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Use of VMWare for providing cloud infrastructure for the Grid

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The need to maximize computing facilities whilst maintaining versatile and flexible setups leads to the need for on demand virtual machines through the use of cloud computing. GridPP is currently investigating the role that Cloud Computing, in the form of Virtual Machines, can play in supporting Particle Physics analyses. As part of this research we look at the ability of VMWare's ESXi hypervisors to provide such Virtual Machines; the advantages of such systems and their overall performance. We conclude with a contrast between the ability of VMWare and other major OpenSource alternatives such as Openstack and StratusLab in fulfilling this role.

Primary author: LONG, Robin Eamonn (Lancaster University (GB))

Presenter: LONG, Robin Eamonn (Lancaster University (GB))

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