

### eVLBI Research in the European VLBI Network

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#### Outline

- European VLBI Network (EVN)
- European Research Networks
- Fibre Connection to Dwingeloo
- iGrid Demonstration
- EVN-NREN: Proof of Concept Project



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# The European VLBI Network



#### EVN Telescopes



























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#### European Research Networks

- National
  - NREN = National Research and Education Network
  - UKERNA, SURFnet, GARR, DFN, PSNC, NORDUnet .....
- International
  - GÉANT = Pan-European Research Network

#### GÉANT: Access of NRENs to GÉANT



## **GÉANT: The connectivity at 10 Gbps**









#### **Call for Applications with Insatiable Bandwidth Appetites!**

"We hereby challenge the international research community to demonstrate applications that benefit from huge amounts of bandwidth!"





#### vlbiGrid Objectives

- Trial use of UDP for VLBI data transfer across production research networks:
  - Data rates
  - Packet loss
  - Packet reordering
- Exercise new link to JIVE
- Demonstrate eVLBI fringes
- Publicise VLBI to network researchers



#### iGrid Network Routing



#### Data Transfer Process:



#### **Receiving Packets**

Incoming packet ids



- Packets have Header with packet id + Data
  - Put header directly into control area
  - Put data directly into ring buffer
  - No extra copy
- Assume UDP packets arrive in order none lost
  - Deposit data into next consecutive slot

#### Inspect Header

- Move data onward to correct location
- Record:
  - The received inter-packet spacing
  - 1-way delay



#### iGrid Results

- UDP across GÉANT (server-server) :
  - ~500Mbit/s
  - <6E-5 lost packets</li>
  - <1E-5 reordered packets (all exchanges)</li>
- FTP to Dwingeloo:
  - ~40Mbit/s
  - Normal fringes detected
- PR:
  - Great success, new link used three days after first light
  - Much interest in VLBI data rates and volumes



#### iGrid Lessons Learned



- 500Mbit/s VLBI data transfer on the production network using a simple UDP based protocol is feasible.
- Acceptable packet loss is achievable .
- Packets may be re-ordered. A simple data moving strategy corrects for this.
- Control/monitoring data should be on a separate, reliable channel.
- End hosts must have sufficient power in both compute cycles and input/out capability.

An initial specification would include:

- 64bit 66MHz PCI bus
- 2 GHz processor
- Gigabit Ethernet interface:
  - Intel Pro 1000
  - SysKonnect
- Fast disks with high speed buses
  - Maxtor D740 EIDE 133



#### Proof of Concept Project (PoC)

- Target:
  - Up to 5 radio telescope sites (not incl NL) connected in real-time to JIVE correlator
- Duration:
  - Up to end of GÉANT contract (Nov 2004)
- Support:
  - Best effort IP service transiting NRENs and GÉANT
  - No significant upgrades to GÉANT (initially)
  - Support 512M and 1G real time modes of operation
  - Use existing NREN access ports
  - Limited resilience



#### Proof of Concept Participants

- DANTE
- GARR
- UKERNA
- PSNC
- DFN
- SURFnet
- KTHNOC/NORDUnet
- Manchester University
- JIVE
- Westerbork telescope
- Onsala Space Observatory
- MPIfR
- Jodrell Bank
- TCfA
- CNR IRA

Pan-European Network **Ttalian NRFN UK NREN** Polish NREN German NRFN Dutch NRFN Nordic NRFN Network application software **FVN** Correlator Netherlands Sweden Germany UK Poland Italy

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#### Success Criteria (for PoC)

- NREN/GÉANT point of view:
  - Connect at least three sites to JIVE
  - Observe significant usage (time and BW)
- EVN point of view:
  - Same-day imaging of 12hour, 1Gb/s observation
  - Real time network verification of transient phenomenon



# Traffic Engineering on GÉANT...

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#### Some Technical Issues

- Packet re-ordering due to architecture of Juniper M160 routers in GÉANT backbone. VLBI UDP application must fix this.
- VLBI data rates are restricted to "octaves"
  - : 256M, 512M, 1G
  - "1Gbps" eVLBI flows are >1Gbps
  - → two GE channels will be needed to support "1Gbps" from each telescope.



#### PoC Design







#### Local Loops - Status

- Italy:
- Poland:
- Germany:
- UK:
- Sweden:
- The Netherlands:
  - SURFnet: 2.5Gbit/s border connection will soon be upgraded to 10Gbit/s
  - JIVE: 190km dark fibre link from JIVE to Amsterdam (SARA) in place.
  - Westerbork: 24 fibre link directly to Dwingeloo by June'03







#### **UKLight Proposal**

- Initiative to attract funding to create:
  - UK point-of-access (PoA) to the international test-bed
  - Intra UK optical test-bed
- Draft projects:
  - Development of a common optical control plane
  - Secure Optical Community Services
  - A project to use a dark fibre infrastructure
  - An applications demonstration based upon very long baseline interferometry (VLBI) for Radio Astronomy



JOINT INSTITUTE FOR VLBI IN EUROPE

## 2<sup>nd</sup> eVLBI Workshop 15-16 May 2003, Dwingeloo, Netherlands

- First Announcement
- Second Announcement
- Abstract Deadline
- Final Announcement
- Registration Deadline
- Hotel Deadline
- Workshop

10<sup>th</sup> Jan '03 1<sup>st</sup> March '03 19<sup>th</sup> March '03 3<sup>rd</sup> April '03 20<sup>th</sup> April '03 15<sup>th</sup> April '03 15-16<sup>th</sup> May '03

http://www.jive.nl/jive/evlbi\_ws/meeting