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Data Management



The CASTOR SRM2 Interface

Status and plans Towards databases consolidation

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- The SRM2 interface to CASTOR
 - Architecture overview
 - Status

Outline

- Current deployment
 - Tier 0
 - Tier 1s
- Future plans
 - For SRM
 - For CASTOR databases consolidation



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A Foreword on SRM



- Storage Resource Manager
 - The Storage Element (SE) of the Grid
 - An interface to expose a storage system, hiding the internal details of the different implementations
- Different versions of the specifications exist
 - In particular v1.1 and v2.2
- This talk focuses on the CASTOR implementation of the v2.2 specifications
 - In particular, including the WLCG MoU document that has been agreed amongst all WLCG SEs implementations



CASTOR SRM2 Architecture

- Database centric
 - Stateless and redundant daemons
 - Ease deployment and scalability
 - Inherits most of the design choices of the CASTOR core system

A very special CASTOR client

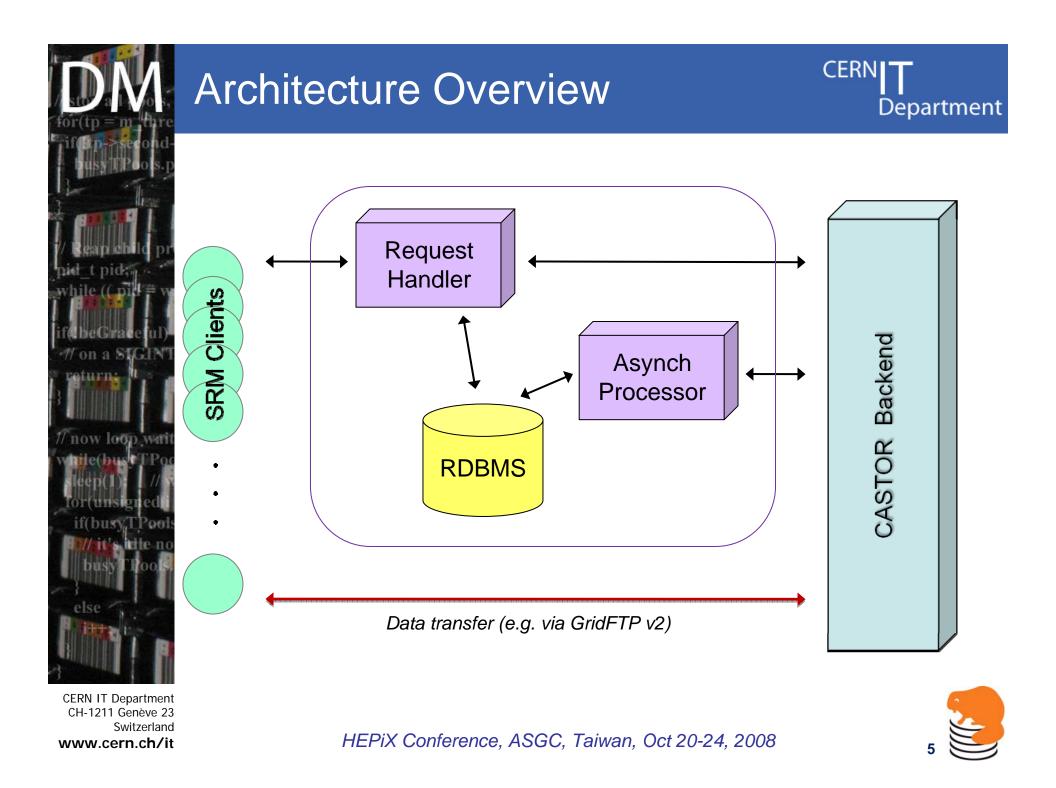
- The SRM software does not interact directly with the internal components of CASTOR
- Makes SRM decoupled from the evolution of the internal CASTOR APIs



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SRM Components



- Request Handler (frontend)
 - Performs user authentication
 - GSI-based, can generate high CPU load
 - Serves all synchronous requests
 - Stores asynchronous requests in the database
- Asynch Processor (backend)
 - No user interaction
 - Very low CPU footprint
 - Processes all asynchronous requests
 - e.g. srmBringOnLine
 - Updates db by polling the CASTOR backend
 - Handles srmCopy operations



HEPiX Conference, ASGC, Taiwan, Oct 20-24, 2008

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Current Status



- Currently in production: release 1.3 (SLC3)
 - Passed first production tests during CCRC'08
 - Developed and supported by RAL
 - Many known issues
- Being deployed: release 2.7 (SLC4)
 - Major review of the code to address all critical issues faced in the past months
 - Developed by RAL and CERN
 - Towards a release process consistent with the CASTOR core software



Release 2.7 Key Features

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- Support for SLC4
- Support for multiple frontends and backends
- Support for the SRM methods agreed in the WLCG MoU addendum (May '08)
 - srmPurgeFromSpace to allow better handling of Disk1 storage classes
 - srmCopy fully functional including support of source space token
 - srmChangeSpaceForFiles definitely deprecated
 - improved srmAbortRequest
- Improved management of space tokens
 - Admin tools for the service manager
 - Space allocation remains static
- Improved logging
- Improved internal garbage collection
 - Runs as a database job



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Current Deployment



- At the Tier0
 - One production endpoint per VO, running rel. 1.3
 - Pre-production endpoints per VO being setup, running rel. 2.7
 - Will eventually become the production endpoints
 - Typically 3-4 nodes with DNS load-balanced alias
- At the Tier1s

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- ASGC: one production endpoint for all VOs
 - Upgrade to 2.7 scheduled for this afternoon (!)
- RAL, CNAF: one production endpoint per VO
 - Running rel. 1.3, upgrade foreseen in the coming weeks
- Typically **3** nodes with DNS load-balanced alias



Plans and Future Directions

- Short-medium term
 - Deployment and support of release 2.7
 - Stabilizing, addressing remaining less critical bugs
 - Improving logging for better end-to-end monitoring
- Long term vision
 - The choice of an SRM interface loosely coupled with the CASTOR backend proved to be not optimal
 - Processing time often degraded due to the number of layers and interactions between components
 - It is often impossible to achieve the desired behaviour under given borderline conditions (e.g. aborting ongoing transfers)



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Plans and Future Directions



- A more coupled integration is foreseen, where the SRM frontend daemon directly interacts with the CASTOR main stager database
 - This would enable the stager to seamlessly process CASTOR requests and SRM requests
 - Most of the SRM logic will also be integrated in the CASTOR stager logic
- SRM will be seen as another gateway to the CASTOR system, similarly to the current CASTOR Request Handler
- The SRM and Stager database schemas will be merged



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Towards DBs Consolidation

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- The CASTOR system nowadays includes a number of database schemas
 - The CASTOR namespace
 - The CASTOR stager and disk cache management
 - The CASTOR SRM interface
 - The CASTOR VDQM (Volume and Drive Queue Manager) for the tape archive
- It is envisaged to review those schemas in order to improve all internal processing
 - E.g. the namespace, stager and SRM databases share some information and should be merged
 - The VDQM database should evolve to a Tape archive management database



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Conclusions



- The CASTOR SRM interface is now a consolidated component of the CASTOR system
 - Used in production (CCRC)
 - New version being deployed
- A development plan has been devised
 - Stabilization of the production release
 - Tighter integration with the stager foreseen
 - Comments, questions?

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CASTOR Monitoring

Witek Pokorski, Theodoros Rekatsinas (CERN/IT) Presented by Giuseppe Lo Presti



CASTOR end-to-end monitoring

Motivation

- Provide the users with a *dashboard* presenting the usage of a CASTOR instance
- Provide the developers with a mean to monitor the running of the system from the point of view of the specific implementation

Scope

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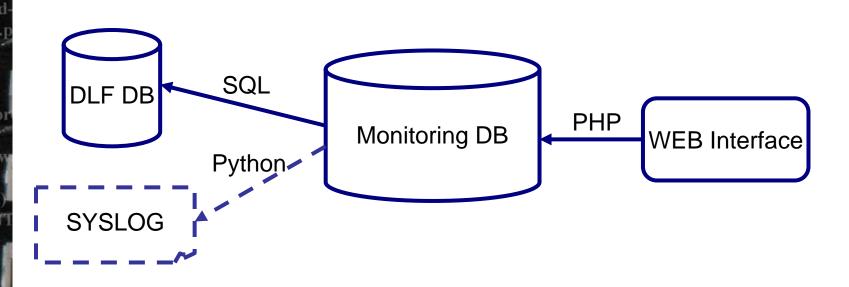
- Provide end-to-end monitoring covering all the CASTOR sub-components
 - gather the information from SRM, Stager, Nameserver, Garbage collector, diskservers, tapeservers, etc, all together
- Combine and extend currently existing monitoring infrastructure
 - based on Lemon and SLS at CERN



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CASTOR monitoring architecture



- All the monitoring information comes from log messages sent by different CASTOR components
- Current implementation uses DLF (Distributed Logging Facility)
- Monitoring DB designed in a way to allow quick queries from the web interface
- Future implementation will be based on SYSLOG allowing more efficient real-time parsing of the incoming messages



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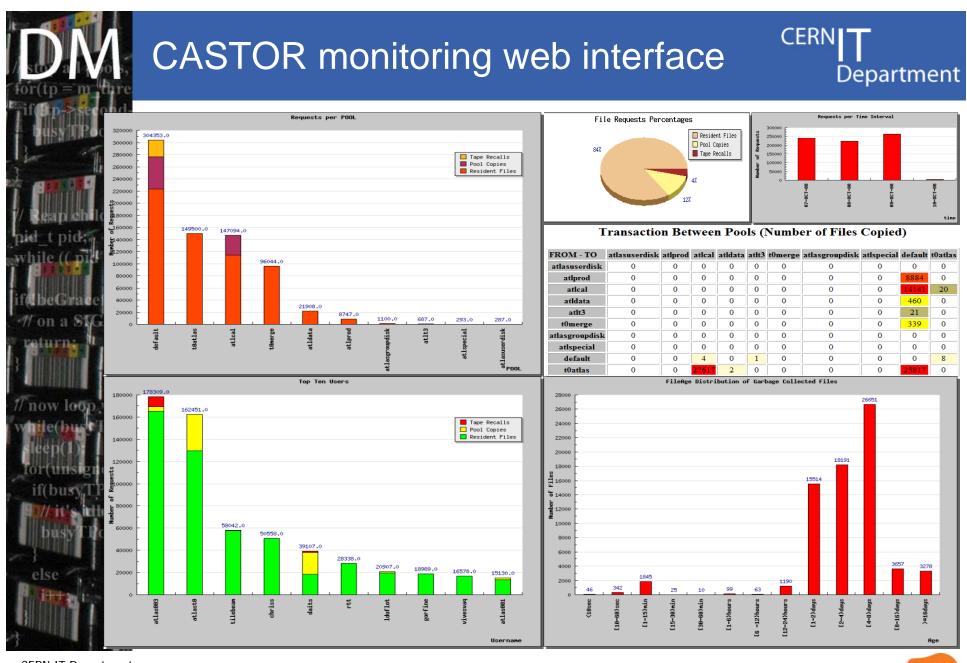
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Conclusion and plans



- With the massive data-taking approaching, monitoring is an important element of CASTOR
 need to extend current infrastructure
- A prototype of CASTOR monitoring is being implemented and is under testing
 - only statistic gathering now, dashboard functionalities to come
- Plans for the future developments include:
 - further extensions of the monitoring DB schema
 - move to syslog-based transport
- Comments, questions?

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