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CHICAGO
BIOLOGICAL
SCIENCES

Overview of CRI Computing Infrastructure

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Introduction



IT Operations & Infrastructure Team
Scientific Computing Team



Three main service lines:

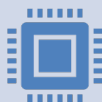
Data Storage (Lab shares)

Virtual Servers and System Administration

HPC, Deep Learning, Commercial Application Servers



Procedures following the BSD's Information Security Policies to be able to store and process ePHI (HIPAA) data for research use



All primary resources are behind firewalls in the 6045 Kenwood datacenter



Data is backed up to tape in the 1155 (E 60th St.) datacenter

Staff

- Director
 - Thorbjorn Axelsson
- IT Operations and Infrastructure
 - Olumide Kehinde (Manager)
 - Joe Sutton (Sr. Windows Administrator)
 - Joel Van Os (Sr. Windows Administrator)
 - Adebimpe Akinlolu (Linux Administrator)
 - Jonathan Wroblewski (Linux Administrator)
 - Ellie Xu (Help Desk Analyst)
 - David Gonzalez-Velez (Help Desk Analyst)
- Scientific Computing
 - Mike Jarsulic (Manager)
 - Yi Du (HPC Administrator)
 - Camila Cuestas (Student)



Main Service Lines

Server Virtualization

Enables multiple operating systems to run on a single physical server as highly efficient virtual machines. Key benefits include: Greater IT efficiencies and reduced operating costs.

Data Storage

We provide a distributed software-defined storage solution for IBM Spectrum Scale (DSS-G) for dense scalable file storage, suitable for high-performance and data intensive workloads.

High Performance Computing

Analyze clinical, translational, and basic science data quickly and powerfully on the Gardner High Performance Computing Cluster. Jobs are submitted to a scheduler node and executed in parallel across several compute nodes.

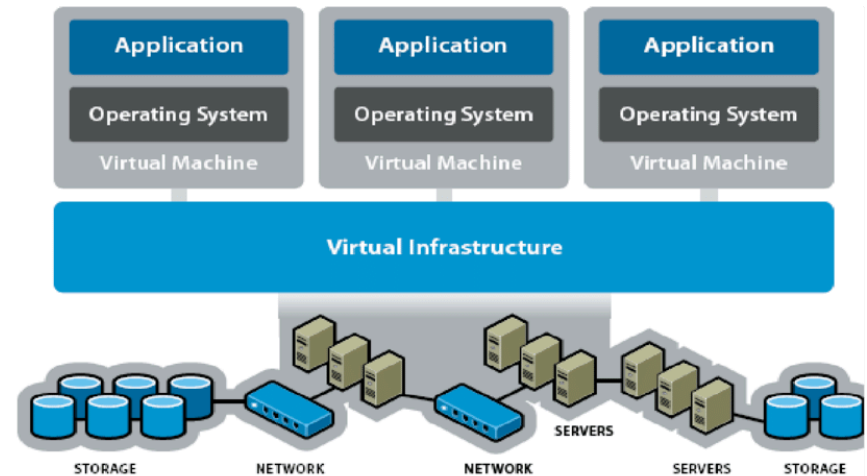
Others Services:

- Clinical Research Data Warehouse: contains clinical de-identified data dating back to 2006.
- Cohort Discovery (i2b2)
- Bioinformatics Core: Analysis of complex genomic data
- Dev Team: Development of custom solutions tailor-made for individual research projects.
- RedCap: A self-managed, secure, web-based solution designed to support data collection strategies for research studies



Virtual Environment

- Creates virtual resources that can be used the same way as any physical resource or application.
- Virtual resources include storage, CPUs, memory and networks.
- Allows deployment of custom applications.
- We currently support Windows 2012 R2, Windows 2016, RedHat Enterprise Linux 7 and 8.



Virtual Environment

When you request a virtual machine, you will need to provide:

Purpose of the VM

Data Sensitivity: PHI, PII, PCI or No sensitive data (PHI: protected health information, PII: personally identifiable information, PCI: payment card information)

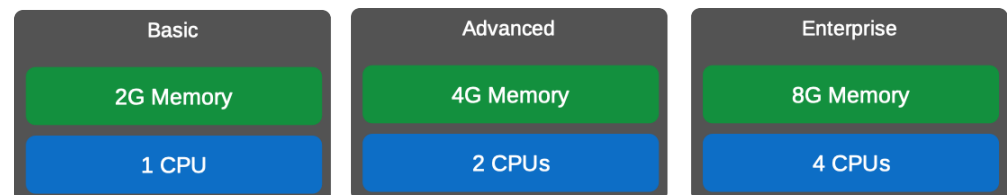
Expected Availability: 24/7, business hours, anytime

Environment: Test, Development, UAT, QA, Production

Network Access: Campus, Internal Only or External

Operating System: Windows or Linux

Server Configuration: Basic, Advanced or Enterprise



Application Services

- Applications we support include: Apache, IIS, MS SQL, MySQL, NGinx, Oracle
- **WinStats Server:** Is a Windows Server that hosts the following statistical applications - IBM SPSS, Statistics 24, Illumina GenomeStudio 2.0, SAS 9.4, Matlab, Jupyter Notebook, R Studio, Stata 14 and 15.

Specifications:

- 2 CPUs: 2.4GHz Intel Xeon E7-8870
 - 10 cores per CPU
 - 512 GB of RAM
 - 1.18 TB of dedicated SSD storage
- We also support two Linux stats servers (Stata, SAS, Matlab, Mathematica)
Specifications:
 - 2 Intel Xeon E5-2698 v3 CPUs
 - 2.3 GHz
 - 16 ops/cycle
 - 16 cores per CPU
 - 768 GB RAM per server



Data Storage

Old Storage Systems

Problems with Isilon Cluster:

- High expansion cost
- High maintenance cost
- Ethernet requirement
- Not POSIX-compliant (parallel file access)
- Low read iops

Problems with Scratch Storage:

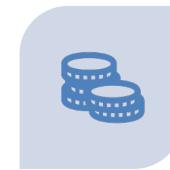
- Glusterfs
- Poor performance on small files
- Poor metadata performance
- Stability

New Storage System

Lenovo Distributed Storage Solution for IBM Spectrum Scale (DSS-G)



COMBINES SCRATCH AND PERMANENT STORAGE INTO ONE SYSTEM



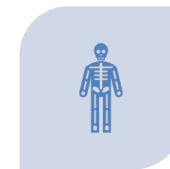
LOWER COSTS



INCREASED PERFORMANCE



UTILIZES INFINIBAND NETWORK



POSIX-COMPLIANT



MAINTAINS STABILITY AND SECURITY OF THE ISILON



Data Storage (Cont'd)

Components:

2 Lenovo x3650 M5 controller nodes, 6 High density JBODs, 3 Protocol nodes, 1 Xcat node, 1 Backup node

Purpose:

Primarily for research data

Capacity:

- Shares - 3.1PB
- Home - 11TB (10GB quota)
- Scratch Space – 250TB (purged periodically)

Access Methods:

- SMB/CIFS from Windows, Mac and Linux clients
- Graphical SFTP clients: WinSCP, CoreFTP (Windows Only), FileZilla, Cyberduck (Windows & Mac)
- NFS access from CRI servers
- Native GPFS on HPC Cluster
- Rsync, sftp on cri-syncmon.cri.uchicago.edu



Data Backup



File level backup for physical servers using IBM Spectrum Protect (formerly called Tivoli Storage Manager)



Full Virtual Server backup using Spectrum Protect VE



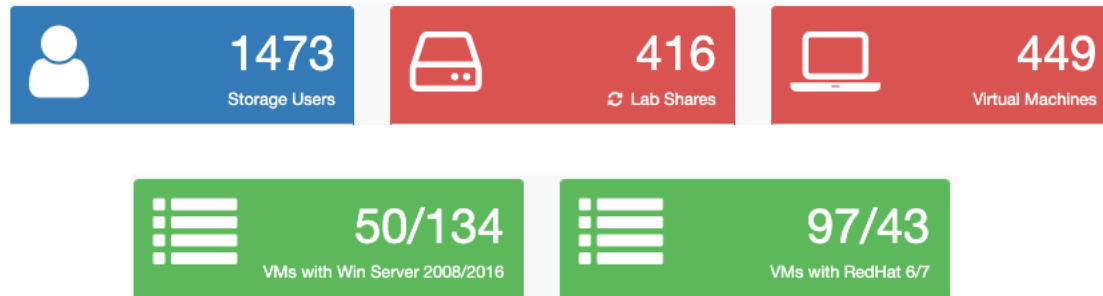
PRFS Storage is also backed up using a dedicated backup node using Spectrum Protect



Backed up data gets migrated automatically from our Primary DC to a tape library at our DR site



Usage (Storage & VMs)



Departments Using CRI Storage

- Anesthesia And Critical Care
- Ben May Cancer Research
- Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
- BSD Academic Administration
- Center for Health and Social Sciences
- Committee on Evolutionary Biology
- Ecology and Evolution
- Family Medicine
- Grossman Institute for Neuroscience, Quantitative Biology and Human Behavior
- Human Genetics
- Medicine
- Microbiology
- Molecular Genetics and Cell Biology
- Neurobiology
- Neurology
- Obstetrics And Gynecology
- Office of Shared Research Facilities
- Ophthalmology and Visual Science
- Organismal Biology and Anatomy
- Orthopaedic Surgery and Rehabilitation Medicine
- Pathology
- Pediatrics
- Pritzker School of Medicine
- Psychiatry
- Psychology
- Public Health Sciences
- Radiation and Cellular Oncology
- Radiology
- Surgery



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Center for Research Informatics

Resource Access

In order to access CRI resources:

- You need to have an active BSD account
- You need to request resource access using our Web Provisioning Forms (Link available on the CRI website)
- VPN Access (Campus or BSD) may be required for some resources either on or outside campus.

After submitting the request:

- A ticket will be created, assigned and processed.
- You can follow up on the status of the ticket by replying to the automated ticket response email.
- You will be sent access instructions.



Requesting Access to CRI Resources

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Center for Research Informatics. At the top, there is a navigation bar with social media icons (Twitter and Facebook) on the left and links for Request Resources, Contact Us, FAQ, Technical Help, and CRI Careers on the right. Below the navigation bar, the center logo "CENTER FOR RESEARCH INFORMATICS" is on the left, and a menu with "Services", "Research", "Education", and "About" is on the right. The main banner features a server rack image on the left and a dark background on the right with the text "Introduction to CRI Computing". Below this, it says "Join the CRI Seminar Series on January 16 for an overview of computing resources and services." and includes a "SIGN UP" button. Below the banner, the section "GET STARTED NOW" contains five service cards: "ACQUIRE DATA" (Clinical Research Data Warehouse, Cohort Discovery), "ANALYZE DATA" (Bioinformatics Core, High Performance Computing, Computing Resources), "STORE DATA" (CRI Data Storage), "MANAGE DATA" (REDCap, Clinical Trials Informatics), and "FIND A CUSTOM SOLUTION" (Custom Applications).





CRI Web Provisioning - New Service Request



Request Access to CRI Resources

Request access to the High Performance Computing Cluster or Stats Server. You must have a BSDAD account in order for access to be granted. You can submit a request for a BSDAD account by visiting the [BSDAD Account Request](#) page.



Request Lab Share Creation

Request creation of a Lab Share to store research data in a highly secure clustered storage system with tape library backup.



Request User Access to Lab Share

Request user access to an existing Lab Share



Request Access to Gardner HPC

Request access to the Gardner High Performance Computing Cluster



Request Software Installation on the HPC

Request installation of software on the High Performance Cluster



Request Software for Commercial Statistical Analysis on Windows

Request Software for Commercial Statistical Analysis on Windows



Request Virtual Machine Creation

Request creation of a virtual machine instance



Request Firewall Access

Request firewall access



Revoke Resource Access

Request removal of user access to the HPC Cluster, Stats Server, REDCap, or Lab Share



Request Collaborator Account Creation

Request creation of a collaborator account for REDCap, HPC or Storage access



Getting Help

Contact the CRI using our Support Portal:

- cri.uchicago.edu > Technical Help >
- Fill out support form
- This will create a support ticket
- Filling out the form ensures we collect information necessary to start processing the ticket



Lab Share Access Issues

Contact Support for Lab Share/Storage Issues



Lab Share Quota

Contact Support for Lab Share Quota



HPC Issues

Contact Support for HPC Issues



Stats Issues

Stats Server Support



Commercial Statistical Analysis on Windows Issues

Commercial Statistical Analysis on Windows Issues



Storage Issues

Contact Support for Storage problems



VM Issues

Contact Support for Virtual Machine Issues



Request Data Restore From Backup

Request restoration of data from backup



Request Research Data Retrieval

Request retrieval of archived data



REDCap Access Issues

Contact Support for REDCap Issues



SEE Cohorts Assistance

Contact Support for SEE Cohorts application issues



Other Issues

Contact Support for other Issues



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2020 Goals

Server Migrations/Upgrades:

- Complete BSD Active Directory Domain Upgrade
- Windows 2008R2 to 2016 Server Migration
- Windows 7 to Windows 10
- RHEL 6 to RHEL 8 (or RHEL 7) Migration.

Spectrum Scale Test Environment Buildout

Spectrum Scale Upgrade:

- Allows continued support of native GPFS protocol access in the upgraded HPC environment
- Increase efficiency of parallel workloads
- Use of sub-blocks in the future for efficient management of small files
- Increase in metadata operations efficiency
- New code supports built-in file auditing capabilities (license upgrade required)
- Maintain the same level of system stability, compliance, and data integrity



2020 Goals (Cont'd)

- Redeploy our Internal Logging Cluster using Windows Collector & ELK Stack
- Upgrade our monitoring system (Nagios XI)
- Upgrade VMWare
- Replace aging firewall appliances
- Replace aging networking devices
- Upgrade IPA (RedHat Identity Management) Cluster
- Setup VEEAM Backup
- Migrate Workstations to Asset Panda



High Performance Computing – What is a HPC Cluster?

- Storage
- Login Nodes
- Scheduler Node
- Compute Nodes
- GPUs
- Xeon Phi



High Performance Computing – Storage

- PRFS Storage Cluster
 - Home Directories (/home/<userid>)
 - Lab Shares (/gpfs/data/<labid>)
 - Applications (/apps/software)
 - Total Size: 3.1 PB
 - Bandwidth: 56 Gb/s
 - Permanent, Quota'd, Backed Up,
 - Available everywhere

- Scratch Space
 - /scratch/<userid>
 - Bandwidth: 56 Gb/s
 - Total Size: 250 TB
 - Purged, Private, Not Quota'd, Not Backed Up
 - Limited availability



High Performance Computing – Login Nodes

- Purpose
 - User interface for the HPC cluster
 - Composing editing jobs
 - Submitting jobs
 - Tracking/Managing jobs
 - Writing source code
 - Compiling source code
- DO NOT RUN ANALYSIS ON THE LOGIN NODES!!!



High Performance Computing – Scheduler Node

- Purpose
 - Keeps track of which resources are available on each compute node of the cluster
 - Schedules jobs based on available resources
 - Maintains historical metrics on jobs



High Performance Computing – Compute Nodes

- Specifications
 - Nodes:
 - 88 standard
 - 28 mid-tier
 - 4 high-tier
 - Processors (2 per node):
 - Intel Xeon E5-2683 v3
 - 14 cores
 - 2.0 GHz
 - 16 ops/cycle
 - Memory
 - Standard: 4 GB/core
 - Mid-tier: 16 GB/core
 - High-tier: 45 GB/core



High Performance Computing – Accelerator Nodes

- GPUs
 - 5 Nodes
 - 1 NVidia Tesla K80 per node
 - Contains 2 NVidia Tesla GK210 GPUs
 - 2496 CUDA cores
 - 24 GB memory
- Xeon Phi
 - 1 node
 - 2 Intel Xeon Phi P5110 coprocessors
 - 60 Cores per coprocessor
 - 8 GB RAM



High Performance Computing – Software

- Compilers
 - GNU
 - Intel
 - PGI
 - Java JDK
- Scripting Languages
 - Perl
 - Python
 - R
- Software Environment
 - LMod

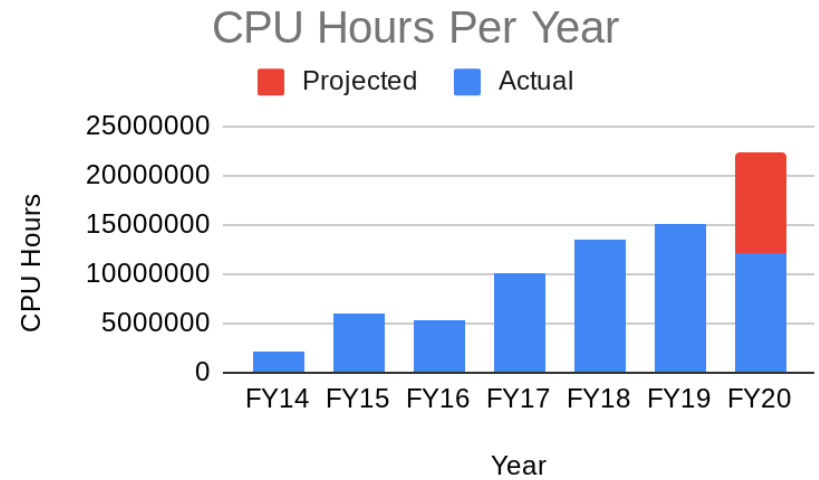
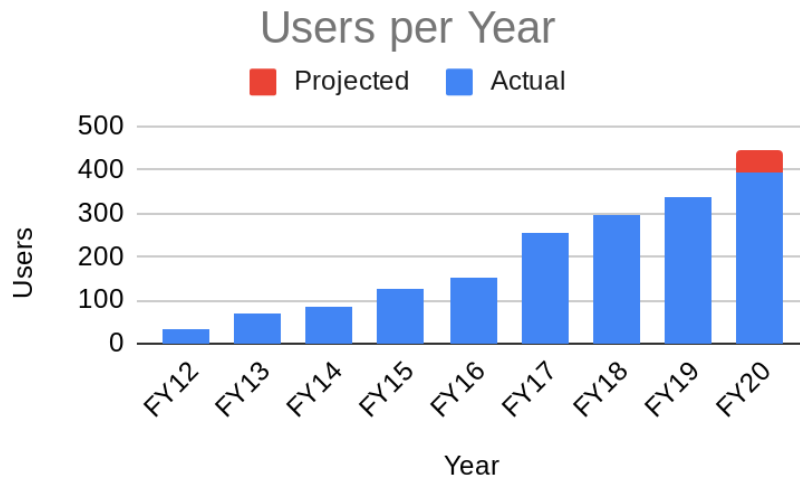


High Performance Computing – Obtaining an Account

- Prerequisites: BSD Account
- Sign up for and account
 - <http://cri.uchicago.edu>
 - Experience Level
 - Software Requests
 - Email Address for Job Output
 - Emergency Phone Number
- Collaborator Accounts



HPC Metrics



Deep Learning

- 2 Nodes
 - 2 Intel Xeon Gold 6230 CPUs
 - 20 cores per CPU
 - 2.1 GHz
 - 768 GB memory
 - 8 NVidia Tesla V100 per node
 - 5120 CUDA Cores
 - 640 Tensor Cores
 - 16 GB memory
 - Double Precision: 7 TFLOPs
 - Single Precision: 14 TFLOPs
 - Tensor: 112 TFLOPs



Scientific Computing - Support

- How to get help?
 - Email: hpc@rt.cri.uchicago.edu
 - Support form on the CRI Website
 - Documentation: Coming Soon
 - Ask a friend
 - Office Hours (Tuesday/Thursday)
 - Bioinformatics Core
 - CRI Seminar Series
- How not to get help?
 - Calling me (unless it's an emergency)
 - Email me directly



Future: HPC Upgrade

- Red Hat Linux Enterprise 7.6
- SLURM (scheduling/resource management)
- Container capabilities
- Spack
- LMOD metrics
- Compilers
 - gcc 4.9.4
 - gcc 8
 - gcc 9
 - Intel 2020
 - PGI 2019
 - llvm



PBS vs. SLURM

```
#PBS -N job1
```

```
#PBS -l nodes=1:ppn=4
```

```
#PBS -l walltime=6:00:00
```

```
#PBS -l mem=4gb
```

```
#PBS -o stdout.log
```

```
#PBS -e stderr.log
```

```
#SBATCH --job-name=job2
```

```
#SBATCH --nodes=1
```

```
#SBATCH --ntasks=4
```

```
#SBATCH --time=6:00:00
```

```
#SBATCH --mem=4096
```

```
#SBATCH --output=stdout.log
```

```
#SBATCH --error=stderr.log
```

Future Projects

- New HPC Cluster
- Archive Storage
- Virtual Infrastructure Upgrade
- Logging Infrastructure Replacement
- Winstats Replacement
- Stats Replacement



Thank you!



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Questions?



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