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Grid data repositories with AMGA and gLibrary

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Often the "grid" term brings to people's mind the concept of powerful and distributed computing resources to run long-lasting simulations or storm of tasks. But the existence of "data" grids are not of second importance for real and virtual communities coming from the scientific and industry
worlds.
Those communities, indeed, could have a lot of data to be shared in a secure way and have the need to preserve and access those data easily and from anywhere. Because of the big amount of storage space available in distributed data grids, a mechanism to federate and describe those data repository is needed. One approach to cope with this problem is to make use of metadata catalogues.

In the presentation, we are going to present the AMGA Metadata Service, developed in the context of the EGEE project. This service allows to add semantic "description" (metadata) to data saved on data grids and to answer user's and application's queries against those metadata to easily and quickly retrieve the desired files. We will illustrate then some use cases and real applications from the communities that make use of this service to create their repositories. In particular, a system to create and manage digital libraries on grid, named gLibrary and based on AMGA will be showed, demonstrating how a real repository of ancient manuscripts has been implemented on a data grid.

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