

Bright Cluster Manager

Advanced system management & monitoring made easy

... on Cray Systems

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The Commonly Used "Toolkit" Approach



- Most HPC cluster management solutions use the "toolkit" approach (Linux distro + tools)
 - Examples: Rocks, PCM, OSCAR, UniCluster, CMU, etc.
 - Tools typically used: Ganglia, Cacti, Nagios, Cfengine, System Imager, xCAT, Puppet, Cobbler, Hobbit, Big Brother, Zabbix, Groundwork, etc.
- Issues with the "toolkit" approach:
 - Tools rarely designed to work together
 - Each tool has its own command line interface and GUI
 - Each tool has its own daemon and database
 - Tools rarely designed to scale
 - Tools rarely designed for HPC
- Making a collection of unrelated tools work together
 - Requires a lot of expertise and scripting
 - Rarely leads to a really easy-to-use and scalable solution

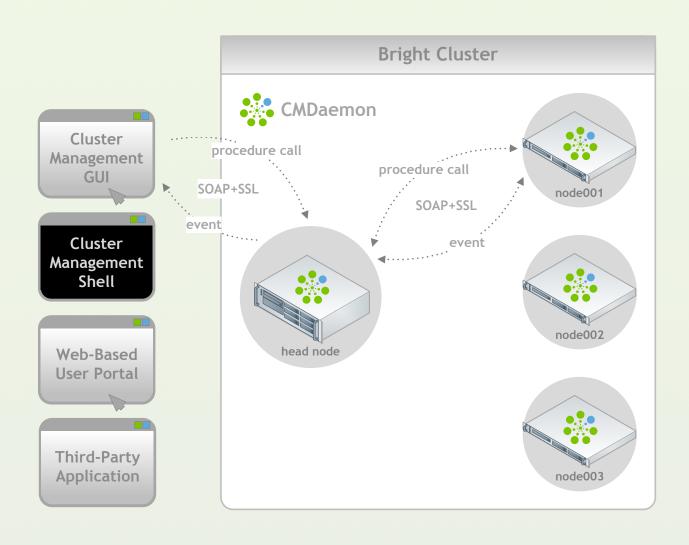
About Bright Cluster Manager



- Bright Cluster Manager takes a much more fundamental & integrated approach
 - Designed and written from the ground up
 - Single cluster management daemon provides all functionality
 - Single, central database for configuration and monitoring data
 - Single CLI and GUI for ALL cluster management functionality
- Which makes Bright Cluster Manager ...
 - Extremely easy to use
 - Extremely scalable
 - Secure & reliable
 - Complete
 - Flexible
 - Maintainable

Architecture

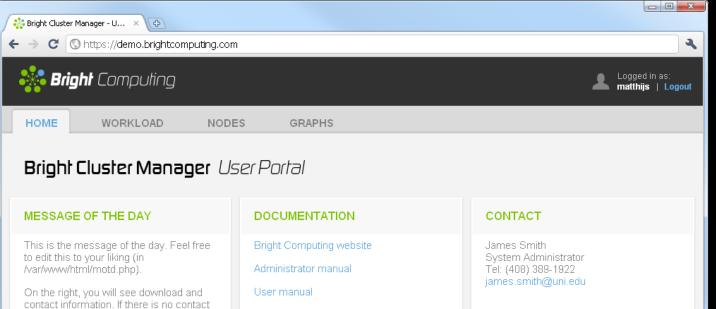




Bright Cluster Manager – Elements







information available, you can set it in CMGUI/CMSH. Alternatively, you can

modify /var/www/html/contact.php.

CLUSTER OVERVIEW

Uptime	9 days 8 hours 31 min	Memory	1.2 GiB out of 8.3 GiB total
Nodes	2 ★ 6 ₩ 1 ⊖	Swap	0 B out of 32.7 GiB total
Devices	0 ↑ 1 ↓ 0 ⊖	Load	0.3% user
Cores	3 ↑ 3 total		0.2% system
Users	0 out of 2 total		99.4% idle
Phase Load	N/A ampere		0.1% other
Occupation Rate	3.3%		

WORKLOAD OVERVIEW

Queue	Scheduler	#Slots	#Nodes	#Running	#Queued	#Failed	#Completed	Avg. Duration	Est. Delay
short.q	Slurm	0	256	32	43	0	482	00:07:27	00:09:05
medium.q	Slurm	0	128	5	11	0	41	02:15:00	04:16:00
long.q	Slurm	0	128	8	13	0	91	08:09:00	15:13:00

Management Interface



Graphical User Interface (GUI)

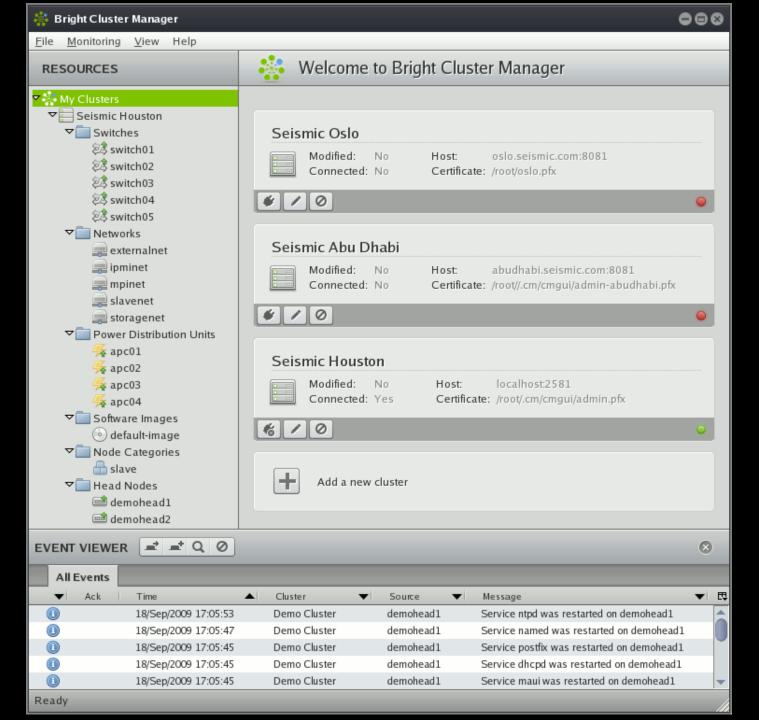
- Offers administrator full cluster control
- Standalone desktop application
- Manages multiple clusters simultaneously
- Runs natively on Linux & Windows

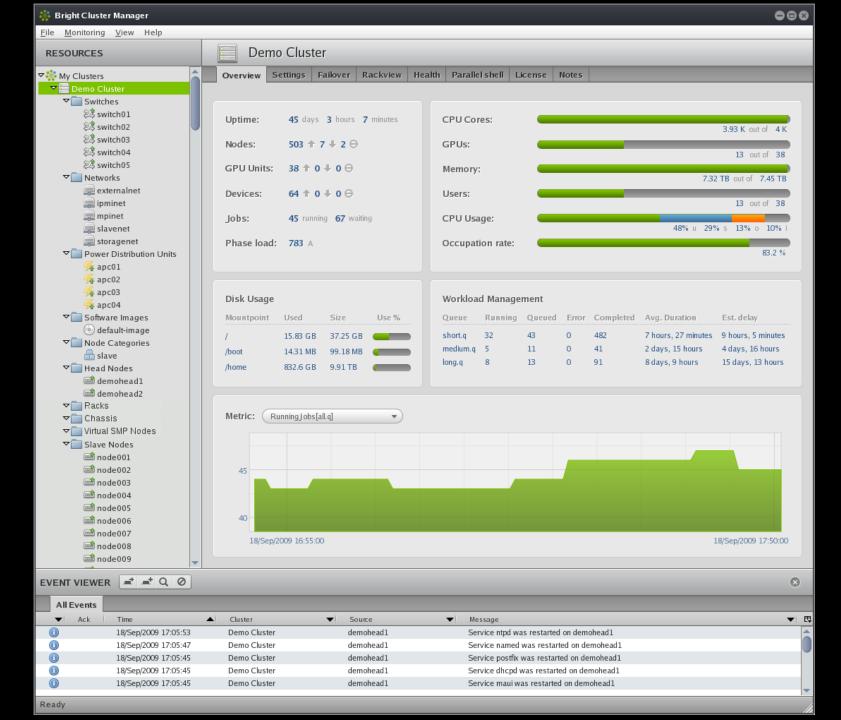
Cluster Management Shell (CMSH)

- All GUI functionality also available through Cluster Management Shell
- Interactive and scriptable in batch mode



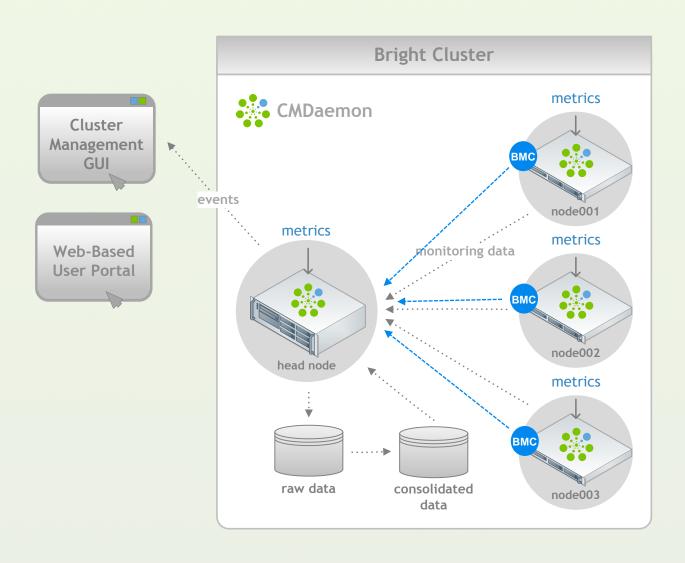


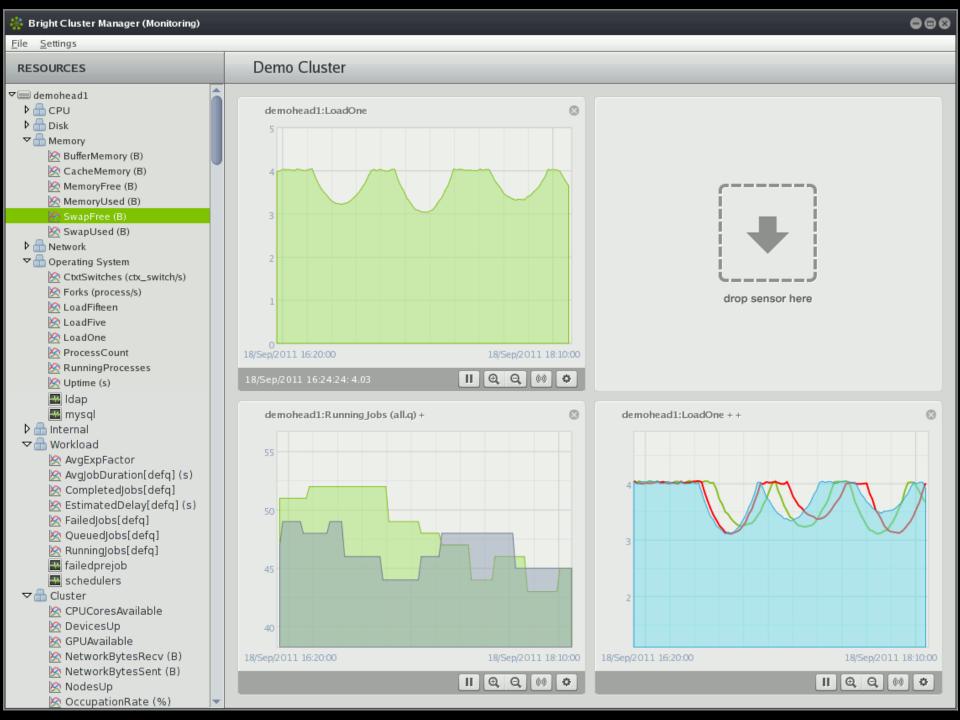


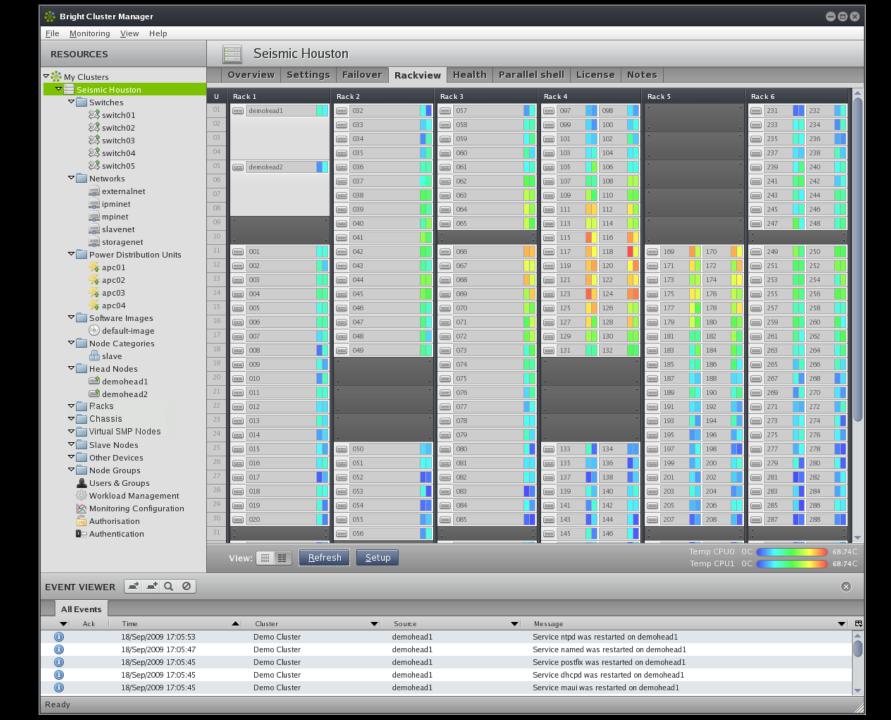


Architecture – Monitoring

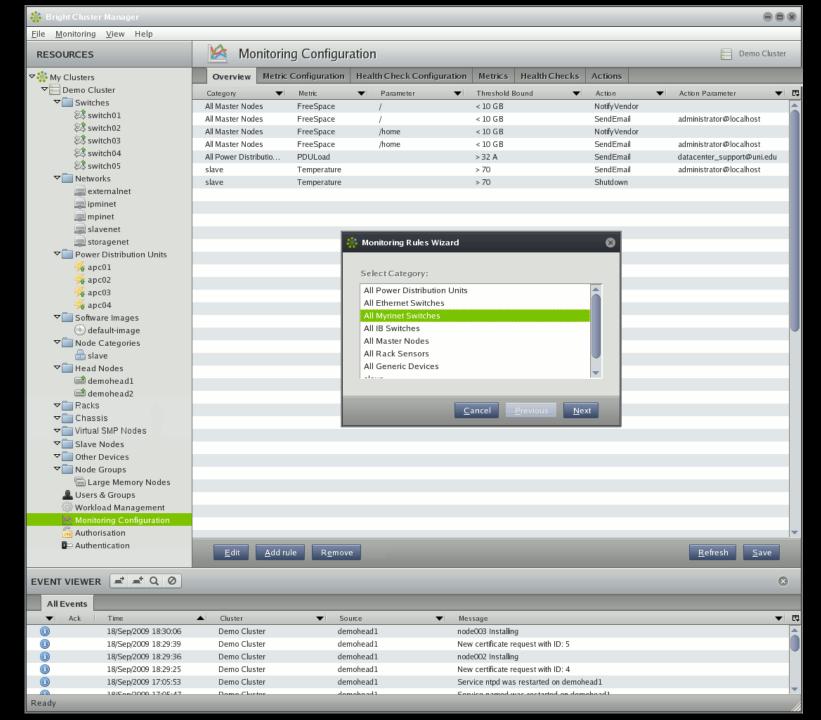


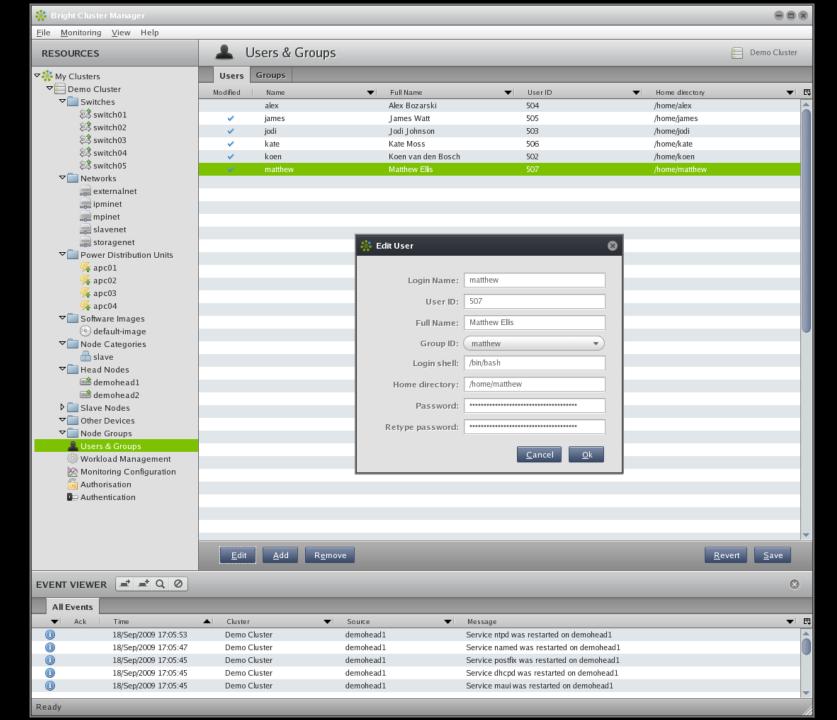


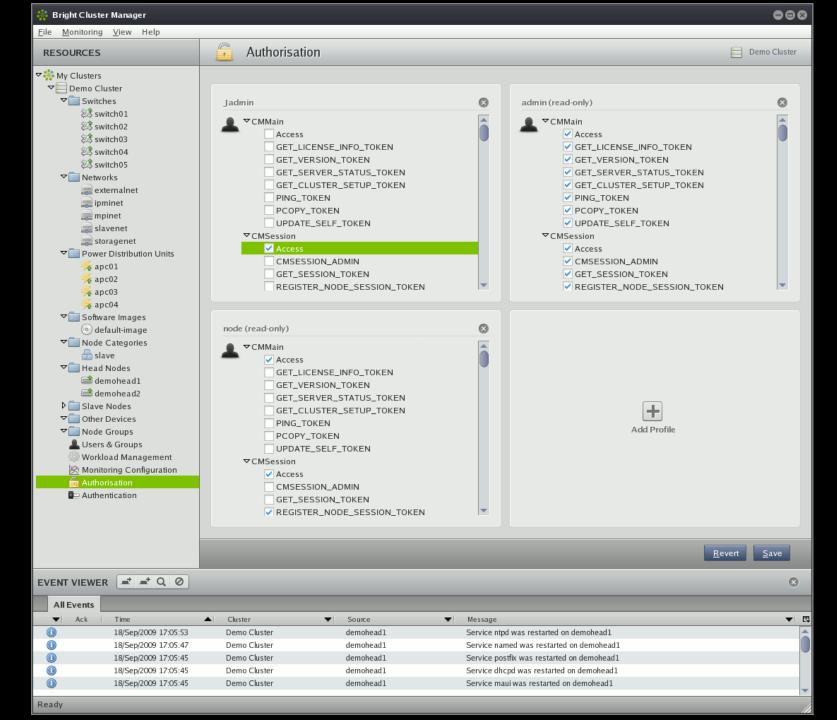








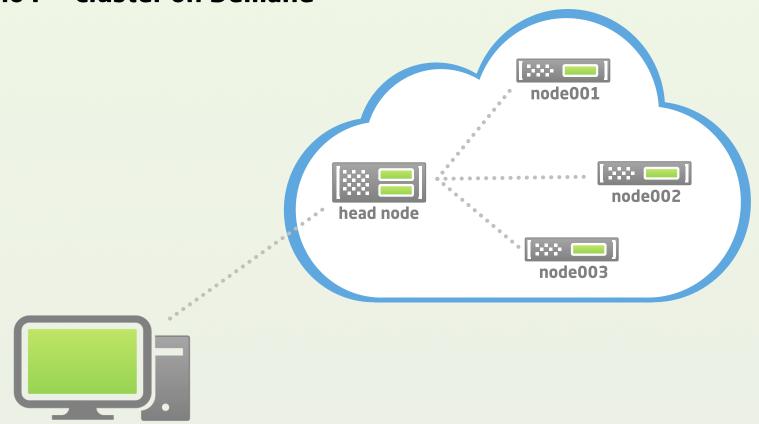




Cloud Bursting

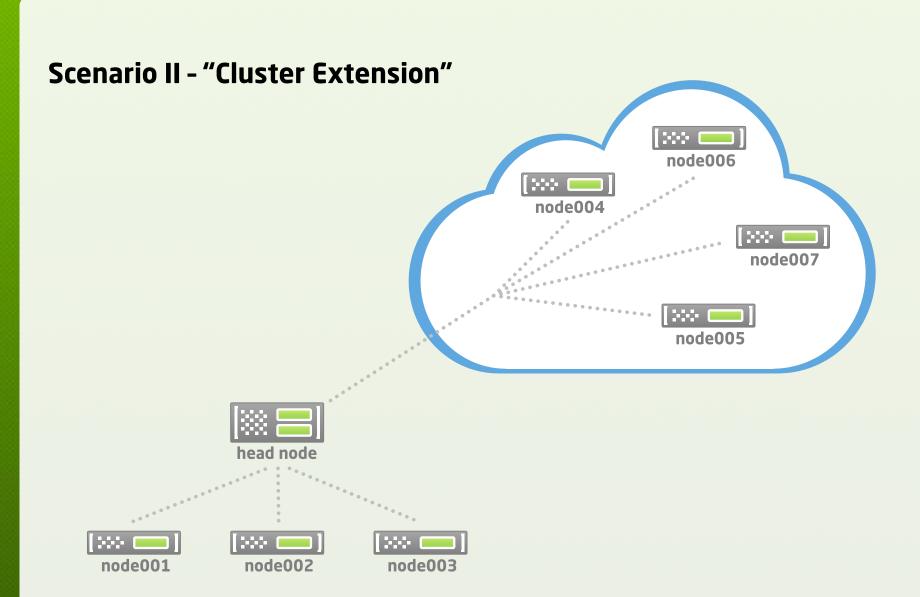


Scenario I - "Cluster on Demand"



Cloud Bursting









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Bright Cluster Manager

Cray & Bright Computing



- Bright Cluster Manager default for Cray External Service nodes since 2010:
 - esMS
 - esLogin
 - esAUX
 - esDM
 - Lustre MDS
 - Lustre OSS
- Bright Cluster Manager considered for integration with Sonexion
- Bright Cluster Manager considered for Cray mainframe

Cray/Bright Customers















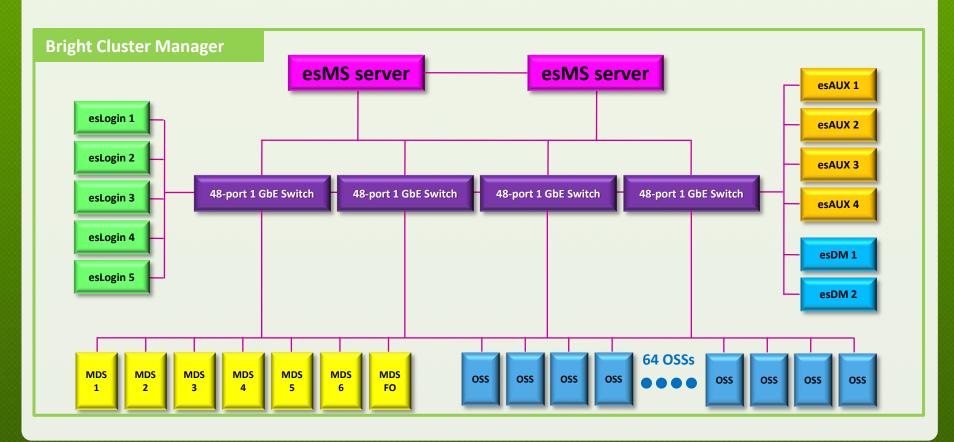




Bright on the Cray External Nodes



- esMS servers are Bright head nodes in failover mode
- 2. All other servers are Bright slave nodes
- Bright does provisioning, monitoring, alerting, automation, health checking, access control, Lustre failover, etc.





Bright on Cray XE6 / XK6

Bright on Cray XE6 / XK6



Project goal:

Investigate whether Bright Cluster Manager can be used to manage and monitor a Cray XE6

Effort made:

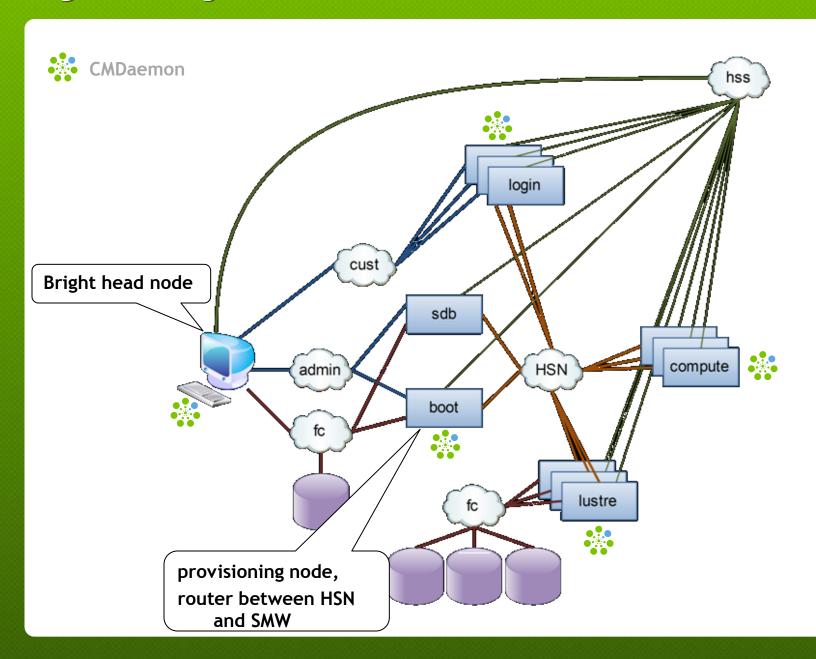
Worked almost 2 weeks with 2 developers

Result:

Bright 6.0b successfully manages XE6 making use of Cray Linux Environment infrastructure

High Level System Overview





Booting Nodes



- Default Cray kernel is used
- Bright Node Installer called from code in cpio boot image
- Node Installer:
 - Starts when node boots
 - Determines node identity based on Gemini MAC (could be NID)
 - Provisions software image into tmpfs filesystem
- Default software image about 2.7GB (can be reduced heavily)
- Parts of software image can be imported over NFS/DVS (minimal setup requires ~80MB)
- Root over NFS/DVS (now) also possible

Points of Integration



- Power management:
 - allow components (e.g. nodes) to be reset
 - allow entire system to be reset powered on/off
 - using xtbootsys (probably need lower level utilities in future)
- Remote console:
 - allow console of nodes to be accessed
 - using xtcon
- Monitoring:
 - allow Cray hardware metrics to be monitored
 - using SEDC (would be good to get direct access to HSS instead)
- Health checking (not done yet):
 - Cray hardware health checks in Bright health checking framework
 - using xthealth

Why run Bright on Cray?



- Less steep learning curve for Administrators
- Single interface for managing mainframe and external service nodes (e.g. login, storage)
- Single head node (SMW) which manages everything (HA possible)
- Consistent software image on login and compute nodes
- Same solution across the data-centre which makes integration of Cray system easier
- Access to cutting edge features (e.g. cloud bursting, monitoring, health checking, GPU management, role based access control)

Bright Scalability



- Ability to scale cluster usually limited by head node providing vital services
- Bright philosophy: allow all services provided by head node to be off-loaded to multiple dedicated nodes
- Allow (re-)configuration on the fly by assigning roles to nodes
- Example: node can be turned into provisioning node by assigning it the *Provisioning role*
- Goal: Linear scaling in terms of node-count
- In large clusters head node is not responsible for anything

Compute Node Footprint



- CMDaemon resident memory size: 31MB
- 7.5 CPU core-seconds per day
- On 16 core node, less than 0.5s wall-clock time per day
- Just 15m wall-clock time lost over 5 years
- Metrics are sampled out-of-band where possible (e.g. through SEDC)
- Other metrics are sampled from within CMDaemon process (i.e. no fork())
- Monitoring configuration highly tunable
- Metric sampling synchronized as much as possible
- No measurable OS jitter at small scale, large scale remains to be tested

Work Remaining



- Create clean installation procedure which integrates nicely into Cray installation procedure
- Migrate some services (e.g. named, LDAP) from SMW to boot node
- Support Cray component hierarchy natively:

```
Cabinet -> Cage -> Slot -> Node (Cray)
Rack -> Chassis -> ??? -> Node (Bright)
```

- Integrate Cray health checks into Bright health checking framework
- Let CLE tools such as "xtcli status" recognize nodes running Bright (currently reports nodes as down)
- Rack view which resembles physical layout of Cray system

Work Remaining



- Allow nodes to be easily switched between classic Cray mode and Bright mode
- Extend range syntax in CMSH to support Cray-style hostnames
- Tighter integration with CLE (e.g. directly calling HSS)
- Integrate with Cray user environment (compilers, libraries, MPI)
- Improve integration of power management for individual components
- Test everything at scale



Questions?