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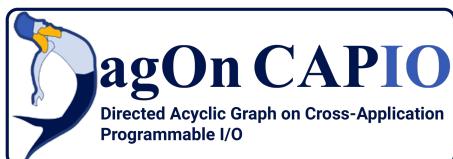
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DI RIPRESA E RESILIENZA

X ICSC  
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Big Data and Quantum Computing

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

*Prof. Raffaele Montella*

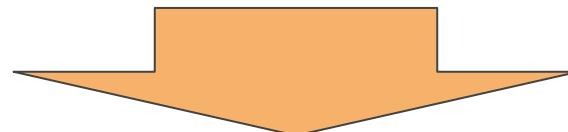
University of Naples “Parthenope”



# 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

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▼ Main Menu



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



## Baia Di Napoli

Forecast T°C Wind (km) Rain (mm) Pressure (hPa)

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

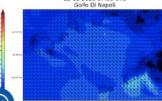
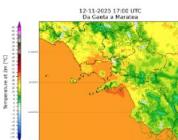
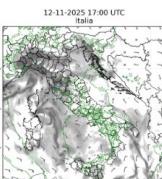
Output:

## Models

Date: 11/12/2025

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

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

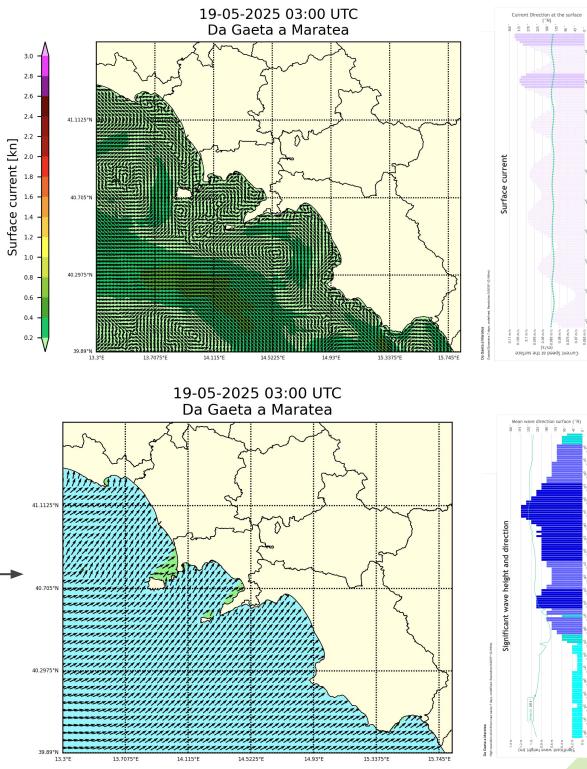
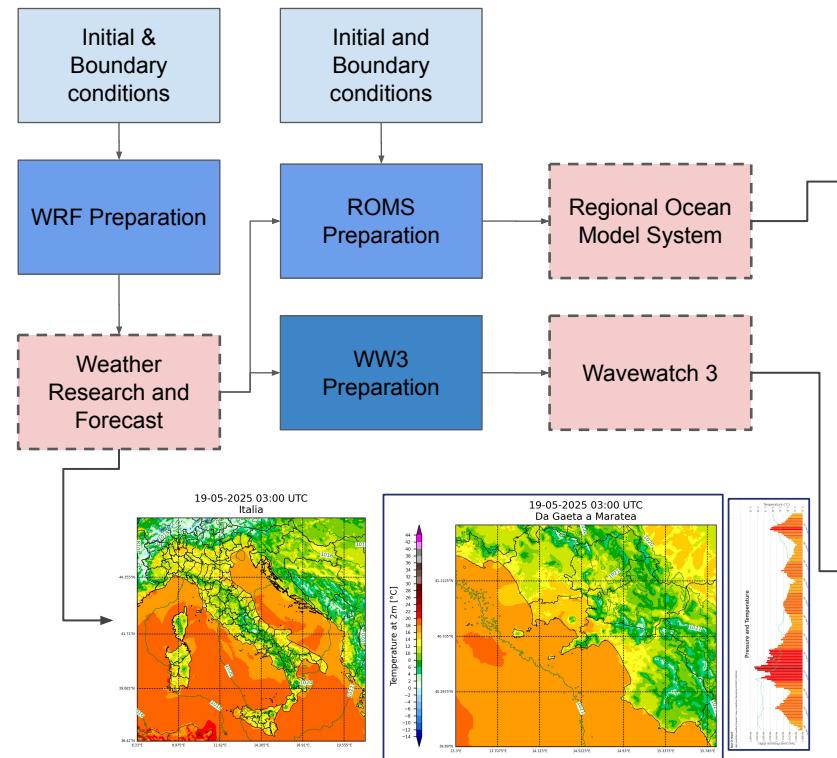


Weather Bulletin for Regione Campania Wednesday, November 12, 2025: A bright and sunny day is in store for Campania. The morning will start cool with temperatures around 11°C, gradually warming to a p...

Claudia Fairwinds | November 11, 2025

[Read More](#)

[Weather Report](#)



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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.**



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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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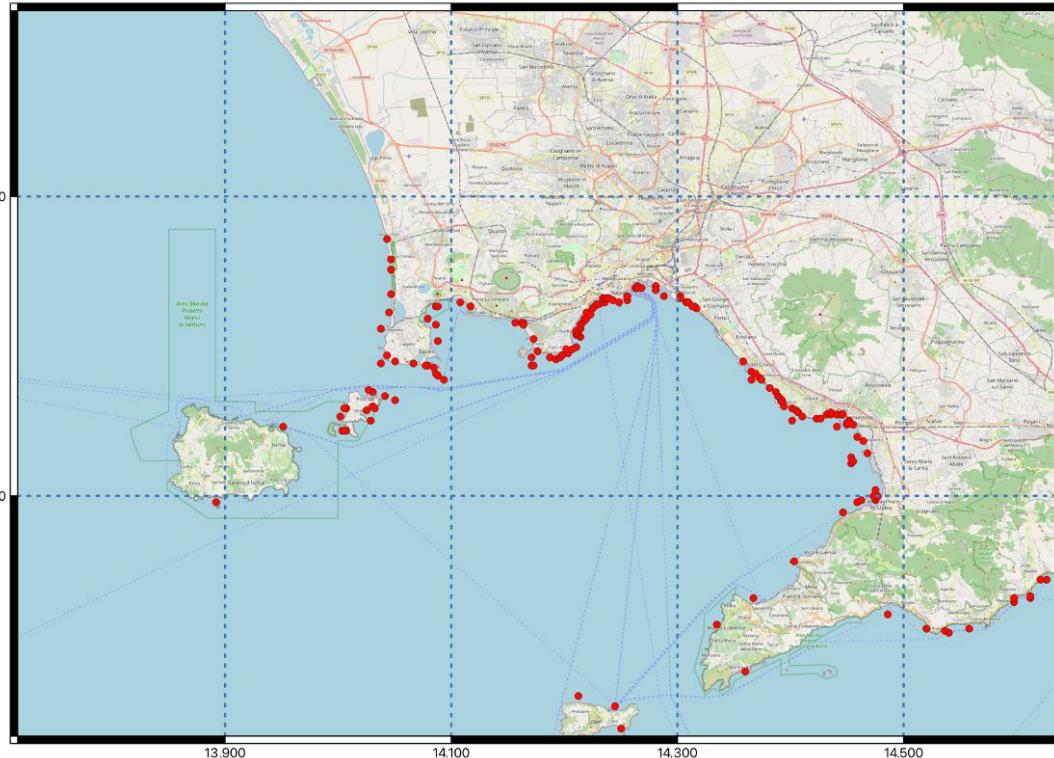
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# Study domain: the Campania Region, South of Italy



## 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.



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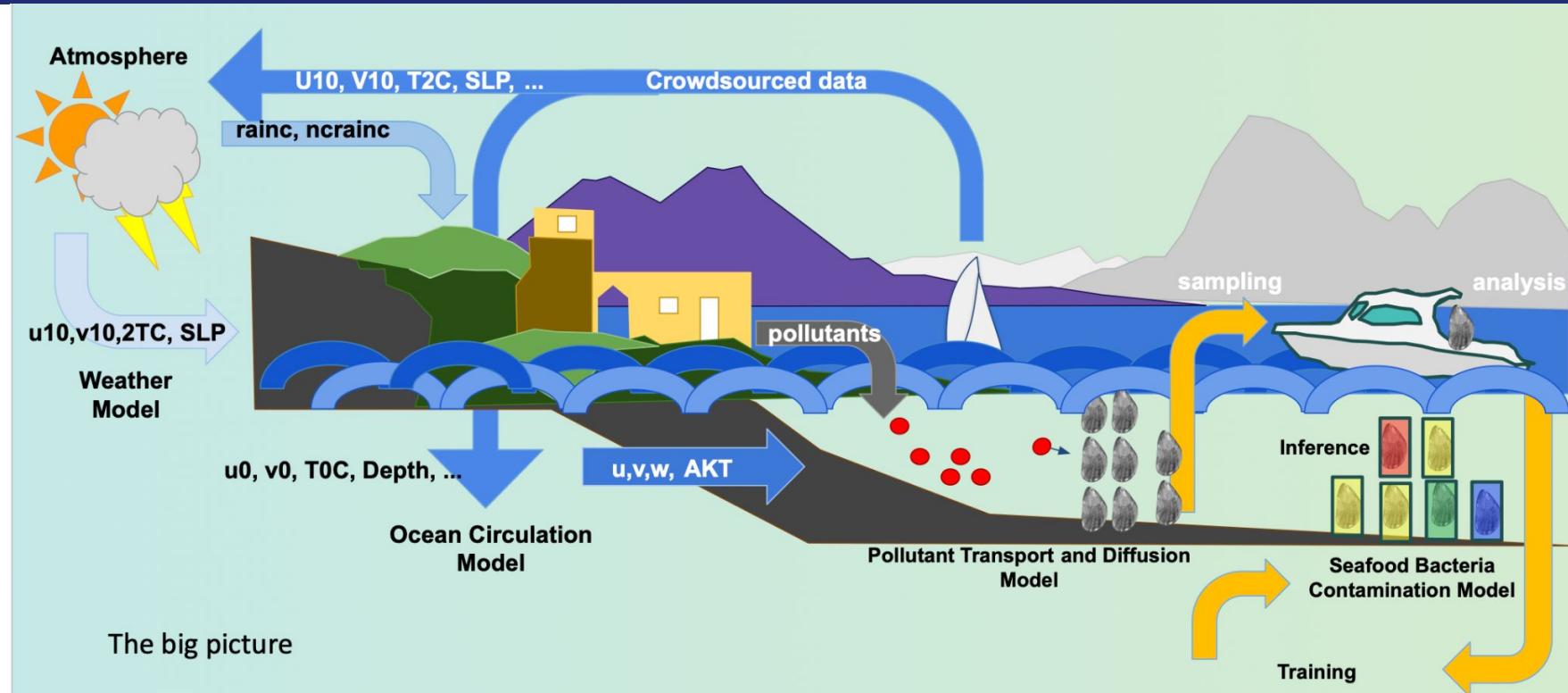


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# The big picture



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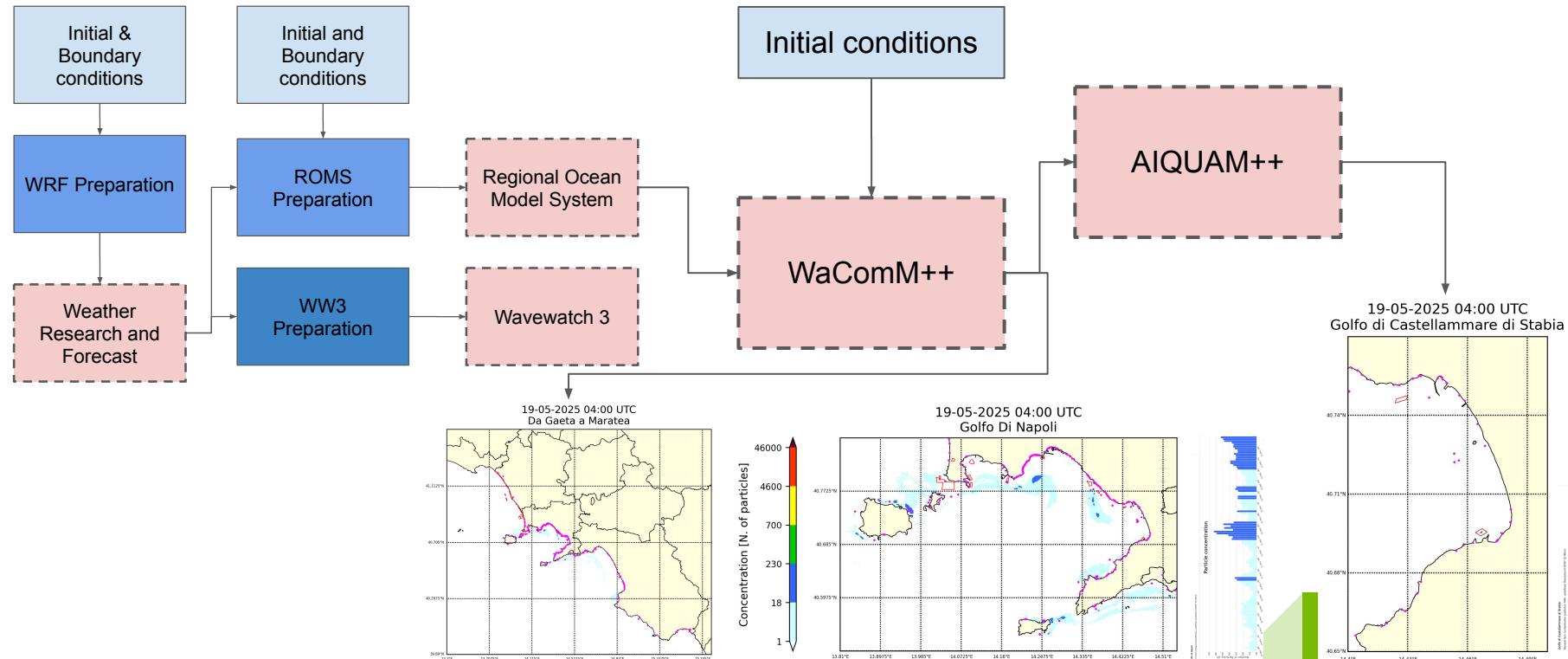


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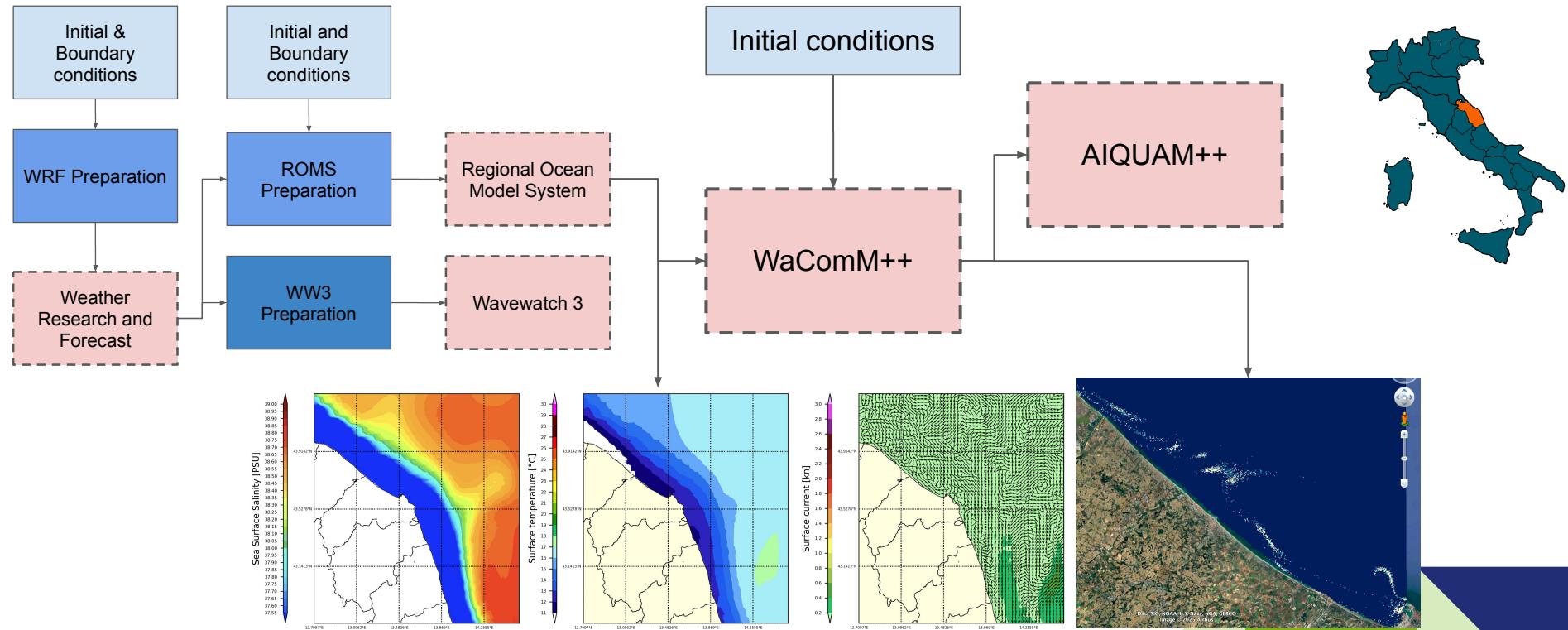


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# MytilX (on demand)



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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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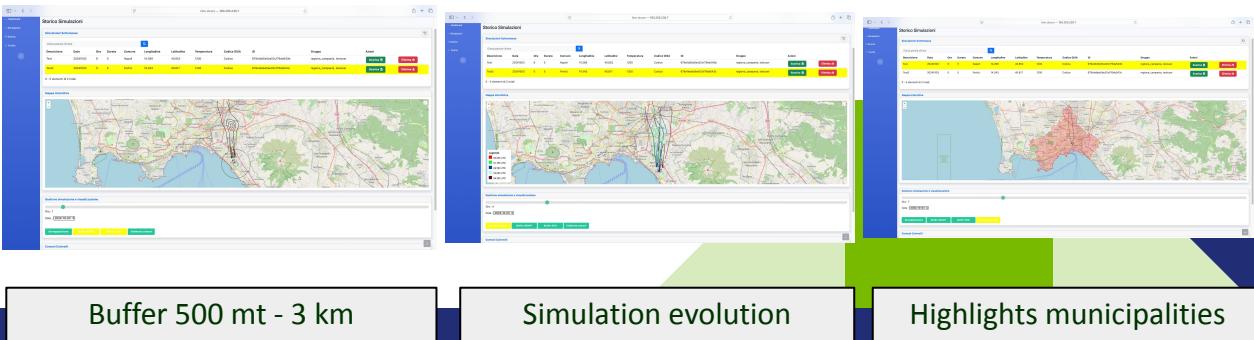
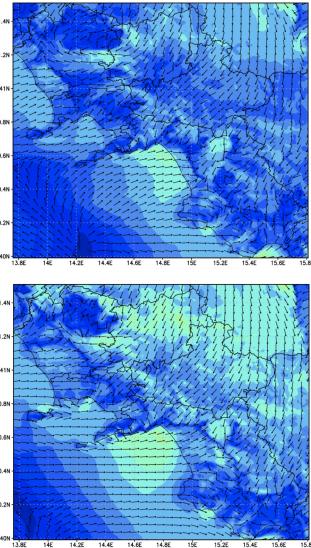
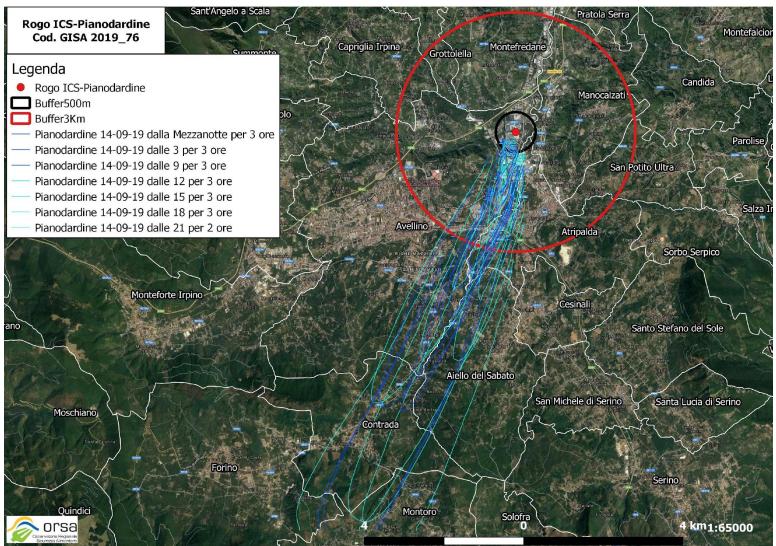
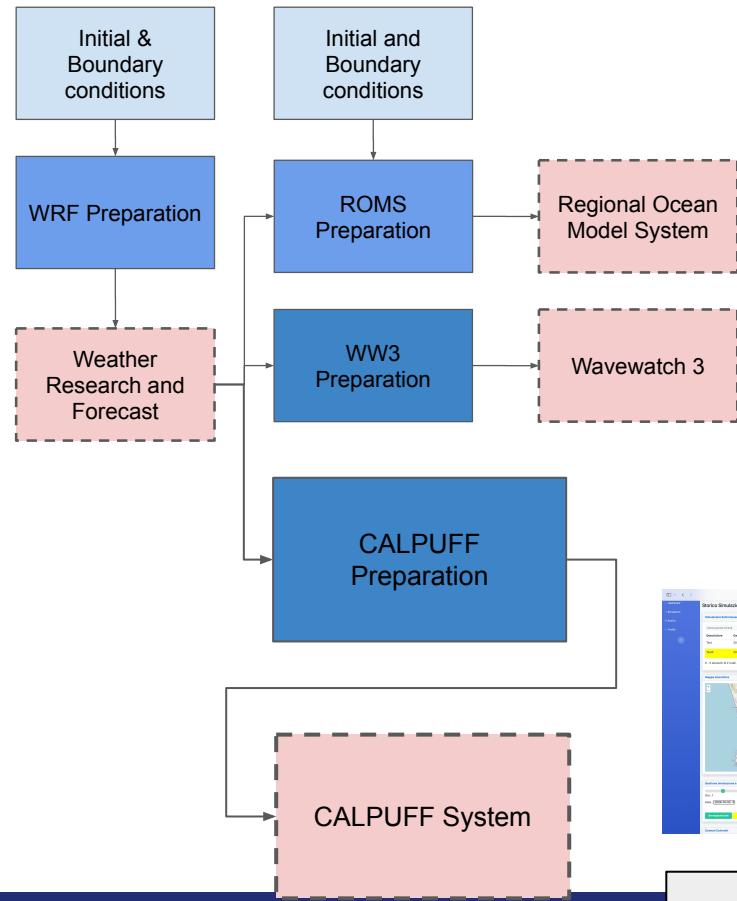


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# SmokeTracer (on demand)



# 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/>



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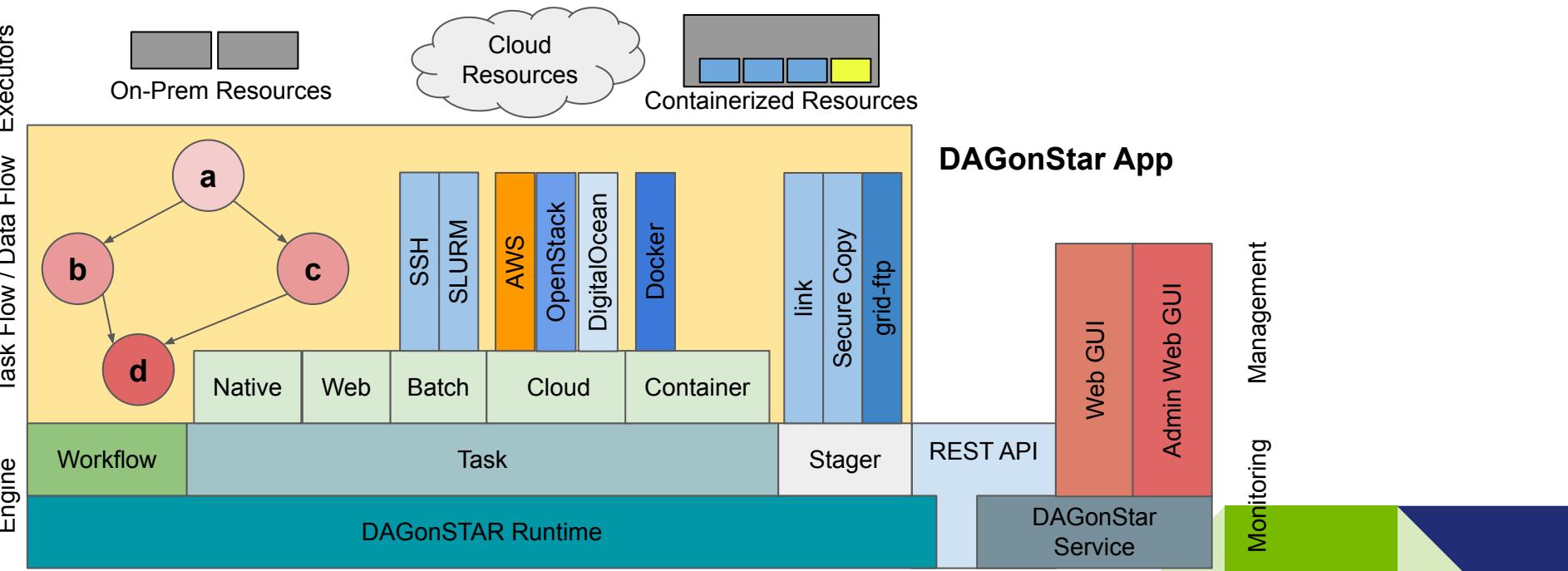


Named after the Phoenician god-fish *Dagon* known by ancient Greeks as *Triton*.

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



# Architecture



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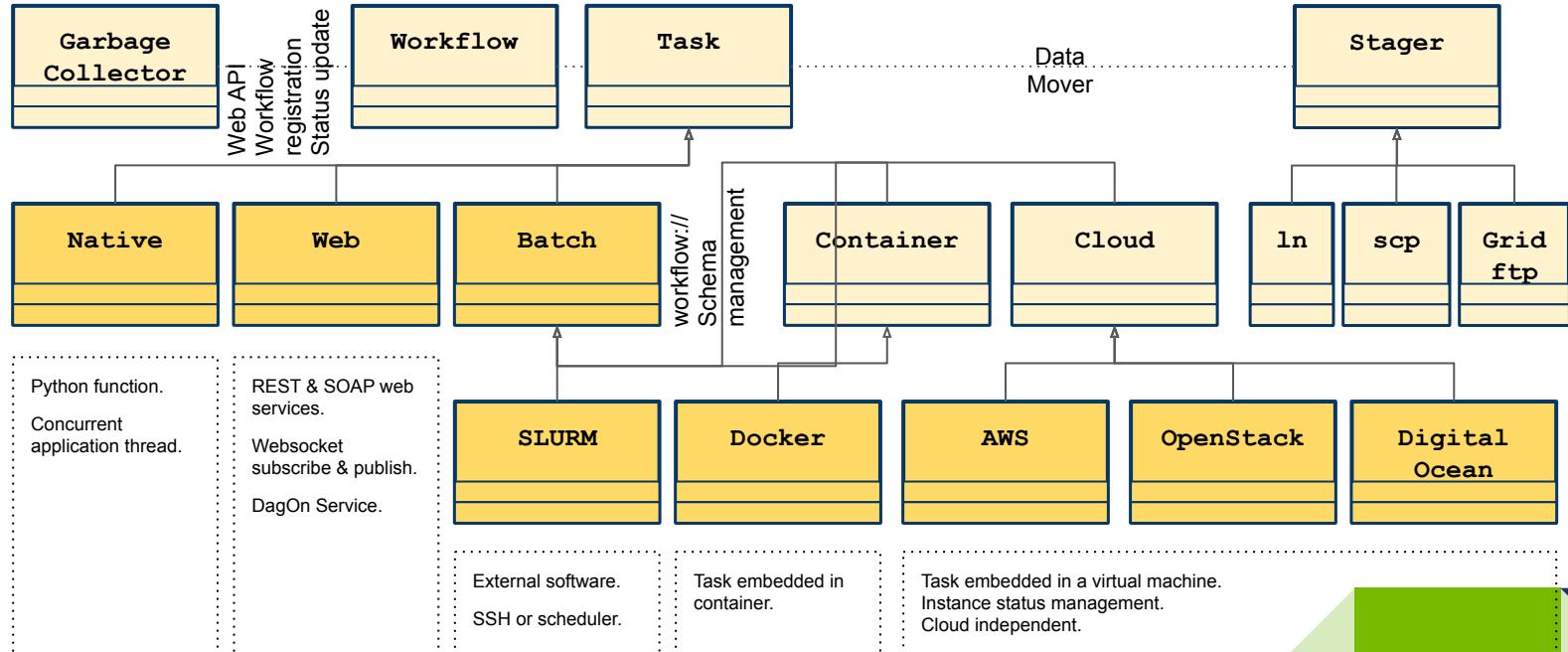


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# Components



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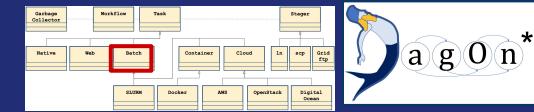
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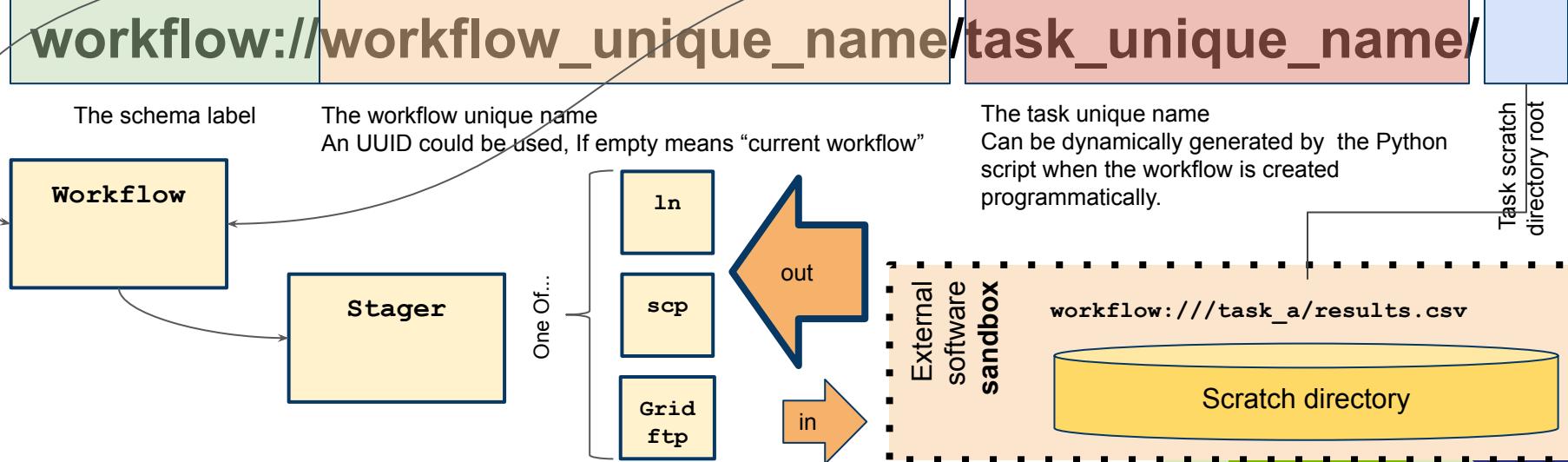
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# workflow:// schema



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



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# Garbage Collector



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

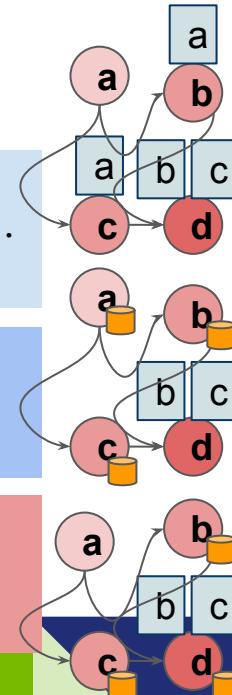
```
For each batch task in the <workflow> ...
    For each workflow://<workflow>/<task>/ reference in the task command line ...
        Increment the number of reference to <task>
```

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

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

## **Virtual machine instance:**

**Container:**  
Stop the container.



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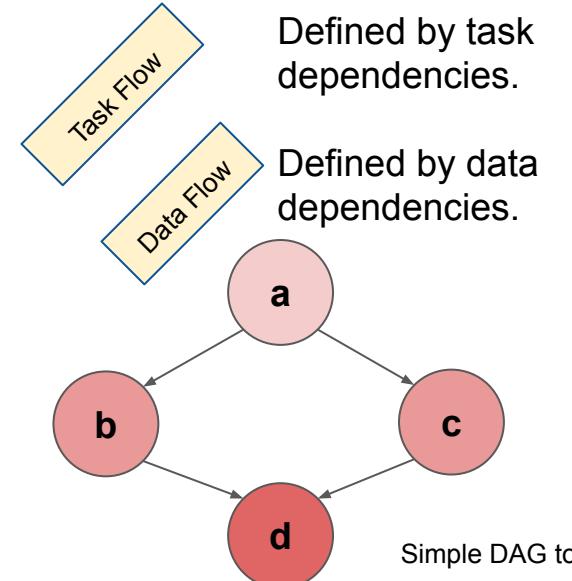


# Programming Model

## 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.



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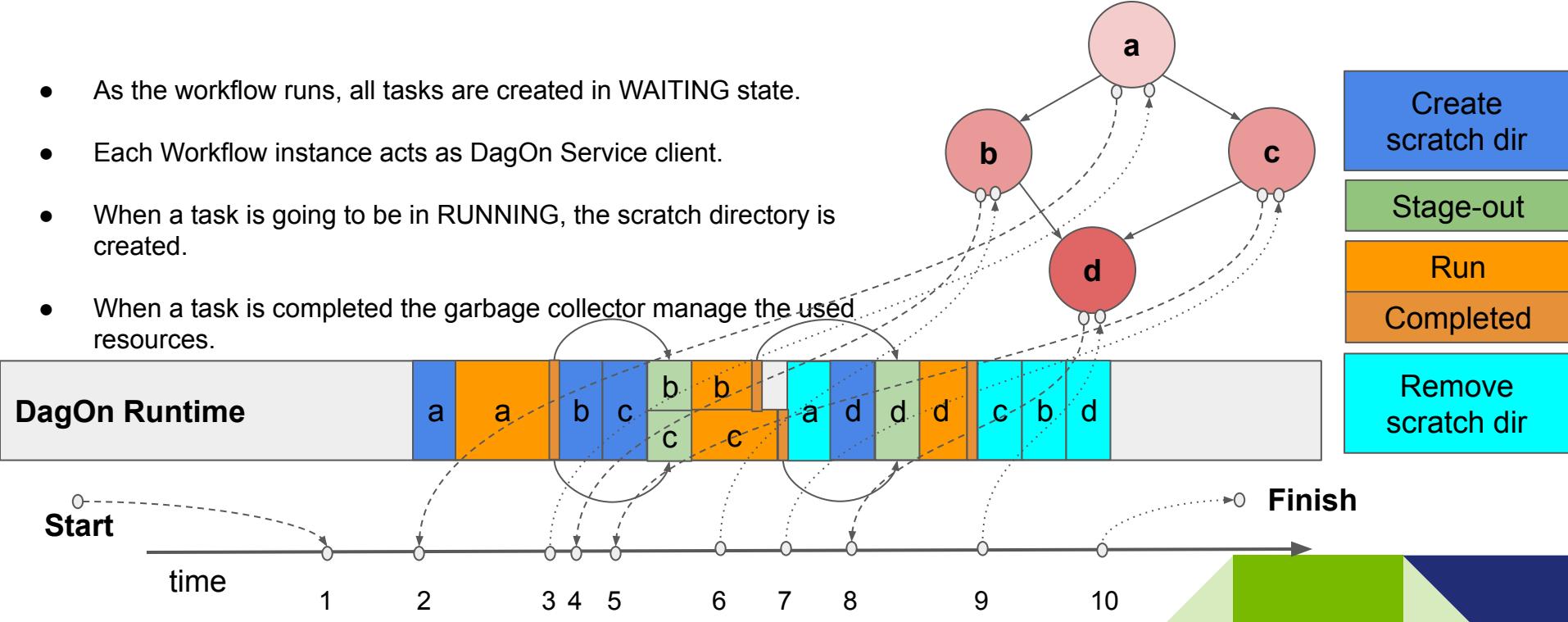
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# Application Lifecycle

- 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.



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# It's tutorial time!



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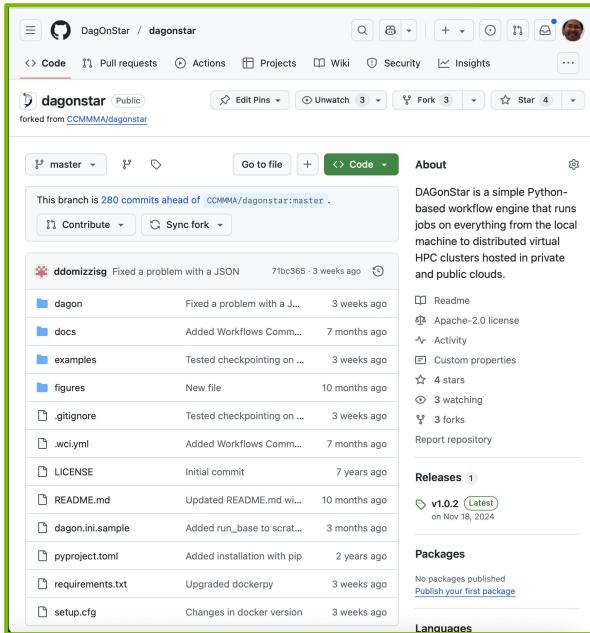
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# Docs and tutorials



A screenshot of the GitHub repository page for `dagonstar`. The page shows the repository's README, issues, pull requests, and releases. The repository has 280 commits ahead of the master branch. It includes sections for `dagon`, `docs`, `examples`, `figures`, `.gitignore`, `wc1.yaml`, `LICENSE`, `README.md`, `dagon.ini.sample`, `pyproject.toml`, `requirements.txt`, and `setup.cfg`. The `Releases` section shows a single release v1.0.2 (Latest) from Nov 19, 2024. The `Packages` section indicates no packages have been published.

## 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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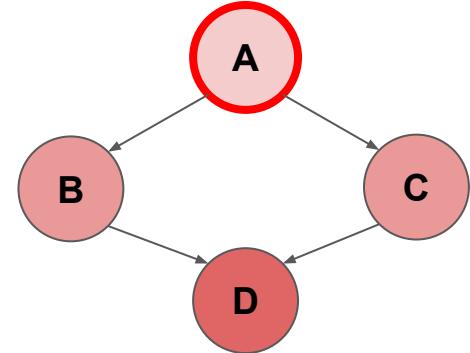


# dataflow-demo.py (1/3)

```
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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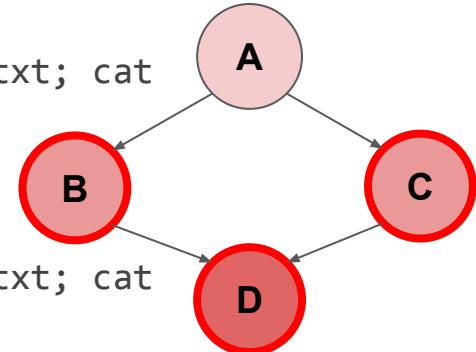
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# dataflow-demo.py (2/3)

```
# 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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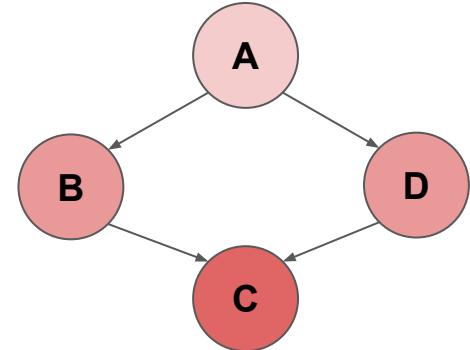
# dataflow-demo.py (3/3)

```
# 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>



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



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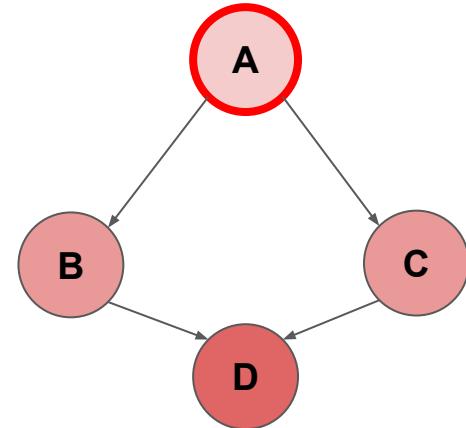
# dataflow-demo-docker-remote.py

```
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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# dataflow-demo-docker-remote.py

```
# 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="")

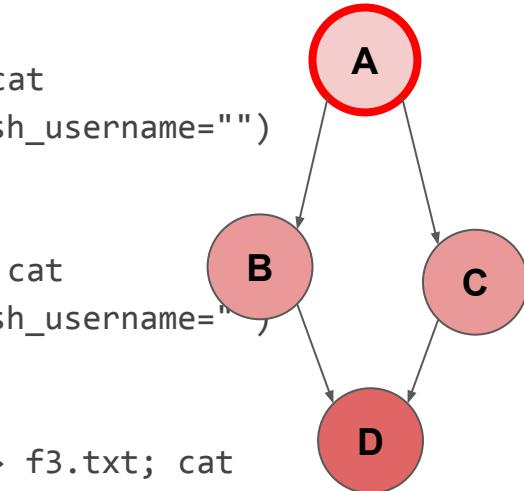
# The task d
taskD = DagonTask(TaskType.DOCKER, "D", "cat workflow:///B/f2.txt >> f3.txt; cat
workflow:///C/f2.txt >> f3.txt", image="ubuntu:latest", ip="", ssh_username="")
```

A

B

C

D



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



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# The extended universe



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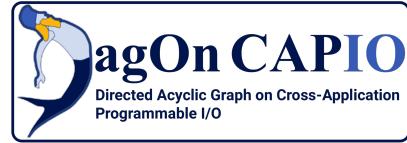
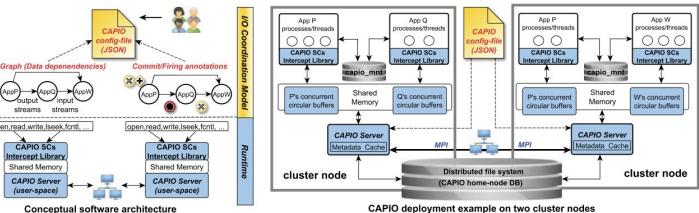
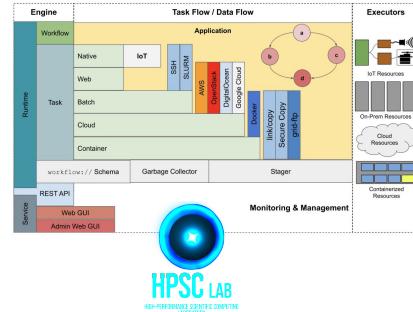


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# DAGOnStar



- 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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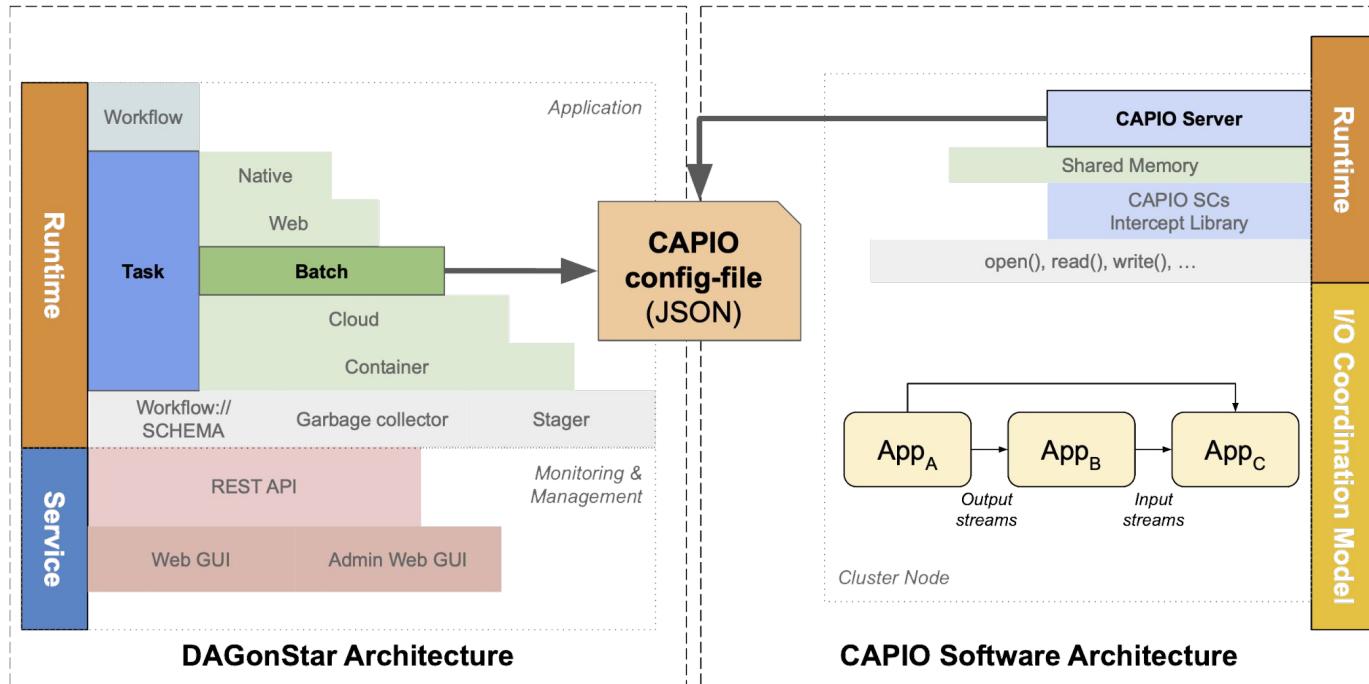
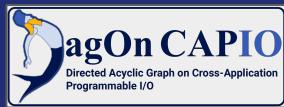
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# DAGOnStar and CAPIO integration



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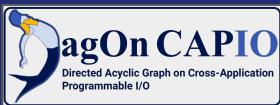
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# DAGonStar and CAPIO integration



The figure shows a timeline from 0 to 39. A blue bar at the top represents the WRF task, which runs from 0 to 33. Below it, a green bar represents the DAGonCAPIO task, which runs from 3 to 33. Arrows point from the green bar to specific time points: 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, and 33.



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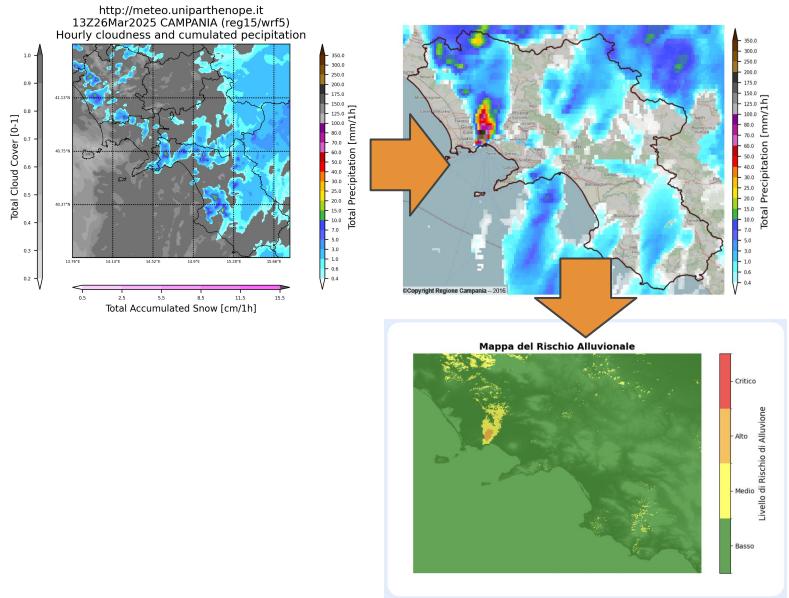
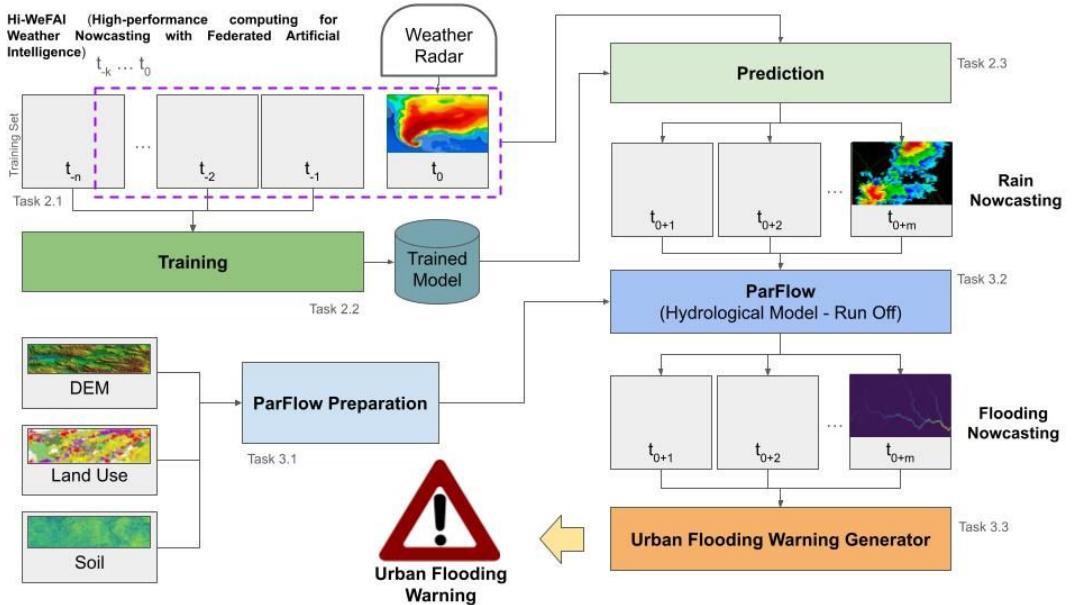


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Hi-WeFAI (High-performance computing for Weather Nowcasting with Federated Artificial Intelligence)



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



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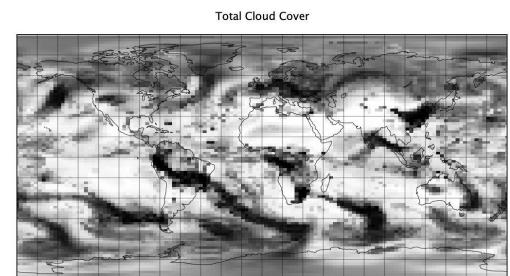
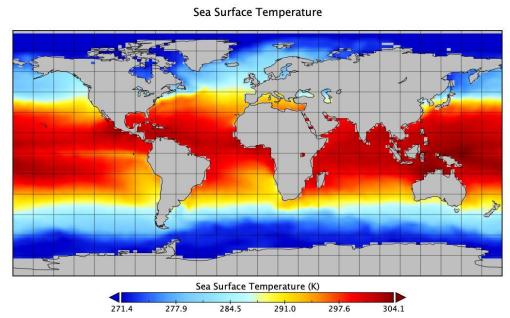
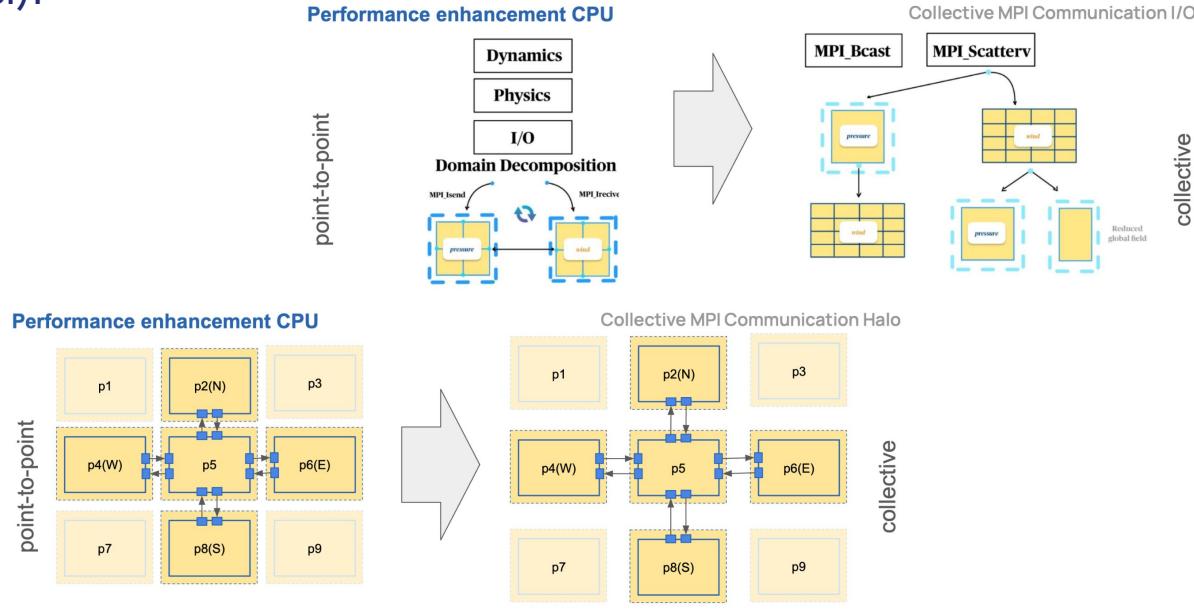


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Centro Nazionale di Ricerca in HPC,  
Big Data and Quantum Computing

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>



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# Time to wrap up



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# Contributors

DAGOnStar is open-source and open to the workflow community



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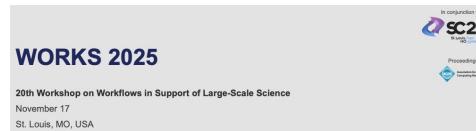
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# Conclusion...

## ...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/>



## DeScience '26

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IEEE eScience 2026 brings together leading interdisciplinary research communities, developers, and users of eScience applications and enabling IT technologies. The objective of the eScience Conference is to promote and encourage all aspects of eScience and its associated technologies, applications, algorithms, and tools with a strong focus on practical solutions and challenges. The eScience conference interprets eScience in its broadest meaning that enables and improves innovation

#### 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



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