Interactive Data Analysis on the Grid with PROOF and gLite

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This presentation discusses activities at GSI to support interactive data analysis for the LHC experiment ALICE. In the computing model of Alice three kinds of data analysis are foreseen. First fast pilot analysis of the data “just collected” to tune the reconstruction at the CERN Analysis Facility (CAF), second the end-user analysis using PROOF or Grid and last scheduled batch analysis using analysis trains on the Grid. GSI is involved in the Worldwide LHC Computing Grid (WLCG) as a Tier-2 centre for ALICE. One focus at GSI is a setup where it is possible to dynamically switch the resources between the jobs from the Grid and a PROOF farm for fast interactive analysis via PROOF, the GSI Analysis Facility (GSIAF). The second emphasis is on a developing a software package RGlite, an interface between ROOT and gLite, which creates the possibility to create PROOF clusters on demand via standard Grid jobs.