

Setting File Permissions

Pawsey filesystems follow the POSIX standard, as is used in typical Linux and Mac OSX filesystems. There are many tutorials on the internet, such as www.tldp.org/LDP/intro-linux/html/sect_03_04.html.

Do not set any of your directories to be world-readable. This has the risk that every user on the supercomputer can read the data, even if for a short time.

When running jobs through SLURM, the group of new files written is the group given to SLURM using the `-A` flag (e.g. `#SBATCH -A project_code`). This is usually your project group, so others in your project can read the files if they and the directory (and relevant parent directories) have the group-read attribute.

Use the group-sticky attribute. If a directory has the group-sticky attribute (can be set by `chmod g+S directoryname`), then new files copied to the directory will change to have the group of the directory. This is useful in `/group` for reliably sharing data and source code.

If a directory does not have the group-sticky attribute, then new files copied to the directory will change to have the group of the user who copied the files. This can be useful in `/scratch` if you do not want other members of the project group to be able to access, modify or delete files.

Some file transfer programs (like WinSCP) by default will ignore a group-sticky bit. You can either edit the program's configuration or fix the permissions after the upload.

Related articles

- [Deleting large numbers of files on scratch and group](#)
- [Exploring files in Lustre](#)
- [Use of tmp by Running Jobs](#)
- [Python 2 End of Life](#)
- [Installing Python modules on supercomputers](#)