

AN INTRODUCTION TO WORKFLOWS WITH DAGMAN

Presented by Lauren Michael

Covered In This Tutorial

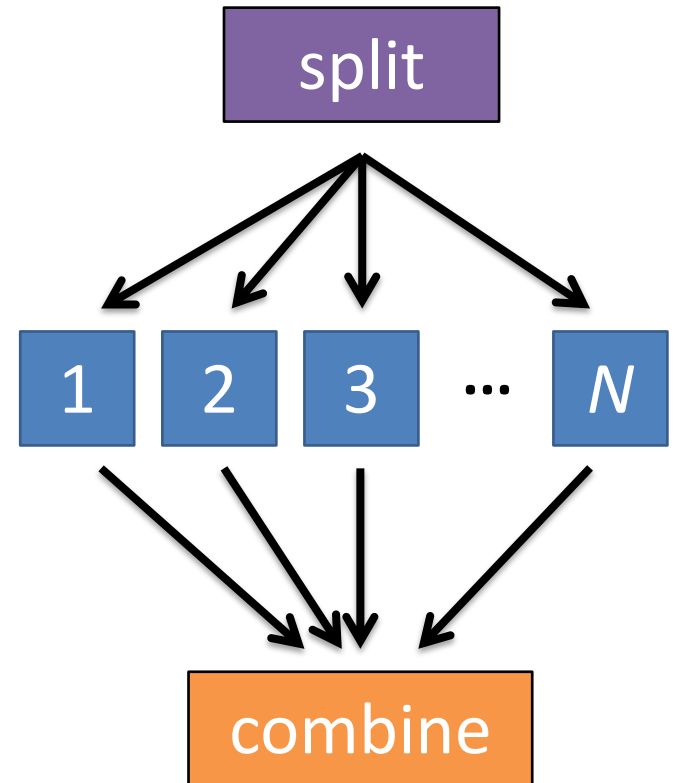
- Why Create a Workflow?
- Describing workflows as *directed acyclic graphs* (DAGs)
- Workflow execution via DAGMan (DAG Manager)
- Node-level options in a DAG
- Modular organization of DAG components
- DAG-level control
- Additional DAGMan Features

Why Workflows?

Why “DAGs”?

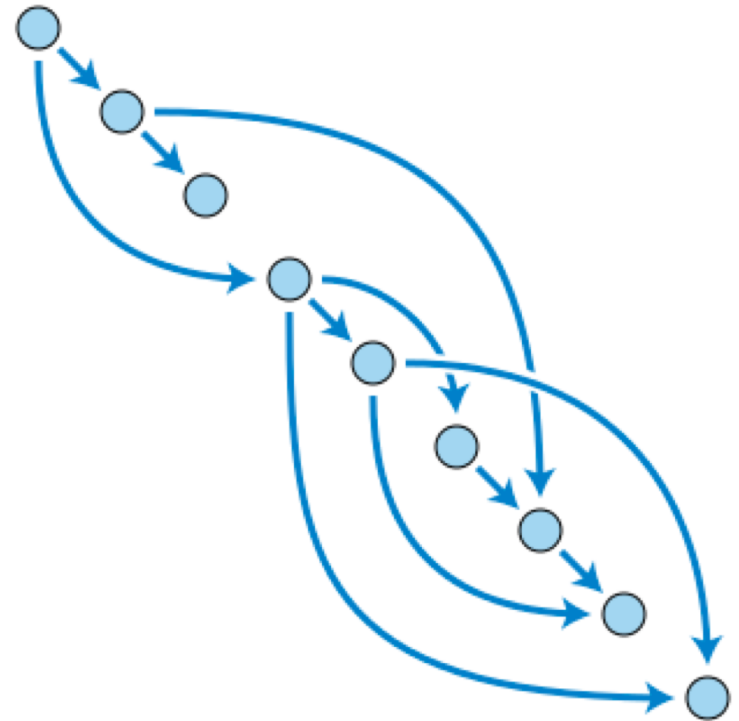
Automation!

- Objective: Submit jobs in a particular order, *automatically*.
- Especially if: Need to reproduce the same workflow multiple times.



DAG = "directed acyclic graph"

- topological ordering of vertices ("**nodes**") is established by directional connections ("**edges**")
- "acyclic" aspect requires a start and end, with no looped repetition
 - can contain cyclic subcomponents, covered in later slides for workflows



Wikimedia Commons

wikipedia.org/wiki/Directed_acyclic_graph

Describing Workflows with DAGMan

DAGMan in the HTCondor Manual

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the HTCondor Manual. The address bar shows the URL: <https://htcondor.readthedocs.io/en/stable/users-manual/index.html>. The page has a blue header with the HTCondor Manual logo and a search bar. The left sidebar contains a table of contents with sections like 'Welcome to HTCondor', 'Introduction', 'Matchmaking with ClassAds', 'Running a Job: the Steps To Take', 'Submitting a Job', 'Managing a Job', 'Priorities and Preemption', 'Java Applications', 'Parallel Applications (Including MPI Applications)', and 'DAGMan Applications'. The main content area lists various topics under 'DAGMan Applications', including 'Submission Examples', 'MPI Applications Within HTCondor's Vanilla Universe', 'DAGMan Terminology', 'The DAG Input File: Basic Commands', 'Command Order', 'Node Job Submit File Contents', 'DAG Submission', 'File Paths in DAGs', 'DAG Monitoring and DAG Removal', 'Suspending a Running DAG', 'Advanced Features of DAGMan', 'The Rescue DAG', 'DAG Recovery', 'Visualizing DAGs with dot', 'Capturing the Status of Nodes in a File', 'A Machine-Readable Event History, the jobstate.log File', 'Status Information for the DAG in a ClassAd', 'Utilizing the Power of DAGMan for Large Numbers of Jobs', 'Workflow Metrics', 'DAGMan and Accounting Groups', 'Virtual Machine Applications', 'The Submit Description File', 'Checkpoints', and 'Disk Images'.

HTCondor Manual
stable

Search docs

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Overview

Users' Manual

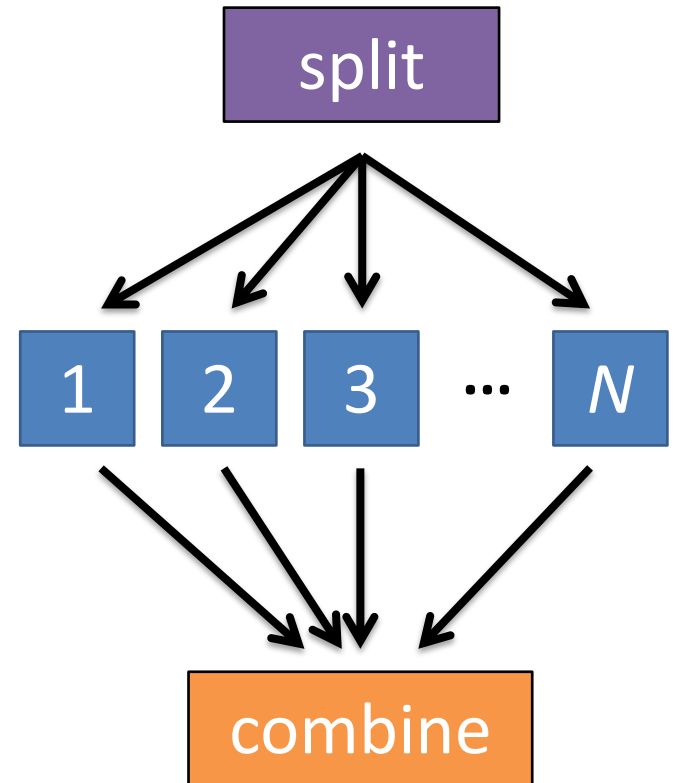
- Welcome to HTCondor
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- Running a Job: the Steps To Take
- Submitting a Job
- Managing a Job
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- Parallel Applications (Including MPI Applications)
- DAGMan Applications

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 - The Submit Description File
 - Checkpoints
 - Disk Images

Read the Docs v: stable

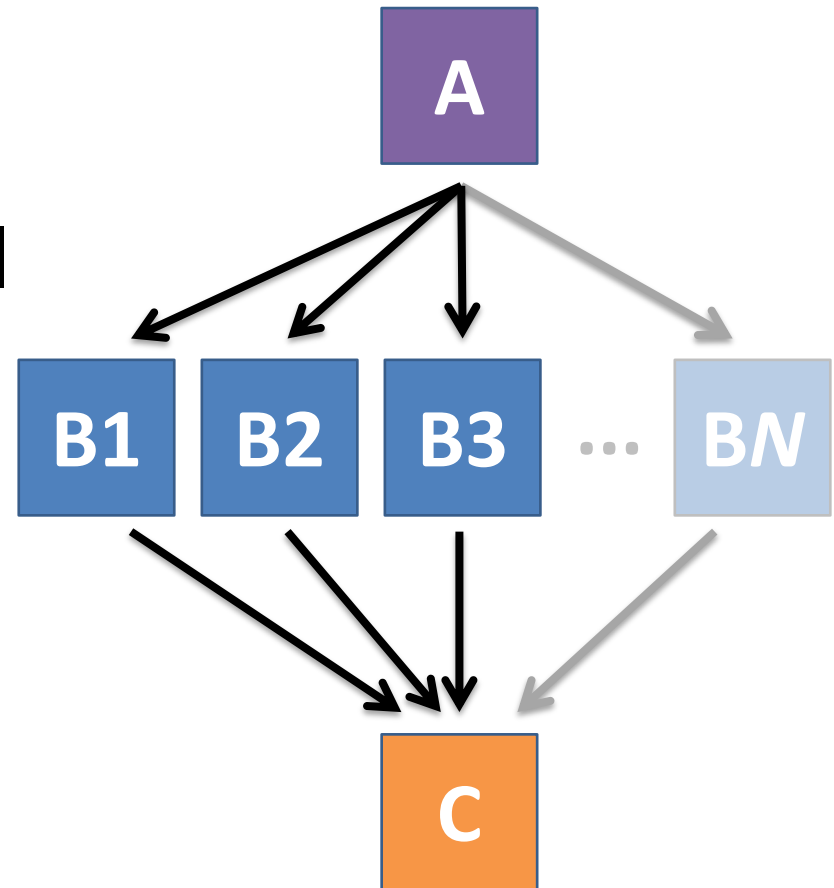
An Example HTC Workflow

- User must communicate the “**nodes**” and directional “**edges**” of the DAG



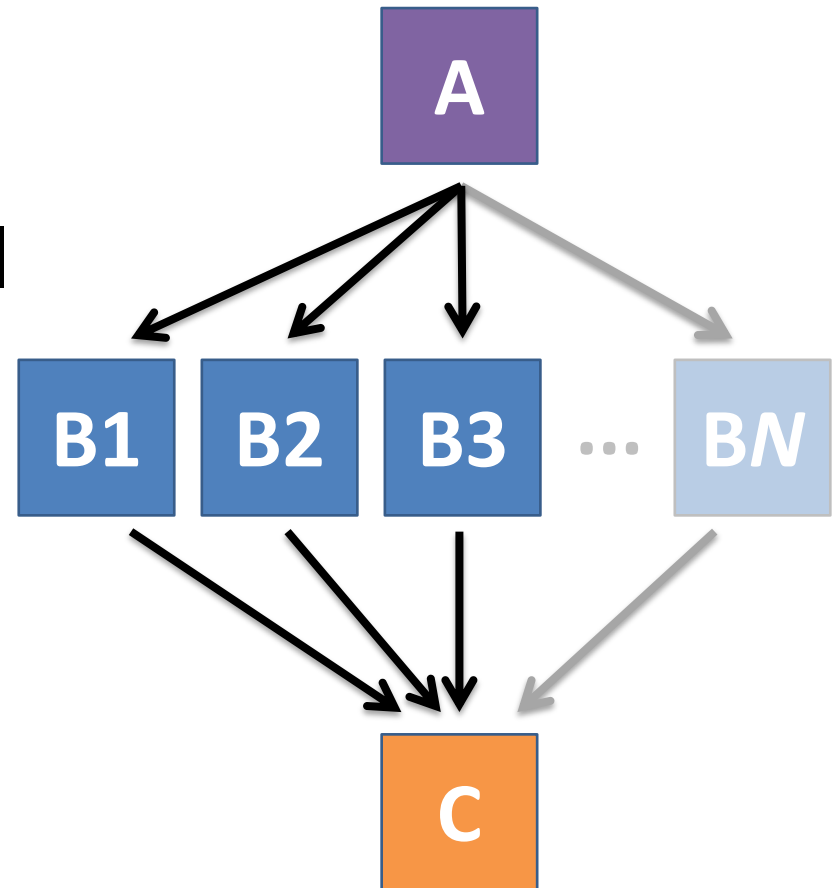
Simple Example for this Tutorial

- **The DAG input file** communicates the “nodes” and directional “edges” of the DAG



Simple Example for this Tutorial

- **The DAG input file** communicates the “nodes” and directional “edges” of the DAG



Look for links on future slides

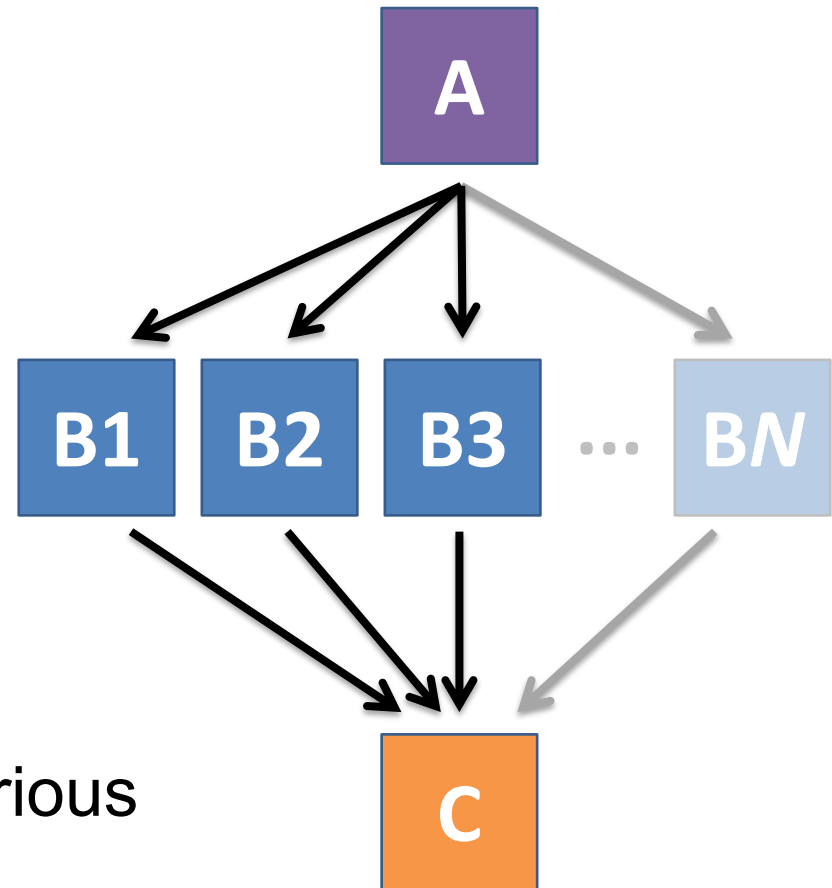


Basic DAG input file:

JOB nodes, PARENT-CHILD edges

my.dag

```
JOB A A.sub
JOB B1 B1.sub
JOB B2 B2.sub
JOB B3 B3.sub
JOB C C.sub
PARENT A CHILD B1 B2 B3
PARENT B1 B2 B3 CHILD C
```



- Node names are used by various DAG features to modify their execution by DAG Manager.

Basic DAG input file:

JOB nodes, PARENT-CHILD edges

`my.dag`

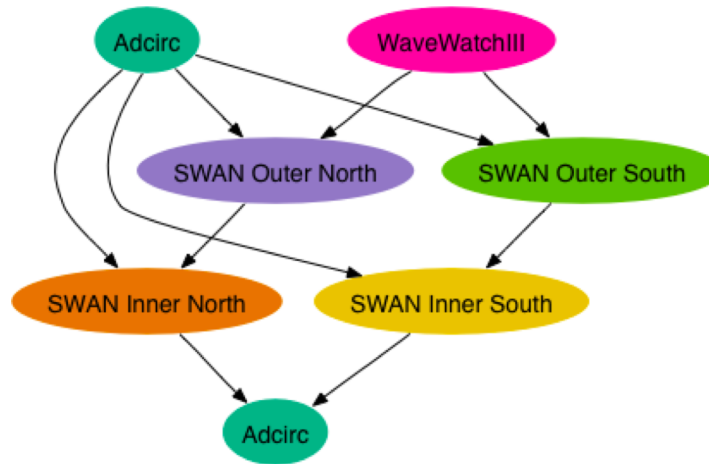
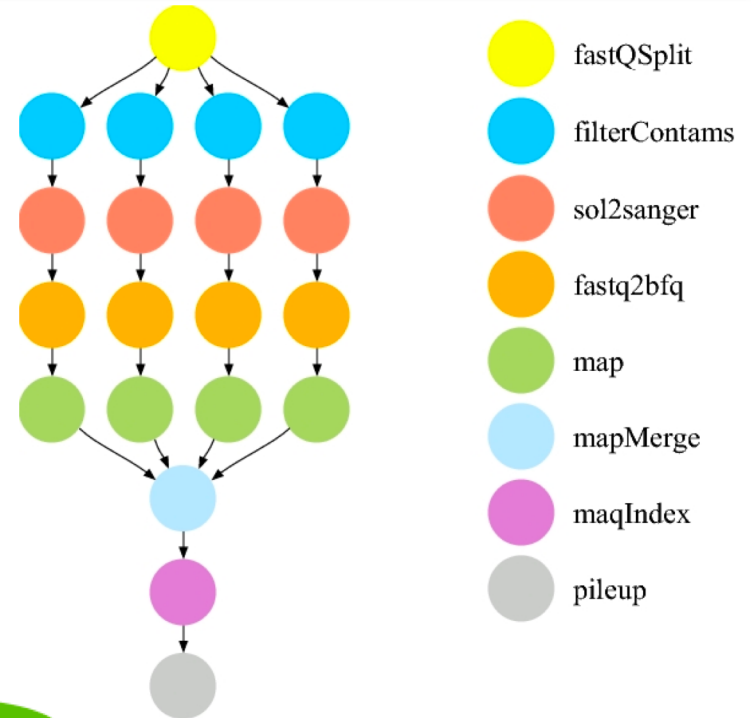
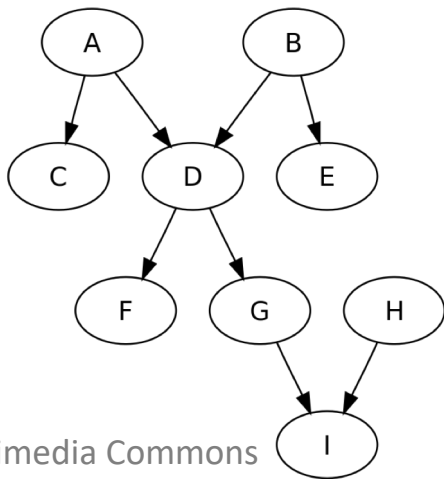
```
JOB A A.sub
JOB B1 B1.sub
JOB B2 B2.sub
JOB B3 B3.sub
JOB C C.sub
PARENT A CHILD B1 B2 B3
PARENT B1 B2 B3 CHILD C
```

`(dag_dir)/`

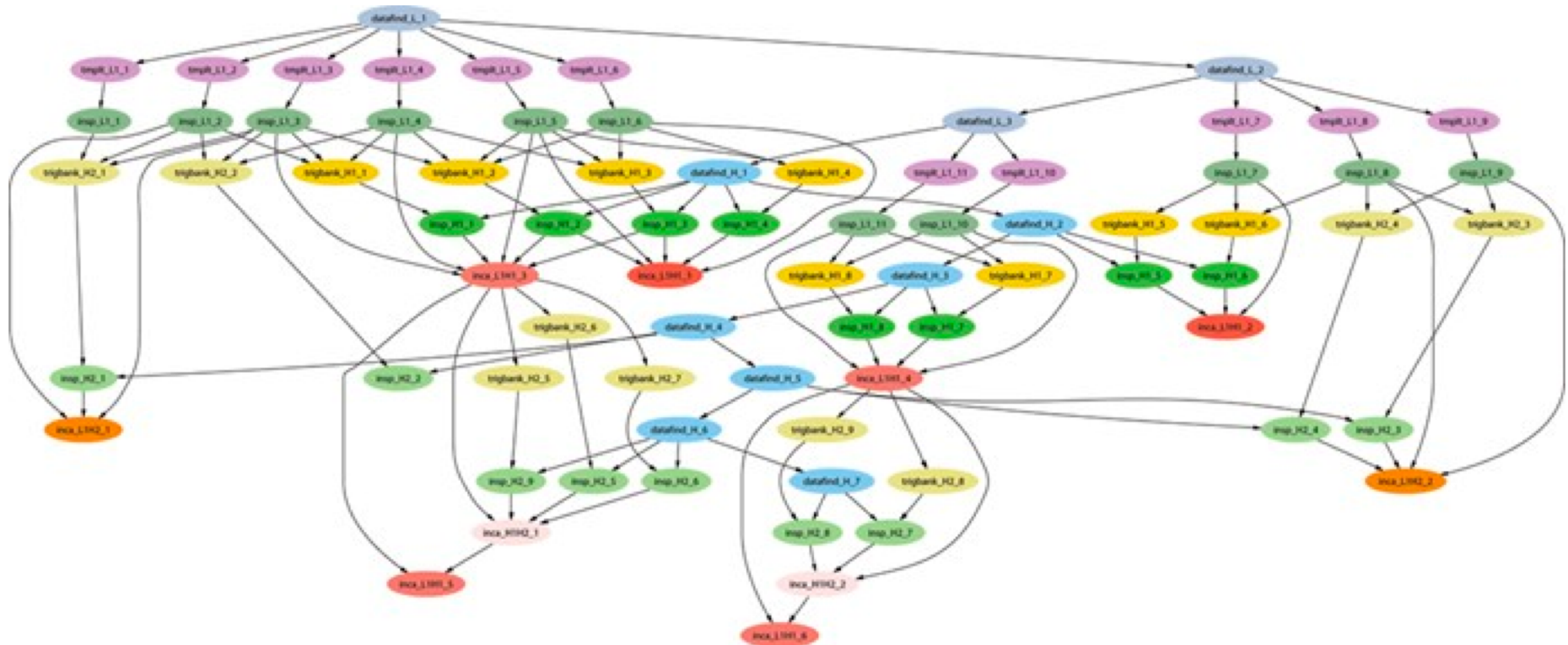
```
A.sub      B1.sub
B2.sub      B3.sub
C.sub       my.dag
(other job files)
```

- Node names and filenames can be anything.
- Node name and submit filename do not have to match.

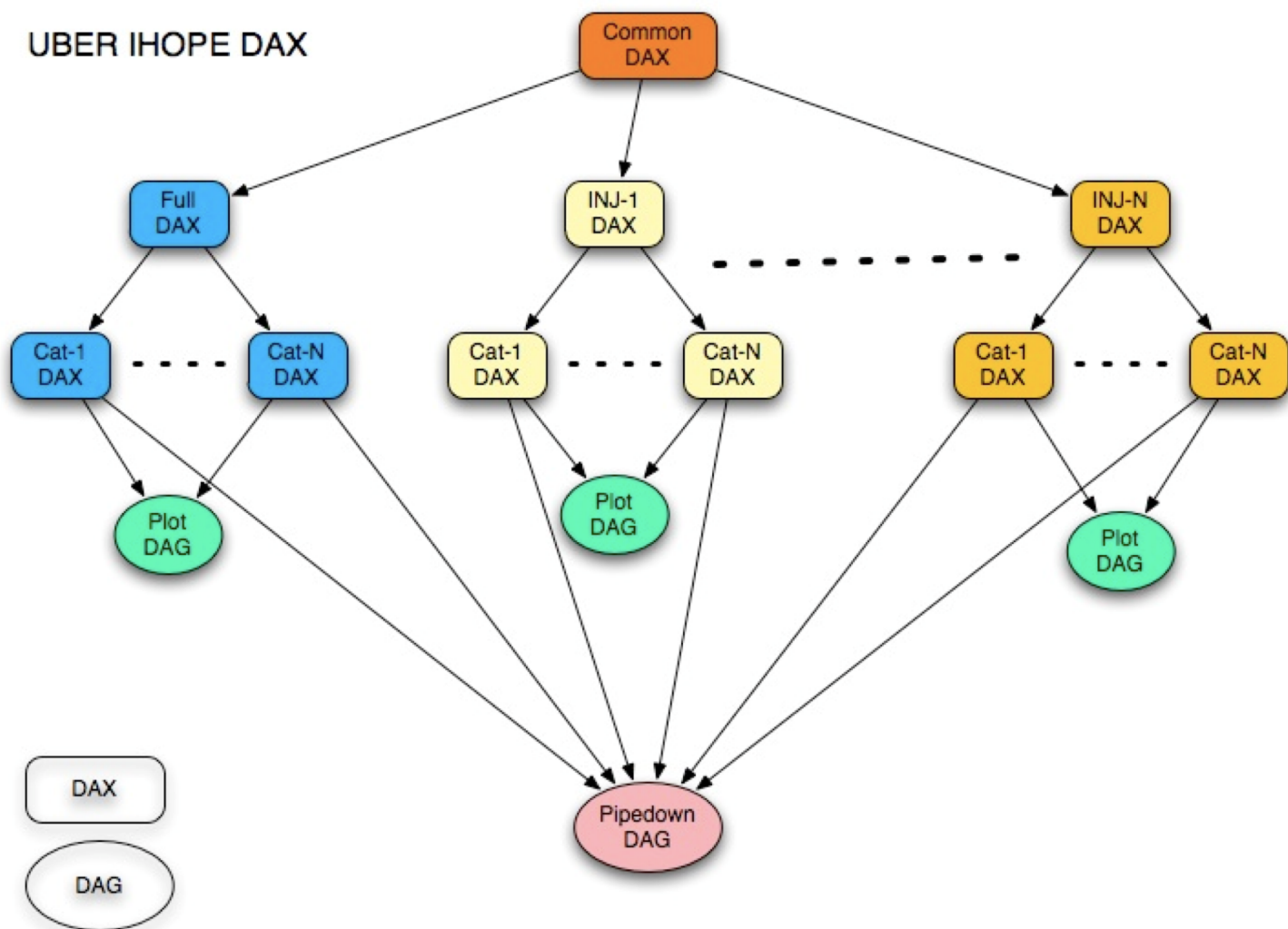
Endless Workflow Possibilities



Endless Workflow Possibilities

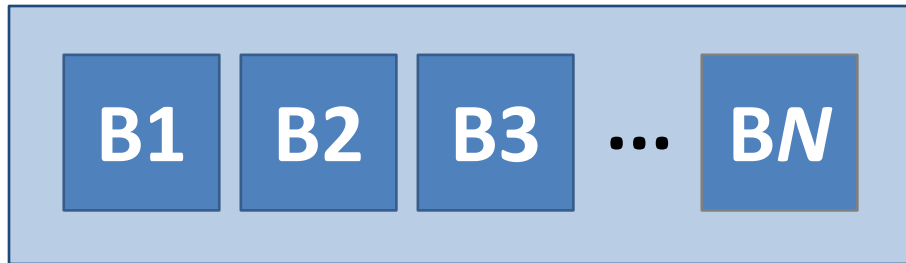


Repeating DAG Components!!

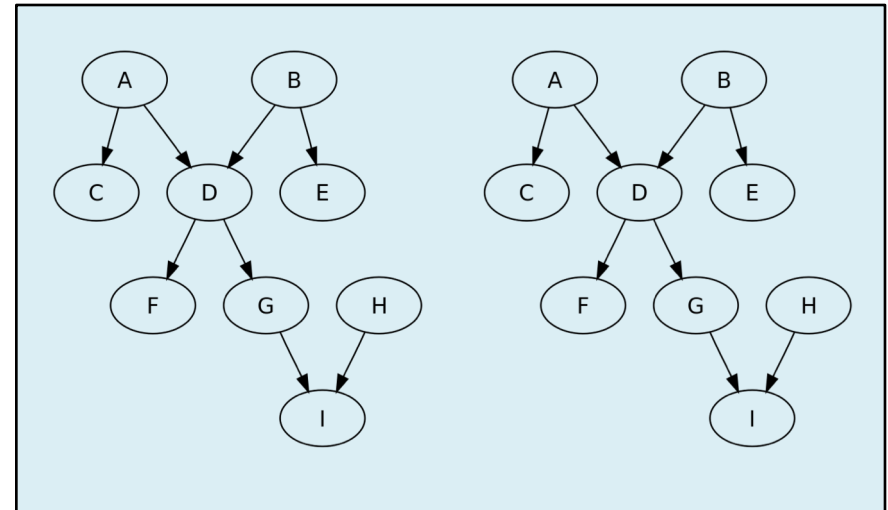


DAGs are also useful for non-sequential work

‘bag’ of HTC jobs



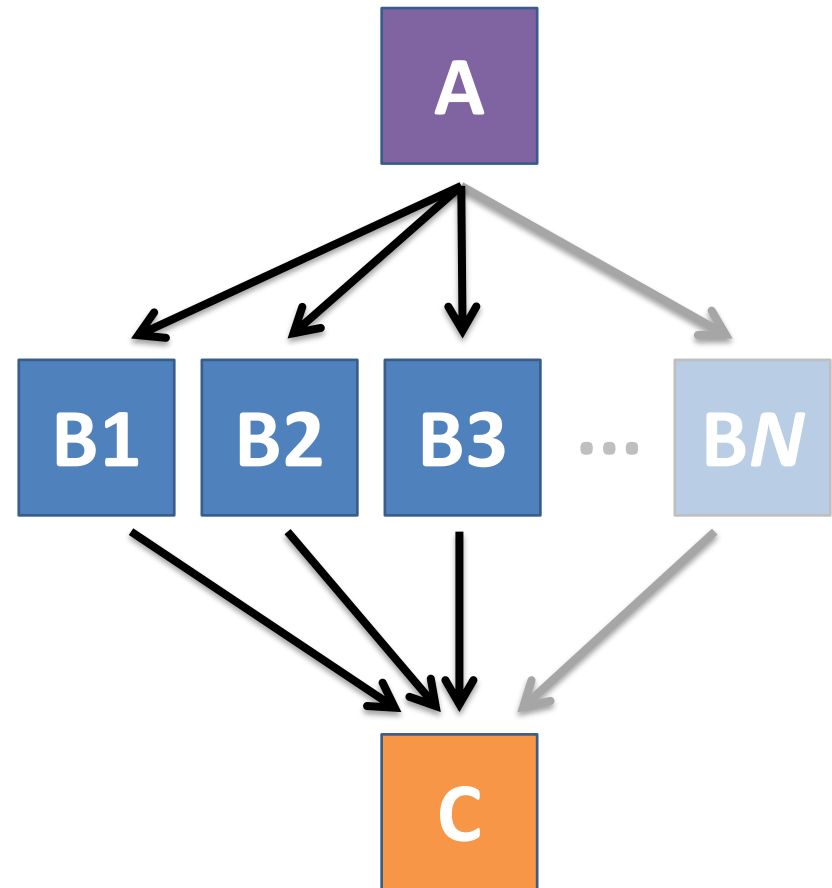
disjointed workflows



Basic DAG input file: JOB nodes, PARENT-CHILD edges

my.dag

```
JOB A A.sub
JOB B1 B1.sub
JOB B2 B2.sub
JOB B3 B3.sub
JOB C C.sub
PARENT A CHILD B1 B2 B3
PARENT B1 B2 B3 CHILD C
```



Submitting and Monitoring a DAGMan Workflow

Submitting a DAG to the queue

- Submission command:

condor_submit_dag *dag_file*

```
$ condor_submit_dag my.dag
```

```
-----  
File for submitting this DAG to HTCondor           : my.dag.condor.sub  
Log of DAGMan debugging messages                   : my.dag.dagman.out  
Log of HTCondor library output                     : my.dag.lib.out  
Log of HTCondor library error messages              : my.dag.lib.err  
Log of the life of condor_dagman itself             : my.dag.dagman.log
```

```
Submitting job(s).
```

```
1 job(s) submitted to cluster 87274940.
```

A submitted DAG creates and DAGMan job process in the queue

- DAGMan runs on the submit server, as a job in the queue
- **At first:**

```
$ condor_q
-- Schedd: submit-3.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.100.44:9618?...
OWNER      BATCH_NAME      SUBMITTED      DONE      RUN      IDLE      TOTAL      JOB_IDS
alice      my.dag+128      4/30 18:08
1 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 0 idle, 1 running, 0 held, 0 suspended

$ condor_q -nobatch
-- Schedd: submit-3.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.100.44:9618?...
  ID      OWNER      SUBMITTED      RUN_TIME ST PRI SIZE CMD
128.0    alice      4/30 18:08      0+00:00:06 R  0     0.3 condor_dagman
1 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 0 idle, 1 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
```


Jobs are automatically submitted by the DAGMan job

- Seconds later, node **A** is submitted:

```
$ condor_q
-- Schedd: submit-3.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.100.44:9618?...
OWNER   BATCH_NAME   SUBMITTED   DONE   RUN    IDLE   TOTAL   JOB_IDS
alice   my.dag+128     4/30 18:08   _      _      1       5    129.0
2 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 1 idle, 1 running, 0 held, 0 suspended

$ condor_q -nobatch
-- Schedd: submit-3.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.100.44:9618?...
ID      OWNER    SUBMITTED   RUN_TIME ST PRI SIZE CMD
128.0   alice    4/30 18:08   0+00:00:36 R  0    0.3 condor_dagman
129.0   alice    4/30 18:08   0+00:00:00 I  0    0.3 A_split.sh
2 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 1 idle, 1 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
```

Jobs are automatically submitted by the DAGMan job

- After **A** completes, **B1-3** are submitted

```
$ condor_q
-- Schedd: submit-3.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.100.44:9618?...
OWNER    BATCH_NAME    SUBMITTED    DONE    RUN    IDLE    TOTAL    JOB_IDS
alice    my.dag+128    4/30 18:08      1      _      3      5    130.0 ... 132.0
4 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 3 idle, 1 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
```

```
$ condor_q -nobatch
-- Schedd: submit-3.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.100.44:9618?...
ID       OWNER    SUBMITTED    RUN_TIME    ST PRI  SIZE  CMD
128.0    alice    4/30 18:08    0+00:20:36  R  0     0.3  condor_dagman
130.0    alice    4/30 18:28    0+00:00:00  I  0     0.3  B_run.sh
131.0    alice    4/30 18:28    0+00:00:00  I  0     0.3  B_run.sh
132.0    alice    4/30 18:28    0+00:00:00  I  0     0.3  B_run.sh
4 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 3 idle, 1 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
```

Jobs are automatically submitted by the DAGMan job

- After **B1-3** complete, node **C** is submitted

```
$ condor_q
-- Schedd: submit-3.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.100.44:9618?...
OWNER    BATCH_NAME    SUBMITTED    DONE    RUN    IDLE    TOTAL    JOB_IDS
alice    my.dag+128    4/30 18:08      4      _      1      5    133.0
2 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 1 idle, 1 running, 0 held, 0 suspended

$ condor_q -nobatch
-- Schedd: submit-3.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.100.44:9618?...
ID       OWNER    SUBMITTED    RUN_TIME    ST PRI  SIZE  CMD
128.0    alice    4/30 18:08    0+00:46:36 R  0     0.3  condor_dagman
133.0    alice    4/30 18:54    0+00:00:00 I  0     0.3  C_combine.sh
2 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 1 idle, 1 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
```

Status files are Created at the time of DAG submission

(dag_dir)/

A.sub	B1.sub	B2.sub
B3.sub	C.sub	<i>(other job files)</i>
my.dag	my.dag.condor.sub	my.dag.dagman.log
my.dag.dagman.out	my.dag.lib.err	my.dag.lib.out
my.dag.nodes.log		

- * **.condor.sub** and * **.dagman.log** describe the queued DAGMan job process, as for all queued jobs
- * **.dagman.out** has detailed logging (look to first for errors)
- * **.lib.err/out** contain std err/out for the DAGMan job process
- * **.nodes.log** is a combined log of all jobs within the DAG

Removing a DAG from the queue

- Remove the DAGMan job in order to stop and remove the entire DAG:

condor_rm dagman_jobID

```
$ condor_q
-- Schedd: submit-3.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.100.44:9618?...
OWNER   BATCH_NAME   SUBMITTED   DONE   RUN    IDLE   TOTAL   JOB_IDS
alice   my.dag+128     4/30 18:08      4      _      1       6   133.0
2 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 1 idle, 1 running, 0 held, 0 suspended
$ condor_rm 128
All jobs in cluster 128 have been marked for removal
```

- Creates a **rescue file** so that only incomplete or unsuccessful NODES are repeated upon resubmission

[DAGMan > DAG Monitoring and DAG Removal](#)

[DAGMan > The Rescue DAG](#)

Removal of a DAG results in a rescue file

(dag_dir)/

A.sub	B1.sub	B2.sub	B3.sub	C.sub	<i>(other job files)</i>
my.dag			my.dag.condor.sub	my.dag.dagman.log	
my.dag.dagman.out		my.dag.lib.err		my.dag.lib.out	
my.dag.metrics		my.dag.nodes.log		my.dag.rescue001	

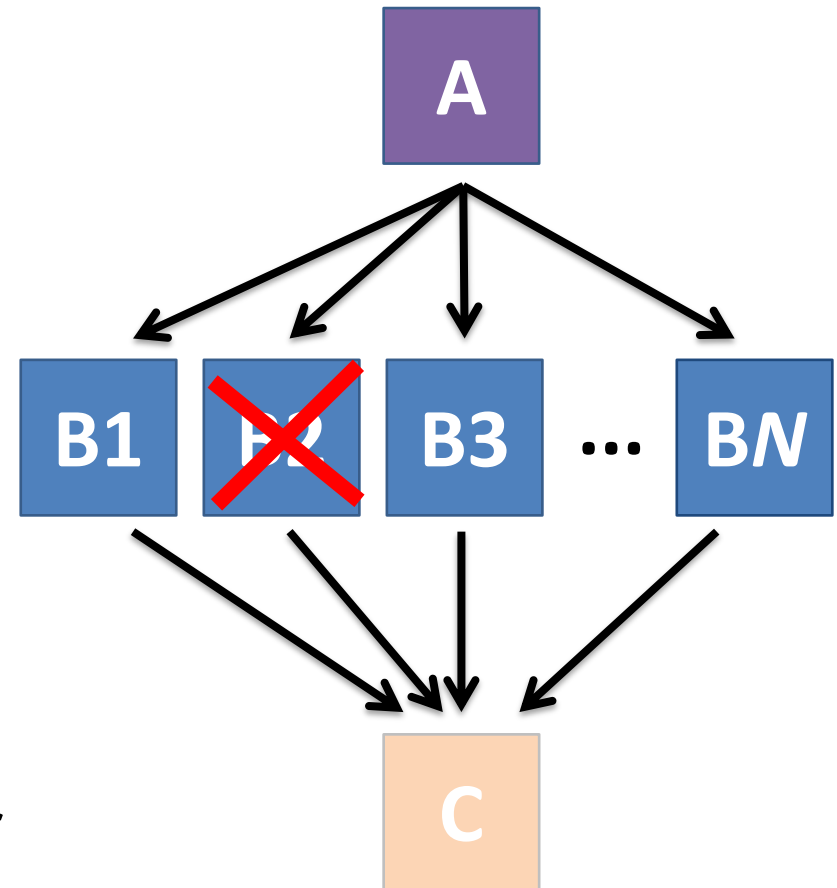
- Named ***dag_file.rescue001***
 - increments if more rescue DAG files are created
- Records which NODES have completed successfully
 - does not contain the actual DAG structure

Rescue Files For Resuming a Failed DAG

- A **rescue file** is created any time a DAG is removed from the queue by the user (`condor_rm`) or automatically:
 - a **node fails**, and after DAGMan advances through any other possible nodes
 - the DAG is **aborted** (covered later)
 - the DAG is **halted** and not unhalted (covered later)
- The **rescue file** will be used (**if it exists**) when the original DAG file is resubmitted
 - override: **`condor_submit_dag dag_file -f`**

Node Failures Result in DAG Failure and Removal

- If a node JOB fails (non-zero exit code)
 - DAGMan continues to run other JOB nodes until it can no longer make progress
- Example at right:
 - **B2** fails
 - Other **B*** jobs continue
 - DAG fails and exits after **B*** and before node **C**



[DAGMan > DAG Monitoring and DAG Removal](#)
[DAGMan > The Rescue DAG](#)

Resolving held node jobs

```
$ condor_q -nobatch
```

```
-- Schedd: submit-3.chtc.wisc.edu : <128.104.100.44:9618?...>
```

ID	OWNER	SUBMITTED	RUN_TIME	ST	PRI	SIZE	CMD
128.0	alice	4/30 18:08	0+00:20:36	R	0	0.3	condor_dagman
130.0	alice	4/30 18:18	0+00:00:00	H	0	0.3	B_run.sh
131.0	alice	4/30 18:18	0+00:00:00	H	0	0.3	B_run.sh
132.0	alice	4/30 18:18	0+00:00:00	H	0	0.3	B_run.sh

4 jobs; 0 completed, 0 removed, 0 idle, 1 running, 3 held, 0 suspended

- Look at the hold reason (in the job log, or with 'condor_q -hold')
- Fix the issue and release the jobs (condor_release)
-OR- remove the entire DAG, resolve, then resubmit the DAG

DAG Completion

(dag_dir)/

A.sub	B1.sub	B2.sub
B3.sub	C.sub	<i>(other job files)</i>
my.dag	my.dag.condor.sub	my.dag.dagman.log
my.dag.dagman.out	my.dag.lib.err	my.dag.lib.out
my.dag.nodes.log	my.dag.dagman.metrics	

- * **.dagman.metrics** is a summary of events and outcomes
- * **.dagman.log** will note the completion of the DAGMan job
- * **.dagman.out** has detailed logging for all jobs (look to first for errors)

Beyond the Basic DAG: Node-level Modifiers

Default File Organization

`my.dag`

```
JOB A A.sub
JOB B1 B1.sub
JOB B2 B2.sub
JOB B3 B3.sub
JOB C C.sub
PARENT A CHILD B1 B2 B3
PARENT B1 B2 B3 CHILD C
```

`(dag_dir)/`

```
A.sub      B1.sub
B2.sub     B3.sub
C.sub      my.dag
(other job files)
```

- What if you want to organize files in other directories?

Node-specific File Organization with DIR

- **DIR** sets the submission directory of the node

my.dag

```
JOB A A.sub DIR A
JOB B1 B1.sub DIR B
JOB B2 B2.sub DIR B
JOB B3 B3.sub DIR B
JOB C C.sub DIR C
PARENT A CHILD B1 B2 B3
PARENT B1 B2 B3 CHILD C
```

(dag_dir)/

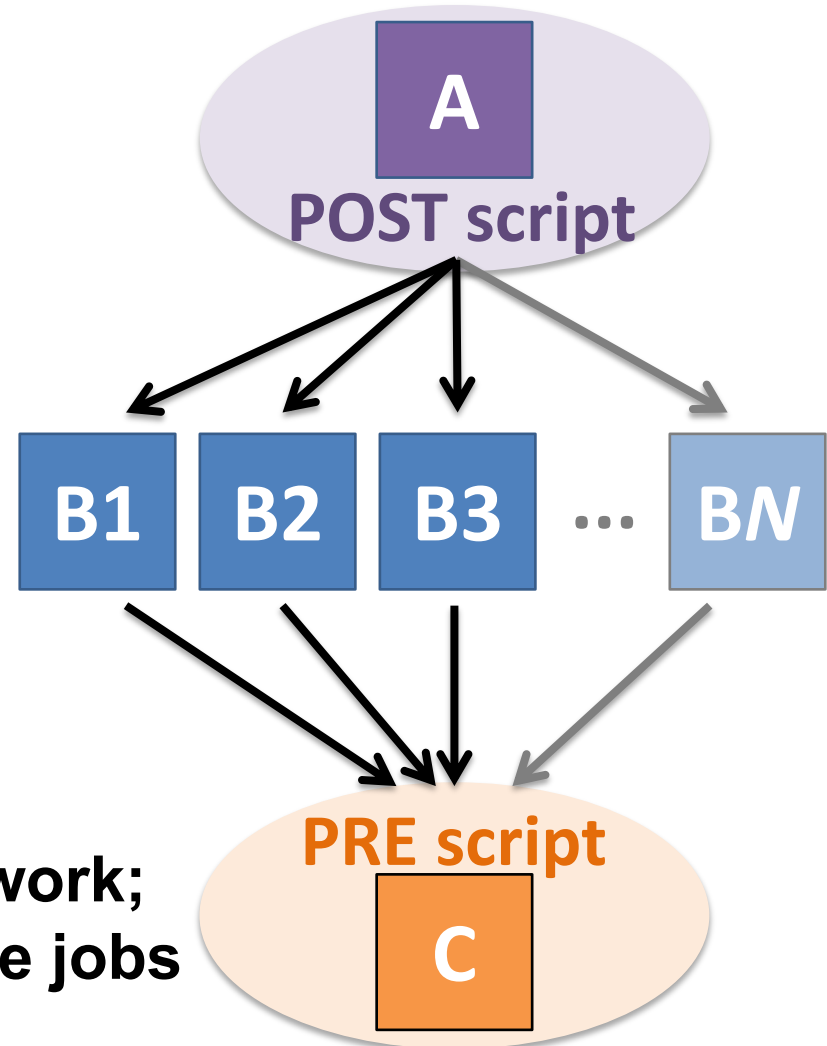
```
my.dag
A/  A.sub    (A job files)
B/  B1.sub   B2.sub
    B3.sub   (B job files)
C/  C.sub    (C job files)
```

PRE and POST scripts run on the submit server, as part of the node

my.dag

```
JOB A A.sub
SCRIPT POST A sort.sh
JOB B1 B1.sub
JOB B2 B2.sub
JOB B3 B3.sub
JOB C C.sub
SCRIPT PRE C tar_it.sh
PARENT A CHILD B1 B2 B3
PARENT B1 B2 B3 CHILD C
```

- Use sparingly for lightweight work; otherwise include work in node jobs



RETRY failed nodes to overcome transient errors

- Retry a node up to N times if it fails (the job exit code is non-zero):

RETRY *node_name* N

Example:

```
JOB A A.sub  
RETRY A 5  
JOB B B.sub  
PARENT A CHILD B
```

- See also: retry except for a particular exit code (UNLESS-EXIT)
- **Note:** max_retries in the submit file are preferable for simple cases

RETRY applies to whole node, including PRE/POST scripts

- PRE and POST scripts are included in retries
- **RETRY of a node with a POST script uses the exit code from the POST script (not from the job)**
 - POST script can do more to determine node success, perhaps by examining JOB output

Example:

```
SCRIPT PRE A download.sh
JOB A A.sub
SCRIPT POST A checkA.sh
RETRY A 5
```


SCRIPT Arguments and Argument Variables

```
JOB A A.sub  
SCRIPT POST A checkA.sh my.out $RETURN  
RETRY A 5
```

\$JOB: node name

\$JOBID: *cluster.proc*

\$RETURN: exit code of the node

\$PRE_SCRIPT_RETURN: exit code of PRE script

\$RETRY: current retry count

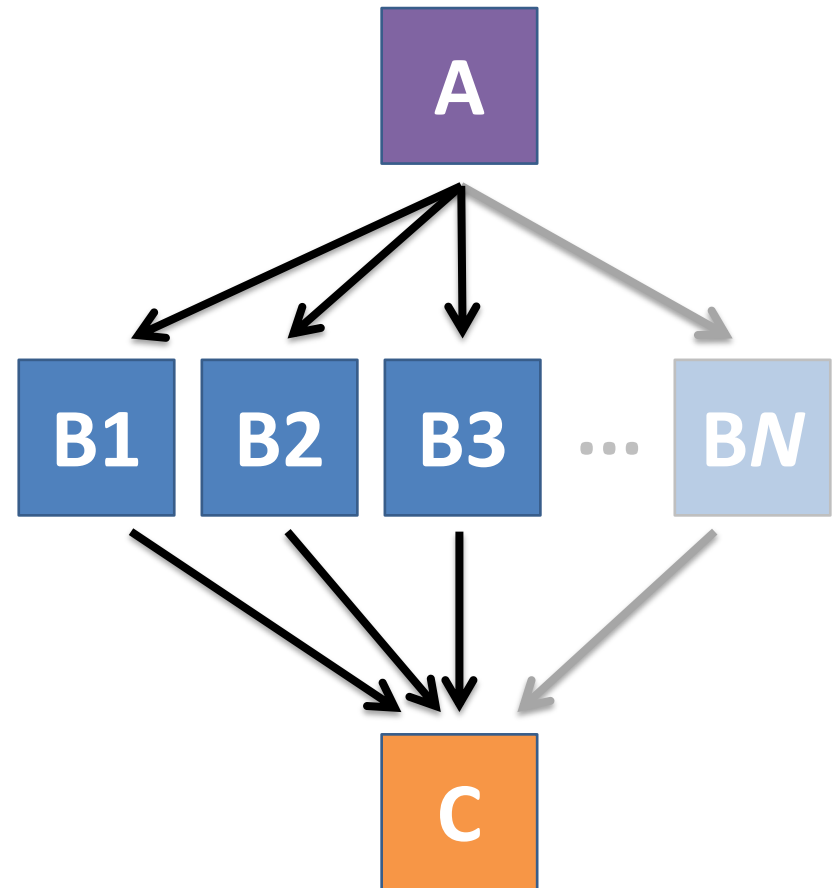
(more variables described in the manual)

[DAGMan Applications > Advanced Features > Retrying](#)

[DAGMan Applications > DAG Input File > SCRIPT](#)

Best Control Achieved with One Process per JOB Node

- While submit files can 'queue' many processes, a *single process per submit* file is usually best for DAG JOBS
 - Failure of any process in a JOB node results in failure of the entire node and immediate removal of other processes in the node.
 - RETRY of a JOB node retries the entire submit file.



Modular Organization and Control of DAG Components

Submit File Templates via VARS

- **VARS** line defines node-specific values that are passed into submit file variables

VARS *node_name* *var1="value"* [*var2="value"*]

- Allows a single submit file shared by all B jobs, rather than one submit file for each JOB.

my.dag

```
JOB B1 B.sub
VARS B1 data="B1" opt="10"
JOB B2 B.sub
VARS B2 data="B2" opt="12"
JOB B3 B.sub
VARS B3 data="B3" opt="14"
```

B.sub

```
...
InitialDir = $(data)
arguments = $(data).csv $(opt)
...
queue
```

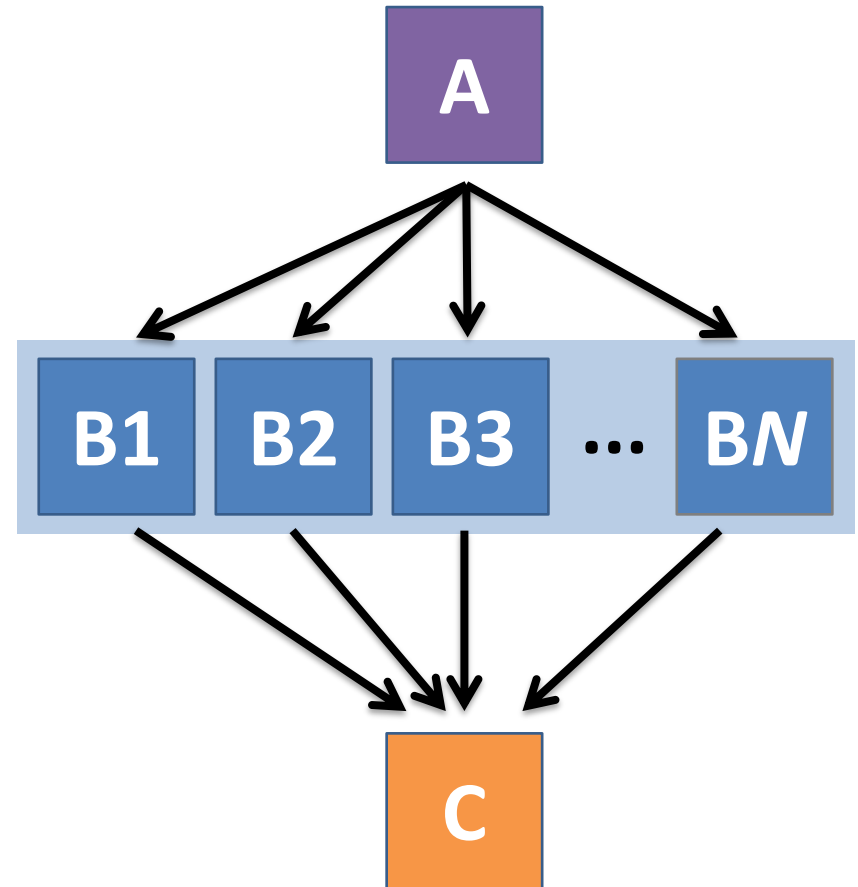
SPLICE groups of nodes to simplify lengthy DAG files

my.dag

```
JOB A A.sub  
SPLICE B B.spl  
JOB C C.sub  
PARENT A CHILD B  
PARENT B CHILD C
```

B.spl

```
JOB B1 B1.sub  
JOB B2 B2.sub  
...  
JOB BN BN.sub
```



Use nested SPLICEs with DIR for repeating workflow components

my.dag

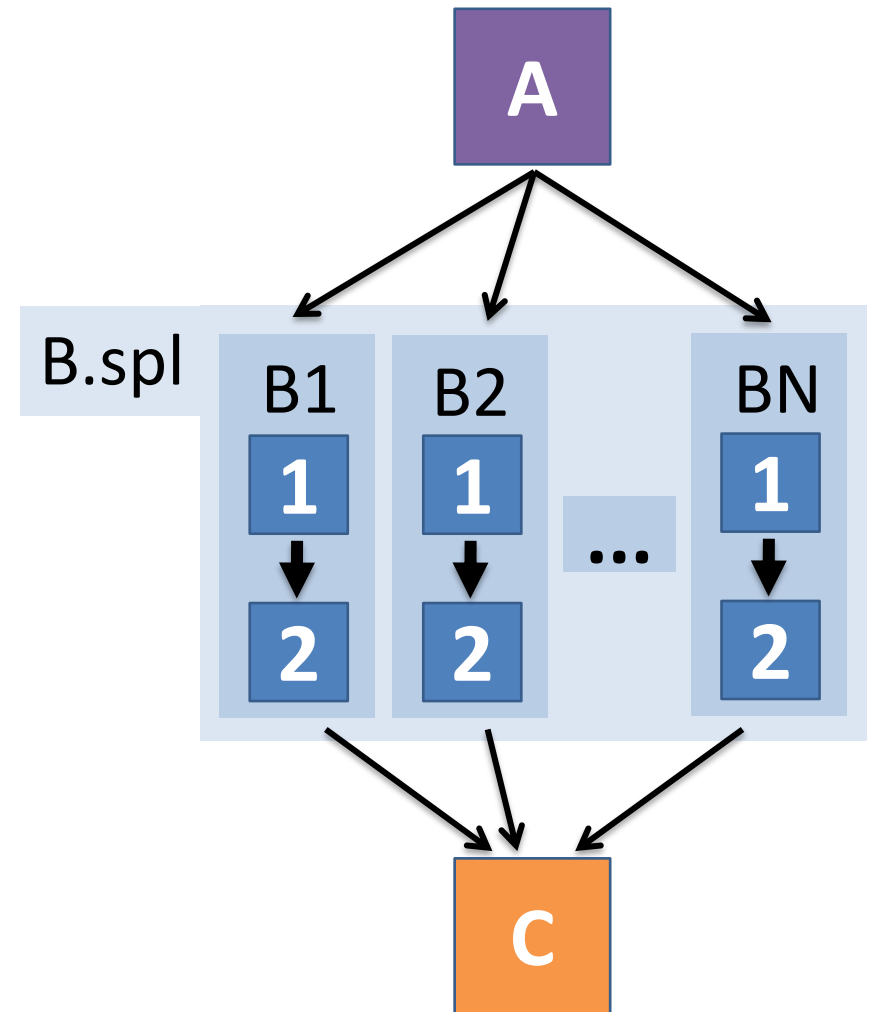
```
JOB A A.sub DIR A
SPLICE B B.spl DIR B
JOB C C.sub DIR C
PARENT A CHILD B
PARENT B CHILD C
```

B.spl

```
SPLICE B1 ../inner.spl DIR B1
SPLICE B2 ../inner.spl DIR B2
...
SPLICE BN ../inner.spl DIR BN
```

inner.spl

```
JOB 1 ../1.sub
JOB 2 ../2.sub
PARENT 1 CHILD 2
```



Use nested SPLICEs with DIR for repeating workflow components

my.dag

```
JOB A A.sub DIR A
SPLICE B B.spl DIR B
JOB C C.sub DIR C
PARENT A CHILD B
PARENT B CHILD C
```

B.spl

```
SPLICE B1 ../inner.spl DIR B1
SPLICE B2 ../inner.spl DIR B2
...
SPLICE BN ../inner.spl DIR BN
```

inner.spl

```
JOB 1 ../1.sub
JOB 2 ../2.sub
PARENT 1 CHILD 2
```

(dag_dir)/

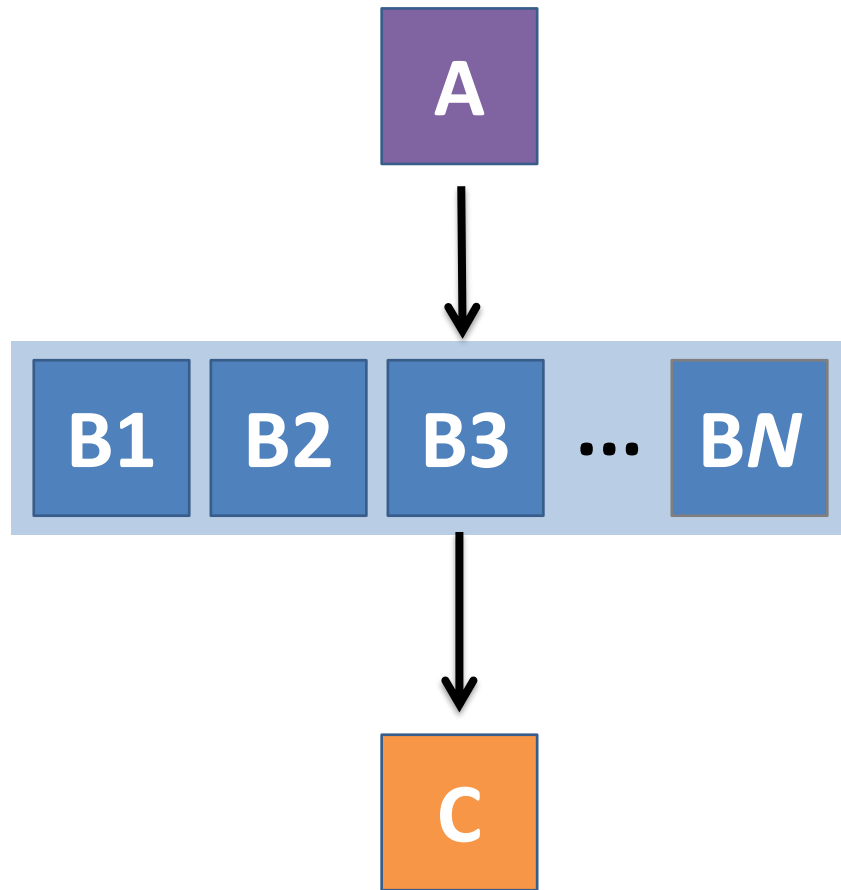
my.dag

```
A/ A.sub      (A job files)
B/ B.spl      inner.spl
    1.sub      2.sub
    B1/      (1-2 job files)
    B2/      (1-2 job files)
    ...
    BN/      (1-2 job files)
C/ C.sub      (C job files)
```

More on SPLICE Behavior

- **HTCondor takes in a DAG and its SPLICEs as a single, large DAG file.**
 - SPLICEs simply allow the user to simplify and modularize the DAG expression using separate files
 - A single DAGMan job is queued with single set of status files.
- Great for gradually testing and building up a large DAG (since a SPLICE file can be submitted by itself, without its outer DAG).
- SPLICE lines are not treated like nodes.
 - no PRE/POST scripts or RETRIES

What if some DAG components can't be known at submit time?



e.g. If the value of ***N*** can only be determined as part of the work of the prior node (**A**) ...

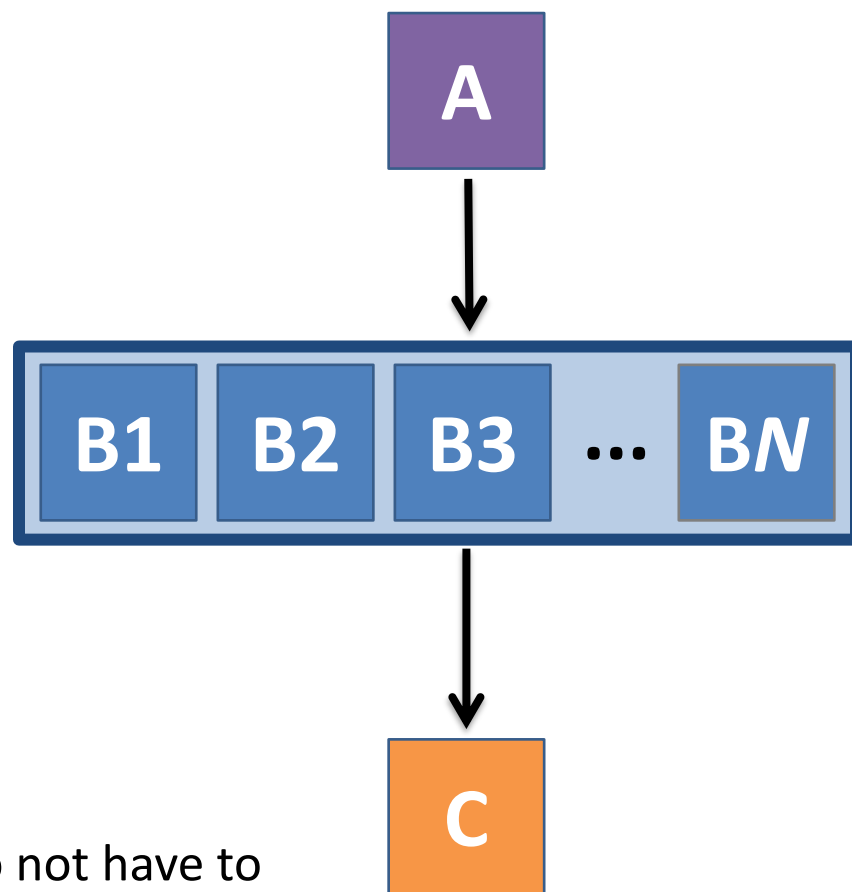
A SUBDAG within a DAG

my.dag

```
JOB A A.sub
SUBDAG EXTERNAL B B.dag
JOB C C.sub
PARENT A CHILD B
PARENT B CHILD C
```

B.dag (written by **A**)

```
JOB B1 B1.sub
JOB B2 B2.sub
...
JOB BN BN.sub
```



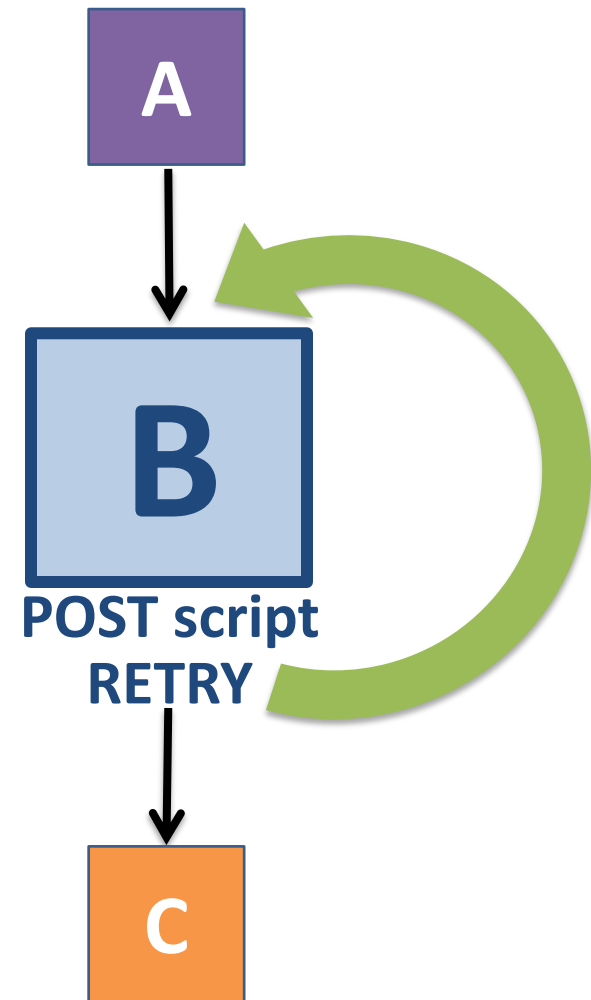
A SUBDAG is not submitted (so contents do not have to exist) until prior nodes in the outer DAG have completed.

Use a SUBDAG to achieve Cyclic Components within a DAG

- POST script determines whether another iteration is necessary; if so, exits non-zero
- RETRY applies to entire SUBDAG, which may include multiple, sequential nodes

my.dag

```
JOB A A.sub
SUBDAG EXTERNAL B B.dag
SCRIPT POST B iterateB.sh
RETRY B 100
JOB C C.sub
PARENT A CHILD B
PARENT B CHILD C
```



More on SUBDAG Behavior

- Each SUBDAG EXTERNAL is a DAGMan job running in the queue, and too many can overwhelm the queue.
 - **WARNING:** SUBDAGs should only be used (rather than SPLICES) when absolutely necessary!
- SUBDAGs are nodes (can have PRE/POST scripts, retries, etc.)

DAG-level Control

Pause (then resume) a DAG by holding it

- Hold the DAGMan job process:
`condor_hold dagman_jobID`
- Pauses the DAG
 - No new node jobs submitted
 - Queued node jobs continue to run (including SUBDAGs), but no PRE/POST scripts
 - DAG resumes when released
(**`condor_release dagman_jobID`**)

Cleanly quit a DAG with a halt file

- Create a file named **DAG_file.halt** in the same directory as the submitted DAG file
- Allows the DAG to complete nodes in-progress
 - No new node jobs submitted
 - Queued node jobs, SUBDAGs, **and POST scripts** continue to run, but not PRE scripts
- DAGMan resumes after the file is deleted
 - **If not deleted**, the DAG creates a rescue DAG file and exits after all queued jobs have completed

[DAGMan > Suspending a Running DAG](#)

[DAGMan > The Rescue DAG](#)

Throttle job nodes of large DAGs via DAG-level configuration

- If a DAG has *many* (thousands or more) jobs, submit server and queue performance can be assured by limiting:
 - Number of jobs in the queue
 - Number of jobs idle (waiting to run)
 - Number of PRE or POST scripts running
- Limits can be specified in a DAG-specific **CONFIG** file (recommended) or as arguments to `condor_submit_dag`

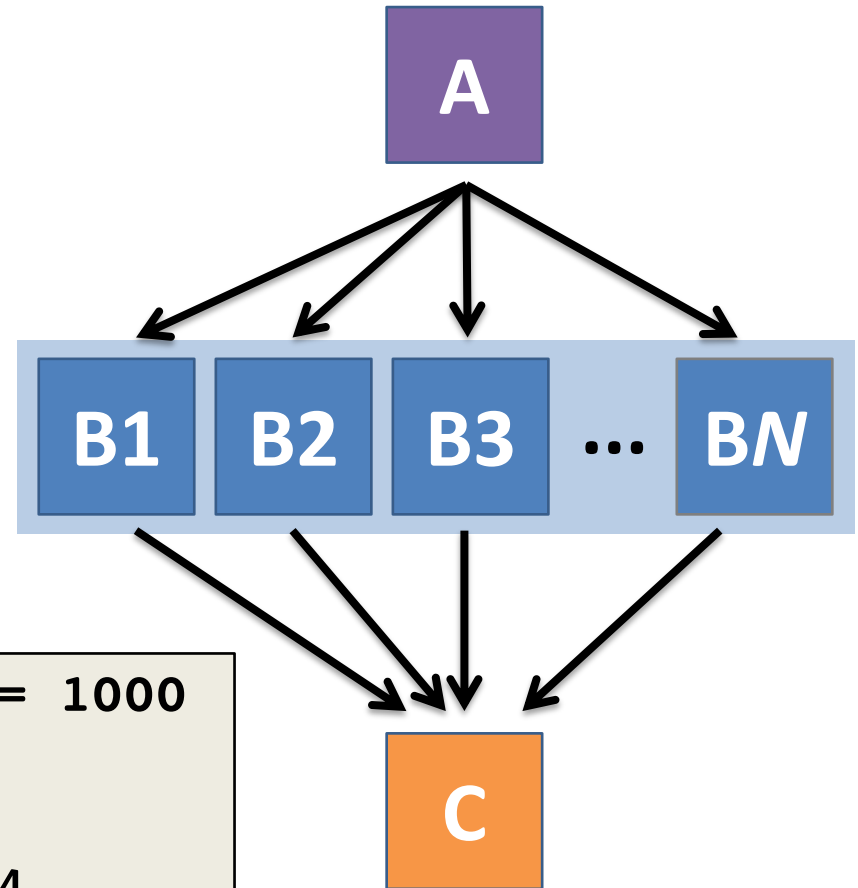
DAG-specific throttling via a CONFIG file

my.dag

```
JOB A A.sub  
SPLICE B B.dag  
JOB C C.sub  
PARENT A CHILD B  
PARENT B CHILD C  
CONFIG my.dag.config
```

my.dag.config

```
DAGMAN_MAX_JOBS_SUBMITTED = 1000  
DAGMAN_MAX_JOBS_IDLE = 100  
DAGMAN_MAX_PRE_SCRIPTS = 4  
DAGMAN_MAX_POST_SCRIPTS = 4
```



Other DAGMan Features

Other DAGMan Features: Node-Level Controls

- Set the **PRIORITY** of JOB nodes with:
PRIORITY node_name priority_value
- Use a **PRE_SKIP** to skip a node and mark it as successful, if the PRE script exits with a specific exit code:

PRE_SKIP node_name exit_code

Other DAGMan Features:

Modular Control

- Append **NOOP** to a JOB definition so that its JOB process isn't run by DAGMan
 - Test DAG structure without running jobs (node-level)
 - Simplify combinatorial PARENT-CHILD statements (modular)
- Communicate DAG features separately with **INCLUDE**
 - e.g. separate file for JOB nodes and for VARS definitions, as part of the same DAG
- Define a **CATEGORY** to throttle only a specific subset of jobs

[DAGMan Applications > The DAG Input File > JOB](#)

[DAGMan Applications > Advanced Features > INCLUDE](#)

[DAGMan Applications > Advanced > Throttling by Category](#)

Other DAGMan Features:

DAG-Level Controls

- Replace the *node_name* with **ALL_NODES** to apply a DAG feature to all nodes of the DAG
- Abort the entire DAG if a specific node exits with a specific exit code:

ABORT-DAG-ON *node_name exit_code*

- Define a **FINAL** node that will always run, even in the event of DAG failure (to clean up, perhaps).

FINAL *node_name submit_file*

[DAGMan Applications > Advanced > ALL_NODES](#)

[DAGMan Applications > Advanced > Stopping the Entire DAG](#)

[DAGMan Applications > Advanced > FINAL Node](#)

Much More in the HTCondor Manual!!!

<https://htcondor.readthedocs.io/en/stable/users-manual/dagman-applications.html>



FINAL QUESTIONS?

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