

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

Overview of middleware and tools

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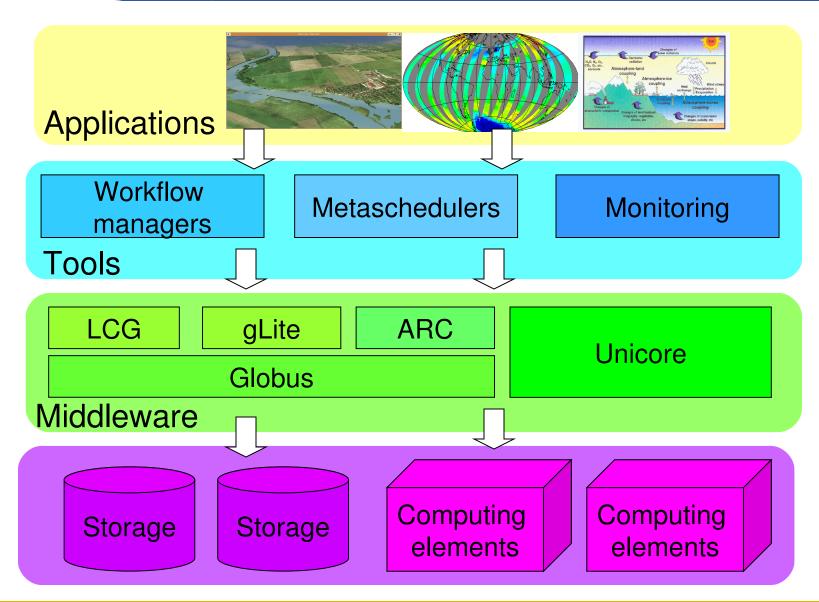
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Overview of middleware and tools





Middleware versus tools

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

Middleware:

- Same middleware over whole infrastructure
- Installed and managed by admins of sites
- Optimized for system-wide objectives (e.g. site utilization, ...)

Tools

- Individual for every applications, rich choice
- Usually installed on single machine
- Operate with resources in infrastructure via middleware
- Usually can be installed by users (without root privilege)
- Optimized for application objectives (e.g. response time, ...)



Grid middleware

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

Globus Toolkit 2.x

- Provide basic Grid functionalities
 - Security infrastructure: authentication, authorization, delegation (GSI)
 - Data transfer: GridFTP
 - Resource management: GRAM
 - Monitoring
- Usually used as underlayer of other Grid middleware (LCG, gLite, ARC)

Globus Toolkit 4.x

- New implementation of Globus
- OGSA architecture, WSRF standard
- Many functions from GT2 are re-implemented in WS scheme (e.g. GRAM -> WS-GRAM)
- Adding new components for new functionalities (meta scheduler GridWay, data access OGSA-DAI, ...)



Grid middleware (2)

Enabling Grids for E-sciencE

LCG

- Support for resource brokering
- Support for simple workflow (based on DAGMan)
- Support for virtual organization (VOMS)
- Used in old EGEE infrastructure, int.eu.grid
- Slowly replaced by gLite

gLite

- Web service approach
- Performance improvement
- Job collection
- Job monitoring
- Current middleware in EGEE



Grid middleware (3)

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ARC

- Using modified GridFTP for job submission
- Distributed architecture
- Simple resource brokering on user interface
- Used in NorduGrid infrastructure

Unicore

- Provide functionalities for creating Grid from supercomputing centers (security, resource management, monitoring)
- Also follow OGSA and WSRF
- Used in DEISA



Workflow managers

- Manage jobs with data dependence
 - Usual sequence: data retrieval, pre-processing (data conversion, mining), main computation, post-processing (result analysis, visualization)
 - Combination of several simulation: e.g. meteorology-hydrology-hydraulics
- A lot of implementations exist: DAGMan, Pegasus, Taverna, Karajan, ...
- Can be stand-alone or integrated to middleware/portal
 - Stand-alone: Pegasus, Karajan, GridAnt, ...
 - Integrated with middleware/scheduler: DAGMan in LCG/gLite, GridWay
 - Integrated with portals: P-GRADE, K-Wf Grid
- Most of workflow managers use DAG for representation of workflow
 - DAGMAn, Karajan, ...
 - Other representation: Petri net (K-Wf Grid), BPEL
- Some have also graphical interface: portal or stand-alone GUI



Distributed job management

- Aim: Manage large number of small jobs
 - parametric study,
 - data parallel: image processing
- Working on master-worker scheme:
 - Worker jobs are submitted to different CEs via middleware
 - Master runs on UI or as stand-alone service and sends tasks to workers
- Implementations: DIANE, DIET
- Advantages:
 - Can improve response time:
 - Task execution can start when the first worker starts
 - Worker jobs on faster machines will execute larger number of tasks
 - Give partial fault-tolerance
 - If some worker jobs fail, the rest can continue execute tasks

- Usually used as User Interface for applications
 - Accessible from anywhere
 - Hide implementation details
 - Additional security
 - Useful for demonstration, can be combined with visualization
- Several frameworks and ready-to-use portlets available
 - Gridsphere/GridPortlets
 - P-GRADE
 - GENIUS
- Application developers usually customize portals for end-users



Gridsphere

