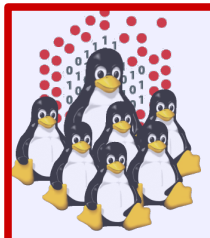
Moreno Baricevic

CNR-INFM DEMOCRITOS
Trieste, ITALY

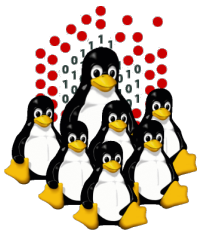
Installation Procedures for Clusters

PART 1 – Cluster Services and Installation Procedures

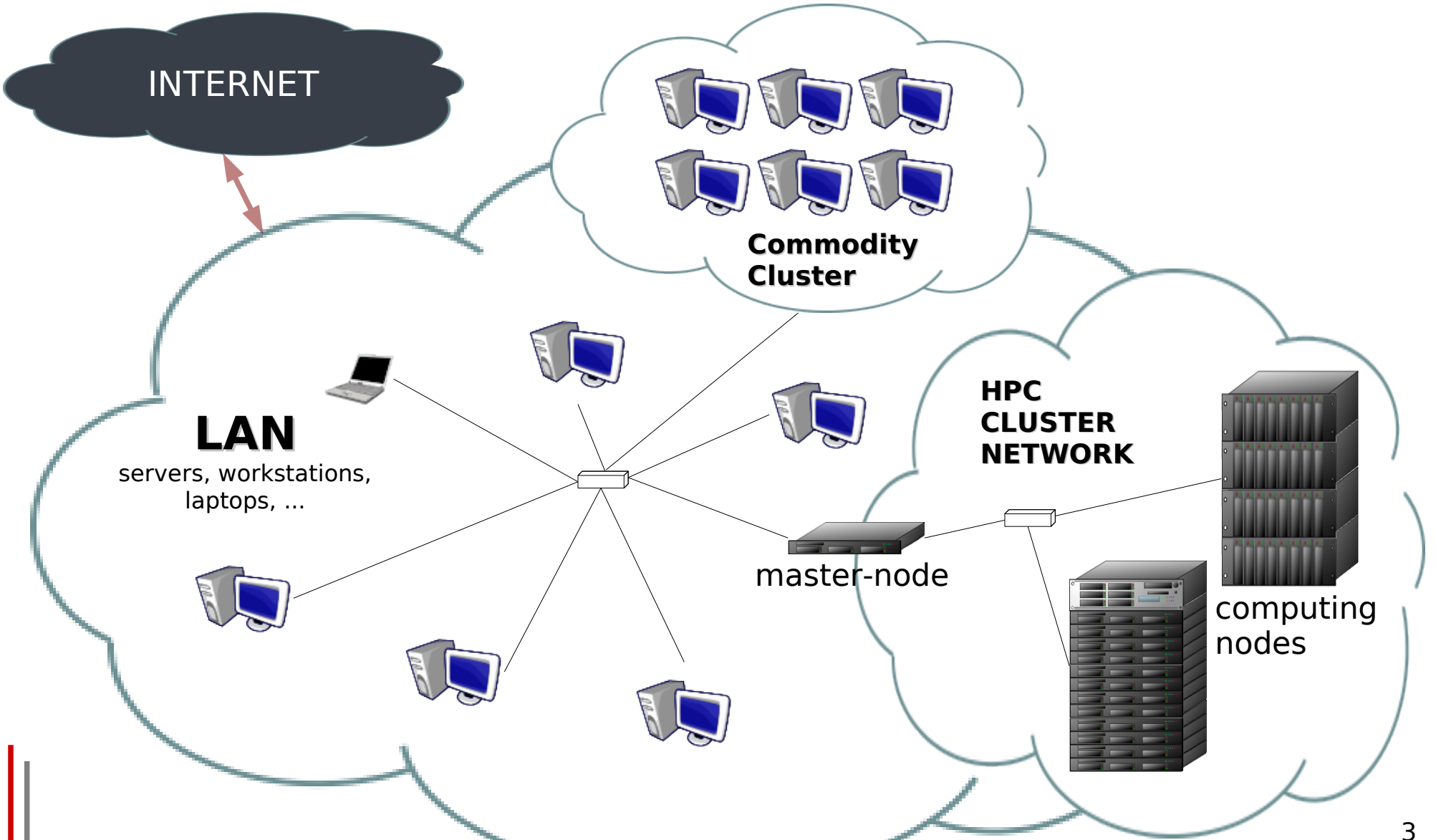


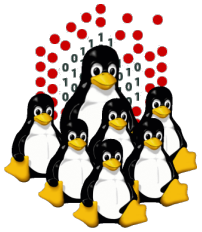
Agenda

- Cluster Services
- Overview on Installation Procedures
- Configuration and Setup of a NETBOOT Environment
- Troubleshooting
- Cluster Management Tools
- Notes on Security
- Hands-on Laboratory Session



What's a cluster?





What's a cluster from the HW side?

LAPTOP

PC / WORKSTATION

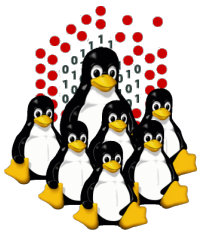
RACKs + rack mountable SERVERS

1U Server
(rack mountable)

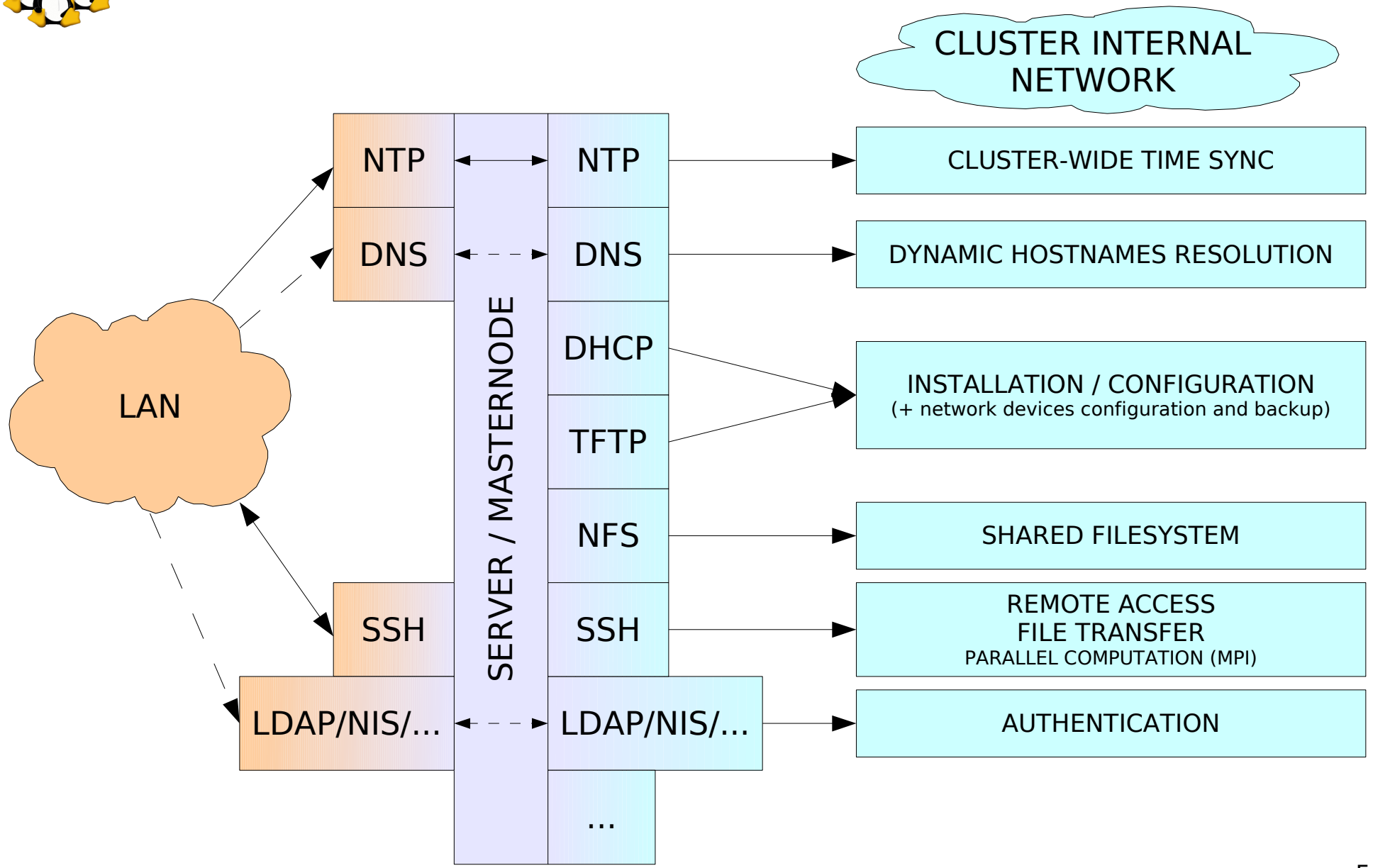
BLADE Servers

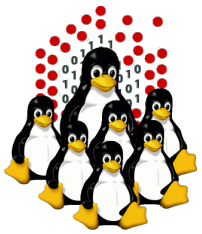
IBM
Blade Center
14 bays in 7U

SUN Fire B1600
16 bays in 3U

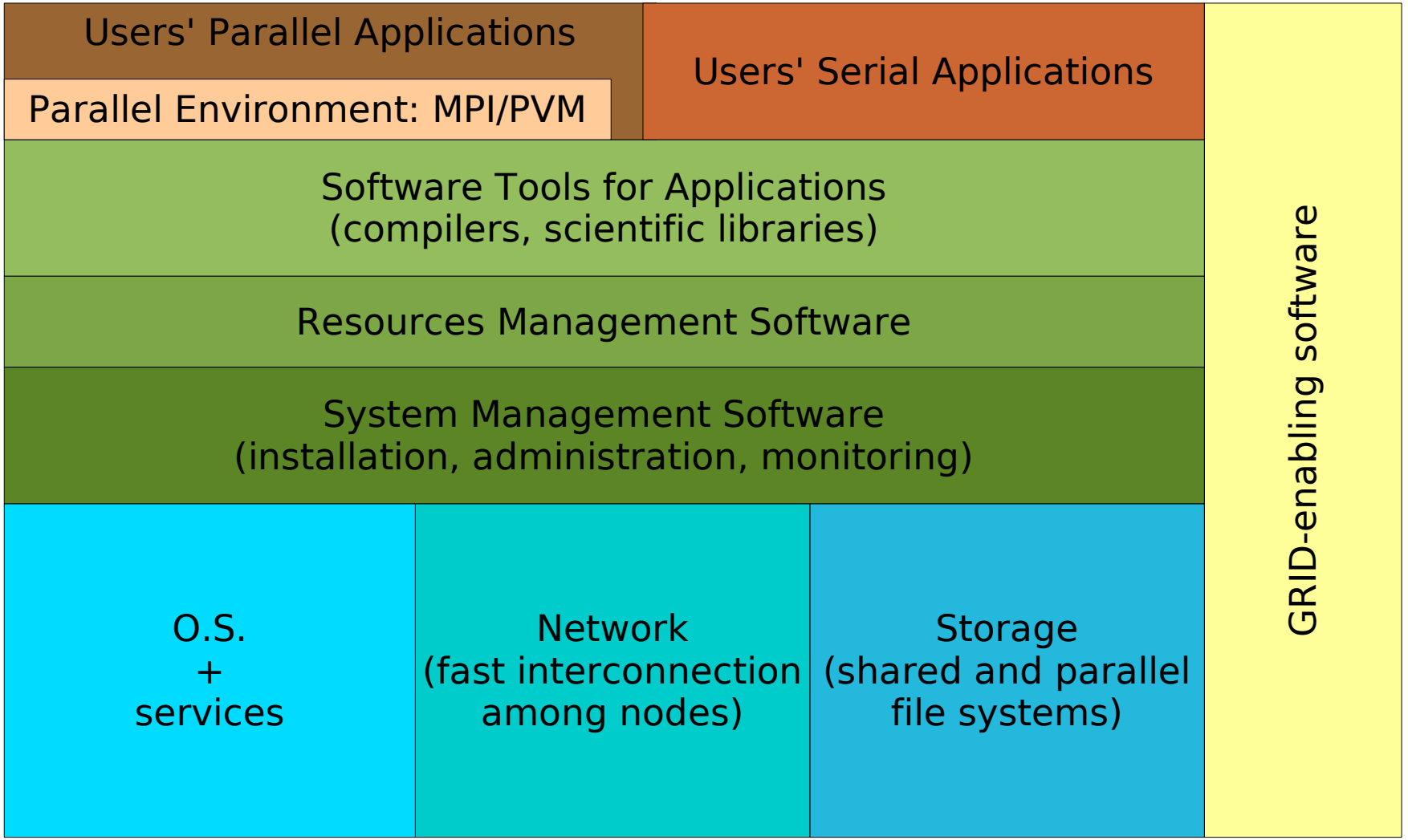


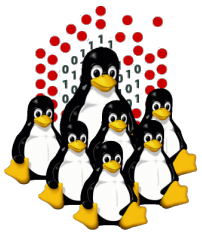
CLUSTER SERVICES



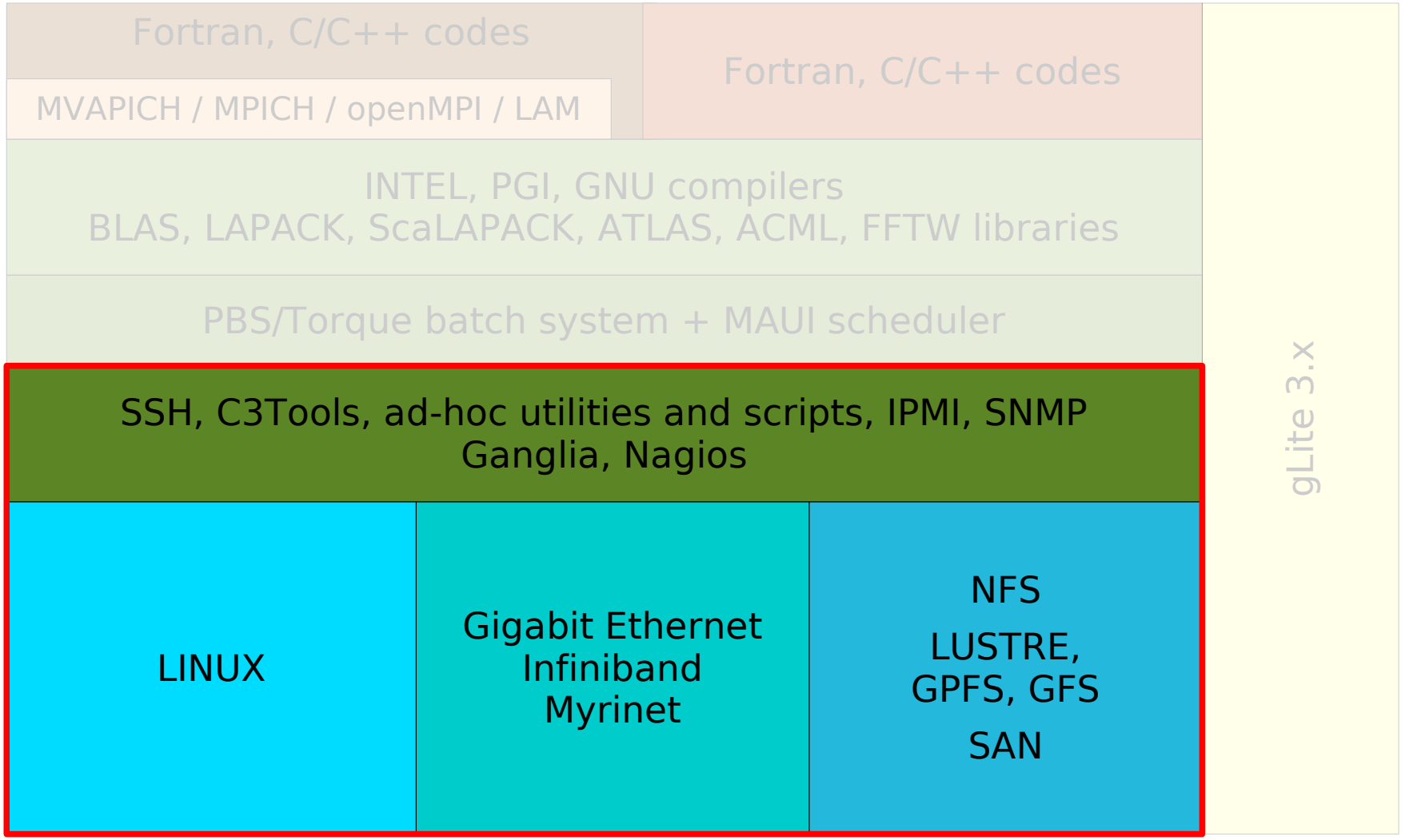


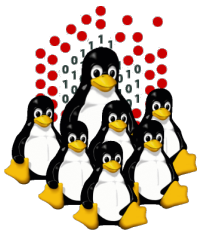
HPC SOFTWARE INFRASTRUCTURE
Overview





HPC SOFTWARE INFRASTRUCTURE
Overview (our experience)





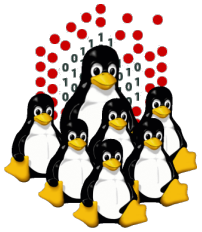
CLUSTER MANAGEMENT
Installation

Installation can be performed:

- interactively
- non-interactively

- **Interactive** installations:
  - finer control

- **Non-interactive** installations:
  - minimize human intervention and let you save a lot of time
  - are less error prone
  - are performed using programs (such as RedHat Kickstart) which:
    - “simulate” the interactive answering
    - can perform some post-installation procedures for customization



CLUSTER MANAGEMENT
Installation

MASTERNODE

Ad-hoc installation once forever (hopefully), usually interactive:

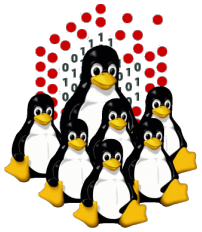
- local devices (CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, Floppy, ...)
- network based (PXE+DHCP+TFTP+NFS/HTTP/FTP)

CLUSTER NODES

One installation reiterated for each node, usually non-interactive.

Nodes can be:

1) disk-based
2) disk-less (not to be really installed)



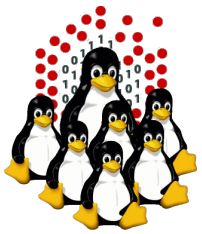
CLUSTER MANAGEMENT
Cluster Nodes Installation

1) Disk-based nodes

- CD-ROM, DVD-ROM, Floppy, ...
  Time expensive and tedious operation
- HD cloning: mirrored raid, dd and the like (tar, rsync, ...)
  A “template” hard-disk needs to be swapped or a disk image needs to be available for cloning, configuration needs to be changed either way
- Distributed installation: PXE+DHCP+TFTP+NFS/HTTP/FTP
  More efforts to make the first installation work properly (especially for heterogeneous clusters), (mostly) straightforward for the next ones

2) Disk-less nodes

- Live CD/DVD/Floppy
- ROOTFS over NFS
- ROOTFS over NFS + UnionFS
- initrd (RAM disk)

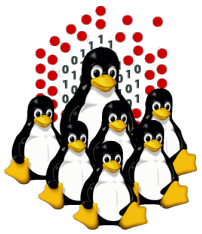


CLUSTER MANAGEMENT
Existent toolkits

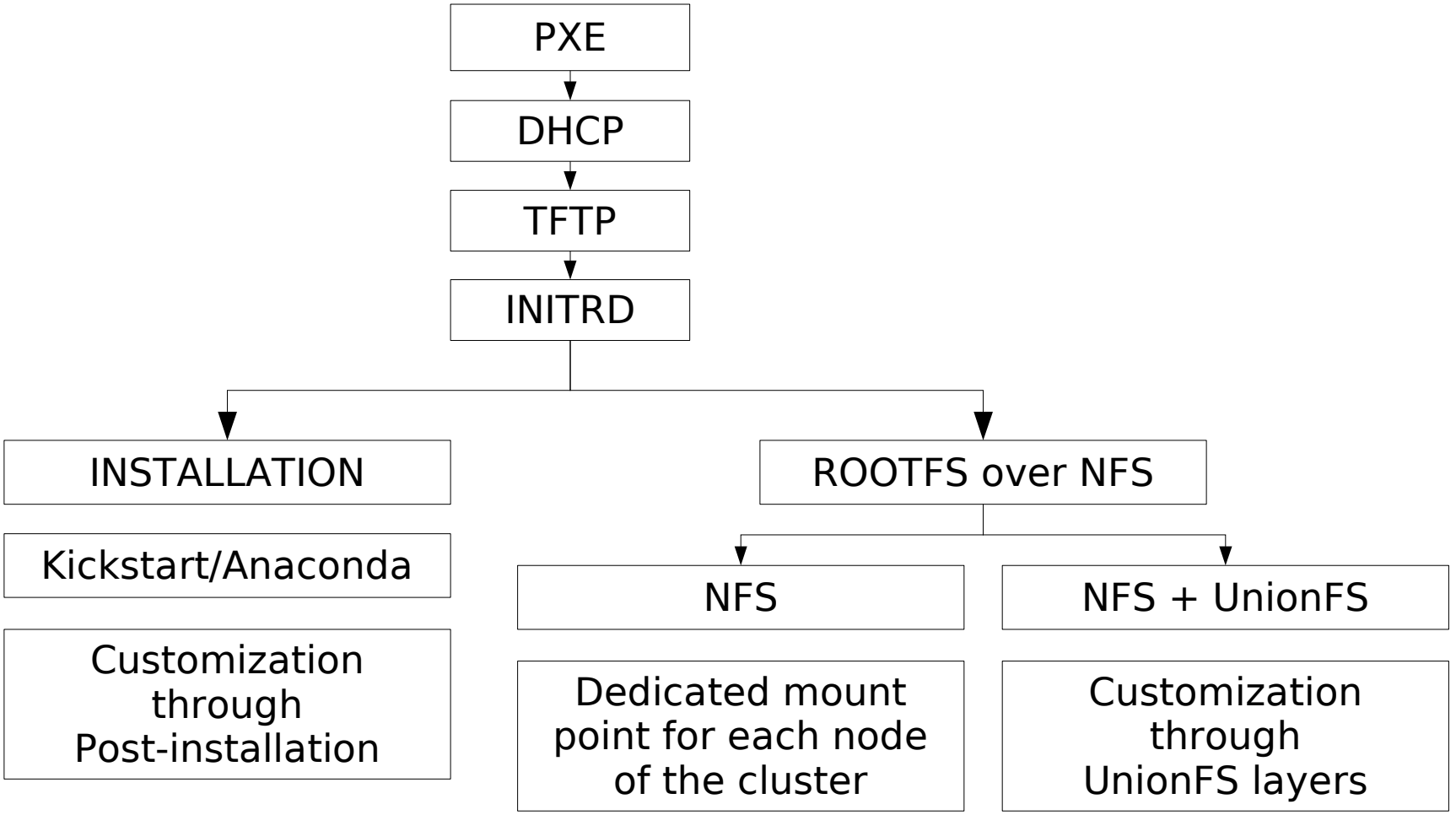
Are generally made of an ensemble of already available software packages thought for specific tasks, but configured to operate together, plus some add-ons.

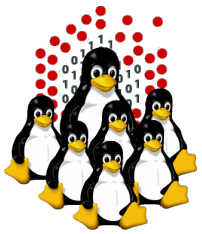
Sometimes limited by rigid and not customizable configurations, often bound to some specific LINUX distribution and version. May depend on vendors' hardware.

- Free and Open
  - OSCAR (Open Source Cluster Application Resources)
  - NPACI Rocks
  - xCAT (eXtreme Cluster Administration Toolkit)
  - Warewulf/PERCEUS
  - SystemImager
  - Kickstart (RH/Fedora), FAI (Debian), AutoYaST (SUSE)
- Commercial
  - Scyld Beowulf
  - IBM CSM (Cluster Systems Management)
  - HP, SUN and other vendors' Management Software...

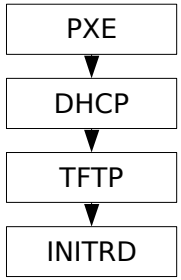


Network-based Distributed Installation
Overview

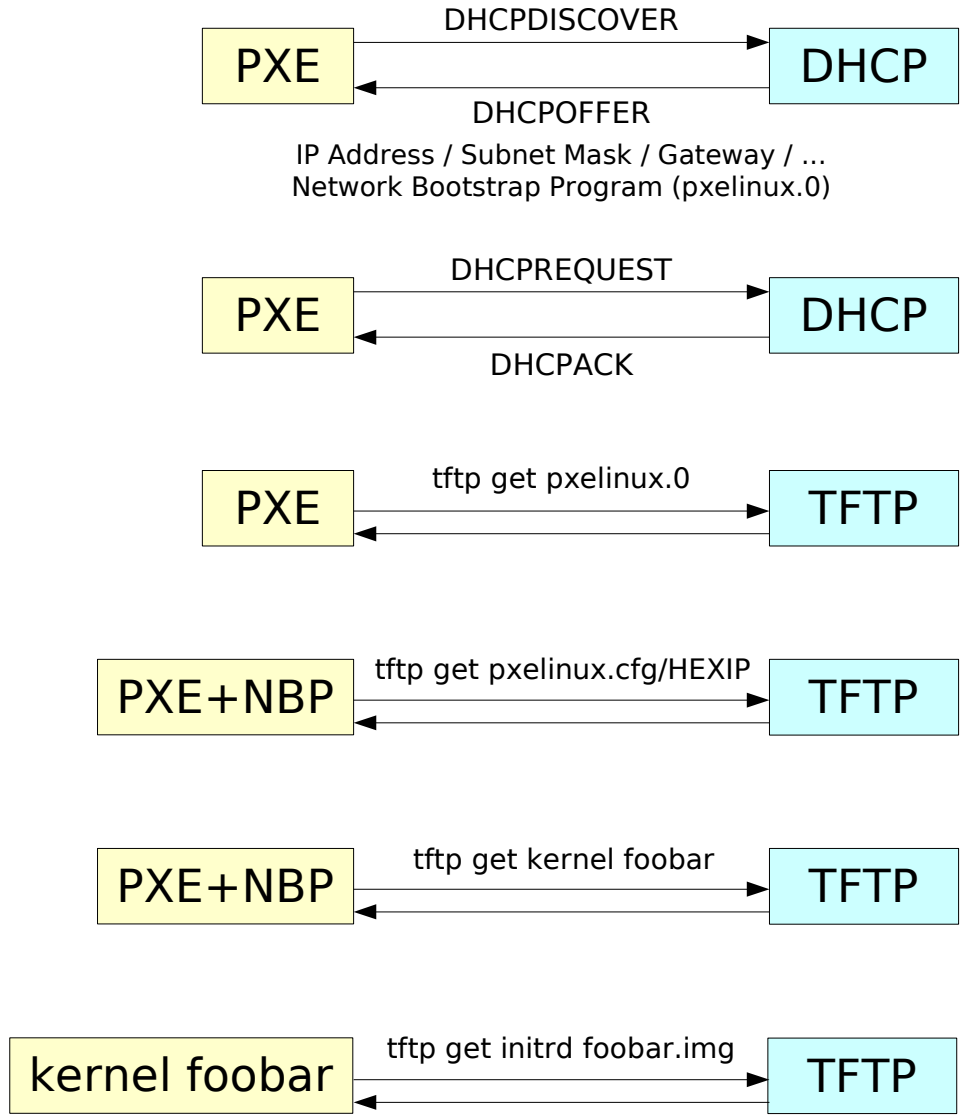




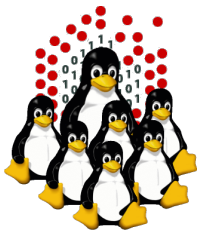
Network booting (NETBOOT)
PXE + DHCP + TFTP + KERNEL + INITRD



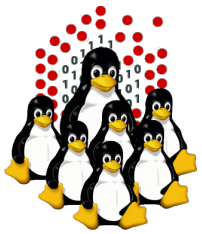
CLIENT / COMPUTING NODE



SERVER / MASTERNODE



Network-based Distributed Installation
NETBOOT + KICKSTART INSTALLATION

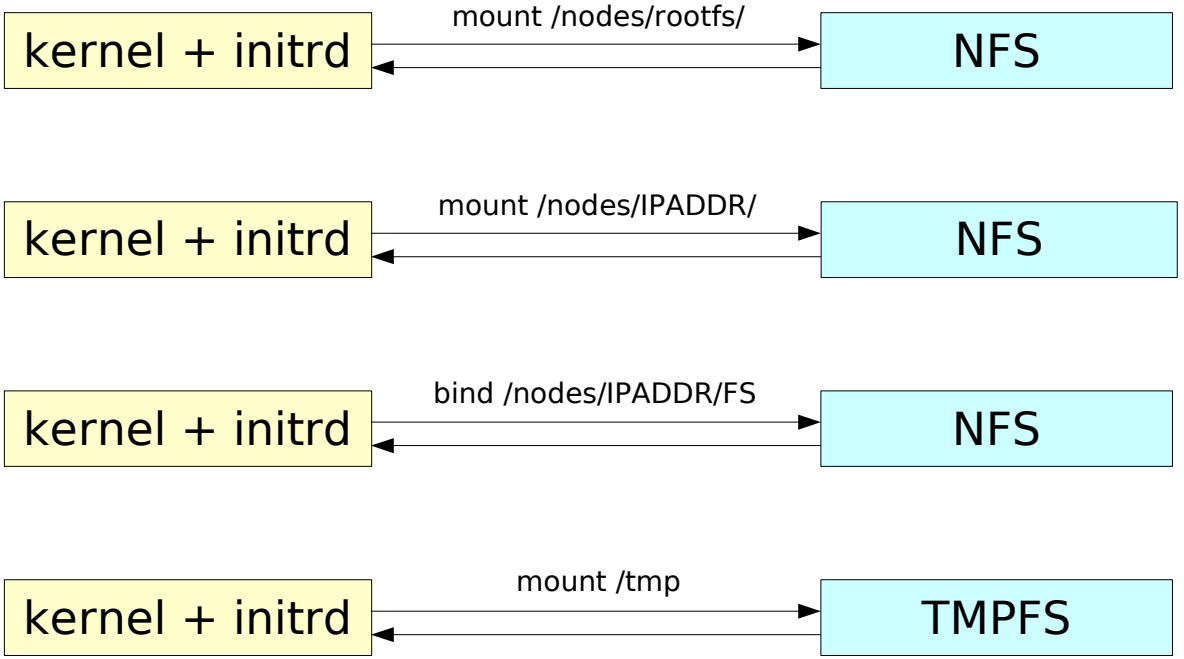


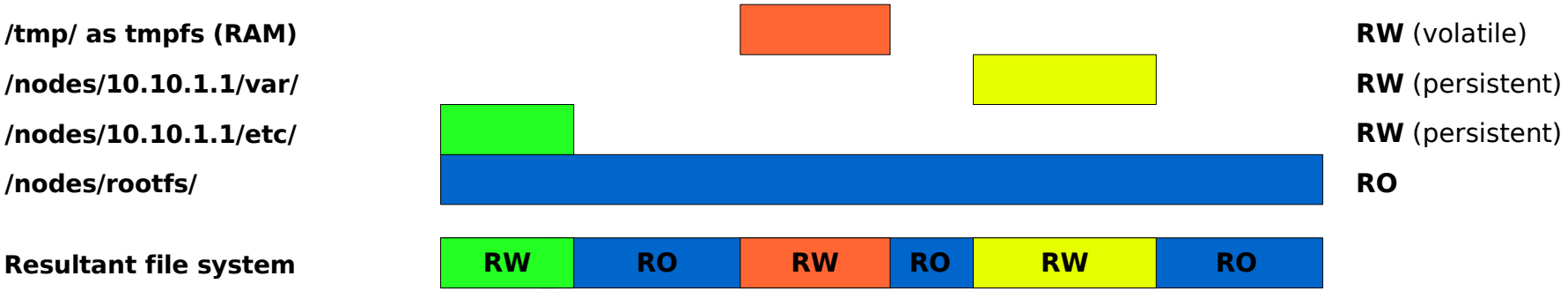
Diskless Nodes NFS Based
NETBOOT + NFS

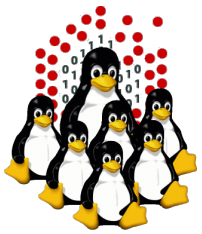
ROOTFS over NFS

CLIENT / COMPUTING NODE

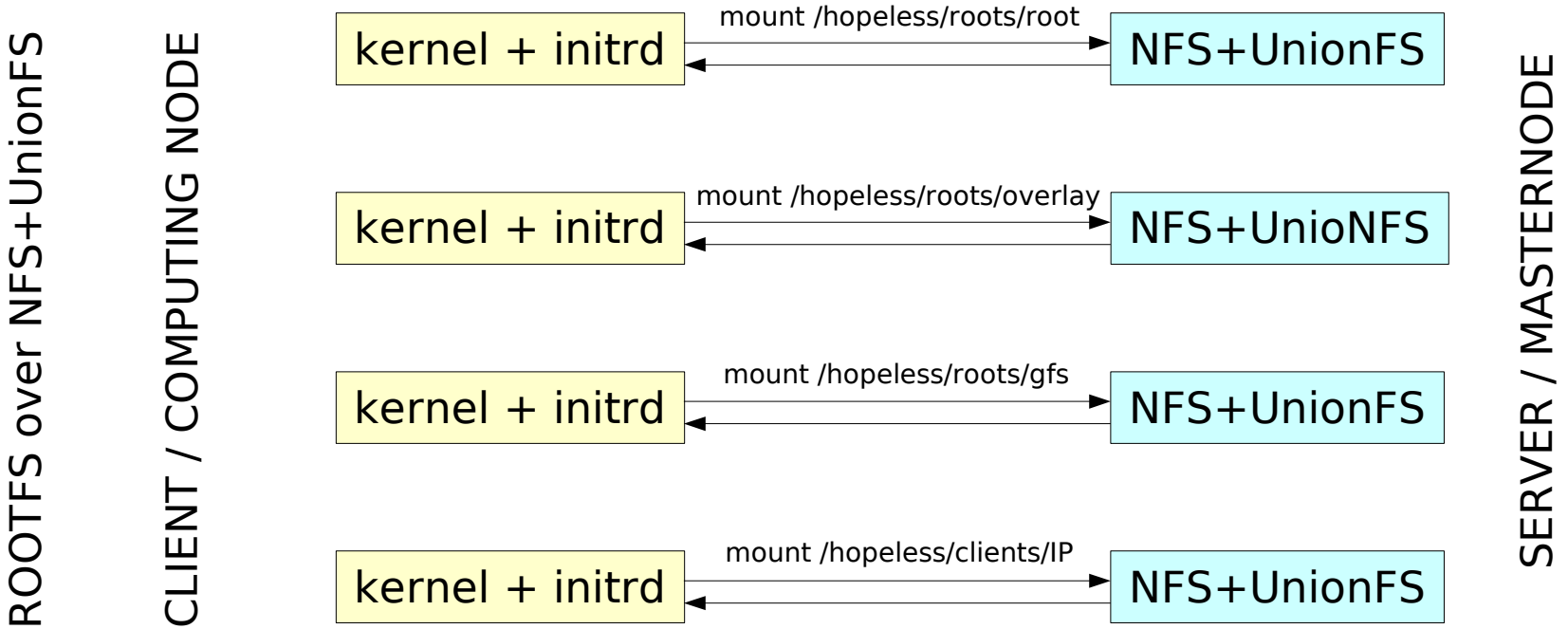
SERVER / MASTERNODE

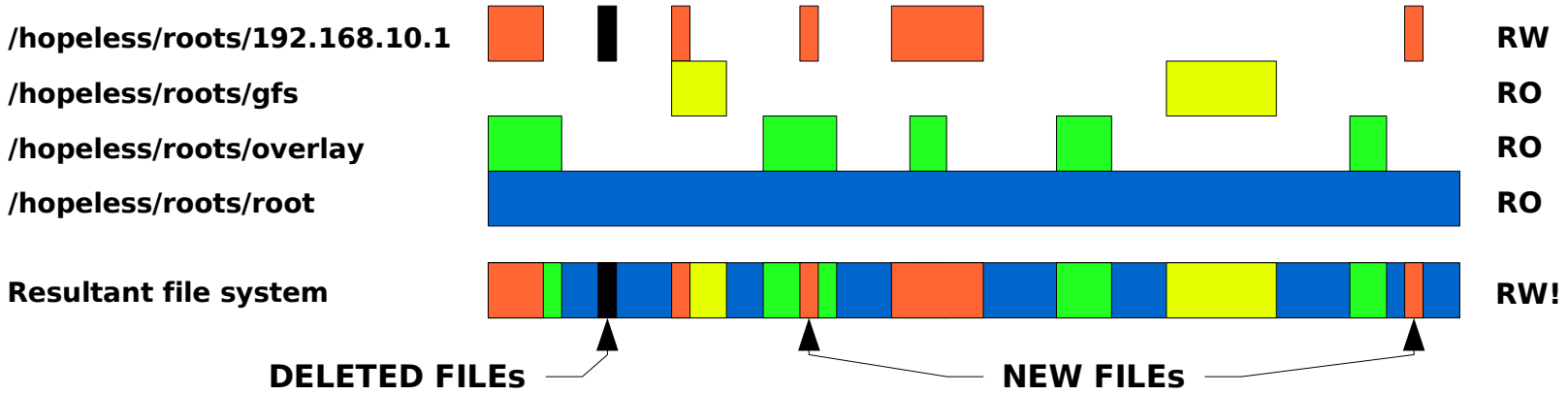


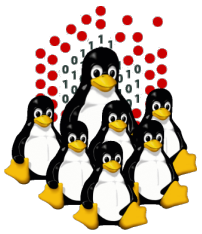




Diskless Nodes NFS+UnionFS Based
NETBOOT + NFS + UnionFS

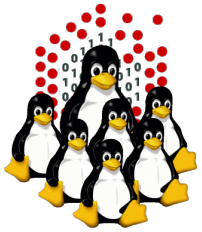






Drawbacks

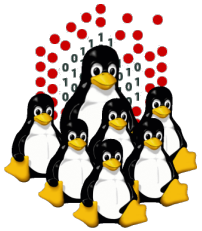
- Removable media (CD/DVD/floppy):
  - not flexible enough
  - needs both disk and drive for each node (drive not always available)
- ROOTFS over NFS:
  - NFS server becomes a single point of failure
  - doesn't scale well, slow down in case of frequently concurrent accesses
  - requires enough disk space on the NFS server
- ROOTFS over NFS+UnionFS:
  - same as ROOTFS over NFS
  - some problems with frequently random accesses
- RAM disk:
  - need enough memory
  - less memory available for processes
- Local installation:
  - upgrade/administration not centralized
  - need to have an hard disk (not available on disk-less nodes)



That's All Folks!


```
( questions ; comments ) | mail -s uheilaaa baro@democritos.it

( complaints ; insults ) &>/dev/null
```



REFERENCES AND USEFUL LINKS

Cluster Toolkits:

- OSCAR – Open Source Cluster Application Resources
  http://oscar.openclustergroup.org/
- NPACI Rocks
  http://www.rocksclusters.org/
- Scyld Beowulf
  http://www.beowulf.org/
- CSM – IBM Cluster Systems Management
  http://www.ibm.com/servers/eserver/clusters/software/
- xCAT – eXtreme Cluster Administration Toolkit
  http://www.xcat.org/
- Warewulf/PERCEUS
  http://www.warewulf-cluster.org/ http://www.perceus.org/

Installation Software:

- SystemImager http://www.systemimager.org/
- FAI http://www.informatik.uni-koeln.de/fai/
- Anaconda/Kickstart http://fedoraproject.org/wiki/Anaconda/Kickstart

Management Tools:

- openssh/openssl
  http://www.openssh.com
  http://www.openssl.org
- C3 tools – The Cluster Command and Control tool suite
  http://www.csm.ornl.gov/torc/C3/
- PDSH – Parallel Distributed SHell
  https://computing.llnl.gov/linux/pdsh.html
- DSH – Distributed SHell
  http://www.netfort.gr.jp/~dancer/software/dsh.html.en
- ClusterSSH
  http://clusterssh.sourceforge.net/
- C4 tools – Cluster Command & Control Console
  http://gforge.escience-lab.org/projects/c-4/

Monitoring Tools:

- Ganglia http://ganglia.sourceforge.net/
- Nagios http://www.nagios.org/
- Zabbix http://www.zabbix.org/

Network traffic analyzer:

- tcpdump http://www.tcpdump.org
- wireshark http://www.wireshark.org

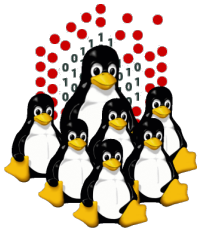
UnionFS:

- Hopeless, a system for building disk-less clusters
  http://www.evolware.org/chri/hopeless.html
- UnionFS – A Stackable Unification File System
  http://www.unionfs.org
  http://www.fsl.cs.sunysb.edu/project-unionfs.html

RFC: (http://www.rfc.net)

- RFC 1350 – The TFTP Protocol (Revision 2)
  http://www.rfc.net/rfc1350.html
- RFC 2131 – Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol
  http://www.rfc.net/rfc2131.html
- RFC 2132 – DHCP Options and BOOTP Vendor Extensions
  http://www.rfc.net/rfc2132.html
- RFC 4578 – DHCP PXE Options
  http://www.rfc.net/rfc4578.html
- RFC 4390 – DHCP over Infiniband
  http://www.rfc.net/rfc4390.html

- PXE specification
  http://www.pix.net/software/pxeboot/archive/pxespec.pdf
- SYSLINUX http://syslinux.zytor.com/



Some acronyms...

ICTP – the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics
DEMOCRITOS – Democritos Modeling Center for Research In aTOmistic Simulations
INFM – Istituto Nazionale per la Fisica della Materia (Italian National Institute for the Physics of Matter)
CNR – Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (Italian National Research Council)

HPC – High Performance Computing

OS – Operating System
LINUX – LINUX is not UNIX
GNU – GNU is not UNIX
RPM – RPM Package Manager

CLI – Command Line Interface
BASH – Bourne Again SHell
PERL – Practical Extraction and Report Language

PXE – Preboot Execution Environment
INITRD – INITial RamDisk

NFS – Network File System
SSH – Secure SHell
LDAP – Lightweight Directory Access Protocol
NIS – Network Information Service
DNS – Domain Name System

PAM – Pluggable Authentication Modules

LAN – Local Area Network
WAN – Wide Area Network

IP – Internet Protocol
TCP – Transmission Control Protocol
UDP – User Datagram Protocol
DHCP – Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol
TFTP – Trivial File Transfer Protocol
FTP – File Transfer Protocol
HTTP – Hyper Text Transfer Protocol
NTP – Network Time Protocol

NIC – Network Interface Card/Controller
MAC – Media Access Control
OUI – Organizationally Unique Identifier

API – Application Program Interface
UNDI – Universal Network Driver Interface
PROM – Programmable Read-Only Memory
BIOS – Basic Input/Output System

SNMP – Simple Network Management Protocol
MIB – Management Information Base
OID – Object IDentifier

IPMI – Intelligent Platform Management Interface
LOM – Lights-Out Management
RSA – IBM Remote Supervisor Adapter
BMC – Baseboard Management Controller