



dCache

dCache.ORG

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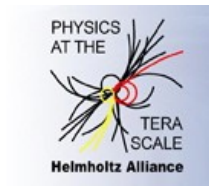
dCache



Future of European Middle-ware(s)

Patrick Fuhrmann et al.

additional funding, support or contributions by



d-grid
DGI II





Roadmap for this presentation

What is dCache ?

What is dCache.org ?

Who is contributing to dCache ?

Who is using dCache ?



How is dCache used (The LHC Storage Element) ?

Enhanced usage : The NDGF (NordGrid) approach !!!

Preparing dCache for the future !



What is dCache ?





What is dCache, some basics?

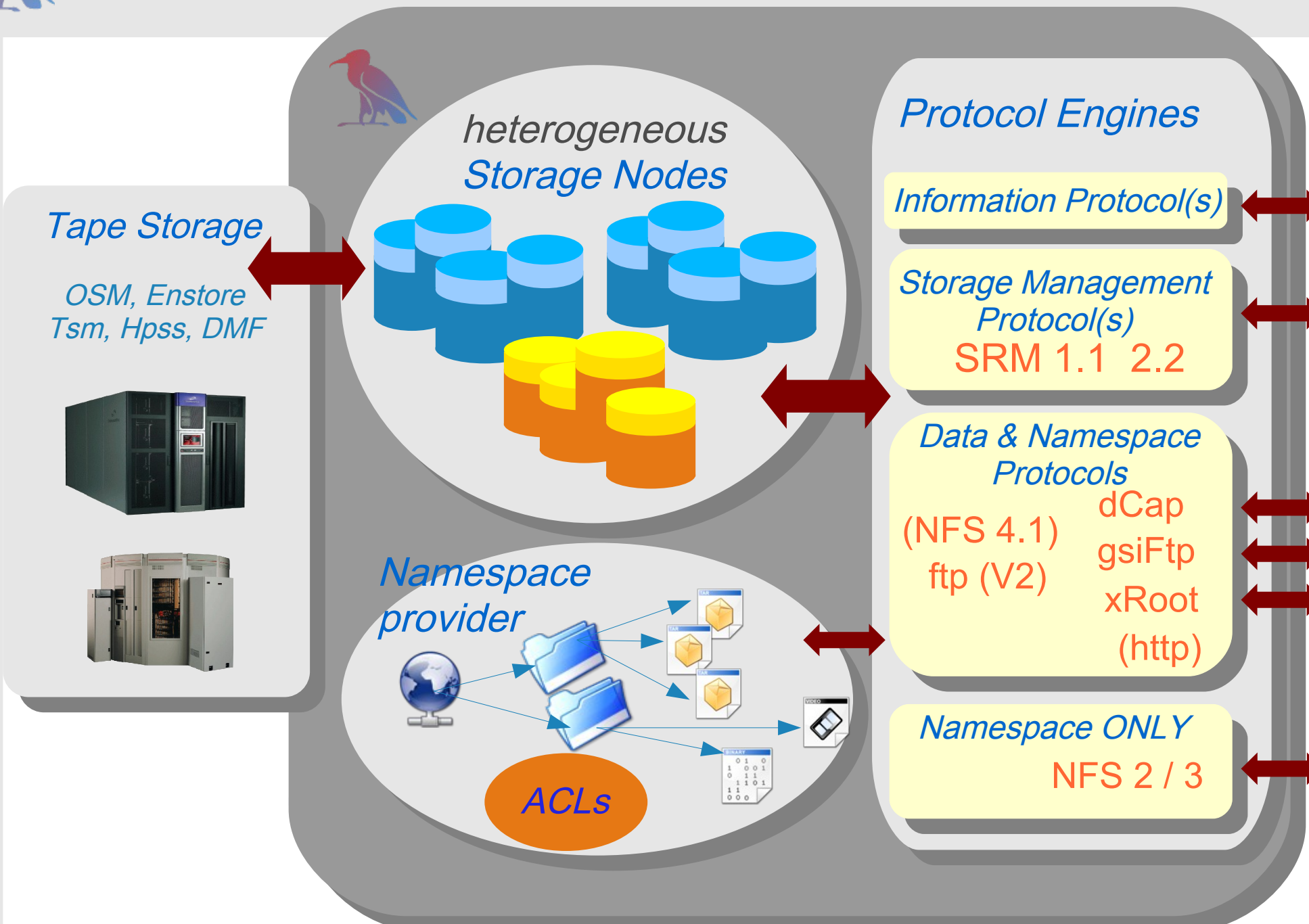
- ✓ (Grid) Storage Software.
- ✓ Combines 1000's of independent heterogeneous *storage nodes* to a single system.
 - × A *storage node* is a bunch of disks, some CPU, an OS and a network interface.
 - × Only restriction : you need to be able to run Java on that box.
- ✓ Provides a single 'rooted' file system view. (/pnfs/mydomain/...)
- ✓ Name space is independent of the physical location(s) of the data.
- ✓ Support of physical data location outside of dCache. (Tape)
 - ✓ Currently used back-ends : Tsm, Hpss, DMF, Enstore, OSM
- ✓ Support of multiple internal and external copies of the same file system entry.
- ✓ Overall system is resistant against failures of single *Storage Nodes*.
- ✓ Support of all necessary storage control, data transport and information provider protocols for grid applications. (eg SRM, GLUE, gsiFtp....)
- ✓ dCache is an implementation of an *LCG Storage Element*



What is dCache, some basics?

dCache.ORG

dCache.ORG





In a Nutshell

dCache.ORG

dCache.ORG

- ★ Strict name space and data storage separation, allowing
 - mv, rm, mkdir e.t.c without moving data
 - create, remove replicas or tape copies without changes in the name space.
 - convenient name space management by nfs (or http)

- ★ File hopping (no user interaction required)
 - automated hot spot detection
 - configuration (read only, write only, stage only pools)
 - on arrival (configurable)
 - outside / inside firewalls



In a Nutshell

dCache.ORG

dCache.ORG

★ Overload and meltdown protection

- Request Scheduler.
- Primary Storage pool selection by protocol, IP, directory, IO direction
- Secondary selection by system load and available space considerations.
- Separate I/O queues per protocol (load balancing)

★ Supported protocols :

- (gsi)ftp
- (gsi)dCap
- xRoot
- SRM
- nfs2/3 (name space only)
- NFS 4.1 with dCache 1.9.4



dCache in a Nutshell

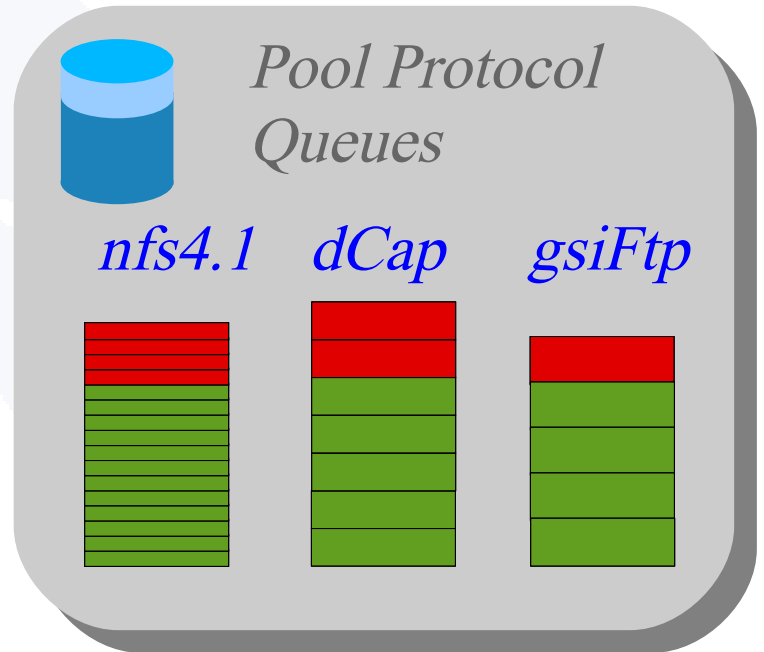
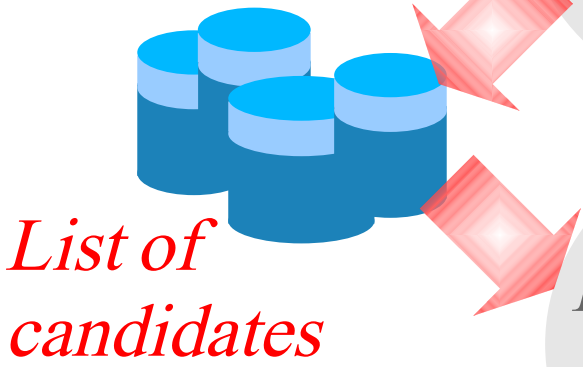
Scheduler and I/O queues and meltdown protection

dCache.ORG

dCache.ORG



Pool Candidates selected by Protocol
Client IP number/net
Data Flow Direction
Name Space Attributes (Directory)
SRMSpaces



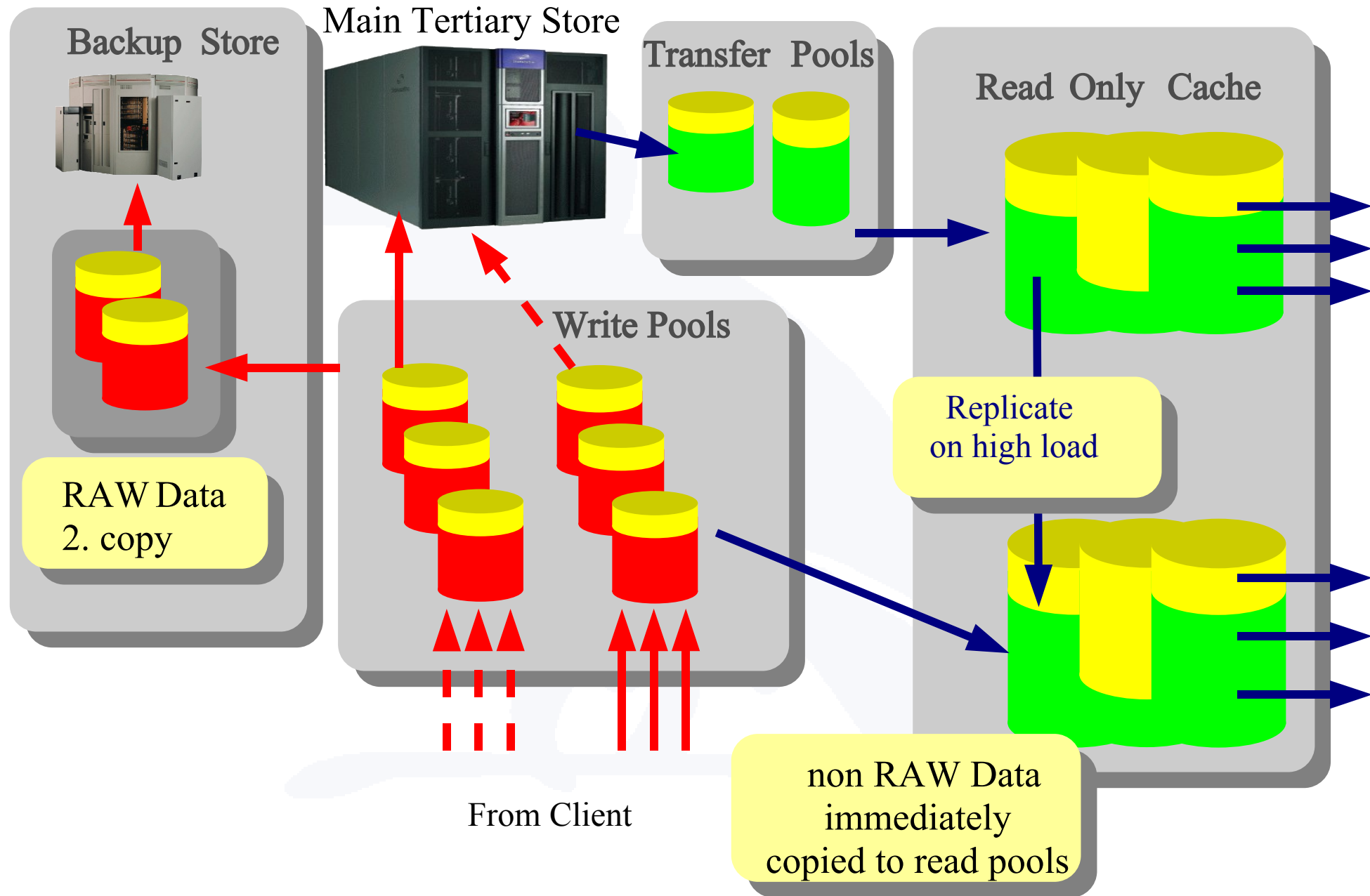


In a Nutshell

File Hopping

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What is dCache.org ?



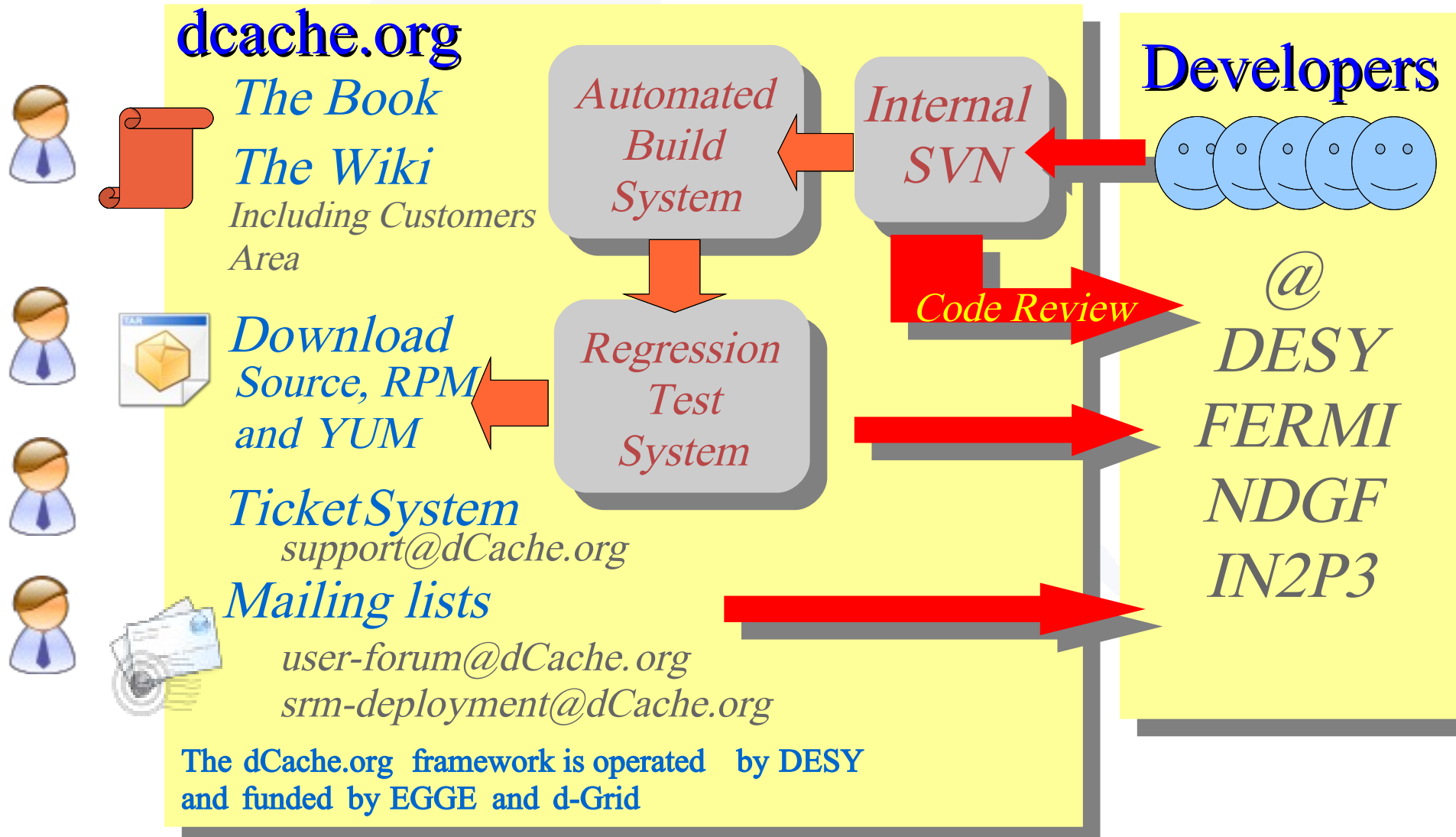


What is dCache.org ? The infrastructure

dCache.ORG

- dCache.ORG is an infrastructure
- dCache.ORG is the door into the dCache team

dCache.ORG





What is dCache.org ? The distribution

dCache distribution

- dCache is distributed (YUM at DESY and CERN) and configured through YAIM for the Tier II's in Europa.
- dCache is distributed and configured through VDT for OSG supported Tier II's.
- dCache is distributed through dCache.org for the Tier I's and configured manually due to the complexity of the Tier I setups.

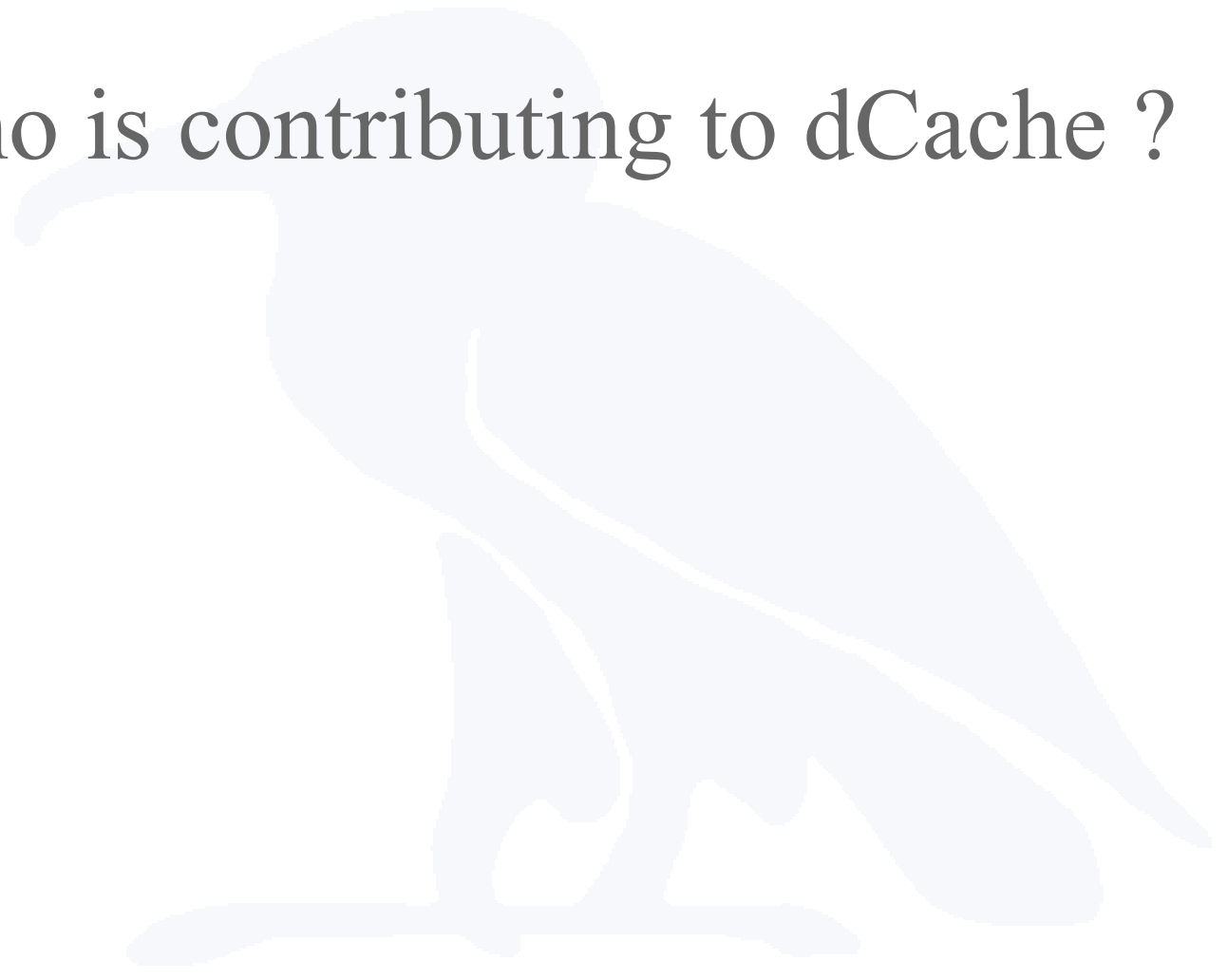
The source of the dCache software is always dCache.ORG.

- Redistribution is ok.
- Support is ok.
- Repackaging is not permitted.

The Role of UMD, related to dCache, is not clear.



Who is contributing to dCache ?





Who is contributing (People)

dCache.ORG

Head of dCache.ORG

Patrick Fuhrmann

Core Team (Desy, Fermi, NDGF)

Andrew Baranovski

Gerd Behrmann

Bjoern Boettscher

Ted Hesselroth

Alex Kulyavtsev

Iryna Koslova

Tanya Levshina

Dmitri Litvintsev

David Melkumyan

Paul Millar

Owen Syngé

Neha Sharma

Vladimir Podstavkov

2 * N.N.

Head of Development FNAL :

Timur Perelmutov

Head of Development DESY :

Tigran Mkrtchyan

Head of Development NDGF:

Gerd Behrmann

External

Development

Abhishek Singh Rana, SDSC

Jonathan Schaeffer, IN2P3

Support and Help

German HGF Support Team

Greig Cowan, gridPP

Flavia Donno, CERN

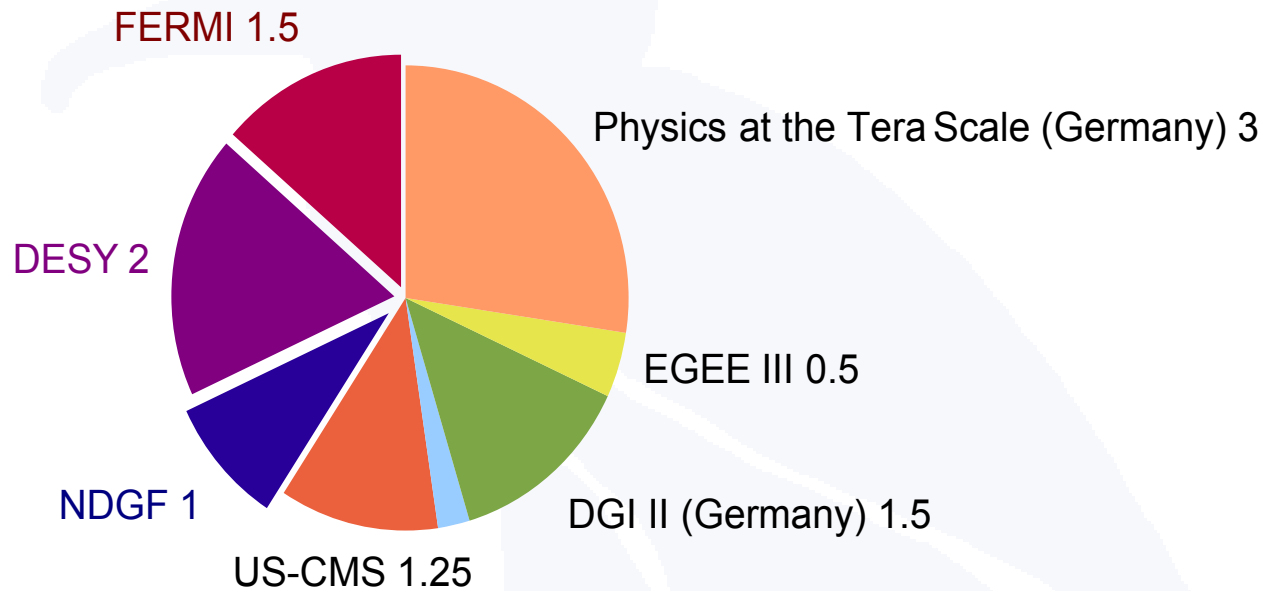
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Who is contributing (Organisations)

FTE's by organisation.



Focus moving from development to support.



Who is using dCache ?

dCache is primarily used by [LHC/LCG](#) Tier I , II and III sites.

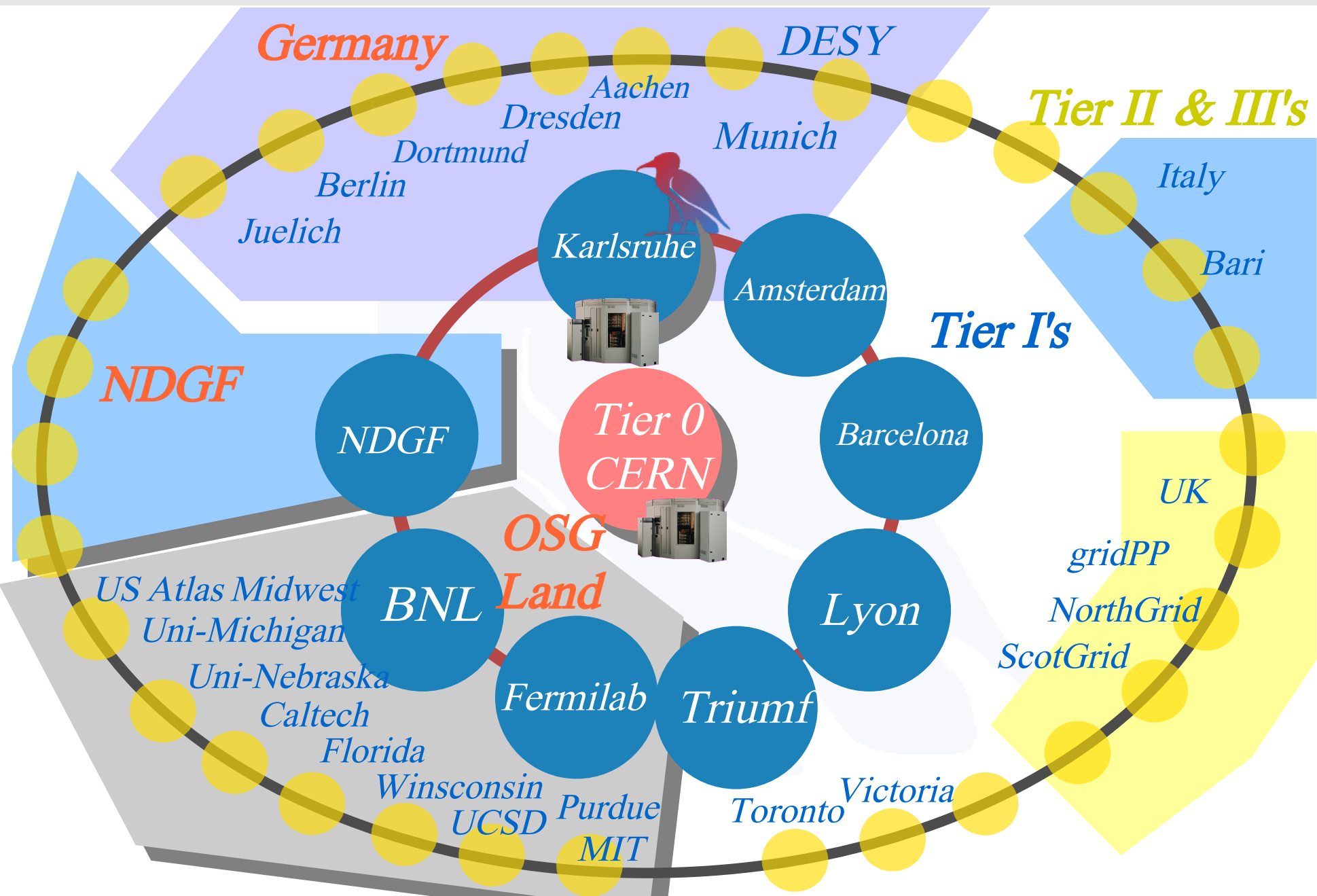
In this context, dCache will hold the [largest share of LHC data](#) outside CERN



8 out of 11 Tier I's and many Tier II/III's using dCache

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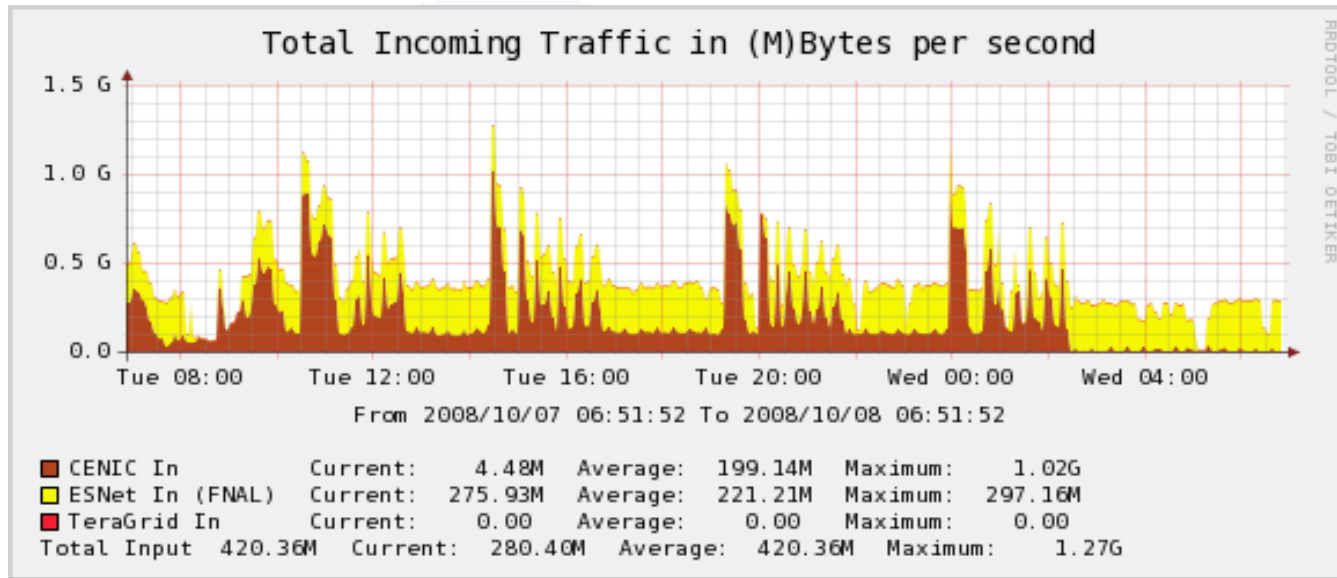
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Random example of dCache performance

Total Incoming Traffic into UCSD (TierII) Sep 10, 2008



FERMILab US-CMS dCache is running on more than 600 pools and stores about 3 PB on disk and 2 PB on tape in a single dCache instance.

BNL will grow beyond the 10 Pbytes storage range starting 2010/11



How is dCache used ?

or

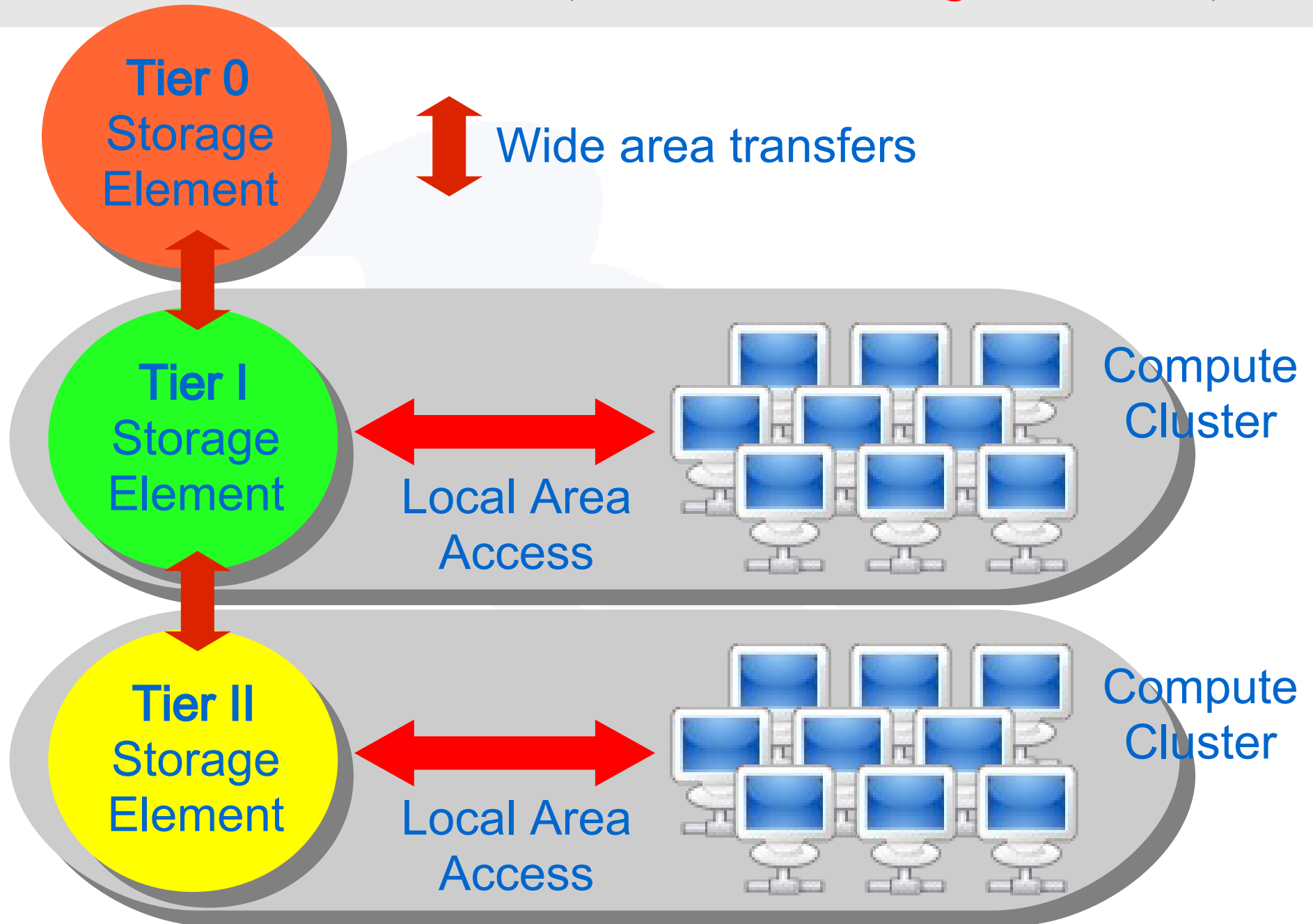
Standards in the LHC **Storage Element**



How is dCache used (The LHC **Storage Element**) ?

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A **Storage Element** is a Grid entity.

Grid is about standards (power plug model)

How about **Storage Element standards** ?



LHC data flow by protocol

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Space/Protocol Management

SRM Storage Resource Management

OGF

Wide Area Transport Protocol

In use : gsiFtp

Discussed : http(s)

IETF

Information Service Protocol

Transport : LDAP

Content : GLUE Schema

IETF

OGF

Local Access Protocol

(gsi)dCap or rfio and xRoot

These is not at all a standard





Grid Standards

dCache.org is proposing the **NFS 4.1** protocol as the local data access to Grid Storage Elements !

- NFS 4.1 supports highly distributed data within the same file system tree.
- NFS 4.1 is becoming an IETF standard.
- Standards give industry a fair chance to compete.
- **Other grid communities refuse to adopt special HEP solutions.**
- They prefer real posix I/O. (Direct file system access)
- Client software is provided by OS. Makes grid deployment people happy.



Grid Standards : Breaking News

NFS 4.1 Bakeathons last month :

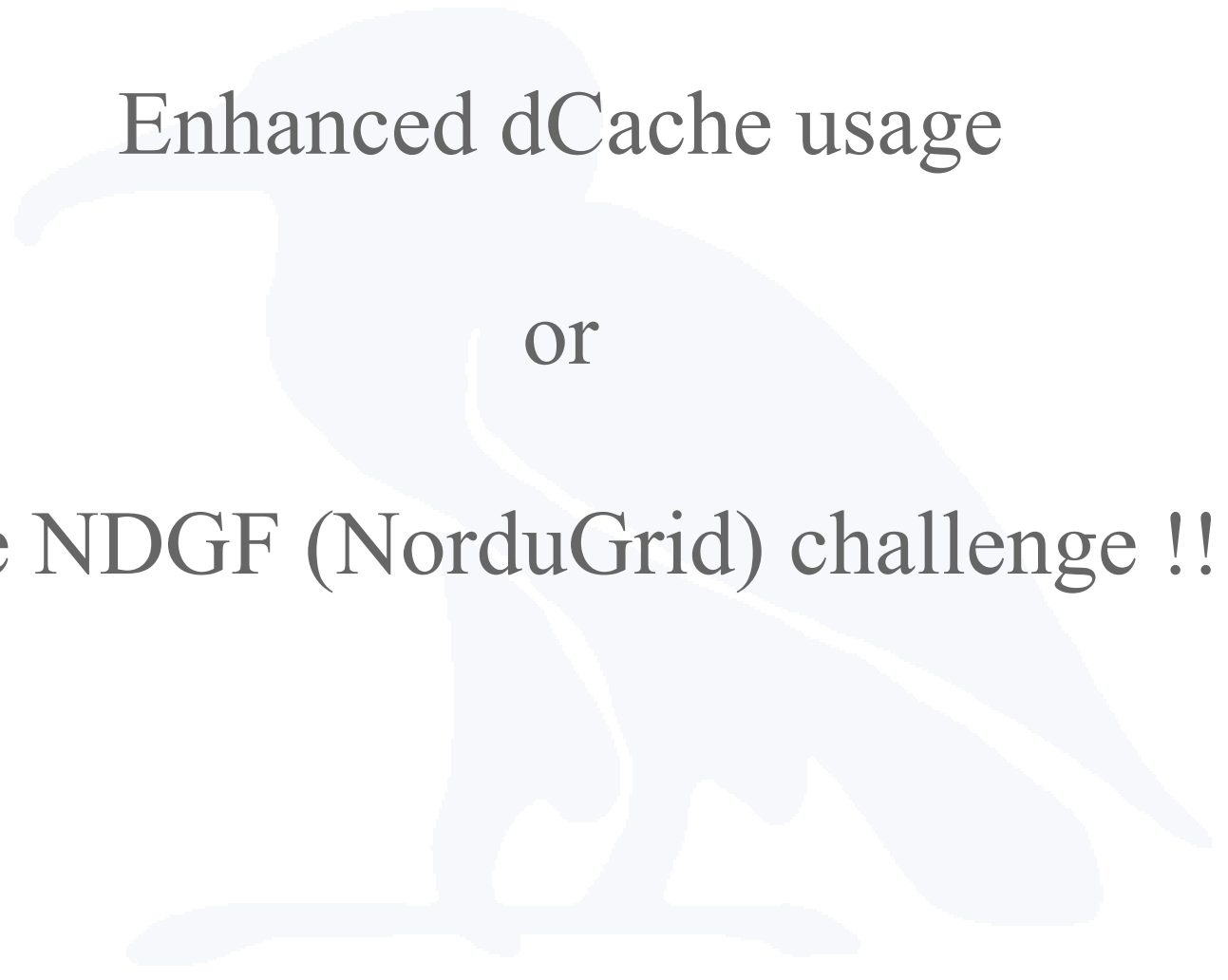
- dCache server can talk to all known NFS4.1 clients
- Some limitations : no modify, no striping but not a problem for clients
- NFS4.1 will be in official standard linux kernel Q1 2009
- full IETF approval till end of 2008
- Client versions
 - Linux
 - SUN (Solaris)
 - CITI will work on Microsoft client very soon
- Server vendors : IBM, SUN, Panasas, netApp, LSI, EMC, dCache



Enhanced dCache usage

or

The NDGF (NordGrid) challenge !!!



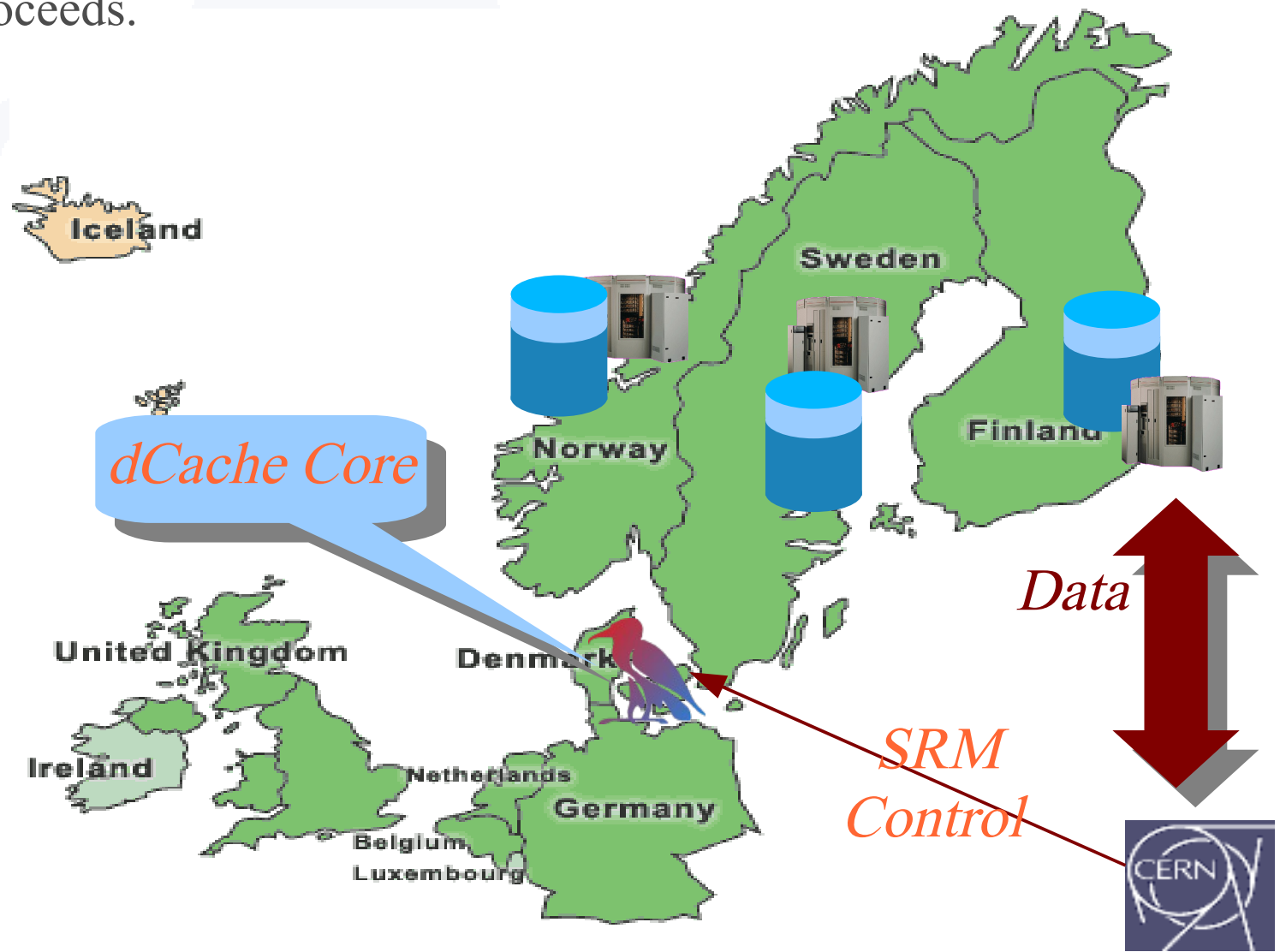


NDGF : Certainly the most challenging approach

Oversimplified (see next slide for details)

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- 4 Countries, one dCache instance.
- At any time a country may 'go down' though raw data storage proceeds.

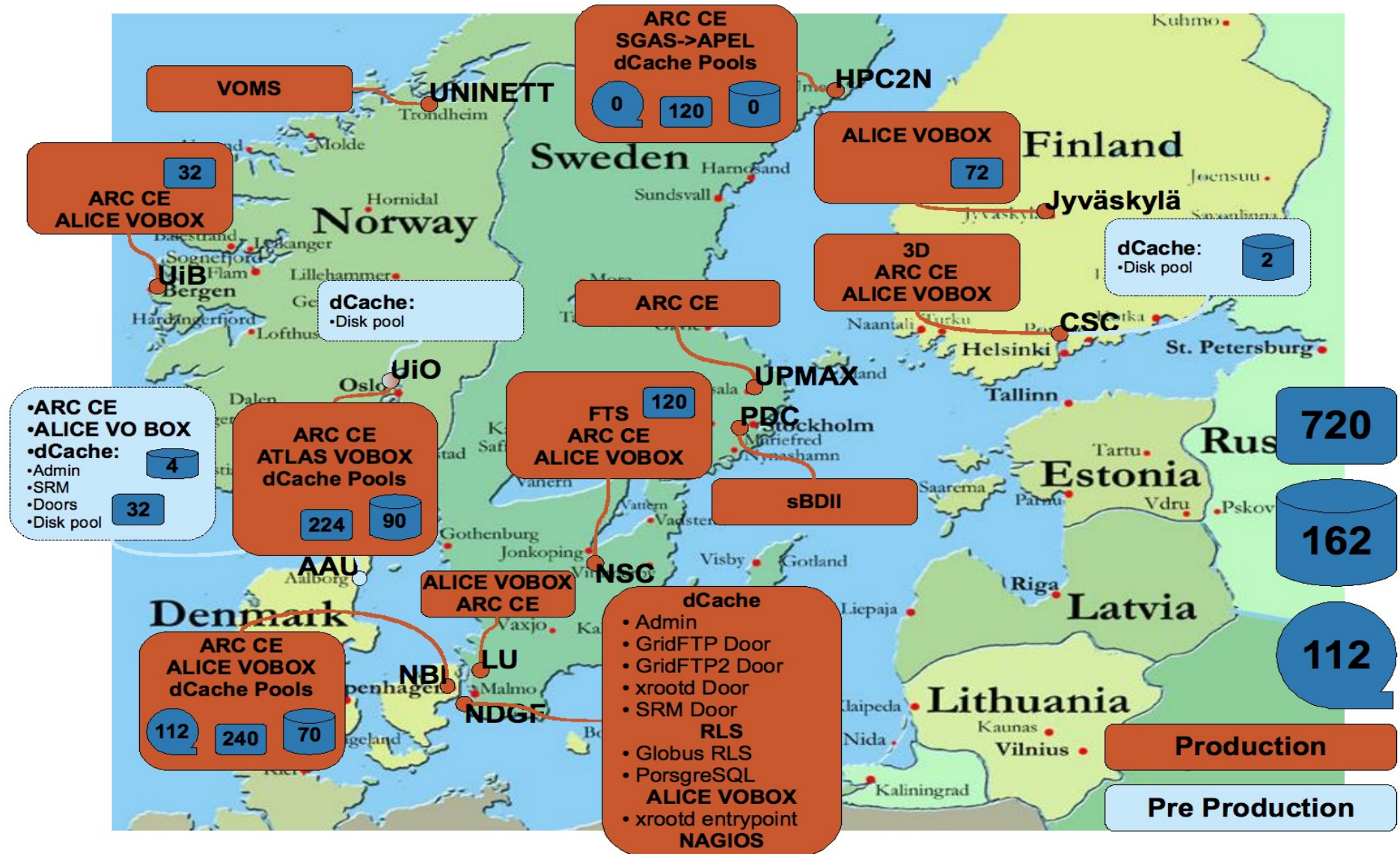




NDGF : some more details

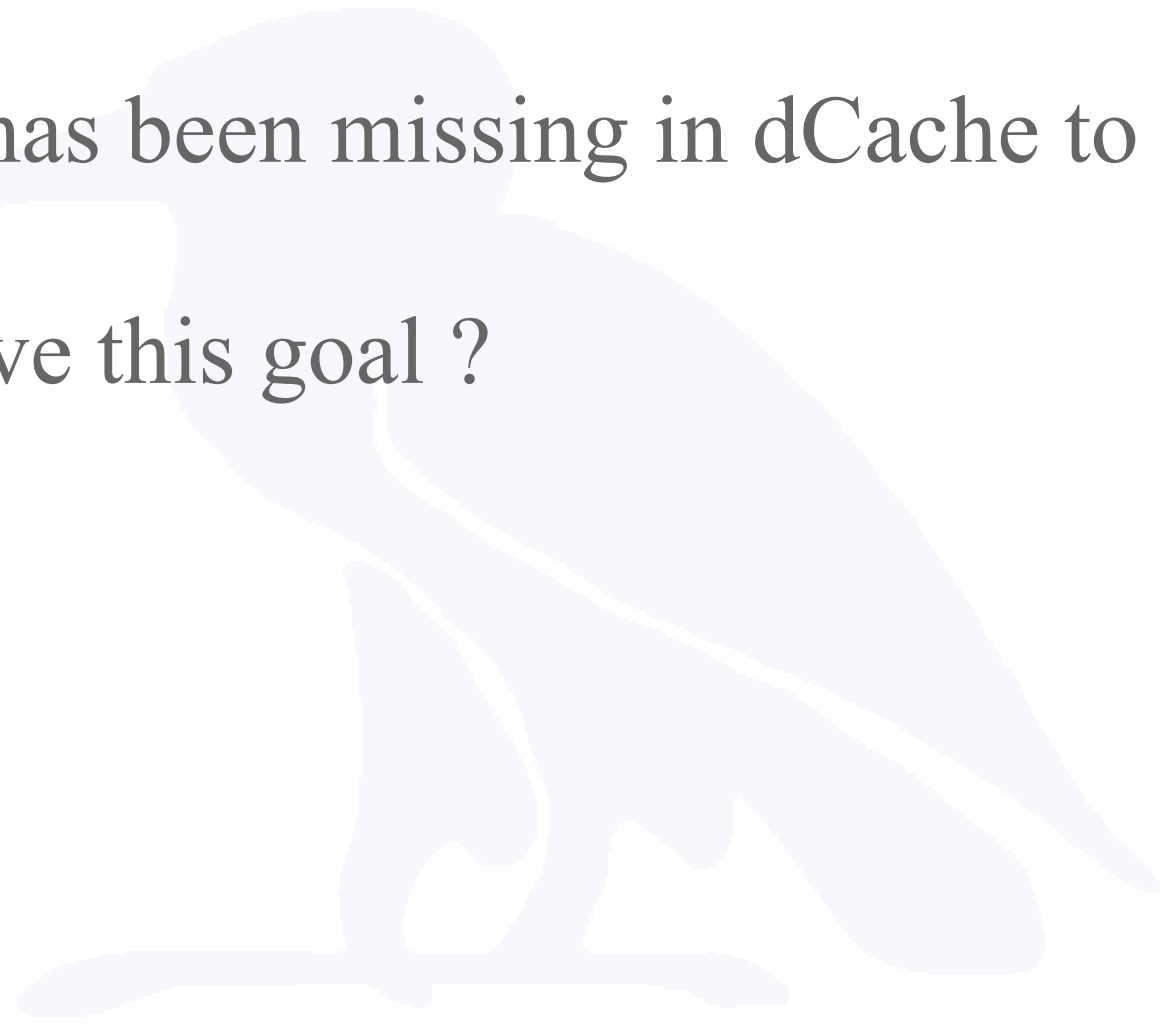
Stolen from CHEP07 talk by Michael Grønager

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What has been missing in dCache to
achieve this goal ?





Requirements for the NDGF dCache usage ?

- GridFtp 2 protocol support in dCache and in the LCG storage toolkit.
- Location context dependent HSM support.
- Minimise synchronised component updates.
- Secure component communication.
- Independent admin domains.
- Network topology awareness of dCache.



How did NDGF solve the problem ?

Beside presenting the list of requirements,
the provided help.

A professional developer for NDGF related
dCache development as part of the team.

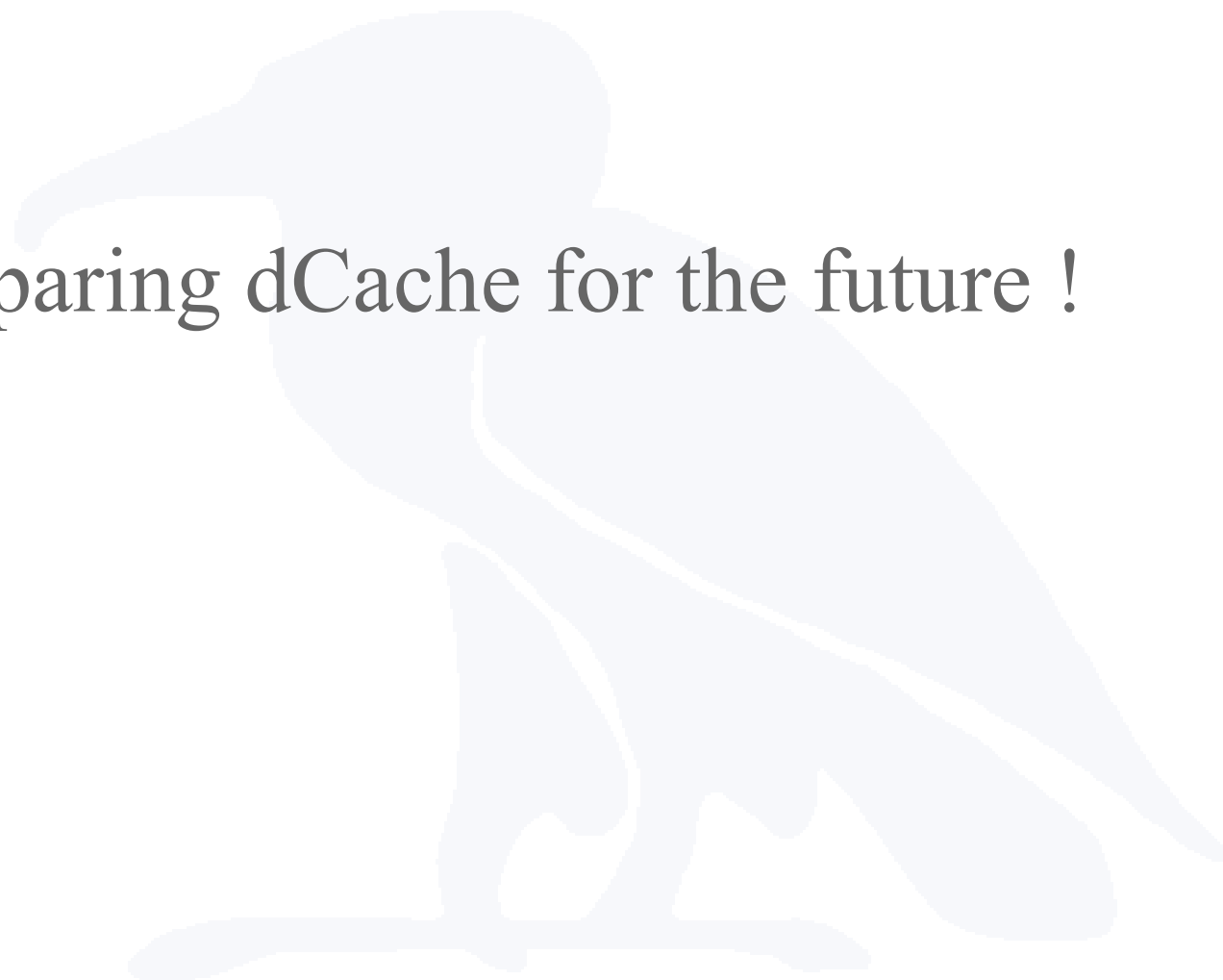
This turned out to be a very successful approach.



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Preparing dCache for the future !





Preparing dCache for the future !

Two equally important tasks to be prepared
for the future

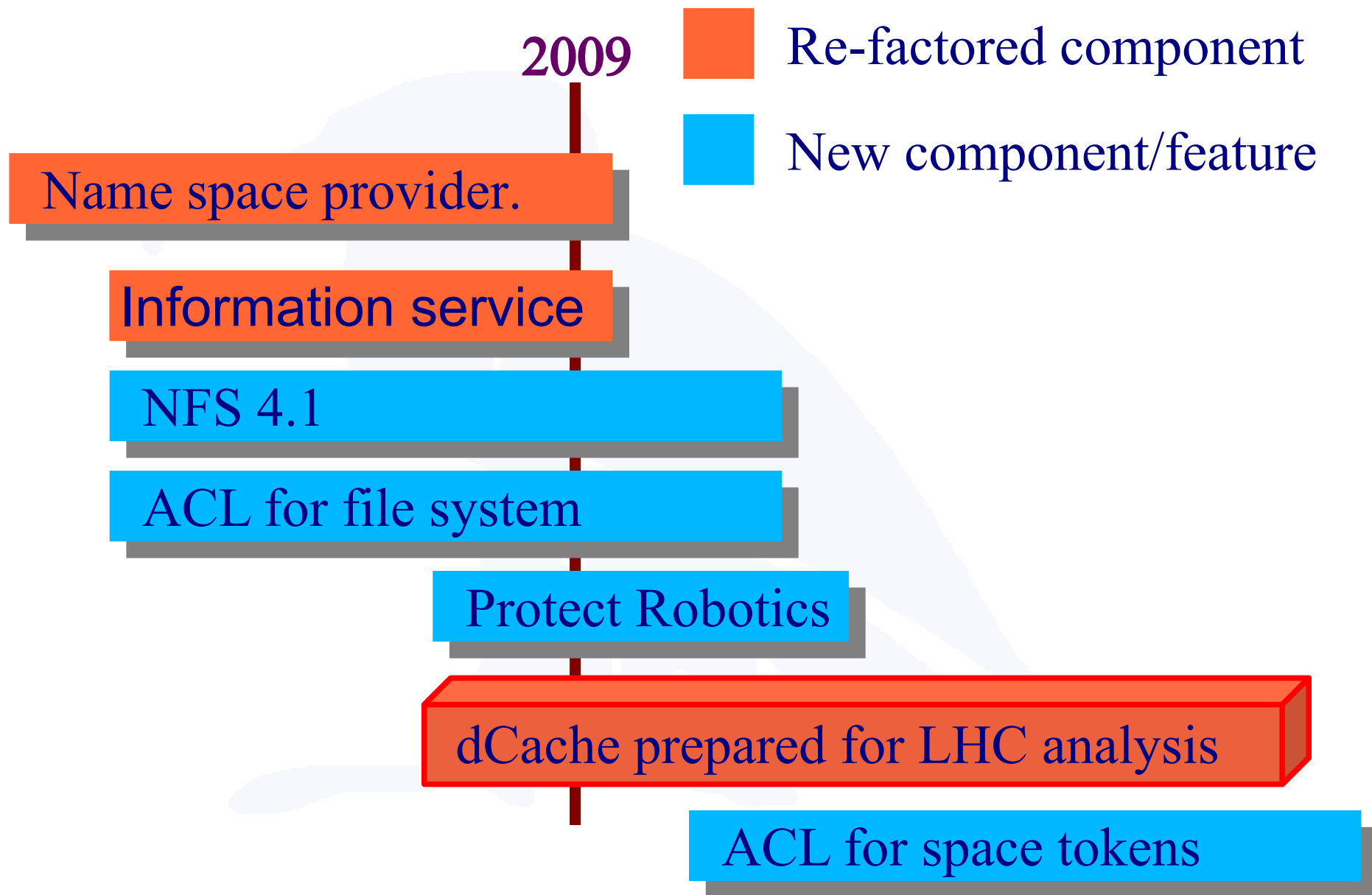
- ★ Implementing new requirements.
- ★ Re-factoring existing code.



Preparing dCache for the future !

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dCache prepared for LHC analysis

What does this mean.

- Huge amount of files are opened simultaneously.
- Only a small fraction of a file is actually read.

Possible solution

- Define areas in dCache with little file fluctuation
- Caching file location(s) within those areas
- This should allow rapid file 'opens'.



Conclusion

- The dCache software is doing well and covers LHC requirements especially concerning data volume and speed.
- dCache will hold most of the LHC data outside CERN.
- The dCache project model seems to be successful. Contributors, like OSG and NDGF, are welcome.
- dCache tries to attract non HEP communities.
- dCache tries to push for more industry standards.



Need a job ?

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dCache.ORG



WE NEED YOU

2 job positions offered at DESY

(Europe, Germany, Hamburg),

starting end of October.





Further reading

www.dCache.ORG

dCache.ORG

dCache.ORG