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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide
for PEARC24

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

└─ Introduction

└─ Acknowledgments and shameless plugs

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Acknowledgments and shameless plugs

[OpenHPC](#) especially Tim Middelkoop (Internet2) and Chris Simmons (Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center). They have a BOF at 1:30 Wednesday. You should go to it.

[Jetstream2](#) especially Jeremy Fischer, Mike Lowe, and Julian Pistorius. Jetstream2 has a tutorial at the same time as this one. Please stay here.

[NSF CC*](#) for the equipment that led to some of the lessons we're sharing today (award #2127188).

[ACCESS](#) current maintainers of the project formerly known as the XSEDE Compatible Basic Cluster.

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└ Where we're starting from

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Where we're starting from



Figure 1: Two example HPC networks for the tutorial

You:

- ▶ have installed OpenHPC before
- ▶ have been issued a (basically) out-of-the-box OpenHPC cluster for this tutorial

Cluster details:

- ▶ Rocky Linux 9 (x86_64)
- ▶ OpenHPC 3.1, Warewulf 3, Slurm 23.11.6
- ▶ 2 non-GPU nodes
- ▶ 2 GPU nodes (currently without GPU drivers, so: expensive non-GPU nodes)
- ▶ 1 management node (SMS)
- ▶ 1 unprovisioned login node

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Where we're starting from

We used the OpenHPC automatic installation script from [Appendix A](#) with a few variations:

1. Installed `a-mail` to have a valid `MailProg` for `slurm.conf`.
2. Created `user1` and `user2` accounts with password-less `sudo` privileges.
3. Changed `CHROOT` from `/opt/ohpc/admin/images/rocky9.3` to `/opt/ohpc/admin/images/rocky9.4`.
4. Enabled `slurds` and `nmap` in `CHROOT`.
5. Added `nano` and `yum` to `CHROOT`.
6. Removed a redundant `ReturnToService` line from `/etc/slurm/slurm.conf`.
7. Stored all compute/GPU nodes' SSH host keys in `/etc/ssh/ssh_known_hosts`.

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Where we're going

1. A login node that's practically identical to a compute node (except for where it needs to be different)
2. A slightly more secured SMS and login node
3. GPU drivers on the GPU nodes
4. Using node-local storage for the OS and/or scratch
5. De-coupling the SMS and the compute nodes (e.g., independent kernel versions)
6. Easier management of node differences (GPU or not, diskless/single-disk/multi-disk, Infiniband or not, etc.)
7. Slurm configuration to match some common policy goals (fair share, resource limits, etc.)

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└─ Assumptions

Assumptions

1. We have a VM named `login`, with no operating system installed.
2. The `eth0` network interface for `login` is attached to the internal network, and `eth1` is attached to the external network.
3. The `eth0` MAC address for `login` is known—check the **Login server** section of your handout for that. It's of the format `aa:bb:cc:dd:ee:ff`.
4. We're logged into the SMS as `user1` or `user2` that has `sudo` privileges.

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- └─ Create a new login node

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Create a new login node

Working from section 3.9.3 of the install guide:

```
[user@node ~]$ sudo wush -y node new login --netdev eth0 \
--ipaddr=172.16.0.2 --hwaddr=__:__:__:__:__
[user@node ~]$ sudo wush -y provision set login \
--node=rocky.4 --bootstrap=uname -r \
--files=dynamic_hosts,passwords,group,shadow,munge.key,network
```

Make sure to replace the __ with the characters from your login node's MAC address!

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- └─ What'd we just do?

What'd we just do?

Ever since login was powered on, it's been stuck in a loop trying to PXE boot. What's the usual PXE boot process for a client in an OpenHPC environment?

1. The client network card tries to get an IP address from a DHCP server (the SMS) by broadcasting its MAC address.

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What'd we just do?

Ever since login was powered on, it's been stuck in a loop trying to PXE boot. What's the usual PXE boot process for a client in an OpenHPC environment?

1. The client network card tries to get an IP address from a DHCP server (the SMS) by broadcasting its MAC address.
2. The SMS responds with the client's IP and network info, a next-server IP (the SMS again), and a filename option (a bootloader from the iPXE project).

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What'd we just do?

Ever since login was powered on, it's been stuck in a loop trying to PXE boot. What's the usual PXE boot process for a client in an OpenHPC environment?

1. The client network card tries to get an IP address from a DHCP server (the SMS) by broadcasting its MAC address.
2. The SMS responds with the client's IP and network info, a next-server IP (the SMS again), and a filename option (a bootloader from the iPXE project).
3. The network card gets the bootloader over TFTP and executes it.

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What'd we just do?

Ever since login was powered on, it's been stuck in a loop trying to PXE boot. What's the usual PXE boot process for a client in an OpenHPC environment?

1. The client network card tries to get an IP address from a DHCP server (the SMS) by broadcasting its MAC address.
2. The SMS responds with the client's IP and network info, a next-server IP (the SMS again), and a filename option (a bootloader from the iPXE project).
3. The network card gets the bootloader over TFTP and executes it.
4. iPXE makes a second DHCP request and this time, it gets a URL (by default, [http://SMS_IP/Win/pxe/cfg/\\$\({client_mac}\)](http://SMS_IP/Win/pxe/cfg/$({client_mac}))) for an iPXE config file.

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What'd we just do?

Ever since login was powered on, it's been stuck in a loop trying to PXE boot. What's the usual PXE boot process for a client in an OpenHPC environment?

1. The client network card tries to get an IP address from a DHCP server (the SMS) by broadcasting its MAC address.
2. The SMS responds with the client's IP and network info, a next-server IP (the SMS again), and a `tftpname` option (a bootloader from the iPXE project).
3. The network card gets the bootloader over TFTP and executes it.
4. iPXE makes a second DHCP request and this time, it gets a URL (by default, `http://SMS_IP/VA/tftp/cfg/${client_mac}`) for an iPXE config file.
5. The config file contains the URL of a Linux kernel and initial ramdisk, plus multiple kernel parameters available after initial bootup for getting the node's full operating system contents.

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What'd we just do?

1. The node name, `--baddr`, and `--ipaddr` parameters go into the SMS DHCP server settings.

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What'd we just do?

1. The node name, `--baddr`, and `--ipaddr` parameters go into the SMS DHCP server settings.
2. The `--bootstrap` parameter defines the kernel and ramdisk for the IPXE configuration.

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What'd we just do?

1. The node name, `--baddr`, and `--ipaddr` parameters go into the SMS DHCP server settings.
2. The `--bootstrap` parameter defines the kernel and ramdisk for the PXE configuration.
3. The node name, `--swdev`, `--ipaddr`, `--baddr` parameters all go into kernel parameters accessible from the provisioning software.

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What'd we just do?

1. The node name, `--baddr`, and `--ipaddr` parameters go into the SMS DHCP server settings.
2. The `--bootstrap` parameter defines the kernel and ramdisk for the IPXE configuration.
3. The node name, `--swdev`, `--ipaddr`, `--baddr` parameters all go into kernel parameters accessible from the provisioning software.
4. During the initial bootup, the `--baddr` parameter is passed to a CGI script on the SMS to identify the correct VNFS for the provisioning software to download (set by the `--vzfs` parameter).

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What'd we just do?

1. The node name, `--baddr`, and `--ipaddr` parameters go into the SMS DHCP server settings.
2. The `--bootstrap` parameter defines the kernel and ramdisk for the IPXE configuration.
3. The node name, `--rootdev`, `--ipaddr`, `--baddr` parameters all go into kernel parameters accessible from the provisioning software.
4. During the initial bootup, the `--baddr` parameter is passed to a CGI script on the SMS to identify the correct VNFS for the provisioning software to download (set by the `--vzfs` parameter).
5. After downloading the VNFS, the provisioning software will also download files from the SMS set by the `--files` parameter.

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 - └─ Did it work? So far, so good.

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Did it work? So far, so good.

```
[user@node ~]$ sudo ssh login
[root@login ~]# df -h
Filesystem
...
172.16.0.1:/home
172.16.0.1:/opt/ohpc/pub
```

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- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes

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- └─ Did it work? Not entirely.

x

Did it work? Not entirely.

```
[root@login ~]# sinfo
sinfo: error: resolve_ctls_from_dns_srv: res_nsearch error:
Unknown host
sinfo: error: fetch_config: DNS SRV lookup failed
sinfo: error: _establish_config_source: failed to fetch config
sinfo: fatal: Could not establish a configuration source
```

systemctl status slurm is more helpful, with
fatal: Unable to determine this slurm's NodeName. So how do we fix this one?

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- └─ A dedicated login node

- └─ Option 1: take the error message literally

x

Option 1: take the error message literally

So there's no entry for login in the `SMS azure.conf`. To fix that:

1. Run `slurm -C` on the login node to capture its correct CPU specifications. Copy that line to your laptop's clipboard.

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└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

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└─ Option 1: take the error message literally

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Option 1: take the error message literally

So there's no entry for login in the SMS `slurm.conf`. To fix that:

1. Run `slurm -C` on the login node to capture its correct CPU specifications. Copy that line to your laptop's clipboard.
2. On the SMS, run `nano /etc/slurm/slurm/slurm.conf` and make a new line of all the `slurm -C` output from the previous step (pasted from your laptop clipboard).

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└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

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└─ Option 1: take the error message literally

x

Option 1: take the error message literally

So there's no entry for login in the SMS `alurm.conf`. To fix that:

1. Run `alurnd -C` on the login node to capture its correct CPU specifications. Copy that line to your laptop's clipboard.
2. On the SMS, run `nano /etc/alurm/alurm/alurm.conf` and make a new line of all the `alurnd -C` output from the previous step (pasted from your laptop clipboard).
3. Save and exit nano by pressing `Ctrl-X` and then `Enter`.

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└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

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└─ Option 1: take the error message literally

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Option 1: take the error message literally

So there's no entry for login in the SMS `slurm.conf`. To fix that:

1. Run `slurm -C` on the login node to capture its correct CPU specifications. Copy that line to your laptop's clipboard.
2. On the SMS, run `nano /etc/slurm/slurm/slurm.conf` and make a new line of all the `slurm -C` output from the previous step (pasted from your laptop clipboard).
3. Save and exit nano by pressing `Ctrl-X` and then `Enter`.
4. Reload the new Slurm configuration everywhere (well, everywhere functional) with `sudo scontrol reconfigure` on the SMS.

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└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

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└─ Option 1: take the error message literally

x

Option 1: take the error message literally

So there's no entry for login in the SMS `slurm.conf`. To fix that:

1. Run `slnrmd -C` on the login node to capture its correct CPU specifications. Copy that line to your laptop's clipboard.
2. On the SMS, run `nano /etc/slurm/slurm/slurm.conf` and make a new line of all the `slurm -C` output from the previous step (pasted from your laptop clipboard).
3. Save and exit nano by pressing `Ctrl-X` and then `Enter`.
4. Reload the new Slurm configuration everywhere (well, everywhere functional) with `sudo scontrol reconfigure` on the SMS.
5. `ssh` back to the login node and restart `slurmd`, since it wasn't able to respond to the `scontrol reconfigure` from the previous step (`sudo ssh login ssystemctl restart slurmd` on the SMS).

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 - └─ A dedicated login node
 - └─ Option 1: take the error message literally

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Option 1: take the error message literally

Now an `info` should work on the login node:

```
[root@login ~]# info
PARTITION AVAIL  TIMELIMIT  NODES  STATE NODELIST
normal*    up 1-00:00:00      1  idle c1
```

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- └─ Option 2: why are we running slurmd anyway?

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Option 2: why are we running `slurmd` anyway?

The `slurmd` service is really only needed on systems that will be running computational jobs, and the login node is not in that category.

Running `slurmd` like the other nodes means the login node can get all its information from the SMS, but we can do the same thing with a very short customized `slurm.conf` with two lines from the SMS' `slurm.conf`:

```
ClusterName=cluster  
SlurmctldHost=sms
```

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└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

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└─ Interactive test

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Interactive test

1. On the login node as root, temporarily stop the slurm service with `systemctl stop slurm`
2. On the login node as root, edit `/etc/slurm/slurm.conf` with `nano /etc/slurm/slurm.conf`
3. Add the two lines to the right, save and exit `nano` by pressing `Ctrl-X` and then `Enter`.

Verify that `sinfo` still works without `slurm` and with the custom `/etc/slurm/slurm.conf`.

```
[root@login ~]# sinfo
PARTITION AVAIL  TIMELIMIT  NODES  STATE NODELIST
normal*    up 1:00:00:00      1  idle  cl
```

```
/etc/slurm/slurm.conf on login
node
```

```
ClusterName=cluster
SlurmctldHost=ans
```

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- └─ Make permanent changes from the SMS

Make permanent changes from the SMS

Let's reproduce the changes we made interactively on the login node in the Warewulf settings on the SMS.

For the customized `slurm.conf` file, we can keep a copy of it on the SMS and add it to the Warewulf file store.

We've done that previously for files like the shared `munge.key` for all cluster nodes (see section 3.8.5 of the OpenHPC install guide).

We also need to make sure that file is part of the login node's provisioning settings.

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 - └─ Make permanent changes from the SMS

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Make permanent changes from the SMS

On the SMS:

```
[user@node ~]$ sudo scp login:/etc/slurm/slurm.conf \  
/etc/slurm/slurm.conf.login \  
slurm.conf 100% 40 87.7KB/s 00:00  
[user@node ~]$ sudo wush -y file import \  
/etc/slurm/slurm.conf.login --name=slurm.conf.login \  
--path=/etc/slurm/slurm.conf
```

Now the file is available, but we need to ensure the login node gets it. That's handled with wush provision.

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 - └─ A quick look at wush provision

x

A quick look at wush provision

What are the provisioning settings for compute node c1?

```
[userid@ ~]$ wush provision print c1
#### c1 #####
ci: MASTER           = UNDEF
ci: BOOTSTRAP        = c1.96-1.el9.elrepo.x86_64
ci: VMFS              = rocky9.4
ci: VALIDATE         = FALSE
ci: FILES            = dynamic_hosts.group.munge.key.network,
                        passwd.shadow
...
ci: KARGO             = "net.ifnames=0 biosdevname=0 quiet"
ci: BOOTLOCAL        = FALSE
```

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 - └─ A quick look at wsh provision

x

A quick look at wsh provision

What are the provisioning settings for node login?

```
[userid@node ~]$ wsh provision print login
### login #####
login: MASTER      = UNDEF
login: BOOTSTRAP    = 0.1.50-1.el9.elrepo.x86_64
login: VMSF         = rocky9.4
login: VALIDATE     = FALSE
login: FILES        = dynamic_hosts,group,munge.key,network,
                    passwd,shadow
...
login: XARGS        = "set.ifnames=0 biosdevname=0 quiet"
login: BOOTLOCAL    = FALSE
```

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 - └─ A quick look at `wwsh` provision

x

A quick look at `wwsh` provision

The provisioning settings for `c1` and `login` are identical, but there's a lot to read in there to be certain about it.

We could run the two outputs through `diff`, but every line contains the node name, so **no lines are literally identical**.

Let's simplify and filter the `wwsh` provision output to make it easier to compare.

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- └─ Filter the `wwsh provision` output

Filter the `wwsh provision` output

► I only care about the lines containing `= signs`, so

```
wwsh provision print cl | grep "="
```

is a start.

x

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- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
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 - └─ Filter the `wwsh provision` output

x

Filter the `wwsh provision` output

- I only care about the lines containing `= signs`, so

```
wwsh provision print cl | grep "="
```

is a start.

- Now all the lines are prefixed with `cl::`, and I want to keep everything after that, so

```
wwsh provision print cl | grep "=" | cut -d: -f2-
```

will take care of that.

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└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

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└─ Filtered result

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Filtered result

```
vvah provision print cl | grep = | cut -d: -f2-
MASTER          = UNDEF
BOOTSTRAP        = 6.1.06-1.el9.elrepo.x86_64
VNF5              = rocky9-4
VALIDATE         = FALSE
FILES            = dynamic_hosts.group.manage.key.network,
                  passwd,shadow
...
KARGES           = "net.ifnames=0 biosdevname=0 quiet"
BOOTLOCAL        = FALSE
```

Much more useful.

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- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
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 - └─ Make a function for this

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Make a function for this

We may be typing that command pipeline a lot, so let's make a shell function to cut down on typing:

```
[user@node ~]$ function pprint() { \
  vssh provision print $@ | grep - | cut -d: -f2- ; }
[user@node ~]$ pprint cl
MASTER           = 10.1.1.1
BOOTSTRAP         = 10.1.1.1
...

```

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- └─ diff the outputs

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diff the outputs

We could redirect a `proprint ci` and a `proprint login` to files and `diff` the resulting files, or we can use the shell's `<()` operator to treat command output as a file:

```
[user@node ~]$ diff -u <($(proprint ci)) <($(proprint login))  
[user@node ~]$
```

Either of those shows there are zero provisioning differences between a compute node and the login node.

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- └─ Add the custom `slurm.conf` to the login node

Add the custom `slurm.conf` to the login node

Add a file to login's FILES property with:

```
[user@node ~]$ sudo websh -y provision set login \
--fileadd=slurm.conf.login
```

(refer to section 3.9.3 of the install guide for previous examples of `--fileadd`).

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- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A dedicated login node
 - └─ Check for provisioning differences

Check for provisioning differences

```
[user@node ~]$ diff -u <($(preprint ci) <($(preprint login))
--- /dev/fd/63  2024-07-06 11:11:07.682959677 -0400
+++ /dev/fd/62  2024-07-06 11:11:07.683959681 -0400
@@ -2,7 +2,7 @@
BOOTSTRAP      = 6.1.96-1.el9.elrepo.x86_64
VNF5           = rocky9.4
VALIDATE       = FALSE
FILES          = dynamic_hosts.group,munge.key,network,
+passwd,shadow
+passwd,shadow,slurm.conf,login
PRESSHELL      = FALSE
POSTSHELL      = FALSE
POSTRETDOWN    = FALSE
```

x

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- └─ A dedicated login node

- └─ Ensure slurmd doesn't run on the login node

x

Ensure `slurmd` doesn't run on the login node

To disable the `slurmd` service on just the login node, we can take advantage of conditions in the `systemd` service file. Back on the login node as root:

```
[user@node ~]$ sudo ssh login
[root@login ~]# systemctl edit slurmd
```

Insert these lines between the lines of `## Anything between here... and`
`## Lines below this comment...:`

```
[Unit]
ConditionHost=!c*
ConditionHost=!g*
```

This will only run the service on nodes whose hostnames start with `c` or `g`.

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- └─ Ensure slurmd doesn't run on the login node

x

Ensure slurmd doesn't run on the login node

Once that file is saved, try to start the slurmd service with `systemctl start slurmd` and check its status with `systemctl status slurmd`.

```
s slurmd.service - Slurm node daemon
..
Condition: start condition failed at Sat 2024-07-06 18:12:17
EDT; 4min 22s ago
..
Jul 06 17:14:16 login systemd[1]: Stopped Slurm node daemon.
Jul 06 18:12:17 login systemd[1]: Slurm node daemon was skipped
because of an unset condition check (ConditionNot=c*).
```

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 - └─ Make the changes permanent

x

Make the changes permanent

The `systemctl edit` command resulted in a file
`/etc/systemd/system/slurmd.service.d/override.conf`. Let's:

- make a place for it in the chroot on the SMS, and
- copy the file over from the login node.

```
[user@node ~]$ export CHROOT=/opt/ekpc/admin/images/rocky8.4
[user@node ~]$ sudo mkdir -p \
$(CHROOT)/etc/systemd/system/slurmd.service.d/
[user@node ~]$ sudo scp \
login:/etc/systemd/system/slurmd.service.d/override.conf \
$(CHROOT)/etc/systemd/system/slurmd.service.d/
override.conf      100% 23   36.7KB/s   00:00
```

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 - └─ Make the changes permanent

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Make the changes permanent

Finally, we'll:

- rebuild the VNFs, and
- reboot both the login node and a compute node to test the changes.

```
[user@ana ~]$ sudo uvvns --chroot=${CHROOT}
Using 'rocky9.4' as the VNFs name
...
Total elapsed time
: 04:45 s
[user@ana ~]$ sudo azh login reboot
[user@ana ~]$ sudo azh ci reboot
```

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A dedicated login node
 - └─ Verify the changes on the login node

x

Verify the changes on the login node

Verify that the login node doesn't start slurm, but can still run sinfo without any error messages.

```
[user@node ~]$ sudo ssh login systemctl status slurm
s slurm.service - Slurm node daemon
...
Jul 06 18:26:23 login systemd[1]: Slurm node daemon was
skipped because of an unset condition check
(ConditionHost=c*).
[user@node ~]$ sudo ssh login sinfo
PARTITION AVAIL  TIMELIMIT  NODES  STATE MODELIST
normal*    up 1-00:00:00    1   idle c1
```

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes

- └─ A dedicated login node

- └─ Verify the changes on a compute node

x

Verify the changes on a compute node

Verify that the compute node still starts slurmd (it can also run sinfo).

```
[user@node ~]$ sudo ssh ci systemctl status slurmd
● slurmd.service - Slurm node daemon
...
Jul 06 19:03:22 ci systemd[1]: Started Slurm node daemon.
Jul 06 19:03:22 ci slurmd[1082]: slurmd: CPUs=2 Boards=1
        Sockets=2 Cores=1 Threads=1 Memory=5913 TopDisk=2596
        Optime=28 CPUSpecList=(null) FeaturesAvail=(null)
        FeaturesActive=(null)
[user@node ~]$ sudo ssh ci sinfo
PARTITION AVAIL  TIMELIMIT  NODES  STATE NODELIST
normal*    up 1:00:00:00      1    down ci
```

(Yes, ci is marked down—we'll fix that shortly.)

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes

- └─ A dedicated login node

- └─ Problem: the login node doesn't let users log in

x

Problem: the login node doesn't let users log in

What if we ssh to the login node as someone other than root?

```
[user@node ~]$ ssh login
Access denied: user user1 (uid=1001) has no active jobs on this node.
Connection closed by 172.16.0.2 port 22
```

which makes this the exact opposite of a login node for normal users. Let's fix that.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes

- └─ A dedicated login node

- └─ Make the login node function as a login node

x

Make the login node function as a login node

- ▶ The Access denied is caused by the `pan_sjurm.no` entry at the end of `/etc/pan.d/sshd`, which is invaluable on a normal compute node, but not on a login node.
- ▶ On the SMS, you can also do a `diff -u /etc/pan.d/sshd $(CWD007)/etc/pan.d/sshd`
- ▶ You'll see that the `pan_sjurm.no` line is the only difference between the two files.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

└─ A dedicated login node

└─ Test a PAM change to the login node

Test a PAM change to the login node

- ▶ Temporarily comment out the last line of the login node's `/etc/pam.d/ssh` and see if you can ssh into the login node as a normal user (i.e., `ssh user1@login`).
- ▶ Your user should be able to log in now.
- ▶ In case the PAM configuration won't let root log in, **don't panic!** Instructors can reboot your login node from its console to put it back to its original state.

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A dedicated login node
 - └─ Make the change permanent

x

Make the change permanent

- We want to ensure that the login node gets the same `/etc/pam.d/sshd` that the SMS uses.
- We'll follow the same method we used to give the login node a custom `slurm.conf`:

```
[user@ana ~]$ sudo wvuh -y file import /etc/pam.d/sshd \
--name=sshd.login
[user@ana ~]$ wvuh file list
...
sshd.login : rw-r--r-- 1 root root 727 /etc/pam.d/sshd
```

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A dedicated login node
 - └─ Make the change permanent

Make the change permanent

```
[username ~]$ sudo wush -y provision set login \
--fileadd=sashd.login
[username ~]$ diff -u <($(proprint cl) <($(proprint login)
...
VALIDATE      = FALSE
- FILES       = dynamic_hosts.group,munge.key,network,
passwd,shadow
+ FILES       = dynamic_hosts.group,munge.key,network,
passwd,shadow,elurm.conf.login,sashd.login
...

```

(refer to section 3.9.3 of the install guide for previous examples of --fileadd).

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes

- └─ A dedicated login node

- └─ Test the change

x

[Test the change](#)

Reboot the login node and let's see if we can log in as a regular user.

```
[user@node ~]$ sudo ssh login reboot  
[user@node ~]$ ssh login  
[user@login ~]$
```

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

└─ A bit more security for the login node

└─ A bit more security for the login node

A bit more security for the login node

- ▶ narrative about brute-force SSH activity
- ▶ verify what ports are listening on login (should really just be SSH)
- ▶ enabling firewall
- ▶ enabling fail2ban
- ▶ realizing that the default vubootstrap kernel is lacking, and rebuilding it

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node

A bit more security for the login node

Not too long after your SMS and/or login nodes are booted, you'll see messages in the SMS /var/log/secure like:

```
Jul 11 11:24:08 sms sshd[162636]: Invalid user evilmike from  
68.66.205.120 port 1028  
...  
Jul 11 11:24:08 sms sshd[162636]: Failed password for invalid  
user evilmike from 68.66.205.120 port 1028 ssh2  
...
```

because people who want to break into computers for various reasons have Internet connections.

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

└─ A bit more security for the login node

└─ A bit more security for the login node

x

A bit more security for the login node

There's a lot of things that can be done to secure things, including:

1. Placing the SMS and login node external interfaces on protected network segment.
2. Allowing only administrative users to SSH into the SMS.
3. Replacing password-based authentication with key-based authentication.

Though #3 will eliminate brute-force password guessing attacks, it's usually not practical for a login node. So let's mitigate that differently with `fail2ban`.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ How fail2ban works

How fail2ban works

1. Monitor `/var/log/secure` and other logs for indicators of brute-force attacks (invalid users, failed passwords, etc.)
2. If indicators from a specific IP address happen often enough over a period of time, block all access from that address for a period of time.
3. Once that period has expired, remove the IP address from the block list.

This reduces the effectiveness of brute-force password guessing by orders of magnitude (~10 guesses per hour versus ~100 or ~1000 guesses per hour).

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes

- └─ A bit more security for the login node

- └─ Test installing fail2ban on the login node

Test installing fail2ban on the login node

Install the fail2ban packages on the login node with

```
[user@node ~]$ sudo yum install --installroot=$(CHROOT) \
fail2ban
[user@node ~]$ sudo chroot $(CHROOT) systemctl enable \
fail2ban firewalld
```

(this will also install firewalld).

Add the following to the chroot's sashd.local file with
sudo nano \$(CHROOT)/etc/fail2ban/jail.d/sashd.local:

```
[sashd]
enabled = true
```

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ Test installing fail2ban on the login node

Test installing fail2ban on the login node

Don't forget to only run fail2ban on the login node, and not the compute nodes: - Nobody can SSH into your compute nodes from outside. - Thus, the only things a compute node could ban would be your SMS or your login node. - A malicious or unwitting user could easily ban your login node from a compute node by SSH'ing to it repeatedly, which would effectively be a denial of service.

```
[user@node ~]$ sudo mkdir -p \
${CHROOT}/etc/systemd/system/fail2ban.service.d/
[user@node ~]$ sudo nano \
${CHROOT}/etc/systemd/system/fail2ban.service.d/override.conf
```

Add the lines

```
[Unit]
ConditionHost=!login*
```

then save and exit with Ctrl-X.

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ Test installing fail2ban on the login node

x

Test installing fail2ban on the login node

Before we go further, check if there's anything in `/var/log/secure` on the login node:

```
[User@node ~]$ sudo cat login |> /var/log/secure
-rw-r----- 1 root root 0 Jul 7 03:14 /var/log/secure
```

Nope. Let's fix that, too.

- Looking in `/etc/rsyslog.conf`, we see a bunch of things commented out, including the line `#authpriv.* /var/log/secure`.
- Rather than drop in an entirely new `rsyslog.conf` file that we'd have to maintain, `rsyslog` will automatically include any `*.conf` files in `/etc/rsyslog.d`.
- Let's make one of those for the chroot.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes

- └─ A bit more security for the login node

- └─ Make an rsyslog.d file, rebuild the VNFS, reboot the login node

Make an rsyslog.d file, rebuild the VNFS, reboot the login node

```
[user@node ~]$ echo "authpriv.* /var/log/secure" | \
sudo tee ${CHROOT}/etc/rsyslog.d/authpriv-local.conf
authpriv.* /var/log/secure
[user@node ~]$ cat \
${CHROOT}/etc/rsyslog.d/authpriv-local.conf
authpriv.* /var/log/secure
[user@node ~]$ sudo mvnfs --chroot=${CHROOT}
[user@node ~]$ sudo ash login reboot
```

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes

- └─ A bit more security for the login node

- └─ Post-reboot, how's fail2ban and firewalld on the login node?

Post-reboot, how's fail2ban and firewalld on the login node?

```
[user@node ~]$ sudo ssh login systemctl status firewalld
[root@login ~]# systemctl status firewalld
x firewalld.service - firewalld - dynamic firewall daemon
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/firewalld.service;
   enabled: preset)
   Active: failed (Result: exit-code) since Thu 2024-07-11
   16:40:47 EDT; 46ms>
...
Jul 11 16:40:47 login systemd[1]: firewalld.service: Main
   process exited, code=exited, status=3/NOTIMPLEMENTED
Jul 11 16:40:47 login systemd[1]: firewalld.service: Failed
   with result "exit-code".
```

Not great.

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

► So many Google results amount to "reboot to get your new kernel", but we've just booted a new kernel.

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

x

Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

- So many Google results amount to "reboot to get your new kernel", but we've just booted a new kernel.
- Red Hat has an article telling you to verify that you haven't disabled module loading by checking `sysctl -s | grep modules_disabled`, but that's not disabled either.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

x

Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

- So many Google results amount to "reboot to get your new kernel", but we've just booted a new kernel.
- Red Hat has an article telling you to verify that you haven't disabled module loading by checking `zypper --n | grep modules_disabled`, but that's not disabled either.
- The Red Hat article does tell you that packet filtering capabilities have to be enabled in the kernel, and that gets us closer.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

x

Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

- So many Google results amount to "reboot to get your new kernel", but we've just booted a new kernel.
- Red Hat has an article telling you to verify that you haven't disabled module loading by checking `zypper --n | grep modules_disabled`, but that's not disabled either.
- The Red Hat article does tell you that packet filtering capabilities have to be enabled in the kernel, and that gets us closer.
- It is possible to install and start `firewalld` on the SMS (you don't have to verify this right now), and that's using the same kernel as the login node.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

x

Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

- So many Google results amount to "reboot to get your new kernel", but we've just booted a new kernel.
- Red Hat has an article telling you to verify that you haven't disabled module loading by checking `zypper --s | grep modules_disabled`, but that's not disabled either.
- The Red Hat article does tell you that packet filtering capabilities have to be enabled in the kernel, and that gets us closer.
- It is possible to install and start `firewalld` on the SMS (you don't have to verify this right now), and that's using the same kernel as the login node.
- Or is it?

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

- How did we get the kernel that the login node is using?

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

- ▶ How did we get the kernel that the login node is using?
- ▶ Via vubootstrap `$(uname -r)` (section 3.9.1)

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

└─ A bit more security for the login node

└─ Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

x

Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

- ▶ How did we get the kernel that the login node is using?
- ▶ Via `vubootstrap $(uname -r)` (section 3.9.1)
- ▶ That section **also** had a command that most of us don't pay close attention to:
`echo "drivers += updates/kernel/" >> /etc/varwulf/bootstrap.conf`

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

└─ A bit more security for the login node

└─ Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

x

Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

- ▶ How did we get the kernel that the login node is using?
- ▶ Via vubootstrap `$(uname -r)` (section 3.9.1)
- ▶ That section **also** had a command that most of us don't pay close attention to:
`echo "drivers += updatea/kernel/" >> /etc/vaexnulf/bootstrap.conf`
- ▶ So though the login node is running the same kernel **version** as the SMS, it may **not** have all the drivers included.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

└─ A bit more security for the login node

└─ Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

x

Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

- ▶ How did we get the kernel that the login node is using?
- ▶ Via vubootstrap `$(uname -r)` (section 3.9.1)
- ▶ That section **also** had a command that most of us don't pay close attention to:
`echo "drivers += updatea/kernel/" >> /etc/warewulf/bootstrap.conf`
- ▶ So though the login node is running the same kernel **version** as the SMS, it may **not** have all the drivers included.
- ▶ Where are the drivers we care about? `lsmod` on the SMS shows a lot of `nf`-named modules for the Netfilter kernel framework.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

└─ A bit more security for the login node

└─ Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

x

Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

- ▶ How did we get the kernel that the login node is using?
- ▶ Via vubootstrap `$(uname -r)` (section 3.9.1)
- ▶ That section **also** had a command that most of us don't pay close attention to:
`echo "drivers += updates/kernel/" >> /etc/vars/vul/f/bootstrap.conf`
- ▶ So though the login node is running the same kernel **version** as the SMS, it may **not** have all the drivers included.
- ▶ Where are the drivers we care about? `lsmod` on the SMS shows a lot of `nf`-named modules for the Netfilter kernel framework.
- ▶ `find /lib/modules/$(uname -r) -name '*nf*'` shows these modules are largely located in the `kernel/net` folder (specifically `kernel/net/ipv4/netfilter`, `kernel/net/ipv6/netfilter`, and `kernel/net/netfilter`).

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

x

Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

Is kernel/net in our /etc/varewolf/bootstrap.conf at all?

```
[user@hms ~]$ grep kernel/net /etc/varewolf/bootstrap.conf
[user@hms ~]$
```

Nope, let's add it.

```
[user@hms ~]$ grep kernel/net /etc/varewolf/bootstrap.conf
[user@hms ~]$ echo "drivers += kernel/net/" | \
sudo tee -a /etc/varewolf/bootstrap.conf
drivers += kernel/net/
[user@hms ~]$ grep kernel/net /etc/varewolf/bootstrap.conf
drivers += kernel/net/
```


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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

x

Diagnosing 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED

Let's re-run the `wbootstrap` command and reboot the login node:

```
[user@hans ~]$ sudo wbootstrap --name "r"
...
Bootstrap image '6.1.07-1.el9.elrepo.x86_64' is ready
Done.
[user@hans ~]$ sudo ssh login reboot
```

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ Did 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED go away?

x

Did 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED go away?

```
[user@hpc ~]$ sudo nsh login systemctl status firewalld
* firewalld.service - firewalld - dynamic firewall daemon
   Loaded: loaded (/usr/lib/systemd/system/firewalld.service;
           enabled; preset: enabled)
   Active: active (running) since Thu 2024-07-11 21:58:18
           EDT; 43s ago
   ...
Jul 11 21:58:18 login systemd[1]: Starting firewalld - dynamic
firewall daemon...
Jul 11 21:58:18 login systemd[1]: Started firewalld - dynamic
firewall daemon.
```

It did.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better infrastructure nodes
 - └─ A bit more security for the login node
 - └─ Does fail2ban actually work now?

x

Does fail2ban actually work now?

```
[user@hpc ~]$ sudo ssh login grep 68.66.205.120 \  
/var/log/fail2ban.log  
...  
2024-07-11 22:02:27,030 fail2ban.actions ... [sshd] Ban \  
68.66.205.120
```

It does.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

└─ Making better infrastructure nodes

└─ A bit more security for the login node

└─ What does it look like from evilmike's side?

x

What does it look like from evilmike's side?

```
mike@server:~$ ssh evilmike@149.165.155.235
evilmike@149.165.155.235's password:
Permission denied, please try again.
evilmike@149.165.155.235's password:
Permission denied, please try again.
evilmike@149.165.155.235's password:
evilmike@149.165.155.235: Permission denied (publickey,
gssapi-keyex,gssapi-with-mic,password).
mike@server:~$ ssh evilmike@149.165.155.235
ssh: connect to host 149.165.155.235 port 22: Connection
refused
```

evilmike is thwarted, at least for now.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

└─ Making better compute nodes

└─ More seamless reboots of compute nodes

└─ Why was c1 marked as down?

x

Why was c1 marked as down?

You can return c1 to an idle state by running
sudo scontrol update node=c1 state=resume on the SMS:

```
[user@hpc ~]$ sudo scontrol update node=c1 state=resume
[user@hpc ~]$ sinfo
PARTITION AVAIL  TIMELIMIT  NODES  STATE NODELIST
normal*   up    1-00:00:00      1  idle  c1
```

We should configure things so that we don't have to manually resume nodes every time we reboot them.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better compute nodes

- └─ More seamless reboots of compute nodes

- └─ More seamless reboots of compute nodes

More seamless reboots of compute nodes

- ▶ Slurm doesn't like it when a node gets rebooted without its knowledge.
- ▶ There's an `scontrol reboot` option that's handy to have nodes reboot when system updates occur, but it requires a valid setting for `RebootProgram` in `/etc/slurm/slurm.conf`.
- ▶ By default, Slurm and OpenHPC don't ship with a default `RebootProgram`, so let's make one.

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better compute nodes
 - └─ More seamless reboots of compute nodes
 - └─ Adding a valid RebootProgram

x

Adding a valid RebootProgram

```
[user@node ~]$ grep -i reboot /etc/slurm/slurm.conf
#RebootProgram=""
[user@node ~]$ echo 'RebootProgram="/sbin/shutdown -r now"' \
| sudo tee -a /etc/slurm/slurm.conf
[user@node ~]$ grep -i reboot /etc/slurm/slurm.conf
#RebootProgram=""
RebootProgram="/sbin/shutdown -r now"
```

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

└─ Making better compute nodes

└─ More seamless reboots of compute nodes

└─ Informing all nodes of the changes and testing it out

x

Informing all nodes of the changes and testing it out

```
[user@node ~]$ sudo scontrol reconfigure  
[user@node ~]$ sudo scontrol reboot ASAP sxtatstate=RESUME c1
```

- ▶ scontrol reboot will wait for all jobs on a group of nodes to finish before rebooting the nodes.
- ▶ scontrol reboot ASAP will immediately put the nodes in a DRAIN state, routing all pending jobs to other nodes until the rebooted nodes are returned to service.
- ▶ scontrol reboot ASAP sxtatstate=RESUME will set the nodes to accept jobs after the reboot. sxtatstate=DRAIN will leave the nodes in a DRAIN state if you need to do more work on them before returning them to service.

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better compute nodes
 - └─ More seamless reboots of compute nodes
 - └─ Did it work?

x

Did it work?

TODO: verify what a successful "return to idle" looks like here, including an uptime of seconds to minutes rather than days.

```
[user@node ~]$ sudo sash c1 uptime
08:44:31 up 66 days, 17:24,  2 users,  load average: 0.00, 0.04, 0.00
[user@node ~]$ sinfo
PARTITION AVAIL  TIMELIMIT  NODES  STATE NODELIST
normal*    up 1-00:00:00      1  idle  c1
```

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better compute nodes

- └─ Decoupling kernels from the SMS

- └─ Decoupling kernels from the SMS

[Decoupling kernels from the SMS](#)

How to install kernels into the chroot and bootstrap from the chroot.

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better compute nodes

- └─ Semi-stateful node provisioning

- └─ Semi-stateful node provisioning

[Semi-stateful node provisioning](#)

(talking about the parted and filesystem-related pieces here.)

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Making better compute nodes

- └─ Management of GPU drivers

- └─ Management of GPU drivers

Management of GPU drivers

(installing GPU drivers – mostly rsync'ing a least-common-denominator chroot into a GPU-named chroot, copying the NVIDIA installer into the chroot, mounting /proc and /sys, running the installer, umounting /proc and /sys, and building a second VNFs)

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Managing system complexity
 - └─ Configuration settings for different node types
 - └─ Configuration settings for different node types

Configuration settings for different node types

(have been leading into this a bit with the `wwsh` file entries, `systemd` conditions, etc.
But here we can also talk about nodes with two drives instead of one, nodes with and without Infiniband, nodes with different provisioning interfaces, etc.)

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

- └─ Managing system complexity
 - └─ Automation for Warewulf3 provisioning
 - └─ Automation for Warewulf3 provisioning

Automation for Warewulf3 provisioning

(here we can show some sample Python scripts where we can store node attributes and logic for managing the different VNFSes)

x

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OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

└─ Configuring Slurm policies

└─ Configuring Slurm policies

[Configuring Slurm policies](#)

Can adapt a lot of Mike's CaRCC Emerging Centers talk from a couple years ago for this. Fair share, hard limits on resource consumption, QOSes for limiting number of GPU jobs or similar.

x

OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide

└─ Configuring Slurm policies

└─ Sample slide

This is my note.

- It can contain Markdown
- like this list

Left column

This slide has two columns. They don't always have to have columns. It also has a titled block of content in the left column. Make sure you've always got a `::: notes` block after the slide content, even if it has no content.

Use `#` and `##` headers in the Markdown file to make level-1 and level-2 headings. `###` headers to make slide titles, and `####` to make block titles.