Collaborative eScience: Evolving Approaches

Charles Severance
Executive Director, Sakai Foundation

Shaping Collaboration 2006 Geneva, Switzerland December 11-13, 2006



Outline

- My perspective on collaborative eScience history
 - Space Aronomy Research Collaboration (SPARC)
 - Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES)
- Collaborative CI Software Building the UI
 - Worktools / CHEF / Sakai
 - Open Grid Computing Environment
- Ecology of eScience (hidden slides)
- Sakai Research Edition
 - Sakai as Portal (JSR-168)
 - Sakai WorkGroup Portal (hidden slides)
 - Sakai Repository Approach
- My eScience fantasy scenario
- The Tricorder, Tivo and the Matrix

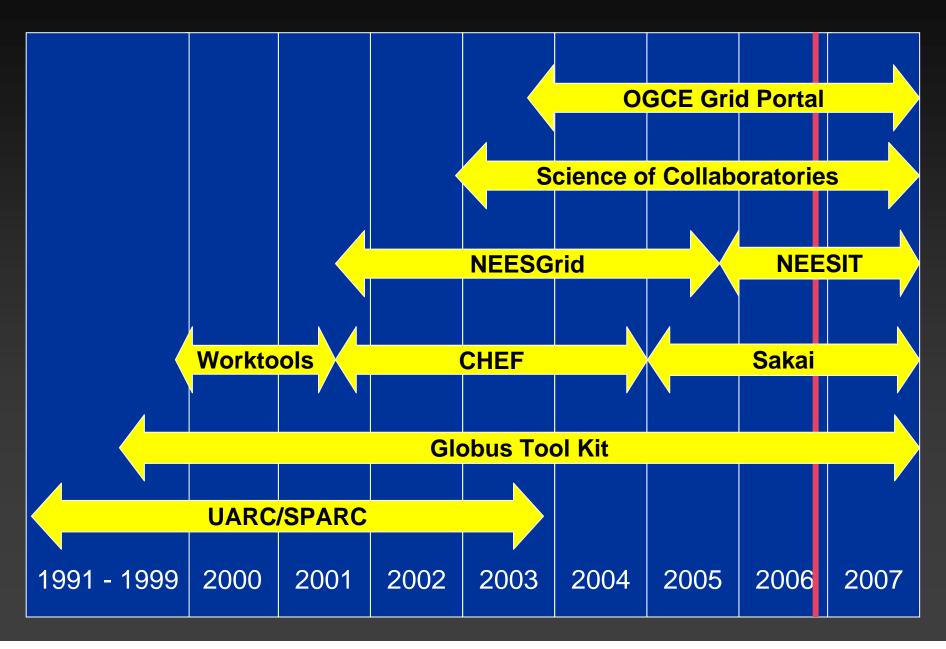


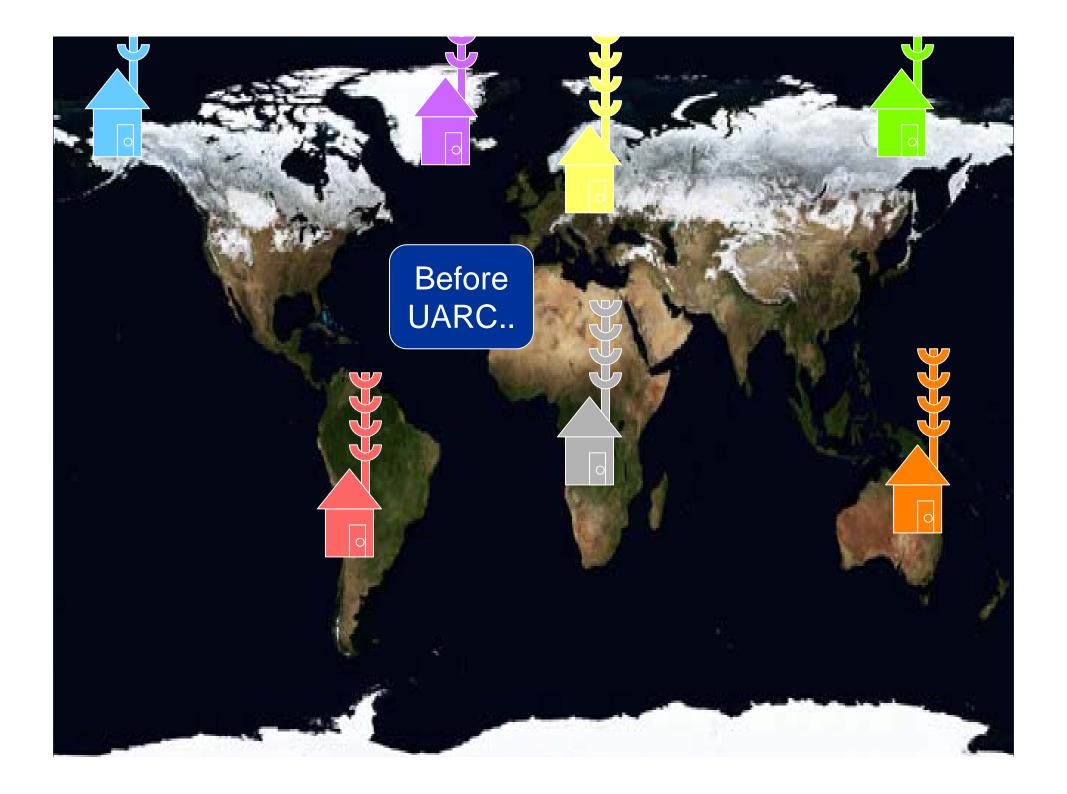
The Founding Concepts

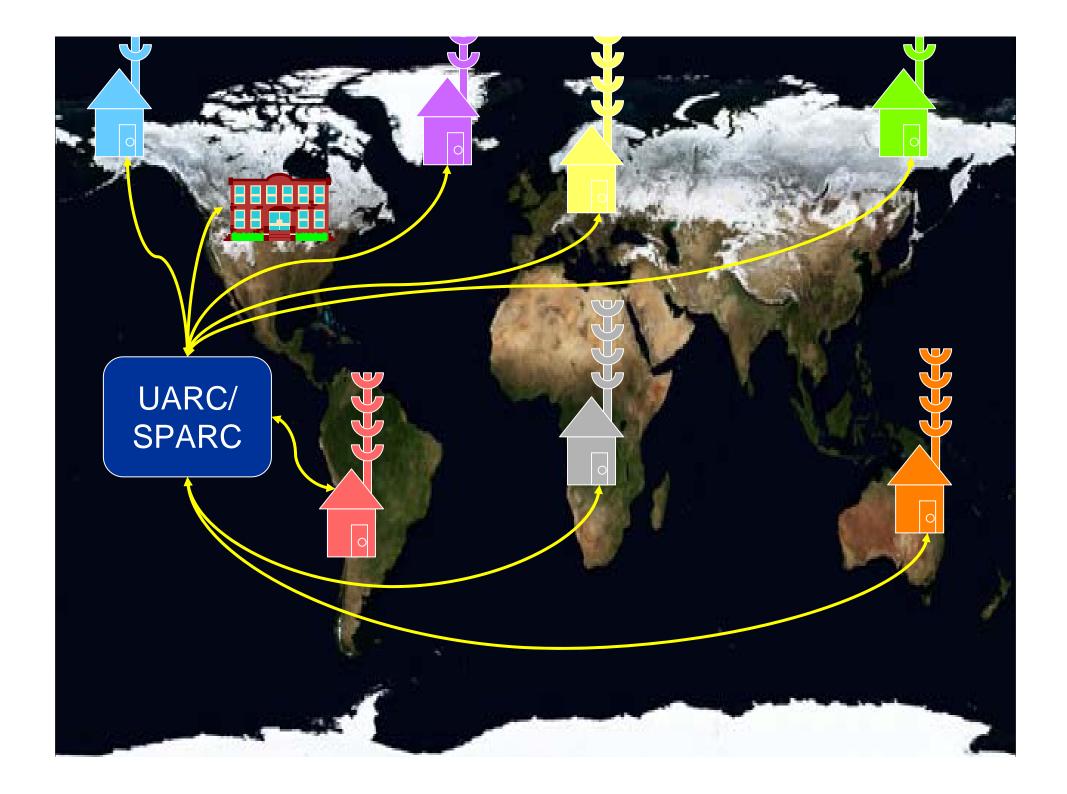
- Scientific Domain
- Groups of People
- Common User Interface
- Data Sharing
 - In the moment
 - Long-term
- Experimental Equipment
- Compute
- Visualization

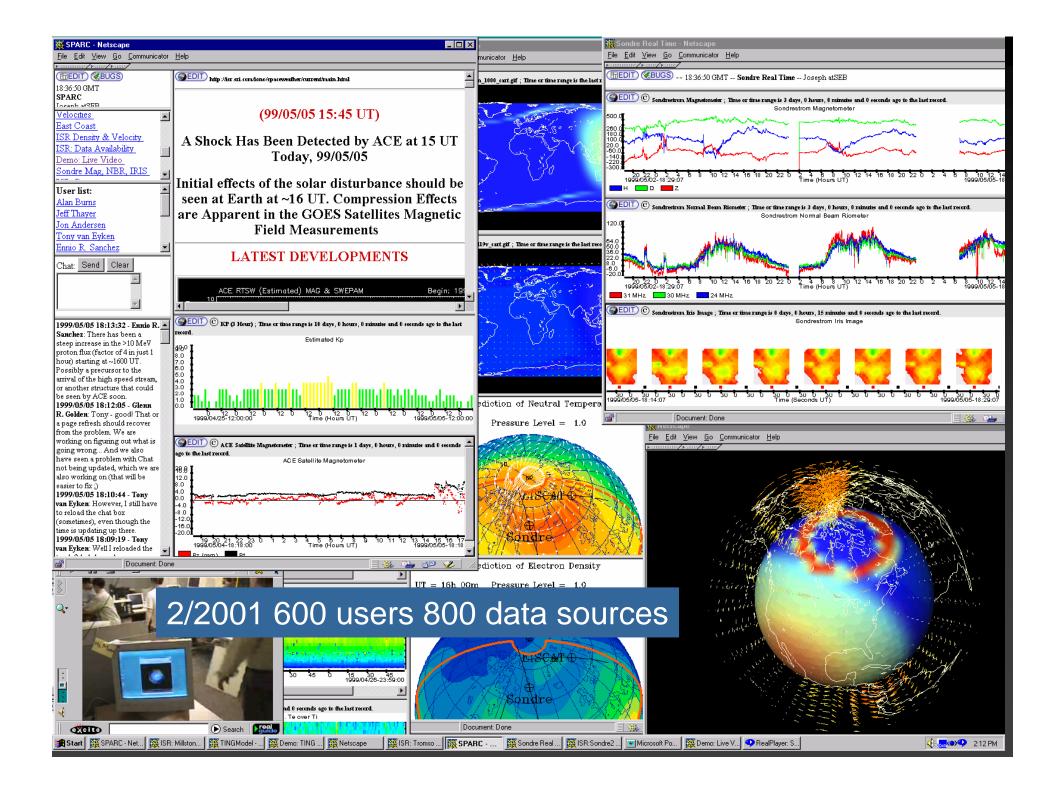


Over 15 Years of Collaborative eScience









SPARC Software

- Written from scratch
 - No Middleware
 - No Portal Technology
- Three rewrites over 10 years
 - NextStep
 - Java Applets with server support
 - Browser based kind of like a portal
- At the end, in 2001 it was ready for another rewrite



Keys to SPARC Success

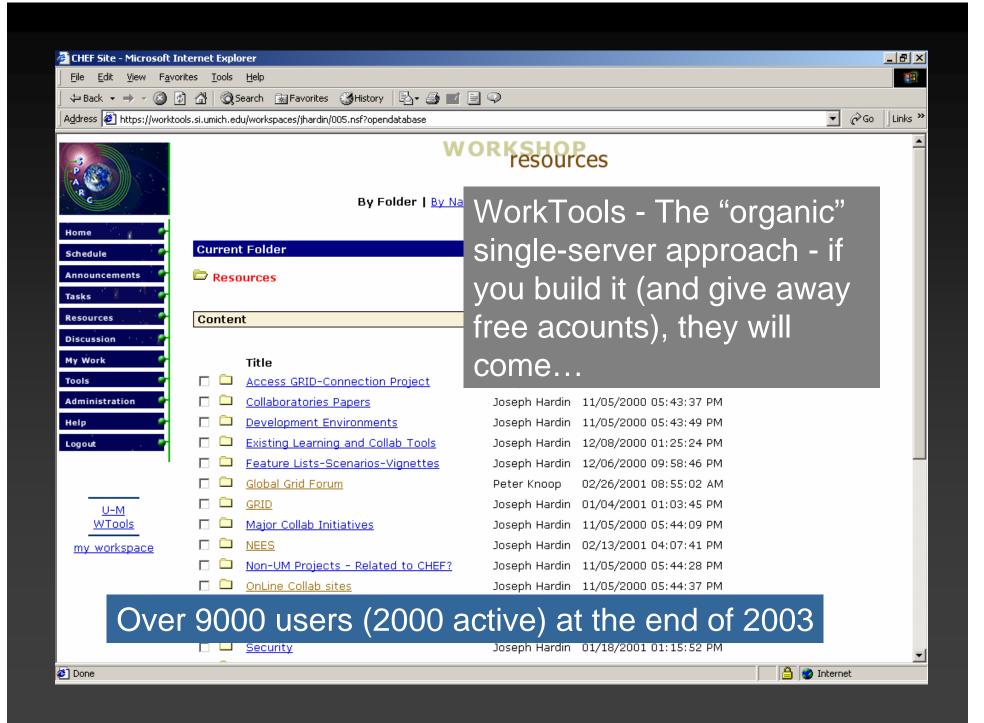
- Ten years of solid funding
 - Team consistency
 - Long enough to learn from "mistakes"
- Long term relationship between IT folks and scientists - evolved over time - relationship was "grey"
- Software rewritten several times over life of project based on evolving user needs and experience with each version of the program
- Portion of effort was invested in evaluation of usability - feedback to developers



After SPARC: Now What?

- Getting people together is an important part of collaborative eScience
 - WorkTools Based on Lotus Notes
 - CHEF Collaborative framework Based on Java and Jetspeed
 - Sakai Collaboration and Learning Environment Java
- Critical point: Collaborative software is only one component of eScience
- Lets explore this: Building reusable user interface technologies for the people part of collaborative eScience





CompreHensive collaborativE Framework (CHEF)

- Fall 2001: CHEF Development begins
 - Generalized extensible framework for building collaboratories
- Funded internally at UM
- All JAVA Open Source
 - Jakarta Jetspeed Portal
 - Jakarta Tomcat Servlet Container
 - Jakarta Turbine Service Container
- Build community of developers through workshops and outreach



CHEF Applications

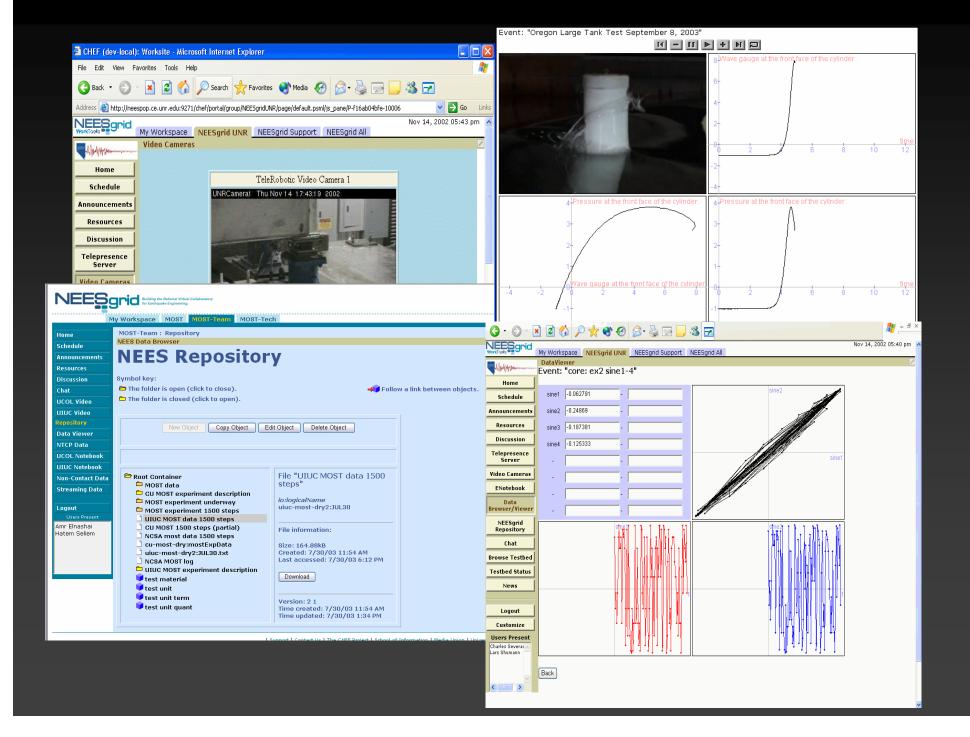
- CourseTools Next Generation
- WorkTools Next Generation
- NEESGrid
- NSF National Middleware Grid Portal



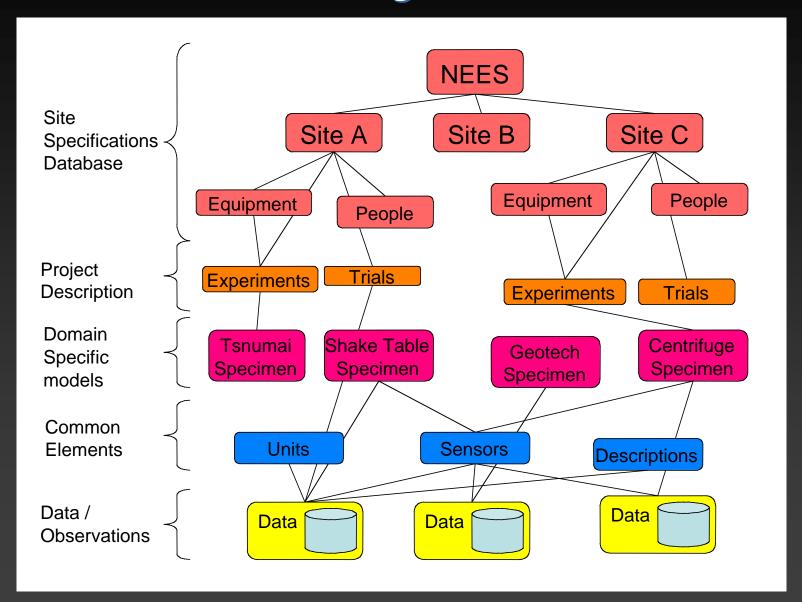




Sakai

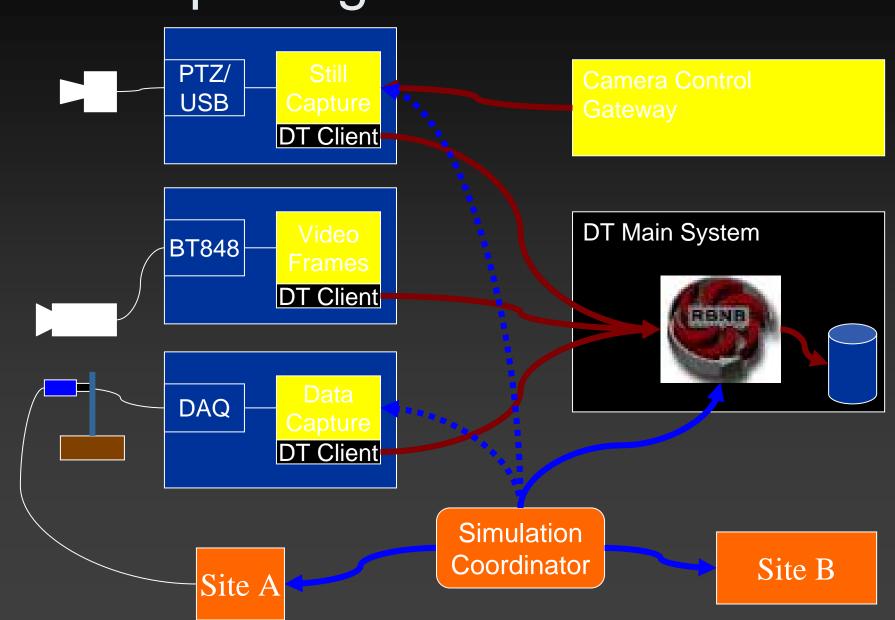


Overall Data Modeling Efforts

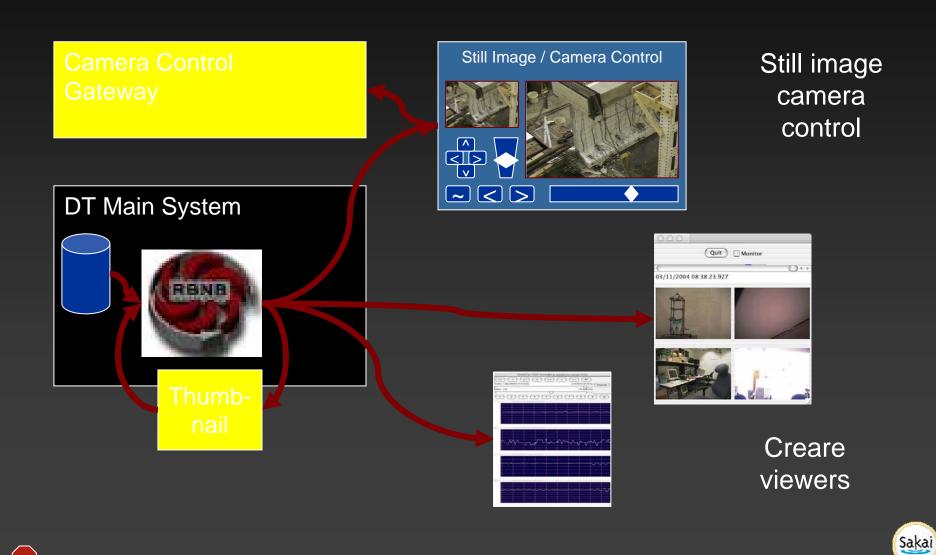




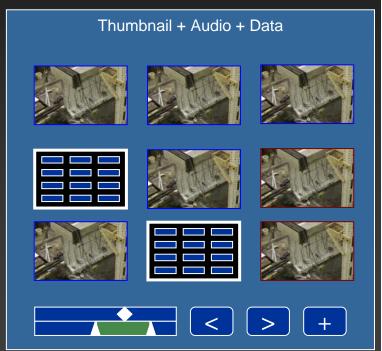
Capturing Video and Data

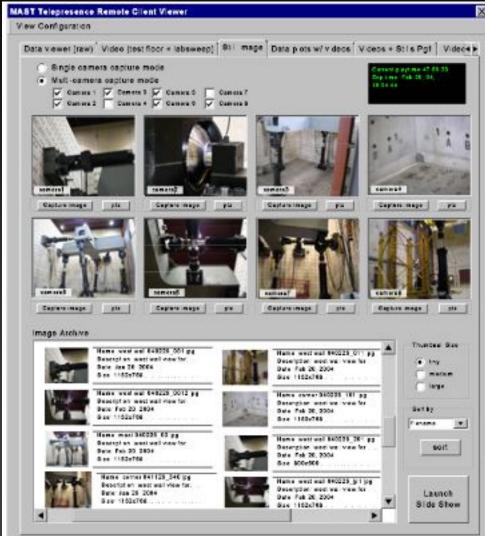


Data Monitoring Tools



Video and Data Tivo







Lessons Learned in NEESGrid (Chuck's views)

- This takes a long time *after* trust is built up
- Scientists know a lot about Computer Science listen to them and involve them
- The real work begins after software is "delivered" -Version 1.0 is usually just a conversation starter - but a very important step
- There are some things that are useful across fields but the most valuable elements are field-unique
- Data models, data repositories, and long-term curation are difficult!



HENP/Civil Similarities











HENP/Civil: Differences

- Willingness to collaborate
 - CE: Not too keen on the idea NSF forcing the issue using "carrot and stick"
 - HENP: It is part of the fabric of the field (at least within LHC)
- Technology Savvy
 - CE: It is all about the "within lab" electronics
 - HENP: In lab electronics is difficult, important and different.
 The Internet is a tool to be used both for human communication and data manipulation have tried everything use simple reliable stuff because the work cannot wait.



Sakai as a Collaborative Portal



Overview Slide

- Sakai is used for Collaboration, Teaching, and Learning
- Sakai Project started January 2004 (2.5 years old)
- Non-profit Sakai Foundation January 2006
- Open Source 100% free Apache License
- Voluntary financial support from 100+ Higher Education, 15 companies, each paying \$10,000 / year = \$ 1M revenue
- Executive Director for the Foundation and six paid staff members
- Worldwide community with 100+ people active in developing and testing Sakai releases
- Nifty Web site www.sakaiproject.org
 - Sakai Community Google Map Mashup
 - Very cool "Sakai Overview" Video (10 minutes)









What's in a name?

Sakai is named after

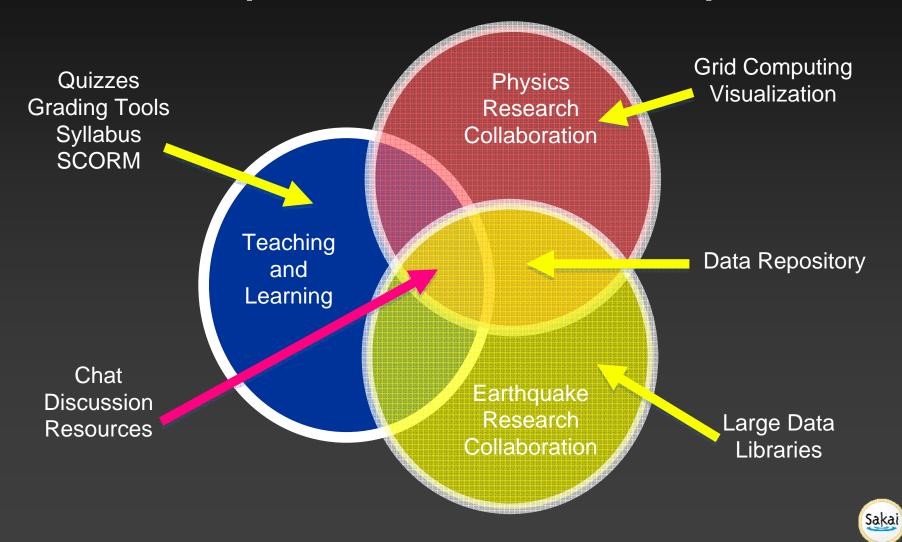
Hiroyuki Sakai of the Food
Channel Television
program "Iron Chef".
Hiroyuki is renowned for his
fusion of French and
Japanese cuisine.



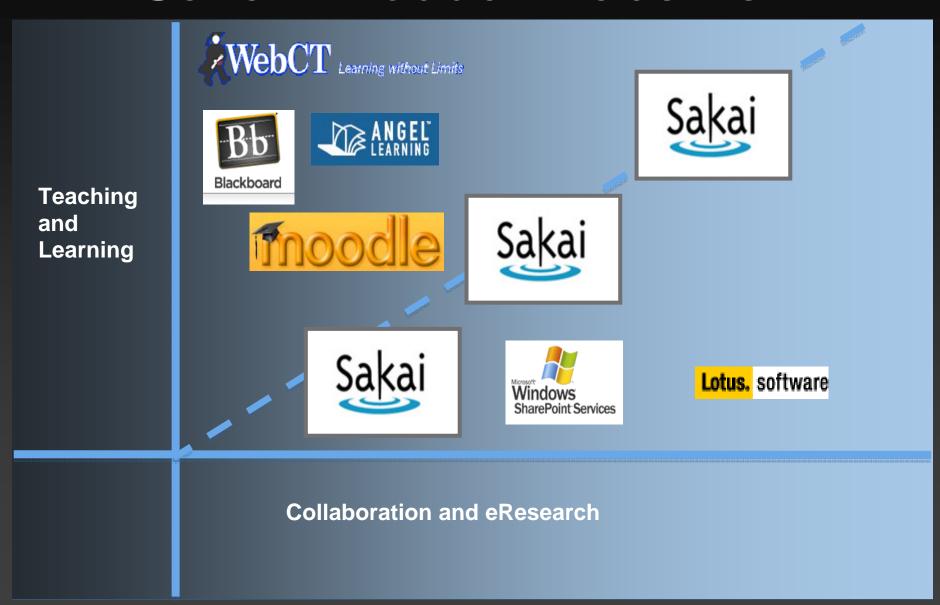




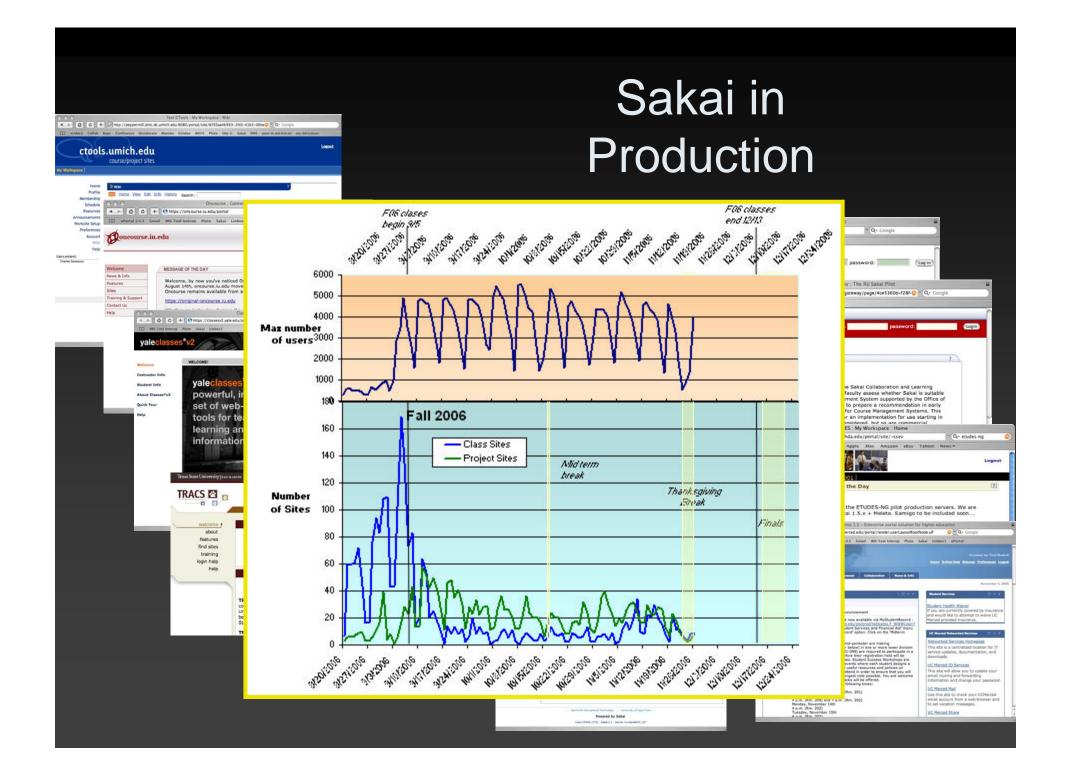
Requirements Overlap



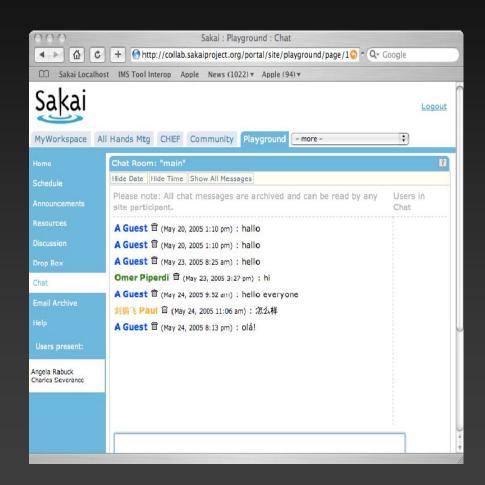
Sakai: Product Placement







Sakai General Collaborative Tools



- Announcements
- Blog
- Chat Room
- Threaded Discussion
- Drop Box
- Email Archive
- Message Of The Day
- News/RSS
- Podcast
- Resources
- Roster
- Schedule
- Web Content
- Wiki
- WebDAV



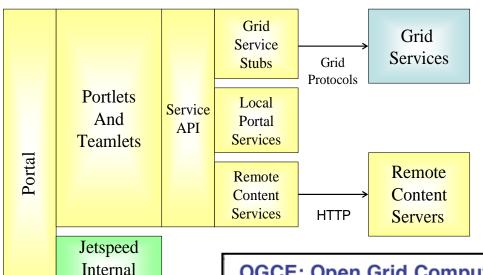
Tools Under Development





- Lancaster Collaboration Suite
 - Shared Display
 - Shared Whiteboard
 - Multicast Audio
 - Multicast Video
- Horizon/Wimba Integration
- Marratech Integration
- Adobe Connect (Breeze)
- Paper Review Tool
- Repository Search (SakaiBrary)
- Clicker
- Poll Tool
- User Tracking





www.ogce.org

Out of the box science gateway

OGCE: Open Grid Computing Environment

Figure 4: The revised portal architecture portal services.

Services

Home

FAQ

Download

Install

Documents

Related Work

Screenshots

Sponsors Contacts

OGCE - Open Grid Computing Environments Collaboratory

As the use of Grid technologies expands and more organizations set up Grids, the need for user-friendly access to Grids becomes critical. Portals provide access to Grid technologies through sharable and reusable components for web-based access to scientific and business-oriented applications. Sharable components allow the portal developer to quickly create Grid Portals from provided libraries that support baseline Grid technologies (such as file transfer, job launching an monitoring, and access to information services), freeing the developers to concentrate on the specialized needs of a particular scientific community or collaboratory.

With funding from the National Science Foundation Middleware Initiative the OGCE project was established in Fall 2003 to foster collaborations and sharable components with portal developers worldwide. Tasks include the establishment of a Grid Portal Collaboratory, a repository of portlet and portal service components, an online forum for developers of Grid Portals, and the building of reusable portal components that can be integrated in a common portal container system.

OGCE leverages ongoing portals research and development from Argonne National Laboratory, Indiana University, the University of Michigan, the National Center for Supercomputing Applications, and the Texas Advanced Computing Center. Collectively, these institutions form the Charles members of the Open Grid Computing Environments (OGCE) consortium.

NSF National Middleware Initiative Indiana, UTexas, ANL, UM, NCSA

es community participation on severl levels. If you which to contribute to participate, please contact us at webmaster@ogce.org.



Chalk Talk: School of Portals NEES 1.1 NEES 3.0 GridSphere OGCE 1.2 ? CHEF OGCE 1.1 Jetspeed OGCE 2 Sakai GridPort 2 GridPort 3 GridPort Alliance uPortal **XCAT** Convergence Collaboration Competition

Science Gateway Barriers to Adoption

- Had to choose between JSR-168 and collaborative environment or do both and integrate
- Need something that "just installs" and works out of the box
 - Some assembly required
- Barriers lead to teams reinventing the wheel.



Sakai Research Edition

- Defaults set to appeal to research deployments
 - Teaching tools will be included but hidden
 - Include popular extension components
- F2F collaborative suite integration
- Shibboleth / Guan Xi Support
- MyProxy / GridShib support
- JSR-168 (portlet) support
- Sakai WorkGroup Portal
- JSR-170 (repository) support
- OGCE Grid Portlets
- Target Summer 2007



Lancaster Collaboration Suite

- Built for Sakai
- Extremely simple setup
- Shared video, audio
- Whiteboard
- Screen Sharing
- Recording
- Software multicast
- Java Web Start auto-install
- Apache License





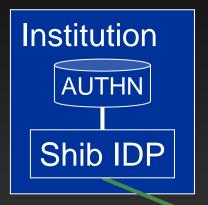


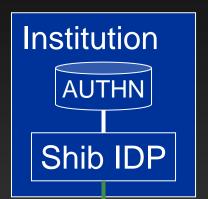
Federated Identity in Sakai

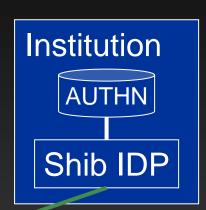
- SAML profiles Shibboleth and GuanXi
- Shibboleth Oxford
 - Federated identity for large groups to use a Sakai server with support for distributed AUTHN/AUTHZ
- GuanXi University of the Highlands and Islands
 - Allows inclusion of Shib-enabled resources into a Sakai Collaborative Environment
 - Allows elements of Sakai to be used/included in another environment



Shibboleth Use Case







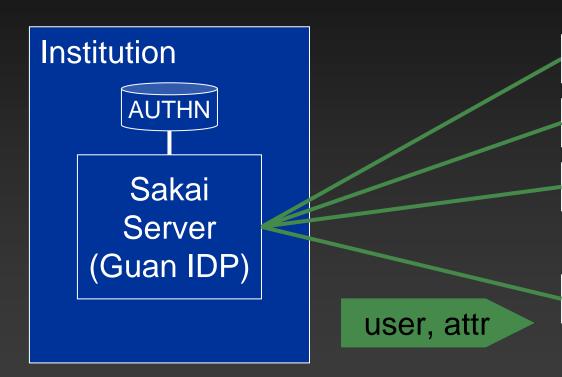
Federation



Sakai Server



GuanXi Use Case I



Resource

Resource

Resource

. . . .

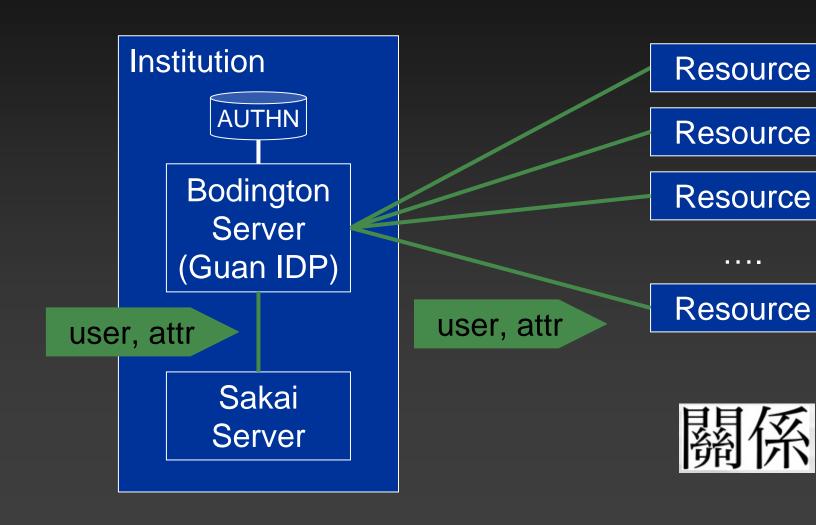
Resource





GuanXi Use Case II

Sakai



GuanXi in Sakai



To access the resource you requested, you must first login to your Identity Provider

uhistdnt1	Username
*****	Password
Login	

Guanxi@UHI Millennium Institute

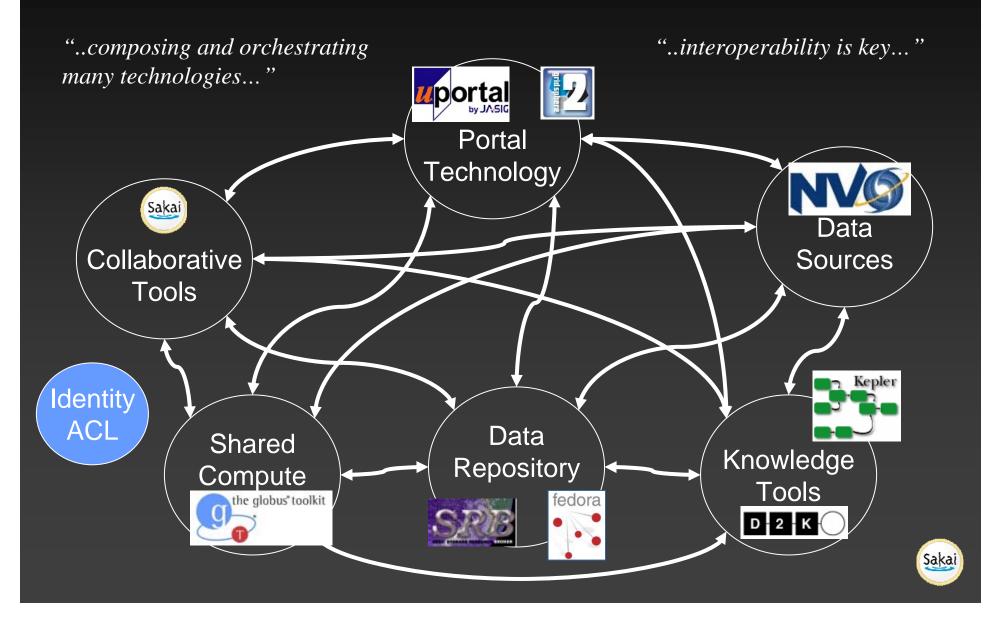


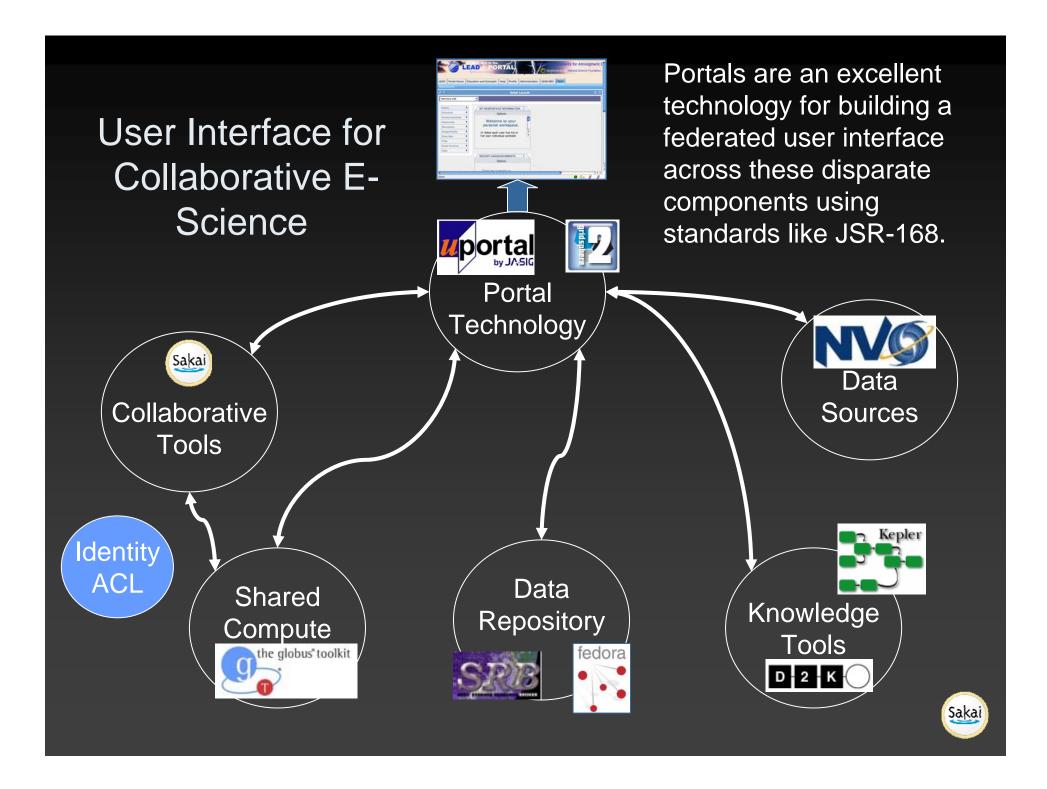


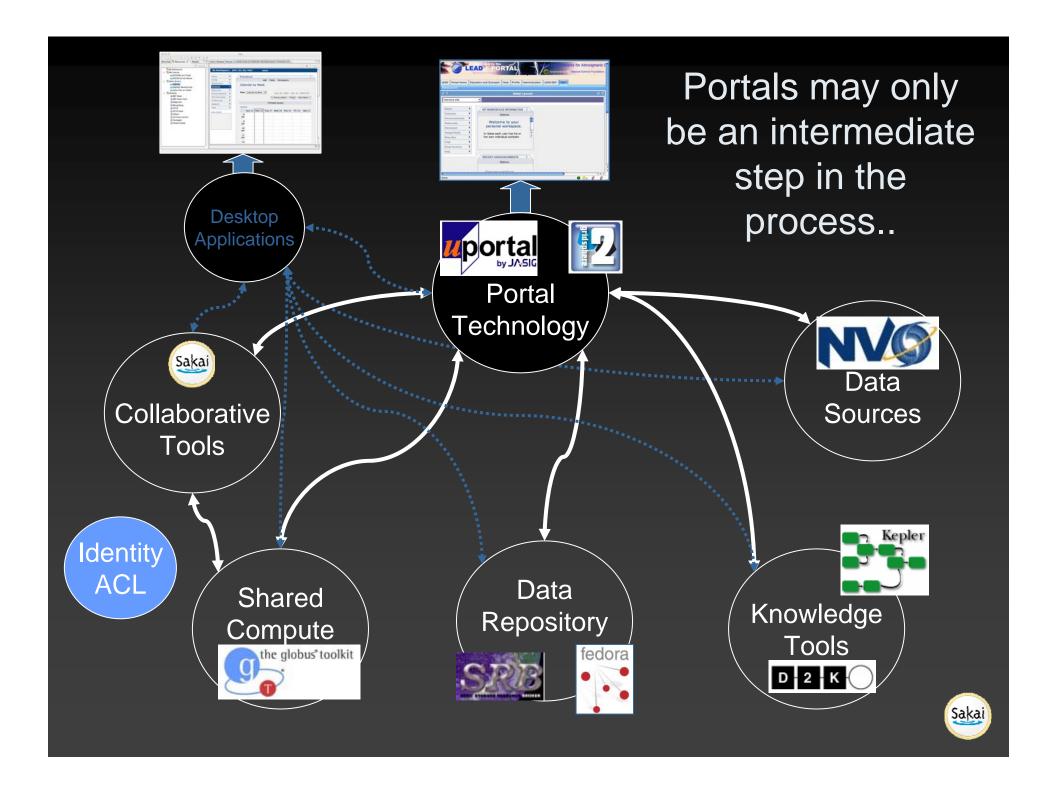
The Ecology of Collaborative eScience

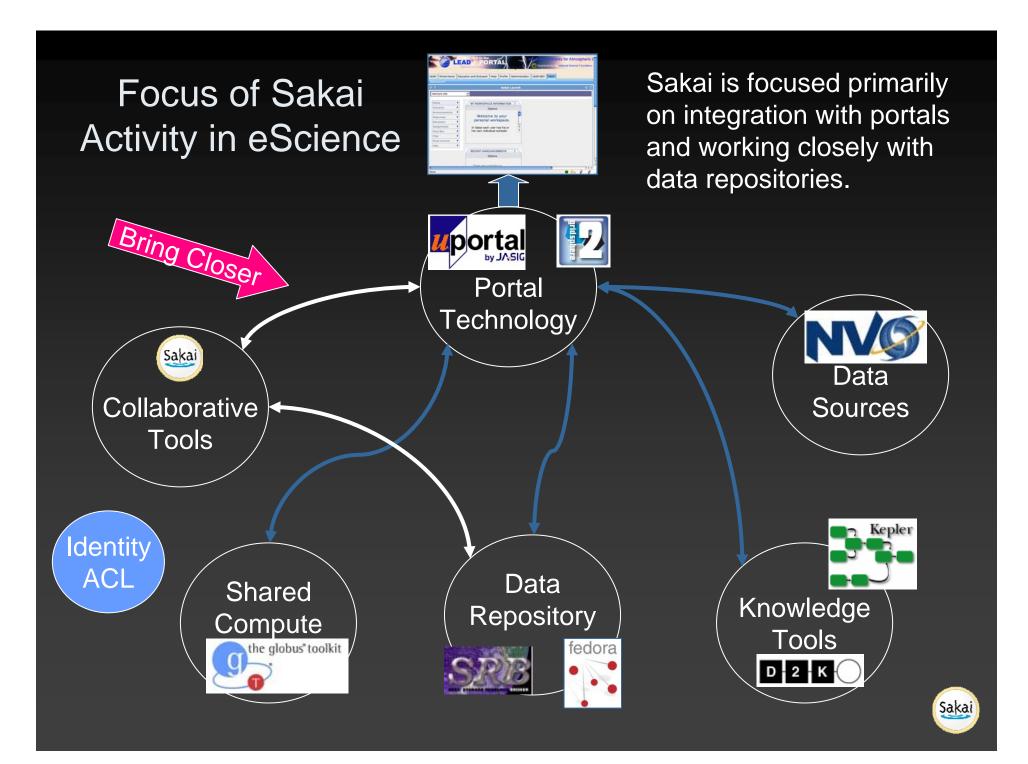


Scope of Collaborative E-Science









JSR-168 in Sakai



Sakai JSR-168 Roadmap

- Build support in Sakai for JSR-168 using Pluto 1.1 - expected in Sakai 2.4 2Q07
- Enable the use of existing *truly portable*
 JSR-168 portlets within Sakai
- Enable new Sakai tools to be written as JSR-168 portlets
 - This will only be suitable for the class of tools that simply need a unique placement.
 - Will lead to a set of simple and very reusable collaborative tools



JSR-168 In Sakai

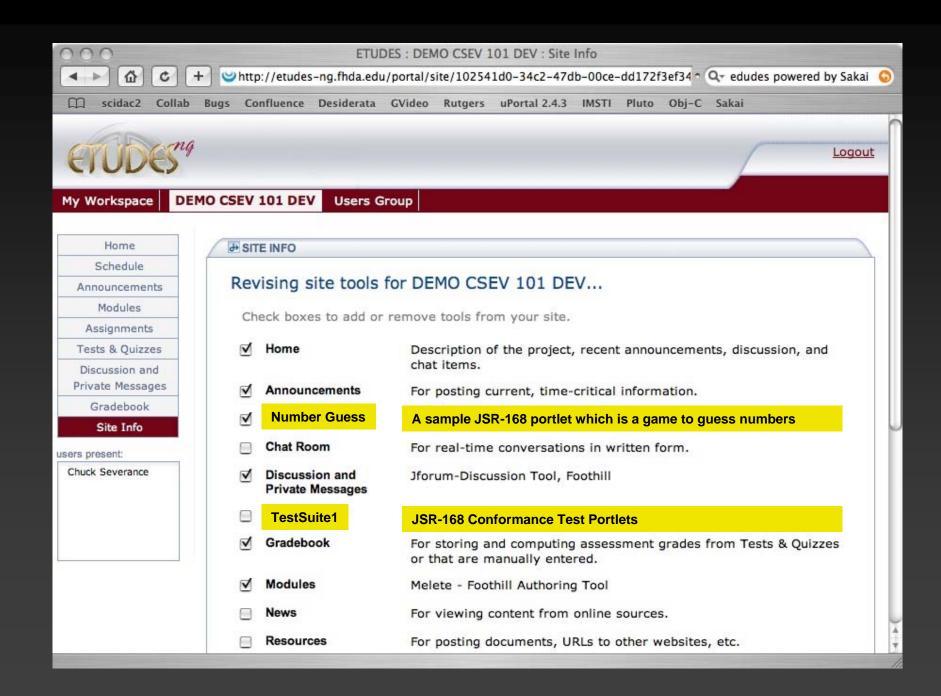
- Took some NSF and JISC funding and retained David DeWolf - lead committer for Pluto and JSR-286 EG member to put Pluto 1.1 into Sakai
- Coordination / Sakai Architecture work is being handled by Ian Boston of Cambridge
- Expect initial version for Daresbury, UK to test early December 2006

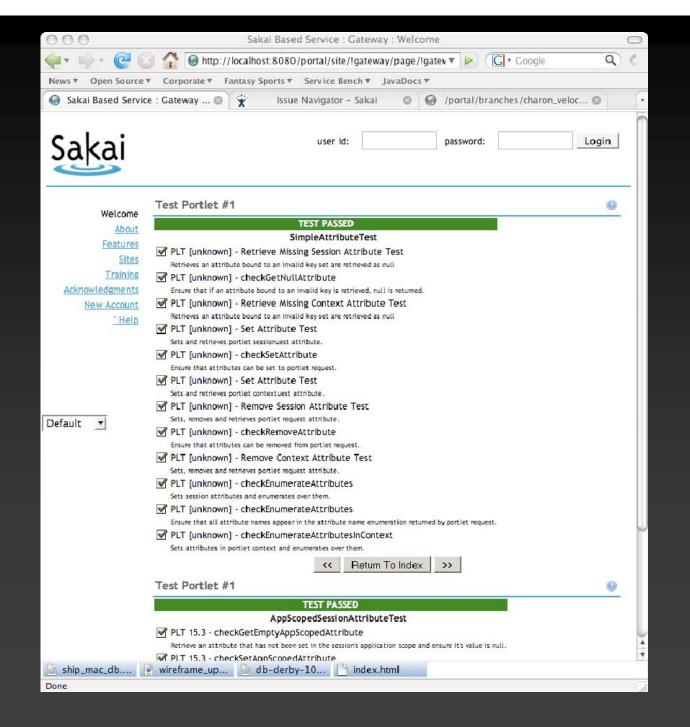


Use Cases for Sakai-168

- Prepare a Pluto-style portlet war file and drop it into Sakai as a webapp - auto register
- Users simply use Sakai's Site Info tool to place portlets like any other Sakai tool
- It will be possible to use any Sakai API within a JSR-168 Portlet
- Sakai will provide a JSR-168 complaint classes so that portlets have the same look and feel as Sakai tools









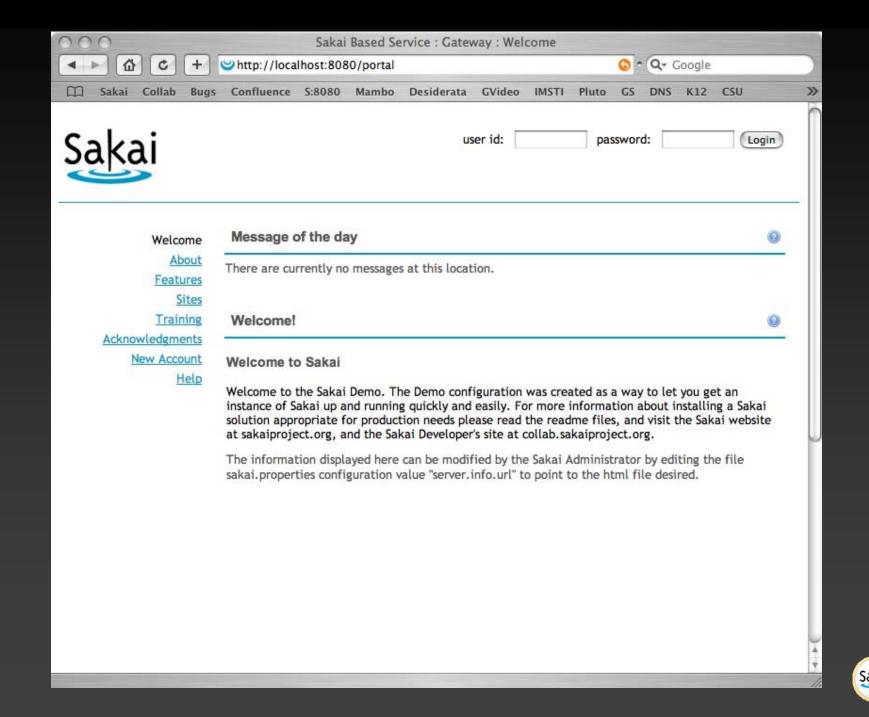
Sakai WorkGroup Portal

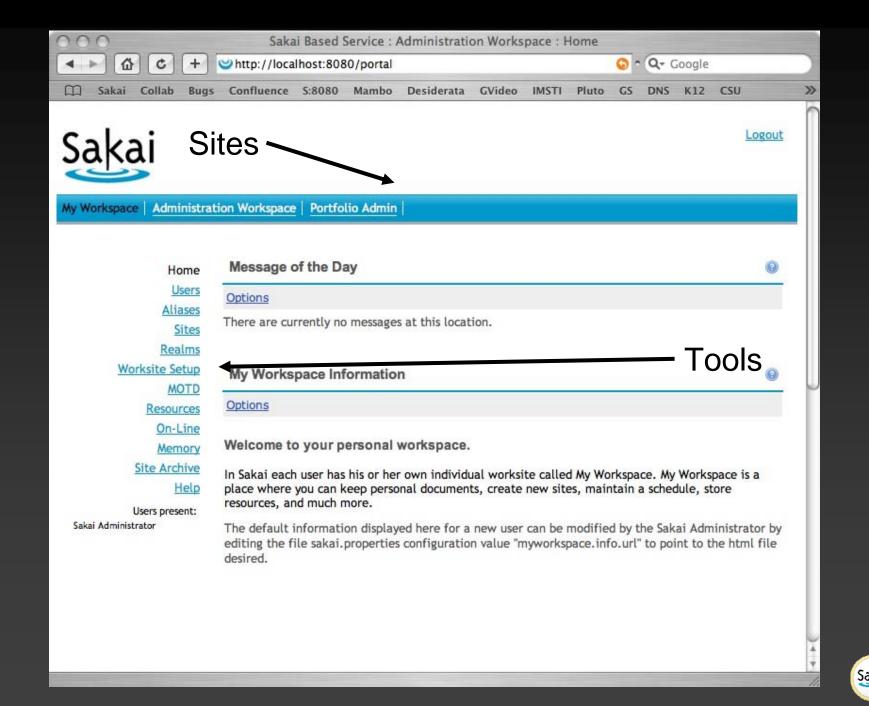


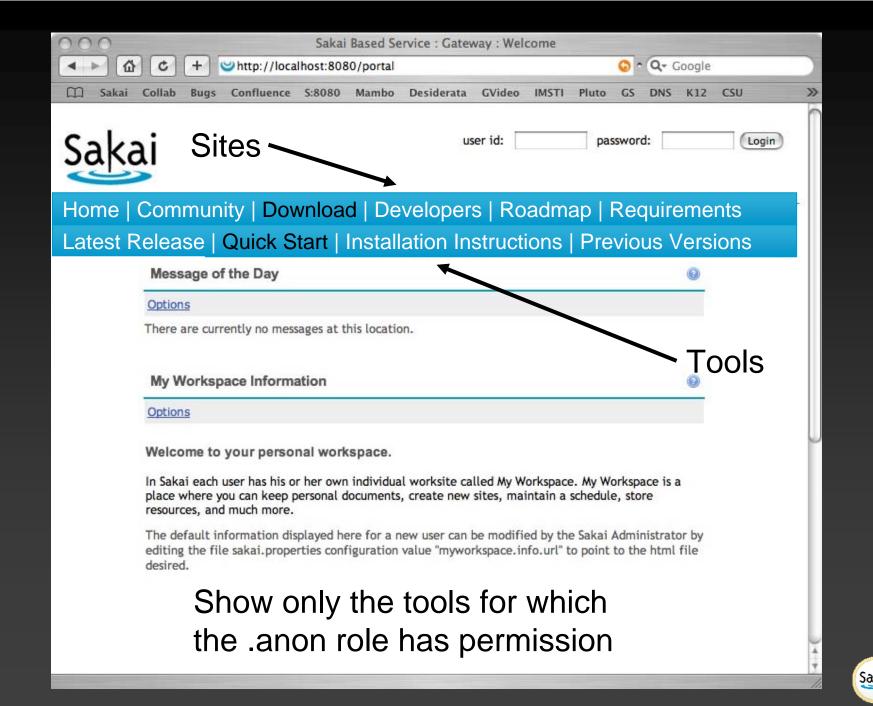
Sakai WorkGroup Portal

- Allows Sakai to be used as a simple Content Management System like Mambo or Plone
- Display any site which grants the anonymous user permission
- Site buttons are controlled by which permissions are granted to the anonymous user.
- Sakai Workgroup portal is expected in Sakai
 2.4



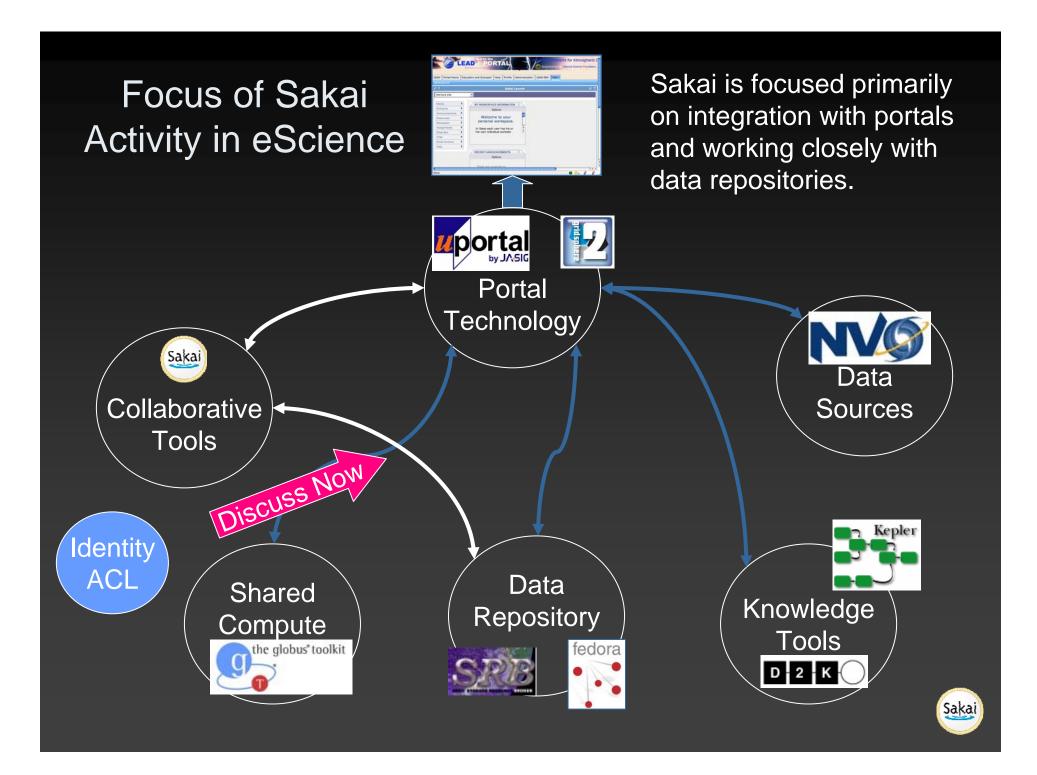




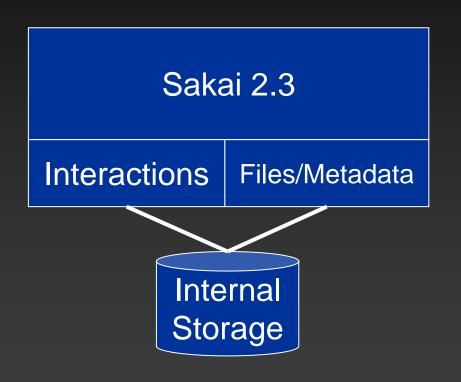


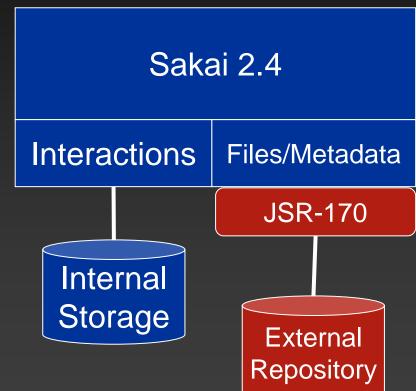
Sakai Repository Integration Approach





Sakai and Data Repositories





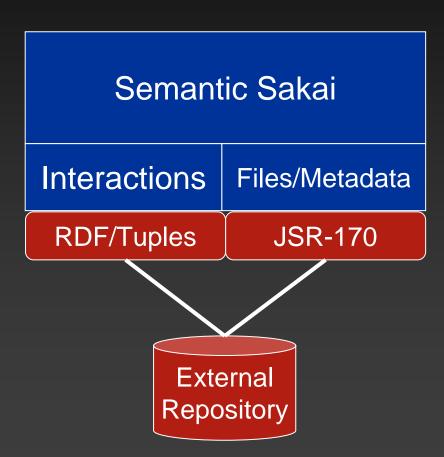
Sakai Research Edition will be shipped with the Jakarta Jack-Rabbit JSR-170 implementation.



Semantic Sakai

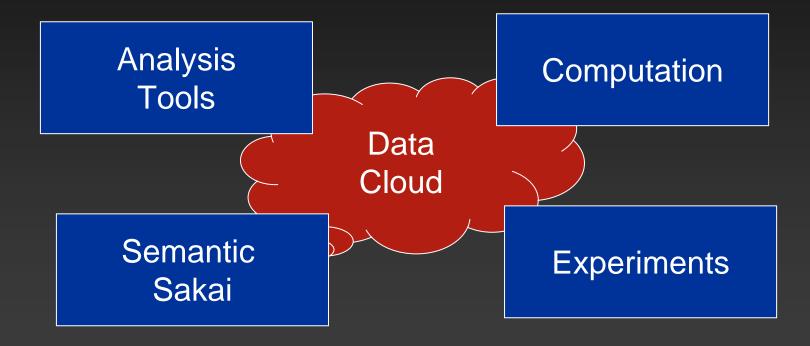
The goal is to also store all of the interaction information in an external repository with complete cross-linking between interaction data and file data as well as data from other sources.

Working on funding and a partner community for this activity.





Adding Collaboration to the Data Cloud



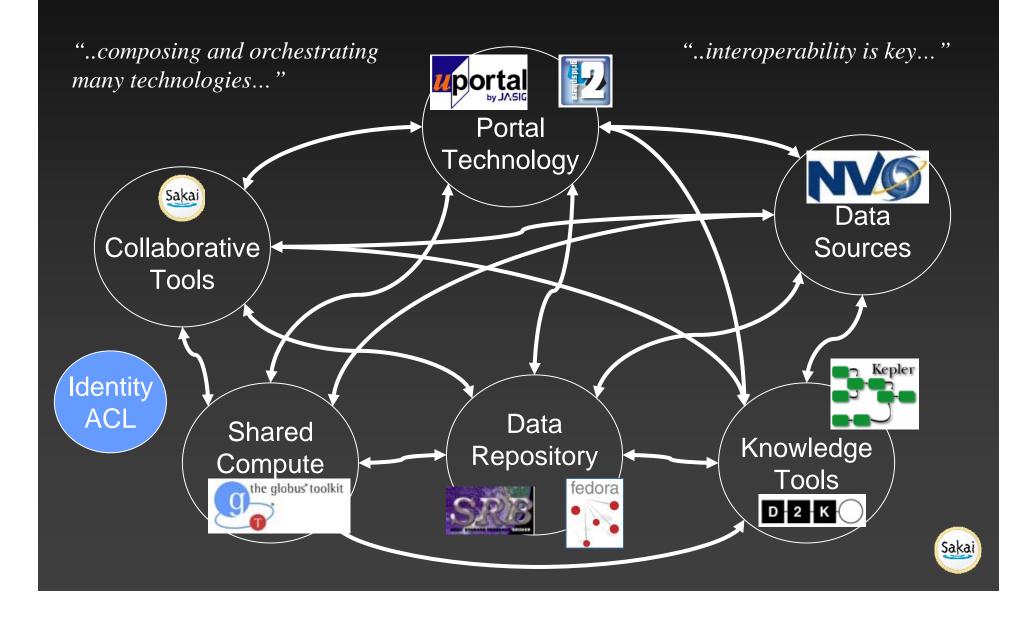
Semantic Sakai is future deliverable with the goal of storing all collaborative activity in semantically rich formats in an external repository.



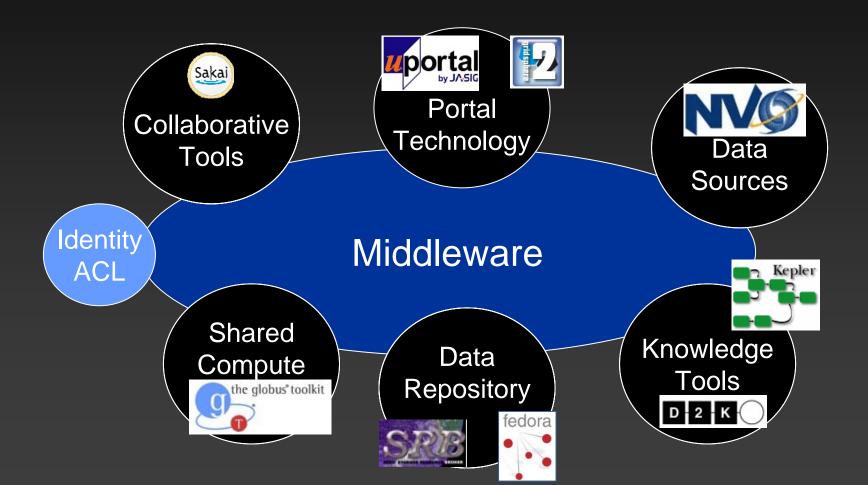
Issues in Middleware



Where is the Middleware?

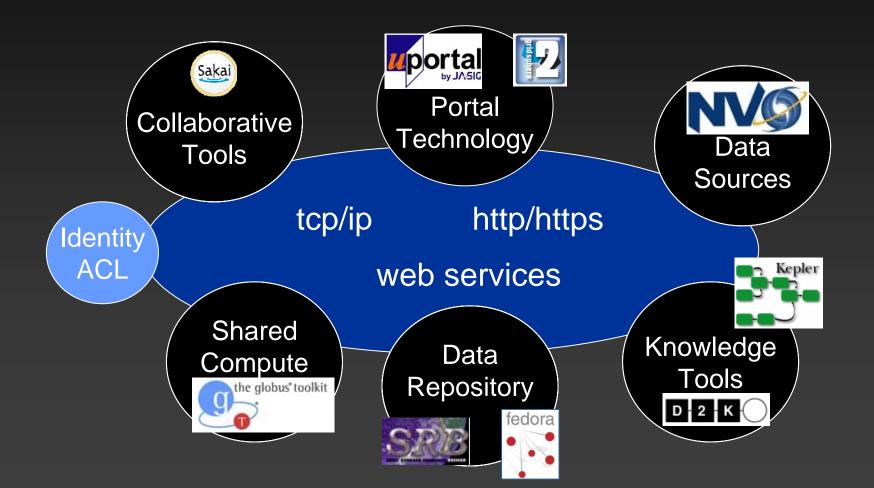


Is Middleware The Universal Connector?



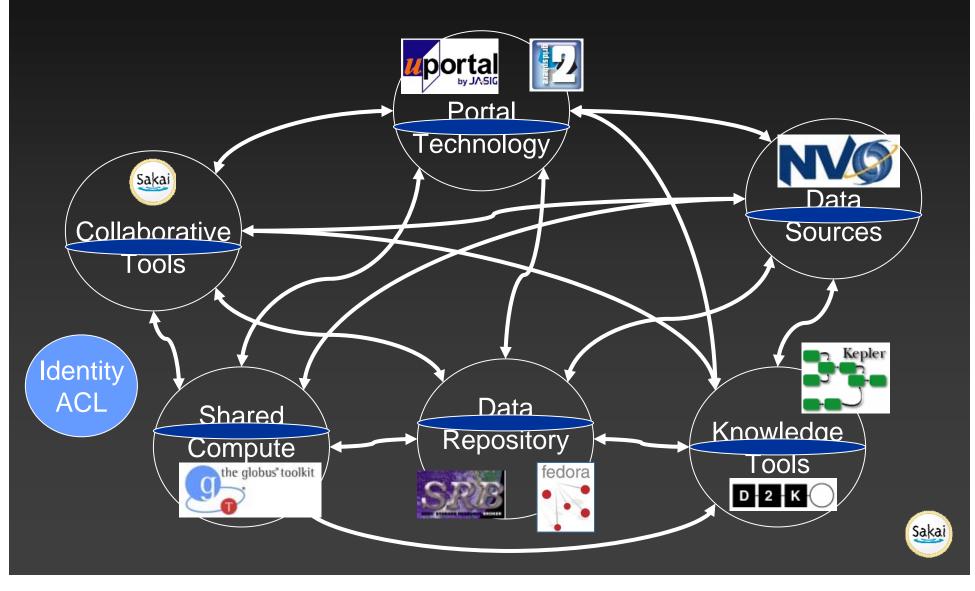


The Universal Connectors

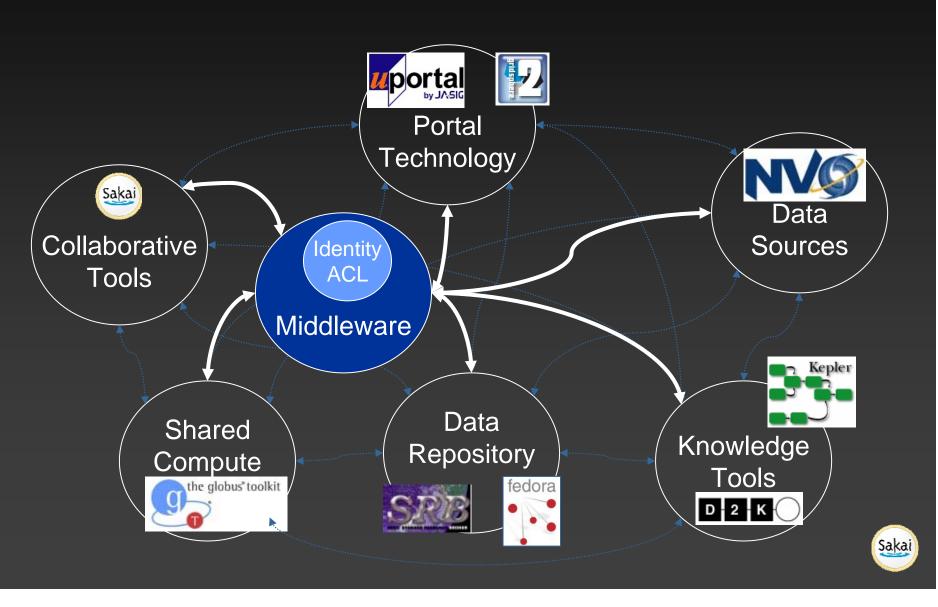




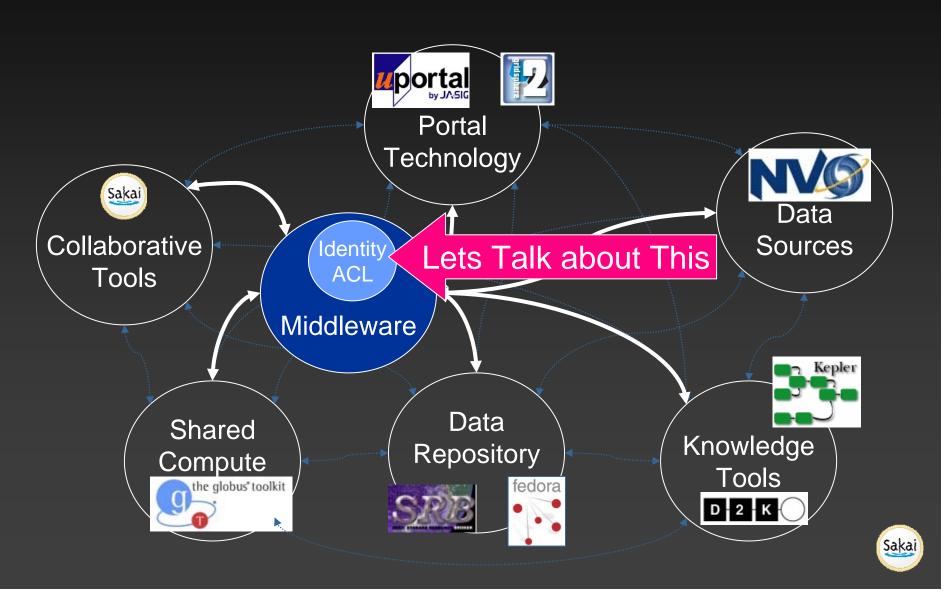
Is Middleware "inside" each application?



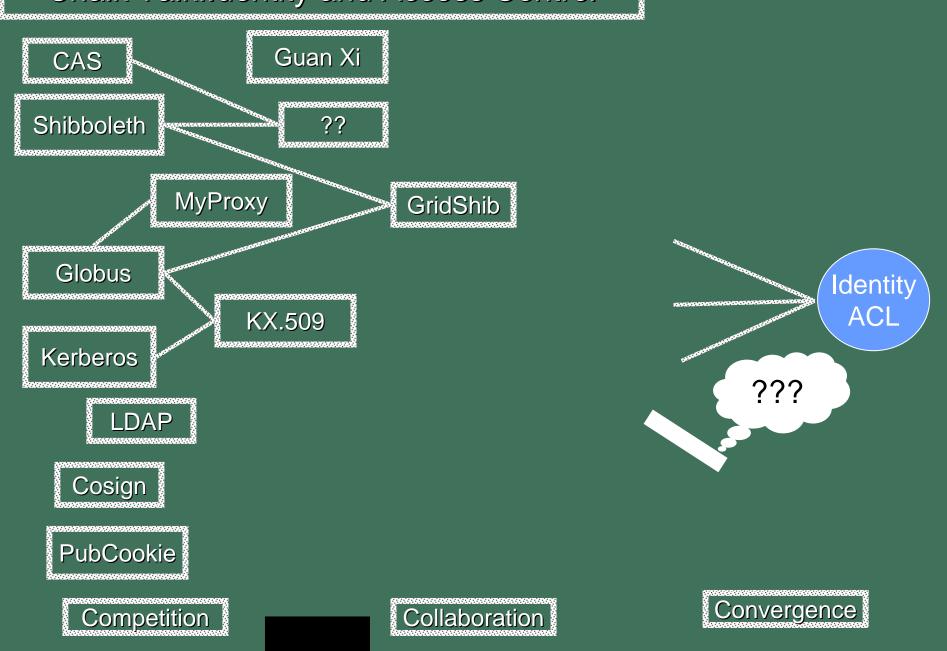
Middleware is simply another component - used as needed



Identity and Access Control: A very important function of Middleware



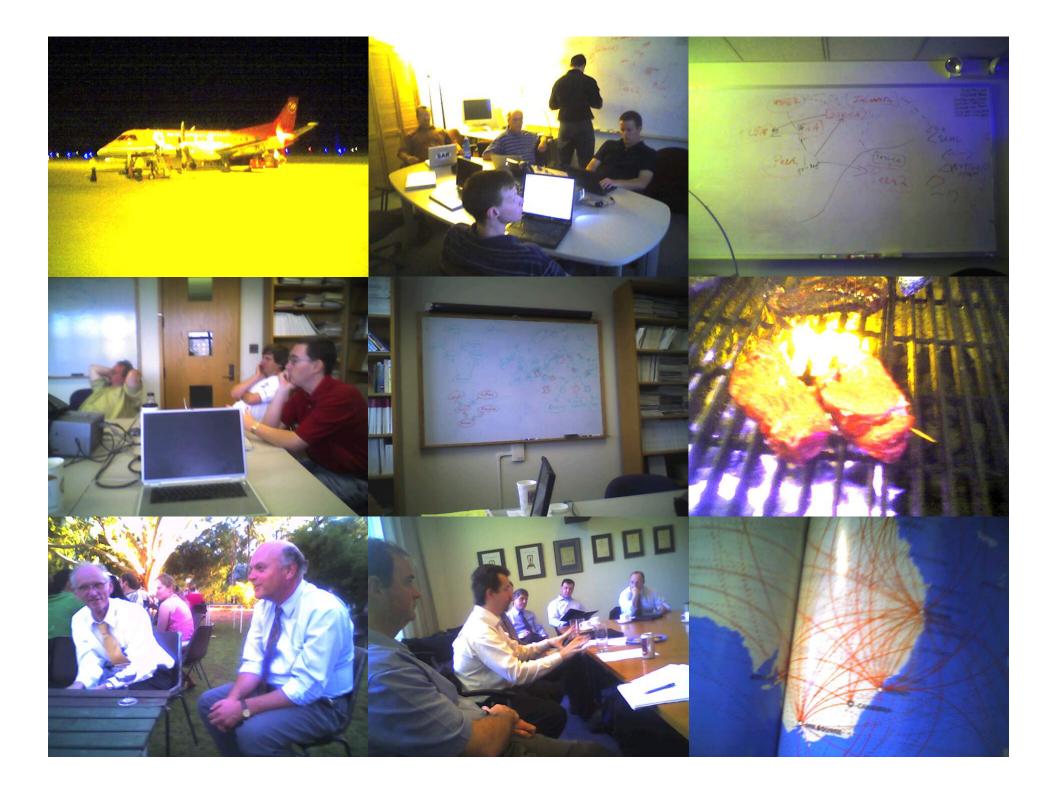
Chalk Talk:Identity and Access Control



Identity and ACL: Goal State

- One server one software distribution
- Virtual Organization Software
- Supports all protocols
 - Globus Certificate Authority
 - Shibboleth
 - LDAP
 - MyProxy
 - Kerberos
- Who will do this? Who will fund this? Who can get these competitors to cooperate?





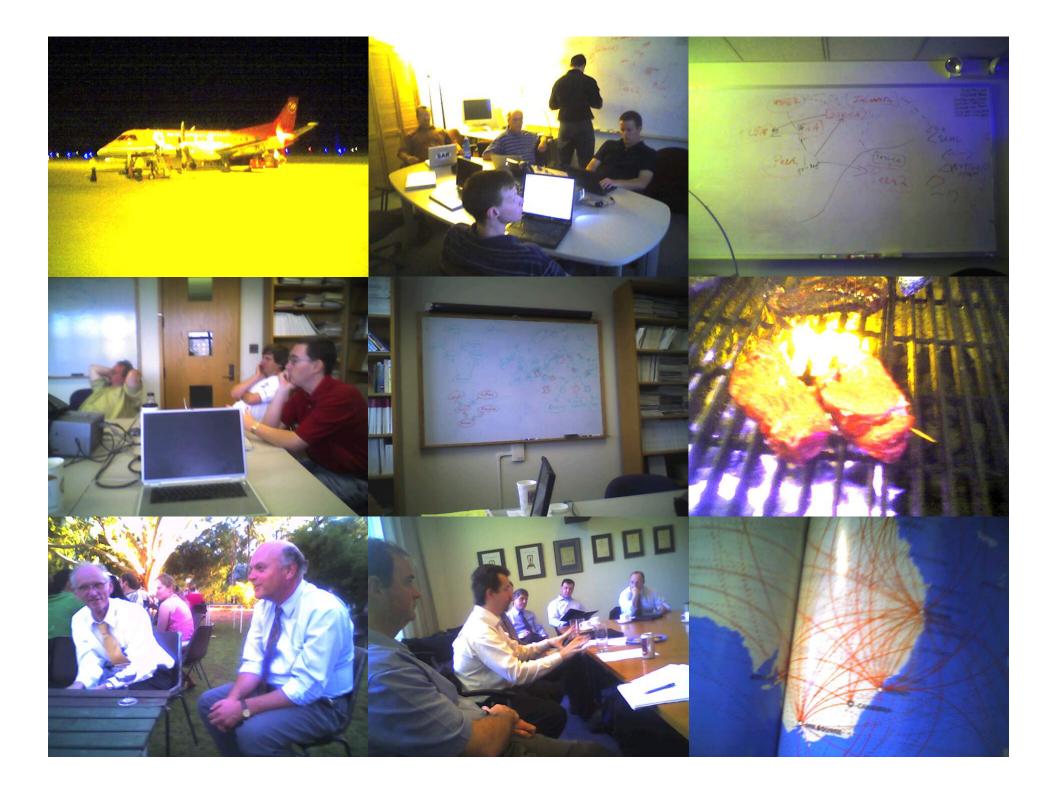
My eScience Fantasy

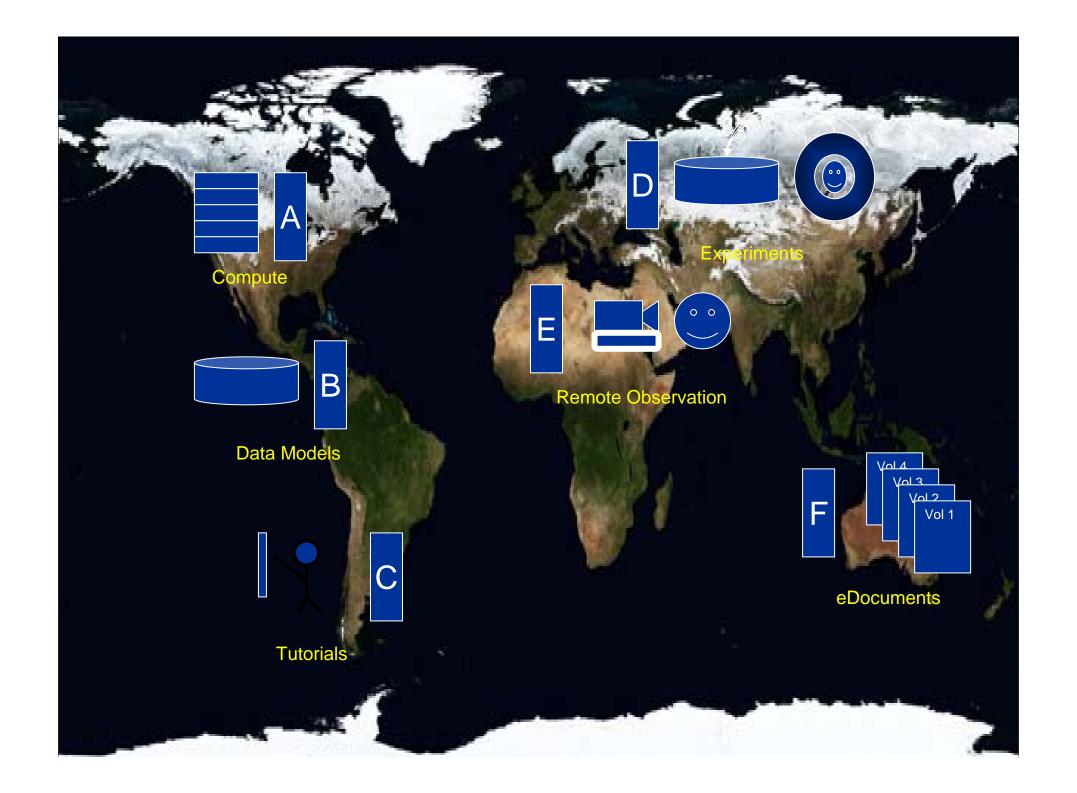


The pre-requisites

- My net worth is \$5B (I give myself grants)
- I encounter some tech-savvy scientists in a field who are using technology to do world-class research...
- They have never been visited by any other computer scientist...
- They are working in groups of 1-30 geographically distributed around the world
- They all work on a beach with Internet2 connections and wide-open wireless and favourable exchange rates







Step 1: Visit The Scientists

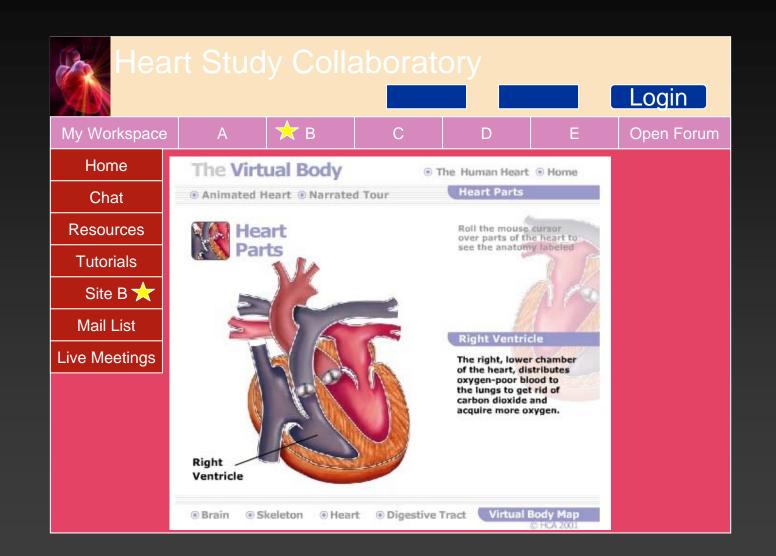
- Understand what they are doing and how they are doing it?
- Ask them how they would like to improve it.
- Show each application to other scientists. Ask the other scientists how they would improve it.
- Help each group improve their work help them using whatever technology they are currently using



Step 2: Add some technology

- Install the super-multi-protocol Virtual Organization software and provide a team supporting the VO software - identity and simple attributes
- Install Sakai point it at the VO software for identity add icon at the top of Sakai
- Give each scientist an account in the VO
- Give each effort in the field a site within Sakai



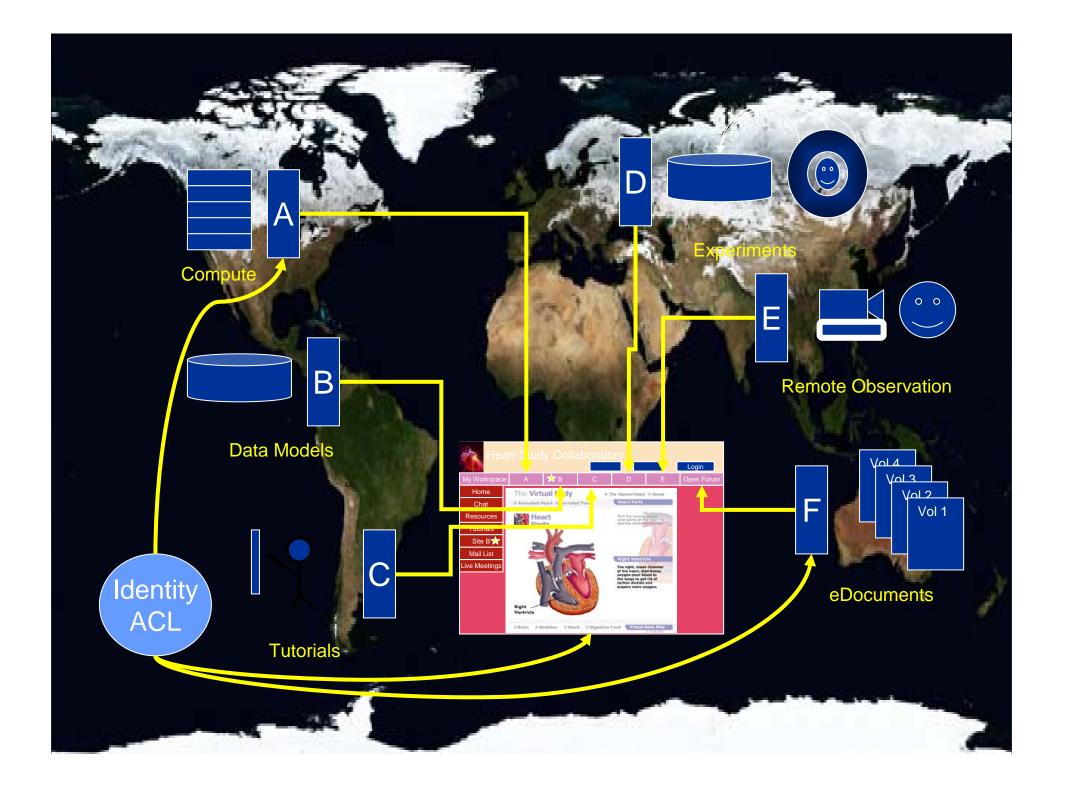




Step 2: Use the VO

- For those who want to protect their information, help them add SSO to their sites, backed by the VO service
- Since it is multi-protocol likely there will be no modification of the underlying science code - only a server configuration change





Step 4: Unique Identifier Service

- Come up with a way for any member of the VO to "get" a unique identifier
- Demand some information (build a little data model)
 - Person's name and organization (implicit from request)
 - What kind of thing this will represent (experiment, document, image series)
 - Simple description
 - Keyword/value extensions
- Build an simple way request and retrieve these through a simple web service - capture implicit metadata from request (when, IP address, etc). Make sure it works from perl!
- Encourage community to start marking "stuff" with these identifiers in their stovepipes
- Connect human communication to data elements to the extent possible



Step 5: Data Models

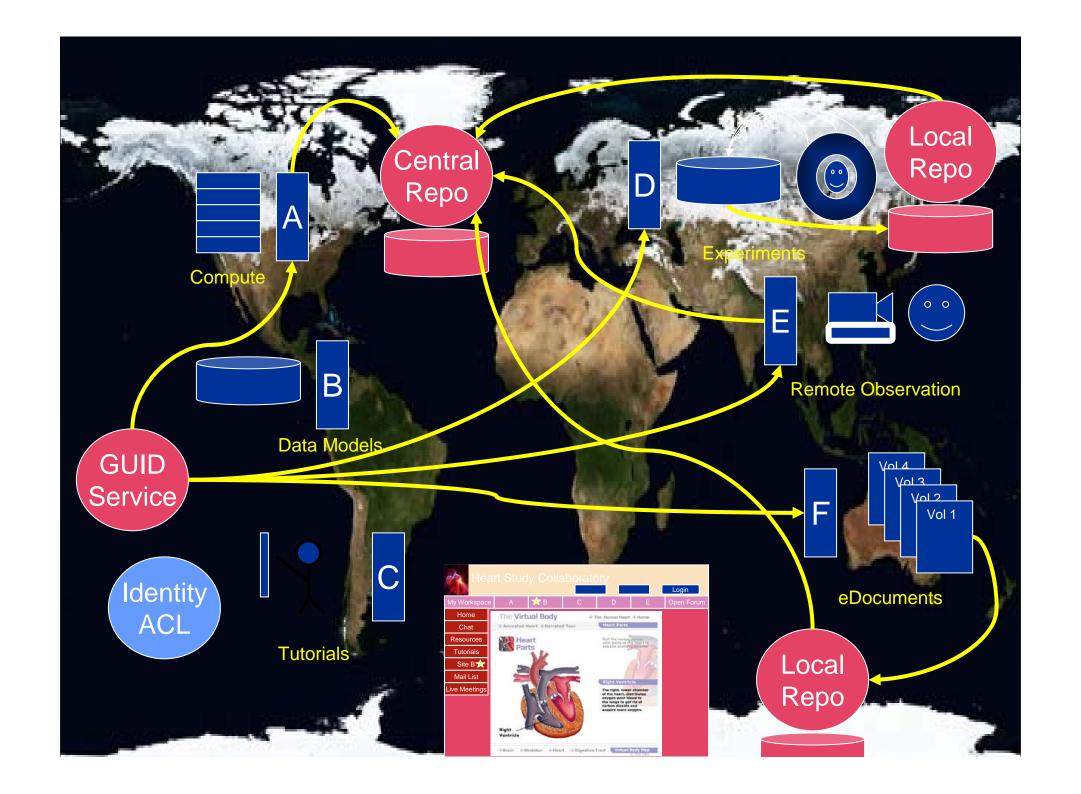
- Begin to work with subsets of the field to try to find common data models across stovepipes
- Start simple use very simple RDF human readable
- Broaden / deepen model slowly explore variations
- Define simple file-system pattern for storing metadata associated with a file and/or a directory



Step 6: A Backup-Style Repo

- Build a data repository which will function as a backup
- Basic idea each time you get identifier this enables backup space - any data and/or metadata can be uploaded under that particular identifier and left in the repository
- Make the repo multi-protocol, FTP, DAV, Web-Service with attachments, GridFTP, etc.
- Make it so there can be a network of cooperating repositories





Year 4 and on...

- Once the basic stovepipes have been "brought in from the cold" and made part of a community with no harm, the next steps are to begin to work "crossstovepipe"
 - Evolve data models to be far richer with many variants
 - Build value added tools that are aware of the data models and are usable across stovepipes
- Teach the community to build and share tools gently encourage development standards - Java / JSR-168 perhaps
- Most important: Always listen to the users



Science at the center of eScience

... apply technology

when the users will

see it as a "win" ...

... start at the center and work outwards... New Tools New Technologies Connect Repositories Science **Priority Scientists** Enhance **New Approaches**



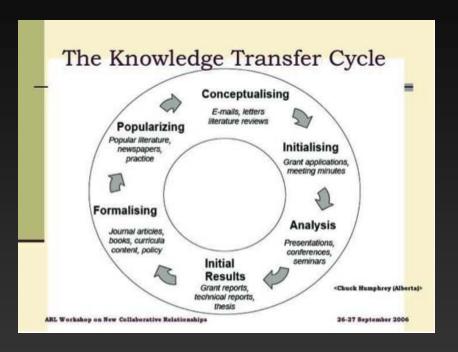
Overall Themes

- Minimize "impact" to the scientists
 - Understand
 - Assist
 - Expand capabilities
- Collaboration software extends / wraps current activity without rewrite

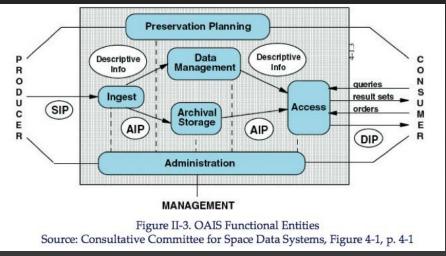


Thinking Ahead Recording Human Activity and Associating it with eScience Data





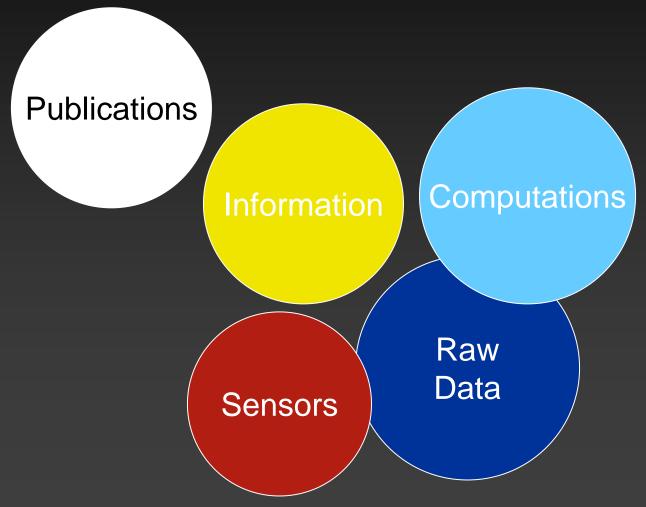




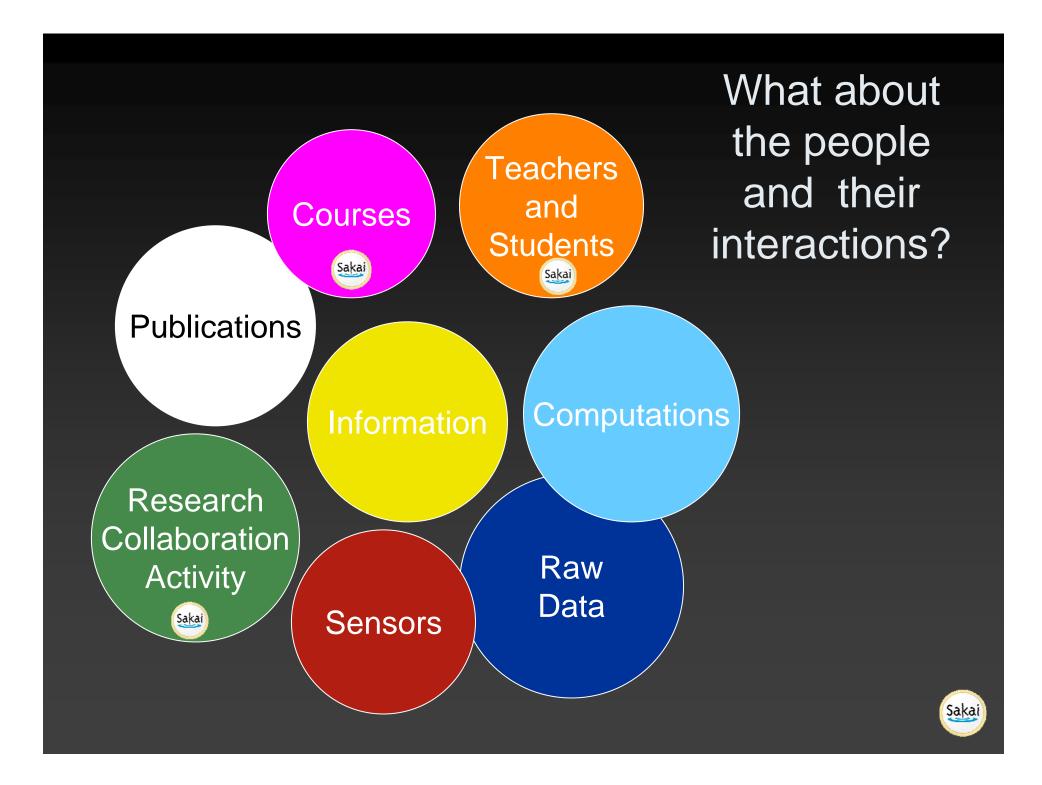
Sakai

Long-term Stewardship of Digital Data Sets in Science and Engineering http://www.arl.org/info/frn/other/ottoc.html

Connecting Everything







We are approaching the Tricorder... http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tricorder

Three primary variants of the tricorder are issued by Starfleet: the standard tricorder is a general use device used primarily to scout unfamiliar areas. The medical tricorder is used specifically by doctors to help diagnose diseases [...] The engineering tricorder is a variation on the device fine-tuned for starship engineering purposes. There are also many other lesser-used varieties of special use tricorders.





Commercial Tricorder

The Mark 1 TR-107 tricorder from Vital Technologies (top) was unveiled in 1996 as a real scientific device. It could monitor electromagnetic fields, weather, color and light. The company apparently made 10,000 of them before going out of business.







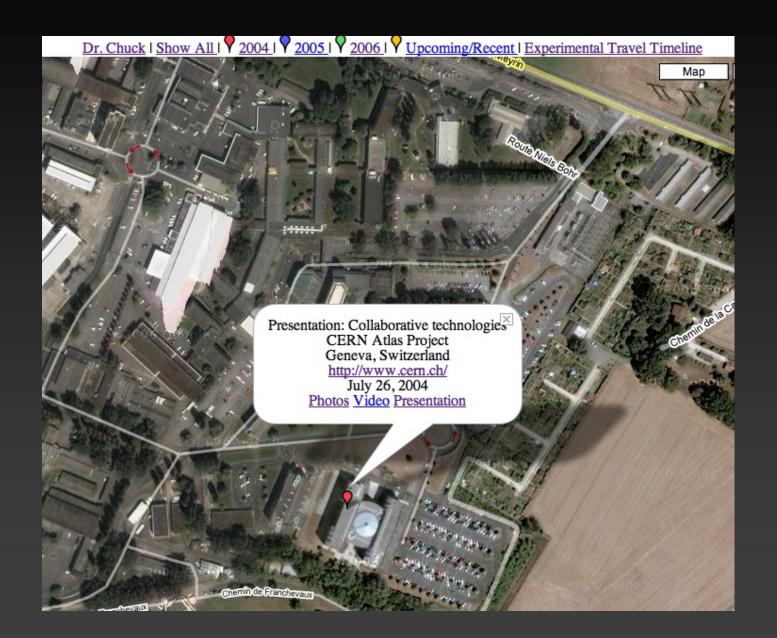
Some "Tricorder" Exercises

- Recording all of Reality The ultimate "Blog"
 - CyborLogs
 - EyeTap
 - MyLifeBits
- A quick flight of fancy / motivating example of managing a lot of continuously collected and fully connected information using my own life as a silly example...
- My personal example of linked "human activity" data











20-07-04_0853003.jpg



View All Images | Home Page



20-07-04_0853004.jpg



View All Images | Home Page



Www.starting.ch



View All Images | Home Page

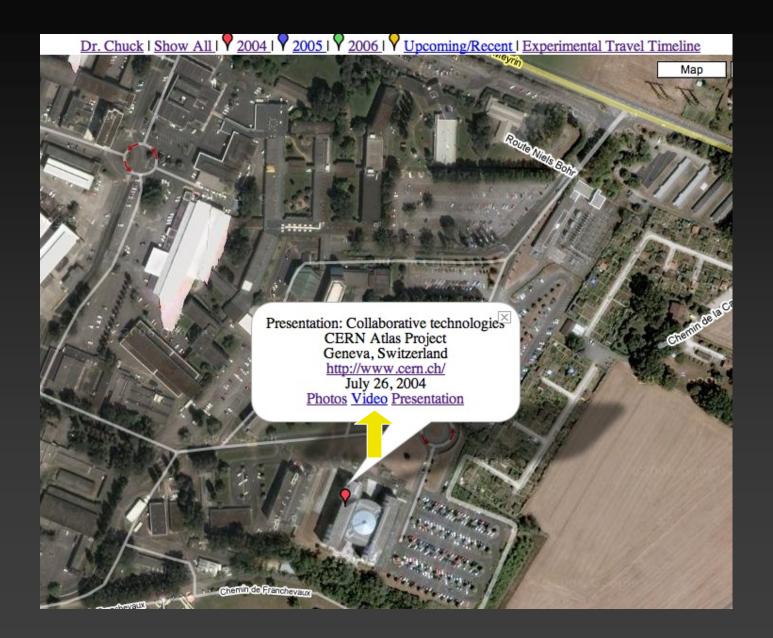


20-07-04_0505001.jpg



View All Images | Home Page







Sakai Video Report: Robert Cailliau Produced: September 30, 2006

Robert Cailliau is the co-Inventor of the World-Wide-Web. Robert works at the CERN High Energy Physics laboratory. Robert talks anout the early days of the web and Gopher, the design of HTML, and talks about how the web changed when many new kinds of browsers such as Mosaic were introduced for the PC and Mac. He also talks about how the first web browser and server were developed. This interview was taped July 1999. Details: Flash Video 9 minutes.

View other Sakai videos on Google Video

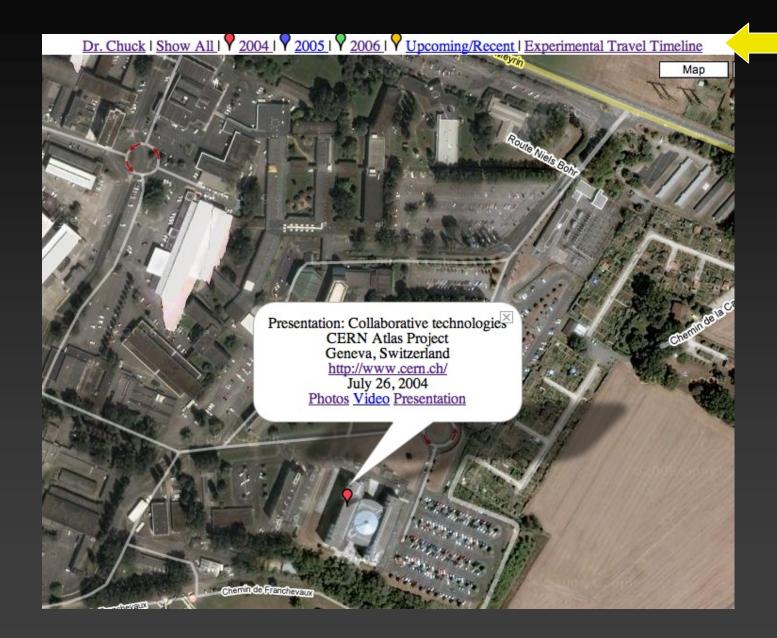
Note: If you are having problems viewing the file with a plug-in, you can download the media and play it locally.

www.dr-chuck.com

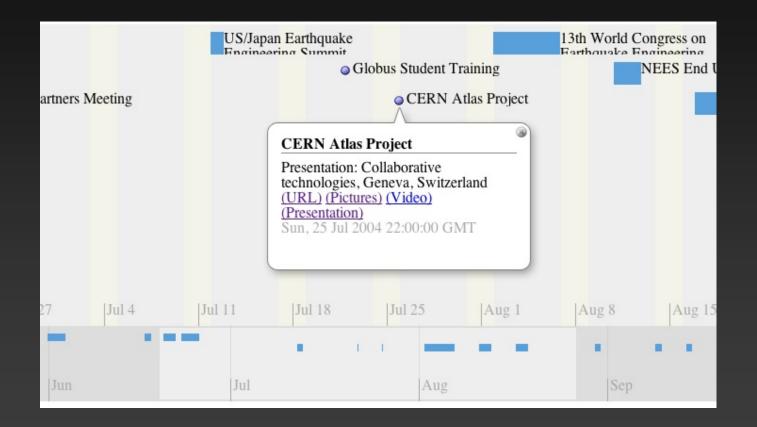


Complete Media Index

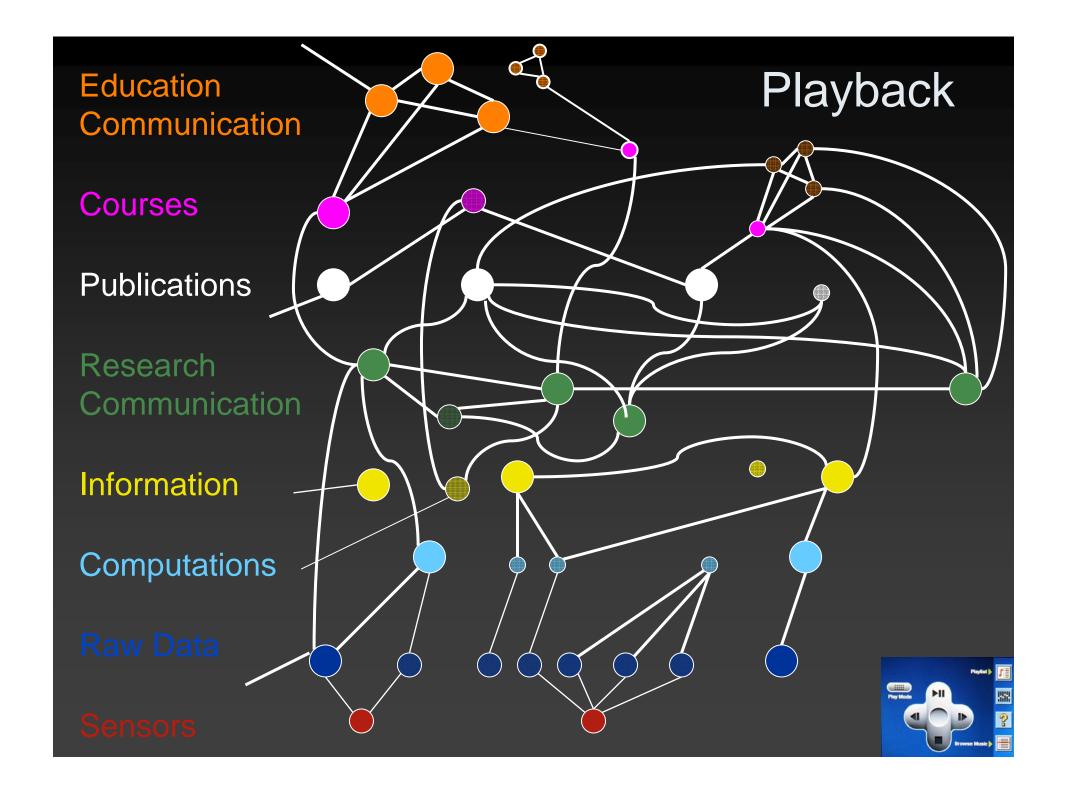












Many Useful Views

- Time
- Geographical
- Concept
- People
- Groups
- Search
- Tags
- Physical Structures BIRN Brain Morphology



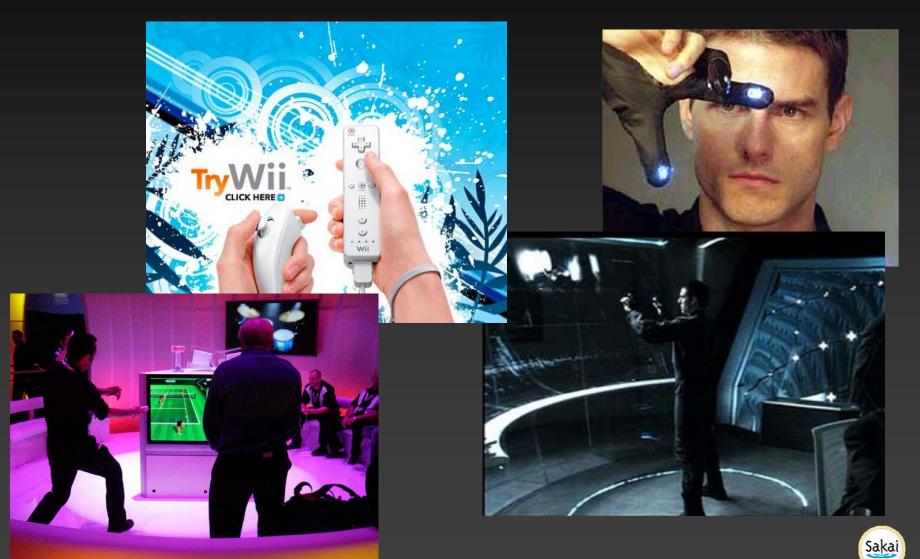
How to work with this much data?

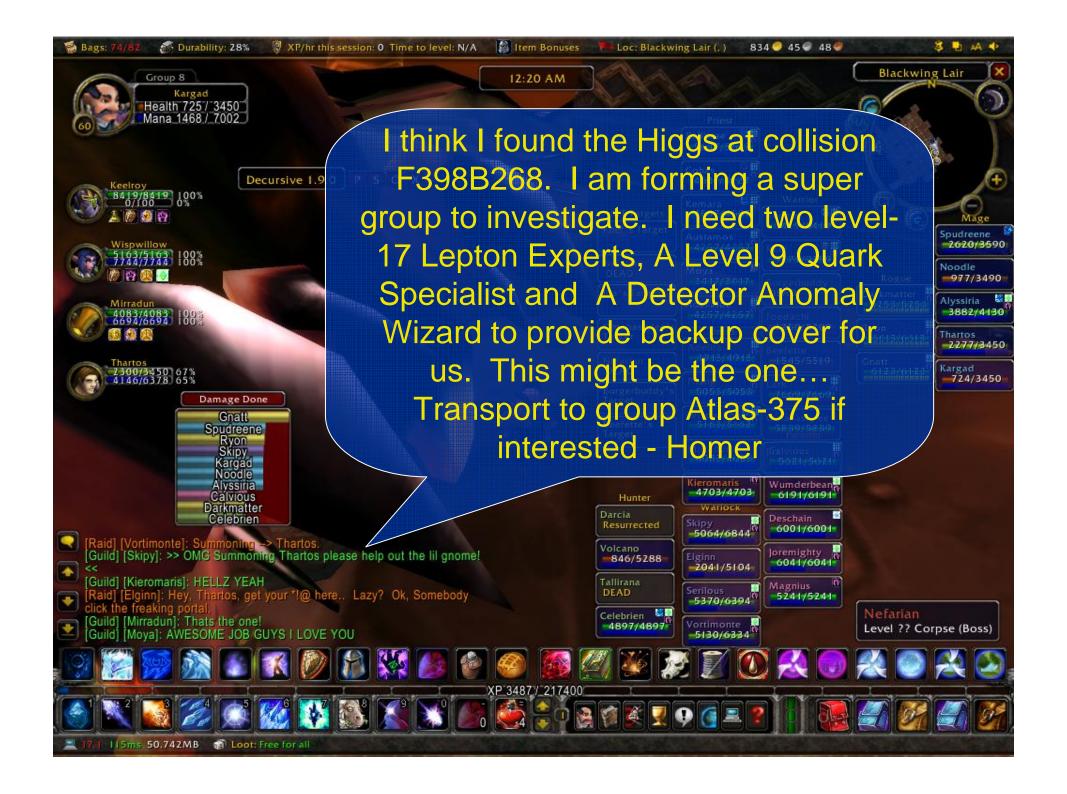
- We need something like what we saw in the Movie "Minority Report"
 - Large Screen
 - Gesture Interface





How to work with this much data?





英A L 8 IE 及術 植 5字印 及術文写で 字L 文写て ΑŒ 上技す びR 技D 感ザ絵しつ 国出のシ品 ずし 感ザ絵 BIN 出口 のシロ オ会観美イ しオ会観美イ рар BB 53 1) 数 致 e 最ます カ版もレ r カ版もレ I 図 S o m ンは 保の 証 保の 文精なフ HUS メ密 文精 万 to W ラ 社明 卜社明 57 ET をに美と をに美と 0 📳 0 字印 字印 0 W び技す D W RH U 技す 11 A N 田出 6.0 6.3 0 0 品 D W 致最 ŧ

字印日

をに 英 I

び E 技すS

田出

のリショ

数 0

酮 N

ŧ E

「図 ンは に

» ALL

メを被し

0

Р

Ö

۸

.

٠

万。

8 植 文写て ザ絵 会観 美イ カ 版 ŧ L 保 8 文精 なフ ト社明 をに美と 字 印 U 技す Œ H 60 品 致

D RF 国出のシ品 双最ま ゴ図ンは延 N E O メ書 0 WI AN 5 5 O Y N H

感ザ絵 しオ会観美イ をに美と 字印 力版もレ び技す 保の 国出のシ 文精なフ 品 I 妊娠 表 ト社明 コ図ンは証 をに美と メ密万 字印 び技す 3 ×

-保の 文精 刷の植 及術文写て 感ザ絵 しォ会観美イ 力版もレ 保の 文精なフ ト社明 をに美と 字印 び技す

ž

5

0

ò

MS RH A E AW ORUL ND IA 5 G HN **E** I NT D W

数最大のが絵 ŧ ゴ図ンは証 メ密万 保の 文牌 なっ 卜社明 をに美と 字印 び技す 国出のシ品 敦 1 ΉĒ

0

.

0

をに美と 字印 び技す 国出 のシ品 数最ま コ図 ンは証 メ密万 н

5

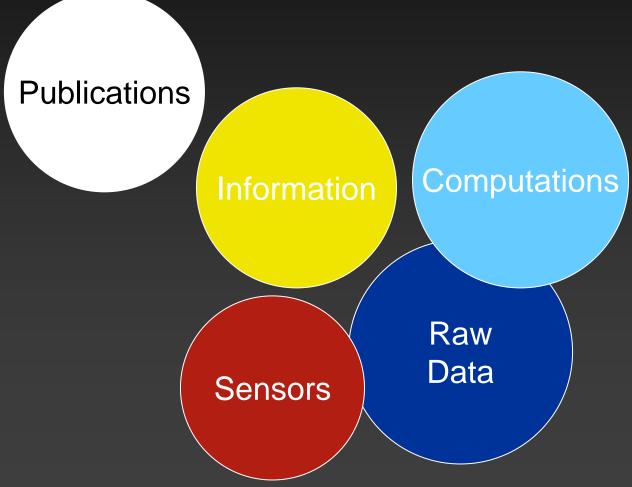
刷の 愐 及術文写で 感ザ絵 しオ会観美イ 30 力版 ŧ ß 保 0 文精なフ ト社明 をに美と 字印 び技す 8 国出のシ 敦 ķ ŧ

M × 0 5 N E A D L 0 WEN D W

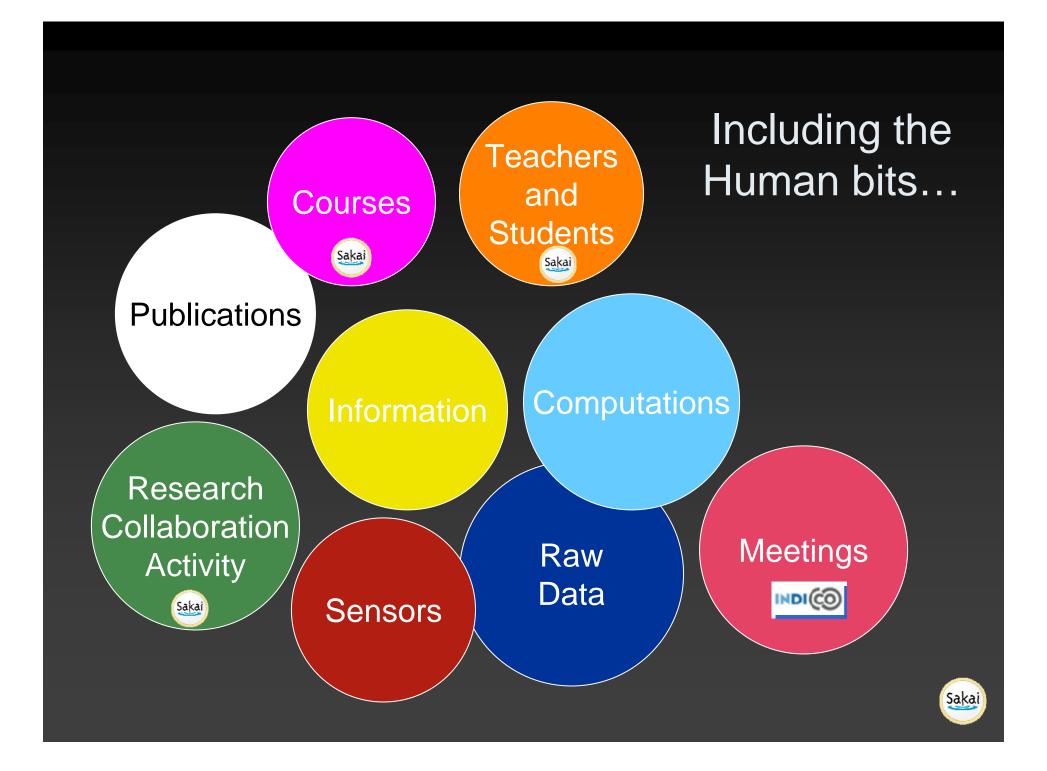
を M A と 10 101 字印 ×び 技す E3 出のシ品、致服ま 100 0 100 8 ¢ > E E N ٠ 0

別の日本 及術文写で感ザ絵 L D オ会観美イ A M 力版もレ 0 口保の 文積なフ A ト 社明 をに美と 字印 び技す 11

Retaining and Connecting Everything







Conclusion

- Many years ago, eScience had science as its main focus
- Custom approaches resulted in too many unique solutions
- Computer scientists began a search for the "magic bullet" - each group found a different magic bullet
- Each group now competes for mind share (and funding) to be the "one true" magic bullet



Conclusion (cont)

- One way to solve the "many competing technologies" solution is to form "super groups" which unify the technologies
- No single technology gets to claim "they are the one" (Middleware is not "in the middle")
- Each technology needs to become a drop-in service/component which is available for use only when appropriate
- Once we can get past looking at the technologies as the main focus, we get back to science as the main focus



Lets remember why we started this whole field in the first place...

- Scientific Domain
- Groups of People
- Common User Interface
- Data Sharing
 - In the moment
 - Long-term
- Experimental Equipment
- Compute
- Visualization

Questions

csev@sakaifoundation.org www.dr-chuck.com "Chuck's Talks"

