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Type: Poster

The AMGA Metadata Catalogue: New developments

Tuesday, 23 September 2008 16:46 (0 minutes)

Describe the activity, tool or service using or enhancing the EGEE infrastructure or results. A high-level description is needed here (Neither a detailed specialist report nor a list of references is required).

AMGA is the gLite Metadata catalogue. We present the latest developments, which have been done following the requests of the EGEE user community. The first is the addition of a WS-DAIR compatible interface, which allows a seamless integration of AMGA into the DAIS framework of OGF standardized Grid Data Access Services. The second major development is the addition of support for native SQL queries.

Report on the impact of the activity, tool or service. This should include a description of how grid technology enabled or enhanced the result, or how you have enabled or enhanced the infrastructure for other users.

The native SQL support has been much requested by the EGEE user community in order to ease the effort to port existing applications to the Grid, because the need to learn the Grid metadata query language of AMGA ceases to exist. With the removal of this obstacle, we expect to significantly lower the threshold for new applications to be adapted to the Grid. The addition of a WS-DAIR compatible interface will however greatly improve interoperability to other Grid applications and services. The adoption of this standard also allows the EGEE community to provide feedback on the standard and make suggestions for its evolution. We will present our experiences on implementing WS-DAIR and some performance measurements.

Describe the added value of the grid for your activity, or the value your tool or service adds for other grid users. This should include the scale of the activity and of the potential user community, and the relevance for other scientific or business applications.

AMGA has been essential to porting applications to the Grid, which need metadata or relational DB access. The native SQL support greatly eases the work needed to port existing SQL-based database applications to the Grid using AMGA because no need to reformulate the queries in AMGA's metadata query language are necessary. Of

course this metadata query language is also still provided by AMGA. Both new developments make full use of the advanced security features of AMGA, namely schema ACLs and access through GSI. In particular biomedical applications with often complex relational database use will profit from this combination of SQL and strict ACL based security, which is unique to Grid-enabled database access.

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