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100G perfSONAR and DTN hosts in Jisc

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Supporting larger scale data transfers

- » Jisc's End-to-End Performance Initiative (E2EPI) seeks to help our members make the most of their Janet connection
 - Focused mainly on larger scale data transfers
 - Typically scientific data such as synchrotron and cryo-EM (DLS), particle physics (LHC), astronomy (SKA), climate (CEDA), genomics and bioinformatics etc
 - > But approaches can be applied more broadly
- >> Web site for more info:
 - https://www.jisc.ac.uk/rd/projects/janet-end-to-end-performance-initiative
 - Pointers to workshops, guidance, etc.
- » E2EPI mail list:
 - https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?Ao=E2EPI



End to end performance initiative

- » Providing advice to members
 - Use Janet for data transfers, not physical media!
 - > 1TB per hour is ~2Gbit/s; 100TB per day is ~10Gbit/s
 - Firewalls designed for thousands of small flows may not cope well with large flows
 - Consider campus architecture "Science DMZ", or "Research Data Transfer Zone" (see Oct 2016 workshop slides for more details)
 - > Differentiate science and regular "business" traffic
 - > Optimise data transfer nodes (DTNs) at the campus edge
- » We have interacted with 40-50 projects or organisations



Jisc perfSONAR nodes and meshes

- » Two Jisc 10G-connected perfSONAR nodes available for testing:
 - > London: https://ps-londhx1.ja.net/toolkit/
 - > Slough: https://ps-slough-10g.ja.net/toolkit/

- » We also provide VM-based hosting of meshes for communities and MaDDash dashboards
- » Example:
 - > UK GridPP: https://ps-dash.dev.ja.net/maddash-webui/index.cgi?dashboard=UK%2oMesh%2oConfig
 - › Also other meshes CEDA, DIRAC, SES, STFC, SingAREN etc



Jisc's reference Data Transfer Node (DTN)

- >> We have deployed a reference DTN in our Slough DC
 - Specified with NVMe SSD; can read/write at 1oGbit/s
 - Available to member sites for disk-to-disk tests
 - Co-located with our Slough perfSONAR system
 - Offers a Globus Connect endpoint
 - Have used the DTN in tests with SingAREN in Singapore (achieved ~8Gbit/s)

- » Also have a second experimental DTN in Slough
 - > Allows tests of alternative protocols and tools
 - e.g., QUIC, TCP-BBR, WDT, ...

100G Janet connections

- » A number of Janet connected sites have or are planning to upgrade their Janet connections to 100G
 - > RAL and Imperial College London already have 100G resilient connections
 - University of Manchester is proposed
 - > Other sites in discussion e.g. ECMWF, EBI, ACF, QMUL
- » Now we would like to help these sites make the most of the new connections
- » Janet core being prepared for such 100G connected sites
- » Janet E2EPI wishes to gain experience with 100G networking and provide a focus for the discussion and dissemination of technical aspects to member sites
- » 100G workshop last year (https://www.jisc.ac.uk/events/100-gigabit-ethernet-networking-workshop-04-jul-2018)



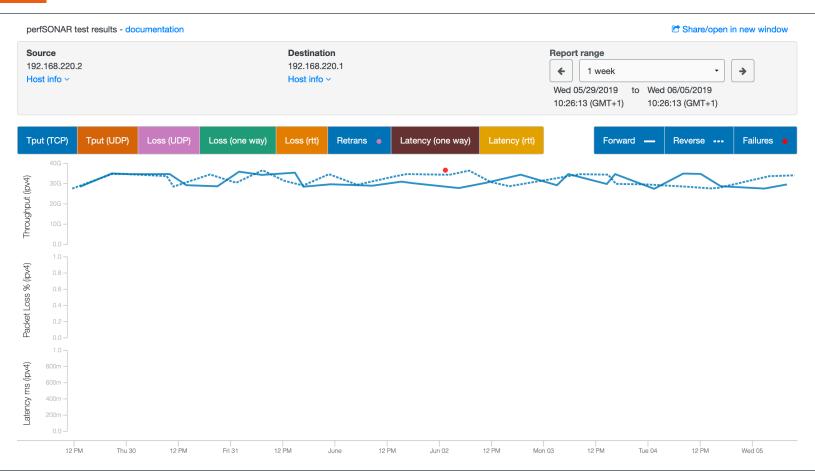
100G perfSONAR and DTN hosts

- » For sites that are upgrading their Janet connections to 100G, as well as those already connected to Janet at > 10G, we would like to provide, on the Janet network
 - 100G connected perfSONAR host
 - > 100G DTN running Globus
- » Planning to move existing 10G perfSONAR host and 10G DTN from Slough to Northern Data Centre in Leeds
- » Move both testbed nodes from Harwell to Slough and transfer NVMe SSD from pS node to DTN to maximise available disk space

- » Set up a 100G testbed
- » Two servers in the same rack with Mellanox Connect-X₄ NICs and a Mellanox MSN₂₁₀₀ Switch
- » Implemented fasterdata.net optimisations (TCP buffer sizes, setting CPU govenor to 'performance' etc)
- » Servers running CentOS 7.6 (default kernel 3.10.0), upgraded kernel to 5.0.9
- Wing
 - iperf3 single stream get rate of ~30 Gbps
 - iperf2 with multiple streams get 98 Gbps



100G testbed results



- » Do we want to use one (iperf3) or multiple streams (iperf2)?
 - > One stream to test performance of host, 'quality' of transfer
 - > Multiple transfers to see what an end-to-end link is actually capable of

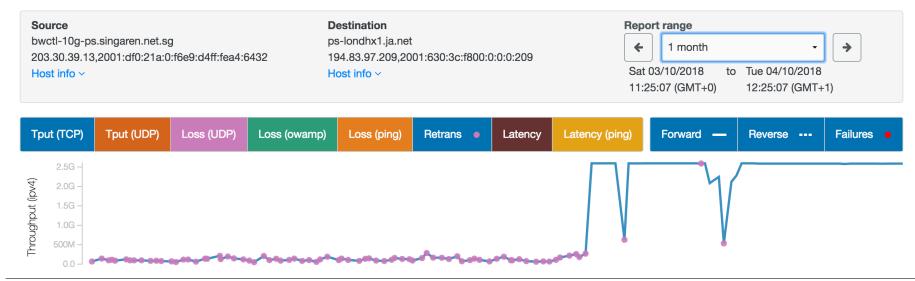
A note on WAN throughput

- » Sites may be connected to their NREN at say 100G, but not necessary for hosts within that site to have 100G hosts
- » A large WLCG site might have 50-100 hosts at 10G clearly capable of more thoughput than a 100G WAN connection to NREN
- » DOE sites in the US typically have tens of hosts (ESnet Petascale project)
 - "OLCF now has 28 transfer nodes in production on 40-Gigabit Ethernet"
 - NERSC has around 12 DTNs

» Perhaps stating the obvious: easier to gain throughput with a large number of DTNs connected at 10G than a small number connected at 100G

Example: perfSONAR for international networking

- » We have been working with Imperial College and SingAREN
- » New genomics project, needs to send/receive up to 200 TB of data between sites
- » perfSONAR highlighted one-way issue on Singapore to Janet path; faulty hardware
- » Resolved with TEINCC/CERNET, now get 2.5 Gbit/s single stream, both ways



Example: perfSONAR for international networking

