

Progress with supporting CMS workflows on ALCF Theta

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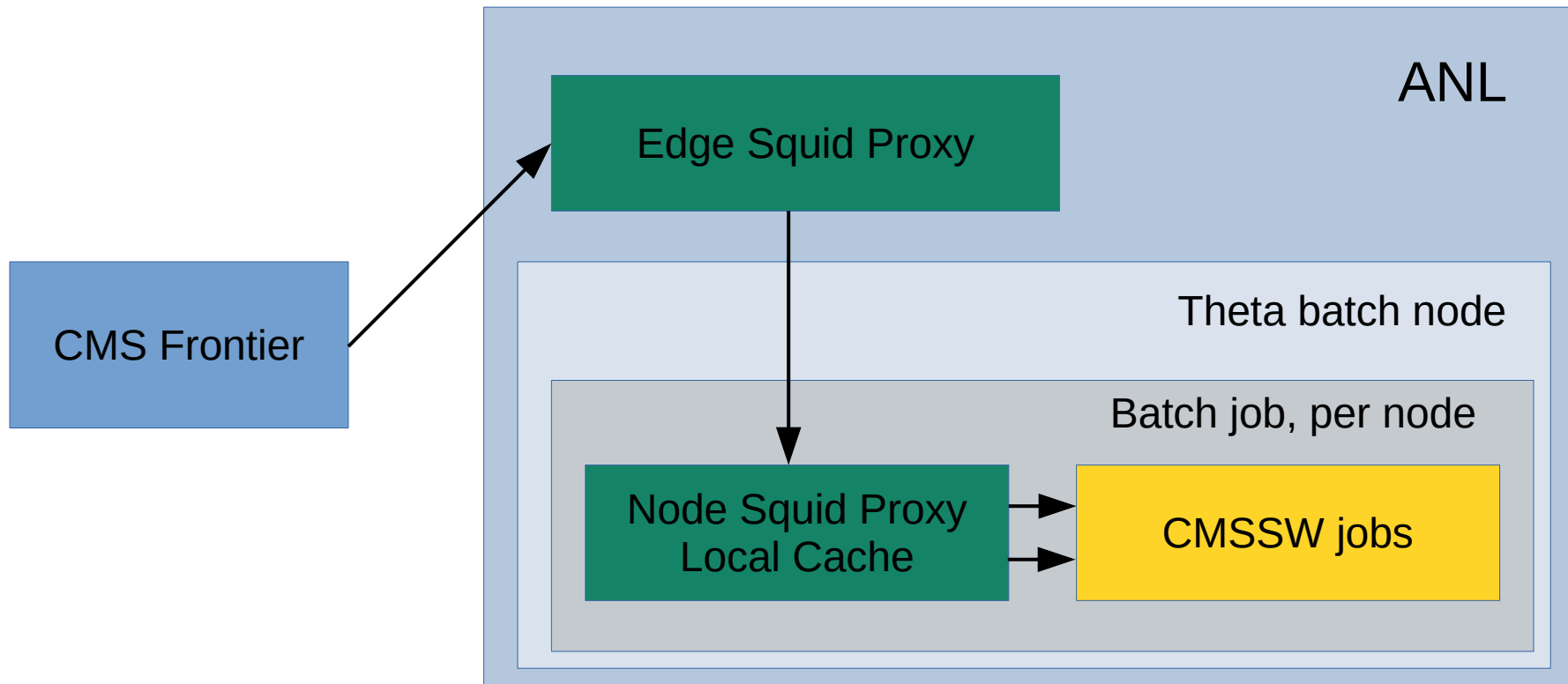
HEPCloud Stakeholder Meeting

12th August 2020

CMS runtime requirements

- Over the last two weeks I have taken a fresh look at the CMS runtime requirements, namely frontier and cvmfs and how they apply to Theta.
- The proposed backup solutions in our planning (reading conditions from sqlite files and building workflow specific containers) are “not great” (to say it mildly)
- I think I found solutions for both frontier and cvmfs access that will avoid having to go to our backups. More testing is needed, but initial results are very promising.

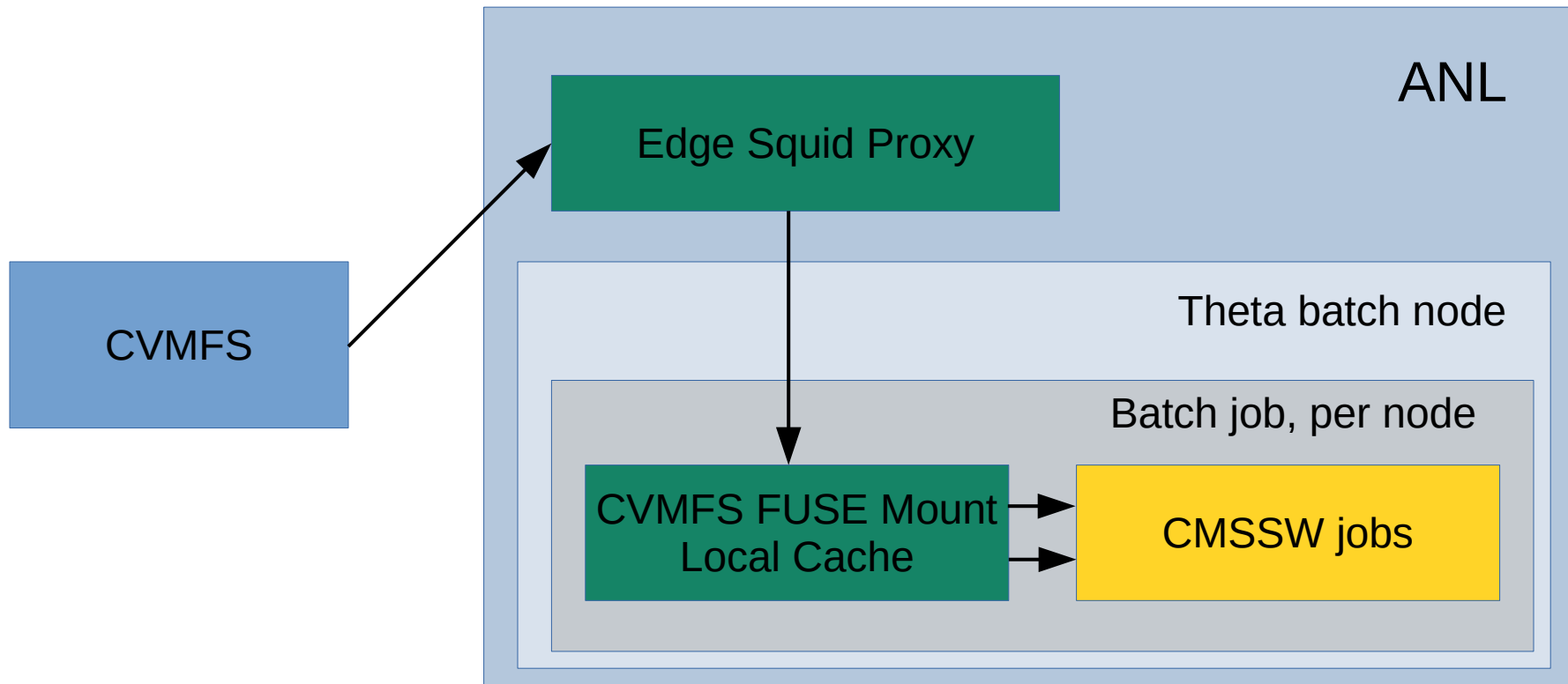
Frontier



Frontier

- Had to compile frontier-squid on Theta batch node
(Cray Compute Node Linux, based on Suse Enterprise)
- Worked out node squid configuration with Dave Dykstra
- Tested with script from Dave Dykstra that simulates the Frontier load of a CMS job (basically a long list of wget calls)
- Without node squid proxy: 802 nodes, 8 instances/node => failure
(due to known edge/node network limitations)
- With node squid proxy: 802 nodes, 64 instances/node => success

CVMFS



CVMFS

- Using the cvmfsexec package from Dave Dykstra to fuse mount cvmfs (we already do this at TACC Stampede2 in production)
- Package didn't support Cray/Suse, had to go looking for correct cvmfs rpm and some additional libraries it needed
- After my own (successful) super-hacky version I worked with Dave Dykstra to add Suse support to the cvmfsexec package (mostly providing Theta system info and testing changes)
 - Currently using his latest git branch

Both together, complete picture (sans HTCondor)

- Many-Node Theta Batch job
 - Launcher to run our own script on every node
 - On the node initialize local squid with local cache
 - On the node fuse mount cvmfs (in /local/cvmfs)
 - Singularity (RHEL container) runs our payload(s)
 - Bind mounts /local/cvmfs to /cvmfs
- For now local storage is /dev/shm (will move to node SSD soon)
- Tested on 8 nodes with 64 real CMS Generator jobs per node (802 nodes x 64 jobs/node test is still queuing)