



e-Infrastructure in the Czech Republic

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EVROPSKÁ UNIE EVROPSKÝ FOND PRO REGIONÁLNÍ ROZVOJ INVESTICE DO VAŠÍ BUDOUCNOSTI





e-Infrastructure organization

e-Infrastructure explicitly defined in the *Roadmap of the large infrastructures for research, development and innovation in the Czech Republic*

- Considered equally important as other large infrastructures for R&D
- Understood as a combination of vertical and horizontal responsibilities
 - However, no specific action defined (e.g., projects in other disciplines may have their own IT budget)
- Combination of resource provisioning, coordination, and own research
 - Directly or indirectly attached to universities
- All major e-Infrastructure aspects covered
- Total funding above 160 MEuro for next 5 years
 - Additional minor funding under discussion



e-Infrastructure players in CR

CESNET

- Originally Czech NREN
- HQ in Prague, distributed in all regions
- Responsible for communication infrastructure
- Coordinating role as the Czech NGI in Grids
- Contributing to the data infrastructure
- IT4Innovations
 - Located in Ostrava (Technical University)
 - Supercomputing centre
- CERIT-SC
 - Located in Brno (Masaryk University)
 - Grid, cloud and data centre



History

- Internet in the Czech Republic since 1992
 - CESNET as a department of the Czech Technical University
 - Transformed into legal body in 1996
 - Owned by public universities and Academy of Sciences
- Supercomputing Centre Brno at MU since 1994
 - Originally HPC interest
 - Distributed computing infrastructure (MetaCentrum) initiated in 1996 (founded MetaCentrum)
- DCI became part of CESNET in 1998
 - Joint activity with SCB MU
- International collaboration
 - Since TEN-34 till GEANT3
 - From DataGrid to EGI InSPIRE and EMI projects
 - Coordinator in EGI_DS
 - Many auxiliary projects



Current State (2011)

CESNET became "Large infrastructure for R&D"

- Direct governmental subsidy since March
- Project Extension of the national information infrastructure for R&D in regions (elGeR, European Structural Funds, 3rd axis, started May 1st)
- SCB MU transformed into CERIT-SC
 - Project Cerit Scientific Cloud (CERIT-SC, European Structural Funds, 3rd axis, started May 1st)
- Centre of Excellence IT4Innovations
 - New activity and project (European Structural Funds, 1st axis, started July 1st)



Roles in detail—CESNET

High speed communication network

- ▶ Multi 10 Gbps now, upgrade to 40–100 Gbps in near future
- Connecting all major cities in the Czech Republic
- All public and state universities, all institutes of Academy of Science
- Many private universities, industrial research facilities, faculty and other hospitals, libraries, secondary schools, ...
- National Grid coordinator—MetaCentrum
 - Serves as Czech NGI
 - Basic resource provisioning
- Independent data management (new activity)
 - Three multi-PB installations
 - Core of the national distributed data infrastructure
- Close collaboration with other e-Infrastructure components



National Network Infrastructure



Matyska (CESNET and CERIT-SC MU)



- Provide reasonable computing and data resources
- Driver for new generation of e-Infrastructure related R&D
- Novel (including disruptive) use of e-Infrastructure
- Cooperative R&D with e-Infrastructure users
- Controlled playground for R&D on the boundary between Informatics and other scientific areas
 - With computing and storage needs that are not satisfied with standard approaches
- Collaborate with scientific communities
 - Not just users, partners
- Adapt and evolve the e-Infrastructure
 - To suit actual and foreseen needs of scientific communities
- Personal involvement in EGI, EMI, and other EU projects



Roles in detail—IT4Innovations

Supercomputing centre

- First resources 2012
- Full size in 2014, targeting 50th to 100th position in TOP500
- Centre of excellence
 - IT4People
 - Multimedia and risk management
 - SC4Industry
 - Numerical models, parallel computing
 - Theory4IT
 - Soft computing, knowledge management, security
- Represents Czech Republic in PRACE



Grid projects



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e-Infrastructure in the Czech Republic



Advanced Compute Infrastructure

Close collaboration of CESNET and CERIT-SC

- CESNET: Broad regional coverage, neutral body
- CERIT-SC: Access to students, PhD school, closer interaction with partners
- Conservative versus innovative
 - Grid infrastructure serves as stable computing and data processing environment
 - CERIT-SC resources will serve primary for research and development of new methods and protocols
 - Close partnership with other scientific communities
 - e-Infrastructure related R&D results will be transferred through NGI/MetaCentrum to other resource centers



Data Infrastructure

- Has been part of Grid related activities (MetaCentrum)
 - This is still part of CERIT-SC vision
- CESNET added a construction of an independent data facility
 - To serve also non-computing oriented requirements
- Data facilities built also within other projects
 - IT4Innovations and CERIT-SC will have several PB each
 - Large national projects like CEITEC will also have their own data depots
- Distributed Data Infrastructure
 - Again CESNET & CERIT-SC close collaboration



Access to resources

IT4Innovations

- "Standard" supercomputing process
- Easy access to small capacity
- Aiming for fast turnaround
- Network and Grids
 - Primary best effort
 - Dynamic priority assessment and assignment
 - Joint projects, collaboration, ...
 - But also past results with acknowledgment
 - Support scientific excellence without bureaucracy
- Data infrastructure
 - Under discussion
 - Aiming for the open best effort access
 - But SLD/SLA for data preservation



Grid Infrastructure

- Coordinated by CESNET
- Five major resource providers:
 - Masaryk University (SCB, now CERIT-SC), Brno
 - Charles University, Prague
 - West Bohemia University, Pilsen
 - Institute of Physics, Prague
 - CESNET, Prague (but resources also elsewhere)
- Many smaller resource centres
- Power
 - Computing: > 5,000 cores
 - Data: around 1 PB



Grid Infrastructure

- Virtualized physical layer
 - SMP and GPGPU equipped machines still experimental
 - Sits under the "standard" grid middleware
 - Magrathea/Torque used for the scheduling
- Majority of resources (thanks to HEP) on EGI infrastructure
- However, national grid infrastructure simpler
 - Torque (previously PBSPro) as the central scheduller
 - Storage through combination of AFS (metadata, software distributions) and NFS (locally v3, globally v4)
 - Currently moving into a distributed peer to peer scheduler infrastructure
 - More flexibility
 - No dependency on central services
- Virtualization opens space for experimental use of the Grid resources



Resource Usage

CESNET

- Stable infrastructure, serving all scientific communities
- Joint projects with selected users
- CERIT-SC
 - Experimental/Discovery use
 - Development and optimization of algorithms, methods and their scalability, ...
 - Unstable/development OSes, specialized environments, map-redude, . . .
 - Intensive collaboration leading to joint publications
- Jointly: Keep balance among conflicting requirements
 - Helps users to make proper estimates of their real needs
 - Buy and use own resources
 - Move long-term planned computations elsewhere (e.g., IT4I)
 - No bureaucratic procedures, user prioritization based on recent results



Research Targets

e-Infrastructure usable (shared) by various scientific communities

- Computer networks are closest to this ideal
 - But moving 100TB is still fastest (and cheapest) by physical transporting of disks
- Batch processing on grids suitable only for some users
 - Interactive access more convenient
 - Limited support for parallel jobs
- ► Data consolidation, access, sharing, ... still rather primitive
 - Commonalities hard to find
- Collaborative infrastructure and tools
- Security
 - Orthogonal to other activities
 - From authentication and authorization (AA) to secured data and computation environments
 - Mutual trust between users and resource providers



Virtualized Network Resources

Managing Virtual LANs at the network backbone

- Part of L2 setup
- Private IP networks running at the national network infrastructure
- Coordinated with virtual cluster setup
 - Part of the job scheduling
 - Internal IP addressess, not exposed outside
 - Running virtual clusters without any internal authentication
 - Even nodes/clusters with the same IP addresses can run cuncurrently
- No impact on the network performance
- Access to storage under development
 - Multihomed data depots



Conclusions

- Czech Republic is building complex e-Infrastructure
- All layers/components present
- Close collaboration between university R&D and infrastructure operations
 - Duality CESNET and CERIT-SC
- Both conservative and innovative components
- Focus is on the novelty
 - in the way the e-Infrastructure is built and operated
 - in the way the e-Infrastructure is used
 - in the way why the e-Infrastructure is used
- The goal is to provide a meeting place for research

More information can be found on the corresponding web pages:

- CESNET: http://www.cesnet.cz, http://meta.cesnet.cz
- CERIT-SC: http://www.cerit-sc.cz
- IT4Innovations: http://www.it4innovations.cz





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