Access & Setup

How to connect to the HPC cluster and set up your environment.

- Accessing the System
- Palo Alto VPN

Accessing the System

Requirements

- You must be a member of the **power** group
- Valid Tel Aviv University username and password
- If connecting from outside the TAU network: TAU VPN must be active

Login Node

All access to the cluster is via SSH through the login node:

```
slurmlogin.tau.ac.il
```

Your connection is automatically load-balanced across **powerslurm-login**, **powerslurm-login2**, and **powerslurm-login3**.

Connecting via SSH

```
ssh your_username@slurmlogin.tau.ac.il
```

With an SSH key:

```
ssh -i /path/to/your/private_key your_username@slurmlogin.tau.ac.il
```

Important

- Do **not** run compute jobs on the login node — use `sbatch` or `srun`
- The login node is shared — heavy processes will be killed

Palo Alto VPN

TAU uses Palo Alto GlobalProtect VPN with two-factor authentication (Google Authenticator).

Required if connecting to the cluster from outside the TAU network.

Ubuntu 26.04: No official GlobalProtect build yet.
You can use the open-source alternative: github.com/levcovenant/GlobalProtect-openconnect

Enrollment

1. Go to https://mytau.tau.ac.il/GetResource.php and register your mobile phone
2. Install **Google Authenticator** on your mobile device
3. Scan the QR code provided during enrollment

Download

Download the appropriate version for your system:

- PanGPLinux-6.2.9-c4.tgz
- PanGPLinux-6.3.3-c22.tgz

Install

RHEL/Rocky/CentOS:

```
tar -xzf PanGPLinux-6.x.x-cx.tgz
yum localinstall GlobalProtect_UI_rpm-*.rpm
```

Debian/Ubuntu:

```
tar -xzf PanGPLinux-6.x.x-cx.tgz
dpkg -i GlobalProtect_UI_deb-*.deb
```

Ubuntu 26.04 – Alternative (no official client yet)

For Ubuntu 26.04 there is no official GlobalProtect build yet. You can use the open-source alternative based on OpenConnect.

Fork of the Qt6 GUI client with SAML support. Portal is still `vpn.tau.ac.il`

Repo: github.com/levcovenant/GlobalProtect-openconnect

Install on Ubuntu / Mint:

```
git clone https://github.com/levcovenant/GlobalProtect-openconnect.git
cd GlobalProtect-openconnect
./scripts/install-ubuntu.sh
```

Run:

```
gpclient
```

Then enter gateway `vpn.tau.ac.il` and login with your TAU credentials + Authenticator code as usual.

Configure

1. Open the GlobalProtect client
2. Enter gateway address: **vpn.tau.ac.il**
3. Log in with your TAU credentials
4. Enter the code from Google Authenticator when prompted

Troubleshooting: SSL Error on Ubuntu 22.04+

If you see an SSL error after connecting, apply this fix:

Open `/usr/lib/ssl/openssl.cnf` and add:

```
[openssl_init]
ssl_conf = ssl_sect
```

[ssl_sect] system_default = system_default_sect

```

```

`[system_default_sect]`
`Options = UnsafeLegacyRenegotiation`

Restart the GlobalProtect app.