

NREL Stratus - Enabling Workflows to Fuse Data Streams, Modeling, Simulation, and Machine Learning

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Advanced Computing

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HPC Environment

ESIF Data Center

- Warm water cooling
- Focus on energy efficiency

Eagle

- 2168 Node (Intel Skylake)
- 50 Node (Intel Skylake, Nvidia V100 GPU)
- Infiniband EDR
- 17 PB Lustre Filesystem



Stratus Environment

Big Data Analytics

- data warehousing
- data management tools

Containerized Applications

- multiple scheduling systems
- Docker containers at the edge
- Docker serverless functions

Growth In

- IoT support for field experiments
- grid management studies

Ongoing Support for

- data processing workflows
- public web applications
- publishing of large open data sets



HPC, Cloud & Edge

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High Performance Computing (HPC)

- Highly optimized compute for simulation
 - Numerically intensive
 - Parallelized
 - Tightly coupled
- Scheduled & Allocated resource
- Optimized for long running resulting in low cost per flop
- Periodic incremental investment
 - Systems "on the floor" 4~5 years
 - Fixed cost

Cloud

- Dynamic cost
 - Spot
 - Reserved
 - On-demand
- Big Data
 - Analysis
 - Distribution

- High Availability
 - Data streams
 - Multiple cloud sites
 - Dynamic scaling
 - Scheduling for ML pipelines

Edge

- Deploying computational resources "close" to the IoT device
- Driven by
 - Real or Near-realtime
 - Data reduction
- Highly dynamic
- Challenges around fault tolerance
 - Multiple single points of failure expected

Reference Architecture

NATIONAL RENEWABLE ENERGY LABORATOR

Edge

- Low Latencies
- Smart aggregation **Cloud**
- High availability
- Manage to the edge
- Security
- Dynamic Scale

HPC

- Large scale modsim
- ML training & Inference
- Process very large datasets



Areas of Concern Reference Architecture

- Edge
 - Highly constrained compute capabilities
 - Data separated by location or devices
 - Intermittent connectivity and potential signal points of failure
- Cloud
 - Complexity
 - Variable costs
 - Complex deployments
 - Data transfer costs
- HPC
 - Scheduling and scheduling contention
 - Wall time limits and policies

Smart Neighborhood Example

Overview

- Improve smart controls
- Measure satisfaction
- Measure changing
 energy usage
- Simulation of effects at large scale

Goals

- Optimize energy usage for current and future infrastructure
- Improve the energy usage profile for adoption of renewable energy resources



Device data is collected from sensors: power use, temp
 Devices receive control instructions: schedule wash, turn up temp
 Devices respond to control instructions: SUCCESS / FAIL
 Devices emit events: wash started

Gateway receives or polls for device data: temperature, FAIL events
 Inference is performed on real-time data: Will home need more energy at 8?
 Gateway packages data into data streams: washer data stream, aggregate data stream
 Gateway application issues control instructions: start wash at 9 PM
 Data streams (aggregated, gated, relevant data) sent to cloud: if FAIL send all data

Receives secure data streams: washer, aggregate, gated
 Inference is performed on near real-time data: is home efficient?
 Analysis across larger number of sources: is neighborhood efficient?
 Data used to re-train models: weather impact on energy use
 Data stored in timeseries database for analytics: when were last 4 washes?

Data synced to HPC storage to support HPC jobs: temp, wash, controls, events
 Large scale modeling jobs run during allocated time: grid impact study
 HPC jobs used to train and evaluate initial models: add surrounding neighborhoods
 HPC modeling jobs leveraging inference performed: new energy optimization model eval.
 HPC analysis jobs leverage cloud timeseries and ML: did new model work at scale?

Operators monitor homes, grid responses: washer didn't run as expected, home offline
 Researchers run modeling jobs and re-train models: weather impacts integrated into grid study
 Analysts perform inference and analytical HPC work: test impact of device responses at scale

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Workflow Components

- Data Generation and Intake

 Live access to data streams
- Data Cleaning/Transformation
 - Multiple device integration
 - Data quality checks
 - Aggregation
- Synthetic Data/Modeling
 - Tuning strategic model
 - Forecasting or policy simulation
 - Data often provided up to cloud

- Machine Learning Inference
 - Assist future behavior (prediction)
 - Anomaly detection
 - Create simulation data
- Machine Learning Training
 - Regular scheduling
- Edge Device Management
 - AWS GreenGrass

Edge Device Management

- Deployment of ML to the Edge
- Management of Large footprint
- Monitor streams
- Live dashboards



Challenges

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Challenges

Complexity

- Incrementally built upon highly available and scalable services
- Development of patterns and practices
- AWS costs and limits

Data flow and Data management

- Published data streams with APIs
- Compressed files
- Query access via DBMS systems



Questions

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