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Simplified deployment of an EDG/LCG cluster via LCFG-UML

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The clusters using DataGrid middleware are usually installed and managed by means of an "LCFG" server. Originally developed by the Univ. of Edinburgh and extended by DataGrid, this is a complex piece of software. It allows for automated installation and configuration of a complete grid site. However, installation of the "LCFG"-Server takes most of the time, thus hinder widespread use.

Our approach was to set up and preconfigure the LCFG-server inside a "User Mode Linux" (UML) instance in order to make deployment faster. The result is the "UML-LCFG-Sserver". It is provided as a prebuilt root-filesystem image which can be up and running within only with few configuration steps. Detailed instructions and experience are also provided on the basis of tests within the CrossGrid project. Altogether UML-LCFG makes it easier for a new site to join an EDG/LCG based Grid by bypassing most of the LCFG server installation.

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