Towards a Research Data Zone

OPTIMIZING CAMPUS INFRASTRUCTURE FOR RESEARCH



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Motivation: Data size gets bigger, networks become faster

Data size gets bigger and becomes problem in more disciplines growing number of international archives for communities



Hybrid network (IP and lightpaths)

- High capacity Internet and lightpaths for heavy use
- Lightpaths offer high, guaranteed bandwidth, low latency and exclusive use
- Large uptake for business operations
- Uptake in research slow (cost, funding model, complexity etc.)

Current situation:

Research traffic (large data transfers) mixed with commodity Internet:
 This is an increasing problem

Limitations of TCP

- The theoretical maximum of a single TCP stream is limited
- Maximum throughput decreases with increasing packet loss and delay (distance)
- Exponential decrease
- Many researchers use TCP based transfers
- SURFnet SLS is 10ms and 0,1% packet loss (worst case scenario)
- Graph shows throughput with 0,1% and 0,00001% packet loss



RTT in ms (distance in km)

Limitations of TCP



- Research data transfers often based on TCP
- Maximum throughput is limited, packet loss has a major impact
- Packet loss is seen as congestion, and decreases throughput

With courtesy to Brian Tierney (Esnet)

Firewall issues

- Limited throughput
- Large number of small flows
- Small buffers
- Increased latency
- Not suitable for 'exotic' protocols



Current approach: support for specific projects



Population Imaging (LUMC)



Climatology (UU)



Bacterial drug resistance discovery (TUDelft)

Optimization:

- Larger packet size (jumboframes)
- Other network protocols (UDP)
- Specialized data transfer software (GridFTP)
- Access control in stead of firewall

And many more...

Current approach with ad hoc support not efficient

Need for a generic approach: research data zone

Drivers

- Increased need for collaboration
- Collaboration with commercial research
- Increased datasets in various disciplines
- Emerge of European infrastructures
- Sharing of confidential data
- Urge for outscaling to (HPC) cloud



From "Evolutie en Revolutie in de Campusinfrastructuur".

 Emerging of science DMZ concept in US and Research LAN between UMC's

Responsibility for SURF

In general:

- Optimal services and future proof solutions
- Ensuring that local architectures and solutions are compatible
- Coordination and knowledge

Objectives (ao) the UvA/SURF project:

- Blueprint
- Supporting larger numbers of researchers
- Increase scientific output



Responsibility for SURF



SURF

Research LAN UMC's

- Specific architecture for UMC's
- Started with LUMC, UMCU and SURF
- Based on experience from EYR and Campus Challenge
- Extension to other UMC's
- Coordination by NFU and SURF



International



Science & Technology Facilities Council





*Fasterdata knowledgebase: http://fasterdata.es.net/science-dmz/

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Proposed schematic with SURFnet and universities





 Gigaport rapport "Evolutie en Revolutie in de Campusinfrastructuur" SURFnet/Stratix, 2005

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