



Network Monitoring Session Description

CoreGRID Workshop on Grid Middleware

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Summary

- Describe a network monitoring framework
- Define a solution
- Introduce the schema describing network monitoring requests within such solution







Narrowing the scope: GRID resources

- A GRID is a collection of resources: among others, network paths
- A path is seen as an atomic resource: we do not distinguish links, routers etc.
- A path exists between any pair of non-network resources
- Non-network resources are partitioned into Domains







Narrowing the scope: Network Monitoring

- Network Monitoring addresses network paths
- Network Monitoring is performed by specific resources, that we call Network Monitoring Elements
- Network Monitoring is managed by specific agents, that we call Network Monitoring Agents
- There is at least one Network Monitoring Agent for each Domain
- Each network path can be monitored by at least one Network Monitoring Element







Narrowing the scope: NM management

- Network Monitoring Agents form a community that cooperate peer-to-peer
- The scope of a Network Monitoring Agent is limited to a single Domain
- A Network Monitoring Agent has access to a directory describing the capabilities of the Network Monitoring Elements
- We envision the case of Network Monitoring Agents specialized in monitoring some remote domains







Narrowing the scope: NM requests

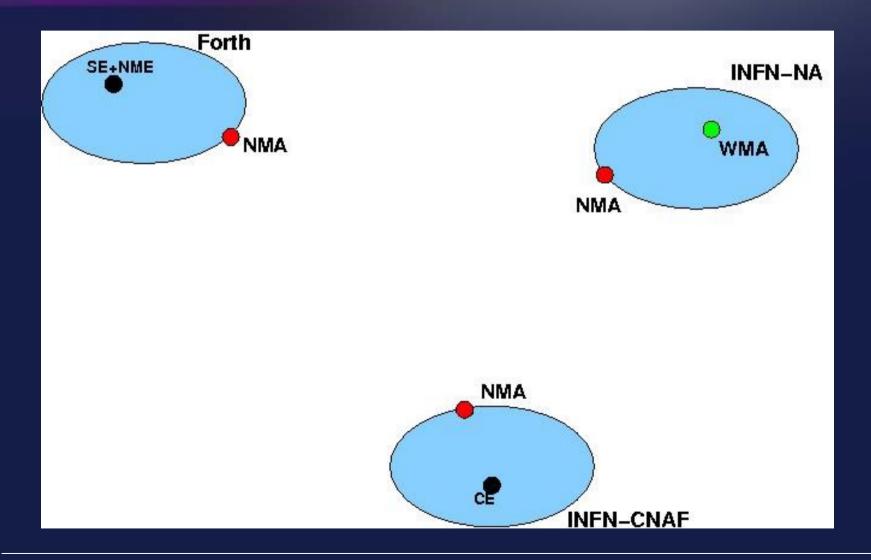
- Network Monitoring aims at the observation of the performance of the network resources allocated to a complex computational task, that we call Workflow
- NM requests are issued by the agent responsible for Workflow management
- NMA dynamically configure NMEs to operate measurements
- NMEs returns a stream of observations to the Workflow Management Agent







The Big Picture (small example)









Observations: pro

- No repositories needed for traces, since observations are produced and consumed on the fly
- Scalability is improved:
 - no n² structures in the system
 - no n² activities in the system
 - domains limit the scope of agents to a fraction of n
- Directories describe static capabilities of resources (which is what they are done for)







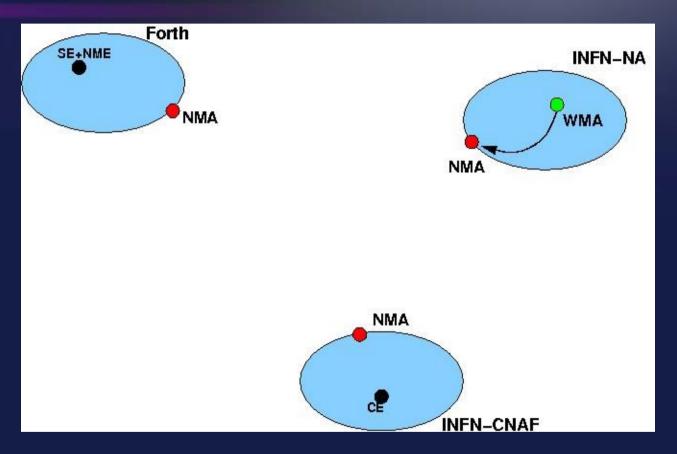
Observations: con

- Design a coordination pattern for Network Monitoring Agents
- Network Monitoring Elements must be dynamically configurable (no ping.conf)
- A protocol to submit monitoring requests from Workflow Monitoring Agents to Network Monitoring Elements (via NMAs)
- Another to return observations backward, possibly as a multicast







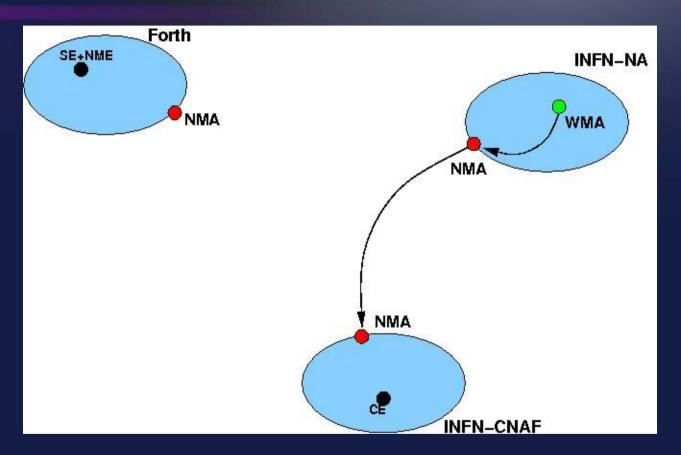


The Workflow Monitoring Agent issues a request to the local Network Monitoring Agent







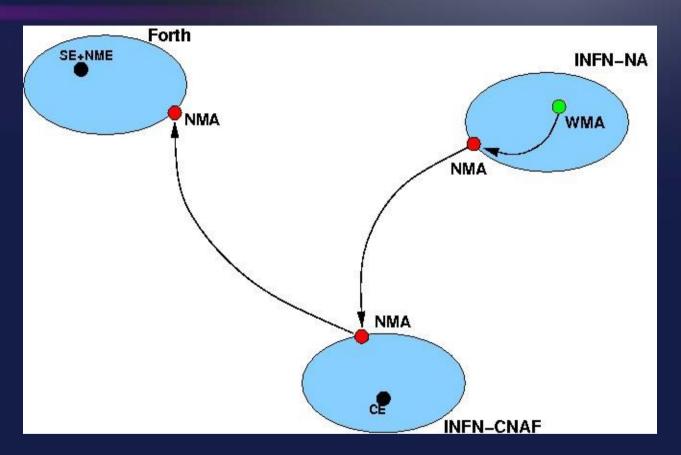


The Workflow Monitoring Agent routes the request to a peer (hierarchy?)







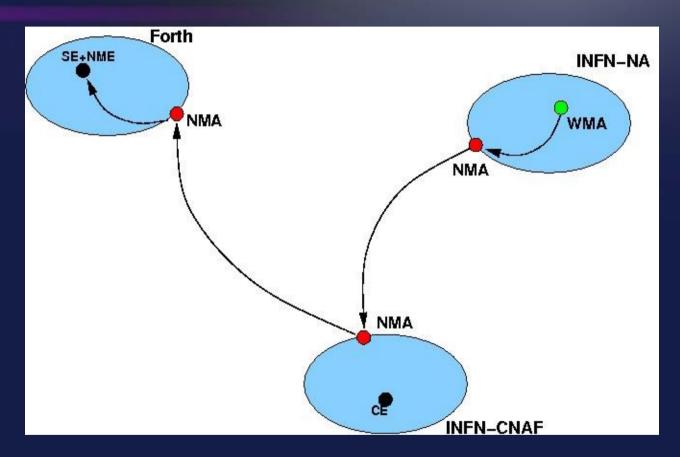


The Workflow Monitoring Agent routes the request to a peer (2nd step)







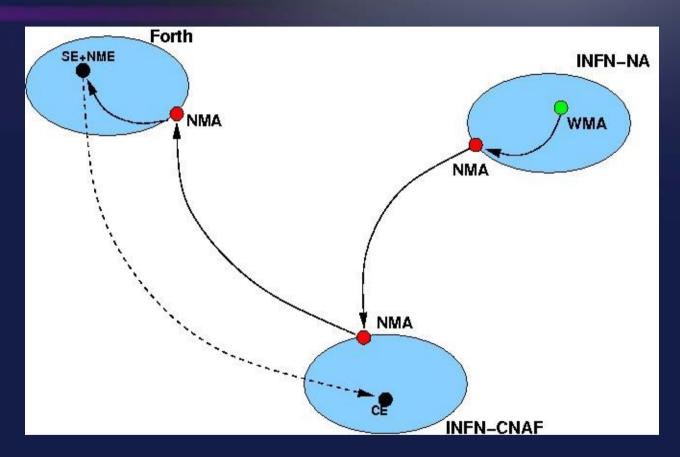


The Workflow Monitoring Agent delivers the request the Network Monitoring Element







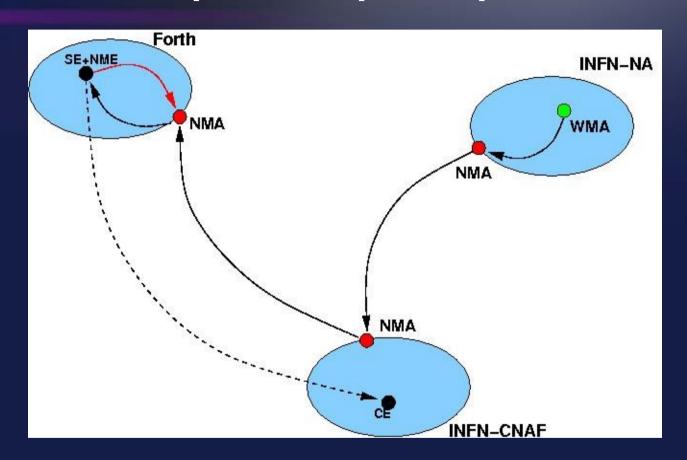


The Network Monitoring activity starts between the Storage and the Computing Element







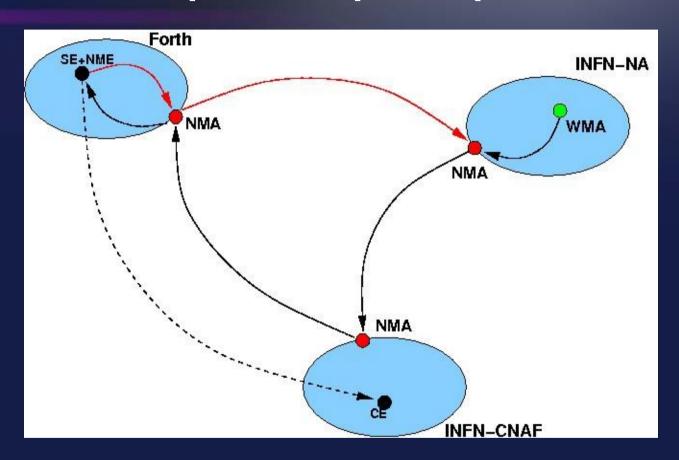


The stream carrying monitoring results is routed to the controlling Network Monitoring Agent







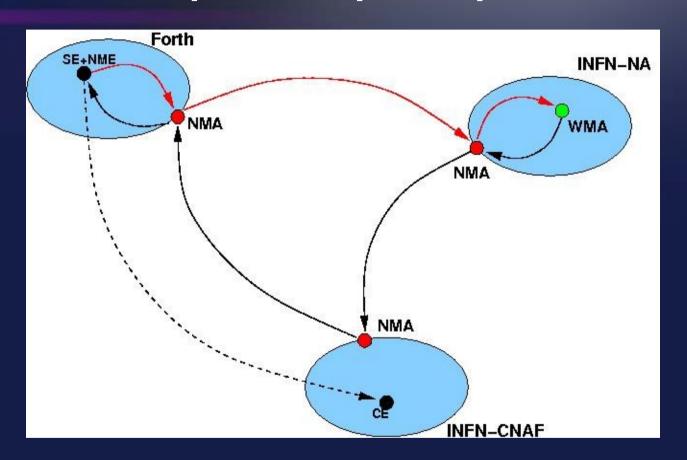


The stream by-passes the intermediate Network Monitoring Agent









The stream carrying the results reaches the requesting Workflow Monitoring Agent







Security issues

- All communications are authenticated (except those produced by the monitoring tool inside the NME)
- Only communications between the Network Monitoring Agents require a global authentication support (a prototype exists)
- Other can be based on local policies







The XSD schema

- The schemas have been written to fixate the ideas about the architecture.
- The use of XML addresses the portability of a possible implementation.
- The basic data item is the NetworkMonitoringSession type







Attributes of the Network Monitoring Session

Identification

```
<attribute name="SessionId" type="string"
use="required"/>
```

Lifetime

```
<attribute name="StartAt" type="dateTime"
  use="required"/>
```

```
<attribute name="Duration" type="duration"
  use="required"/>
```

Resources for the result stream

```
<attribute name="BandwidthLimit"
    type="nonNegativeInteger" default="0"/>
<attribute name="Priority"
    type="nonNegativeInteger" default="0"/>
```







Elements of the Network Monitoring Session

Identification of the requesting WMA (for routing)

```
<element name="RequestFrom"
type="nmsd:WorkflowMonitoringTaskType"
maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
```

Route stack (for reverse routing)

```
<element name="Route" type="nmsd:RouteStackType"/>
```

Involved Domains (for NME selection)

```
<element name="NetworkElement"
type="nmsd:NetworkElementType"/>
```

Measurement descriptor (details in next slide)

```
<element name="MeasurementStream"
type="nmsd:MeasurementStreamType"/>
```







Definition of the Measurement Stream

A Measurement Stream contains several distinct data streams, with an identifying attribute:

```
<attribute name="CharacteristicStreamId"
type="string"\>
each data stream is described by elements:
<element name="SamplePeriod" type="float"</pre>
minOccurs="0"/>
<element name="SourceIP" type="string"</pre>
minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
<element name="DestinationIP" type="string"</pre>
minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
...and by a choice of tool specific options...
```







Tool specific options

Each element contains options for one single tool:

```
<choice>
<element name="PingOptions"
type="pt:PingOptionsType"/>
<element name="AppmonOptions"
type="am:AppmonOptionsType"/>
</choice>
```

Each element is passed (in principle untouched) to a single NME.

Ping (active): packet size, data aggregation etc.

Appmon (passive): packet filter, data aggregation, characteristic, anonymization etc..







Separation of concern

- NMA access all parts of the Network Monitoring Session description except the Measurement Stream descriptor (header?)
- WMA and NME produce/consume the sequence of Measurement Stream descriptors (payload?)
- The inter-NMA protocol acts as a transport for Network Monitoring Stream descriptors







Tool oriented description

- The WMA directly addresses a tool, and its capabilities
- Decouples design of network monitoring tools
- The protocol between the WMAs does not depend on the definition of the requested measurements







Outline of the stream contents

- One frame series for each element in the Measurement Stream descriptor
- Demultiplexing using Session and Measurement identifiers
- Also in this case, NMAs offer a transport service
- De-multiplexing is on the WMA, as well as frame unmarshalling.







- We focus on monitoring activity finalized to workflow monitoring
- We introduce an architecture that includes consumers, producers and infrastructure
- We outline a request protocol, and design a schema that describes a monitoring session
- We outline a streaming protocol to deliver the results
- Experiments on the way...
- Full presentation and a paper on my WEB page OGF20 link