Package ‘pbapply’

August 31, 2019

Type Package

Title Adding Progress Bar to ‘*apply’ Functions

Version 1.4-2

Date 2019-08-30

Author Peter Solymos [aut, cre], Zygmunt Zawadzki [aut]

Maintainer Peter Solymos <solymos@ualberta.ca>

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 2019-08-31 05:10:02 UTC

R topics documented:

  pbapply ................................................. 2
  pboptions ............................................ 6
  splitpb ................................................ 9
  timerProgressBar ..................................... 10

Index

1
Description

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

Usage

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{pbapply}(X, \text{FUN}, \ldots, \text{cl} = \text{NULL}) \\
\text{pbapply}(X, \text{MARGIN}, \text{FUN}, \ldots, \text{cl} = \text{NULL}) \\
\text{pbsapply}(X, \text{FUN}, \ldots, \text{simply} = \text{TRUE}, \text{USE.NAMES} = \text{TRUE}, \text{cl} = \text{NULL}) \\
\text{pbreplicate}(n, \text{expr}, \text{simply} = \text{"array"}, \text{cl} = \text{NULL}) \\
\text{pbmapply}(\text{FUN}, \ldots, \text{MoreArgs} = \text{NULL}, \text{SIMPLIFY} = \text{TRUE}, \text{USE.NAMES} = \text{TRUE})
\end{align*}
\]

Arguments

- **X**: For pbsapply and pbapply, a vector (atomic or list) or an expressions vector (other objects including classed objects will be coerced by \texttt{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, 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 (see Details on performance).
- **MoreArgs**: a list of other arguments to FUN.

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).

Updating the progress bar with `mclapply` can be slightly slower compared to using a Fork cluster (i.e. calling `makeForkCluster`). Care must be taken to set appropriate random numbers in this case.

### 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)

Peter Solymos <solymos@ualberta.ca>

### See Also

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

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

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, data=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

```r
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()))
```

## `pb*apply` functions

## try different settings:

### "none", "txt", "tk", "win", "timer"

```r
op <- pboptions(type = "timer") # default
system.time(res1pb <- pblapply(1:B, function(i) fun(bid[,i])))
pboptions(op)

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

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

### parallel with no progress bar: snow type cluster

```r
## (RNG is set in the main process to define the object bid)
system.time(res1cl <- parLapply(cl = cl, 1:B, function(i) fun(bid[,i])))
system.time(res2cl <- parSapply(cl = cl, 1:B, function(i) fun(bid[,i])))
system.time(res3cl <- parApply(cl, bid, 2, fun))
```

### parallel with progress bar: snow type cluster

```r
## (RNG needs to be set when not using bid)
parallel::clusterSetRNGStream(cl, iseed = 0L)
```

```r
system.time(res4pcl <- pbreplicate(B, fun(), cl = cl))
```

```r
system.time(res3pcl <- pbapply(bid, 2, fun, cl = cl))
```

stopCluster(cl)

if (.Platform$OS.type != "windows") {
  ```r
  ## parallel with no progress bar: multicore type forking
  ```
pbapply

## Examples taken from standard 'apply' functions ---

### sapply, lapply, and replicate ---

```r
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
pblapply(x, mean)
# median and quartiles for each list element
pblapply(x, quantile, probs = 1:3/4)
pbsapply(x, quantile)
i39 <- sapply(3:9, seq) # list of vectors
pbsapply(i39, fivenum)
```

```r
## sapply(*, "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"))
```

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

### use of replicate() with parameters:

```r
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)
```

### apply ---

```r
## 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)))
```

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

### Sort the columns of a matrix

```r
pbapply(x, 2, sort)
```
## keeping named dimnames

```r
globalOption = options()
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"))

```r
ma <- matrix(c(1:4, 1, 6:8), nrow = 2)
ma
```

```r
pbapply(ma, 1, table) #-- a list of length 2
pbapply(ma, 1, stats::quantile) # 5 x n matrix with rownames

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

**## Example with different lengths for each call**

```r
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,]
```

```r
pbapply(z, 3, function(x) seq_len(max(x)))
# a list without a dim attribute
```

**## --- mapply ---**

```r
pbmapply(rep, 1:4, 4:1)
pbmapply(rep, times = 1:4, x = 4:1)
pbmapply(rep, times = 1:4, MoreArgs = list(x = 42))
pbmapply(function(x, y) seq_len(x) + y,
        c(a = 1, b = 2, c = 3), # names from first
        c(A = 10, B = 0, C = -10))
word <- function(C, k) paste(rep.int(C, k), collapse = "")
utils::str(pbmapply(word, LETTERS[1:6], 6:1, SIMPLIFY = FALSE))
```

---

### pboptions

**Creating Progress Bar and Setting Options**

#### Description

Creating progress bar and setting options.

#### Usage

```r
pboptions()
```
\texttt{pboptions}

\begin{verbatim}
startpb(min = 0, max = 1)
setpb(pb, value)
getpb(pb)
closepb(pb)
dopb()
pbtypes()
\end{verbatim}

\textbf{Arguments}

\begin{verbatim}
... Arguments in \texttt{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 \texttt{startpb}.

min, max Finite numeric values for the extremes of the progress bar. Must have \texttt{min < max}.

value New value for the progress bar.
\end{verbatim}

\textbf{Details}

\texttt{pboptions} is a convenient way of handling options related to progress bar.

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

\textbf{Value}

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

\begin{verbatim}
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
\texttt{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 \texttt{char}.
If \texttt{NA}, the number of characters is that which fits into \texttt{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 \texttt{txtProgressBar} and \texttt{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 "".
\end{verbatim}
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 esti-

mated 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

## 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)
  }
  invisible(NULL)
}
splitpb

    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)
g <- function(x) pblapply(1:10, f)
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)
timerProgressBar

Text progress bar with timer in the R console.

Usage

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

min, max  
(finite) numeric values for the extremes of the progress bar. Must have min < max.

initial, value  
initial or new value for the progress bar. See Details for what happens with invalid values.

char  
the character (or character string) to form the progress bar. If number of characters is >1, it is silently stripped to length 1 unless style is 5 or 6 (see Details).

width  
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 intogetOption("width").

style  
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 style option in pboptions), 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).

file  
an open connection object or "" which indicates the console.

min_time  
umERIC, minimum processing time (in seconds) required to show a progress bar.

pb  
an object of class "timerProgressBar".

title, label  
ignored, for compatibility with other progress bars.

time  
umERIC of length 1, time in seconds.

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.

getTimeString 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)

Zygmunt Zawadzki <zawadzikzygmunt@gmail.com>
Peter Solymos <solymos@ualberta.ca>

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 = "{.*}\)

## 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
getimeAsString(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
}
Index

*Topic IO
  pboptions, 6

*Topic manip
  pbapply, 2

*Topic utilities
  pbapply, 2
  pboptions, 6
  splitpb, 9
  timerProgressBar, 10
  apply, 2, 3
  as.list, 2

  closepb, 3, 11
  closepb (pboptions), 6

  dopb (pboptions), 6

  getpb, 3
  getpb (pboptions), 6
  getTimeAsString (timerProgressBar), 10
  getTimerProgressBar (timerProgressBar), 10

  lapply, 2, 3

  makeCluster, 2
  makeForkCluster, 3
  mapply, 3
  mclapply, 2, 3

  parLapply, 2, 3
  pbapply, 2, 10
  pbapply (pboptions), 2
  pbmapply (pbapply), 2
  pboptions, 2, 3, 6, 11
  pbreplicate (pbapply), 2
  pbsapply (pbapply), 2
  pbtypes (pboptions), 6

  replicate, 3

  sapply, 2, 3
  setpb, 3
  setpb (pboptions), 6
  getTimerProgressBar (timerProgressBar), 10
  splitpb, 9
  startpb, 3
  startpb (pboptions), 6

  timerProgressBar, 2, 3, 7, 8, 10
  tkProgressBar, 2, 3, 8
  txtProgressBar, 2, 3, 7, 8, 12