

Porting CESM 2.1.5

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When and Why You Might Need to Port CESM

- **CESM must be built and tested on each system where it is used**
 - Different clusters, OS versions, and compilers require different configurations
- **You might need to port CESM if:**
 - You're using a new HPC system or workstation
 - The system isn't already defined in `config_machines.xml`
 - You're using a new compiler or MPI library
- **Goals of porting:**
 - Get CESM to build and run
 - Ensure correctness and performance



Options for porting CESM 2.1.5

- **Use predefined machine definitions**
(e.g., `homebrew`, `centos7-linux`)
 - Good for Mac/CentOS with GNU compilers
 - May require root access to install dependencies
- **Local definition in `$HOME/.cime`**
 - Ideal for personal use
 - Fully customizable and non-intrusive
- **Submit a machine definition to CIME**
 - For shared HPC systems
 - Requires GitHub familiarity and thorough testing



CESM Prerequisites

- Linux or MAC/OS operating system
- cmake
- gnu make
- HDF5 (1.12.3 recommended)
- NetCDF (4.9.3)
- PNetCDF (1.14.0) - optional
- C/Fortran/C++ Compilers: Intel recommended, gnu, nvhpc, nag
- lapack & blas math libraries (often supplied with compiler)
- ESMF (required for cesm3, WACCM)

The \$HOME/.cime directory

When you use a CIME model it will look for a directory \$HOME/.cime

You may put several files in that directory for CIME to use.

1. **config**: custom settings used by the python scripts
2. **config_machines.xml**: custom machine description
3. **config_compilers.xml**: custom compiler instructions
4. **config_batch.xml**: custom batch system instructions



Edit
config_machines.
xml

Edit
config_compilers.
xml
or
Macros.make

Edit
config_batch.xml/
or
env_batch.xml



Try a
case

Case
works?

Yes

Copy changes in
env_batch.xml and
Macros.make to
config_compilers.xml

Run system
tests

Things that you set in config_machines.xml

- Path to default case, build and run directories
- Path to inputdata
- Supported compilers and mpi libraries
- System description
 - Operating system
 - Number of tasks per shared memory node
 - nodename regex for system identification
- Type of batch system (pbs, slurm, lsf, etc)
- Support for (environment or Lmod) modules if used
- Environment variable settings



Things that you set in config_compilers.xml

- Compiler flags that should be applied to all files in the build
- Linker flags and external library links

Note that this file is hierarchical. There is a general section for each compiler. This section can be overridden by subsequent sections with any combination of the following attributes:

- COMPILER
- OS
- MACH
- DEBUG
- MODEL
- MPILIB

Things that you set in config_batch.xml

- queue names and parameters (wall clock time, minimum and maximum job size)
- details of deviations from standard queue system definitions
- directives (batch specific commands added to submitted scripts)
- arguments (added to the job submit command line)

Again this file is hierarchical, general settings can be overridden in machine specific sections.



config_workflow.xml

This file allows for a simple single run workflow to be defined. The default workflow consists of running the case and subsequently the case archive step.

Workflows can be extended to add things like:

- postprocessing (diagnostics, time-series generation, file compression, etc)
- iterative run feedback and adjustments



scripts_regression_tests.py

- A porting test for basic model functionality.
- requires that you build and install cprnc
- optionally uses pylint (install using pip or conda)
- Run from cime/scripts/tests



The CESM UltraFast Ensemble Consistency Test

With this test you will conduct three model runs of 9 timesteps each.

Postprocess the output files to add metadata about the origin of the run.

Upload to <http://www.cesm.ucar.edu/models/cesm2/verification/>

Your runs are then compared to an ensemble of about 300 members.

Pass or Fail is determined by whether your runs fit within the bounds of the ensemble.

See <http://www.cesm.ucar.edu/models/cesm2/python-tools/> for details



Resources for help

CGD Forum: <http://forum.cgd.ucar.edu/>

ESCOMP development (CESM):

<https://github.com/ESCOMP/CESM>

ESMCI development (CIME): <https://github.com/ESMCI/cime>



Changes in CESM3

- MCT coupler/driver has been replaced with ESMF based CMEPS driver and mediator
- New CDEPS data model components
- config_compilers.xml replaced with cmake modules
- More interchangeable component options
- Much easier to introduce new grids
 - offline land fraction and mapping files are no longer required
 - this reduces the number of required grid files from ~25 to 4
- machines directory has been split into subdirectories (one for each machine)
- cime has been split into several repositories, what remains in cime is primarily the python workflow code.
 - porting information is now in ccs_config
 - cmeps and cdeps are each their own repos
 - share code is now its own repository

CESM on your Laptop

With containers we can provide the community with *ready-to-run* CESM software - porting is much simpler!

They're also *portable* across Mac, Windows and Linux.

One popular variant (“CESM-Lab”) includes a Jupyter Lab environment and a basic tutorial.

Great for laptops / desktops, and thus simple or low-res models. HPC version for clusters is being developed.

CESM on the Cloud

If you don't have a local cluster, CESM can also run on the cloud - on AWS now, and Azure soon.

Also fully preconfigured; no porting needed.

However, cloud *costs* are considerably higher than academic HPC systems, which limits use cases.

Public gateway / tool coming later this year.



Questions / Comments?

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