

CHEP 2024

Distributed computing (Track 4) Summary



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Themes

- Tokens, Tokens, Tokens
 - Tokens being widely used and lessons are being learned
 - Current production setups
 - Development of best practice
 - Indigo-IAM development (also in response to “lessons learned”)
 - Adoption of tokens outside WLCG - early stages
- Operations
 - Grid computing adapts to changing circumstances
 - Operations: Optimizing use of available resources
 - Monitoring
 - New architectures and modern resources: ARM, HPCs and Clouds!
 - Security: It’s not just technology, people matter, too
- Distributed computing as part of non-WLCG computing models:
 - Gaining popularity especially in Astronomy: SKA, LSST, Einstein Telescope, CTA, HERD, but also DUNE (not astronomy)
 - Predicted SKA data volumes easily comparable to WLCG, building on WLCG experience for large scale operations!

30 Talks
19 Posters



Link to all track 4 talks: <https://indico.cern.ch/event/1338689/sessions/553987/#all>

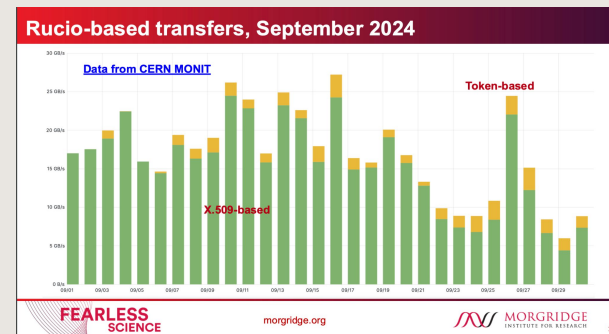
Tokens

- Tokens are now a reality! The infrastructure is almost token ready- time to focus on the operational models!
- DC24, a major milestone: millions of transfers with tokens! Lessons learned:
 - Token implementations of middleware need to improve: FTS/Rucio/Dirac workflows/IAM: all doing a lot of work:
 - Since August ATLAS has been running tokens to 15 sites: 1-2Hz with 5Hz spikes!
 - Performance must be stress-tested
- IAM is being improved:
 - Moving from OpenShift to K8S
 - Better token lifecycle management and storage
 - OIDC/OAuth 2.0: from MitreID Connect to Spring Authorization Server
 - Open Policy Agent (OPA) to speed up policy evaluation and a move to 2FA

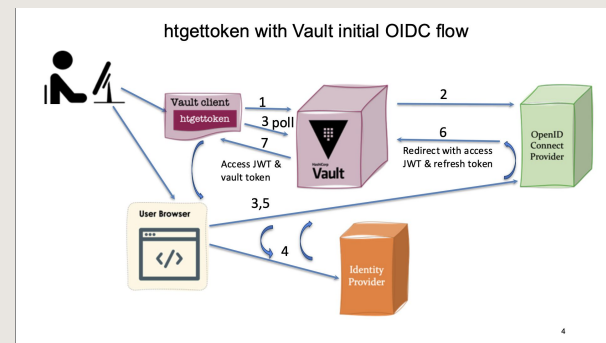


Tokens

- CMS has made strides in token usage:
 - Every CE but 3 use tokens for pilot submissions, analysis to follow
 - CMS is using tokens in production (via Rucio) since early September (in over 30 sites)
 - 1 token per dataset, IAM can handle just fine
 - By the end of 2025 all services should be able to handle both x509 and tokens!
- Fermilab's Vault instance is used to manage tokens:
 - All FNAL hosted experiments (minus CMS) have been using tokens with all grid jobs for over a year now, with the CILogon OIDC Provider.
 - Vault is hiding the token complexity from users:
 - Vault is paid but there is a very promising open source version.
 - CMS will do the same, possibly via a CERN instance.



Brian Bockelman - [CMS Token Transition](#)



Nick Smith - [Fermilab's Transition to Token Authentication](#)

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Tokens

- The balance between operability, security and performance needs to be found:
 - The Token Trust and Traceability WG Aims to form best practices, for users, devs, service providers + issuers.
 - Audience, lifetime, scopes are the three orthogonal parameters that one needs to tweak to meet the operational needs without compromising too much security.
- Next steps:
 - Use tokens on all grid jobs for stageout and reading
 - Users no longer need to issue x509/proxies
 - Accounting needs to be figured out

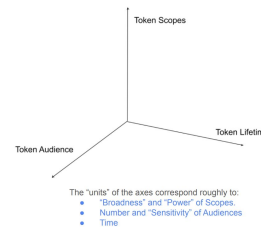
Orthogonal(-ish) Axes: What, Where, How Long For.

Whilst not capturing everything, a useful way of visualising some of the **tunable token attributes** (but this is more than a 3-Dimensional problem).

The "goal" is to get a vector in "token-trust space" with as small a magnitude as you can and still meet your **operational needs**. The closer to the "origin" the better.

These considerations are made **per workflow**, and are ultimately a form of **risk analysis**.

X.509 proxies would exist almost "off the charts" on all 3 axes!



Matt Doidge - Early recommendations from the Token Trust and Traceability WG

Next milestones

- **M.9 (Mar 2025): Grid jobs** use tokens for reading and stageout.
 - Implies **significant changes in workload management systems**
 - Tokens to be provided just in time?
 - Scopes? Audiences? Lifetimes?
 - Scalability concerns?
 - Fallback on X509 + VOMS during transition period?
- **M.10 (Mar 2026): Users** no longer need X.509 certificates
 - Tools should be sufficiently smart to obtain the correct tokens for specific operations
 - Auxiliary services such as *Vault + Atgetoken* or *MyToken* may be needed to simplify the user experience, used under the hood by tools for job and/or data management
 - Investigations in this space are already underway within some experiments

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Tom Dack - WLCG transition from X.509 to Tokens: Progress and Outlook

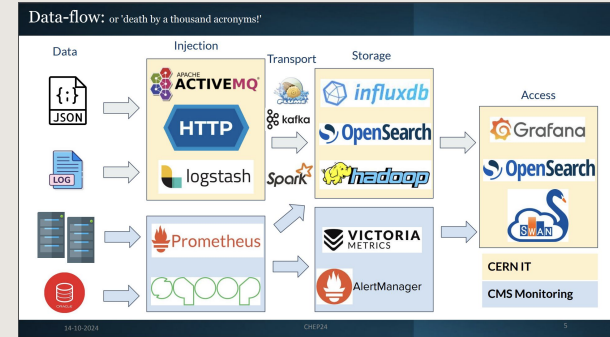
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Operations - Monitoring

- WLCG central ops:
 - Size and complexity of infrastructure grows: new architectures, non-grid sites person-power doesn't.
 - Focus is on integrating those heterogeneous resources, while keeping the grid operating (while pushing for common tools and approaches!)
- ATLAS Hammercloud
 - Automatic exclusion/recovery of sites
- Monitoring:
 - Unified Experiment Monitoring
 - Experiment specific: CMS
 - Common tools and technologies to minimize maintenance and operations



Brij Kishor Jashal - Advanced monitoring capabilities of the CMS Experiment for LHC Run3 and beyond

Challenge: WLCG job monitoring

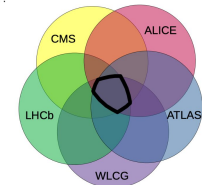
Answering simple questions is not straightforward (and takes time)

- How many CPU cores were used at tier 1 sites during the last year?

The data to answer this question exists!

- Not always available in MONIT
- Comes with a lot of experiment-specific caveats and asterisks
- Experiments have differing definitions/terms for universal concepts
- Experiment monitoring follows experiment infrastructure and needs

How to stitch the everything together?



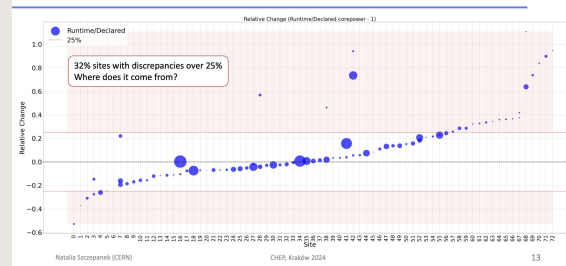
Ewoud Ketele - Unified Experiment Monitoring



Operations - Optimisations

- Optimising the use of available resources:
 - ATLAS: HEP benchmark
 - Distinguishing fact/reality from fiction/ideal case
 - ATLAS: Results of the review of the ATLAS workflow management system (PanDa)
 - ALICE: Job Optimizers
 - Submit jobs faster and to the correct sites
 - ALICE: Whole node scheduling
 - Better exploit node resources with tuned payloads
 - ALICE: Unprivileged subdivision of job resources within the ALICE grid
 - CMS pilot overloading

Relative change for different ATLAS sites



Natalia Szczepanek - Optimization of ATLAS computing resource usage through a modern HEP Benchmark Suite via HammerCloud and PanDa

Optimising job placement

- **Job-to-core mapping algorithm starts by jobs with larger allocations**
 - Simulation jobs (8-core) are placed first and analysis (1,2,4-core) as backfill
 - Transparently balancing resource loads
- **NUMA-aware pinning leads to improved execution efficiency ¹**
- **Predictable execution time fostering better scheduling decisions**



¹ CPU-level resource allocation for optimal execution of multi-process physics code

Marta Bertran Ferrer, Whole-node scheduling in the ALICE Grid

Marta Bertran Ferrer - Whole-node scheduling in the ALICE Grid: Initial experiences and evolution opportunities

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Operations - Alternative architectures

- LHAASO trying to integrate Chengdu Supercomputing Centre
 - Dedicated link to avoid firewall issues and SLURM/HTCondor/XrootD to the rescue
- ALICE integrating the Perlmutter HPC
 - Integrated successfully getting the resources equivalent of a T2
- JAliEn (ALICE's Grid Framework) evolved to support ARM!
 - Also riscv64 architecture, as a proof of concept
- CVMFS performance upgrades:
 - New cache manager to open fewer files and improvements on parallel downloads!
- HEPCloud, after 6 years and a lot of problem solving is now a mature provisioning system which provides access to compute resources (HPC + clouds) similar to the size of the US CMS Tier-1 facility at Fermilab!
- SPECTRUM
 - EU funded project: focus on strategy, but also technical blueprint for data-intensive science and infrastructures

Meet Perlmutter

- Runs HPE Cray OS
- Only whole-node scheduling
- 3072 nodes running 2 x AMD EPYC 7763, 64 core, 512 GB memory
- Jobs run in Shifter containers
- Outside connection from nodes
- Full CVMFS support



Sergiu Weisz

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Sergiu Weisz - Integrating the Perlmutter HPC system in the ALICE Grid



- Threat from cyber attacks is persistent: strategy and a plan are needed
- People are the key: Communicate, collaborate, share
- Security operations centre (SOC) fits with an overall cybersecurity plan such as the Trusted CI Framework.
 - Be proactive to prevent cybersecurity incidents: monitor, detect, respond
- The pDNSSOC package was suggested as a lightweight way for smaller sites to get the benefits of a SOC; more volunteers/testers of this would be welcome.



David Crooks - [Designing Operational Security systems: People, Processes and Technology](#)

Life outside the WLCG - 1

- SKA (all purpose radio telescope):
 - At full operations expects rates up to 400 PB/year by 2030 - easily comparable to LHC experiments
 - Construction is planned in stages and data from the very first stage is available
 - Computing organized in ~9 SRCNet resource centres, using common tools like IAM
- CTA (gamma ray astronomy):
 - Observations planned to start at 2030. Simulations are running since 2011
 - Production system centred around DIRAC (to move to DiracX)* with a CTA specific extension and soon Rucio
- Einstein Telescope (gravitational wave observatory):
 - (Data) challenge driven iterative development for computing model
 - Still multiple iterations expected

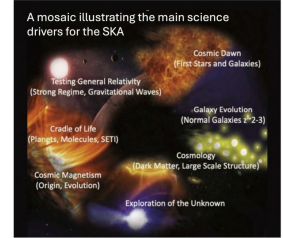
* see plenary: <https://indi.to/DHhVG>

Square Kilometer Array: Transforming radio astronomy

The Square Kilometer Array (SKA) Observatory (SKAO) is a next-generation radio astronomy facility which will cover the frequency range from 50 MHz to 15 GHz.



Composite image of the SKA telescopes, blending real hardware already on site with artist's impressions. credit: SKA Observatory



Credit: SKA Observatory

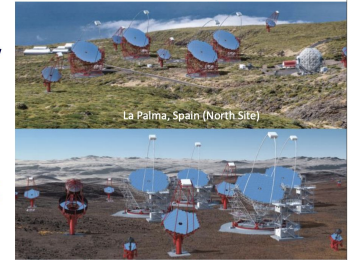
uk | SRC

Ian Collier - The path to exabyte astronomy: SRCNet v0.1 for the Square Kilometre Array

The Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory

CTAO

- The next generation **ground-based** observatory for **gamma-ray astronomy** at **very high energy**
- **64 telescopes** located on **two sites**
- Operations expected to start in **2030**
- Observe **extreme cosmic events**:
 - supernovae, neutron stars, black holes ...
 - Transient phenomena: Gamma Ray Burst



CHEP - October 2024 - Nathan Pigoux

Paranal (ESO), Chile (South Site)

Nathan Pigoux - The Cherenkov Telescope Array Observatory Production System Status and Development

Fri 25th Oct - Track 4 summary: Distributed Computing - 10

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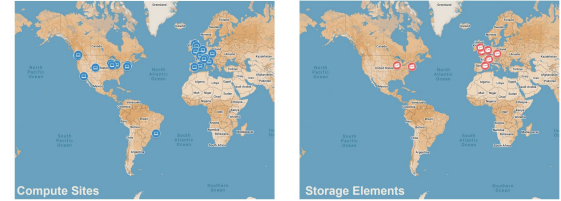
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Life outside the WLCG - 2

- DUNE (neutrinos)
 - Worldwide distribution of data and compute
 - FNAL legacy systems were used in the first prototypes: these have now been replaced
 - Uses HTCondor + GlideinWMS (from CMS) for job submission, Rucio for data management.
 - Participated in DC24, validating the new stack
- Vera C Rubin (sky survey)
 - Final phases of construction. Planned to start at 2025
 - Dealing with monitoring and log keeping / analysis challenges.
 - Uses PanDa (from ATLAS)/RUCIO/FTS/IAM
- HERD (High Energy cosmic-Radiation Detection facility - in space !)
 - > 90 PB, ~16000 CPU cores, in 10 years
 - Uses DIRAC/Rucio from WLCG
 - T0/T1/T2 distributed model, with T2 doing simulations only

Global Distribution – Sites & Storage



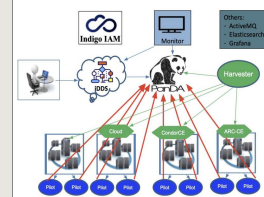
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Jake Calcutt | DUNE's Production System

Bootham DUNE

Jacob Michael Calcutt - Evolution of DUNE's Production System

PanDA: the backbone of multi-site processing



- **PanDA**. PanDA is the workload manager. It manages/schedules tasks and jobs. It includes panda-server (job management), panda-JEDI (task management) and panda-database (PostgreSQL for Rubin).
- **IDDS**. IDDS is the workflow manager. It manages the dependencies of tasks and jobs. It includes the Restful service, the daemon agents and the database (PostgreSQL for Rubin).
- **Harvester**. It's the resource facing service to submit jobs to Grid/Cloud. It submits jobs to CEs, such as Cloud, CondorCE, ARC-CE and others. It includes the Harvester service and a Mariadb.
- **Pilot**. The pilot runs as an agent at remote worker nodes to manage the user payload execution.
- **Monitors**. The main monitor is a PanDA monitor. It can also be integrated with Grafana, ElasticSearch.
- **Messaging**. The system employs a messaging service, for example ActiveMQ, to communicate between each other.
- **Indigo IAM**. The Indigo IAM is employed to manage OIDC based authentication and authorization operations.

Vera C. Rubin Observatory | CHEP 2024 | 24 Oct 2024

[Acronyms & Glossary](#)

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Fabio Hernandez - Preparation of Multi-Site Data Processing at the Vera C. Rubin Observatory

Fri 25th Oct - Track 4 summary: Distributed Computing - 11

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XRroot/SciToken-Based Access to Lustre Storage at GSI

A First Step Toward Data Federation for FAIR

Robert E. Taylor, Bernd Pfleiderer, Thorsten Kitzberger, Axel Reinhardt, Rainer Sperkatz

This poster details the implementation of XRroot and SciToken for accessing Lustre storage at GSI. It includes a flowchart of the access process, a screenshot of the web portal, and a terminal window showing command-line interactions.

Streamlined Production and Submission of LHCb MC Requests

David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett

This poster describes the streamlined process for producing and submitting Monte Carlo (MC) requests to the LHCb experiment. It features a flowchart of the request lifecycle and a screenshot of the web-based request submission interface.

Guideline Benchmark: optimizing resource information to collect provisioning

Yannick Hees, David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett

This poster presents a benchmark for optimizing resource information collection for provisioning. It includes a diagram of the system architecture and a table of performance metrics.

Accounting of HPC Resources with AUDITOR

David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett

This poster introduces AUDITOR, a system for accounting HPC resources. It features a diagram of the accounting flow and a screenshot of the AUDITOR dashboard showing resource usage.

Facilitating Scientific Reproducibility and Interoperability through CWL Integration

David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett

This poster discusses how CWL (Common Workflow Language) integration facilitates scientific reproducibility and interoperability. It includes a diagram of the workflow and a screenshot of the user interface.

Continues Integration of analysis workflows on a distributed analysis facility

David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett

This poster describes the continuous integration of analysis workflows on a distributed analysis facility. It features a diagram of the workflow and a screenshot of the analysis interface.

Deployment of inference as a service at the US CMS Tier-2 data centers

David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett

This poster details the deployment of inference as a service at the US CMS Tier-2 data centers. It includes a diagram of the service architecture and a screenshot of the service interface.

Surrogate Modeling for Scalable Evaluation of Distributed Computing Systems for HEP Applications

David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett

This poster presents surrogate modeling for the scalable evaluation of distributed computing systems for HEP applications. It features a diagram of the modeling process and a screenshot of the evaluation interface.

Automation and Job Management for LUX-ZEPLIN Simulations at NERSC

David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett

This poster describes automation and job management for LUX-ZEPLIN simulations at NERSC. It includes a diagram of the automation process and a screenshot of the simulation interface.

Just-in-time workflow management for DUNE

David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett

This poster discusses just-in-time workflow management for the DUNE experiment. It features a diagram of the workflow management process and a screenshot of the management interface.

CHep 2024

October 19 - 25, 2024

The CHep 2024 logo and event details, including the dates and location.

Thanks to our Sponsors and 38 participating institutions

A collection of logos for the sponsors and participating institutions of CHep 2024.

CHep 2024 Summary

David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett

A summary of the CHep 2024 event, including key highlights and statistics.

CHep 2024 Summary (continued)

David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett

A continuation of the CHep 2024 summary, including key highlights and statistics.

CHep 2024 Summary (continued)

David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett, David H. Bennett

A continuation of the CHep 2024 summary, including key highlights and statistics.



Thank you!

- Thanks to all the Track 4 speakers and poster presenters!
- To the organization: the program committee and the team of track convenors for their outstanding work in making this a success!
- To all of you, making this conference a wonderful experience!
- Looking forward to seeing you all again soon!

