



Accelerating Data Science Workflows with Kubernetes









Presenter

- ▶ Dr. J. Alex Hurt
 - Research Assistant Professor
 - ► Computer Vision, Geospatial Data Analysis, & High-Performance Computing
 - ▶ University of Missouri
 - ► Center for Geospatial Intelligence
 - ▶ Dept. of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
 - Several years of experience both using and teaching Docker and K8s concepts to researchers and educators around the country as part of NSF-funded GP-ENGINE project (https://gp-engine.umsystem.edu)
 - ► Lab GitHub: https://github.com/MUAMLL
 - ▶ Repo for this Tutorial: https://github.com/MUAMLL/SDSS2025





Learning Objectives

- ► Introduction to Kubernetes: Container Orchestration
- ► Kubernetes Architecture: Control Plane vs. Worker Node
- KubeCTL: Interfacing with K8s
- ► K8s Resource Types
 - ▶ PVCs, Pods, Jobs, & Services
- Provisioning Resources
 - ► YAML Specification Files
- Data Science Workflows in K8s
 - ▶ SKLearn
 - Jupyter
 - ► GPU-enabled Workflows: PyTorch
- Automation with Kubernetes
 - ▶ Using 3rd Party Libraries
 - ▶ Using the K8s Python Client





Workshop Outline

- Introduction to Kubernetes (Slides)
 - Container Orchestration
 - ► Kubernetes Architecture
 - Kubernetes Resource Types
- ▶ Interfacing with K8s: KubeCTL and YAML (Slides)
 - YAML Definition
 - ► KubeCTL introduction and syntax
- ► Introduction to K8s (Hands-On)
 - ► The National Research Platform
 - Creating persistent storage in K8s
 - Spawning a Pod
 - Creating a Job
- ► Running Data Science Workflows (Hands-On)
 - ► CPU-jobs: Sci-Kit Learn
 - ▶ Interactive Pods: Jupyter
 - ► GPU-jobs: PyTorch
- Automation with Kubernetes (Slides)
 - ▶ Using 3rd Party Libraries: Jinja2
 - ▶ Using the Kubernetes Python Client
- Automating K8s Job Creation (Hands-On)
 - Using the Kubernetes Python Client





Introduction to Kubernetes

What is Kubernetes and what is it used for

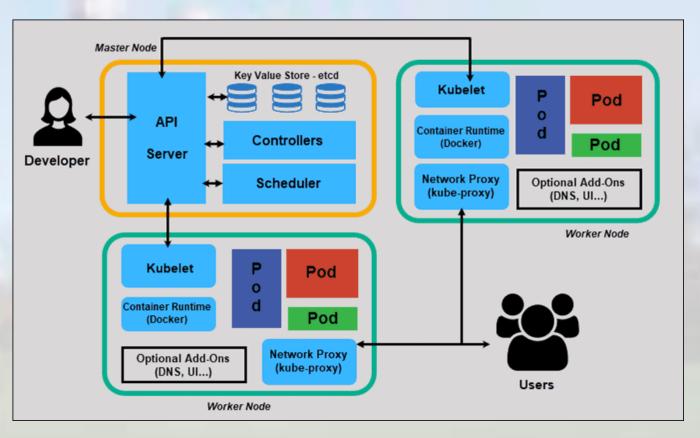




Kubernetes

- ► Kubernetes, also known as K8s, is an open-source system for automating deployment, scaling, and management of containerized applications.¹
- Kubernetes enables both simple and complex container orchestration
- Kubernetes cluster has two main components
 - ▶ Master node
 - ▶ Worker node





^{1. &}lt;a href="https://kubernetes.io/">https://kubernetes.io/

^{2.} Image: https://phoenixnap.com/kb/understanding-kubernetes-architecture-diagrams

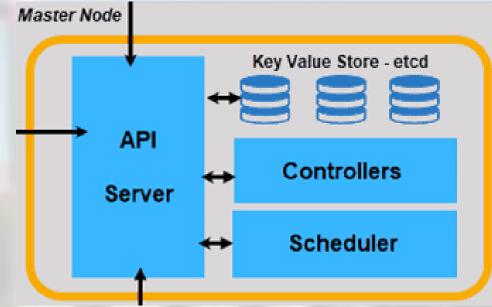




Kubernetes

Master node

- Also known as the Control Plane, it is responsible for managing the state of the cluster
- API server: interface between master node and the rest of the cluster
- etcd: distributed key-value store that stores the cluster's persistent information
- Scheduler: responsible for scheduling pods onto the working nodes
- Controller manager: responsible for running controllers that manages the state of the clusters such as replication controller and deployment controller



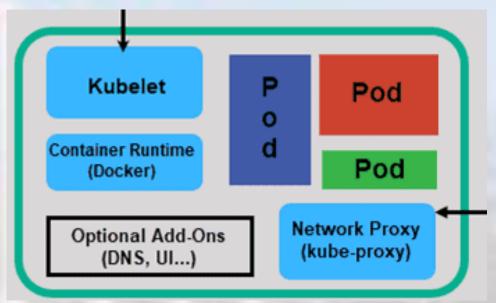




Kubernetes

Worker node

- ► The physical machine where the operations takes place, it can run one or multiple pods
- ► Kubelet: deamon that runs each working node
- Container runtime: is responsible for pulling images from the registry, starting and stopping containers, and managing the container resources
- kube-proxy: responsible for routing traffic to the correct pod and provides load balancing so that the traffic is distributed evenly between the pods



^{1. &}lt;a href="https://kubernetes.io/">https://kubernetes.io/

^{2.} Image: https://phoenixnap.com/kb/understanding-kubernetes-architecture-diagrams





Kubernetes concepts

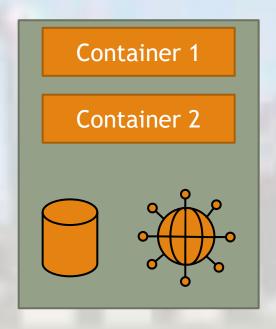
Node, pod, persistent volume, job, deployment, service





Key Kubernetes Concepts Pod

- ▶ Pods are the basic scheduling unit of K8s.
- Pods consist of one or more containers running inside. Each pod has a unique IP address to enable micro services or applications
- Pods can run custom scripts (initcontainer) at runtime to initialize the pod
- Pods generally have limitations on allocated resources and max runtime
- Pods are stateless, meaning all data uploaded or generated by the pod is deleted when the pod terminates

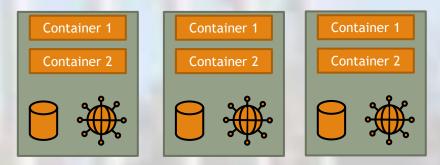






Key Kubernetes Concepts ReplicaSet and Deployment

- ▶ ReplicaSet its purpose is to maintain a stable set of replica Pods running at any given time. ¹
- Deployment is a higher-level concept that manages ReplicaSets and provides declarative updates to Pods along with a lot of other useful features.¹



It is recommended to use Deployment instead of ReplicaSets





Key Kubernetes Concepts Jobs

- ► A Job creates one or more Pods and will continue to retry execution of the Pods until a specified number of them successfully terminate.¹
- A job has virtually access to unlimited resources and can run for extended periods of time
- ► A job may consist of one pod or multiple pods working in parallel
- Deleting a job will automatically delete its corresponding pod
- A job can create a new pod(s) if any of its pod(s) is deleted or failed for any reason.
- ► Similar to pods, jobs are stateless





Key Kubernetes Concepts Persistent volume

- ► To maintain the data generated a persistent volume (storage) is needed
- A persistent volume is storage on the cluster that has been provisioned by an administrator or dynamically provisioned using storage classes. 1
- ► There exists different classes of persistent volumes such as:
 - ▶ cephfs
 - ► Fibre Channel storage
 - NFS storage
- ► There are different access modes:
 - ▶ ReadWriteOnce
 - ReadOnlyMany
 - ReadWriteMany
 - ReadWriteOncePod

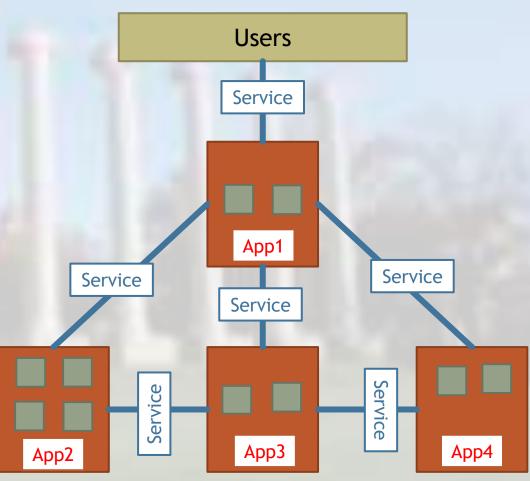




Key Kubernetes Concepts

Services

- Applications running within distinct pods communicate over the network using the unique IP address assigned to each pod
- ► Each Pod has a unique IP address assigned at runtime, which changes every time a Pod is restarted, making reliable communication less simple
- Services enable communication between applications running in pods within the cluster and with outside users if necessary
- ► There are four type of services supported by K8s
 - ▶ ClusterIP
 - NodePort
 - ▶ LoadBalancer
 - ▶ Ingress







Kubernetes usage

Basics of YAML language, kubectl installation and usage





Yet Another Markup Language (YAML)

XML	JSON	YAML
<servers></servers>	{ Servers: [{ name: Server1, owner: John, created: 123456, status: active }]	Servers: - name: Server1 owner: John created: 123456 status: active

- ► YAML is a key-value pair file format, similar to JSON and XML
- ► Kubernetes operations are performed using YAML files, known as a Spec file
 - Creating Persistent Storage
 - Creating Pods
 - Creating Jobs
 - Deploying services





Synopsis of YAML language¹

- Comments in YAML begins with the (#) character and they must be separated from other tokens by whitespaces.
- ▶ Indentation of whitespace is used to denote structure.
- Tabs are not included as indentation for YAML files.
- ▶ Lists are important
 - ▶ List members are denoted by a leading hyphen (-).
 - ▶ List members are enclosed in square brackets and separated by commas.
 - ► YAML always requires colons and commas used as list separators followed by space with scalar values.
- Associative arrays are represented using colon (:) in the format of key value pair. They are enclosed in curly braces {}.





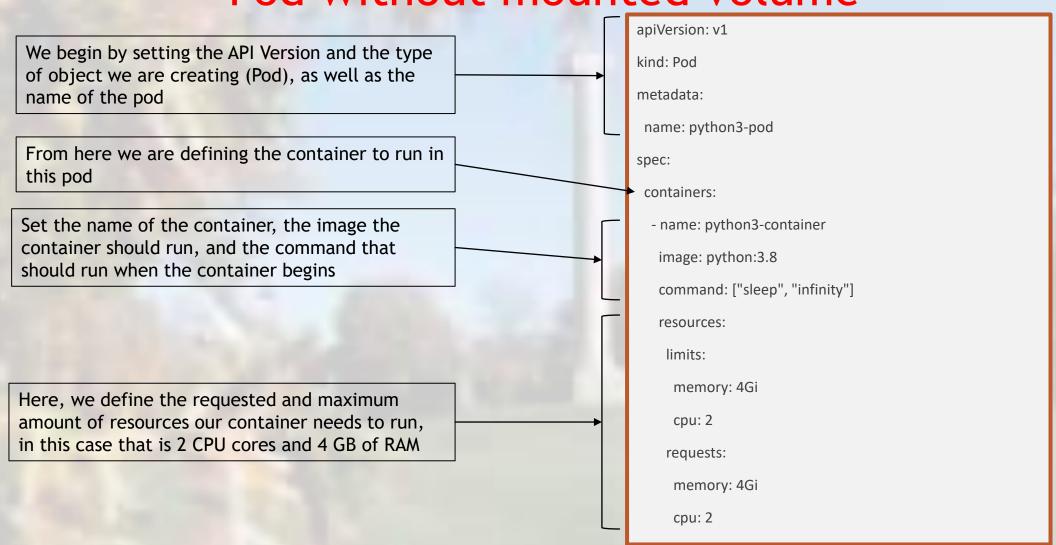
Structure of YAML file

- ► Each YAML file consists of specific parts, each part is dedicated to hold a type of information that enables us to communicate our needs to the Kubernetes cluster.
- kind tells Kubernetes the type of the resource: pod, job, service, storage
- ▶ metadata data about the resource
 - ▶ Name is most common attribute to set
- spec the attributes specified in this section depends on the kind
 - ► We will cover common spec attributes





Pod without mounted volume







Job without mounted volume

We begin by setting the API Version and the type of object we are creating (Job), as well as the name of the job

From here we are defining the pod that is to be started by this job

Set the name of the container, the image the container should run, and the command that should run when the container begins

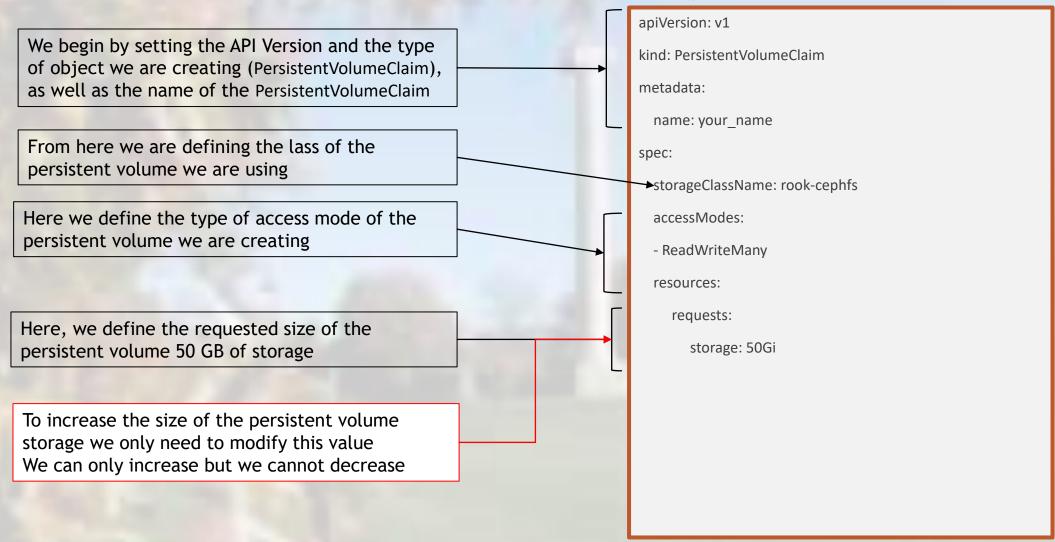
Here, we define the requested and maximum amount of resources our container needs to run, in this case that is 2 CPU cores and 4 GB of RAM







Persistent Volume (PVC) Creation





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Pod with PVC

We begin by setting the API Version and the type of object we are creating (Pod), as well as the name of the pod

From here we are defining the container to run in this pod

Set the name of the container, the image the container should run, and the command that should run when the container begins

Here, we define the requested and maximum amount of resources our container needs to run, in this case that is 2 CPU cores and 10 GB of RAM

Information of the mounted volume and how it is defined within the pod

```
kind: Pod
metadata:
name: pod-name-sso
spec:
 containers:
 - name: pod-name-sso
 image: python:3.8
  command: ["sh", "-c", "echo 'Im a new pod' && sleep infinity"]
  resources:
   limits:
    memory: 12Gi
    cpu: 2
   requests:
    memory: 10Gi
    cpu: 2
  volumeMounts:
  - mountPath: /data
   name: anes-pv
 volumes:
  - name: anes-pv
```

persistentVolumeClaim:

claimName: anes-pv

apiVersion: v1

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Job with mounted volume

We begin by setting the API Version and the type of object we are creating (Job), as well as the name of the job

From here we are defining the pod that is to be started by this job

Set the name of the container, the image the container should run, and the command that should run when the container begins

Here, we define the requested and maximum amount of resources our container needs to run, in this case that is 2 CPU cores and 4 GB of RAM

Information of the mounted volume and it is defined within the job

```
apiVersion: v1
kind: job
metadata:
 name: python3-job
spec:
 template:
   containers:
    - name: python3-pod
      image: python:3.8
      command: ["sleep", "infinity"]
      resources:
         limits:
            memory: 4Gi
            cpu: 2
         requests:
            memory: 4Gi
             cpu: 2
       volumeMounts:

    name: canada

        mountPath: /Canada
    volumes:
    - name: canada
     persistentVolumeClaim:
        claimName: canada2019-3
```





Interfacing with Kubernetes: KubeCTL installation

- https://kubernetes.io/docs/tasks/tools/
- ▶ This link provide options for installing kubectl with:
 - ► Linux
 - ▶ macOS
 - ▶ windows





Interfacing with Kubernetes: KubeCTL installation (Linux)

there are three options to installing kubectl on Linux

- Install kubectl binary with curl on Linux
- Install using native package management
- Install using other package management





Interfacing with Kubernetes: KubeCTL installation (Windows)

- ▶ There are two options to install Kubectl on windows
- Install kubectl binary with curl on Windows
- Install on Windows using Chocolatey, Scoop, or winget





Interfacing with Kubernetes: KubeCTL installation (MacOS)

- ► There are many options to install Kubectl on MacOS
- Install kubectl binary with curl on macOS
- Install with Homebrew on macOS
- •Install with Macports on macOS





Interfacing with Kubernetes: KubeCTL

With a published Docker image and prepared YAML Spec file, KubeCTL enables interaction with Kubernetes:

kubectl [command] [TYPE] [NAME] [flags]

where:

- command: Specifies the operation that you want to perform on one or more resources, for example create, get, describe, delete
- ► TYPE: Specifies the resource type, such as pod or job
- NAME: Specifies the name of the resource, or the path to a Spec file
- ▶ flags: Specifies optional flags, such as --server to specify the address and port of the API server





▶ To create pod

kubectl create -f pod.yaml kubectl apply -f pod.yaml

► To create job

kubectl create -f job.yaml kubectl apply -f job.yaml





► To check pod status

kubectl get pods

kubectl describe pod pod-name

▶ To check job status

kubectl get jobs

kubectl describe job job-name

▶ To debug pod

kubectl logs pod-name





Access Pod interactively

kubectl exec -it pod-name -- /bin/bash

- Copy data from Nautilus to local machine kubectl cp pod-name:path/to/data local/path/
- Copy data to Nautilus from local machine kubectl cp local/path/ pod-name:path/to/data
- Exit interactive Pod mode

Press ctrl+D





► To delete pod

kubectl delete -f pod.yaml Kubectl delete pod-name

► To delete job

kubectl delete -f job.yaml Kubectl delete job-name





► To create persistent volume

```
kubectl create -f pvc.yaml
Kubectl apply -f pvc.yaml
```

► To increase the size of persistent volume kubectl apply -f pvc.yaml

► To delete persistent volume

kubectl delete -f pvc.yaml kubectl delete pvc-name





National Research Platform Nautilus Hyper Cluster





A quick note on Kubernetes Clusters, the NRP, Commercial Clouds, and other K8s Clusters

- All commercial cloud providers support
 Containers and Kubernetes
- ► The concepts and examples in this tutorial may require minor modifications to adapt to other environments
- We are using the US National Research Platform solely for demonstration and tutorial purposes
- ► All Container and Kubernetes concepts are portable to commercial clouds or other research Kubernetes platforms





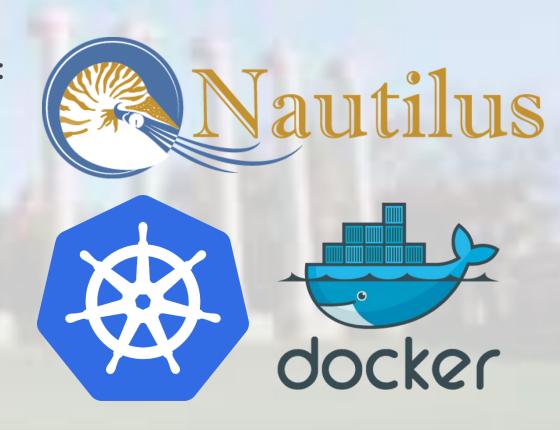
NSF NRP Nautilus HyperCluster

- ► The NSF Nautilus HyperCluster is a Kubernetes cluster with vast resources that can be utilized for various research purposes:
 - Prototyping research code
 - ► S3 cloud storage for data and models
 - Accelerated small-scale research compute
 - Scaling research compute for large scale experimentation
- ► Resources Available:

► CPU Cores: 9,769

► RAM: 167 TB

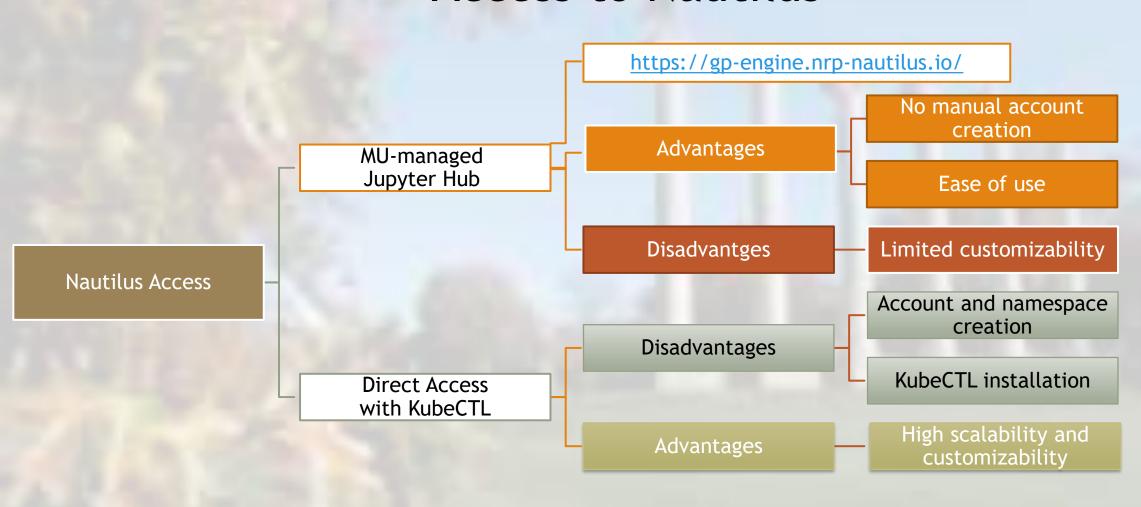
▶ NVIDIA GPUs: 1342







Access to Nautilus







Access to Nautilus

- Follow the steps in getting started
 - https://ucsd-prp.gitlab.io/userdocs/start/get-access/
- ► Step1: Access Nautilus portal at https://portal.nrp-nautilus.io
- ► Step 2: Click on login



Namespaces overview Resources

NRP Kubernetes portal

Here you can get an account in National Research Platform kubernetes portal by logging in with your university's credentials and requesting access in [matrix]

Documentation: https://docs.nationalresearchplatform.org/

You can easily join your node in our cluster - request instructions in [matrix] #general channel.

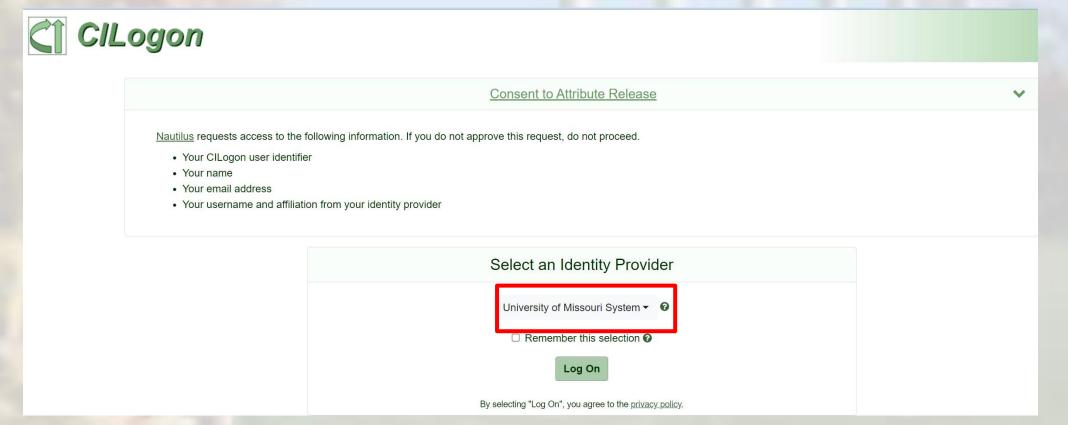
The National Research Platform currently has no storage that is suitable for HIPAA, PID, FISMA, FERPA, or protected data of any kind. Users are not permitted to store such data on NRP machines.





Access to Nautilus

- ► Follow the steps in getting started
 - https://ucsd-prp.gitlab.io/userdocs/start/get-access/
- Step 3: Select identity provider Either your institution, ORCID, GitHub, or Google

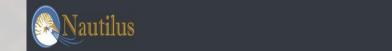




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- ► Follow the steps in getting started
 - https://ucsd-prp.gitlab.io/userdocs/start/get-access/
- ► Step 4: Contact a Nautilus Namespace Admin
 - Email needs to be visible



Namespaces overview Resources Namespace manager Storage Users Violations Perfsonar test Get config aomgc@mail.missouri.edu

- You need to be manually added to a namespace
 - ► As admins, we can add you to existing namespace or create a namespace for you





Automating Jobs in K8s using Bash and Python





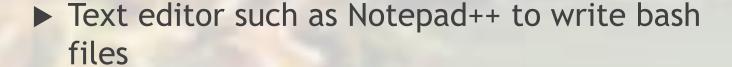
Automating GPU Jobs in K8s using Bash and Python

- Nautilus is set up for parallel computing allowing for the running of multiple jobs at the same time
- Automation of jobs handling (submission, deletion) is key for the smooth operation
- ▶ There are multiple ways to automate the job handle processes
- ▶ We present here two ways:
 - ▶ jinja + bash
 - ► Nautilus Job Launcher library





- We need a Python and/or Jupyter environment with these libraries:
 - yaml: to read/write yaml files
 - jinja2: to create and update templates that can be used to generate yaml files
 - os: to generate directories















- ► from jinja2 import Template
- Define template
 - ▶ It needs to be a multi line string
 - ► The variables to be updated are denoted by double braces {{.}}}
 - ► The name of variable between the braces is used as reference
- j2_template1 = Template(template1)

```
template1 ='''apiVersion: batch/v1
kind: Job
metadata:
 name: anes-job-train-exp{{ exp_num }} {{ network }} -{{ data_type }} -pretrain
spec:
  template:
    spec:
      containers:
      - name: anes-pod-train-exp[{ exp_num }] -{{ network }} -{{ data_type }}-pretr
        image: gitlab-registry.nrp-nautilus.io/jhurt/cgisegment:e98e742e
        command: ["/bin/sh","-c"]
        args:
        - python3 main.py --task train --output_dir /canada2019-3/{{sourcedir}}/
        volumeMounts:
        - name: canada2019-3
          mountPath: /canada2019-3
        resources:
            limits:
              memory: 12Gi
              cpu: "4"
              nvidia.com/gpu: 2
            requests:
              memory: 12Gi
              cpu: "4"
              nvidia.com/gpu: 2
      volumes:
      - name: canada2019-3
        persistentVolumeClaim:
            claimName: canada2019-3
      restartPolicy: OnFailure
  backoffLimit:
```





- We use a loop to auto generate the files
- We need to define variables in a dictionary where:
 - ► Keys: variable names as defined in the template
 - ▶ Values: values of the variables for this iteration
- Apply values to the template using: output_file = j2_template1.render(data)
- Save the yaml file to the appropriate location

```
for exp in list(range(8)):
    exp num = exp + 1
   if os.path.exists('{}/exp{}'.format(source_dir,exp_num)):
        shutil.rmtree('{}/exp{}'.format(source_dir,exp_num))
    os.mkdir('{}/exp{}'.format(source_dir,exp_num))
   for folder in folders_list:
                  = folder.split('_')
        parts
        network = parts[0]
        data_type = parts[1]
        data = {'sourcedir':source_dir,
                'exp_num':exp_num,
                'network':network,
                'data_type':data_type,
                'outputdir':dict1[folder][0],
                'configfile':dict1[folder][1]}
        output file = j2 template1.render(data)
        fileout = open('{}/exp{}/job_exp{}_{}.yaml'.format(source_dir,exp_num
        fileout.write(output file)
        fileout.close()
```





- Now that all yaml files have been generated we need bash files to
 - ▶ Submit jobs
 - Delete jobs after they finish
- We will write a bash file for each operation
 - ▶ Bash for job submission
 - ▶ Bash for deletion of completed jobs
- Execute bash file in the terminal

```
ECHO OFF
     Rem This batch file executes kubectl commands to create training jobs
     ::echo %kubectl%
     SET exp list=2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18
     (for %%a in (%exp list%) do (
         echo %%a
10
11
         kubectl create -f experiments\exp%%a/job exp%%a deeplab img.yaml
         kubectl create -f experiments\exp%*a/job exp%*a deeplab tci.yaml
12
13
         kubectl create -f experiments\exp%%a/job exp%%a deeplab img pretrained.yaml
14
         kubectl create -f experiments\exp%%a/job exp%%a deeplab tci pretrained.yaml
15
16
         kubectl create -f experiments\exp*%a/job exp*%a unet imq.yaml
17
         kubectl create -f experiments\exp%*a/job exp%*a unet tci.yaml
18
         kubectl create -f experiments\exp%*a/job exp%%a unet img pretrained.yaml
19
          kubectl create -f experiments\exp%%a/job exp%%a unet tci pretrained.yaml
20
21
     echo "batch complete"
```

```
ECHO OFF
     Rem This batch file executes kubectl commands to delete training jobs
     ::echo %kubectl%
     SET exp list=1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
      (for %%a in (%exp list%) do (
         echo %%a
10
11
         kubectl delete -f experiments 2\exp%*a/job exp%%a deeplabv3 img.yaml
12
         kubectl delete -f experiments 2\exp%%a/job exp%%a deeplabv3 tci.yaml
13
         kubectl delete -f experiments 2\exp*%a/job exp*%a deeplabv3plus imq.yaml
         kubectl delete -f experiments 2\exp%*a/job exp%*a deeplabv3plus tci.yaml
14
15
16
         kubectl delete -f experiments 2\exp%%a/job exp%%a unet imq.yaml
17
         kubectl delete -f experiments 2\exp%%a/job exp%%a unet tci.yaml
18
         kubectl delete -f experiments 2\exp%%a/job exp%%a unetplus img.yaml
19
         kubectl delete -f experiments 2\exp%%a/job exp%%a unetplus tci.yaml
20
21
     echo "batch complete"
```







- We can use bash in addition to Powershell and Jinja2 to automate K8s job launch
- Creation of template Kube Spec YAML with environment variables (preceded by \$)
- Bash scripting combined with environment variables to set the Dataset and/or Model to train and automatically launch the job

spec:
 template:
 spec:
 containers:
 - name: myContainer
 image: \$CONTAINAER_IMAGE

workingDir: \$WORKDIR

Template YAML

Dirs="mydir1 mydir2 mydir3 mydir4" Container="ubuntu:20.04"

for Dirpath in \$Dirs; do CONTAINER_IMAGE=\$Container WORKDIR=\$Dirpath envsubst < template.yml | kubectl apply -f - done

Bash Script





Nautilus Job Launcher

- ► This Nautilus Job Launcher is an open-source Python library that enables automation of launching jobs on the NRP Nautlius HyperCluster.
 - https://github.com/MU-HPDI/Nautilus-Job-Launcher
- ► Installation:
 - ▶ Use the latest .whl pushed to GitLab's PyPl repository:

pip3 install --extra-index-url https://gitlab.nrp-nautilus.io/api/v4/projects/2953/packages/pypi/simple nautiluslauncher

You can clone this repository and use pip to install it:

pip3 install nautilus-job-launcher





- ► The Nautilus Launcher can be used as
 - ▶ an application at the command line that will kick off jobs from a YAML config file
 - ▶ it can be utilized as a library integrated into other Python applications.
- You must have your Kubernetes config file in ~/.kube/config to use this library!





Command line: The job launcher is invoked as a library and uses a configuration file (YAML):

python3 -m nautiluslauncher -c cfg.yaml

➤ You can choose to perform a dryrun by passing a --dryrun flag:

python3 -m nautiluslauncher -c cfg.py --dryrun

cfg.yaml: this file contains the required configuration for the Job launcher library to work





Nautilus Job Launcher

- Configuration requires three keys:
- Namesapce (required):
 - the namespace on the Nautilus cluster you'd like to use
- ▶ Jobs (required):
 - list of dictionaries that define all of the parameters for each job
- Defaults (optional):
 - It is a starting place for all jobs in your config.

All jobs will use the defaults as the beginning configuration and then whatever is placed in

each job will be added to or override what is present in the defaults key

defaults:
 container: python:3.8
 workingDir: /mydir

jobs:

container: python:3.7

workingDir: /mydir2

container: python:3.7 workingDir: /mydir2

Key	Description	Default	Туре
job_name	The name of the job	required	str
image	The container image to use	required	str
command	The command to run when the job starts	required	str/list[str]
workingDir	Working directory when the job starts	None	str
env	The environment variables	None	dict[str, str]
volumes	The volumes to mount	None	dict[str, str]
ports	The container ports to expose	None	list[int]
gpu_types	The types of GPUs required	None	list[str]
min_cpu	Minimum # of CPU Cores	2	int
max_cpu	Max # of CPU cores	4	int
min_ram	Min GB of RAM	4	int
max_ram	Max GB of RAM	8	int
gpu	# of GPUs	0	int
shm	When true, add shared memory mount	false	bool





- ► Library usage:
- ► The Job launcher can be integrated with user's application/library
- ▶ This can be done in different ways:
 - ▶ import Job launcher into the user's scripts.
 - utilize a dictionary to configure your jobs and integrate that into your application
 - ▶ from a YAML file





import Job Launcher into the user's scripts.

```
from nautiluslauncher import Job, NautilusAutomationClient

client = NautilusAutomationClient("mynamespace")

images = ["python:3.6", "python:3.7", "python:3.8"]

for i, img in enumerate(images):
    j = Job(job_name=f"test_python_{i}", image=i, command=["python", "-c", "print('hello world')"])
    client.create_job(j)
```





Utilize a dictionary to configure your jobs

```
from nautiluslauncher import NautilusJobLauncher
my_jobs = {
    "namespace": "mynamespace",
    "jobs": [
        {"image": "python:3.6", command: ["python", "-c", "print('hello world')"], "job_name": "myjob1"}
        {"image": "python:3.7", command: ["python", "-c", "print('hello world')"], "job_name": "myjob2"}
        {"image": "python:3.8", command: ["python", "-c", "print('hello world')"], "job_name": "myjob3"}
launcher = NautilusJobLauncher(my_jobs)
launcher.run()
```





from a YAML file

```
from nautiluslauncher import NautilusJobLauncher

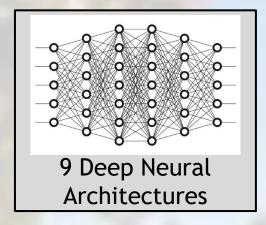
my_file = "myCfg.yam1"

launcher = NautilusJobLauncher.from_config(my_file)
launcher.run()
```



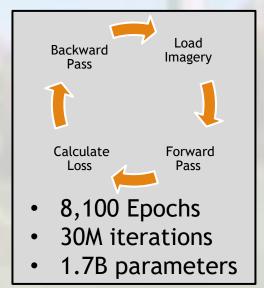


Deep Learning on Nautilus: Transformer Research

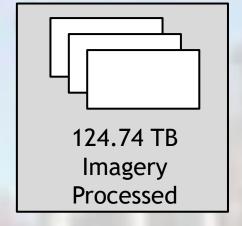




















MUAMLL/SDSS2025

► NRP Portal

https://portal.nrp-nautilus.io

► JupyterHub Instance:

https://gp-engine.nrp-nautilus.io/

► Tutorial Repository for this Tutorial:

https://github.com/MUAMLL/SDSS2025

► Git Clone Command:

git clone https://github.com/MUAMLL/SDSS2025.git