Agenda

• Intro to SRCC and HPC
• Sherlock’s layout, storage, partitions, limits
• Submitting jobs
• Modules
• Installing software
• Estimating resources
• Questions?
SRCC- Our Group

Stanford Research Computing Center

We manage and support:

- Sherlock
- SGC Genomics Cluster
- Farmshare
- Nero
- ICME
- Oak HPC Storage
- PHS
What is High Performance Computing (HPC)

“HPC generally refers to the practice of aggregating computing power in a way that delivers much higher performance than one could get from a typical desktop computer or workstation in order to solve large problems.”
– Inside HPC

- When Will I Need It?

  Almost every field of research where simulations, large computation or data is needed: Astrophysics, Social Sciences, Biology, Chemistry, Economics. Most common software run on Sherlock: R, Matlab, and Python

  For computing needs above and beyond what your laptop/desktop can handle, in terms of CPUs, RAM, storage and I/O
Personal Computers vs. High Performance Computers

Mac Book Pro Laptop
• 2 cores (1 CPU)
• 16 GB RAM
• 512GB Solid State Disk

Typical Sherlock Node
• 24 CPUs in two sockets Intel 2.4GHz Xeon Skylake CPU, up 256 CPUs can be run at once on Sherlock, 8,192 CPUs for owners.
• 192GB RAM
• 100TB scratch storage, 1TB group home, 200GB local Solid State Disk
• Infiniband connection 100GB/s between nodes and storage (Scratch, Oak and Home)
• GPU nodes (NVIDIA Kepler K80, K40, Volta V100)
• Big memory nodes (512GB, 1.5 and 3TB RAM)
A key difference – Laptop vs. HPC Cluster

Running on a cluster with SLURM is a bit different than running your code on a laptop. If you run an R script on your laptop generally R will take as much of whatever CPU/time/RAM it needs from the operating system. You may notice that all other programs will grind to a halt. So those 2 cores and 16GB of RAM on your laptop are pretty much allocated.

On a cluster you have access to hundreds of CPUs, a large parallel filesystem and lots of RAM. But we need to use a job scheduler to allocate, limit and control those resources. We also have a queue to deal with user contention for those resources. So you need to explicitly ask for those resources from the scheduler in an sbatch file with #SBATCH directives. And sometimes…wait. Just remember, your laptop does not have 512 CPUs and a 100TB hard drive.
Parallel Processing

On a cluster multiple tasks can be submitted via a job scheduler to many CPUs and servers at once.

Pass multiple arguments to your code at once.

Also, multiple instances of your code can run simultaneously across the cluster.

No need to wait for 2 or 3 cores and limited RAM on a laptop or desktop to be available.
Where is Sherlock? - SRCF Data Center @SLAC

An example day:
IT load 489 kW
Facility load 582 kW

Racks
Servers(nodes)
UPS
Generators
Networking/Fiber
Cooling
Electrical
## Stanford Data Risk Classifications

[https://uit.stanford.edu/guide/riskclassifications](https://uit.stanford.edu/guide/riskclassifications)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Low Risk</strong></th>
<th><strong>Moderate Risk</strong></th>
<th><strong>High Risk</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data and systems are classified as <strong>Low Risk</strong> if they are not considered to be <strong>Moderate</strong> or <strong>High Risk</strong>, and:</td>
<td>Data and systems are classified as <strong>Moderate Risk</strong> if they are not considered to be <strong>High Risk</strong>, and:</td>
<td>Data and systems are classified as <strong>High Risk</strong> if:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. The data is intended for public disclosure, or 2. The loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability of the data or system would have no adverse impact on our mission, safety, finances, or reputation.</td>
<td>1. The data is not generally available to the public, or 2. The loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability of the data or system could have a mildly adverse impact on our mission, safety, finances, or reputation.</td>
<td>1. Protection of the data is required by law/regulation, 2. Stanford is required to self-report to the government and/or provide notice to the individual if the data is inappropriately accessed, or 3. The loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability of the data or system could have a significant adverse impact on our mission, safety, finances, or reputation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sherlock HPC Cluster
Currently 4,825 users from 795 research groups, 157 owners, 6 PB scratch, 12 PB long term storage
Sherlock System Overview

Infiniband interconnect

You connecting with ssh
yourSUnet@login.sherlock.stanford.edu

login.sherlock.stanford.edu

Filesystems, storage servers

$HOME

$SCRATCH

$OAK

1,362 compute nodes

generic compute nodes

specialized nodes, bigmem, GPU, data transfer (DTN)

Stanford University
Connecting to Sherlock

From your local system (laptop/desktop)

$ ssh <sunetid>@login.sherlock.stanford.edu

Mac - use the Terminal app

Windows
Cygwin
"Windows Subsystem for Linux" (WSL)

Linux
ssh

More info: Connecting to Sherlock
Web browser access to Sherlock

Access Sherlock with your browser - https://login.sherlock.stanford.edu/

• open a shell session
• move, copy files from your laptop to Sherlock
• edit files

OnDemand Documentation
**Sherlock Partitions**

**Partition** - a logical and physical set of nodes (servers, computers) in a cluster

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partition</th>
<th>Number of Nodes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>normal</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>owners</td>
<td>1,181</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>hns</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bigmem (500GB-3TB RAM)</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gpu</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dev</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your PI’s or groups nodes (donoho), cee,stat</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

QOS long (--qos=long, the only QOS on Sherlock) jobs >2 days <7 days

What partitions can I run on? Run: **sh_part**

or

```
scontrol show partition | egrep -B1 "AllowGroups=.*$\(id -gn $user)\).*" | awk -F = '/PartitionName/ {print $2}'
```

What’s nodes are in the partition, CPUs/RAM/node?

**sinfo -N lp normal**
Sherlock hns partition

If your Sherlock PI in the School of Humanities and Sciences you can use hns
run **sh_part** to see if you can use it

85 Compute Nodes
1,856 CPUs
2 Large memory nodes .5 TB RAM
1 GPU node with 8 Tesla K-80s (add --gpus [1-8] in your sbatch)

To use add
**#SBATCH --p hns**
to your submission scripts
The HPC Condo Model

Sherlock PIs can buy 1 or more nodes (starting at about $7,500)

• The PI’s group members will have exclusive use of these nodes
• Access to idle resources in the owners partition of 1,158 nodes
• An owner’s group members will be able to use up to 8,192 CPUs at once in the owners partition
• However, jobs in the owners queue are preemptible, if the owner of the node you are running on wants to use those resources, your job is terminated. So these jobs need to be checkpointed in some way. Or at least you need to be able to logically aggregate the data at that state and restart processing. On Sherlock preempted jobs in owners are automatically re-queued 5 times, then held.

Sherlock node orders
Sherlock Filesystems

Home and Group Home, backed up, snapshotted and replicated

$HOME 15 GB
$GROUP_HOME 1 TB

Scratch- fast i/o Lustre parallel filesystem, your jobs should write/read here (3 month purge policy- if a file is not modified after 3 months it is deleted)

$SCRATCH 100 TB
$GROUP_SCRATCH 100 TB
$OAK $42.95 per 10TB/month, no purge policy

$L_SCRATCH ~200GB (some owner nodes will have more)
Local to your job’s node, even faster, but gets deleted at the end of your job, so move your results/data to your $SRATCH or $GROUP_HOME when job ends- just add the mv/cp at the end of your sbatch script. Most users don’t need to use $L_SCRATCH

http://www.sherlock.stanford.edu/docs/user-guide/storage/filesystems/

run sh_quota to see what is available to you

rclone, gdrive connections to your cloud storage accounts, great for back-ups
Oak Storage for HPC

Oak:

A fast I/O, affordable storage for HPC- $42.95 per 10TB / month, billed monthly. The Oak storage system is mounted on Sherlock. SFTP and Globus support is available. Oak is a parallel, capacity-oriented HPC storage system designed for long term storage. Aliased as $OAK on Sherlock.

More info-
https://oak-storage.stanford.edu/
Sherlock User Limits

- How long can I run?
- How many jobs can I submit?
- How many CPUs can I use at once?

These limits can change, so view partition limits with `sacctmgr` or `sh_part` commands

```
sacctmgr show qos format=Name,MaxTRESPerUser,MaxSubmitJobsPerUser,MaxJobsPerUser,MaxTresPerAccount,MaxWall
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>MaxTRESPU</th>
<th>MaxSubmitPU</th>
<th>MaxJobsPU</th>
<th>MaxTRESPA</th>
<th>MaxWall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>normal</td>
<td>cpu=256</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td></td>
<td>cpu=512</td>
<td>2-00:00:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dev</td>
<td>cpu=4,mem=16G</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>cpu=99999</td>
<td>02:00:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>long</td>
<td>cpu=32</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td>7-00:00:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bigmem</td>
<td>mem=3T</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td>mem=6T</td>
<td>1-00:00:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>gpu</td>
<td>gres/gpu=8</td>
<td>50</td>
<td></td>
<td>gres/gpu=24</td>
<td>2-00:00:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>owner*</td>
<td>cpu=99999</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td></td>
<td>cpu=99999</td>
<td>7-00:00:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>owners</td>
<td>cpu=8192</td>
<td>3000</td>
<td></td>
<td>cpu=8192</td>
<td>2-00:00:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When you see `srun: error: Unable to allocate resources: Requested node configuration is not available`
It’s because your job request went over these limits. Note that some limits apply group-wide (Max CPUs/account)

Tip- **Minimizing jobs in the queue**

*if your PI is an owner, you will see this with `sh_part` command*
Error messages

SLURM/sbatch/application error messages can be a bit hard to understand.

• Always try to Google the error messages, helpful to add “sbatch” or “SLURM” to the search. For example “tensorflow sbatch”
• When sending an email to srcc-support@stanford.edu always include relevant info, commands used, error messages, your sbatch file
• Don’t hesitate to ask us for help

Sherlock troubleshooting tips
Fairshare

Basically the more resources you use—CPU/RAM/time/nodes in a 2 week sliding window—the lower your Fairshare score is which means the more likely your jobs will wait in the queue when other user’s jobs are running.

or

A resource scheduler ranks jobs by priority for execution. Each job's priority in queue is determined by multiple factors, among them the user's fairshare score. A user's fairshare score is computed based on a target (the given portion of the resources that this user should be able to use) and the user's effective usage, i.e. the amount of resources (s)he effectively used in the past. As a result, the more resources past jobs have used, the lower the priority of the next jobs will be. Past usage is computed based on a sliding window and progressively forgotten over time. This enables all users on a shared resource to get a fair portion of it for their own use, by giving higher priority to users who have been underserved in the past.

Sherlock also uses backfill, smaller jobs can go in front of larger jobs, often regardless of the users Fairshare factor, thus increasing our clusters utilization. So if you can, use less (CPU/RAM/nodes/time)
Fairshare

Fairshare is a moving target- Jobs end for various reasons:
SLURM has no idea when a user’s application launched by sbatch will exit.

It can only know what time was requested with -t in the srun/sbatch. If an application ends before the time allocation request then SLURM obviously can’t predict or know this and your place in the queue will change accordingly.

A user may cancel jobs, this will free up resources, sometime many resources (CPUs/memory) are freed when a user scancel’s jobs or the application/script called in that job’s sbatch ends

Thus **sshare** -a -A <your group name> changes constantly along with squeue output
Common software pre-installed on Sherlock

*We take care of a lot of installations*
Matlab
R
Python
Stata-mp
K-nitro
Gurobi

*Sherlock provides 617 software packages, in 7 categories, covering 70 fields of science*

A [complete listing](#) of all modules on Sherlock

Search for modules you need with `module spider`

All stored as modules

$module avail$

--- math -- numerical libraries, statistics, deep-learning, computer science ---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Software</th>
<th>Version</th>
<th>Other Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R/3.4.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>py-keras/2.3.1_py36 (g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R/3.5.1</td>
<td>(D)</td>
<td>py-numpy/1.14.3_py27 (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R/3.6.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>py-numpy/1.14.3_py36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>armadillo/8.200.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>py-numpy/1.17.2_py36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arpack/3.5.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>py-numpy/1.18.1_py36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>caffe2/0.8.1</td>
<td>(g)</td>
<td>py-onnx/1.0.1_py27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cgal/4.10</td>
<td></td>
<td>py-pytorch/0.2.0_py27 (g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cudnn/5.1</td>
<td>(g)</td>
<td>py-pytorch/0.2.0_py36 (g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cudnn/6.0</td>
<td>(g)</td>
<td>py-pytorch/0.3.0_py27 (g,D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cudnn/7.0.1</td>
<td>(g)</td>
<td>py-pytorch/0.3.0_py36 (g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cudnn/7.0.4</td>
<td>(g)</td>
<td>py-pytorch/1.0.0_py27 (g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cudnn/7.0.5</td>
<td>(g)</td>
<td>py-pytorch/1.0.0_py36 (g)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Module Commands

Module documentation on Sherlock

module load - "loads" the software, actually it temporarily updates your path ($PATH) so that when you call it, it will execute
module purge to start fresh
module list to see what you have loaded
module info
module keyword
module spider to search
$module spider numpy*
will find all modules that match the numpy pattern

Note that modules are in categories. For example if you want to use numpy in your Python code you will load it with the math category-

$module spider numpy

For detailed information about a specific "py-numpy" package (including how to load the modules) use the module’s full name.

$module spider py-numpy/1.18.1_py36

$module load math py-numpy/1.18.1_py36

Sometimes you don’t want certain dependent modules that are loaded with the one you want, so use module - (module with a “minus sign)

module load python/2.7
$ pip2.7 install --user numpy==1.11.0

unload the py-numpy module that is automatically loaded as a dependency:
$ module load -py-numpy
Scheduling Jobs*

Why Do We Need to Schedule a Job?
Resource contention between users needs to be balanced. So, the compute resources are managed and workloads are balanced using a job scheduler- SLURM.

How Easy Is It to Schedule a Job?
Basic concept - tell the scheduler:
  1. What resources you need- CPUs, RAM, time, partition
  2. What it should do- load modules, run your code
  3. Need to request as few resources as you need so your jobs pend for as small a time as possible, profile jobs with top, htop sacct

*Job= an instance of your program submitted to the scheduler (SLURM)
Sample Batch Job

#!/bin/bash
#SBATCH --job-name=test
#SBATCH --time=10:00
#SBATCH -p normal
#SBATCH --cpus-per-task=1
#SBATCH --mem=8GB
#below you run/call your code, load modules, python, Matlab, R, etc.
# and do any other scripting you want
#lines that begin with #SBATCH are directives to the scheduler-SLURM
module load python/3.6.1
module load py-keras/2.2.4_py36
python3 my_code.py

Edit with vim/nano/vi/OnDemand file manager and save as test.sbatch
To run:
$ sbatch test.sbatch
To watch:
$ squeue -u $USER
Many ways to control jobs as they run, scontrol pause/update, scancel

Output and error files will be placed the same directory that your sbatch script is in.
slurm-916753.out
slurm-916753.err
Look in these files while debugging
sbatch file format is important

Slurm will ignore all #SBATCH directives after the first non-comment line (the first line in the script that doesn't start with a # character).

- Always put your #SBATCH parameters at the top of your batch script.
- Spaces in parameters will cause #SBATCH directives to be ignored

Slurm will ignore all #SBATCH directives after the first white space. For example directives like these:

#SBATCH --job-name=big job
#SBATCH --mem=16 GB
#SBATCH --partition=normal, owners

will cause all following #SBATCH directives to be ignored thus the job is submitted with the default parameters (4GB, 1 CPU, 2 hours, normal partition).
## sbatch flags, full and abbreviated

SLURM gives you a choice; full or abbreviated. For example if you want the job to run for exactly 3 hours, in your sbatch file:

```bash
#SBATCH --time=3:00:00
```

or

```bash
#SBATCH -t 3:00:00
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Full Option</th>
<th>Abbreviated</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>--job-name=</td>
<td>-J</td>
<td>Give your job a name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--partition=</td>
<td>-p</td>
<td>Partition to run on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--nodes=</td>
<td>-N</td>
<td>Total number of nodes (use for MPI or codes that communicate across nodes)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--ntasks=</td>
<td>-n</td>
<td>Number of &quot;tasks&quot;. Use if your code can do distributed parallelism</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--cpus-per-task=</td>
<td>-c</td>
<td># of CPUs allocated to each task. For use with shared memory parallelism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--ntasks-per-node=</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of &quot;tasks&quot; per node, use with distributed parallelism.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--time=</td>
<td>-t</td>
<td>Maximum walltime of the job in the format D-HH:MM:SS (e.g. --time=1 for one day or --time=4:00:00 for 4 hours)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--constraint=</td>
<td>-C</td>
<td>Specific node architecture (if applicable)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--mem-per-cpu=</td>
<td></td>
<td>Memory requested per CPU (e.g. 10G for 10 GB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--mem=</td>
<td>-m</td>
<td>Memory requested per node (e.g. 40G for 40 GB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--mail-user=</td>
<td></td>
<td>Mail address (alternatively, put your email address in ~/.forward)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--mail-type=</td>
<td></td>
<td>Control emails to user on job events. Use ALL to receive email notifications at the beginning and end of the job.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
sbatch vs srun

sbatch command
• submits your job to the queue for later execution.
• non-blocking, you can submit with sbatch and logoff the cluster
• $sbatch jobscript.sbatch

srun command
• srun is used to submit a job in real time, useful for debugging
• used to get a interactive session and resources
• $srun -c 2 --mem=32GB --time=3:00:00 -p normal --bash pty
• used within an sbatch for job arrays
• sdev is a type (wrapper) of srun

srun in the submission script will create SLURM job steps. srun is used to launch the processes. If your program is a parallel MPI program, srun takes care of creating all the MPI processes. If not, srun will run your program as many times as specified by the --ntasks= option.

Bottom line: unless your application is multithreaded or MPI enabled don’t bother calling srun in your sbatch script. Read the docs on your applications to check if they can support multithreading or MPI.
More on [SLURM commands](https://www.example.com/sbatch-srun)
Parallel example with SLURM Job Arrays

**Job arrays** offer a mechanism for submitting and managing collections of similar jobs quickly and easily; job arrays with thousands of tasks can be submitted in milliseconds (subject to configured size limits). All jobs must have the same initial options (e.g. size, time limit, etc). Array jobs are usually limited to 1000 steps.

Here only one job is submitted to the scheduler with 384 array steps. Note the files are named to match array task ID ($SLURM_ARRAY_TASK_ID)

```bash
#!/bin/sh
#SBATCH --job-name=array_zip # Job name
#SBATCH -p owners
#SBATCH --ntasks=1 # Run a single task
#SBATCH --mem-per-cpu=1gb # Memory per processor
#SBATCH --time=00:10:00 # Time limit hrs:min:sec
#SBATCH --output=array_%A-%a.out # Standard output and error log
#SBATCH --array=1-384 # Array range, how many steps or times you want to run your app, in this case gzip
#Do your work here
gzip SRR062634.$SLURM_ARRAY_TASK_ID.filt.fastq
```

Same thing can be done with parameter values or other arguments to your code- map arguments to your code with `$SLURM_ARRAY_TASK_ID`

Note: The --ntasks parameter is only useful if you have commands that you want to run in parallel within the same batch script, i.e. your code is multithreaded or MPI enabled.

This example and the next slide’s are examples of an embarrassingly parallel problem- little or no effort is needed to separate the problem into a number of parallel tasks. There is no dependency or need for communication between the parallel tasks or for the results between them. These are some of the most common types of jobs run on Sherlock
Embarrassingly Parallel Example with Job Arrays

A very simple example, you have 384 files to zip-

```bash
#!/bin/bash
#SBATCH --array=1-384%10
#SBATCH -n 1
#SBATCH -p owners
#SBATCH -t 5:00
gzip SP-1${SLURM_ARRAY_TASK_ID}.fq
```

Note that `#SBATCH --array=1-384%10` will tell the scheduler “submit my application- in this case gzip, 384 times in chunks of 10 jobs at a time. This is optional, you can leave out %10. One reason to limit the submissions is that you may encounter a limit for max # CPUs a user or group can run at once (`MaxTRESPerUser`, `MaxTresPerAccount`). See slide 20. Also, note that the files can be renamed to match the array step numbers with a shell loop. (for i in `seq 1 384`; do cp SP1.fq SP1-${i}.fq; done).

- Any parameter value, argument to your code can be used as an array step with `${SLURM_ARRAY_TASK_ID}`.
- Rather than being run serially on 1 or 2 CPU’s on your laptop, on a cluster there are often thousands of CPUs so all 384 files (jobs) are processed (submitted to the scheduler with the sbatch command) at once. The scheduler needs to allocate jobs->resources.
- File I/O will be faster, clusters use a parallel filesystem, Lustre
- On Sherlock you can run on up to 256 (8,196 for owners) CPUs at once
srun SLURM tasks- an example of resource control

#!/bin/bash
#SBATCH --ntasks=8
#SBATCH --time=1:00
#SBATCH --mem=8GB
## can add more sbatch options above
echo hello from $SLURM_JOB_NODELIST
Output:
hello from sh-30-02

In SLURM terminology, a task is an instance of a running program.
If your program supports communication across computers (MPI) or you plan on
running independent tasks in parallel, request multiple tasks with --ntasks=, the
default value is set to 1.

Programs require a certain amount of memory to function properly. To see how much
memory your program needs, you can check the documentation or run it in an
interactive session and use the htop command to profile it. To specify the memory
for your job, use the mem-per-cpu option. Sherlock has defaults to make job
submission easier for users- 1 CPU, 4GB RAM, 2 hours. If unsure, always start
with the defaults i.e. don’t ask for any resources.
srun SLURM tasks example cont.

change last line to:
srun echo hello from $SLURM_JOB_NODELIST
Output:
hello from sh-27-[17,20]
hello from sh-27-[17,20]
hello from sh-27-[17,20]
hello from sh-27-[17,20]
hello from sh-27-[17,20]
hello from sh-27-[17,20]
hello from sh-27-[17,20]
hello from sh-27-[17,20]
hello from sh-27-[17,20]

A task in SLURM analogous to a process in Unix, i.e. a running instance of a program with it’s own memory and CPU allocation.

Task allocations are controlled by the user via SLURM.

You can see in the last example that the command was not only run 8 times ( 8 tasks) but run across the cluster on 2 different nodes (sh-27-17, sh-27-20). Used for multithreaded applications and MPI. SLURM allows a lot of resource granularity. For example if you want one process that can use 16 cores for multithreading use srun with:
--ntasks=1
--cpus-per-task=16
Matlab multicore example with Matlab's parfor

#!/bin/bash
#SBATCH -N 2
#SBATCH -c 32
#SBATCH -t 0-15:00
#SBATCH -p hns
module load matlab
echo $SLURM_CPUS_PER_TASK
srun -c $SLURM_CPUS_PER_TASK matlab -nosplash -nodesktop -r "pfor"
Typical HPC Cluster Workflow

move code, data to cluster

down arrow

get code running
install dependencies, packages
load/search modules. Are they already on Sherlock?

down arrow

run code on a dev node (sdev/srun)
How much RAM/CPU/time is needed?

down arrow

scale-up and run for real with sbatch

- scp, sftp, rsync, rclone, OnDemand File Manager
- nano, pip, gcc, make module spider numpy*
- sdev -h, srun, htop, sacct, ps
- sbatch, squeue, srun, scontrol, salloc, scancel
Typical Sherlock workflow

1. move your code and data to Sherlock
2. test debug and install packages/software, load modules

```
ml load python
pip install <package> --user
```

```
ml load python/3.6.1
pip3 install <package> --user
```

Is the software already on Sherlock? Chances are if it’s popular we have it.

```
module spider numpy*
```

R packages you can install yourself
If you have a lot of R packages to add, try to install on the command line rather than with the R Studio GUI.

For many compiled applications, install, compile with module load gcc, so don’t worry about error messages stating that you need to be root/have sudo to install since you can install in directories you control.
Typical Sherlock workflow cont.

3. If your code runs fine, test it with some data on an actual compute node (so you are not limited by login node memory limits (cgroups):

run `sdev` command

*How much CPU/RAM/time do I need?*

Always try the defaults (by not requesting CPUs/RAM/time in your `sbatch/srun`)  
On Sherlock, that’s 1 CPU, 4GB RAM and 2 hours.

See how much memory your code/job used
While job is running use `sstat` or `scontrol show job <jobID>`

`sstat --format`  
| JobID,NTasks,nodelist,MaxRSS,MaxVMSize,AveRSS,AveVMS | 6680712 | 2 |

After jobs completes use `sacct`

`sacct -j 66808759 --format`  
| JobID,NTasks,nodelist,MaxRSS,MaxVMS,AveRSS,AveVMS | 6680712 | 2 |
A typical install of compiled software

Here I want to install and compile WFDB

1. In your .bashrc add the path to the directory where you install it in my case-

   export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$PI_HOME/mpiercy/wfdb

   To permanently update your .bashrc -
   echo "export LD_LIBRARY_PATH=$PI_HOME/mpiercy/wfdb-10.6.2" >> $HOME/.bashrc

2. Sherlock is Linux so- wget https://archive.physionet.org/physiotools/wfdb.tar.gz
3. tar xfvz wfdb.tar.gz
4. ml load gcc
5. (in my $PI_HOME I made the directory WFDB, you can choose your $HOME also)
6. ./configure --prefix=/home/groups/ruthm/mpiercy/wfdb-10.6.2/WFDB
7. make install
8. make check
Estimating your codes resources with sdev and htop

1. sdev (or srun --pty bash)
2. load modules, run code in background

$python mycode.py > /dev/null 2>&1 &
$htop

htop to see only your processes-
type u then your login name, hit return
or just-
$htop -u <your user name>

You will see how many CPUs, threads and how much RAM your application is using in real-time.
htop example

```
$srun -c 4 matlab -nosplash -nodesktop -r "pfor" > /dev/null 2>&1
$htop
```
Estimate your job’s resource requirements with sacct

```
sacct -o reqmem,maxrss,averss,elapsed -j 20222292
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ReqMem</th>
<th>MaxRSS</th>
<th>AveRSS</th>
<th>Elapsed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1024Mn</td>
<td>00:00:10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1024Mn</td>
<td>579K</td>
<td>579K</td>
<td>00:00:10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1024Mn</td>
<td>90K</td>
<td>90K</td>
<td>00:00:10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1024Mn</td>
<td>524K</td>
<td>524K</td>
<td>00:00:05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ReqMem** = memory that you asked from SLURM. If it has type Mn, it is per node in MB, if Mc, then it is MB per core

**MaxRSS** = maximum amount of memory used at any time by any process in that job. This applies directly for serial jobs. For parallel jobs you need to multiply with the number of cores (max 16 or 24 as this is reported only for that node that used the most memory)

**AveRSS** = the average memory used per process (or core). To get the total memory need, multiply this with number of cores

**Elapsed** = time it took to run your job

```
sacct -o reqmem,maxrss,averss,elapsed,alloccpu -j 426651
```

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ReqMem</th>
<th>MaxRSS</th>
<th>AveRSS</th>
<th>Elapsed</th>
<th>AllocCPUS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4Gn</td>
<td>00:08:53</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4Gn</td>
<td>3552K</td>
<td>5976K</td>
<td>00:08:57</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4Gn</td>
<td>2921256K</td>
<td>2921256K</td>
<td>00:08:49</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Here, the job came close to hitting the requested memory, 4 GB, 2.92 GB was used. Note that SLURM only samples a job’s resources every few minutes, so this is an average. Jobs with a MaxRSS close to ReqMem can still get an out of memory (OOM event) error and die. When this happens request more memory in your sbatch with --mem=
Estimate your batch job’s resource requirements

```
sacct -o reqmem,maxrss,averss,elapsed,alloccpus -j 3413279
ReqMem MaxRSS AveRSS Elapsed AllocCpus
------------ ------------ ----------- -----------
16000Mc 16000Mc 4771852K 4603220K 1-20:54:49 4
```

The first line is the parent job, second is the job step, the actual job.
You've requested 16GB per core, i.e. a total of 64 GB (4x16GB, everything in one node)
Your job has used a maximum of 4771852K i.e. 4.7 GB per core
You've requested more than 10 GB too much memory per core i.e. about 50 GB too much in total
So, ask for less memory for this kind of job, e.g. --mem=8GB
sstat, srun- monitor resource usage as a job runs

sstat --format JobID,NTasks,nodelist,MaxRSS,MaxVMSIZE,AveRSS,AveVMSIZE 20267805

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JobID</th>
<th>NTasks</th>
<th>Nodelist</th>
<th>MaxRSS</th>
<th>MaxVMSIZE</th>
<th>AveRSS</th>
<th>AveVMSIZE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20267805.0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>gpu-27-21</td>
<td>393953K</td>
<td>1912732K</td>
<td>393017K</td>
<td>1912732K</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Compare these values to what you requested in your sbatch file or srun command

You can also quickly monitor your job’s memory and CPU usage as it run with srun and top

1. Find your job id with-
squeue –u $USER

2. srun --jobid=1002961 top -b -n 1 -u $USER
Estimating resources requirements, htop compute node while job is running

$ sbatch TF_mnist.sbatch
Submitted batch job 20244339
$ squeue -u $USER

JOBID PARTITION  NAME  USER  ST  TIME  NODES NODELIST(REASON)
20244339  hns_gpu  TF_mnist  mpiery  R  0:04  1 gpu-27-21

$ ssh mpiery@gpu-27-21

ssh to the server only of you have a job running on it, here it's gpu-27-21
$ ssh mpiery@gpu-27-21

use `nvidia-smi -l 1` or `module load system nvtop` for GPU nodes
Key Sherlock Links

Python
Matlab
R
Submitting a job
Unix/Linux tutorials
modules
filesystems
Globus for large data transfers
Sherlock OnDemand: browser based access
moving data
Oak
Job Arrays
GPUs
It is important that publications resulting from computations performed on Sherlock, Farmshare or SCG acknowledge this. The following wording is suggested for your Acknowledgements section:

"Some of the computing for this project was performed on the Sherlock (or XStream, Farmshare, Nero) cluster. We would like to thank Stanford University and the Stanford Research Computing Center for providing computational resources and support that contributed to these research results."

Many researchers have- [SRCC acknowledged publications](#)
Support

Documentation

    Sherlock:    http://www.sherlock.stanford.edu/

Sherlock Office Hours

Office hours via Zoom, for the time being.
Tuesday 10-11am: https://stanford.zoom.us/j/901884213
Thursday 3-4pm: https://stanford.zoom.us/j/681964418

Normally
Tuesdays 10:00 - 11:00 am and Thursdays 3:00pm - 4:00pm in room 255 of Polyh Hall

Contact

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