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# The Requirements and the Hidden Costs of the Storage

Sustainable models for Education & Research Data

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# From Flat Cloud Storage for universities to ...

## Google Disk

In the beginning: Google Drive was Flat (unlimited space for universities)

Current Approach: Every university has a small space (pay for surplus)

## OneDrive Disk

In the beginning: OneDrive was Flat (unlimited disk space for universities)

Current Approach: Every university has a small disk space (pay for surplus)

*Surplus: Listino CRUI 2.651,40 €/Y per 10 TB*

## Dropbox .....

Keyword: data-growing

# Some History

**In the beginning:** Every system has its Own storage

**MB-GB – 10-100 Mbps**

**Past Approach:** One centralized storage for all the needs

**GB-TB – 1-10 Gbps**

**Current Approach:** One different storage  
for each different need

**TB-PB – 10-100 Gbps**

Plus: Optimized for specific load/bandwidth  
Cost effective

Minus: Huge quantity of data moving between different storage

**Next Approach:** ??

**PB-EB – 100 Gbps–Tbps**

**Fact:** Data is exponentially increasing:  
Current approach is going to become unsustainable

Keyword: data-growing

# One different storage for each different need

Improvement of the technology system require a process of continuous revision of the technological solutions and their development model combined with the analysis of strategic opportunities

Backup solutions

NAS Storage

HPC

Private Cloud (eg OpenStack, Kubernetes)

Business continuity & Always-On

Cloud Storage

Open Source as enabling factors for sharing and collaboration

Keyword: always-on, flexibility, security, sustainability, data sovereignty

# Methodological Notes

## Cost to Buy (CtB):

The cost of the acquisition of the storage includes 5 years of SW and on-site NBD HW support

## Yearly cost (YC):

One Fifth of the “Cost to Buy” plus the cost of one year of electricity (YE) multiplied for the Power Usage Effectiveness (PUE) of the Datacenter

$$YC = CtB / 5 + YE \times PUE$$

## What's included?

Only the storage with “basic” protocol like CIFS (Samba), nfs, \*fpt\* or iSCSI, optionally with Compression, DeDupe, Remote Replication, Remote incremental Snapshot – No user web interface, document sharing, video streaming: they must be added.

# Backup solutions

Over than 10PB NAS in a third Campus Datacenter providing de-dupe/compressed backup and security copies for

Databases, VMs, Research Data

Cloud Mail & Cloud Collaboration Suites

Requirements: NAS, High **Capacity**, Hi **Bandwidth**, ZFS, Low **cost**

Cost to buy: 30.000€/PB (22TB SATA disks. Cost of only disks: 22.000€/PB)

6.000€/PB/Year (life: 5years) + 1.000€ Power consumption → **7€/TB/Y**

**50Gbps aggregate bandwidth**

Plus: sustainability

Minus: only one controller

Keywords: security, sustainability, data sovereignty, capacity, replication

# NAS Storage

Over than 4PB of High Availability NAS in two different Campus Datacenter with cross site replication and snapshot providing Always-On Data for

Research

Open Science, GitLab, [...]

Requirements: NAS, iSCSI, **Resilience**, High **Capacity**, High **Bandwidth**, ZFS, Cost

Cost to buy: 53.000€/PB (16TB NL-SAS disks. Cost of only disks: 30.000€/PB)

10.600€/PB/Year (life: 5years) + 1.200€ Power consumption → **12€/TB/Y**

**100Gbps aggregate bandwidth**

Plus: sustainability, double controller active/active

Minus: Max 128 disks



# HPC

1 PB NVMe BeeGFS  
with **InfiniBand** & 100Gbps **RoCE** Storage Node

Requirements: Resilience, Scalability, High Capacity,  
High **Bandwidth**, High **Performance**

Cost to buy: 200.000€/PB (disks NVMe)



40.000€/PB/Year (life: 5years) + ? € Power consumption → **50€/TB/Y**

**Tbps aggregate bandwidth**

100 nodes  
5.000 core  
50 TB RAM  
100 GPU

Plus: performance, BandWidth

Minus: Cost

Keywords: HPC, data sovereignty, OpenSource





# Private Cloud – OpenStack & K8S – Ceph

OpenStack: Virtual Datacenter, Kubernetes clusters  
100/400 Gbps connectivity

Requirements: Resilience, Scalability, Performance, High Bandwidth

**Ceph 1.200 disks** (SAS, 1.8TB → 2,16 PB)

Cost to buy: ??? Circa 200.000 €/PB

40.000 €/PB/Year (life: 5years) + ? € Power consumption → ? 50€/TB/Y

? aggregate bandwidth

85 nodes  
14.000 core  
75 TB RAM  
1.200 disks

Plus: ∞ Scalability, Vendor independent, Eterogenous Hardware

Minus: Hi storage replication, Hi CPU-Memory-Network usage,  
Low Performance

Keywords: IaaS, federation, data sovereignty, OpenSource



ceph



openstack  
CLOUD SOFTWARE



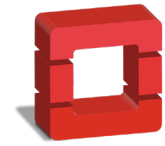
kubernetes



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# Private Cloud – OpenStack & K8S

From Ethernet Fabric to IP Fabric



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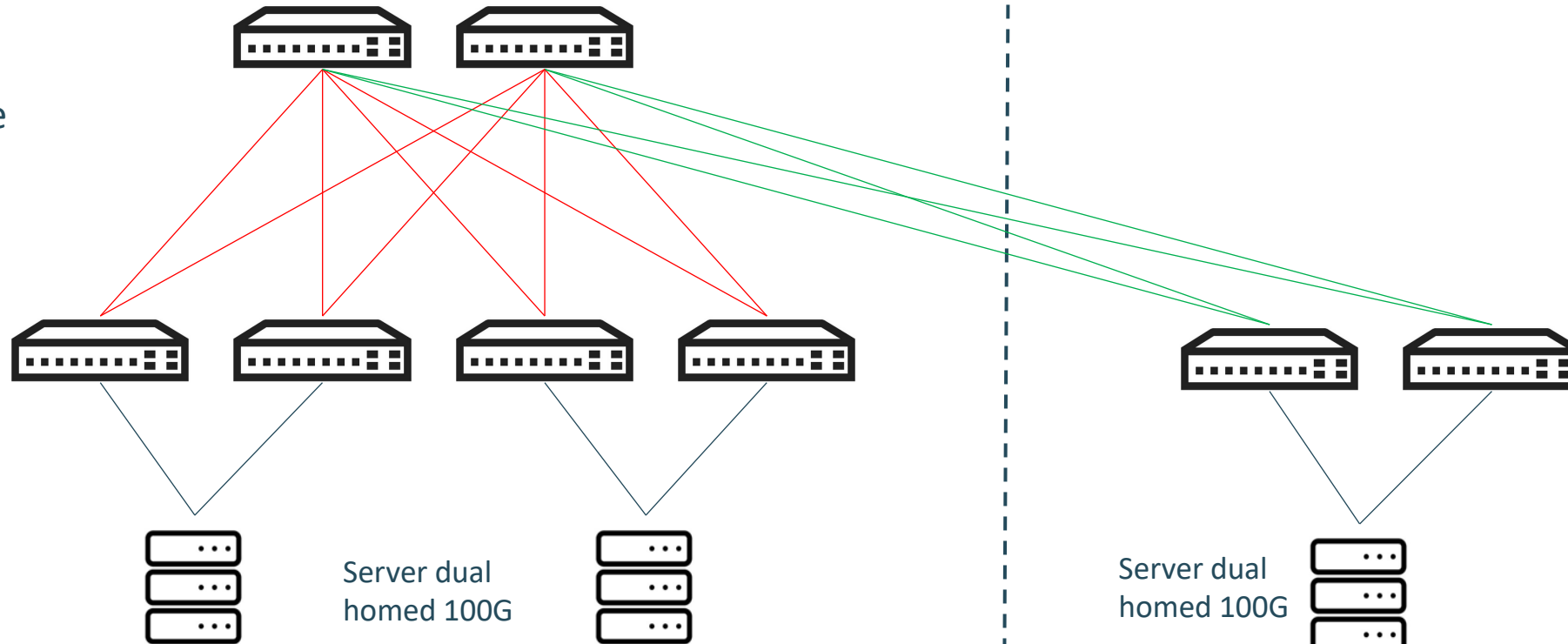
ceph

Datacenter NODO1

Datacenter NODO5

Spine

Leaf



**Replica 3**  
(3 copies of data)

Spine&Leaf - Buy: 140k€



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- 400 Gbps AOC 3 mt
- 400 Gbps con fibra monomodale e ottiche QSFP DD FR (LC max 2KM)
- 100 Gbps AOC 3-5 mt

# Private Cloud – OpenStack & K8S

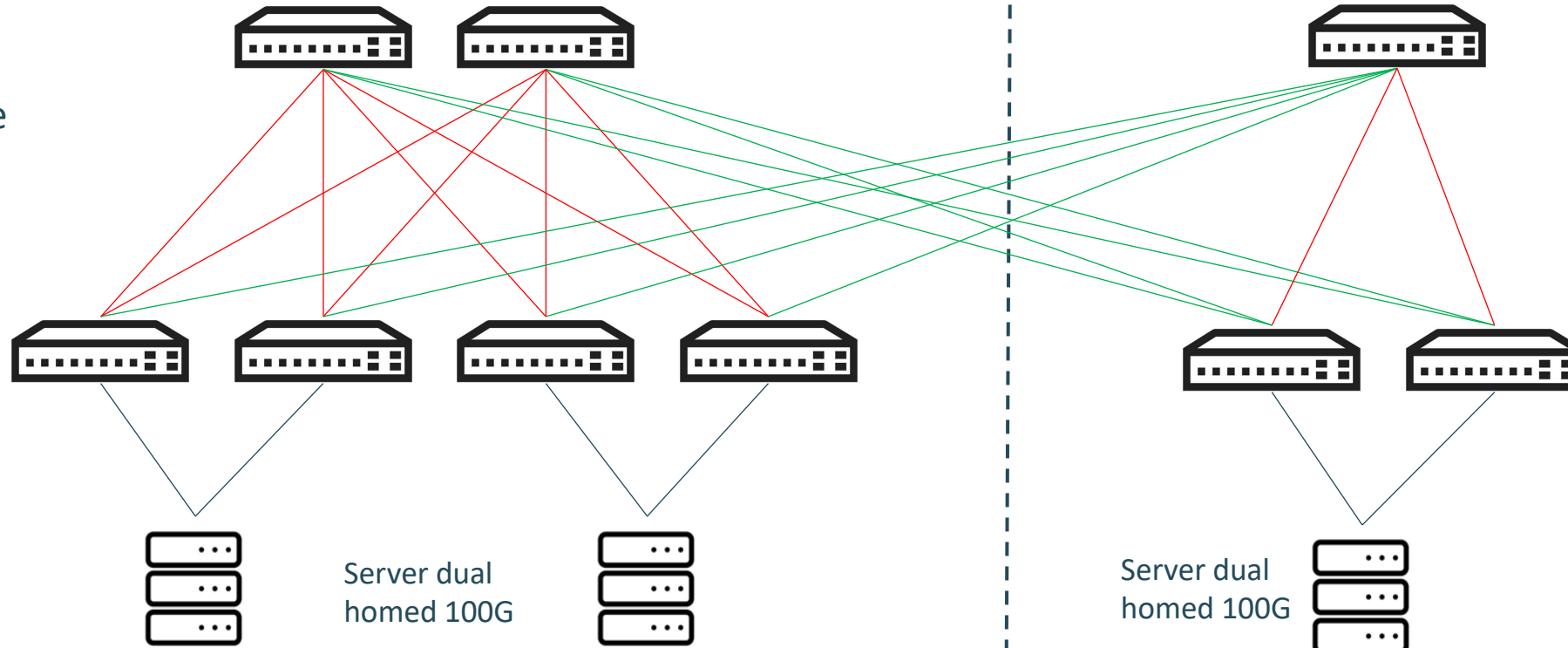
From Ethernet Fabric to IP Fabric

Datacenter NODO1

Datacenter NODO5

Spine

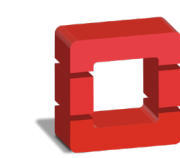
Leaf



Server dual  
homed 100G

Server dual  
homed 100G

- 400 Gbps AOC 3 mt
- 400 Gbps con fibra monomodale e ottiche QSFP DD FR (LC max 2KM)
- 100 Gbps AOC 3-5 mt



openstack  
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ceph

**Replica A4**  
(2x2 copies of data)

Spine&Leaf - Buy: 190k€

Require 3 Datacenter



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# Private Cloud – OpenStack & K8S – Cinder



openstack  
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kubernetes

OpenStack: Virtual Datacenter, Kubernetes clusters (on VM)  
100/400 Gbps connectivity

Requirements: Resilience, Scalability, Performance, High Bandwidth

## Cinder

Cost to buy: 50.000€/PB



10.000€/PB/Year (life: 5years) + 2.000 € Power consumption → **12€/TB/Y**  
**500 Gbps aggregate bandwidth**

Plus: Sustainability, Hi BandWidth, Multiple controller

Minus:

**Keywords**: IaaS, federation, data sovereignty, OpenSource



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# Business Continuity for Mixed Load

A couple of storage located in 2 different Campus Datacenter, Operating in Business continuity, Providing sufficient performance & storage space for mixed load (Hosting of core applications, Databases, VMs, Application Server)

Requirements: Hi **Resilience**, High **Performance**, High Bandwidth, **Scalability**  
Cost to buy: 300.000€/PB (disks NL-SAS & SSD-SAS)

60.000€/PB/Year (life: 5years) + 10.000€ Power consumption → **70€/TB/Y**  
**100Gbps aggregate IP bandwidth**

Plus: Business Continuity, multiple replicated controller

Minus: Cost

Keyword: availability, always-on, always-growing

# Public Cloud Storage – OneDrive

10 PB Cloud Storage for mixed use

Requirements: NAS, High **Capacity**, Hi **Bandwidth**, Low **cost**

## OneDrive:

265.000€/PB/Year (Listino CRUI) → **265€/TB/Y**

**?? aggregate IP bandwidth**

Plus: nothing to do

Minus: very expensive, low performance, low bandwidth for mixed use

Keyword: Public-Cloud



# Public Cloud Storage – AzureFile v1 model

10 PB Hi performance Cloud Storage for mixed use

Requirements: NAS, High **Capacity**, Hi **Bandwidth**, Hi **Performance**

## Azure File Provisioned v1 model

SSD, 3 Year Reservation term, provides storage, IOPS and throughput in a fixed ratio to each other, similar to how storage is purchased in an on-premises storage solution.

| Capacity (GiB) | Baseline IOPS | Burst IOPS    | Burst credits | Throughput (ingress + egress) |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| 102,400        | 100,000       | Up to 100,000 | 0             | 10 GiB/s                      |

11.268€/100TB/mese → 13.520.000€/10PB/Y → **1.352€/TB/Y**

Plus: nothing to do

**800Gbps IP bandwidth**

Minus: very expensive, require full Cloud Adoption

Keyword: Public-Cloud



# From Nominal to Usable Space

- Formatted Space** → about 90% of Nominal Space
- Protected Space** → portion of Formatted Space based on RAID protection & HotSpares overhead
- Usable Space** → portion of the Protected Space based on Replication Factor
- Corretive Factor** → Multiplier to transform **Nominal Cost** in **Effective Cost**

Keyword: Sustainability

# From Nominal to Effective Cost – 1 TB

|                               |                   | Nominal cost<br>€/TB/Y | Usable<br>space | Corretive<br>Factor | BandWidth<br>Gbps | Effective Cost<br>€/TB/Y |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| OneDrive                      |                   | <b>265</b>             | 100%            | 1                   | low               | <b>265</b>               |
| Azure File v1 model           |                   | <b>1.352</b>           | 100%            | 1                   | 800               | <b>1.352</b>             |
| Backup                        |                   | <b>7</b>               | 75%             | 1,33                | 50                | <b>9</b>                 |
| NAS                           | <i>Unique</i>     | <b>12</b>              | 75%             | 1,33                | 100               | <b>16</b>                |
|                               | <i>Replicated</i> |                        | 37,5%           | 2,66                | 100               | <b>32</b>                |
| HPC                           |                   | <b>50</b>              | 75%             | 1,33                | 1000+             | <b>66</b>                |
| Openstack<br>Ceph             | <i>Unique</i>     | <b>-</b>               | 30%             | <b>3,33</b>         | -                 | <b>166</b>               |
|                               | <i>Replicated</i> |                        | 22,5%           | <b>4,44</b>         | -                 | <b>222</b>               |
| Openstack<br>Cinder           | <i>Unique</i>     | <b>12</b>              | 75%             | 1,33                | 500               | <b>16</b>                |
|                               | <i>Replicated</i> |                        | 37,5%           | 2,66                | 500               | <b>32</b>                |
| BusinessContinuity Mixed Load |                   | <b>70</b>              | 75%             | 1,33                | 100 + FC          | <b>93</b>                |

# From Nominal to Effective Cost – 10 PB

|                               |                   | Nominal cost<br>€/TB/Y | Usable<br>space | Corretive<br>Factor | BandWidth<br>Gbps | Effective Cost<br>€/TB/Y | Effective Cost<br>€/10PB/Y |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| OneDrive                      |                   | <b>265</b>             | 100%            | 1                   | low               | <b>265</b>               | <b>2.650.000</b>           |
| Azure File v1 model           |                   | <b>1.352</b>           | 100%            | 1                   | 800               | <b>1.352</b>             | <b>13.520.000</b>          |
| Backup                        |                   | <b>7</b>               | 75%             | 1,33                | 50                | <b>9</b>                 | <b>90.000</b>              |
| NAS                           | <i>Unique</i>     | <b>12</b>              | 75%             | 1,33                | 100               | <b>16</b>                | <b>160.000</b>             |
|                               | <i>Replicated</i> |                        | 37,5%           | 2,66                | 100               | <b>32</b>                | <b>320.000</b>             |
| HPC                           |                   | <b>50</b>              | 75%             | 1,33                | 1000+             | <b>66</b>                | <b>660.000</b>             |
| Openstack<br>Ceph             | <i>Unique</i>     | <b>-</b>               | 30%             | <b>3,33</b>         | -                 | <b>166</b>               | <b>1.660.000</b>           |
|                               | <i>Replicated</i> |                        | 22,5%           | <b>4,44</b>         | -                 | <b>222</b>               | <b>2.220.000</b>           |
| Openstack<br>Cinder           | <i>Unique</i>     | <b>12</b>              | 75%             | 1,33                | 500               | <b>16</b>                | <b>160.000</b>             |
|                               | <i>Replicated</i> |                        | 37,5%           | 2,66                | 500               | <b>32</b>                | <b>320.000</b>             |
| BusinessContinuity Mixed Load |                   | <b>70</b>              | 75%             | 1,33                | 100 + FC          | <b>93</b>                | <b>930.000</b>             |

# Aphorisma's corner on **CONSTANTS**

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***The only Constant in Life is Change*** [Eraclitus]

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***The only Constant in Life is Change*** [Eraclitus]

***The only Constant in Data is  
Growing*** [Enrico]

# Aphorisma's corner on **CONSTANTS**

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***The only Constant in Life is Change*** [Eraclitus]

~~***The only Constant in Data is  
Growing*** [Enrico]~~

***The only Constant in Data and its Cost is  
Growing*** [Enrico – Two year later]



# Domande?

wooclap.com  
Codice: WSGARR24



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# Thanks

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