Grid Explorations

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http://www.cs.ucy.ac.cy/mdd

Talk Outline

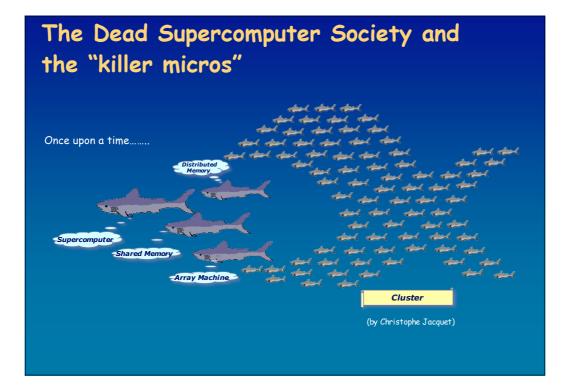
- From Parallel to Grid Computing
- Grid Resource Characterization through Benchmarking
- Navigating and Searching the Grid Information Space
- Conclusions

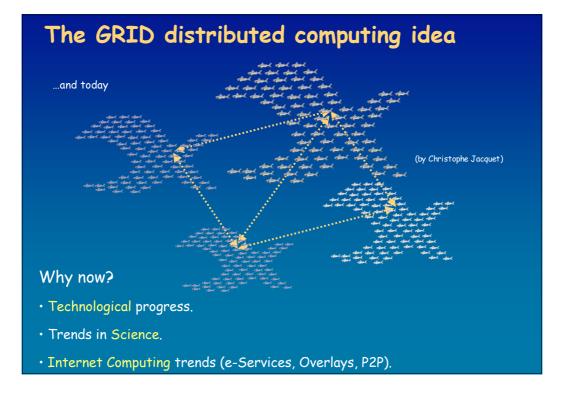
Parallel computing

- Used to solve large problems, mainly from science/engineering.
- Different parallel machine models (SIMD, MIMD).
- A large variety of parallel hardware (Vector, Array Processors, Shared Memory and Distributed Memory Machines).
- Alternative computing models: data/task parallelism, SPMD.
- Lots of parallel programming approaches: implicit parallelism, shared-memory and/or message-passing semantics, high-level languages.
- Software tools: compilation, automatic parallelization, performance analysis & modeling, parallel debugging, application development.

Parallel computing: implicit assumptions

- "Tightly coupled."
- Homogeneous processing elements and interconnection.
- Communication through a "closed" interconnection network (bounded latency, high bandwidth).
- Parallel computer under a single administrative domain.
- User needs direct access to the parallel machine.





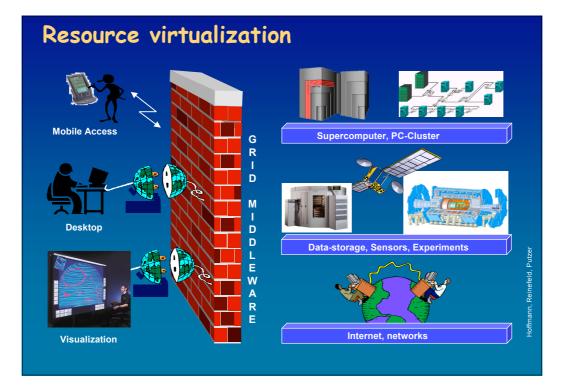
Why Now ..? From Science to e-Science

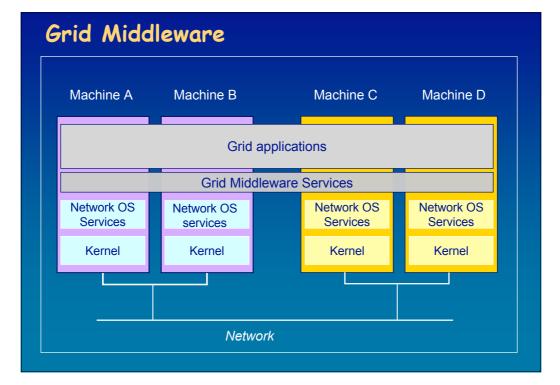
- In the past, science has been mainly empirical and theoretical.
- Recently, science is becoming computational (Data captured by instruments or data generated by simulators, processed by software, placed in databases / files. Scientists analyze database / files)
- Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN:
 - 10 Petabytes/year of data.
 - ~100,000 of today's fastest PC processors.



The Grid

- Middleware infrastructure that enables flexible, secure, coordinated resource sharing among dynamic collections of individuals and institutions (Foster, Kesselman, Tuecke).
- Enables communities ("Virtual Organizations") to share geographically distributed resources as they pursue common goals --
- Key assumptions: absence of...
 - Homogeneity
 - Central location
 - Central control
 - Existing trust relationships



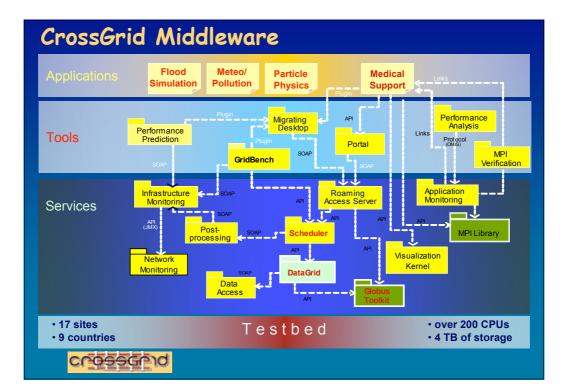


Key Components... and challenges

- Resource management: discovery, monitoring, control, access, data management..
- Job management: definition, submission, control, Web-based access..
- Administration: configuration & policy management, security, fault discovery, software packaging and distribution..
- Application development: programming tools, new programming paradigms, higher-level abstractions..
- Common protocols, standards, APTs, services.

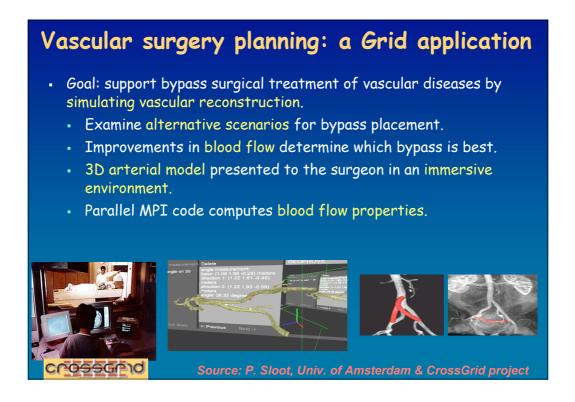
Grid Middleware Systems

- GLOBUS Toolkit (ANL, ISI/USC)
 - GSI, GRAM, GridFTP, MDS, Grid Services.
- Condor (Wisc)
 - "Cycle-stealing," high-throughput computing, check-pointing and migration.
- UNICORE (R.Z. Juelich)
 - A "vertically integrated" Grid components supporting batch-job submission to distributed supercomputing sites.
- EDG, CrossGrid, LCG2, GridLab, gLite (EU-IST)
 - Toolkits using some components from several other projects, packaged and tested together.

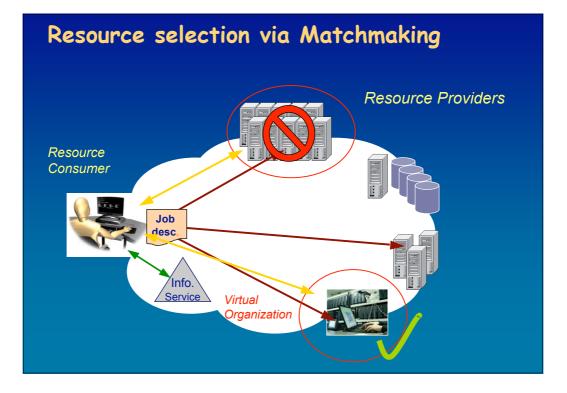


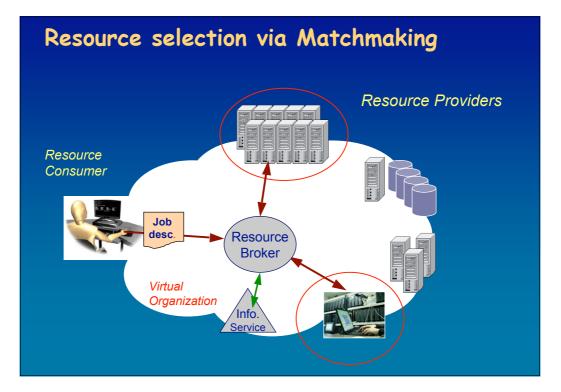
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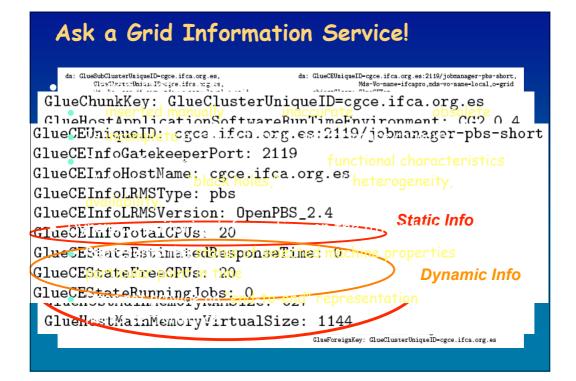
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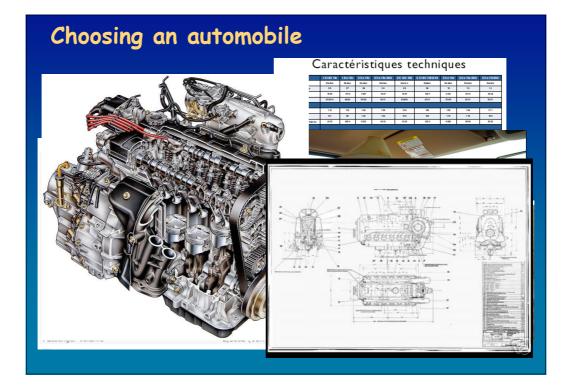






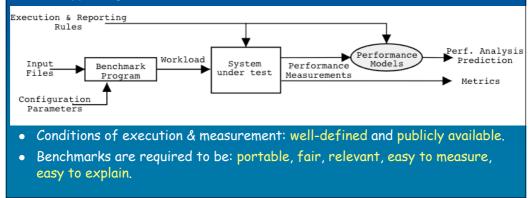
Motivation and Focus

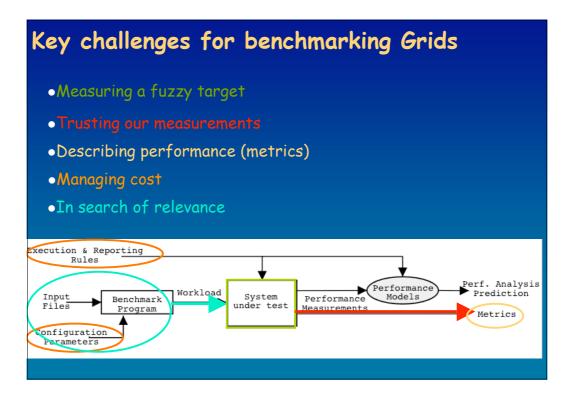
- How can we characterize the performance of Grid resources?
 - Support more advanced criteria for matchmaking: performance, functionality, reliability, robustness, cost...
 - Drive the design and configuration of Grid infrastructures.
 - ⇒ Open marketplaces based on performance negotiation.
 - ⇒ Developing models for performance prediction.
- "We have no real idea how the Grid and Grid applications could be characterized from the point of view of performance" (APART Working Group on Automatic Performance Analysis, Rackeve Workshop, 11/2003)
- Do this in an end-to-end fashion.



Test-driving computers... Benchmarks: standardized programs designed or chosen to investigate performance properties of computer systems: System characterization Fair comparison

- System design assessment
- Supporting quantitative research





GridBench

- The GridBench Framework:
 - A software tool for characterizing the performance of Grids and Grid resources quantitatively, using benchmarks.
 - Supports the administration of Grid benchmarks, the archival, publication, browsing and analysis of metrics.

• GridBench Suite of Benchmarks:

- A layered suite of benchmarks deployed on a Grid testbed.
- Geared towards high-performance and high-throughput computing needs.

Elements of the GridBench Framework

- An "ontology" of performance metrics.
- GBDL, a platform-independent XML language:
 - Specification of configuration.
 - Representation of results.
- A translator from GBDL to different Job Description Languages:
 - RSL (Globus)
 - JDL (Condor/DataGrid/CrossGrid/EGEE).
- A "user-friendly" administration tool and GUI.
- A database for archiving metrics.
- A performance analysis tool and GUI.

GridBench software

- Implemented in JAVA + MySQL + Linux (ports to IRIX, AIX)
- Open Source Benchmarks in C/C++/Fortran + MPI
- Available for downloading: http://grid.ucy.ac.cy/GridBench
- Part of CrossGrid Middleware distribution CrossGrid
- Adopted and in use by Grid Ireland



• Working towards demonstrating it on EGEE

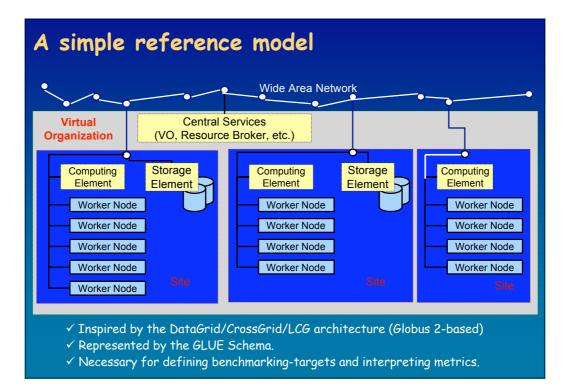


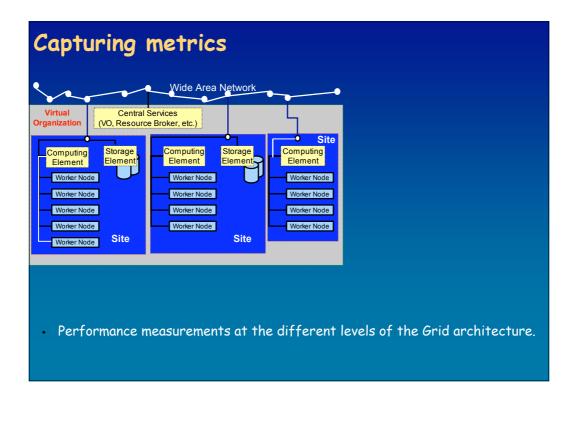
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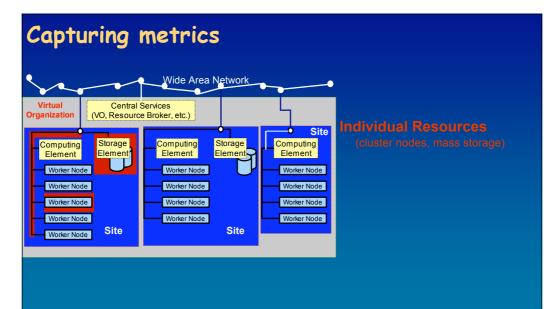
- From Parallel to Grid Computing
- Grid Resource Characterization through Benchmarking
 - Metrics and Benchmarks.
 - Filtering polluted measurements.
 - GridBench GUI and use.
- Navigating Grids
- Grid Search Engines
- Conclusions & Future Work

An ontology of performance metrics

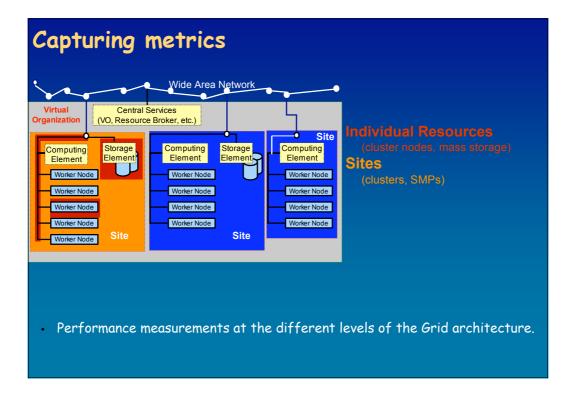
- Performance capacity of Grid infrastructure can be described by:
 - The performance of a hierarchical collection of measurable entities (CPUs, memory performance, computers, clusters, collections of clusters..)
- Thus:
 - Small sets of metrics not adequate for Grids.
 - Definition, organization, storage, and interpretation requires advanced, open data models, amenable to post-processing (statistical, data mining, AI).
- ...what about interpretation of metrics?

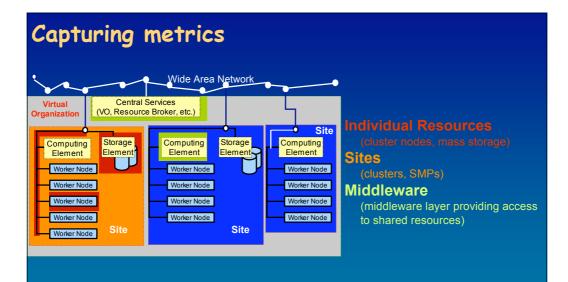




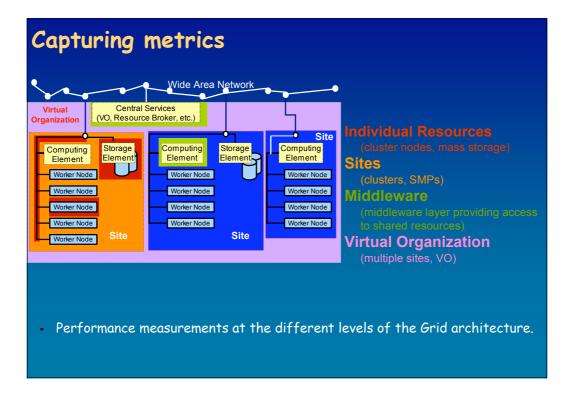


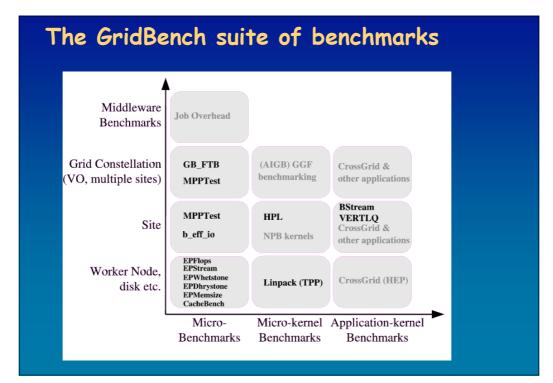
Performance measurements at the different levels of the Grid architecture.





Performance measurements at the different levels of the Grid architecture.





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- From Parallel to Grid Computing
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 - Filtering polluted measurements.
 - GridBench GUI and use.
- Navigating and Searching the Grid Information Space
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Identifying polluted measurements

- Often benchmark runs in co-location with other jobs:
 - "Fellow passengers:" co-allocated by the Resource Broker.
 - "Free-riders:" unauthorized users, unknown to the VO.
 - "Runaways:" O/S processes, zombies, etc.
- These jobs "pollute" measurements and can affect seriously the characterization accuracy.
- Their effect on metric accuracy can be:
 - Identified through monitoring data.
 - Reduced through access control (for fellow passengers) and remote healing (for runaways).

Filtering polluted measurements

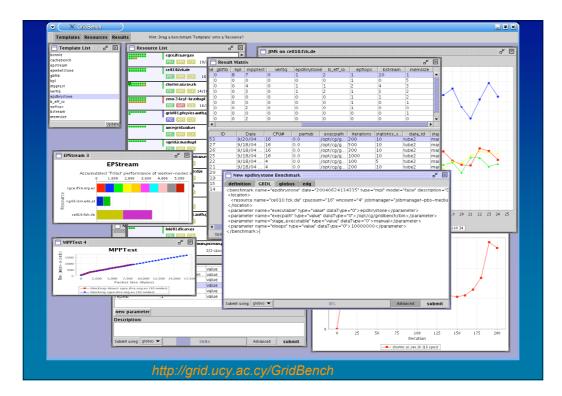
- GridBench retrieves monitoring information from Grid monitoring services, for a time-window encapsulating a benchmarking experiment.
- This is specified in the GBDL document describing a particular experiment:

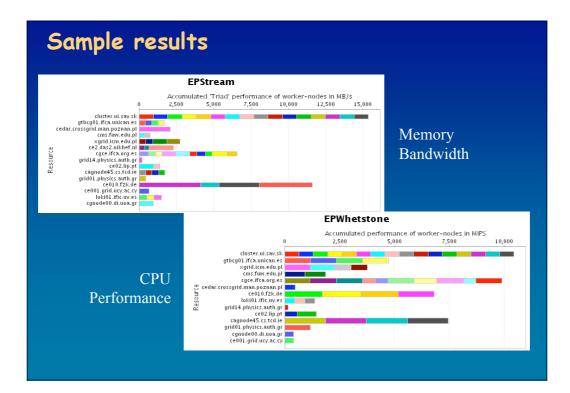
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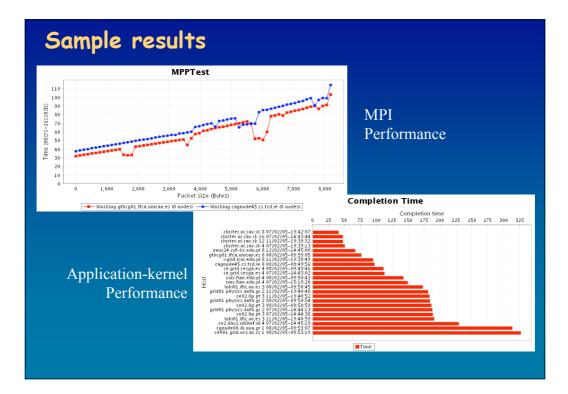
• Retrieval from monitoring services is conducted via monitoring-client plug-ins called by GridBench.

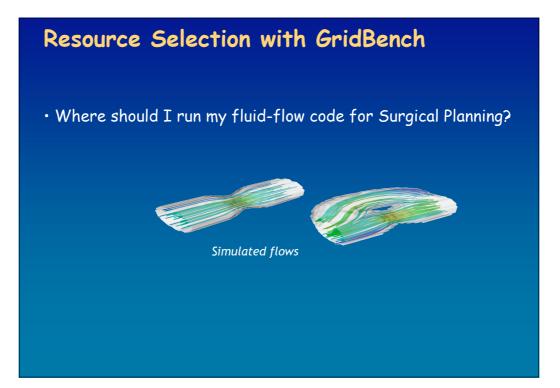
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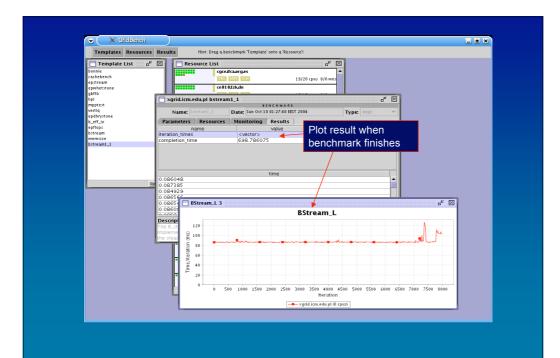


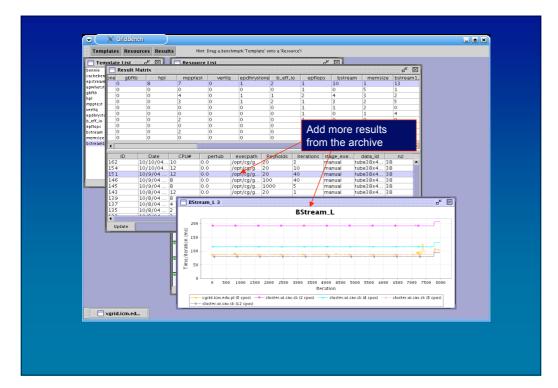




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Remarks

- Virtualization and resource heterogeneity turn Grid Benchmarking into a:
 - Challenging and expensive process.
 - Necessary undertaking for performance-based decisions.
- Isolated metrics are of little use. We need instead ontologies of metrics.
- Virtualization and the lack of central control, put the accuracy of benchmarking measurements to question:
 - Need a combination of metrics and monitoring information to filterout invalid measurements.

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A Scenario for the Grid's future

- The Grid as a Wide-Scale Distributed System:
 - Millions of resources of different kinds.
 - Services and Policies in place.
 - Relationships (permanent and transient) between organizations, software, data, services, applications...
 - Different middleware platforms.
 - Common (?) protocols, standards and API's.
- The hope is that Grid will grow larger and will reach an acceptance as wide as the Web.

The Grid information problem

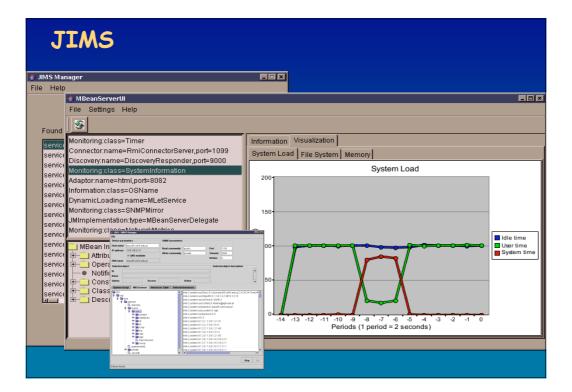
- How are individuals and organizations going to harness the capabilities of a fully deployed Grid:
 - Massive and ever-expanding base of resources.
 - Huge corpus of available programs, services, and data.
- Users need tools to discover and identify information about resources that are:
 - Interesting (discovery)
 - Relevant (classification)
 - Accessible and available under known policies of use, cost (inquiry)

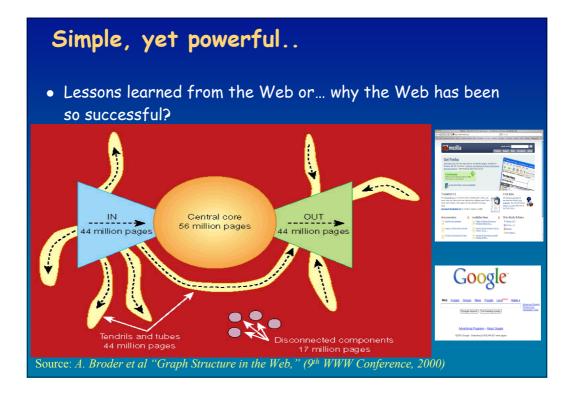
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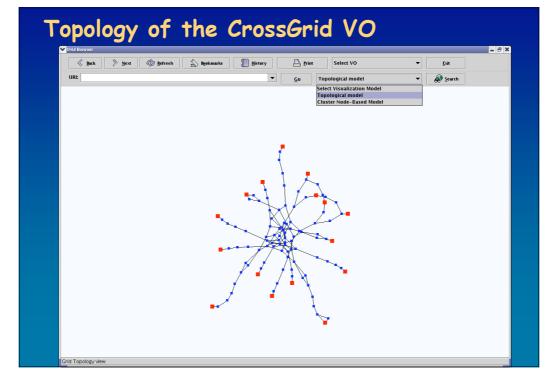


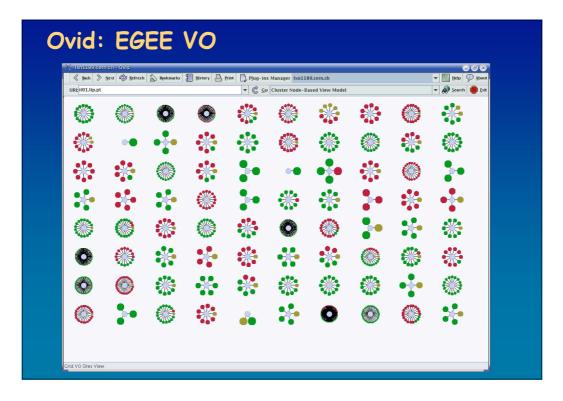
Navigating and Searching the Grid

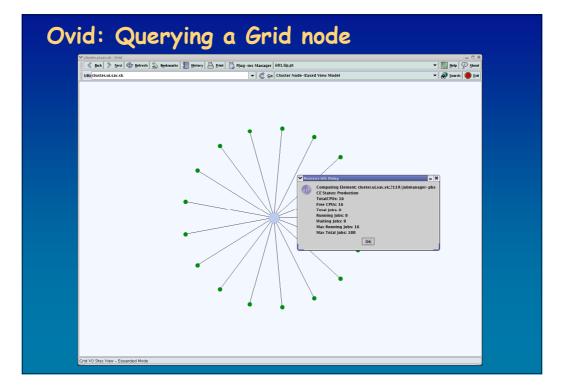
- Key differences from the Web
 - Which are the information containers?
 - Hyperlinks?..
 - Information Retrieval makes no good..
- Navigation: the Ovid browser
 - Supporting the seamless navigation of users in the Grid information space.
- Towards a search engine for the Grid:
 - What is the information space we would like to search in?

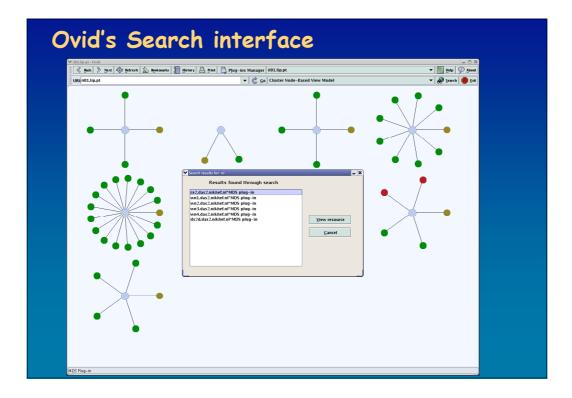
Ovid: A (universal) browser for Grids

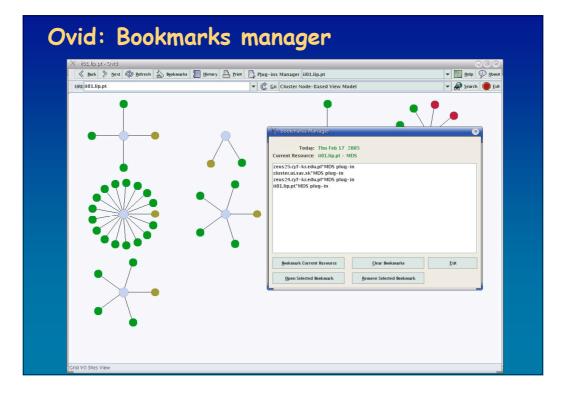
- Navigational primitives designed to cope with network disorientation and information overloading;
- A small set of core graphical views, i.e. visual abstractions of Grid information;
- Support for embedding and implementing hyperlinks connecting related entities represented within different information views;
- A plug-in mechanism, for the seamless integration with Ovid of third-party monitoring clients;
- A modular software design (model-view-controller architecture), for the easy integration of different visualization algorithms.

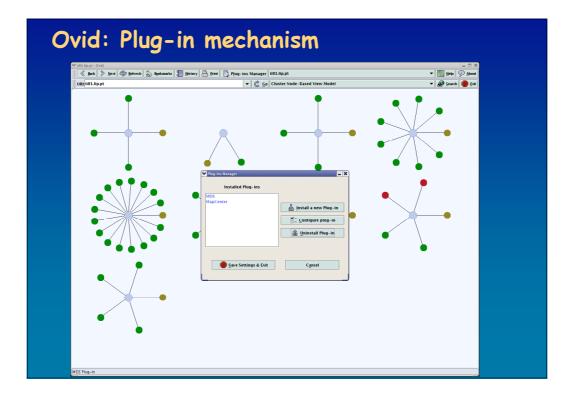


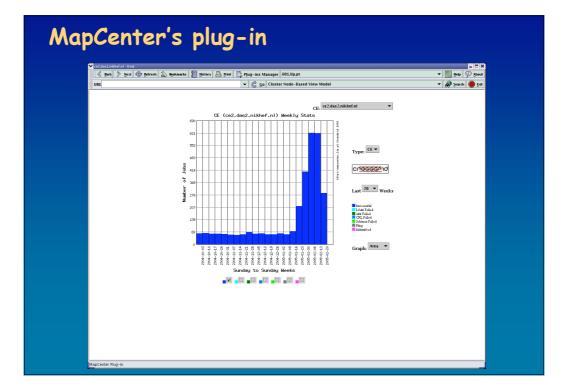












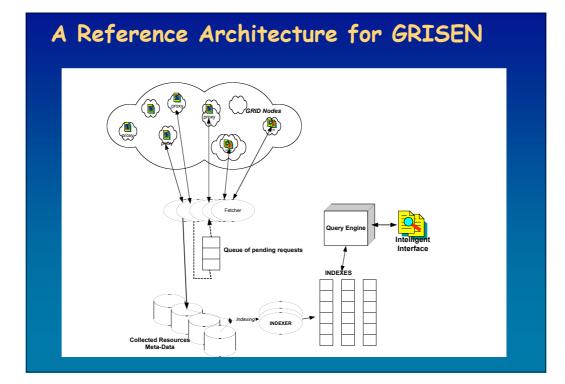


Towards a Grid Search Engine (GRISEN)

• Based on the notion of "grid entity," which represents various (permanent or transient) resources on the Grid: computational, storage, and network; services, software and datasets; workflows and VO's; "best practices"; policies for use, pricing, QoS etc.

• Grid entities:

- Capture characteristics of Grid-architecture components.
- Have a common naming scheme.
- Can be described by metadata using a common hierarchical data model (RDF or XML).
- Have their metadata published in "proxies."



Conclusions and Future Work

- Our motivation stems from the need to provide effective systems and tools for the users of future massive Grids that will enable:
- ⇒ The performance exploration of Grid resources and the selection of appropriate resources for dispatching Grid jobs.
- ⇒ End-user navigation in the Grid information space.
- ⇒ The searching for interesting/relevant information for various Grid-related resources.

Conclusions and Future Work

- Automatic configuration and management of Grid benchmarks is important to:
 - Keep performance-metrics ontology "fresh."
 - Support the automatic auditing of resource providers by VOs: performance capacity, policy compliance, reliability of information services, etc.
 - Derive indirect, collective metrics expressing "quality features" of Grid infrastructures: level of heterogeneity, infrastructure health, reliability, robustness.
 - Automate the process of metrics-filtering.
 - Use benchmarking as a mechanism for driving automatic remote healing.

Conclusions and Future Work

- Navigation and Searching in the Grid, is essentially a process of capturing, managing, and querying...
- ... a very large, fragmented, incomplete, heterogeneous, and often inconsistent, implicit metadata space.

• Looking at issues of:

- Metadata representation (RDF) and navigation.
- Metadata integration.
- The scalability of metadata management (RDF/Jena).

