

Use cases and challenges of distributed workflows at JCVI

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JCVI sequencing and computing

Illumina (HiSeq2000), 454 (Titanium) and Sanger

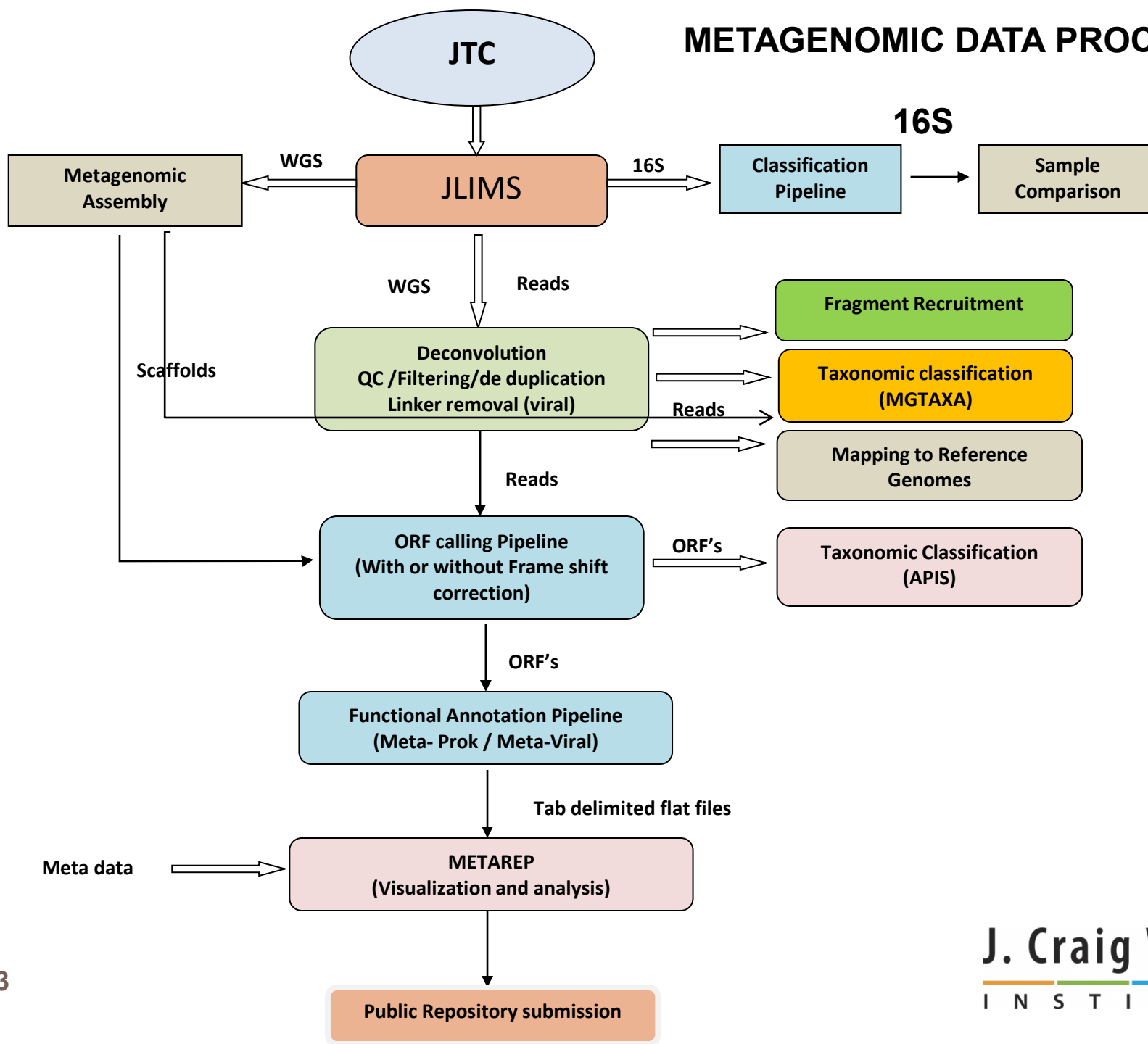
Generation per month: 6.6 billion reads 668 Gbp
Plus external data

454 is still viable for metagenomics and viral assembly. In one recent test on marine dataset, it gave better assemblies and more read-based BLASTP protein hits than 100x more Illumina data from the same sample, with corresponding savings in CPU cost

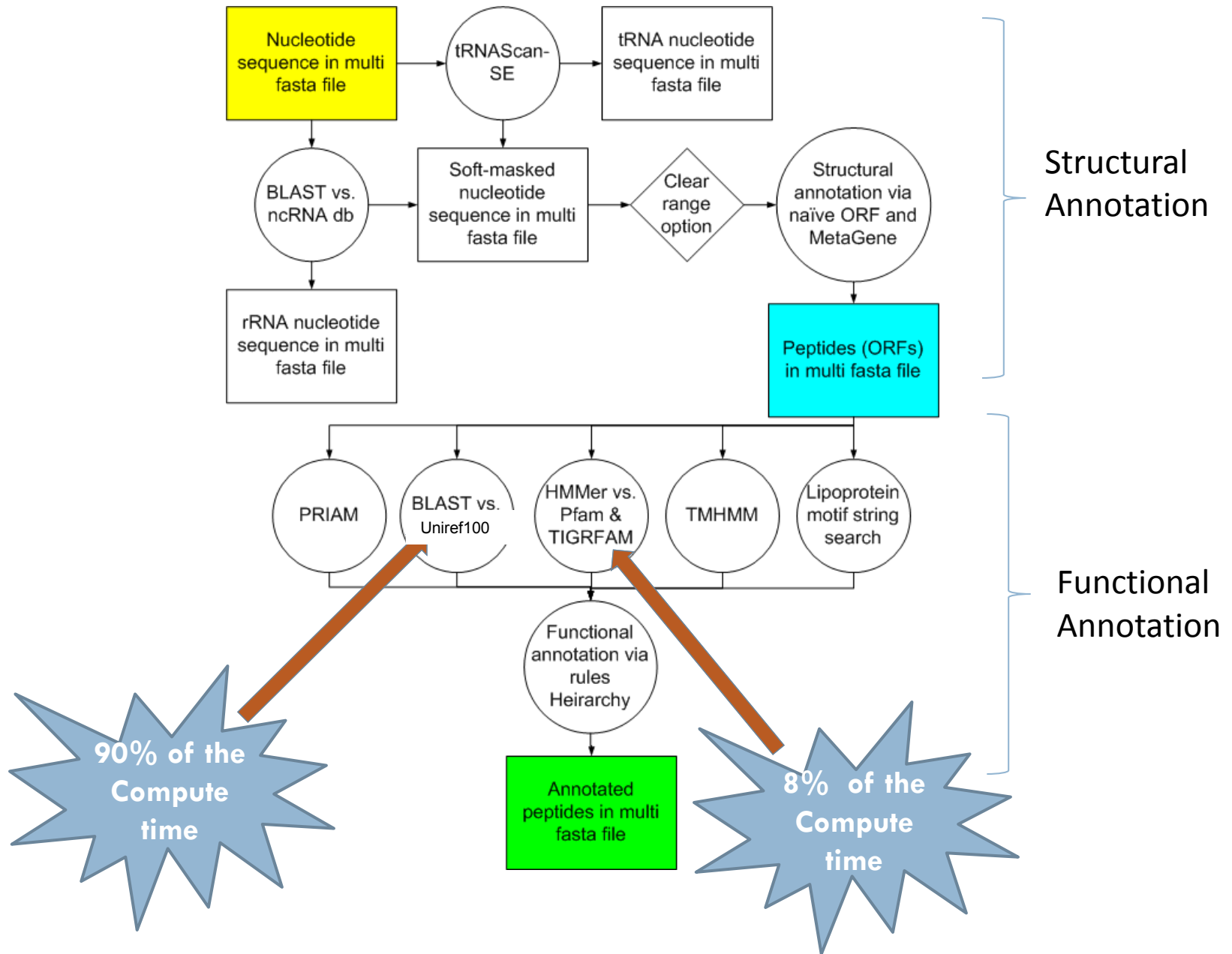
JCVI's current computing capability:

1700 cores, several petabytes of storage
1 million 454 reads can be annotated in
24 CPU hours (1 day) with 180 nodes (720 cores) = 17280 CPU*hrs.

METAGENOMIC DATA PROCESSING



Metagenomic Annotation Pipeline Overview



Main workflow support

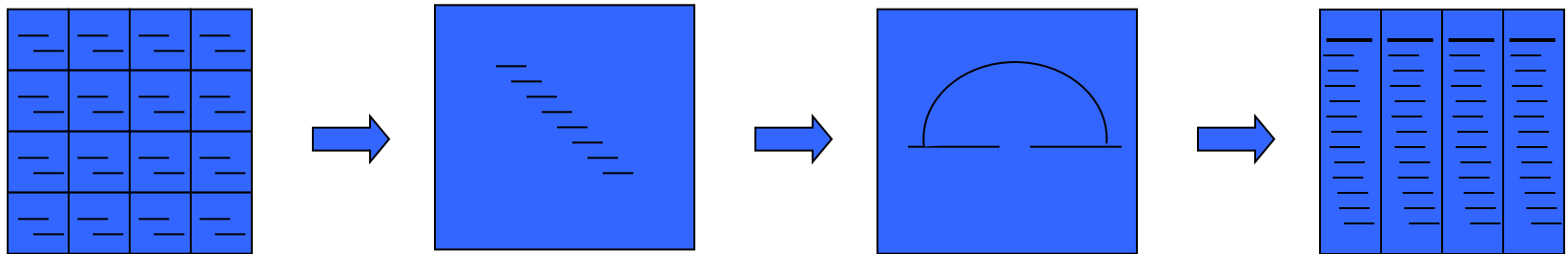
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- ❑ VICS – Venter Institute Compute Services
- ❑ Java server application
- ❑ A workflow is described by a mix of XML (sequence of workflow steps as local jobs, single SGE jobs, SGE array jobs) and Java classes (generation of each step inputs and command lines)
- ❑ Talks to the SGE cluster via DRMAA
- ❑ Web form interface is generated (some extra Java code is needed to describe input fields)
- ❑ SOAP bindings are generated automatically
- ❑ Workflow becomes part of the code base and needs to be deployed into a specific server
- ❑ No restart capability – if one step fails because of node failure, workflow has to be re-run from scratch
- ❑ Plans are to use Kepler workflows inside VICS in place of VICS native implementation

Celera Assembler Pipeline

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Stage



Overlaps

Unitigs

Scaffolds

Consensus

Structure

Workflow is self-submitting SGE jobs with dynamic modification of existing job dependencies, Perl script

Matrix partition,
parallel
computation.

Sequence-free
overlap graph in
core RAM.

Scaffold graph in
core RAM with
mate links.

Progressive
consensus, partition
by scaffold.

Requirement (one HMP sample)

SGE grid
(~100 core ½ day)

Big RAM box
(~100GB ½ day)

Big RAM box
(~100GB ½ day)

SGE grid
(~100 core ½ day)

Ways to scale BLAST at JCVI

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- Example used is BLASTP search of proteins annotated on Velvet assembly of one HMP sample against PANDA DB (124,000 peptides of average length 176). E-value cutoff 10E-5.
- **“Matrix” of serial NCBI BLAST jobs** <Query chunk> X <DB partition> on HTC cluster, followed by a single aggregator job
 - Runs under VICS workflow manager
 - 660 CPU*hrs
- **TimeLogic Tera-BLAST**
 - FPGA card, closed source, implements something similar to older NCBI one-hit extension algorithm with default word size 4 (for BLASTP)
 - Runs under VICS
 - 1.3 CPU*hrs (where “CPU” is one TimeLogic card)
 - 500x speed up over NCBI BLAST on one CPU core
 - Lost about 10,000 hits out of 700,000
- **mpiBLAST from VA-Tech on TACC Ranger**
 - NCBI C Toolkit code patched and integrated into MPI application. Worker nodes send hits from seeds to master node that tells them which ones to extend, thus providing superlinear speed-up. Many other optimizations (MPI-IO, virtual DB files etc).
 - We were not able to run it stably on TACC Ranger in 2010 despite going through the matrix of different (compiler)(MPI)(runtime options) and support lists. It had some fixes after that but we did not try again.
- Lessons learned: TimeLogic seems to be a solution (even considering its price), but it will never give the same results as NCBI BLAST. It is simply somewhat different algorithm.

Storage

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- Current solutions at JCVI - NFS (NetApp) and NFS-compatible clustering FS (Isilon)
- Most flexible – provides tradition random access file operations on a shared filesystem
- Expensive to scale with increasing number of compute nodes
- Solutions like Hadoop Distributed Filesystem are economical to scale, but at the expense of recasting all applications into streaming data access patterns
- JCVI has a 16 node Hadoop cluster that is currently used to a test-bed for Cloud Viral Annotation project
- If external computing resources are used, the transfer to and from its filesystems becomes a bottleneck. 25G BLAST DB took 50 min to push from JCVI to TACC with gridFTP (we are connected to Internet 2). Transfer can easily take longer than processing.
- Local solutions like TimeLogic do not have this network transfer issue (you only pushing to a dedicated machine on your local network)

Bioinformatics on large cyber infrastructure

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- Two NSF projects (metagenomic taxonomic assignment and proteogenomics) had been requested by the funding agency to use TeraGrid/XSEDE
- Most TeraGrid clusters schedule efficiently only large MPI jobs (100s of CPU cores)
- Workflows of many serial jobs are not supported by local resource managers
- Two ways to use such supercomputers for serial workflows:
 - ▣ Fake serial High Throughput Computing
 - ▣ Re-write workflows into MPI parallel code, at least for critical parts

Accommodating supercomputer to existing bioinformatics pipelines

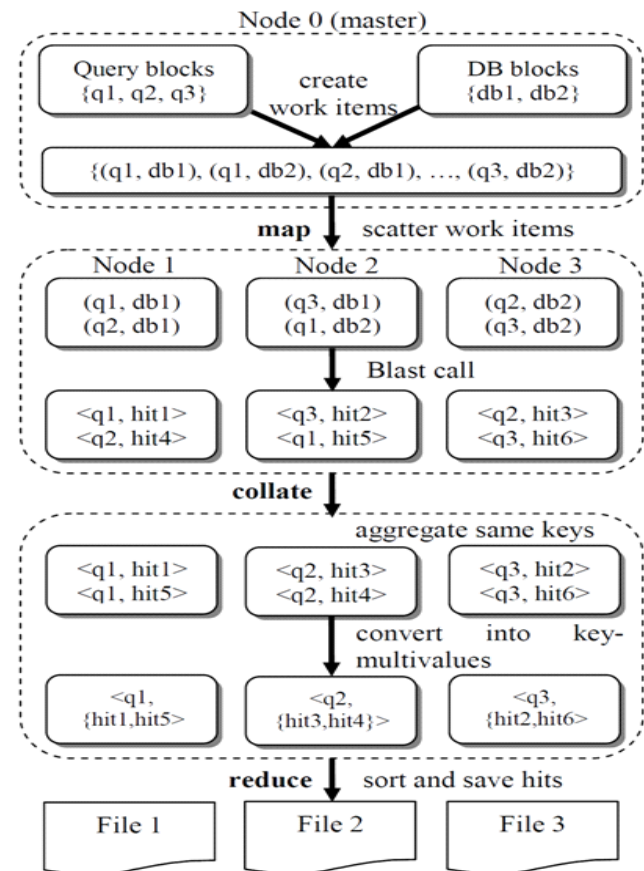
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- Two-level scheduling (“glide-ins”)
- Condor “glide-ins”, glideinWMS, SWIFT, MyCluster and Makeflow with MPI WorkQueue workers.
- E.g. SWIFT takes care of everything – data movement, resubmission of failed jobs, optimizing glide-in allocation, quick scheduling of very small jobs.
- WorkQueue implementation is more restricted, but the big advantage is that the same Makeflow file can be executed on a serial SGE or Condor cluster
- Glide-in tools require certain minimum level of host OS support (Posix “fork” – not available on earlier Blue Gene OSes)
- SWIFT develops its own ecosystem that includes a Linux kernel on BlueGene (“fork”; shared RAM caching drives local to the groups of compute nodes; tuning to BG network topology)
- Data exchange and synchronization is through files, unless a specific pattern is implemented internally by the workflow engine like AllPairs or MapReduce in CCTools

MR-MPI BLAST+ implementation

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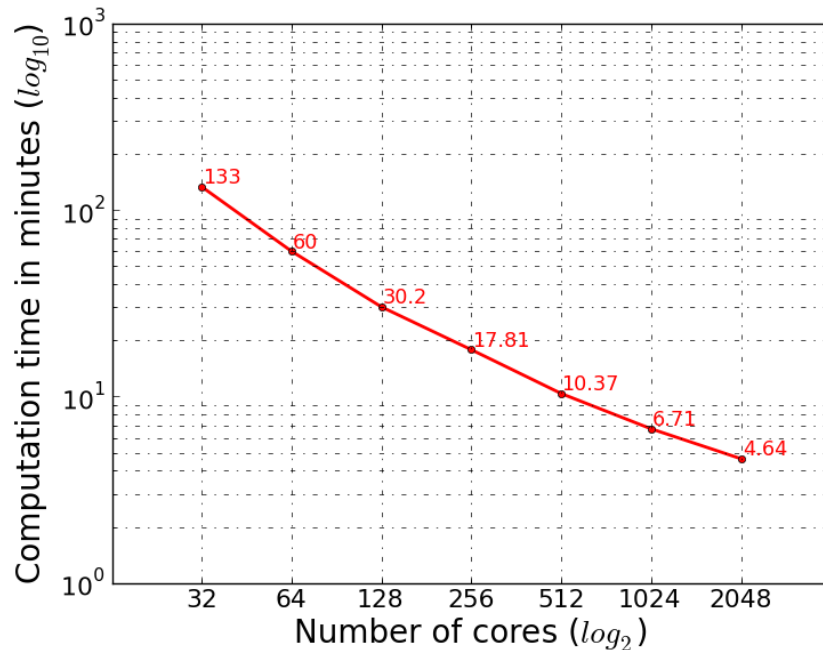
- A regular MPI program – runs on any supercomputer with a shared file system
- Makes high-level API calls to unmodified NCBI C++ Toolkit – results are fully compatible with the upstream NCBI code; easy to keep up to date
- Implemented with MapReduce MPI (MR-MPI) library from Sandia Lab that helps organizing computations and data flow
- The library scheduler was modified to solve the problem of maintaining context between map() calls – a common problem with the classical MapReduce algorithm
- Performs sorting of final output in parallel. This is an advantage compared to a typical HTC matrix-split implementation with a single combiner job for sorting, if the number of hits is large



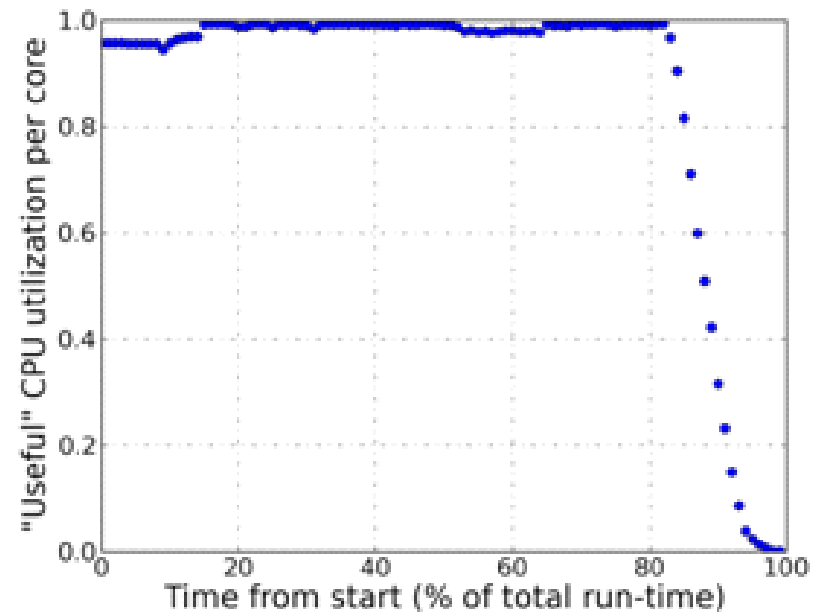
Control flow of the MR-MPI BLAST

MR-MPI BLASTN and BLASTP scaling

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Scaling chart for MR-MPI BLASTN showing process wall clock time at different total core counts in MPI job. The total number of query sequences is 40,000. The sequences are split into 40 blocks of 400 kbp. Each block, when combined with one DB partition, forms a sequential work unit for the MapReduce algorithm. The data point labels represent time in minutes. DB is NCBI WGS+nt+hg (109 1G formatted partitions).



"Useful" CPU utilization per core during the course of the computation for the MR-MPI BLASTP run with 1024 cores. CPU user time used at any given moment within a BLAST call was divided by the corresponding wall clock time, summed over all concurrent calls, and divided by a total number of cores allocated to the MPI program.

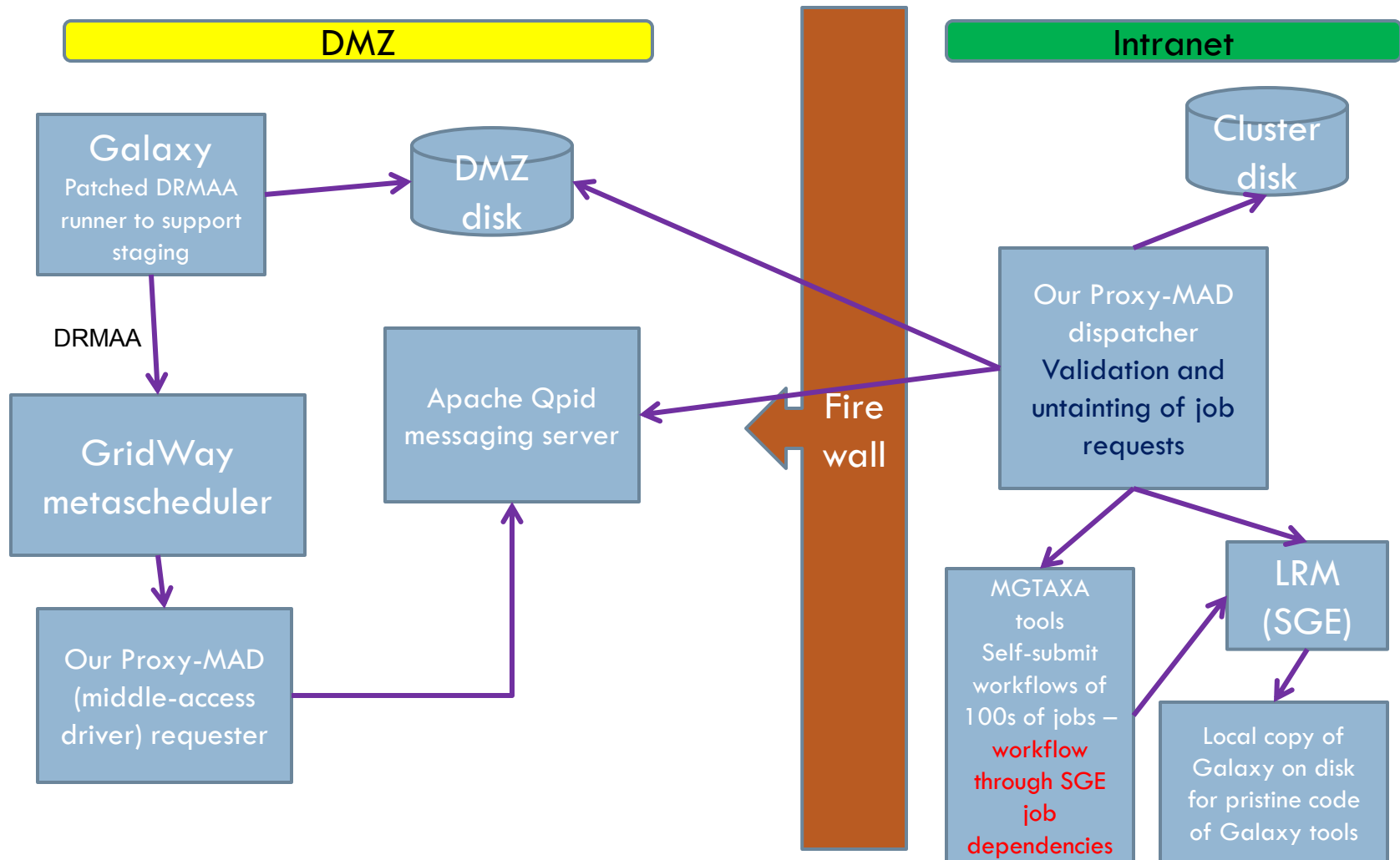
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- ## Predict hosts for bacteriophages in metagenomes

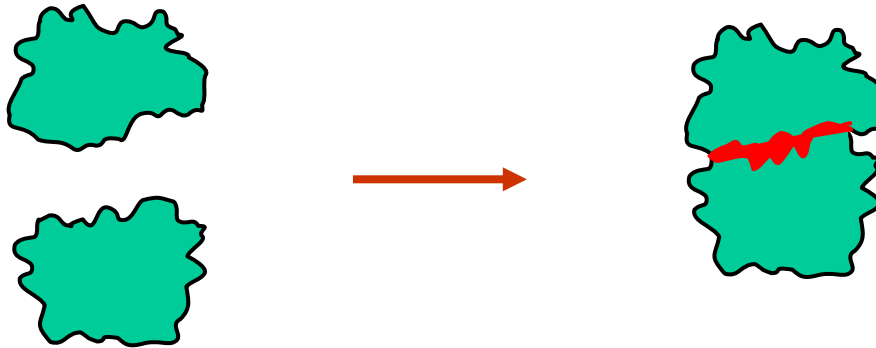
- # CRISPR pipeline

Server - architecture

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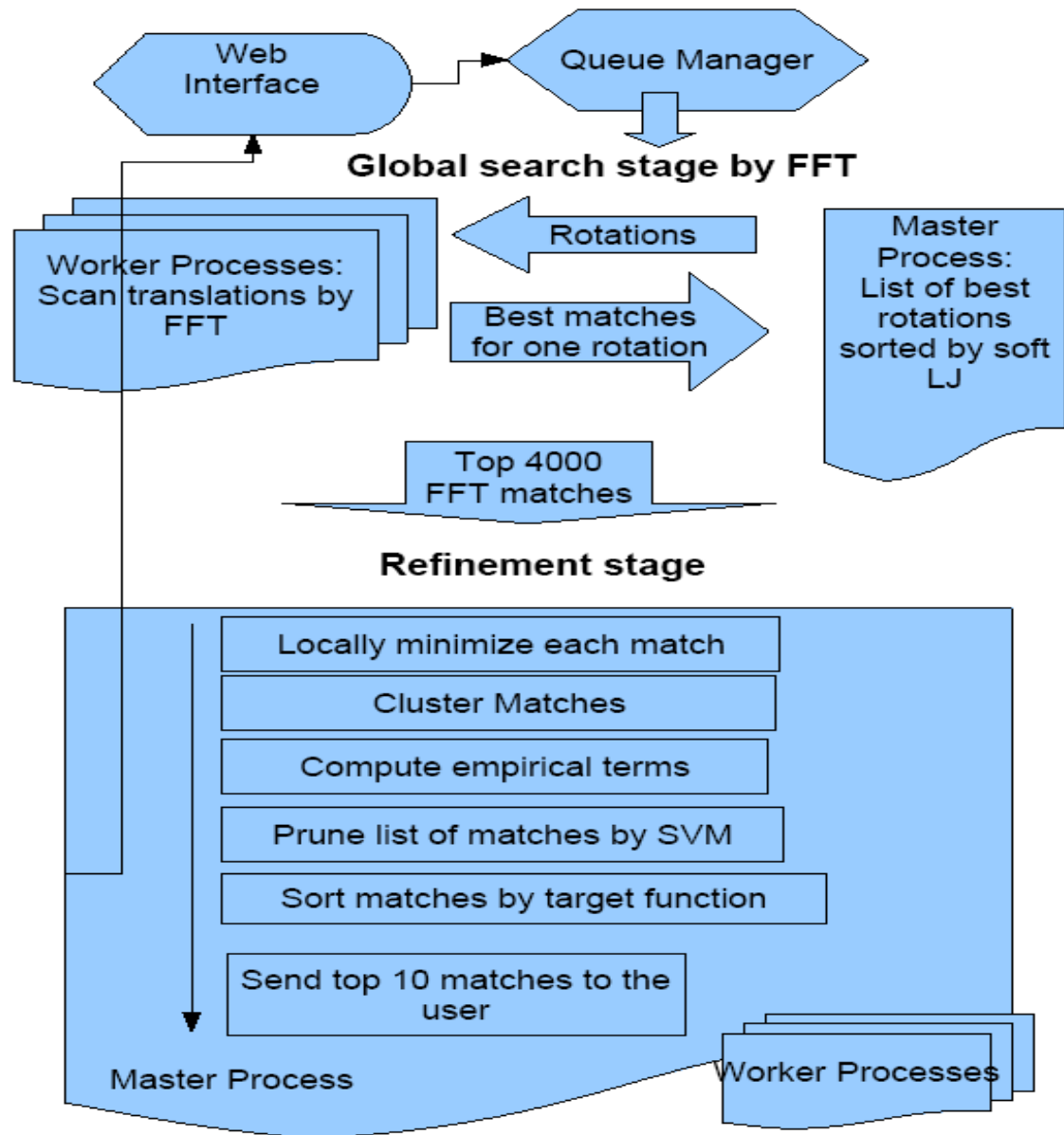
Protein-protein docking



- A way to model protein interactions
- Given a 3D structures of two unbound proteins, predict a 3D structure of their complex (transient or obligate)
- GRAMM-X docking Web server created while at KU, has been running since 2006
- Current NSF-Microsoft grant to implement enhanced version in Azure cloud

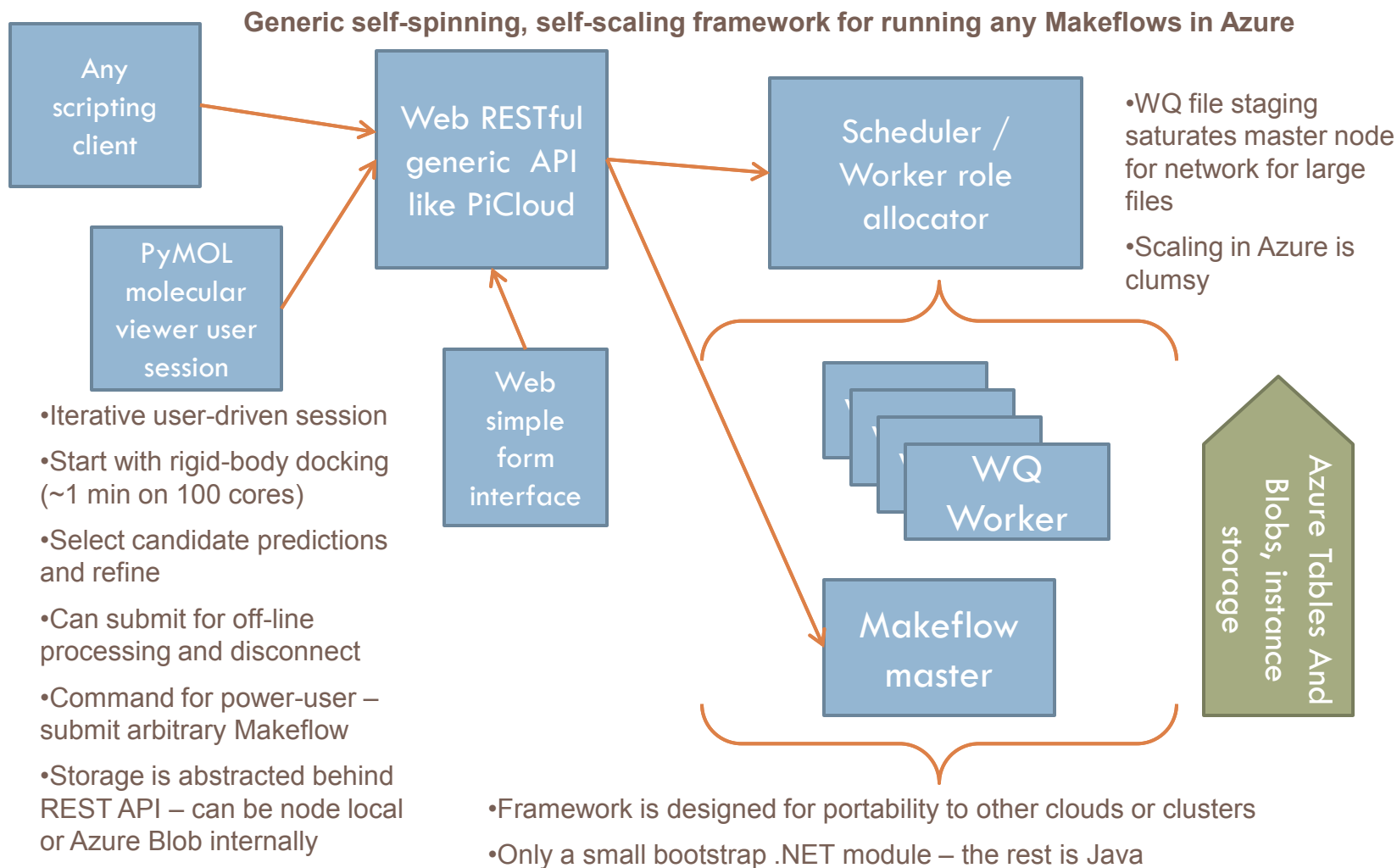
GRAMM-X

Data Flow and Process Organization



Client-cloud docking application (Azure)

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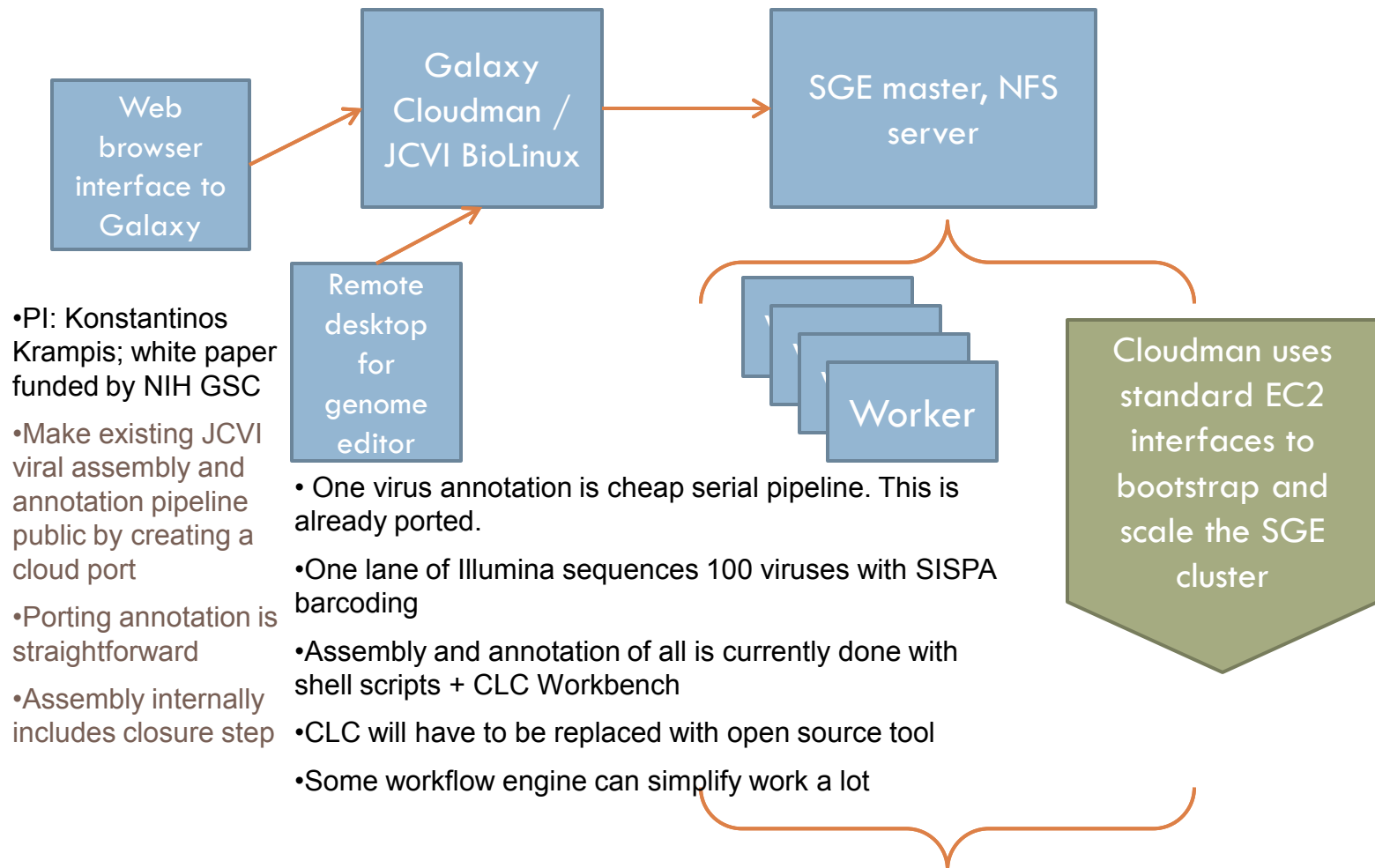
Porting Proteogenomics Pipeline to XSEDE

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- NSF project to use proteomics data for improving genome annotation (PI Sam Payne, now at PNNL)
- Was originally implemented as VICS pipeline with a mix of single and array SGE jobs
- 10 GB of input files, 200 jobs, total CPU time 300 hrs
- Using Makeflow, it was made portable across XSEDE SGE MPI sites and serial SGE clusters like JCVI's
- Still assumes shared file system on the cluster – too much work to get rid of deep directory structure in each workflow instance

Viral annotation pipeline in EC2 and Ecalyptus

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Acknowledgments

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- Mathangi Thiagarajan (Metagenomics pipelines)
- Jason Miller (Celera Assembly)
- Jeff Hoover (TimeLogic BLAST)
- Seung-Jin Sul (MR-MPI BLAST)
- Shibu Yooseph (Metagenomics pipelines)
- Dana Busam (Sequencing stats)
- Hyunsoo Kim (Azure)
- Support from NSF, NIH, DOE, Microsoft, Battelle