

High Performance Computing

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Look up how to log in to HPC

HPC is useful for embarrassingly parallel problems (graphics, simulations with multiple parameters) and Non embarrassingly parallel problems (fluid dynamics, a lot of the tasks run by a single problem).

1 How do you parallelize your code?

Imagine before using HPC you want to do one simulation then 3 parallel in HPC.

Important line of code:

as.numeric(Sys.getenv("PBS_ARRAYINDEX")) Using PC: for i in 1:10
do simulation(i)

HPC : i < -as.numeric(Sys.getenv("PBS_ARRAYINDEX"))do_simulation(i)

do_simulation < -function(i)setrandomseedasi,selectyoursimulationparameters,doyoursimulation

Usedifferentrandomnumberseedswhenrunningparalleltoensurethattheyareindependent.

Handlingmemory : Saveyourresultsinmemoryandthenwritetodiskattheend.Outputyourcodetoase

2 Running code on a cluster

Will be using: cx1 - a cluster of many ordinary computers. Access via a login node. Login node, your portal to cx1, Login.cx1.hpc.ic.ac.uk

Where is data stored?

\$Home- backed up main area 10GB

\$Work - for running jobs not backed up 150GB

\$TMPDIR - Ignore these temporary files but be careful you don't lose work in here

Need to write command in shell script to move files back from tmpdir to home.

Step1: Go to filezilla-project.org

Download FileZilla Client and install it
Open FileZilla and put in the following settings:
(see dropbox)