

SouthGrid Technical Meeting

7th September 2007

Present: Pete Gronbeck, Yves Coppens, Winnie Lacesso, Ewan MacMahon, Chris Brew, Santanu Das (Partially)

RALPP:

SL4 migration nearly completed, second ce setup, hacked the job manager, so that the different ce request different node properties sl3prod or sl4prod. So you can migrate nodes from one group to another without taking whole site down.

Dteam queue requires property 'test' others require 'prod'. Then add the prod property to nodes once they have passed the testing phase.

Install is very simple, two minor changes needed in site-info.def to go to glite 3.1 cf glite 3.0.1.

Yves has two torque servers, which are also ce's

At RALPP Local users have direct access, so have accounts on the torque server but not the ce.

Maui's cook book has been updated.

WN, SE and UI on SL4 but the ui does not work.

Globus port range syntax may have changed for SL4 from space separated to comma or vice versa.

Glite 3.1 comma glite 3.0.1 space.

Birmingham one ce sl3 (atlas) one for sl4 (Babar)

HPC

Winnie, Jon at Bristol Test cluster at Bristol, SL4 , works OK but problems with torque glite environment , sym links to tar ball location.

Hack the gatekeeper, helper script...

This is still very much a test system, so not yet published in the goddb.

Using tar ball setup at Bristol.

Looking for new kit and asking about sl3 compatibility.

One option is to run SL4 or 5 and run a VM to run the ce under SL3.

Would that not perform well? So long as you only run one vm on the machine it should be fine.

3ware controllers at RAL probs with sl4.2 but ok with 4.4.

Birmingham HPC cluster progress unknown.

Accounting

Use of the cluster.

Monitoring

CB has developed a plugin :Host cert test for nagios, warning and then an alert if it is out of date.

SAM testing and investigation of failures.

Will dcache scale as you increase size.

Need to do database maintenance

Bham fails SAM data for RB can not be downloaded to the ce, ganglia, network usage, logs cannot find the reason.

Rate capping probably still in effect, causes packet loss.

Could get Andrew to run some tests at Birmingham to prove the requirement for higher bandwidth.

Common VO support,

Could be difficult at HPC clusters.

Can help in keeping the utilisation up when the main LHC VO's are not busy.

User Board will also be taking more interest in t2 shares later.

Src rpms Ewan talked about.

Virtualisation could be useful for running service nodes under obsolete OS's.

Could provide reliability , by having a farm of potential nodes, but this requires vmware ESX.

Xen can do some application migration but is generally more difficult to setup.

May be worth while playing with at some stage.

The last email contact with Jet was in August by Yves PDG will add them to the technical email list.

Cluster almost running at Reading, but not recent contact.

New equipment would be PowerPC so not so good for us.