Status of WP4: Exploitability

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6 November 2018
Outline

1 Introduction

2 Task1: Business

3 Task 2: ESDM

4 Task 3: New Tape Methods

5 Summary & Next Steps

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Project Organisation

WP1 Governance and Engagement

WP2 Global high-resolution model demonstrators

WP3 Usability

WP4 Exploitability

- The business of storing and exploiting high volume data
- Storage layout for Earth system data
- Methods of exploiting tape

WP5 Management and Dissemination
## Work Package 4 — Exploitability (of data)

### Partners

DKRZ, STFC, CMCC, Seagate, UREAD

ECMWF was a partner but we removed the relevant task in the reprofiling following the first review.

### Task 4.1

**Business models**

- **Documentation**
  - Coarse-grained model
  - Fine-grained model
- D4.1 completed
- **Task is completed**

### Task 4.2

**New Storage Layout**

- **Software & Design**
  - ESD Middleware
- Design delivered D4.2
- Initial benchmarks
- Development ongoing

### Task 4.3

**New Tape Methods**

- **Software**
  - JDMA data migration
- Prototype in place
- Wrapup ongoing
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Coarse-Grained Models

Simple graph models

High-level representation
- Hardware/software
- Purpose: Ease understanding

Includes:
- performance
- resilience
- cost

Deliverable D4.1 (done)

Scenarios discussing architectural changes for data centres, and implications for cost/performance
Some Examples of Business Considerations

One cost model of storage based on DKRZ

- Tape: 12 € per TB/year
- Software licenses for tape are driving the costs!
- Parallel Disk: 28 € TB/year
- Object storage: 12.5 € TB/year (without software license costs)
- Cloud: $48 TB/year (only storage, access adds costs)
- Alternative models: 8 € / 153 € for tape/disk per year
- Idle (unused) data is an important cost driver!
Alternative Storage Landscapes

- **Compute nodes**
- **Memory**
- **Object store**
- **Network**
- **Cloud**

### Compute nodes
- Memory
- NVRAM

### Object store
- Memory
- NVRAM

### Network
- Compute nodes
- Tape archive
- Memory
- NVRAM
Fine-Grained Performance Modelling

**Detailed Modelling**

A simulator has been developed; covers
- HW, software, tape drives, library, cache
- Can replay recorded FTP traces
- Validated with DKRZ environment

**Usage**

Aim to use to evaluate performance and costs of future storage scenarios – particularly tape
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Dealing with Climate/Weather Data

Challenges in the domain of climate/weather

- Large data volume and high velocity
- Data management practice does not scale & not portable
  - Difficult to manage file placement / knowledge of content
  - Hierarchical namespaces do not reflect use cases
  - Individual solutions at every site
- Suboptimal performance & performance portability
  - Cannot properly exploit the hardware / storage landscape
  - Tuning file formats and file system necessary at *application* level
- Data conversion is often needed
  - To combine data from multiple experiments, time steps, ...
Design Goals of the Earth-System Data Middleware

1. Relaxed access semantics, tailored to scientific data generation
   - Avoid false sharing (of data blocks) in the write-path
   - Understand application data structures and scientific metadata
   - Reduce penalties of **shared** file access

2. Site-specific (optimized) data layout schemes
   - Based on site-configuration and performance model
   - Site-admin/project group defines mapping
   - Flexible mapping of data to multiple storage backends
   - Exploiting backends in the storage landscape

3. Ease of use and deployment particularly configuration

4. Enable a configurable namespace based on scientific metadata
Benefits

- Independent, share-nothing lock-free writes from parallel applications
- Storage layout is optimized to local storage
  - Exploits characteristics of diverse storage
  - Preserve compatibility by creating platform-independent file formats on the site boundary/archive
- Less performance tuning from users needed
  - One data structure can be fully or partially replicated with different layouts
  - Using multiple storage systems concurrently
- (Expose/access the same data via different APIs\(^1\))
- (Flexible and automatic namespace\(^1\))

\(^1\)Not shown in ESiWACE scope
Key Concepts

- Middleware utilizes layout component to make placement decisions
- Applications work through existing API (currently: NetCDF library)
- Data is then written/read efficiently; potential for optimization inside library

User-level APIs

- NetCDF
- Layout component
- File system
- Object store
- Canonical Format

Data-type aware

Site-specific back-ends and mapping

Site Internet Archival

File a, file b, file c, obj a, obj b
ESDM Status

Status

- ESDM Architecture Design for Prototype (Deliverable D4.2)
- Multi-threaded data path
- Data backend Plugins for POSIX, CLOVIS, WOS
  - Reached: MS7 Prototypes of alternative storage backends
- Trivial metadata store on the shared file system
- 50%: HDF5 VOL plugin as application to ESDM adapter
  - Proof of concept for adaptive tier selection in HDF5
- 40%: ESDM core implementation as library
- Evaluation of ESDM benchmark at DKRZ, STFC, CMCC
  - Reached: MS9 Implementation of ESD middleware at STFC and CMCC
### Evaluation of the Prototype: Here at DKRZ Mistral

#### System
- Test system: DKRZ Mistral supercomputer
- Nodes: 200

#### Benchmark
- Uses ESDM interface directly; Metadata on Lustre
- Write/read a timeseries of a 2D variable
- Grid size: $200k \times 200k \times 8$ Byte $\times 10$ iterations
- Data volume: size = 2980 GiB; compared to IOR performance

#### ESDM Configurations
- Splitting data into fragments of 100 MiB (or 500)
- Use different storage systems
Measured Performance

Read is handled inefficiently in ESDM at the moment. We will optimize the read path.

Kunkel & Lawrence (WP4 Team)

Status of WP4: Exploitation

6 November 2018
Data Backends – DDN Object Store (CMCC)

WOS Prototype

- Backend works
- Developed C wrapper for the C++ DDN WOS libraries
- Designed a parallel approach for independent / multiple write operations on WOS storage
- Problem: WOS is discontinued!
Test and Deployment

Ophidia (in-memory data analytics) as a test application for ESDM

- **Import** and **Export**
  Ophidia operators adapted for integration with ESDM storage
  - Uses patched NetCDF

- ESDM successfully built on:
  - Athena HPC Cluster
  - OphidiaLab

- Creation of a VM for the whole software stack
# Roadmap until the end of ESiWACE1

- Supporting a subset of NetCDF applications
  - NetCDF benchmark
  - Ophidia: use in a big data workflow
  - Toy model: Shallow water equation
- Improve data plugins
- Improve data layouting
- Optimize read path
- Run benchmarks at sites
  - CLOVIS performance in various configurations on a reasonable cluster
- Build a performance model for WOS (and CLOVIS) as blueprint for other backends
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Approach

Semantic Storage Library

Task 3: Developing new tape access strategies and software ... higher bandwidth to tape storage and increased storage redundancy.

- **Increase bandwidth to/from tape by exploiting RAID-to-TAPE.**
  
  Decided that this was too difficult to do in a portable manner and that portable (tape + object store) workflow was a more important initial priority.

- Provide a portable library to address user management of data files on disk (POSIX and/or Object Store) and tape which
  
  1. does not *require* significant sysadmin interaction, but
  2. can make use of local customisation if available/possible
  3. exploits existing metadata conventions
  4. can eventually be backported to work with the ESDM
  5. prototype can be deployed fast enough that we can use it for Exascale Demonstrator
Architecture

Two Key Components

1. S3NetCDF — replacement for NetCDF4-python with support for object stores
2. CacheFace — a portable frontend for managing content in object stores/tape
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Information Structure

Exploiting the Climate Forecast Aggregation (CFA) Framework\(^1\), which

1. Defines how multiple CF fields may be combined into one larger field (or how one large field can be divided)
2. Is fully general and based purely on CF metadata
3. Includes a syntax for storing an aggregation in a NetCDF file using JSON string content to point at aggregated files

\(^1\)https://goo.gl/DdxGtw
S3NetCDF (working title)

**Architecture**

- Master Array File is a NetCDF file containing dimensions and metadata for the variables including URLs to fragment file locations.
- Master Array file optionally in persistent memory or online, nearline, etc.
  NetCDF tools can query file CF metadata content without fetching them.
Status:

- Prototype released (milestone 7B). Subsequent refactoring complete (October 2018) in preparation for parallelisation.
- ESiWACE1 goal: add prototype parallelisation, measure performance, publish paper and more complete usage documentation. (ESiWACE2: performance, integrate components with ESDM).
CacheFace (working title)

Architecture

Three key components:

1. a cache management utility,
2. a data migration utility,
3. and a metadata system.
CacheFace (working title)

**Status**

- Simple metadata system designed.
- Cache system designed and prototype built that can use Minio interface to object store.
- Data migration prototype (JDMA, next slides) developed with support for tape (milestone 8) and object store (soon) and about to be deployed operationally for Elastic Tape backend (on JASMIN).
- EsiWACE1 goals: complete JDMA, extend and test backends, (ESiWACE2: Finalise metadata and cache systems, integrate components with ESDM).
JDMA: JASMIN Data Migration App(licaiton)

A multi-tiered storage library
- Provides a single API to users to move data to and from different systems
- HTTP API running on webserver, database records requests and file metadata
- Command line client which interfaces to HTTP API

Multiple storage “backends” supported via plugin
- Amazon S3 (Simple Storage Solution) for Object Stores and AWS
- FTP, also for tape systems with a FTP interface
- Elastic Tape – a proprietary tape system based on CASTOR

A number of daemons (scheduled processes) carry out the data transfer
- Asynchronously
- On behalf of the user
Introduction

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JDMA System Architecture

Backends
- ElasticTape
- FTP
- ObjectStore

Worker Processes
- jdma_lock
- jdma_pack
- jdma_transfer
- jdma_monitor
- jdma_verify
- jdma_tidy

Database

JDMA client

Web server

HTTP API
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# Current Status

1. **Business**: Complete

2. **ESDM**: Architecture and prototypes exist with multiple backends.

3. **SemSL**: Architecture and prototypes exist
   - S3NetCDF initially targeting object stores
   - CacheFace, initially targeting tape

# ESiWACE1 Goals

1. **ESDM**: Extend use exemplars, improve plugin, layout, and performance components for multiple backends

2. **SemSL**: S3NetCDF – parallelise and publicises; CacheFace – Deploy JDMA. Release prototype complete system.
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The PTA multi-model workflow implemented in Ophidia has been executed and validated at CMCC on 11 models from CMIP5 experiment for a total of 181 tasks, 2.5 minutes, 96 cores on OphidiaLab.