



OpenStack + AWS, HPC (aaS) and GPUs - A Pragmatic Guide

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About Bright Computing

- Headquarters in Amsterdam, NL & San Jose, CA
- Bright Cluster Manager:
 - Streamlines cluster deployments
 - Manages and healthchecks cluster after deployment
 - Integrates with OpenStack, Hadoop, Spark, Kubernetes, Mesos, Ceph
- Used on thousands of clusters all over the world
- Features to make GPU computing as easy as possible:
 - CUDA & NVIDIA driver packages
 - Pre-packaged versions of machine learning software
 - GPU configuration, monitoring and health checking

Renting versus buying

Problem description:

- Users wants to be able to run some GPU workload
- Only limited amount of hardware with GPUs available on-premise
- More GPU hardware needs to be made available to satisfy user demand
- Costs need to be minimized
- Users will need to share resources on single multi-tenant infrastructure
- Options:
 - Buy more hardware
 - Migrate workload to public cloud

Running workload off-premise

Why offload HPC workload to public cloud?

- Immediate access to hardware
- Easy to scale up/down
- Pay per use
- Lower costs compared to buying when resource demand varies greatly over time

Why keep HPC workload on-premise?

- More control over hardware (e.g. CPU, GPU, interconnect) configuration
 - (Latest) Models, configuration, firmware versions
- Substantial input/output data volume
- Cheaper at scale and high utilization
- Better control over performance (i.e. no hidden bottlenecks)
- Security
- Need access to on-site infrastructure (e.g. tape library)
- Sentimental reasons

Cloud native versus traditional workload

- Traditional HPC workload
 - Expects:
 - POSIX-like shared filesystem (e.g. NFS, Lustre, GPFS, BeeGFS)
 - MPI runtime
 - Low latency interconnect (e.g. IB, OmniPath)
 - Scheduled by HPC workload management system (e.g. Slurm, PBS Pro)
- Cloud native applications:
 - Designed to take advantage of elastic cloud-like environment
 - Composed of micro-services running in containers
 - Designed for dynamically scaling up/down
 - Mostly for software as a service, increasingly also for batch jobs
 - Scheduled by e.g. Kubernetes or Mesos+Marathon

Challenges

- Not all workload may be offloadable to cloud
- How much hardware on premise?
- How much hardware to spin up in cloud?
 - Instance flavors
 - Usage commitments
- How to make cloud offloading transparent to end-user?
- How to run traditional workload in cloud?
- How to run cloud native workload on-premise?

Hybrid approach

- On-premise cluster extended with resources from public cloud
- Makes possible to do gradual transition to cloud
- Multi-cloud possible (e.g. some jobs to AWS, some to Azure)
- Uniformity: cloud nodes look & feel same as on-premise nodes
 - Single workload management system
 - Same user authentication
 - Same software images used for provisioning
 - Same shared software environment (e.g. NFS applications tree, environment modules)
- Applications will run in cloud as if they run on on-premise cluster

Achieving Uniformity

- Provisioning
 - Node-installer loaded as AMI (instead of loading through PXE)
 - Cloud director serves as provisioning node for all nodes in particular cloud region
 - Cloud director receives copy of all software images (kept up-to-date automatically)
 - Same kernel version
- Authentication
 - Head node runs LDAP server
 - Cloud director runs LDAP replica server
 - AD/external LDAP also possible
- Workload management
 - Typical set-up: one job queue per cloud region
 - User decides whether to run job on-premise or in cloud by submitting to queue
 - Single queue containing all nodes also possible

Scaling node count up/down

- Adding/removing cloud nodes can be done:
 - Manually by administrator
 - Automatically using cm-scale tool based on workload in queue
- cm-scale can perform following operations on nodes:
 - Power on/off
 - Create new node (in cloud) / terminate
 - Move to new node category (i.e. re-purpose node)
 - Subscribe to new configuration overlay (i.e. re-purpose node)
- Custom policies possible as Python module

Moving data in/out of cloud

- Jobs depend on input data and produce output data
- cmsub allows user to specify data dependencies for jobs
- Job input data will be moved into cloud before job resources are allocated
- Data staged on temporary storage node (dynamically spun up)
- Job output data will be moved back to on-premise cluster
- Data movement is transparent to user

GPUs in AWS & Azure

- AWS

Model	GPU ^s	vCPU	Mem (GiB)	GPU Memory (GiB)
p2.xlarge	1	4	61	12
p2.8xlarge	8	32	488	96
p2.16xlarge	16	64	732	192

- Azure

INSTANCE	CORES	RAM	GPU	PRICE
NC6	6	56.00 GiB	1X K80	\$0.90/hr
NC12	12	112.00 GiB	2X K80	\$1.80/hr
NC24	24	224.00 GiB	4X K80	\$3.60/hr
NC24r	24	224.00 GiB	4X K80	\$3.96/hr
NV6	6	56.00 GiB	1X M60	\$1.24/hr
NV12	12	112.00 GiB	2X M60	\$2.48/hr
NV24	24	224.00 GiB	4X M60	\$4.97/hr

Running workload on-premise

GPUs in multi-tenant environment

- Simple solution:
 - Build single multi-user cluster
 - Workload management system to let users request GPU resources
- More flexible solution:
 - Allow GPUs to be consumed through OpenStack instances
 - Users can run any OS they like
 - Cluster-on-Demand (COD) for users that want a cluster for themselves

Cluster on Demand (HPCaaS)

- COD spins up fully functional Bright clusters inside of:
 - Azure
 - AWS
 - **OpenStack**
- Deployment time 2-3m
- Fully functional clusters become disposable resources
- Great for:
 - Development teams
 - Power users that need/want full control of environment
 - HIPAA / PCI compliance
 - Cluster partitioning for different departments

OpenStack & GPUs

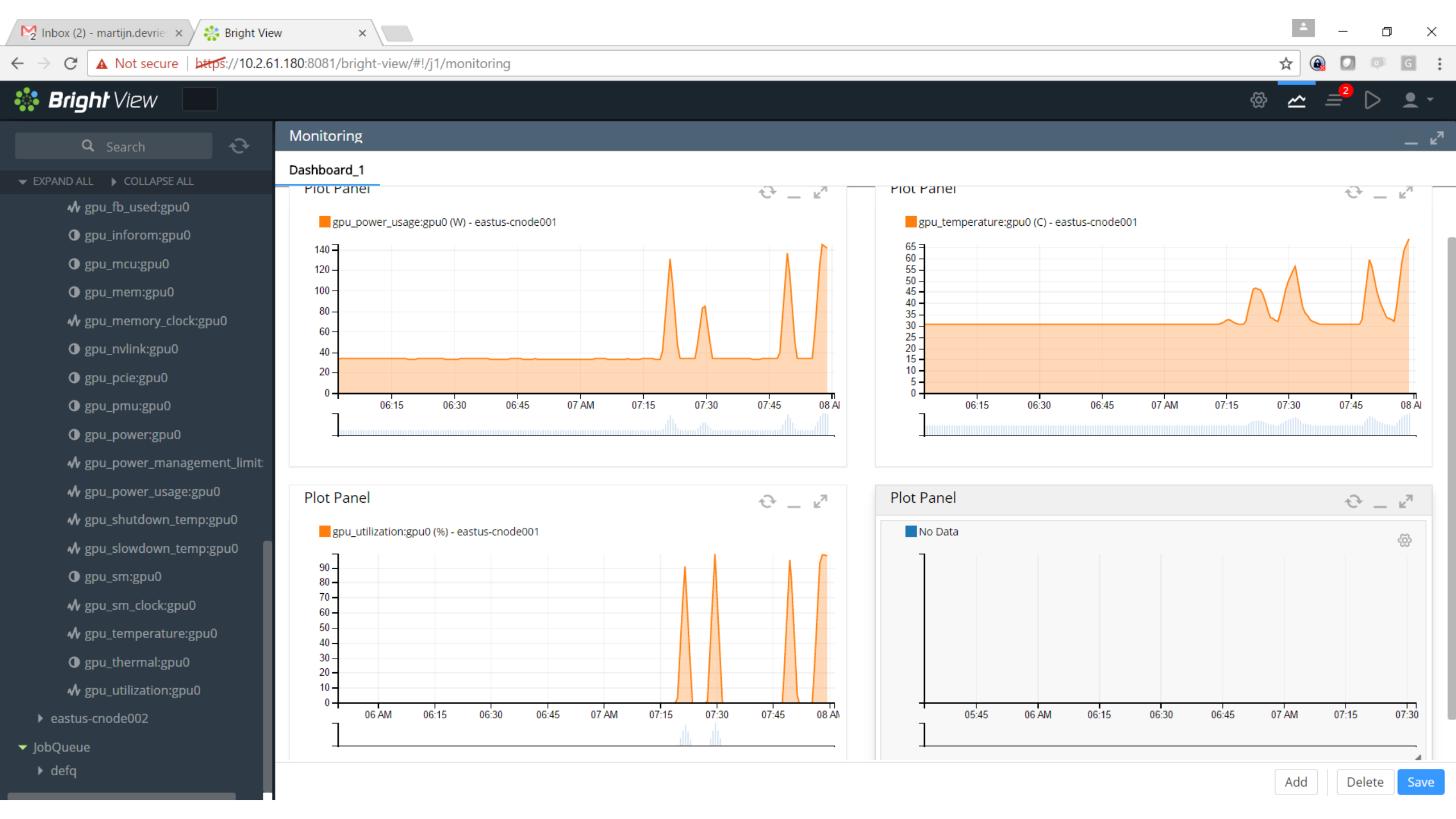
- Use special GPU instance flavor to request GPUs
- Uses PCI passthrough
- vGPUs not possible yet due to lack of support in KVM

```
[martijn@krusty ~]$ nova flavor-show cod.g1.gpu
```

Property	Value
OS-FLV-DISABLED:disabled	False
OS-FLV-EXT-DATA:ephemeral	0
disk	0
extra_specs	{"gpu": "true", "pci_passthrough:alias": "gpu:1"}
id	6910987c-209b-4210-b056-a630618fbf7d
name	cod.g1.gpu
os-flavor-access:is_public	False
ram	4096
rxtx_factor	1.0
swap	
vcpus	2

Bright & DCGM

- GPU related functionality in Bright:
 - GPU management (e.g. settings)
 - GPU monitoring
 - GPU healthchecking
- Used to be implemented using NVML API
- As of Bright 8.0 uses NVIDIA DCGM (Data Center GPU Manager)
- DCGM packaged and set up automatically on all nodes
- CUDA and NVIDIA driver also packaged

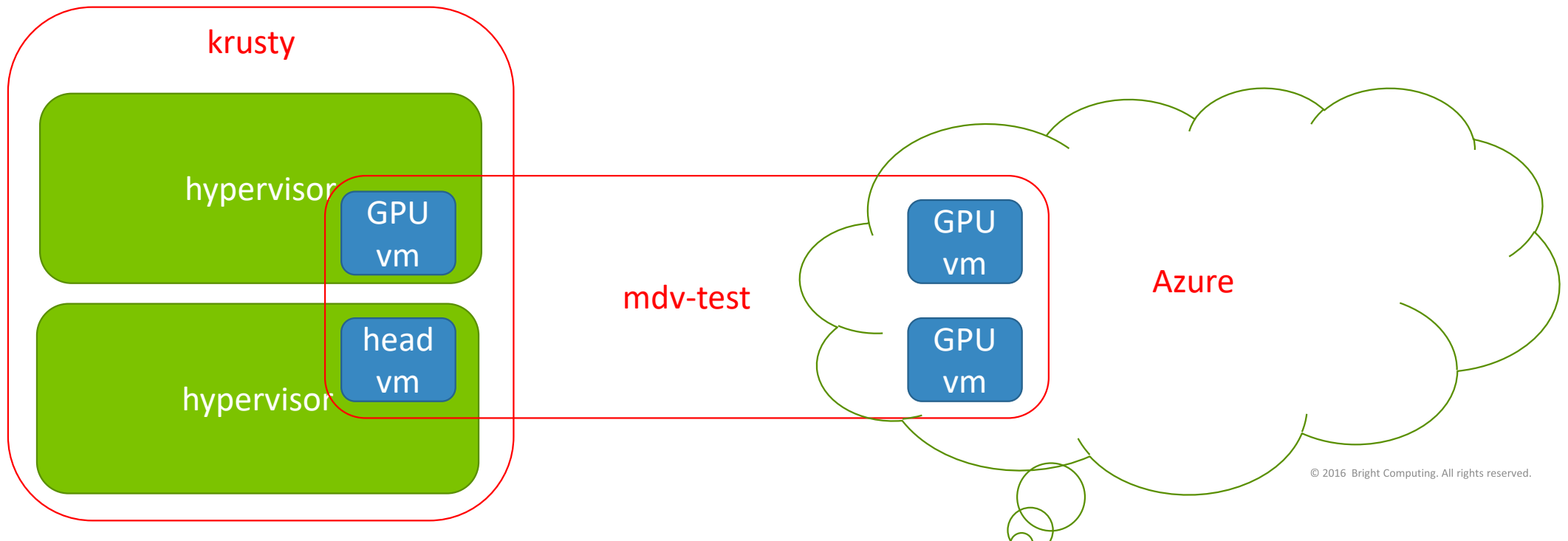


Bright & Deep Learning

- Allow users to get deep learning workload up with minimal effort
- Bright packages:
 - Caffe : 1.0
 - Theano : 0.9.0
 - MXnet : 0.9.3
 - Tensorflow : 1.1.0
 - Tensorflow-legacy : 0.12
 - bazel : 0.4.5
 - keras : 2.0.3
 - CNTK : 2.0rc2
 - CUDNN: 5.1 and 6.0
 - DIGITS : 5.0 (Updated Feb 2017)
 - NCCL : 1.3.4
 - Caffe2: 0.7.0
 - Caffe-MPI : 6c2c347
 - OpenCV3 : 3.1.0
 - Protobuf : 3.1.0
 - Chainer : 1.23.0
 - cuPy : 1.0.0b1
 - CUB : 1.6.4
 - MLPython : 0.1
 - TensorRT : 1.0

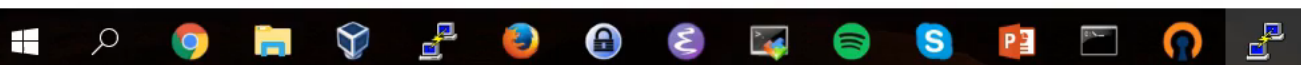
Demo

- Spin up small virtualized cluster in Bright Engineering's internal Krusty cloud
- 1 virtual head node, 1 virtual GPU node (Tesla K40)
- Extend virtual cluster into Azure with 2 GPU nodes (Tesla K80)



martijn@krusty:~
[martijn@krusty ~]\$

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Conclusions

- Bright GPU clusters running can easily be extended to AWS and Azure for extra temporary capacity
- OpenStack can be used to offer GPUs to users in on-premise infrastructure
- Bright's Cluster-on-Demand can be used to create disposable Bright clusters on the fly
- Bright Cluster Manager provides GPU management & monitoring interface backed by DCGM
- Bright Cluster Manager provides rich collection of Machine Learning frameworks, tools & libraries

