BLUE WATERS SUSTAINED PETASCALE COMPUTING

Getting Started on Blue Waters

New User Webinar Craig P Steffen























Blue Waters Web Portal

- bluewaters.ncsa.illinois.edu
 - contains:
 - system status
 - documentation
 - help links
 - user management tools for PIs
 - Globus Online for moving data











Blue Waters User Documentation On Portal

- bluewaters.ncsa.illinois.edu
 - Documentation tab → User Guide















Blue Waters Portal: Your First Source For Info

- Everything in today's presentations is from information in the portal or about the portal itself
- Portal has a search function
- Help link on portal goes to help sources













Baseline Level Of Knowledge

- unix file systems
 - especially including file permissions (support staff does NOT have root privileges)
- editing files using emacs or vi or ...
- using and configuring unix shells
 - bash
 - tcshrc
 - •













Baseline Level of Knowledge

- compiling and running programs in unix environment
 - (you should know what this means:)

```
gcc -I ../include_dir -c mysource1.c
```

gcc -L ../lib_dir -lmylib -o my_program
mysource1.o mysource2.o













PBS job submission

- job files:
 - #PBS –I nodes=1
 - #PBS -I walltime=2:00:00
- Queue management
 - qsub
 - qstat
 - qdel













Blue Waters Login Shells

- bash (vast majority of users)
- csh
- tcsh
- zsh

(changing user shell requires a ticket; no "chsh")













Cray Environment Differences

(see Programming Environment and Running Jobs talks for more details)



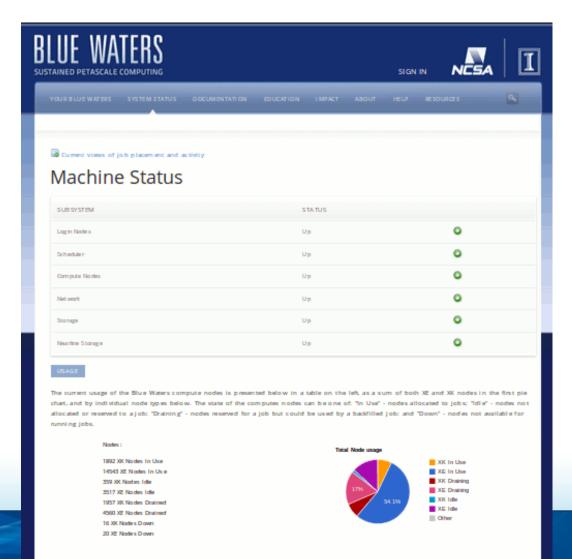








Blue Waters Status Information















Blue Waters: Heterogeneous System

- 22,640 XE ("traditional" compute) nodes
- 4224 XK GPU compute nodes
- 3 user login nodes
 - compiling
 - editing files
 - submit jobs
 - execution closely monitored
 - very limited use of rsync/scp (see Globus later)













Logging In

- ssh username@bw.ncsa.lllinois.edu
 - round-robins the three login nodes
- ssh username@h2ologin1.ncsa.lllinois.edu
 - or h2ologin2 or h2ologin3
 - for specific login node
 - why?
 - specific files in /tmp
 - slowness













RSYNC or SCP

- Not forbidden, but please, be smart
- Sends all data traffic through login node, rather than data movement infrastructure
- Large data movement/rsync *seriously* impacts other users on the same login
- Do NOT synchronize large data stores
- Golden Rule













XE/XK node summary

- XE node:
 - 1 OS image
 - 64 GB RAM
 - 4 NUMA domains
 - 16 Bulldozer modules
 - 32 integer (execution) cores
- XK node:
 - 1 OS image
 - 32 GB RAM
 - 2 NUMA domains
 - 8 Bulldozer modules
 - 16 integer (execution) cores
 - 1 Kepler GPU













Storage on Blue Waters

- Online (mounted) storage (accessible from BW)
 - /u/sciteam/* ("/home")
 - /projects
 - /scratch
- Nearline (tape) storage (NOT accessible from BW)
 - /~/ ("/home")
 - /projects
- Globus Online
 - (how do I get to non-mounted storage?)













Storage Summary Table (also on portal)

Storage System Type+Name	Default Quota	Quota Type	Purge Policy?	Sample Path	Globus Endpoint
Lustre home	1 TB	user	no	/u/sciteam/me	ncsa#BlueWaters
Lustre projects	5 TB	group	no	/projects/sciteam/jxx	ncsa#BlueWaters
Lustre scratch	500 TB	group	YES (30 days)	/scratch/sciteam/me	ncsa#BlueWaters
Nearline home	5 TB	user	no	/~/ (only from Globus)	ncsa#Nearline
Nearline Projects	50 TB	group	no	/projects/sciteam/jxx (only from Globus)	ncsa#Nearline













GridFTP / Globus Online (GO)

- GridFTP client on Import/Export nodes and Nearline storage nodes
 - Must be used to access Nearline
- GO interface
 - Blue Waters Portal (https://go-bluewaters.ncsa.illinois.edu)
 - globus-url-copy
 - Globus Command-Line Interface (CLI)
 - Create your own endpoint with Globus Connect
- GO also recommended for transferring large files between Lustre filesystems (within Blue Waters)



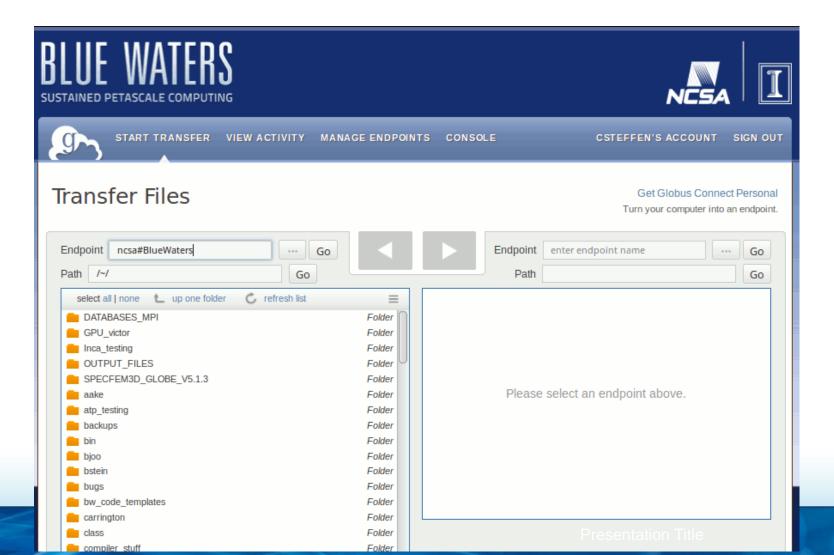








Globus Online Screenshot















Globus Online Characteristics

- Very high bandwidth
- Asynchronous
- Very parallel
- Uses dedicated resources
 - (avoids file I/O bottlenecks that make rsync/scp not tenable for files of significant size),













File Size/Number Considerations

- Globus Online designed for fewer, larger files
- Transferring enormous numbers (100,000+) of small files bogs down transfers
- Packaging up small files into larger before transferring to nearline is better













Important Help Topics:

- If you forget your PIN:
 - https://bluewaters.ncsa.illinois.edu/forgot-pin
 - go to https://otp.ncsa.illinois.edu/
 - authenticate using your security questions, then reset your PIN













Important System Commands

- quota
 - individual and group amounts and quotas
- usage
 - your system compute-time allocation
- man (contains official Cray documentation)
 - example: man crayftn













Blue Waters Support

- Documentation
 - BW Portal (https://bluewaters.ncsa.illinois.edu/)
 - Documentation => User Guide
- System status
 - Portal
 - MOTD (Message Of The Day)
 - Broadcast e-mails from admins
- Help SEAS team
 - Phone, chat, e-mail
 - JIRA









Blue Waters Support (continued)

- SEAS team (Science and Engineering Applications Support)
 - Phone*: (217) 244-6689
 - Chat (portal)*: Your Blue Waters => Live Chat
 - JIRA ticket system
 - Portal: Your Blue Waters => Your Tickets
 - E-mail: help+bw@ncsa.illinois.edu
 - One support tier for all problems
 - Basic (logging in) to advanced (software debugging and optimization)

^{*} Monitored M-F 9am - 5pm Central Time













Please Submit Tickets If:

- Documentation on something is
 - wrong
 - missing
- Something doesn't work right
- Something doesn't work the way you expected
- Something doesn't work the way it used to
- You're not sure how to proceed and you want to do it right the first time
- Don't be afraid to submit tickets; it helps us self-evaluate
- The same people triage tickets as monitor the phone and chat











Help Information on Portal

