

# Adaptive Memory Scaling for Robust Airflow Pipelines

Cyrus Dukart, David Sacerdote &  
Jason Bridgemohansingh





# **What we are talking about today**

- 1. Who we are**
  - 2. Our Data Challenge**
  - 3. Our solution**
- 

A landscape photograph with a green tint. In the foreground, there's a dark, forested hillside. The background is filled with large, billowing white clouds against a bright sky.

Who we are?

# Vibrant Planet

The first common operating picture for  
wildfire & ecosystem resilience



## Climate Scientists Warn of a ‘Global Wildfire Crisis’

Worsening heat and dryness could lead to a 50 percent rise in off-the-charts fires, according to a United Nations report.



## Massive wildfires are a new threat to Chile. Here’s why they’re so deadly.



By Scott Dance

Updated February 5, 2024 at 7:56 p.m. EST | Published February 5, 2024 at 4:35 p.m. EST



# Increasingly hotter fires

Catastrophic effects to soils and streams

Caldor Fire:  
Lake Tahoe,  
2021



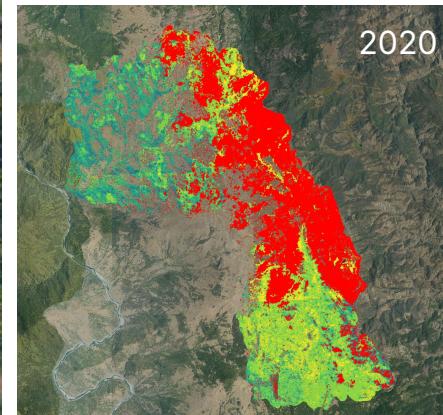
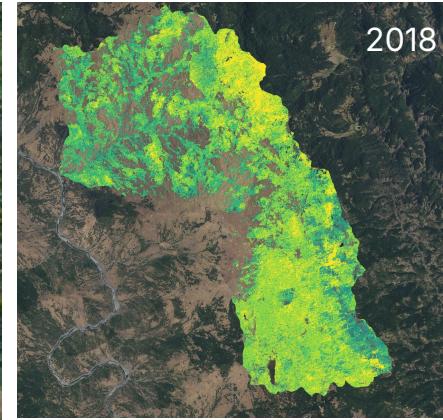
# Individual tree health to forest resilience

Using Synthetic Canopy Height Models to Segment individual Trees



# Individual tree health to forest resilience

Using Synthetic Canopy Height Models to Segment individual Trees

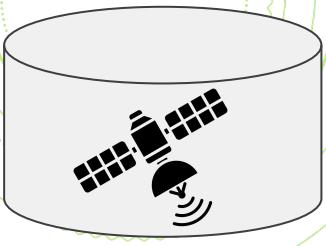




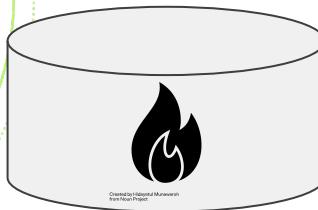
**The answer:  
Speeding and scaling  
what we know works**

Credit: Steve Rondeau, Natural Resources Director of the Klamath Tribes

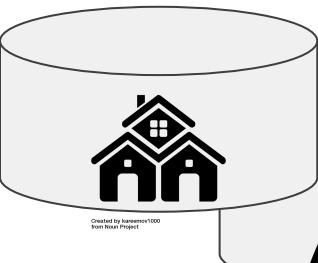
# What we use Airflow for



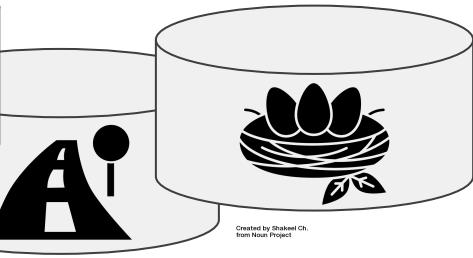
Created by Toro Gun  
from Nois Project



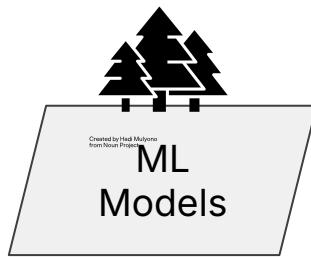
Created by Hetal Patel  
from Nois Project



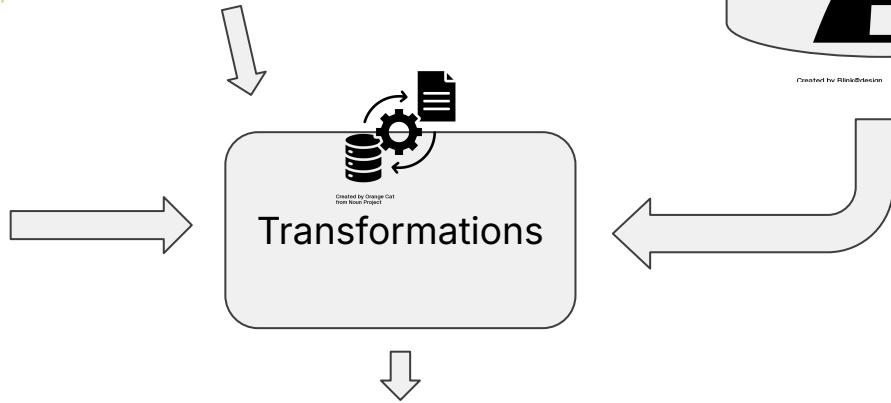
Created by Arsenius1000  
from Nois Project



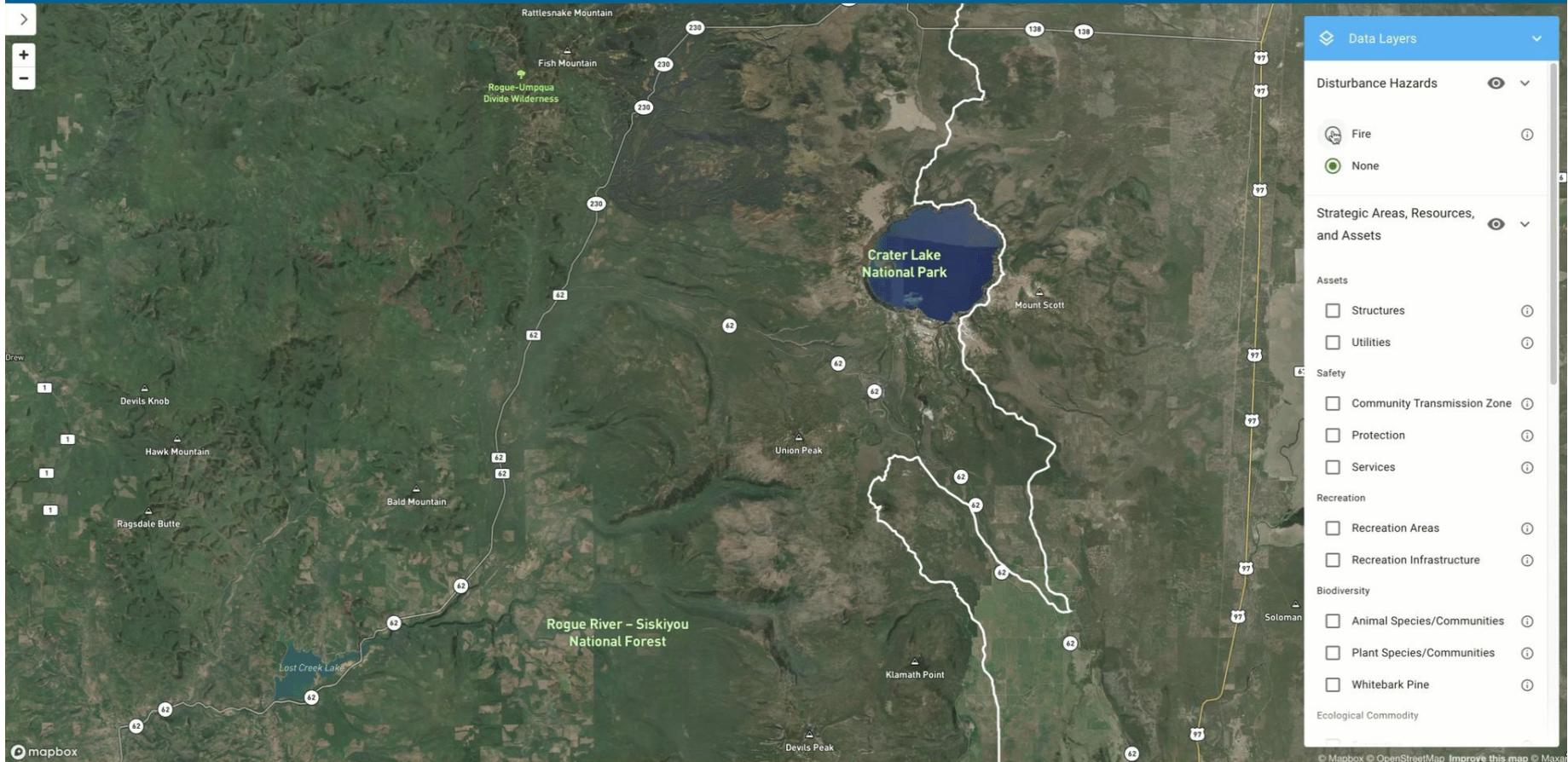
Created by Shaked Ch.  
from Nois Project

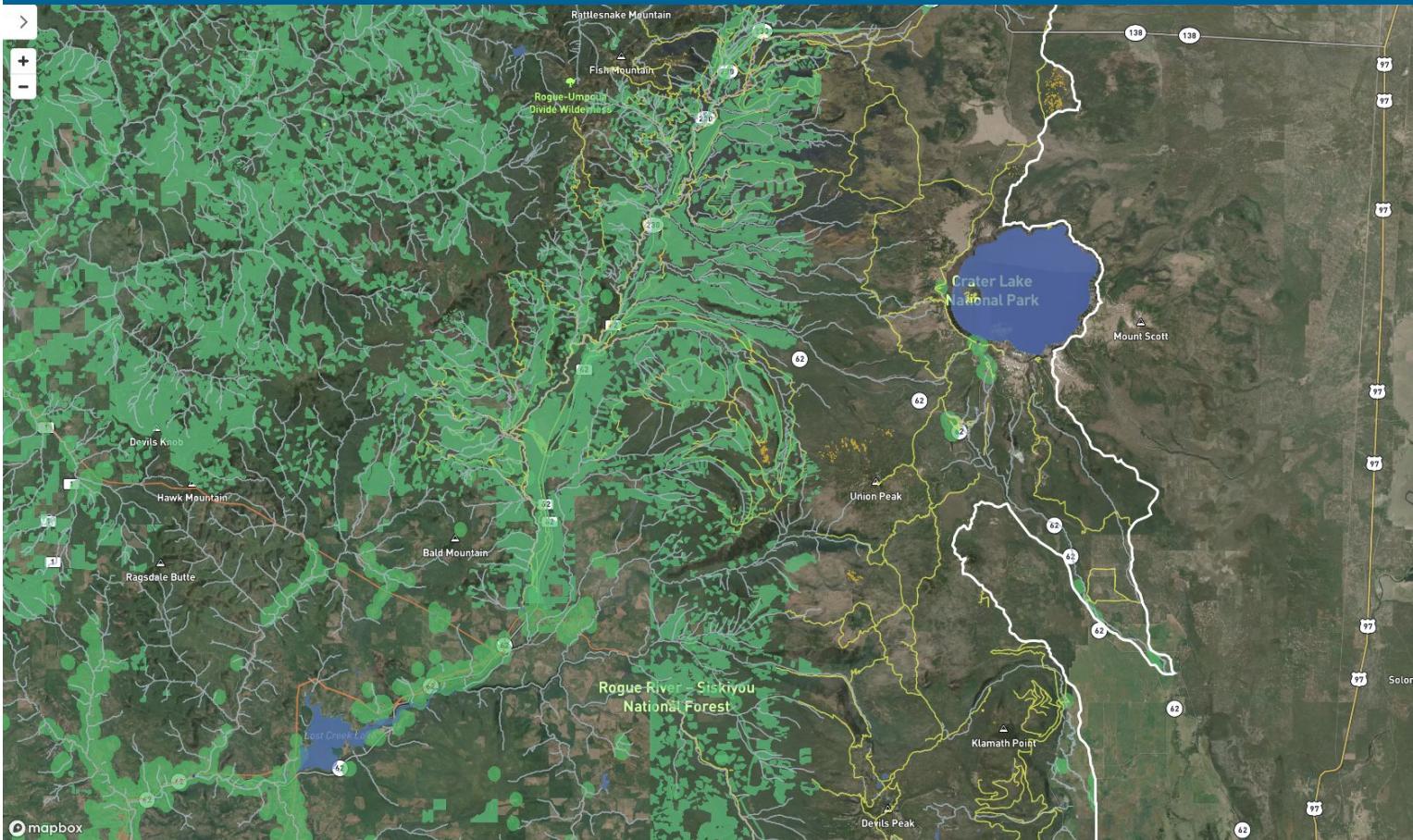


Created by Hall Malone  
from Nois Project  
ML Models



Fire Treatment  
Recommendations



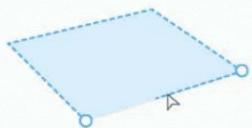


- Data Layers**
- Strategic Areas, Resources, and Assets**
- Assets**
- Structures
  - Structures
  - Utilities
  - Energy Facilities
  - Transmission or Distribution Lines
  - Water Facilities
- Safety**
- Community Transmission Zone
  - Protection
  - Wildland Urban Interface (Defense Zone)
  - Services
  - Communication Infrastructure
  - Emergency Service Facilities
- Recreation**
- Recreation Areas
  - Recreation Areas
  - Recreation Infrastructure
  - Trails
- Biodiversity**
- Animal Species/Communities
- Source: VibrantPlanet
- Mapbox © OpenStreetMap Improve this map © Maxar

*i* New Planning Area

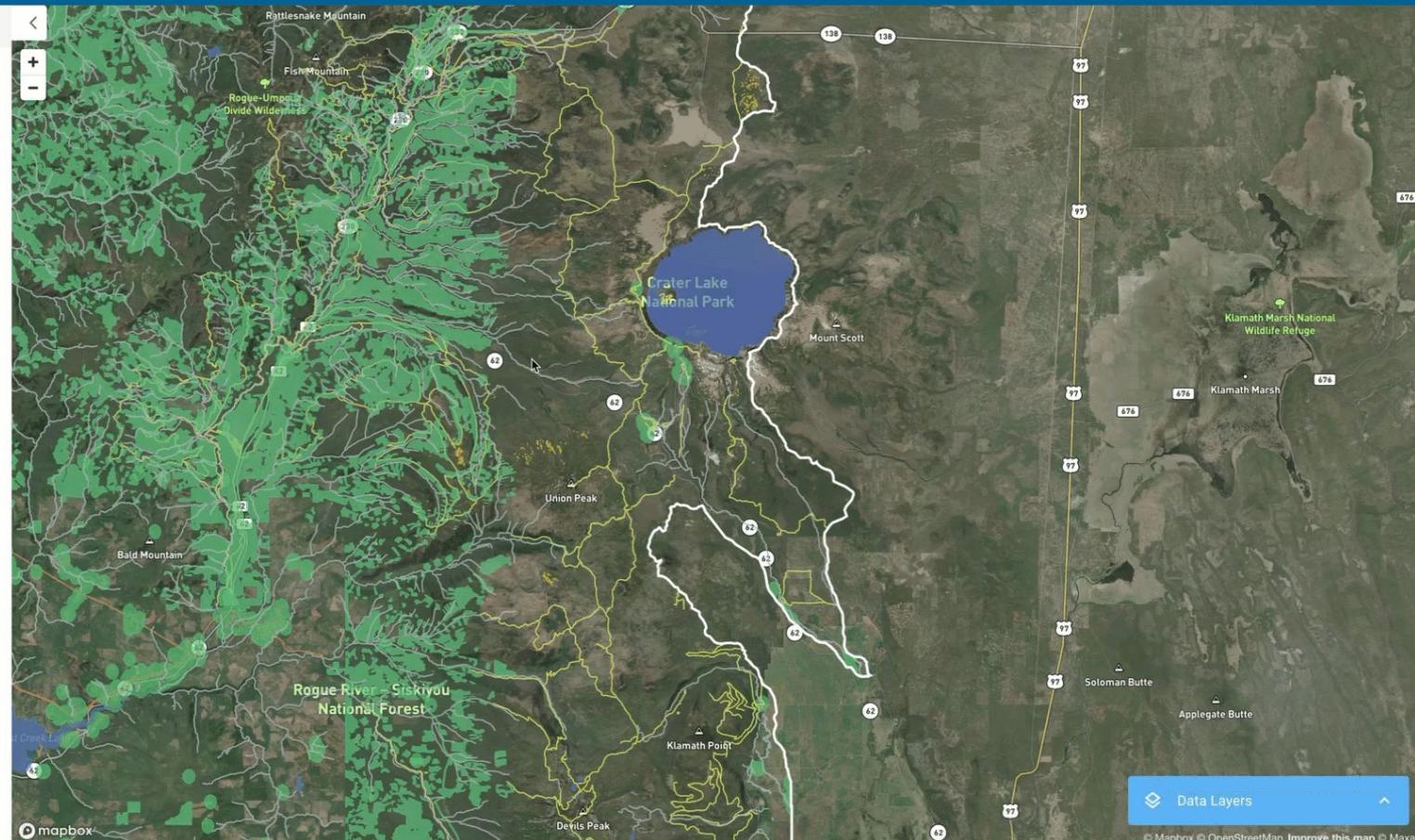
 Draw on map

Use the polygon drawing tool by clicking on the map to create consecutive vertices. Close and complete the polygon by clicking again on the first vertex.



 Upload

**SAVE PLANNING AREA** **CLEAR**



Planning Area

## My Planning Area

**I'M FEELING RESILIENT**

## 1. Set Priorities

Weigh Objectives

RESET



Assets

Safety

Recreation

Biodiversity

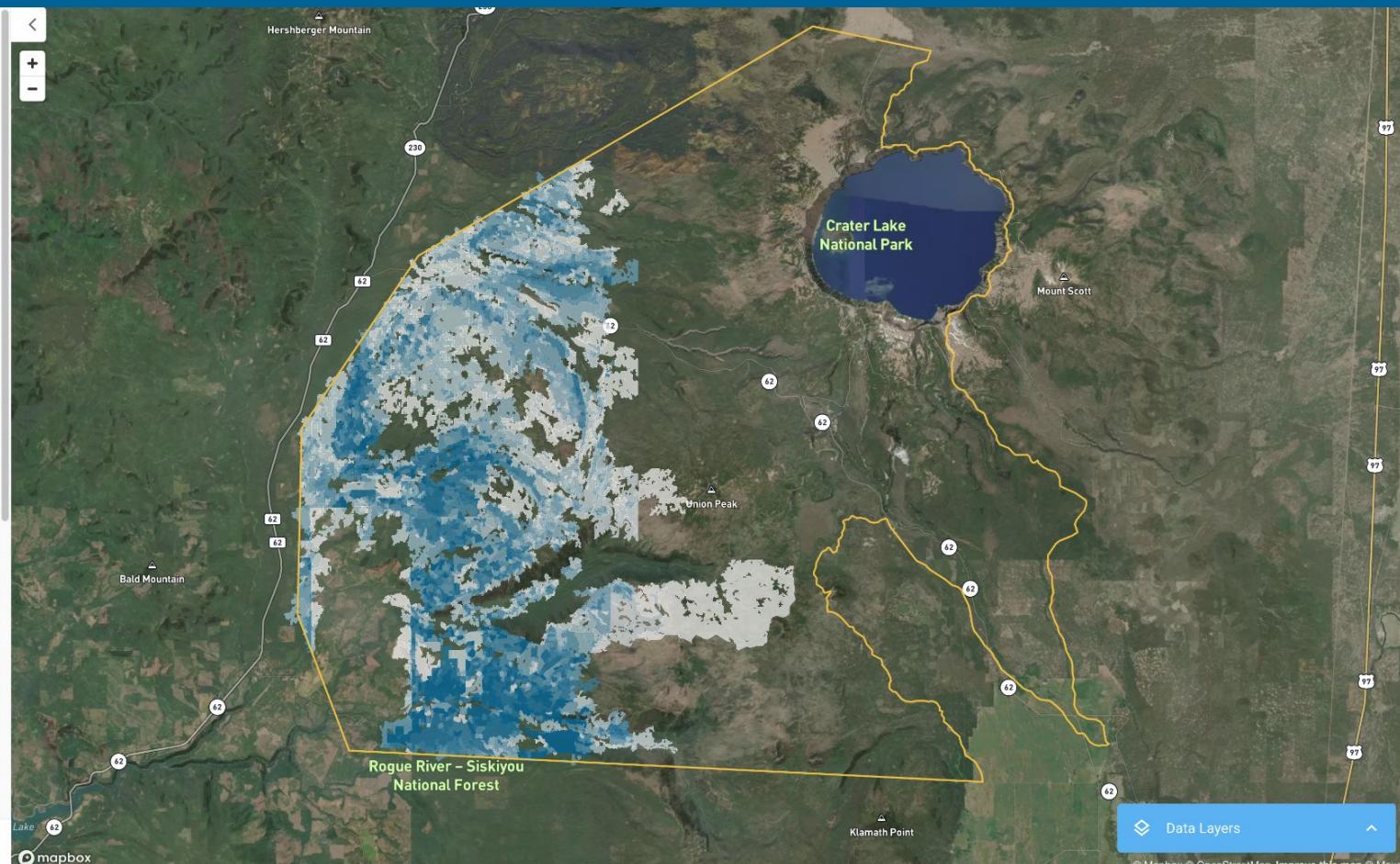
Ecological Commodity

Carbon

Water

Science &amp; Culture

CREATE SCENARIO



Data Layers

## Planning Area

## My Planning Area

Select Scenario  
cyrus - 2024-05-10 00:20

1. Set Priorities

2. Set Constraints

3. Explore scenario

## Projects

Project 1

Project 2

Project 3

## Project statistics (3/3)

Total project area 45,003 Acres

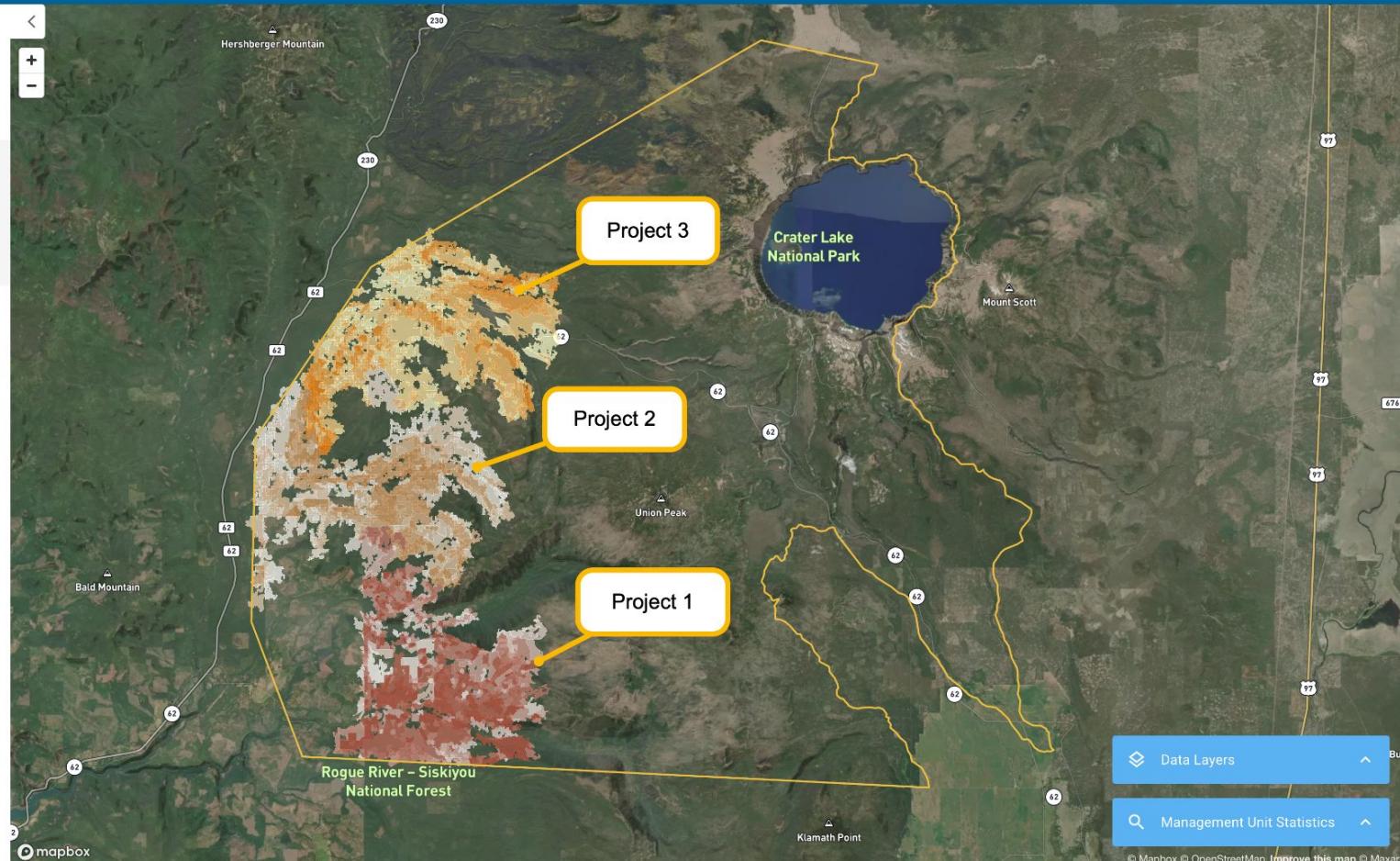
Total coverage 21%

Estimated cost \$72,507,000

Prioritized RROI 91%

ITERATE

CREATE COMPARISON



## Planning Area

## My Planning Area

Select Scenario  
cyrus - 2024-05-10 00:20

ⓘ 1. Set Priorities

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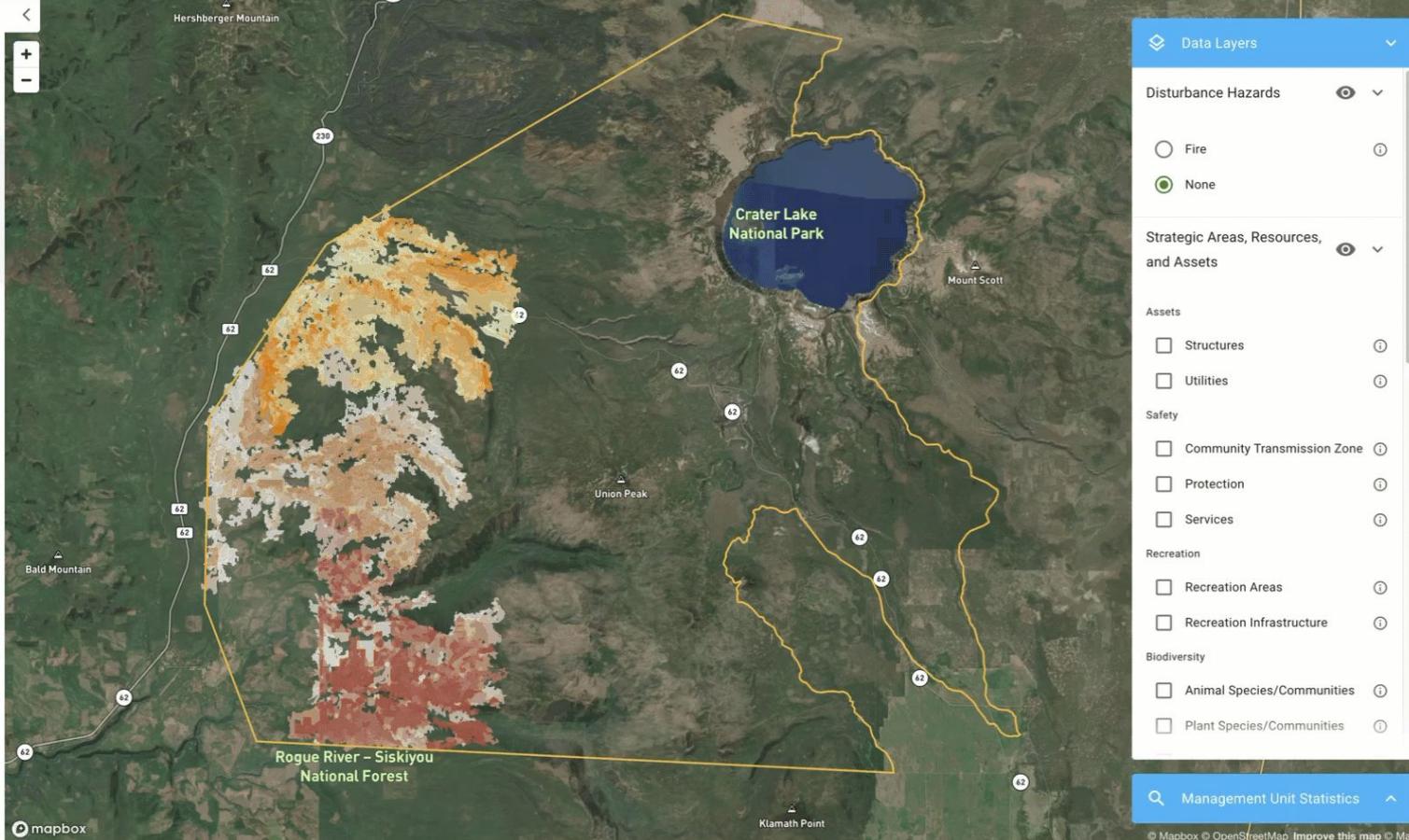
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ITERATE

CREATE COMPARISON



A landscape photograph with a green tint. In the foreground, there's a dark, forested hillside. The background is filled with large, billowing white clouds against a bright sky.

# Our Data Challenge?

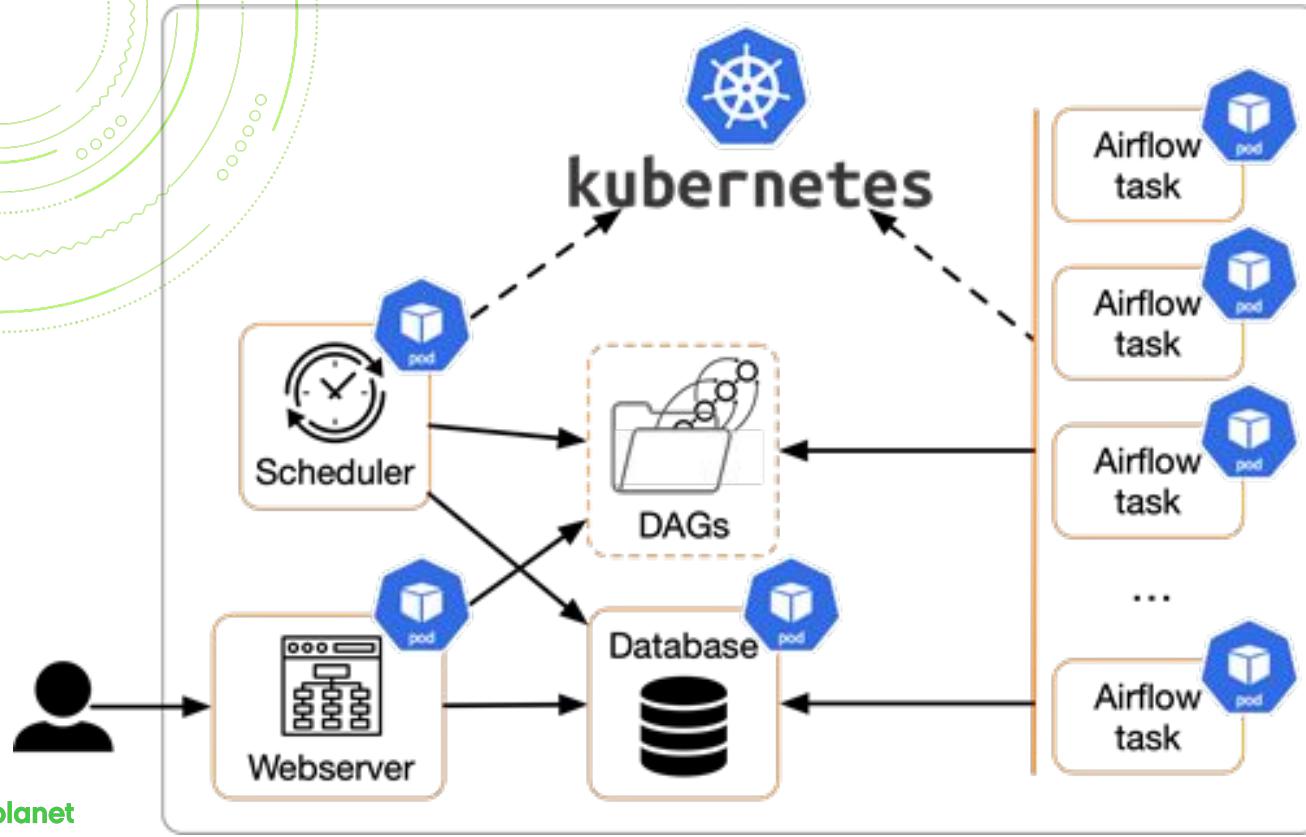
# Airflow Executor Options



VS

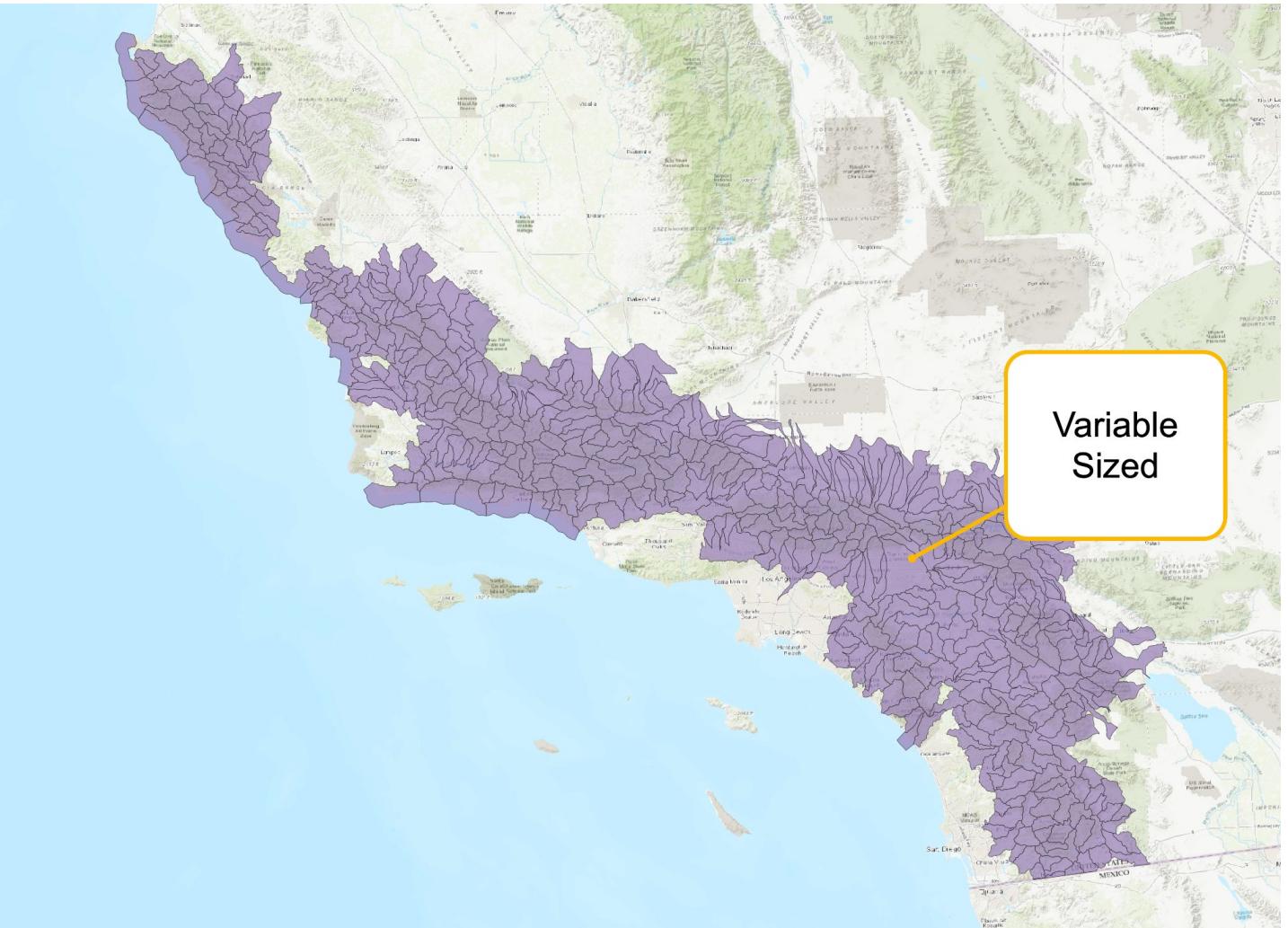


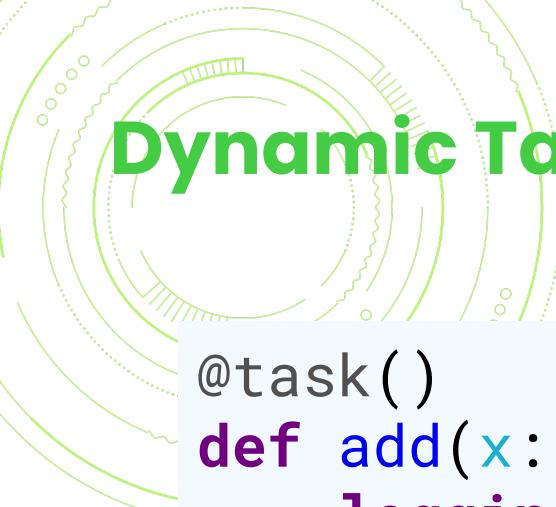
# How Airflow allocates resources



# Our Partitioning Scheme

## Variable Memory Reqs



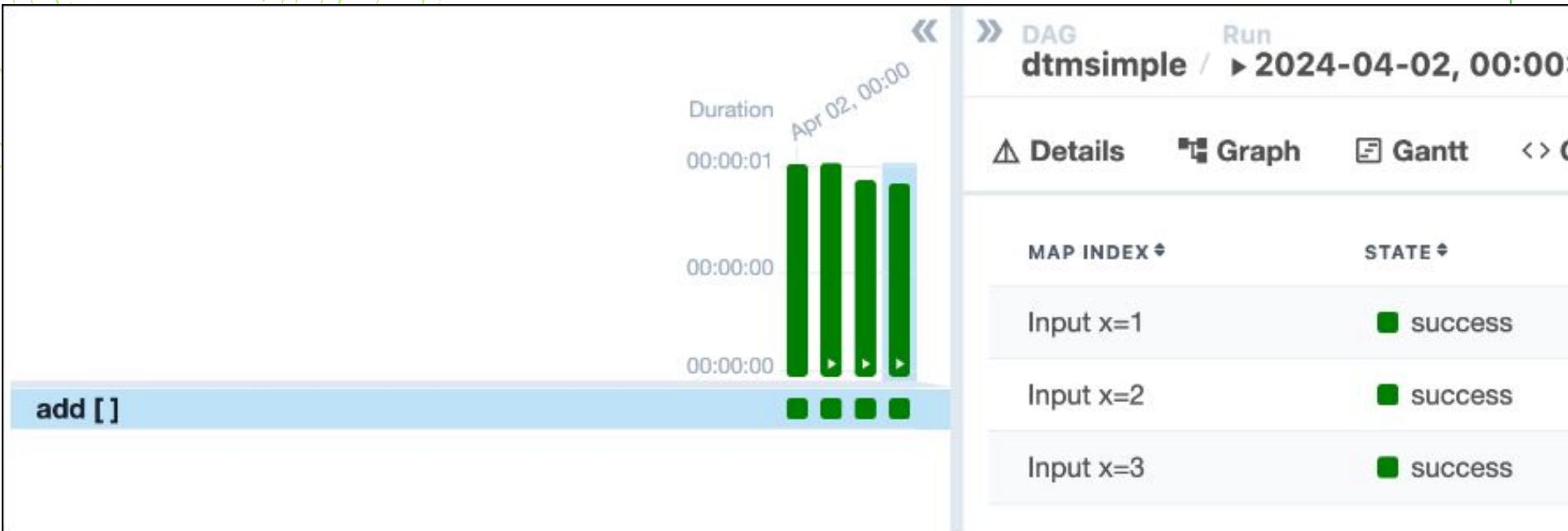


# Dynamic Task Mapping

```
@task()  
def add(x: int):  
    logging.info(f"Running for {x}")
```

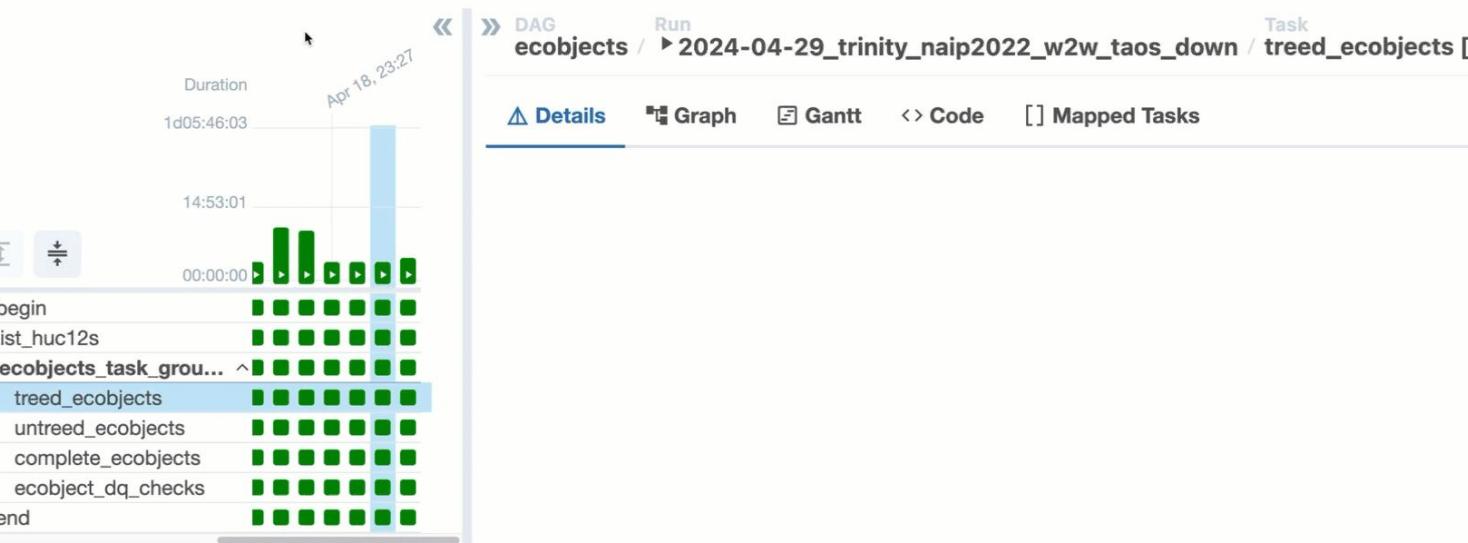
```
expansion_example = add.expand(x=[1, 2, 3])
```

# Dynamic Task Mapping



Press shift + / for Shortcuts

deferred failed que



# The Challenge

Default is  
Same Memory  
per  
TaskInstance

The screenshot shows a task monitoring interface with a left sidebar and a main content area. The sidebar contains a tree view of tasks under 'ecobooks\_task\_s' with nodes like 'begin', 'list\_huc12s', 'treed\_ecobooks', 'untreed\_ecobooks', 'complete\_ecobooks', 'ecobject\_dq\_checks', and 'end'. The main area has tabs for 'DAG', 'Run', 'Graph', 'Gantt', 'Code', and 'Mapped Tasks'. The 'Mapped Tasks' tab is active, displaying a table with columns for INDEX, STATE, and DURATION. The table lists 10 tasks, all marked as 'success', with durations ranging from 00:15:16 to 00:47:31.

INDEX	STATE	DURATION
1	success	00:22:16
2	success	00:42:16
3	success	00:24:16
4	success	00:17:31
5	success	00:25:31
6	success	00:47:31
7	success	00:41:01
8	success	00:15:46
9	success	00:19:31
10	success	00:21:46



# What's in a k8s pod spec

- Contains a full description of the environment and resource limits

**resources:**

**limits:**

cpu: '12'

memory: 24Gi

**requests:**

cpu: '12'

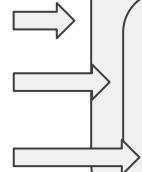
memory: 24Gi

# Example Task w Executor Config Override

```
from kubernetes.client import models as k8s

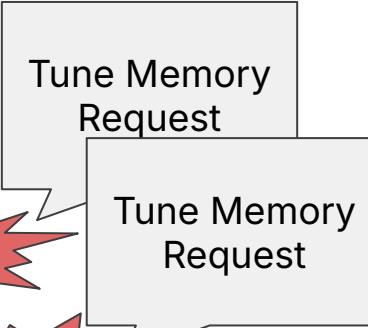
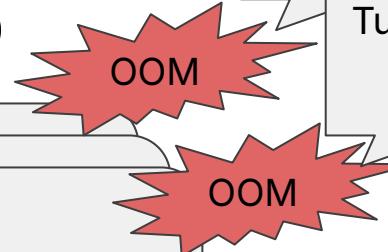
@task(
    executor_config={
        "pod_override": k8s.V1Pod(...),
    }
)
def do_something():
    print("my resources were customized!")
```

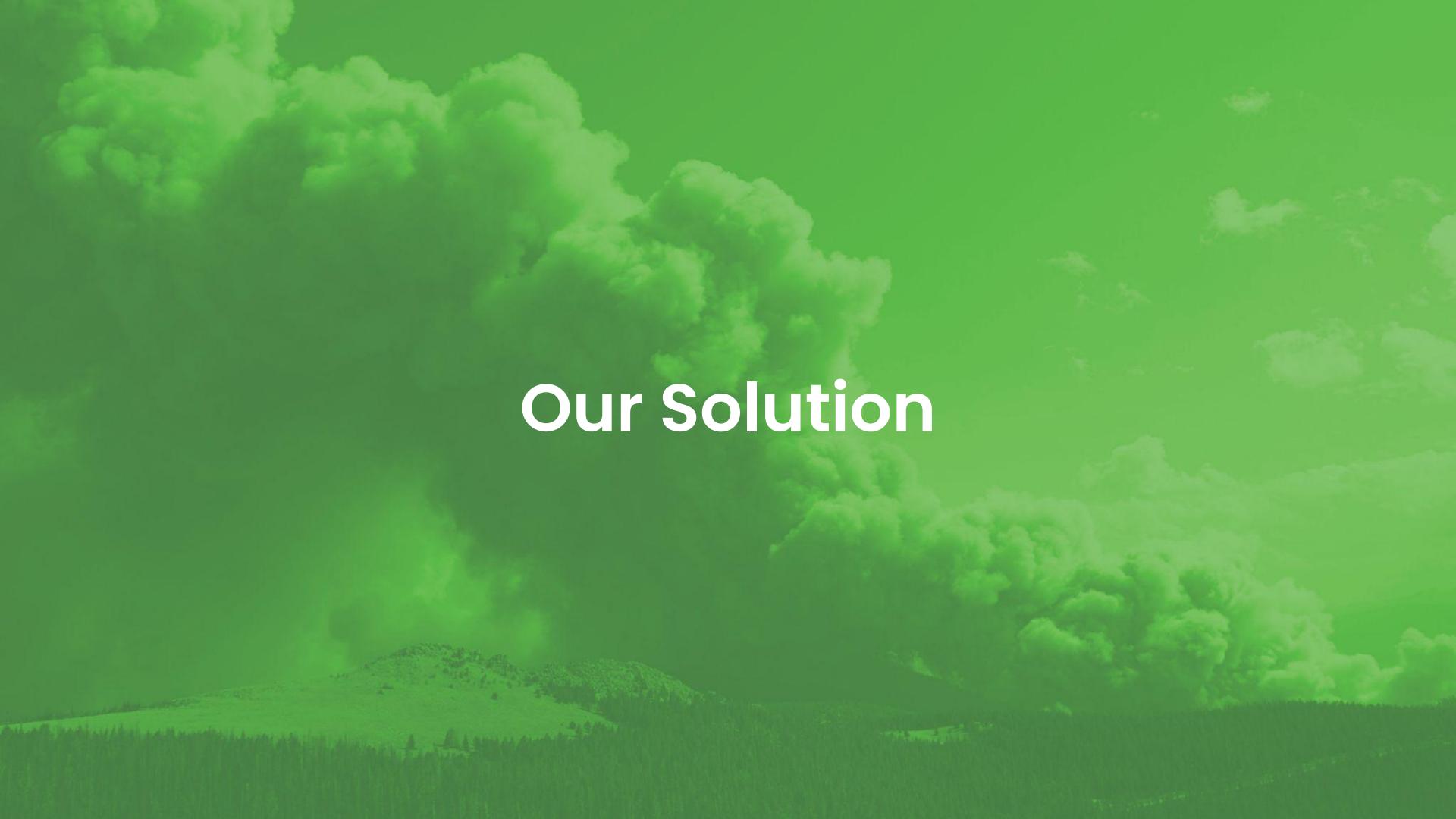
# Tuning Hell



~50

Dag

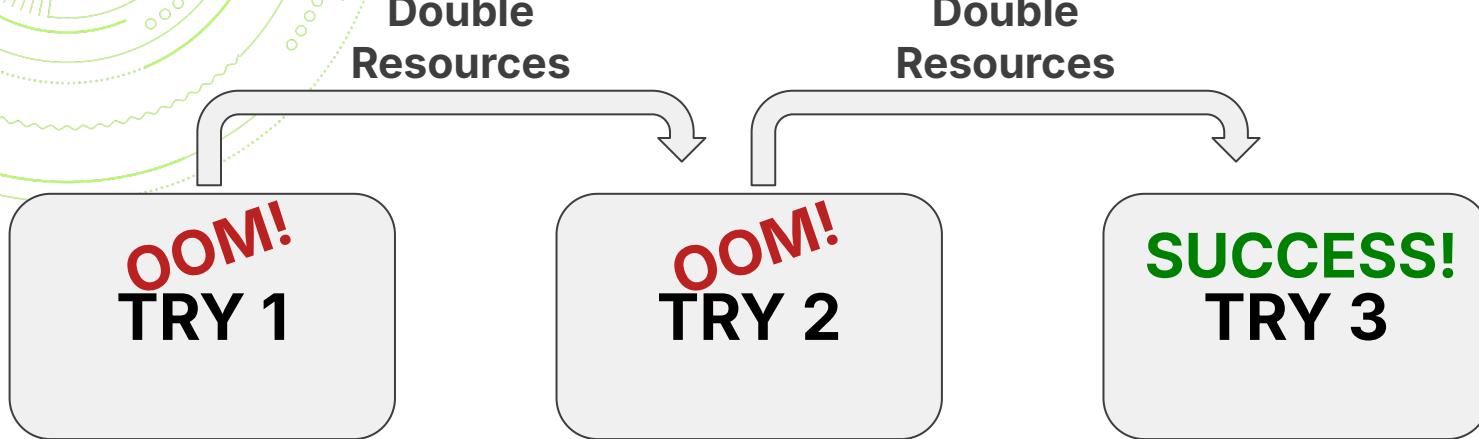


A landscape photograph showing a forested hillside in the foreground and middle ground. The sky above is a bright, pale yellow or light blue, filled with wispy, white clouds. The overall scene is bright and airy.

# Our Solution



# Make Self Healing Pipelines





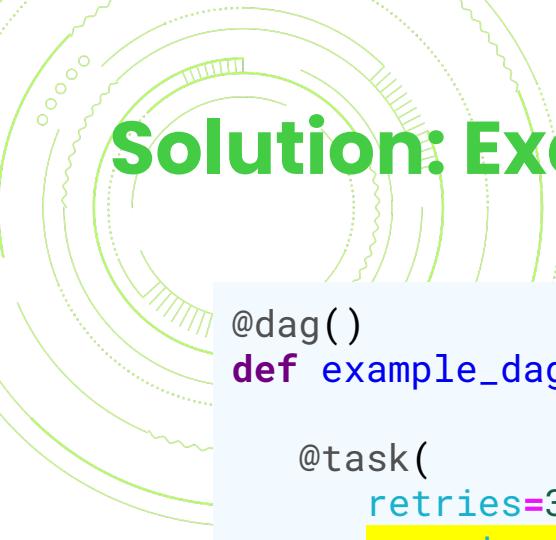
# Solution: Mutate Pod Executor Config

```
from kubernetes.client import models as k8s

def update_task_instance_pod_override(
    ti: TaskInstance,
    executor_config: Dict[str, V1Pod]
) -> None:
    with create_session() as session:
        ti.executor_config = executor_config
        session.add(ti)
    ti.refresh_from_db()
```

# Solution: Example Executor Config

```
executor_config ={
    "pod_override": k8s.V1Pod(
        spec=k8s.V1PodSpec(
            containers=[
                k8s.V1Container(
                    name="base",
                    resources=k8s.V1ResourceRequirements(
                        requests=K8sResources(cpu="4", memory="8Gi"),
                        limits=K8sResources(cpu="4", memory="8Gi"),
                    ),
                ),
            ],
        ),
    ),
}
```



# Solution: Example Dag

```
@dag()
def example_dag():

    @task(
        retries=3,
        on_retry_callback=double_memory())
    )
    def failing_task():
        raise ValueError("Failing to Memory Ramp")
```



A landscape photograph with a green tint. In the foreground, there are dark green hills covered in dense forests of tall evergreen trees. The middle ground shows more hills and a sky filled with large, white, fluffy cumulus clouds. The overall scene is bright and airy.

**But wait there's more**



# What about initial Memory Allocation



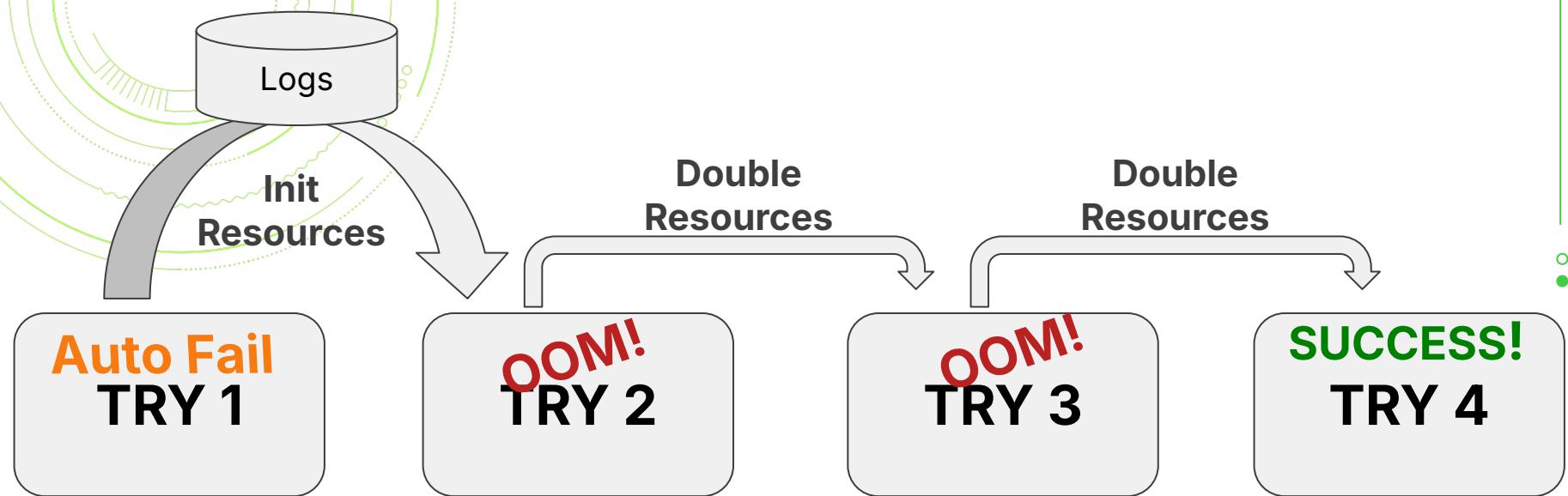
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# Set Initial Resources per TI

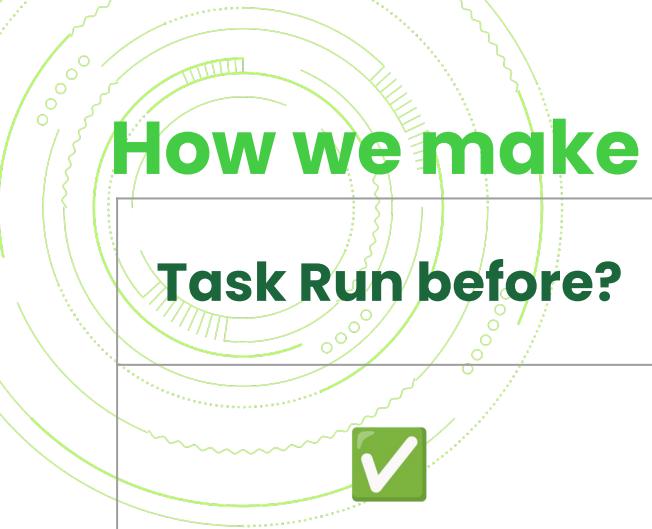




# Implementation: first try fail

Because we can't set memory allocation before we run, the first attempt to run any task is automatically failed as a means of setting the correct amount of memory

```
[2024-02-23, 23:41:01 UTC] {vp_python.py:202} INFO - Running with the following memory settings:  
[2024-02-23, 23:41:01 UTC] {vp_python.py:203} INFO - Total memory from Executor Config: 9.0 GiB  
[2024-02-23, 23:41:01 UTC] {vp_python.py:206} INFO - Total memory available: 9.0 GiB  
[2024-02-23, 23:41:01 UTC] {vp_python.py:209} INFO - Total memory limit on process: 8.1 GiB  
[2024-02-23, 23:41:01 UTC] {airflow_helpers.py:200} INFO - Recommending default memory for huc12_id =  
[2024-02-23, 23:41:01 UTC] {airflow_helpers.py:435} INFO - Setting Memory for Executor Config to: 4.0  
GiB  
[2024-02-23, 23:41:02 UTC] {airflow_helpers.py:498} INFO - #####  
[2024-02-23, 23:41:02 UTC] {airflow_helpers.py:499} INFO - # EXPECTED FIRST TRY FAIL #  
[2024-02-23, 23:41:02 UTC] {airflow_helpers.py:500} INFO - #####
```



# How we make an initial estimate

Task Run before?	Data (HUCs) Run Before?	Action
✓	✓	Allocate prior memory consumption + safety margin
✓	✗	Run a linear regression to estimate memory needs; add safety margin
✗	✗	Make a guess that works for a lot of tasks



# Custom Decorator

We implement this using a custom decorator, `@task.vp`

```
@task.vp
def save_the_forest():
    from utils.forest_save import forest_saver_2000
    forest_saver_2000()
```



# Custom Decorator Goodies

1. Stats Logging
  2. Initial Memory Recommendation
  3. Memory Ramp on Retry
  4. OOM Detection
- 



Q&A

# Appendix



vibrant planet

# Self Healing Pipelines (oom Resilience)



## **OOM detection and retry**

**OOM frequently results in a process death with no direct notification**

**So we wrap our tasks in a parent process which detects OOM situations and kicks off a retry with double the amount of memory**

**This parent process also collects memory and CPU utilization statistics during process execution and logs them to a database upon completion.**



# Small job optimization

Jobs with low memory needs (eg: smaller than the memory-estimation stub) get launched inside the same pod and memory footprint of the memory-estimation stub, rather than needing a failure and retry. This reduces both both the time and expense of running them.

Short-running jobs are often batched together, avoiding the overhead of launching new containers.