Grid Computing: Problem Set 1

Colin Perkins

7 October 2004

In the first week of the module we have outlined several different visions for grid computing, and described some of the problems and challenges that face those developing grid computing environments. In this problem set you are asked to critically evaluate the material covered to date, demonstrating both your understanding of the material and your ability to evaluate technical arguments.

You are required to submit a short essay to answer the following questions:

1. What is grid computing?

2. What is the biggest challenge in building a grid computing system? Why?

You should answer the questions in your own words, justifying your arguments as appropriate with reference to the papers discussed in the lectures (or to other papers). All references *must* be cited in the usual fashion for scientific papers; direct quotes from the literature *must* be acknowledged and cited. Your answer should be typewritten with at least 1 inch margin, a font not less than 10 point size, and not exceeding two sides of A4 paper in length.

Answers must be submitted by 5pm on 14th October 2004. A drop box is available for submissions outside room G173 in Lilybank Gardens. This problem set is worth 5% of the mark for the module. The usual rules apply for late submissions: 20% of the mark will be deducted for each day late.