Cloud Computing with Nimbus

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Cloud Computing for Systems and Computational Biology

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Nimbus project lead

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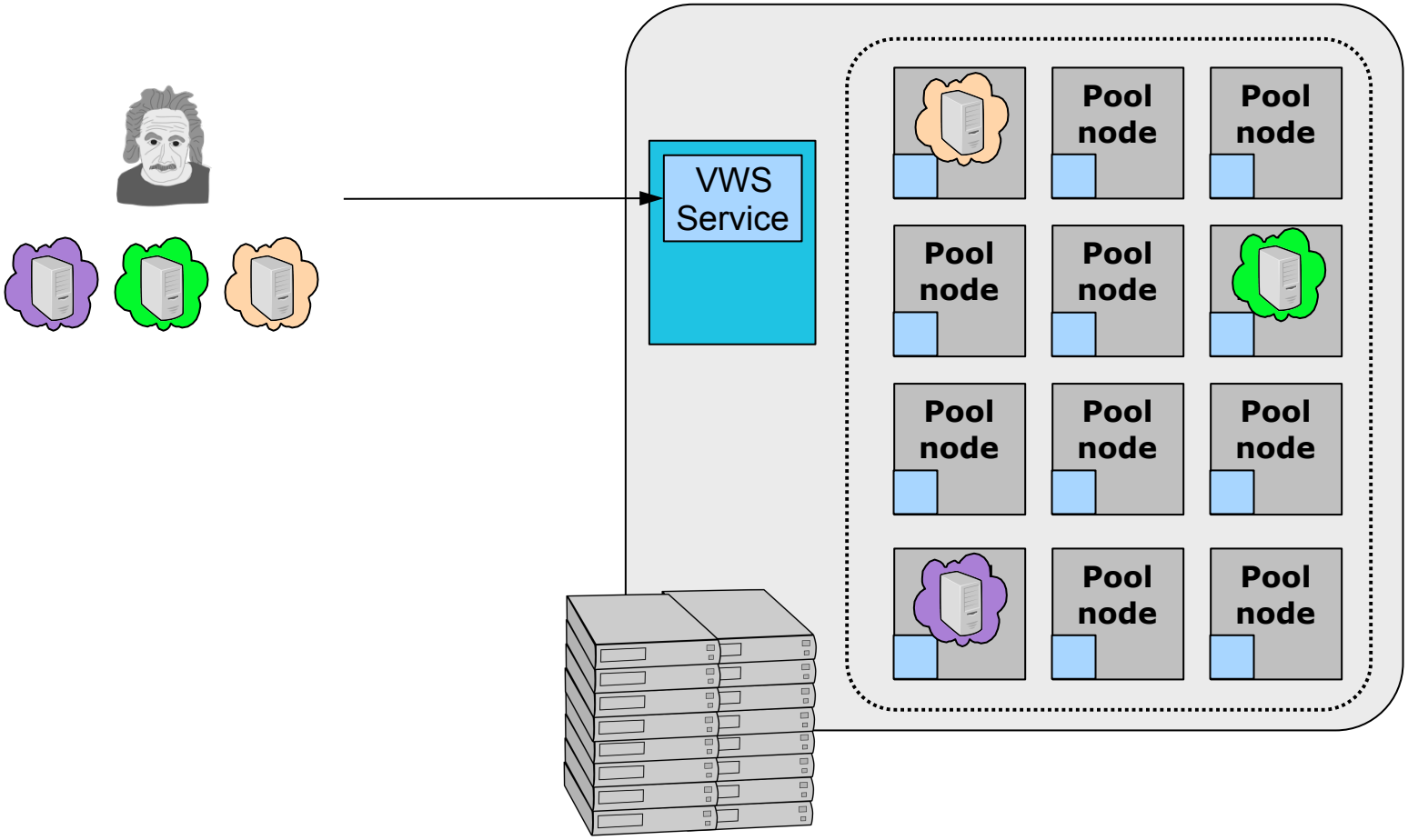
Argonne National Laboratory

Nimbus: Cloud Computing Software

- Allow providers to build clouds
  - Workspace Service: a service providing EC2-like functionality
  - WSRF and WS (EC2) interfaces
- Allow users to use cloud computing
  - Do whatever it takes to enable scientists to use IaaS
  - Context Broker: turnkey virtual clusters,
  - Also: protocol adapters, account managers and scaling tools
- Allow developers to experiment with Nimbus
  - For research or usability/performance improvements
  - Open source, extensible software
  - Community extensions and contributions: UVIC (monitoring), IU (EBS, research), Technical University of Vienna (privacy, research)
- Nimbus: http://workspace.globus.org

The Workspace Service

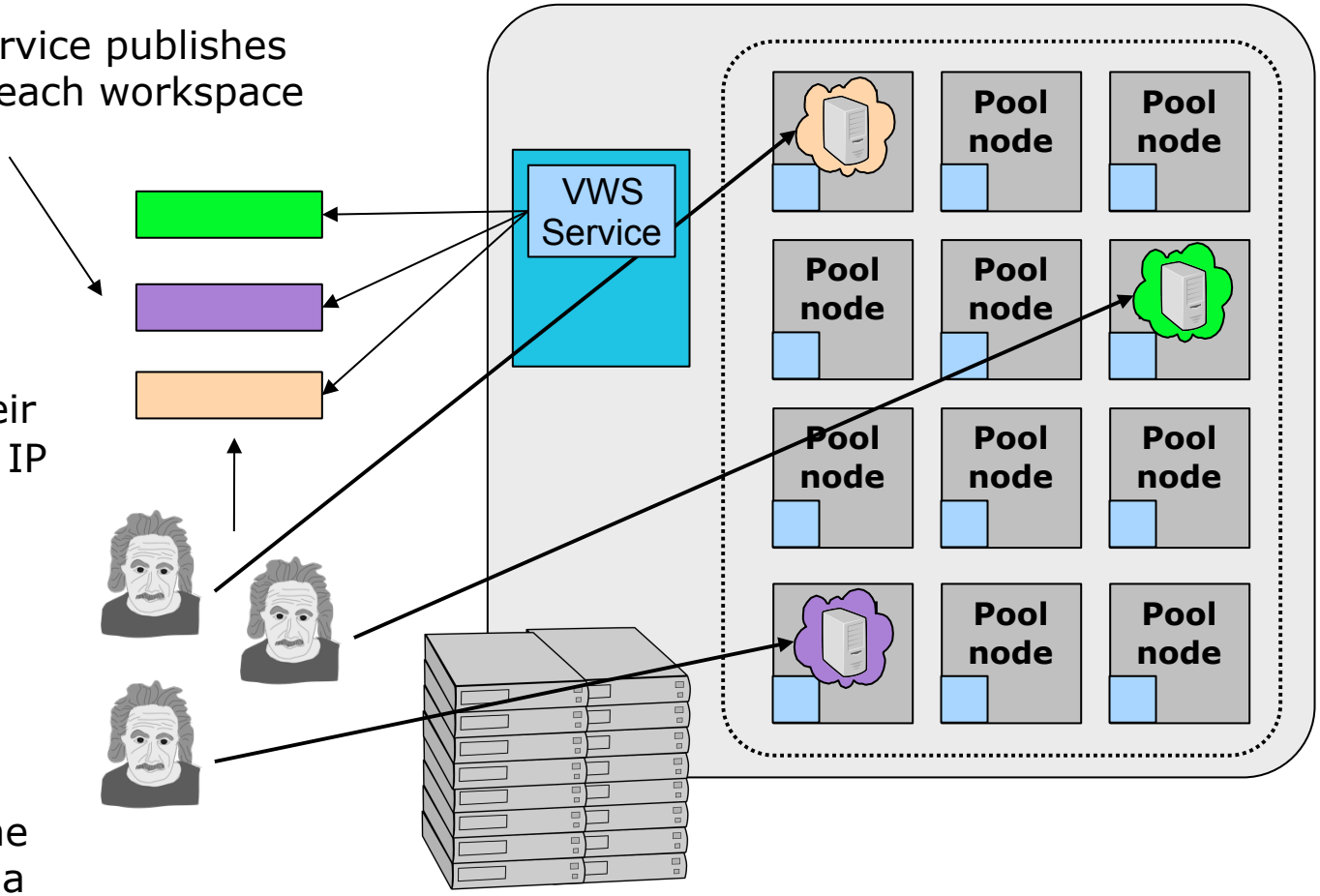


The Workspace Service

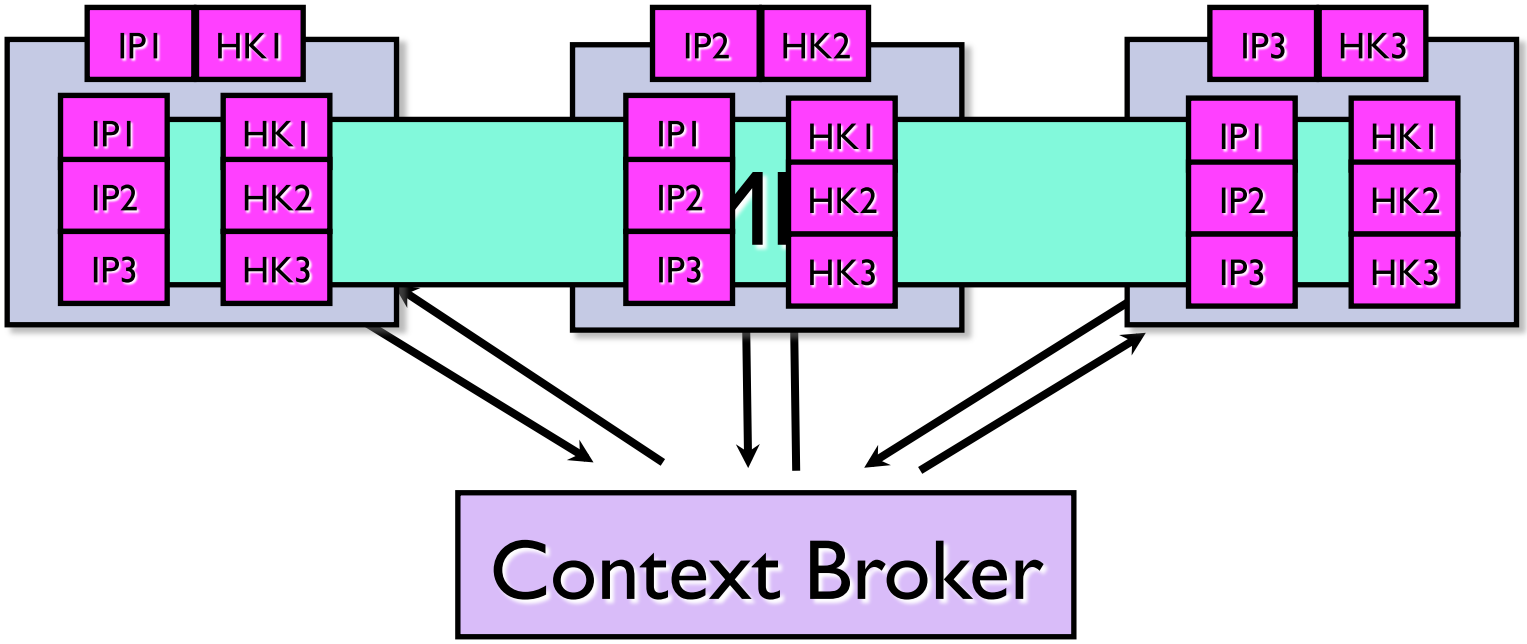
The workspace service publishes information about each workspace

Users can find out information about their workspace (e.g. what IP the workspace was bound to)

Users can interact directly with their workspaces the same way the would with a physical machine.



Turnkey Virtual Clusters



- Turnkey, tightly-coupled cluster
  - Shared trust/security context
  - Shared configuration/context information

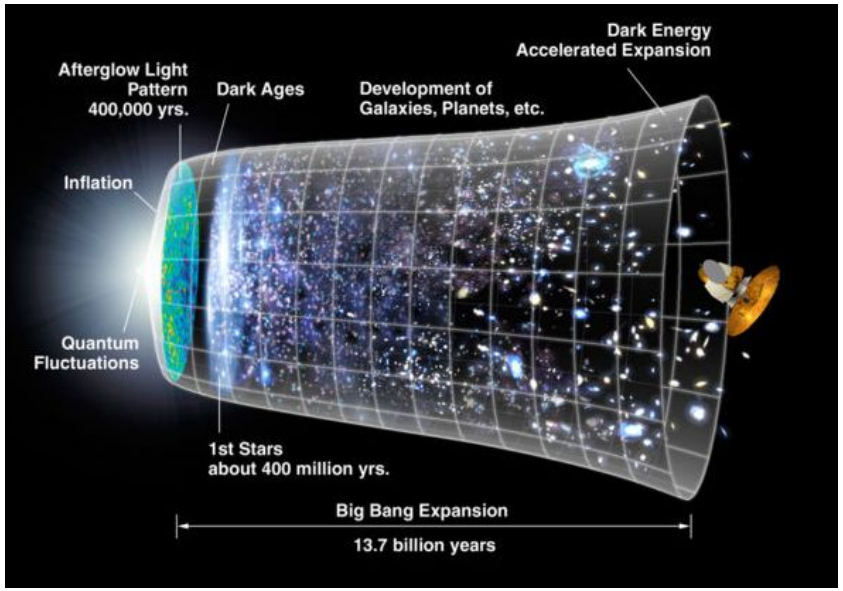
Science Clouds

- Goals
  - Enable experimentation with IaaS
  - Evolve software in response to user needs
  - Exploration of cloud interoperability issues
- Participants
  - University of Chicago (since 03/08), University of Florida (05/08, access via VPN), Wispy @ Purdue (09/08)
  - International collaborators
  - Using EC2 for large runs
- Science Clouds Marketplace: OSG cluster, Hadoop, etc.
- 100s of users, many diverse projects ranging across science, CS research, build&test, education, etc.
- Come and run: http://scienceclouds.org

STAR experiment

Work by Jerome Lauret, Leve Hajdu, Lidia Didenko (BNL), Doug Olson (LBNL)

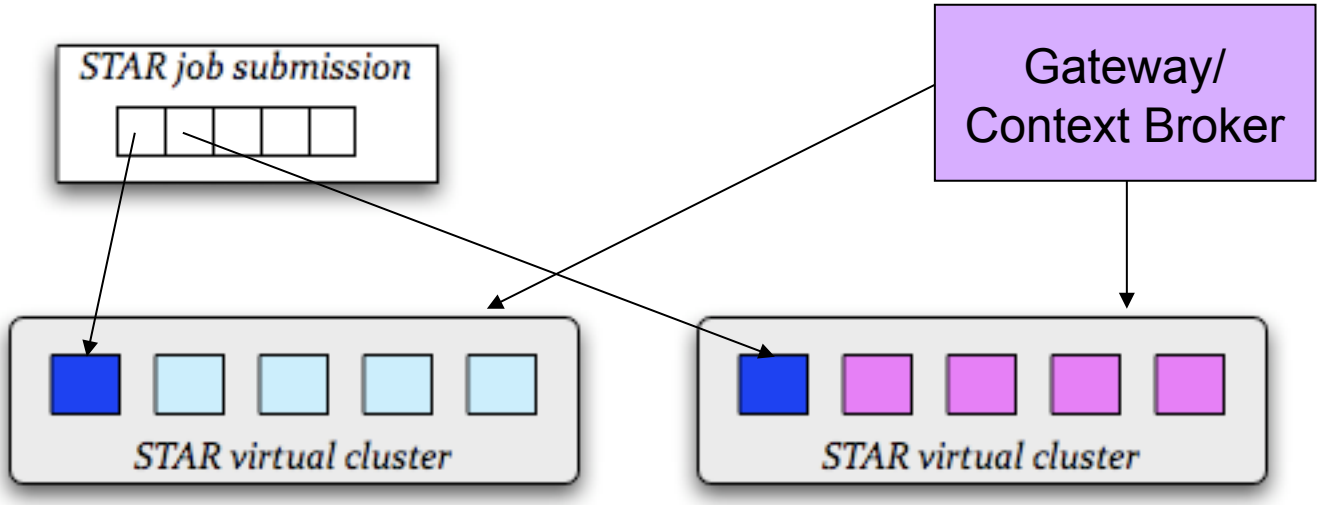
- STAR: a nuclear physics experiment at Brookhaven National Laboratory
- Studies fundamental properties of nuclear matter
- Problems:
  - Complexity
  - Consistency
  - Availability

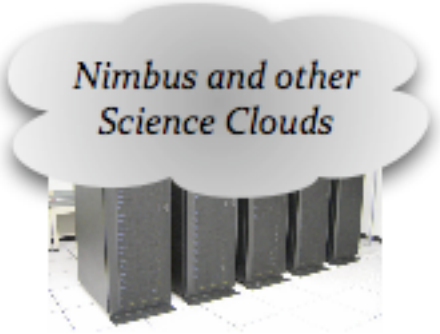


STAR Virtual Clusters

- Virtual resources
  - A virtual OSG STAR cluster: OSG headnode (gridmapfiles, host certificates, NFS, Torque), worker nodes: SL4 + STAR
  - One-click virtual cluster deployment via Nimbus Context Broker
- From Science Clouds to EC2 runs
- Running production codes since 2007
- The Quark Matter run: producing just-in-time results for a conference: http://www.isgtw.org/?pid=1001735

STAR Quark Matter Run





Infrastructure-as-a-Service

Priceless?

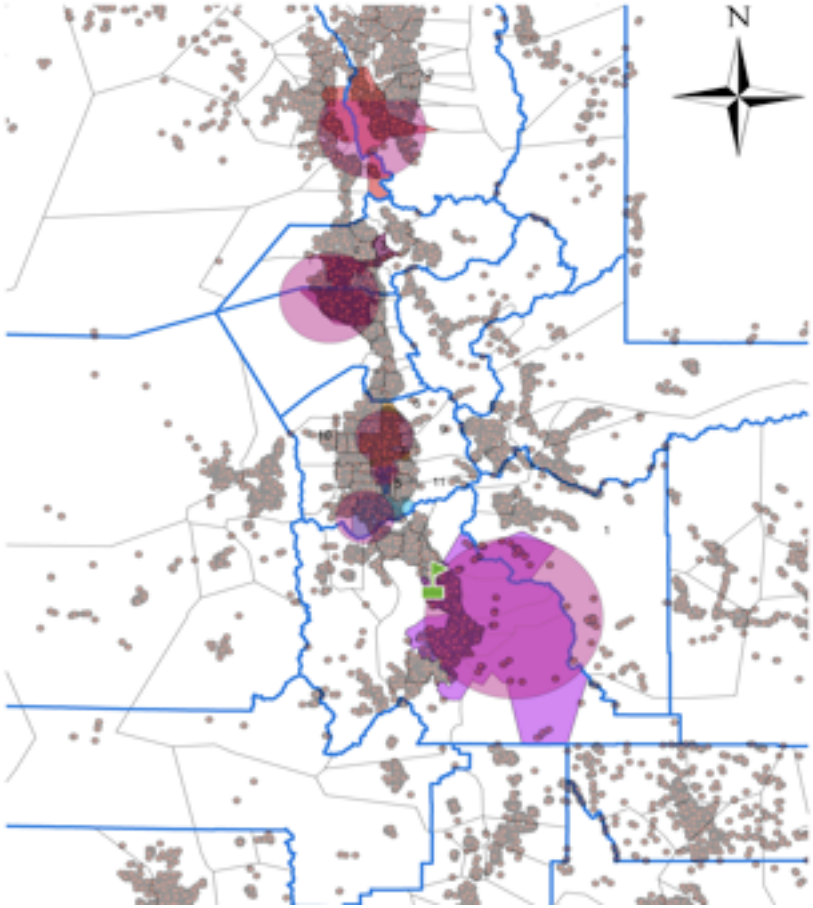
- Compute costs: $ 5,630.30
  - 300+ nodes over ~10 days,
  - Instances, 32-bit, 1.7 GB memory:
    - EC2 default: 1 EC2 CPU unit
    - High-CPU Medium Instances: 5 EC2 CPU units (2 cores)
  - ~36,000 compute hours total
- Data transfer costs: $ 136.38
  - Small I/O needs : moved <1TB of data over duration
- Storage costs: $ 4.69
  - Images only, all data transferred at run-time
- Producing the result before the deadline…

…$ 5,771.37

Modeling the Progression of Epidemics

Work by Ron Price and others, Public Health Informatics, University of Utah

- Can we use clouds to acquire on-demand resources for modeling the progression of epidemics?
- What is the efficiency of simulations in the cloud?
  - Compare execution on:
    - a physical machine
    - 10 VMs on the cloud
    - The Nimbus cloud only
  - 2.5 hrs versus 17 minutes
  - Speedup = 8.81
  - 9 times faster

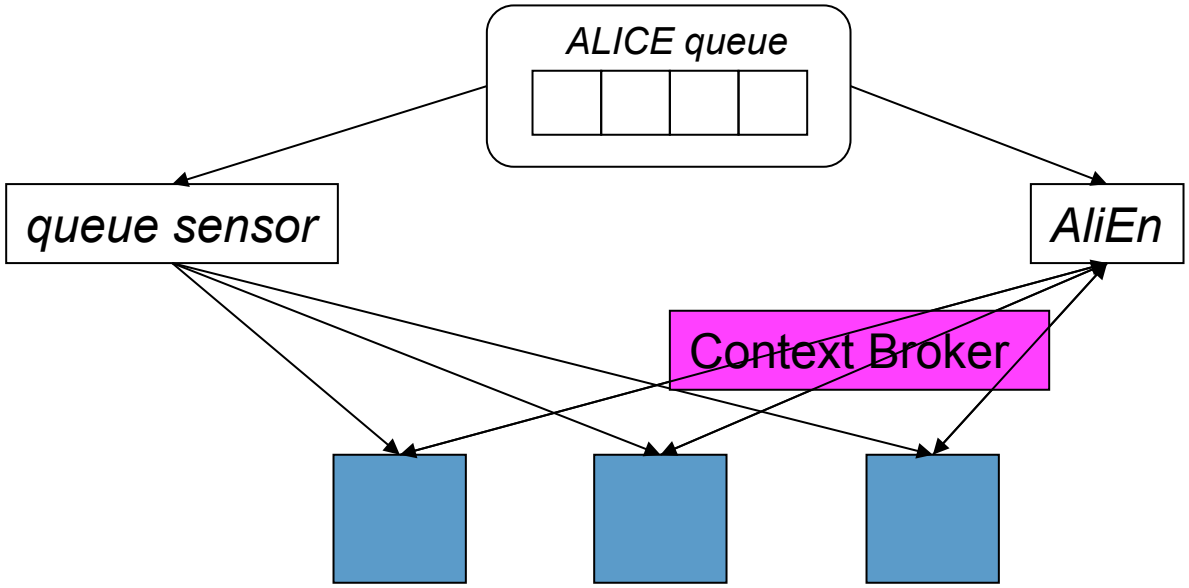


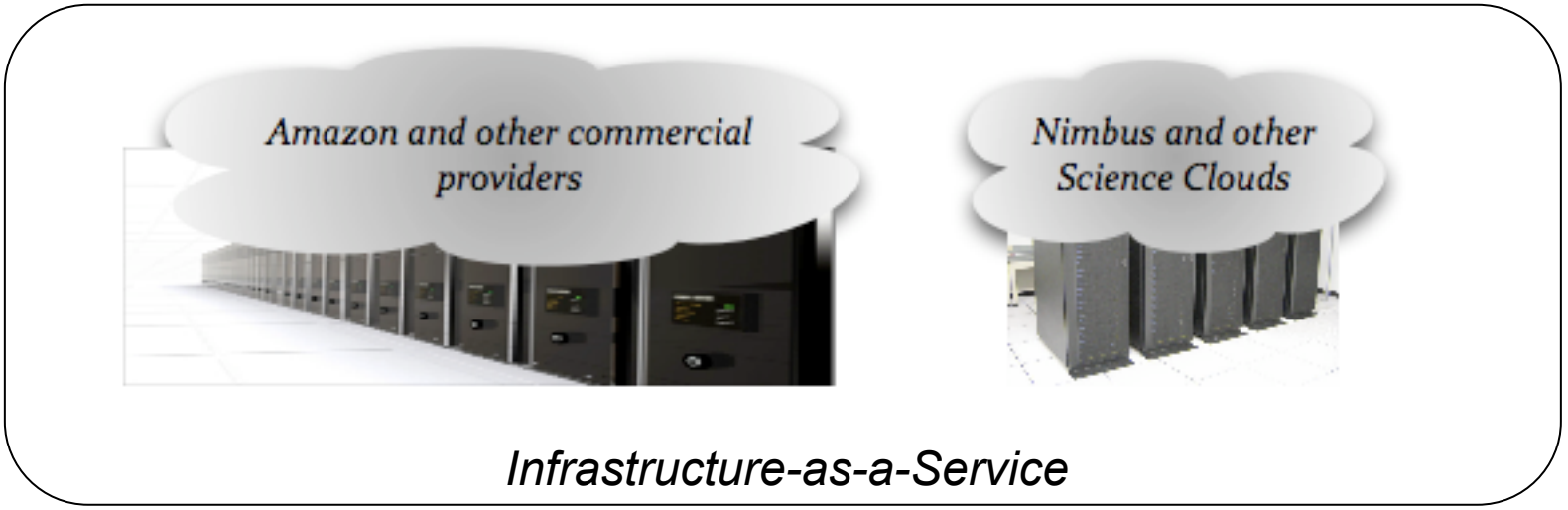
A Large Ion Collider Experiment (ALICE)

Work by Artem Harutyunyan and Predrag Buncic, CERN

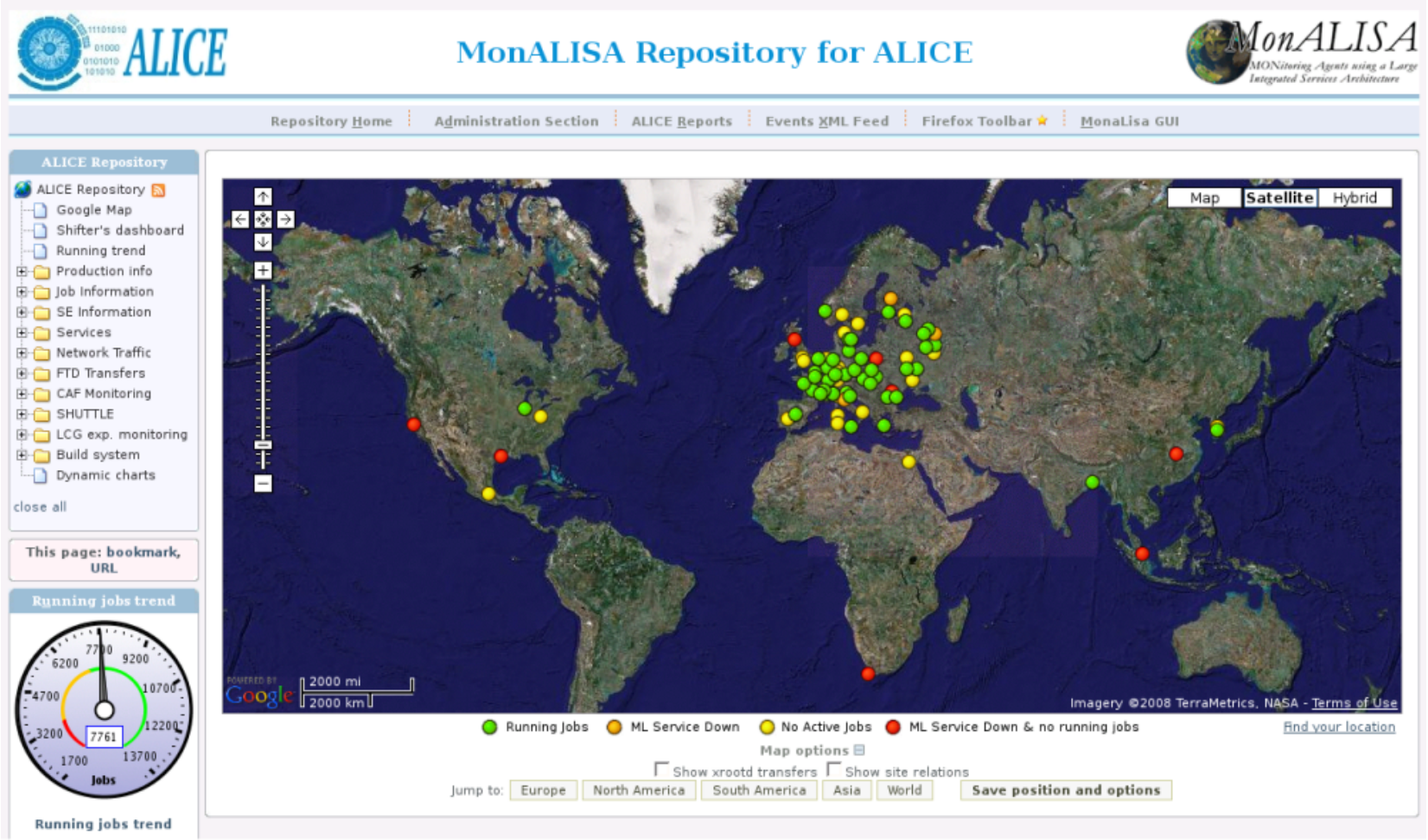
- Heavy ion simulations at CERN
- Problem: integrate elastic computing into current infrastructure
- Collaboration with CernVM project
- Elastically extend the ALICE testbed to accommodate more computing

Elastic Provisioning for ALICE HEP





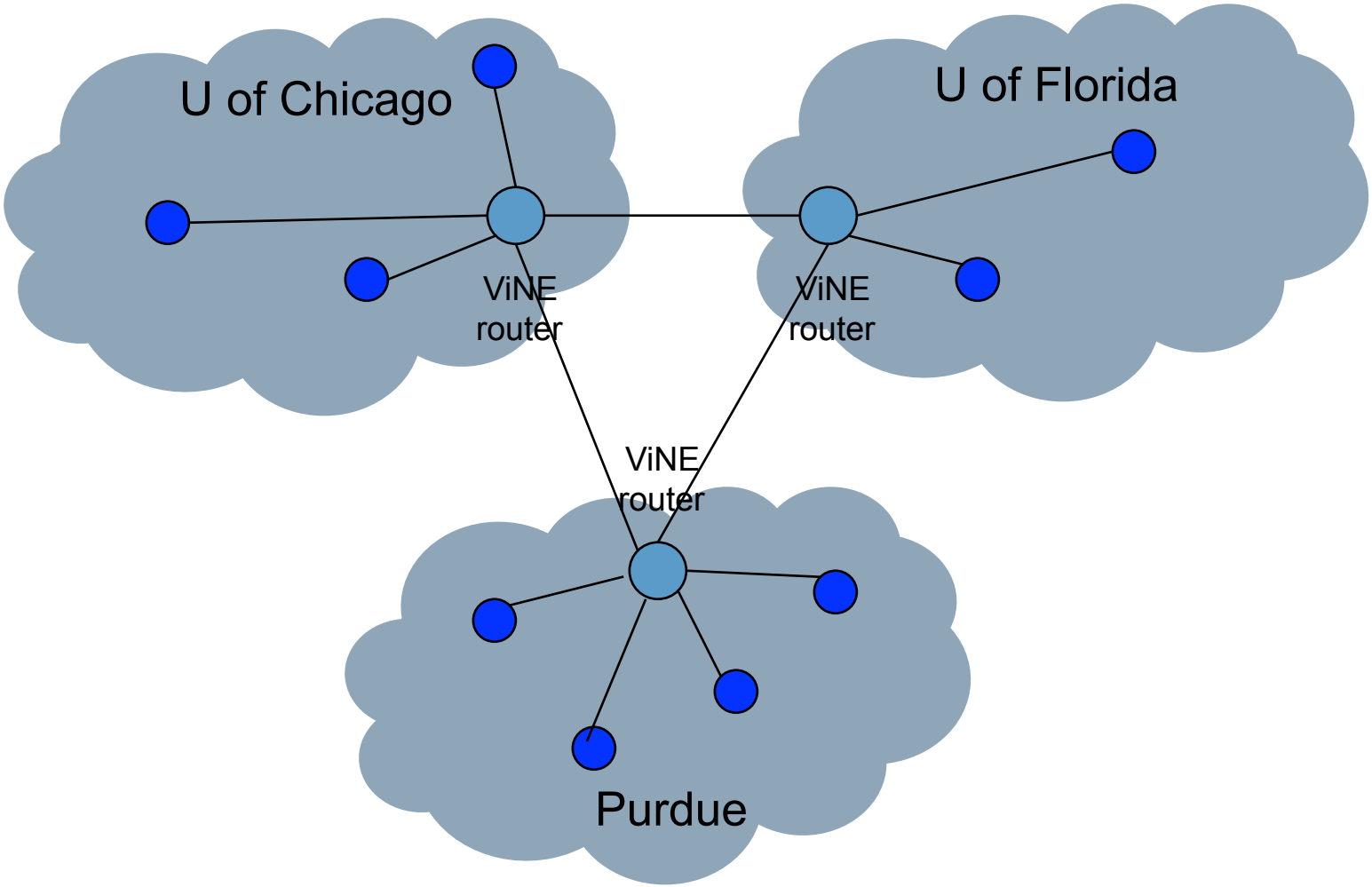
Elastically Provisioned Resources



- *CHEP09 paper, Harutyunyan et al.*
- *Elastic resource base: OOI, ATLAS, ElasticSite, and others*

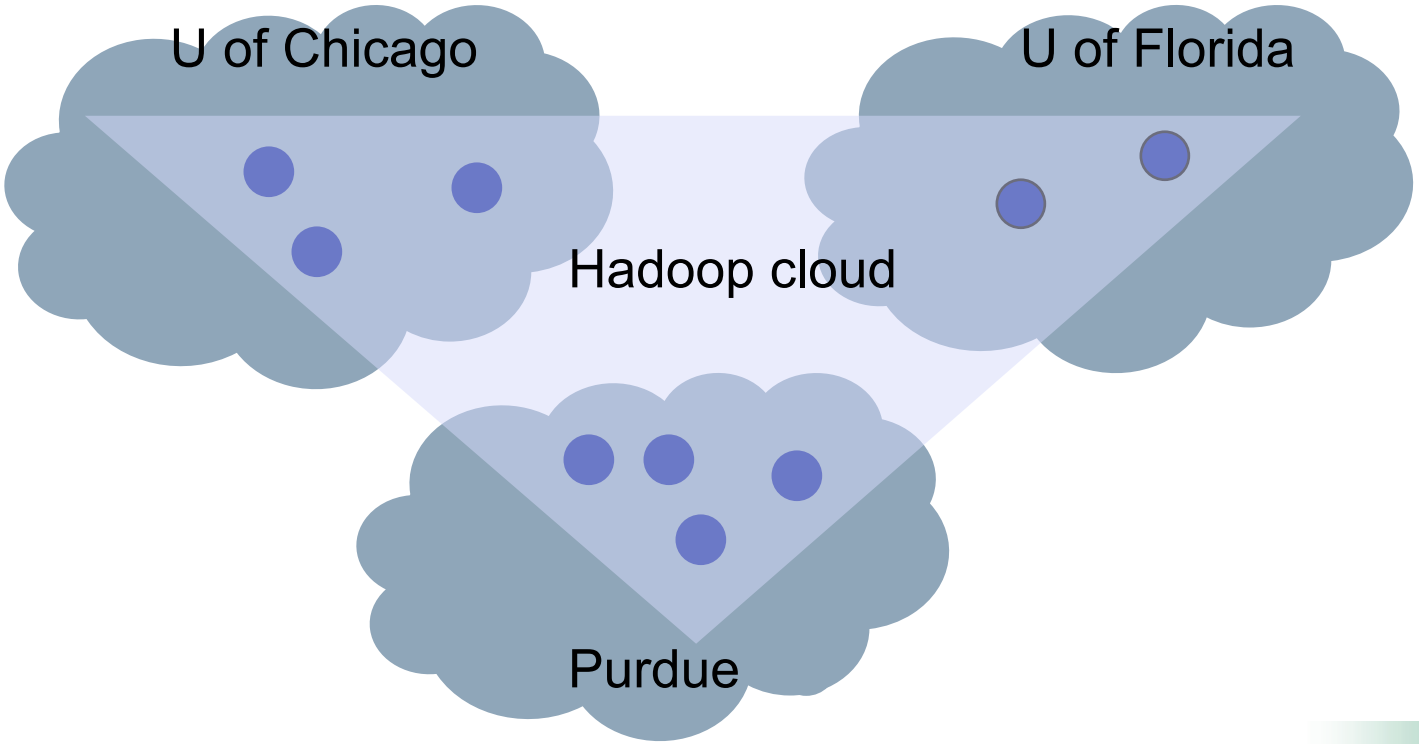
Sky Computing Environment

Work by A. Matsunaga, M. Tsugawa, University of Florida



Creating a seamless environment in a distributed domain

Hadoop in the Science Clouds



- *Papers:*
  - *"CloudBLAST: Combining MapReduce and Virtualization on Distributed Resources for Bioinformatics Applications" by A. Matsunaga, M. Tsugawa and J. Fortes. eScience 2008.*
  - *"Sky Computing", by K. Keahey, A. Matsunaga, M. Tsugawa, J. Fortes, to appear in IEEE Internet Computing, September 2009*

Parting Thoughts

- IaaS cloud computing is science-driven
  - Scientific applications are successfully using the existing infrastructure for production runs
  - Promising new model for the future
- We are just at the very beginning of the "cloud revolution"
  - Cloud computing is not "done"
  - Significant challenges in building ecosystem, security, usage, price-performance, etc.
- Lots of work to do!

Nimbus: Friends and Family

- Nimbus core team:
  - UC/ANL: Kate Keahey, Tim Freeman, David LaBissoniere
  - UVIC: Ian Gable & team
  - UCSD: Alex Clemesha
- Related technologies
  - EBS: Marlon Pierce, Xiaoming Gao, Mike Lowe (IU)
  - ViNe: Mauricio Tsugawa, Jose Fortes (UFL)
  - Others:
    - Descher et al (Technical U of Vienna): privacy extensions