Job Submission to Grid Computing Environments

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NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

eMinerals

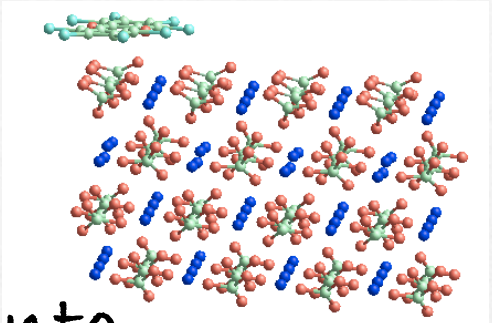
Outline..

- eMinerals project background
- Submission tools and their requirements
- my_condor_submit
- Parameter sweeps (ensemble studies)

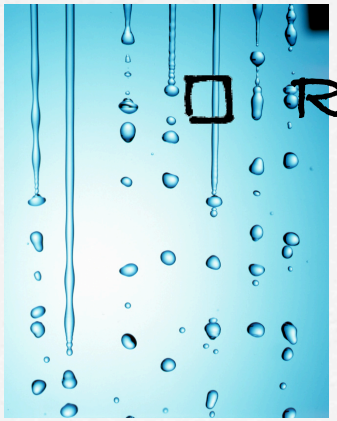
The eMinerals project

- Fairly large, NERC funded project
  - 6 Institutions
  - 30 staff - PhD through to Professors
- Wide ranging research interests
  - Scientific modelling
  - ...
  - Grid computing

eMinerals Science Research

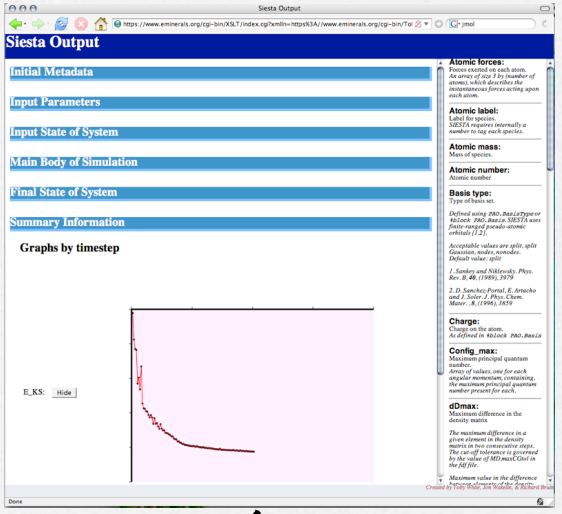


- Pollutants and their adsorption onto minerals
- Water (and its influence on adsorption)
- Radiation damage / waste containment



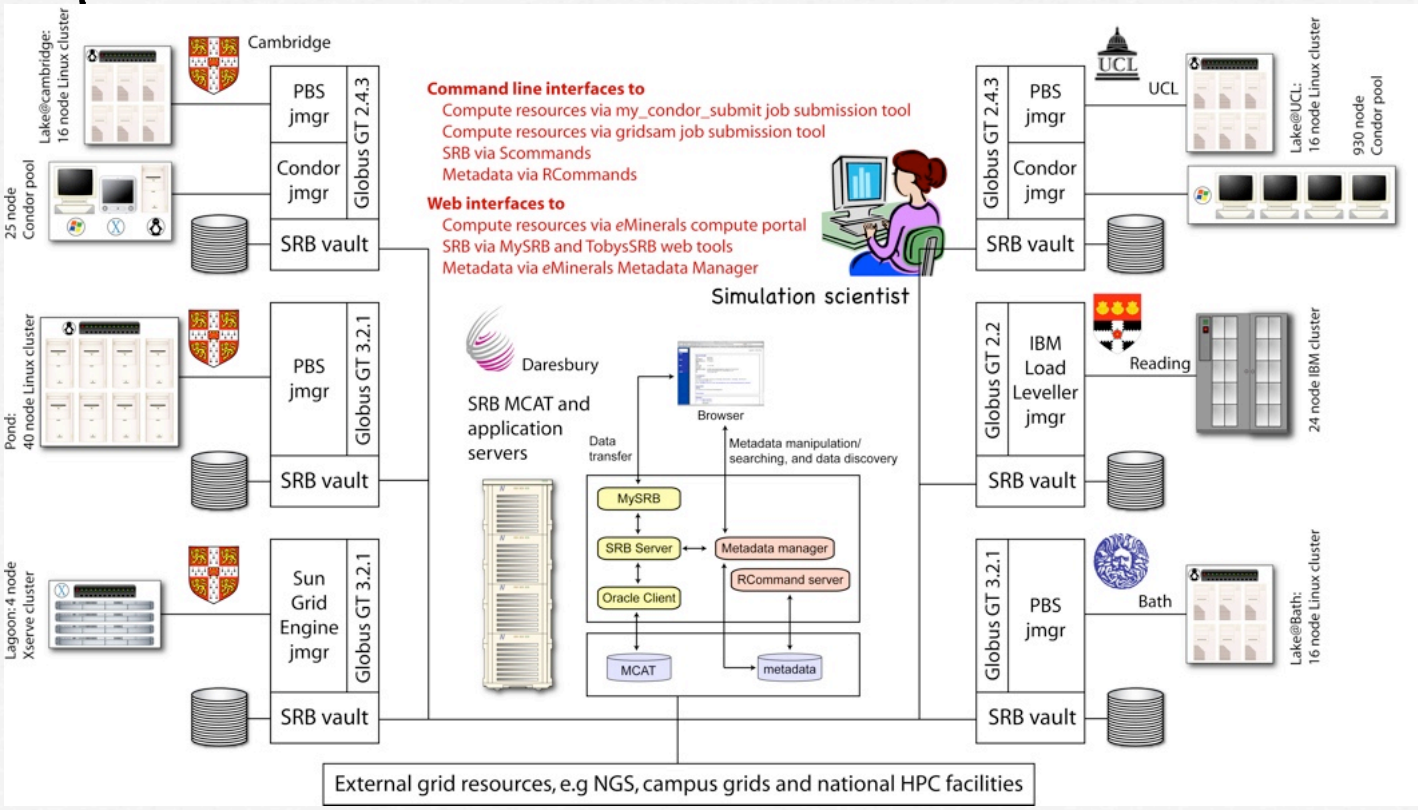
eMinerals grid research

- Building and configuring grids
- Job submission tools
- Data management
- Metadata management
- Data processing / Information extraction
- Simulation output visualisation



The eMinerals minigrid

- A prototype heterogeneous, integrated grid infrastructure



Job submission tools

- Standard tool requirements:
  - Simple to use
  - Non-intrusive to the user
  - Allow the user to do what they want
- Grid tool requirements:
  - Appropriate data and metadata handling
  - Ability to metaschedule across any resource
  - Automated as far as possible

my_condor_submit (MCS)

- Single job submission per invocation
- condor_g style interface
- Metascheduling across any Globus resource
- Metadata storage (RCommands)
- Information extraction (AgentX)
- Data handling / archiving (SRB)

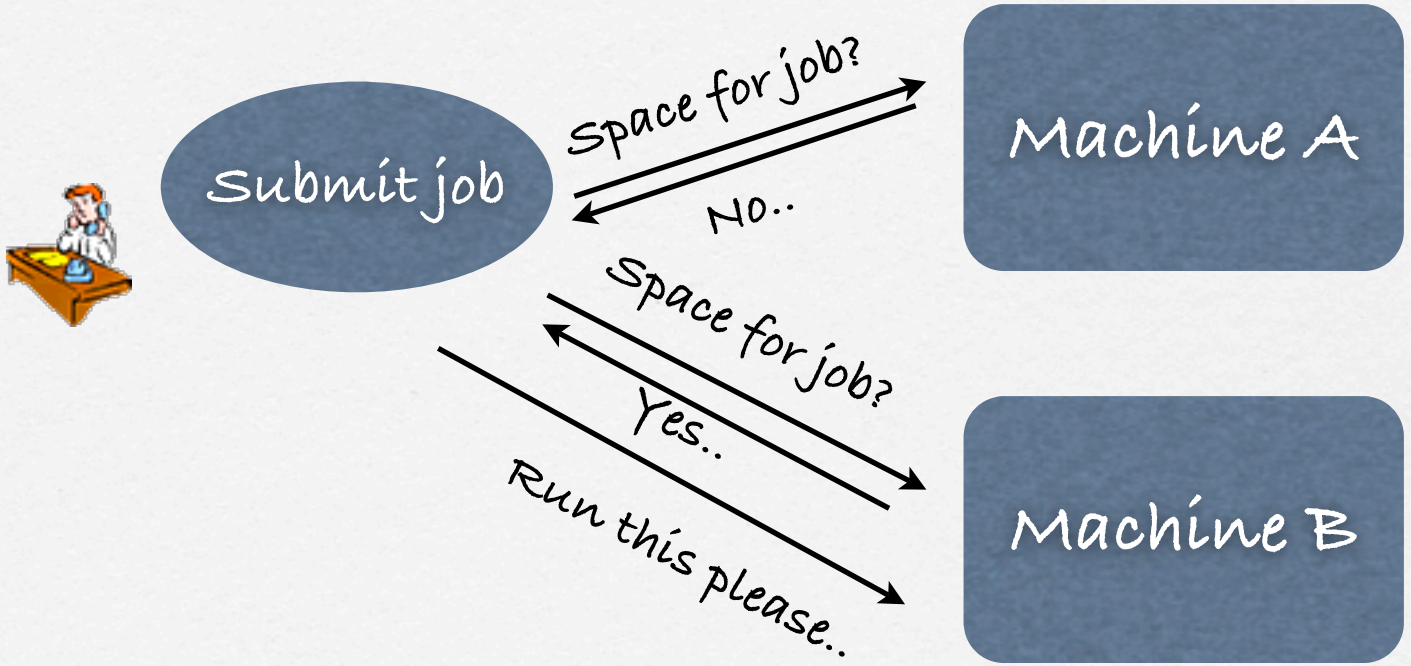
MCS input file

```
# Specify the name of the executable to run
Executable      = gulp

# Specify where the executable should get stdin from and put stdout to
GlobusRSL = (stdin=andalusite.dat)(stdout=andalusite.out)

# Specify an SRB collection to get the relevant executable from
pathToExe         = /home/codes.eminerals/gulp/

# Specify a metadata dataset to create all metadata within
RDatasetId   = 55

# Specify a directory to get files from, put files to and relate to
# metadata created below
Sdir      = /home/user01.eminerals/gulpminerals/
Sget      = *
Sput      = *
# Creates and names a metadata data object
Rdesc     = "Gulp output from andalusite at ambient conditions"
# Specify metadata to get from files with Agent-x - get environment
# and default metadata only
AgentXDefault = andalusite.xml
GetEnvMetadata= True
```

MCS metascheduling

- Relatively simple round-robin algorithm
- Allows user to limit machines to schedule across
- Supports different architectures (including multi-processor and multi-core machines)
- Supports serial and parallel jobs
- Automatic load balancing across all resources

MCS metascheduling cont.



MCS job execution workflow

- Three stages, handled by Condor DAGman:
  - Pre script: Stage in executable and data from the SRB
  - Run job
  - Post script: Stage out data, collect and store metadata

MCS data handling

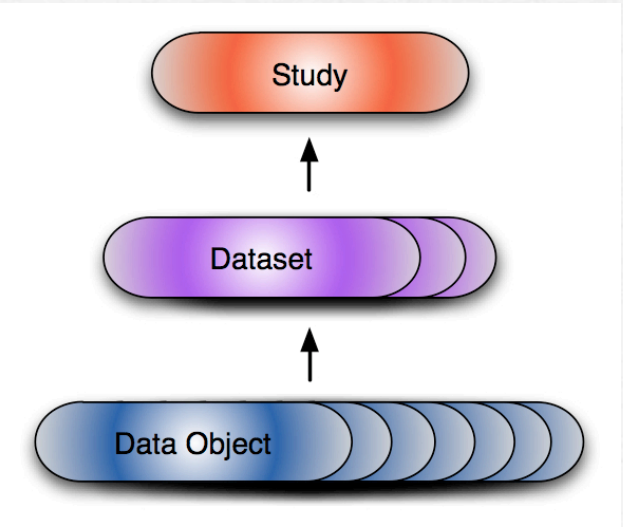
- Data staged in and out from the SRB
  - Transfers to / from any number of collections
  - Support for wildcard file specifications
  - Use of recursion allowed

MCS information extraction

- Using AgentX
  - Ontology based system - logical querying, hiding filesystem structure
  - User specifies simple XPath-like query:
  - **AgentX = finalEnergy, chlorobenzene.xml:/Module[last]/ PropertyList[title = 'Final Energy']/ Property[dictRef = 'siesta:Etot']**

MCS metadata storage

- uses RCommands for storage and structuring
  - Subset of the CCLRC Metadata model
  - Simple binary command line web service clients
- Three types of metadata collected:
  - 'Environment' metadata
  - 'Default' metadata
  - 'User specified' metadata



MCS supported machines

- Currently tested list:
  - Each type of eMinerals minigrid machine (PBS, SGE, Condor, Loadleveler)
  - NGS core nodes (PBS)
  - NW-Grid clusters (SGE)
  - ...
- Basically anything with Globus installed!

Parameter sweeps

- MCS designed for single job per invocation, need something to handle large ensemble runs. Including:
  - Simulation code input file creation
  - Submission tool input file creation
  - Any necessary data staging
  - Simple manner to submit this many jobs
  - Ways to manage and monitor these jobs
  - Ways to collate and view the output from these jobs

Job creation

- Single command and a config file
  - Specify:
    - string to find / replace in template input file
    - Start and end values for sweep
    - Number of steps in between
  - Input files created and uploaded to the SRB
  - MCS input files created for later use

Job submission

- Single command:
  - Walks through created jobs
  - Submits each found job using MCS
  - Keeps track of job directories and IDs for monitoring tools
  - Commands to check that all jobs submitted and resubmit any failed submissions

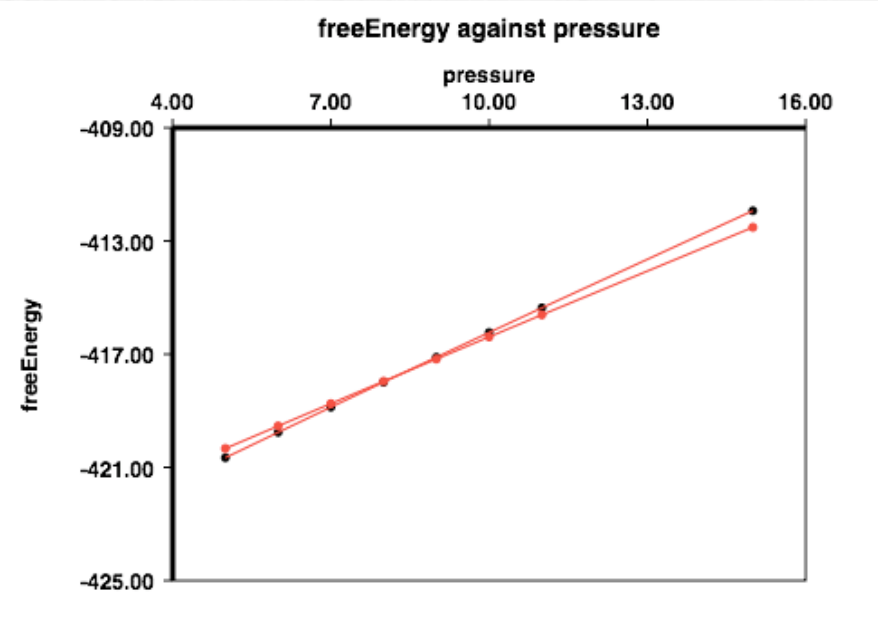
Job monitoring

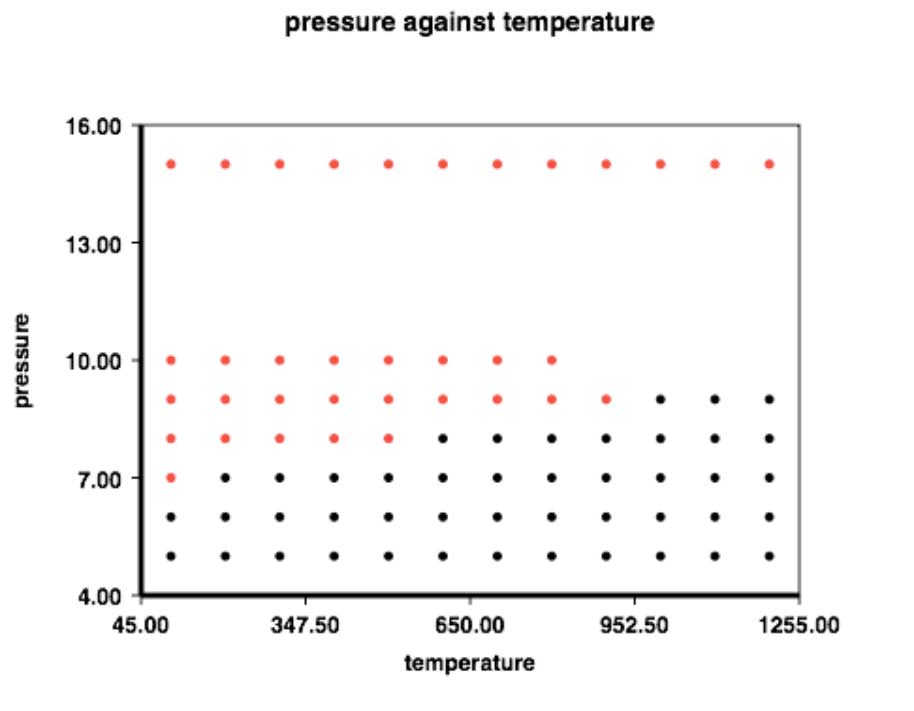
- Standard condor_q command to see what's running
- Additional command checks whole set of jobs, informing user if any still running

Processing sweep output

- User provides, entries in configuration file and name of files to process.
- Our simulation codes use CML, this means we can, with one command:
  - Combine the files together
  - Extract relevant information from them
  - Translate the CML into SVG, drawing pretty graphs

Pretty graphs...





Conclusion...

- Example uses given in the paper (no time to show here I'm afraid)
- Any questions?