

# NeSI

New Zealand eScience  
Infrastructure

## New Zealand Research Data Transfer Services

Kieron Mottley  
Business Manager

GlobusWorld 2014  
Chicago

# Thanks to:

- **Vladimir Mencil**, NeSI eResearch Services and Systems Consultant
- **Michael Keller**, NeSI eResearch Services and Systems Consultant
- **Markus Binsteiner**, NeSI Software Developer
- **Sat Mandri**, Tuakiri Service Manager
- **Andrew Farrell**, NeSI Technical Programme Manager

# Overview

1. New Zealand eScience Infrastructure and the national research landscape
2. New Zealand research is increasingly collaborative
3. Developing a national data transfer service

#1:

# **New Zealand eScience Infrastructure and the national research landscape**



# ... with significant research data investments

Social Statistics  
Humanities  
Climate  
Ecosystems  
Marine  
Geology  
Environment  
Physiology

The National  
Climate Database

neon



**CEISMIC**  
Canterbury Earthquake Digital Archive



**DIGITALNZ**  
Ā-TIHI O AOTEAROA

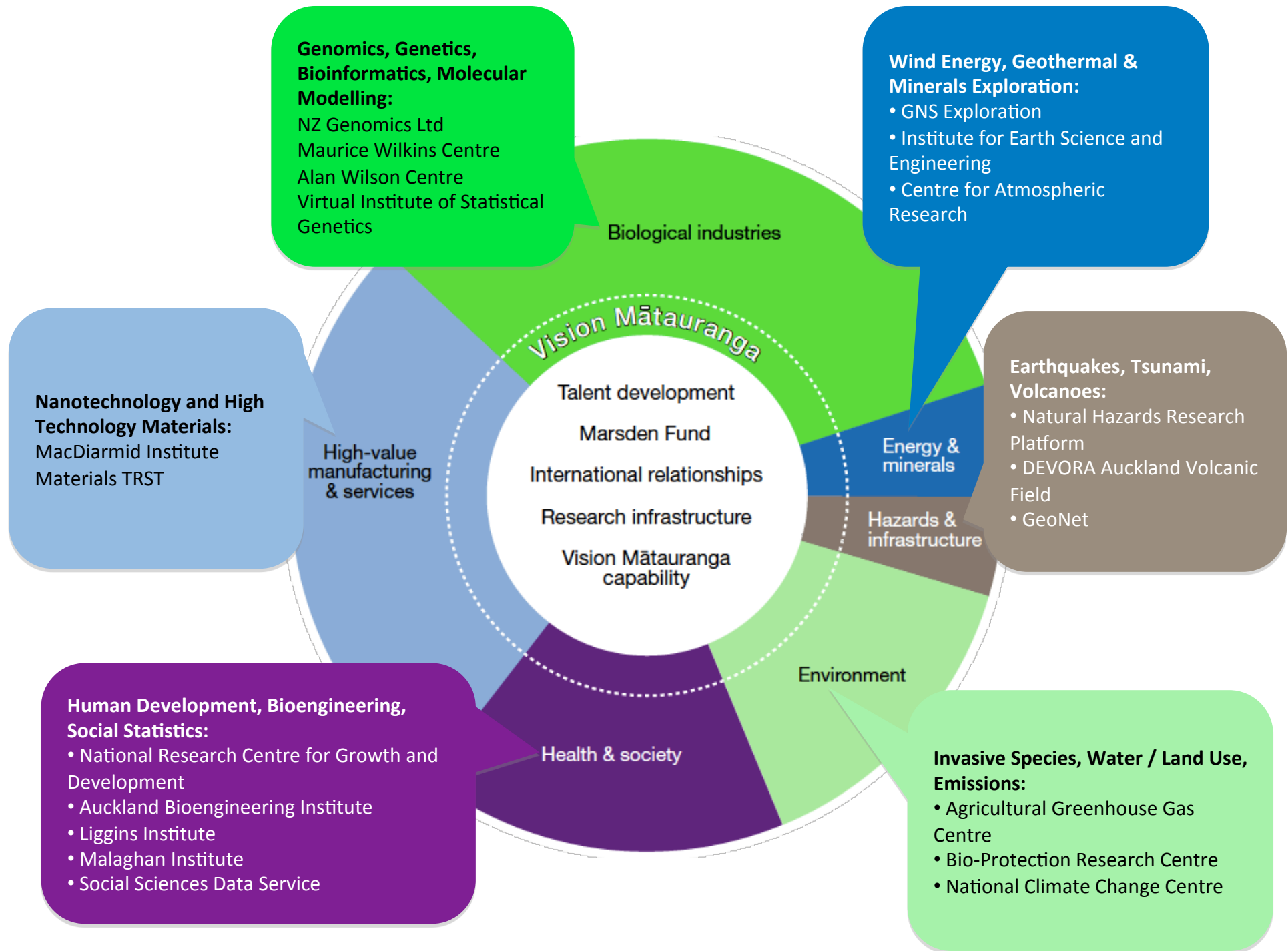
**SINDI**online  
SOIL QUALITY INDICATORS



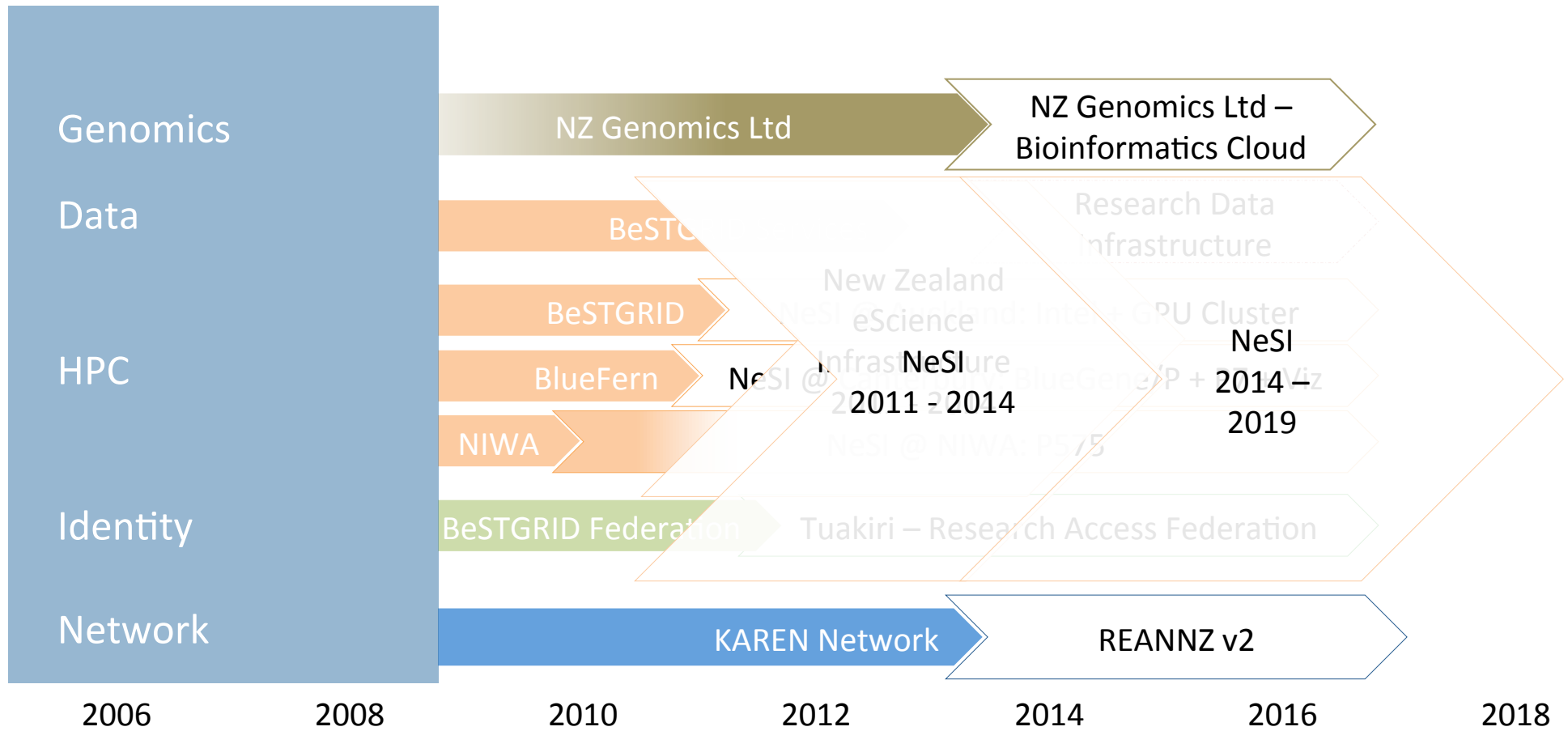
**O BIS** OCEAN  
BIOGEOGRAPHIC  
INFORMATION SYSTEM



**Statistics**  
New Zealand  
TATAURANGA AOTEAROA



# NZ Research e-Infrastructure Roadmap





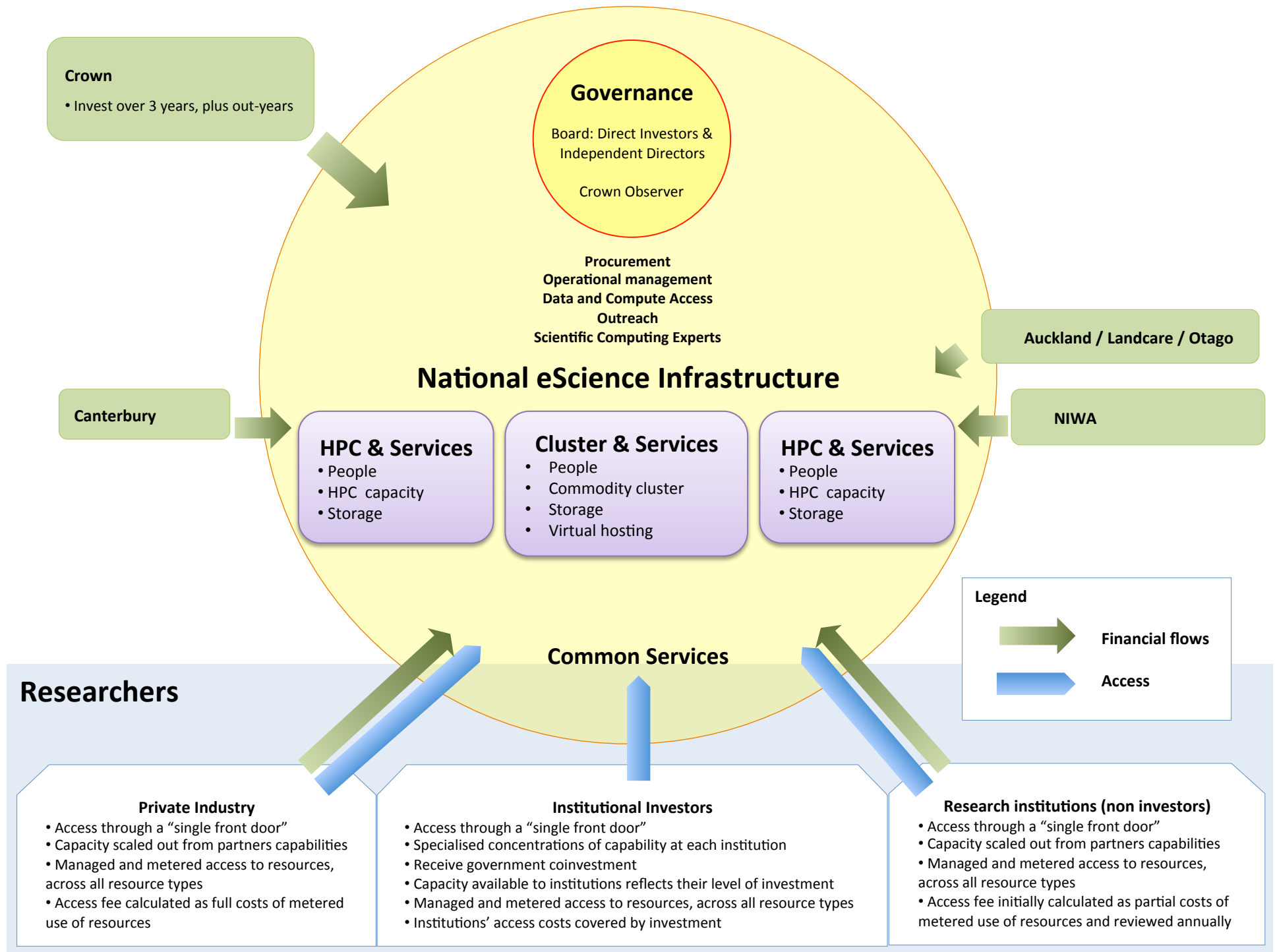
# Building a national infrastructure

- Collaborative model
- Capabilities embedded within institutions

Teams are typically **distributed** and **multi institutional**, primarily as they're built from existing capability within historical research computing centres and groups

Operating in this environment creates two early barriers:

1. Culture & identity need to integrate and mature
2. Support needs to scale up from local to national



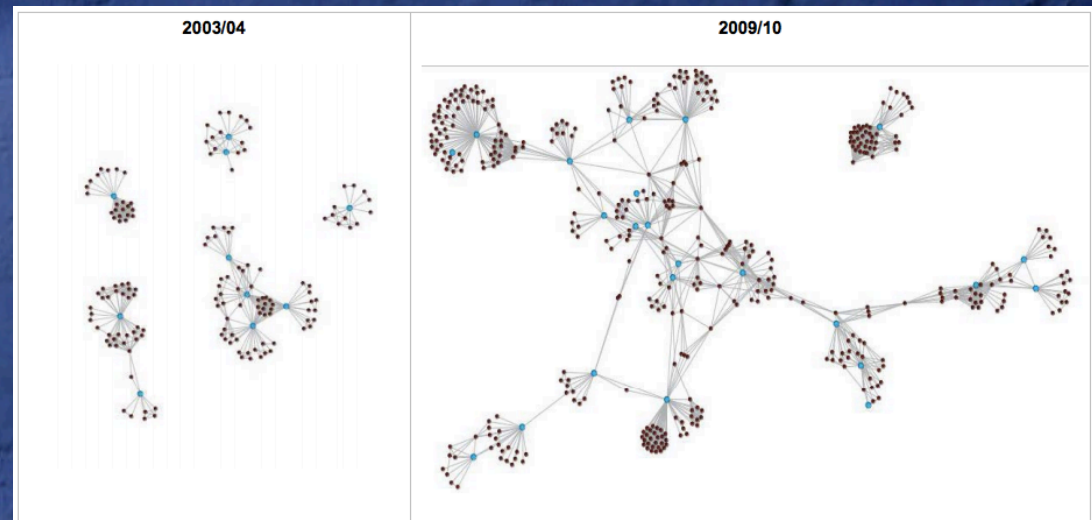
#2:

**New Zealand research is increasingly collaborative**

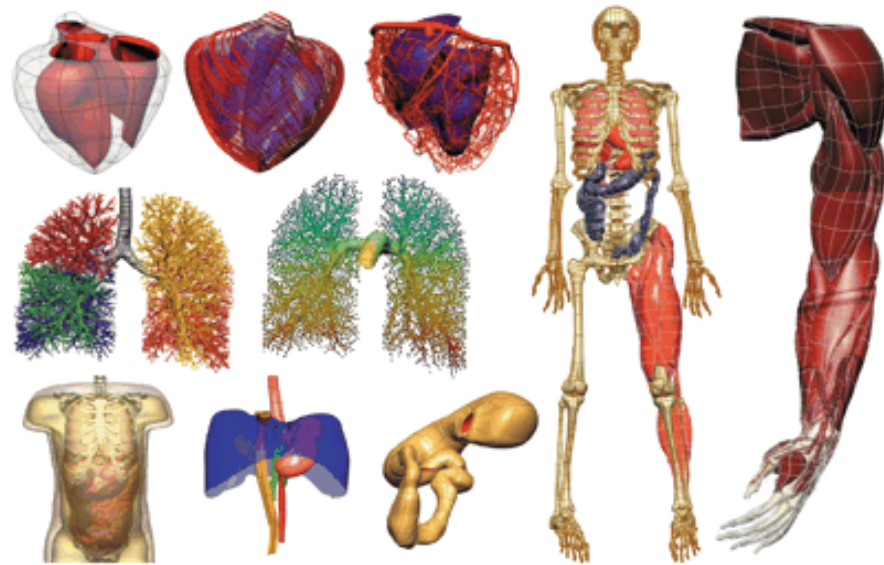
Research collaborations are growing, becoming more highly connected



*Research networks and collaboration at the Allan Wilson Centre*



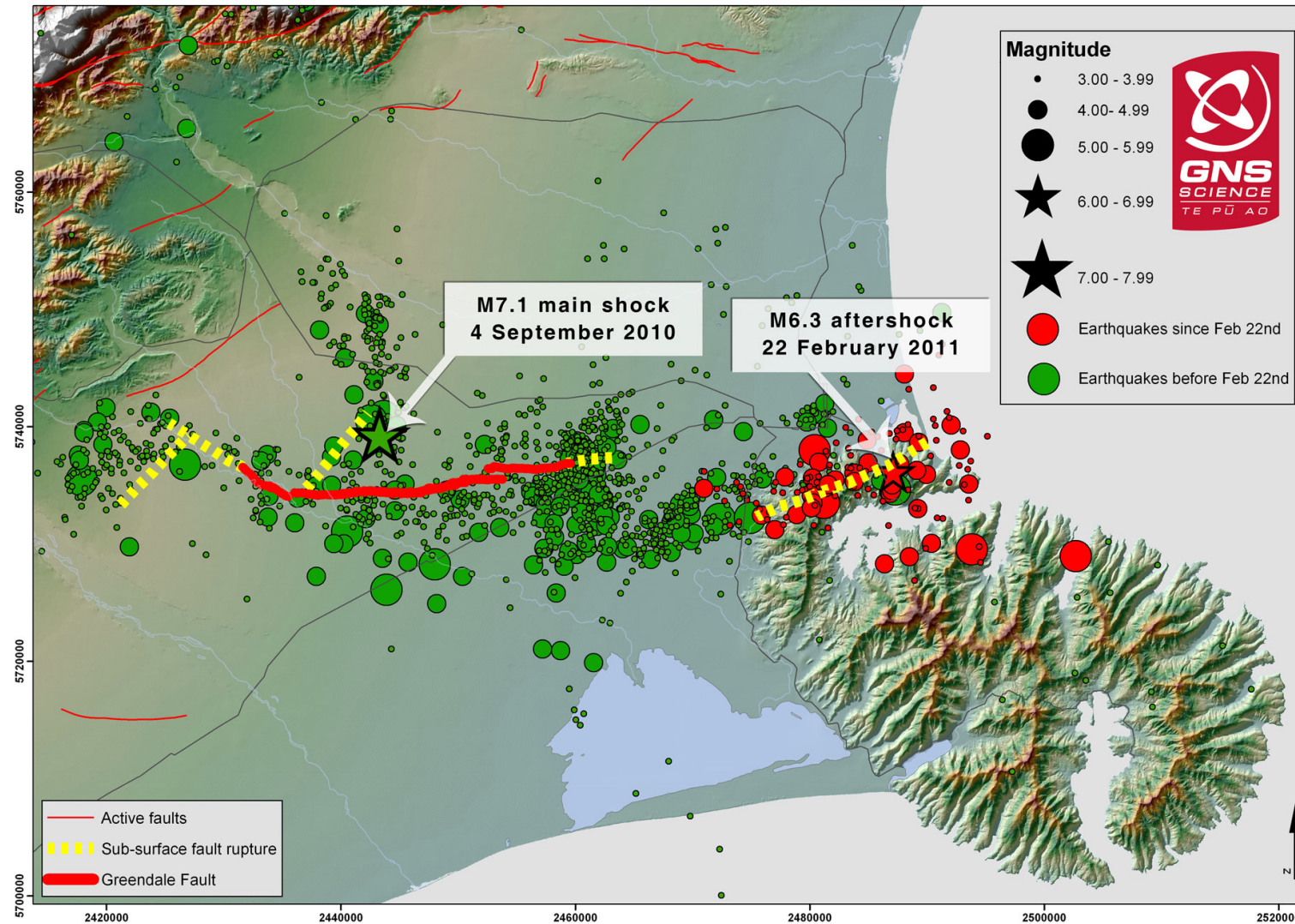




Finite-element organ models used for computational physiology in the IUPS Physiome Project. Hunter and Nielsen, *Physiology*, 316, October 1, 2005



# Managing Big Data



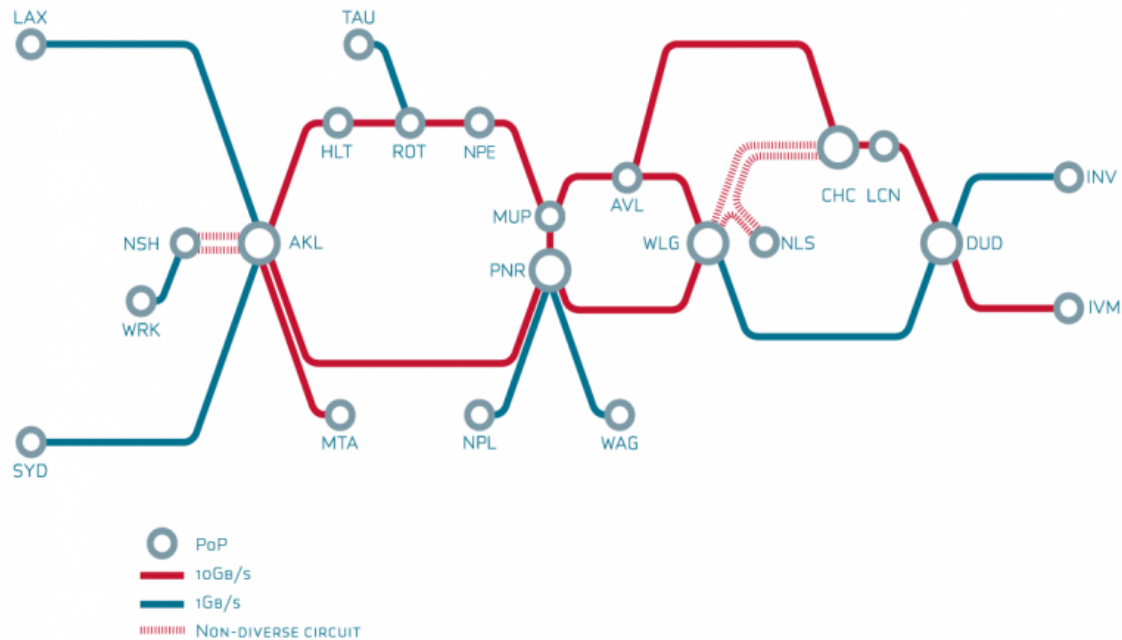
This map from GNS Science in New Zealand shows the earthquakes of 4 September 2010 and 22 February 2011 along with their aftershocks.

#3:

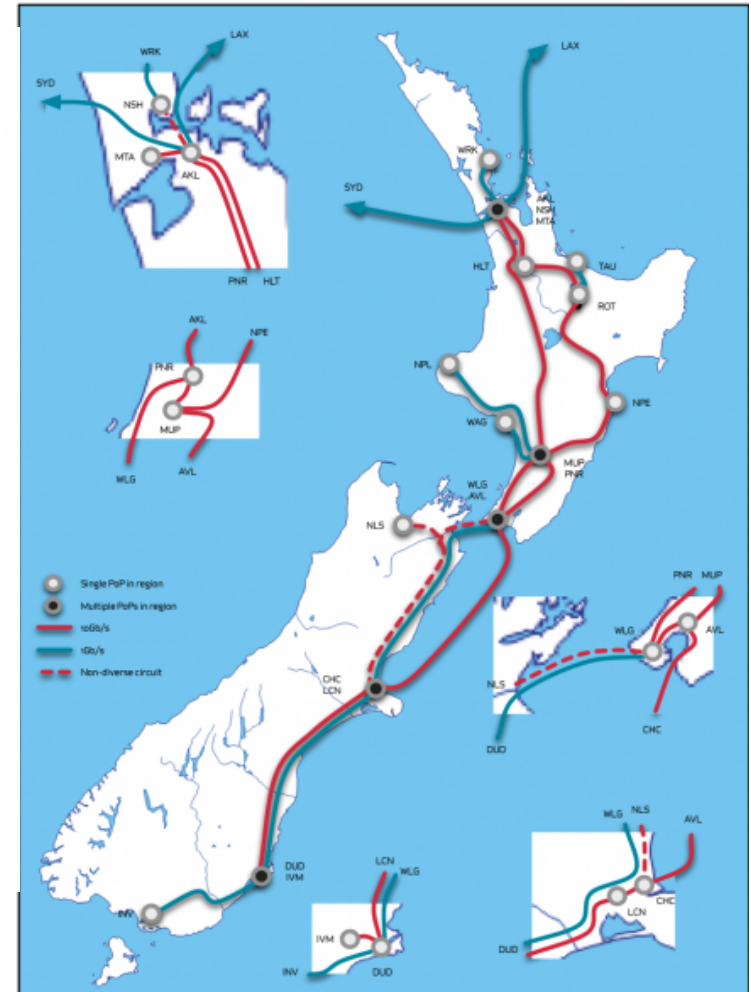
**Developing a national data transfer service**



# Transfer links



Goal: Facilitate high-performance transfer, making good use of available b/w, particularly on red, 10Gbps links





**Galaxy Server**  
Access data and tools from anywhere using a standard browser

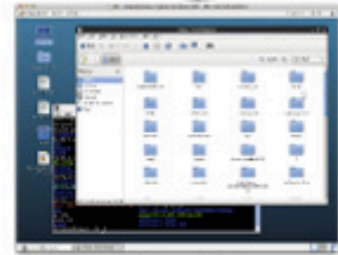
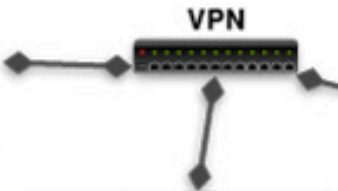
**Compute Cluster**  
6 Nodes, 96GB RAM  
16 CPUs per node



**Sequencing Machines**



**SSH**  
Command line access



**OpenNX**  
Remote GUI access to Linux Desktop



**Client Workspaces**  
4 to 40 CPUs  
16 to 900GB RAM per project

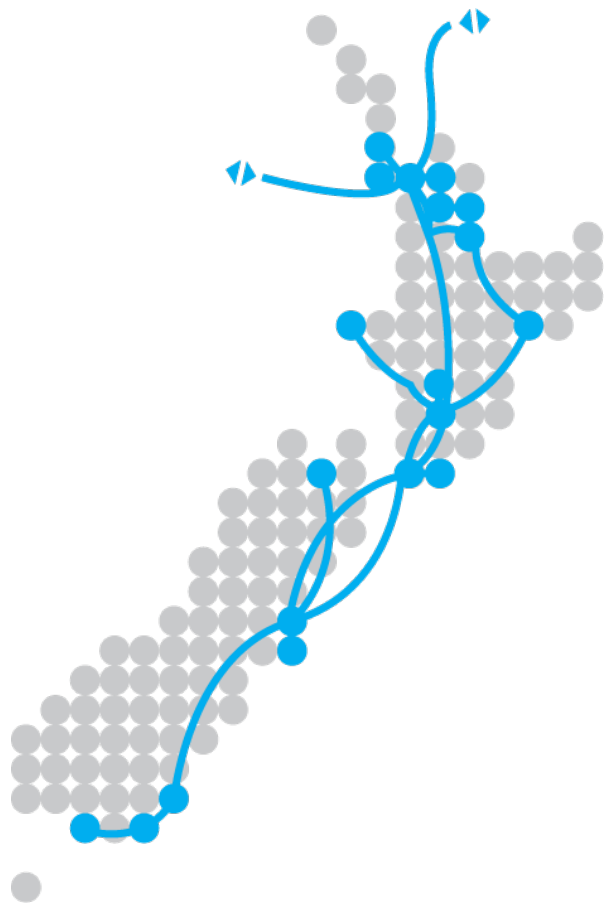


**Network Storage**  
350TB comprised of primary high speed storage plus near online and backup storage



**Globus Server**  
Upload and Download data rapidly and reliably





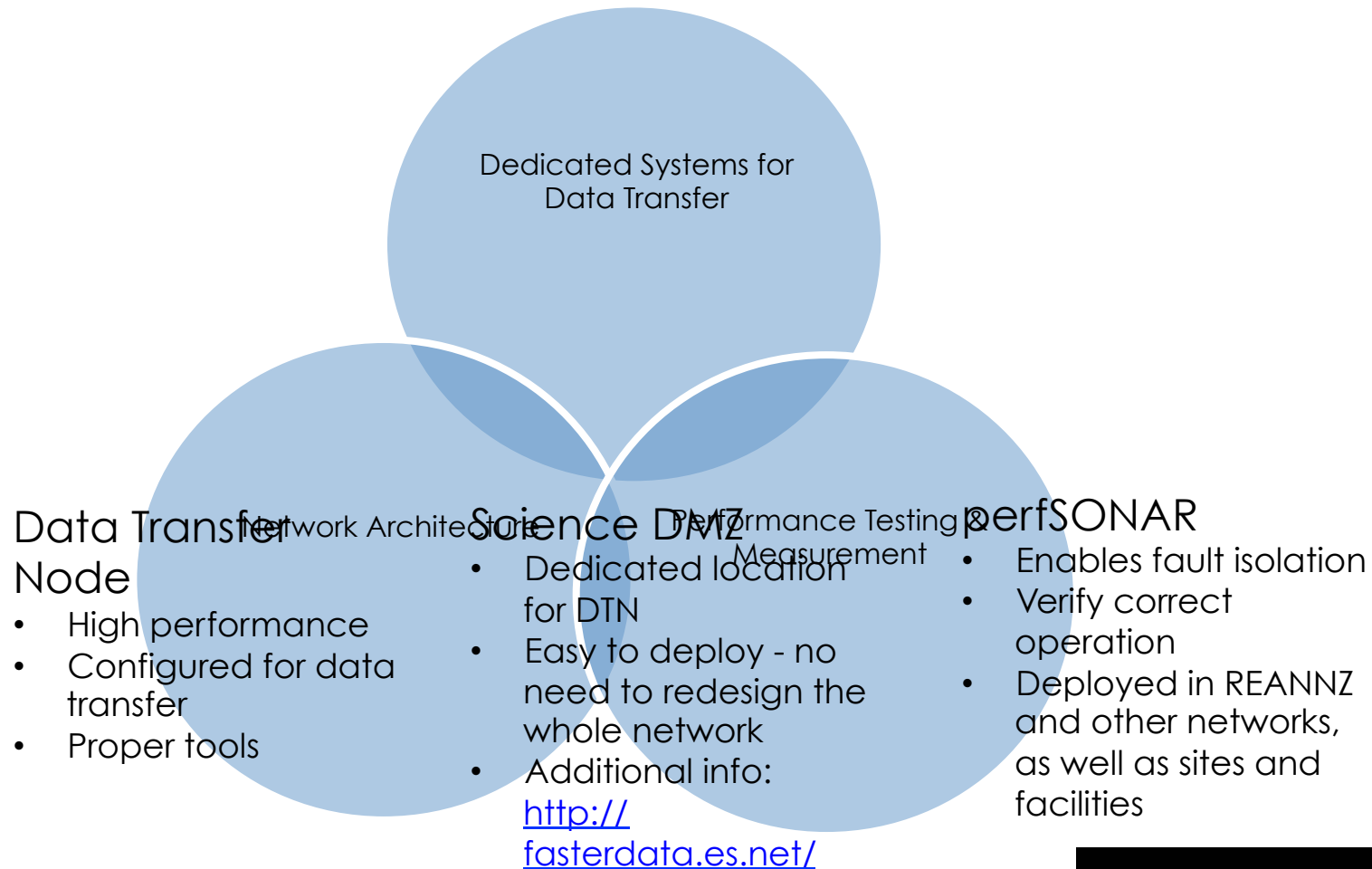
Current: 10 Gb/s national  
1 Gb/s international

2014: 40 Gb/s national  
40 Gb/s international  
(shared AARNet science wave)

23 connection points nationwide

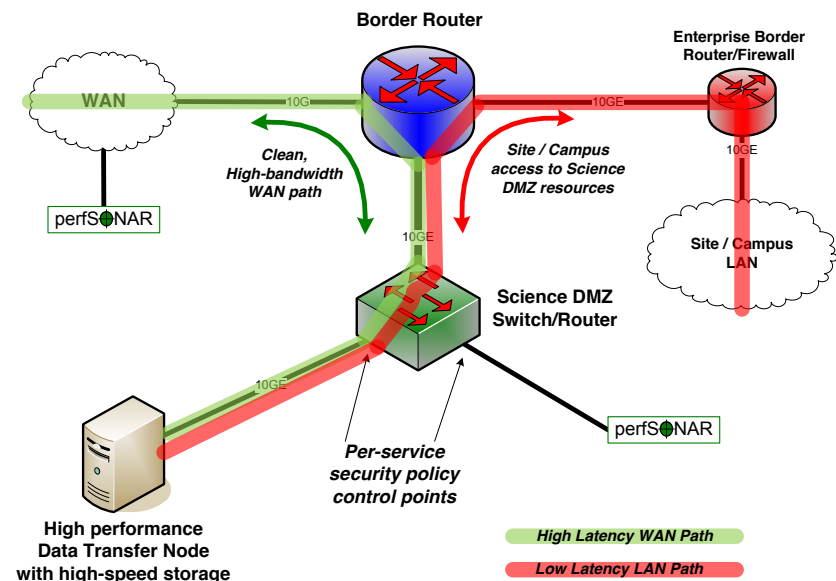
Low latency, low jitter

# The “Science DMZ” Model



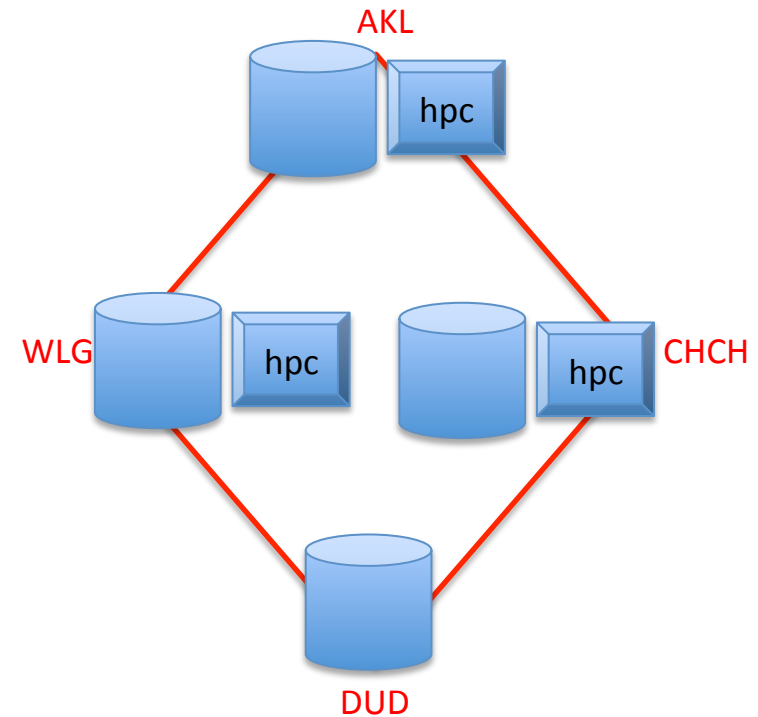
# Science DMZ in NZ

- Widely deployed architectural concept connecting the science instrument directly to the high-performance network
  - Fully instrumented with perfSONAR
  - Data transfer node
  - High performance switch
- REANNZ is working with NeSI, NZ universities and Crown Research Institute customers to deploy Science DMZs



# What do we want to do with data transfer?

- Transfer large datasets to advanced computing resources, e.g. from DUD to AKL
- Support collaborative sharing of data sets where access is often latency-sensitive
  - Local copies – of at least subsets of shared data
  - Replicate data between local stores using network backbone, at high-speeds where possible



# Why enable delegation of Globus authentication to NZ IdPs?

- Make some fundamental improvements to UX, for NZ users
  - Enable login to Globus website using institutional credentials, rather than Globus-specific credentials.
  - Enable automatic activation of end-points using same credentials – single sign-on.



- Tuakiri is New Zealand Access Federation Service for the NZ Higher Education and Research Sector, established in 2011.
- Tuakiri is a formal federation of member institutions focused on creating a common framework for collaborative trust in support of research and education.
- Tuakiri makes sharing protected online resources easier, safer, and more scalable in our age of digital resources and services.





**New Zealand eScience Infrastructure “NeSI”**, is the federation operator, providing Tuakiri with:

- Service hosting
- Service support
- Future development and innovation potential

# New Zealand members



● Production IdPs

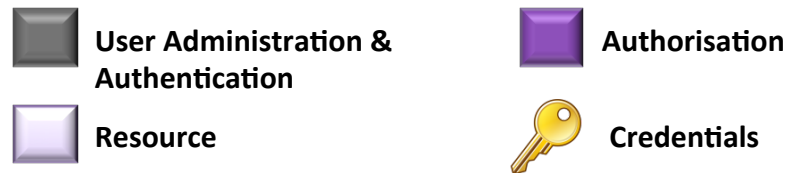
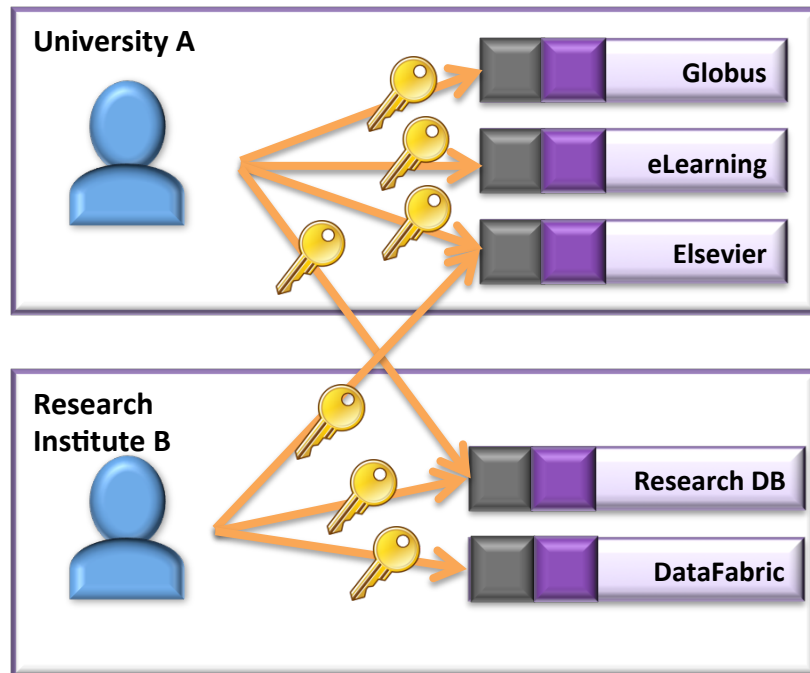
● IdP deployment in pipeline



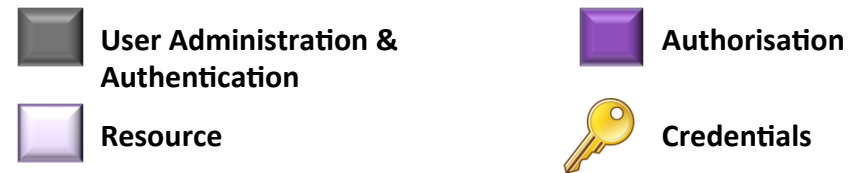
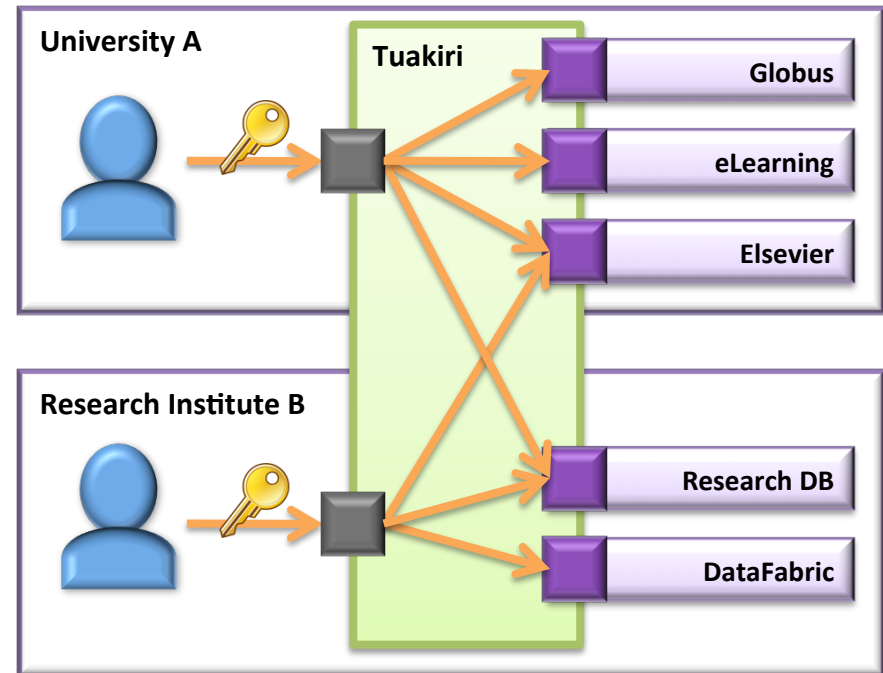
# What it does



## Without Tuakiri



## With Tuakiri



# Securing online resources with shibboleth



- Using Shibboleth you can secure an online resource like Globus by implementing authenticated and authorised access.
- Following Service Provider enablement, an online resource will request a Shibboleth Session “**single-sign-on federated access**” instead of the traditional local user account login.
- The online resource will consume relevant and required user information from the attributes supplied by the IdP and make authorisation decisions based on that information provided.

# Without NZ IdP integration – Globus website login



Sign In

[Sign Up with Globus](#)

Using your [Globus login](#).

[alternate login](#)

Username

Password

[Forgot password?](#)

I need to remember yet another set of credentials!

# With integration – Globus website login

Using your Globus login. alternate login

Sign Up with

Select Identity Provider

Globus	LRZ
Argonne LCF	NCSA
Argonne MCS & LCRC	NCSA Blue Waters
BIRN	NERSC
CLI Transition	Tuakiri
EGI	UChicago CI
ESG ANL	UChicago iBi
Exeter	UK NGS
Google	WestGrid
InCommon / CILogon	XSEDE

**Tuakiri**  
NEW ZEALAND ACCESS FEDERATION

Home About Support

### Select your Home Organisation

The service 'NeSI MyProxy+ Server' at host 'myproxyplus.nesi.org.nz' you are trying to access requires that you authenticate with your home organisation.

Select from the list:

Federation	Organisation
Tuakiri New Zealand Access Federation	AgResearch
All Sites	AUT University
	CPIIT
	ESR
	Landcare Research
	Lincoln University
	Massey University
	NWA
	Plant and Food Research
	Scion

Remember for a month   Redirect me in the future without asking me again.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND**  
NEW ZEALAND  
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau

### The University of Auckland

Sign in

NetID/UPI or Email

Password

[Sign up for a new account](#)  
[I cannot log in](#)  
[I forgot my password](#)

[Protect your privacy](#)

Remember to always log out by completely exiting your browser when you leave the computer. This will protect your personal information from being accessed by subsequent users.

## Welcome to the OAuth for MyProxy Client Authorization Page

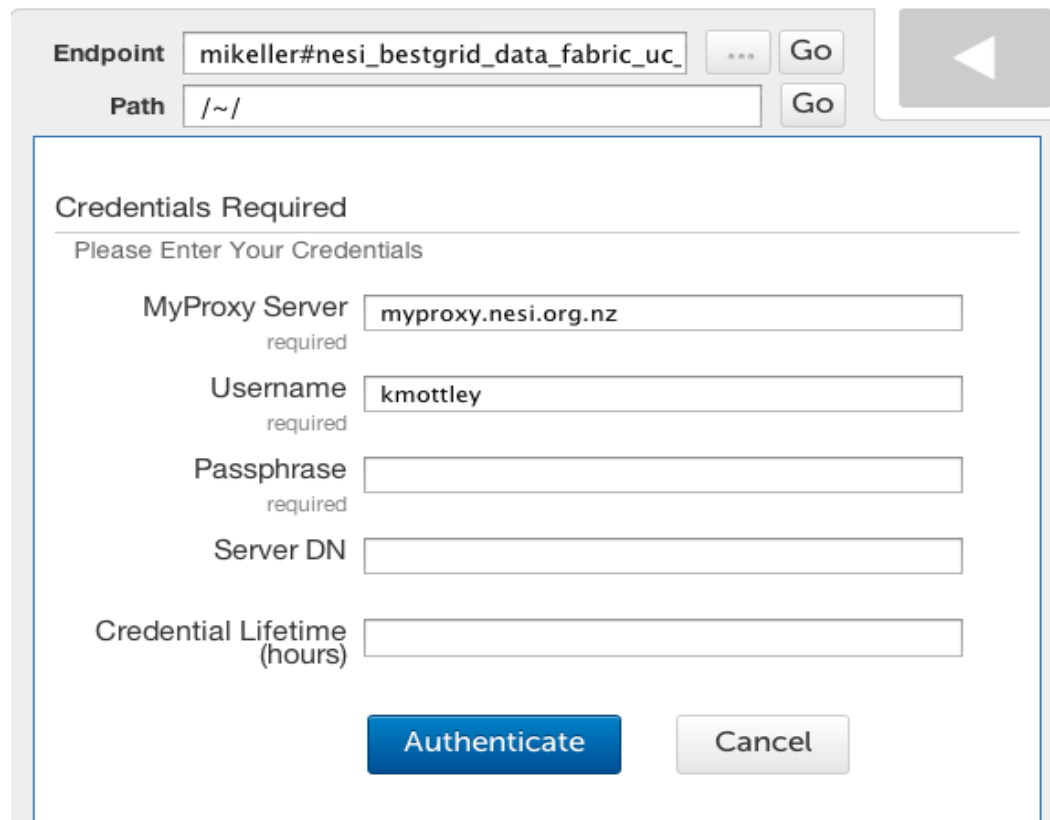
The Client below is requesting access to your account. If you approve, please click 'Approve'.

I can use my home university or research institution's credentials!

Client Information	User Data
<p>The client listed below is requesting access to your account.</p> <p>Name: Globus URL: http://www.globus.org/</p>	<p>mail a.farrell@auckland.ac.nz commonNameKieron Mottley assurance principalNamekmot007@auckland.ac.nz organisation University of Auckland affiliation staff sharedToken JH1qGnyiLmHiamUYM8W6fav2BVY</p>
	<p><input type="button" value="Approve"/> <input type="button" value="Cancel"/></p>

# Without NZ IdP integration – Transfer endpoint authentication

## Transfer Files

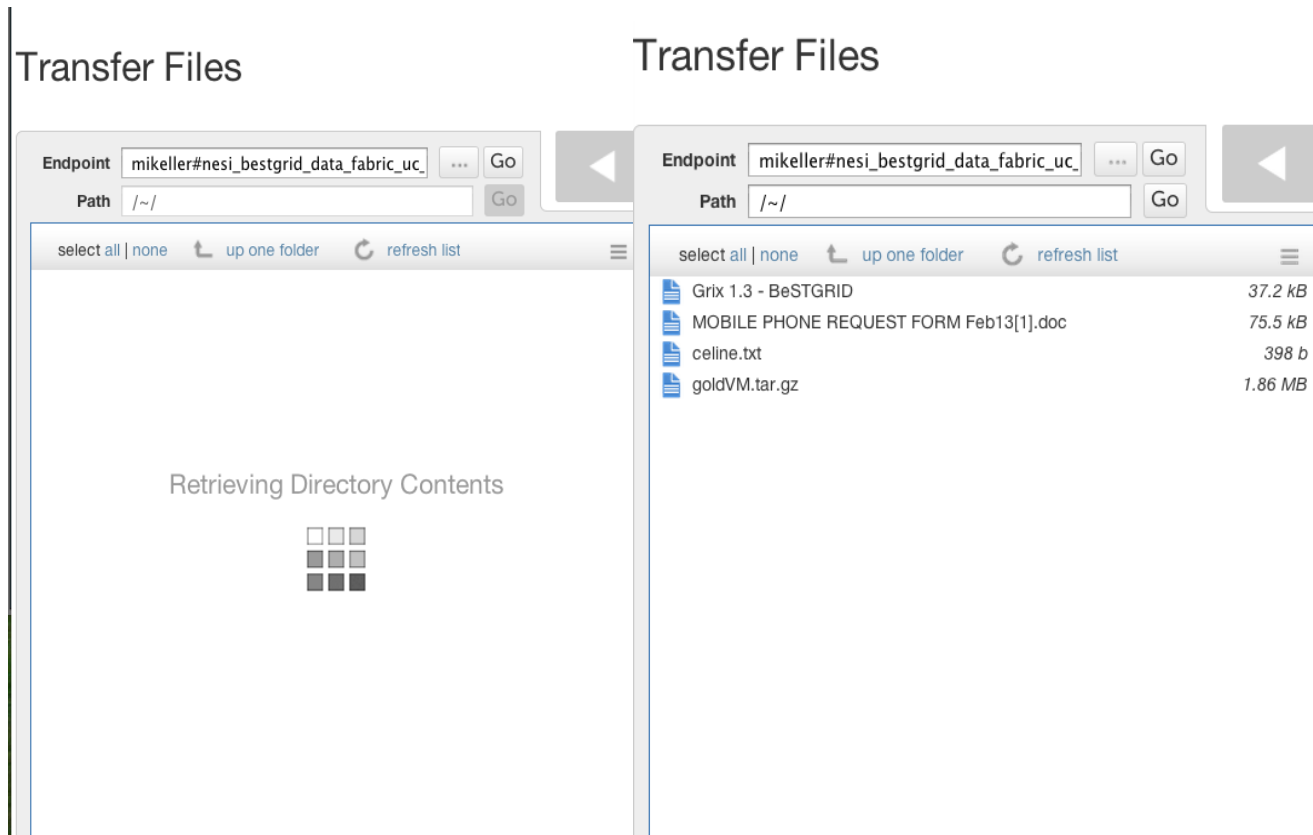


The screenshot shows a file transfer window with the following fields and buttons:

- Endpoint:** mikeller#nesi\_bestgrid\_data\_fabric\_uc\_
- Path:** /~/
- Buttons:** Go (next to endpoint), Go (next to path), and a back arrow button.
- Credentials Required:**
  - Please Enter Your Credentials
  - MyProxy Server:** myproxy.nesi.org.nz (required)
  - Username:** kmottley (required)
  - Passphrase:** (required)
  - Server DN:**
  - Credential Lifetime (hours):**
- Buttons:** Authenticate (blue), Cancel (grey)

I now have to authenticate with different credentials than I used for logging into the website, e.g. using some stored in a myproxy repository

# With integration – Transfer end-point authentication



Single sign-on epitomized – automatic authentication using cached credentials from website login



# Enabling Globus SSO to access NeSI resources

## Challenge 1

Globus supports myproxy-oauth for Single Sign-On (SSO), but there exists no ready made solution to integrate shibboleth (Tuakiri) with myproxy-oauth.

## Action

NeSI developed patch for myproxy-oauth source code allowing injection of user attributes from shibboleth, and construction of customized Distinguished Name (DN) used in certificate issued by myproxy-oauth.

## Next step

Discussion with authors of myproxy-oauth to get our patch integrated into official version of myproxy-oauth, as a contribution back to the community.

# Enabling Globus SSO to access NeSI resources

## Challenge 2

Globus supports version of myproxy-oauth integrated in their 'Globus Connect Server' (GCS) (formerly 'Globus Connect Multi User') product – NeSI is using a non-standard implementation of a GridFTP server, so using GCS is not an option.

## Action

Reverse engineering of GCS source code to enable replication of the registration of a myproxy-oauth server for authentication with Globus

- Globus support's reaction: 'How on earth did you get this registered'. Request lodged with Globus support to have them develop official documentation of the process.

# Enabling Globus SSO to access NeSI resources

## Challenge 3

Our solution should be interoperable with existing legacy NeSI services (SLCS server, [myproxy.nesi.org.nz](http://myproxy.nesi.org.nz)), to enable Globus SSO sessions to access HPC storage.

## Action

As stated, a patch was developed to enable a custom DN to be included in myproxy-oauth certificates. The custom DN was chosen in a way to be identical to the custom DN that is included in certificates issued by the NeSI SLCS server.

# Enabling Globus SSO to access NeSI resources

## Challenge 4

NeSI is not able to provide hosting for highly available service - the myproxy-oauth server ([myproxyplus.nesi.org.nz](http://myproxyplus.nesi.org.nz)) currently runs on 'best effort' hardware.

## Next Step

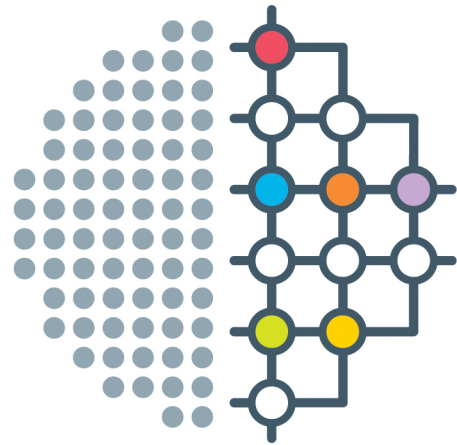
Finding a new, highly available home for NeSI's myproxy-oauth server.

# Current activities

- Discussion with Globus to get official documentation on the registration process for myproxy-oauth servers, to allow replication of our process based on official documentation.
- Establishing maturity in simplifying the setting up of other transfer end-points within NZ.
- Get operators of NZ HPC platforms to accept Tuakiri based authentication for access to their local data platforms.

# Possibilities for NeSI/Globus

- As a customer, taking advantage of features offered by the subscription-based services.
- As a collaborator, working on select initiatives such as optimizing application-layer transfer protocols to maximize transfer performance.
- As a collaborator, continue to work with Globus to help support research data management use cases in NZ.



# NeSI

New Zealand eScience  
Infrastructure

Thank you

[www.nesi.org.nz](http://www.nesi.org.nz)