

An Overview of Grid Computing

Richard Hopkins Training Outreach and Education National e-Science Centre, UK

rph@nesc.ac.uk

www.eu-egee.org





EGEE-II INFSO-RI-031688





- Introduction to
 - e-Research and e-Science
 - Grid Computing
 - e-Infrastructure
- Some examples
- Grid concepts
- Grids Where are we now?



Many vital challenges require community effort

- Fundamental properties of matter
- Genomics
- Climate change
- Medical diagnostics
- Research is increasingly digital, with increasing amounts of data
- Computation ever more demanding
- e.g.: experimental science uses ever more sophisticated sensors
 - Huge amounts of data
 - Serves user communities around the world
 - International collaborations



eee

- Enabling Grids for E-sciencE
- Collaborative research that is made possible by the sharing across the Internet of resources (data, instruments, computation, people's expertise...)
 - Crosses organisational boundaries
 - Often very compute intensive
 - Often very data intensive
 - Sometimes large-scale collaboration
- Early examples were in science: "e-science"
- Relevance of "e-science technologies" to new user communities (social science, arts, humanities...) led to the term "e-research"



e-Science: the invitation

Collaborative "virtual computing"

Improvised cooperation

Sharing data, computers, software Enabled by Grids – two main types - specific to a project - supporting many collaborations

Email File exchange ssh access to run programs **Enabled by networks:** national, regional and International: GEANT

People with shared goals

EGEE-II INFSO-RI-031688



e-Infrastructure

Networks + Grids

- Networks connect resources
- Grids enable "virtual computing" resource sharing across administrative domains
 - "admin. domain": institute, country where resource is; system management processes;...
- + Operations, Support, Training...
- + Data centres, archives,...





Some examples of e-science



Particle Physics

- Large amount of data
- Large worldwide organized collaborations
- Computing and data management resources distributed world-wide owned and managed by many different entities
- Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN in Geneva Switzerland:
 - One of the most powerful instruments ever built to investigate matter





The LHC Experiments

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE



EGEE-II INFSO-RI-031688



The LHC Data Challenge

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

Starting from this event



Looking for this "signature"



→ Selectivity: 1 in 10¹³ (Like looking for a needle in 20 million haystacks)



Biomedical applications

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

- Bioinformatics
 - Genomics
 - Proteomics
 - Phylogeny...

Medical imaging

- Medical imaging
- Computer Aided Diagnosis
- Therapy planning
- Simulation...
- Life sciences
 - Drug discovery
 - Epidemiology



Biomedical community and the Grid, EGEE User Forum, March 1st 2006, I. Magnin

EGEE-II INFSO-RI-031688

. . .

Data management – medical images

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE



Biomedical community and the Grid, EGEE User Forum, March 1st 2006, I. Magnin

EGEE-II INFSO-RI-031688

GGGG



Earth sciences applications

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

- Earth Observations by Satellite
 - Ozone profiles
- Solid Earth Physics
 - Fast Determination of mechanisms of important earthquakes
- Hydrology
 - Management of water resources in Mediterranean area (SWIMED)
- Geology
 - Geocluster: R&D initiative of the Compagnie Générale de Géophysique
- A large variety of applications ported on EGEE





CECCE The newest EGEE application: Enabling Grids for E-science Archaeology



EGEE-II INFSO-RI-031688

P.G.Pelfer, EGEE User Forum, March 1-3, 2006



Grid concepts

egee

What is Grid Computing?

- Enabling Grids for E-sciencE
- The grid vision is of "Virtual computing" (+ information services to locate computation, storage resources)
 - Compare: The web: "virtual documents" (+ search engine to locate them)
- MOTIVATION: collaboration through sharing resources (and expertise) to expand horizons of
 - Research
 - Commerce engineering, ...
 - Public service health, environment,...





colleagues

archives

Diagram derived from Ian Foster's slide

EGEE-II INFSO-RI-031688



- Flexible, simplified orchestration of resources available to a collaboration
 - Across administrative domains
 - Abstractions hide detail of individual resources
 - Conform to Grid's procedures to gain benefit
 - Operations services (people and software)

Increased utilisation

- A collaboration shares its resources building on Grid services
- Collaborations share resources
 - Each contributes average requirements (cpus, storage)
 - Each can benefit from
 - Heterogeneity
 - Scale



Virtual organisations and grids

- What is a Virtual Organisation?
 - People in different organisations seeking to cooperate and share resources across their organisational boundaries
 - E.g. A research collaboration
- Each grid is an infrastructure enabling one or more "virtual organisations" to share and access resources
- Each resource is exposed to the grid through an abstraction that masks heterogeneity, e.g.
 - Multiple diverse computational platforms
 - Multiple data resources
- Resources are usually owned by VO members. Negotiations lead to VOs sharing resources

Typical current grid



Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

- Virtual organisations negotiate with sites to agree access to resources
- Grid middleware runs on each shared resource to provide
 - Data services
 - Computation services
 - Single sign-on
- Distributed services (both people and middleware) enable the grid





Typical current grid

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

- Grid middleware runs on each shared resource
 - Data storage
 - (Usually) batch queues on pools of processors
- Users join VO's
- Virtual organisation negotiates with sites to agree access to resources
- Distributed services (both people and middleware) enable the grid, allow single sign-on





- When using a PC or workstation you
 - Login with a username and password ("Authentication")
 - Use rights given to you ("Authorisation")
 - Run jobs
 - Manage files: create them, read/write, list directories
- Components are linked by a bus
- Operating system
- One admin. domain

- When using a Grid you
 - Login with digital credentials – single signon ("Authentication")
 - Use rights given you ("Authorisation")
 - Run jobs
 - Manage files: create them, read/write, list directories
- Services are linked by the Internet
- Middleware
- Many admin. domains



• Providers of resources (computers, databases,...) need risks to be controlled: they are asked to trust users they do not know

User's need

- single sign-on: to be able to logon to a machine that can pass the user's identity to other resources
- To trust owners of the resources they are using
- Build middleware on layer providing:
 - Authentication: know who wants to use resource
 - Authorisation: know what the user is allowed to do
 - Security: reduce vulnerability, e.g. from outside the firewall
 - Non-repudiation: knowing who did what

• The "Grid Security Infrastructure" middleware is the basis of (most) production grids



The many scales of grids

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

International instruments,		International grid (EGEE)
National datacentres, HPC, instruments	boration ources	National grids
	der colla eater res	Regional grids (WRG, etc)
Institutes' data; Condor pools, clusters	gr gr	Campus grids

Desktop

Different motivations for researchers

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

- I need resources for my research
 - I need richer functionality
 - MPI, parametric sweeps,...
 - Data and compute services together...

• I provide an application for (y)our research

- How!?

eee

- Pre-install executables ?
- Hosting environment?
- Share data
- Use it via portal?
- We provide applications for (y)our research
 - Also need:
 - Coordination of development
 - Standards

• ...

Π ngineering challenges increasing

EGEE-II INFSO-RI-031688





Enabling Grids for E-sciencE



Where computer science meets the application communities! High level tools and VO-specific developments:

- Portals
- Virtual Research Environments
- Semantics, ontologies
- Workflow
- Registries of VO services

Production grids provide these services.

If "The Grid" vision leads us here... ... then where are we now?

Where are we now? –user's view

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

egee)





- Enabling Grids for E-sciencE
- Many key concepts identified and known
- Many grid projects have tested, and benefit from, these
 - Empowering collaborations
 - Resource-sharing
- Major efforts now on establishing:
 - Production Grids for multiple VO's
 - "Production" = Reliable, sustainable, with commitments to quality of service
 - Each has
 - One stack of middleware that serves many research communities
 - Establishing operational procedures and organisation
 - Challenge for EGEE-II: federate these!
 - **Standards** (a slow process)
 - e.g. Open (formerly Global) Grid Forum, <u>http://www.gridforum.org/</u>
 - Extending web services
 - Broadening range of research communities
 - arts and humanities, social science ...

eGee

Interoperating information systems

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE





 To obtain a Google map of the Grids in the Globus Interoperability Now (GIN) initiative go to:

http://www.pparc.ac.uk/Nw/GIN.asp

• (You will need to install GoogleEarth)



What are Grids? - Summary

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

- Grids enable virtual computing across administrative domains
 - Resources share authorisation and authentication
 - Resources accessed thru abstractions
- Motivations:
 - Collaborative research, diagnostics, engineering, public service,..
 - Resource utilisation and sharing



