

# Data Infrastructure in the AI Era

Keynote Talk for the International Symposium on Grids and Clouds  
March 19, 2025 – Taipei, Taiwan

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Founding Fellow, **Halicioğlu Data Science Institute**  
Founding Director, **Workflows for Data Science Center of Excellence**  
Founding Director, **WIFIRE Lab**

Joint Faculty Appointee, **Los Alamos National Laboratory**

SCHOOL OF COMPUTING, INFORMATION AND DATA SCIENCES

UC San Diego

## School of Computing, Information and Data Sciences

<https://scids.ucsd.edu/>



### UC Regents Approve New School of Computing, Information and Data Sciences at UC San Diego

New school meets critical demand to advance data science and AI innovations and educate workforce of the future

**SDSC** SAN DIEGO SUPERCOMPUTER CENTER  
at the UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO  
COMPUTING WITHOUT BOUNDARIES

ABOUT SDSC SERVICES SUPPORT RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION

### Materials Science Researchers Double Up on SDSC, PSC Supercomputers to Discover New Details about TMDs

Supercomputer simulations provide a better understanding of two-dimensional layered materials showing promise for a variety of applications – from flexible electronics and spintronics to optical and memory devices.

[READ MORE](#)



Innovate,

FOR UC/UCSD Researchers

FOR National HPC Users

<https://www.sdsc.ucsd.edu/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

OCT 2 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm  
Some new results for stream...

OCT 12 8:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Swarup Swaminathan, MD | University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

[View Calendar](#)

Tweets from @HDSIUUCSD

**Nothing to see here - yet**

When they Tweet, their Tweets will show up here.

[View on Twitter](#)

**How Does ChatGPT Work?** – Event

[science.ucsd.edu/](https://science.ucsd.edu/)

**SDSC** SAN DIEGO SUPERCOMPUTER CENTER

İlkay Altıntaş, PhD ([ialtintas@ucsd.edu](mailto:ialtintas@ucsd.edu))

UC San Diego  
HALICIOĞLU DATA SCIENCE INSTITUTE

# Cyberinfrastructure and Convergence Research Division @SDSC

Translating cyberinfrastructure research for impact at scale

## CI Methods and Systems

- “Big” Data and Knowledge Systems
- Computational Data Science
- Machine Learning and AI
- Advanced Computing

## Convergence Research

- Collaborative Problem Solving
- Use-inspired Design
- Sustainable and Scalable Solutions

## Experiential and Classroom Education

# CICORE

Cyberinfrastructure | Convergence Research | Education

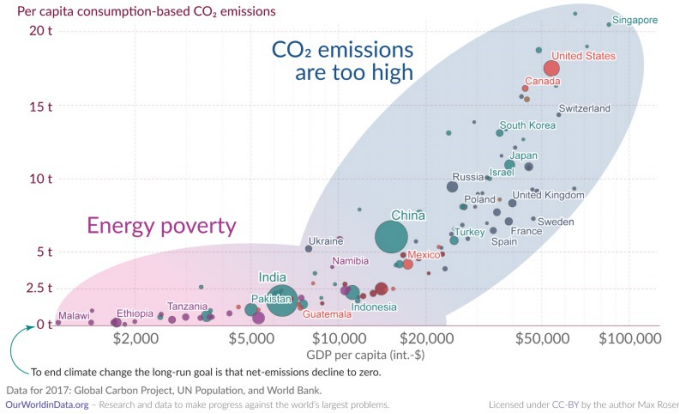


WCRP

# GRAND CHALLENGES



## CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita vs GDP per capita



<https://ourworldindata.org/worlds-energy-problem>

**\$10 trillion+**  
spent in global response to COVID-19

**165+**  
COVID-19 vaccines being developed globally

**216**  
countries, areas or territories with cases

<https://www.10xgenomics.com/research-areas/infectious-disease>

# The biggest challenges of our time are too difficult to solve alone!

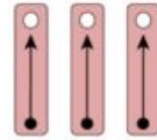
<https://www.wcrp-climate.org/learn-grand-challenges>

**Convergence research is:**

**driven by a specific and compelling societal problem**

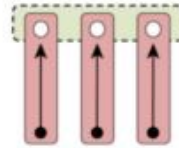
**and**

**works towards integrating innovative and sustainable solutions into society**



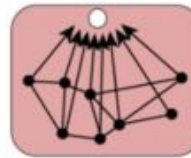
**Disciplinary**

- Within one academic discipline
- Disciplinary goal setting
- Development of new disciplinary knowledge



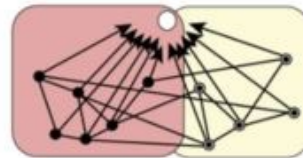
**Multidisciplinary**

- Multiple disciplines
- Multiple disciplinary goal setting under one thematic umbrella



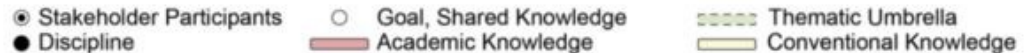
**Interdisciplinary**

- Crosses disciplinary boundaries
- Development of integrated knowledge



**Convergence**

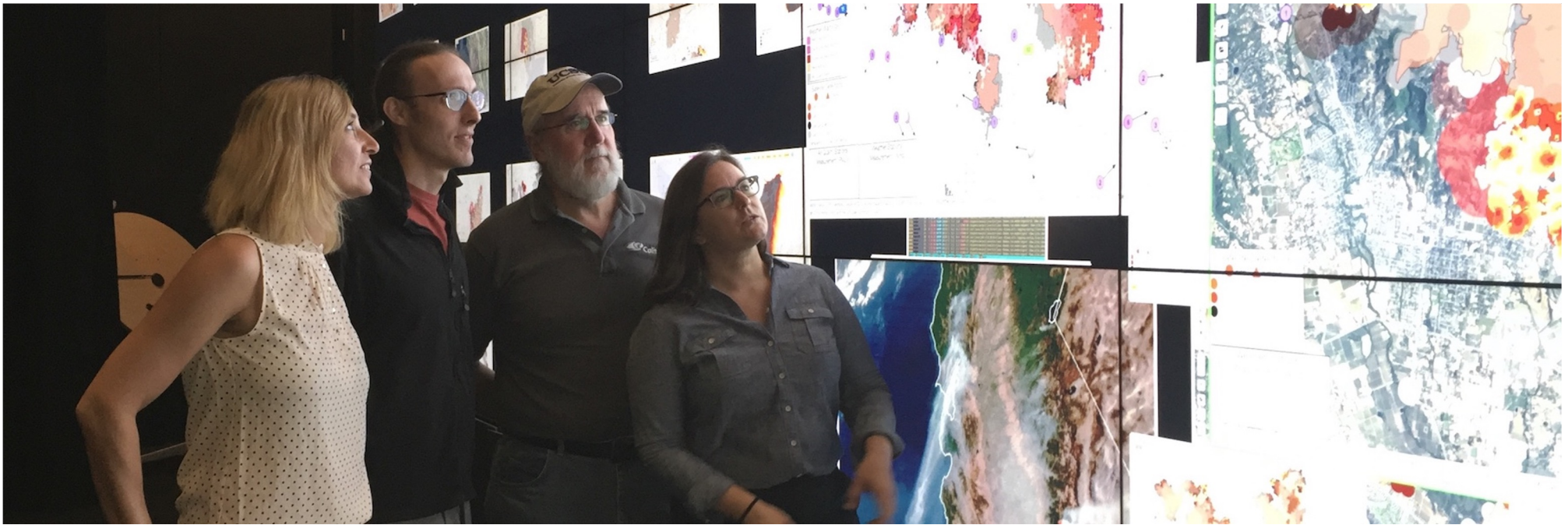
- Crosses disciplinary and sectorial boundaries
- Common goal setting
- Develops integrated knowledge for science and society
- Creates new paradigms



Adapted from Wright Morton, L., S. D. Eigenbrode, and T. A. Martin. 2015. Architectures of adaptive integration in large collaborative projects. *Ecology and Society* 20(4):5.

# Translating Research into Impact

through Democratizing Access to Cyberinfrastructure



# Three Main Components

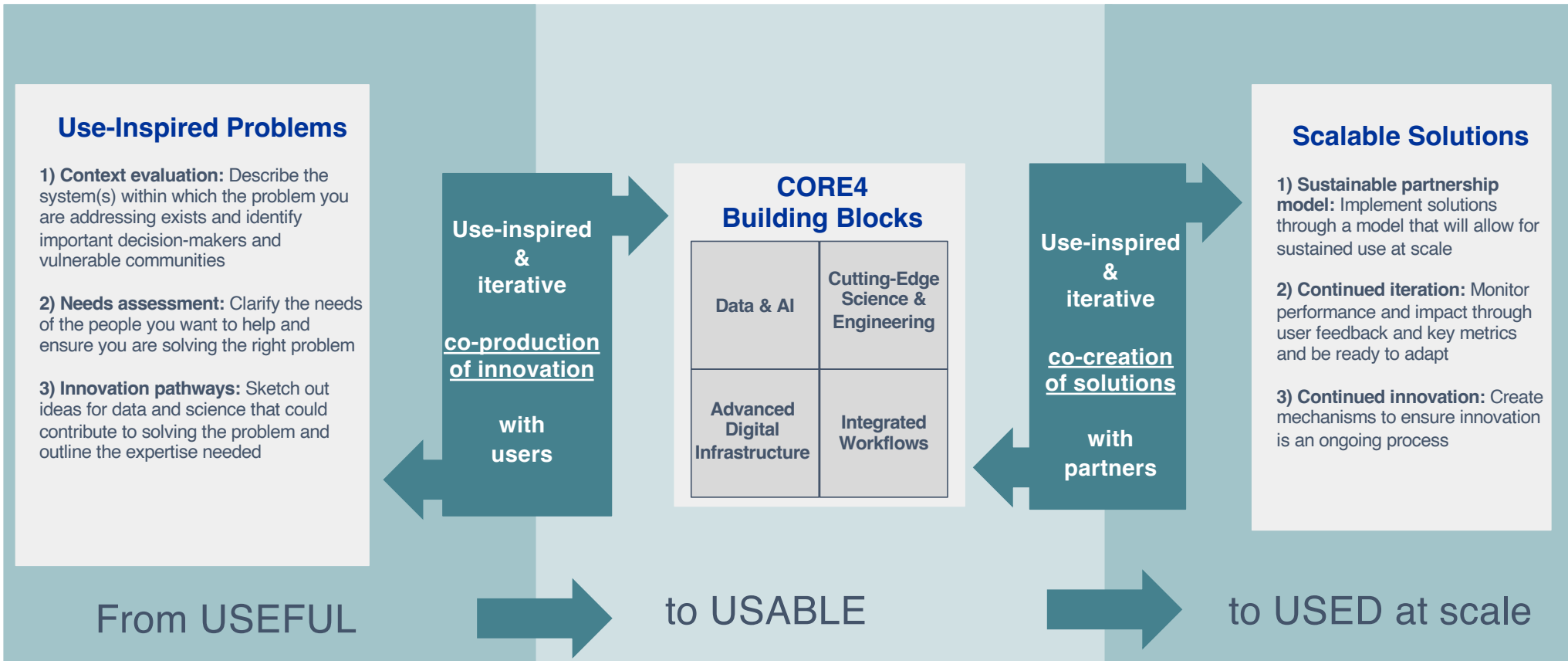
Composable Workflows + Collaborative Innovation + Impact Network



<https://www.core-institute.org/>

# CORE Institute Innovation Approach

## Creating Breakthrough Technological Innovations for Complex Societal Challenges





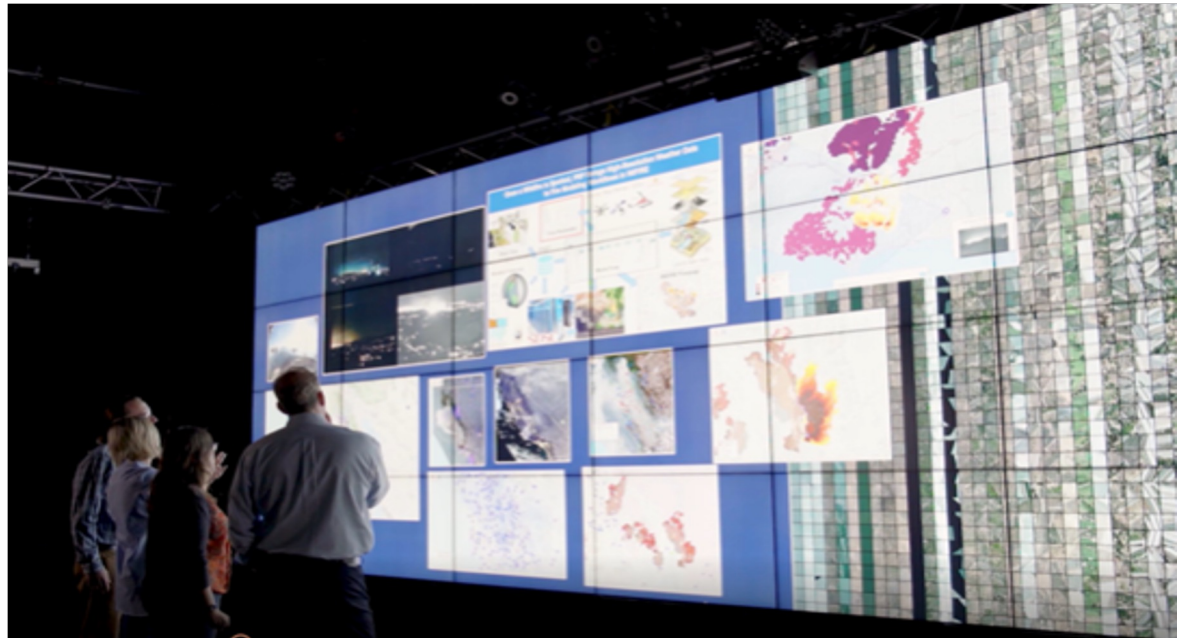
# Translating Fire Research into Impact



**Mission:** Develop technologies with the fire management community driven by cutting-edge science and data

**Vision:** Enable tools that can have an impact at the scale of the environmental challenges we face today

[wifire.ucsd.edu](http://wifire.ucsd.edu)



# Actionable Open Fire Science and AI:

## Right Model and Right Data

for the Right Decision Support Workflow

at the Right Time

with the Right Communication

...before, during, and after a fire.

# Where are we headed at WIFIRE?

- **Wildfire Response:** WIFIRE's *Firemap platform* in collaboration with CALOES and CAL FIRE through California's Fire Integrated Real-Time Intelligence System (FIRIS) and with partners in Colorado
- **Community Data Platforms:** WIFIRE's *Wildfire Science & Technology Commons* and *Wildfire and Landscape Resilience Data Hub* to develop standards, tools and techniques to share data and data-driven models with partners including NIST, CAL FIRE, and SDGE
- **Beneficial Fire:** WIFIRE's *BurnPro3D platform* for prescribed burn planning and implementation in collaboration with 3D fuel and fire modeling efforts at USGS, DOD, USFS, and LANL
- **Immersive Fire Environment:** WIFIRE's *Immersive Forest Project* leverages the AI-readiness of scientific data for new modes of teaching, training, decision-making, and public communication,
- Our platforms and products are fueled by over a dozen research projects and partnerships focused on *moving science to practice*



[wifire.ucsd.edu/](http://wifire.ucsd.edu/)

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**WIFIRE**

# Operational Products

## FIREMAP

Firemap is currently being used by firefighters in Colorado, in collaboration with Intterra, and firefighters in California through the FIRIS program under the California Governor's Office of Emergency

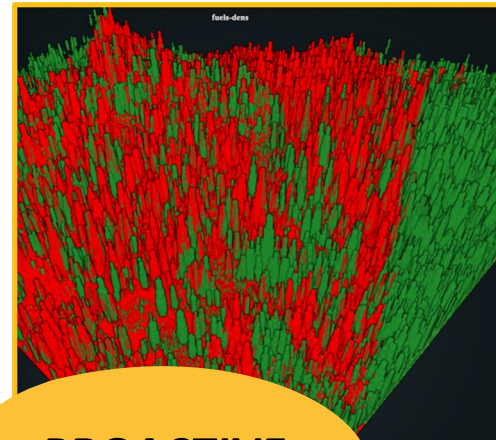


Services and CALFIRE. FIRIS uses Firemap to provide real-time information on weather conditions and fire ignitions and to monitor and predict direction and speed of fire spread, as well as communities at risk. It has revolutionized initial attack response for the most dangerous fires across California.

**REACTIVE**

## BurnPro<sup>3D</sup>

In alignment with the nation's goal to increase fuel treatments to reduce wildfire risk, BurnPro3D is designed to support the preparation of burn plans as well as the implementation of prescribed



burns. The interface allows burn bosses to create and visualize high-resolution 3D fire simulations and compare fuel consumption and risk under different weather and ignition scenarios. It uses 3D FastFuels data developed by the US Forest Service and the QUIC-Fire coupled fire/atmosphere model developed at Los Alamos National Lab.

**PROACTIVE**



**Cal OES**  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE  
OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



# Data and Computing Platforms

## Wildfire Science and Technology Commons

The Commons enables the development of foundational AI techniques to fuse and learn from data and to make scientific models interpretable and complex decisions easier. It connects next-generation data and

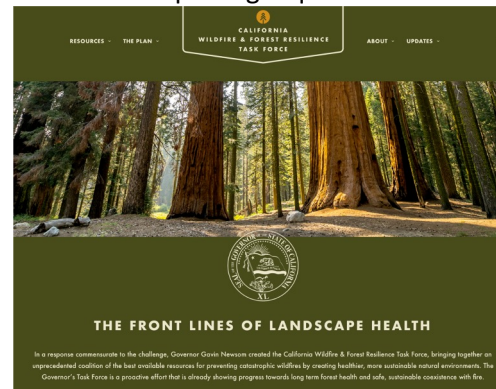


models for anyone interested in developing solutions. For example, it enables an integrated fire weather intelligence platform focused on reducing risk related to power lines for Southern California. A new phase of development was recently supported through congressionally directed spending proposed by California Sen. Padilla, Rep. Vargas, and Rep. Jacobs.



## Wildfire and Landscape Resilience Data Hub

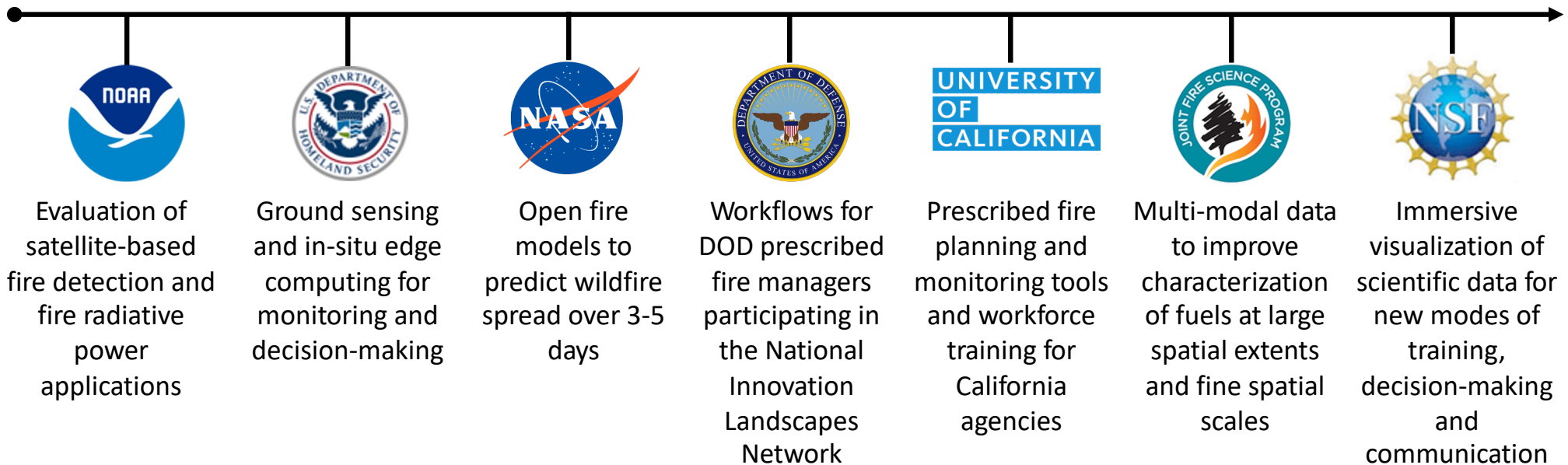
The Data Hub is a federated data ecosystem for California’s Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, providing a “single view” over existing data to fulfill the reporting requirements for California’s



Million Acre Strategy to treat 1 million forested acres per year to reduce wildfire risk. It will provide public, open, and fair access to data, analytic tools, and customizable reports via the Data Hub explorer web viewer, as well as access to data through APIs.

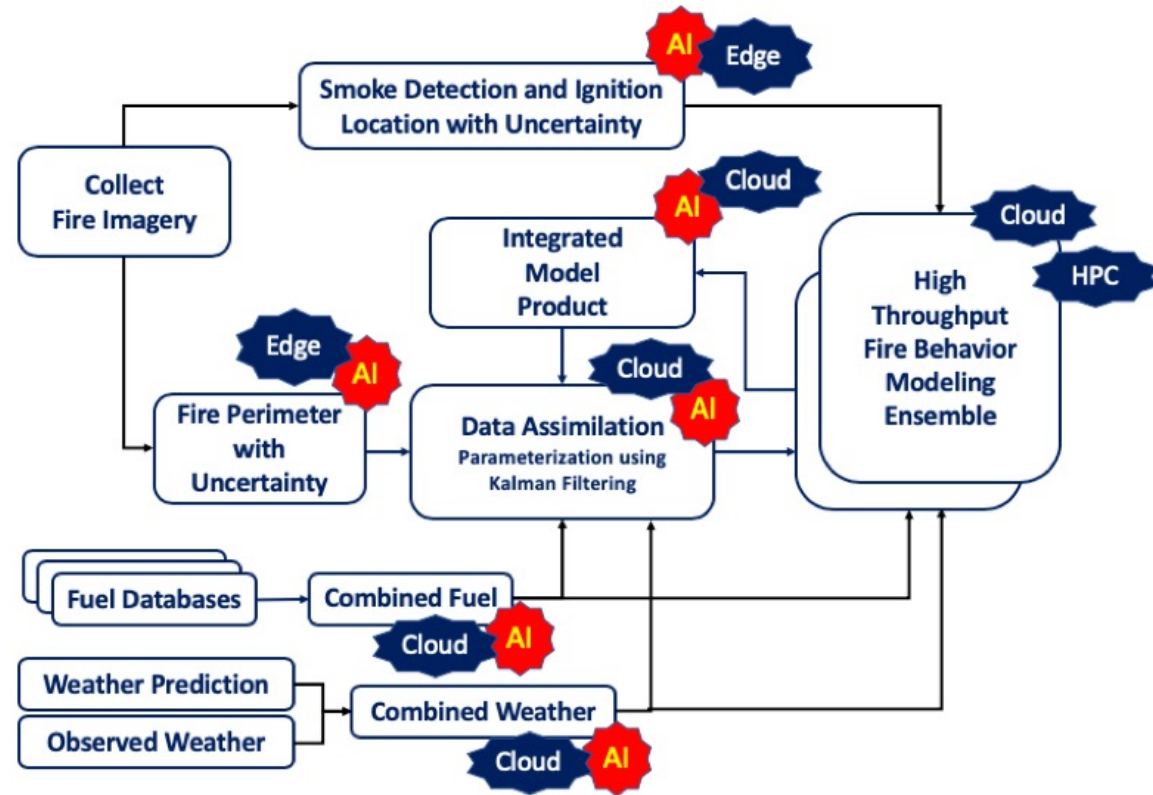


# Additional Grants Fueling R&D



# AI and Computing Needs for Dynamic Data-Driven Fire Modeling

- Characterizing the dynamic fire environment : Variation of wind, smoke, moisture, fuels, fire perimeter, ...
- Detection of fire ignitions
- Decision support for fire management
- Prediction of potential fire ignitions



# AI Techniques to Condition Data and Improve Model Accuracy

**3D vs 2D**

**900x more detailed**

Collaboration with Rod Linn (LANL), Kevin Hiers (TTRS) and Russ Parsons (USFS)





# AI Techniques to Improve Decision Making

**Weather**

**Ignition  
Patterns**

**Smoke**

## **PHYSICS-GUIDED MACHINE LEARNING**

*To improve predictive fire behavior models*

## **OPTIMIZATION**

*To address complex tradeoffs and prioritization*

## **EXPLAINABLE AI**

*To increase scientific understanding and interpretability all along the decision-making chain*

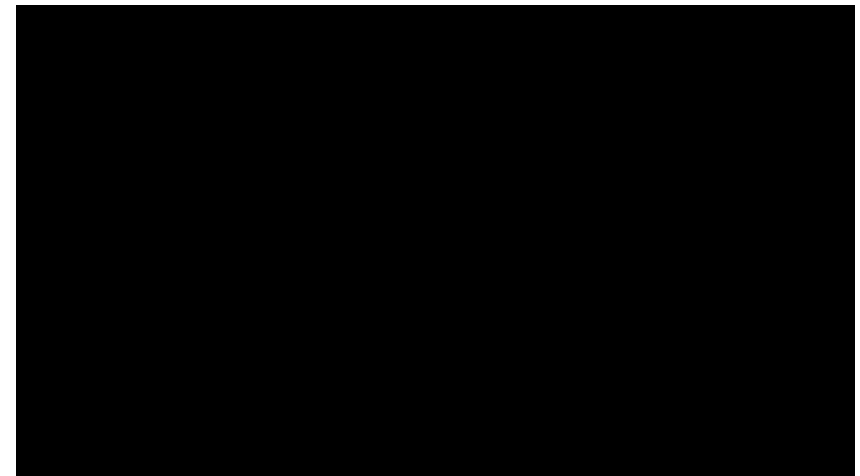
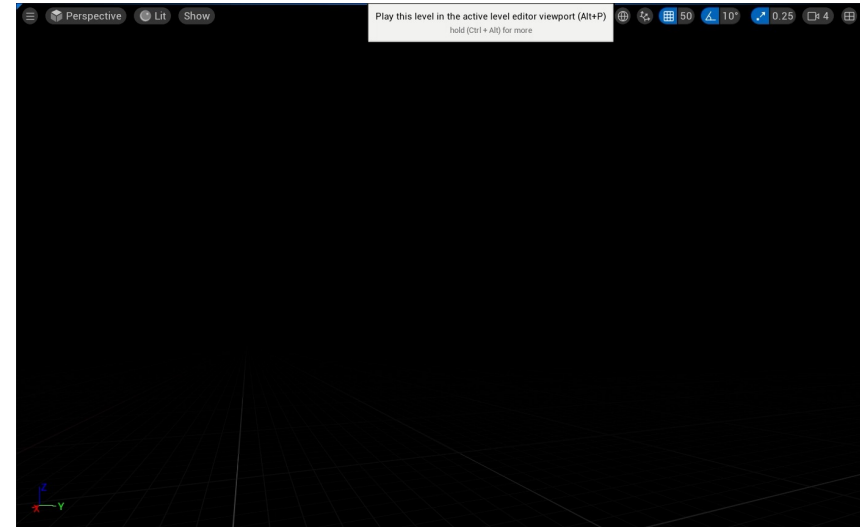
# AI in Science Communication

Visualization of multiple terrestrial LiDAR scans in the Immersive Forest prototype



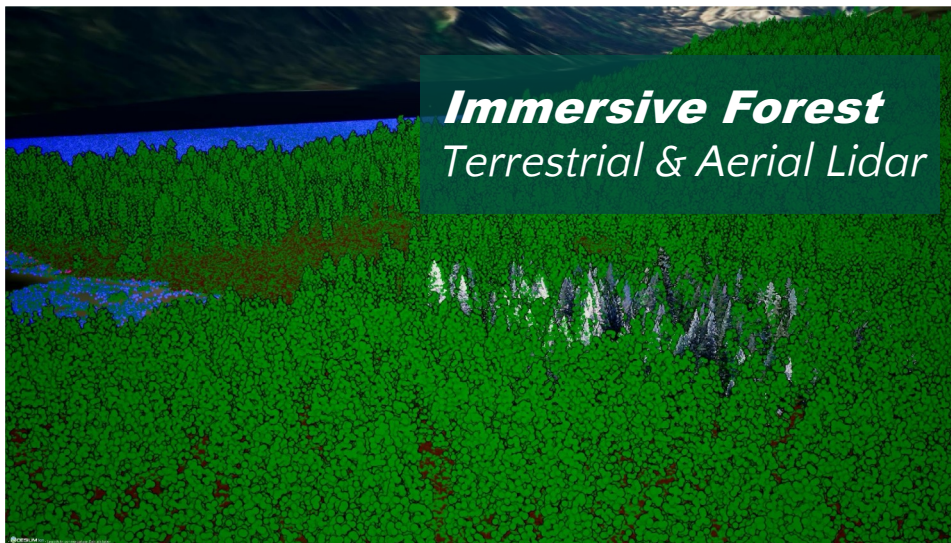
**Immersive AI-integrated visualization of scientific data and simulations for training, decision making, and public communication.**

**Animations by:** Isaac Nealey (left, bottom), Ivannia Gomez (top)

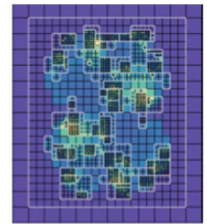
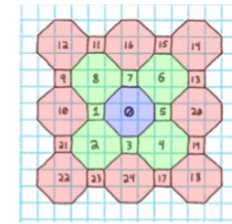
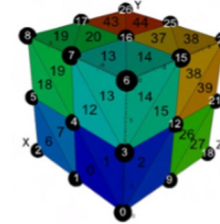
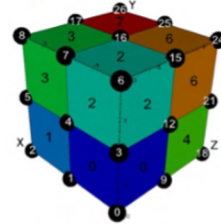
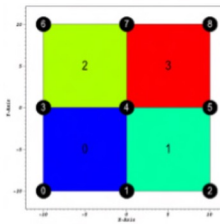
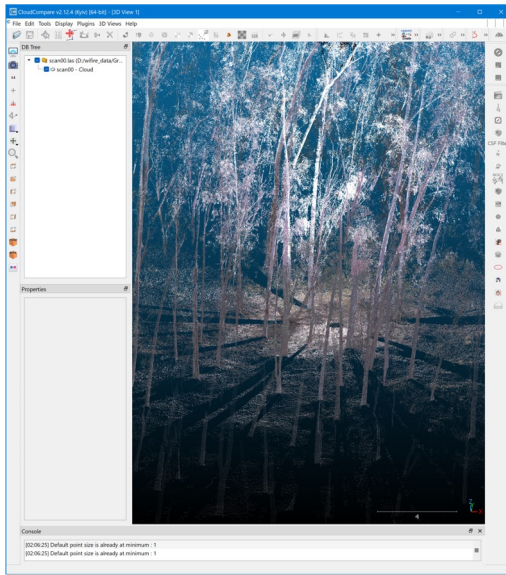


# Immersive Fire Digital Twin

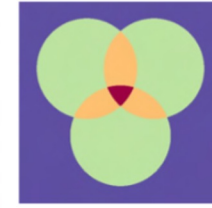
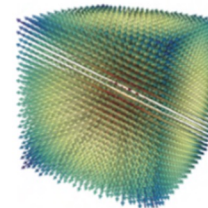
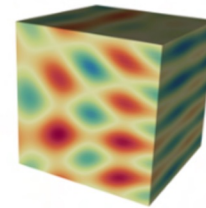
WIFIRE's **Immersive Forest** leverages the AI-readiness of scientific data for new modes of teaching, training, decision-making, and public communication, including 3D outputs from vegetation modeling and fire science simulations and real-world information collected with cameras and sensors.



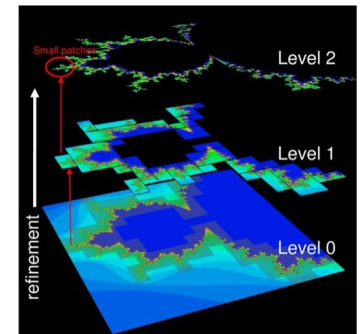
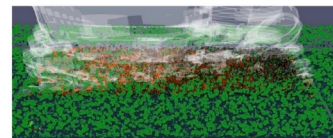
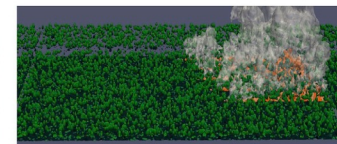
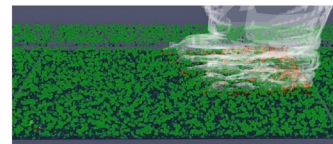
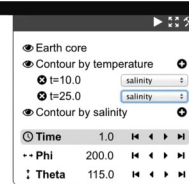
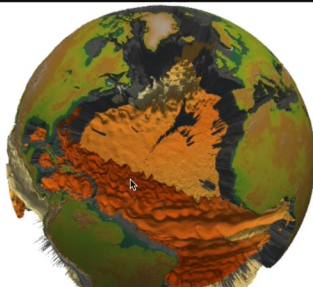
# Many Scientific Data Types in Digital Twin



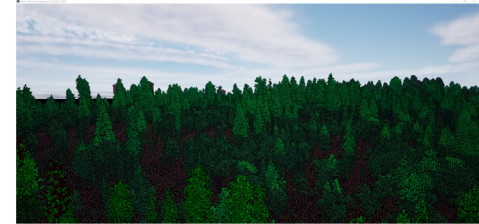
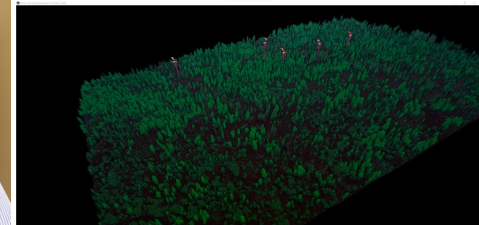
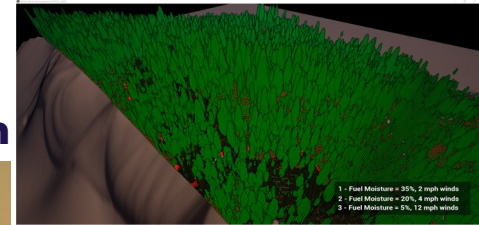
Topologies: 1D/2D/3D - Uniform, Rectilinear, Structured, Unstructured, Polygonal, Polyhedral, AMR



Fields: Scalar, Vector, Multi-material



# Immersive Forest for Multimodal Communication



*Terrestrial LiDAR contextualized  
within Aerial scan*

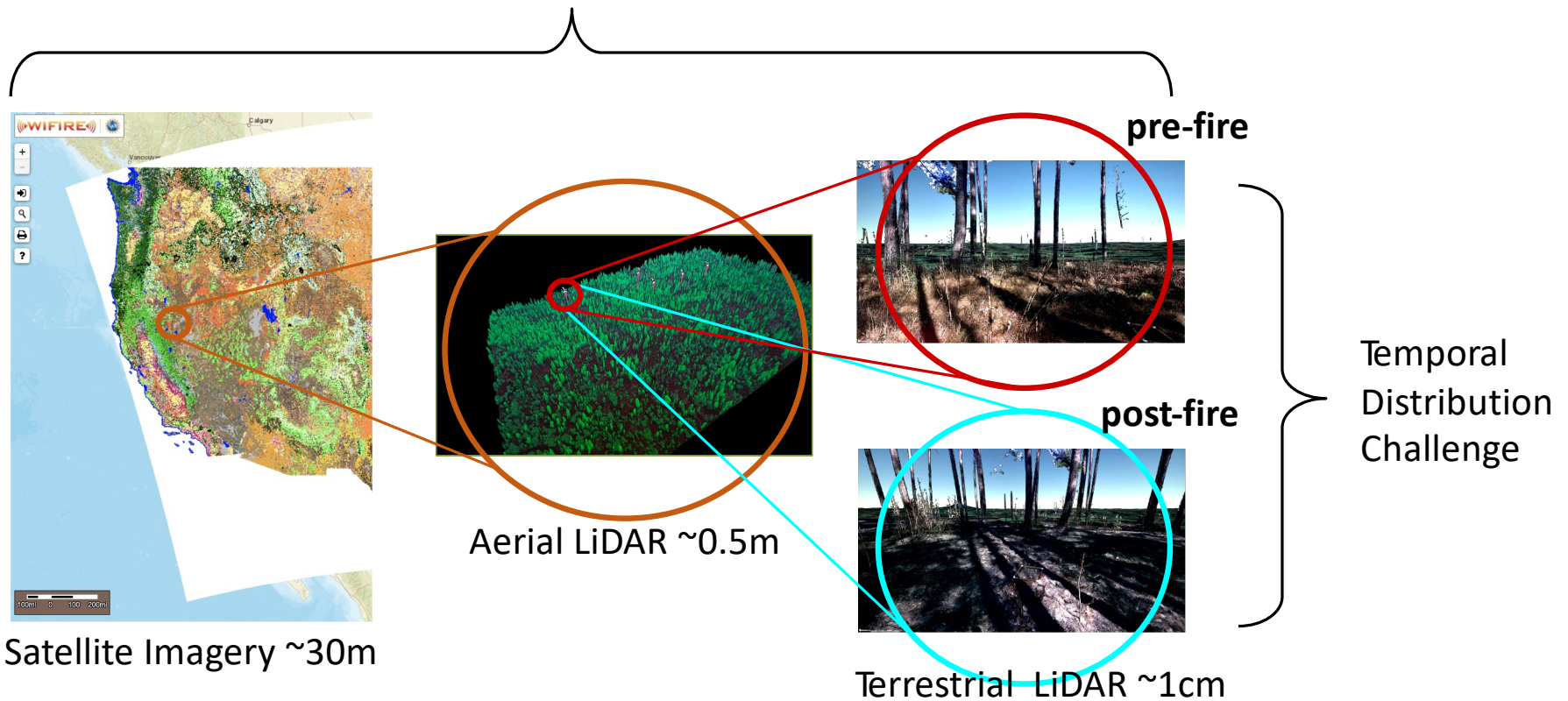
# LiDAR Processing & Visualization



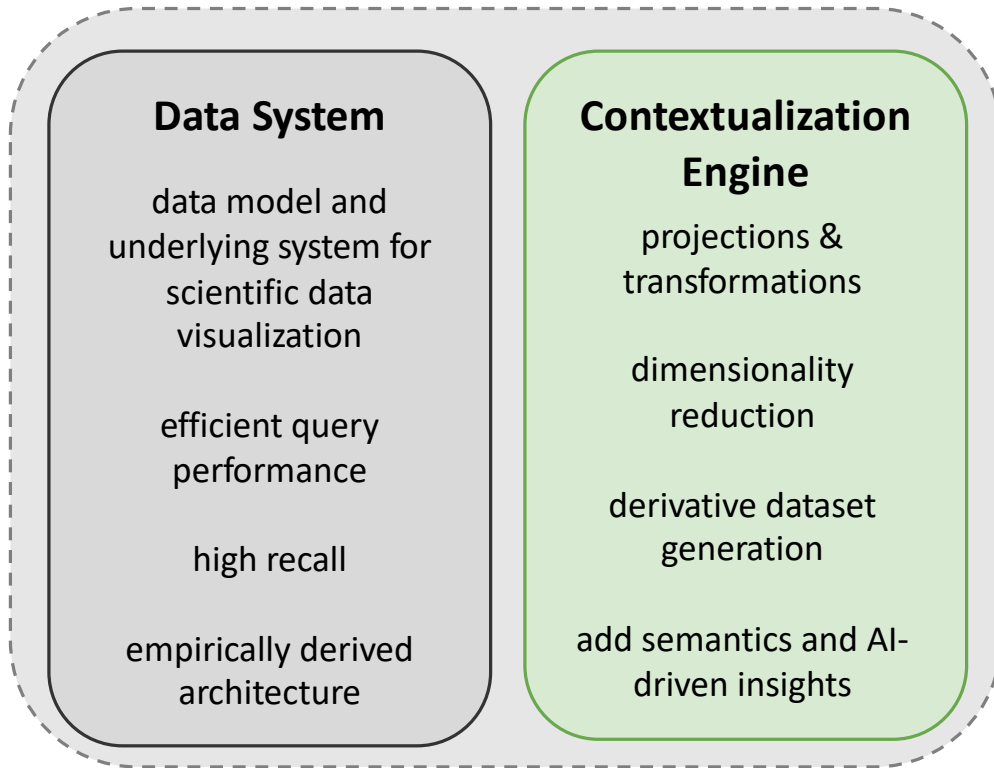
I. Moreno, I. Nealey, D. Roten, M. Nguyen, D. Crawl, K. O'Laughlin, M. Floca, S. Pokswinski, and İ. Altıntaş, "Visualization and Labeling of Terrestrial LiDAR Data for Three-Dimensional Fuel Classification," in Proceedings of the IEEE eScience 2023 Conference, 2023, pp. 1-2. doi: 10.1109/eScience.58273.2023.10254841.

# Knowledge Representation: Spatiotemporal Data and its Challenges

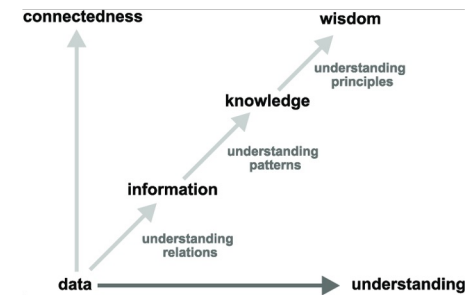
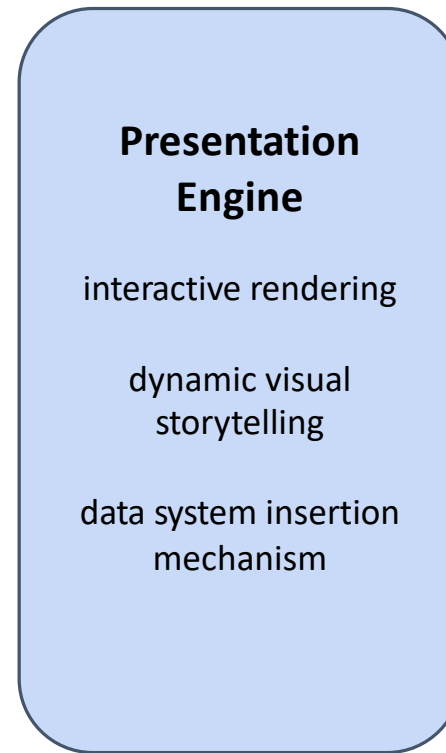
## Multiscale Spatial Challenge



## Knowledge Representation



## Interactive Scene Generation



Data → Information → Knowledge → Interpretation and Stories



**This type of work  
needs the CORE4  
building blocks.**

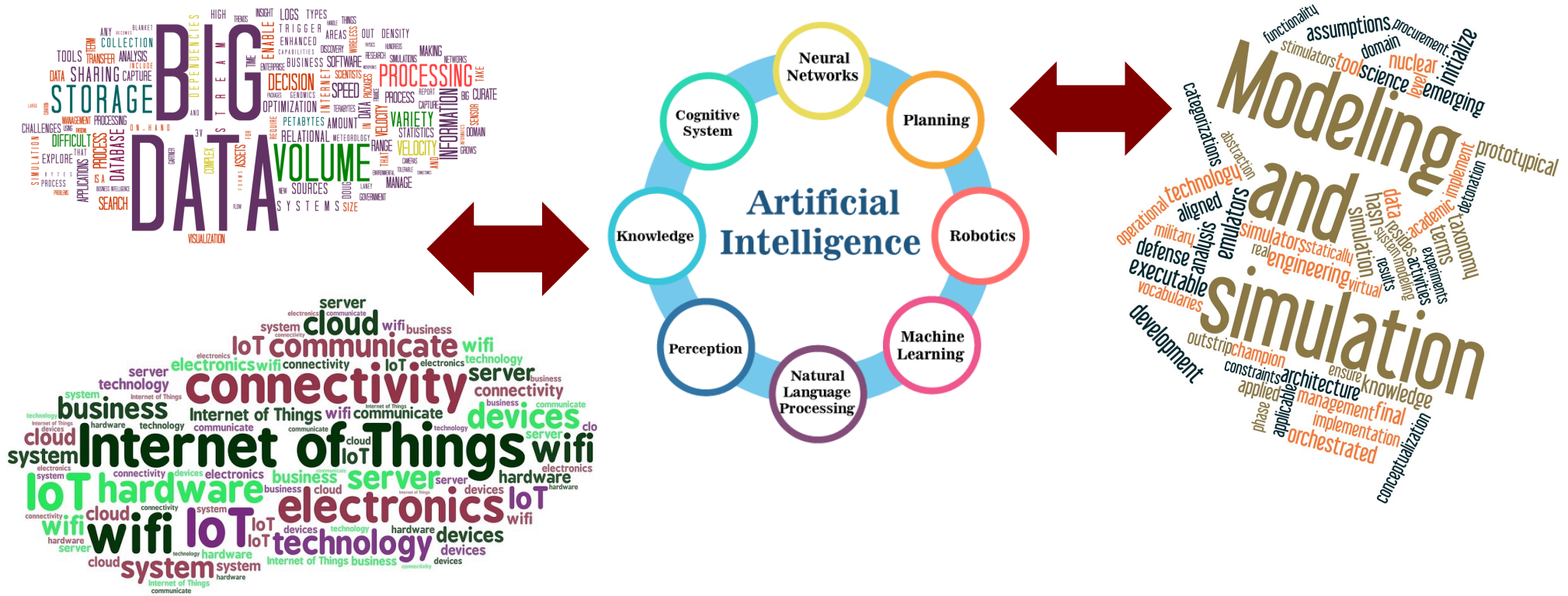
**CICORE**

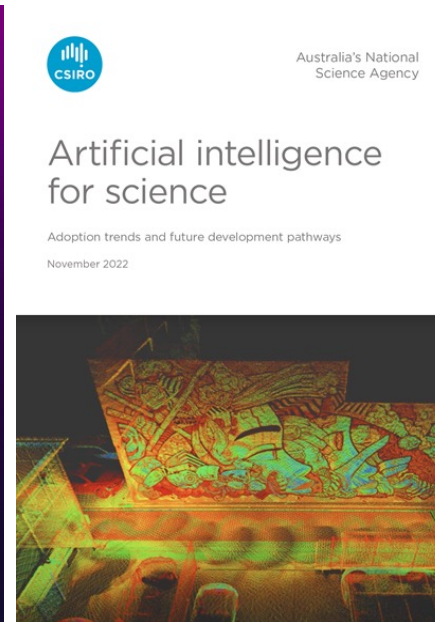
Cyberinfrastructure | Convergence Research | Education

## CORE4 Building Blocks

Data & AI	Cutting-Edge Science & Engineering
Advanced Digital Infrastructure	Integrated Workflows

# AI-Integrated Applications at the Digital Continuum





# AI in Science and Research

# Schmidt AI in Science Postdoc Research



## Computational microscopy of respiratory viruses in aerosols

Exploring different models to simulate and visualize the behavior of viruses in the respiratory tract

## AI-Powered analysis of molecular simulations

High-affinity generative model for target proteins

## Data-driven development of neural-network potentials from quantum chemistry data

ML model to be used as a surrogate for expensive high-level chemistry calculations

## Drug resistance evolution in HIV patients

Leverages machine learning system for heterogeneous cryo-EM reconstruction of proteins and protein complexes from single-particle cryo-EM data

## The relationship between life span of the plant roots microscopy data and wildfire

Deep learning model to estimate life span

## Small coronary artery calcium detectability

Deep learning model to segment and visualize chambers of the heart

## Earth system modelling

Deep learning model to use data extracted from ECMWF to calibrate earth systems simulation

## Brain activity of diving seals reveals short sleep cycles at depth

Linear regression models to assess the impact of age, recording location and design iteration

## Bathymetry from space

Machine learning model to understand small-scale ocean dynamics

## The effect mutations implicated in autism can have in protein oscillation

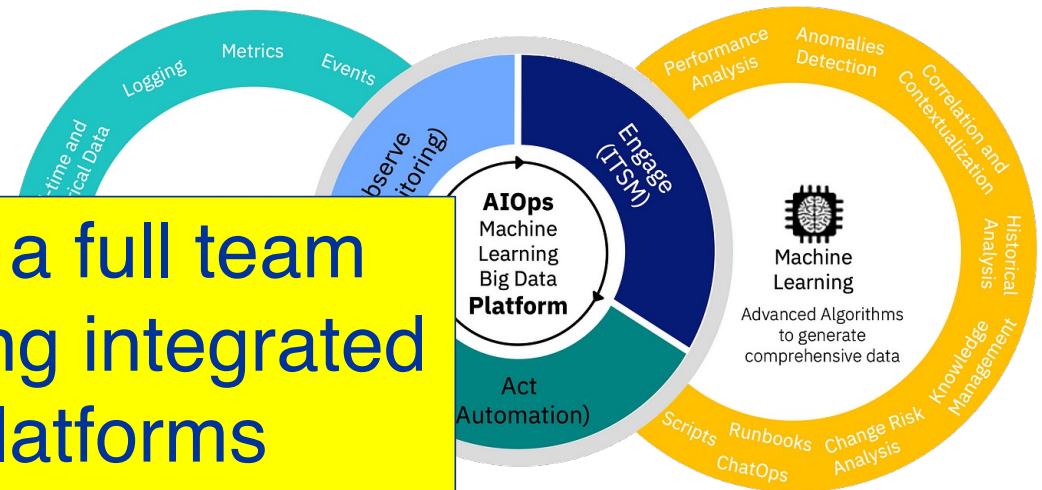
Deep learning model to predict the oscillation of protein in cell-cell communication

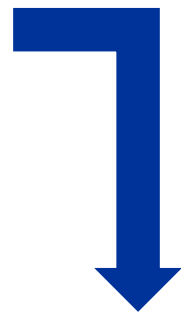
# AI in Science Readiness

“not just science + AI methods”

- Data federation and hubs
- Data quality and volume
- Knowledge management
- Benchmarks
- Scalability up and down
- Workflow management
- Software integration and engineering
- Dev ops (also called AI ops and data ops)
- Interpretability and explainability
- Workforce training and culture/incentive building

Requires a full team  
and enabling integrated  
data platforms





**Systems should enable seamless integration of AI-integrated application workflows by teams!**





## Workflow integration requires a digital continuum composed through:

- system federation
- reusable capability services
- solutions integrating services



**AI in science requires data  
and knowledge hubs  
including:**

- data federation
- knowledge management
- readily available  
standard data services
- equitable access



# Integration requirements...



**Dynamic composability matters.**

**Systems and services are useful if groups can integrate them into applications.**



**TEAMWORK**

**Tools that enhance teamwork and use need to be coupled with responsible AI systems.**



**Dynamic composability matters.**

## **COMPOSABLE SERVICES**

*e.g., model and data archives, learning and analytics, simulation, training*

## **RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

*e.g., container orchestration, optimization*

## **COMPOSABLE SYSTEMS**

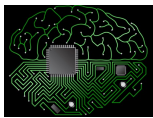
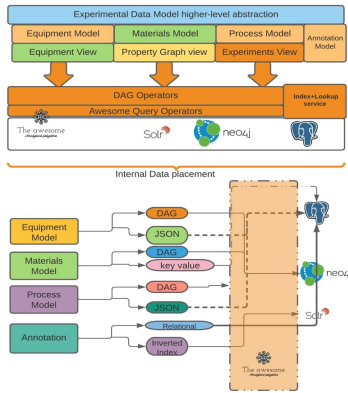
*e.g., GPU, CPU, Big Data, quantum, neuromorphic, SDN, storage*



Capability



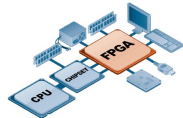
Capacity



xPU → GPU, CPU, TPU, IPU, QPU,...



Edge



FPGA



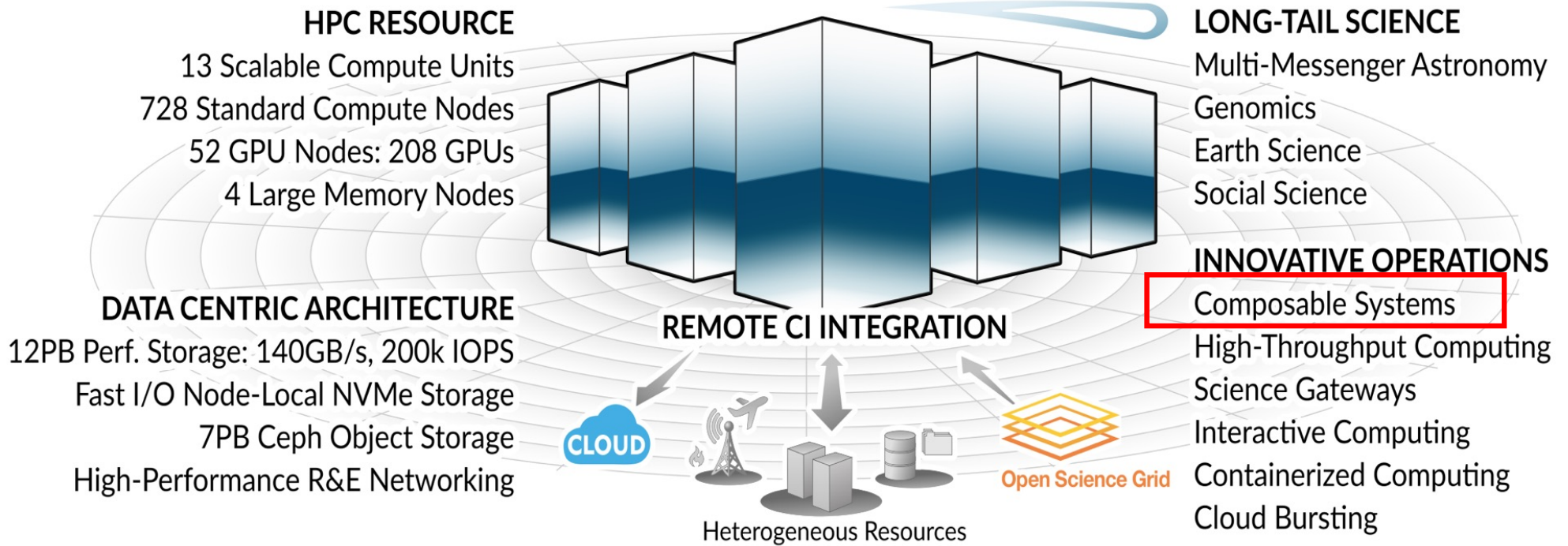
Cloud, HPC, Storage

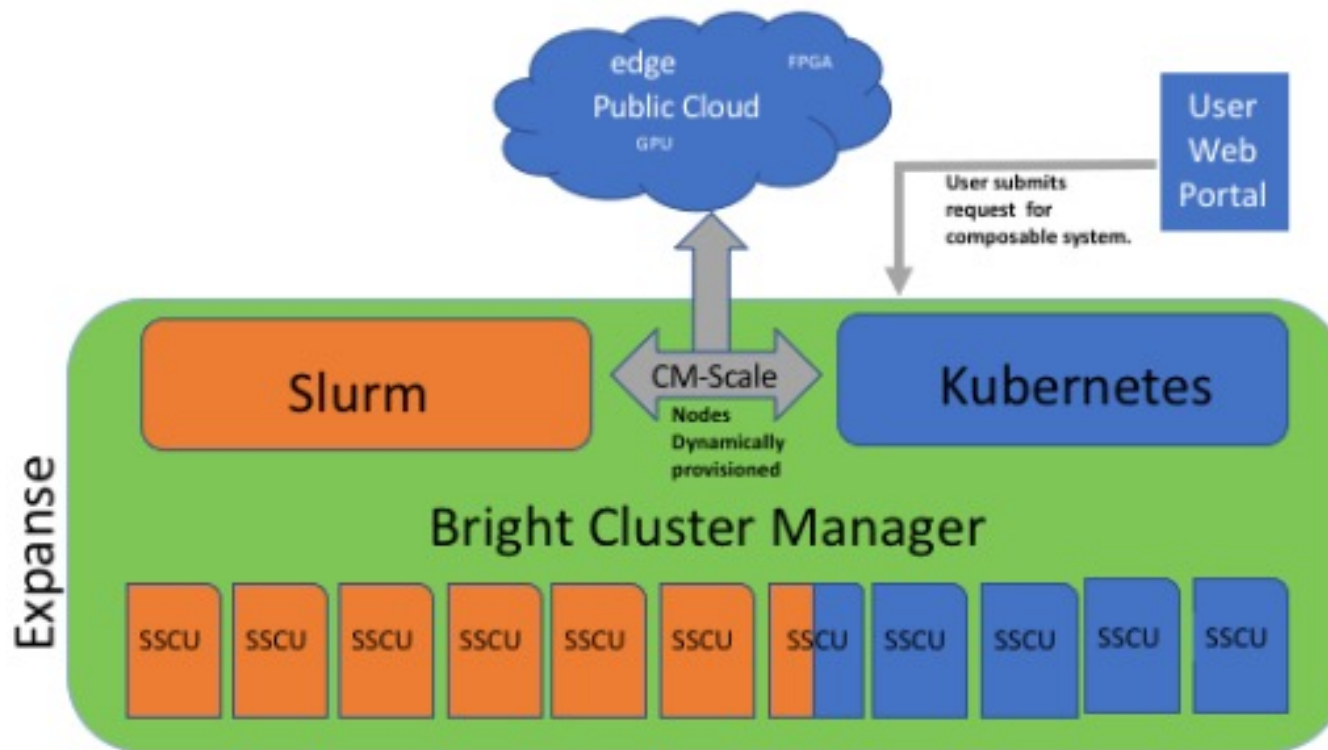
Big Data

# Some Composable Systems

# EXPANSE

COMPUTING WITHOUT BOUNDARIES  
5 PETAFLOP/S HPC and DATA RESOURCE





*Expanse Composable Systems Framework*

# National Research Platform



<https://nationalresearchplatform.org/>

A screenshot of the National Research Platform website homepage. The background is a dark blue space-themed image with a glowing horizon line. At the top left is the "NRP NATIONAL RESEARCH PLATFORM" logo. At the top right are navigation links: "NEWS", "GRANTS", "TECHNOLOGY", "COMMUNITY", and "JOIN / CONTACT". The main heading reads "Designed for Growth and Inclusion". Below this is a paragraph: "The National Research Platform (NRP) is a partnership of more than 50 institutions, led by researchers and cyberinfrastructure professionals at UC San Diego, supported in part by awards from the National Science Foundation." At the bottom are two buttons: a red one that says "REGISTER FOR SNRP" and a green one that says "THE PRP IS NOW THE NATIONAL RESEARCH PLATFORM (NRP)".

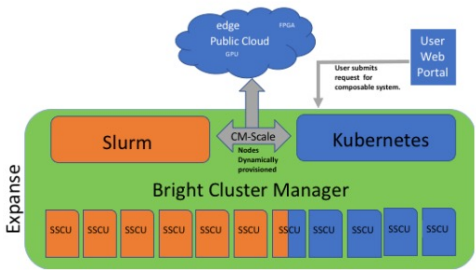
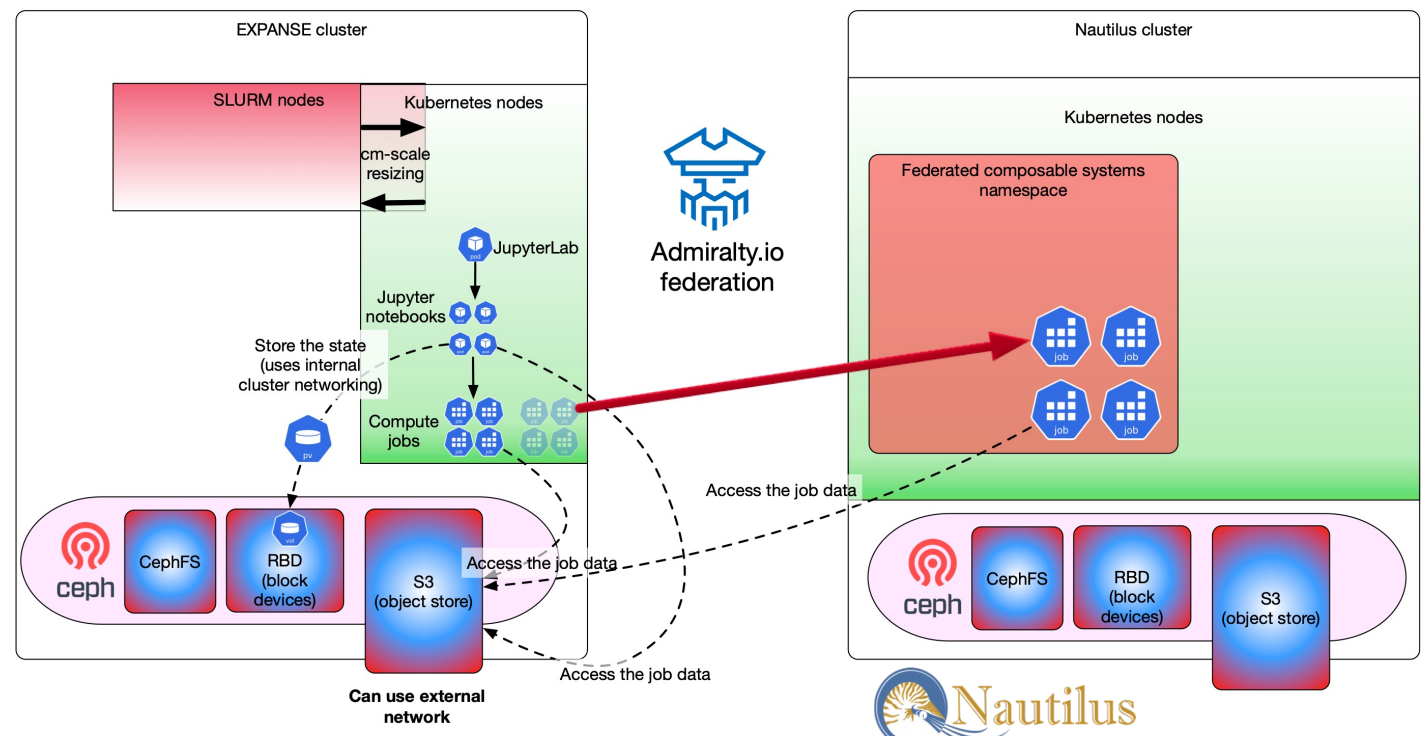


Figure 5.1 Expanse Composable Systems Framework

# First composable cluster is federated!

**EXPANSE (Enthalpy) + CHASE-CI (Nautilus)**

**EXPANSE (Enthalpy)**



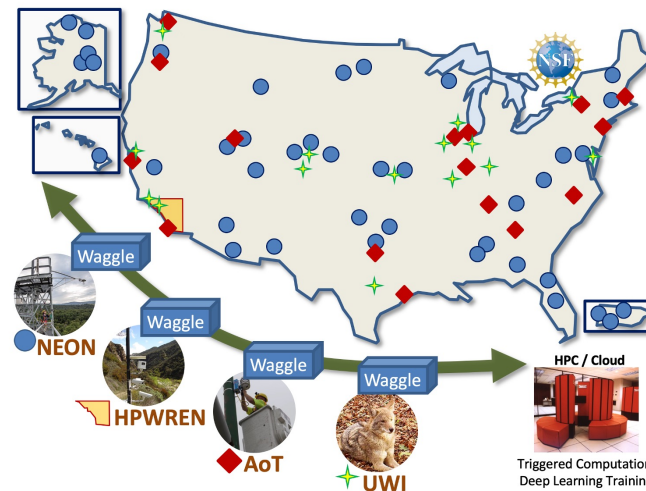


Sensor/Instrument

HPC/Cloud

# AI@Edge and the Digital Continuum

Slide Source: Pete Beckman, ANL



### Leadership Team



Pete Beckman (NU; Director) Nicola Ferrier (NU; Deputy Dir.)



Ilkay Altintas (SDSC; Data) Charlie Catlett (Ullinois; AoT)



Scott Collis (NU; ARM) Valerie Taylor (UChicago; Broader Impacts)



Jim Olds (GMU; Life Sci, Risk) Dan Reed (Utah; Architecture)



Eugene Kelly (CSU; NEON) Irene Qualters (LANL; Advisory Committee Chair)

### Education & Training



## DATA LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT

*e.g., active data repositories, long-term archives,  
knowledge networks, data reuse services*

**Systems and services are only useful if groups can integrate them into applications.**



### WORKFLOW MANAGEMENT

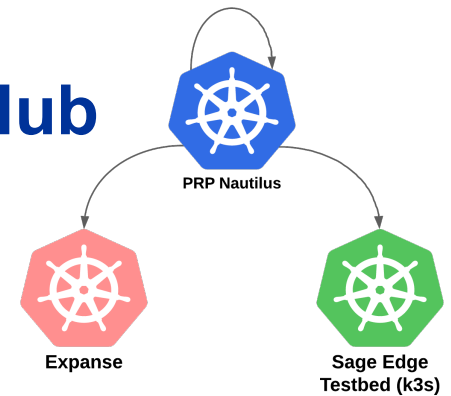
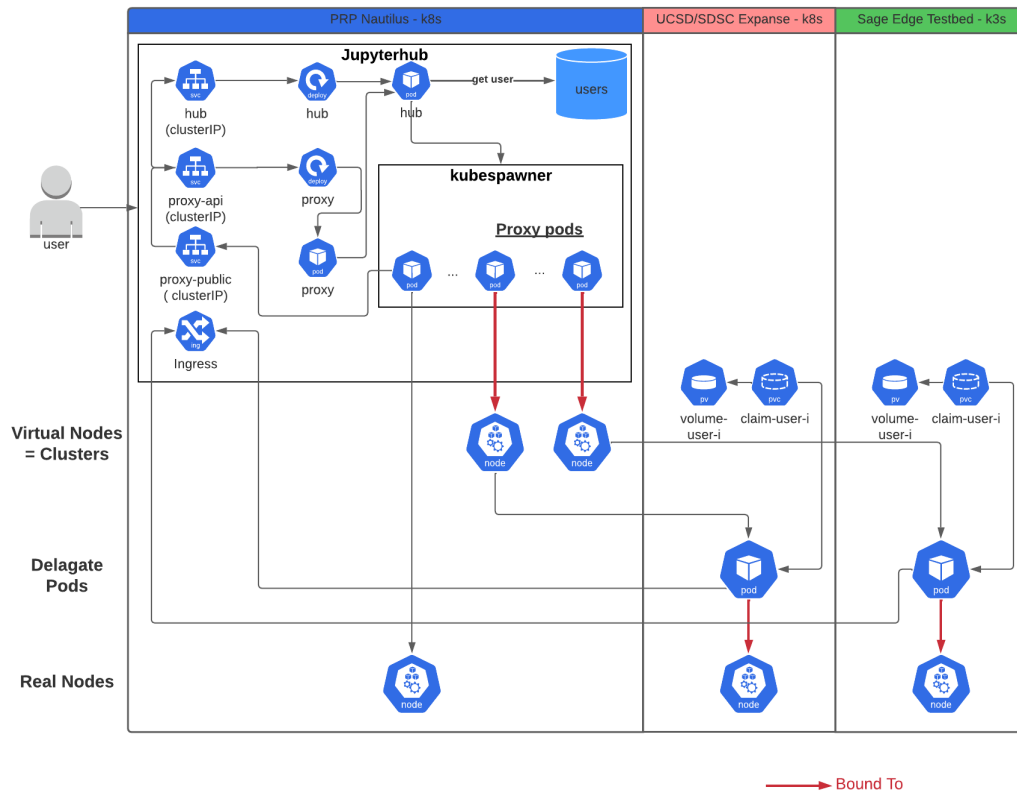
*e.g., application integration, coordination, optimization,  
communication, reporting*

### COMPOSABLE SERVICES

### RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

### COMPOSABLE SYSTEMS

# Integration of NSF EXPANSE, NRP and Sage A Composable System Deployment of JupyterHub



- Edge-Cloud Unified Environment for prototyping AI models to deploy on the Edge
- A user can easily be provided the right environment for developing their AI Edge Application

I. Altintas et al., "Towards a Dynamic Composability Approach for using Heterogeneous Systems in Remote Sensing," 2022 IEEE e-Science doi: 10.1109/eScience55777.2022.00047

## Spawner Options

/home/jovyan is persistent volume, 5GB by default. Make sure you don't fill it up - jupyter won't start next time. You can request increasing the size in [Matrix](#)

**GPUs**

**Cores**

**RAM, GB**

**GPU type**

/dev/shm for pytorch

Mount CephFS (if assigned)

You can request assignment in [Matrix](#)

Stack options are described in [docker-stacks](#)

**Image**

- Stack Minimal
- Stack Minimal + Desktop GUI
- Stack Scipy
- Stack R
- Stack Tensorflow
- Stack Tensorflow + PRP added libs
- Stack Datascience
- Stack Pyspark
- Stack All Spark
- Tensorflow 1.14 (deprecated, choose one above)

Spawn



Kubernetes  
Pod  
Spawned  
for  
Exploration

Name	Last Modified
bin	4 months ago
dask-worker-space	5 months ago
data	5 months ago
include	4 months ago
kubernetes	5 months ago
lib	4 months ago
pgsql	4 months ago
postgresql-11.0	4 months ago
rclone-v1.53.1-linux-a...	5 months ago
share	4 months ago
Tempredict-Shared-P...	4 months ago
usr	a year ago
1	4 months ago
dbConnString.ipynb	5 months ago
dbConnstring.py	5 months ago
DeveloperNB-Timesca...	5 months ago
GitDemo-Tempredict-...	a month ago
KCLT.csv	5 months ago
mydask.png	5 months ago
Ops-TimescaleDB-Ta...	17 hours ago
ordered-clustering-da...	5 months ago
postgresql-11.0.tar.gz	2 years ago
PPIDemo-TimescaleD...	2 days ago
rclone-current-linux-a...	6 months ago
tempredict-oura-500-...	a month ago
Tempredict-timescale...	seconds ago
TimescaleDB-Dask-C...	5 months ago
TimescaleDB-Dask-C...	5 months ago
TimescaleDB-Dask-ps...	5 months ago
Untitled.ipynb	4 months ago
Untitled1.ipynb	16 days ago

### Import Libraries

```
[6]: import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import dask
import distributed
from sqlalchemy import create_engine
from dbConnstring import *
import dask.array as da
import os
import time
```

### Define Database Connection Details

```
[6]: # TimescaleDB username, password, and database name
TimescaleDB_USERNAME = ' ' ## YOUR TimescaleDB_USERNAME = 'abc'
TimescaleDB_PASSWORD = ' ' ## YOUR TimescaleDB_PASSWORD = 'xyz'
# Create the connection
postgres_str = conn_str(TimescaleDB_USERNAME, TimescaleDB_PASSWORD)
cnx = create_engine(postgres_str)
```

### Create a DASK Cluster

```
[12]: from dask import dataframe as dask_cluster_dd
[13]: N_WORKERS = 8
[14]: from dask.distributed import Client, LocalCluster
if __name__ == '__main__':
    # Create a Dask Cluster
    cluster = LocalCluster(n_workers=N_WORKERS, threads_per_worker=1, processes=True)
    client = Client(cluster)
```

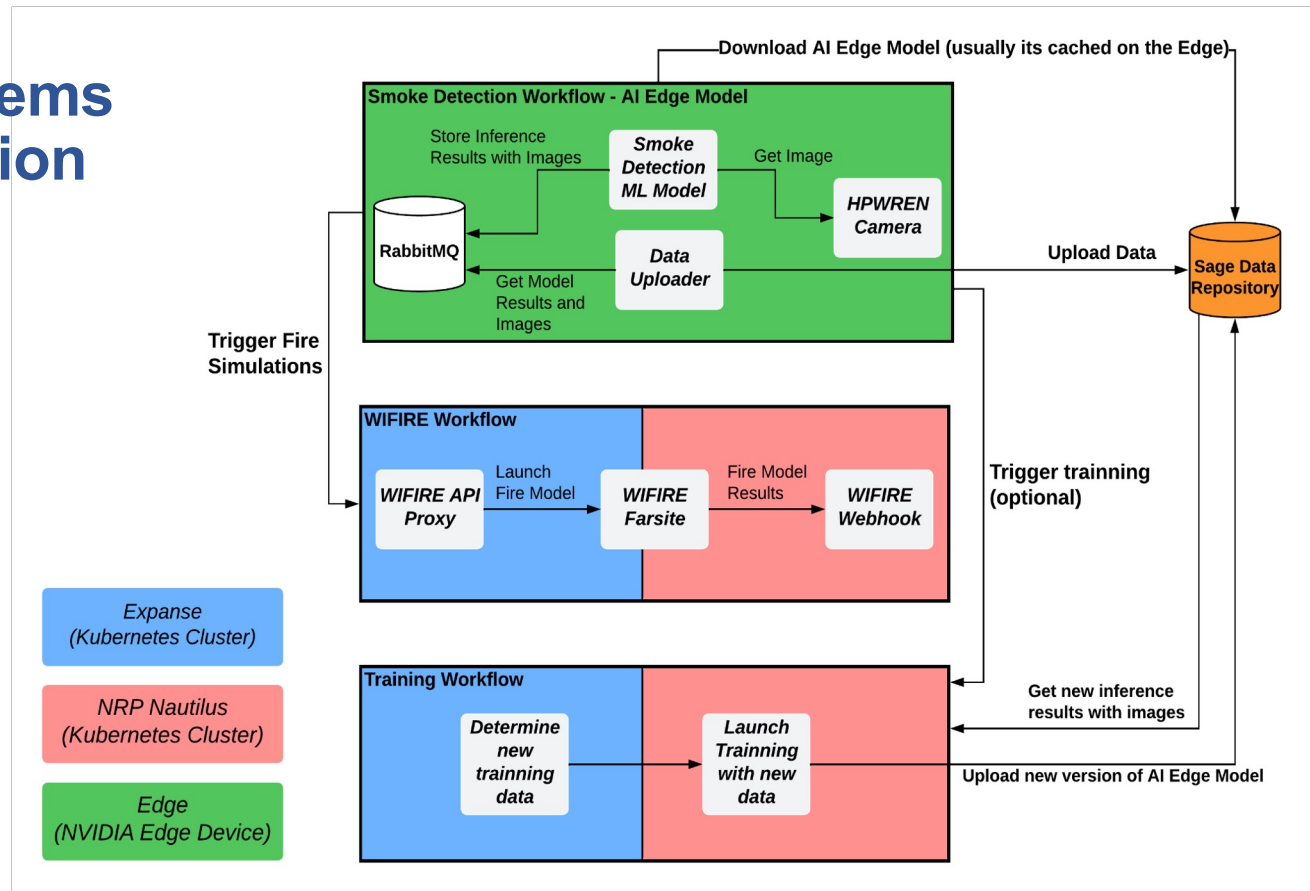
Client	Cluster
Scheduler: tcp://127.0.0.1:40939	Workers: 8
Dashboard: http://127.0.0.1:8787/status	Cores: 8
	Memory: 135.06 GB

### Create a 'delayed' function with DASK Cluster

```
[16]: df = dask_cluster_dd.read_sql_table('hrv_500',
postgres_str,
npartitions=8,
index_col='sensortime')
df
```

# Fire Simulations using Composable Systems and Edge Smoke Detection

- Three workflows
  - Smoke – Sage Edge App
  - Fire simulator
  - AI Training
- Both the fire simulator and training workflows are can be run on Expanse or Nautilus through the federation layer



I. Altintas et al., "Towards a Dynamic Composability Approach for using Heterogeneous Systems in Remote Sensing," 2022 IEEE e-Science  
doi: 10.1109/eScience55777.2022.00047

**RESPONSIBILITY**

*e.g., accuracy, privacy, explainability, ethics*

**REPRODUCIBILITY**

**TEAM SCIENCE**

## **USE-INSPIRED INTERFACES**

*e.g., for science, education and scalable practice*

**Tools that enhance teamwork and use need to be coupled with responsible AI systems.**

**TEAMWORK**

## RESPONSIBILITY

*e.g., accuracy, privacy, explainability, ethics, equity*

## REPRODUCIBILITY

## TEAM SCIENCE

## DATA LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT

*e.g., active data repositories, long-term archives, knowledge networks, data reuse services*

## USE-INSPIRED INTERFACES

*e.g., for science, education and scalable practice*

## WORKFLOW MANAGEMENT

*e.g., application integration, coordination, optimization, communication, reporting*

## COMPOSABLE SERVICES

*e.g., model and data archives, learning and analytics, simulation, training*

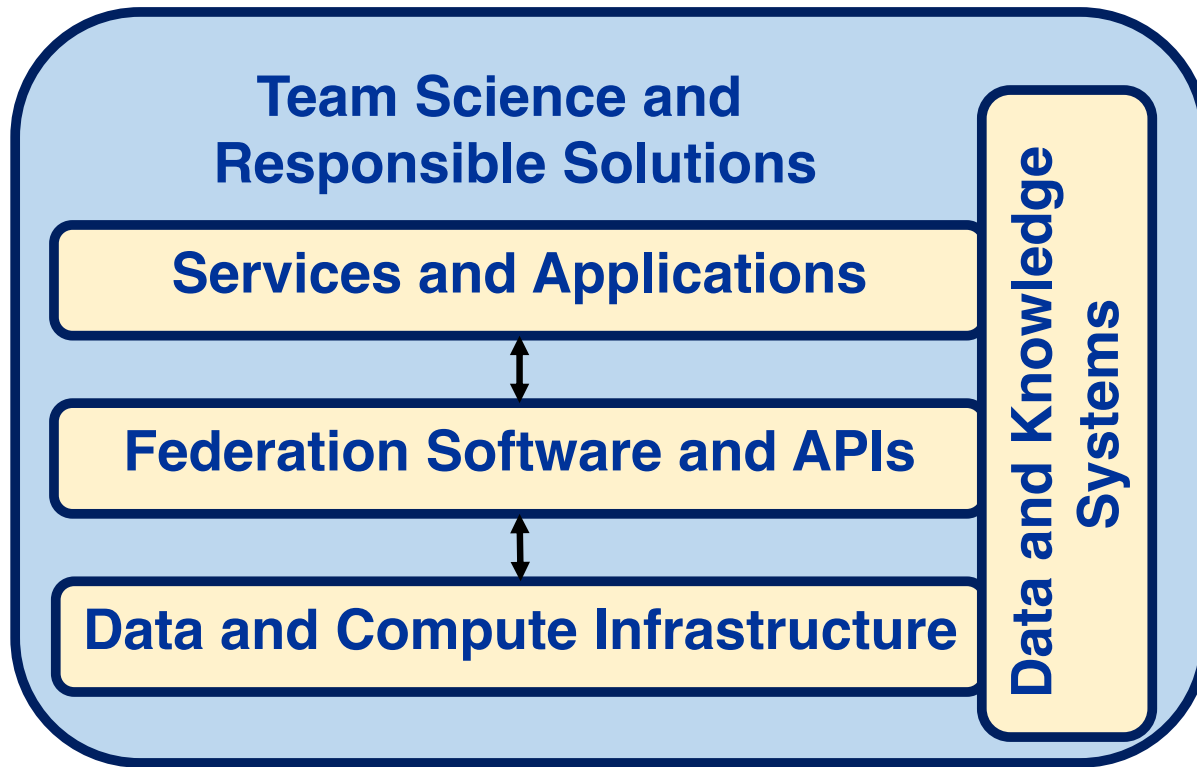
## RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

*e.g., container orchestration, optimization*

## COMPOSABLE SYSTEMS

*e.g., GPU, CPU, Big Data, quantum, neuromorphic, SDN, storage*

# Use-Inspired Composability from Systems to Services



- User-centered design and experience
- Improved FAIR data capacity
- Capability-based integration
- Create plug and play microservices
- Run across many systems
- Dynamically measure, manage and provision resources





EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20502

August 25, 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES


FROM: Dr. Alondra Nelson *Alondra Nelson*  
Deputy Assistant to the President and Deputy Director for Science and Society  
Performing the Duties of Director  
Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)

SUBJECT: Ensuring Free, Immediate, and Equitable Access to Federally Funded Research

This memorandum provides policy guidance to federal agencies with research and development expenditures on updating their public access policies. In accordance with this memorandum, OSTP recommends that federal agencies, to the extent consistent with applicable law:


1. Update their public access policies as soon as possible, and no later than December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, to make publications and their supporting data resulting from federally funded research publicly accessible without an embargo on their free and public release;
2. Establish transparent procedures that ensure scientific and research integrity is maintained in public access policies; and,
3. Coordinate with OSTP to ensure equitable delivery of federally funded research results and data.

### The case for open data




**Empowering citizens & strengthening accountability**

- Promotes more accountability
- Increases citizen engagement



**Innovation & efficiency in government agencies**

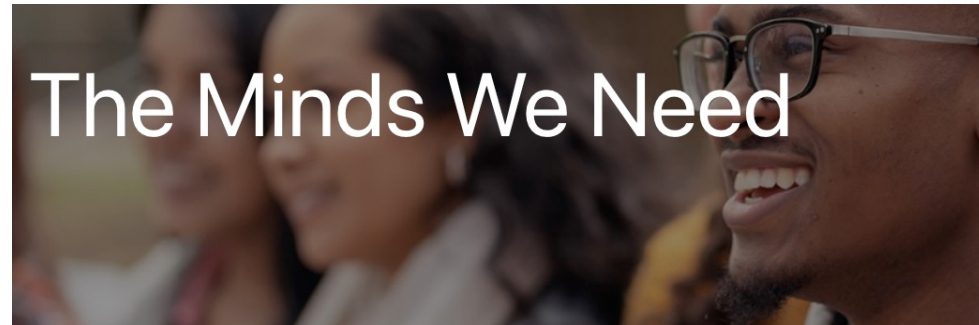
- Decreased workloads
- Inter-agency collaboration
- Improved policy design



**Creating wider value for the economy**

- Open data creates value added services for the entire economy

OECD



# The Minds We Need

**Inclusion, Innovation, and Competitiveness | Strengthening Our National Broadband Initiative | Investing in Research and Education Infrastructure | Contributors | Toolkit | Endorsements**

## Inclusion, Innovation, and Competitiveness

We are at a crossroads.

<https://mindsweneed.org>

### Toward Democratizing Access to Facilities Data: A Framework for Intelligent Data Discovery and Delivery

Yubo Qin, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, 08901, USA  
Ivan Rodero and Manish Parashar, University of Utah, Salt Lake City, UT, 84112, USA

Data collected by large-scale instruments, observatories, and sensor networks (i.e., science facilities) are key enablers of scientific discoveries in many disciplines. However, ensuring that these data can be accessed, integrated, and analyzed in a democratized and timely manner remains a challenge. In this article, we explore how state-of-the-art techniques for data discovery and access can be adapted to facilitate data and develop a conceptual framework for intelligent data access and discovery.

## The Missing Millions

Democratizing Computation and Data to Bridge Digital Divides and Increase Access to Science for Underrepresented Communities

October 3, 2021  
NSF OAC 2127459

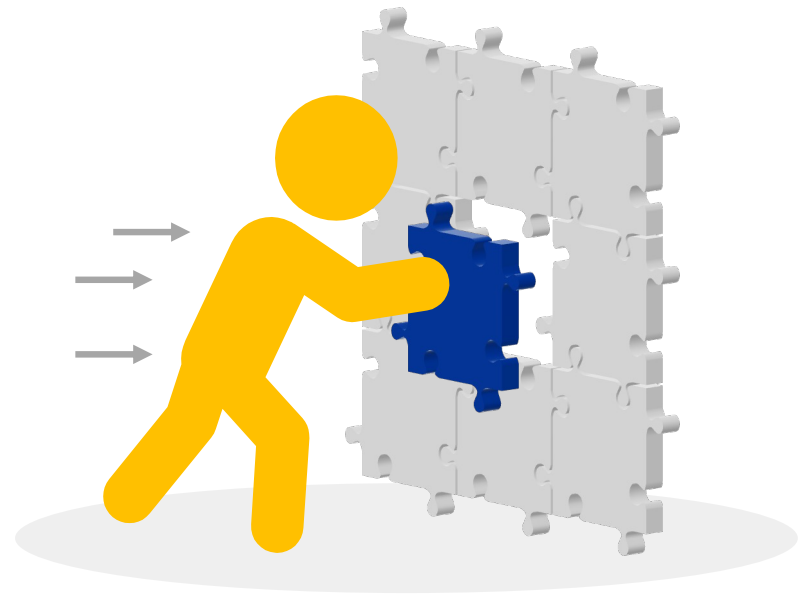
# Democratization of CI and Data Access



## Architecting for Collective Data-Integrated Impact

- Involve diverse users in architecting
- Identify access, use, expertise and education gaps
- Improve the experience of working with data
- Connect data to knowledge systems and services
- Create an ecosystem approach to capacity building
- Incubate use-inspired solutions to scale
- Explore new models of allocation
- Develop and teach models of sustainability and scale

**How do we bridge  
the data gaps?**



<http://www.nationaldatapatform.org>



**NATIONAL DATA PLATFORM**

**Bridging the Data Gaps for AI**

UC San Diego



University of Colorado  
Boulder

**SDSC**  
SAN DIEGO SUPERCOMPUTER CENTER



**EarthScope**  
Consortium

<http://www.nationaldataplatform.org>



Award abstract: [https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD\\_ID=2333609](https://www.nsf.gov/awardsearch/showAward?AWD_ID=2333609)

**SDSC** SAN DIEGO  
SUPERCOMPUTER CENTER

**İlkay Altıntaş, PhD** ([ialtintas@ucsd.edu](mailto:ialtintas@ucsd.edu))

**UC San Diego**  
HALICIOĞLU DATA SCIENCE INSTITUTE

# What is the National Data Platform?

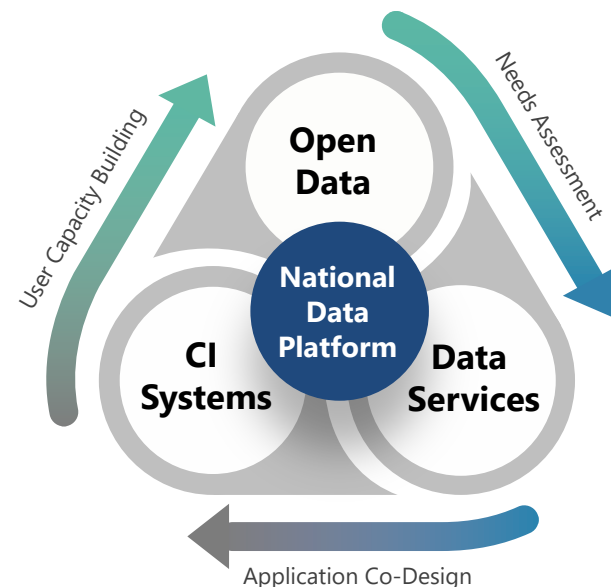


A **broad, federated** and **extensible** data ecosystem to promote collaboration, innovation and equitable use of data on top of existing and future national cyberinfrastructure (CI) capabilities.

## FOCUS AREAS:

- Data-enabled and AI-integrated research and education workflows
  - Facilitates data registration, discovery and usage through a centralized hub
  - Enhances distributed CI capabilities through distributed points of presence
  - Cultivates resources for classroom education and data challenges
  - Assists research and learning through personalized workspaces
- Partnership pathways to foster scientific discovery, decision-making, policy formation and societal impact

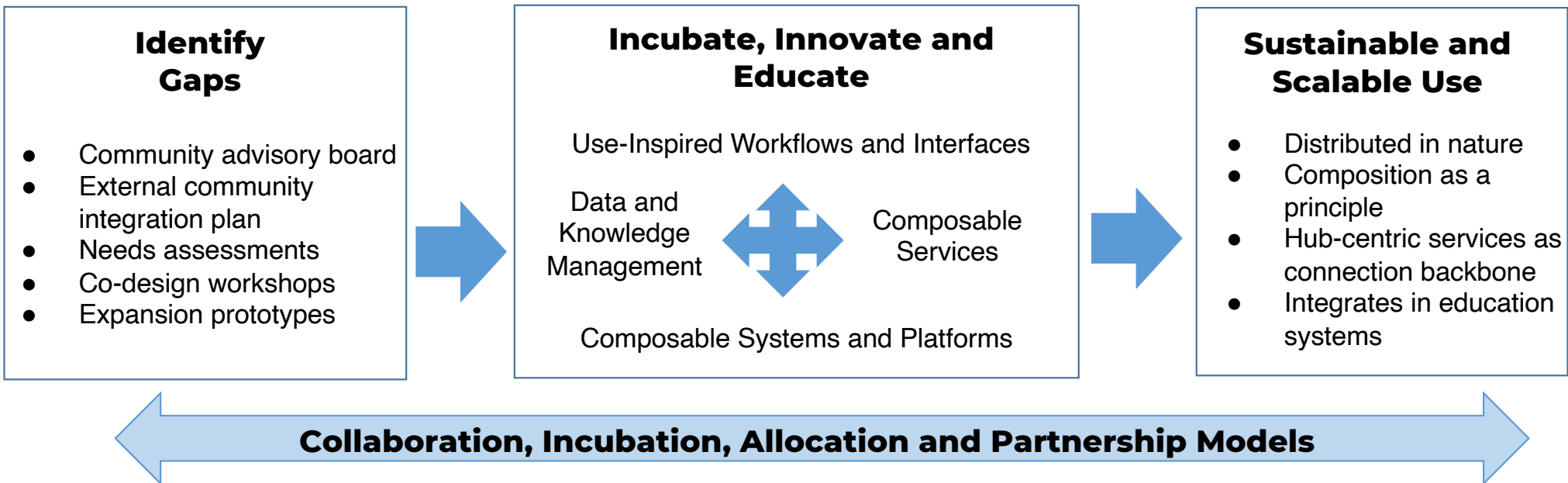
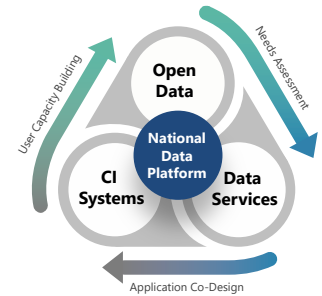
<http://www.nationaldatapatform.org>

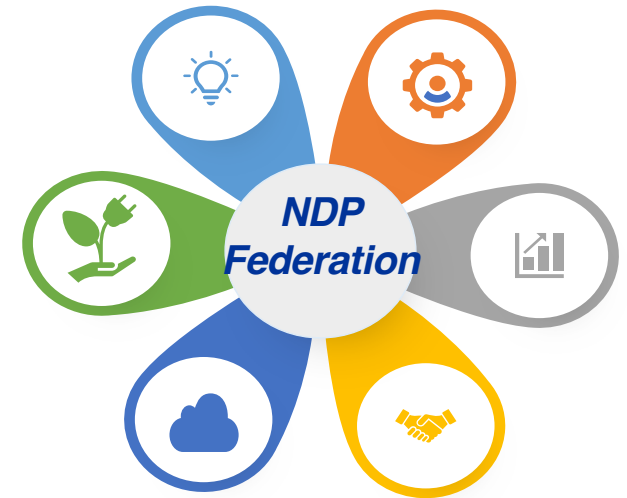
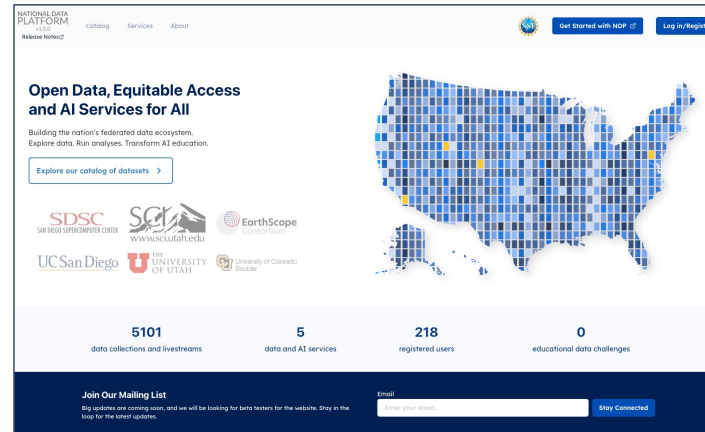




# Use-Inspired Approach

Solving data gaps one workflow template at a time...



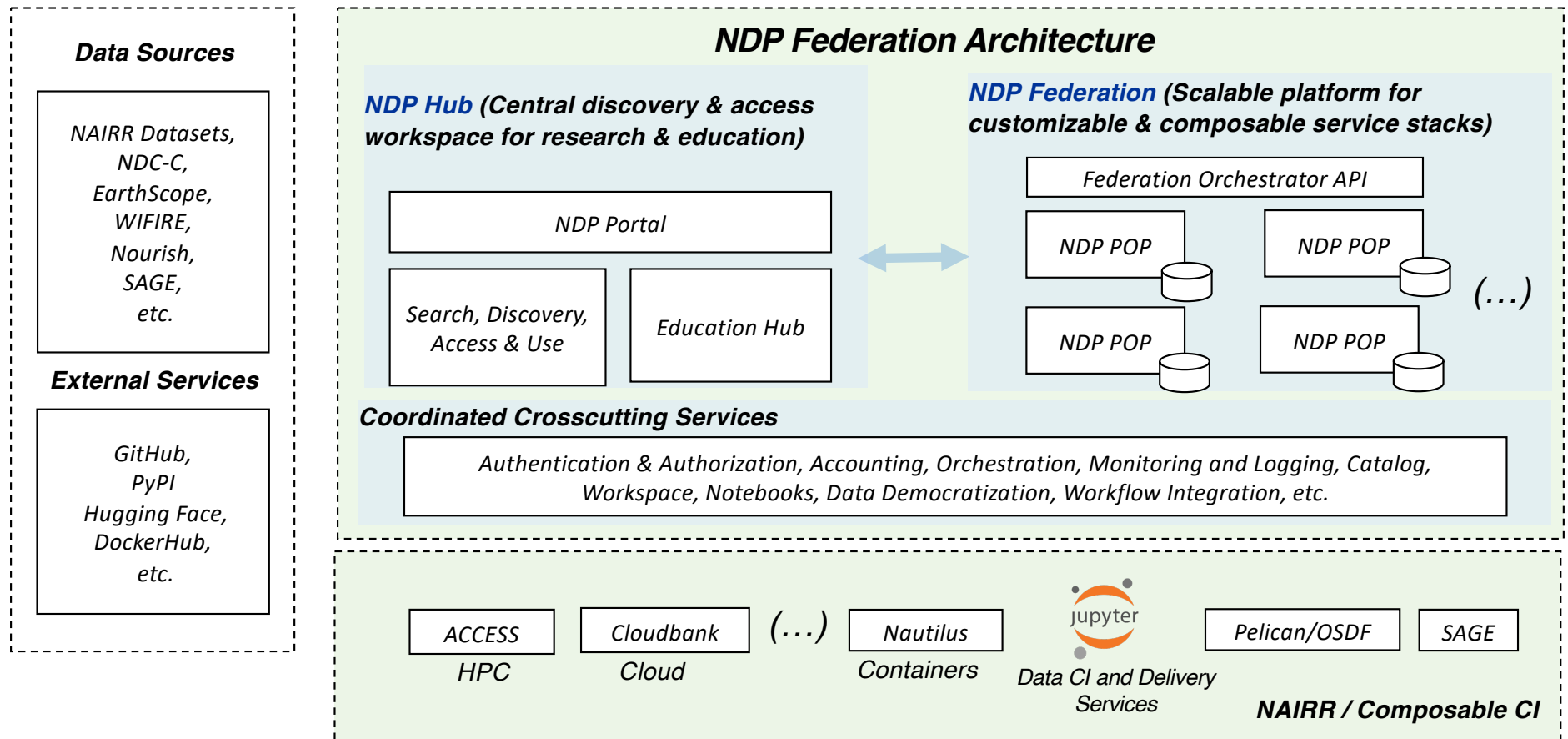


**Centralized portal** for discovery, access and use workspaces for research and education



A scalable **platform** for using, developing and deploying services and application workflows at **distributed points of presence**

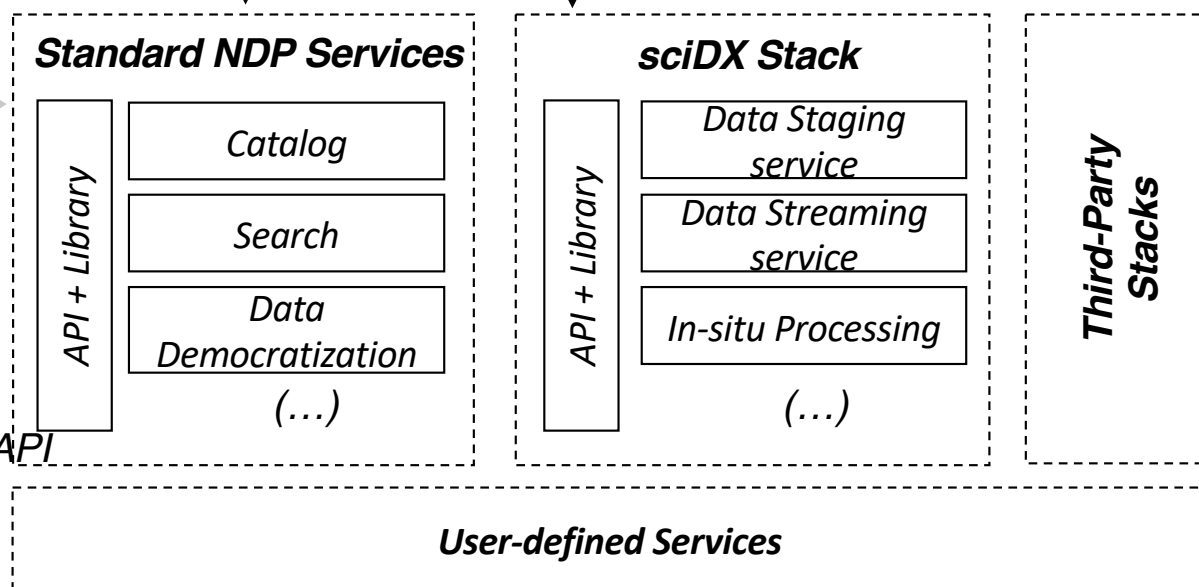
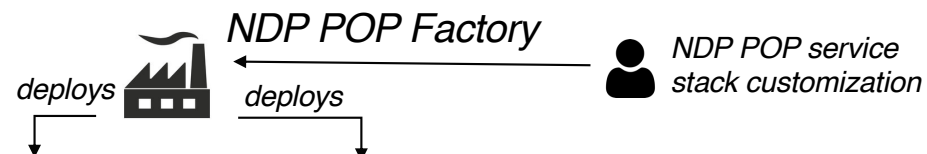
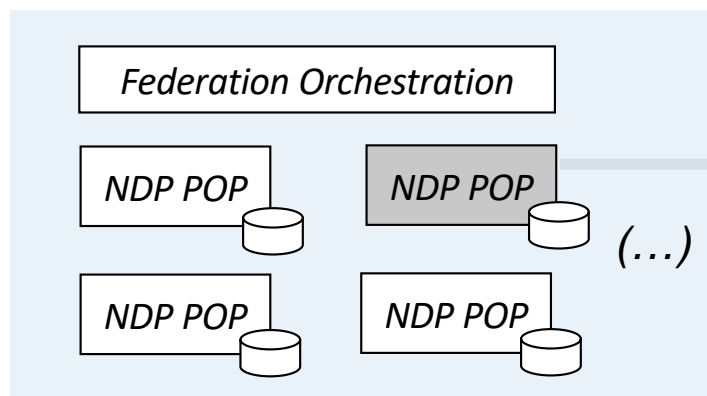
# Current NDP Overarching Architecture






# NDP POP: Distributed Points of Presence with Customizable, Composable Service Stacks

## NDP Federation



 Workflow composition currently via API and/or Python client library



 <b>scidx 0.2.0</b> Python client library for interacting with the sciDX API	Aug 2, 2024
 <b>scidx-tools 0.1.0</b> Python client library for complementing the sciDX library	Jul 1, 2024

Deployment models:  docker  kubernetes Cloud HPC  
-- Standalone -- -- Scalable (cluster) --

# NDP JupyterHub (Sandbox)

A compute environment for data analysis, machine learning training or any other computational tasks, built on top of NRP (Nautilus) cluster. Different datasets and tasks will require powerful compute resources (CPUs, GPUs, memory), which user can select and use seamlessly.

NDP JupyterHub Server Options

Available resources page

Region: Any

GPUs: 0

Cores: 1

RAM, GB: 16

GPU type: NVIDIA GeForce GTX 1080 TI

Architecture: amd64

Start

- ✓ Integrated with NDP Single-Sign On
- ✓ Select your compute resources from NRP pool
- ✓ Select previously created image (environment) or bring yours

NDP JupyterHub Interface

Launcher

Current folder: hls-foundation-os

File Manager

Notebook, Terminal, Console, Markdown File, Text File, Python File

Launch New Notebook

Launch New Console

- Integrated with File Manager extension
- Loads data from your workspaces (datasets and github resources)
- Change your workspaces content and refresh in JupyterHub to get updates
- Download all or selected resources into your storage for further analysis

# NDP Catalog Addition

**Goal:** Users can add dataset references to either NDP centralized catalog or POP-specific catalog



My Uploads  

[+ Register dataset](#)

User Actions	Title	Org	Visibility	Description	Requester	Admin Actions
 	Food and Agriculture Ontology	OBO Foundry	Public	FoodOn is an ontology – a controlled vocabulary which can be used by both people and computers –	Elaine Chi ychi@ucsd.edu	 
 	USDA 2022 Branded Food Product Catalog	USDA	Public	This database contains approximately 1.7 million food products that are sold on the shelves of the...	Elaine Chi ychi@ucsd.edu	 

## Curated Public Catalog Add Request:

- Provide all metadata and data access information
- Designated data approvers evaluate dataset quality
- Add or reject datasets for access to community

My Uploads  

### Catalog Add Request Edit Form [← Go back](#)

Title \*  
Test Dataset

Description \*  
my dataset has data about the data that contributes data to the data filled world of data. my dataset has data about the data that contributes data to the data filled world of data.

Tags (separated by ':')  
wildfire,fire,trees

Organization  
WIFIRE Commons

Other

Visibility \*  
Public

Point of Contact Details \*  
Author: Katie  
test@test.test 12345678900234

Public Key  
Enter public key...

Version

# Science Data Exchanges (sciDX) Services: Data Staging and Streaming Services

**Science Data Exchange (sciDX): Customizable software stack for in-situ data access & processing**

**Slide Source:**

Manish Parashar and Ivan Rodero

## Data Staging Service

- In-situ (close to the data) data processing and access
- High-performance in-memory processing
- Server-side data transformations (e.g., subsetting, reduction, user-defined analysis, etc.)
- Caching/sharing of data, query results, and data products with user and group isolation

## Data Streaming Service

- Streams registration, curation/archival for discovery and access
- User-defined operations on streaming data (semantically specialized abstractions)
- Combine streaming data with archived/playback data
- Mechanism for online data product generation (i.e., new data streams)

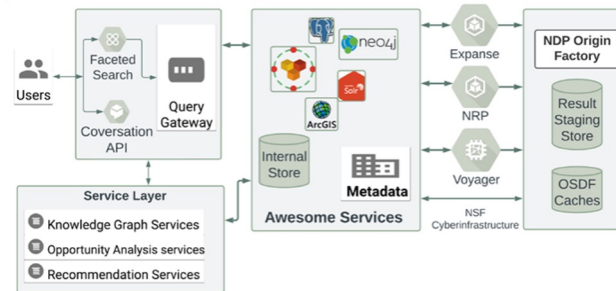
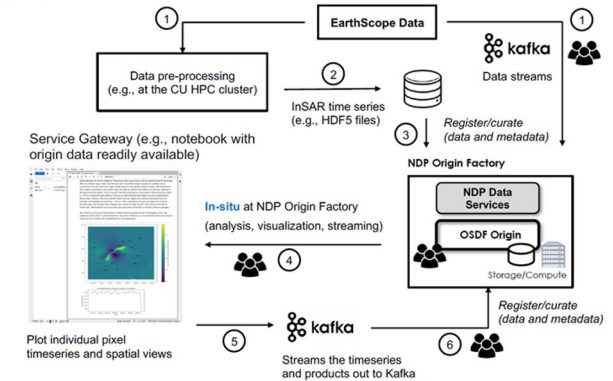
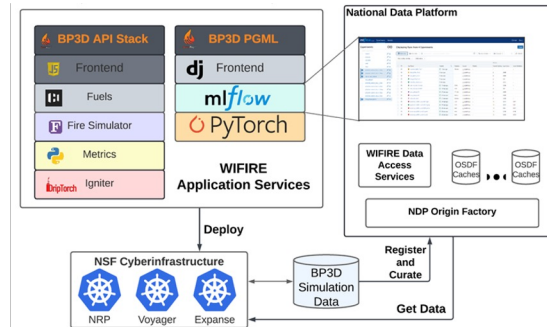
**In-situ AI workflow execution runtime (on staged and streaming data)**



NATIONAL DATA PLATFORM

# Case Studies for Generalizable Workflows

- **Representative examples** of important patterns that exist in science today for working with
  - large datasets
  - streaming data from facilities
  - graph data from open knowledge networks
- Implemented as production-quality specialized value-added services
- Domains of wildland fire, earthquakes, and food security
- Will be generalized for replication by external communities.





# INTRODUCING THE WILDFIRE TECHNOLOGY COMMONS

We believe that avoiding devastating wildfires requires urgent, innovative, and collaborative solutions. The Wildfire Technology Commons is a bold new initiative designed to accelerate technological innovations for wildfire management and mitigation. We are building a community platform around open data, cutting-edge science, AI, and shared knowledge.

<https://www.wildfirecommons.org>



JOIN THE NETWORK



CONTRIBUTE  
DATA & MODELS



BECOME A  
PATHFINDER

**NIST**  
**National Institute of  
Standards and Technology**  
U.S. Department of Commerce

**NDP Data Challenges** for students and researchers

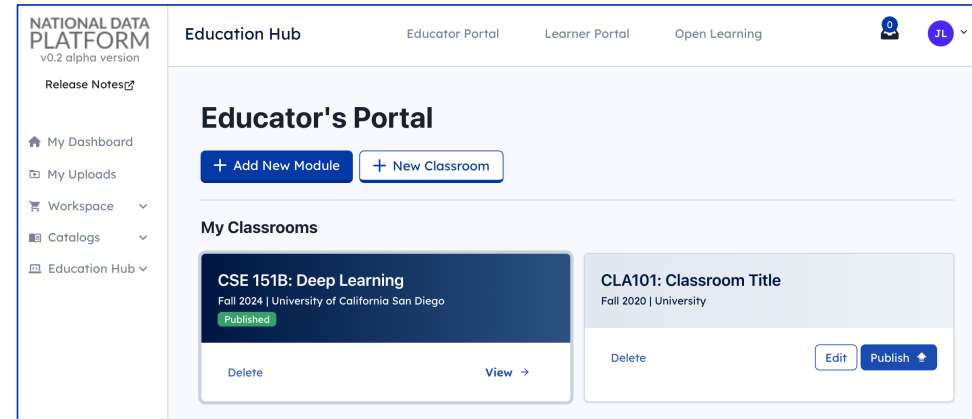
Designed to ensure that we are developing broadly accessible services for equitable education and community building.

**NDP Education Hub** to provide participants access to the NDP data ecosystem

The challenge questions require using data and models in an environment that requires computing and big/large data stores, which would typically be unavailable to a student or researcher without the NDP Education Hub.



Data challenge toolkits will be developed after each data challenge so that other institutions can easily design their own data challenges to be run through the NDP Education Gateway.



**Education and capacity building through data challenges**

# DATA CHALLENGE



## FIRE-READY FORESTS

### Next Generation Science for Wildfire Resilience

Hosted by the Prowess Center on the National Data Platform in partnership with the Wildfire Commons  
More information at <https://prowesscenter.org/>



NATIONAL DATA PLATFORM



WILDFIRE  
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY  
COMMONS

PROWESS

UC San Diego

Los Alamos  
NATIONAL LABORATORY



# To sum up...

Emerging new applications require integrated AI in dynamically composed workflows, but there are significant data gaps to be addressed.

Artwork: **Jen Stark, Cosmographic, 2014**, acid-free paper, holographic paper, glue, wood, acrylic paint, 34 x 37 x 4 in.



**Embrace Complexity!**

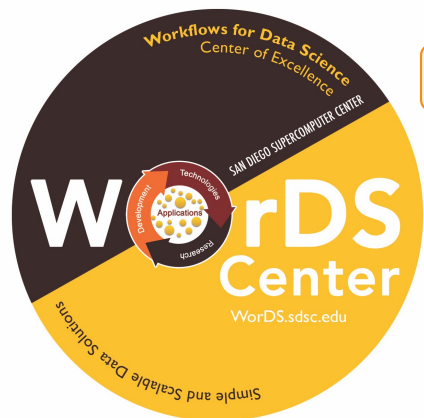
## Complexity comes at a cost

- Composable systems is not a turnkey functionality
- Requires collaboration with and between infrastructure providers

## Convergence research helps

- End-to-end data pipelines need to be defined for each application along with microservice execution
- Use-inspired design and translational CS helps to focus the effort

Contact: Ilkay Altintas, Ph.D.      Email: [ialtintas@ucsd.edu](mailto:ialtintas@ucsd.edu)



<https://words.sdsc.edu/>

<https://wifire.ucsd.edu/>



**We are hiring!**

[https://www.sdsc.edu/about\\_sdsc/careers.html](https://www.sdsc.edu/about_sdsc/careers.html)

**Questions?**



Office of Science



The presented work is collaborative work with many wonderful individuals, and parts of it are funded by various government agencies, UC San Diego and various industry, government and foundation partners.