

Introduction to High Throughput Computing and HTCondor

Monday AM, Lecture 1

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Overview – 1.1

- What is *high throughput computing (HTC)* ?
- How does the HTCondor job scheduler work?
- How do you run jobs on an HTCondor compute system?

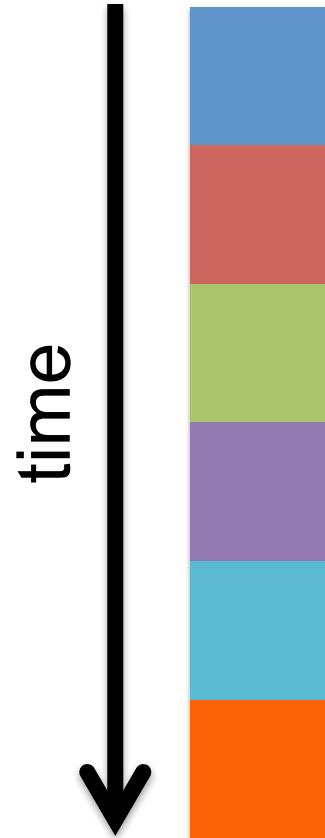
Keys to Success

- Work hard
- Ask questions!
 - ...during lectures
 - ...during exercises
 - ...during breaks
 - ...during meals
- If we do not know an answer, we will try to find the person who does.

Serial Computing

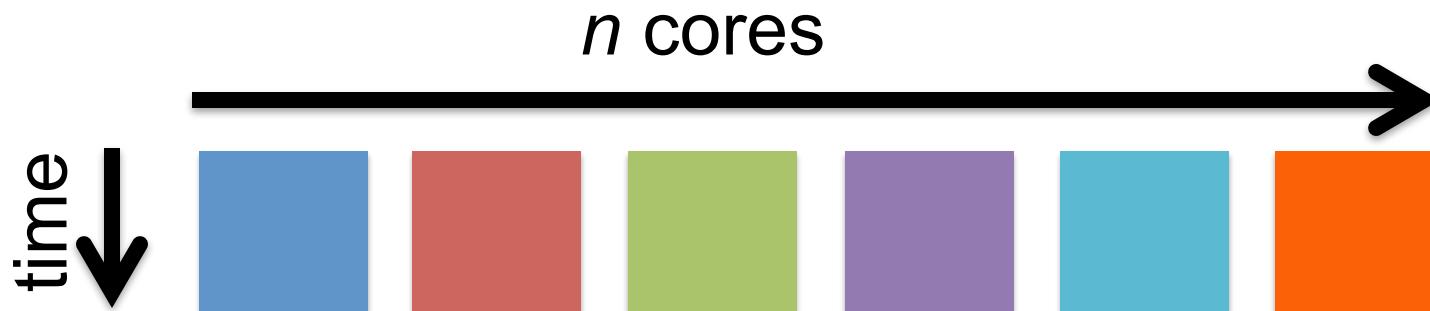
What many programs look like:

- Serial execution, running on one processor (CPU core) at a time
- Overall compute time grows significantly as individual tasks get more complicated (long) or if the number of tasks increases
- ***How can you speed things up?***

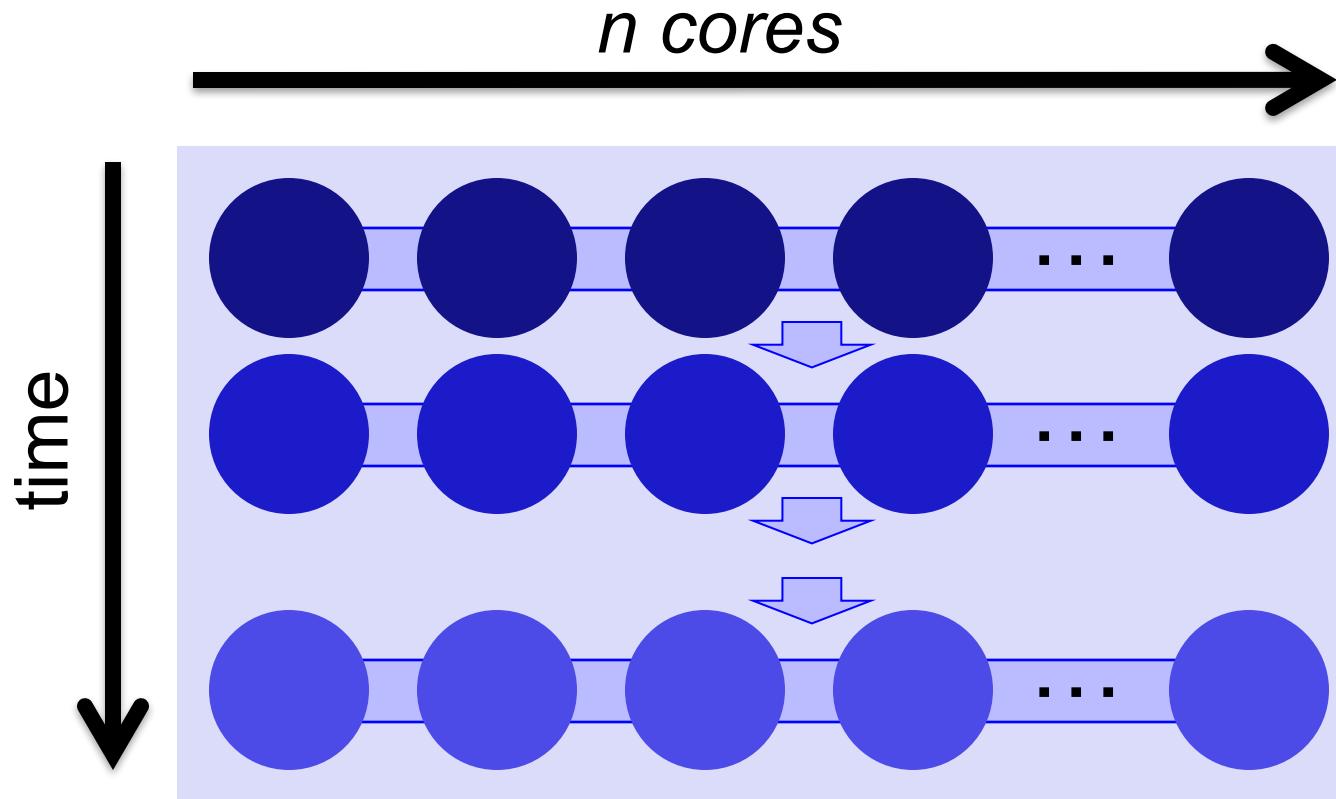


High Throughput Computing (HTC)

- Parallelize!
- Independent tasks run on different cores

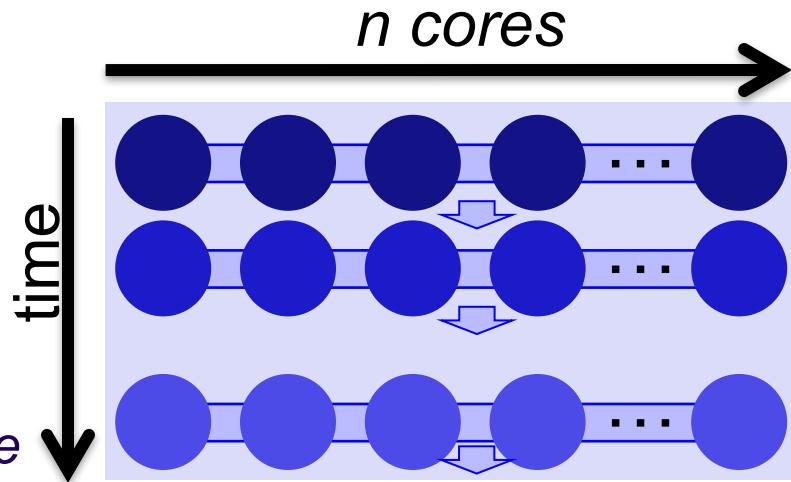


High Performance Computing (HPC)

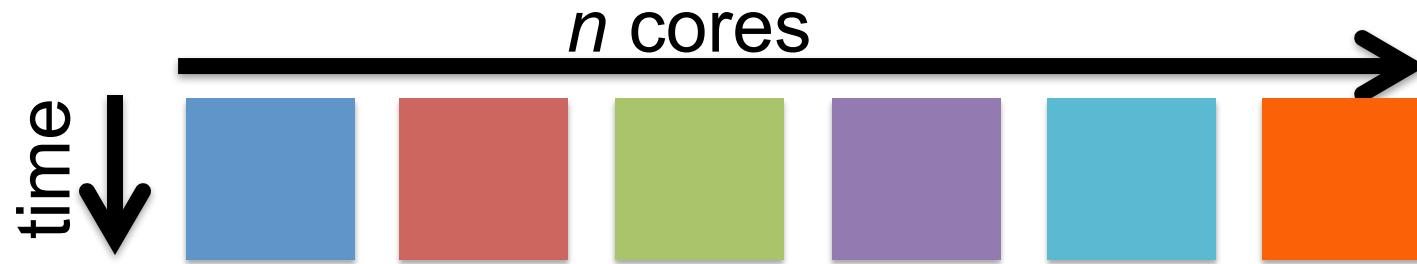


High Performance Computing (HPC)

- Benefits greatly from:
 - CPU speed + homogeneity
 - Shared filesystems
 - Fast, expensive networking (e.g. Infiniband) and servers co-located
- Scheduling: **Must wait until all processors are available, at the same time and for the full duration**
- Requires special programming (MP/MPI)
- ***What happens if one core or server fails or runs slower than the others?***



High Throughput Computing (HTC)



- Scheduling: only need **1 CPU core for each** (shorter wait)
- Easier recovery from failure
- No special programming required
- Number of concurrently running jobs is *more* important
- CPU speed and homogeneity are *less* important

HPC vs HTC: An Analogy



HPC vs HTC: An Analogy



High *Throughput* vs High *Performance*

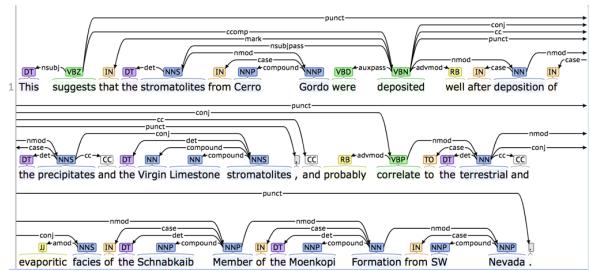
HTC

- Focus: Large workflows of *numerous, relatively small, and independent* compute tasks
- More important: maximized number of running tasks
- Less important: CPU speed, homogeneity

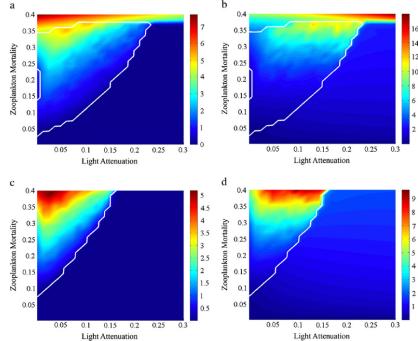
HPC

- Focus: Large workflows of *highly-interdependent* sub-tasks
- More important: persistent access to the *fastest* cores, CPU homogeneity, special coding, shared filesystems, fast networks

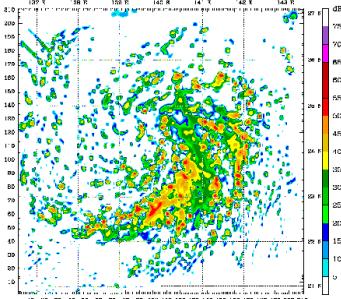
HTC Examples



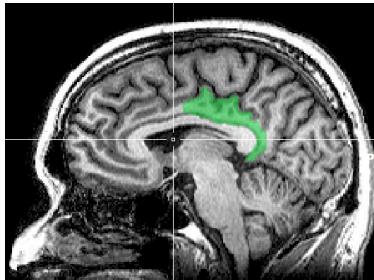
text analysis (most genomics ...)



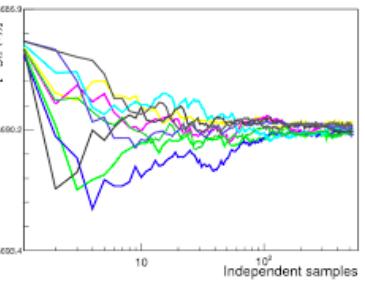
parameter sweeps



multi-start simulations



multi-image and
mult-sample analysis

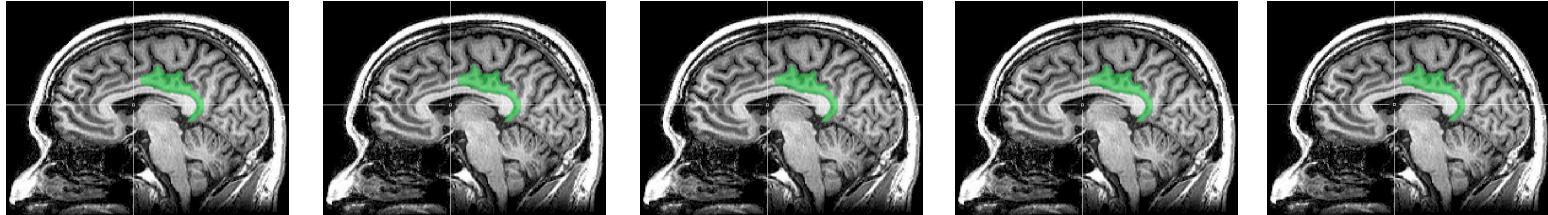


statistical model optimization
(MCMC, numerical methods, etc.)

Is your research HTC-able?

- *Can it be broken into relatively numerous, independent pieces?*
- *Think about your research! Can you think of a good high throughput candidate task? Talk to your neighbor!*

Example Challenge



You need to process 48 brain images for each of 168 patients. **Each image takes ~1 hour of compute time.**

168 patients x 48 images = ~8000 tasks = ~8000 hrs

Conference is next week.

Distributed Computing

- Use many computers, each running one instance of our program
- Example:
 - **1 laptop (1 core) => 4,000 hours = ~½ year**
 - **1 server (~20 cores) => 500 hours = ~3 weeks**
 - **1 large job (400 cores) => 20 hours = ~1 day**
 - **A whole cluster (8,000 cores) = ~8 hours**

Break Up to Scale Up

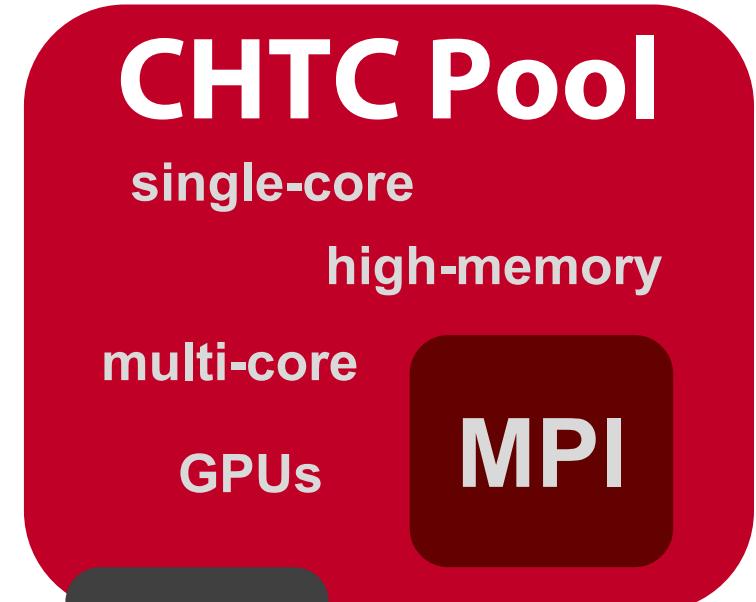
- Computing tasks that are ***easy to break up*** are ***easy to scale up***.
- To truly grow your computing capabilities, you also need a system appropriate for your computing task!

What computing resources are available?

- A single computer?
- A local cluster?
 - Consider: What *kind* of cluster is it? Typical clusters tuned for HPC (large MPI) jobs typically may not be best for HTC workflows! Do you need even more than that?
- Open Science Grid (OSG)
- Other
 - European Grid Infrastructure
 - Other national and regional grids
 - Commercial cloud systems (e.g. HTCondor on Amazon)

Example Local Cluster

- UW-Madison's **Center for High Throughput Computing (CHTC)**
- Recent CPU hours:
 - ~130 million hrs/year (~15k cores)
 - ~10,000 per user, per day (~400 cores in use)



Open Science Grid

- **HTC for Everyone**

- ~100 contributors
- **Past year:**
 - >420 million jobs
 - >1.5 billion CPU hours
 - >200 petabytes transferred



- Can submit jobs locally, they backfill across the country
 - interrupted at any time (but not too frequent)
- <http://www.opensciencegrid.org/>

HTCONDOR

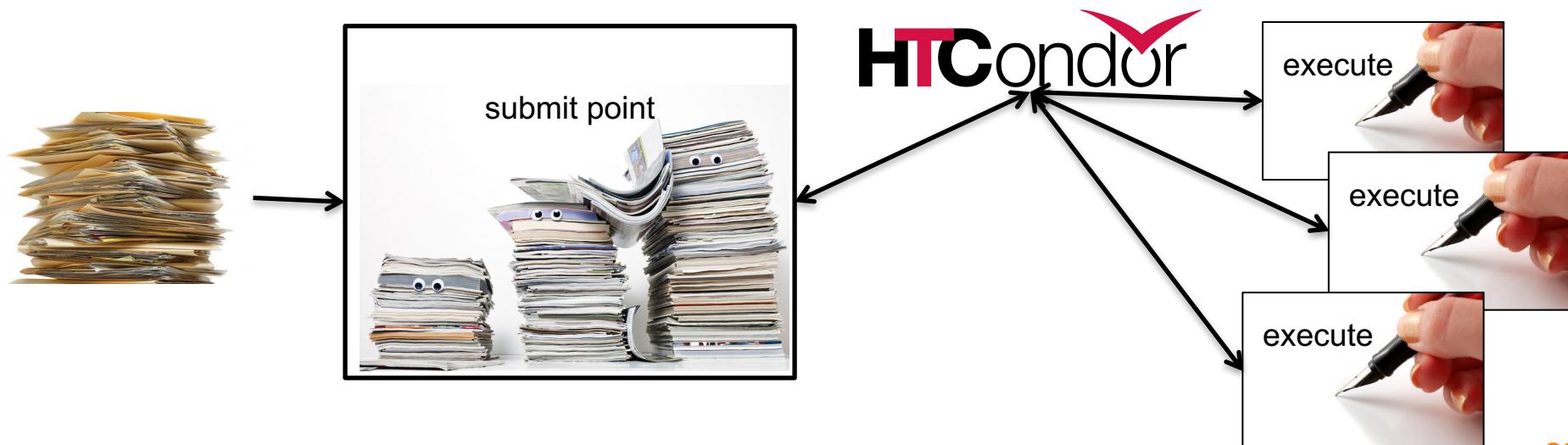
HTCondor History and Status

- History
 - Started in 1988 as a “cycle scavenger”
- Today
 - Developed within the CHTC team by professional developers
 - Used all over the world, by:
 - Dreamworks, Boeing, SpaceX, investment firms, ...
 - Campuses, national labs, Einstein/Folding@Home
 - **The Open Science Grid!!**
- Miron Livny, CHTC Director and HTCondor PI
 - Professor, UW-Madison Computer Sciences



HTCondor -- How It Works

- Submit tasks to a queue (on a submit server)
- HTCondor schedules them to run on computers (execute server)



Terminology: *Job*

- **Job:** An independently-scheduled unit of computing work
- Three main pieces:
 - Executable:** the script or program to run
 - Input:** any options (arguments) and/or file-based information
 - Output:** any files or screen information produced by the executable
- In order to run *many* jobs, executable must run on the command-line without any graphical input from the user

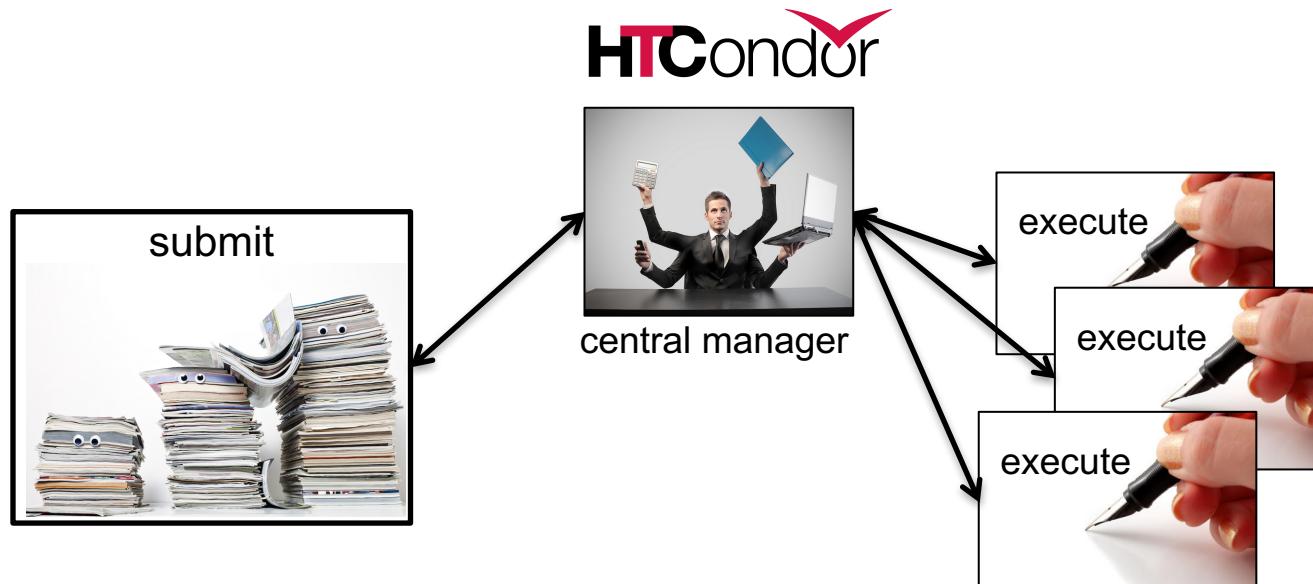
Terminology: *Machine, Slot*

- **Machine**
 - A whole computer (desktop or server)
 - Has multiple processors (**CPU cores**), some amount of **memory**, and some amount of file space (**disk**)
- **Slot**
 - **an assignable unit of a machine (i.e. 1 job per slot)**
 - most often, corresponds to one core with some memory and disk
 - a typical machine may have 4-40 slots
- HTCondor can break up and create new slots, dynamically, as resources become available from completed jobs



Job Matching

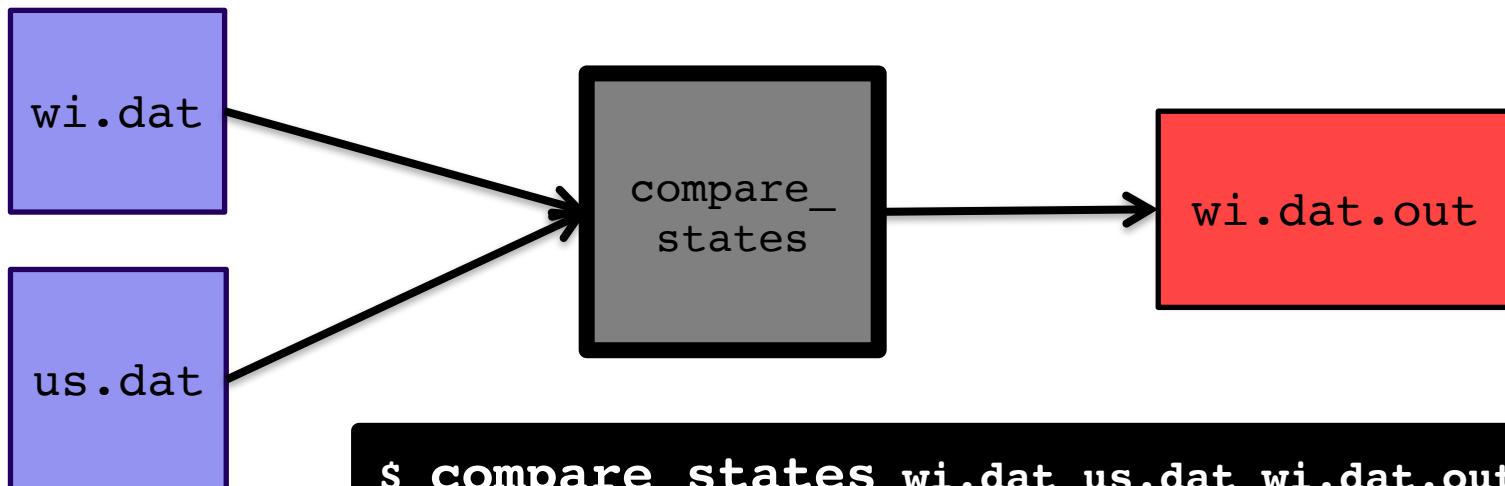
- On a regular basis, the central manager reviews **Job** and **Machine** attributes and matches jobs to **Slots**.



BASIC JOB SUBMISSION

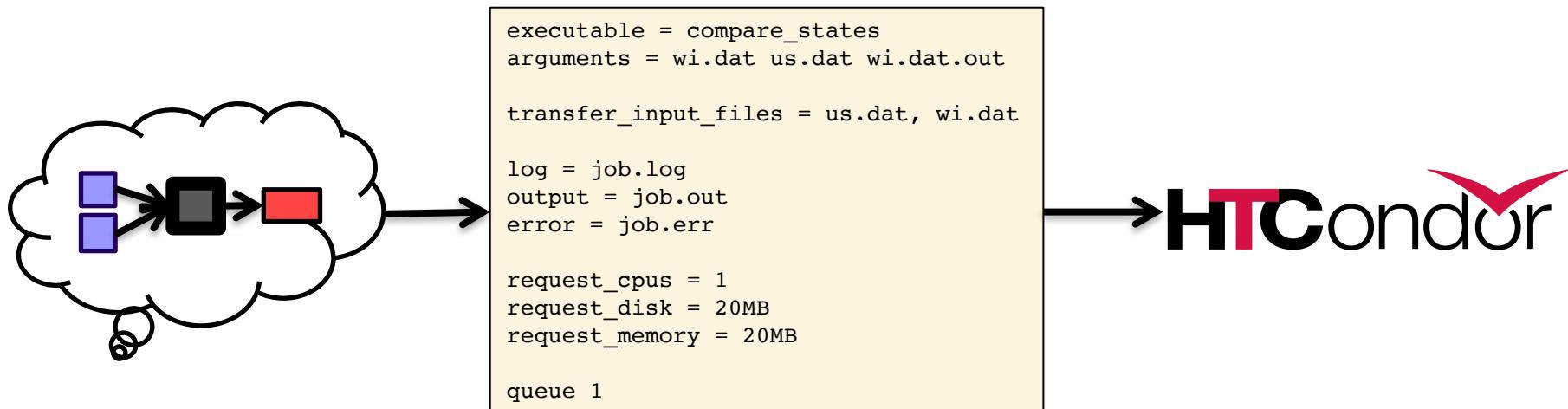
Job Example

- program called “compare_states” (executable), which compares two data files (input) and produces a single output file.



Job Translation

- ***Submit file:*** communicates everything about your job(s) to HTCondor



Basic Submit File

```
executable = compare_states
arguments = wi.dat us.dat wi.dat.out

transfer_input_files = us.dat, wi.dat

log = job.log
output = job.out
error = job.err

request_cpus = 1
request_disk = 20MB
request_memory = 20MB

queue 1
```

Basic Submit File

```
executable = compare_states
arguments = wi.dat us.dat wi.dat.out

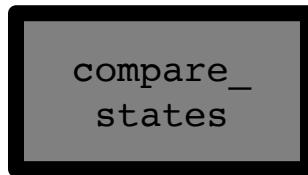
transfer_input_files = us.dat, wi.dat

log = job.log
output = job.out
error = job.err

request_cpus = 1
request_disk = 20MB
request_memory = 20MB

queue 1
```

- List your **executable** and any **arguments** it takes



- Arguments are any options passed to the executable from the command line

```
$ compare_states wi.dat us.dat wi.dat.out
```

Basic Submit File

```
executable = compare_states
arguments = wi.dat us.dat wi.dat.out

transfer_input_files = us.dat, wi.dat

log = job.log
output = job.out
error = job.err

request_cpus = 1
request_disk = 20MB
request_memory = 20MB

queue 1
```

- Comma separated list of **input files to transfer** to the slot

wi.dat

us.dat

Basic Submit File

```
executable = compare_states
arguments = wi.dat us.dat wi.dat.out

transfer_input_files = us.dat, wi.dat

log = job.log
output = job.out
error = job.err

request_cpus = 1
request_disk = 20MB
request_memory = 20MB

queue 1
```

- HTCondor will transfer back all new and changed files (output) from the job, automatically.

wi.dat.out

Basic Submit File

```
executable = compare_states
arguments = wi.dat us.dat wi.dat.out

transfer_input_files = us.dat, wi.dat

log = job.log
output = job.out
error = job.err

request_cpus = 1
request_disk = 20MB
request_memory = 20MB

queue 1
```

- **log:** file created by HTCondor to track job progress
 - *Explored in exercises!*
- **output/error:** captures stdout and stderr from your program (what would otherwise be printed to the terminal)

Basic Submit File

```
executable = compare_states
arguments = wi.dat us.dat wi.dat.out

transfer_input_files = us.dat, wi.dat

log = job.log
output = job.out
error = job.err

request_cpus = 1
request_disk = 20MB
request_memory = 20MB

queue 1
```

- **request** the resources your job needs.
 - *More on this later!*
- **queue**: keyword indicating “create 1 job”

SUBMITTING AND MONITORING

Submitting and Monitoring

- To submit a job/jobs: `condor_submit submit_file`
- To monitor submitted jobs: `condor_q`

```
$ condor_submit job.submit
Submitting job(s).
1 job(s) submitted to cluster 128.

$ condor_q
-- Schedd: submit-5.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.101.92:9618?... @ 05/01/17
10:35:54
OWNER  BATCH_NAME          SUBMITTED      DONE      RUN      IDLE    TOTAL JOB_IDS
alice   CMD: compare_states 5/9 11:05        -         -         1         1 128.0

1 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 1 idle, 0 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
```

More about `condor_q`

- By default, `condor_q` shows your jobs only and batches jobs that were submitted together:

```
$ condor_q
-- Schedd: submit-5.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.101.92:9618?... @ 05/01/17
10:35:54
OWNER  BATCH_NAME          SUBMITTED      DONE      RUN      IDLE    TOTAL JOB_IDS
alice   CMD: compare_states 5/9  11:05        -         -         1        1 128.0
1 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 1 idle, 0 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
```

JobId = *ClusterId*.*ProcId*

- Limit `condor_q` by username, *ClusterId* or full *JobId*, (denoted [U/C/J] in following slides).

More about `condor_q`

- To see individual job details, use:

`condor_q -nobatch`

```
$ condor_q -nobatch
-- Schedd: submit-5.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.101.92:9618?...
   ID          OWNER      SUBMITTED      RUN_TIME ST PRI SIZE CMD
128.0        alice    5/9 11:09    0+00:00:00 I  0   0.0 compare_states

1 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 1 idle, 0 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
```

- We will use the **`-nobatch`** option in the following slides to see extra detail about what is happening with a job

Job Idle

```
$ condor_q -nobatch
-- Schedd: submit-5.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.101.92:9618?...
 ID          OWNER      SUBMITTED      RUN_TIME ST PRI SIZE CMD
128.0        alice      5/9 11:09 0+00:00:00 I 0   0.0 compare_states wi.dat us.dat

1 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 1 idle, 0 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
```

Submit Node

```
(submit_dir)/
    job.submit
    compare_states
    wi.dat
    us.dat
    job.log
    job.out
    job.err
```

Job Starts

```
$ condor_q -nobatch
-- Schedd: submit-5.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.101.92:9618?...
 ID          OWNER      SUBMITTED      RUN_TIME ST PRI SIZE CMD
128.0        alice      5/9 11:09      0+00:00:00 < 0    0.0 compare_states wi.dat us.dat

1 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 0 idle, 1 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
```

Submit Node

```
(submit_dir)/  
    job.submit  
    compare_states  
    wi.dat  
    us.dat  
    job.log  
    job.out  
    job.err
```



```
compare_states  
    wi.dat  
    us.dat
```

Execute Node

```
(execute_dir)/
```

Job Running

```
$ condor_q -nobatch
-- Schedd: submit-5.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.101.92:9618?...
 ID          OWNER      SUBMITTED      RUN_TIME ST PRI SIZE CMD
128.0        alice      5/9 11:09    0+00:01:03 R 0   0.0 compare_states wi.dat us.dat

1 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 0 idle, 1 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
```

Submit Node

```
(submit_dir)/
    job.submit
    compare_states
    wi.dat
    us.dat
    job.log
    job.out
    job.err
```

Execute Node

```
(execute_dir)/
    compare_states
    wi.dat
    us.dat
    stderr
    stdout
    wi.dat.out
```

Job Completes

```
$ condor_q -nobatch
-- Schedd: submit-5.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.101.92:9618?...
 ID          OWNER      SUBMITTED      RUN_TIME ST PRI SIZE CMD
 128        alice       5/9 11:09    0+00:02:02 > 0   0.0 compare_states wi.dat us.dat

1 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 0 idle, 1 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
```

Submit Node

```
(submit_dir)/
    job.submit
    compare_states
    wi.dat
    us.dat
    job.log
    job.out
    job.err
```

stderr
stdout
wi.dat.out



Execute Node

```
(execute_dir)/
    compare_states
    wi.dat
    us.dat
    stderr
    stdout
    wi.dat.out
```

Job Completes (cont.)

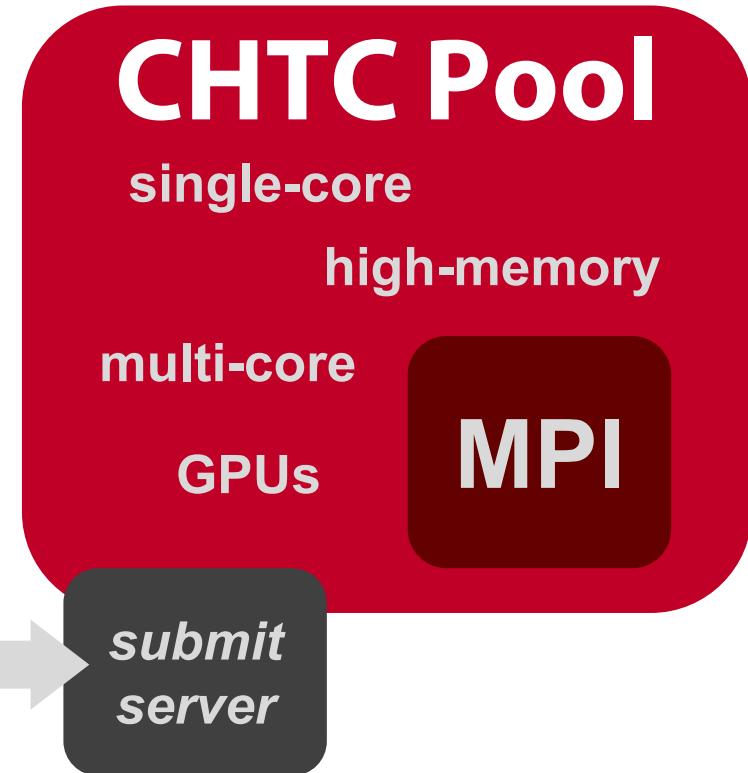
```
$ condor_q -nobatch

-- Schedd: submit-5.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.101.92:9618?...
 ID      OWNER          SUBMITTED      RUN_TIME ST PRI SIZE CMD
0 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 0 idle, 0 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
```

Submit Node

```
(submit_dir)/
    job.submit
    compare_states
    wi.dat
    us.dat
    job.log
    job.out
    job.err
    wi.dat.out
```

YOUR TURN!



Thoughts on Exercises

- Copy-and-paste is quick, but you **WILL** learn more by typing out commands (first) submit file contents
- **Exercises 1.1-1.3** are most important to finish THIS time (**see 1.6 if you need to remove jobs!**)!
- If you do not finish, that's OK – You can make up work later or during evenings, if you like. (There are even “bonus” challenges, if you finish early.)

Exercises!

- Ask questions!
- Lots of instructors around
- Coming next:
 - Now – 10:30 Hands-on Exercises
 - 10:45 – 11:00 Break
 - 11:00 – 11:30 Submitting Many Jobs
 - 11:30 – 12:15 Hands-on Exercises