



DEMOCRITOS
DEmocritos MOdeling Center for
Research In aTOMistic Simulation



EXADRON

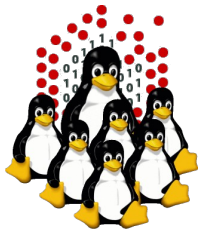


**Distributed Applications, Web Services, Tools
and GRID Infrastructures for Bioinformatics**

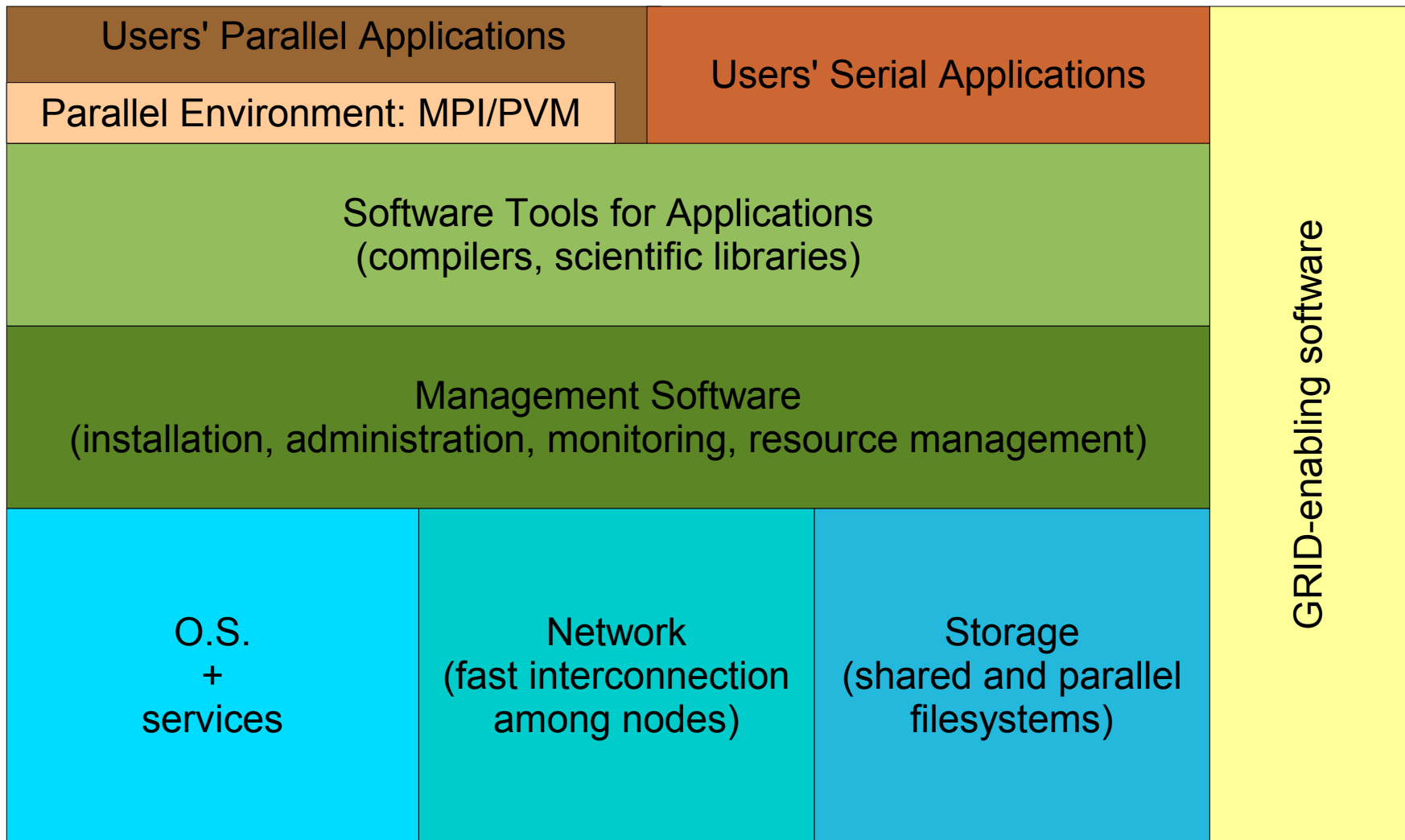
HPC Infrastructures

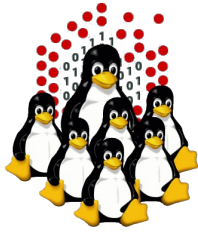
Moreno Baricevic
CNR-INFN DEMOCRITOS, Trieste

Matteo Vit
EXADRON, Amaro (UD)

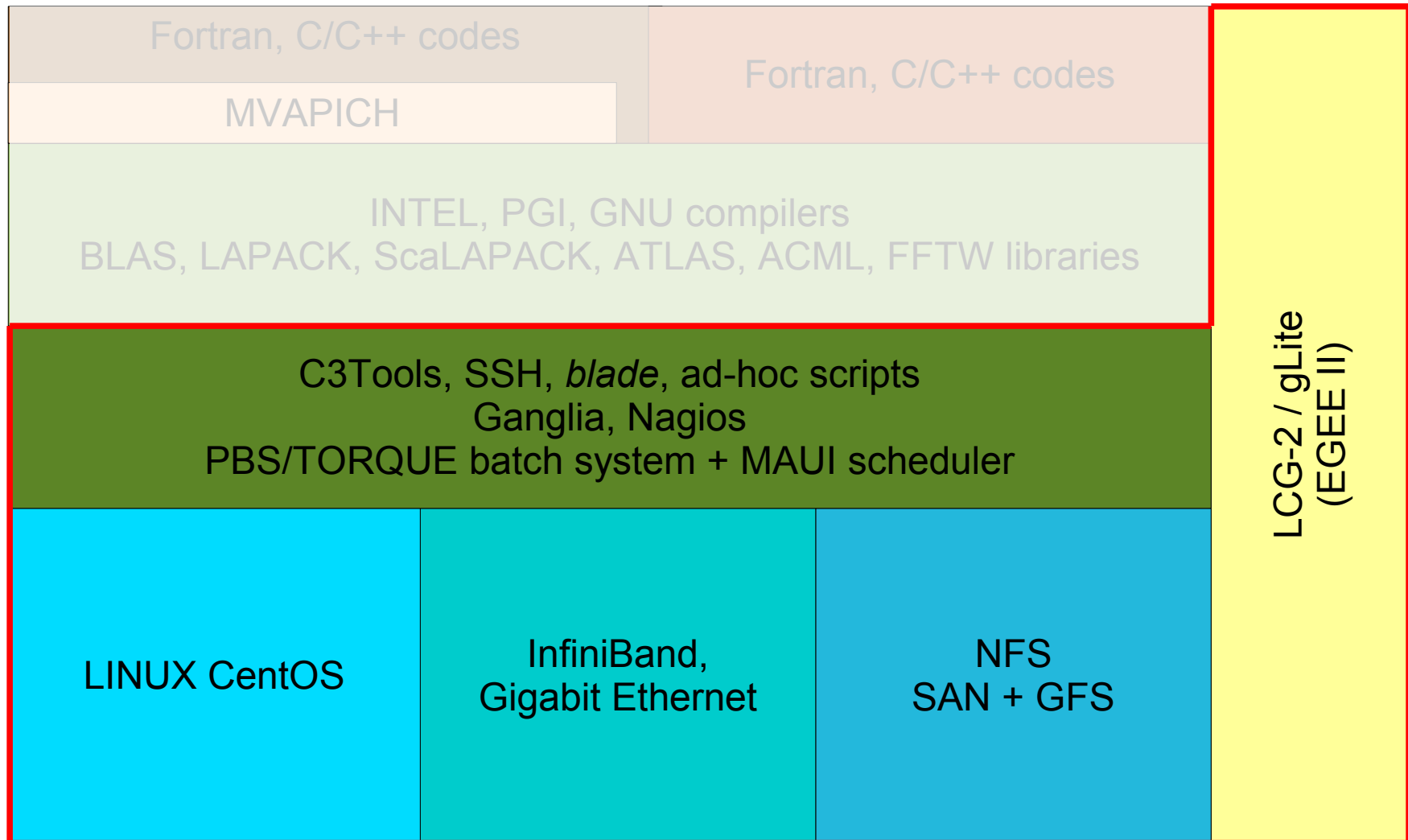


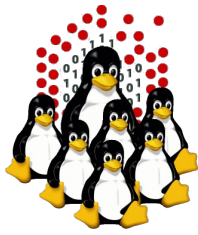
SOFTWARE INFRASTRUCTURE Overview





SOFTWARE INFRASTRUCTURE Overview (Michelangelo @ CILEA)





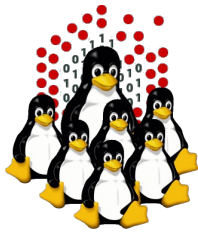
COMPATIBILITY ISSUES

Kernel vs new hardware

- Latest vanilla kernel: **2.6.16.9**
- CentOS kernel: **2.6.9-22**
- UnionFS v1.1.4 \leftrightarrow kernel **2.6.9 ÷ 2.6.14**
- InfiniBand IBGD-1.8.2 \leftrightarrow kernel \leq **2.6.11**
- GFS cluster 1.01 \leftrightarrow kernel \leq **2.6.14**
- GFS cluster 1.02 \leftrightarrow kernel **2.6.15** patched by FC5
- Qlogic qla2xxx (severe bug fixed) \leftrightarrow kernel \geq **2.6.15**
- AMD CPU Dual Core 275 \leftrightarrow kernel \geq **2.6.12**

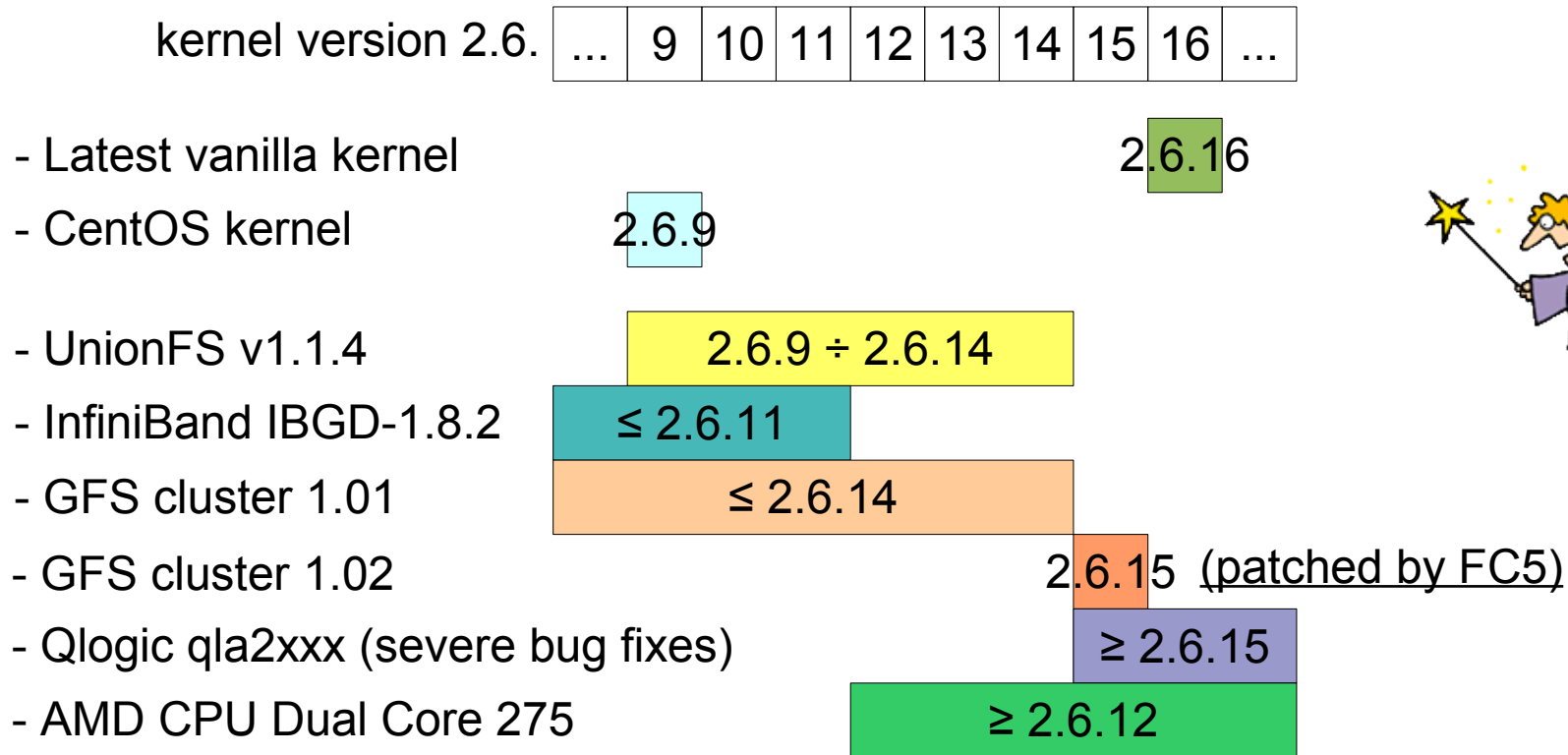


[Up to May 2006]

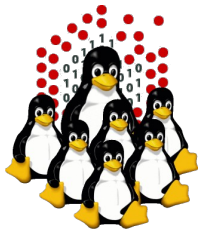


COMPATIBILITY ISSUES

Kernel vs new hardware



[Up to May 2006]



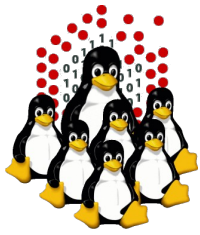
COMPATIBILITY ISSUES

Kernel vs new hardware

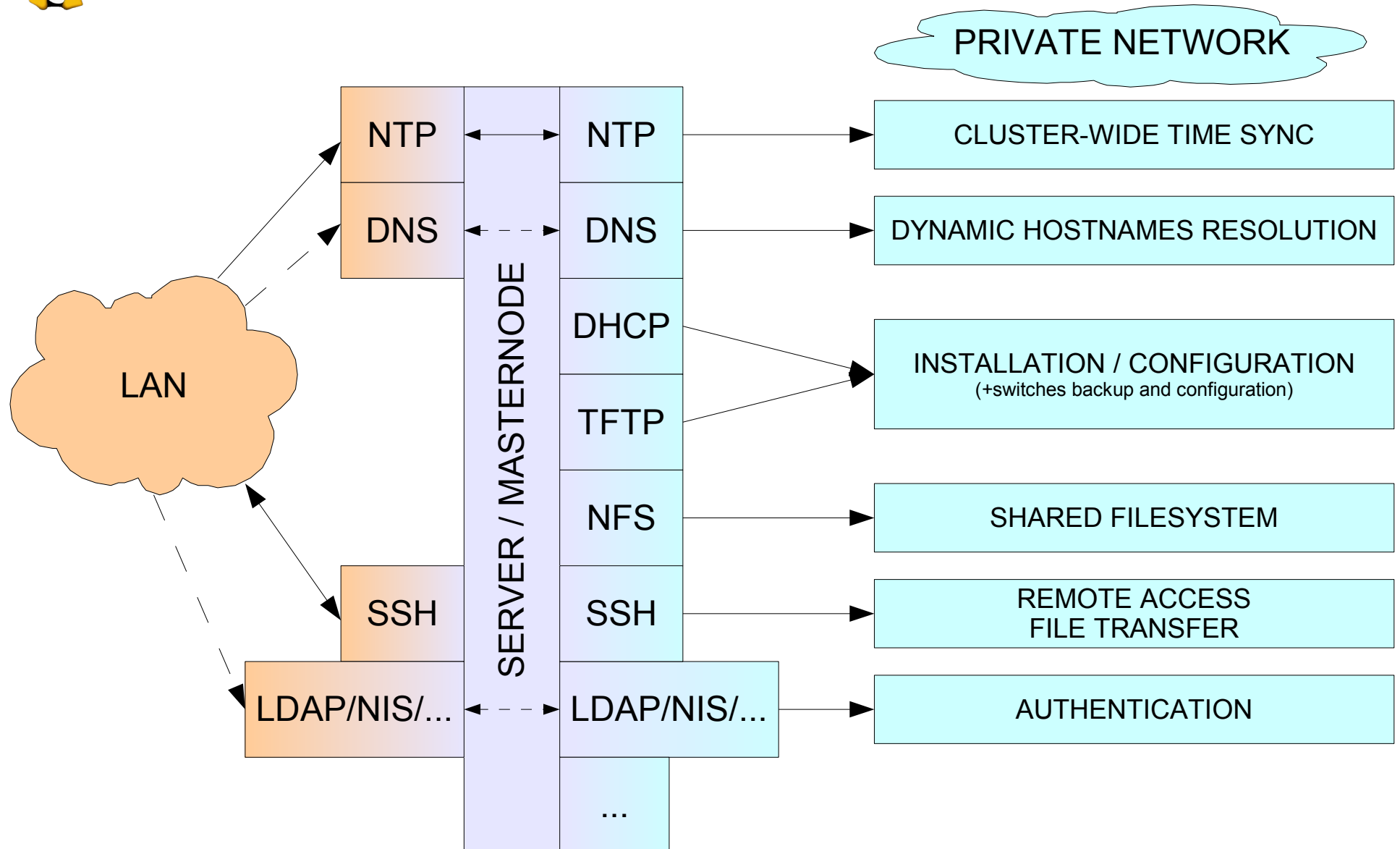
Roll up your own kernel
and patch as needed!

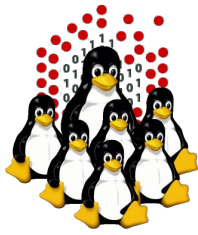
- vanilla kernel **2.6.16.16**
- UnionFS 1.1.4 (patched)
- IBGD 1.8.2 (patched)
- GFS Cluster-1.02 (patched)
- Qlogic qla2xxx (asis)





CLUSTER SERVICES



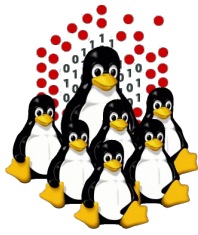


CLUSTER MANAGEMENT

Installation

Installation can be performed:

- interactively
 - non-interactively
- ♦ **Interactive** installations:
- finer control
- ♦ **Non-interactive** installations:
- minimize human intervention and let you save a lot of time
 - are less error prone
 - are performed using programs (such as RedHat Kickstart) which:
 - “simulate” the interactive answering
 - can perform some post-installation procedures for customization



CLUSTER MANAGEMENT Installation

MASTERNODE

Ad-hoc installation once forever (hopefully), usually interactive:

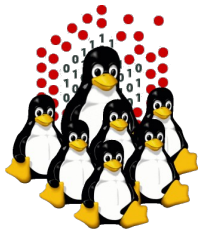
- local devices (CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, Floppy, ...)
- network based (PXE+DHCP+TFTP+NFS)

CLUSTER NODES

One installation reiterated for each node, usually non-interactive.

Nodes can be:

- 1) disk-based
- 2) disk-less (not to be really installed)



CLUSTER MANAGEMENT

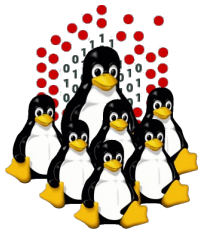
Cluster Nodes Installation

1) Disk-based nodes

- **CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, Floppy, ...**
Time expensive and tedious operation
- **HD cloning: mirrored raid, dd, Ghost and the like**
A “template” hard-disk needs to be swapped or a disk image needs to be available for cloning, configuration needs to be changed either way
- **Distributed installation: PXE+DHCP+TFTP+NFS**
More efforts to make the first installation work properly (especially for heterogeneous clusters), (mostly) straightforward for the next ones

2) Diskless nodes

- **Live CD/DVD/Floppy**
- **NFS**
- **NFS + UnionFS**
- **initrd (RAM disk)**



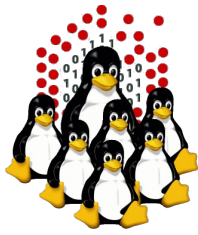
CLUSTER MANAGEMENT

Existent toolkits

Are generally made of an ensemble of already available software packages thought for specific tasks, but configured to operate together, plus some add-ons.

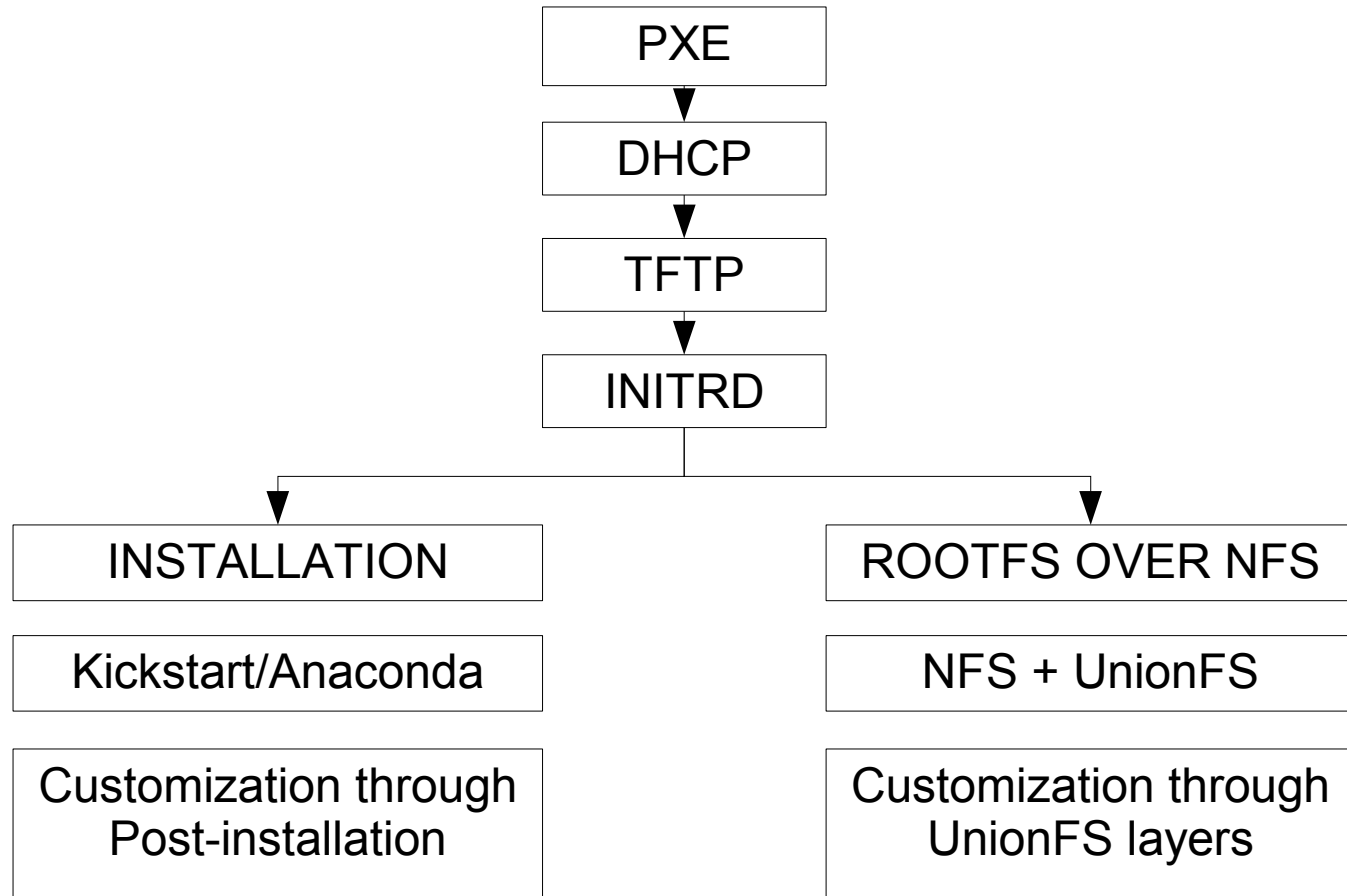
Sometimes limited by rigid and not customizable configurations, often bounded to some specific linux distribution and version. May depend on vendors' hardware.

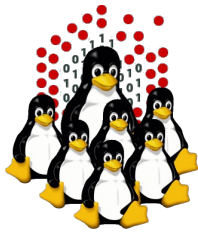
- Free and Open
 - OSCAR (Open Source Cluster Application Resources)
 - NPACI Rocks
 - xCAT (eXtreme Cluster Administration Toolkit)
 - OpenSCE (Open Scalable Cluster Environment)
 - Warewulf
- Commercial
 - IBM CSM (Cluster Systems Management)
 - Scyld Beowulf
 - HP, SUN and other vendors' Management Software...



CLUSTER MANAGEMENT

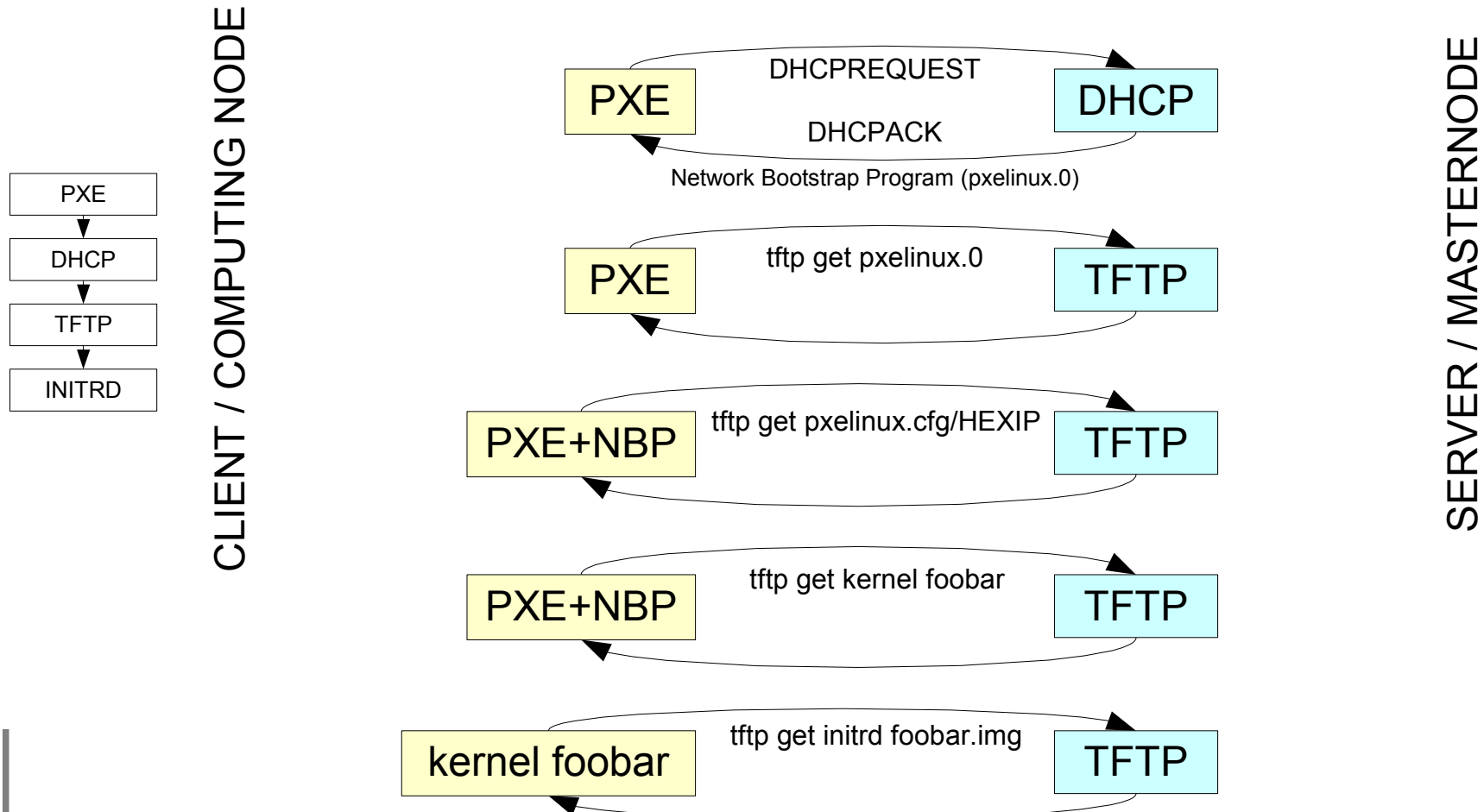
Network-based Distributed Installation

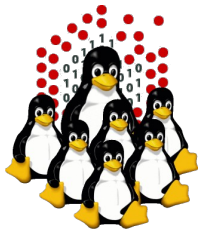




CLUSTER MANAGEMENT

Network-based Distributed Installation



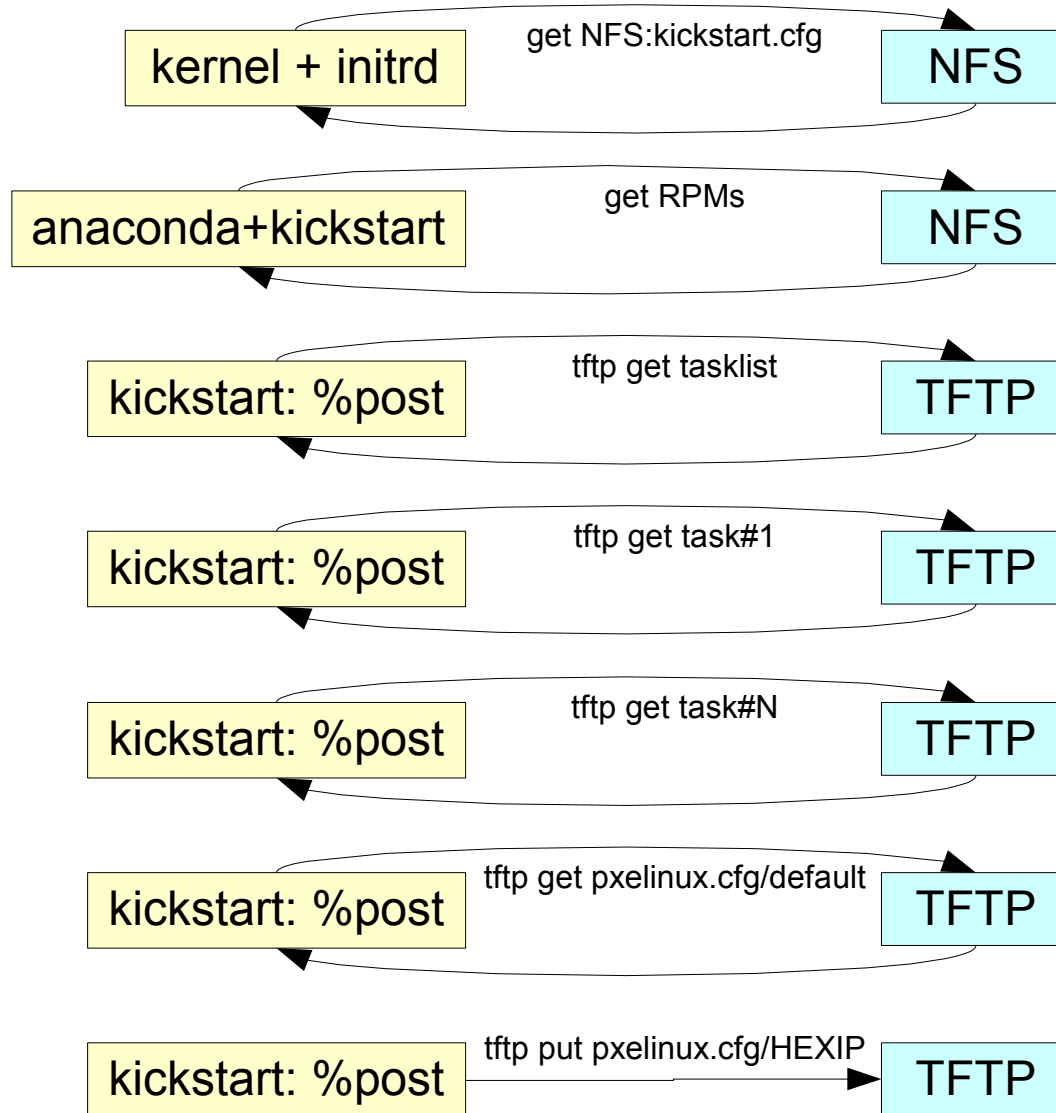


CLUSTER MANAGEMENT

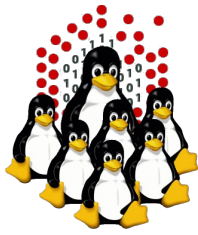
Network-based Distributed Installation

Installation

CLIENT / COMPUTING NODE



SERVER / MASTERNODE

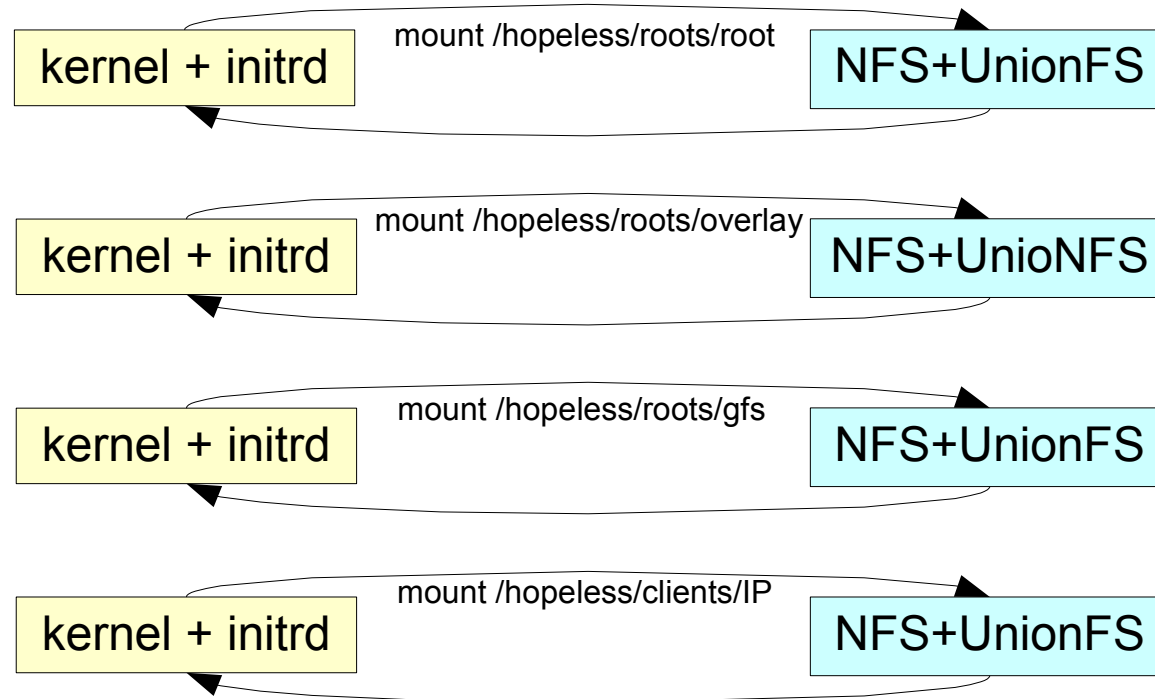


CLUSTER MANAGEMENT

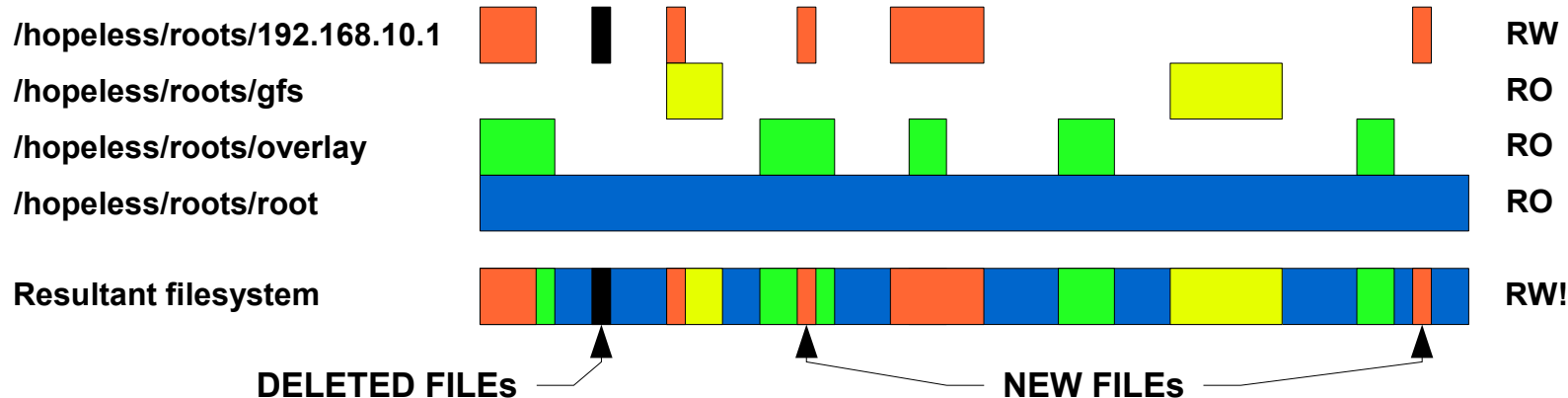
Network-based Distributed Installation

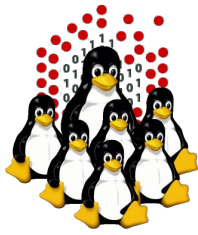
ROOTFS over NFS+UnionFS

CLIENT / COMPUTING NODE



SERVER / MASTER NODE

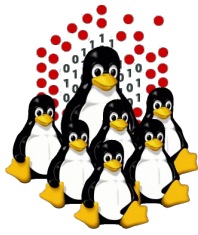




CLUSTER MANAGEMENT Administration Tools

Requirements:

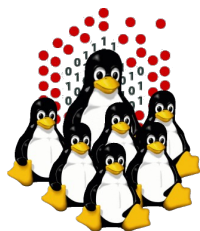
- cluster-wide command execution
 - cluster-wide file distribution and gathering
 - must be simple, efficient, easy to use for CLI addicted
-
- C3 tools - The Cluster Command and Control tool suite
 - ◆ allows configurable clusters and subsets of machines
 - ◆ concurrently execution of commands
 - ◆ supplies many utilities
 - ➔ cexec (parallel execution of standard commands on all cluster nodes)
 - ➔ cexecs (as the above but serial execution, useful for troubleshooting and debugging)
 - ➔ cpush (distribute files or directories to all cluster nodes)
 - ➔ cget (retrieves files or directory from all cluster nodes)
 - ➔ crm (cluster-wide remove)
 - ➔ ... and many more
 - ◆ <http://www.csm.ornl.gov/torc/C3/>
 - DSH - Distributed Shell
 - ➔ <http://www.netfort.gr.jp/~dancer/software/dsh.html.en>



CLUSTER MANAGEMENT

Monitoring Tools

- Ad-hoc scripts (shell, perl, ...) + cron
- Ganglia
 - excellent graphic tool
 - XML data representation
 - web-based interface for visualization
 - <http://ganglia.sourceforge.net/>
- Nagios
 - complex but can interact with other software
 - configurable alarms, SNMP, e-mail, sms, ...
 - optional web interface
 - <http://www.nagios.org/>



CLUSTER MANAGEMENT

Ganglia at work /1

DEMOCRITOS/SISSA Grid >

Name / Info

[DEMOCRITOS/SISSA Grid \(4 sources\)](#) [\(tree view\)](#)

Hosts up: 113
(276 CPUs Total)

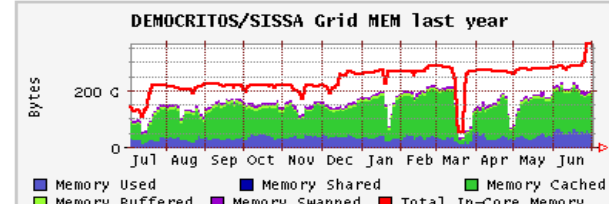
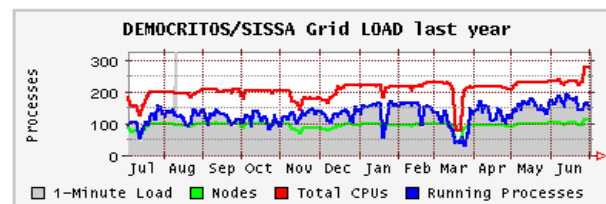
Hosts down: 1

Load Averages

124.76 124.33 124.26

%CPU User, Nice, System, Idle

45.5 1.3 1.0 52.6



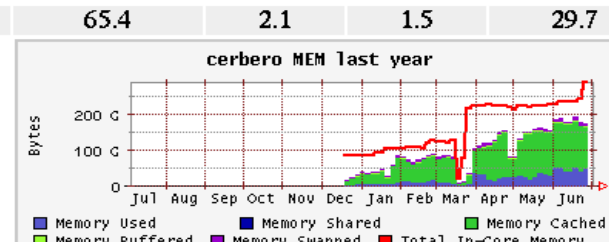
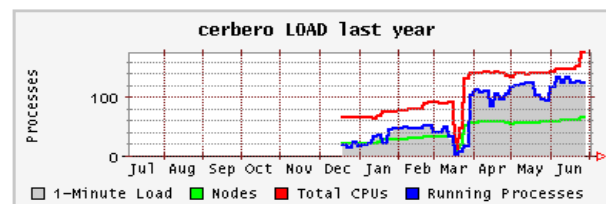
[cerbero](#) [\(physical view\)](#)

Cluster Localtime:
July 2, 2006, 9:19 pm

Hosts up: 70
(188 CPUs Total)

Hosts down: 0

111.72 111.80 112.15



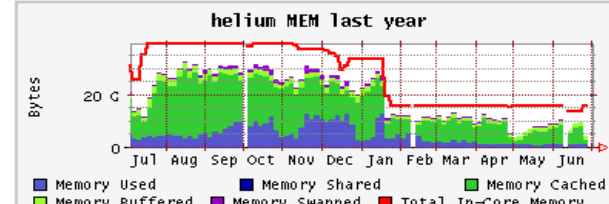
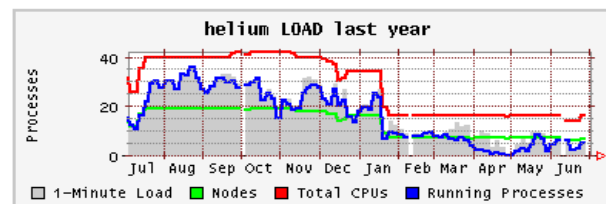
[helium](#) [\(physical view\)](#)

Cluster Localtime:
July 2, 2006, 9:19 pm

Hosts up: 7
(16 CPUs Total)

Hosts down: 0

4.00 4.00 3.75



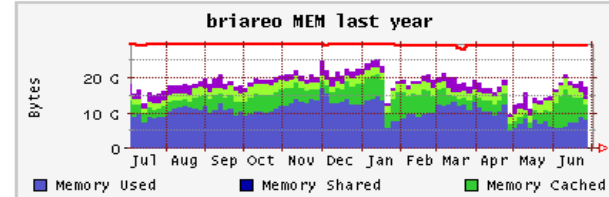
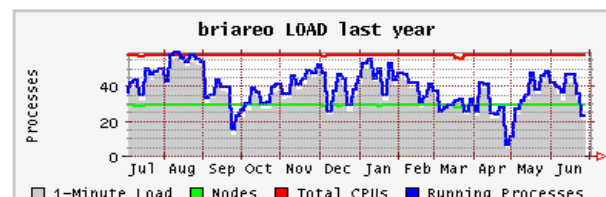
[briareo](#) [\(physical view\)](#)

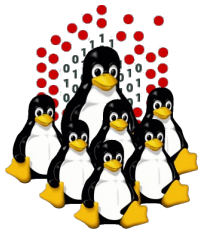
Cluster Localtime:
July 2, 2006, 9:19 pm

Hosts up: 29
(58 CPUs Total)

Hosts down: 0

8.73 8.49 8.35





CLUSTER MANAGEMENT

Ganglia at work /2

DEMOCRITOS/SISSA Grid > cerbero > a103.hpc

a103.hpc Overview



This node is up and running

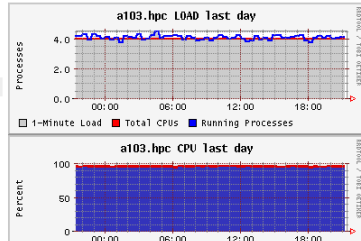
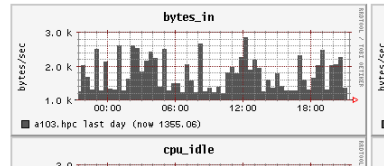
Time and String Metrics

Name	Value
boottime	Thu, 27 Apr 2006 08:50:03 +0200
gexec	OFF
machine_type	x86_64
os_name	Linux
os_release	2.6.13.3
sys_clock	Thu, 27 Apr 2006 08:51:14 +0200
uptime	66 days, 12:33

Constant Metrics

Name	Value
cpu_idle	17.5 %
cpu_num	4
cpu_speed	2192 MHz
mem_total	4059676 KB
mtu	1500 B
swap_total	4192956 KB

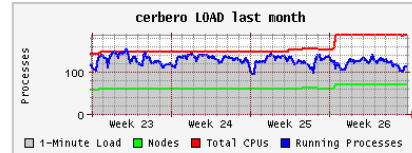
Graphs of Volatile Metrics. Range



DEMOCRITOS/SISSA Grid > cerbero > --Choose a Node

There are **70 nodes (188 CPUs)** up and running.
There are no nodes down.

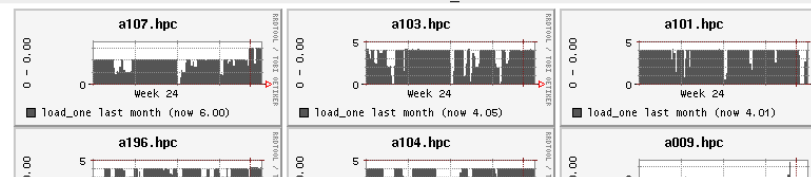
Current Cluster Load: 112.42, 111.8, 112.08



Snapshot of cerbero | Legend



cerbero load_one



DEMOCRITOS/SISSA Grid > cerbero > a103.hpc

a103.hpc Info

a103.hpc

10.1.2.3

Location: Unknown

Last heartbeat received 4 seconds ago.
Uptime 66 days, 12:33

Load: 3.84 4.00 3.99
1m 5m 15m

CPU Utilization: 94.2 4.0 1.6
user sys idle

Hardware

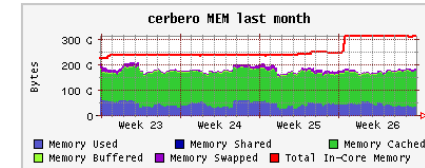
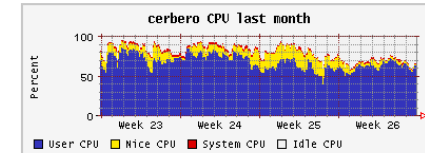
CPUs: 4 x 2192 Mhz
Memory (RAM): 3964 MB
Local Disk: Using 17.074 of 68.024 GB
Most Full Disk Partition: 25.2% used.

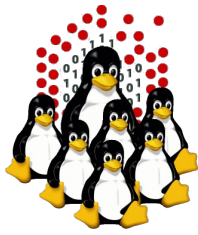
Software

OS: Linux 2.6.13.3 (x86_64)
Booted: April 27, 2006, 8:50 am
Uptime: 66 days, 12:33
Swap: Using 8.7 of 4094.7 MB swap.

[Physical View](#) | [Reload](#)

Overview of cerbero





STORAGE

Shared and Parallel Filesystems

A shared filesystem to ease management and supply a centralized repository:

Performance is not an issue!

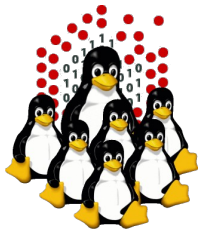
- ◆ NFS – Network File System

A filesystem to deal with intensive I/O operations both serial and parallel (parallel filesystem).

Available choices:

Performance IS an issue!

- ◆ GFS – Global File System
- ◆ GPFS – Global Parallel File System
- ◆ PVFS – Parallel Virtual File System
- ◆ Lustre



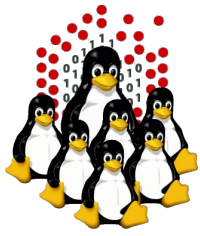
STORAGE

Shared Filesystems: NFS

Central repository for:

- ♦ packages (installation/updates)
- ♦ cluster-wide configurations
- ♦ libraries
- ♦ non-critical executables (not needed at boot-up)
- ♦ sporadic non I/O intensive operations
- ♦ ...

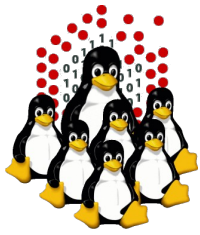
Can supply the root filesystem (and/or UnionFS layers) for disk-less nodes and can export the /home filesystem as well.



STORAGE

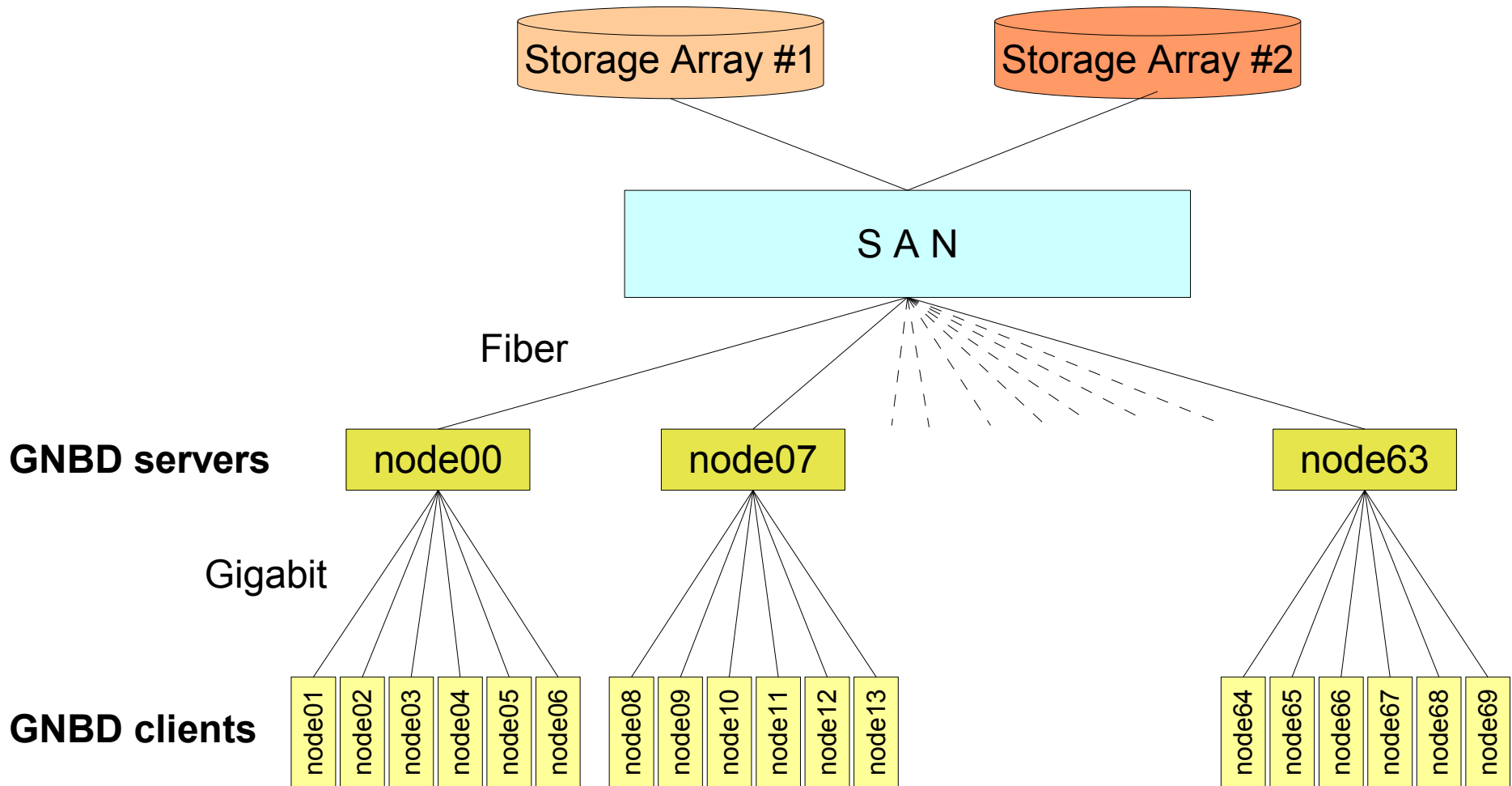
Parallel Filesystem: GFS

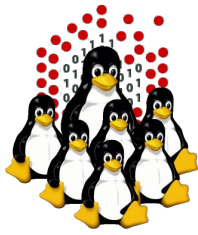
- ♦ works in a SAN/LAN environment
- ♦ single system image style view of the filesystem
- ♦ fully 64bit
- ♦ journaled
- ♦ works with LVM volume managers
- ♦ scalable



STORAGE

Parallel Filesystem: GFS





STORAGE

Parallel Filesystem: GFS

Quorum – CMAN (Cluster MANager)

- gives the ability to maintain the cluster through flaky network spikes
- it will keep you from prematurely removing nodes from the cluster
- each node has configurable number of votes
- **doesn't scale well**
- **if the quorum is lost, the filesystem becomes unavailable and most cluster applications (GFS related) will not operate...**

Fencing

- ensures data integrity of shared storage devices
- makes sure that a node is gone before recovering data (power fencing!)
- **if heartbeats among machines are lost, the nodes will attempt to fence each other...**

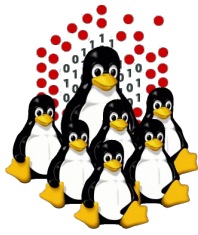
Note: we wrote our own fence agents (bash and perl scripts) that interact with a small utility, *blade*, that allows remote hardware control of the blade chassis.

Locking – DLM (Distributed Lock Manager)

- ensures that nodes in the cluster who share the data on the SAN don't corrupt each other's data

Device mapper - LVM2 (Logical Volume Manager, GFS-aware)

- handle physical volumes providing software RAID (striping, mirroring)



RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

We have a pool of users and a pool of resources, then what?

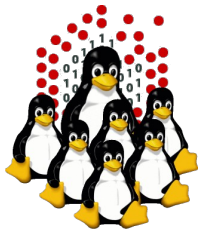
- some software that control available resources
- some other software that decide which application to execute based on available resources
- some other software devoted to actually execute applications

The resource manager allows:

- better resource control
- better resource utilization
- better access control

The scheduler should have:

- **Fair Share mechanism**
- **Backfill scheduling algorithm**
- reservations for high priority jobs
- more control parameters on users
- commands for querying the scheduler

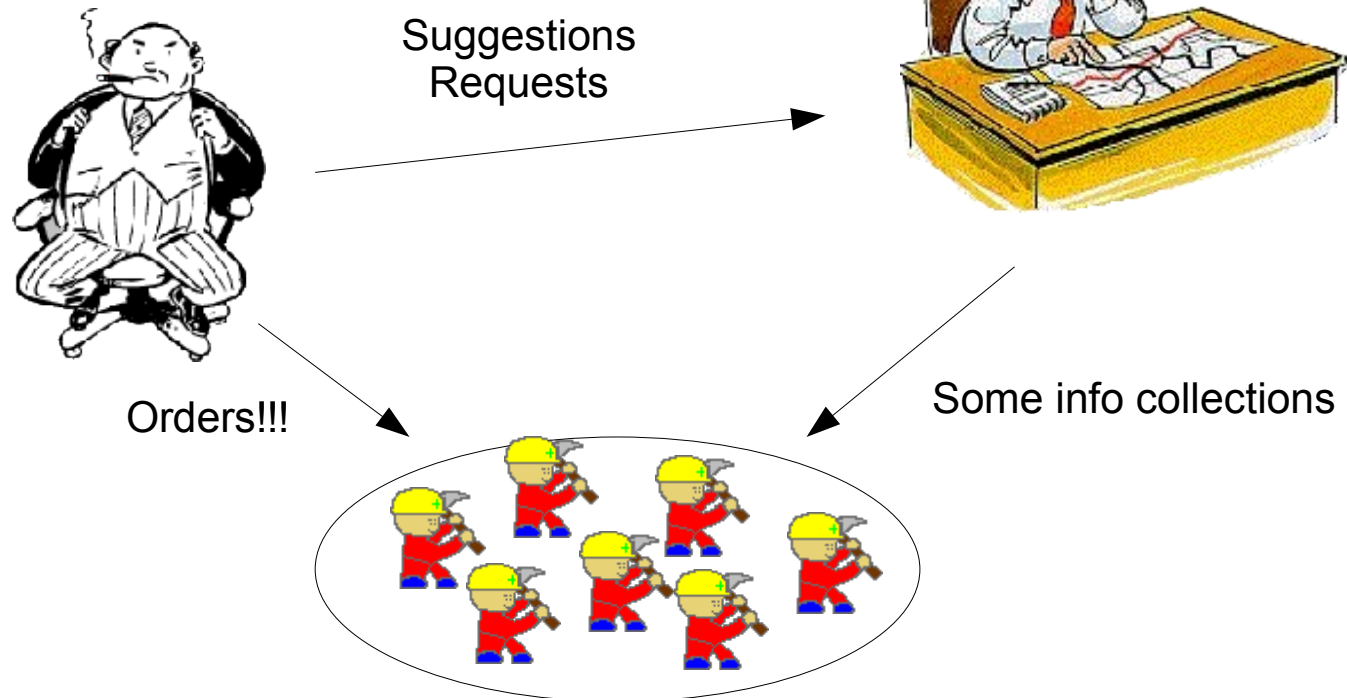


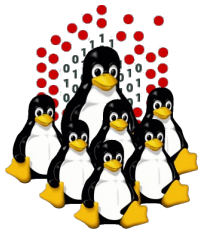
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

The Queue System - PBS/TORQUE + MAUI

◆ General Components

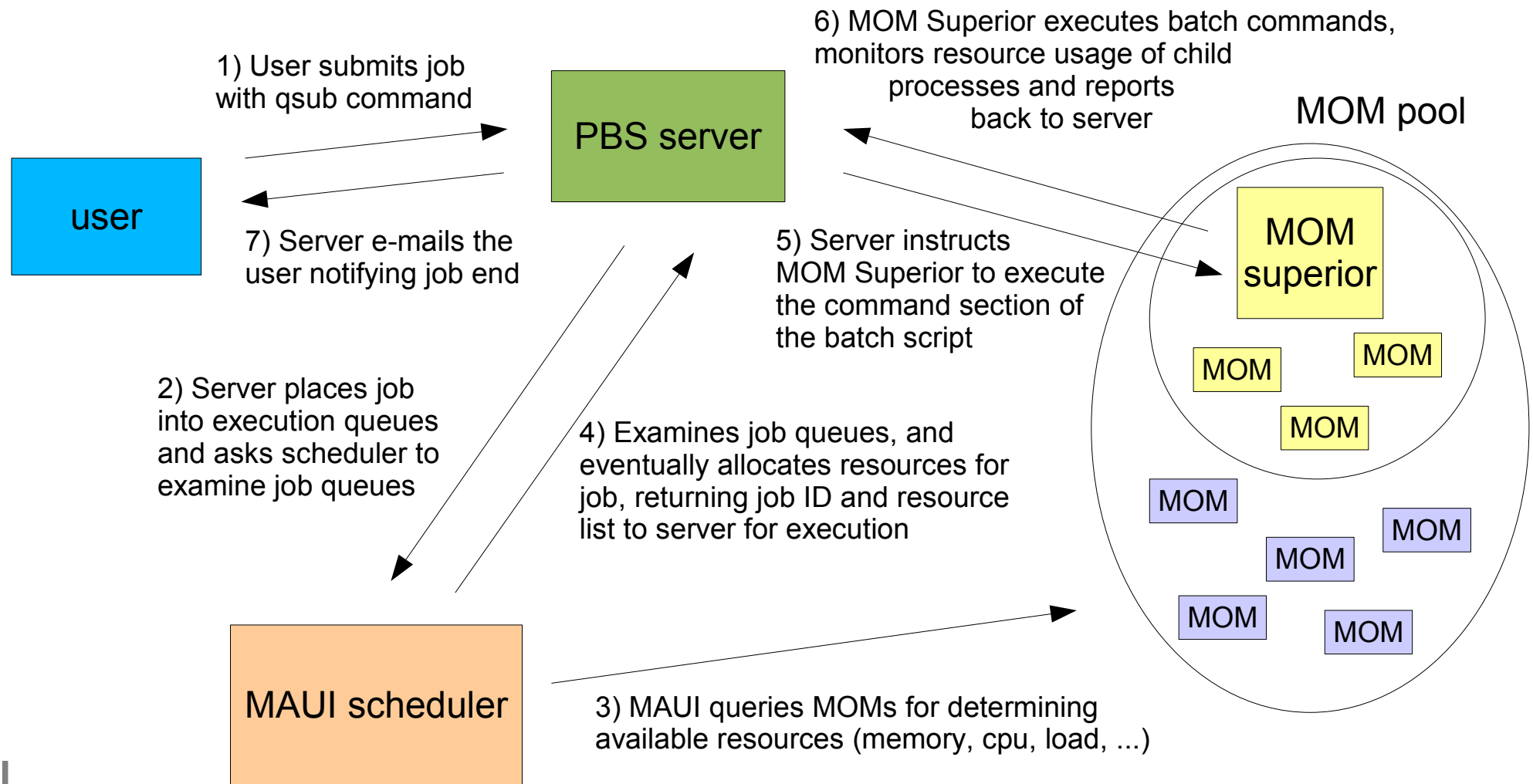
- A resource manager (PBS server)
- A scheduler (MAUI scheduler)
- Many “executors” (PBS MOMs)

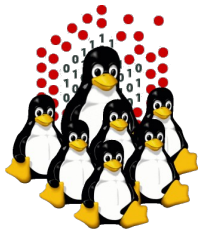




RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

A typical job session





RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

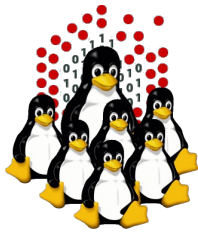
Fair sharing

Fairshare is a mechanism which allows historical resource utilization information to be incorporated into job feasibility and priority decisions.

Fairshare information only affects the job's priority relative to other jobs.

Using the standard fairshare target

- ♦ the priority of jobs of a particular group which has used too many resources over the specified fairshare window is lowered.
- ♦ the priority of jobs which have not received enough resources will be increased



RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Fair sharing – How it works

- ◆ At the beginning all the jobs are created equals (in term of priority)
- ◆ However some jobs are more/less equal than others
- ◆ Priority is increased/decreased when the fair sharing quota is below/above from its target
- ◆ Gain/lost in priority:
 - ➔ is configurable
 - ➔ 1% far from fair share means 4 hours on queues (DEMOCRITOS example)

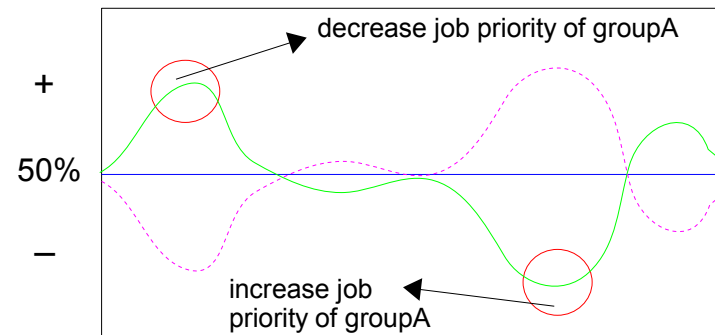
GROUPCFG[groupA]
GROUPCFG[groupB]

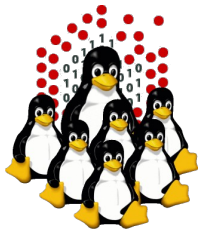
FSTARGET=50%
FSTARGET=50%

PRIORITY=5000
PRIORITY=5000

Assume groupA has 50% of fairshare usage.
When it use more resources than those assigned,
the priority of the jobs will be decreased; when it
uses less resources, the priority of its jobs will be
increased.
When a group is not computing, other group can
benefit from the available resources

- better resource utilization
 - no idle CPUs





RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Backfill /1

Backfill is a scheduling optimization which allows a scheduler to make better use of available resources by running jobs out of order.

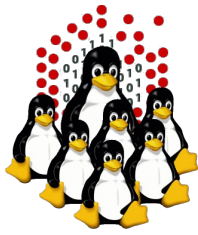
Consider this example with a 10 CPUs machine:

Job1 (priority=20 walltime=10 nodes=6)
Job2 (priority=50 walltime=30 nodes=4)
Job3 (priority=40 walltime=20 nodes=4)
Job4 (priority=10 walltime=10 nodes=1)

1) When Maui schedules, it prioritizes the jobs in the queue according to a number of factors and then orders the jobs into a 'highest priority first' sorted list.

Sorted list:

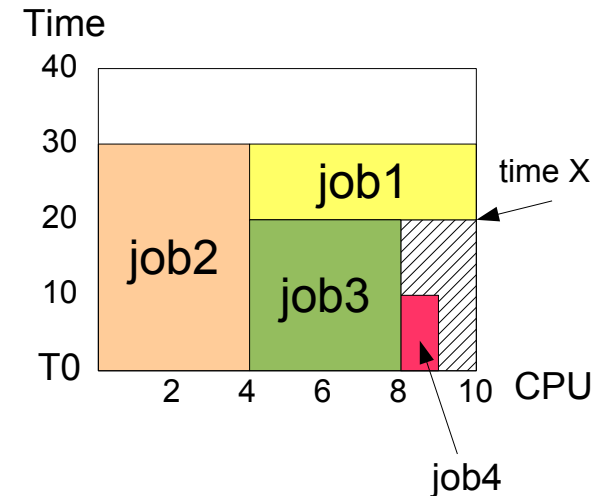
Job2 (priority=50 walltime=30 nodes=4)
Job3 (priority=40 walltime=20 nodes=4)
Job1 (priority=20 walltime=10 nodes=6)
Job4 (priority=10 walltime=10 nodes=1)



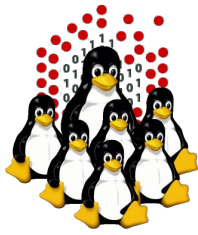
RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Backfill /2

- 2) It starts the jobs one by one stepping through the priority list until it reaches a job which it cannot start.
 - 3) All jobs and reservations possess a start time and a wallclock limit, so MAUI can determine:
 - the completion time of all jobs in the queue
 - the earliest the needed resources will become available for the highest priority job to start (time X)
 - which jobs can be started without delaying this job (job4)
- Enabling backfill allows the scheduler to start other, lower-priority jobs so long as they do not delay the highest priority job, essentially filling in holes in node space.
- Backfill offers significant scheduler performance improvement:
- increased system utilization by around 20% and improved turnaround time by an even greater amount in a typical large system
 - backfill tends to favor smaller and shorter running jobs more than larger and longer running ones: It is common to see over 90% of these small and short jobs backfilled.



Job2 (priority=50 walltime=30 nodes=4)
Job3 (priority=40 walltime=20 nodes=4)
Job1 (priority=20 walltime=10 nodes=6)
Job4 (priority=10 walltime=10 nodes=1)



COMPUTATIONAL SOFTWARE

Compilers

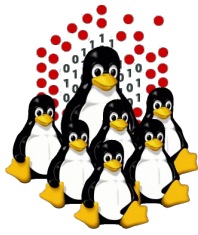
- INTEL → icc, ifc/fort
- PGI → pgcc, pgf77
- GNU → gcc, g77, g95

Scientific Libraries

- BLAS / LAPACK / ScaLAPACK / ...
- ATLAS / ACML (optimized)
- FFTW

Parallel Environment

- MVAPICH (MPI over InfiniBand)



COMPUTATIONAL SOFTWARE

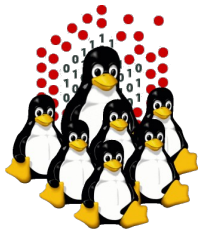
User's Environment

How can the complexity of an heterogeneous compilation environment be handled?

- shell variables set by system (of all the nodes) in:
 - ➔ /etc/profile
 - ➔ /etc/csh.login, /etc/csh.cshrc
 - ➔ /etc/bashrc
- and consider files in /etc/profile.d/
- shell variables set by users in users' profile files:
 - ➔ \$HOME/.bash_profile, \$HOME/.bashrc
 - ➔ \$HOME/.tchsrc
- for new users, modify prototype profile files in /etc/skel/

What if one needs to change the environment during the same session?

```
$ export PATH=/some/bin/dir/:/some/other/bin/dir/:$PATH
$ export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=/some/lib/dir/:/some/other/lib/dir/:$LD_LIBRARY_PATH
$ export SOME_LICENCE_FILE=/some/license/file
$ export VOODOO_ENV_VAR=1
...
```



COMPUTATIONAL SOFTWARE User's Environment

Modules Environment Project

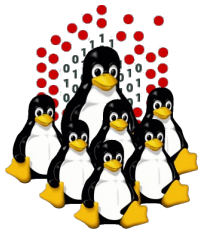
<http://modules.sourceforge.net/>

“The Modules package is a set of scripts and information files that provides a simple command interface for modifying the environment.”

- ➔ The administrator can setup some configuration files (in TCL) that allows *module* (when invoked) to set the needed environment variables for the running shell.
- ➔ Users can configure their own *modulefiles* with personalized environments and can switch environment with just few user-friendly commands.

```
$ module avail
----- /opt/modules-3.1.6/versions -----
3.1.6
----- /opt/modules-3.1.6/modulefiles -----
gnu          mpi          mpich-intel-p4      pgi-6.05
icc-9.0       mpich-gnu-gm        mpich-intel-shmem   pgi-6.12
icc64-9.0     mpich-gnu-p4        mpich-pgi-gm
ifc-9.0       mpich-gnu-shmem     mpich-pgi-p4
ifc64-9.0     mpich-intel-gm      mpich-pgi-shmem
```

```
$ module load icc-9.0
$ module load ifc-9.0
$ module load mpich-intel-gm
$ module list
Currently Loaded Modulefiles:
  1) icc-9.0   2) ifc-9.0   3) mpich-intel-gm
$ module unload icc-9.0 ifc-9.0
$ module load icc64-9.0 ifc64-9.0
$ module list
Currently Loaded Modulefiles:
  1) mpich-intel-gm  2) icc64-9.0  3) ifc64-9.0
```



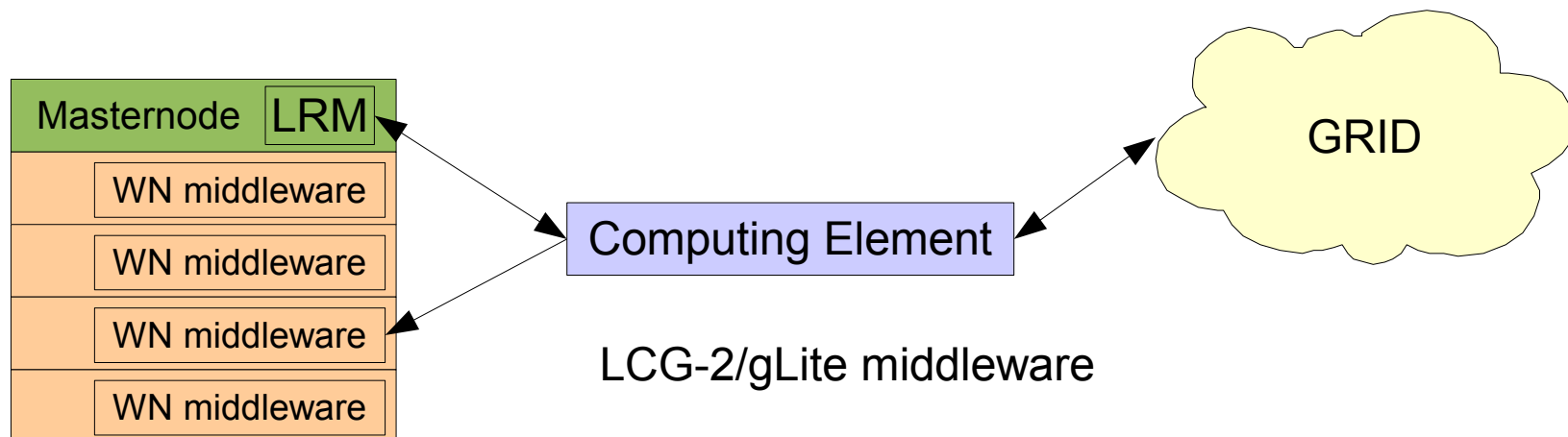
GRID ENVIRONMENT

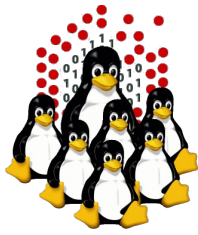
World Wide Computing

EGEE II

The Michelangelo cluster is integrated into the LCG-2/gLite GRID using the following mechanism:

- an external server is acting as a Computing Element (CE)
 - ➔ standard Scientific LINUX 3.0.6 + LCG-2/gLite middleware
 - ➔ the Local Resource Manager system used by the CE is on the masternode (PBS/Torque)
- Each node of the cluster has installed the Worker Node (WN) middleware needed to run jobs coming from the CE.



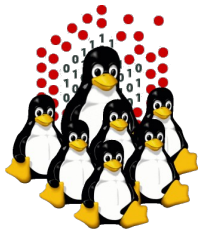


ACKNOWLEDGMENTS



LITBIO Laboratorio Interdisciplinare di Tecnologie Bioinformatiche

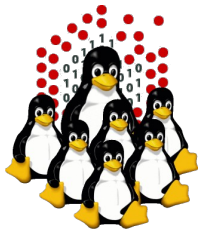
The Laboratory is funded by Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca (MIUR - Italy) through a FIRB 2003 grant for a period 2005 - 2010.



That's All Folks!



```
( questions ; comments ) | mail baro@democritos.it -s uheilaaa  
( complaints ; insults ) &>/dev/null
```



REFERENCES AND USEFUL LINKS /1

- Hopeless, a system for building disk-less clusters (Christian Pellegrin, November 2005)

<http://sole.infis.univ.ts.it/~chri/hopeless.html>

- CentOS - RH-based Linux distribution

<http://www.centos.org/>

- UnionFS - A Stackable Unification File System

<http://www.unionfs.org>

<http://www.fsl.cs.sunysb.edu/project-unionfs.html>

Cluster File Systems:

- CLUSTER/GFS - RH Cluster Suite and the Global File System

<http://sources.redhat.com/cluster/>

<http://sources.redhat.com/cluster/gfs/>

- PVFS - The Parallel Virtual File System

<http://www.parl.clemson.edu/pvfs/>

- Lustre

<http://www.lustre.org/>

- GPFS - The IBM Global Parallel File System

<http://www.ibm.com/servers/eserver/clusters/software/gpfs.html>

Management Tools:

- openssh/openssl

<http://www.openssh.com>

<http://www.openssl.org>

- C3 tools - The Cluster Command and Control tool suite

<http://www.csm.ornl.gov/torc/C3/>

- DSH - Distributed SHell

<http://www.netfort.gr.jp/~dancer/software/dsh.html.en>

Cluster Toolkits:

- OSCAR - Open Source Cluster Application Resources

<http://oscar.openclustergroup.org/>

- NPACI Rocks

<http://www.rocksclusters.org/>

- Scyld Beowulf

<http://www.beowulf.org/>

- CSM - IBM Cluster Systems Management

<http://www.ibm.com/servers/eserver/clusters/software/>

- xCAT - eXtreme Cluster Administration Toolkit

<http://www.xcat.org/>

- OpenSCE - Open Scalable Cluster Environment

<http://www.opensce.org/>

- Warewulf

<http://www.warewulf-cluster.org/>

Resources Management:

- MAUI - Cluster Scheduler / TORQUE - Resource Manager

<http://www.clusterresources.com/pages/products.php>

- PBS/OpenPBS - Portable Batch System

<http://www.openpbs.org/>

- SGE – Sun Grid Engine

<http://gridengine.sunsource.net/>

Monitoring Tools:

- Ganglia

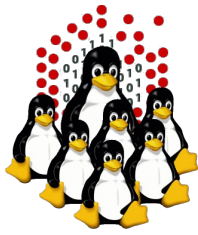
<http://ganglia.sourceforge.net/>

- Nagios

<http://www.nagios.org/>

- Zabbix

<http://www.zabbix.org/>



REFERENCES AND USEFUL LINKS /2

Compilers:

- GNU – gcc/g77
<http://gcc.gnu.org/>
- G95 – GNU f95 Compiler
<http://www.g95.org/>
- PGI – Portland Group
<http://www.pgroup.com/>
- Intel – icc/fort
<http://www.intel.com/>
- NAG – Numerical Algorithms Group
<http://www.nag.com/>

Scientific Libraries:

- Netlib Repository
<http://www.netlib.org/>
- LAPACK - Linear Algebra PACKage
<http://www.netlib.org/lapack/>
- ScaLAPACK – Scalable LAPACK
<http://www.netlib.org/scalapack/>
- BLAS - Basic Linear Algebra Subprograms
<http://www.netlib.org/blas/>
- ATLAS - Automatically Tuned Linear Algebra Software
<http://math-atlas.sourceforge.net/>
- FFTW - Fastest Fourier Transform in the West
<http://www.fftw.org/>
- ACML - AMD Core Math Library
<http://developer.amd.com/acml.aspx>
- MKL – Intel Math Kernel Library
<http://www.intel.com/>

Modules - Environment Modules Project

<http://modules.sourceforge.net/>

Parallel Environment:

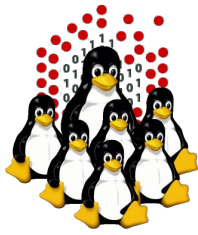
- MPI - The Message Passing Interface standard
<http://www-unix.mcs.anl.gov/mpi/>
- OpenMPI – A High Performance Message Passing Library
<http://www.open-mpi.org/>
- LAM / MPI – Parallel Computing
<http://www.lam-mpi.org/>
- PVM – Parallel Virtual Machine
<http://www.csm.ornl.gov/pvm/>

GRID Projects:

- EGEE II
<http://www.eu-egee.org/>
- CERN Datagrid
<http://eu-datagrid.web.cern.ch/eu-datagrid/>
- GRID.IT
<http://www.grid.it/>
- EGRID
<http://www.egrid.it/>

GRID Middleware

- LCG-2 / gLite
<http://lcg.web.cern.ch/LCG/>
<http://glite.web.cern.ch/>
- GLOBUS
<http://www.globus.org/>



Some acronyms...

HPC – High Performance Computing

OS – Operating System

LINUX – LINUX is not UNIX

GNU – GNU is not UNIX

PXE – Preboot Execution Environment

DHCP – Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol

TFTP – Trivial File Transfer Protocol

NFS – Network File System

INITRD – INITial RamDisk

LDAP – Lightweight Directory Access Protocol

NIS – Network Information Service

DNS – Domain Name System

NTP – Network Time Protocol

LAPACK - Linear Algebra PACKage

ScaLAPACK - Scalable LAPACK

BLAS - Basic Linear Algebra Subprograms

ATLAS - Automatically Tuned Linear Algebra Software

FFTW - Fastest Fourier Transform in the West

ACML - AMD Core Math Library

PVM – Parallel Virtual Machine

MPI – Message Passing Interface

MPICH – Message Passing Interface/CHameleon

MVAPICH – MPI over VAPI

VAPI – Verbs Level Interface

PBS – Portable Batch System

MOM – Machine Oriented Mini-server

EGEE – Enabling Grids for E-science

LCG – LHC Computing Project

LHC – Large Hadron Collider

CE – Computing Element

WN – Worker Node

SE – Storage Element

LRM – Local Resource Manager

GRM – Global Resource Manager

SAN – Storage Area Network

NAS – Network Attached Storage

DEMOCRITOS – Democritos Modeling Center for Research In aTOMistic Simulations

INFN – Istituto Nazionale per la Fisica della Materia (Italian National Institute for the Physics of Matter)

CNR – Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (Italian National Research Council)