

Using OpenStack to reduce HPC service complexity

... no, that is not an oxymoron!

John Garbutt, Principal Engineer, StackHPC
5th February 2022

StackHPC

Why build a Supercomputer
with OpenStack?

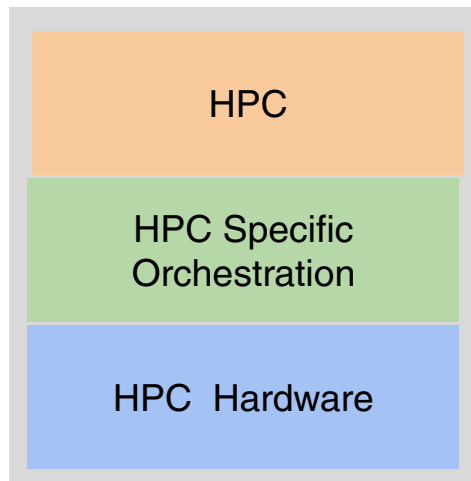
StackHPC

Green500 Data

Rank	TOP500 Rank	System	Cores	Rmax (TFlop/s)	Power (kW)	Power Efficiency (GFlops/watts)
1	301	MN-3 - MN-Core Server, Xeon Platinum 8260M 24C 2.4GHz, Preferred Networks MN-Core, MN-Core DirectConnect, Preferred Networks Preferred Networks Japan	1,664	2,181.2	55	39.379
2	291	SSC-21 Scalable Module - Apollo 6500 Gen10 plus, AMD EPYC 7543 32C 2.8GHz, NVIDIA A100 80GB, Infiniband HDR200, HPE Samsung Electronics South Korea	16,704	2,274.1	103	33.983
3	295	Tethys - NVIDIA DGX A100 Liquid Cooled Prototype, AMD EPYC 7742 64C 2.25GHz, NVIDIA A100 80GB, Infiniband HDR, Nvidia NVIDIA Corporation United States	19,840	2,255.0	72	31.538
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5	30	HiPerGator AI - NVIDIA DGX A100, AMD EPYC 7742 64C 2.25GHz, NVIDIA A100, Infiniband HDR, Nvidia University of Florida United States	138,880	17,200.0	583	29.521

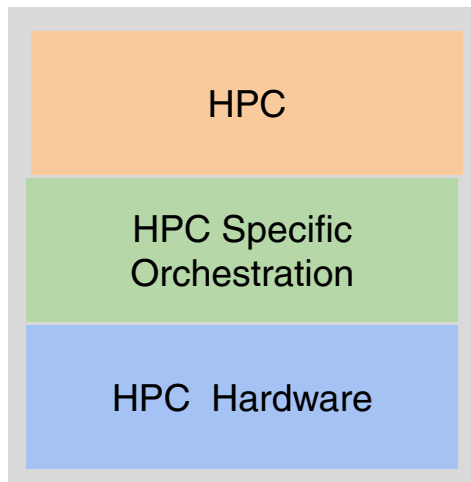
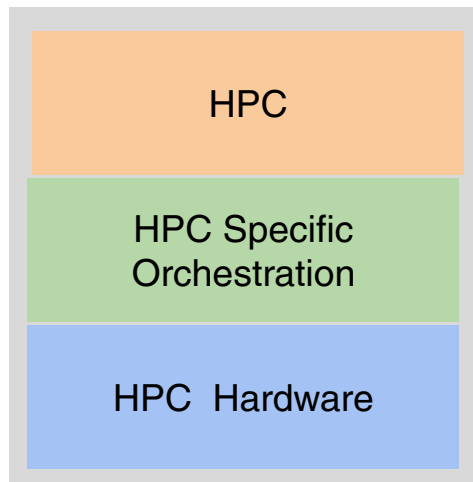
Traditional HPC

StackHPC



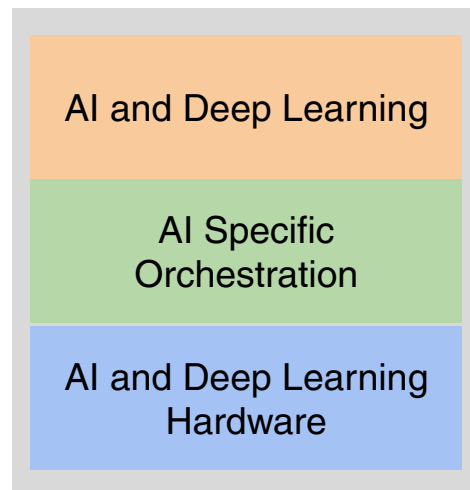
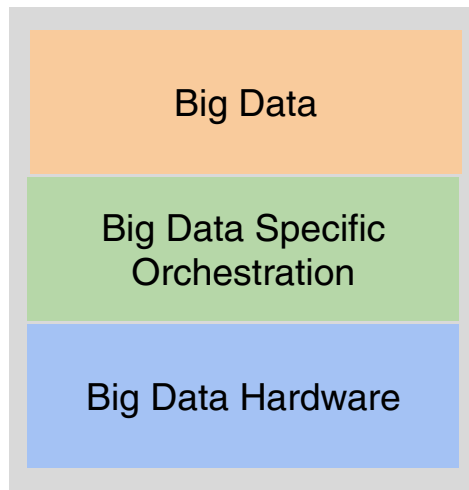
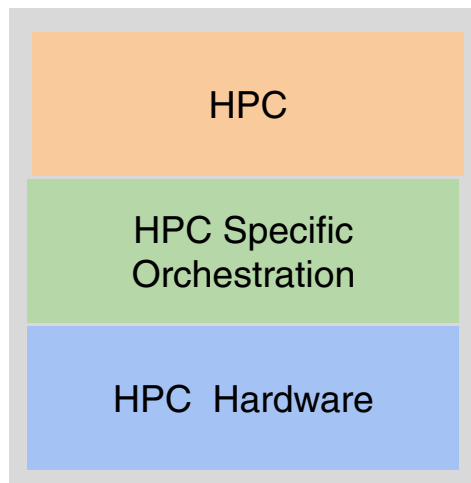
Traditional HPC and TREs

StackHPC



Traditional HPC and HPDA

StackHPC



Evolving User Requirements

Evolution away from a single cluster:

- Trusted Research Environments (TREs)
- GPU enabled Kubernetes Cluster?
- Partitions with specialist hardware types
- Hadoop based Big Data processing
- Dedicated AI platforms
- Large data sets
- “Bring your own” interactive data platforms
- ...

Key Challenges

StackHPC

- Managing Complexity
- Sharing Knowledge
- Performance vs Flexibility
- Maintaining High Utilization
- Enable new use cases, while keeping the lights on

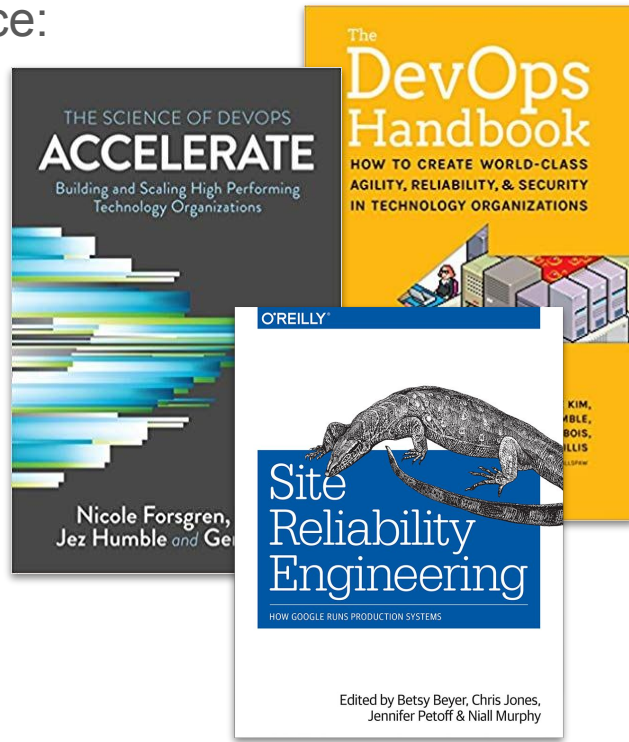
What does Success look like?

Adopting DevOps & ResOps in HPC

StackHPC

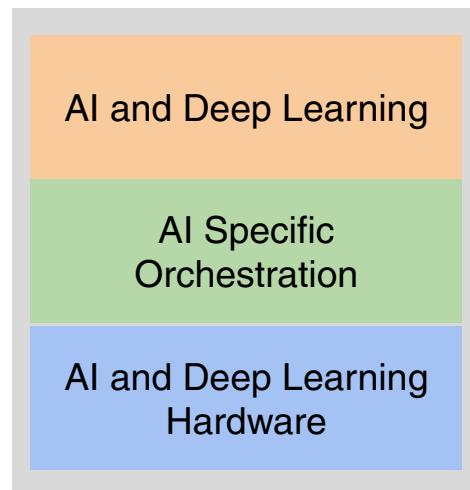
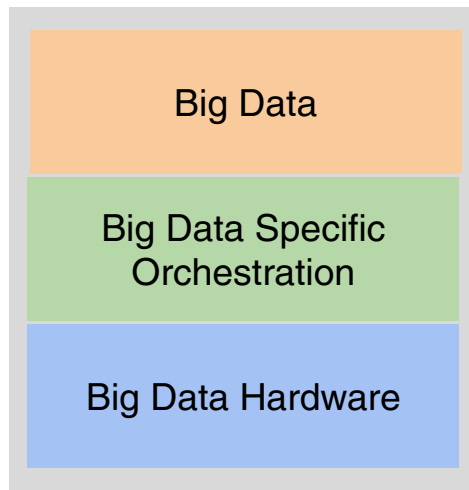
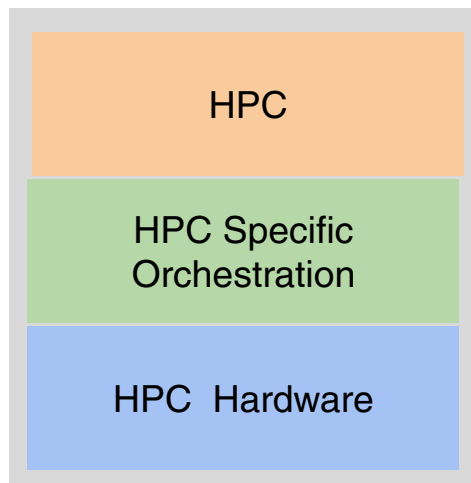
Four key measures of Software Delivery Performance:

- **Lead Time:**
from customer request to being satisfied
- **Mean Time to Restore (MTTR):**
failure will happen, get good recovery
- **Change Fail Percentage:**
a proxy for quality throughout the process
- **Deployment Frequency:**
a proxy for small batch size



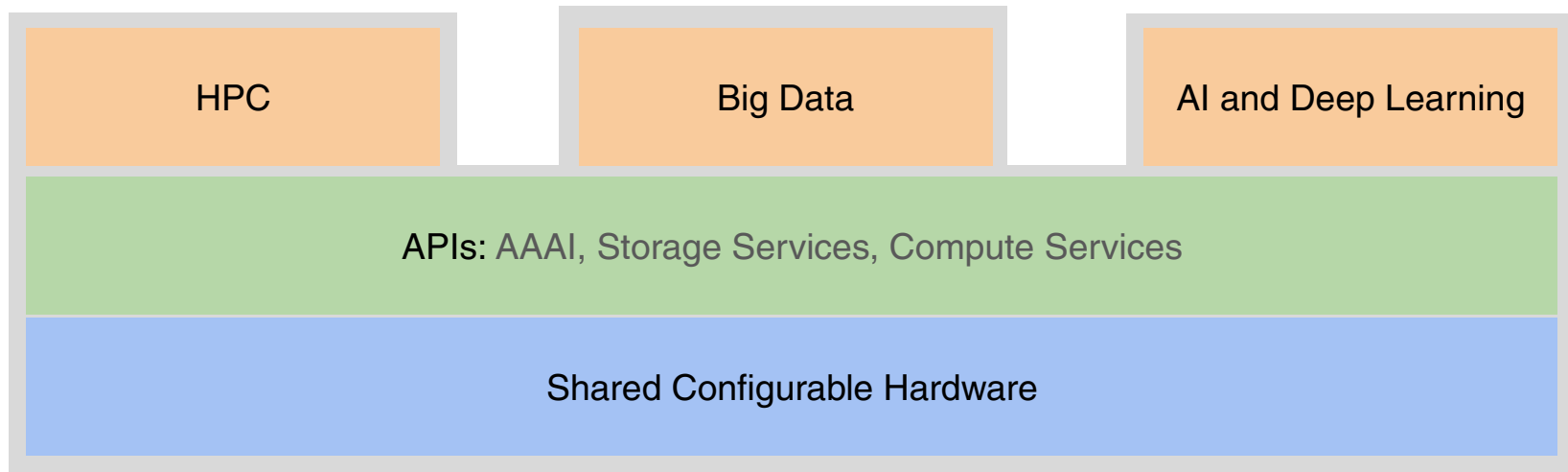
Traditional HPC and HPDA

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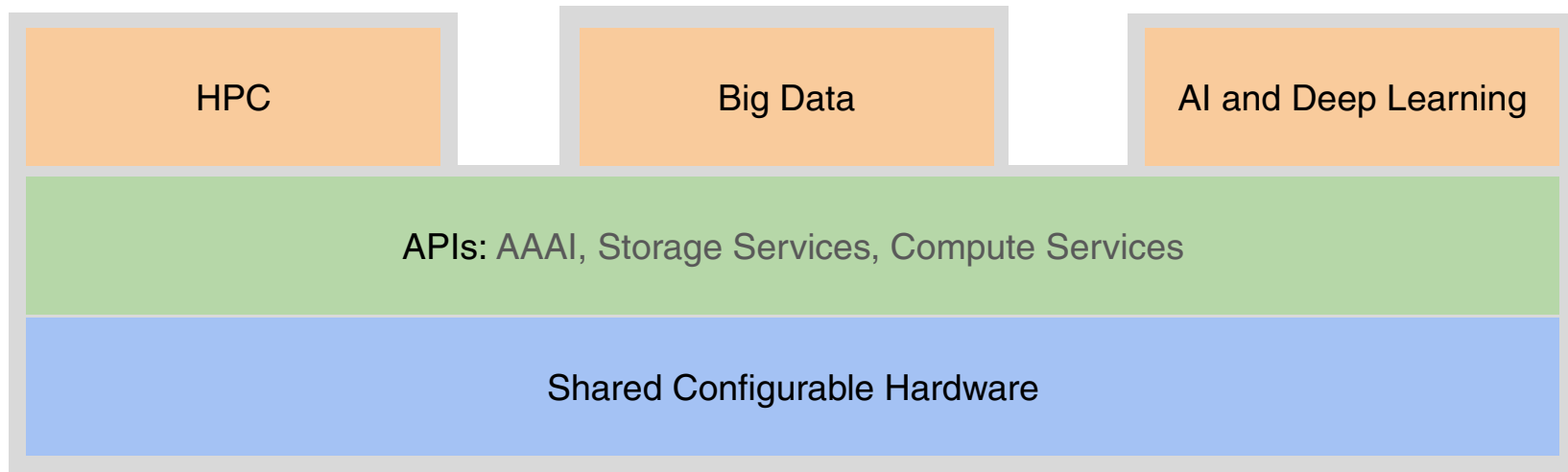
Supercomputing Clouds

StackHPC



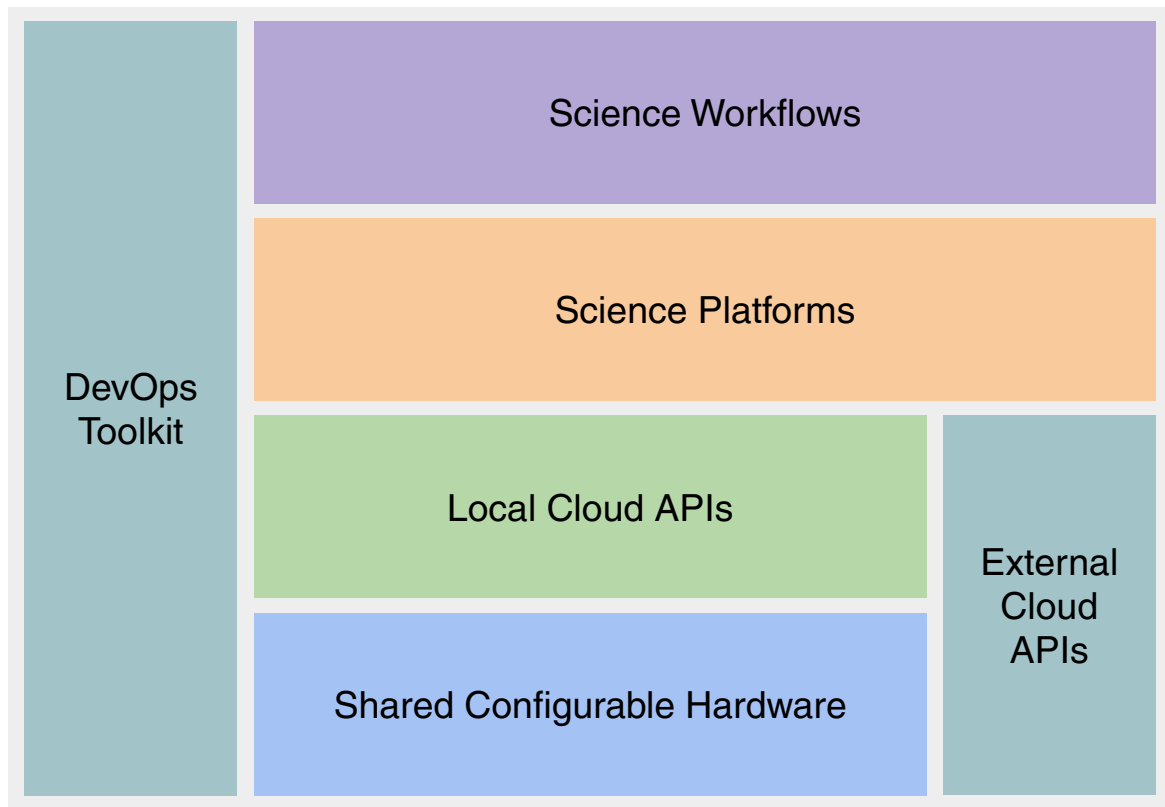
HPC 2.0

StackHPC



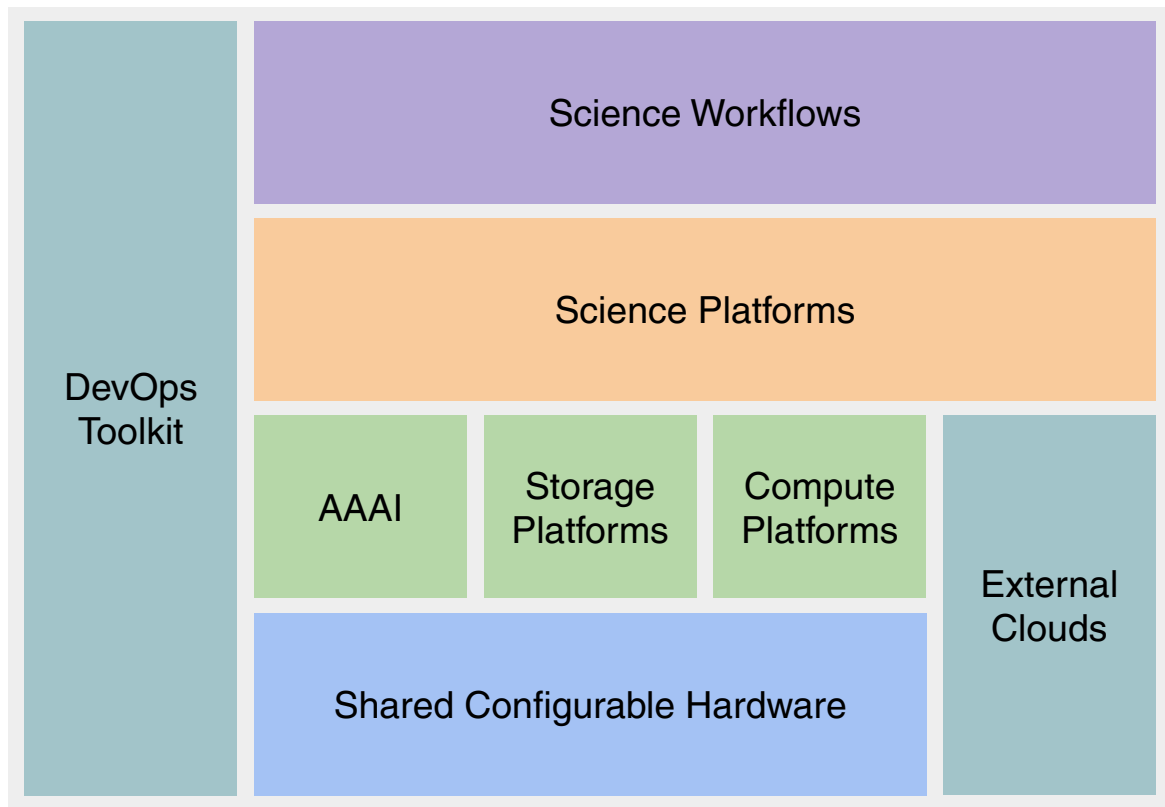
Supercomputing Cloud

StackHPC



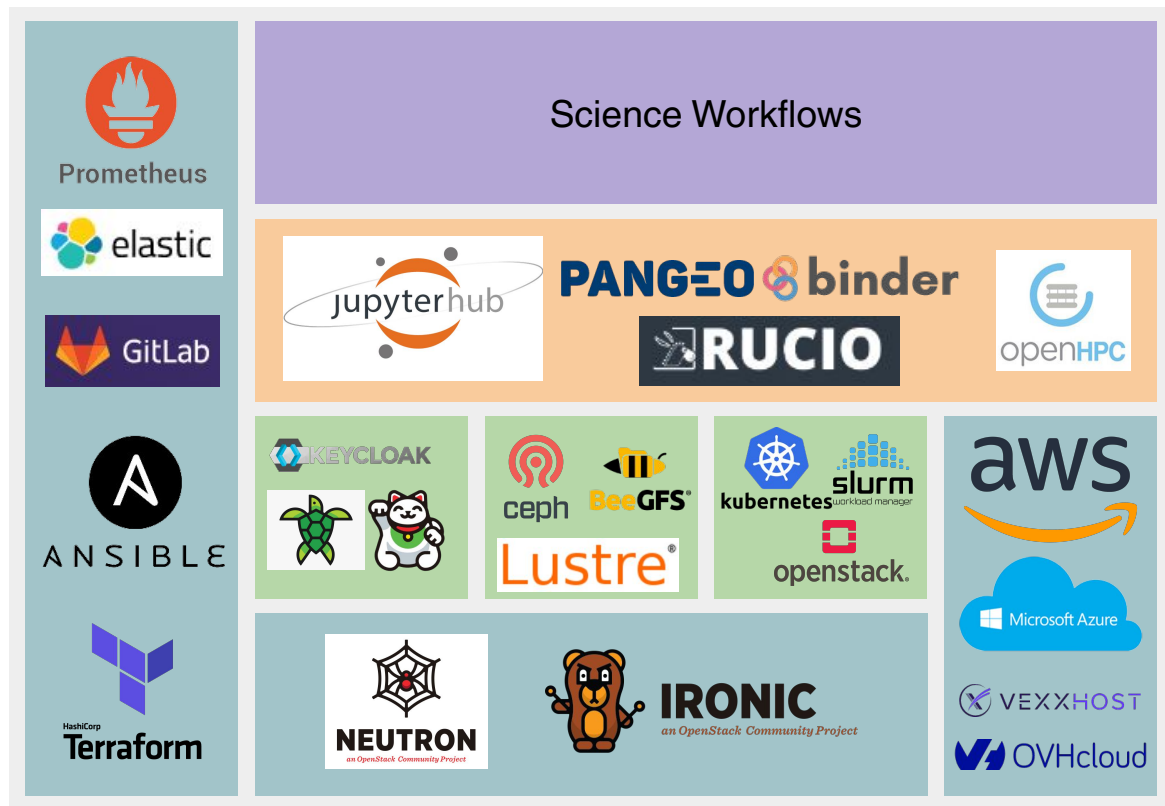
Supercomputing Cloud

StackHPC



Supercomputing Cloud

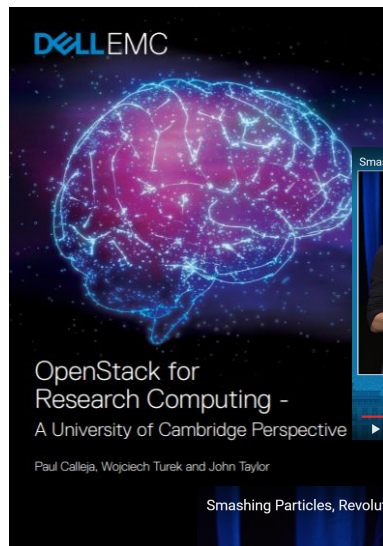
StackHPC



Cambridge HPCS OpenStack Journey

In the Beginning (c. 2015)

- Capture use-cases for Software Defined HPC
- Help establish a Research Computing SIG within OpenStack Foundation
- Establish Cambridge as thought-leader in Scientific OpenStack
- Leverage SKA use-case and develop OpenStack Kayobe



StackHPC



OpenStack in Cambridge (c. 2020)

StackHPC

- Clinical Cloud (2016+)
 - Virtualised Cloud for Brain Imaging, etc
- OpenCB (2016+)
 - Genomics Platform
- AlaSKA (2016+)
 - Bare metal platform for SKA-SDP prototyping
- STFC-IRIS (2018+)
 - Virtual and bare metal cloud for medium scale HPC
- Secure Research Computing Platform (2018+)
 - Virtualised resource for medical informatics
- Arcus (2020+)
 - Unified OpenStack, including Large-scale HPC



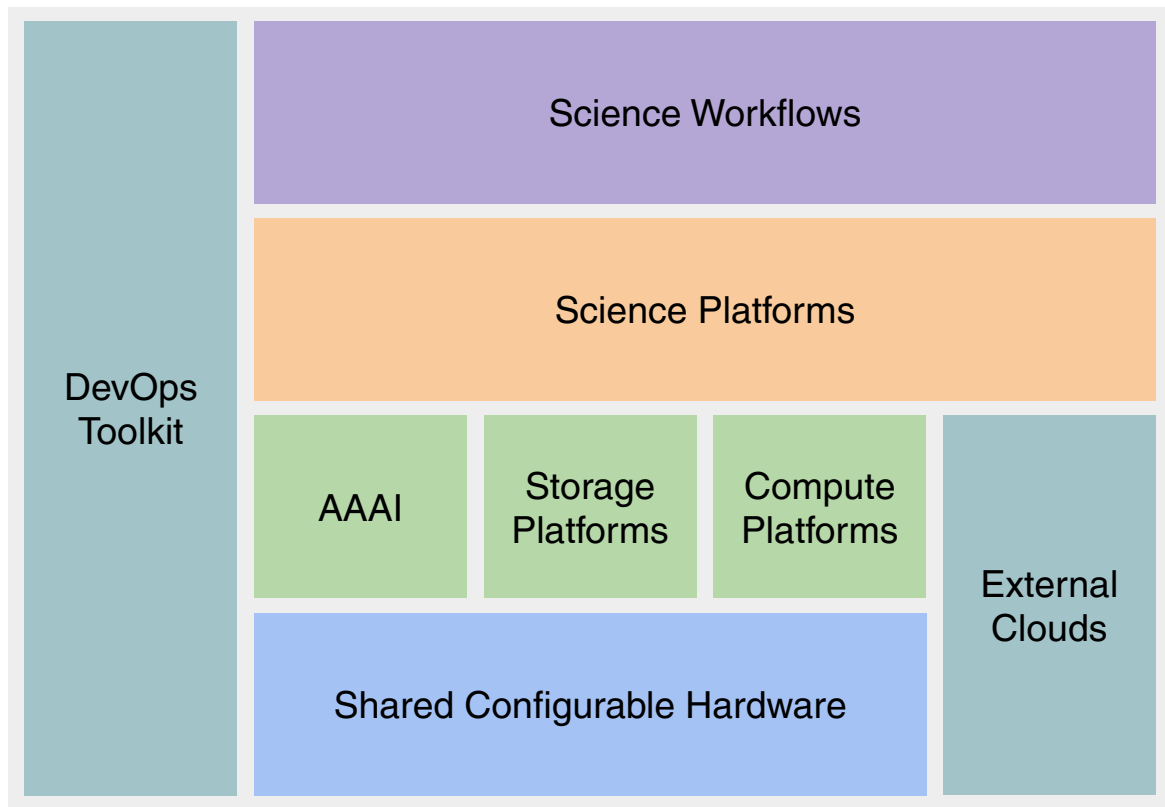
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Shared Configurable Hardware

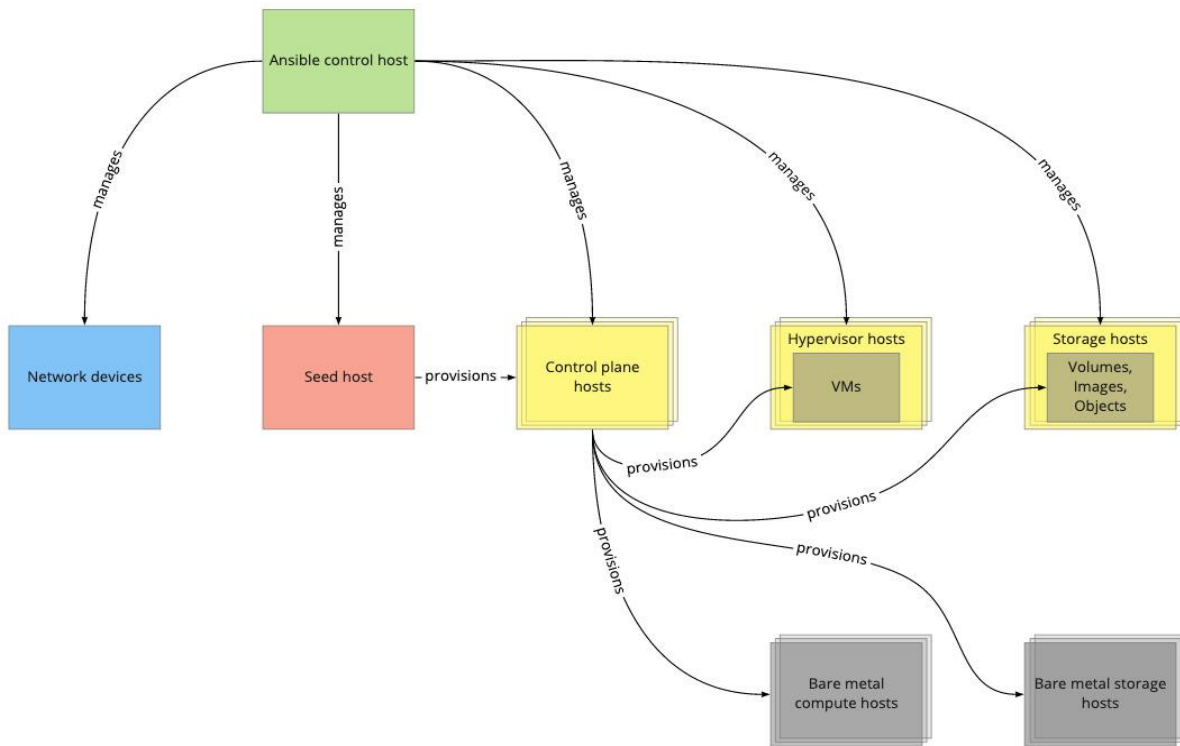
Supercomputing Cloud

StackHPC



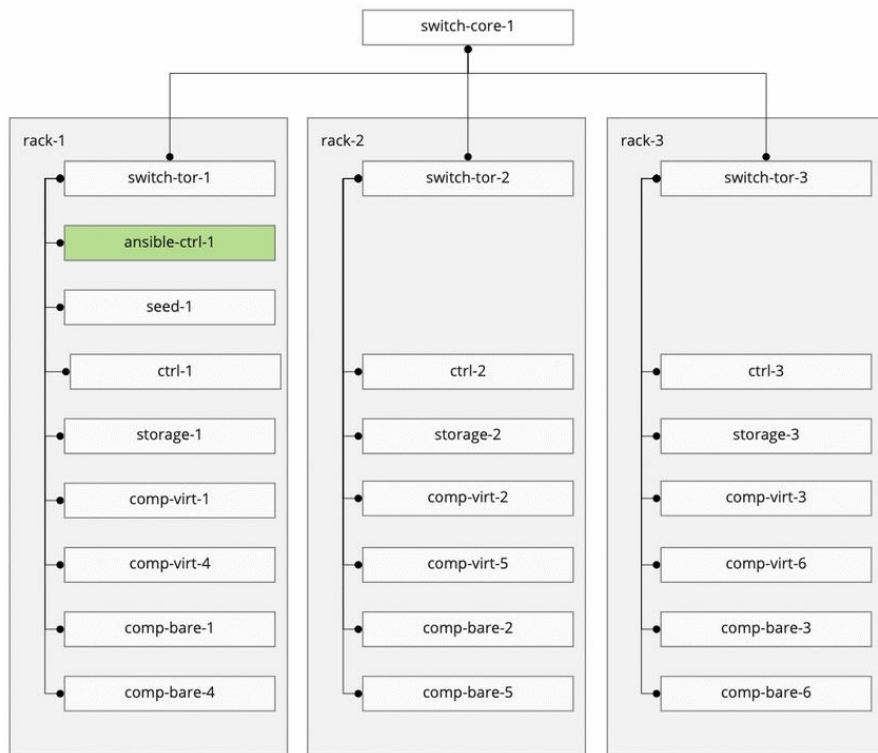
OpenStack Kayobe Architecture

StackHPC



OpenStack Kayobe Deployment

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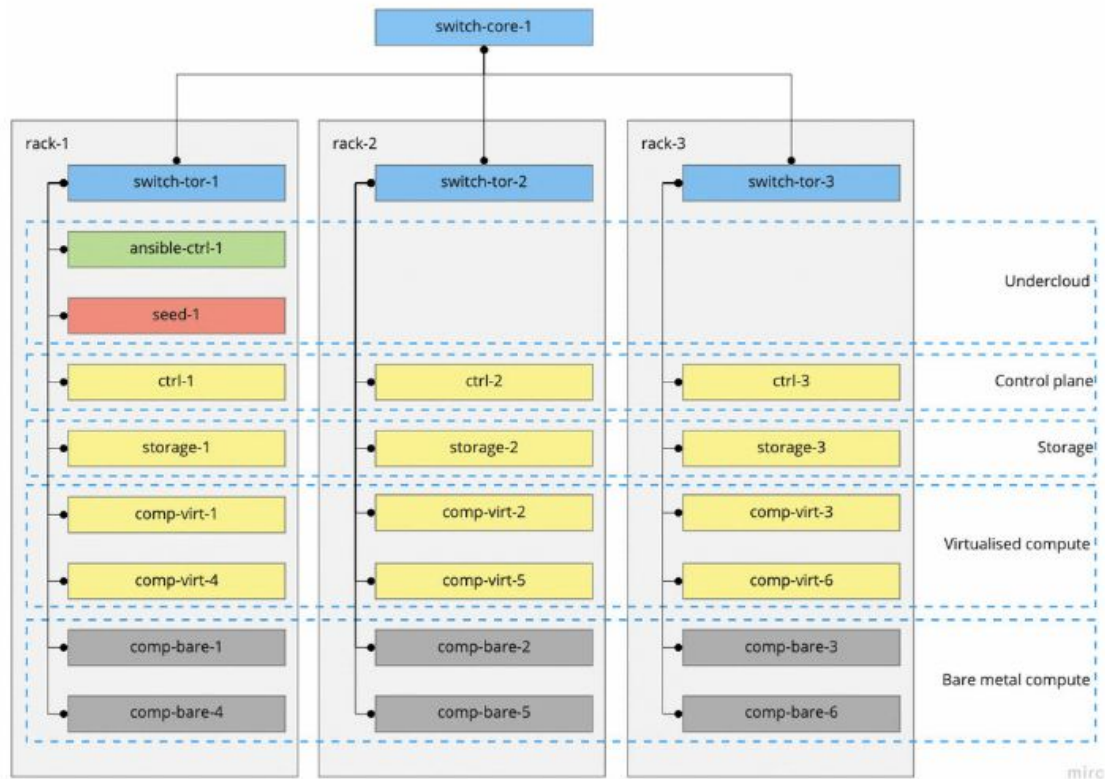
miral



IRONIC
an OpenStack Community Project

OpenStack Kayobe Deployment

StackHPC



IRONIC
an OpenStack Community Project

Baremetal Node <-> Hypervisor

StackHPC

- Kayobe and Kolla-Ansible, OpenStack
 - Network switches configured via ansible in Kayobe
- Ironi to deploy Controllers and Hypervisors
 - Controllers via Bifrost Ironi
 - Hypervisors are a baremetal workload
 - Science Platforms can use baremetal and/or VM servers
- Storage
 - Lustre and Ceph are applications running on baremetal
- Dynamic Networking
 - OpenStack Neutron used to configure physical switches
 - networking-generic-switch can change the access VLAN
 - Dedicated networks for inspecting, provisioning and cleaning



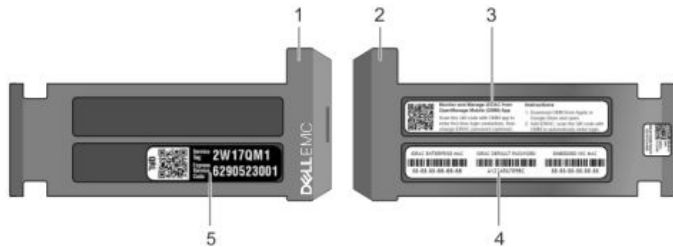
KOLLA

an OpenStack Community Project

Bootstrapping Physical Infrastructure

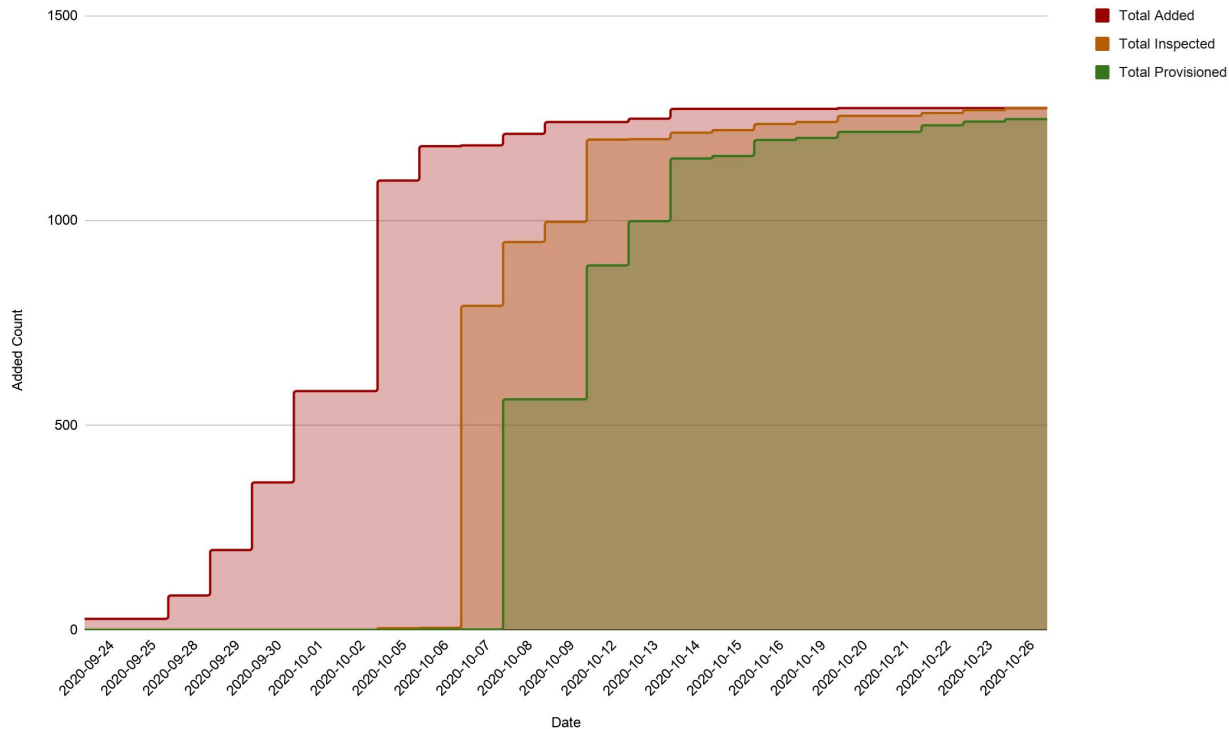
StackHPC

- Barcode scan servers in racks
- iDRAC DHCP
 - MAC from scanning, Neutron for DHCP
- Ansible driven Ironic Enrollment
 - Ansible enables IPMI, updates Firmware
 - State machine stored in Ironic
- Ironic Inspector
 - First on 1GbE, and update ConnectX-6
 - Re-inspection on 50GbE, LLDP to get switch info
- Testing: Burn-in with HPL, MPI ping tests
- <https://github.com/stackhpc/arcus-terraform-idrac>



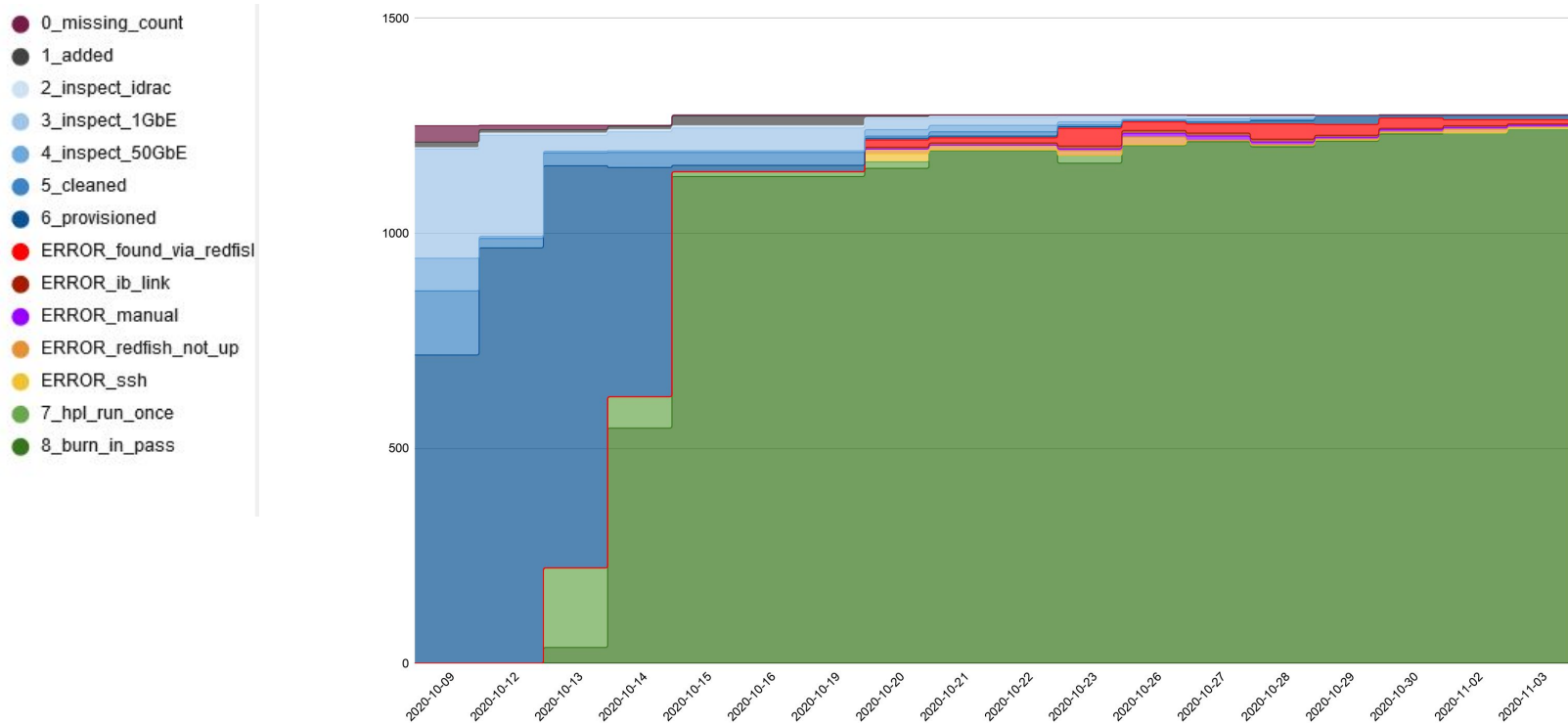
Tracking Bootstrapping

StackHPC



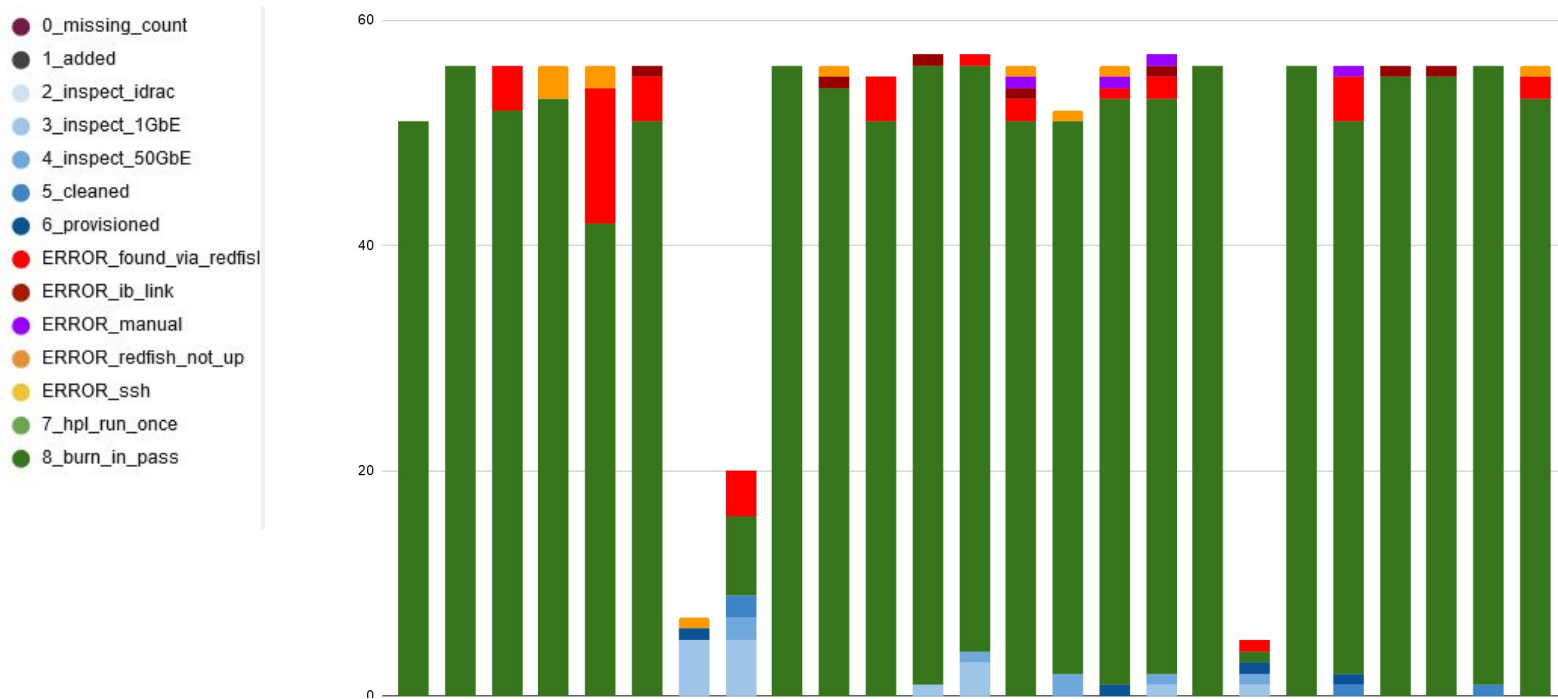
Tracking Bootstrapping

StackHPC



Tracking Bootstrapping

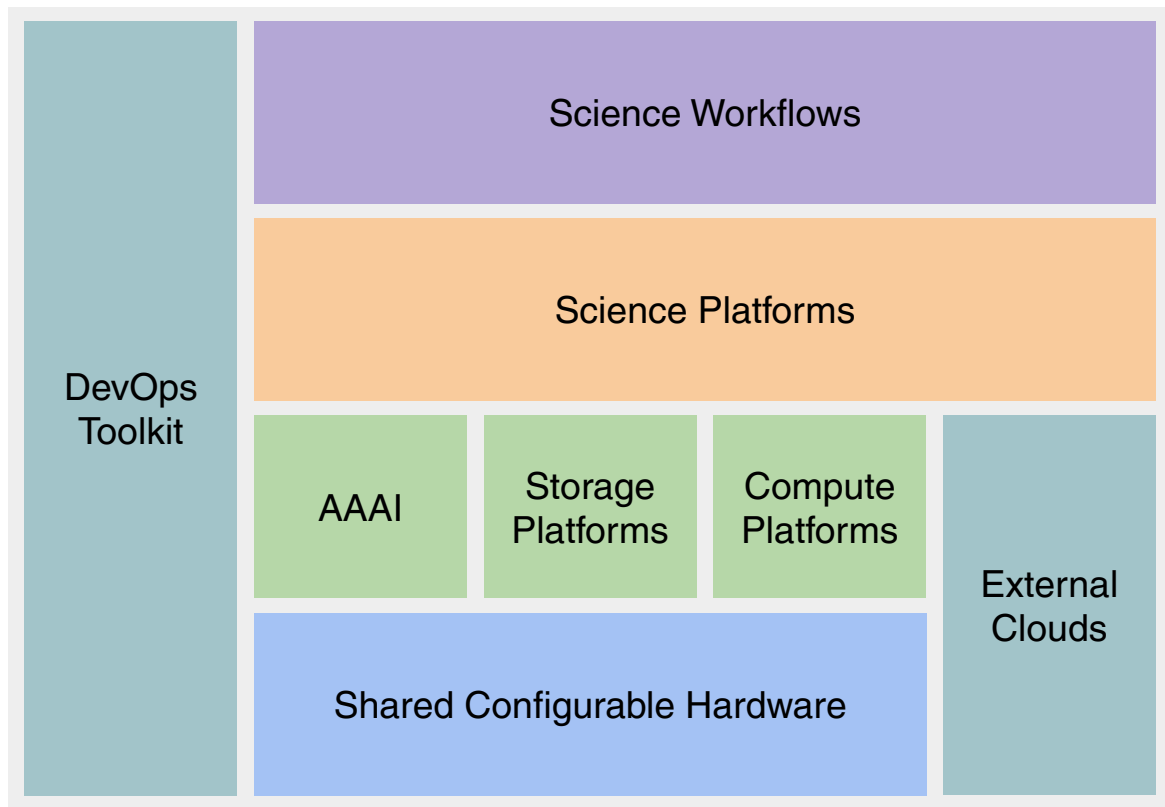
StackHPC



Science Platform: OpenHPC Slurm

Supercomputing Cloud

StackHPC



OpenHPC Slurm on OpenStack

StackHPC

- Ansible install and configure OpenHPC packages
 - Terraform can manage infrastructure
 - Open OnDemand web interface
 - Monitoring using Grafana and Prometheus
 - Self-tests: HPL, MPI ping pong
- (Optional) Image build pipeline, using Packer and Ansible
- Non-impacting upgrades
 - Slurm rebuild scripts
 - OpenStack rebuild
- Autoscaling (coming soon)
- <https://github.com/stackhpc/ansible-slurm-appliance>

Tuning Ironic for Scale

StackHPC

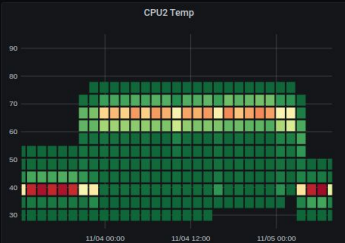
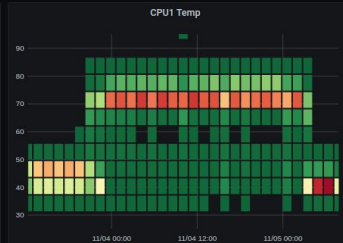
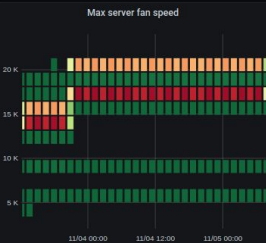
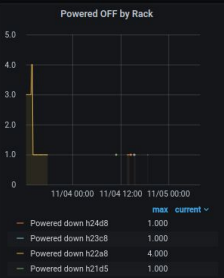
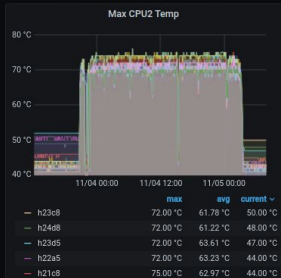
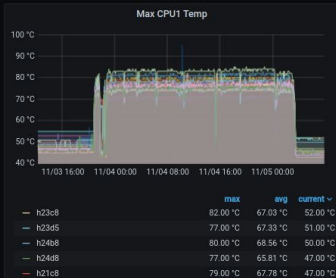
- Target: rebuild all hosts to apply new kernel
- networking-generic-switch
 - Added cumulus driver to networking-generic-switch
 - Added experimental “batching” of config
- Ironic-conductor configuration
 - IMPI driver, avoids reboot in iDRAC driver
 - Direct deploy, not iSCSI
 - `force_raw_images = false`
 - Avoid neutron router bottleneck
 - Server Delete: increased `rpc_timeout`
- `connect_timeout` in HAproxy and MariaDB





Power states	
server	Power state
svn3-h21a5-u28	ON
svn2-h21a5-u27	ON
svn3-h21a5-u36	ON
svn1-h21a5-u28	ON
svn4-h21a5-u25	ON
svn3-h21a5-u26	ON
svn2-h21a5-u25	ON
svn1-h21a5-u26	ON
svn4-h21a5-u23	ON
svn3-h21a5-u24	ON
svn2-h21a5-u23	ON
svn1-h21a5-u24	ON
svn2-h21a5-u35	ON
svn4-h21a5-u13	ON

Chassis status	
server	Status
swm2-h23c8-u35	ERROR
swm4-h22c5-u27	ERROR
swm3-h22c5-u28	ERROR
swm2-h22c5-u27	ERROR
swm1-h22c5-u28	ERROR
swm4-h23c5-u33	ERROR
swm3-h23c5-u34	ERROR
swm2-h23c5-u33	ERROR
swm1-h23c5-u34	ERROR
swm4-h24d8-u31	HEALTHY
swm3-h24d8-u4	HEALTHY
swm2-h27d8-u36	HEALTHY
swm2-h24d8-u5	HEALTHY
swm3-h24d8-u6	HEALTHY



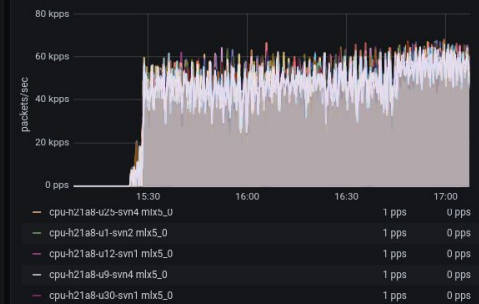
Power Consumption per Rack, via Redfish



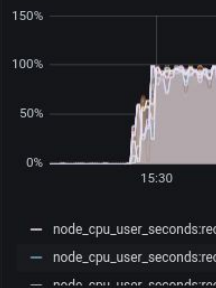
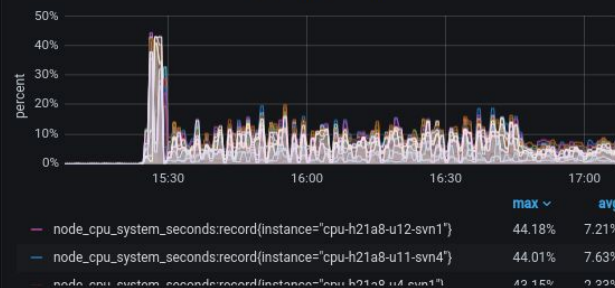
Outbound Infiniband Packets



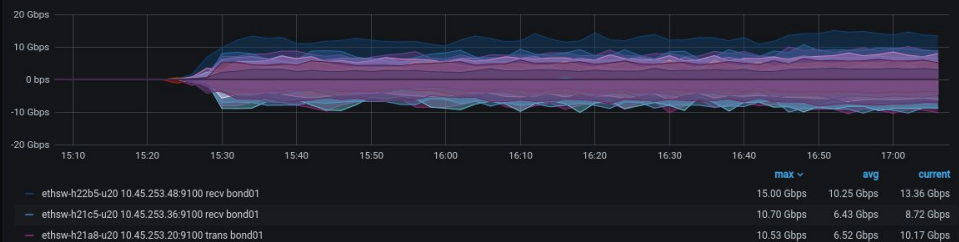
Inbound Infiniband Packets



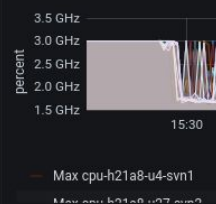
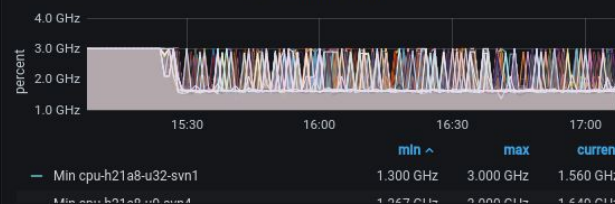
CPU usage (system)



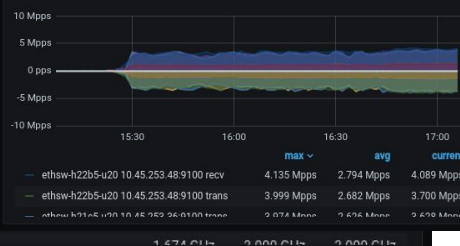
Switch Traffic



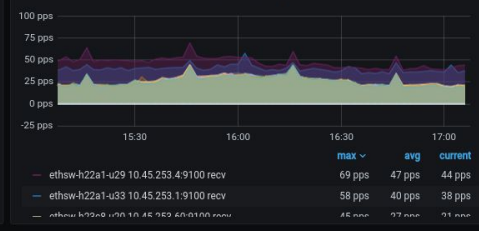
CPU Frequency Min



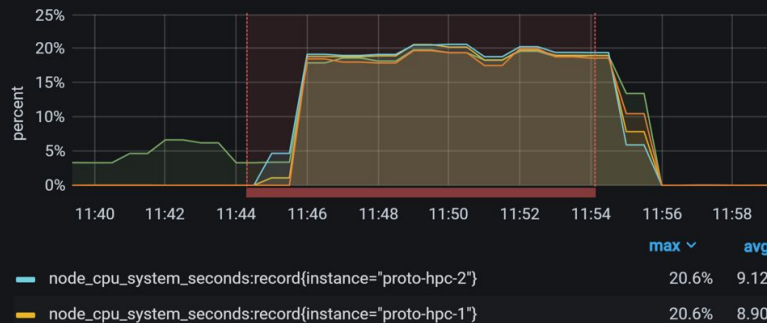
Switch Packet Rate



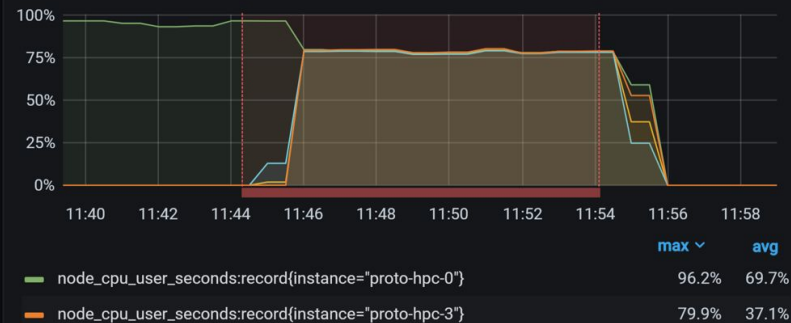
Switch Packet Drops



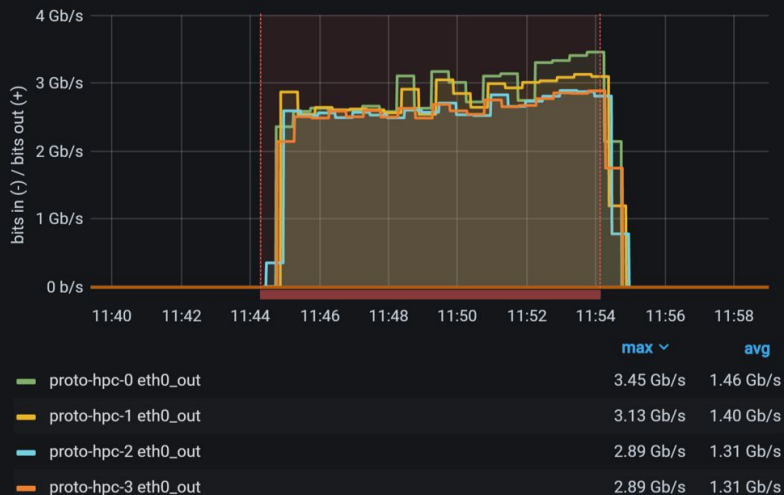
CPU usage (system)



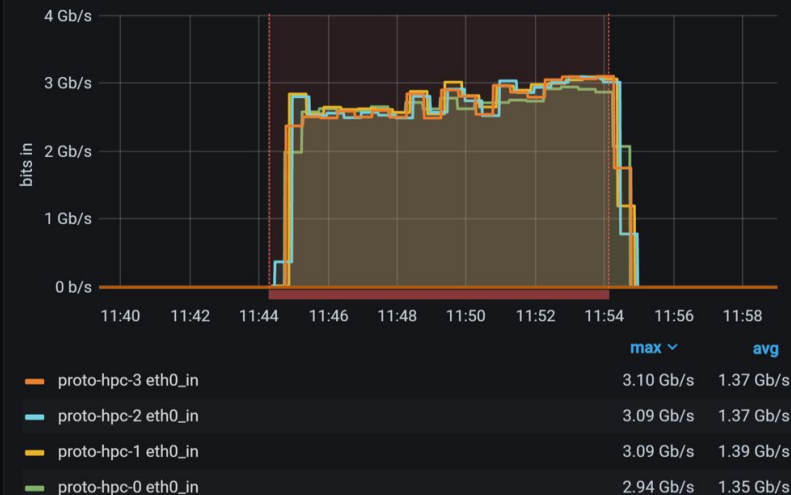
CPU usage (user)



Network Traffic (transmit)



Network Traffic (receive)

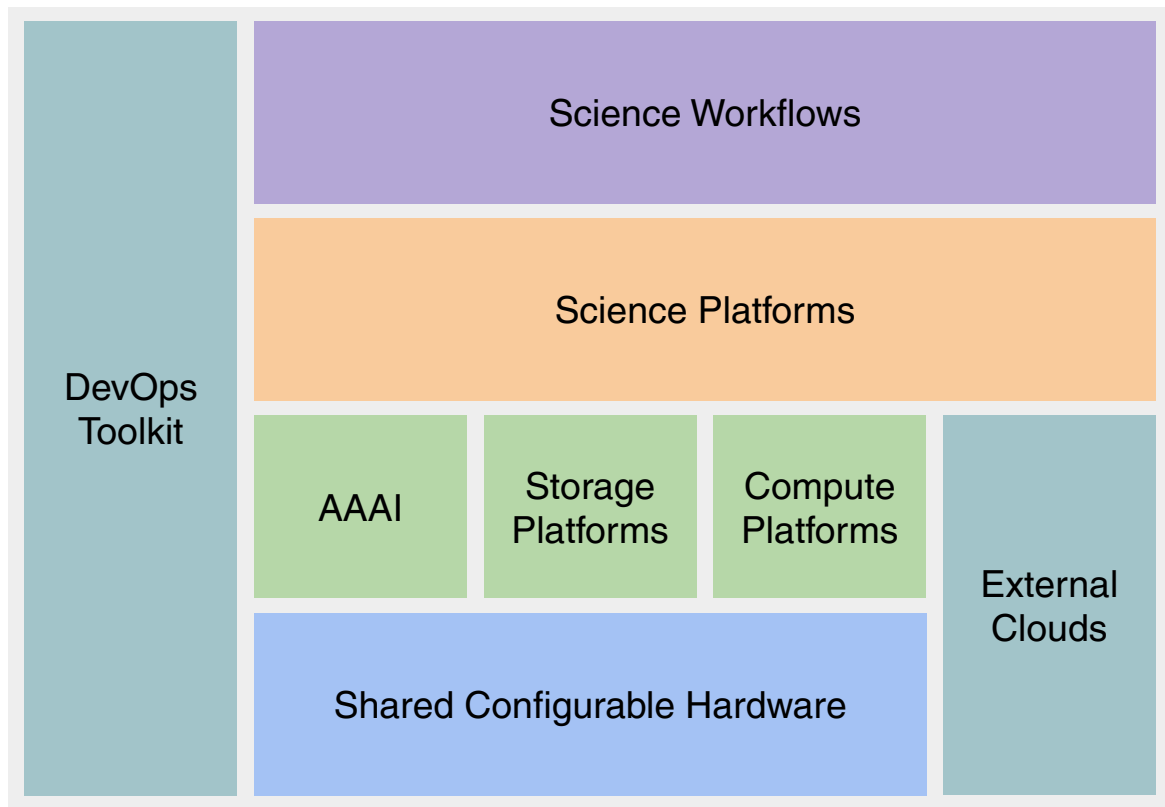


Science Platforms: On Demand

StackHPC

Supercomputing Cloud

StackHPC



Azimuth Cloud Portal

StackHPC

- Reduce time to science & reduce operational effort of onboarding
- Easier to **find** and **reuse** common lego bricks, between science communities
- Builds on the STFC funded work done by JASMIN
- Target use cases
 - Works with OpenID Connect
 - Get me a:
 - Bigger laptop
 - Slurm Clusters, Kubernetes clusters
 - JupyterHub, Kubeflow, DaskHub, ...

<https://github.com/stackhpc/azimuth>

Science Platforms:
Get me a bigger Laptop!



Welcome to IRIS IAM

Sign in with your IRIS IAM credentials

Sign in

[Forgot your password?](#)

Or sign in with

Your Organisation via 

Not a member?

Apply for an account

[About Us, Contact information and Privacy Policy](#)



iris

Select Tenancy ▾

johng_stack ▾

Dashboard

Available tenancies

iris-alaska-prod

iris-euclid

rcp-cloud-portal-demo

rcp-cloud-portal-dev


rcp-cloud-portal-prod

rcp-rds-lustre-dev

rcp-scientific-openstack-ci-cd

Machines | rcp-cloud-portal-den

portalapps.hpc.cam.ac.uk/tenancies/3a06571936a0424bb40bc5c672c4ccb1/machines

 Select Tenancy

johng_stack

rcp-cloud-portal

OverviewMachinesVolumes

Name	Image
johng-dactest	CentOS8.4-OFEL

1 machine

Create a new machine

Machine name

test-web-console

Must contain alphanumeric characters, dot (.) and dash (-) only.

Image

Ubuntu-Focal-20.04-20210624

Size

vm.v1.tiny 1 cpus, 1GB RAM, 10GB disk

☒ Enable web console?

Installs [Apache Guacamole](#) to provide access to the machine via a web browser.

☐ Enable remote desktop for web console?

WARNING: The remote desktop can take a long time to install and configure.

+ Create machine

New machineRefresh

Created

12 minutes agoActions



Select Tenancy ▾

johng_stack ▾

rcp-cloud-portal-demo

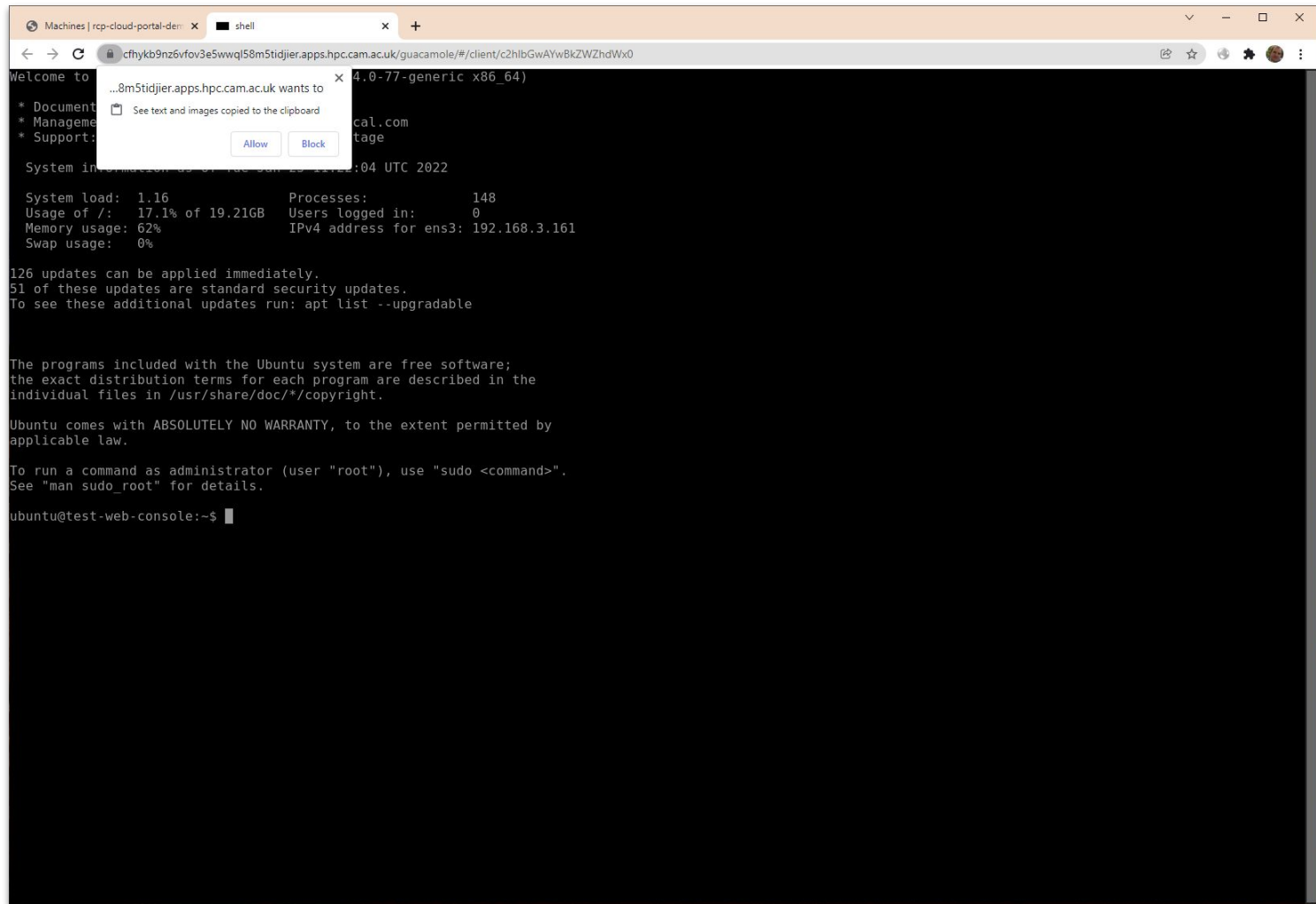
Overview Machines Volumes Kubernetes Clusters

New machine

Refresh

Name	Image	Size	Status	Power State	Task	Internal IP	External IP	Created ▾	
test-web-console	Ubuntu-Focal-20.04-20210624	vm.alaska.cpu.general.tiny	ACTIVE	Running	-	192.168.3.161	-	a minute ago	Actions ▾
johng-dactest	CentOS8.4-OFED-5.4-1.0.3.0	vm.iris.cpu.dac.quarter	ACTIVE	Running	-	192.168.3.176	-	14 min	
2 machines									

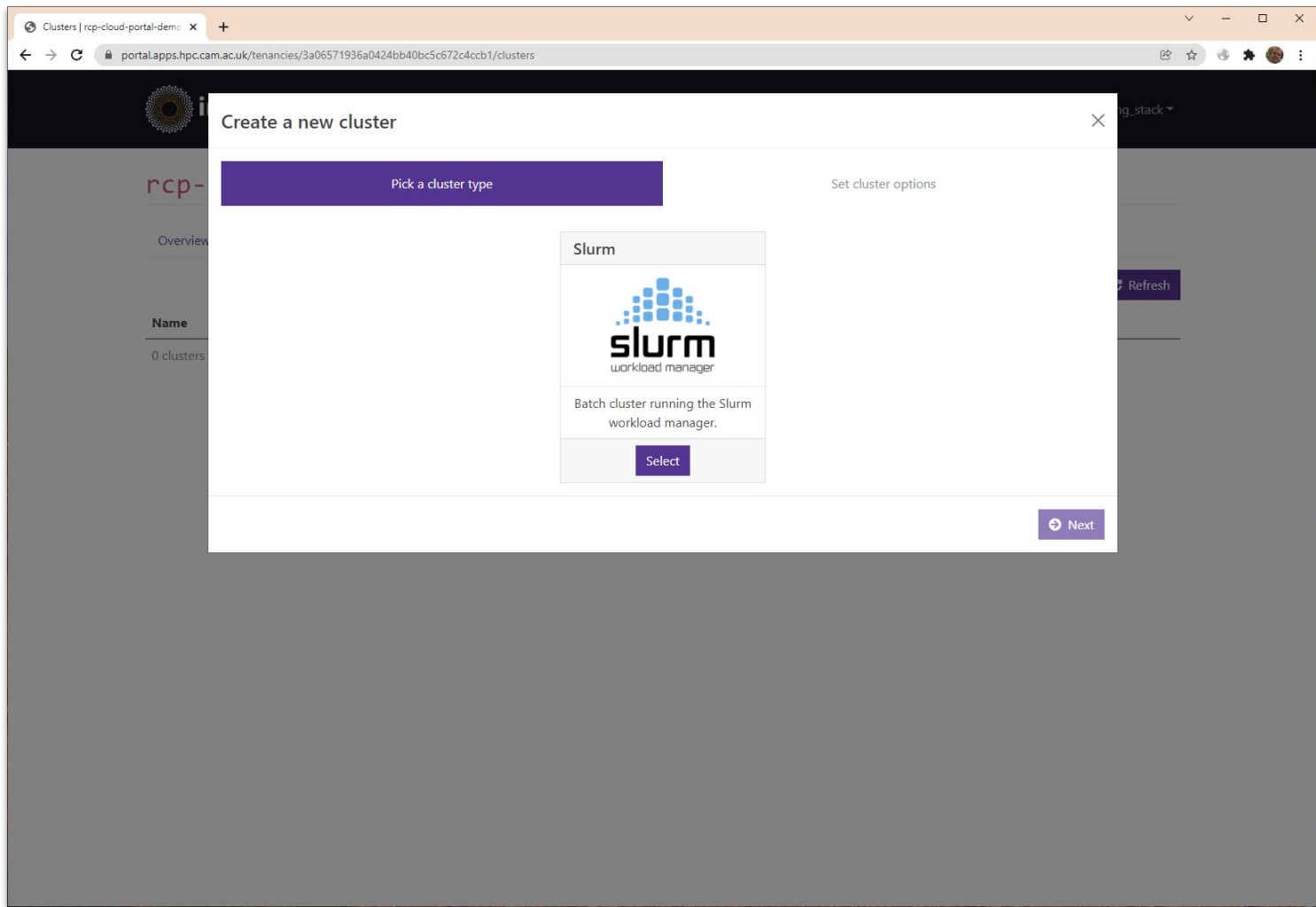
- Access web console
- Attach external IP
- Detach external IP
- Firewall rules
- Start machine
- Stop machine
- Restart machine
- View machine logs
- Delete machine



How did the VM access work?


- There is nothing hiding the OpenStack API here
 - Similar to Exposhere
- Login to OIDC integrated OpenStack Keystone
 - AARC Blueprint, IRIS IAM
- Create OpenStack server via API
 - Cloud-init configures guacamole and proxy
- Zenith Proxy
 - Authenticate users via OpenStack
 - Authorize based on OpenStack project membership
 - Don't always burn a public IP, via ingress controller style proxy

Science Platforms:
Get me a Slurm Cluster!



Clusters | rcp-cloud-portal-demo

portalapps.hpc.cam.ac.uk/tenancies/3a06571936a0424bb40bc5c672c4ccb1/clusters

 Select Tenancy


rcp-cloud-portal

Overview

Machines

Volumes

Name	Cluster Type
0 clusters	

 Batch cluster running the Slurm workload manager.

Cluster name

test-slurm

Must contain lower-case alphanumeric characters and dash (-) only.

External IP

128.232.222.183

The external IP to use for the login node.

Compute node count

2

The number of compute nodes in the cluster.

Login node size

vm.alaska.cpu.general.small 4 cpus, 4GB RAM, 40GB disk

The size to use for the login node.

Control node size

vm.alaska.cpu.general.small 4 cpus, 4GB RAM, 40GB disk

The size to use for the control node.

Compute node size

vm.iris.cpu.dac.quarter 14 cpus, 38GB RAM, 2100GB disk

The size to use for the compute node.

Cluster monitoring

☒ Enable cluster monitoring?

If selected, a monitoring stack will be deployed allowing you to track and visualise the state of the cluster.
WARNING: This can take a significant amount of time to deploy and configure.

Post-configuration validation

☐ Run post-configuration validation?

If selected, post-configuration jobs will be executed to validate the core functionality of the cluster when it is re-configured.

Back

Create cluster

johng_stack

New cluster

Refresh

Patched



Select Tenancy ▾

johng_stack ▾

rcp-cloud-portal-demo

Overview Machines Volumes Kubernetes Clusters

New cluster

Refresh

Name	Cluster Type	Status	Task	Created	Updated	Patched
test-slurm	Slurm	CONFIGURING	Waiting to be scheduled	a few seconds ago	-	-

1 cluster

Clusters | rcp-cloud-portal-demo

portalapps.hpc.cam.ac.uk/tenancies/3a06571936a0424bb40bc5c672c4ccb1/clusters

iris

Select Tenancy

johng_stack

rcp-cloud-portal-demo

Overview

Machines

Volumes

Kubernetes

Clusters

New cluster

Refresh

Name	Cluster Type	Status	Task	Created	Updated	Patched	
test-slurm	Slurm	READY	-	19 minutes ago	4 minutes ago	4 minutes ago	Actions

1 cluster

How did you create the cluster?

- Generic, not specific to Slurm
- AWX runs Ansible playbooks
 - <https://github.com/stackhpc/caas-slurm-appliance>
- Terraform creates infrastructure
 - State stored in Consul
 - Inventory updated from Terraform output
- SSH in to configure hosts
- Optionally using image build via Packer pipeline
 - Referencing Pulp repo mirrors
- Auto-detect if project has RDMA provider network

Science Platforms:

Get me a Kubernetes Cluster

Kubernetes | rcp-cloud-portal-di x +

portalapps.hpc.cam.ac.uk/tenancies/3a06571936a0424bb40bc5c672c4ccb1/kubernetes

iris Select Tenancy johng_stack

rcp-cloud-portal

Overview Machines Volumes

Name	Status
0 clusters	

Create a new Kubernetes cluster

Cluster name

Cluster name

Must contain lower-case alphanumeric characters and dash (-) only.

Cluster template

Select a Kubernetes cluster template...

The template determines the Kubernetes version for the cluster.

Control Plane Size

Select a size...

The size to use for the Kubernetes control plane node(s).

☒ Enable auto-healing?

If enabled, the cluster will try to remediate unhealthy nodes automatically.

Node Groups

Name	Node Size	Node Count
No node groups configured yet.		
<div>+ Add node group</div>		

Cluster Addons

☐ Enable cert-manager?


☐ Enable Kubernetes Ingress?

☐ Enable cluster monitoring?

+ Create cluster

Kubernetes | rcp-cloud-portal-di

portalapps.hpc.cam.ac.uk/tenancies/3a06571936a0424bb40bc5c672c4ccb1/kubernetes

 Select Tenancy

johng_stack

rcp-cloud-portal-demo

Overview

Machines

Volumes

Kubernetes

Clusters

New cluster


Refresh

Name	Status	Template	Control Plane	Workers	Addons	Created	
matt-demo	✓ Ready	v1.22.6	✓ Ready	✓ 3 (3 ready)	✓ 5 (5 ready)	13 minutes ago	Actions

1 cluster

Kubernetes | rcp-cloud-portal-di x

portalapps.hpc.cam.ac.uk/tenancies/3a06571936a0424bb40bc5c672c4ccb1/kubernetes

 Select Tenancy

johng_stack

rcp-cloud-portal-demo

Overview

Machines

Volumes

Kubernetes

Clusters

New cluster

Refresh

Name	Status	Template	Control Plane	Workers	Addons	Created	
matt-demo	Deleting	v1.22.6	Ready	3 (3 ready)	1 (0 ready)	15 minutes ago	Actions

1 cluster

Generate kubeconfig

Cluster details


Modify cluster

Upgrade cluster

Delete cluster

Kubernetes | rcp-cloud-portal-di

portalapps.hpc.cam.ac.uk/tenancies/3a06571936a0424bb40bc5c672c4ccb1/kubernetes

 Select Tenancy

rcp-cloud-portal

Overview Machines Volumes

Name	Status
matt-demo	✓ Ready

1 cluster

johng_stack

New cluster Refresh

minutes ago Actions

Kubeconfig for matt-demo

Copy to clipboard Download Regenerate

Use this configuration file with the [kubectl](#) command-line tool to access your cluster.

```
apiVersion: v1
clusters:
- cluster:
  certificate-authority-data: LS0tLS1CRUdJTT1BRDRVJUSUZJQ0FURSB0tLS0tCk1JSUM2akNDQMRLZ0F3SUJBZ01...
  server: https://128.232.222.52:6443
  name: matt-demo
contexts:
- context:
  cluster: matt-demo
  user: matt-demo-admin
  name: matt-demo-admin@matt-demo
current-context: matt-demo-admin@matt-demo
kind: Config
preferences: {}
users:
- name: matt-demo-admin
  user:
```

Close

How did you create K8s Clusters?

- Kubernetes Cluster API
 - OpenStack Cluster API Provider
 - Cinder CSI and Cloud Provider OpenStack
 - General good stuff: Rolling upgrades, Self-healing, Auto-scaling
 - Add additional RDMA network when available
- Opinions wrapped with Helm charts
 - Add and remove “add-ons” (e.g. OFED and CUDA)
 - Wrapped up options, driven by an operator
 - <https://github.com/stackhpc/capi-helm-charts>
 - <https://github.com/stackhpc/azimuth-capi-operator>
- Previously used OpenStack Magnum
 - ... looking at adding a Cluster API driver into Magnum

Science Platforms:

Get me a JupyterHub

Catalog FILTERS [CLEAR ALL](#)

Category

☐ Unknown

Application Repository

- ☒ dask
- ☒ stackhpc
- ☐ jupyterhub

Repository: dask X

Repository: stackhpc X

dask



Distributed computation in Python
with task scheduling

2021.12.0

dask

Helm

dask-gateway



A multi-tenant server for deploying
and managing Dask clusters

0.9.0

dask

Helm

daskhub



Multi-user JupyterHub and Dask
deployment.

2021.12.0

dask

Helm

jupyterhub



Multi-user Jupyter installation

0.11.1

stackhpc

Helm

jupyterhub-IRIS



Multi-user Jupyter installation for IRIS

0.1.8

stackhpc

Helm

mariadb-galera-IRIS



MariaDB Galera is a multi-master
database cluster solution for
synchronous replication and...

0.0.1

stackhpc

Helm

What are you planning?

StackHPC

- Pre-install KubeApps
 - With a curated Helm repository
- Expose from the Portal
 - Kubernetes Dashboard
 - Grafana
 - KubeApps
 - ... and JupyterHub created by KubeApps
- Zenith Proxy for Kubernetes Service
 - Why: Share auth with the Portal
 - How: Zenith Client as a sidecar

Science Platforms:
Can I get some resources?

OpenStack Quota

- Resource Allocation converted into OpenStack Quota
 - Defines the high watermark of your usage
 - ... very hard to “catch up” if you fall behind in your usage
- Dedicated Quota
 - Underutilization a problem
 - Sometimes implemented using Tenant isolation filters
- Overcommit Quota
 - Might not be able to use your Quota

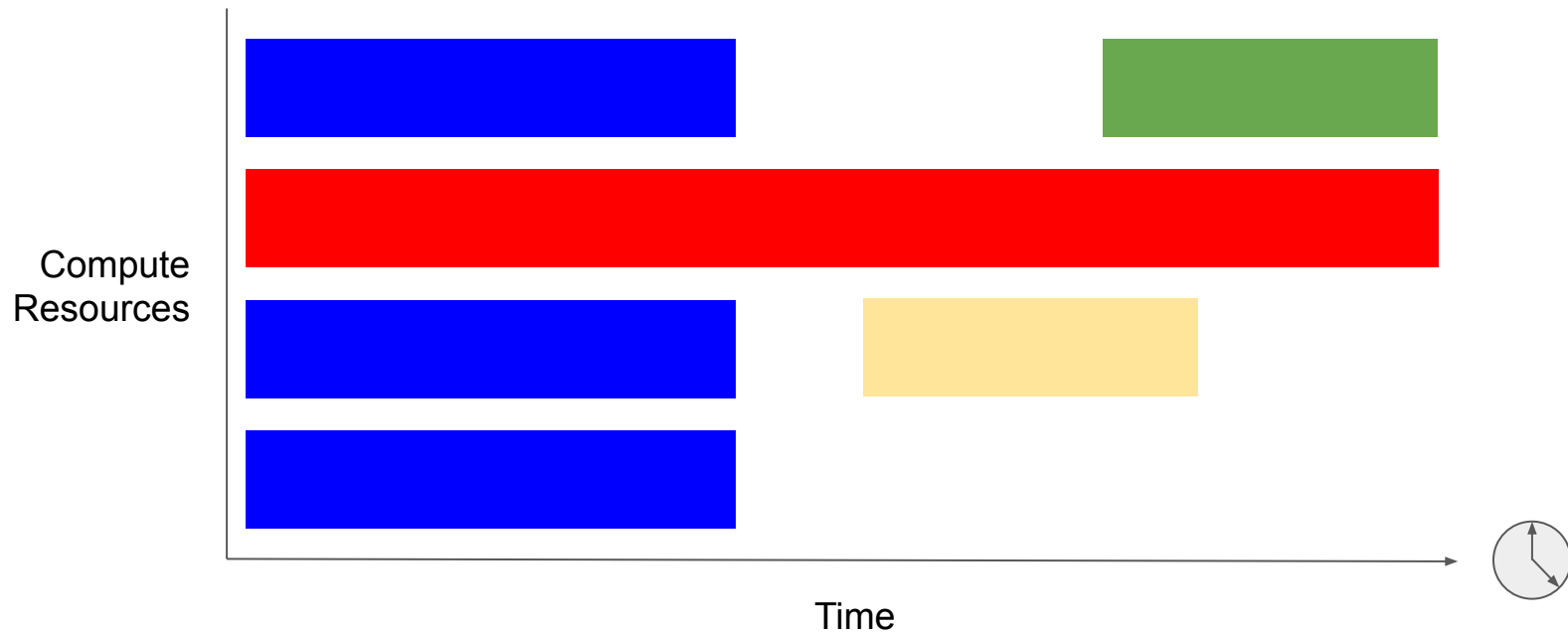
... but what if you want need half your allocation in June, the rest in September?

A detailed diorama of a coral reef ecosystem. The scene is set on a sandy bottom with various coral species, including a large green and white branching coral on the left, a pink and orange branching coral in the center, and a large, colorful, wavy-edged coral on the right. Several seashells are scattered on the sand, including a large, dark, and white shell in the bottom left, a smaller, dark, and white shell in the bottom center, and a large, colorful, wavy-edged shell on the right. The background is a dark, rocky structure, possibly a cave or a reef wall. The overall lighting is soft and even, highlighting the textures and colors of the marine life.

The Coral Reef Cloud

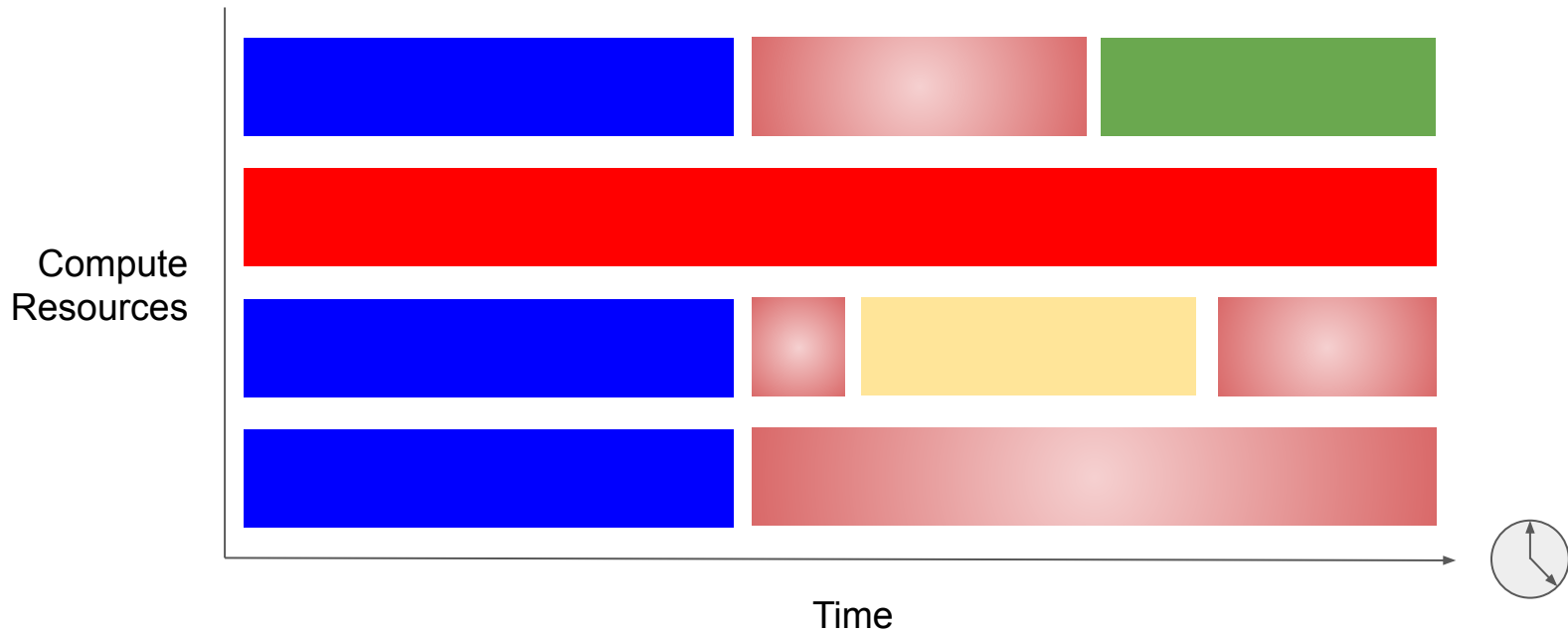
OpenStack Blazar Reservations

StackHPC

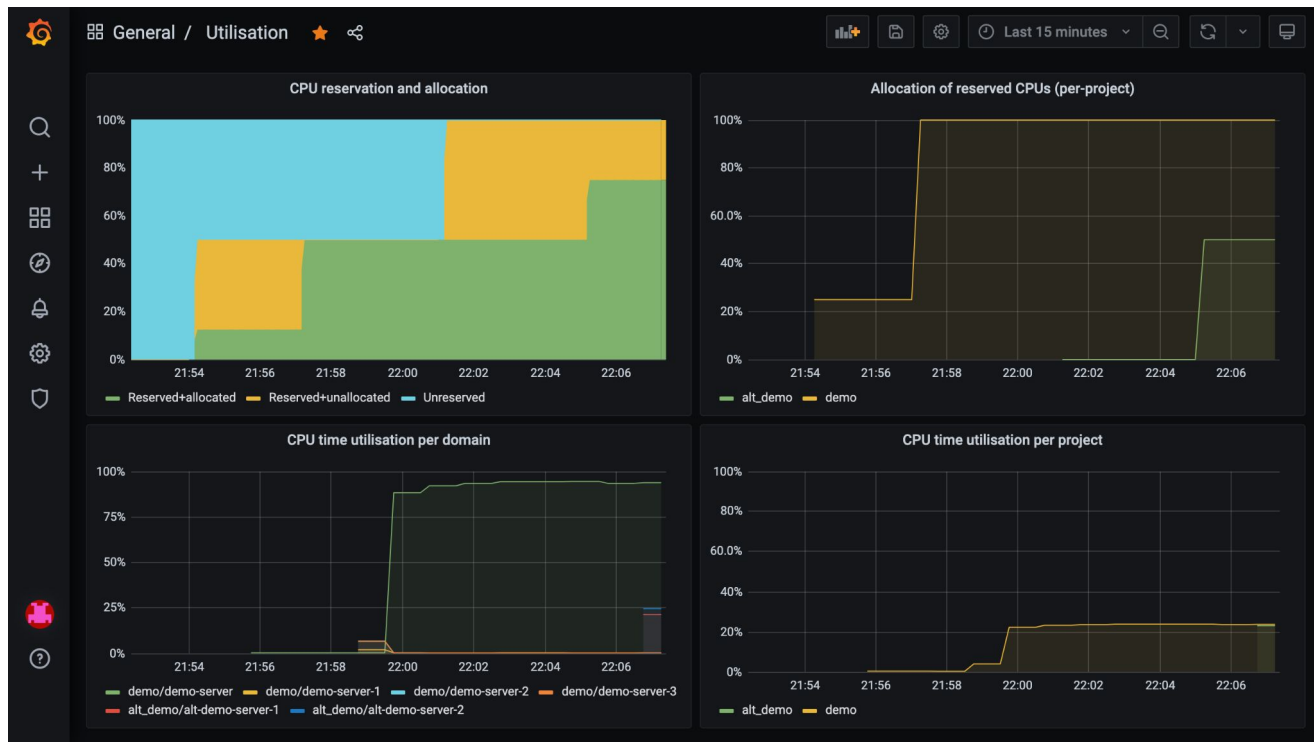


OpenStack Blazar Preemptibles

StackHPC

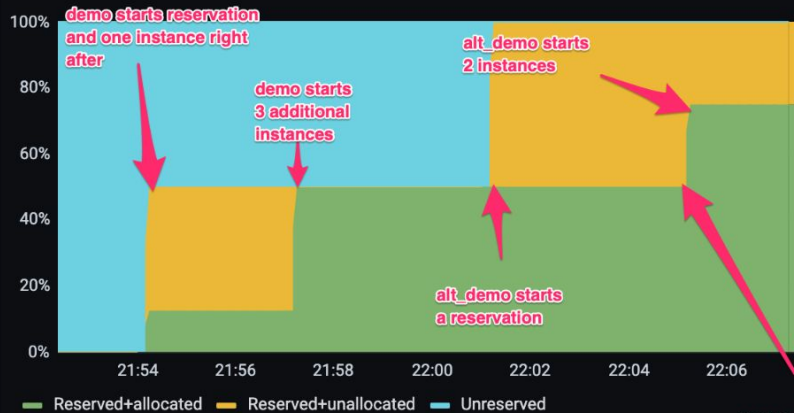


StackHPC





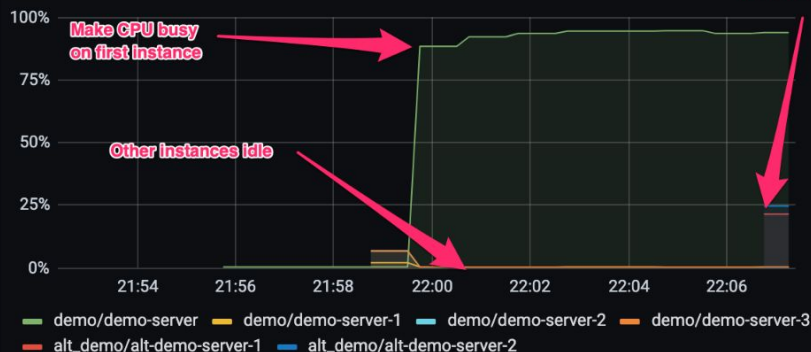
CPU reservation and allocation



Allocation of reserved CPUs (per-project)



CPU time utilisation per domain



CPU time utilisation per project



What can I do?

OpenStack based HPC

StackHPC

- **OpenStack Ironi**c to manage baremetal servers
- Slurm non-impacting updates by **reboot** triggering a **rebuild**
- **Kubernetes Cluster API** to create and upgrade K8s on OpenStack
- **Azimuth** Cloud Portal for on-demand Science Platforms
- **OpenStack Blazar** for resource reservations and preemption

Would you like to get involved?

StackHPC

- Scientific OpenStack SIG
 - <https://www.openstack.org/use-cases/science/>
- OpenStack Ironic
 - <https://www.openstack.org/use-cases/bare-metal/>
- OpenStack Kolla, Kolla-Ansible and Kayobe
 - <https://docs.openstack.org/kayobe/latest/getting-started.html>
- OpenHPC Slurm on OpenStack
 - <https://github.com/stackhpc/ansible-slurm-appliance>
- Azimuth Cloud Portal
 - <https://github.com/stackhpc/azimuth>

Questions?