

Experiences with gLite



Birger Koblitz for the ARDA Group CHEP 2004, Interlaken, September 29th 2004

Overview

- What is ARDA, what gLite?
- Accessing gLite
- •The gLite shell
- Job Submission
- Package Management
- File Access
- Metadata Catalogue
- Future Developments





ARDA & gLite





ARDA: A Realization of Distributed Analysis for LHC
 Project started April 1st, 2004

- Task: Provide 4 HEP experiments with grid prototypes building on EGEE middleware
- Collect and forward HEP requirements to EGEE

gLite: Lightweight Middleware for Grid Computing (Talk by E. Laure)

- EGEE prototype software
- Strongly influenced by Alien grid-middleware (Alice)
- Delivered on May18th to ARDA
- Evolve prototype into full grid in next 1¹/₂ years



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• Browser setup, Naming conventions, communication

gLite can be accessed by its own shell and a Perl API:

- Nice Shell implemented in Perl, very intuitive hierarchical file catalogue
- No API to compile against, but Perl-API sufficient for tests
- Perl API poorly documented
- No Protocol documentation



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gLite Shell



gLite provides own shell:

- Shell shows virtual file-system central to gLite
- Several known shell commands recreated

```
/egee/user/b/bkoblitz/ > ls
metadata
t10000
/egee/user/b/bkoblitz/ > add AAA file://lxplus025/tmp/koblitz/AAA
Sep 23 14:28:53 info Registering the file [.....]
Sep 23 14:29:09 info File /egee/user/b/bkoblitz/AAA inserted in the catalog
/egee/user/b/bkoblitz/ > ls -l
-rwxr-xr-x bkoblitz bkoblitz 101667 Sep 23 14:29 AAA
drwxr-xr-x bkoblitz bkoblitz 0 Sep 23 14:19 metadata
drwxr-xr-x bkoblitz bkoblitz 0 Jul 14 16:33 t100000
/egee/user/b/bkoblitz/ > whereis AAA
And the file is in EGEE::CERN::SRM
srm://lxb2027.cern.ch:8000/castor/cern.ch/home/egee/03/44069/008ef0b2-c...
```

Many advanced shell features not implemented: Pipes, text-tools,... Access to files is slow (first copied from SE) Future: Provide commands using C-API as extensions to bash (ARDA)







Two CEs set up in CERN/Wisconsin (Scientific Linux 3 / CERN-Linux 7.3):

 Currently 2+1 Nodes only, will have ~30 Nodes in couple of weeks

Jobs are submitted with JDL script:

```
[lxb2041.cern.ch:3308] /egee/user/b/bkoblitz/ > cat job.jdl
Executable="Example";
requirements = other.CE == "EGEE::CERN::CONDOR";
Arguments="$1";
InputFile={"LF:/cms/example/binary.tar.gz",
        "LF:/cms/data/87000001/data/EVD0_Events.22187b7ab[...]_TkMu_g133_CMS"};
OutputFile={"job.87000001.log","bt03_ttH115_6j11.87000001.root"};
[lxn5220.cern.ch:3308] /bin/ > submit /jdl/helloSite.jdl
```

Allows advanced feature: Job-Splitting on file/directory-level

Jobs: Stability

Job queues monitored at CERN every hour: •80% Success rate (Jobs don't do anything real)



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Package Management



External software or executables are accessed through packages (User installable!): TAR-Files in /egee/<home>/packages/version (Common an private packages)

glite> **pwd** /egee/user/k/koblitz/packages/ROOT/4.0/ glite> **register Linux-i686 file://pcegee02.cern.ch/tmp/ROOT.tar.gz** /egee/user/k/koblitz/packages/ROOT/4.0/Linux-i686 inserted in the catalog

Allows high flexibility (complexity?) via postinstallation scripts: PATH, LD_LIBRARY_PATH,...

Problem: User currently required to provide all packages: compiler, system libraries, ... No way to check OS on Node or ask for packages installed by system!

File Access



gLite allows users to access files on AFS (temporary!), CASTOR and dCache SEs:

- Very important to test experiment software!
- Files accessible via RFIO
- Automatic local staging of CASTOR files

SE setup with CASTOR backend was very painful:

- General instability of CASTOR
- Several problems with setting up of virtual castor user
- CASTOR access solved by end of August

SE(CASTOR) access via local staging now stable!

Metadata



gLite stores Metadata in additional Tables in File-Catalogue:

- User uploads SQL table description into File-Catalogue
- User associates directory with table
- User fills in table on a per file basis
- Access through gLite-shell, Perl scripts
- Knowledge of Schema required
- No Schema evolution



MD-Catalogue tested



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A new C-API

Lack of C/C++ API largest problem for experiment prototypes Create Interface sending text-commands to

server:

- UUEncode Strings
- Send Strings via gSOAP
- Encrypt with SSL
 Authentication via GSI (Globus TK3)
- +High performance increase compared to SOAP calls with structures
- Protocol quite proprietary...



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Future Plans



ARDA will follow gLite development:
Validate interface (currently being defined)
Study new implementation of components e.g. New File-Catalogue: Fireman
Contribute to generic metadata catalogue

Experiences with larger installation

Further integrate gLite into experiment software:
ATLAS: Integration of gLite into Don Quixote
ALICE: Integration into ROOT-Framework
→PROOF-clients on gLite WNs

Collect user feed-back on experiment prototypes

3rd ARDA workshop 20-22 October 2004 at CERN

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Conclusions



gLite approach using prototype very successful
→ Real participation of experiments
→ See constant progress
→ Many stability issues already solved
→ Can run+monitor jobs, access data
→ First analysis jobs work!

gLite concept of filesystem-like file-catalogue allows intuitive usage of gLite prototype

Gained experience comparing gLite and Experiment implementations: Metadata-Catalogues, File-Transfer, Job-Submission

We would like to thank the gLite team for a the very fruitful collaboration!