

**PSI**

Center for Scientific Computing,  
Theory and Data

# Automated workflows

## What I have learned from writing `koopmans`

Edward Linscott

LMS Seminar, 12 March 2025

# Outline



What I've learned after 5 years of trying to automate Koopmans functionals

# A brief history of the koopmans code



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- ... but what have I learned throughout this process?

# A brief history of the koopmans code



Well not quite, but the intervening years have not been kind!

# Interfacing with AiiDA

# What I needed to do



- isolate into steps
- functional programming
- what is the best way of writing a workflow?

# Common Workflow Language



# Basic Concepts of CWL



COMMON  
WORKFLOW  
LANGUAGE



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- mostly used by bioinformatics community

# Basic Concepts of CWL

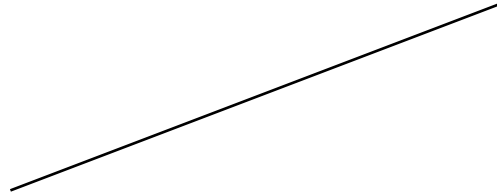


## Process

# Basic Concepts of CWL

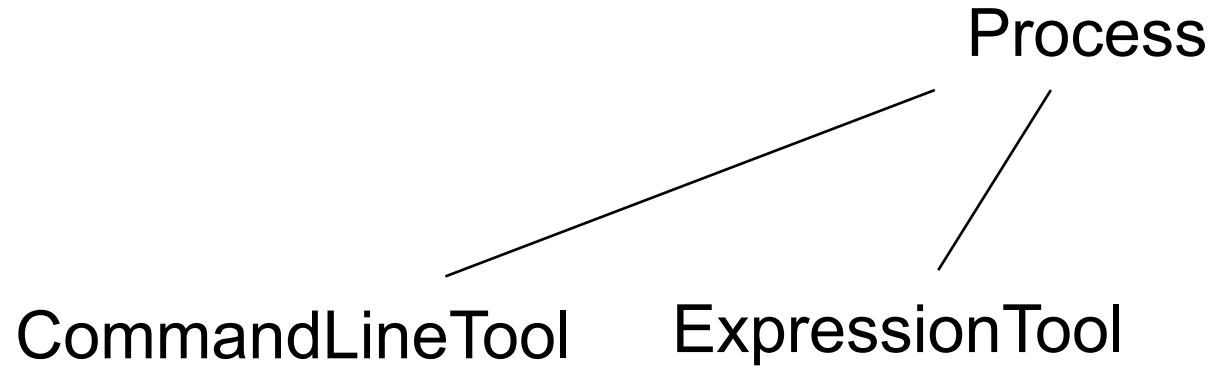


Process

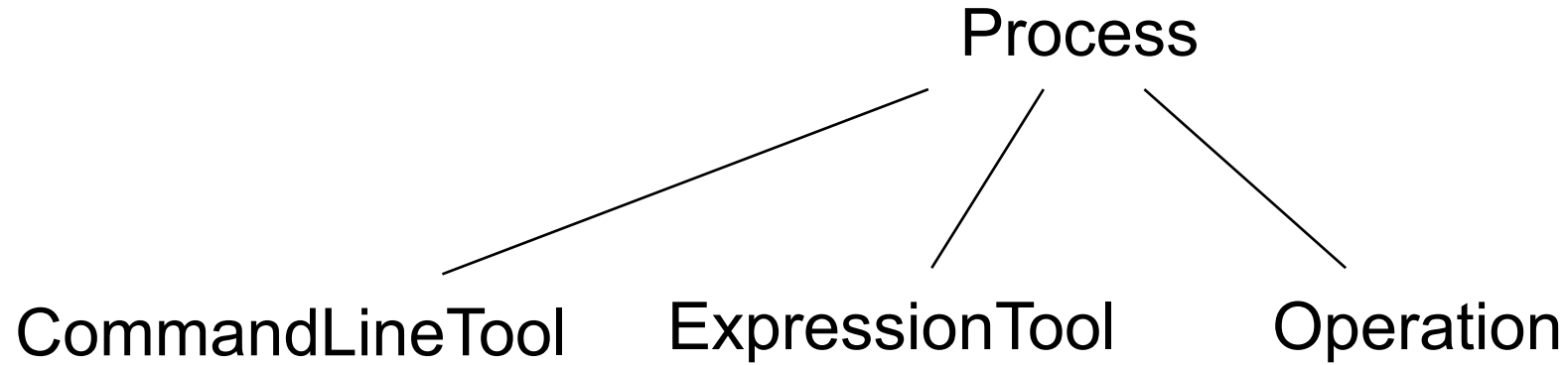


CommandLineTool

# Basic Concepts of CWL

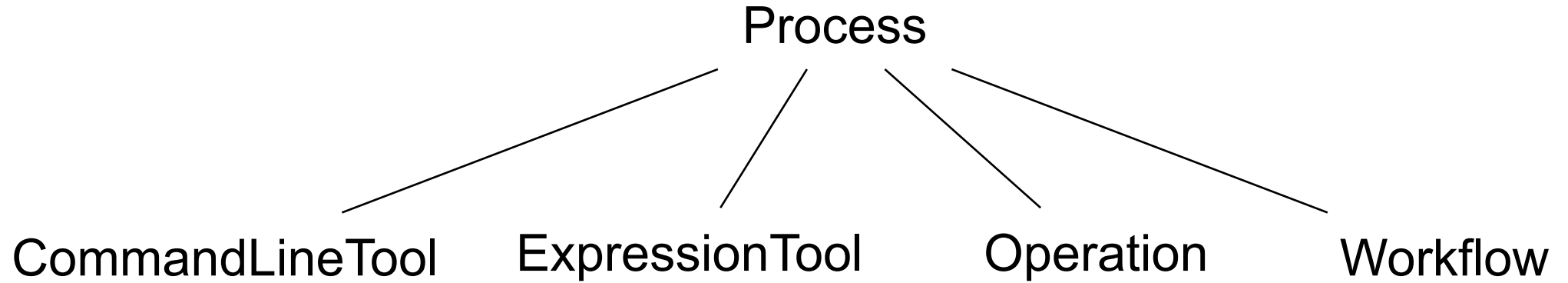


# Basic Concepts of CWL





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# CommandLineTool



```
echo.cwl
```

```
cwlVersion: v1.2
```

```
class: CommandLineTool
```

```
baseCommand: echo
```

```
inputs:
```

```
  message:
```

```
    type: string
```

```
    default: "Hello World"
```

```
    inputBinding:
```

```
      position: 1
```

# CommandLineTool



outputs: []

# ExpressionTool



```
uppercase.cwl
```

```
cwlVersion: v1.2
```

```
class: ExpressionTool
```

```
requirements:
```

```
  InlineJavascriptRequirement: {}
```

```
inputs:
```

```
  message: string
```

```
outputs:
```

```
  uppercase_message: string
```

```
expression: |
```

# ExpressionTool



```
${ return {"uppercase_message":  
inputs.message.toUpperCase()}; }
```

# Workflow



```
echo_uppercase.cwl
```

```
cwlVersion: v1.2
```

```
class: Workflow
```

```
requirements:
```

```
  InlineJavascriptRequirement: {}
```

```
inputs:
```

```
  message: string
```

```
outputs:
```

```
  out:
```

# Workflow



```
type: string
outputSource: uppercase/uppercase_message
```

```
steps:
```

```
  echo:
```

```
    run: echo.cwl
```

```
    in:
```

```
      message: message
```

```
    out: [out]
```

```
  uppercase:
```

```
    run: uppercase.cwl
```

```
    in:
```

# Workflow



```
message:  
  source: echo/out  
out: [uppercase_message]
```



# Pros and Cons



- pros:

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- pros:
  - explicit

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  - need to define custom types (see e.g. OPTIMADE, PREMISE)
  - custom types do not permit defaults
  - rigorous schemas require willingness from the community

# ... willingness from the community?

A screenshot of a web browser showing a GitLab issue page. The browser's address bar displays 'gitlab.com/QEF/q-e/-/issues/685'. The page header includes the GitLab logo and navigation icons. The main content area features the issue title 'Suggestions to make .def files more informative and consistent' in a large, bold font. Below the title, it indicates the issue is 'Open' and was created 9 months ago by Edward Linscott. The issue description begins with 'Currently, the .def files that define the Quantum ESPRESSO input format have a couple of shortcomings. Below, I discuss these shortcomings and suggest some solutions.' A section titled 'Dimensionality and units' follows, stating that the dimensionality and units of each variable are not well-documented. A code block is shown with the following content: 

```
var sci_vb -type REAL {  
  default { 0 }  
  info {
```

 The right sidebar contains metadata for the issue, including '0 Assignees', 'Epic' (locked), 'Labels' (none), 'Milestone' (none), and 'Weight' (none). The left sidebar shows the project structure with 'q-e' selected, and 'Issues' listed with a count of 113.

# References



Merge requests14

Manage>

Planv

Issues113

Issue boards

Milestones

Wiki

Requirements

</> Code>

Build>

Deploy>

Operate>

```
var max_seconds = type REAL 1
default { 1.D+7, or 150 days, i.e. no time limit }
```

I would propose the introduction of either (a) a new field ( `default_explanation` or similar) or (b) a sub-field of `default` . This new field would contain any explanation of the default is contained, while `default` would be strictly reserved for the actual numerical value of the default.

### Why should I care?

Both of these changes would make the `.def` schema more machine-readable. A rigorous schema would not only make it easier for other codes to interact with Quantum ESPRESSO while avoiding the like.

Julian Geiger reacted with :thumbsup:

👍 1

👎 0

😊

Child items ✓ 0

⋮

^

No child items are currently assigned. Use child items to break down this issue into smaller

Labels

None

Milestone

None

Weight

None

Due date

None

Time tracking

No estimate or time spent

Health status

None

Confidentiality