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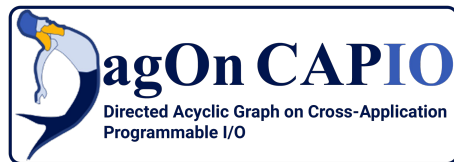
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One workflow to rule them all: introducing DAGonStar, yet another workflow engine for Python developers, designed for HPC and AI.

Prof. Raffaele Montella

University of Naples "Parthenope"



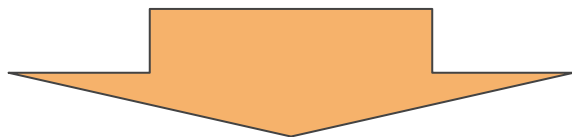
Università degli Studi
di Napoli Parthenope



Introduction and motivation

Running unattended scientific workflow applications

- **Routinary:** running each time initial data are available
- **On demand:** footprint for external software components execution.
- **Orchestrating:** external software (diverse and different, producing and consuming large files -- or group of files).
- **Failsafe:** failure have not to be an issue: even partially produced outputs have to be enough to continue the production.
- **Replicability, reproducibility, reusability, FAIRness:** not just buzzword, but rocksolid cornerstones.



- **Co-design:** from the application requirements to the middleware features and vice versa.



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Wednesday, November 12, 2025

f in



▼ Main Menu



12-11-2025 17:00 UTC
Golfo Di Napoli



Wednesday, November 12, 2025

f in



▼ Main Menu

Baia Di Napoli

Forecast	T °C	Wind (kn)	Rain (mm)	Pressure (h)
Wednesday, November-12	15 17.4	SE 145°	4.3 0	1023.9
Thursday, November-13	14.5 17.2	S 183°	3.4 0	1026.9
Friday, November-14	14.3 16.8	SSE 147°	3.1 0	1024.9
Saturday, November-15	14.5 17.6	ESE 118°	4.5 0	1021.1
Sunday, November-16	16.2 18.5	SE 141°	6.2 0.1	1017
Monday, November-17	17.9 19.5	SSE 166°	13.5 3.6	1009.4

Date and time (UTC):

11/12/2025

-1d -1h 00 06 17 12 18 +1h +1d

Product:

High resolution weather forecast 7 days



Wednesday, November 12, 2025

f in



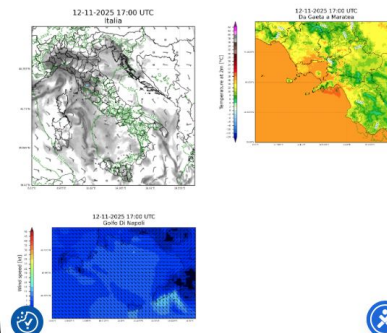
▼ Main Menu

Models

Date: 11/12/2025

Time UTC: -1d -1h 00 06 17 12 18 +1h +1d

Weather Research and Forecasting (WRF) [link](#)

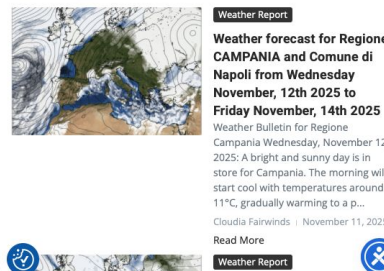


Wednesday, November 12, 2025

f in



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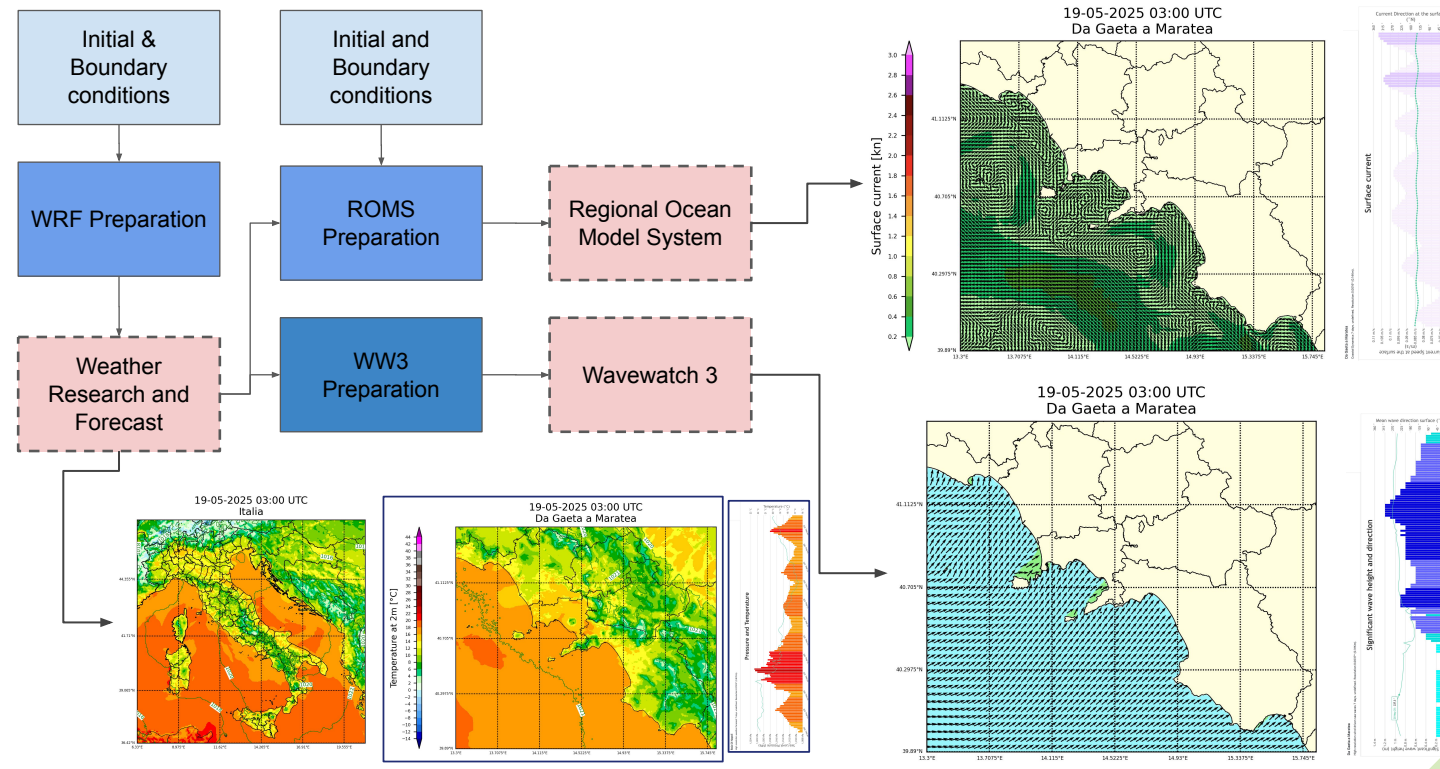
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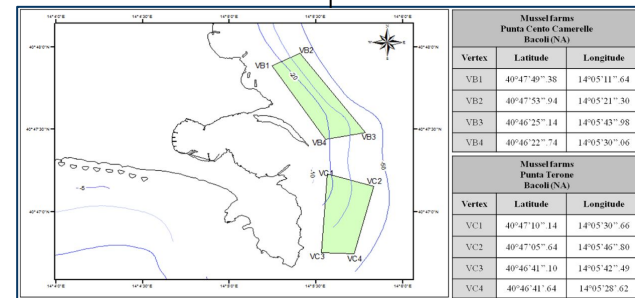
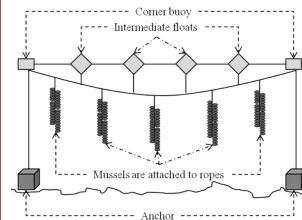
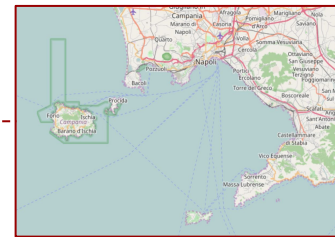
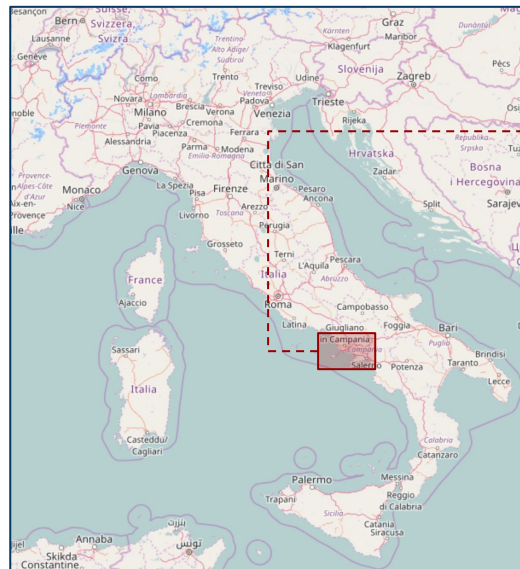
Predicting bacteria contamination in farmed mussels

Mussels farming is an outstanding business cornerstone in the most part of Italian coastal regions.

MARKET

- Companies: 263(d)/886(r)
- Tons: ~64235 ($\frac{2}{3}$ EU prod - ISPRA)
- Euro/Kg: ~1.75 (average)
- ~112M€ (2013, Italy)

! Making predictions about the pollutant concentration in mussel farms areas in order to limit human diseases.



Mussel farms Punta Centro Camerelle Bacoli (NA)		
Vertex	Latitude	Longitude
VB1	40°47'49" 38	14°05'11" 64
VB2	40°47'53" 94	14°05'21" 30
VB3	40°46'25" 14	14°05'43" 98
VB4	40°46'22" 74	14°05'30" 06

Mussel farms Punta Tarone Bacoli (NA)		
Vertex	Latitude	Longitude
VC1	40°47'10" 14	14°05'30" 66
VC2	40°47'05" 64	14°05'46" 80
VC3	40°46'41" 10	14°05'42" 49
VC4	40°46'41" 64	14°05'28" 62



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Predicting bacteria contamination in farmed mussels

- Use case: Campania – Italy, *Mytilus galloprovincialis*
- Farming banks types: Artificial, Natural

Microbiological	Escherichia coli
	Salmonella
Chemical	Mercury
	Lead

Ecotoxicological	Complesso DSP
	Yessotossine
	Azaspiracides
	ASP
	PSP
	Radioactive nuclides



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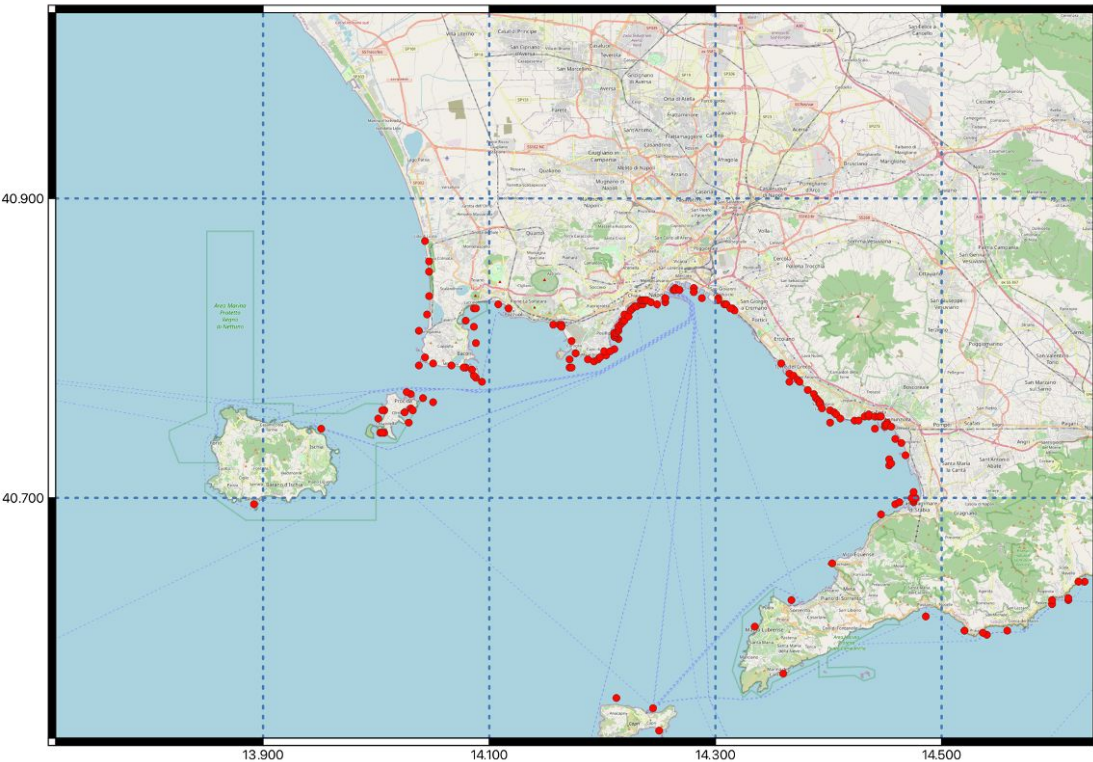
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Study domain: the Campania Region, South of Italy



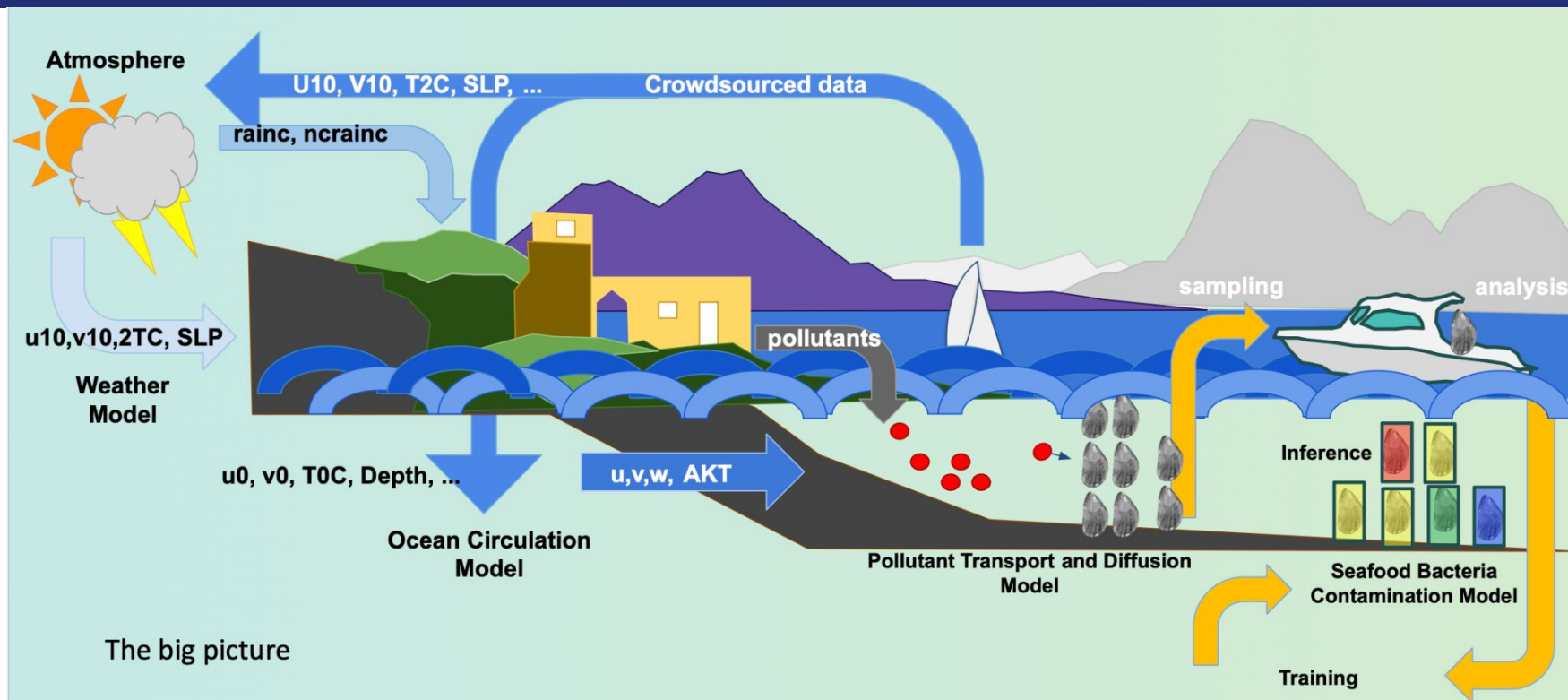
Faecal contamination
may arise from a variety of sources:

- Sewage discharges (continuous or discontinuous)
- Farmed animals
- Wildlife shipping.

Transported and diffused by sea currents.

Challenges:
High-resolution weather forecasts
Accurate bathymetric model
High-resolution numerical model
Initial conditions.

The big picture



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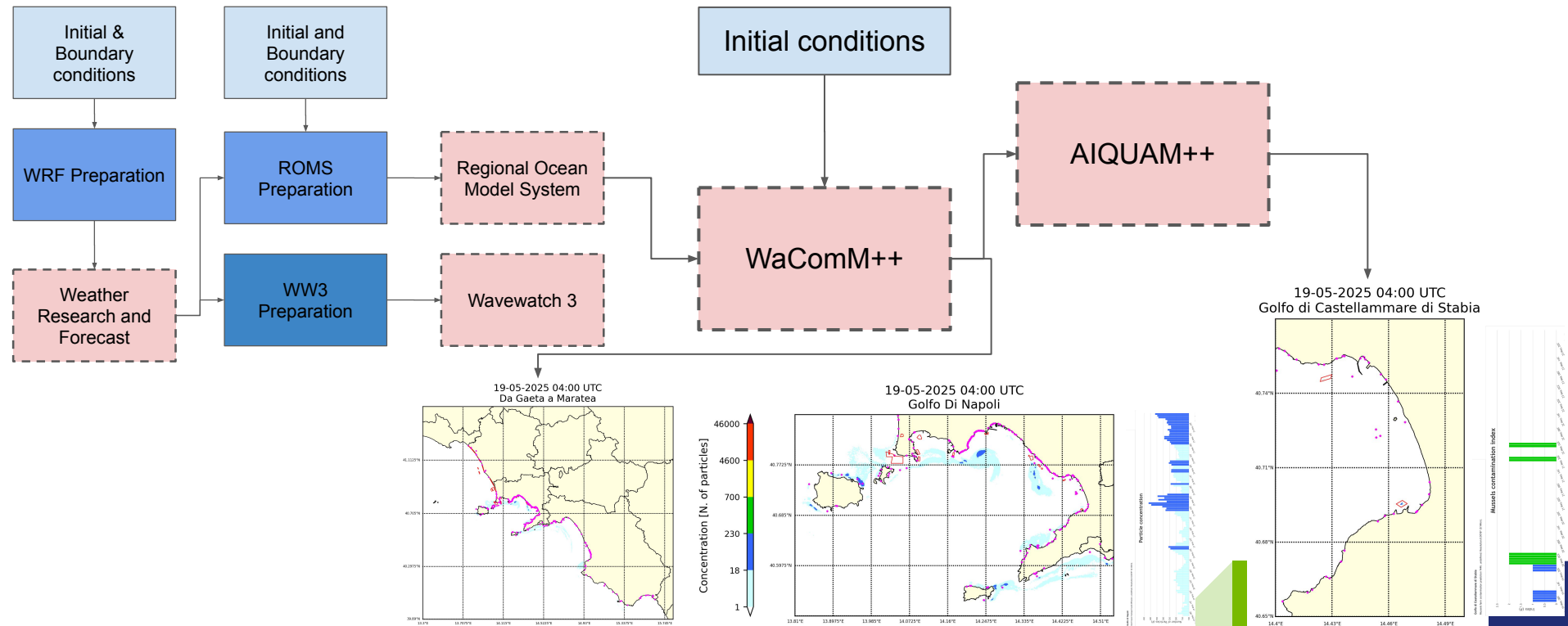
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SmokeTracer (on demand)

<https://smoketracer.uniparthenope.it/>



A numerical model-based on demand workflow HPC application to forecast the smoke plume pattern during a wildfire



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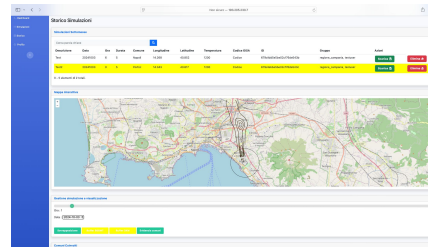
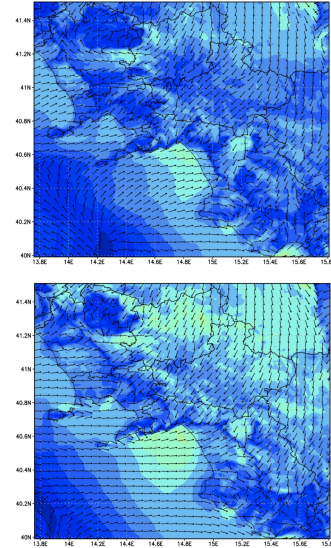
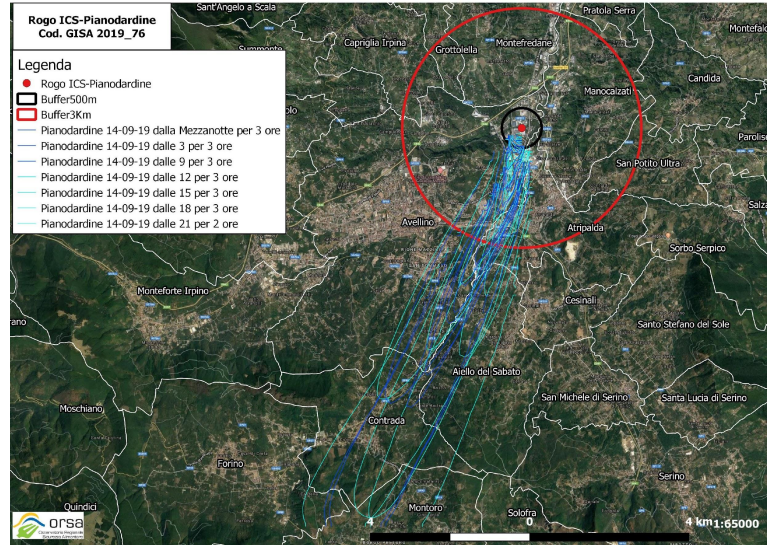
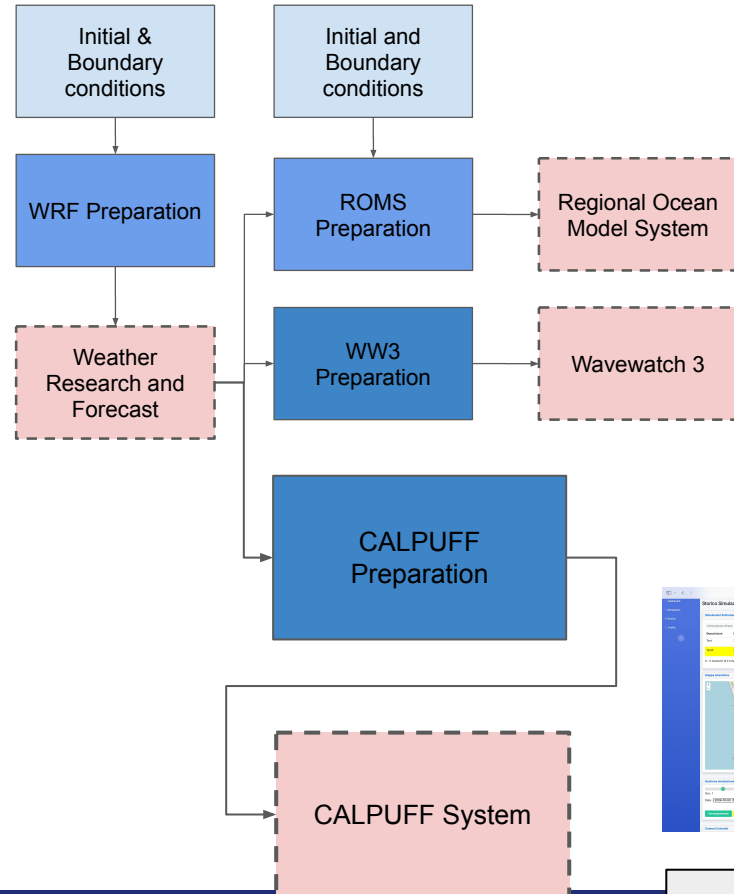


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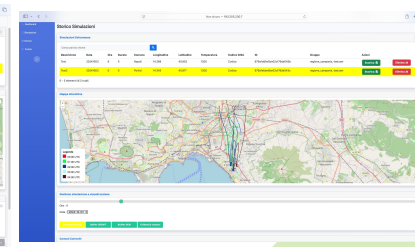


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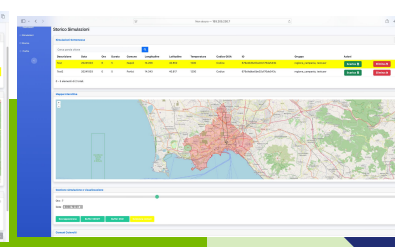
SmokeTracer (on demand)



Buffer 500 mt - 3 km



Simulation evolution



Highlights municipalities

Let me to introduce the hero of the day...



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Direct Acyclic Graphs as parallel jobs on anything

DAGonStar is a production-oriented workflow engine:

- **Integrated** in the Python environment.
- **Minimal** footprint for external software components execution.
- **Avoiding** any workflow engine **centered data management**.
- **Checkpoints** for failover and execution recovery.
- **Straightforward** definition of tasks:
 - Python scripts.
 - Web interaction.
 - External software components.
- **Execution sites independence:**
 - Local / scheduler (SLURM).
 - Containers (Docker).
 - Clouds (AWS, OpenStack, DigitalOcean).

<https://github.com/dagonstar/>



Named after the Phoenician god-fish *Dagon* known by ancient Greeks as *Triton*.

NB: The Star (*) symbol is the wildcard for **anything**.

Architecture

Executors

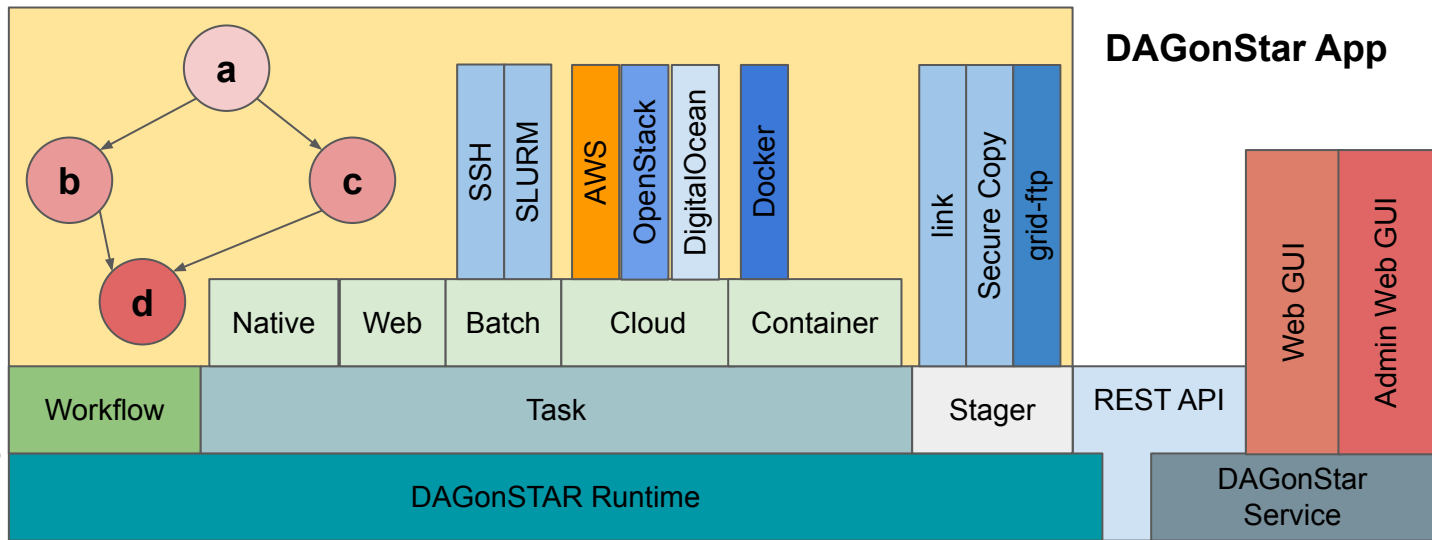
Task Flow / Data Flow

Engine

On-Prem Resources

Cloud Resources

Containerized Resources



DAGonStar App

Management

Monitoring



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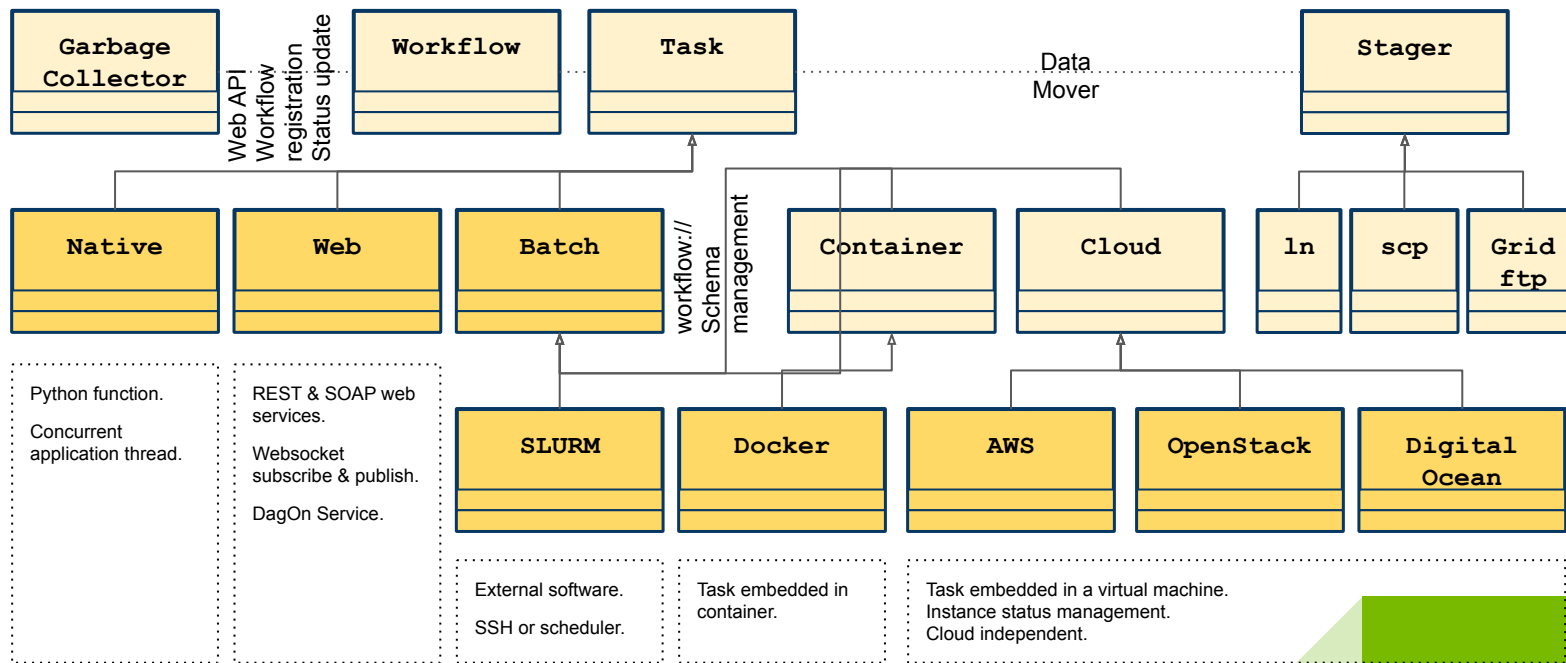


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Components



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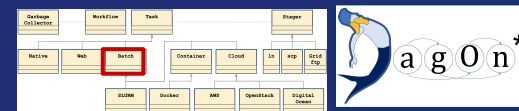


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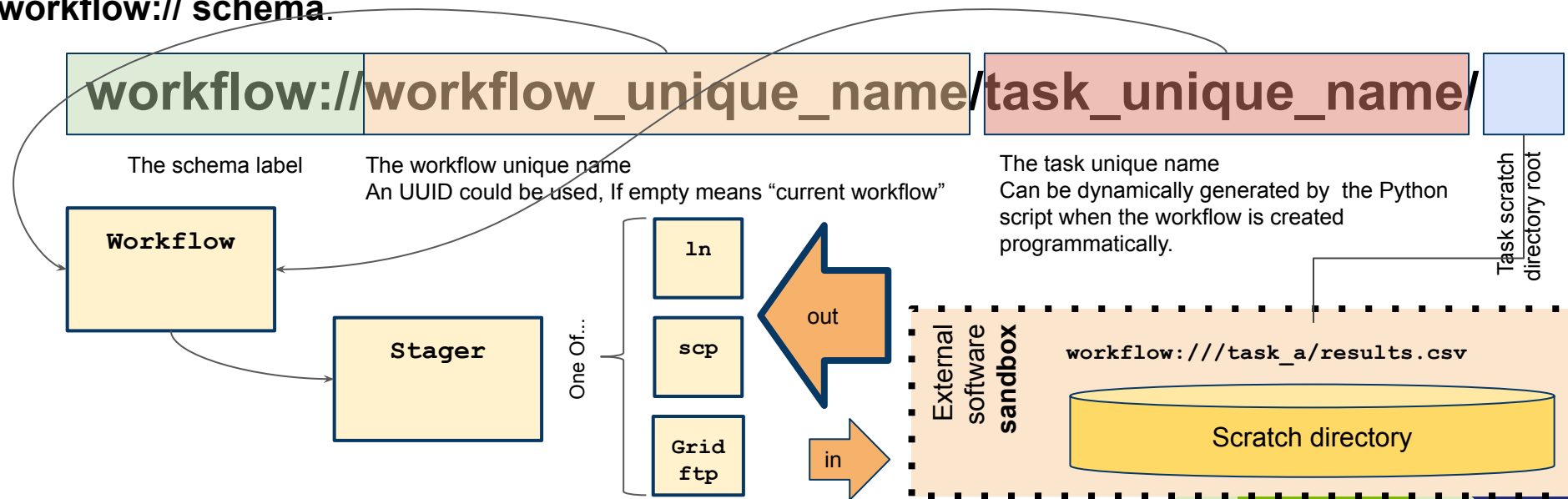


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workflow:// schema



The **Batch** component takes charge of the management of data dependencies using the **workflow:// schema**.



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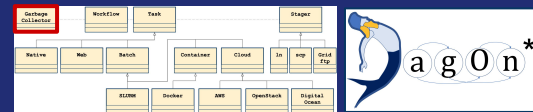
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Garbage Collector



- Tracks the storage and computational resources allocated during tasks execution.
- Proceeds to dispose them when no longer needed.

Make
Dependencies

```
For each batch task in the <workflow> ...  
  For each workflow://<workflow>/<task>/ reference in the task command line ...  
    Increment the number of reference to <task>
```

On Task
Finish

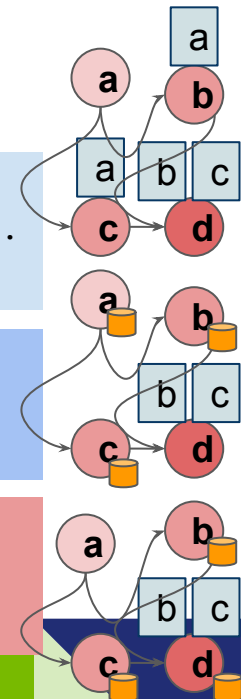
```
For each workflow://<workflow>/<task>/ reference in the task command line ...  
  Decrement the number of reference to <task>  
  If the number of reference to <task> is 0, clean up the involved resource
```

Clean Up

Local, remote or shared file system:
Remove the scratch directory.

Virtual machine instance:
Stop the instance.

Container:
Stop the container.



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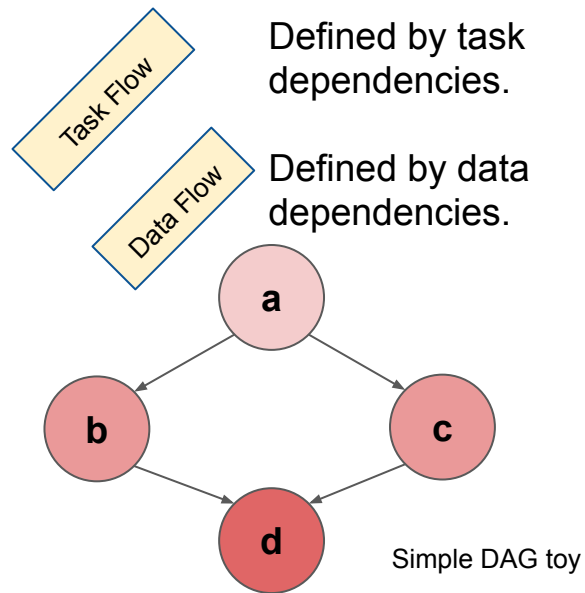
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Python Script: "DAGOnStar Hello World App"

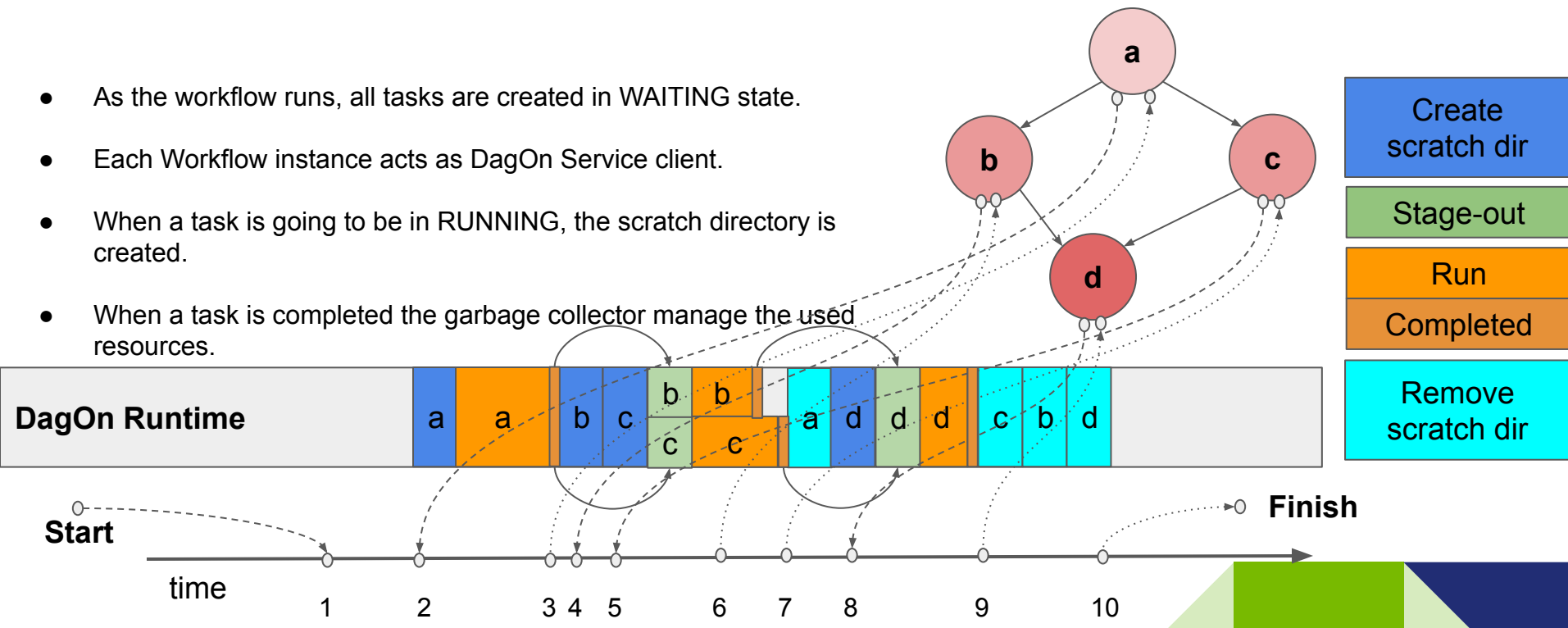
```
import dagon
...
workflow=Workflow("myapp", settings)
workflow.add_task(new Task("a", "..."))
workflow.add_task(new Task("b", "workflow:///a"))
workflow.add_task(new Task("c", "workflow:///a"))
workflow.add_task(new Task("d", "workflow:///b workflow:///c"))
workflow.run()
sys.exit(0)
```

- Dealing with actual data files instead of high-level defined datasets.
- Performing backward data references in order to create dependencies.
- Having more Workflow instances in the same Python application.



Application Lifecycle

- As the workflow runs, all tasks are created in WAITING state.
- Each Workflow instance acts as DagOn Service client.
- When a task is going to be in RUNNING, the scratch directory is created.
- When a task is completed the garbage collector manage the used resources.



It's tutorial time!



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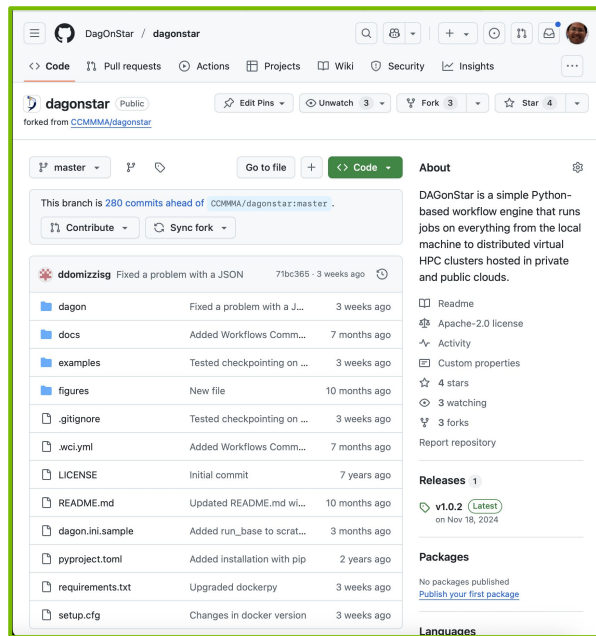


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How to install

```
git clone https://github.com/DagOnStar/dagonstar.git
cd dagonstar
python3 -m venv venv
. venv/bin/activate
pip install -r requirements.txt
export PYTHONPATH=$PWD:$PYTHONPATH
```

Demo

```
cp dagon.ini.sample examples/dagon.ini
cd examples/dataflow/batch
python dataflow-demo.py
```

<https://github.com/dagonstar>



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```
from dagon import Workflow
from dagon.task import DagonTask, TaskType
```

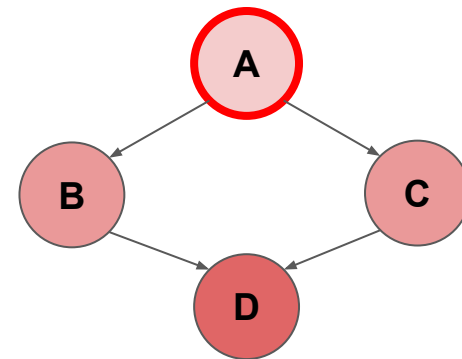
```
# Check if this is the main
```

```
if __name__ == '__main__':
```

```
    # Create the orchestration workflow
    workflow=Workflow("DataFlow-Demo")
```

```
    # The task a
```

```
    taskA = DagonTask(TaskType.BATCH, "A", "mkdir output; hostname > output/f1.txt")
```



<https://github.com/DagOnStar/dagonstar/tree/master/examples/dataflow/batch>



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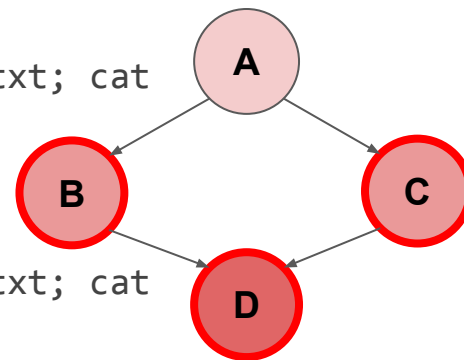


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```
# The task b
taskB = DagonTask(TaskType.BATCH, "B", "echo $RANDOM > f2.txt; cat
workflow:///A/output/f1.txt >> f2.txt")

# The task c
taskC = DagonTask(TaskType.BATCH, "C", "echo $RANDOM > f2.txt; cat
workflow:///A/output/f1.txt >> f2.txt")

# The task d
taskD = DagonTask(TaskType.BATCH, "D", "cat workflow:///B/f2.txt >> f3.txt; cat
workflow:///C/f2.txt >> f3.txt")
```



<https://github.com/DagOnStar/dagonstar/tree/master/examples/dataflow/batch>



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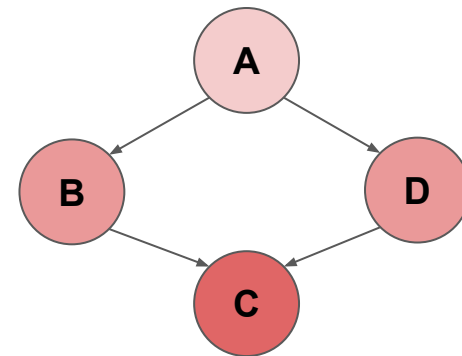


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```
# add tasks to the workflow
workflow.add_task(taskA)
workflow.add_task(taskB)
workflow.add_task(taskC)
workflow.add_task(taskD)
```

```
workflow.make_dependencies()
```

```
# run the workflow
workflow.run()
```



<https://github.com/DagOnStar/dagonstar/tree/master/examples/dataflow/batch>



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Tasks as Docker containers ...made easy...



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```
from dagon import Workflow
from dagon.task import DagonTask, TaskType
```

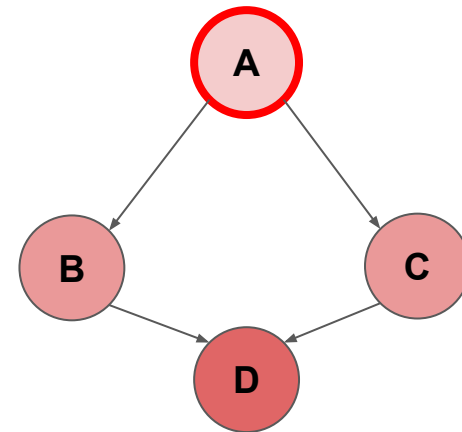
```
# Check if this is the main
if __name__ == '__main__':
```

```
    # Create the orchestration workflow
    workflow=Workflow("DataFlow-Demo")
```

```
    # The task a
```

```
    taskA = DagonTask(TaskType.DOCKER, "A", "mkdir output;hostname > output/f1.txt",
image="ubuntu:latest", ip="", ssh_username="")
```

DOCKER
APPTAINER
KUBERNETES



<https://github.com/DagOnStar/dagonstar/blob/master/examples/dataflow/docker>



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The task b

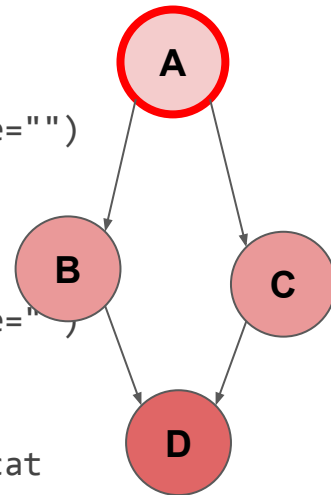
```
taskB = DagonTask(TaskType.APPTAINER, "B", "echo $RANDOM > f2.txt; cat  
workflow:///A/output/f1.txt >> f2.txt", image="ubuntu:latest", ip="", ssh_username="")
```

The task c

```
taskC = DagonTask(TaskType.KUBERNETES, "C", "echo $RANDOM > f2.txt; cat  
workflow:///A/output/f1.txt >> f2.txt", image="ubuntu:latest", ip="", ssh_username="")
```

The task d

```
taskD = DagonTask(TaskType.DOCKER, "D", "cat workflow:///B/f2.txt >> f3.txt; cat  
workflow:///C/f2.txt >> f3.txt", image="ubuntu:latest", ip="", ssh_username="")
```



<https://github.com/DagOnStar/dagonstar/blob/master/examples/dataflow/docker>



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The extended universe



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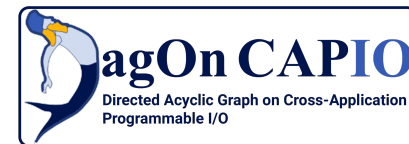
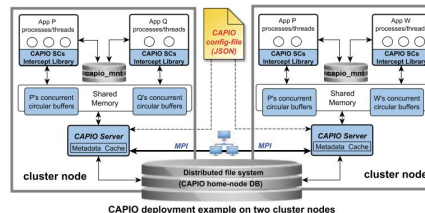
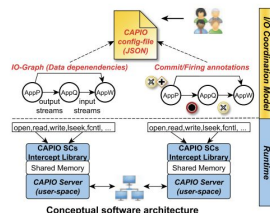
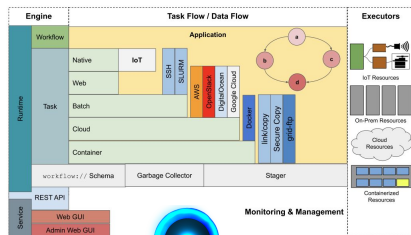
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- DAGonStar batch tasks generate the JSON file based on the dependencies between tasks, identified thanks to the workflow:// Schema;
- The JSON file is used by the CAPIO server for configuration;
- Tasks make up a pipeline in which one produces files and the other reads them;
- Posix calls made on these output files will be intercepted by the CAPIO server, allowing it to process this data in RAM.

Partners



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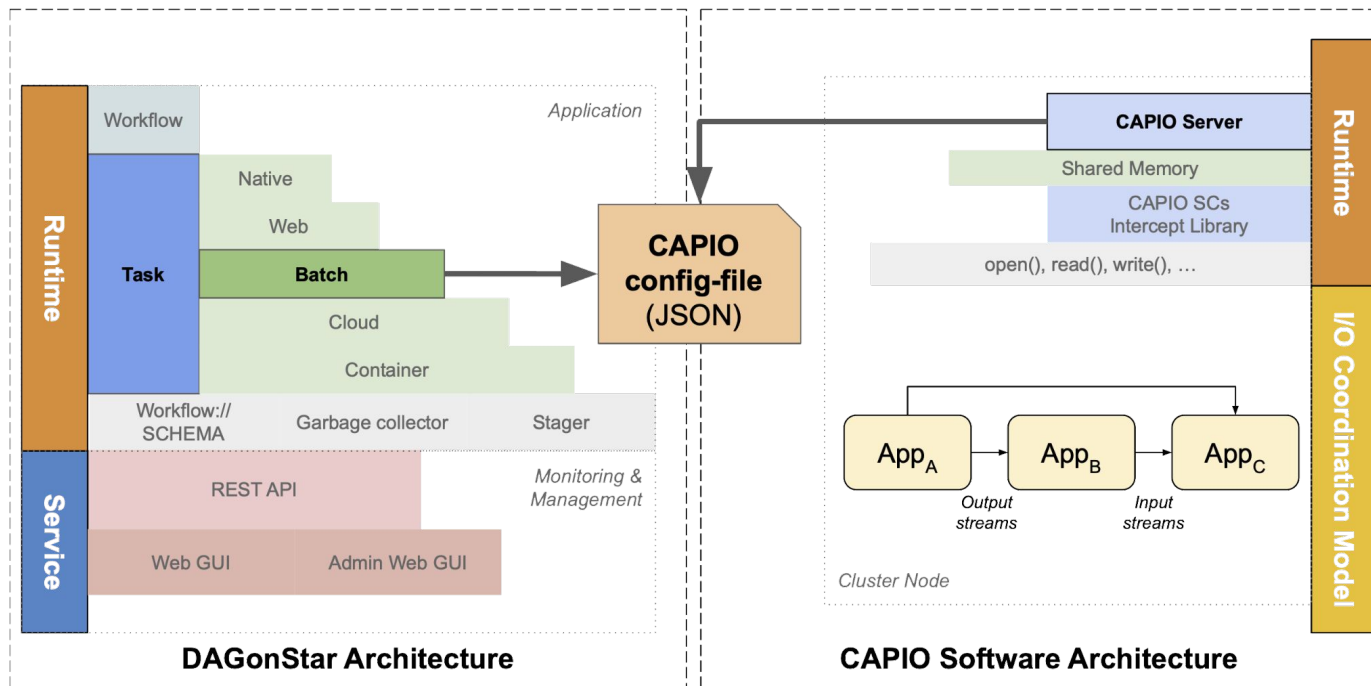


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DAGOnStar and CAPIO integration



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DAGonStar and CAPIO integration

DAGonStar

Application														
WRF														
Publish														
Time	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39

DAGonCAPIO

Application														
WRF														
Publish														
Time	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24	27	30	33	36	39



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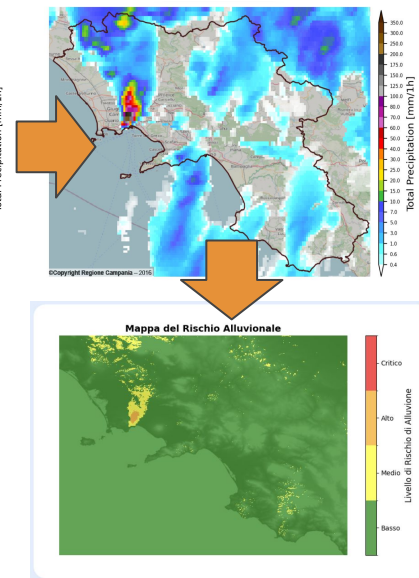
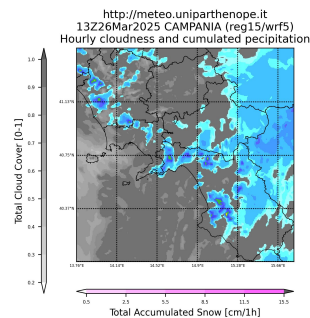
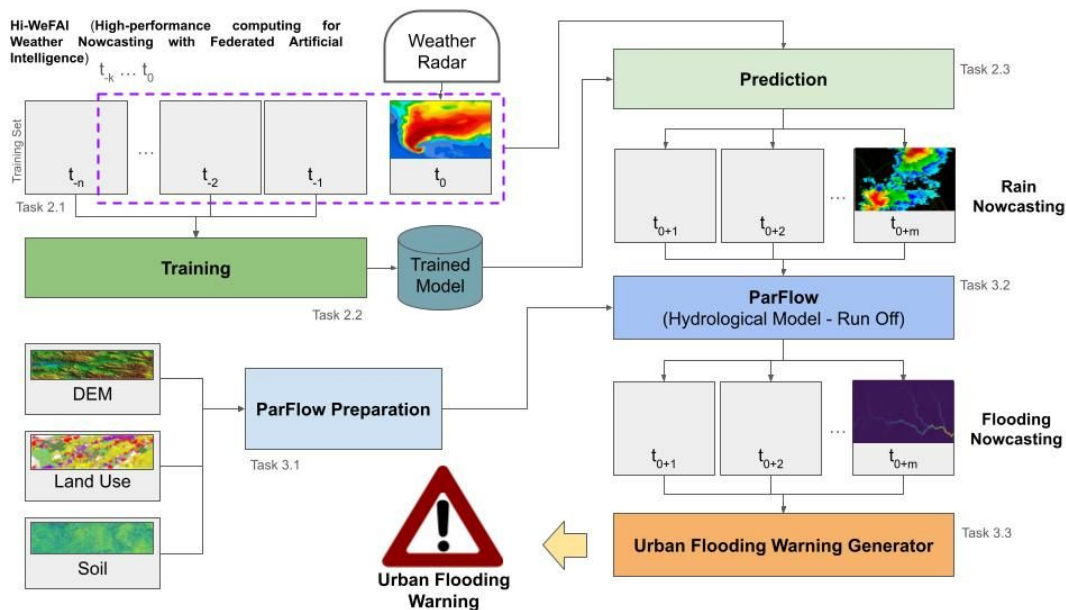
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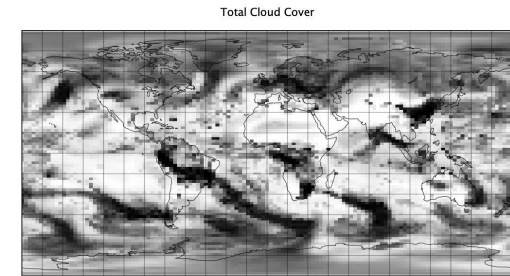
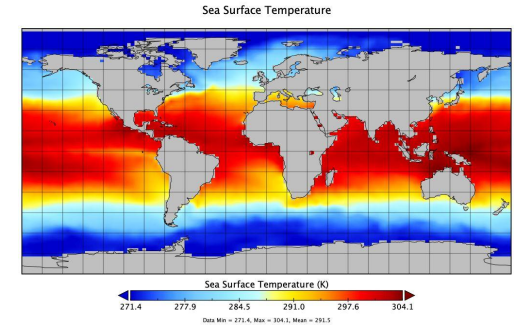
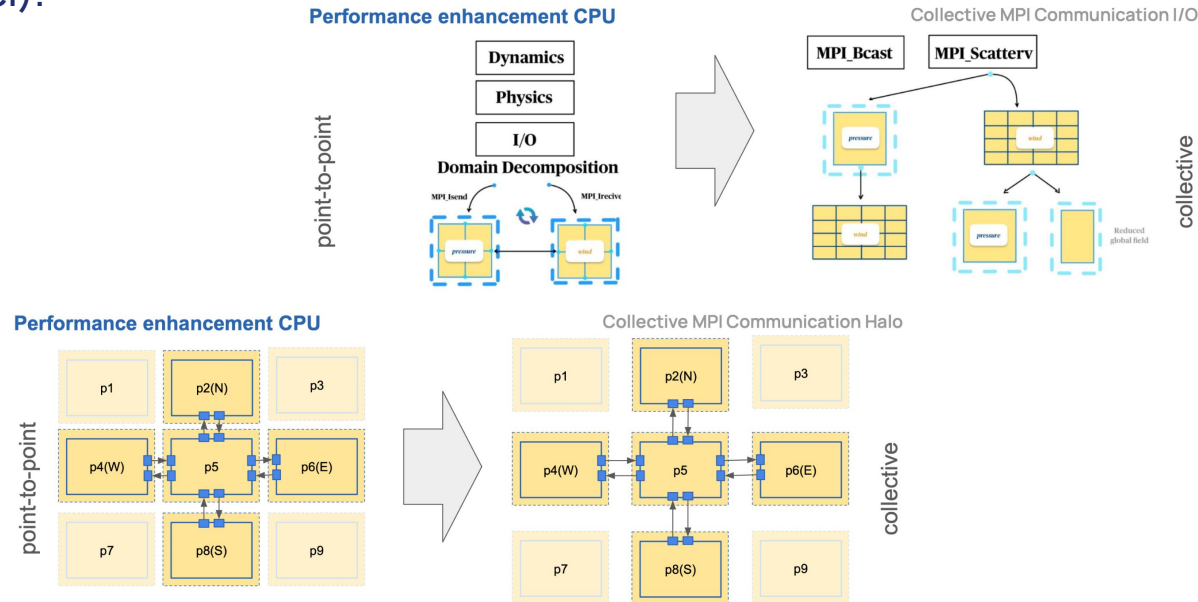
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HPC-based **application** for Weather nowcasting with Federated AI

Refactoring, Optimization, and “Production-level” of GLOBO model developed by 'ISAC-CNR as an evolution of BOLAM (Bologna Limited-Area Model).

<https://glowpp-project.org>



Time to wrap up



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DAGonStar is open-source and open to the workflow community



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Marco Santimaria



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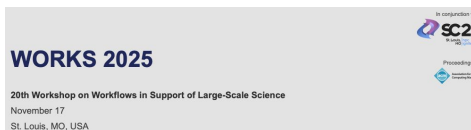
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Conclusion...

...and future directions:

- Develop DAGonStar for HPC+AI environmental applications
- Make DAGonFS as stable and reliable ad-hoc file system
- Extend the workflow:// schema to support data streaming as staging system.
- Deploy DAGonStar use cases on public cloud to democratize open-source tools and open-data products.

<https://works-workshop.org/>



DAGonStore: Reliable Data Management for Workflows on the Computing Continuum with DynoStore and DAGonStar

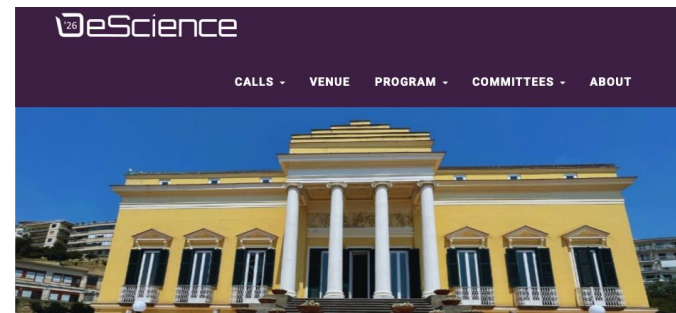
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<https://www.escience-conference.org/2026/>



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Important Dates

Monday, March 9, 2026
Workshop Submissions

Monday, May 4, 2026
Tutorial Submissions

Monday, May 18, 2026
Paper Submissions

Monday, June 29, 2026
Paper Notification