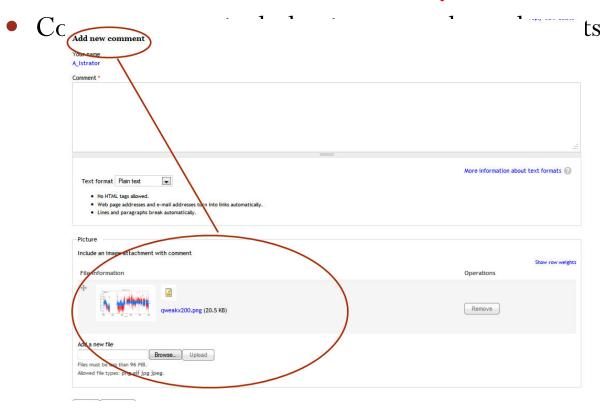
- Must be viewable on web outside firewall
 - The <u>logbooks.jlab.org</u> server is on the externally accessible web server network. When it is ready for production, the Computer Center will enable outside access to it.
- Onsite and offsite links to an entry must be the same (i.e. no "inside the firewall version" and an "outside the firewall version").
 - Every entry will have a persistent path of the format:
 - https://logbooks.jlab.org/entry/1234567

- Must be able to upload attachments, photos, screen dumps,
 PDF, Word, etc
 - This is a native capability of the drupal CMS.
 - This is supported by the XML-based API

- Must be able to add entries from web, scripts and email.
 - Drupal provides robust web forms
 - The XML API and utilities make it easy for scripts
 - Email entries can be handled by a procmail script that accepts the incoming message, parses it and writes it to logbook via the API. The Computer Center has scripts that do exactly this for CCLOG and can be adapted.
 - Entries that arrive via email are inherently unauthenticated -- concerns about forged entries?
 - Can email to logbooks arrive from outside jlab? If so, what about spam going into the logbook?

- Must have web-based search facility
 - Drupal has a built in web-based search (has limits)
 - For larger sites (>10,000 pages, i.e. the logbooks) Drupal community recommends replacing it with the open-source Solr/Lucene (see http://drupal.org/project/apachesolr)

• Should allow inline annotations of locked entries. So, add text and attachments but not modify those already there.



- Should have history mechanism to circumvent concerns over entry modification. Revision control would be strongly preferred if modification is allowed.
 - Version control is provided. When updating an entry, a new version is created with a comment describing the purpose of the revision.
 - Must decide on the rules. Admins? Creator? 24 hour window?

Revision information New revision	Revision log message	
	Provide an explanation of the changes you are making. This will help other authors understand your motivations.	
Save Preview		

- Must be able inline attachments with text. Example "blog" style entries where graphics are embedded inline in the text of an entry.
 - Suggest something like:
 - Replace token '[[figure 1]]' with

- Must be able to lock entries.
 - Drupal has built-in support for enabling/disabling comments.
 Need clarification of who/when/why
 - May have to write custom code hooks to prevent further revisions being made to the core of the document. Perhaps based on its age? Need definition of the rules for this "locking"?

- Log entries must have a set of mandatory fields such as: Run number, Run Type, date/time, operator name and email, entry type, topic, subject, text.
 - All entry types will be required to have title, author, timestamp, and a logbook association to allow them to be displayed consistently in listings.
 - Additional entry types may be defined that extend these basic fields. A Run Logentry may add Run Number, Run Type, etc. as additional required fields.
 - Prefer to use Tags where possible to avoid excessive number of entry types to manage

- Log system must hard-code as few fields as possible, the rest should be optional.
 - The required fields a basic log entry are minimal, just a title, a logbook selection and an author really. (The system will provide datetime if necessary)
 - Other types of entries may specify additional requirements.
 - Vocabularies of tags provided to further flag log entries with various optional attributes

- The administrator should be able to customize the logbook webpage header and navigation bar. For example to point to the running experiment's wiki, homepage, shift signup, add hall specific branding (logo), etc.
 - Sidebar links to useful resources are logbook-specific. A link may appear on many logbook pages or just one.
 - Different blocks and sidebars can be made available for different logbook home pages.
 - Displaying a different logo depending on the url being viewed is in the realm of possibility

- The system must be flexible enough that future requirements can be met without modification of existing log entries.
 - Almost an impossible request since those "future requirements" could be anything.
 - But flexibility exists to
 - Extend current base logentry definition without invalidating existing entries.
 - Add new tags to classify entries in new ways.
 - Change the look and feel of the web pages.

- Should be database independent implementation, i.e. don't lock to database vendor.
 - Drupal runs on Mysql, Postgres, and even theoretically Oracle.
 - The XML format for making log entries is database agnostic.
 - The XML files are inserted using the drupal API and therefore portable to any supported database.

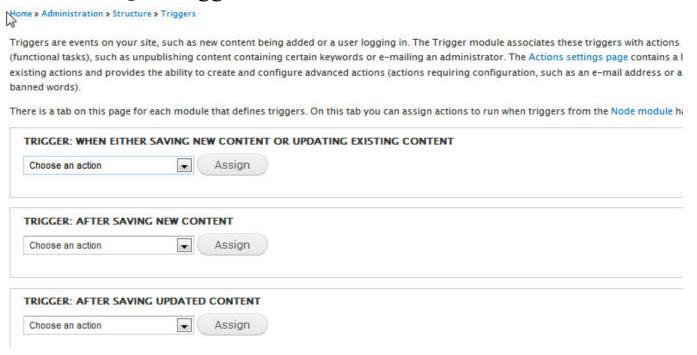
- Should have major threads based on type, topic, subtopic.
 - The same entries can/will be viewable as threaded in various ways
 - By fields (e.g. "type")
 - By tags (e.g. "topic, subtopic")
 - By explicit reference to other entries
 - By comments
 - By author
 - By date
 - By search
 - By faceted search

- Should be able to reference other entries
- User should be able to create minor thread between arbitrary entries.
 - There are two ways to interpret this.
 - 1. Inline references such as:
 - [[1234567][See this entry]] becomes See this entry
 upon rendering
 - 2. Explicit database references
 - Must specify a lognumber to reference when creating the entry.
 - Has the advantage of also displaying as "back links" from the referenced entry.

		Show row weights
LOG REFERENCE:		
4	0	
Used to make references to an existing log e	itry.	
Add another item		

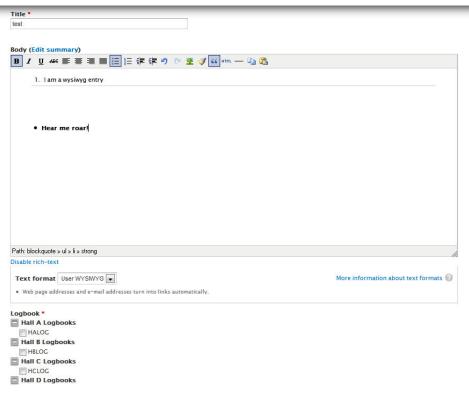
- Should have templates for text field based on entry type (e.g. shift summary, problem report, etc.)
 - A javascript widget can be provided to fetch a template from a url and insert it into the textarea.
 - The wysiwyg editors may provide the ability to load templates too.

- Should allow auto-email or page to system experts for special entry types, unresolved problems, etc.
 - The Drupal triggers and actions modules can be used for this.



- Users should be able to subscribe to a logbook with email updates (RSS would be useful).
- The triggers and actions module could be used to allow users to receive email notification of new postings.
- Every logbook has an RSS feed:
 - Example: https://logbooks.jlab.org/book/elog/rss

- Would like a wiki-like or WYSIWYG editor for the main text field.
- Several are widely used as plugins for Drupal. For testing purposes, I have been experimenting with tinyMCE



- Would like the ability to import of old logbook into new system.
 - Possible:
 - 1. Read old entry
 - 2. Save content to XML in elog queue
 - 3. Rinse and repeat
 - But old logentries may be difficult to parse*:
 - 1. Invalid/irregular author names
 - 2. Inconsistent (non-semantic) HTML markup
- *Based on experience writing script to slurp sample data from HALOG and HCLOG

- Must be able to handle (or at least scale to) several million entries per Hall. Current logbook Hall C is at 250k entries, Hall A is > 360k; We expect the entry volume will rise as it becomes easier to automate or script entries to the logbook.
 - Drupal is used by web sites that serve millions of visitors/day and it is capable of scaling, however it will be incumbent upon Computer Center to provide adequate hardware as the load grows. This may entail a standalone database with enough RAM to keep key tables in memory and/or a dedicated search server.
 - The application will be optimized to provide the best performance to access the most recent data, usually via caching mechanisms.

- Would be useful if the logbook was be viewable and functional on "smart devices" (phones, tablets). This should be a relatively low bar since modern iPhone/Android browsers are quite feature complete. Just make sure the back end delivers decent HTML that does not have hard-coded assumptions about device resolution, display size, etc.
- Option 1. Use an RSS reader on the mobile device
- Option 2. Provide an optimized mobile interface using a tool such as the Drupal jquerymobile project.

Time-frame

- Phase 1 By Sept 30, 2012
 - Client Libraries 1.0 installed for CUE, ACE
 - Basic Logentry type implemented
- Phase 2 − By October 31, 2012
 - Begin Parallel posting of OPS entries
 - Application developers may begin making test entries
- Phase 3 − By November 30, 2012
 - Search integration (Apache SOLR server)
- Phase 4 Begin January 01, 2013
 - Wipe out test entries, Import data from old logbook systems
 - Parallel operation with existing logbooks
 - Tune performance, add features and entry types
- Fully Operational October 1, 2013
 - Cutover and decommission old logbook systems

API – barebones usage

 Create XML file such as the one at right

```
<Logentry>
<title>My first Logentry</title>
<Logbook>
<logbook>TLOG</logbook>
</Logbooks>
<Entrymakers>
<Entrymaker>
<username>theo</username>
</Entrymaker>
</Entrymaker>

Logentry>
```

• Validate it

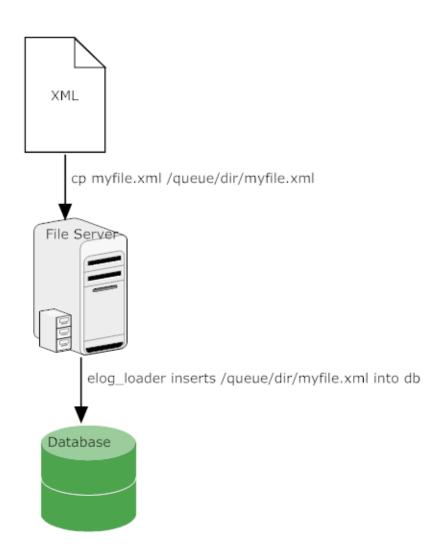
xmllint -schema http://logbooks.jlab.org/schema/Logentry.xsd mytest.xml

Place it in the logbook input queue

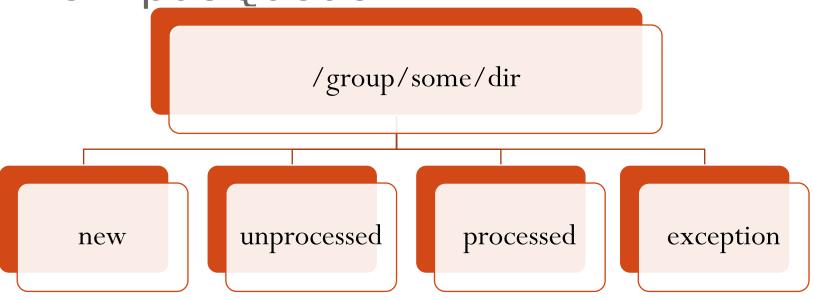
cp_mytest.xml /group/div-acc/www/logbooks/queue/new/mytest.xml

Making Log Entries

Entries placed in a
 filesystem queue will be
 processed and inserted
 into the database within 5
 minutes, typically within
 1 minue



The Input Queue



- New Writable drop-box directory for XML files
- Unprocessed Files moved here to be processed
- Proceseed Files moved here after successful DB insertion
- Exception Files that cannot be inserted moved here

Changes from OPS perspective

- Ability to comment on entries, add attachments with comments.
- Ability to revise an entry (old version remains in database)
 - Reorder figures, change captions
 - Add, remove tags
- New API for making entries
 - During transition, elog_loader will convert legacy XML files into the new schema and resubmit them
- New view modes
 - Headlines
 - Archive
 - Tags