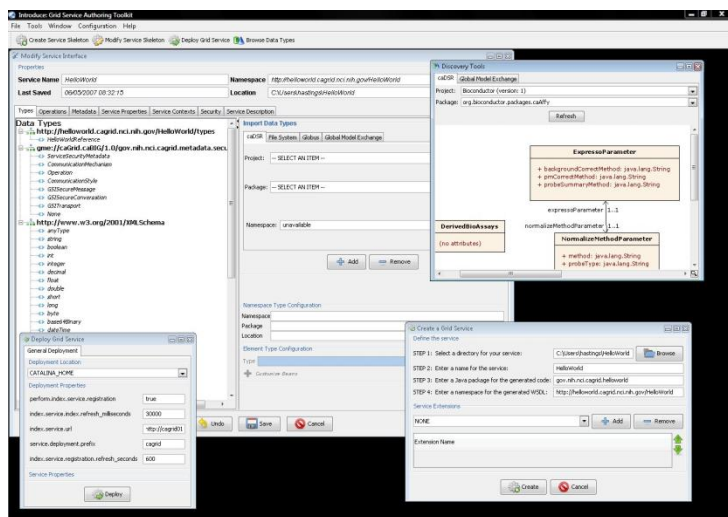




Introduce aims to reduce the service development and deployment effort by hiding low level details of the Globus Toolkit and to enable the implementation of strongly-typed Grid services. We expect that enabling strongly typed grid services while lowering the difficulty of entry to the Grid via toolkits like Introduce will have a major impact to the success of the Grid and its wider adoption as a viable technology of choice, not only in the commercial sector, but also in other areas such as academic, medical, and government research.

Service-oriented architectures, standards, and applications have gained wide acceptance in the Grid computing community. A number of tools and middleware systems have been developed to support application development using Grid Services frameworks. Most of these efforts, however, have focused on the low-level support for management and execution of Grid services, management of Grid-enabled resources, and deployment and execution of applications that make use of Grid services. Simple-to-use service development tools, which will allow a Grid service developer to leverage Grid technologies without needing to know low-level details, are becoming increasingly important. Moreover, support for development of strongly-typed services, in which data types consumed and produced by a service are well-defined and published in the Grid, is necessary to enable syntactic interoperability so that two Grid endpoints can interact with each other programmatically and correctly.



Features

- Graphical creation of all aspects of the grid service from describing operations and stateful resources to configuring complex authentication and authorization policy.
- Dynamic schema discovery enabling use of published data types as service parameters and resource properties.
- Creates WSDL2.0 / WSRF Compliant Services utilizing Globus 4.0.X and Axis for grid service middleware support.
- All client and service code is automatically generated using the Introduce Synchronization engine as well as Axis and JET.
- Supports Creating Multiple Resources/Services using the WSRF family of specifications.
- Utilizes Globus GSI Security and provides graphical Configuration of authentication and authorization policies.
- CSM and GridGrouper Authorization Support.
- Resource Properties can be used for service metadata and published using MDS based Index Service Registration.
- Rich extension/plugin framework for creating custom services or adding custom functionality to Introduce.
- Supports WS-Notification, WS-Lifetime, Persistent Resources, Secure Resources as well as many others.

Architecture

- Service Model maintains the complete representation of the services, methods, resources, resource properties, data types, security configuration. Index service registration, etc.
- Graphical Development Environment modifies service model and passes the modified model to the Introduce Synchronization Engine.
- Introduce Synchronization Engine re-syncs/generates the service with changes in the modified service model.
- Synchronization engine leverages Java Emitter Templates (JET), Axis 1.2, and Globus 4.0.X for creation and modification of source code and configuration files required for the service
- Auto generation of unboxed complete client and stubbed service implementation.
- Globus Policy Decision Point (PDP) is automatically generated and hooked in based on the developers described security constraints.
- Full support for stateful services utilizing factory patterns for dynamic creation of WSRF service resources.

