



## OntoSoft: A Distributed Semantic Registry for Scientific Software

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http://www.ontosoft.org



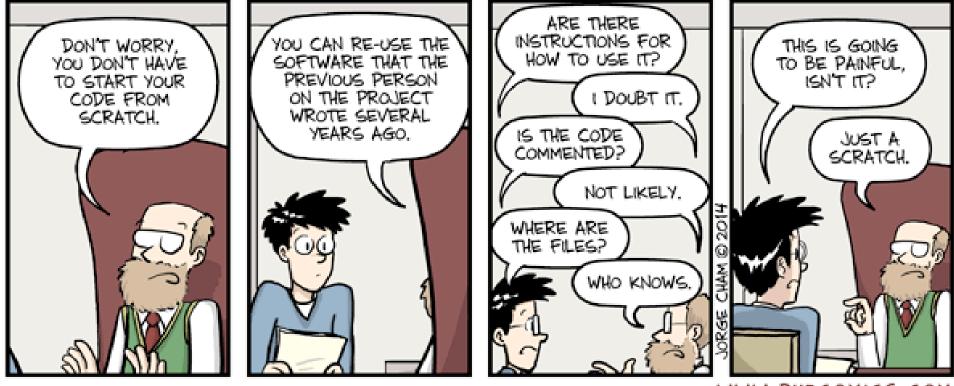


**Building Block** 

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#### We have all been here...



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## The Value of Software: Reproducibility



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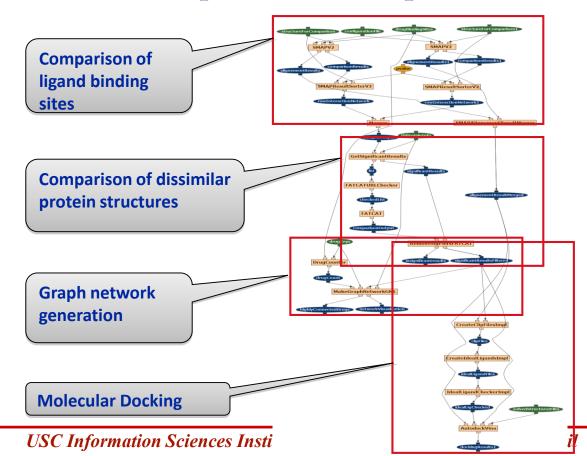
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# Quantifying the Value of Software through "Reproducibility Maps" [Bourne & Gil et al 12]

#### Work with P. Bourne of UCSD

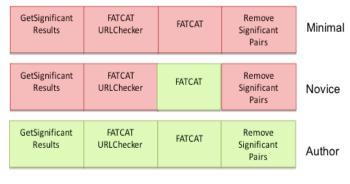
- 2 months of effort in reproducing published method (in PLoS' 10)
- Authors expertise was required



#### Comparison of Ligand Binding Sites:

| SMAP1 | SMAP2 | SMAP<br>Result<br>Sorter1 | SMAP<br>Result<br>Sorter2 | Merger | Align<br>Result<br>Merger | Minimal          |
|-------|-------|---------------------------|---------------------------|--------|---------------------------|------------------|
| SMAP1 | SMAP2 | SMAP<br>Result<br>Sorter1 | SMAP<br>Result<br>Sorter2 | Merger | Align<br>Result<br>Merger | Novice<br>Author |

#### Comparison of dissimilar protein structures:



#### Docking



## Software Today

There are repositories of domain specific software (e.g., geosciences)



There are general software repositories with no standard metadata



Most scientists are not aware of the value of their software

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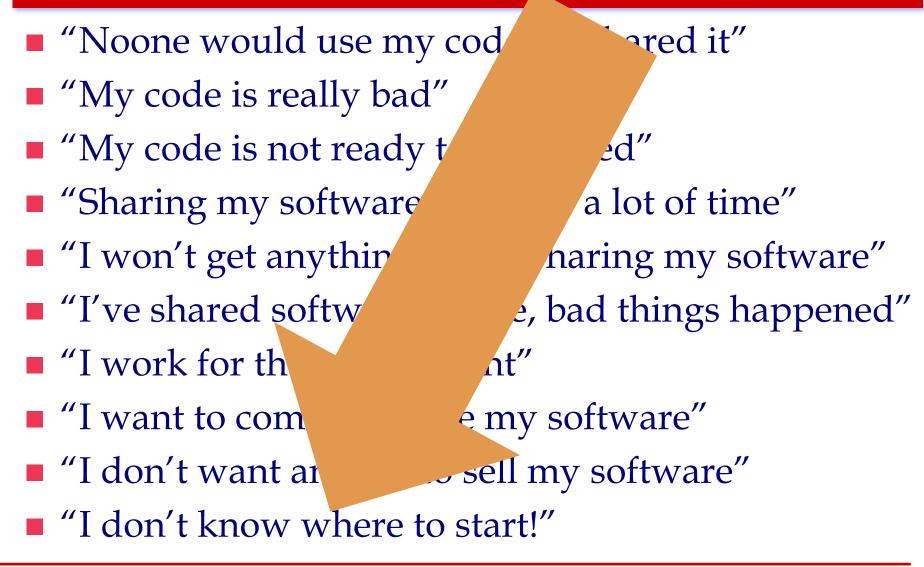
#### "Dark Software"



- Models that are not published
  - Eg from a PhD thesis
- Data preparation software
  - Data pre-processing and QC can take up to 80% of a project's effort
- Visualization software

#### "Dark Software" is the counterpart of "Dark Data" [Heidorn 2008]

### Why Is Software Not Shared?

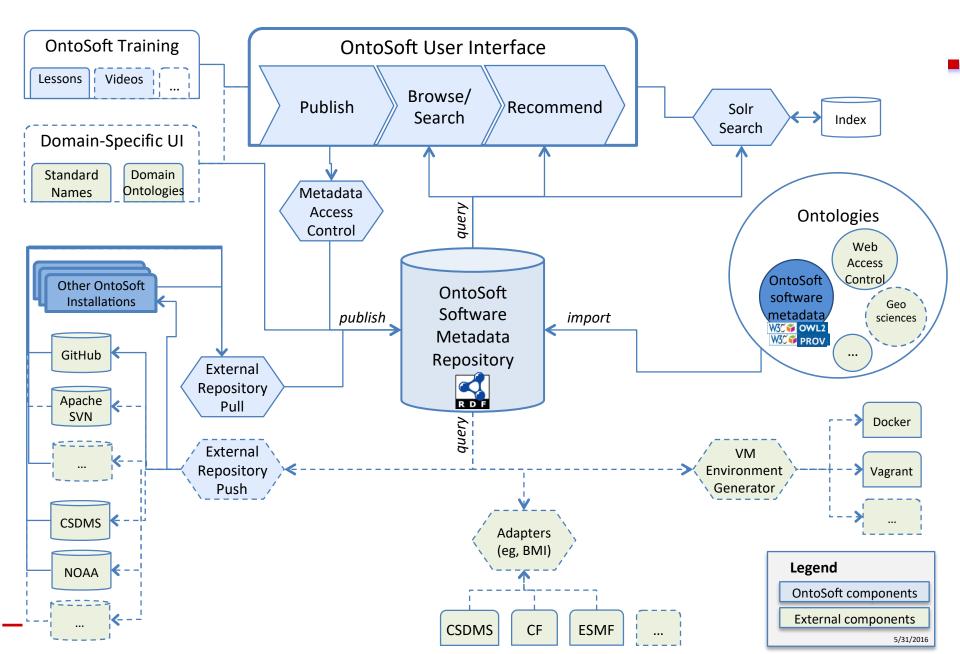


### Contributions: OntoSoft



- Registry for software
  - Complements code repositories
  - Scientist-centered software metadata
  - Community curated software metadata
  - Training scientists on best practices

## **OntoSoft Architecture**



## The OntoSoft Ontology for Describing Scientific Software Metadata [Gil et al 2015]

#### An ontology for scientific software metadata

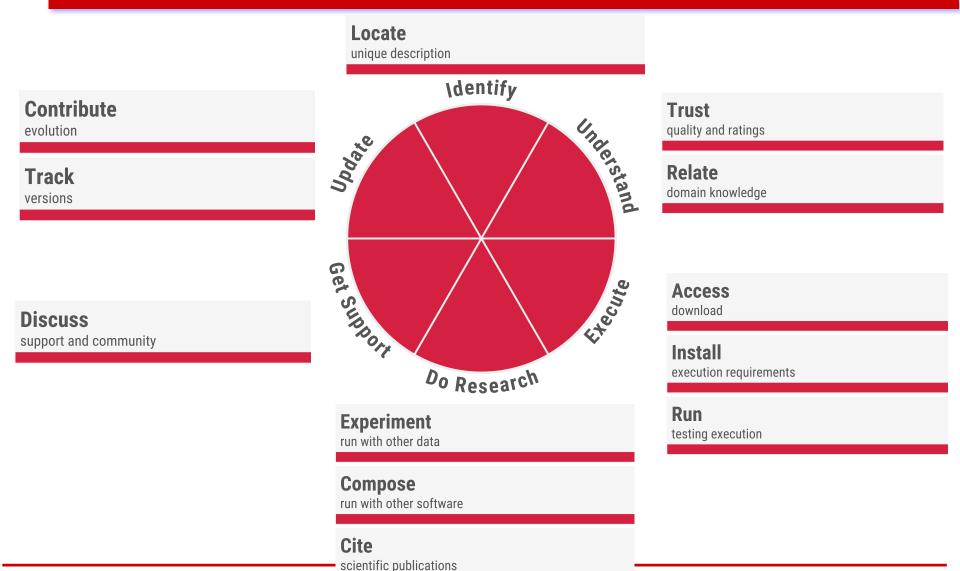
- Intended to describe scientific software
- Designed with scientists in mind to guide them to deposit and describe their software in a software registry

#### Major categories of metadata: what does a scientist need?

- 1. identify software
- 2. understand what it does and its utility for research,
- 3. execute the software,
- 4. get support if questions arise,
- 5. do research with it, and
- 6. contribute to its development

#### http://www.ontosoft.org/software

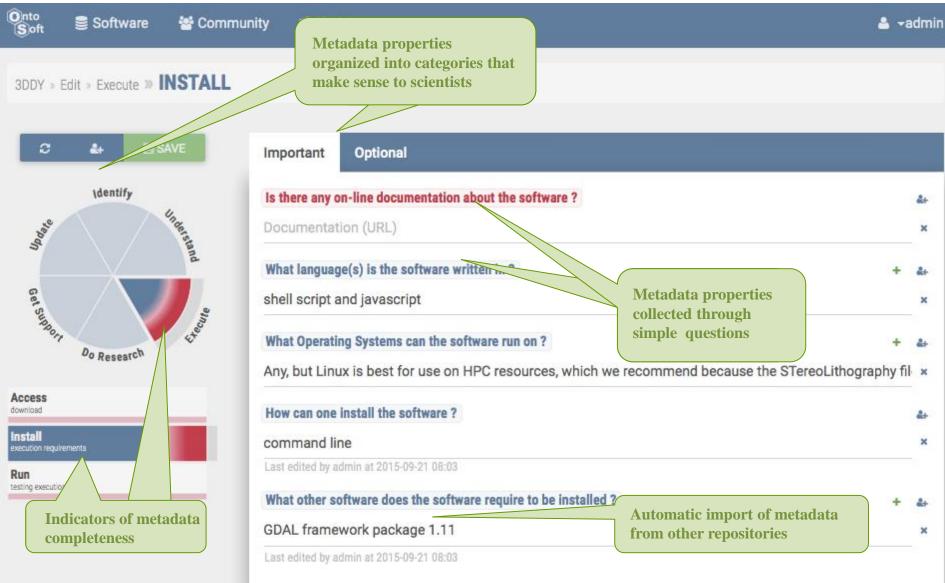
#### **OntoSoft Metadata Categories**



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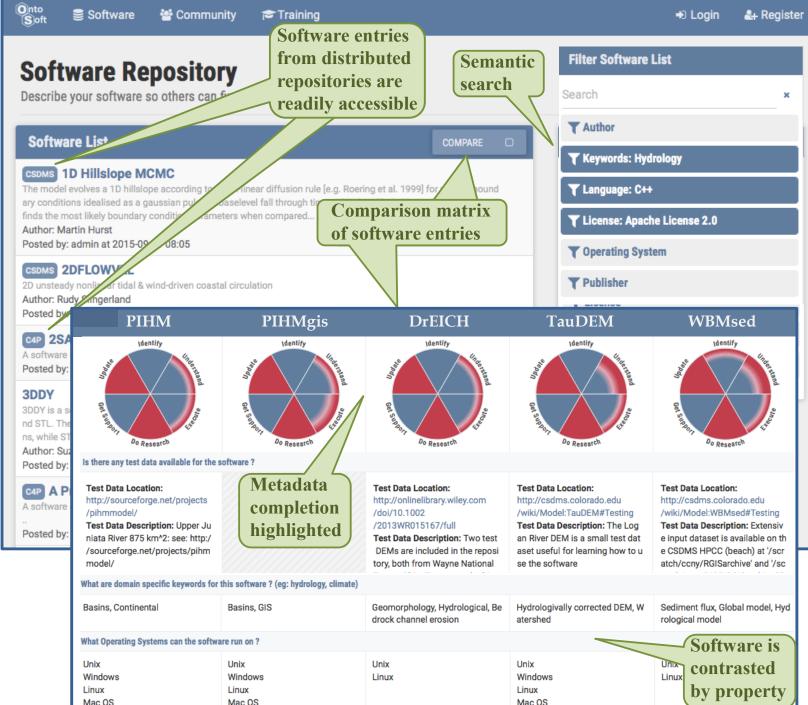
### Describing Scientific Software in OntoSoft



#### Access control

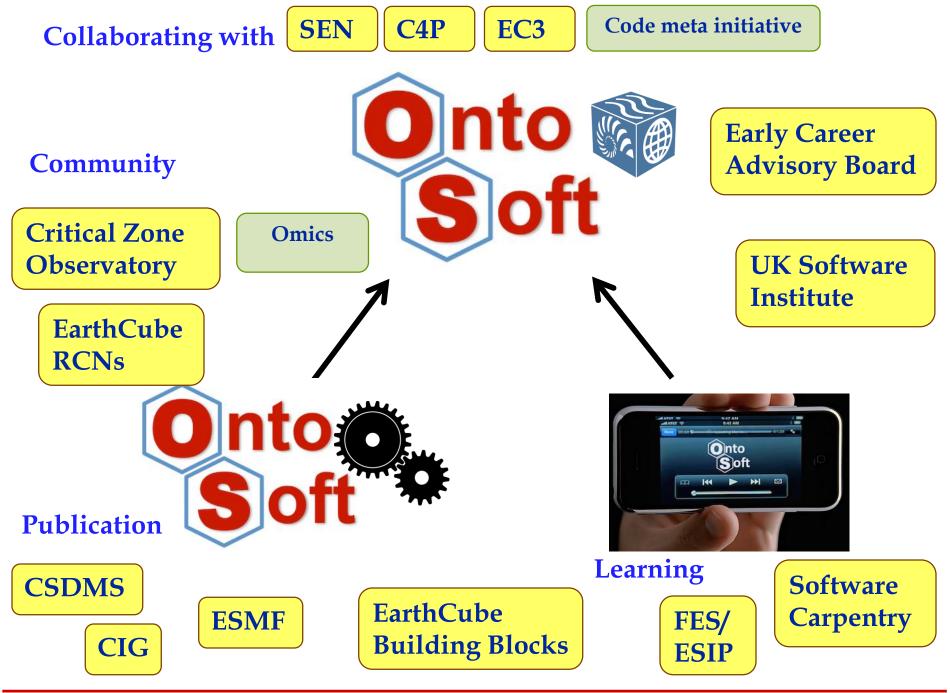
| Set Permiss | sions for 3DDY        | ×          |                        |  |  |  |
|-------------|-----------------------|------------|------------------------|--|--|--|
| User        | Select                |            | Satting permissions fo |  |  |  |
| Permission  | Select                | •          |                        | Setting permissions for<br>editing 3DDY metadata |  |  |
|             | Owner                 |            |                        |  |  |  |
|             |                       |            |                        |  |  |  |
| Browse Perm | nissions              |            |                        | Users and permissions for                        |  |  |
| Username    | e                     | Write Owne |                        | the 3DDY software<br>component                   |  |  |
|             | No Permissions found. |            |                        | component  |  |  |
|             | 📢 🖪 1-1 of 0 🕟 🕪      |            |                        | W3CWeb access control Ontology                   |  |  |
|             | _                     |            |                        | acl:Access acl:InformationResource acl:Agent     |  |  |
|             |                       | CANCEL SU  | вміт                   |  |  |  |
|             |                       |            |                        | acl:Write acl:Read acl:Control acl:Authorization |  |  |
|             |                       |            |                        |  |  |  |
|             |                       |            |                        |  |  |  |

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# Conclusions

- Software is a valuable research product
  - Must embed best practices of software sharing into research activities
- Improve productivity, quality, reproducibility
- OntoSoft contributions
  - Ontology of scientific software metadata
  - Portal for software registry

http://www.ontosoft.org http://www.ontosoft.org/software http://www.ontosoft.org/portal



Do you want to use Ontosoft? Let us know!

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# **More Information**

#### http://www.ontosoft.org http://www.ontosoft.org/software http://www.ontosoft.org/portal http://www.ontosoft.org/gpf

OntoSoft: Capturing Scientific Software Metadata. Yolanda Gil, Varun Ratnakar, and Daniel Garijo. *Proceedings of the Eighth ACM International Conference on Knowledge Capture (K-CAP)*, 2015.

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http://www.ontosoft.org http://www.ontosoft.org/software http://www.ontosoft.org/portal http://www.ontosoft.org/gpf

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