



Large scale image processing and high performance computing

Steffen Bollmann

Research Fellow

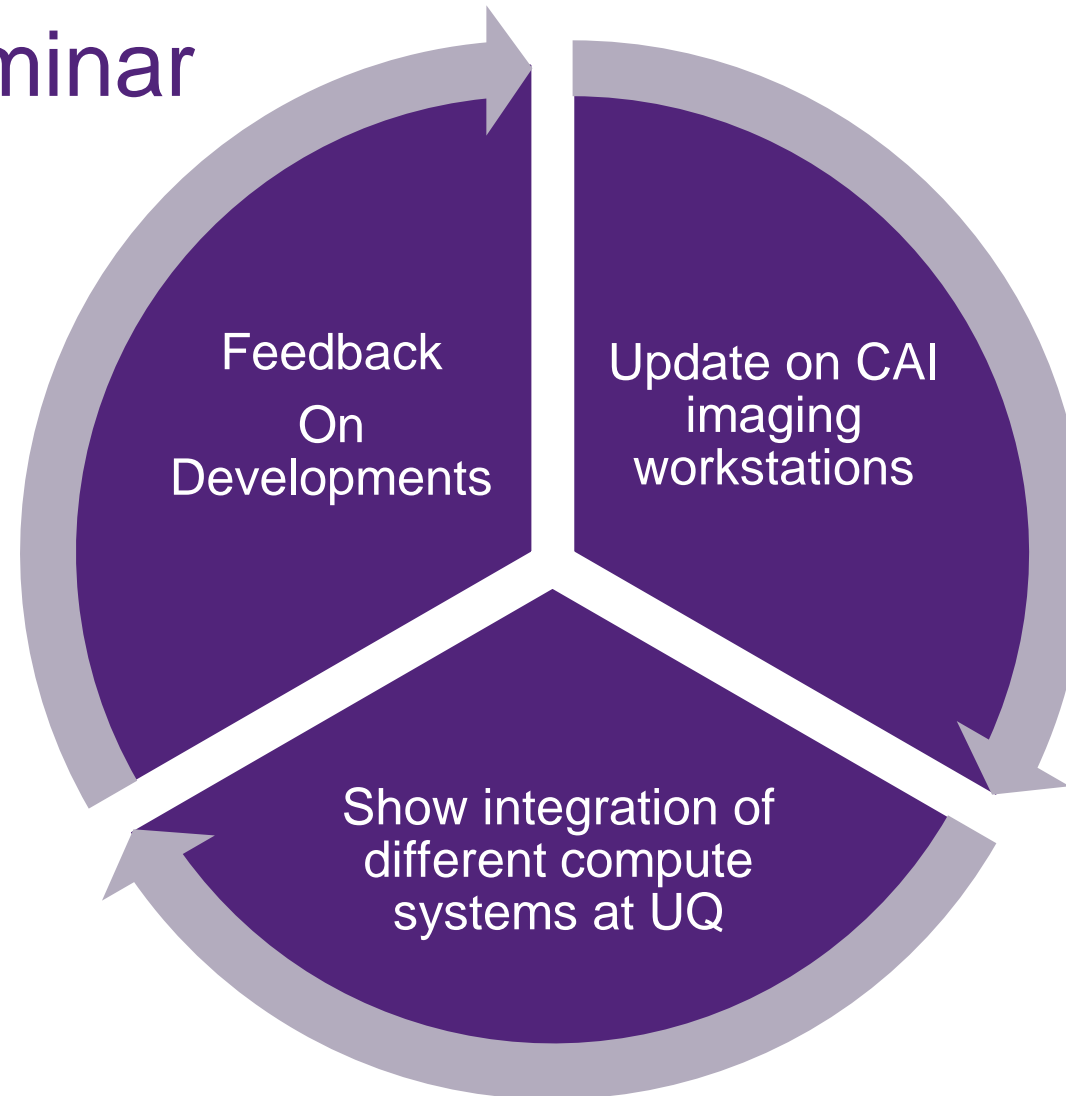
School of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering

David Butler, Quang Tieng, Alan Hockings, Jake Carroll

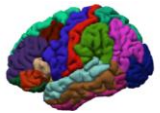
Oren Civial, Aswin Narayanan, Markus Barth, Tom Johnstone

Jakub Kaczmarzyk, Martin Grignard

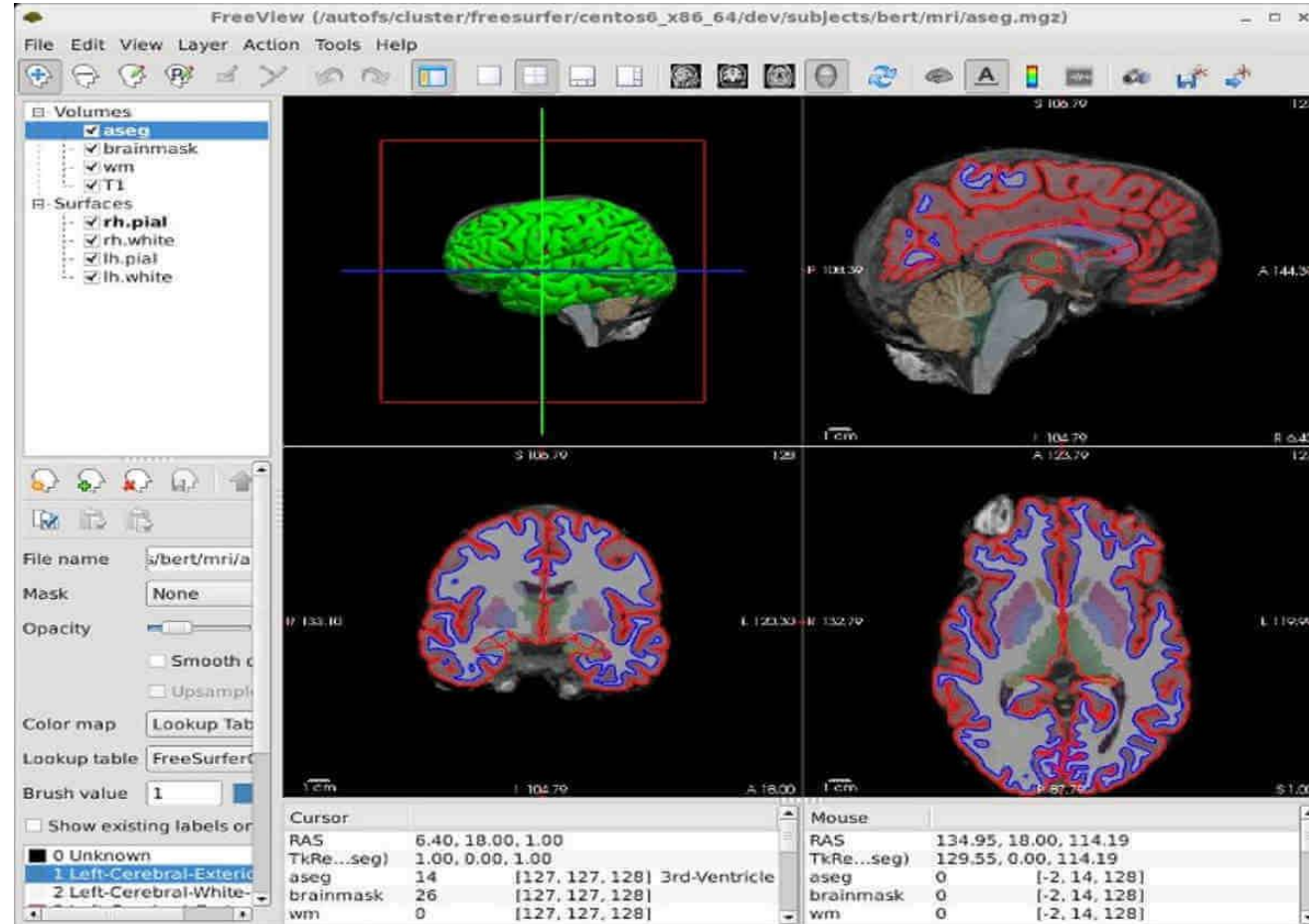
Goals of this seminar



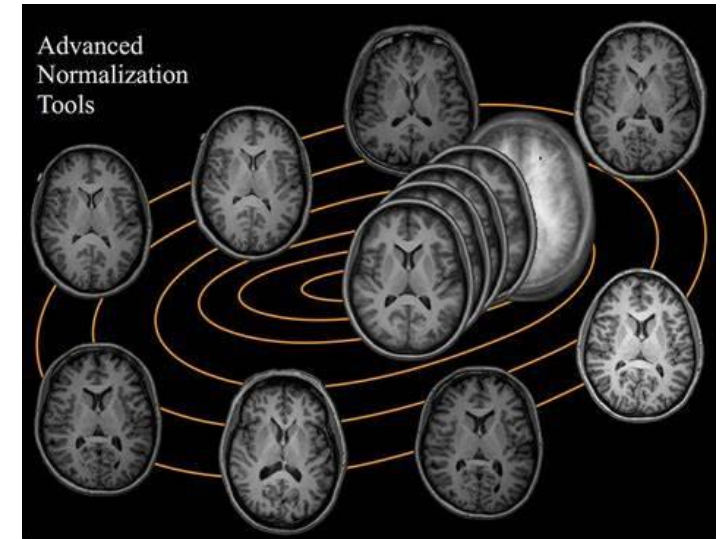
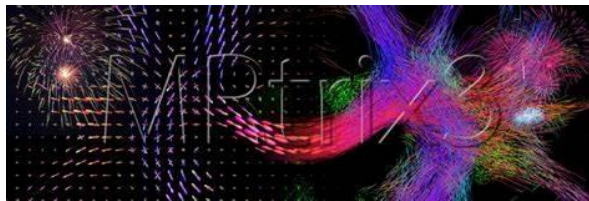
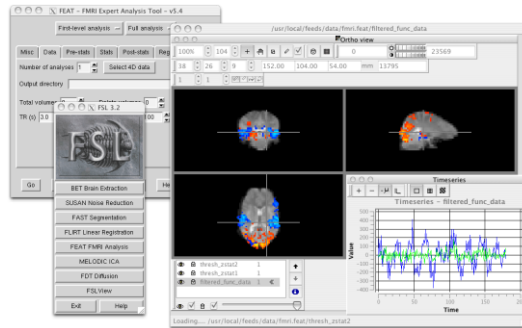
Large ecosystem of scientific software ...



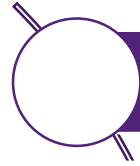
FreeSurfer



Large ecosystem of scientific software ...



... creating problems for researchers:



Most tools require Linux

... creating problems for researchers:

○ Most tools require Linux

○ Tools are not available in standard package systems

```
(base) uqsbollm@uqsbollm-7952:~$ sudo apt install freesurfer
[sudo] password for uqsbollm:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree
Reading state information... Done
Package freesurfer is not available, but is referred to by another package.
This may mean that the package is missing, has been obsoleted, or
is only available from another source

E: Package 'freesurfer' has no installation candidate
```

... creating problems for researchers:

- Most tools require Linux
- Tools are not available in standard package systems
- Compiling from source often a nightmare

Then run `cmake ..` and set `CMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX` to be the desired directory as the above `cmake` command is ignoring the setting.

```
make -j 4
```

This will fail configuring `beast`.

Edit `/home/564/sb1053/minc-toolkit-v2/minc-toolkit-v2/BEaST/CMakeLists.txt`
and comment out `FIND_PACKAGE(NETCDF)` (in two places).

run `make -j 4` again.

This will fail to compile `/home/564/sb1053/minc-toolkit-v2/minc-toolkit-v2/minctools/progs/mincdump/mincdump.h`
Edit this file and replace `enum` with `#define`:

... creating problems for researchers:

- Most tools require Linux
- Tools are not available in standard package systems
- Compiling from source often a nightmare
- Conflicting dependencies

```
freeview.bin: error while loading shared libraries:  
libpng12.so.0: cannot open shared object file: No  
such file or directory
```


... creating problems for researchers:

- Most tools require Linux
- Tools are not available in standard package systems
- Compiling from source often a nightmare
- Conflicting dependencies
- Reinstalling tools on different platforms takes time

... creating problems for researchers:

- Most tools require Linux
- Tools are not available in standard package systems
- Compiling from source often a nightmare
- Conflicting dependencies
- Reinstalling tools on different platforms takes time
- Differing results between software versions

GLIBC 2.5 vs 2.18

Reproducibility of neuroimaging analyses across operating systems

Tristan Glatard^{1,2}, Lindsay B. Lewis¹, Rafael Ferreira da Silva³, Reza Adalat¹, Natacha Beck¹, Claude Lepage¹, Pierre Rioux¹, Marc-Etienne Rousseau¹, Tarek Sherif¹, Ewa Deelman³, Najmeh Khalili-Mahani¹ and Alan C. Evans^{1}*

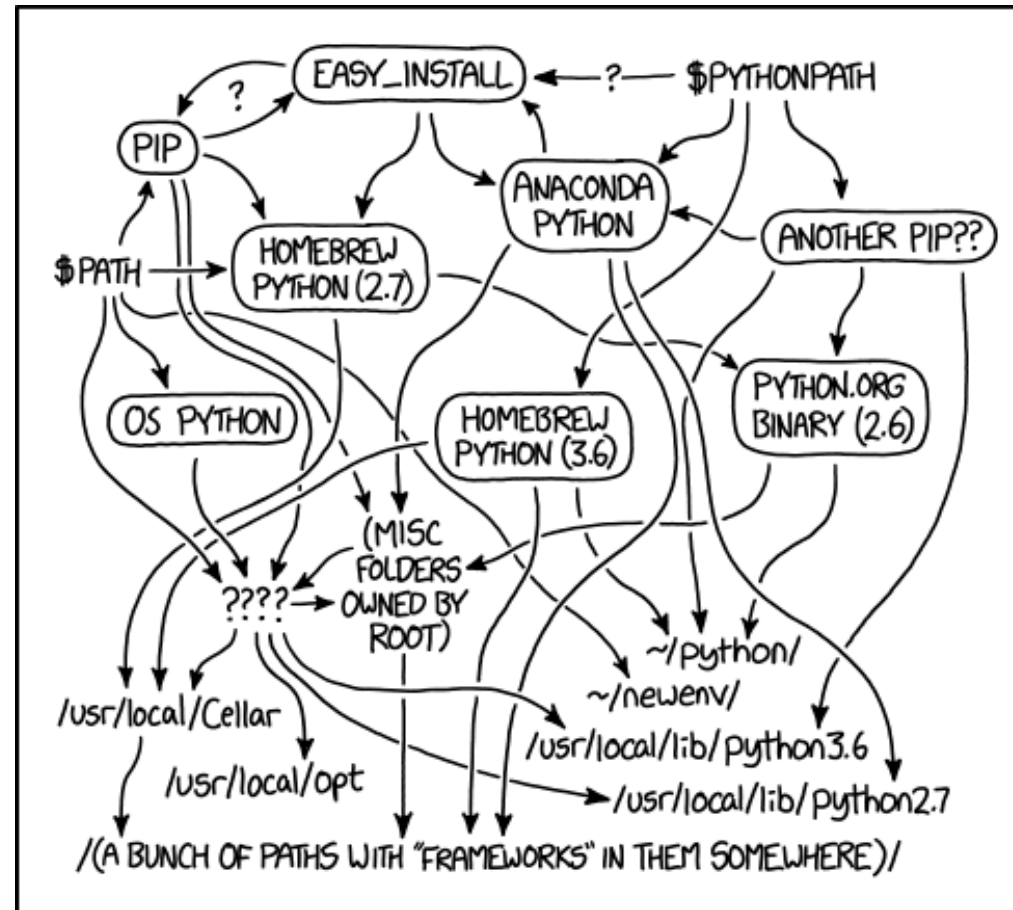
- glibc 2.5 vs 2.18 deliver different floating-point results
- leads to significant differences in long pipelines

```
expf(1.540518522262573242187500000000)  
=4.6670093536376953125000
```

```
expf(1.540518522262573242187500000000)  
=4.6670098304748535156250
```



How to help with this...



MY PYTHON ENVIRONMENT HAS BECOME SO DEGRADED
THAT MY LAPTOP HAS BEEN DECLARED A SUPERFUND SITE.

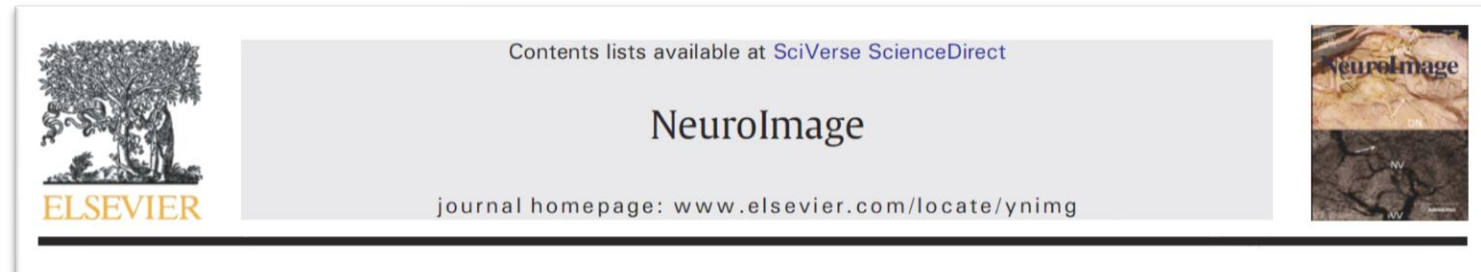
... but avoid ...

HOW STANDARDS PROLIFERATE:
(SEE: A/C CHARGERS, CHARACTER ENCODINGS, INSTANT MESSAGING, ETC.)



Let's start with a use case

- Researcher wants to run an analysis with Nipype (Python 3), combining tgv_qsm (Python 2), FSL 6.0.3 (Linux) and MINC 1.9.17



MINC 2.0: A Flexible Format for Multi-Modal Images

Robert D. Vincent¹, Peter Neelin², Najmeh Khalili-Mahani¹, Andrew L. Janke³, Vladimir S. Fonov¹, Steven M. Robbins¹, Leila Baghdadi⁴, Jason Lerch^{4,5}, John G. Sled^{4,5}, Reza Adalat¹, David MacDonald⁶, Alex P. Zijdenbos⁷, D. Louis Collins^{1,8} and Alan C. Evans^{1}*

¹ McConnell Brain Imaging Centre, Montreal Neurological Institute, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada, ² Intelrad Medical Systems, Montreal, QC, Canada, ³ Center for Advanced Imaging, The University of Queensland, Brisbane, QLD, Australia, ⁴ Mouse Imaging Centre, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, ON, Canada, ⁵ Department of Medical Biophysics, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada, ⁶ Autodesk Inc., Montreal, QC, Canada, ⁷ Biospective Inc., Montreal, QC, Canada, ⁸ Department of Biomedical Engineering, McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada

frontiers in
NEUROINFOR

Nipype: a f
data proce

Krzysztof Gorgolev
Michael L. Waskom^{5,6}, Satrajit S. Ghosh⁷


ch, Stephen M. Smith

ishofer^f,


nenko⁴,

Let's start with a use case

- Researcher wants to run an analysis with Nipype (Python 3), combining tgv_qsm (Python 2), FSL 6.0.3 (Linux) and MINC 1.9.17 (Prebuilt packages only available for Ubuntu)
- Develop pipeline interactively on Windows 10 notebook
- Test analysis on pilot data on a Linux workstation running Ubuntu 18.04
- Analyse all data on a cluster running ROCKS Centos
- Visualize results interactively on Windows 10 notebook and prepare for publication
- Share analysis pipeline with readers of paper




FSL/MINC
do not run
on Windows



Outdated
libraries on
old Centos
cluster



Mixing Python
versions
causes trouble



Compiling MINC
fails due to
missing libraries



Software
setup not
reproducible

What exists already and how can we combine efforts?



CVL

Characterisation
Virtual Laboratory

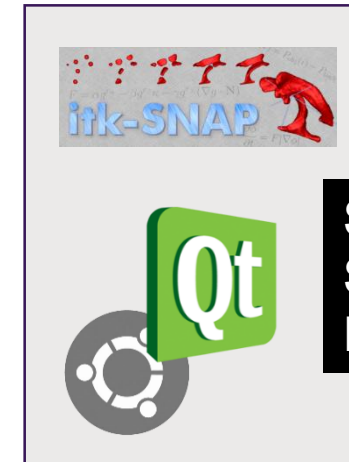


Virtual Machines VS Containers

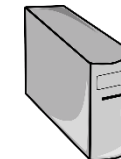
Storage: 10 GB
Startup: 15s
RAM: 4GB



- Application • e.g. itk-snap
- Libraries • e.g. QT4
- Guest OS • e.g. Ubuntu 16.04
- Hypervisor • e.g. Virtualbox
- Host OS • e.g. Centos 6
- Hardware • e.g. Dell Precision



Storage: 0.1 GB
Startup: 0.2 s
RAM: 0.1 GB



Where to Run analyses?



PC/Laptop

- very interactive and flexible
- not very powerful



CAI-WKS1...6 + CVL

- quite interactive and flexible
- quite powerful



Clusters: Awoonga, Wiener, Gadi ...

- not interactive, nor flexible
- very powerful



Cloud

- does everything you want if you can pay for it...

Goal: Run on optimal hardware for job at hand



PC/Laptop

- very interactive and flexible
- not very powerful



CAI-WKS1...6 + CVL

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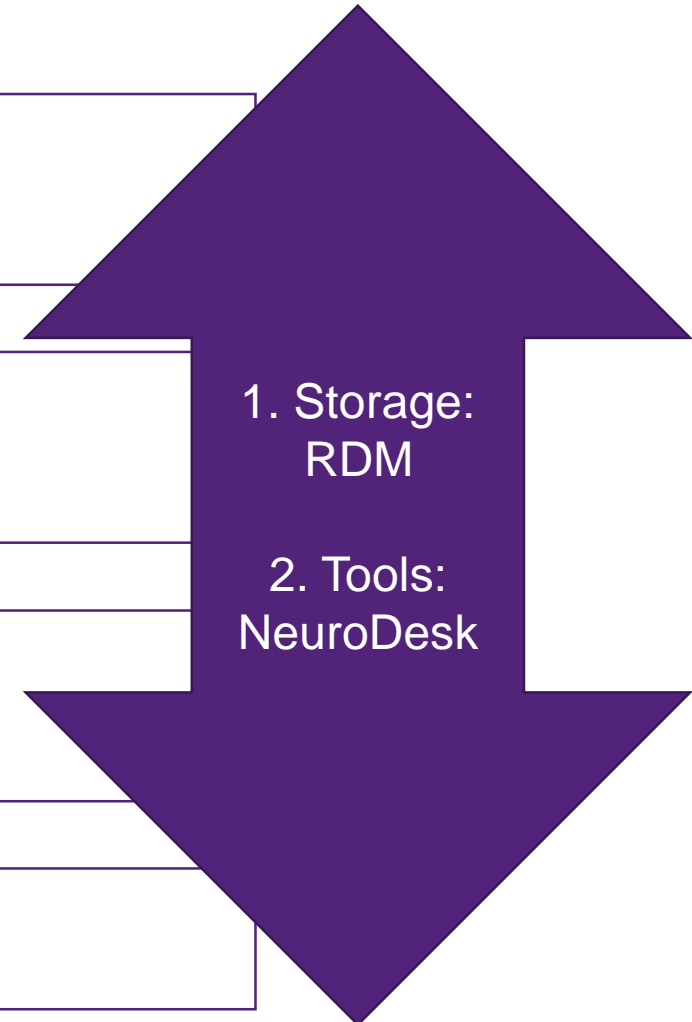
Clusters: Awoonga, Wiener, Gadi ...

- not interactive, nor flexible
- very powerful

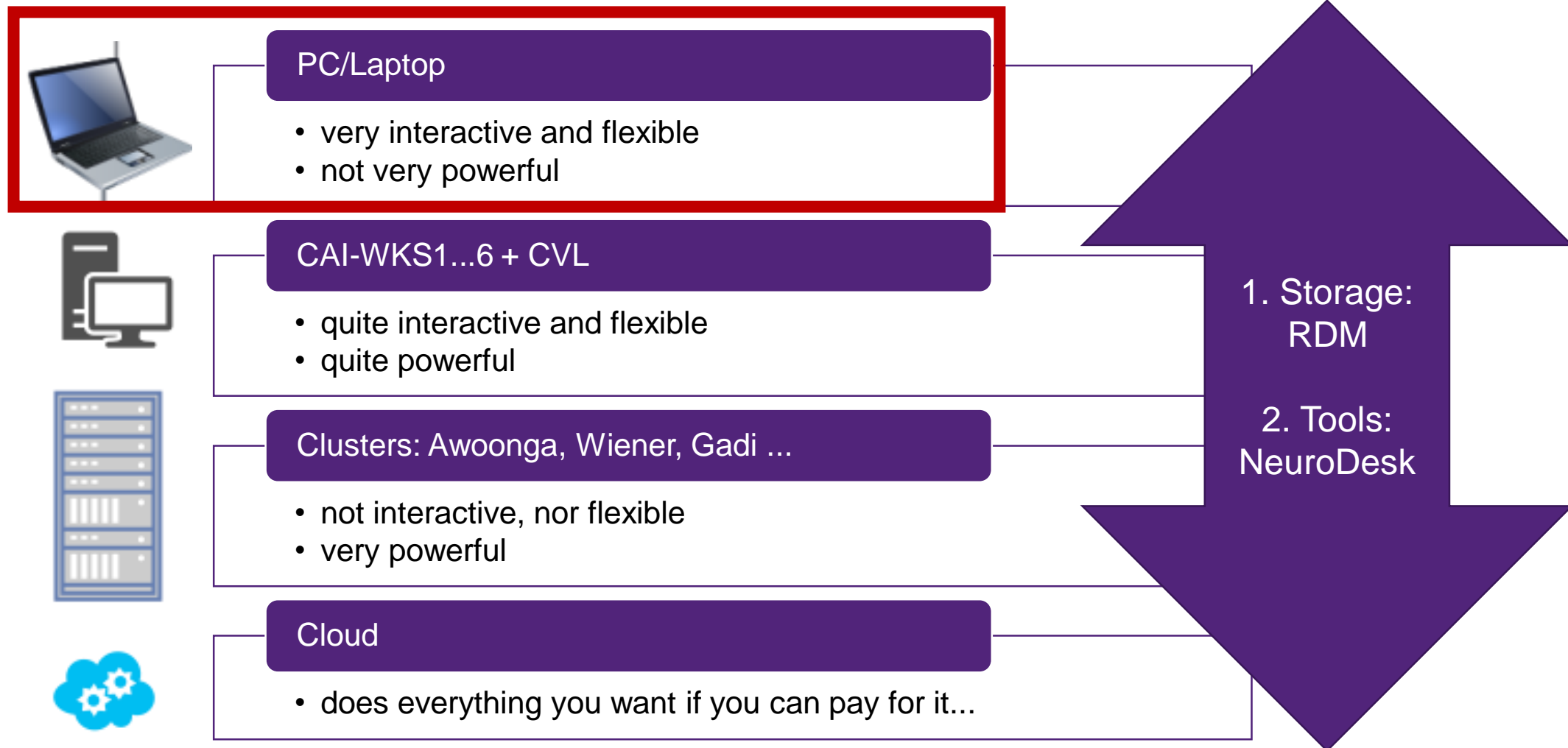


Cloud

- does everything you want if you can pay for it...



Goal: Run on optimal hardware for job at hand



PC/Laptop:



4 cores
16 GB RAM

Use case

- very interactive and flexible

Access

- helpdesk@cai.uq.edu.au

RDM Storage

- R-drive
- UQ-InstGateway data.cai.uq.edu.au

Linux-Applications

- <https://github.com/NeuroDesk/vnm/> (requires Docker)

NeuroDesk

- Community project
- Started at Organisation for Human Brain Mapping Hackathon

NeuroDesk

Repositories 7 Packages People 10 Teams Projects Settings

Pinned repositories Customize pinned repositories

vnm
A lightweight Docker container with a browser-accessible environment for reproducible neuroimaging analysis. Only the required software packages are downloaded from a public library (as Singularity...
● Shell ☆ 10 🍴 4

Find a repository... Type: All Language: All New

transparent-singularity
Forked from CAIsr/transparent-singularity
Deploying a singularity container so that it behaves like one would have installed software natively
● Shell 🍴 5 ☆ 0 📄 0 🛠️ 0 Updated 2 hours ago

neurodesk
an installer that makes our containerized applications available on any linux system with singularity installed
● Shell 🍴 2 ☆ 0 📄 4 🛠️ 0 Updated 2 hours ago

Top languages
● Shell ● JavaScript ● Python

People 10 >
[Profile icons of 10 contributors]

Design principles for NeuroDesk

Linux, Mac, Windows

- Docker

Scale to HPC

- Singularity

Interactive

- Full Linux desktop interface

Lightweight

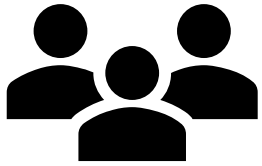
- Tools are installed on demand

Re-use existing repositories

- NeuroDebian, conda, NeuroDocker

Architecture

Community developing recipes using conda,
neurodebian, neurodocker



CAID – Automated
Container building

Automated container building using github actions

Workflows New workflow All workflows

Filter workflows

646 Results

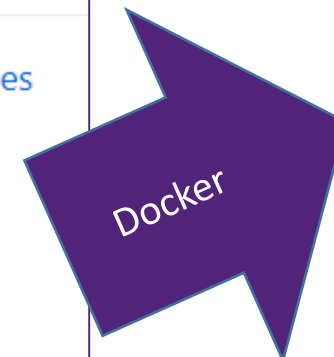
- ✓ new deploy path for afni #56: Commit 626e6b6 pus
- ✓ added afm02 on wien #26: Com
- ✓ added afm02 on wien #53: Com
- ✓ added afm02 on wien #18: Commit 044f31a pu
- ✓ added afm02 on wien #98: Commit 044f31a g
- ✓ added afm02 on wien #57: Commit 044f31
- ✓ added afm02 on wien #9: Commit 044f31a

Workflow list: singularity, convert3D, template, lashis, ash, afni, ants, julia, mrtrix3, minc, freesurfer, Recipe Builder, Container Builder, fsl

currently available tools:

<https://github.com/NeuroDesk/caid/packages>

- afni passing
- ants passing
- ashs passing
- convert3D passing
- freesurfer passing
- fsl passing
- itksnap passing
- julia passing
- lashis passing
- minc passing
- mrtrix3 passing



dockerhub Search for great content (e.g., myst)

Organizations vnm Repositories

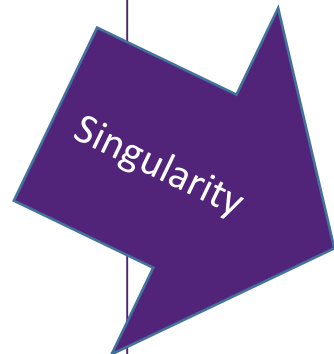
vnm Community Organization Neuro

Members Teams Repositories Settings

Search by repository name

NAME

- vnm / afni_20.2.11
- vnm / mrtrix3_3.0.1



← → ↻ 🔒 https://swift.rc.nectar.org.au/v1/AUTH_0

This XML file does not appear to have any style information associated with it.

```
<container name="singularityImages">
  <object>
    <name>afni_20.2.11_20200811.sif</name>
    <hash>d41d8cd98f00b204e9800998ecf8427e</hash>
    <bytes>0</bytes>
    <content_type>application/octet-stream</content_type>
    <last_modified>2020-08-11T12:16:06.410370</last_modified>
  </object>
  <object>
    <name>ants_2.3.4_20200811.sif</name>
    <hash>5fbc3a465d7095c7304816da8913818c</hash>
    <bytes>669888512</bytes>
    <content_type>application/octet-stream</content_type>
    <last_modified>2020-08-11T08:09:30.049570</last_modified>
  </object>
```

Architecture

PowerUsers on Linux, HPC, CVL

Community developing recipes



CAID – Automated
Container building



NeuroDesk – Integrating
our containers on any
Linux OS

Combining tools from different Containers using modules

```
neuro@5c2bff15d401:~$ module avail  
  
----- /vnm/containers/modules -----  
freesurfer/7.1.0      fsl/6.0.3      mrtix3/3.0.1  
freesurfer/7.1.1 (D)  itknap/3.8.0
```



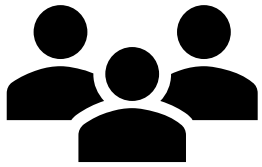
```
neuro@5c2bff15d401:~$ ml fsl  
neuro@5c2bff15d401:~$ ml  
  
Currently Loaded Modules:  
  1) fsl/6.0.3  
  
neuro@5c2bff15d401:~$ ml freesurfer  
neuro@5c2bff15d401:~$ ml  
  
Currently Loaded Modules:  
  1) fsl/6.0.3  2) freesurfer/7.1.1
```

```
neuro@5c2bff15d401:~$ which freeview  
/vnm/containers/freesurfer_7.1.1_20200924/freeview  
neuro@5c2bff15d401:~$ which fslmaths  
/vnm/containers/fsl_6.0.3_20200820/fslmaths
```

```
neuro@5c2bff15d401:~$ cat /vnm/containers/fsl_6.0.3_20200820/fslmaths  
#!/usr/bin/env bash  
export PWD=`pwd -P`  
singularity exec --pwd $PWD /vnm/containers/fsl_6.0.3_20200820/fsl_6.0.3_20200820.sif fslmaths $@
```

Architecture

Community developing recipes



CAID – Automated
Container building

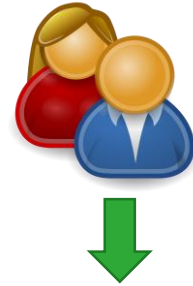


NeuroDesk – Integrating
our containers on any
Linux OS

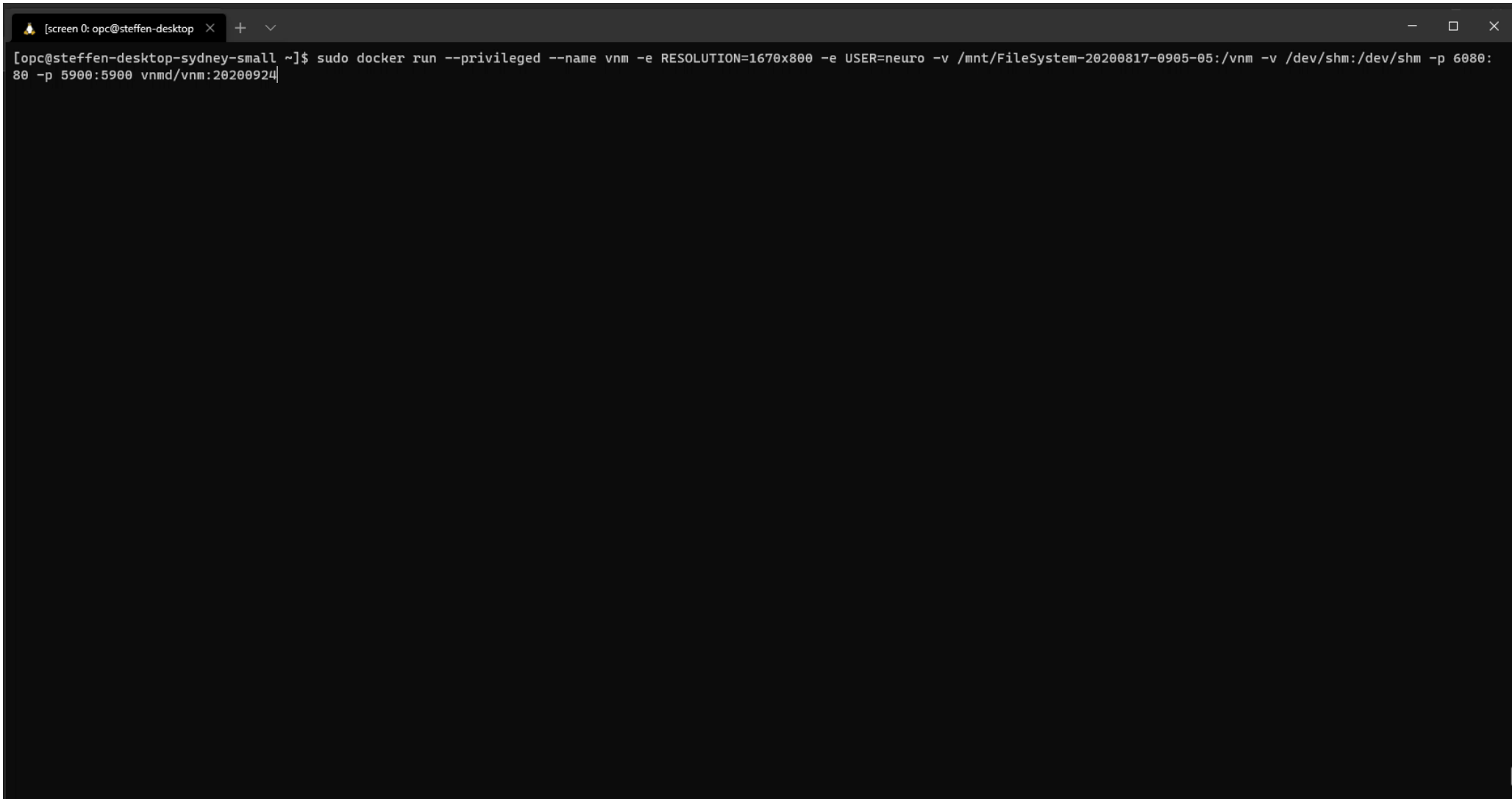


VNM – Lightweight Linux
Desktop in Docker
container

Users on Windows, Mac

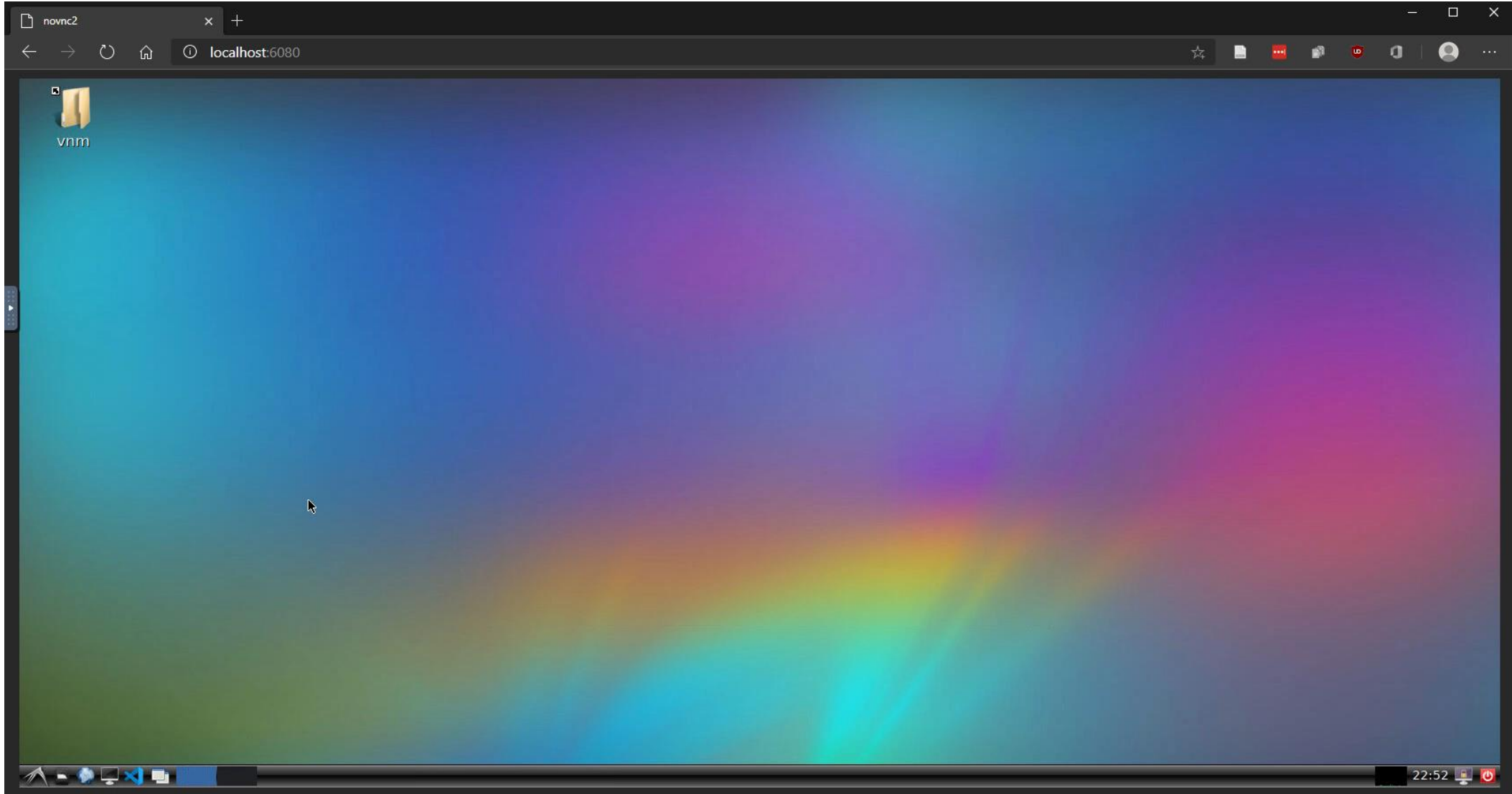


VNM – Interface accessible from any browser 😊

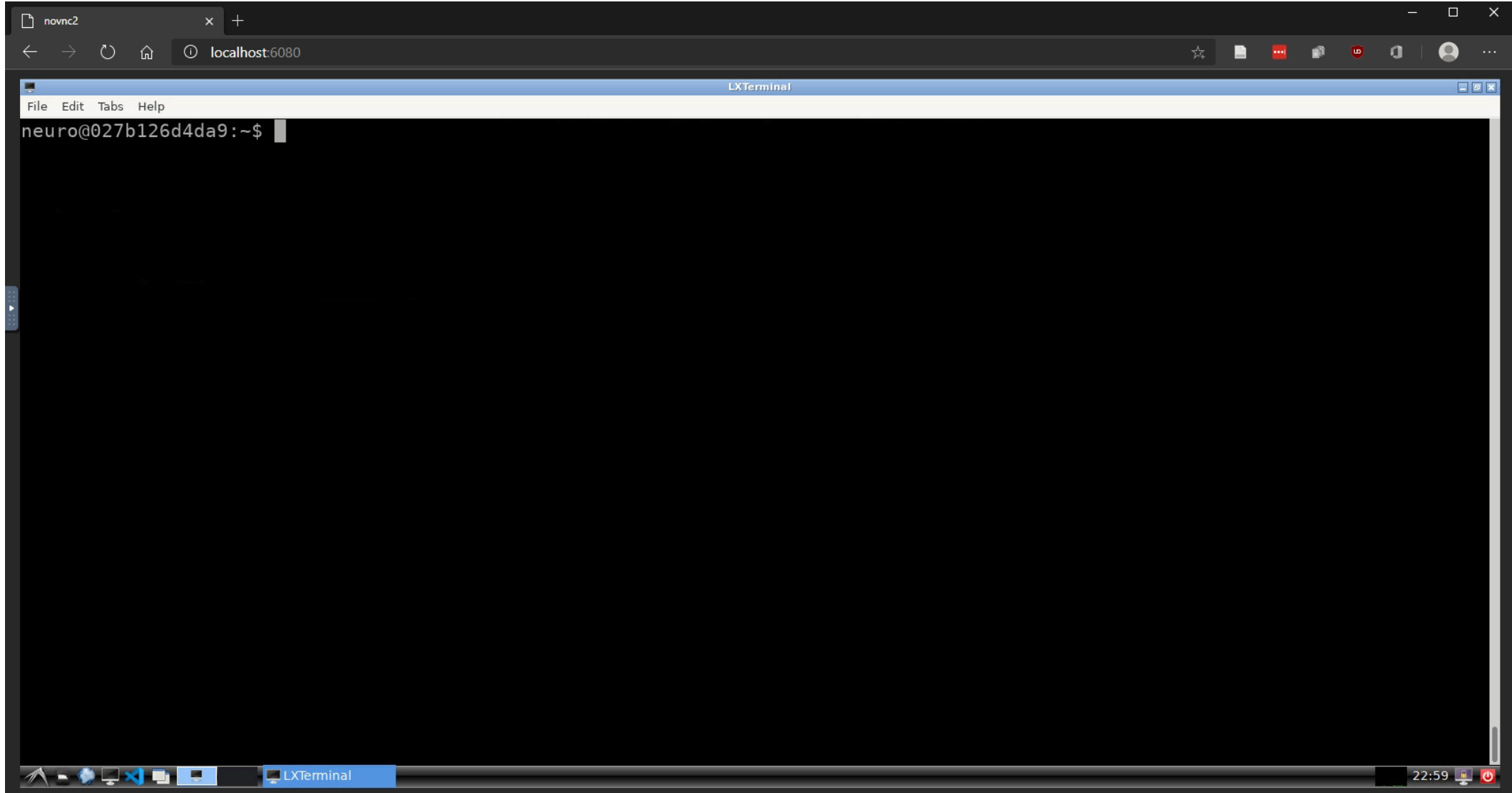


```
[screen 0: opc@steffen-desktop x + v]
[opc@steffen-desktop-sydney-small ~]$ sudo docker run --privileged --name vnm -e RESOLUTION=1670x800 -e USER=neuro -v /mnt/FileSystem-20200817-0905-05:/vnm -v /dev/shm:/dev/shm -p 6080:80 -p 5900:5900 vnmd/vnm:20200924
```

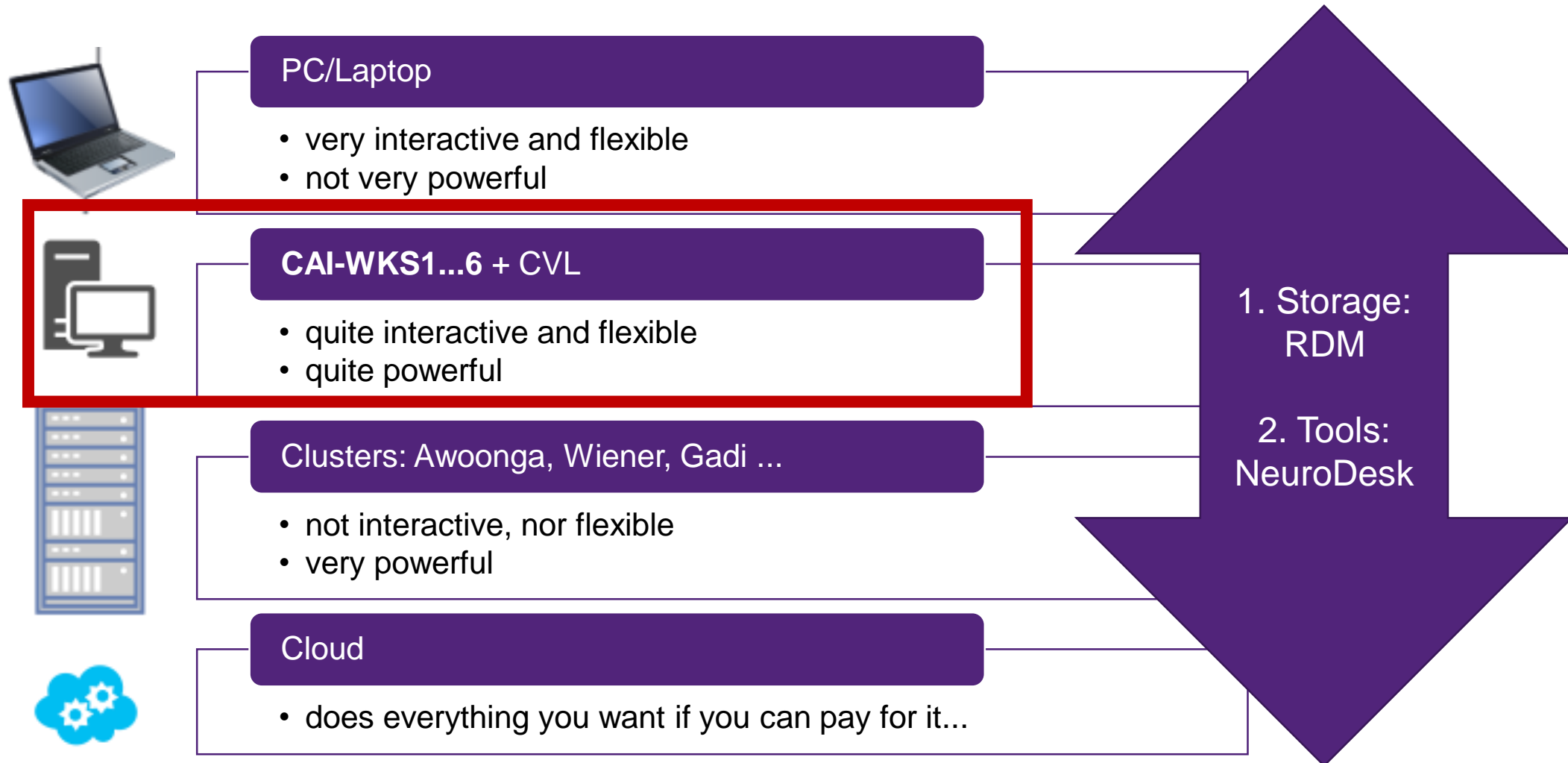
VNM – Containers are installed when needed 😊



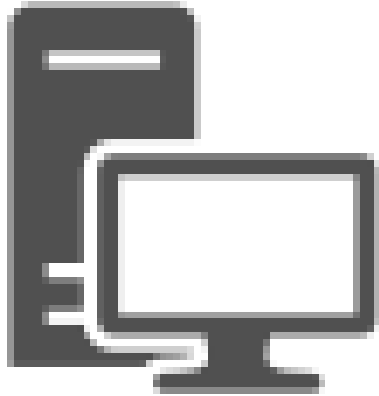
VNM – Reproducible/Scriptable via Imod module system 😊



Goal: Run on optimal hardware for job at hand



CAI-WKS1..6:



28 cores
192 GB RAM

Use case

- quite interactive and flexible

Access

- helpdesk@cai.uq.edu.au

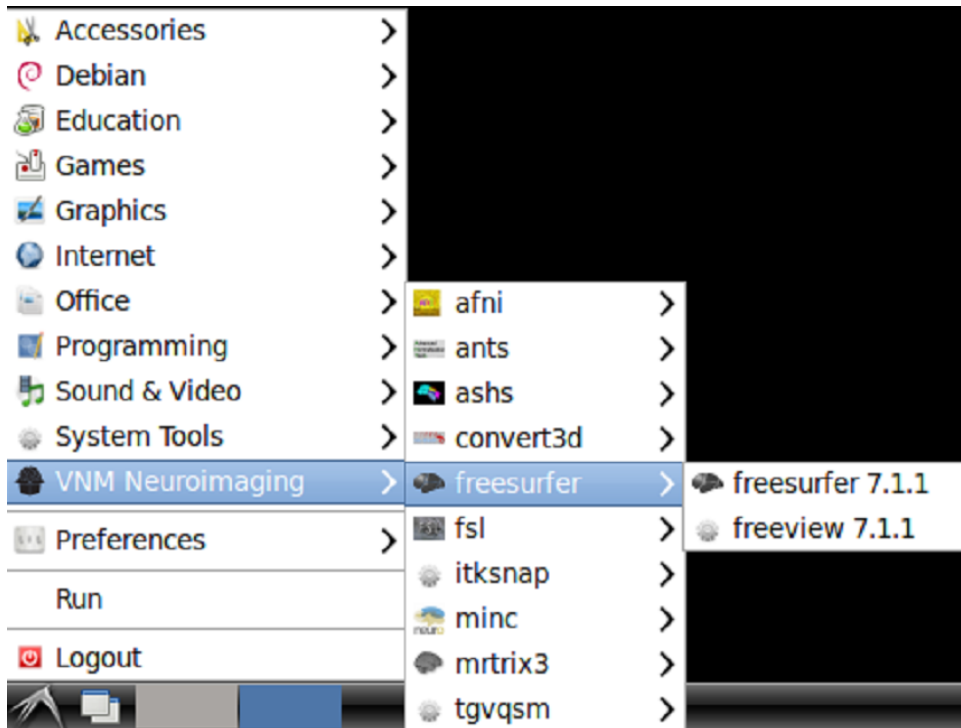
RDM Storage

- `/winmounts/uqusername/data.cai.uq.edu.au/CollectionName-Qxxxx`
- `/winmounts/uqusername/uq-research/CollectionName-Qxxxx`

Applications

- VNM menu
- Module system

NeuroDesk on CAI-WKS1 – Menu:

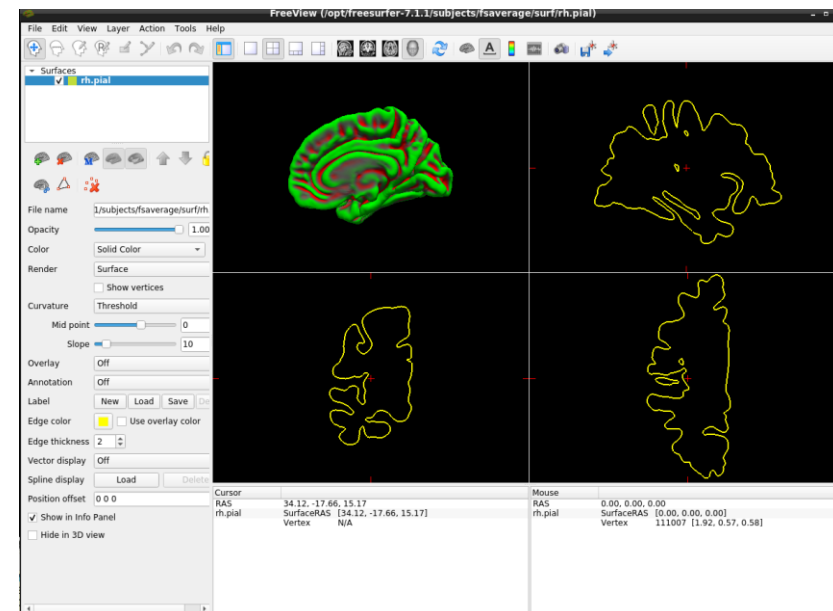


```

Terminal
File Edit View Search Terminal Help
Attempting to launch container freesurfer_7.1.1_20200924
Singularity> recon-all

USAGE: recon-all

Required Arguments:
  -subjid <subjid>
  -<process directive>
  
```



NeuroDesk on CAI-WKS1..6 – Module System:

```
(base) uqsbollm@cai-wks1:~$ ml avail

----- /data/lfs2/neurodesk/containers/modules -----
afni/20.2.11      ahs/2.0.0      (D)    fsl/6.0.3      (D)
afni/20.2.13 (D)    convert3d/1.0.0
ants/2.3.1       freesurfer/7.1.0
ants/2.3.4 (D)    freesurfer/7.1.1 (D)    mnc/1.9.17
ahs/1.0.0        fsl/6.0.2     mrtrix3/3.0.1
```

```
(base) uqsbollm@cai-wks1:~$ ml mnc
(base) uqsbollm@cai-wks1:~$ ml
```

```
Currently Loaded Modules:
 1) mnc/1.9.17
```

NeuroDesk on CAI-WKS1..6 – Module System:

```
(base) uqsbollm@cai-wks1:~$ which mincmath
/data/lfs2/neurodesk/containers/minc_1.9.17_20200811/mincmath
(base) uqsbollm@cai-wks1:~$ mincmath

Usage: /opt/minc-1.9.17/bin/mincmath [options] [<in1.mnc> ...] <out.mnc>
/opt/minc-1.9.17/bin/mincmath -help
```

```
(base) uqsbollm@cai-wks1:~$ fslmaths
fslmaths: command not found
(base) uqsbollm@cai-wks1:~$ ml fsl
(base) uqsbollm@cai-wks1:~$ fslmaths

Usage: fslmaths [-dt <datatype>] <first_input> [operations and inputs] <output>
[-odt <datatype>]
```

Goal: Run on optimal hardware for job at hand



CVL@Wiener:



12 cores
120 GB RAM
1 GPU

Use case

- quite interactive and flexible

Access

- helpdesk@qbi.uq.edu.au

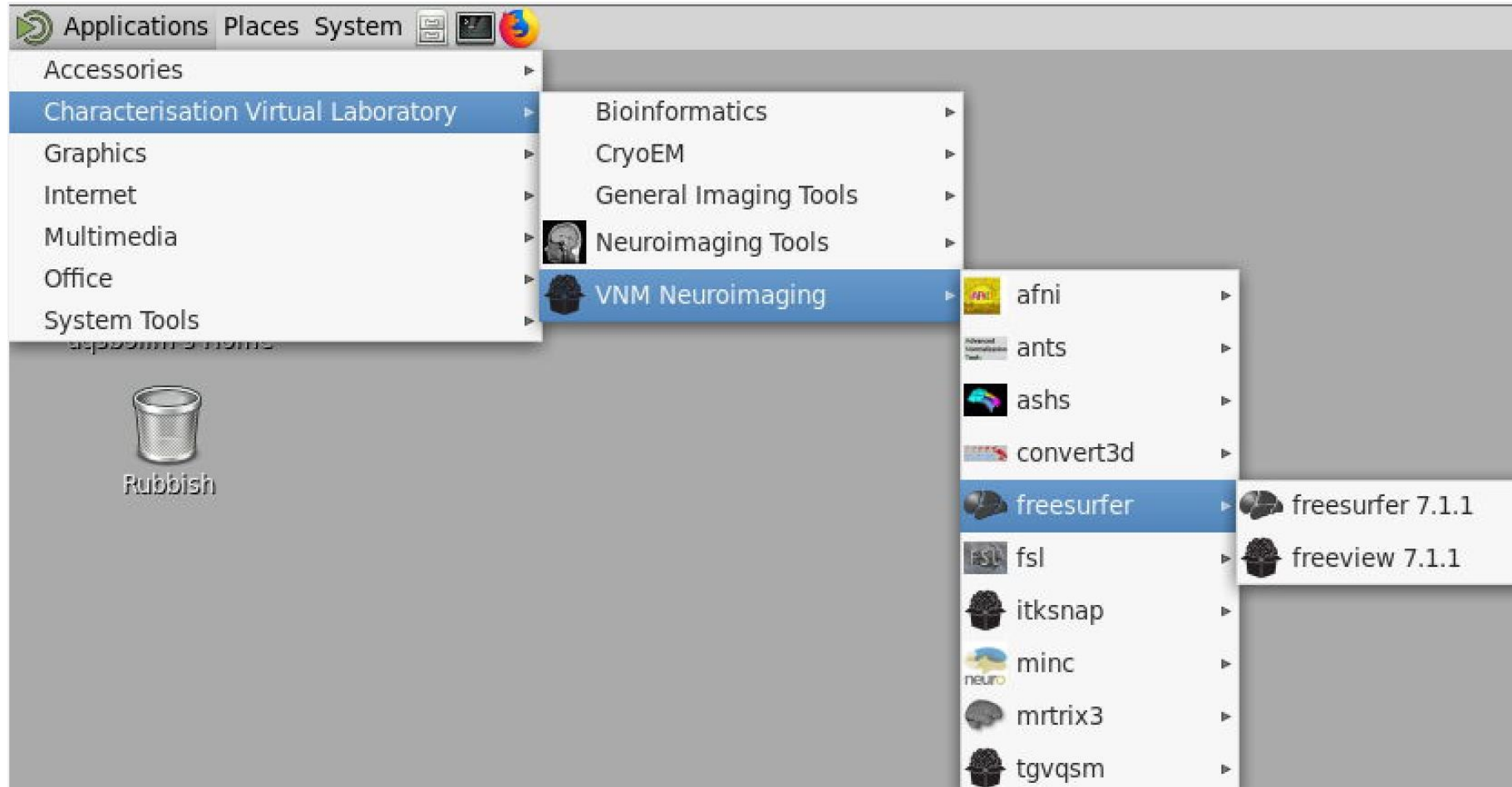
RDM Storage

- `/afm02/Q[0,1,2,3]/Qxxxx`

Applications

- VNM menu
- Module system

NeuroDesk on CVL@Wiener – Menu:



NeuroDesk on CVL@Wiener – Module System:

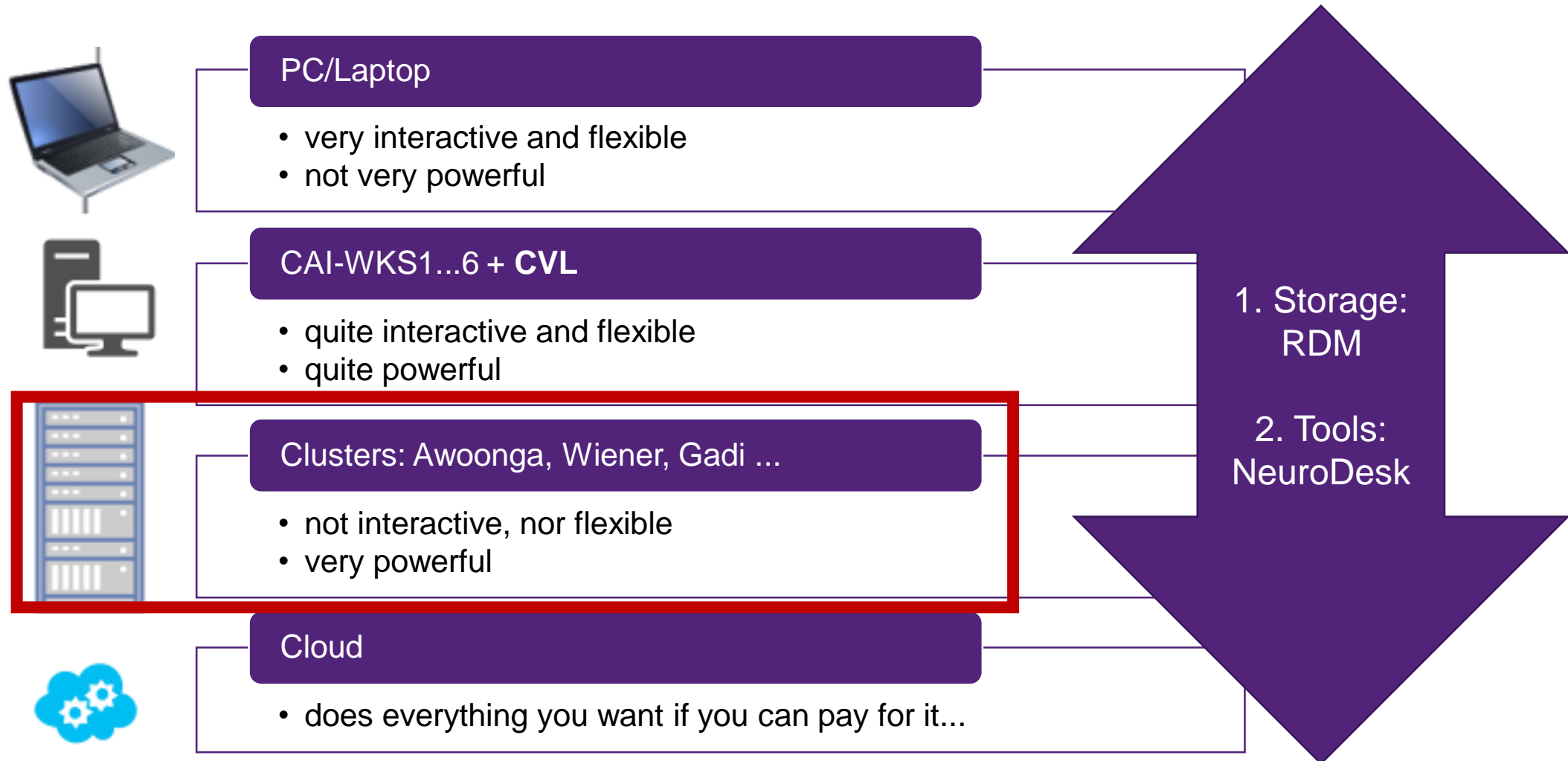
```
module use /scratch/cvl-admin/neurodesk/local/containers/modules/
```

```
module avail
```

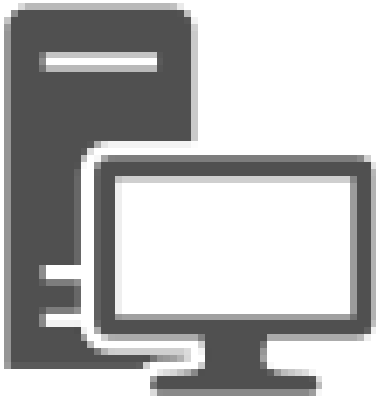
```
module load itksnap
```

```
[uqsbollm@gpunode-2-1 containers]$ which itksnap  
/scratch/cvl-admin/neurodesk/local/containers/itksnap_3.8.0_20200811/itksnap
```


Goal: Run on optimal hardware for job at hand



Awoonga:



1920 cores
256 GB RAM

Use case

- not interactive, nor flexible, but high performance

Access

- `rcc-support@uq.edu.au`

RDM Storage

- `/QRISdata/Qxxxx`

Applications

- `https://github.com/NeuroDesk/neurodesk`
- Module system

NeuroDesk on Awoonga – Module System:

Installation:

```
uqsbollm@awoonga1:/90days/uqsbollm> git clone https://github.com/NeuroDesk/neurodesk.git
```

```
uqsbollm@awoonga1:/90days/uqsbollm> cd neurodesk/
```

```
echo "module use `pwd`/menus/containers/modules" >> ~/.bashrc
```

```
ml singularity/3.5.0
```

```
./neurodesk.sh --install_all_containers true
```

```
echo "module use `pwd`/menus/containers/modules" >> ~/.bashrc
```

Then logout and back in

NeuroDesk on Awoonga – Module System:

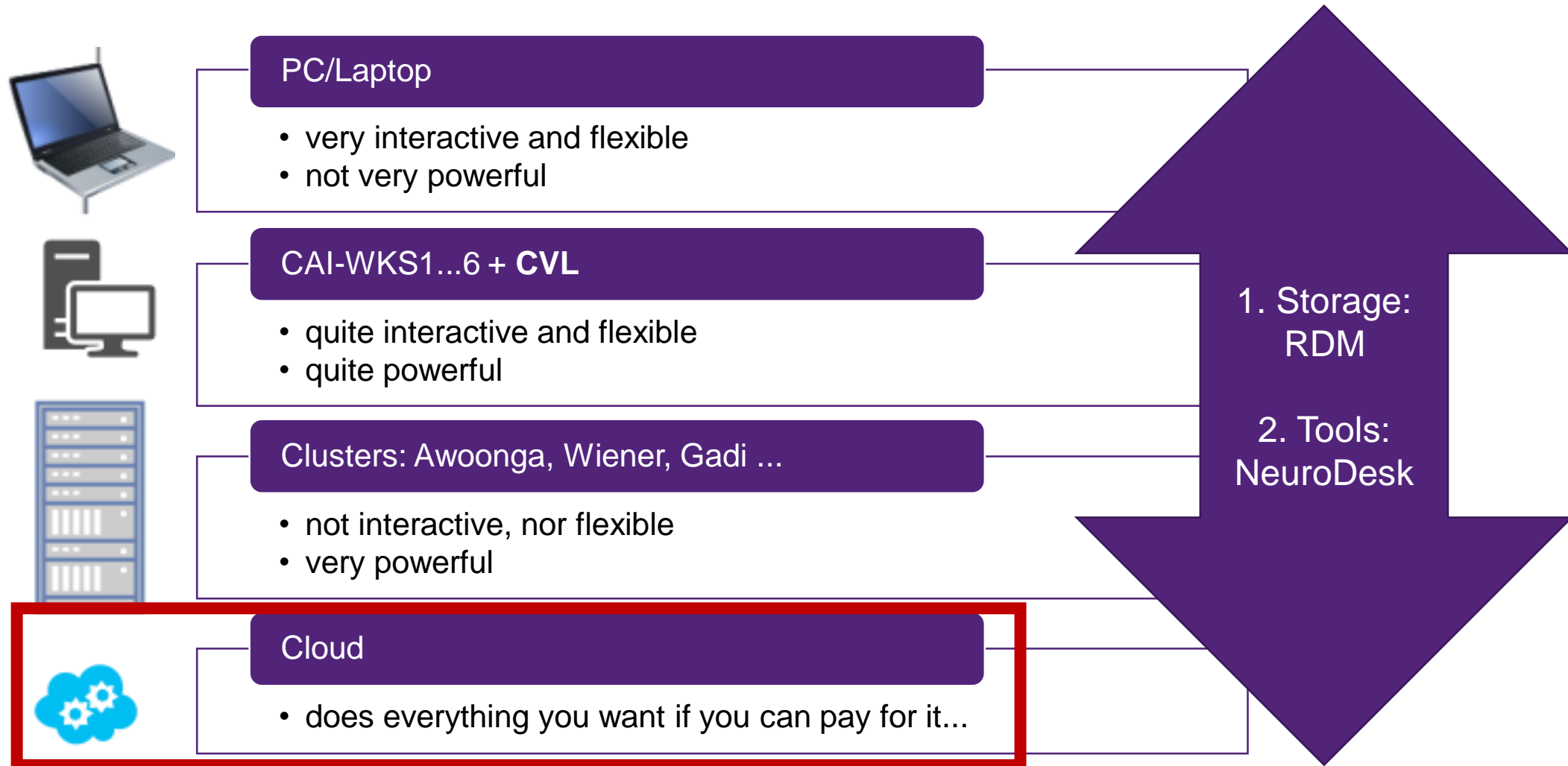
Use:

```
(base) uqsbollm@awoonga1:~> module avail  
  
----- /90days/uqsbollm/neurodesk/menus/containers/modules -----  
afni/20.3.00      ash5/2.0.0      freesurfer/7.1.1 (D)  itknap/3.8.0    mrtrix3/3.0.1  
ants/2.3.4       convert3d/1.0.0 fsl/6.0.3             minc/1.9.17    tgvqsm/1.0.0
```

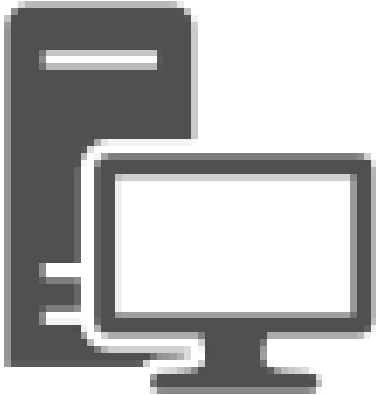
```
ml singularity/3.5.0
```

```
(base) uqsbollm@awoonga1:~> ml fsl/6.0.3  
(base) uqsbollm@awoonga1:~> which fslmaths  
/gpfs1/scratch/90days/uqsbollm/neurodesk/menus/containers/fsl_6.0.3_20200905/fslmaths
```

Goal: Run on optimal hardware for job at hand



Cloud:



Infinite cores
512 GB RAM

Use case

- interactive, flexible, but expensive

Access

- Nectar, Amazon, Google, Microsoft, Oracle ...

RDM Storage

- Nextcloud client

Applications

- <https://github.com/NeuroDesk/vnm>

Neurodesk VNM in the cloud:

Start a compute instance on your provider of choice, then:

```
ssh -L 5900:127.0.0.1:5900 -L 6080:127.0.0.1:6080 opc@140.238.203.191
```

Port forwarding (don't change)

user@server

```
[opc@steffen-desktop-sydney-small ~]$ sudo docker run --privileged --name vnm -e RESOLUTION=1670x800 -e USER=neuro -v /mnt/FileSystem-20200817-0905-05:/vnm -v /dev/shm:/dev/shm -p 6080:80 -p 5900:5900 vnmd/vnm:20201012|
```

Then open browser: <http://localhost:6080/> (or any vnc client on localhost:5900)

Our use case

- Researcher wants to run an analysis with Nipype (Python 3), combining tgv_qsm (Python 2), FSL 6.0.3 (Linux) and MINC 1.9.17 (Prebuilt packages only available for Ubuntu)
- Develop pipeline interactively on Windows 10 notebook
- Test analysis on pilot data on a Linux workstation running Ubuntu 18.04
- Analyse all data on a cluster running ROCKS Centos
- Visualize results interactively on Windows 10 notebook and prepare for publication
- Share analysis pipeline with readers of paper

Patient data
can now
stay local

FSL/MINC
now usable
on Windows

Compiling MINC
done in CI/CD
pipeline

Outdated
libraries on old
Centos cluster
don't matter

Python versions
now separated in
containers

Software
setup
reproducible

Acknowledgements

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