DIRAC – Grid solution for the LHCb community

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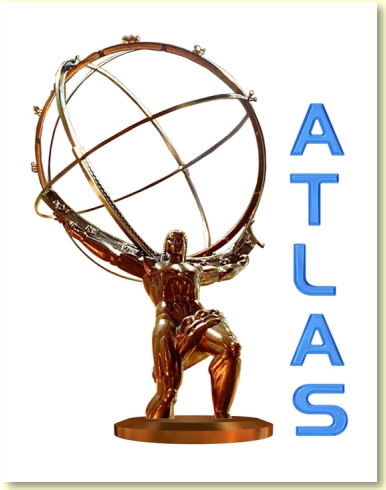
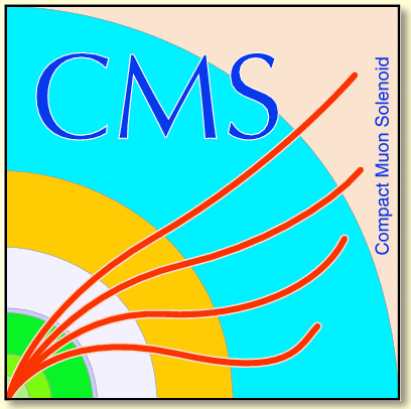
Outline

- Specific issues of large Grid Communities
- DIRAC:
  - Framework
  - WMS with Pilot Jobs
  - Security aspects of the model
  - User interfaces
- LHCb extensions to DIRAC
- Conclusion

HEP applications





- HEP experiments collect unprecedented volumes of data to be processed on large amount of geographically distributed computing resources
  - 10s of PBytes of data per year
  - 10s of thousands CPUs in 100s of centers
  - 1000s of users from 100s of institutions
- However, other application domains are quickly approaching these scales

Large VO issues

- Large user communities (Virtual Organizations) have specific problems
  - Dealing with heterogeneous resources
    - Various computing clusters, grids, etc
  - Dealing with the intracommunity workload management
    - User group quotas and priorities
    - Priorities of different activities
  - Dealing with a variety of applications
    - Massive data productions
    - Individual user applications, etc

General problems

- Overcome deficiencies of the standard grid middleware
  - Inefficiencies, failures
    - Production managers can afford that, users can not
  - Lacking specific functionality
- Alleviate the excessive burden from sites – resource providers – in supporting multiple VOs
  - Avoid complex VO specific configuration on sites
  - Avoid VO specific services on sites

VO solutions

- The complexity of managing the VO workload resulted in specific software layer on top of the standard grid middleware. Among the LHC experiments
  - ***AliEn*** in Alice
  - ***PanDA*** in Atlas
  - ***GlideIn WMS*** in CMS
  - ***DIRAC*** in LHCb

DIRAC Project

DIRAC Community Grid Solution

- DIRAC is a distributed data production and analysis system used by the LHCb experiment
  - Includes workload and data management components
  - Was developed originally for the MC data production tasks
  - Extended to data processing and user analysis
  - The goal was:
    - Integrate all the heterogeneous computing resources available to LHCb
    - Minimize human intervention at LHCb sites

DIRAC: complete chain

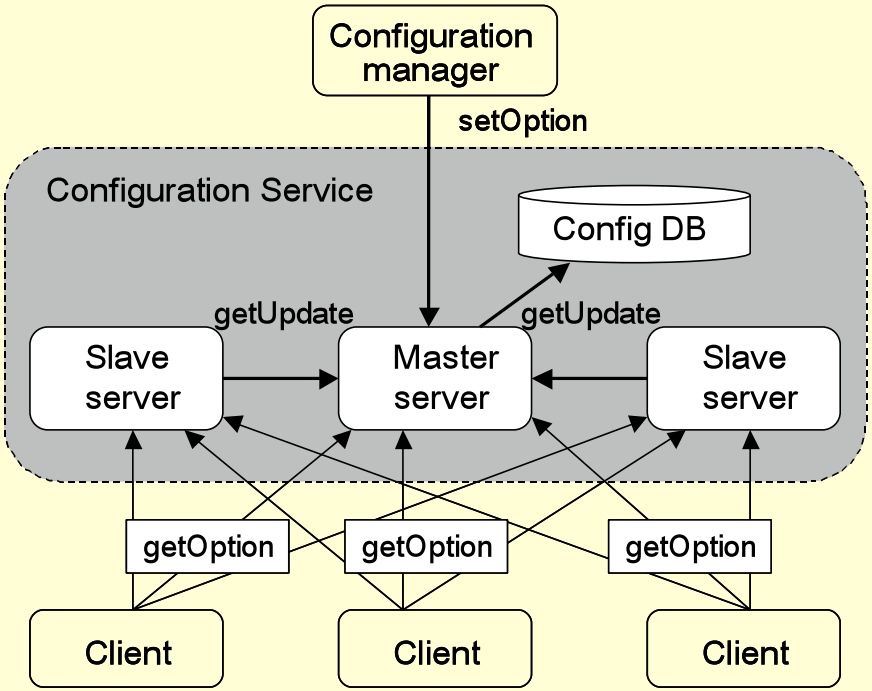
- DIRAC is covering all the LHCb needs in the distributed data processing
  - Data export from the experiment pit to CERN off-line storage
  - Automatic data distribution to Tier-1 centers
  - Automatic creation and submission of the data reconstruction jobs
  - Automatic distribution of the analysis data
  - Full management of the MC data production
  - Full support for the user analysis jobs
- Different subsystems built in the same framework
  - Reuse of technical solutions in different subsystems
  - A concerted team of developers sharing experience

DIRAC Framework

- Services oriented architecture
  - DIRAC systems consist of services, light distributed agents and client tools
- All the communications between the distributed components are secure
  - DISET custom client/service protocol
    - Control and data communications
  - X509, GSI security standards
  - Fine grained authorization rules
    - Per individual user FQAN
    - Per service interface method
    - Per job

DIRAC base services

- Redundant Configuration Service
  - Provides service discovery and setup parameters for all the DIRAC components
- Full featured proxy management system
  - Proxy storage and renewal mechanism
  - Support for multiuser pilot jobs
- System Logging service
  - Collect essential error messages from all the components
- Monitoring service
  - Monitor the service and agents behavior



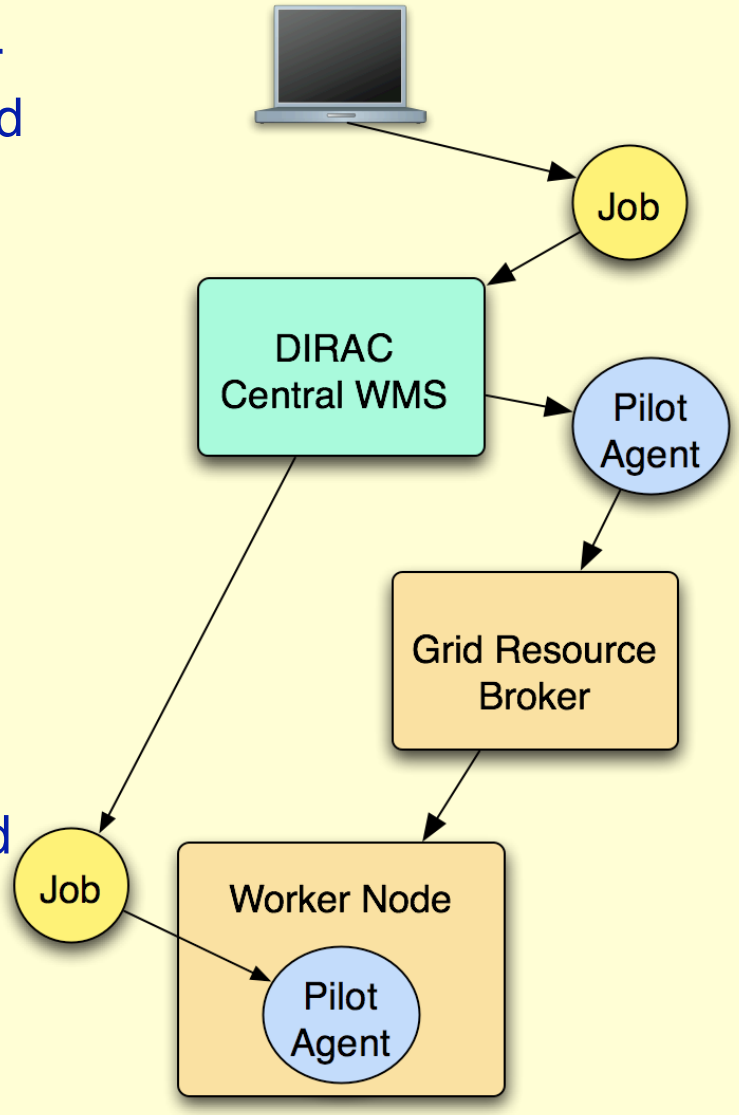
DIRAC development environment

- Python is the main development language
  - Fast prototyping/development cycle
  - Platform independence
- MySQL database for the main services
  - ORACLE database backend for the LHCb Metadata Catalog
- Modular architecture allowing an easy customization for the needs of a particular community
  - Simple framework for building custom services and agents

Workload Management

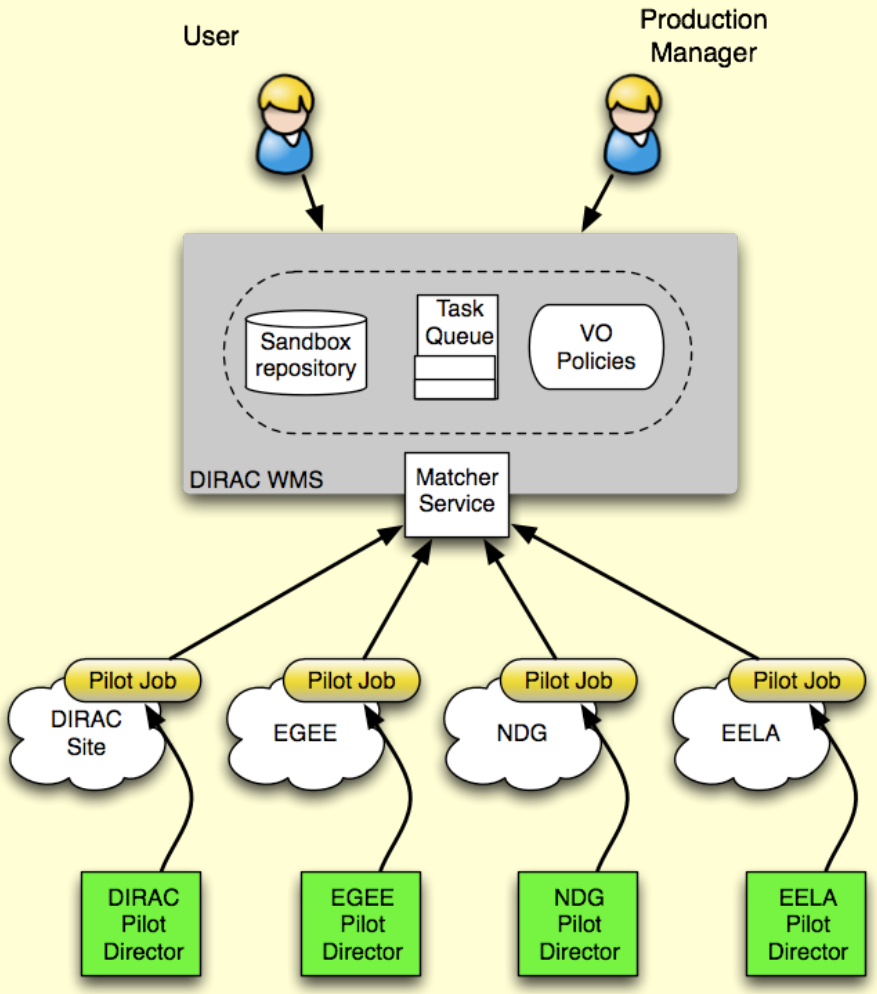
Pilot Jobs in a nutshell

- Pilot agents are deployed on the Worker Nodes as regular jobs using the standard grid scheduling mechanism
  - Form a distributed Workload Management system
  - Reserve the resource for immediate use
- Once started on the WN, the pilot agent performs some checks of the environment
  - Measures the CPU benchmark, disk and memory space
  - Installs the application software
- If the WN is OK the user job is ***pulled*** from the central DIRAC Task Queue and executed
  - Terminate gracefully if no work is available



DIRAC WMS

- Jobs are submitted to the DIRAC Central Task Queue with credentials of their owner (VOMS proxy)
- Pilot Jobs are submitted by specific Directors to a Grid WMS with credentials of a user with a special Pilot role
- The Pilot Job fetches the user job and the job owner's proxy
- The User Job is executed with its owner's proxy used to access SE, catalogs, etc

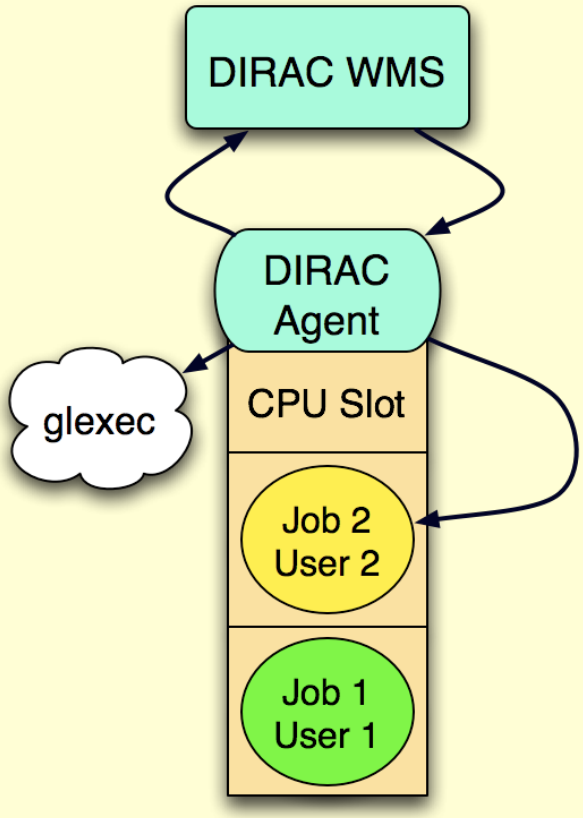


User Job efficiency

- Improved visible reliability due to pilot agents
  - ~96% efficiency for DIRAC jobs vs 70-90% efficiency for the WLCG jobs
- If some resources are failing, it is just seen as a reduced pool of resources for the users
- An excess of Pilot Jobs over User Jobs just to cover inefficiencies of Computing Resources or Grid middleware
  - it is normal that computing resources are failing but
  - it is not normal that users are suffering from that

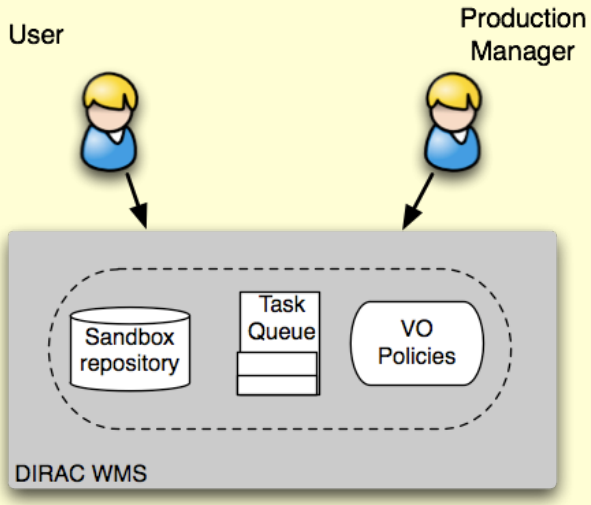
Workload optimization

- Pilot Agents work in an optimized 'Filling Mode'
  - Multiple jobs can run in the same CPU slot
  - Significant performance gains for short, high priority tasks
  - Also reduces load on LCG since fewer pilots are submitted
  - Needs reliable tools to estimate remaining time in the queue
- Considering also agents in a "preemption" mode
  - Low priority task can be preempted by a high priority tasks
    - Low priority, e.g. MC, jobs behave as resource reservation for analysis jobs



WMS: applying VO policies

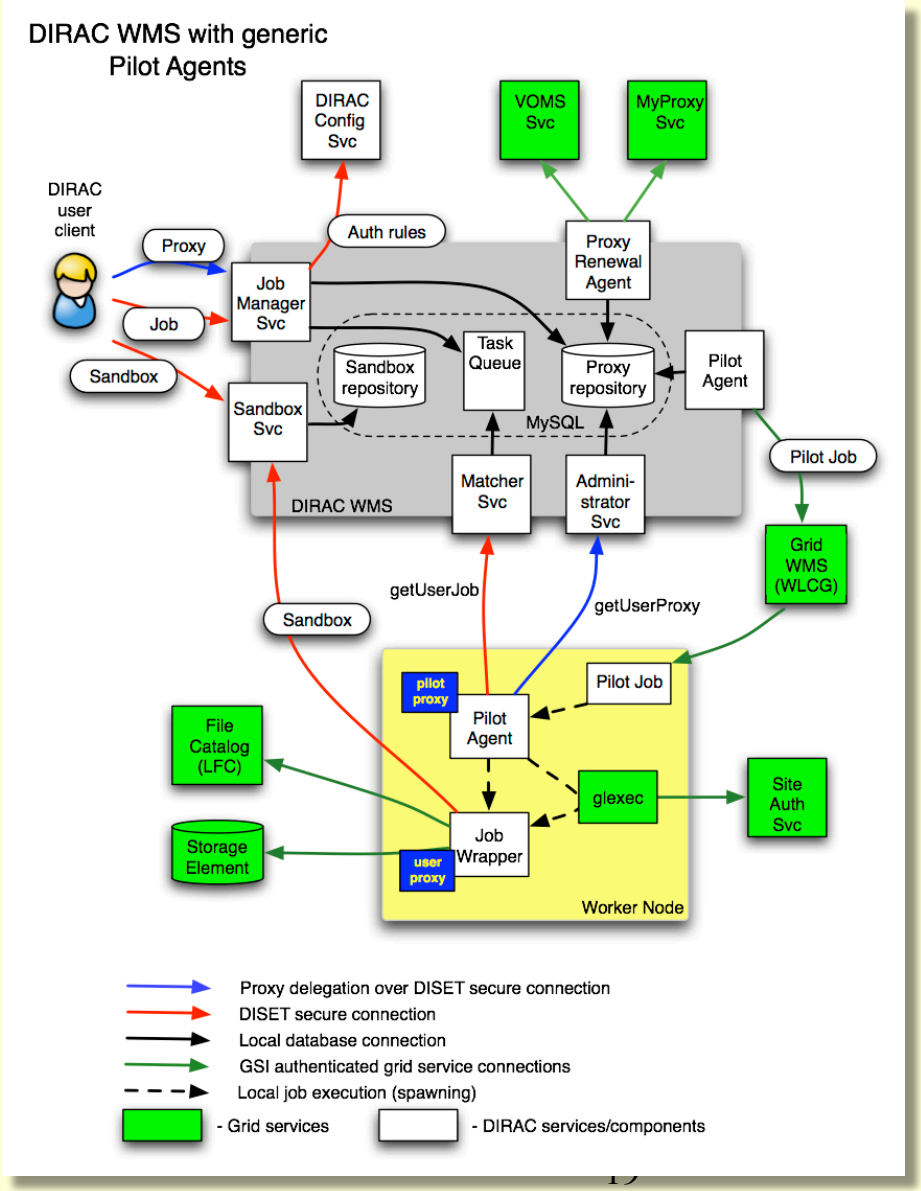
- In DIRAC both User and Production jobs are treated by the same WMS
- This allows to apply efficiently policies for the whole VO
  - Assigning Job Priorities for different groups and activities
  - Static group priorities are used currently
  - More powerful scheduler can be plugged in
    - demonstrated with MAUI scheduler



- The VO policies application in the central Task Queue dictates the use of Multiuser Pilot Agents
  - Do not know apriori whose job has the highest priority at the moment of the user job matching
- DIRAC fully supports this mode of operation
  - Multiuser Pilots Jobs submitted with a special “pilot” VOMS role
  - Using glexec on the WNs to track the identity of the payload owner

Security issues of the model

- The VO WMS must be as secure as the basic grid middleware
  - User job submissions using grid security standards: GSI
  - Secure proxy storage in the WMS repository
- The VO WMS takes over the user proxy renewal
  - Limited user proxy
  - Limited number of proxy retrievals per pilot
- Sites still retain the full right to control which individuals are accessing their resources
  - SCAS/glexec facility to authorize user workload execution on the worker node

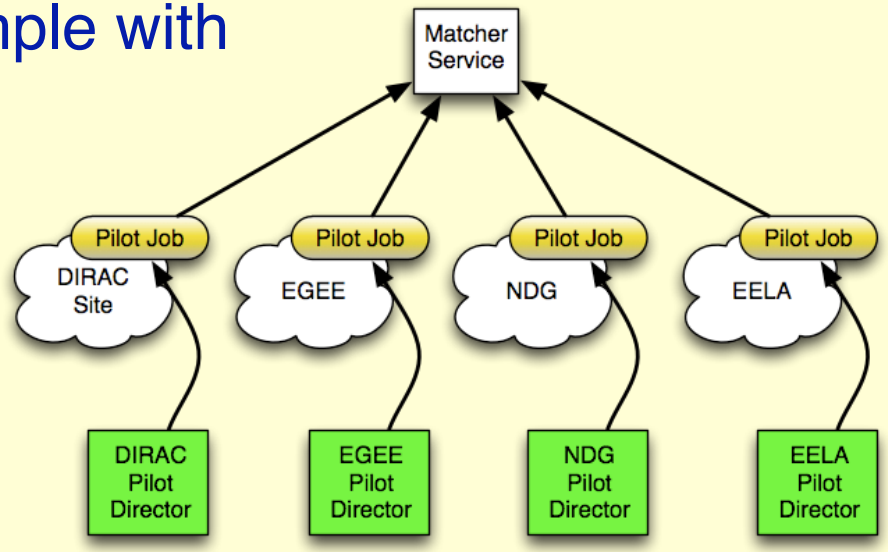


Advantages for site resources providers

- No need for a variety of local batch queues per VO
  - One long queue per VO would be sufficient
  - 24-48 hours queue is a reasonable compromise
    - Site maintenance requirements
  - Reduced number of grid jobs
- No need for specific VO configuration and accounting on sites
  - Priorities for various VO groups, activities
  - User level accounting is optional
- In the whole it can lower the site entry threshold
  - Especially useful for newcomer sites

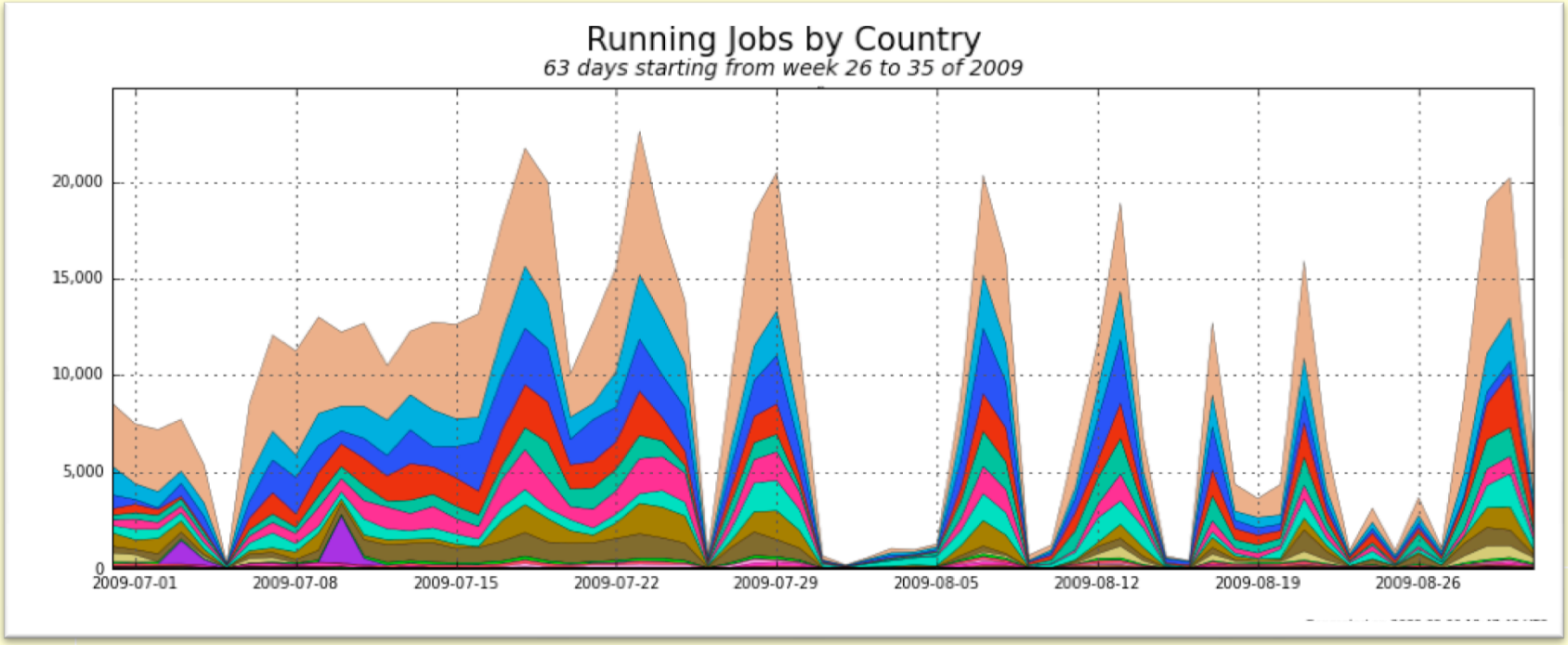
WMS: using heterogeneous resources

- Including resources in different grids and standalone clusters is simple with Pilot Jobs
  - Needs a specialized Pilot Director per resource type
  - Demonstrated with NDG and EELA grid sites
  - Users just see new sites appearing in the job monitoring



- Other resources soon to be included
  - LHCb Online Farm (4K cores, no batch system)
  - Commercial computing clouds (e.g. Amazon EC2)

WMS performance



- DIRAC performance measured in the recent production and FEST'09 runs
  - Up to 25K concurrent jobs in ~120 distinct sites
  - One mid-range central server hosting DIRAC services
  - Further optimizations to increase capacity are possible
    - Hardware, database optimizations, service load balancing, etc

User Interfaces

DIRAC user interfaces

- Easy client installation for various platforms (Linux, MacOS)
  - Includes security components
- JDL notation for job description
  - Simplified with respect to the « standard » JDL
- Command line tools
  - à la gLite UI commands
  - e.g. `dirac-wms-job-submit`
- Extensive Python API for all the tasks
  - Job creation and manipulation, results retrieval
    - Possibility to use complex workflow templates
  - Data operations, catalog inspection
  - Used by GANGA user front-end

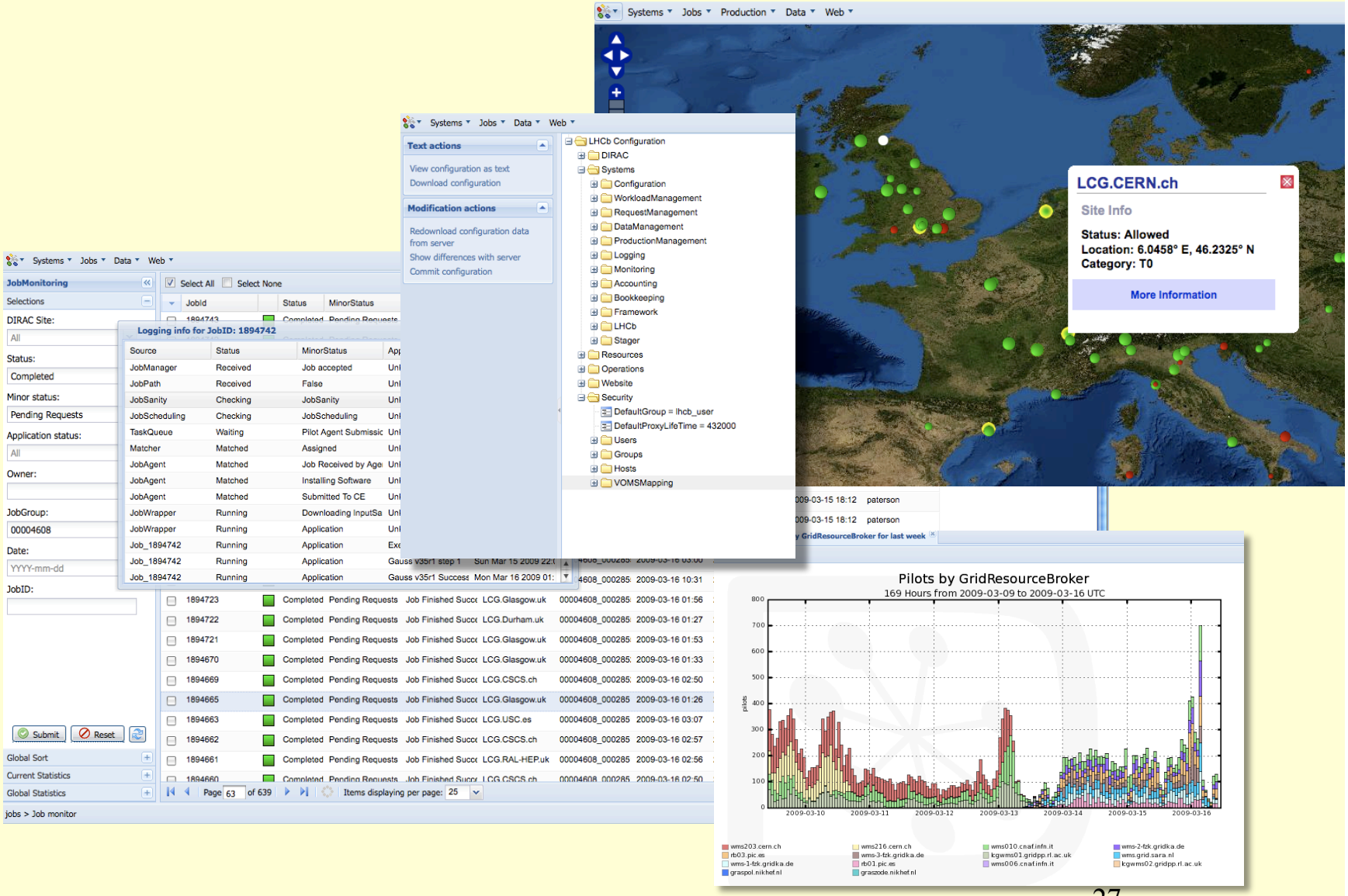
Example job submission

```
from DIRAC.Interfaces.API.Dirac import Dirac
from Extensions.LHCb.API.LHCbJob import LHCbJob
…
myJob = LHCbJob()
myJob.setCPUTime(50000)
myJob.setSystemConfig('slc4_ia32_gcc34')
myJob.setApplication('Brunel','v32r3p1','RealDataDst200Evts.opts','LogFileName.log')
myJob.setName('DIRAC3-Job')
myJob.setInputData(['/lhcb/data/CCRC08/RAW/LHCb/CCRC/420157/420157_0000098813.raw'])
#myJob.setDestination('LCG.CERN.ch')
dirac = Dirac()
jobID = dirac.submit(myJob)
…
dirac.status(<JOBID>)
dirac.parameters(<JOBID>)
dirac.loggingInfo(<JOBID>)
…
dirac.getOutputSandbox(<JOBID>)
```

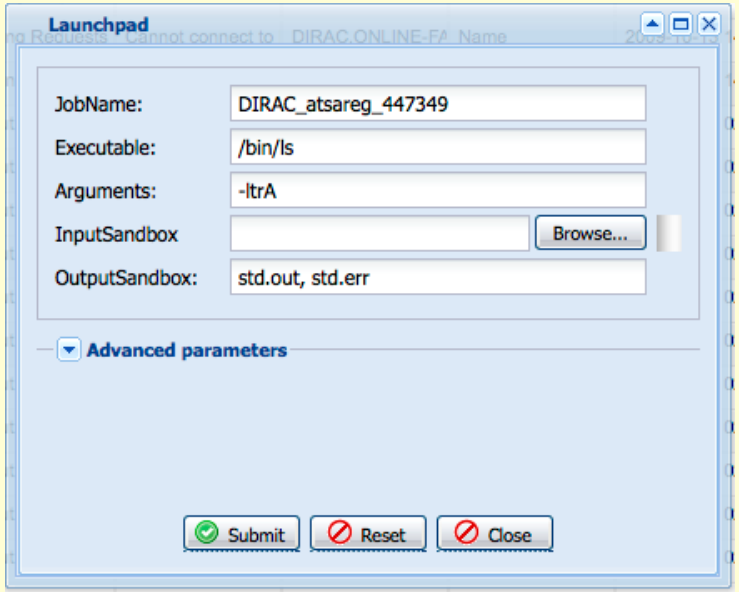
DIRAC: Secure Web Portal

- Web portal with intuitive desktop application like interface
  - Ajax, Pylons, ExtJS Javascript library
- Monitoring and control of all activities
  - User job monitoring and manipulation
  - Data production controls
  - DIRAC Systems configuration
- Secure access
  - Standard grid certificates
  - Fine grained authorization rules

Web Portal: example interfaces



Web Portal: user tasks



- Data discovery, job monitoring
- Job submission through the Web Portal
  - Full GSI security
  - Sandboxes uploading and downloading
    - Difficult for bulky data files though
  - Generic Job Launchpad panel exists in the basic DIRAC Web Portal
    - Can be useful for newcomers and occasional users
- Specific application Web Portals can be derived
  - Community Application Servers
    - All the grid computational tasks steered on the web
  - VO “formation” DIRAC instance to be deployed at CC/IN2P3

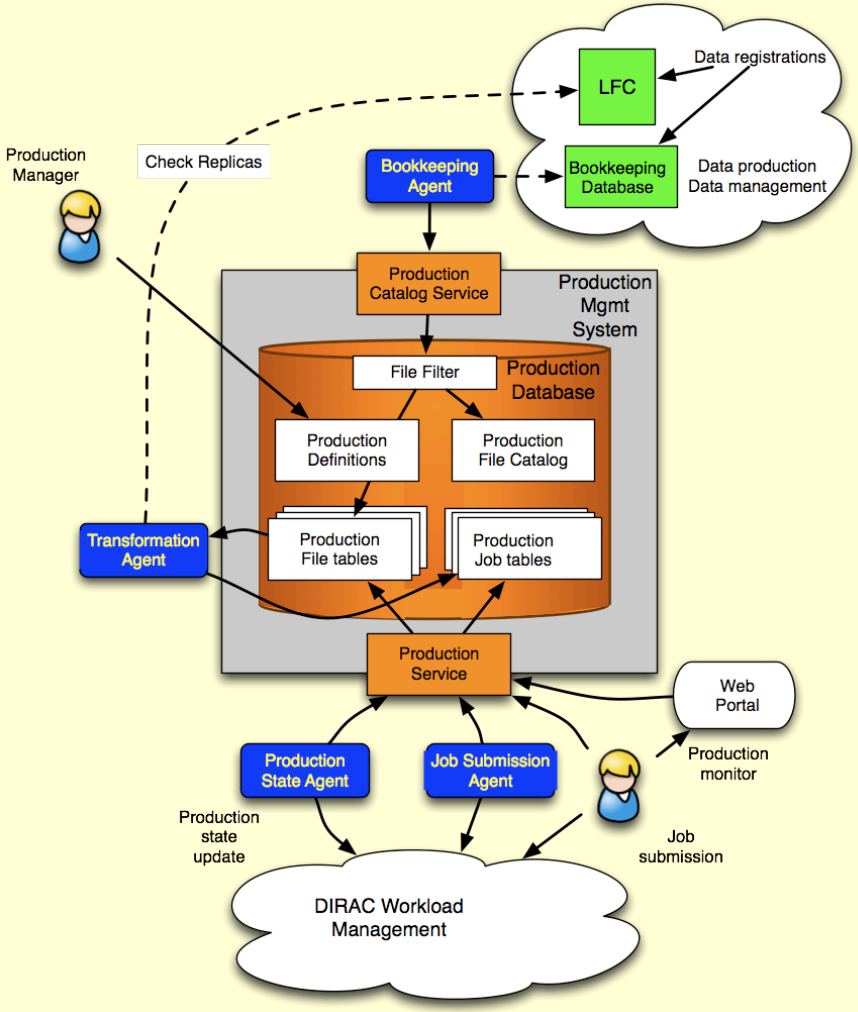
LHCb and other extensions

DIRAC LHCb extensions

- High level LHCb systems are built in the same DIRAC framework
  - Collaborating services and agents
  - Web based monitoring and controls
  - Detailed authorization rules

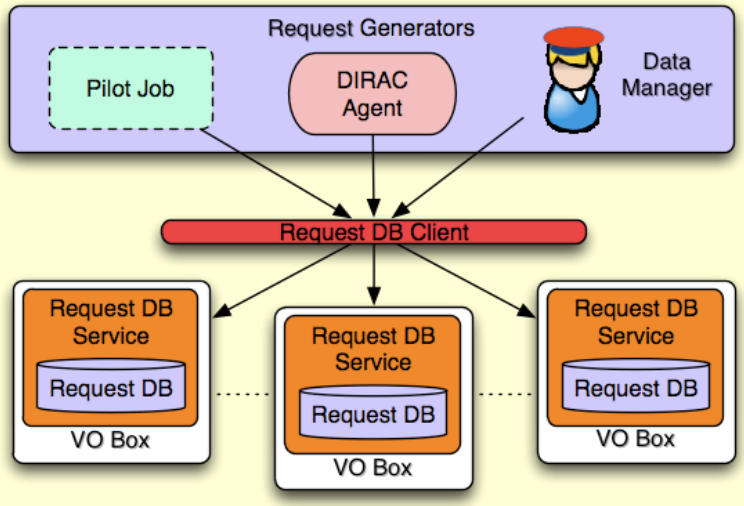
Production Management System

- Production Management built on top of the DIRAC WMS and DMS
  - Data requests formulated by users are processed and monitored using Web based tools
  - Automatic data reconstruction jobs creation and submission according to predefined scenarios
  - Interfaced to the LHCb Bookkeeping Database
  - Built using the DISET framework



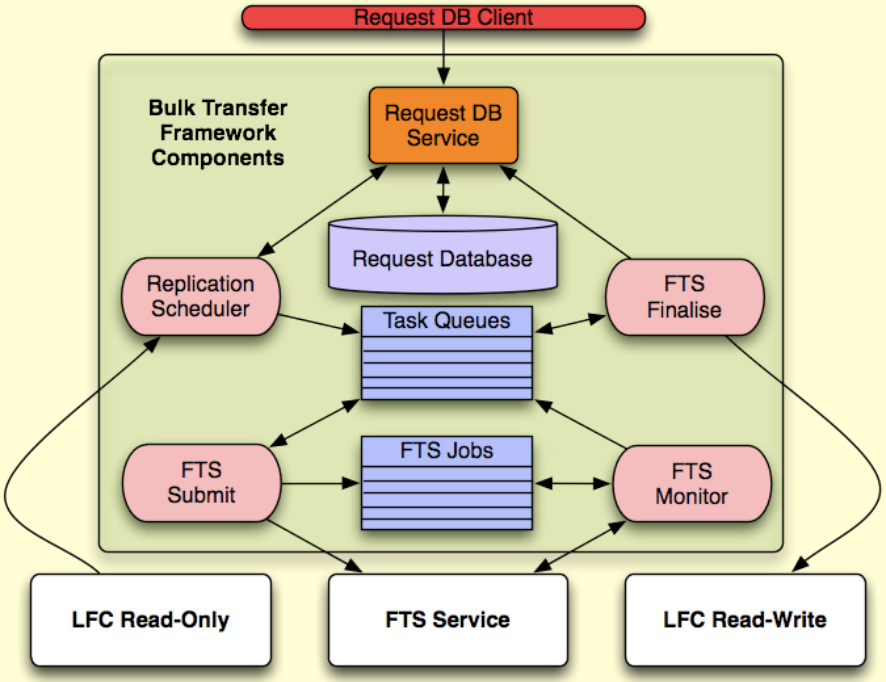
Request Management system

- A Request Management System (RMS) to accept and execute asynchronously any kind of operation that can fail
  - Data upload and registration
  - Job status and parameter reports
- Request are collected by RMS instances on VO-boxes at 7 Tier-1 sites
  - Extra redundancy in VO-box availability
- Requests are forwarded to the central Request Database
  - For keeping track of the pending requests
  - For efficient bulk request execution

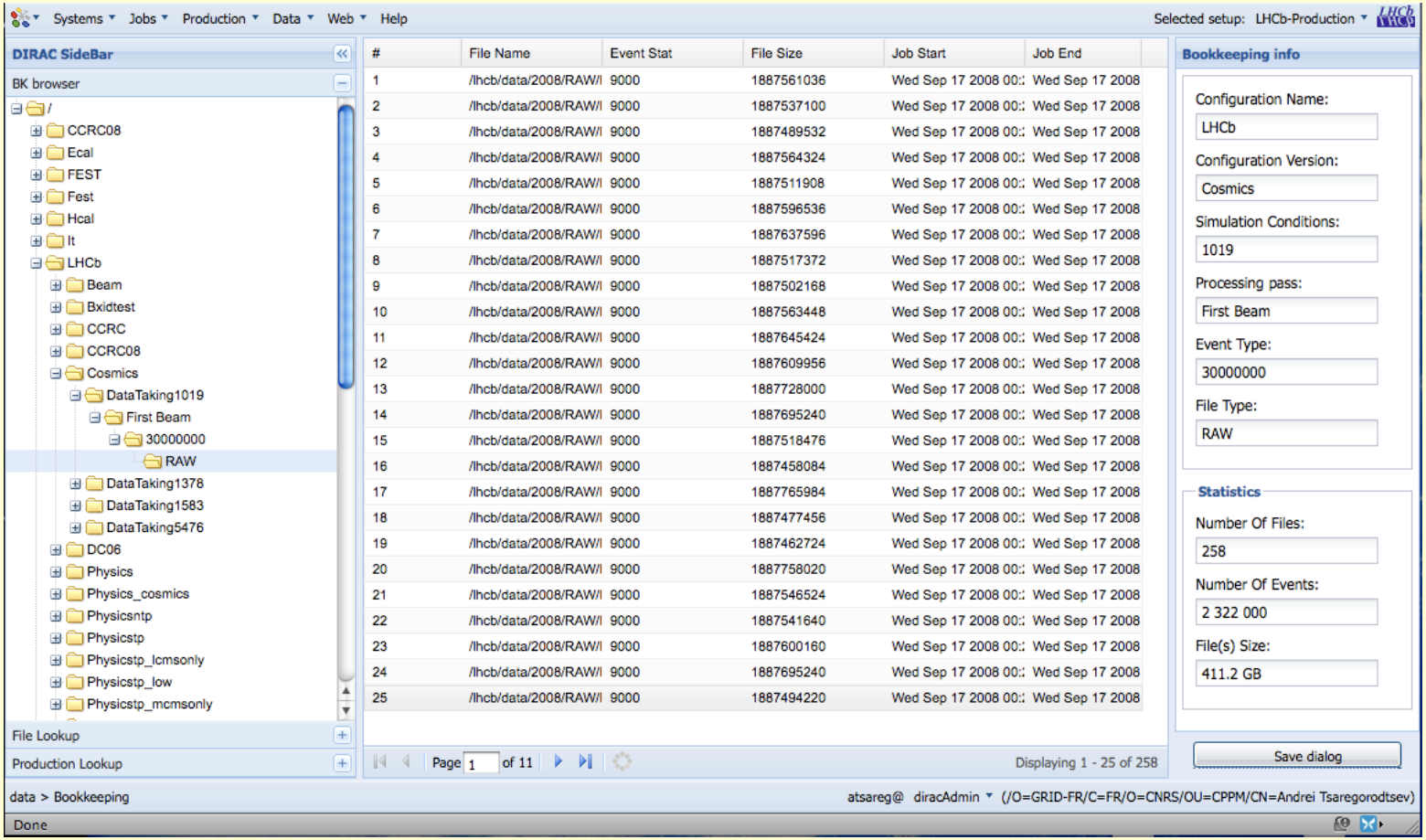


Data Management System

- All the Data Distribution operations
  - Pit to CERN transfers
  - T0-T1 transfers
  - T1-T1 transfers
- Based on the Request and Production Management Systems
  - Automatic transfer scheduling
  - Full monitoring of ongoing operations
- Using FTS for bulk data transfers
  - Full failure recovery
- Comprehensive checks of data integrity in SEs and File Catalogs



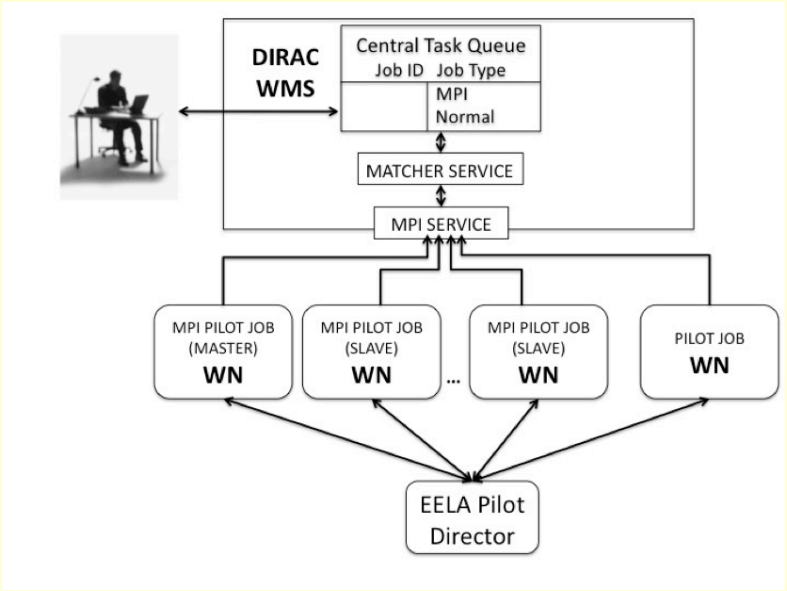
LHCb Web: Bookkeeping page



- Interface to the LHCb Metadata Catalog
  - Part of the LHCb DIRAC Web Portal

Support for MPI Jobs

- MPI Service developed for applications in the EELA Grid
  - Astrophysics, BioMed, Seismology applications
  - No special MPI support on sites
    - MPI software installed by Pilot Jobs
  - MPI ring usage optimization
    - Ring reuse for multiple jobs
      - ➡ Lower load on the gLite WMS
    - Variable ring sizes for different jobs



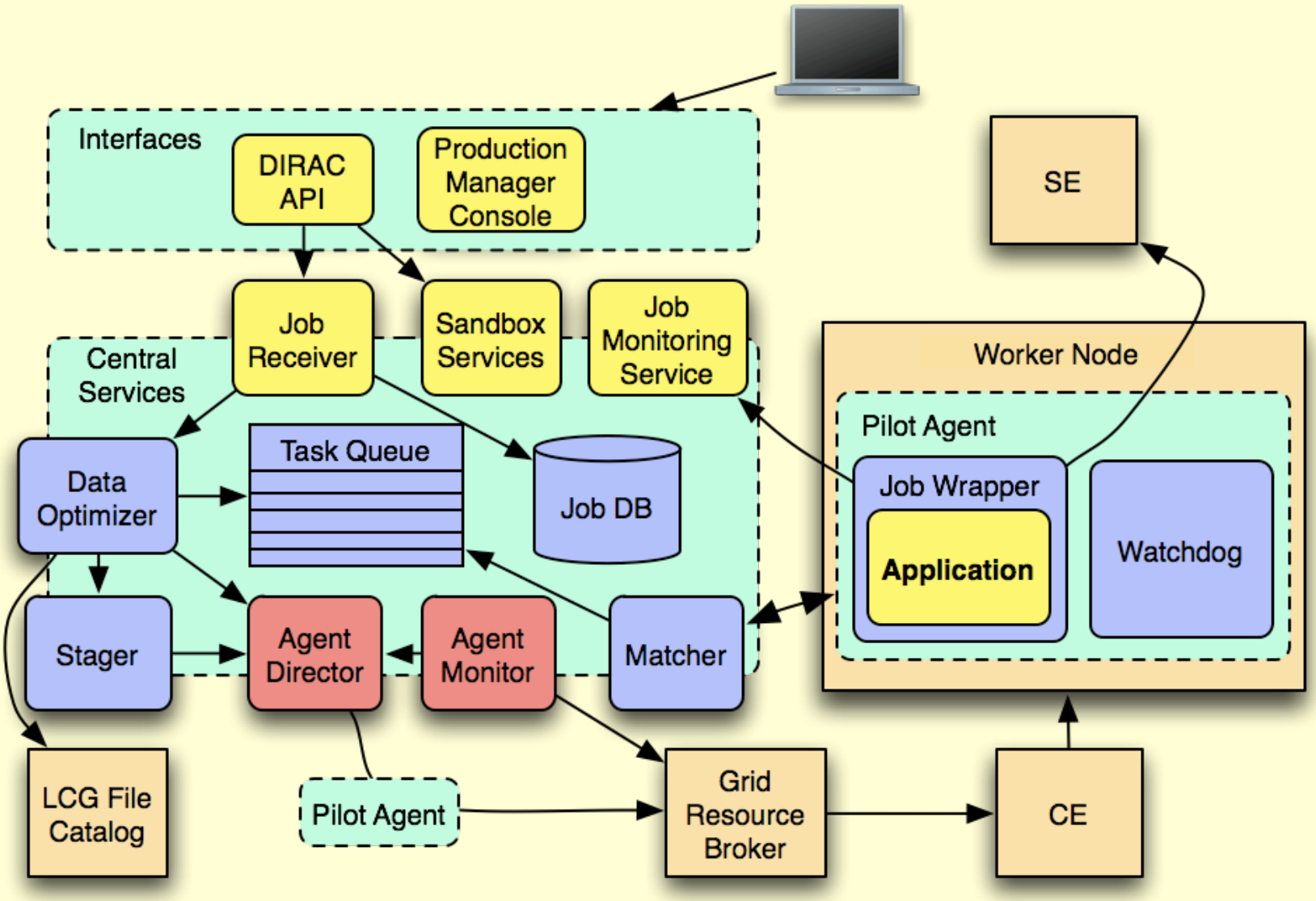
Conclusions

- DIRAC project provides a secure framework for building distributed computing (grid) system
- The WMS with Pilot Jobs addresses (if not solves) multiple problems that large VOs are facing:
  - Heterogeneity of computing resources
  - VO policies, task prioritization
  - Resources and middleware inefficiencies
- The DIRAC Framework can be used to build application specific services and portals
  - Complex LHCb Production Management systems
  - Examples exist also outside the HEP domain

http://dirac.cern.ch

Backup slides

DIRAC WMS components

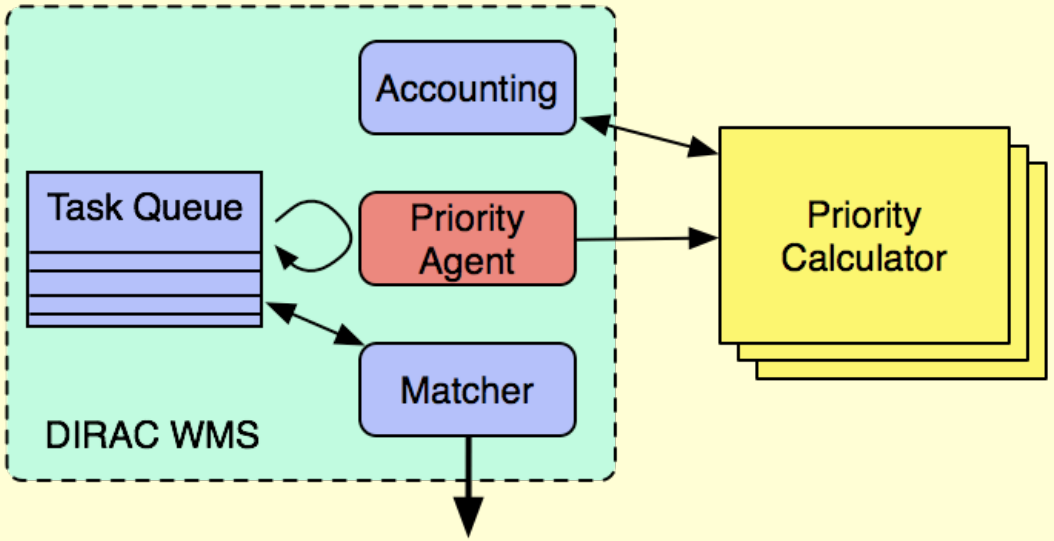


VO policies application: two ways

- Define VO policies on each of participating sites
  - Overly complicated to define and to maintain on hundreds of sites
    - Failed so far to provide efficient tools to help this task
  - Imprecise due to latencies in local queues
- Apply VO policies in the central Task Queue
  - Easy to maintain in just one place
  - Precise due to late scheduling
    - Pilot is picking up the highest priority job from the central Task Queue for immediate execution
  - Needs Multiuser Pilot Jobs
    - Pilot Job capable of executing any user's job

Job Prioritization and VO Policies

- The Matcher service assigns jobs to the requirements presented by Agents that have captured resources
  - Highest priority job dispatched first
- Priority Calculator
  - Static user and group priorities
  - Standard batch system components, e.g. Maui scheduler
  - Others, e.g. “economy models”



DIRAC overlay network

- DIRAC pilots form an overlay network hiding the variety of underlying resources
  - A way for grid interoperability for a given Community
  - Needs specific Agent Director per resource type
- From the user perspective all the resources are seen as a single large “batch system”