GRID technology and Earth Sciences Applications



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Summary

- Brief background on Grid technology
- Grid experience in ESA and EO community
- Current status and planning:
 - Move to operation of mature capabilities
 - Supporting an emerging science community
- Practical Demonstration



Grid technology: the concept



Grid in a Nutshell

- Facilitate *inter*-collaborative sharing of resources across geographic, institutional and scientific boundaries
 - Compute power, data, applications & services ...
- Develop infrastructure standards & middleware to interconnect fragmented IT infrastructures
 - Improve accessibility and exploitation of online resources
- Develop comprehensive infrastructure to handle common issues:
 - Security and "single sign on"
 - Cross-community workgroups formation "Virtual Organizations"
 - Dynamic discovery and utilization of shared resources and services
 - Network monitoring and interconnectivity optimisation
 - Location transparency (of users, computing resources, data etc.)
 - Workload scheduling and load-balancing
 - Accounting, auditing and traceability
- Make it available as a community-wide computing utility





Grid technology: the network



The European High Speed Connectivity

- Pan-European coverage (43 Countries/NRENs)
- Gigabit connectivity at 10 Gb/s

EUROLINK

Canada

- Linking more than 3900 Universities
- Total 200 MEuro over 4 years (93 MEuro from EU)
- Extend to Mediterranean, Asia Pacific Rim, Latin America ...







EC FP6 funding for GRID development

- € 100 m for Grid Research Infrastructures
- € 100 m for the new GÉANT
- € 50 m for Test-beds
- € 125 m for Research on Grids

- Additional budget in Application areas (e.g. Health...)





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Research e-Infrastructures, the EC IST vision:

- Part of the process to implement the European Research Area (ERA)
- Powerful "instrument" for International Cooperation
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This is of interest for the EO community!







The science GOME user results

IPSL Validation using several Lidar stations



Grid technology: ESA early experience

- ESA Grid Interest Group
 - (2001) focused to assess/share ESA common infrastructure
 - http://esagrid.esa.int/
 - SpaceGrid study (GSP 2002)
 - analyse needs and opportunities for various space applications (space science, solar weather, simulation spacecraft/plasma interaction, radiation transport, mechanical engineering, CDF...)
 - Analyse Grid-aware EO Ground Segment
 - CEOS WGISS GRID Task Team
- Improve connectivity and Grid services across ESA
 - ESTEC linked to high speed NL academic network (SurfNet)
 - Certificate Authority with SCI at ESTEC
- Supporting industrial developments
 - Dutch Space OMI simulation performed in ESRIN Grid environment ...



Grid technology: EO lesson learned

- GRID is ...
 - Accessing network, data and resources, based on well established protocols/standards
 - **Secure** sharing of data and resources (via certificates)
 - Better deployment of under-exploited resources
 - An enabling technology for new research approach and scientific collaborations (e-infrastructure)
- GRID technologies are progressing rapidly in:
 - Grid & Web service integration (relatively mature, specially in EO environment)
- Way forward for EO
 - Europe takes the lead in e-science development initiative
 - Move to "operational use" of GRID infrastructure specially for data access, new science community services...
 - A possible environment to implement "Oxygen Open and Operational" functionalities
 - Need to confirm controlled and secure access by external users



GRID integration with EO Web Services



Examples of emerging EO data services



Towards an EO Grid infrastructure

- 1. GRID as model for the future European EO Ground Segment...
 - Transfer to ESA EO operational environment of mature GRID capabilities
- 2. ... GRID as model for the Science User Segment
 - Similar to other science community (e.g. High Energy Physics, Astrophysics, ...)





1. EO Grid infrastructure Ground Segment vision (→2006)

- Transfer to operation of present GRID capabilities:
 - Support **reprocessing** requirements
 - Demonstrated already for L1 \rightarrow L2 GOMOS processing, planned for GOMOS and MERIS reprocessing in 2005
 - Innovative solution for the data access and exchange
 - Increased exploitation of available resources
- GRID interconnection of ESA and other operational facilities (i.e. ESRIN, Stations, PACs, key user facilities...)
 - Reference infrastructure for new missions G/S studies
 - Enable new classes of large-scale, high-power applications (e.g. processing of large data volumes)
- Initial validation for GMES / GEO Architectures
- Some issues
 - High speed connectivity in place across facilities
 - Standard and new processor systems based on Grid compatible standard (e.g. Linux)



2. Earth Science infrastructure User segment Vision (→2006)

- Set up of the EO Science User Segment
 - Include support to science data processing / analysis based on Envisat tools (e.g. BEAM, to be extended to BEST, BEAT)
 - Routine demonstration of science cooperation models (e.g. CAL/VAL, new algorithm developments, integration of ground and space measurements...)
- Move algorithms and analysis tools to data ...
 - data assimilation ... integration in models...
 - Support large data sets science application projects...
- Some issues:
 - User access to data/services via secure connection (certificates)
 - Common standards across science users
 - Online data access for real time (and archive)



Example of initial in-house demonstrations

- Reprocessing of GOME from level 1 to level 2
 - Validation of GOME Ozone profiles vs LI DAR
 - Integration of Ozone profiles
- MERIS global products at 1 Km (BEAM tools)
 - Chlorophyll

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- Global products for PR/communication
- MGVI (comparison of diffent algorithms)
- ASAR Global Mode over Antarctica



The science GOME user results



Chlorophyll BEAM processing on GRID

27-3

4-10



178.92 Gb in 1828 files

Output Files:

700 Kb (JPEG)

28 Mb (TIFF)

36 Mb (DIM-MAP)







Chlorophyll processing on GRID

Web Based Interface Control











MERIS 1km mosaic for PR/Communication

Based on BEAM mosaiking tools, L2 standard products.





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MERIS MGVI global product @ 1Km



MERIS MGVI comparison of algorithms



MERIS MGVI – Aug 04

SUDAN DARFUR CRISIS

Vegetation Change Analysis for Humanitarian Crisis Management







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MERIS ASAR Global mode mapping

Extension of Sea I ce Pack

I cebergs displacement Apr-May 04







Near future plans: "Earth Science Grid on Demand"

- Goal 1: bring the user algorithms and tools to the data
 - Provide protected environment for hosting user specific modules
 - Support validation of new processing algorithms, new geophysical level 3 products ...
 - Some test cases identified within the ENVISAT AOs with user involvement
 - MERIS data assimilation for chlorophyll forecast
 - Objective analysis (SST and ocean colour)
 - Alternative algorithm validation for Case 2 water
 - ...
- Goal 2: extend approach to wide science user community
 - Planned for next year new AO?



Near future plans: "Earth Science e-collaboration"

- e-collaboration in Earth Science:
 - Integrating GRID and other technologies (e.g. wireless, sensor web...)
 - Sharing data sources, results, models ...
 - Building thematic Virtual Organisation
- A dedicated GSP project is evaluating the potential of e-collaboration in EO (in 3 specific domains):
 - Ozone Cal/Val
 - GMES Open Services
 - Forest and Rural services
- Complementarity with EC IST strategic line "collaboration@work"



Conclusion

- GRI D is an emerging technology which can really help EO and Earth Science community
- EC has world leadership in developing the technology and supporting research communities e-infrastructure
- Convergence between GRID and Web Services puts EO in good position for immediate utilisation of the technology
- Few Earth Science groups have already shown interests in ongoing activities

