

Outline

- UNICORE approach
- UNICORE architecture and implementation
- Projects
 - UNICORE Plus
 - EUROGRID
 - GRIP
- Availability and outlook

UNICORE Approach

- Provide a uniform work environment for users
 - access mechanism (browser, dedicated client, ...)
 - authentication mechanisms (certificates, ...)
 - hide system details (commands, data archives, batch systems, ...)
 - define user–level resource and job model (task graph, $\ldots)$
 - allow job monitoring and steering
- Lots of projects worldwide
 - SDSC Hotpage
 - AHPCRC TeraWeb
 - Mississippi State DMEFS
 - EnginFrame from NICE
 - ...

Intended UNICORE users

- end-users in a specific domain
- general HPC end–users
 NOT application developers
- Intended usage modes
 - batch execution

UNICORE Approach

- interactive steering
 - NOT general purpose interactive

Degree of "transparency"

- access and monitoring part
- uniform job model
- uniform resource model
- NOT YET a uniform data model
- NOT YET automatic brokering amongst resources

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UNICORE Approach

- System architecture
 - multiple entry points, one per resource
 - cooperation between resources
 - allow for distributed computing
- Security mechanisms
 - user authentication by X.509 certificates
 - authorization handled per site
 - data integrity and confidentiality by reliance on SSL/https
- Implementation technique
 - emphasize portability, rely on standards
 - use Java for client and server components
 - build protocols on top of SSL/https
 - some (limited) use of XML

UNICORE Approach System integration and deployment fit into common firewall setups integrate into existing system administration procedures preserve site autonomy (authorization, quotas, billing, ...) Extensibility provide GUIs for particular applications (plugin mechanism) extend set of supported resources, incarnation rules configure third-party file transfers ...











UNICORE Technology	///
Client and server components implemented in Java–2	
 Authentication using X.509 certificates UNICORE Plus project uses own public key infrastructure (PKI) software can work with any other PKI 	
 Coexistence with firewalls gateway as single point of entry can run outside firewall, in DMZ or inside firewall user authentication at that point: rogue users can't go further 	
 Secure data transmission using SSL additional data encryption considered in EUROGRID 	
 Modeling of computational jobs and resources as Java objects (AJO) 	

















Application Frontends

- Create GUIs that support important applications
 - UNICORE client has a *plugin* interface
 - GUI simplifies data entry for application
 - GUI can support application-specific resources
 GUI constructs (complicated) job chains automatically
- GUI will use UNICORE client to
- submit the application job
 - monitor and control the application job
- Helpful features
 - end-users concentrate on applications
 - extended consistency checks
- Existing frontends
 - CPMD molecular dynamics code
 - Fluent, Gaussian, ...

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Projects Around UNICORE

UNICORE = GRID system for seamless access to (High Performance) Computing Systems

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Project	Goals	Duration	Funded by
UNICORE Plus	Product, Deployment at HPC Centers	01/2000- 12/2002	German govt. (BMBF)
EUROGRID	European HPC centers, scientific applications, industrial involvement	11/2000 – 10/2003	EU FP5
GRIP	Interoperability UNICORE and GLOBUS	01/2002 – 12/2003	EU FP5
Various new projects	Applications, tools, deployment,	≥ 2002	EU FP6



EUROGRID Partners





Bio-GRID

- PSE for bio–molecular applications
- Operate a GRID for biomolecular simulations
- Develop interfaces to existing biological and chemical codes















EUROGRID Interactive Access	GRIP – Compatibility to Globus
	 Started as IST project beginning of 2002 To produce interoperability software for using Globus resources from UNICORE submitting UNICORE jobs from Globus To enhance the EUROGRID resource broker to span UNICOIRE and Globus To evaluate the interoperability with biomolecular applications from ICM on-demand weather prediction from DWD Current phase: architecture specification architecture specification
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UNICORE vs. Globus 2.x

- Comparison of UNICORE and Globus
 - UNICORE lacks application interface
 - UNICORE lacks MDS
 - UNICORE has workflow model & interface
 - UNICORE has stricter security model
- Security
 - UNICORE uses consigner/endorser model
 - Globus jobs are not signed, use temporary certificates
 - Stealing a Globus cert seems easy, no limit to damage
- Data Transfer
 - Globus relies on GridFTP (although users can use any mechanism from within the job)
- Resource modelling/handling
 - Globus uses Grid Information Services (GIS) to learn about available resources
 - Globus user Resource Specification Language (RSL) to request resources
 UNICORE uses GetResources request and Java objects



GRIP and OGSA



- Clearly, Globus 2.x interoperability is of limitred value and interest
- Introduce OGSA compatibility
 - model the UNICORE Client↔Gateway protocols in WSDL✓
 - model internal interfaces (Gateway, NJS, TSI?)
 - produce an OGSA-compliant version of UNICORE
- Integrate the resource broker into OGSA

Availability and Outlook

- Current version: UNICORE 3.6
 - missing functionality: control tasks (If, Repeat, ...)
 - available for project partners and on request
 - starting May 2002: access to full sources
- Upcoming production version: UNICORE 4.0
 - supports control tasks
 - many improvements to the user interface
 release in July/August timeframe
 - partners and source repository will be updated
- Results from EUROGRID and GRIP to be made available in a similar manner ...

Open Issues



- Running a PKI in the real world - provide reasonable level of security
 - don't offend users ...
- Cope with security people
 - source IP-filtering makes access from anywhere impossible ...
 - work with stricter rules for outgoing IP
- Obnoxious authentication systems
 - SecurID and skey will require pass codes for trivial operations ...
- Get more user input

 - users of classic HPC centers
 industrial users (ASP-like model)

Further Information

- Leaflets (on a desk in the lobby)
- WWW pages

http://www.fz-juelich.de/unicore http://www.unicore.org http://www.eurogrid.org http://www.grid-interoperability.org

UNICORE Plus project **UNICORE** Forum EUROGRID project **GRIP** project

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