ColonyOS Tutorial

© Prerequisites prerequisites 20 min filename

Installation

You need to download and install two different CLI binaries.

- The Colonies CLI Download here!
- The Pollinator CLI Download here!

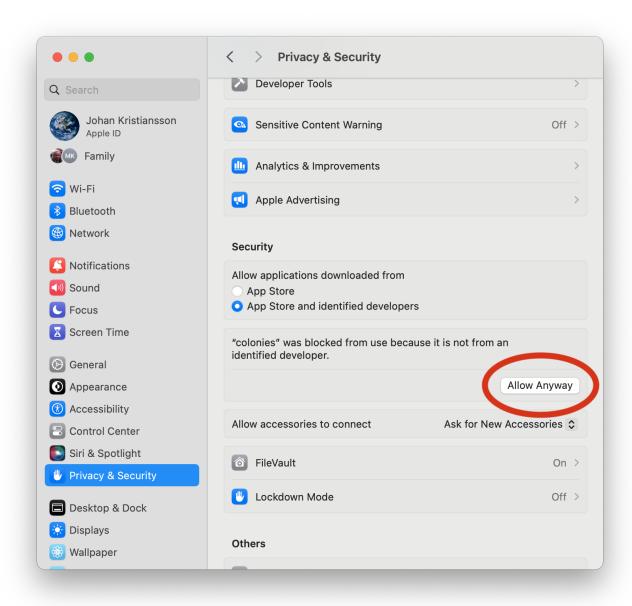
For Apple silicon, choose arm64. For other Macs, choose amd64. For Linux, choose amd64. For Windows, choose amd64.

Install the colonies and pollinator binaries by moving them to a directory in your PATH. On Linux and Mac, you can move the binaries to /usr/local/bin. On Windows, you can move the binaries to C:\Windows\System32.

```
tar -xvf colonies_v1.7.12_linux_amd64.tar.gz
tar -xvf pollinator_v1.0.4_linux_amd64.tar.gz
sudo cp colonies_v1.7.12_linux_amd64/colonies /usr/local/bin
sudo cp pollinator_v1.0.4_linux_amd64/pollinator /usr/local/bin
```

IMPORTANT: On Mac, the colonies and pollinator binaries will be blocked the first time they are started since they are not downloaded from AppStore nor signed by an registered developer. They can be unblocked by clicking the open Anyway button in Privacy & Security settings. The button is available for about an hour after you try to start the colonies or pollinator commands.





Verify installation

You also need valid creadentials to access the Colonies server (an env files). Or, you can also set up your own Colonies server by following the instructions here.

Verify that the installation was successful by running the following command:

```
source my-env-file colonies executor ls
```

You should see a list of executors in the colony.

IAME	TYPE	LOCATION	LAST HEARD FROM
icekube	container-executor	RISE, Sweden	2024-02-28 21:11:34
dev	container-executor	Rutvik, Sweden	2024-02-28 21:11:35
Leonardo-booster	container-executor	Cineca, Italy	2024-02-27 18:50:11
Lumi-std	container-executor	CSC, Finland	2024-02-28 21:11:43

To run an exector (optional)

To run your own executor, you also need to install Docker. On Linux (e.g Ubuntu), Docker can be installed by running the following commands:

```
sudo apt-get update
sudo apt-get install docker.io
```

You may also want to set permissions to run Docker without sudo.

```
sudo usermod -aG docker $USER
```

On Mac and Windows, Docker can be installed by downloading the Docker website website

Getting started

The Colonies CLI is a command line tool that allows you to interact with the Colonies API. It is a powerful tool that can be used to execute functions, manage processes, or deploy executors in a colony. To use the Colonies CLI, you first need to export several environmental variables.

```
export COLONIES_SERVER_TLS="true"
export COLONIES_SERVER_HOST="server.colonyos.io"
export COLONIES_SERVER_PORT="443"
export COLONIES_COLONY_NAME="hpc"
export
COLONIES_PRVKEY="e7957ca33481ce5cebc2571dea98da32d24fbe3db2d6d0916ec0165a26292299"
export COLONIES_EXECUTOR_NAME="johan-laptop"
export EXECUTOR_FS_DIR="$HOME/.colonies/cfs"
export EXECUTOR_PARALLEL_CONTAINERS="true"
export EXECUTOR_GPU="true"
export AWS_S3_ENDPOINT="s3.colonyos.io:443"
export AWS_S3_ACCESSKEY="accesskey"
export AWS_S3_SECRETKEY="secretkey"
export AWS_S3_REGION_KEY=""
export AWS_S3_BUCKET="hpc"
export AWS_S3_TLS="true"
export AWS_S3_SKIPVERIFY="false"
```

```
source env_file
```

The Colonies CLI has several subcommands. It always possible to get more help by adding the *-help* flag to the command, for example:

```
colonies --help
```

```
Colonies CLI tool
Usage:
  colonies [command]
Available Commands:
  attribute Manage process attributes
  completion Generate the autocompletion script for the specified shell
  config Show currently used configuration
 cron Manage cron
database Manage internal database
dev Start a development server
executor Manage executors
fs Manage file storage
function Manage functions
  generator Manage generators
  help Help about any command
key Manage private keys
log Manage logging
 monitor Manage Prometheus monitoring process Manage processes server Manage production server user Manage users
  workflow Manage workflows
Flags:
  -h, --help
                               help for colonies
       --insecure Disable TLS and use HTTP
       --skip-tls-verify Skip TLS certificate verification
  -v, --verbose
                              Verbose (debugging)
Use "colonies [command] --help" for more information about a command.
```

Or, to get help about the function subcommand.

```
colonies function --help
```

Executing functions

Let's list all executors in the available in the colony. The colony is distributed network of executors running somehwere on the Internet. An executor is responsible for executing functions.

```
colonies executor ls
```

	i		LAST HEARD FROM
eonardo-booster co	ontainer-executor	Cineca, Italy	2024-02-28 11:28:11
.cekube co	container-executor	RISE, Sweden	2024-02-28 11:27:06
lev c	container-executor	Rutvik, Sweden	2024-02-28 11:27:19
umi-std co	ontainer-executor	CSC, Finland	2024-02-28 11:28:00

One way of executing a function is to submit a function specification. The example below runs the command *echo Hello*, *World* in a container based on *ubuntu*:20.04 on the LUMI supercomputer. The function is allowed to use 10GiB of memory and 1 CPU core.

```
{
    "conditions": {
        "executortype": "container-executor",
        "executornames": [
            "lumi-std"
        ],
        "nodes": 1,
        "processes-per-node": 1,
        "mem": "10Gi",
        "cpu": "1000m",
        "gpu": {
            "count": 0
        "walltime": 60
    "funcname": "execute",
    "kwargs": {
        "cmd": "echo Hello, World",
        "docker-image": "ubuntu:20.04"
    "maxexectime": 55,
    "maxretries": 3
}
```

```
colonies function submit --spec hello.json --follow
```

Depending on the load on the LUMI supercomputer, the process may take a few minutes to start. The *-follow* flag will print the logs from the process as soon as they are available.

```
INFO[0000] Process submitted
ProcessId=ad733c56110d444f9f98bfbfa9d96576039c4829a652c2307b86311650075fc3
INFO[0000] Printing logs from process
ProcessId=ad733c56110d444f9f98bfbfa9d96576039c4829a652c2307b86311650075fc3
Hello, World
INFO[0165] Process finished successfull
ProcessId=ad733c56110d444f9f98bfbfa9d96576039c4829a652c2307b86311650075fc3
```

Running a local executor

Docker compose can be used to run a local executor.

```
source env
mkdir -p ~/colonies/cfs
git clone https://github.com/colonyos/executors
cd executors/docker
docker-compose up
```

```
Creating docker_executor ... done
Attaching to docker_executor
docker_executor | time="2024-02-28T14:27:48Z" level=error msg="Failed to set
location long"
docker_executor | time="2024-02-28T14:27:48Z" level=error msg="Failed to set
location long"
docker_executor | time="2024-02-28T14:27:49Z" level=info msg=Self-registered
ColonyName=hpc ExecutorName=johan-laptop
docker_executor | time="2024-02-28T14:27:49Z" level=info msg="Docker Executor
started" ColoniesInsecure=false ColoniesServerHost=server.colonyos.io
ColoniesServerPort=443 ColonyName=hpc ColonyPrvKey="****
ExecutorId=c6ffb4074f7618659eb5fa00040059a4aed5f16277b0520885809d2f793af532
ExecutorName=johan-laptop ExecutorPrvKey="*******
ExecutorType=container-executor FsDir=/home/johan/.colonies/cfs GPU=false HardwareCPU=
HardwareGPUCount=0 HardwareGPUMemory= HardwareGPUName= HardwareGPUNodesCount=0
HardwareMemory= HardwareModel=n/a HardwareNodes=1 HardwareStorage= K8sNamespace=
K8sPVC= Latitude=0 LocationDesc=n/a Longitude=0 ParallelContainers=false
SoftwareName="colonyos/dockerexecutor:v1.0.1" SoftwareType=docker
SoftwareVersion="colonyos/dockerexecutor:v1.0.1" Verbose=true
```

colonies executor ls

NAME	TYPE	LOCATION	LAST HEARD FROM
leonardo-booster	container-executor	Cineca, Italy	 2024-02-27 18:50:11
lumi-std	container-executor	CSC, Finland	2024-02-28 15:27:46
johan-laptop	container-executor	n/a	2024-02-28 15:27:49
icekube	container-executor	RISE, Sweden	2024-02-28 15:28:07
dev	container-executor	Rutvik, Sweden	2024-02-28 15:28:09

Handling data

Execution of functions often involves handling data. The Colonies CLI has a subcommand for managing file storage. The file storage is a distributed file system called Colony FS (CFS), and can be used to store input data, output data, and intermediate data. Data stored in CFS is access from all executors in the colony.

The command below list all labels.

```
colonies fs label 1s
```

ABEL	FILES
/water/Masks	2841
/water/Images	2841
/water	1

Let's create a new label and store a file in it.

```
mkdir myfiles
echo "hi!" > myfiles/hello.txt
colonies fs sync -l /myfiles -d myfiles
```

LABEL	FILES	
/water/Masks	2841	
/water/Images	2841	
/water	1	
/myfiles	1	

Try to sync to another computer or another directory.

```
colonies fs sync -l /myfiles -d myfiles2
```

That's great, but how do I use the data in a function? It possible to reference the data in the function specification. The remote executor will then automatically sync the data to the container before the function is executed. Let's try that.

```
{
    "conditions": {
        "executortype": "container-executor",
        "executornames": [
            "icekube"
        ],
        "nodes": 1,
        "processes-per-node": 1,
        "mem": "10Gi",
        "cpu": "1000m",
        "gpu": {
            "count": 0
        "walltime": 60
    },
    "funcname": "execute",
    "kwargs": {
        "cmd": "cat /cfs/myfiles/hello.txt",
        "docker-image": "ubuntu:20.04"
    },
    "fs": {
        "mount": "/cfs",
        "dirs": [
            {
                "label": "/myfiles",
                "dir": "/myfiles",
                "keepfiles": false,
                "onconflicts": {
                     "onstart": {
                        "keeplocal": false
                    },
                     "onclose": {
                         "keeplocal": true
                    }
                }
            }
        ]
    },
    "maxexectime": 55,
    "maxretries": 3
}
```

```
colonies function submit --spec cat.json --follow
```

```
INFO[0000] Process submitted
ProcessId=d81e3ea76afd5d45902c494a77cf72ab6046e1cf8700e8ac36b6f5a7168a4bc4
INFO[0000] Printing logs from process
ProcessId=d81e3ea76afd5d45902c494a77cf72ab6046e1cf8700e8ac36b6f5a7168a4bc4
hi!
INFO[0013] Process finished successfully
ProcessId=d81e3ea76afd5d45902c494a77cf72ab6046e1cf8700e8ac36b6f5a7168a4bc4
```

Nice, the function executed the command <code>cat /cfs/myfiles/hello.txt</code> and printed the content of the file <code>hello.txt</code> to the console.

Let's explore a tool called Pollinator to avoid spending time on creating complex JSON files.

Pollinator

Pollinator is a tool that automatically sync a local file to CFS and create a function specification. It abscracts away the complexity of creating function specifications, making it possible to develop on a local computer while executing on a powerful supercomputer.

Let's create a new Pollinator project and use the ICE Kubernetes cluster for function execution.

```
mkdir myproject
cd myproject
pollinator new -n icekube
```

As you can see, a file called project.yml is created. Pollinator uses the project.yml file to generate function specifications. The project.yml file contains some generic configuration, e.g. how resources should be allocated. It also contains a reference to a file called main.py, which contains some Python code we would like to execute.

```
projectname: a79b82a96a5c132374b26beb78953112f084055e29b73d63fe95fcdce5c4981b
conditions:
 executorNames:
  - icekube
 nodes: 1
 processesPerNode: 1
 cpu: 1000m
 mem: 1000Mi
 walltime: 600
 gpu:
   count: 0
   name: ""
environment:
 docker: python:3.12-rc-bookworm
  rebuildImage: false
 init-cmd: pip3 install numpy
 cmd: python3
  source: main.py
```

Also, notice that a directory called cfs is created. The cfs directory contains three subdirectories:

- src
- result
- data

The src directory is synchronized before the container starts. The data directory is also synchronized before the container starts, but not deleted after the container has run to completion. The result directory is synchronized after the container has finished. This is a useful place to store generated data, .e.g model data after training a neural network.

Let's run a simple hello world Python program on Kubernetes.

```
print("Hello, World")
echo 'print("Hello, World")' > cfs/src/main.py
pollinator run --follow
INFO[0000] Process submitted,
ProcessID=24519ebe1d97c0627c971623e33e4a4963f1d8d55920c1a0437b4ad12f3be298
INFO[0000] Follow process at https://dashboard.colonyos.io/process?
processid=24519ebe1d97c0627c971623e33e4a4963f1d8d55920c1a0437b4ad12f3be298
Collecting numpy
 Obtaining dependency information for numpy from
https://files.pythonhosted.org/packages/0f/50/de23fde84e45f5c4fda2488c759b69990fd4512387a
1.26.4-cp312-cp312-manylinux_2_17_x86_64.manylinux2014_x86_64.whl.metadata
 Downloading numpy-1.26.4-cp312-cp312-
manylinux_2_17_x86_64.manylinux2014_x86_64.whl.metadata (61 kB)
                                     ----- 61.0/61.0 kB 1.2 MB/s eta 0:00:00
Downloading numpy-1.26.4-cp312-cp312-manylinux_2_17_x86_64.manylinux2014_x86_64.whl
(18.0 MB)
                                       -- 18.0/18.0 MB 50.8 MB/s eta 0:00:00
Installing collected packages: numpy
Successfully installed numpy-1.26.4
WARNING: Running pip as the 'root' user can result in broken permissions and
conflicting behaviour with the system package manager. It is recommended to use a
virtual environment instead: https://pip.pypa.io/warnings/venv
[notice] A new release of pip is available: 23.2.1 -> 24.0
[notice] To update, run: pip install --upgrade pip
Hello, World
INFO[0017] Process finished successfully
```

To run it on the LUMI supercomputer, just change the executor name in the project.yml file to lumi-std and run pollinator run --follow again.

We can also check the status of the process by typing:

```
colonies process get -p
24519ebe1d97c0627c971623e33e4a4963f1d8d55920c1a0437b4ad12f3be298
```

Process	
Id	24519ebe1d97c0627c971623e33e4a4963f1d8d55920c1a0437b4ad12f3be298
 IsAssigned	True
 InitiatorID	bcaeac1a507036f7fed0be9d38c43ba973be7c0064d1b0b010ede2f088093b3f
 Initiator	johan
AssignedExecutorID	ef9943aa7a7e9aec2e00bac8a739fa5886d9df8fe648349596b44054e18d9d7c
AssignedExecutorID	Successful
 PriorityTime 	1708712143825558275
SubmissionTime	2024-02-28 19:15:43
StartTime	2024-02-28 19:15:43
EndTime	2024-02-28 19:15:43
WaitDeadline	0001-01-01 00:53:28
ExecDeadline	2024-02-28 19:25:42
WaitingTime	35.886ms
ProcessingTime	16.542659s
Retries	0
Input	
Output 	
Errors	

Function Spec	cification
Func	execute
Args	None
KwArgs	init-cmd:pip3 install numpy rebuild-image:false ar
MaxWaitTime	-1
MaxExecTime	599
MaxRetries	3
Label	test_label
L	L

Conditions	
Colony	hpc
ExecutorNames	icekube
ExecutorType	container-executor
Dependencies	
Nodes	1
CPU	1000m
Memory	1000Mi
Processes	0
ProcessesPerNode	1

GPUN		walltille				
GPUPerNode 0 GPUMemory 0Mi Attributes ATTRIBUTEID KEY TYPE 652d5fbe8028b99c9e9bccce9ed9e6bd7846a6a569277b0ca3dc4edf05383e16 PROJECT_DIR	ĺ	GPUName				
Attributes ATTRIBUTEID KEY TYPE 652d5fbe8028b99c9e9bccce9ed9e6bd7846a6a569277b0ca3dc4edf05383e16 PROJECT_DIR	ĺ	GPUs	0			
Attributes ATTRIBUTEID KEY TYPE 652d5fbe8028b99c9e9bccce9ed9e6bd7846a6a569277b0ca3dc4edf05383e16 PROJECT_DIR		GPUPerNode	0			
ATTRIBUTEID		GPUMemory	0Mi			
ATTRIBUTEID	Į		<u> </u>	J		
ATTRIBUTEID	ſ					
		Attributes				
	ŀ					
		ATTRIBUTEID			KEY	TYPE
					1	ı
		CE2dEfb	0h a a a a 0 a d0 a Ch d70 4 Ca	Carcoo77b0aa0da4adf0r200a46	DD0.1ECT_DTD	
/CTS/pollinator/a/9082a96a5Cl3 Env	J				PROJECI_DIR	
	/ I	CIS/pollinator/a/91	08289685C13 ENV			ı
	•					

Storage

colonies log get -p 24519ebe1d97c0627c971623e33e4a4963f1d8d55920c1a0437b4ad12f3be298

If we want to see the logs from the process, we can use the colonies log get command.

```
Collecting numpy
  Obtaining dependency information for numpy from
https://files.pythonhosted.org/packages/0f/50/de23fde84e45f5c4fda2488c759b69990fd4512387a
1.26.4-cp312-cp312-manylinux_2_17_x86_64.manylinux2014_x86_64.whl.metadata
 Downloading numpy-1.26.4-cp312-cp312-
manylinux_2_17_x86_64.manylinux2014_x86_64.whl.metadata (61 kB)
                                           - 61.0/61.0 kB 1.2 MB/s eta 0:00:00
Downloading numpy-1.26.4-cp312-cp312-manylinux_2_17_x86_64.manylinux2014_x86_64.whl
(18.0 MB)
                                        -- 18.0/18.0 MB 50.8 MB/s eta 0:00:00
Installing collected packages: numpy
Successfully installed numpy-1.26.4
WARNING: Running pip as the 'root' user can result in broken permissions and
conflicting behaviour with the system package manager. It is recommended to use a
virtual environment instead: https://pip.pypa.io/warnings/venv
[notice] A new release of pip is available: 23.2.1 -> 24.0
[notice] To update, run: pip install --upgrade pip
Hello, World
```

If we don't know the process ID, we can use the colonies log search command to search for logs.

```
colonies log search --text "Hello, World"
```

ExecutorName	lumi-std
ProcessID	ad733c56110d444f9f98bfbfa9d96576039c4829a652c2307b86311650075fc3
Text	Hello, World
Timestamp	2024-02-28 19:15:58
ExecutorName	icekube
ProcessID	24519ebe1d97c0627c971623e33e4a4963f1d8d55920c1a0437b4ad12f3be298
Text	Hello, World

Introduction

In this tutorial, we will train a machine learning model to identify water in Sentinel-2 satellite images. We will be using code from this GitHub repo using this dataset.

First, find a target executor.

AME	TYPE	LOCATION	LAST HEARD FROM
icekube	container-executor	RISE, Sweden	2024-02-28 20:05:45
dev	container-executor	Rutvik, Sweden	2024-02-28 20:05:45
leonardo-booster	container-executor	Cineca, Italy	2024-02-27 18:50:11
lumi-std	container-executor	CSC, Finland	2024-02-28 20:06:01

Generate an empty working, targeting the ICEKube K8s cluster. Note that the target executor can be changed later.

```
mkdir waterml
cd waterml
pollinator new -n icekube
```

```
INFO[0000] Creating directory
INFO[0000] Creating directory
INFO[0000] Creating directory
INFO[0000] Creating directory
INFO[0000] Generating
INFO[0000] Generating
INFO[0000] Generating
INFO[0000] Generating
INFO[0000] Filename=./cfs/data/hello.txt
INFO[0000] Filename=./cfs/src/main.py
```

Dataset

```
cp ~/water_body_dataset ./cfs/data/water
```

If the dataset is already stored in Colonies CFS, you can copy the dataset directly from CFS to the project directory.

```
colonies fs sync -l /water -d ./cfs/data/water
```

The dataset will upload next time the project run and will be available in the container at these directories:

```
projdir = os.environ.get("PROJECT_DIR")
image_path = projdir + '/data/water/Images/'
mask_path = projdir + '/data/water/Masks/'
```

Build a Docker container (optional)

We are going the Container Executor, which comes in three variants.

- 1. Kube Executor runs containers as Kubernetes batch jobs.
- 2. **Docker Executor** runs containers as Docker containers on a baremetal servers or VMs.
- 3. **HPC Executor** runs containers as Singularity containers on HPC systems, managing them as Slurm jobs.

As the *function specification* is identical, meaning that we can easily switch between these 3 types of executors. To run containers, we first need to create a Dockerfile with the following content:

```
FROM docker.io/tensorflow/tensorflow:2.13.0-gpu

RUN apt-get update && apt-get install -y python3 python3-pip wget vim git fish libgl1-
mesa-glx libglib2.0-0
RUN python3 -m pip install --upgrade pip
RUN pip3 install pycolonies opencv-python tqdm Pillow scikit-learn keras matplotlib
numpy
```

Build and publish the Dockerfile and publish the Docker image at public Docker registry.

```
docker build -t johan/hackaton .
docker push johan/hackaton
```

The johan/hackaton Docker image has already been published at DockerHub.

Training the model

Now that we have prepared the dataset and created a Docker container, it's time to proceed with training the model.

Configure the Pollinator project

```
projectname: johantest
conditions:
  executorNames:
  - icekube
 nodes: 1
 processesPerNode: 1
 cpu: 10000m
 mem: 15000Mi
 walltime: 600
 gpu:
   count: 1
   name: "nvidia-gtx-2080ti"
environment:
 docker: johan/hackaton
 rebuildImage: false
 cmd: python3
  source: main.py
```

Replace main.py

Download source code from this GitHub repo.

```
wget -0 cfs/src/main.py
https://raw.githubusercontent.com/johankristianss/colonyoshackaton/main/src/main.py
```

Note that the Python code saves the training result and a random prediction example in the result directory, which is automatically synchronized back to the client after process completion.

```
plt.savefig(projdir + '/result/res_' + processid + '.png')
plt.savefig(projdir + '/result/samples_' + processid + '.png')
```

```
ls cfs/result
```

```
.rw-r--r-- 55k johan 12 Dec 21:40
res_076e273a1d082dd2886892dfd7d1723e12c747cf2899f2c2ede27ceb55e06ae2.png
.rw-r--r-- 266k johan 12 Dec 21:40
samples_076e273a1d082dd2886892dfd7d1723e12c747cf2899f2c2ede27ceb55e06ae2.png
```

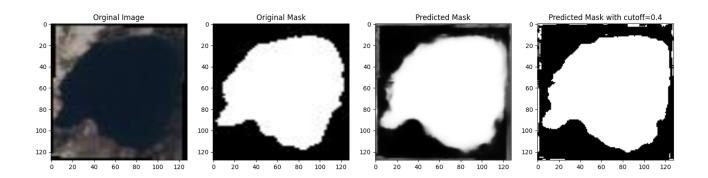
Train the model

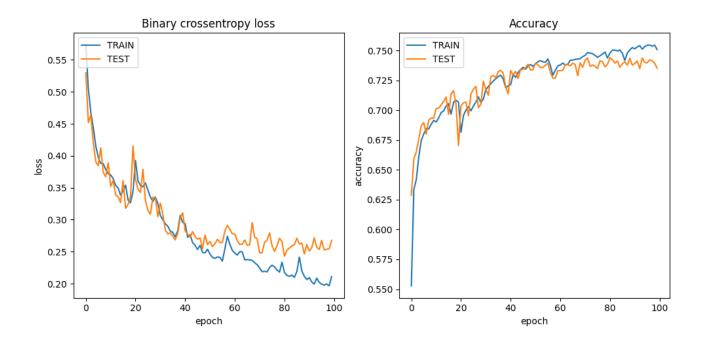
Pollinator will automatically synchronize the cfs/src, cfs/data, and cfs/result directories to Colonies CFS, generate a function specification and then submit the function specification, follow the process execution, and upon completion, synchronize the project files back to your local computer.

```
pollinator run --follow
```

```
67/67 [============== ] - 1s 18ms/step - loss: 0.3434 - accuracy: 0.7024
- val_loss: 0.3263 - val_accuracy: 0.7038
Epoch 25/30
- val_loss: 0.3146 - val_accuracy: 0.7121
Epoch 26/30
67/67 [=========================== ] - 1s 18ms/step - loss: 0.3139 - accuracy: 0.7140
- val_loss: 0.2947 - val_accuracy: 0.7249
Epoch 27/30
- val_loss: 0.3027 - val_accuracy: 0.7244
Epoch 28/30
- val_loss: 0.2910 - val_accuracy: 0.7259
Epoch 29/30
- val_loss: 0.2781 - val_accuracy: 0.7261
Epoch 30/30
- val_loss: 0.2733 - val_accuracy: 0.7313
23/23 [========= ] - 0s 4ms/step
INFO[0141] Process finished successfully
ProcessID=61e597845ed3df4456c5be7d358e35141b8dc4c1f76a89d7caad0f31f792106c
Downloading
samples_076e273a1d082dd2886892dfd7d1723e12c747cf2899f2c2ede27ceb55e06ae2.png 100%
[======] (5.0 MB/s)
Downloading res_076e273a1d082dd2886892dfd7d1723e12c747cf2899f2c2ede27ceb55e06ae2.png
100% [=======] (1.7 MB/s)
```

We can now open the sample and training plot pictures.





Quick Reference

Instructor's guide

Why we teach this lesson

Intended learning outcomes

Timing

Preparing exercises

e.g. what to do the day before to set up common repositories.

Other practical aspects

Interesting questions you might get

Typical pitfalls Who is the course for?

This course is for people who want to learn about more about ColonyOS and how to use it.

About the course

This course is an introduction to ColonyOS. It is designed to be a hands-on course, where you will learn by doing. The course is divided into three parts:

- Introduction
- Tutorial Image Processing
- Tutorial How implement a custom Executor

See also

Credits

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