Using Virtualized Computing Resources with DIRAC



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- The problem of management of cloud computing resources
- VMDIRAC cloud resources manager
 - Interfacing to cloud providers
 - VM contextualization
 - WMS pilot jobs in VMs
 - VM life cycle management
- Managing policies for cloud resources usage
- Status and ongoing developments
- Conclusions



Problem of HTC with cloud resources

- Unlike computational grids, reserving and creation of resources (VMs) as well as managing their life cycle is the responsibility of the users
 - Tools needed to do it as transparently as possible
- Unlike commercial clouds, public cloud resources are not "unlimited"
 - We have to share fairly limited resources between user communities without loosing efficiency and flexibility of clouds
- Resources in commercial clouds are more and more used for scientific computing
 - How to use them together with public resources efficiently and within allocated budgets



DIRAC provides all the necessary components to build ad-hoc grid infrastructures interconnecting computing resources of different types, allowing interoperability and simplifying interfaces. This allows to speak about the DIRAC interware.



Job scheduling

- Pilot jobs are submitted to computing resources of various types by specialized Pilot Directors
- Running the same pilot jobs everywhere allows to integrate heterogeneous resources transparently for the users
- This is fully applicable to the cloud resources as well







VMDIRAC extension

- VMDIRAC extension developed for Belle MC production system
 - Dynamic VM spawning taking Amazon EC2 spot prices and Task Queue state into account
- Now VMDIRAC is a general purpose service for VMs life cycle management
 - Creation
 - Monitoring
 - Discarding





DIRAC Cloud resources configuration

Grid sites

Cloud sites

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<pre> OutputURL = gsiftp://localhost @ Queues The second sec</pre>	TimageID = 9df72t29-15d4-4433-b120-2dc084695100 FlavorName = m1.large VO = biomed SL6-large CreatePublicIP = False MaxInstances = 4					



Cloud resources configuration

- Similar to other computing resources
 - Cloud sites
 - Cloud endpoints
 - VM images (OS + size/flavor)
 - Equivalent to batch queue description
 - Can have VO specific tags for matching with user payloads
- Contains all the necessary details for
 - VM creation with required properties
 - Job requirements matching to VM capabilities
- Cloud resource status monitoring
 - Included in the DIRAC Resource Status Service (RSS) in a similar way as any other computing resources
 - Same databases
 - Different testing commands and status evaluation policy plug-ins
 - Work in progress



- Preferring standard "official" bare minimum images
 - SL6, CC7, CernVM
 - CVMFS is installed while the contextualization if not present in the image
 - Avoid image maintenance (security updates, etc)
 - VO specific software can be installed as part of custom contextualization
- Custom images (appliances) are still possible
 - Special OS
 - Preinstalled DIRAC
 - Preinstalled VO software



VM submission

- Cloud endpoint plugins to interact with particular cloud provides
- Cloud endpoint abstraction
 - Implementations (IHEP, Beijing)
 - Apache-libcloud
 - □ Catch-all library, but not really...
 - Rocci
 - □ Using command line interface
 - $\hfill \Box$ Allow connections with GSI proxies
 - ► EC2
 - □ Boto python API
 - More implementations are in the works
 - OCCI, Google, Azur, IBM, ...



- CloudDirector VMDIRAC way
 - Similar to SiteDirector for grid jobs submission
 - VM submission based on the Task Queue status
 - If there are waiting user payloads
 - VM properties corresponding to payload requirements

Vac/Vcycle (A. McNab)

- NotVMDIRAC
- Used by LHCb
- No a priori knowledge about the state of the Task Queue
- Similar contextualization and pilots



- Cloud resources reserved for a particular production campaign
 - Particular sites, images, tags, etc
 - End and start dates of the campaign
 - Statically or dynamically allocated
- Suitable for commercial resources reservation for well defined activities – production campaigns
- User jobs can specify a RunningPod tag to chose those resources
 - Only jobs specifying this tag can run there



- cloud-init mechanism
 - Using a password-less certificate passed as user data
 - Long user proxy or service/host certificate
 - Using bootstrapping scripts similar to Vac/Vcycle
 - Using pilot 2.0
 - Setting up MJF environment if available on the site
 - Mounting attached disk storage
 - On the fly installation of DIRAC, CVMFS if necessary
 - Starting VM Monitor Agent
 - Starting one or more pilots to manage the VM job slots

SSH mechanism

- Bootstrapping by sending commands through an SSH tunnel
 - Requires public IP address
- Mostly obsoleted, using cloud-init



Pilots in the VMs

- Same as any other pilots
 - DIRAC Pilot 2.0 framework
 - A set of commands for the DIRAC environment installation and setup, starting Job Agents interacting with the WMS central service
 - User communities can provide custom pilot commands in addition and/or in replacement of the standard omes
- Managing the VM CPU cores scenarios
 - Launching as many pilots as they are cores
 - Suitable for single-core payloads, à la grid jobs
 - Launching single pilot
 - Suitable for multi-core payloads occupying the whole VM
 - Single pilot with a PoolComputingElement plugin for payloads execution
 - Simple "batch system" to manage VM job slots
 - Can execute payloads with any requirements to the number of cores: single, exact number of cores or whole node occupancy

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- VM Monitor Agent is launched in parallel with the pilot process during the VM bootstrapping
 - This is a watchdog for activities on the VM
 - Sends heartbeats and VM status information to the central VM Manager service
 - Can receive instructions from the central service as a response to the heartbeat
 - □ E.g., halt, drain and other commands
 - Monitors the VM status
 - □ CPU load
 - □ Pilots status via log files
 - Can be configured to halt the VM with different policies
 - $\hfill\square$ Strict life time, à la batch system
 - □ Zero CPU load
 - \Box No active payloads









Managing resource usage policies

- Prerequisites for automatic enforcement of policies for cloud resources usage
 - Information about all the waiting payloads
 - Accounting for the history of resources consumption by users and groups
 - Communication channel to the VMs via the VM Monitor Agents
- This allows to manage resource allocation according to various policies
 - Static shares, simple but least interesting
 - Fair shares enforcements using "batch system" algorithms
 - Shares of different groups within the same VO
 - Shares between different VOs
 - Can be done by DIRAC provided as a service by multi-VO infrastructures
 E.g., DIRAC4EGI
 - Requires delegation of inter-VO policies management to the DIRAC level rather than doing it on-site
- This is the work in progress
 - VM Scheduler service
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Web VMDIRAC interface

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1		SL6-large	biomed	Cloud.CC.fr::cck	Halted	3DF1C8D5	ae3c32de-5751-4f90-b5c2-0	3e6dc90fd5f		0.00	0:00:00	0
2		SL6-large	biomed	Cloud.CC.fr::cck	Halted	CEECBECC	c94abbc0-a173-4a40-ba27-5	if6fb6e18326		0.00	0:00:00	0
3		CentOS6-large	biomed	Cloud.IPHC.fr::s	Halted	945C6FDC	e9ccfad8-9184-4485-9855-9	4175bae9b77		0.00	0:00:00	0
4		SL6-large	biomed	Cloud.CC.fr::cck	Halted	FBFCC813	874bbe23-fb70-4c37-9185-1	2e4d8a72a51	134.158.246.45	0.00	0:25:24	10
5		CentOS6-large	biomed	Cloud.IPHC.fr::s	Halted	5AA24A6C	3e52c824-7b46-4ad3-9dcc-7	44d7ea4468c	134.158.151.203	0.02	0:28:21	0
6		SL6-large	biomed	Cloud.CC.fr::cck	Halted	CA7D8A6C	f03c87ac-c5ca-4141-bf31-8e	a8f36f1b5b	134.158.246.66	0.06	0:15:17	0
7		CentOS6-large	biomed	Cloud.IPHC.fr::s	Halted	3263A169	206f18d8-4835-442f-9222-9	7bf6e633d27	134.158.151.206	0.02	0:28:54	0
8		SL6-large	biomed	Cloud.CC.fr::cck	Halted	A4A35CDC	3444199f-8efb-4b60-ac7c-ca	2258f68330	134.158.246.45	0.00	7:35:42	6
9		CentOS6-large	biomed	Cloud.IPHC.fr::s	Halted	08B5C451	2949911f-a461-49a1-af21-a		134.158.151.211	0.00	11:18:38	75
10	-	SL6-large	biomed	Cloud.CC.fr::cck	Halted	998CC925	642fc735-650c-4b83-a313-2		134.158.246.45	0.01	0:25:14	0
11	1	SL6-large CentOS6-large	biomed	Cloud.CC.fr::cck Cloud.IPHC.fr::s	Halted Halted	85BBB600	ba11965c-f575-4746-8a03-c		134.158.246.66	4.07 9.91	5:25:32	4
12			biomed			F20CB27B	433040b6-9ff3-4564-90f8-33		134.158.151.62		18:44:00	14



- Monitoring
 - VM status and operation parameters

Accounting

- Number of VMs, executed jobs, data transfers, etc
- Per site/endpoint, per image, per RunningPod

Administration

- VM manipulation by administrators
 - Start, halt, other instructions to the VM Monitor Agent
- Public IP association to connect for debugging problems

Work in progress

- Refactor to make uniform with other computing resources monitoring
 - Abandon usage of Google tools
- Expose more functionality in managing VMs



- VMDIRAC is provided as part of multi-VO DIRAC services
 - France-Grilles DIRAC
 - Using Cloud Federation resources in France (< 10 sites)</p>
 - Communities: biomed, vo.france-grilles.fr
 - DIRAC4EGI
 - Using EGI FedCloud resources
 - Communities: enmr-eu, training
 - Same usage patterns as for the grid resources, same user experience
- BES III, Belle II experiments
 - Migrating from VMDIRAC 1.0 to VMDIRAC 2.0
 - Using clouds in production activity
- CTA Collaboration
 - preparing a Data Challenge involving HNCloud resources



- Following evolution if cloud provider service interfaces
 - Moving towards using REST interfaces instead of third party bindings
- Flexible usage of VM CPU cores
 - Single vs Multi-core payloads on the same VM
 - Job masonry algorithms
- Enhanced VM Monitoring functionality
 - Graceful VM shutdown, draining, sending signals to the payload
- Enhanced web monitoring and administration tools
- VM Scheduler for flexible multi-community policies of cloud resources usage
 - Including scenarios for commercial cloud resources



- VMDIRAC is developed as the DIRAC extension in a common framework with other DIRAC subsystems
 - Easy access to various DIRAC services, databases, etc
 - Can be further extended with VO specific services and scenarios, web applications
 - Developers having experience with the DIRAC development framework can make contributions easily
- Helps making cloud resources usage completely transparent for the users



Conclusions

- More and more computing resources are now provided via Cloud technologies
- VMDIRAC is providing means for cloud computational resources description and integration with other resources within the same Workload Management System
- The VMDIRAC architecture allows to support complex multicommunity policies of using cloud resources including fair sharing scenarios
- The system is under active development to follow evolution of the cloud technologies and to provide new functionalities to users and administrators of the DIRAC services

