# Understanding HTCF I/O: Storage Types and Use

CGS\_SB High Throughput Computing Facility
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Couch Biomedical Research Building

https://htcf-users.slack.com

#### Storage

- Arguably the most important part of any cluster.
- Many types of storage and many ways to use that storage.
- When used appropriately, I/O bound jobs can be surprisingly fast.
- When not...bad things can happen

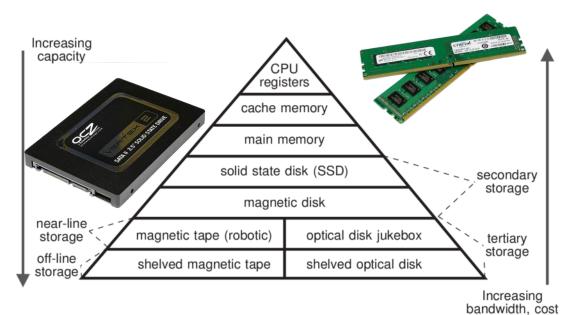
### Take aways...

#### You'll have...

- 1. A clearer understanding of each type of storage and when/how to use each one
- 2. A way determine the kind of I/O your programs are using
- 3. An idea of what object storage is and how it can be used to eliminate the need for excessive back and forth copying of data between /scratch and /lts
- 4. A glimpse into how workflow tools such as Snakemake and Nextflow, when paired with object storage, can be your new best friends.

### Types of Storage

- Local Disk
  - /tmp
- Network File System (NFS)
  - /home
- BeeGFS
  - /scratch
- Ceph
  - /lts (Ceph RBDs)
  - /ref (CephFS)
  - LTOS (Ceph Rados Gateway)





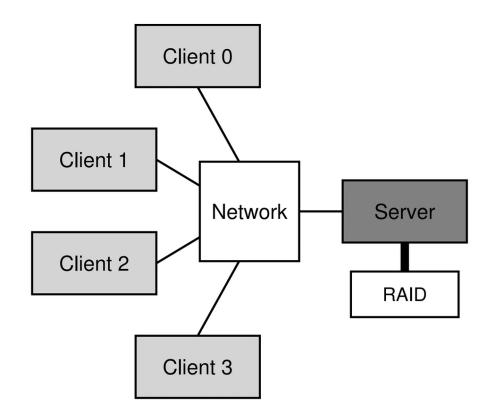
### Types of Storage: Local Disk

- Local Disk
  - /tmp
- Network File System (NFS)
  - /home
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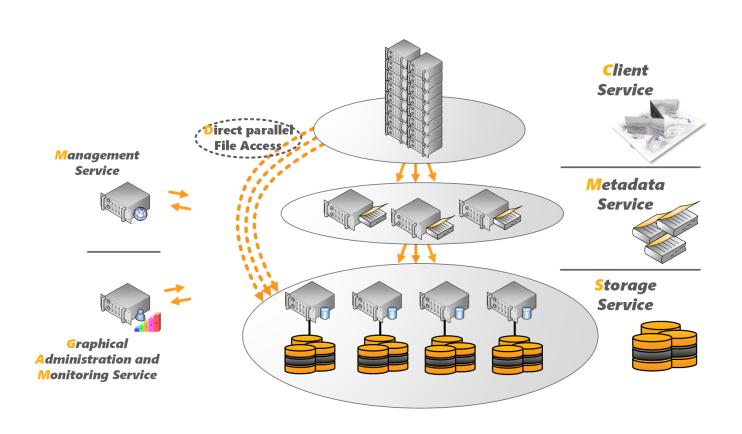
### Types of Storage: NFS

- Local Disk
  - /tmp
- Network File System (NFS)
  - /home
- BeeGFS
  - /scratch
- Ceph
  - /lts (Ceph RBDs)
  - /ref (CephFS)
  - LTOS (Ceph Rados Gateway)



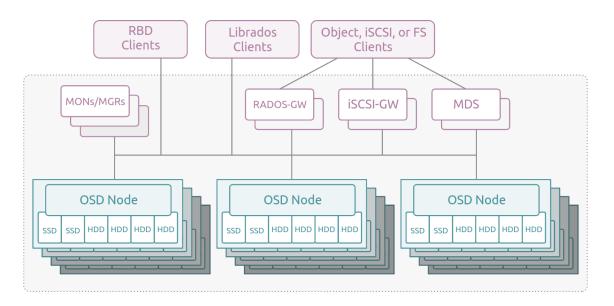
### Types of Storage: BeeGFS

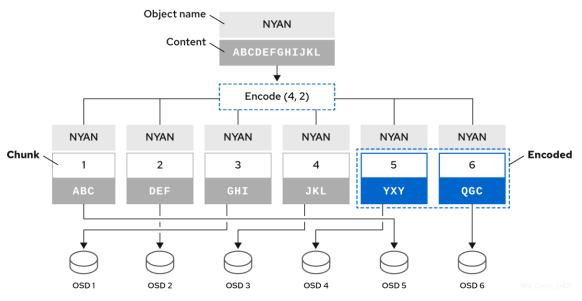
- Local Disk
  - /tmp
- Network File System (NFS)
  - /home
- BeeGFS
  - /scratch
- Ceph
  - /lts (Ceph RBDs)
  - /ref (CephFS)
  - LTOS (Ceph Rados Gateway)



### Types of Storage: Ceph

- Local Disk
  - /tmp
- Network File System (NFS)
  - /home
- BeeGFS
  - /scratch
- Ceph
  - /lts (Ceph RBDs)
  - /ref (CephFS)
  - LTOS (Ceph Rados Gateway)





### Why so many types?

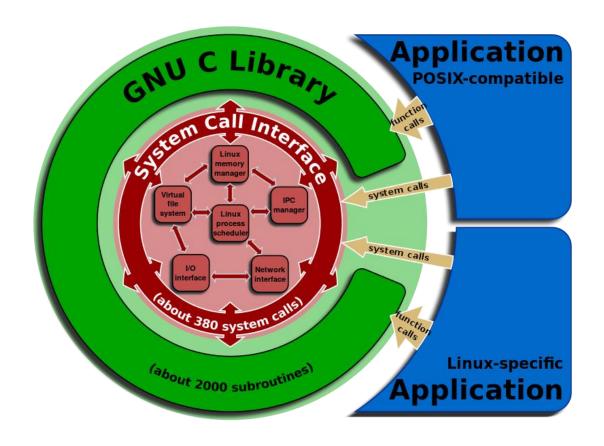
- Like so many things in life, there's not a one-size-fits-all solution for storage.
- Usually, if storage is fast, it's not robust or it's not affordable
- It comes down to how the storage types handle reads and writes.



https://www.summitracing.com/parts/orb-90158226

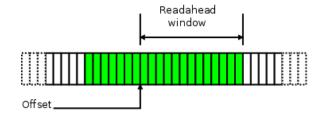
### Crash Course: Reading / Writing

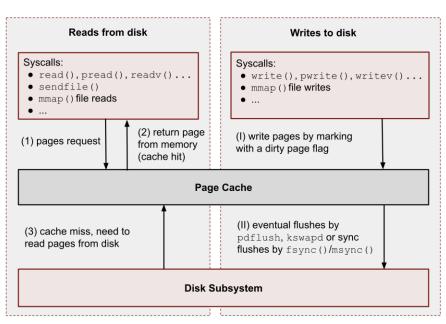
- Storage is all about reads and writes
- User software/applications don't actually do the reading/writing, as they live in "user space"
- The OS (specifically, the "kernel") lives in kernel space and does the reads/writes.
- The software asks the kernel to read/write on its behalf via system calls
- System calls are functions provided by the kernel/OS for accessing resources devices/disks/network.



### Crash Course: Reading / Writing

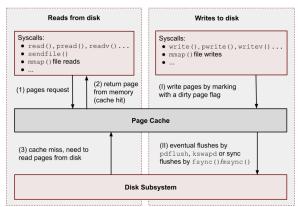
- In return, the kernel can do some behind-the-scenes work that makes our I/O more efficient:
  - Read-ahead
  - Page Caching





https://biriukov.dev/docs/page-cache/2-essential-page-cache-theory/

Crash Course: Page Caching

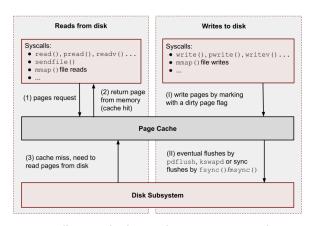


https://biriukov.dev/docs/page-cache/2-essential-page-cache-theory/

- 1. copy ~2GB to /tmp
- 2. "drop caches"
- 3. Read all files. time it.
- 4. Immediately read all files again

```
[root@n004 tmp]# pwd
[root@n004 tmp]# ls -l
total 1948472
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 116651622 Sep 18 15:09 chr13.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 109184600 Sep 18 15:09 chr14.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 253935557 Sep 18 15:09 chr1.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 65733058 Sep 18 15:09 chr20.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 51834845 Sep 18 15:09 chr22.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 202261477 Sep 18 15:09 chr3.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 194018853 Sep 18 15:09 chr4.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 185169031 Sep 18 15:09 chr5.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 141162618 Sep 18 15:09 chr9.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root
                     16907 Sep 18 15:09 chrM.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root root 159161719 Sep 18 15:09 chrX.fa
[root@n004 tmp]# sudo sysctl vm.drop_caches=1
vm.drop\_caches = 1
[root@n004 tmp]# time cat * > /dev/null
real
      0m3.667s
user
      0m0.004s
      0m0.584s
svs
[root@n004 tmp]# time cat * > /dev/null
real
      0m0.352s
user
      0m0.001s
      0m0.350s
[root@n004 tmp]#
```

Crash Course: Page Caching



https://biriukov.dev/docs/page-cache/2-essential-page-cache-theory/

- 1. copy ~2GB to /scratch
- 2. "drop caches"
- 3. Read all files. time it.
- 4. Immediately read all files again

```
[root@n004 tmp]# mkdir /scratch/htcfadmin/chr
[root@n004 tmp]# cp * /scratch/htcfadmin/chr/
[root@n004 tmp]# cd /scratch/htcfadmin/chr/
[root@n004 chr]# ls -l
total 1948449
-rw-r--r-- 1 root htcfadmin 109184600 Sep 18 15:18 chr14.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root htcfadmin 84922597 Sep 18 15:18 chr17.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root htcfadmin 202261477 Sep 18 15:18 chr3.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root htcfadmin
                 16907 Sep 18 15:18 chrM.fa
-rw-r--r-- 1 root htcfadmin 159161719 Sep 18 15:18 chrX.fa
[root@n004 chr]# sudo sysctl vm.drop_caches=1
vm.drop_caches = 1
[root@n004 chr]# time cat * > /dev/null
real
    0m3.284s
user
    0m0.003s
    0m0.600s
sys
[root@n004 chr]# time cat * > /dev/null
real
    0m3.160s
user
    0m0.003s
    0m0.597s
sys
[root@n004 chr]#
```

#### Crash course: read-ahead and small reads

Tiny script to demonstrate kernel read-ahead.

- 1. Create 10MB file
- 2. Read...
  - a) 1 x 10MB chunk
  - b) 10 x 1MB chunks
  - c) 1280 x 8KB chunks
  - d) 2560 x 4KB chunks
  - e) 10MB x 1 Byte chunks

```
#!/usr/bin/env python3
import os
import sys
import tempfile
import time
TOTAL = 1024 * 1024 * 10
SIZES = [TOTAL, 1024*1024, 8192, 4096, 1024, 1]
fname = tempfile.mkstemp(dir='.')[1]
def go():
    sys.stdout.write("Writing {} bytes...".format(TOTAL))
    open(fname, 'wb').write(b'\0' * TOTAL)
    sys.stdout.write("Done\n")
    for rs in SIZES:
        with open(fname, 'rb', 0) as f:
            sys.stdout.write("Read size {}: ".format(rs))
            sys.stdout.flush()
            t = time.time()
            while True:
                x = f.read(rs)
                if x == b'': break
            sys.stdout.write('{}\n!.format(time.time() - t))
    os.unlink(fname)
if __name__ == '__main__':
    go()
```

#### Crash course: read-ahead and small reads

Tiny script to demonstrate kernel read-ahead.

- 1. Create 10MB file
- 2. Read...
  - a) 1 x 10MB chunk
  - b) 10 x 1MB chunks
  - c) 1280 x 8KB chunks
  - d) 2560 x 4KB chunks
  - e) 10MB x 1 Byte chunks

[koebbe@n004 tmp]\$ read-demo.py
Writing 10485760 bytes...Done
Read size 10485760: 0.003555774688720703
Read size 1048576: 0.0024728775024414062
Read size 8192: 0.002218008041381836
Read size 4096: 0.002351999282836914
Read size 1024: 0.005714893341064453
Read size 1: 4.551784038543701
[koebbe@n004 tmp]\$

[koebbe@n004 ~]\$ read-demo.py
Writing 10485760 bytes...Done
Read size 10485760: 0.0037994384765625
Read size 1048576: 0.0024938583374023438
Read size 8192: 0.0023012161254882812
Read size 4096: 0.0025272369384765625
Read size 1024: 0.006322383880615234
Read size 1: 4.890070915222168
[koebbe@n004 ~]\$

[koebbe@n004 ~]\$ cd /ref/htcfadmin/data [koebbe@n004 data]\$ read-demo.py Writing 10485760 bytes...Done Read size 10485760: 0.0035457611083984375 Read size 1048576: 0.002311229705810547 Read size 8192: 0.0023055076599121094 Read size 4096: 0.0027718544006347656 Read size 1024: 0.0070035457611083984 Read size 1: 5.990774393081665 [koebbe@n004 data]\$

[koebbe@n004 ~]\$ cd /scratch/htcfadmin [koebbe@n004 htcfadmin]\$ read-demo.py Writing 10485760 bytes...Done Read size 10485760: 0.013638973236083984 Read size 1048576: 0.01630091667175293 Read size 8192: 0.14689421653747559 Read size 4096: 0.29636263847351074 Read size 1024: 1.041081428527832 Read size 1: 877.302651643753 [koebbe@n004 htcfadmin]\$

#### Job bottlenecks

- All jobs have bottlenecks...
  - CPU
  - I/O
  - RAM (CPU or I/O in disguise?)
- Most HTCF jobs, at some point in their lifetime, are I/O bound.
- How do we determine if and how these jobs can be optimized?

#### I/O Bound:

...a condition in which the time it takes to complete a **computation** is determined principally by the period spent **waiting** for input/output operations to be completed.

- monitors all system calls that a process makes.
- Can prefix a command or attach to an already running command.
- Can be used to see how many read/write calls are made and how long those reads/writes take.

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env python3
 3 import os
 4 import sys
 5 import tempfile
 7 fname = sys.argv[1]
 8 size = int(sys.argv[2])
 9
10 with open(fname, 'rb', 0) as f:
       while True:
           x = f.read(size)
12
           if x == b'': break
13
14
```

```
[koebbe@n004 ~]$ cd /scratch/htcfadmin/
[koebbe@n004 htcfadmin]$ strace strace-demo.py file.fastq 2048
```

strace -c -f strace-demo.py file.fastq 2048

[koebbe@n004 htcfadmin]\$ strace -c strace-demo.py file.fastq 2048					
% time	seconds	usecs/call	calls	errors	syscall
90.83	0.019275	3	5280		read
2.11	0.000448	1	268	24	stat
1.08	0.000230	2	94	2	openat
0.98	0.000209	2	87		mmap
0.91	0.000194	32	6	4	execve
0.81	0.000171	1	145		fstat
0.77	0.000164	1	95		close
0.64	0.000136	7	18		getdents64
0.47	0.000100	2	50		mprotect
0.44	0.000094	1	91	6	lseek
0.21	0.000045	3	13		munmap
0.19	0.000041	1	28		brk
0.10	0.000022	2	8	2	readlink
0.10	0.000021	0	68		rt_sigaction
0.08	0.000016	0	21		lstat

strace -c -f -e read strace-demo.py file.fastq 2048

					file.fastq 10485760
% time	seconds	usecs/call	calls	errors	syscall
67.28	0.004224	26	 161		read
6.42		67	6	4	execve
3.52	0.000221	2	89		mmap
3.27	0.000205	2	94	2	openat
3.25	0.000204	0	268	24	stat
2.20	0.000138	2	50		mprotect
2.15	0.000135	1	68		rt_sigaction
1.94	0.000122	0	145		fstat
1.88	0.000118	1	95		close
1.88	0.000118	7	15		munmap
1.62	0.000102	5	18		getdents64
1.40	0.000088	3	28		brk
0.83	0.000052	0	91	6	lseek
0.68	0.000043	2	21		lstat
0 29	0 000018	6	3	3	access

[koebbe	@n004 htcfad	min]\$ strace	-c strace-	demo.py f	file.fastq 1
% time	seconds	usecs/call	calls	errors	syscall
			10405000		
99.99	32.968573	3	10485920		read
0.00	0.000367	1	268	24	stat
0.00	0.000290	3	94	2	openat
0.00	0.000276	3	87		mmap
0.00	0.000209	4	50		mprotect
0.00	0.000156	1	145		fstat
0.00	0.000151	1	95		close
0.00	0.000147	24	6	4	execve
0.00	0.000098	1	91	6	lseek
0.00	0.000062	3	18		getdents64
0.00	0.000061	4	13		munmap
0.00	0.000044	1	28		brk
0.00	0.000027	3	9		futex
0.00	0.000026	8	3		getrandom

#### Data Type Locations

What are the best locations for these various types of data?

<u>/tmp</u>	<u>/home</u>	
"Small Read" Data	sbatch Scripts?	
STAR, SPAdes, Cellranger	Configuration Files	
/scratch Staged Input Data Intermediate Data Log Files	<u>/Its</u> Job scripts Raw Sequence Data	
/ref (write few / read many / small-read safe)	Finished Results	

## /ref (write few/ read many / small-read safe)LTOSReference DataJob scriptsAnnotations, NR/NTRaw Sequence DataSoftware & Software EnvironmentsFinished Results

### Using LTOS – Long Term Object Storage

Like LTS, with 2 big differences:

- Available to jobs (accessible from nodes).
- 2. Not part of the file system
  - 1. Can't navigate to it the traditional ways. (ie. using cd and ls).
  - 2. Files (objects) are fetched (get) and placed (put) into LTOS.

### Using LTOS – Long Term Object Storage

#### /lts -> /scratch

- manually walking over to freezer
- Finding and loading up everything needed for many experiments
- dumping it all over the bench
- doing the work
- taking everything back to the freezer.

- Messy, disorganized, dangerous
- What happens if there's an error in the middle?
- Cleanup is hard/daunting...what to keep, what to dispose of.

#### LTOS -> /scratch

- having a robot quickly go grab only enough from the freezer to have a still-organized bench
- Robot doing a batch of work on the bench
- taking batch to freezer
- Getting next batch
- Doing batch of work, taking it back, etc.

- More upfront thought needed
- Organized, easier to recover from an error
- Better error reporting
- Easier to "reuse" components of the process for future experiments.
- More hands-off

- 1. Map reads
- 2. Sort alignments
- 3. Index read alignments
- 4. Variant calling

```
[koebbe@n004 example]$ tree data
data
    genome.fa
    genome.fa.amb
    genome.fa.ann
    genome.fa.bwt
    genome.fa.fai
   genome.fa.pac
   genome.fa.sa
        A.fastq
        B. fastq
        C.fastq
 directory, 10 files
```

#### Before:

- 1. On login server, manually copy data from /lts to /scratch
- 2. Job(s) to process the data
- 3. On login server, manually copy data from /scratch to /lts.

For large gnome(s) or 1000s of samples:

- Huge and/or messy working space
- more manual copying back/forth

```
[koebbe@n004 example]$ tree data
data
    genome.fa
    genome.fa.amb
    genome.fa.ann
    genome.fa.bwt
    genome.fa.fai
    genome.fa.pac
    genome.fa.sa
    samples
        A.fastq
        B. fastq
        C.fastq
1 directory, 10 files
```

Using LTOS without workflow:

 Create job(s) to stage data on /scratch, process the data, save results to LTOS

No manual steps!

Fine for small # samples...still hard for large # samples.

```
[koebbe@n004 example]$ tree data
data
    genome.fa
    genome.fa.amb
    genome.fa.ann
    genome.fa.bwt
    genome.fa.fai
    genome.fa.pac
    genome.fa.sa
        A.fastq
        B. fastq
        C. fastq
 directory, 10 files
```

#### Using LTOS with workflow:

 Create job(s) to stage data on /scratch, process the data, save results to LTOS

No manual steps!

Great for small or large # samples.

Easy to pick up where left off.

Good logging/reporting.

```
[koebbe@n004 example]$ tree data
data
    genome.fa
    genome.fa.amb
    genome.fa.ann
    genome.fa.bwt
    genome.fa.fai
    genome.fa.pac
    genome.fa.sa
    samples
        A.fastq
        B. fastq
        C.fasta
 directory, 10 files
```

### Using LTOS: Prep Example

#### Upload data to LTOS:

- 1. Make bucket (mb)
- 2. Recursively (-r) put the data in the newly created bucket

```
#!/bin/bash
eval $(spack load --sh py-s3cmd@2.3.0)
export S3CMD_CONFIG=${HOME}/ltos-obs1.conf
s3cmd mb s3://training
s3cmd put -r data s3://training
```

### Using LTOS: "Hard Coded"

```
#!/bin/bash
eval $(spack load --sh py-s3cmd@2.3.0 bwa samtools bcftools)
export S3CMD_CONFIG=${HOME}/ltos-obs1.conf
mkdir data
s3cmd get s3://training/data/* data
 Map reads
s3cmd get s3://training/data/samples/A.fastq .
s3cmd get s3://training/data/samples/B.fastq .
s3cmd get s3://training/data/samples/C.fastq .
                               | samtools view -Sb - > A.bam
bwa mem data/genome.fa A.fastq
                                 samtools view -Sb - > B.bam
bwa mem data/genome.fa B.fastq
bwa mem data/genome.fa C.fastq
                                 samtools view -Sb - > C.bam
```

### Using LTOS: "Hard Coded"

```
Sort alignments
samtools sort -o A.sorted.bam A.bam
samtools sort -o B.sorted.bam B.bam
samtools sort -o C.sorted.bam C.bam
  Call variants
bcftools mpileup -f data/genome.fa A.sorted.bam B.sorted.bam C.sorted.bam | bcftools call -mv - > all.vcf
s3cmd put all.vcf s3://training/results/all.vcf
  clean up
rm A.fastq B.fastq C.fastq
rm A.bam B.bam C.bam
rm A.sorted.bam B.sorted.bam C.sorted.bam
rm all.vcf
rm -rf data
```

### Using LTOS: A little less hard coded

```
SAMPLES=(A B C)
for sample in "${SAMPLES[@]}"; do
    # Map reads
    s3cmd get s3://training/data/samples/${sample}.fastq .
    bwa mem data/genome.fa ${sample}.fastq | samtools view -Sb - > ${sample}.bam
    rm ${sample}.fastq
    # Sort alignments
    samtools sort -o ${sample}.sorted.bam ${sample}.bam
    rm ${sample}.bam
done
```

- 1. Stage Data
- 2. Array job to map and sort 3 samples
- 3. Call variants and clean up

```
#!/bin/bash
eval $(spack load --sh py-s3cmd@2.3.0)
export $3CMD_CONFIG=${HOME}/ltos-obs1.conf
set -e
mkdir data
s3cmd get s3://training/data/* data
```

- 1. Stage Data
- 2. Array job to map and sort 3 samples
- 3. Call variants and clean up

```
#!/bin/bash
#SBATCH --cpus-per-task=1
#SBATCH --mem-per-cpu=1G
#SBATCH --array=0-2
eval $(spack load --sh py-s3cmd@2.3.0 bwa samtools bcftools)
export S3CMD_CONFIG=${HOME}/ltos-obs1.conf
set -e
set -x
SAMPLES=(A B C)
sample=${SAMPLES[${SLURM_ARRAY_TASK_ID}]}
 Map reads
s3cmd get s3://training/data/samples/${sample}.fastq .
bwa mem data/genome.fa ${sample}.fastq | samtools view -Sb - > ${sample}.bam
 Sort alignments
samtools sort -o ${sample}.sorted.bam ${sample}.bam
```

- 1. Stage Data
- 2. Array job to map and sort 3 samples
- 3. Call variants and clean up

```
#!/bin/bash
eval $(spack load --sh py-s3cmd@2.3.0 bcftools)
export S3CMD_CONFIG=${HOME}/p/storage-training/ltos-obs1.conf
SAMPLES=(A B C)
 Call variants
bcftools mpileup -f data/genome.fa ${SAMPLES[@]/%/.sorted.bam} | bcftools call -mv - > all.vcf
s3cmd put all.vcf s3://training/results/all.vcf
  clean up
 m ${SAMPLES[@]/%/.fastq}
  ${SAMPLES[@]/%/.bam}
   ${SAMPLES[@]/%/.sorted.bam}
  all.vcf
   -rf data
```

- 1. Stage Data
- 2. Array job to map and sort 3 samples
- 3. Call variants and clean up
- 4. Tie it all together

```
#!/bin/bash
ID=$(sbatch job1.sbatch | awk '{ print $NF }')
ID=$(sbatch -d afterok:${ID} job2.sbatch |awk '{ print $NF }')
sbatch -d afterok:${ID} job3.sbatch
```

#### 1 Snakefile

#### 1. Define rules

- a) map\_reads
- b) sort\_alignments
- c) samtools\_index
- d) call\_variants

- a) Sequentially
- b) Parallel
- c) Full slurm job

```
rule map_reads:
   input:
        fasta=S3.remote("training/data/genome.fa"),
        genomefiles=[
           S3.remote("training/data/genome.fa.amb"),
           S3.remote("training/data/genome.fa.ann"),
           S3.remote("training/data/genome.fa.bwt"),
           S3.remote("training/data/genome.fa.fai"),
           S3.remote("training/data/genome.fa.pac"),
           S3.remote("training/data/genome.fa.sa")
       reads=S3.remote("training/data/samples/{sample}.fastq")
   output:
       temporary("mapped_reads/{sample}.bam")
   shell:
       eval $(spack load --sh bwa samtools)
       bwa mem {input.fasta} {input.reads} | samtools view -b - > {output}
```

#### 1 Snakefile

#### 1. Define rules

- a) map\_reads
- b) sort\_alignments
- c) samtools\_index
- d) call\_variants

- a) Sequentially
- b) Parallel
- c) Full slurm job

```
rule sort_alignments:
    input:
        "mapped_reads/{sample}.bam"
    output:
        temporary("sorted_reads/{sample}.bam")
    shell:
        """
        eval $(spack load --sh samtools)
        samtools sort -T sorted_reads/{wildcards.sample} -0 bam {input} > {output}
        """
```

#### 1 Snakefile

#### 1. Define rules

- a) map\_reads
- b) sort\_alignments
- c) samtools\_index
- d) call\_variants

- a) Sequentially
- b) Parallel
- c) Full slurm job

```
rule samtools_index:
    input:
        "sorted_reads/{sample}.bam"
    output:
        temporary("sorted_reads/{sample}.bam.bai")
    shell:
        """
        eval $(spack load --sh samtools)
        samtools index {input}
        """
```

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```
rule call_variants:
    input:
        fa=S3.remote("training/data/genome.fa"),
            bam=expand("sorted_reads/{sample}.bam", sample=SAMPLES),
            bai=expand("sorted_reads/{sample}.bam.bai", sample=SAMPLES)

output:
        all=S3.remote("training/results/all.vcf"),
        foo=temporary("training/data/genome.fa.fai")

shell:
        """
        eval $(spack load --sh bcftools)
        bcftools mpileup -f {input.fa} {input.bam} | bcftools call -mv - > {output.all}
        """
```

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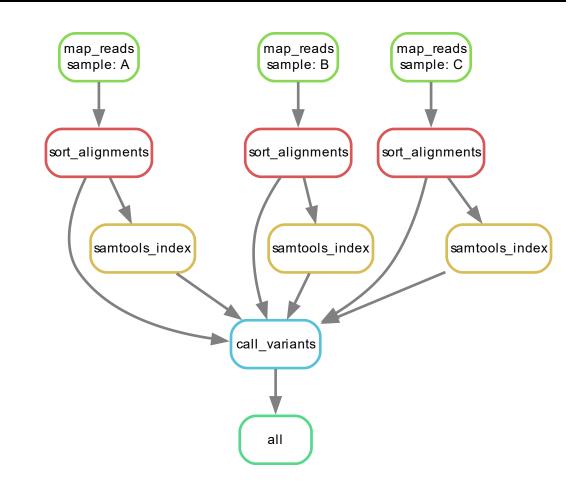
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#### \$ snakemake --dag | dot -Tsvg > dag.svg



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\$ snakemake -c 1

\$ snakemake -c 3

\$ snakemake --slurm --jobs 3

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[koebbe@n001 job3]\$ snakemake --report
Building DAG of jobs...
Creating report...
Downloading resources and rendering HTML.
Report created: report.html.
[koebbe@n001 job3]\$

