Vac and Vcycle status and plans

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Overview

- Vac vs Vcycle
- VacMon, Pipes, Multiprocessor
- Deployment status
- Docker containers in Vac
- Google Compute Engine

Vac vs Vcycle recap

- Two GridPP systems aimed at running VMs
- Vac autonomous hypervisors
 - Each VM factory machine creates VMs in response to observed demand for each type of VM
 - Factory installation by Puppet etc or Vac-in-a-Box
- Vcycle uses OpenStack, EC2, Google Cloud etc
 - VMs created via Cloud API in response to observed demand for each type of VM
 - Same VM definitions as Vac
- VMs are self-contained black boxes defined by experiments
 - Know how to pull in jobs to run from experiment HQ

New in the last six months

- VacMon Ganglia-style monitoring at site, space, VM factory level
- Vac 2.0 deployed
 - Multiple VM sizes on the same VM factory: eg 8 and 1
 - Vacuum Pipes to reduce VO configuration to a URL
- New VM definitions, including ALICE VMs
 - Enabled Birmingham to start converting worker nodes to Vac
- VMCondor framework in production for ATLAS and ALICE, and available for generic VMs running HTCondor jobs
 - Should also work for CMS
- Google Compute Engine plugin for Vcycle

Vac and Vcycle - Andrew.McNab@cern.ch - LHCb Computing Workshop, May 2017, CERN

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Deployment by site and experiment

		ATLAS	ALICE	LHCb	GridPP DIRAC
	Birmingham	 Image: A start of the start of	v	~	
	Glasgow	~		v	~
Vac	Liverpool	~	v	v	~
vac	Manchester	~	v	v	~
	Oxford	~	v	v	~
	UCL	~		v	~
Vcycle	Imperial			~	~
	CERN (LHCb)			v	
	CERN (Dev)	v	v	v	~
	CC-IN2P3			v	
	Yandex			v	
	Datacentred			v	V
	INFN Naples		Bel	le II	_
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VacMon

- Ganglia-style monitoring at site, space, VM factory level
- Produces charts like this
- Uses Vac's internal JSON status message formats
- Sent over UDP to vacmon.gridpp.ac.uk

 Stored in ElasticSearch



Site status

- Glasgow has pushed Vac up to ~1400 processors as part of the acceptance tests of their new farm
- Yandex is moving resources from DIRAC.Yandex.ru to OpenStack, which we manage with Vcycle
- Other sites coming: Cambridge + RHUL



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Use by VOs

- Still mainly LHCb
- Yandex and LHCb CERN Cloud are only LHCb
- Significant ATLAS fraction too at Vac sites
- ALICE notable and growing since 2016
- Smaller VOs via GridPP DIRAC service



Vacuum platform

VOs define VM boot images and user_data templates, and provide central services that VMs communicate with to get jobs, discover configuration, input/output storage



Docker Containers

- Current Vac development is to add support for Docker Containers as another logical machine model alongside VMs
- Will be able to run arbitrary Docker images, or Vacuum Containers
 - Extending Vacuum Platform API to define how to provide CernVM-FS to unprivileged containers, init script as a volume etc
- So Vac factories will be able to run a mix of VMs and DCs alongside each other, using target share mechanism etc to decide what to start next
- Using LHCb container definition first, but will extend VMCondor framework too (so available to ATLAS + ALICE)

Google Compute Engine

- Test of running LHCb MC jobs on Google Compute Engine in the US
- Using standard LHCb VM definition, managed automatically by Vcycle as we do for CERN, IN2P3, YANDEX, DataCentred
 - GridPP wrote a Google plugin for Vcycle (took ~week including testing)
- Using all three US regions: us-east1, us-west1, us-central1
- One Squid cache in each region, managed by LHCb
 - All peered over Google internal network so they attempt to resolve cache misses from their peers
 - Only then do they get files from outside (usually from cvm.fnal.gov via Google peering with ESNet)
 - CernVM-FS in VMs can use any of the three caches, again over Google internal network
- Run with~20 VMs in parallel
- (Retail pricing is ~\$25/month/VM, and 60,000 * 25 * 12 is 18 million)

Google Compute Engine

- 20 VMs and jobs, in the three regions
 - Plus squid cache VMs
- This chart shows the production run once development and testing was finished
- Stable and ran unattended from the LHCb production Vcycle instance
 - lbvobox200
- Ready to repeat at larger scale if Google resources become available



Summary and next steps

- Vac 2.0 deployed
 - Better multiprocessor support and Pipes
- VacMon monitoring website
- Significant increase in resources
 - Across multiple sites
- Docker containers being added for Vac 2.1
- Google Compute Engine support in Vcycle



Vac-in-a-Box dashboard

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