

Writing workflows in AiiDA

A short introduction to AiiDA's engine

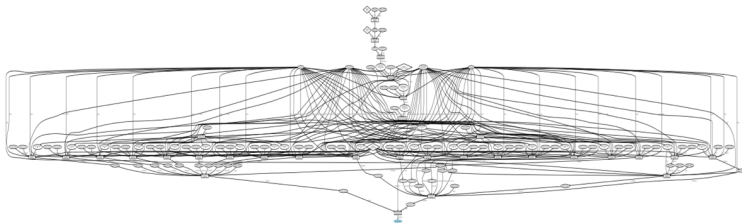
Sebastiaan Huber

AiiDA Workflow Tutorial May 22nd 2019



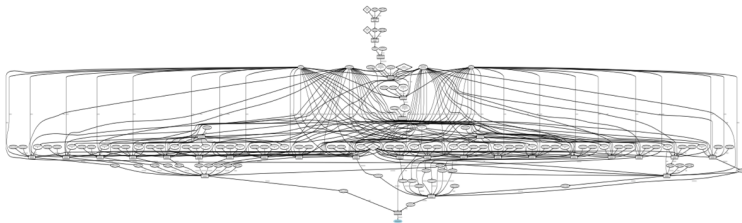
Keeping data provenance is important...

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... but imagine having to manually link everything up

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AiiDA **Automated** Interactive Infrastructure and Database

AUTOMATED PROVENANCE: CALCULATIONS

Imagine the following simple arithmetic problem:

Add two numbers and multiply the sum by third

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def add(x, y):  
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... and pass storable data types when calling

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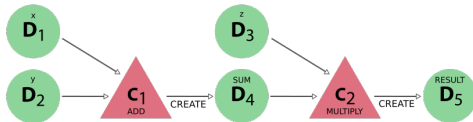
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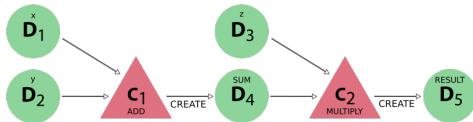
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Directed Acyclic Graph

- Directed: inputs go in, and outputs come out
- Acyclic: causality principle forbids an output being its own input

AUTOMATED PROVENANCE: EXTERNAL CODES

But not all code is well-suited as python code:

What about running codes external to AiiDA?

```
#!/bin/bash
# Read two integers from file 'aiida.in' and echo their sum
x=$(cat aiida.in | awk '{print $1}')
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Implementation is different, but running very similar...

```
from aiida.engine import run
from aiida.orm import load_code, Int
from aiida.plugins import CalculationFactory

ArithmeticAddCalculation = CalculationFactory('arithmetic.add')

inputs = {
    'code': load_code('add@localhost'),
    'x': Int(1),
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}

run(ArithmeticAddCalculation, **inputs)
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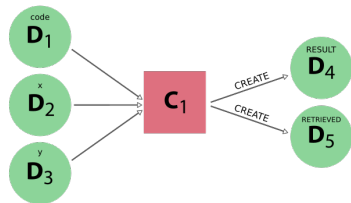
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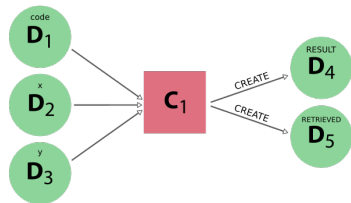
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Generated provenance similar to that of calculation function



- Can be run on remote machines through job scheduler
- Implementation independent of job scheduler
- To change machine, just change the 'code' input
- Implementation focus of one of work groups tomorrow

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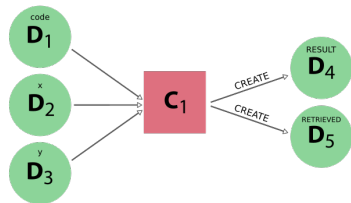
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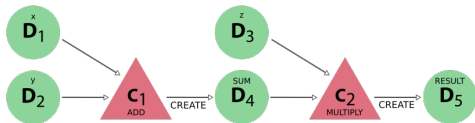
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Let's go back to our add-multiply example



Individual sequence of calculations recorded...

... but not the 'how' or 'why'

AUTOMATED PROVENANCE: WORKFLOWS

Work function can be used to store *logical* provenance

```
from aiida.engine import calcfunction, workfunction
from aiida.orm import Int

@calcfunction
def add(x, y):
    return Int(x + y)

@calcfunction
def multiply(x, y):
    return Int(x * y)

@workfunction
def add_and_multiply(x, y, z):
    sum = add(x, y)
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result = add_and_multiply(Int(1), Int(2), Int(3))
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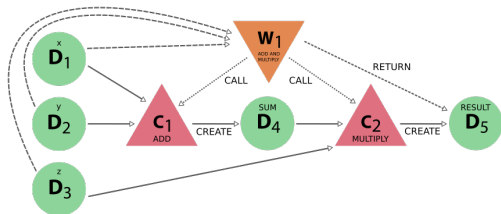
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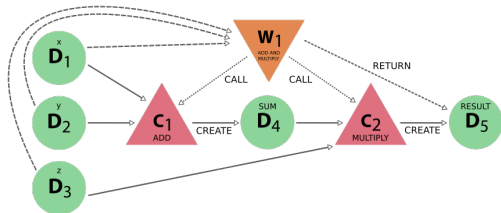
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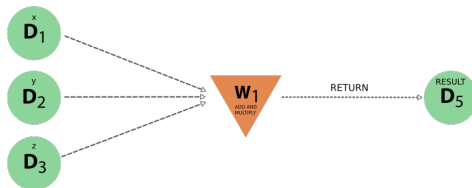
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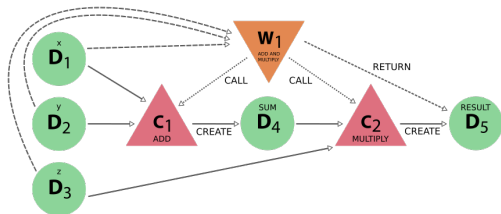
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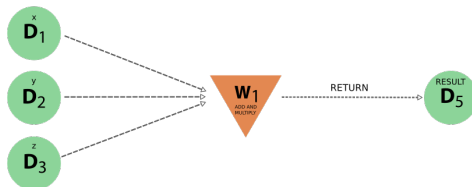
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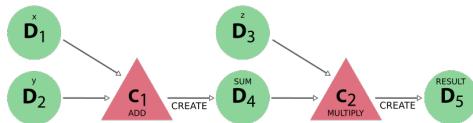
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Logical provenance allows to 'hide' complexity



Or by ignoring it, retrieve the original data provenance



AUTOMATED PROVENANCE: WORKFLOWS

Work chains achieve the same but save progress in between steps

```
from aiida.engine import WorkChain, calcfunction
from aiida.orm import Int

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def add(x, y):
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class AddAndMultiplyWorkChain(WorkChain):

    @classmethod
    def define(cls, spec):
        super(AddAndMultiplyWorkChain, cls).define(spec)
        spec.input('x')
        spec.input('y')
        spec.input('z')
        spec.outline(
            cls.add,
            cls.multiply,
            cls.results,
        )
        spec.output('result')

    def add(self):
        self.ctx.sum = add(self.inputs.x, self.inputs.y)

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        self.ctx.product = multiply(self.ctx.sum, self.inputs.z)

    def results(self):
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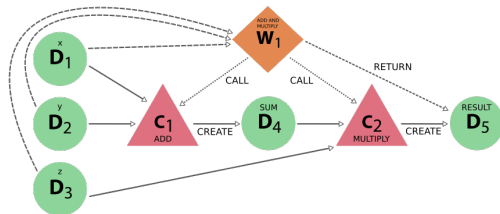
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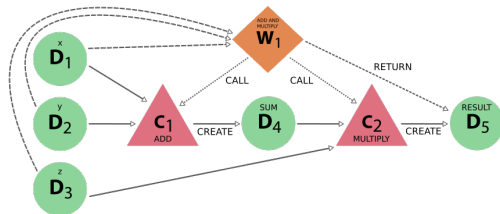
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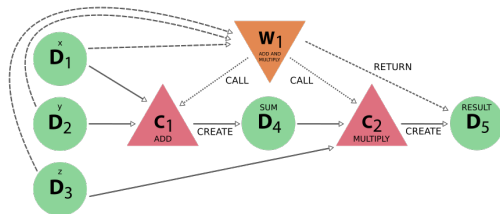
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Only difference with work function solution is node type



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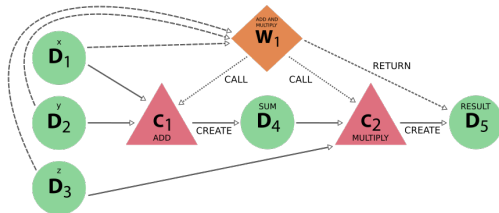
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Many advantages over work function

- Can be submitted to the daemon
- Progress is saved between steps in checkpoints
- Process specification gives succinct but clear summary
- Captures the scientific knowledge and can be re-run
- Can be re-used as building block in more complex workflows

AUTOMATED PROVENANCE: LOSING PROVENANCE

Workflows cannot *create* new data.

Doing so anyway, will cause loss of provenance

Take first example: add two numbers and multiply with third...

... but now compute the product *inside* the work function

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result = add_and_multiply(Int(1), Int(2), Int(3))
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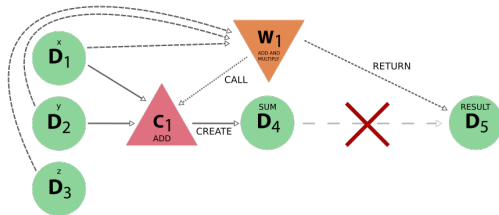
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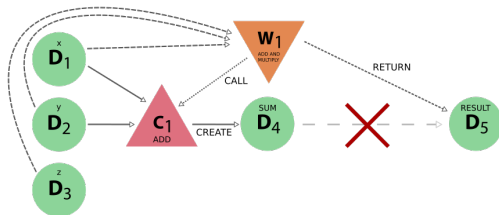
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Why don't we just give the workflows the power to **create**?

WHY A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN CALCULATIONS AND WORKFLOWS?

Since workflows can return, they can also return their inputs

```
from aiida.engine import workfunction
from aiida.orm import Int

@workfunction
def maximum(x, y, z):
    return sorted([x, y, z])[-1]

result = maximum(Int(1), Int(2), Int(3))
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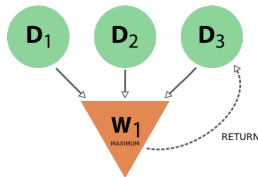
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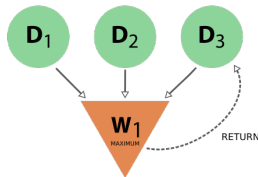
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Two clearly distinct types of processes

CALCULATIONS

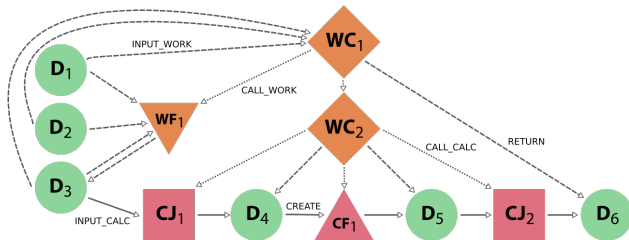
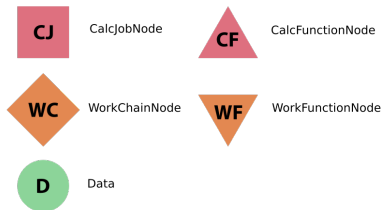
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WORKFLOWS

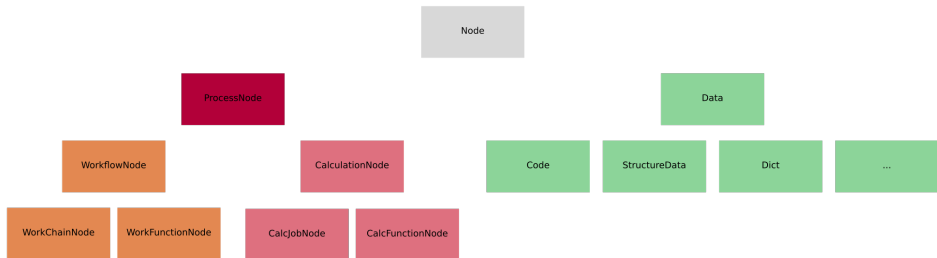
Can *call* other processes

Can *return* existing data

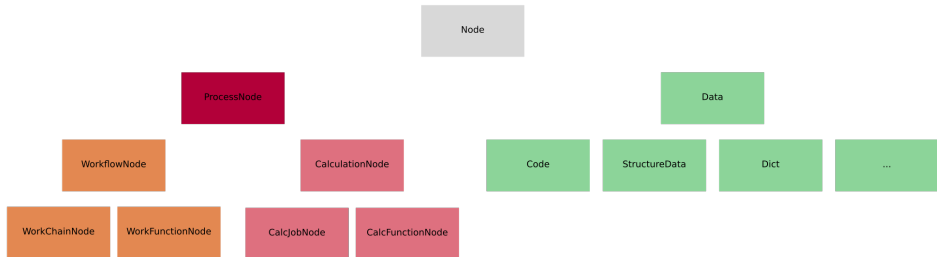
Provenance Graph



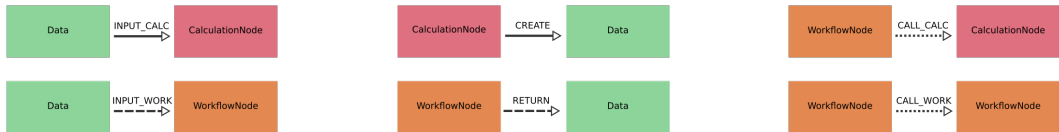
ORM Hierarchy



ORM Hierarchy



Link Hierarchy



ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

New processes to define calculations and workflows

Process class	Node class	Used for
CalcJob	CalcJobNode	Calculations performed by external codes
WorkChain	WorkChainNode	Workflows that run multiple sub processes
FunctionProcess	CalcFunctionNode	Python functions decorated with the <code>calcfunction</code> decorator
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PROCESS STATE

Active	Terminated
Created	Killed
Running	Excepted
Waiting	Finished

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

New processes to define calculations and workflows

Process class	Node class	Used for
CalcJob	CalcJobNode	Calculations performed by external codes
WorkChain	WorkChainNode	Workflows that run multiple sub processes
FunctionProcess	CalcFunctionNode	Python functions decorated with the <code>calcfunction</code> decorator
FunctionProcess	WorkFunctionNode	Python functions decorated with the <code>workfunction</code> decorator

PROCESS STATE

Active	Terminated
Created	Killed
Running	Excepted
Waiting	Finished

PROCESS NODE ATTRIBUTES

Property	Meaning
<code>process_state</code>	Returns the current process state
<code>exit_status</code>	Returns the exit status, or None if not set
<code>exit_message</code>	Returns the exit message, or None if not set
<code>is_terminated</code>	Returns True if the process was either Killed, Excepted or Finished
<code>is_killed</code>	Returns True if the process is Killed
<code>is_excepted</code>	Returns True if the process is Excepted
<code>is_finished</code>	Returns True if the process is Finished
<code>is_finished_ok</code>	Returns True if the process is Finished and the <code>exit_status</code> is equal to zero
<code>is_failed</code>	Returns True if the process is Finished and the <code>exit_status</code> is non-zero

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

Four processes launchers with identical interface

<code>run</code>	Run blockingly and return result
<code>run_get_node</code>	Run blockingly and return result + node
<code>run_get_pk</code>	Run blockingly and return result + pk
<code>submit</code>	Submit to daemon and return node

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

Four processes launchers with identical interface

<code>run</code>	Run blockingly and return result
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<code>submit</code>	Submit to daemon and return node

Submit to the daemon

```
from aiida import orm
from aiida.engine import submit

ArithmeticAddCalculation = CalculationFactory('arithmetic.add')
node = submit(ArithmeticAddCalculation, x=orm.Int(1), y=orm.Int(2))
```

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

Four processes launchers with identical interface

<code>run</code>	Run blockingly and return result
<code>run_get_node</code>	Run blockingly and return result + node
<code>run_get_pk</code>	Run blockingly and return result + pk
<code>submit</code>	Submit to daemon and return node

Run blockingly in local interpreter

```
from aiida import orm
from aiida.engine import run

ArithmeticAddCalculation = CalculationFactory('arithmetic.add')
result = run(ArithmeticAddCalculation, x=orm.Int(1), y=orm.Int(2))
```

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

Four processes launchers with identical interface

<code>run</code>	Run blockingly and return result
<code>run_get_node</code>	Run blockingly and return result + node
<code>run_get_pk</code>	Run blockingly and return result + pk
<code>submit</code>	Submit to daemon and return node

Run variants to get the process node or pk in addition to the result

```
from aiida import orm
from aiida.engine import run_get_node, run_get_pk

ArithmeticAddCalculation = CalculationFactory('arithmetic.add')
result, node = run_get_node(ArithmeticAddCalculation, x=orm.Int(1), y=orm.Int(2))
result, pk = run_get_pk(ArithmeticAddCalculation, x=orm.Int(1), y=orm.Int(2))
```

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

Four processes launchers with identical interface

<code>run</code>	Run blockingly and return result
<code>run_get_node</code>	Run blockingly and return result + node
<code>run_get_pk</code>	Run blockingly and return result + pk
<code>submit</code>	Submit to daemon and return node

Variants are available as attributes on `run` launcher requiring only single import

```
from aiida import orm
from aiida.engine import run

ArithmeticAddCalculation = CalculationFactory('arithmetic.add')
result = run(ArithmeticAddCalculation, x=orm.Int(1), y=orm.Int(2))
result, node = run.get_node(ArithmeticAddCalculation, x=orm.Int(1), y=orm.Int(2))
result, pk = run.get_pk(ArithmeticAddCalculation, x=orm.Int(1), y=orm.Int(2))
```

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

Four processes launchers with identical interface

<code>run</code>	Run blockingly and return result
<code>run_get_node</code>	Run blockingly and return result + node
<code>run_get_pk</code>	Run blockingly and return result + pk
<code>submit</code>	Submit to daemon and return node

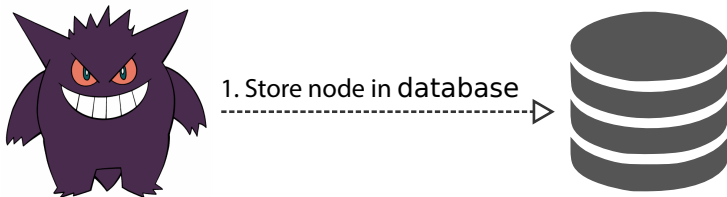
Syntactic keyword expansion for big input dictionaries

```
from aiida import orm
from aiida.engine import submit

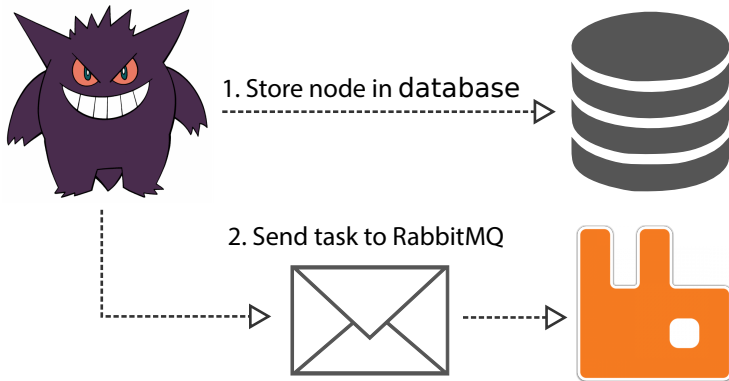
ArithmeticAddCalculation = CalculationFactory('arithmetic.add')
inputs = {
    'x': orm.Int(1),
    'y': orm.Int(2)
}
node = submit(ArithmeticAddCalculation, **inputs)
```

What happens when we submit a process?

What happens when we submit a process?

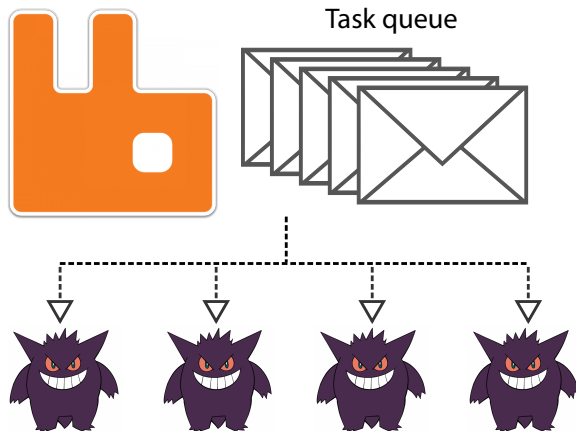


What happens when we submit a process?



What happens with those tasks?

What happens with those tasks?



The promise of RabbitMQ

- All tasks are persisted to disk
- Each task is guaranteed to be delivered
- Each task is guaranteed to be sent to only one listener at a time
- Each task is guaranteed to be completed





The promise of RabbitMQ

- All tasks are persisted to disk
- Each task is guaranteed to be delivered
- Each task is guaranteed to be sent to only one listener at a time
- Each task is guaranteed to be completed

This ensures that:

1. We can run multiple processes in parallel independently
2. Each launched task or "process" will eventually be completed

No matter what happens

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

verdi process: your one-stop-shop for inspecting and interacting with processes

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

verdi process: your one-stop-shop for inspecting and interacting with processes

`verdi process list`: list active and terminated processes

```
(aiida_3dd) aiida@theosrv5:~/code/aiida/env/3dd$ verdi process list -l 10
```

PK	Created	State	Process label	Process status
1285287	2D ago	▶ Waiting	PwRelaxWorkChain	
1285535	2D ago	▶ Waiting	PwRelaxWorkChain	
1286517	2D ago	▶ Waiting	PwRelaxWorkChain	
1286913	2D ago	▶ Waiting	PwRelaxWorkChain	
1287288	2D ago	▶ Waiting	PwBaseWorkChain	
1287486	2D ago	▶ Waiting	PwRelaxWorkChain	
1287517	2D ago	▶ Waiting	PwBaseWorkChain	
1287937	2D ago	▶ Waiting	PwRelaxWorkChain	
1289927	2D ago	▶ Waiting	PwCalculation	Waiting for transport task: update
1291148	2D ago	▶ Waiting	PwBaseWorkChain	

Total results: 10

Info: last time an entry changed state: 43s ago (at 11:09:50 on 2019-03-22)

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

verdi process: your one-stop-shop for inspecting and interacting with processes

`verdi process status`: tree representation of call stack

```
(aiida_3dd) aiida@theosrv5:~/code/aiida/env/3dd$ verdi process status 1338418
PwRelaxWorkChain <pk=1338418> [ProcessState.FINISHED] [3:results]
├── PwBaseWorkChain <pk=1338525> [ProcessState.FINISHED] [4:results]
│   ├── create_kpoints_from_distance <pk=1338529> [ProcessState.FINISHED]
│   └── CalcJobNode <pk=1338569> [FINISHED]
├── PwBaseWorkChain <pk=1341443> [ProcessState.FINISHED] [4:results]
│   ├── create_kpoints_from_distance <pk=1341445> [ProcessState.FINISHED]
│   └── CalcJobNode <pk=1341463> [FINISHED]
└── PwBaseWorkChain <pk=1341701> [ProcessState.FINISHED] [4:results]
    ├── create_kpoints_from_distance <pk=1341703> [ProcessState.FINISHED]
    └── CalcJobNode <pk=1341730> [FINISHED]
```

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

verdi process: your one-stop-shop for inspecting and interacting with processes

`verdi process report`: complete report of log messages and scheduler stdout/stderr

```
(aiida_3dd) aiida@theosrv5:~/code/aiida/env/3dd$ verdi process report 1338418
2019-03-22 05:26:39 [553130] REPORT: [1338418|PwRelaxWorkChain|run_relax]: launching PwBaseWorkChain<1338525>
2019-03-22 05:28:02 [553147] REPORT: [1338525|PwBaseWorkChain|run_calculation]: launching PwCalculation<1338569> iteration #1
2019-03-22 07:45:52 [554706] REPORT: [1338525|PwBaseWorkChain|inspect_calculation]: PwCalculation<1338569> completed successfully
2019-03-22 07:45:52 [554707] REPORT: [1338525|PwBaseWorkChain|results]: workchain completed after 1 iterations
2019-03-22 07:45:52 [554708] REPORT: [1338525|PwBaseWorkChain|on_terminated]: remote folders will not be cleaned
2019-03-22 07:45:53 [554709] REPORT: [1338418|PwRelaxWorkChain|inspect_relax]: after iteration 1 cell volume of relaxed structure is 427.27585978
2019-03-22 07:45:54 [554710] REPORT: [1338418|PwRelaxWorkChain|run_relax]: launching PwBaseWorkChain<1341443>
2019-03-22 07:47:21 [554713] REPORT: [1341443|PwBaseWorkChain|run_calculation]: launching PwCalculation<1341463> iteration #1
2019-03-22 08:00:47 [554854] REPORT: [1341443|PwBaseWorkChain|inspect_calculation]: PwCalculation<1341463> completed successfully
2019-03-22 08:00:47 [554855] REPORT: [1341443|PwBaseWorkChain|results]: workchain completed after 1 iterations
2019-03-22 08:00:47 [554856] REPORT: [1341443|PwBaseWorkChain|on_terminated]: remote folders will not be cleaned
2019-03-22 08:00:48 [554857] REPORT: [1338418|PwRelaxWorkChain|inspect_relax]: after iteration 2 cell volume of relaxed structure is 427.27585977
2019-03-22 08:00:48 [554858] REPORT: [1338418|PwRelaxWorkChain|inspect_relax]: relative cell volume difference 5.54830030607e-12 smaller than convergence threshold 0.01
2019-03-22 08:00:49 [554859] REPORT: [1338418|PwRelaxWorkChain|run_final_scf]: launching PwBaseWorkChain<1341701> for final scf
2019-03-22 08:02:13 [554881] REPORT: [1341701|PwBaseWorkChain|run_calculation]: launching PwCalculation<1341730> iteration #1
2019-03-22 08:11:19 [554931] REPORT: [1341701|PwBaseWorkChain|inspect_calculation]: PwCalculation<1341730> completed successfully
2019-03-22 08:11:19 [554932] REPORT: [1341701|PwBaseWorkChain|results]: workchain completed after 1 iterations
2019-03-22 08:11:19 [554933] REPORT: [1341701|PwBaseWorkChain|on_terminated]: remote folders will not be cleaned
2019-03-22 08:11:20 [554934] REPORT: [1338418|PwRelaxWorkChain|results]: workchain completed after 2 iterations
2019-03-22 08:11:30 [554935] REPORT: [1338418|PwRelaxWorkChain|on_terminated]: cleaned remote folders of calculations: 1341730 1341463 1338569
```

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

verdi process: your one-stop-shop for inspecting and interacting with processes

`verdi process pause`: pause an active process

```
(aiida_dev) sphuber@theos:~$ verdi process pause 804  
Success: scheduled pause Process<804>
```

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

verdi process: your one-stop-shop for inspecting and interacting with processes

`verdi process pause`: pause an active process

```
(aiida_dev) sphuber@theos:~$ verdi process pause 804  
Success: scheduled pause Process<804>
```

`verdi process play`: resume a paused process

```
(aiida_dev) sphuber@theos:~$ verdi process play 812  
Success: scheduled play Process<812>
```

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

verdi process: your one-stop-shop for inspecting and interacting with processes

`verdi process pause`: pause an active process

```
(aiida_dev) sphuber@theos:~$ verdi process pause 804  
Success: scheduled pause Process<804>
```

`verdi process play`: resume a paused process

```
(aiida_dev) sphuber@theos:~$ verdi process play 812  
Success: scheduled play Process<812>
```

`verdi process kill`: kill an active process

```
(aiida_dev) sphuber@theos:~$ verdi process kill 820  
Success: scheduled kill Process<820>
```

ENGINE: EVERYTHING IS A PROCESS

verdi process: your one-stop-shop for inspecting and interacting with processes

`verdi process pause`: pause an active process

```
(aiida_dev) sphuber@theos:~$ verdi process pause 804  
Success: scheduled pause Process<804>
```

`verdi process play`: resume a paused process

```
(aiida_dev) sphuber@theos:~$ verdi process play 812  
Success: scheduled play Process<812>
```

`verdi process kill`: kill an active process

```
(aiida_dev) sphuber@theos:~$ verdi process kill 820  
Success: scheduled kill Process<820>
```

`verdi process pause/play/kill`: fails if process is already terminated

```
(aiida_dev) sphuber@theos:~$ verdi process kill 812  
Error: Process<812> is already terminated
```

Automatic retry for transport tasks with exponential backoff

```
(aiida_3dd) aiida@theosrv5:~/code/aiida/env/3dd$ verdi process list --paused
  PK  Created      State      Process label      Process status
-----
1343914  5h ago        ⏸ Waiting    PwCalculation      Pausing after failed transport task: retrieve_calculation failed 5 times consecutively

Total results: 1

Info: last time an entry changed state: 21s ago (at 16:10:08 on 2019-03-22)
```

ENGINE: ROBUSTNESS

Automatic retry for transport tasks with exponential backoff

```
(aiida_3dd) aiida@theosrv5:~/code/aiida/env/3dd$ verdi process list --paused
PK    Created      State      Process label      Process status
-----
1343914  5h ago          || Waiting  PwCalculation      Pausing after failed transport task: retrieve_calculation failed 5 times consecutively

Total results: 1

Info: last time an entry changed state: 21s ago (at 16:10:08 on 2019-03-22)
```

Rate limited connections to remote clusters per daemon worker

```
(aiida_3dd) aiida@theosrv5:~$ verdi computer configure show localhost
* safe_interval 0
```

ENGINE: ROBUSTNESS

Automatic retry for transport tasks with exponential backoff

```
(aiida_3dd) aiida@theosrv5:~/code/aiida/env/3dd$ verdi process list --paused
PK      Created      State      Process label      Process status
-----
1343914  5h ago           II Waiting  PwCalculation      Pausing after failed transport task: retrieve_calculation failed 5 times consecutively

Total results: 1

Info: last time an entry changed state: 21s ago (at 16:10:08 on 2019-03-22)
```

Rate limited connections to remote clusters per daemon worker

```
(aiida_3dd) aiida@theosrv5:~$ verdi computer configure show localhost
* safe_interval 0
```

Rate limited scheduler state queries per daemon worker

```
(aiida_3dd) aiida@theosrv5:~$ verdi shell

In [1]: from aiida.orm import Computer

In [2]: computer = Computer.get(name='localhost')

In [3]: computer.get_minimum_job_poll_interval()
Out[3]: 30

In [4]: computer.set_minimum_job_poll_interval(60)

In [5]: computer.get_minimum_job_poll_interval()
Out[5]: 60
```

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FIN