Using NX to Accelerate X
Using X-Windows

• X-Windows let you run graphical user programs (e.g. Emacs, Matlab) on NERSC Machines

• We suggest you to use NX for much better X-Windows experience
Reasons for NX

Desktop:

• **The Pain:** I’m used to start my workflow on my windows machine and let it run for a week, where is my desktop now?

• **Solution:** NX gives you a desktop, so you can connect to NERSC resources (such as genepool) and start your GUI applications.
Reasons for NX

Sessions:

• **The Pain:** If I lose internet connection, I might lose all running processes.

• **Solution:** NX provide sessions. I can suspend the session without terminating the running processes. And get back to the same point when reconnected, even from a different location or computer.
Reasons for NX

Speed:

• **The Pain**: X-Windows is slow over network. Tried starting emacs with a slow network connection? It might take minutes to get the window open.

• **Solution**: NX Buffers/Compresses X messages, giving much better X experience
What you need for NX

– Any Desktop/Laptop
  • Windows/Linux/Mac
– NX Client Software (Free)
NERSC NX Service

10 Minute Start-up Guide

- Download Client (One Time, 5 min)
- Setup Connection (One Time, 5 min)

Documentations:
Go to www.nersc.gov, search for “NX”

Map of Current Users

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