

Site Report

Plus Book Information

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European AFS Workshop 2008

Outline

- 1 From Foreign to Own Cell
- 2 Documented Experience
- 3 Actual Context
- 4 Security Considerations
- 5 Idea for Project
- 6 Summary

Outsourced Cell

- users** 260 (faculty, employees, guests)
- groups** 25 (those reflected in NIS)
- volumes** 360 (one per user)
 - AFS** Transarc \rightsquigarrow OpenAFS
 - AUTH** kaserver \rightsquigarrow Kerberos V
 - NSS** NIS remained over the years
 - OS** Unix \rightsquigarrow RedHat Enterprise
 - HW** Dell rack
- GOAL** unite flavors of Unix

Main Requirements

- Kerberos** centralized authentication
- OpenLDAP** directory service
- OpenAFS** file service with self triggered replication
 - servers** Linux on off-the-shelf servers
 - clients** Linux (SSO), Mac OS X and Windows (personal use)
- one client** IBM 64bit PowerPC with 8 CPUs and 16GB
- interest** distributed and parallel computing
 - use** laboratories with software distribution
 - also** support for exams

Homegrown Cell

- users** 220 (students)
- groups** 12 (those reflected in LDAP)
- volumes** 920 (4 per user: home, mail, web, profiles)
- AFS** OpenAFS
- AUTH** Kerberos V
- NSS** OpenLDAP
- OS** Debian stable (very convenient)
- HW** Dell servers
- GOAL** full control of the cell

Book with Springer 2007

“Distributed Services with OpenAFS (for Enterprise and Education)”
together with Franco Milicchio

(errata at <http://www.dia.uniroma3.it/~wgehrke/docs/errata.html>)

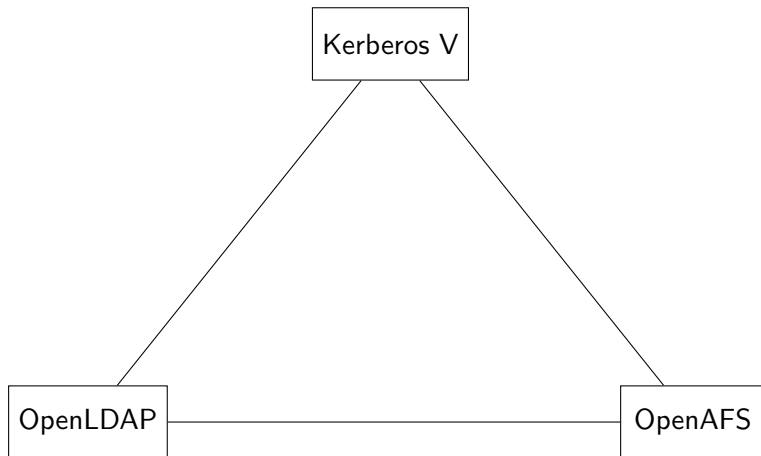
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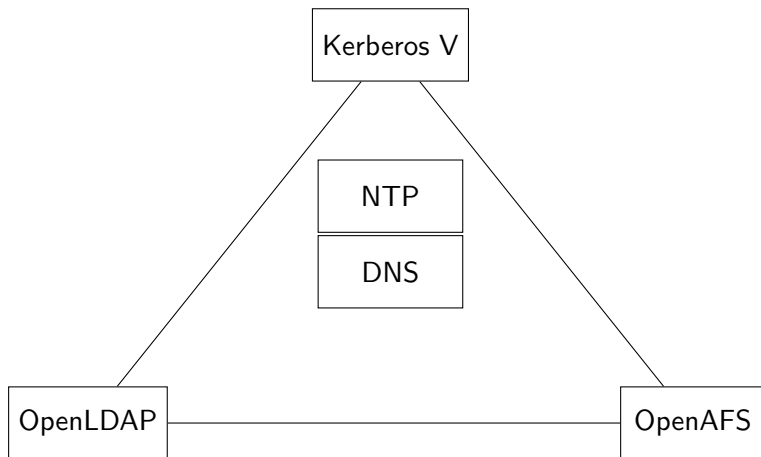
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- starts with basic services (NTP, DNS)
- explains briefly the theory of all services
- integrates web server, electronic mail, samba
- demonstrates Linux, Mac OS X, Windows clients
- shows application to clusters and laboratories
- extends to databases, DHCP, TFTP
- touches NFS, CVS, Jabber
- fault tolerance by service distribution

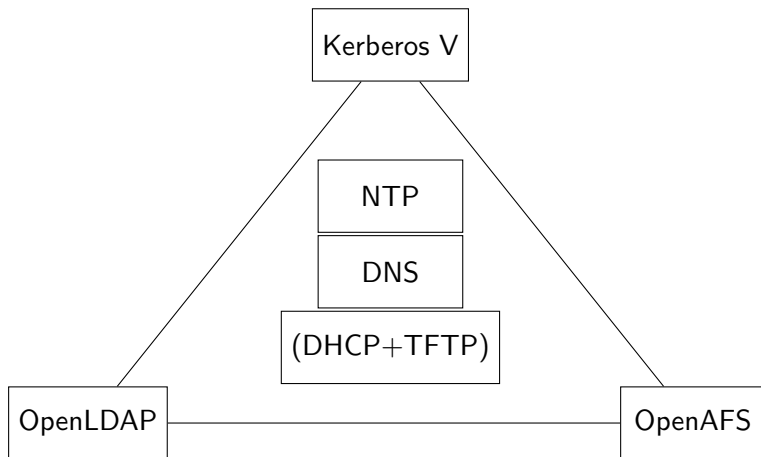
Rough Sketch



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Rough Sketch continued

	Kerberos V	OpenLDAP	OpenAFS
SMTP relay	keytab sasldb	HOME, aliases	MAILDIR
IMAP	keytab courier-authd	HOME	MAILDIR
SAMBA	keytab	HOME user info	Profile
WWW	keytab mod-auth-kerb	HOME	UserDir, DAV

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NOT to forget: OpenSSL

involved: symmetric key AND asymmetric key cryptography

Kerberos V

- master/slave

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- MIT Kerberos used (better integration with Debian)
- via PAM for RADIUS (INN or wireless clients)
- OpenLDAP via SASL with GSSAPI
- direct integration in Apache and PostgreSQL

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- OpenLDAP via SASL with GSSAPI
- direct integration in Apache and PostgreSQL
- more applications like OpenVPN
- Heimdal alternative
- PKINIT in the context of grid computing
- HX509 with PKCS11 support

LDAP

- sync replication

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- OpenLDAP used
- source for name service switch (passwd, shadow, group)
- additionally for mail aliases
- storage for MAC addresses of hosts

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- OpenLDAP used
- source for name service switch (passwd, shadow, group)
- additionally for mail aliases
- storage for MAC addresses of hosts
- as database for Kerberos
- multi-master and dynamic configuration
- combination with further services like DHCP and DNS
- PKI certificate storage

OpenAFS

- volume replication

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- volume replication
- WebDAV, Maildirs, Samba
- CVS, subversion
- @sys expansion
- backup scenarios

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- CVS, subversion
- @sys expansion
- backup scenarios
- cross-realm trust
- other OS for servers
- recent OS for clients
- debugging commands

Related Technologies

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- 8 Hadoop file-system
- 9 Lustre

Influence of Virtualization

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- VMware with freeware versions
- XEN available in Debian, too
- VirtualBox acquired by SUN
- KVM with RedHat support

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- XEN works for AFS clients
- possible for database servers
- maybe less suitable for file servers
- interesting in combination with iSCSI

General Aspects

NTP authentication key

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OS hardening

- internal firewall
- mandatory access controls
- intrusion detection and monitoring

Data Related

integrity possible via ZFS

confidentiality transmission **weak point** for the moment

availability RO volume replication

access control strong user authentication

full disk encryption future for ZFS

user level encryption try for example EncFS

OS Variety

OpenBSD minimalistic secure approach
could be used for database servers
comes with Arla client

OpenSolaris offers ZFS
could be used for file servers
e.g. Nexenta Core Platform close to Debian

Other commercial alternatives

Distributed “Workflow” Engine

- inspired by workflows
- useful in the web context, too
- at our site: rather document flow
- event-based batch processing
- ideally to be distributed over several AFS Unix clients
- rule processing engine with overseer processes
- mutual exclusion with the help of file locking
- related theory: Petri nets

Workflow Patterns

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sequence

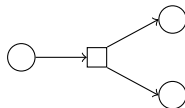


Workflow Patterns

sequence



parallel split

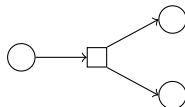


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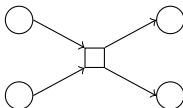
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parallel split



synchronization

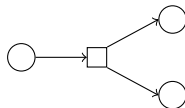


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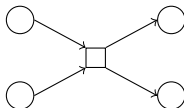
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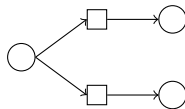
parallel split



synchronization



exclusive choice

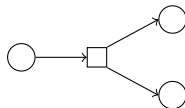


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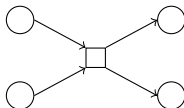
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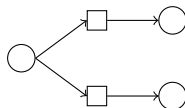
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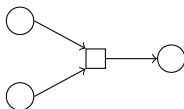
synchronization



exclusive choice



simple merge



Small Annoyances

- rapid Linux kernel development with API changes
- discussion on GPLv3
- `aklog -setpag`
- PAG garbage collection
- normal commands not ACL aware
- delay of propagating ACL change
- file mode bits
- firewall settings

Wish List

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- full Kerberos V
- RW replication
- extended attributes and no directory limitations
- more than just one important keytab

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- RW replication
- extended attributes and no directory limitations
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- byte-range locks
- Unicode support for Windows
- native driver for Windows
- disconnected operation