Monitoring batch jobs at Prince

Quick Links

HPC Home
Getting an account
Getting started on Prince
Prince How-to Articles

Logging in
Windows
Mac / Linux

Clusters and Storage
Prince (HPC)
Dumbo (Hadoop)
Brooklyn (OpenStack)
Dalmata (NYU Abu Dhabi)
| Transferri ng data to/from the clusters |
| Transferri ng data to/from Prince cluster using Globus |
| Submittin g jobs with sbatch |
| Available software |
| Licensed Software Available on the HPC Cluster |
| Building Software |
| Slurm Tutorial |
| Tutorials |
| FAQs |
| Scratch Area Cleanup |
| Programming for Biologists |
| Acknowle dge Statement |
| Research Gallery |
| HPC People |
Running jobs on the Prince Cluster

Accessing the Prince Cluster

From Window's workstation

From Mac workstation

Software and Environment Module

Job script and resource request

Introduction to job scheduling

Submitting jobs with sbatch

Requesting resources

Using computing nodes interactively

Monitoring batch jobs

Monitoring batch jobs - squeue
Where is my job in the queue - or on the system - and why?

The simplest queuing algorithm is "first come, first served". The queuing of jobs on the HPC cluster is a little more sophisticated as we pursue several goals:

- Minimal queuing times, especially for short jobs. Nobody wants to spend 4 hours in the queue for a 1-hour job.
- Efficient use of the available resources. If there is a job ready which can use hardware that would otherwise be idle, run it, even if it's not next in the queue.
- Fair use of resources. If you've made heavy use of the cluster recently, jobs belonging to a user who has had less CPU time will get higher priority.
  At NYU "recently" means "the last 24 hours", so users with large workloads are not excessively penalized.

Slurm supports these goals by calculating a priority for each submitted job and placing the job in the queue according to its priority. The schedule of which job will run where and when is built from the job queues. When a job finishes earlier than scheduled (due to an overestimated walltime request), Slurm attempts to fill the newly-available space by scanning the queue for the first job which will fit without delaying an already-scheduled, higher priority job. In this way low-priority jobs with smaller resource requirements can jump ahead and be run early.

Monitoring jobs with Slurm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Command</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sinfo</td>
<td>Report the status of partitions, nodes and queues etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>squeue</td>
<td>Report job and job step status in the scheduling queue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sacct</td>
<td>Report accounting information by individual job and job step</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sstat</td>
<td>Report accounting information about currently running jobs and job steps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>scontrol</td>
<td>Administrator tool to view and/or update system, job, step, partition or reservation status</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
To see the status of a single job - or a list of specific jobs - pass the Job IDs to `squeue`, as in the following example:

```
$ squeue -j 7037,7039

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JOBID</th>
<th>PARTITION</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>USER</th>
<th>ST</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>NODES</th>
<th>NODELIST(REASON)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7037</td>
<td>gpu</td>
<td>wrap</td>
<td>ab33</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>3:25</td>
<td>1 gpu-01</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7039</td>
<td>c01_25</td>
<td>dathg</td>
<td>ab33</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>1:30</td>
<td>1 c17-01</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7043</td>
<td>c01_25</td>
<td>wscr</td>
<td>ed35</td>
<td>PD</td>
<td>0:00</td>
<td>1 (ReqNodeNotAvail, UnavailableNodes:c23-03)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7042</td>
<td>c01_25</td>
<td>nmad</td>
<td>fd48</td>
<td>PD</td>
<td>0:00</td>
<td>1 (JobHeldUser)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

Most of the fields in the output are self-explanatory.

**The column "ST" in the middle is the job status,** which can be:

- **PD** - pending: waiting for resource allocation
- **S** - suspended
- **R** - running
- **F** - failed: non-zero exit code or other failures
- **CD** - completed: all processes terminated with zero exit code
- **CG** - completing: in the completing process, some processes may still be alive

**The column "NODELIST(REASON)" in the end is job status due to the reason(s),** which can be:

- **JobHeldUser:** (obviously)
- **Priority:** higher priority jobs exist
- **ReqNodeNotAvail:** requested node maybe down, in use, reserved for other jobs
- **BeginTime:** start time not reached yet
- **Dependency:** wait for a depended job to finish

Other, less common job flags are described in the manual (`man squeue`).

To list all jobs owned by you or any specific friend, use:

```
$ squeue -u NetID
```

For example:

```
$ squeue -u $USER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JOBID</th>
<th>PARTITION</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>USER</th>
<th>ST</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>NODES</th>
<th>NODELIST(REASON)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7046</td>
<td>c01_25</td>
<td>data_cru</td>
<td>johd</td>
<td>CG</td>
<td>0:00</td>
<td>1 c13-01</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7047</td>
<td>c01_25</td>
<td>data_cru</td>
<td>johd</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>0:01</td>
<td>4 c13-[02-04],c14-01</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7045</td>
<td>c01_25</td>
<td>data_cru</td>
<td>johd</td>
<td>R</td>
<td>2:01</td>
<td>1 c17-01</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```

In Unix, the shell sets an environment variable USER to your username (at NYU this is your NetID). In the example above this environment variable is used instead of explicitly typing my NetID.

While a job with steps is running, `sstat` can show its memory usage and a lot other information (run `sstat --helpformat` to see what other quantities available), e.g.

```
$ sstat -j 7051 --format JobID,NTasks,nodelist,MaxRSS,MaxVMSize,AveRSS,AveVMSize

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JobID</th>
<th>NTasks</th>
<th>Nodelist</th>
<th>MaxRSS</th>
<th>MaxVMSize</th>
<th>AveRSS</th>
<th>AveVMSize</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7051.0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>c17-[02-03]</td>
<td>141068K</td>
<td>370880K</td>
<td>139004K</td>
<td>370868K</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```
If your job seems stuck in the queue, scontrol can give useful hints about why:

`scontrol` is mainly for administrators to view and/or update system, job, step, partition or reservation status. Users can also list detailed job and step information, e.g.

```
$ scontrol show job -dd 7051
JobId=7051 JobName=mpiexec-test
   UserId=johd(2761180) GroupId=johd(1002761180) MCS_label=N/A
   Priority=108683 Nice=0 Account=users QOS=normal
   JobState=RUNNING Reason=None Dependency=(null)
   Requeue=0 Restarts=0 BatchFlag=1 Reboot=0 ExitCode=0:0
   DerivedExitCode=0:0
   RunTime=00:00:03 TimeLimit=12:00:00 TimeMin=N/A
   SubmitTime=2017-01-11T15:40:02 EligibleTime=2017-01-11T15:40:02
   StartTime=2017-01-11T15:40:02 EndTime=2017-01-12T03:40:03 Deadline=N/A
   PreemptTime=None SuspendTime=None SecsPreSuspend=0
   Partition=c01_25 AllocNode:Sid=log-0:153794
   ReqNodeList=(null) ExcNodeList=(null)
   NodeList=c17-[01-03] BatchHost=c17-01
   NumNodes=3 NumCPUs=84 NumTasks=12 CPUs/Task=7
   ReqB:S:C:T=0:0::*:* TRES=cpu=84,mem=360G,node=3
   Socks/Node=* NtasksPerN:B:S:C=4:0:*:* CoreSpec=*
      Nodes=c17-[01-03] CPU_IDs=0-27 Mem=122880
      MinCPUsNode=28 MinMemoryNode=120G MinTmpDiskNode=0
      Features=(null) Gres=(null) Reservation=(null)
      OverSubscribe=OK Contiguous=0 Licenses=(null) Network=(null)
   Command=/home/johd/test_slurm/openmpi/run-openmpi.sh
   WorkDir=/home/johd/test_slurm/openmpi
   StdErr=/home/johd/test_slurm/openmpi/slurm-7051.out
   StdIn=/dev/null
   StdOut=/home/johd/test_slurm/openmpi/slurm-7051.out
   BatchScript=
      #!/bin/bash
      #SBATCH --job-name=mpiexec-test
      #SBATCH --nodes=3
      #SBATCH --tasks-per-node=4
      #SBATCH --cpus-per-task=7
      #SBATCH --time=12:00:00
      #SBATCH --mem=120GB

      module purge
      module load openmpi/intel/2.0.1

      cd /home/johd/test_slurm/openmpi
      mpiexec ./pi

      Power=
```

**Exercise**

Request an interactive batch session on Prince cluster. When it starts (or immediately, in another window), use `squeue -u` to see it in the queue. Try `scontrol show job -dd <job_id>` too.