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# CEA Site report

cea

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*SLURM User Group  
September 2011*

# Outline

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- **SLURM Usage, Configuration and other Specificites**
- **Ongoing studies**
- **Interesting topics**



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# SLURM Usage, Configuration and other Specificities

# SLURM Usage at CEA

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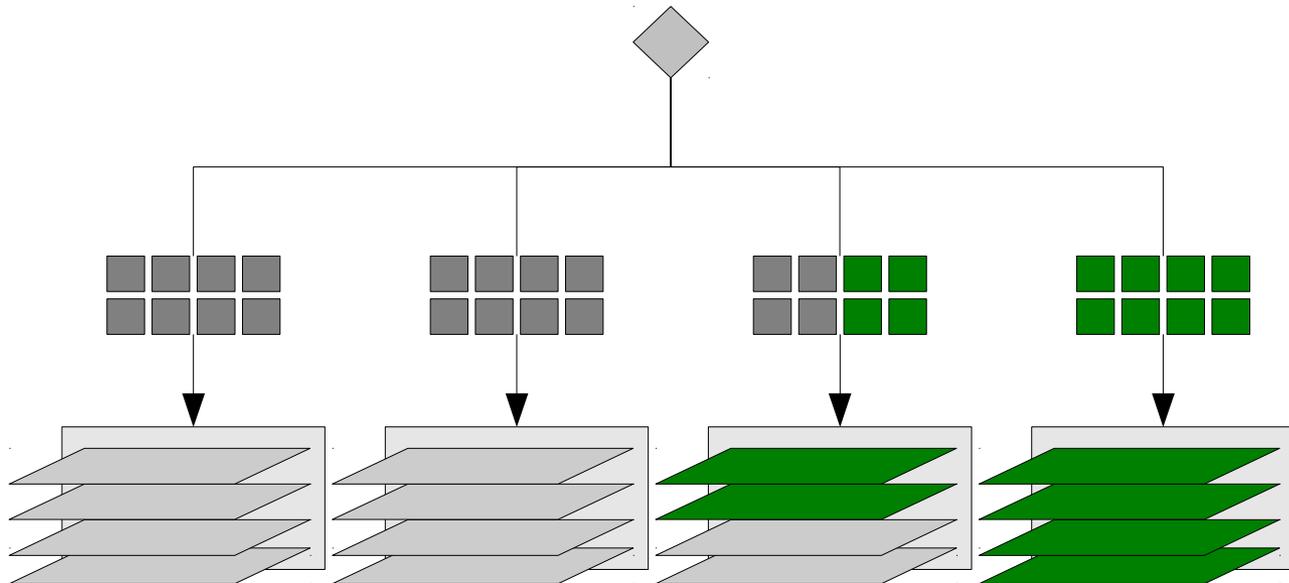
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- **TERA+ CEA R&D project**
  - R&D platform to assess HW/SW technologies for next machines
- **TERA Project**
  - TERA100, a petaflopic machine
  - First large scale system to use SLURM at CEA
- **PRACE (PartneRship for Advanced Computing in Europe) Project**
  - CEA in-kind prototypes
  - TGCC Petaflopic machine (Curie)
- **Most of the installed clusters at CEA are using SLURM since 2007**
  - Sharing the same configuration principles
- **Basic Submission/Execution/Monitoring commands wrapped**
  - Using an inhouse product (**bridge**)
  - To mask resource manager specificities and ease migration
  - To tweak and adapt behaviors automatically
    - 👉 Based on the compiler, the initial request, ...

# Configuration : Scheduling strategies

- Allocation granularity (*slurmctld*)

- Core and memory allocation (*select/cons\_res – CR\_Core\_Memory*)
  - ☞ Exclusive allocations of both memory and cores inside nodes
  - ☞  $MaxMemPerCore = Node\ Memory / Cores\ Per\ Node$ 
    - ✓ Help to reduce locality effect and account usage coherently
    - ✓ But requires homogeneous nodes with *slurm* < 2.3 (no support of partition specific values of *MaxMemPerCore* before 2.3)
- Exclusive allocation of nodes on demand (*--exclusive* in SLURM)
  - ☞ Better for large tightly coupled jobs
  - ☞ Can be automatically set based on a configurable threshold with **Bridge**



# Configuration : Scheduling strategies

- Topology awareness and resources selection (*slurmctld*)

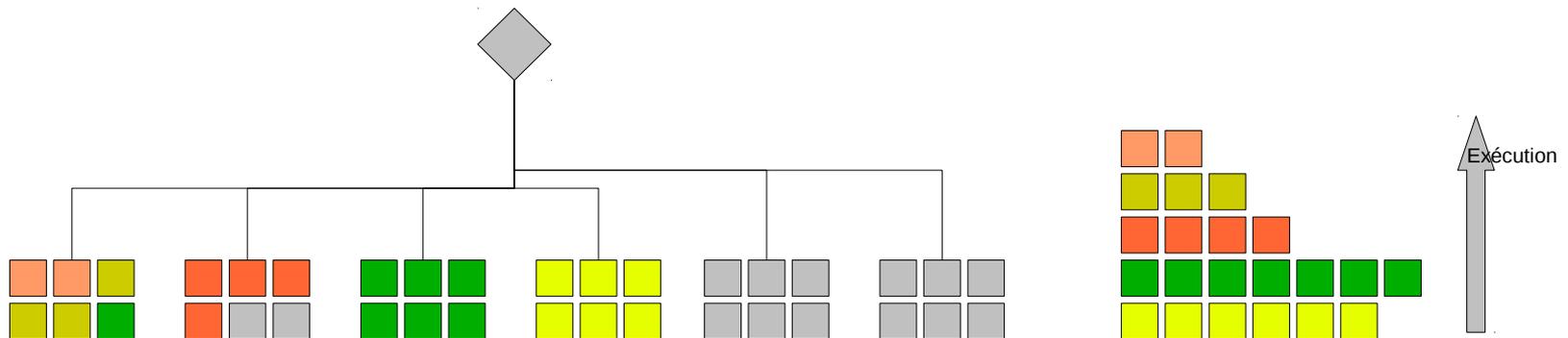


- **Inter-node *topo/tree*** to represent pruned tree IB topology

- 👉 Best fit selection of switches
- 👉 Best-fit selection of nodes in the switches

- **Intra-node topology with *sockets/cores/threads*** description

- 👉 Best-fit selection of cores inside sockets
- 👉 Block allocation by default
- 👉 No NUMA support in SLURM
  - ✓ On the CEA ongoing studies list



# Configuration : Scheduling strategies

- Scheduling logic (*slurmctld*)

- **Multifactor priorities** logic (priority/multifactor - QOS/Age/Fairshare)

- ➔ **QOS** for interactive highly prioritized jobs and limits management
  - ✓ Orthogonal to the partition concept
  - ✓ Partition used to gather homogeneous HW
- ➔ **Age** (~FCFS) prioritization (TERA) / **FairShare+Age** (TGCC)
  - ✓ Inside a QOS priority range

Highest | Interactive Debugging

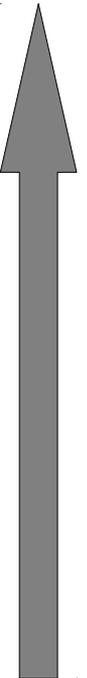
Priorities range : 100 000 – 110 000      Limits : # jobs ; # submissions ; MaxTime

High | Non-regression tests

Priorities range : 70 000 – 80 000      Limits : # jobs ; # submissions ; MaxTime

Normal | Interactive, Batch, Metascheduled

Priorities range : 40 000 – 50 000      Limits : # jobs ; # submissions ; MaxTime

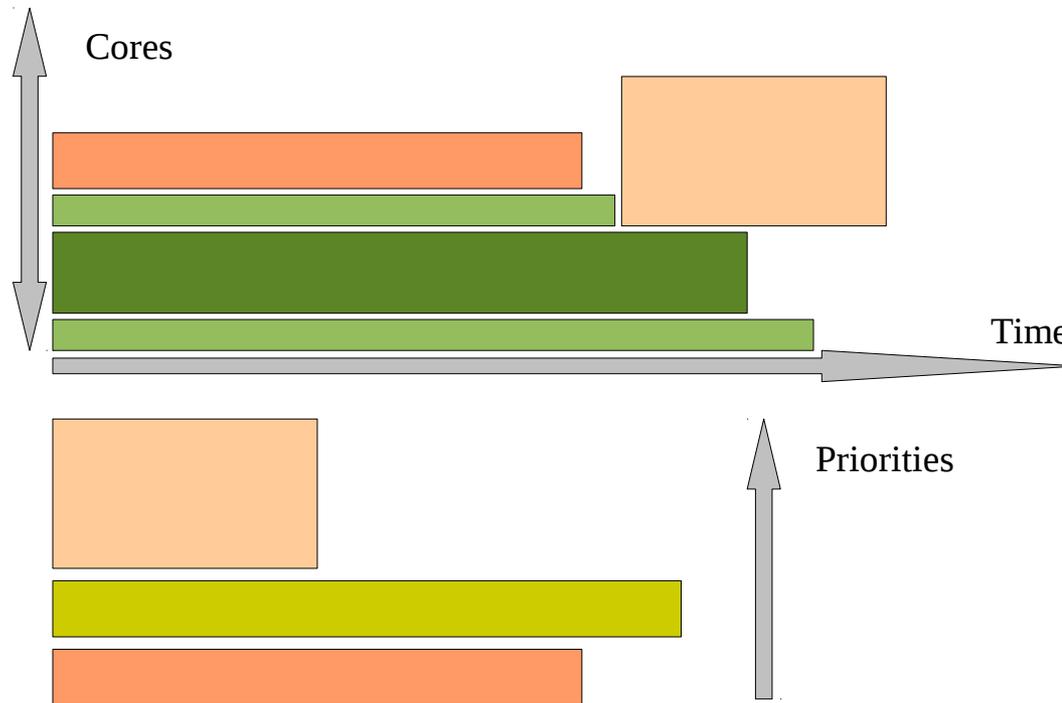


# Configuration : Scheduling strategies

- Scheduling logic (*slurmctld*)

- Backfilling logic (sched/backfill)

- 👉 Particularly interesting for TERA workload
      - ✓ adaptative execution time using app level checkpoint/restart
    - 👉 Reduces starvation of big jobs while optimizing throughput
    - 👉 Should help to have users describing execution time correctly on TGCC



# Configuration : Resources constraints and affinity

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## ● Cores (*slurmd – task/affinity TaskPluginParam=Cpusets,Cores*)

- Allocated cores containers for jobs
  - ☞ Prevent users from using unallocated cores on nodes
- Automatic binding to cores for best efficiency of jobs
  - ☞ Using cpusets (except for salloc/mpirun executions)
  - ☞ Using a block distribution by default (-m block:block by default)
- Cgroups support in dev (task/cgroup)
  - ☞ CEA/Bull dev for SLURM
  - ☞ Currently available in slurm-2.3

## ● Memory (*slurmd – jobacct\_gather/linux Frequency>0* )

- Memory usage collected regularly
  - ☞ Configurable interval to reduce noise (60s)
- Jobs killed if memory limit exceeded due to RSS usage
  - ☞ Does not really fit the requirement
- Cgroups support in dev (task/cgroup)
  - ☞ RSS+Swap usage could be took into account
  - ☞ Cgroup memory support can be cost effective
    - ✓ Promising solution but not used in production

# Configuration : Accounting and Users management

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- « Cluster centric » database (*slurmdbd*)

- Accounting data including useful resources consumption information
  - ☞ Metascheduler fed using this data (TERA)
  - ☞ Accounting digest generated and included at the end of each batch job
- Users and accounts definition
  - ☞ Synchronized from external sources (LDAP, Metascheduler, ...)
    - ✓ In-house scripts based on *sacctmgr* cmdline
- Limits and QOS definition
- MySQL DB backend



# Specificities : MPI Integration

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- OpenMPI based implementations

- SLURM support in OpenMPI

- ☞ Historical approach
    - ☞ Salloc/mpirun mode
      - ✓ Uses srun to launch one *orted* daemon per node
    - ☞ Do not fully inherit SLURM launcher capacities and scalability
      - ✓ Still require a first step to init out-of-band communication paths
    - ☞ Problems to understand complex core level allocations
      - ✓ For hybrid MPI/OpenMP (-c option no managed by mpirun)
      - ✓ For adaptative multi-steps allocations

- OpenMPI support in SLURM

- ☞ Reserved ports for out-of-band OpenMPI communications in advance
      - ✓ Speed up comm paths init
    - ☞ Requires an recent OpenMPI version
    - ☞ Each process execution managed by SLURM
      - ✓ Better handle affinity for hybrid jobs
    - ☞ Partial debugging available with Totalview
    - ☞ Default mode for TERA
      - ✓ Using BullxMPI, Bull MPI layer based on OpenMPI



# Specificities : Addons

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- **SLURM Spank Framework (CEA Dev)**

- Kerberos support using ***spank-auks***
  - ☞ *Requires a working AUKS infrastructure (<http://sourceforge.net/projects/auks/>)*
- X11 support with OpenSSH using ***spank-x11***
  - ☞ *Both interactive and batch mode*
  - ☞ *Requires SSO or equivalent (stackable on top of ***spank-auks***)*
- Kernel scheduling policy selection using ***spank-setsched***
  - ☞ *Helps to use an optimized policy if/when necessary*
- OOM-Killer score adjustment of tasks using ***spank-oom-adj***
  - ☞ *Used to declare user tasks launched by SLURM as best candidates*

- **Sanity checks : (slurmd – HealthCheckProgam=...)**

- *Periodic sanity checks*
  - ☞ *Hard disks*
  - ☞ *IB links*
  - ☞ *Lustre FS access*
- *Automatically drain faulty nodes (proactive action to app crash)*
  - ☞ *First event that trigger the diagnose/repair/test workflow*





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# Ongoing studies and Feedback

# Ongoing studies and feedback

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- **Scalability in number of jobs (TERA100)**
  - About 10K jobs can be submitted and started in < 120s
    - ☞ 10 clients
  - About 10K jobs can be submitted in pending state in <60s
    - ☞ 10 clients
    - ☞ With a modified defer mode
      - ✓ Local patch to ensure no call to schedule() in batch submission when defer mode is activated (patch to be proposed)
  - Management of 10K jobs is ok
    - ☞ No problem of management while the tests are running
    - ☞ Thanks to Bjorn-Helge Mevik 's patch to speed up backfilling
      - ✓ Unresponsivness for 20 minutes before that at the end of the 10K jobs
  
- **Job preemption using a « sudden death » approach**
  - Ensure a maximum wait time to access resources for specific QOS
  - Based on Grace Time (CEA/Bull dev for 2.3)
  - Evaluation not yet completed
  
- **Cgroups support for tasks compartmentalization**
  - Including cores, memory and devices support (accelerators)
  
- **GPU integration**
  - Exclusive allocation of nodes that have GPUs for now

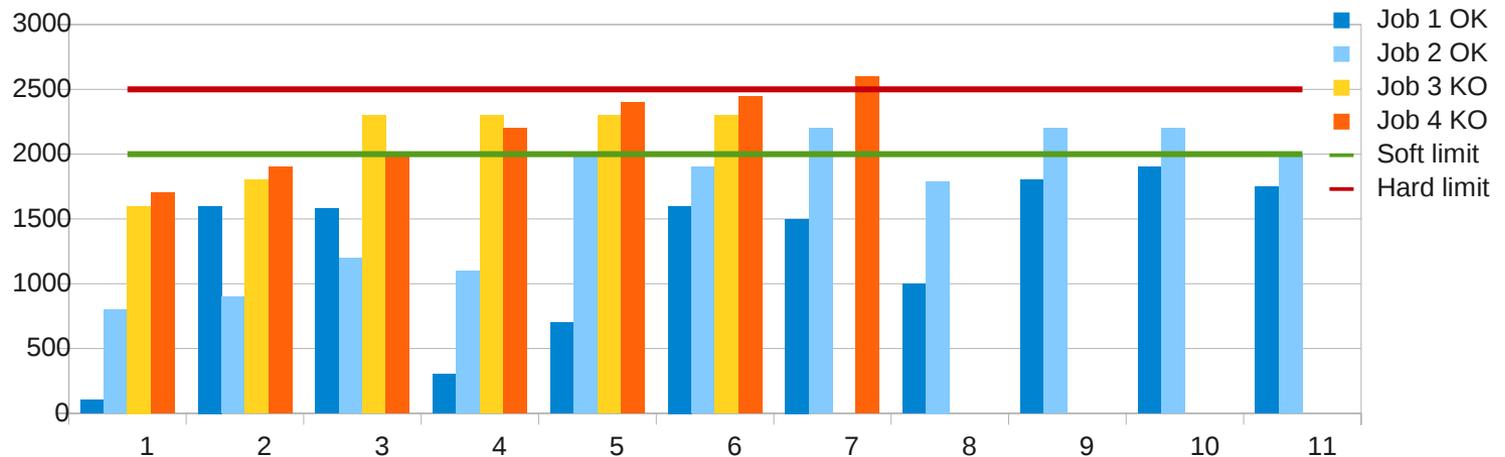
# Ongoing studies and feedback

## ● Soft/Hard Memory limits



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- Ensure job execution time shortening when soft mem limit is reached
  - ☞ Notion of grace time
- Ensure job cancellation when hard mem limit is reached
  - ☞ Without additional delay



- Partial implementation that is functional but not perfect
  - ☞ Would require more modifications in SLURM codes for a complete support
- In production on TERA100
- General interest for such a feature in the main branch of SLURM ?



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# Interesting topics

# Interesting topics

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- **QOS advanced features**

- QOS activation/desactivation
- QOS time slots association
  - ☞ Only allow QOS usage on specific time slot (like for reservation)

- **Heterogeneity management**

- For job layouts
  - ☞ Requesting multiple tasks with different resources requests per tasks
    - ✓ 4 cores for the 2 first tasks, 2 cores for the others,...
- For hardware resources allocation
  - ☞ Requesting multiples nodes with different features on each
    - ✓ 2 nodes with GPUs, 2 nodes with more memory, ...

- **Extended Job Accounting**

- Add new fields in the accounting tables (generic resources, power consumption, ..)

- **Fairshare management**

- Notion of time credit
  - ☞ A user can use up to a certain amount of time and is blocked after that
- Multiple time credit banks for different HW
  - ☞ Users allowed to use up to 10K hours of basic nodes and up to 5K hours of GPU
  - ☞ nodes/partitions mapped to specific time banks to automatically account execution time to the corresponding banks

# Interesting topics

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- **Preemption in suspend mode with no memory restriction**
  - Ensure on-demand access to the whole cluster if necessary
    - ☞ Currently restricted to jobs that fit available memory on nodes
- **Pruned hierarchical slurmdbds**
  - Centralize users/limits/QOS/... definiton on a single entity
  - Distribute accounting burden on clusters
- **Heterogeneous topologies support**
  - Unified way to manage compound topologies in SLURM
- **NUMA topology in intra-node resources selection**
  - BULL MESCA 16 sockets node will require it for best efficiency



# Interesting topics

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- **LDAP accounts sync automation**
  - Avoid in-house scripts, dynamic accounts addition/removal
- **Pool of spare nodes**
  - Automatically rerun canceled jobs due to node failures
- **Resources allocation tagging**
  - To let users describes which jobs can share ressources by tag
- **Kerberos Authentication (not only kerberos support)**
  - Replace munge for enhanced security with untrusted hosts





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**Thank you for your attention**  
**Questions ?**