# Making JAX data FAIR: the pixel access problem

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# We distribute mice and provide services to organizations around the globe

JAX® MICE & CLINICAL RESEARCH SERVICES



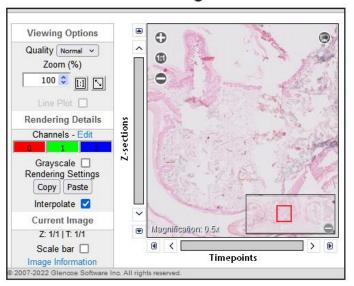




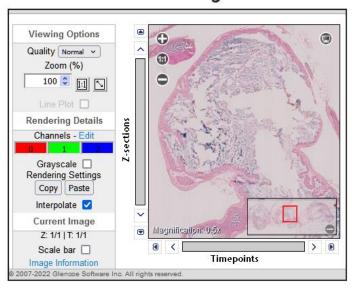
## Motivation: mouse phenotype data

Home > Genes > A1cf > Image comparator

#### **WT Images**



#### **Mutant Images**



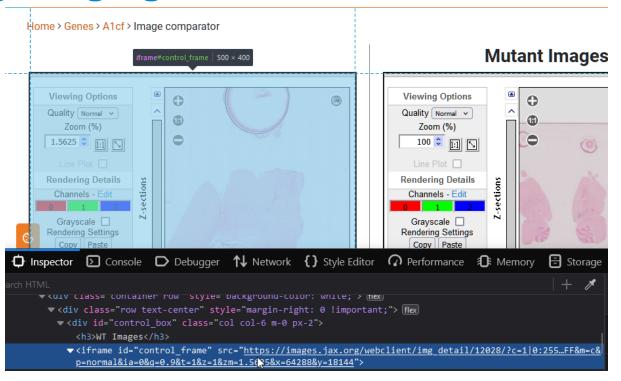


www.mousephenotype.org





#### Viewing imaging data: embedded OMERO!

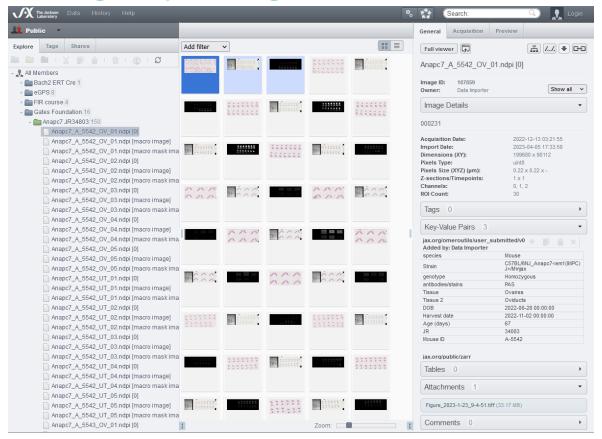


www.mousephenotype.org





#### What is images.jax.org?







## Purpose of two OMERO instances





- Publishing at images.jax.org
- Data hosting
- NGFF

- Data ingestion
- Collaboration within JAX
- Annotating images

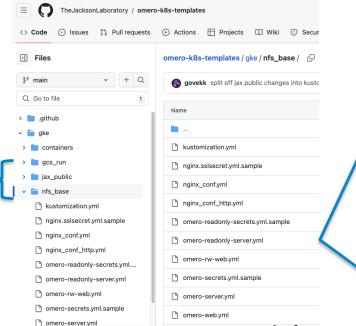




## Kubernetes: Infrastructure as Code



Kustomize templates for different OMERO instances





Infrastructure configuration is recorded in yaml files







value: /OMERO # this is the default

## **Configuration differences**





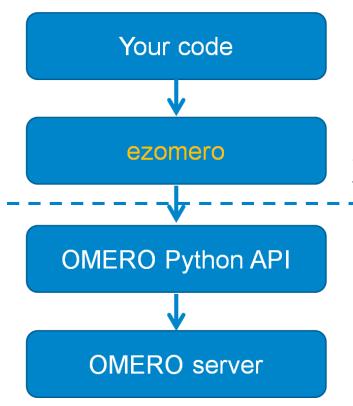
- Image data files on object storage
- Read-only access to data and OMERO system files

 Allows connections to server for Python API, QuPath, Fiji, OMERO CLI, etc





# ezomero: making OMERO easier



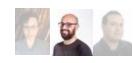
```
import ezomero
conn = ezomero.connect(USERNAME, PWD, host=HOSTNAME, port=PORT, secure=True)
ds_id = ezomero.post_dataset(conn, "New Dataset", project_id=projectId)
```

You focus on this part...

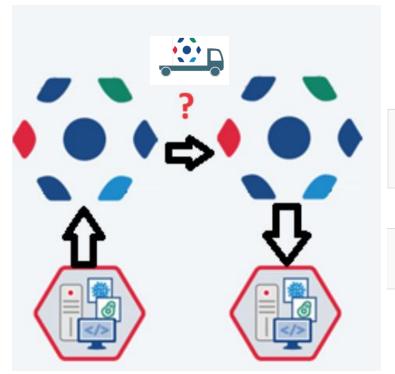
...we take care of this one!

```
import omero
conn = omero.gateway.BlitzGateway(USERNAME, PWD, host=HOSTNAME, port=PORT, secure=True)
conn.connect()
dataset_obj = omero.model.DatasetI()
dataset_obj.setName(rstring("New Dataset"))
dataset_obj = conn.getUpdateService().saveAndReturnObject(dataset_obj, conn.SERVICE_OPTS)
dataset_id = dataset_obj.getId().getValue()
link = omero.model.ProjectDatasetLinkI()
link.setChild(omero.model.DatasetI(dataset_obj.id.val, False))
link.setParent(omero.model.ProjectI(projectId, False))
conn.getUpdateService().saveObject(link)
```





### omero-cli-transfer



omero transfer pack Image:123 transfer\_pack.zip
omero transfer pack Dataset:1111 /home/user/new\_folder/new\_pack.zip
omero transfer pack 999 zipfile.zip # equivalent to Project:999

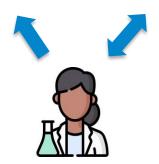
omero transfer unpack transfer\_pack.zip
omero transfer unpack --output /home/user/optional\_folder --ln\_s

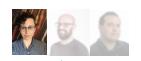




## Data lifecycle: from microscope to public



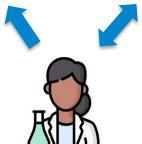






## Data lifecycle: from microscope to public











# Tackling access to pixels

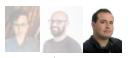
- Current options through OMERO aren't great
  - OMERO provides download links which often fail
  - OMERO APIs are indirect ways of accessing pixel data and are slow
- We need a way to find and directly access pixels from cloud object storage





# What are we doing today?

- We are embracing OME-NGFF as an alternative method for accessing image data
- All image data on images.jax.org is now available in Zarr (v2) with NGFF v0.4 metadata
- We will update all data with each major revision to the NGFF spec





# How to find http NGFF URLs?

- Navigate to an image and expand "Key-Value Pairs"
- Details under the jax.org/public/zarr namespace
- Functional but rough



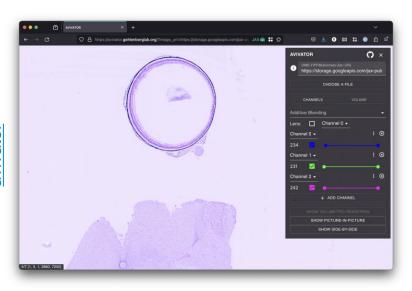




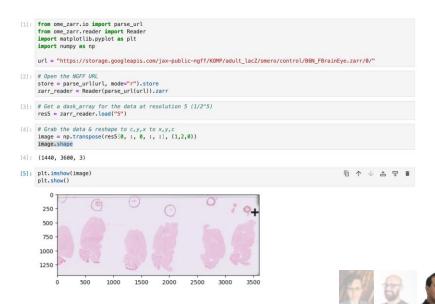
## **How to access NGFF data?**

#### Visualization

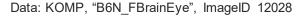
Multiple web-based and desktop clients



# Programmatically Python, C/C++, Java, Julia, Javascript









## **Cloud-based NGFF Conversion**

- Bulk conversion using Google Batch and bioformats2raw
- ~17,000 images converted so far (~100%)
- Wall-clock conversion time of ~2 days
  - Total CPU time of 860 days for all JAX public data





# **Current challenges**

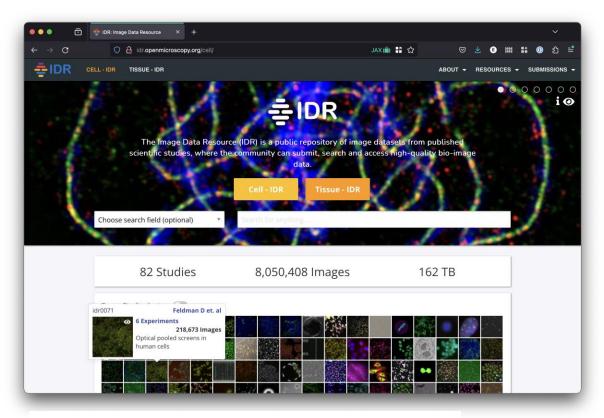
- Data size explosion
  - 20TB NDPI → 200TB Zarr (with default BLOSC parameters)
- File count explosion
  - ~20K files → ~90M objects
    - Zarr v3 sharding will help!
- Excess metadata operations with gcsfuse





## **Image Data Resource**











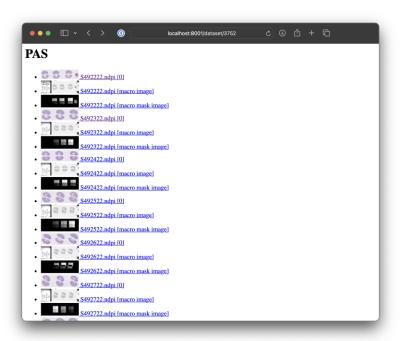


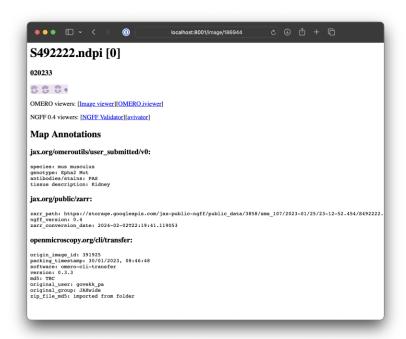






# In progress: querying OMERO









## Towards a FAIRer future...

- OMERO provides a way to make imaging data FAIR(ish) and we are improving accessibility and interoperability
- We see OMERO as the source of truth for data, but want pixel access and visualization to be available outside of it
- OME-NGFF presents a path to combine the OME data model and efficient, cloud-friendly pixel access





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- Seb Besson

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- Davis Bennett
- Jeremy Maitin-Shepard (neuroglancer)
- Trevor Manz (vizarr)

#### The Open Source community

- OpenCV
- Scikit-image
- ImageJ/Fiji
- OMERO & BioFormats
- Zarr-python
- N5-lib



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#### Presentations available @

https://downloads.openmicroscopy.org/ presentations/2024/Dundee

