

NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD

Deployment Guide

Featuring NVIDIA DGX A100 Systems

Document History

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Contents

Chapter	1.	Initial Cluster Setup	1
Chapter	2.	Head Node Configuration	10
2.1	Con	figure BCM to Allow MAC Addresses to PXE Boot	10
2.2	Set	up Networking on DGX Systems	10
2.3	Ider	ntify the DGX Cluster Nodes	12
2.4	Ider	ntify the First CPU Node	12
2.5	Disa	able GPU Information Collection	13
2.6	Pow	ver On and Provision the Cluster Nodes	13
Chapter	3.	High Availability	14
Chapter	4.	Slurm and Jupyter Setup	29
4.1	Slur	m	29
4.2	Jup	yter Installation	31

Chapter 1. Initial Cluster Setup

This document details how to deploy NVIDIA Base Command™ Manager (BCM) on NVIDIA DGX SuperPOD™ configurations.

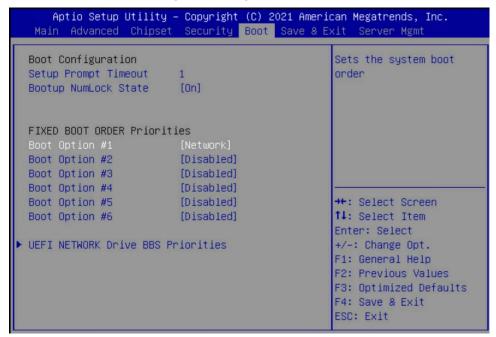
Deployment of a DGX SuperPOD involves pre-setup, deployment, and use of BCM to provision the Slurm cluster.

Physical installation and network switch configuration should be completed before deploying BCM. In addition, information about the intended deployment should be recorded in a site survey.

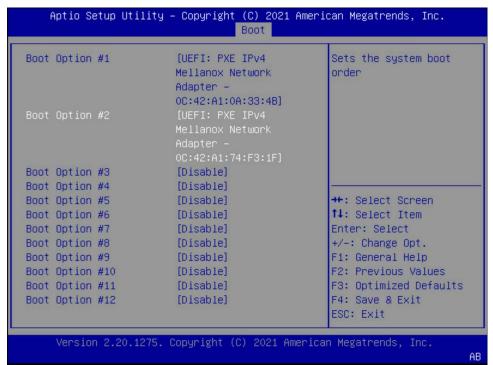
The deployment stage of a DGX SuperPOD consists of using BCM to provision and manage the Slurm cluster.

- 1. Configure the NFS server.
 - User home directories (home/) and shared data (cm_shared/) directories must be shared between head nodes (such as the DGX OS image) must be stored on an NFS filesystem for HA availability. Because DGX SuperPOD does not mandate the nature of the NFS storage, the configuration is outside the scope of this document.
 - This DGX SuperPOD deployment uses the NFS export path provided in the site survey: /var/nfs/general.
 - Following parameters are recommended for the NFS server export file /etc/exports. /var/nfs/general *(rw,sync,no_root_squash,no_subtree_check)
- 2. On the DGX A100 compute nodes, configure the SBIOS so that the nodes PXE boot by default.
 - BCM requires DGX systems to PXE boot.
 - a. Using either KVM or a crash cart, connect to the DGX A100 system and enter the BIOS menu, and configure Boot Option #1 to be [NETWORK].

b. Set other Boot devices to [DISABLED].



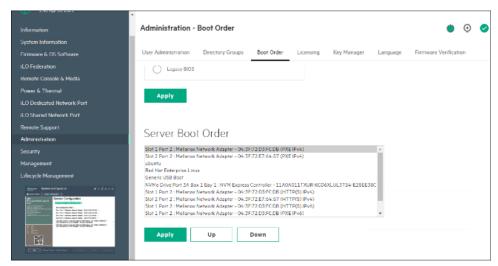
c. Disable PXE boot devices except for Storage 4-2 and Storage 5-2. Set them to use IPv4.



d. Select Save & Exit the BIOS.

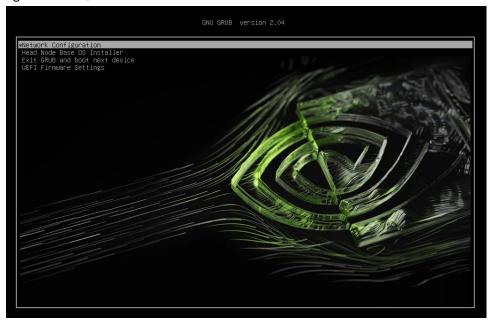
3. On the failover head node and the CPU nodes, ensure that Network boot is configured as the primary option. Ensure that the Mellanox ports connected on the network on the head and CPU nodes are set to Ethernet mode as well.

This is an example of a system that will boot from the network with Slot 1 Port 2 and Slot 2 Port 2.

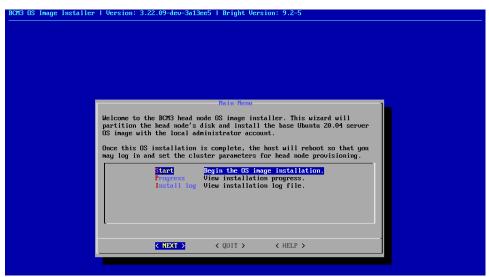


- 4. Download the BCM installer ISO from Cloud Storage.
- Burn the ISO to a DVD or to a bootable USB device.
 It can also be mounted as virtual media and installed using the BMC. The specific mechanism for the latter will vary by vendor.
- 6. Ensure that the BIOS of the target head node is configured in UEFI mode and that its boot order is configured to boot the media containing the Bright installer image.
- 7. Boot the installation media.
- 8. Follow the <u>Generated Network Configuration (BCM_v3.23.03) section</u> of the *BCM 3.0 Network Provisioning Guide*.
 - After the network switches are provisioned, reboot the ISO and continue.

9. At the grub menu, choose Head Node Base OS Installer.

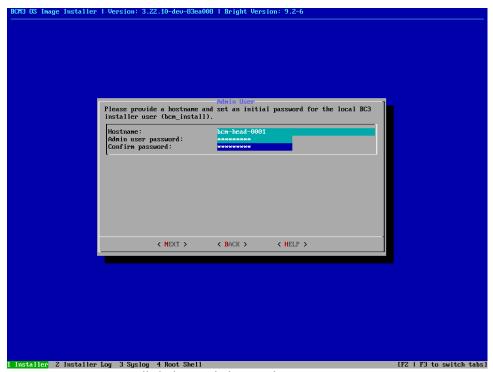


10. After booting and at the Welcome screen, choose \mathtt{Start} and then select \mathtt{NEXT} to begin installation.



11. Provide a hostname and initial password, and then select NEXT.

Confirm or update the hostname of the primary head node and enter a password for the bcm_install user. This information will be used to login to the head node after the OS is installed and to complete configuring BCM.



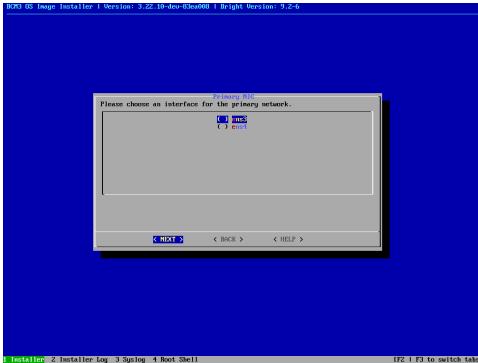
12. Choose one or more install disks and then select NEXT.



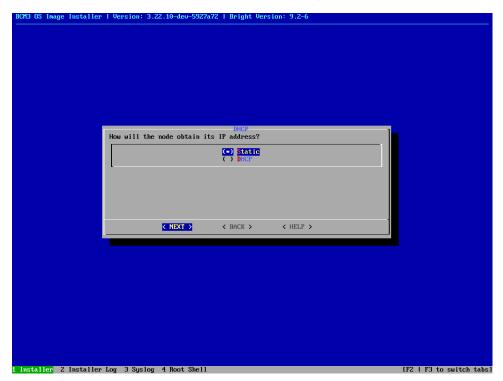
13. Choose the primary network interface for the head node and then select ${\tt NEXT}.$

This is the internalnet interface and should have Internet access.

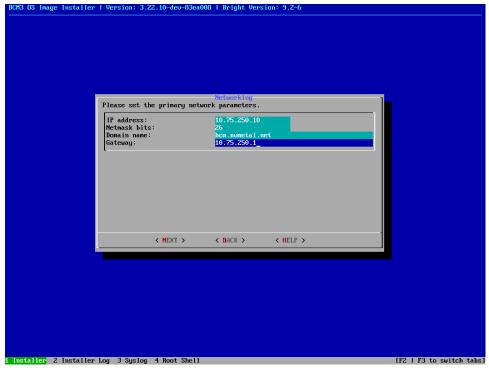
BCH3 US Image Installer | Version: 3.22.10-dev-03ea000 | Bright Version: 9.2-6



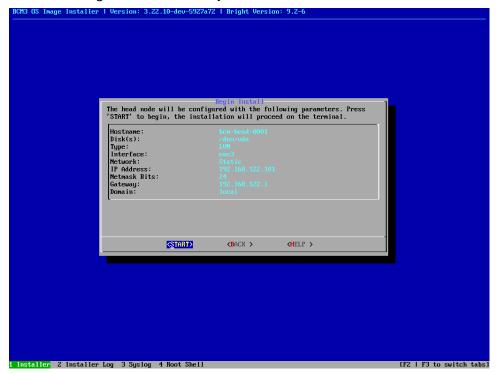
14. Choose Static or DHCP for IP address assignment and then select NEXT.



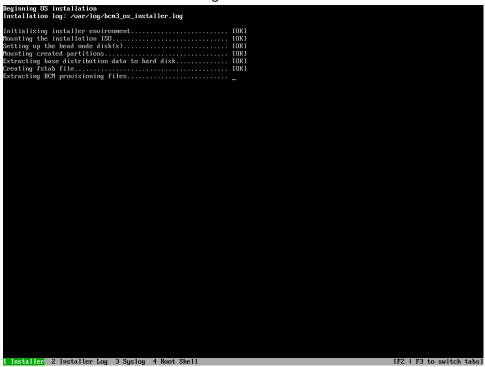
15. If the network is to be statically configured, enter the parameters and then select $_{\mbox{\scriptsize NEXT}}.$



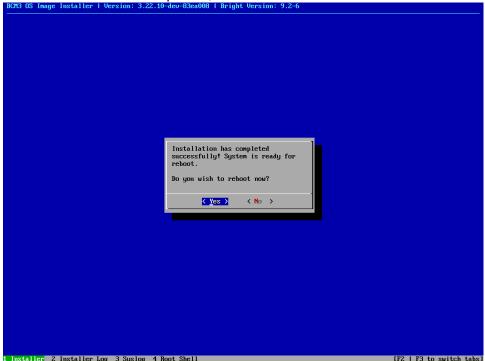
16. Confirm the settings at the summary screen and then select START to install the OS.



17. Track the installation on the resulting screen.



18. When the OS installation completes, select Yes to reboot.



- 19. After the host reboots, login as the bcm_install user using the password provided to the OS installer. ssh can be used instead of the out-of-band console at this point.
- 20. Run the configure install command.

```
sudo /opt/bcm/configure install
```

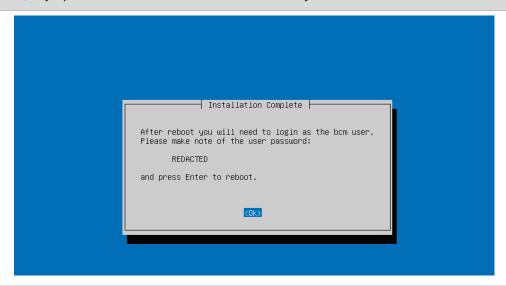
21. After the configuration completes, run the install command.

```
sudo /opt/bcm/installer/install
```

22. When installation completes, make note of the randomly generated password for the bcm admin user, and select ok to reboot.



Note: The root password was saved to /root/.root and the MySQL password was saved to /root/.mysql. Both files will be available after the system reboots.





Note: At this step there will be one DGX node and one CPU node in the device list. These hosts will not have MAC and IP assignments.

Before proceeding, configure interfaces and IP addresses in each node category.

23. Clone the DGX nodes.

dgx01 was created during head node installation. Clone it to create the DGX nodes.

```
% device
% foreach --clone dgx01 -n dgx02..[dgxXX] ()
% commit
```

24. Check the nodes and their categories.

Extra options are used for device list to make the format more readable.

% device list -f hostname:20,category:10,ip:20,status:15					
hostname (key)	category	ip	status		
bcm-head-01		10.130.122.254	[UP]	
dgx01	dgxnodes	10.130.122.5	[DOWN]	
dgx02	dgxnodes	10.130.122.6	[DOWN]	
dgx03	dgxnodes	10.130.122.7	[DOWN]	
dgx04	dgxnodes	10.130.122.8	[DOWN]	

25. License cluster by running the request-license and providing product key.

```
request-license
Product Key (XXXXXX-XXXXXX-XXXXXX-XXXXXX):
```

Chapter 2. Head Node Configuration

This section address configuration steps to be performed on BCM head nodes.

2.1 Configure BCM to Allow MAC Addresses to PXE Boot

- 1. Use the root (not cmsh) shell.
- 2. In /cm/local/apps/cmd/etc/cmd.conf, uncomment the AdvancedConfig parameter.
 AdvancedConfig = { "DeviceResolveAnyMAC=1" } # modified value
- 3. Restart the CMDaemon to enable reliable PXE booting from bonded interfaces.

 # systemctl restart cmd

The cmsh session will be disconnected because of restarting the CMDaemon. Type connect to reconnect after the CMDaemon has restarted. Or enter exit and then restart cmsh.

2.2 Setup Networking on DGX Systems

The steps that follow are performed on the head node and should be run on all DGX systems.



Note: Double check the MAC address for each interface and the IP number for the bond0 interface. Mistakes here will be difficult to diagnose.

1. Set the MAC addresses on the physical interfaces.

```
# cmsh
% device
% use dgx01
% interfaces
% use ipmi0
% set ip 10.130.111.68
% set gateway 10.130.111.65
% use enp225s0flnp1
% set mac B8:CE:F6:2F:08:69
% use enp97s0flnp1
% set mac B8:CE:F6:2D:0E:A7..
% % commit
```

2. Verify the configuration.

3. Configure InfiniBand interfaces on DGX nodes

The following procedure adds four physical InfiniBand interfaces for a single DGX system (dgx01).

```
% / # go to top level of CMSH
% device
% use dgx01
% interfaces
% add physical ibp12s0
% set ip 10.149.0.5
% set network ibnet
% add physical ibp75s0
% set ip 10.149.1.5
% set network ibnet
% add physical ibp141s0
% set ip 10.149.2.5
% set network ibnet
% add physical ibp186s0
% set network ibnet
% set ip 10.149.3.5
% list
                                                             Network Start if
              Network device name IP
Type
 bmc ipmi0 10.130.111.69 ipminet always bond bond0 [prov] 10.130.122.5 internalnet always physical enp225s0f1np1 (bond0) 0.0.0.0 always physical enp97s0f1np1 (bond0) 0.0.0.0 always physical ibp12s0 10.149.0.5 ibnet always physical ibp141s0 10.149.2.5 ibnet always physical ibp186s0 10.149.3.5 ibnet always physical ibp75s0 10.149.1.5 ibnet always
% device commit
```

2.3 Identify the DGX Cluster Nodes

1. Identify the nodes by setting the MAC address for the provisioning interface for each node to the MAC address listed in the site survey.

```
% device
% use dgx01
% set mac b8:ce:f6:2f:08:69
% use dgx02
% set mac 0c:42:a1:54:32:a7
% use dgx03
% set mac 0c:42:a1:0a:7a:51
% use dgx04
% set mac 1c:34:da:29:17:6e
% foreach -c dgx (get mac)
B8:CE:F6:2F:08:69
0C:42:A1:54:32:A7
0C:42:A1:0A:7A:51
1C:34:DA:29:17:6E
```

2. If all the MAC addresses are set properly, commit the changes.

```
% device commit
% quit
```

2.4 Identify the First CPU Node

1. Set the IP address for the IPMI interface.

```
% device
% use bcm-cpu-01
% interfaces
% use ipmi0
% set ip 10.127.1.15
% set gateway 10.127.1.1
% commit
```

2. Set the MAC addresses for the Ethernet interfaces.

```
% device
% use bcm-cpu-01
% interfaces
% use ens2f0np0
% set mac 88:e9:a4:92:26:ba
% use ens2f1np1
% set mac 88:e9:a4:92:26:bb
% commit
```

3. Set the IP address for the bond0 interface.

```
% device
% use bcm-cpu-01
% interfaces
% use bond0
% set ip 10.127.3.15
% commit
```

2.5 Disable GPU Information Collection

In BCM 2.23.03, GPU information collection must be disabled.

On the head node, run the following command:

sudo /cm/local/apps/cmd/sbin/cm-manipulate-advanced-config.py -i '*'
"SysInfoCollectGPU=0"

2.6 Power On and Provision the Cluster Nodes

Now that the required post-installation configuration has been completed, it is time to power on and provision the cluster nodes. After the initial provisioning, power control will be available from within Bright using the cmsh or Bright View. But for this initial provisioning it is necessary to power them on outside of Bright (that is, using the power button or a KVM).

It will take several minutes for the nodes to go through their BIOS. After that, you should see the node status progress as the nodes are being provisioned. Watching the $\protect\node{\protect\protect\node{\protect\node{\pro$

Chapter 3. High Availability

This section covers how to configure high availability (HA) using cmha-setup CLI wizard.

1. Ensure that both head nodes are licensed.

The MAC address for the secondary head was provided when the cluster license was installed.

```
% main licenseinfo | grep ^MAC MAC address / Cloud ID 04:3F:72:E7:67:07|14:02:EC:DA:AF:18
```

2. Configure the shared storage (NFS).

Mounts configured in fsmounts will be automatically mounted by the CMDaemon.

```
% device
% use master
% fsmounts
% add /nfs/general
% set device 10.130.122.252:/var/nfs/general
% set filesystem nfs
% commit
% show
Parameter
                                Value
                                10.130.122.252:/var/nfs/general
Revision
Filesystem
                                nfs
Mountpoint
                                /nfs/general
Dump
RDMA
                                no
Filesystem Check
                                NONE
Mount options
                           defaults
```

3. Verify that the shared storage is mounted.

```
# mount | grep '/nfs/general'
10.130.122.252:/var/nfs/general on /nfs/general type nfs4
(rw,relatime,vers=4.2,rsize=1048576,wsize=1048576,namlen=255,hard,proto=tcp,timeo=600,retrans=2,sec=sys,clientaddr=10.130.122.254,local_lock=none,addr=10.130.122.252)
```

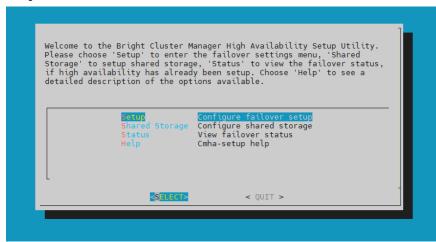
4. Verify that head node has power control over the cluster nodes.

5. Power off the cluster nodes.

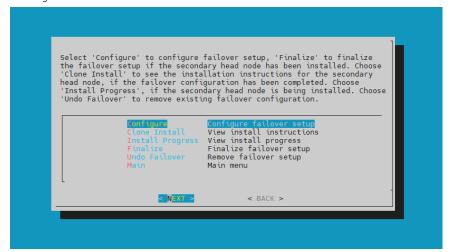
The cluster nodes must be powered off before configuring HA.

```
% power -c dgx off
ipmi0 ............ [ OFF ] dgx01
ipmi0 ............ [ OFF ] dgx02
ipmi0 ............ [ OFF ] dgx03
ipmi0 ............. [ OFF ] dgx04
```

- 6. Start the cmha-setup CLI wizard as the root user on the primary head node.
 - # cmha-setup
- 7. Choose Setup and then select SELECT.



8. Choose Configure and then select NEXT.



9. Verify that the cluster license information found cmha-setup is correct and then select CONTINUE.

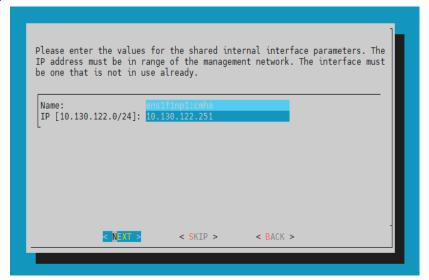


10. Configure an external Virtual IP address that will be used by the active head node in the HA configuration and then select NEXT.

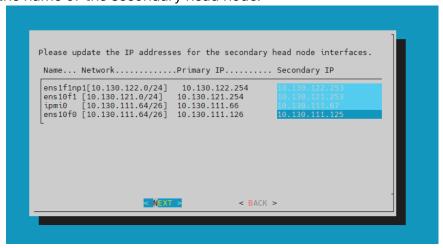
This will be the IP that should always be used for accessing the active head nodes.



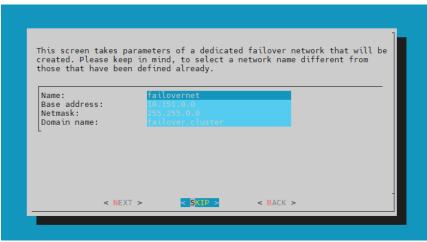
11. Provide an internal Virtual IP address that will be used by the active head node in the HA configuration.



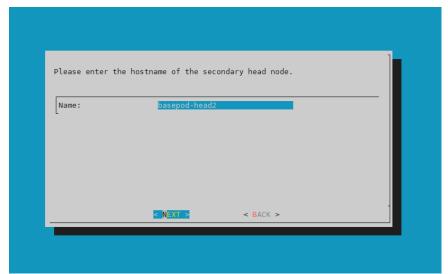
12. Provide the name of the secondary head node.



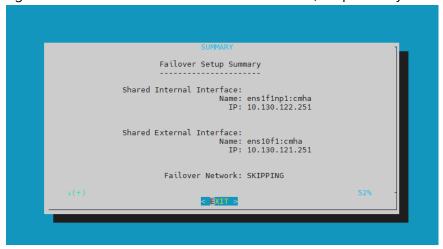
13. Since DGX SuperPOD uses the internal network as the failover network, select SKIP.



14. Configure the IP addresses for the secondary head node that the wizard is about to create.



15. The wizard shows a summary of the information that it has collected. The VIP that will be assigned to the internal and external interfaces, respectively.



16. Select Yes to proceed with the failover configuration.



17. Enter the MySQL root password.

The auto-generated password is in /root/.mysql.



18. The wizard implements the first steps in the HA configuration. If all the steps show OK, press ENTER to continue. The progress is shown below.

```
Initializing failover setup on master. [ OK ]

Updating shared internal interface. [ OK ]

Updating shared external interface. [ OK ]

Updating extra shared internal interfaces. [ OK ]

Cloning head node. [ OK ]

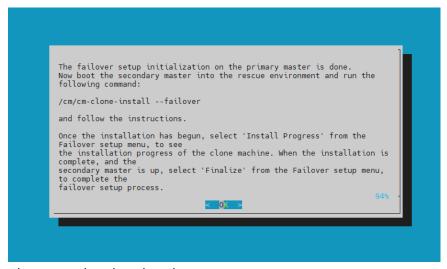
Updating secondary master interfaces. [ OK ]

Updating Failover Object. [ OK ]

Restarting cmdaemon. [ OK ]

Press any key to continue
```

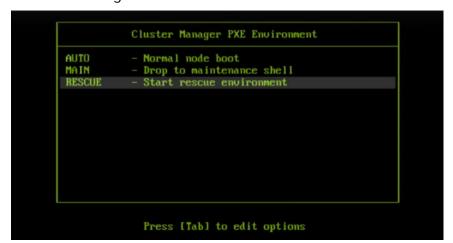
19. Run the /cm/cm-clone-install -failover command on the secondary head node. This should be a one-time network boot.



20. PXE boot the secondary head node.

Because this is the initial boot of this node, it must be done using BMC or physical power button

21. Select RESCUE from the grub menu.



.

22. After the secondary head node has booted into the rescue environment, run the /cm/cm-clone-install --failover command, then enter yes when prompted. The secondary head node will be cloned from the primary.

```
#Welcome to the Cluster Manager rescue environment*

| Creating failover/clome nodes: |
| Install the secondary head node |
| $\frac{1}{3} \conven-clone-install --failover |
| $\frac{1}{3} \conven-clone-install --failover |
| $\frac{1}{3} \conven-clone-install --clone --hostname=new-hostname |
| $\frac{1}{3} \conven-clone-install --clone --hostname=new-hostname |
| $\frac{1}{3} \conven-clone-install --failover --reboot |
| $\frac{1}{3} \conven-clone-install --failover --reboot |
| $\frac{1}{3} \conven-clone-install --help |
| $\frac{1}{3} \conven-clone-install --failover |
| $\frac{1}{3} \convent{1} \
```

23. When cloning is completed, enter \underline{y} to reboot the secondary head node. The secondary must be set to boot from its hard drive. PXE boot should not be enabled.

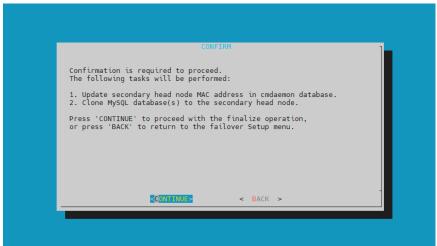
24. Wait for the secondary head node to reboot and then continue the HA setup procedure on the primary head node.

25. Select finalize from the cmha-setup menu.

This will clone the MySQL database from the primary to the secondary head node.



26. Select <CONTINUE> on the confirmation screen.

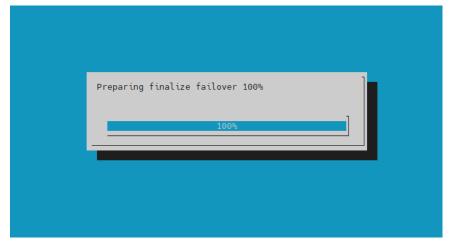


27. Enter the MySQL root password.

The auto-generated password is in /root/.mysql.



28. The cmha-setup wizard continues. Press ENTER to continue when prompted.



The progress is shown below:

```
Updating secondary master mac address. [ OK ]
Initializing failover setup on bcm-head-02. [ OK ]
Stopping cmdaemon. [ OK ]
Cloning cmdaemon database. [ OK ]
Checking database consistency. [ OK ]
Starting cmdaemon, chkconfig services. [ OK ]
Cloning workload manager databases. [ OK ]
Cloning additional databases. [ OK ]
Update DB permissions. [ OK ]
Checking for dedicated failover network. [ OK ]
Press any key to continue
```

29. The Finalize step is now completed. Select <REBOOT> and wait for the secondary head node to reboot.

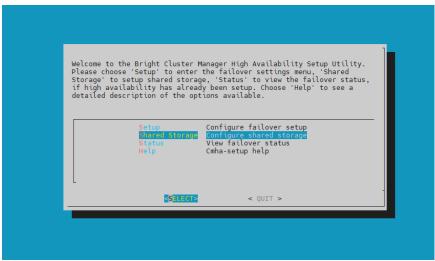


30. The secondary head node is now UP.

% device list -f hostname:20,category:12,ip:20,status:15					
hostname (key)	category	ip		status	
bcm-head-01		10.130.122.254	[UP]
bcm-head-02		10.130.122.253	[UP]
dgx01	dgx	10.130.122.5	[DOWN]
dgx02	dgx	10.130.122.6	[DOWN]
dgx03	dgx	10.130.122.7	[DOWN]
dgx04	dgx	10.130.122.8	[DOWN]

31. Select Shared Storage from the cmha-setup menu.

In this final HA configuration step, cmha-setup will copy the /cm/shared and /home directories to the shared storage, and it configures both head nodes and all cluster nodes to mount it.



32. Choose NAS and then select SELECT.

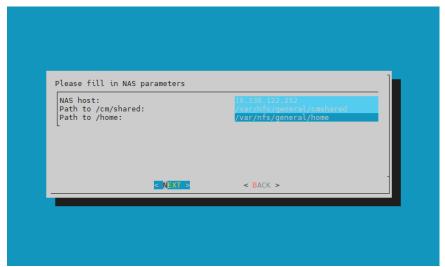


33. Choose both /cm/shared and /home and then select NEXT.



34. Provide the IP number of the NAS host, and the path that the /cm/shared and /home directories should be copied to on the shared storage.

In this case, /var/nfs/general is exported, so the /cm/shared directory will be copied to 10.130.122.252:/var/nfs/general/cmshared, and it will be mounted over /cm/shared on the cluster nodes.



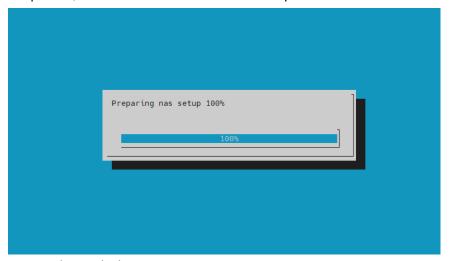
- 35. The wizard shows a summary of the information that it has collected. Press ENTER to continue.
- 36. Select Yes to continue.

This will initiate a copy and update to fsexports.



37. The cmha-setup wizard proceeds with its work.

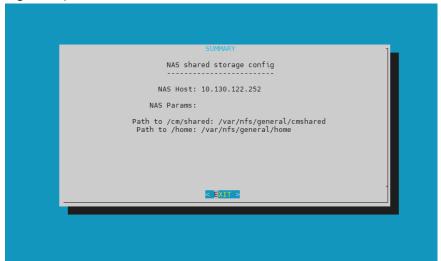
When it completes, select ENTER to finish HA setup.



The progress is shown below:

_			
Copying NAS data	[OK]
Mount NAS storage	[OK]
Remove old fsmounts	[OK]
Add new fsmounts	[OK]
Remove old fsexports	[OK]
Write NAS mount/unmount scripts	[OK]
Copy mount/unmount scripts	[OK]
Press any key to continue			

- 38. cmha-setup is now complete. EXIT the wizard to return to the shell prompt.
- 39. Run the cmsh status command to verify that the failover configuration is correct and working as expected.



The command tests the configuration from both directions: from the primary head node to the secondary, and from the secondary to the primary. The active head node is indicated by an asterisk.

40. Verify that the /cm/shared and /home directories are being mounted from the NAS server.

```
# mount
. . . some output omitted . .
10.130.122.252:/var/nfs/general/cmshared on /cm/shared type nfs4
(rw,relatime,vers=4.2,rsize=32768,wsize=32768,namlen=255,hard,proto=tcp,timeo=600
,retrans=2,sec=sys,clientaddr=10.130.122.253,local_lock=none,addr=10.130.122.252)
10.130.122.252:/var/nfs/general/home on /home type nfs4
(rw,relatime,vers=4.2,rsize=32768,wsize=32768,namlen=255,hard,proto=tcp,timeo=600
,retrans=2,sec=sys,clientaddr=10.130.122.253,local_lock=none,addr=10.130.122.252)
```

41. Login to the head node to be made active and run cmha makeactive.

42. Run the cmsh status command again to verify that the secondary head node has become the active head node.

43. Manually failover back to the primary head node.

44. Run the cmsh status command again to verify that the primary head node has become the active head node.

45. Power on the cluster nodes.

```
# cmsh -c "power -c dgx on"
ipmi0 ...... [ ON ] dgx01
ipmi0 ..... [ ON ] dgx02
ipmi0 ..... [ ON ] dgx03
ipmi0 ..... [ ON ] dgx04
```

46. This concludes the setup and verification of HA.

Chapter 4. Slurm and Jupyter Setup

4.1 Slurm

1. Install Slurm.

sudo /opt/bcm/provisioning/install slurm

This script will create the slogin nodes.

2. Update the interface names on the slogin nodes.

% device use slogin-01

Update interface names, If the slogin-01 does not have the expected interface names,

% use networkdevicename
% set networkdevicename new-name

3. Assign the MAC addresses to the slogin nodes.

device use slogin-01
set mac <MAC address>

4. Rerun the install slurm script.

/opt/bcm/provisioning/install slurm

5. Reboot all the non-headnode systems involved with Slurm.

cmsh
device
reboot -c slogin
reboot -c dgxnodes

6. Modify the slurmclient-gpu role to remove the slurm-client role and convert slurm-client-gpu to use that name instead to simplify the configuration.

cmsh
configurationoverlay
remove slurm-client
commit
use slurm-client-gpu
set name slurm-client
commit
roles
use slurmclient

7. Clear the $_{\text{Type}}$ value and set the correct core association with each GPU entry for maximum performance.

```
genericresources
use qpu0
clear type
set cores 48-63,176-191
use qpu1
clear type
set cores 48-63,176-191
use gpu2
clear type
set cores 16-31,144-159
use gpu3
clear type
set cores 16-31,144-159
use qpu4
clear type
set cores 112-127,240-255
use gpu5
clear type
set cores 112-127,240-255
use gpu6
clear type
set cores 80-95,210-223
use qpu7
clear type
set cores 80-95,210-223
```

The <code>gres.conf</code> file will be updated automatically by BCM—these settings align with the expectations of various scripts and tools in the NVIDIA ecosystem and will then maximize compatibility of this environment with those scripts and tools.

8. If the /home directory is not mounted on the nodes, increase the number of retries. Due to a race condition between the bond0 interface being up and /home being mounted, sometimes /home will not be mounted. Increasing the number of retries should fix the issue.

```
cmsh
category
use dgxnodes
fsmounts
use home
set mountoptions "x-systemd.mount-timeout=150, defaults, _netdev, retry=2"
```

4.2 Jupyter Installation

1. Configure the Jupyter service on the head node.

/opt/bcm/provisioning/install jupyter -j <hostname>.

2. Set services to use cm-jupyterhub.

```
% device
% use bcm-head-01
% services
% use cm-jupyterhub
```

3. Set the runif parameter to ACTIVE.

```
% set runif active % commit
```

4. Ensure that the Service and Run if parameter are correctly set.

% show	
Parameter	Value
Revision	
Service	cm-jupyterhub
Run if	ACTIVE
Monitored	yes
Autostart	yes
Timeout	-1
Belongs to role	yes
Sickness check script	
Sickness check script timeout	10
Sickness check interval	60

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