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Getting Science out of eScience

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Research questions in modern research are increasingly addressed using data and compute intensive methodologies. eScience bridges the scientific ambitions of researchers and modern digital tools and knowledge from data and computer science. I will take two approaches to illustrate how eScience functions. First, I will show applications from different scientific domains where Big Data and eScience methodologies are used. The value of eScience is shown by accelerating pulsar search pipelines in astronomy, data assimilation to predict weather at the scale of streets in Amsterdam, visualizing large point clouds and text analysis in historical documents. Second, I will show that eScience itself evolves towards a scientific domain. The research question aware development of methodologies leads to a cycle of tailoring technologies to specific research questions and generalizing them again. At the Netherlands eScience Center the eScience Technology Platform (eStep) has been set up to bring the knowledge, best practices and the generic software together.

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