Introduction to Grid Computing

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INFORMATION SYSTEMS UNIT

Plan of the presentation

- A view to the Grid
- Looking inside EGEE grid
- Overview of the Grid services
- Focus on Grid security

One definition

- *A computational grid is a hardware and software infrastructure that provides dependable, consistent, pervasive, and inexpensive access to high-end computational capabilities.*
  - Carl Kesselman,Ian Foster in ✗The Grid: Blueprint for a New Computing Infrastructure‡ 1998

One definition

- *Grid computing is coordinated resource sharing and problem solving in dynamic, multi- institutional virtual organizations*
  - Carl Kesselman,Ian Foster in “the anatomy of the grid” 2000

Grid essentials

- “You can't be a real country unless you have a beer and an airline. It helps if you have some kind of a football team, or some nuclear weapons, but at the very least you need a beer”.

  » Frank Zappa

- You can't be a real Grid unless you have a **commodity** and a **discovery** mechanism. It helps if you have some kind of **middleware** or some supercomputers, but at the very least you need a commodity.

Grid synthesis

One user wants to access to intensive computational power

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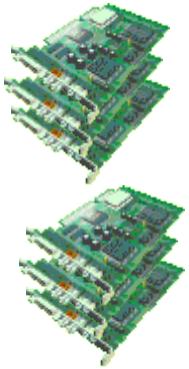
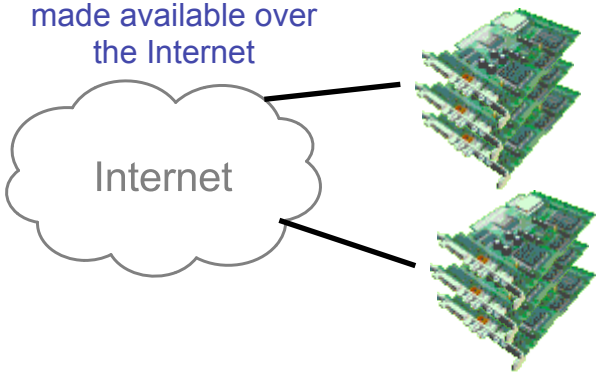


Some computing farms produce computing power to be shared

Grid synthesis

One user wants to access to intensive computational power

Computing power is made available over the Internet



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He/she comes to an agreement with some society that offers grid services

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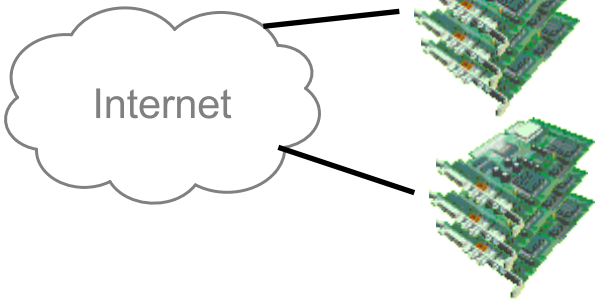

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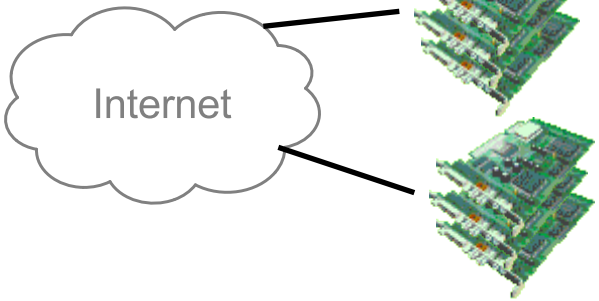

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The society will provide for grid facilities allowing the user to access to its grid resources and providing for proper tools

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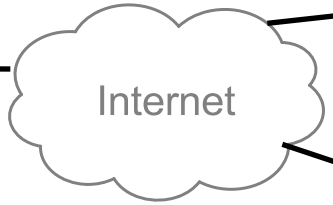

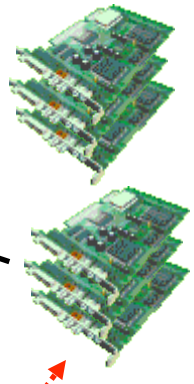

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Now the user accesses to grid facilities as a grid user

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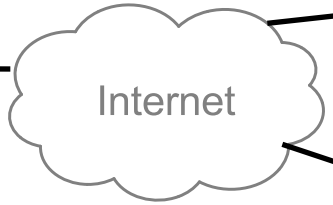

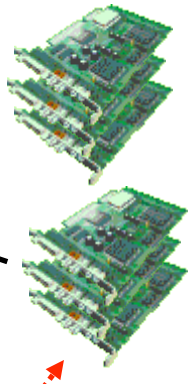

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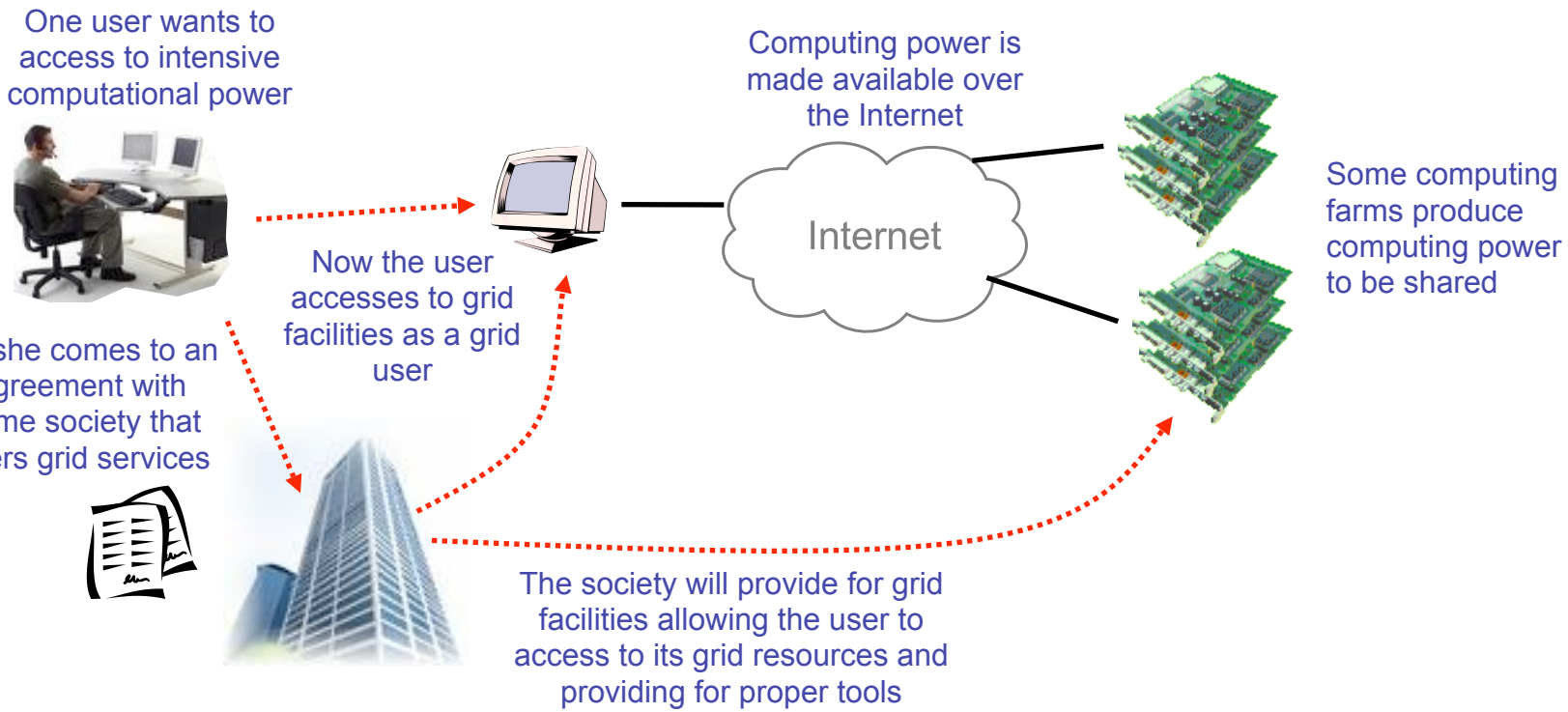

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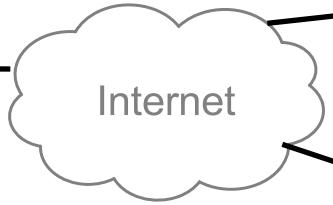

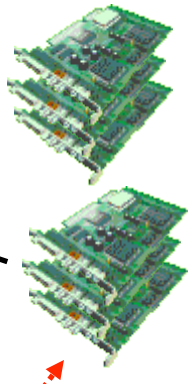

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  - Does not need to know what stays beyond the user interface

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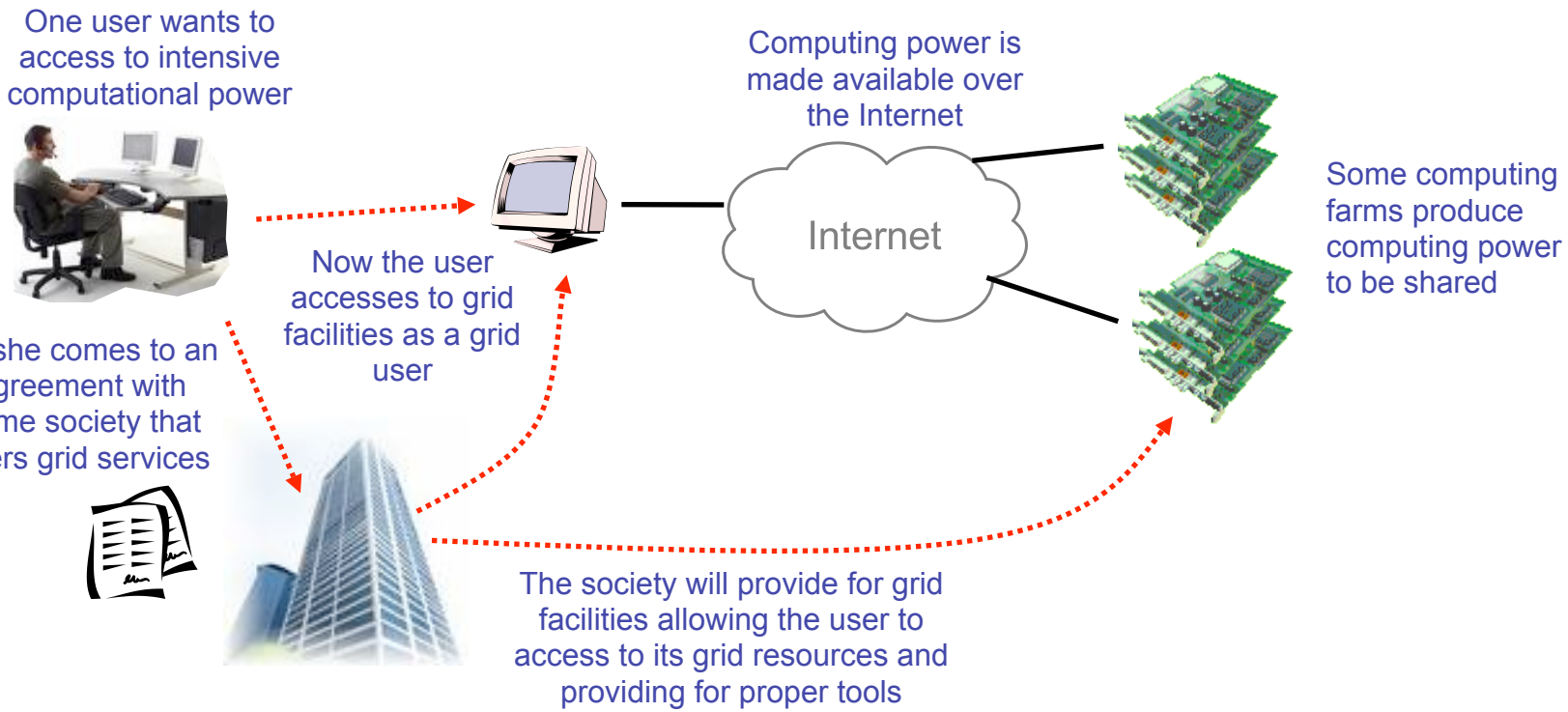

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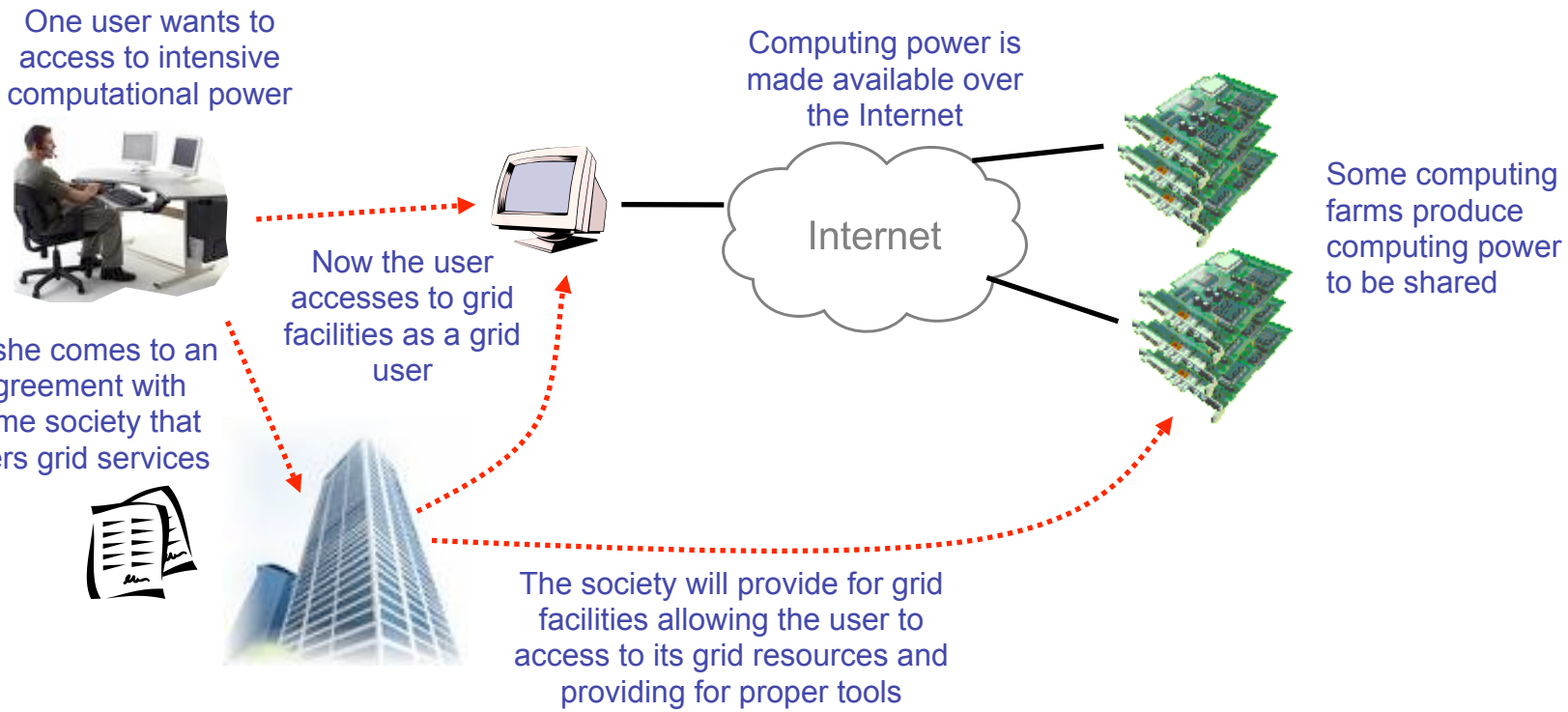

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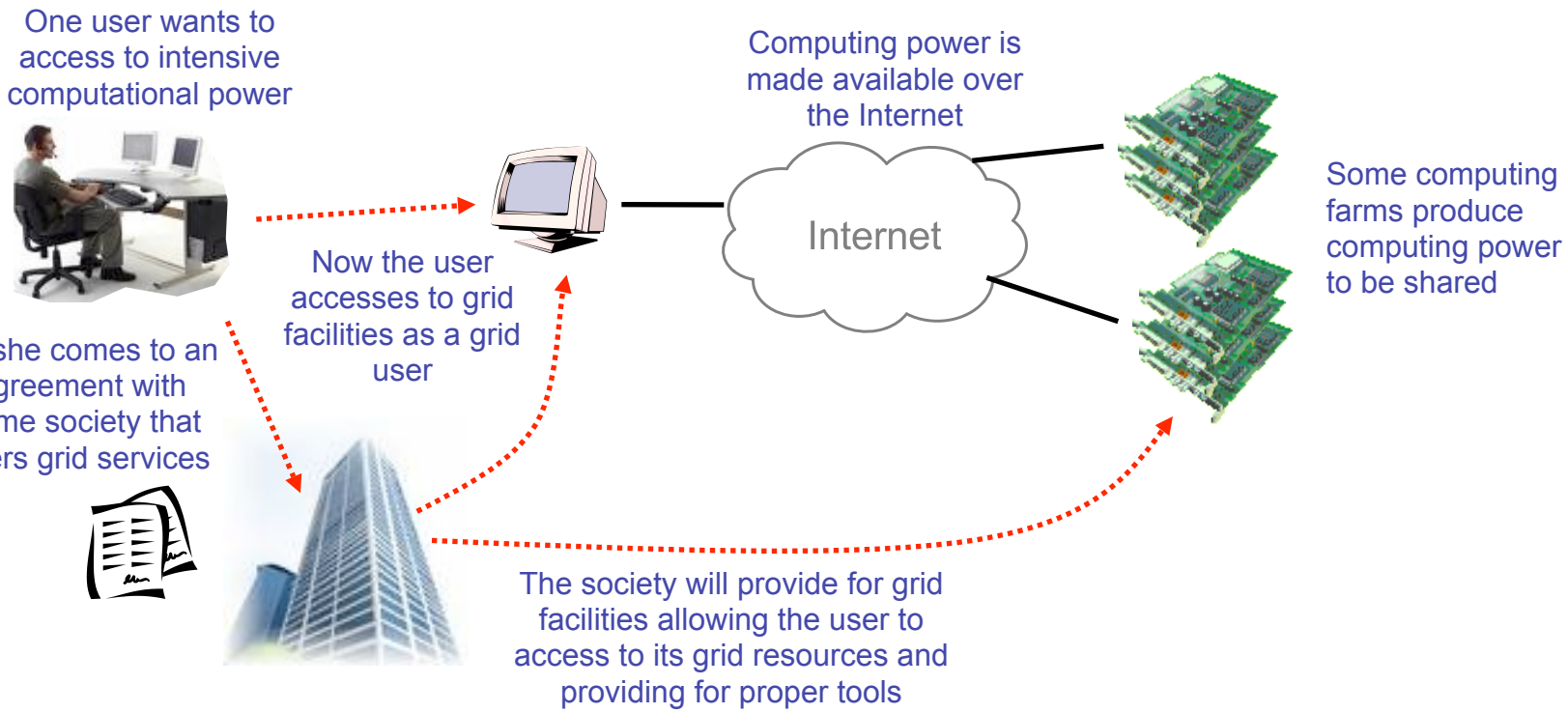

- The user:
  - Does not need to know what stays beyond the user interface
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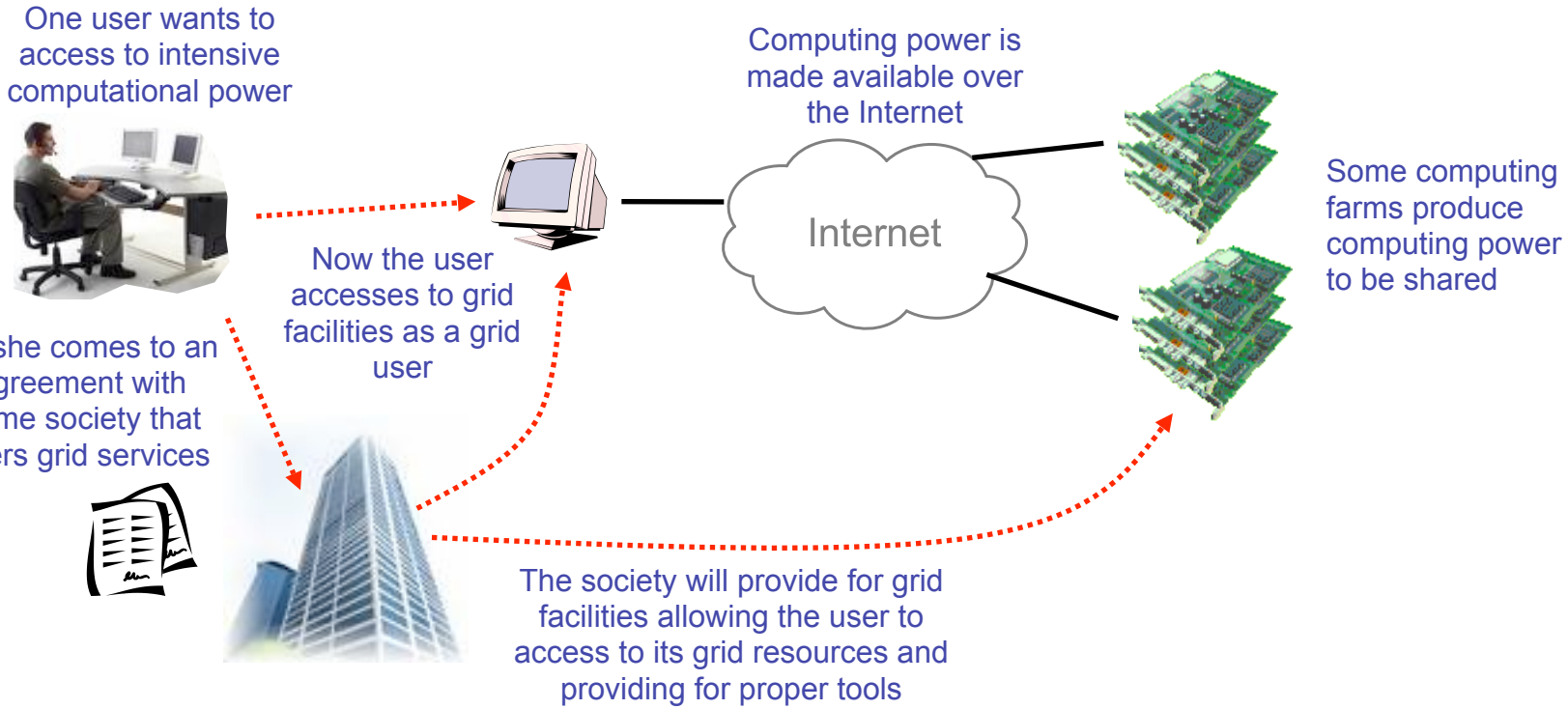
- The society:
  - Can extend grid facilities at any moment

Grid synthesis



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  - Manages the architecture of the grid

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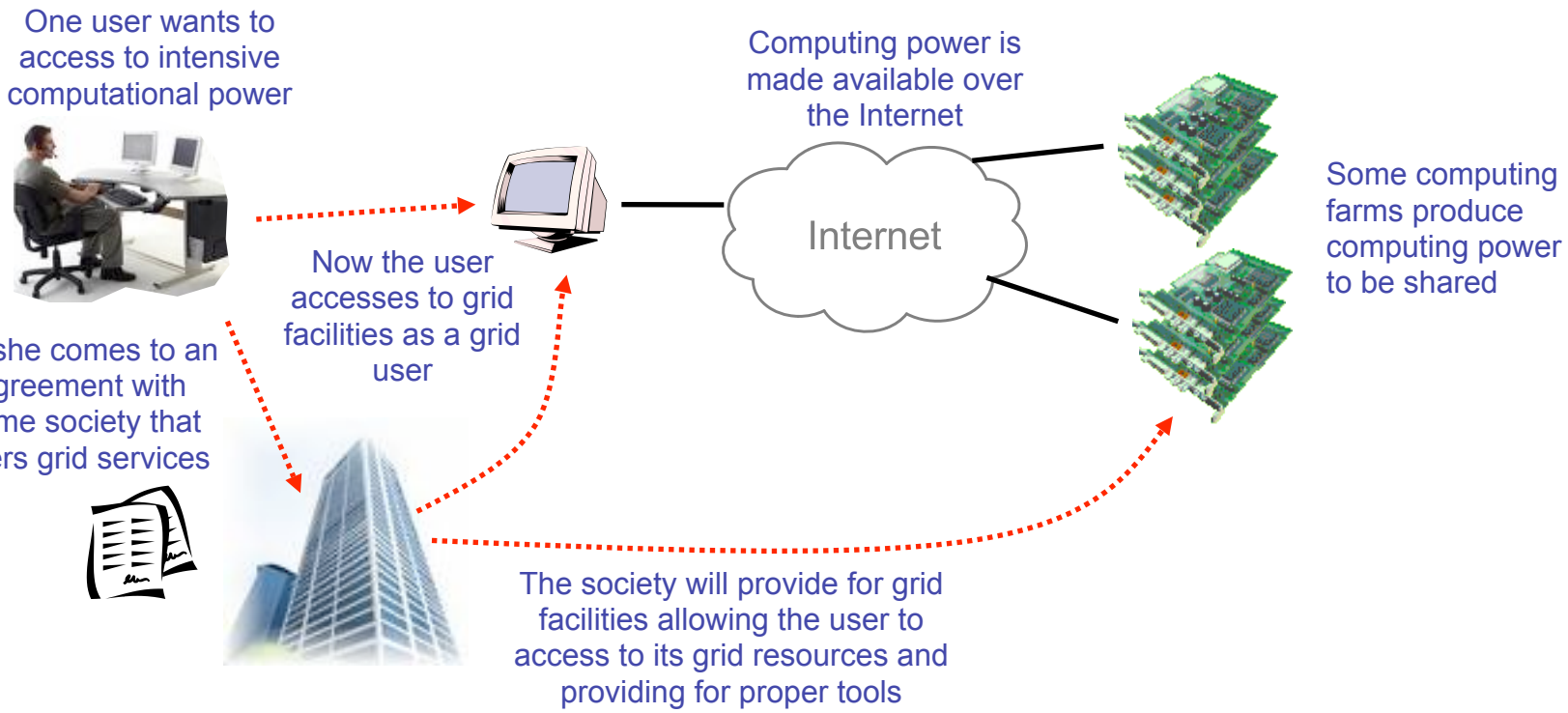

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  - Does not need to know what stays beyond the user interface
  - Can access to a massive amounts of computational power through a simple terminal
- The society:
  - Can extend grid facilities at any moment
  - Manages the architecture of the grid
  - Defines policies and rules for accessing to grid resources

Applications for Grid

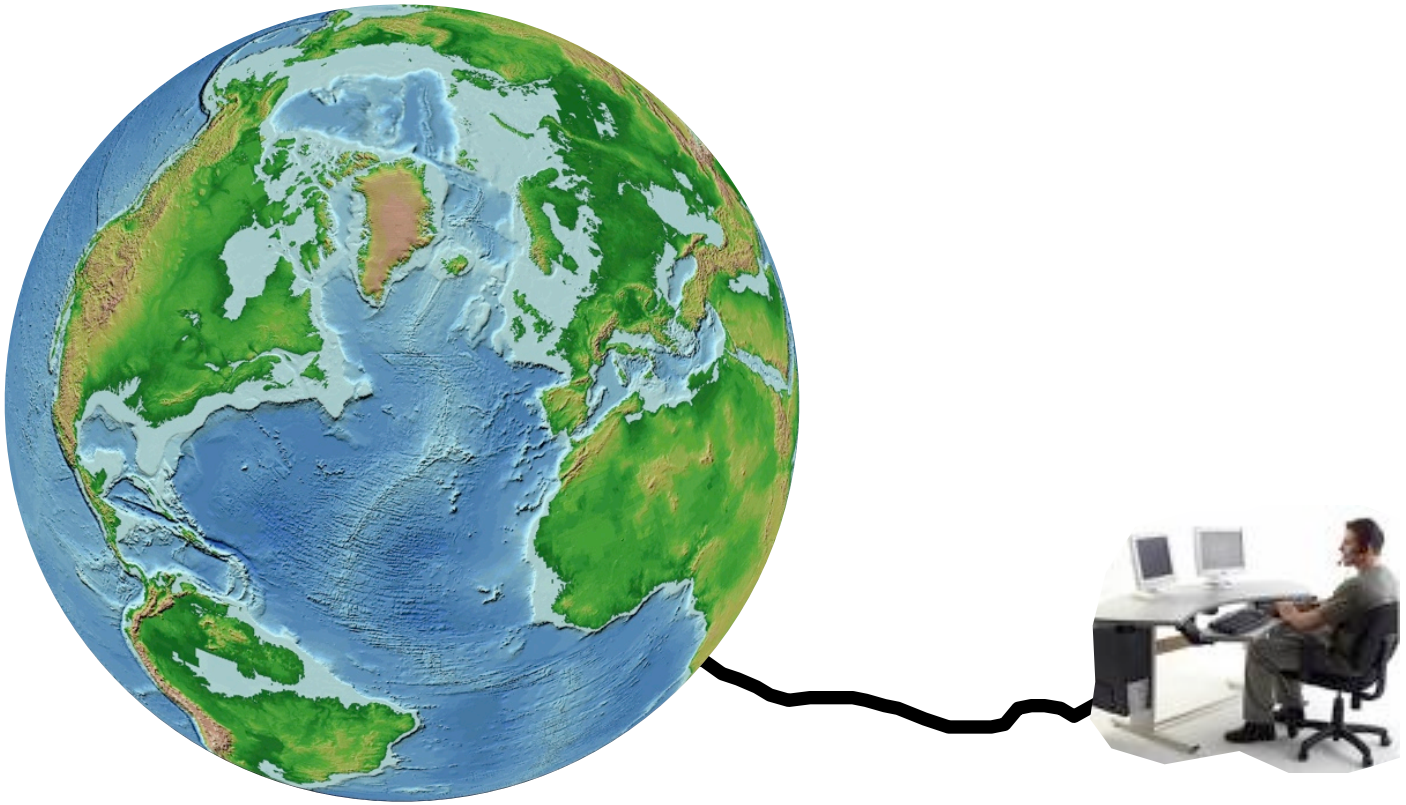
- Computation intensive
  - Interactive simulation (climate modeling)
  - Large-scale simulation and analysis (galaxy formation, atomistic simulations)
  - Engineering (parameter studies, optimization model)
- Data intensive
  - Experimental data analysis (e.g., H.E.P.)
  - Image & sensor analysis (astronomy, climate)
- Distributed collaboration
  - Online instrumentation (microscopes, x-ray) Remote visualization (climate studies, biology)
  - Engineering (large-scale structural testing)

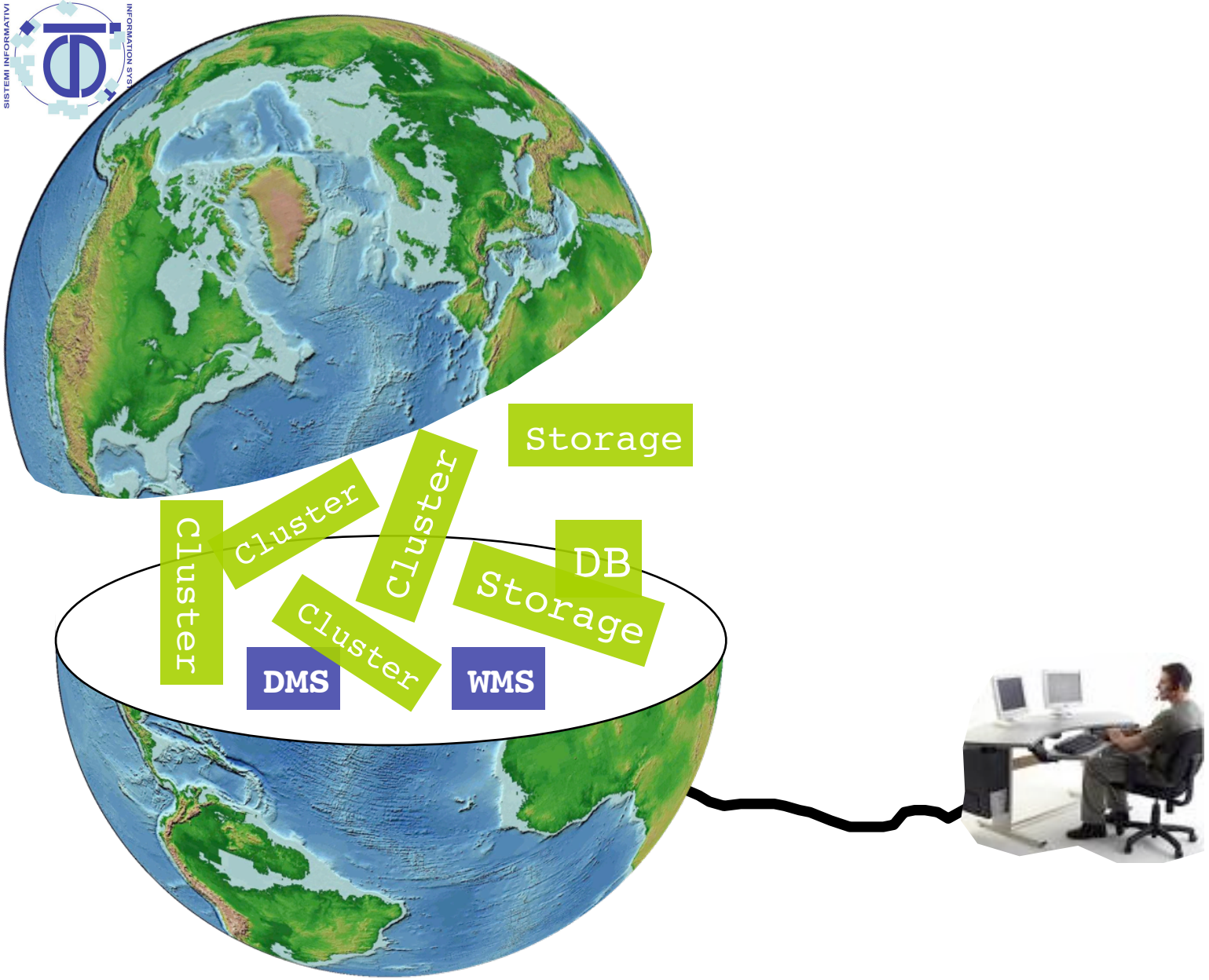
Virtual Organizations

- Virtual Organization (VO)
  - Is a collection of people and resources working together to achieve the same goal
  - It is cross-domain (people and resources)
- One user
  - Identified by his/her personal X.509 certificate issued by trusted Certification Authorities (CA)
  - Can belong to more than one VO at the same time
  - Does not require detailed knowledge of grid technologies to access to the Grid

A change in the paradigm

What is the Grid?




Storage
Cluster
Cluster
Cluster
Cluster
DB
Storage
DMS
WMS

What is a Grid resource?

- Group of sites glued by the MIDDLEWARE;
- Sites are homogeneous as regards SW: Scientific Linux 30X Cern release;
- Sites are not homogeneous as regards HW: x86/x86_64 arch but of different kind and some supercomputer.
- Some collective services: WMS, DMS, VOMS etc…

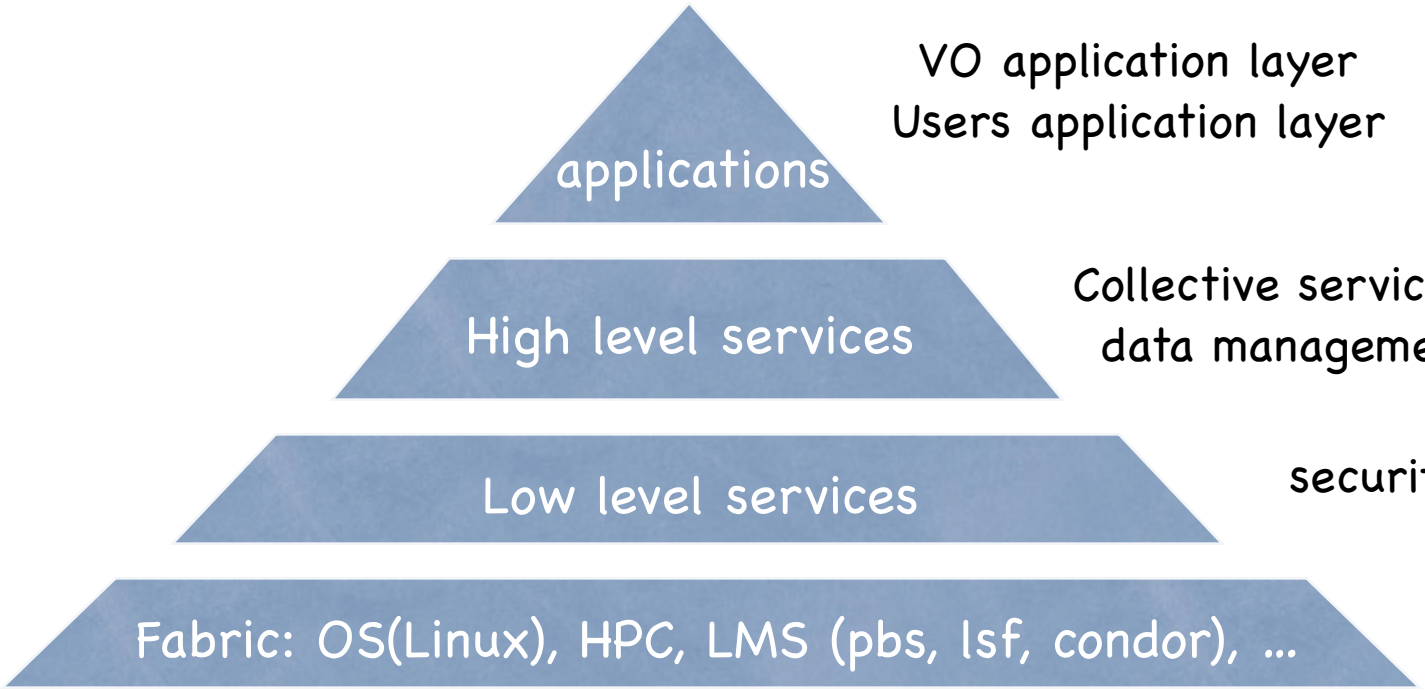
What is a Grid site?

- Computing Element
- Storage Element
- Worker Nodes

- Master node
- Storage
- Cluster nodes

Scheduler+queue system
(PBS, LSF, Condor etc.)

The middleware layers



VO application layer
Users application layer

Collective services: scheduling, data management, info sys...

security, jobs, ...

execution, files storing,...

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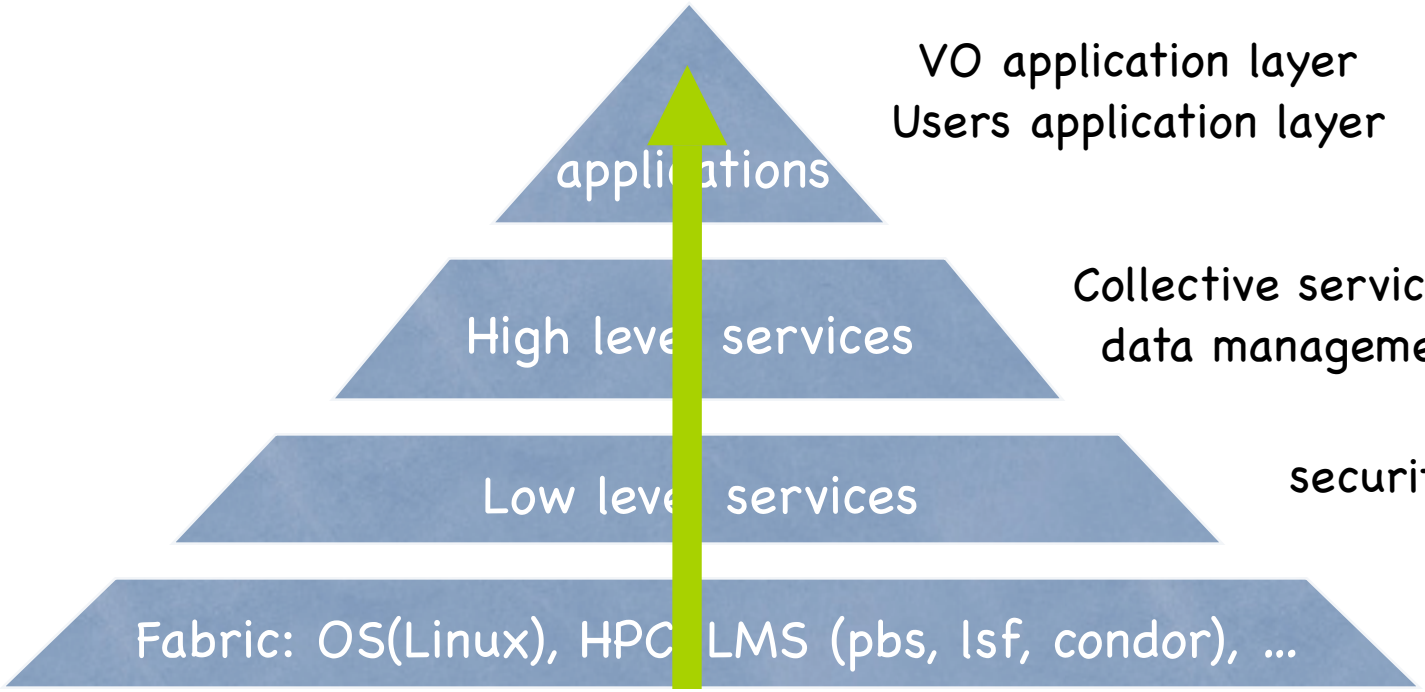

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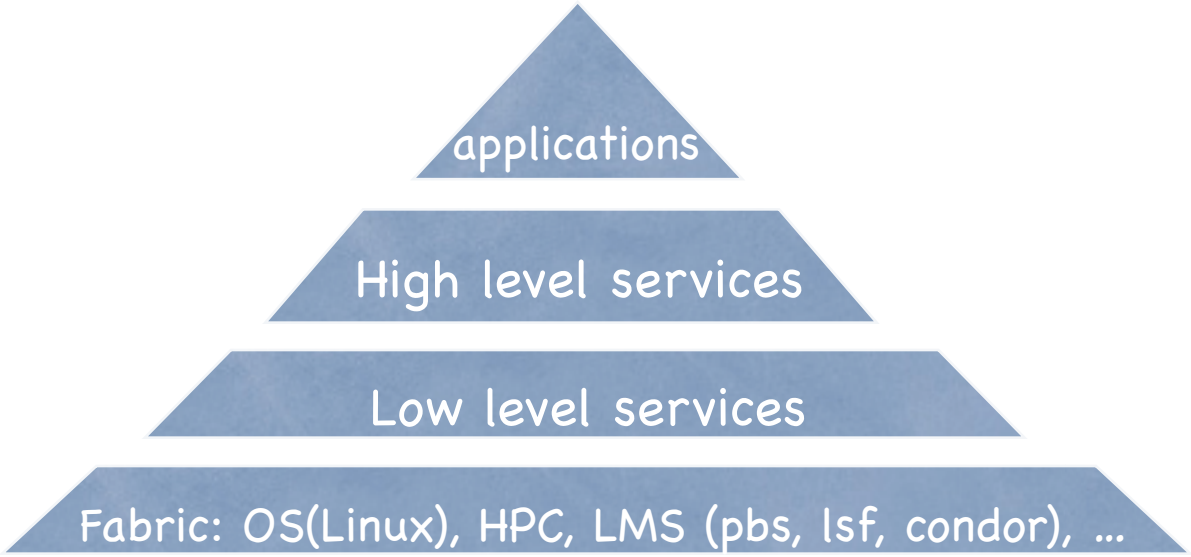
Middleware pillars

- Security:authentication and authorization
- Job management
- Monitoring and Discovery system
- Data management

Low level services

- Globus Alliance
- Globus Toolkit



What is Globus Toolkit

- Collection of open source software
  - Provides low-level building blocks,
  - Medium-level services,
- You can use all GT or some part
- Usually people build their grids starting from GT

Which GT?

- Actual version is 4. (WS oriented)
- GT 2.4.3
  - It is the pre-webservices version, it is no more no more modified
  - It is included in any newer version of Globus.
  - It is in gLite and LCG middleware

The security problem

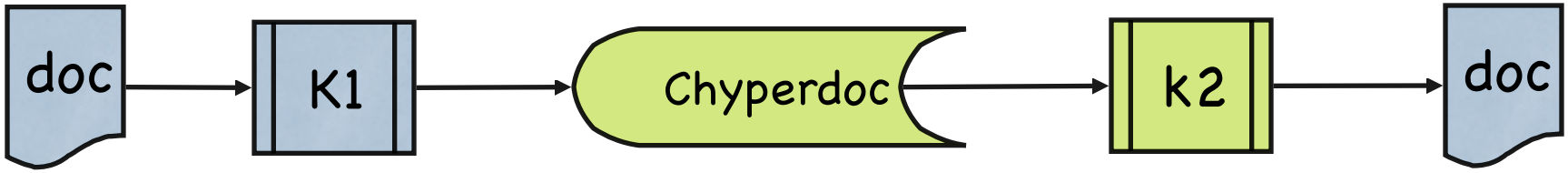
- **Grid is a highly complex system**
- Authentication: establishing identity
- Authorization: establishing rights
- Message protection

- Passwords are not scalable and secure

What we require to security

- Users point of view
  - Easy to use, transparent, single-sign on, no password sharing
- Administrators point of view
  - Define local access control
  - Define local polices

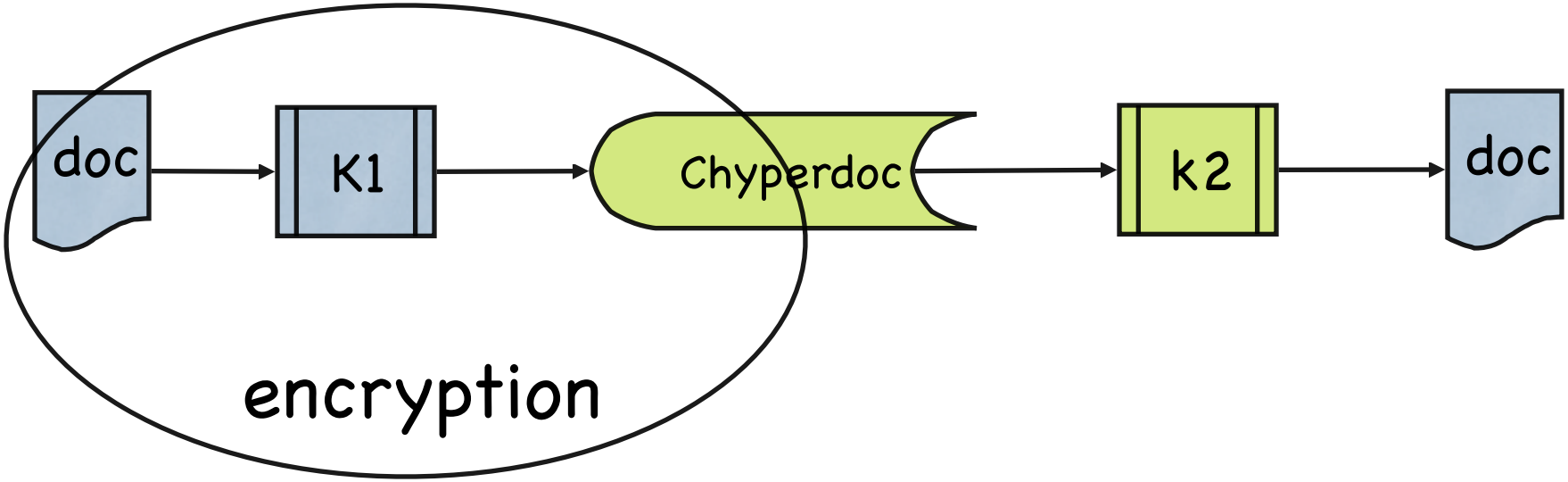
Cryptography primer



Symmetric algorithms: K1 == K2

Asymmetric algorithms: K1 != K2

Cryptography primer



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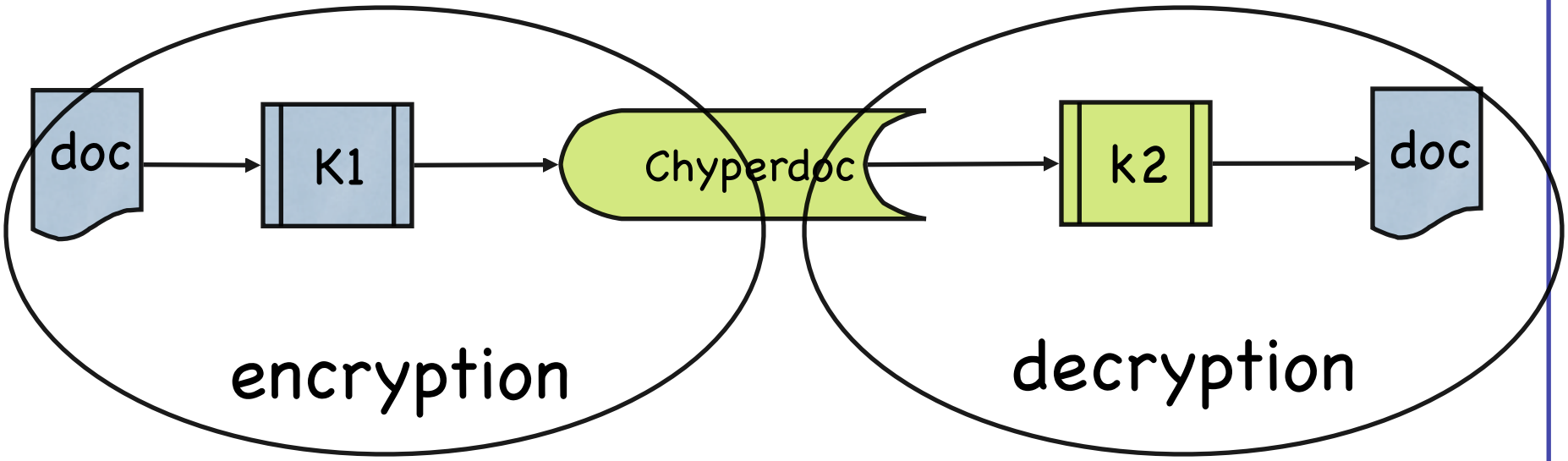


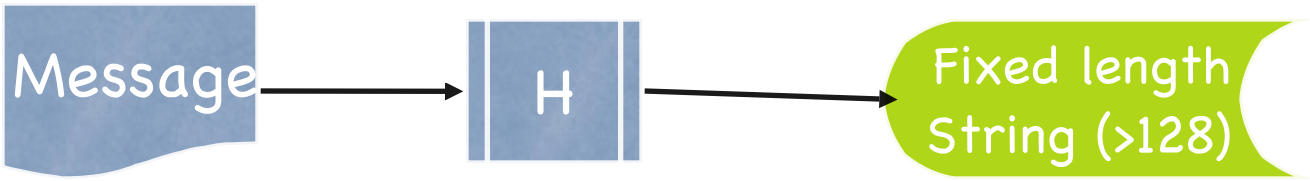
Symmetric algorithms: K1 == K2

Asymmetric algorithms: K1 != K2

PKI

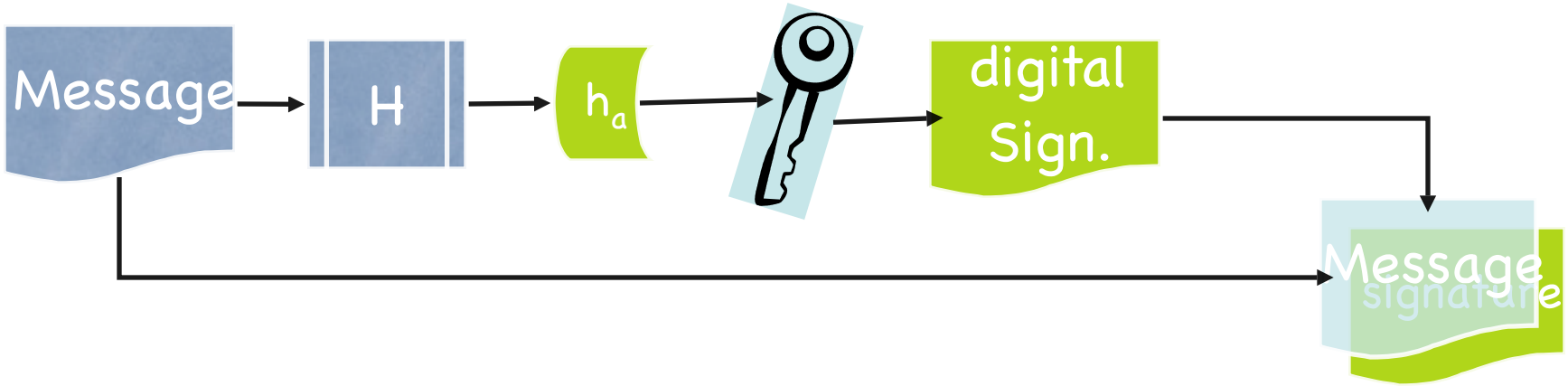
- Based on asymmetric algorithms
- Two keys: private key and public key
- It is “impossible” to derive private from public
- Data encrypted with one key can be only decrypted with the other

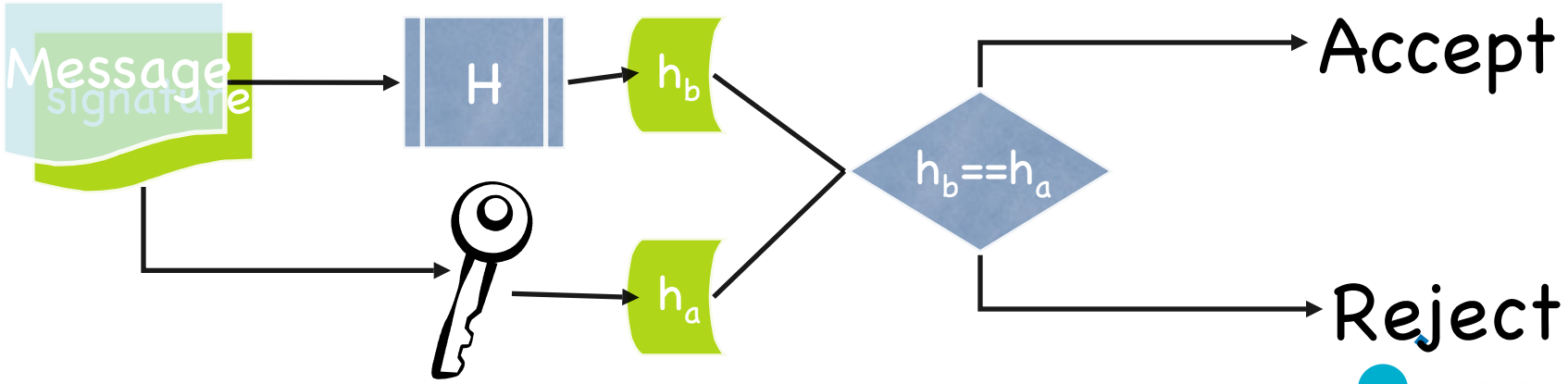
The hash function



- Easy to calculate
- Unique
- MD4, SHA etc.

The digital signature





Digital Certificate

- How can I be sure that user “A” is really “A”?
  - Someone else should guarantee the public key and the identity
  - Both “A” and “B” must trust this “third party”
- “web of trust” or Certification Authority

GRID Security Infrastructure

- Public key infrastructure (PKI)
- PKI: a key <=> a user
- PKI: asymmetric encryption
- X509 certificate

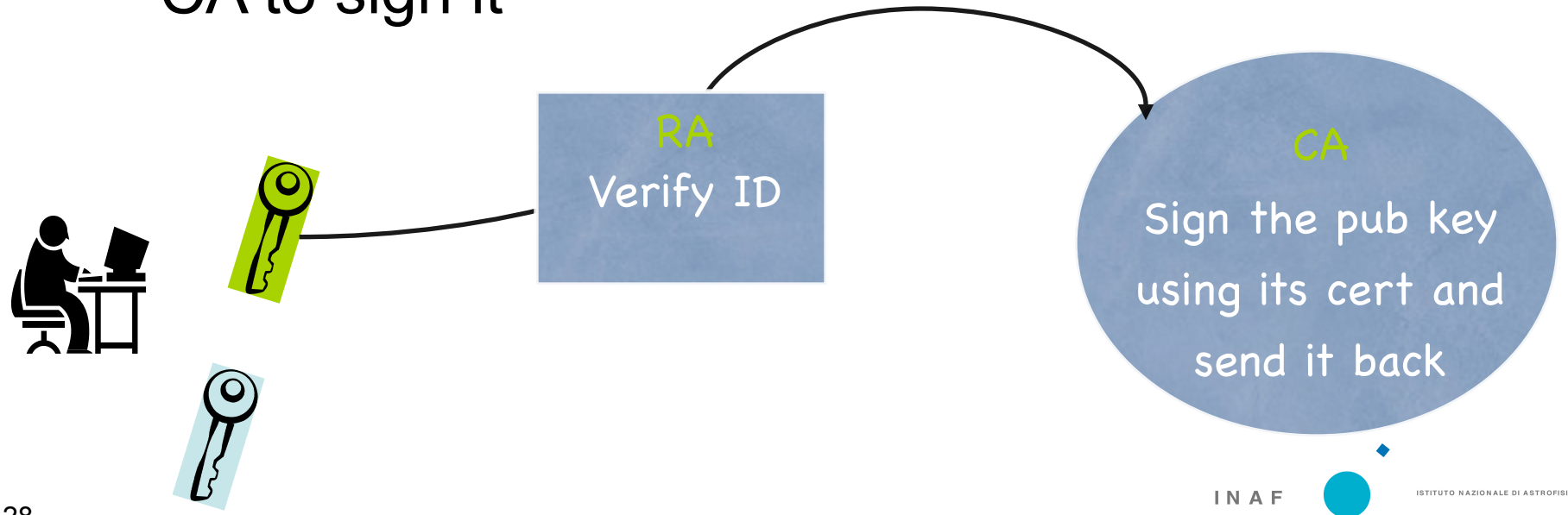
X.509 certificate

- ITU-T standard for PKI
- X.509 == IETF PKI cert + CRL of X.509v3 standard

- Certificate
- Version
- Serial Number
- Algorithm ID
- Issuer
- Validity
- Subject
- Subject Public Key Info
- Public Key Algorithm
- Subject Public Key
- Issuer Unique Identifier (Optional)
- Subject Unique Identifier (Optional)
- Extensions (Optional)
- ...
- Certificate Signature Algorithm
- Certificate Signature

The role of CAs

- CA sign certificates
- CA PK can be used to verify a certificate
- To request a certificate a user must ask the CA to sign it



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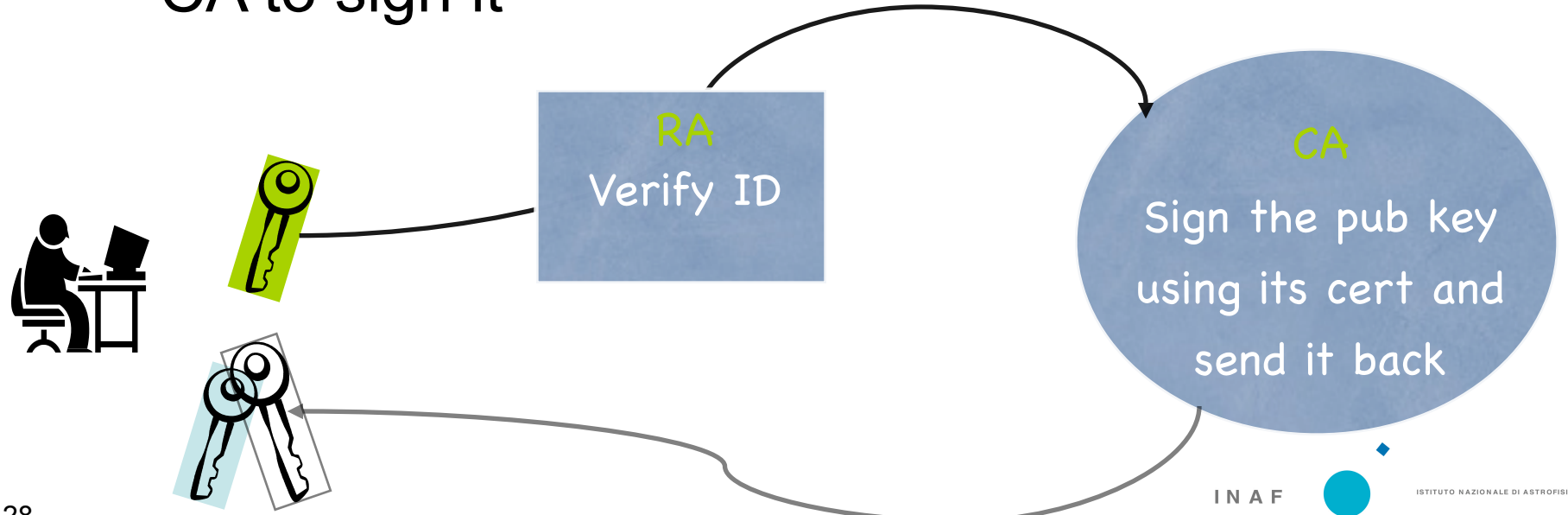
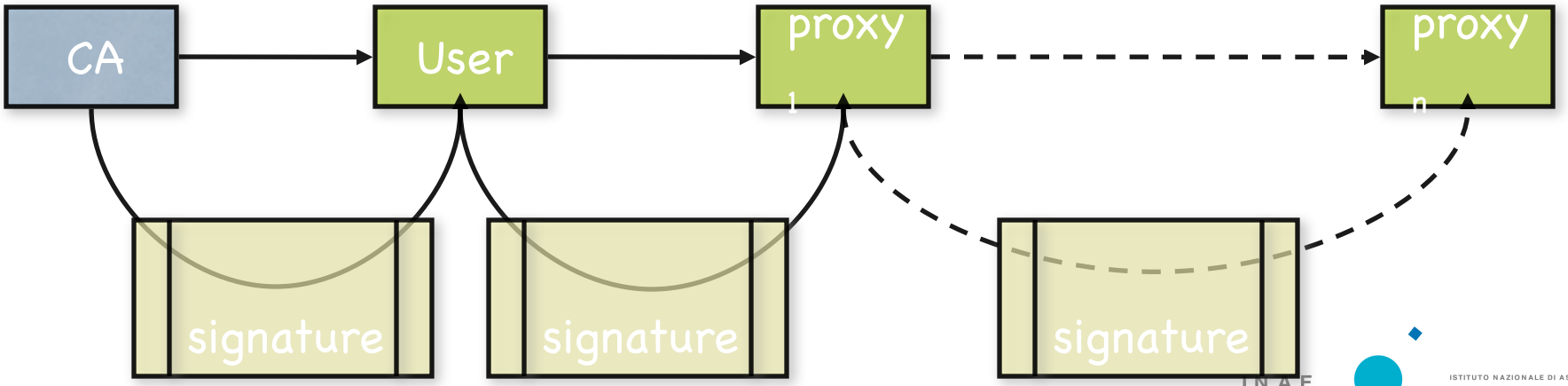


GSI - proxies

- To support delegation: A delegates to B the right to act on behalf of A
- proxy certificates *extend X.509 certificates*
  - Short-lived certificates signed by the user's certificate or a proxy
  - Reduces security risk, enables delegation



“Login” to the grid

- User cert lasts for a few months (~1 year)
- Proxy has a limited lifetime (minimized risk of “compromised credentials”)
- Proxy cert is created by the **grid-proxy-init** command

```
% grid-proxy-init
Your identity: /C=IT/O=INFN/OU=Personal/L=
Enter GRID pass phrase for this identity:
Creating proxy ..................................... Done
Your proxy is valid until: Thu Aug 31 21:56:18 2006
```

Passwd protected

Grid-proxy-init

- Private key is used to sign a proxy certificate with its own, new public/private key pair.
  - User's private key not exposed after proxy has been signed
- Proxy is saved as /tmp/x509up_u503 readable only by the user.
- Proxy life is 12 hours user my change it

```
% grid-proxy-init -valid
<h:m>
```

Manage your proxy

- Check its validity
- Destroy it

```
%  grid-proxy-info
subject  : /C=IT/O=INFN/OU=Personal Certificate/L=INAF Trieste/CN="userid"/CN=proxy
issuer   : /C=IT/O=INFN/OU=Personal Certificate/L=INAF Trieste/CN="userid"
identity : /C=IT/O=INFN/OU=Personal Certificate/L=INAF Trieste/CN="userid"
type     : full legacy globus proxy
strength : 512 bits
path     : /tmp/x509up_u503
timeleft : 11:46:39
% grid-proxy-destroy
%
```

MyProxy

- You may need:
  - To interact with a grid from many machines
  - To use a portal, and delegate to the portal the right to act on your behalf
  - To run jobs that might last longer than the lifetime of a short-lived proxy
- Solution: “MyProxy repository”

Long term jobs

- Proxy must have a limited lifetime
- When your proxy expires you lost your job.
- myproxy server:
  - Allows to create and store a long term proxy certificate:
- A dedicated service on the WMS can renew automatically the proxy

What is my-proxy?

- Online CA
  - Issues short-lived X.509 End Entity Cert
  - Avoid need for long-lived user keys
- Online Credential Repository
  - Issues short-lived X.509 proxy cert
  - Long-lived private keys never leave the server
- Supporting multiple authentication
  - passphrase, cert, PAM, etc.
- Open Source Software

My-proxy

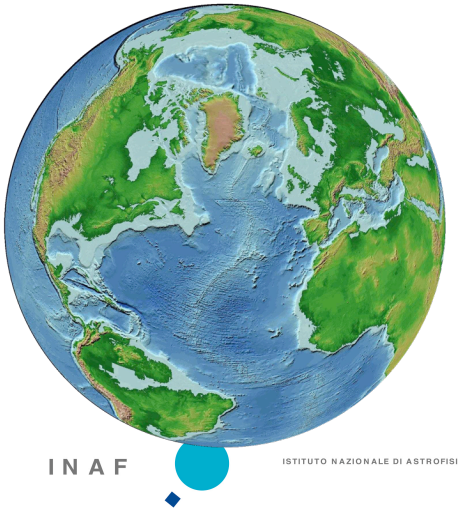
myproxy-init

MyProxy Server

myproxy-get-delegation

Grid Server

execution



Local WS

output

any grid service

My-proxy

myproxy-init

MyProxy Server

WEB Browser

Grid Server

myproxy-get-delegation

execution

output

any grid service

Local WS

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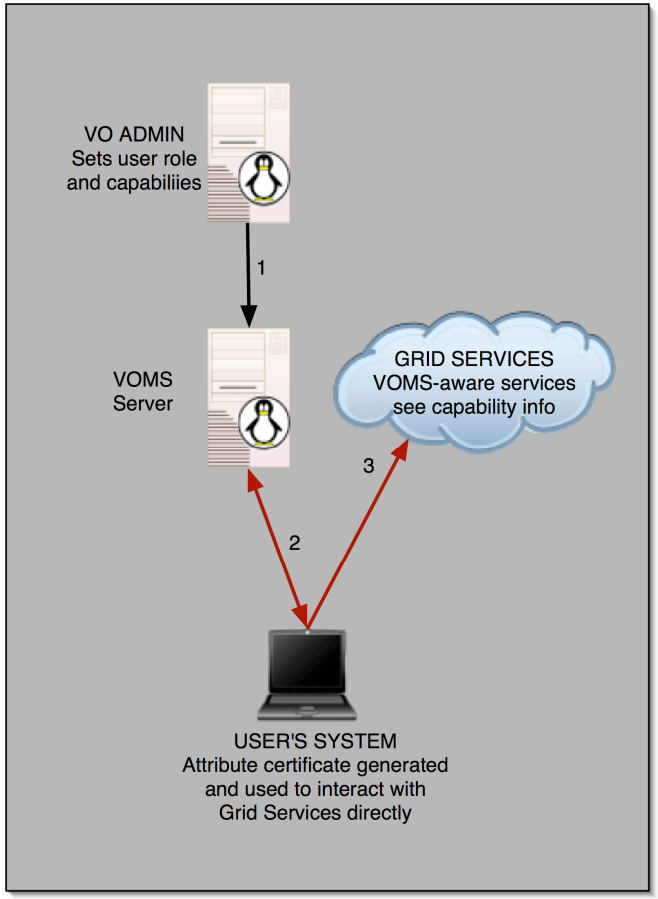
Authorization with GSI

- User is authorized as a member of a single VO
- All VO members have same rights
- Gridmapfiles are updated by VO management software: map the user's DN to a local account
- grid-proxy-init

VOMS

- User can deal with multiple VOs
  - Aggregate rights
- VO can have groups
  - Different rights for each
  - Nested groups
- VO has roles
  - Assigned to specific purposes
- Proxy certificate carries the additional attributes



VOMS proxy init

- Fully compatible with Globus Toolkit
- Each VO has a database containing group membership, roles and capabilities information for each user
- User contacts VOMS server requesting his authorization info
- Server send authorization info to the client, which includes them in a proxy certificate

VOMS proxy init

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```
% voms-proxy-init --voms gilda
Cannot find file or dir: /home/giorgio/.glite/vomses
Your identity: /C=IT/O=GILDA/OU=Personal Certificate/L=INFN/
CN=Emidio Giorgio/Email=emidio.giorgio@ct.infn.it
Enter GRID pass phrase:
Your proxy is valid until Mon Jan 30 23:35:51 2006
Creating temporary
proxy.....................................Done
Contacting  voms.ct.infn.it:15001 [/C=IT/O=GILDA/OU=Host/
L=INFN Catania/CN=voms.ct.infn.it/Email=] "gilda"
Creating proxy ..................................... Done
Your proxy is valid until Mon Jan 30 23:35:51 2006
```

Get info from your proxy

- FQAN are included in an Attribute Certificate
- Attributes <=> identity

```
$ voms-proxy-init --voms gilda:/gilda/Role=<user>
$ voms-proxy-info -fqan
/gilda/Role=<user>/Capability=NULL
$ voms-proxy-info -all
subject   : /C=IT/O=INFN/OU=Personal Certificate/L=IN
issuer    : /C=IT/O=INFN/OU=Host/L=CNAF/CN=voms.cnaf.infn.it
attribute : /inaf/Role=<user>/Capability=NULL
timeleft  : 11:59:47
```

Job Management

- The challenge:
  - enabling access to heterogeneous resources and managing remote computation
- The solution:
  - Grid Resource Allocation Management protocol (GRAM)

Job Management Goal

- Provide a service to securely:
  - Create an environment for a job
  - Stage files to/from environment
  - Cause execution of job process(es)
  - Via various local resource managers
  - Monitor execution
  - Signal important state changes to client
  - Enable client access to output files
  - Streaming access during execution

What is GRAM?

- GRAM is a unifying remote interface to Resource Managers
  - yet preserves local site security/control.
- GRAM is for stateful job control
  - Reliable operation
  - Asynchronous monitoring and control
  - Remote credential management
  - File staging

Job Submission Model

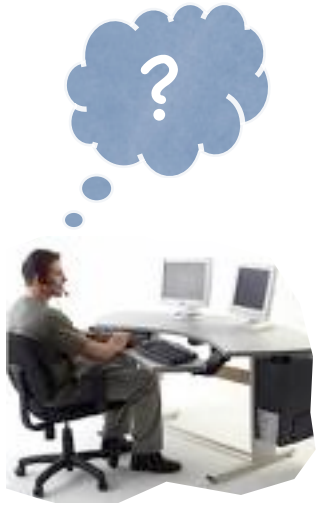
- Create and manage one job on a resource
- Submit and wait
- Not with an interactive TTY
  - File based stdin/out/err
  - Supported by all batch schedulers
- More complex than RPC
  - Optional steps before and after submission message
  - Job has complex lifecycle
    - Staging, execution, and cleanup states
  - Asynchronous monitoring

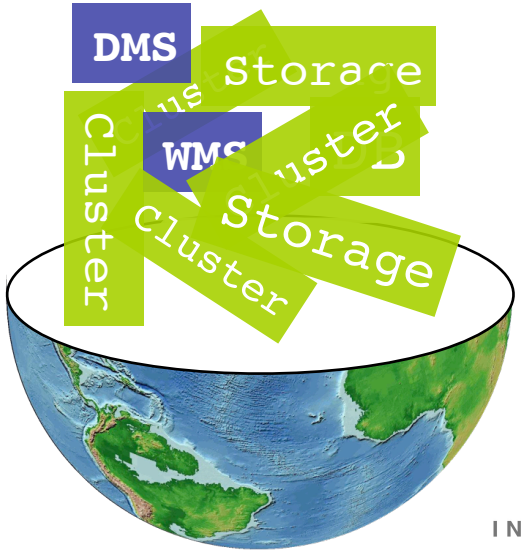
GRAM implementations

- GT2
  - pre-WebServices
  - proprietary protocol
  - EGEE/LCG
- GT4
  - Web Service Based
  - OGSA

Monitoring and discovery

- What is the status of a site?
- Which resource do I need to contact?
- GT2 MDS is a directory service that is based on the LDAP protocol.





Pre-WS MDS

- The MDS is a directory service that is based on the LDAP protocol.
- It is used to query both static and dynamic information on grid resources such: available CPUs, storage, etc.

MDS4

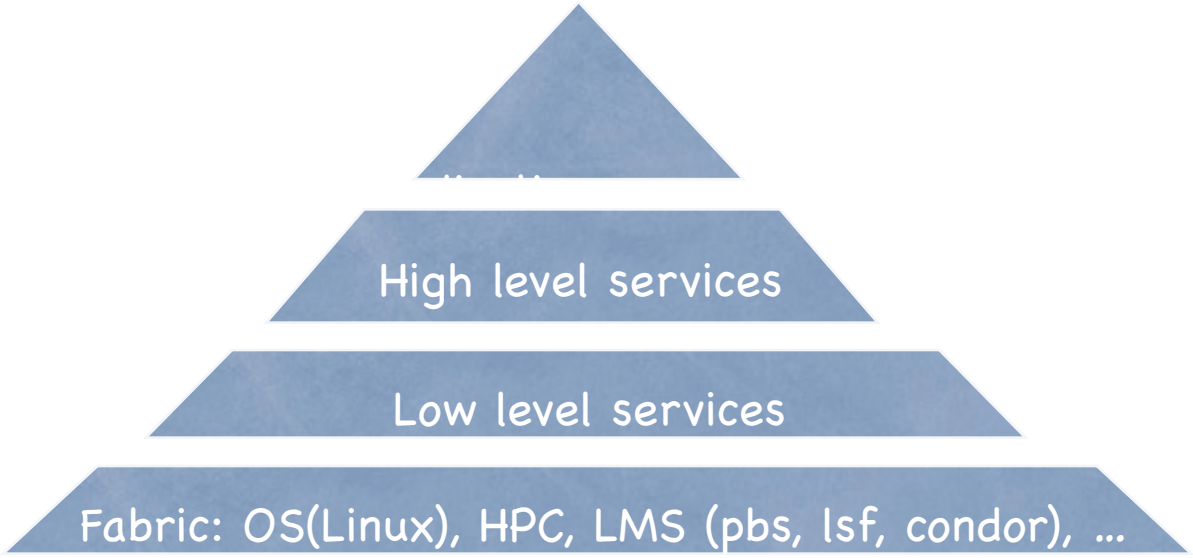
- WS based
- Index Service
  - collects data from various sources and provides a query/ subscription interface to that data
- Trigger Service
  - which collects data from various sources and can be configured to take action based on that data.
- Archive Service
  - access to historic data, is planned for a future release.
- Aggregator services
  - collect recent state information from registered information sources

Data Management

- Requirements
  - Fast: as fast as networks and protocols allow
  - Secure: server must only share files with strongly authenticated clients and no passwords in the clear or similar
  - Robust: Fault tolerant, time-tested protocol
- And the winner is…GRIDFTP

Grid environment

- Grid high level of complexity
- Direct the whole system
- High level services (on top of all)



Information & Monitoring

- Which resources are available?
- Where are them?
- Which is their status?
- How can I optimize their use?

We need a general information infrastructure: Information System

Information system

- Uniform and Flexible access
- Scalable access to dynamic data
- Multiple information sources
- GIIS has its own scalability limits
  - GIIS kept at site level

IS solutions

- LCG BDII
  - LDAP with BD backend
  - Info caching, scalable, centralized.
  - Fast access (LDAP)
- gLite R-GMA
  - RDBMS implementation of GGF Grid Monitoring arch
  - Aggregate service info from multiple sites
  - Generic service discovery API
  - Used for monitoring

Data Management

- Where are data/files?
- Which data/file exist?
- How can I reach it?
- Are they accessible by others?

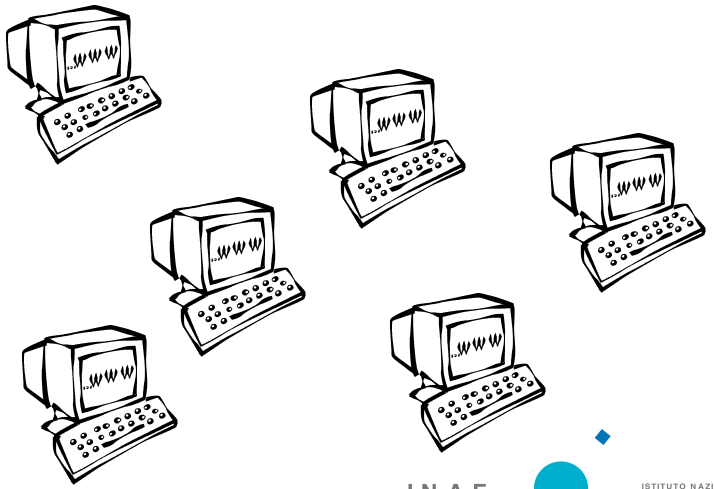
Data Management

- Where are data/files?
- Which data/file exist?
- How can I reach it?
- Are they accessible by others?

Distributes storage space => filesystem

Job management

- Cooperation infrastructure for WAN distributed resources:
  - Chaotic system to direct;
  - Locate, book and use the “right” resource
- Scheduling service



Taxonomy of a scheduling system

- Centralized systems
- Distributed systems
- Hierarchical systems (hybrid type)

Centralized

- Single point of knowledge
- Optimum scheduling
- Single point of failure
- Example: Condor-G

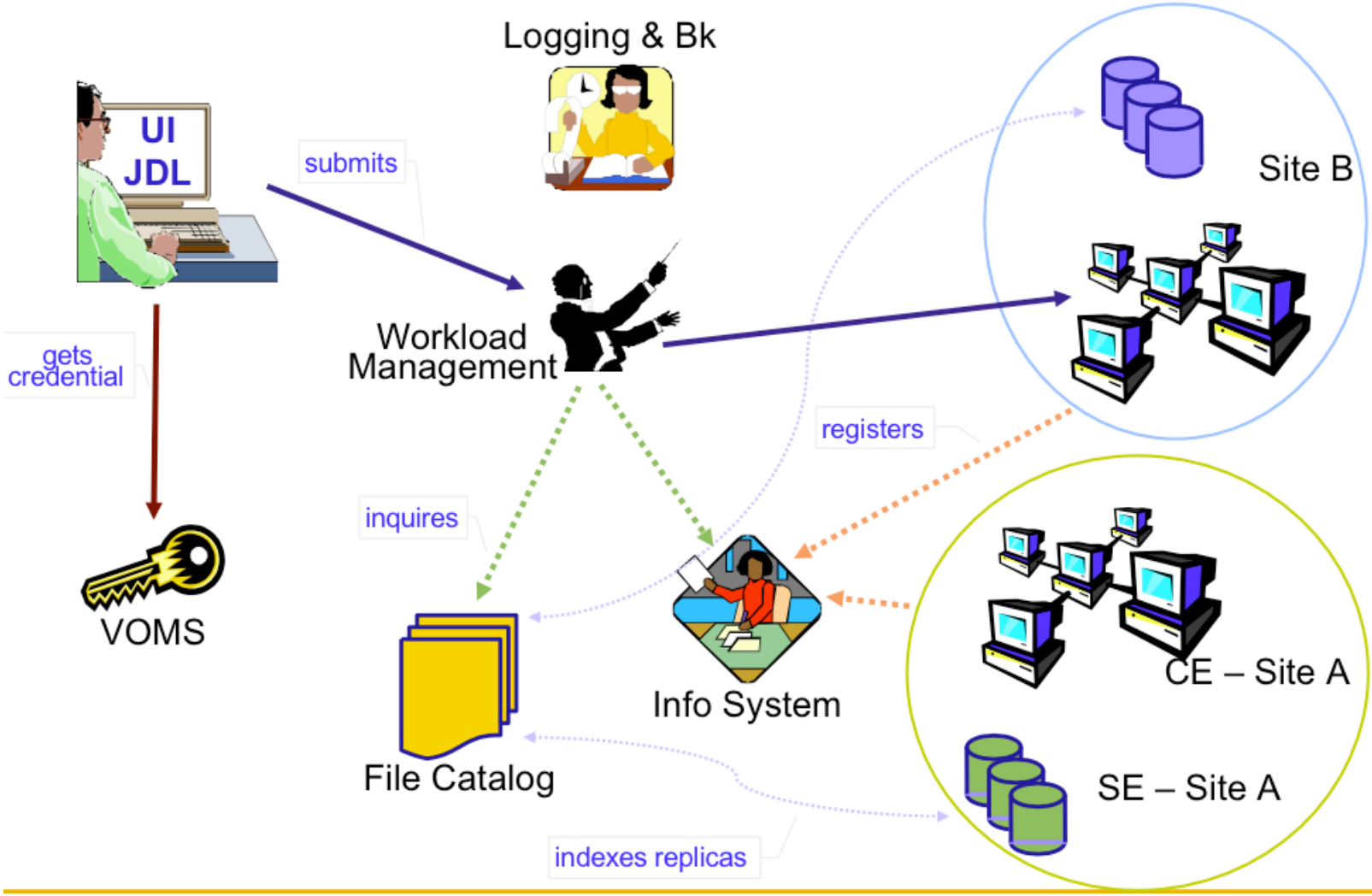
Distributed

- Application delegation method
- Optimum scaling & Fault tolerance
- Sub-optimal resource allocation
- Each Application has to develop a scheduler
- Example: NetSolve

Hybrid

- Distributed systems are scheduled by a centralized one
- Examples: Darwin and Nimrond-G, GridBUS

Glite WMS


Logging & Bk
UI
JDL
submits
gets
credential
VOMS
Workload
Management
Site B
registers
inquires
Info System
File Catalog
CE – Site A
SE – Site A
indexes replicas

The evolution of Grid architecture

- From Computational Resources to “Computational Resources”
- “Resource” tends to connote a tangible entity to be consumed: CPU, storage,
- New Resources for new needs:
  - Databases, java class
  - INSTRUMENTS and SENSORS

From Resources to Services: Managing Virtual Services

- But many interesting services may be decoupled from any particular resource
  - E.g. virtual data service, data analysis service
  - A service consumes resources, but how that happens is irrelevant to the client
- "Service" forms a better base abstraction
  - Can apply to physical or virtual

Open Grid Services Architecture

- Service-oriented architecture
  - Key to virtualization, discovery, composition, local-remote transparency
- Leverage industry standards
  - Internet, Web services
- Distributed service management
  - A “component model for Web services” (or: a “service model for the Grid”)
- A framework for the definition of composable, interoperable services

Web Services

- A simple but powerful distributed system paradigm, that allows one to:
  - Describe a service (WSDL)
  - Invoke a service (SOAP)
  - Discover a service (various)
- Web services appears to offer a fighting chance at ubiquity (unlike CORBA)
  - Sophisticated tools emerging from industry
- But Web services does not go far enough to serve a common base for the Grid …

Web Services and Grid

- "Web services" address discovery & invocation of persistent services
  - Interface to persistent state of entire enterprise
- In Grids, must also support transient service instances, created/destroyed dynamically
  - Interfaces to the states of distributed activities
  - E.g. workflow, video conf., dist. data analysis
- Significant implications for how services are managed, named, discovered, and used
  - In fact, much of Grid is concerned with the management of service instances

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Questions?

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