



# A Quick Intro to Ixplus, bash & python



Starterkit 2022  
28th November

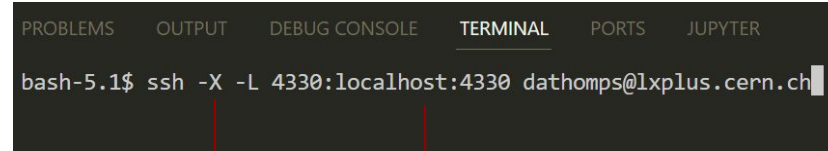
Richard Williams & Dan Thompson

# What is lxplus?

- [lxplus](#) is CERN's interactive linux service for all CERN users
- It consists of ~100 of virtual machines each with 30GB RAM & 8 cpus, equipped with fairshare systems to ensure everyone can stay online!
- By logging in to `USERNAME@lxplus.cern.ch` the system will connect you to the machine `lxplus7NNN` with the most resources available.
- **Let's log in!**

More Detailed Instructions in [Pre-Workshop Checklist](#)

## Linux/MacOS -> Open a Terminal



```
PROBLEMS OUTPUT DEBUG CONSOLE TERMINAL PORTS JUPYTER
bash-5.1$ ssh -X -L 4330:localhost:4330 dathomps@lxplus.cern.ch
```

The image shows a terminal window with a dark background. At the top, there are tabs for 'PROBLEMS', 'OUTPUT', 'DEBUG CONSOLE', 'TERMINAL' (which is selected), 'PORTS', and 'JUPYTER'. The terminal content shows a command being entered: 'bash-5.1\$ ssh -X -L 4330:localhost:4330 dathomps@lxplus.cern.ch'. Two red arrows point from the command to explanatory text below. One arrow points from '-X' to 'X11-Forwarding (for viewing graphics)'. The other arrow points from '-L 4330:localhost:4330' to 'Port Forwarding, choose any number, remember it for later!'.

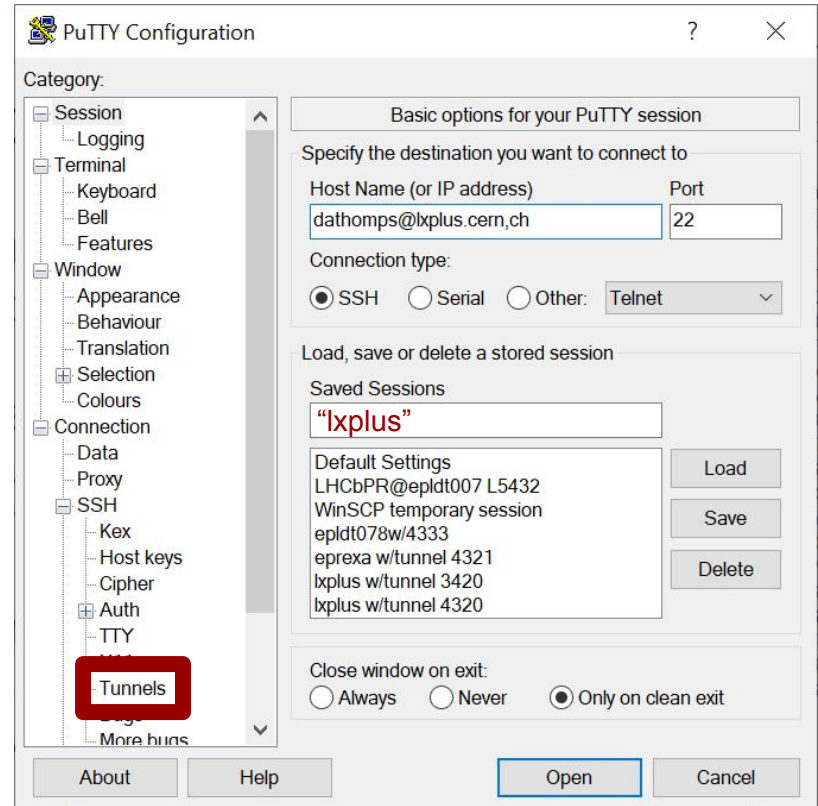
X11-Forwarding  
(for viewing  
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## Windows (Putty)



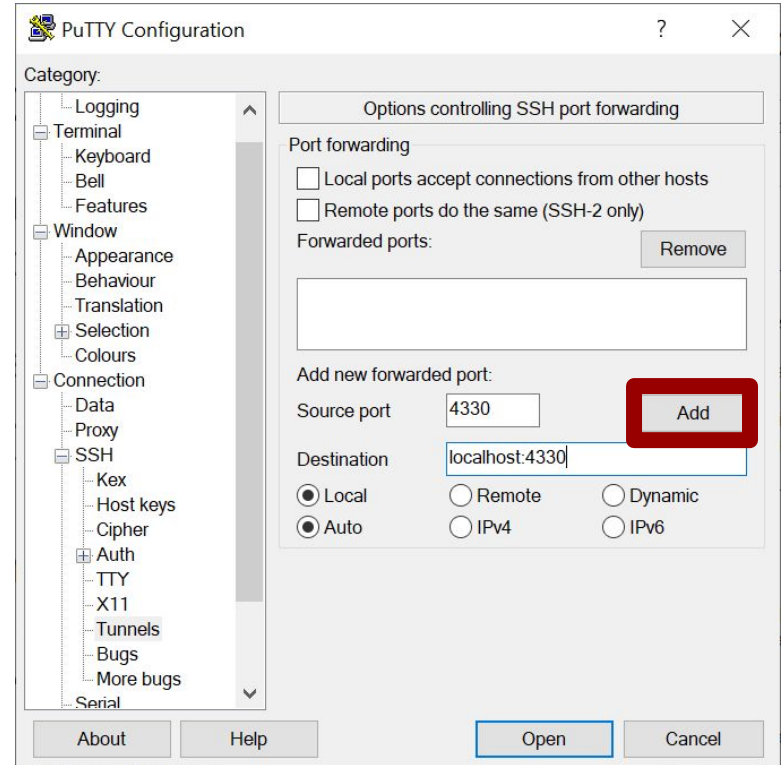
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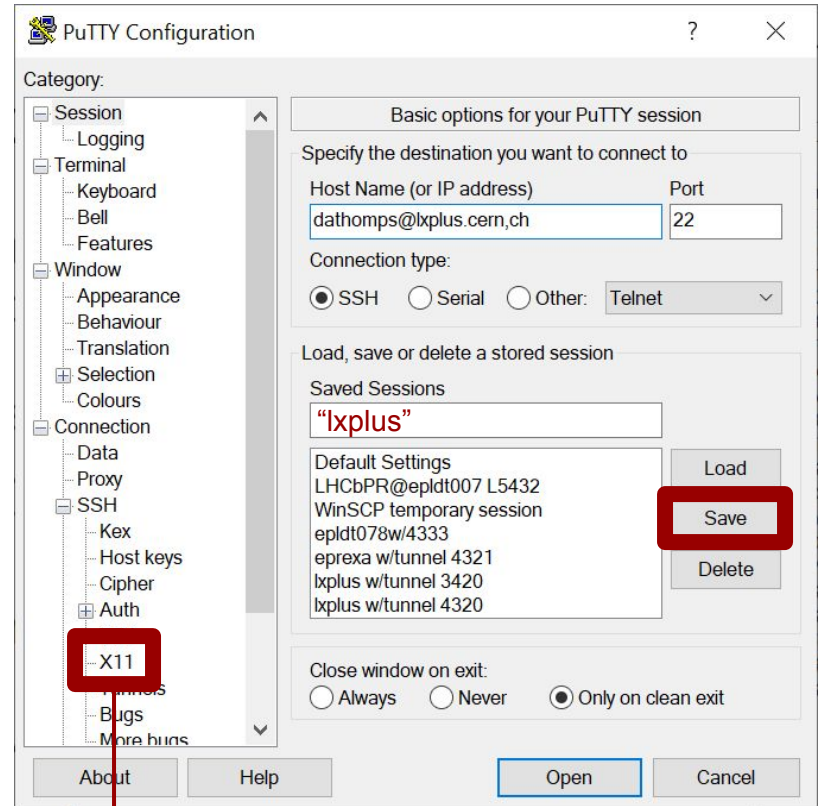
Port Forwarding, choose any number, remember it for later! 4

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## Windows (Putty)



✓ Enable X11 Forwarding 5

# Ixplus Tips and File Storage

- You can increase your `/afs/cern.ch/user/u/username/` disk space if you need to.
- In LHCb we also have access to an Ixplus work directory: `/afs/cern.ch/work/u/username/` with more space available.
- [CERN EOS](#): You have two long term storage areas, [more info here](#)
  - `/eos/user/u/username/` Your private EOS space (also visible on [CERNBox](#))
  - `/eos/lhcb/user/u/username/` For storing tuples

<https://resources.web.cern.ch/>



List Services



AFS Workspaces



Settings



	<h2>AFS Workspaces</h2> <p>AFS File Services</p>
<b>Service Information</b>	
<b>Settings</b>	Home folder Home folder path: <a href="/afs/cern.ch/user/d/dathomps">/afs/cern.ch/user/d/dathomps</a> Home folder quota: <b>Used 7.57 / 100.00 GB</b>
<b>Subscribe</b>	
	Workspace Workspace path: <a href="/afs/cern.ch/work/d/dathomps">/afs/cern.ch/work/d/dathomps</a> Workspace quota: <b>Used 71.92 / 100.00 GB</b>

# Bash Introduction

- `pwd` : Shows the current working directory path
- `ls` : List files/directories
  - `ls -a` : For hidden locations
  - `ls -l` : For extra details
  - `ls path/to/dir` : to peek at a specific directory
  - Can combine arguments (`-alh` etc.)
- `cd dir` : Move about directories
  - `cd ../` To move up a directory
- `touch filename` : create a new file
- `mkdir dir` : Create directory
- `cp source destination` : copy
- `mv source destination` : move
- `rm file` : remove a file
  - `rm -d` for removing a directory
  - `rm -r` recursive, remove directory and its contents

```
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ pwd
/afs/cern.ch/user/d/dathomps/Starterkit22
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ ls
testFile.txt testLesso testLesson testScript.sh
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ ls -alh
total 10K
drwxr-xr-x.  4 dathomps z5 2.0K Nov 20 23:04 .
drwxr-xr-x. 36 dathomps z5 4.0K Nov 20 23:02 ..
-rw-r--r--.  1 dathomps z5   0 Nov 20 23:04 testFile.txt
drwxr-xr-x.  2 dathomps z5 2.0K Nov 20 23:04 testLesso
drwxr-xr-x.  2 dathomps z5 2.0K Nov 20 23:04 testLesson
-rw-r--r--.  1 dathomps z5   0 Nov 20 23:04 testScript.sh
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ cd testLesson
[dathomps@lxplus738 testLesson]$ pwd
/afs/cern.ch/user/d/dathomps/Starterkit22/testLesson
[dathomps@lxplus738 testLesson]$ cd ..
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ pwd
/afs/cern.ch/user/d/dathomps/Starterkit22
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ █
```




# Bash Introduction

Use tab for autocomplete; Super useful!  
Try double tapping tab?

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```
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ touch testFile2.py
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ ls -l
total 4
-rw-r--r--. 1 dathomps z5      0 Nov 20 23:19 testFile2.py
-rw-r--r--. 1 dathomps z5      0 Nov 20 23:04 testFile.txt
drwxr-xr-x. 2 dathomps z5 2048 Nov 20 23:04 testLesso
drwxr-xr-x. 2 dathomps z5 2048 Nov 20 23:04 testLesson
-rw-r--r--. 1 dathomps z5      0 Nov 20 23:04 testScript.sh
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ mkdir testFiles
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ ls -l
total 6
-rw-r--r--. 1 dathomps z5      0 Nov 20 23:19 testFile2.py
drwxr-xr-x. 2 dathomps z5 2048 Nov 20 23:19 testFiles
-rw-r--r--. 1 dathomps z5      0 Nov 20 23:04 testFile.txt
drwxr-xr-x. 2 dathomps z5 2048 Nov 20 23:04 testLesso
drwxr-xr-x. 2 dathomps z5 2048 Nov 20 23:04 testLesson
-rw-r--r--. 1 dathomps z5      0 Nov 20 23:04 testScript.sh
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ cp testScript.sh testFiles/
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ ls testFiles
testScript.sh
```



• Points to the “current” directory



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Wildcards \* : the shell will fill these with any character(s)



```
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ ls testFi*
testFile2.py  testFile.txt

testFiles:
testScript.sh
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ mv testFile*.* testFiles
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ ls
testFiles  testLesso  testLesson  testScript.sh
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ ls testFiles
testFile2.py  testFile.txt  testScript.sh
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ rm testLesso
rm: cannot remove 'testLesso': Is a directory
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ rm -d testLesso
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ ls
testFiles  testLesson  testScript.sh
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ rm -r testLesson
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ ls
testFiles  testScript.sh
```

# Editing Files! A million ways available, choose your fave!

There are numerous ways to edit text files when connected via ssh, some Ixplus options:

- Terminal Text Editors: `vim`, `nano` + more - [Vim Guide](#), [nano Guide](#)
- X-Forwarding Text Editors: `emacs`, `gedit` - Allows editing in external window
- Local Text Editors: Mount your file system with [sshfs](#) or a remote scp file explorer (I use [winscp](#))
- IDEs: Integrated Development Environments can combine your shell, file explorer and text editor into one program! [Vscod](#)

For now I will use `nano`:

`$nano testFile.txt` : Creates a new file, now we can create anything!

**Exercise!** Create and save a `testFile.txt` using one of the above methods. Use `$ cat testFile.txt` to quickly check the content!

# Extra Info!

- A description of most commands can be accessed using `command --help`
- For further information on bash check the documentation: <https://devdocs.io/bash/>
- For a more extensive tutorial follow the HEP Software Foundation "[Introducing the Shell](#)"

```
[dathomps@lxplus738 Starterkit22]$ mv --help
Usage: mv [OPTION]... [-T] SOURCE DEST
or: mv [OPTION]... SOURCE... DIRECTORY
or: mv [OPTION]... -t DIRECTORY SOURCE...
Rename SOURCE to DEST, or move SOURCE(s) to DIRECTORY.

Mandatory arguments to long options are mandatory for short options too.
  --backup[=CONTROL]  make a backup of each existing destination file
  -b                  like --backup but does not accept an argument
  -f, --force         do not prompt before overwriting
  -i, --interactive   prompt before overwrite
  -n, --no-clobber    do not overwrite an existing file
If you specify more than one of -i, -f, -n, only the final one takes effect.
  --strip-trailing-slashes  remove any trailing slashes from each SOURCE
                           argument
  -S, --suffix=SUFFIX  override the usual backup suffix
  -t, --target-directory=DIRECTORY  move all SOURCE arguments into DIRECTORY
  -T, --no-target-directory  treat DEST as a normal file
  -u, --update         move only when the SOURCE file is newer
                           than the destination file or when the
                           destination file is missing
  -v, --verbose       explain what is being done
  -Z, --context       set SELinux security context of destination
                           file to default type
```

# Bash Scripts

- Let's take a look at `lbConda_Starterkit_Create.sh`
- This is a shell script, allowing us to take the commands we use frequently and save them in a chain that we can run with a one line command!

```
$ nano lbConda_Starterkit_Create.sh
```

```
#!/bin/bash ← Tells the terminal to run the script in the bash shell

source $HOME/.bashrc ← Access our home environment + aliases
shopt -s expand_aliases

(source /cvmfs/lhcb.cern.ch/lib/LbEnv ← Access LHCb Commands
lb-conda-dev virtual-env default/2022-11-21 $1 ← install a new python env
$1/run pip install zfit==0.10.1 ← install zfit (for tomorrow!)
$1/run python -m ipykernel install --user --name=$1 ← install a kernel
) &> starterkitWrapperInstall.txt
↵ Write the output to a .txt file
```

## Links for More Info!

- [cvmfs](#)
- [LbEnv](#)
- [lb-conda](#)
- [pip](#)
- [ipykernel](#)

# Preparing for Today's Lesson!

- Let's use these skills to prepare for today's Python lesson.
- First we need to download the [repository](#)
  - `$ mkdir Starterkit2022; cd Starterkit2022`
  - `$ git clone https://gitlab.cern.ch/rmwillia/starterkit-2022-python-and-bash-tutorial`
- Take a look around, there are a number of notebooks, root files and csv's!
- Now return to `/path/to/user/Starterkit2022/starterkit-2022-python-and-bash-tutorial/` And then...
  - `$ bash lbConda_Starterkit_Create.sh starterkitEnv &`
- What did this script do? Let's investigate!
- (Spoiler alert, it's installing a python environment ready for the week ahead!)

If this doesn't work, try the "Copy From afs" slide in the backup

# Bash Scripts

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Let's create our own!



# Creating our own!

```
$nano testScript.sh
```

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
echo "hello world"  Prints the statement to the terminal
```


```
echo "We are storing ${1} in 'myVariable'"
```

```
export myVariable=$1
```

 Creating a new environment variable

```
echo "myVariable is ${myVariable}"
```

\$1 (or \$2, 3, 4 etc...) refers to the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th arguments of the script

 Now use it! \$name tells bash to look for the variable "name"

What happens if you run: `$ bash testScript.sh`

How about: `$ bash testScript.sh something`

Try: `$ bash testScript.sh something else`

Maybe: `$ bash testScript.sh "something else"`

## Exercise!

Have a go playing around with this script to get some practise!

Idea: What does \$0 do?

# Environment Variables & .bashrc

What did `export myVariable=$1` do? It made a new variable **within that script**.

Try `$ echo $myVariable` in your terminal...

We can use bash scripts to create variables within other environments:

- Instead use **source**: `$ source testScript.sh something`
- Now: `$ echo $myVariable` this variable is available in the terminal!

This can be very useful when you need to frequently access the same filepaths, commands or phrases -> write the variables to a bash script and `source`!

**.bashrc**: Located in your `$HOME/.bashrc` is a very convenient file for storing your favourite environment variables and commands.

Every time you login to lxplus `$ source .bashrc` runs automatically!

e.g I have `export WORK=/afs/cern.ch/work/d/dathomps/` in mine!

# Links to Further Techniques and tools, Endless Possibilities!

- So much more to teach, so little time! More on HEP Software Foundation:
  - [Introducing the Shell](#)
  - [More about the UNIX Shell](#)
- Want to keep a session running? [Tmux/Screen guide](#), [tmux cheat sheet](#)
- [Ixplus HTCondor](#), when your shell script needs more power!
- [pypi](#) the huge ecosystem of python modules
  - [lb-conda wrappers](#), an easy way to install and use new packages... more about this now!





# How to Run Python!

- Your python environment installation should have completed now.
- Now we can begin coding with python!
- In the directory `starterkit-2022-python-and-bash-tutorial` take a look at `PythonExample.py` and try running it with

```
$ starterkitEnv/run python PythonExample.py
```

This launches the environment we created and runs python!

Try editing, saving and re-running this python file

Alternatively we can launch a **new bash session** in the environment by

```
$ starterkitEnv/run bash and then simply $ python PythonExample.py
```



# Jupyter - python in a Notebook!

- For this python session + zFit tomorrow we will need [jupyter notebooks](#)
- Jupyter provides a web based interactive python session which combines developing, documenting, and executing code into one package!

From your `starterkitEnv` **bash session** (`$ starterkitEnv/run bash`) run:

```
$ jupyter notebook --port=NNNN --no-browser
```

where NNNN is the port number you entered when logging in to Ixplus!

Follow or copy the link that produced into your browser and an interactive web-based application should appear!

(Note: Jupyter will root itself to the directory you launched it from)

# Summary

Thanks for listening to this *very* quick intro! Feel free to ask any questions throughout the week, no question is a bad question!

Links to more in-depth tutorials:

- [HSF Shell/Bash Tutorial](#)
- [HSF Introduction To Python](#)
- [bash](#), [python](#) cheat-sheets

Remember, the internet is your friend, someone has always had the same issue/question!

A note for the future: Style and Documentation! [style-guides](#) exist to help you make software that is easy to understand for others and probably even you!





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