



# Next Generation Grid Enable Collaborative System



**VRVS worldwide collaborative production service**

**From VRVS to EVO**

Philippe Galvez

California Institute of Technology

International ICFA Workshop on HEP Networkir

Daegu, Korea May 27, 2005



National Science Foundation  
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN



# Outlines

➤ **VRVS: Background Information**

➤ **VRVS Deployment;**

➤ **VRVS Usage and Statistics**

➔ **From VRVS To EVO:**

**An End-to-End Self Managed RTC Infrastructure**



# Objective



**The “Virtual Room Videoconferencing System” (VRVS) has been developed since 1995 in order to provide a low cost, bandwidth- efficient, extensible means for videoconferencing and remote collaboration over networks within the High Energy and Nuclear Physics communities.**

## **May 2005:**

- 16,200 Users Registered from 120 Countries, more than 1100 world wide meetings involving more than 4500 users (total 6000 hours) per month**
- It is first Very Large Distributed System (using the Grid concept) deployed and used today in Production.**



# VRVS Project Timeline



Version

v0.4

- 1995 Caltech/CMS group started the development of a full **Web based user interface** for videoconferencing.

v1.0

- In January 1997, pushed by strong demands from the LHC experiments, the **Caltech/CMS group started a production prototype Web-based service** named the **Virtual Room Videoconferencing System (VRVS)**.

v2.0

- During 1998-2000 VRVS was widely recognized by the Research and Education Communities worldwide. It became a core technology for **IP-based video & multimedia services in Internet2**.

v2.5

- July 2001 VRVS is **first system** to support **multiple protocols** (Mbone, H.323, MPEG) for collaboration over **IP network**.

v3.0

- February 2003, first **re-architect** of the VRVS System (97% Code redone) – User Authentication, Database, AccessGrid Support, ..  
As of May 2005: **16200 users registered, 22000 meetings performed**

v4.0

- July 2005, second **re-architect** of the VRVS System to become a **Globally Distributed Self Managed End-to-End Real-time Infrastructure**



# VRVS: What it is ?



- ◆ **VRVS is a realtime distributed system which provides a scalable communication infrastructure for large collaboration dispersed all over the world.**
- ◆ **Different technologies and protocols are supported (and mixed) and allow users to connect their preferred videoconference.**
- ◆ **Supports Mbone, H.323, SIP, QuickTime, Access Grid, JMF and MPEG2.**
- ◆ **The system is composed of 1 main server and several reflectors (network servers) spread around the world.**



# VRVS Web Service Design



- ◆ **Unified Web User Interface** to schedule and join/leave a meeting independently of the application.
- ◆ **Multi-platform: Windows, Linux, MacOS and Unix.**
- ◆ **Easy to use:** Everybody knows how to click on a web page today.
- ◆ **Virtual Room Concept, Scheduling;** Create a virtual space where people can exchange real-time information.
- ◆ **Join or Leave a Collaborative session anytime.** *Do not need to know in advance how many participants and booked ports capacity. Just announce the meeting and people will join from anywhere.*
- ◆ **Full Documentation and Tutorial**
- ◆ **Self service:** Don't need a technician or expert to organize and join a conference.



# VRVS Reflectors Deployment World Wide



82 Reflectors deployed world wide



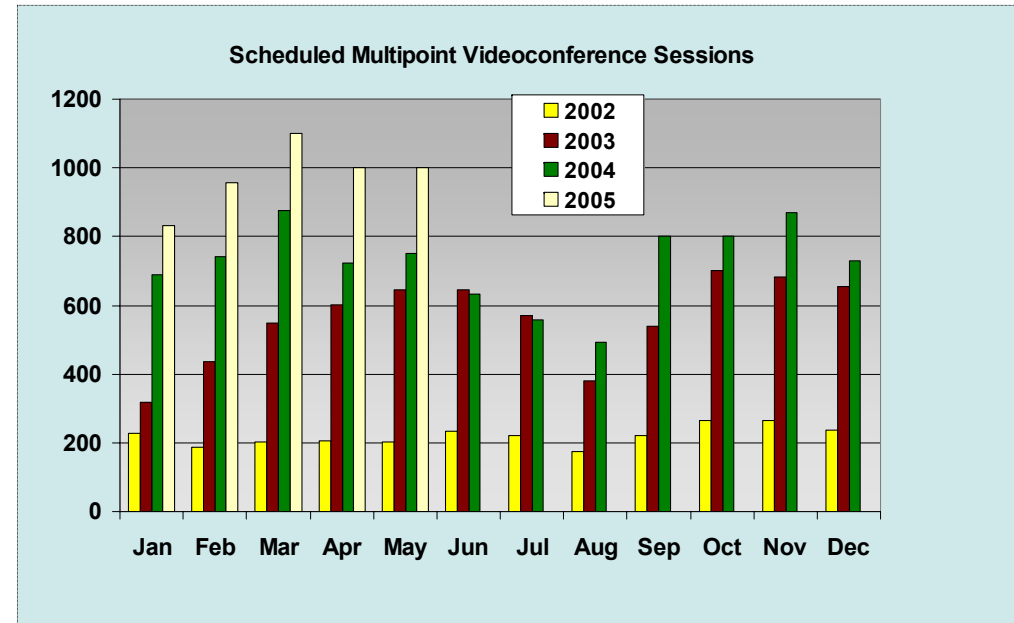
# VRVS registered users and current usage



**16,200 different Users**  
**Registered**  
**from 120 Countries**

<b>USA</b>	<b>3685</b>
<b>Spain</b>	<b>1768</b>
<b>France</b>	<b>1222</b>
<b>Italy</b>	<b>1115</b>

Switzerland, Germany, Brazil, UK,  
 Slovakia, Taiwan, Chile, Greece,  
 Argentina, Japan, Russia, Canada, etc...



**Average of 1100 world wide meetings involving more than 4500 users (total 6000 hours) per month**

Workshops/Conferences	Since 2004/01/01
<b>Workshop</b>	<b>277</b>
<b>Lecture</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Conference</b>	<b>265</b>
<b>Seminar</b>	<b>160</b>
<b>Tutorial</b>	<b>39</b>





## VRVS Worldwide Collaboration



*The VRVS team collaborates with **Research and Education Networks and major Research Projects** around the globe to provide the academic community with a **unique and reliable real-time infrastructure supporting all protocols for advanced collaboration***

VRVS National Research and Education Network (NREN)

Communities and Project:

**Internet2 (U.S)**, **GEANT2/DANTE (Europe)**, **RedIRIS (Spain)**, **RNP (Brazil)**, **REUNA (Chile)**, **RENATER (France)**, **SANET (Slovakia)**, **INFN (Italy)**, **FUNET (Finland)**, **REACCIUN2 (Venezuela)** and **AMPATH (America)**, **GLORIAD...**

**Others are in process.**

# VIC and RAT on WINDOWS (17 participants)

**Vic: Headquarters Virtual Room** 137.138.26.8

Display  Dock  Display modes  Transmit

- Michal Pauliny
- 137.138.26.8
- Pavel.Farkas@vrvs
- Dave (VRVS)
- Pavel Farkas (VRVS SK)
- 158.197.12.228
- Nicholas Kankula (VRVS SK)
- Marek Domaracky (VRVS Te
- Dennis (VRVS Team)
- Dave - Caltech Mac
- Gregory DENIS (VRVS Team)
- Juraj Sucik (CERN)
- Joao (vrvs@CERN)
- 158.197.12.228
- Viktor Michalcin VRVS-SK
- G5 SLOVAKIA
- Joao (SC Linux)

Total Received: 4.2 Mb/s

Minimize  Settings  Help  Quit

---

**RAT: Headquarters Virtual Room**

Listen  Talk

- Michal Pauliny
- Marek Domaracky(VRVS Team)
- Viktor Michalcin VRVS-SK
- kankula
- Dennis (VRVS Team)
- Juraj Sucik (VRVS)
- Dave A (XP)
- Gregory Denis (VRVS Team)
- Joao (Fedora Core 3)
- 499602d2
- 158.197.12.228
- Nicholas Kankula (VRVR SK)
- VRVS gregory

Minimize  Dock  Settings  Help  Quit



VRVS gregory Pavel.Farkas@v... Dave (VRVS) Pavel Farkas (V... Michal Pauliny

158.197.12.228 Nicholas Kankul... Marek Domarac... Dennis (VRVS Te... Dave - Caltech ...

Gregory DENIS (... Juraj Sucik (CER... Joao (vrvs@CER... 158.197.12.228 Viktor Michalcin ...

G5 SLOVAKIA Joao (SC Linux)

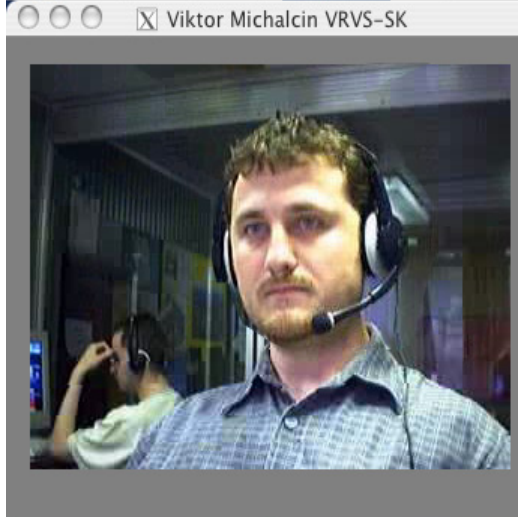




Dennis (VRVS Team)	Juraj Sucik (CERN)	Gregory DENIS (VRVS Te)	TnUAD2 - Trencin	Iosif Legrand	U of Zilina (Melo, Gintner)	TUKE Kosice (CNL)
Viktor Michalcin (VRVS-SK)	U of Zilina (Melo, Gintner)	TnUAD - Trencin	131.215.116.60	MSSR - KM	UMB Banska Bystrica	Julian Bunn
PF UPJS Kosice	128.227.89.161	Dave (VRVS)				

VIC on LINUX  
(17 participants)

# VIC and RAT on MAC OS X (9 participants)



VRVS Headquarters Virtual Room  
15 participants connected

 Gregory Denis Geneva -CERN-INT-	 Dave Adamczyk Pasadena, Calif -CALTECH-	 Juraj Sucik Kosice, Slovakia -UPIS-	 Dave Adamczyk Pasadena, Calif -CALTECH-	 Phil Gal Pasadena -CALTECH-
---	---	---	---	---------------------------------------

Video Modes Sharing Client Setup

"Headquarters Room" Current Time 18:11:52

CONNECT MBone Tools

Audio Only  Loopback

Exit Support ?

RAT: Headquar

Listen [Progress Bar]

Talk [Progress Bar]

Minimize Settings Help Quit

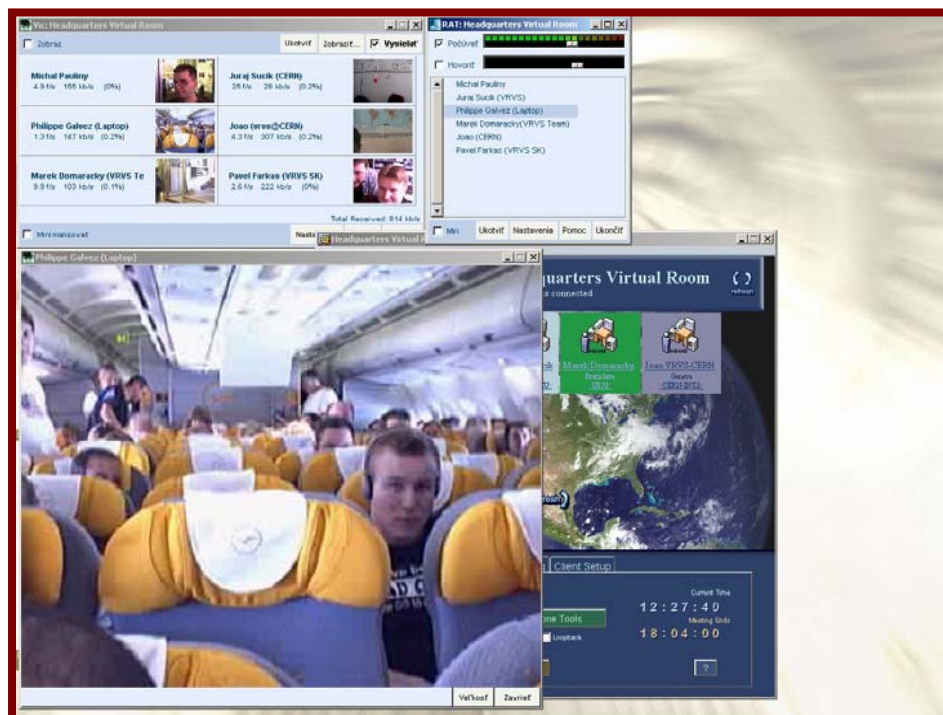
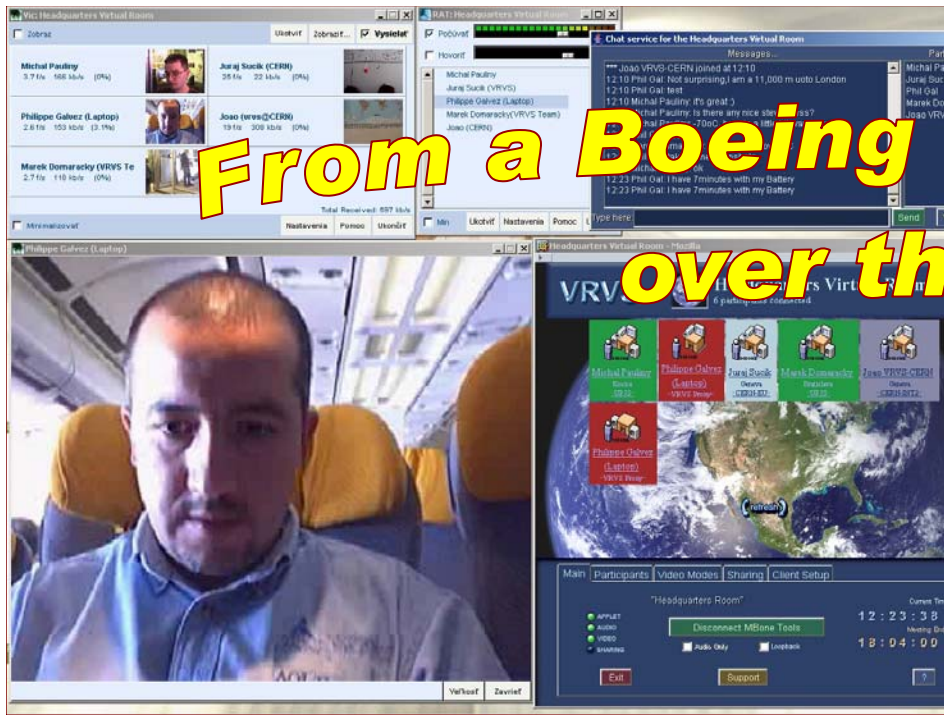
Vic: Headquarters Virtual Ro

Display Dock Display modes Transmit

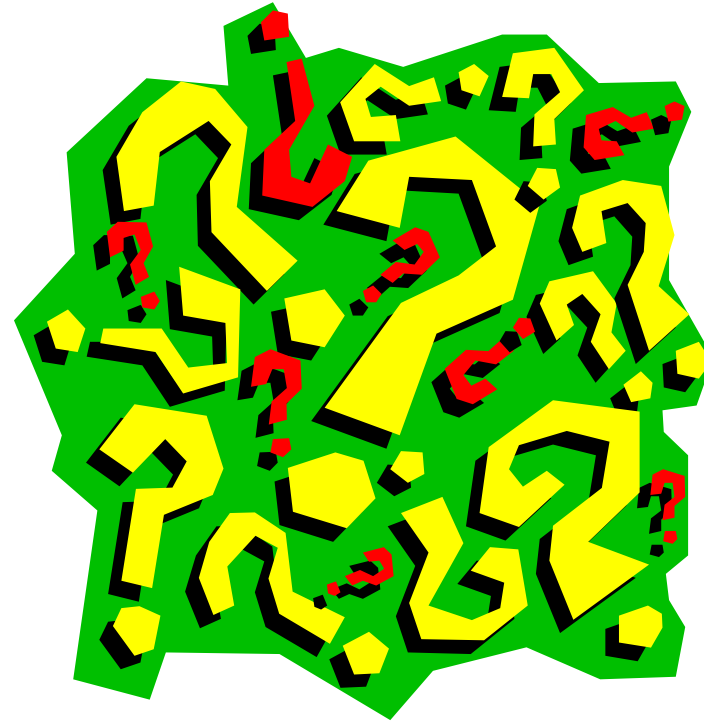
Juraj Sucik (CERN) 13 f/s 69 kb/s (0%)	
Viktor Michalcin VRVS-SK 11 f/s 376 kb/s (0%)	
Gregory DENIS (VRVS Team) 11 f/s 52 kb/s (0%)	
Michal Pauliny 8.3 f/s 184 kb/s (0%)	
137.138.186.12 1.8 f/s 20 kb/s (0%)	
Dave (VRVS) 14 f/s 129 kb/s (0%)	
Demis Lattka 19 f/s 55 kb/s (0%)	
137.138.24.228 5.2 f/s 67 kb/s (0%)	
137.138.24.228 9.7 f/s 106 kb/s (0%)	

Total Received: 973 kb/s

# From a Boeing 747 at 12,000 m over the Ocean

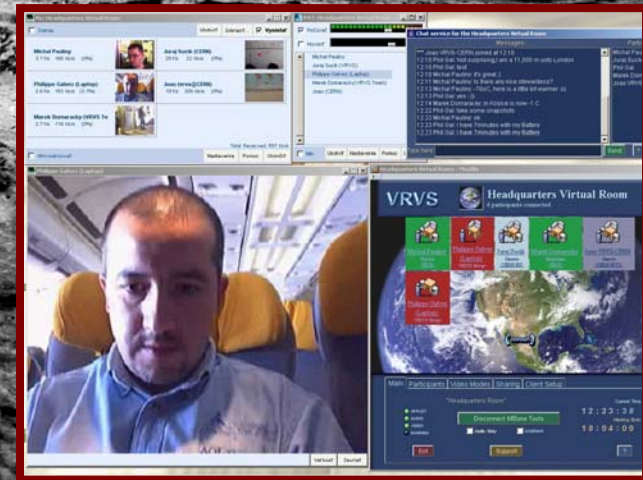


**What's Next ?**



# VRVS in Space

Not for the LHC program



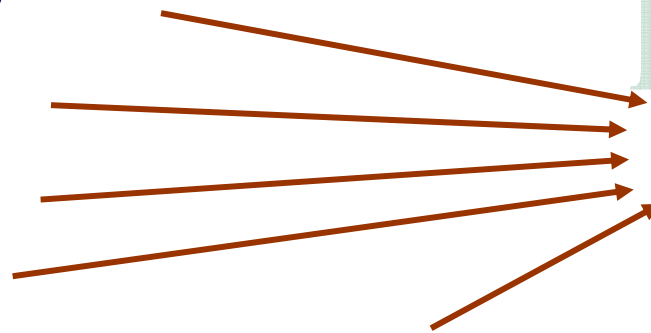
# From VRVS To EVO: End-to-End Self Managed RTC Infrastructure



Developing/Deploying a Very Robust and Scalable Real-Time Collaborative (RTC) Infrastructure is a real problem that **no-one** was able to fix yet !

Main critical RTC issues:

- Manageability
- Reliability
- Scalability
- Security
- Functionality / Usability



Robustness?  
Robustness?

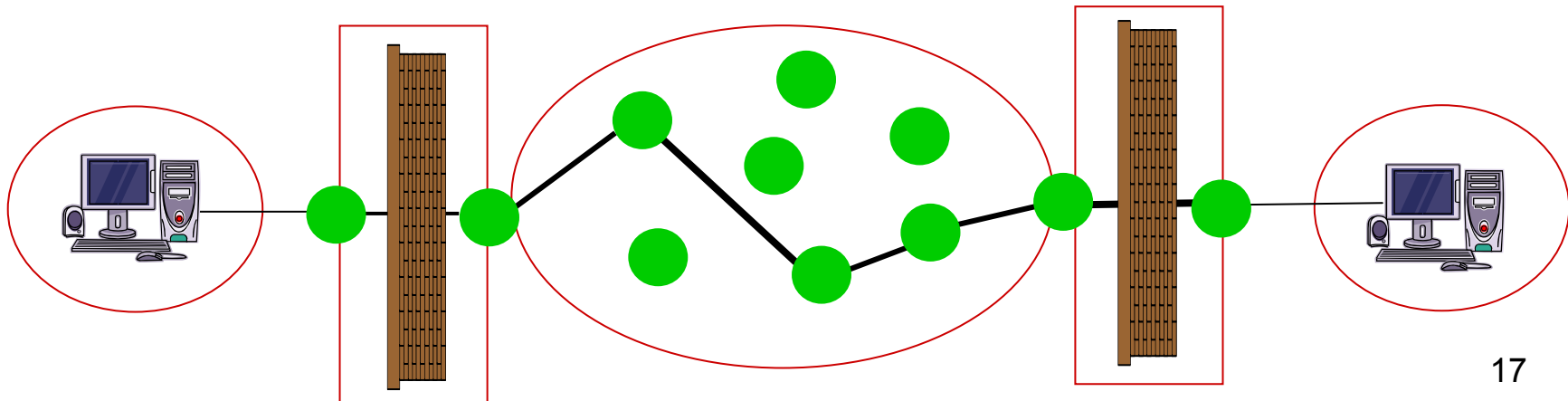


# From VRVS To EVO: End-to-End Self Managed RTC Infrastructure



What's **wrong** ? Why can we not achieve **total reliability/robustness** when deploying a **RTC Infrastructure** ?

- The **Real-Time Collaborative** environment is a **living environment, constantly changing, evolving**. In addition **devices/domains/nodes** are managing by **several independent technical and administrative entities**



# Solutions ?



***By creating a “living” RTC Infrastructure capable to react/adapt to the change of the environment in real-time transparently to the end-user***

# Building a Scalable RTC Infrastructure



- **Multicast Network: It is not any more a global solution**
  - **After more than 10 years of development/deployment, It reaches its maximum level of reliability/robustness**
  - **It is just a transport mechanism**
    - **No QoS**
    - **No awareness of the Application level**
    - **No data processing as required by the some application (mixing audio, select video streams, ....)**
  - **Extremely difficult to troubleshoot because it crosses several administrative domains**

## Today's solution:

**Building an Overlay Network by deploying intelligent Software Agents communicating using Unicast connections and capable of using Multicast transport when it makes more sense**



# Panda Software Agent



## Intelligent Software Agent to create an Overlay Network

### Some functionalities:

- **Dynamic registration** to high level directory services
- **Automatic re-activation** of components and services
- **Automatic and secure code update**
- **Continuous monitoring** of network quality (packet loss, jitter, latency) between its peers and its possible peers
- **Automatic rerouting** to obtain the best performance/quality
- **Encryption** between reflectors and between reflector and VRVS clients
- **Automatic Alarm notifications** when monitored parameters (system or network) go beyond a **preset threshold**
- **Dynamically provides services** (video, audio, data,..) that matches the current **resources/capabilities** to the end users/applications
- Provides access to **real-time and historical data**



# Koala Software Agent Functionality

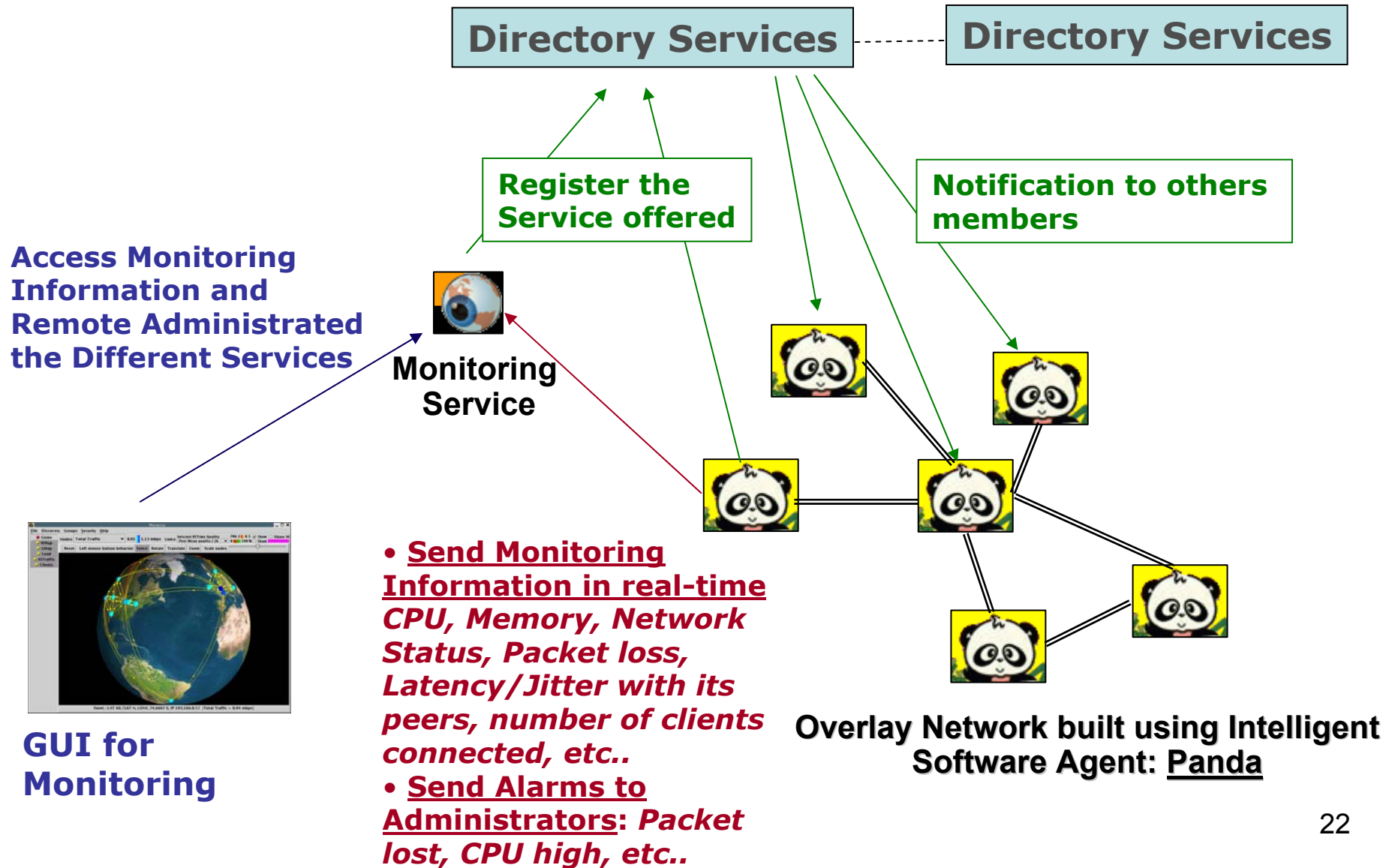


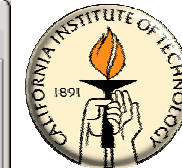
## Intelligent Software Agent running in the End-System

### Some functionalities:

- **New Java-based VRVS client** that will perform **Dynamic Registration** to high level directory services – (Multi-OS support)
- **Automatic detection** of the **system parameters** (CPU, Memory,..) **hardware components** (Audio card, video card, ...), **services capabilities** (video, audio, ...), **network environment and capabilities** (wireless environment, DSL, available bandwidth, ...)
- **Dynamically** gets services (video, audio, data,..) that matches the current **resources/capabilities** to end users/applications
- **Continuous monitoring** of network quality (packet loss, jitter) latency) and **Automatic rerouting of packets**
- **Automatic Alarm notifications** when monitored parameters (system or network) go beyond a **preset threshold**.

# Building a Core RTC Infrastructure





**MonaLisa**

File Discovery Groups Security Help

Nodes: No. of video clients 0 5 Links: Internet RTTime Quality 160.33 0.31 Show Show MST Peer Mean quality / 2h 0 100% Show

Reset Left mouse button behavior: Select Rotate Translate Zoom Scale nodes

Local Time: 09:22 (PDT) MonALISA Version: 096

Parameters: VirtualRooms, Audio, Video, Cpu\_usr, Cpu\_nice, Cpu\_sys, Cpu\_idle, Page\_in

Modules: SyncVrvsClientsT, monProcStat, monProcIO, monProcLoad

**MonaLisa**

starlight@vrvs-starlight.cern.ch:9002

Local Time: 10:27 (EDT) MonALISA Version: 096

Parameters: Quality

Quality

Time [min] x10<sup>2</sup>

vrvs.caltech.edu, vrvs-us.cern.ch, vrvs.if.usp.br, vrvs2.fnal.gov, tgate.Triumf.CA, vrvs.ampath.net, 132.194.102.14, vrvs4.internet2.edu, 165.95.233.16, vrvs.internet2.edu, vrvs.fmhi.usf.edu, huck.ucs.indiana.edu, vconf.lns.cornell.edu, netvideo.bnl.gov, pff.sinica.edu.tw, atlas.hep.anl.gov, vrvs.kek.jp, vrvsref.omni.hpcc.jp, vrvs-rj.rnp.br, vrvs.server.ufl.edu

tech

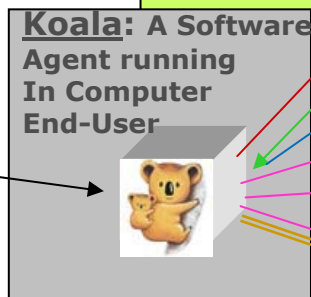
# Building an End-to-End Self Managed RTC Infrastructure



## (1) Give me the best Panda nodes available:

- Best network connectivity
- Best latency/jitter
- no packet lost
- minimum of client clients connected (load balancing)

IM  
H.323  
Mbon  
e  
SIP  
MPEG  
...



- Local Monitoring Agent Provides information in real-time: CPU, Memory, Network Status, Packet loss, Latency/Jitter to/from its connected Panda
- Send Alarms: Packet lost, CPU high, etc..
- AND takes automatic actions to correct the problem

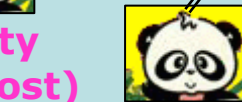
(3) Check network quality (Latency, jitter, packet lost) and select the best one

(4) Connect to the best node

Directories Services

(2) 3 best nodes provided

(5) Publish local monitoring information

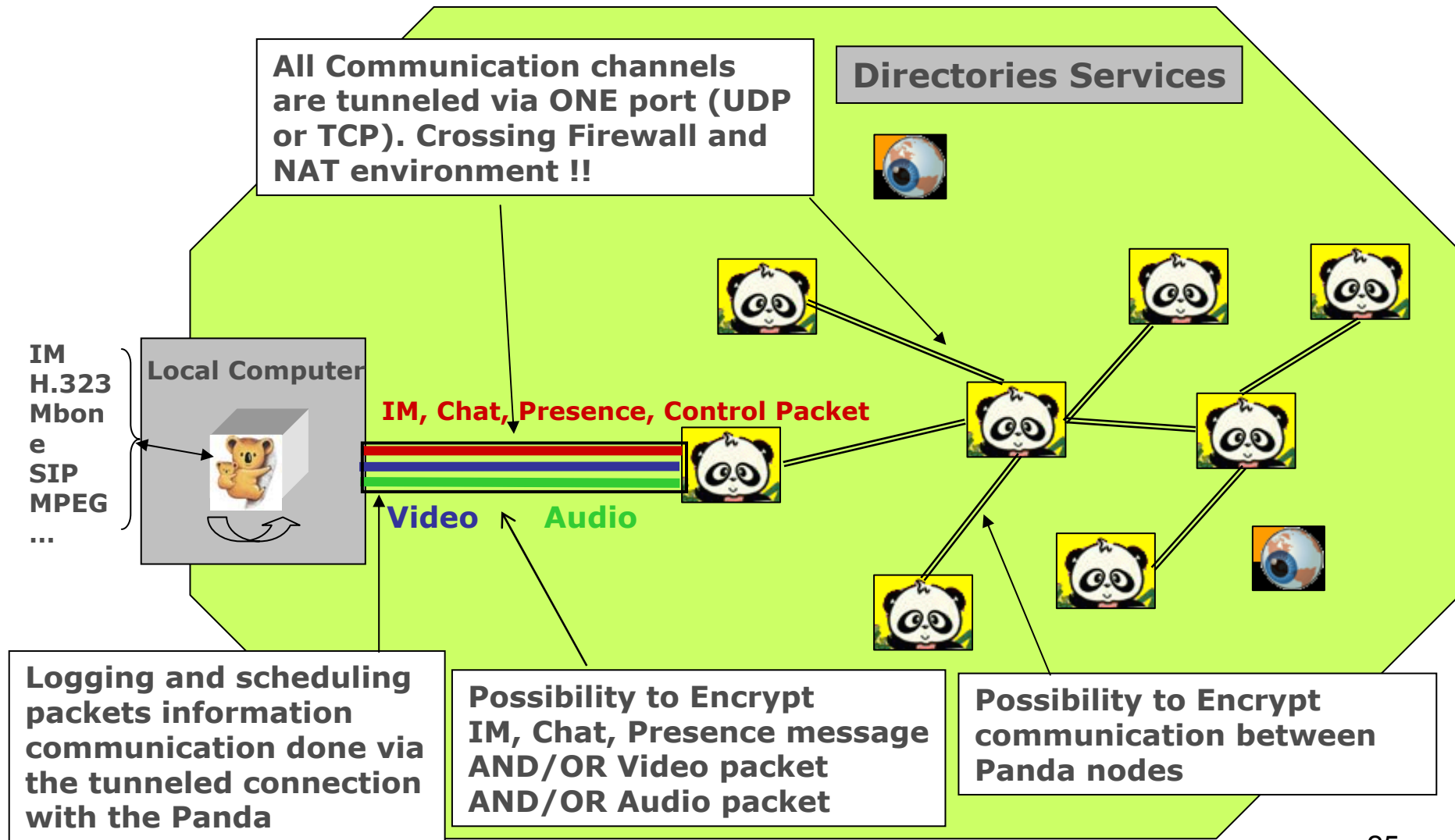


RTC Core Infrastructure

End-to-End RTC Self Managed Infrastructure



# Building an End-to-End Self Managed RTC Infrastructure



End-to-End RTC Self Managed Infrastructure

# The Koala Client (Java)



**Bookings**

**Multi-Languages Support**

**On-Going meetings, click to join**

**Presence**

**Chat**

**Automatic Time Zone Adjustment**

**Connection to the Panda**

The screenshot shows the Koala client interface with the following elements:

- Navigation:** Koala, Calendar, Configuration, Documentation, Plugins, Language (with a globe icon).
- Meeting List:**
  - Team Meeting:** Ongoing Koala Team Meeting, No end, extra.
  - Internet2 Meeting Session 1:** I2 Discussion, 5/2 07:20 until 5/2 09:21, Protected, extra.
  - I2 Session 2:** Discussion Network, 5/2 07:21 until 5/2 09:21, Protected, extra.
  - I2 Monitoring Session:** Network Discussion, 5/2 07:21 until 5/2 09:21, extra.
- Presence:** Available status, Koala Communities tree (Universe, VRVS Team, Meetings, Users), and a list of users: Phil Gal, Michal Pauliny, Sridhara Dasu, Luke Skywalker, Juraj Sucik.
- Chat:** A chat window for the VRVS Team.
- Status Bar:** Connected to Panda DHCP-112-205.caltech.edu and a clock showing 07:22:58.



## Video and Audio Client improvements

- improvements **done on decoder side** have influence mainly on **compatibility with H.323** hardware devices
  - RTP part was changed **to avoid artifacts** in decoded video from some H.323 clients and **to fix bad positions of macroblocks** in video stream from **MCUs** and **Polycom VSX**
  - bug which causes **skipping of the last macroblock** in RTP packet was fixed (avoids artifacts in decoded video)



**Polycom VSX7000 - before**



**Polycom VSX7000 - now**



# New Codec Integration : H.263

- compare to H.261, there are two significant differences:

## Resolution of video signal

- standardized picture formats: **sub-QCIF** (128x96), **QCIF** (176x144), **CIF** (352x288), **4CIF** (704x576), **16CIF** (1408x1152)
- custom picture formats: resolution up to **2048 x 1152**

## Level of compression and quality

- Arithmetic Coding instead of VLC - significantly fewer bits produced
- Unrestricted Motion Vector Mode - **larger vectors** and vectors can **point outside** the picture
- Advanced Prediction Mode - **4 8x8** vectors instead of **one 16x16** vector - results in less blocking artifacts
- PB-frames mode - **two pictures** encoded **as one unit**
- enhanced **error resilience** capabilities
- half pixel precision used for motion compensation + many others



# H.263 - Desktop Sharing

H.263 XGA  
(1024 x 768)

H.261 CIF  
(352 x 288)

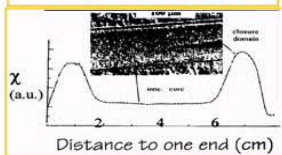
H.261 CIF  
(352 x 288)

H.263 VGA  
(640 x 480)

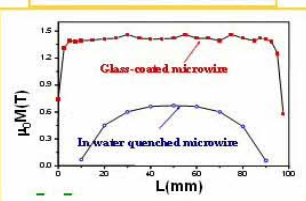
## Bistable Loops

Amorphous Microwires FeSiB (Large and Positive Magnetostriction)

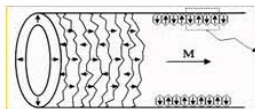
Susceptibility Profile



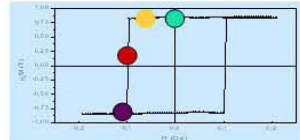
Remanence Profile



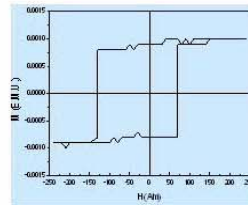
Schematic Domain structure at Remanence



General Domain structure

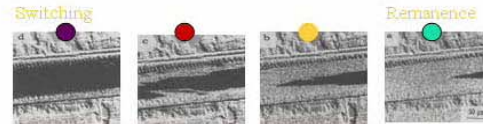


FeSiB amorphous wire  
10 cm long and 120 μm diameter



Pyrex coated FeSiB  
amorphous microwire

Tiny Dimensions:  
2 mm long  
5 μm diameter



Magnetization Reversal in a single Barkhausen jump

Summary:  
Vázquez, PhysicaB, 2001

Desktop sharing interface showing a taskbar with applications like Total Commander, VRVS [support], and Windows Task Manager. A system tray shows the time as 9:51 and the date as Štvrtok. A network status bar at the bottom indicates 'Total Received: 1.6 Mb/s'.

Name	VRVS	VRVS-SK	VRVS Tea
Pavel Farkas	18 f/s	3.2 Mb/s (0%)	
Viktor Michalcin	10.0 f/s	69 kb/s (0.3%)	
Michal Pauliny	25 f/s	313 kb/s (0%)	
Marek Domarack	25 f/s	1.1 Mb/s (0%)	



# PocketVRVS – the mobile solution

**Documentation**

**Download  
PocketVRVS  
package**

**Booking**

**Connect to any  
ongoing  
meeting**

**PocketVRVS  
web interface**

**Control Panel**  
Talk, Listen, Send  
and Receive controls

**Video Screen**  
Remote Video, Own  
Video in PIP window

**Session Info**  
Virtual Room,  
Participant's name, ...

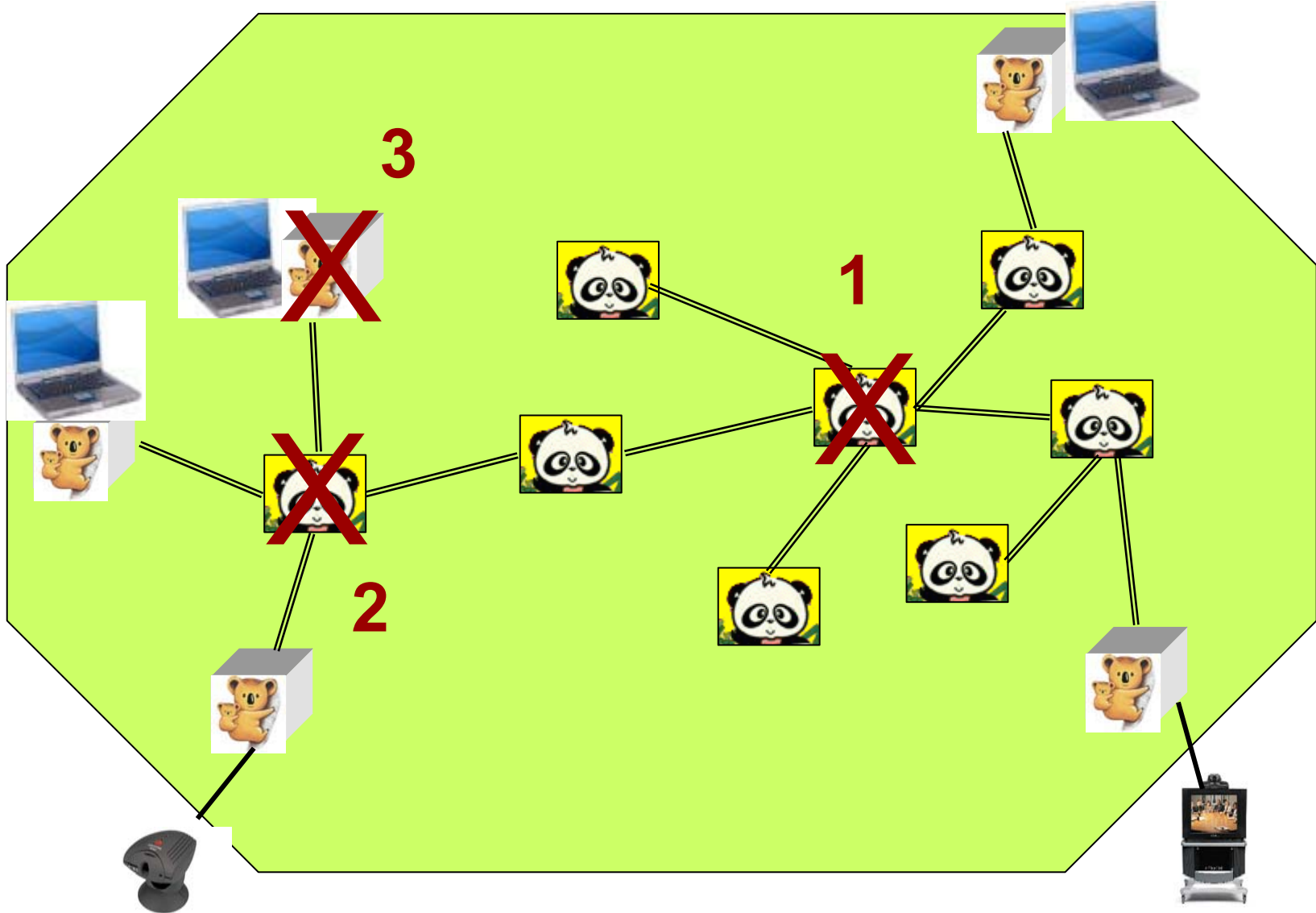
**PocketVRVS  
application GUI**

**Program Menu**  
Connection and  
Session Settings

# EVO: End-to-End Self Managed and Secure RTC Infrastructure



# Demonstration: Let's break the System !





**Thank you**

**[www.VRVS.org](http://www.VRVS.org)**

**[Contact@VRVS.org](mailto:Contact@VRVS.org)**


**[Support@VRVS.org](mailto:Support@VRVS.org)**

# Additional Slides

**Koala** Calendar Configuration Documentation Plugins Language

Team Meeting Log

video




Phil Gal

oipne video



Joao VRVS-CEF

oipne video




Juraj Sucik

oipne video



Dolores de la...

oipne video




Gregory Denis

oipne video



Michal Pauliny



Show Client Controls
Leave this meeting

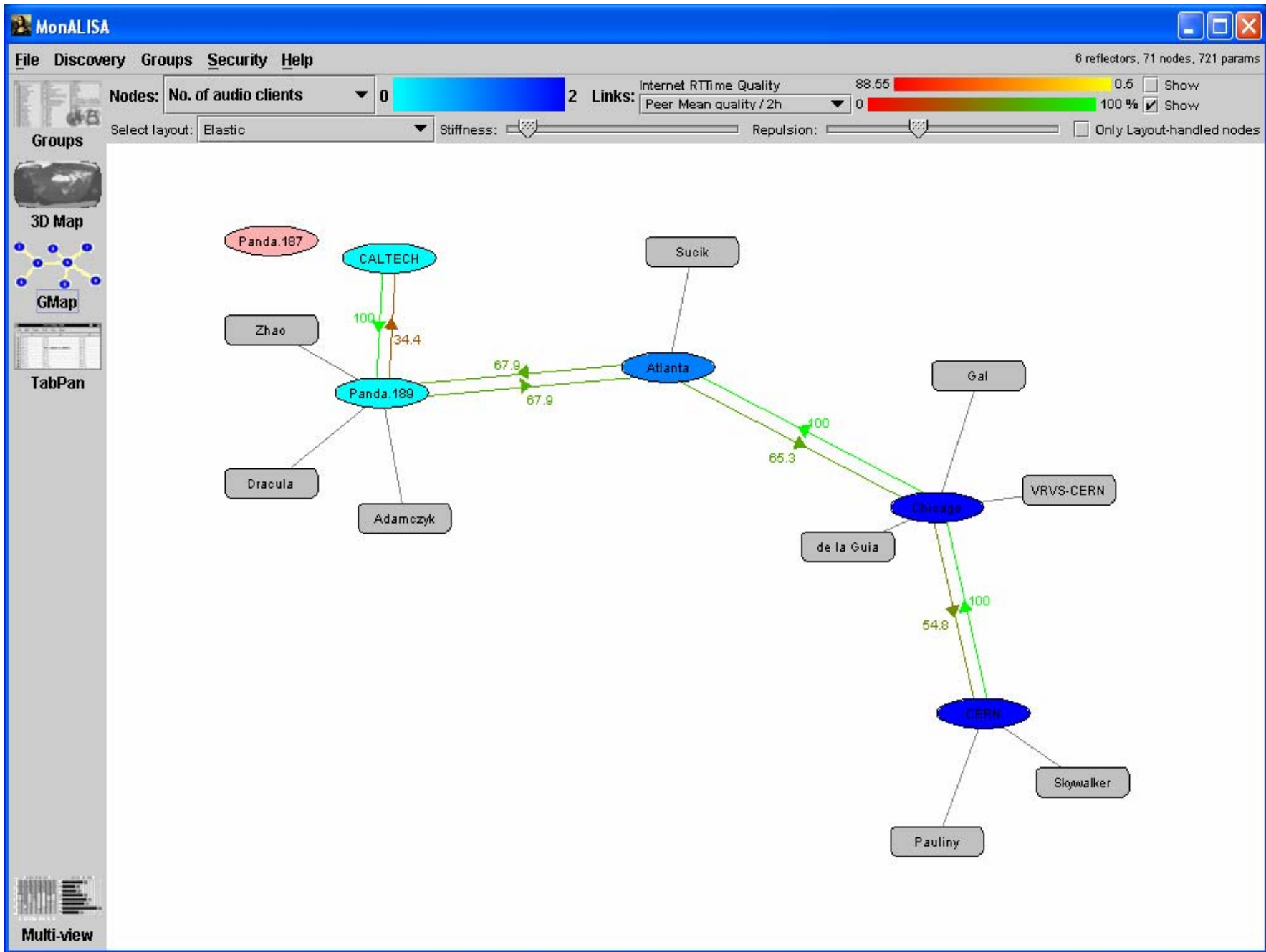
Available

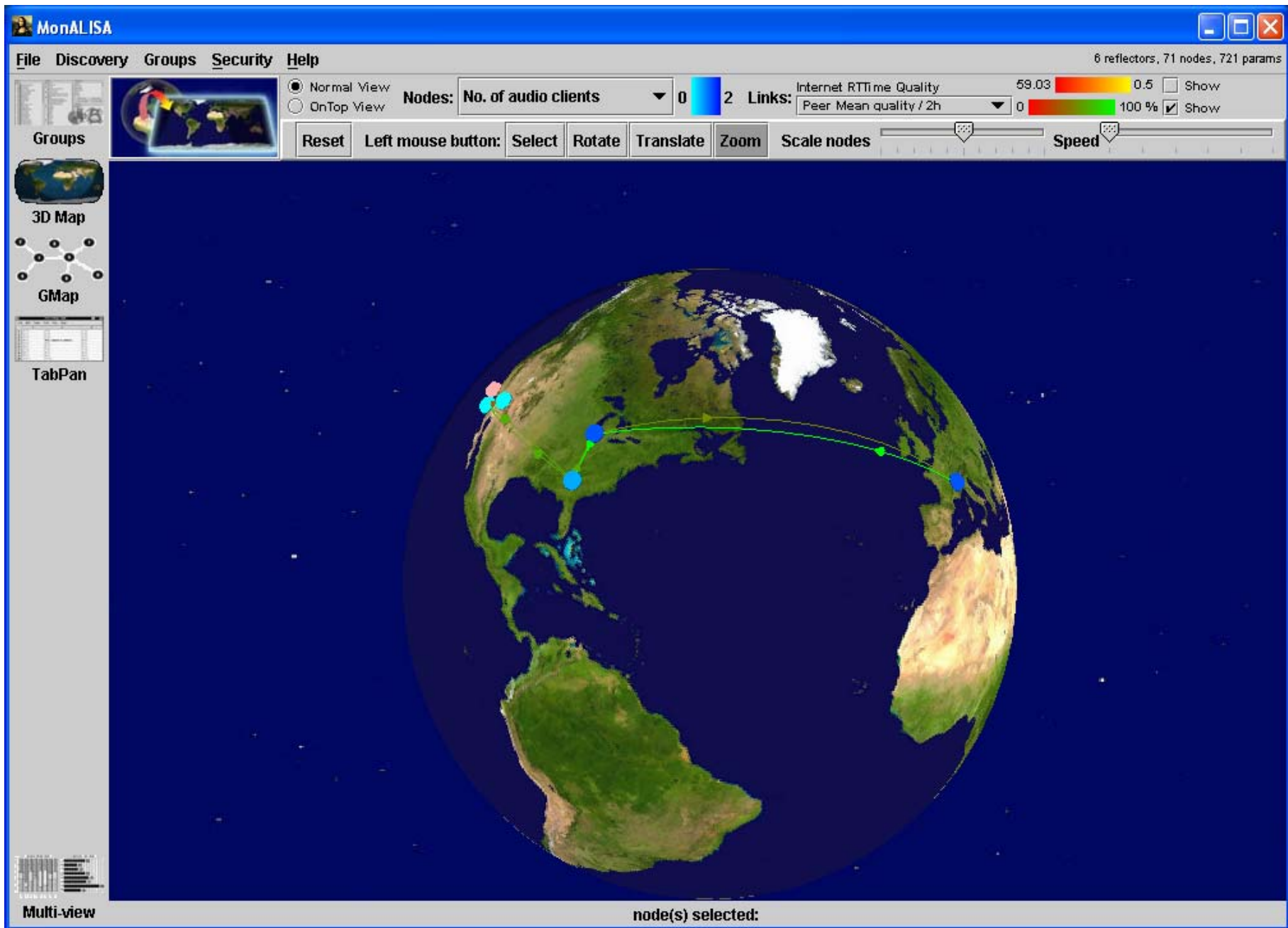
Users

- ☺ Dave Adamczyk
- ☺ Phil Gal
- ☺ Nan Zhao
- ☺ Count Dracula
- ☺ Joao VRVS-CERN
- ☺ Juraj Sucik
- ☺ Dolores de la Guia
- ☺ Gregory Denis
- ☺ Michal Pauliny

VRVS Team | Luke Skywalker x | Team Meeting

Connected to Panda vrvs-bkup-starlight.cern.ch
08:09:13





Groups

3D Map

GMap

TabPan

### Farms

- vrvssec
  - CERN
  - Chicago
  - Atlanta
  - CALTECH
  - Panda.187
  - Panda.189

### Clusters

- Reflector
- Internet
- Monalisa
- Peers
- Users
  - Adamczyk
  - Zhao
  - Dracula
- Meetings
  - Team Meeting

### Parameters

- Active
- Active Jobs
- Audio
- CPU\_idle
- CPU\_nice
- CPU\_sys
- CPU\_usr
- CollectedValuesRate
- CurrentParamNo
- Free Memory

History Plot      Realtime Plot

Nodes Summary      Cluster Summary

### Modules

```

edu.caltech.hep.ape.Ape
monABPing
monMLStat
monProcIO
monProcLoad
monProcStat
mona
  
```

Multiple selection

AND

OR

Farm statistics

Farm links statistics

Farm info

Multi-view