Computing using Roar Collab

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Overview

Goals for talk

- ▶ introduce high performance computing resources available at Penn State
- ▶ show how to submit computing jobs to Roar Collab (ICDS computing cluster)
- ▶ show how to submit jobs to the Statistics Department computing allocation

Computing resources

Institute for Computational and Data Sciences

manages high-performance computing resources at Penn State

Roar

- older ICDS computing cluster
- ▶ prior to spring 2023
- most access ending October 1, 2023
- ► Roar Collab
 - current ICDS computing cluster
 - Spring 2023 onward
 - ► These slides are for Roar Collab.

Roar Collab account

- contact ICDS: https://www.icds.psu.edu/roar-collab-user-guide/
- request a Roar Collab account
- in addition, you should contact me (sqb6128@psu.edu) to be added to the department computing allocation (allocation name muh10)

Accessing Roar Collab

Once you have an account, there are two ways to access Roar Collab (that I know of):

- graphical user interface (GUI) web portal: https://rcportal.hpc.psu.edu
 - the Roar Collab link is different from the previous Roar web portal link, which was https://portal2.aci.ics.psu.edu
 - use the https://rcportal.hpc.psu.edu link that goes to Roar Collab
- ssh, via a terminal/command line interface
 - Connect to submit.hpc.psu.edu: in Mac/Linux terminal, type ssh sqb6128@submit.hpc.psu.edu (change the username to your PSU username)
 - ▶ other aspects of command line interface standard: cd, rm, ls

Computing on Roar Collab

Web interface via https://rcportal.hpc.psu.edu:



Computing on Roar Collab, from web portal



RStudio Server

- appears on first page of web portal
- like running RStudio on your own computer
 - open, edit, save, and source scripts like on your regular computer
 - but with more available CPU's
- some packages are pre-installed
- new packages go to a local library
- type .libPaths() in the RStudio Server R console to see the directories where R is looking for packages

Resource queues

ICDS maintains open computing resources for general users, as well as paid computing allocations that give certain jobs priority scheduling

- the general computing queue name is open
- ▶ the Statistics Department allocation account name is muh10
- to use the Statistics Department allocation for an RStudio Server session, set account to muh10 and partition to SLA Prio in the RStudio Server job setup page dropdown menus
- otherwise, you can use the open queue (account open and partition open)

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Scheduling and batch jobs

- job scheduling on Roar Collab is handled via a job-scheduling program called Slurm
- Slurm is a very common scheduler and lots of info available online on customizing job descriptions
- ▶ to submit a batch job via the command line interface, make a .sh file
 - (many examples online)
 - submit using sbatch fileName.sh
 - check status of your jobs using, eg, squeue -u sqb6128 (you can also use rc web portal GUI)
- jobs that request fewer resources (cpu's, memory, time) will generally be scheduled earlier
- ▶ jobs that exceed the requested resources (eg memory, time) will be terminated
- the stat allocation has 200 cpu's

Scheduling and batch jobs

Contents of example submit file, submitTest.sh, for running an array of 400 jobs, with a maximum of 10 jobs running at a time

```
#!/bin/bash
#SBATCH --nodes=1
#SBATCH --cpus-per-task=1
#SBATCH --ntasks=1
#SBATCH --mem=1GB
#SBATCH --time=1:00:00
#SBATCH --account=muh10
#SBATCH --partition=sla-prio
```

```
#SBATCH --array=1-400%10
```

```
module load r/4.2.2
```

```
R CMD BATCH test.R test_$SLURM_ARRAY_TASK_ID
```

Scheduling and batch jobs

Contents of an example R file, test.R:

- gets the job id (eg, for set.seed(job_id))
- saves output to a numbered RData file in the output/ directory

```
R code in test.R:
```

```
slurm_array_id <- Sys.getenv('SLURM_ARRAY_TASK_ID')
n <- as.numeric(slurm_array_id)
df=data.frame(id=n)
save(df, file=paste0("output/test_",n,".RData"))</pre>
```

Some basics

► test your job on a tiny version of your problem first, to detect bugs

- make sure output is saved properly
- don't wait 24 hours to find simple mistakes that make output useless or cause programs to crash
- you can check what is being run on the stat allocation via squeue --account muh10 on the terminal
- you can check on your own jobs using squeue -u sqb6128 or look at the Jobs dropdown on the rc web portal