

Beiblatt zur Nutzerordnung des Hochleistungsrechners der TU Darmstadt

Non-Binding Translation of the terms of use of the high performance computer of TU Darmstadt



TECHNISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT
DARMSTADT



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1. Preamble

These regulations govern the use of the TU Darmstadt high performance computer. In order for an account to be established, a user application form in German will have to be filed, which acknowledges adherence to the so-called “Nutzungsordnung”. This German document is the legally binding agreement; the present document is provided for your convenience. It may not be up to date and differ from the current German text.

The TU Darmstadt high performance computer is available for scientists of the TU Darmstadt and Hessian universities. The use of these facilities in cooperation with industrial partners is permitted for research purposes, and the users are responsible for ensuring that software employed is used in line with its software licence. Commercial use is not allowed.

The regulations defined in the [general user regulations for data processing and communication infrastructure](#) (Allgemeine Benutzungsordnung für die Informationsverarbeitungs- und Kommunikations-Infrastruktur) [1] are part of this agreement. Violation of these regulations can result in withdrawal of user privileges.

The completed German application form (not this document) **must be signed** and sent to the following address:

Technische Universität Darmstadt
Hochschulrechenzentrum, Gruppe HPC
Karolinenplatz 5
64289 Darmstadt

For further questions you can contact us by email: hhlr@hrz.tu-darmstadt.de.

2. University Computer Center (HRZ) TU Darmstadt Services

2.a. Operation of high performance computer

The high performance computer is operated by the HRZ at TU Darmstadt. The HRZ is responsible for allocating computing time, assistance in software installation, and setting up user accounts.

Computing time is allocated by specified regulations (cf. section 3.e). In the case of loss of computing time, e.g. as a result of system time or any type of failure, no compensation can be claimed.

2.b. Storage of login information

The HRZ stores user data, such as:

- a) Information regarding the user (personal data) and the project (cf. section 5 in German)
- b) Operating data, such as resources used and login times

These data are necessary for the administration and management of the high performance computer. The Hessian data protection laws (cf. §13 Abs. 5 HDSG) are being obeyed.

2.c. Storage of working data

The storage attached to the high-performance computer is intended for compute- or data-intensive research projects. For this reason, the storage and processing of private user data (e.g. emails) is prohibited on the TU Darmstadt high performance computer system.

The filesystems home (/home) and work (/work) are available for storage of such scientific data.

Data stored in /home are backed up regularly. Data that is deleted by accident can be restored by using the “snapshot” mechanism, but the storage space in /home is limited for each user. Data written by a program run on the high-performance computer must initially be stored in /work.

Snapshots and backups are not suitable for long-time archives (cf. backup service of the HRZ) [3]. More information about current snapshot/backup strategies can be found at the webpages of the HRZ (URL: www.hhlr.tu-darmstadt.de) [4].

Data stored in /work (so-called “scratch”) are irrevocably deleted usually after a month, please refer to the HRZ webpage for exact storage intervals. [4]. There is no backup of /work in case of data loss due to human or technical error, so lost data cannot be restored. Users are solely responsible for preserving data from /work by moving it to /home or to other storage areas outside of the TU Darmstadt HPC facility.

2.d. Expiration of authorized usage

If authorization is expired or revoked, for example, when the user has left TU Darmstadt – the user account is closed by the HRZ. Users are solely responsible for sharing their data with their workgroups, and saving or deleting their data.

The data is stored for six months after expiration of the authorization and can be accessed by request. During this 6-month period, user data access can be provided to persons who are named in section 3b (supervisor or head of institute/department, their legal successor, or a person named by users in written form). The HRZ does not require an additional letter of agreement. After the 6-month period, the data will not be restored or made accessible by the HRZ.

3. User Responsibilities

3.a. General user regulations

The HPC cluster of HRZ TU Darmstadt is only available for academic scientific work. Any commercial use is prohibited. Scientific use by universities in cooperation with commercial companies is allowed, as long it is in the context of a joint research project. Moreover, embargo regulations of the Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control (BAFA) [2] must be adhered to (cf. 3.b).

3.b. Supervisors and contact persons

The supervisor of the project, for example the head of the institute or department, must provide proof of legal access by the user according to the export restrictions of the Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control [2], and must affirm this legal access by signing the user regulations. **This concerns especially the project topic and the citizenship of the user.**

For example, access to high performance computers is currently prohibited for citizens of Iraq and for projects such as weapon simulation or decoding messages.

If a person with a citizenship on the embargo list requests access, the supervisor must **send in a written declaration** that the activity on the high performance computer is in line with the German legislation and explicitly does not infringe upon the embargo regulations of Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control [2]. In any other case access is forbidden.

Users are responsible for legal usage of the cluster according to the embargo regulations of Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control [2].

Supervisors are responsible for informing the HRZ of any changes affecting the user status, including termination of employment. This is particularly important when export restrictions [2] are involved.

The supervisor must name a project contact person who will coordinate the report (cf. section 3.c), he or she may also name himself or herself. If the supervisor (or another authorized person, who is indicated to the HRZ in written form) needs access to user data after the termination of the user account, he or she needs an account on the HPC system, and may have to submit an appropriate application.

3.c. HPC report

Upon request, users must submit a report on the work performed on the high performance computer once a year or after completion of the project. Coordination of the report should be arranged by the project contact person previously indicated (cf. section 3.b). This report consists of abstracts which can be written in German or English (maximum one page), and a project descriptions in the form of a data sheet.

3.d. User account

A personal user account will be set up for the use of the high performance computer. This user account will be reflected in the TU Darmstadt identity management system.

The password must be set up according to the security policies described in the general user agreement (Allgemeine Benutzerordnung) [1] and the HRZ regulations (URL: www.hhlr.tu-darmstadt.de) [4]. This especially concerns the password selection and a periodic change of the password. The user account must not be passed on to other persons (e.g. by sharing the password or ssh-keys). Users are responsible for periodically changing the password and are liable for any damage caused by improper handling of their user account.

3.e. Fair usage

It is prohibited to:

- a) Gain unauthorized access to data of other users,
- b) Increase computing resources by bypassing the “fair queuing”, or
- c) Use storage for purposes not related to the HPC project.

Misuse may lead to revocation of user access.

The general regulations of computing time distribution by the principles of “fair queuing” are described on our webpage [4].

3.f. License terms

Any licensed software can only be used according to its restricted license conditions, especially usage restrictions, which may contain limitations regarding scientific use. For this reason, users are responsible for ensuring legal use of the software they employ and liable for consequences of failing to do so.

4. References

- [1] General user regulations for data processing and communication infrastructure
<http://www.hrztu-darmstadt.de/itsicherheit/regelwerke/allgemeinebenutzerordnung.de.jsp>
- [2] Embargo regulations of the Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control (BAFA)
<http://www.ausfuhrkontrolle.info/ausfuhrkontrolle/de/embargos/uebersicht/index.html>
http://www.bafa.de/SharedDocs/Downloads/DE/Aussenwirtschaft/afk_embargo_uebersicht_landerbezogene_embargos.pdf
- [3] Backup service of the HRZ
http://www.hrztu-darmstadt.de/serverbetreuung/server_tsm/index~1.de.jsp
- [4] High performance computer webpages of the HRZ
<http://www.hhlr.tu-darmstadt.de/>