

PROJECT INTRODUCTION

Objectives

To leverage on the Access Grid technology to facilitate distributed group collaboration.

Project Investigator / Manager

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Period of Project

02 Apr 2005 - Current

Website

<http://www.ngp.org.sg/accessgrid/>

Abstract

Besides computational resources, the National Grid Pilot Platform also supports Access Grid (AG). To date, several AG nodes have been established in Singapore. They have been used for project discussions, project presentations, virtual conferences, etc with overseas partners.

PROJECT DETAILS

Description

Access Grid™ (AG) is an ensemble of resources including multimedia large-format displays, presentation and interactive environments, and interfaces to Grid middleware and to visualization environments. The AG technology was developed by the Futures Laboratory @ Argonne National Laboratory and is deployed by the NCSA PACI Alliance. The Futures Lab continues to conduct research into ways to improve the AG (e.g. increase the scalability and to enhance the user interfaces)

An AG aims to enable groups of people to interact with Grid resources and to use the Grid technology to support group to group collaboration at a distance.

Over 200 access grid nodes around the world are collaborating using the AG technology. The first Access Grid node was launched in Singapore on 2 April 2004 where Professor Carole Goble (University of Manchester) presented on the myGrid UK e-science project at the Life Sciences Virtual Grid Community Symposium 2004.



Figure 1. Launch of AG node

We have extended the use of the AG node to other sites on NGPP, with the goal of using AG to enable international collaborations, and broadcast of events such as seminars. The National Grid Competency Centre conducts training courses on AG to equip attendees with the necessary skills to set up their own AG node. An AG Special Interest Group has been formed for interested partners to share and discuss on setup, pertinent issues, future plans, and align the efforts with the direction of AG for Singapore.