

FICO® Xpress Optimization

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REFERENCE MANUAL

Package jobqueue

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jobqueue package

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CHAPTER 1

Introduction

The package *jobqueue* provides a set of Mosel subroutines for managing the remote execution of submodels via *mmjobs* and *mmhttp* functionality. Individual model files, optionally with data files, are run on one worker from a pool (queue) of remote machines that are configured via this package. *jobqueue* also implements the handling of output and errors from the submodels and the generation and retrieval of individual result output files.

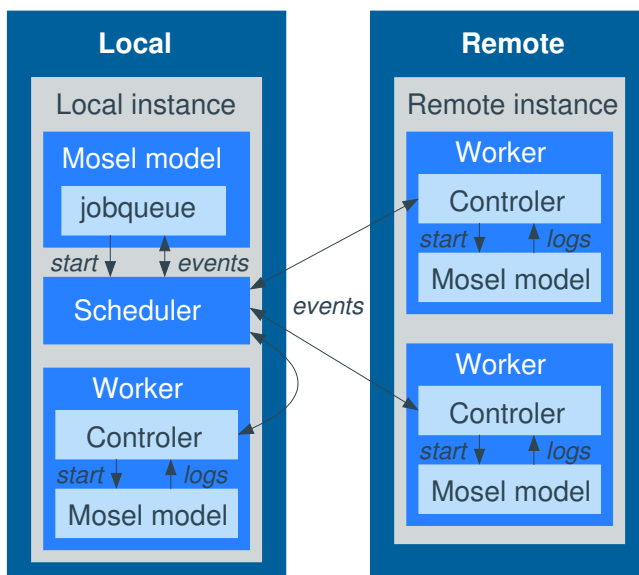


Figure 1.1: Architecture of *jobqueue* runs

- Step 1: Configuration of queues (node lists)
 - definition of worker instances (remote via *rcmd* or *xprmsrv*, on local node, or on same Mosel instance as the main model), initial status check, connections are opened when needed
- Step 2: Configuration of *computation jobs* (models+other required files)
 - Mosel file to be run (in source or compiled form), optional addition of other required (data) files, optional specification of a result file, optional specification of retry attempts in case of server failure
- Step 3: Management of *task queues*
 - jobs are turned into computation tasks by adding them to a queue, submodel execution starts automatically

- optional specification of runtime parameters
- Step 4: Supervision of nodes and model execution on workers via *controler programs*
 - waiting for job termination: can perform conditional wait (time limit)
 - explicit deletion of tasks or queues if not busy/being processed
- Step 5: *Reporting* functionality
 - display of queue information: workers, pending and running tasks
 - submodel status (status file, host information file), output produced by submodel run (output log, error log), and optional result file with model-specific contents (only if specified in job definition)

The package *jobqueue* requires (at least) Mosel 5. That is, the main model on the local instance that uses this package needs to be run with Mosel 5 or newer, but remote (worker) instances can use older releases (starting with Mosel 4.*).

The main model to be provided by the developer implements the steps outlined above, that is, it defines the computing tasks, assigns them to a job queue, waits for their termination and (optionally) reports on their status and results. All other components shown in Figure [Architecture of jobqueue runs](#) (*jobqueue* scheduler, controler programs on workers) are created and managed automatically by the *jobqueue* library. See the file `mainjq.mos` that is provided as test with the *jobqueue* distribution for a complete example.

CHAPTER 2

Control parameters

`jq_verbose : integer`

Package output level

Default value 0

Notes

1. Positive values up to 10 or 0 to disable output from this package.
2. The parameter is accessed via Mosel's `getparam/setparam` routines, for example, use `setparam("jq_verbose", 2)` to enable logging and some debugging output by *jobqueue*.

CHAPTER 3

Constants

RT_CANCELLED = -11

Model status: cancelled before execution

RT_COMPERR = -12

Model status: compilation failed

RT_FCPYERR = -14

Model status: files could not be uploaded to worker

RT_LOADERR = -13

Model status: bim file could not be loaded

RT_PENDING = -10

Model status: waiting for execution

RT_SYSERR = -15

Model status: controler could not be run on worker

CHAPTER 4

Types

jq_job : record

A job definition

srcfiles : list of text

list of files to upload on the worker

dstfiles : list of text

names of the files on the worker

resultfile : text

file containing the result after execution

maxretry : integer

maximum number of attempts at running the job in case of server disconnection

Note

Entities of this type should be populated using `jobinit`, `jobadd` or `jobsetresult`.

jq_qinfo : record

Queue information as returned by `queuegetinfo`

nbwk : integer

total number of workers

nbdis : integer

number of disabled workers

running : list of integer

list of running tasks

pending : list of integer

list of tasks waiting for execution

CHAPTER 5

Subroutines

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jobadd

Purpose

Add a file to a job

Synopsis

```
procedure jobadd(j:jq_job, src:text, dst:text)
procedure jobadd(j:jq_job, src:text)
```

Arguments

j	a job
src	a data file
dst	filename to be used on the host for src

Example

See [jobinit](#)

Further information

The destination filename must be an actual filename, not including any I/O driver. If the 'dst' argument is not specified its value is deduced from the 'src' argument, in which case the filename specified for 'src' must be a complete path (excluding the use of I/O drivers, including 'tmp:'). If the source filename in 'src' is specified as an extended filename using an I/O driver, then the 'dst' filename must be stated explicitly, using the 3-argument version of this subroutine.

jobinit

Purpose

Initialize a job

Synopsis

```
procedure jobinit(j:jq_job, src:text, dst:text, maxretry:integer)
procedure jobinit(j:jq_job, src:text)
procedure jobinit(j:jq_job, src:text, maxretry:integer)
```

Arguments

j	job to initialize
src	file containing the model to run (.bim or .mos)
dst	filename to be used on the host for src
maxretry	maximum number of attempts at running the model in case of server disconnection (default: 0)

Example

The following example defines three jobs with different configurations.

```
public declarations
  job, job2, job3: jq_job
  tasks: list of integer
  mpar: text
end-declarations

jobinit(job, "simple.bim")           ! Model is already compiled

jobinit(job2, "simplewdata.mos")     ! Model gets compiled by 'jobqueue'
jobadd(job2, "simplifiedata.txt")    ! Add a data file for this model
jobsetresult(job2, "results.txt")    ! Specify the result file (single file)

jobinit(job3, "simple.mos", 2)       ! 2 attempts to run model if server failure
```

Further information

The destination filename must be an actual filename, not including any I/O driver. If the 'dst' argument is not specified its value is deduced from the 'src' argument, in which case the filename specified for 'src' must be a complete path (excluding the use of I/O drivers, including 'tmp:'). If the source filename in 'src' is specified as an extended filename using an I/O driver, then the 'dst' filename must be stated explicitly, using the 4-argument version of this subroutine.

jobsetresult

Purpose

Define the result file for a job

Synopsis

```
procedure jobsetresult(j:jq_job, rfile:text)
```

Arguments

j a job
rfile file containing the result of the execution

Example

See `jobinit`

queueaddjob

Purpose

Add a job to a queue

Synopsis

```
function queueaddjob(qid:integer, j:jq_job, rtp:text):integer
function queueaddjob(qid:integer, j:jq_job):integer
```

Arguments

qid	a queue ID
j	job to add
rtp	parameter string to be used for execution

Return value

A unique task ID

Example

The following example queues several instances of a job, specifying different runtime parameter settings per task. It then adds an instance of a second job.

```
public declarations
  job, job2: jq_job
  tasks: list of integer
  queue: integer
  mpar: text
end-declarations

!... create 'queue' and initialize the jobs ...

forall(i in 1..NB) do                                ! Queue some jobs with runtime parameters
  setmodpar(mpar, "WAIT_IN_SUBMODEL", i)
  setmodpar(mpar, "IMPORTANT_PARAM", text("Hello World ") + (i^2))
  tasks+=[queueaddjob(queue, job, mpar)]
end-do
tasks+=[queueaddjob(queue, job2)] ! Queue another job
```

queueaddnode

Purpose

Add an execution node to a queue

Synopsis

```
function queueaddnode(qid:integer, cstr:text, mt:integer):integer  
function queueaddnode(qid:integer, cstr:text):integer
```

Arguments

qid	a queue ID
cstr	connection string (if "*" the current instance is used)
mt	maximum number of models to run on this node

Return value

ID for the new node

Example

See [queuenew](#)

queuedel

Purpose

Delete a queue

Synopsis

```
function queuedel(qid:integer):boolean
```

Return value

true if successful or false if the queue is busy

Example

See [queuwait](#)

Further information

A queue cannot be deleted when it is running tasks

queuedeltasks

Purpose

Delete all tasks associated to a queue

Synopsis

```
procedure queuedeltasks(qid:integer)
```

Argument

qid a queue ID

Example

See [queuwait](#)

Further information

All tasks waiting for execution are removed from the queue and deleted, all tasks that have finished execution are also deleted.

queueflush

Purpose

Flushes a queue

Synopsis

```
procedure queueflush(qid:integer)
```

Argument

qid a queue ID

Further information

All tasks waiting for execution are removed from the queue and deleted.

queuegetinfo

Purpose

Retrieve queue information

Synopsis

```
procedure queuegetinfo(qid:integer, jqi:jq_qinfo)
```

Arguments

qid a queue ID
jq_i record where the queue status is returned

Example

The following example retrieves and displays information about a queue.

```
public declarations
  queue: integer
  jq_i: jq_qinfo
end-declarations

queuegetinfo(queue, jq_i)      ! Queue info: workers, pending+running tasks
writeln("Queue info:", jq_i)
writeln(queuepending(queue))  ! Display pending tasks
```

queuenew

Purpose

Create a new queue

Synopsis

```
function queuenew:integer
```

Return value

ID for the new queue

Example

The following example shows different configuration options for queues.

```
public declarations
    queue: integer
    nd1,nd2,nd3,nd4: integer
end-declarations

queue:=queuenew                ! Create a new queue

nd1:=queueaddnode(queue,"*",2) ! Use same instance as current (no 'connect')
                                ! with 2 workers (=2 concurrent executions)
nd2:=queueaddnode(queue,"",3)  ! New instance (via rcmd) on current machine
nd3:=queueaddnode(queue,"somemach") ! New inst. (xprmsrv) on remote machine
nd4:=queueaddnode(queue,"localhost") ! New inst. via xprmsrv on current
```

queuepending

Purpose

Retrieve the number of pending tasks of a queue

Synopsis

```
function queuepending(qid:integer):integer
```

Argument

qid a queue ID

Return value

Number of tasks executing and waiting for execution

Example

See [queuegetinfo](#)

queuereset

Purpose

Reset a queue

Synopsis

```
function queuereset(qid:integer):boolean
```

Argument

qid a queue ID

Return value

true if successful or false if queue is still executing tasks

Example

See [queuwait](#)

Further information

[queueflush](#) is called and all nodes are disconnected.

queuwait

Purpose

Suspend execution until a queue has run all its tasks

Synopsis

```
function queuwait(qid:integer, maxtime:real):integer
function queuwait(qid:integer):integer
```

Arguments

qid a queue ID
maxtime maximum amount of time to wait (in seconds)

Return value

Number of tasks executing and waiting for execution

Example

The following example shows how to use different forms of 'queuwait' and explicit termination.

```
public declarations
    queue: integer
    rti: integer
    rtb: boolean
end-declarations

rti:=queuwait(queue)           ! Wait for all tasks to terminate
writeln("End of wait: ",rti)  ! Number of tasks executing or waiting

! Alternative forms:
rti:=queuwaitnext(queue)      ! Wait for next task termination
rti:=queuwait(queue,10)       ! Wait for 10 seconds

! Optional: explicit termination/deletion
queuedeltasks(queue)          ! Delete all pending+terminated tasks
rtb:=queuereset(queue)        ! Del. pending + disconnect nodes (if not busy)
rtb:=queuedel(queue)          ! Delete a queue (only if not busy)
```

queuwaitnext

Purpose

Suspend execution until a task finishes in a queue

Synopsis

```
function queuwaitnext(qid:integer, maxtime:real):integer  
function queuwaitnext(qid:integer):integer
```

Arguments

qid a queue ID
maxtime maximum amount of time to wait (in seconds)

Return value

Number of tasks executing and waiting for execution

Example

See [queuwait](#)

taskcancel

Purpose

Cancel a task

Synopsis

```
procedure taskcancel(tid:integer)
```

Argument

`tid` a task ID

Further information

A running task will be stopped.

taskerrfile

Purpose

File name of the error stream of a task

Synopsis

```
function taskerrfile(tid:integer):string
```

Argument

tid a task ID

Return value

a file name

Example

See [taskstatfile](#)

Further information

This file is populated only after execution of the task.

taskfree

Purpose

Delete a task

Synopsis

```
function taskfree(tid:integer):boolean
```

Argument

tid a task ID

Return value

true if successful or false if the task does not exist or is currently running

Further information

A task waiting for execution will be removed from its queue.

taskhostfile

Purpose

Host information file of a task

Synopsis

```
function taskhostfile(tid:integer):string
```

Argument

tid a task ID

Return value

a file name

Example

See `taskstatfile`

Further information

1. This file contains information on the host running the task. It is available as soon as the task is running.
2. Model status values are documented under subroutine `getstatus` of *mmjobs* in the Mosel Language Reference Manual, with the additional values `RT_PENDING`, `RT_CANCELLED`, `RT_COMPERR`, `RT_LOADERR`, `RT_FCPYERR`, and `RT_SYSERR` defined by *jobqueue*.

taskoutfile

Purpose

File name of the output stream of a task

Synopsis

```
function taskoutfile(tid:integer):string
```

Argument

tid a task ID

Return value

a file name

Example

See [taskstatfile](#)

Further information

This file is populated only after execution of the task.

taskresfile

Purpose

Result file of a task

Synopsis

```
function taskresfile(tid:integer):string
```

Argument

tid a task ID

Return value

a file name

Example

The following example retrieves and displays information from the result file produced by a task.

```
public declarations
  tasks: list of integer
end-declarations
! ... run tasks and wait for termination ...

! Model-specific result data
declarations
  Sol: dynamic array(range) of real
  L: list of text
  val: real
end-declarations

with t=tasks.last do  ! A result file must have been specified for this task
  initializations from taskresfile(t)
  Sol L val
end-initializations
  writeln("**Result values: Sol=", Sol, " L=", L, " val=", val)
end-do
```

Further information

This file is populated only after execution of the task.

taskrestart

Purpose

Restart a task

Synopsis

```
procedure taskrestart(tid:integer)
```

Argument

`tid` a task ID

Further information

This routine has no effect if the task is already scheduled or running.

taskstatfile

Purpose

Status file of a task

Synopsis

```
function taskstatfile(tid:integer):string
```

Argument

tid a task ID

Return value

a file name

Example

The following example shows how to retrieve and display status information and the output files produced by tasks.

```
public declarations
    status, code: integer
    tasks: list of integer
end-declarations

forall(t in tasks) do
    initializations from taskstatfile(t)  ! Model execution status file
    status code
end-initializations
writeln("Status of task ", t, ": ", status, "/", code)
writeln("Host info task ", t, ":")
fcopy(taskhostfile(t),0,"",0)           ! Host (node) information file
if status=0 then
    writeln("Output of task ", t, ":")
    fcopy(taskoutfile(t),0,"",0)        ! Output log file
else
    writeln("Errors of task ", t, ":")
    fcopy(taskerrfile(t),0,"",0)        ! Error log file
end-if
end-do
```

Further information

This file can be used to retrieve the status of a task.

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