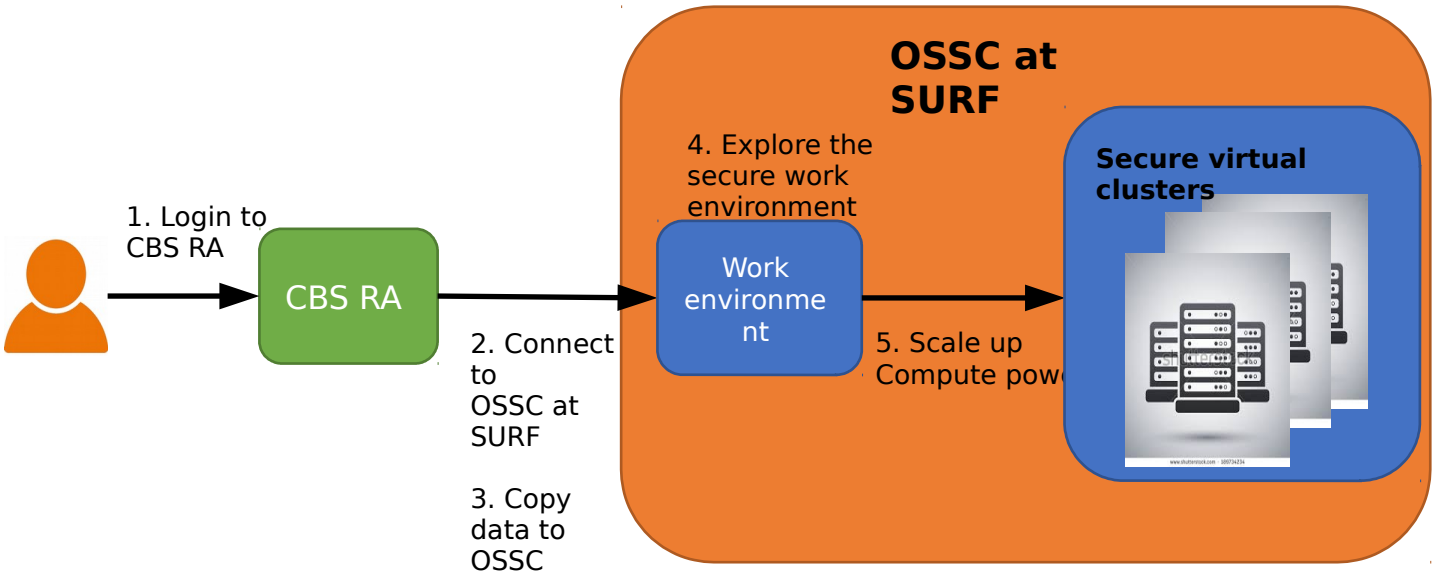
OSSC testing workflow

Introduction

This documents outlines the workflow for testing the ODISSEI Secure Supercomputer (OSSC) from the user's perspective.

Testing workflow

- Step 1: login to CBS RA environment.
- Step 2: In the RA connect to OSSC at SURF (MVP feature 1.1) by clicking on the application "Putty naar SURF".
- Step 3: Copy data from CBS RA to OSSC at SURF(MVP feature 1.2). In the RA project folder there is a map "NaarOSSC"; datasets which need to be transported to OSSC must be put there. You can transport the datasets yourself by WinSCP!
- Step 4: If you want to use a (micro)dataset from outside RA you always need to upload this via CBS RA. The upload procedure is described here. This dataset will be encrypted by CBS and put in your project folder in the folder "Other Data". You can then use it and transport it to OSSC like described before. If the dataset is too big for the CBS upload portal or not appropriate, the upload may be done to SURF directly. First contact CBS microdata and SURF when you're going to use this upload portal.
- Step 5. Explore the secure working environment at OSSC, run simple tests, prepare jobs, …
- Step 6: To scale up your compute power, you need to request secure virtual clusters on Cartesius . To do that, follow the procedure "Request for secure virtual clusters" (in Appendix). Then submit and run jobs on the secure virtual cluster.
- Step 7: Two weeks before the end of the project, CBS microdata will ask you to transport all your datasets from OSSC to RA. If the data has been transported to RA you have to send an e-mail to CBS microdata. Your OSSC project will then be ended and your folder in the OSSC environment folder will be deleted following the procedure "Data deletion from OSSC" (in Appendix).



Feedback and documentation:

We use a git repository on https://github.com/sara-nl/OSSC_test. (this is accessible with a normal github account)
We will put all the documentation that will be written during the OSSC testing there, and users can file bug reports and issues and ask questions to SURF advisors through github issues.
The users can also contribute to the documentation to share knowledge / scripts / etc between them.
All feedback is welcome.

Appendices

Procedure: “Secure virtual cluster request”

- Roles involved:
1. User
2. SURF admin

- Execution of the procedure is triggered by: User

- Steps to be performed:

1. To reserve compute nodes on OSSC, the user should send an email to SURFsara (OSSC-support@surfsara.nl) and request for compute nodes. The reservation can be made for minimum 1 day up to maximum 5 days. The request should be made by the user at least 5 working days before the desired starting date.

2. SURFsara admin reserves the compute nodes for the requested dates if available, and informs the user within 1 working day to confirm the reservation. If the requested dates are not available, the SURFsara admin will negotiate a new date.

3. The user has access to the work environment (login node) for the duration of the project. During the reservation period, the user has access to the compute nodes from within the work environment in OSSC.

4. After the reservation time is finished, the access to the compute nodes will be automatically revoked. All jobs still running at that time will be stopped.

Note: If consultancy is needed and is included in the contract, the availability of a SURFsara advisor will be scheduled with the requester before the contract starts.

Procedures: “Data deletion from OSSC”

- Roles involved:
1. User
2. CSB data manager
3. SURF admin

- Execution of the procedure is triggered by: CBS admin (either if the research is finished, or if the contract ends and no extension is in place)

- Steps to be performed (lead time from step 1 to 6 is two weeks):

1. CBS admin informs user via e-mail, two weeks before the end of the OSSC contract,

to take action concerning the OSSC delete procedure

2. User copies all the data to the export folder of OSSC and informs CBS admin via e-mail (Latest by the end-date of the OSSC contract)

3. CBS admin copies the data from the export folder in OSSC to CBS RA environment

4. CBS admin checks for the integrity of the data (with the user)

5. User informs CBS admin via e-mail that the OSSC data can be deleted

6. CBS admin informs SURFsara and confirms via e-mail that the OSSC data can be deleted (including the user confirmation to delete the data in the e-mail).

7. SURFsara admin deletes the data within x days from OSSC (all the data will be wiped out and can not be retrieved any more)

8. SURFsara admin informs CBS admin within x days that OSSC data has been deleted

Note: The assumption here is that the end-date of OSSC contract is not the same as end-time of the CBS RA contract, and the users still have access to the CBS RA environment after the end-dat of their OSSC contract.