

GEC 18

GENI Rack Operations and Measurement Plastic Slices Update

Josh Smift, GPO Brooklyn NY, 2013-10-28 www.geni.net

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- Artificial flexible experiments to exercise GENI
- Slivers at all sites with production GENI resources
- Simple traffic generation with iperf (TCP & UDP)
- Uses the shared-VLAN OpenFlow mesoscale
- Original project started in April 2011:
 - Six runs of various levels of traffic
 - Two other operational tests
 - Another 20+ "continuation" rounds since then

http://groups.geni.net/geni/wiki/PlasticSlices

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- Started with 6 8 OpenFlow Campus Trials sites:
 - MyPLC for compute nodes
 - Expedient for OpenFlow
- Dormant for several months after that
- Revived in March 2012 with 5 7 OFCT sites:
 MyPLC compute nodes, FOAM for OpenFlow
- Added Utah ProtoGENI in October 2012
- Added 5 racks (and dropped OFCT) in April 2013
- 20 racks plus Utah PG in the next run after GEC http://groups.geni.net/geni/wiki/PlasticSlices/Continuation



- We delete and re-create slivers between runs
- Too many in a row causes FlowVisor problems:
 - Usually the process is running but stuck
 - Sometimes it actually crashes
 - Restarting FV generally fixes it
- FOAM is also sometimes affected:
 - Typically "database is locked" errors
 - Restarting FOAM should fix that
- Still an open issue



- We create many slivers at a given aggregate:
 One for each slice at that aggregate
 Generally two VMs per slice
- Creating many ProtoGENI Xen VMs at once:
 - Some try for a while and then fail to come up
 - Used to sometimes crash the AM
- Two at a time seems to work all right
- Utah folks are actively working on this



- Graphs & analysis were sporadic and ad hoc:
 - Reasonably good for the initial project
 - Too manual and time-consuming in later runs
- Real I&M tools can help:
 - GEMINI and GIMI have nice user interfaces
 - For this scale, we need non-interactive UIs
- Integration is still ongoing



- Wrangling 10 slices x 20 sites needs automation
- Tarvek manages experiment configuration
- Copy-and-paste commands provision resources
- Dingbot does initial compute node configuration
- Zoing runs experiments out of cron
- Planning to move provisioning into Tarvek
- Some overlap with I&M tools
- Solicitation 4 tools will be much richer