Grid Monitoring Projects

Each project funded by the HGF-A with 0.5 FTE

Poster Session, Mid-Term Review 30.11&1.12.2009

Getting all required information for a grid site is complicated

Monitoring information is not clearly arranged, there are:

- Many sources of valuable information
- Different information displays provided by different technologies

Totality of all monitoring systems is uncomfortable to use, you have to:

- Manage many browser tabs / windows
- Change the settings of the web interfaces (time range, site, …)
- Long waiting time until page opens up, often more than 30 seconds

Consequences:

- Unnecessary increase of administration effort for a grid site
- Difficult to identify correlations
- Nearly impossible to get a quick overview on a site's status for non experts, especially if several services at different sites are involved

Idea to ease administration: Meta-monitoring

Such a framework should:

- Collect and process all important monitoring information
- Present the current status of a grid site and its services
- Display simple rating / warning system (smiley faces, arrows, …)

Design properties:

- Framework has a modular layout: There is a static core that provides the basic functionality for the dedicated tests. The individual tests can be plugged in.
- Decoupling of collecting the information and the actual visualisation
- All information is accessible via a single website, including a history
- Visualisation should provide a smart and quick overview on the monitored service which also allows to identify correlations

The HappyFace Project provides such a smart summary of existing information

Site Specific Monitoring

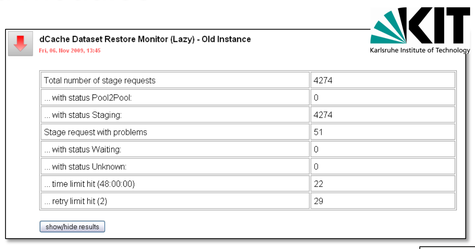
The HappyFace Project

of Multiple Information Systems

Selected modules

dCache Dataset Restore (Lazy)

- Processing of the dCache Dataset Restore Monitor web page
- Possibility to define thresholds of staging requests with problems
  - Time limit hit
  - Retry limit hit
  - Status waiting

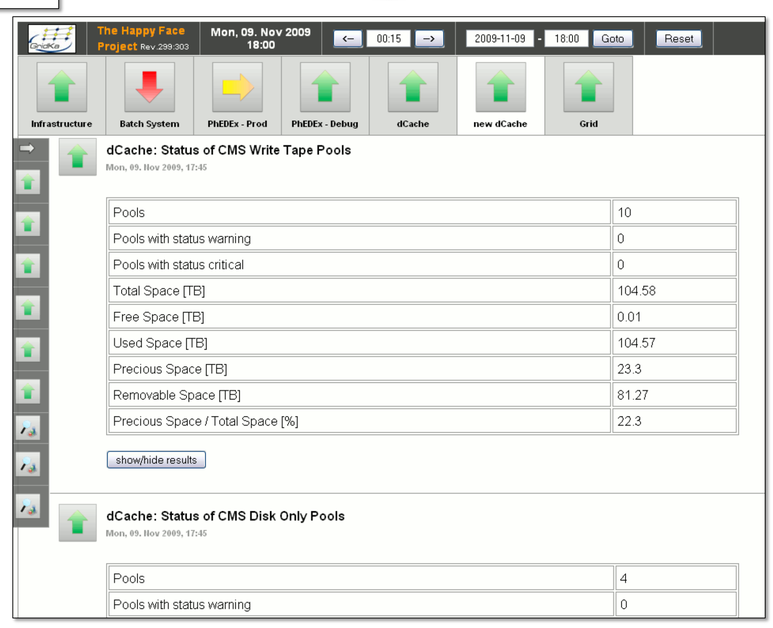


CMS PhEDEx Transfer Errors

- Parses the XML provided by the PhEDEx server
- Module distinguishes between source, destination, transfer and unknown error types
- Detailed information provided as sub table
- Error/warning thresholds are fully configurable

Architecture

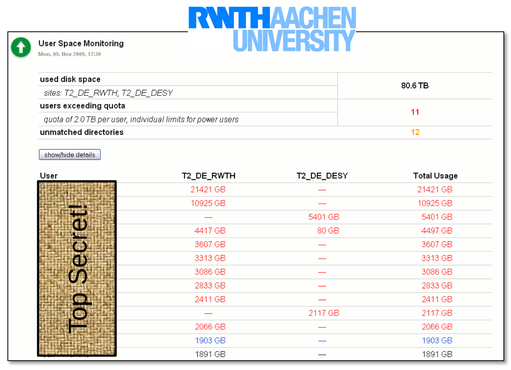
- The HappyFace Core provides all basic functionality needed by all tests and organises the test execution
- Each test is represented by a module, which can be plugged in
- Each module can be activated/arranged in the global configuration
- Core and all modules available on a central subversion repository
- Development of the modules in Aachen, Goettingen, Hamburg and Karlsruhe
- HappyFace used for the monitoring at 5 ATLAS/CMS sites



The Karlsruhe HappyFace Instance

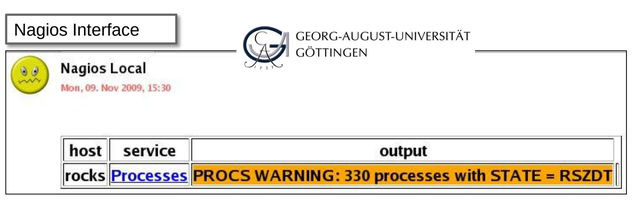
T2 User Space Monitoring

- Information about used disk space per user exported via xml
- The HappyFace module reads in and processes these xml files per site
- Plan: Provide certificate based access to this information



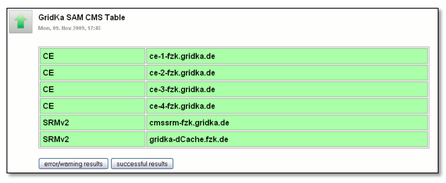
Nagios Interface

- Summarizes warnings and error messages of Nagios monitoring
- Combines advantages of Nagios (lots of modules, including modules from EGEE) and HappyFace (lightweight, clear)
- Communication via ssh



SAM Test Results

- Summary of the SAM tests for a site
- Supports experiment specific and ops test
- Sub tables for summary of test results



Job Execution Monitor

Wuppertal

User centric real-time grid job monitoring for the WLCG

*To deal with failures of user jobs on the LHC Computing Grid (LCG), the University of Wuppertal has developed the **Job Execution Monitor** (JEM), providing new possibilities to find problems in largely distributed computing grids and to allow for analyzing these problems in **nearly real-time**. JEM was developed primarily to aid physicists using the software framework **Athena** to simulate and analyse collision event data of the ATLAS detector, one of the four big experiments at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) at CERN, Geneva.*

JEM monitoring functionality

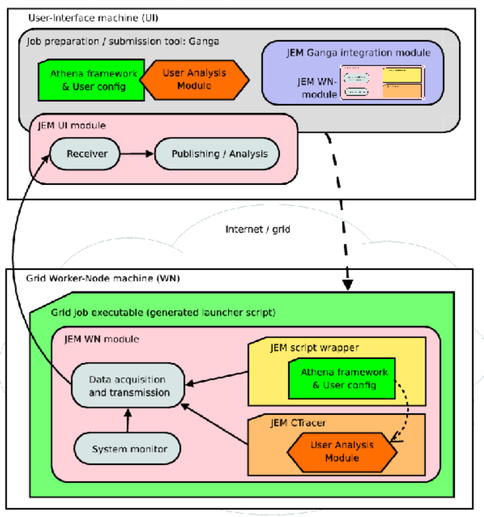
Data gathered by the Job Execution Monitor includes

- Detailled execution flow in **shell**- and **python scripts**, as well as in **compiled binary modules** by means of a novel technology named **C-Tracer**
- Periodic measurement of worker node system metrics like **CPU**- and **RAM-Usage**, network traffic, disk usage, etc.
- Monitoring of **job progress**: Job start-, end- and „next physics event"-notifications
- Real-time **peeking** in the job's (stdout/-err) output

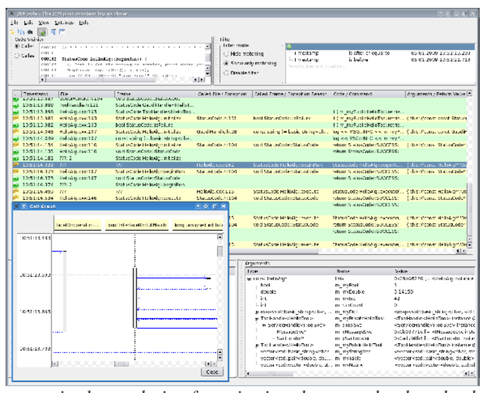
Using JEM, the user is able to trace problems in Athenas environment setup, helper functions and in the physics analysis itself **during the job's execution**. For the ease of use, JEM has recently been transparently integrated into ATLAS' grid job submittage and management-tool, **Ganga**.

Architecture of the monitoring software

The Job Execution Monitor is a distributed application, implemented in python, consisting of two main parts. One part is run in user space on the grid UI machine (the machine used to submit jobs to the grid) and the other part is submitted alongside the user jobs to grid computing elements (CEs).



Submitting a monitored Athena job. JEMs worker node module is run instead of the Athena-launcher, starting its services, and then spawning the user analysis algorithm. At the same time, on the grid user interface, the receiving module of JEM is run, that presents the data to the user.



To aid the user in the analysis of monitoring data, we developed a log viewer application providing useful functions like color-coding the data, sorting and filtering, browsing of user job memory, call- and dependency-graphs, etc

All monitoring data gathered during the job run is transmitted nearly in **real-time** to the UI machine to allow for **direct analysis**, as well as for **post-mortem job failure analysis** even if all of the job's output was discarded by the grid middleware as a result of the failure.

Using JEM, **valuable grid resource usage** can be optimized:

- By aborting, fixing and re-submitting **faulty jobs** as soon as an error is discovered, as opposed to after the job finished execution (possibly after hours of wasted CPU time)
- By finding the reason for jobs **hanging / never completing**
- By discovering the cause of job **crashes**.