CRAB@CAF server status and plan

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Server status

CRA_2_1_0

Support for CAF/LSF submission, basically ready, still some issues reported by Pieter for CAF.
Want to understand/fix before release.

CRAB enables direct jobs submission (aka StandAlone) but can also became a client interacting with a server (aka ServerMode) which take care to submit and manage jobs for the users.
So far only for Grid, extending for CAF usage

CRAB_210

- Has support for LSF/CAF
- Imprtant limitation: submission directory has to be on `afs`, namely shared filesystem
- Will try and remove this requirement in next version, but we prefer to release it as is today to get user feedback
- Pieter has tried it: some success and some problems still under investigation.
- Needless to say that these problems did not show up in my test, but that's what beta tester are ther for! Thanks Pieter!

TASK MONITORING

Select a User:	Select a Time Range:	Plot...
PieterEveraerts	Last 2 Weeks	Distribution by Site

TaskMonitorId	Num of Jobs	Pending	Running	Successful	Failed	Terminated with
peveraer_crab_0_080208_160151	132	0	0	0	0	132
peveraer_crab_0_080208_172554	184	0	0	108	75	1
peveraer_crab_0_080219_165345	135	0	0	0	0	135
peveraer_crab_0_080220_103410	134	0	0	0	0	134

Server status

- Dedicated HardWare (a node) at CERN arrived yesterday
- Some development needed on the SERVER code to work on a *local environment* (no proxy, no middleware components..) just started
- One issue is how to move user stuff to server: on grid we do use `gridftp` or equivalent, since the user has a grid certificate. What should we use on non grid env? Still unclear.
- First prototype of the server will most likely use some dirty trick

Development plan

- setup the server and test it in order to define a list of problems if there (next week)

- making the whole chain working: submit jobs from the client to the server and from the server to the CAF

- initially support only simple workflow (no chain, no merge, just plain analysis-like job)

- automate the workflow: Once the client has been triggered, create the task and ship the payload to the server which submits, tracks jobs and notify the user about the status.

- Âget feedbacks from the prototype

Middle term plan

- implement the workflow in a robust (final) way in the new 1_0_0 release (beta version middle of March)
- split creation in CMSSW interaction and DBS interaction part.
- move the DBS interaction at Server level
- implement specific Server component to support AI/Ca Workflows