Re-Thinking Experiments

Accelerating Research through Reproducible Experiments at Scale

Vivek Katial

09/12/2019

Slides

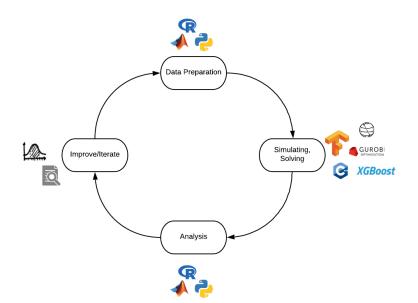
• Check out the slides at https://tinyurl.com/scnb3va

About Me

- Vivek Katial (vkatial@student.unimelb.edu.au)
 - PhD Candidate (Optimisation on Quantum Computers)
 - Data Scientist (3 years)

Motivation

Running Experiments and Developing ideas is Complex



1. Data Prep:

- 1. Data Prep:
 - Want to test many different parameters

- 1. Data Prep:
 - Want to test many different parameters
- 2. Simulating, Training, Solving:

- 1. Data Prep:
 - Want to test many different parameters
- 2. Simulating, Training, Solving:
 - Track various metrics

- 1. Data Prep:
 - Want to test many different parameters
- 2. Simulating, Training, Solving:
 - Track various metrics
 - Use different algorithms or solvers

- 1. Data Prep:
 - Want to test many different parameters
- 2. Simulating, Training, Solving:
 - Track various metrics
 - Use different algorithms or solvers
- 3. Analysis:

- 1. Data Prep:
 - Want to test many different parameters
- 2. Simulating, Training, Solving:
 - Track various metrics
 - Use different algorithms or solvers
- 3. Analysis:
 - Work needs to be reproducible

- 1. Data Prep:
 - Want to test many different parameters
- 2. Simulating, Training, Solving:
 - Track various metrics
 - Use different algorithms or solvers
- 3. Analysis:
 - Work needs to be reproducible
- 4. Re-iterate:

- 1. Data Prep:
 - Want to test many different parameters
- 2. Simulating, Training, Solving:
 - Track various metrics
 - Use different algorithms or solvers
- 3. Analysis:
 - Work needs to be reproducible
- 4. Re-iterate:
 - Need to be able to track parameters, metrics, etc. . .

- 1. Data Prep:
 - Want to test many different parameters
- 2. Simulating, Training, Solving:
 - Track various metrics
 - Use different algorithms or solvers
- 3. Analysis:
 - Work needs to be reproducible
- 4. Re-iterate:
 - Need to be able to track parameters, metrics, etc...
 - Other issue is that this all needs to scale

Introducing "EZ-EXPERIMENTr"

 EZ-EXPERIMENTr is a toolkit under-development with the aim to help researchers run automated experiments on an HPC cluster.

- EZ-EXPERIMENTr is a toolkit under-development with the aim to help researchers run automated experiments on an HPC cluster.
- How it works?

- EZ-EXPERIMENTr is a toolkit under-development with the aim to help researchers run automated experiments on an HPC cluster.
- How it works?
 - SPARTAN to run heavy-duty experiment code

- EZ-EXPERIMENTr is a toolkit under-development with the aim to help researchers run automated experiments on an HPC cluster.
- How it works?
 - SPARTAN to run heavy-duty experiment code
 - Melbourne Research Cloud (MRC) to host server that tracks experiments

- EZ-EXPERIMENTr is a toolkit under-development with the aim to help researchers run automated experiments on an HPC cluster.
- How it works?
 - SPARTAN to run heavy-duty experiment code
 - Melbourne Research Cloud (MRC) to host server that tracks experiments
 - Singularity Containers to make each experimental run fully reproducible

- EZ-EXPERIMENTr is a toolkit under-development with the aim to help researchers run automated experiments on an HPC cluster.
- How it works?
 - SPARTAN to run heavy-duty experiment code
 - Melbourne Research Cloud (MRC) to host server that tracks experiments
 - Singularity Containers to make each experimental run fully reproducible
 - GitHub to manage and version code

- EZ-EXPERIMENTr is a toolkit under-development with the aim to help researchers run automated experiments on an HPC cluster.
- How it works?
 - SPARTAN to run heavy-duty experiment code
 - Melbourne Research Cloud (MRC) to host server that tracks experiments
 - Singularity Containers to make each experimental run fully reproducible
 - GitHub to manage and version code
 - yaml to configure and specify a run of each experiment

- EZ-EXPERIMENTr is a toolkit under-development with the aim to help researchers run automated experiments on an HPC cluster.
- How it works?
 - SPARTAN to run heavy-duty experiment code
 - Melbourne Research Cloud (MRC) to host server that tracks experiments
 - Singularity Containers to make each experimental run fully reproducible
 - GitHub to manage and version code
 - yaml to configure and specify a run of each experiment
 - mlflow to track parameters, metrics at scale

SPARTAN and MRC

 Spartan is High Performance Computing (HPC) system operated by Research Platform Services (ResPlat) at The University of Melbourne.

- Spartan is High Performance Computing (HPC) system operated by Research Platform Services (ResPlat) at The University of Melbourne.
- Why?

- Spartan is High Performance Computing (HPC) system operated by Research Platform Services (ResPlat) at The University of Melbourne.
- Why?
 - Computing takes too long!

- Spartan is High Performance Computing (HPC) system operated by Research Platform Services (ResPlat) at The University of Melbourne.
- Why?
 - Computing takes too long!
 - Lack of memory and speed

- Spartan is High Performance Computing (HPC) system operated by Research Platform Services (ResPlat) at The University of Melbourne.
- Why?
 - Computing takes too long!
 - Lack of memory and speed
- The Melbourne Research Cloud (MRC) provides Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) cloud computing to the University of Melbourne researchers.

- Spartan is High Performance Computing (HPC) system operated by Research Platform Services (ResPlat) at The University of Melbourne.
- Why?
 - Computing takes too long!
 - Lack of memory and speed
- The Melbourne Research Cloud (MRC) provides Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) cloud computing to the University of Melbourne researchers.
- Why?

- Spartan is High Performance Computing (HPC) system operated by Research Platform Services (ResPlat) at The University of Melbourne.
- Why?
 - Computing takes too long!
 - Lack of memory and speed
- The Melbourne Research Cloud (MRC) provides Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) cloud computing to the University of Melbourne researchers.
- Why?
 - Quickly deploy virtual machines

- Spartan is High Performance Computing (HPC) system operated by Research Platform Services (ResPlat) at The University of Melbourne.
- Why?
 - Computing takes too long!
 - Lack of memory and speed
- The Melbourne Research Cloud (MRC) provides Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) cloud computing to the University of Melbourne researchers.
- Why?
 - Quickly deploy virtual machines
 - Similar to AWS, Microsoft Azure, GCP

 Singularity is a container technology. Essentially a container is a curated collection of resource requirements to run an application.

- Singularity is a container technology. Essentially a container is a curated collection of resource requirements to run an application.
- Specified by a simple text file which is easily documented and version-controlled through tools like Git.

- Singularity is a container technology. Essentially a container is a curated collection of resource requirements to run an application.
- Specified by a simple text file which is easily documented and version-controlled through tools like Git.
- Allow for the reproducibility of entire environments and also make applications portable.

- Singularity is a container technology. Essentially a container is a curated collection of resource requirements to run an application.
- Specified by a simple text file which is easily documented and version-controlled through tools like Git.
- Allow for the reproducibility of entire environments and also make applications portable.
- Container technologies like Docker are widely used in industry, however often in research environments (where arguably reproducibility is most important) users don't have root access to the computing resources they use (particularly in HPC).

Singularity Containers

- Singularity is a container technology. Essentially a container is a curated collection of resource requirements to run an application.
- Specified by a simple text file which is easily documented and version-controlled through tools like Git.
- Allow for the reproducibility of entire environments and also make applications portable.
- Container technologies like Docker are widely used in industry, however often in research environments (where arguably reproducibility is most important) users don't have root access to the computing resources they use (particularly in HPC).
- Singularity is a container-technology designed for use in HPC environments.

Example Container

```
BootStrap: library
From: ubuntu:16.04
%post
    apt-get -y update
    apt-get -y install fortune lolcat
%environment
    export EXPERIMENT NAME="example presentation"
%runscript
    echo "This is an example"
%labels
    Author 'Vivek Katial'
```

Check it out at: https://sylabs.io/singularity/

 A version control system designed to keep track of all your changes

- A version control system designed to keep track of all your changes
- Enables you to revert any changes and go back to a previous state

- A version control system designed to keep track of all your changes
- Enables you to revert any changes and go back to a previous state
- Git versions the project not files

- A version control system designed to keep track of all your changes
- Enables you to revert any changes and go back to a previous state
- Git versions the project not files
- Git enables you to work on many different features simultaneously

- A version control system designed to keep track of all your changes
- Enables you to revert any changes and go back to a previous state
- Git versions the project not files
- Git enables you to work on many different features simultaneously
- Check it out at: https://www.github.com/

• A recursive acronym for: YAML Ain't Markup Language

- A recursive acronym for: YAML Ain't Markup Language
- Often used in configuration files

- A recursive acronym for: YAML Ain't Markup Language
- Often used in configuration files

- A recursive acronym for: YAML Ain't Markup Language
- Often used in configuration files

```
experiment:
  name: "three-sat"
  author: "vivek"
  tracking-uri: "http://localhost:5000"
  seed: 1032918
```

 MLFlow is an open-source tool developed in industry to help manage the development life-cycle of R&D projects (in particular machine learning)

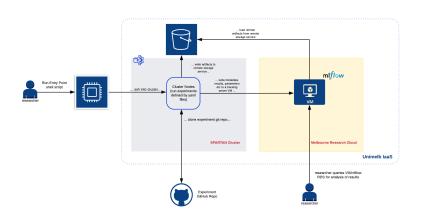
- MLFlow is an open-source tool developed in industry to help manage the development life-cycle of R&D projects (in particular machine learning)
- The MLflow Tracking component is an API and UI for logging parameters, code versions, metrics, and output files when running your machine learning code and for later visualizing the results.

- MLFlow is an open-source tool developed in industry to help manage the development life-cycle of R&D projects (in particular machine learning)
- The MLflow Tracking component is an API and UI for logging parameters, code versions, metrics, and output files when running your machine learning code and for later visualizing the results.
- MLflow Tracking lets you log and query experiments using Python, REST, R API, and Java.

- MLFlow is an open-source tool developed in industry to help manage the development life-cycle of R&D projects (in particular machine learning)
- The MLflow Tracking component is an API and UI for logging parameters, code versions, metrics, and output files when running your machine learning code and for later visualizing the results.
- MLflow Tracking lets you log and query experiments using Python, REST, R API, and Java.
- Easily integrates with workflow

- MLFlow is an open-source tool developed in industry to help manage the development life-cycle of R&D projects (in particular machine learning)
- The MLflow Tracking component is an API and UI for logging parameters, code versions, metrics, and output files when running your machine learning code and for later visualizing the results.
- MLflow Tracking lets you log and query experiments using Python, REST, R API, and Java.
- Easily integrates with workflow
- Example: "https://localhost:5000"

Architecture



Experiments and Runs

• The tool is organized around the concept of *experiments* and *runs*.

- The tool is organized around the concept of experiments and runs.
- An experiment can be considered the wider project.

- The tool is organized around the concept of experiments and runs.
- An experiment can be considered the wider project.
 - Each experiment is defined by a **GitHub** repository

- The tool is organized around the concept of experiments and runs.
- An experiment can be considered the wider project.
 - Each experiment is defined by a GitHub repository
- A run is an execution of one-configuration of that experiment.
 A run consists of:

- The tool is organized around the concept of experiments and runs.
- An experiment can be considered the wider project.
 - Each experiment is defined by a GitHub repository
- A run is an execution of one-configuration of that experiment.
 A run consists of:
 - Code Version

- The tool is organized around the concept of experiments and runs.
- An experiment can be considered the wider project.
 - Each experiment is defined by a GitHub repository
- A run is an execution of one-configuration of that experiment.
 A run consists of:
 - Code Version
 - Parameters

- The tool is organized around the concept of experiments and runs.
- An experiment can be considered the wider project.
 - Each experiment is defined by a GitHub repository
- A run is an execution of one-configuration of that experiment.
 A run consists of:
 - Code Version
 - Parameters
 - Metrics

- The tool is organized around the concept of experiments and runs.
- An experiment can be considered the wider project.
 - Each experiment is defined by a GitHub repository
- A run is an execution of one-configuration of that experiment.
 A run consists of:
 - Code Version
 - Parameters
 - Metrics
 - Artifacts

• Each experiment is defined by a text file

- Each experiment is defined by a text file
- The text file specifies:

- Each experiment is defined by a text file
- The text file specifies:
 - Where to run the experiment

- Each experiment is defined by a text file
- The text file specifies:
 - Where to run the experiment
 - Where to store data

- Each experiment is defined by a text file
- The text file specifies:
 - Where to run the experiment
 - Where to store data
 - Link to source code

- Each experiment is defined by a text file
- The text file specifies:
 - Where to run the experiment
 - Where to store data
 - Link to source code
- Easy to understand

- Each experiment is defined by a text file
- The text file specifies:
 - Where to run the experiment
 - Where to store data
 - Link to source code
- Easy to understand

- Each experiment is defined by a text file
- The text file specifies:
 - Where to run the experiment
 - Where to store data
 - Link to source code
- Easy to understand

```
experiment:
repository: "aqc-three-sat-sim" # GitHub Repostiry
github_url: "https://github.com/vivekkatial/aqc-three-sat-sim"
cluster_uri: "/data/cephfs/punim1074/"
cluster_scratch_dir: "/scratch/punim1074/"
cluster_provider: "unimelb_SPARTAN"
singularity_image_uri: "ubuntu0115.146.94.33:aqc-three-sat-sim/portable-image.img"
```

An example of a run

- Each experiment is defined by a text file
- The text file specifies:
 - One run configuration of the experiment
 - Parameters
 - Path to scripts
- Easy to understand

```
experiment:
  name: "three-sat"
 author: "Vivek Katial"
 tracking-uri: "http://<mlflow-server-ip-address>:5000"
  seed: 1032918
initialise:
  source: "src/generate-instances.R"
 params:
    n_qubits: "{{n_qubits}}"
    k: "{{k}}"
    n sat: "{{n sat}}"
build_hamiltonians:
  source: "src/run-time-evolution.R"
  params:
    time_T: "{{time_T}}"
    t step: "{{t step}}"
    num_energy_levels: "{{num_energy_levels}}"
results:
 source: "src/produce-plots"
```

• Each experiment has a make-templates script

- Each experiment has a make-templates script
- This script generates all configurations of your experiment

- Each experiment has a make-templates script
- This script generates all configurations of your experiment
 - Based on a yaml file: params_spec.yml

- Each experiment has a make-templates script
- This script generates all configurations of your experiment
 - Based on a yaml file: params_spec.yml

- Each experiment has a make-templates script
- This script generates all configurations of your experiment
 - Based on a yaml file: params_spec.yml

```
n_qubits:
   1:20
t_step:
   0.01
   0.1
k:
   1:20
```

• We now have *many* experimental run configurations

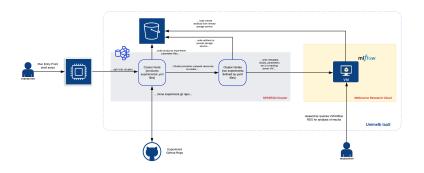
- We now have *many* experimental run configurations
- We build a Singularity Container that specifies all requirements to run the experiment down to an OS-level

- We now have *many* experimental run configurations
- We build a Singularity Container that specifies all requirements to run the experiment down to an OS-level
- We pass each run configuration as an argument to our Container

- We now have *many* experimental run configurations
- We build a Singularity Container that specifies all requirements to run the experiment down to an OS-level
- We pass each run configuration as an argument to our Container

- We now have many experimental run configurations
- We build a Singularity Container that specifies all requirements to run the experiment down to an OS-level
- We pass each run configuration as an argument to our Container
- singularity run example-image.img PARAMETER_FILE_NAME.yml

Putting it all together



Thank You!