

ilifu Online Training

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User Training Workshop – Introduction to ilifu

4 April 2023

Topics

- Introduction to the ilifu research facility services
- Directory structure
- Software environment
 - Singularity containers
 - Modules
- Using JupyterHub
- Introduction to Slurm

Getting help

- Support contact

support@ilifu.ac.za

- User documentation

<http://docs.ilifu.ac.za/#/>

- Ilifu System Status

<https://status.ilifu.ac.za/>

- Training videos

<https://www.ilifu.ac.za/latest-training/>

The image shows two screenshots of the ilifu project's website. On the left is the 'Getting Started' page of the documentation, featuring a search bar and a sidebar with links like 'Request access', 'SSH keys', and 'Accessing the ilifu services'. On the right is the 'System Status' page, which displays a green bar indicating 'All systems are operational' and a table of components with their status (Operational) across various categories such as Slurm Cluster, Infrastructure, Data Transfer, and Other Components.

Ilifu User Documentation

Welcome to the ilifu user documentation repository.

This user documentation site guides users on technical and procedural aspects relating to the use of the ilifu cloud computing facility.

The ilifu project website may be found at <http://www.ilifu.ac.za>.

Please familiarise yourself with the list of recommendations below.

DOs:

- try to run jobs using `batch` rather than interactive jobs
- cleanup unused files when not needed
- set `-t mem=` account parameters when [submitting jobs](#), as accurate job parameters improves the performance of the SLURM scheduler

DON'Ts:

- run software on the login node
- transfer large data on the login node, i.e. copy large files to /users directory
- leave data in /scratch as this space is limited

For more information, please see a list of [FAQs](#).

Table of Contents

- News
 - [Updates](#)
- Getting Started
 - [Request access](#)
 - [SSH keys](#)
 - [Accessing the ilifu services](#)
 - [Change your password](#)

About This Site

This site will show any outages being experienced by the ilifu system.

Documentation for using ilifu is available here: <https://docs.ilifu.ac.za/>

Please log any issues you may experience using our support email address support@ilifu.ac.za

For information on South Africa's response to COVID-19 please visit the COVID-19 Corona Virus South African Resource Portal at <https://www.sacoronavirus.co.za/>

Component	Status
Slurm Cluster	Operational
Infrastructure	Operational
Data Transfer	Operational
Other Components	Operational
IDIA website	Operational
Ilifu website	Operational
Jupyter Spawner	Operational
CARTA	Operational
Dedicated Nodes	Operational

High Performance Computing

Combining power of distributed computers

- Collection of servers (computers)
- Connected by fast local network

Some terminology

- Servers also referred to as nodes
- Group of nodes is a cluster



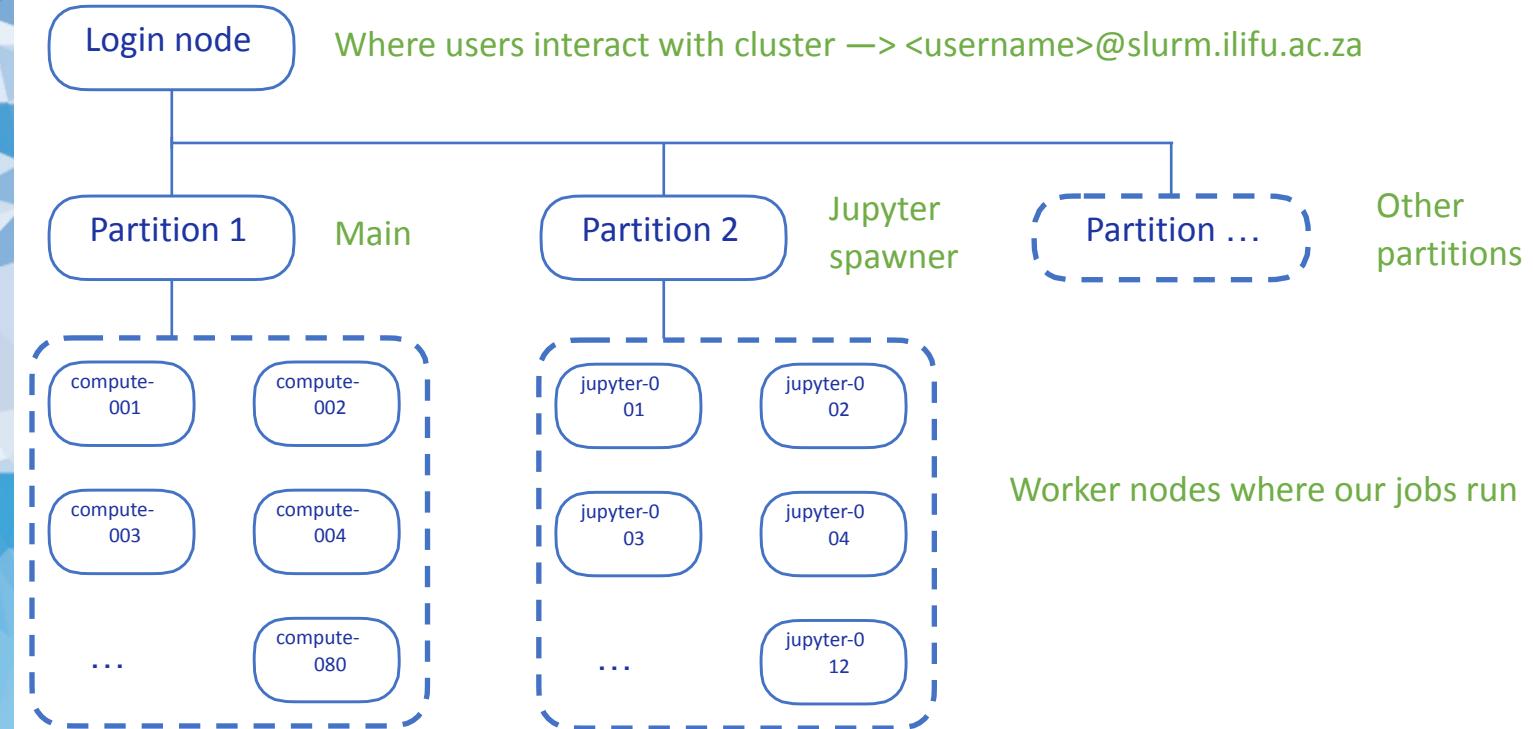
ilifu Research Facility

Cloud-based infrastructure for data-intensive research

Remote access to compute and storage resources:

- Support variety of different scientific projects and requirements
- Flexible compute environment
- Data management: storage, transfer

ilifu Research Facility



Software we use

- Job Scheduler to manage resources - Slurm
- JupyterHub service - development environment
- Containerised software environment - Singularity
- Other services: data transfer, CARTA



Computing environment - interface

ssh - shell terminal

```
* Support: https://ubuntu.com/advantage

System information as of Fri Aug 23 11:36:57 SAST 2019

System load: 0.49          Users logged in: 8
Usage of /: 35.9% of 21.15GB IP address for ens3: 192.168.100.39
Memory usage: 5%
Swap usage: 0%           IP address for ens4: 10.102.26.97
Processes: 396            IP address for ens5: 10.102.28.133

* Keen to learn Istio? It's included in the single-package MicroK8s.

  https://snapcraft.io/microk8s

Get cloud support with Ubuntu Advantage Cloud Guest:
  http://www.ubuntu.com/business/services/cloud

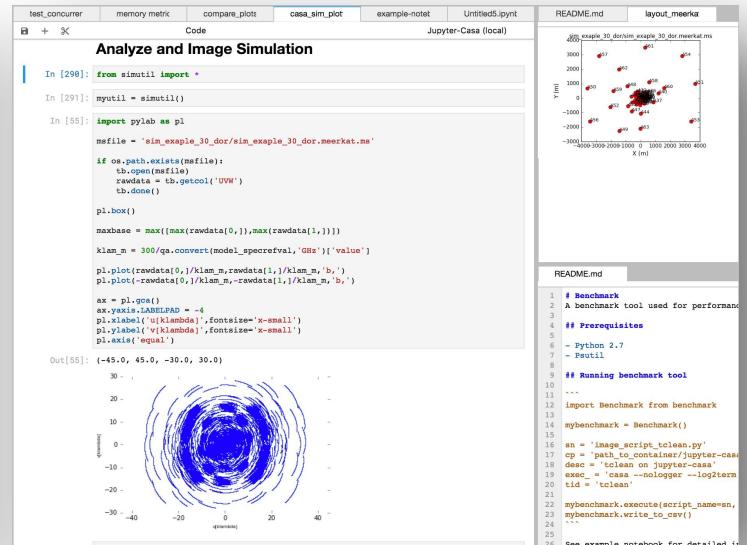
* Canonical Livepatch is available for installation.
- Reduce system reboots and improve kernel security. Activate at:
  https://ubuntu.com/livepatch

170 packages can be updated.
75 updates are security updates.

Last login: Fri Aug 23 09:08:21 2019 from 196.11.235.232
[jeremy@slurm-login:~$ sinfo
PARTITION      AVAIL  TIMELIMIT  NODES  STATE NODELIST
Main*          up 14-00:00:0    8  mix slwrk-[106-113]
Main*          up 14-00:00:0   14  alloc slwrk-[101-104,105-114-124]
Main*          up 14-00:00:0   38  idle slwrk-[102-103,125-160]
JupyterSpawnerONLY  up infinite  4  mix slwrk-[201-202,205,209]
JupyterSpawnerONLY  up infinite  4  alloc slwrk-[206-208,210]
JupyterSpawnerONLY  up infinite  2  idle slwrk-[203-204]
jeremy@slurm-login:~$ sbatch compute_job.sh]
```

ssh <username>@slurm.ilifu.ac.za

JupyterHub



<https://jupyter.ilifu.ac.za>

Computing environment - ssh

Your SSH key

- Used in the SSH (Secure Shell) protocol
- Authentication method for gaining access to encrypted connecting between systems
- Use connection to manage system remotely
- We need your SSH public key so our system knows to let you in

Compute environment - ssh

Generating SSH key

- If you don't already have one
- New compute/formatted existing computer

GitHub docs on key generation:

[https://docs.github.com/en/github/authenticating-to-github/
connecting-to-github-with-ssh/generating-a-new-ssh-key-and-
adding-it-to-the-ssh-agent](https://docs.github.com/en/github/authenticating-to-github/connecting-to-github-with-ssh/generating-a-new-ssh-key-and-adding-it-to-the-ssh-agent)

Directory Structure

Common areas:

- /users
 - limited storage shared among all users, for scripts and small files – don't place data here, capping /users storage capacity can prevent access to the cluster for all users.
- /scratch3/users
 - directory space for processing data, temporary storage only, i.e. use this space during processing, and then clear all files immediately after processing. Remove unnecessary data and move data that you want to keep to project folder.

Remaining storage separated by group: IDIA, CBio, ilifu

Directory Structure

IDIA structure:

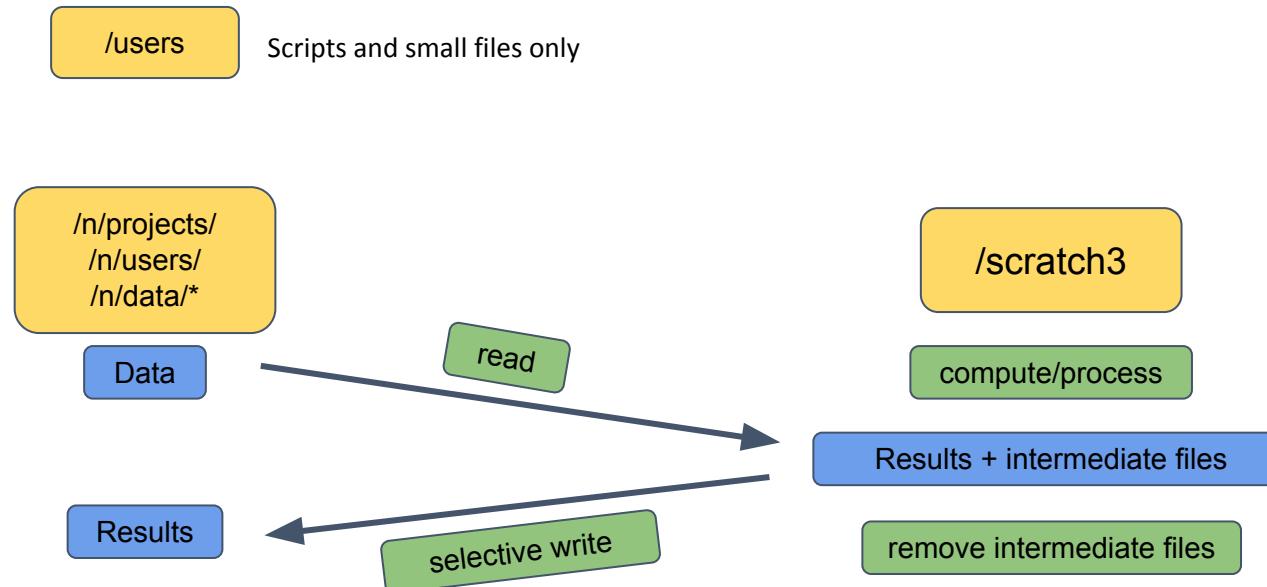
- /idia/users
 - user's private work directory, may store data products that are not ready to move to shared project space
- /idia/projects
 - project specific directories. These directories are for sharing data and resources within project groups. Raw data associated with a project will also be available from the project folder. Raw data should always be read-only.
- /idia/software
 - software containers and the IDIA Pipelines software is stored here

Directory Structure

Similar structure for /cbio and /ilifu groups:

- /cbio/users
- /cbio/projects
- /cbio/soft
- /ilifu/users
- /ilifu/software
- Exception for ilifu projects:
 - /ilifu/astro/projects
 - /ilifu/bio/projects

Directory Structure - Typical workflow



***/n/data** generally read-only

Software environment - Singularity containers

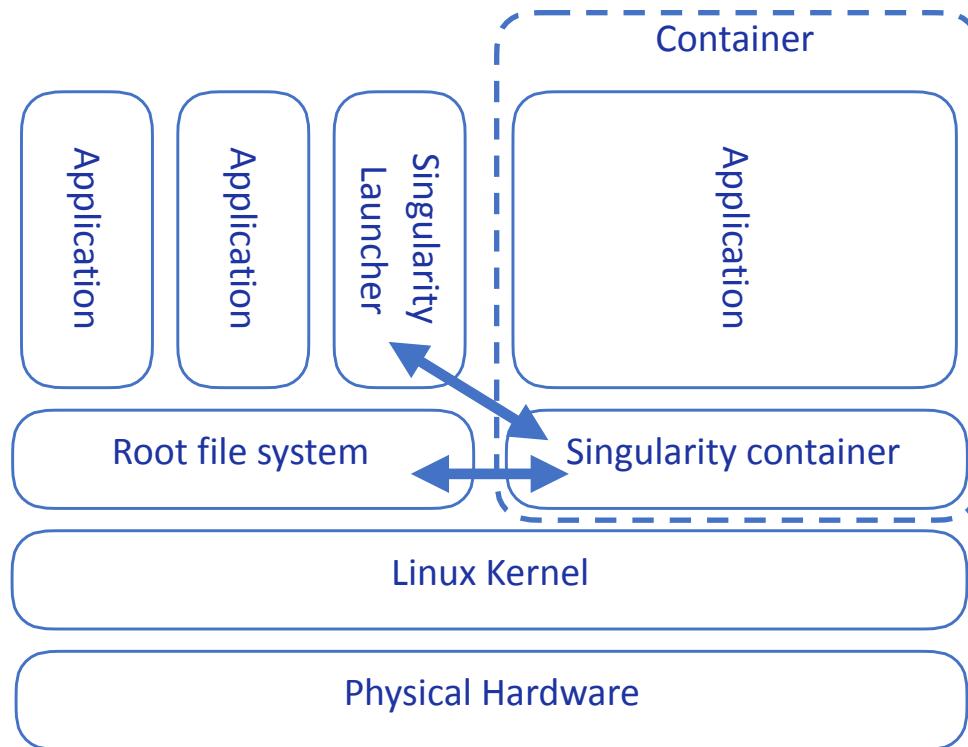
- Encapsulated software environments
- A software stack that contains everything required to run an application/workflow, including files, environments variables, libraries and dependencies
- Containers accessible across platforms and services, allowing sharing of applications environments



<https://sylabs.io/singularity>



Software environment - Singularity containers



Software environment - Singularity containers

Supported Containers:

- CASA 5, CASA 6
- Astronomy container (ASTRO-PY3, ASTRO-PY3.8)
- KERN suite
- GPU Python container
- Project containers:
 - MeerLICHT, LADUMA, HI Intensity mapping
- lots of others



Directories:

- /software
- /idia/software/containers
- /ilifu/software/containers

Software environment - Singularity containers

Open container as an interactive shell:

```
singularity shell /path/to/container
```

Example:

```
$ singularity shell /idia/software/containers/ASTRO-PY3.8.simg
```



Run a script/workflow using a container environment:

```
singularity exec /path/to/container <software> <script/input_parameters>
```

```
$ singularity exec /idia/software/containers/casa-6.simg python myscript.py
```

Software environment - modules

module avail

```
$ module avail
```

```
----- /software/modules/common -----
LAPACK/3.9.0 anaconda3/2020.07 githubcli/2.0.0 mono/6.8.0.123 perlbrew/perlbrew python/3.10.0
R/RStudio1.2.5042-R4.0.0 anaconda3/2021.05 go/1.16.3 mpich/3.3a2 python/2.7.18 python/3.10.1 (D)
R/RStudio1.2.5042-R4.0.4 anaconda3/2021.11 (D) go/1.17.3 (D) openBLAS/0.3.9 python/3.6.15 ruby/2.6.6
R/3.6.3 cuda/10.0.130_410.48 graphviz/2.49.1 openmpi/2.1.1 python/3.7.7 singularity/2.6.1
R/4.0.0 cuda/10.1.243_418.87.00 homebrew/2.4.13 openmpi/2.1.6 python/3.8.2 singularity/3.7.3
R/4.0.2 cuda/10.2.89_440.33.01 hwloc/1.11.13 openmpi/3.1.6 python/3.8.3 singularity/3.8.3
R/4.0.3 cuda/11.0.2_450.51.05 java/jre-1.8.0_261 openmpi/4.0.3 python/3.8.6 singularity/3.9.0
R/4.1.1 (D) cuda/11.4.2_470.57.02 (D) java/openjdk-14.0.1 (D) openmpi/4.0.5 python/3.9.0 singularity/3.9.1 (L,D)
anaconda3/login.old dotnet/5.0.301 julia/1.5.3 openmpi/4.1.0 (D) python/3.9.4 user_tools
anaconda3/login drmaa/1.1.1 maven/3.6.3 perl/5.33.0 python/3.9.7

----- /software/modules/astro -----
casa/5.7.0 casa/5.8.0 casa/6.1.2.7-pipeline casa/6.2 casa/6.4 (D)
casa/5.7.2-4 casa/6.1.0-118-monolithic casa/6.1.2.7-modular casa/6.3 pybdsf/1.9.2

----- /software/modules/bio -----
bcbio/bcbio_container biobambam2/2.0.183 genomestrip/2.00.1958 plink/2.00a2.3 samtools/1.13 vep/singularity
bcbio/1.2.3 canvas/1.40.0.1613 htseq/1.10.2 popgen/0.1 samtools/1.14 (D) vep/101.0 (D)
bcbio/1.2.9 (D) cd-hit/4.8.2 mafft/7.490 prsice-2/2.3.1d treePL/homebrew
bcftools/1.10.2 gemini/gemini mash/2.3 samtools/1.10 vcftools/0.1.16

----- /usr/share/lmod/lmod/modulefiles -----
Core/lmod/6.6 Core/settarg/6.6
```

Where:

- L: Module is loaded
- D: Default Module

Software environment - modules

- module avail
- module help <module>

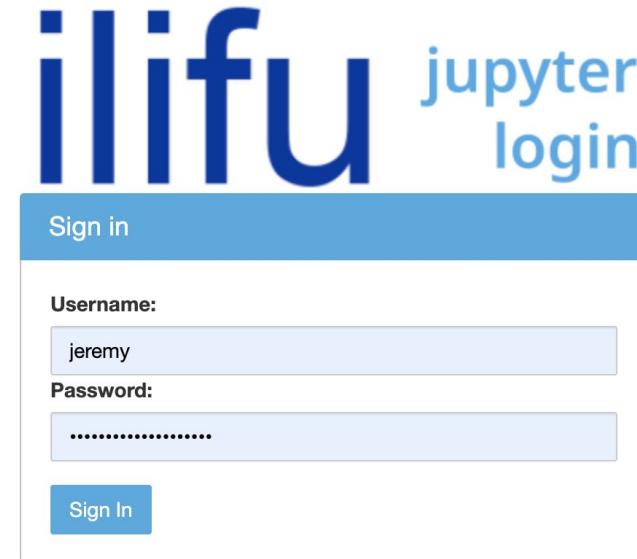
```
$ module help python
```

```
----- Module Specific Help for "python/3.10.1" -----
This module configures Python 3.10.1 for use
```

- module load <module>
- module list
- module purge
- module --help

JupyterHub

<https://jupyter.ilifu.ac.za>



JupyterHub

Session size

Server Options

Nodes Free

as at Tue Mar 8 14:44:01 SAST 2022

83 Minimum

40 Small

18 Medium

7 Large

1 Half-Max

0 Max

0 GPU

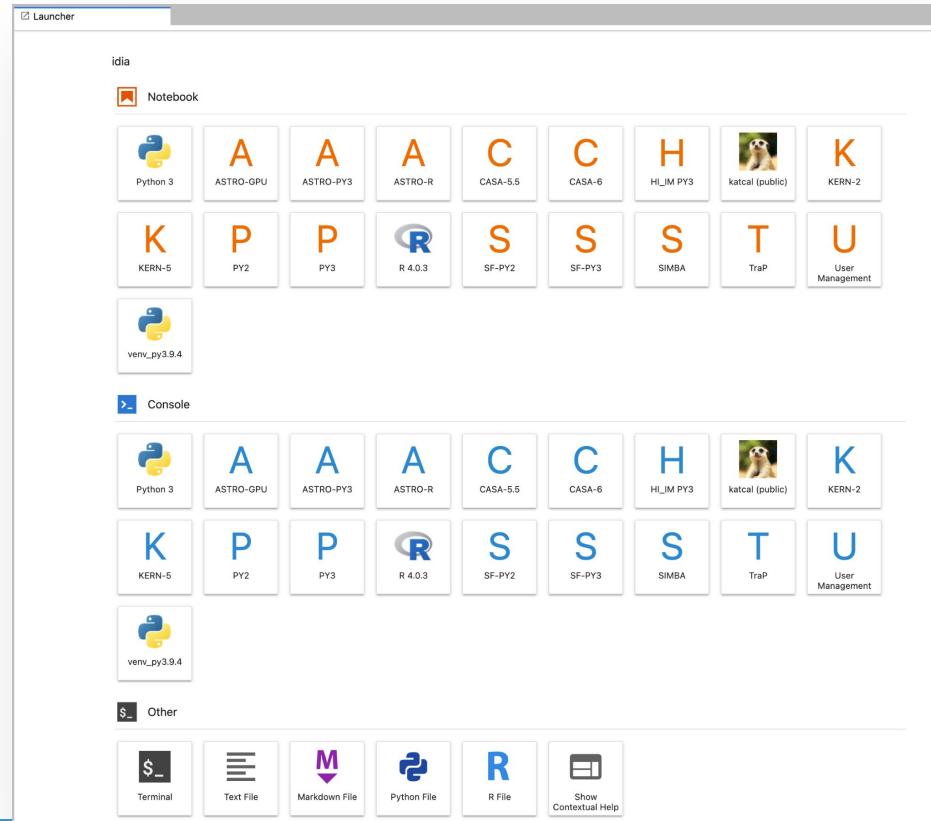
Select a job profile:

Minimum Node - 1 core, 7 GB, 18 hours idle timeout, max 5 days lifespan

Start

JupyterHub

Choose kernel
in launcher



Demo

Demo resources https://github.com/ilifu/ilifu_user_training