

Realizing the Life Science Grid

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The myGrid project, particularly the Taverna workflow system, has provided software to the bioinformatics community allowing scientists to access many functions traditionally associated with grid computing. These functions include job execution, coordination in the form of dataflow workflows and management of results, virtual experiments etc. This has been done, however, without ever directly involving any actual 'grid technology'. In this talk I will discuss the apparent paradox of a grid system without a grid and why the reality of working in the life science makes such a concept not only logical but inevitable. I will also cover our forward looking work on light weight transient grids and outline some of the bioinformatics use cases for which such systems are suited.