



Storage Experience at CMS MIT Tier-2

Wei Li

Massachusetts Institute of Technology



OSG Storage Forum, University of Chicago
September 22th, 2010



Location of the Tier-2 Facility

Bates Linear Accelerator Center:



- hosted by MIT, 22 mi from Cambridge, MA
- network managed by MIT IS&T
- racks, power, infrastructure managed by Bates
- overseen 7x24
- UPS backup for all servers (4 racks)
- 30 water cooled racks, rack – 40 U and 10 kW

Storage Hardware

Storage system at CMS MIT Tier-2:

- Various types of machines, total of about 400 nodes
 - Intel vs AMD
 - Dell (PowerEdge 2950 and R710) vs Thinkmate
 - Different CPU and memory capability
- 2U with 6 - 8 disks on each node for storage
- dCache on individual node with RAID 5
 - Software vs Hardware raid

Storage Hardware

Water-cooled racks



Storage capability summary

Storage figures:

Tier2 resources	564 TB
Other (CDF/HI)	28 TB
Total	592 TB

Run with Raid 5, more raw storage space

Future purchase:
additional 240TB in the next couple of years

CPU capability summary

CPU power and batch slots:

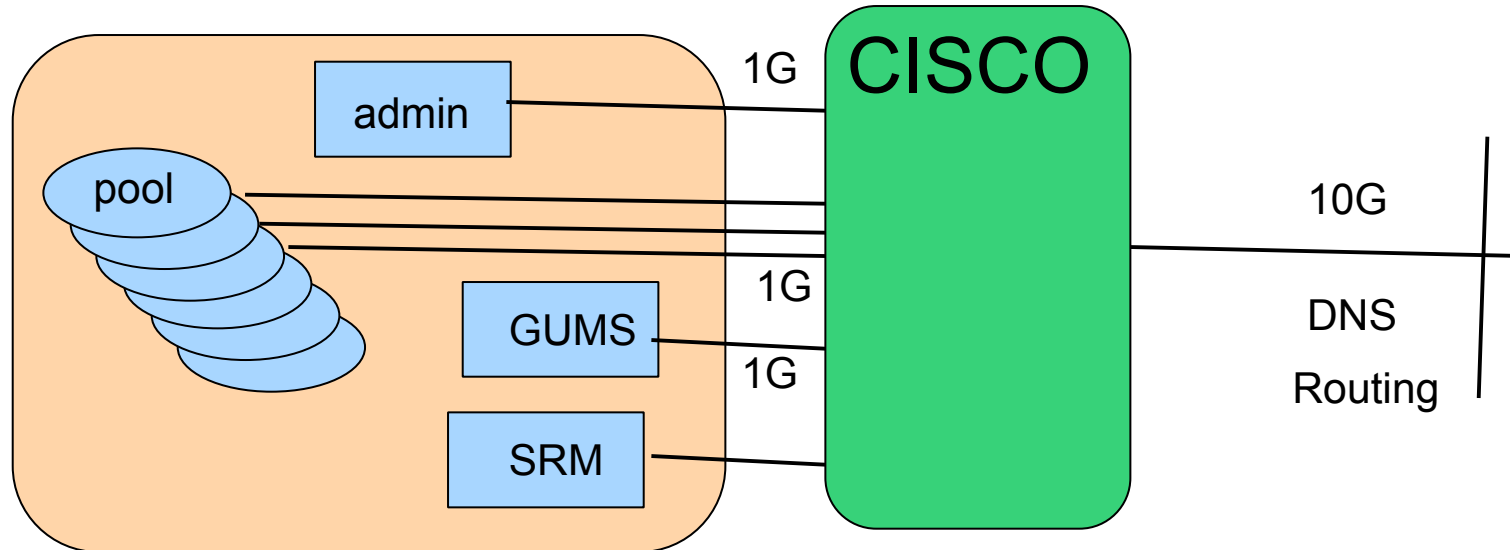
Tier2 resources	Batch slots	1922
	CPU power	14002 HS06
CDF	Batch slots	240
	CPU power	782 HS06
Total	Batch slots	2162
	CPU power	14784 HS06

Storage Software

Upgraded dCache from 1.9.3 to 1.9.5 yesterday:

- Admin server:
 - Intel 2.4GHz, 2x4-core, 24GB memory
 - services: lm, dCache, dir, admin, httpd, gPlazma, infoProvider, info, dcap
- Pnfs server:
 - Intel 2.4GHz, 2x4-core, 24GB memory
 - services: pnfs, utility
- Srm server:
 - Intel 2.4GHz, 1x4-core, 16GB memory
 - services: srm
- Pool nodes:
 - variety of compositions
 - services: pool, gridftp, gsidcap

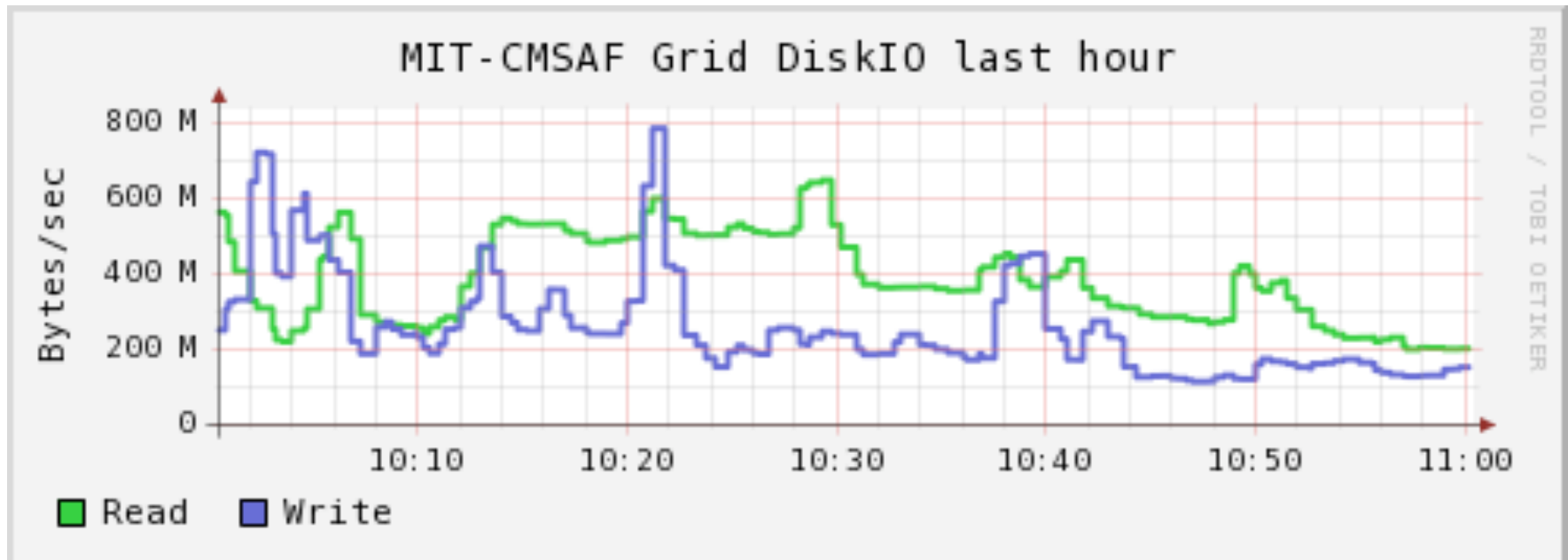
Network Configuration



- Leased for 5 years CISCO Nexus 7016
- Machines can talk at 1Gb through copper cable links
- dCache – each pool sits on public network and serves as gridFTP

Grid Disk I/O Performance

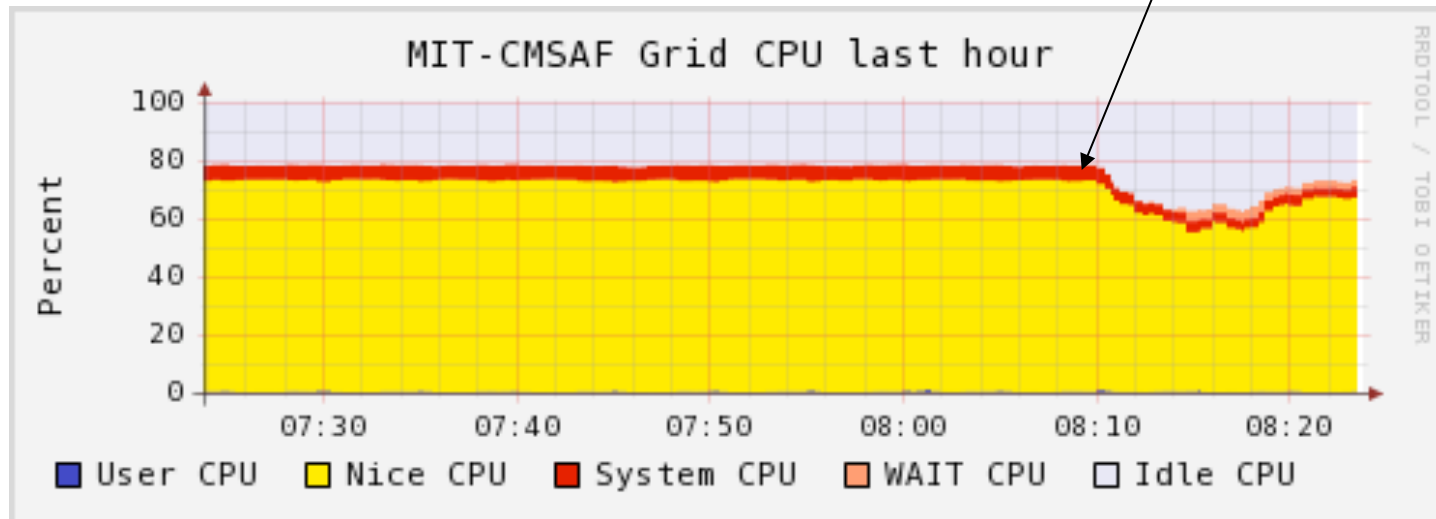
Typical disk I/O on the grid:



Major issues and challenges

Disk I/O issue with analysis jobs:

- Very high I/O load on the pool when many analysis jobs are running
- I/O time even longer than actual CPU time
- Cluster becomes very inefficient
- Current workaround:
 - deploy replica manager
 - uniformly distribution dataset over many pools



Space allocation for groups

- Officially hosting 4 groups in CMS for researches: QCD, JetMET, Higgs and Heavy Ion
- >10TB NFS based scratch area for local CMS users
- ~ 10TB NFS area and ~ 100 job slots for non-CMS users from neutrino, dark matter etc. experiments at MIT

Summary

- MIT Tier-2 is now in its final location. Plenty of room for expansion
- The center has been operating very well including the storage system
- Large dCache storage capability (600TB) with plan of 240TB additional space soon
- Provide strong supports to several analysis groups
- We are working to have higher performance and reliability of the storage system