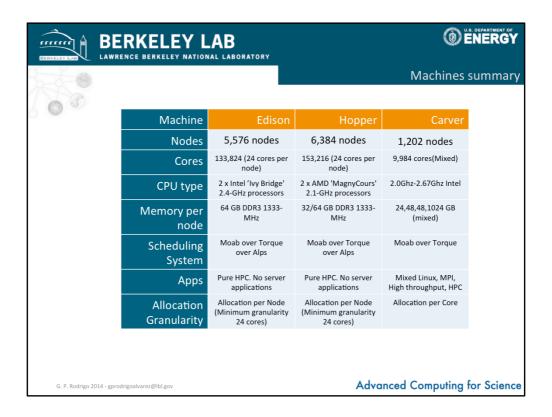


This work is one of the first steps to understand the challenges of scheduling in the next generation of super computers and other high performance systems. It intends to understand what is the current job submission behavior and trend in the scientific users at NERSC.

If any question comes out, refer it to: gprodrigoalvarez@lbl.gov lramakrishnan@lbl.gov



This work analyzes the workload from 3 of the high performance systems at NERSC. Edison and Hopper represent a classical super-computer model. Carver is a example of a cluster approach to scientific computation.

Highlight on allocation:

- Edison only allocates full nodes.
- Carver and Hopper contains a subset of nodes that can be shared by different users at the same time. The rest are allocated to a single task at a time.





Data Source Summary

- Execution logs from two supercomputers and one high-end cluster at NERSC:
 - Edison Cray XC30
 - Hopper Cray XE6
 - Carver IBM iDataPlex
- Logs generated from the different resource & workload management suites: Moab, Torque and Alps.
- Log files time-span & Tasks Scheduled:

 - Edison:
 01 Jan 2014 - 1 May 2014
 474,361 tasks

 - Hopper:
 01 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013
 1,378,031 tasks

 - Carver:
 01 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013
 4,356,616 tasks

- Information captured/analyzed per task in this work: time dimension (running wall clock, wait time) and resource dimension (number of nodes, number of cores per node).
- Final analysis cut down to #Cores and Wallclock time.
- Regular queues have been grouped for the "Submission queue analysis"

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All systems use MOAB (Scheduler) over Torque (Resource Manager). Edison and Hopper add an extra layer beneath to manage the nodes: ALPS (Cray system).

This work is based on the logs of Torque: register of every single job that ends.

Time analyzed: stable times for all machines. Edison was recently brought into production a good analysis case for user behavior formation.

Since this is a scheduling focused work it reduced the analysis to the geometrics in the jobs: length (Duration) and width (#cores allocated)





Analysis summary

Workload analysis is focused on 2 variables for each task: **Wall-clock time & number of cores**.

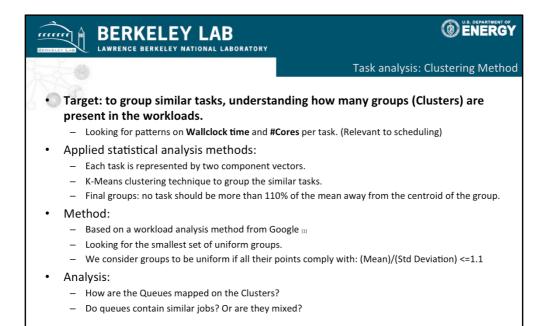
- **Task Distribution**: Histogram analysis of the distribution of tasks by wall-clock time, number of cores and memory.
- Queue analysis: Characteristics of the tasks in each running queue.
- Task analysis: Clustering analysis of the tasks in the workload, defining groups of similar tasks under two variables: wall-clock time, and number of cores.
- Wall clock accuracy: Prediction vs. reality of tasks wall-clock.
- Time Cycle Analysis: How/when jobs are submitted.

Queue and cluster analysis are targeted towards understanding mapping of tasks and execution queues

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Clusters: as statistical clusters of jobs with similar length/width

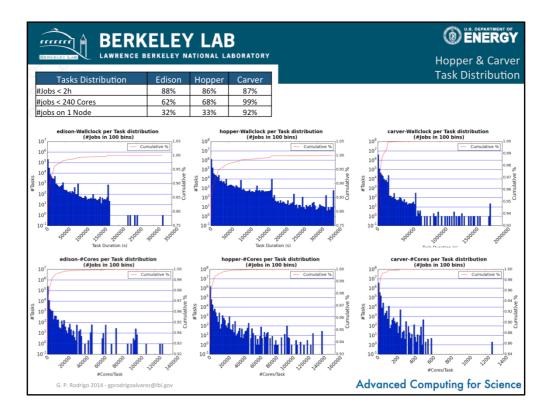


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Target: to build groups of similar jobs. Grouping

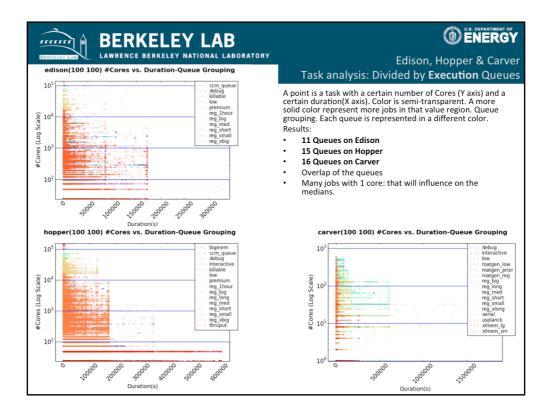


Distribution histograms on two variables: job duration and width.

Sample Explanation of the first graph:

- X axis: duration of a job in seconds
- Y axis: number of jobs
- Example: if there is a vertical bar in x=50000s and y=10^2 it means that there were 100 jobs with that duration
- The red line is the aggregation of the "blue bars". If in x=7200s y=88% it means that 88% of all jobs are 7200s or less seconds long.

The table on top gives some simple values that allow to understand in which duration and width values are the jobs concentrating.



From this point and on, we consider 2 groups of queues:

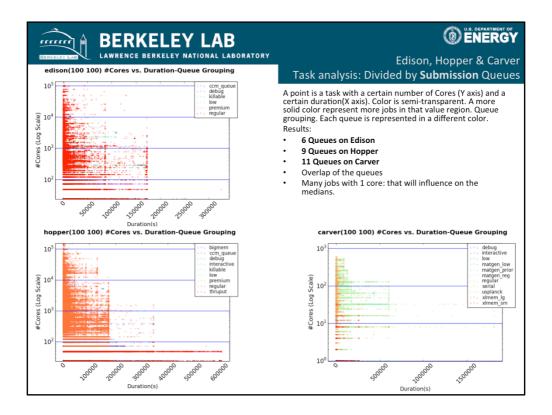
- Submission gueues: seen by the users. They choose the gueue.
- Execution queues: the system divides the submission queues (in some cases) in other queues. Jobs are classified by their geometric characteristics.

This slide looks into the execution queues.

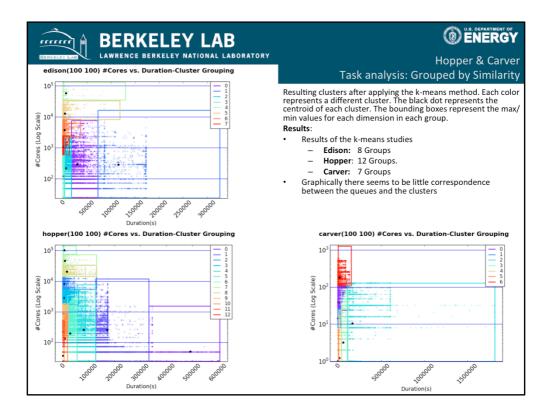
Explanation of these graphs:

- Each color dot in the graph represents a task
- If a task belong to a queue its dot will be colored in the corresponding queue color.
- The colors are "transparent" so an area with more solid color implies more tasks than an area with "fainter" colors.
- Each dot is positioned depending on its geometry: X-axis corresponds to the job length (running time). The Y-axis corresponds to the width (#cores allocated)

We can observe some division depending on the queues, but still queue jobs seem to overlap.



Analysis was repeated on the submission queues.



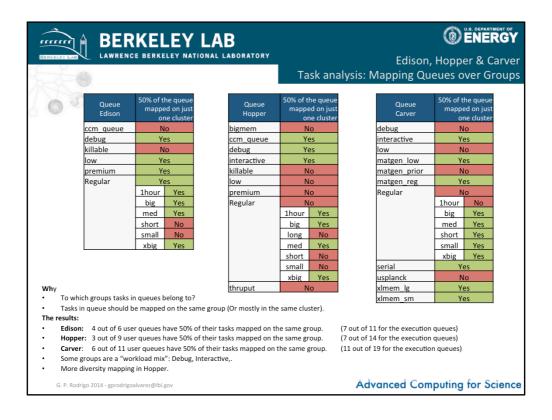
This is the result of the previously described clustering exercise: group similar tasks. For each machine we could infer different numbers of clusters, indicating a difference on the heterogeneity of the job mix: more clusters found mean more diversity in the job mix of the system.

The graph representation is similar to the previous slides but:

- Now each color correspond to the detected clusters. Tasks are colored with the color of the cluster they are included in.
- Each "cluster" is surrounded by a bounding box indicating the max/min job length/ width detected for the jobs contained. Bounding boxes may overlap as a both dimensions are used to assert if a task belongs to a certain cluster.

If we move backwards and forward between this slide and the previous ones, we can observe how the clustering offers a more clear separation between the tasks than the queues.

We consider that 2 jobs in the same clusters are more similar than 2 jobs which belong two different clusters.

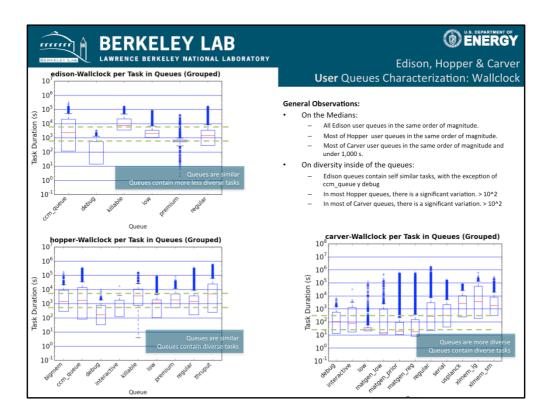


Still, it is hard to get the real dimension of how the queues are mapped over the clusters. The whole idea is to understand two different points:

- Are the jobs inside of the queues similar between them?
- Are the queues different between them? (Both things are desired for the scheduling system to make good quality allocation decisions).

For this we made a simple measure:

- If we look into the jobs of a queue... on how many different clusters are these jobs coming from? If a queue contains jobs from many different clusters, it will mean that it contains very diverse jobs. If the jobs in a queue are coming from 1 cluster, it will mean that the jobs contained are very similar.
- In the table in this slide we use the following criteria: if at least 50% of the jobs belong to the same cluster, we will determine that it is quite "uniform" and marked in green. Otherwise we will consider to have a certain heterogeneous job mix and mark it in red.



The next 4 slides are statistical analysis on the task duration and job width on: execution queues, user queues and clusters.

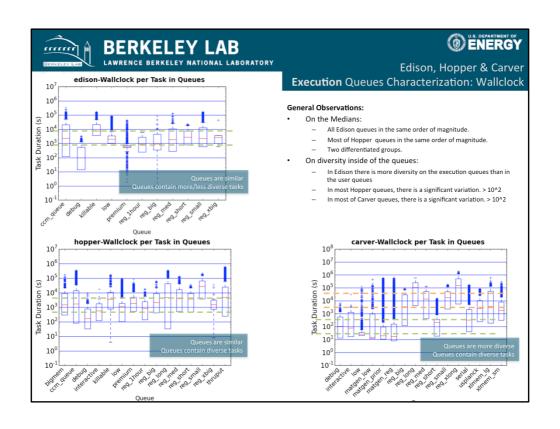
Let's explain the first graph on this slide:

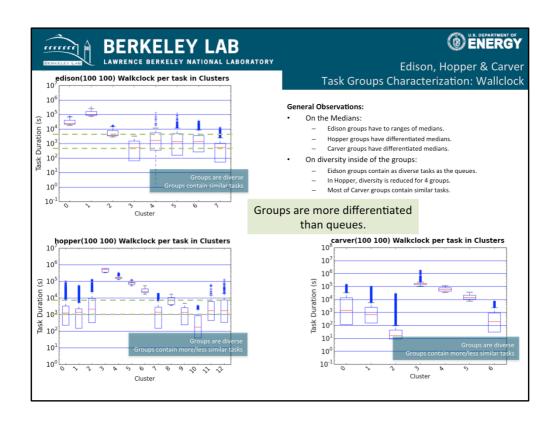
- X axis: one boxplot per queue
- Y axis: task duration
- The red line represents the median of the jobs on the queue: meaning that 50% of the jobs have that duration or less.
- The length of the box: represents how much variance is happening in that queue, if it is long it means that there is a big difference between the longest and shortest job.
- The blue crosses are outliers.

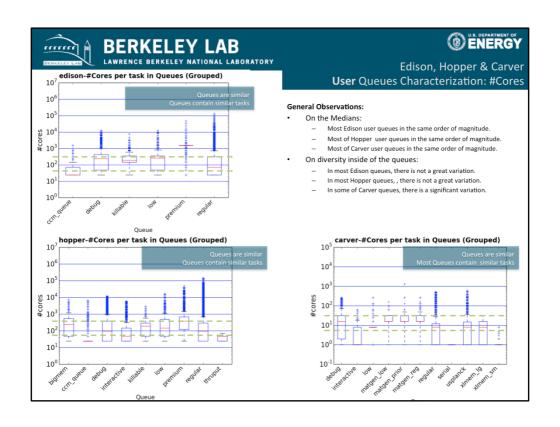
On understanding the graphs:

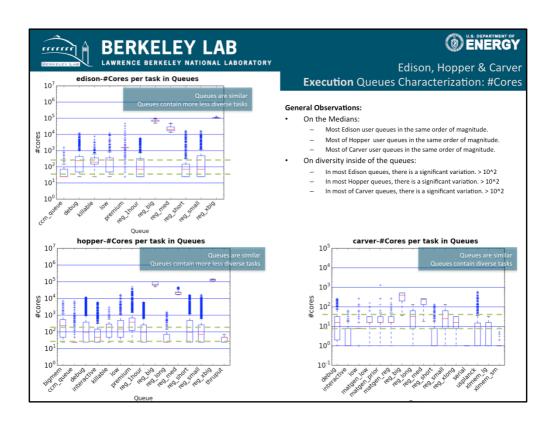
- If the medians of the queues/clusters are similar: the queues/clusters are quite similar between them
- If the boxplot for a queue/cluster are long: the jobs in that queue/cluster are quite diverse.

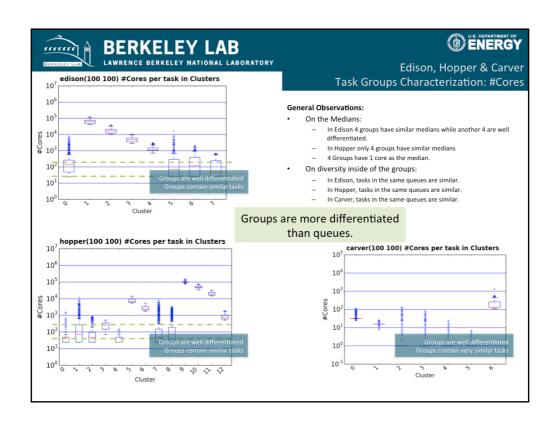
As a summary for the next slides: queues are quite similar between them, but containing an heterogeneous job mix. Clusters are more differentiated but containing more similar jobs.

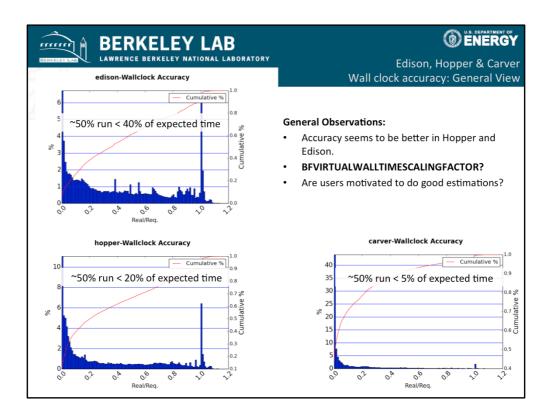












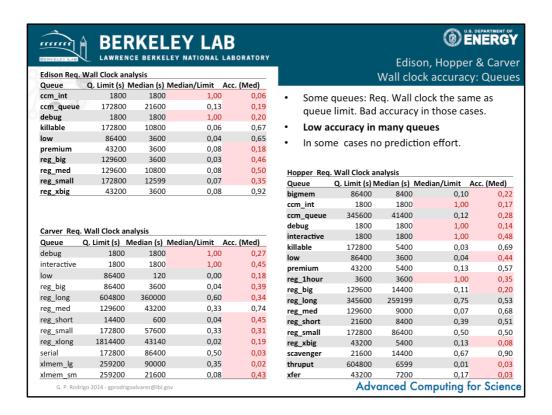
Users require a maximum running time for their jobs (wall clock time). This required wall clock time is used by the backfill functions to calculate what jobs could be forwarded in the queues to fill "execution gaps".

If this prediction made for the user (if any) is far from reality, the quality of the backfill decisions will be affected.

Here we can observe the study of the the accuracy of the wall clock: (actual wall clock)/(required wall clock) A value close to 1 means that the predictions are close to the actual value (Supposed to be good). A value close to 0 means that the predictions are really far away (Supposed to be bad).

In this slide we do a distribution analysis of the wall clock accuracy: what are the chances (y axis) for the accuracy of a job to be certain value (x axis). Again the red line is the aggregated value=

The results suggest that accuracy is low, specially in carver.

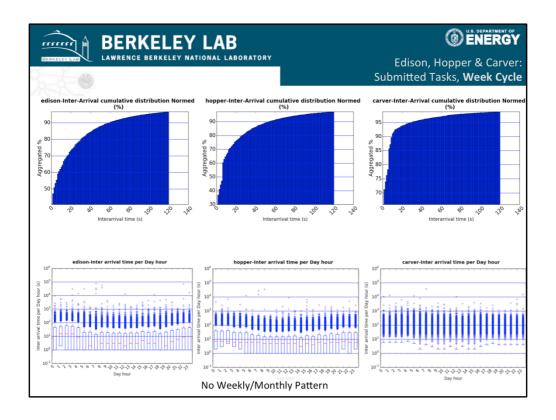


After looking into the overall accuracy we looked into the accuracy in jobs in each queue.

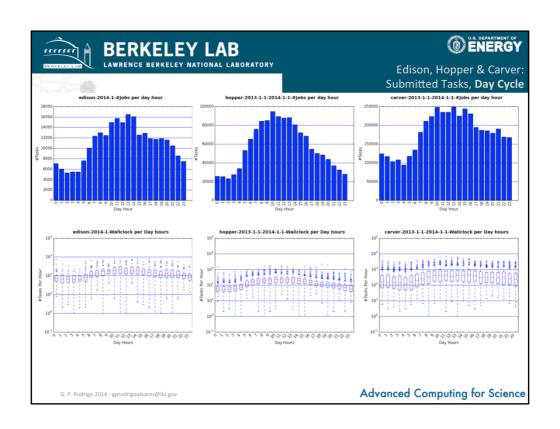
This is how to interpret these tables columns:

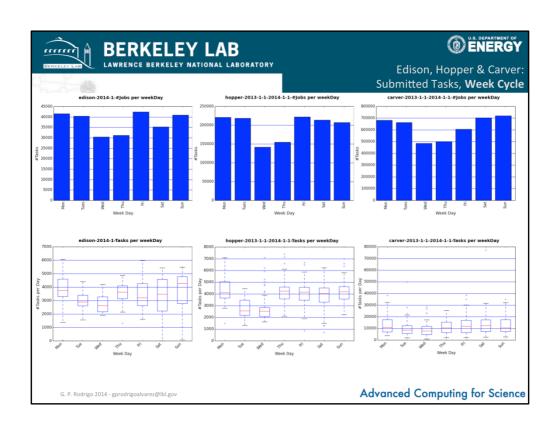
- Queue: queue studied
- Q. Limit(s) Limit in wall clock imposed by the submission system. Jobs submitted cannot have a required wall clock bigger than that.
- Median (s): Median of the requested wall clock values of the jobs in the queue. If it is 1800 it means that at least 50% are equal or under that value.
- Media/Limit: We divide the two previous columns. This value gives an ide of how close are the requested times to the queue limit. A value of 1 would mean that the users use the queue limit as their default wall clock request for jobs.
- Acc. (Med): median on the accuracy of the jobs in the queue.

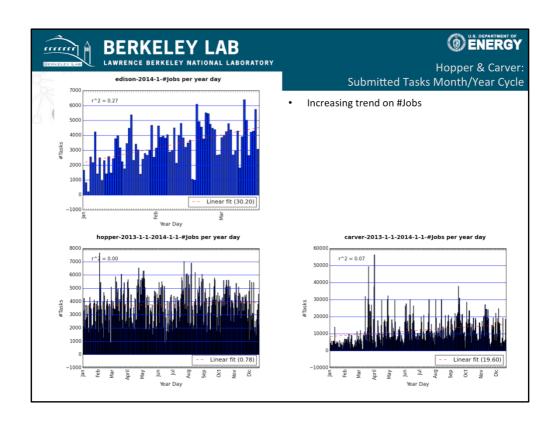
This tables show that in some queues (debug, interactive, etc.) the users are using by default the queue limit for the requested wall clock. And also that in many queues the accuracy is pretty low.

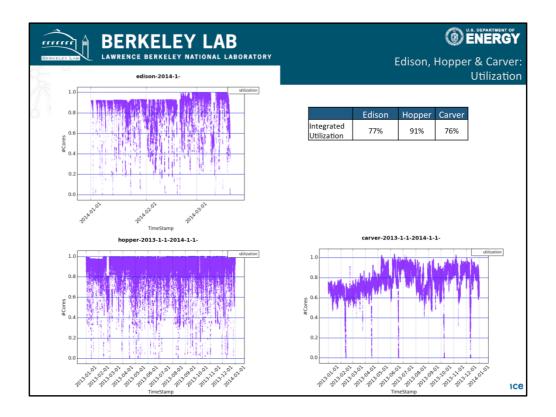


The following slides we can observe time patters on the job submission behavior: Are jobs submitted more on a particular day of the week? Month? Hour of the day? Overall in the year?









Utilization at a moment of time: computed as the number of cores allocated at certain moment of time vs. the total cores in the system. Not taking into account if the cores are used or not or they were allocated because the system doesn't allow node partitioning.

This is a utilization study of the systems:

- The graph represents all changes in utilization along the studied period of time.
- The table has the integrated usage (Surface under the line represented in the graphs) along the studied period.

Important:

- Outages, resource changes were not taken into account.
- The maxim number of cores is taken as the value registered in NERSC site by May 2014. It has not been adapted to the changes in the system.





Conclusions

Task distribution

- Edison has a similar job lengths distribution than Hopper, although Edison present few jobs over 150,000s.
 - Edison and Hopper have a similar #Cores distribution, although, again Hopper has more jobs using more cores.
 - Carver tasks users less cores (far less) and are shorter.

General workload

- The number of task groups obtained on edison(8), hopper (12) and carver(7) indicates that Hopper has a more heterogeneous workloads.
- In all cases queues are mapped over multiple groups: Not as strong relationship between each queue and the characteristics of the contained tasks
- Wall clock accuracy: Low. No prediction effort by users (Which is natural)

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Future Work

Walking forward

- Setting up a simulation system of the batch scheduler
 - Create synthetic workloads.
 - Test different scenarios:
 - Different queue definition
 - Wall clock correction
 - Impact on utilization and wait time
 - Think about scheduling models

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