

# Shared Internet-Scale Measurement Platforms

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EdgeNet got its start thanks to an NSF Eager grant, and now benefits from a VMware Academic Program grant and a French Ministry of Armed Forces cybersecurity grant.











# General-Purpose Edge Clouds for Measurement Platforms



- Ex: PlanetLab hosted iPlane, others
- Many Vantage Points for Measurement
- Cost of platform amortized over services











#### Large-Scale Edge Clouds

Name	Dates Active	Size (Sites)	Footprint	Environment		
				Hardware	Software	Control
PlanetLab	2002- 20	750	World	Linux Server	Containers	Custom
GENI	2009-	65	US	5-10 node rack Programmable Network	VMs, Containers	Custom (2)
SAVI	2011-	8	Canada	5-10 node rack Configurable Network	VMs, Containers	OpenStack
VNODE	2010- 15	8	Japan	5-10 node rack Programmable Network	VMs, Containers	Custom
Glab	2009- 14	17	Germany	25 node rack Programmable Network	VMs, Containers	Custom















# He's dead, Jim





University of Victoria

### Platform Status



Name	Status	Cause of Death
PlanetLab	Dead	Discontinued Funding
GENI	Semi-supported	Discontinued Funding
SAVI	Dead	Discontinued Funding
VNODE	Dead	Discontinued Funding
GLab	Dead	Discontinued Funding











#### What Killed Them?



- Hardware failure
  - Hardware should be renewed on a 3-4 year cycle
  - Means: \$500-\$750/year/node in hardware refresh costs alone
  - PlanetLab: \$650K-\$1M/year
- Lack of central support
  - Maintaining distributed hardware infrastructures is expensive
  - PlanetLab: 6 FTEs, 770 sites
  - GENI: 5 FTEs, 65 Sites
  - \$5K-\$15K year/site in central administration costs
  - Rob Ricci: "Each site is weird in its own way"

Bottom Line: \$10,000 site/year (PlanetLab); \$50,000 site/year (GENI)











#### What Killed Them? - II



- Lack of onsite support
  - Research boxes aren't a local admin's day job
  - Hardware replacement/installation are slow, networks reassigned, etc
- Infrastructure-specific software stack
  - Maintenance & training burden without value-add
  - (Note: SAVI avoided this trap!)











# Four Big Takeaways



- CS Funding Agencies don't do maintenance
  - Set up to fund 3-5 year projects, grad students
- Hardware is heinous
  - Breaks and needs fixing
  - Bulk of the cost of both onsite and centralized support
  - PlanetLab reached its maintenance limit
- Don't write software unless you're actually adding value
  - If industry-standard stuff works, use it
    - Free maintenance
    - Free tutorials/answers/educational material
- Be as cheap and easy as possible for local sites











#### Live-off-the-Land



- Successful infrastructures use local, existing resources
  - Internet used existing computers, phone lines
  - Web used existing Internet, computers
    - First Web was a thin overlay on FTP
    - *Nine-line* shell script was the first web server!
- Spread is simple: software download and voluntary federation

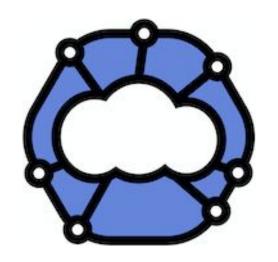












"Hello, World" around the world in 5 minutes



~\$0 per-site maintenance

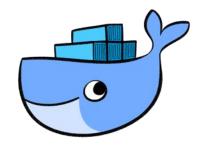




zero-touch install

Third-party tools
Copious documentation

















# The Bottom-Up KubeEdge



- Previous Edge Clouds Ran on Dedicated Hardware
  - Made hosting a rack/machine expensive
- But every site has a local Cloud...
  - Downloadable image onto existing local Cloud
  - Boots, "phones home", to connect
  - Node adds to Edge-Net in 5 minutes!
- Site can host Edge-Net node part- or full-time











#### **Status**



- EU/Japan/Brazil/US joint project
  - Rio Workshop, November 2017
  - Canada has joined
- 36 Sites, 28 Active
  - o 33 US, 1 South America, 2 Europe
- Ready to accept alpha users/systems
- Soon: backbone nodes added using Google Cloud

Current EdgeNet Node List, Total Nodes: 36 / Active Nodes: 28













# Experiments on edgeNet



- CashCache: Decentralized CDN backed by cryptocurrency
- Paris Traceroute: robust network measurement
- Data Capsules: secure data transport across untrusted nodes









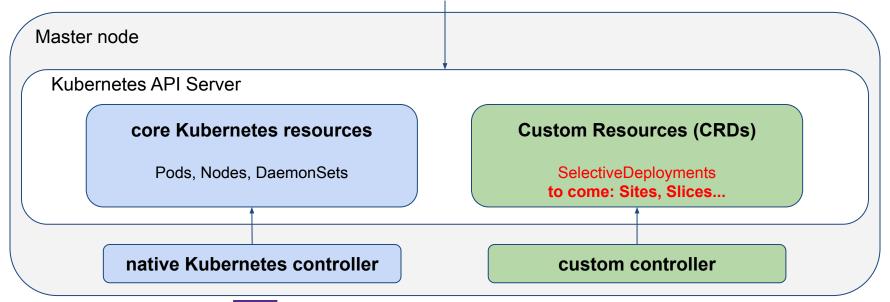


# EdgeNet Architecture





API automatically extended













#### Thanks to Collaborators









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### https://edge-net.org/

