



# interTwin

## The interTwin Digital Twin Engine components for environmental DTs

**Andrea Manzi (EGI Foundation)**  
**interTwin Technical Coordinator**

**EODC Forum 2024**



Funded by the  
European Union

The interTwin project is funded by the European Union - Grant Agreement Number 101058386

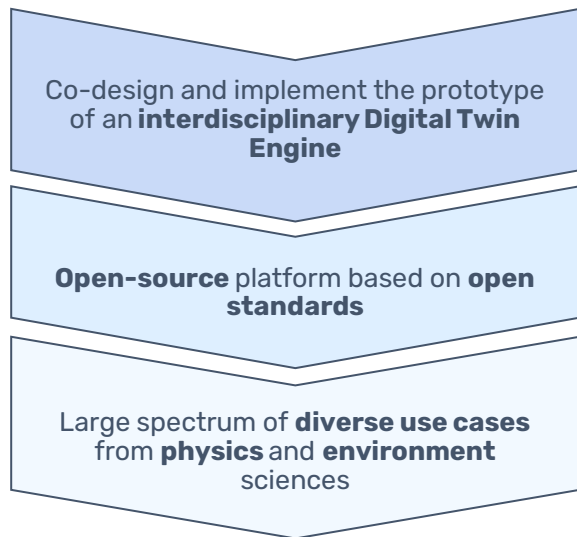


- Project intro
- Digital Twin Engine Architecture
- First Software release
- DTE Core components highlight and example use case
- Conclusions

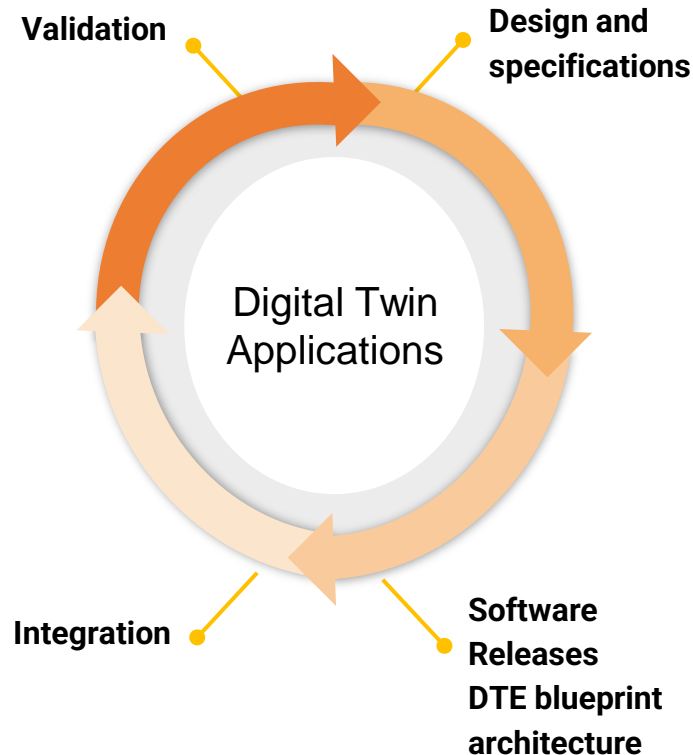


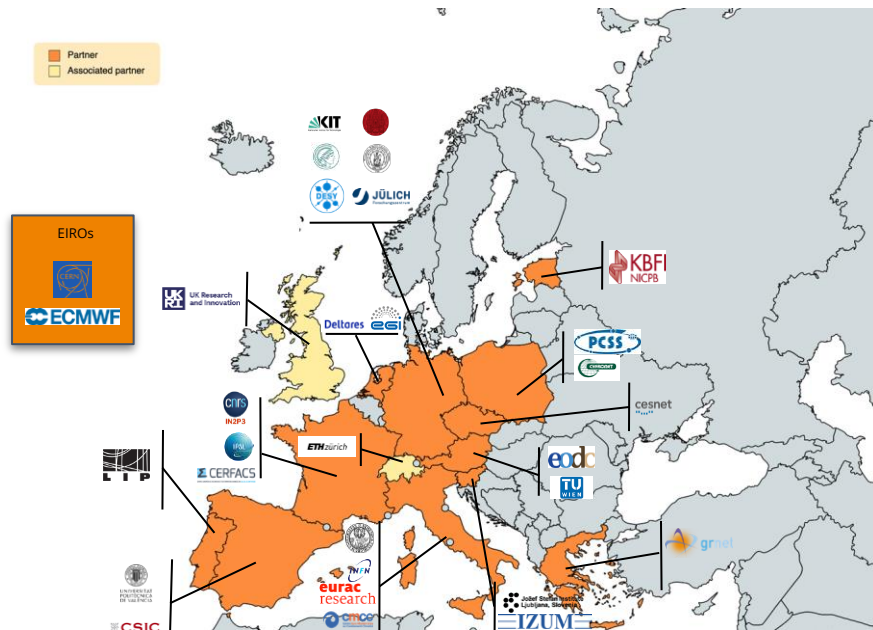
# interTwin - Digital Twin Engine for science

A **Digital Twin (DT)** is a **virtual** representation of a **physical** object, process, or system. It is created and sustained with information derived from one or many sources of data such as sensors or models considering historical as well as real-time observations.



See Bjorn's talk for new definitions from DELTARES

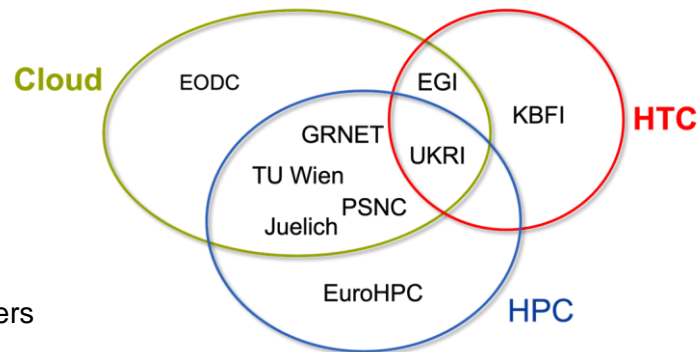




Coordinator: EGI

30

**Participants,**  
1 affiliated entity  
2 associated partners



10  
Providers

Resources:

**Cloud**  
**HTC**  
**HPC**

11  
Technology  
providers

delivering the  
DTE infrastructure  
and horizontal  
capabilities

14  
Community  
representants

from 5 domains  
requirements and  
developing DT  
applications and  
thematic modules <sup>4</sup>

1.09.22 - 31.08.25

Budget 11,7 M euro



# interTwin use cases



<https://www.intertwin.eu/use-cases/>



# Use Cases: Climate research and Environmental Monitoring

## **Tropical Cyclone Detection**

CMCC, CNRS, Univ. of  
Trento




## **WildFire Hazard Map Generation**

CMCC, CNRS, Univ. of  
Trento



## **Extreme events impacts**

CERFACS, EURAC,  
Deltares

 **Early warning for  
Extreme events**  
Deltares, EURAC,  
Technical Univ. of Wien



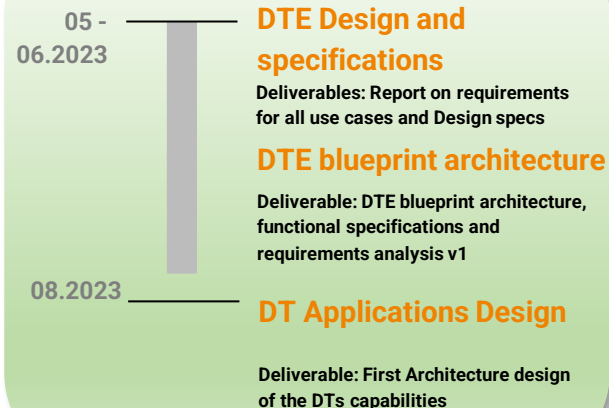
# Benefits of interdisciplinary approach

- **Collaboration:** Increase in cross-community development efforts and unification of frameworks used - “breaking down silos”.
- **Portability:** Run DT workflows infrastructure agnostic across multiple Cloud/HPC centers in Europe.
- **Extensibility:** Easy addition of new use cases.
- **Modularity:** Customizable according to specific use case’s needs.

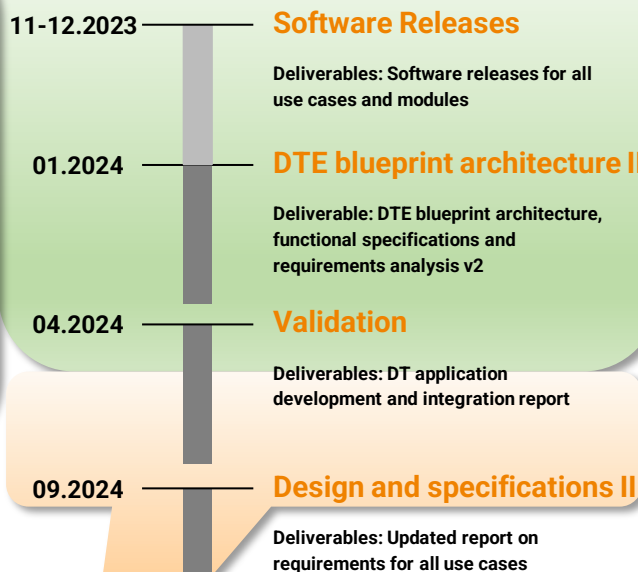


# Timeline

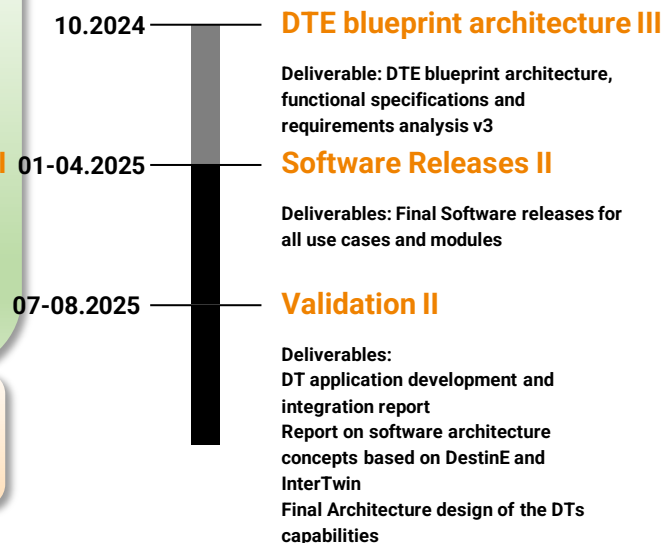
## Project Year 1 PUBLISHED



## Project Year 2 RELEASED



## Project Year 3



2023

2024

2025

Focusing on now!





# DTE Blueprint and co-design

- Second version of the Blueprint architecture and design specifications are available in Github and Zenodo.

Final version is planned for Q4 2024

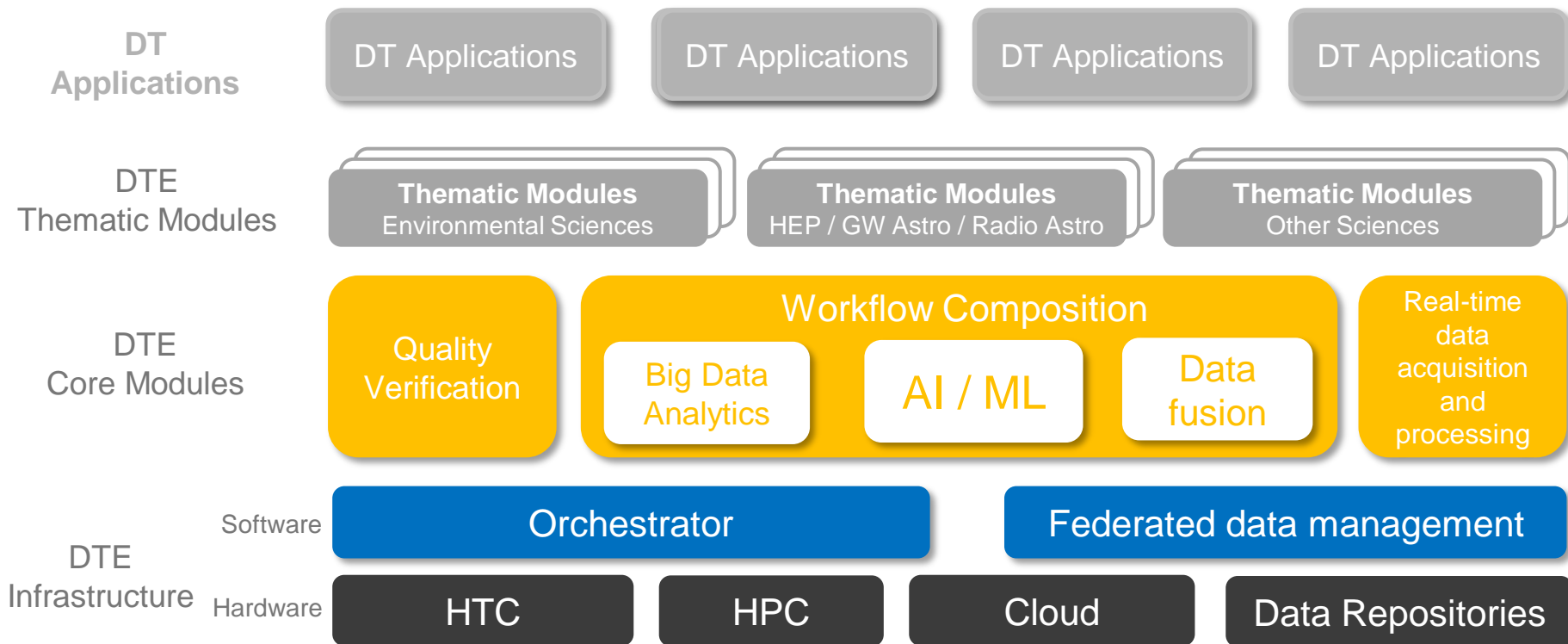
- <https://zenodo.org/records/10650440>
- <https://github.com/interTwin-eu/architecture-diagrams/tree/main/Blueprint%20architecture>

- It also considers other relevant initiatives and projects (*DestinationE*, *EOSC*, *ESCAPE*, *C-SCALE*, *Digital Twin Consortium*, *Gaia-X*, and other *EU Data Spaces*) to identify potential architectural components that can be incorporated within the interTwin context and where interoperability is desirable.

The screenshot shows the Zenodo record page for the interTwin project. The header includes the Zenodo logo, a search bar, and links for 'Communities' and 'My dashboard'. The record title is 'interTwin D3.4 Blueprint architecture, functional specifications, and requirements analysis second version'. It is published on February 12, 2024, and is under EC Review. The authors listed are Bardaji, Raul; Manzi, Andrea; Rodero, Ivan; Geenen, Thomas; Warde, Adam. The page indicates 19 views and 27 downloads. A 'Project deliverable' badge is present. The 'Versions' section shows 'Version 1 Under EC Review' from February 12, 2024, with the DOI 10.5281/zenodo.10650440. A note at the bottom explains how to cite all versions using the DOI 10.5281/zenodo.10650439.



# interTwin Components





# interTwin DTE First Release

interTwin DTE first release description available on our Website

<https://www.intertwin.eu/intertwin-digital-twin-engine/>

- 38 components in total
- New components developed and extension to existing software
- <https://github.com/intertwin-eu>



## Core DTE Modules

interTwin Core DTE Modules

[Read more](#)



## DTE Infrastructure Modules

interTwin DTE Infrastructure Components

[Read more](#)



## Thematic Modules: Environment

interTwin Thematic Modules: Environment

[Read more](#)



## Thematic Modules: Physics

interTwin Thematic Modules: Physics

[Read more](#)



Core DTE Modules

itwinai

Updated  
14/02/2024

## Description

itwinai is a Python library that streamlines AI workflows, while reducing coding complexity.

It seamlessly integrates with HPC resources, making workflows highly scalable and promoting code reuse. With built-in tools for hyper-parameter optimization, distributed machine learning, and pre-trained ML models, itwinai empowers AI researchers. It also integrates smoothly with Jupyter-like GUIs, enhancing accessibility and usability.

Different interfaces, to lower the entry barrier for users coming from different fields of expertise: from lower-level python programming to high-level GUI workflow representation, itwinai provides out-of-the-box SCITA AI tools and encourages code reuse, to further simplify and streamline the development of ML workflows, on top of seamless integration with HPC resources.

### Target Audience

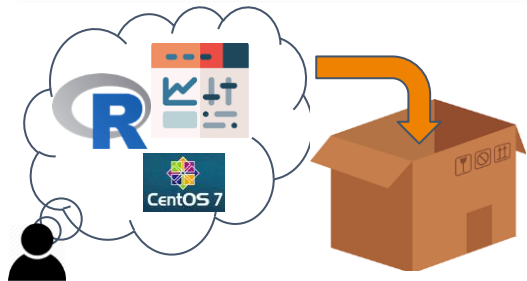
### Documentation

<https://intertwin-eu.github.io/itwinai/>

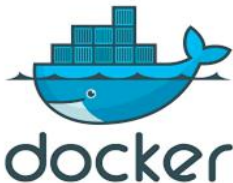
### License



# interTwin Premise: The building block of Digital Twins are software containers



**Container:** unit of software, packaging a given code and all its dependencies



**Docker:** platform designed to create and manage containers, repos of containers, etc..



## kubernetes



**Container orchestration** tool to execute containers across computing resources

## What is container orchestration ?

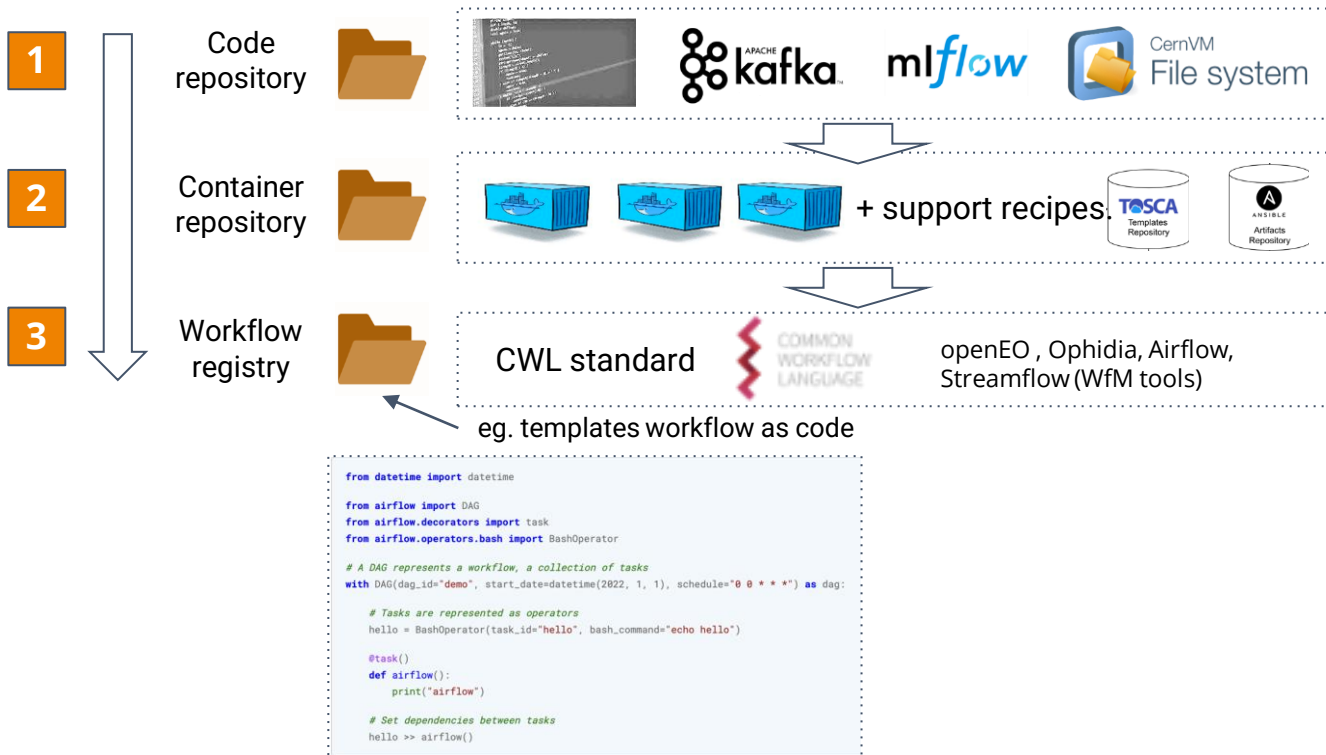
- Provisioning and deployment of “containerized applications” across computing infrastructures, in an automated way

## Why do we need container orchestration ?

- Each Digital Twin will be composed of several containers
- Running the Digital Twin consists in the execution of all those containers following a given workflow.
- This can become a very tedious job if done manually and not accessible to general end-users.
- The tools for automated container orchestration make that operational complexity manageable

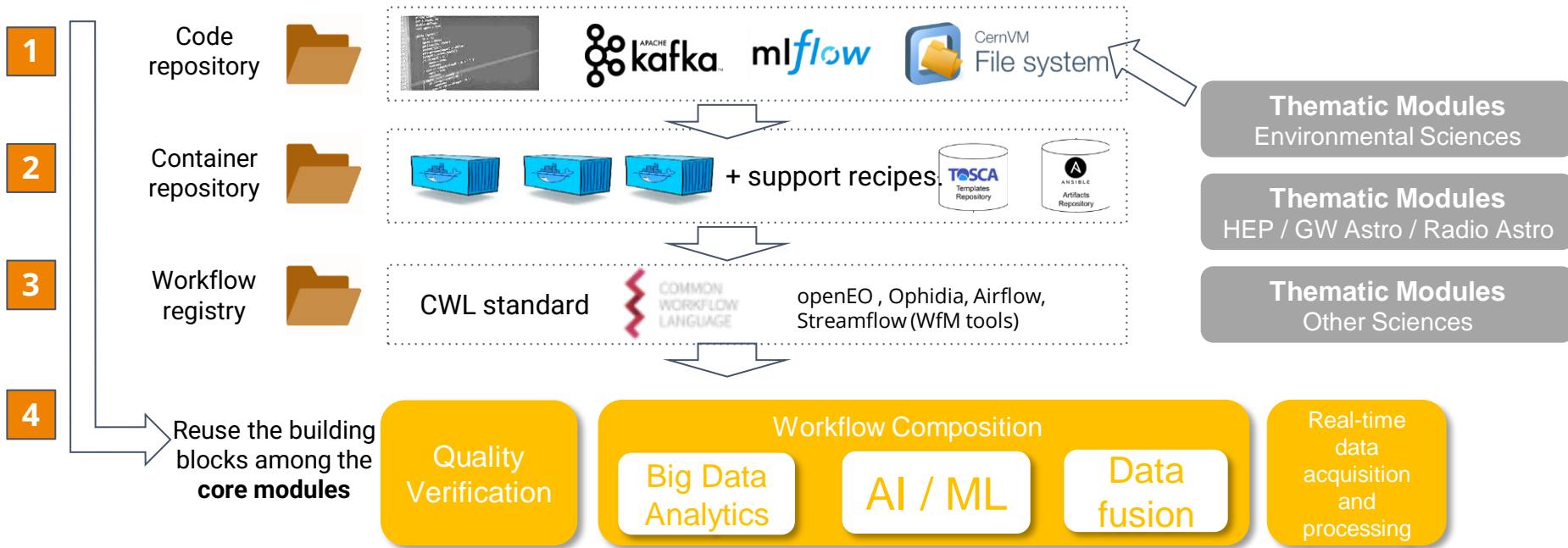


# From the Software stack to the Digital Twin - I



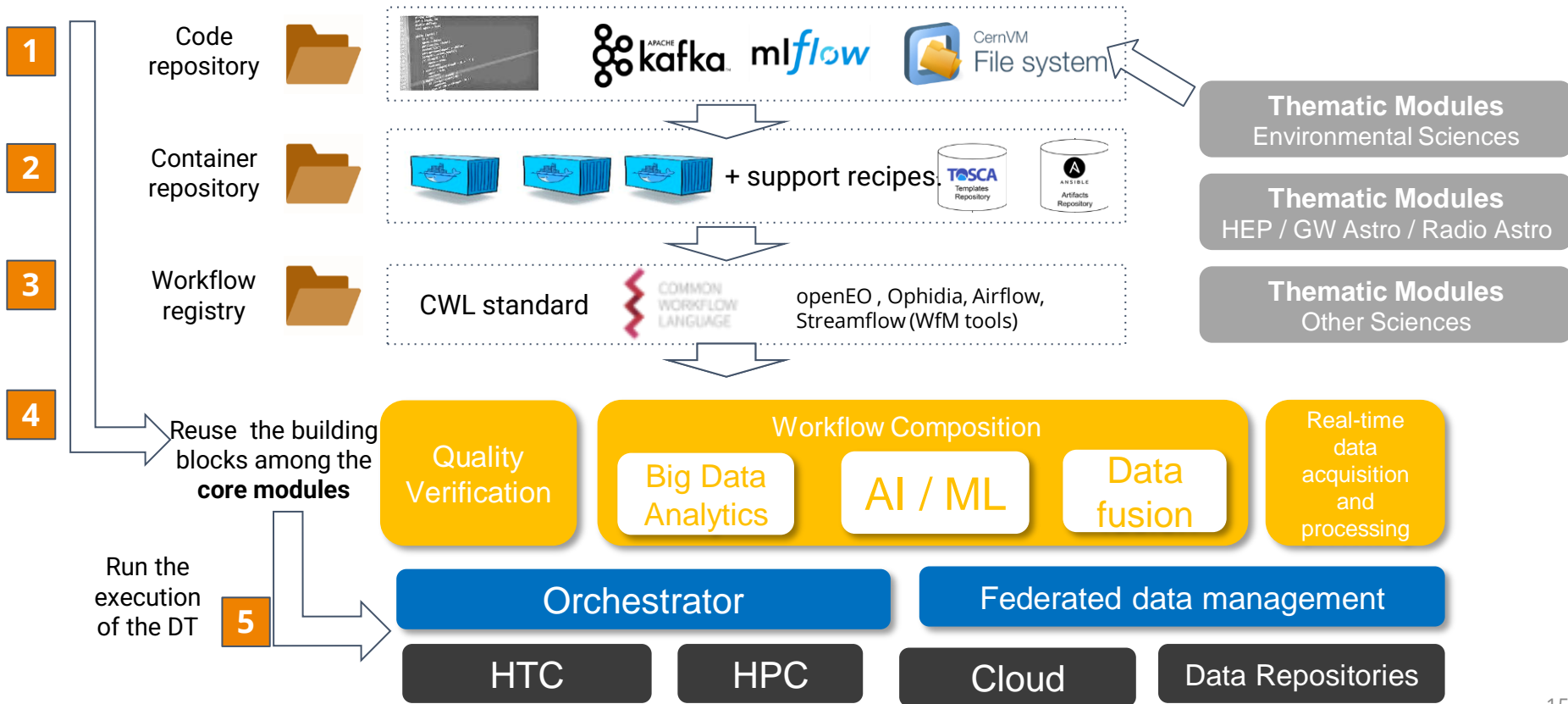


# From the Software stack to the Digital Twin - II





# From the Software stack to the Digital Twin - III







# DTE Core components

Automated DT Validation in  
connection with workflow  
provenance



yProv

Distributed data analysis  
embedded with specific  
workflow tools



Connecting Real-time data  
with serverless processing



Workflow Composition

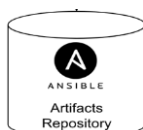
Quality  
Verification

Big Data  
Analytics

AI / ML

Data  
fusion

Real-time  
data  
acquisition  
and  
processing



Standardized deployment  
of Big Data Analytics tools

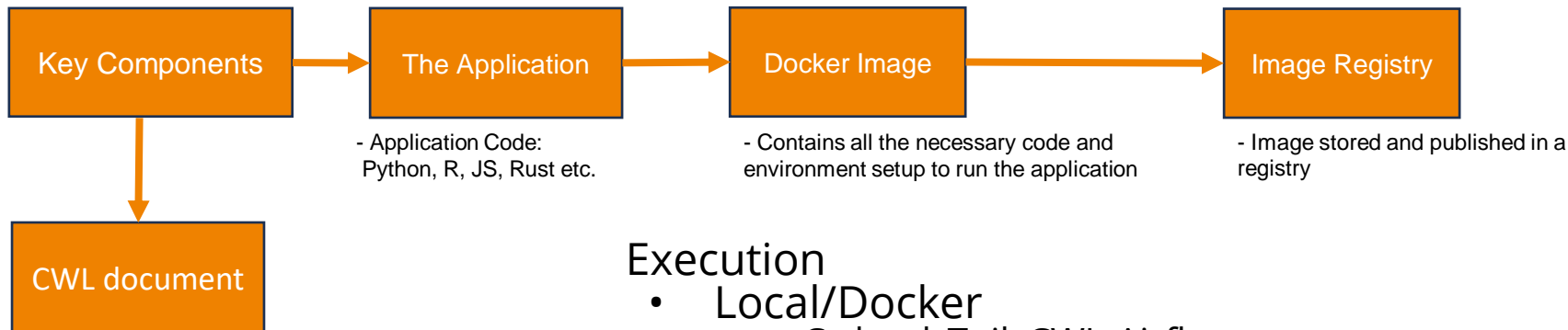


Generic ML / AI training platform  
with support to generic workflow  
management and model validation



# Linking interTwin Thematic Modules into workflows via OGC Application Packages

“Describes how to **package** EO computational workflows targeting their execution **automation**, **scalability**, **reusability** and **portability** while also being workflow-engine and **vendor neutral**.”  
(Terradue, n.d)



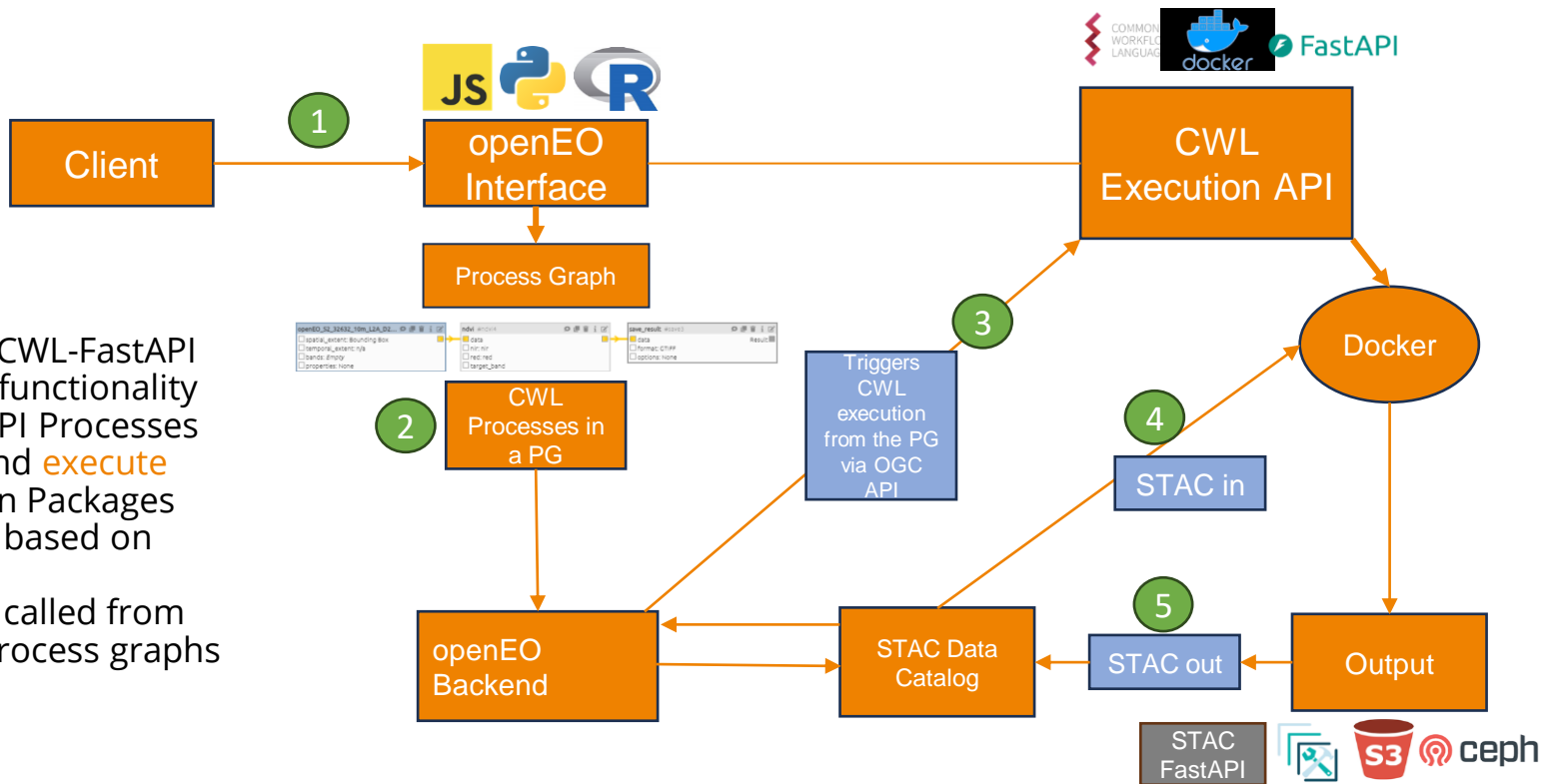
## Execution

- Local/Docker
  - Cwltool, Toil, CWL-Airflow
- In Kubernetes
  - Application Deployment and Execution Service (ADES)



# openEO cwltool FastAPI Architecture

- Based on CWL-FastAPI
- Extended functionality via OGC-API Processes to **store** and **execute** Application Packages
- Execution based on cwltool
- Execution called from **openEO** process graphs



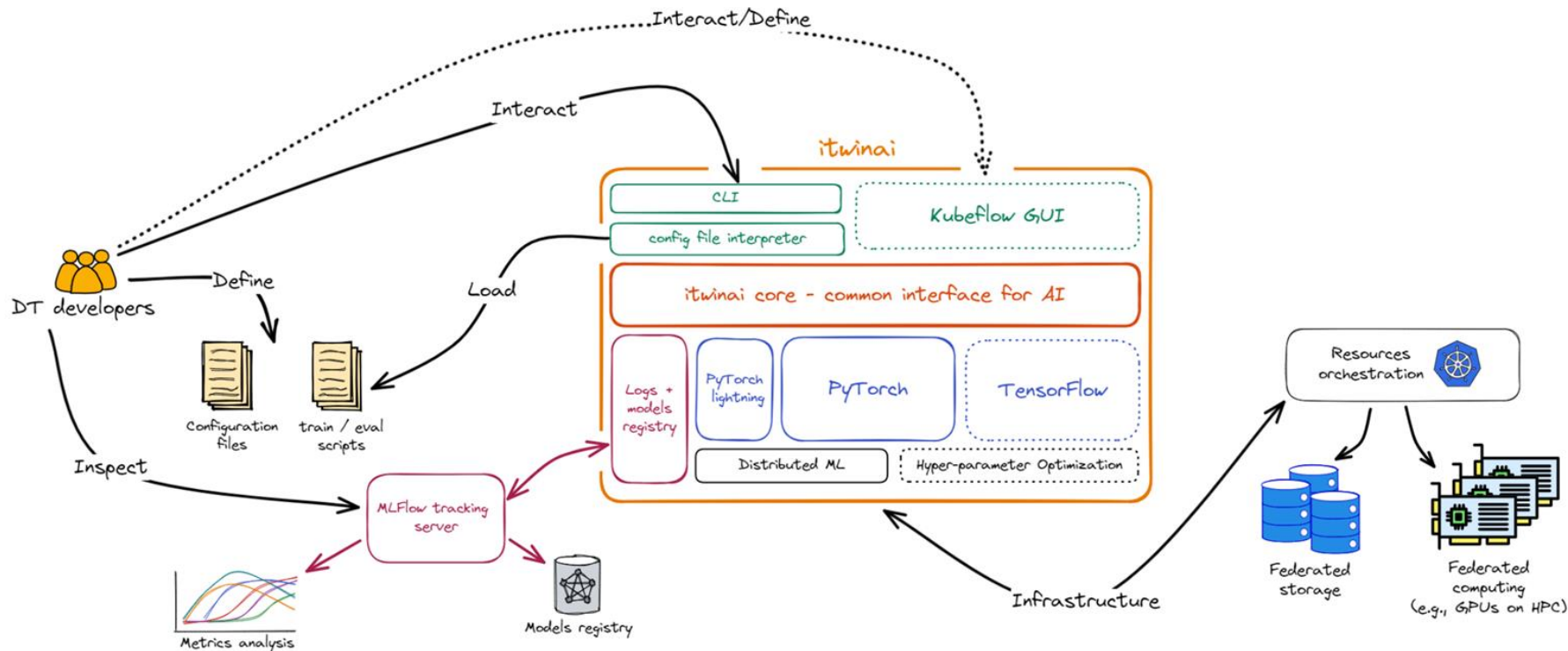


# Itwinai - ML tooling for DT applications

Support AI-based digital twin applications in science:

- **Reproducibility, Reusability, and Modularity**
- **Framework-independent** (e.g., PyTorch, TensorFlow, XGBoost, MLFlow, WandB)
- UX/UI: user-friendly GUI (e.g., JupyterLab)
- **Off-the-shelf AI tooling:**
  - Hyper-parameters optimization
  - Scalability (e.g., distributed ML)
  - State of the Art models repository
- Seamless access to infrastructure (cloud and HPC resources)

# Itwinai - ML tooling for DT applications

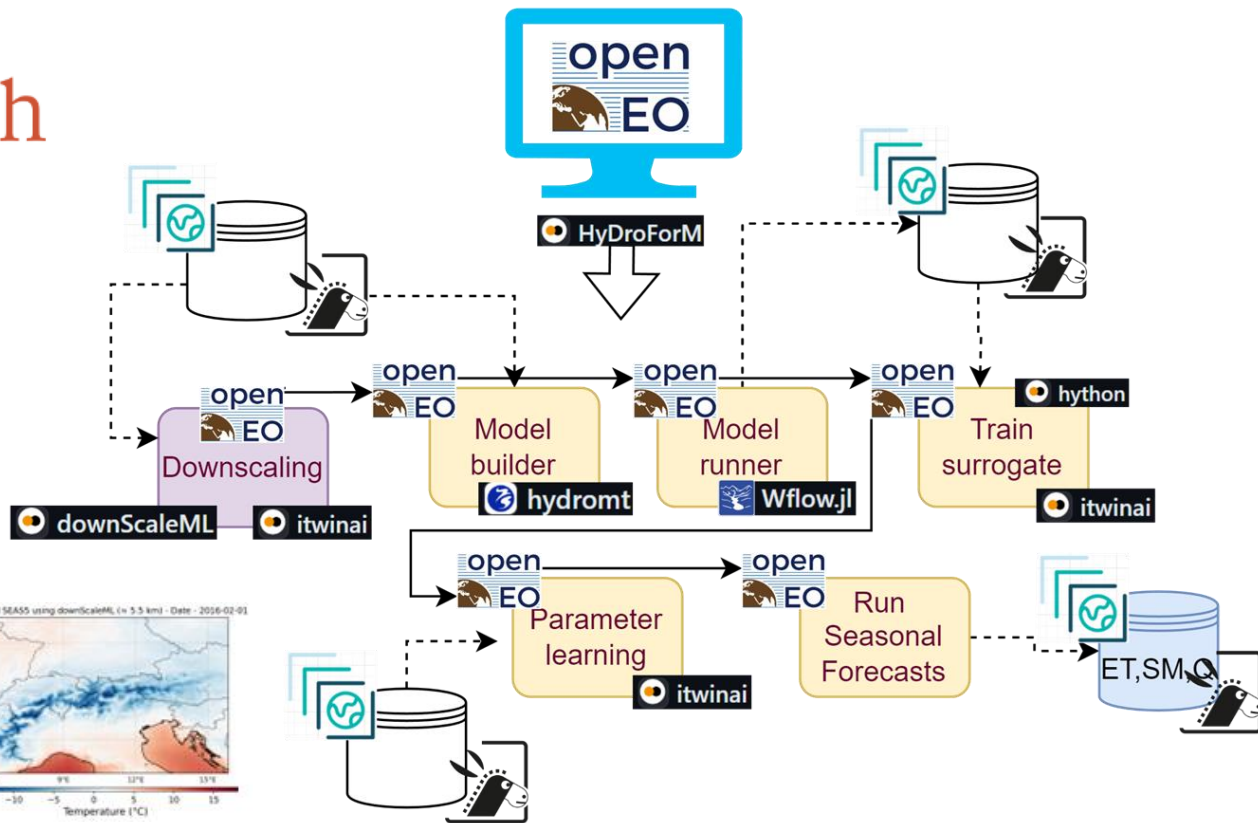


Demo video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NoVCfSxwtX0>



# Drought Early Warning in the Alps DT Workflow

eurac  
research





# Conclusions



Successful co-design process with User Communities leading to Blueprint Architecture and DTE Components definition



First Release available, new components opensourced in our Github community  
[.https://github.com/interTwin-eu](https://github.com/interTwin-eu)



Pilots running on our infrastructure providers and first integration with use cases completed end of May 2024



We aim at completing the developments in Jan 2025 and look for external early adopters



Final goal is to extend and operate the DTE after the end of the project as one of the services of the EGI Federation



# Thank you!

# Questions?



[www.intertwin.eu](http://www.intertwin.eu)



[info@intertwin.eu](mailto:info@intertwin.eu)



[intertwin\\_eu](https://twitter.com/intertwin_eu)



[intertwin](https://www.linkedin.com/company/intertwin)

# Backup





# interTwin Specific Objectives



**Objective 1.** Co-design, develop and provide a Digital Twin Engine that simplifies & accelerates the development of complex application-specific DTs that benefits researchers, business and civil society



**Objective 2.** Co-design a **Digital Twin Engine blueprint architecture** that provides a conceptual framework for the development of DTs supporting interoperability, performance, portability & accuracy.



**Objective 3.** Extend the technical capabilities of the **European Open Science Cloud** with modelling & simulation tools integrated with its compute platform



**Objective 4.** Ensure trust and **reproducibility** in science through quality, reliability and verifiability of the outputs of Digital Twins



**Objective 5.** Demonstrate data fusion with complex modelling & prediction technologies

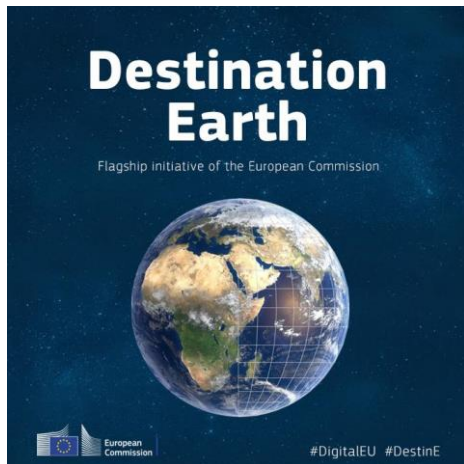


**Objective 6.** Simplify DT application development with tools to manage AI workflows and the model lifecycle while reinforcing open science practices

# Interoperability & Link with DestinE

**interTwin** is conducting joint pilot activities with **DestinE** to **design a compatible architecture** that addresses the requirements of the largest set of user communities.

**Interoperability** is the aim of this activity.



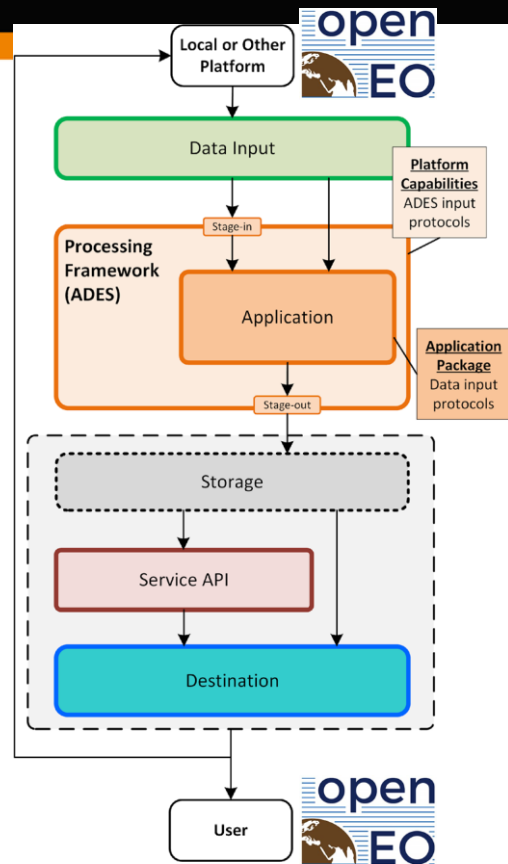
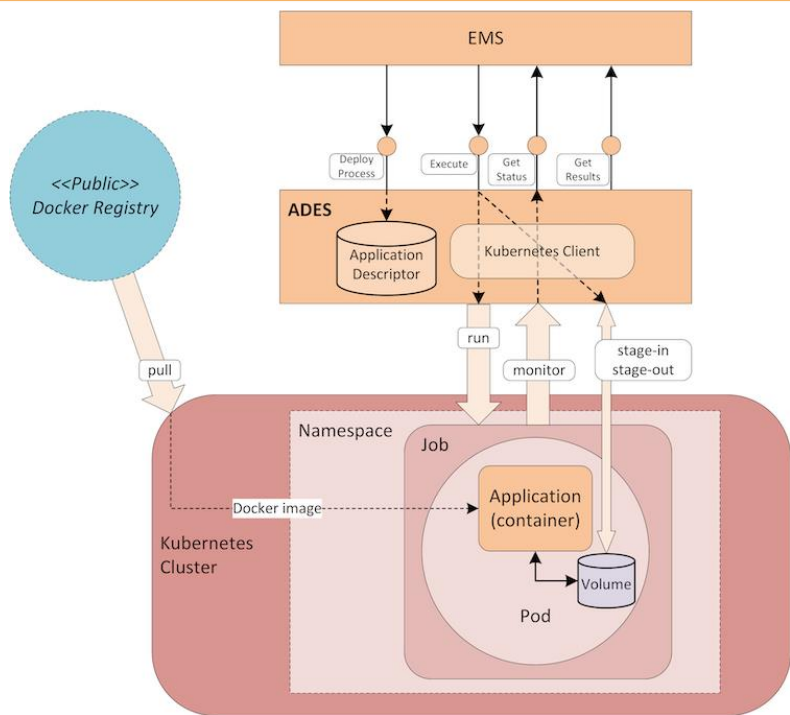
**Demonstrators** of data handling across interTwin and DestinE DTs for the Extremes and Climate in production-type configurations are under implementation in collaboration with **ECMWF**



Part of the collaboration with DestinE includes the **development of common software architecture concepts** that are also **applicable to other major DTs initiatives**.

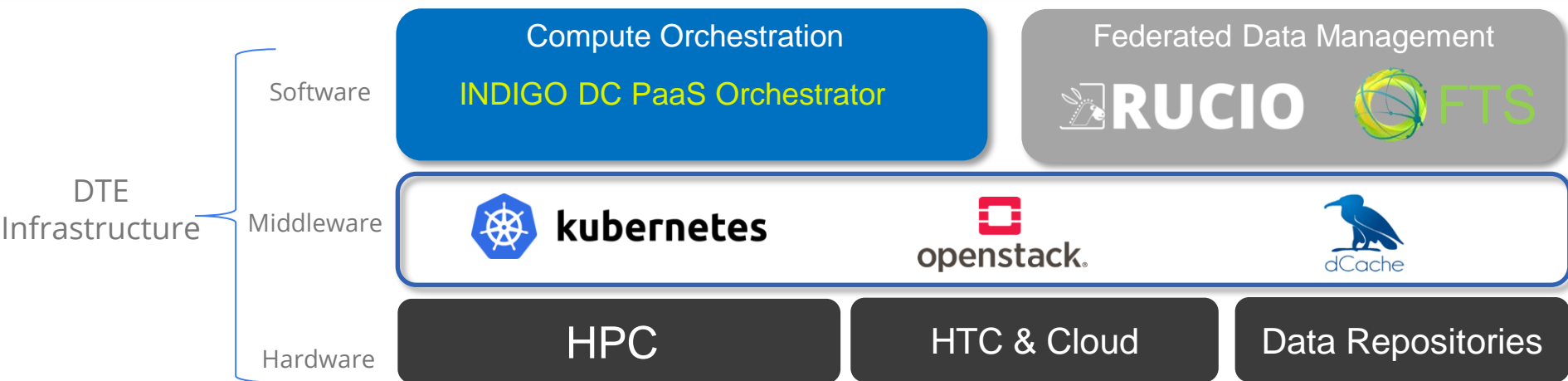


# OpenEO ADES Integration





# DTE Infrastructure components



## Orchestration

**PaaS Orchestrator + Infrastructure Manager** elaborating deployment requested expressed in **TOSCA** to be extended to deal AI based orchestration.

## Federated Data Management

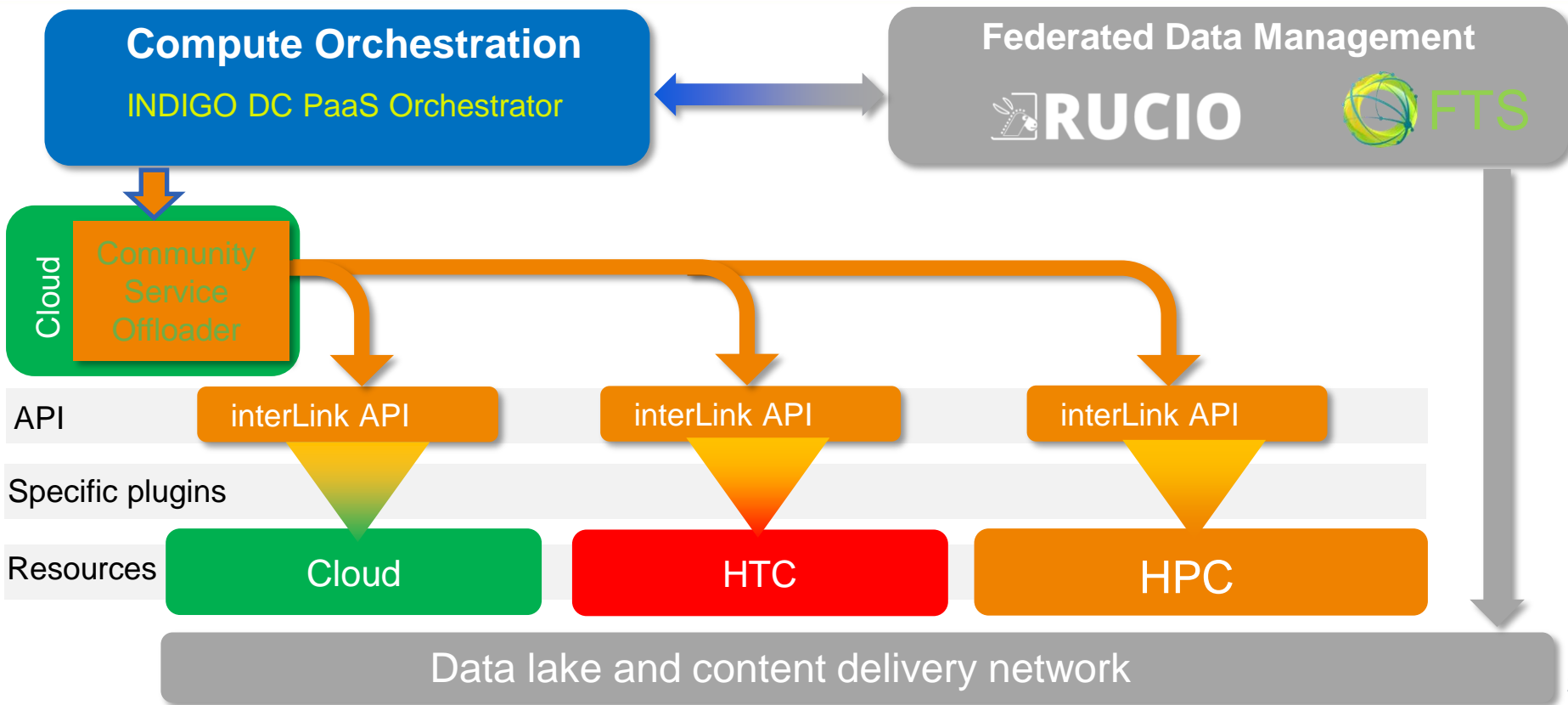
Based on **ESCAPE** Data Lake architecture and services, **Rucio**, **FTS** and HTTP accessed caches/storages. **Data lake concept extended to HPC facilities**

## Continuum Integration

- **Single-sign-on** in simulation and modelling tasks to access data and different compute facilities,
- **Offloading to HPC.**
- Data repositories and computation with containers on HTC, Cloud and HPC



# DTE Infrastructure in more detail







# Euro-HPCs integrated via interLink



HPC Vega is the first EuroHPC JU supercomputer hosted at the Institute of Information Science in Maribor, in Slovenia.

First HPC provider integrated, enabling super early prototyping

Demo video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-djlQGPvYdI>



The Jülich Supercomputing Centre operates one of the most powerful supercomputers in Europe, JUWELS, and JUNIQ the first European infrastructure for quantum computing.

First volunteer for an external interLink plugin based on UNICORE