Tell Snakemake what files input: "A.txt", "B.txt", "C.txt" Snakemake determines you want to be created the dependencies for you Produce the files input: "{sample}.inter" you want to have from output: "{sample}.txt" shell: "somecommand {input} {output} some intermediate result Use wildcards to write rule: Create a needed input: "{sample}.in" general rules intermediate result output: "{sample}.inter" for all samples run: somepythoncode()