Getting Started with OmniSci and PostGIS resources on Harvard's Cannon Computation Cluster - DRAFT

This work was funded by OmniSci Technologies and by NSF grants #1841403 and 2027540.

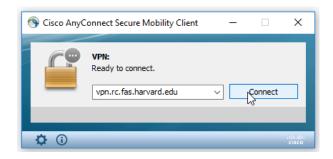
This is a guide for researchers interested in using OmniSci and PostGIS resources on Harvards' Cluster. Additional details are available here: https://github.com/cga-harvard/GIS Apps on HPC/wiki. Note: In addition to the tools CGA is adding to the cluster, OmniSci and PostGIS, the cluster has a wide range of powerful tools available: https://portal.rc.fas.harvard.edu/p3/build-reports/

You will need a Harvard account to start. Please follow instructions here for obtaining an FASRC account:

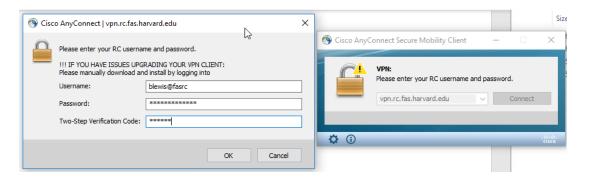
https://docs.rc.fas.harvard.edu/kb/how-do-i-get-a-research-computing-account/

Once you have an account:

Open VPN connection to FASRC



Use FASRC username, password, and two-step verification code.



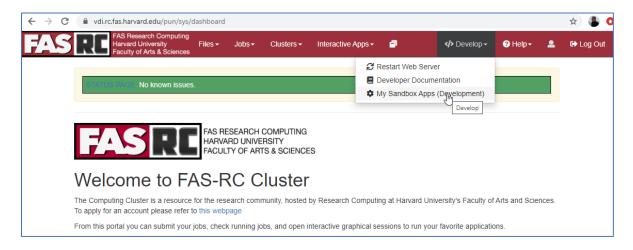
Start OmniSci or PostGIS instance on FASRC

Enter this URL from your browser, rather than clicking on link.

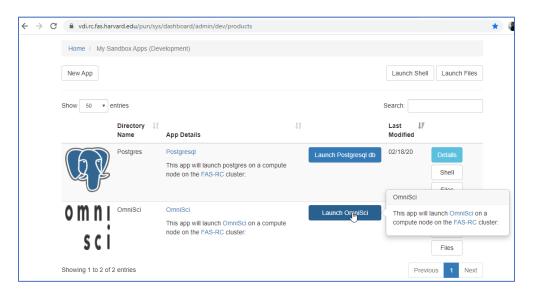
https://vdi.rc.fas.harvard.edu/.

If you are prompted for a user name and password, use your base FASRC user name, in this example it would be "blewis" and enter the same password you used for making your VPN connection.

You will be redirected to this page. Go to "My Sandbox Apps".



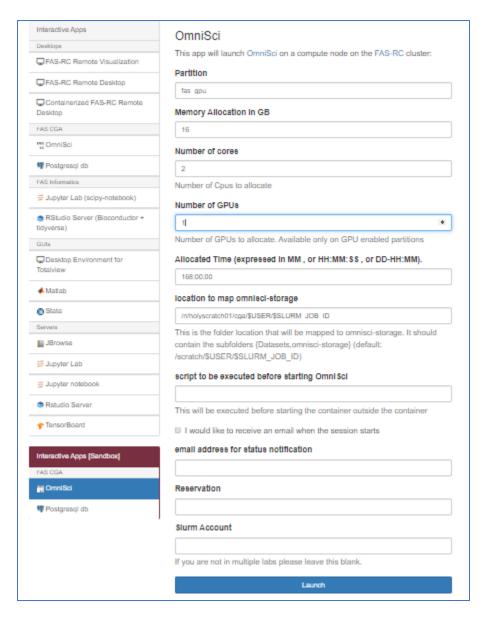
Which is this URL: https://vdi.rc.fas.harvard.edu/pun/sys/dashboard/admin/dev/products Where you will see two options, Postres and OmniSci.



To start OmniSci, click on "Launch OmniSci" to start new server running OmniSci. Configure OmniSci Instance using the following parameters. Based on our experience to receive a server quickly, choose:

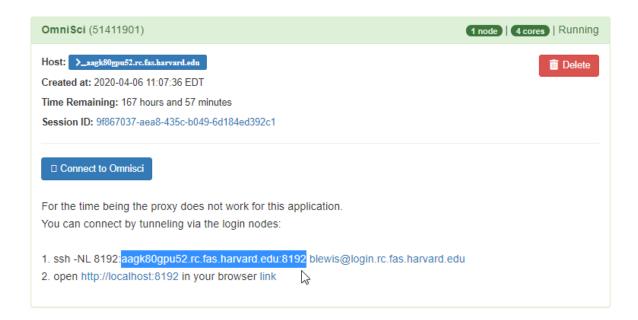
- For Partition choose "gpu"
- For Memory Allocation choose max of 256 GB
- For number of cores choose max of 2.
- For Number of GPUs choose 1.

- For allocated time choose 1 week of hours.
- Leave rest of fields as they are.



The instance generally takes a few minutes to launch. Once it is launched, go here to see your instance(s) running.

https://vdi.rc.fas.harvard.edu/pun/sys/dashboard/batch connect/sessions



Note your instance name and port: aagk80gpu52.rc.fas.harvard.edu:8192.

You will use them to create a tunnel to access server running OmniSci Immerse via a browser.

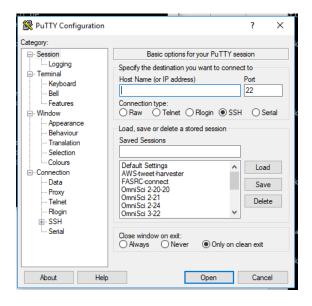
Create VPN Tunnel to new Instance

You will use this information to create a tunnel using putty Windows (Putty) or Linux command line ssh -NL aagk80gpu52.rc.fas.harvard.edu:8192blewis@login.rc.fas.harvard.edu

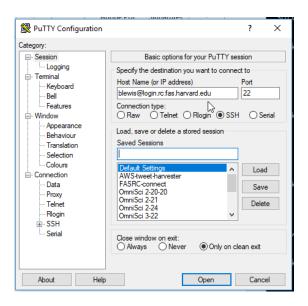
and this information to access Immerse once you have created the tunnel open http://localhost:8192 your browser link

Creating tunnel using Putty

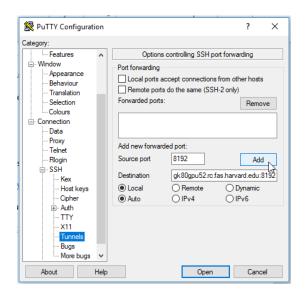
Open Putty:

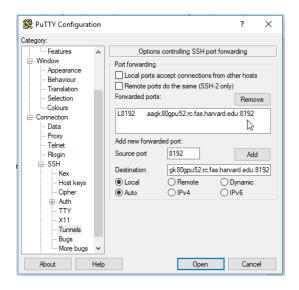


Add user name/host name, and port:



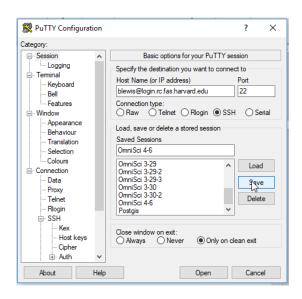
Go to SSH, then Tunnel. Past in your instance name and port, click Add:





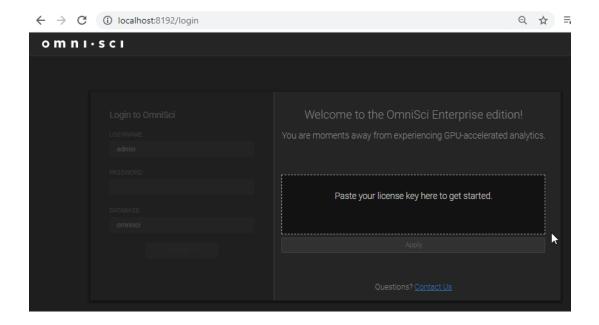
Save your settings. Go to Sessions and give a name for the session, click Save.

As long as this instance exists, you can quickly create a tunnel to it using Putty and your saved setting.



The default life of an instance is one week. It is possible to extend an instance for a longer period of time by making a request to FASRC admins. It also may be possible to request machines with more RAM and CPUs.

Accessing OmniSci Immerse from your browser via the tunnel

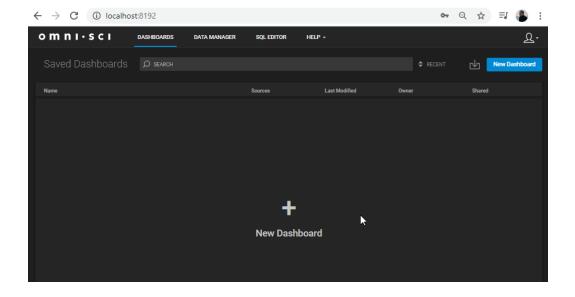


Paste in License Key and click Apply.

Login using user name and password

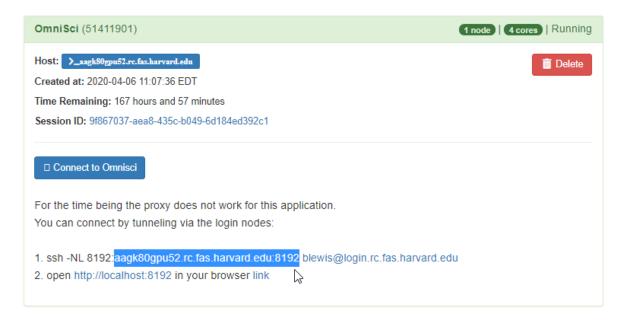
Login to OmniSci
USERNAME
admin
PASSWORD
DATABASE
omnisci
CONNECT

Now you can start loading data and building dashboards

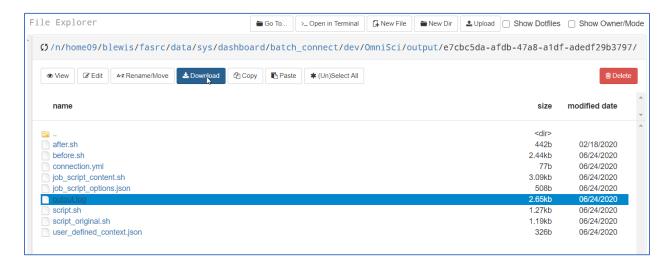


Running scripts

For any script you run which accesses your omnisci instance you will need to update the correct port in the script to use to access the OmniSci backend for loading data. This backend TCP port you will obtain by clicking on the Session ID.



Which will take you to this page of information about the instance you just created. Click on "output.log" and click "Download". Open log file.



Scroll to bottom and you will find the Backend TCP. In this case it is 8872.

```
output (11).log - Notepad

File Edit Format View Help

7:40 EDT 2020+ export SING_GPU=+ SING_GPU
.conf -B /etc/sssd/ -B /var/lib/sss -B /e
isci.confBackend TCP: localhost:8872Back
```

Running Scripts

Before running processes you must ssh to your GPU instance after logging in to FASRC. Example: ssh aagk80gpu46.rc.fas.harvard.edu

Or another example from the actual command line:

```
[blewis@boslogin01 geotweets]$ ssh holygpu2c0710.rc.fas.harvard.edu
Last login: Wed Jun 24 15:36:20 2020 from boslogin04.rc.fas.harvard.edu
[blewis@holygpu2c0710 ~]$
```

- 1. Connect to your compute node
- 2. For scripts involving OmniSci, PostGIS, and geotweets:
 - a. Load Conda: module load Anaconda3/5.0.1-fasrc02
- 3. Create environment, activate env and install libraries
 - a. conda create -n geotweets python=3.6
 - b. source activate geotweets
 - c. pip install pandas
 - d. pip install geopandas
 - e. pip install numpy
 - f. pip install shapely
 - g. pip install pymapd
- 4. Change the input file name to your CSV and run the script
 - a. python3 /n/holyscratch01/cga/dkakkar/scripts/geotweets.py

For more details please see Wiki https://github.com/cga-harvard/GIS Apps on HPC/wiki.

Useful Links:

- Intro to the Cannon Cluster https://www.rc.fas.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Intro-to-Cannon.pdf
- FASRC Quick Start Guide https://docs.rc.fas.harvard.edu/kb/quickstart-guide/
- Create Account and Access FAQ https://docs.rc.fas.harvard.edu/kb/access-and-login/
- How to Run Jobs https://docs.rc.fas.harvard.edu/kb/running-jobs/
- SLURM Commands https://docs.rc.fas.harvard.edu/kb/convenient-slurm-commands/
- HUIT Security Policy https://security.harvard.edu/
- Research Data Security Policy https://vpr.harvard.edu/pages/harvard-research-data-security-policy