

Communication Systems



Networking for WLCG: LHCONE

HEPiX 2011 - Vancouver

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Summary



- Evolution of LHC networking
- New computing model
- LHCONE
- Services
- Challenges and opportunities







Evolution of LHC networking

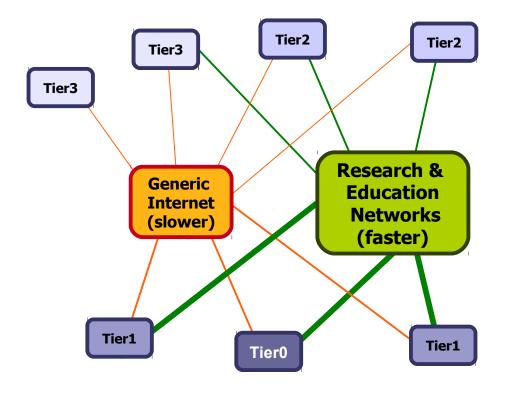
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In the beginning





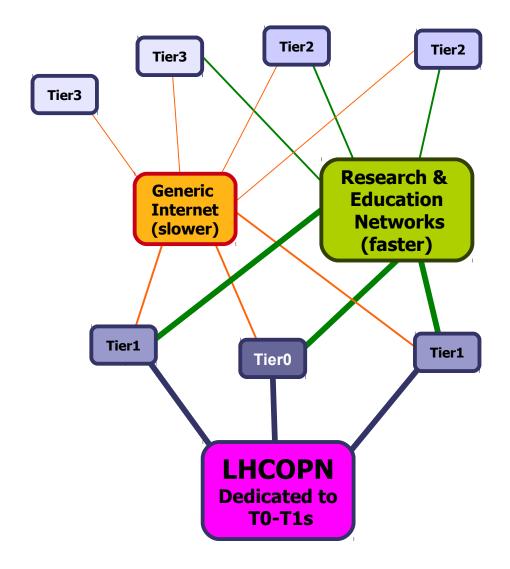






LHC start: LHCOPN





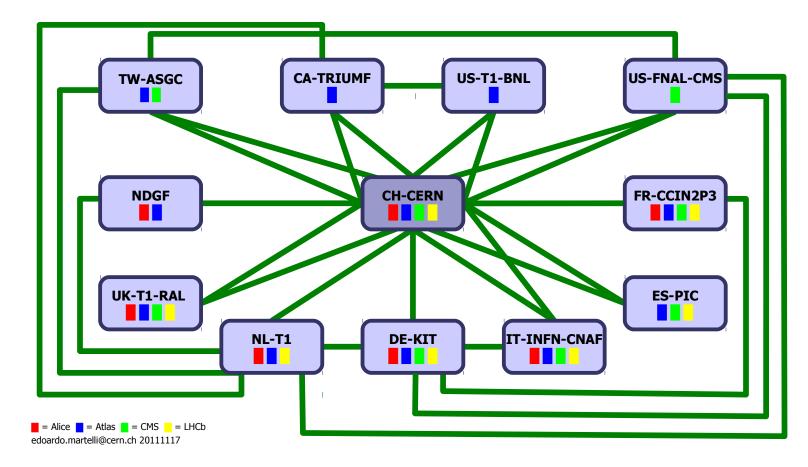






T0-T1s private network





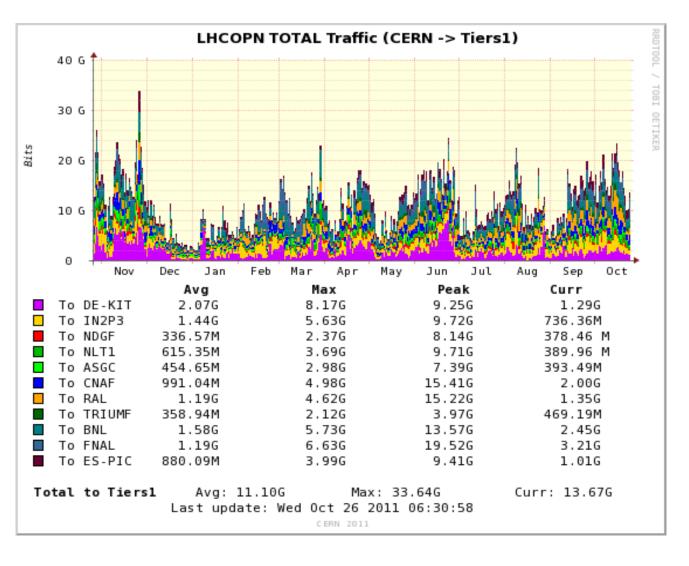
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T0-T1s traffic













New computing model

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Driving the change



"The Network infrastructure is the most reliable service we have"

"Network Bandwidth (rather than disk) will need to scale more with users and data volume"

"Data placement will be driven by demand for analysis and not preplacement"

Ian Bird, WLCG project leader

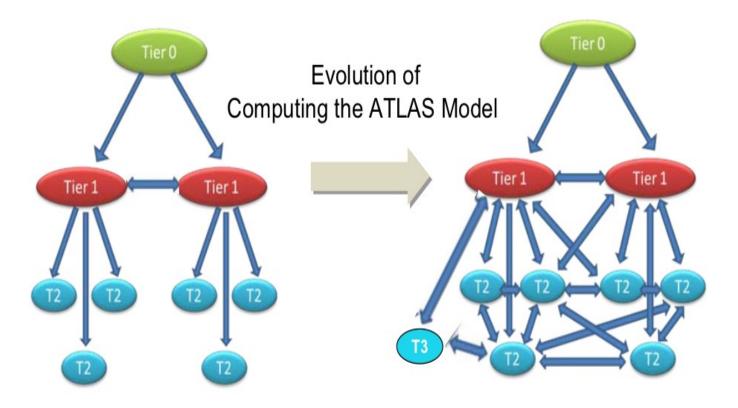






Change of computing model











Requirments



- Better and more dynamic use of storage
- Reduce the load on the Tier1s for data serving
- Increase the speed to populate analysis facilities

Needs for a faster, predictable, pervasive network connecting Tier1s and Tier2s







Network requirements



- Connect any pair of sites, regardless of the continent they reside in
- Bandwidth ranging from 1Gbps (*Minimal*), 5Gbps (*Nominal*), 10G and above (*Leadership*)
- Scalability: sites are expected to grow
- Flexibility: sites may join and leave at any time
- Predictable cost: well defined cost, not too high









LHC Open Network Environment

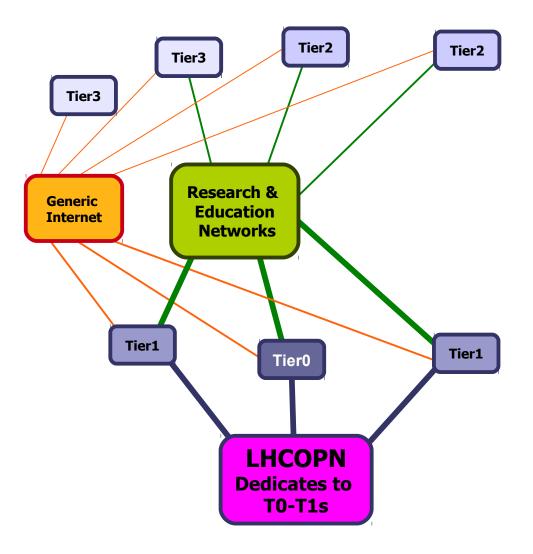
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Connecting Tier 1-2-3s





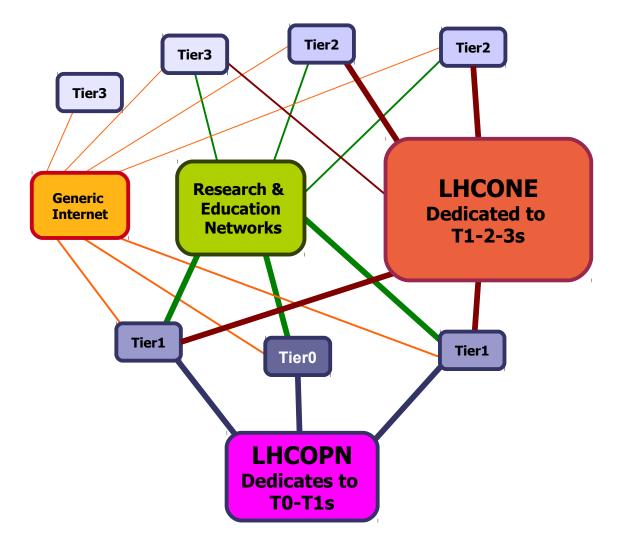






Connecting Tier 1-2-3s





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LHCONE concept



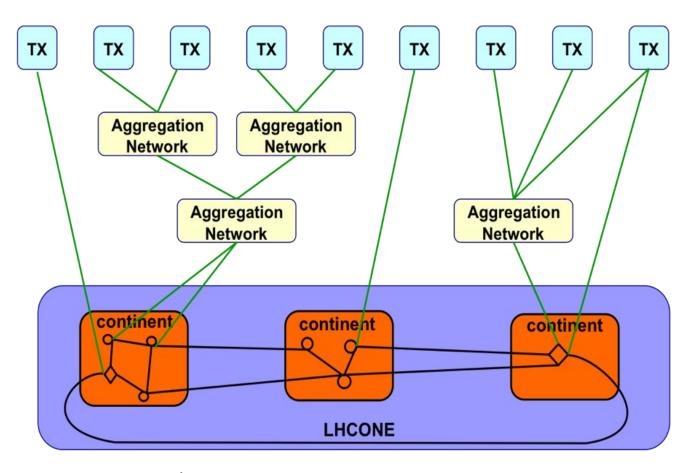
- Serves any LHC site according to its needs and allowing the site to grow
- A collaborative effort among Research & Education Network Providers: sharing cost by federating expensive resources
- Based on Open Exchange Points: easy to join, neutral
- Multiple services for different needs
- Traffic separation:
 - no clash with other data transfers
 - resource allocated for and funded by HEP community
 - secure





Architecture





- ♦ distributed exchange point
- O single node exchange point







Building blocks



LHCONE building blocks:

- Single node exchange points
- Continental/regional distributed exchange points
- Interconnecting circuits between exchange points

All sharing a common policy

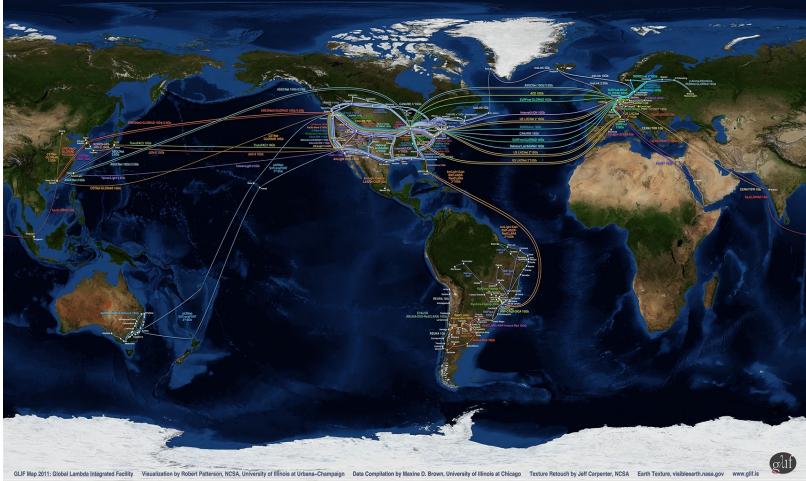






Underlying infrastructure











LHCONE Services

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LHCONE services



Services:

- Dedicated circuits
- Shared VLAN/Backbone
- Monitoring







Dedicated circuits



Point-to-point links connecting pair of TierXs

- Dynamically provisioned
- Secure (private traffic)
- Guaranteed bandwidth







Shared VLAN/Backbone



A private network reaching all the locations

- Any TierX can join the shared network
- Cost sharing of expensive resources (i.e. transoceanic links)
- Best effort
- Built on top of the Dedicated links service
- Private: Only worker nodes allowed to use it (can bypass statefull firewalls)







Monitoring



A distributed monitoring system to ensure:

- LHCONE healthiness
- single site connectivity healthiness

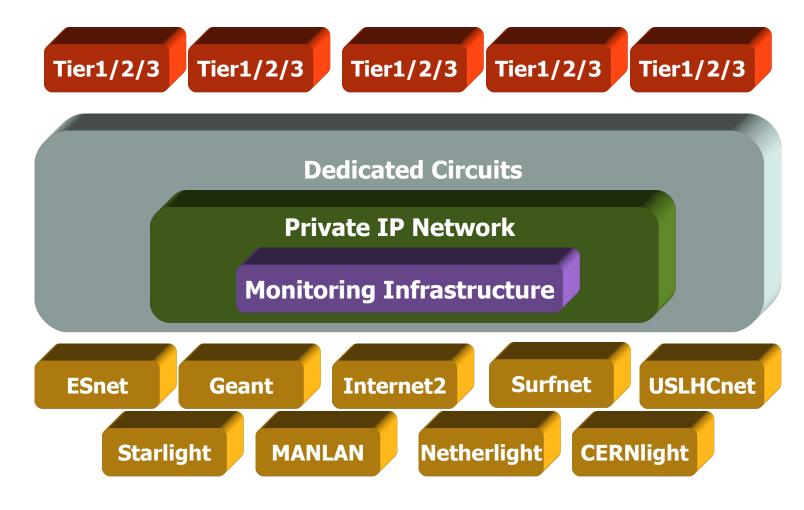






LHCONE service structure













Challenges and opportunities







Governance



LHCONE is a community effort

- All stakeholders involved: TierXs, Network Operators, LHC Experiments, CERN.
- Exact roles and responsibilities not yet defined







Challenges for Network Operators Depa

- Ensure stability, reliability and performance of a large system not centrally controlled
- Coordination among "competitors"
- Develop a common provisioning system







Opportunities



- Raise awareness of networking needs at TierXs
- More network capacity to be provided by Network Operators
- Foster collaborations among Network Operators and among Network Users
- New technologies to provide the best services

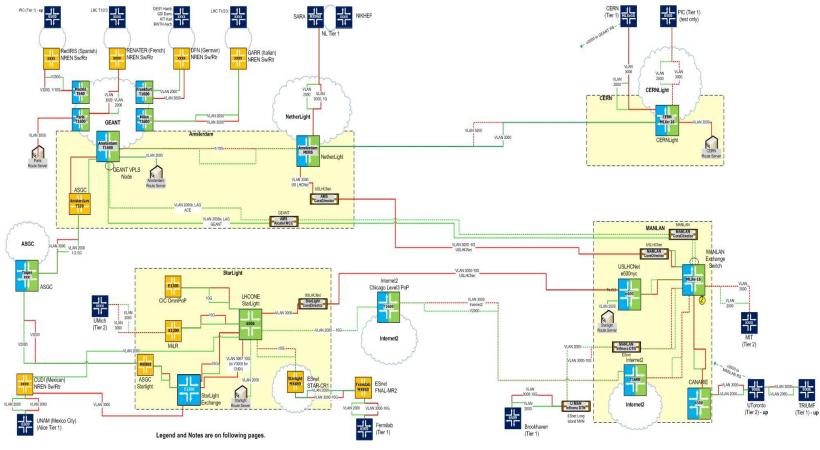






Prototype













Conclusions

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Conclusions



 The Network is a key part of the LHC data processing and will become even more important

 Collaboration and Open policies are crucial to success









More information: http://lhcone.net/



