



Budapest University of Technology and Economics



Innovation and knowledge centre of information technology

gLite WN running as a Windows service

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Grid extension problem

- Hard to install and maintain the Middleware
- Special operating system (SL 4.5) is required
- Updates are problematic on large scale
- Expertise is needed to provide resources
- Only dedicated resources can be connected

Proposed solution

- Running Grid in Virtual Machine

Feasibility

Computer market share

- ~ 90% Windows
- ~ 5% Linux
- ~ 5% Other

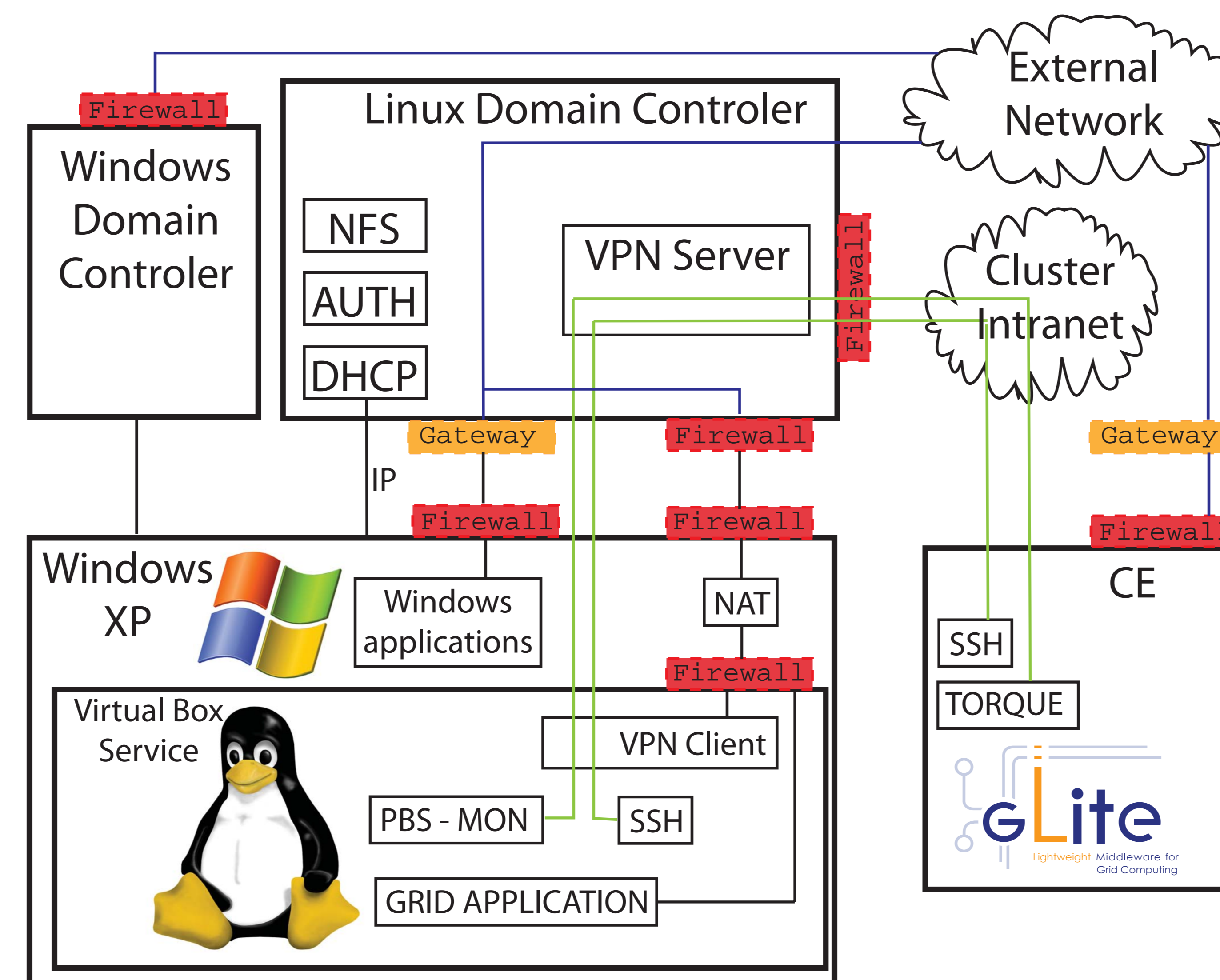
	Desktop grids	Utility grids
Example	SETI@home	EGEE
Resources	>10.000.000	<100.000
Complexity	minimal	dedicated environment
Usability	special tasks	generic resources

Benefits/Drawbacks

- + Native OS independent Grid
- + Desktop computer power can be used
- + Easy to install and manage
- + Native OS separated from Grid
- + Automatic large-scale update (computer room)
- + No performance drop on native OS
- Security issues
- Memory must be divided

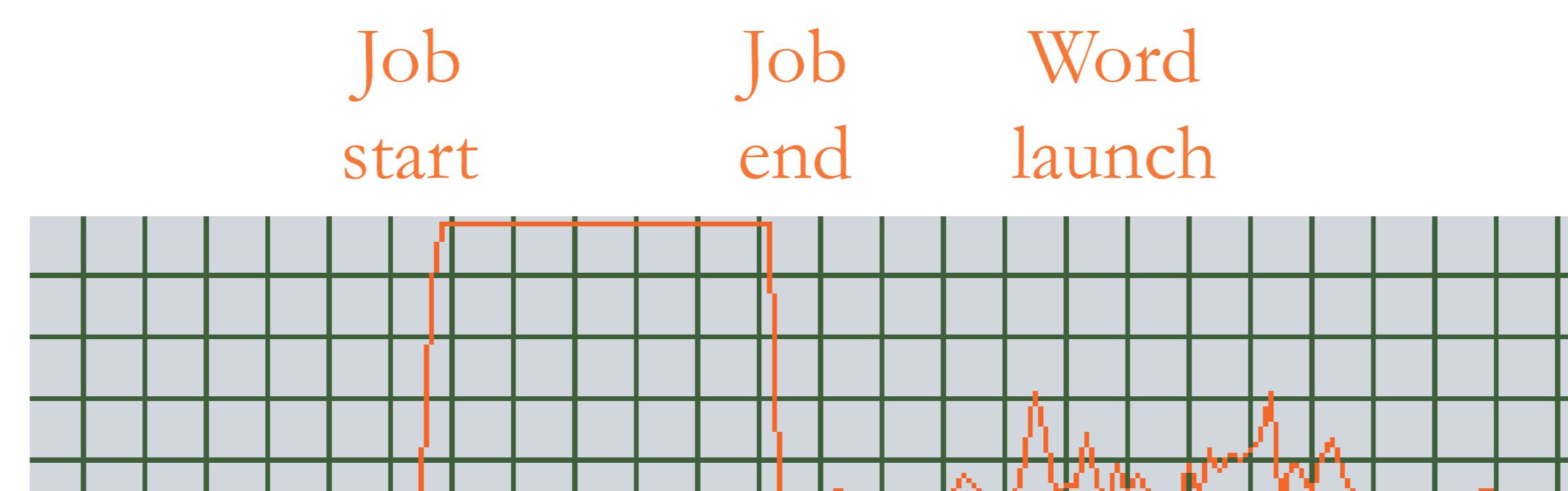
gLite WN running as a Windows service

- Windows isolated from Grid
- OS level: VirtualBox
- Network level: NAT, VPN
- CE - WN network connection through VPN
- no NAT, firewall, proxy, router problems



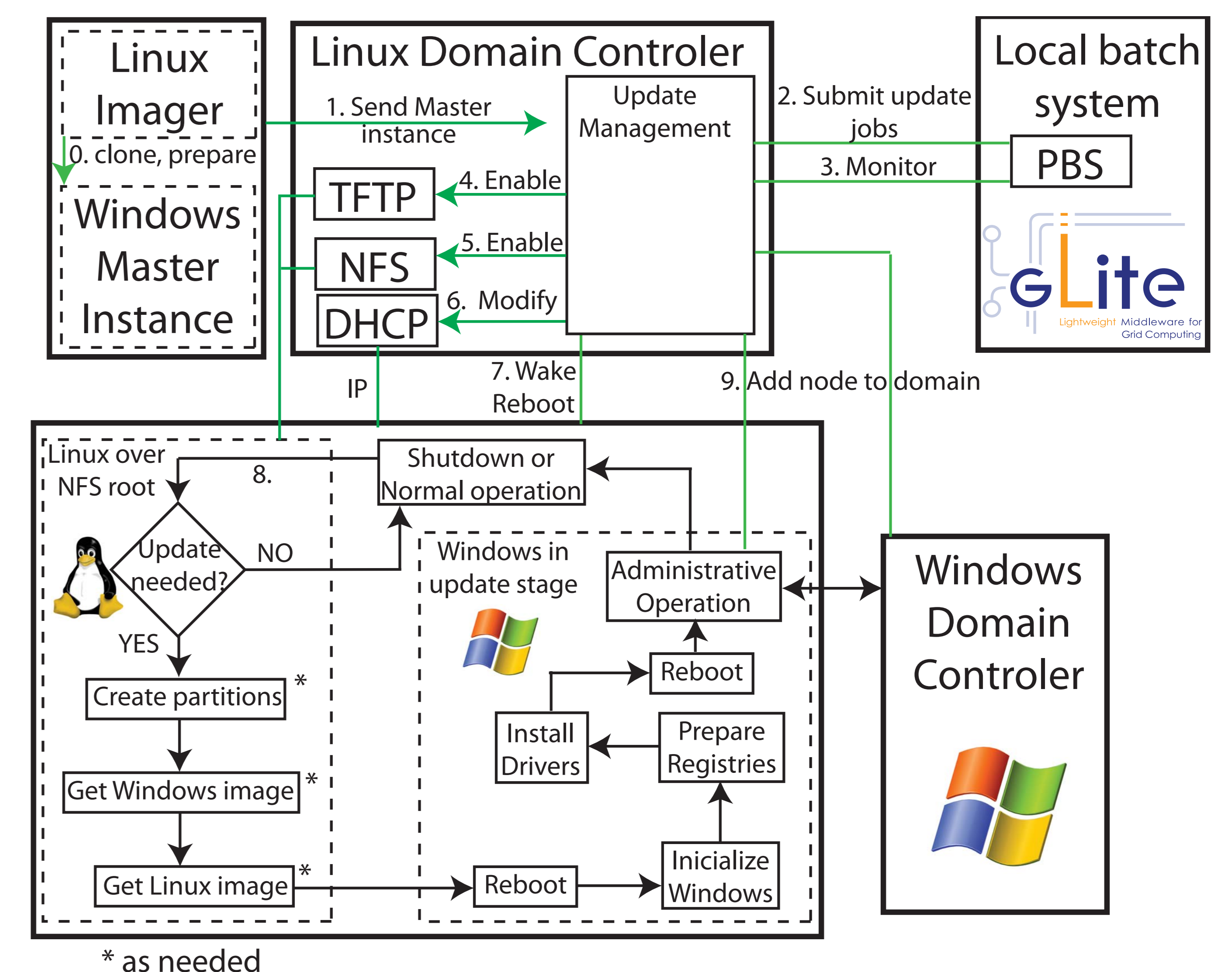
Performance

- + Windows is not slowed down (priority settings)
- + Performance of WN is the same as in native environment (if Windows is idle)



System upgrade

- Automatic (both Windows and Linux)
- Update procedure is Linux based (scriptable)
- Compatible with local resource manager (PBS)
- No grid job is lost



Benefits/Problems

- Windows domain security problems
- Works only with corporate Windows licence
- + Different hardware support (drivers)
- + Uniform or special Windows installations
- + Waits for Grid job to be finished

Site: <http://grid.ik.bme.hu>

E-mail: gridsite@ik.bme.hu