



Enabling Grids for E-scienceE

LFC: The LCG File Catalog

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NA3: User Training and Induction. INFN CT

Retreat between GILDA and ESR VO on gLite

Bratislava, 27-30.06.2005

www.eu-egee.org

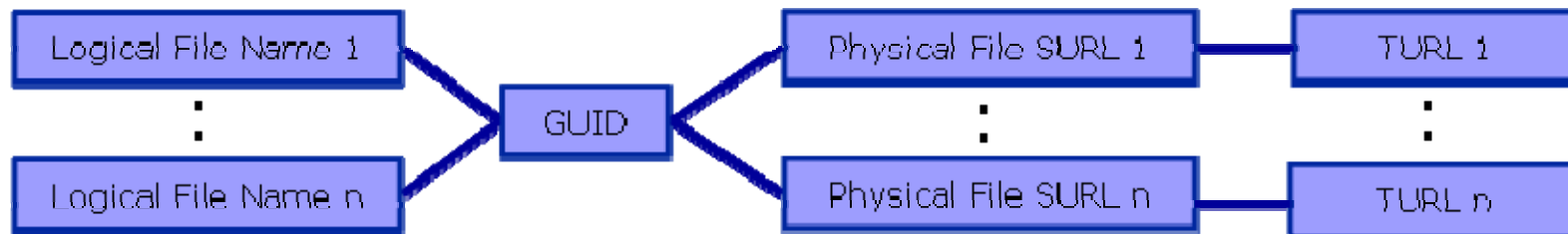


Information Society



- **User and programs produce and require data**
- **Data may be stored in Grid datasets (files)**
 - Located in Storage Elements (**SEs**)
 - Several replicas of one file in different sites
 - Accessible by Grid users and applications from “anywhere”
 - Locatable by the WMS (data requirements in JDL)
- **Also...**
 - Resource Broker can send (small amounts of) data to/from jobs: Input and Output Sandbox
 - Data may be copied from/to local filesystems (WNs, UIs) to the Grid

- **Logical File Name (LFN)**
 - An alias created by a user to refer to some item of data, e.g. “lfn:cms/20030203/run2/track1”
- **Globally Unique Identifier (GUID)**
 - A non-human-readable unique identifier for an item of data, e.g. “guid:f81d4fae-7dec-11d0-a765-00a0c91e6bf6”
- **Site URL (SURL) (or Physical File Name (PFN) or Site FN)**
 - The location of an actual piece of data on a storage system, e.g.
 - “srm://pcrd24.cern.ch/flatfiles/cms/output10_1” (SRM)
 - “sfn://lxshare0209.cern.ch/data/alice/ntuples.dat” (Classic SE)
- **Transport URL (TURL)**
 - Temporary locator of a replica + access protocol: understood by a SE, e.g. “rfio://lxshare0209.cern.ch//data/alice/ntuples.dat”



- **File catalogs in LCG:**

- They keep track of the location of copies (replicas) of Grid files
- The DM tools and APIs and the WMS interact with them

- **EDG's Replica Location Service (RLS)**

- Catalogs in use in LCG-2
- Replica Metadata Catalog (**RMC**) + Local Replica Catalog (**LRC**)
- Some performance problems detected during Data Challenges

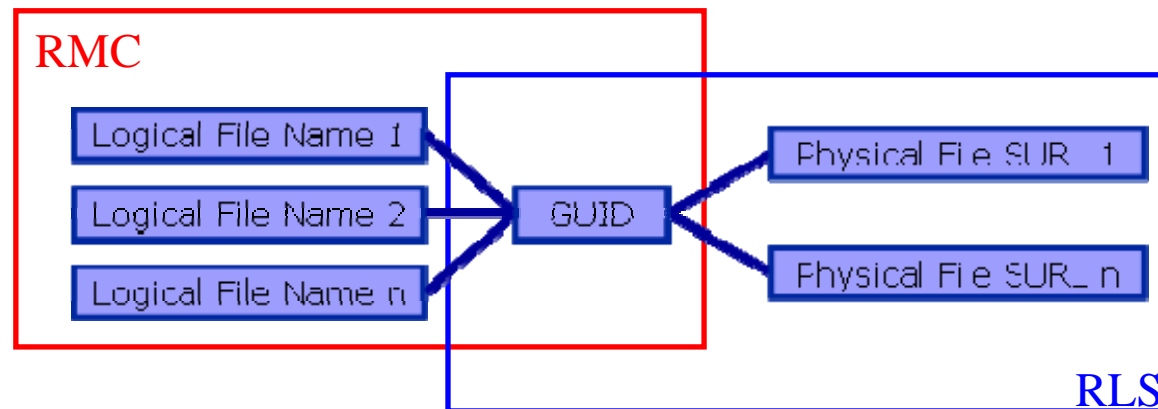
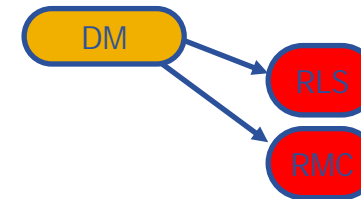
- **New LCG File Catalog (LFC)**

- In production in next LCG release; deployment in January 2005
- Coexistence with RLS; migration tools provided:

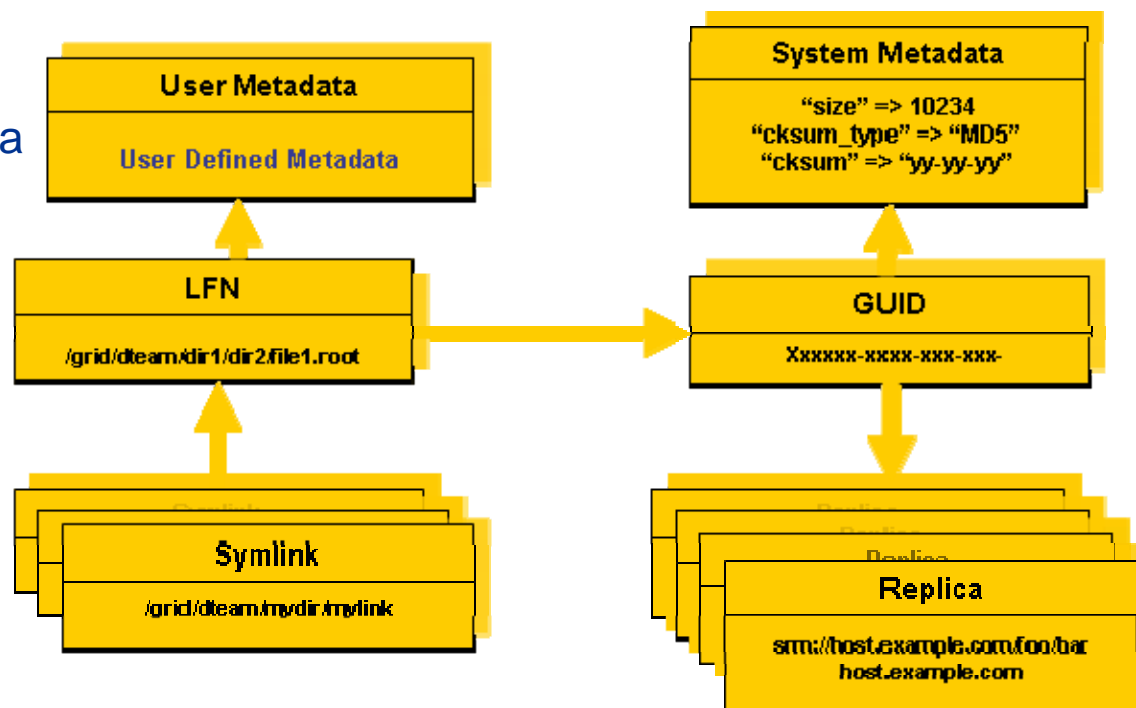
[http://goc.grid.sinica.edu.tw/gocwiki/How to migrate the RLS entries into the LCG File Catalog %28LFC%29](http://goc.grid.sinica.edu.tw/gocwiki/How%20to%20migrate%20the%20RLS%20entries%20into%20the%20LCG%20File%20Catalog%20%28LFC%29)

- Accessible by defining: \$LCG_CATALOG_TYPE=lfc and \$LFC_HOST
- Better performance and scalability
- Provides new features: security, hierarchical namespace, transactions...

- **RMC:**
 - Stores LFN-GUID mappings
 - Accessible by edg-rmc CLI + API
- **RLS:**
 - Stores GUID-SURL mappings
 - Accessible by edg-lrc CLI + API
- **Main weaknesses:**
 - Insecure (anyone can delete catalog entries)
 - Bad performance (java clients...)



- One single catalog
- LFN acts as main key in the database. It has:
 - Symbolic links to it (additional LFNs)
 - Unique Identifier (GUID)
 - System metadata
 - Information on replicas
 - One field of user metadata



- **Fixes EDG catalogs performance and scalability problems**
 - Cursors for large queries
 - Timeouts and retries from the client
- **Provides more features than the EDG Catalogs**
 - User exposed transaction API (+ auto rollback on failure)
 - Hierarchical namespace and namespace operations (for LFNs)
 - Integrated GSI Authentication + Authorization
 - ➔ Mapping with local UID/GID problem being solved (pool of accounts)
 - Access Control Lists (Unix Permissions and POSIX ACLs)
 - Checksums
- **New features will be added (requests welcome!)**
 - Integration with VOMS, Fireman
 - POOL Integration is in progress
 - Sessions
 - Bulk operations

- **Very simple installation (also included in YAIM):**
 - Install single RPM: in WN, UI, RB
 - Specify the host of the server (required for the moment!)
 - > `export LFC_HOST=<LFC_server_hostname>`
 - Test the client

- **Using lcg_utils and GFAL:**
 - Define the catalog to use:
 - `$LCG_CATALOG_TYPE=lfc`
 - Define the server hostname
 - The LFC server must be published in the BDII (`$LCG_GFAL_INFOSYS`)
 - Or use environmental variable: `$LFC_HOST=<LFC_server_hostname>`

- **Env variable: LFC_HOME**
 - Can be set to use relative LFNs
 - `LFC_HOME=/grid/gilda/myDir` → `/grid/gilda/myDir/myFile` becomes `myFile`

- **Environment variables:**

- `$LFC_HOST` not set and catalog not published in BDII
 - `lfc-ls...` *send2nsd: NS009 - fatal configuration error: Host unknown: ...*
 - `lcg-lr...` return nothing (or “No such file or directory”)
- `$LCG_CATALOG_TYPE` wrongly or not set (default “edg”)
 - Files that appear and disappear
 - `lcg-lr...` return nothing (or “No such file or directory”)
 - Unsupported VOs
 - `lcg-lr...` return “Invalid argument” (and “LRC, RMC endpoint not found”)

- **Other configuration errors**

- VO directory not defined by root in the LFC hierarchy
 - Unsupported VOs
 - `lcg-lr...` return “Invalid argument” (and “LRC, RMC endpoint not found”)

- **Attention!**

- `lcg_utils` do not create directories automatically (feature)
 - explicit use of `lfc-mkdir` required (as user)
 - `$LFC_HOST` must be set

- **LFC client commands**
 - Provide administrative functionality
 - Unix-like
 - LFNs seen as a Unix filesystem (/grid/<VO>/ ...)

- **LFC C API**
 - Alternative way to administer the catalog
 - Python wrapper provided

- **Integration with GFAL and lcg_util APIs complete**
 - lcg-utils access the catalog in a transparent way

- **Integration with the WMS completed**
 - The RB can locate Grid files: allows for data based match-making
 - Not yet tested in production

- **lcg_utils: lcg-* commands + lcg_* API calls**
 - Provide (all) the functionality needed by the LCG user
 - Transparent interaction with file catalogs and storage interfaces when needed
 - Abstraction from technology of specific implementations
- **Grid File Access Library (GFAL): API**
 - Adds file I/O and explicit catalog interaction functionality
 - Still provides the abstraction and transparency of lcg_utils
- **edg-gridftp tools: CLI**
 - Complete the lcg_utils with low level GridFTP operations
 - Functionality available as API in GFAL
 - May be generalized as lcg-* commands

- **All-purpose CLIs and APIs for EDG and LCG**
- **File & replica management**
 - edg-rm
- **Catalog interaction (only for RLS catalogs)**
 - edg-lrc
 - edg-rmc
- **Use discouraged**
 - Worst performance (slower) than lcg_utils
 - New features added only to lcg_utils
 - Currently they are just a wrapper on GFAL anyway
 - The catalog commands do not interact with LFC

Replica Management

lcg-cp	Copies a grid file to a local destination
lcg-cr	Copies a file to a SE and registers the file in the catalog
lcg-del	Delete one file
lcg-rep	Replication between SEs and registration of the replica
lcg-gt	Gets the TURL for a given SURL and transfer protocol
lcg-sd	Sets file status to “Done” for a given SURL in a SRM request

File Catalog Interaction

lcg-aa	Add an alias in LFC for a given GUID
lcg-ra	Remove an alias in LFC for a given GUID
lcg-rf	Registers in LFC a file placed in a SE
lcg-uf	Unregisters in LFC a file placed in a SE
lcg-la	Lists the alias for a given SURL, GUID or LFN
lcg-lg	Get the GUID for a given LFN or SURL
lcg-lr	Lists the replicas for a given GUID, SURL or LFN

Low level methods (many POSIX-like):

lfc_access	lfc_deleteclass	lfc_listreplica	lfc_setacl
lfc_aborttrans	lfc_delreplica	lfc_lstat	lfc_setatime
lfc_addreplica	lfc_endtrans	lfc_mkdir	lfc_setcomment
lfc_apiinit	lfc_enterclass	lfc_modifyclass	lfc_seterrbuf
lfc_chclass	lfc_errmsg	lfc_opendir	lfc_setsize
lfc_chdir	lfc_getacl	lfc_queryclass	lfc_starttrans
lfc_chmod	lfc_getcomment	lfc_readdir	lfc_stat
lfc_chown	lfc_getcwd	lfc_readlink	lfc_symlink
lfc_closedir	lfc_getpath	lfc_rename	lfc_umask
lfc_creat	lfc_lchown	lfc_rewind	lfc_undelete
lfc_delcomment	lfc_listclass	lfc_rmdir	lfc_unlink
lfc_delete	lfc_listlinks	lfc_selectsrvr	lfc_utime
			send2lfc

Summary of the LFC Catalog commands

lfc-chmod	Change access mode of the LFC file/directory
lfc-chown	Change owner and group of the LFC file-directory
lfc-delcomment	Delete the comment associated with the file/directory
lfc-getacl	Get file/directory access control lists
lfc-ln	Make a symbolic link to a file/directory
lfc-ls	List file/directory entries in a directory
lfc-mkdir	Create a directory
lfc-rename	Rename a file/directory
lfc-rm	Remove a file/directory
lfc-setacl	Set file/directory access control lists
lfc-setcomment	Add/replace a comment

Listing the entries of a LFC directory

lfc-ls [-cdiLIRTu] [--class] [--comment] [--deleted] [--display_side] [--ds] path...

where *path* specifies the LFN pathname (mandatory)

- Remember that **LFC has a directory tree structure**
- */grid/<VO_name>/<you create it>*



- All members of a VO have read-write permissions under their directory
- You can set LFC_HOME to use relative paths

> *lfc-ls /grid/gilda/antonio*

> *export LFC_HOME=/grid/gilda*

> *lfc-ls -l antonio*

> *lfc-ls -l -R /grid*

-l : long listing

-R : list the contents of directories recursively: **Don't use it!**

Creating directories in the LFC

lfc-mkdir [-m mode] [-p] path...

- Where *path* specifies the LFC pathname
- Remember that while registering a new file (using `lfc-cr`, for example) the corresponding destination directory must be created in the catalog beforehand.
- Examples:
 - > ***lfc-mkdir /grid/gilda/antonio/demo***

You can just check the directory with:

> ***lfc-ls -l /grid/gilda/antonio***

`drwxr-xrwx 0 19122 1077`

`0 Jun 14 11:36 demo`

Let us copy and register a file using lcg-utils

```
> export LCG_CATALOG_TYPE=lfc
```

```
> lcg-infosites --vo gilda se
```

```
*****
These are the related data for gilda: (in terms of SE)
*****

Avail Space(Kb) Used Space(Kb) Type  SEs
-----
...
28429708    2730072    disk  testbed005.cnaf.infn.it
70014168    4132600    disk  gilda-se-01.pd.infn.it
388209224   254568     disk  grid-se.bio.dist.unige.it
```

```
> lcg-cr --vo gilda -l demo/test -d gilda-se-01.pd.infn.it file:`pwd`/test
```

```
guid:0c3994b0-634f-4401-9434-e83a8e4bf14e
```

```
> lcg-lr --vo gilda lfn:demo/test
```

```
sfn://gilda-se-01.pd.infn.it/shared/gilda/generated/2005-06-14/file567eb5f3-17d5-4e0f-a1ca-
a8caef3d4d08
```

```
> lfc-ls -l demo
```

```
-rwxrwxrwx 1 19122 1077 28 Jun 14 11:39 test
```

Creating a symbolic link

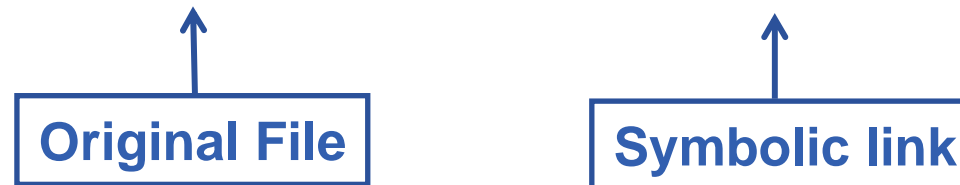
lfc-ln -s file linkname

lfc-ln -s directory linkname

Create a link to the specified *file* or *directory* with *linkname*

– *Examples:*

> *lfc-ln -s /grid/gilda/antonio/demo/test /grid/gilda/antonio/aLink*



Let's check the link using *lfc-ls* with long listing (-l):

> *lfc-ls -l*

```
lrwxrwxrwx 1 19122 1077 0 Jun 14 11:58 aLink -> /grid/gilda/antonio/demo/test
drwxr-xrwx 1 19122 1077 0 Jun 14 11:39 demo
```

Adding/deleting metadata information

lfc-setcomment path comment

lfc-delcomment path

lfc-setcomment adds/replaces a *comment* associated with a file/directory in the LFC Catalog

lfc-delcomment deletes a comment previously added

- This is the only metadata (one field) supported by the catalog
- Examples:
 - > **lfc-setcomment demo/test "nice file"**
- Let's see what happened:
 - > **lfc-ls --comment /grid/gilda/antonio/demo/test**
 /grid/gilda/antonio/demo/test Nice file

- Information on the file catalogs
 - LFC, gfal, lcg-utils:
 - “Evolution of LCG-2 Data Management (J-P Baud, J. Casey)”
 - <http://indico.cern.ch/contributionDisplay.py?contribId=278&sessionId=7&confId=0>
 - LFC installation, administration, migration from RLS:
 - Wiki entries indicated through the presentation:
 - http://goc.grid.sinica.edu.tw/gocwiki/How_to_set_up_an_LFC_service
 - http://goc.grid.sinica.edu.tw/gocwiki/How_to_migrate_the_RLS_entries_into_the_LCG_File_Catalog_%28LFC%29
 - LFC contacts:
 - Jean-Philippe.Baud@cern.ch
 - Sophie.Lemaitre@cern.ch



Hope you enjoy this lecture.
Thank you for attending !