Planned training: Best Practices in HPC Data Management

Purpose:

- Maximize use of existing storage resources
- Minimize disruption of file system / compute nodes
- Prevent accidental data loss
- Increase overall productivity

Format:

- 1.5 to 2 hrs with student engagement
- In a room equipped with computers and internet access
 - 24-seat room available in BSRB, larger if students bring laptops
- Students should have cluster accounts / access

Target audience:

- Beginner to intermediate familiarity with CLI
- HPC users requesting large quota increases (?)



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Module 1: Overview

- Why do we need data management?
- Types of filesystems in HPC
- Specifics of storage infrastructures
- Active vs. inactive data
- Staging data for compute / analysis / storage

Module 2: Navigating a file system

- File system limitations
- Determining the age / size of a file
- Determining the size of a directory
- Total amount of free disk space
- Checking your quota

Module 3: Moving and backing up data

- When is it time to archive data?
- Zipping and archiving files and directories
- Transferring data from point to point (e.g. rsync)
- Transferring data to LTFS for archiving

Module 4: Maximize file system usage

- Best practices in directory organization
- Removing duplicate copies of data
- Sharing files instead of duplicating files (e.g. ACL)
- Don't install software in your home directory

Module 5: Advanced topics

- How to care for sensitive data (HIPAA, ITAR, FIZMA)
- Complicated / large data transfers (e,g, globus)
- Data repositories
- Metadata, provenance, standards
- iRODS data management (Corral)

