Open Science Grid

Thoughts on the VDT from Uncle Alain

Uncle Alain Roy
OSG Software Coordinator

Open Science Grid

It's the end of the day...

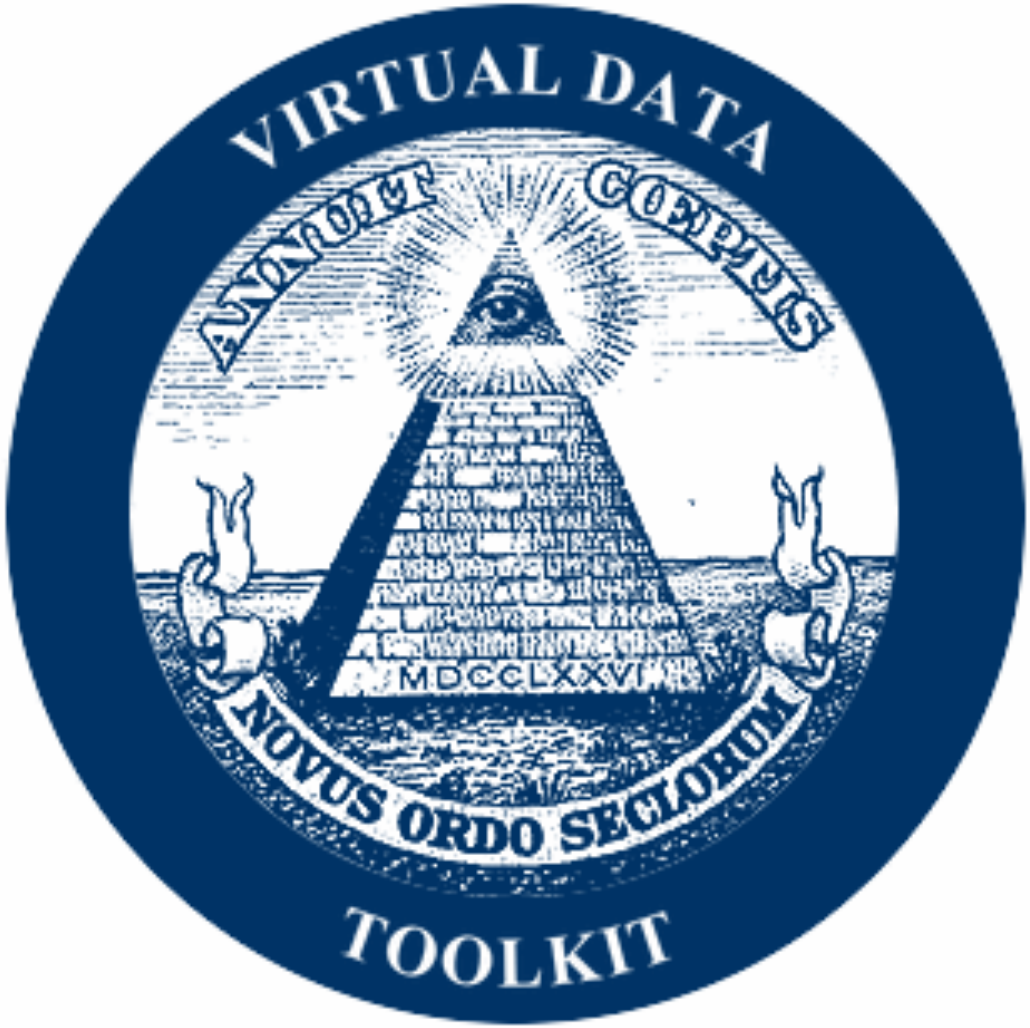
You're worried about getting to the airport

Open Science Grid

Open Science Grid

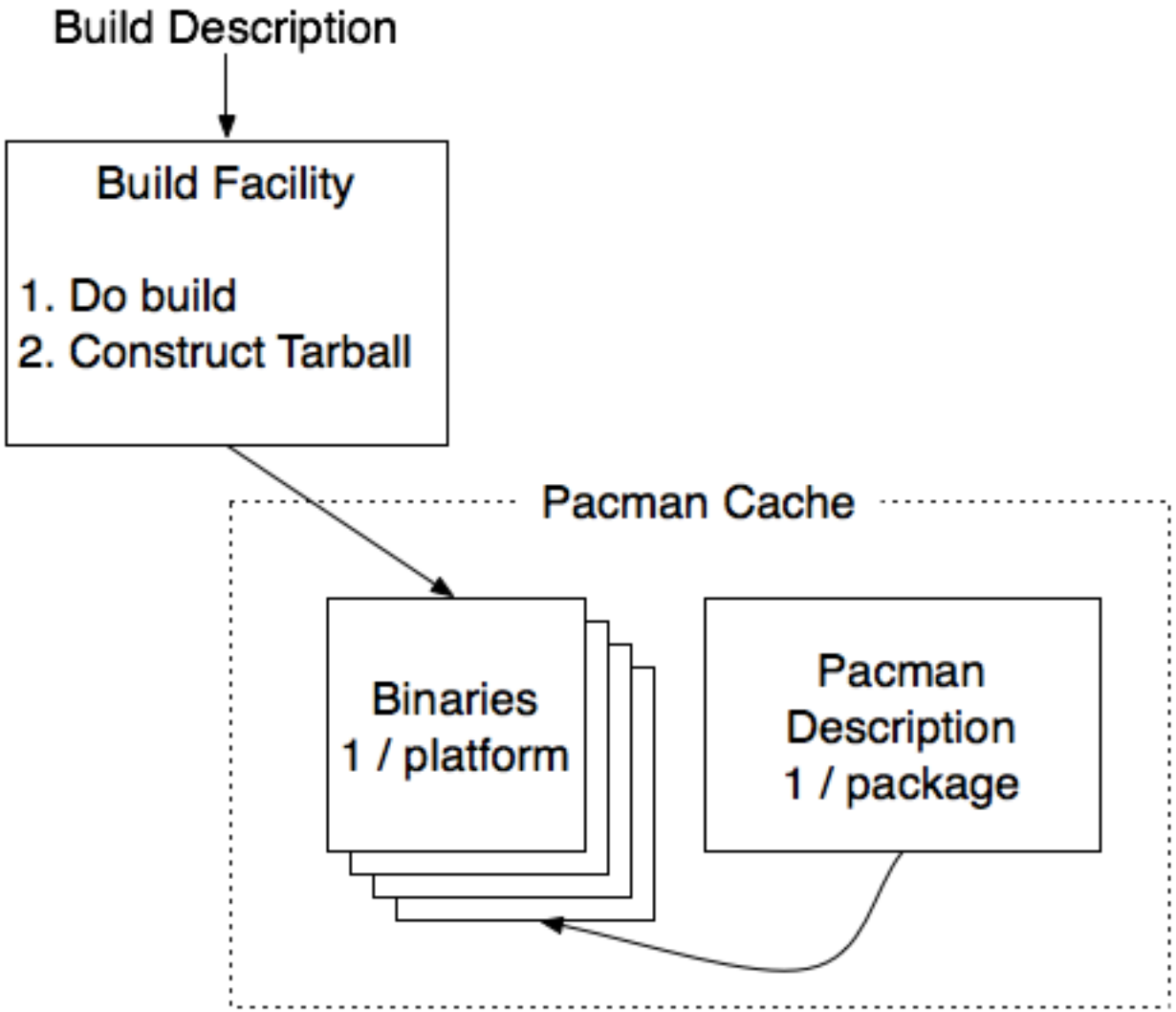
I'll go fast!

I assume you know what the VDT is

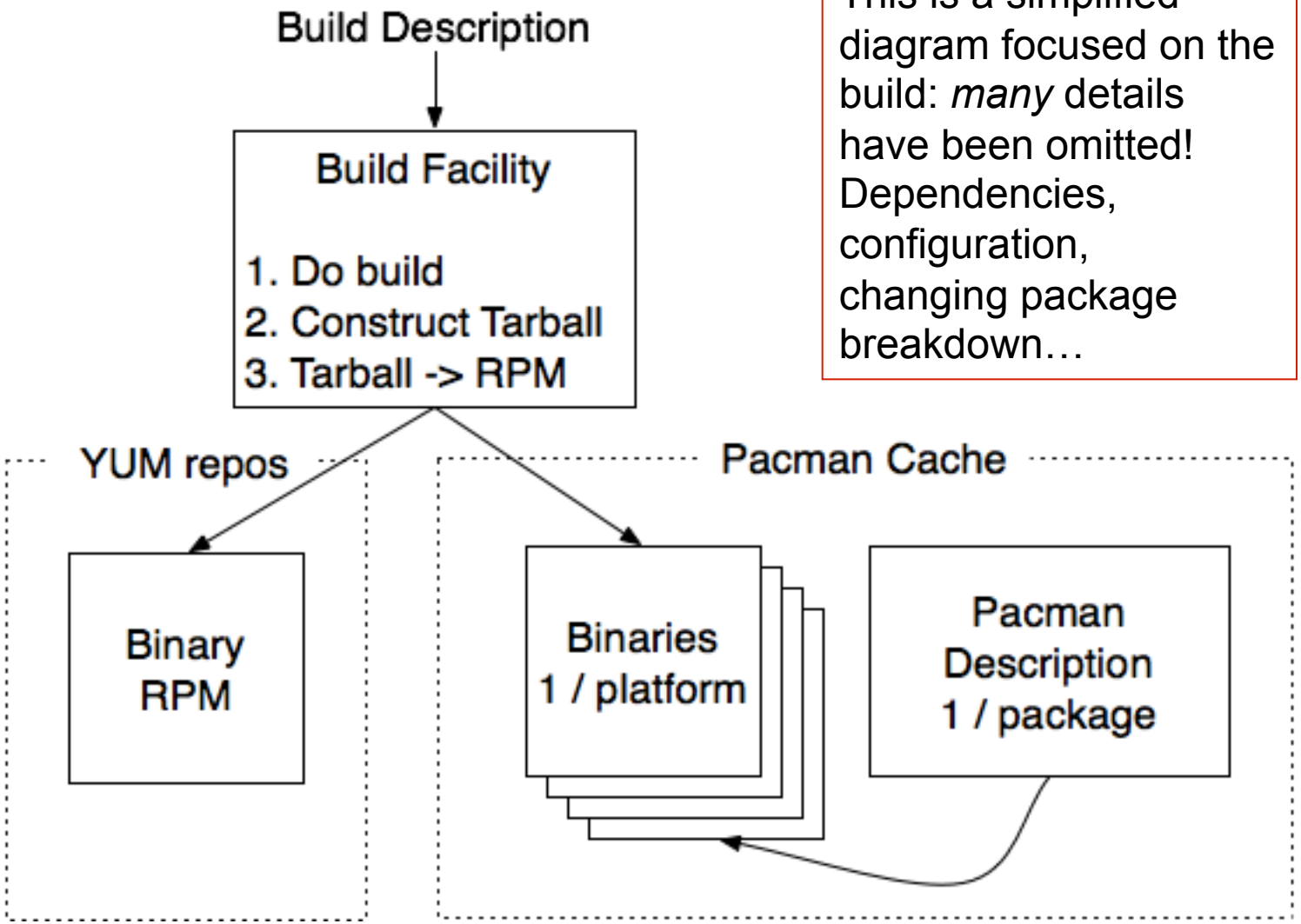


Let's talk about native packages

How does the VDT build a package?



Quicker Route to RPMs



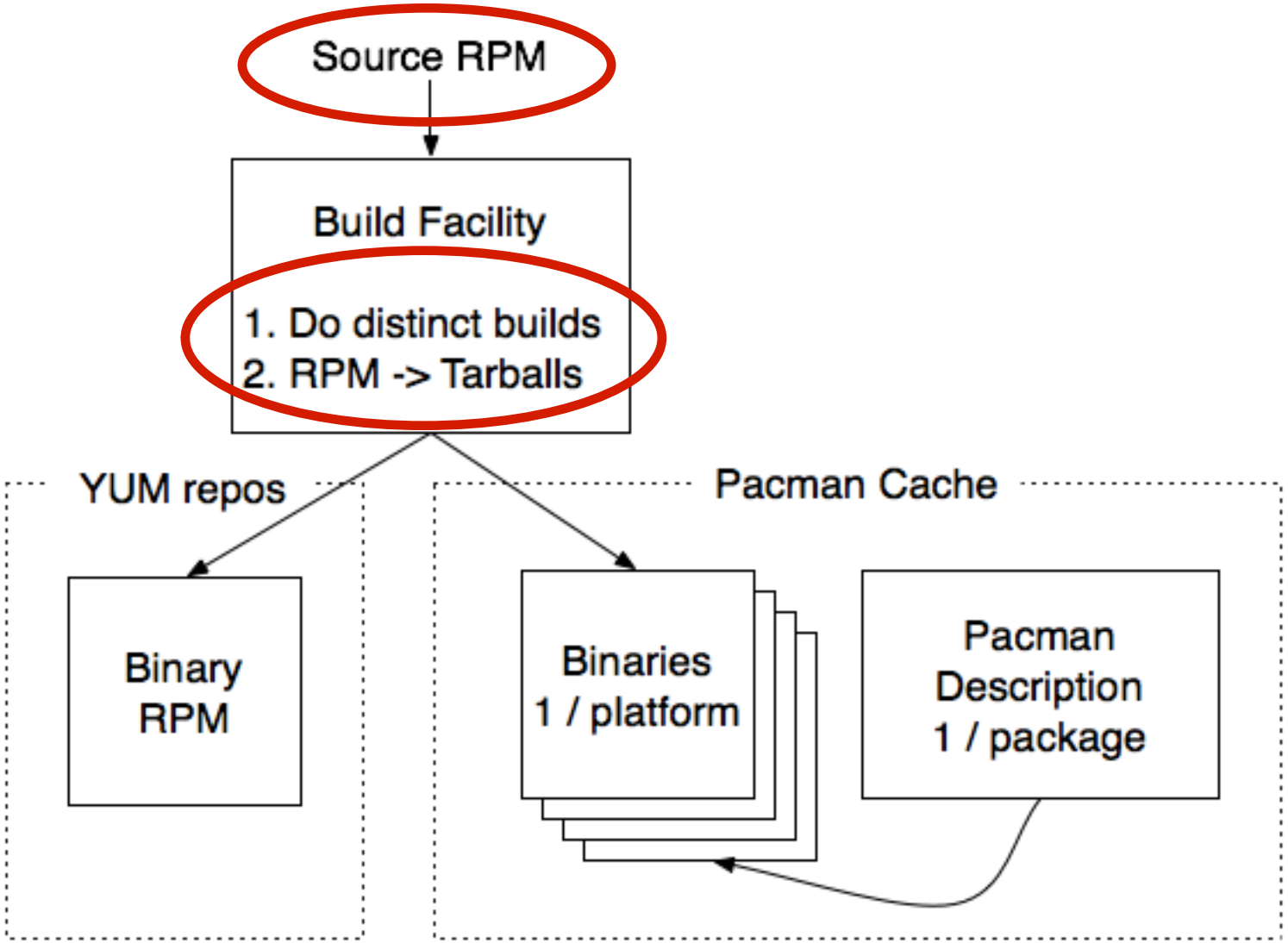
This is a simplified diagram focused on the build: *many* details have been omitted! Dependencies, configuration, changing package breakdown…

Open Science Grid

Pros & Cons

- Pros:
  - This is relatively quick route: No need to modify build.
  - Can keep Pacman & RPM versions synchronized.
- Cons
  - Hard for people to donate to us.
  - Hard for us to donate to distributions.
  - Not as transparent (no source RPMs).

A possible future (OSG Prime)



Open Science Grid

Pros & Cons

- Pros: it's all about sustainability.
  - Easier to donate to us.
  - Easier for us to donate.
  - We fit into the larger open source ecosystem.
- Cons:
  - Instead of a single build description, there is a source package per platform. These must be kept synchronized.
    - Debian & RPM are different in big ways.
    - RPMs differ subtly between platforms.
    - Should the VDT support fewer platforms?
  - A lot of work to make source packages that are acceptable to "the community".

Open Science Grid

An End Game?

- The VDT software cache could get much smaller.
  - We could donate-to/maintain-within distributions.
  - The VDT's main value would be less about the software cache and more about:
    - High-quality configuration.
    - Integration testing.
    - Packaging expertise shared within our community.

Open Science Grid

Done!

- Thoughts?
- Questions?
- Just desperate to travel during Chicago's rush hour?
- Need a ride to the airport?