

# INTRODUCTION TO SUPERCOMPUTING

General online course

**SURF**

# Outline

- Introduction to High Performance Computing
  - Definitions
  - Parallel programming
- SURF facilities
  - Presentation
  - Systems and specifications
- Running jobs
  - Definitions for jobs
  - Hands-on exercises with the files available in your home directories

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# High-performance computing (HPC) is ...

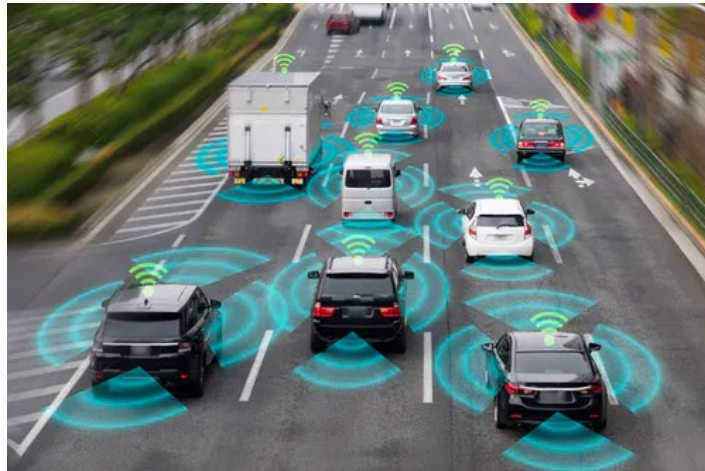
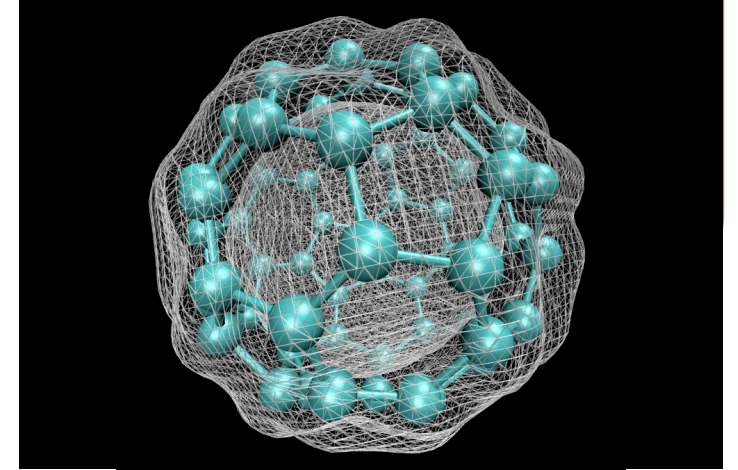


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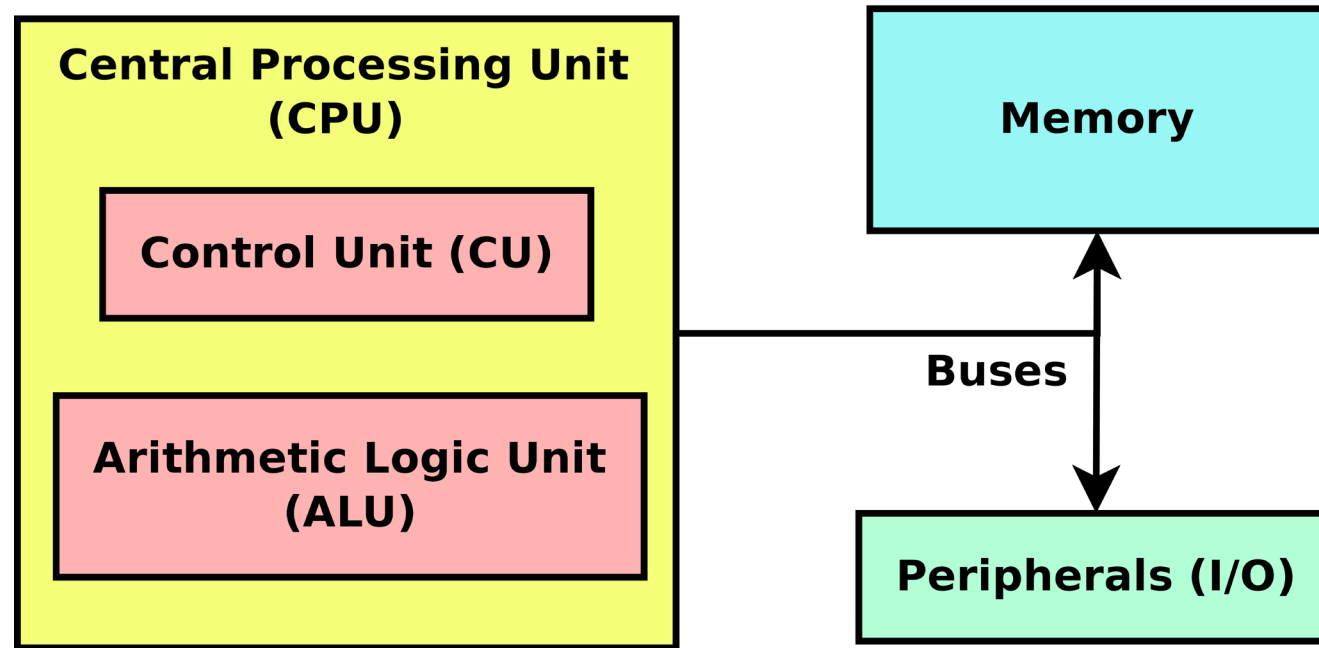
Image source: <https://thestrategybridge.org/the-bridge/2016/8/16/a-new-plan-using-complexity-in-the-modern-world>

# High-performance computing (HPC) is ...

- *... an area of computer-based computation. It includes all computing work that requires a high computing capacity or storage capacity.*
- *... the use of parallel processing for running advanced application programs efficiently, reliably and fast.*
- *... the practice of aggregating computing power in a way that delivers much higher performance than one could get out of a typical desktop computer or workstation in order to solve large problems in science, engineering, or business.*
- *... the use of super computers and parallel processing techniques for solving complex computational problems.*

# A computer is ...

# A computer is ...



... and Boolean logic (0's and 1's)



# A central processing unit (CPU) is ...

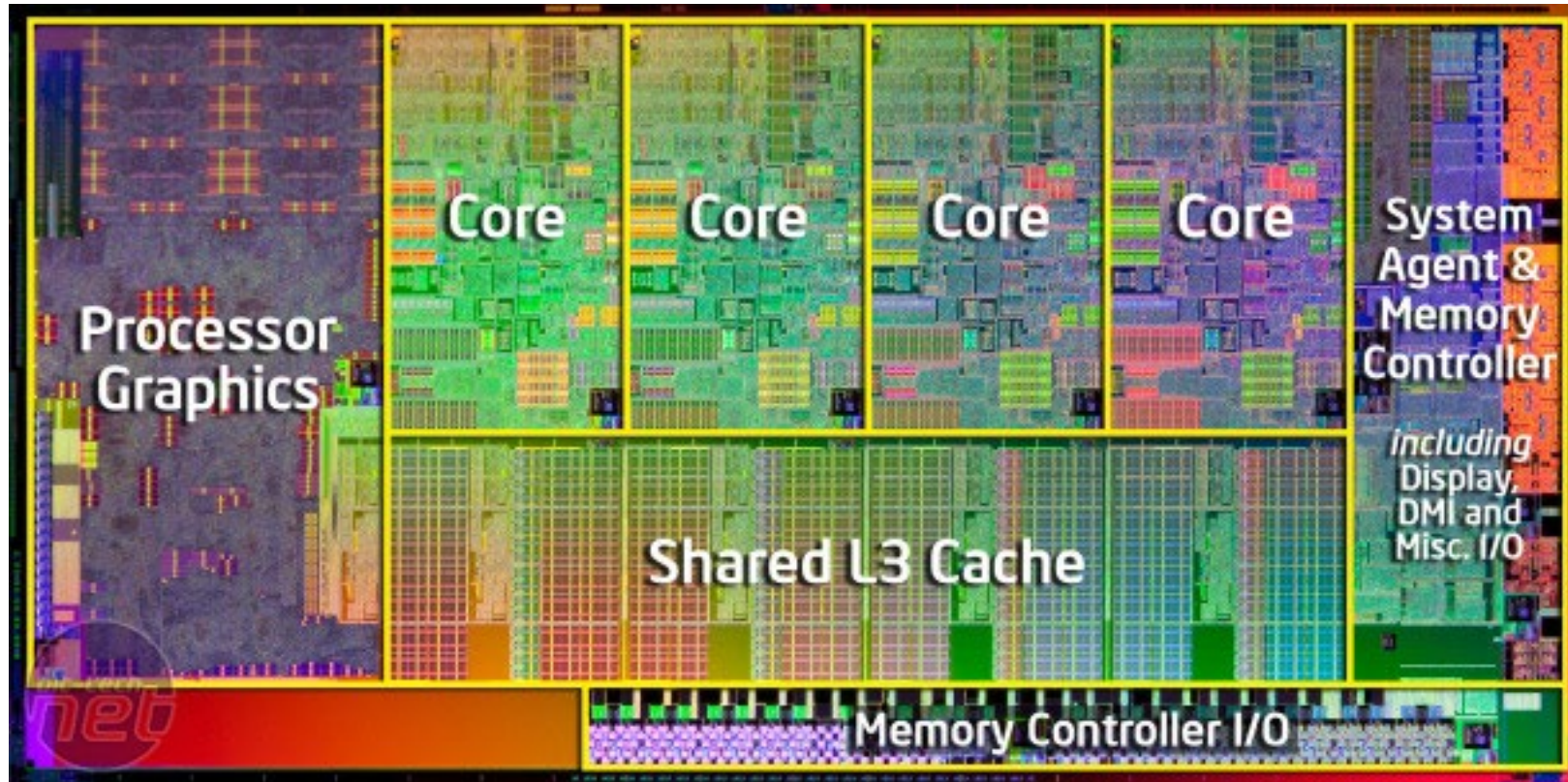
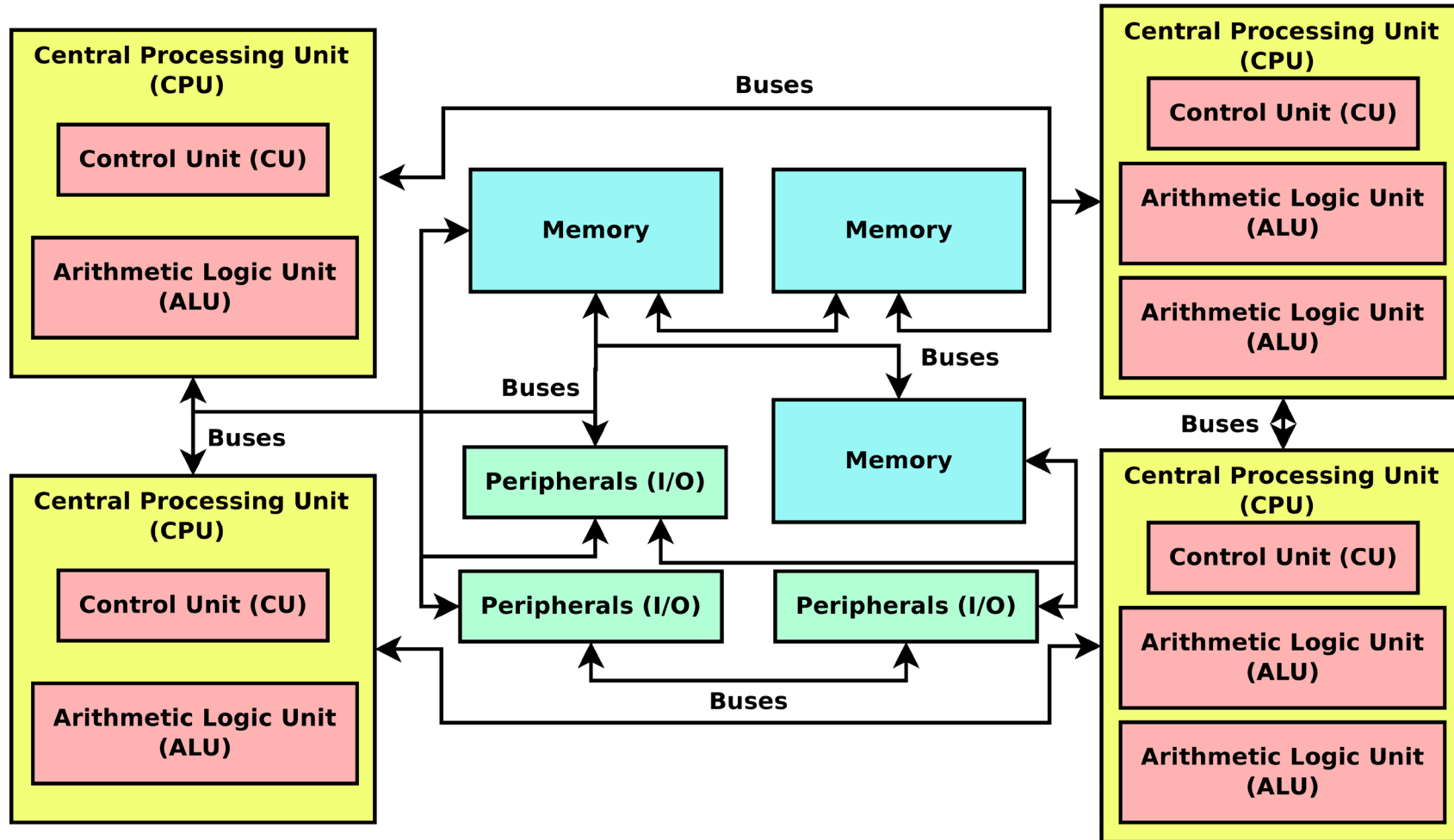


Image source: <https://bit-tech.net/reviews/tech/cpus/intel-sandy-bridge-review/1/>

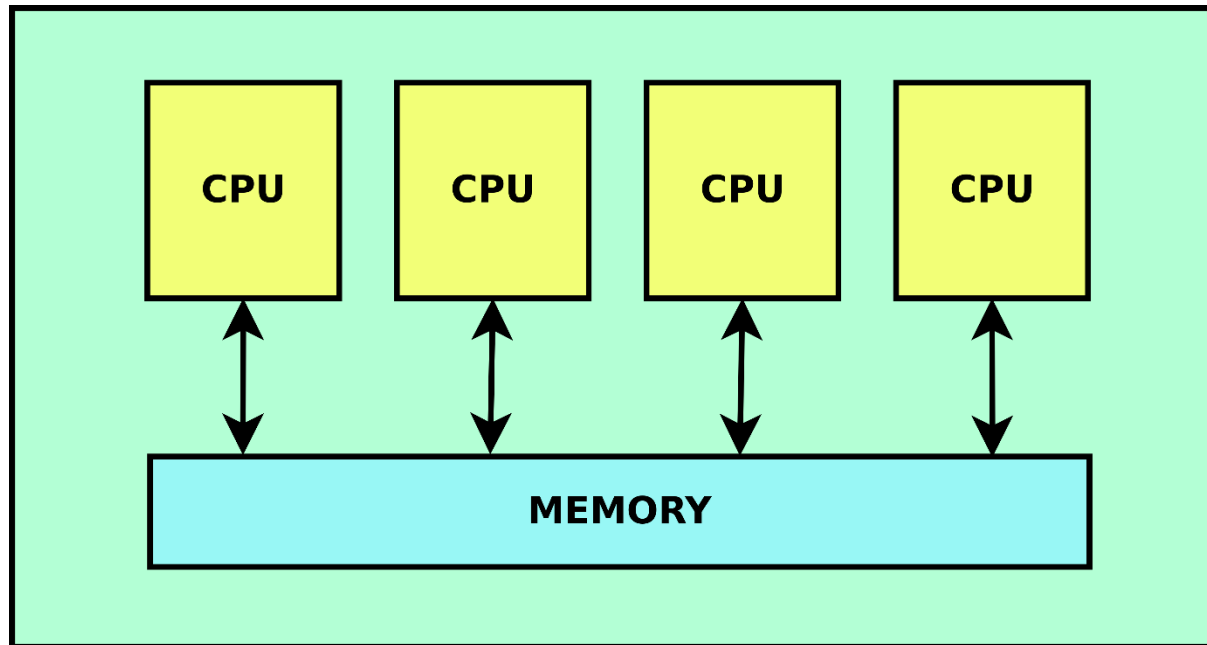
Image source: <https://www.computerhope.com/jargon/s/sandybri.htm>



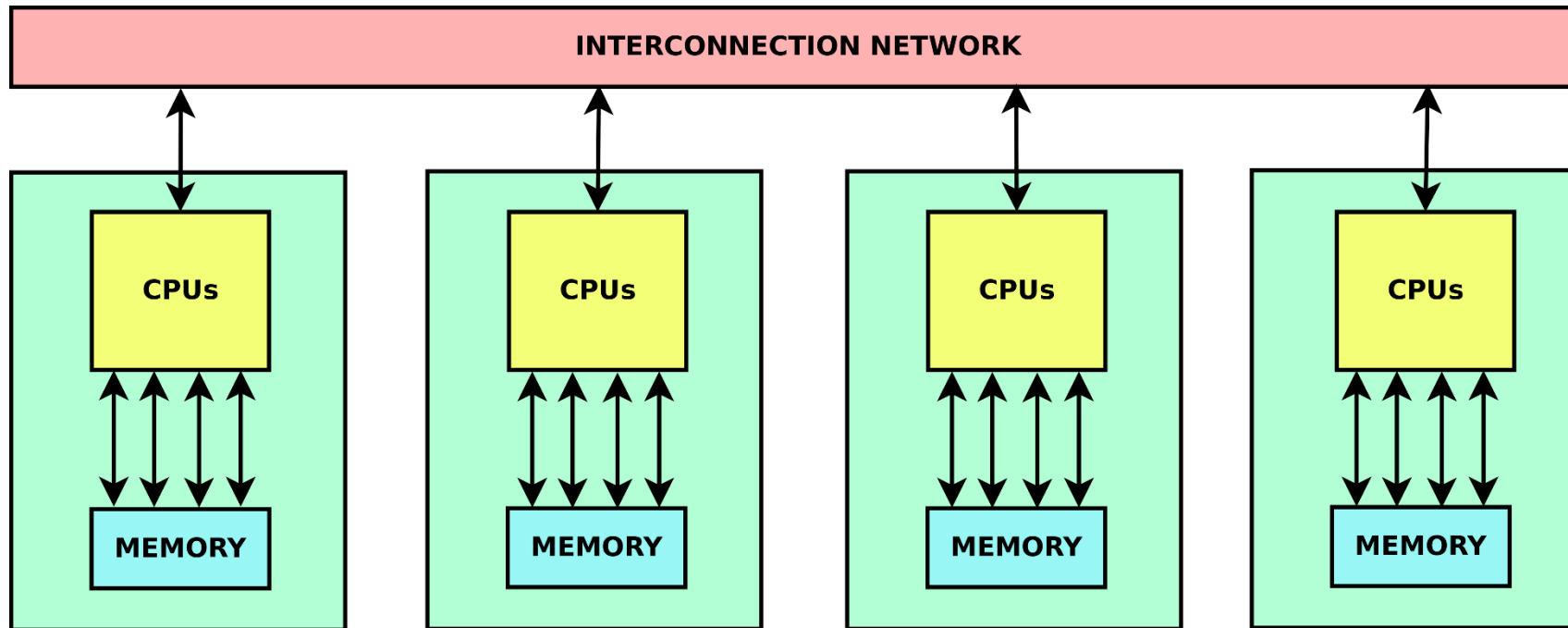
# A larger computer could be ...



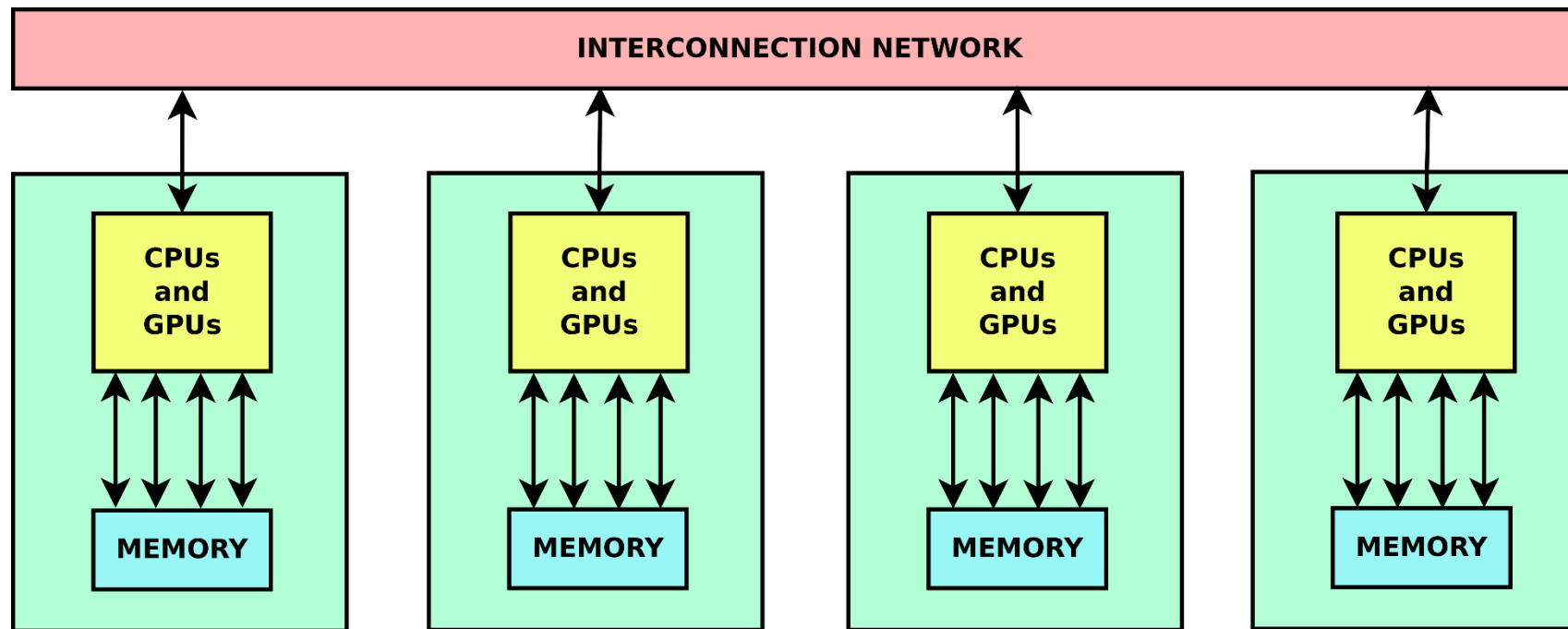
# A larger computer actually is ...



# A larger computer actually is ...



# A larger computer actually is ...



# High-performance computing (HPC) ...

- *... is an area of computer-based computation. It includes all computing work that requires a high computing capacity or storage capacity.*
- *... is the use of parallel processing for running advanced application programs efficiently, reliably and fast.*
- *... refers to the practice of aggregating computing power in a way that delivers much higher performance than one could get out of a typical desktop computer or workstation in order to solve large problems in science, engineering, or business.*
- *... is the use of super computers and parallel processing techniques for solving complex computational problems.*



# High-performance computing (HPC) ...

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- *... is the use of super computers and parallel processing techniques for solving complex computational problems.*
- *... is the part of computing focused on making computers collaborate efficiently up to very large scales*
- *... is optimized and scalable computer coordination (hardware and software)*

# Outline

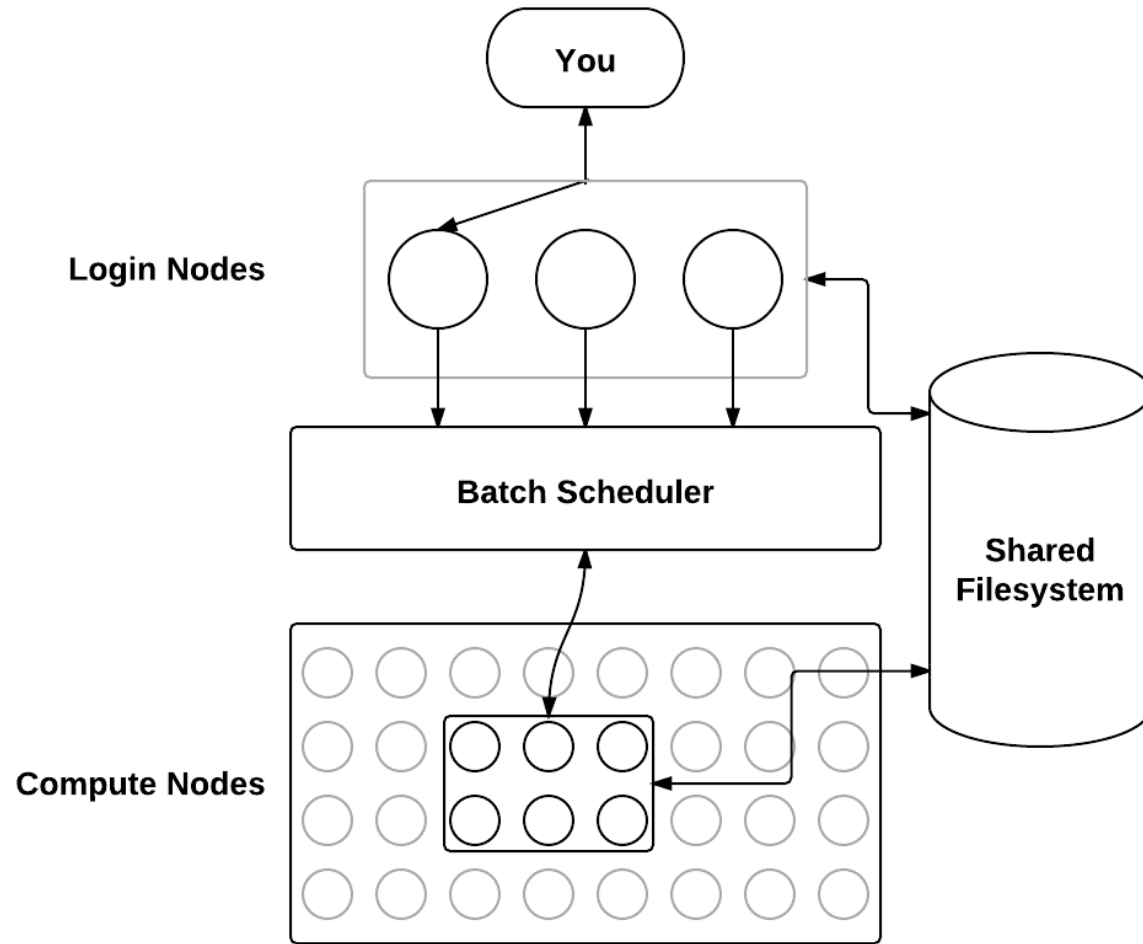
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# Dutch national supercomputers: performance increase

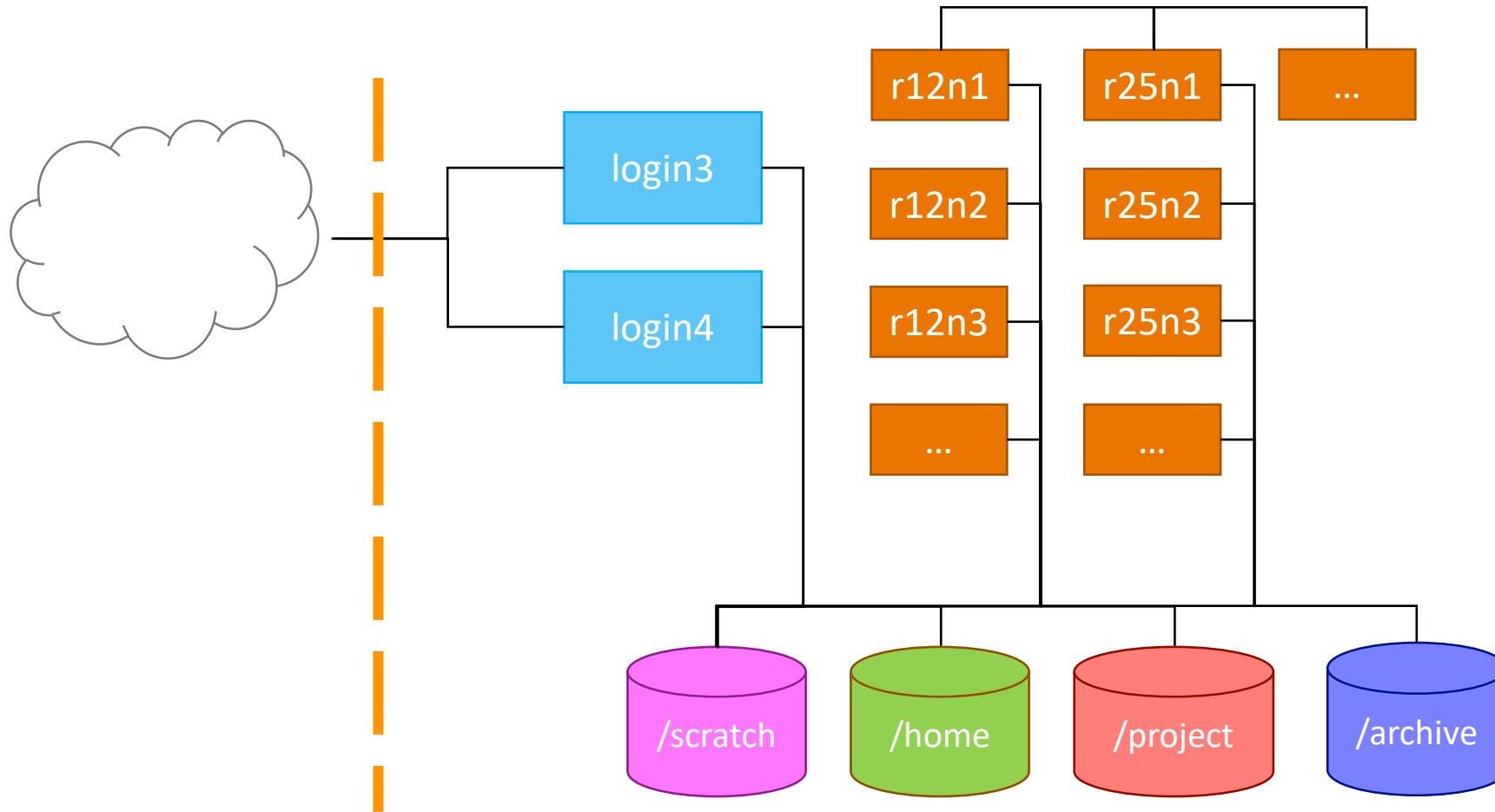
Year	Machine	$R_{\text{peak}}$ (GFlop/s)	kW	GFlop/s/ kW
1984	CDC Cyber 205 1-pipe	0.1	250	0.0004
1988	CDC Cyber 205 2-pipe	0.2	250	0.0008
1991	Cray Y-MP/4128	1.33	200	0.0067
1994	Cray C98/4256	4	300	0.0133
1997	Cray C916/121024	12	500	0.024
2000	SGI Origin 3800	1,024	300	3.4
2004	SGI Origin 3800 +SGI Altix 3700	3,200	500	6.4
2007	IBM p575 Power5+	14,592	375	40
2008	IBM p575 Power6	62,566	540	116
2009	IBM p575 Power6	64,973	560	116
2013	Bull bullx DLC	250,000	260	962
2014	Bull bullx DLC	~ 1,000,000	520	1923
2017	Bull bullx DLC + KNL	~ 1,840,000	850	2168
2021	Lenovo AMD (1 <sup>st</sup> phase)	~ 6,100,000	610	10000
2023	Lenovo AMD (2 <sup>nd</sup> phase)	~ 14,900,000	1050	14190
2016	Raspberry PI 3 (35 euro)	0.44	0.004	110



# Schematic overview of a supercomputer

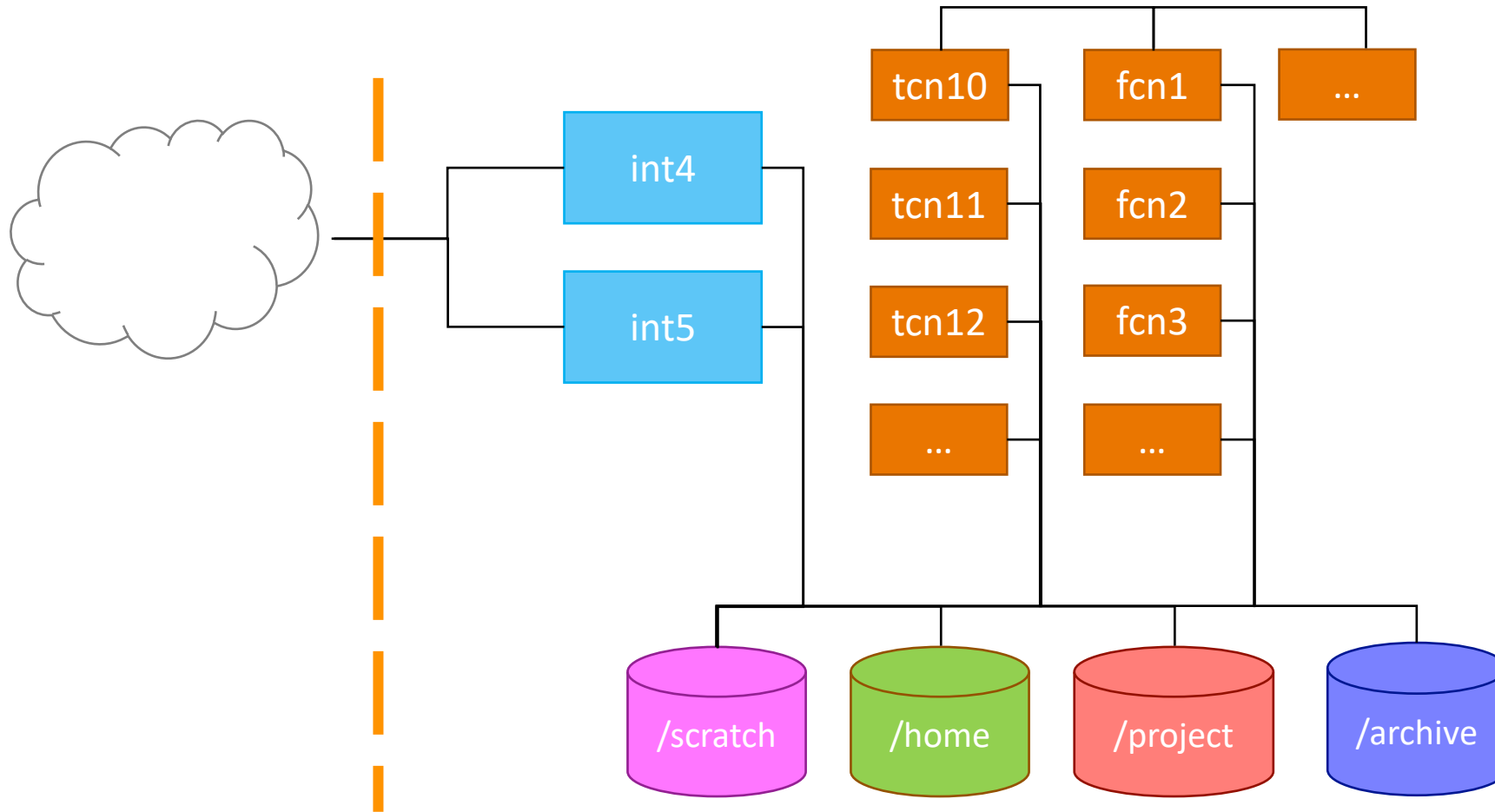


# Specific example: architecture of our old Lisa cluster

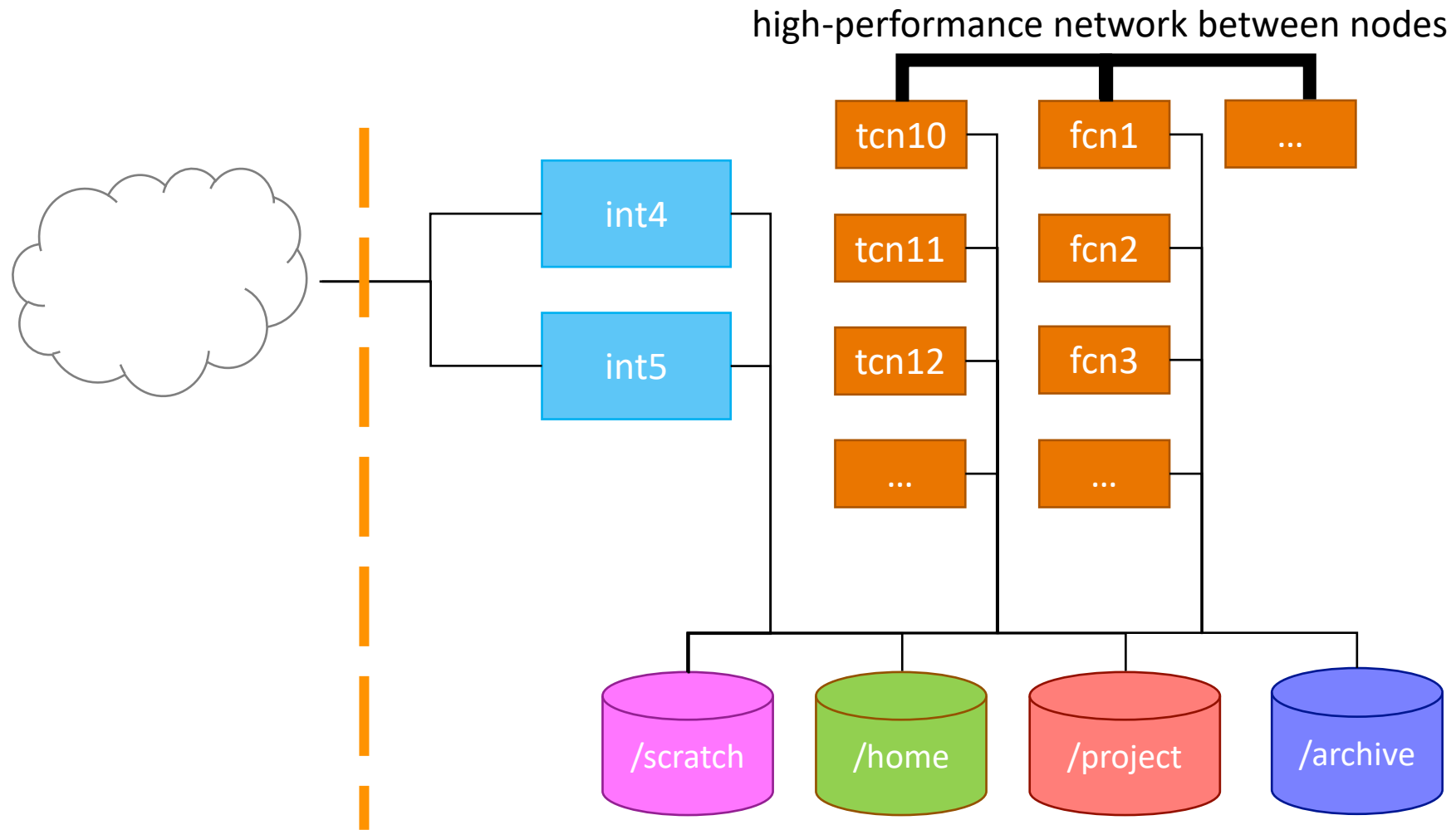




# Specific example: Snellius architecture



# Specific example: Snellius architecture



# Compute power on Snellius (Phases 1 + 2)

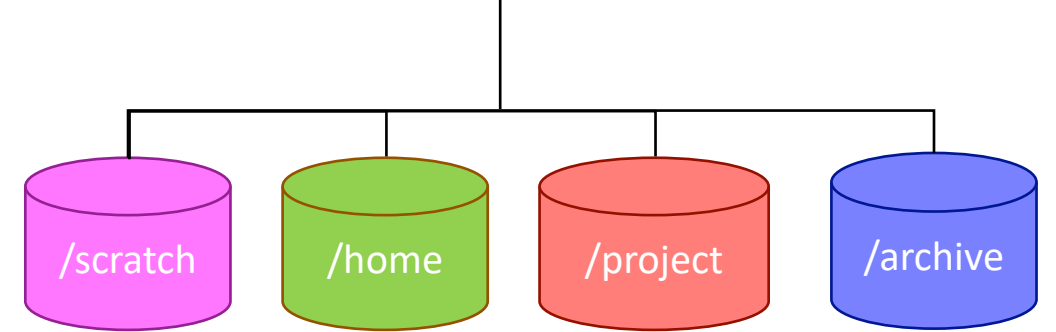
Partition	Number of nodes	Memory per node	Sockets per node	Cores per socket	CPU model	CPU clock	Accelerator	Accelerator memory
rome	522	256 GB	2	64	AMD Rome 7H12	2.6 GHz		
genoa	785	384 GB	2	96	AMD Genoa 9654	2.4 GHz		
fat	72	1 TB	2	64	AMD Rome 7H12	2.6 GHz		
himem_4tb	2	4 TB	2	64	AMD Rome 7H12	2.6 GHz		
himem_8tb	2	8 TB	2	64	AMD Rome 7H12	2.6 GHz		
gpu	70	512 GB	2	36	Intel Xeon Platinum 8360Y	2.5 GHz	4x NVIDIA A100	4x 40 GB
staging	10	256 GB	2	8	AMD EPYC 7F32	3.2 GHz		
login	3	Login nodes may have different configurations.						

- 232,464 cores + 280 GPUs: **14.9 Pflop/s** (peak performance) + **1,421 TB** memory.
- Low-latency interconnection network: InfiniBand HDR100 (100 Gb/s), fat tree.
- File systems: 720 TB for home directories and 12.4 PB for scratch and project spaces (GPFS).
- Specific policy for software installation and maintenance.

# File systems on Snellius

- **/home/user**

- User home directory. Currently 200 GB.
- Backed up.
- Storage of important files: sources, scripts, input and output data.



# File systems on Snellius

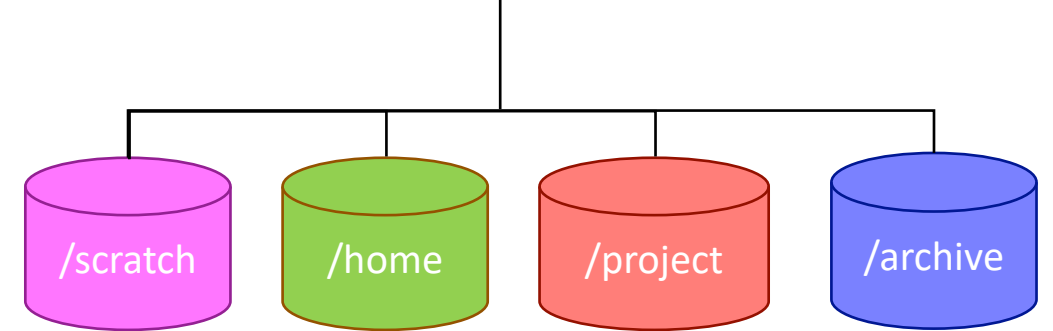
- **/scratch-\***

- **/scratch-local & /scratch-shared**

- Variable quota depending on disk. Currently 8 TB guaranteed.
- Not backed up.
- Temporary storage. **Data is removed after 6/14 days!**
- Based on GPFS: fast synchronization for parallel jobs.

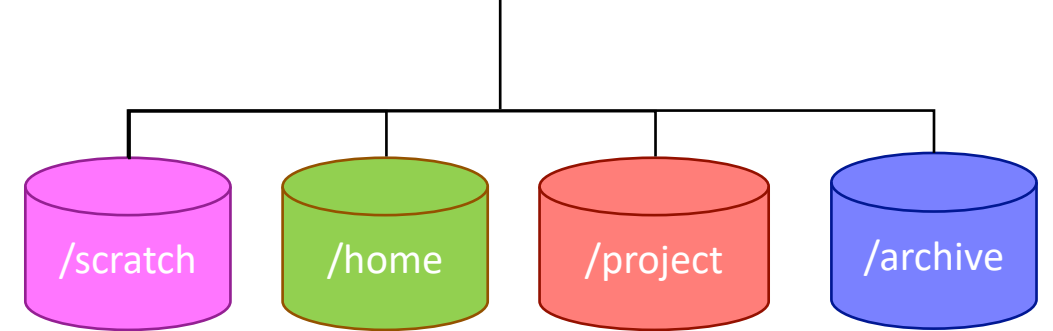
- **/scratch-node**

- Truly node-local scratch. 6.4 TB available on some nodes (--constraint=scratch-node).
- Not backed up.
- Temporary storage. **Data is deleted after the end of the job!**
- Based on NVMe SSD: fastest file system.





# File systems on Snellius



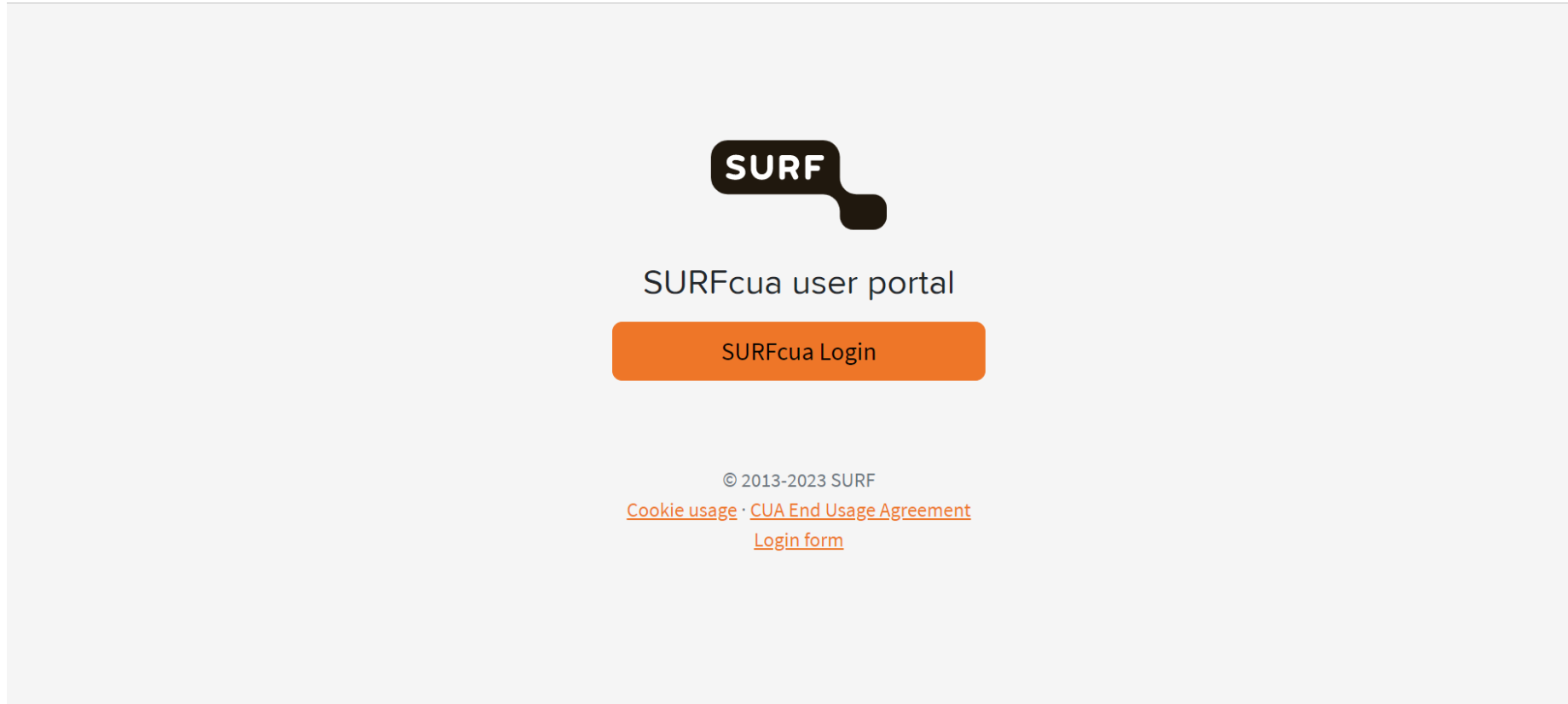
- **/project**

- Large and fast. Given upon request for projects requiring large, shared, permanent space.
- Not backed up, but permanent until the end of the associated project.
- Based on GPFS: comparable in speed with /scratch-local & /scratch-shared.

- **/archive**

- Connected to the tape robot. Quota on demand, virtually unlimited.
- Given upon request for long-term storage of files (in compressed format).
- Backed up.
- Slow—especially to retrieve “old” data—and not available on compute nodes.

# Before using the system, connect to the user portal!



<https://portal.cua.surf.nl>

# Connecting to Snellius

- Windows operating system
  - MobaXterm (recommended): <https://mobaxterm.mobatek.net/>
    - PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE PORTABLE EDITION !!!
  - Putty
- MacOS
  - Terminal (preinstalled)
  - XQuartz (<http://www.xquartz.org>)
- Linux
  - You are already well equipped!

# Connecting to Snellius

- When you log in with *ssh*, you access the login nodes
- Alternative for untrusted connections: `ssh <username>@doornode.surfsara.nl`

```
user@local:~$ ssh scur0000@snellius.surf.nl
Password:
scur0000@int2:~$ ls
snellius-file.txt
```

- With *scp* you can transfer files to/from your local machine

```
user@local:~$ ls
local-file.txt
user@local:~$ scp local_file.txt scur0000@snellius.surf.nl:
user@local:~$ scp scur0000@snellius.surf.nl:snellius_file.txt .
user@local:~$ ls
snellius-file.txt      local-file.txt
user@local:~$ ssh scur0000@snellius.surf.nl
Password:
scur0000@int2:~$ ls
snellius-file.txt      local-file.txt
```

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# Running jobs: how-to guide

- Schedulers distribute work to *batch nodes*
- Workflow:
  - 1. **You** upload your data from your computer to the cluster system
  - 2. **You** create a job script with the work steps
  - 3. **You** submit the job script to the scheduler
  - 4. **The scheduler** looks for available computers to run your work
  - 5. When a batch node with the requirements you specified becomes available, your work runs
  - 6. When the job is finished, **you** download the results to your computer
- Batch scheduler on Snellius: SLURM (<http://slurm.schedmd.com>)

# Running jobs: useful commands of the SLURM scheduler

- `sbatch <jobscript>` - submit a job to the scheduler
- `squeue -j <job_id>` - inspect the status of job <job\_id>
- `squeue -u <user_id>` - inspect all jobs of user <user\_id>
- `scancel <job_id>` - cancel job <job\_id>
- `scontrol show job <job_id>` - show estimated job start

# Running jobs: first example

```
#!/bin/bash
#SBATCH --job-name="firsttest"
#SBATCH --nodes=1
#SBATCH --ntasks=10
#SBATCH --time=00:01:00
#SBATCH --partition=rome

echo "Who am I?"
whoami
echo

echo "Where ?"
srun hostname
echo

sleep 120

date
echo "DONE"
```

- Create a text file with *exactly* the first lines; name the file “job.sh”
- Submit this job with “**sbatch** job.sh” and look the status with “**squeue -u login\_id**”
- Use “**scontrol show job job\_id**” to find out when your job will run
- Look at your home-directory to see what happens there; look at the files (use *ls* command).
- Which files were created? Look at those files.
- Try to play with email notifications! Add the following two lines together:
  - #SBATCH --mail-type=BEGIN,END
  - #SBATCH --mail-user=<your\_email\_address>

# Running jobs: best practices

- Give the scheduler a realistic *walltime* estimate.
- Your home directory is slow. Use \$TMPDIR.
- Load software modules as part of your job script—this improves reproducibility.
- Run parallel versions of your programs (and use “srun” to ask SLURM to run multi-process applications).

# Anatomy of a “real-world” job script

- Job scripts consist of:
  - the “shebang” line: `#!/bin/bash`
  - scheduler directives
  - command(s) that load software modules and set the environment
  - command(s) to prepare the input
  - command(s) that run your main task(s)
  - command(s) to save your output

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
#SBATCH --job-name="firsttest"  
#SBATCH --nodes=1  
#SBATCH --ntasks=10  
#SBATCH --time=00:01:00  
#SBATCH --partition=rome
```

```
module load 2019  
module load foss/2018b
```

```
cp -r <my_folder> $TMPDIR  
cd $TMPDIR
```

```
srun a.out
```

```
cp -r $TMPDIR/* ~/results
```

# Module management: useful commands

- `module avail` - available modules in the system
- `module load <mod>` - load <mod> in the shell environment
- `module list` - show a list of all loaded modules
- `module unload <mod>` - remove <mod> from the environment
- `module purge` - unload all modules
- `module whatis <mod>` - show information about <mod>

# Running jobs: second example

```
#!/bin/bash
#SBATCH --job-name="r_test"
#SBATCH --nodes=1
#SBATCH --ntasks=10
#SBATCH --time=00:01:00
#SBATCH --partition=rome

<< LOAD MODULES >>
echo "START"
<< CALL THE R SCRIPT >>
echo "DONE"
```

- Could you modify the initial script to prepare it as a template for the next session with R???
- You will need to add the needed modules and also include the call to the command “Rscript”
  - Sample hint: Rscript -e "rnorm(1)"
- Explore the module environment to find the modules (module avail, module load...)
- Remember that you can submit this job with “**sbatch** job.sh” and look the status with “**squeue -u login\_id**”
- Can you see the output of the call?

# Running jobs: third example

```
#!/bin/bash
#SBATCH --job-name="pi"
#SBATCH --nodes=1
#SBATCH --ntasks=1
#SBATCH --cpus-per-task=32
#SBATCH --time=00:10:00
#SBATCH --partition=rome

module purge
module load 2022
module load GCCcore-11.3.0

echo "OpenMP parallelism"

for ncores in `seq 8 4 48`
do
    export OMP_NUM_THREADS=$ncores
    echo "CPUS: " $OMP_NUM_THREADS
    echo "CPUS: " $OMP_NUM_THREADS >&2
    ./pi
    echo "DONE "
done
```

- Check the file “python.sh” in your home directory:
  - linux-cluster-computing/cluster/batch
- Submit this job with “**sbatch** python.sh” and look the status with “**squeue -u login\_id**”
- If you needed to use some input file or you would generate an output file... where would you put the copy commands for scratch?
- Now try the same with “pi.sh”... but first compile the code! ( ./compilepi )
- Can you play around with the variable ‘ncores’ and see some parallel efficiency?



# Everything about jobs: service desk info pages

- <https://servicedesk.surf.nl/wiki/display/WIKI/Snellius>
- More courses by SURF (for research and more):
  - EuroCC Netherlands Agenda
    - <https://eurocc-netherlands.nl/calendar/category/training-en/>
  - SURF Agenda
    - <https://www.surf.nl/en/agenda>
  - SURF training mailing list
    - <https://lists.surfsara.nl/listinfo/training-announce>



**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION**

 SURF Service Desk

 [servicedesk.surfsara.nl](https://servicedesk.surfsara.nl)

 @SURF\_onderzoek

**Driving innovation together**

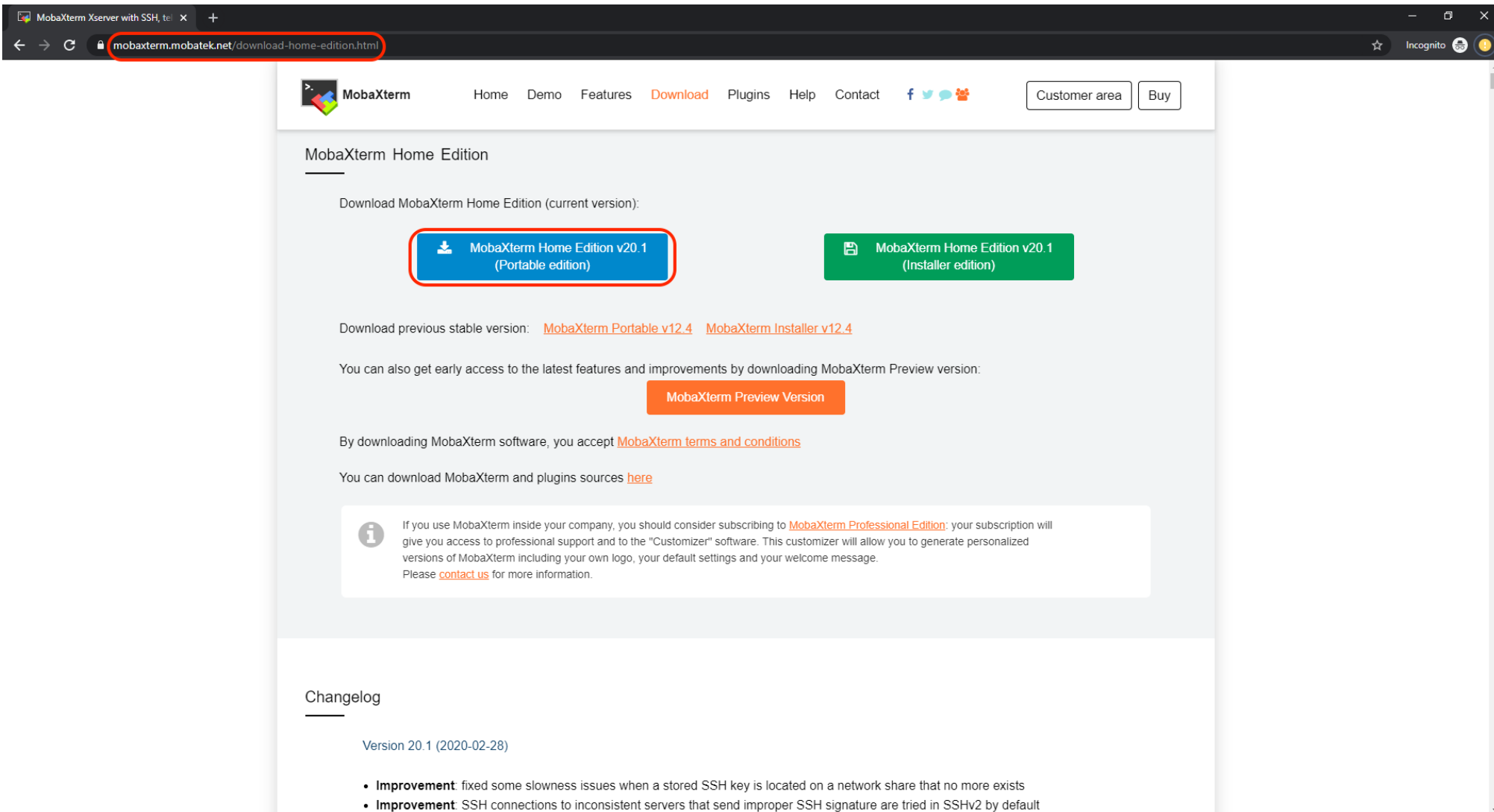
**SURF**

# INTRODUCTION TO SUPERCOMPUTING

Backup slides for MobaXterm

**SURF**

# Download the portable edition of MobaXterm



MobaXterm Xserver with SSH, telnet, ...

mobaxterm.mobatek.net/download-home-edition.html

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## MobaXterm Home Edition

Download MobaXterm Home Edition (current version):

MobaXterm Home Edition v20.1 (Portable edition)

MobaXterm Home Edition v20.1 (Installer edition)

Download previous stable version: [MobaXterm Portable v12.4](#) [MobaXterm Installer v12.4](#)

You can also get early access to the latest features and improvements by downloading MobaXterm Preview version:

MobaXterm Preview Version

By downloading MobaXterm software, you accept [MobaXterm terms and conditions](#)

You can download MobaXterm and plugins sources [here](#)

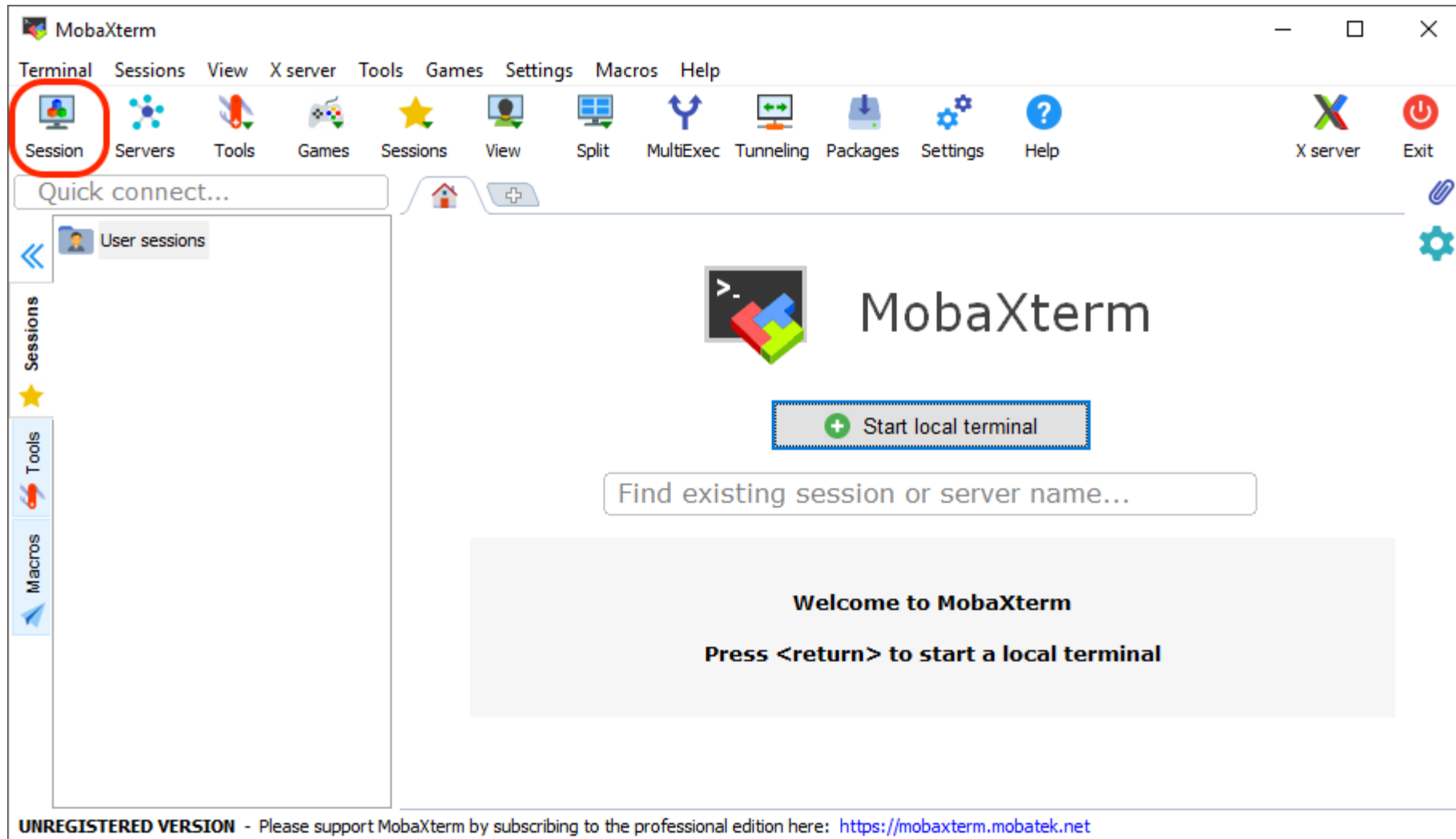
**i** If you use MobaXterm inside your company, you should consider subscribing to [MobaXterm Professional Edition](#): your subscription will give you access to professional support and to the "Customizer" software. This customizer will allow you to generate personalized versions of MobaXterm including your own logo, your default settings and your welcome message. Please [contact us](#) for more information.

## Changelog

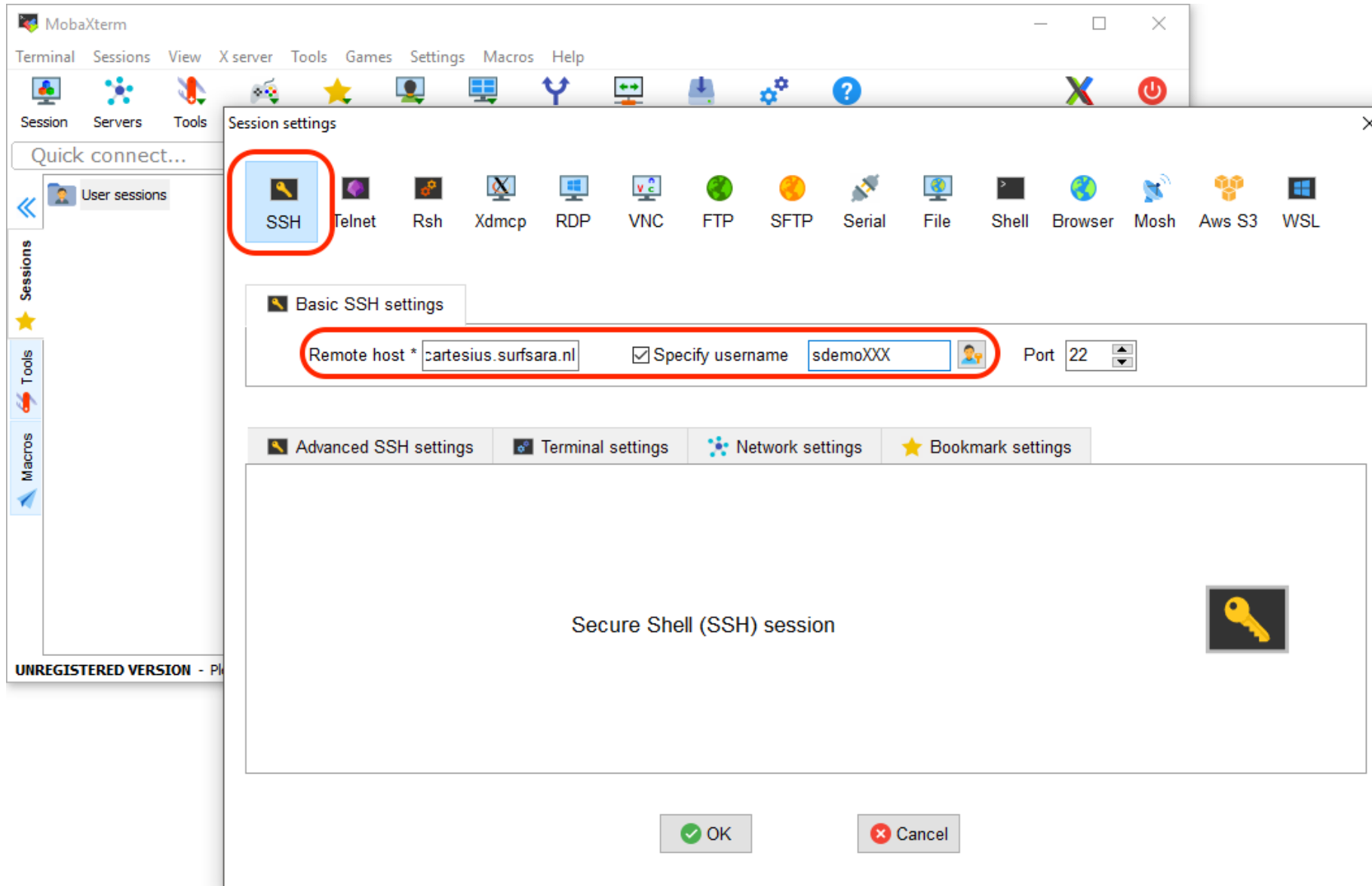
Version 20.1 (2020-02-28)

- Improvement:** fixed some slowness issues when a stored SSH key is located on a network share that no more exists
- Improvement:** SSH connections to inconsistent servers that send improper SSH signature are tried in SSHv2 by default

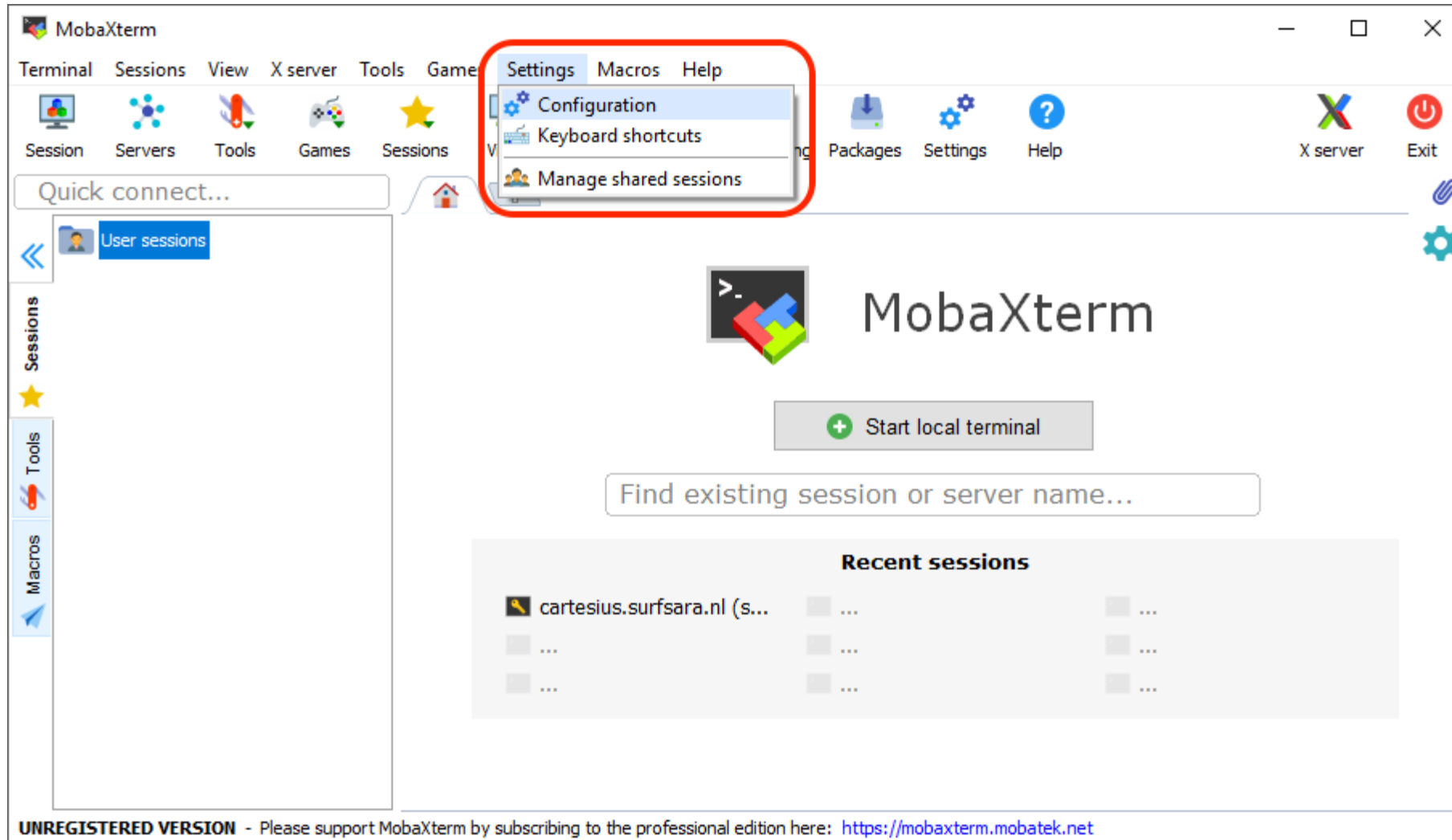
# Open a new remote session



# Open a new remote session



# Change the root/home folders (via Settings->Configuration):



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