ACENET Response to COVID-19

ACENET and our partners in the Compute Canada federation (CCF) are proud to support the excellent work of all of our researchers and, at this unique time, we are especially interested in supporting research relevant to the COVID-19 response. The CCF recently communicated its support for COVID-19 related research. ACENET is fully engaged in this effort and would like to connect with any Atlantic researchers working on COVID-19 to assist with access to resources and technical support.

ACENET staff transitioned to remote environments in mid-March. As we are a highly distributed organization with most work taking place through a virtual environment, the transition was essentially seamless, and there was no interruption to support services.

Our training sessions have either been converted to online sessions using the Zoom platform, or have been postponed. Please see the information below on specific training workshops.

As always, email support@computecanada.ca for help or reach out to your usual local support person. If your need is related to COVID-19 research, put "COVID-19" in the subject line.

Upcoming Training

All ACENET training sessions have either been converted to online, or postponed until the COVID-19 crisis is over.

Be sure to check our website regularly, as additional training sessions and events of interest will be posted as they are scheduled.

ACENET

Introduction to ACENET & Compute Canada
What is high performance computing (HPC) and what can it do for me? How can ACENET help? Used by researchers across many disciplines to tackle analyses too large or complex for a desktop, or to achieve improved efficiency over a desktop, this session takes participants through the preliminary stages of learning about HPC and computing clusters, and how to get started with this type of computing.
19 May, 10:30-11:30am Atlantic
21 May, 1:00-2:00pm Atlantic
Details & Register

Introduction to Linux
In this session, learn how to get started with Linux, how to create and navigate directories for your data, load files, manage your storage, run programs on the computing clusters, and set file permissions.
20 May, 10:30-11:30am Atlantic
21 May, 2:30-3:30pm Atlantic
Details & Register

Introduction to Shell Scripting
Participants will learn how to use shell scripting to exercise the power of the command line. Shell scripting helps you save time, automate file management tasks, and better use Linux. This session teaches you how to name, locate and set permissions for executable files, taking input and producing output.
21 May, 10:30-11:30am Atlantic
22 May, 1:00-2:00pm Atlantic
Details & Register

Job Scheduling With Slurm
This session teaches participants how to use Compute Canada's queuing environment on the national systems using the job scheduler Slurm.
22 May, 10:30-11:30am Atlantic
22 May, 2:30-3:30pm Atlantic
Details & Register

Parallel Computing School
This school is normally done in-person over 3.5 days. We are in the process of converting it to an online format that will take place twice a week for two hours each over the course of six weeks. The school seeks to educate participants in some tools and techniques used in high-performance computing and scientific computation. Topics will include general parallel computing, Dask, Machine Learning by example, OpenMP, GPGPU, and Message Passing Interface (MPI). Each session will include a lecture and learning exercises. Participants will be provided take-home exercises to prepare for the next session.
2 June-9 July, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00-4:00pm Atlantic
Details & Register

Offered by Partners

Building Software on Compute Canada Clusters Using EasyBuild, 15 April, 2:00-3:00pm Atlantic

Details & Register

Web-based 3D Scientific Visualization, 29 April, 2:00-3:00pm Atlantic
Details & Register

Machine Learning in Julia With Flux, 13 May, 2:00-3:00pm Atlantic
Details & Register

Mining Twitter Data for Research: Part 2, 27 May, 2:00-3:00pm Atlantic
Details & Register

Staff Announcements

We're very pleased to welcome two new members to our team.

Ines Hessler is our new Chief Technology Officer. She joins us from MERIDIAN, an organization developing machine learning-based data analysis and management solutions, where she was the technical and operational lead. Ines completed her Ph.D. in Geosciences at the Center for Marine Environmental Sciences at the University of Bremen in Germany, focusing on past climate change events and related inter-hemispheric variations in the terrestrial and marine realm. She followed this with a series of post doc and research fellow appointments which eventually took her to Australia, where her work became more closely tied to Digital Research Infrastructure, working with the Terrestrial Ecosystem Research Network and the Australian National Data Service (now Australian Research Data Commons). Ines is based out of Dalhousie University.

Also joining us is **Lydia Vermeyden** as our new Research Consultant specializing in Humanities & Social Sciences. Lydia obtained her MSc from the Institute for Quantum Computing at the University of Waterloo. Her varied career has included projects such as optimizing entangled photon sources, imaging of bohmian trajectories, experimentally verifying quantum causality, integrating e-technology with mental health screening, and developing mental health e-interventions (including a triage algorithm). Most recently, she has been studying experiences and opinions around health and safety, and the effects of employment legislation on family farms in Alberta. Lydia is based at St. FX University, and will be working closely with Dr. Laura Estill, Canada Research Chair in Digital Humanities on some regional initiatives.

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