SC19 Network Research Exhibition: Demonstration Preliminary Abstract

Global Research Platform: A Distributed Environment for Science Research and New Knowledge Discovery

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Abstract

An international collaboration has been established to design, develop, implement, and operate a highly distributed environment – the Global Research Platform (GRP) for large scale international science collaborations. These demonstrations showcase the capabilities of the GRP to support large scale data intensive world-wide science research.

Goals

1 A motivation for this initiative is the recognition that large scale world-wide collaborative science, especially data intensive science research cannot be well supported by traditional commodity networks. Instead, specialized networks that address the demanding requirements of science applications and data workflows must be implemented, particularly services for high capacity individual data streams transported thousands of miles over multi-domain networks.

2 One inspiration for this approach has been the ESnet "Science DMZ" architecture. Another has been the National Science Foundation's Campus Cyberinfrastructure. The Pacific Research Platform demonstrated the utility of extending local science DMZs to long distances across regions and nations. Currently, the Asia Pacific region is creating an Asia Pacific Research Platform and the US has implemented a prototype National Research Platform.

3 Essentially, the Global Research Platform is a world-wide Science DMZ. It is notable that these demonstrations extend beyond showcasing high performance networking (e.g., almost all paths are 100 Gbps). They also showcase close integration of WAN paths with edge devices, including compute resources, data repositories, instruments, and storage systems.

4 An indication of the utility for such a platform was recently demonstrated by the Data Mover Challenge

staged by the Asia Supercomputing Conference in March 2019.

5 These demonstrations will showcase multiple components of the GRP, including orchestrators, resource discovery mechanisms, specialized middleware, integration with edge devices, and performance measurements.

Resources

Required resources from SCinet are use of some portion of 10*100 Gbps circuits SCinet has been asked to provision from the StarLight facility in Chicago to the StarLight booth on the SC19 showfloor and to the SCinet DTN-as-a-Service facility.

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