



*Nordic Testbed for Wide Area Com-  
puting And Data Handling*

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NORDUGRID-TECH-7

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PROTOCOLS, UNIFORM RESOURCE LOCATORS (URL)  
AND EXTENSIONS SUPPORTED IN ARC.

*Description.\**

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# 1 Protocols

## URLs

All components of NorduGrid's ARC [1] should support following data transfer protocols and corresponding URLs:

- *ftp* - ordinary FTP without user and password fields.
- *gsiftp* - GridFTP [2], enhanced FTP protocol with security, encryption, etc. developed by The Globus Alliance [3].
- *http* - ordinary HTTP with PUT and GET methods using multiple streams.
- *httpg* - HTTP wrapped with Globus' GSI.
- *https* - HTTP wrapped with SSL (SSL v3 only).
- *file* - local file.

# 2 Extensions

## 2.1 Options

In addition to standard URL fields GM supports *options*. Options are of kind *name* or *name=value* and are inserted into URL after host and port and are separated by ','

$$protocol://host[:port][;option[;option[...]]/path$$

Following options are supported:

*threads=#* specify number of parallel transfers to use (currently works for GridFTP, HTTP, HTTPS and HTTPG, default is one),

*blocksize=#* specify size of chunks/blocks/buffers used in transactions (currently works for GridFTP, HTTP, HTTPS and HTTPG, default is protocol dependent),

*cache=yes/no* whether file is allowed to be cached on local side (for transfers to local destinations, default is *yes*),

*secure=yes/no* whether data should be transferred using encryption (currently works for GridFTP only, default is *no* unless specified differently in configuration),

*readonly=yes/no* if file after transfer to local location can be stored in a way which prevents user, job, etc. from modifying it (use *readonly=no* if You plan to modify file),

*checksum=cksum/md5* specifies type of checksum to be computed and provided to the indexing server,

*exec=yes/no* means file should be treated as executable (currently only used internally).

Example: *gsiftp://grid.domain.org:2811;threads=10;secure=yes/dir/input\_12378.dat*

*preserve=yes/no* specify if file must be uploaded to this destination even if job processing failed (default is *no*)

## 2.2 Quasi-URLs aka Meta-URLs

There are also few quasi-URLs supported. Those are URLs which are resolved to one of ordinary protocols for actual transfer of data.

- *se* - to contact “Smart” Storage Element being developed at NorduGrid project is also supported. It’s syntax is *se://host[:port][;options]/path[?file\_id]*. For more information see document “The NorduGrid “Smart” Storage Element”.
- *srm* - means Storage Resource Management (SRM) service [4]. Methods defined in version 1.1 of protocol are used. It’s syntax is *se://host[:port][;options]/[service\_pathS>FN=]file\_id*.

Also following quasi-URLs of meta-data (indexing) servers are supported:

- *rc* - Globus Replica Catalog: *rc://[location][location[...]][@host[:port]/distinguished\_name]/lfn*
- *rls* - Globus Replica Location Service: *rls://[url][url[...]]@host[:port]/lfn*
- *fireman* - *Fireman* indexing service which is part of gLite initiative [5]: *fireman://[url][url[...]]@host[:port]/service\_path?lfn*

Here

*lfn* Logical File Name, that should be used for registering/querying in the Indexing Service,

*distinguished\_name* DN of collection in LDAP server used for registering/querying,

*location* name of location (usually this is host[:port] of SE), each *location* can have *options* appended to it in a way *location;options*. If only *options* part is preset, those options are treated as specified for every location.

*url* full or partial URL corresponding to physical location of file.

*service\_path* endpoint path of Web service.

## References

- [1] NorduGrid project. <http://www.nordugrid.org>
- [2] GridFTP: Universal Data Transfer for the Grid. <http://www.globus.org/datagrid/deliverables/C2WPdraft3.pdf>
- [3] The Globus Alliance. <http://www.nordugrid.org>
- [4] Storage Resource Management Working Group. <http://sdm.lbl.gov/srm-wg/>
- [5] gLite, Light Middleware for Grid Computing. <http://glite.web.cern.ch/glite/>