

PROJECT INTRODUCTION

Objectives

To provide a simple and friendly interface for the Digital Media community to access applications running on the Grid.

Project Investigator / Manager

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Website

<http://www.ngp.org.sg/dmvgc/index.html>

Abstract

This project provides a simple and consistent interface for users of animation rendering software. Two animation rendering software are provided. More software will be provided later pending feedback.

PROJECT DETAILS

Description

The Digital Media Grid Portal aims to provide a simple and friendly user interface for the Digital Media community to harness compute resources available on the National Grid Pilot Platform (NGPP) to perform rendering jobs and generating in-betweens of key frames.

These applications are chosen because they are compute intensive while at the same time amenable to being partitioned into many smaller parts so that each component part can be run simultaneously in different machines over the grid. By taking advantage of the collective resources available on the NGPP, the execution time of the jobs can be significantly reduced and faster turnaround achieved.

As a start, the rendering engine provided is POV-Ray (open source) while the in-betweens generation engine is a Cel-Animation code provided by the School of Computer Engineering, Nanyang Technological University. We hope to provide commercial animation rendering software on the Digital Media Grid Portal in future.

The Digital Media Grid Portal provides a means to submit jobs in the form of input files (see figure) to the portal queue. The portal will distribute and schedule the job over existing and suitable resources to be executed. The completed job is then listed in the user's result queue which is protected by password and is only accessible to the owner user. The user will be able to view the first and last frames of generated.



Job Submission

Our primary goal is to gather feedback on the user interface as well as to understand from users the benefits of the system from the users. The system will then be enhanced accordingly.