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#### **Partners**









Natural Environment Research Council





#### Parallel R



- Different motivations for parallelising R
  - Too much computational work
    - My program takes too long
  - Too much data to process
    - My program is quick enough, but I've too much data to process
  - Data is too large
    - My data set is too big to fit into memory
- Wide range of options:
  - https://cran.r-project.org/web/views/HighPerformanceComputing.html
  - Implicit parallelism
  - Explicit parallelism
  - Applications
  - Batch system integration, hardware resources, distributed computing integration
  - Native code interfaces
  - Big memory

## Parallel options for R

epcc

- Shared memory parallelisation
  - Trivially parallel
    - (l)apply
    - Map
  - Loop parallelism
    - foreach
  - Threads
    - Rdsm
- Distributed memory parallelisation
  - parallel
  - snow
  - Rmpi
  - pbdR
  - foreach

### Automatic parallelism



- R has some parallelism built in
- BLAS libraries and other underlying functionality already using shared memory parallelism, i.e.:

```
A <- matrix( rnorm(n*n), ncol=n, nrow=n )
B <- matrix( rnorm(n*n), ncol=n, nrow=n )
C <- A %*% B
> library("data.table")
data.table 1.14.2 using 128 threads (see ?getDTthreads). Latest news: r-datatable.com
```

Can control number of workers on ARCHER2 using

```
export OMP_NUM_THREADS=
i.e.
export OMP_NUM_THREADS=2
...
> library("data.table")
data.table 1.14.2 using 2 threads (see ?getDTthreads). Latest news: r-datatable.com
```

- By default will use all available workers
  - Can be the wrong thing to do

### Trivial trivial parallelism



- Task farms
  - Same code executed independently
  - Different initial conditions or different data sets
  - Slurm array jobs can support this

```
args <- commandArgs(TRUE)
set.seed(args[1])
data <- read.csv('dataset.csv')
result <- kmeans(data, centers=10, nstart=100)
print(result)</pre>
```

Rscript kmeans-trivial.R 1 > 1\_output.dat

- Requires manual processing of the data
- Requires some care if using random number generators

### Trivial parallelism



- Split, Apply, Combine
  - Partition data into groups to be worked on
  - Apply operations to each group
  - Combine results with some form of reduction at the end
- Requires making some workflows more complex to enable parallelisation:

### Combining results



```
• Some of the functionality use can create lists of answers, i.e.:
   > res <- lapply(1:3, function(i) {</pre>
       sqrt(i)*sqrt(i*2)
   + })
   >
   > print(res)
   [[1]]
   [1] 1.414214
   [[2]]
   [1] 2.828427
   [[3]]
   [1] 4.242641
• Can combine the results to produce a single vector or results, i.e.:
> do.call('c', res)
[1] 1.414214 2.828427 4.242641
```

### mcapply



```
library(parallel)
data <- read.csv('dataset.csv')
parallel.function <- function(i) {
    kmeans( data, centers=4, nstart=i )
}
results <- mclapply( c(25, 25, 25, 25), FUN=parallel.function )

temp.vector <- sapply( results, function(result) { result$tot.withinss } )
result <- results[[which.min(temp.vector)]]
print(result)</pre>
```

- Uses processes rather than threads on ARCHER2.
- Uses MC\_CORES environment variable to control parallelism (not OMP\_NUM\_THREADS)
  - Default to 2, can change, i.e.: export MC\_CORES=16
- Uses mc\_cores argument as well:
   results <- mclapply( c(25, 25, 25, 25), FUN=parallel.function, mc\_cores=16 )</li>
- Can modify task scheduling/load balancing etc... with further arguments:
   results <- mclapply( c(25, 25, 25, 25), FUN=parallel.function, mc\_cores=16,
   mc.preschedule=FALSE )</li>

### mcparallel mccollect



```
library(parallel)
p <- mcparallel(1:10)</pre>
q <- mcparallel(1:20)</pre>
# wait for both jobs to finish and collect all results
res <- mccollect(list(p, q))
library(parallel, quiet=TRUE)
source("data/airline/read_airline.R")
jan2010 <- read.airline("data/airline/air0T201001.csv.gz")</pre>
unique.planes <- mcparallel( length( unique( sort(jan2010$TAIL_NUM) ) )</pre>
median.elapsed <- mcparallel( median( jan2010$ACTUAL_ELAPSED_TIME, na.rm=TRUE ) )</pre>
ans <- mccollect( list(unique.planes, median.elapsed) )</pre>
ans
```

#### foreach



```
library(foreach)
data <- read.csv('dataset.csv')</pre>
results <- foreach( i = c(25, 25, 25, 25) ) %do% {
    kmeans( x=data, centers=4, nstart=i )
temp.vector <- sapply( results, function(result)</pre>
    { result$tot.withinss } )
result <- results[[which.min(temp.vector)]]
print(result)
x <- foreach(i=1:4, .combine='cbind') %do%</pre>
rnorm(4)
```

EPCC, The University of Edinburgh

### foreach parallel

```
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```

```
library(foreach)
library(doMC)
data <- read.csv('dataset.csv')</pre>
registerDoMC(4)
results <- foreach( i = c(25,25,25,25) ) %dopar% {
    kmeans( x=data, centers=4, nstart=i )
temp.vector <- sapply( results, function(result)</pre>
    { result$tot.withinss } )
result <- results[[which.min(temp.vector)]]
print(result)
```

### parLapply

```
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```

```
library(snow)
data <- read.csv( 'dataset.csv' )</pre>
parallel.function <- function(i) {</pre>
    kmeans( data, centers=4, nstart=i )
cl <- makeCluster( mpi.universe.size(), type="MPI" )</pre>
clusterExport(cl, c('data'))
results <- parLapply(cl, c(25,25,25,25), fun=parallel.function)
temp.vector <- sapply( results, function(result) { result$tot.withinss } )</pre>
result <- results[[which.min(temp.vector)]]</pre>
print(result)
stopCluster(cl)
mpi.exit()
```

### doSNOW foreach



```
library(foreach)
library(doSNOW)
data <- read.csv('dataset.csv')</pre>
cl <- makeCluster( mpi.universe.size(), type='MPI' )</pre>
clusterExport(cl,c('data'))
registerDoSNOW(cl)
results <- foreach( i = c(25, 25, 25, 25) ) %dopar% {
    kmeans( x=data, centers=4, nstart=i )
temp.vector <- sapply( results, function(result)</pre>
    { result$tot.withinss } )
result <- results[[which.min(temp.vector)]]</pre>
print(result)
stopCluster(cl)
mpi.exit()
```

#### snow



```
cluster <- getMPIcluster()</pre>
# Print the hostname for each cluster member
sayhello <- function()</pre>
  info <- Sys.info()[c("nodename", "machine")]</pre>
  paste("Hello from", info[1], "with CPU type", info[2])
names <- clusterCall(cluster, sayhello)</pre>
print(unlist(names))
# stopCluster will call mpi.finalize, no need for mpi.exit
stopCluster(cluster)
```

## Installing snow on ARCHER2



- Requires a slightly modified Rmpi build to install:
  - Firstly, we need to set up a modified ARCHER2 R build environment (configuring the compilers):

```
mkdir ~/.R
```

- Add this to the file:
- ~/.R/Makevars
- With the contents:

```
CC = cc
```

CXX = CC

FC = ftn

- **Rmpi** install:
  - Make sure we have the R module loaded:

```
module load cray-R
```

• Make sure we have the GNU compilers loaded:

```
module load PrgEnv-gnu
```

• And we have the R library path setup to install on to the /work filesystem, i.e.:

```
export R_LIBS_USER=/work/ta055/ta055/$USER/Rinstall
```

• Build Rmpi

R CMD INSTALL /work/z19/shared/adrianj/Rmpi\_0.6-9.2.tar.gz --configure-args=" --with-Rmpi-type=CRAY"

• Finally, install snow:

```
R -e 'install.packages("snow", repos="https://cran.ma.imperial.ac.uk/")'
```

### Running snow

```
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```

```
#!/bin/bash
#SBATCH --job-name=snow
#SBATCH --nodes=2
#SBATCH --tasks-per-node=128
#SBATCH --time=0:5:0
#SBATCH --partition=standard
#SBATCH --qos=short
#SBATCH --account=z19
#SBATCH --hint=nomultithread
module load cray-R
export R_LIBS_USER=/work/z19/z19/adrianj/Rinstall
export PATH=$PATH:/work/z19/z19/adrianj/Rinstall/snow
export OMP_NUM_THREADS=1
srun RMPISNOW < ./simple_parallel_snow.R</pre>
```

### More complex snow

```
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```

```
nmax = 50
nworkers <- as.numeric(Sys.getenv("SLURM_NPROCS"))</pre>
cl <- getMPIcluster()</pre>
pbday <- function(n) {</pre>
  ntésts <- 100000
  pop <- 1:365
  anydup <- function(i)</pre>
  any(duplicated(sample(pop, n,replace=TRUE)))
  sum(sapply(seq(ntests), anydup)) / ntests
clusterExport(cl, list('pbday'))
# print the time to do nmax tests, after distributing them to the workers system.time(x <- clusterApply(cl, 1:nmax, function(n) { pbday(n) }))
# compute the theoretical probability for each n
prob \leq rep(0.0,nmax)
probnot <- 1.0
for (i in 2:nmax) {
  probnot <- probnot*(366.0-i)/365.0
  prob[i] = 1.0 - probnot
# print results, comparing tests to theory
z <- cbind(x,prob)
print(z)
# always include the following to stop the cluster
stopClúster(cl)
```

# epcc

```
#!/bin/bash
#SBATCH --job-name=snow
#SBATCH --nodes=1
#SBATCH --tasks-per-node=64
#SBATCH --time=0:5:0
#SBATCH --partition=standard
#SBATCH --qos=short
#SBATCH --account=z19
#SBATCH --hint=nomultithread
module load cray-R
export R_LIBS_USER=/work/z19/z19/adrianj/Rinstall
export PATH=$PATH:/work/z19/z19/adrianj/Rinstall/snow
export OMP_NUM_THREADS=1
srun RMPISNOW < ./sample_birthday_snow.R</pre>
```