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Service Oriented Fabric: Datacenter Interconnect Requirements From Financial Industry's Perspective

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Service Oriented Fabric

Convergence = Consolidation + Virtualization

- All traffic on one wire: LAN + FC/StAN + IPC/SAN =>
 - Virtually, but safely, separated traffic:
 - Trading
 - Storage (FCoE and RDMA / iWARP)
 - Customer login (secure access to internal network)
 - Development / R&D
 - Management
 - Quality of Service (QoS) Provisions
 - No Loss (Storage and IPC)
 - Delay guarantees for trading traffic (and customers)
 - Bandwidth guarantees for storage
 - Congestion Management (CM) and Load Balancing
 - Under application control (API)
 - Deadlock Management (DM)
 - DLKs are more catastrophic than congestion => must have solution
 - Destination (DST)-based per-flow RX rate calculation (throughput accounting)

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Key Needs For Datacenter Applications

■ Must not have:

- Traffic mix on same lane (different classes merged by switch or NIC)
 - Need to adhere to Service Level Agreements (SLAs)
- Link-level loss (CM is no match for a fast LL-FC)
- Mis-ordering
- Deadlocks
- Congestion
- SlowStart (ramp-up a la TCP)

■ Must Have:

- Standards based solution for above not haves (no propriety solutions)
- Clock Synchronization
 - IEEE 1588 protocol for high precision clock sync over Ethernet looks promising
- Measurement -
 - Need to know what the latency and throughput are, and how they change over time
- Lossless
- Virtualization
- HCAs & Fabrics must be able to interoperate with any other HCA

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Key Needs For Datacenter Applications

- Need to enable Virtual Data Center
 - Transform the data center to service provider from an equipment warehouse
 - Ability to create "application container" that can be moved from one server to another without service disruptions
 - Architecture handles problem not upper layers
 - Container must operate in hardware independent space

- The Entire Fabric Virtualized - Creation of a Virtual Resource Market
 - Ability to start application on any server and available fabric that meets SLA
 - Ability to live migrate an application to another server and/or fabric to meet SLA without having to know network topology
 - Clients, Servers, Interconnects, Routers and Switches
 - Defined by Objects
 - Polymorphism – allows the Open Service Oriented Fabric to interface with other Service Oriented Architecture Components
 - May be represented by XML

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Selected Pain Points

- Current link-level flow control (LL-FC) PAUSE causes 2 problems
 - Deadlocks
 - Saturation trees
 - Per-Prio PAUSE (PPP) emulates VLs/VCs => traffic separation
 - Does it have to remain proprietary in Ethernet?
 - Some applications are very sensitive to ordering...

- Deadlocks: Must be dealt with thru a standard solution.
 - Circular dependencies are possible: request/reply apps, greedy routing, buffer sharing...
 - VC-based solutions are known (ex: BlueGene, Cray etc.)

- Congestion: Must be dealt with thru a standard solution.
 - DCs need a stable, robust and efficient alternative to TCP
 - CM must be co-designed together w/ QoS (app-level SLA thru TX selection)
 - Need to easily manage Hotspots via SLAs

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Key Elements of Service Orientation

- Congestion needs to be handled at L2 not at Transport Layer
 - Needs to be addressed at L2 not at L4
 - Currently contradicting proposals?
 - Consider a Virtual Network: if you move a particular socket (along with application that uses it) from one machine to another, all of a sudden it must change its behavior because a network path has changed and congestion control of TCP must be adjusted accordingly

- Tools
 - Mechanism to provide latency measurement statistics
 - Need non-intrusive performance statistics that are available to check SLAs
 - ↳ Non-intrusive port mirroring
 - Need to know end-to-end roundtrip performance
 - Some have demonstrated a speedometer to show bandwidth performance
 - Measurement resolution to microsecond
 - Timing mechanism should introduce additional latency
 - If measurement is active device, then it should fully redundant

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Key Elements of Service Orientation

- **Guaranteed SLAs For Bandwidth & Latency**
 - Need exclusive bandwidth to meet application data & storage requirement SLAs Management - Not just fixed priority-based... Must be dynamic
 - Allow to dedicate guaranteed bandwidth for an application that no other application can use if the SLA requires it
 - The desire is to have well defined, deterministic latency
 - Currently, applications send data via TCP, and we've seen high variance in ack times
- **Natively Lossless and Ordered Fabric**
 - Some applications can NOT tolerate loss of data
 - No out-of-order delivery
 - Absolutely no re-ordering of transmitted data
 - Not just within a switch and datacenter (intra-DC), but also between datacenters and clients (inter-DC)
 - Lots of data now sent via IP multicast; while it may well from a latency standpoint, a lot of time is spent debugging packet loss / and ordering issues

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Key Elements of Service Orientation

- Quality of Service (QoS), Congestion Control and Adaptive Routing must be fully implemented
 - Needs to be “real” => standard products
 - No more talk of “we have enough bandwidth, so we don’t need it”
 - Do not want something (e.g. CM) to arbitrary slow down an application’s injections
 - Service Level Agreement (SLA) must be adhered to
 - A mechanism to pick-up possible future congestion must be in place that will send feedback to a SLA manager that will decide what should be done
 - Live application migration to another fabric is an option that should be considered
 - Clock Synchronization for all hosts on fabric

- Interoperability & Standards
 - No single vendor solution; at least two or three vendors will be used
 - Management, Virtualization and Protocol must be able to interoperate across different vendors
 - Can not have one fabric support a protocol that another fabric can not communicate with because it is not supported

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Need For A New Fabric

- One to many - being able to multicast out a stream of data to multiple endpoints efficiently
 - Current solutions include multi-cast NACK style protocols with the ability to separate streams (i.e. topic routing using multicast address)
- One to one - simple node to node reliable communication with minimal latency
 - This is both internal and external (LAN and WAN) and needs to include an efficient ACK like protocol and ordering algorithm.
 - Messages tend to be very small (less than one frame)
- The rate of market data traffic is always increasing with a significant impact on both the network and server infrastructure
 - it is projected for January 2008 there will be a need to be able handle ~6 billion messages per day for one market data feed (*estimates for one stream ~720,000 msg/sec, bandwidth including re-transmission ~450 Mbps - 2 redundant streams available*)

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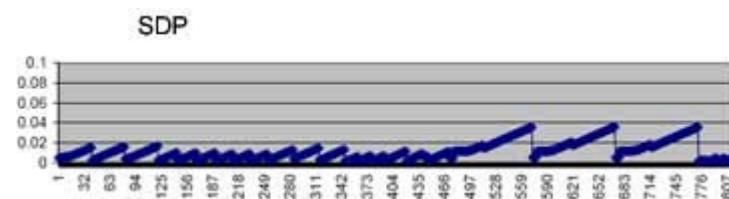
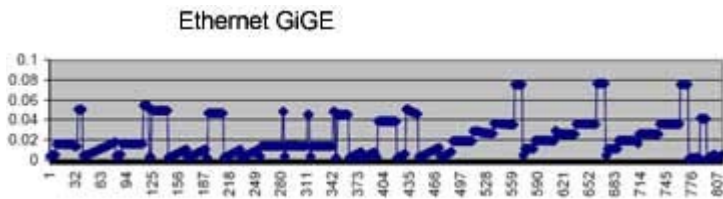
Need for A New Fabric

■ TCP/IP deficiencies

- With TCP/IP, we have seen latency spikes (~40ms) caused by Nagle algorithm and the congestion avoidance window
 - Nagle disabled => still latency spikes
 - ✎ when connection is idle for 5 minutes (unless continuously keep setting QUICKACK is not a viable solution)
- SLOWSTART is unacceptable for some classes of applications
- TCP/IP offloading & iWARP at this point time doesn't seem to address this problem
 - At most it may mask/reduce it

■ A better solution is needed for our applications

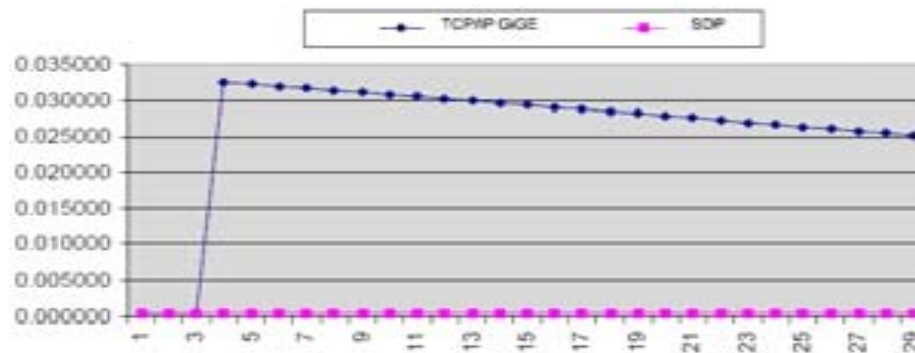
- “Jitter” could equate to a measurable loss of revenue
 - Testing has demonstrated predictable repeatable “jitter”
- Need consistent low latency predictable message delivery



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Need For A New Fabric

- What exists today is not good enough for tomorrow – we need something better
- TCP/IP Client Latency (GiGE) as compared to SDP on another fabric
 - Ethernet needs to be more predictable & have better performance
 - more un-managed bandwidth is not the solution
 - wider roads invite more traffic... and ensuing congestion
 - The way things are done today does not make them right for tomorrow



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Need For A New Fabric

- TCP/IP is 20-yrs. old => many major apps are socket-based...
 - Enterprise customers can not re-write millions of lines of code
 - Need deterministic behavior
 - SDP is a good start

 - Need Low Latency / Need Near Fabric Performance
 - We need an off-the-shelf easy plug-in to get instant Return on Investment (ROI) or the High Speed Interconnect won't get wide deployment
 - Message sizes 2bytes - 60bytes, 0.5k – 2k, 8k at most?
 - *Need to optimize for small message sizes as well not just large!*
 - Can not arbitrary decide to slow down an application sending data
 - Need Multicast solution

 - Some applications can not afford to lose data -This could equate to missing an opportunity to make an automated decision that could result in the loss of \$\$\$
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Governance and Validation

- Testing and Validation needs to part of any roadmap deliverable – code without validation should not be released
 - Software needs to have a certification to pass
 - Can not have pick and chose the features you want to support
 - Which leads to...
- Software needs to be tested vigorously on all supported platforms
 - End users, ISVs and OEMs should be a part of an interoperability lab
- Only one supported snapshot
 - Do not want Company A, B ... Z to take a snapshot in time, and have their own internal staffs supporting their snapshot version
 - We want companies to support the same snapshot, and all work together on bug fixes & enhancements

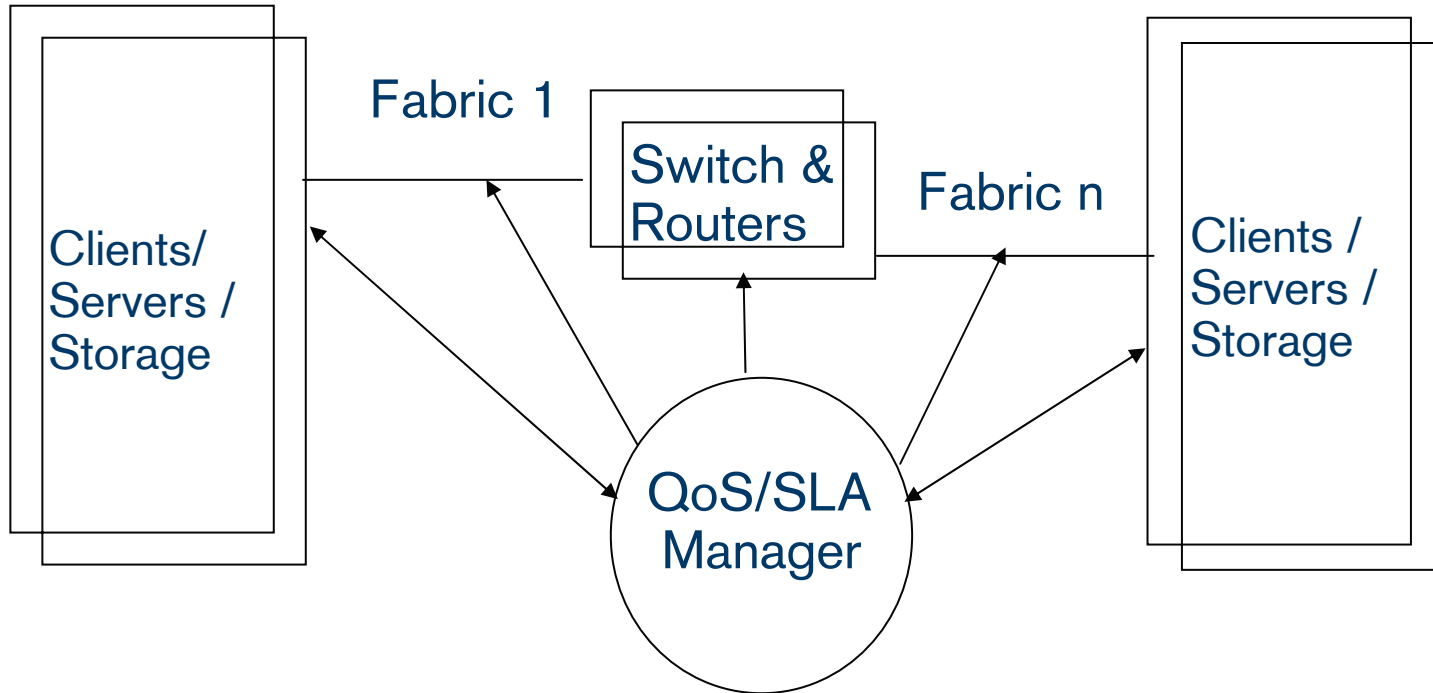
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Value Proposition

- Co-locating client / server tiers for demanding trading applications
 - Best of breed, ultra-performing network, server and storage technology to support demanding transaction workloads
 - Unprecedented performance of core system interconnects
 - Unbound transactional capabilities and superior resource utilization in the OS
- Predictable application response times for time-sensitive workloads
 - This includes use of Real Time OS
- Enterprise GRID solution and calculation accelerators for quantitative business applications
- Open Solutions & Standards
 - Reduce complexity

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Example



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Q & A

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