

The GridKa tape storage: latest improvements and current production setup

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Tape storage remains the most cost-effective system for safe long-term storage of petabytes of data and reliably accessing it on demand. It has long been widely used by Tier-1 centers in WLCG. GridKa uses tape storage systems for LHC and non-LHC HEP experiments. The performance requirements on the tape storage systems are increasing every year, creating an increasing number of challenges in providing a scalable and reliable system. Therefore, providing high-performance, scalable and reliable tape storage systems is a top priority for Tier-1 centers in WLCG.

At GridKa, various performance tests were recently done to investigate the existence of bottlenecks in the tape storage setup. As a result, several bottlenecks were identified and resolved, leading to a significant improvement in the overall tape storage performance. These results were achieved in a test environment and introduction of these achievements in to the production environment required a great effort, among many other things, a new software had to be developed to interact with the tape management software.

This contribution provides detailed information on the latest improvements and changes on the GridKa tape storage setup.

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