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CHAMELEON: REPRODUCIBLE EXPERIMENTS IN THE EDGE TO CLOUD CONTINUUM

Kate Keahey

Mathematics and CS Division, Argonne National Laboratory

CASE, University of Chicago

keahey@anl.gov

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CHAMELEON IN A NUTSHELL

- Chameleons like to change: a testbed that adapts itself to your experimental needs
 - Deep reconfigurability (bare metal) and isolation + KVM cloud (different cost/isolation trade-off)
 - Capabilities: power on/off, reboot, custom kernel, serial console access, etc.
- Balance: diversity and scale from large to small
 - Large to small: from 2 supercomputing sites (**UC, TACC**) connected with 100G network to **edge devices**
 - Diverse: FPGAs, GPUs, NVMe, NVDIMMs, Corsa switches, edge devices via CHI@Edge etc.
 - **CHI-in-a-Box** sites at Northwestern, in preparation: NCAR, IIT, and other places
- Cloud++: CHameleon Infrastructure (CHI) via mainstream cloud tech
 - Powered by OpenStack with bare metal reconfiguration (Ironic) + "special sauce" (50/50 split)
 - Blazar contribution recognized as official OpenStack component
- Reproducibility, repeatability, and sharing
 - Jupyter integration for imperative and non-transactional experiment packaging, Chameleon daypass for easy access, Trovi for sharing and finding experiments, integration with Zenodo for publishing











CHI EXPERIMENTAL WORKFLOW



Authentication via federated identity, accessed via GUI, CLI and python/Jupyter Paper: "Lessons Learned from the Chameleon Testbed", USENIX ATC 2020

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NEW IN P3: CHI@EDGE (PREVIEW)

A lot like a cloud! All the features we know and love but for edge! Not at all like a cloud! Location, location, location! Not server-class! loT: cameras, actuators, SDRs! And many other challenges!

- CHI@Edge: all the features you know and love plus
 - Reconfiguration via container deployment
 - Support for peripherals based on an extensible plug-in model
 - Mixed ownership model via an SDK with devices, virtual site, and restricted sharing
 - And more... Chameleon@Edge Community Workshop in September 2021 https://chameleoncloud.org/chiedge-community-workshop/





LEAVING NO EXPERIMENT BEHIND!







Supporting research projects in architecture, operating systems design, virtualization, power management, real-time analysis, security, storage systems, databases, networking, machine learning, neural networks, data science, and many others.

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Check out user experiment stories on our blog: https://www.chameleoncloud.org/blog/category/user-experiments/

ARA: WIRELESS LIVING LAB FOR SMART & CONNECTED RURAL COMMUNITIES

- ARA objectives
 - Enable research to achieve a factor of 10+ reduction in broadband cost and make rural broadband as affordable as urban broadband!
 - Support broadband use cases for rural communities
- ARA wireless living lab
 - Deploy advanced wireless platforms in Central Iowa (>600 square miles); capture systems and application and community contexts of rural broadband
 - Mainstream open-source platforms for living lab management and experimentation: OpenStack, CHIin-a-Box & CHI@Edge, ONF (SD-RAN, SD-CORE, ONOS), srsRAN, OpenAirInterface etc
 - CHI@Edge: collaborating on spectrum reservations for management of wireless networks and CHI@Edge in a Box



Hongwei Zhang, ARA PI Iowa State University









Location and Interior view of ISU Beef Nutrition Research Farm





EDGE FOR MARINE BIOLOGY

- Goal: map existing fish populations and thereby understand better how pollution impacts their habitat and the general Biscayne Bay ecosystem
- Challenges: What is the best cloud/edge strategy for collecting and analyzing data from the autonomous vehicle (AV)? How does the resolution of video data and quality of network connection influence them?
- CHI@Edge: using CHI@Edge for developing edge to cloud data processing workflows via Jupyter notebooks

Kevin Boswell, Leonardo Bobadilla, and Jonathan Tsen Florida International University







PRACTICAL REPRODUCIBILITY

- Can experiments be as sharable as papers are today?
- Could it be as easy to provide conditions for reviewers to repeat experiments or data analysis in a paper as it is to organize a PC meeting?
- Can I simply integrate somebody's model into my research instead of reinventing the wheel?
- Can I have so much fun playing with somebody's experiment that discover a new result?
- Can I develop exercises for my class based on most recent research results?



The existence of powerful open testbeds is a fundamental requirement for practical reproducibility



TESTBED AS SHARING PLATFORM

- Instruments held in common are a reproducibility imperative
 - Hardware and hardware versions: >105 versions over 5 years
 - Expressive allocation
- Sharing via cloud pattern
 - Disk images, orchestration templates, and other artifacts
 - Chameleon >130,000 images, >35,000 orchestration templates and counting
- Testbed as "player" for environments



Paper: "The Silver Lining", IEEE Internet Computing 2020

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WHAT IS MISSING?

- Packaging: complete, imperative, non-transactional, integrated (literate programming)
- Get access for reproducibility
- Discover/find experiments through various channels

- Package experiment in a way that is cost-effective but also user-friendly
- Give access for reproducibility
- Share work in progress; publish and advertise completed work







PACKAGING SHARABLE EXPERIMENTS



ideas/text, process/code, results

Complex Experimental containers

- Repeatability by default: Jupyter notebooks + Chameleon experimental containers
 - JupyterLab for our users: use jupyter.chameleoncloud.org with Chameleon credentials
 - Interface to the testbed in Python/bash + examples (see LCN'18: <u>https://vimeo.com/297210055</u>)

Paper: "A Case for Integrating Experimental Containers with Notebooks", CloudCom 2019



TESTBED ACCESS WITH CHAMELEON DAYPASS

- Authors create a subproject with multiple short-term leases that are long enough to reproduce the experiment
- Readers click through data of a published experiment, request a daypass, and reproduce either the experiment or data analysis



The data recorded in our trial runs is plotted in Figure 1. We find that there is a ramp up period for energy usage, while the program starts. Additionally, we see that the jump in both power and energy usage from 25% to 50% utilization is larger than the jump from 50% to 100% utilization.





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SHARING AND FINDING EXPERIMENTS

Familiar research sharing ecosystem



Digital research sharing ecosystem

zenodo



- Digital publishing with Zenodo: make your experiments citable via Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs)
- Trovi: sharing work in progress
 - BINs to collect all the artifacts, fine-grained sharing, versioning
 - Portal to browse, filter, and find interesting experiments
 - Integrated with Jupyter/Chameleon, Swift, Zenodo, and github (in progress)



PARTING THOUGHTS

- Constantly in motion: scientific instruments are laying down the pavement as science walks on it
- Testbed evolution: from cloud to edge
 - **•** Before: expensive **provider-owned** hardware as the main draw
 - Now: user-owned inexpensive hardware using testbed sharing and connecting mechanisms
 - Testbeds == effective sharing and connecting mechanism + residual resources
- Sharing your research digitally is more important than ever!
 - Make it easy with Chameleon: public platform, environments as images, packaging, access, and sharing mechanisms at the ready
 - Biggest benefit in emergent area == real incentives



Think Big! (with the help of a small reptile)



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