subMIT Status and Plans

Josh Bendavid subMIT Users Group Meeting July 25, 2023

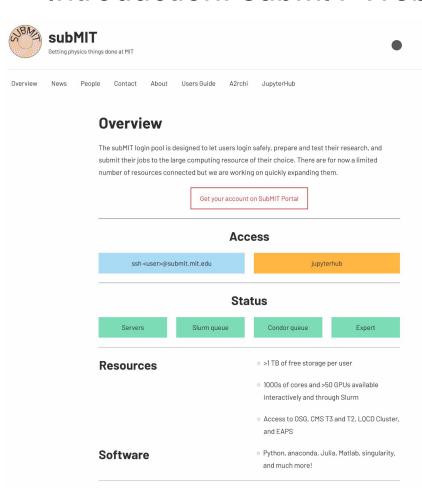
Introduction

- subMIT system provides an interactive login pool + scale-out to batch resources
 - Home directories
 - Convenient software environment (CentOS7 native, docker/singularity images, conda)
 - SSH or Jupyterhub access
 - Local batch system with O(1000) cores, >50 GPU's
 - Additional storage for software installation/development, large datasets
 - Convenient access to larger external resources (OSG, CMS Tier-2 and Tier-3, LQCD Cluster, EAPS)
- User support is a key feature of the system
 - Beyond basic troubleshooting
 - Help users make optimal use of the available resources
 - Expert advice on designing/improving workflows
 - Customize and evolve system configuration to accommodate user needs as appropriate

Introduction

- Storage and networking
 - Local storage (1TB/user), 10's of TB for larger group datasets
 - 30TB of ultra-fast NVME storage with room for future expansion
 - Fast networking: 100 Gbps ethernet
 - RoCE (RDMA over Converged Ethernet) has been partially tested/commissioned, should be possible for MPI applications
 - Full IPv6 support (dual stack with IPv4)
- Additional resources recently or currently being integrated
 - More disk storage (100TB contributed from ABRACADABRA)
 - Integration of existing computing resources from research groups
 - Purchase of several large core count/high memory machines by research groups for additional computing resources and to support specialized workflows and/or R&D where large single node scaling is useful
 - Current "high density" template, Dual AMD EPYC 192 core/384 thread with 0.75-1.5TB of memory
 - Physical location of servers in the process of being consolidated in B24

Introduction: subMIT Website



Website (with User's Guide/Instructions):

https://submit.mit.edu/

- Overview and general information
- Direct JupyterHub access
- User's Guide:

https://submit.mit.edu/submit-users-guide/



Users Group In Practice

Monthly meetings

- Advertised and open to the broader community
- Topical presentations from project team, Users Group representatives, or other users or community members
- Forum for feedback and information flow between the user community and the project team
- Regular timeslot: Tuesday 10:00-11:00 EST

Users Group representatives

- Identified representatives from research groups across the department
- Attend the monthly meetings
- Provide feedback from your groups/community
- Distribute information/news from the project team

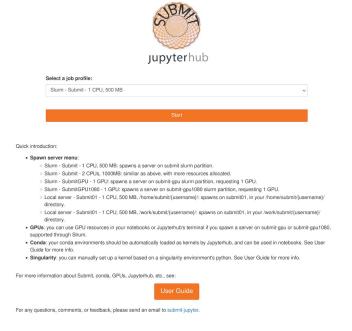
Users Group Representatives

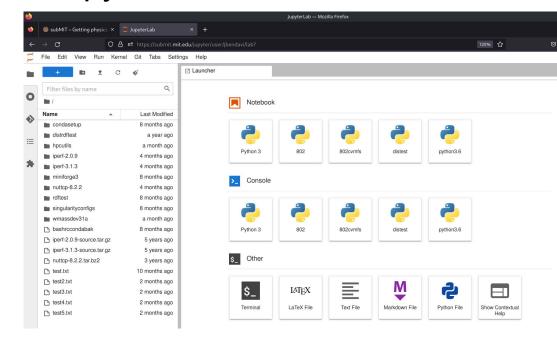
- Users group has been formed (JB as coordinator)
- Current Users Group representative (associated faculty/group)
 - Yin Lin (Phiala Shanahan)
 - Siddharth Mishra-Sharma (Jesse Thaler)
 - Prajwal Mohan Murthy (Bob Redwine)
 - Kaliroë Pappas (LNS Neutrino/Dark Matter)
 - Sunghan Ro (Julien Tailleur)
 - Yitian Sun (Tracy Slatyer)
 - Molly Taylor (LNS Heavy Ion Group)

Storage breakdown

- Several different storage areas are available covering different use cases
 - o /home/submit/<username>
 - Home directories (nfs server), redundant disk array with backups
 - 5GB quota
 - Use for software development and (small) critical data
 - /work/submit/<username>
 - Work directory (nfs server), no backups (but redundant disk array)
 - 50GB quota
 - Use for software installation (conda or docker/singularity images)
 - /data/submit/<username>
 - Large distributed disk system, no backups, but redundancy against disk failure ("erasure coding")
 - 1TB user quota, larger quotas available in dedicated group directories
 - Store large datasets here
 - o /scratch/submit/<username>
 - Fast NVMe SSD array
 - Commissioned by several groups for high performance data analysis
 - /cvmfs/
 - Read-only distributed storage for distributing software, singularity images, etc.
 - Several CERN-related repositories are available
 - Local repository /cvmfs/cvmfs.cmsaf.mit.edu where additional software or data can be added if needed
- Flexible tiered storage system, can accommodate a wide range of user needs
- Larger datasets encouraged to use shared group space, but quotas can be increased when needed

Interactive Use: Terminal or JupyterHub





- Interactive Jupyter session available directly from website with touchstone authentication (subMIT account still required)
- SLURM is used to efficiently share resources between interactive and batch use

Communication Channels

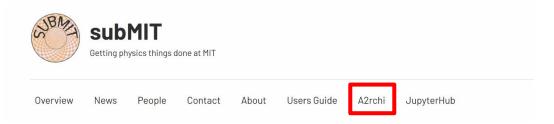
- User support mailing list: <u>submit-help@mit.edu</u>
- Experimental large language model application under development for interactive user support and to augment support ticket handling
- Slack workspace: https://mit-submit.slack.com
 - o "help-desk" channel
- Monthly Users Group Meetings
 - Open for discussion
 - Open for user contributions: full set of Users Group representatives can be contacted at submit-usersgroup@mit.edu
- Annual subMIT workshop
 - January 2023 workshop: https://indico.mit.edu/event/647/
- In addition to direct interaction with the subMIT project team, users are encouraged to discuss with Users Group representative from their own group or "nearby" group

A2rchi: Ai Augmented Research Chat Intelligence

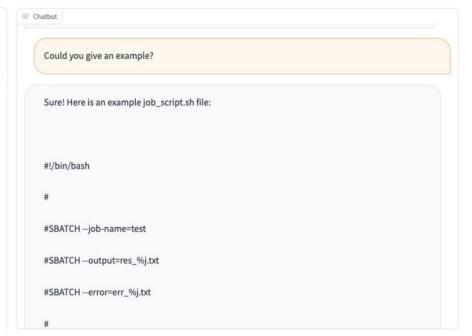
- Newest project-team member
- ChatGPT-based with input from subMIT
 Users Guide and eventually FAQ/historical support tickets
- Will assist with User Support
 - Interactive chat on subMIT website: https://submit.mit.edu/?page_id=288
 - Integration with submit-help@mit.edu and ticketing system to improve email support/ticket response
- Presentation from J. Heitkoetter at Physics Dept. LLM Workshop Last week
 - https://indico.mit.edu/event/759/



A2rchi: Interactive Support Chat



Chatbot I want to submit 100 GPU jobs, all running the exact same command "python run.py." How do I do this? You can use the Slurm job scheduler to submit multiple jobs with the same command. You can create a job script that contains the command you want to run and then submit it to the submitgpu partition with the command sbatch job_script.sh . You can also use the --array option to submit multiple jobs with the same command. For example, if you wanted to submit 100 jobs, you could use the command sbatch -- array=1-100 job_script.sh. This will submit 100 jobs with the same command. You can find more information about submitting jobs with Slurm here: https://slurm.schedmd.com/sbatch.html. Click here to read more

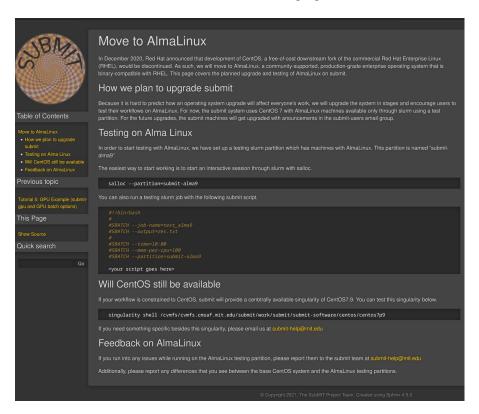


Linux Distribution Upgrade

- Current CentOS 7 distribution reaches EOL for maintenance updates in June 2024
- Decision by Red Hat to reorganize CentOS project and releases has disrupted logical upgrade path from CentOS 7->8
- Decision taken to upgrade from CentOS 7 to Alma Linux 9, considering:
 - Ease of transition
 - Support lifetime
 - Functionality
 - o Direction being taken at other universities and labs (CERN, Fermilab, etc)
- Discussion has included Users Group and broader community
- Performance-sensitive services already upgraded (NVME storage)
- New large 384-thread machines using Alma 9 from the start
- Recent change (June 21, 2023) by Red Hat to CentOS source code policy introduces further uncertainty to enterprise linux ecosystem and Alma/Rocky Linux Projects
 - Carefully monitoring developments, but continuing with Alma 9 migration
 - Current plan from Alma Linux project is to maintain ABI compatibility with RHEL but not 1:1 source code or bug compatibility

Linux Upgrade: Testing and User Feedback/Support

- CentOS 7 environment will continue to be available through singularity containers
- Test environment available with a few machines to start:
 - o ssh access: submit-test.mit.edu
 - SLURM partition: submit-alma9
 - Jupyter test instance possible in the near future
- Please test the new environment and provide feedback
- Full transition foreseen by the fall



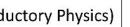
Dedicated documentation on migration:

https://submit.mit.edu/submit-users-guide/future/alma.html

Active Users: Who are they?

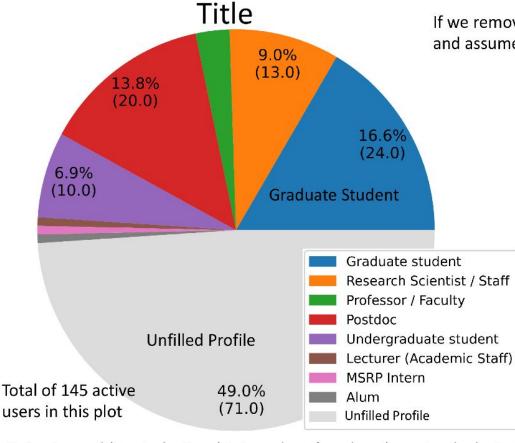


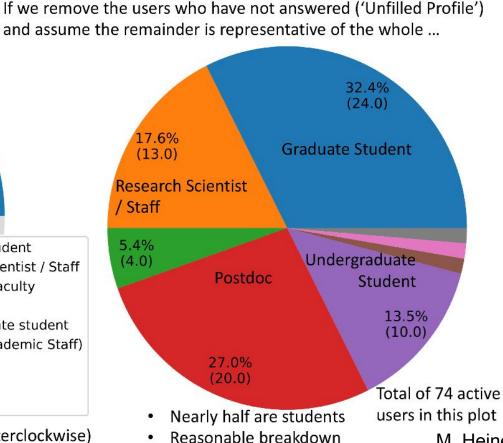
"Coooool!"





M. Heine





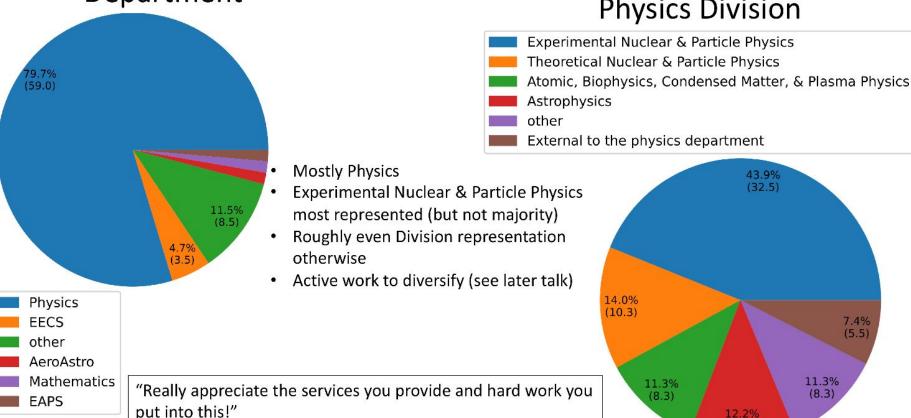
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Active Users: Who are they?



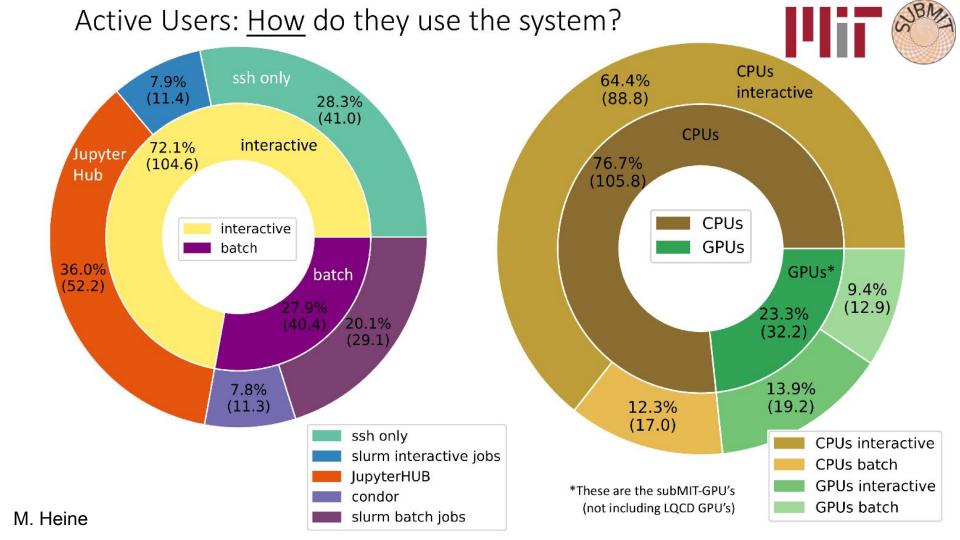


Physics Division



External to the physics department 43.9% (32.5)14.0% (10.3)7.4% (5.5)11.3% 11.3% (8.3)(8.3)12.2% (9.0)M. Heine

Research Scientist / Staff; Particle Physics Experiment (LNS)



Upcoming Meeting: User Training

- Based upon user feedback, we are developing a user training session for the use of Visual Studio Code (VSC).
- The focus of the session will be both using VSC locally and remotely through subMIT and other MIT machines.
- Training planned for in Sept/ Oct once new graduate students join.

