An Introduction to Grid Computing

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Topics for Discussion

- Current Status of Information Technology
- Motivation to explore the Grid
- Grid services
- Grid high-level concepts
- Sample Application
- Grid-based Workflow
What is a grid?

- Grid is a *sophisticated* framework that enables sharing of a variety of resources among distributed applications.
- Open standard
- Large scale operations
- Automatic
- Intelligent
- Spontaneous
- Interoperable
- Service-oriented
What is a grid? (A formal definition)

Grid specifies a standard architecture, infrastructure, protocols and application program interface (API) for building an open enterprise system.

It can provide

- Middleware supporting network of systems to facilitate sharing, standardization and openness.
- Infrastructure and application model dealing with sharing of compute cycles, data, storage and other resources.
- A framework for high reliability, availability and security.
- Interoperation of batch-oriented and service-based architectures.
- Standard service level feature definitions and higher level concepts for inter and intra-business collaboration.
GridForce

Our adaptation is evolving into a comprehensive framework we call GridForce (Grid For Collaboration and Education):

- Course curriculum,
- Laboratory exercises (labs),
- Infrastructure to support labs,
- Research projects,
- Industrial outreach.
Beginnings of The Grid

- Beginnings of the grid in Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence (seti@home project)
  - The Wow signal
    - [http://planetary.org/html/UPDATES/seti/SETI@home/wowsignal.html](http://planetary.org/html/UPDATES/seti/SETI@home/wowsignal.html)
Current Grid Users

- A survey of 180 companies last summer by research firm Summit Strategies found that 4% of respondents had implemented a grid, and 12% were currently evaluating the technology.
- Oracle Server 10g: g stands for grid. (Oracle 9i: i was for Internet)
- Grid middleware from companies such as DataSynapse and Platform provides users the ability to manage workloads across the shared resources.
- HR outsourcer Hewitt Associates put grid to work for crunching pension calculations.
- ...
Current Status

Information/ Application Servers

Clients/Consumers

Application

Application

Internet
How did we get here?


Speed

Number of hosts

Defense: ARPANET

EUNET MILNET

Academic Research: NSFNET

Web application

Internet Commercialization

scale
Where are we heading?

Information/Application Servers

Clients/Consumers

Business to Consumers (B2C)

Business to Business (B2B)
Application to application

Web services, XML
Standards for specifying operation in SOAP (Simple Object Access Protocol)

Web-enabling information
Web-enabling applications/forms
HTML
Beyond Search Engines: Enabling Information Technology (IT) Applications

Complex multi-business applications

- Financial: Build Portfolio
- Environment: Plan Forestation
- Medicine: Find Cure
- Travel: Plan a Trip

Simple Search (stateless)
Web Services Standard

- A common operation on the Internet is search, the results of which is consumed by humans.
- We want to develop complex multi-business applications that are beyond the current search-type applications.
- Webservices (WS) is a standard that has been introduced by W3 consortium to address this important transition.
- Grid takes the web services to the next level: a grid service (GS) is a web service.
- GS = WS + state + standard features for security, reliability, integration, ...
- Grid specifies a standard architecture, infrastructure, protocols and application program interface (API) for an open enterprise system.
Technology Pipeline

Grid/GS ...... Web/WS ...... Internet

Internet

Technology Pipeline

Technology Pipeline
Grid Growth

GRID GROWTH (1994-2004)
(Grids)

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Global Grid Share

GLOBAL GRID SHARE (1994-2004)

US 59%

Canada
China
Croatia
Czech Rep.
Denmark
Finland
Hungary
Iceland
Korea

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Grid Organizations

Global Grid Forum (GGF):
- www.globalgridforum.org
- a community-initiated forum of thousands of individuals from industry and research leading the global standardization effort for grid computing.

The Globus Alliance:
- www.globus.org
- conducts research and development to create fundamental technologies behind the "Grid," which lets people share computing power, databases, and other on-line tools securely across corporate, institutional, and geographic boundaries without sacrificing local autonomy.
Future Outlook

Internet and Web Standards

- It is expected
  - either the Internet will evolve into the grid or
  - the grid concepts will be adapted into the Internet standard.
- Similar to current push in IT to “web enabling”, future will have you “grid enable”.
- Bottom line: it is worthwhile learning about the grid to strategize for the future of IT in your business.

Grid Standards
What can the Grid do?

- Grid specifies a standard architecture, infrastructure, protocols and application program interface (API) for building an open enterprise system.
- It can provide:
  - Middleware supporting network of systems to facilitate sharing, standardization and openness.
  - Infrastructure and application model dealing with sharing of compute cycles, data, storage and other resources.
  - A framework for high reliability, availability and security.
  - Interoperation of batch-oriented and service-based architectures.
  - Standard service level feature definitions and higher level concepts for inter and intra-business collaboration.
Types of Grid

**Batch-oriented**

2. High performance applications
3. High Throughput applications
4. The Condor Project
5. Example: Condor
6. Our installation: CSECCR grid

**Service-Oriented**

1. View all the resources and functions as services.
2. Build application models around services.
3. Anatomy of the grid
4. Physiology of the grid
5. It is this genre of grid that will move the grid technology towards business applications.
6. Example: Globus
7. Our installation: CSELinux Grid
Service-oriented Standards

- Open Grid Services Architecture (OGSA)
- Open Grid Services Infrastructure (OGSI)
- Globus Toolkit (Gt3) is a reference implementation

We will discuss next:
- service-level concepts and
- higher-application-level concepts.
OGSA, OGSI and WS

From tutorial: Satomayor’s GT3 Tutorial
http://www.casa-sotomayor.net/gt3-tutorial-working/
Standard Features of Grid Service

- Security
- Persistence
- Routing
- Notification
- Service Data
- Basic Service
  - Logging
    - Logger object; Levels of logging: Info, Warn, Error, Fatal
    - Filtering and redirecting to file, console
  - Provides standard security
- Provides notification of events
- Stores service properties and States; for discovery, monitoring, negotiations, etc.
- Permanent services such as naming service that get activated and terminated with the container
- Services migration
- .....others

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Sample Grid Service: Notification

- **Foundational concepts:** messaging, queues, source and sink for messages, subscription model, loose coupling, push and pull notification
- **Grid related concepts:** Service data element (SDE), OGSINotification API
- SDE is XML structure for holding service characteristics/state.
- Implement a service that is a producer of notification.
- Notification can be triggered by change in SDE.
- Implement a client application that invokes a service that produces notification; an associated listener that consumes the notification.
Notification Explained

Example: Grid service (GS) can be a Math Service with notifyChange to SDE on invocation of add Subtract methods.
GWSDL file: extends="ogsi": GridServiceogsi:NotificationSource (declarative vs programmatic)
Listener has: NotificationSinkManager to which is added a listener to Math Service’s GSH and SDE.
Listener has deliveryNotification() method to process notification.
Higher Level Grid Concepts

- Virtualization of services and resources
- Federation of Data
- Provisioning
- Lifecycle Management
- Virtual Organization
Virtualization

- Encapsulating service operations behind a common message-oriented service interface is called service virtualization.
- Isolates users from details of service implementation and location.
- Assumes support of a standard architecture.
- Webservices (WS) can do this, however grid life cycle management, fault handling and other features we have seen in the GT3 tutorial are not available with WS.
- OGSI specification addresses these issues using a core set of standard services.
Virtual Organization (VO)

Factory

Registry

Factory

Mapper

Service

Service

Service

Hardware
Application: Tax Return Filer

Concepts illustrated: Virtual organization (VO) called IRS/Tax Filer that brings together virtualized capabilities of physical organizations of banking, personal profiles, and employment. Grid service handle (GSH) and Grid service reference (GSR), registry and handlemap, discovery of services, index services, application of notification, logging.

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Getting to know the grid?

- Start with reading the literature on Condor and Globus grid.
  - [http://www.globus.org/research/papers.html](http://www.globus.org/research/papers.html)
- Try out the grid tutorials and reference implementations.
- Explore newer businesses and business models.
  - Example: storage service, personal database service (personal identity management)
  - Work on a reference implementation of grid specification.
  - [http://www.extreme.indiana.edu/swf-survey/](http://www.extreme.indiana.edu/swf-survey/)