



Evaluation of grid middleware and tools relative to requirements of earth science data and metadata management

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One of the objectives of the EU DEGREE project (<http://www.eu-degree.eu>) is to promote the uptake of Grid in the Earth Science Community. The data provide the basic input to almost any ES applications. Large data set collections are distributed in different locations according to their topic and volume. The first step was to get a realistic overview of data management and data policy from a large panel of applications. From those applications, the requirements are extracted. The objective is to determine how these requirements are fulfilled by Grid middleware and tools. Providing only requirements to Grid middleware developers will not be sufficient, as they might misunderstand or misinterpret requirements by possible lack of domain knowledge. To avoid this problem, test suites have been elaborated from selected applications. The test suites provide well-documented test specifications and real applications plus data to the Grid developers. They can use these specifications to test and check if their software matches the requirements from ES. In order to determine the status of the requirements relative to data and metadata management, different Grid middleware and Grid tools are on evaluation.

In this presentation, the objectives of DEGREE are first addressed and then the different steps of the work described above.