

Book Review:**GRID COMPUTING: A Practical Guide to Technology and Applications**

Ahmar Abbas

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This book can be divided into five conceptual sections:

- **Section 1**, including Chapters 1, 2, and 3 (IT Infrastructure Evolution, Productivity Paradox and Information Technology, Business value of Grid Computing), defines the context surrounding information technology in business today. The main objective is to explain why Grid Computing will lead to dramatic improvements to the corporate IT infrastructure.
- **Section 2**, including Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 (Grid Computing Technology-An Overview, Desktop Grids, Cluster Grids, HPC Grids, Data Grids), gives details of Grid Computing technology, using different processing architectures. Practical considerations on real implementations are discussed.
- **Section 3**, including Chapters 9, 10, 11, and 12 (The Open Grid Services Architecture, Creating and Managing Grid Services, Desktop Supercomputing: Native Programming for Grids, Grid-Enabling Software Applications), makes an analysis of different service architectures for Grids and the necessary middleware in operating systems. Chapters 11 and 12 present parallel programming problems solved using Grids.
- **Section 4**, including Chapters 13, 14, and 15 (Application Integration, Grid-Enabling Network Services, Managing Grid Environments), defines the integration services, from applications to networks. Classical problems of distributed systems as job scheduling, data management, remote execution and security are discussed considering heterogeneous Grid environments.
- **Section 5**, including Chapters 16 to 20 (Grid Computing Adoption in Research and Industry, Grids in Life-sciences, Grids in the Telecommunications Sector, Grids in other Industries, Hive Computing for Transaction Processing Grids), presents different application areas for Grids, with specific real world examples. Finally, Chapter 20 defines Hive Computing as a new type of resource that can be integrated into an existing Grid for handling all the transaction-oriented applications.

The book is useful as a comprehensive introduction, covering many application areas. Grid technology and its applications are clearly presented, but require some background on Operating Systems, Concurrent Programming and Communication Networks.

Armando E. De Giusti
degusti@lidi.info.unlp.edu.ar