

JASMIN: Infrastructure to support a diverse range of scientific use cases

ISENES3 Virtual workshop on requirements for a fast and scalable evaluation workflow, May 2021

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Overview

- CEDA and JASMIN
- Scientific use cases
- Topics:
 - Storage
 - Compute
 - Data transfer/migration
 - Cloud
- Bringing it all together

CEDA: Overview



- Centre for Environmental Data Analysis
- Mission: to provide data and information services for environmental science
- ~30 staff
- CEDA:
 - >20Pb of environmental data
 - Catalogue and data access services
 - ~67,000 users (~20k active users)
- JASMIN



<https://www.ceda.ac.uk/>



JASMIN: Purpose

Supports data analysis for (NERC) environmental science community

- Large scale, data-intensive science

Designed for performance

- Tailored to needs of academic community

Compute co-located with the data

- CEDA Archive data (curated)
- Group Workspaces (self-managed, not curated)

Flexible compute capabilities

- Interactive and batch compute
- JASMIN Cloud provides autonomy, scalability

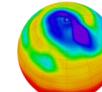


JASMIN: numbers

- >40 Petabytes high performance storage
- >13,000 computing cores
- High-performance network design
- ~50 Private cloud ‘tenants’, to enable flexible usage
- Dedicated high memory and data transfer machines
- GPU cluster to be installed



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User needs for "big-data" platform

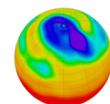
- Access to any software packages...*that we might need*
- A stable unchanging software environment...*for the duration of my project (and when we come back and re-run later)*
- Access to unlimited processing capability...*at the exact time we are ready to run*
- Access to unlimited storage...*in case we need it*
- Tools to manage all kinds of workflows *across such a platform*

JASMIN: Scientific use cases

1. Interactive login (small)
2. Notebook (small)
3. Notebook on CaaS (medium)
4. Batch via login (medium/large)
5. Batch and multi-step workflows (large)
6. External Cloud interactions (including Object Store)
(medium/large)



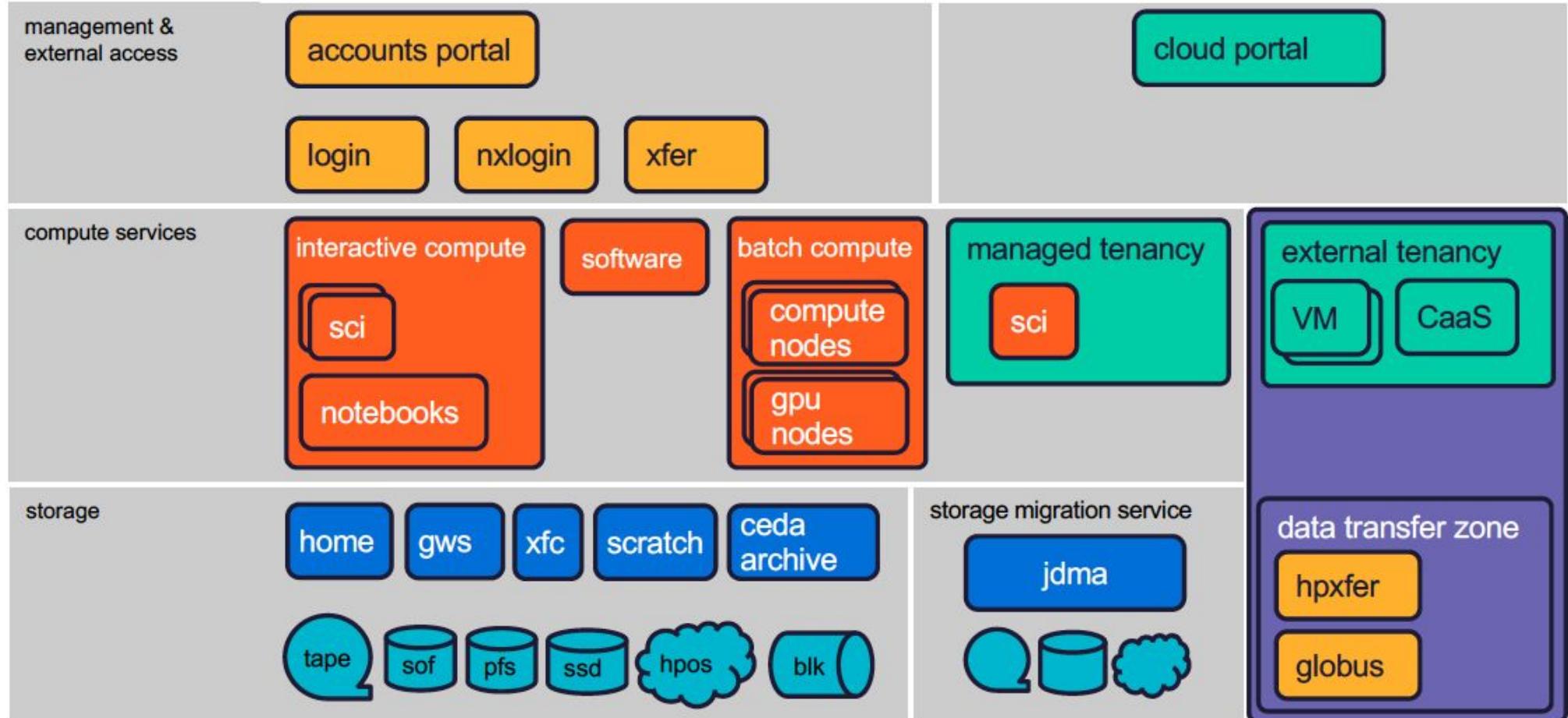
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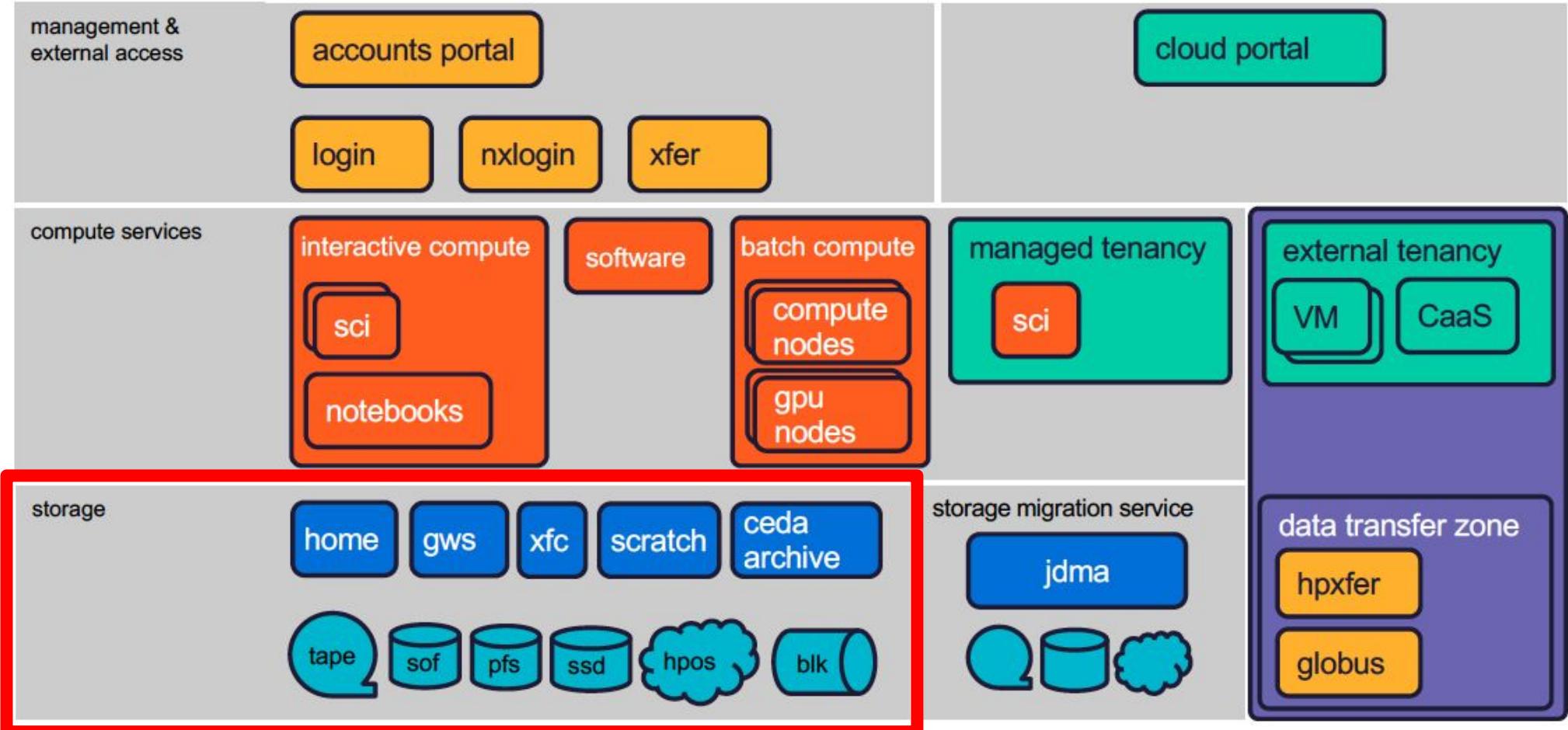
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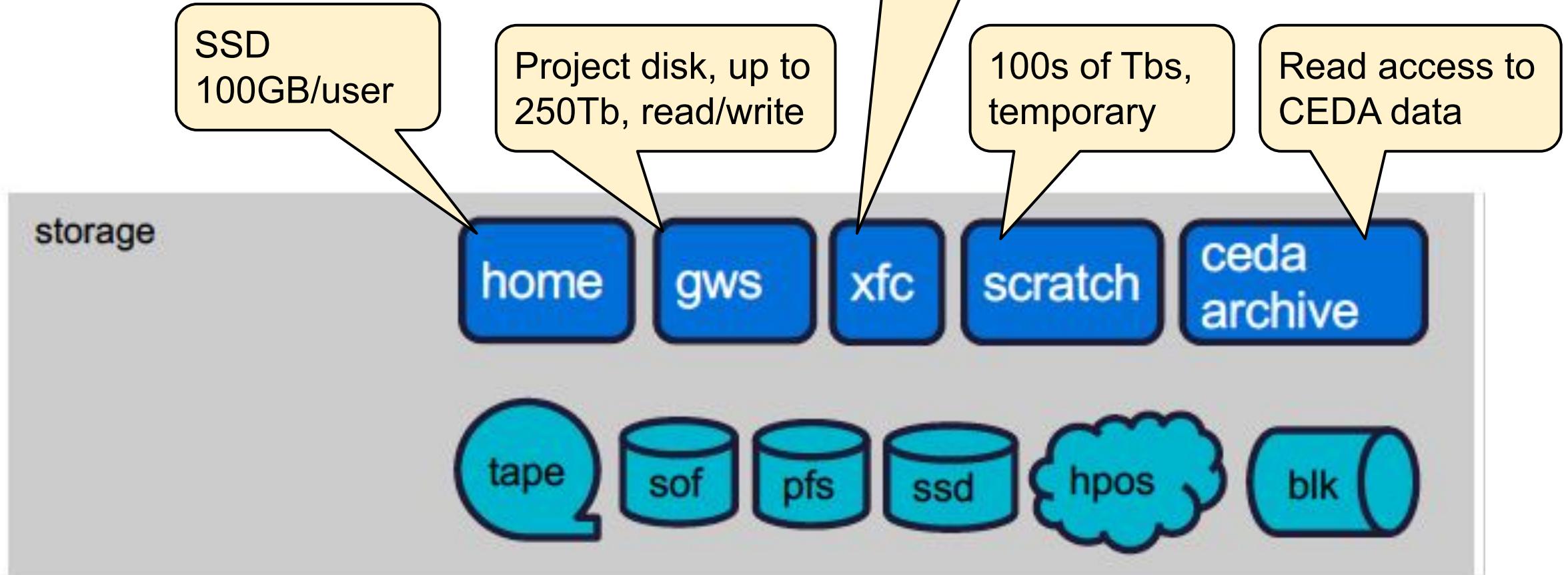
JASMIN Services



JASMIN Services



JASMIN Storage



Issues related to storage

- File-systems mounted across entire platform
- Heterogeneous file-system storage:
 - SSD, SOF, PFS - different properties/strengths/weaknesses
- Limitations on parallel writes
- Small-file (<64Kb) support: e.g. software environments
- Optimising use of storage media for large workflows:
 - Very significant impacts on efficiency
- When to use tape and object store?

The case for object storage

Traditional File Systems (POSIX)

- Access model is limiting – user management fixed to operating system – if you don't have a JASMIN id, you can't access it
- Strain on this model scaling with large file systems

Object Store

- Access is by HTTP so data can potentially be accessed from anywhere
- Provides a way to share data between the External Cloud and other parts of JASMIN
- Naturally scales

CMIP6 in the JASMIN Object Store

The screenshot shows two windows side-by-side. The top window is a web browser displaying the JASMIN Object Store interface. It shows a list of buckets with their details: Name, Type, Owner, Storage, and Bandwidth. The bottom window is a Jupyter Notebook with several tabs open. One tab shows code for filtering a catalog for historical and future data, specifically for the UKESM1-0-LL model. Another tab shows code for converting a catalog to xarray datasets.

Name	Type	Owner	Storage	Bandwidth
Content IDs	bucket/system		---	8 MB
alan	bucket	iwl	---	---
bucket002	bucket	astephen	---	---
bucket003	bucket	astephen	---	---
CMIP6.AerChemMIP.BCC.BC...	bucket	astephen	---	15 MB
CMIP6.AerChemMIP.BCC.BC...	bucket	astephen	---	15 MB
CMIP6.AerChemMIP.CNRM-C...	bucket	astephen	---	659 KB
CMIP6.AerChemMIP.MOHU.U...	bucket	astephen	---	8 GB

```
[13]: cat = col.search(source_id="UKESM1-0-LL",
                     experiment_id=["historical", "ssp585-bgc"],
                     member_id=["r1i1p1f2", "r12i1p1f2"],
                     table_id="Amon",
                     variable_id="tas")

# Extract the single record subsets for historical and future experiments
hist_cat = cat.search(experiment_id='historical')
ssp_cat = cat.search(experiment_id='ssp585-bgc')
```

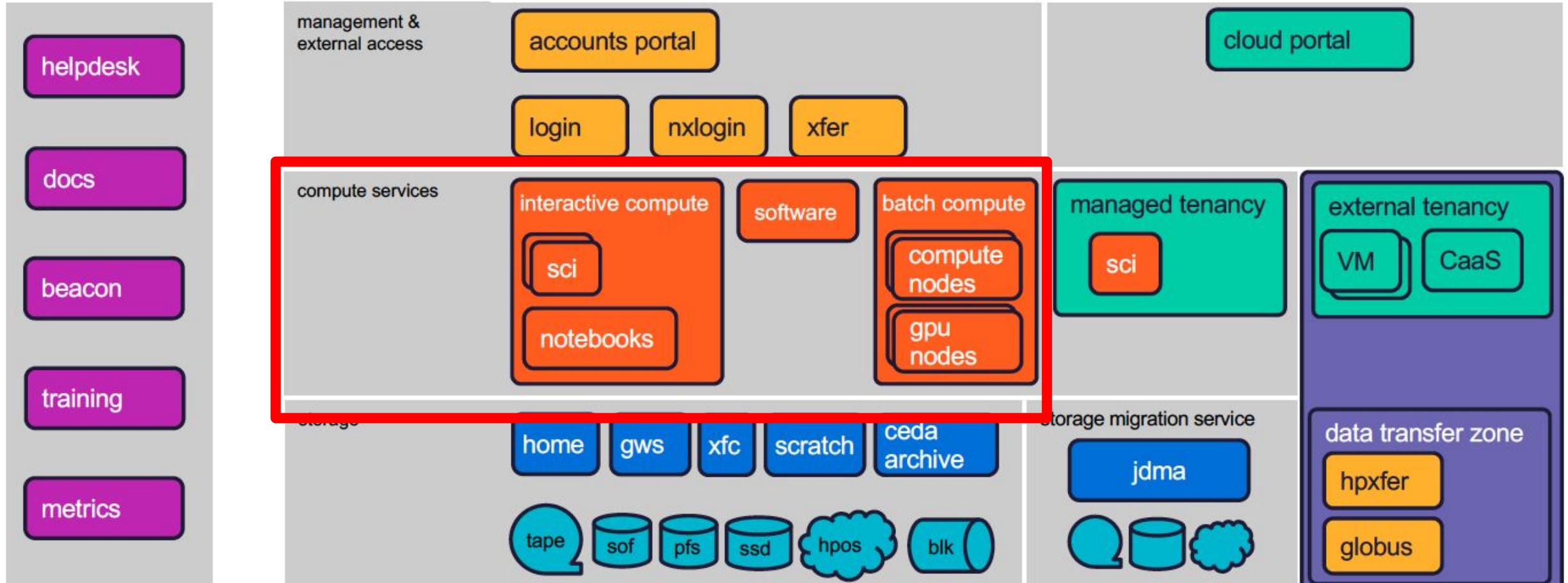
Step 4: Convert to xarray datasets

```
Define a quick function to convert a catalog to an xarray Dataset.
```

```
[14]: def cat_to_ds(cat):
    zarr_path = cat.df['zarr_path'][0]
    fsman = fsspec.get_mapper(zarr_path)
```

- We have developed a tool for converting our CMIP6 holdings to Zarr format written in the JASMIN Object Store.
- Processed as each ESGF Dataset:
 - One variable, model, expt, ensemble
 - All files in a time series
- Zarr files save "chunks" (i.e. sub-arrays) as individual objects.
- Notebook interface uses Intake-ESM catalog, Xarray, Matplotlib (PANGEOT stack)
- Available to JASMIN users
- ~70Tb loaded so far
- Prototype stage at present

JASMIN Services



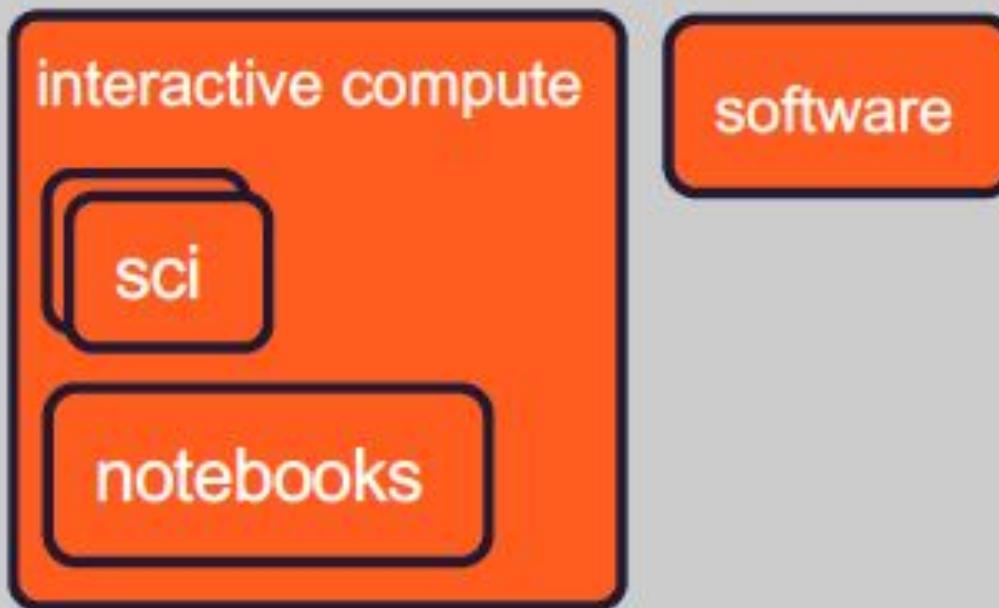
JASMIN Compute

compute services

```
astephen@sci2:~$ Admin contact: JASMIN Support <jc-support@stfc.ac.uk>
*****
** JASMIN Shared VM status at 2021-05-18 11:25:01.431855 **
*****
Average load on each VM over the last hour:
=====
Host          Users   Free memory   CPU
sc1.jasmin.ac.uk      41    25.06   7.0%
sc2.jasmin.ac.uk      27    16.16   35.0%
sc3.jasmin.ac.uk      48    595.36  99.0%
sc4.jasmin.ac.uk      12    18.96   30.0%
sc5.jasmin.ac.uk      14    13.96   13.0%
sc6.jasmin.ac.uk      24    854.76  40.0%
sc7.jasmin.ac.uk      14    321.76  61.0%
=====

[astephen@sci2:~]$ python
Python 2.7.16 (default, Nov 16 2020, 22:23:17)
[GCC 4.8.5 20150623 (Red Hat 4.8.5-44)] on linux2
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> 
```

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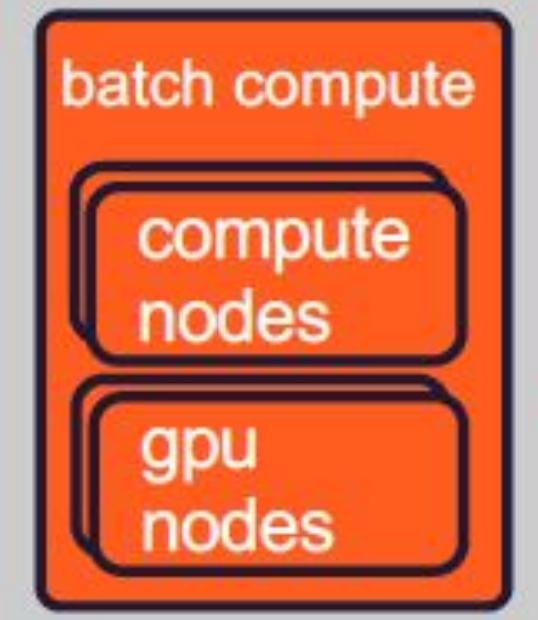
software

```
[28]: ds.tsl[0,0,:,:]
[28]: <xarray.DataArray 'tsl' (lat: 768, lon: 1024)>
  dask.array

  Coordinates:
    * lat      float64 89.88 -89.65 -89.41 -89.18 ... 89.41 89.65 89.88
    * lon      float64 8.176 8.273 8.378 9.123 ... 358.8 359.1 359.5 359.8
  Attributes:
    standard_name: longitude
    long_name: longitude
    comment: Air Temperature
    units: K
    original_name: ts1 (ts1: m01391294, blev: [1000.0, 850.0, 700.0, 500.0])
    cell_methods: time: mean
    cell_measures: area: areacella

[29]: plt = plt.figure(figsize=(20, 10))
ax = plt.subplots(1,1,projection=ccrs.PlateCarree())
ax.set_global()
ax.stock_img()
ax.coastlines(resolution='51.53', 'g', transform=ccrs.PlateCarree())
plt.contourf(ds.lon, ds.lat, ds.tsl[0,2,:,:], 60, transform=ccrs.PlateCarree())
ax.coastlines()
```

Mode: Command ↻ Ln 1, Col 1 cmip6 xarray example.ipynb



JASMIN Notebook Service



```
In [ ]: print('hello')
# Then press: Shift+Enter - which executes the cell and move to the next one.
# If there isn't one below, it creates a new one for you.
# Or press: Ctrl+Enter - which executes the cell (and stays focussed on the current cell).
#
# Or press: Alt+Enter - which executes the cell and creates a new one for you.

In [ ]: # In fact, you don't need "print"
'hello'

You can include any Python that you might run in a script or interactive session...

In [ ]: ZERO = 273.15
def convert_temp(celsius):
    """
    Convert temperature (celsius) to temperature (kelvin).

    Return: temperature in Kelvin
    """
    kelvin = celsius + ZERO
    return kelvin

Having defined a function, we can call it later in the Notebook:

In [ ]: if convert_temp(0) != 273.15:
    'That function is bad'
else:
    print('It works!')

NOTE: we can't run a function in a cell that hasn't been run yet...

In [ ]: say_hello()

In [ ]: def say_hello():
    print('Hello :-)')
```

A Jupyter Notebook is an interactive programming environment that runs in a web browser.

The JASMIN Notebook Service that allows you to:

- Define, edit and run code (in Python)
- Access a common (Jaspy) software environment
- Access data in the CEDA Archive and in your Group Workspaces
- Access data in the JASMIN Object Store

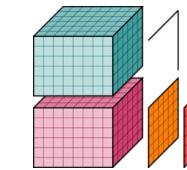
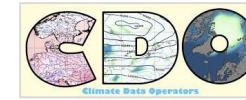
Software on JASMIN

The screenshot shows the JASMIN Docs Home page. At the top, there's a dark blue header bar with the text "JASMIN Docs Home". Below it is a white content area with a title "Software on JASMIN". Underneath the title, there's a button labeled "Edit this Article". A small printer icon is also present. The main text area starts with a paragraph about JASMIN being a platform with many software tools. It then says: "This page provides an overview of the software on JASMIN. It links to further information about a range of tools and environments." Below this, there's a note: "To help get you started, these have been split into categories:" followed by two bullet points: "Software available to all on JASMIN analysis/batch serv" and "Additional tools for compiling and building software". At the bottom right of this section is a teal button with a question mark icon and the word "contact".



- Software is provided on analysis/batch/notebooks
- Compile / build / install software
- Restricted and server-specific software
- Data movement software

<https://help.jasmin.ac.uk/article/273-software-on-jasmin>



xarray



pandas
 $y_t = \beta x_t + \mu_t + \epsilon_t$

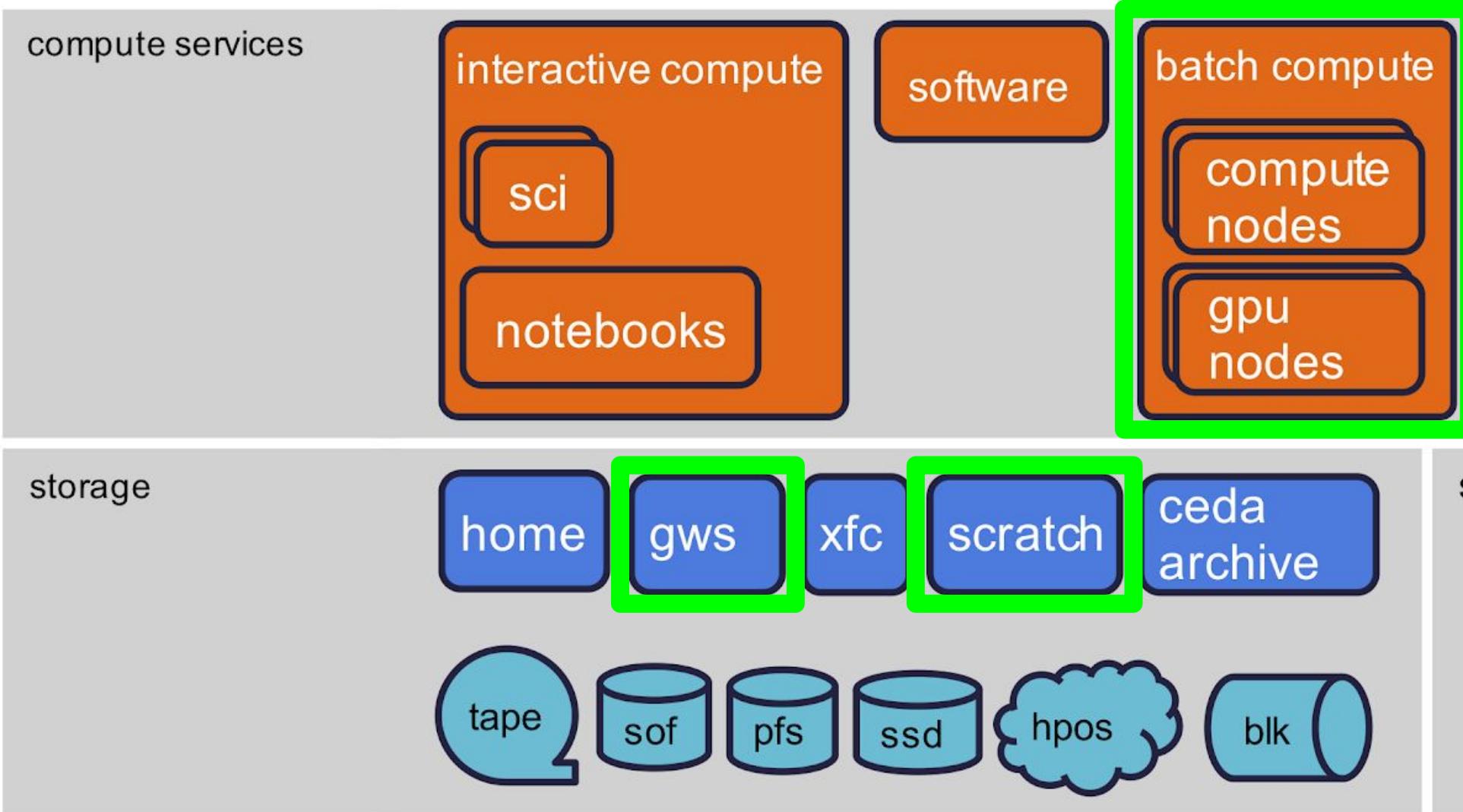


python™

Issues related to batch compute

- Provide a heterogeneous batch environment:
 - Standard nodes: 16 core, 128Gb RAM
 - 1Tb nodes: 48 core, 1024Gb RAM
 - 2Tb nodes: 48 core, 2048Gb RAM
 - And others...
- Scheduler (SLURM) needs tuning to enable:
 - Prioritisation for major (funded/high-priority) projects
 - Fair-share for general use
- NOTE: users will look for ways of subverting the scheduler rules

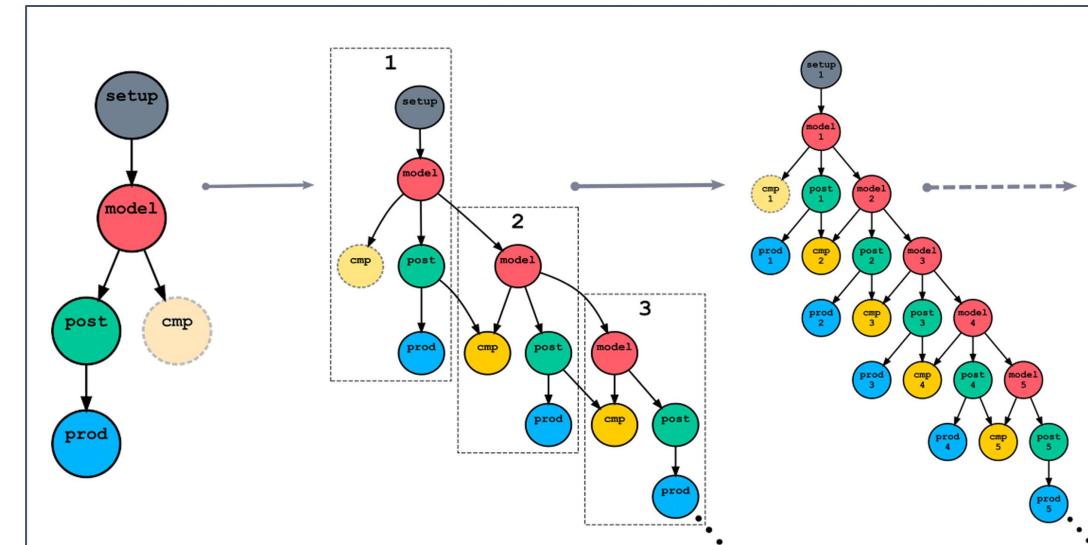
User workflows



Workflow tools - Rose/Cylc

On JASMIN, we have installed **Rose/Cylc** (Met Office/NIWA):

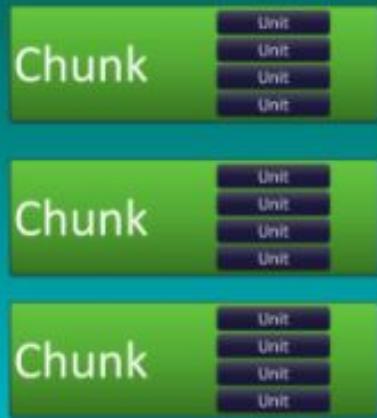
- very good for multi-step workflows
- Includes a graphical interface
- talks to LOTUS
- sophisticated workflow management (retries etc)
- dedicated server



Encouraging good practice

All

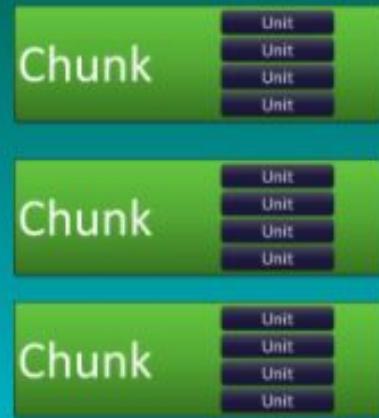
Batch



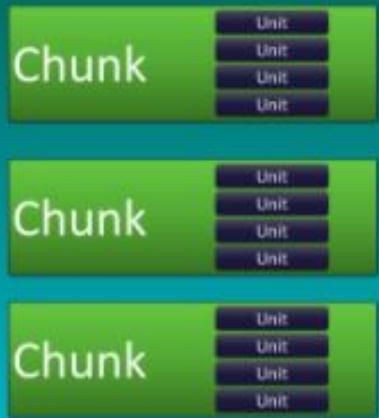
Batch



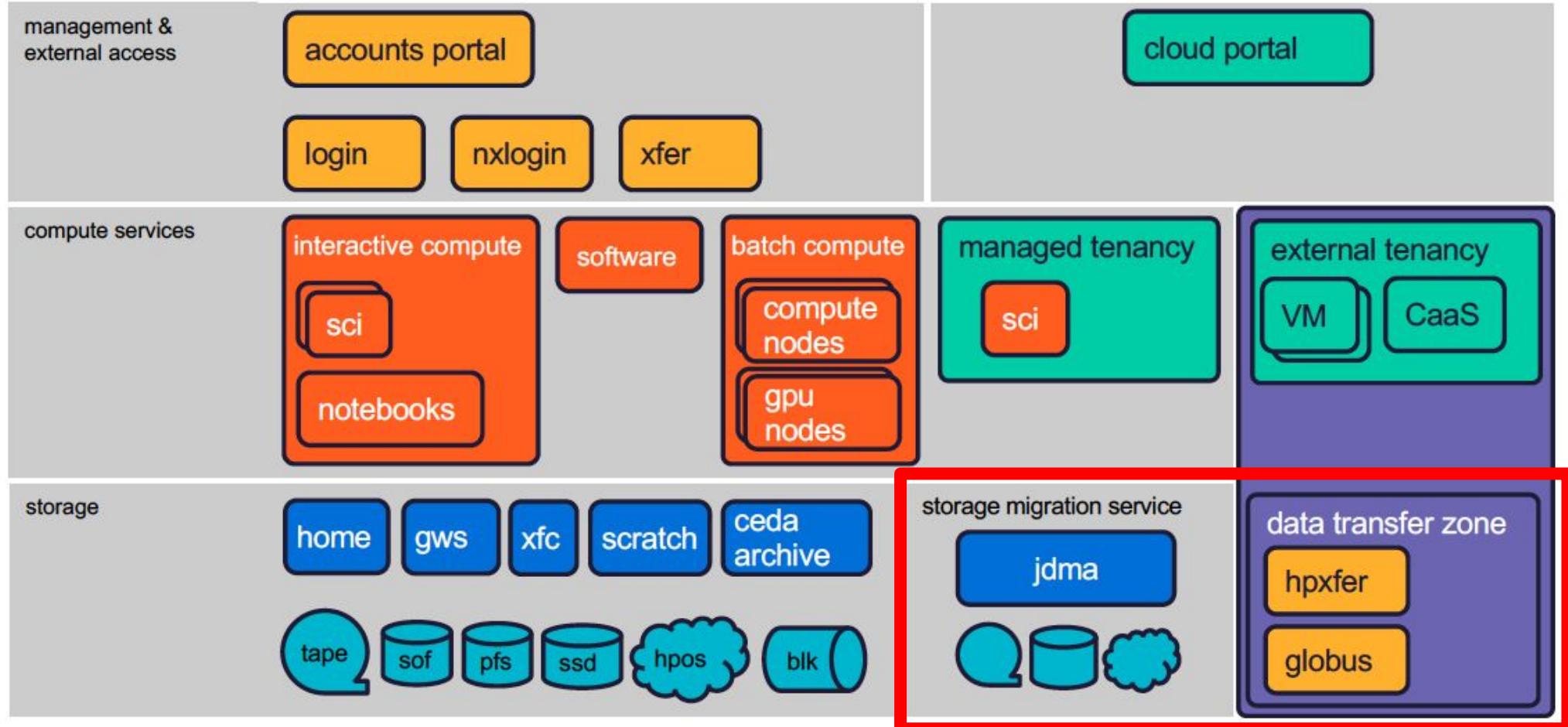
Batch



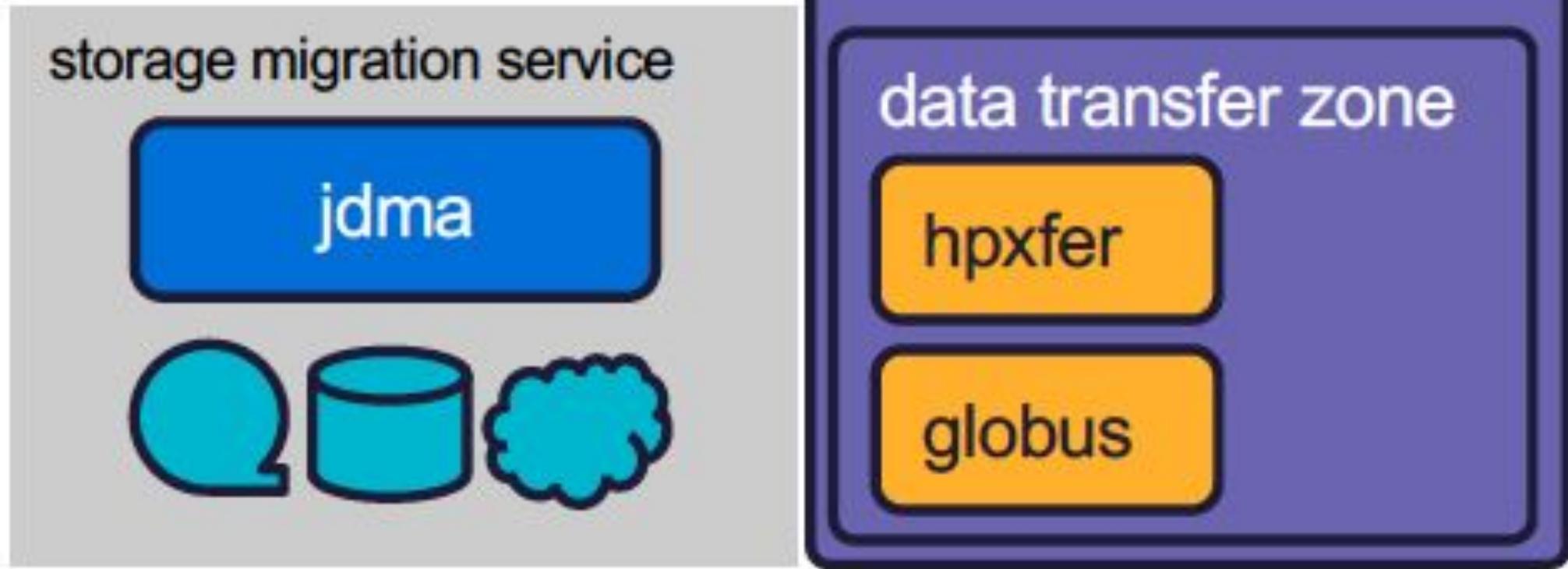
Batch



JASMIN Services



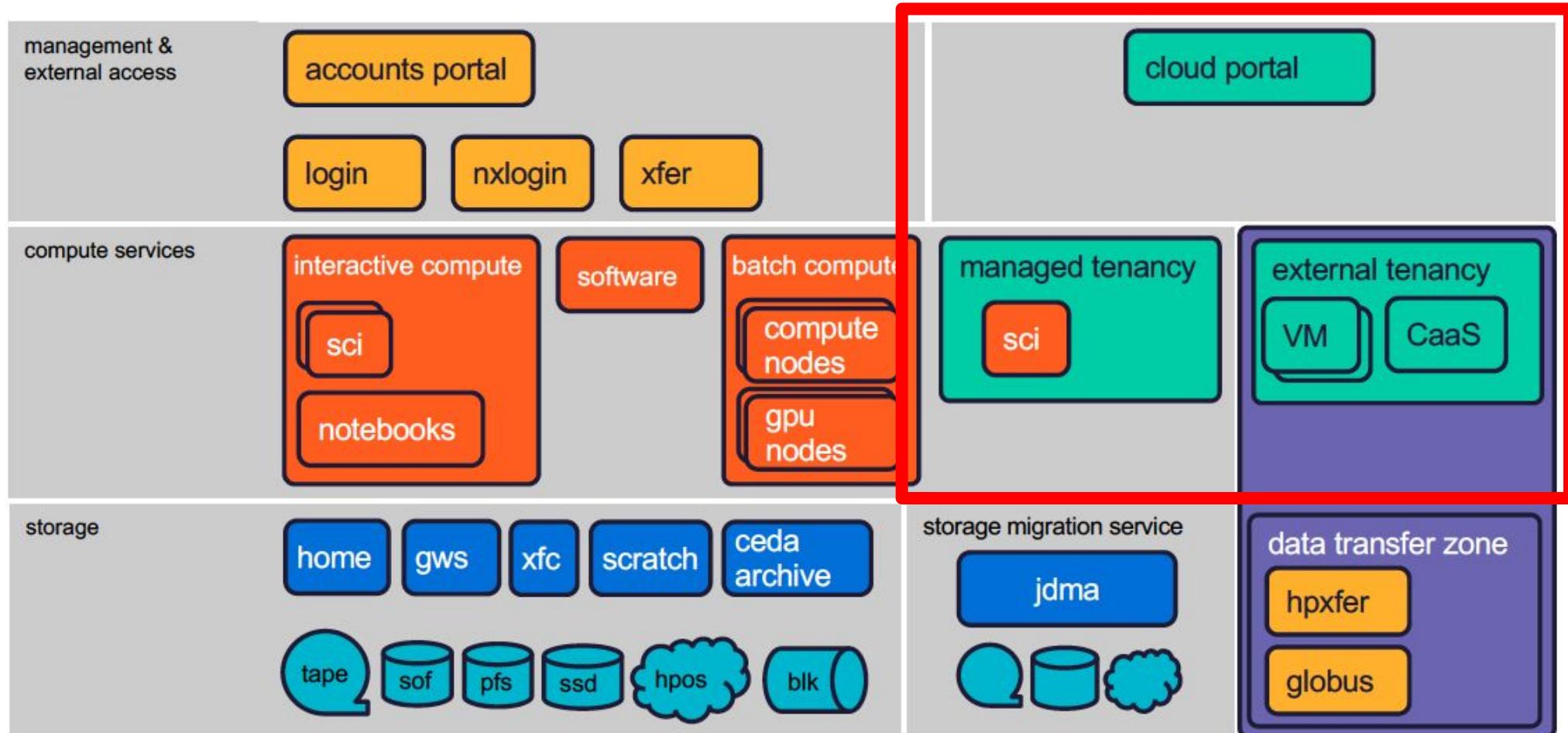
JASMIN: data transfer and migration



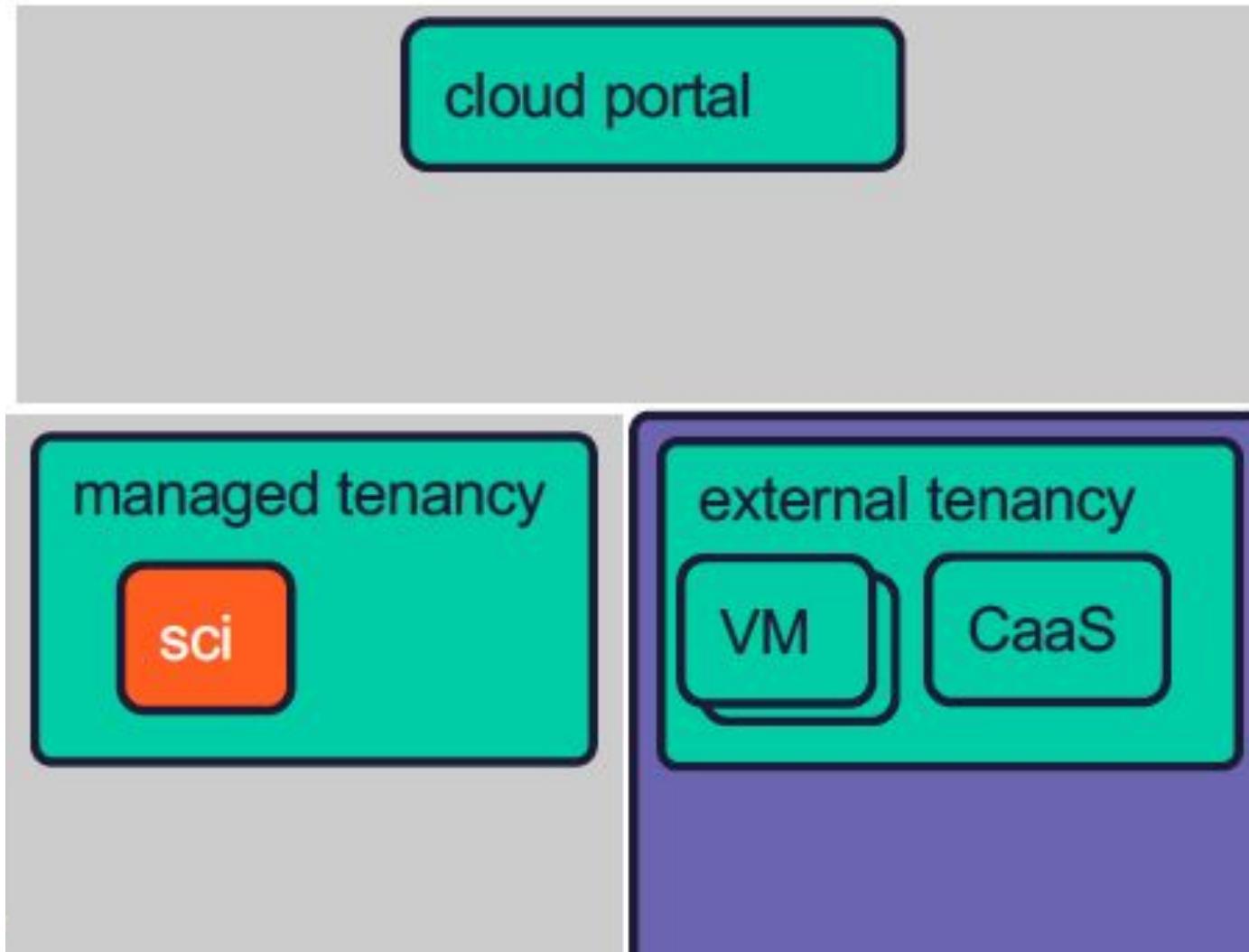
Issues related to data transfer and migration

- Use the best tool for the job
- Use the best transfer protocol
- Use the best server/service
- Incremental backup is required:
 - But hard to provide
 - Requires walking of the file-system (expensive because of parallel disk management of file-system metadata)
- Important question: "Do you need to move the data at all?"
- Can we reduce volumes using WPS subsetting, opendap etc?

JASMIN Services



JASMIN: cloud



JASMIN: cloud

JASMIN Cloud Portal Production Cloud ▾ ceda-sci-M ▾ Signed in as **astephen** (sign out)

ceda-sci-M

Overview Machines Volumes

Machines

Volumes

External IPs

CPUs

13% 0% 100% 10%

1 of 8 used 0 of 8 used 1 of 1 used 8 of 8 used

Signed in as **mpryor** (sign out)

Create a new cluster

1 Cluster type 2 Cluster options

Cluster Type	Description
Gluster	Shared storage cluster using the Gluster filesystem.
Identity Manager	Identity manager for clusters using FreeIPA and Keycloak.
Kubernetes	Single-master Kubernetes cluster using Rancher Kubernetes Engine (RKE).
NFS	NFS shared storage server.
Pangeo	The Pangeo software stack running on Kubernetes.
Slurm	Batch cluster running the Slurm workload manager.

bas-caas-im bas-pangeo 2 clusters Actions... Actions...

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Science and
Technology
Facilities Council Natural
Environment
Research Council

Benefits of CaaS

- Dedicated clusters for your project
 - No competing for job slots with other users
- Clustering software like Kubernetes and Slurm is difficult to configure
 - Let CaaS do it for you!
- Cluster manager still gets root access
 - Apply customisations on top of CaaS-managed clusters
- Your users do not have to be JASMIN users
 - CaaS provides an identity management portal for your tenancy
 - Identities are integrated across all clusters in a tenancy
- Supports additional functionality
 - Use Kubernetes to build services for end users
 - Run a Jupyter notebook platform for your project



Issues related to cloud compute

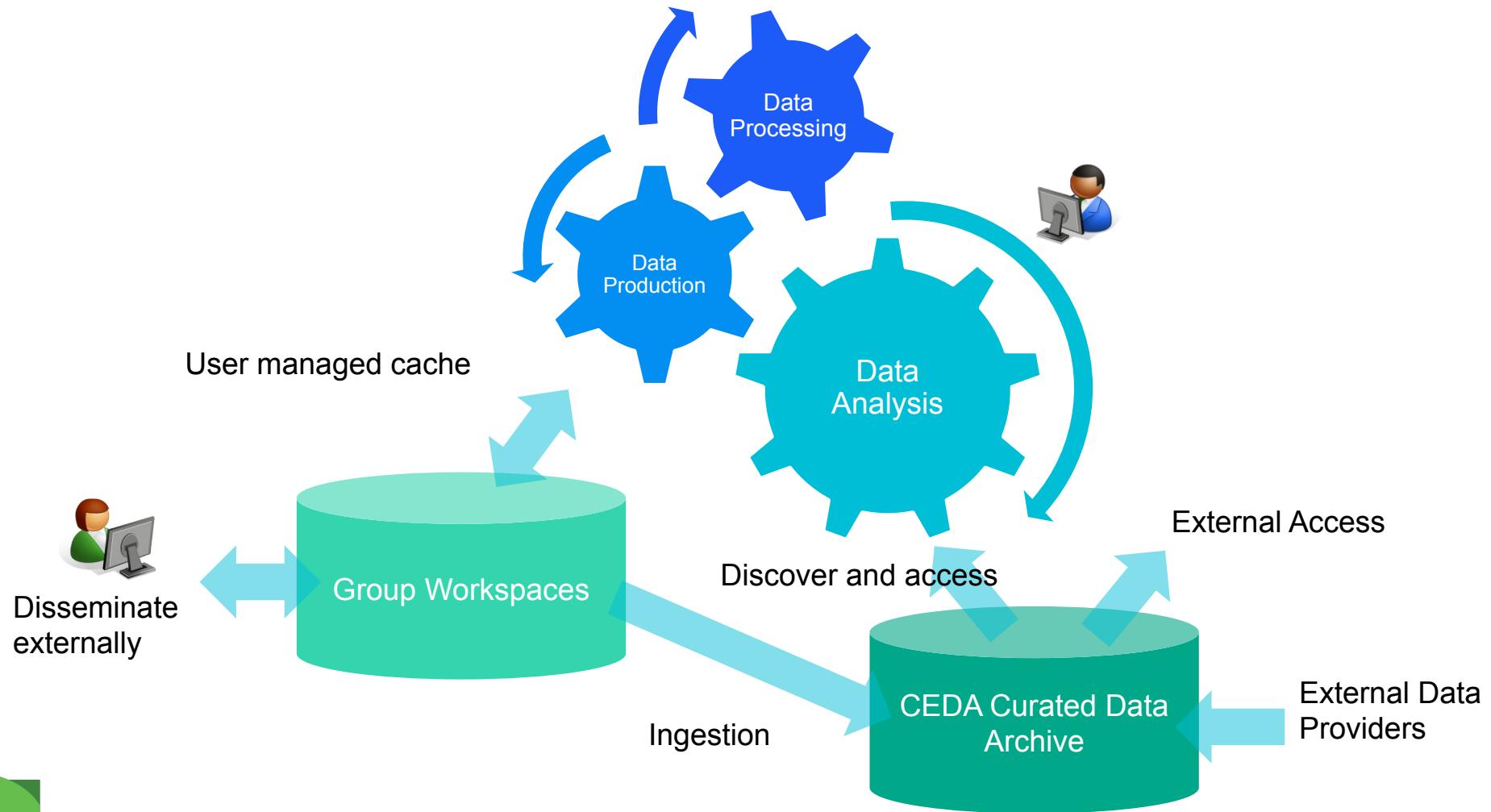
Background:

- Compute-as-a-Service (CaaS) environments in JASMIN Cloud
- Users running PANGEO and other Notebook environments
- Local storage and access to the JASMIN Object Store

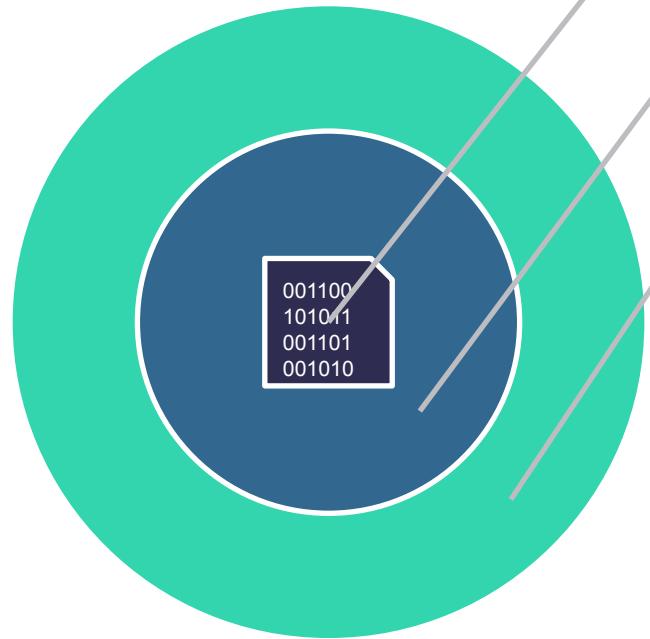
Requirements:

- Provide scalable clusters for processing - e.g. enabling Dask for high-performance parallel data access and processing
 - In reality: resource implications to meet a range of different usage modes

Common use case: Data Analysis and Sharing



Customisation and Environments

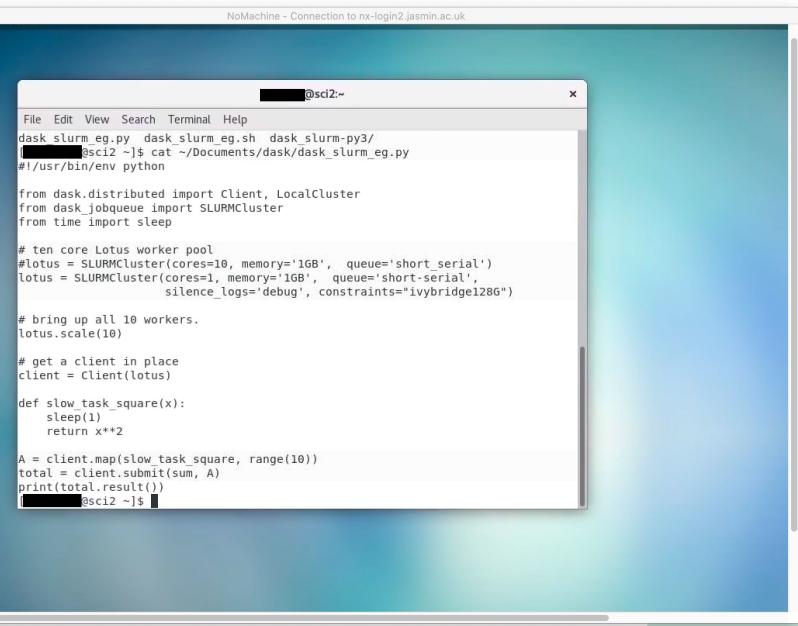


My code - I can control it ☺

Operating System - I can access a limited set of functionality from

JASMIN Infrastructure – fixed set of services providing resources that I can use

Customisation Evolution



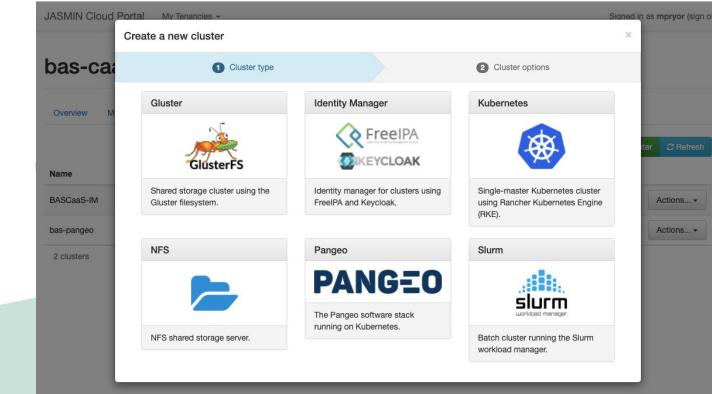
Sci Analysis VMs

- static resources



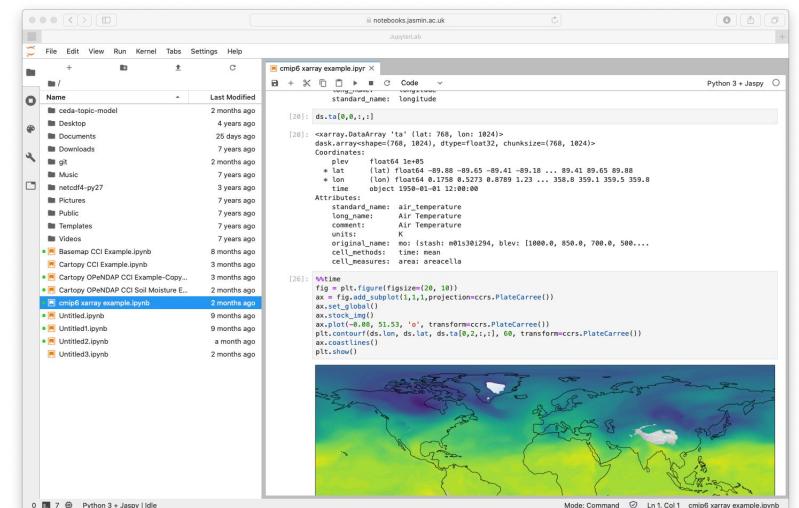
Manage-your-own Sci Analysis VMs

- Dynamic but fixed configuration
 - Uses JASMIN Cloud



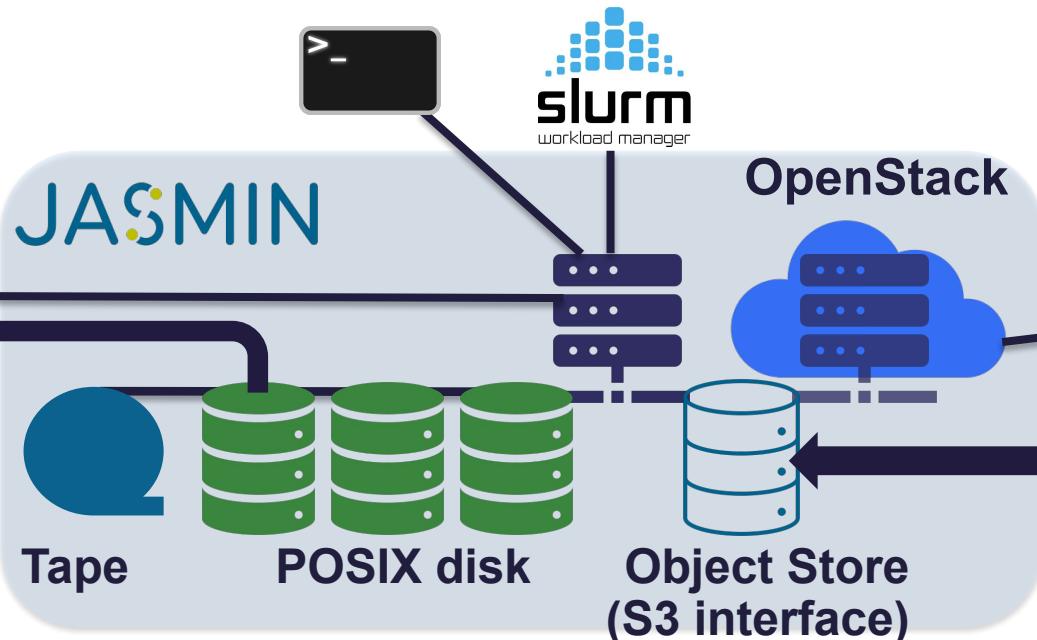
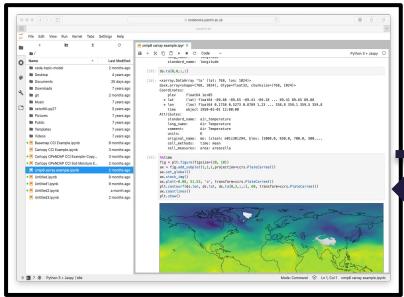
Cluster-as-a-Service

- custom environments from building blocks
 - On top of JASMIN Cloud

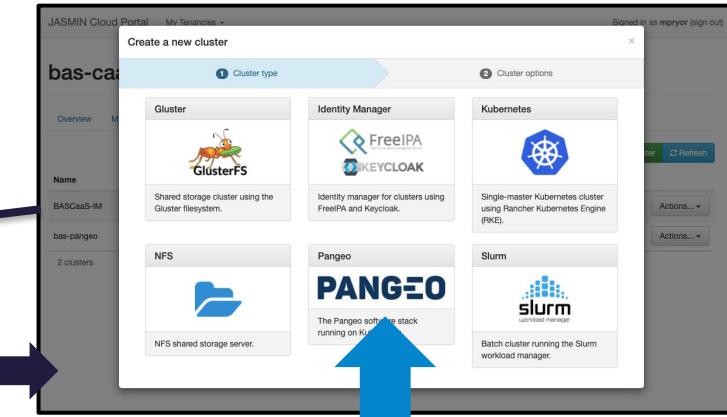


Bringing it all together: DTEP Climate Impact Explorer

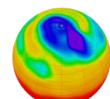
Notebook Service



JASMIN Cluster-as-a-Service (CaaS)



**CLIMATE
IMPACT EXPLORER**
DIGITAL TWIN EARTH PRECURSOR



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Atmospheric Science
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Earth Observation
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Summary

- In the last decade, JASMIN has gone from an idea to a major platform in the UK scientific computing landscape
- Co-location of data and code is key
- Providing a variety of storage and processing solutions:
 - meets the needs of many users
 - requires significant effort (and therefore funding) to maintain/develop
- Tensions when supporting scientific users:
 - Must be flexible/scalable: we want to facilitate cutting-edge science
 - Must be pragmatic: users will generate requirements + find loopholes
- The future:
 - Mix of POSIX, object store and tape
 - Mix of traditional batch and new scalable processing (cloud)
 - More solutions that don't need to access the files until required: improved search and lazy evaluation

Thank you!

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GitHub - [@agstephens](https://github.com/agstephens)

Websites:

- www.ceda.ac.uk
- www.jasmin.ac.uk

