Problem Statement
A significant problem facing portal driven eScience applications and environments is the ability to respond to user specified time and performance constraints. The need for user driven performance constraints requires a solid understanding of the performance of user applications in various environments in order to design feedback systems allowing systems to meet those performance requests.

Motivation and Impact
To build a useful web based portal driven architecture supporting hurricane forecasting using WRF, we need to understand the complexity and runtime issues of the application suite and how different architectures and deployment strategies impact the user experience and application run time.

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Barcelona Supercomputer Center
The Nexus II building seen at the left was the main office and central point of contact for my adviser Dr. Badia. The people, the lab, the computer were all a joy to work with. The tremendous number of projects and research activities being completed there never ceased to amaze me. Exposure to others’ active research projects, discussions on cloud computing, autonomous computing, HTC developments and current HPC research was truly a broadening experience.

Barcelona
Traveling to unfamiliar countries is always an experience. Barcelona ranks as my best trip ever to a foreign country. The friendly people of Barcelona, the amazing architecture including Gaudi, the food and nightlife made for a never ending list of thing to see and do.

Conferences
PIRE gave me the opportunity to attend several international conferences including the International Conference on Automated Computing and the International Summer School on Grid Computing. These conferences introduced me to many of the leaders in the autonomous and grid computing fields.

Travel
The opportunities to travel are amazing! Some of the fun places are shown below. First is Figueres, home of the Salvador Dali Museum and the largest fort in Europe. Second is and Tarragona home to one of the best examples of Roman ruins in Spain. Both of these trips were done using local easy to trains. The transportation system in Spain was fantastic, easy and cheap to travel just about anywhere!