DIRAC User Workshop summary



A.Tsaregorodtsev, CPPM, Marseille



- More and more intensive use of DIRAC, more jobs to process
 - Not only in LHCb
- Good progress in the WMS scalability with the introduction of the Executors framework
 - The bottle neck on the new level moves from the jobs preexecution optimization to matching and status monitoring
 - The current scalability goal is set to
 - 1M jobs per day, 100K concurrent jobs



- Necessity to manage large collections of jobs
 - Parametric jobs help solving bulk submission problems
 - The current implementation is fully functional
 - But hits the limits already and should reimplemented in a more scalable way
 - Tools for monitoring and managing large groups of jobs are necessary
 - Web tools
 - UI tools



- The Transformation System is heavily used by LHCb, ILC
 - Is showing scalability problems
 - addressed recently by LHCb
 - More reviewing is necessary
 - further optimization
 - More general purpose task generation plugins



- The system initially introduced to provide a failover mechanism for DIRAC is now heavily to support workflows, scheduled data transfers, etc
 - The functionality of the RMS is well demanded
 - The implementation is not fitting the scalability goals
- The RMS revision/reimplementation is ongoing as a high priority task
 - When ready, will boost the performance of the Production and Data Management systems



- Automation of Data Management tasks is well advanced with the new implementation of the DMS agents
 - Allows to use failover and data driven replication by any user, not only production managers
 - Good basis for a general purpose Replication Service
- We should be ready for the changes in the third party services that we are using
 - FTS3/GFAL2
 - LFC (?) support



- Starting to be used by multiple users
 - Parallel usage of LFC and DFC for testing, redundancy, complementarity.
- Infancy problems are getting solved, performance is improving
- Practical needs are being addressed
 - Storage usage, user quotas, etc
- Data set management support should be addressed after understanding by both users and developers of the actual functionality needed
- Metadata management has the first implementation which already proves to be useful and efficient
 - More metadata schemas are considered and prototyped
 - The users will have a choice which is always good.



- DIRAC as a service takes responsibility of managing resources for multiple user communities
 - Especially when taking over the WMS role
- The CS schema must be updated to support richer description of the resources
 - Including access rights
 - RFC5 implementation is a high priority task
- Monitoring of the status of all the resources is becoming a crucial task
 - The available implementation of the RSS should be released, tested and put in production as a high priority task



- Many real and potential users of the DIRAC software and services having already developed rich application level tools
 - Submission frameworks, portals, etc
- Necessity for a language neutral interface is high
 - The RESTful interface is highly awaited feature
 - Will be ready to try out soon
 - The interface itself must be defined



- The Web portal framework needs replacement of underlying third party software (Pylons, ExtJS4)
- The task force is formed to choose the new third party software and to defined the new Web Portal development framework
 - Keeping in mind flexibility, possibility for extensions, etc.
- Tough deadlines
 - The choices are to be done before the end of the year
 - First prototype in the new framework in 2-3 months
 - The newly implemented Web Portal in 6-12 months
 - Keeping the full support of the current Web portal



- DIRAC as a service becomes an important way of using the DIRAC software
- This needs specific developments
 - Resources management
 - Friendly VO administrator tools
- Documentation
 - User, administrator



- Thanks to the France-Grille project for sponsoring the DIRAC User Workshop
- Thanks to Angelique Pepe for the help in the organization of the workshop logistics
- Thanks to participants for fruitful discussions
- Hope that you have enjoyed the workshop
- See you in the next DIRAC User Workshop
 - The date and venue is to be defined