

SWAN: a Service for web-based analysis at CERN



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On behalf of the SWAN team

<https://cern.ch/swan>

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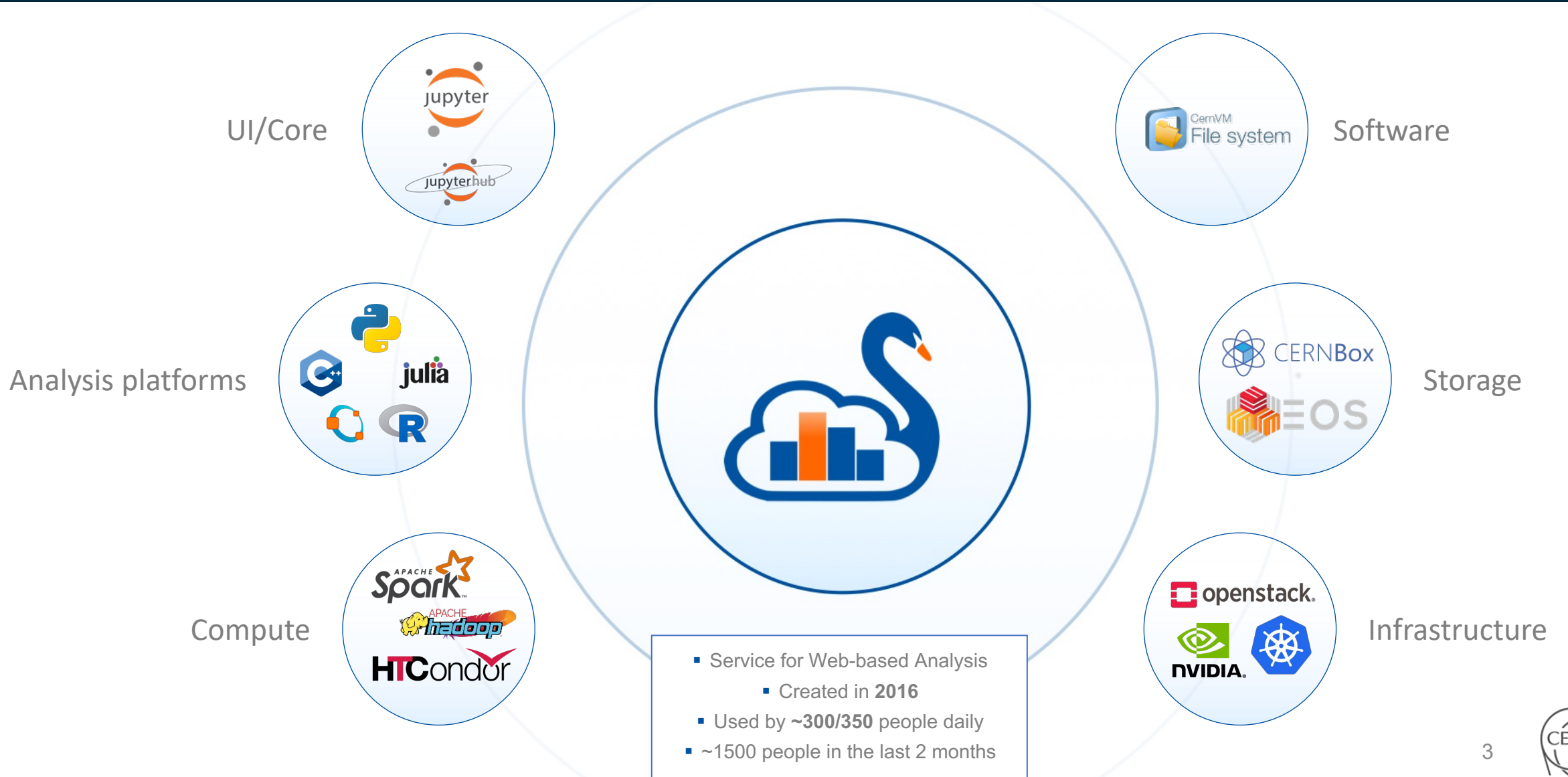
CS3 JupyterHub Community Technical Workshop 2024



Introduction



SWAN's building blocks





Main user communities

> Physics analysis

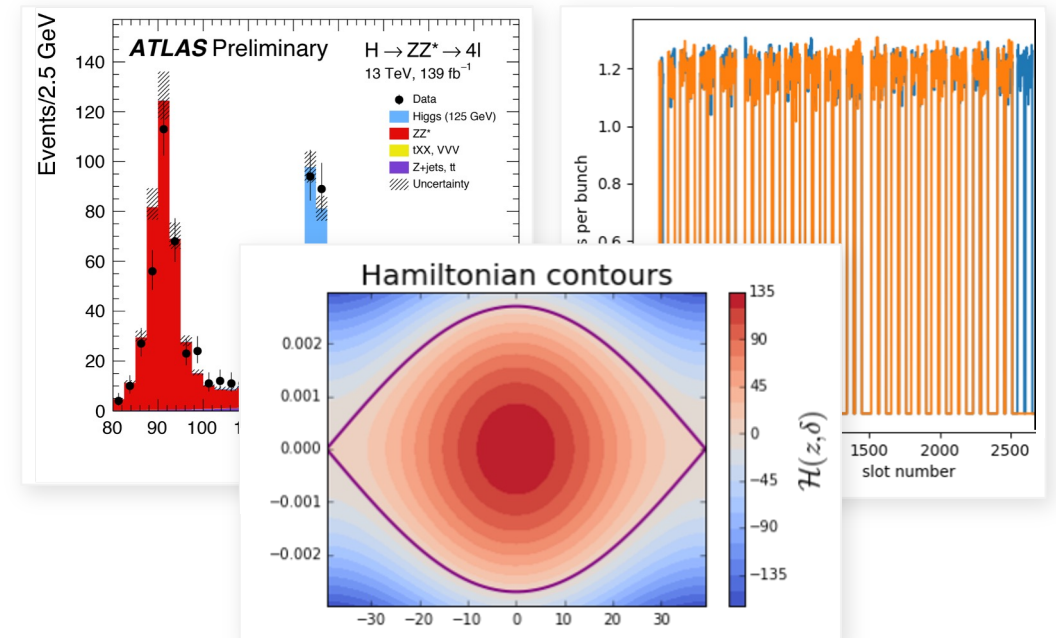
- Usually last stages of analysis
- Interactive, exploratory
- Collision event data, ntuple-like, columnar
- More and more with Machine Learning

> Non-physics analysis (e.g. ATS)

- LHC studies: extract machine measurements, query machine settings
- Beam dynamics simulation
- Query and process LHC logs distributedly via Spark
- Query and plot monitoring data in experiment DAQ systems

> Education

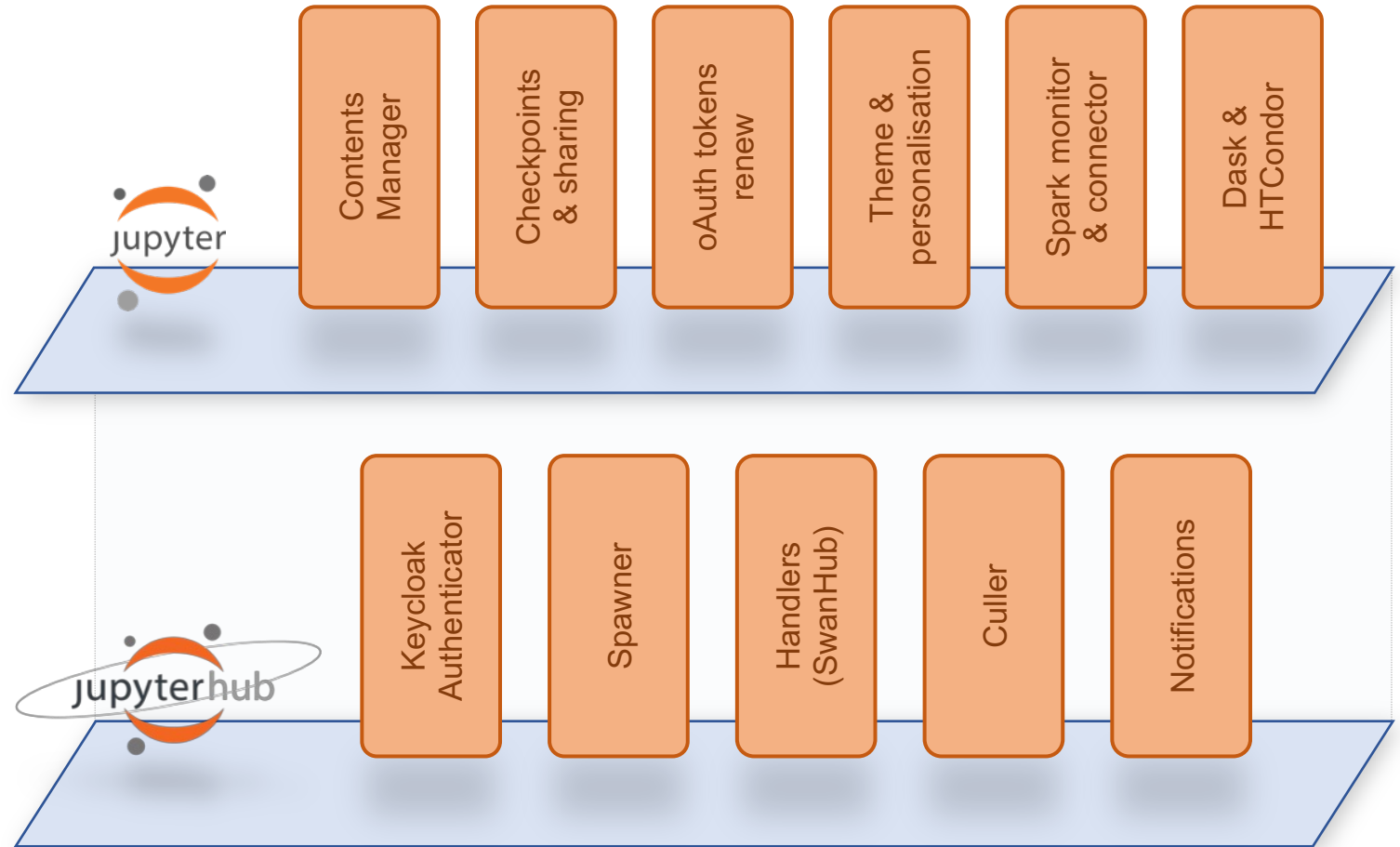
- Many schools/workshops use SWAN for teaching





SWAN personalisations

- > SWAN re-uses as much as possible from upstream projects
- > We maintain modules created for Jupyter and JupyterHub
 - Thin layers to integrate with CERN resources and services
- > These modules are released as open-source
 - e.g. Spark Monitor and Authenticator





Classic UI (Notebook 6)

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook interface with a document editor and a modal dialog. The document editor displays the following content:

1 A Study about Cinemas in Canton Geneva

Based on a Demo by Danilo Piparo.

1.1 Prepare the dataset

Dataset: https://www.pxweb.bfs.admin.ch/pxweb/en/px-x-1602010000_101/~/px-x-1602010000

Running the following code will create the input dataset, cleaning all unnecessary code.

```
In [1]: !cat px-x-1602010000_101.csv | grep Geneva | awk '{&#2=$3=""; print $0}'
```

1.2 Perform the analysis

We now can create a ROOT file, import the content of the ASCII file in binary ROOT format: this

The modal dialog, titled "Spark clusters connection", contains the following text:

You are going to connect to: **analytix**

You can configure the following options.
Environment variables can be used via [ENV_VAR_NAME].

Add a new option

Write the option name...

Bundled configurations

These options will be overwritten by non-bundled options if specified

- Include SparkMetrics options
- Include S3Filesystem options
- Include EOSFilesystem options
- Include PropagateUserPythonModules options
- Include UseCVMFSJavaHomeOnExecutors options
- Include ROOT_RDataFrame options

Connect

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook interface with a terminal window and a share page. The terminal window displays the following content:

```
bash-4.2$
```

The share page, titled "SWAN > Share", displays the following content:

Projects shared with me

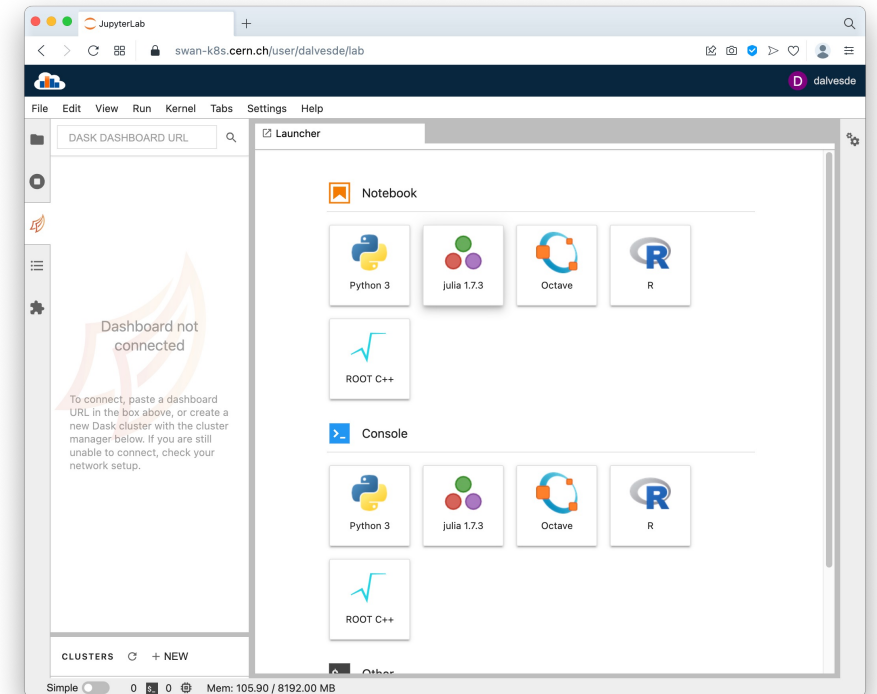
NAME	SIZE	SHARED BY	DATE
Academic Training2	673 kB	diocas	3 years ago
AFS_discotests	2.71 MB	iven	a year ago
CERNBox	299 MB	lopresti	a year ago
CondorGSoCTest	33.5 kB	moscicki	6 years ago
ITTF user statistics	342 kB	etejedor	9 days ago
sloexlab	2.24 GB	retaylor	2 years ago
Spark-DistROOT	236 kB	etejedor	6 years ago
Super Real Analysis with TOTEM data	2.29 kB	jupytercon	5 years ago





Migration to JupyterLab

- > Deployed Jupyterlab v4
 - Extensions migrated to the new version
- > Available as beta UI
 - Collection of user feedback underway
 - Users can use the classic UI in parallel
- > Missing further integration with CERNBox
 - See next slide

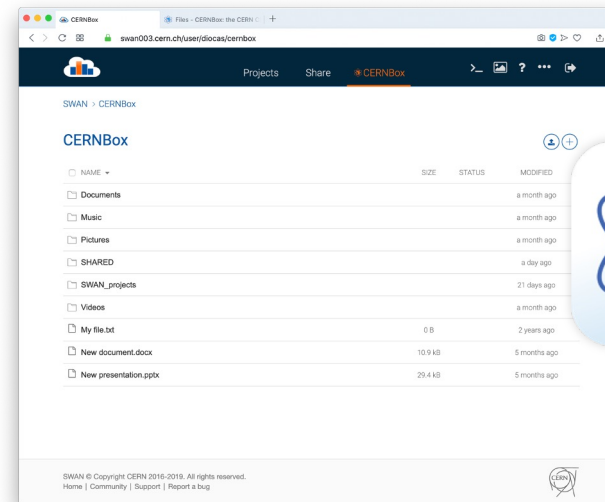


Architecture



Storage

- > All the data our users need for their analysis
 - CERNBox as home directory
 - EOS (storage backend of CERNBox) Fuse mounted
 - Also experiments data available
- > Sync&Share
 - Files synced across devices and the Cloud
 - Simple collaborative analysis
 - Users can share directly from SWAN's UI
- > Lab Extension with full CERNBox capabilities under development



share



sync





Consistent view across protocol boundaries

The image illustrates a consistent file view across different protocols. It features several overlapping screenshots:

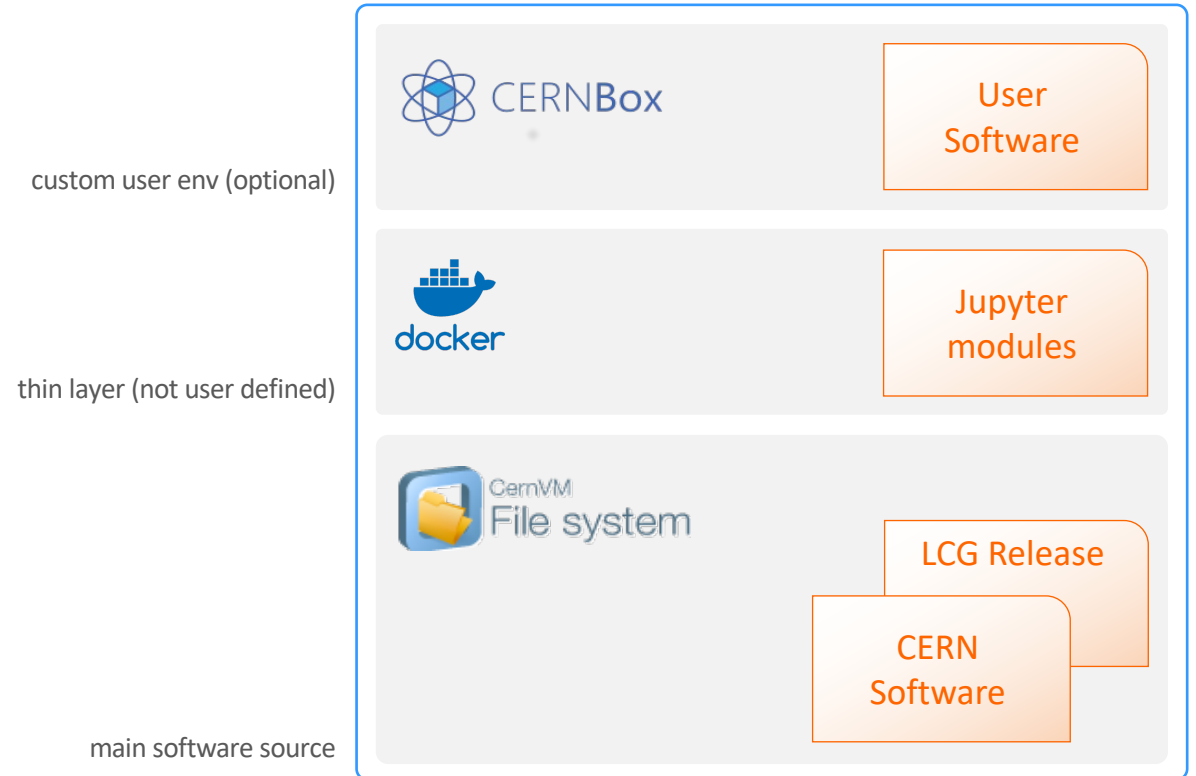
- Top Left:** A screenshot of the CERNBox web interface showing a file list with columns for Name, Size, Status, and Modified. A SWAN logo is overlaid on this screenshot.
- Bottom Left:** A screenshot of Windows File Explorer showing the path `H:\user\dalvesde\my share` and a list of folders including AFS, CERNBox, Contacts, Documents, k8s, Music, Pictures, ST, SWAN, SWAN_projects, Test, and Videos.
- Center:** A screenshot of the CERNBox web interface showing a share view for `/eos/user/d/dalvesde/my share` with a table of shares and their details.
- Top Right:** A screenshot of a "Select a remote destination folder" dialog box showing a tree view of folders like eos, alice, atlas, cms, engineering, experiment, lhcb, and media. A green checkmark icon is visible in a box on the left.
- Bottom Right:** A terminal window showing the command `ls -l` and its output, listing files and folders with their permissions, owners, and sizes.





Software

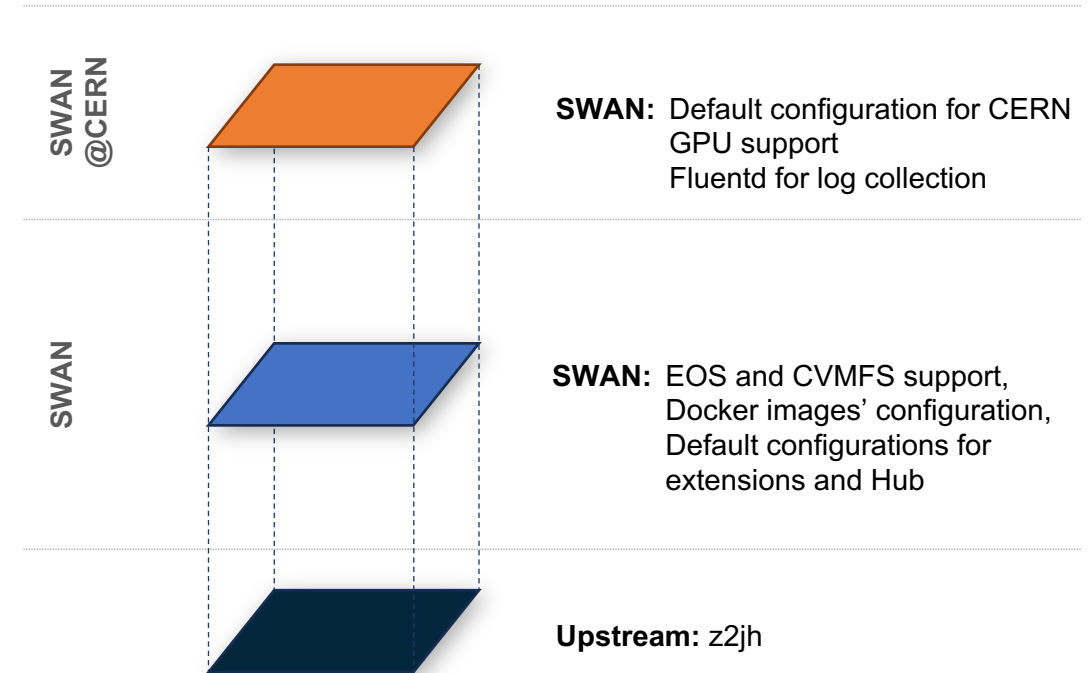
- > Software distributed through CVMFS
 - Distributed RO filesystem
 - Immutable software “stacks” maintained by librarians (called LCG Releases)
 - Lazy fetching of software
- > Possibility to install additional packages on top of an LCG release
 - Stored on EOS/CERNBox
- > WIP: custom software environments
 - Python environment independent of any LCG release
 - Picked during session startup
 - No plans for Binder integration due to security concerns





Infrastructure

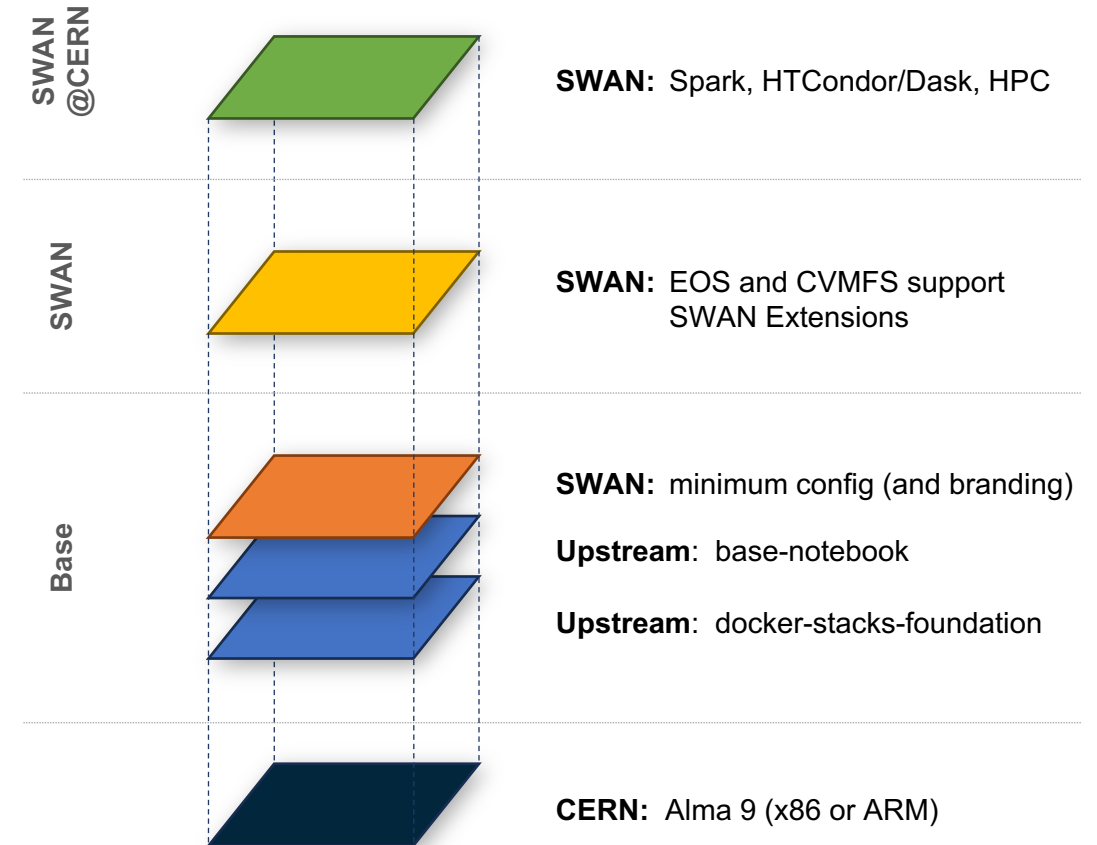
- > Fully running in k8s since this year
 - Initially, it ran in bare metal machines and later in a mix of bare metal + k8s cluster
- > Helm charts based on *z2jh*
 - Before *z2jh* it ran on CERN-developed k8s yamls
- > 2 flavour of charts: *swan* and *swan@cern*
 - Allows deploying SWAN outside of CERN (ScienceBox)
 - Integrate the Python personalisations, EOS and CVMF
- > JH 4.0.2





Container images: migration to Alma 9

- > Key SWAN container images migrated
 - i.e. user session and JupyterHub images
- > User images rewritten from scratch
 - Like upstream images, but Alma, not Ubuntu
 - Same entry points and configuration options
- > Modular components' configuration
 - Independently configured on separate scripts
 - Easy to disable or add new components
- > More runtime freedom
 - Opens the possibility to use the images in other contexts (e.g. CI)



<https://github.com/swan-cern/jupyter-images>
<https://github.com/swan-cern/jupyterhub-image>



External computing resources



SWAN as entry point to computing resources

- > A user SWAN session gets some resources (cores, memory) for running its notebook / terminal processes
 - 2 cores and 8 GB are the current defaults
- > Additionally, SWAN can be used as an interface to access larger computing resources
 - Users launch computations elsewhere and inspect their results in the notebook
 - UI Extensions are provided to make it easy to connect to the external resources
- > Current integrations
 - Batch/HTCondor pools
 - Spark/Hadoop clusters
 - HPC/Slurm clusters (work in progress, integration with CEPH FS)
 - GPUs (18 T4s, partitionable A100s for events, in the future access to a shared pool in CERN-IT)



Spark Connector and Monitor

Spark_Simple > Spark_Simple (autosaved)

FILE EDIT VIEW INSERT CELL KERNEL WIDGETS HELP

Markdown

Simple example with Spark

This notebook illustrates the use of [Spark](#) in [SWAN](#).

The current setup allows to execute [PySpark](#) operations on a local with small datasets.

In the future, SWAN users will be able to attach external Spark clusters. Moreover, a Scala Jupyter kernel will be added to use Spark from

Import the necessary modules

The `pyspark` module is available to perform the necessary imp

```
In [1]: from pyspark import SparkContext
```

Spark clusters connection

You are going to connect to: **analytix**

You can configure the following options. Environment variables can be used via {ENV_VAR_NAME}.

Add a new option

Write the option name...

Bundled configurations

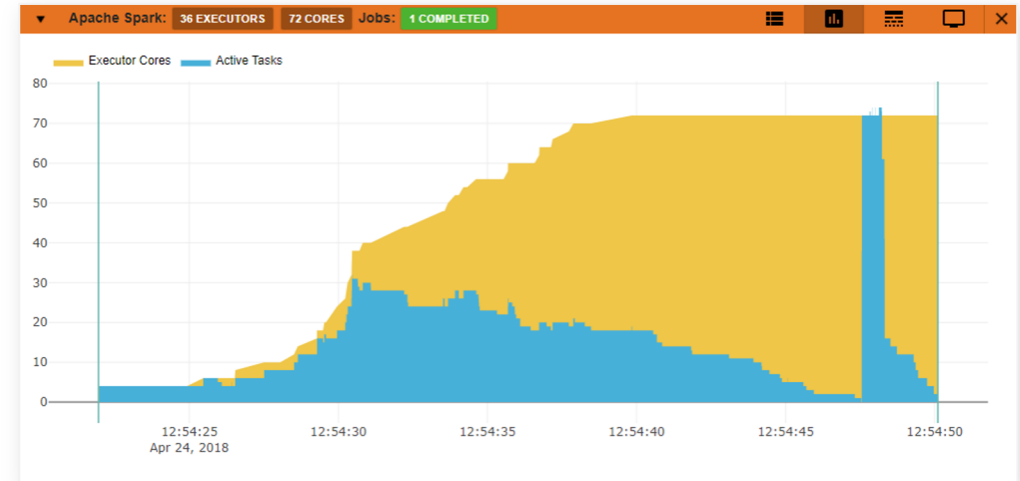
These options will be overwritten by non-bundled options if specified

- Include CMSSpark options
- Include SparkMetrics options
- Include S3Filesystem options
- Include EOSFilesystem options
- Include PropagateUserPythonModules options
- Include UseCVMFSJavaHomeOnExecutors options
- Include ROOT_RDataFrame options

Selected configuration

- SparkMetrics**
 - `spark.cern.grafana.url`
<https://monit-grafana.cern.ch/d/1/sparkmetrics?orgId=23>
 - `spark.metrics.conf.driver.sink.graphite.class`

Connect



Apache Spark: 2 EXECUTORS 4 CORES Jobs: 1 RUNNING

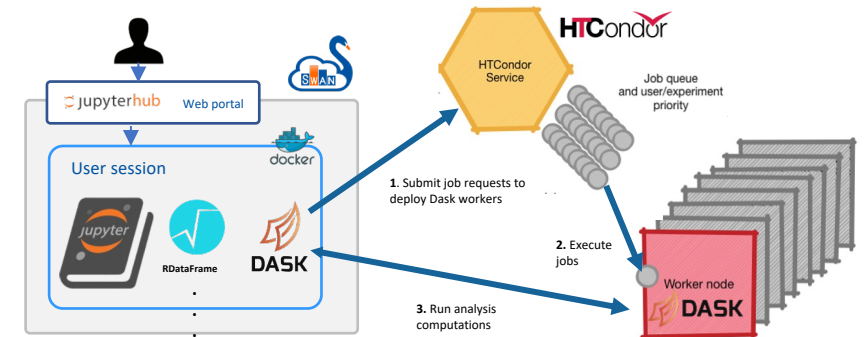
Job ID	Job Name	Status	Stages	Tasks	Submission Time	Duration
11	toPandas	RUNNING	0/2 (1 active)	4 + 4 / 281	a few seconds ago	-





Analysis facility pilot

- > Support interactive distributed analysis for High Energy Physics
 - Address the future analysis needs due to foreseen increase in data volumes.
- > Dask as the connector to batch resources
 - The two main HEP analysis frameworks, ROOT and coffea, rely on Dask for running analysis distributedly
- > For now, it uses overcommitted “static” slots on HTCondor
 - Optimizes usage of batch resources
 - A well-stacked batch farm with a good job mix can get to 80% CPU utilization
 - Known analysis jobs potential to stack nicely with other workloads to drive up utilization



What next?



What next?

- > SWAN in the TN (CERN's restricted Technical Network)
 - Includes work in custom software environments
- > Finish Jupyterlab migration
- > Deploy HPC integration and Rucio Lab extension
- > Simplify operations
 - B/G deployment, GitOps, etc
- > Investigate the world beyond notebooks
 - IDE

Contacts



Where to find us

> Contacts

- swan-contact@cern.ch
- <http://cern.ch/swan>
- <https://swan-community.web.cern.ch/>

> Repository

- <https://github.com/swan-cern/>

> Documentation

- <https://swan.docs.cern.ch>

> ScienceBox

- Install SWAN on-premises
- <https://sciencebox.web.cern.ch>



Have you heard about REVA?

- > <https://reva.link>
- > CERNBox backend
 - Exposes APIs for the new ownCloud OCIS Web UI and sync/mobile clients
- > Can have CEPH as storage backend (WIP)
 - Could add sync&share to your Jupyter CEPH FS mounted storage?

SWAN: a Service for web-based analysis at CERN

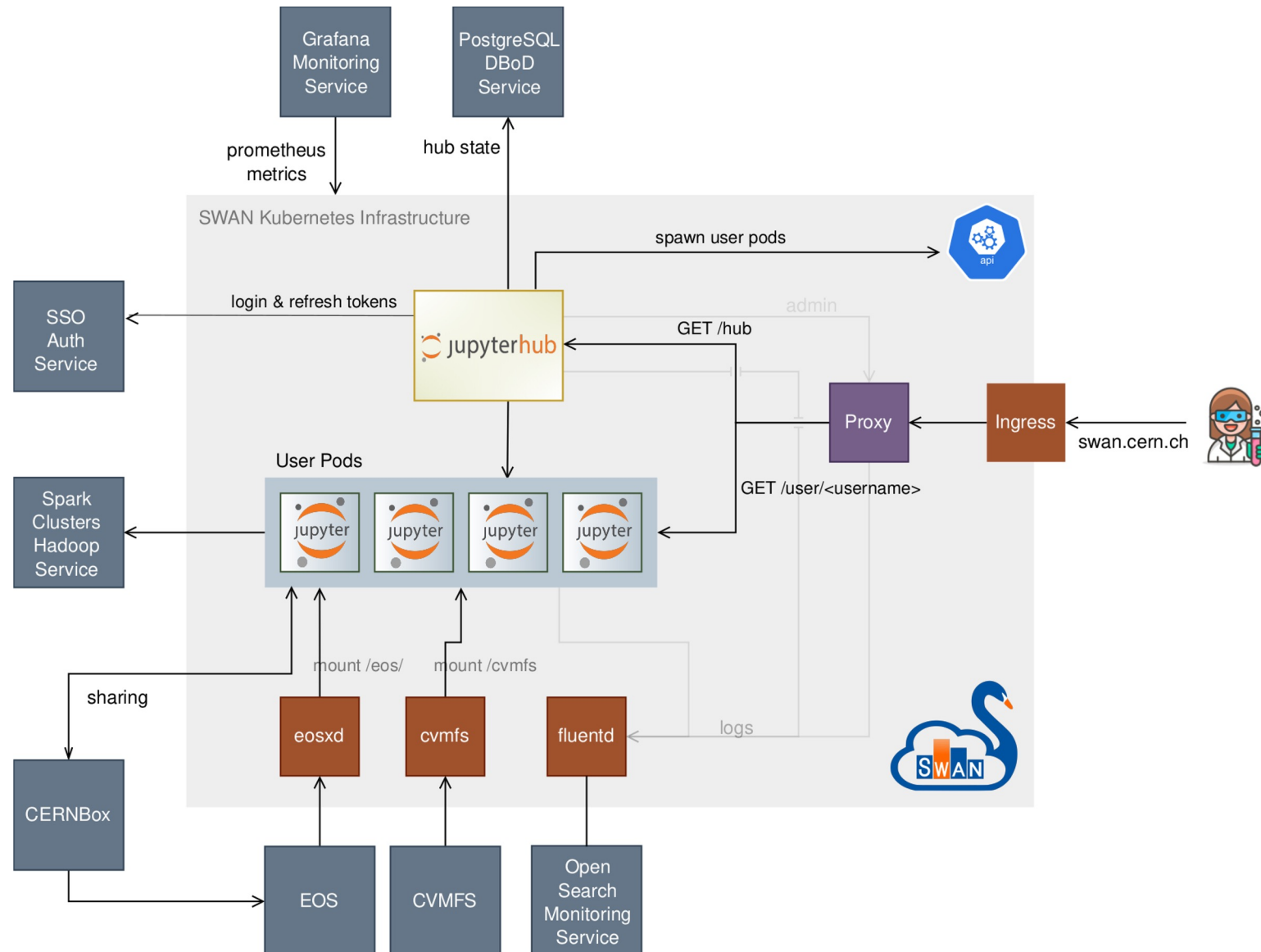
Thank you

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Backup slides



Architecture based on Kubernetes



SWAN's Kubernetes setup
Based on [Zero-to-JupyterHub](#)

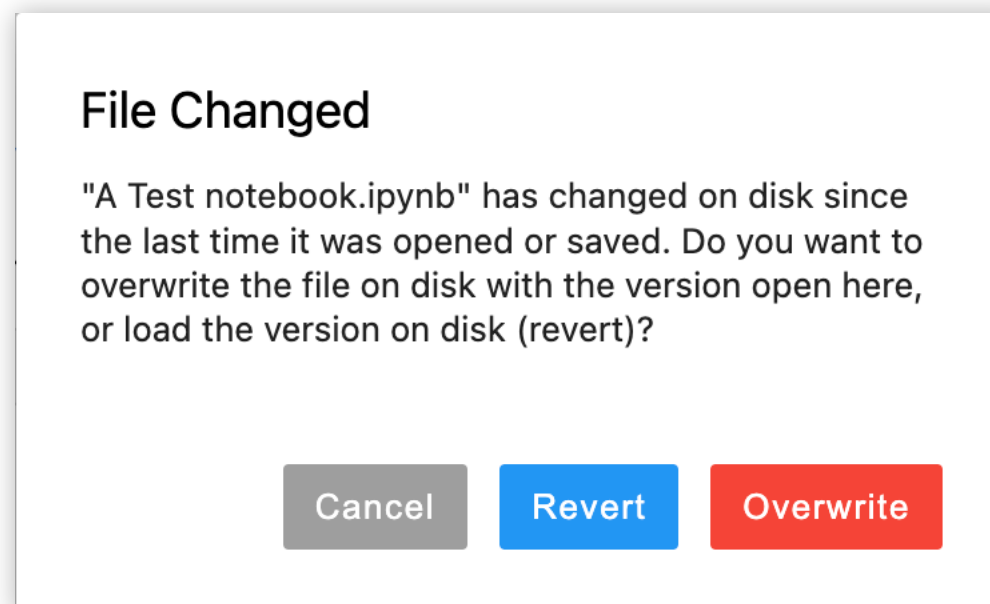


A note on collaboration



Current collaboration model for Jupyterlab

- > In the beginning, notebooks could not be open in parallel
 - Conflicts would happen, especially on shared filesystems
- > Now they can, and their data structures are synchronized
 - This looks awesome!
 - But optimal usage requires sharing the same Jupyter server and kernel (?)
- > Jupyterhub proposes “collaboration accounts” instead
 - “Real-time collaboration without impersonation”





The problems of the current collaboration model

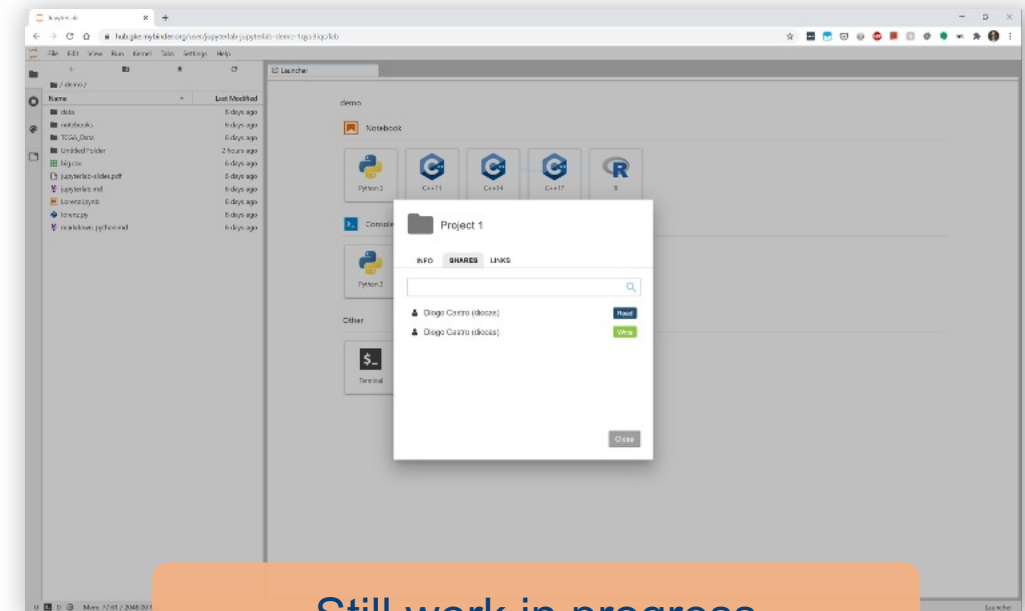
- > A shared filesystem might mean access from different Jupyter servers
 - Or even other applications altogether
 - The concurrent editing does not work fully
- > Collaboration requires coordination
 - This might not always be easy, especially if we don't know who is editing on the other side...
- > Sharing the same server + kernel is risky
 - Full access to another user's account, storage, and permissions on many resources
 - Collaboration accounts help, but might be harder to coordinate or integrate with deployment
- > We're not aware of use cases that would benefit from true concurrent editing

We proposed a complementary model better suited for large scale distributed environments



Collaboration model of the CS3Mesh project

- > Same view as EFSS inside Jupyter
 - Access files, different mounts, shares, versions, etc.
- > Sharing functionality
 - Share with users or public links
 - Same permissions everywhere
- > Parallel access to notebooks
 - As alternative to concurrent editing
 - Opening the same notebook without creating conflicts (both locally or remote)
 - Execution environment independence



Still work in progress