

Scientific Workflow Tools

Daniel Crawl and Ilkay Altintas

San Diego Supercomputer Center

UC San Diego

eScience Today

- Increasing number of Cyberinfrastructure (CI) technologies
 - Data Repositories: Network File Systems, Databases, Web Services, SRB/iRODS
 - Job Execution: Cloud Computing, Grid, Cluster, Ad-hoc
 - Domain-specific analysis tools
- Difficult to orchestrate CI components to conduct eScience

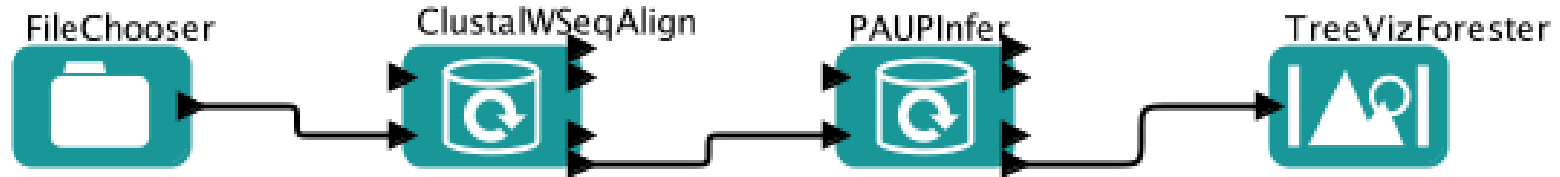
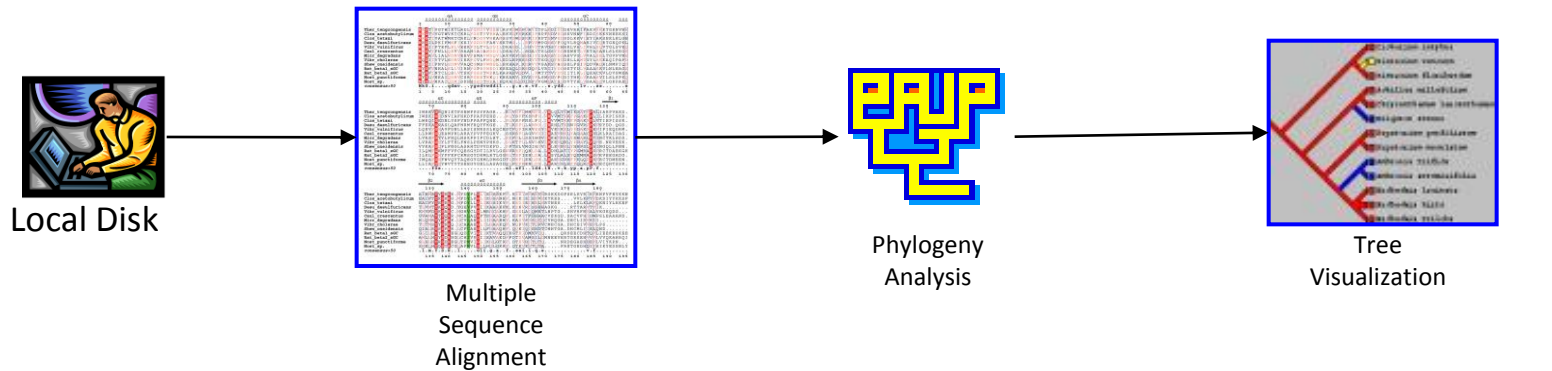
Scientific workflows emerged as an answer to the need to **combine** multiple Cyberinfrastructure components in **automated** process networks.

So, what is a scientific workflow?

The Big Picture: Supporting the Scientist

From "Napkin Drawings" to Executable Workflows

Phylogeny Analysis Workflow



1. Read the Nexus file as input.

2. Do the multiple sequence alignment on the input data matrix using ClustalW;

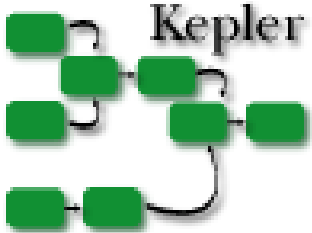
3. Construct the phylogenetic tree using PAUP;

4. Read the tree and display it to the user using Forester.

Advantages of Scientific Workflow Systems

- **Formalization** of the scientific process
- Easy to share, adapt and **reuse**
 - Deployable, customizable, extensible
- Management of complexity and usability
 - Support for hierarchical composition
 - Interfaces to different technologies from a unified interface
 - Can be annotated with domain-knowledge
- Tracking **provenance** of the data and processes
 - Keep the association of results to processes
 - Make it easier to validate/regenerate results and processes
 - Enable comparison between different workflow versions
- Execution monitoring and fault tolerance
- Interaction with multiple tools and resources at once

Kepler Scientific Workflow System



<http://www.kepler-project.org>

- Kepler is a cross-project collaboration
- Latest release available from the website
 - Kepler 2.1 released on 30 September 2010
- Builds upon the [open-source](#) Ptolemy II framework
- Vergil is the GUI, but Kepler also runs in non-GUI and batch modes.

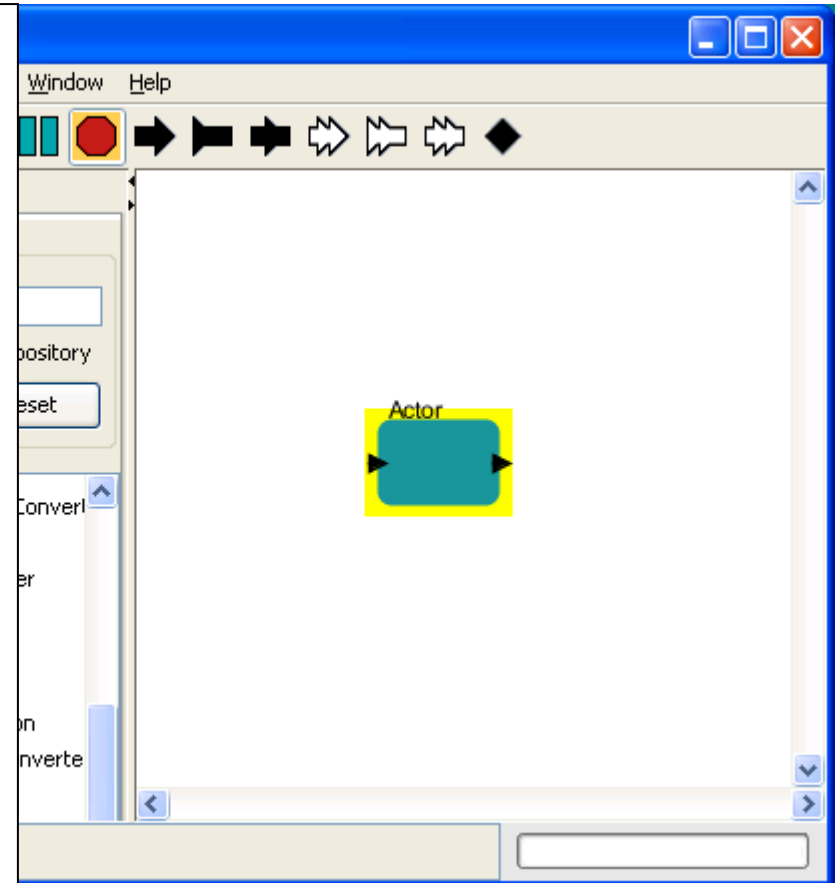
Ptolemy II: A laboratory for investigating design

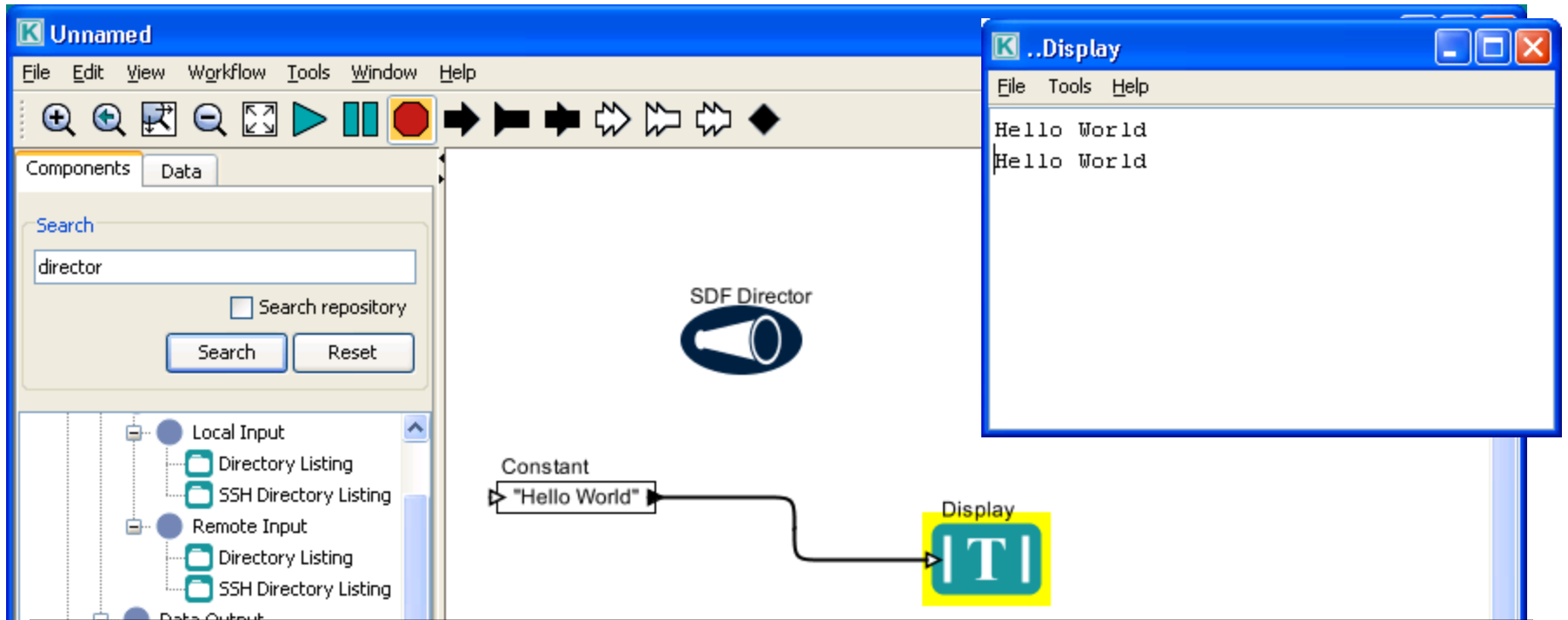
KEPLER: A problem-solving support environment for Scientific Workflow development, execution, maintenance

KEPLER = "Ptolemy II + X" for Scientific Workflows

Actor-Oriented Modeling

- Actors
 - Single component or task
 - Well-defined interface (signature)
 - Given input data, produces output data
 - Configured with parameters
 - “Composite” actor for sub-workflows
- Ports
 - Each actor has a set of input and output ports
 - Denote the actor’s signature
 - Produce/consume data (a.k.a. tokens)
 - Can be [semantically annotated](#) with domain-specific concepts





- Dataflow Connections
 - Actor “communication” channels
 - Directed edges
 - Connect output ports with input ports
- Directors
 - Execution models, define the execution semantics of workflow graphs
 - Executes workflow graph (some schedule)
 - **Sub-workflows** may have different directors

Kepler Actors

- Generic Web Service Clients- SOAP, REST, MS .Net
- Customizable RDBMS query and update
- Command Line wrapper tools (local, ssh, scp, ftp, etc.)
- Grid actors: Globus, GridFTP, Proxy Certificate Generator
- SRB and iRODS
- R and Matlab
- Interaction with MapReduce
- Communication with streaming data buffers- DataTurbine, ORB
- Imaging, Gridding, Viz Support
- Textual and Graphical Output
- Specialized actor for fault tolerance
- ...additional generic and domain-oriented actors...

Vergil is the GUI for Kepler

Actor Search

Data Search

- Actor ontology and semantic search for actors
- Search -> Drag and drop -> Link via ports
- Metadata-based search for datasets

Actor Search

The screenshot shows the Kepler Actor Search interface. On the left, a search bar contains the word "grid". Below it, a tree view shows search results under "Kepler Actor Ontology", with "Domain Specific Actor" and "Niche Modeling Actor" circled in red. The main workspace displays a workflow diagram with several actors: "OpenDBConnection" (Connect to the VA Igneous rocks DB.), "GeologicBodyandLocation" (Retrieve all Plutonic Bodies in Virginia.), "TransitiveClosureDBQuery" (Recursively get all children and siblings.), "ClassifyBodies" (Classify all bodies.), "RenderMapService", "Browser Display", and "Display". A legend on the right lists parameters like classificationType, ip, port, bodiesType, area, diagramsInfo, SamplesComposition, and BodiesResponse. A text box at the bottom contains the following text:

- Kepler Actor Ontology
 - Used in searching actors and creating conceptual views (= folders)

Currently there are more than 200 Kepler actors!

Data Search and Usage of Results

- EarthGrid

- Discovery of data resources through local and remote services: *SRB, Grid and Web Services, DB connections*

- Registry of datasets on-the-fly using workflows

The screenshot shows the SDF Director interface. On the left, a search box contains the text 'datos'. Below it, a list of search results is shown, including 'Datos Meteorologicos', 'hydatoscia ategua', 'hydatoscia ategua subsp-ategua', 'hydatoscia callas', 'nerita undatostrata', and 'speiropsis pedatospora'. A workflow diagram in the center shows a data source 'Datos Meteorologicos' connected to an 'XY Plotter' component. A small window titled '.eml-simple-plot.XY Plotter' is open, displaying a scatter plot of data points. The plot has a y-axis labeled 'x10²' ranging from 9.50 to 9.55 and an x-axis ranging from 2 to 14. The data points show a downward trend. At the bottom left, a small text box reads: 'A simple example of using EML data. First, a search is done in the Data pane to locate an EML-described data set, which is dragged onto the workflow canvas. The EML data source is added to the workflow, and then it contacts the EcoGrid server to download the data and configure the ports. After being configured, it displays the ports from the EML data source, which are then mapped into an XY scatter plot.'

The 'Services List' dialog box shows a table of current data sources. The table has two columns: 'Service Name' and 'Document Type'. Each row has a checkbox in the 'Service Name' column and a checkbox in the 'Document Type' column. All checkboxes are checked.

Service Name	Document Type
KNB Metacat EcoGrid QueryInterface	Ecological Metadata Language 2.0.0
KU Digir EcoGrid QueryInterface	Ecological Metadata Language 2.0.1
GEON Search QueryInterface	Darwin Core 1.0
	ADEPT/DLESE/NASA 0.6.50

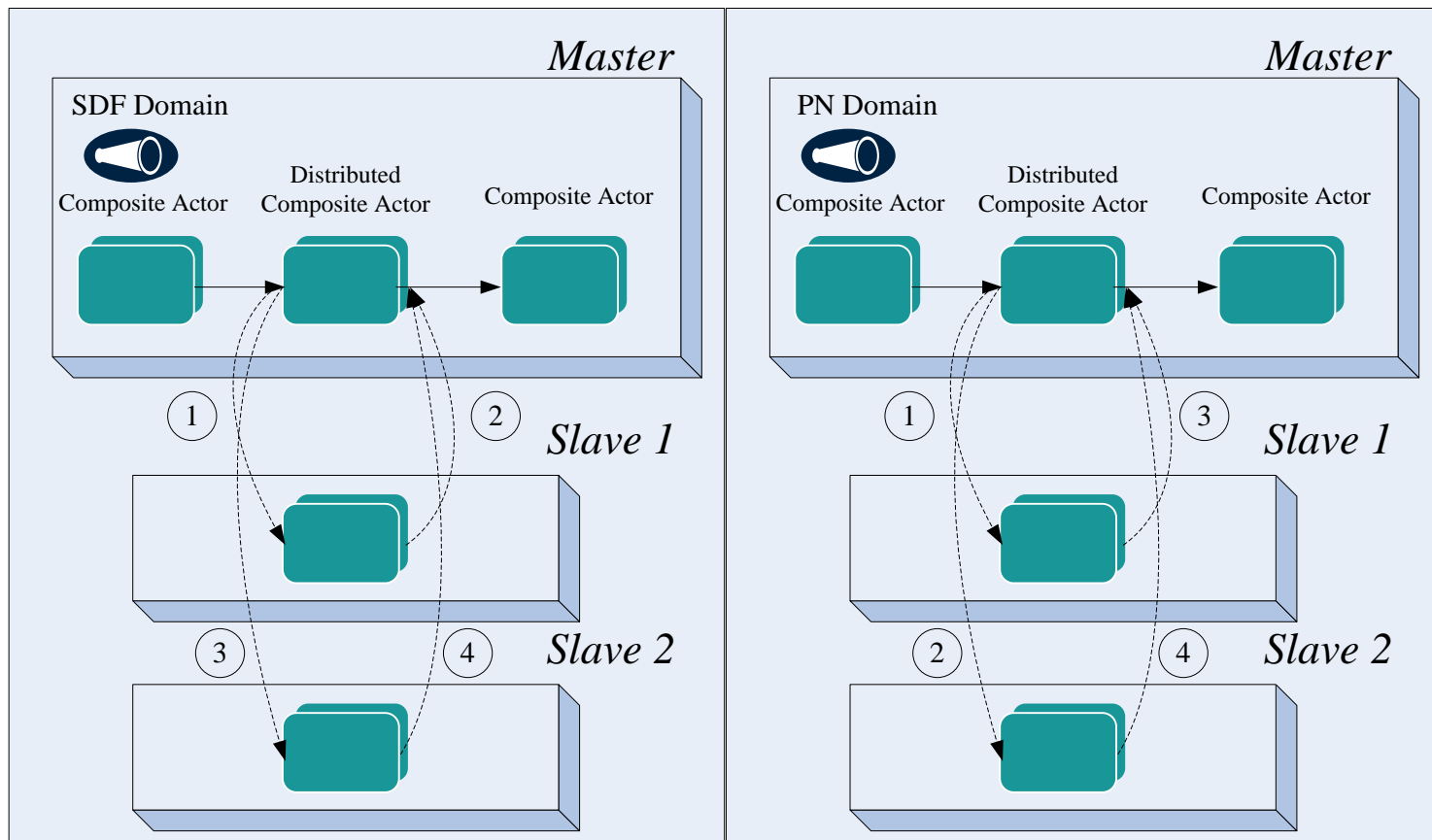
Buttons at the bottom include 'Add', 'Ok', and 'Cancel'.

Distributed Execution

- Master-Slave
 - Execute sub-workflows on slave nodes
- Map-Reduce
 - Map and reduce sub-workflows executed in Hadoop cloud
- Job actors for PBS, LSF, SGE, Globus, etc.
- Kepler web service

Master-Slave Framework

- Single workflow created, sub-workflows seamlessly run on other resources
- Data is automatically distributed to Slave nodes and results returned
- Different behavior with different computation models



Provenance of Workflow Related Data

- **Provenance**: A concept from art history and library
 - Inputs, outputs, intermediate results, workflow design, workflow run
- Collected information
 - Can be used in a number of ways
 - Validation, reproducibility, fault tolerance, etc...
 - **Linked** to the data resources
 - **Viewable** and **searchable** from outside Kepler

Kepler Provenance Framework

- What provenance is recorded:
 - Workflow Specification: actors, ports, connections, parameters, etc.
 - Workflow Evolution: parameter values that change over time, addition/removal of actors, ports, etc.
 - Workflow Execution:
 - Start/stop of workflow, individual actor executions
 - Data exchanged between actors: [data lineage](#)
- Where provenance recorded:
 - Modular interface supports saving to different output types.
 - SQL, XML, or Open Provenance Model

Kepler is a Team Effort



Some CI projects using Kepler:

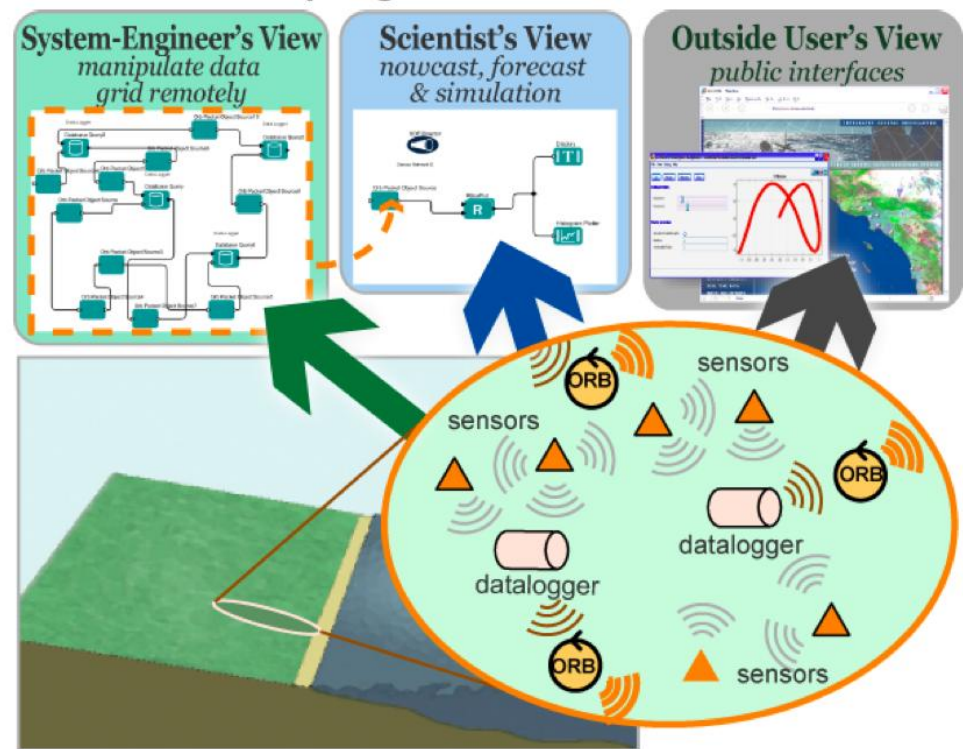
- SEEK (ecology)
- SciDAC SDM (astrophysics, bio, ...)
- CPES (plasma simulation, combustion)
- GEON (geosciences)
- CiPRes (phylogenetics)
- ROADnet (real-time data)
- Processing Phylodata (pPOD)
- **REAP** (streaming data)
- Digital preservation (DIGARCH)
- COMET (environmental science)
- ITER (fusion)
- OOI CI - ORION (ocean observing CI)
- LOOKING (oceanography)
- CAMERA (metagenomics)
- Resurgence (computational chemistry)
- ChIP-chip (genomics)
- Cheshire Digital Library (archival)
- Cell Biology (Scripps)
- DART (X-Ray crystallography)
- Ocean Life
- Assembling the Tree of Life project
- NEES (earthquake engineering)
- ...

Real-time Environment for Analytical Processing (REAP)

- Management and Analysis of Observatory Data using Kepler Scientific Workflows
- **Overall goal:** To bring together, *for the first time*, seamless access to sensor data from real-time data grids with analytical tools and sophisticated modeling capabilities of scientific workflow environments

- Funded 2006-2010
 - NSF CEO:P
 - Jones, Altintas, Baru, Ludaescher, Schildhauer
 - Partners:
 - UCSB, SDSC/UCSD, UC Davis, UCLA, OpenDAP, OSU
 - Lead institution: NCEAS/UCSB

<http://reap.ecoinformatics.org/>



Sea Surface Temperature (SST) Match-up Workflows

- Quantitative evaluation and integration of SST data sets
 - Allows researchers to find data sets for a given space-time window
 - Builds match-up data sets from various sources, e.g., NOAA, JPL, FSU, using [OPeNDAP](#)
 - Performs a variety of statistical comparisons and visualizations on match-ups using [R](#) and [Matlab](#)
- Collaborators:
 - Peter Cornillon, Univ. of Rhode Island
 - Nathan Potter, James Gallagher, OPeNDAP Inc.

Summary

- Scientific workflows help scientists manage diverse CI technologies
- Kepler is an open-source system and collaboration
 - Grows by application requirements from contributors
 - More information: <http://kepler-project.org>
- Acknowledgements:
 - NSF award 0619060 for Real-time Environment for Analytical Processing
 - NSF award 0941692 for Distributed Ocean Monitoring via Integrated Data Analysis of Coordinated Buoyancy Drogues
 - DOE award DE-FC02-01ER25486 for SDM Center

Thanks!
&
Questions...



Daniel Crawl
crawl@sdsc.edu

Ilkay Altintas
altintas@sdsc.edu