Glossary

Entities

Tractor has 5 key entities which are tracked in its database and available for inspection in the Dashboard, the tq command-line utility, and Python API.

Job

A *job* is a logical body of work that is submitted to the system for processing. It describes what needs to get done and in which order. It can be build to be arbitrarily large and complex, from rendering a single layer of a single frame to multiple layers over a range of frames. Its can comprise of rendering, compositing, administration, and any other process that can run on a host.

Task

A *task* is a unit of work which partially completes a job. A task can run in parallel or in series with other tasks. Tasks and their order of operation constitute the struture of a job.

Command

A command is a single program that is executed on a blade. It can be a render, a notification script, an administration command, or any other program that can execute on the host.

Invocation

An *invocation* is a set of metrics that describe the execution of a command on a blade. When a command runs multiple times, it will have multiple invocations to show when it ran, where it ran, and what memory and CPU resources were used.

Blade

A blade is a remote execution server, a program that runs commands and reports the results of the command to the engine.

Attributes

Job Attributes

name	type	description
jid	integ er	The Job Identifier, the unique, numerical identifier of a job.
own er	string	The user that submitted the job.
spo olho st	string	The host from which the job was submitted.
spo olfile	string	The path to filename of the spooled jobfile.
spo olcwd	string	The working directory of command that spooled the job.
spo olad dr	ip adre ss	The IP address of the host that spooled the job.
title	string	The title of the job.
assi gnm ents	enco ded string	These are global job variable assignments, defined in the <i>Assign</i> section of a job file.
dirm ap	json struc ture	A map for translating paths according to architecture.
tier	string	The name of the tier. A tier is an ordered partitioning of the queue.
prior ity	float	The priority determines placement of the job in the queue.
crews	strin g list	The list of crews of the job. This will restrict the job to run on blades which are configured to accept jobs running under those crews.
proj ects	strin g list	a list of designations which affects how the active tasks are counted in sharing limits

tags	strin g list	The names of the limits that will govern all commands of the job. A limit will cap the number of concurrent executions of commands tagged with the limit name.
servi ce	string	The service key expression that will govern all commands of the job. The service key expression is a booean expression that allows commands to be matched with blades that have the capabilities or designation to run them.
envk ey	strin g list	A list of environment key names that establish the environment in which all commands of the job will run.
edit policy	string	The name of the policy affecting which users can manipulate job.
mins lots	integ er	The minimum number of slots required to run a command of the job.
max slots	integ er	The maximum number of slots required to run a command of the job.
etal evel	integ er	The level of job graph used to estimate remaining time to completion (unused).
after jids	string	The list of ids of jobs that must finish before this job is started.
max active	integ er	The maximum number of concurrent active commands allowed for this job.
seri alsu btas ks	bool ean	A boolean value indicating whether subtasks are to be executed serially.
spo oltime	time stamp	The time the job was spooled.
pau seti me	time stamp	The time job was paused.
after time	time stamp	The time after which job will be considered for scheduling.
start time	time stamp	The time job first had an active task.
stop time	time stamp	The last time the job had a task that completed.
dele teti me	time stamp	The time the job was deleted.
elap seds ecs	integ er	The total elapsed seconds the job has been active.
estt otals ecs	integ er	The estimated total elapsed task seconds for the job to complete.
num tasks	integ er	The number of tasks in the job.
num bloc ked	integ er	The number of blocked tasks in the job. A blocked task requires other tasks to finish before it can become ready, and later, active.
num ready	integ er	The number of ready tasks in this job. A ready task is a waiting task that does not need any other tasks to finish in order to become active.
num active	integ er	The number of active tasks in the job.
num error	integ er	The number of error tasks in the job.
num done	integ er	The number of done tasks in this job.

max tid	integ er	The highest task id of all tasks of the job, including detached ones. This is used by the engine to manage task id assignment to newly created tasks from expand tasks. Detached tasks are tasks that are not considered for scheduling because they were produced by expand tasks and the job has since been restarted.
max cid	integ er	The highest command id of all commands of the job, including ones of detached tasks. This is used by the engine to manage command id assignement to newly created commands from expand tasks.
com	string	A user-defined job comment string.
met adata	string	User-defined metadata of the job.
pil	integ er	Place In Line: ordering of job relative to other jobs of same priority; initially set to the jid.
lastn oteid	integ er	id of most recent note of job

Task Attributes

name	type	description
jid	integ er	The unique identifier of the job the task belongs to.
tid	integ er	The Task Identifier, the unique identifier for the task within the job.
title	string	The title of the task.
id	string	The unique string id for the task within the job.
service	string	The service key expression that will govern all commands of the task. The service key expression is a booean expression that allows commands to be matched with blades that have the capabilities or designation to run them.
minslots	integ er	The minimum number of slots required to run a command of the task.
maxslo ts	integ er	The maximum number of slots required to run a command of the task.
cids	integ er list	A list of command ids of the commands of the task.
serials ubtasks	bool ean	A boolean value indicating whether subtasks are to be executed serially.
ptids	integ er list	A list of task ids of the parent tasks. Only a task with associated Instances has multiple parents. All child tasks must successfully finish before their parent can become active.
attached	bool ean	A boolean value which, if false, indicates the task was result of an expand task that was retried.
state	string	The task state. It can be blocked, ready, active, error, or done.
stateti me	time stamp	The time the task became its current state.
readyti me	time stamp	The time the task became ready.
activeti me	time stamp	The time that the task became active.
currcid	integ er	Command id of the command that will run next, or is currently running.
haslog	bool ean	A boolean indicating whether task has output in log.
preview	strin g list	A list of command arguments (argv) of the preview command.
chaser	strin g list	A list of command arguments (argv) of the chaser command.

progre ss	float	The task progress, expressed as a percentage value between 0 and 100. This is set when tasks emit ALF_PROGRESS messages.
metad ata	string	User-defined metadata of the task.
resum eblock	bool ean	A boolean indicating whether the task will automatically resume any resumable ancestor tasks.
retryco unt	integ er	A counter of the number of passes the task will incur if the job is left to run to completion. A task retry or job restart will increment it if the task had become active at some point.

Command Attributes

name	type	description
jid	integ er	The unique identifier of the job the command belongs to.
tid	integ er	The unique identifier of the task the command belongs to.
cid	integ er	The Command Identifier, the unique identifier for the command within the job.
argv	strin g list	The list of command arguments representing command.
local	bool ean	A boolean that is true if command is to be run on spooling host.
expand	bool ean	A boolean that is true if the output of command emits script defining more tasks.
runtype	string	The type of command. Possible values include "normal" and "cleanup".
msg	string	A string value which a blade emits to a pipe to the stdin of the command.
service	string	The service key expression that will govern all commands of the task. The service key expression is a booean expression that allows commands to be matched with blades that have the capabilities or designation to run them.
tags	strin g list	The names of the limits that will govern all commands of the job. A limit will cap the number of concurrent executions of commands tagged with the limit name.
id	string	The unique string id for the task within the job.
refersto	string	An id of another task or command. Setting this causes the command to run on the same blade that ran the referred task or command ran on.
minslo ts	integ er	The minimum number of slots required to run the command.
maxsl ots	integ er	The maximum number of slots required to run the command.
envkey	strin g list	A list of environment key names that establish the environment in which the command will run.
retryrc odes	integ er list	A list of return codes that will trigger auto-retry logic for the command.
metad ata	string	User-defined metadata for the command.
resum ewhile	strin g list	A command argument list that is executed by a blade, or a list of special keywords; either of which determine whether the command is resumable.
resum epin	bool ean	A boolean value indicating whether the command should run on the same host when it is resumed.
minru nsecs	float	The minimum number of second for command to run to not be considered an error.
maxru nsecs	float	The maximum number of second for command to run before being killed.

Invocation Attributes

name	type	description
jid	integ er	The unique identifier of the job the invocation belongs to.
tid	integ er	The unique identifier of the task the invocation belongs to.
cid	integ er	The unique identifier of the command the invocation belongs to.
iid	integ er	The Invocation Identifier, the unique identifier for the invocation within the command.
current	bool ean	A boolean value that is true if this is the most recent invocation. When a task is retried, no existing invocations will be considered current.
numsl ots	integ er	The number of slots used by the invocation.
limits	strin g list	A list of limits in use by the invocation. This value is used to reconstruct the limit counters from currently running invocations should the engine be restarted.
startti me	time stamp	The start time of the invocation.
stopti me	time stamp	The stop time of the invocation.
pid	integ er	The process id of the invocation.
rss	float	The resident set size of the process, in GB.
mem	float	The memory usage of the process, in GB.
cpu	float	The current CPU utilization of the process.
elapse dapp	float	The elapsed user time of the process, in seconds.
elapse dsys	float	The elapsed system time of the process, in seconds.
elapse dreal	float	The elapsed wall-clock time of the process, in seconds.
rcode	integ er	The return code of the process.
retryco unt	integ er	The value of the task retry counter when he invocation ran. A task retry or job restart will increment it if the task had become active at some point.
resum ecount	integ er	A number ordering an interation by its resume pass. iteration nu of times (the resume of the task retry counter when he invocation ran. A task retry or job restart will increment it if the task had become active at some point.
resum able	bool ean	A boolean value that is true if the command can be resumed.
bladeid	id	The bladeid of the blade the invocation's command is running or ran on.

Blade Attributes

name	type	description
name	stri ng	The blade name. It is a unique identifier of the blade, and is typically the blade's hostname.
ipaddr	stri ng	The IP address of the host.
port	inte ger	The number of the port on which the blade is listening.
osna me	stri ng	The name of the operating system on which the blade is running.

osver sion	stri ng	The version of operating system on which the blade is running.
bootti me	tim est amp	The boot time of the host.
numc pu	inte ger	The number of cpus/cores of the host.
loada vg	float	The CPU load average of the host.
avail mem ory	float	The available memory of the host, in GB.
avail disk	float	The availble disk space of the host, in GB.
versi on	stri ng	The Tractor blade version.
profile	stri ng	The profile name used by the blade.
nimby	stri ng	The NIMBY status of the blade.
startti me	tim est amp	The start time of the blade process.
nums lots	inte ger	The total number of slots on the blade.
udi	float	The Universal Desirability Index of the blade, which helps certain blades be assigned tasks sooner than other blades. A higher value means the higher the chance of the blade being assigned work.
status	stri ng	A status note for the blade.
heart beatti me	tim est amp	The time the blade last contacted the engine.
blade id	id	A universally unique identifier for a blade. Over time, attributes such as hostname, port, and IP address may be reused by different hosts. This id is used when populating invocation records so that the particular blade that ran the command can be properly identified in perpetuity.
cleart ime	tim est amp	The time a user requested the blade data be cleared. Only blades with a heartbeattime greater than the cleartime will be visible in the dashboard.
gpula bel	stri ng	Blade host GPU information.

Overriding Attributes

Jobs and tasks can specify attribute values that pertain to commands. These attributes are *service*, *tags*, *maxslots*, and *envkey*. Values defined at the command level override those specified at the task and job level; values defined at the task level override those specified at the job level.