

# ilifu Online Training

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User Training Workshop – Advanced Training #2 - Applications

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# Support Team

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# Getting help

- Support contact  
[support@ilifu.ac.za](mailto:support@ilifu.ac.za)
- User documentation  
<http://docs.ilifu.ac.za/#/>
- ilifu System Status  
<https://status.ilifu.ac.za/>
- Training videos  
<http://www.ilifu.ac.za/il/accessing-facilities/training>

# Topics – Advanced Training #2

- Singularity
  - Sourcing a container
  - Building a container
- Creating a custom kernel for JupyterHub
- Python virtualenv
- Using R containers and R-Studio
- Using Nextflow (Bioinformatics)
- CARTA
- SARAO Archive

# Singularity containers



- Encapsulated software environments
- A software stack that contains everything required to run an application/workflow, including files, environmental variables, libraries and dependencies
- Containers accessible across platforms and services, allowing sharing of application environments



# Singularity – sourcing a container

- Supported Containers

[available containers](#)

- Project containers

- /<group>/software/containers

- Containers from Docker

`singularity pull docker://<repo>/<image>`

OR

`singularity build <container_name>.simg docker://<repo>/<image>`

[https://sylabs.io/guides/3.5/user-guide/singularity\\_and\\_docker.html](https://sylabs.io/guides/3.5/user-guide/singularity_and_docker.html)

# Singularity – building a container

- Building a container requires root access
- Build a container on your personal computer and migrate to ilifu cluster storage
- Singularity is backwards compatible
- Current version: Singularity v3.5.2

# Singularity – building a container

- Build a container:
  - From a repo
    - docker://
    - shub://
  - From an existing container
  - From a Singularity definition file (recipe)

# Singularity – Definition file

- Header
  - source: os or local image
- %files
  - copy files from base os into the container
- %environment
  - set environment variable for when container runs
- %post
  - installation steps for software/libraries, etc

# Singularity – Definition file

- **Header**
- **%files**
- **%environment**
- **%post**

```
Bootstrap: debootstrap  
MirrorURL: http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/  
OSVersion: bionic  
Include: software-properties-common
```

OR

```
Bootstrap: localimage  
From: /path/to/image
```

# Singularity – Definition file

- Header
- **%files**
- **%environment**
- **%post**

```
%files
/file1
/file2 /opt
```

# Singularity – Definition file

- Header
- %files
- **%environment**
- %post

```
%environment
export PATH=/opt/anaconda3/bin:${PATH}
export INSTALL_DIR=/opt/installer
```

# Singularity – Definition file

- Header
- %files
- %environment
- **%post**

```
%post
export ANACONDA_FILE=Anaconda3-5.2.0-Linux-x86_64.sh

apt-add-repository universe
apt-get update -y
apt-get install -y wget git libfftw3

wget https://repo.continuum.io/archive/${ANACONDA_FILE}
bash ${ANACONDA_FILE} -b -p /opt/anaconda3
export PATH=/opt/anaconda3/bin:${PATH}

pip install astropy scipy scikit-learn

apt-get clean
rm ${ANACONDA_FILE}
```

# Singularity – Definition file

- Header
- %files
- %environment
- %post
- **%runscript, %app, %label, %help,**

```
%runscript
    python "$@"
```

# Singularity – Definition file

- Header
- %files
- %environment
- %post
- %runscript

```
Bootstrap: debootstrap
MirrorURL: http://archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu/
OSVersion: bionic
Include: software-properties-common

%environment
    export PATH=/opt/anaconda3/bin:${PATH}

%post
    export ANACONDA_FILE=Anaconda3-5.2.0-Linux-x86_64.sh

    apt-add-repository universe
    apt-get update -y
    apt-get install -y wget git libfftw3

    wget https://repo.continuum.io/archive/${ANACONDA_FILE}
    bash ${ANACONDA_FILE} -b -p /opt/anaconda3
    export PATH=/opt/anaconda3/bin:${PATH}

    pip install astropy scipy scikit-learn

    apt-get clean
    rm ${ANACONDA_FILE}

%runscript
    python "$@"
```

# Singularity – Definition file

```
singularity build <container_name> /path/to/definition_file
```

```
singularity build ML-astro.simg ML-astro.def
```

## Containers:

- .img, .simg, .sif
- No difference, just naming conventions that have changed over time
- Contact [support@ilifu.ac.za](mailto:support@ilifu.ac.za) for assistance

# Custom Jupyter kernel

Available kernels:

```
jupyter-kernelspec list
```

Location of custom user kernel:

```
/users/<username>/.local/share/jupyter/kernel/<kernel_name>/kernel.json
```

Example:

```
/users/jeremy/.local/share/jupyter/kernel/ML/kernel.json
```

# Custom Jupyter kernel

kernel.json:

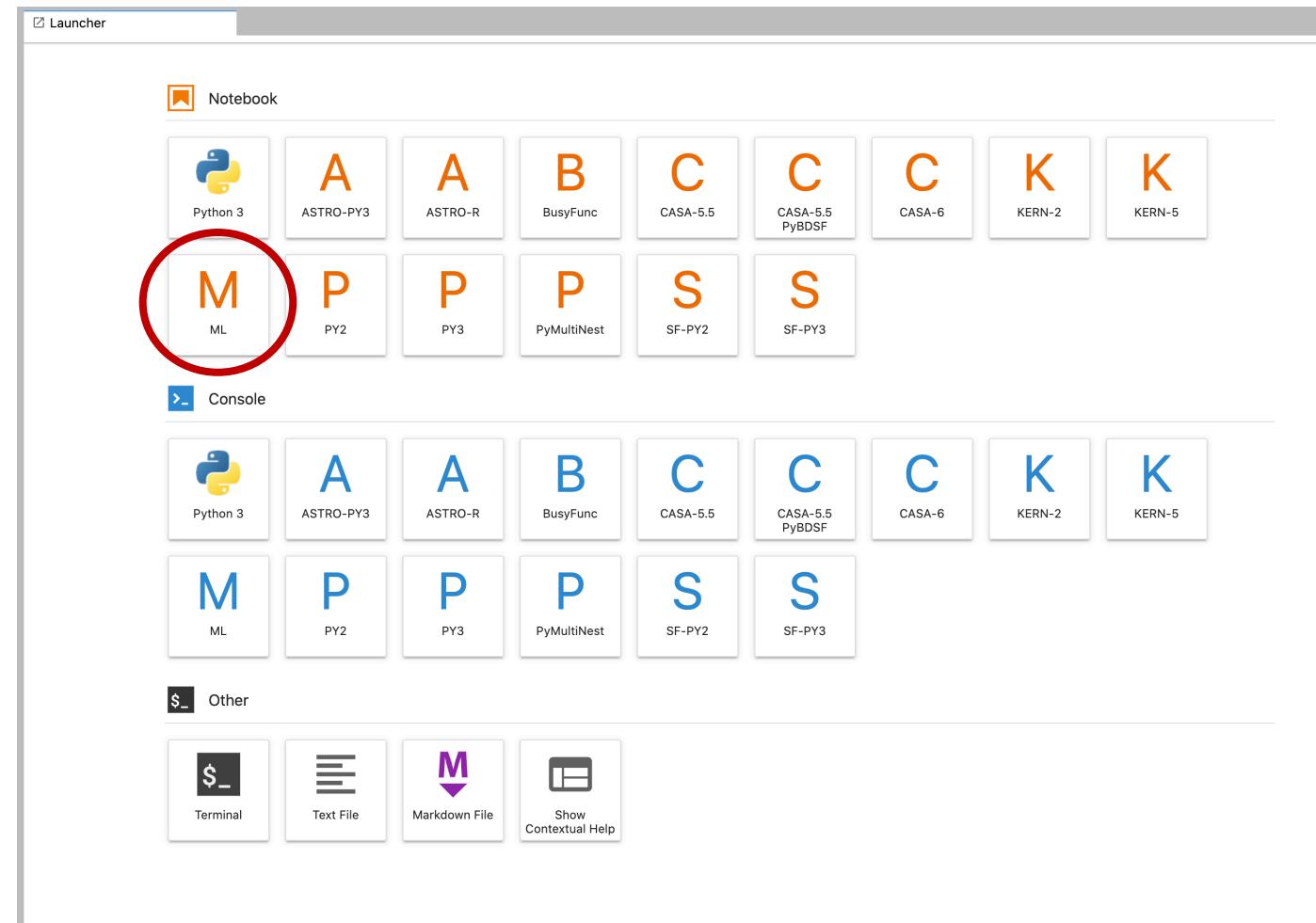
```
{  
    "display_name": "<kernel_name>",  
    "language": "python",  
    "argv": [  
        "singularity", "exec", "/path/to/container", "/path/to/python_exec",  
        "-m",  
        "IPython.kernel",  
        "-f",  
        "{connection_file}"  
    ]  
}
```

# Custom Jupyter kernel

Example kernel.json:

```
{  
    "display_name": "ML",  
    "language": "python",  
    "argv": [  
        "singularity", "exec", "/idia/users/jeremy/containers/ML.simg", "/anaconda3/bin/python",  
        "-m",  
        "IPython.kernel",  
        "-f",  
        "{connection_file}"  
    ]  
}
```

# Custom Jupyter kernel



# Python Virtual Environment

- virtualenv
- <https://virtualenv.pypa.io/en/latest/>
- Isolated Python environment
- Less risk of conflicts occurring with pip install --user
- Similar to venv (python -m venv)
- Can customize which os python is used: python2.7, python3+
- Limited by os libraries

# Python Virtual Environment

```
virtualenv --help
```

```
virtualenv /path/to/virtual_environment
```

--python

The Python interpreter to use

--system-site-packages

Give the virtual environment access to  
the global site-packages

# Python Virtual Environment

```
virtualenv /path/to/virtual_environment
```

## Example:

```
virtualenv /idia/users/jeremy/venv/ML
source /idia/users/jeremy/venv/ML/bin/activate
which python
  ➤ /idia/users/Jeremy/venv/ML/bin/python
pip install torch scikit-learn
deactivate (to exit)
```

# Python Virtual Environment

Python virtualenv as a Jupyter kernel

Once the virtual environment is active:

```
ipython kernel install --name "<kernel_name>" --user
```

Example:

```
source /idia/users/jeremy/venv/ML/bin/activate  
pip install jupyter  
ipython kernel install --name "ML2" --user
```

Creates the kernel.json file at  
`/users/jeremy/.local/share/jupyter/kernels/ml2/kernel.json`



# Python Virtual Environment

