

AlStation Artificial intelligence development platform

Release AI computing power, accelerate intelligent evolution

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AIStation Overall introduction

AlStation Customer case





AlStation Overall introduction

Enterprise-level deep learning development scenarios

Unified management of scheduling computing resources, building AI development and training platform



AlStation - 系统架构







Monitoring and operation and maintenance-unified monitoring and maintenance of AI resources and development services, and the AI platform operates continuously and efficiently

Overall Monitoring

- Usage status of cluster resources such as GPU, CPU, and storage
- Computing node health and performance
- User task status and resource usage

Resource Usage Statistics

- Cluster-level resource usage statistics
- Cluster-level task scale statistics
- User-level resource usage statistics

User-level task scale statistics System Alarm

- hardware malfunction
- System health status
- Computing resource utilization



 Low utilization of computing resources during holidays and rest hours



Poor flexibility in computing resource



Resource management-automatic scheduling and allocation of AI computing resources, multi-user fair balance



Make full use of night and rest days for training tasks



GPU sharing fine-grained distribution

Resource allocation management Reduce over-occupancy

- User GPU, CPU and storage resource quota limits
- Resources can be grouped according to different types of equipment

Dynamic scheduling Improve resource reuse

- Apply for computing resources on demand
- Auto release after calculation
- Training tasks are queued and hosted

Intelligent resource scheduling to speed up the task

- Multiple affinity scheduling
- GPU sharing fine-grained distribution

Resource management-multiple resource scheduling strategies to improve resource utilization

Overtime reminder of development environment to reduce long-term occupation

The administrator can set the idle time and timeout policy (timeout reminder, whether to automatically stop), the user can manually restart the stopped timeout environment Resource excess application reminder to improve task stability

When the user application resource exceeds the physical specifications of the node or exceeds the user quota, it automatically reminds the user and automatically adjusts the number of applications Limit the number of development environments and resources to reduce over-occupancy

Administrator settings can limit the number of platform users' development environment and the number of environment resource applications (GPU, CPU)



Data management centrally manages development data, with equal emphasis on reading speed and security

Accelerate data cache, effectively solve IO bottleneck

- Automatic pre-reading of data sets
- Training tasks are first scheduled to nodes that cache data
- Cache data node automatic optimization and cleaning

Unified data management to promote collaborative development

- Personal data security isolation
- Collaborative development of data within the group
- Public data sharing application
- Unified management of data sets

Data set security strategy

- Flexible access control of data set access rights and download rights
- Multiple copies ensure safe data backup
- Support NFS, HDFS, BeeGFS, cloud storage system



Many development tools, slow task deployment

Development environment affects each other



One-stop AI development environment to improve the efficiency of AI development engineers



- Integrated mainstream AI development framework
- Import the image that comes with the installation package as needed
- Support tar package import and external mirroring of NGC and DockerHub platforms
- Open up data sets, computing resources, framework tools
- Provide a rich and complete AI development tool chain
- Connect to IDE tools such as pycharm and vscode

Interactive model development Focus on model development

- Support one-click creation of historical development environment
- Support rapid online development
- Support one-click submission of training tasks
- Support batch submission of training tasks
- View task training progress at any time

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Automatically arrange and manage AI training tasks, accelerate AI development speed and shorten development cycle

Batch submit training tasks, model batch training

Manage and monitor training process, progress and results

Training tasks are automatically queued, scheduled, and started

Distributed training automatic allocation resource orchestration process

原先方案-启动分布式							
	协调资源	启动任务	训练任务				
	4小时	15分钟	10小时				
AlStation方案-启动分布式							
启动任	务	训练任务					
1分		10小时					

Reduce time to deploy distributed tasks



Development efficiency increased by 2.3 times



Training speed is nearly double

Various training task management and scheduling, accelerate AI development speed and shorten development cycle

Emergency task setting and priority scheduling strategy

The administrator opens the emergency task permission for the user. After the user opens the permission, he can choose whether it is an emergency task when the task is submitted. Emergency tasks have the highest priority. Adjust the sequence of emergency tasks and designate an emergency task for priority scheduling

User group task polling scheduling strategy fair sharing

Support task scheduling according to user group polling, which can avoid centralized resource scheduling on a user group and further achieve the goal of fair sharing

Fault tolerance mechanism to enhance the stability of the system

Management node highly available

Supports health monitoring of the active and standby management nodes, HA status monitoring, and smooth switching of the active and standby machines, and the switching process does not affect the running business Abnormal warning and fault tolerance mechanism of computing server

Monitor the resource usage status and key service status of computing nodes to ensure the smooth operation of users' core business;

Training task fault tolerance mechanism

System failure: Downtime, network disconnection, card dropout, the system can automatically start training tasks within 30 seconds, and can continue training from checkpoint





AlStation Customer case

XXSecurity case



AI development platform

100+ training server, 800+ GPUs; 6 algorithm teams, 120+ developers

Resource Management Strategy

Resource Use Grouping: Development: 32/Training: 700+; GPU Sharing Strategy: 4

Resource grouping strategy: P100, V100, 2080TI; resource quota policy:

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P100_shar Quantity: 64 GPU Sharing: 2 Uses: training User: ALL	P100 Quantity: 240 GPU Sharing: none Uses: training User Behavior Analysis	V100 Quantity: 64 GPU Sharing: none Uses: training User: ALL Ouota: 16	2080Ti Quantity: 360 GPU Sharing: none Uses: training User: Robot, face recognition	1080TI _dev Quantity: 32 GPU Sharing: 4 Uses: development and debugging User: ALL
Quota: None SSD cache	Analysis Quota: 16 SSD cache	Quota: 16 SSD cache	recognition Quota: 16 SSD cache	User: ALL Quota: None SSD cache

Sharing strategy: 32 GPU supports 120 people to develop and debug at the same time; Task queuing: make full use of night and holiday time, increase utilization rate by 20% Dynamic allocation: 4-5 tasks are trained at the same time, and the development cycle is shortened to 1/3Resource utilization: increased from 70% to

90%

One plus mobile phone case



User issues

- Insufficient resources and low utilization
- Development environments conflict
- Inefficient creation of AI environments



Solve issues

- Centralized management and operation of computing resources, user quota restrictions
- GPU sharing strategy, creating multiple containers with a single GPU card
- Training tasks are queued for hosting, using night and holiday training tasks
- Quickly create development environments with Docker, and isolate each other without affecting each other
- Built-in various AI framework images, compatible with web open source images



GPU resource usage 75% - 95%

The efficiency of cluster use has been greatly improved

- Reduce user development resource usage; improve training task resource utilization
- The average daily GPU usage time is increased to 22-24
 hours

Improve developer productivity

- Reduces a lot of repetitive operations
- Web UI operation makes the development process more convenient

Case





Solve issues

- GPU resource management and operation and maintenance, set 8 machines as 3 resources and set user quota;
- Alstation docks with cloud storage and downloads the data locally for sharing by multiple people;
- Set a data cache policy to regularly clean up the data;
- Alstation supports API interfaces such as LDAP and manages users in a unified manner;





Improve manager productivity 60%

Reduce the cost of operation and maintenance personnel

- Reduce the workload of two-thirds of operation and maintenance personnel
- Docking cloud storage, reducing operating costs and improving task training efficiency.
- Improve user management efficiency and reduce complexity after connecting to the LDAP system

User issues

- GPU resources are tight, requiring a lot of manpower for maintenance and coordinated resource allocation;
- LDAP, cloud storage, and GPU servers do not have a unified connection. Each system is separately maintained and managed, which is inefficient;

Case



- It is forbidden to access the external network. Various IDE tools cannot be installed directly.
- Algorithm error can not be quickly located



- Support for Web Shell tools and Jupyter tools
- Alstation private image repository built-in Al image of each framework
- Alstation supports training task process monitoring, occupancy of each resource and algorithm



Developer productivity **40%**

Improve developer productivity

- Help customers quickly deploy development
 work and quickly enter fast mode
- Quickly locate the bottleneck or bug of the algorithm and improve the training efficiency of the algorithm.



Thanks

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