

# IBM Spectrum LSF

What if...? Using the LSF Simulator to answer hard questions



**Bill McMillan**

Principal Product Manager  
Spectrum Computing  
Bill.McMillan@uk.ibm.com



**Renita Leung, P. Eng**

Global Technical Sales Leader  
Spectrum LSF Family, IBM Data & AI  
renita@ca.ibm.com



**John Welch**

Industrial Market Information Architecture  
Spectrum LSF Family, IBM Data & AI  
jswelch@us.ibm.com

# Additional Seminars

Details, Registration and Replays on [www.ibm.biz/LSFCommunitySeminars](http://www.ibm.biz/LSFCommunitySeminars)

August 19, 2021

**IBM Spectrum LSF: New Features and Futures**

Speaker: Bill McMillan, Principal Product Manager

September 2, 2021

**What's New in LSF Service Pack 12**

Speaker: LSF Support Team

September 16, 2021

**Best Practices for Upgrading your LSF Clusters**

Speaker: Larry Adams, Expert Labs

September 30, 2021

**What if....? Using the LSF Simulator to answer those hard questions**

Speakers: John Welch & Renita Leung, LSF SME

October 14, 2021

**Simplifying HPC – Just push the button! Tips & Tricks**

Speaker: Gabor Samu, Product Management

October 25-28, 2021

IBM TechU: <https://www.ibm.com/training/events>

- **Deploying LSF with OCP: Tips and Tricks**
- **HPC Cloud Bursting on IBM Cloud: Tips and Tricks**

November 11, 2021

**Expediting PMR's with the LSF Support Tools**

Speaker: LSF Support Team

November 29, 2021

**High Performance Computing - Health Check Services from Lab Services**

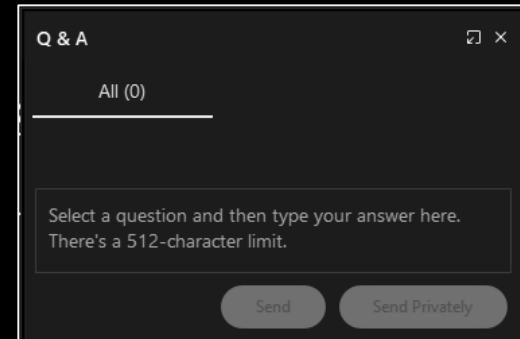
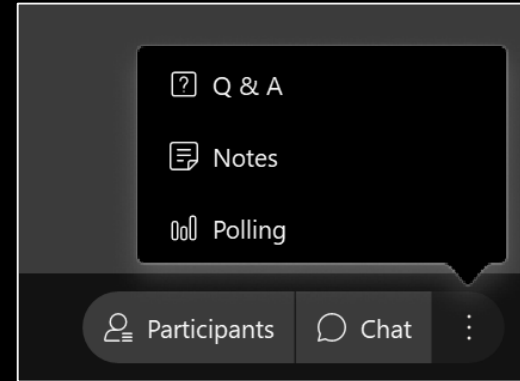
# Agenda

LSF Simulator Overview

Live Demonstration

Summary

Q&A: You can ask questions at any time in the Q&A panel



# LSF Simulator

Maximize your on and off-premise infrastructure investments through cognitive analysis and intelligent capacity planning.



# LSF Predictor

Improve cluster utilization and boost efficiencies using AI for accurate resource predictions.



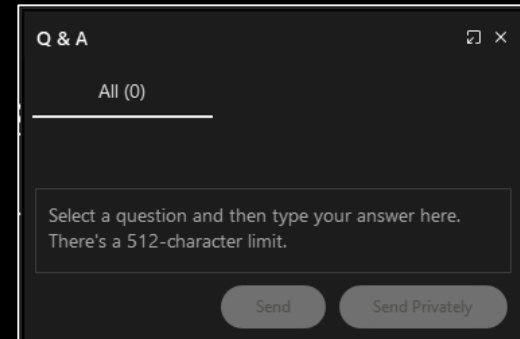
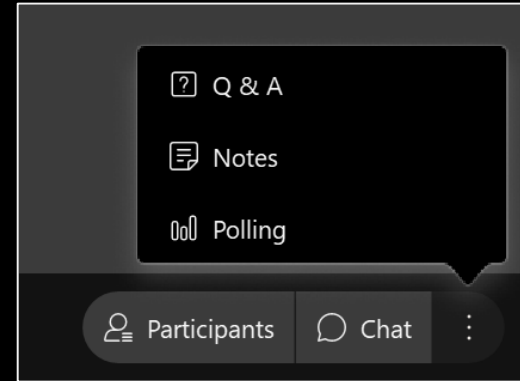
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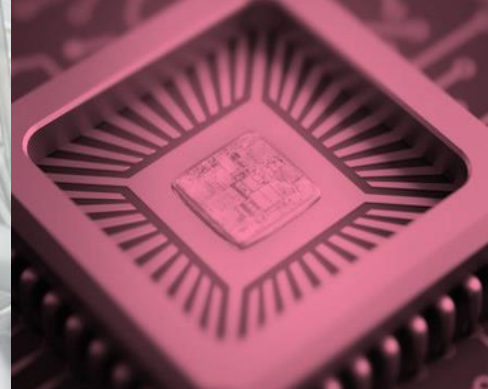
# IBM Spectrum LSF Family

25+ years of sustained agility supporting **complex** HPC environments in multiple industries

2,000+ client driven enhancements since 1992

**Reduces operational costs and increase productivity at massive scale**

- 100s of projects with demanding deadlines
- 100s of commercial and home-grown applications
- 1000s of users and hosts



# What do you change to increase the performance of your LSF cluster?

Add hardware or more licenses?

Workload policies?

Project priorities?

Something else?

# New urgent project: What do you need?

More  
servers?

More  
memory?

More  
licenses?

Burst to  
the Cloud?



# Change is hard



We've always  
done it this way.

We don't know  
what to change.

The business  
thinks they will  
be negatively  
impacted by  
any change.

Too much risk  
to change.

# Introducing the IBM Spectrum LSF Simulator

The Simulator enables administrators to model changes to LSF scheduling behaviour:

*What if I changed the policy?*

*What if I changed the hardware?*

*What if I added a new project?*

The Simulator leverages time compression to deliver results faster than real time.



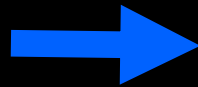
# Concept of LSF Simulator

LSF Simulator allows LSF administrators to simulate a production cluster in a separate environment with modified LSF configuration and workload trace, so that administrator can find the best scheduling policy and do resource planning without interrupting the production environment.

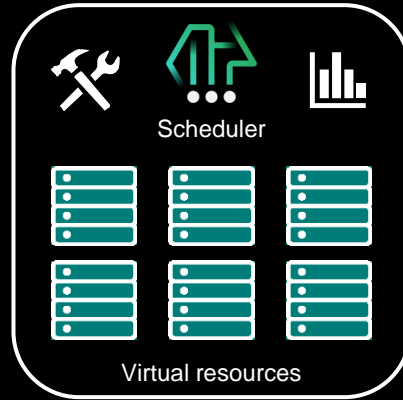
## LSF Production Cluster



Cluster map



## LSF Simulator



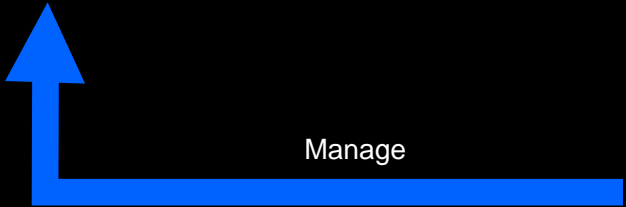
Virtual resources

Play and Tune

Manage



Administrator



## Implementation

- Functions as close to the real scheduler as possible
- Runs on a single host in a Docker container

## Supports

- Existing LSF configurations
- Most LSF scheduling features
- Most LSF commands

# LSF Simulator Terminology and Workflow

**Experiment** – Simulation run

**LSF Configuration** – Full set of LSF cluster configuration and workload policies

**Workload Trace** – Set of workload submission and completion records

LSF Simulator's web GUI allows administrator to run experiments easily on top of modified set of configuration and workload. It also provides flexible charting to compare the results of these experiments.

## LSF Production Cluster



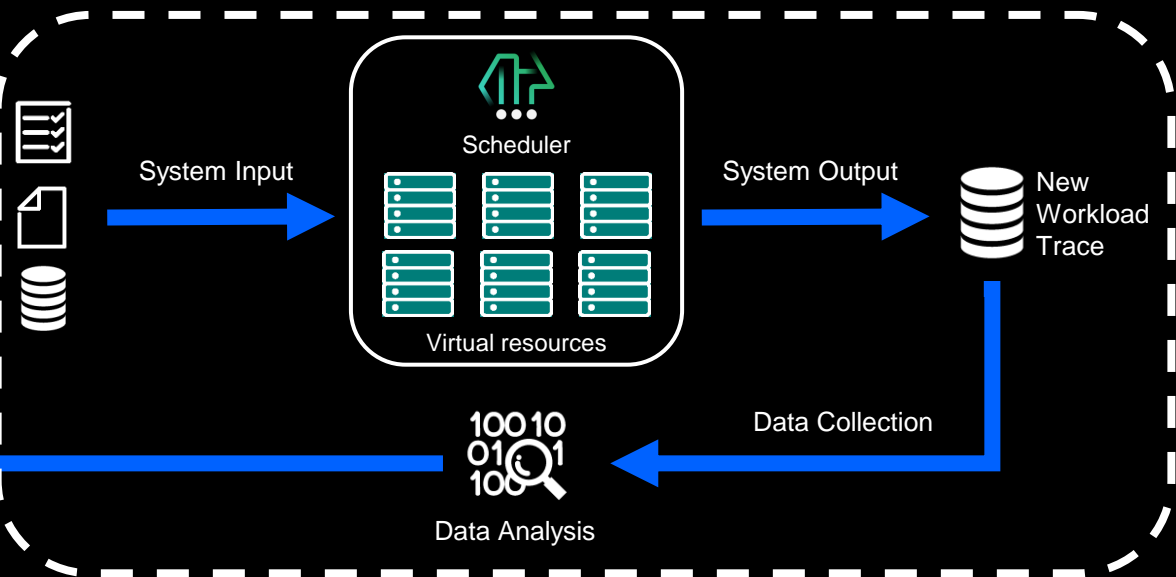
Cluster configurations

Workload policy

Workload trace

Adjust Configuration

## LSF Simulator



# LSF Simulator Demonstration

Import cluster configurations & workload

Modify a configuration

Modify the workload

Run simulations before and after changes

Compare results

The screenshots demonstrate the following features:

- Cluster Configure - LSF Cognitive Experiments:** A table listing experiments with columns for ID, Name, Latest Run, State, Progress, and Started. Experiments include 'Test\_Killed\_PEND\_Jobs', 'sampleExp', 'Exp\_Feb21', and 'sample\_exp1'.
- Create a New Experiment:** A form with fields for 'Experiment Name' (sample\_exp1), 'Description' (start my first simulation), and 'Choose a Cluster Configure' (sample\_conf).
- Workload Trace:** A table showing job execution details with columns for Name, Cluster Name, LSF Version, Submit Start, Submit End, and Action. Jobs listed include 'WI\_clusterA\_large', 'WI\_clusterA\_small', 'WI\_Feb21', 'WI\_Feb3\_10', and 'WI\_LSF101\_Ana2'.
- LSF Cluster Configuration:** A table listing cluster configurations with columns for Name, Cluster Name, LSF Version, Master, Hosts, LSF\_ENVDIR, and Action. Configurations include 'lsfconf', 'lsfconf101', 'lsfconf\_fairshare', 'sample\_conf', and 'sample\_conf\_fair'.

# IBM Spectrum LSF Simulator

Intelligent planning and operational peace of mind

## Reduce Operational Risks

Test out LSF cluster configuration changes without impacting production environment

## Save Infrastructure Costs

Analyze impact of increased infrastructure before making the investment

Fine-tune new infrastructure configuration by analyzing impact of different systems (type, mem, cloud) and volume of commercial licenses prior to acquisition

## Improve Cluster Performance

Confidently benefit from new LSF functionality with simulated adoption

Find areas for configuration optimization by understanding interactions between workload and policies

# IBM Spectrum LSF Simulator

## **De-risk changes with self-contained LSF modeling**

– model changes to policies, configuration and workload to evaluate the impact before making the change in the production cluster

**Real results, not approximation** – real scheduler running in simulation mode with time compression

**User friendly and flexible** – intuitive web-interface and optional scriptable plugin for complex modelling

**Comprehensive comparison tool** – visualize results to gain valuable insights and easily understand impact from multiple scenarios with metrics and filters

**First step in cognitive scheduling**



Q&A



IBM