openEO: open science for Earth Observation compute platforms

Edzer Pebesma, Jun 26, 2024 OEMC Big Data Hackaton @ IIASA











What is open science?

It means that beyond sharing scientific papers (open access?) that explain what has been done, we also share how it was done, by:

- Sharing all data used, in a reusable form (FAIR)
- Sharing code, so the results (figures/tables) can be easily reproduced & reused, and findings can be scrutinized
- Using open source software, so that licenses are not obstructing reuse
- (making sure that versions are documented, if needed additionally share entire runtime, e.g. in form of docker images)

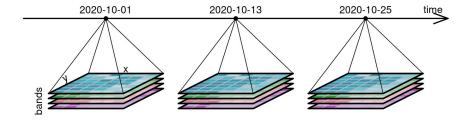
How does this work when the data used is too large to download?

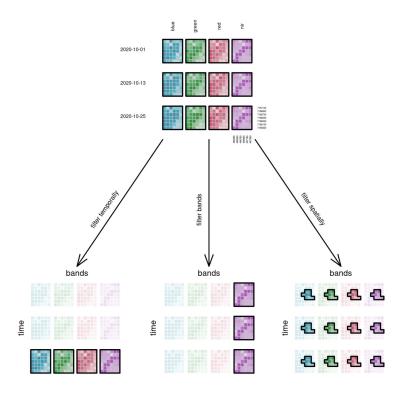
Cloud-based processing platforms

Suppose you carry out a land cover classification:

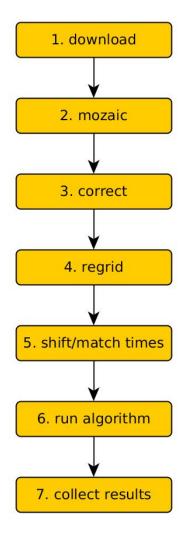
- using the same method and the same data, you do this on Google Earth Engine, and then on Sentinel-Hub. The results are largely similar, but the differences are too large to ignore.
- How do you continue?
 - How can you verify which of the results is the preferred one?
 - Where do you go to to ask what is going on, or what to do next?
- Note that both platforms (can) use a scripting interface, but the software actually doing computation ("back-end") is closed source for both
- Who can compare the two scripts? Who is willing to do so?

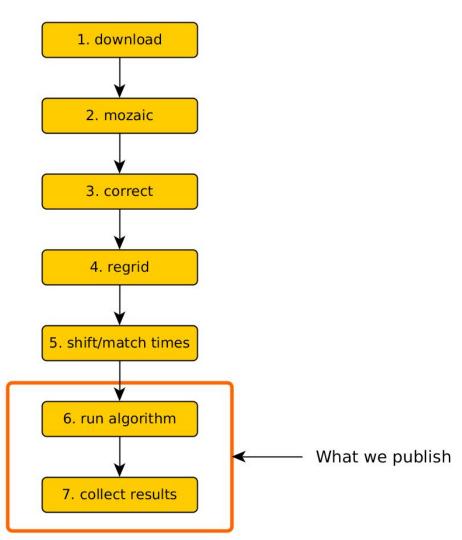
Data cubes:

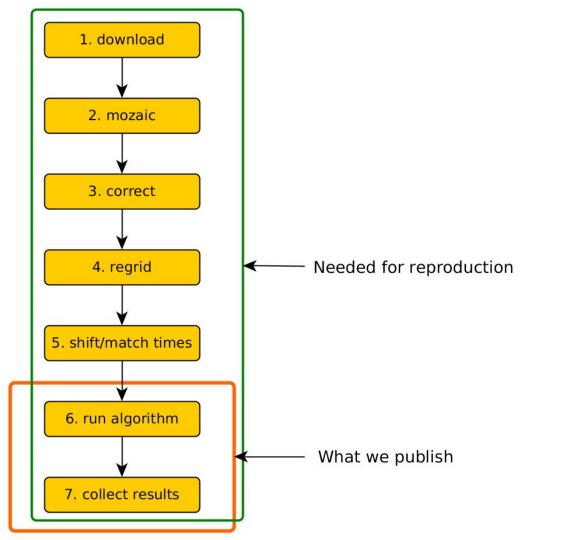


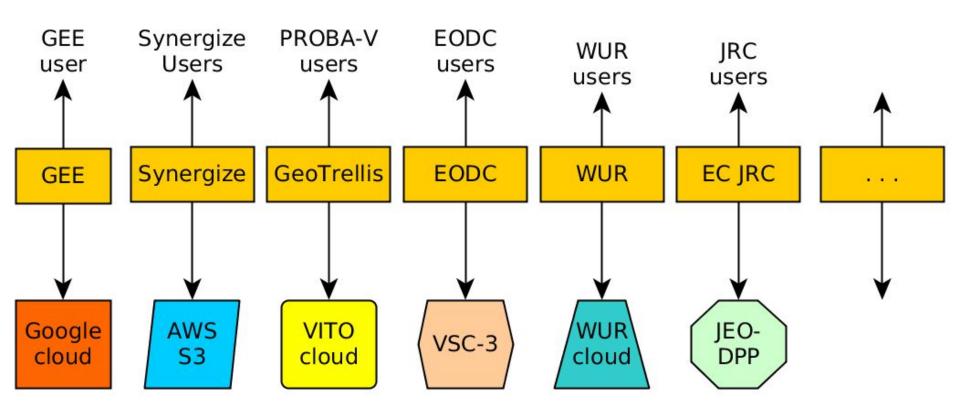


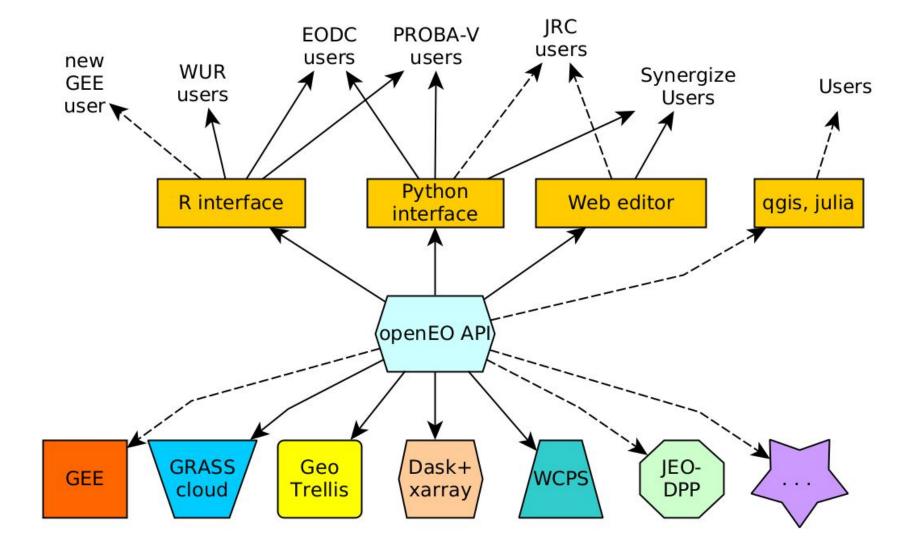
... also apply to model data (ERA5, CMIP6)

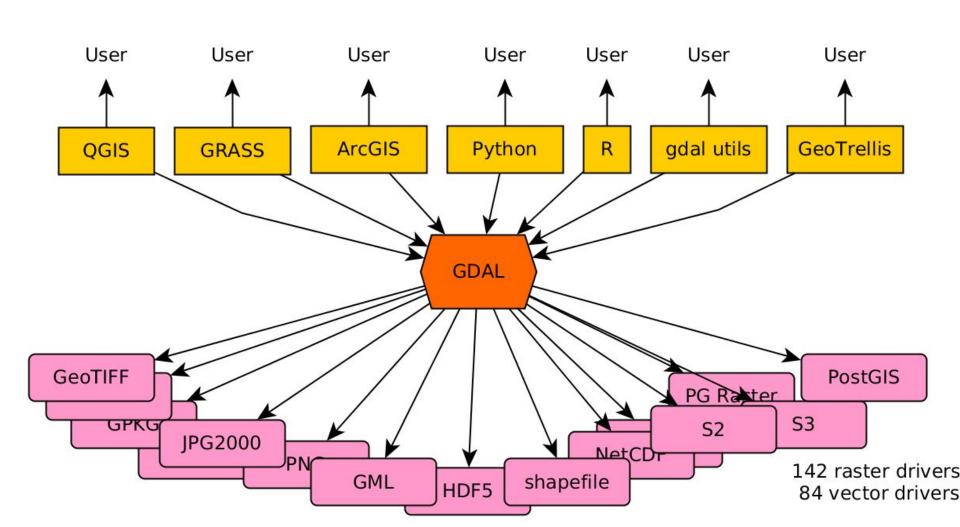


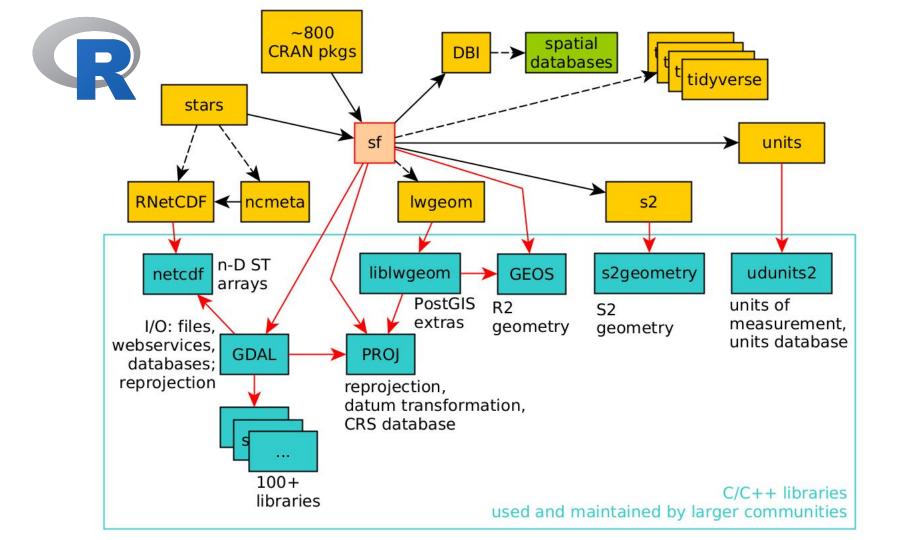






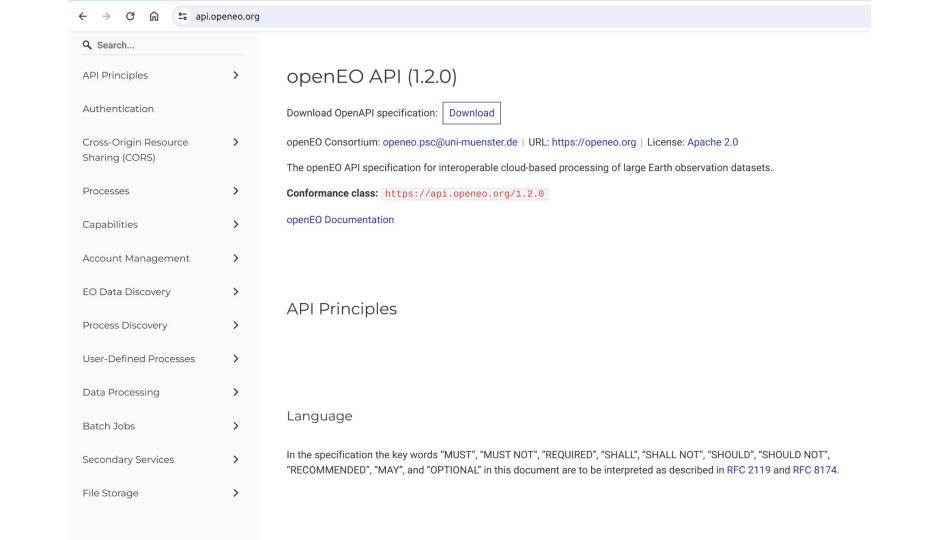






What does, in the openEO context, "API" mean?

- API is a specification how computers interact
- For instance, APIs make the internet work
- openAPI is an industry standard for defining an API, which makes it for software developers easy to use (lots of tooling available)
- It abstracts problems beyond language silo's like R, Python, Julia, Rust, ...
- All data science languages can cope well with APIs, both client & server side
- openEO clients are available in R, Python, Julia, JavaScript
- A web editor uses the JavaScript client
- New clients are easy to develop
- New back-ends are (relatively) easy to develop









openEO processes (2.0.0-rc.1)









- ► Aggregate (5)
- ► Ard (2)
- ► Arrays (20)
- ▶ Climatology (3)
- ► Comparison (18)
- ▼ Cubes (51)
- ▶ add dimension
- Add a new dimension ▶ aggregate_spatial Zonal statistics for geometries
- aggregate_spatial_window Zonal statistics for rectangular windows
- aggregate_temporal Temporal aggregations
- aggregate_temporal_period Temporal aggregations based on calendar hierarchies
- anomaly
- Compute anomalies apply
- Apply a process to each value
- ► apply dimension Apply a process to all values along a dimension
- apply kernel Apply a spatial convolution with a kernel ▶ apply_neighborhood

Annly a process to pivels in a n-dimensional

absolute 📋

Absolute value



Description

absolute(number|null x) : number|null

Computes the absolute value of a real number x, which is the "unsigned" portion of x and often denoted as |x|.

The no-data value **null** is passed through and therefore gets propagated.

Parameters



A number.

Data type: number, null

Return Value

The computed absolute value.

number, null Data type:

Minimum value (inclusive): 0

Examples

How does an openEO session work?

- Connect to a back-end
- 2. Authenticate (only needed on a public platform, and if you want to process)
- 3. Look up available collections (STAC)
- 4. Look up available processes
- 5. Define problem (select collection(s), spatial extent, temporal extent, bands)
- 6. Define processing task (like in any programming language)
- 7. (check billing?)
- 8. Submit job / download result / view result

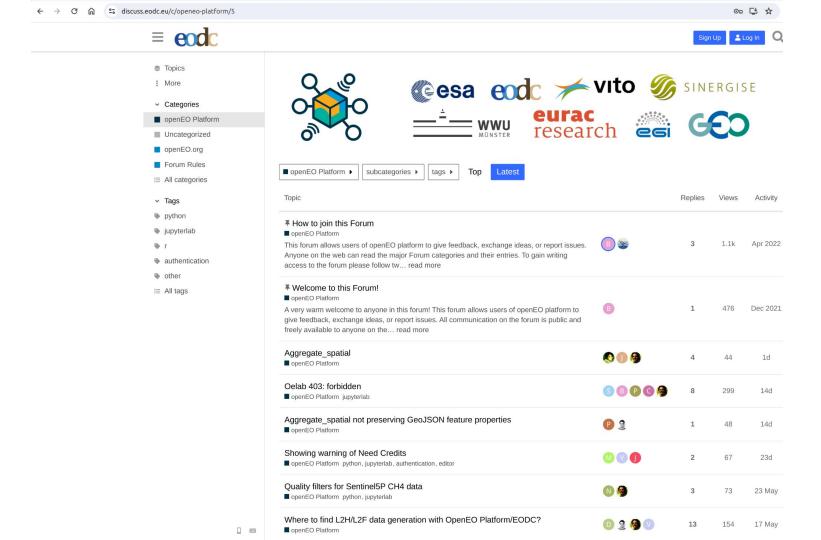
Only step 8 triggers actual computation on the back-end

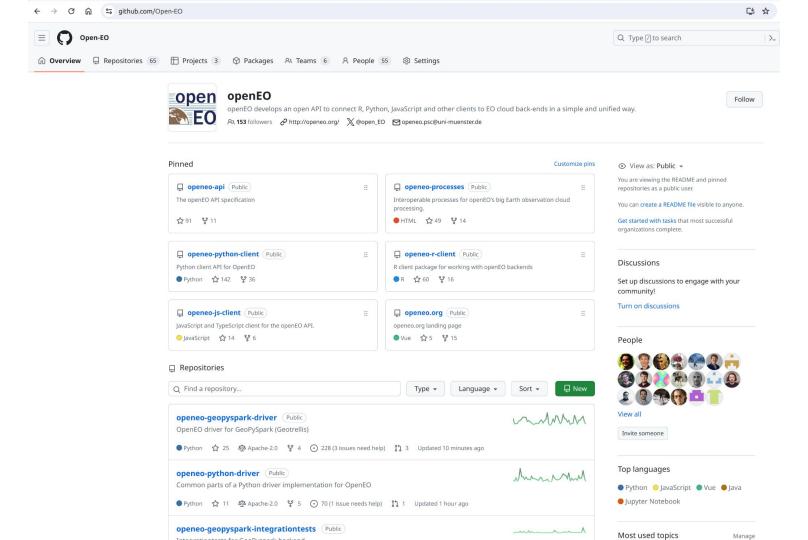
Who pays for all this?

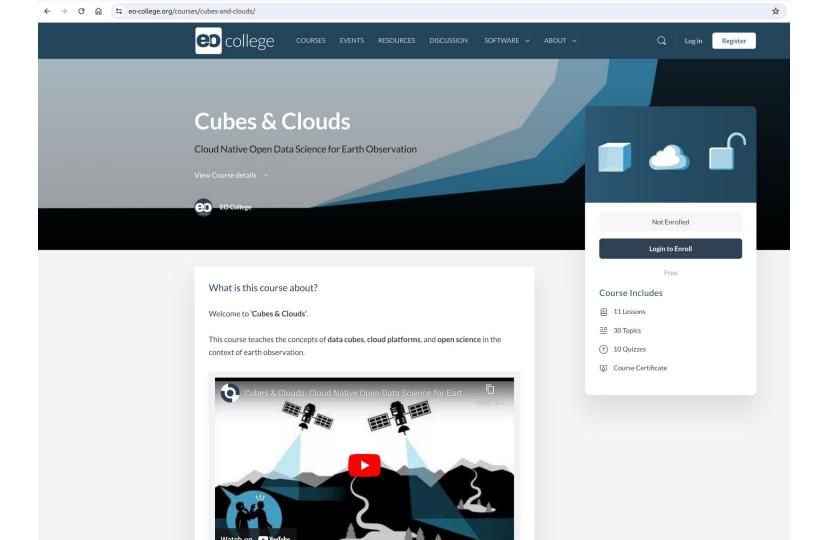
- If you run on your own hardware managed cloud resources, you pay yourself
- If you run on CDSE or openEO Platform, ESA's NoR may sponsor you
- On e.g. openEO Platform you can also buy credits
- On CDSE / CreoDIAS, Earth on Amazon, or GCS, the large open EO collections are available, you don't pay for storage
- The billing process, in particular for federated cloud processing, may be challenging

Where to go with questions?

- To the instructor who stands next to you, or your colleagues
- To the user form on openEO Platform
- If software related: to the <u>GitHub.com/Open-EO</u> issues







openEO brings open science back to EO

... we managed to provide users a platform:

- Where they don't have to worry about individual files, or managing cloud resources
- Which has support from ESA (openEO Platform) and the European Commission (CDSE)
- Which is built on multiple 100% open source back-ends, connects to existing closed source ones (GEE, Sentinel-Hub), and can be run locally
- Where analysis is based on data cubes, but integrates well with vector data and is in no way constrained to Earth Observation data (as PG showed yesterday)

... now consists of an active and lively ecosystem of users and developers

Many reasons to get involved!

https://zenodo.org/records/7254221:

ESA WorldCover 10 m 2021 v200

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Zanaga, Daniele<sup>1</sup>; Van De Kerchove, Ruben<sup>1</sup>; Daems, Dirk<sup>1</sup>; De Keersmaecker, Wanda<sup>1</sup>; Brockmann, Carsten<sup>2</sup>; Kirches, Grit<sup>2</sup>; Wevers, Jan<sup>2</sup>; Cartus, Oliver<sup>3</sup>; Santoro, Maurizio<sup>3</sup>; Fritz, Steffen<sup>4</sup>; Lesiv, Myroslava<sup>4</sup>; Herold, Martin<sup>5</sup>; Tsendbazar, Nandin-Erdene<sup>6</sup>; Xu, Panpan<sup>6</sup>; Ramoino, Fabrizio<sup>7</sup>; Arino, Olivier<sup>8</sup>
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ESA WorldCover 10 m 2021 v200

The European Space Agency (ESA) WorldCover 10 m 2021 product provides a global land cover map for 2021 at 10 m resolution based on Sentinel-1 and Sentinel-2 data. The WorldCover product comes with 11 land cover classes, aligned with UN-FAO's Land Cover Classification System, and has been generated in the framework of the ESA WorldCover project.

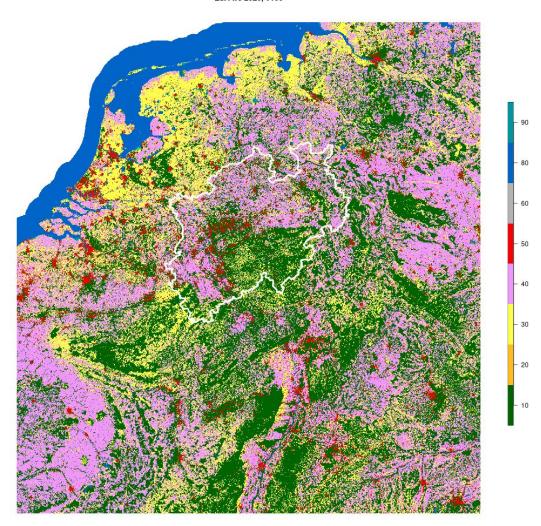
Show affiliations

The ESA WorldCover 10m 2021 v200 product updates the existing ESA WorldCover 10m 2020 v100 product to 2021 but is produced using an improved algorithm version (v200) compared to the 2020 map. Consequently, since the WorldCover maps for 2020 and 2021 were generated with different algorithm versions (v100 and v200, respectively), changes between the maps should be treated with caution, as they include both real changes in land cover and changes due to the algorithms used.

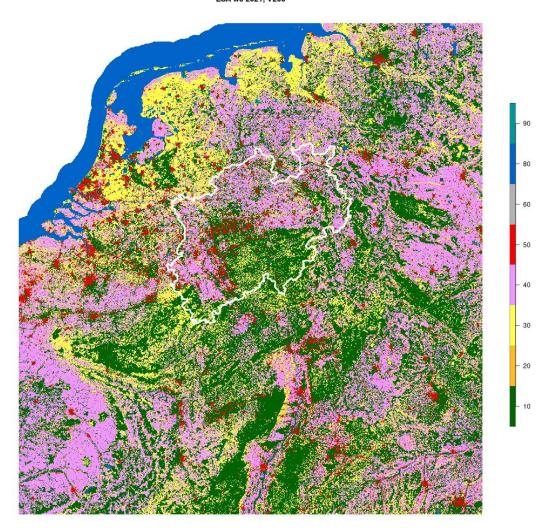
And in addition:

- Errors in the 2020 map
- Errors in the 2021 map
- Errors in both maps that do not cancel out

ESA wc 2020, v100



ESA wc 2021, V200



- 10 Tree cover
- 20 Shrubland
- 30 Grassland
- 40 Cropland
- 50 Built-up
- 60 Bare/sparse vegetation
- 70 Snow and ice
- 80 Permanent water bodies
- 90 Herbaceous wetland
- 95 Mangroves
- 100 Moss and lichen

Built-up:

2020: 6.36% +/- ?

2021: 8.03% +/- ?

Unbiased Area Estimation Using Copernicus High Resolution Layers and Reference Data

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Abstract

Land cover area estimates can be derived via design-based approaches using a probability (random) reference sample. The collection of samples is usually costly and requires an effective sampling design. Earth-Observation-based mapping approaches do not have this requirement but can be biased in providing area estimates. Combining reference samples with remote sensing products can reduce sampling efforts and provide a more effective method to estimate land cover. The Copernicus High-Resolution Layer (HRL) provides remote-sensing-based data across Europe to support area estimation. Different methods are tested to estimate across Europe to support area estimation.