

# Clouds at other sites

T<sub>2</sub>-type computing

Randall Sobie

University of Victoria

# Overview

- Clouds are used in a variety of ways for Tier-2 type computing
  - MC simulation, production and analysis
  - Commercial/private, in-house/distributed
- Motivation for using clouds
  - Ease of use, reduced manpower costs, resource sharing
  - Separation of application and system administration
  - Leverage software development by commercial world
- How are clouds being used?
  - VM provisioning, job management, benchmarks, storage, networking, monitoring

# Cloud computing in HEP

Cloud computing in HEP is typically providing 5-20% of the processing of current projects

## Dedicated

Virtual cluster



## Opportunistic



**“Dedicated” clouds**  
(Owned by HEP)

**“Opportunistic” clouds**  
(private and commercial)

# Cloud deployments



Traditional bare-metal



Specific purpose cloud  
(e.g.. LTDA BaBar, HLT clouds)



Standalone/private cloud  
(e.g. PNNL, NorduGrid)



Distributed clouds  
(e.g. UK, Canada, Australia, INFN Clouds)



Bare-metal or in-house cloud with external cloud  
(e.g.. CERN, BNL)

# Examples of cloud deployments

(meant to illustrate our use of clouds)

# Australian Belle II Grid Site

Single CREAM CE services  
ATLAS Tier-2 (Torque)  
and  
Belle II site (Dynamic Torque)

Australia-ATLAS Tier 2



TORQUE + Maui

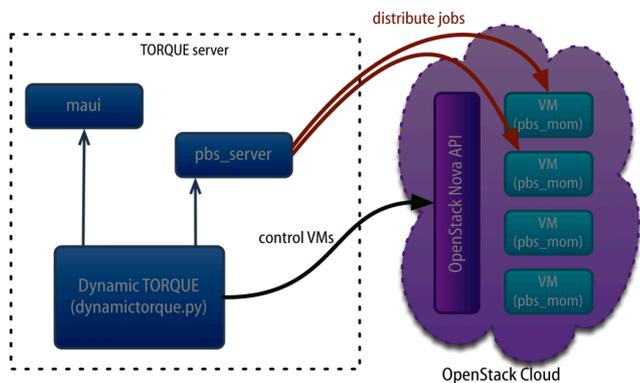


14,000 HEPSpec ~  
(1400 cores)



CREAM CE

## Dynamic Torque



distribute jobs via SSH



TORQUE + Maui

(Belle II) LCG.Melbourne.au

Dynamic Torque

control VMs



Research Cloud  
(Currently 700 cores)

## Why private cloud?

- ▶ Chosen for flexibility, efficient use of compute resources for services
- ▶ Provides easy load-balancing and availability features
- ▶ Provides templating features
- ▶ Easy re-use of templates to test and instantiate new server instances
- ▶ Non-systems staff can provision their own instances of services
- ▶ Software Defined Networking is more malleable than physical networking, encourages better networking practices, including security

## Lessons learned

- ▶ VM's and/or containers provide needed flexibility to support multiple collaborations and different user needs
- ▶ Ceph storage is very robust and flexible
- ▶ VM's impose a 15%-20% performance penalty on HEP compute workload without careful tuning
  - Move to containers on bare metal planned
- ▶ OpenStack features do not help us make sure a certain number of instances are up and healthy and consistent
  - Kubernetes looks appealing in this respect

## GridPP (P.Love/A.McNab)

### University Openstack instances

- Clouds at HEP institutions (Oxford/Imperial).
- ECDF cloud in Edinburgh has recently made available to the HEP

### UK Vacuum deployments

- Key to our light-weight Tier-2 strategy where we operate with minimal manpower at the site (<1000 cores).

### Datacentred commercial Openstack

- Scale of a Tier-2 facility.
- Free access to the their system (ATLAS) whilst they were commissioning things; paid for access when funds available.
- Network connectivity to the UK academic network is only 1Gbit but they have plans to upgrade

## Italy (INFN; Massimo Sgaravatto et al)

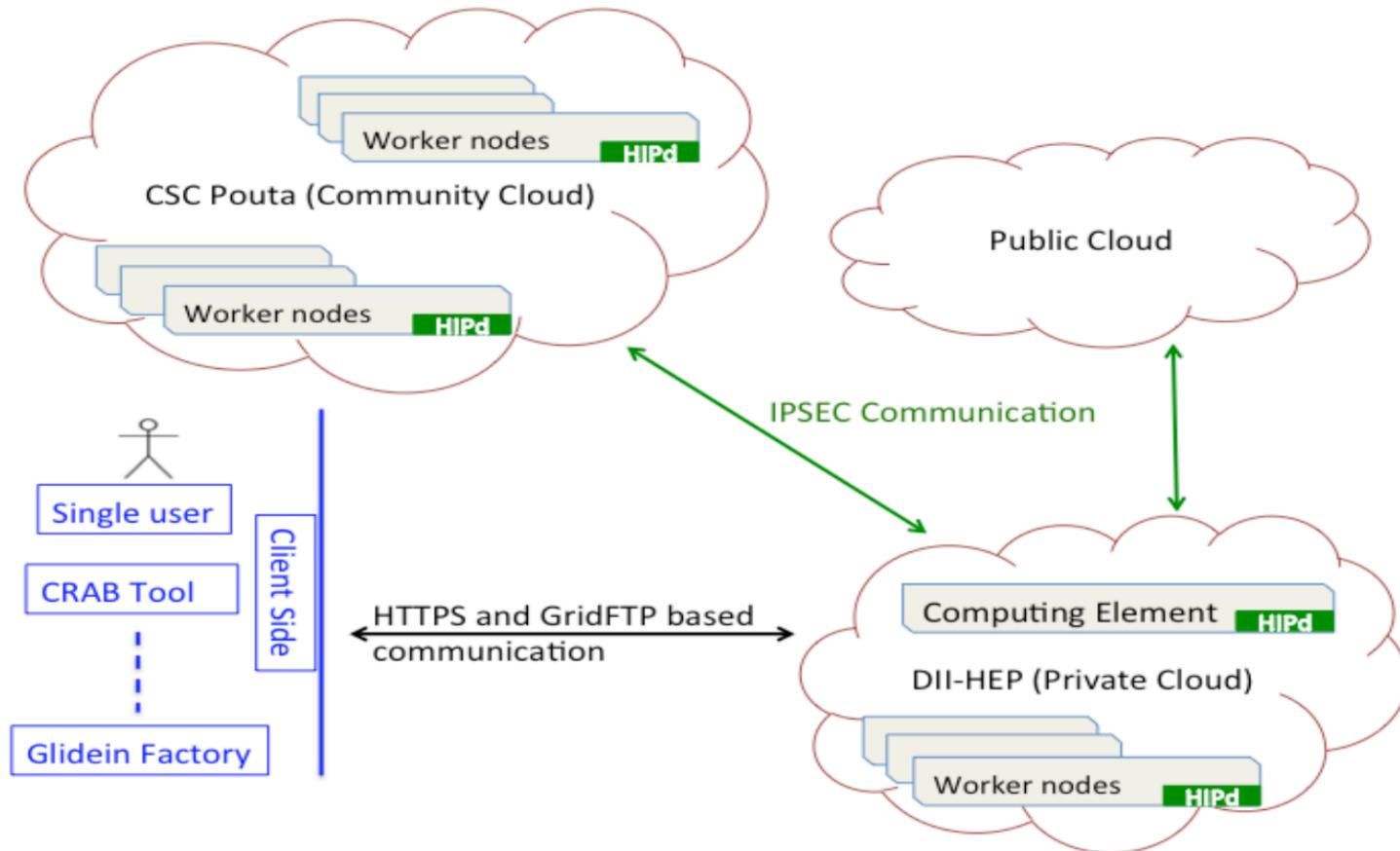
PrivateOpenStack Cloud (Padova-Legnaro) called CLOUD AREA PADOVANA  
Used by ~ 25 user groups/project that financially contributed for the resources

### Batch processing

- Relying on the elastiqa framework, HTCondor batch clusters are instantiated.
- These batch clusters are 'dynamic': new worker nodes are automatically added or are removed depending on load.
- CMS Cloud project is integrated with the local Tier-2.
  - E.g. CMS VMs can access the T2 storage (dcache) using the same local protocol (dCAP) used by the T2 WNs.
- Plans to deploy the Synergy service, which allows to manage the resource allocation using a fair-share approach, without a static partitioning of such resources among the relevant user communities.

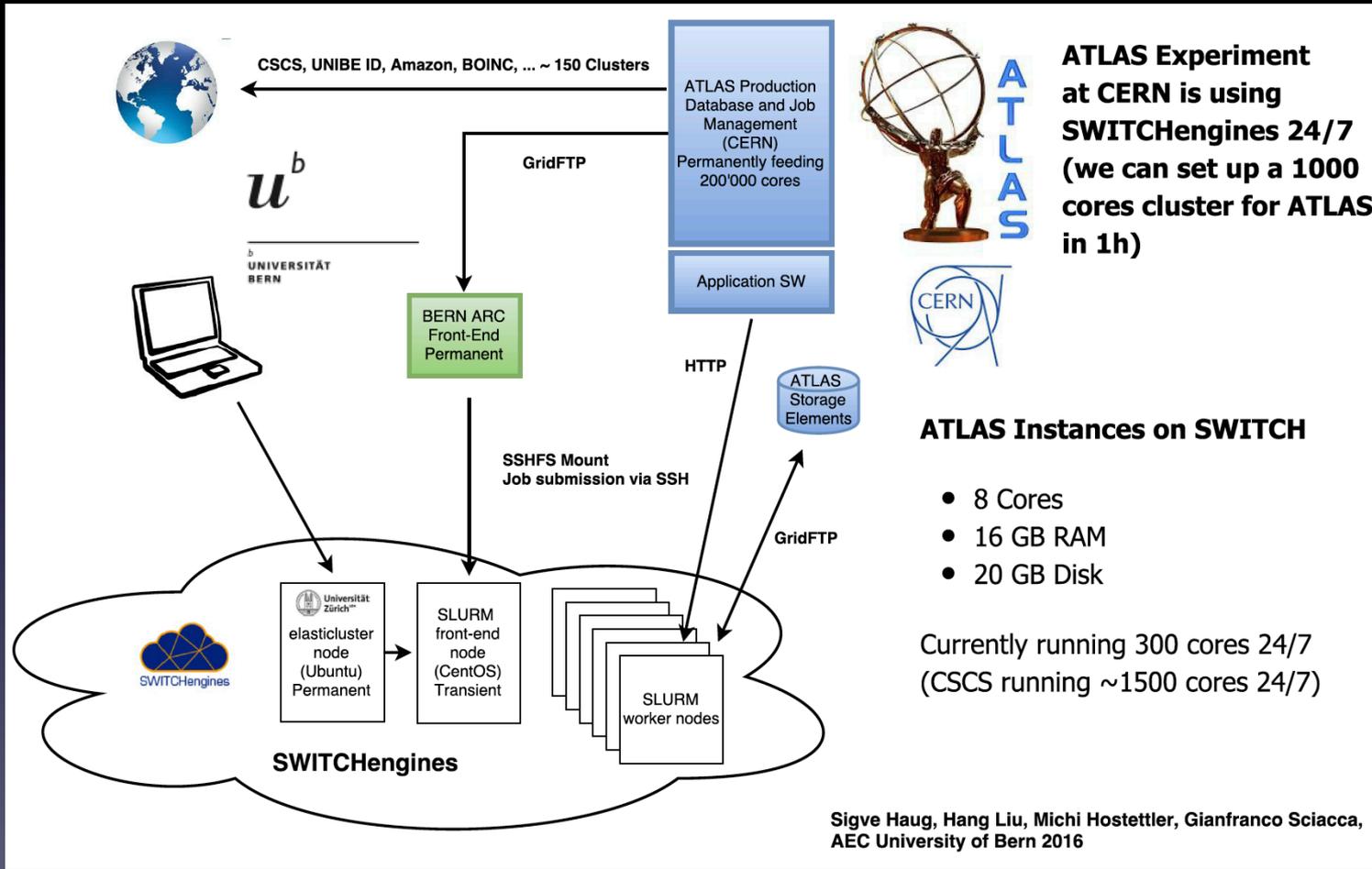
# NorduGrid

## Secure hybrid cloud



# Bern Switzerland

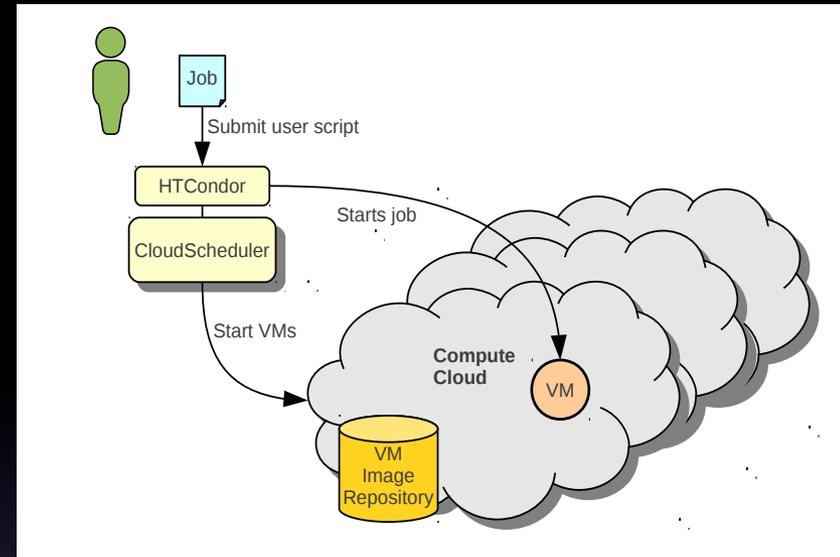
SWITCHengines – Swiss NREN commercial cloud (OpenStack)  
(free during development phase)



## Canada

### Distributed cloud system for ATLAS and Belle II

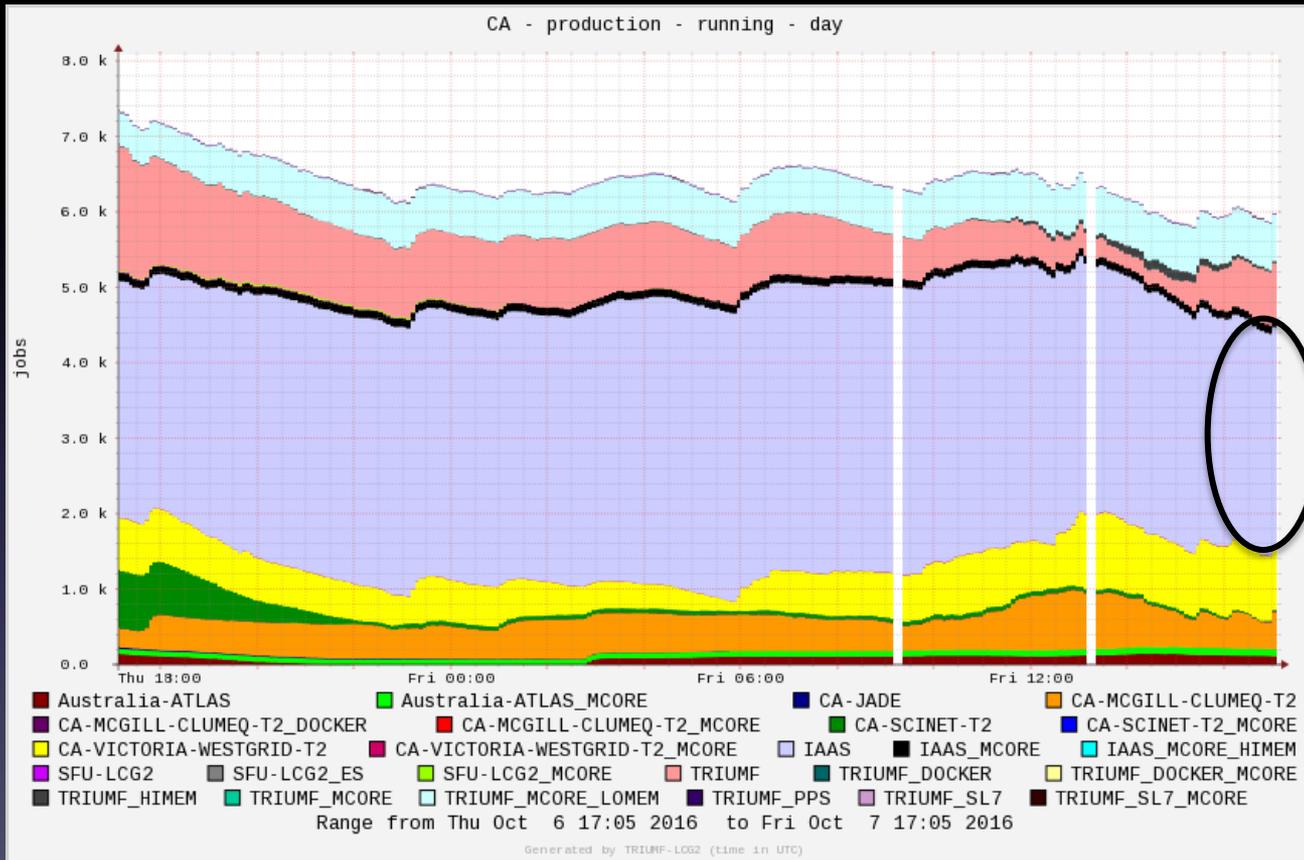
- Integrated into Panda/DIRAC
- In production for 3-4 years
- Also used by Canadian astronomy
- uCernVM, CVMFS, Squid-discovery (Shoal)
- Distributed VM image repository
- Data written to local storage and transferred
- Benchmarks run at VM boot
- VM time measurements for accounting
- Reasonable monitoring
- Updating system for Open Nebula
- Studying data federations (e.g. Dynafed)
- Context-awareness
- Challenges include managing resources across many administrative domains



10-15 clouds managed by HTCondor/  
CloudScheduler (4000-5000 cores)

800-1000 cores (each) EC2/Azure  
(Egress fees waived)

# Canadian WLCG "cloud" – includes Australian T2 Friday October 6



Cloud resources  
10 clouds  
4300 cores

# Job scheduling/VM provisioning

- Variety of methods for running HEP workloads on clouds
  - VM-DIRAC (LHCb and Belle II)
  - VAC/Vcycle (UK)
  - HTCondor/CloudScheduler (Canada)
  - HTC/GlideinWMS (FNAL), HTC/VM (PNNL), HTC/APR (BNL)
  - Dynamic-Torque (Australia)
  - Cloud Area Padovana (INFN)
  - ARC (Nordugrid)
- Each method has its own merits and often was designed to integrated clouds into an existing infrastructure (e.g. local, WLCG and experiment)

# Commercial and private clouds

- Commercial cloud use
  - Primarily Amazon EC2 and Microsoft Azure (with grants)
  - ATLAS discussing use of GCE
  - Other commercial OpenStack clouds
    - DataCentred (UK), SWITCHengines (Switzerland)
  - CERN commercial cloud procurement
- Private clouds
  - OpenStack and OpenNebula research-funded clouds but not involved in HEP

# Network connectivity

- Amazon and Microsoft clouds are connected to the research networks in North America (probably GCE as well)
  - Egress charges can be waived upon request
- Trans-border or trans-ocean traffic can be an issue
  - Become an important discussion topic in the LHCONE meetings
- Private opportunistic clouds
  - traffic flows over research network but not LHCONE network

## CPU Benchmarks

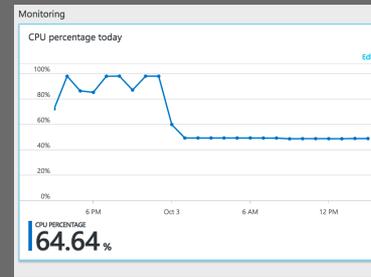
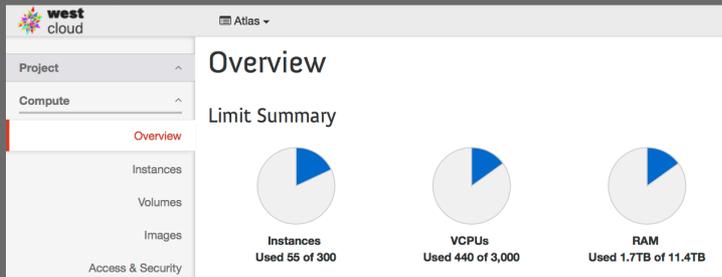
### New suite of “fast” benchmarks

- HEPiX Benchmark Working Group
- Suite available includes “fast HS” (LHCb) and Whetstone benchmarks
  - Write to Elasticsearch DB
- Run benchmarks in the pilot job or during the boot of the VM

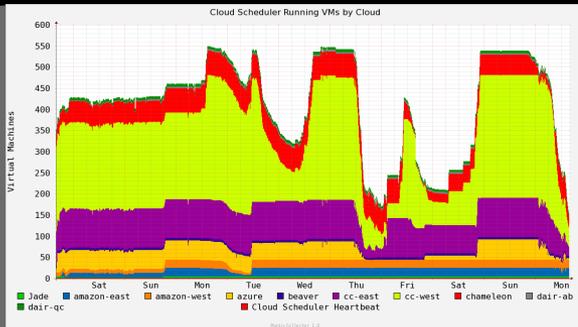
## Data storage

- Data written to local storage on node and then transferred to selected SE
- UK group has done some work integrating their object store with ATLAS
- BNL using S3 storage on EC2 for T2-SE

# Monitoring



Cloud or site monitor



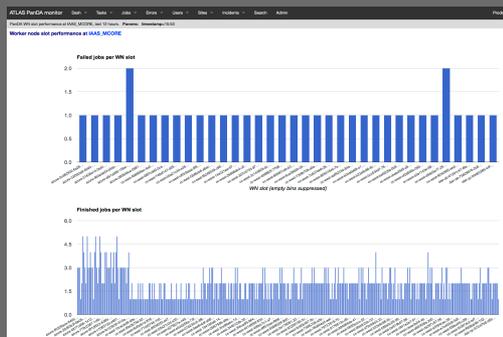
**ATLAS-Cern** 22:43:14 03-Oct

cern-atlas (29) cern-preservation (1) cern-victoria (3) datacentred (10) gridpp-imperial (2) gridpp-oxford (10) nectar (10)

Cloud	CloudScheduler VMs							HTCondor Slots								Jobs	Total	HTCondor Jobs			
	Starting	Running	Retiring	Error	Idle	Lost	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Held			Idle	Running	Completed	Held
cern-worker	0	49	0	0	0	0	49	49	49	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	403	200	203	0	0
cern-mcore-worker	0	51	0	0	0	0	51	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0	5	0	0
																	247	100	147	0	0
																	151	100	51	0	0

Cloud System monitor

Sensu, Munin, RabbitMQ, Mongo-DB, Ganglia



Application monitor  
Panda monitoring

**MONTH**

Cloud	#	Bmk	User	Total
beaver	18	15.6	49.5	60.5
cc-west	1610	19.0	3228.4	4205.4
cc-east	296	14.5	931.1	1129.1
chameleon	136	21.1	976.1	1269.5
dair-ab	2	12.7	30.6	32.9
dair-gc	7	12.3	85.3	92.2
azure	126	21.4	1518.2	1800.3
ec2	106	9.8	36.4	184.3
<b>Total</b>			6855.6	8774.2

Monday October 03 15:00:01

Benchmarks and accounting  
ElasticSearch DB

# Summary

- Clouds at HEP sites
  - Typically integrated into an existing infrastructure
  - Seen as a way to better manage multi-user resources
  - Cloud R&D funding opportunities
- Opportunistic research clouds
  - Easy way to utilize clouds at non-HEP research computing facilities
  - No requirement for on-site application specialists or complex software
- Commercial clouds
  - EC<sub>2</sub>/Azure/GCE dominate but other OpenStack clouds
  - Grant and some contracted resources
  - Trans-border network connectivity being addressed