Aspects of a Processing Grid

Peter T. Kirstein P.Kirstein@cs.ucl.ac.uk
Søren-Aksel Sørensen S.Sorensen@cs.ucl.ac.uk
Stefano A. Street S.Street@cs.ucl.ac.uk
Sheng Jiang S.Jiang@cs.ucl.ac.uk
Department of Computer Science
University College London

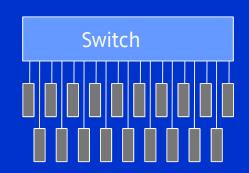


Processing scenarios

- ☐ Batch processing
 - Large number of small (10's mins) jobs
 - Typical for Bioinformatics and HEP.
 - Resource hungry but not fussy.
 - Large data sets.
- ☐ Interactive experimentation
 - Single distributed job
 - User controlled (haptic steering)
 - Dynamic resource requirements
 - Performance sensitive (latency)
 - Visualization and steering



Cluster computing



□ Advantages

- Cost effective solution to resource shortage
- Simple security (isolated environment)
- Easy management.

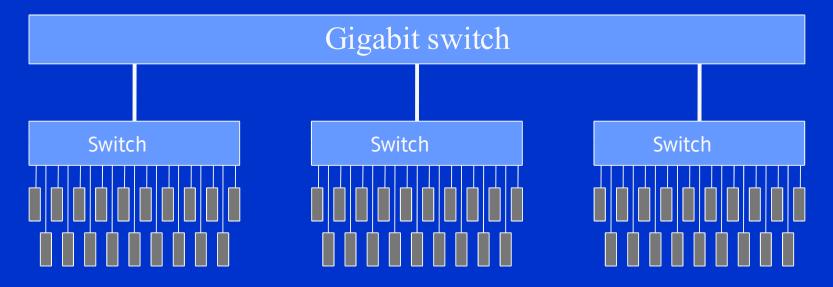
□ Problems

- Switching cost (Ethernet)
- Task mixing (delay vs. throughput)
- Resource management (time sharing, performance protection)



Cluster of clusters

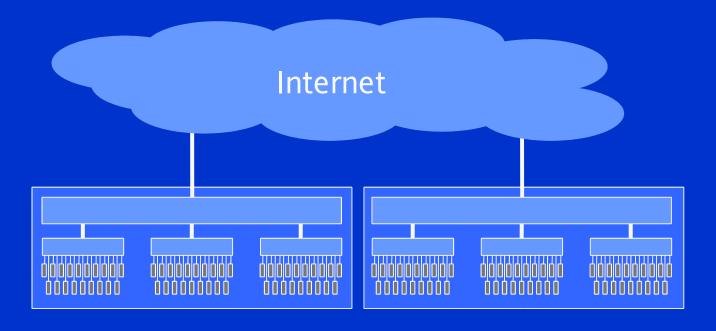
- ☐ Large systems can be created from a hierarchy of sub-clusters.
- ☐ The UCL cluster uses this architecture



- ☐ Still growth problems (eg. power and cooling)
- ☐ Utilisation problems



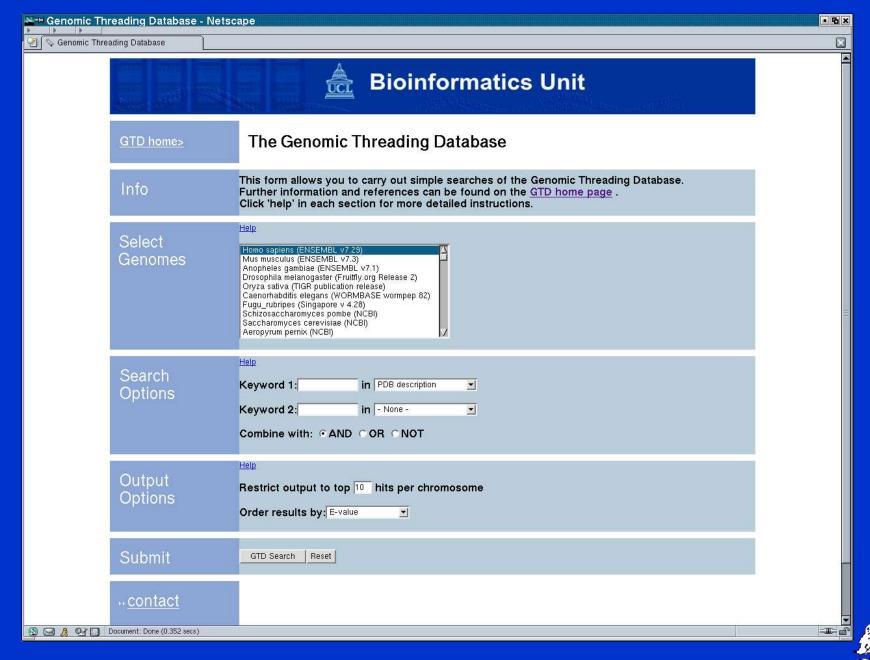
Multi-domain clusters

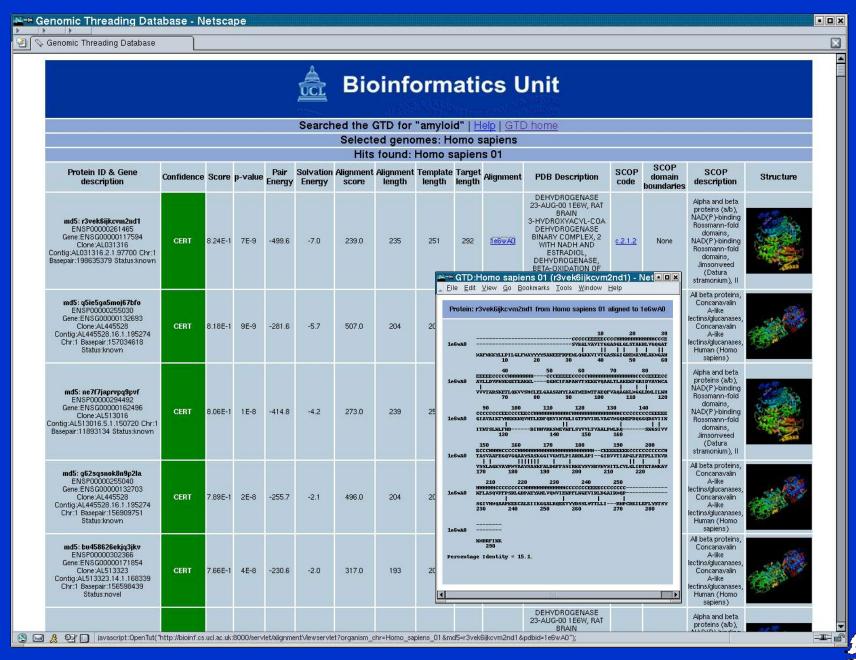


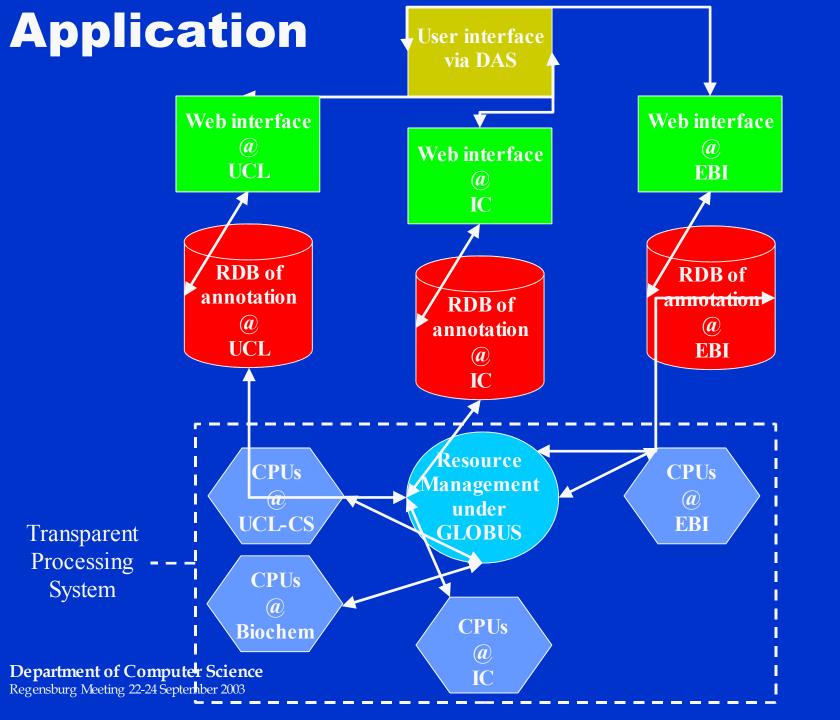
□ Problems

- Security
- Load balancing
- Resource discovery





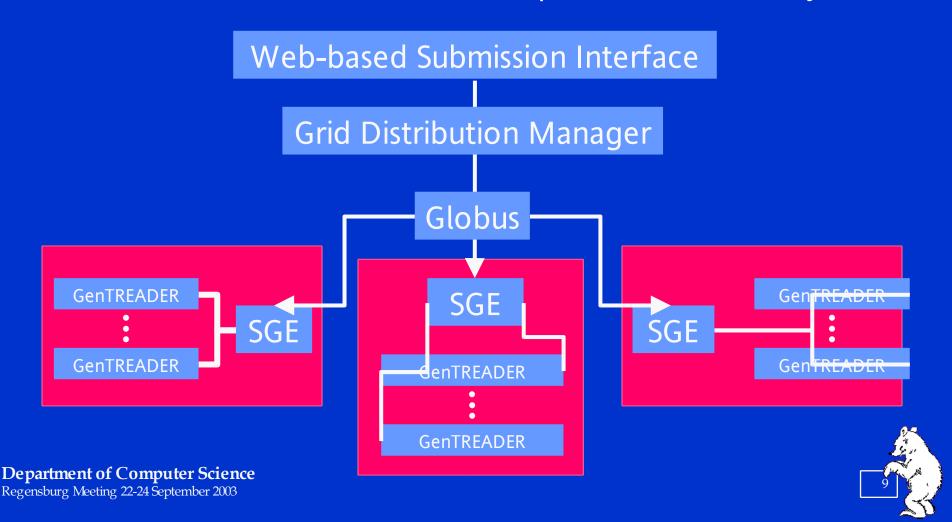




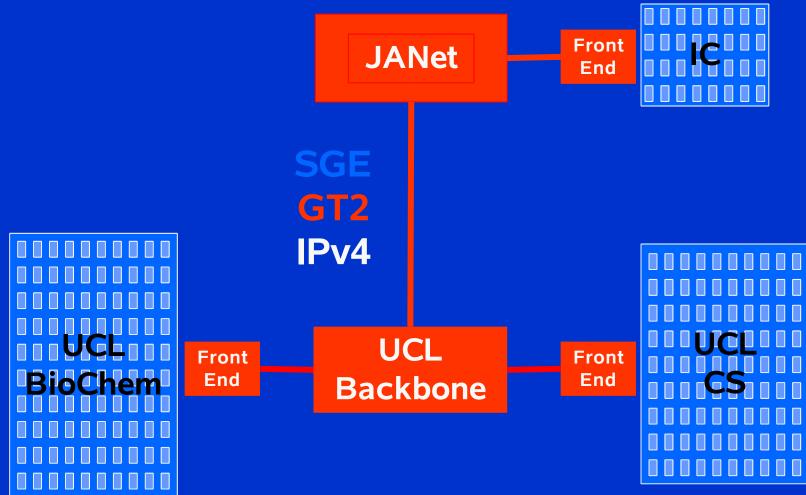


Distributed GenTHREADER Configuration

- User 'annotation' submission committed via Web Form
- Web service filters & divides sequence file into sub jobs

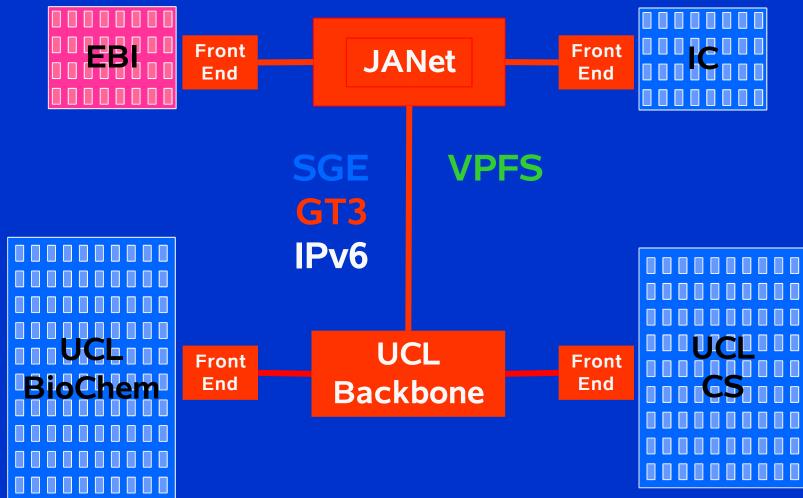


eProtein current production setup





eProtein future setup





IPv6 Advantages

- ☐ Larger Address Space
- ☐ Mobility Support
- ☐ Built-in Security
- ☐ Hooks for QoS
- ☐ Better Auto-configuration
- ☐ End-to-end Addressing
- ☐ Deploys New Technologies



Grid over IPv6

- ☐ Full availability of IPv6 will allow provision of better Grid services
 - Mobility support in distributed networks or globalscale networks
 - Performance potentially much better
 - Auto-configuration for resource discovery
 - Allow separation of addressing and routing
 - Better group communication
 - Better security



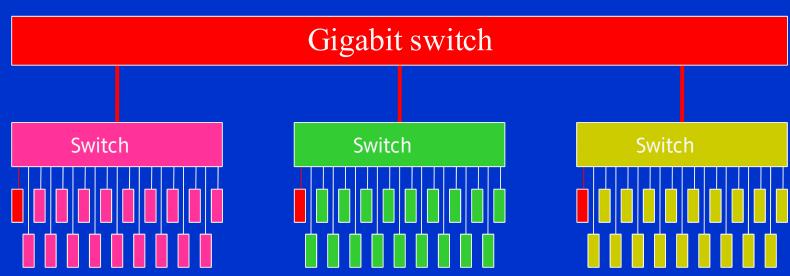
Demonstrator Setup

- ☐ Intel
- ☐ Linux (Red Hat 8 2.4.18)
- ☐ GT3 (alpha)
- ☐ Java (Sun SDK 1.4.1)
 - IP-independent Class InetAddress used everywhere
 - Inet4Address
 - Inet6Address
 - Tomcat "lightweight edition"



Testing

- ☐ GenTREADER setup
- ☐ GT3 GRAM services
- □ Local subnets





Interactive use

- ☐ Distributed systems use PVM/MPI2
- Dynamic scheduling through dummies
 - Dummy process scheduled by SGE.
 - Extra resource communicated to application.
 - Dummy replaced by application process.
- ☐ Priorities used to favour interactive processes
- ☐ Cluster wide process control.

