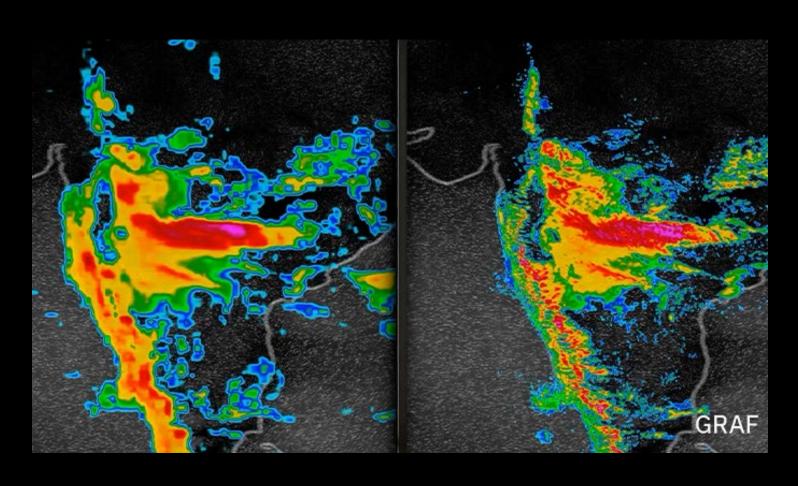
Porting and Benchmarking GRAF on AWS

Timothy Brown

Principal Solutions Architect, AWS



Global High-Resolution Atmospheric Forecasting System





- Hourly forecasts
- 5 min output for US and EU
- 3.5 km over US and EU
- GPU optimized
- Modelling system



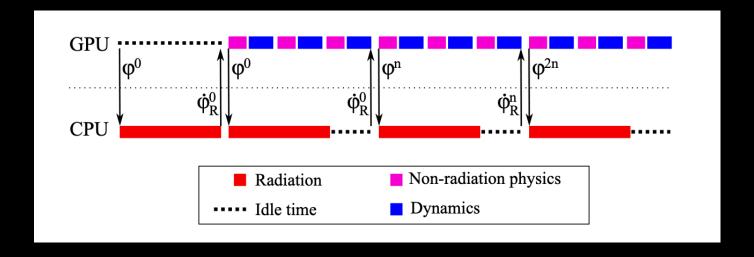
Global High-Resolution Atmospheric Forecasting System

- MPAS Atmosphere
 - Version 7
 - OpenACC
 - RRTMG scheme is on CPUs









https://www.mmm.ucar.edu/models/mpas



Reference AWS HPC Stack

Remote Visualization

Cluster Management / Job Scheduling

CPU Compute + GPU Acceleration

High Performance Parallel File System

High BW + Low Latency Networking

High Throughput Block Storage

Scalable & Durable Object Storage

Amazon DCV /Research and Engineering Studio

AWS Parallel Computing Service / AWS Batch

EC2: Hpc7g, Hpc7a, Hpc6a, C8gn, C6id, P6, P5, F4

Amazon FSxfor Lustre

EFA (SRD Transport Protocol)

Amazon EBS

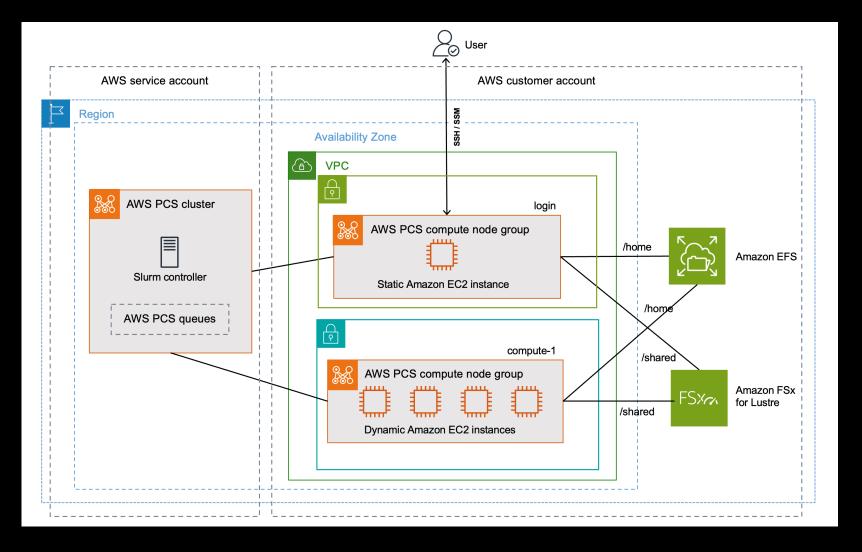
Amazon S3



Reference Architecture – AWS Parallel Computing Service

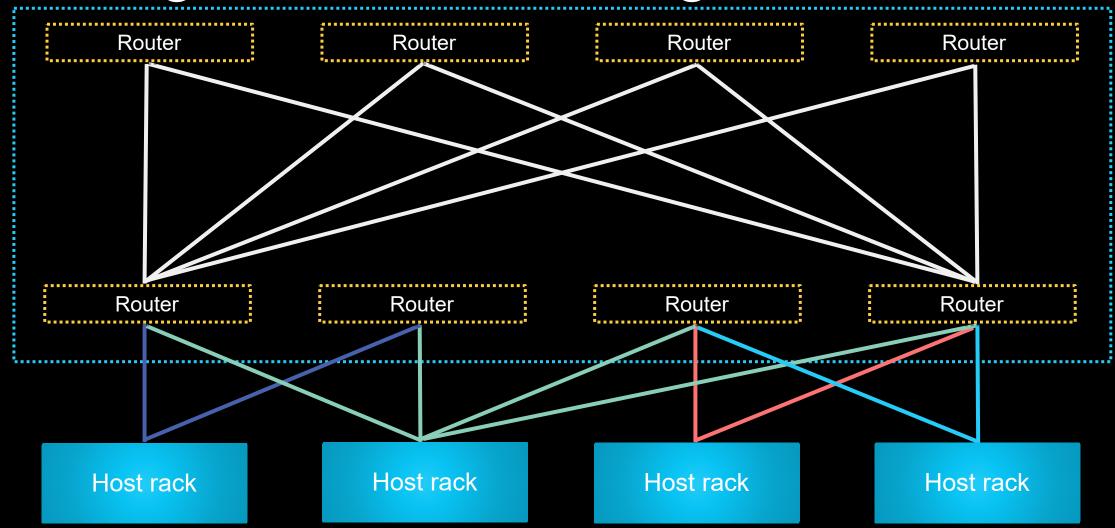
Configuration required resources

- AMI
- GPU instance
- Storage
- Software Stack





Building a network building block





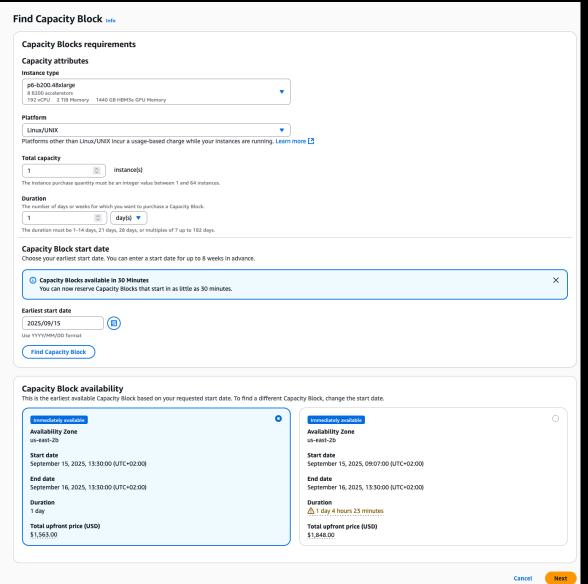
Cellular network pattern

Scale out by adding cells

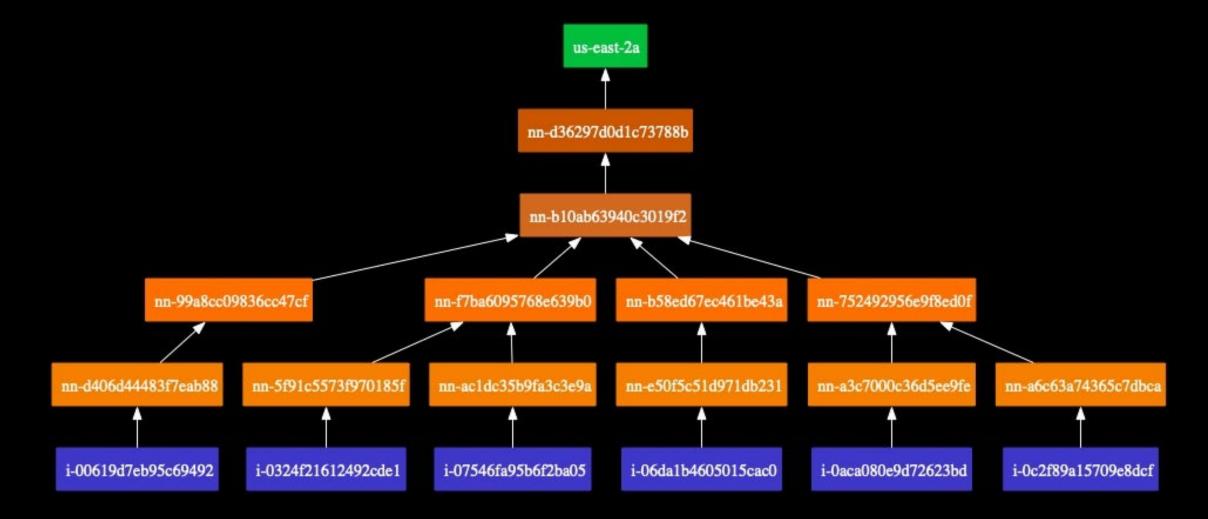
Core cell Core cell Spine cell Spine cell Spine cell Access cell Access cell Access cell Access cell Host racks Host racks Host racks Host racks

Amazon EC2 Capacity Blocks

- Reserve a start time up to 8 weeks in advance
- Set a reservation duration of one to 14 days or a multiple of 7 days, up to 182 days
- Configure up to 64 instances per Capacity Block
- Configure up to 256 instances across multiple Capacity Blocks
- Capacity Blocks are in a single Placement Group



EC2 Topology





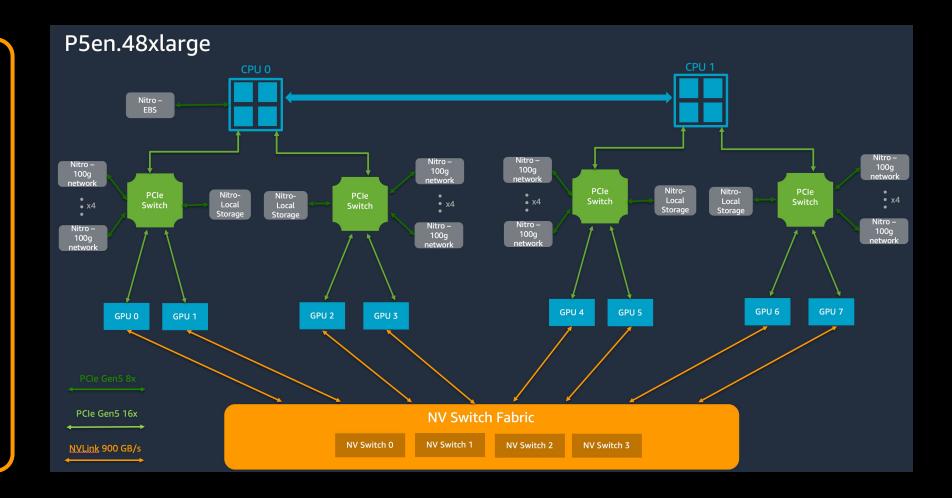
AWS P5 Instance

P4.48xlarge

- Intel
- 8 NVIDIA A100
- 400 Gbps EFA
- 8 TB NVMe

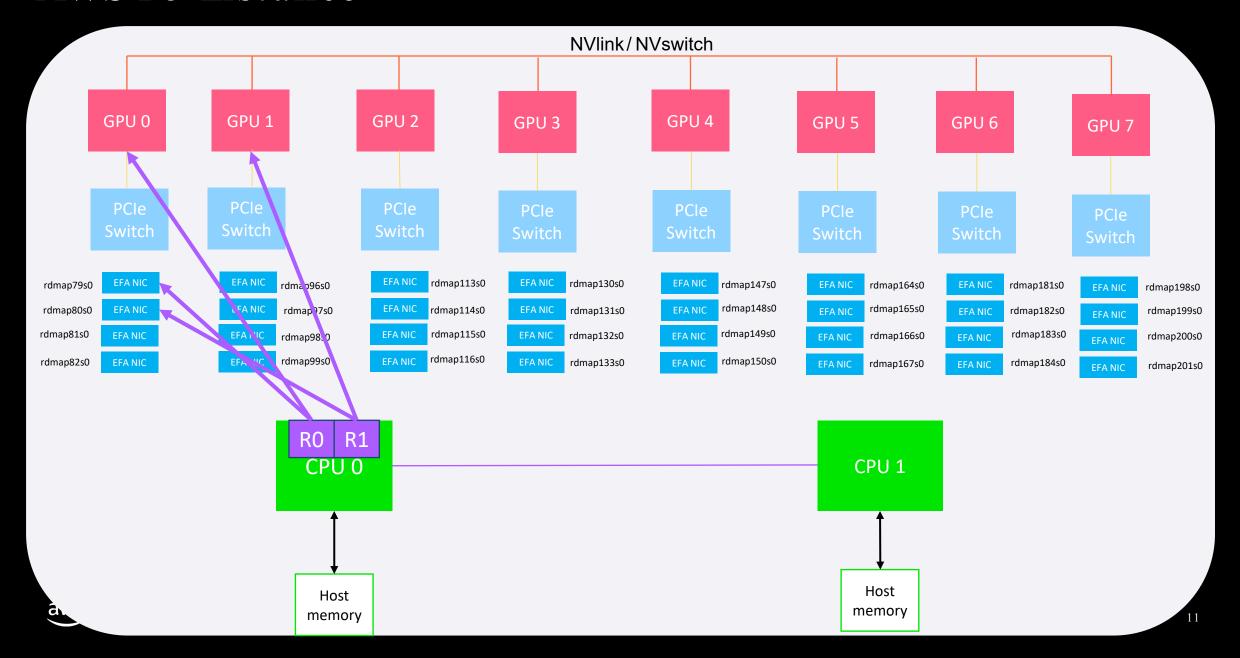
P5.48xlarge

- Intel
- 8 NVIDIA H100
- 3,200 Gbps EFA
- 30 TB NVMe





AWS P5 Instance



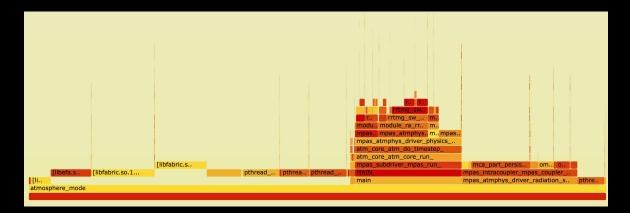
Flamegrph

- With bad NIC bindings
- Exorbitant time is spent in libfabric

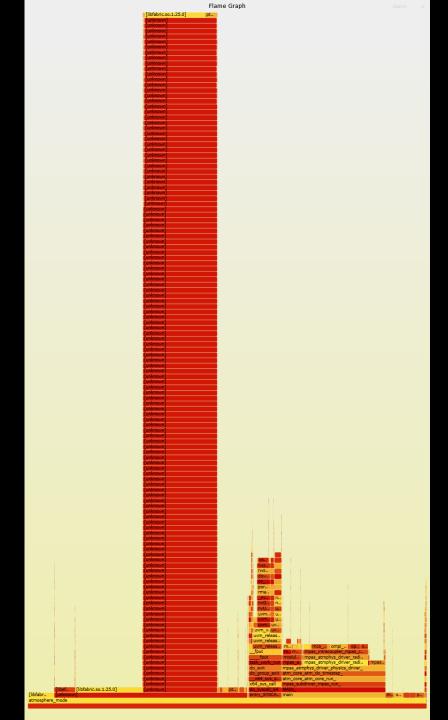
NEW!!

12/9/25 Extended EFA metrics in /sys

https://aws.amazon.com/about-aws/whats-new/2025/09/aws-efa-metrics-improved-observability-networking/







Performance Requirements & Results

- Hourly global forecast
- MPAS-A maximum runtime 51 minutes
- Pre and post can have overlapping running time – to an extent











Conclusion & Future Work

- Able to meet production run -time requirements of 51 minutes
- With 14 p5 instances, 112 H100. Vs 840 V100.

- Benchmark on p5en instances.
- Investigate optimizations for p6 -b200 instances (Blackwell GPUs)
- Investigate IO performance and the possibility of async IO



Thank you

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