Physics Analysis use-cases and GCP

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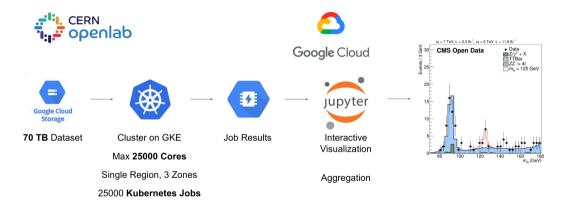
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An impressive demo

Lukas Heinrich and Ricardo Rocha at the KubeCon 2019 \rightarrow youtube recording, chep talk

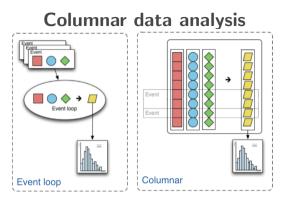


Reperform the Higgs discovery analysis on 70 TB of CMS open data in a live demo

What to do next?

The demo was using "toy" data and analysis software from 2010

- \rightarrow Can we use this for realistic datasets?
- \rightarrow How does this look like with modern tools?



- Traditional analysis workflow in HEP involves processing one event at a time
- Columnar (array-at-a-time) processing in python is becoming standard in data science \rightarrow thanks to tools like numpy, tensorflow, etc
 - \rightarrow becoming increasingly popular in HEP as well
- Lot's of progress in recent years in the HEP python ecosystem
 - \rightarrow e.g uproot, awkward array and coffea

A larger scale columnar data analysis could be a nice fit for GCP!

Dataset and example analysis

- 100 TB dataset with ATLAS LHC Run2 data in derived format \rightarrow DAOD_PHYSLITE: small analysis format, calibrations applied
- Distributed across 260k files, 18e9 events in total
- Stored in ROOT format, columns split
 → potential for conversion to parquet
- Example analysis using uproot and awkward array:
 - Apply selection criteria for analysis objects: Electrons, Muons, Jets
 - Perform overlap removal (involves combinatorics)
 - Can then calculate simple observables, fill histograms
 - Reads \approx 10% of the stored data
 - \rightarrow but rather scattered reading: basket (compressed block) sizes in the order of 5-50kb
 - Maximum throughput when reading from memory: 10k events per second (still mostly dominated by decompression/deserialization)

Scaling

Want to try 2 approaches:

Via PanDa (ATLAS workflow managment system)

- Experience from previous Google project
- Submit as user job script (prun)

Via Dask

- Directly submit tasks as python futures or high-level constructs like distributed data frames
- Running dask on kubernetes in Google cloud probably (?) straight forward
- · Good for interactive analysis, e.g. using Jupyter notebooks
- Already collected some experience from running \approx 100 workers \rightarrow Up to which point can we scale this?

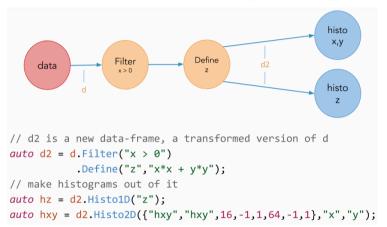
Parquet, RNtuple and other alternative storage formats

- Current ROOT format suboptimal for columnar reading
 - \rightarrow lot's of overhead
 - ightarrow too small baskets (compression units)
 - \rightarrow columnwise storage only one level of nesting deep
 - (only event-wise byte offsets stored separately)
- Two attractive formats to address this:
 - ightarrow Apache Parquet: Already quite mature, works well with awkward array
 - \rightarrow RNtuple: Future ROOT format, still under development
- Another alternative: "Pure" columnar storage
 - \rightarrow Don't distinguish indices/offsets and data on storage level
 - (supported by awkward array)
 - \rightarrow Can use almost any format that allows storing and retrieving columns (e.g. HDF5, npz)

Plan: Try at least with Parquet on Google cloud

RDataFrame

Framework for declarative analysis (part of ROOT)



 \rightarrow Demonstrator analysis on top of spark cluster: https://cds.cern.ch/record/2655457 (based on Google Summer of Code project PyRDF)

Questions

- How to read the data? Uproot supports http(s), local/posix file access, memory mapped files
- When reading ROOT files via http, multipart/byteranges might be interesting (but depends on latency maybe not so important for low latency)