Outreach strategies for the LTOS in France
LTOS France Grilles VO


genevieve.romier@idgrilles.fr
silvia.gervois@idgrilles.fr
plan

- French Academic context
- France Grilles: strategies and actions
- vo.france-grilles.fr and associated services
French academic research: a scattered landscape

20 main research institutes

Part of the bigger ones in the national budget distribution (2012):

- CNRS: 19%
- CEA: 14%
- INRA: 5%
- Inserm: 5%
Who are our potential users?

• 100 000 academic researchers & 60 000 more staff involved in research organisms and universities.
• work in research units (smallest entities – variable size)
  – depend on multiple research organisms / universities
• CNRS example:
  – 30 000 people
  – more than 1000 research units shared with 1 or several other organisms.
Zoom on France Grilles

a Scientific Interest Group of 8 partners:

- French Ministry of Higher Education and Research,
- 5 main research institutes,
- CPU representing all universities
- RENATER (French NREN)

- Vision: build and operate a national distributed computing infrastructure open to all sciences and to developing countries

All their scientists may use the services if needed

How to reach them?
Reaching out the long tail of research

Facts:

– research units have an IT person/team
  • in charge of the unit computing resources and information system,
  • close to the researchers' needs.

– academic IT are well organized in networks
  • academically open professional networks managed by CNRS,
  • large professional events organized by academics.

IT professional networks are multipliers:
  let's rely on them.
France Grilles involvement in academic IT networks

Federation of 14 geographic or disciplinary networks of system and network administrators.
Mailing list: 1100 subscribers.
France Grilles is partner at federation level.
Many members of France Grilles are members of a network.

Mailing list: 350 Databases experts.
France Grilles was involved in the set up and contributes to events, communication material...

"Promote economicaL, Useful and Maintained softwarE For the Higher Education And THE Research communities". 2200 members, 950 contributors, 18 themes.
1270 index cards (350 research software).
France Grilles is in charge of the "grid and cloud" catalogue.

Mailing list: 1000 developers.
Many members of France Grilles contribute to events, tutorials, presentations.
Active participation in academic IT events

- **Jres**: more than 20 years old biennial event dedicated to ICT community in Education and Research fields; 4 days of conferences and exhibitions.
- **France Grilles participation:**
  - participative booth (since 2011) open to the community
  - talks, posters, demos (by France Grilles and by users!)
  - best ROI action in term of partnership and dissemination!

Meet us at Jres 2015 in December!
Other communication, dissemination and engagement actions

- Participation in scientific events (new consortia, local events)
- French speaking training, collaborative documentation (on line)
- Newsletter, website, posters...
- France Grilles collection of publications
- Support of communities' initiatives: e.g. VIP
  - https://indico.egi.eu/indico/contributionDisplay.py?sessionId=39&contribId=31&confId=2544
SUCCESS: our scientific days, by users for users

- **2011**: first edition co-located with EGI TF in LYON
  set up of a "sustainable" organization: program committee (contacts in different disciplines), webcast (live and recorded)

- **2012, 2013**: co-organised with Groupe Calcul

- **2015**: co-organised with Groupe Calcul and GRID'5000
  100 registered attendees.

- **The best way to:**
  - meet our users,
  - foster expertise and experience sharing,
  - collaborate with sisters national e-infrastructures and their users.
Offer: welcome process

- Point of contact info@france-grilles.fr
- Study of needs (simple questionnaire)
- France Grilles requirements
  - to acknowledge France Grilles/EGI in the publications
  - to register the publications in the France Grilles collection
- Choice of the relevant VO
  - disciplinary VO?
  - vo.france-grilles.fr
vo.france-grilles.fr: multidisciplinary "national" VO

- To welcome all users from all scientific domains and regions, research long tail, new comers to the grid, etc.
  - for their research needs,
  - if they work in France in the academic research or in partnership,
  - if no more relevant VO.

- Set up in 2011, accepted by France Grilles sites.
  - mutualisation and collaboration of human resources
  - no time limitation

Nota bene: another "national" VO is dedicated to academic courses and tutorials.
vo.france-grilles.fr: a set of associated services - 1

• **FG-DIRAC:**
  – general solution to access resources, to manage computing and distributed data through a user friendly web interface.

• **FG-iRODS:**
  – a mutualised distributed data infrastructure (4 sites)
FG-Cloud: French academic IaaS cloud federation

- geographically distributed,
- heterogeneous platforms,
- sites to be integrated to EGI Federated Cloud,
- IPHC is part of EGI FedCloud
- Slipstream for better user experience.

Experts to give consultancy, evaluate the users' needs but don't port or adapt the software.
Key numbers

- 58 users
- Evolution of CPU usage

vo.france-grilles.fr, CPU usage evolution

source: EGI accounting
Grid usage: vo.france-grilles.fr in the top ten VOs

Normalised CPU time (HEPSPEC06) by VO.
TOP10 VOs. October 2014 - October 2015.

http://accounting.egi.eu/egi.php?query=normcpu-HEPSPEC06&startYear=2014&startMonth=10&endYear=2015&endMonth=10&yRange=REGION&xRange=VO&voGroup=top10&chart=GRBAR&scale=LIN&localJobs=onlygridjobs
Questions?
The main academic computing offer

**HPC**
- 3 Tier 1
- 30 Tier 2

**HTC & cloud**
for research in computer sciences

*Grid'5000*

academic HPC computing community network