



Wf4Ever: Advanced Workflow Preservation Technologies for Enhanced Science

Grant agreement no.: 27092

Data Curation & Preservation Session

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IAA-CSIC

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IVOA 2010 Fall Interoperability Meeting - Nara





1. Intelligent Software Components (**ISOCO**, Spain)
2. University of Manchester (**UNIMAN**, UK)
3. Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (**UPM**, Spain)
4. Poznan Supercomputing and Networking Centre (**PSNC**, Poland)
5. University of Oxford (**OXF**, UK)
6. Instituto de Astrofísica de Andalucía (**IAA**, Spain)
7. Leiden University Medical Centre (**LUMC**, NL)



The University
of Manchester



Partners

- » One SME
- » Six public organizations

Technological Core Competencies

- » Digital Libraries
- » Workflow Management
- » Semantic Web
- » Integrity & Authenticity
- » Provenance

Major Sectors

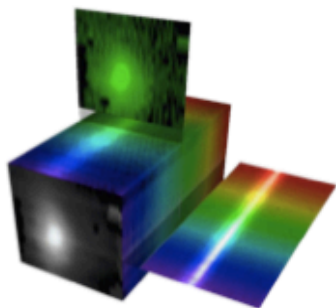
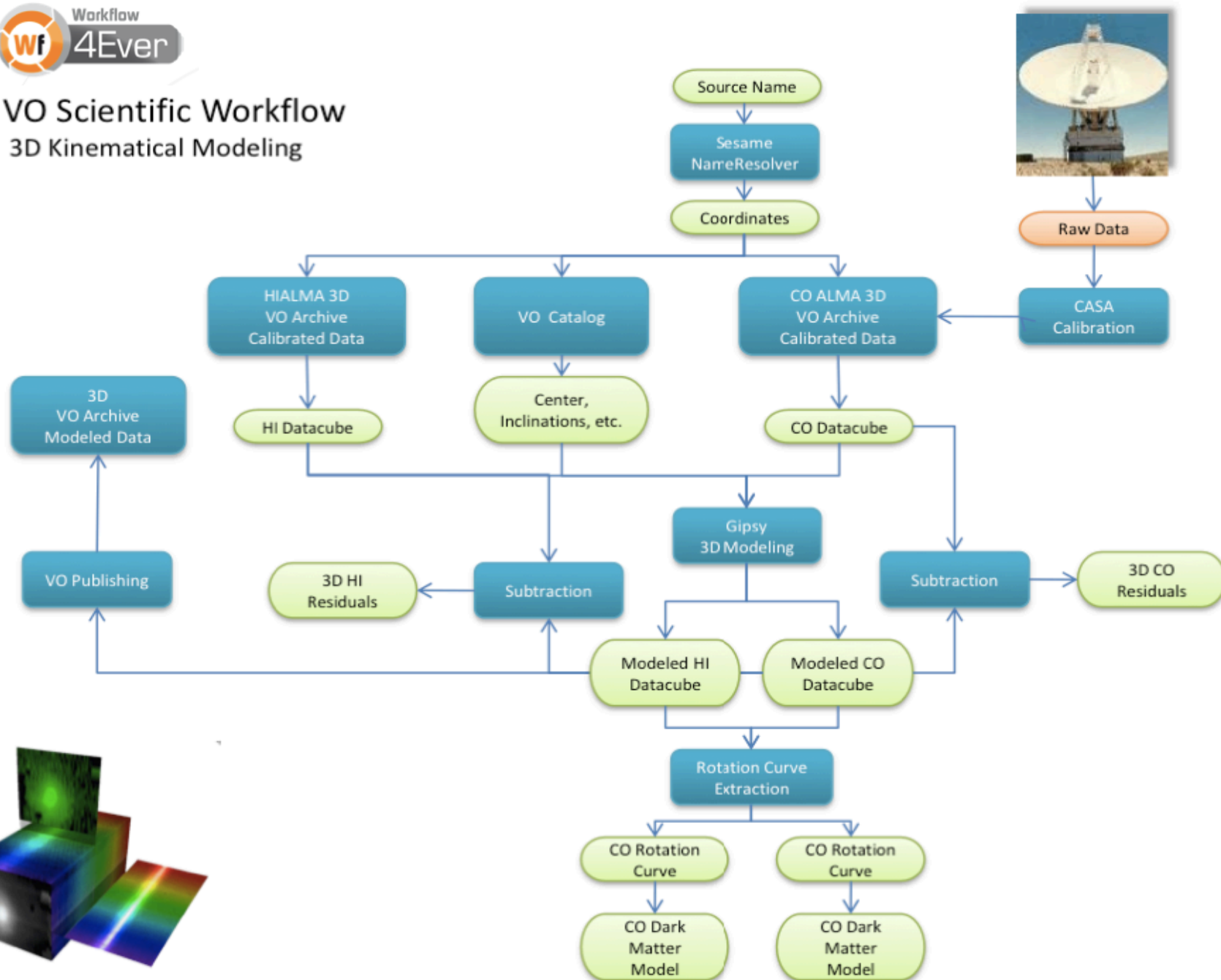
- » Education
- » IT
- » Astronomy
- » Bioinformatics

Case Studies

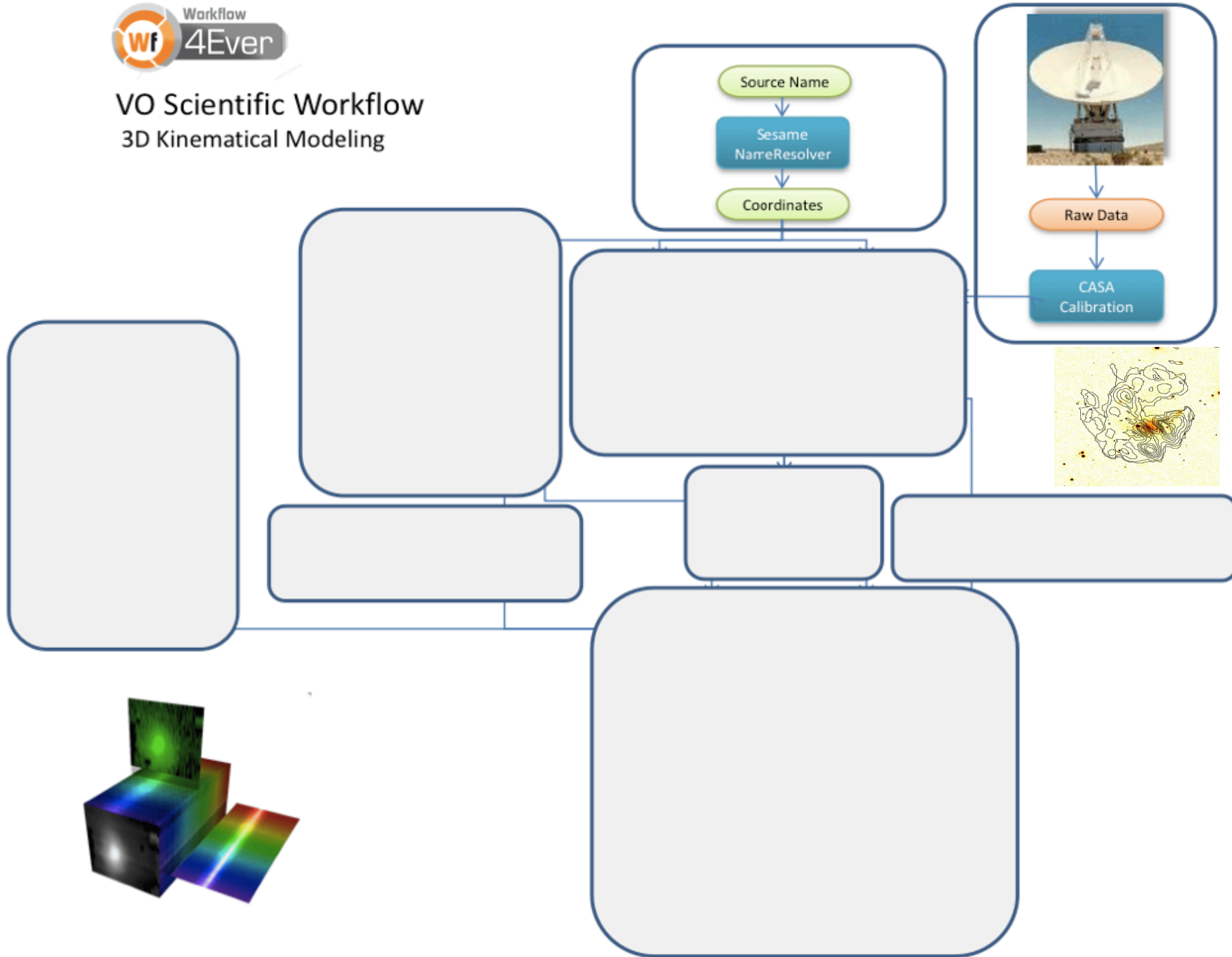
- » Workflow Preservation in Astronomy (IAA)
- » Workflow Preservation for Genome-wide Analysis and Biobanking (LUMC)

VO Scientific Workflow

3D Kinematical Modeling

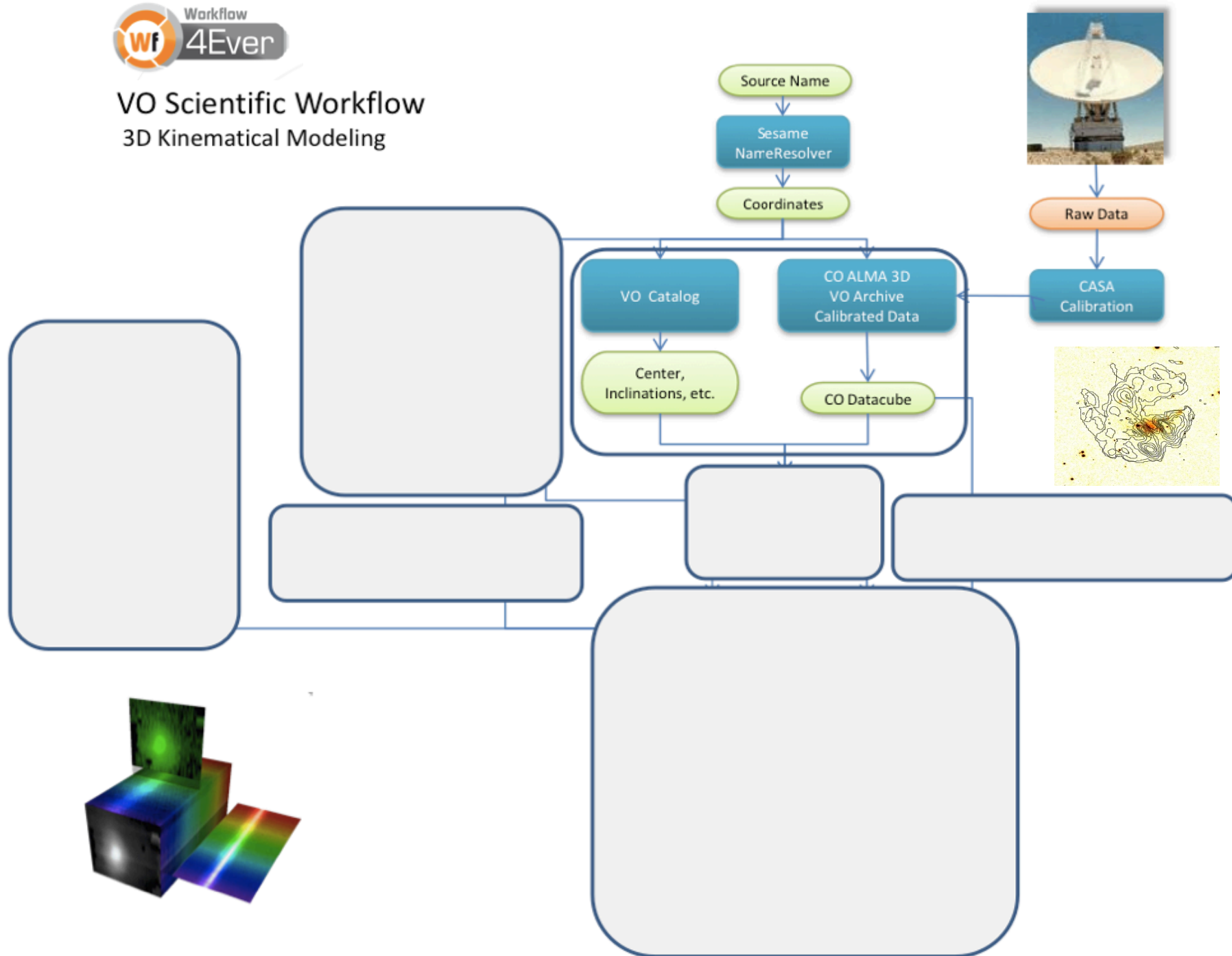


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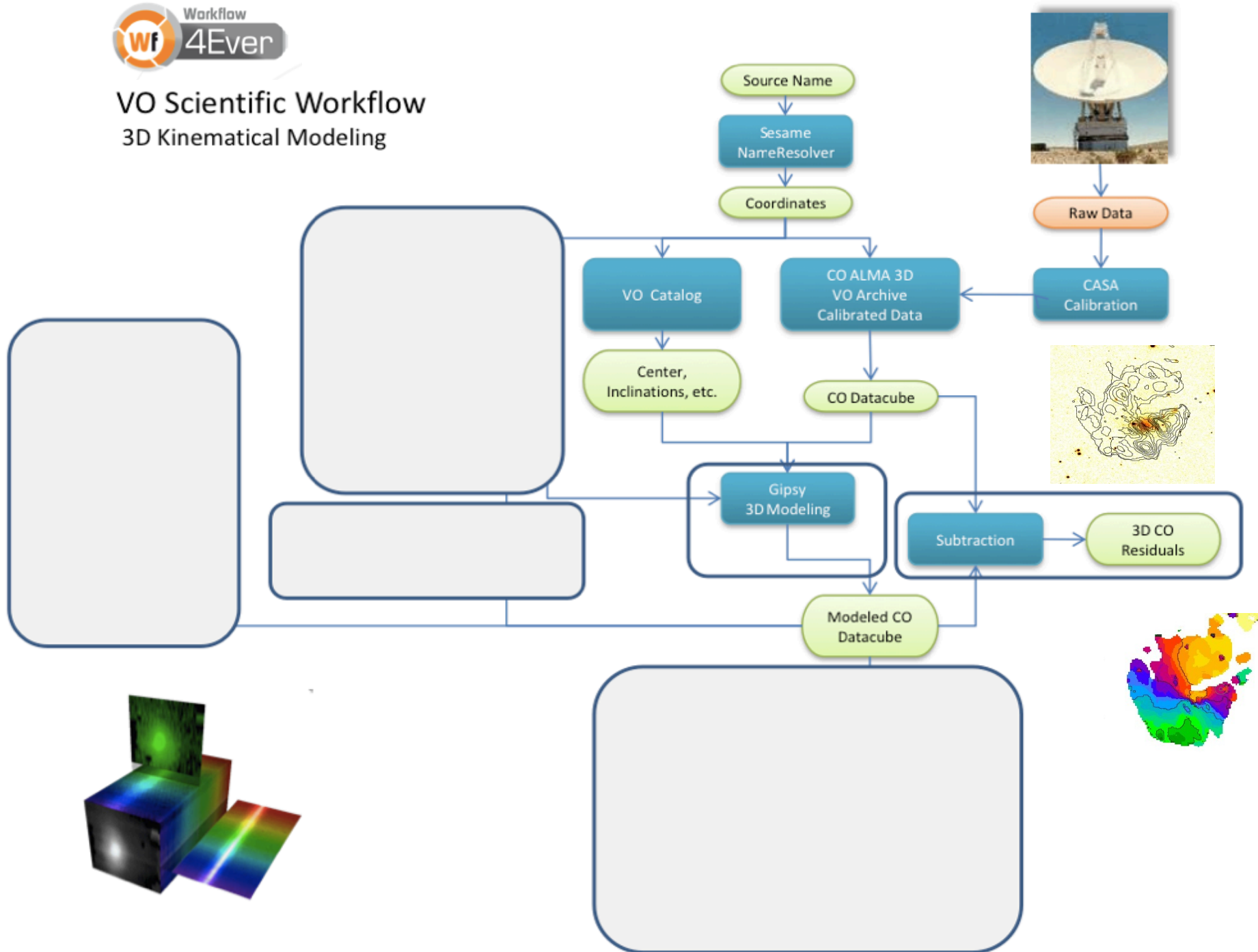
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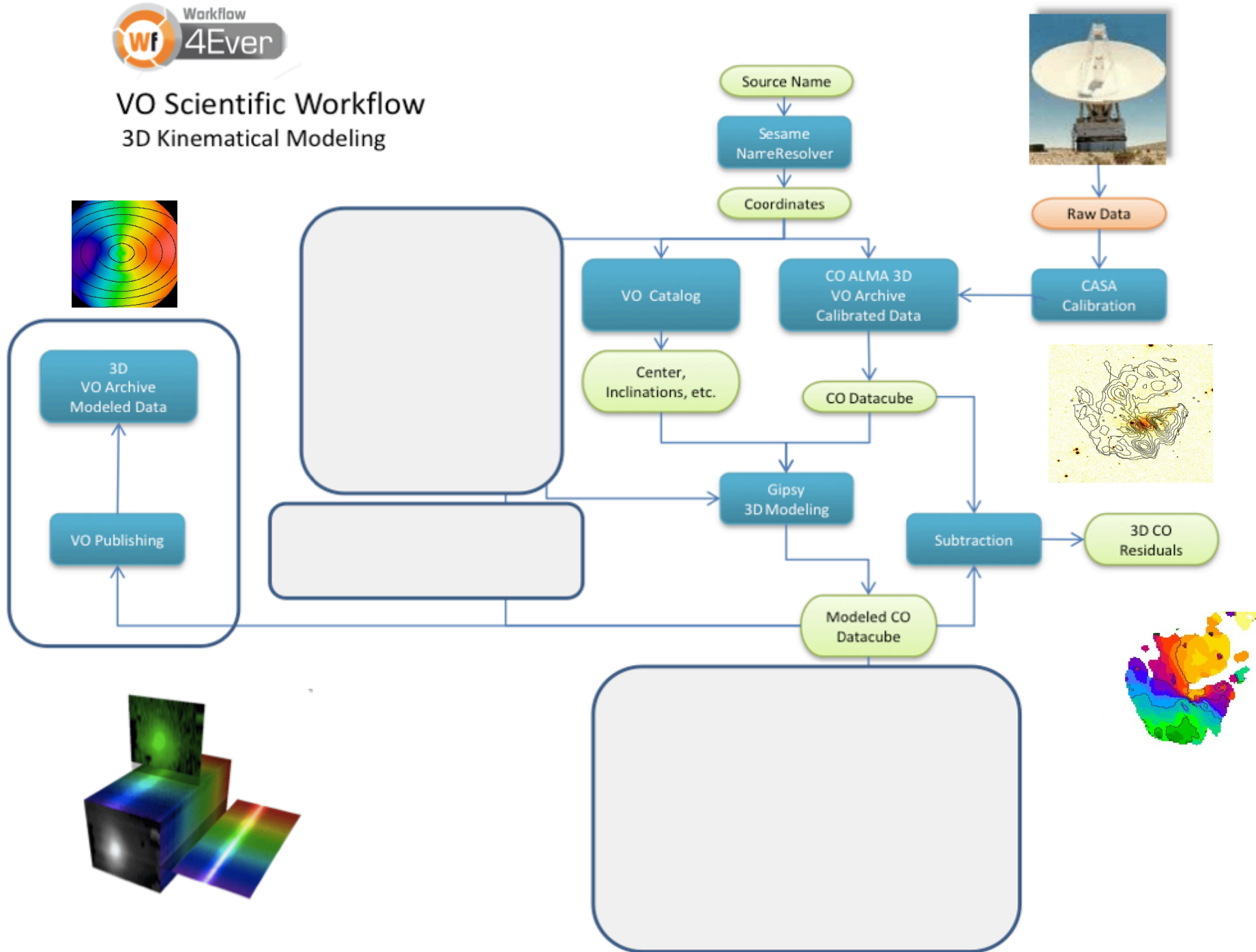


VO Scientific Workflow

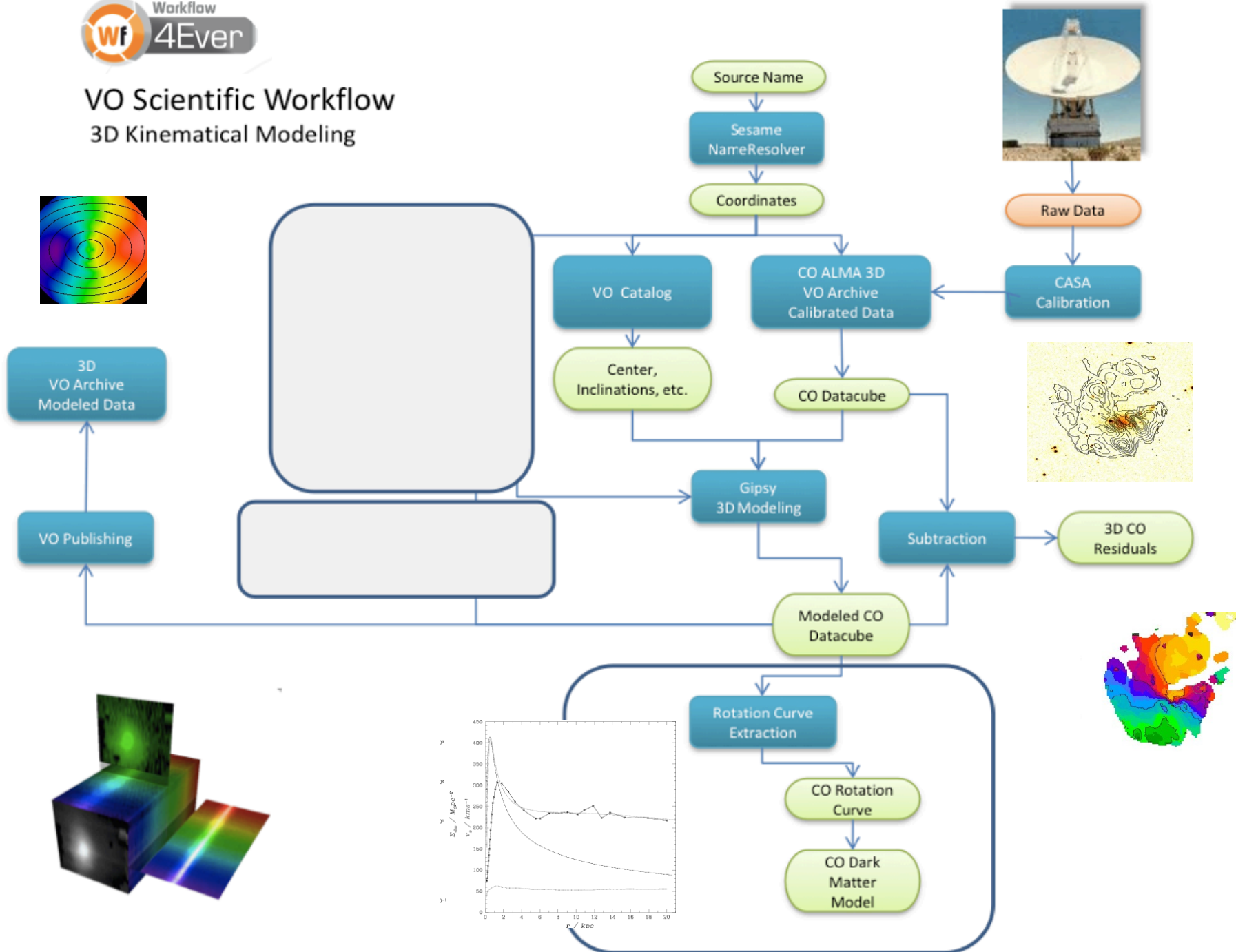
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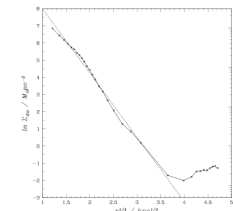
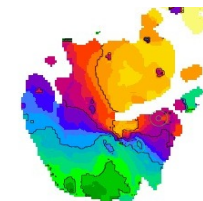
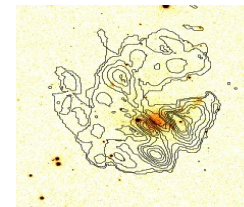
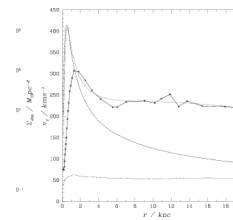
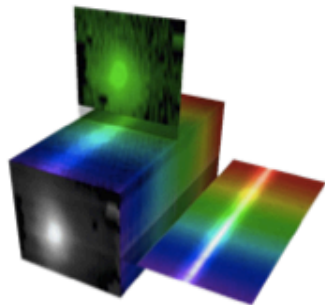
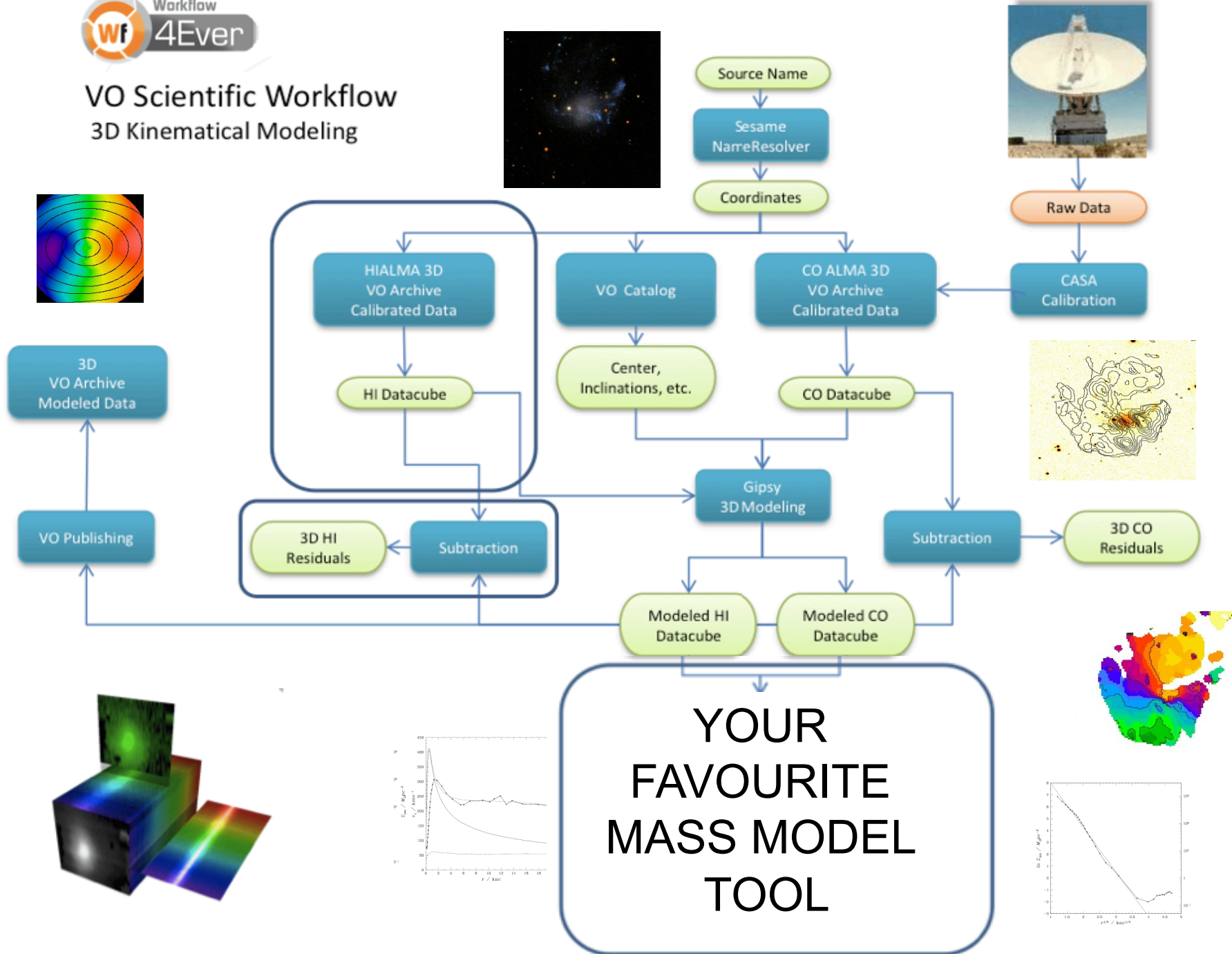
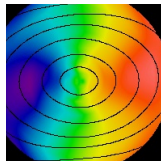
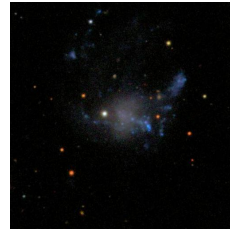
VO Scientific Workflow 3D Kinematical Modeling



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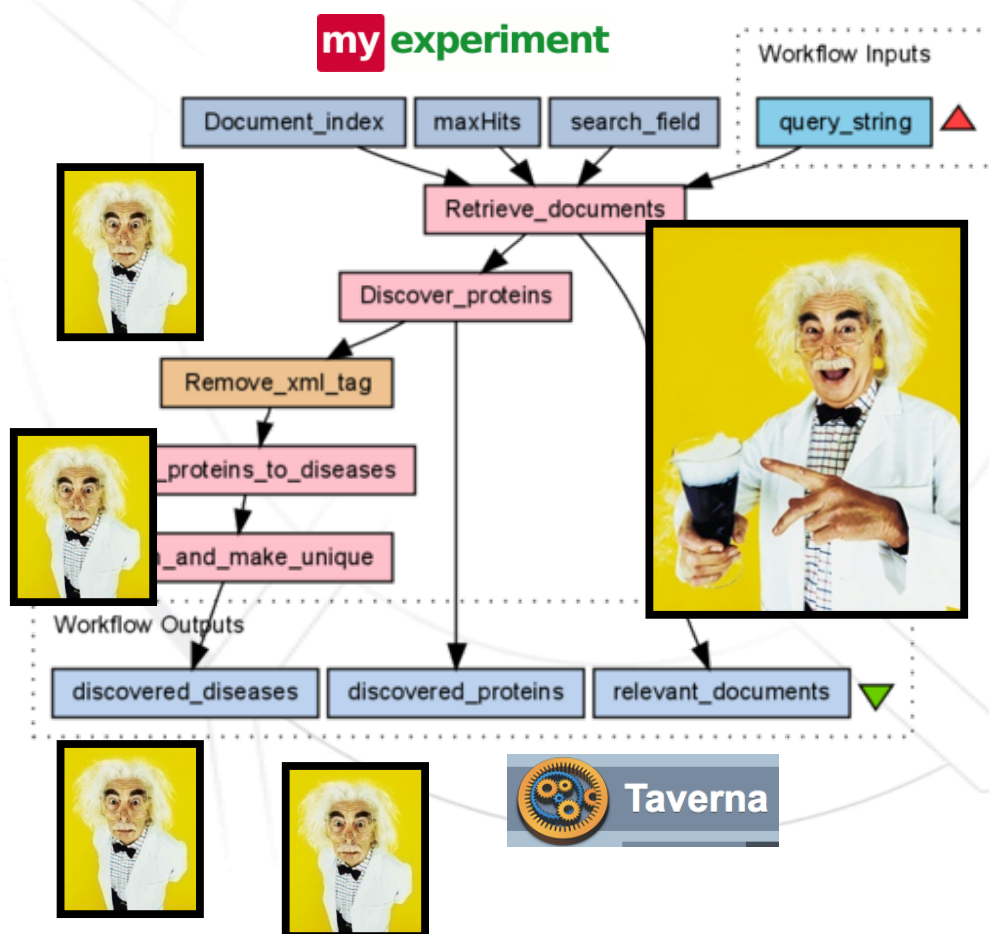


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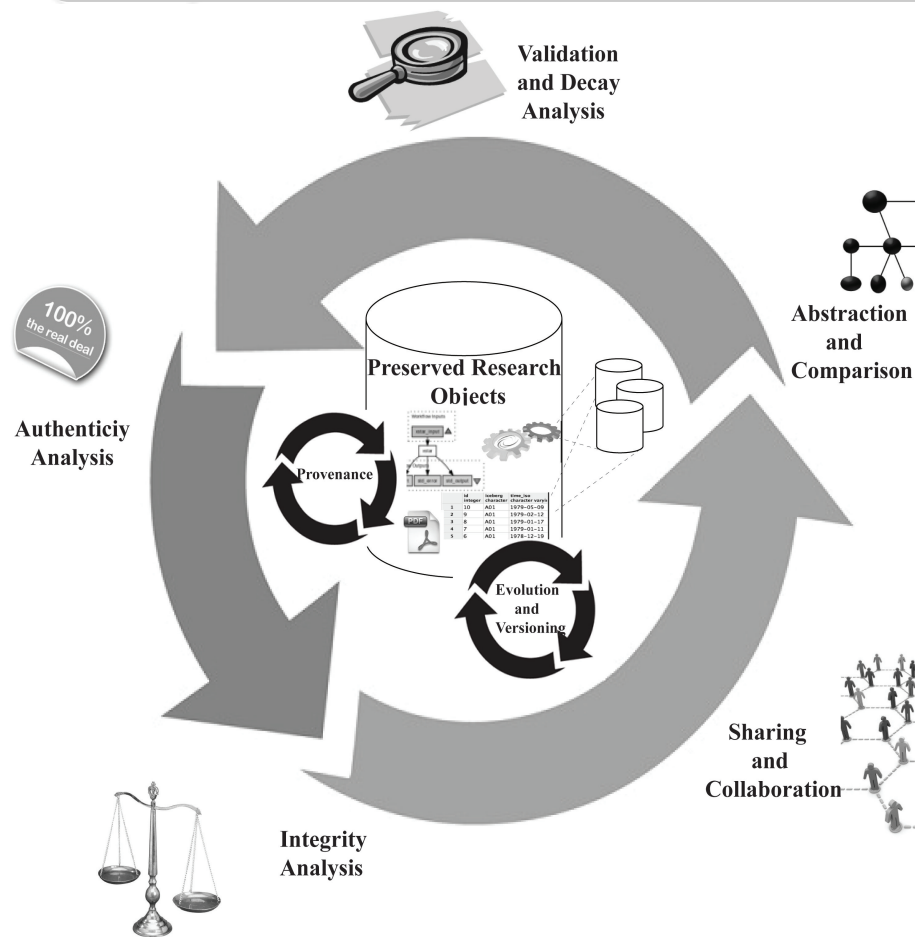


A **Scientific Workflow** can be seen as the combination of data and processes into a configurable, structured set of steps that implement semi-automated computational solutions in scientific problem-solving

- » Central in experimental science
 - » Enable automation
 - » Make science repeatable (and sometimes reproducible)
 - » Encourage best practices
- » Scientist-friendly
 - » Aimed at (some types of) scientists, possibly even without strong computational skills
- » Communities: need for scientific data preservation
 - » Enhance scientific development by building on, sharing, and extending previous results within scientific communities
- » However, workflow preservation is especially complex
 - » Workflows not only specified statically at design time but also interpreted through their execution
 - » Complex models are required to describe workflows and related resources, including documents, data and services
 - » Resources often beyond control of scientists



Technological infrastructure for the preservation and efficient retrieval and reuse of scientific workflows in a range of disciplines



» Creation and management of complex **Research Objects** that take into account the dual nature (static and dynamic) of scientific workflows

» **Archival, classification, and indexing** of scientific workflows and their associated materials in scalable semantic repositories, providing advanced access and recommendation capabilities

» **Creation of scientific communities** to collaboratively share, reuse and evolve workflows and their parts, stimulating the development of new scientific knowledge

Evaluate and preserve the integrity and authenticity of archived Research Objects

- » To ensure the data can be accessed and interpreted **unchanged, complete, and correct** today and in the future
- » To preserve the integrity of archived Research Objects by **tracking and verifying changes** in archived objects as well as related resources
- » To assist scientists in **anticipating potential inconsistencies** caused by uncontrolled changes in such resources
- » To verify and proof the authenticity of **authors and contributors** to Research Objects as well as of internal **and related resources**

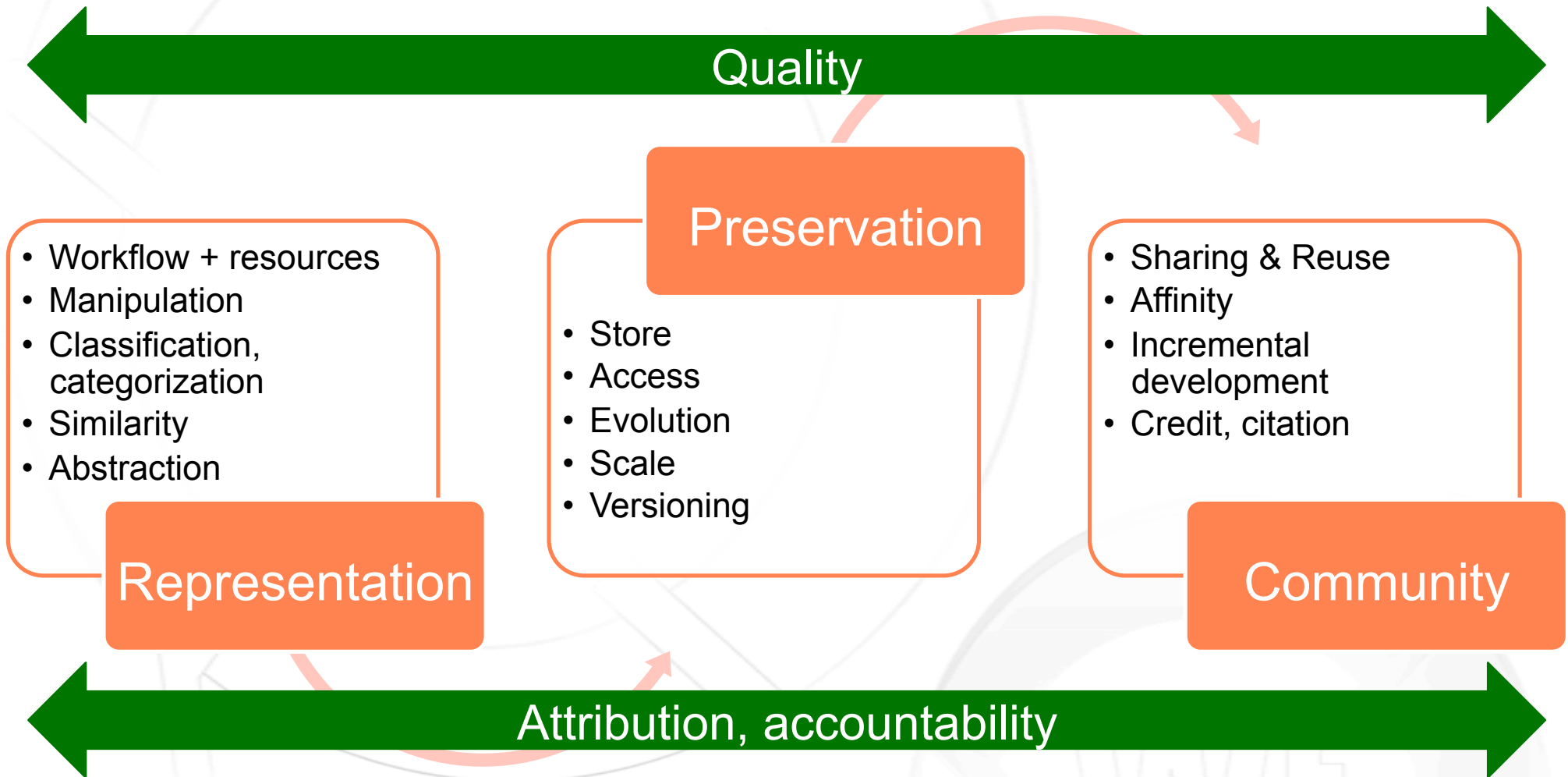
Provenance-based means to calculate measures of integrity and authenticity

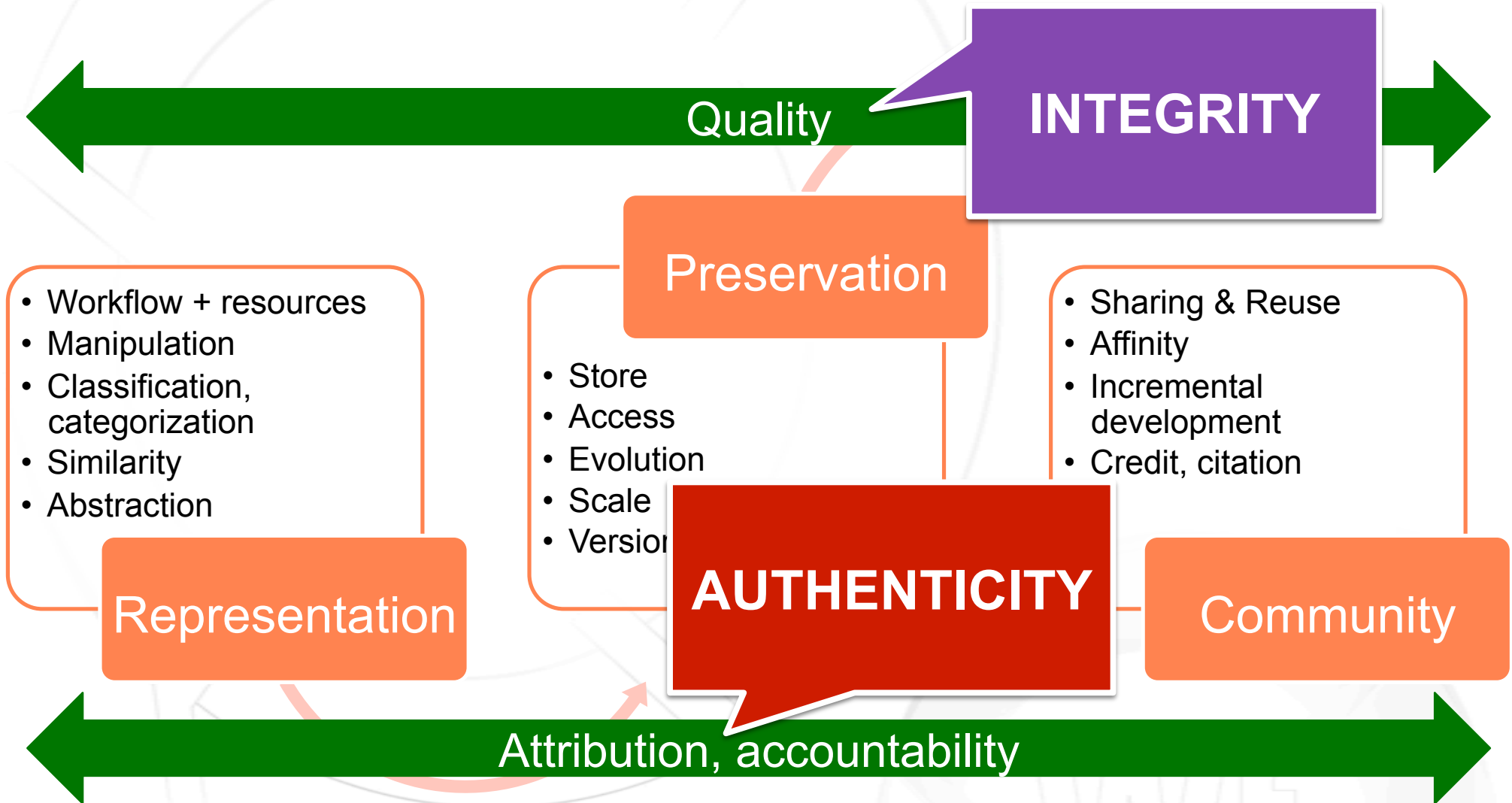
What do you want to know when accessing a workflow ?

- » If I can use it for my purposes (in my words)
- » If I can expect it to run, when it was last run, by whom
- » What it does quickly, by one of
 - » example input / output (and trying it)
 - » a description
 - » 'reading' its key parts
 - » what it was used for
 - » related workflows
 - » its creator
 - » contacting the creator or last user
- » How I need to cite the author and workflow

What do you want to know when sharing a workflow ?

- » What rights others have
- » What a good workflow is to get a good score
 - » Make my workflow findable, reusable, and ready for review
 - » Instructions to authors
 - » Two types of contributions: serious science, preliminary/playing around
- » If my workflow may have issues
- » What the system or other users think it does
 - » How it relates to other things
- » Share freely or anonymously upon request





Two workflow-intensive scientific case studies in the domains of Astronomy and Genomics**Astronomy**

- » Application area: Virtual Observatory (VO) data processing
 - > Astrophysical quantities propagation
 - > Source extraction on CCD images
 - > Modeling of galaxy 3D data
- » Focus on bringing workflow-based methodologies into Astronomy
- » Creation of Golden Exemplars
- » Beachhead

Genomics

- » Application areas: Biobanking and Genome-Wide analysis
 - > Interpretation of GWAS data
 - > Gene expression studies
- » Focus on authenticity and experimental reproducibility
- » Community! Lots of available workflows
 - > myExperiment
 - > SysMO-DB
- » Long tradition of workflow application

Overall goals

- » To collect and preserve existing workflows and their related objects in each area
- » To create scientific communities around the use and preservation of scientific workflows
- » To apply, evaluate, and provide feedback on the results obtained from system and component-level research

WP5: Workflow Preservation in Astronomy

Scientific contribution

- » Development of an online community of scientists working on Astronomy
- » Introduction of workflow and workflow preservation needs in Astronomy and the Virtual Observatory
- » Provide a set of workflows for frequently used complex task-combinations and demands in the Astronomy domain

Technological contribution

- » Online repository of preserved Astronomy workflows identifying preservation needs
- » Creation of three Golden Exemplars workflows:
 - > using Wf4Ever results
 - > involving additional implementations for wrapping VO Web services

Workflow-based methodology deployed in the VO community through exemplars and preservation methodologies

<http://www.wf4ever-project.org>

