

Technical Coordination, Training and Support

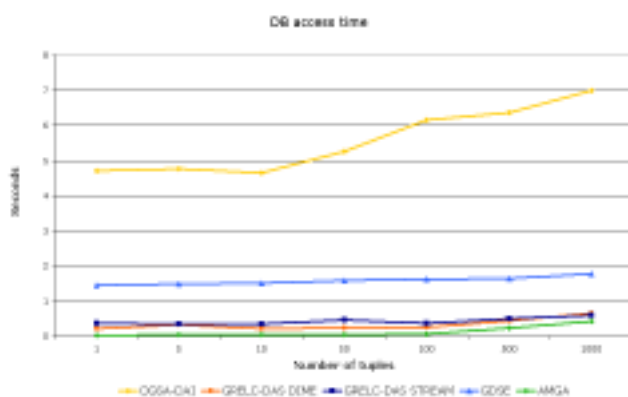
This activity aims to: a) rise the Grid awareness inside the bioinformatics community; b) identify, evaluate and promote common components, services and solutions for the applications included in the project; c) provide feedbacks to improve the Grid services available in the European Grid Infrastructure; d) provide support to the bioinformatics users and applications .

Raising Grid awareness inside the bioinformatics community

Special training events have been organized in the last two years in conjunction with other major bioinformatics events.

- The BioinfoGRID Initial Training Course in Bari, 8th - 10th of March 2006.
- The training event at the NETTAB 2006 Workshop in Santa Margherita di Pula, Sardinia, Italy - July 10-13th, 2006
- The BioinfoGRID Workshop at Healthgrid 2007 Conference, Geneva, Switzerland, Tuesday 24 April 2007
- The BioinfoGRID Training Course II: Biomed Grid School, Varenna, Italy 14-19 May 2007

The training events were held for the members of the BioinfoGRID project and for the bioinformatics community. Courses provide basic foundations for interaction with a Grid environment and more advanced expertise to simplify the use of this new technology in the life science area. Furthermore the courses offered an in-depth overview of Grid technologies, high level services such as portals, tools to access databases in a Grid Infrastructure and tools to protect "confidential data". All training material is available on the project web site and on DVD.



DB access time against number of tuples

Identification, evaluation and promotion of common components, services and solutions

The job submission tool (JST) was found particularly attractive for life science intensive computing challenges. Using the tool it is possible to submit a large number of jobs in an almost unattended way. A job robot submits identical jobs to the Grid: the jobs, interacting with the central DB, get instructed on what to do. At the successful end of a job, it updates the content of the central DB, providing a complete and precise bookkeeping of the activities.

A considerable effort was dedicated to the evaluation of different tools to access Bioinformatics data stored in relational DB's on the Grid.

User and application support

During the project, particular attention was given to making the applications more accessible and to user support in order help researchers to get to grips with the Grid environment. So far, the following applications have been successfully integrated on the production Grid: MULTI-BLAST, MrBAYES, Rosetta, CSTgrid, PAML, ASPic, DNafan, Gene Analogous Finder, massively evolutionary task by BLAST.

During dissemination and training events, user feedback has been collected and addressed in collaboration with the EGEE project.