Change Log

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November 1, 2023

- Transitioned to a new authentication service to reduce authentication-related issues for users
- Updated IDAS URL to [https://idas.uiowa.edu/](https://idas.uiowa.edu/) for consistent branding. Research users will be automatically redirected to this new URL when they log in from the previous URL. No changes will be made to class instances until after the end of the Fall 2023 semester
- Optimized the wording on the Server Options form for research users
- General updates and bug fixes

August 9-11, 2023

- Added Python 3.11, R 4.3.1, and Julia 1.9.2
- Updated JupyterHub to version 4
- Fixed bugs with how the LSS paths in the Server Options form are handled
- Prepared IDAS for additional storage for new home directories
- General bug fixes and security patches
- Python 3.7 reached its end of life on June 27, 2023. Since Python 3.7 is no longer being maintained by the official Python project, our team will cease to support and maintain the Python 3.7 instances in IDAS.

May 17, 2023

- Updated IDAS nodes
- Config updates
- Updated NVIDIA drivers
- Preparations for new IDAS home drive systems

December 28-30, 2022

- R 4.2.2, Python 3.10, and Julia 1.8.3 are now available.
- Users will be able to create, open, and edit CSV files in IDAS. For more information, please see Editing CSV Files on IDAS.
- The default interface on IDAS has changed from Jupyter Notebook to JupyterLab. This change only affects the default interface at log in. Both Jupyter Notebook and JupyterLab will still be available on IDAS, and users can easily switch between Jupyter Notebook and JupyterLab. For more information, please see Jupyter Notebook and JupyterLab.

November 2, 2022

- Security patches
- General updates and bug fixes
August 10, 2022
- Security patches
- General updates and bug fixes

May 18, 2022
- Added new GPUs: 4 NVIDIA A10 and 4 NVIDIA A30
- Added 2 new-generation compute nodes with faster CPU. Each node has 128 CPU threads and 1TB RAM.
- Upgraded Jupyter Hub to version 2.2.2.
- Better logging so that Research Services staff can better troubleshoot support requests.
- We can now add new language version and instance type to IDAS without service downtime.

February 9, 2022
- Julia 1.7.1 is now available
- IDAS was prepared for future expansion
- General updates and bug fixes

December 27-30, 2021
- IDAS infrastructure has been migrated to new hardware, which will improve service stability.
- Linux system software has been updated to current versions.

August 11 - August 12, 2021
- R 4.1 is now available
- Julia 1.6 is now available
- Increased maximum RAM that can be requested to 512GB

January 6 - January 7, 2021
- Security updates
- Better error handling in the Server Options form
- Python 3.9 made available
- Jupyterhub updated to 1.3.0
- Jupyterlab updated to 2.2.9
- Jupyter Notebooks updated to 6.1.6

August 12 - August 13, 2020
- Python 3.7 and 3.8 are now available. Python 3.6 will remain an option.
- R 4.0.2 is now available. R 3.6.1 will remain an option.
- Julia 1.3.1, 1.4.2 and 1.5.0 are now available. Julia 1.2.0 will remain an option.
- 4 additional GPUs have been added.

June 26, 2020
- Resolve an issue that prevents users from connecting to dedicated LSS shares
- Users can now spawn an instance with RStudio directly.
  - Please select the RStudio option in the "Server Options" form:
• Users no longer need to source .bashrc every time they work with conda

April 1, 2020
• Instance memory limit will be raised to 256GB
• Julia users no longer need to specify depot paths
• You can now specify sub-directories of LSS shares when spawning an instance
• General updates and bug fixes

March 17, 2020
• RStudio Classroom has been moved to a multi-server environment. Sessions are now evenly distributed across all the nodes resulting in less resource contention.
• We have also doubled the amount of compute resources available to RStudio Classroom.

December 26, 2019
New features deployed on this date include:

1. New Spawner form

A sneak peak of our new Spawner form is below.
# Spawner Options

**IDAS**

*Interactive Data Analytics Service*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CPU Cores</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Memory Limit (GiB)</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **CPU Cores**: Total CPUs your notebook will have access to (e.g., 4). The number must be between 2 and 32.
- **Memory Limit (GiB)**: Total amount of RAM your notebook can consume (e.g., 4). This must be between 4 and 120.

**GPU**

- **GPU**: None

If you have GPU-enabled code, select which type of GPU your notebook will reserve. Note that if the specified GPU is unavailable, your notebook will be unable to start.

**Mount HPC Home**

- **Mount HPC Home**: No

Checking this box will mount your HPC home to your IDAS instance in the hpchome directory.

**LSS Shared**

- **LSS Shared**: /Shared/idas

Enter the path of the LSS share you would like access to multiple shares can be entered with a comma separating the shares. These shares will be mounted in the LSS directory.

**LSS Dedicated**

- **LSS Dedicated**: /Dedicated/idas

Enter the path of the LSS share you would like access to multiple shares can be entered with a comma separating the shares. These shares will be mounted in the LSS directory.

**IDAS Image**

- **IDAS Image**: IDAS-Python3.6

IDAS-GPU adds the specified CUDA runtimes for GPU use with the specified language. Make sure to select a GPU option above to get the best use out of GPU image.

[Spawn]
Please note that Python, R, and Julia will each have its own container image. For example, to start a Julia instance, please select one of the three options for Julia under IDAS Image in the Spawner form.

2. LSS and Argon Home access

Users will be able to access their Large Scale Storage (LSS) and Argon homes from IDAS.

More information about Large Scale Storage can be found at https://its.uiowa.edu/lss

Documentation on the Cluster Systems can be found at https://wiki.uiowa.edu/display/hpcdocs/Cluster+Systems+Documentation

3. RStudio available for research use

RStudio will be available for research with this update. To start an RStudio instance, please select one of the three options for R under IDAS Image in the Spawner form.
Doing so will launch an R instance. In order to launch RStudio, click **New**, then select the **RStudio** option.

This will launch an RStudio session, which looks very similar to the local version of RStudio.
Please contact Giang Rudderham and Cody B Johnson at research-computing@uiowa.edu with any questions or concerns.