Components of a Scaleable Geo ICT Compute Infrastructure

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Outline

- GISE Lab @ CSE, IIT Bombay
 - Structuring our research
- Our vision for a nation wide systems architecture for geo spatial data and applications
- Current status and some accomplishments

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GISE – Scope and Objectives

- Research focus of core technology areas for *processing* geo-spatial data
 - Computer science perspective
- Build research repository and technology showcase for the community
- Capacity building in research
 - Workshops and short-term courses
 - Research and graduate students

A collaboration centric approach



Carving up the Research Space

Domain Specific Application R&D

ICT Infrastructure Design and Scalability IT Related. Domain Independent Infrastructure Research CS related

Core research focus



Infrastructure Research

Data Analytics – Real time and Warehouse based mining Geo Informatics

Model Search and Equivalence Ontology Mapping & Equivalence Data Collection Strategies – Sensor Networks, data aggregation patterns

Data Model Repository Structure and mgmt

Meta Models and Ontology Creation Tools

STANDARDS Devl

IT related research

- Data center & Network design use of virtualization and cloud computing
- Capacity planning
- Monitoring, alerts, autonomic computing



What is Applications R&D?



Domain Specific Data Models

Domain Specific Ontologies – Water Mgmt, etc.

Some Application Areas



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Guiding principles

Emulate a grid

- Hardware can grow organically but is unified by software layers above.
- Federated (logically centralized) data availability but protected by layered, role based access control
- Web enable all services
- Be OGC standards compliant

The Vision – a National Geo Spatial data/services Grid



Requirements on a Grid Node

- Serve as a federated data store for natural resources data
 - Based on pre-defined, standardized data models
- Serve as a federated services repository of analytical applications.
 Standardized ontologies needed

Requirements on the Grid

- Cooperation of nodes:
 - Services search
 - Data search
- Goal is to treat the set of all grid nodes as a single virtual node that hosts data and analytic service applications

GRID NODE ARCHITECTURE



Federation support

Publish/subscribe engine

Semantic Query layer (as a web service) Application Svc



Metadata

Ontology

Repositories



Implications

- Network accessible instead of desktop bound.
 - Will enable a national geo spatial applications grid to be set up with a few data centres
- Standards Based
 - Web services, GML etc.
- Scalable backend
 Oracle 10G, clustered application servers etc.

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Accomplishments

Semantic Interoperability toolsetSchema generator framework

Semantic Interoperability

- Multiple data sources each with it's own description model
- OGC and other standards addresses only syntactic interoperability
 - GML
 - WGS84 etc.
- But this does NOT address issues of semantic incompatibilities in different data sets.

The Semantics Problem

- Different entities names, same meaning.
- Same entity name, different meaning.
- Different classification hierarchies.
- Different attributes, units, ...



Ontologies

- An explicit specification of a shared conceptualization.
- Defined using the concepts of
 - Classes
 - Data and Object Properties
 - Constraints and Axioms
- Describes the semantics of the information sources, makes the content explicit.
- Can be used for the identification and association of semantically corresponding information concepts.

Our Solution - FIGO

- Framework for Interoperability in GIS using Ontologies
- Use Ontologies to capture the meaning (Meta data Entry)
- Identify and associate semantically equivalent concepts across sources (Ontology Mapping)
- Check consistency of the mappings using ontology reasoners. (Mapping Validation).
- Accept data requests, transform them according to contents of sources.
- Extract data from sources and merge results

FIGO Architecture



What is SGF?

- A collection of tools to:
- 1. Go from XML Schema Descriptions of geo spatial data to a relational schema
- 2. Insert GML data into the spatial schema so created.
- 3. Extract the data from spatial DBs using OGC standard services (WFS/WMS)

SGF Architecture



SGF Pros and Cons

Pros:

- Automates relational schema design and installation
- Inserts data gotten as GML
- Generates a corresponding Degeree descriptor to match generated schema.
- Cons:
 - Needs a XSD to begin with (currently)
 - Tied to Deegree descriptor could be different for different WFS implementations.

Summarizing

- A comprehensive strategy is needed to collect, clean and make available data and applications to the public so that redundancy is avoided
- Educating state SDIs and other organizations about this strategy and operational guidelines is critical for it's success.
- CS Research and progress in geo spatial technologies are not mutually exclusive



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