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Making better infrastructure nodes
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Managing system complexity
Configuring Slurm policies

OpenHPC: Beyond the Install Guide for PEARC24

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- 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.

Configuring Slurm policies

Where we're starting from

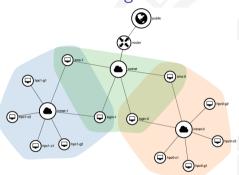


Figure 1: Two example HPC networks for the tutorial

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

Where we're starting from

We used the OpenHPC automatic installation script from Appendix A with a few variations:

- 1. Installed s-nail 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 slurmd and munge 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.
- 8. Globally set an environment variable CHROOT to /opt/ohpc/admin/images/rocky9.4.

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.)

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.

Create a new login node

Working from section 3.9.3 of the install guide:

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo wwsh -y node new login --netdev eth0 \
    --ipaddr=172.16.0.2 --hwaddr=__:__:__:__:__:
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo wwsh -y provision set login \
    --vnfs=rocky9.4 --bootstrap=$(uname -r) \
    --files=dynamic_hosts, passwd, group, shadow, munge.key, network
```

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

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/WW/ipxe/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.

What'd we just do?

- 1. The node name, --hwaddr, 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, --netdev, --ipaddr, --hwaddr parameters all go into kernel parameters accessible from the provisioning software.
- 4. During the initial bootup, the --hwaddr parameter is passed to a CGI script on the SMS to identify the correct VNFS for the provisioning software to download (set by the --vnfs parameter).
- 5. After downloading the VNFS, the provisioning software will also download files from the SMS set by the --files parameter.

Did it work? So far, so good.

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh login
[root@login ~]# df -h
Filesystem
...
172.16.0.1:/home
172.16.0.1:/opt/ohpc/pub
```

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 slurmd is more helpful, with

fatal: Unable to determine this slurmd's NodeName. So how do we fix this one?

Option 1: take the error message literally

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

- 1. Run slurmd -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.conf and make a new line of all the slurmd -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 systemctl restart slurmd on the SMS).

Option 1: take the error message literally

Now an sinfo should work on the login node:

```
[root@login ~]# sinfo
PARTITION AVAIL TIMELIMIT NODES STATE NODELIST
normal* up 1-00:00:00 1 idle c[1-2]
```

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
```

Interactive test

- On the login node as root, temporarily stop the slurmd service with systemctl stop slurmd
- 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.

/etc/slurm/slurm.conf on login node

ClusterName=cluster SlurmctldHost=sms

Verify that sinfo still works without slurmd 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 c[1-2]
```

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.

Make permanent changes from the SMS

On the SMS:

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

A quick look at wwsh provision

What are the provisioning settings for compute node c1?

```
[user1@sms ~] $ wwsh provision print c1
c1: MASTER
                  = UNDEF
c1: BOOTSTRAP
                  = 6.1.96-1.el9.elrepo.x86_64
c1: VNFS
                  = rockv9.4
c1: VALIDATE
                  = FALSE
c1: FILES
                  = dynamic_hosts, group, munge.key, network,
  passwd, shadow
c1: KARGS
                  = "net.ifnames=0 biosdevname=0 quiet"
c1: BOOTLOCAL
                  = FALSE
```

A quick look at wwsh provision

What are the provisioning settings for node login?

```
[user1@sms ~] $ wwsh provision print login
login: MASTER
                  = UNDEF
login: BOOTSTRAP = 6.1.96-1.el9.elrepo.x86_64
login: VNFS
                  = rockv9.4
login: VALIDATE = FALSE
login: FILES
                  = dynamic_hosts, group, munge.key, network,
  passwd, shadow
login: KARGS
                  = "net.ifnames=0 biosdevname=0 quiet"
login: BOOTLOCAL
                  = FALSE
```

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.

Filter the wwsh provision output

▶ I only care about the lines containing = signs, so

is a start.

▶ Now all the lines are prefixed with c1:, and I want to keep everything after that, so

```
wwsh provision print c1 | grep = | cut -d: -f2-
```

will take care of that.

Filtered result

```
wwsh provision print c1 | grep = | cut -d: -f2-
```

```
MASTER
                    UNDEF
BOOTSTRAP
                   = 6.1.96-1.el9.elrepo.x86 64
VNFS
                    rockv9.4
VALIDATE
                   = FALSE
FILES
                   = dynamic_hosts,group,munge.key,network,
  passwd, shadow
. . .
KARGS
                   = "net.ifnames=0 biosdevname=0 quiet"
BOOTLOCAL
                   = FALSE
```

Much more useful.

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:

```
[user1@sms ~]$ function proprint() {
  wwsh provision print $@ | grep = | cut -d: -f2- ; }
[user1@sms ~]$ proprint c1
  MASTER = UNDEF
  BOOTSTRAP = 6.1.96-1.el9.elrepo.x86_64
...
```

diff the outputs

We could redirect a proprint c1 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:

```
[user1@sms ~]$ diff -u <(proprint c1) <(proprint login)
[user1@sms ~]$
```

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

Add the custom slurm.conf to the login node

Add a file to login's FILES property with:

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo wwsh -y provision set login \
  --fileadd=slurm.conf.login
```

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

Check for provisioning differences

```
[user10sms ~]$ diff -u <(proprint c1) <(proprint login)
--- /dev/fd/63 2024-07-06 11:11:07.682959677 -0400
+++ /dev/fd/62 2024-07-06 11:11:07.683959681 -0400
00 - 2.7 + 2.7 00
 BOOTSTRAP
                   = 6.1.96-1.el9.elrepo.x86_64
 VNFS
                    = rocky9.4
 VALIDATE
                   = FALSE
 FILES
                    = dynamic hosts, group, munge.key, network,
 passwd, shadow
+ FILES
                    = dynamic hosts, group, munge.key, network,
 passwd, shadow, slurm.conf.login
 PRESHELL.
                   = FALSE
 POSTSHELL
                   = FALSE
  POSTNETDOWN
                   = FALSE
```

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:

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh login
[root@login ~]# systemctl edit slurmd
```

Insert three 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.

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:

```
o 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 unmet condition check (ConditionHost=c*).
```

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.

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo mkdir -p \
    ${CHROOT}/etc/systemd/system/slurmd.service.d/
[user1@sms ~]$ 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
```

(**Note:** we globally pre-set the CHROOT environment for any account that logs into the SMS so that you didn't have to.)

Make the changes permanent

Finally, we'll:

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

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo wwvnfs --chroot=${CHROOT}
Using 'rocky9.4' as the VNFS name
...
Total elapsed time
: 84.45 s
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh login reboot
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh c1 reboot
```

Verify the changes on the login node

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

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh login systemctl status slurmd
o slurmd.service - Slurm node daemon
...
Jul 06 18:26:23 login systemd[1]: Slurm node daemon was
    skipped because of an unmet condition check
    (ConditionHost=c*).
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh login sinfo
PARTITION AVAIL TIMELIMIT NODES STATE NODELIST
normal* up 1-00:00:00 1 idle c[1-2]
```

Verify the changes on a compute node

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

```
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo ssh c1 systemctl status slurmd
o slurmd.service - Slurm node daemon
. . .
Jul 06 19:03:22 c1 slurmd[1082]: slurmd: CPUs=2 Boards=1
  Sockets=2 Cores=1 Threads=1 Memory=5912 TmpDisk=2956
 Uptime = 28   CPUSpecList = (null) FeaturesAvail = (null)
 FeaturesActive=(null)
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh c1 sinfo
PARTITION AVAIL TIMELIMIT NODES STATE NODELIST
normal* up 1-00:00:00 1 idle c2
normal* up 1-00:00:00 1 down c1
```

(Yes, c1 is marked down—we'll fix that shortly.)

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

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

```
[user1@sms ~]$ 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.

Make the login node function as a login node

- ► The Access denied is caused by the pam_slurm.so entry at the end of /etc/pam.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/pam.d/sshd \${CHROOT}/etc/pam.d/sshd
- ► You'll see that the pam_slurm.so line is the only difference between the two files.

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.

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:

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo wwsh -y file import /etc/pam.d/sshd \
    --name=sshd.login
[user1@sms ~]$ wwsh file list
...
sshd.login : rw-r--r-- 1 root root 727 /etc/pam.d/sshd
```

Make the change permanent

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

Test the change

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

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh login reboot
[user1@sms ~]$ ssh login
[user1@login ~]$
```

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 11:24:06 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.

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.

How fail2ban works (by default)

- 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, use firewalld to 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 (\sim 10 guesses per hour versus \sim 100 or \sim 1000 guesses per hour).

Including firewalld could mean that some necessary services get blocked by default when firewalld starts. Let's see what those could be.

See what processes are listening on the login node

We'll use the netstat command to look for sockets that are udp or tcp, listening, and what process the socket is attached to. We omit anything only listening for localhost connections.

```
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo ssh login netstat -utlp | grep -v localhost
Active Internet connections (only servers)
Proto ... Local Address ... State
                                   PID/Program name
        0.0.0.0:ssh
                         LISTEN
                                    1034/sshd: /usr/sbi
tcp
                         LISTEN
                                    1/init
tcp
       0.0.0.0:sunrpc
      [::]:ssh
                         LISTEN
                                    1034/sshd: /usr/sbi
tcp6
tcp6
        [::]:sunrpc
                         LISTEN
                                    1/init
        1/init
udp
        0.0.0.0:37036
                         0.0.0.0:*
                                    1143/rsvslogd
udp
                          [::]:*
                                    1/init
udp6
        [::]:sunrpc
```

See what processes are listening on the login node

sshd secure shell daemon, the main thing we want to protect against brute force attempts

init the first process started during booing the operating system. Effectively, this shows up when you participate in NFS file storage, as a server or a client (and login is a client).

rsyslogd message logging for all kinds of applications and services

Of these, sshd is the only one that we need to ensure firewalld doesn't block by default. In practice, the ssh port (22) is always in the default list of allowed ports.

Install the fail2ban packages into the CHROOT with

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo yum install --installroot=${CHROOT} \
  fail2ban
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo chroot ${CHROOT} systemctl enable \
  fail2ban firewalld
```

(the yum command will also install firewalld as a dependency of fail2ban).

Add the following to the chroot's sshd.local file with sudo nano \${CHROOT}/etc/fail2ban/jail.d/sshd.local:

```
[sshd]
enabled = true
```

Should I run fail2ban everywhere?

fail2ban is probably best to keep to 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.

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo mkdir -p \
${CHROOT}/etc/systemd/system/fail2ban.service.d/ \
${CHROOT}/etc/systemd/system/firewalld.service.d/
```

Add the lines

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

save and exit with Ctrl-X.

Finally, duplicate the override file for firewalld:

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo cp \
${CHROOT}/etc/systemd/system/fail2ban.service.d/override.conf \
${CHROOT}/etc/systemd/system/firewalld.service.d/override.conf
```

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

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh login ls -l /var/log/secure -rw----- 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.

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

```
[user1@sms ~] $ echo "authpriv.* /var/log/secure" | \
    sudo tee ${CHROOT}/etc/rsyslog.d/authpriv-local.conf
authpriv.* /var/log/secure
[user1@sms ~] $ cat \
    ${CHROOT}/etc/rsyslog.d/authpriv-local.conf
authpriv.* /var/log/secure
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo wwvnfs --chroot=${CHROOT}
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo ssh login reboot
```

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

```
[user1@sms ~] $ 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
       16:49:47 EDT: 46mi>
. . .
Jul 11 16:49:47 login systemd[1]: firewalld.service: Main
 process exited, code=exited, status=3/NOTIMPLEMENTED
Jul 11 16:49:47 login systemd[1]: firewalld.service: Failed
 with result 'exit-code'.
```

Not great.

- ➤ **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 -a | 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**?

- ▶ How did we get the kernel that the login node is using?
- ▶ Via wwbootstrap \$(uname -r) on the SMS (section 3.9.1)
- ► That section **also** had a command that most of us don't pay close attension to: echo "drivers += updates/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.
- 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).

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

```
[user1@sms ~]$ grep kernel/net /etc/warewulf/bootstrap.conf
[user1@sms ~]$
```

Nope, let's add it.

```
[user1@sms ~]$ grep kernel/net /etc/warewulf/bootstrap.conf
[user1@sms ~]$ echo "drivers += kernel/net/" | \
    sudo tee -a /etc/warewulf/bootstrap.conf
drivers += kernel/net/
[user1@sms ~]$ grep kernel/net /etc/warewulf/bootstrap.conf
drivers += kernel/net/
```

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

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo wwbootstrap $(uname -r)
...
Bootstrap image '6.1.97-1.el9.elrepo.x86_64' is ready
Done.
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh login reboot
```

Did 3/NOTIMPLEMENTED go away?

```
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo ssh login systemctl status firewalld
o 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.

Does fail2ban actually work now?

```
[user1@sms ~]$ 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.

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.

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:

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo scontrol update node=c1 state=resume
[user1@sms ~]$ sinfo
PARTITION AVAIL TIMELIMIT NODES STATE NODELIST
normal* up 1-00:00:00 1 idle c[1-2]
```

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

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.

Adding a valid RebootProgram

Informing all nodes of the changes and testing it out

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo scontrol reconfigure
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo scontrol reboot ASAP nextstate=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 nextstate=RESUME will set the nodes to accept jobs after the reboot. nextstate=DOWN will lave the nodes in a DOWN state if you need to do more work on them before returning them to service.

Did it work?

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh c1 uptime
  15:52:27 up 1 min, 0 users, load average: 0.09, 0.06, 0.02
[user1@sms ~]$ sinfo
PARTITION AVAIL TIMELIMIT NODES STATE NODELIST
normal* up 1-00:00:00 1 idle c[1-2]
```

Downsides of stateless provisioning

Log into c1 as root, check available disk space and memory, then allocate a 5 GB array in memory:

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh c1
[root@c1 ~]# df -h /tmp
Filesystem Size Used Avail Use % Mounted on
         2.9G 843M 2.1G 29% /
tmpfs
[root@c1 ~]# free -m
              total
                         used
                                      free ...
             5912
Mem:
                        3162
                                      2862 ...
Swap:
                                       0 . . .
[root@c1 ~]# module load py3-numpy
[root@c1 ~]# python3 -c \
  'import numpy as np; x=np.full((25000, 25000), 1)'
[root@c1 ~]#
```

Downsides of stateless provisioning

Consume some disk space in /tmp, try to allocate the same 5 GB array again:

```
[root@c1 ~]# dd if=/dev/zero of=/tmp/foo bs=1M count=1024
1024+0 records in
1024+0 records out
1073741824 bytes (1.1 GB, 1.0 GiB) copied, 0.63492 s, 1.7 GB/s
[root@c1 ~]# module load py3-numpy
[root@c1 ~]# python3 -c \
   'import numpy as np; x=np.full((25000, 25000), 1)'
Killed
```

Downsides of stateless provisioning

Clean off the disk usage, allocate the 5 GB array in memory once more, and log out from the node:

```
[root@c1 ~]# rm /tmp/foo
[root@c1 ~]# python3 -c \
   'import numpy as np; x=np.full((25000, 25000), 1)'
[root@c1 ~]# exit
[user1@sms ~]$
```

Summary of the default OpenHPC settings

- 1. The root filesystem is automatically sized to 50% of the node memory.
- 2. There's no swap space.
- 3. Consumption of disk space affects the workloads you can run (since disk space is really in RAM).

Even if we reformat node-local storage every time we reboot, moving file storage from RAM to disk is beneficial.

Strategies

Typical bare-metal node

- PXE handled by network card, all disks available for node-local storage
- Usually, the default kernel contains all the drivers you need

Jetstream2 instance

- First disk (/dev/vda) exists to provide iPXE support, so don't break that
- ➤ Some extra steps may be needed to enable storage and filesystem kernel modules

Examine the existing partition scheme (non-GPU nodes)

Log back into a compute node as root, check the existing partition table:

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh c1 parted -l /dev/vda
Model: Virtio Block Device (virtblk)
Disk /dev/vda: 21.5GB
Sector size (logical/physical): 512B/512B
Partition Table: gpt
Disk Flags:

Number Start End Size File system Name Flags
1 1049kB 3146kB 2097kB EFI boot, esp
```

Examine the existing partition scheme (GPU nodes)

Log back into a gpu node as root, check the existing partition table:

```
[rocky@sms ~]$ sudo ssh g1 parted -l /dev/vda
parted -l /dev/vda
Model: Virtio Block Device (virtblk)
Disk /dev/vda: 64.4GB
Sector size (logical/physical): 512B/512B
Partition Table: gpt
Disk Flags:
Number Start End Size File system Name Flags
1 1049kB 3146kB 2097kB EFI boot, esp
```

Summary of existing partition schemes

- 1. GPT (GUID partition table) method on both node types
- 2. Different amounts of disk space on each node type
- 3. Each sector is 512 bytes
- 4. Bootable partition 1 (from 1049 kB = 1 MiB to 3146 kB = 3 MiB) for iPXE

Plan for new partition scheme

- 1. Non-destructive partitioning of /dev/vda once (outside of Warewulf, with a parted script).
- 2. 512 MiB partition for /boot.
- 3. 2 GiB partition for swap.
- 4. 2 GiB partition for /.
- 5. remaining space for /tmp.

Could make a copy of an OpenHPC-provided example partition scheme (in /etc/warewulf/filesystem/examples), but we'll start one from scratch:

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo nano \
  /etc/warewulf/filesystem/jetstream.cmds
```

- ► The .cmds file is a mix of parted commands, mkfs parameters, and /etc/fstab information.
- ▶ It's typical, but not 100% required, to give a full set of select, mkpart, and name commands for parted.

Contents of jetstream.cmds (part 1):

select /dev/vda

On Jetstream2:

- we leave /dev/vda1 unmodified, since we need it for iPXE booting,
- ▶ we "semi-manually" (i.e., outside of Warewulf, but using a script) partition the rest of /dev/vda to include
 - ▶ 512 MiB for /boot
 - 2 GiB for swap
 - ▶ 2 GiB for /
 - remaining space for /tmp

Contents of jetstream.cmds (part 2):

```
# mkpart primary ext4 3MiB 515MiB
# mkpart primary linux-swap 515MiB 2563MiB
# mkpart primary ext4 2563MiB 4611MiB
# mkpart primary ext4 4611MiB 100%
name 2 boot
name 3 swap
name 4 root
name 5 tmp
```

- Note how to create partitions, and add commands to label them.
- mkpart commands are intended to be comments here, so that Warewulf can ignore them, but we can keep everything in one place.

Contents of jetstream.cmds (part 3):

```
## mkfs NUMBER FS-TYPE [ARGS...]
mkfs 2 ext4 -L boot
mkfs 3 swap
mkfs 4 ext4 -L root
mkfs 5 ext4 -L tmp
## fstab NUMBER mountpoint type opts freq passno
fstab 4 / ext4 defaults 0 0
fstab 2 /boot ext4 defaults 0 0
fstab 3 none swap defaults 0 0
fstab 5 /tmp ext4 defaults 0 0
```

- Format partitions and mount them.
- Save and exit nano with Ctrl-X.

Partition the disks outside of Warewulf

- ▶ parted has a --script parameter helpful for passing in one or more commands at the command line.
- ▶ We want to pass in the commented mkpart commands of our jetstream.cmds file.

Show the mkpart lines

```
[user1@sms ~]$ grep mkpart \
   /etc/warewulf/filesystem/jetstream-vda.cmds
# mkpart primary ext4 3MiB 515MiB
# mkpart primary linux-swap 515MiB 2663MiB
# mkpart primary ext4 2663MiB 4611MiB
# mkpart primary ext4 4611MiB 100%
```

Take out the # signs from the mkpart lines

```
[user1@sms ~] $ grep mkpart \
    /etc/warewulf/filesystem/jetstream-vda.cmds | sed 's/#//g'
    mkpart primary ext4 3MiB 515MiB
    mkpart primary linux-swap 515MiB 2663MiB
    mkpart primary ext4 2663MiB 4611MiB
    mkpart primary ext4 4611MiB 100%
```

Put all the commands on one line

```
[user1@sms ~]$ echo $(grep mkpart \
   /etc/warewulf/filesystem/jetstream-vda.cmds | sed 's/#//g')
mkpart primary ext4 3MiB 515MiB mkpart primary linux-swap
   515MiB 2663MiB mkpart primary ext4 2663MiB 4611MiB mkpart
   primary ext4 4611MiB 100%
```

Partition the drive

(all of the below goes on one literal line, no backslashes, line breaks, or anything else)

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh g2 parted --script /dev/vda
$(echo $(grep mkpart
   /etc/warewulf/filesystem/jetstream-vda.cmds |
   sed 's/#//g'))
```

Check your results

```
[user10sms ~]$ sudo ssh g2 parted -1
Model: Virtio Block Device (virtblk)
Disk /dev/vda: 64.4GB
. . .
      Start End Size File system
Number
                                          Name Flags
       1049kB 3146kB 2097kB
                                           EFI
                                                   boot, esp
       3146kB 540MB 537MB
                            ext4
                                           primary
       540MB 2792MB 2252MB
                            linux-swap(v1) primary swap
       2792MB 4835MB 2043MB
                            ext4
                                           primary
 5
       4835MB 64.4GB 59.6GB ext4
                                           primary
```

Now repeat the previous sudo ssh NODE parted --script command for the other nodes (c1, c2, and g1).

Apply the Warewulf filesystem provisioning commands to the nodes

```
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo wwsh provision set 'c*' \
   --filesystem=jetstream-vda
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo wwsh provision set 'g*' \
   --filesystem=jetstream-vda
```

Do not reboot your nodes yet!

What could possibly go wrong?

- ▶ A lot, if you consider some edge cases and corner cases.
- ► This was by far the slowest-progressing and most error-prone section of the tutorial to develop.
- ► Using wwsh provision set NODE --preshell=1 and/or --postshell=1 during debugging was invaluable.
- ▶ Rather than have y'all suffer through this without easy access to a console, I'll take you through what would have gone wrong if we'd rebooted just now.

What went wrong (part 1)

```
Starting the provision handler:

* adhoc-pre

* ipmiconfig Auto configuration not activated

* filesystems

* /dev/vdb not ready, retrying....

SKIPPED

* RUNNING

ERROR
```

Figure 2: Device not ready, retrying

► Running dmesg | grep vd at the postshell command prompt confirmed that no /dev/vd devices were found.

How it got fixed (part 1)

- ► Comparing the lsmod output on the failing node versus the SMS indicated we were missing the virtio_blk kernel module.
- ► Running modprobe virtio_blk and dmesg | grep vd at the postshell command prompt confirmed this.
- ► Warewulf fix is to:
 - ► run
 - echo modprobe += virtio_blk | sudo tee -a /etc/warewulf/bootstrap.conf
 - run sudo wwbootstrap KERNEL_VERSION
 - reboot the node and try again.

What went wrong (part 2)

```
* filesystems

* running parted on /dev/vdb

* formatting /dev/vdb2

* formatting /dev/vdb3

* formatting /dev/vdb4

OK

* formatting /dev/vdb5

* mounting /

ERROR

ERROR
```

Figure 3: Mounting /, error

How it got fixed (part 2)

```
parted -1
Model: Virtio Block Device (virtblk)
Disk /deu/udb: 10.7GB
Sector size (logical/physical): 512B/512B
Partition Table: gpt
Disk Flags:
                End
                         Size
                                 File sustem
                                                  Name
Number
        Start
                                                            Flags
        1049kB
                3146kB
                         2097kB
                                 xfs
                                                  primary
        3146kB
                538MB
                         535MB
                                 ext4
                                                  boot
        538MB
                2635MB
                         2097MB
                                 linux-swap(v1)
                                                  swap
                                                            swap
        2635MB
                4732MB
                         2097MB
                                 ext4
                                                  root
        4732MB
                10.7GB
                         6004MB
                                 ext4
                                                  tmp
```

Figure 4: parted -1 looks ok

▶ running parted -1 showed a valid partition table

How it got fixed (part 2)

- ► Trying to mount the proposed root partition with mkdir /mnt; mount -t auto /dev/sdb4 /mnt failed with mount: mounting /dev/vdb4 as /mnt failed: No such file or directory
- ▶ But both /mnt and /dev/sdb4 both existed, as seen from 1s -1 on each of them.
- ➤ Surprisingly, when I left the root partition as a ramdisk and tried to partition and mount swap and /tmp from disk partitions, provisioning threw errors, but post-provisioning, both swap and /tmp were available to the node!

How it got fixed (part 2)

- ▶ What was different? A missing filesystem module in the provisioning kernel (in my case, ext4).
- Running modprobe ext4 at the postshell command prompt and re-running the mount command above caused the filesystem to mount.
- Warewulf fix is to:
 - ▶ run echo modprobe += ext4 | sudo tee -a /etc/warewulf/bootstrap.conf
 - run sudo wwbootstrap KERNEL_VERSION
 - reboot the node and try again.

Make the necessary wwbootstrap changes, then reboot your nodes

```
[user1@sms ~]$ echo modprobe += virtio_blk | \
   sudo tee -a /etc/warewulf/bootstrap.conf
[user1@sms ~]$ echo modprobe += ext4 | \
   sudo tee -a /etc/warewulf/bootstrap.conf
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo wwbootstrap $(uname -r)
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo pdsh -w 'c[1-2],g[1-2]' reboot
```

Final result on a compute node (part 1)

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh c1 "df -h: free -m"
                                Used Avail Use% Mounted on
Filesystem
                          Size
devtmpfs
                          2.9G
                                   0
                                      2.9G
                                            0% /dev
/dev/vda4
                          1.9G
                                853M 914M
                                            49% /
                                      2.9G 0% /dev/shm
tmpfs
                          2.9G
                          1.2G
                                8.5M
                                      1.2G 1% /run
tmpfs
/dev/vda2
                          488M
                                 40K
                                      452M 1% /boot
/dev/vda5
                           16G
                                 72K 15G
                                              1% /tmp
. . .
                          shared buff/cache
       total
              used
                   free
                                              available
       5912
Mem:
               382
                    4844
                                          939
                                                    5530
       2047
                    2047
Swap:
```

Note that the used memory column has dropped by nearly 90% from before.

Final result on a compute node (part 2)

Consume 5 GiB of space in /tmp (we only used 1 GiB previously), then allocate 5 GB for an array in memory:

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh c1
[root@c1 ~]# dd if=/dev/zero of=/tmp/foo bs=1M count=5120
5120+0 records in
5120+0 records out
5368709120 bytes (5.4 GB, 5.0 GiB) copied, 8.97811 s, 598 MB/s
[root@c1 ~]# module load py3-numpy
[root@c1 ~]# python3 -c \
   'import numpy as np; x=np.full((25000, 25000), 1)'
[root@c1 ~]# rm /tmp/foo
```

No Killed messages due to running out of memory. We're able to consume much more /tmp space and all practically the RAM without conflict.

Decoupling kernels from the SMS

- ▶ If you keep your HPC around for a long period, you might want/need to support different operating systems or releases.
- Maybe you need to run a few nodes on Rocky 8 while keeping the SMS on Rocky 9 (wwmkchroot supports that).
- ► Maybe you need to use a different kernel version for exotic hardware or new features, but don't want to risk the stability of your SMS.
- ► A simple wwbootstrap \$(uname -r) won't do that.

Decoupling kernels from the SMS

Check wwbootstrap --help:

So if we install a kernel into the \${CHROOT} like any other package, we can bootstrap from it instead of the SMS kernel

Install a different kernel into the CHROOT, bootstrap it

```
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo yum -y install --installroot=$CHROOT kernel
Installing:
kernel x86 64 5.14.0-427.24.1.el9 4 ...
. . .
Complete!
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo wwbootstrap --chroot=${CHROOT} \
  5.14.0-427.24.1.el9 4.x86 64
Number of drivers included in bootstrap: 880
. . .
Bootstrap image '5.14.0-427.24.1.el9 4.x86 64' is ready
Done.
```

Check your nodes' provisioning summary

```
[user10sms ~] $ wwsh provision list
NODE
                     VNFS
                                      BOOTSTRAP
                     rockv9.4
                                      6.1.97-1.el9.elrep...
c1
                     rocky9.4
                                      6.1.97-1.el9.elrep...
                                      6.1.97-1.el9.elrep...
                     rockv9.4
                     rockv9.4
                                      6.1.97-1.el9.elrep...
                     rocky9.4
                                      6.1.97-1.el9.elrep...
login
```

Change the default kernel for nodes, reboot them.

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo wwsh provision set '*' \
 --bootstrap=5.14.0-427.24.1.el9 4.x86 64
Are you sure you want to make the following changes to 5
 node(s):
     SET: BOOTSTRAP
                               = 5.14.0 - 427.24.1.el9 4.x86 64
Yes/No> v
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo scontrol reboot ASAP nextstate=RESUME \
 c[1-2]
[user10sms ~]$ sudo pdsh -w 'g[1-2],login' reboot
```

Verify everything came back up

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)

See what we have, download the driver

```
[user1@sms ~]$ sudo ssh g1 lspci | grep -i nvidia
06:00.0 3D controller: NVIDIA Corporation GA100 [A100 SXM4
  40GB] (rev a1)
[user1@sms ~]$ export NV=550.90.07
[user1@sms ~]$ export B=https://us.download.nvidia.com/tesla/
[user1@sms ~]$ wget \
  ${B}/${NV}/NVIDIA-Linux-x86_64-${NV}.run
```

Prepare to install the driver

Install the driver, clean up, update VNFS

```
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo chroot ${CHROOT} \
   /root/NVIDIA-Linux-x86_64-${NV}.run \
   --kernel-name=5.14.0-427.24.1.el9_4.x86_64 \
   --disable-nouveau --silent --run-nvidia-xconfig --no-drm
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo rm \
   ${CHROOT}/root/NVIDIA-Linux-x86_64-${NV}.run
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo umount ${CHROOT}/proc ${CHROOT}/dev
[user1@sms ~] $ sudo wwvnfs --chroot=${CHROOT}
```

Configuration settings for different node types

What tools have we used so far to define node settings?

- 1. wwsh node for node name and network information (MACs, IPs, provisioning interface)
- 2. wwsh provision for VNFS, kernel, kernel parameters, files
- 3. When the files include systemd services, other options become possible via ConditionHost or similar statements

Manually building these up over time and storing the results in the Warewulf database may be tedious to review, and we might want to easily port our setup to a dev/test environment, a new version of OpenHPC, etc.

Automation for Warewulf3 provisioning

Any kind of automation, scripting, or orchestration is beneficial for managing cluster settings:

- shell scripts,
- Python scripts,
- Ansible playbooks,
- Puppet manifests,
- etc.

Mike's used Ansible as part of the Basic Cluster project; Tim's ohpc-jetstream2 repository does the same. TN Tech uses Python scripts for their Warewulf management.

Introduction
Making better infrastructure nodes
Making better compute nodes
Managing system complexity
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.