







From laptop to LUMI - CSC services for researchers

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CSC – Finnish expertise in ICT for research, education and public administration

Outline

- What is CSC
- CSC computing services
- CSC data services
- Other services
- How to get access?



CSC - IT center for science

- CSC is non-profit company producing IT services for research and higher education
- Owned by ministry of education and culture (OKM) and higher education institutions
- Most CSC services are free of charge for end users





When I might need CSC?

- My calculation takes very long, but could be run in parallel
- My calculation needs a lot of memory
- I need lots of storage space
- Scientific application is available at CSC
 - expensive commercial application
 - open source applications without need to install myself
- I want to share data
- I want to publish data and make it available



How CSC supercomputers differ from university cluster?

- Main difference is in scale
- Parallel calculations up to 25 000 cores (Mahti) or hundreds of GPUs (LUMI)
- Larger storage space available (1 TiB default in Puhti, more on request)
- Similar command line based terminal access
 - As a new service CSC provides also access via web browser
- Similar module system and batch queue system
- CSC resources consume "billing units"



CSC computing services

Puhti

- use cases from interactive single core data processing to medium scale parallel simulations
- some large memory nodes
- Intel CPUs, 40 cores per node
- GPU partition with NVIDIA V100 GPUs

Mahti

- geared towards medium and large scale parallel simulations
- AMD CPUs, 128 cores per node
- small GPU partition with NVIDIA A100 GPUs
 - subset can be sliced to smaller GPUs for interactive workloads, code development etc.



LUMI

- LUMI is pan-European supercomputer hosted by CSC
 - user support is distributed to LUMI consortium countries
- For Finnish users access is via CSC
- Over 10 000 AMD GPUs
- "small" (about the size of Mahti) CPU partition
- auxiliary partition for data-analytics with lots of memory (32 TB per node)





Should I use Puhti, Mahti or LUMI?

Puhti

- more software available
- up to few hundreds of CPU cores
- CPU nodes with fast local disk
- Jupyter notebooks, RStudio, ...

Mahti

- minimum of 128 CPU cores
- Often shorter queues (in CPU partitions)
- Very large scale simulations
 - Scalability tests needed for over 20 nodes (2560 cores)

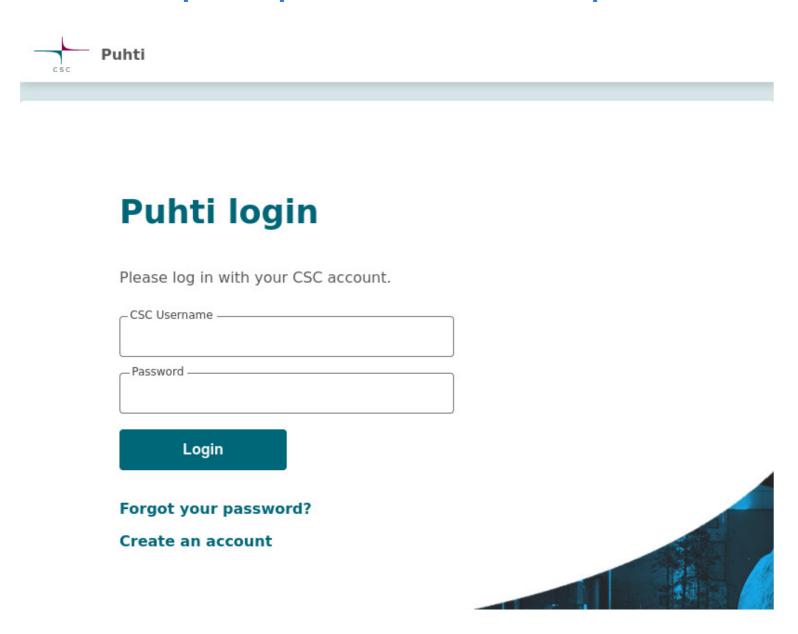
LUMI

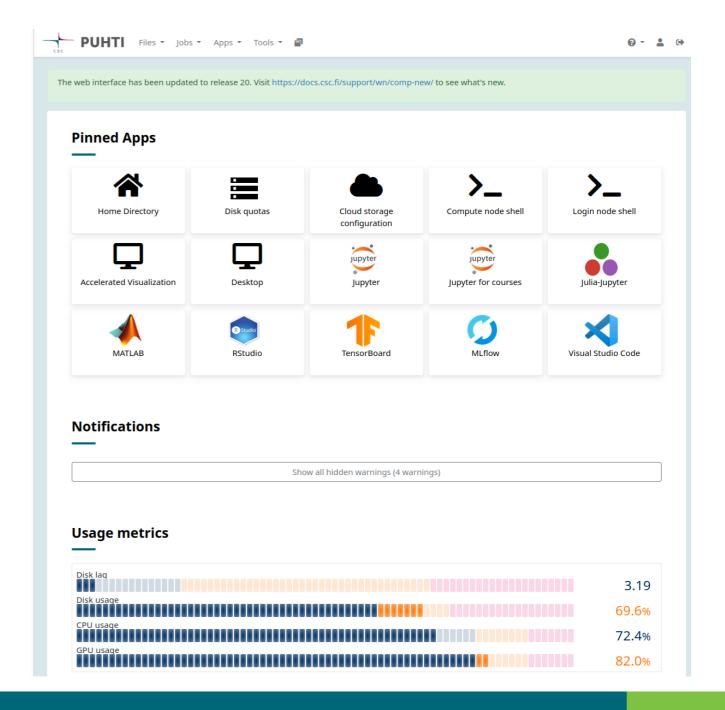
- applications benefitting from AMD GPUs
- CPU applications with similar usage profile as in Mahti
- software availability more limited



Web interfaces

- All CSC supercomputer can be used also via web interface
 - https://puhti.csc.fi, https://mahti.csc.fi, https://lumi.csc.fi





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CSC cloud computing services

- Sometimes one needs more flexibility than available in supercomputers
 - different operating system and system libraries
 - usage without batch job system
- CSC provides variety of cloud computing services
 - cPouta: general computing cloud
 - ePouta: computing cloud for sensitive data
 - Rahti: container cloud e.g. for running web services



Programming for CSC supercomputers

- C++/C, Fortran, Python, R, Julia, ...
- Parallel programming with MPI and OpenMP
- Vectorization important for single CPU performance
- High performance libraries
 - BLAS, LAPACK, ScaLAPACK, FFTW
- GPU programming with OpenMP, OpenACC, CUDA, HIP
- Parallel performance analysis and debugging tools
- Machine learning frameworks
 - PyTorch, Tensorflow, ...

Puhti: some technical details

- 700 CPU nodes with range of memory and local storage options
 - Intel Xeon 2 x 20 cores @ 2.1 GHz (AVX512)
 - 192 GB 1.5 TB memory per node
 - Some nodes with fast local NVME disks
 - Infiniband HDR 100 Gb/s
 - Pure MPI performs typically best
- 80 GPU nodes
 - 4 NVIDIA V100, 32 GB of memory
 - Infiniband HDR 200 Gb/s

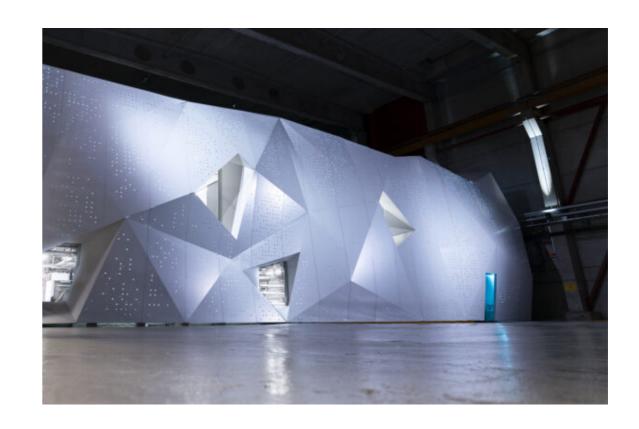
Mahti: some technical details

- 1404 CPU nodes
 - AMD EPYC 2 x 64 cores @ 2.6 GHz (AVX2)
 - 256 GB of memory per node
 - Infiniband HDR 200 Gb/s
 - Hybrid MPI/OpenMP can often improve performance
 - Memory bound applications may benefit from using less than 128 cores
 - Non-uniform memory access (NUMA) with 8 NUMA domains per node
 - Correct binding of processes / threads to cores important for performance
- 24 GPU nodes
 - 4 NVIDIA A100, 40 GB of memory
 - Infiniband HDR 2 x 200 Gb/s
 - Subset can be sliced into smaller GPUs with MIG



LUMI: some technical details

- 2560 GPU nodes
 - 4 AMD MI250X GPUs with 128 GB of memory per GPU
 - HPE Slingshot interconnect
 - four 200 Gb/s network cards, 800
 Gb/s bandwidth in total
- Theoretical peak performance of 530 Pflops / s
 - Linpack performance 380 Pflops / s
 - HPCG performace 4.6 Pflops / s







CSC data management and storage services

- Allas object storage
 - Data can be accessed anywhere from internet
 - Data can be shared with different levels of access control
- FAIR data services

(Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable)

- Publishing datasets together with metadata
- Searching public datasets

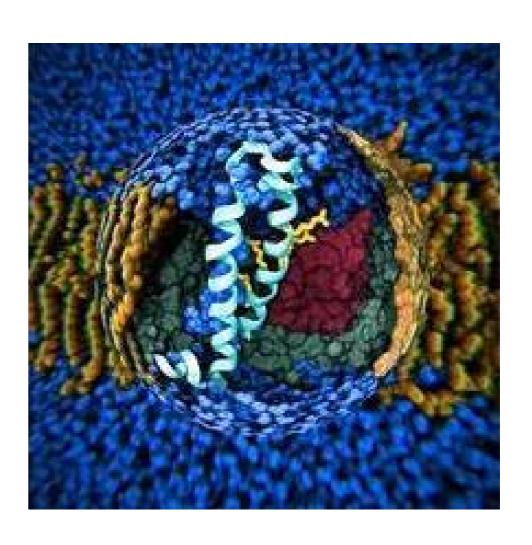




Other services

- Training
 - Large number of training courses in various aspects of scientific computing
- Visualization
- Expert services
 - Help in using scientific software
 - Help in optimizing application performance





Topical trainings

- Online self-learning course: Elements of supercomputing https://edukamu.fi/elements-of-supercomputing
- Online self-learning course: CSC computing environment https://csc.fi/en/training-calendar/csc-computing-environment-self-learning/
- High Performance R, 26.-27.9

https://csc.fi/en/training-calendar/high-performance-r/



Getting access to CSC supercomputers and services

- User needs to create a CSC account at my.csc.fi
 - With HAKA authentication only couple of mouse clicks
- For computational and storage resources CSC project is needed
 - project manager needs to be an experienced researcher (post doc or higher)
 - project manager applies for billing units
 - project manager can add users to project
- Teachers may create a project for a course
 - small fixed amount of resources
 - participants need their own CSC accounts

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Questions?

- Getting support: servicedesk@csc.fi
- CSC user guide: https://docs.csc.fi
- FAIR data services: https://fairdata.fi
- Services for researchers: https://research.csc.fi
- CSC Training: https://csc.fi/training