

The background of the slide is a high-speed photograph of water splashing, creating a dynamic and textured blue surface with many small droplets and ripples.

OWP | OFFICE OF  
WATER  
PREDICTION

# **Automating and Simplifying NextGen Framework Model Development and Optimization with the Distributed Model On Demand Platform**

*Robert “Bobby” Bartel, Trey C. Flowers, Nels Frazier, Austin Raney,  
Christopher O. Tubbs, Matthew Williamson*





# The NextGen Framework

The **Next Generation Water Resources Modeling Framework** (NextGen) is a modular, scalable, open source modeling framework. It enables heterogeneous modeling through per-catchment model formulation. This allows for the “right” model to be used for a particular location, though it must be found first.

## NextGen and BMI

The **Basic Model Interface** (BMI) is a set of *standardized* control and query functions defined for several programming languages that can be added to scientific model code to make it easier for other software to use the model. NextGen constructs model formulations by combining a series of configured BMI modules. This make NextGen even more flexibility in how modeling is performed.

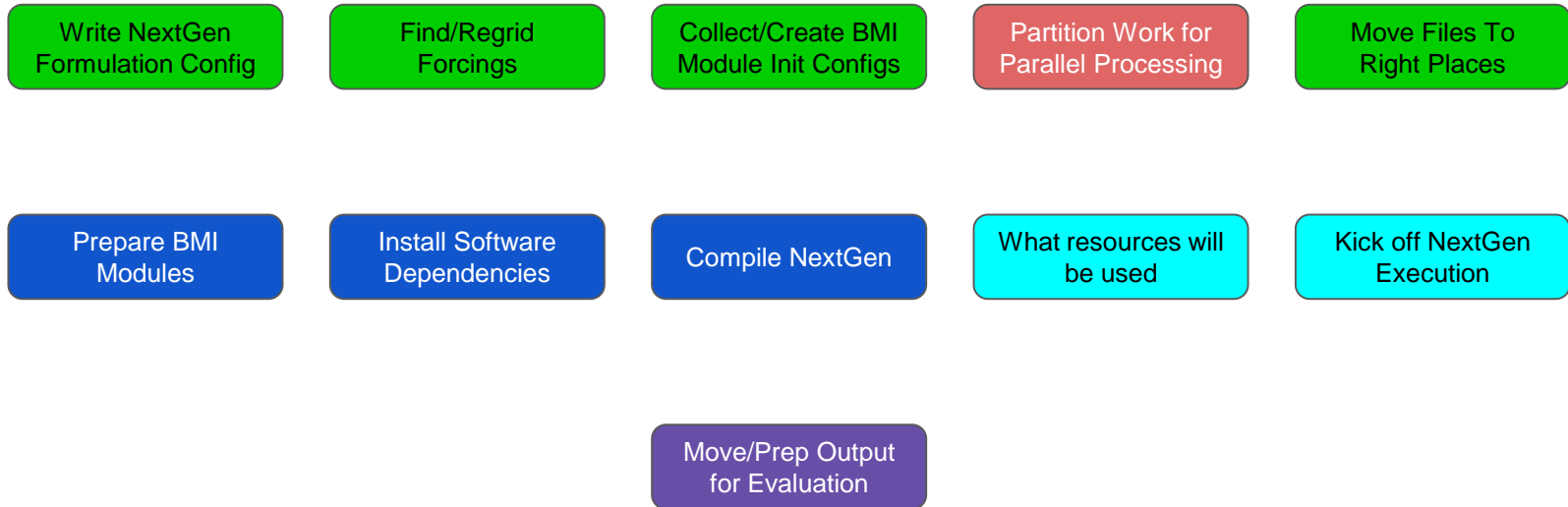


OWP | OFFICE OF  
WATER  
PREDICTION

# Complexity and Cognitive Load

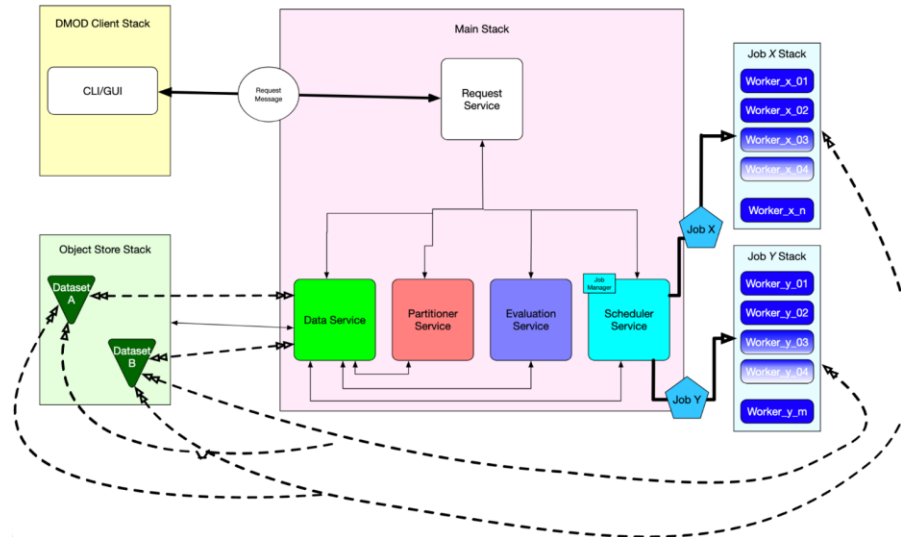
---

- Many overhead tasks when running NextGen
- Time and effort that could otherwise be spent on domain science



# Complexity and Cognitive Load

- Many overhead tasks when running NextGen
- Time and effort that could otherwise be spent on domain science
- OWP designed DMOD to help with these tasks and reduce this load





## Distributed Model on Demand

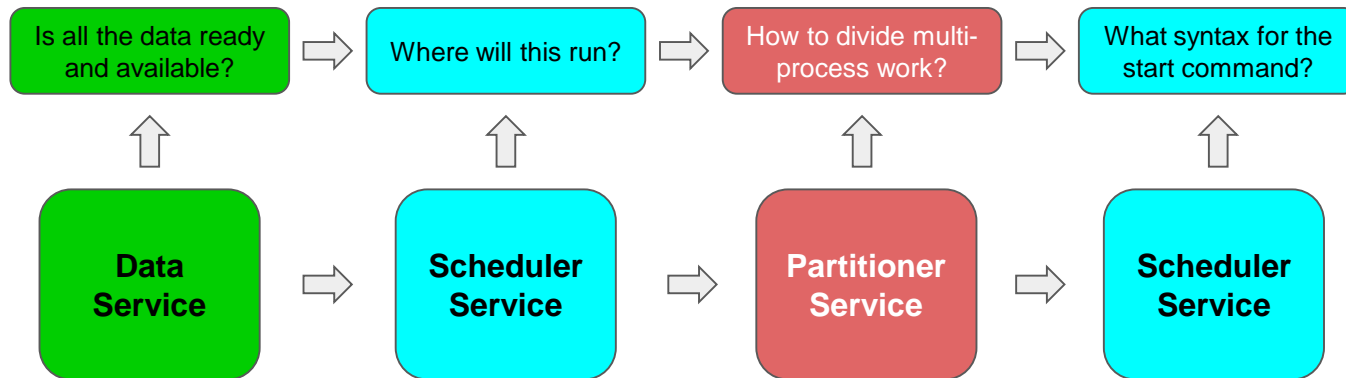
---

- **Distributed Model on Demand** (DMOD) is an extensible suite of software tools for creating and running specialized compute environments for scientific modeling software
- Combines custom functionality and other OWP tools
- Abstracts the compute infrastructure
- Incorporates and automates tasks to make it easier to develop, test, and optimize scientific models
  - Particular emphasis on models run through NextGen



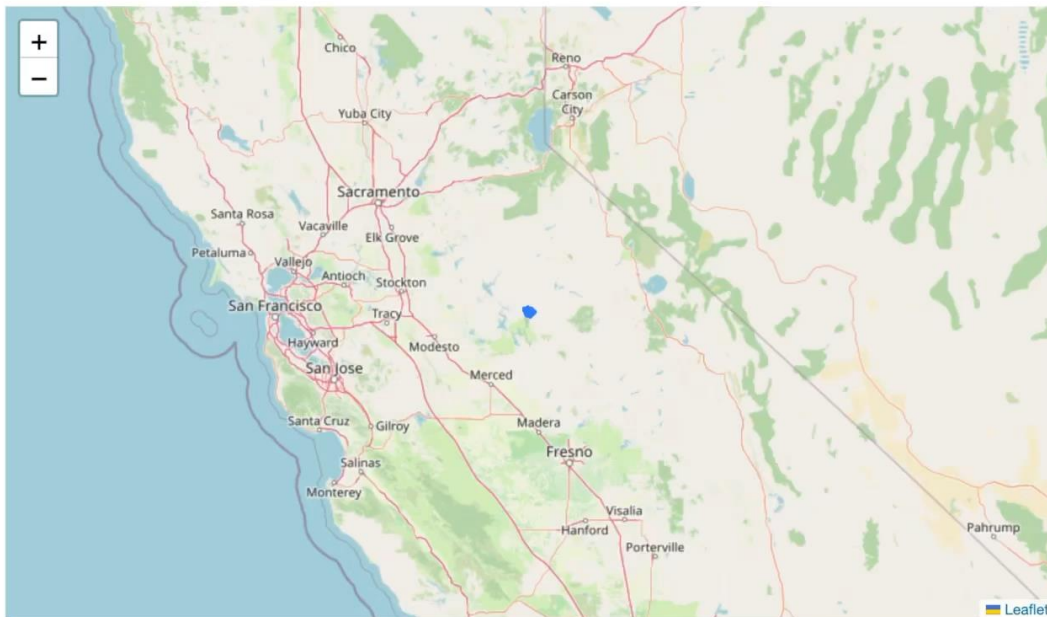
# Codified Workflows

- Takes the steps for model jobs and represents these in code
- Executes in background services as a job progresses



# Guiding Interaction

- 1 Select Hydrofabric
- 2 Configure Formulations
- 3 Modeling Duration



# Included Tools to Evaluate Results

OWP OFFICE OF WATER PREDICTION

Instructions Messages Map Digest

Evaluation ID:  Search Templates

1

Start Evaluation Save Validate



# Managing Data

---

- Bundles an object store service component
- Does more than just storage, though
- Organizes datasets according to format
- Keeps metadata on datasets with details on format-specific properties
  - E.g., time ranges and included catchments for forcings
- Provides data intelligence when jobs are requested
  - Can pick a valid dataset for the user if available
  - Can tell the user quickly if the necessary data can't be made available

## More on Managing Data

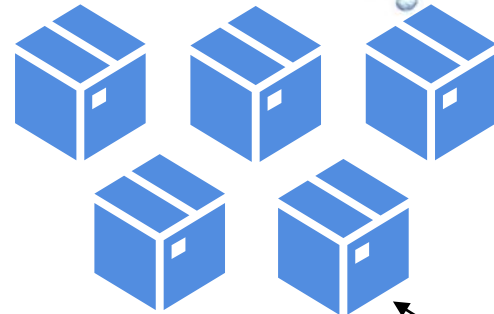
---

- What if data isn't directly available, but can be obtained?
  - E.g., forcings are available for the spatial domain, but in a different gridded format
- Capable of dynamically creating datasets
  - Integrating with OWP's ngen-forcing project
  - Integrating with BMI module init config generation tool from OWP's ngen-cal project

# Compute Environment as Code



DMOD  
Utilities



NextGen  
runs here

- Pre-assembled
- Pre-tested
- Consistent and re-creatable

# Abstract Infrastructure

Make

4 CPUs

Work like

1 CPU  
1 CPU  
1 CPU  
1 CPU

OR

Make

4 CPUs

4 CPUs

Work like

1 CPU  
1 CPU  
1 CPU  
1 CPU  
1 CPU  
1 CPU  
1 CPU  
1 CPU

or

8 CPUs

# Practical Scalability

## Env1 - Desktop PC

Hosts: 1 (H1)  
Host CPU: Core i7-13700F  
DMOD CPUs: 16 cpus  
DMOD Mem: 32GB

## Env2 - Refurbished Enterprise Workstation

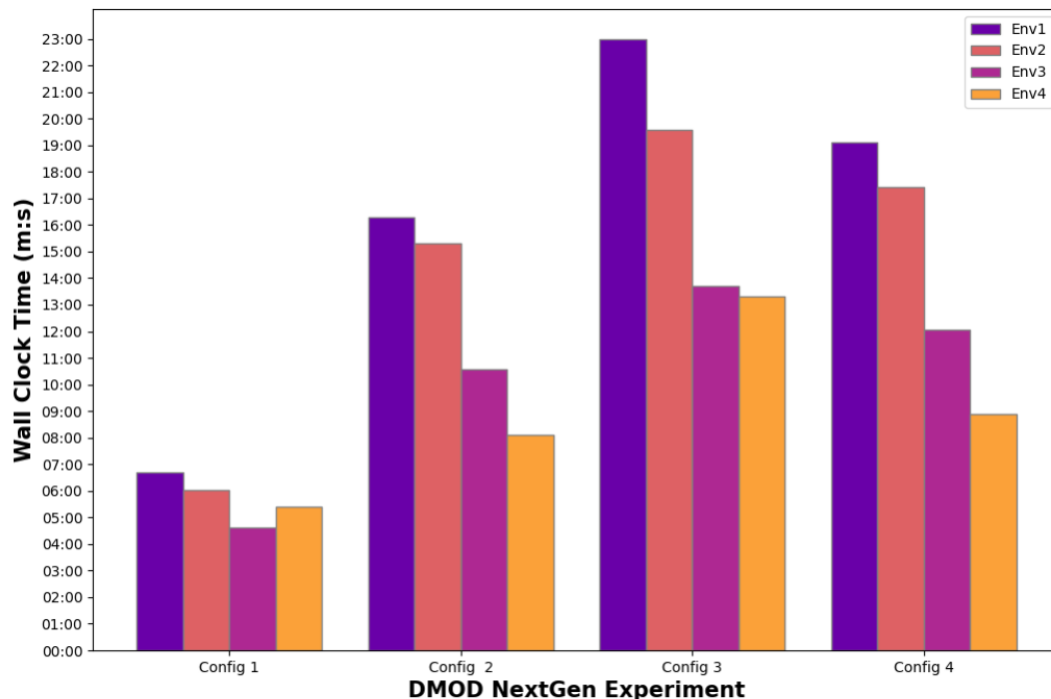
Hosts: 1 (H2)  
Host CPU: Xeon E5-2667 v3  
DMOD CPUs: 32 cpus  
DMOD Mem: 128GB

## Env3 - Hybrid Off-the-Shelf Cluster

Hosts: 2 (H1 + H2)  
Host CPU: mix  
DMOD CPUs: 16 cpus 32 cpus  
DMOD Mem: 32GB 128GB

## Env4 - Datacenter Server

Hosts: 1 (H4)  
Host CPU: Xeon Platinum 8160M  
DMOD CPUs: 96 cpus  
DMOD Mem: 512GB





OWP | OFFICE OF  
WATER  
PREDICTION



***Thank You!***



Robert "Bobby" Bartel



robert.bartel@noaa.gov



<https://water.noaa.gov>