

ORNL Site Report & Feature Discussion

Matt Ezell and Paul Peltz

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ORNL is managed by UT-Battelle LLC for the US Department of Energy



ORNL facts and figures



ORNL's mission

Deliver scientific discoveries and technical breakthroughs needed to realize solutions in clean energy and national security and provide economic benefit to the nation



CAK RIDGE OLCF by the Numbers

- ~1,500 users, located around the world.
- ~250 research projects / year
- OLCF users come from academia, government laboratories, federal agencies, and industry
- OLCF resources are allocated through three highly competitive allocation programs requiring peer reviewed proposals
- Since 2012, the OLCF has enabled ~5,500 publications in open literature
- In 2024, 54% of the cycles on Frontier consumed 20% or more of the total node count



Primary Ways for Access to LCF Current distribution of allocable hours



ORNL NCCS Compute Resources



Slurm on Frontier

- Updated to Slurm 24.05 on 8/20/2024
- Exclusive node allocations
- Extensive node health checking scripts run between jobs
 - Nodes that recover are automatically returned
- Slingshot switch plugin
- Custom jobstat script show system/job status



Frontier Queue Policy

Bin	Min Nodes	Max Nodes	Max WallTime	Boost (Days)
1	5,645	9,408	12	8
2	1,882	5,644	12	4
3	184	1,881	12	0
4	92	183	6	0
5	1	91	2	0
Extended	1	64	24	0

Debug QOS gives a 2 day boost



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Scalable Protected Infrastructure



Locks down nodes, adds routes and iptables rules, switches out file systems

Forces a reboot at the end of the job for cleanup

Currently implemented as a partition (but looking to move to a "rebootless" node feature)



Slurm 19.05 Sponsored Work

Ticket ID	Title	Notes	
4887	Disable setting triggers from non- root/slurm_user by default	Now off by default, add SlurmctldParameters=allow_user_triggers to re-enable	
5716	Be able to disable resizing of jobs	Now off by default, add SchedulerParameters=permit_job_expansion to re-enable	
6286	Add priority to associations		
6287	Add ability to set priority factor for job size	Implemented as "site" factor that can be set with a plugin, job_submit, or scontrol	
6288	Add ability to not normalize priorities	Added NO_NORM_* flags	
	Hand-set priority as a factor, not an override	Can use existing <i>nice</i> value (negative nice is a positive boost)	



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CORAL-2 Slurm 20.02 & 20.11 Sponsored Work

Ticket ID	Title	Notes
7591	Reservation Affinity (magnetic flag)	Slurm 24.11 will reserve in the backfill map with SchedulerParameters=bf_allow_magnetic_slot (Ticket 19507)
7561	Provide a REST API to accounting data captured within slurmdbd	Initial implementation of the dbv# endpoint
7594	Step-level GPU binding and affinity	
7593	Heterogenous step support	
8573	Interactive step for salloc	
7562	acct_gather_interconnect/sysfs plugin	

and others...



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Slurm 23.02 Sponsored Work

Ticket ID	Title	Notes
13382	User-supplied nodelist larger than requested nodes	
13446	Support reservation nodelist updates with Nodes+= and Nodes-=	
13380	Reservation list currently on a node	Visible with scontrol show node
15196	Node failure accounting for jobs	Field is FailedNode in sacct
10855	Reservation comment field	
15195	Add jobcomp/kafka plugin	Still tracking 19978: jobcomp not including energy



Job Completion - Kafka

 Future work – expand to also send on submission and start? Ticket



kafka

COAK RIDGE

20270

ob Layout



User Parallelism with Many Steps

- Some users express their parallelism with lots of steps instead of using MPI
- Job steps take global locks and excessive step counts can cause slowdown
- We recommend flux to run steps instead





Isolated Step Manager

- Brian presented about the step manager improvements last year
- Ran into some issues with the Slingshot plugin and mpi/cray_shasta – resolved before 24.05
- Still waiting on scale tests on Frontier







AFW HPC 11

System 11 Computing Capability

- Provides 6.5x the sustained computing capacity of existing AFW HPCs capability
- Redundant compute halls & file systems provide highly available and flexible services
- Federated workload manager seamlessly manages the multiple compute partitions without user intervention.
- Both compute & storage are easily scalable beyond the baseline configuration
- The addition of NVIDIA GPUs supports develop/test of next generation models & algorithms and AFW AI/ML efforts

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National Laboratory FACILIT



AFW's System 11 – Redundant 800-node Cray EX supercomputers managed by ORNL provide more than 6x the capability of their previous system. Initial operational capability in 2021. SLUG 2024



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Slurm on AFW HPC11

• 2x Hall Design

Double Compute Capacity

High Availability

High Capacity

• Jobs co-scheduled on both systems

• Allows ORNL to take down individual halls without disrupting operations

Scrontab

- Most production workflows are scheduled through scron
- Weather forecasting is done at explicit time intervals

How we put

• cli_filter

- Ensure jobs will actually run, enforce timelimits, set clusters, enforce cluster-constraints
- job_submit
 - Belt and suspenders for specific items
- Blue/Green deployments
 - Cluster constraint
 - Login cluster as a node constraint
 - System upgrades and default programming environment changes



Challenges

~90K jobs submitted per day
 +95% of those are less than one node jobs
 Node sharing is enabled at a per

- account level
 Jobs are scheduled by time interval not queue depth
 - Sawtooth cluster utilization
- Cluster utilization imbalance
 - Primary sibling
 - Scheduler cycle runs faster
 - First come

Feature Funding

- Make federated slurm more HA capable
 - Remove the single point of failure of the slurmdbd
 - Prior to 24.05 all client communications were routed through the slurmdbd
 - Allows for the slurmdbd to be upgraded without breaking all job submissions and client command use
- Future work
 - Allow for individual clusters to be updated without having to update both at the same time
 - Federated job scheduling has issues when controllers are running two different versions



NOAA



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National Climate-Computing Research Center (NCRC)

- Agreement between NOAA and DOE's Oak Ridge National Laboratory for HPC services and climate modeling support
- Strategic Partnership Project, currently in year 13
- 5-year periods. Current IAA effective through FY25
- Within ORNL's National Center for Computational Sciences (NCCS)
- Service provided DOE-titled equipment
- Secure network enclave; Department of Commerce access policies
- Gaea
 - 2x HPE EX (~2K Compute Nodes), 2x GPFS (65PB)
 - Mission: R&D, long-term climate and weather predictions and projections





Federated but not federated

cli_filter

- Ensure jobs will actually run, enforce timelimits, set clusters
- job_submit
 - Belt and suspenders for specific items
- Federated View, but not federated jobs
 - Multi-Cluster
 - C5 and C6 have different projects and missions associated with them
 - Slightly different processor generations





• Stdout through sacct

gaea61:~ # sacct -j 135144112 --format=stdin,stderr,stdout

StdIn StdErr StdOut

/dev/null

/gpfs/f5/gfdl_m/scr+



Future Slurm Improvement Ideas

- Support subuid/subgid ranges in nss_slurm (Ticket 19551)
- Improvements to sbcast --send-libs to reduce stats for excluded libraries (Ticket 20270)
- RPM spec file to support patches and custom version "release" numbers (Ticket 20555)
- Integrate JupyterHub using slurmrestd instead of SSH or batch spawner





IRI Blueprint Science Patterns



Time-Sensitive Pattern

 Workflows that have time-critical requirements (i.e., real time) motivated by factors including rapid decision-making, experiment control, coordinating distributed assets, and data capture/reduction



Data Integration-Intensive Pattern

- Analysis of data from multiple sources, e.g., simulations and experiments/observations
- Cross-site data-driven discovery
- AI/ML incorporated into simulations and experiments



Long-Term Campaign Pattern

 Sustained access (several years) to resources at scale, e.g., sustained simulation production and large data (re)processing for collaborative use



OLCF Drives Technology Innovation at Scale

- OLCF has pushed the boundaries on performance at scale
- OLCF-6 will push the boundaries on bandwidth throughout the system for ModSim, AI, and Workflows



Up Next at ORNL - Discovery

- Proposals were due August 30, 2024
- Reviews are in progress



Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), managed and operated by UT-Battelle, LLC is releasing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the next generation of high performance computing (HPC) system, OLCF-6.

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Up Next at ORNL - Discovery

6.2.1 Workload Management Features

Offeror will provide a full-featured workload manager with native step management. Company currently uses Slurm and expects that the proposed solution will provide the features available in Slurm 23.11 (or later). If an older version of Slurm or an alternative workload manager is proposed, the Offeror will provide a detailed analysis of the differences between the Offeror's proposed solution and Slurm. Offeror will ensure that the proposed workload manager supports the full functionality of the proposed system design, including process affinity, accelerator support, and highspeed network features.

Priority: TR-1

Questions? ezellma@ornl.gov peltzpl@ornl.gov

