



Deliverable D5.1

Report on the Inventory of Deployed Services

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1 Executive summary

This deliverable is a living document serving as the report on the inventory of deployed and exploited middleware services in the context of the MAPPER project, in particular advanced multi-scale applications and their requirements that can not be fulfilled by existing e-Infrastructures. The report is a snapshot and it lists all the relevant middleware services deployed on European e-Infrastructures at the end of month 6 of the project. The main focus of this document is to present useful functionalities of different middleware services and tools that are not regular part of the available European e-Infrastructures: EGI and PRACE.

In principle, all the initially deployed middleware services in the MAPPER project are expected to extend capabilities provided by the existing e-Infrastructures and improve their interoperability. Nevertheless, the main goal of newly deployed middleware services and tools is to meet both specific needs and requirements of the MAPPER multi-scale applications. The list of described middleware services, despite of the early stage of the project, is not limited to services classified in project Description of Work [1] as the "fast track" components (i.e. tools identified as the minimal set of infrastructure components enabling the coupling of multi-scale applications), but it also includes tools classified as the "deep track" components (i.e. tools that realize fully automatic coupling and launching of multi-scale applications what is the target scenario). The deliverable shortly describes the key middleware services deployed on the pre-production MAPPER infrastructure. The report presents in the matrix form the availability of particular middleware services at given sites included in MAPPER. The current version of this report refers to the following middleware services: AHE, HARC, SPRUCE, QCG-BES/AR, QCG-Broker and GridSpace. Future versions of this deliverable will extend this list both in terms of the number of middleware services as well as their possible integration and deployment with middleware services provided in EGI and PRACE. Additionally, we will update the number of computing resource providers where the respective middleware services and tools are deployed and supported.

Finally, this report is a complementary document to other complementary reports that are published at the same time in Service Activities, namely:

- D4.1 Review of Applications, Users, Software and e-Infrastructures, and
- D6.1 Report on the Assessment of Operational Procedures and Definition of the MAPPER Operational Model.

2 Contributors

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3 List of Abbreviations

Item	Description
AHE	Application Hosting Environment
DEISA	Distributed European Infrastructure for Supercomputing Applications
EGEE	Enabling Grids for E-science
EGI	European Grid Initiative/Infrastructure
gLITE-WMS	gLite Workload Management System
HARC	The Highly-Available Resource Co-allocator
HPC	High-Performance Computing
JSDL	Job Submission Description Language
LFC	LCG File Catalog
NGS	National Grid Service
NW-Grid	The North West Grid
PBS	Portable Batch System
PL-Grid	Polish National Grid Initiative
QCG	QosCosGrid
SPRUCE	Special PRiority and Urgent Computing Environment
UNICORE	Uniform Interface to Computing Resources

Table 1. Abbreviations

4 Service descriptions

4.1 AHE

The Application Hosting Environment [2], AHE, developed at University College London, provides simple desktop and command line interfaces, to run applications on resources provided by national and international grids, in addition to local departmental and institutional clusters, while hiding from the user the details of the underlying middleware in use by the grid. In addition, a mobile interface for Windows Mobile based PDAs is available, and an iPhone interface is in development. The AHE is able to run applications on both UNICORE [3] and Globus [4] grids, meaning that a user can use a single AHE installation to access resources from the UK National Grid Service (NGS) [5] and the Distributed European Infrastructure for Supercomputing Applications (DEISA) [6] for example. Development of an European Grid Infrastructure (EGI) [7] connector for AHE is currently underway.

The AHE is designed to allow scientists to quickly and easily run unmodified, legacy applications on grid resources, manage the transfer of files to and from the grid resource and monitor the status of the application. The philosophy of the AHE is based on the fact that very often a group of researchers will all want to access the same application, but not all of them will possess the skill or inclination to install the application on remote grid resources. In the AHE, an expert user installs the application and configures the AHE server, so that all participating users can share the same application.

4.2 HARC

HARC, the Highly-Available Resource Co-allocator [8] developed at the Louisiana State University is an extensible, open-source system for creating and managing resource reservations. HARC uses Paxos Commit [9], a transaction commit protocol, to reserve multiple resources in a single, indivisible step. The most common use of HARC is to make advance reservations on multiple supercomputers. This functionality will be used by QCG-Broker [13] to co-allocate NGS resources for running cross-cluster multi-scale applications by the AHE service.

4.3 SPRUCE

The traditional high performance computing batch queue model does not allow or makes not easy for simulations to be prioritized by their urgency. Typically a grid will provide general purpose resources to a wide range of different users. If these resources are to be used by clinicians in support of their clinical practice, especially in support of emergency medical intervention planning, then some way is needed of prioritizing clinical simulations above the

normal workload on a computational resource. SPRUCE, A System for Supporting Urgent High-Performance Computing [10], developed at Argonne National Labs, USA, is a tool which allows this to happen. Clinicians and other users with simulations that are considered an emergency are issued with SPRUCE tokens, which allow them to submit emergency jobs to a machine. The SPRUCE middleware takes care of running the job in a high priority mode, pre-empting the work that is already running on the machine.

4.4 GridSpace

GridSpace [10] is a novel virtual laboratory framework enabling researchers to conduct virtual experiments including running of multi-scale applications on Grid-based resources and other HPC infrastructures. The current generation of GridSpace - GridSpace2 - facilitates the exploratory development of experiments by means of scripts which can be expressed in a number of popular languages, including Ruby, Python and Perl. The framework supplies a repository of gems enabling scripts to interface low-level resources such as Portable Batch System (PBS) [11] queues, EGEE computing elements, LCG File Catalog (LFC) [12] directories and other types of Grid resources. Moreover, GridSpace2 provides a Web 2.0-based Experiment Workbench supporting joint development and execution of virtual experiments by groups of collaborating scientists.

4.5 QosCosGrid

QosCosGrid [13] was designed as a multilayered architecture being capable of dealing with computationally intensive large-scale, complex and parallel simulations that are often impossible to run within one computing cluster. The QosCosGrid middleware enables computing resources (at the processor core level) from different administrative domains to be virtually welded via Internet into a single powerful computing resource. QosCosGrid delivers a ready-to-use stack of grid middleware software tightly integrated with commonly used programming and execution environments for large scale parallel simulations, such as OpenMPI [14] or ProActive [15]. Recently the QosCosGrid stack was integrated with the MUSCLE coupling library [16], a framework which is widely used by applications in the MAPPER project. Supporting a wide range of development frameworks as well as programming models relevant for multiscale application developers, QosCosGrid gives the ability to work across heterogeneous computing sites hiding the complexity of underlying e-Infrastructures by simplifying many complex deployment and access procedures. QosCosGrid services extend the functionality provided by the gLite and Unicore infrastructures offering advance reservation capabilities needed to co-allocate various types of resources required by many of the multi-scale applications.

4.5.1 QCG-BES/AR

The QCG-BES/AR [13] service (known also as the Smoa Computing) is an open architecture implementation of SOAP Web Service for multi-user access and policy-based job control routines by various Distributed Resource Management systems. It uses Distributed Resource Management Application API (DRMAA) [17] to communicate with the underlying DRM systems. QCG-BES/AR has been designed and implemented in the way to support different plugins and modules for external communication. Consequently, it can be used and integrated with various authentication, authorization and accounting infrastructures and other external services. QCG-BES/AR service is compliant with the OGF HPC Basic Profile [18] specification, which serves as a profile over the Job Submission Description Language (JSDL) [19] and OGSA® Basic Execution Service [20] Open Grid Forum standards. In addition, it offers remote interface for Advance Reservations management, and support for basic file transfer mechanisms. The service was successfully tested with the following Distributed Resources Management systems: Sun Grid Engine (SGE) [21], Platform LSF [22], Torque/PBSPro [23], PBS Pro, Condor [24], Apple XGrid [25] and Simple Linux Utility for Resource Management (SLURM) [26]. The Advance Reservations capabilities were exposed for SGE, LSF and Maui [27] (a scheduler that is typically used in conjunction with Torque) systems.

4.5.2 QCG-Broker

The Grid Resource Management System (GRMS aka QCG-Broker [13]) is an open source meta-scheduling system, which allows developers to build and deploy resource management systems for large scale distributed computing infrastructures. The QCG-Broker, based on dynamic resource selection, mapping and advanced scheduling methodology, combined with feedback control architecture, deals with dynamic Grid environment and resource management challenges. It is capable of load-balancing of jobs among clusters and co-allocating of resources. The main goal of the QCG-Broker is to manage the whole process of remote job submission to various batch queuing systems. It has been designed as an independent core component for resource management processes which can take advantage of various low-level core and grid services responsible for execution of jobs and reservation of resources on cluster machines. The QCG-Broker allows to co-allocate resources belonging to different e-Infrastructures and execute cross-cluster and cross-infrastructure multi-scale applications.

5 Deployment architecture

The Figure 1 extends a bit the bottom line of the initial overall architecture of the MAPPER project called: Middleware building blocks (see Figure 3 in D4.1). It shows how the new middleware service may potentially fit into the existing e-Infrastructures as an added entity to key middleware services available in EGI and PRACE. All the MAPPER components are marked green while the existing services are in violet. There is a clear distinction between the low level components (e.g. QCG-AR) that must be installed locally at the resource providers side and are integrated with underlying resource management systems and the high-level one (e.g. AHE), which can be deployed on third party resources.

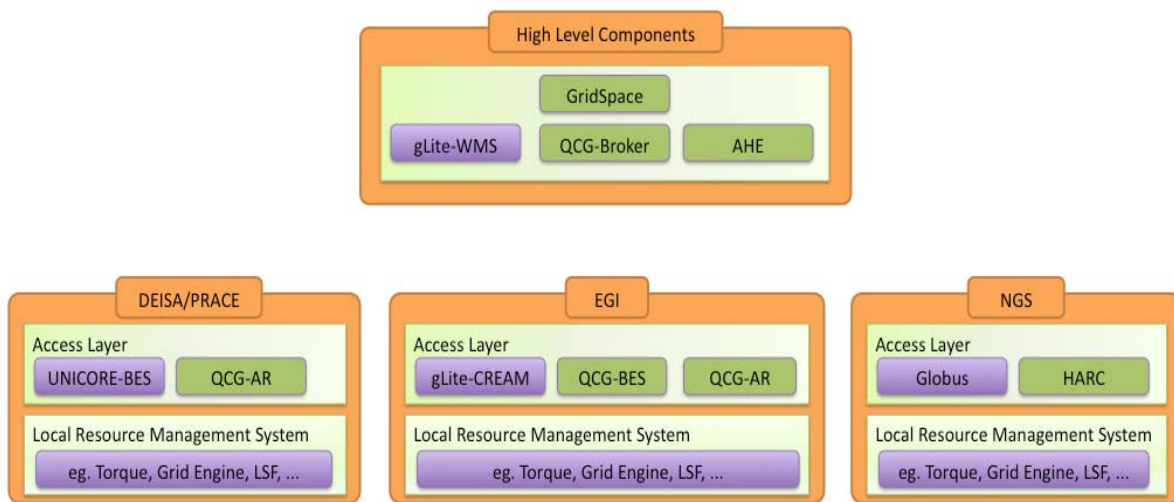


Figure 1 MAPPER deployment overview

6 The MAPPER testbed

The initial MAPPER testbed is mostly composed of resources and services provided by the MAPPER consortium:

- NW-Grid and NGS – represented by UCL
- PI-Grid NGI – represented in MAPPER by CYFRONET and PSNC.

7 Deployed services

The table below gives a detailed view on the deployment of the aforementioned services. The SPRUCE tool is not mentioned in the table. This is because it is not currently deployed on any site of the MAPPER initial testbed. However it is installed on TeraGrid and LONI e-Infrastructures in San Diego Supercomputing Center (SDSC), in National Center for

Supercomputing Applications (NCSA), in University of Chicago and Argonne National Laboratory (UC/ANL), in Texas Advanced Computing Center (TACC) and Louisiana Tech at Ruston.

Infrastructure	Institution	AHE ¹	HARC	GridSpace	QCG-BES/AR	QCG-Broker ²
NW-Grid	University of Manchester	No	No	No	No	No
NW-Grid	University of Lancaster	No	No	No	No	No
NW-Grid	University of Liverpool	No	No	No	No	No
NW-Grid	Daresbury Laboratory	No	No	No	No	No
NGS	University of Leeds	No	Yes	No	No	No
NGS	University of Manchester	No	Yes	No	No	No
NGS	University of Oxford	No	Yes	No	No	No
NGS	Rutherford Appleton Laboratory	No	No	No	No	No
NGS	University of Edinburgh	No	Yes	No	No	No
NGS	UCL	Yes	No	No	No	No
EGI (PL-Grid)	Cyfronet	No	No	Yes	Yes	No
EGI (PL-Grid)	PSNC	No	No	No	Yes	Yes

Table 2. Deployed services matrix

¹ AHE is deployed in UCL but is able to submit jobs to all NGS machines.

² QCG-Broker is able to submit jobs to all sites where the QCG-BES/AR service is deployed.

8 Summary

All the new middleware services and tools listed in this report were selected during the first six months due to useful features they provide for multi-scale application use-cases, in particular for tightly coupled multi-scale scenarios considered in the MAPPER project. As it was described in the previous section, all the services initially classified as “fast track” or “deep track” components, except SPRUCE (available mostly in the TeraGrid e-Infrastructure in the United States), have been successfully deployed on selected sites across Europe. All resource providers involved in the project supported the initial deployment phase. The next installation and deployment procedures are currently under discussions within the MAPPER consortium as well as with external communities, in particular with technical and operational representatives of EGI and PRACE. Thus, the next report will provide more information about deployed MAPPER services, and their availability on production EGI and PRACE sites in Europe. We will also include in the next report best practices and descriptions of reference installations of MAPPER services to help administrators to extend their existing setups and support advanced multi-scale application scenarios.

9 References

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