

Introduction to Spatial Data Processing using FME and Python



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Hello



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Workshop structure

1. Brief FME introduction
2. FME – Python theory
3. Exercises :
 1. ACLED exercise
 2. PTP exercise
 3. Syria exercise
 4. DEM exercise

Geopol.ch

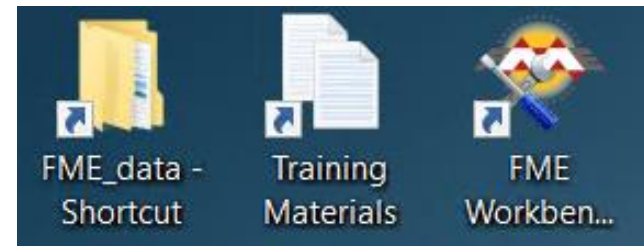
Get your Remote desktop credentials at :

<https://www.geopol.ch/#/en/workspaces/74>

Or download the data :

<https://goo.gl/Y5TyhT>

On your desktop :



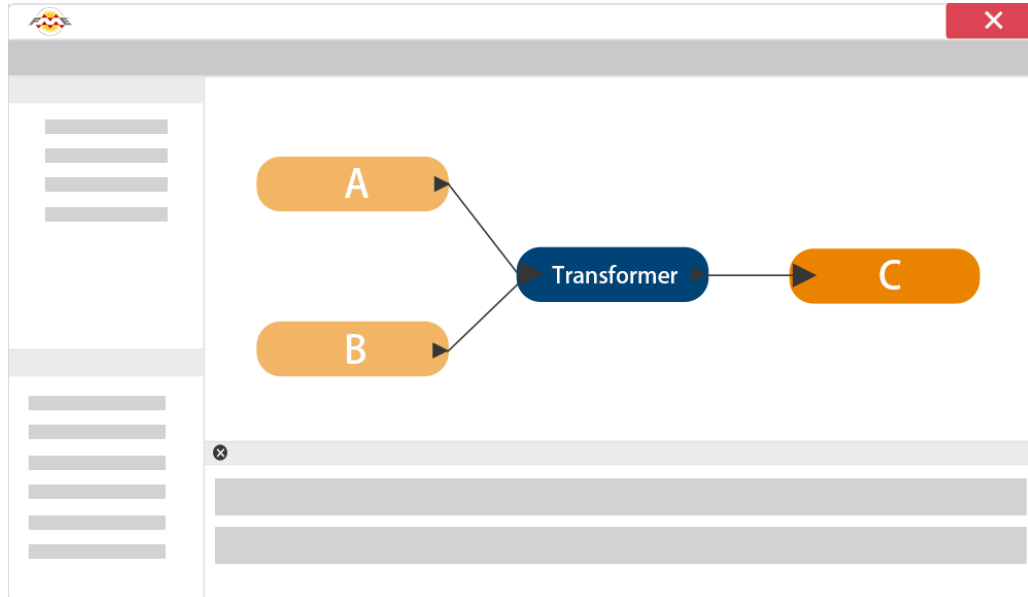
Workshop structure

To begin, just a few quick questions :

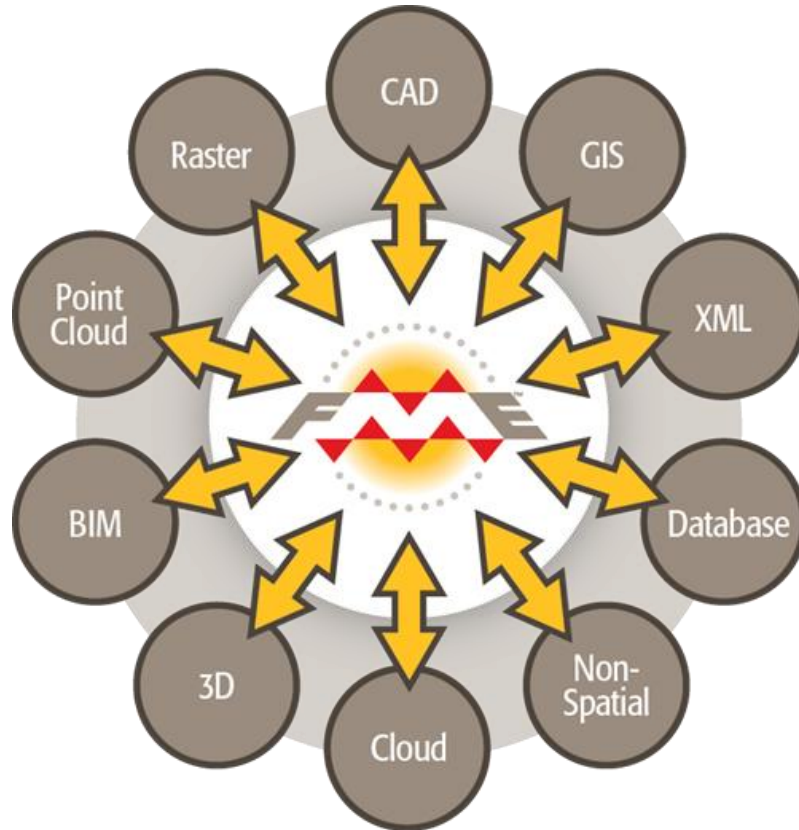
- Who has never used FME and/or Python before ?
- Who has some basic knowledge of FME

FME, very briefly...

- Data Interoperability Solution
- Extract, Transform and Load



FME, very briefly...



- Rich Data Model

FME, very briefly...



The screenshot shows the FME Workbench 2016.0 interface. The main workspace contains a workflow diagram with several transformers highlighted in colored boxes: a purple box for 'Create a Grid of Points', a green box for 'Turn Points into Hexagons', a yellow box for 'Flag Type and Select Base', and a light blue box for 'Set Up One Field'. The workflow includes transformers such as 2DGridCreator, CoordinateExtractor, Rotator (7 instances), Chopper, CoordinateBuilder, Tester, HullAccumulator, Hull, AttributeRenamer, ExpressionEvaluator (3 instances), and AttributeCreator (2 instances). The final output is a 'Hexagons' feature class with fields like HexID, HexY, HexZ, HexType, HexOriginalOr, HexCurrentOr, LastPublished, and LastPublishedDate.

Red boxes and labels identify the following interface components:

- Menu/ToolBar**: Located at the top of the application window.
- Navigator**: Located on the left side, showing a tree view of the workspace structure.
- Canvas**: The central workspace area where the workflow diagram is displayed.
- Workspace Properties**: Located on the left side, below the Navigator, showing fields for Name and Category.
- Log Window**: Located at the bottom left, displaying the Translation Log with columns for Date, Time, CPU usage, and memory usage. The log shows a successful translation.
- Transformer Gallery**: Located at the bottom center, showing a list of available transformers.
- History**: Located on the right side, showing a message: 'Just now Move 1 Object(s) About 50 second... Open NONE -- FFS'.

A friendly message from Safe

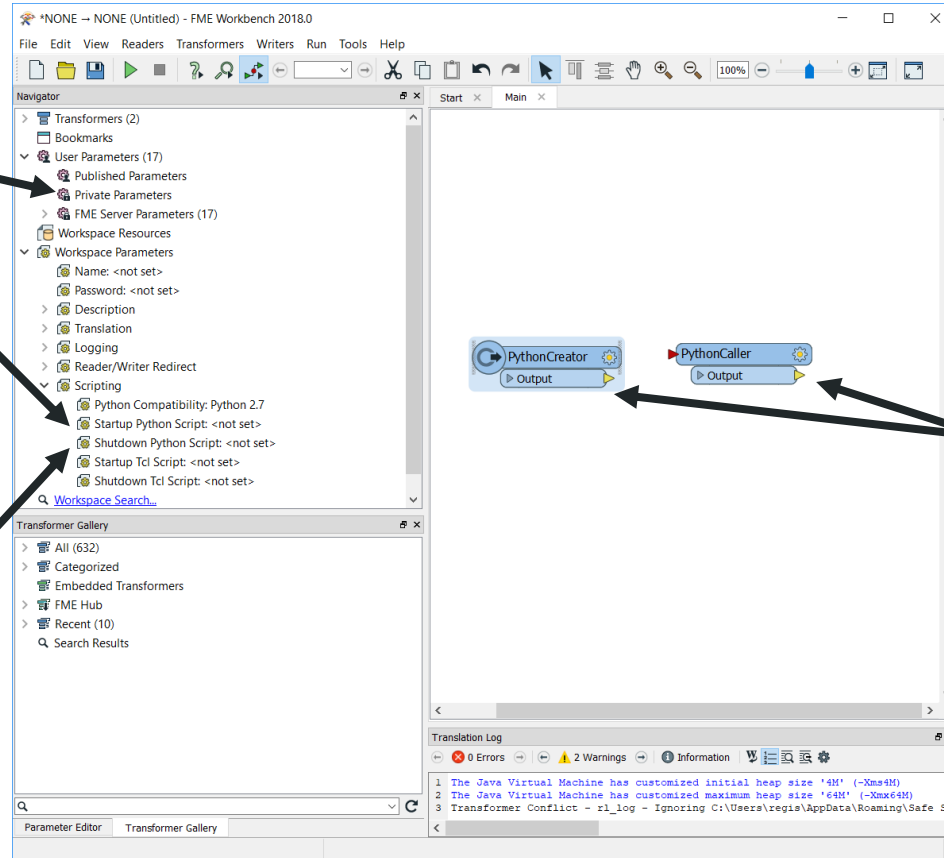
From the help text of the PythonCaller:

“Using Python to perform arbitrary operations on features is a powerful aspect of Workbench.

However, the logic introduced into a workspace is less visible and can therefore be more difficult to maintain than logic built using Workbench’s built-in transformers.

It is recommended that other transformers be used when possible instead of Python scripts.”

Where to write python script ?



At the beginning

Scripted parameters

Before the process

Startup Python script

After the process

Shutdown Python script

During the process

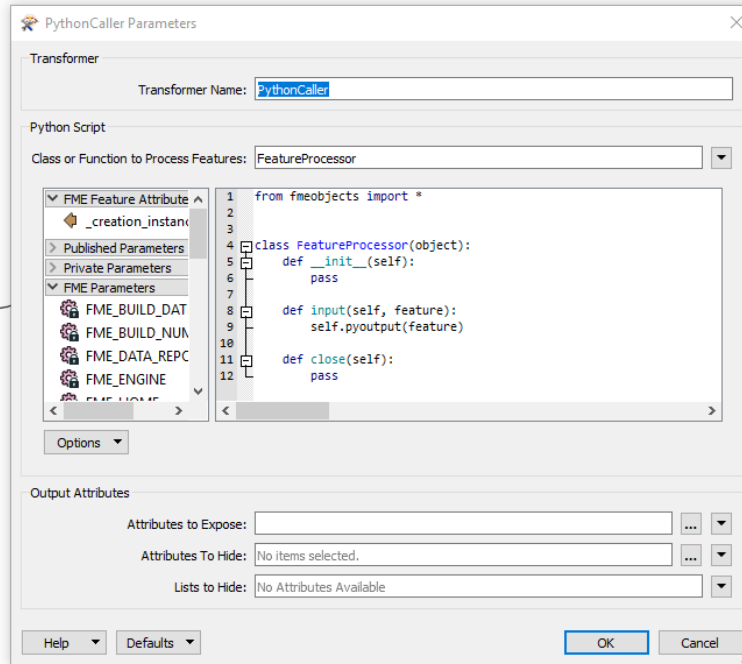
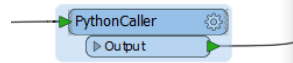
PythonCreator

PythonCaller

PythonCaller

ACLED data

Ex1 – PythonCaller - ACLED



- Manipulate features using a Python script
- Called once for each feature that passes through
- Supports two models:
 1. Procedure interface: quick and simple, for processing one feature at a time.
 2. Class interface: powerful and flexible, includes startup and shutdown.
- Example: using the Python module textwrap to word-wrap a long string attribute into an FME list attribute

Ex1 – PythonCaller - ACLED



ACLED

Bringing clarity to crisis

Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (ACLED) is a disaggregated conflict collection, analysis and crisis mapping project.

ACLED collects the dates, actors, types of violence, locations, and fatalities of all reported political violence and protest events across Africa, South Asia, South East Asia and the Middle East.

Ex1 – PythonCaller - ACLED

ACLED data can be accessed via an API

[https://api.acleddata.com/acled/read?year=@Value\(year\)](https://api.acleddata.com/acled/read?year=@Value(year))

However, it only downloads 500 features. To access the whole dataset, the page argument must be added

[https://api.acleddata.com/acled/read?year=@Value\(year\)&page=@Value\(page\)](https://api.acleddata.com/acled/read?year=@Value(year)&page=@Value(page))

Ex1 – PythonCaller - ACLED

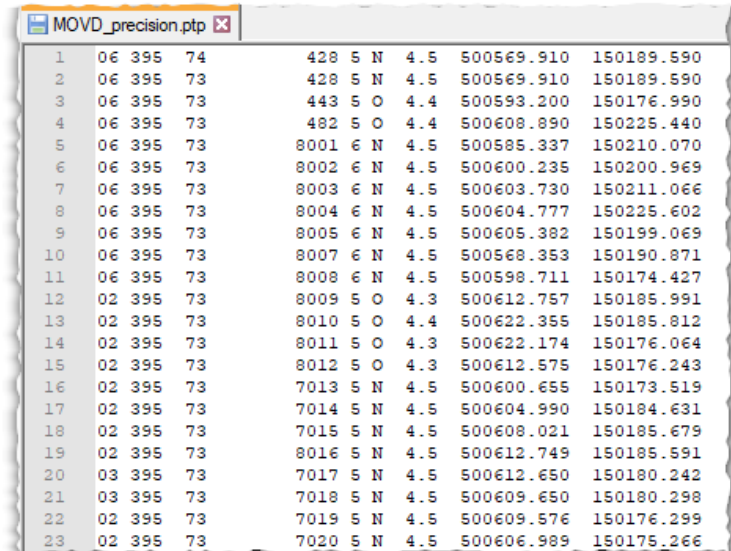


Log into your computer → Read the doc for exercise 1 → Explore the FME workspace → Follow the steps to finish the exercise

PythonCreator

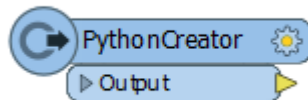
**Custom ptp
reader**

Ex2 – Custom ptp reader



Line	Col 1	Col 2	Col 3	Col 4	Col 5	Col 6	Col 7	Col 8	Col 9
1	06	395	74	428	5	N	4.5	500569.910	150189.590
2	06	395	73	428	5	N	4.5	500569.910	150189.590
3	06	395	73	443	5	O	4.4	500593.200	150176.990
4	06	395	73	482	5	O	4.4	500608.890	150225.440
5	06	395	73	8001	6	N	4.5	500585.337	150210.070
6	06	395	73	8002	6	N	4.5	500600.235	150200.969
7	06	395	73	8003	6	N	4.5	500603.730	150211.066
8	06	395	73	8004	6	N	4.5	500604.777	150225.602
9	06	395	73	8005	6	N	4.5	500605.382	150199.069
10	06	395	73	8007	6	N	4.5	500568.353	150190.871
11	06	395	73	8008	6	N	4.5	500598.711	150174.427
12	02	395	73	8009	5	O	4.3	500612.757	150185.991
13	02	395	73	8010	5	O	4.4	500622.355	150185.812
14	02	395	73	8011	5	O	4.3	500622.174	150176.064
15	02	395	73	8012	5	O	4.3	500612.575	150176.243
16	02	395	73	7013	5	N	4.5	500600.655	150173.519
17	02	395	73	7014	5	N	4.5	500604.990	150184.631
18	02	395	73	7015	5	N	4.5	500608.021	150185.679
19	02	395	73	8016	5	N	4.5	500612.749	150185.591
20	03	395	73	7017	5	N	4.5	500612.650	150180.242
21	03	395	73	7018	5	N	4.5	500609.650	150180.298
22	02	395	73	7019	5	N	4.5	500609.576	150176.299
23	02	395	73	7020	5	N	4.5	500606.989	150175.266

- Creation of FME features from a Python script
- Useful for e.g. formats not natively supported by FME or needing advanced pre-processing
- Script is called only once, but may return an arbitrary number of features
- Expects method close() to output all features using method pyoutput()



Ex2 – Custom ptp reader

Working Time

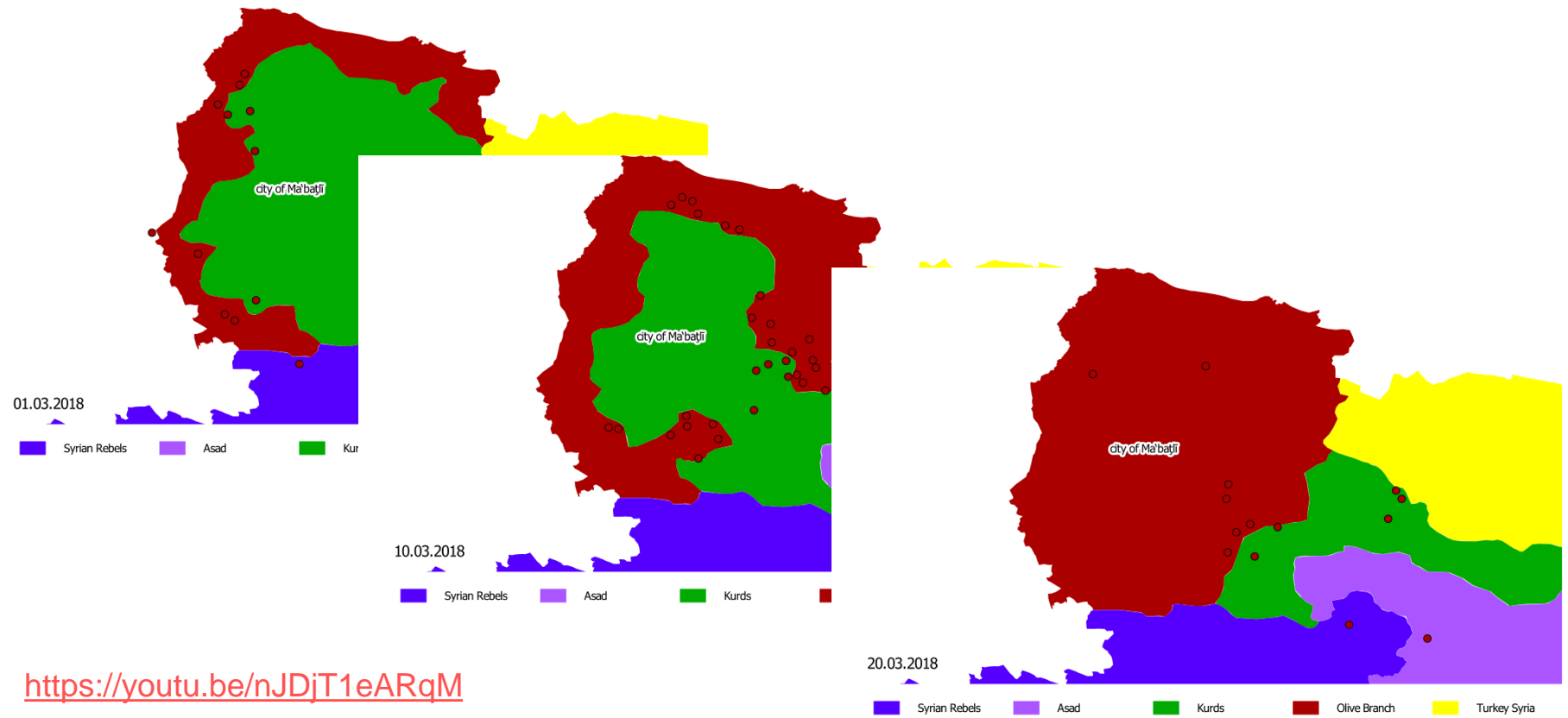


Log into your computer → Read the doc for exercise 2 → Follow the steps to finish the exercise

Shutdown scripted

Syria

Ex3 – Shutdown python script - Syria



<https://youtu.be/nJDjT1eARqM>

Ex3 – Shutdown python script - Syria

FME installs its own Python interpreter, but you may wish to use a different one.

Why would I want to choose a different Python Interpreter?

- **Arcpy** - When creating a Python script for use with both FME and ArcGIS (for example) you could point FME to use the Python Interpreter installed by ArcGIS, to ensure both applications work.
- When you want to integrate FME with a **3rd-party Python package**.
- When you need to run a script in a **different version of Python** to that which FME installs, you will need to install that version separately and direct FME to use it.

Ex3 – Shutdown python script - Syria



Log into your computer → Read the doc for exercise 3 → Explore the FME workspace → Follow the steps to finish the exercise

**Scripted
parameters**

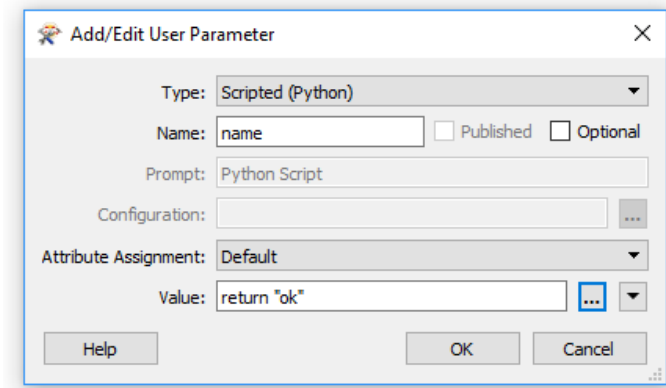
**DEM Digital
elevation model**

Ex4 – Scripted parameters - DEM

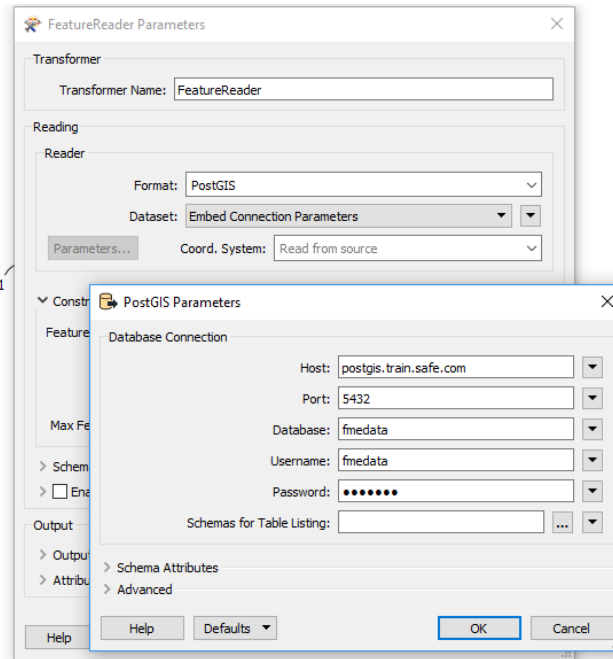
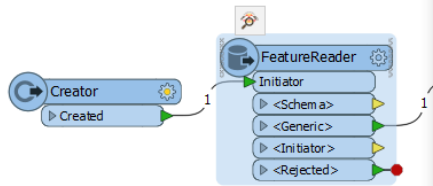


Scripted parameters are extremely useful when we want to set a parameter in FME based on something we derived or calculated from another parameter or parameters.

For example you may want users to select themes or groups of layers and have your script set the individual feature types to read within these groups.



Ex4 – Scripted parameters - DEM



Working with parameters is mainly usefully when deploying one workspace in different environments (development env., test env. , User acceptance testing env. production env.).

Paths and credentials can be easily adapted to the environment without changing the workspace.

Ex4 – Scripted parameters - DEM



Log into your computer → Read the doc for exercise 4 → Explore the FME workspace → Follow the steps to finish the exercise