Jobs can request compute resources on a per-core basis or a per-node basis.

Core-Based Jobs

Jobs wishing to use less than a full node should specify the number of cores required. If you're not sure how many cores to request then 1 is most likely to be the correct number to use. The maximum number of cores available on a node is 24, but if that really is the number of cores you need you should probably request an entire node instead (see the Node-Based Jobs section below).

Cores can be requested using either -c or --cpus-per-task (in this and the following examples, "or" indicates an exactly equivalent alternative syntax).

```
#SBATCH -c 1
```

```
#SBATCH --cpus-per-task=1
```

It is important to also specify your memory requirement when using less than a full node as this will allow the scheduler to ensure that there will be enough memory available on the node where your job runs.

Node-Based Jobs

Jobs can also request entire nodes. This is often the most efficient way to run parallel distributed jobs, such as those using MPI. To request an entire node or nodes, specify the --exclusive flag in your submit file.
To specify the number of nodes, use -N or --nodes.

```bash
#SBATCH -N 1
```

or

```bash
#SBATCH --nodes=1
```

You do not need to specify (and should not specify) a memory requirement when requesting exclusive use of a node. However, if your job requires more than the standard 128 GB then you can add a constraint to request one of the cluster's high memory nodes, each of which has 512 GB of memory. The feature to request is “mem512”.

```bash
#SBATCH -C mem512
```

or

```bash
#SBATCH --constraint=mem512
```

**Interactive Jobs**

Interactive jobs allow user interaction during their execution. They deliver to the user a new shell from which applications can be launched.

To submit an interactive job, run the following, where "<ACCOUNT>" is your group's account name.
The Slurm directives noted below that begin with #SBATCH are available on the command line as well for interactive jobs.

For example, to run an interactive job on a large node, use:

```
srun --pty -t 0-01:00 -C mem512 -A <ACCOUNT> /bin/bash
```

If a node is available, it will be picked for you automatically, and you will see a command line prompt on a shell running on it. If no nodes are available, your current shell will wait.

**Test / Debug Queue**

Slurm queues, called partitions, are for the most part configured automatically by the scheduler based on your account and resource request (walltime, etc.).

The exception to this is the **test** partition.

The test partition is dedicated to interactive work and testing of code before submitting to batch queues. There are at least 3 standard nodes dedicated to this queue, so if the default partitions are full or you’re waiting a long time for an interactive session in the manner above, you may benefit from using this partition.

Note, the test partition does not currently include any GPU nodes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Partition</th>
<th>Max Cores Per Job</th>
<th>GB per node</th>
<th>Time Limit</th>
<th>Max Jobs/User</th>
<th>Max Submitted Jobs/User</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>test</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>128 GB</td>
<td>4 hours</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To submit to the test partition, add `-p test` to your `srun` command as shown below:

```
$ srun -p test --pty -t 0-01:00 -A <ACCOUNT> /bin/bash
```

**Basic Job Directives**

The following table lists the most common (in our estimation) directives used in Slurm submit scripts. Each should be preceded by `#SBATCH` when used in a submit script. Many directives have a short alternate name and these are listed where available. The examples sometimes use the long version of a given directive and sometimes the short version; in either case no preference is implied.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Directive</th>
<th>Short Version</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Example</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><code>--account=&lt;account&gt;</code></td>
<td>-A &lt;account&gt;</td>
<td>Account.</td>
<td>#SBATCH --account=stats</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Option</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--job-name=&lt;name&gt;</td>
<td>Job name.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-J &lt;name&gt;</td>
<td>#SBATCH -J DiscoProject</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--time=&lt;time&gt;</td>
<td>Time required.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-t &lt;time&gt;</td>
<td>#SBATCH --time=10:00:00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--mem=&lt;memory&gt;</td>
<td>Memory required per node.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-m &lt;memory&gt;</td>
<td>#SBATCH --mem=16gb</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--constraint=mem512</td>
<td>Specifying a large (512 GB RAM) node.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--cpus-per-task=&lt;cpus&gt;</td>
<td>CPU cores per task.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-c &lt;cpus&gt;</td>
<td>#SBATCH -c 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--nodes=&lt;nodes&gt;</td>
<td>Nodes required for the job.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-n &lt;nodes&gt;</td>
<td>#SBATCH -N 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--array=&lt;indexes&gt;</td>
<td>Submit a job array.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-a &lt;indexes&gt;</td>
<td>#SBATCH -a 1-4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--mail-type=&lt;ALL,BEGIN,END,FAIL,NONE&gt;</td>
<td>Send email job notifications</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--mail-user=&lt;email_address&gt;</td>
<td>Email address</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>#SBATCH --mail-user=<a href="mailto:me@email.com">me@email.com</a></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Array Jobs

Multiple copies of a job can be submitted by using a job array. The --array option can be used to specify the job indexes Slurm should apply.

An existing submit file can be used to submit a job array by adding the flag to the sbatch command line.

```bash
$ sbatch -a 1-5 helloworld.sh
Submitted batch job 629249
```

In this example the job IDs will be the number 629249 followed by _1, _2, etc. so the first job in the array can be accessed using the job ID 629249_1 and the last 629249_5.

```bash
$ scontrol show job 629249_1
```

### Job scheduling basics

The walltime limit on the cluster is 5 days (120 hours).
You have priority access to the nodes owned by your group. That implies that the maximum time a job from your group will need to wait for one of those nodes is 12 hours (and that occurs only in one of those rare cases when a job by someone from another group starts running on such a node just before you or someone else in your group launch yours).

In order to guarantee that, users are allowed to run on other groups’ nodes only for a maximum of 12 hours.

Obviously, public nodes are not subject to such restrictions and everyone competes for those with the walltime limit of 5 days.

**Slurm Quick Start Guide**

See the [Slurm Quick Start Guide](#) for a more in-depth introduction on using the Slurm scheduler.