May 8, 2020 Joint Methods & CI Working Group Call

Attendees: Jake Zwart, Mike Dietze, Rob Kooper, Jody Peters, Quinn Thomas, Carl Boettiger

Agenda:
1. RCN
   a. Slides - Give Jake, Alexey any final input
   b. Jody has a Doodle poll to make available during the Working Group session
   c. The Task View will also be made available
2. **Things to come back to after the RCN:**
   a. When we work on archiving platforms - we need to have a follow-up call with Cyverse
   b. Need CI plan for how we will move forward as a community
   c. Would be good to periodically have all Working Groups have calls where we can discuss bigger picture stuff and invite people to join. Perhaps try to do this twice a year
3. EFI Task View Update
   a. [Task View Post 1](#) is out!
   b. In addition to being a blog post, the information is also on a [stand-alone page](#) and linked on the [CI](#), [Methods](#), and [Resources](#) pages
4. Website Updates - Jody is adding chairs/co-chairs for each of the working groups. What should we put for these groups? Quinn? Jake? Alexey?
   a. Do we want to keep CI/Methods meeting separately after the RCN or are there tasks to accomplish separately.
   b. For the duration of the Task Views continue to work together.
   c. Short-term RCN needs - understanding the CI/Methods needs will be important for the Hackathon. If the set of tools is our limiting factor for getting the challenge working, this working group would be good to get input on
   d. Jake = Methods Chair
   e. Check with Alexey offline to see about being the CI Chair
5. Plans for Future Task View
      i. Uncertainty Quantification & Propagation, Modeling & Stats
      ii. Data Ingest, Cleaning, Management
      iii. Visualization/Decision Support Tools, User Interface
   b. Is there anyone particularly interested in one of these 3 topics, we could follow that order rather than the order they are listed in
      i. Uncertainty, Modeling, Stats would be useful for the next task view to onboard people and help with the RCN
      ii. Probably will be shorter than the Workflow Task View. Expect there will be less tools to go over compared to Workflow
      iii. Data Ingest will be a huge topic
   c. These were options mentioned on the April Call about options moving forward
      i. Create a table of the resources with short
      ii. Put it in the R Journal, maybe Methods in Ecology

iii.   Want it on the website, so it can be Google searchable

iv.   Put on preprint server? So it gets a DOI and then put that on the website

v.   There is a journal that does: "10 easy steps to X". PLOS Computational Biology - example ; full list here ; 10 simple rules for reproducible computational research

1. Not in the next month/short term, but Jake and Alexey can think about this option.
2. Wikipedia page could be an option and it has the benefit that it is updatable. Would be easy to link out to other tasks/topics that we don't go into detail about it.
3. Problem with Wikipedia is that anyone could come in and make changes. There are options for getting a published, stable version in Wikipedia
4. Write a small piece in the wikipedia to get the benefits of wikipedia and the point to our webpage
5. For discoverability - you search in Google to get to wikipedia. Google will give higher priority to Wikipedia articles in the search return
6. We could add our Task View to the Ecological Forecasting Wikipedia page - this could be an easy way to push people to our page
7. Example of wikipedia article: https://en.wikiversity.org/wiki/WikiJournal_of_Science/Ice_drilling_methods
    a. Build up a wikipedia article and submit it for reviews. Has a DOI

vi.   Put together short vignettes for common needs (downloading NEON data, downloading met data, etc). Use short vignettes instead of a full blog post on multiple tools that will take longer.

1. Think about having a shared GitHub repository of tools that will be used by the community
2. This came up on the Standards call. This is worth looking into. Have Repo for Standards move to the shared repository. Take tools/scripts that are helper functions for the RCN forecasting challenge. Some code live in other repositories and some would need to be created
3. OpenSci, RSci - pose ideas in the GitHub Issues. Use GitHub in the development of a Hackathon.
4. Technical discussion related to hackathon, CI and Methods could be better handled in GitHub than QUBES. Link GitHUB to Slack
5. Recent Updates to GitHub that could be useful
    a. Code spaces in GitHub - spin up code editor in repo (visual studio, but like R Studio)

       b. Discussion Boards

       c. Google gives priority to GitHub

       d. Have repository with ReadMe which lists tools we want to add

       e. Need to create the Repo and have a good name branded to EFI (EFI is taken). If we can't find good name, do duo purpose with the Ecoforecast Repo that has the NEFI and Forecasting book material in it

       f. GitHub repo name option eco4cast to match Twitter. Mike claimed it.

6. Reminder: NASA RFI on Earth System Predictability Research and Development

       a. RFI: https://beta.sam.gov/opp/bbff69a73f38423e9a0328494c14dab2/view

       b. Google Doc to craft letter - either join to help draft text or join to read/sign

       c. Alexey will touch base with folks at Goddard to get more details

       d. Mike expects the bulk of proposals will come from atmospheric and marine side of things. We want opportunities for ecological applications to end up on the plate of things that NASA is considering