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Integrating a videoconference system in a university portal

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EUNIS 2010

Common Project EVO / UPMC

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UPMC
PARIS UNIVERSITAS

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Agenda

- Presentation of EVO
- Our goals:
  - A new tool: EVO-Learning
  - Integration in the portal
- EVO-Learning
- Integration
- Demonstration

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The basis: EVO-International

A unique real time collaboration tool, stable and efficient, at worldwide scale.

Why EVO ?

Three main components:

1. The network
2. The collaboration services
3. The client side

Why EVO ?

Most difficulties arise from:

1) The client:
   - installation
   - configuration problems
   - use
2) Interruptions and/or traffic congestions in the network

Panda: the EVO server

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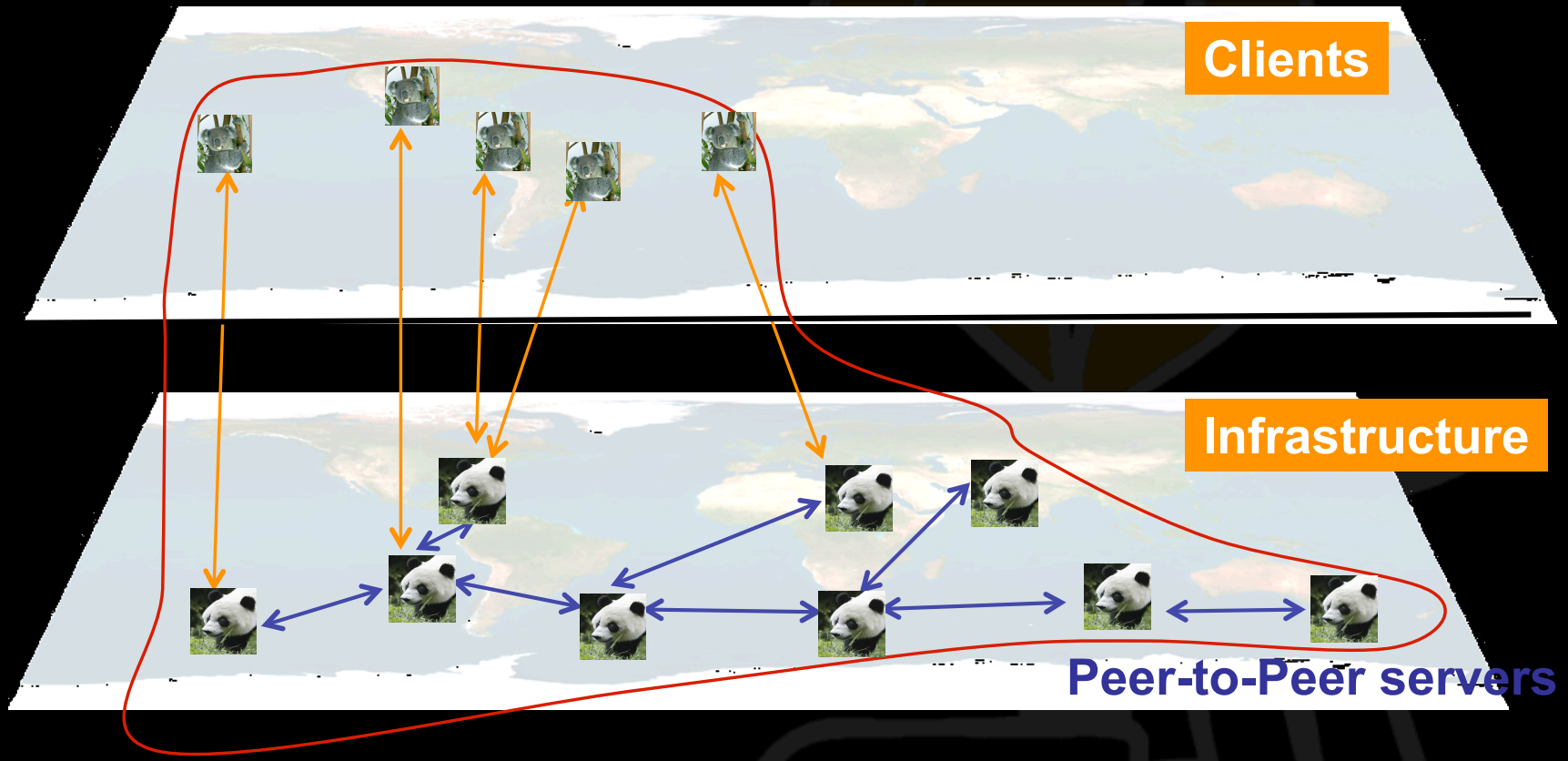
EVO Architecture



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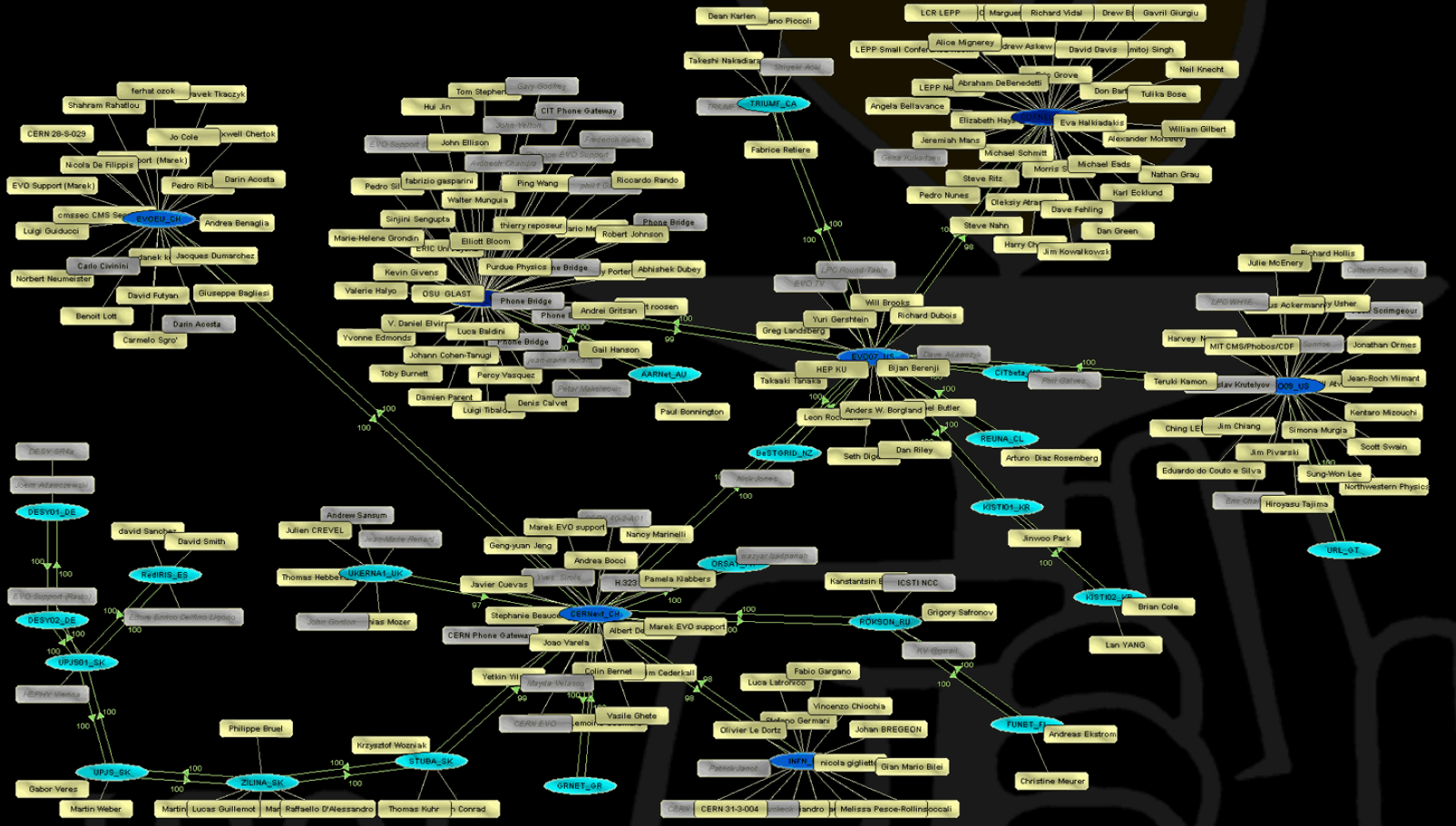
2007

World topology!

View from MonALISA



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NO LIMIT!!

No limits in the number of participants in a meeting!
No limits in the number of simultaneous meetings!

Examples:

1250 users for the « LHC Start » in September 2008.

198 users participating in the « All CMS Meeting » in February 2009.

EVO : Application Client

KOALA

EVO.CALTECH.EDU

The client: the burden

- Full Java application
- Compatible with any platform (Windows, MacOS, Linux)
- No installation, no update

VIDEO…

ViEVO

Multi-Video Client

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EVO.CALTECH.EDU

Comparison

	H.323/ SIP	Tel.	File sharing	Chat	Record	Multipoint video	Webcast	Multi platform
Alcatel My Teamwork	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
Adobe Connect	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	8	✗	✓
Vidyo	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗
EVO	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
WebEx	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6	✓	✓
Skype	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗	3	✗	✓

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Documentation

F.A.Q. : http://evo.caltech.edu/evoGate/FAQ/

Tutorials videos:
http://evo.caltech.edu/evoGate/videosTutorials.jsp

Documentation :
http://evo.caltech.edu/evoGate/Documentation/EVO_Manual_EN.pdf

Support : EVOSupport@VRVS.org

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Goals: EVO-Learning

- System to provide a real time distance learning platform
- Real Time media : Text, Audio, Video, Desktop, Whiteboard, Files, Recordings.
- The system is based on the EVO technologies
- It is adapted to the constraints linked to learning scenarios : Professor / Students

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Goals: integration

- Use the portal authentication system to identify the participant into EVO-Learning and EVO-International:
  - Automatic registration into EVO from the university directory
- Forward the user information from the portal to the EVO learning system:
  - Full ID and role
- Retrieve EVO information into the portal:
  - Class and meeting management

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Integration

- Both Evo portlets are compatible with ESUP Portal which is a derived version of U-Portal.
- Authentication via Portal in CAS.
  A Shibboleth version will come soon
- User information retrieved via local LDAP

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Advantages

- Avoid management of the user registration.
- Manage, Control of the lawful users
- No additional Authentication required to join a virtual class.
- The web interface modules (portlets) will become open source soon

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Real Time Distance Learning

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Specific EVO Features

New meeting type:

Class Room

2 specific user types:

Professor and student

For each user type:

- Different Abilities
- Different Graphical User Interfaces

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Professor (1)

from the Portal

- Create a class room reservation and attach some students to it
- Modify, Duplicate, Cancel a class room
- Add a moderator to the class room
- Protect a class room via a password
- Join any ongoing class room

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Professor (2)

in the class room (virtual)

- Send / receive: audio / video
- Broadcast the desktop
- Send files to students
- Allow a student to speak via a dedicated “Raising Hand” widget
- Ban a student from the class room
- Increase the class room duration

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Student (1)

from the Portal

- Ongoing Class rooms (can be joined)
  - Public classes (with no list of attendees)
  - Classes in which he/she is attached to (previously by the professor)
- Calendar
  - List of all the class rooms that he/she will be able to join per month
  - Calendar view (cells) of the class per month

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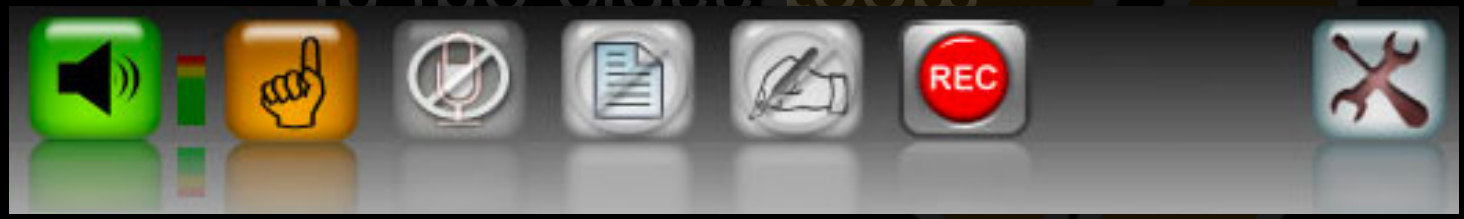
Student (2)

In the class room (virtual)



- Receive: audio / video
- Receive professor desktop
- Access to files
- Interactive Chat
- Can raise hand, when request is accepted:
  - Send audio, video, desktop to the class room
  - Send file to the professor

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Digital Raising Hand

Students

A simple interface to require to speak

A simple widget to moderate a class

Professor

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Request to Speak

Students

Widget for the Professor

The student can cancel his/her request at any time via a click on the same button

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Allow / Deny Request

Block any

Raising Hand

Refuse

Accept

Professor

A powerful widget to manage the requests

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EVO

The start

EVO-Learning

- Tests with students and teachers validated end of April 2010
- Starts next semester i.e. September 2010

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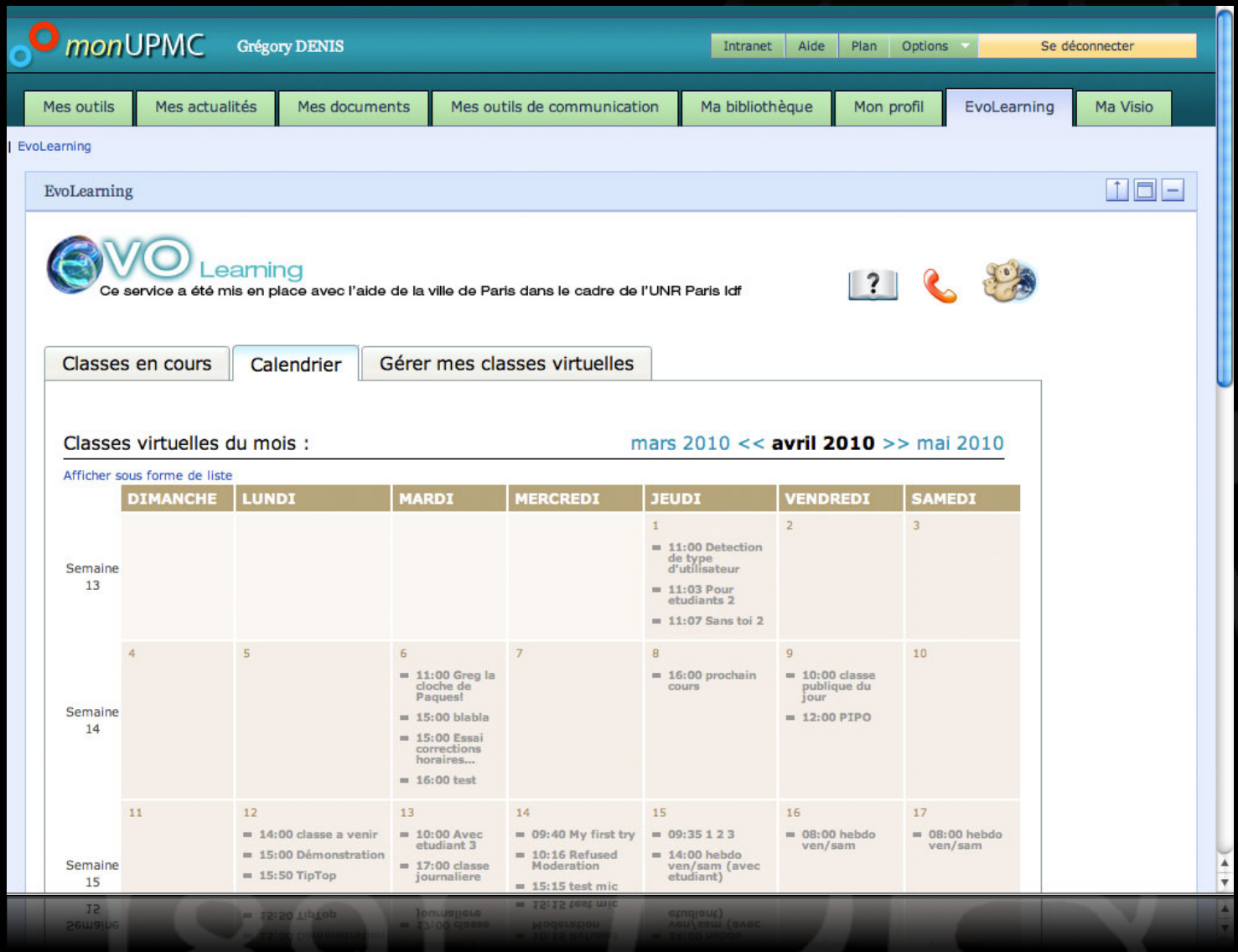
EVO-Learning



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EVO-International

- Opened since September 2009
- 470 users in the UPMC community
- Use for virtual meetings as well as link to “real” videoconference rooms
- Part of the UPMC strategy: increase in the number of rooms as well as in the use of EVO

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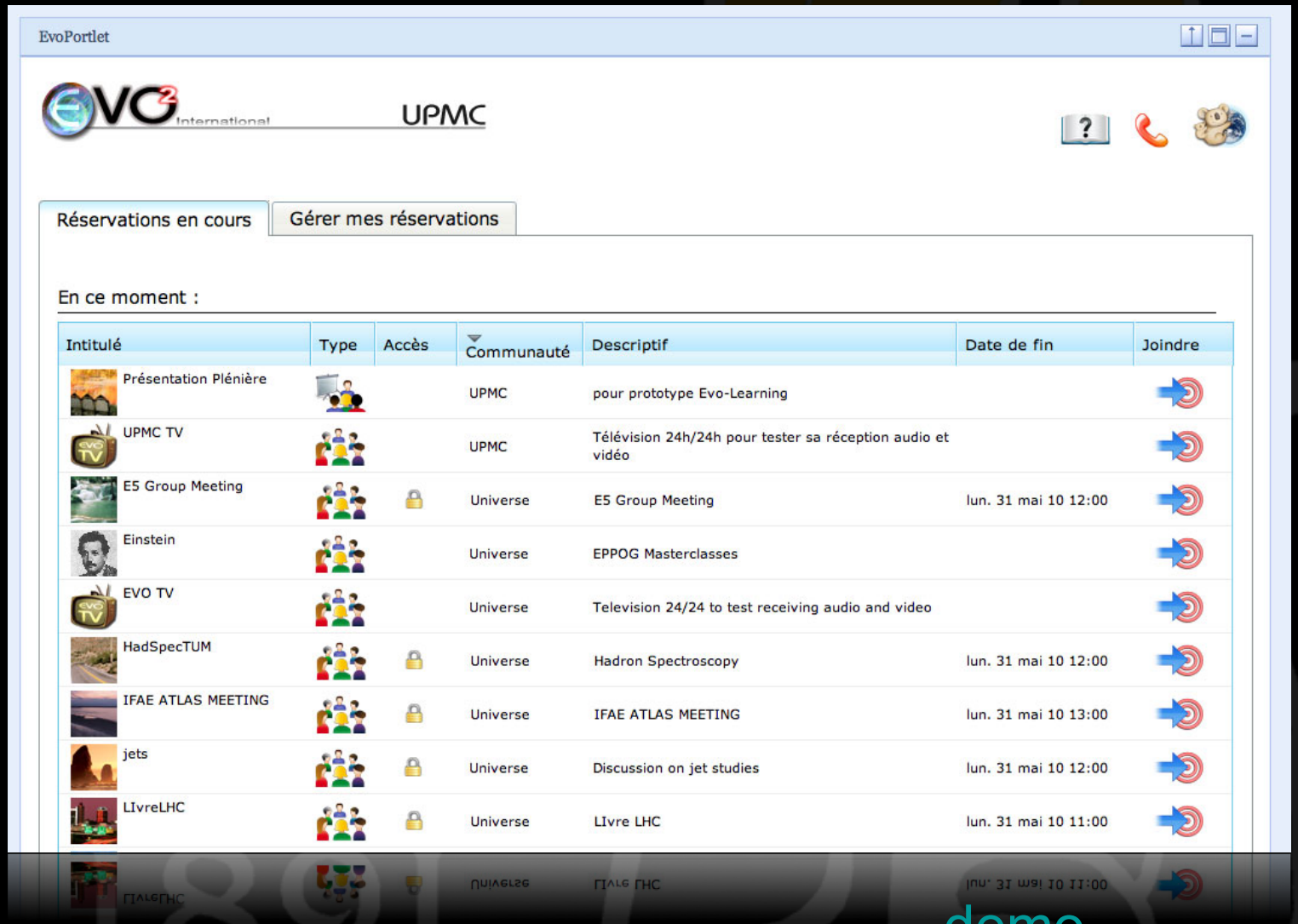
EVO International



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demo

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And now?

A European Infrastructure?

- EVO-Learning: one university, one server
- For European studies (Tempus…) build a European MonaLisa infrastructure
- Cooperation with National NREN and TERENA?

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With a grant from the city of Paris to the universities Paris 2 and UPMC-Paris 6 through UNR Paris IdF

EVO-Learning

- Start: September 2010
  - Software + initial installation 15 000$
  - Additional server (more than 100 simultaneous links) 10 000 $
  - Portlet installation and fee 10 000 $/y
  - + local Linux server

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EVO-International

- A Panda server for each university unless agreement through NREN: in France infrastructure supported by RENATER
- Software installation 15 000 $
- Additional server installation 10 000 $
- Portlet and connectivity 10 000 $/y

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