



Common Containers for ESC



Two major use cases for containers:

1. Distribute complete working system to end user ✓
2. Distribute specific code w/ prerequisites for batch processing ✗

A. Container type/ image host ?

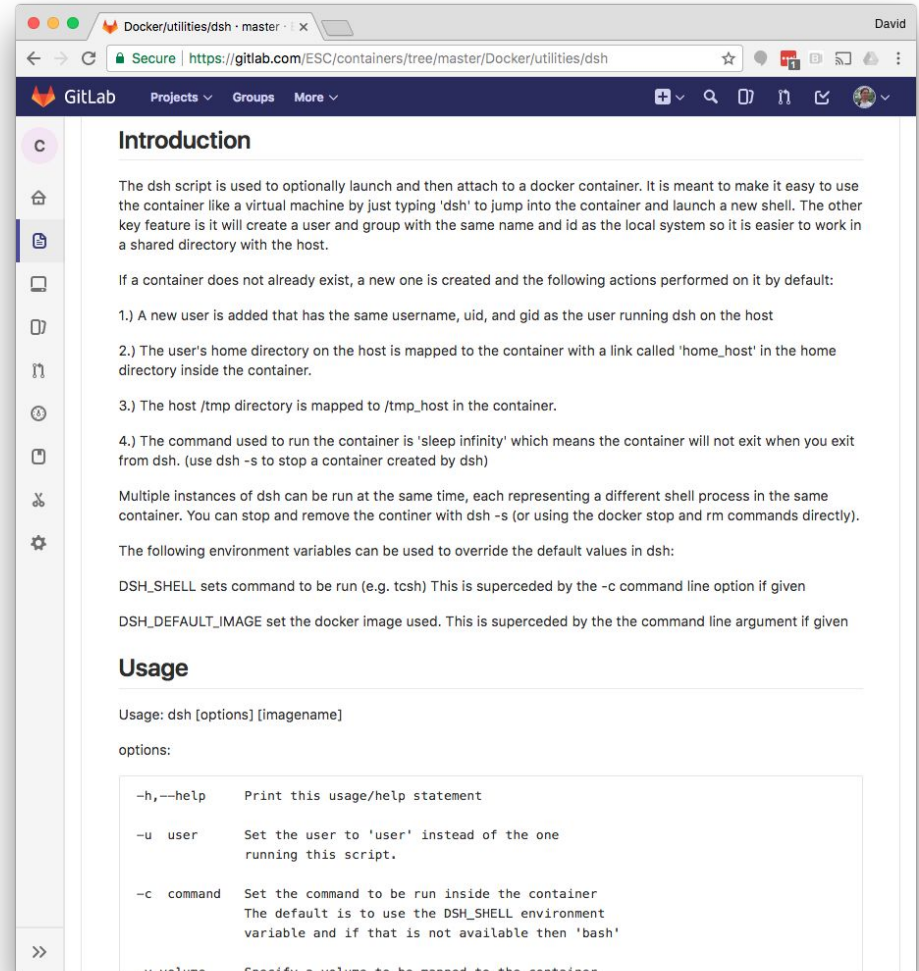
- Docker ✓ Docker hub, Docker cloud ✓
- Singularity Singularity hub
- Shifter NERSC?

Goals

1. Produce image(s) that provide common ESC software
 - Data schemas
 - I/O libraries for phase I file format
 - Base set of pre-requisite 3rd party packages (e.g. Geant 4)
2. Common working environment for running specialized software
 - User account(s)*
 - Directory structure
 - Standard location and name of README

dsh

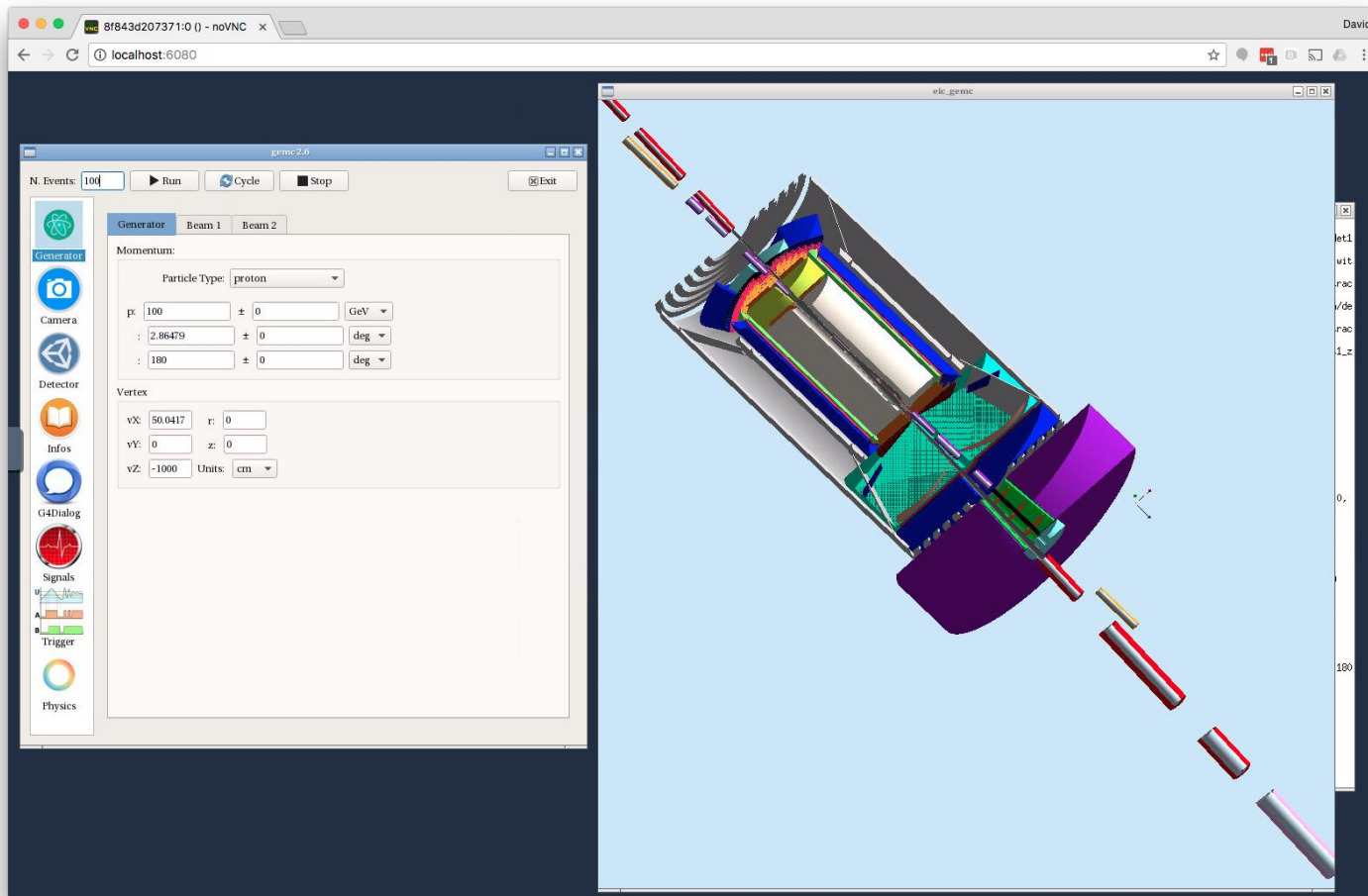
- Users will want persistency on local machine outside of container
- Convenient if output files have same uid/gid as user on host
- Exec multiple shells in same container

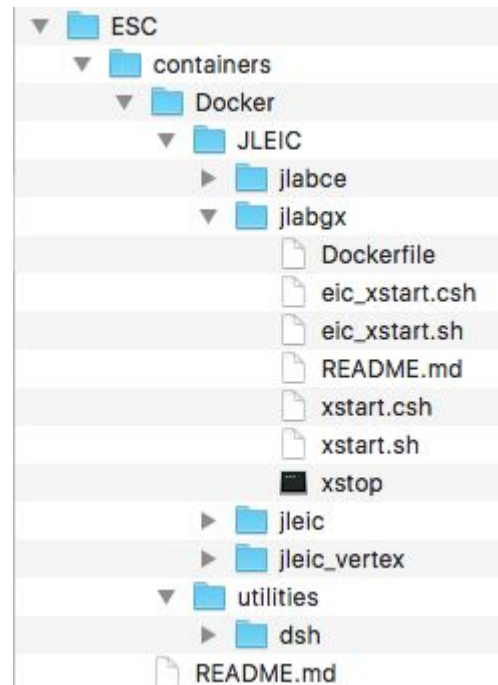
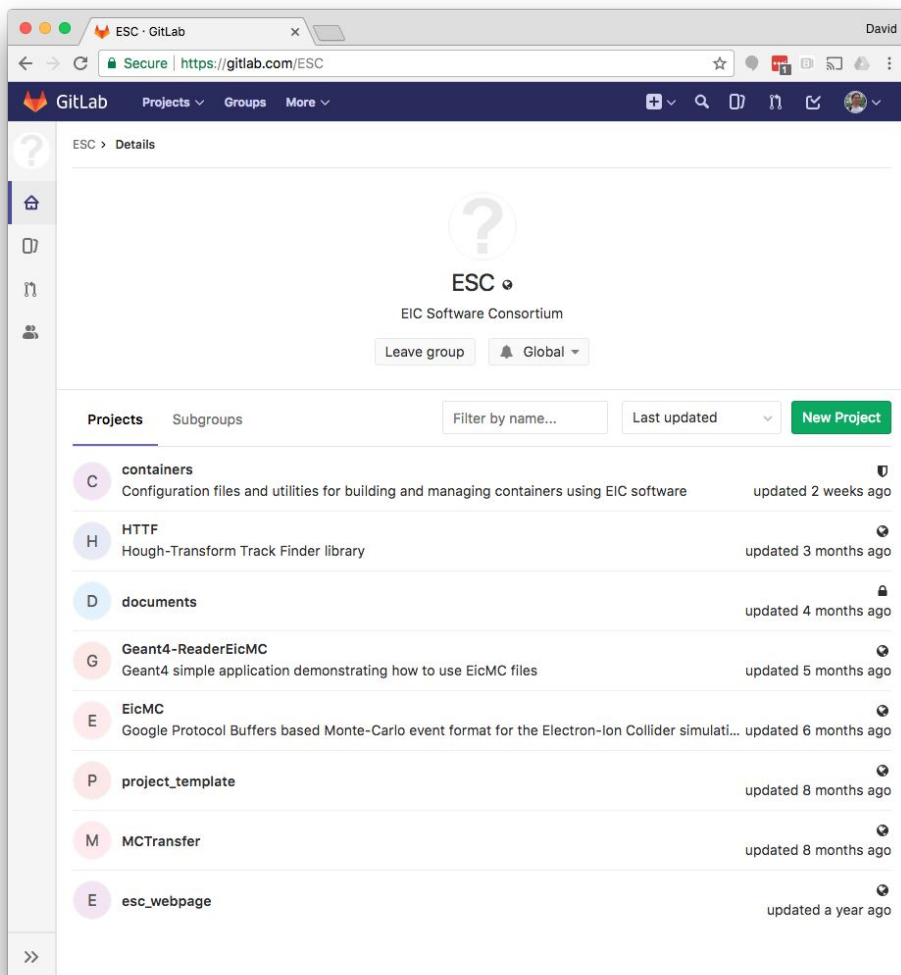


Some Questions ...

1. What OS should be used for base layer?
 - CentOS, Ubuntu, Debian, Scientific Linux, ...
2. Should graphics support be included? Both *batch* and *graphics* versions?
 - example: 192MB -> 577MB for centos:7
3. Guidelines for how to structure contents of specialized container?
 - Make it easy for unbiased person to run a simulation using different site-specific containers

OpenGL based graphics via VNC + HTML5 leverages host browser





Suggested Action Items

1. Create ESC organization on Docker Cloud and create “Team” with any interested ESC members
2. Create Dockerfile for base layer(s) and commit to GitLab.com
 - Publish image
3. Write draft of data model
4. Write brief documentation on how to use the base layer to create specialized image
 - Guidelines for internal structure