



Storage Capacity Expansion Plan (initial)

Storage Budget: \$ \$ \$ (5PB)



Rational:

* the longer we wait, the more we can buy with the same budget (hopefully)

Usage management:

- * allocations
- * introduction of quotas & HSM (limited data offload capability)
- * regular purging

What have we learned in 1 ½ years of operation?

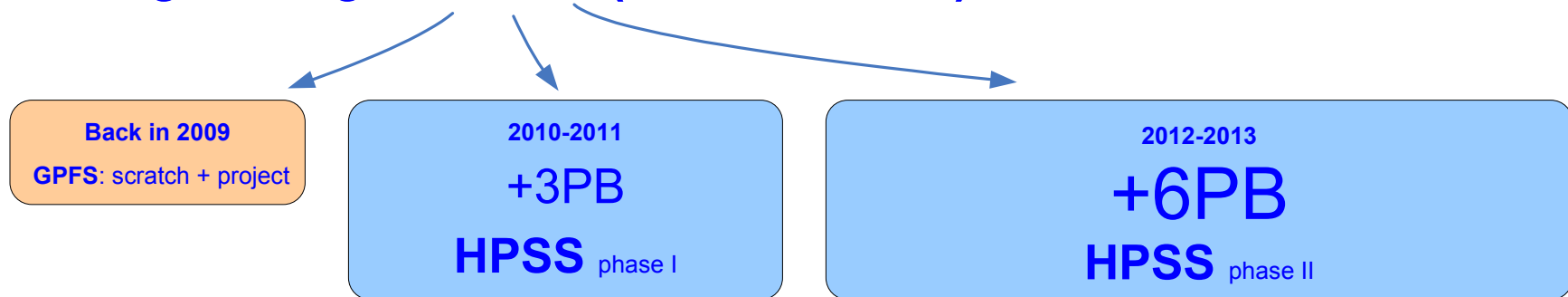
- * GPFS problems and limitations at our scale (4000 nodes cluster)
- * user data distribution patterns not GPFS or HPC friendly

Conclusion:

- * just adding spinning disks to active filesystems is not a good solution
- * more users, more data, more files => more problems

Storage Capacity Expansion Plan (revised)

Storage Budget: \$ \$ \$ (5PB or more)



Solution:

- * near online storage with HPSS (tape-backed hierarchical storage system)

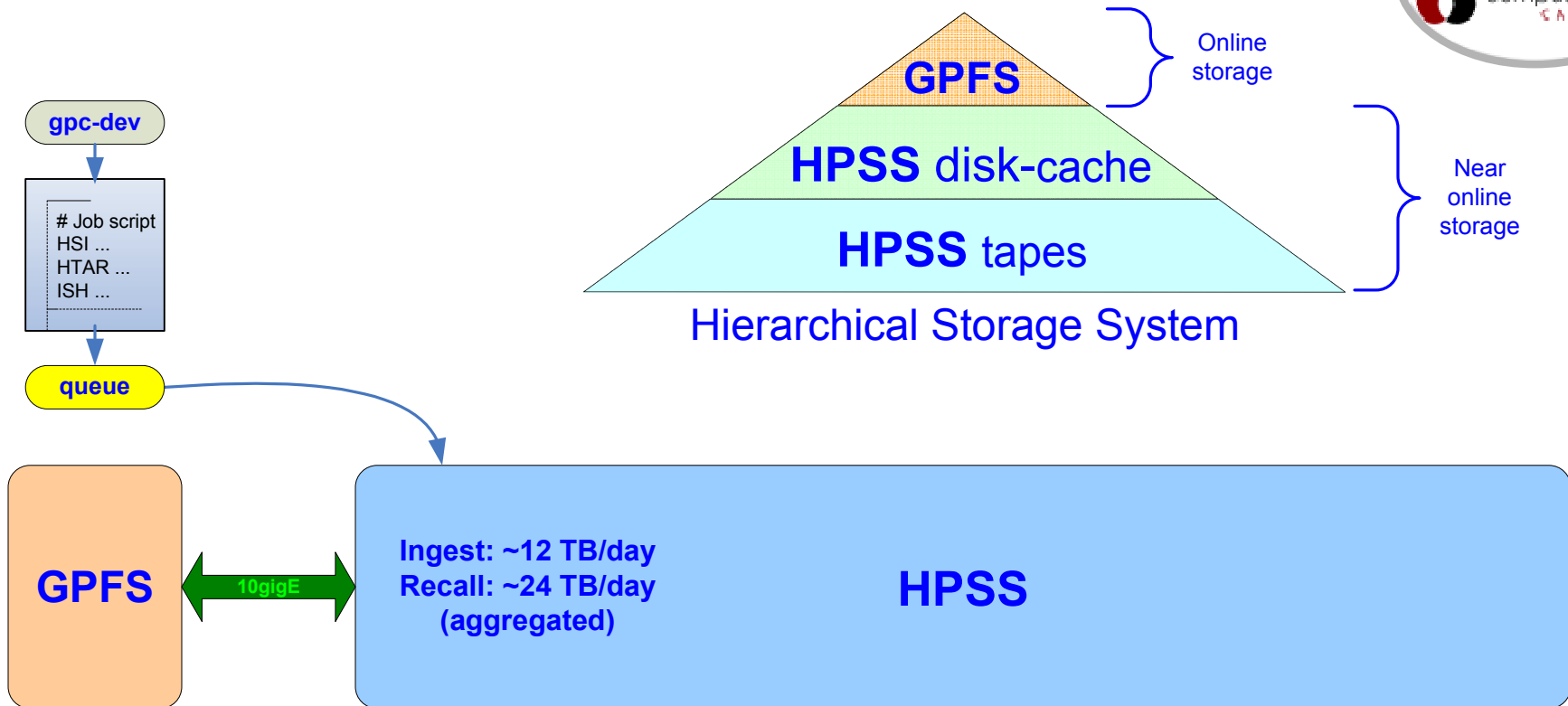
Usage management:

- * allocations: GPFS + HPSS (TBD)
- * quotas & massive data offload to HPSS
- * regular purging
- * less utilization of small files
- * more utilization of tarballs in the regular workflow by users (new campaign)

About HPSS (High Performance Storage System):

- * 10+ years history, used by 50+ facilities in the “Top 500” HPC list
- * very reliable, data redundancy and data insurance built-in.
- * highly scalable, reasonable performance at SciNet
- * HSI/HTAR (and ISH) clients also very reliable and used on several HPSS sites.

How it works ...



- * access and transfer management is done through the GPC queue system
- * end-user interaction via HSI/HTAR/ISH calls in the job scripts
- * HSI is a client with an ftp-like interface which can be used to archive and retrieve large files. It is also useful for browsing the contents of HPSS.
- * HTAR is a utility that creates tar formatted archives directly into HPSS. It also creates a separate index file (.idx) that can be accessed quickly.
- * ISH is a TUI utility to perform an inventory of contents in your tarballs.

Scripted File Transfers

```
#!/bin/bash
#PBS -q archive
#PBS -N htar_create_tarball_in_hpss
#PBS -j oe
#PBS -m e

echo "Creating a htar of finished-job1/ directory tree into HPSS"

trap "echo 'Job script not completed';exit 129" TERM INT
# Note that your initial directory in HPSS will be /archive/${id -gn}/${whoami}/

cd /scratch/${whoami}/workarea/
htar -cpf /archive/${id -gn}/${whoami}/finished-job1.tar finished-job1/
status=$?

trap - TERM INT

if [ ! $status == 0 ]; then
    echo 'HTAR returned non-zero code.'
    /scinet/gpc/bin/exit2msg $status
    exit $status
else
    echo 'TRANSFER SUCCESSFUL'
fi
```

headers

htar
hsi
ish

trap

status

Note: Make sure to check the application's **exit code** and the returned log files for errors after all data transfers and any tarball creation process

The status of pending jobs can be monitored with showq on the archive queue

```
showq -w class=archive
```



ISH used from the command line:

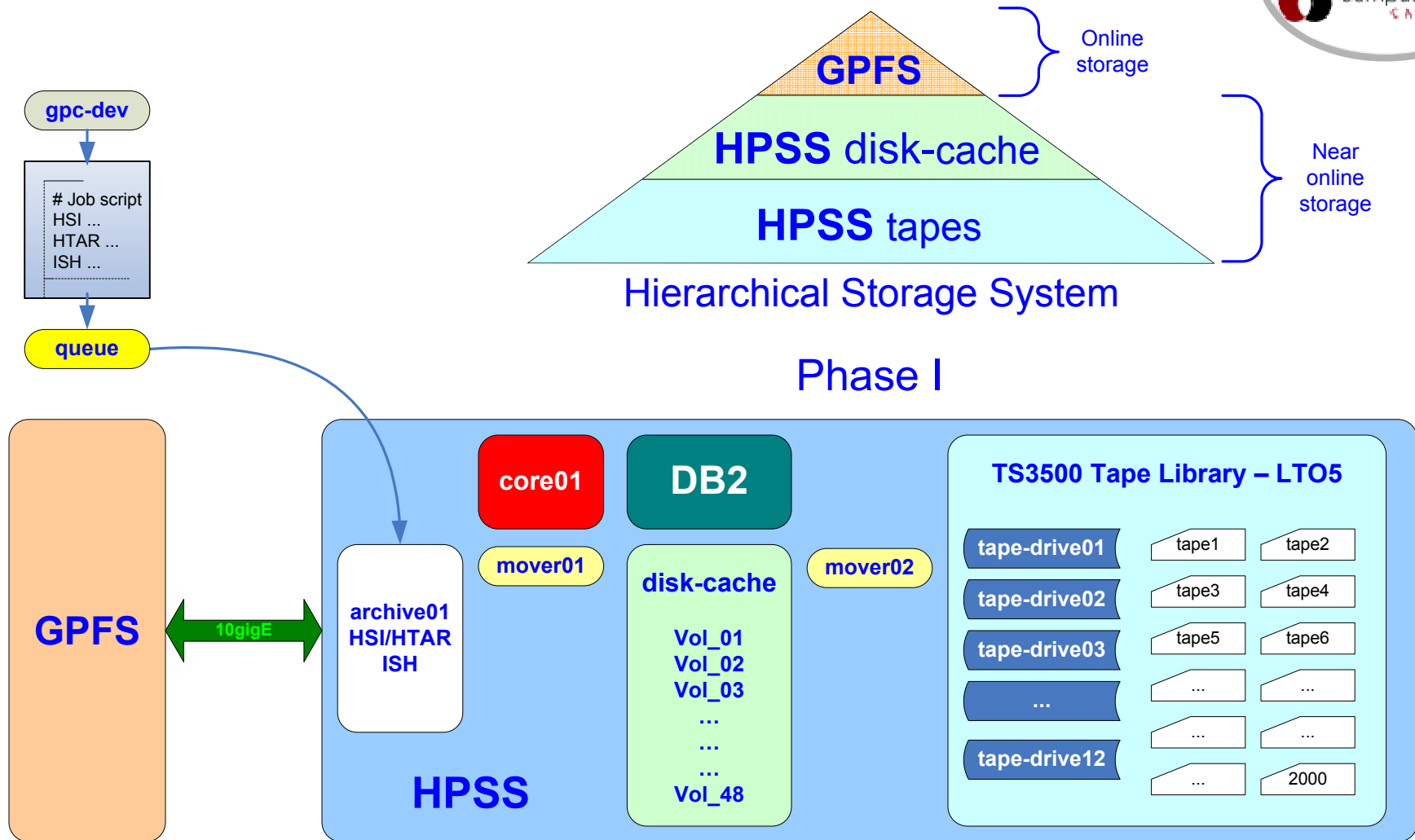
```
rzon@scinet02:~$ ls
data.tgz
rzon@scinet02:~$ /scinet/gpc/bin/ish
ish 0.98
Ramses van Zon - SciNet/Toronto/Canada/July 8, 2011
[ish]hpss.igz> index data.tgz
[ish]data.tgz.igz> ls -l
drwxr-xr-x rzon/scinet          0 2011-02-10 13:57:01 data/
-rw-r--r-- rzon/scinet      16714 2010-10-05 12:41:45 input.ini
-rwxr-xr-x rzon/scinet        293 2011-06-30 12:42:57 submit.pbs
[ish]data.tgz.igz> cd data
[ish]data.tgz.igz> ls
run1/  run2/
[ish]data.tgz.igz> find important*.dat
run1/important01.dat  run1/important02.dat  run1/important03.dat
run1/important04.dat  run1/important05.dat  run1/important06.dat
run2/important01.dat  run2/important02.dat  run2/important03.dat
[ish]exit
rzon@scinet02:~$
```

ISH used from a job script:

```
#!/bin/bash
# This script is named: data-list.sh
#PBS -q archive
#PBS -N hpss_index
#PBS -j oe
#PBS -m e
/scinet/gpc/bin/ish hindex
```

For more details and examples please consult the following wiki page:
<https://support.scinet.utoronto.ca/wiki/index.php/HPSS>

HPSS – main components



HPSS (broad use of the term) = nodes + disks + network + FC + HPSS + DB2 + HSI + HTAR + ISH + Library + tapes + services

HPSS – scaling potential



Possible Phase II (TBD)

