

Deployment of a National Research Data Grid Powered by iRODS

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SNIC Storage and iRODS

- In the spring of 2017 SNIC (Swedish National Infrastructure for Computing) decided to fund the deployment of iRODS storage into its national distributed storage infrastructure (called Swestore)
- The previous generation of Swestore is based on dCache
- SNIC will be supporting both platforms in production
- Funding decisions for 2 x 1 PB of storage systems to be placed in PDC at KTH and NSC at Linköping University
- Procurements done, delivered and at PDC deployed and in production, and at NSC being deployed at this moment.
- High performance filesystem (GPFS) at PDC landing zone



Software Stack

- iRODS (version 4.1.11) upgrade to 4.2.3 imminent
- PostgreSQL 9.4 w/ streaming replication
- CentOS 7 (some older servers still running CentOS 6)
- · Davrods for WebDAV and anonymous access via http
- MetaLnx for Web UI
- Kanki as an iRODS native client
- FreeIPA for IdM with LDAP and Kerberos V5 (also Heimdal at PDC)
- Python iRODS Client for integration scripts
- ZFS on Linux
- IBM Spectrum Scale (GPFS)
- IBM Spectrum Protect (TSM)
- Git and GitHub for repositories
- Sphinx for documentation
- Vagrant and Ansible for deployment and testing



Geographically Distributed Data Grid

- For cost-effective high availability and disaster recovery, the two supercomputing centers PDC and NSC are operating the data grid in collaboration w/ two administrative domains
- The physical distance between the centres is \sim 130 miles
- Our iRODS catalog services provider (a.k.a iCAT) is hotstandby and replicated across the two centers, via PostgreSQL streaming replication (async, there is latency)
- Also, the storage resources which iRODS manages are replicated as well, via iRODS (async)
- Swedish University Network (SUNET, SunetC) based on a 100 Gbit/s backbone (dual-ring topology)



SunetC Network - 100 Gbit/s Backbone





Initial Results for (Long-Distance) Transfers

- PDC (Stockholm) <-> LUNARC (Lund) ~ 1.0 GB/s avg.
 - Physical distance ~ 370 miles, latency ~ 8.7 ms
 - 10 Gbit/s link speed at transfer node
- PDC (Stockholm) <-> NSC (Linköping) ~ 2.0 GB/s avg.
 - Physical distance ~ 130 miles, latency ~ 3.4 ms
 - 40 Gbit/s backbone at NSC
- Locally at PDC over 100 GbE (no routing) up to 8 GB/s
 - reading from GPFS, writing to GPFS (via iRODS)
 - GPFS via 100 Gbps EDR InfiniBand



Rollout into Production

- Had to be done in phases, wasn't possible to do everything at once (not because of iRODS of course)
- Data migration from legacy systems, one at PDC and also another one at NSC
- Legacy data (migrated) 96.6 TiB total
 1) 3,184,073 data objects (54.7 TiB) NSC
 2) 2,551,581 data objects (41.9 TiB) PDC
- One round of applications opened to researchers, more to come after summer holiday season
- New applications have been submitted and accepted



Data Migration via iRODS

- We had to migrate some research groups and users from our old EUDAT iRODS instance at PDC to the new SNIC iRODS old PDC EUDAT instance decommissioned
- Since we are running federated zones, data migration can of course be done fully via iRODS native mechanisms

EUDAT

- \$ iadmin mkuser rods#snic.se rodsuser
- \$ ichmod -rvM own rods#snic.se /eudat.se/home
- \$ ichmod -rvM own rods#snic.se /eudat.se/projects

SNIC

\$ irsync -Krv -R eudat-migration i:/eudat.se/projects i:/snic.se/migration/eudat.se/projects



Thank You

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact us!

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