

Scalable Data Management and Computable Framework for Large Scale Longitudinal Studies

Chris Allan^{1,2}, Gianmauro Cuccuru³, Simone Leo³, Luca Lianas³, Josh Moore²,
Maristella Pitzalis⁴, Serena Sanna⁴, Ilenia Zara³, Jason Swedlow^{1,2}, Gianluigi Zanetti³

¹Wellcome Trust Centre for Gene Regulation and Expression, College of Life Sciences, University of
Dundee, Dundee, Scotland, UK. ²Glencoe Software Inc., Seattle, Washington, USA. ³CRS4, Pula, Italy.

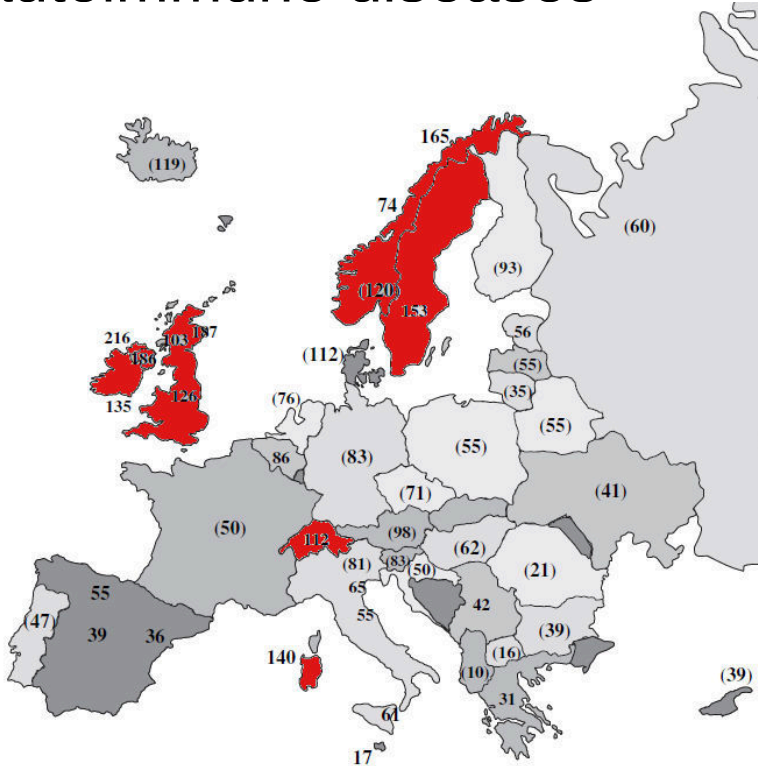
⁴Istituto Ricerca Genetica e Biomedica – CNR, Monserrato, Italy.

- Center for Research, Development, and Advanced Studies in Sardinia
- Interdisciplinary research center focused on computational sciences
- Located in the POLARIS Science and Technology Park (Pula, Sardinia, Italy)
- Operational since 1992
- RTD staff of ~180 people



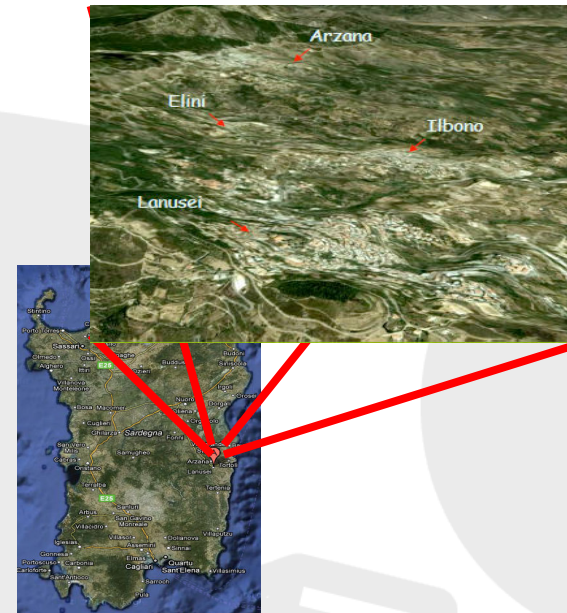
CRS4
POLARIS Edificio 1
C.P. 25
09010 Pula (CA), ITALY
www.crs4.it

CRS4 cooperates with CNR-IRGB on study on autoimmune diseases



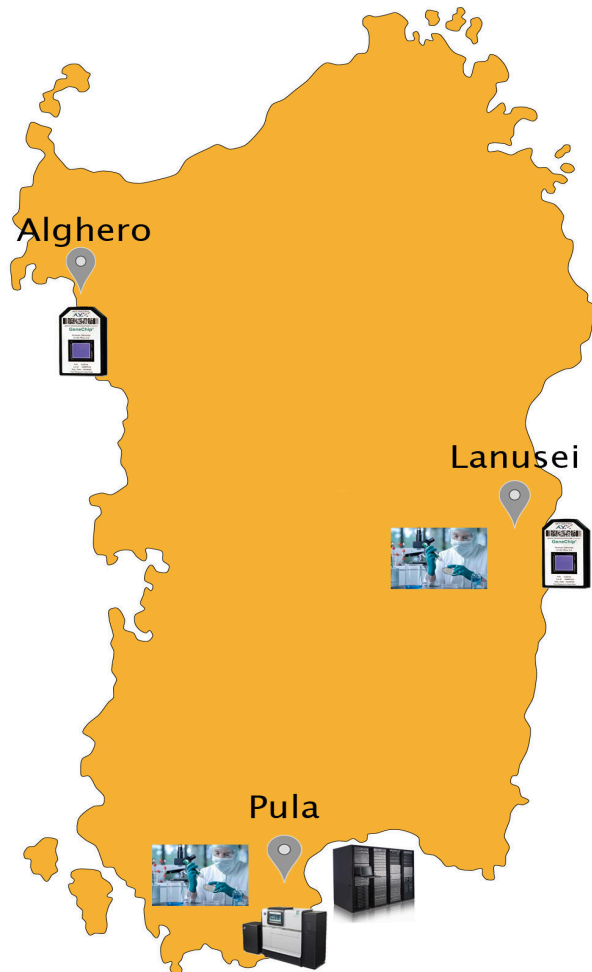
Autoimmune diseases such as type I diabetes and MS have in Sardinia one of the highest incidences worldwide

CRS4 cooperates with CNR-IRGB and NIH-NIA on large scale study on longevity



<http://sardinia.nia.nih.gov/>

Scale of the Problem



- Separate labs that need access to the same data and computational resources
- Geographically distributed biosamples
 - Data generated and used by multiple sites
 - Need to provide a global namespace with fast network data transfer
 - Multiple genomic technologies
 - Multiple clinical data sources
 - Need to document actions applied to the data
 - Users with varying computing skills need different tools
 - Traditional, queue-based
 - Hadoop-based
 - Database queries

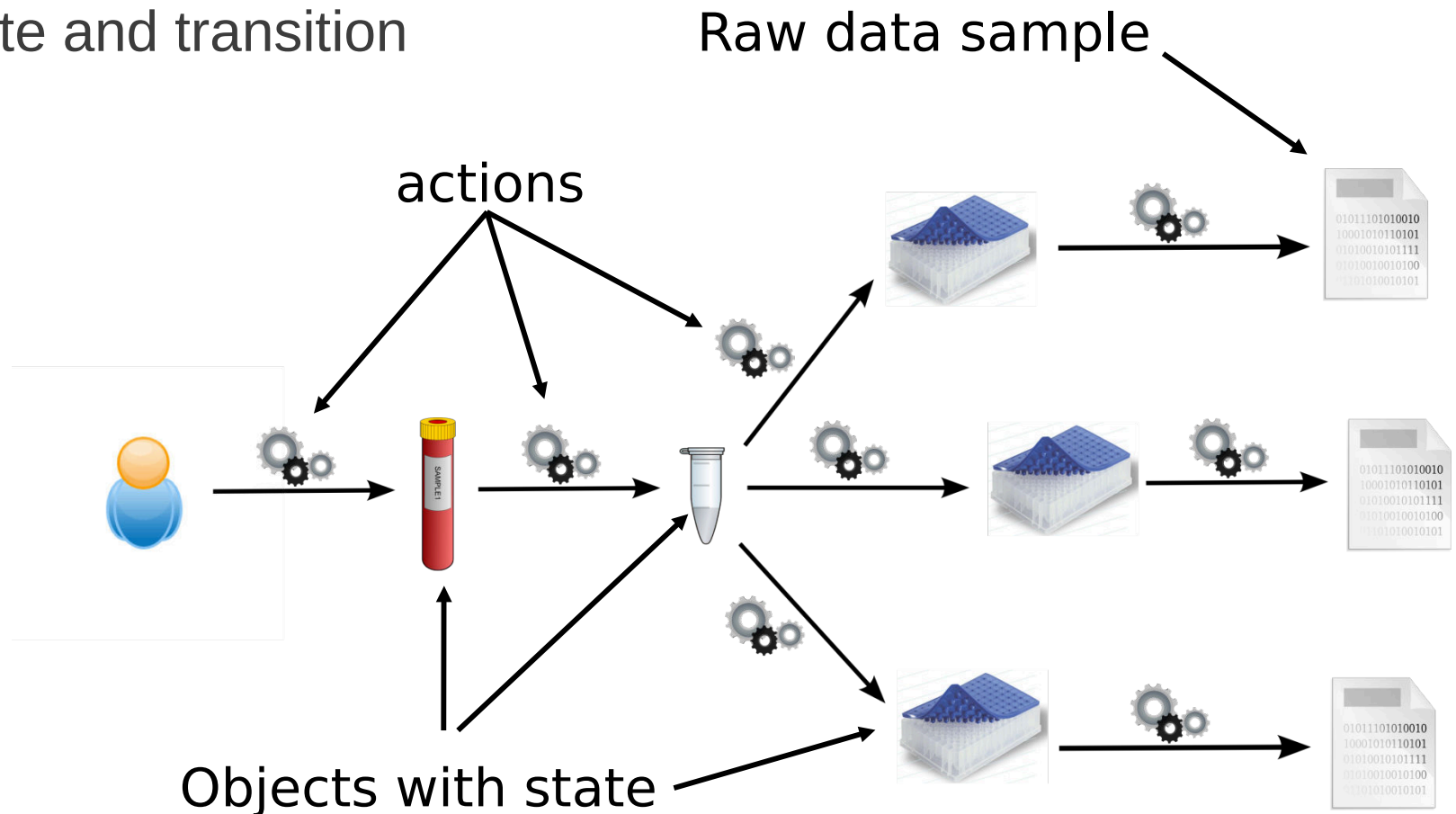
Scale of the Problem

- ~16,500 volunteers
- ~28,200 biological samples
- Genotyping
 - 2 different vendors: Affymetrix and Illumina
 - 4 different chips:
 - Illumina ImmunoChip, 10,000 genotypes
 - Illumina OmniExpress, 3,000 genotypes
 - Illumina Exome chip, 5,000 genotypes
 - Affymetrix Genome-Wide Human SNP Array 6.0, 7,000 genotypes
- Sequencing
 - 3 Illumina HiSeq2000 (the largest sequencing center in Italy)
 - capable to produce more than 10 TB/month
 - Sequenced ~2,800 samples: 85% whole-genome resequencing, rest RNA and Exome

Details of the Problem

We have to model:

- Different data type
- Objects state and transition



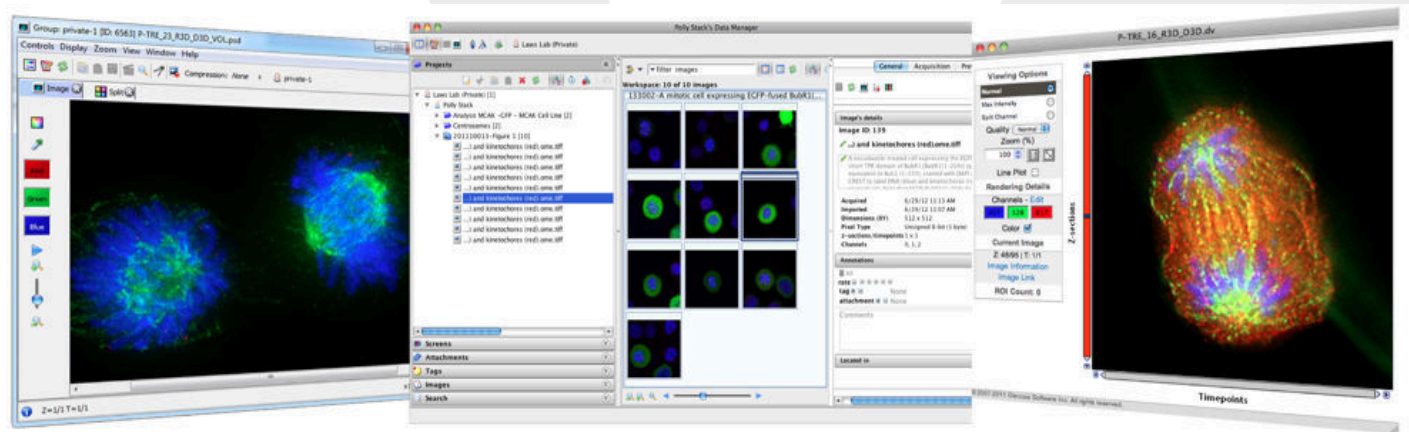
Omero as our Knowledge Base

OMERO is a flexible, client-server, model-driven data management platform for experimental biology

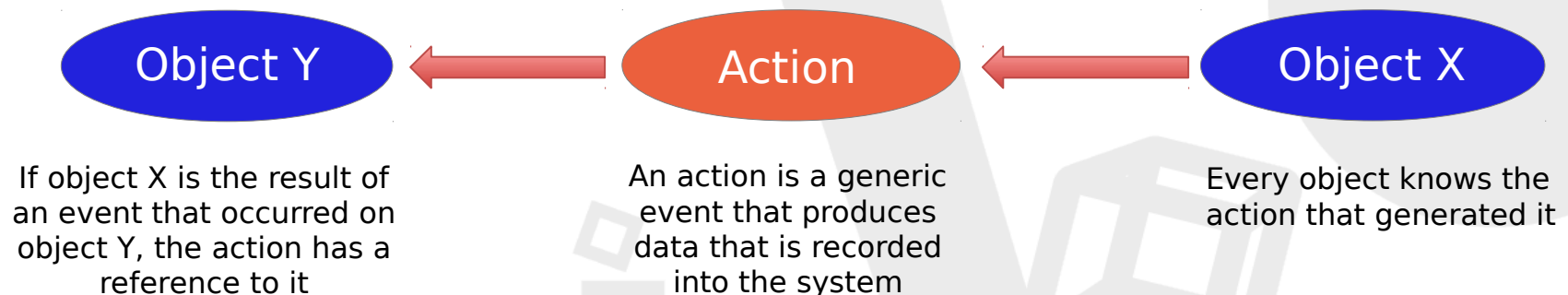
- includes several storage mechanisms
- middleware to facilitate access to stored data through API
- client applications for biological image data management
- Developed with bioimages in mind but not limited to those, by the Open Microscopy Environment Consortium (University of Dundee, Glencoe Software, Harvard Medical School, LOCI)



<http://openmicroscopy.org>



- OMERO.biobank is our specialization to support large-scale high-resolution genome-wide association studies
 - Extends OMERO with customized models and data structures for biomedical data handling
 - Genotyping data, clinical records, vessels, ...
 - network of objects connected by actions
 - can track transformations performed on the data
 - provides a rich API and a software suite with tools for data input and queries



Specialized computational tools

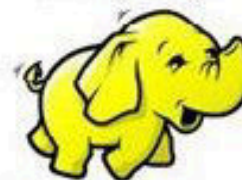
- We developed specialized Hadoop tools to compute on large dataset, for instance:
 - Seal
 - is a suite of distributed applications for aligning short DNA reads, and manipulating and analyzing short read alignments.
 - made to scale well in the amount of computing nodes available and the amount of the data to process
 - <http://biadoop-seal.sourceforge.net/>

- Programmatic/script interface too complex for casual user
- Users are in different locations:
 - From the same island to different continents
- Depth of operation tracking
- Need to access multiple computing environments
 - Batch system
 - Hadoop
 - largest cluster 3200 cores, uses an 'elastic' hadoop-grid-engine resource allocation scheme
 - Different filesystems

Our Galaxy "ecosystem"

 **OMERO.biobank**

Hadoop



Integrated Rule-Oriented Data System


 **Galaxy**



Traditional
batch system



Simplify interaction with Omero.biobank


Galaxy / CRS4 IRGB

Analyze Data
Workflow
Shared Data
Visualization
Admin
Help
User

Tools
Options ▼

TOOL SHED

VL Import

VL Tools

- [VLT.all_enrollments](#) Retrieve all enrollments codes from Omero server
- [VLT.build_miniped](#) Build a reduced ped file from Omero server
- [VLT.plate_data_samples](#) Retrieve wells and connected data samples related to a known plate
- [VLT.gstudio_datasheet](#) Build a Genome Studio datasheet for the given plate
- [VLT.select_sub_group](#) Selects groups of individuals.
- [VLT.global_stats](#) Provide global statistics for a given study.
- [VLT.map_vid](#) Map labels of objects known to Omero/VL to their VID
- [VLT.check_merge_individuals](#) Verify data that will be passed to

VLT.select_sub_group (version 1.0.0)

study label:

Use all individuals ▼

Select only between individuals enrolled in this study. See below.

Group label:

fake-group

the new group (it is actually a study) label

total number of individuals requested:

100

It will be cut to the largest number of individuals satisfying the required constraints.

Male fraction:

0.5

The fraction of male individuals.

Phenotypic profile (diagnosis, for the time being):

Type 1 Diabetes ▼

Control fraction:

0.5

The fraction of control individuals.

Required datasample type:

none ▼

Short-term vs Long-term memory

- Typical workflows have several steps and may fail
- Don't want to commit intermediate data to repository
- Solution:
 - Short-term memory → Galaxy history
 - Tracks steps while the computation is running
 - Permits to iteratively build the “perfect protocol”
 - Long term memory → OMERO.biobank
 - Record history in OMERO.biobank
- Working in progress
 - We currently have only API support, no integrated Galaxy UI

iRODS as a Decoupling System

- IRODS is an integrated Rule-Oriented Data-management System (<http://www.irods.org>, developed by DICE UNC)
 - transfers data across the network in an integrated manner (parallel threads for large files)
 - uses unique logical names that are separate from the names as stored physically, providing a global 'logical name-space'
 - Rules to automatically treat data on insertion and retrieval
 - Ability to tag data sets (e.g., sample id, data format)
 - Web based and command line interfaces
- We use IRODS as a front end to our heterogeneous storage system (about 4.5PB in various boxes)

- Manual import
 - (I)put data on iRODS
 - Retrieve them through the Galaxy upload form
- Automatic import
 - Registering data in a specific iRODS collection will trigger a Galaxy library upload
 - e.g., sequencing run completion triggers an iRODS rule that upload data into a Galaxy library
 - In principle, it could also run galaxy workflows on the data

Example of a specialized Galaxy "ecosystem"

- OMERO.Biobank as knowledge base
- iRODS as decoupling systems
- Hadoop as computational workhorse

Future work:

- automated, data-tracking, scalable HTSeq pipeline
 - based on omero.biobank, irods, galaxy API and UI
- histories export to Omero.biobank as a integrated tool in Galaxy

Thank you for your
time !

A large, faint, light gray graphic is visible in the background. It appears to be a stylized, abstract representation of a person or a structure, possibly a robot or a stylized human figure, with a large circular head and a long, curved neck. There are also some smaller, faint geometric shapes scattered around the main figure.

Why Hadoop?

- Hadoop provides a framework for easy development of distributed and robust applications
- Both are necessary for scalability
 - More machines = more failures
 - More jobs = more failures
- A robust system is required to sustain a good throughput
- Hadoop provides a resilient mechanism that resists many hardware failures and transient cluster conditions

GPFS benchmark

- Direct Data networks sfa10k
- 5.4 PB raw / 4.3 PB raid6
- GPFS filesystems
- 352 hosts benchmark:
 - random read = 17438042.89 KB/sec
 - random write = 27511029.63 KB/sec
 - more than 15GB/sec

