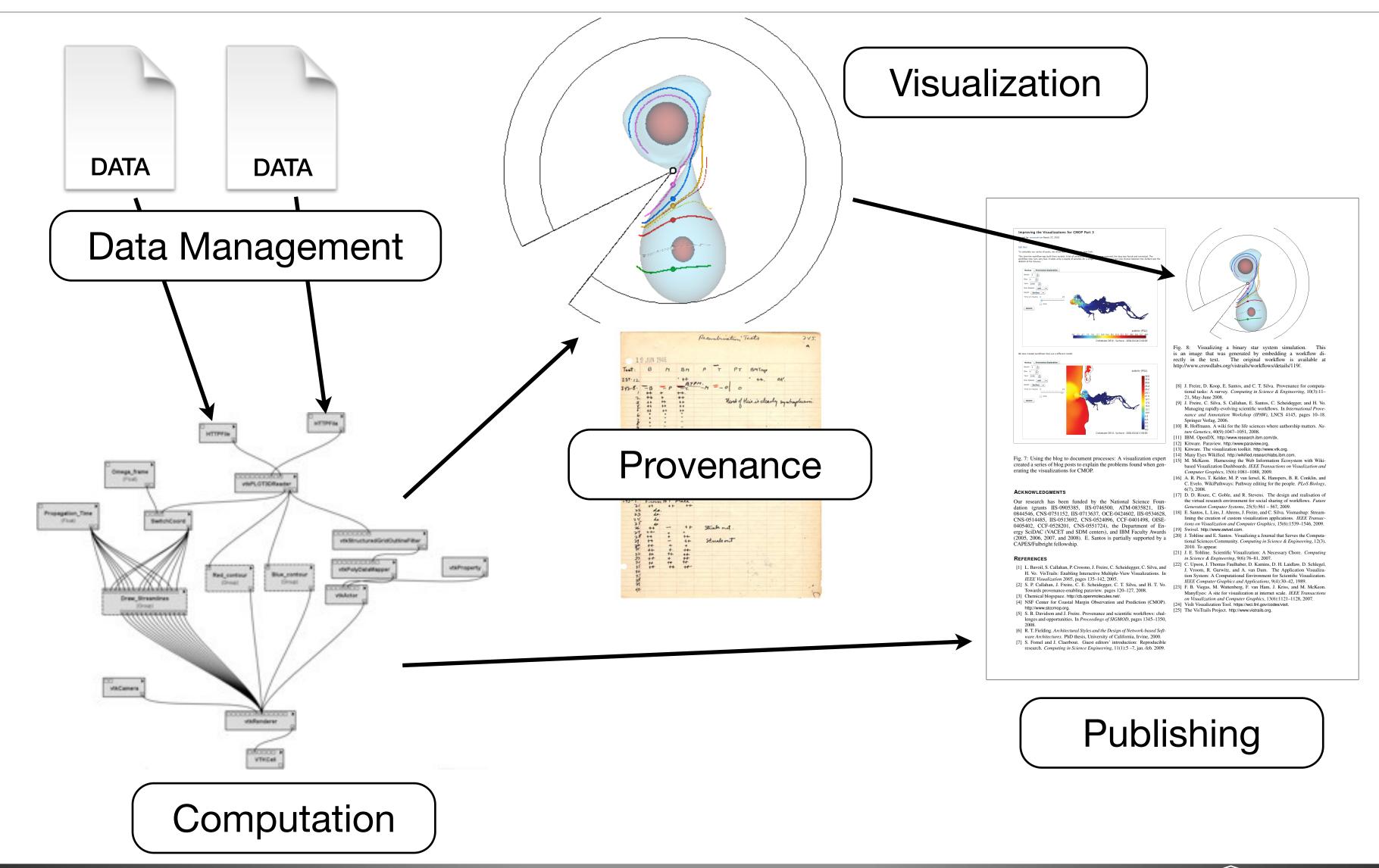
Advanced Data Management (CSCI 640/490)

Reproducibility

Dr. David Koop



Provenance in Computational Science



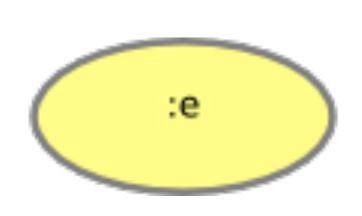
Provenance Capture Mechanisms

- Workflow-based: Since workflow execution is controlled, keep track of all the workflow modules, parameters, etc. as they are executed
- Process-based: Each process is required to write out its own provenance information (not centralized like workflow-based)
- **OS-based**: The OS or filesystem is modified so that any activity it does it monitored and the provenance subsystem organizes it
- Tradeoffs:
 - Workflow- and process-based have better abstraction
 - OS-based requires minimal user effort once installed and can capture "hidden dependencies"

Prospective and Retrospective Provenance

- Prospective provenance is what was specified/intended
 - a workflow, script, list of steps
- Retrospective provenance is what actually happened
 - actual data, actual parameters, errors that occurred, timestamps, machine information
- Do not need prospective provenance to have retrospective provenance!
- Recipe for a cake vs. Baking a cake

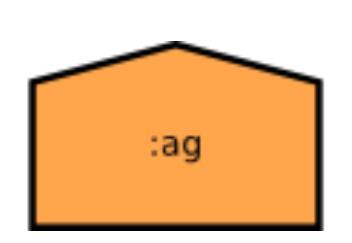
PROV: Three Key Classes



An **entity** is a physical, digital, conceptual, or other kind of thing with some fixed aspects; entities may be real or imaginary.



An **activity** is something that occurs over a period of time and acts upon or with entities; it may include consuming, processing, transforming, modifying, relocating, using, or generating entities.



An **agent** is something that bears some form of responsibility for an activity taking place, for the existence of an entity, or for another agent's activity.

[Moreau et al., 2014]

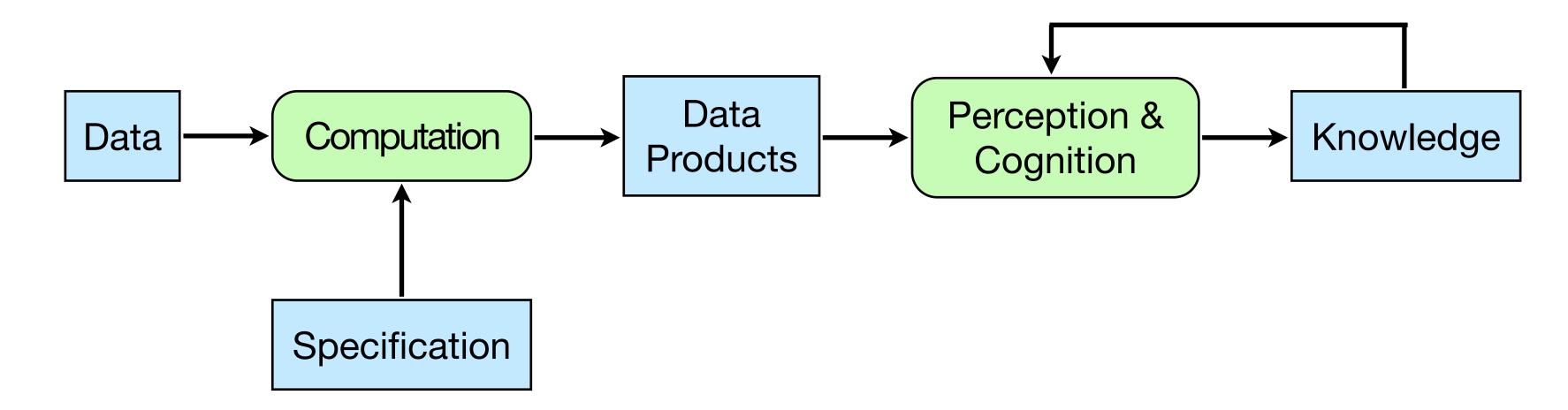
Database Provenance

- Motivation: Data warehouses and curated databases
 - Lots of work
 - Provenance helps check correctness
 - Adds value to data by how it was obtained
- Three Types:
 - Why (Lineage): Associate each tuple t present in the output of a query with a set of tuples present in the input
 - How: Not just existence but routes from tuples to output (multiple contrib.'s)
 - Where: Location where data is copied from (may have choice of different tables)

[Cheney et al., 2007]

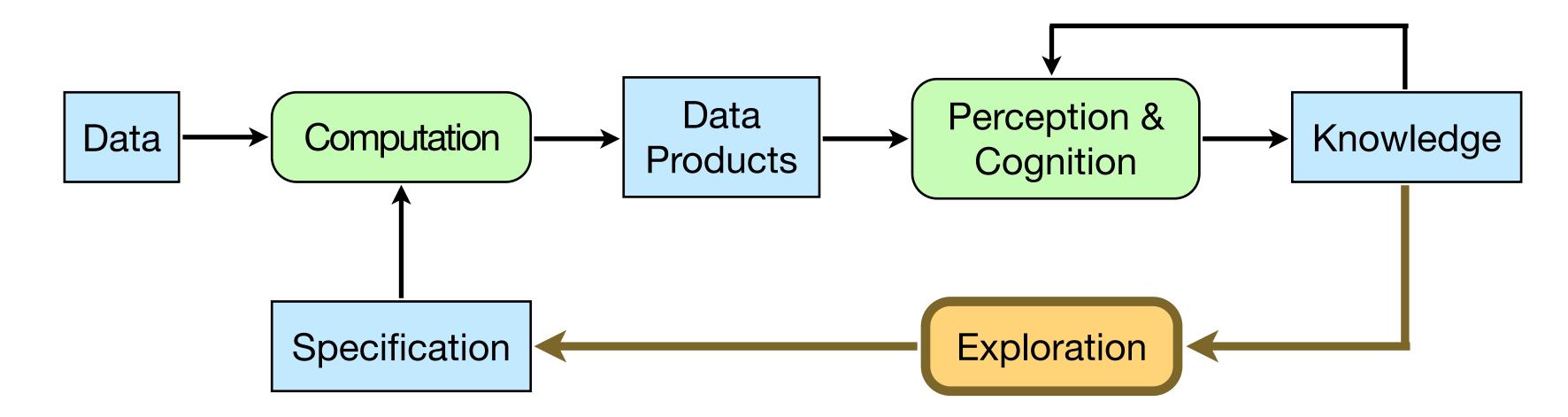
Evolution Provenance

Data Exploration



[Modified from Van Wijk, Vis 2005]

Data Exploration



[Modified from Van Wijk, Vis 2005]

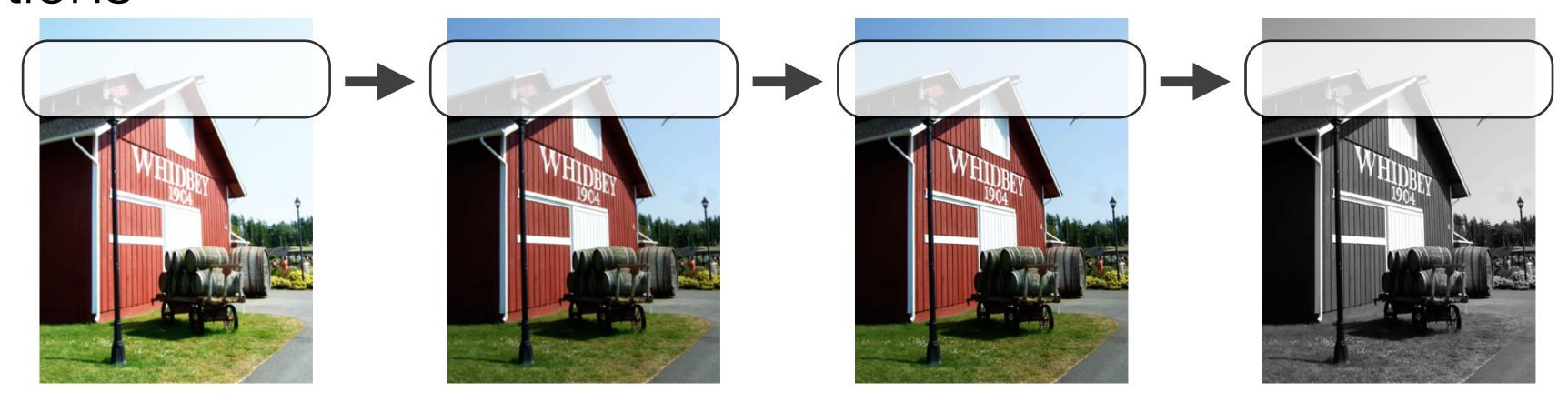
- Data analysis and visualization are iterative processes
- In exploratory tasks, change is the norm!

Exploration and Creativity Support

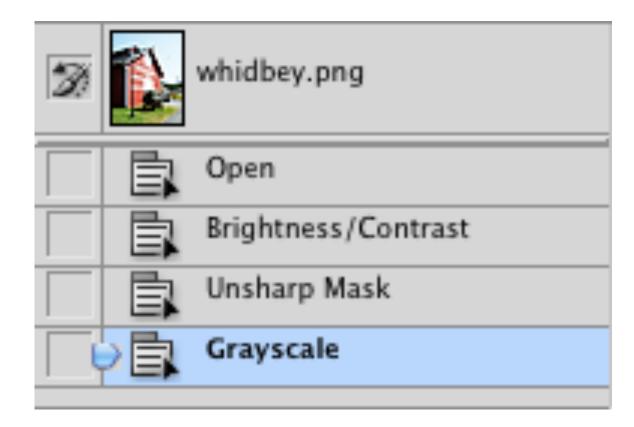
- Reasoning is key to the exploratory processes
- "Reflective reasoning requires the ability to store temporary results, to make inferences from stored knowledge, and to follow chains of reasoning backward and forward, sometimes backtracking when a promising line of thought proves to be unfruitful. ...the process is slow and laborious" — Donald A. Norman
- Need external aids—tools to facilitate this process
 - "Creativity support tools" Ben Shneiderman
- Need aid from people—collaboration

Change-based Provenance: Photo Editing

User Actions

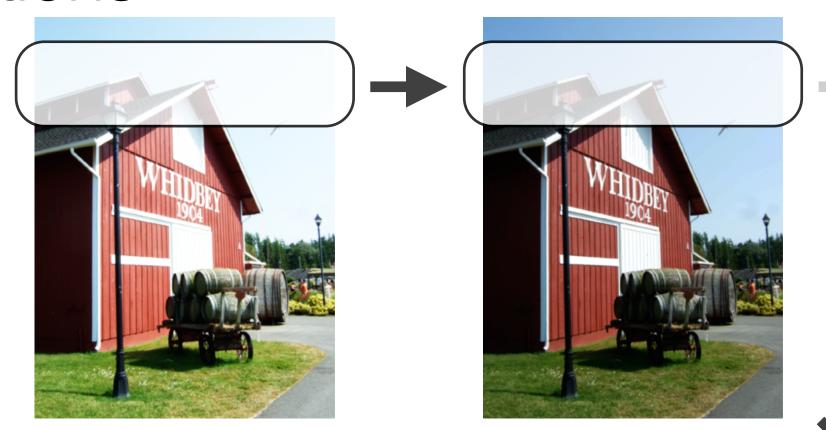


Undo/Redo History

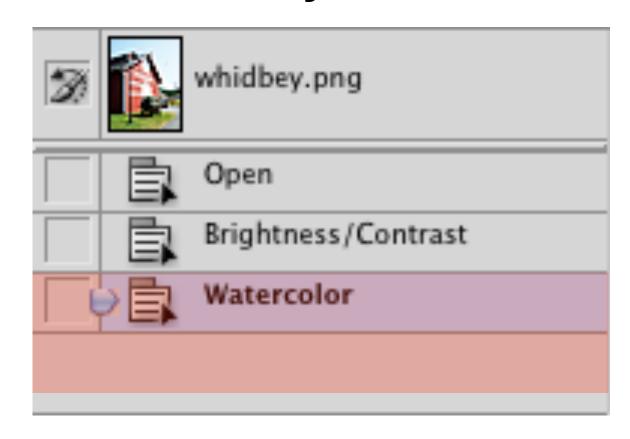


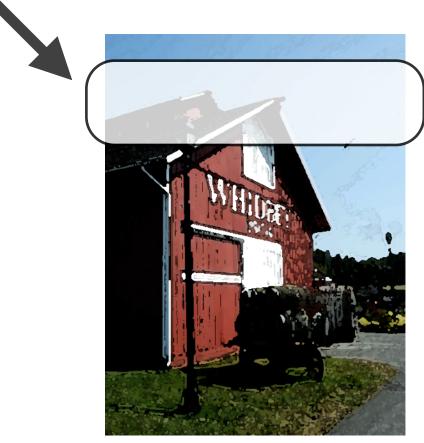
Change-based Provenance: Photo Editing

User Actions



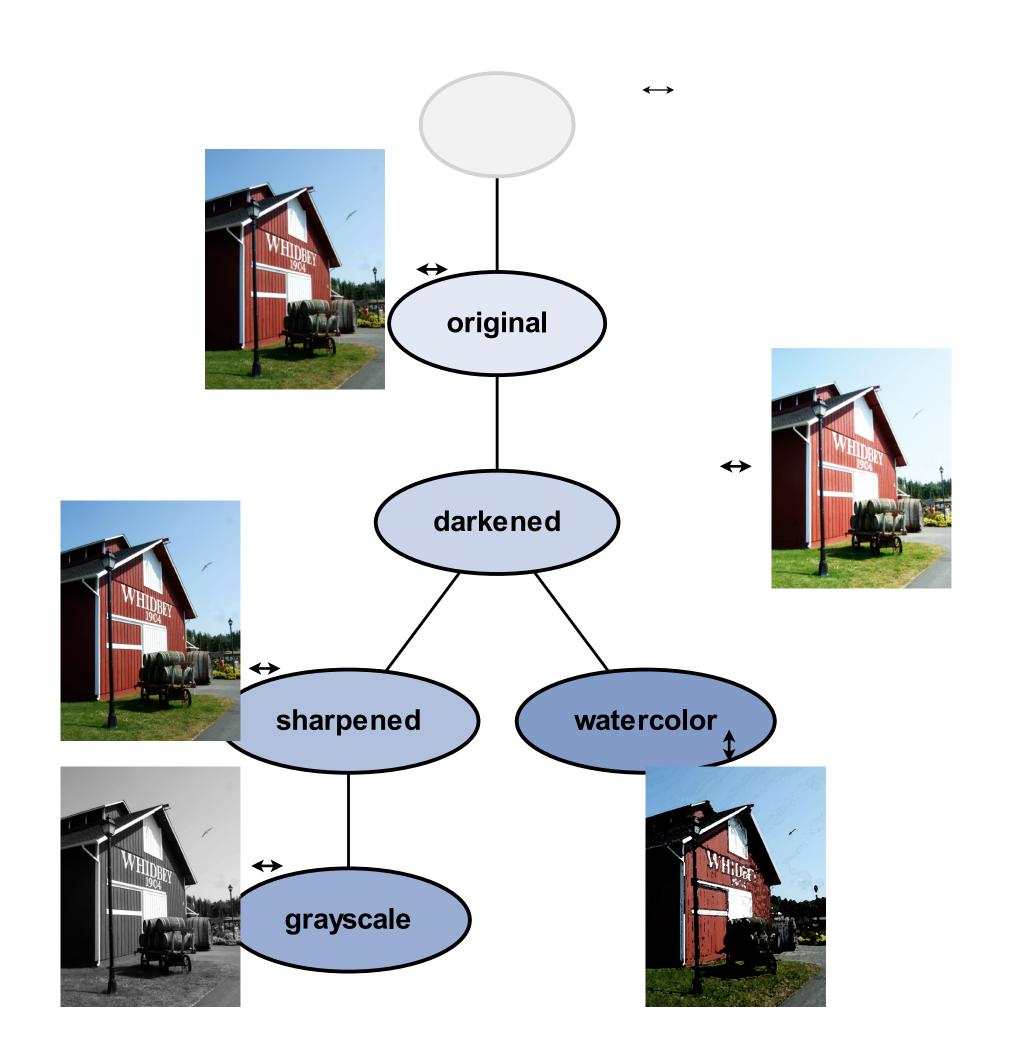
Undo/Redo History





Version Trees

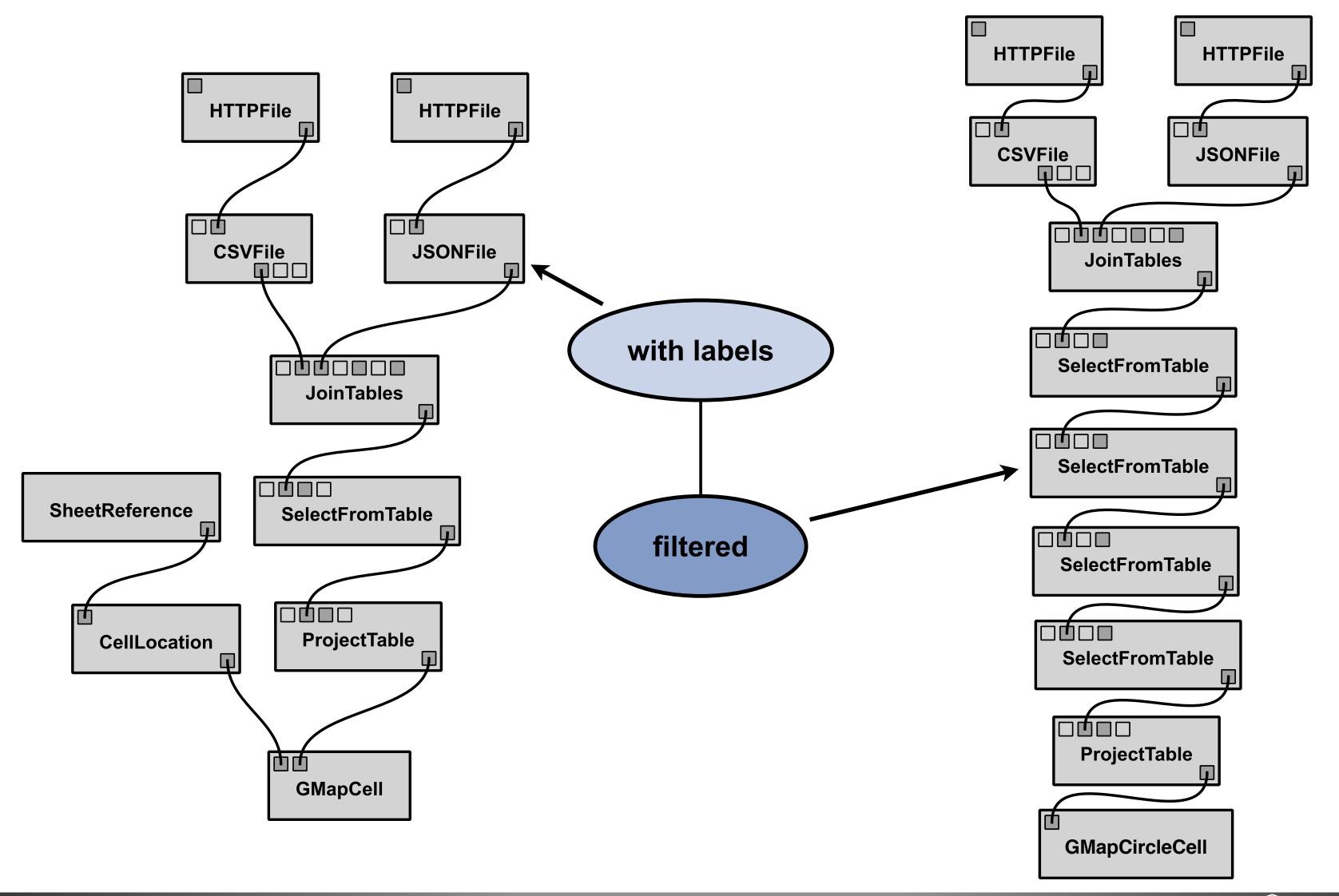
- Undo/redo stacks are linear!
- We lose history of exploration
- Old Solution: User saves files/state
- VisTrails Solution:
 - Automatically & transparently capture entire history as a tree
 - Users can tag or annotate each version
 - Users can go back to **any** version by selecting it in the tree



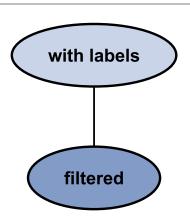
VisTrails

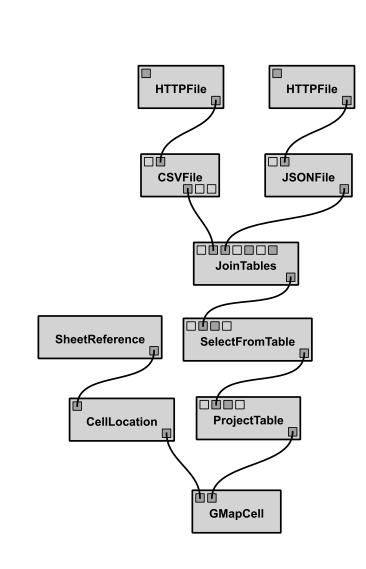
- Comprehensive provenance infrastructure for computational tasks
- Focus on exploratory tasks such as simulation, visualization, and data analysis
- Transparently tracks provenance of the discovery process—from data acquisition to visualization
 - The trail followed as users generate and test hypotheses
 - Users can refer back to any point along this trail at any time
- Leverage provenance to streamline exploration
- Focus on usability—build tools for scientists

Workflow Evolution Provenance

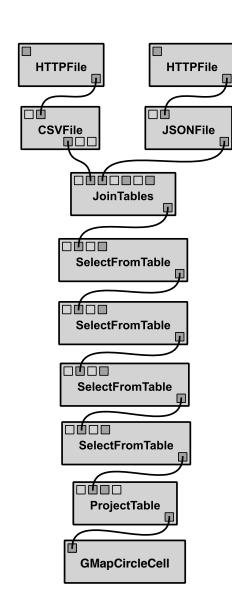


Workflow Evolution Provenance

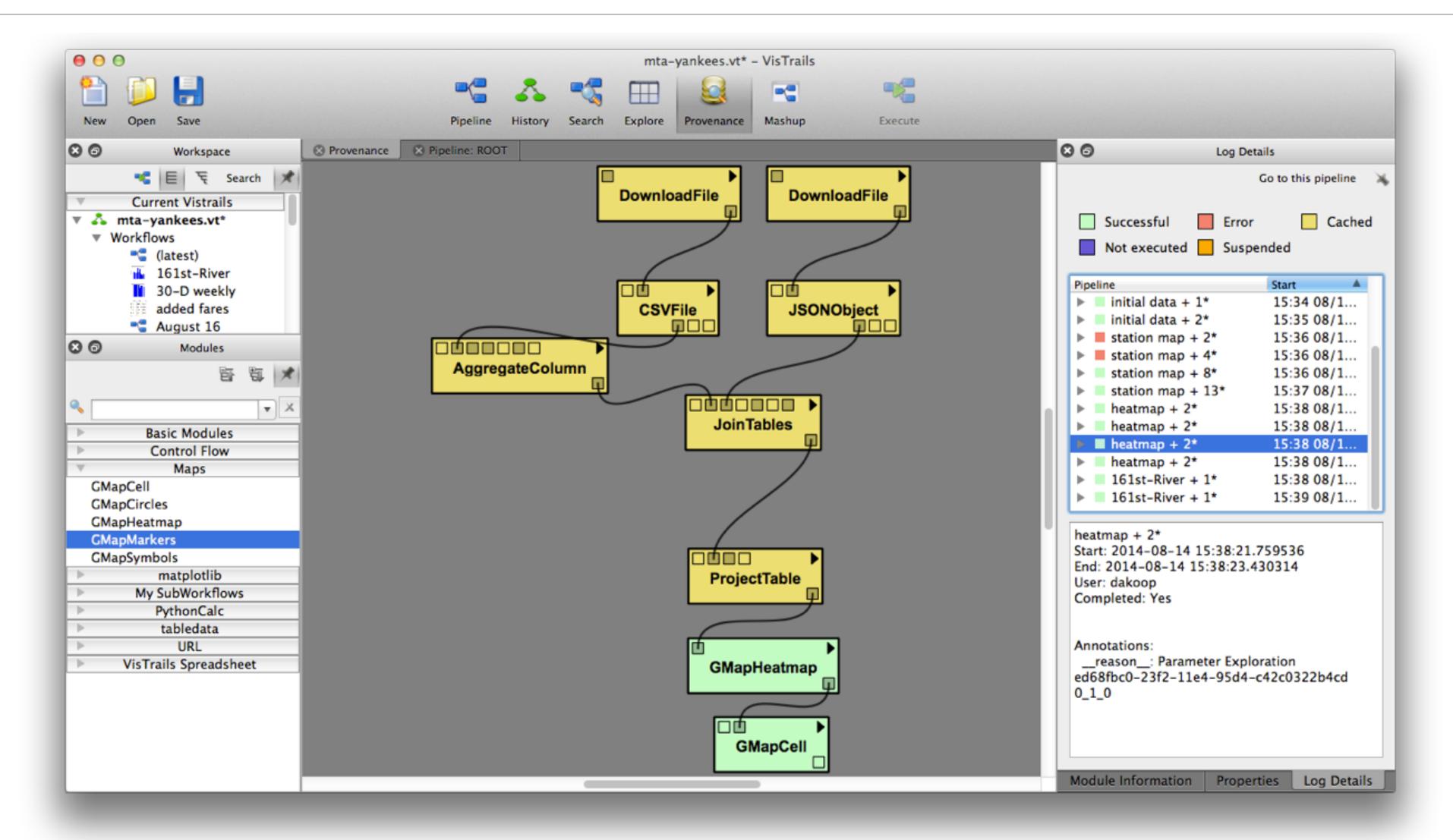




delete module "GMapCell"	
delete module "CellLocation"	
delete module "ProjectTable"	
delete module "SelectFromTable"	
add module "SelectFromTable"	
add parameter "float_expr" to "SelectFromTable" with value "latitutde > 40.6"	
delete parameter "float_expr" from "SelectFromTable"	
add parameter "float_expr" to "SelectFromTable" with value "latitutde > 40.7"	
delete parameter "float_expr" from "SelectFromTable"	
add parameter "float_expr" to "SelectFromTable" with value "latitutde > 40.8"	

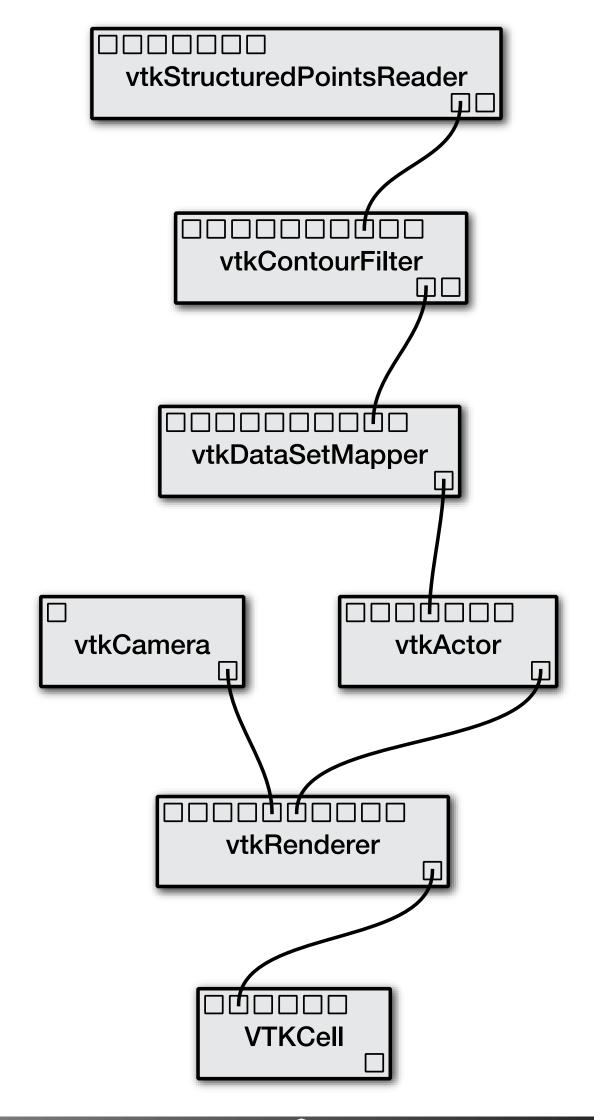


Execution Provenance



Execution Provenance

```
<module id="12" name="vtkDataSetReader"</pre>
        start time="2010-02-19 11:01:05"
        end time="2010-02-19 11:01:07">
  <annotation key="hash"</pre>
            value="c54bea63cb7d912a43ce"/>
</module>
<module id="13" name="vtkContourFilter"</pre>
        start time="2010-02-19 11:01:07"
        end time="2010-02-19 11:01:08"/>
<module id="15" name="vtkDataSetMapper"</pre>
        start time="2010-02-19 11:01:09"
        end time="2010-02-19 11:01:12"/>
<module id="16" name="vtkActor"</pre>
        start time="2010-02-19 11:01:12"
        end time="2010-02-19 11:01:13"/>
<module id="17" name="vtkCamera"</pre>
        start time="2010-02-19 11:01:13"
        end time="2010-02-19 11:01:14"/>
<module id="18" name="vtkRenderer"</pre>
        start time="2010-02-19 11:01:14"
        end time="2010-02-19 11:01:14"/>
```

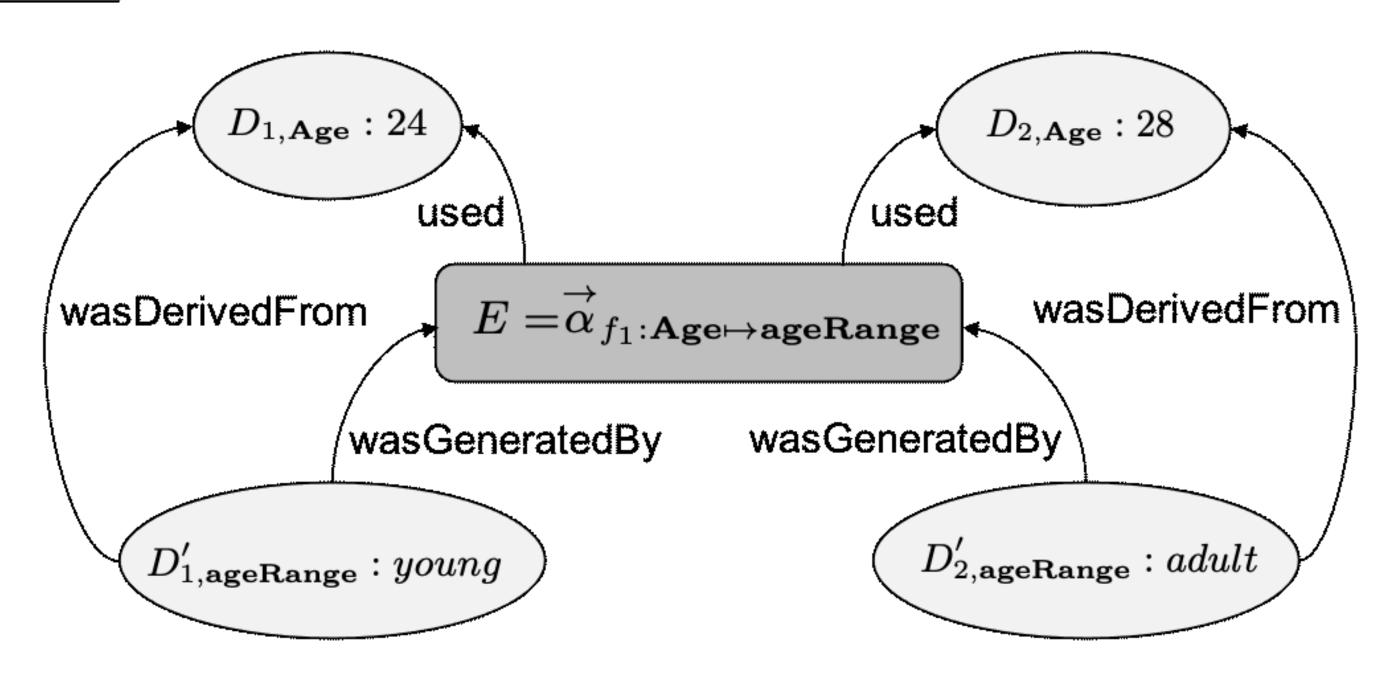


Capturing and querying fine-grained provenance of preprocessing pipelines in data science

A. Chapman, P. Missier, L. Lauro, R. Torlone

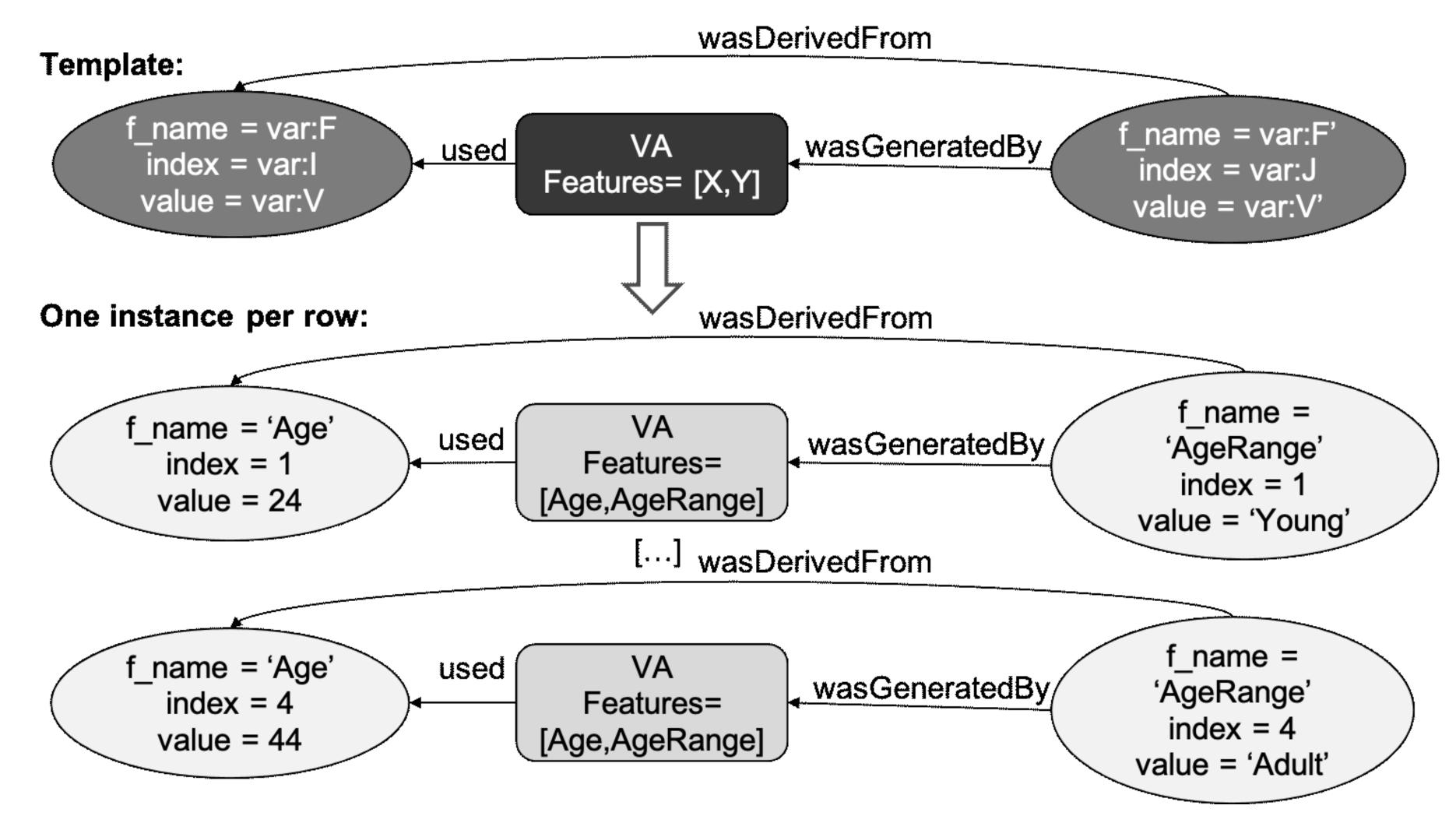
Data Provenance for Data Science

	CId	Gender	Age	Zip	ageRange
1	113	F	24	98567	young
2	241	M	28	\perp	adult
3	375	C	\perp	32768	
4	578	F	44	32768	adult



[A. Chapman et al., 2020]

Provenance Templates



[A. Chapman et al., 2020]



Assignment 5

- FAA & ADS-B aircraft data
- Spatial data processing, visualization, time series
- Due at the end of the semester

Final Exam

- Monday, December 8, **12:00**-1:50pm, PM 103
- Similar format
- More comprehensive (questions from topics covered in Test 1 & 2)
- Will also have questions from graph/spatial/temporal data, provenance, reproducibility, machine learning

The State of Repeatability in Computer Systems Research

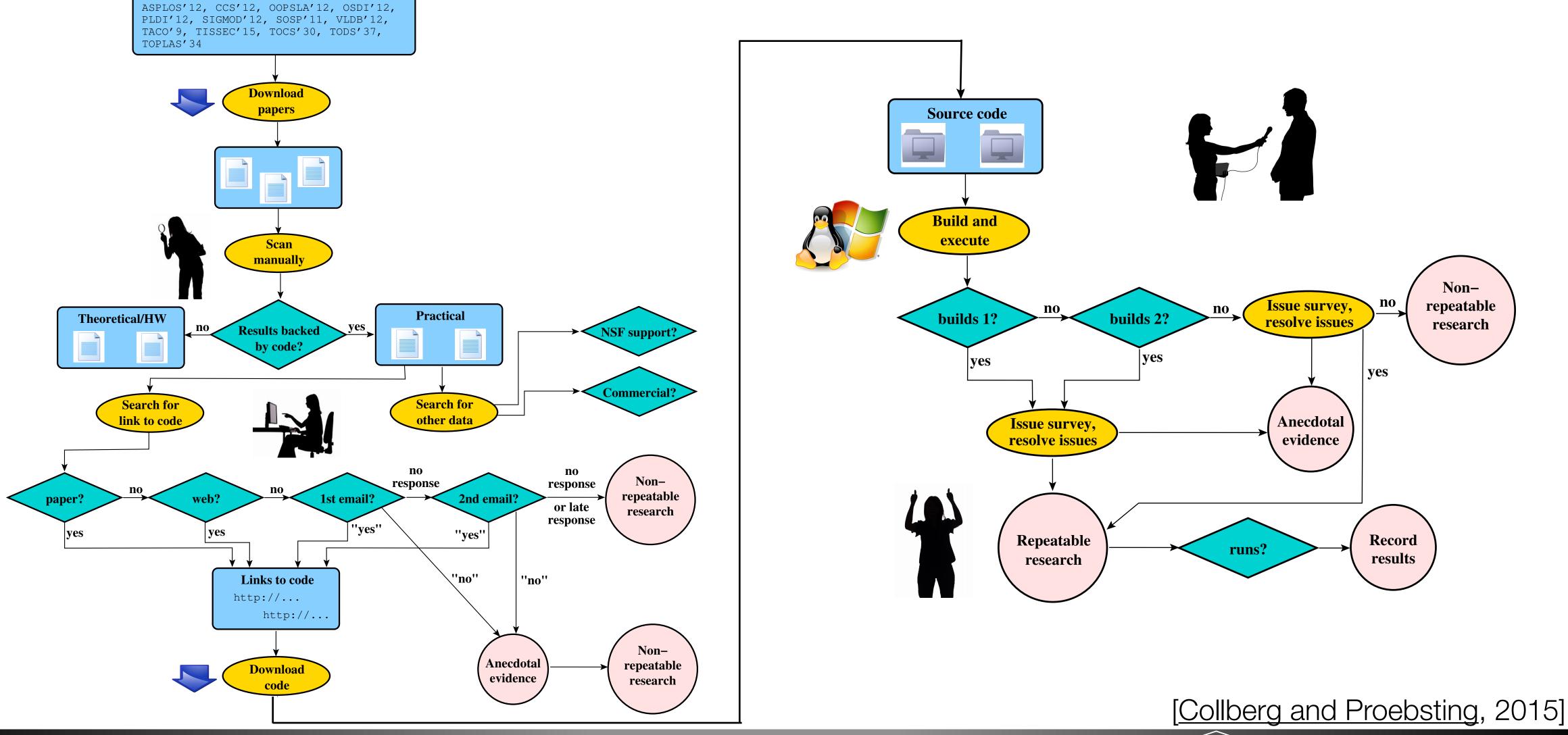
C. Collberg and T. Proebsting CACM 2016



State of Repeatability in Computer Systems

- "Cool paper! Can you send me the system?"
- How hard is it to just re-execute published experiments
- Most people say they will share their code and data are available...
- Weak repeatability: Do authors make the source code used to create the results in their article available, and will it build?

Experiment



Repeatability Results

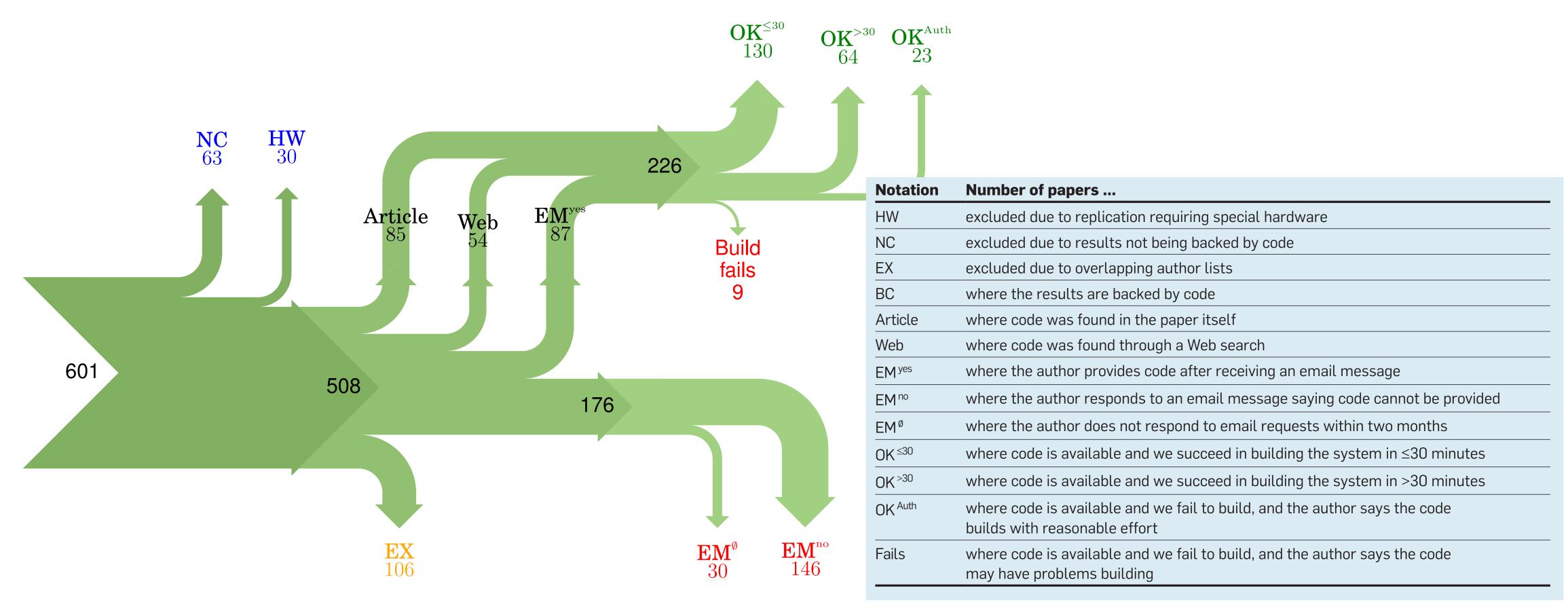


Figure 11: Study result. Blue numbers represent papers that were excluded from consideration, green numbers papers that are weakly repeatable, red numbers papers that are non-weakly repeatable, and orange numbers represent papers that were excluded (due to our restriction of sending at most one email to each author).

[Collberg and Proebsting, 2015]

Excuses

- "Unfortunately the current system is not mature"
- "The code was never intended to be released so it is not in any shape for general use"
- "[Our] prototype included many moving pieces that only [student] knew how to operate... he left"
- "... the server in which my implementation was stored had a disk crash ... three disks crashed... Sorry for that"

Excuses

- "...when we attempted to share it, we [spent] more time getting outsiders up to speed than on our own research"
- "... we can't share what [we] did for this paper. ... this is not in the academic tradition, but this is a hazard in an industrial lab"
- "... based on earlier (bad) experience, we [want] to make sure that our implementation is not used in situations that it is not meant for"

Excuse Classification

- Versioning
- Available Soon
- No Intention to Share
- Personnel Issues
- Lost Code
- Academic Tradeoffs
- Industrial Lab Tradeoffs
- Obsolete HW/SW
- Controlled Usage
- Privacy/Security
- Design Issues

[Collberg and Proebsting, 2015]

Some of these are (partially) people problems, not technical problems

Examining 'Reproducibility in Computer Science'

- Repeat the experiment in reproducibility!
- Differences from original
- Shows issues with trying to classify experiments

```
Purported Not Building; 6% •••••
      Disputed; Not Checked
Purported Building; Disputed; 2% ••
               Not Checked
         Conflicting Checks! 0%
               Misclassified 1% •
  Purported Not Building But 14% ••••••••
             Found Building
Purported Building But Found 0%
               Not Building
     Purported Not Building; 0% •
                 Confirmed
Purported Building; Confirmed 0% •
    All Others Purported Not 27% •••••••••••
```

[S. Krishnamurthi et al.]



Recommendations

- Fund repeatability engineering
- Require sharing contracts

Location	• email address and/or web site		
Resource	 types: code, data, media, documentation availability: no access, access, NDA access expense: free, non-free, free for academics distribution form: source, binary, service expiration date license comment kinds: resolve installation issues, fix bugs, upgrade to new language and operating system versions, port to new environments, improve performance, add features expense: free, non-free, free for academics expiration date 		
Support			

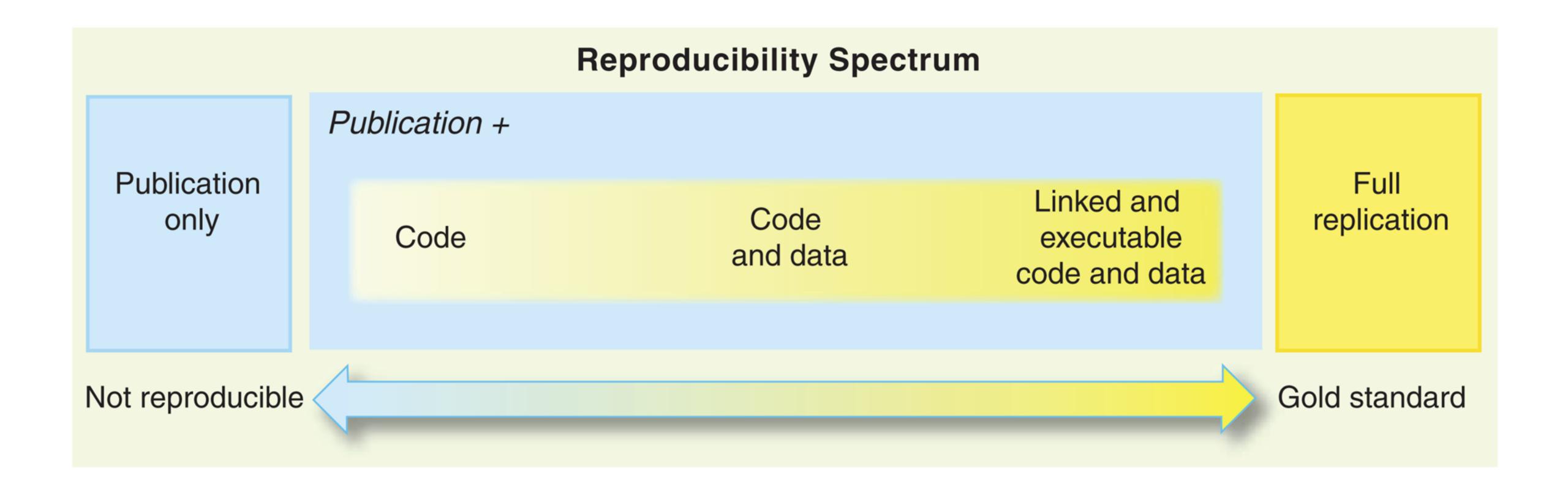
[Collberg and Proebsting, 2015]

Reproducible Research

- Science is verified by replicating work independently
- Replication Issues:
 - Requires many resources to replicate (Sloan Digital Sky Survey)
 - Requires significant computing power (Climate Model Simulation)
 - Requires too much time or very specific circumstances (Environment Epidemiology)
- Reproducibility
 - Replication of the analysis based on the collected data (not replicating the data collection itself)
 - Better if we have the actual code or available executables

[R. D. Peng]

Reproducibility Spectrum



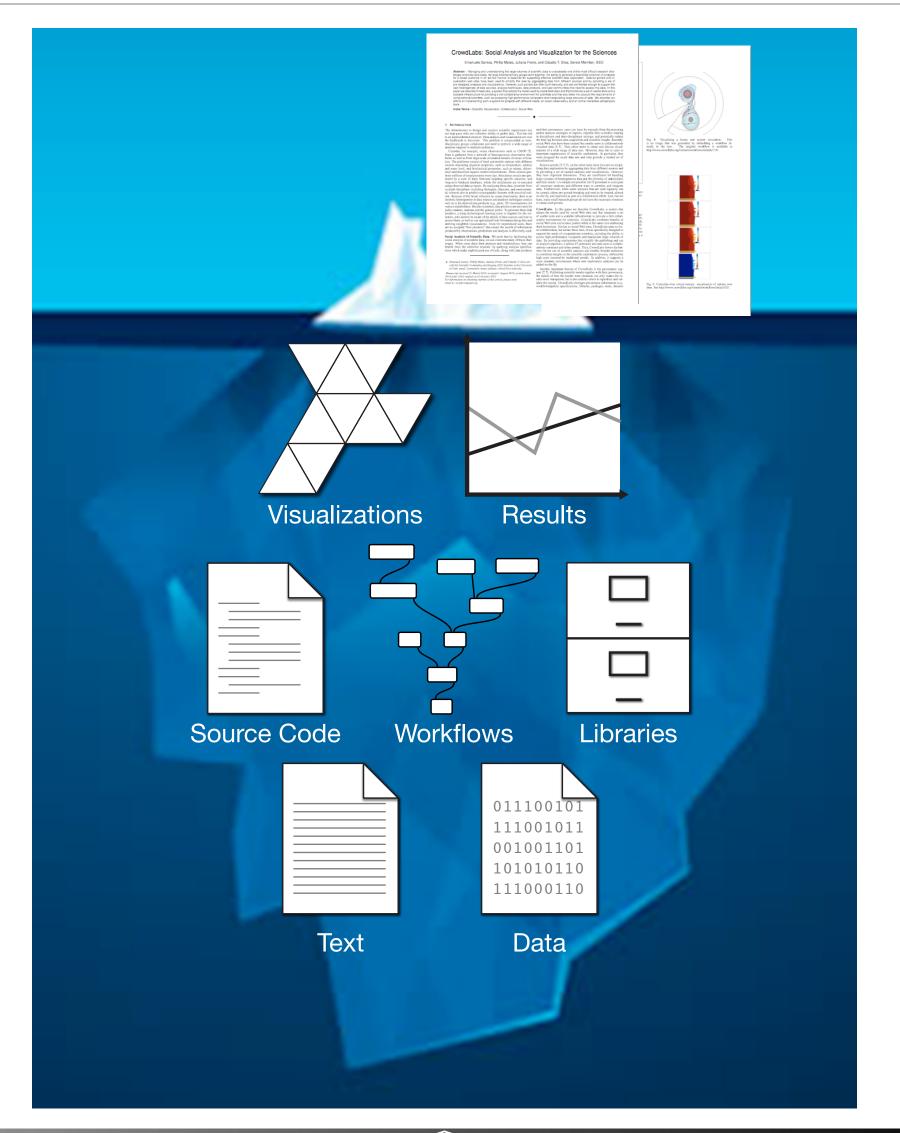
[R. D. Peng]

Published Papers

- "It's impossible to verify most of the results that computational scientists present at conference and in papers." [Donoho et al., 2009]
- "Scientific and mathematical journals are filled with pretty pictures of computational experiments that the reader has no hope of repeating." [LeVeque, 2009]
- "Published documents are merely the advertisement of scholarship whereas the computer programs, input data, parameter values, etc. embody the scholarship itself." [Schwab et al., 2007]

Problem: Incomplete Publications

- A paper cannot include all relevant details of the science
 - Large volumes of data
 - Complex processes
 - Code dependencies
- This makes publishing complete results more difficult!



VISUALIZATION CORNER



Figure 2. The VisMashup window that displays when users select the "Figure 2" tab (see www.vistrails.org/index.php/User:Tohline/IVAJ/Levels2and3). The window displays an image generated by a customized VisTrails workflow using the indicated values of the three variable parameters, Omega_frame (= $\Delta\Omega$), rho_min, and Propagation_time. The VisMashup App generates a new image in the online article (in accordance with the workflow shown in Figure 1) if the reader selects a different set of parameters and clicks the green "Update" button, Clicking on the red "Execute on my desktop" button downloads the Figure 1 workflow to the reader's computer system for local execution.

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Level 3 Enhancements

As the example at www.vistrails. as a VisTrails workflow parameter (see comment on the insights they've org/index.php/User:Tohline/IVAJ/ offers yet another enhancement level over traditional journal articles. By App, users can execute Figure 1's VisTrails workflow on their own

model parameters initially displayed

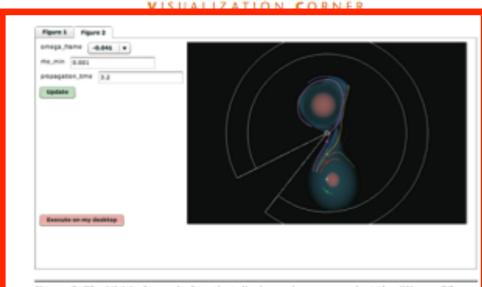


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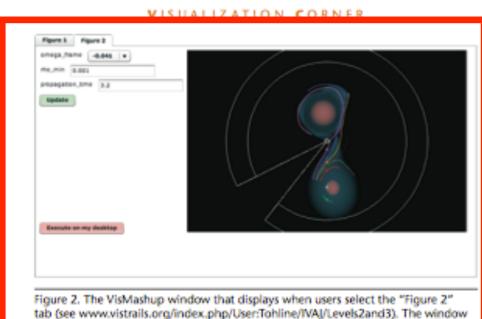
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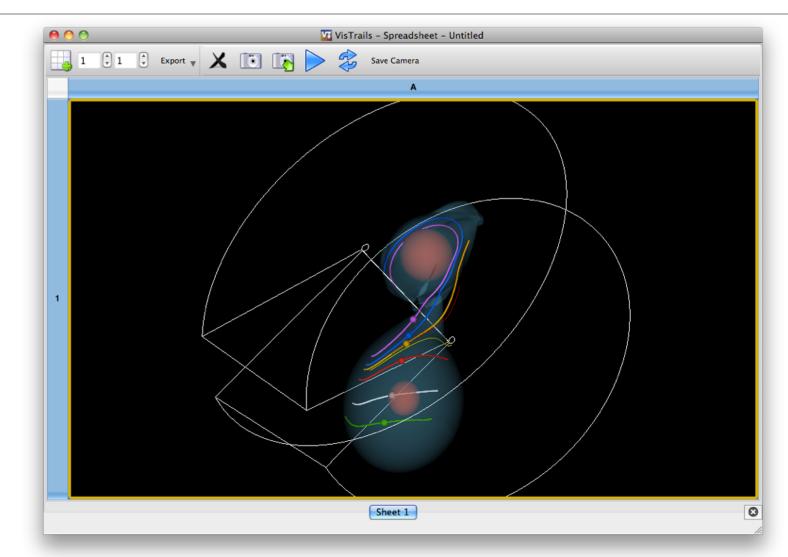
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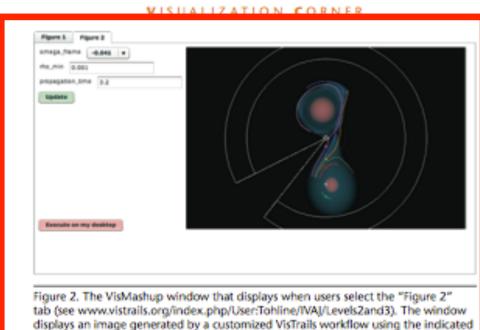
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amount of time; in general, the collec- We invested considerable time in clicking the red "Execute on my tion of streamlines will shorten if we our original article, piecing together desktop" button displayed within the specify a smaller propagation_time a visualization workflow that let us Figure 2 window of the VisMashup value. As the article's "SwitchCoord satisfactorily analyze the underlying Python Module" sidebar describes, properties of the flow that resulted rho_min is an additional parameter from our astrophysical fluid simulathat the customized Python module tion. It's not unusual for computa- ize this Level 3 enhancement only if uses; individual streamlines are trun- tional sciences researchers to invest they've previously installed VisTrails cated once the test particle traveling such time on postprocessing analysis (version 1.4.2 or later) as a functionalong that streamline enters a region (especially on visualization tasks). In ing application on their local system. where the gas density is less than rho_ the original article, we captured the (VisTrails is an open source applicamin. (Densities have been normalized scientific fruits of this labor in two tion designed to run under a wide such that the model's maximum den- static images (Figures 2 and 3). Our range of operating systems, so we embedded VisMashup App executes hope this local installation require-This Level 2 enhancement lets us- exactly the same visualization work- ment won't discourage readers from ers examine more thoroughly the flow as the original article. Hence, exploring and considering the added astrophysical model that we focused with the investment of relatively value that such applications can bring on in the original printed article. By little additional time, we can bring to a modern IVAJ.) actively adjusting one or more of the the original figures to life and reap Following the local execution key model parameter values and us- additional benefits from our original of Figure 1's workflow using the

generate a new figure based on those It's important to note that each in Figure 2, the App displays the values, users likely will gain a better time a user changes a parameter value rendered configuration outside the appreciation of our original article's and executes the VisMashup App, it browser, in one cell of a VisTrails conclusions. Further, using the Wiki's performs the requested analysis on spreadsheet. (The initial download standard editing features, users can the original model data. That is, we've and execution can take 10 minutes or

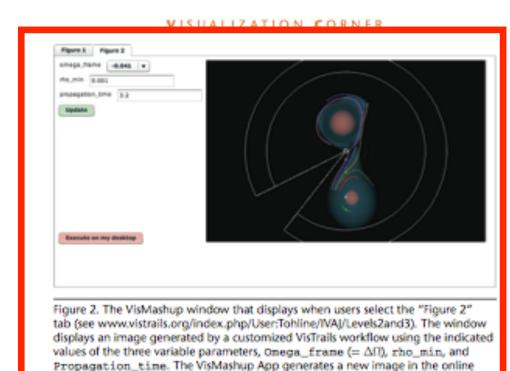
archived the original astrophysical fluid simulation's model data to support our effort to enhance the article's content. This is a step in the right direction, as efforts to demonstrate the reproducibility of largescale numerical simulations aren't likely to succeed until the computational sciences community makes a commitment to archive simulation results. Our IVAJ-formatted article with Level 2 enhancements illustrates how such archival data can naturally enrich the content of published journal articles.

Level 3 Enhancements

As the example at www.vistrails. as a VisTrails workflow parameter (see comment on the insights they've org/index.php/User:Tohline/IVAJ/ over traditional journal articles. By App, users can execute Figure 1's VisTrails workflow on their own computers. Of course, they can real-

model parameters initially displayed

VisTrails - Spreadsheet - Untitled 1 🕽 1 🗘 Export 🗸 💢 🕟 📚 Save Camera ← → C ↑ (S) www.vistrails.org/index.php/Visualizing_a_Binary_Star_System VisTrails SCI HOME SOFTWARE OVERVIEW DOWNLOAD DOCUMENTATION A Log in page discussion view source history Visualizing a Binary Star System VisTrails Wiki is integrated with a VisTrails server instance, so it is easy to embed visualizations in a Wiki page as you generate them. This is the first version of the Figure: navigation Main Page Downloads User's Guide Video Tutorial Recent changes search Go Search What links here Related changes Special pages Now we will demonstrate that publications can update their Figures when they point to a named version instead Printable version of a specific version. This way when the authors decide that Figure 1 will point to a new workflow, all the Permanent link publications that refer Figure 1 will be updated when rebuilt.



article (in accordance with the workflow shown in Figure 1) if the reader selects

a different set of parameters and clicks the green "Update" button. Clicking on

the red "Execute on my desktop" button downloads the Figure 1 workflow to the

flow field regions will travel in a given nally discussed. sity is unity.)

reader's computer system for local execution.

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VisTrails - Spreadsheet - Untitled 1 🕽 1 🗘 Export 🗸 💢 🕟 📚 Save Camera ← → C ↑ (S) www.vistrails.org/index.php/Visualizing_a_Binary_Star_System VisTrails SCI HOME SOFTWARE OVERVIEW DOWNLOAD DOCUMENTATION Log in page discussion view source history Visualizing a Binary Star System VisTrails Wiki is integrated with a VisTrails server instance, so it is easy to embed visualizations in a Wiki page as you generate them. This is the first version of the Figure: navigation Main Page Downloads User's Guide crowdlabs.org : Vismashup [* \ + Video Tutorial - > C f (S) www.crowdlabs.org/vistrails/medleys/details/5/ 😭 🛂 » 🔧 Recent changes search Log in or Sign Up English Go Search Profiles Vistrails Workflows Vismashups Packages Datasets Blogs Groups Projects What links here Stars Related changes Special pages Now we wi Printable version Mashup Provenance Explanation of a specif Permanent link publication omega_frame -0.041 ▼ rho_min 0.001 propagation_time 3.2 Update

Challenges

- Re-using results
- Adding results to publications
- Obtaining results, computations, and input from publications
- Publishing interactive experiments
- Searching executable paper collections
- Reviewers: execution environments, checking different parameters
- Longevity/maintenance
- Resource constraints:
 - analyses run on supercomputers
 - large datasets
 - privacy or intellectual property concerns

General Strategies for Reproducibility

- Preserving the Mess:
 - Just save a virtual machine
 - Trace dependencies
- Encouraging Cleanliness:
 - Use a system (e.g. Umbrella, VisTrails)
 - Use literate programming environments
 - Use code and data repositories
 - Use packaging system (ReproZip)

Literate Programming

- Knuth's WEB system
- Mathematica
- Code this is well-documented using comments
- Jupyter Notebooks

Data and Code Availability

- Code Repositories:
 - GitHub
 - GitLab
 - ...
- Data Repositories:
 - zenodo, figshare, freebase, dryad, DataONE
 - Also many domain-specific repositories
 - http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Data_repositories

10 Rules for Reproducible Computational Research

- Rule 1: For Every Result, Keep Track of How It Was Produced
- Rule 2: Avoid Manual Data Manipulation Steps
- Rule 3: Archive the Exact Versions of All External Programs Used
- Rule 4: Version Control All Custom Scripts
- Rule 5: Record All Intermediate Results, When Possible in Standardized Formats

10 Rules for Reproducible Computational Research

- Rule 6: For Analyses That Include Randomness, Note Underlying Random Seeds
- Rule 7: Always Store Raw Data behind Plots
- Rule 8: Generate Hierarchical Analysis Output, Allowing Layers of Increasing Detail to Be Inspected
- Rule 9: Connect Textual Statements to Underlying Results
- Rule 10: Provide Public Access to Scripts, Runs, and Results

Rules or Benefits?

- Laws to make sure people don't cheat or lie or steal
- Is that a good incentive? You won't be mislabeled as a criminal?
- Benefits of Reproducibility
 - Reproducible programs can be compared
 - Reproducible software and results are documented
 - Reproducible software is portable
 - Reproducible experiments are cited

[J. Freire et al.]

Reproducible Experiments Classification

- Depth: how much is available?
 - figures
 - scripts
 - raw data
 - experiments
 - software system
- Portability: what machine specs are necessary?
 - same machine
 - similar machine
 - different OS
- Coverage: how much can be reproduced?

[J. Freire et al.]



(Database) Research Topics

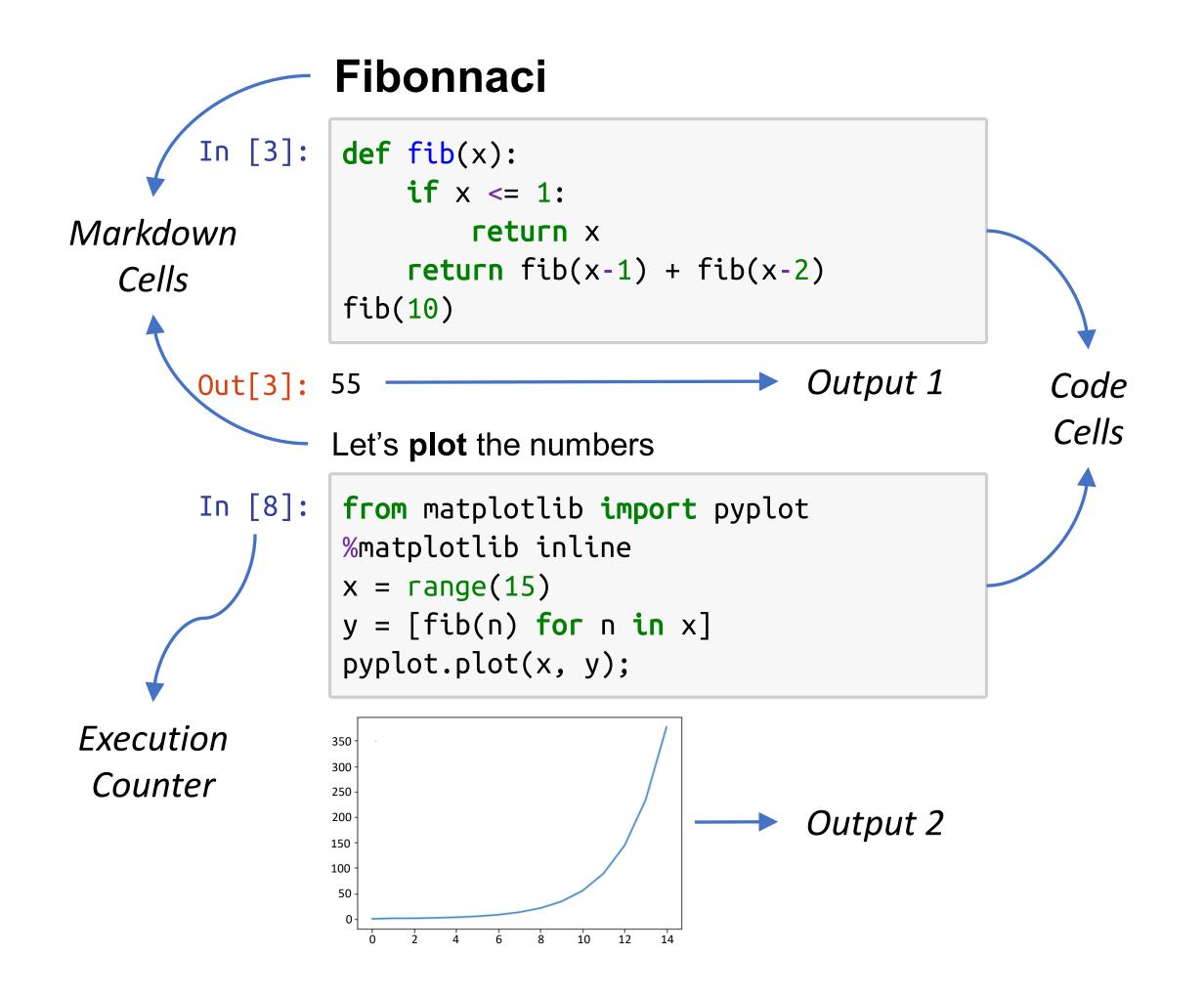
- Design and Management of Experiment Repositories
- Querying and Searching Experiments
- Mining Experiments

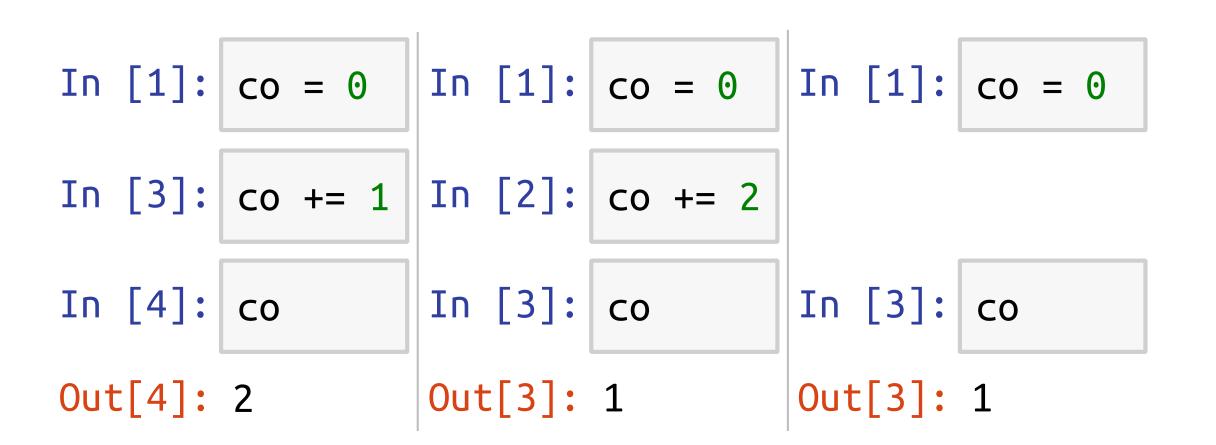
[J. Freire et al.]

A Large-scale Study about Quality and Reproducibility of Jupyter Notebooks

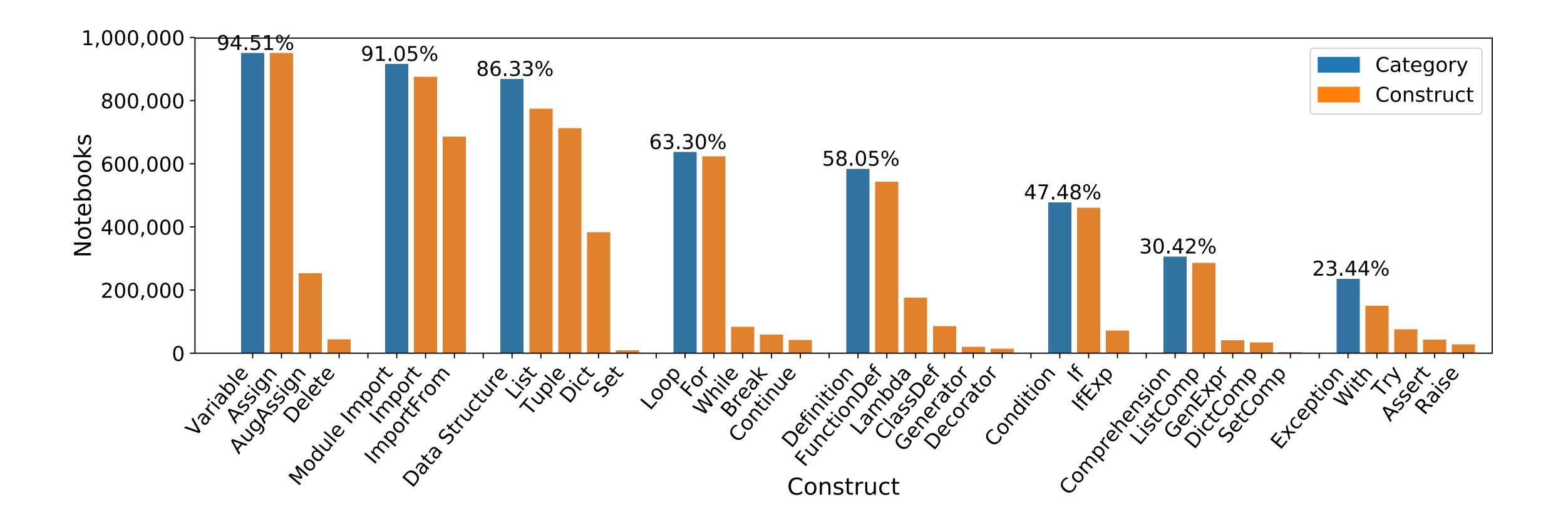
J. F. Pimentel, L. Murta, V. Braganholo, and J. Freire

Notebooks and Hidden State





Notebook Composition



Notebook Reproducibility

- Use notebooks from Github (~1 million)
 - Unambiguous cell order? 81.99%
- Study notebook dependencies
 - Dependencies Available? 13.72%
 - Dependencies Install? 5.03%
- Study notebook executability
 - Execute: 24.11% of unambiguous cell order
 - Matched results: 4.03%

Best Practices

- Use short titles with a restrict charset (A-Z a-z 0-9 . -) for notebook files and markdown headings for more detailed ones in the body
- Pay attention to the bottom of the notebook. Check whether it can benefit from descriptive markdown cells or can have code cells executed or removed
- Abstract code into functions, classes, and modules and test them
- Declare the dependencies in requirement files & pin versions of all packages
- Use a clean environment to test if dependencies are properly declared
- Put imports at the beginning of notebooks
- Use relative paths for accessing data in the repository
- Re-run notebooks top to bottom before committing