



The Life-Science Grid Community

Tristan Glatard, for the LSGC

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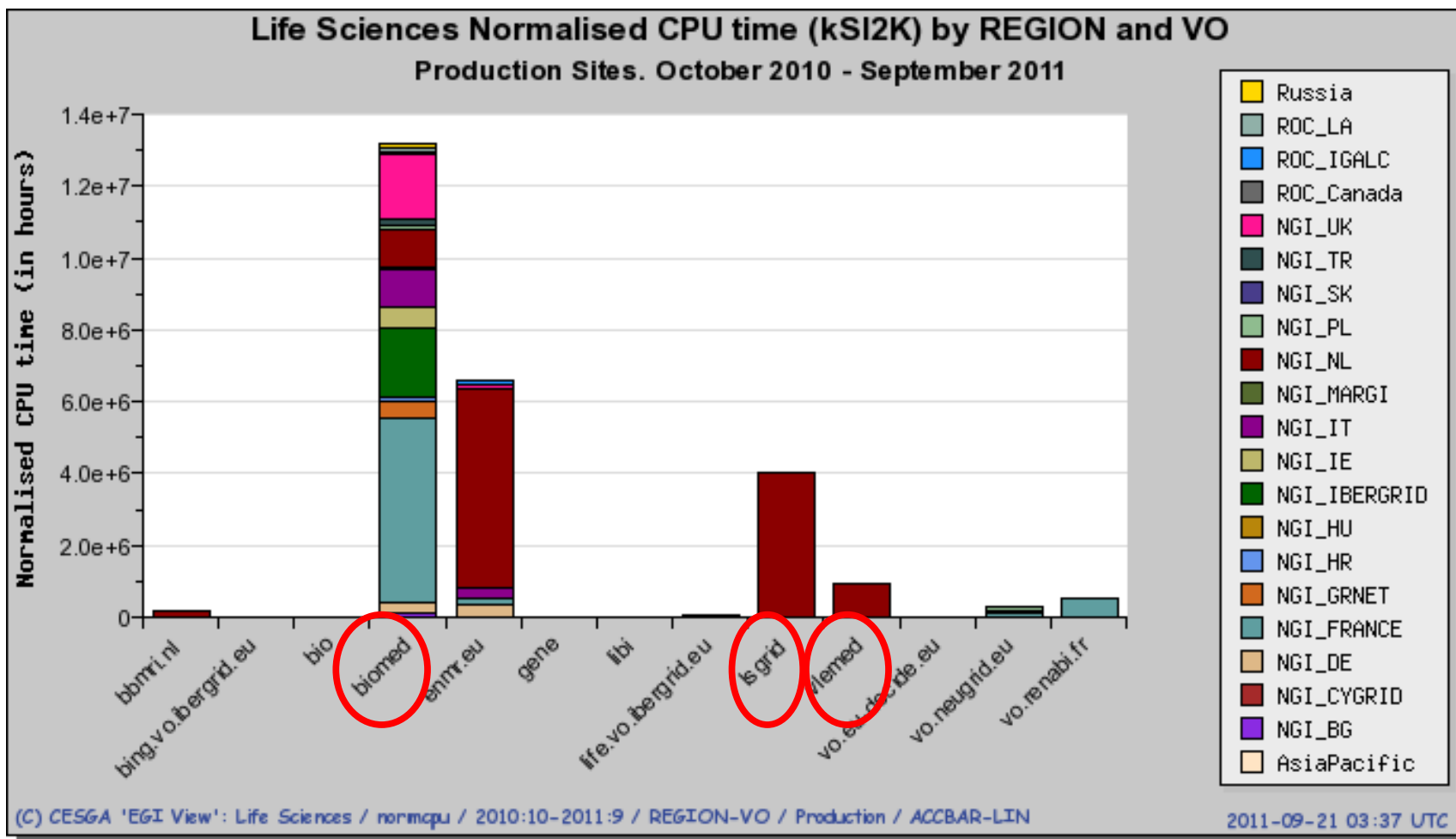


LSGC presentation

- **Federation of Virtual Organizations (~500 users)**
 - biomed (~20 countries): bioinformatics, medical imaging, drug discovery
 - Isgrid (NL): bioinformatics
 - medigrid (DE): German biomedical and LS community
 - pneumogrid (DE): chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
 - vlemed (NL): Bioinformatics and Medical Imaging
- **Supporting NGIs**
 - Official: Dutch, French, Italian, Spanish (Ibergrid) and Swiss
 - + numerous CE/SE providers
- **Organization**
 - Open community of grid users (not a project)
 - Hosted by the HealthGrid association
 - Monthly phone meetings
- **Timeline**
 - June 2010: open workshop at the HealthGrid conference
 - Summer 2010: agreed on a statement of goals and missions
 - June 2011: MoU signed with the European Grid Initiative

EGI LSGC VOs in 2010/2011

- Normalized CPU time (hours) of LS VOs



Notes:

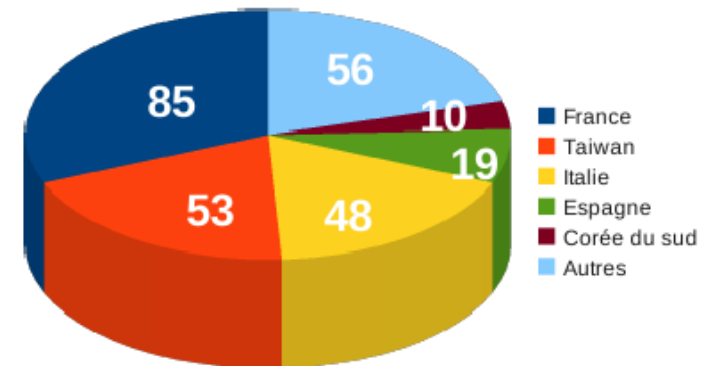
- What about aggregating accounting information by VRC?
- What about non-EGI VOs?

Close-up on biomed

- **International catch-all VO for Life-Sciences**

- **Users**

- 300+ users from ~20 different countries
- Two SMEs (non commercial activities)
- Application fields
 - Bioinformatics
 - Drug discovery
 - Medical Imaging



Repartition of biomed users in 2010

- **Resources**

- 238 CEs (batch queues) from 129 sites ; 114 Storage Elements
- No formal agreement with sites; best effort support

- **Tools used to access the infrastructure**

- No central job submission control point
- Heterogeneous tooling: DIANE, DIRAC, WISDOM, OpenMole, Moteur, etc



Virtual Research Communities

- **What is a VRC?**
 - Community of researchers with common technological interests
 - Implementation: group of VOs
- **Motivations for being a VRC**
 - Benefit from EGI user support through helpdesk (GGUS)
 - Promote requirements to middleware development via EGI UCB
 - Non EGI VOs?
- **Constraints to be a VRC**
 - Involve significant VOs, i.e., represent users
 - Receive support from NGIs (grid resources, manpower, development)



LSGC Goals

- **Represent Life-Science grid users**
 - Negotiate resources
 - Promote their requirements
 - Liaise with the European Grid Initiative
- **Coordinate actions**
 - Serve as a contact point for new users
 - Share expertise, resources, data and tools; avoid replication of efforts
 - Define common requirements
- **Provide technical services**
 - Operate and support common VOs
 - Operate shared services
 - Provide targeted user support and application porting
- **Training and induction**
 - Organize community-specific training events
 - Smooth the learning curve, lower the start-up cost
- **Dissemination**
 - Transfer knowledge among VRC partners
 - Advertise actions
 - Liaise with other groups of interest

Current activities

- **User representation**

- Collected, submitted and following up on 19 technical requirements to EGI
- Negotiated MoU with EGI

- **Coordination**

- Catalog of software and applications used by VOs
- Requirements and recommendations for VO dashboard

- **Technical**

- Study and document VO operational issues (e.g. service redundancy)
- Monitor VO resources (Nagios)
- Organize technical teams
- Application porting support centers
 - Grid Application Support Service (University of Westminster)
 - Grid Application Support Center (MTA SZTAKI, Budapest)

- **Training**

- Collect training material
- Review training requirements and offers



Challenges

- **Develop domain-specific activities**
 - Current effort is mostly devoted to technical general-purpose issues
 - Support application services, databases, etc
 - Foster scientific collaborations in / across Vos
- **Liaise with scattered user communities**
 - Collect requirements, issues, publications, usage scenarios
 - Low response rate... except when technical issues occur
- **Ensure sustainability of the VRC model**
 - Currently most effort is “volunteer”
 - No formal agreements with (manpower) contributors
 - Usefulness of the VOs is their main motivation



More information

- **Contact**

- Wiki page: <http://wiki.healthgrid.org/LSVRC:Index>
- Mailing list: lsvrc@healthgrid.org

- **How to benefit from the LSGC?**

- Established VOs
 - Discuss technical issues with other VOs
 - Submit requirements to the EGI
 - Advertise your services ; use others'
- New communities
 - Join an existing VO and benefit from its expertise
 - Get information on related applications and porting efforts
 - Get application porting support
 - Browse training material and events

- **Open access (also to non-EGI VOs): just join!**