



Distributed storage: Ceph Monitoring with Xymon

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GPFS to Ceph: why?

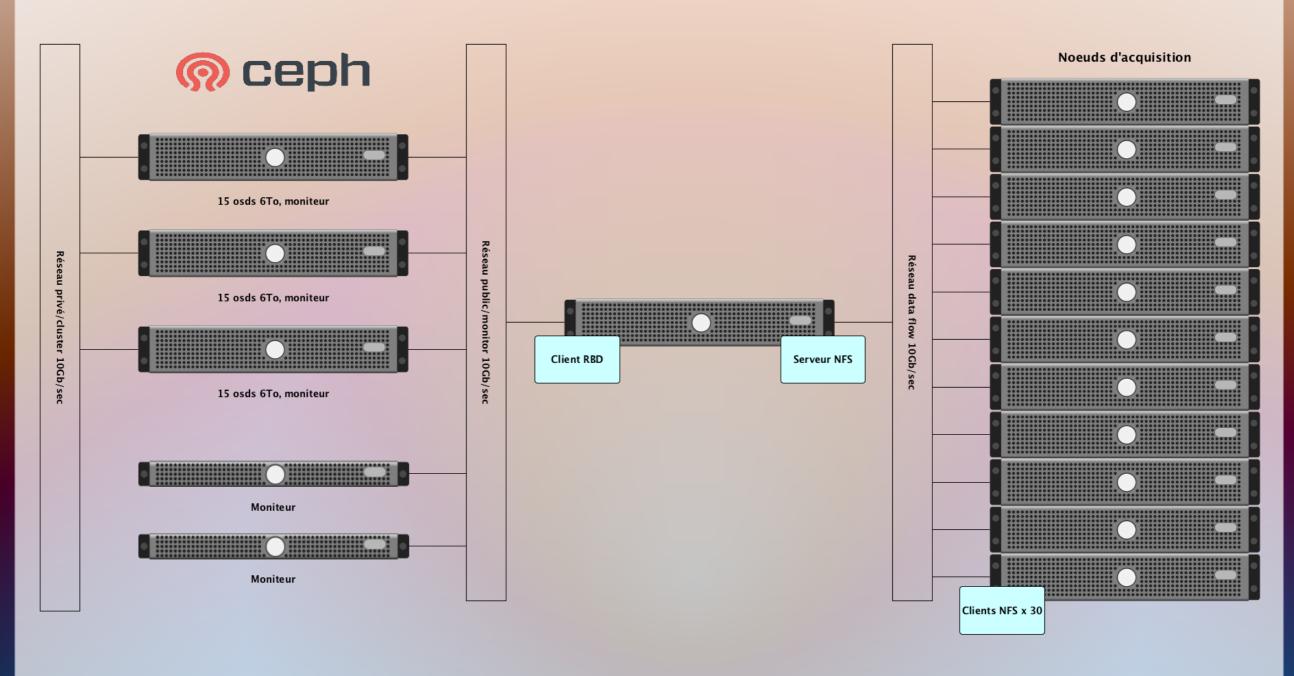
GPFS

- Limited bandwidth (1Gb/s), in regard to the increasing number of crystals
- Storagetek storage filers nearing end of warranty
- 1To internal HDD
- GPFS & Common Array Manager not supported in Debian
- Licences acquisition required for any upgrade/update

Ceph

- Common hardware use
- Open source solution, very active community, supported by RedHat
- Debian compatibility
- Scalable solution
- Positive community feedback

AGATA Ceph Architecture



Jérémie Jacob /Yann Aubert

Problems encountered

- Clock skew sensitivity
 - → Ntp synchronisation of nodes
- Problem with the RBD client on reboot
 - → Install a more recent kernel on the client
- Space freed by the filesystem but not freed by Ceph (thin provisionning)
 - → Periodic fstrim, but strong augmentation of the latency
 - → To avoid fstrim, use the discard option on mount
- During reconstruction, loss of RBD mount (the monitors could not see each other)
- Irregular filling of the disks => 80 % of the disk space usable

Conclusion



Complex system, but very efficient

- Common hardware
- Debian compatibility
- + 120To available (80 % usable)
- Bandwidth over NFS: 6Gb/s with 30 clients
- After stopping the GPFS cluster, physical space available in the racks of the server room

Evolutions

In progress

- Separation of the monitors / storage servers
- Backup server ready, in case the Ceph cluster becomes unavailable

In the future / planned / forthcoming

- Add a 4th storage server to the cluster
- Upgrade to the latest LTS version available
- Add scripts to Xymon to monitor more precisely the cluster

Xymon monitoring

- Simple client/server system
- Web GUI: fast visualisation of the global state of the system
- Mail alerts, fast & simple to configure
- « home-made » tests: NFS mounts, XGGP, Xylinx, ...
- History of the monitored services (graphs ...)

Aperçu de Xymon

