Helmholtz Alliance
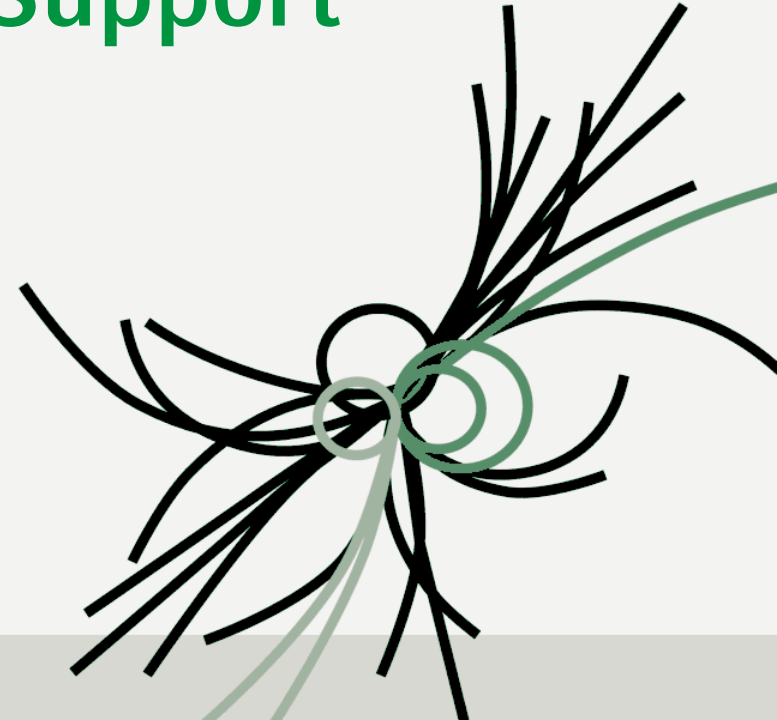2nd Grid Workshop

Presentation and status of the
HGF Mass Storage Support Group

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for the group

Christopher Jung, Christoph Anton Mitterer and Oleg Tsigenov

Group members

- Filled positions
  - Christopher Jung
    from FZ Karlsruhe, Tier-1, 1 FTE
  - Christoph Anton Mitterer
    from LMU München, ATLAS, ~⅓ FTE
  - Oleg Tsigenov
    from RWTH Aachen, CMS, ½ FTE

- Open positions
  - 1 at DESY Hamburg
    will have an easy contact to the dCache developers

Internal communication

- Bi-weekly phone meetings of the group together with dCache developers and a few others (for example from RZG/MPG)
- Internal workshops
  - Kick-off workshop (at DESY in January 2008)
  - 2nd workshop (at FZK)
- Mailing list german-support@dcache.org

Initial goal and strategy

Initial goal in January 2008:
- Providing support to Tier-2 and Tier-3 centres of the Helmholtz Alliance

Evaluation of situation:
- GGUS is the ticket system of choice
- WLCG/EGEE and D-Grid were planning their own dCache support groups
➔ Joint 2nd level dCache support group in GGUS
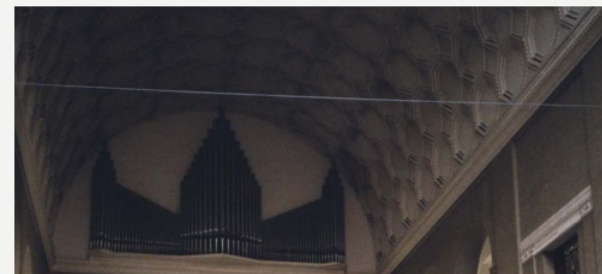
Experience:
- Only a small number of tickets mainly administration and configuration problems
➔ ticket system is less accepted/used by users
- But: dCache runs stable within the HGF alliance and D-Grid
➔ *Support by many means*

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Support by many means

- Supporting the organisation of the dCache workshop in Köln (April 2008), in cooperation with SuGI, D-Grid and the dCache developers
- Support in the dCache "user-forum" mailing list
- Personal e-mails and phone calls
- Consulting LHC experiments in their respective internal meeting (for example the ATLASLOCAL-GROUPDISK space token issue in ATLAS)
- Assisting the dCache developers with their dCache course at GridKa School 2008

Further projects and activities

- Currently setting up a "dCache test bed" between
  RWTH Aachen (test cluster, test dCache system) and FZK's
  pre-production dCache system
- Supporting organization and realization of Tier-1 dCache
  workshop (January 2009)
- Organisation and realisation of the HGF grid computing
  school "GridKa School 2008" included a dedicated one day
  track for HGF physics on the grid
  GridKa School 2009 is going to extend this HGF track by
  ½ or 1 day
- Active role in utilization of D-Grid resources for German
  HEP users

Future plans
Input wanted!

- dCache workshop in Aachen (April 7th and 8th, 2009)
  - with focus on migration to ACLs and Chimera
  - registrations will start in beginning of March
- GridKa School 2009
- Performing a survey of support needed by Tier-3s
  - Which kind of support would they like to have?
  - Documentation and how-tos on certain topics?
  - Support for storage middle wares other than dCache?
- Open question
  How will the start of data taking at LHC change the
  demand of dCache support?

Please contact us at german-support@dcache.org!

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