# DS-GA 1006 Capstone

#### Lab Session 2

Instructors: Julia Kempe

Mark Ho

Najoung Kim

Wenda Zhou

TA: Wenxin Zhang (wz2164@nyu.edu)

### Lab Session 2

#### **Topics**

- Container Technology
- Singularity
- Overlays
- Singularity Instance
- Connect Singularity Instance on VSCode
- Run Basic Training Code
- Use Tensorboard to Visualize the Training Process

### Review

#### SSH

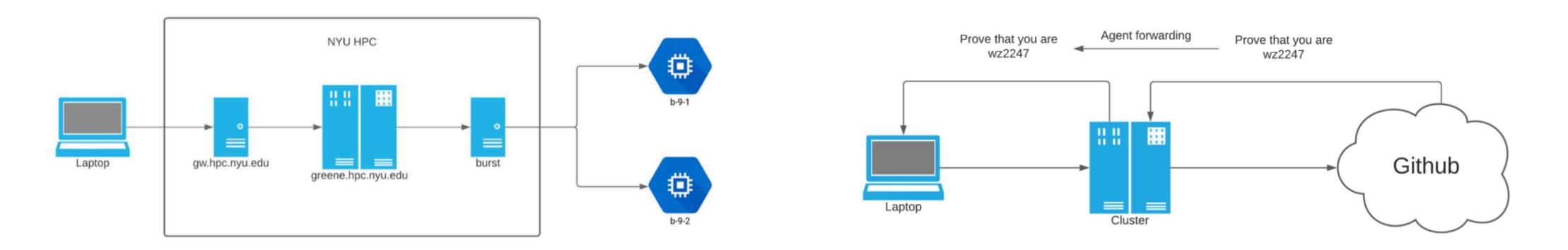
o A method for secure remote login from one computer to another

#### Authentication Key Pairs

- o Used for automating logins, single sign-on, and for authenticating hosts
- Public Key & Private Key

#### SSH Agent & SSH Agent Forwarding

- SSH agent helps keep private key in memory so that you can log into the servers securely without a
  passphrase prompt
- We can ask SSH to forward the authentication through agent forwarding



### Homework Due Tomorrow

- After finishing this homework, you have already know how to
  - Configure your ~/.ssh/config file
  - Use key-based authentication
    - Connect your laptop to NYU HPC clusters
    - Connect Greene to Github
  - Request for GCP instance on burst login node
  - Connect GCP instance using VSCode remote SSH

Today, we will review how to use singularity on the GCP bursting server

### Container

#### What is Container?

 A lightweight, executable unit of software that packs up application code and dependencies such as binary code, libraries, and configuration files (within a selfsustainable image) for easy deployment across different computing environments

#### Why do we use Container?

- Reproduce your environment between Greene and GCP
- Share the exact environment between team members
- Help alleviate installation and portability challenges
- Bypass inode limits on the cluster since it has a single physical file

# Singularity



- A container platform specifically designed for use on HPC clusters
- o Defined through the .sif file format
- Available on Greene and the GCP machines
- Can be accessed through command line
- o The Nvidia pytorch docker image has been converted to a singularity image on GCP
  - o IMAGE=/scratch/wz2247/singularity/images/pytorch\_22.08-py3.sif

### Run Singularity Containers

- Run Singularity Containers using "singularity exec" or "singularity shell"
  - o singularity exec --no-home --cleanenv --nv --bind /scratch --bind \$HOME/.ssh \$IMAGE /bin/bash
  - o singularity shell --no-home --cleanenv --nv --bind /scratch --bind \$HOME/.ssh -shell=/bin/bash \$IMAGE
- Use the --no-home argument and the --cleanenv argument, to increase the isolation between your container and the host
- Bind /scratch (--bind /scratch), and some subdirectory of \$HOME (--bind \$HOME/.ssh)
- o On GPU machines, use the --nv flag to pass-through the GPUs

### Overlays

#### Modify singularity containers

- o The singularity image files (.sif) are immutable
- Overlay a writable file system on the read-only container for the illusion of read\_write access
- Overlays can modify the base image and other overlays. The changes are kept separately from the base container image.
- Mount the overlay when starting the container
- Grab overlay from /scratch/work/public/overlay-fs-ext3

```
(base) wenxinzhang@10-19-49-243 ~ % ssh greene
Last login: Fri Sep 16 16:43:36 2022 from 10.47.6.5
[wz2164@log-3 ~]$ cd /scratch/work/public/overlay-fs-ext3/
[wz2164@log-3 overlay-fs-ext3]$ ls
overlay-0.1GB-25K.ext3.gz overlay-0.75GB-300K.ext3.gz overlay-1GB-400K.ext3.gz overlay-2GB-100K.ext3.gz overlay-4GB-300K.ext3.gz overlay-5GB-3.2M.ext3.gz
overlay-0.25GB-100K.ext3.gz overlay-5GB-200K.ext3.gz overlay-5GB-200K.ext3.gz overlay-5GB-200K.ext3.gz overlay-5GB-200K.ext3.gz overlay-5GB-200K.ext3.gz overlay-5GB-200K.ext3.gz overlay-5GB-200K.ext3.gz
```

### Example script to create overlay

- Convert the base Nvidia PyTorch container to a customizable container with overlays
  - o Generally, overlays are best suited when you wish to logically modify the "image", which should contain your software dependencies.
  - It will usually be better to keep your own code, data and training results in the standard file system and access them through a bind point
  - Example scripts that create base overlay and package overlay (run on GCP instances)

### Singularity Instances

#### Interactively work inside a container

- Use singularity instances to work interactively with writable overlays
- Singularity instances commands
  - "singularity instance start": need to specify all options for the container (e.g. bind paths, overlays). Example:
     "singularity instance start --containall \$IMAGE myinstance"
  - "singularity instance list": lists the set of all container instances that currently running
  - "singularity instance stop": stop the instance with the given name
- Run a shell in your given instance using "singularity shell instance://myinstance"

```
[wz2164@b-2-1 ~]$ singularity instance start --containall /scratch/wz2247/singularity/images/pytorch_22.08-py3.sif myinstance
INFO: instance started successfully
[wz2164@b-2-1 ~]$ singularity instance list
INSTANCE NAME PID IP IMAGE
myinstance 1146808 /scratch/wz2247/singularity/images/pytorch_22.08-py3.sif
[wz2164@b-2-1 ~]$ singularity instance stop myinstance
INFO: Stopping myinstance instance of /scratch/wz2247/singularity/images/pytorch_22.08-py3.sif (PID=1146808)
```

Example script that starts the singularity instance with recommended binds and parameters

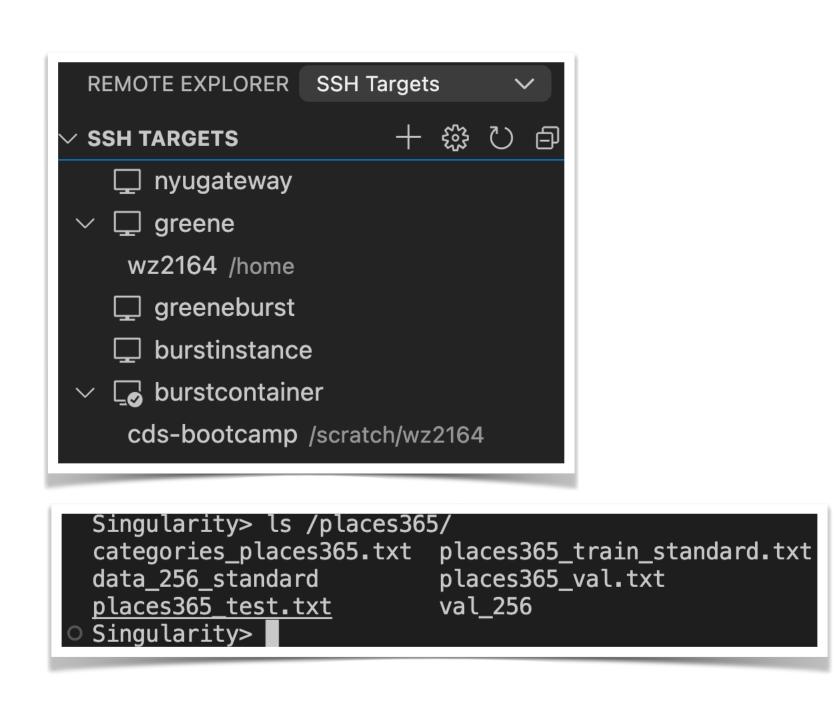
### Connect VSCode

#### Use VSCode to connect to the singularity image

- Access your environment in an ergonomic fashion
- o Enable features like auto-completion, tests, debugging, etc.
- o Running a SSH server inside the instance is somewhat complex and prone to errors
  - Instead, make use of RemoteCommand option to drop our sessions directly to the container
  - With everything setup correctly, we can directly running inside the container

```
Host burstinstance burstcontainer
User wz2164
HostName b-9-5
ForwardAgent yes
ProxyJump greeneburst
PasswordAuthentication yes
ChallengeResponseAuthentication no
StrictHostKeyChecking=No
# UserHostsKnownFile=/dev/null

Host burstcontainer
RemoteCommand singularity shell --containall --shell='/bin/bash' instance://mycontainer
RequestTTY true
```





#### **Visual Studio Code**

Version: 1.71.2 Commit:

74b1f979648cc44d385a2286793c226e

611f59e7

Date: 2022-09-14T21:07:15.900Z (4

days ago)

Electron: 19.0.12

Chromium: 102.0.5005.167

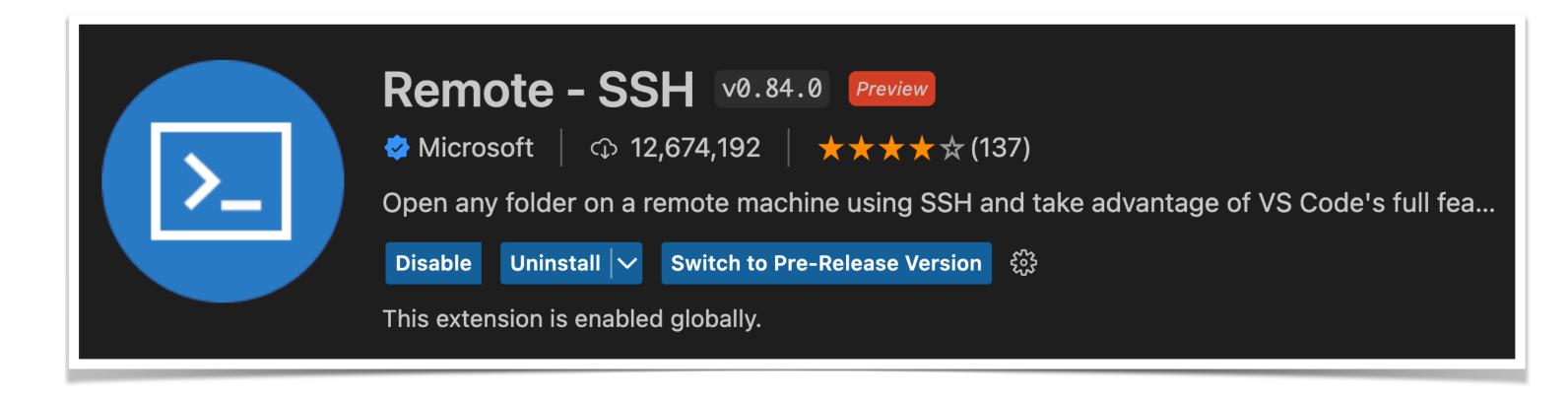
Node.js: 16.14.2

V8: 10.2.154.15-electron.0 OS: Darwin arm64 21.6.0

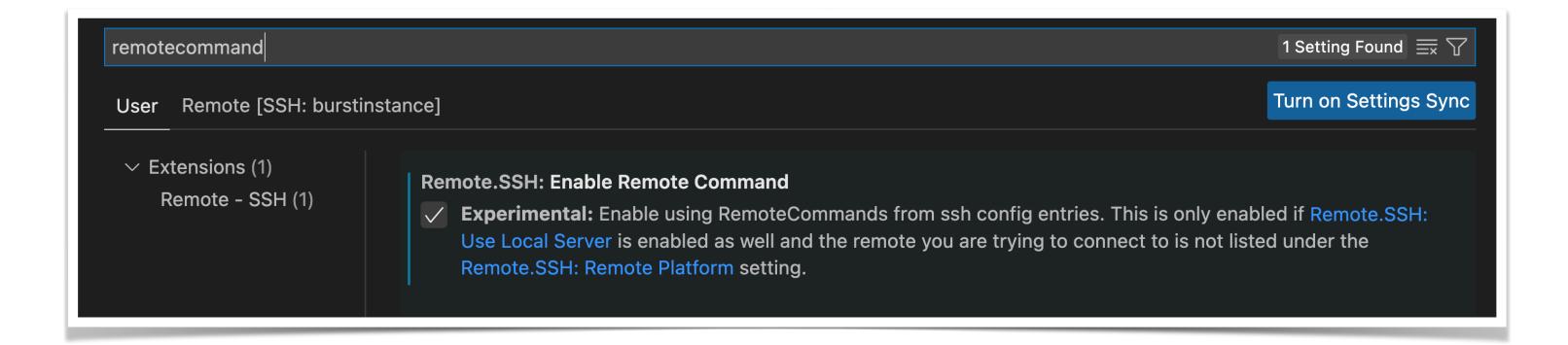
Sandboxed: No

Copy

OK



- If you cannot connect the container directly from your laptop
  - Check VSCode version
  - Check Remote SSH version
  - Check RemoteCommand setting enabled



### Start Singularity instance

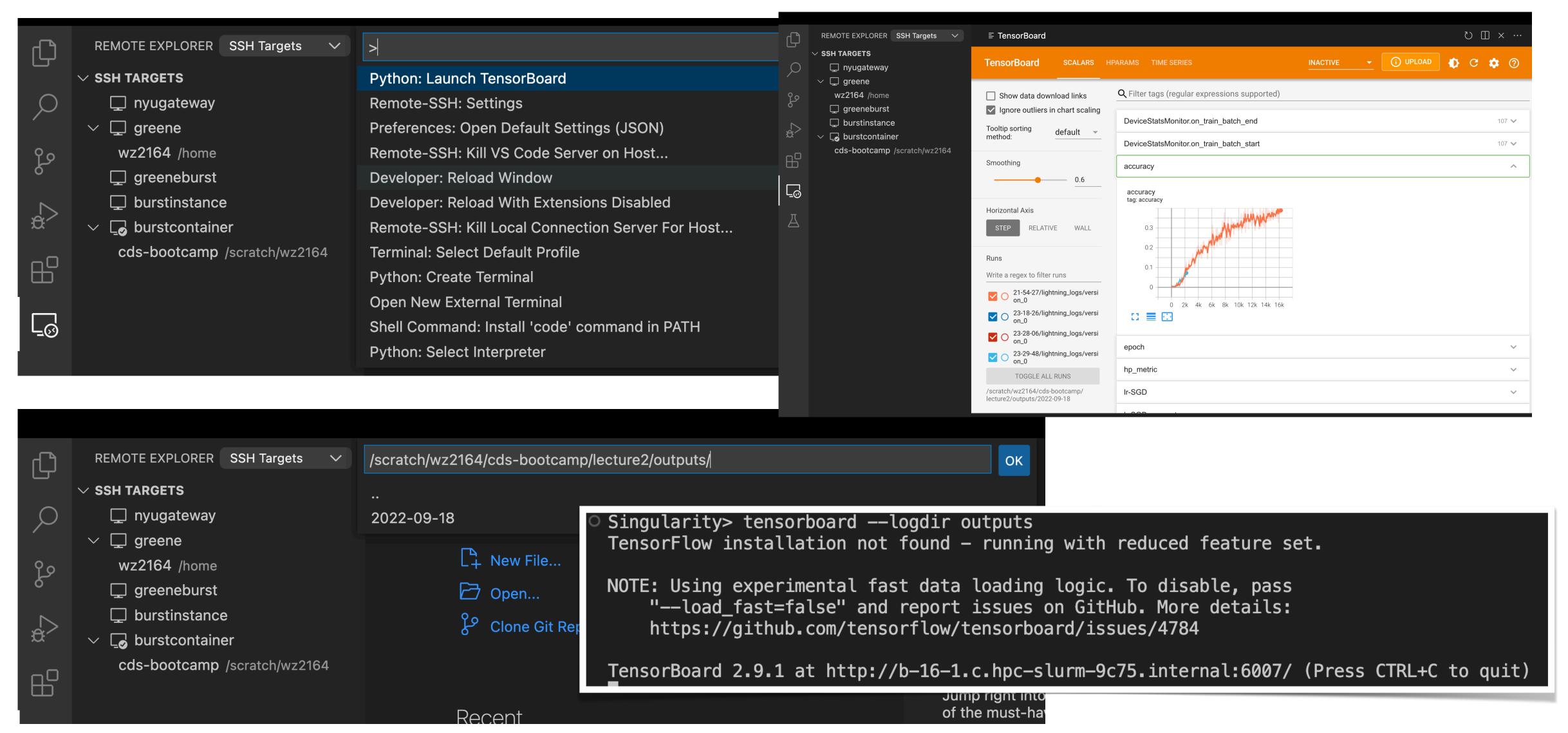
- Drop our sessions directly to the container on VSCode
- o Open the working directory /scratch/\$NetID/cds-bootcamp/lecture2
  - o ./script/create\_base\_overlay.sh
  - ./script/create\_package\_overlay.sh
  - o ./start\_singularity\_instance.sh
  - o singularity instance list

```
bash-4.4$ ./start_singularity_instance.sh
Temporary overlay not found, automatically creating a new one.
INFO: instance started successfully
```

- Connet to the Singularity instance in the terminal
  - o ssh burstcontainer
  - o conda activate /ext3/conda/bootcamp
  - o cd cds-bootcamp/lecture2
  - o python -m bootcamp.train

```
Singularity> conda activate /ext3/conda/bootcamp/
(/ext3/conda/bootcamp) Singularity> pwd
/home/wz2164
(/ext3/conda/bootcamp) Singularity> cd /scratch/wz2164/cds-bootcamp/lecture2/
(/ext3/conda/bootcamp) Singularity> ls
bootcamp overlay-packages.ext3 start_singularity.sh
examples overlay-temp.ext3 start_singularity_instance.sh
outputs scripts
overlay-base.ext3 setup.py
(/ext3/conda/bootcamp) Singularity> python -m bootcamp.train
```

# Track the Process using Tensorboard



# VSCode Testing

