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Version: 3.0

Date: 2013-06-05

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1 Release Notes

This is the first release of the Enterprise integrated Rule-Oriented Data System (E-iRODS).

E-iRODS is developed under the auspices of the iRODS Consortium. This release was prepared by the Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI) and released under the New BSD (BSD-3) License.

Development has focused on the following features and efforts:

- Introduced pluggable interfaces for microservices and resources
- Fixed an estimated 200 static analysis errors identified by cppcheck
- Fixed an estimated 20 memory leaks identified by valgrind
- Increased code coverage from 20% to over 56%
- Continuously built and tested across 3 major linux distributions
- Packaged for 3 major linux distributions

2 License

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3 Overview

This manual attempts to provide standalone documentation for E-iRODS as packaged by the Renaissance Computing Institute (RENCI).

<http://ei rods.org>

Additional documentation is available on the iRODS wiki and in the two books published by the iRODS team:

<http://irods.org>

<http://irods.org/doxygen>

(2010) iRODS Primer: integrated Rule-Oriented Data System (Synthesis Lectures on Information Concepts, Retrieval, and Services) <http://www.amazon.com/dp/1608453332>

(2011) The integrated Rule-Oriented Data System (iRODS 3.0) Micro-service Workbook <http://www.amazon.com/dp/1466469129>

4 Download

E-iRODS is released in both binary package format and with full source code.

4.1 Binaries

RPM and DEB formats are available for both iCAT-enabled servers and resource-only servers. There are variations available for combinations of platform and operating system.

More combinations will be made available as our testing matrix continues to mature and increase in scope.

The latest files can be downloaded from <http://eirops.org/download>.

4.2 Open Source

Repositories, ticket trackers, and source are available from the E-iRODS website.

<http://eirops.org/developers>

5 Installation

Installation of the Postgres iCAT DEB:

```
$ (sudo) dpkg -i eirops-3.0-64bit-icat-postgres.deb
$ (sudo) apt-get -f install
```

Installation of the Resource RPM:

```
- Make sure to read ./packaging/RPM_INSTALLATION_HOWTO.txt before trying to install the RPM package.
$ (sudo) rpm -i eirops-3.0-64bit-resource.rpm
```

These packages declare the dependencies necessary to run E-iRODS and if satisfied, they install a service account and group named 'eirops', the E-iRODS binaries, microservice documentation, and this manual.

For the iCAT-enabled server packages, the E-iRODS server and EICAT database are started automatically with default values:

```
eirops@hostname:~/ $ ienv
NOTICE: Release Version = rods3.0, API Version = d
NOTICE: irodsHost=hostname
NOTICE: irodsPort=1247
NOTICE: irodsDefResource=demoResc
NOTICE: irodsHome=/tempZone/home/rods
NOTICE: irodsCwd=/tempZone/home/rods
NOTICE: irodsUserName=rods
```

```
NOTICE: irodsZone=tempZone
```

For the resource-only packages, the server is not started automatically. The administrator will need to run the `./packaging/setup_resource.sh` script and provide the following five pieces of information before E-iRODS can start and connect to its configured iCAT Zone:

1. Hostname or IP
2. iCAT Port
3. iCAT Zone
4. E-iRODS administrator username
5. E-iRODS administrator password

6 Quickstart

Successful installation will complete and leave a running E-iRODS server. If you installed an iCAT-enabled E-iRODS server, a database of your choice will also have been created and running. The iCommand `ils` will list your new iRODS administrator's empty home directory in the iRODS virtual filesystem:

```
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ ils
/tempZone/home/rods:
```

When moving into production, you will probably want to cover the next few basic steps:

6.1 Changing the administrator account password

The default installation of E-iRODS comes with a single account 'rods' that has rodsadmin privileges and password 'rods'. You should change the password before letting anyone else onto the system:

```
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin moduser rods password <newpassword>
```

To make sure everything succeeded, you will need to reauthenticate and check the new connection:

```
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ iinit
Enter your current iRODS password:
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ ils
/tempZone/home/rods:
```

6.2 Changing the Zone name

The default installation of E-iRODS comes with a Zone named 'tempZone'. You probably want to change the Zone name to something more domain-specific:

```
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin modzone tempZone name <newzonename>
If you modify the local zone name, you and other users will need to
change your .irodsEnv files to use it, you may need to update
irods.config and, if rules use the zone name, you'll need to update
core.re. This command will update various tables with the new name
and rename the top-level collection.
Do you really want to modify the local zone name? (enter y or yes to do so):y
```

```
OK, performing the local zone rename
```

The Zone has been renamed, but now you will need to update your `.irodsEnv` file to match (note the three places where the updated zone name is located):

```
eirods@hostname:~/ $ cat .irods/.irodsEnv
# iRODS server host name:
irodsHost '<hostname>'
# iRODS server port number:
irodsPort 1247
# Default storage resource name:
irodsDefResource 'demoResc'
# Home directory in iRODS:
irodsHome '/<newzonename>/home/rods'
# Current directory in iRODS:
irodsCwd '/<newzonename>/home/rods'
# Account name:
irodsUserName 'rods'
# Zone:
irodsZone '<newzonename>'
```

Now, the connection should be reset and you should be able to list your empty iRODS collection again:

```
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iinit
Enter your current iRODS password:
eirods@hostname:~/ $ ils
/<newzonename>/home/rods:
```

6.3 Add additional resource(s)

The default installation of E-iRODS comes with a single resource named 'demoResc' which stores its files in the `/var/lib/eirods/iRODS/Vault` directory. You will want to create additional resources at disk locations of your choosing. The following command will create a basic 'unix file system' resource at a designated host at the designated fullpath:

```
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin mkresc <newresc> 'unix file system' <fully.qualified.domain.name>:</full/path/to/new/vault>
```

Additional information about creating resources can be found with:

```
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin help mkresc
mkresc Name Type [Host:Path] [ContextString] (make Resource)
Create (register) a new storage or database resource.

Name is the name of the new resource.
Type is the resource type.
Host is the DNS host name.
And Path is the defaultPath for the vault.
ContextString is any contextual information relevant to this resource.
(semi-colon separated key=value pairs e.g. "a=b;c=d")
```

Creating new resources does not make them default for any existing or new users. You will need to make sure that default resources are properly set for newly ingested files.

6.4 Add additional user(s)

The default installation of E-iRODS comes with a single user 'rods' which is a designated 'rodsadmin' type user account. You will want to create additional 'rodsuser' type user accounts and set their passwords before allowing connections to your new grid:

```
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin mkuser <newusername> rodsuser

eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin lu
rods#tempZone
<newusername>#tempZone

eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin help mkuser
mkuser Name[#Zone] Type (make user)
Create a new iRODS user in the ICAT database

Name is the user name to create
Type is the user type (see 'lt user_type' for a list)
Zone is the user's zone (for remote-zone users)

Tip: Use moduser to set a password or other attributes,
use 'aua' to add a user auth name (GSI DN or Kerberos Principal name)
```

Best practice suggests changing your Zone name before adding new users as any existing users would need to be informed of the new connection information and changes that would need to be made to their local .irodsEnv files.

7 Upgrading

The first release of E-iRODS does not yet support upgrading. Every install will be a clean install.

This section will be updated when support is included.

8 Migration from Community iRODS

Support for migrating from Community iRODS is planned, but automated scripts and documentation have not yet been completed.

This section will be updated when support is included and tested.

9 Backing Up

Backing up E-iRODS consists of three major parts: The data, the iRODS system and configuration files, and the iCAT database itself.

Configuration and maintenance of this type of backup system is out of scope for this document, but is included here as an indication of best practice.

1. The data itself can be handled by the iRODS system through replication and should not require any specific backup efforts worth noting here.
2. The iRODS system and configuration files can be copied into iRODS as a set of Data Objects by using the *msiServerBackup* microservice. When run on a regular schedule, the *msiServerBackup* microservice will gather and store all the necessary configuration information to help you reconstruct your iRODS setup during disaster recovery.

- The iCAT database itself can be backed up in a variety of ways. A PostgreSQL database is contained on the local filesystem as a data/ directory and can be copied like any other set of files. This is the most basic means to have backup copies. However, this will have stale information almost immediately. To cut into this problem of staleness, PostgreSQL 8.4+ includes a feature called "[Record-based Log Shipping](#)". This consists of sending a full transaction log to another copy of PostgreSQL where it could be "re-played" and bring the copy up to date with the originating server. Log shipping would generally be handled with a cronjob. A faster, seamless version of log shipping called "[Streaming Replication](#)" was included in PostgreSQL 9.0+ and can keep two PostgreSQL servers in sync with sub-second delay.

10 Assumptions

E-iRODS enforces that the database in use (PostgreSQL) is configured for UTF-8 encoding. This is enforced at the database level and then the tables inherit this setting.

The iRODS setting 'StrictACL' is configured on by default in E-iRODS. This is different from the community version of iRODS and behaves more like standard Unix permissions. This setting can be found in the *server/config/reConfigs/core.re* file under `acAclPolicy{}`.

11 Architecture

E-iRODS represents a major effort to analyze, harden, and package iRODS for sustainability, modularization, security, and testability. This has led to a fairly significant refactorization of much of the underlying codebase. The following descriptions are included to help explain the architecture of E-iRODS.

The core is designed to be as immutable as possible and serve as a bus for handling the internal logic of the business of iRODS (data storage, policy enforcement, etc.). Exposed by the core will be six or seven major interfaces which will allow extensibility and separation of functionality into plugins. A few plugins will be included by default in E-iRODS to provide a set of base functionality.

The planned plugin interfaces and their status are listed here:

Plugin Interface	Status	Since
Pluggable Microservices	Complete	3.0b2
Composable Resources	Complete	3.0b3
Pluggable Authentication	Planned	
Pluggable Database	Planned	
Pluggable Messaging	Planned	
Pluggable RPC API	Planned	
Pluggable Rule Engine	Requested	

12 Pluggable Microservices

E-iRODS is in the process of being modularized whereby existing community iRODS functionality will be replaced and provided by small, interoperable plugins. The first plugin functionality to be completed was pluggable microservices. Pluggable microservices allow users to add new microservices to an existing E-iRODS server without recompiling the server or even restarting any running processes. A microservice plugin contains a single compiled microservice shared object file to be found by the server. A separate development package, including an example, is available at <http://eirods.org/download>, and explains how this works in more detail.

13 Composable Resources

The second area of modularity to be added to E-iRODS consists of composable resources. Composable resources replace the concept of resource groups from community iRODS. There are no resource groups in E-iRODS.

13.1 Tree Metaphor

Composable resources are best modeled with a tree metaphor (and in computer science parlance, they are tree data structures). An E-iRODS composable resource is a tree with one 'root' node. Nodes that are at the bottom of the tree are 'leaf' nodes. Nodes that are not leaf nodes are 'branch' nodes and have one or more 'child' nodes. A child node can have one and only one 'parent' node.

The terms root, leaf, branch, child, and parent represent locations and relationships within the structure of a particular tree. The terms 'coordinating' and 'storage' represent the functionality of particular resources within a particular tree. A resource node can be a coordinating resource and/or a storage resource. For clarity and reuse, it is generally best practice to separate the two so that a particular resource node is either a coordinating resource or a storage resource.

In computer science, a tree is a data structure with a hierarchical representation of linked nodes. These nodes can be named based on where they are in the hierarchy. The node at the top of a tree is the root node. Parent nodes and child nodes are on opposite ends of a connecting link, or edge. Leaf nodes are at the bottom of the tree, and any node that is not a leaf node is a branch node. These positional descriptors are helpful when describing the structure of a tree. Composable resources are best represented using this tree metaphor.

13.2 Virtualization

In iRODS, files are stored as Data Objects on disk and have an associated physical path as well as a virtual path within the iRODS file system. iRODS collections only exist in the iCAT database and do not have an associated physical path (allowing them to exist across all resources, virtually).

Composable resources introduce the same dichotomy between the virtual and physical. E-iRODS resources are defined to be either coordinating resources or storage resources. These two different classes of resource map directly to the branch nodes and leaf nodes of a generic tree data structure. A coordinating resource has built-in logic that defines how it determines, or coordinates, the flow of data to and from its children. Coordinating resources exist solely in the iCAT and virtually exist across all E-iRODS servers in a particular Zone. A storage resource has a Vault (physical) path and knows how to speak to a specific type of storage medium (disk, tape, etc.). The encapsulation of resources into a plugin architecture allows E-iRODS to have a consistent interface to all resources, whether they represent coordination or storage.

This virtualization of the coordinating resources allows the logic of how to manage both the placement and the retrieval of Data Objects to exist independent of the types of resources that are connected as children resources. When E-iRODS tries to retrieve data, each child resource will "vote" by offering whether it can provide the requested data, and coordinating resources will decide which particular storage resource (e.g. physical location) the read should come from. The specific manner of this vote is specific to the logic of the coordinating resource. For instance, a coordinating resource could optimize for reducing the number of requests made against each storage resource within some time frame or it could optimize for reducing latency in expected data retrieval times. We expect a wide variety of useful optimizations to be developed by the community.

An intended side effect of the tree metaphor and the virtualization of coordinating resources is the deprecation of the concept of a resource group. Resource groups in community iRODS could not be put into other resource groups. A specific limiting example was that of the compound resource where, by definition, it was a group and could not be placed into another group significantly limiting its functionality as a management tool. Groups in E-iRODS now only refer to user groups.

Read more at <http://ei rods.org/release/e-irods-composable-resources/>:

- [Paper \(279kB, PDF\)](#)
- [Slides \(321kB, PDF\)](#)
- [Poster \(6.4MB, PDF\)](#)

13.3 Coordinating Resources

Coordinating resources contain the flow control logic which determines both how its child resources will be allocated copies of data as well as which copy is returned when a data object is requested. These include:

- random
- replication
- round robin
- pass through (for testing)
- load balanced (expected)
- storage balanced (%-full) (expected)
- storage balanced (bytes) (expected)
- tiered (expected)

13.4 Storage Resources

Storage resources represent storage interfaces and include the file driver information to talk with different types of storage. These include:

- unix file system
- structured file type (tar, zip, gzip, bzip)
- non-blocking
- Universal Mass Storage (expected)
- HPSS (expected)
- S3 (expected)
- WOS (expected)

13.5 Managing Child Resources

There are two new `iadmin` subcommands introduced with this feature.

`addchildtoresc`:

```
ei rods@hostname:~$ iadmin h addchildtoresc
addchildtoresc Parent Child [ContextString] (add child to resource)
Add a child resource to a parent resource. This creates an 'edge'
between two nodes in a resource tree.

Parent is the name of the parent resource.
Child is the name of the child resource.
ContextString is any relevant information that the parent may need in order
to manage the child.
```

rmchildfromresc:

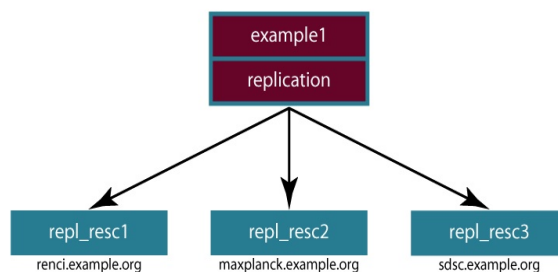
```
eirods@hostname:~$ iadmin h rmchildfromresc
rmchildfromresc Parent Child (remove child from resource)
Remove a child resource from a parent resource. This removes an 'edge'
between two nodes in a resource tree.

Parent is the name of the parent resource.
Child is the name of the child resource.
```

13.6 Example Usage

Creating a composite resource consists of creating the individual nodes of the desired tree structure and then connecting the parent and children nodes.

13.6.1 Example 1



Example 1: Replicates Data Objects to three locations

A replicating coordinating resource with three unix file system storage resources as children would be composed with seven (7) iadmin commands:

```
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin mkresc example1 replication
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin mkresc repl_resc1 "unix file system" renci.example.org:/Vault
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin mkresc repl_resc2 "unix file system" maxplanck.example.org:/Vault
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin mkresc repl_resc3 "unix file system" sdsc.example.org:/Vault
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin addchildtoresc example1 repl_resc1
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin addchildtoresc example1 repl_resc2
eirods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin addchildtoresc example1 repl_resc3
```

14 Users & Permissions

Users and permissions in E-iRODS are inspired by, but slightly different from, traditional UNIX filesystem permissions. Access to Data Objects and Collections can be modified using the `ichmod` iCommand.

Additionally, permissions can be managed via user groups in E-iRODS. A user can belong to more than one group at a time. The owner of a Data Object has full control of the file and can grant and remove access to other users and groups. The owner of a Data Object can also give ownership rights to other users, who in turn can grant or revoke access to users.

Inheritance is a collection-specific setting that determines the permission settings for new Data Objects and sub-Collections. Data Objects created within Collections with Inheritance set to Disabled do not inherit the parent Collection's permissions. By default, E-iRODS has Inheritance set to Disabled. More can be read from the help provided by `ichmod h`.

Inheritance is especially useful when working with shared projects such as a public Collection to which all users should have read access. With Inheritance set to Enabled, any sub-Collections created under the public Collection will inherit the properties of the public Collection. Therefore, a user with read access to the public Collection will also have read access to all Data Objects and Collections created in the public Collection.

15 Rule Engine

The Rule Engine, which keeps track of state and interprets both system-defined rules and user-defined rules, is a critical component of the E-iRODS system. Rules are definitions of actions that are to be performed by the server. These actions are defined in terms of microservices and other actions. The E-iRODS built-in Rule Engine interprets the rules and calls the appropriate microservices.

15.1 File Locking

A race condition occurs when two processes simultaneously try to change the same data. The outcome of a race condition is unpredictable since both threads are "racing" to update the data. To allow E-iRODS users to control such events, the iCommands `iput`, `iget`, and `irepl` each have both `--wlock` and `--rlock` options to lock the Data Objects during these operations. An `irodsServer` thread then purges unused locked files every 2 hours.

15.2 Delay execution

Rules can be run in two modes - immediate execution or delayed execution. Most of the actions and microservices executed by the rule engine are executed immediately, however, some actions are better suited to be placed in a queue and executed later. The actions and microservices which are to be executed in delay mode can be queued with the `delayExec` microservice. Typically, delayed actions and microservices are resource-heavy, time-intensive processes, better suited to being carried out without having the user wait for their completion. These delayed processes can also be used for cleanup and general maintenance of the E-iRODS system, like the `cron` in UNIX.

Monitoring the delayed queue is important once your workflows and maintenance scripts depends on the health of the system. The delayed queue can be managed with the following three iCommands:

1. `iqdel` - remove a delayed rule (owned by you) from the queue.
2. `iqmod` - modify certain values in existing delayed rules (owned by you).
3. `iqstat` - show the queue status of delayed rules.

16 Authentication

By default, E-iRODS uses a secure password system for user authentication. The user passwords are scrambled and stored in the iCAT database. Additionally, E-iRODS supports user authentication via PAM (Pluggable Authentication Modules), which in turn can be configured to support Kerberos and LDAP authentication systems. PAM and SSL have been configured 'on' out of the box with E-iRODS, but there is still some setup required to configure an installation to communicate with your local external authentication server of choice.

16.1 PAM

16.1.1 User Setup

PAM can be configured to support various authentication systems; however the E-iRODS administrator still needs to add the users to the E-iRODS database:

```
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ iadmin mkuser newuser rodsuser
```

If the user's credentials will be exclusively authenticated with PAM, a password need not be assigned.

For PAM Authentication, the iRODS user selects the new iRODS PAM authentication choice (instead of password, or Kerberos) and runs 'iinit' and enters their system password. To protect the system password, SSL (via OpenSSL) is used to encrypt the 'iinit' session.

In order to use the E-iRODS PAM support, you also need to have SSL working between the iRODS client and server. The SSL communication between client and iRODS server needs some basic setup in order to function properly. Much of the setup concerns getting a proper X.509 certificate setup on the server side, and setting up the trust for the server certificate on the client side. You can use either a self-signed certificate (best for testing) or a certificate from a trusted CA.

16.1.2 Server SSL Setup

Here are the basic steps to configure the server:

16.1.2.1 Generate a new RSA key

Make sure it does not have a passphrase (i.e. do not use the -des, -des3 or -idea options to genrsa):

```
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ openssl genrsa -out server.key
```

16.1.2.2 Acquire a certificate for the server

The certificate can be either from a trusted CA (internal or external), or can be self-signed (common for development and testing). To request a certificate from a CA, create your certificate signing request, and then follow the instructions given by the CA. When running the 'openssl req' command, some questions will be asked about what to put in the certificate. The locality fields do not really matter from the point of view of verification, but you probably want to try to be accurate. What is important, especially since this is a certificate for a server host, is to make sure to use the FQDN of the server as the "common name" for the certificate (should be the same name that clients use as their irodsHost), and do not add an email address. If you are working with a CA, you can also put host aliases that users might use to access the host in the 'subjectAltName' X.509 extension field if the CA offers this capability.

To generate a Certificate Signing Request that can be sent to a CA, run the 'openssl req' command using the previously generated key:

```
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ openssl req -new -key server.key -out server.csr
```

To generate a self-signed certificate, also run 'openssl req', but with slightly different parameters. In the openssl command, you can put as many days as you wish:

```
ei rods@hostname:~/ $ openssl req -new -x509 -key server.key -out server.crt -days 365
```

16.1.2.3 Create the certificate chain file

If you are using a self-signed certificate, the chain file is just the same as the file with the certificate (server.crt). If you have received a certificate from a CA, this file contains all the certificates that together can be used to verify the certificate, from the host certificate through the chain of intermediate CAs to the ultimate root CA.

An example best illustrates how to create this file. A certificate for a host 'ei rods.example.org' is requested from the proper domain registrar. Three files are received from the CA: ei rods.crt, PositiveSSLCA2.crt and AddTrustExternalCARoot.crt. The certificates have the following 'subjects' and 'issuers':

```
openssl x509 -noout -subject -issuer -in eirodus.crt
subject= /OU=Domain Control Validated/OU=PositiveSSL/CN=eirodus.example.org
issuer= /C=GB/ST=Greater Manchester/L=Salford/O=COMODO CA Limited/CN=PositiveSSL CA 2
openssl x509 -noout -subject -issuer -in PositiveSSLCA2.crt
subject= /C=GB/ST=Greater Manchester/L=Salford/O=COMODO CA Limited/CN=PositiveSSL CA 2
issuer= /C=SE/O=AddTrust AB/OU=AddTrust External TTP Network/CN=AddTrust External CA Root
openssl x509 -noout -subject -issuer -in AddTrustExternalCARoot.crt
subject= /C=SE/O=AddTrust AB/OU=AddTrust External TTP Network/CN=AddTrust External CA Root
issuer= /C=SE/O=AddTrust AB/OU=AddTrust External TTP Network/CN=AddTrust External CA Root
```

The eirodus.example.org cert was signed by the PositiveSSL CA 2, and that the PositiveSSL CA 2 cert was signed by the AddTrust External CA Root, and that the AddTrust External CA Root cert was self-signed, indicating that it is the root CA (and the end of the chain).

To create the chain file for eirodus.example.org:

```
eirodus@hostname:~/ $ cat eirodus.crt PositiveSSLCA2.crt AddTrustExternalCARoot.crt > chain.pem
```

16.1.2.4 Generate OpenSSL parameters

Generate some Diffie-Hellman parameters for OpenSSL:

```
eirodus@hostname:~/ $ openssl dhparam -2 -out dhparams.pem 2048
```

16.1.2.5 Place files within accessible area

Put the dhparams.pem, server.key and chain.pem files somewhere that the E-iRODS server can access them (e.g. in iRODS/server/config). Make sure that the eirodus unix user can read the files (although you also want to make sure that the key file is only readable by the eirodus user).

16.1.2.6 Set SSL environment variables

The server needs to read these variables on startup:

```
eirodus@hostname:~/ $ irodsSSLCertificateChainFile=/var/lib/eirodus/iRODS/server/config/chain.pem
eirodus@hostname:~/ $ export irodsSSLCertificateChainFile
eirodus@hostname:~/ $ irodsSSLCertificateKeyFile=/var/lib/eirodus/iRODS/server/config/server.key
eirodus@hostname:~/ $ export irodsSSLCertificateKeyFile
eirodus@hostname:~/ $ irodsSSLDHParamsFile=/var/lib/eirodus/iRODS/server/config/dhparams.pem
eirodus@hostname:~/ $ export irodsSSLDHParamsFile
```

16.1.2.7 Restart E-iRODS

Restart the server:

```
eirodus@hostname:~/ $ ./iRODS/irodsctl restart
```

16.1.3 Client SSL Setup

The client may or may not require configuration at the SSL level, but there are a few parameters that can be set via environment variables to customize the client SSL interaction if necessary. In many cases, if the server's certificate comes from a common CA, your system might already be configured to accept certificates from that CA, and you will not have to adjust the client configuration at all. For example, on an Ubuntu Precise system, the /etc/ssl/certs directory is used as a repository for system trusted certificates installed via an Ubuntu package. Many of the commercial certificate vendors such as VeriSign and AddTrust have their certificates already installed.

After setting up SSL on the server side, test SSL by using the PAM authentication (which requires an SSL connection) and running `iinit` with the log level set to `LOG_NOTICE`. If you see messages as follows, you need to set up trust for the server's certificate, or you need to turn off server verification.

Error from non-trusted self-signed certificate:

```
eirodu@hostname:~/ $ irodsLogLevel=LOG_NOTICE iinit
NOTICE: environment variable set, irodsLogLevel(input)=LOG_NOTICE, value=5
NOTICE: created irodsHome=/dn/home/eirodu
NOTICE: created irodsCwd=/dn/home/eirodu
Enter your current PAM (system) password:
NOTICE: sslVerifyCallback: problem with certificate at depth: 0
NOTICE: sslVerifyCallback: issuer = /C=US/ST=North Carolina/L=Chapel Hill/O=RENCI/CN=eirodu.example.org
NOTICE: sslVerifyCallback: subject = /C=US/ST=North Carolina/L=Chapel Hill/O=RENCI/CN=eirodu.example.org
NOTICE: sslVerifyCallback: err 18:self signed certificate
ERROR: sslStart: error in SSL_connect. SSL error: error:14090086:SSL routines:SSL3_GET_SERVER_CERTIFICATE:certificate verify failed
sslStart failed with error -2103000 SSL_HANDSHAKE_ERROR
```

Error from untrusted CA that signed the server certificate:

```
eirodu@hostname:~/ $ irodsLogLevel=LOG_NOTICE iinit
NOTICE: environment variable set, irodsLogLevel(input)=LOG_NOTICE, value=5
NOTICE: created irodsHome=/dn/home/eirodu
NOTICE: created irodsCwd=/dn/home/eirodu
Enter your current PAM (system) password:
NOTICE: sslVerifyCallback: problem with certificate at depth: 1
NOTICE: sslVerifyCallback: issuer = /C=US/ST=North Carolina/O=example.org/CN=eirodu.example.org Certificate Authority
NOTICE: sslVerifyCallback: subject = /C=US/ST=North Carolina/O=example.org/CN=eirodu.example.org Certificate Authority
NOTICE: sslVerifyCallback: err 19:self signed certificate in certificate chain
ERROR: sslStart: error in SSL_connect. SSL error: error:14090086:SSL routines:SSL3_GET_SERVER_CERTIFICATE:certificate verify failed
sslStart failed with error -2103000 SSL_HANDSHAKE_ERROR
```

Server verification can be turned off using the `irodsSSLVerifyServer` environment variable. If this variable is set to 'none', then any certificate (or none) is accepted by the client. This means that your connection will be encrypted, but you cannot be sure to what server (i.e. there is no server authentication). For that reason, this mode is discouraged.

It is much better to set up trust for the server's certificate, even if it is a self-signed certificate. The easiest way is to use the `irodsSSLCACertificateFile` environment variable to contain all the certificates of either hosts or CAs that you trust. If you configured the server as described above, you could just set the following in your environment:

```
eirodu@hostname:~/ $ irodsSSLCACertificateFile=/var/lib/eirodu/iRODS/server/config/chain.pem
eirodu@hostname:~/ $ export irodsSSLCACertificateFile
```

Or this file could just contain the root CA certificate for a CA-signed server certificate. Another potential issue is that the server certificate does not contain the proper FQDN (in either the Common Name field or the subjectAltName field) to match the client's 'irodsHost' variable. If this situation cannot be corrected on the server side, the client can set:

```
eirodu@hostname:~/ $ irodsSSLVerifyServer=cert
eirodu@hostname:~/ $ export irodsSSLVerifyServer
```

Then, the client library will only require certificate validation, but will not check that the hostname of the E-iRODS server matches the hostname(s) embedded within the certificate.

16.1.4 Environment Variables

All the environment variables used by the SSL support (both server and client side) are listed below:

irodsSSLCertificateChainFile (server)

The file containing the server's certificate chain. The certificates must be in PEM format and must be sorted starting with the subject's certificate (actual client or server certificate), followed by intermediate CA certificates if applicable, and ending at the highest level (root) CA.

irodsSSLCertificateKeyFile (server)

Private key corresponding to the server's certificate in the certificate chain file.

irodsSSLDHParamsFile (server)

The Diffie-Hellman parameter file location.

irodsSSLVerifyServer (client)

What level of server certificate based authentication to perform. 'none' means not to perform any authentication at all. 'cert' means to verify the certificate validity (i.e. that it was signed by a trusted CA). 'hostname' means to validate the certificate and to verify that the irodsHost's FQDN matches either the common name or one of the subjectAltNames of the certificate. 'hostname' is the default setting.

irodsSSLCACertificateFile (client)

Location of a file of trusted CA certificates in PEM format. Note that the certificates in this file are used in conjunction with the system default trusted certificates.

irodsSSLCACertificatePath (client)

Location of a directory containing CA certificates in PEM format. The files each contain one CA certificate. The files are looked up by the CA subject name hash value, which must be available. If more than one CA certificate with the same name hash value exist, the extension must be different (e.g. 9d66eef0.0, 9d66eef0.1, etc.). The search is performed based on the ordering of the extension number, regardless of other properties of the certificates. Use the 'c_rehash' utility to create the necessary links.

17 Configuration

There are a number of configuration files that control how an iRODS server behaves. The following is a listing of the configuration files in an E-iRODS installation.

This document is intended to explain how the various configuration files are connected, what their parameters are, and when to use them.

~/odbc.ini

This file, in the eirods user's home directory, defines the unixODBC connection details needed for the iCommands to communicate with the iCAT database. This file was created by the installer package and probably should not be changed by the sysadmin unless they know what they are doing.

iRODS/config/irods.config

This file defines the main settings for the iRODS installation. It is created by the installer package and comes preconfigured with approved and tested settings. Changing this file will take effect after a restart of the iRODS server. It is recommended not to change this file.

iRODS/server/config/server.config

This file defines the behavior of the server Agent that answers individual requests coming into iRODS. It is recommended not to change this file.

~/irods/.irodsA

This is the scrambled password file that is saved after an `iinit` is run. If this file does not exist, then each iCommand will prompt for a password before authenticating with the iRODS server. If this file does exist, then each iCommand will read this file and use the contents as a cached password token and skip the password prompt. This file can be deleted manually or can be removed by running `iexit full`.

~/irods/.irodsEnv

This is the main iRODS configuration file defining the iRODS environment. Any changes are effective immediately since iCommands reload their environment on every execution.

18 Troubleshooting

18.1 Common Errors

Some of the commonly encountered E-iRODS errors along with troubleshooting steps are discussed below.

18.1.1 *E-iRODS Server is down*

Error Code: USER SOCK_CONNECT_TIMEDOUT -347000

Common areas to check for this error include:

ienv

- The ienv command displays the E-iRODS environment in use. This may help debug the obvious error of trying to connect to the wrong machine or to the wrong Zone name.

Networking issues

- Verify that a firewall is not blocking the connection on the E-iRODS port in use (default 1247).
- Check for network connectivity problems by pinging the server in question.

E-iRODS server logs

If the E-iRODS environment issues and networking issues have been ruled out, the E-iRODS server/client logs may provide additional information with regards to the specifics of the error in question.

18.1.2 *No such file or directory*

Common areas to check for this error include:

1. Permissions - Verify that the E-iRODS user has 'write' access to the directory in question
2. FUSE error
3. Zero byte files

18.1.3 *No rows found in the E-iRODS Catalog*

Error Code: CAT_NO_ROWS_FOUND -808000

This error occurs when there are no results for the database query that was executed. This usually happens when either:

1. the query itself is not well-formed (e.g. syntax error), or
2. the well-formed query produced no actual results (i.e. there is no data corresponding to the specified criteria).

18.1.4 *Access Control and Permissions*

Error Code: CAT_NO_ACCESS_PERMISSION -818000

This error can occur when an iRODS user tries to access an iRODS Data Object or Collection that belongs to another iRODS user without the owner having granted the appropriate permission (usually simply read or write).

With the more restrictive "StrictACL" policy being turned "on" by default in E-iRODS, this may occur more often than expected with Community iRODS. Check the permissions carefully and use `ils -AL` to help diagnose what permissions are set for the Data Objects and Collections of interest.

Modifying the "StrictACL" setting in the iRODS server's `core.re` file will apply the policy permanently; applying the policy via `irule` will have an impact only during the execution of that particular rule.

18.1.5 Credentials

Error Code: CAT_INVALID_USER -827000

This error can occur when the iRODS user is unknown or invalid in some way (for instance, no password has been defined for the user, or the user does not exist in that Zone). This error is most common while debugging configuration issues with Zone Federation.

19 Glossary

This glossary attempts to cover most of the terms you may encounter when first interacting with iRODS. More information can be found on the iRODS wiki at <http://irods.org>.

Action

An external (logical) name given to an iRODS Rule(s) that defines a set of macro-level tasks. These tasks are performed by a chain of microservices in accordance with external input parameters. This is analogous to head atom in a Prolog rule or trigger-name in a relational database.

Agent

A type of iRODS server process. Each time a client connects to a server, an agent is created and a network connection established between it and the client.

API

An Application Programming Interface (API) is a piece of software's set of defined programmatic interfaces to enable other software to communicate with it. iRODS defines a client API and expects that clients connect and communicate with iRODS servers in this controlled manner. iRODS has an API written in C, and another written in Java (Jargon).

Authentication Mechanisms

iRODS can employ various mechanisms to verify user identity and control access to Data Objects (iRODS files), Collections, etc. These currently include the default iRODS secure password mechanism (challenge-response), Grid Security Infrastructure (GSI), and Operating System authentication (OSAuth).

Audit Trail

List of all operations performed upon a Data Object, a Collection, a Resource, a User, or other iRODS entities. When Auditing is enabled, significant events in the iRODS system (affecting the iCAT) are recorded. Full activity reports can be compiled to verify important preservation and/or security policies have been enforced.

Client

A Client in the iRODS client-server architecture gives users an interface to manipulate Data Objects and other iRODS entities that may be stored on remote iRODS servers. iRODS clients include: iCommands unix-like command line interface, iDrop (ftp-like client java application), iDropWeb (web interface), etc.

Collection

All Data Objects stored in an iRODS system are stored in some Collection, which is a logical name for that set of Data Objects. A Collection can have sub-collections, and hence provides a hierarchical structure. An iRODS Collection is like a directory in a Unix file system (or Folder in Windows), but is not limited to a single device or partition. A Collection is logical so that the Data Objects can span separate and heterogeneous storage devices (i.e. is infrastructure and administrative domain independent). Each Data Object in a Collection must have a unique name in that Collection.

Data Grid

A grid computing system (a set of distributed, cooperating computers) that deals with the controlled sharing and management of large amounts of distributed data.

Data Object

A Data Object is a single "stream-of-bytes" entity that can be uniquely identified; a file stored in iRODS. It is given a Unique Internal Identifier in iRODS (allowing a global name space), and is associated with (situated in) a Collection.

Driver

A piece of software that interfaces to a particular type of resource as part of the iRODS server/agent process. The driver provides a common set of functions (open, read, write, close, etc.) which allow iRODS clients (iCommands and other programs using the client API) to access different devices via the common iRODS protocol.

Federation

Zone Federation occurs when two or more independent iRODS Zones are registered with one another. Users from one Zone can authenticate through their home iRODS server and have access rights on a remote Zone and its Data Objects, Collections, and Metadata.

Jargon

The Java API for iRODS. Read more at <https://www.irods.org/index.php/Jargon>.

iCAT

The iCAT, or iRODS Metadata Catalog, stores descriptive state metadata about the Data Objects in iRODS Collections in a DBMS database (e.g. PostgreSQL, MySQL, Oracle). The iCAT can keep track of both system-level metadata and user-defined metadata. There is one iCAT database per iRODS Zone.

IES (iCAT-Enabled Server)

A machine that runs both an iRODS server and the iCAT database for a particular Zone.

iCommands

iCommands are Unix utilities that give users a command-line interface to operate on data in the iRODS system. There are commands related to the logical hierarchical filesystem, metadata, data object information, administration, rules, and the rule engine. iCommands provide the most comprehensive set of client-side standard iRODS manipulation functions.

Inheritance

Collections in the iRODS logical name space have an attribute named Inheritance. When Collections have this attribute set to Enabled, new Data Objects and Collections added to the Collection inherit the access permissions (ACLs) of the Collection. Data Objects created within Collections with Inheritance set to Disabled do not inherit the parent Collection's ACL settings. `ichmod` can be used to manipulate this attribute on a per-Collection level. `ils -A` displays ACLs and the inheritance status of the current working iRODS directory.

Logical Name

The identifier used by iRODS to uniquely name a Data Object, Collection, Resource, or User. These identifiers enable global namespaces that are capable of spanning distributed storage and multiple administrative domains for shared Collections or a unified virtual Collection.

Management Policies

The specification of the controls on procedures applied to Data Objects in a Collection. Management policies may define that certain Metadata be required to be stored. Those policies could be implemented via a set of iRODS Rules that generate and verify the required Metadata. Audit Trails could be used to generate reports that show that Management Policies have been followed.

Metadata

Metadata is data about data. In iRODS, metadata can include system or user-defined attributes associated with a Data-Object, Collection, Resource, etc., stored in the iCAT database. The

metadata stored in the iCAT database are in the form of AVUs (attribute-value-unit tuples).

Metadata Harvesting

The process of extraction of existing Metadata from a remote information resource and subsequent addition to the iRODS iCAT. The harvested Metadata could be related to certain Data Objects, Collections, or any other iRODS entity.

Micro-service

A set of operations performed on a Collection at a remote storage location.

Micro-services are small, well-defined procedures/functions that perform a certain server-side task and are compiled into the iRODS server code. Rules invoke Micro-services to implement Management Policies. Micro-services can be chained to implement larger macro-level functionality, called an Action. By having more than one chain of Micro-services for an Action, a system can have multiple ways of performing the Action. At runtime, using priorities and validation conditions, the system chooses the "best" micro-service chain to be executed.

Migration

The process of moving digital Collections to new hardware and/or software as technology evolves. Separately, Transformative Migration may be used to mean the process of manipulating a Data Object into a new format (e.g. gif to png) for preservation purposes.

Physical Resource

A storage system onto which Data Objects may be deposited. iRODS supports a wide range of disk, tape, and remote storage resources.

Resource

A resource, or storage resource, is a software/hardware system that stores digital data. iRODS clients can operate on local or remote data stored on different types of resources through a common interface.

Rules

Rules are a major innovation in iRODS that let users automate data management tasks, essential as data collections scale to petabytes across hundreds of millions of files. Rules allow users to automate enforcement of complex Management Policies (workflows), controlling the server-side execution (via Micro-services) of all data access and manipulation operations, with the capability of verifying these operations.

Rule Engine

The Rule Engine interprets Rules following the iRODS rule syntax. The Rule Engine, which runs on all iRODS servers, is invoked by server-side procedure calls and selects, prioritizes, and applies Rules and their corresponding Micro-services. The Rule Engine can apply recovery procedures if a Micro-service or Action fails.

Scalability

Scalability means that a computer system performs well, even when scaled up to very large sizes. In iRODS, this refers to its ability to manage Collections ranging from the data on a single disk to petabytes (millions of gigabytes) of data in hundreds of millions of files distributed across multiple locations and administrative domains.

Server

An iRODS server is software that interacts with the access protocol of a specific storage system. It enables storing and sharing data distributed geographically and across administrative domains.

Transformative Migration

The process of manipulating a Data Object from one encoding format to another. Usually the target format will be newer and more compatible with other systems. Sometimes this process is "lossy" and does not capture all of the information in the original format.

Trust Virtualization

The management of Authentication and authorization independently of the storage location.

Unique Internal Identifier

See Logical Name.

User Name

Unique identifier for each person or entity using iRODS; sometimes combined with the name of the home iRODS Zone (as username#Zonename) to provide a globally unique name when using Zone Federation.

Vault

An iRODS Vault is a data repository system that iRODS can maintain on any storage system which can be accessed by an iRODS server. For example, there can be an iRODS Vault on a Unix file system, an HPSS (High Performance Storage System), or an IBM DB2 database. A Data Object in an iRODS Vault is stored as an iRODS-written object, with access controlled through the iCAT catalog. This is distinct from legacy data objects that can be accessed by iRODS but are still owned by previous owners of the data. For file systems such as Unix and HPSS, a separate directory is used; for databases such as Oracle or DB2 a system-defined table with LOB-space (Large Object space) is used.

Zone

An iRODS Zone is an independent iRODS system consisting of an iCAT-Enabled Server (IES), optional additional distributed iRODS Servers (which can reach hundreds, worldwide) and clients. Each Zone has a unique name. When two iRODS Zones are configured to interoperate with each other securely, it is called (Zone) Federation.

20 Known Issues

```
Ticket Item:  [#1260] unixODBC on OpenSuSE 12.x fails when iRODS resource name contains a hyphen (aka "hpss-sdsc")
-----

unixODBC on OpenSuSE 12.x fails when iRODS resource name contains a hyphen (aka "hpss-sdsc").

Also, 'moon landing' in rules3.0/rulewriteKeyValPairs.r.

Other Operating Systems and versions do not exhibit this behavior.

Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: rsAuthCheck user rods#tempZone
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: rsAuthResponse set proxy authFlag to 5, client authFlag to 5, user:rods#tempZone
proxy:rods client:rods
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: bindVar[1]=RajaBase
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: bindVar[2]=acRegisterData
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: bindVar[3]=acRegisterData()
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: bindVar[4]=($objPath like "/home/raja#sdsc/myImportantFiles\*" && $dataSize > 10000000)
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: bindVar[5]={
  msiRegisterData()::recover_msiRegisterData();
  msiQueue("msiReplicateData(\"hpss-sdsc\") :: recover_msiReplicateData;");
}
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: bindVar[6]=@REL
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: cllExecSqlWithResult: SQLExecDirect error: -1, sql:select rule_id from R_RULE_MAIN
where rule_base_name = ? and rule_name = ? and rule_event = ? and rule_condition = ? and rule_body = ? and
rule_recovery = ?
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: SQLSTATE: 01000
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: SQLCODE: 4294967295
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: SQL Error message: [unixODBC]Error while executing the query (non-fatal);
ERROR:  syntax error at or near "hpss" at character 344
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: chlInsRuleTable cmlGetIntegerValueFromSqlV3 find rule if any failure -806000
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 NOTICE: rsGeneralRowInsert: rcGeneralRowInsert failed
Mar  6 09:47:34 pid:21588 ERROR: executeRuleAction Failed for msiAdmInsertRulesFromStructIntoDB status = -806000
CAT_SQL_ERR
```

21 History of Releases

Date	Version	Description
------	---------	-------------

2013-06-05	3.0	First Release. This is the first open source release from RENCI. It includes all the features mentioned below and has been both manually and continuously tested.
2013-05-14	3.0rc1	First Release Candidate. This is the first release candidate from RENCI. It includes PAM support, additional resources (compound, universalMSS, replication, random, and nonblocking), and additional documentation.
2013-03-15	3.0b3	Third Beta Release. This is the third release from RENCI. It includes a new package for CentOS 6+, support for composable resources, and additional documentation.
2012-06-25	3.0b2	Second Beta Release. This is the second release from RENCI. It includes packages for iCAT, Resource, iCommands, and development, in both DEB and RPM formats. Also includes more documentation.
2012-03-01	3.0b1	Initial Beta Release. This is the first release from RENCI, based on the iRODS 3.0 community codebase.