Execute a Synchronous Distributed AI Workload

NetApp Solutions

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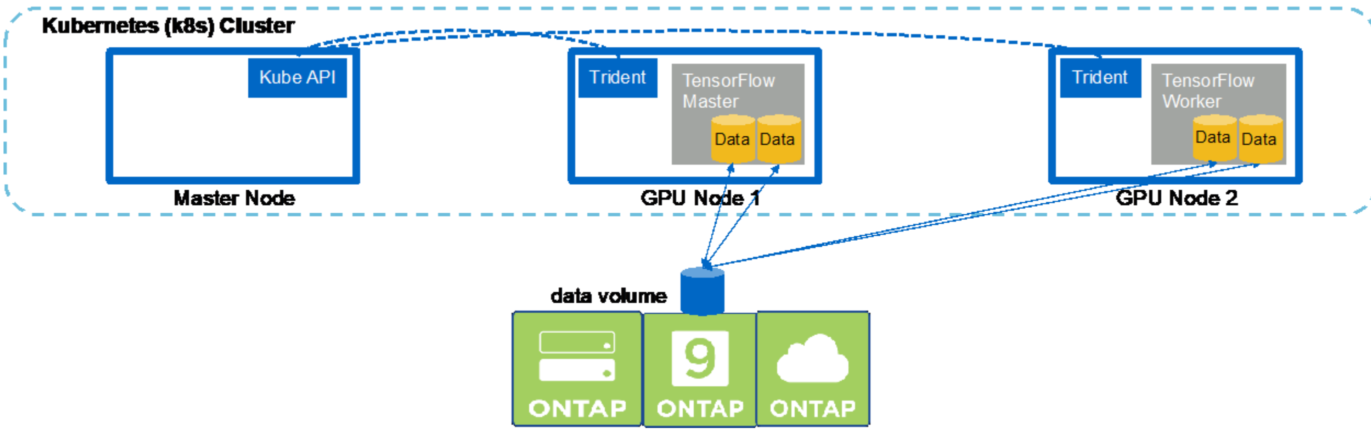
To execute a synchronous multinode AI and ML job in your Kubernetes cluster, perform the following tasks on the deployment jump host. This process enables you to take advantage of data that is stored on a NetApp volume and to use more GPUs than a single worker node can provide. See the following figure for a depiction of a synchronous distributed AI job.

> Synchronous distributed jobs can help increase performance and training accuracy compared with asynchronous distributed jobs. A discussion of the pros and cons of synchronous jobs versus asynchronous jobs is outside the scope of this document.



1. The following example commands show the creation of one worker that participates in the synchronous distributed execution of the same TensorFlow benchmark job that was executed on a single node in the example in the section Execute a Single-Node AI Workload. In this specific example, only a single worker is deployed because the job is executed across two worker nodes.

   This example worker deployment requests eight GPUs and thus can run on a single GPU worker node that features eight or more GPUs. If your GPU worker nodes feature more than eight GPUs, to maximize performance, you might want to increase this number to be equal to the number of GPUs that your worker nodes feature. For more information about Kubernetes deployments, see the official Kubernetes documentation.

   A Kubernetes deployment is created in this example because this specific containerized worker would never complete on its own. Therefore, it doesn't make sense to deploy it by using the Kubernetes job construct. If your worker is designed or written to complete on its own, then it might make sense to use the job construct to deploy your worker.

   The pod that is specified in this example deployment specification is given a `hostNetwork` value of `true`. This value means that the pod uses the host worker node's networking stack instead of the virtual networking stack that Kubernetes usually creates for each pod. This annotation is used in this case because the specific workload relies on Open MPI, NCCL, and Horovod to execute the workload in a synchronous distributed manner. Therefore, it requires access to the host networking stack. A discussion about Open MPI, NCCL, and Horovod is outside the scope of this document. Whether or not this `hostNetwork: true` annotation is necessary depends on the requirements of the specific workload that you are executing. For more information about the `hostNetwork` field, see the official Kubernetes documentation.

```
$ cat << EOF > ./netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker.yaml
apiVersion: apps/v1
kind: Deployment
metadata:
  name: netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker
spec:
  replicas: 1
  selector:
    matchLabels:
      app: netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker
  template:
    metadata:
      labels:
        app: netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker
    spec:
      hostNetwork: true
      volumes:
      - name: dshm
        emptyDir:
          medium: Memory
      - name: testdata-iface1
        persistentVolumeClaim:
          claimName: pb-fg-all-iface1
      - name: testdata-iface2
        persistentVolumeClaim:
          claimName: pb-fg-all-iface2
      - name: results
        persistentVolumeClaim:
          claimName: tensorflow-results
      containers:
      - name: netapp-tensorflow-py2
        image: netapp/tensorflow-py2:19.03.0
        command: ["bash", "/netapp/scripts/start-slave-multi.sh",
"22122"]
        resources:
          limits:
            nvidia.com/gpu: 8
        volumeMounts:
        - mountPath: /dev/shm
          name: dshm
        - mountPath: /mnt/mount_0
          name: testdata-iface1
        - mountPath: /mnt/mount_1
          name: testdata-iface2
        - mountPath: /tmp
          name: results
```

```
        securityContext:
          privileged: true
EOF
$ kubectl create -f ./netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker.yaml
deployment.apps/netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker created
$ kubectl get deployments
NAME                                      DESIRED   CURRENT   UP-TO-DATE
AVAILABLE   AGE
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker   1         1         1
1           4s
```

2. Confirm that the worker deployment that you created in step 1 launched successfully. The following example commands confirm that a single worker pod was created for the deployment, as indicated in the deployment definition, and that this pod is currently running on one of the GPU worker nodes.

```
$ kubectl get pods -o wide
NAME                                                         READY
STATUS    RESTARTS   AGE
IP               NODE            NOMINATED NODE
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker-654fc7f486-v6725   1/1
Running   0          60s   10.61.218.154   10.61.218.154   <none>
$ kubectl logs netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker-654fc7f486-v6725
22122
```

3. Create a Kubernetes job for a master that kicks off, participates in, and tracks the execution of the synchronous multinode job. The following example commands create one master that kicks off, participates in, and tracks the synchronous distributed execution of the same TensorFlow benchmark job that was executed on a single node in the example in the section Execute a Single-Node AI Workload.

   This example master job requests eight GPUs and thus can run on a single GPU worker node that features eight or more GPUs. If your GPU worker nodes feature more than eight GPUs, to maximize performance, you might want to increase this number to be equal to the number of GPUs that your worker nodes feature.

   The master pod that is specified in this example job definition is given a `hostNetwork` value of `true`, just as the worker pod was given a `hostNetwork` value of `true` in step 1. See step 1 for details about why this value is necessary.

```
$ cat << EOF > ./netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master.yaml
apiVersion: batch/v1
kind: Job
metadata:
  name: netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master
spec:
  backoffLimit: 5
  template:
    spec:
```

```
      hostNetwork: true
      volumes:
      - name: dshm
        emptyDir:
          medium: Memory
      - name: testdata-iface1
        persistentVolumeClaim:
          claimName: pb-fg-all-iface1
      - name: testdata-iface2
        persistentVolumeClaim:
          claimName: pb-fg-all-iface2
      - name: results
        persistentVolumeClaim:
          claimName: tensorflow-results
      containers:
      - name: netapp-tensorflow-py2
        image: netapp/tensorflow-py2:19.03.0
        command: ["python", "/netapp/scripts/run.py", "--
dataset_dir=/mnt/mount_0/dataset/imagenet", "--port=22122", "--
num_devices=16", "--dgx_version=dgx1", "--
nodes=10.61.218.152,10.61.218.154"]
        resources:
          limits:
            nvidia.com/gpu: 8
        volumeMounts:
        - mountPath: /dev/shm
          name: dshm
        - mountPath: /mnt/mount_0
          name: testdata-iface1
        - mountPath: /mnt/mount_1
          name: testdata-iface2
        - mountPath: /tmp
          name: results
        securityContext:
          privileged: true
      restartPolicy: Never
EOF
$ kubectl create -f ./netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master.yaml
job.batch/netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master created
$ kubectl get jobs
NAME                                      COMPLETIONS   DURATION   AGE
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master   0/1           25s        25s
```

4. Confirm that the master job that you created in step 3 is running correctly. The following example command confirms that a single master pod was created for the job, as indicated in the job definition, and that this pod is currently running on one of the GPU worker nodes. You should also see that the worker pod that you

originally saw in step 1 is still running and that the master and worker pods are running on different nodes.

```
$ kubectl get pods -o wide
NAME                                                           READY
STATUS    RESTARTS   AGE
IP              NODE            NOMINATED NODE
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master-ppwwj                  1/1
Running   0          45s   10.61.218.152   10.61.218.152   <none>
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker-654fc7f486-v6725   1/1
Running   0          26m   10.61.218.154   10.61.218.154   <none>
```

5. Confirm that the master job that you created in step 3 completes successfully. The following example commands confirm that the job completed successfully.

```
$ kubectl get jobs
NAME                                      COMPLETIONS   DURATION   AGE
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master   1/1           5m50s      9m18s
$ kubectl get pods
NAME                                                           READY
STATUS      RESTARTS   AGE
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master-ppwwj                  0/1
Completed   0          9m38s
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker-654fc7f486-v6725   1/1
Running     0          35m
$ kubectl logs netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master-ppwwj
[10.61.218.152:00008] WARNING: local probe returned unhandled
shell:unknown assuming bash
rm: cannot remove '/lib': Is a directory
[10.61.218.154:00033] PMIX ERROR: NO-PERMISSIONS in file gds_dstore.c at
line 702
[10.61.218.154:00033] PMIX ERROR: NO-PERMISSIONS in file gds_dstore.c at
line 711
[10.61.218.152:00008] PMIX ERROR: NO-PERMISSIONS in file gds_dstore.c at
line 702
[10.61.218.152:00008] PMIX ERROR: NO-PERMISSIONS in file gds_dstore.c at
line 711
Total images/sec = 12881.33875
================ Clean Cache !!! ==================
mpirun -allow-run-as-root -np 2 -H 10.61.218.152:1,10.61.218.154:1 -mca
pml ob1 -mca btl ^openib -mca btl_tcp_if_include enp1s0f0 -mca
plm_rsh_agent ssh -mca plm_rsh_args "-p 22122" bash -c 'sync; echo 1 >
/proc/sys/vm/drop_caches'
=========================================
mpirun -allow-run-as-root -np 16 -H 10.61.218.152:8,10.61.218.154:8
-bind-to none -map-by slot -x NCCL_DEBUG=INFO -x LD_LIBRARY_PATH -x PATH
```

```
-mca pml ob1 -mca btl ^openib -mca btl_tcp_if_include enp1s0f0 -x
NCCL_IB_HCA=mlx5 -x NCCL_NET_GDR_READ=1 -x NCCL_IB_SL=3 -x
NCCL_IB_GID_INDEX=3 -x
NCCL_SOCKET_IFNAME=enp5s0.3091,enp12s0.3092,enp132s0.3093,enp139s0.3094
-x NCCL_IB_CUDA_SUPPORT=1 -mca orte_base_help_aggregate 0 -mca
plm_rsh_agent ssh -mca plm_rsh_args "-p 22122" python
/netapp/tensorflow/benchmarks_190205/scripts/tf_cnn_benchmarks/tf_cnn_be
nchmarks.py --model=resnet50 --batch_size=256 --device=gpu
--force_gpu_compatible=True --num_intra_threads=1 --num_inter_threads=48
--variable_update=horovod --batch_group_size=20 --num_batches=500
--nodistortions --num_gpus=1 --data_format=NCHW --use_fp16=True
--use_tf_layers=False --data_name=imagenet --use_datasets=True
--data_dir=/mnt/mount_0/dataset/imagenet
--datasets_parallel_interleave_cycle_length=10
--datasets_sloppy_parallel_interleave=False --num_mounts=2
--mount_prefix=/mnt/mount_%d --datasets_prefetch_buffer_size=2000 --
datasets_use_prefetch=True --datasets_num_private_threads=4
--horovod_device=gpu >
/tmp/20190814_161609_tensorflow_horovod_rdma_resnet50_gpu_16_256_b500_im
agenet_nodistort_fp16_r10_m2_nockpt.txt 2>&1
```

6. Delete the worker deployment when you no longer need it. The following example commands show the deletion of the worker deployment object that was created in step 1.

   When you delete the worker deployment object, Kubernetes automatically deletes any associated worker pods.

```
$ kubectl get deployments
NAME                                      DESIRED   CURRENT   UP-TO-DATE
AVAILABLE   AGE
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker   1         1         1
1           43m
$ kubectl get pods
NAME                                                           READY
STATUS      RESTARTS   AGE
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master-ppwwj              0/1
Completed   0          17m
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker-654fc7f486-v6725   1/1
Running     0          43m
$ kubectl delete deployment netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker
deployment.extensions "netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-worker" deleted
$ kubectl get deployments
No resources found.
$ kubectl get pods
NAME                                            READY   STATUS
RESTARTS   AGE
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master-ppwwj   0/1     Completed   0
18m
```

7. **Optional:** Clean up the master job artifacts. The following example commands show the deletion of the master job object that was created in step 3.

   When you delete the master job object, Kubernetes automatically deletes any associated master pods.

```
$ kubectl get jobs
NAME                                      COMPLETIONS   DURATION   AGE
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master   1/1           5m50s      19m
$ kubectl get pods
NAME                                            READY   STATUS
RESTARTS   AGE
netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master-ppwwj   0/1     Completed   0
19m
$ kubectl delete job netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master
job.batch "netapp-tensorflow-multi-imagenet-master" deleted
$ kubectl get jobs
No resources found.
$ kubectl get pods
No resources found.
```

Next: Performance Testing