



EBRAINS

EBRAINS workflow

Workflow Components

Task 4.3

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EBRAINS Context

- Various tools and services provided by EBRAINS
- Multiplication of tools/services increases dependencies concurrency and complexity

→ Provide the healthiest environment(s) able to run the tools together to maximize:

- stability
- flexibility → Containerization
- reproducibility
- supported hardware → Workflows
- large datasets support

Encapsulation

- A software is a singular system involving requirements, inputs, environment, hardware ...
- Encapsulating the construction of dedicated system

Computation is a social society

- Main goal is to compute on a maximum types of hardware (HPC, cloud, SoC, VM)
- Unbreakable relations between the machine and the encapsulated system
- Example: better use of on dedicated HPC compilers

Containerization

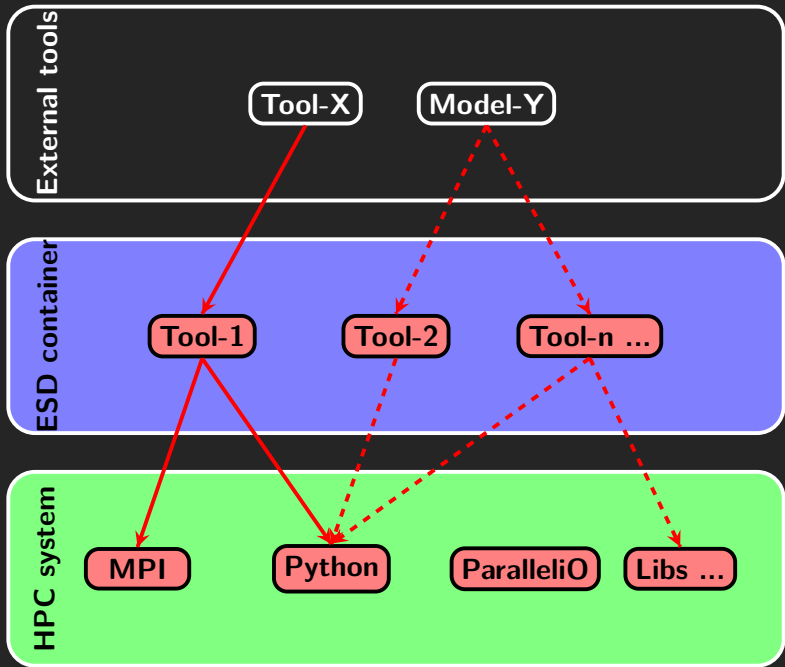
A **container** is a portable independent environment able to compute on its own.

A **container** is a single instance of an **image**

A container can be used to encapsulate a single application or an entire operating system.

HPC systems have optimized libraries

→ containers must be encapsulated **and** connected to local host environment



Docker containers

Docker containers are built from Dockerfiles

```
# Build stage with Spack pre-installed and ready to be used
FROM spack/ubuntu-jammy:develop as builder

# Copy manifest file (spack.yaml)
COPY ./spack.yaml /opt/spack-environment/spack.yaml

# Get the additional EBRAINS package definitions
# TODO: here we get the main branch, we may wish to use a release tag
RUN git clone https://gitlab.ebrains.eu/ri/tech-hub/platform/esd/ebrains-spack-
    ↪ builds.git /opt/ebrains-spack-builds

# Install the software, remove unnecessary deps
RUN cd /opt/spack-environment && spack repo add /opt/ebrains-spack-builds &&
    ↪ spack env activate . && spack install --fail-fast && spack gc -y
```

Docker containers can be built from multiple Docker containers

```
FROM ubuntu:22.04

RUN apt-get update && apt-get install -y gfortran

# Copy data from other container
COPY --from=builder /opt/spack-environment /opt/spack-environment
COPY --from=builder /opt/software /opt/software
```


Workflows

Definition¹

A workflow is a well-defined, and possibly repeatable, pattern or systematic organization of activities designed to achieve a certain transformation of data.

- Business definition adapted to scientific processes
- **Processes and activities:** set of tasks
- Reusability and reproducibility
- High level of abstraction
- Highly depends on data movement mechanisms
- Highly depends on tools interface

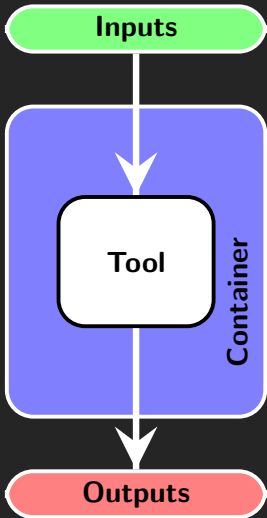
¹*Workflow Systems for Science: Concepts and Tools* - Domenico Talia - <http://dx.doi.org/10.1155/2013/404525>

Common Workflow Language

- Language dedicated to workflows description
- Based on 2 files
 - `.cwl` script file
 - `.yaml` / `.json` inputs file
- CLI based instructions
- Use of Docker/Singularity/Apptainer environments, including userspace/rootless containers: **Podman**, **uDocker**
- Automatic image pull

```
cwltool my-script.cwl my-inputs.yaml
```

1 tool → 1 CWL script



```
class: CommandLineTool
cwlVersion: v1.0
id: my-tool-id
label: My Tool is awesome
```

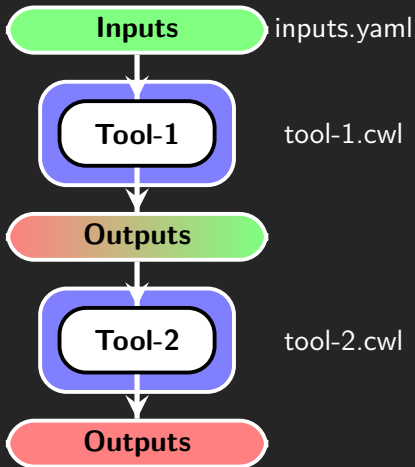
```
baseCommand: ["CallOfTool.exe"]
```

```
requirements:
- class: DockerRequirement
  dockerPull: docker-registry.ebrains.eu/my-docker
```

```
inputs:
  input-1:
    type: string
    inputBinding:
      position: 1
      prefix: --input-1
```

```
outputs:
  output-A:
    type: int
```

1 workflow → 1 CWL script



```
class: Workflow  
cwlVersion: v1.0  
id: my-workflow
```

```
inputs:  
  input-tool-1: <type>
```

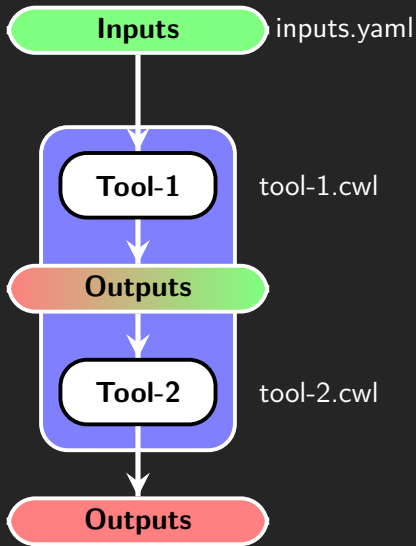
```
outputs:  
  output-tool-2:  
    type: <type>  
    outputSource: tool-2/output-tool-2
```

```
steps:
```

```
tool-1:  
  run: tool-1.cwl  
  in:  
    input-tool-1: input-tool-1  
  out: [output-tool-1]
```

```
tool-2:  
  run: tool-2.cwl  
  in:  
    input-tool-2: tool-1/output-tool-1  
  out: [output-tool-2]
```

1 workflow → 1 CWL script



```
class: Workflow
cwlVersion: v1.0
id: my-workflow
requirements:
  - class: DockerRequirement
    dockerPull: docker-registry.ebrains.eu
      ↪ /my-docker
```

```
inputs:
  input-tool-1: <type>
```

```
outputs:
  output-tool-2:
    type: <type>
    outputSource: tool-2/output-tool-2
```

```
steps:
  tool-1:
    run: tool-1.cwl
    in:
      input-tool-1: input-tool-1
    out: [output-tool-1]
  tool-2:
    run: tool-2.cwl
    in:
      input-tool-2: tool-1/output-tool-1
    out: [output-tool-2]
```


Workflow components repository

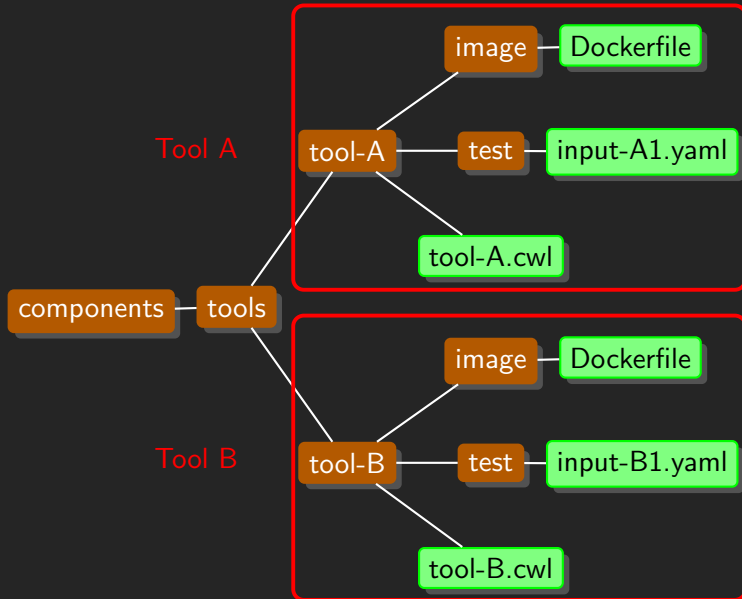
<https://gitlab.ebrains.eu/workflows/components>

Internal

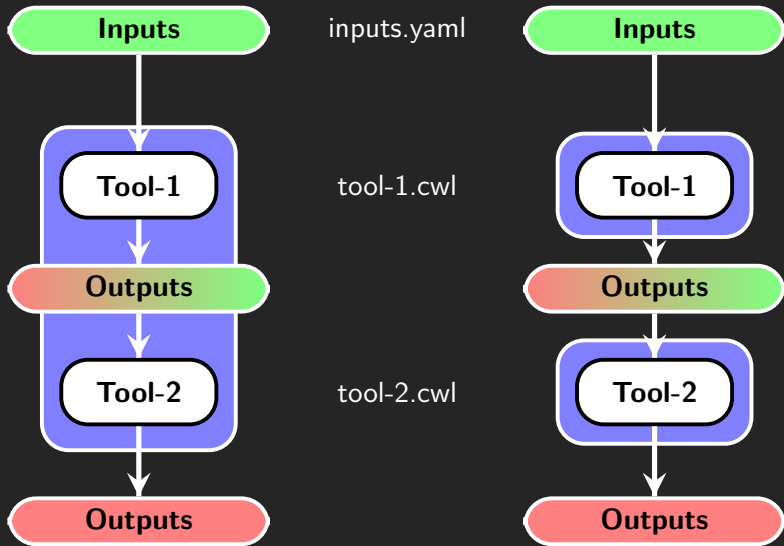
- Adapt EBRAINS tools for complex workflows
- Identify requirements and environments
- Implement CWL interfaces
- Test the tools
- Integrate tools to ESD

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 200 EBRAINS tools identified | |
| 55 candidates | 98 not candidate |
| Arbor | Neural Activity Browser |
| Elephant | OpenMINDS |
| fMRIPrep | Synaptome.db |

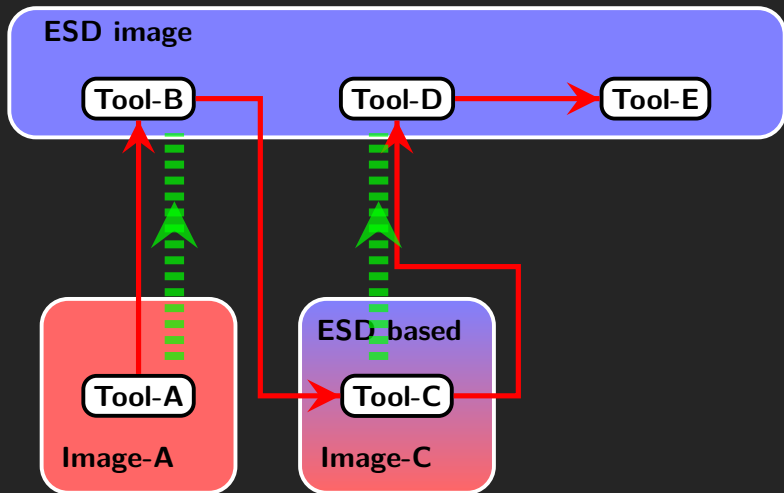
Workflow components repository



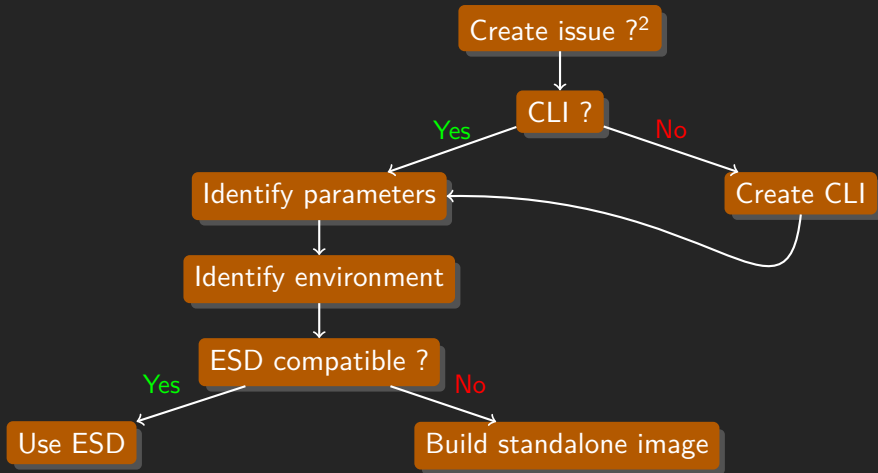
Workflow component's container



Workflow component's container



Create a workflow component



²<https://gitlab.ebrains.eu/workflows/components/-/issues>

Elephant demonstrator

Generic analysis functions for spike train data and time series.

2 functions have been implemented yet:

- **wavelet_transform_cli.py**: Compute the wavelet transform of a given signal with Morlet mother wavelet,
- **butterworth_filter_cli.py**: Butterworth filtering function.

Implemented by:

- Michael Denker
- Moritz Kern
- Cristiano Köhler

Elephant wavelet-transform

cwlVersion: v1.2

class: CommandLineTool

baseCommand: wavelet_transform_cli.py

hints:

DockerRequirement:

dockerImageId: docker-registry.ebrains.eu/workflow-components/elephant

label: elephant-wavelet-transform

inputs:

input_file:

type: File

label: "A file, containing sampled signals, that can be read by Neo"

inputBinding:

prefix: —input_file

input_format:

type: string?

label: "Format of the input data, as a Neo IO **class** name (optional; TODO: use
↳ openMINDS content-types instead?)"

inputBinding:

prefix: —input_format

[...]

outputs:

output_file:

type: File

outputBinding:

glob: "\${inputs.output_file}"

Elephant butterworth-filter

cwlVersion: v1.2

class: CommandLineTool

baseCommand: butterworth_filter_cli.py

hints:

DockerRequirement:

dockerImageId: docker-registry.ebrains.eu/workflow-components/elephant

label: elephant-butterworth-filter

inputs:

input_file:

type: File

label: "A file, containing sampled signals, that can be read by Neo"

inputBinding:

prefix: --input_file

input_format:

type: string?

label: "Format of the input data, as a Neo IO **class** name (optional; TODO: use
↳ openMINDS content-types instead?)"

inputBinding:

prefix: --input_format

[...]

outputs:

output_file:

type: File

outputBinding:

glob: "\${inputs.output_file}"

Elephant butterworth-filter

cwlVersion: v1.2

class: Workflow

inputs:

input_file: [...]

highpass_frequency: [...]

lowpass_frequency: [...]

[...]

outputs:

filtered_output_file: [...]

wavelet_output_file: [...]

steps:

step_butterworth_filter:

run: ./butterworth_filter.cwl

in:

input_file: input_file

input_format: input_format

[...]

out: [output_file]

step_wavelet_transform:

run: ./wavelet_transform.cwl

in:

input_file: step_butterworth_filter/output_file

input_format: input_format

output_file: wavelet_output_file

frequency: frequency

n_cycles: n_cycles

sampling_frequency: sampling_frequency

out: [output_file]