Getting Started with the WRDS Cloud

What is it?

The WRDS Cloud provides access to computational resources and software for WRDS faculty, research assistants, and PhD students. The WRDS Cloud is powered by Oracle Grid Engine Software, a process management tool that intelligently distributes jobs among a cluster of tightly integrated servers.

Why the change?

The size of business research data sets is growing exponentially, and the WRDS Cloud is a flexible and powerful solution designed to accommodate that growth by scaling with it. You can expect significant performance gains, as the Grid Engine enables more efficient utilization of available processing resources.

What are the differences between WRDS and the WRDS Cloud?

Please refer to the chart below for a summary of the differences between the two platforms, and refer to the WRDS Cloud support page for more detailed technical information. Current WRDS users should be able to make the transition fairly easily, as SSH and UNIX will still be used for the WRDS Cloud. The most significant change will be the addition of several new commands required to submit jobs to the Grid Engine queue.

	WRDS	WRDS Cloud
Platform	• Solaris 10	• Red Hat Enterprise Linux
Connection methods	• SSH and Unix • PC SAS • Web query	• SSH and Unix • PC SAS in the near future • Web query
Host name	• wrds.wharton.upenn.edu	• wrds-cloud.wharton.upenn.edu
Software	• All current software and compilers	• R and SAS only at present
Login credentials	• No change	• Same as interactive WRDS server
File storage	• 750 MB of personal permanent storage in **/home/[group name]/[username]**	• Access to existing WRDS personal permanent storage • 1 GB of personal permanent storage in **/home/[group name]/[username]**
Temp space	• 2 TB in **/sastemp*** directories shared among all users • Files removed after 48 hours	• 2 TB in **/scratch/[group name]** directory shared among all users • Files removed after 48 hours
Job limits	• 3 concurrent SAS jobs per user; no queuing feature • Any job running over 1 week will be deleted	• 2 concurrent SAS jobs per user; 5 concurrent SAS jobs per institution; no limit on queuing • Any job running over 1 week will be deleted

Run a SAS job	**sas myfile.sas**	**qsas myfile.sas**
Submit a script	N/A	**qsub myscript.sh**
Check job status	**ps –fu [username]**	**qstat**
Delete a SAS job	**kill [-SIGNAL PID]**	**qdel [job ID]**
Show all queued jobs	N/A	**qstat -s p**
Show all running and queued jobs	**ps –fu [username]**	**qstat –u ***
Display available disk space	**quota -v**	**quota**
Exit session	**logout**	**logout**

Additional Questions?

Please visit WRDS support if you have any more questions or need additional help.