

Building Independence in Research Computing

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Motivation for this talk

- Feedback from the OSPool Advisory Group
 - OSG School is a great end-to-end introduction to the OSPool (and related services) but some participants still leave and need a lot of hand-holding to get started with their workflows.
- A common problem beyond the OSG School...
 - Imposter syndrome
 - Need for computational concepts (but lack of training)
- How can we help researchers feel comfortable to use HTC systems with these barriers in mind?

Discussion

What does “independence in research computing” mean to you?

Building Interdependence in Computing

- Total independence may not be a feasible (or desired!) goal – this is a community effort after all.
- We'd like to leverage different approaches together:
 - Empowering people to learn and figure things out on their own
 - Knowing that they don't *have* to figure things out on their own – that they can reach out for help
 - Providing opportunities to connect with us and each other
- This applies both to individual researchers – and larger entities like campuses.

Discussion

When learning something new what resources out in the world have been transformative for you in becoming an independent practitioner? What made you feel part of a community?

Reviewing what we have

OSPool Content (Users/Staff)

- Guides/Documentation
 - Users: <https://portal.osg-htc.org/documentation/>
 - HTCondor Manual: <https://htcondor.readthedocs.io/en/latest/index.html>
- Tutorials
 - Tutorials on our main docs page
 - https://portal.osg-htc.org/documentation/htc_workloads/submitted_workloads/tutorial-command/
 - Or on GitHub: <https://github.com/OSGConnect/>
 - Or some default notebooks: <https://notebook.ospool.osg-htc.org/>
- Videos and Slides
 - YouTube
 - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVxyV0Lr1KiTeq7bTw3gwLw>
 - Training materials
 - https://portal.osg-htc.org/documentation/support_and_training/training/osgusertraining/

OSPool Content (Admins/Staff)

- Guides/Documentation
 - Campus support page: <https://osg-htc.org/campus/support.html>
 - Campus Docs: <https://osg-htc.org/docs/>
 - HTCondor Manual: <https://htcondor.readthedocs.io/en/latest/index.html>
- Videos and Slides
 - YouTube:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCVxyV0Lr1KiTeq7bTw3gwLw>
 - Campus Centric Talks and Recordings:
 - <https://osg-htc.org/campus/support.html>

Discussion

Did you know about these resources? How could we make them more “findable?” Which is most useful (in your opinion)? What is missing?

Community Activities

- Weekly user-focused office hours
- Weekly campus meet-up
- Bi-weekly collaborations call
- Monthly training
- OSG School (weeklong summer school)
- Visits to other events (CaRCC calls, PEARC, etc.)
- Throughput Computing (once a year)

Discussion

Which of these options is most impactful or accessible? If you are part of other community calls or events (CaRCC, regional computing events like OAK or GPN), what makes them impactful?

Wrapping Up

- We want campuses to be empowered and supported just like researchers using the OSPool.
- Thanks for sharing ideas of how to do that.
- Chat or have lunch with with a facilitator (Christina, Rachel, Mats, Andrew, Amber) if you think of any more ideas!

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