

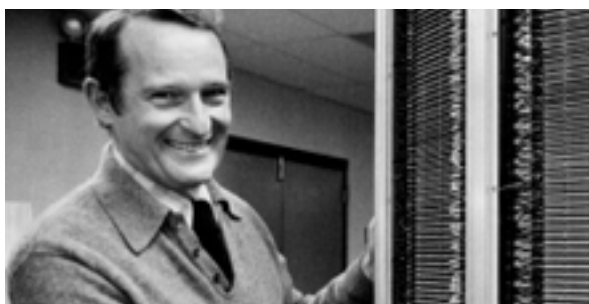
The “Happy Scientist” Seminar Series: #5

A brief introduction to using R for high-performance computing

We are pleased to announce the fifth in the series of educational seminars sponsored by Cores C and D of the Biostats Program Project award. This series, the “Happy Scientist” seminar series, is aimed at providing educational material for members of Biostats, both students and faculty, about a variety of tools and methods that might prove useful to them. If you have any suggestions for subjects that you would like to learn about in future, please send email to (pmarjora@usc.edu). Our agenda will be driven by your specific interests as far as is possible.

This meeting will be held on Thursday March 23rd, at 12noon,

Description: While the R programming language was not developed for High Performance Computing (think about the ‘for’ loops!), thanks to its always-thriving community of users, there are several ways in which R can be used to perform HPC. In this presentation, we will provide a general overview of HPC in R with a particular focus on multicore processing (i.e. no big data for now), and introduce some of the available tools for enhancing your R code. Furthermore, we'll include some examples using the 'parallel' package, the 'foreach'+ 'iterators' R packages, and Rcpp(Armadillo) + OpenMP. The seminar will be given by George Vega Yon and Garrett Weaver.



Seymour Cray, 1925-1966:

Seymour Cray (1925-1966) was an American electric engineer, founder of Cray Research, who in 1976 introduced what is considered to be the first supercomputer ever built, the Cray-1, starting the supercomputer industry. Known as "The Father of Supercomputing", Cray enjoyed skiing, wind surfing, tennis, using #3 pencils for designing his super-computers, and hole digging in his backyard. (Incidentally, that sentence is a good example of the importance of the Oxford comma.) In tribute to him, IEEE society awards the "Seymour Cray Computer Engineering Award" for those that "[...] best exemplify the creative spirit demonstrated by Seymour Cray."

As ever, all are welcome to attend, whether involved in the Biostats Program Project or not. We will hold the seminar in SSB 115.

Happy Scientist Seminar #5:

Title: An introduction to using R for high-performance computing

Time: 12:00noon-1pm, Thursday March 23rd

Where: SSB 115