

Snakemake for reproducible research

Additional advanced concepts





Running Snakemake non-locally

- Snakemake can interact with schedulers to run on clusters and cloud:
 - AWS
 - Azure
 - Flux
 - Google Batch
 - HTCondor
 - Kubernetes
 - LSF
 - Slurm
- Require almost no changes (runtime, memory...) to the rules
 - Scheduler command can take job information from rule definition
 - Resource managing is essential in a cluster/cloud environment
 - One key parameter: maximum number of jobs running in parallel: -j / --jobs
- Implemented with:
 - v7 and before: --cluster "<scheduler name>" in the Snakemake command
 - v8+: install <u>plugins</u> then --executor "<scheduler_name>" in the Snakemake command

Working with remote inputs

- Snakemake can access remote files via many protocols:
 - AWS S3 (Amazon Simple Storage Service)
 - Azure (Microsoft Azure Blob Storage)
 - EGA (European Genome-phenome Archive), GenBank / NCBI Entrez
 - FTP (File transfer protocol), HTTP/S, SFTP (File transfer over SSH), locally mounted filesystem
 - GCS (Google Cloud Storage)
 - o iRODS
 - Sharepoint (Microsoft Sharepoint)
 - Webday
 - Zenodo

Process:

- Install required plugins
- Initiate remote provider in rule or set default provider with --default-storage-provider provider name>
- Access remote files within a rule
- Files are downloaded in current working directory and deleted after job is completed

Execution profiles

- Preconfigured execution parameters: resources, executor, sdm...
 - o Can manage executor parameters as well:
 - Scripts to submit jobs
 - Scripts to check job status
 - Advanced customisation
- Directory stored in ~/.config/snakemake/<profile_name>/
 - Contains config files in YAML format: option: value
- Official list of Snakemake profiles <u>here</u>

Reminder on best practices

- One repository = one workflow
- Use Conda environments / Docker containers when possible
- Break out large workflow into modules with extension ".smk"
- Specify parameters in a config file located in a 'config' folder
- If you have many samples with information, use a sample sheet located in the 'config' folder
- Follow the official directory structure
- Use explicit rule and variable names
- Comment to explain your workflow; use docstring comments in rules