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Testing ATRIUM with demanding applications

Application of the network traffic from the computation and storage grid environment for network performance evaluation from end-user perspective

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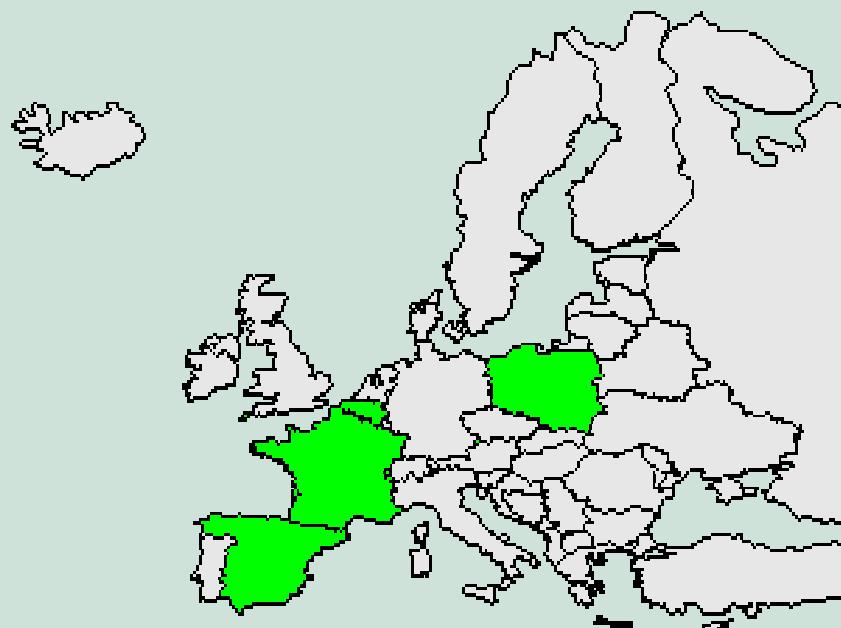
ATRIUM (IST 1999-20675)

„A testbed of terabit routers running MPLS over DWDM”

*Key action: KA IV, Action Line: VII.1.2. RN2,
„testbeds for advanced networking and application experiments”.*

June 2002 - June 2003 (Extended to December 2003), budget 8+ M€

- ALCATEL
- FT R&D
- FUNDP
- PSNC
- TELEFONICA
- ULG



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New terabit router architecture

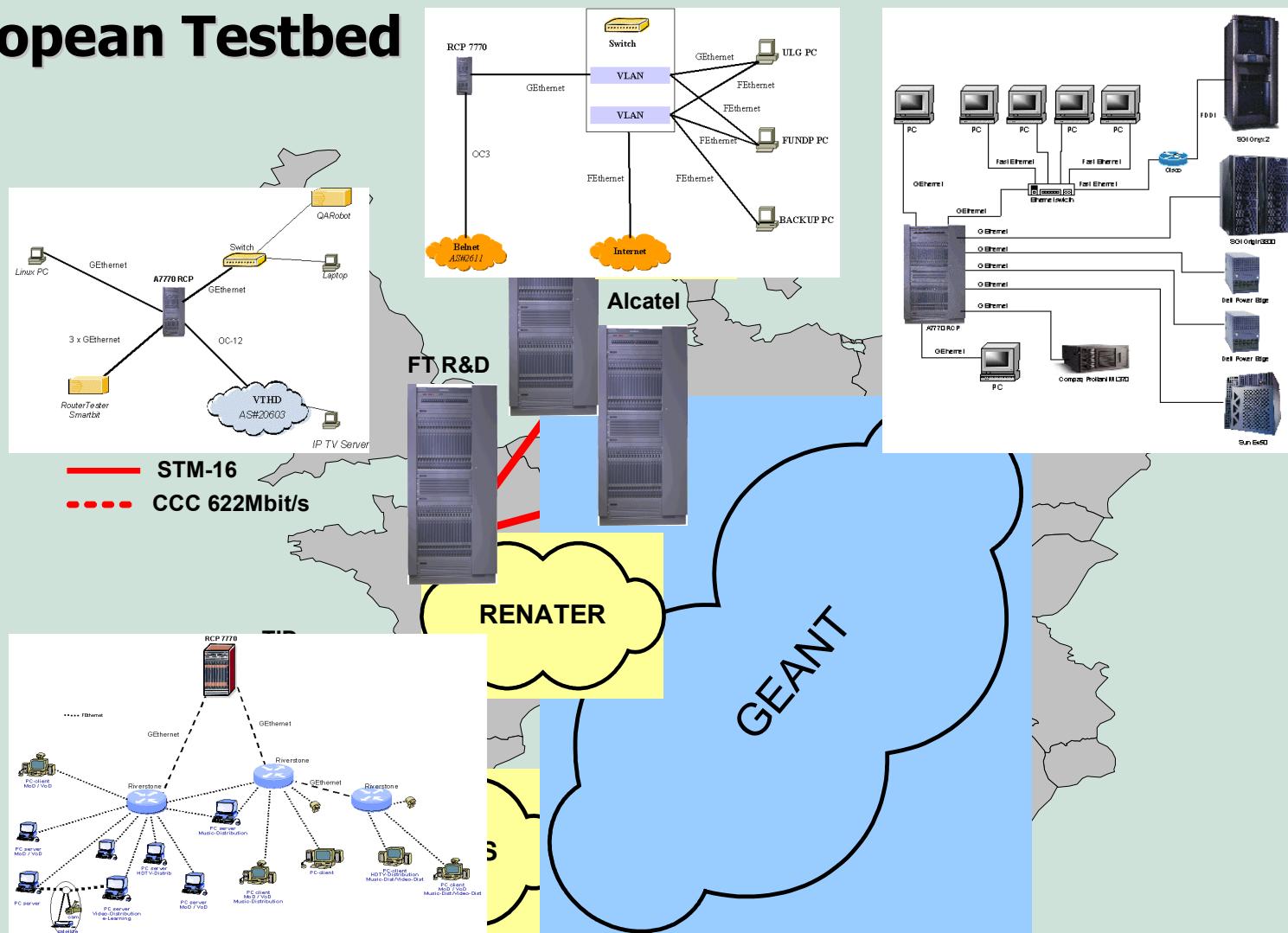
- redundant hardware
(4 SF, 2 RS, 2MS)
 - modular software (SOLARIS)
 - high availability routing
-
- scalable platform
 - scalable links
 - scalable performance
-
- automated and fast provisioning
 - cross layer traffic engineering
 - coordinated protection and recovery



The Alcatel 7770 RCP is a scalable carrier grade core platform, delivering differentiated IP and MPLS services

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European Testbed



T N C 2003 Zagreb, May 19–24

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General approach

- All partners provide PC. PSNC provides necessary servers, HPCs, storage systems
-  provides CCC connection for PSNC and TID; Necessary software is freely available or is provided by PSNC
- Different modes and different network parameters examined
- TE and QOS modifications
- Real applications do not necessarily mean bandwidth consuming
- Subjective/relative QoS metrics allowed

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Expected results

- Technology issues fully understood
 - Router
 - Network
- PSNC and partners can understand GRID applications behaviour with terabit router and large network
 - Delay / jitter
 - Buffering
 - Reordering
- Applications tuning to long fat pipe
- GÉANT can understand how to provision, monitor and debug the CCC service



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Demanding applications...

	GRID FTP	GAMESS	VIDEO
Max bw.	<250 Mbit/s	?	<1.5Mbit/s
Delay	important for lots of small files	?	?
Loss	low enough to sustain TCP session	?	?
Jitter		?	?

... in different network scenarios

- Empty network
- Congested network
- QoS enabled network
- Faults and recovery

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GRID FTP

- Globus Toolkit v.2.0
- FTP based protocol working in 4 modes:
 - Stream mode (raw data in the data connection + ctrl stream)
 - Extended block mode (file divided into blocks)
 - Parallel data transfer ($1^{*}\text{ctrl} + n^{*}\text{data}$, increase efficiency in long latency networks)
 - Stripped data transfer ($n^{*}\text{ctrl} + n^{*}\text{data} + n^{*}\text{server}$, increase efficiency in long latency networks)
- manual control of TCP buffer size

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GRID FTP measurements

- Total experiment time
- Total „data transmission” time
- Avg., max., min. transmission bandwidth
- Time necessary to perform control operations
- Application usability

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GAMESS - The General Atomic and Molecular Electronic Structure System

- Wavefunctions computations
- Designed for parallel computers & clusters
- Able to run in distributed environment (TCP)
- Massive communication (peer to peer)
 - input data
 - computation results
 - computation synchronisation

Measurements:

- time necessary to finish computations
- application usability
- validity of the results

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Multimedia streaming

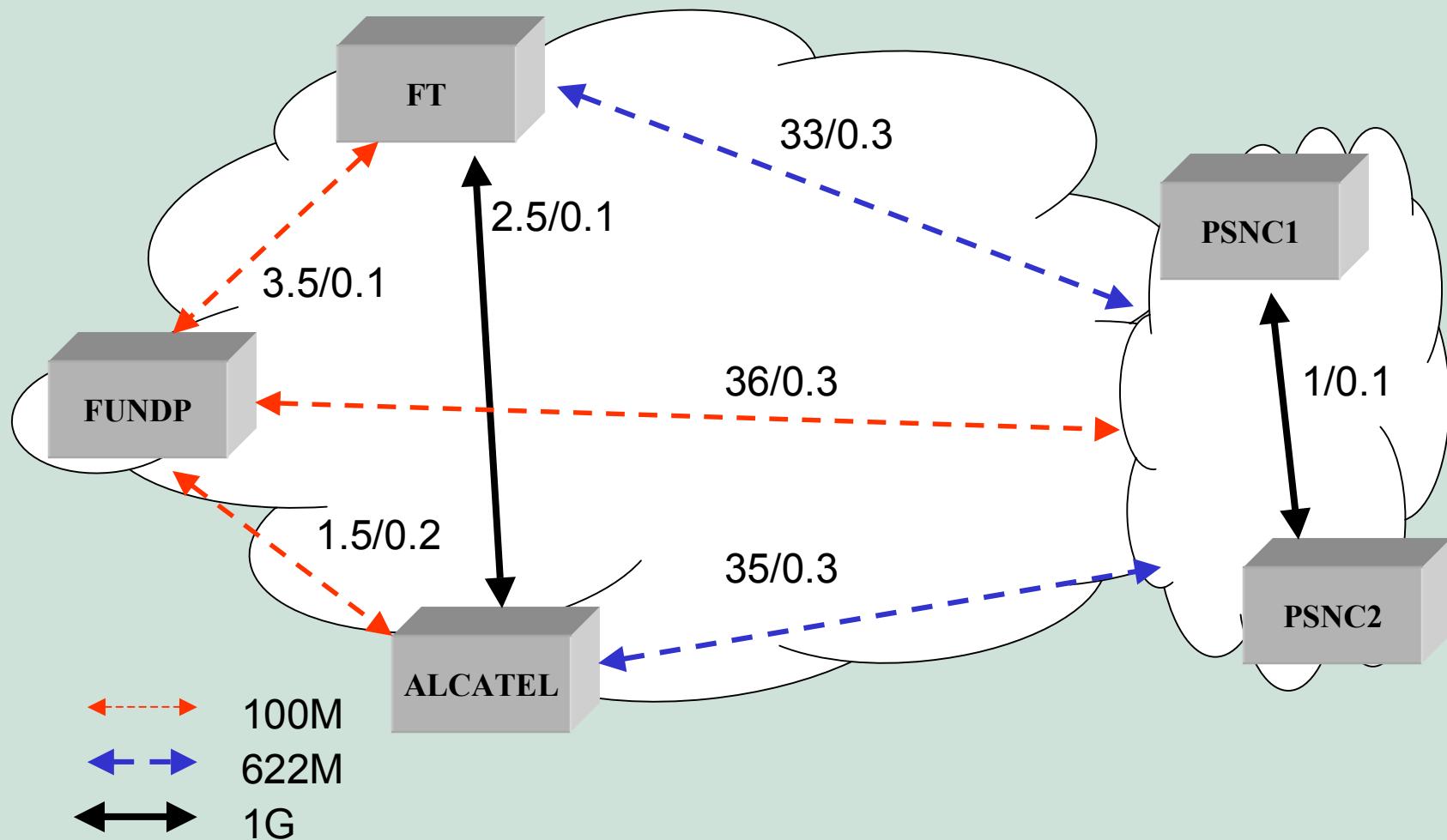
- Proprietary multimedia distribution system
- Based on the independent node concept
- Windows Media Services
- Live streaming
- On-demand content
- Multicast transmission

Measurements

- Subjective video quality
- Available/used bandwidth
- Packet loss
- Frame loss
- Retransmissions

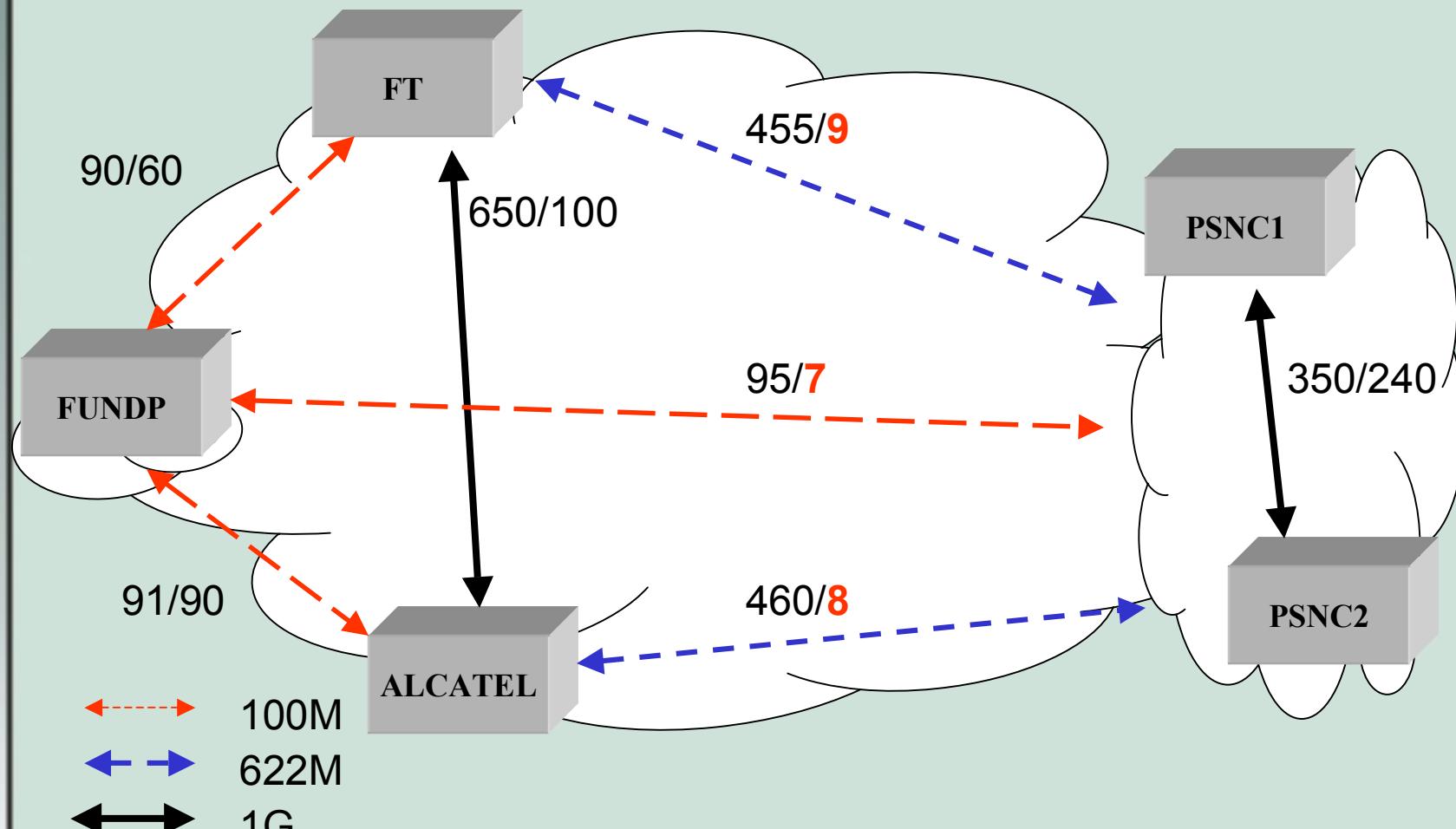
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Delay / jitter on empty network [ms]



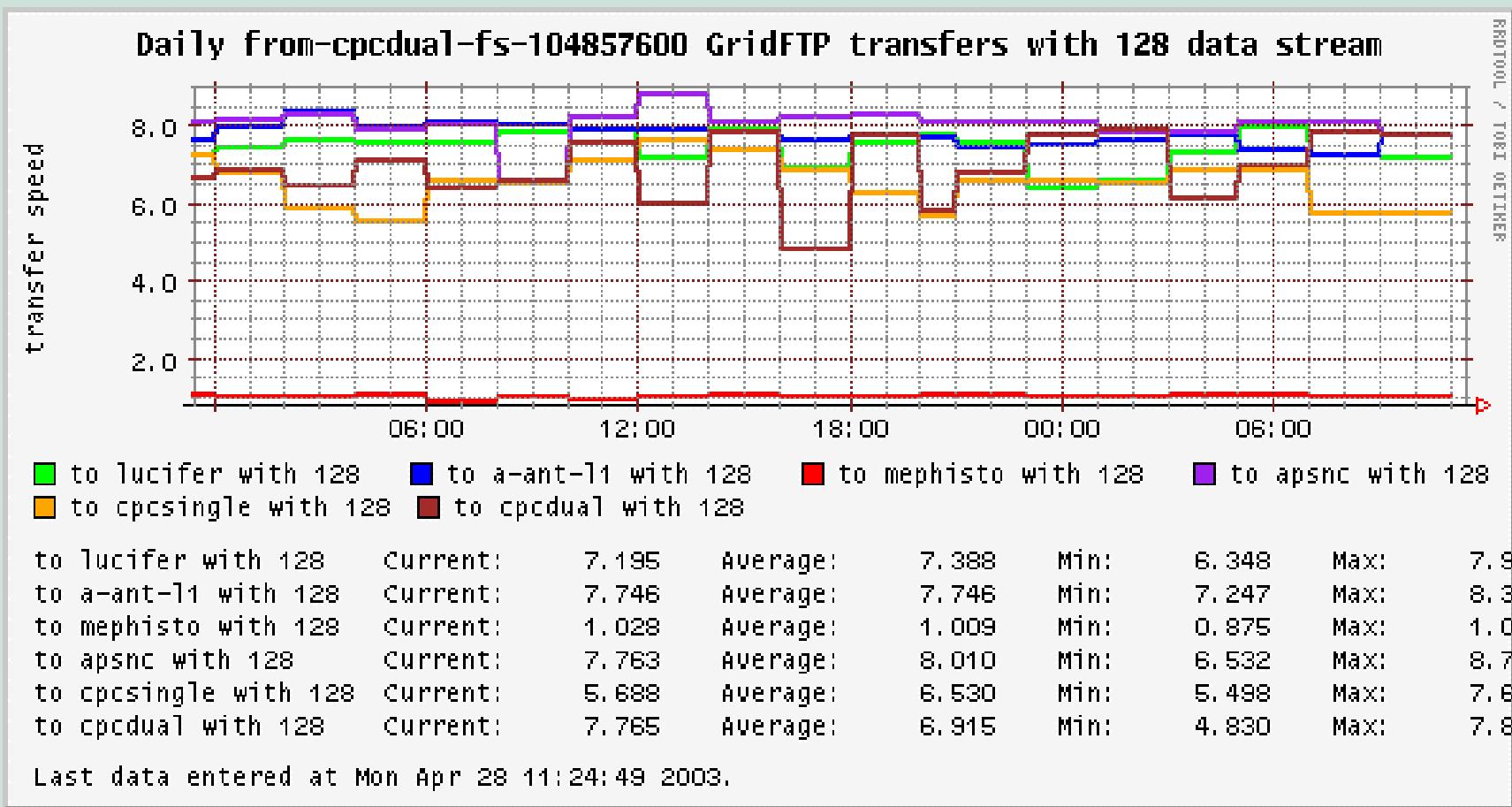
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Empty network: UDP/TCP bw [Mbit/s]



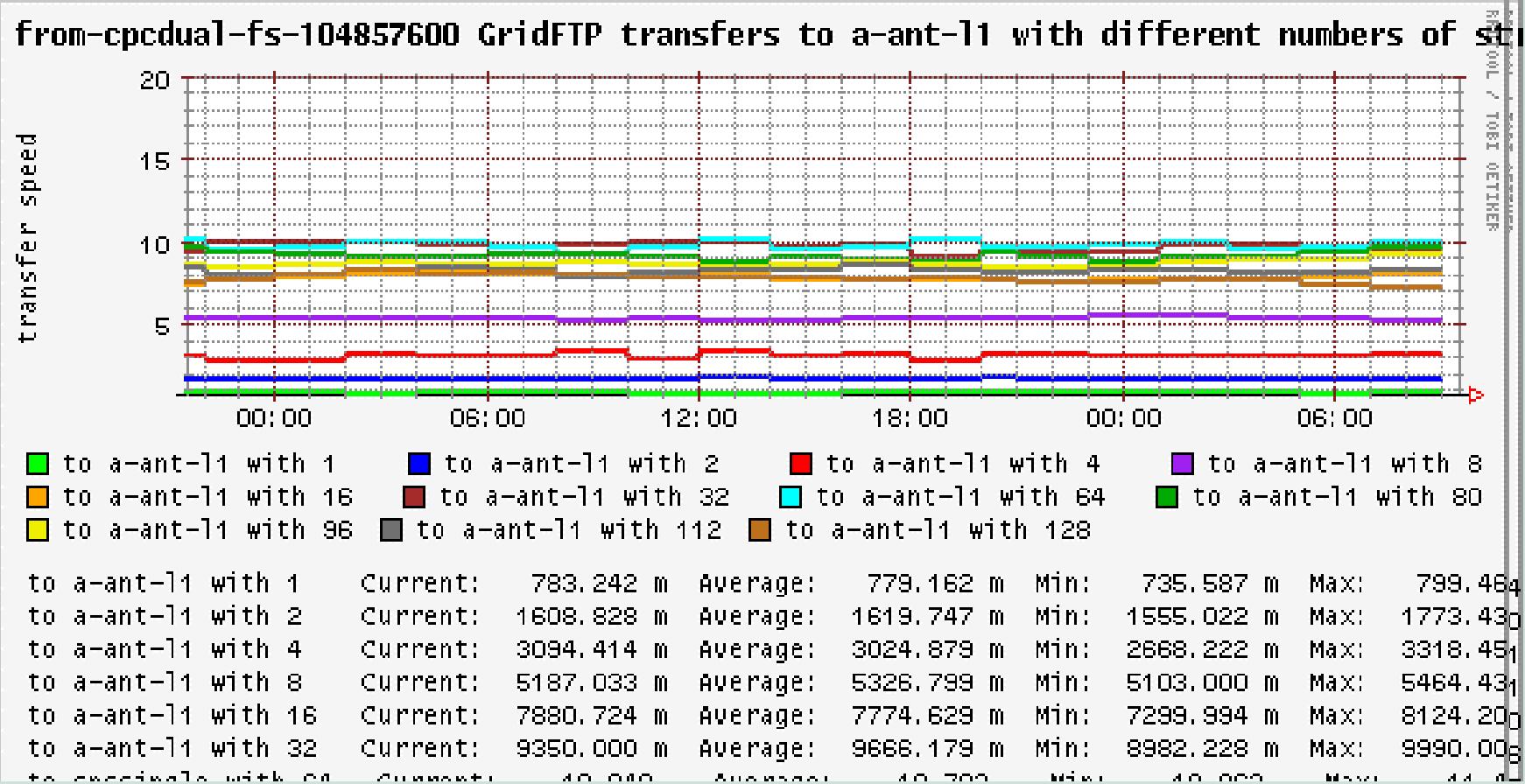
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GRID FTP – parallel transmission



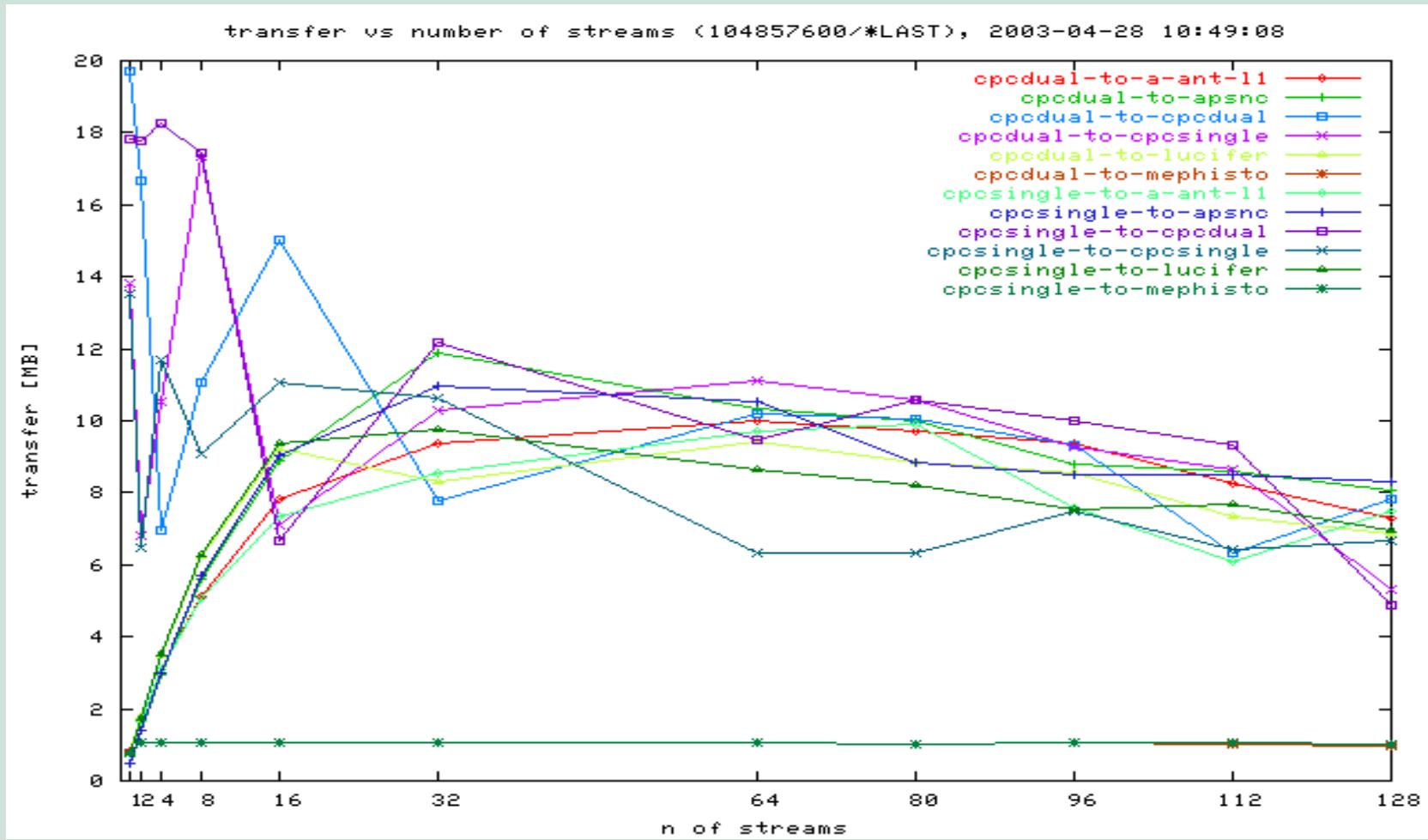
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GRID FTP – parallel transmission...(1)



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GRID FTP – parallel transmission...(2)



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Conclusions

- No routing/packet loss/delay/jitter problems on the network composed of 7770RCP router, dedicated optical paths and GEANT CCC connection
- For maximum performance GRID have to use parallel TCP transfers; Optimal application configuration depends on local conditions – file size, link delay, TCP window
- GEANT CCC connection keeps jitter low and does not increase significantly the delay – a sufficient equivalent of dedicated channel (for high cost!)
 - Service monitoring issue
- Testbeds must be hack-protected – 1 month delay due to testbed hack – need to reinstall GRID software and firewall systems