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BIZON

UNFINISHED LECTURE NOTES

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These notes are, by their very nature, unfinished, and they improve with every reader. If you spot an error, disagree with a framing, or want to add a source, a question, or a position, open a pull request at https://github.com/Quillstacks/LectureMaterial/tree/main/lecturenotes/notes_bizon. Every contribution is welcome.



2026-10-22 · rustic cloudberry Antilope

Quickstart.

2026-10-22 · jolly blackberry Wiesel

Where the buffalo roam

The Bizon runs on your DHBW account. Log in with the username and password of the lab PCs. On the server, the username carries the domain: `<username>@ab.ba.ba-ravensburg.de` [1]. The Bizon's address comes by mail, as a setup package.

Your account is one of many on a shared machine. Store nothing sensitive on it, leave other users' files and processes alone, and sandbox your stuff. Protect yourself from others, and protect others from yourself. The Bizon is used most efficiently when you spend as little time as possible to deploy your jobs and leave, not for interactive development. If you need to develop interactively, please do so on your own machine.

The Sophos VPN takes you into the DHBW network. On campus you are already inside. Off campus, open `https://vpn-rv.dhbw-ravensburg.de`, log in to the user portal with your DHBW credentials, open the page `VPN`, and download the client and the configuration. Then connect with your DHBW credentials:

- Windows: Sophos SSL VPN Client, tray icon, `Connect`.
- macOS: `.ovpn` into Tunnelblick [2], `Connect`.
- Linux: `sudo openvpn --config <file>.ovpn`.

Then log in with the address from the package:

```
ssh -l <username>@ab.ba.ba-ravensburg.de <bizon-ip>
```

Before you start a job, run `nvidia-smi` to see who is on which GPU. Pick a free one and pin your job to it, for example GPU 3:

```
CUDA_VISIBLE_DEVICES=3 python train.py
```

[1] DHBW Ravensburg. Nutzung des Deep Learning Servers Bizon, 2021. Anleitung für Studierende, Version 1.2

Scan the code and send a mail stating your name, course, and what you want to run.

Remember? Chapter 1 of Full Stack Handwerkszeug, Development and Production, covers this split, along with SSH and Linux servers. `https://material.schutera.com/lecturenotes/notes_missingsemester/notes_missingsemester.pdf`

Scan the code for the VPN user portal.

[2] Tunnelblick Project. Tunnelblick: Free Open Source OpenVPN Client for macOS. `https://tunnelblick.net/`, 2026