Ganeti Web Interfaces

Brian Candler Network Startup Resource Center brian@nsrc.org



These materials are licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/4.0/)





Web interfaces

- The Ganeti RAPI allows other systems to interface into Ganeti
- There are two standalone web front-ends available
 - Ganeti Web Manager (OSU OSL)
 - Ganeti Manager (GRNet)
- Both are Python/Django applications
- Neither is particularly well supported :-(





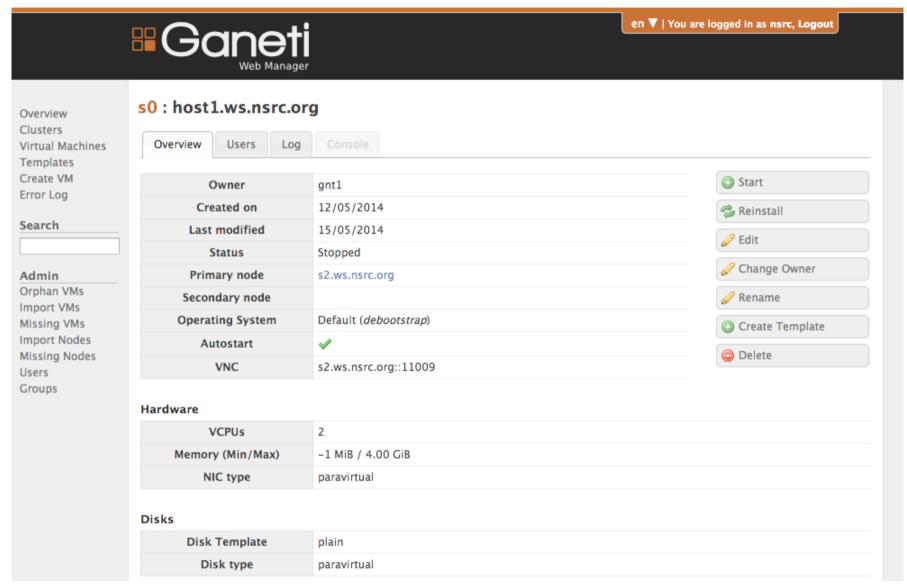
Ganeti Web Manager

- Allows setting of most VM parameters
- VM management can be delegated to users
- Fine-grained access control
- Console access via HTML5/Javascript in browser (noVNC, websockets)





Ganeti Web Manager







Ganeti Web Manager downsides

- Maintains a mysql database of instances separate from Ganeti
 - Can get out of sync
 - Changes which are made via the CLI may not be visible in the web interface
 - Press "Refresh" button to resynchronize
- VMs created outside GWM have to be imported; "orphan VMs" (no owner) have to be "adopted"
- Errors in VM creation cause GUI to fail





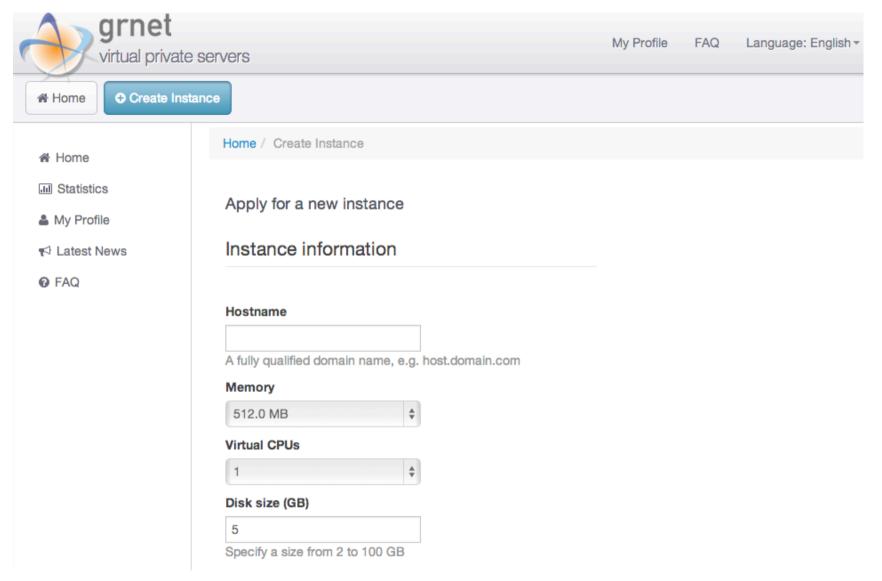
Ganeti Manager

- As used by ViMa (vima.grnet.gr)
- Provides ticket-like interface where users fill in a form to request a VM
 - manual approval or rejection
- Suited to university-type environment?
- Easier to install than GWM?
- More polished interface?
- Can report lots of VM statistics





Ganeti Manager







Ganeti Manager downsides

- Can't do CD-ROM (ISO) installs
 - uses grnet's own version of ganeti-instance-image
 - git dev branch can use snf-image
- Still need to use CLI to change VM settings like memory and vcpus
- Default console access uses Java in browser
 - websockets available but not well documented
- Errors in VM creation are not reported in GUI
 - fixed in dev branch





Which to choose?

- If you want an interface for your administrators choose Ganeti Web Manager
 - but they should still have some CLI clue
- If you want an interface for your VM users choose Ganeti Manager
 - almost like a private cloud "lite"



