Package ‘pbapply’

January 10, 2018

Type Package
Title Adding Progress Bar to ‘*apply’ Functions
Version 1.3-4
Date 2018-01-09
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Description A lightweight package that adds progress bar to vectorized R functions (‘*apply’). The implementation can easily be added to functions where showing the progress is useful (e.g. bootstrap). The type and style of the progress bar (with percentages or remaining time) can be set through options. Supports several parallel processing backends.
Depends R (>= 3.2.0)
Imports parallel
License GPL-2
URL https://github.com/psolymos/pbapply
BugReports https://github.com/psolymos/pbapply/issues
NeedsCompilation no
Repository CRAN
Date/Publication 2018-01-10 18:04:49 UTC

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**pbapply**  
*Adding Progress Bar to '*apply' Functions*

**Description**

Adding progress bar to *apply* functions, possibly leveraging parallel processing.

**Usage**

```r
pbapply(X, FUN, ..., cl = NULL)
pbapply(X, MARGIN, FUN, ..., cl = NULL)
pbsapply(X, FUN, ..., simplify = TRUE, USE.NAMES = TRUE, cl = NULL)
pbreplicate(n, expr, simplify = "array", cl = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

- **X**: For `pbsapply` and `pbapply`, a vector (atomic or list) or an expressions vector (other objects including classed objects will be coerced by `as.list`). For `pbapply` an array, including a matrix.
- **MARGIN**: A vector giving the subscripts which the function will be applied over. 1 indicates rows, 2 indicates columns, `c(1, 2)` indicates rows and columns.
- **FUN**: The function to be applied to each element of `X`: see `apply`, `sapply`, and `lapply`.
- **...**: Optional arguments to `FUN`.
- **simplify**: Logical; should the result be simplified to a vector or matrix if possible?
- **USE.NAMES**: Logical; if `TRUE` and if `X` is character, use `X` as names for the result unless it had names already.
- **n**: Number of replications.
- **expr**: Expression (language object, usually a call) to evaluate repeatedly.
- **cl**: A cluster object created by `makeCluster`, or an integer to indicate number of child-processes (integer values are ignored on Windows) for parallel evaluations.

**Details**

The behaviour of the progress bar is controlled by the option `type` in `pboptions`, it can take values `c("txt", "win", "tk", "none",)` on Windows, and `c("txt", "tk", "none",)` on Unix systems.

Other options have elements that are arguments used in the functions `timerProgressBar`, `txtProgressBar`, and `tkProgressBar`. See `pboptions` for how to conveniently set these.

Parallel processing can be enabled through the `cl` argument. `parLapply` is called when `cl` is a `cluster` object, `mclapply` is called when `cl` is an integer. Showing the progress bar increases the communication overhead between the main process and nodes / child processes compared to the parallel equivalents of the functions without the progress bar. The functions fall back to their original equivalents when the progress bar is disabled (i.e. `getOption("pboptions")$type == "none"`).
or dopb() is FALSE). This is the default when interactive() if FALSE (i.e. called from command line R script).

When doing parallel processing, other objects might need to pushed to the workers, and random numbers must be handled with care (see Examples).

Value

Similar to the value returned by the standard *apply functions.

A progress bar is showed as a side effect.

Note

Progress bar can add an overhead to the computation.

Author(s)

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See Also

Progress bars used in the functions: txtProgressBar, tkProgressBar, timerProgressBar

Sequential *apply functions: apply, sapply, lapply, replicate

Parallel *apply functions from package ‘parallel’: parLapply, mclapply.

Setting the options: pbOptions

Conveniently add progress bar to for-like loops: startpb, setpb, getpb, closepb

Examples

```r
## --- simple linear model simulation ---
set.seed(1234)
n <- 200
x <- rnorm(n)
y <- rnorm(n, crossprod(t(model.matrix(~ x)), c(0, 1)), sd = 0.5)
d <- data.frame(y, x)
## model fitting and bootstrap
mod <- lm(y ~ x, d)
ndat <- model.frame(mod)
B <- 100
bid <- sapply(1:B, function(i) sample(nrow(ndat), nrow(ndat), TRUE))
fun <- function(z) {
  if (missing(z))
    z <- sample(nrow(ndat), nrow(ndat), TRUE)
  coef(lm(mod$call$formula, data=ndat[z,]))
}
## standard '*apply' functions
system.time(res1 <- lapply(1:B, function(i) fun(bid[,i])))
system.time(res2 <- sapply(1:B, function(i) fun(bid[,i])))
system.time(res3 <- apply(bid, 2, fun))
```
system.time(res4 <- replicate(B, fun()))

## 'pbapply' functions
## try different settings:
## "none", "txt", "tk", "win", "timer"
op <- pboptions(type = "timer") # default
system.time(res1pb <- pblapply(1:B, function(i) fun(bid[i,i])))
pboptions(op)

pboptions(type = "txt")
system.time(res2pb <- pbsapply(1:B, function(i) fun(bid[i,i])))
pboptions(op)

pboptions(type = "txt", style = 1, char = "=")
system.time(res3pb <- pbapply(bid, 2, fun))
pboptions(op)

pboptions(type = "txt", char = ":")
system.time(res4pb <- pbreplicate(B, fun()))
pboptions(op)

## Not run:
## parallel evaluation using the parallel package
## (n = 2000 and B = 1000 will give visible timing differences)

library(parallel)
c1 <- makeCluster(2L)
clusterExport(c1, c("fun", "mod", "ndat", "bid"))

## parallel with no progress bar: snow type cluster
## (RNG is set in the main process to define the object bid)
system.time(res1cl <- parLapply(c1 = c1, 1:B, function(i) fun(bid[i,i])))
system.time(res2cl <- parSapply(c1 = c1, 1:B, function(i) fun(bid[i,i])))

system.time(res3cl <- parApply(c1, bid, 2, fun))

## parallel with progress bar: snow type cluster
## (RNG is set in the main process to define the object bid)
system.time(res1pbc1 <- pbapply(1:B, function(i) fun(bid[i,i]), c1 = c1))

system.time(res2pbc1 <- pbsapply(1:B, function(i) fun(bid[i,i]), c1 = c1))

## (RNG needs to be set when not using bid)
parallel::clusterSetRNGStream(c1, iseed = 8L)

system.time(res4pbc1 <- pbreplicate(B, fun(), c1 = c1))

system.time(res3pbc1 <- pbapply(bid, 2, fun, c1 = c1))

stopCluster(c1)

if (.Platform$OS.type != "windows") {
## parallel with no progress bar: multicore type forking
## (mc.set.seed = TRUE in parallel::mclapply by default)

system.time(res2mc <- mclapply(1:B, function(i) fun(bid[i,i]), mc.threads = 2L))

## parallel with progress bar: multicore type forking
## (mc.set.seed = TRUE in parallel::mclapply by default)

system.time(res1pbmc <- pblapply(1:B, function(i) fun(bid[i,i]), c1 = 2L))
system.time(res2pbmc <- pbapply(1:8, function(i) fun(bid[i],), cl = 2L))
system.time(res4pbmc <- pbreplicate(8, fun(), cl = 2L))

## Examples taken from standard '*apply' functions ---
## sapply, lapply, and replicate ---
require(stats); require(graphics)

x <- list(a = 1:10, beta = exp(-3:3), logic = c(TRUE,FALSE,FALSE,TRUE))
# compute the list mean for each list element
pbapply(x, mean)
# median and quartiles for each list element
pbapply(x, quantile, probs = 1:3/4)
pbsapply(x, quantile)
i9 <- sapply(3:9, seq) # list of vectors
pbsapply(i9, fivenum)

## sapply(x, "array") -- artificial example
(v <- structure(10*(5:8), names = LETTERS[1:4]))
(f2 <- function(x, y) outer(rep(x, length.out = 3), y)
(a2 <- pbsapply(v, f2, y = 2*(1:5), simplify = "array"))

hist(pbreplicate(100, mean(rexp(10))))

## use of replicate() with parameters:
foo <- function(x = 1, y = 2) c(x, y)
# does not work: bar <- function(n, ...) replicate(n, foo(...))
bar <- function(n, x) pbreplicate(n, foo(x = x))
bar(5, x = 3)

## Compute row and column sums for a matrix:
x <- cbind(x1 = 3, x2 = c(4:1, 2:5))
dimnames(x)[[1]] <- letters[1:8]
pbapply(x, 2, mean, trim = .2)
col.sums <- pbapply(x, 2, sum)
row.sums <- pbapply(x, 1, sum)
rbind(cbind(x, Rtot = row.sums), Ctot = c(col.sums, sum(col.sums)))

stopifnot( pbapply(x, 2, is.vector))

## Sort the columns of a matrix
pbapply(x, 2, sort)

## keeping named dimnames
names(dimnames(x)) <- c("row", "col")
x3 <- array(x, dim = c(dim(x),3),
    dimnames = c(dimnames(x), list(C = paste0("cop.",1:3))))
identical(x, pbapply(x, 2, identity))
identical(x3, pbapply(x3, 2:3, identity))

## function with extra args:
cave <- function(x, c1, c2) c(mean(x[c1]), mean(x[c2]))
pbapply(x, 1, cave, c1 = "x1", c2 = c("x1", "x2"))

ma <- matrix(c(1:4, 1, 6:8), nrow = 2)
ma
pbapply(ma, 1, table)  ## a list of length 2
pbapply(ma, 1, stats::quantile)  ## a n x matrix with rownames

stopifnot(dim(ma) == dim(pbapply(ma, 1:2, sum)))

## Example with different lengths for each call
z <- array(1:24, dim = 2:4)
zseq <- pbapply(z, 1:2, function(x) seq_len(max(x)))
zseq    ## a 2 x 3 matrix
typeof(zseq)  ## list
dim(zseq)    ## 2 3
zseq[1,]
pbapply(z, 3, function(x) seq_len(max(x)))  
# a list without a dim attribute

---

### pboptions  

**Creating Progress Bar and Setting Options**

**Description**

Creating progress bar and setting options.

**Usage**

```
pboptions(...)  
startpb(min = 0, max = 1)  
setpb(pb, value)  
getpb(pb)  
closepb(pb)  
dopb()  
pbtypes()
```

**Arguments**

...  
Arguments in tag = value form, or a list of tagged values. The tags must come from the parameters described below.

pb  
A progress bar object created by `startpb`.

min, max  
Finite numeric values for the extremes of the progress bar. Must have `min < max`.

value  
New value for the progress bar.
**Details**

`pboptions` is a convenient way of handling options related to progress bar.

Other functions can be used for conveniently adding progress bar to for-like loops (see Examples).

**Value**

When parameters are set by `pboptions`, their former values are returned in an invisible named list. Such a list can be passed as an argument to `pboptions` to restore the parameter values. Tags are the following:

- **type**: Type of the progress bar: timer ("timer"), text ("txt"), Windows ("win"), TclTk ("tk"), or none ("none"). Default value is "timer" progress bar with estimated remaining time when in interactive mode, and "none" otherwise. See `pbtypes()` for available progress bar types depending on operating system.
- **char**: The character (or character string) to form the progress bar. Default value is ".".
- **txt.width**: The width of the text based progress bar, as a multiple of the width of char. If NA, the number of characters is that which fits into `getOption("width")`. Default value is 50.
- **gui.width**: The width of the GUI based progress bar in pixels: the dialogue box will be 40 pixels wider (plus frame). Default value is 300.
- **style**: The style of the bar, see `txtProgressbar` and `timerProgressbar`. Default value is 3.
- **initial**: Initial value for the progress bar. Default value is 0.
- **title**: Character string giving the window title on the GUI dialogue box. Default value is "R progress bar".
- **label**: Character string giving the window label on the GUI dialogue box. Default value is "".
- **nout**: Integer, the maximum number of times the progress bar is updated. The default value is 100. Smaller value minimizes the running time overhead related to updating the progress bar. This can be especially important for forking type parallel runs.
- **min_time**: Minimum time in seconds. `timerProgressbar` output is printed only if estimated completion time is higher than this value. The default value is 0.
- **use_lb**: Switch for using load balancing when running in parallel clusters. The default value is FALSE.

For `startpb` a progress bar object.
For `getpb` and `setpb`, a length-one numeric vector giving the previous value (invisibly for `setpb`). The return value is NULL if the progress bar is turned off by `getOption("pboptions")$type"none"` or NULL value.

`dopb` returns a logical value if progress bar is to be shown based on the option `getOption("pboptions")$type`. It is FALSE if the type of progress bar is "none" or NULL.

For `closepb` closes the connection for the progress bar.

`pbtypes` prints the available progress bar types depending on the operating system (i.e. "win" available on Windows only).
Author(s)
Peter Solymos <solymos@ualberta.ca>

See Also
Progress bars used in the functions: timerProgressBar, txtProgressBar, tkProgressBar

Examples

```r
## increase sluggishness to admire the progress bar longer
sluggishness <- 0.01

## for loop
fun1 <- function() {
  pb <- startpb(0, 10)
  on.exit(closepb(pb))
  for (i in 1:10) {
    Sys.sleep(sluggishness)
    setpb(pb, i)
  }
  invisible(NULL)
}

## while loop
fun2 <- function() {
  pb <- startpb(0, 10-1)
  on.exit(closepb(pb))
  i <- 1
  while (i < 10) {
    Sys.sleep(sluggishness)
    setpb(pb, i)
    i <- i + 1
  }
  invisible(NULL)
}

## using original settings
fun1()

## resetting pboptions
opb <- pboptions(style = 1, char = “>”)

## check new settings
getOption("pboptions")

## running again with new settings
fun2()

## resetting original
pboptions(opb)

## check reset
getOption("pboptions")

fun1()

## dealing with nested progress bars
## when only one the 1st one is needed
f <- function(x) Sys.sleep(sluggishness)

## when only one the 1st one is needed
f <- function(x) pbapply(1:10, f)
```
```r
tmp <- lapply(1:10, g)  # undesirable
## here is the desirable solution
h <- function(x) {
  opb <- pboptions(type="none")
  on.exit(pboptions(opb))
  pblapply(1:10, f)
}
tmp <- pblapply(1:10, h)
## list available pb types
pbtypes()
```

---

**splitpb**

*Divide Tasks for Progress-bar Friendly Distribution in a Cluster*

**Description**

Divides up 1:nx into approximately equal sizes (ncl) as a way to allocate tasks to nodes in a cluster repeatedly while updating a progress bar.

**Usage**

`splitpb(nx, ncl, nout = NULL)`

**Arguments**

- **nx**: Number of tasks.
- **ncl**: Number of cluster nodes.
- **nout**: Integer, maximum number of partitions in the output (must be > 0).

**Value**

A list of length \( \min(nout, \lceil nx / ncl \rceil) \), each element being an integer vector of length \( ncl * k \) or less, where \( k \) is a tuning parameter constrained by the other arguments \( (k = \max(1L, \lceil \text{ceiling}(nx / ncl) \rceil) \) and \( k = 1 \) if \( nout = \text{NULL} \).

**Author(s)**

Peter Solymos <solymos@ualberta.ca>

**See Also**

Parallel usage of `pbapply` and related functions.
Examples

```r
## define 1 job / worker at a time and repeat
splitpb(10, 4)
## compare this to the no-progress-bar split
## that defines all the jobs / worker up front
parallel::splitIndices(10, 4)

## cap the length of the output
splitpb(20, 2, nout = NULL)
splitpb(20, 2, nout = 5)
```

---

timerProgressBar  
**Timer Progress Bar**

Description

Text progress bar with timer in the R console.

Usage

```r
timerProgressBar(min = 0, max = 1, initial = 0, char = "=",
width = NA, title, label, style = 1, file = "", min_time = 0)
gettimerprogressbar(pb)
settimerprogressbar(pb, value, title = NULL, label = NULL)
gettimeasstring(time)
```

Arguments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Argument</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>min, max</td>
<td>(finite) numeric values for the extremes of the progress bar. Must have min &lt; max.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>initial, value</td>
<td>initial or new value for the progress bar. See Details for what happens with invalid values.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>char</td>
<td>The character (or character string) to form the progress bar. If number of characters is &gt;1, it is silently stripped to length 1 unless style is 5 or 6 (see Details).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>width</td>
<td>The width of the progress bar, as a multiple of the width of char. If NA, the default, the number of characters is that which fits into getOption(&quot;width&quot;).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>style</td>
<td>The style taking values between 1 and 6. 1: progress bar with elapsed and remaining time, remaining percentage is indicated by spaces between pipes (default for this function), 2: throbber with elapsed and remaining time, 3: progress bar with remaining time printing elapsed time at the end, remaining percentage is indicated by spaces between pipes (default for <code>style</code> option in <code>pboptions</code>), 4: throbber with remaining time printing elapsed time at the end, 5: progress bar with elapsed and remaining time with more flexible styling (see Details and Examples), 6: progress bar with remaining time printing elapsed time at the end with more flexible styling (see Details and Examples).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>file</td>
<td>An open connection object or &quot;&quot; which indicates the console.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Details**

`timerProgressBar` will display a progress bar on the R console (or a connection) via a text representation.

`setTimerProgressBar` will update the value. Missing (NA) and out-of-range values of `value` will be (silently) ignored. (Such values of `initial` cause the progress bar not to be displayed until a valid value is set.)

The progress bar should be closed when finished with: this outputs the final newline character (see `closepb`).

If `style` is 5 or 6, it is possible to define up to 4 characters for the `char` argument (as a single string) for the left end, elapsed portion, remaining portion, and right end of the progress bar (`|= |` by default). Remaining portion cannot be the same as the elapsed portion (space is used for remaining in such cases). If 1 character is defined, it is taken for the elapsed portion. If 2-4 characters are defined, those are interpreted in sequence (left and right end being the same when 2-3 characters defined), see Examples.

`getTimeAsString` converts time in seconds into `~HHh MMm SSs` format to be printed by `timerProgressBar`.

**Value**

For `timerProgressBar` an object of class "timerProgressBar" inheriting from "txtProgressBar".

For `getTimerProgressBar` and `setTimerProgressBar`, a length-one numeric vector giving the previous value (invisibly for `setTimerProgressBar`).

`getTimeAsString` returns time in `~HHh MMm SSs` format as character. Returns "calculating" when `time=NULL`.

**Author(s)**

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**See Also**

The `timerProgressBar` implementation follows closely the code of `txtProgressBar`.

**Examples**

```r
## increase sluggishness to admire the progress bar longer
sluggishness <- 0.02

test_fun <- function(...)
{
```
pb <- timerProgressBar(...)  
on.exit(close(pb))  
for (i in seq(0, 1, 0.05)) {  
  Sys.sleep(sluggishness)  
  setTimerProgressBar(pb, i)  
}  
invisible(NULL)  
}

## check the different styles
  test_fun(width = 35, char = "*", style = 1)
  test_fun(style = 2)
  test_fun(width = 50, char = ".", style = 3)
  test_fun(style = 4)
  test_fun(width = 35, char = "[=-]", style = 5)
  test_fun(width = 50, char = "{.*}", style = 6)

## no bar only percent and elapsed
  test_fun(width = 0, char = " ", style = 6)

## this should produce a progress bar based on min_time
  (elapsed <- system.time(test_fun(width = 35, min_time = 0))[["elapsed"]])

## this should not produce a progress bar based on min_time
  system.time(test_fun(min_time = 2 * elapsed))[["elapsed"]]

## time formatting
  getTimeAsString(NULL)
  getTimeAsString(15)
  getTimeAsString(65)
  getTimeAsString(6005)

## example usage of getTimeAsString, use sluggishness <- 1
  n <- 10
  t0 <- proc.time()[3]
  ETA <- NULL
  for (i in seq_len(n)) {
    cat(i, "/", n, " - ETA:", getTimeAsString(ETA))
    flush.console()
    Sys.sleep(sluggishness)
    dt <- proc.time()[3] - t0
    cat(" - elapsed:", getTimeAsString(dt), "\n")
    ETA <- (n - i) * dt / i
  }
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