ncca RenderFarm Tool

Houdini: DOP Simulation

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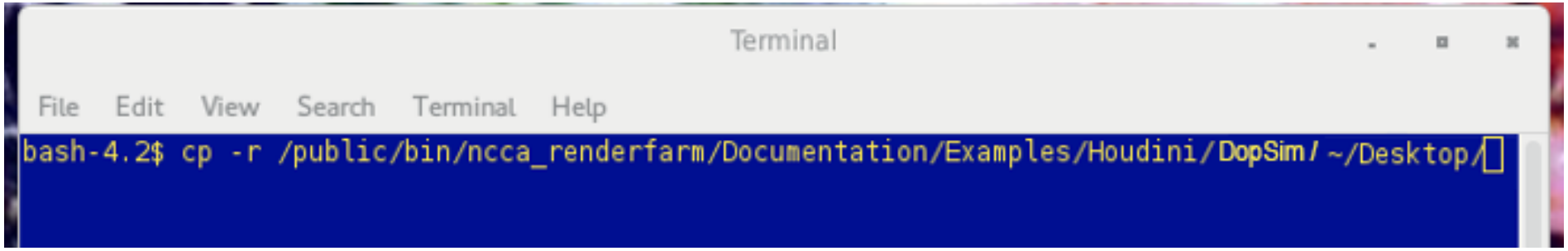
Copy the example scene

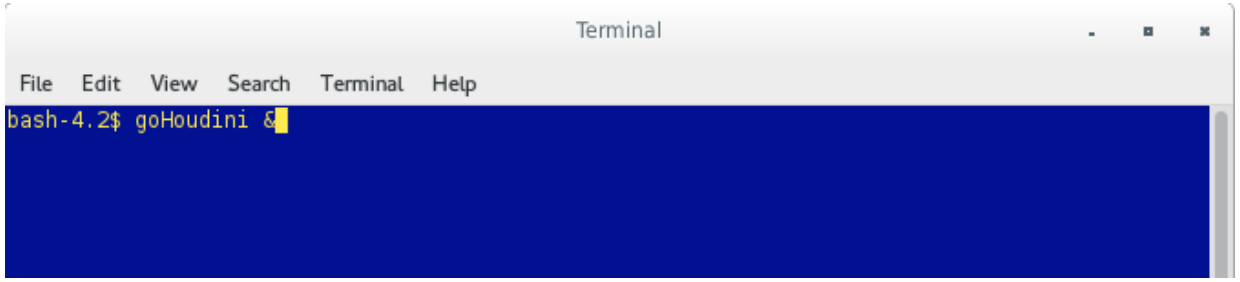
run the copy (cp) command with the recursive flag (-r)

cp –r /public/bin/ncca_renderfarm/Documentation/Examples/Houdini/DopSim/ ~/Desktop



Open Houdini

goHoudini &

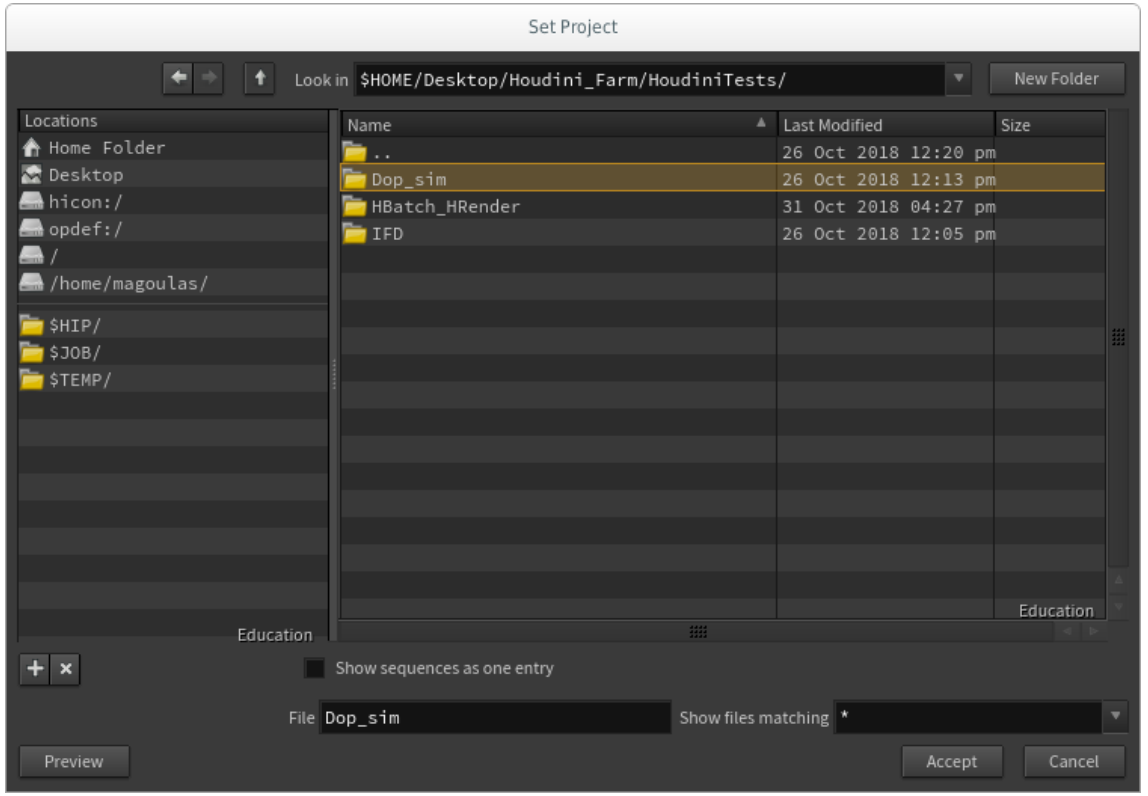


Set project directory

File -> Set Project...

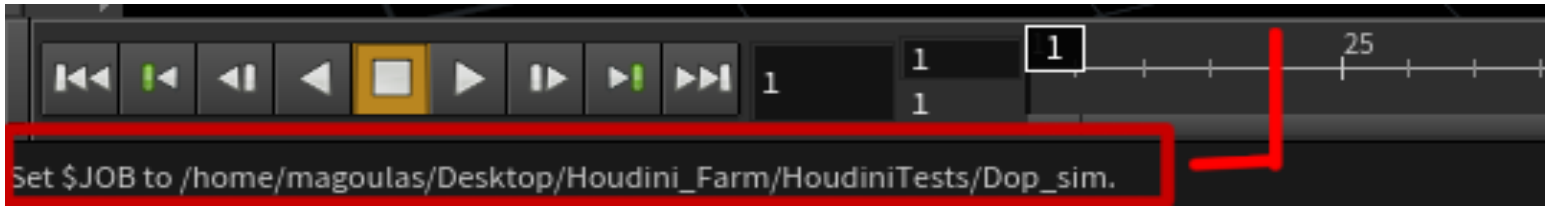
Select the directory which is parent to all the project data files and folders and click Accept.

Do not dive in the directory that you plan to store your .hip projects and project files.



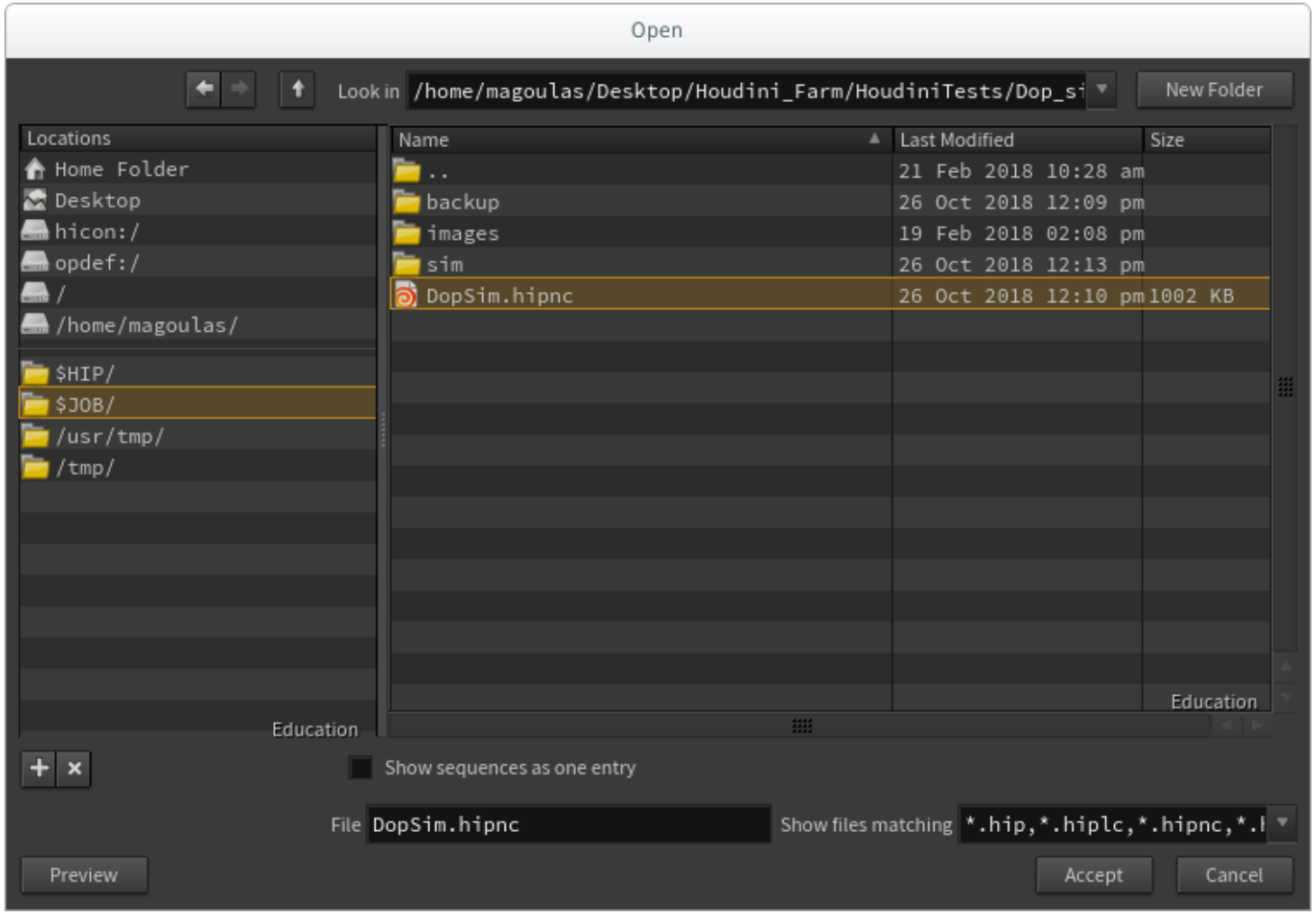
Click Accept

Now Houdini has set the folder of your project as the root folder.



Open the example scene

File -> Open -> DopSim.hipnc



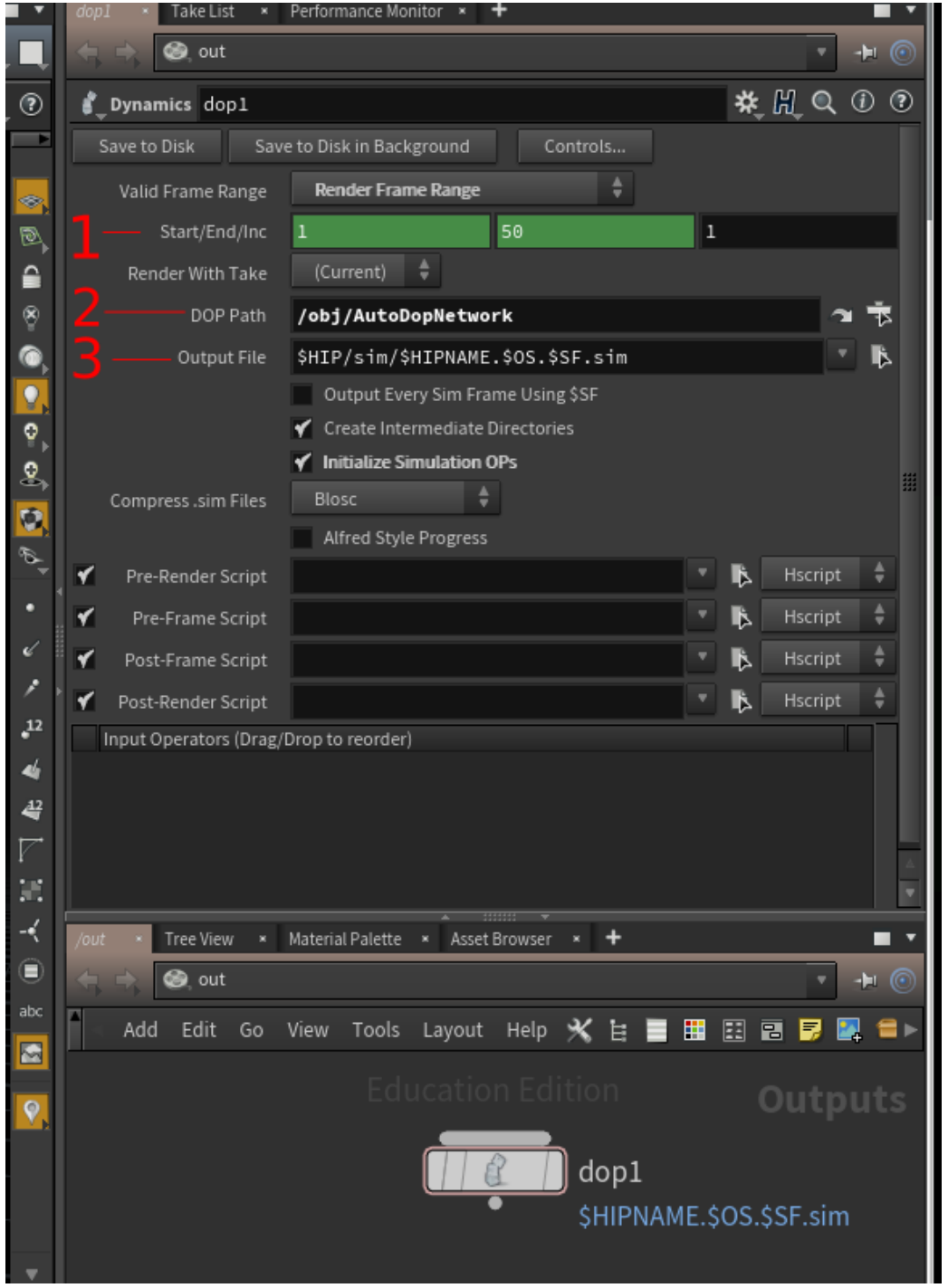
Check OUT/Dynamics Settings

Check that your Dynamics node settings are correct:

1. Select the desirable frame range

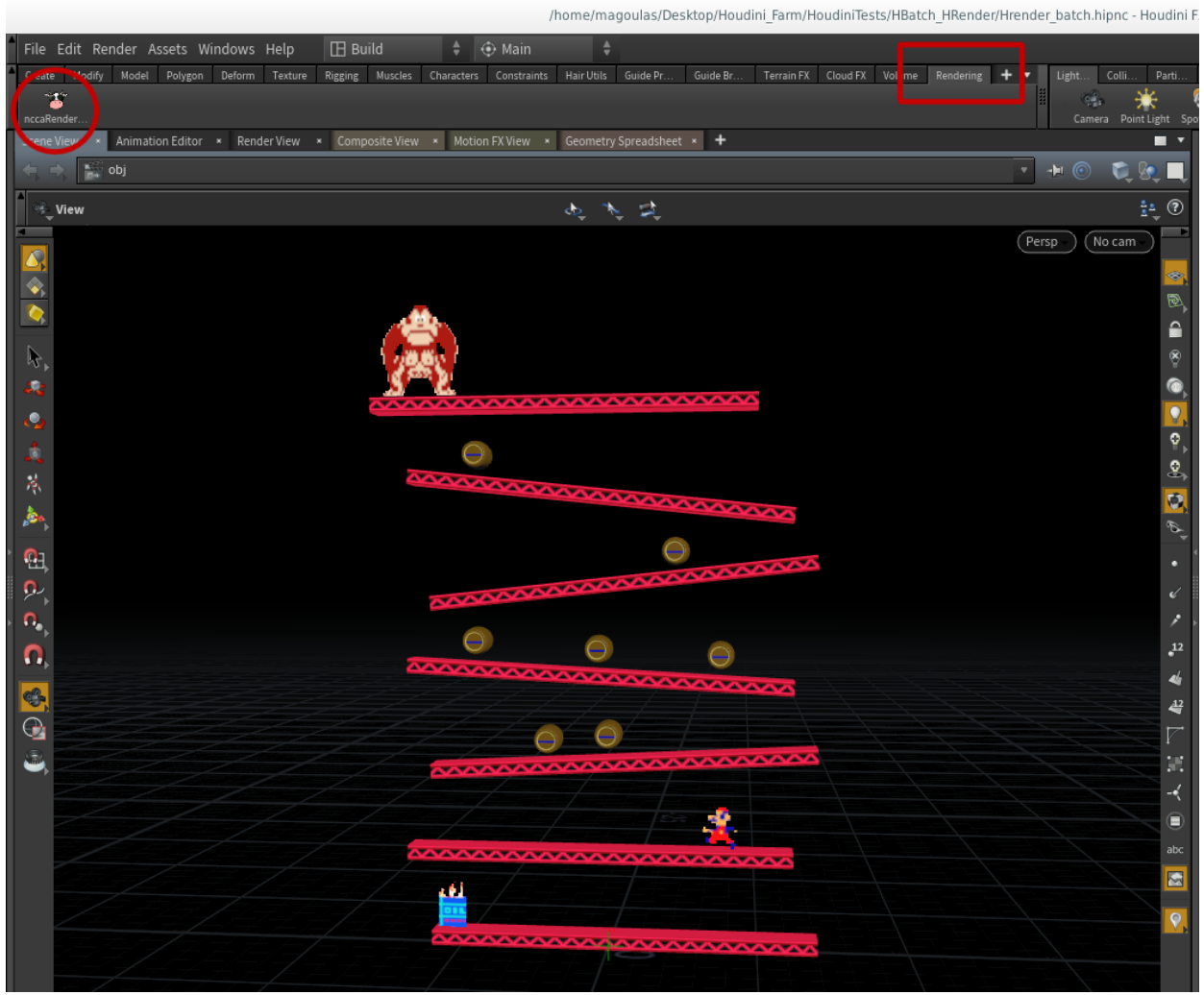
2. Select the DOP node that you want to cache

3. Select the output filename and path



Let's Simulate

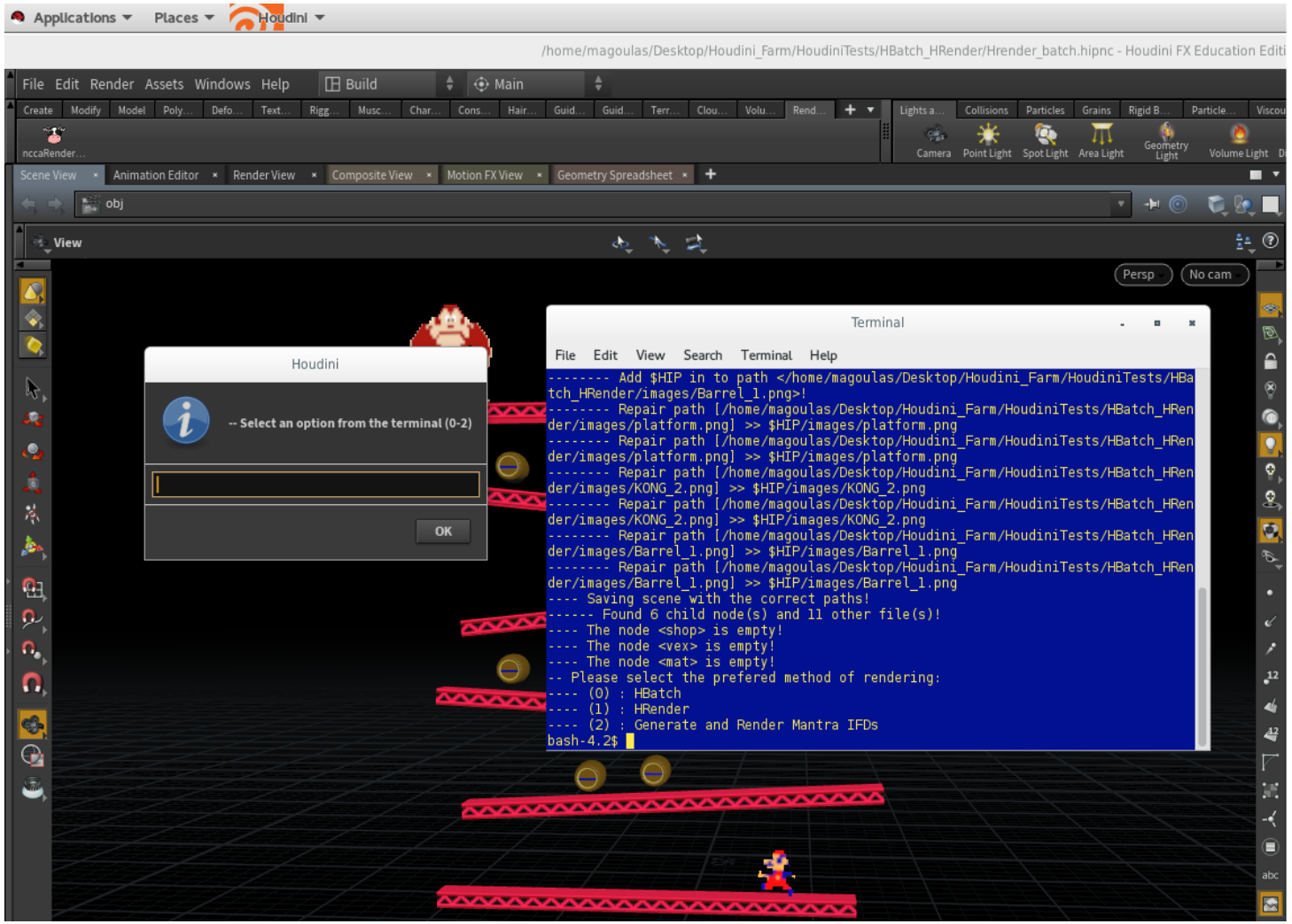
- Press Ctrl + S to save the scene
- Go to the rendering shelf
- Hit the cow!



Using the tool

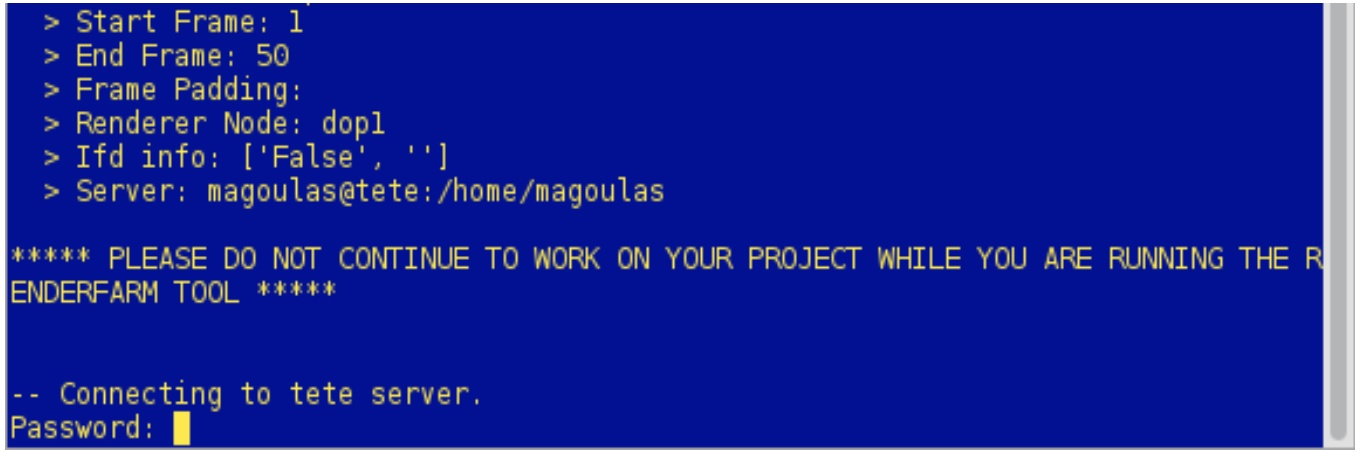
- Check your local disk space (quota), or skip if not needed.

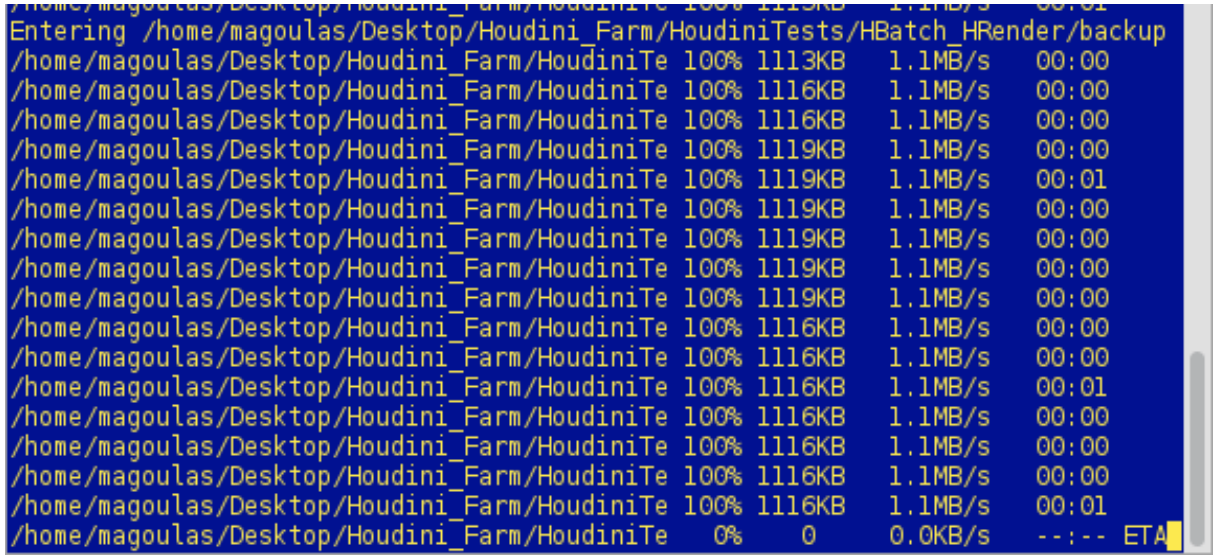
- Check the terminal for any warnings about the version of the tool you are using.
- We will choose the HBatch method by entering 0 in the window.



Using the tool

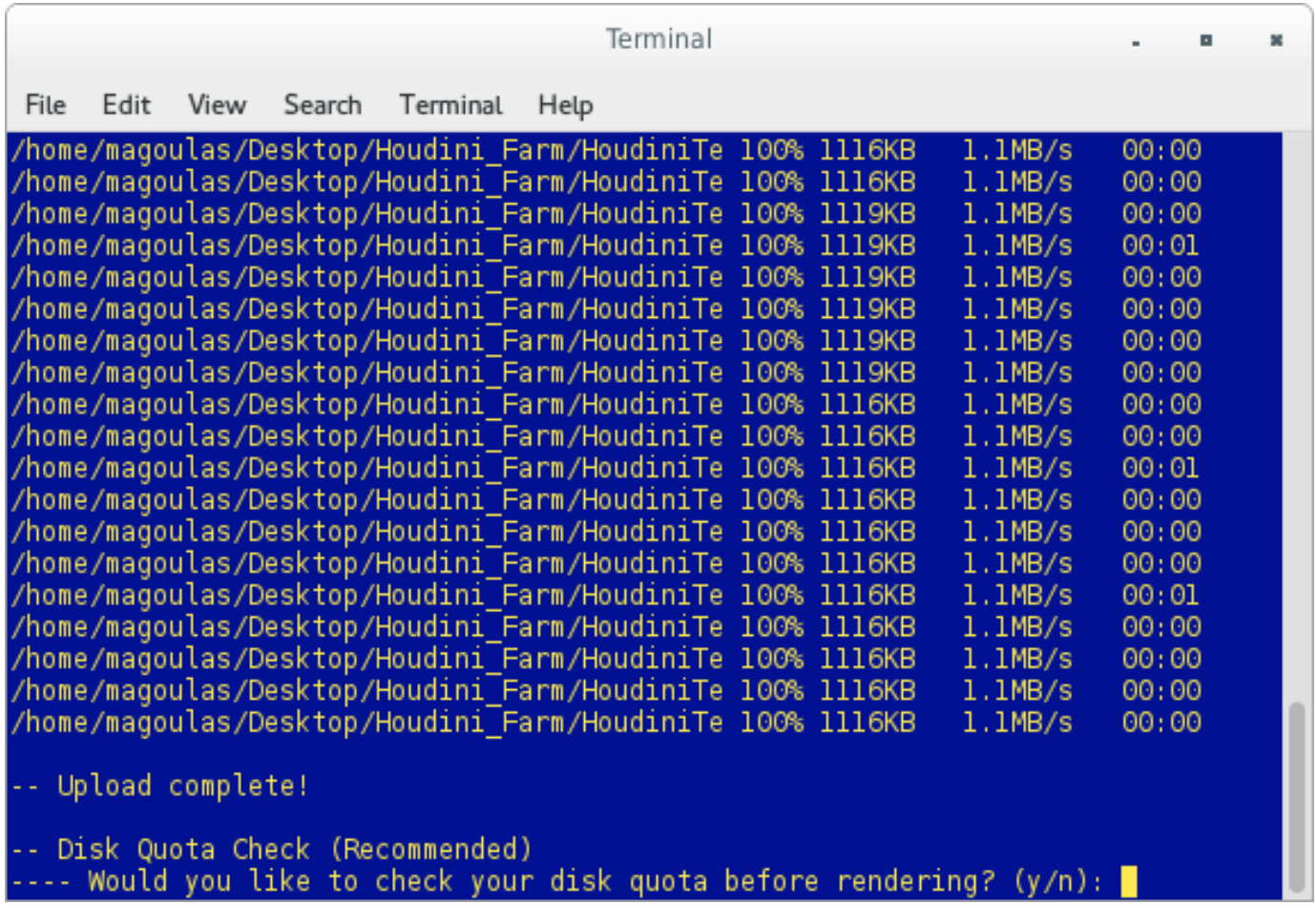
- Now the tool will ask you to enter your user password in order to connect to the tete server. It is the same as your student account.
- Once you enter your password the tool will start uploading the project files.
- Do not interrupt this process nor continue working on your project.





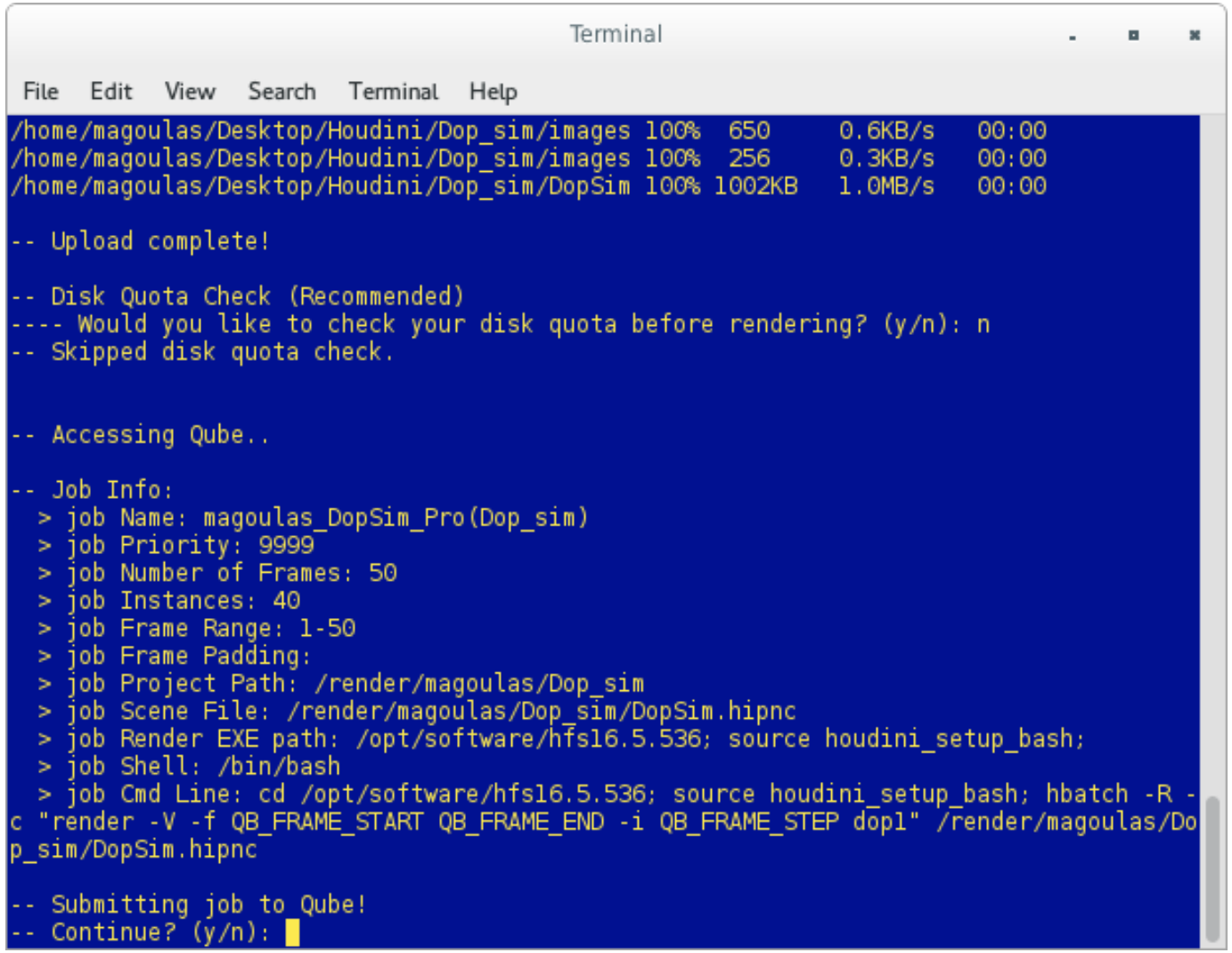
Using the tool

- Once the files are uploaded, the tool will prompt for a quota check on the server.
- If you do not have enough disk space (quota) available on the server, your renders will not be saved anywhere.
- Skip online quota check if you are sure you have enough space available.



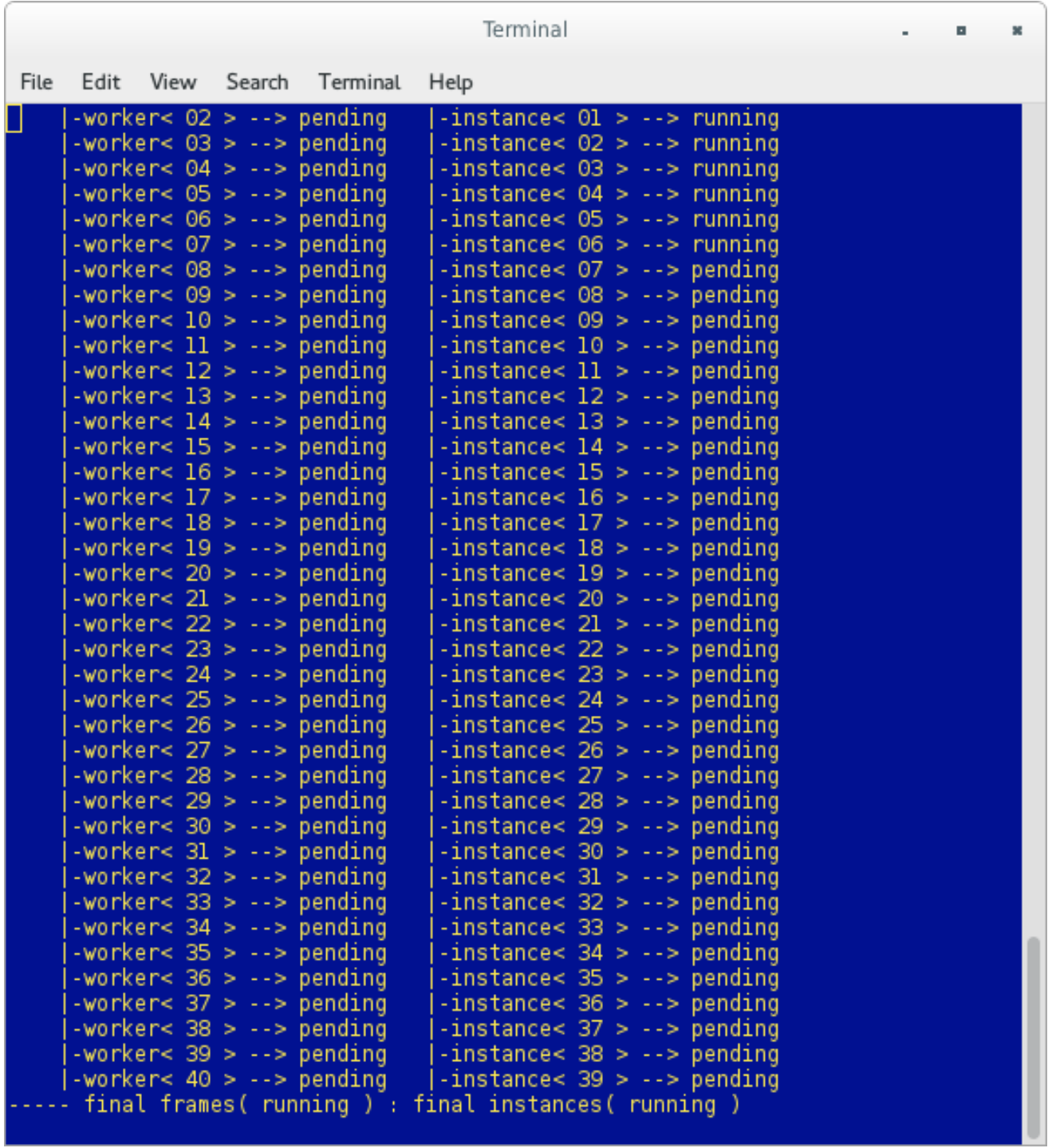
Using the tool

- The output images directory is set from within your Mantra Settings.
- Check the Job info data before submitting the job to Qube.
- Type y and Enter to continue.



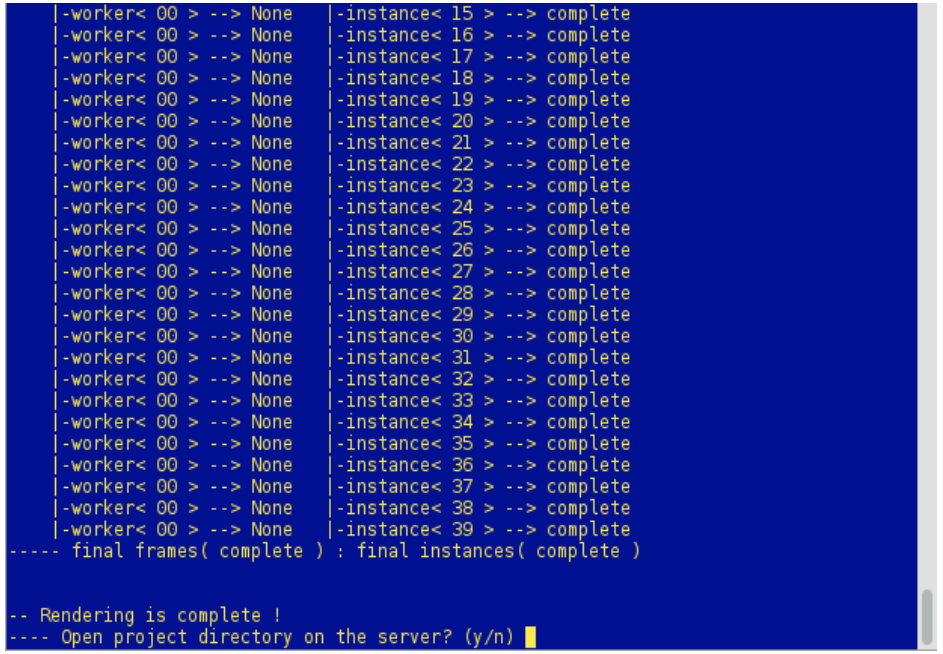
Using the tool

- Wrangle your sim files from the terminal.
- At this point you can safely close the terminal and wrangle your simulation from Qube. But it's advised that you leave the terminal open.
- Now we wait for it to finish.
- You can **now** continue to work on your scene.



Finishing off

- Once the renders are complete, the tool will prompt you to open the project directory on the server.
- Type y and Enter so that the tool can open your project directory on the server. Otherwise, type n and Enter.



- You might get asked to enter your student account credentials. Enter them so you can get access to the server.
- Navigate in the sim cache folder or wherever you have told the Dynamics node to save the files and copy them to your computer.