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# QMUL's TNE activities in China

Joint Programmes activities between London with Beijing and Nanchang



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# Outline

- The JP model
- Network Issues/Challenges
- Past experiences
- Solutions
- Conclusions



# What is the Joint Programme (JP)?

- JP - Jointly designed by the two universities to meet the requirements from both sides.
- QMUL+BUPT = QMBUPT JP (Dual award)
  - Telecommunications Engineering with Management
  - E-Commerce Engineering with Law
  - Internet of Things Engineering
- QMUL+Nanchang
  - Biomedical Sciences BSc from the University of London
  - Degree in Clinical Biomedicine from Nanchang University



# 'Flying Faculty' mode



- Over 500 annual student admissions;
- QM lecturers fly to Beijing to deliver the topic over 4 x 1-week blocks (~11 contact hours).
- **Interactive online tutorials + meetings.**

# Scale of the JP (Beijing)

Comparison between QM and JP	JP	QM in London
Number of modules	25 (and project longer)	24
Lecture hours per module	44	33
Failures condoned	Nil	6
Short summer semester modules	3	-
Chinese compulsory modules	Must be passed	-
Personal development programme	Must be passed	-

# Student access - same as students in London

## ■ mySIS – record system (SITS)

- Check personal details – registration
- Print QM transcripts

## ■ QMPlus

- Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) – [Moodle].
- JP started using it first.
- Some issues

## ■ Library – e-books, e-journals, etc

# Network requirements

- E-mail systems
- Online meetings and tutorials
  - Lecturer's at QM can be contacted by IM, or video conferencing (Skype, Ominjoin, Lync, etc).

# Network requirements/challenges

- Particular demand due to the 'flying professor' model.
  - Lectures, meetings, tutorials and general commms.
  - Distributed staffing
- Public networks route via the US to Europe
  - Delays and packet loss
  - Worst at peak demand (load)
- Different networks for students when off-campus.



# Possible paths from public networks



# Issues...

We need to establish what we will consider a "fix" for these problems. Much of the reporting around performance was based on reports of "slowness" with few quantitative measurements. Similarly we are aware that there were problems with login failures due to technology problems but we are also aware of user/password mismatches and issues around registration in QMplus and SITS.

**Subject:** [jp-qm-staff] [jp-qm-teaching] JP student mailbox issues

Dear All

Some students have been trying to send me work using the bupt mailbox e.g. [jpxxxxxx@bupt.edu.cn](mailto:jpxxxxxx@bupt.edu.cn) – most emails haven't arrived (and the students haven't had any notification of non-delivery), although one has after a delay. Apparently the queen mary mailbox works fine, e.g. [jpxxxxxx@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:jpxxxxxx@qmul.ac.uk), as do other accounts.

The tunnel between QM and BUPT has been unreliable over the last few days with the problem being at the QM end.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ in IT Services has been working very hard to put in a replacement router and this is in place now and should be working.

Reminder that the JP exam board is tomorrow morning – 8.30 am UK time in 203 for those joining internally.

For remote access we will use Skype – add "~~XXXXXXXXXX~~" to your skype contacts and wait for the request to join. As there is work on improving the IPv6 connection between JANET and the London MAN that morning it is unlikely we will use video as BUPT might be working on a 3G connection.

# Trace example

- From HongFu – round the world path:
  - Possible route: China Unicom → China Mobile → Germany → US → London.

```
Tracing route to idp.shibboleth.qmul.ac.uk [138.37.7.91]
over a maximum of 30 hops:
  0  0 ms  0 ms  0 ms  yasir-x230 [192.168.171.1]
  1  4 ms  2 ms  2 ms  yasir-x230 [172.16.1.1]
  2  4 ms  4 ms  2 ms  yasir-x230 [172.16.1.1]
  3  5 ms  1 ms  1 ms  192.168.80.2
  4  *    *    *    Request timed out.
  5  8 ms  4 ms  5 ms  218.205.186.217
  6  41 ms 6 ms  4 ms  61.148.148.101
  7  11 ms 6 ms  6 ms  61.148.152.145
  8  9 ms  5 ms  5 ms  211.136.94.17
  9  *    *    9 ms  221.179.171.145
 10 27 ms 27 ms 25 ms 219.158.97.202
 11 34 ms 27 ms 26 ms 219.158.97.174
 12 134 ms 42 ms 37 ms 221.176.18.114
 13 38 ms 39 ms 37 ms 221.176.24.154
 14 43 ms 41 ms 40 ms 211.136.1.109
 15 44 ms 230 ms 305 ms 223.118.2.74
 16 432 ms 200 ms 306 ms xe-8-1-0.edge5.LosAngeles
 17 349 ms 372 ms 407 ms vlan60.csw1.LosAngeles1.L
 18 412 ms 407 ms 409 ms ae-62-62.ebr2.LosAngeles1
 19 422 ms 407 ms 407 ms ae-62-62.ebr2.LosAngeles1
 20 508 ms 509 ms 509 ms huckleberry-ebr3.core-net
 21 433 ms 405 ms 408 ms ae-7-7.ebr3.Atlanta2.Level
 22 409 ms 407 ms 407 ms idp.shibboleth.qmul.ac.uk
Trace complete.
```

```
Tracing route to w01.qmulmoodle.wf.ulcc.ac.uk [128.86.133.105]
over a maximum of 30 hops:
  1  4 ms  2 ms  2 ms  yasir-x230 [192.168.171.1]
  2  92 ms 3 ms  2 ms  yasir-x230 [172.16.1.1]
  3  3 ms  1 ms  1 ms  192.168.80.2
  4  *    *    *    Request timed out.
  5  5 ms  3 ms  2 ms  123.124.18.17
  6  7 ms  5 ms  5 ms  221.179.171.17
  7  11 ms 6 ms  5 ms  123.126.6.157
  8  9 ms  5 ms  6 ms  211.136.94.17
  9  6 ms  5 ms  5 ms  221.179.171.145
 10 9 ms  9 ms  11 ms 219.158.101.50
 11 35 ms 36 ms 35 ms 221.176.15.6
 12 405 ms 407 ms 357 ms 219.158.102.146
 13 44 ms 38 ms 39 ms 221.176.24.230
 14 361 ms 375 ms 404 ms xe-0-0-1.lon10.ip4.tinet.net [89.149.186.210]
 15 42 ms 41 ms 41 ms tenge2-1.br01.hkg15.pccwbtn.net [63.218.211.37]
 16 348 ms *    *    ae29.londtw-sbr1.ja.net [146.97.33.9]
 17 402 ms 407 ms 407 ms london.londtw-sbr1.ja.net [146.97.37.210]
 18 408 ms 419 ms 407 ms ulcc-1.ja.net [146.97.137.54]
 19 427 ms 404 ms 408 ms fw.ulcc.net [128.86.200.178]
 20 316 ms *    321 ms ae29.londpg-sbr1.ja.net [146.97.33.2]
 21 *    *    *    Request timed out.
 22 *    *    *    Request timed out.
 23 403 ms 407 ms 407 ms ulcc-1.ja.net [146.97.137.54]
 24 *    *    *    Request timed out.
 25 *    *    *    Request timed out.
 26 *    *    *    Request timed out.
 27 *    *    *    Request timed out.
 28 *    *    *    Request timed out.
 29 *    *    *    Request timed out.
 30 *    *    *    Request timed out.
Trace complete.
```

# CERNET westwards to JANET

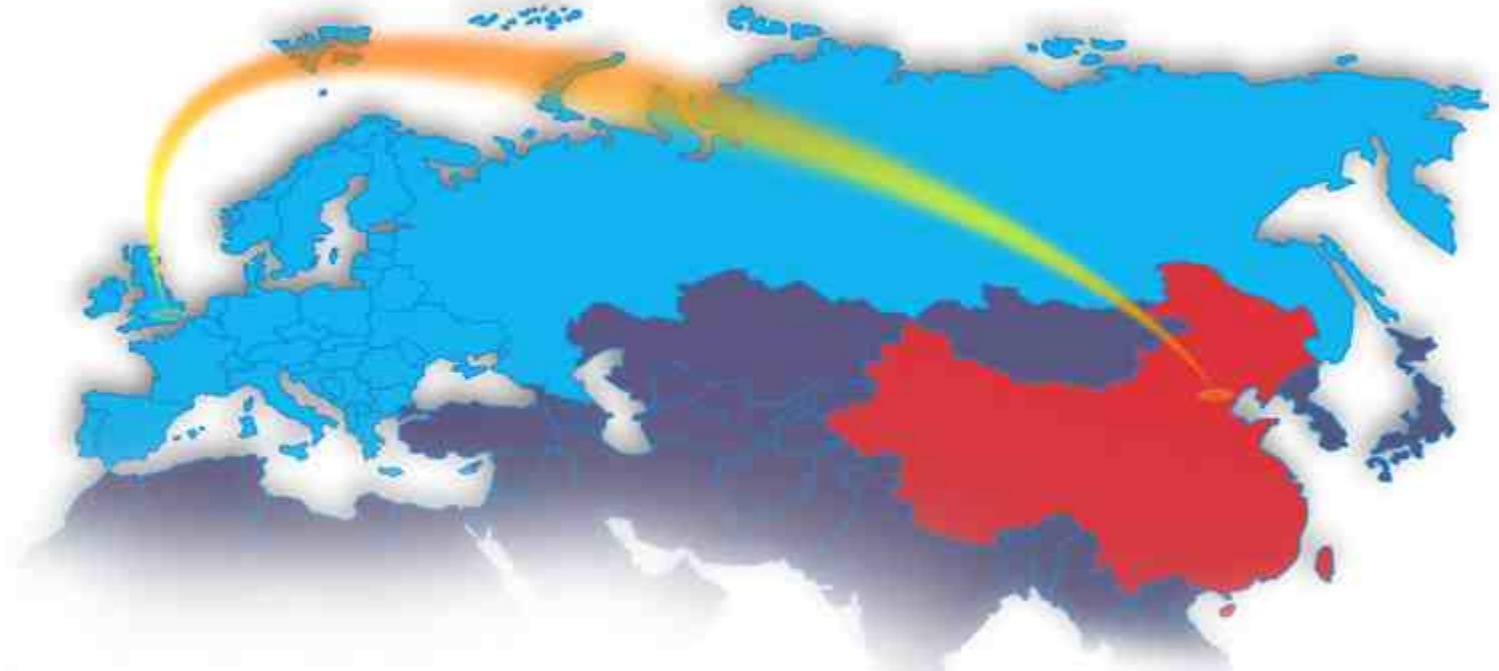
- Traffic to QM and to QMPlus (which is at ULCC) is routed directly over CERNET giving reasonable latency (180ms against the 350ms we had before).

```
C:\Windows\system32>tracert qmplus.qmul.ac.uk
Tracing route to w01.qmulmoodle.wf.ulcc.ac.uk [128.86.133.105]
over a maximum of 30 hops:
  0  0 ms    0 ms    0 ms    10.125.106.1
  1  2 ms    2 ms    2 ms    10.1.1.1
  2  7 ms    5 ms    3 ms    10.0.11.1
  3  3 ms    7 ms    2 ms    10.0.1.1
  4  8 ms    2 ms    2 ms    10.0.1.1
  5  5 ms    2 ms    2 ms    172.16.4.5
  6  *        4 ms    6 ms    172.16.3.1
  7  *        3 ms    *       202.112.42.1
  8  3 ms    3 ms    4 ms    101.4.116.81
  9  3 ms    3 ms    4 ms    101.4.112.97
 10 16 ms    6 ms    7 ms    101.4.116.134
 11 4 ms    3 ms    3 ms    101.4.115.225
 12 4 ms    3 ms    3 ms    202.112.53.18
 13 6 ms    8 ms    10 ms   210.25.189.65
 14 3 ms    4 ms    3 ms    210.25.189.18
 15 176 ms   176 ms   225 ms   orientplus-gw.mx1.lon.uk.geant.net [62.40.125.10]
 16 181 ms   193 ms   182 ms   Janet-gw.mx1.lon.uk.geant.net [62.40.124.198]
 17 180 ms   178 ms   178 ms   ae29.londpg-sbr1.ja.net [146.97.33.2]
 18 182 ms   180 ms   184 ms   146.97.37.198
 19 178 ms   179 ms   178 ms   be2.londsh-rbr1.ja.net [146.97.66.33]
 20 181 ms   181 ms   185 ms   146.97.137.54
 21 178 ms   179 ms   178 ms   128.86.200.178
 22 *        *        *       Request timed out.
 23 *        *        *       Request timed out.
 24 *        *        *       Request timed out.
 25 *        *        *       Request timed out.
 26 *        *        *       Request timed out.
 27 *        *        *       Request timed out.
 28 *        *        *       Request timed out.
 29 *        *        *       Request timed out.
 30 *        *        *       Request timed out.

Trace complete.
```

# Improved traffic

- Ideally, all traffic with improved Latency and BW.

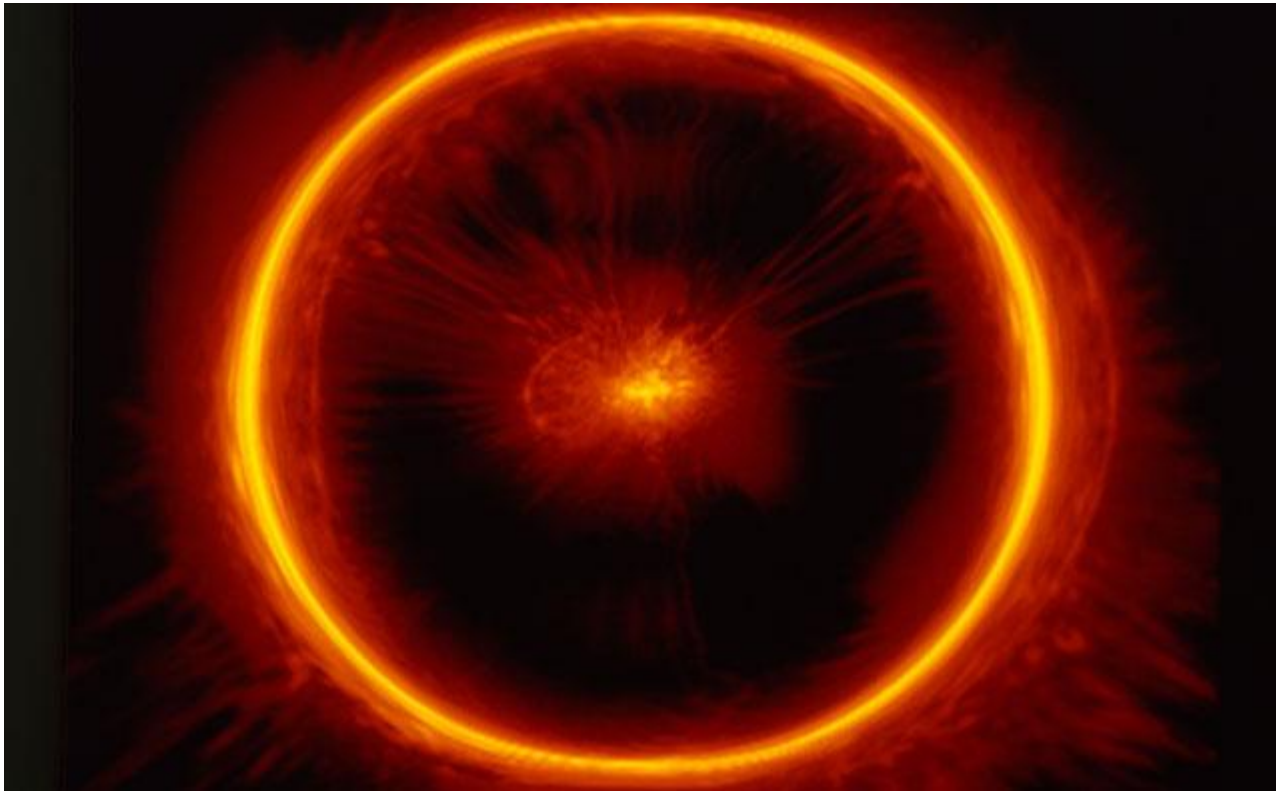


<http://www.orientplus.eu/>

# Conclusions

- “Uncontrolled” network path between the China/UK sites.
- Network demand to meet the characteristics and requirements of the JP model.
- Several solutions were tested.
- Collaborative work between JANET and CERNET can resolve the network issues with Beijing → Better TNE experience!

# Thanks for your attention!



\* Source: [bbc.co.uk](http://bbc.co.uk)