SAGAA Simple API for Grid Applications

A Brief Introduction to SAGA



SAGAA Simple API for Grid Applications

All material from this tutorial can be found at:

https://svn.cct.lsu.edu/repos/saga-projects/tutorial/EGI-2011



General Information and Documentation

- General information
 - http://saga.cct.lsu.edu/
- Documentation:
 - http://saga.cct.lsu.edu/software/cpp/documentation
- API documentation
 - Python
 - http://static.saga.cct.lsu.edu/apidoc/python/latest/
 - □ C++
 - http://static.saga.cct.lsu.edu/apidoc/cpp/latest/
- Programmers Guide:
 - https://svn.cct.lsu.edu/repos/saga/core/trunk/docs/manuals/programming_guide/tex/saga-programming-guide.pdf

TeraGrid SAGA Tutorial November 29, 2010



Distributed Applications Development Challenges

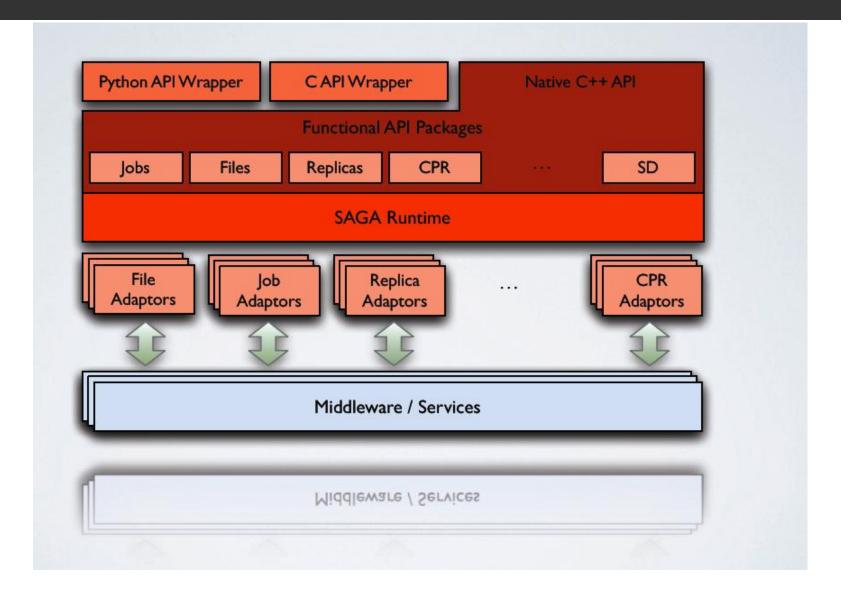
- Developing Distributed Applications is fundamentally hard:
 - Intrinsic:
 - Control/Coordination & execution over Heterogeneous sites
 - Complex Design point/Models of Distributed Applications,
 - Reasons for using distributed CI -- more than (peak) performance result
 - Extrinsic:
 - (Complex) Underlying infrastructure & its provisioning
 - Large number Programming systems, tools and environments
 - Lack of well-defined interfaces & abstractions
 - Interoperability and extensibility become difficult
- Number of "effective" distributed applications that utilize resources sequentially, concurrently or asynchronously is low
 - Distributed CI: Is the whole > than the sum of the parts?
- See: DPA Survey Paper:
 - http://www.cct.lsu.edu/~sjha/dpa_publications/dpa_surveypaper.pdf



SAGA: In a nutshell

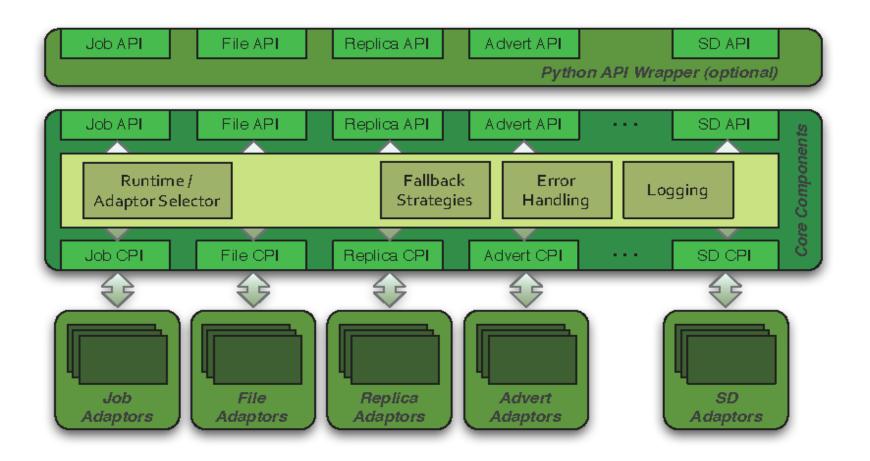
- There exists a lack of Programmatic approaches that:
 - Provide general-purpose, basic &common grid functionality for applications and thus hide underlying complexity, varying semantics...
 - The building blocks upon which to construct "consistent" higher-levels of functionality and abstractions
 - Meets the need for a Broad Spectrum of Application:
 - Simple scripts, Gateways, Smart Applications and Production Grade Tooling, Workflow...
- Simple, integrated, stable, uniform and high-level interface
 - Simple and Stable: 80:20 restricted scope and Standard
 - Integrated: Similar semantics & style across
 - Uniform: Same interface for different distributed systems
- SAGA: Provides Application* developers with units required to compose high-level functionality across (distinct) distributed systems
 - (*) One Person's Application is another Person's Tool

SAGA: In a thousand words





SAGA: Architecture





How is SAGA Used?

- SAGA is used to develop applications that are distributed by definition:
 - Simple extensions of "localized applications" (eg scripting)
 - MW applications, workers submitted to >8 back-ends
 - Novel Distributed Programming Models (eg Rep-Exch)
- SAGA: Build tools and implement abstractions that enable the execution of applications over distributed resources, without modifying the applications
 - Eg. Infrastructure Independent Pilot-Jobs
- SAGA: To provide uniform access layers to heterogeneous CI
 - Uniform access to EGI (ARC, gLite, Globus and Unicore/BES)
 - Simplify the building of tools and Gateways



1. Develop applications that are distributed by definition

