



Universiteit Leiden



LEIDS UNIVERSITAIR MEDISCH CENTRUM

Introduction

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Introduction to the Tutorial

- Using scientific workflows for bioinformatics data analysis, integration and scaling
 - Galaxy – local tools workflows
 - Taverna – distributed computing workflows
 - WS-PGRADE - grid workflows
- RNA-Seq analysis pipeline
- 3 hands-on session
- Discussion
- Workflows surgery session



Introduction to Scientific Workflows



Typical Bioinformatics Experiments

1. Collect data / find data in repositories
2. Run analysis algorithm on data
3. Run different analysis algorithm on results of (2) or get more/different data and run (2) again
4. Repeat for any number of sequential algorithms
5. Analyse results
6. Search for supporting information to help explain results and generate new hypotheses
7. Start cycle again with new hypotheses



The Practical Reality

- Sequential use of distributed tools
- Incompatible input and output formats
- Analysis of large data sets by multiple researchers
- Difficult to record parameter selections
- Difficult to reproduce analyses

The image displays a collage of various bioinformatics web interfaces and tools, illustrating the practical reality of sequential use of distributed tools. The tools shown include:

- BLAST (Basic Local Alignment Search Tool)
- GENSCAN (Gene Prediction)
- TWINS CAN (Transcriptome-Wide Identification of Novel Genes)
- NCBI (National Center for Biotechnology Information)
- EMBL (European Molecular Biology Laboratory)
- ABGEN (Abundance-Based Gene Identification)
- SUMOPLOT (Sequence Motif Analysis)
- RepeatMasker (Repeat Masking)
- InterPro (Protein Family Classification)
- EMBL-EBI (European Bioinformatics Institute)
- EMBL-EBI (European Bioinformatics Institute)
- EMBL-EBI (European Bioinformatics Institute)

Red arrows indicate a workflow between these tools, suggesting a sequential process. A central DNA sequence is also visible:

```
actttctac caacagtdga tgagggtgtt ggtctagtt  
aaat ttggtgtgt 12241 cagtctttta aatttcaac  
gaag agtcatacag tcaatagcct ttttagctt 12501  
ccta atagatacac agtgggtctt cactgtgatt ttaattgca  
tggt 12361 gactaattat gttgagcttg ttaccattta  
caacdtca ttaggaggt gcttaaatatt 12421 agtgactt  
tcgtttt ttttaatt
```

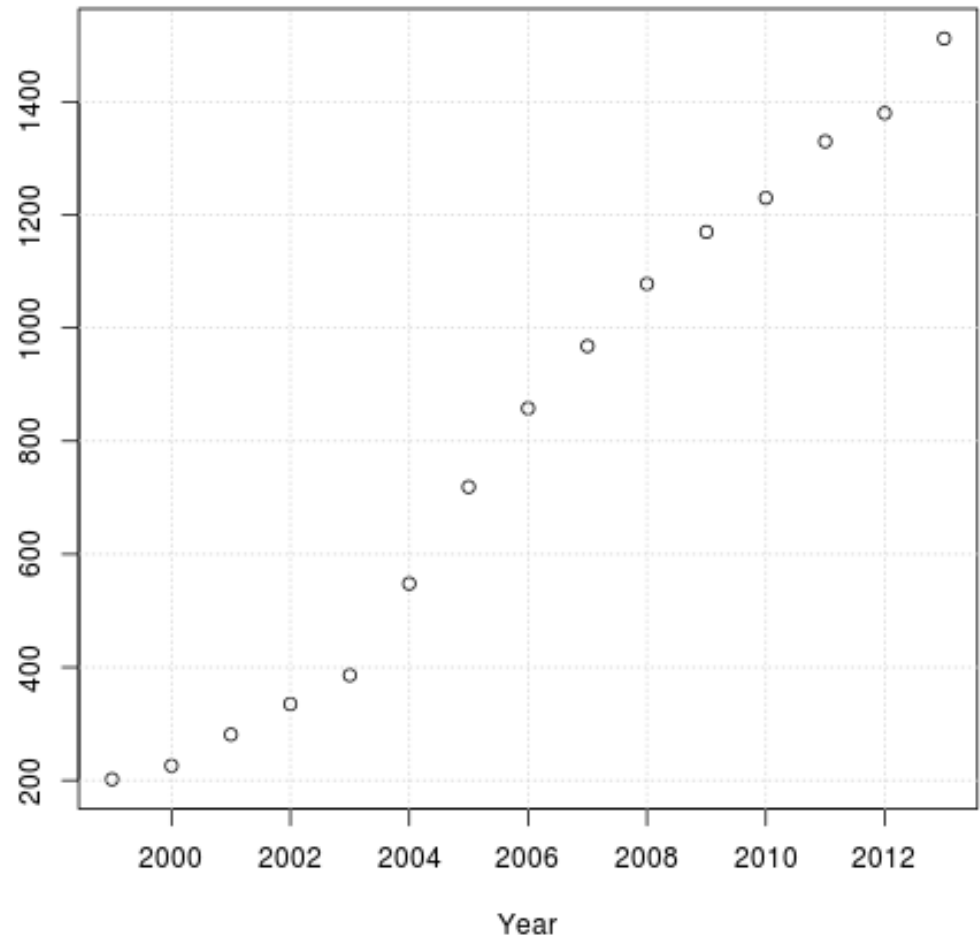


Lots of Resources

NAR 2014 – 1552 databases



Growth of Biological Databases



Sources of Data

- In repositories run by major service providers (e.g. NCBI, EBI, DDBJ)
- Group/Institute web sites
- On ftp servers
- In local project stores

- Few defined formats
- Inconsistent metadata



National Center for
Biotechnology Information (USA)



Tokyo, Japan



European Bioinformatics Institute

Cambridge, UK



PathPort
The Pathogen Portal Web Project



SRS

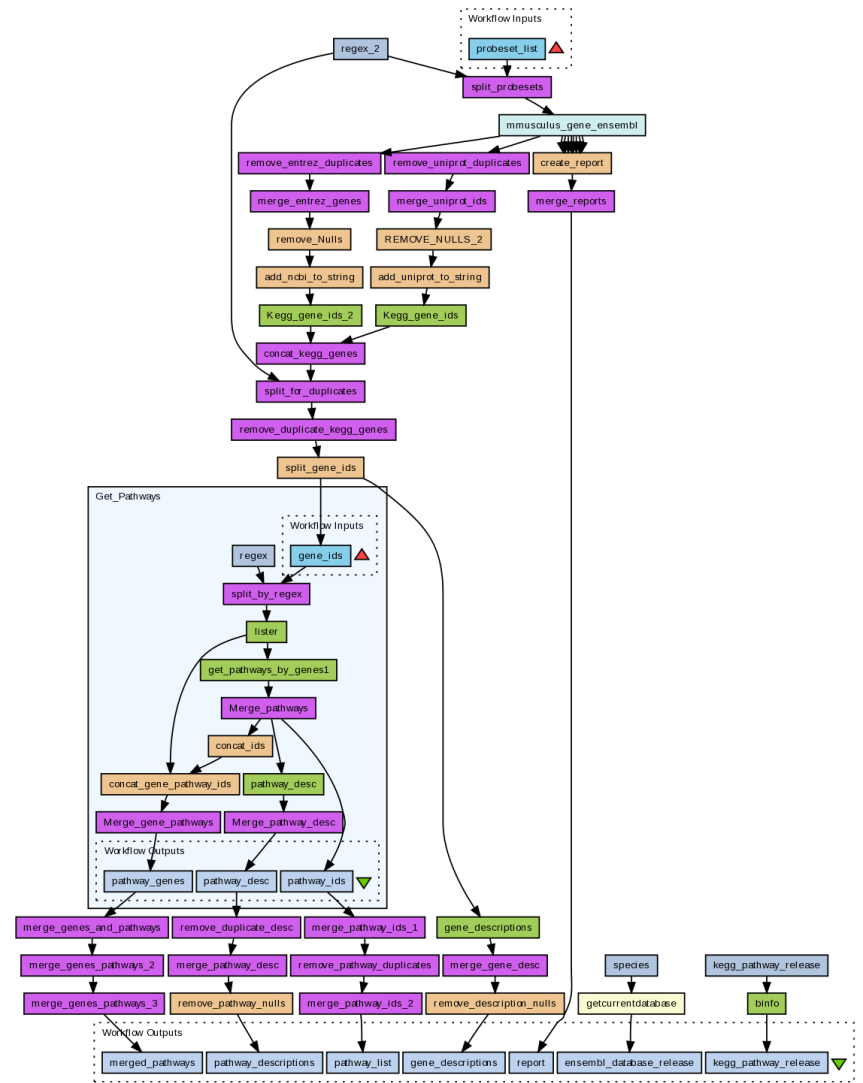


SeqHound



Workflow as a Solution

- Automating the process
- Sophisticated analysis pipelines
- A set of **services** to analyse or manage data (either local or remote)
- Data flow through services
- Control of service invocation
- Iteration
- Encapsulates experimental method



Promoting Reproducible Research

Informatics involves

- Complex, multi-step analyses
- Lots of data as inputs
- Lots of data generated
- Workflows encapsulate the methods used and their parameters and the input data
 - Easier to repeat
- Workflows allow you to visualise the methods
 - Easier to assess



Misconduct in science

An array of errors

Investigations into a case of alleged scientific misconduct have revealed numerous holes in the oversight of science and scientific publishing

Sep 10th 2011 | From the print edition



<http://www.economist.com/node/21528593>



Preventing Irreproducible Research

- Duke University, 2006 -Prediction of the course of a patient's lung cancer using expression arrays
- *Nature Medicine* - **12**, 1294 - 1300 (2006)
- Recommendations on different chemotherapies from cell cultures
- Clinical trials of personalised treatments
- Major advances in personalised medicine?



Preventing Irreproducible Research

- 3 different groups **could not reproduce** the results and **uncovered mistakes** in the original work
- Requested raw data and more information about all the methods
- Re-created whole analysis methods
- *Nature Medicine* - **12**, 1294 - 1300 (2006)
Published online: 22 October 2006; Corrected online: 27 October 2006; Corrected online: 21 July 2008; Retracted: 07 January 2011 | doi: 10.1038/nm1491



If the Analyses were done using Workflows.....

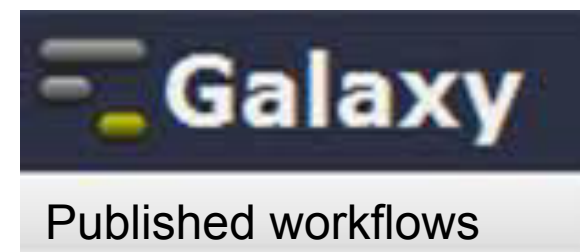
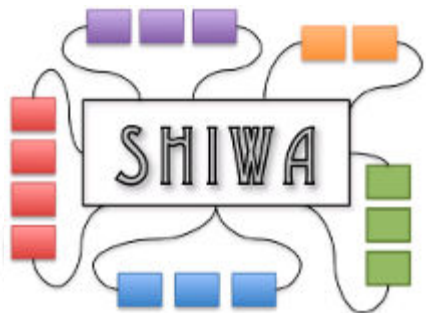
- Reviewers could re-run experiments and see results for themselves
- Methods could be properly examined and criticised
- Mistakes could be pinpointed
 - At what point in the analysis pipeline did it start to go wrong
 - What were the inputs and outputs for each step



Workflows are ...

- ... records and protocols (i.e. your *in silico* experimental method)
- ... know-how and intellectual property
- ... hard work to develop and get right
-re-usable methods (i.e. you can build on the work of others)

So why not share and re-use them



Workflows are ideal for...

- High throughput analysis
 - Transcriptomics, proteomics, next gen sequencing
- Data integration, data interoperation
- Data management
 - Model construction
 - Data format manipulation
 - Database population
 - Semantic integration
 - Visualisation



SCIENTIFIC WORKFLOW MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS



Example Workflow Systems



Penn State and Emory University James Taylor and Anton Nekrutenko

UK Consortium, led by Carole Goble, University of Manchester



Taverna

<http://www.taverna.org.uk/>



grid and cloud

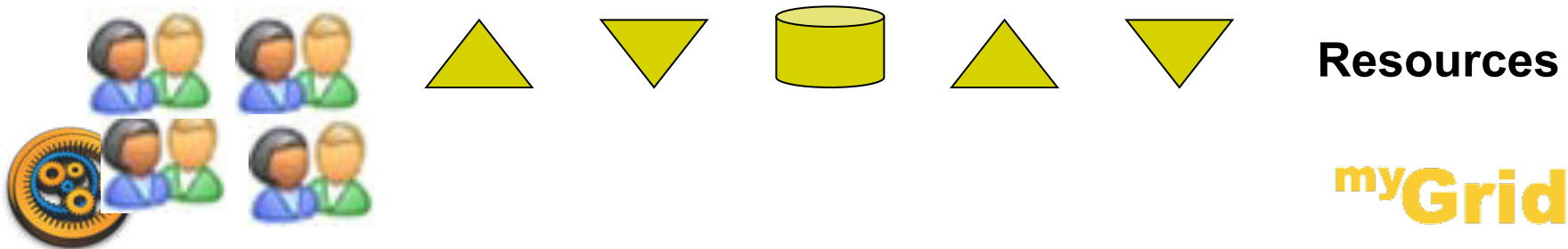
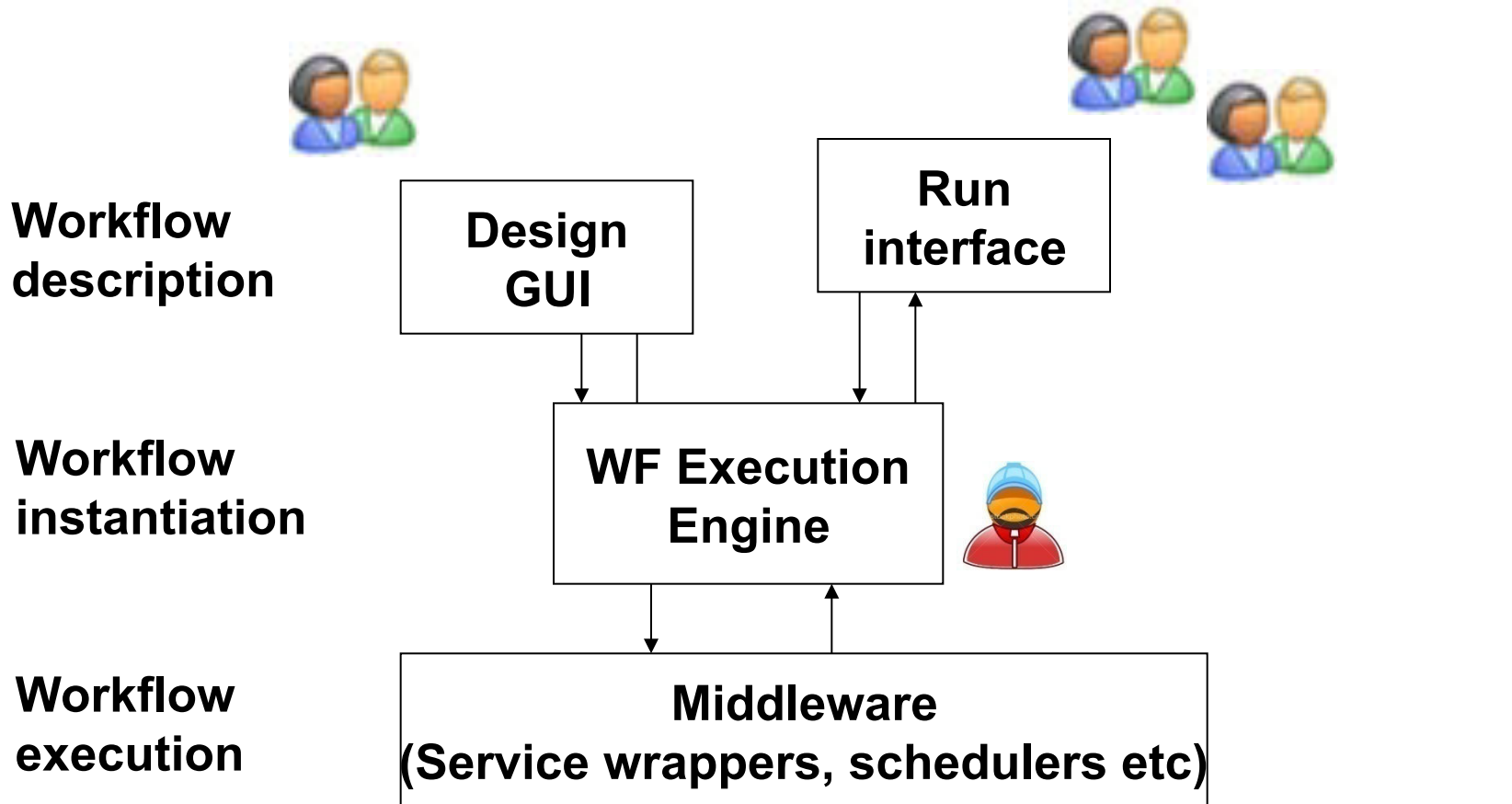
User Support Environment

<http://guse.hu/about/architecture/ws-pgrade>

Supported by the ER-Flow project



All Workflow Systems at 50,000 feet



Different Types of Workflows

- Two main types of workflows:

- Data flow workflows

- A task is invoked once its **expected data** has been received.
When complete, it passes any resulting data downstream

- Control flow workflows

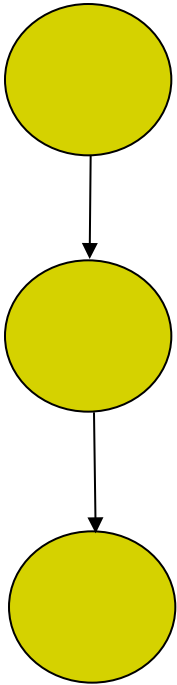
- A task is invoked once its **dependant tasks** have been completed

- Combination

- A task is invoked once its **expected data** has been received AND **dependant tasks** have been completed

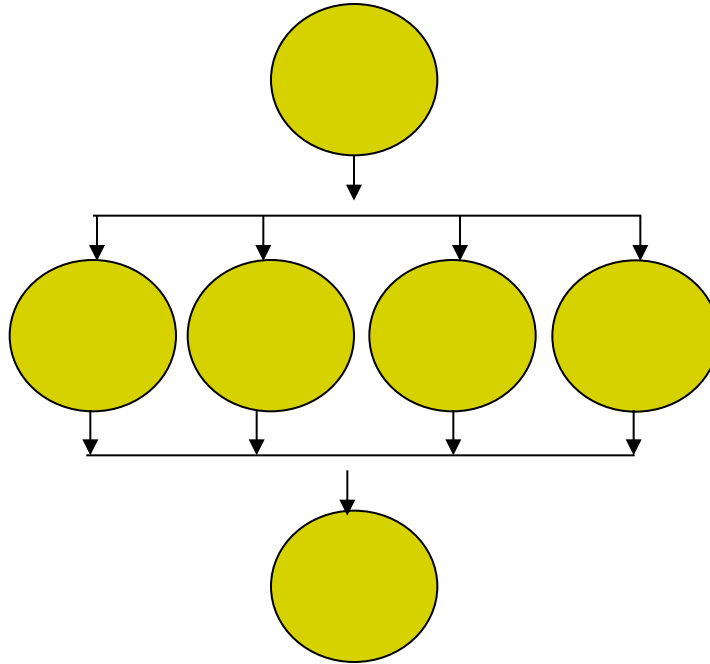


Possible Data Flow Structures



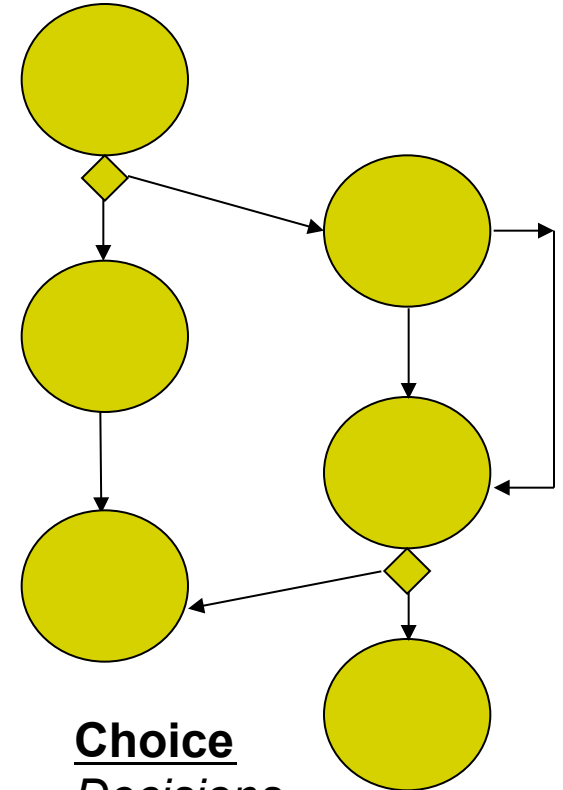
Sequence

Store intermediate results



Parallel

Apply multiple components to a set of data



Choice

Decisions at runtime

Iteration

Loop through datasets

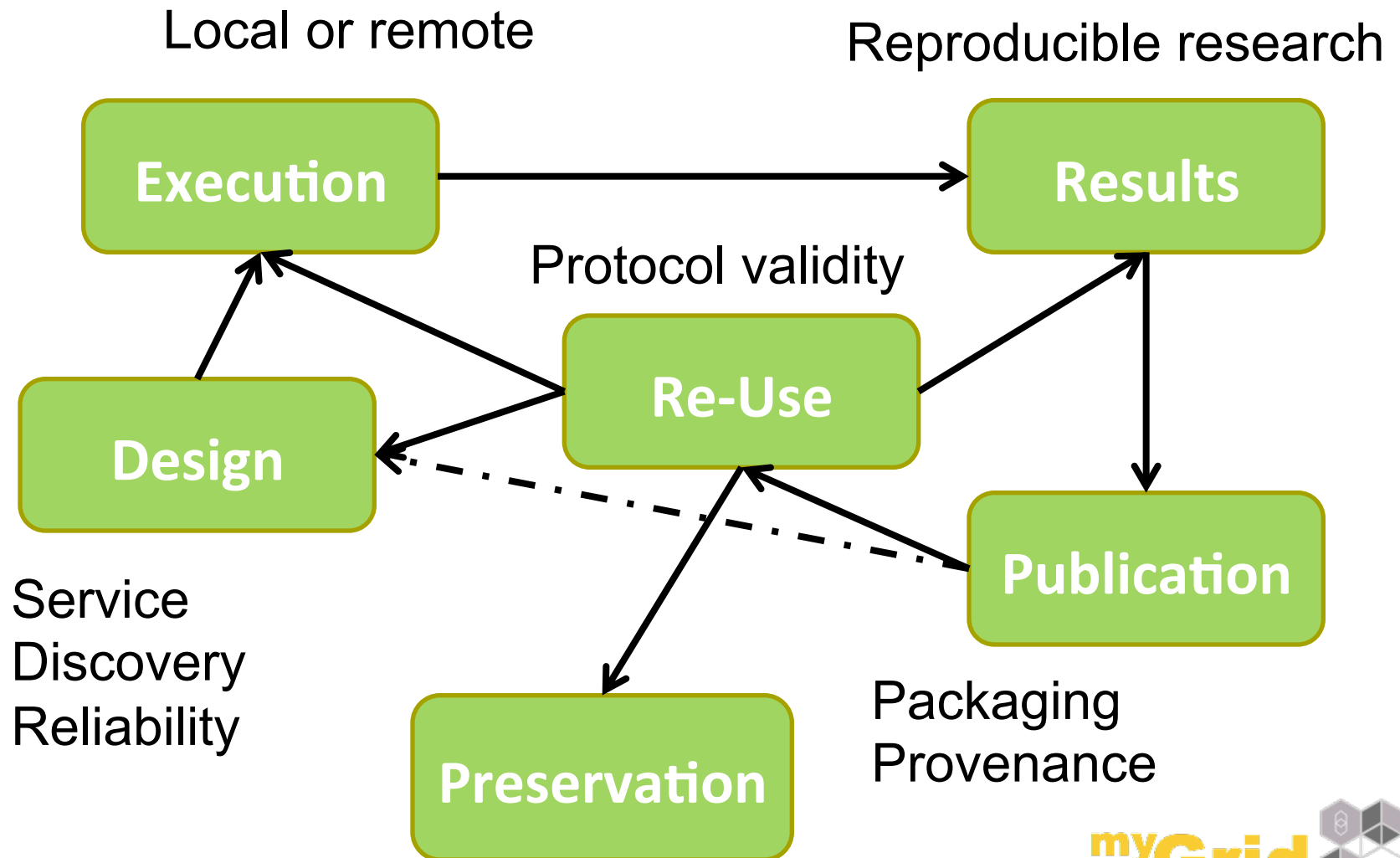


Workflow engine features

- Implicit iterations
- Parallelisation
 - Run as soon as data is available
- Streaming
 - Process partial iteration results early
- Retries, looping
 - For stability and conditional testing



Workflows Supporting *in silico* Science



SERVICES IN WORKFLOWS



Services in workflows

- Web Services
 - WSDL
 - REST
- Local services
- Grid Services
- Cloud Services
- Workflows
- Secure Services



Different Approaches to Service Connections

- Closed – connect to services installed locally to the server, designed specifically to work together
 - Less heterogeneity, but fewer services
 - Harder to add new services
 - Galaxy server, Knime
- Open – connect to ANY service regardless of type and structure, hosted anywhere in the world
 - More services, but more heterogeneity
 - Easy to add new services
 - Taverna, Kepler



Different Approaches to Service Connections

- On-the-fly service execution
 - Data and legacy code (i.e. Command-line application) are submitted to a workflow engine for execution
 - A language or interactive mechanism to describe the code that needs to be executed, its dependencies, and the arguments. The system in some cases also takes
 - Transports the data to the computing resource where the job is executed



Using and Making Galaxy Services

- Tools installed on the Galaxy server (admin)
- Create Galaxy tool definition file
- Create an entry in the Galaxy tool registry tool_conf.xml
- Finite, but compatible collection of resources
- Focus on genomics and NGS, but expanding
- Includes built-in genome browsers



Using Services with Taverna


- Open domain
- Web Services
 - WSDL or REST - 8000 +
- Local services
- Grid Services
- Cloud Services
- Secure Services
- Workflows
- Specialised services
 - BioMart , R

No installation required!



- Third party – we don't own them – we didn't build them
- All the major providers
 - NCBI, DDBJ, EBI ...
- Enforce NO common data model




Understanding how services work

BioCatalogue beta 
"The Life Science Web Service Registry"


[Getting Started](#) | [About Us](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [API Docs](#)

Sign up  | Sign in 

Search: [Go!](#) | [Home](#) | [Services](#) | [Register a Service](#) | [Providers](#) | [...](#)










Home » [SHARE](#) 

The BioCatalogue: providing a curated catalogue of Life Science Web Services

The BioCatalogue currently has **1730 services**, **130 service providers** and **445 members** 

Latest Activity

Last 7 days

-  [vasunun](#) joined the BioCatalogue
-  [Peter Taschner](#) added a publication annotation to the Soap Service of Service: [MutalyzerService](#)
-  [Peter Taschner](#) added a contact annotation to the Service Deployment of Service: [MutalyzerService](#)
-  [Peter Taschner](#) added a tag annotation to Service: [MutalyzerService](#)
-  [Peter Taschner](#) added a tag annotation to Service: [MutalyzerService](#)
-  [Peter Taschner](#) added a tag annotation to Service: [MutalyzerService](#)
-  [Peter Taschner](#) added an alternative name annotation to Service: [MutalyzerService](#)
-  [Peter Taschner](#) added a documentation url annotation to the Soap Service of Service: [MutalyzerService](#)
-  [Peter Taschner](#) added a description annotation to the Soap Service of Service:

Site Announcements

Have your say about BioCatalogue by taking part in the BioCatalogue users's survey
By [Franck Tanoh](#) (4 days ago)

BioCatalogue Maintenance - 7 December 2010 @ 9:30 am (GMT)
By [Eric E. Nzuobontane](#) (6 days ago)

BioCatalogue iPhone and iPad app now available to download for free
By [Franck Tanoh](#) (2 months ago)

The BioCatalogue Functional Unit paper presented at IEEE 2010 Fourth International Workshop on Scientific Workflows
By [Franck Tanoh](#) (2 months ago)




The National Cancer Research Institute (NCRI) joins forces with the BioCatalogue
By [Franck Tanoh](#) (4 months ago)

[More](#)

Latest Services

- [MutalyzerService](#)
- [dlfetch](#)
- [graphtools](#)
- [PRANK \(REST\)](#)
- [F&STM \(REST\)](#)

Our Partners



The EMBRACE Registry and the BioCatalogue have now been merged

DISCOVER

"Web Services are hard to find"

- Find the right Web Service
- Powerful search and filtering
- Information from providers and community

[More info](#)

REGISTER

"My Web Services are not visible"

- Easily register Web Services
- Instantly available to everyone
- Providers can advertise, describe and monitor their Services

[More info](#)

ANNOTATE

"Web Services are poorly described"

- Anyone can describe and annotate
- Ongoing expert curation
- Social curation by the community

[More info](#)

MONITOR

"Web Services are volatile"

- Services change and get outdated
- BioCatalogue monitors Services
- Monitors availability and reliability

[More info](#)

Using and Making WS-Pgrade Services

- On-the-fly service composition
- Execution of web services
- Execution of workflows



Data and Provenance



Data and Provenance

- Workflows can generate vast amount of data - how can we manage and track it?
- We need to manage data **AND** metadata **AND** experimental provenance
 - Input data
 - Parameter selection
 - Versions of the analysis tools used
 - Intermediate results
 - Intermediate parameter selection
 - Final results
 - What happened, what went wrong, how long it took



Data and Provenance

Scientists need to:

- Check back over past results, compare workflow runs and share workflow runs with colleagues
- Look at intermediate results when designing and debugging



Histories

History Options

Galaxy 101

7: Compare two Queries on data 6 and data 1

5 regions, format: bed, database: hg19
Info: join (GNU coreutils) 8.5
Copyright (C) 2010 Free Software
Foundation, Inc.
License GPLv3+: GNU GPL version 3 or
later

<<http://gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html>>.
This is free software: you are free to
change and redistribute it.
There is NO WARRANTY, to the exten

| [display at UCSC main](#) | [view in
GeneTrack](#) | [display at Ensembl Current](#)

1. Chrom	2. Start	3. End	4. Name
chr22	18834444	18835833	uc002zoc.2_cd
chr22	20456381	20461301	uc002zsd.3_cd
chr22	21738147	21743067	uc002zuq.3_cd
chr22	46652457	46659219	uc003bhh.2_cd
chr22	21480536	21481925	uc010gsw.1_cd

6: Select first on data 5

5: Sort on data 4

- What you did
- With what data
- In what order

- Automatically converts histories to workflows

Where Workflows are Executed



Where workflows are executed

- Local Execution
 - Client supports complex workflow design
 - Download and install client
 - Easy to access and use local data and tools
 - Easy to store results
- Server execution
 - Workflows executed through web interface or other client
 - Workflows run on server, grid or cloud
 - Better for larger, long running workflows
 - Better for scaling-up
 - Serves finished workflows to users



Intermediate users reuse and modify existing workflows

Spectrum of Users

The screenshot shows the 'myexperiment' website interface. The main content area displays a workflow entry titled 'Workflow Entry: Microarray CEL file to candidate pathways'. It includes a version history (Version: 2 (latest)), a description of the workflow, a diagram, and a 'Download' button. The right sidebar contains user information for 'Paul Fisher', including a profile picture, 'Sign Out' button, and sections for 'My Stuff', 'My Tags', and 'Popular Tags'.

The screenshot shows the Taverna Workbench 2.2.0 interface. On the left is the 'Service panel' with a list of available services like 'Beanshell', 'Rshell', and 'Spreadsheetimport'. On the right is the 'Workflow diagram' showing a complex flow of tasks and data connections between various services and input/output ports.

Advanced users design and build workflows (informaticians)

<http://www.myexperiment.org>

Load Data:

Run Workflow

The screenshot shows the Taverna Lite Workflow Designer interface. It features a 'Modules' list on the left, a central workspace with a workflow diagram, and a 'Properties' panel on the right. The workflow diagram shows three input modules (URL input, Simple input, Simple input) connected to a central task module. The 'Properties' panel shows the title 'BHPS workflow' and a 'Run Status' section indicating the workflow has not yet been run.

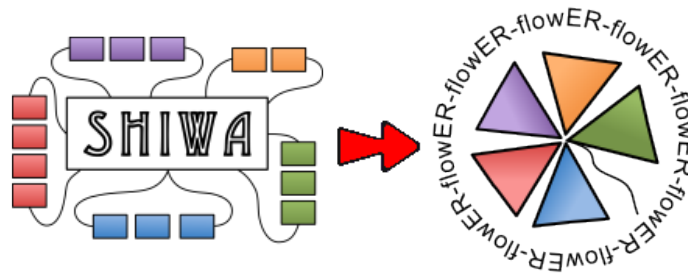
Others “replay” workflows through a web interface or Taverna Lite

Workflow Interoperability

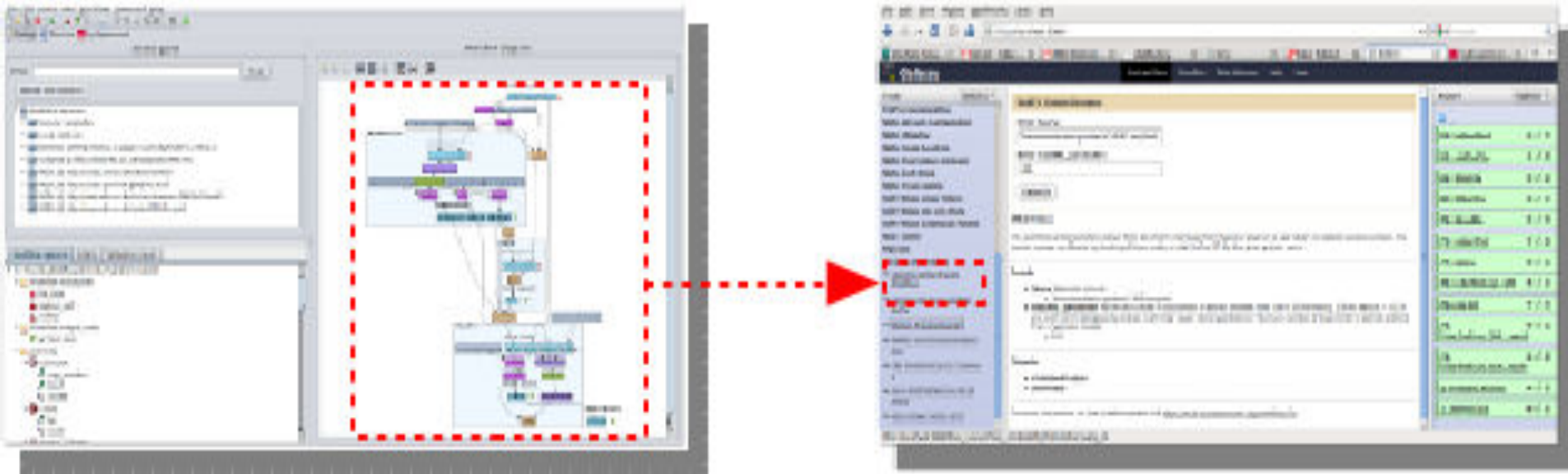


SHIWA: Sharing Interoperable Workflows

- Development of workflow interoperability technologies
 - Workflow development, testing and validation is a time consuming process and it requires specific expertise
 - Workflows developed for one workflow system not compatible with workflows of other systems



Converting Taverna Workflows into Galaxy Tools



Why?

- Connect the Taverna and Galaxy communities
- Combine the power of Taverna with the simplicity of Galaxy
- Any Taverna service can be made available to Galaxy users



Summary

- Informatics often relies on data integration and large-scale data analysis
- Workflows are a mechanism for linking together resources and analyses
- Automation
- Large data manipulation
- Promote reproducible research
- Easy to find and use successful analysis methods
- Allows scaling-up of computational resources on HPC, cloud and Grid



Galaxy

- <http://usegalaxy.org>

- Taverna

- <http://www.taverna.org.uk>

- WS-PGrade

- <http://www.myexperiment.org>

More Information

