OGSADAI: Building Data Access and Integration Services
Mini-workshop and panel

Neil Chue Hong, EPCC (chair)

Presentations:

- OGSA-DAI Architecture and Design, Amrey Krause, EPCC (15 mins)
- Developing and extending OGSA-DAI, Tom Sugden, EPCC (15 mins)
- Distributed Query Processing using OGSA-DAI, Nedim Alpdemir, University of Manchester (15 mins)
- ODD-Genes: using OGSA-DAI to link gene data, Andrew Murdoch / Thomas Seed, EPCC (15 mins)
- Open discussion (30 mins)

Summary:

This workshop will present and discuss experiences of building Grid Data Services and using OGSA-DAI in applications to enable data access and integration. The first presentations will give an overview of the OGSA-DAI software from a developers perspective and the second half of the workshop will present some applications built on the OGSA-DAI software. This will be followed by an open discussion.

Overview:

The UK based Open Grid Service Architecture - Data Access and Integration (OGSA-DAI) project is currently designing and building a middleware implementation of the components required to access and integrate data in a Grid environment. The objective of groups such as the Data Access and Integration Services Working Group (DAIS-WG) is to specify Grid data services that will provide the ability to discover, manage, and access data resources within an OGSI compliant architecture.

The Grid services implemented by OGSA-DAI provide a way of accessing different types of data resource through a common interface and allow distinct data resources to be accessed as a single logical resource. This is an important facility for most UK eScience projects. The OGSA-DAI software supports access to data in relational databases (MySQL, DB2 and Oracle), and data in XML repositories (Xindice).

The objectives of this mini-workshop are to provide an introduction to data access and integration services, and a developers eye view of the OGSA-DAI software. The workshop will present a subset of the OGSA-DAI training course to outline the design of the OGSA-DAI framework and its component elements. It will also feature an overview of how to use, program and extend the OGSA-DAI software, and presentations from a number of projects currently using OGSA-DAI in their applications. Finally, there will be an open discussion on the future direction of data access and integration service development, and how a road map for new functionality in OGSA-DAI can be produced.