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The evolving role of Tier2s in ATLAS with the new Computing and Data Model

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Originally the ATLAS computing model assumed that the Tier2s of each of the 10 clouds keep on disk collectively at least one copy of all “active” AOD and DPD datasets. Evolution of ATLAS computing and data models requires changes in ATLAS Tier2s policy for the data replication, dynamic data caching and remote data access.
Tier2 operations take place completely asynchronously with respect to data taking. Tier2s do simulation and user analysis. Large-scale reprocessing jobs on real data are at first taking place mostly at Tier1s but will progressively move to Tier2s as well. The availability of disk space at Tier2s is extremely important in the ATLAS computing model as it allows more data to be readily accessible for analysis jobs to all users, independently of their geographical location. The Tier2s disk space has been reserved for real, simulated, calibration and alignment, group, and user data. A buffer disk space is needed for input and output data for simulations jobs.
Tier2s are going to be used more efficiently. In this way Tier1s and Tier2s are becoming more equivalent for the network and the Hierarchy of Tier1, 2 is not longer so important. This talk will present the usage of Tier2s resources in different GRID activities, caching of data at Tier2s, and their role in the analysis in the new ATLAS computing model.

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