Telepresence

Novel view generation using multiple omni-directional cameras on the Grid



The objective of this group is to provide a new telepresence system, where a user in a different place can look around a high quality virtualized real world generated from multiple omni-directional cameras by using the high performance computing facility of the Grid environment. This attractive application can be widely applied to entertainment, remote surveillance, and video conferencing.

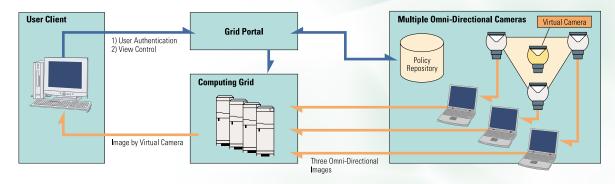
Image Generation from Any Point of View on the Grid

An omni-directional camera consists of an ordinary video camera and a hyperboloid surface mirror. A virtual camera is a software camera which provides an image from any point of view a user wants to see. The image is generated from three omni-directional images from different omni-directional cameras. To provide high-quality images for users in real-time requires a high performance computing facility. This group shows the capability of a new telepresence system which can be realized by connecting omni-directional cameras and a high performance computing facility provided by the Grid system via high-speed networks.





Sensor Connectivity for Grid on JGN ${\rm I\hspace{-.1em}I}$



Service-Oriented Integration for Sensor Applications

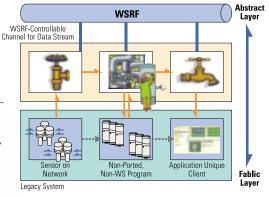
Sensors, such as omni-directional cameras, tend to be platform-dependent and have non-standard interfaces.

Integrating sensors into the Grid with Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA) realizes the construction of scalable systems which are compliant to the users demand and to a changeable market. SOA allows the following:

- ⇔flexible system construction (avoiding system fixation) and,
- reuse of service with interoperable interfaces and interchangeable units (reduction in development and running costs).

To achieve SOA, we are developing a WSRF-controllable adapter for sensors by giving consideration to:

- ♦ Any Grid middleware that cannot be installed onto diskless devices and non-supported OSs,
- Sensor functionality that cannot be directly controlled by an outer system (otherwise the data stream must be controlled).
- ◇Non-WS data transfer in need of high throughput even now (or including binary data into a SOAP message may cost much CPU resources).



Policy-Based Access Control with Fine Granularity

Protecting privacy is a significant issue towards realizing a secure telepresense system. We are conducting research on policy-based and fine-grained access control mechanism for complex Grid environment. In the prototype, a camera owner is able to define rules to control user's view by storing policies into the PERMIS role-based policy repository.

The Grid portal allows users to change virtual camera position through web browsers without thinking of complicated authorization tasks. When a user inputs coordinates of a virtual camera, the portal queries on the policy repository to check if the position is in his granted area.

