Summary & Recommendations

Technologies

Specific:

- PyTorch or Tensorflow as DL/AI platform
- Kubernetes as distributed platform and queuing system

General:

- GPUs as high performance compute accelerators
- sharded sequential objects on object stores

Simple Toolkit

Some simple tools used in this tutorial:

- WebDataset for rapid I/O
- tarproc for preprocessing
- tensorcom for distributed preprocessing
- AIStore for object caching / storage
- kubetpl as templating engine

Minimalist, simple, high performance tools based on open standards; no lock-in; work for desktop to data center.

Feel free to use others, principles remain the same.

Benchmarking and Profiling

- keep your most expensive components busy (usually: GPUs)
- use nvidia-smi and htop; keep GPU > 90% and CPU < 100%
- instrument your code and always keep track of I/O vs training
- measure with mock data source and mock training loop
- use more sophisticated tools when necessary
- simplify your code: it makes tuning much easier

Availability / Open Source Projects

http://pytorch.org

http://github.com/nvidia/aistore

http://github.com/tmbdev/webdataset

http://github.com/tmbdev/torchmore

http://github.com/tmbdev/tarproc

http://github.com/NVlabs/tensorcom

Questions / Discussion