

# OGC Data Cube Standardisation

Alexander Jacob

# OGC API

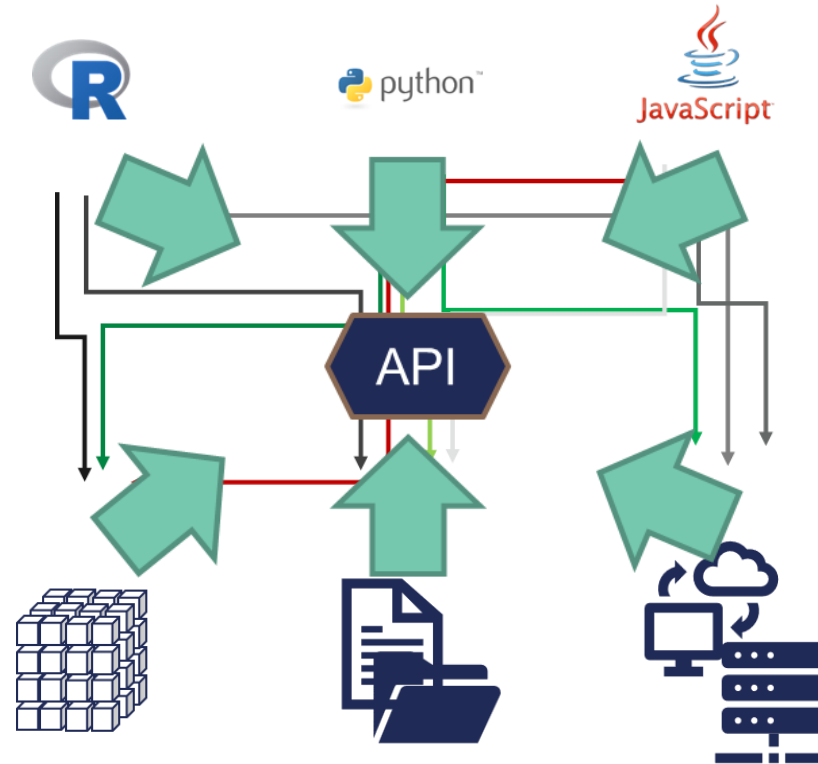
<https://ogcapi.ogc.org/>



- Fully integrated suite of standards
  - Modular by design
  - Meant to replace existing suite of standards like
    - WMS, WFS, WCS, WPS, CWS, ....
  - All based on openAPI definitions as restful services
- Service offering:
    - OGC API – Commons
  - Data interfaces
    - OGC API – Coverages
    - OGC API – Features
  - Data Processing
    - OGC API – Processes
  - Data Visualization
    - OGC API – Maps
    - OGC API - Tiles

# openEO API

- Defined in OpenAPI
- [api.openeo.org](https://api.openeo.org)
- HTTPS & JSON
- Functionality
  - Capabilities
  - Data Discovery
  - Authentication
  - File management
  - Data Processing / Workflow management
  - Data Export / Web Services
  - Extensions



<https://doi.org/10.3390/rs13061125>

remote sensing



Article

## The openEO API—Harmonising the Use of Earth Observation Cloud Services Using Virtual Data Cube Functionalities

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**Abstract:** At present, accessing and processing Earth Observation (EO) data on different cloud platforms requires users to exercise distinct communication strategies as each backend platform is designed differently. The openEO API (Application Programming Interface) standardises EO-related contracts between local clients (R, Python, and JavaScript) and cloud service providers regarding data access and processing, simplifying their direct comparability. Independent of the providers' data storage system, the API mimics the functionalities of a virtual EO raster data cube. This article introduces the communication strategy and aspects of the data cube model applied by the openEO API. Two test cases show the potential and current limitations of processing similar workflows on different cloud platforms and a comparison of the result of a locally running workflow and its openEO-dependent cloud equivalent. The outcomes demonstrate the flexibility of the openEO API in enabling complex scientific analysis of EO data collections on cloud platforms in a homogenised way.

**Keywords:** cloud computing; interoperability; virtual data cube; open standard; API

### 1. Introduction

With the free-of-charge release of high temporal resolution Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS) imagery by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in 1999, the enormous potential of Earth Observation (EO) time-series analyses became apparent to a broad geoscientific community. Publishing the USGS Landsat Archive in 2008/2009 [1,2] further boosted the use of remote sensing data, allowing for large-scale land-use studies at low costs [3]. Fortunately, the European Commission also adopted an open data policy for its Copernicus program with its Sentinel satellites [4] and high-capacity ground segment. This took the distribution of microwave and optical EO data with high

# Implementations

- ❖ GeoPyspark / Geotrellis (VITO, CDSE)
- ❖ Xarray / Dask (EODC, EURAC, local processing, ...)
- ❖ Google Earth Engine
- ❖ WCPS / rasdaman (EURAC)
- ❖ GRASSGIS / actinia (mundialis)
- ❖ Sentinel Hub (Sinergise)
- ❖ ... (RISE, IBM, WASDI)

- Python
  - opinionated, pythonic implementation
  - Jupyter integration
- R
  - Rstudio integration
  - Rmarkdown
  - Jupyter integration
- JavaScript (TypeScript)
  - Web Apps
  - Mobile Apps
- Julia
- Web Editor: [editor.openeo.org](https://editor.openeo.org)
  - Simple UI for the browser
  - Model Builder

# openEO community standard

- Submitted to OGC
  - Scope: API and Processes
  - Type: Community Standard
  - Submitter: openEO PSC
- RFC started Feb 6<sup>th</sup> ; ended Feb 27<sup>th</sup> 2024
- [Justification document](#)
- Presentation at OGC MM in Delft 26<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> of March 2024
- Vote has past with quorum on May 16<sup>th</sup> 2024
- Awaiting final approval from OGC Technical Committee
  - Next member meeting in Monreal next week (17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2024)



# openEO + OGC API - Processes

- Crosswalk
- Similar APIs, but **different scope**
- openEO has **process specifications**
- Minor conflicts which require new versions
- OGC API - Processes - Part 3 may run openEO UDP
- openEO may run Application Packages (OGC API - Processes - Part 1)

## Crosswalk between openEO API and OGC API - Processes

This document gives a brief overview over similarities and differences between

- openEO API, v1.2.0
- OGC API - Processes - Part 1: Core, v1.0.0

In the following I use OAP1 as an abbreviation for OGC API - Processes - Part 1.

### Introduction (tl;dr)

OGC API - Processes defines just processing, while the openEO API has a much broader scope. openEO covers many process specifications, some are aligned some are not.

Conceptually the APIs are similar, but have some conflicts that can't be resolved easily (e.g. process description with metadata listing with different job status values).

A key differentiator between OAP1 and openEO is that process chaining is a fundamental concept in openEO to build workflows, while OAP1 is more meant to run larger "black box" workflows. You can add workflows with Part 3 of OGC API - Processes.

Another key differentiator is that openEO has a list of [pre-defined but extensible processes](#) available while OGC API - Processes predefine processes.

As such the target audience of OAP1 and openEO is probably only partially overlapping.

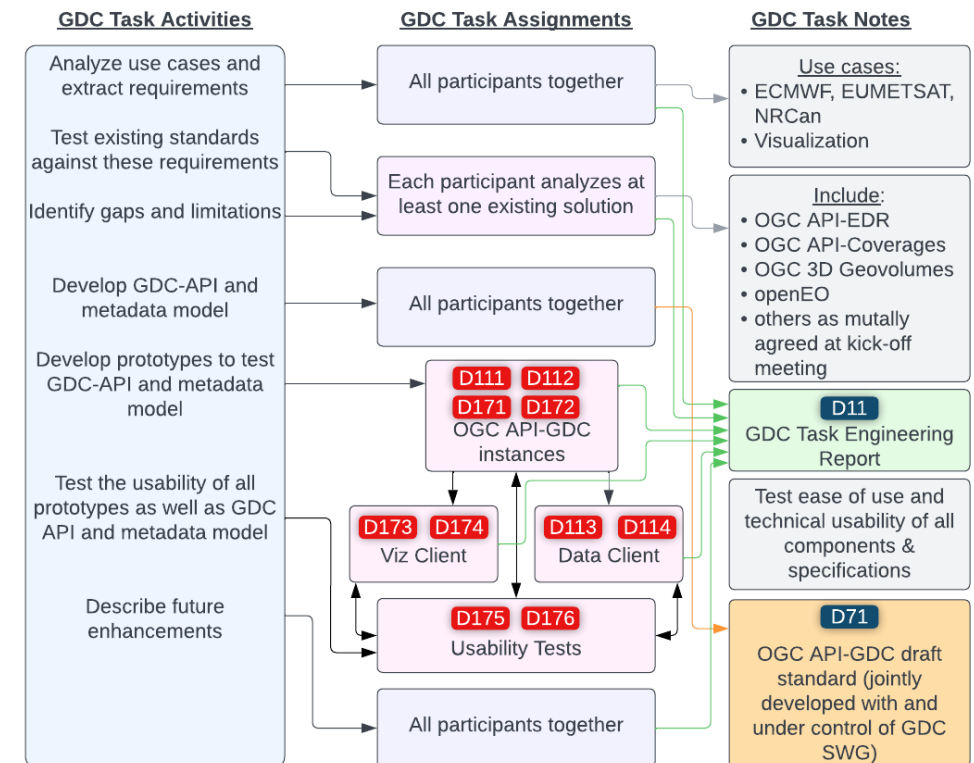
The openEO API covers the following "categories" of endpoints:

- [API discovery](#) - partially covered by OGC API - Processes - Part 1
- [Authentication](#) - not defined by OGC
- [Data Discovery](#) - covered by various other OGC APIs (Coverages, EDR, Features, Records, ...)
- [Process Discovery](#) - covered by OGC API - Processes - Part 1

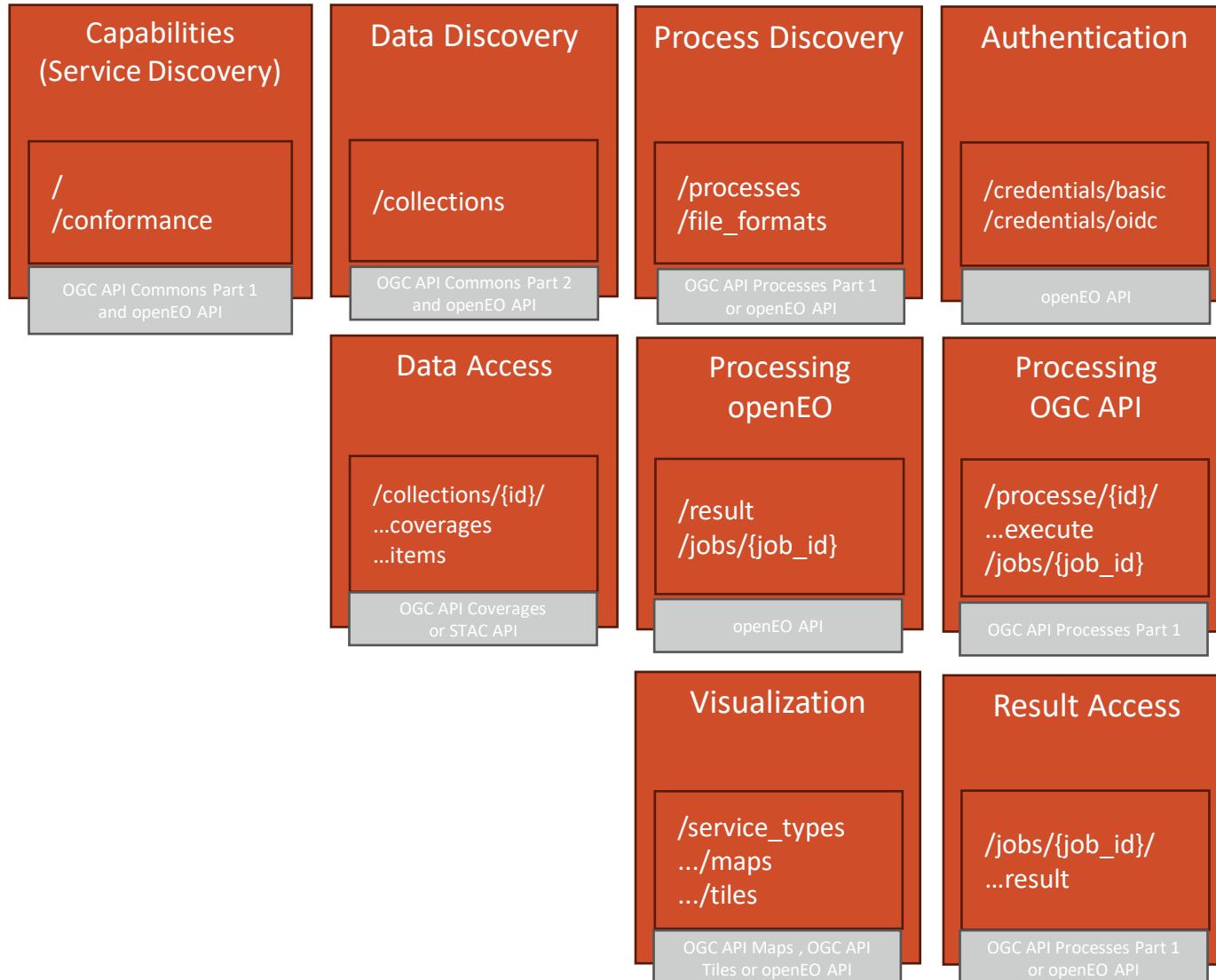
# OGC GeoDataCube API

## INITIAL IDEAS

- General “mostly” consensus GDC API is an implementation profile for existing OGC APIs
- Could also be expressed as best practice or implementation guideline
- openEO is already in many cases an implementation of OGC API



# OGC GeoDataCube API



*Discovery Layer.* Gives information about everything you can do with the service.

*Data processing Layer.* Allows simple data modification during data access or complex processing scenarios using openEO or OGC API including workflows.

*Result Access Layer.* Download results or access them through a web service.



# GDC Editor



Open Geospatial Consortium

GDC Editor

0.12.5-build.20240109

Help

Wizard

Server

guest

Search

- ▶ Collections (1)
- ▶ Processes (105)
- ▶ UDF Runtimes (2)
- ▶ Export File Formats (7)

OGC-Coverage-geotiff-2024-02-14T16:59:07.278354+01:00 (Job)

s2\_l2a #load1

- spatial\_extent: Bounding Box
- temporal\_extent: 2022-07-01..., 2022-07-05...
- bands: blue, green, red
- properties

Visual Model | Code

Data Processing

Create Batch Job | Run now | Search

| Batch Job   | Status   | Submitted ↓               | Last update               | Actions  |
|---|----------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| OGC-Coverage-geotiff-2024-02-14T16:59:07.278354+01:00 | finished | 2/14/2024, 3:59:07 PM UTC | 2/14/2024, 3:59:23 PM UTC | [Info] [Edit] [Copy] [Delete] [Refresh] [Download] [Share] [Print] |
| OGC-Coverage-geotiff-2024-02-14T16:56:20.898956+01:00 | finished | 2/14/2024, 3:56:20 PM UTC | 2/14/2024, 3:56:33 PM UTC | [Info] [Edit] [Copy] [Delete] [Refresh] [Download] [Share] [Print] |
| test2   | finished | 2/14/2024, 8:45:31 AM UTC | 2/14/2024, 8:46:39 AM UTC | [Info] [Edit] [Copy] [Delete] [Refresh] [Download] [Share] [Print] |
| test  | finished | 2/14/2024, 8:34:32 AM UTC | 2/14/2024, 8:35:39 AM UTC | [Info] [Edit] [Copy] [Delete] [Refresh] [Download] [Share] [Print] |
| OGC-Coverage-geotiff                                  |          | 1/15/2024, 3:07:44        | 1/15/2024                 | [Info] [Edit] [Copy] [Delete] [Refresh] [Download] [Share] [Print] |

Result

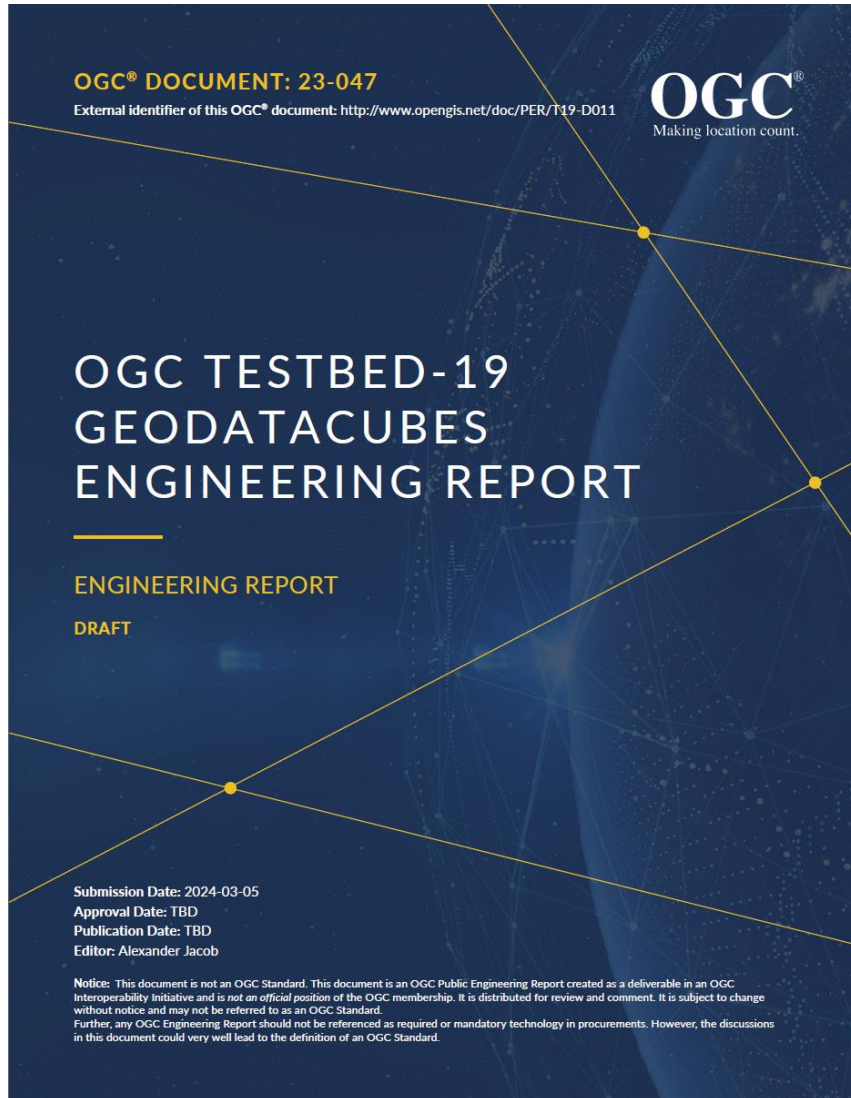
Pixel Value: no data

| Channel | Band | Min | Max  |
|---------|------|-----|------|
| Red     | 3    | 1   | 2000 |
| Green   | 2    | 1   | 2000 |
| Blue    | 1    | 1   | 2000 |

Grayscale

© OpenStreetMap contributors.

# OGC GeoDataCube API



Engineering Report

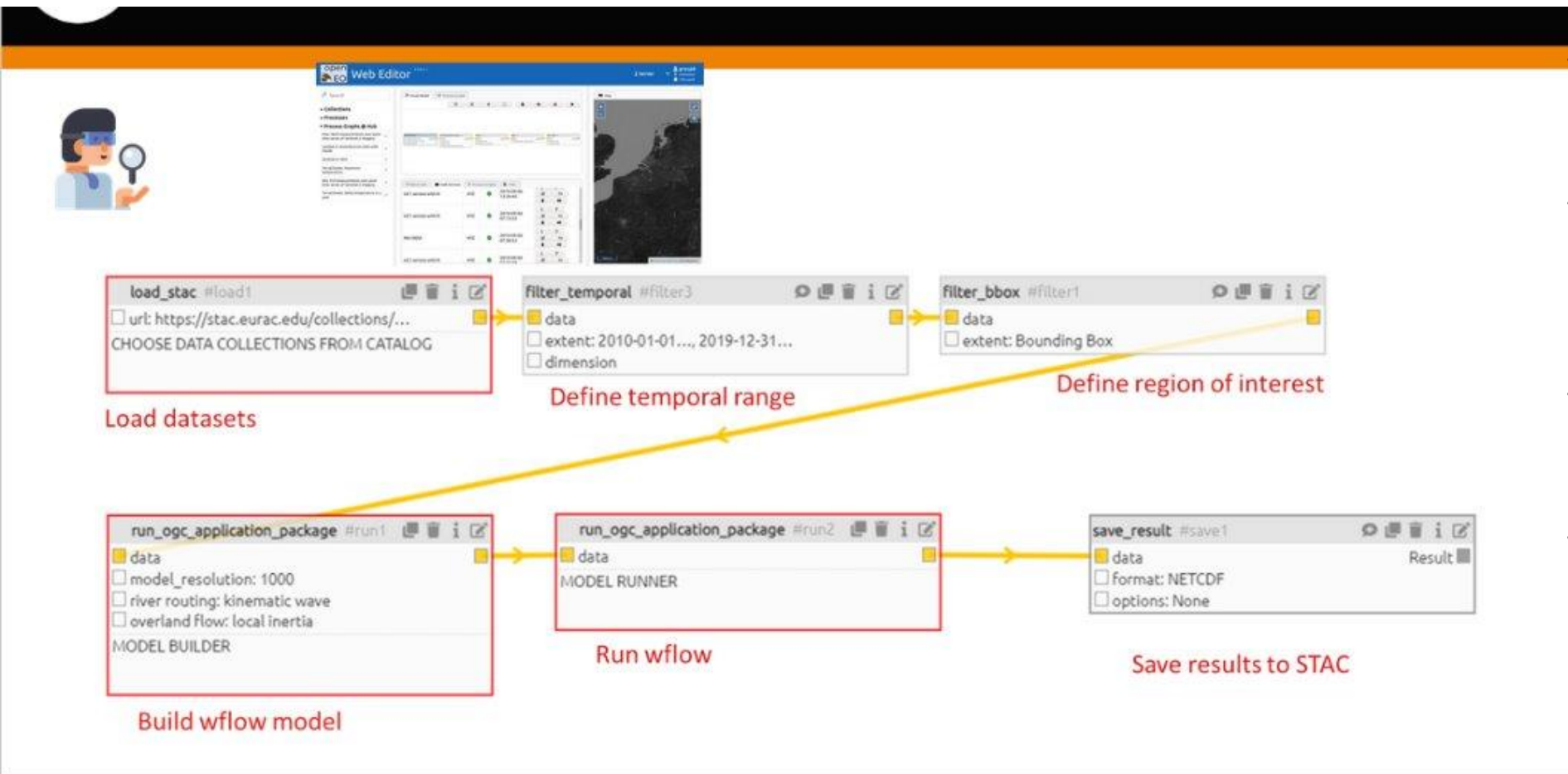
Draft Specification

# To be continued (interTwin)



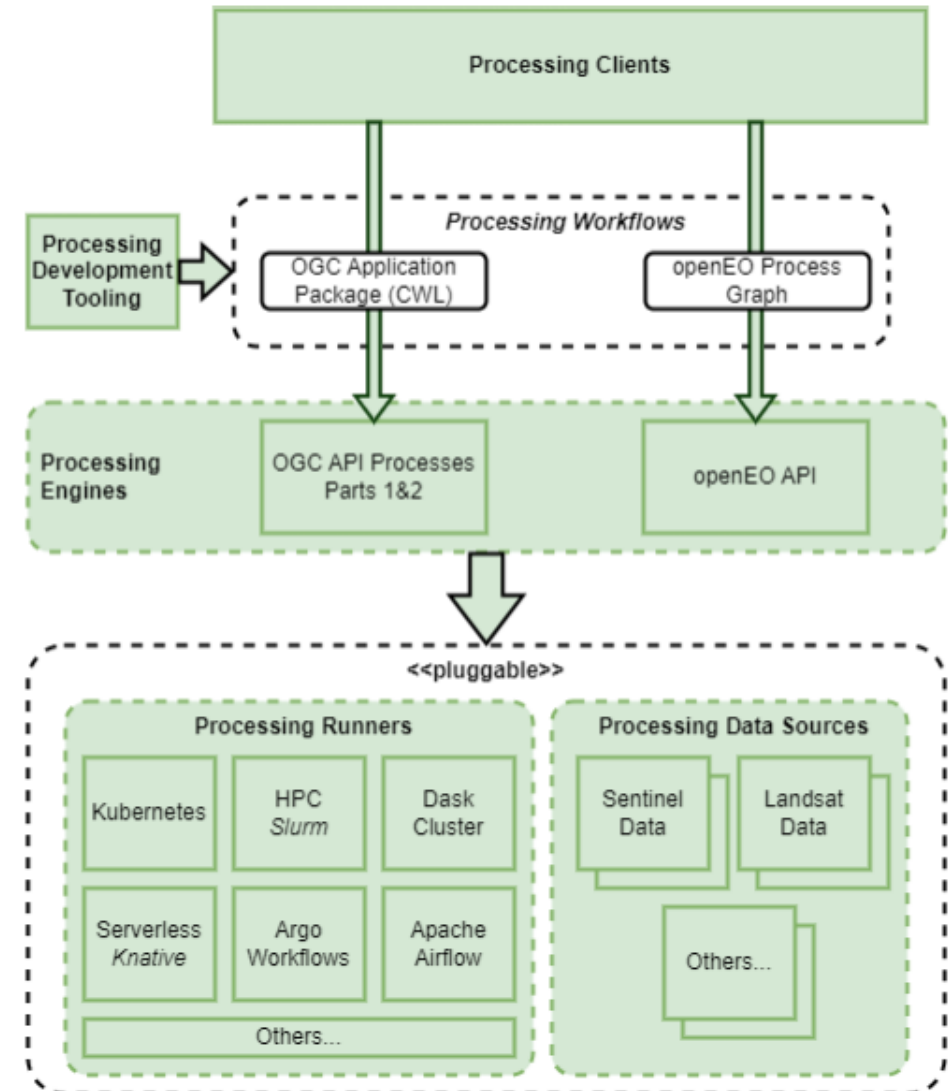
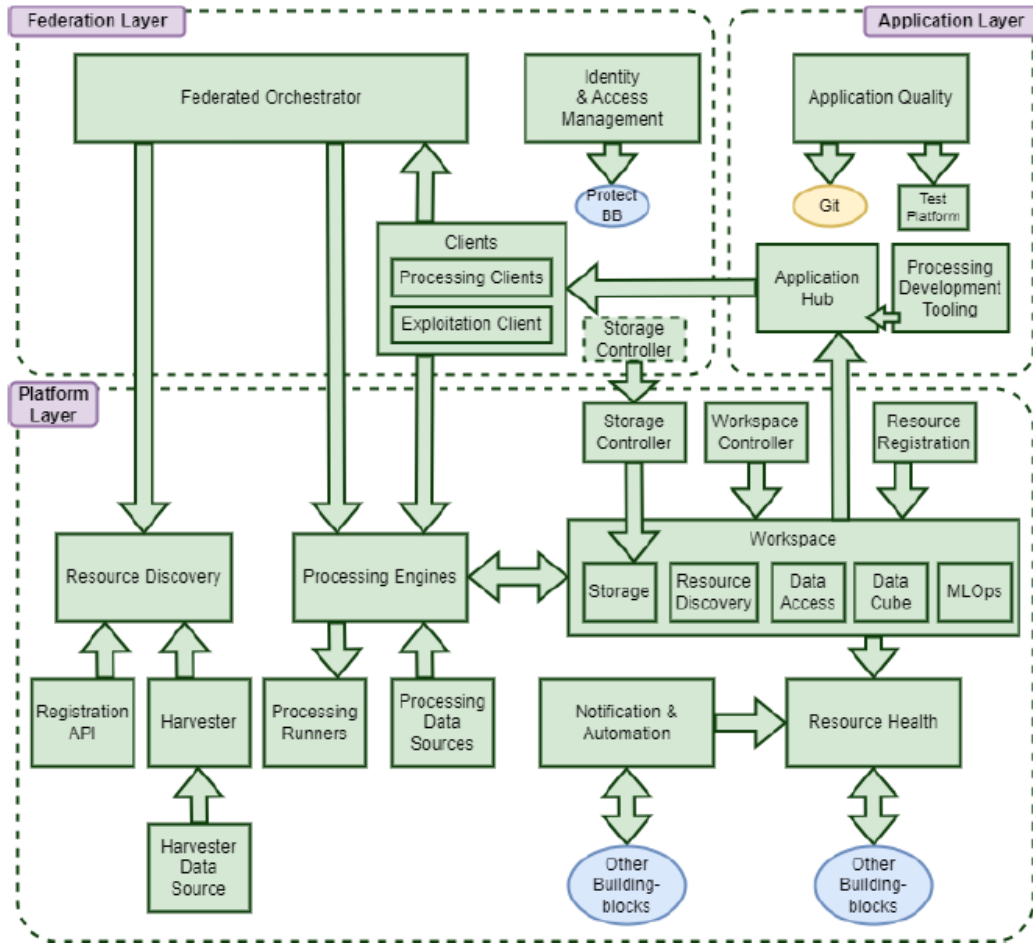
The JSON Process graph is **split**, and the processing is redirected to the CWL executor to run the Application Package, returns a result back to OpenEO for postprocessing

# To be continued (interTwin)



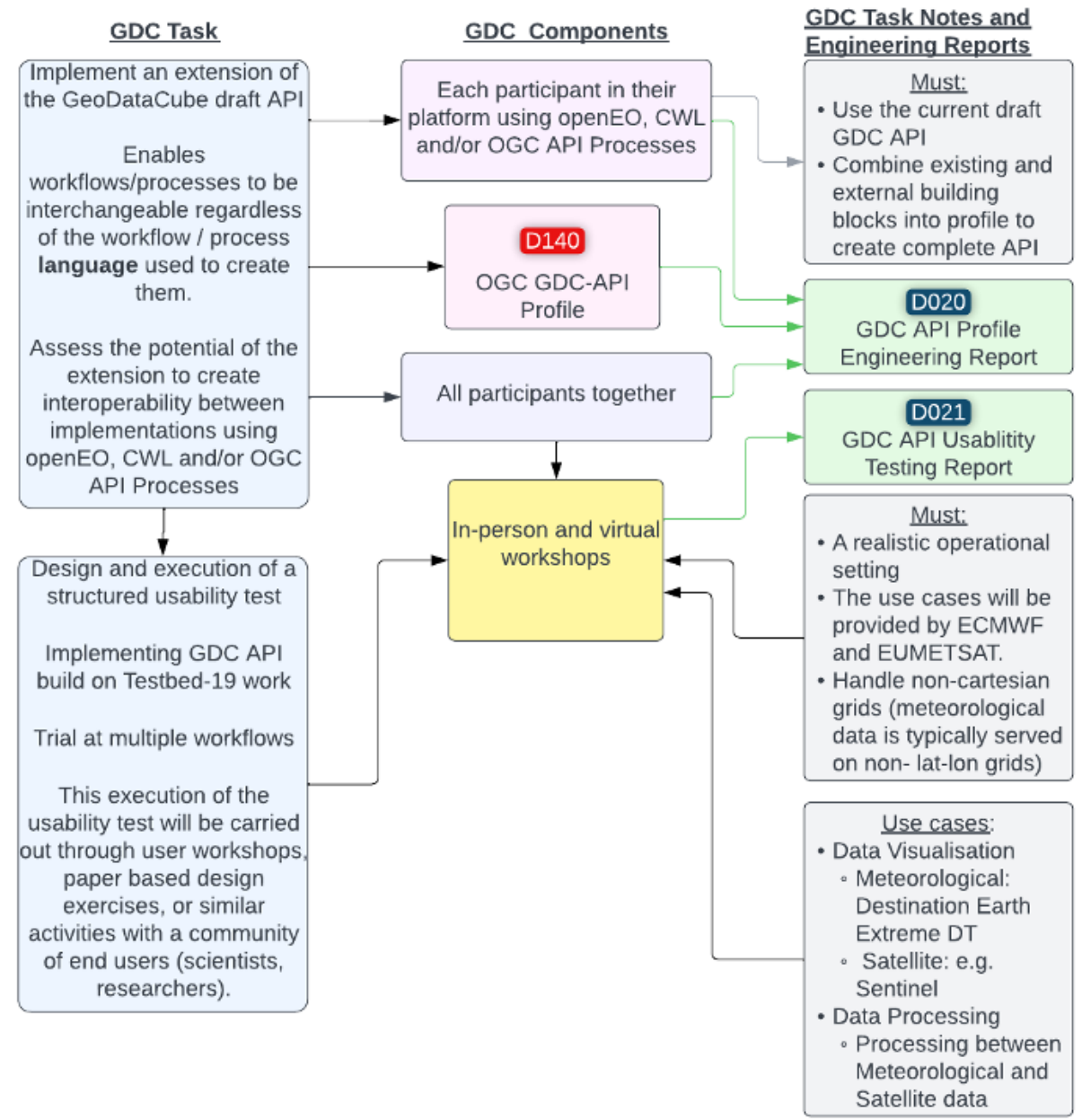
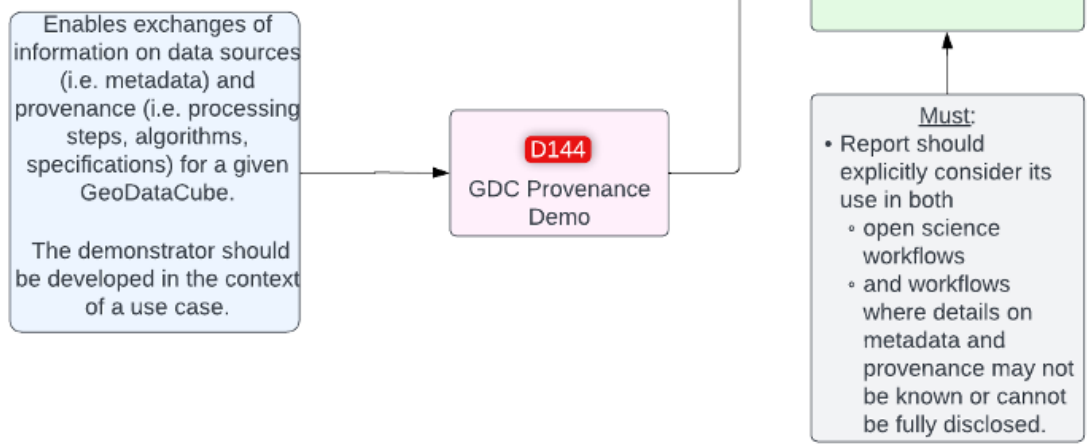
- New process available via the OpenEO clients
- Provide information about the available processes (e.g. HydroMT)
- Allow the user to specify input and output parameters
- Ongoing discussion about the process definition [available on GitHub](#)

# To be continued (EOEPCA+)



# To be continued ...

**Calling for Participation in Testbed-20**  
**Applications close June 10**  
 Open Geospatial Consortium



**Thanks for your attention**

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# Discovery

- Data Discovery via STAC
  - only Collections by default
  - can be extended to include Items
  - Commercial Data support (extension)
- File Formats (In & Out)
- Auth
  - Clients can „self-configure“
  - OpenID Connect (various flows/grants)
  - HTTP Basic
- Federation (extension)

The screenshot shows the OpenEO Web Editor interface. The top navigation bar includes the OpenEO logo and the text "Web Editor". The main content area is divided into two panels. The left panel displays a search results list with the following items:

- ADO\_REL\_RR\_12\_ERA5\_QM  
Precipitation Anomalies - ERA5\_QM REL\_RR-12
- ADO\_REL\_RR\_12\_ERA5\_QM\_ODC  
Precipitation Anomalies - ERA5\_QM REL\_RR-12
- ADO\_SM\_anomalies\_ERA5  
Soil Moisture Anomalies - ERA5\_QM
- ADO\_SPEI\_1\_ERA5\_QM  
Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index -
- ADO\_SPEI\_1\_ERA5\_QM\_ODC  
Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index -
- ADO\_SPEI\_2\_ERA5\_QM  
Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index -
- ADO\_SPEI\_2\_ERA5\_QM\_ODC  
Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index -
- ADO\_SPEI\_3\_ERA5\_QM  
Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index -
- ADO\_SPEI\_3\_ERA5\_QM\_ODC  
Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index -
- ADO\_SPEI\_6\_ERA5\_QM  
Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index -
- ADO\_SPEI\_6\_ERA5\_QM\_ODC  
Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index -
- ADO\_SPEI\_12\_ERA5\_QM  
Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index -
- ADO\_SPEI\_12\_ERA5\_QM\_ODC  
Standardised Precipitation-Evapotranspiration Index -
- ADO\_SPI\_1\_ERA5\_QM  
Standardised Precipitation Index - ERA5\_QM SPI-1
- ADO\_SPI\_1\_ERA5\_QM\_ODC  
Standardised Precipitation Index - ERA5\_QM SPI-1
- ADO\_SPI\_2\_ERA5\_QM  
Standardised Precipitation Index - ERA5\_QM SPI-2
- ADO\_SPI\_2\_ERA5\_QM\_ODC  
Standardised Precipitation Index - ERA5\_QM SPI-2

The right panel displays the details for the selected item, "ADO\_SPEI\_1\_ERA5\_QM\_ODC". It is divided into three sections:

- Spatial Extent:** A map showing the spatial extent of the data, covering Europe and North Africa. A 1000 km scale bar is visible.
- Temporal Extent:** 1/1/1979, 12:00:00 AM UTC until present
- Providers:** 1. Eurac EO ODC (HOST)
- Data Cube Dimensions:**

| DATE  | X SPATIAL   | Y SPATIAL              | bands          |
|---|---|------------------------|----------------|
| TEMPORAL  | Axis: X   | Axis: Y                | BANDS          |
| Labels: 1/1/1979, 12:00:00 AM UTC until present | Labels: 3.1520881351 - 17.360182784250.3425064487 | Labels: 42.826736344 - | Labels: SPEI_1 |
| Reference System: 4326                          | Reference System: 4326                            |                        |                |



# Processes

- Pre-defined processes
  - processes.openeo.org (150+)
  - Can be customized (e.g. remove a parameter)
  - JSON Schema
- User-defined processes
  - Combine processes to a new process (like functions in programming)
  - Parameters
  - Metadata
- User-defined Functions
  - Run custom code (e.g. in Python, R)
  - Runtimes (e.g. Python 3.10 with xarray and geopandas)
  - Docker Images

## openEO processes (1.2.0)

Search in processes



- **Aggregate & Resample (8)**
- **Ard (2)**
- **Arrays (19)**
- **Climatology (3)**
- **Comparison (16)**
- **Cubes (41)**
  - **add\_dimension**  
Add a new dimension
  - **aggregate\_spatial**  
Zonal statistics for geometries
  - **aggregate\_spatial\_window**  
Zonal statistics for rectangular windows
  - **aggregate\_temporal**  
Temporal aggregations
  - **aggregate\_temporal\_period**  
Temporal aggregations based on calendar hierarchies
  - **apply**  
Apply a process to each pixel
  - **apply\_dimension**  
Apply a process to pixels along a dimension
  - **apply\_kernel**  
Apply a spatial convolution with a kernel
  - **apply\_neighborhood**  
Apply a process to pixels in a n-dimensional neighborhood
  - **ard\_normalized\_radar\_backscatter**  
CARD4L compliant SAR NRB generation
  - **ard\_surface\_reflectance**  
CARD4L compliant Surface Reflectance generation
  - **atmospheric\_correction**  
Apply atmospheric correction
  - **cloud\_detection**  
Create cloud masks
  - **create\_raster\_cube**  
Create an empty raster data cube
  - **dimension\_labels**  
Get the dimension labels
  - **drop\_dimension**  
Remove a dimension
  - **filter\_bands**

## absolute 📄

Absolute value

MATH

### Description

`absolute(number|null x) : number|null`

Computes the absolute value of a real number  $x$ , which is the  
The no-data value `null` is passed through and therefore gets

### Parameters

**X\***

A number.

Data type: **number, null**

### Return Value

The computed absolute value.

Data type: **number, null**

Minimum value (inclusive): 0

### Examples

#### Example #1

```
absolute(x = 0) => 0
```

#### Example #2

```
absolute(x = 3.5) => 3.5
```

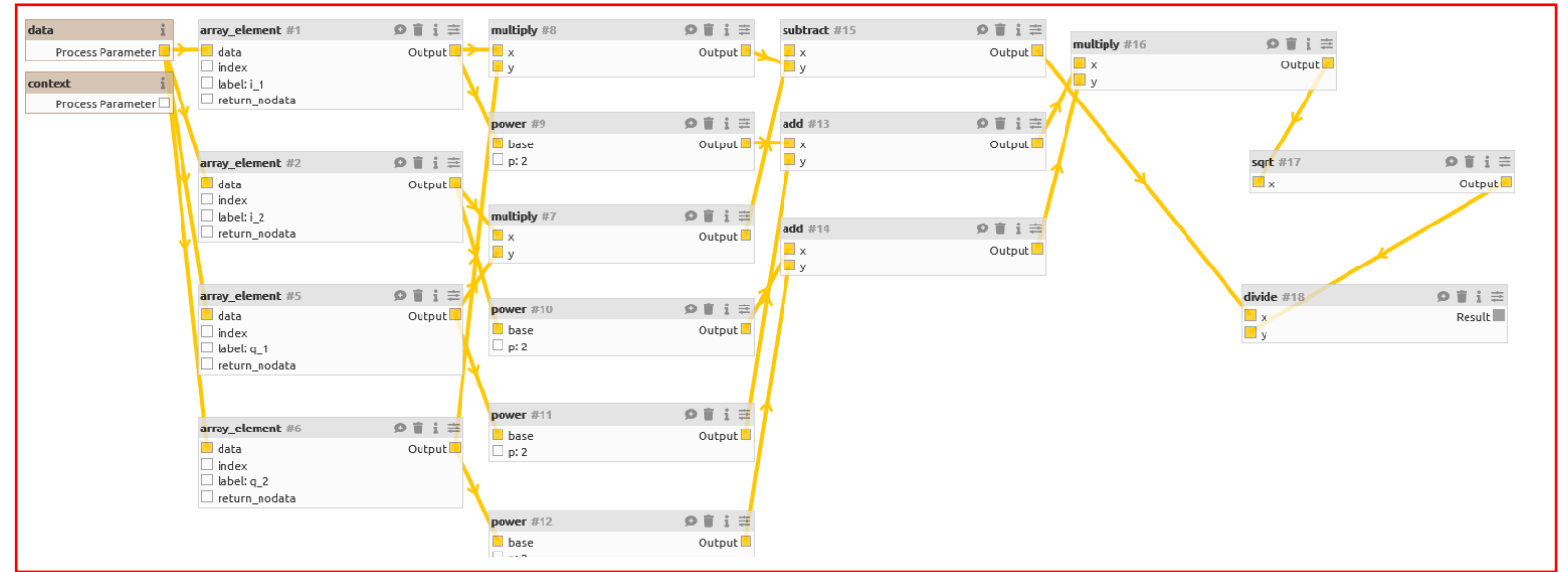
#### Example #3

# Process: Process Graphs

## Insert Formula

```
1 ($i_2 * $q_1 - $i_1 * $q_2) / sqrt((($i_1^2 + $q_1^2) * ($i_2^2 + $q_2^2)))
```

Above you can insert a mathematical formula and it will be converted to openEO code for you.



**S1\_SLC\_track117 #MASTER**

- spatial\_extent
- temporal\_extent: List(2)
- bands: [VH\_q, VH\_i]

Loading the data; The order of the specified bands is important for the following reduce operation.

**rename\_labels #3**

- data
- dimension: bands
- target: [q\_1, i\_1]
- source: [VH\_q, VH\_i]

**S1\_SLC\_track117 #SLAVE**

- spatial\_extent
- temporal\_extent: List(2)
- bands: [VH\_q, VH\_i]

Loading the data; The order of the specified bands is important for the following reduce operation.

**rename\_labels #4**

- data
- dimension: bands
- target: [q\_2, i\_2]
- source: [VH\_q, VH\_i]

**merge\_cubes #19**

- cube1
- cube2

**reduce\_dimension #coh\_imag**

- data
- reducer: Process
- dimension: bands
- context

**rename\_labels #23**

- data
- dimension: bands
- target: [COH\_q]
- source: List(0)

**reduce\_dimension #coh\_real**

- data
- reducer: Process
- dimension: bands
- context

**rename\_labels #20**

- data
- dimension: bands
- target: [COH\_i]
- source: List(0)

**merge\_cubes #24**

- cube1
- cube2

**reduce\_dimension #MAGNITUDE**

- data
- reducer: Process
- dimension: bands
- context

**save\_result #27**

- data
- format: GTiff
- options

**STAC**

# Python Client

```
import openeo

con = openeo.connect("openeo.cloud")
s2_radio = con.datacube(
    "SENTINEL2_L2A",
    spatial_extent = {
        "west": 16.1, "east": 16.6, "north": 48.6, "south": 47.2
    },
    temporal_extent = ["2018-01-01", "2018-02-01"]
)

blue = s2_radio.band("B02")
red = s2_radio.band("B04")
nir = s2_radio.band("B08")
evi_cube = (2.5 * (nir - red)) / ((nir + 6.0 * red - 7.5 * blue) + 1.0)

evi_cube.reduce("t", "min")
    .save_result("GTiff")
```

# R Client

```
library(openeo)
```

```
con = connect(host = "openeo.cloud")
```

```
cube = con$processes()
```

```
data = cube$load_collection(
```

```
  „SENTINEL2_L2A“,
```

```
  spatial_extent = list(west=16.1, east=16.6, north=48.6, south= 47.2),
```

```
  temporal_extent = list("2018-04-01", "2018-05-01")
```

```
)
```

```
data = cube$reduce(data = data, dimension = "bands", reducer = function(x) {
```

```
  B08 = x["B8"]
```

```
  B04 = x["B4"]
```

```
  B02 = x["B2"]
```

```
  (2.5 * (B08 - B04)) / sum(B08, 6 * B04, -7.5 * B02, 1)
```

```
})
```

```
data = cube$reduce(data = data, dimension = "t", reducer = min)
```

```
cube$save_result(data = data, format = "GTiff")
```

## ► Collections

### ▼ Processes

**absolute** +  
Absolute value

**add\_dimension** +  
Add a new dimension

**apply** +  
Applies a unary process to each pixel

**arccos** +  
Inverse cosine

**arcsin** +  
Inverse sine

**arctan** +  
Inverse tangent

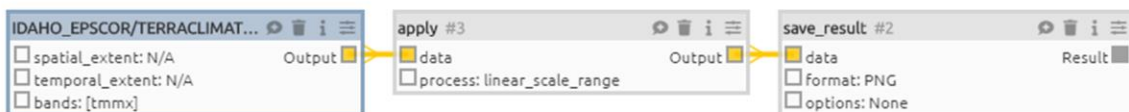
**array\_element** +  
Get an element from an array

**ceil** +  
Round fractions up

**clip** +  
Clips a value between a minimum and a maximum value.

**cos** +  
Cosine

Visual Model </> Process Graph



Batch Jobs ☁ Web Services ? Process Graphs 📁 Files

+ Add ↻  ✕

| Title        | Status | Submitted           | Last update         | Actions   |
|--------------|--------|---------------------|---------------------|---|
| L8 Australia | error  | 2019-09-05 02:03:07 | 2019-09-05 02:03:07 | <span>?</span> <span>📁</span> <span>✎</span> <span>↻</span> <span>🗑</span> <span>▶</span> |

Map

