

Open for Innovation

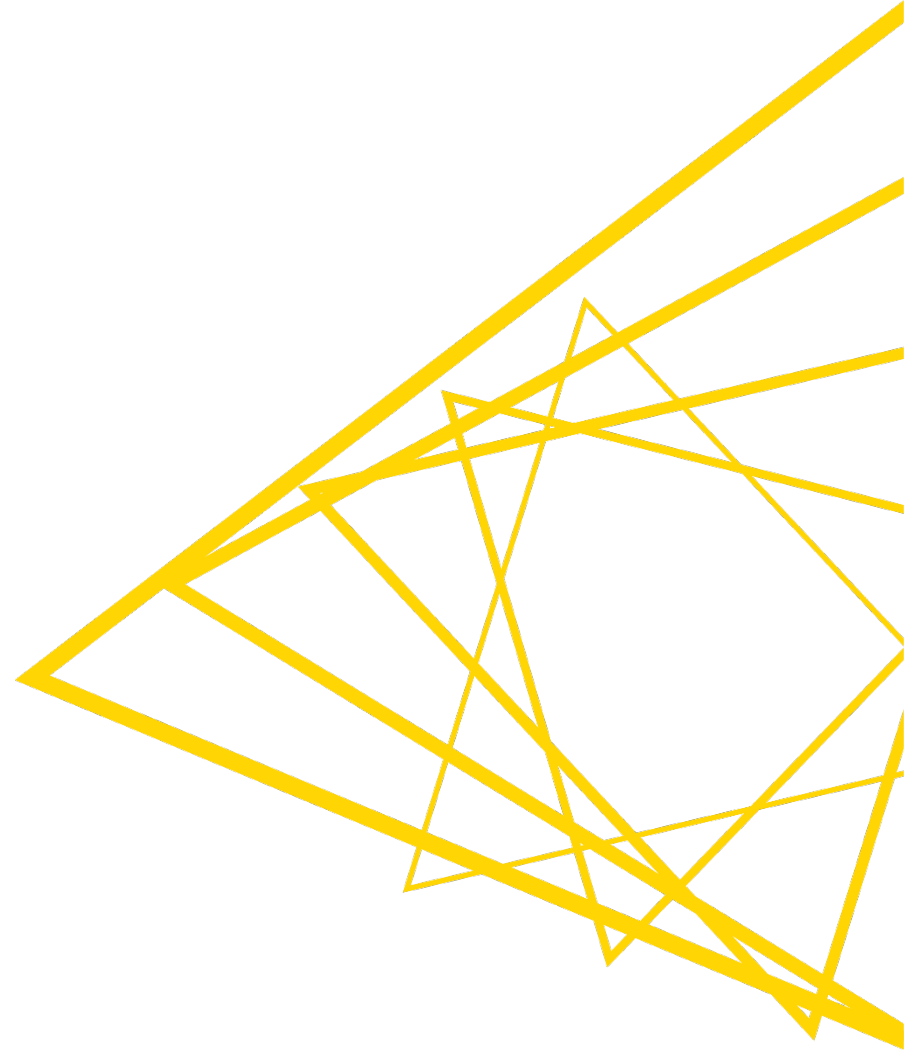
KNIME

[L2-DS] KNIME Analytics Platform for Data Scientists: Advanced

KNIME AG



Flow Variables

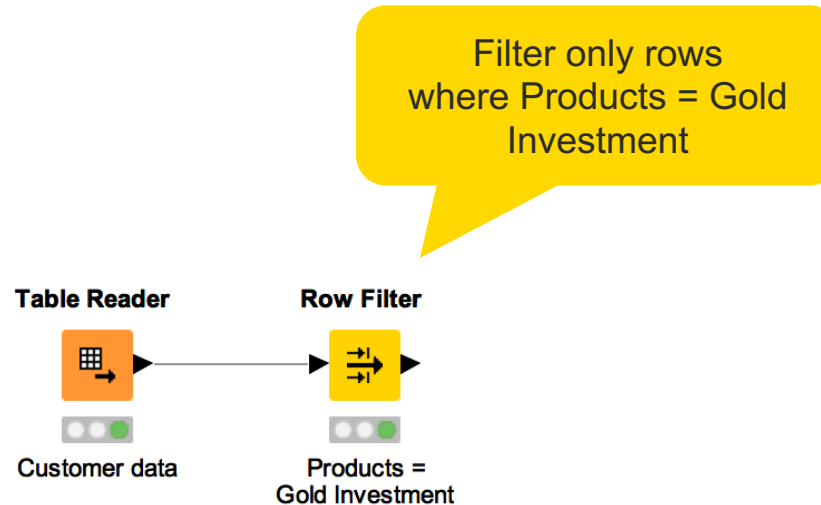


Goal of this Session

- What is a Flow Variable?
- Create a Flow Variable
- Use a Flow Variable as a parameter in the node settings
- Use a Configuration node to parameterize a Component
- Use a Widget node to enable interaction on a WebPortal page

Flow Variables: Usage Example

- Each month you need to produce a sales report for the most popular product



Flow Variables: Usage Example

- Each month I need to launch the Analytics Platform, aggregate the data to identify the most popular product, and update the Row Filter accordingly
- Or do I? Perhaps Flow Variables can help...

Automatically Filter by Most Popular Product

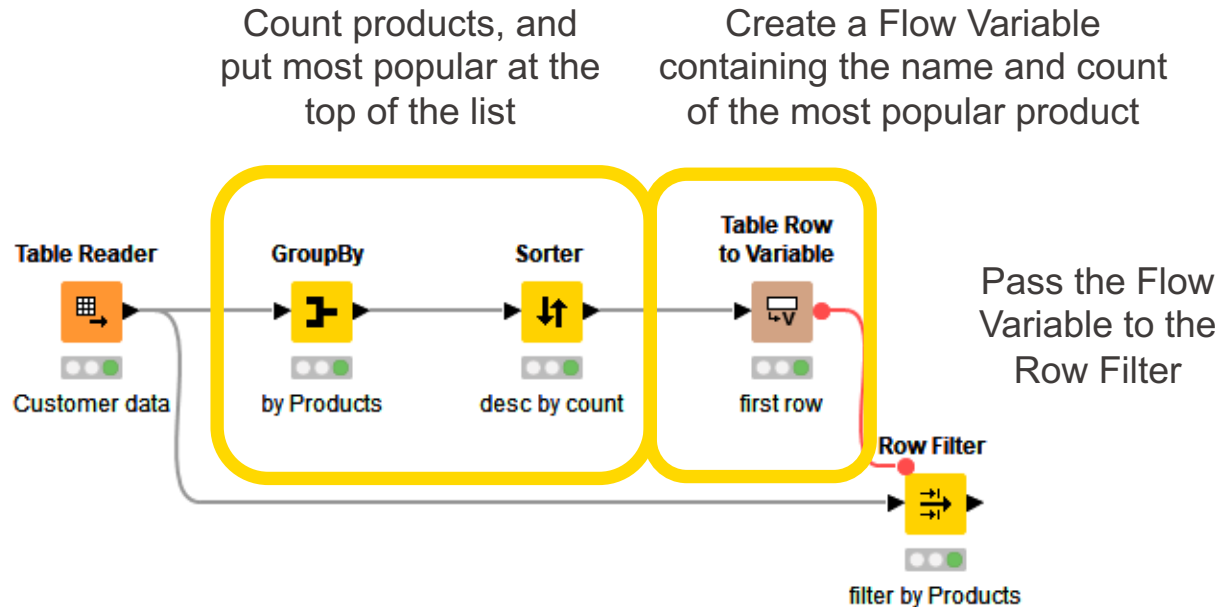


Table Row to Variable

- Takes a table as input and converts the first row to Flow Variables
 - Column names -> Flow Variable names
 - Column values -> Flow Variable values
- Only the first row is transformed, additional rows are discarded

Sorted Table - 4:5 - Sorter (desc by count)

File Hilite Navigation View

Table "default" - Rows: 5 Spec - Columns: 2

Row ID	Products	Count...
Row4	Private Investment	5296
Row3	P+B Investment	5018
Row2	Gold Investment	3258
Row1	Fund Manager+	3143
Row0	CO Investment	1549

Table Row to Variable



Variables Output - 4:6 - Table Row to Variable (first row)

File

Flow Variables

In...	Own...	Name	Value
0 4:6		Products	Private Investment
0 4:6		Count*(Age)	5296
0 4:6		RowID	Row4
0		knime.works...	/Users/kathrinmelcher/knime-workspa...

Dialog - 3:36 - Table Row to Variable (first row)

File

Settings Flow Variables Job Manager Selection

Missing values

Handling

☐ Fail

☒ Use defaults if available

☐ Omit

Defaults

String missing

Boolean false

Integer 0

Long 0

Double 0.0

Column selection

☒ Manual Selection ☐ Wildcard/Regex Selection ☐ Type Selection

Exclude

Filter

No columns in this list

☒ Enforce exclusion

Include

Filter

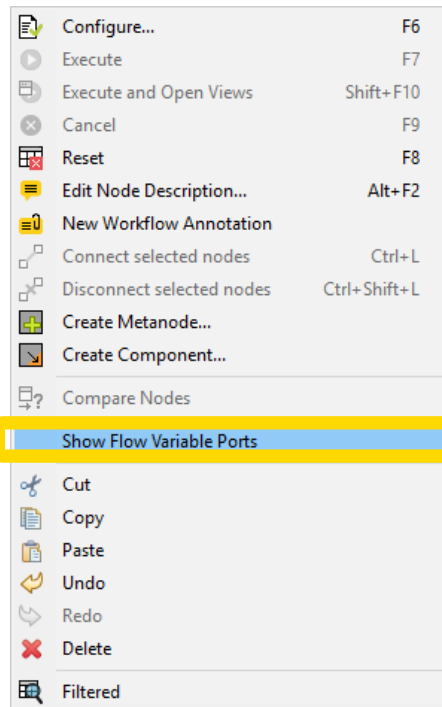
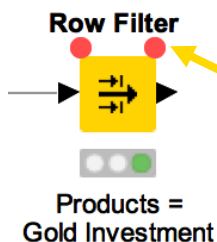
Products

Count*(Age)

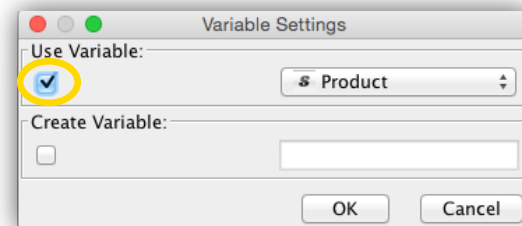
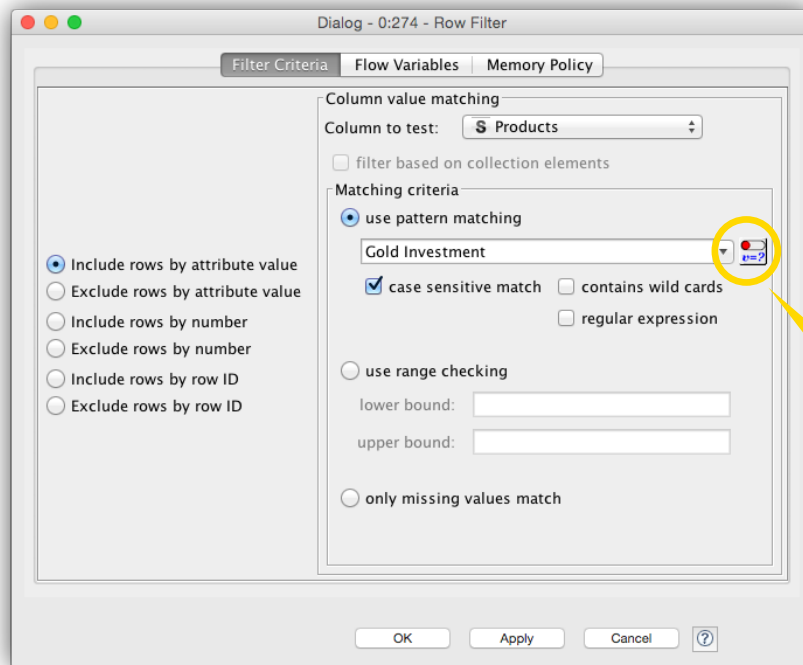
☐ Enforce inclusion

OK Apply Cancel ?

Flow Variable Ports

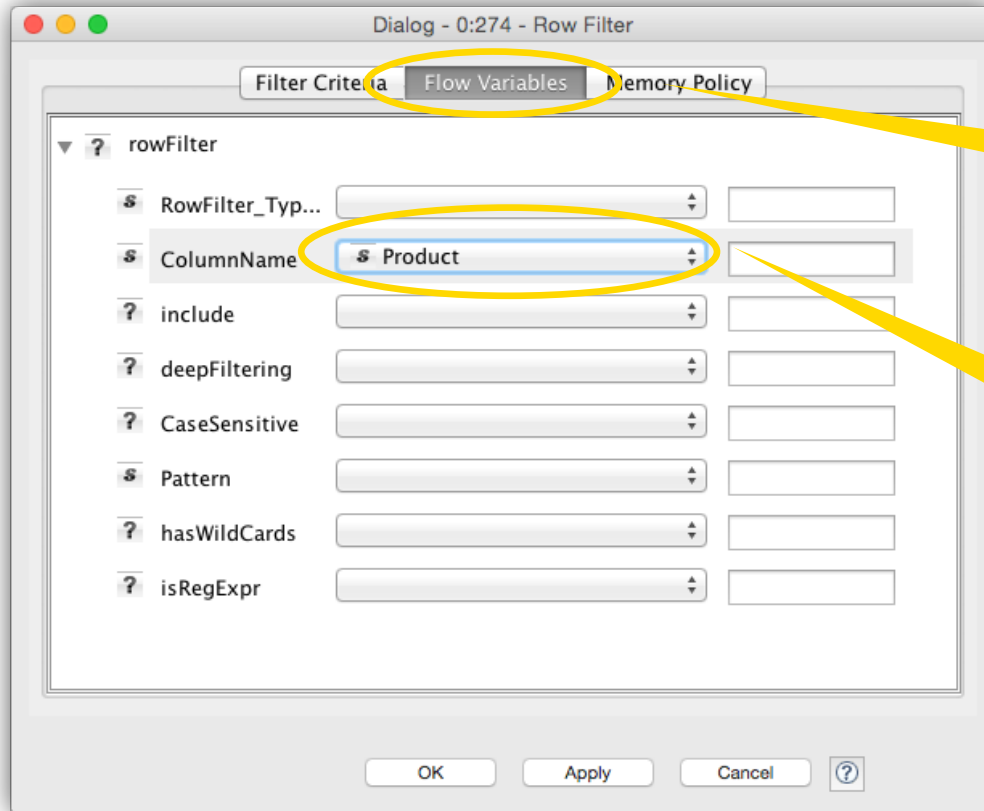


Apply a Flow Variable (Button)



The Flow Variable button

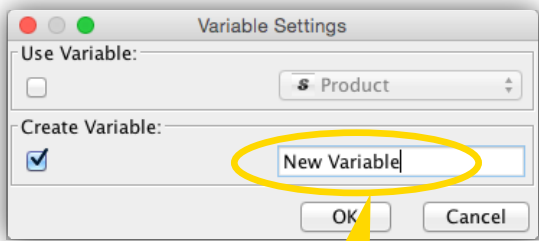
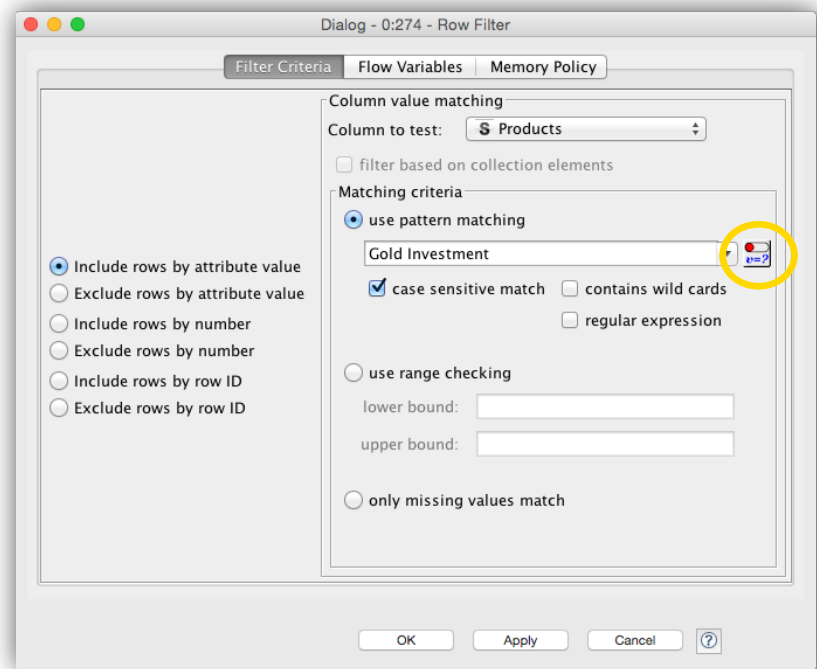
Apply a Flow Variable (Advanced)



The Flow Variables
tab

List of available Flow
Variables

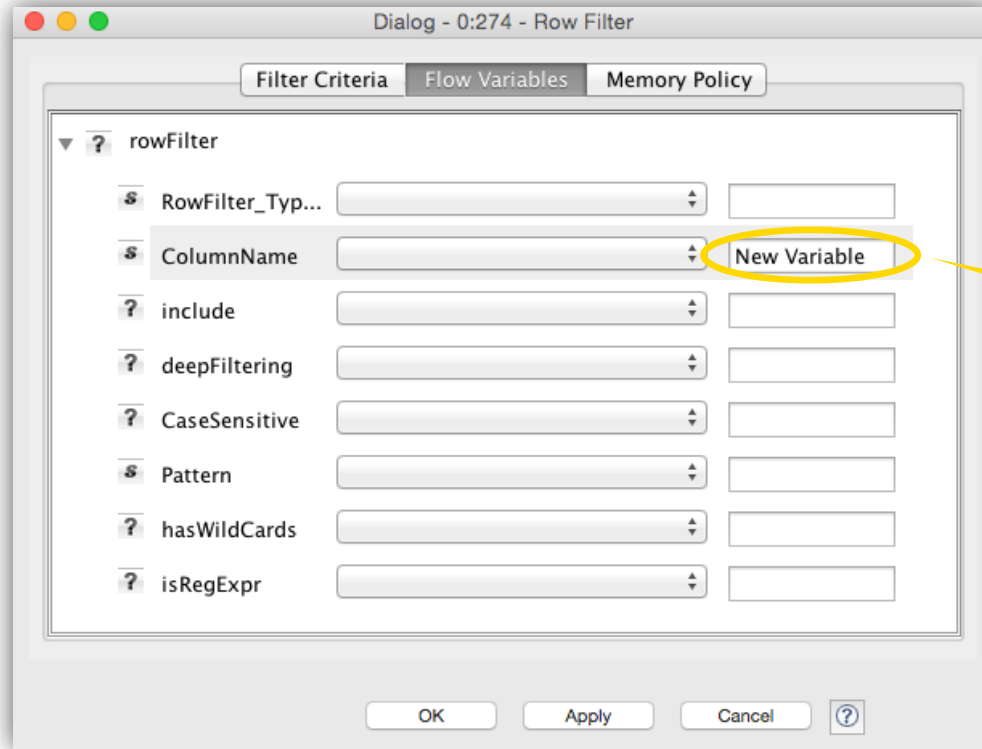
Create a Flow Variable (Button)



Name of the new Flow Variable

Create a Flow Variable (Advanced)

Converting a setting value into a Flow Variable

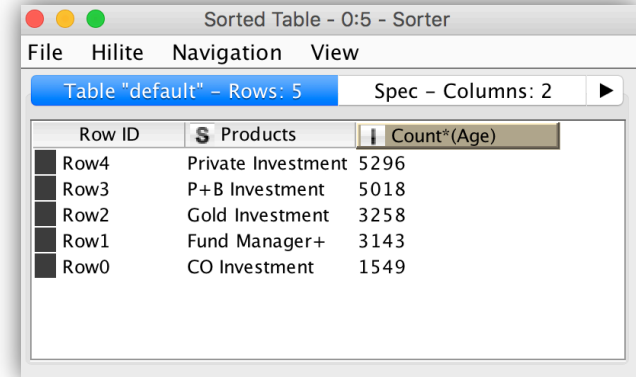
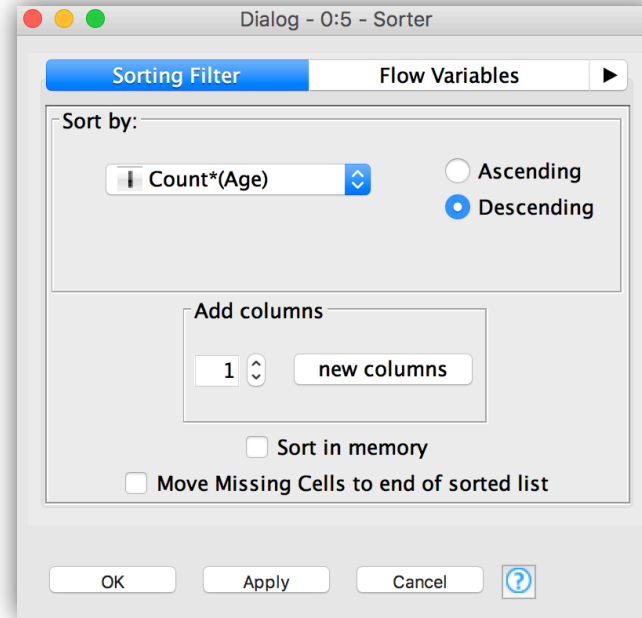
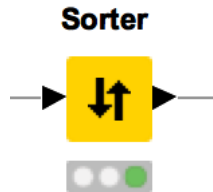


Key Features: Flow Variables

- Flow Variables are workflow parameters used to overwrite existing node settings
- A Flow Variable is carried along workflow branches (parallel branches don't share local Flow Variables)
- Flow Variables can be of type String, Integer, Double, Boolean, Long and Array, Path
- Flow Variables can be created
 1. in the “Flow Variables” tab of any node
 2. using the “Table Row to Variable” node
 3. using Configuration and Widget nodes

Sorter

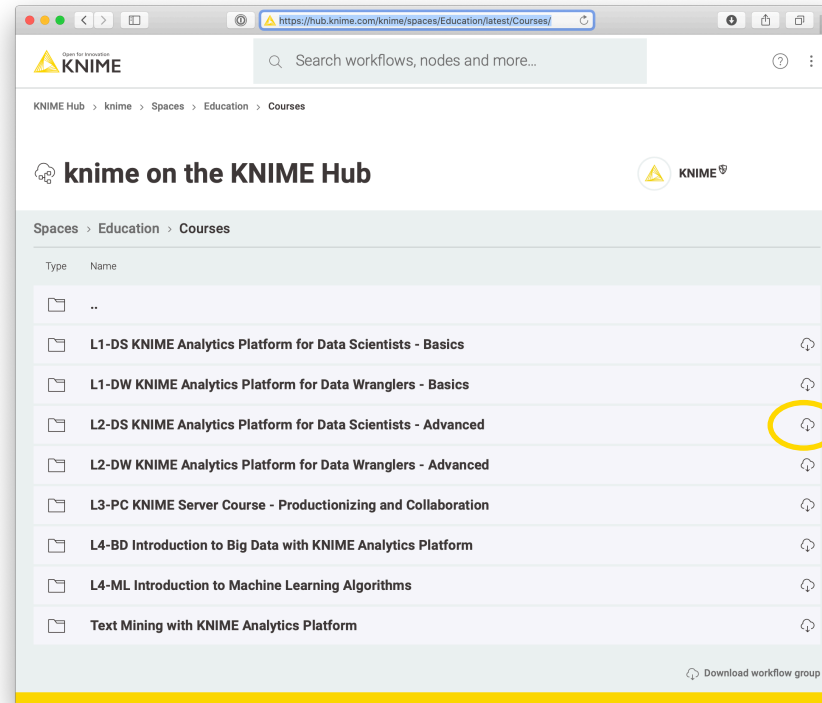
- Sorts a table!
- Choice of ascending or descending
- Sort by multiple columns

A screenshot of the 'Sorted Table - 0:5 - Sorter' window. It shows a table with 5 rows and 2 columns. The table is titled 'Table "default" - Rows: 5' and 'Spec - Columns: 2'. The columns are 'Row ID' and 'Products'. The data is sorted by 'Count*(Age)' in descending order.

Row ID	Products	Count*(Age)
Row4	Private Investment	5296
Row3	P+B Investment	5018
Row2	Gold Investment	3258
Row1	Fund Manager+	3143
Row0	CO Investment	1549

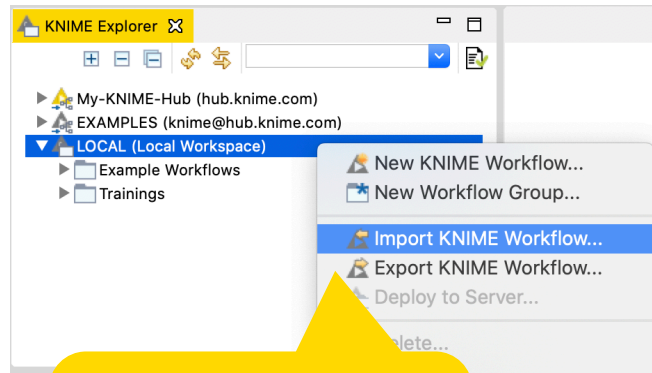
Exercise Session 1:

- Download the course material from the KNIME Hub
<https://hub.knime.com/knime/spaces/Education/latest/Courses/>

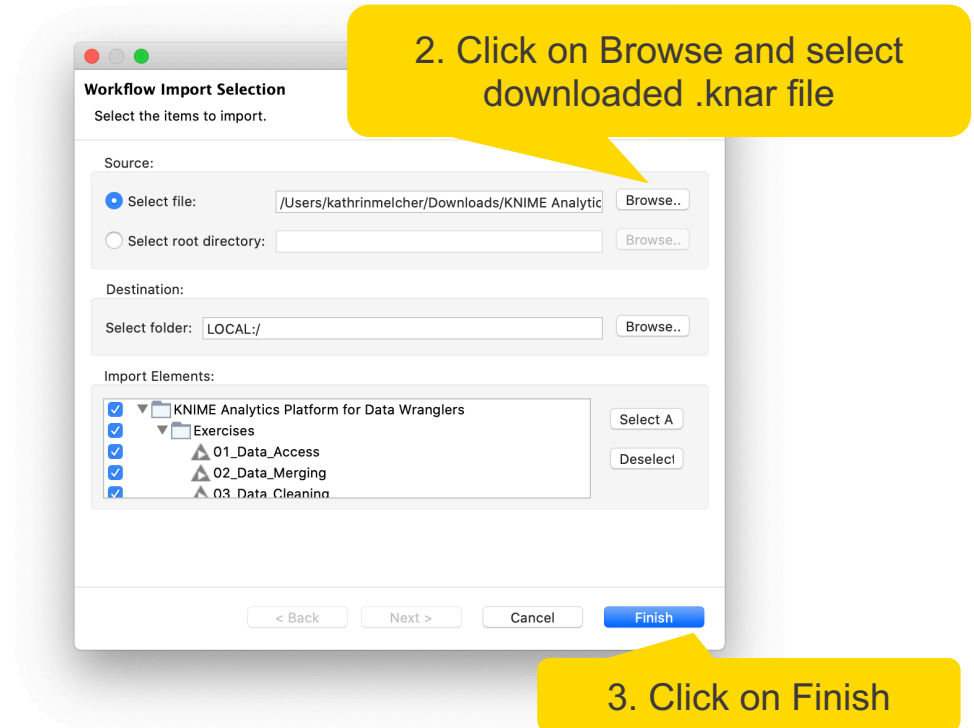


Exercise Session 1

- Import the course material to KNIME Analytics Platform



1. Right click on LOCAL and select Import KNIME Workflow....



2. Click on Browse and select downloaded .knar file

3. Click on Finish

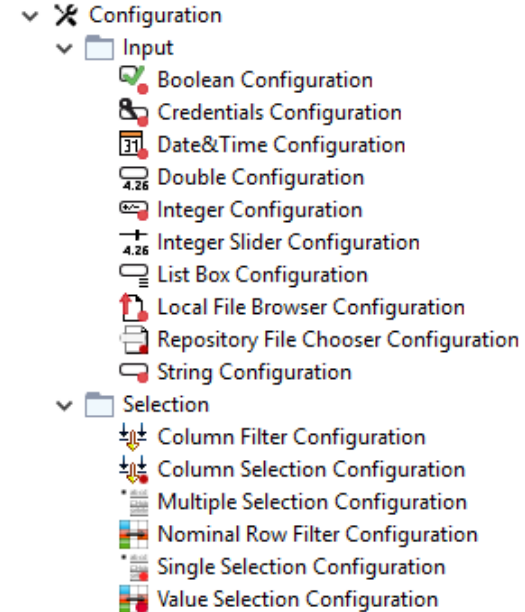
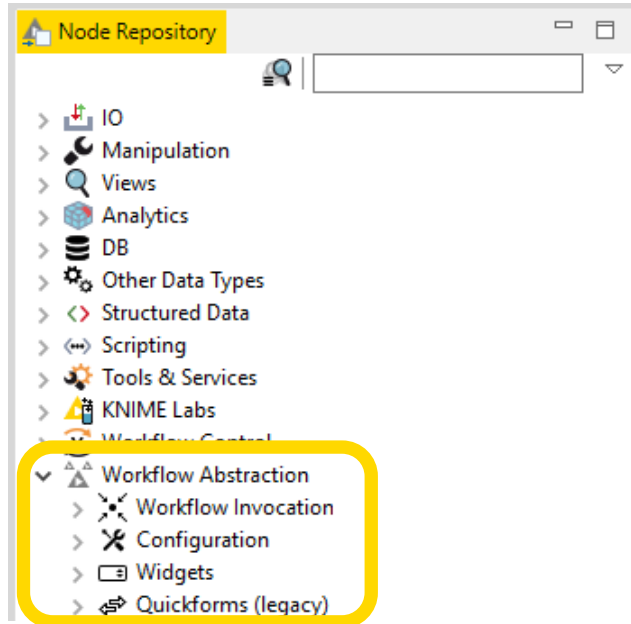
Flow Variables Exercise: Activity I

Start with exercise: *Flow Variables, Activity I*

Filter the customer data to

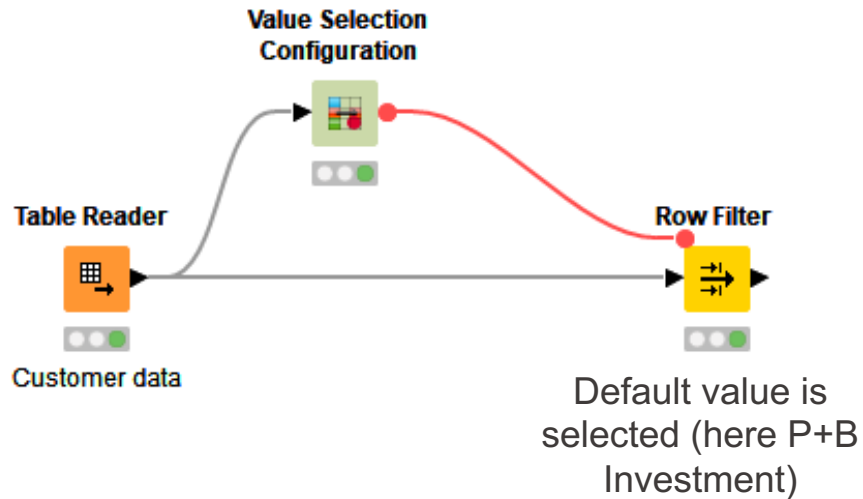
1. customers of the "Gold Investment" product
2. customers of the most common product in the data

Configuration Nodes for Variable Creation and Output



Configuration Node Configuration

Use Configurations to create Flow Variables



Dialog - 0:20 - Value Selection Configuration

File

Control | **Flow Variables** | Job Manager Selection | Memory Policy

Label: Select product:

Description: Select product to filter data

Parameter/Variable Name: product_select

Selection Type: Dropdown

Lock Column: ☐

Default Column: \$ Products

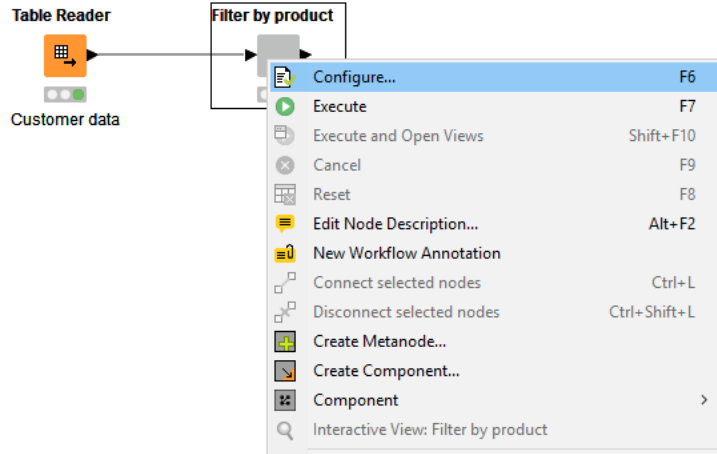
Default Value: Gold Investment

Limit number of visible options: ☐

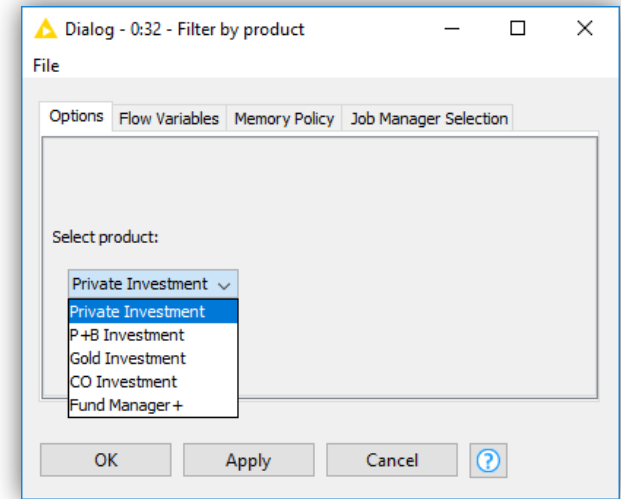
Number of visible options: 10

OK Apply Cancel ?

Simple Configuration of Component

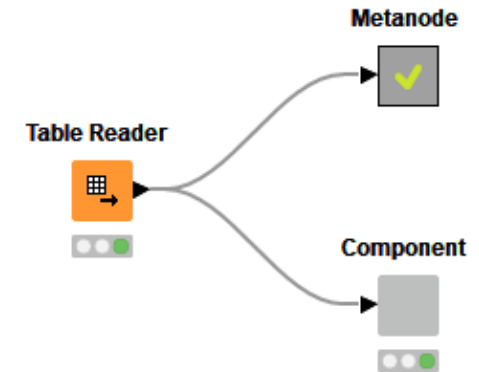


- Double click a Component to configure
- For use in WebPortal, replace Configuration nodes by Widget nodes



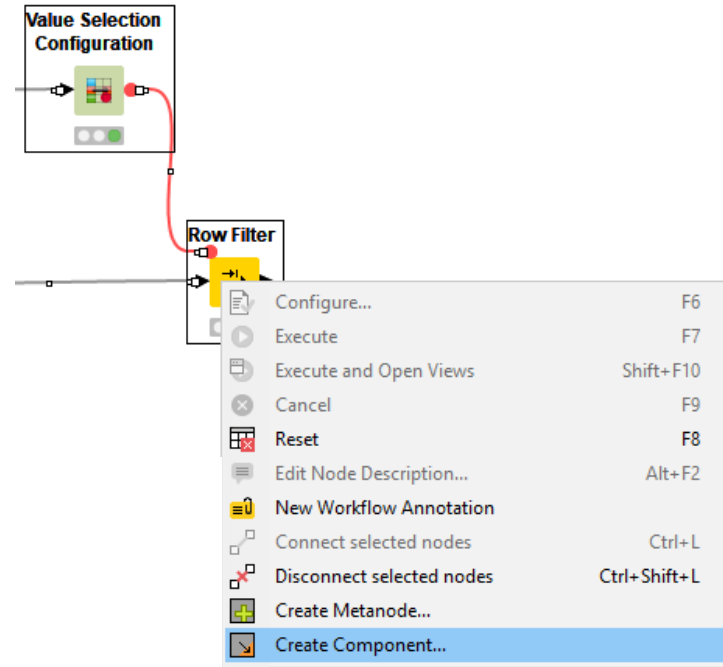
Components

- Encapsulates a functionality for reuse and sharing
- Components main features:
 - Local Flow Variable scope
 - Configurable via Configuration nodes
- Key to advanced functionality in KNIME products:
 - Component corresponds to a KNIME WebPortal page
 - Configurations on a WebPortal page are defined using Widget nodes
 - Possibility to be shared via KNIME Hub



Create a Component

- Select nodes to encapsulate into a Component
- Right click a node
- Select “Create Component...”



Component Description

Make your component look like a KNIME node

Add background color or icon

Add description of the component

Add description of the input and output ports

Filter by Product

Description

This component filters the data by the selected product name

Component Icon

Drag and Drop a square image file

PNB image of size 16x16 or larger

Ports

In Port #1

Name: Filtered data

Description: Data containing records for the selected product

Out Port #1

Name: Filtered data

Description: Data containing records for the selected product

Filter by Product

This component filters the data by the selected product name

Dialog Options

Select product:

The product name to use for filtering

Ports

Input Ports

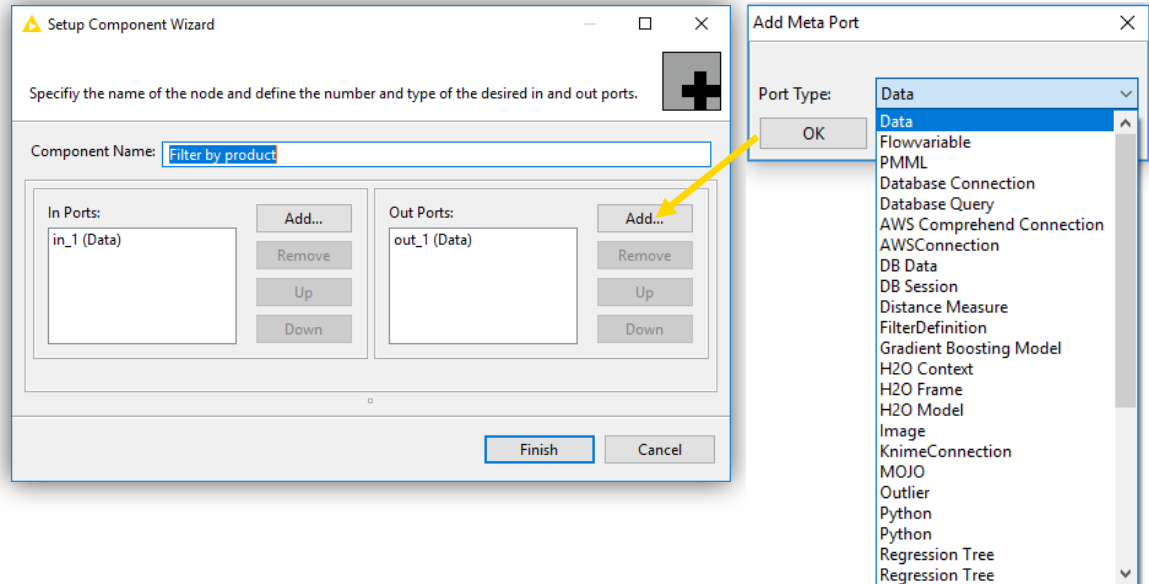
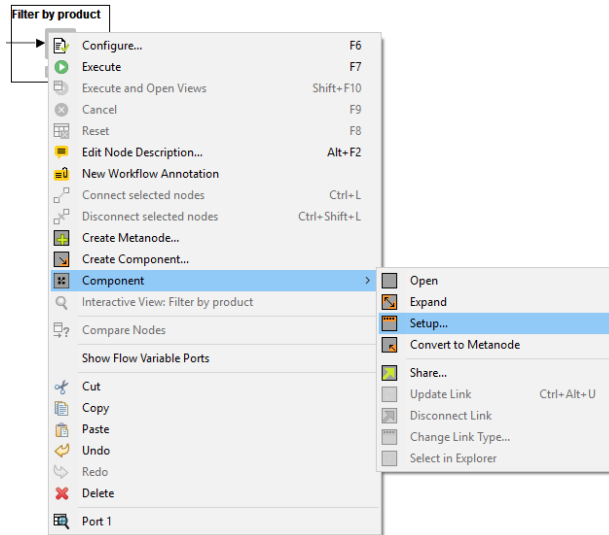
0 Data containing records for all products

Output Ports

0 Data containing records for the selected product

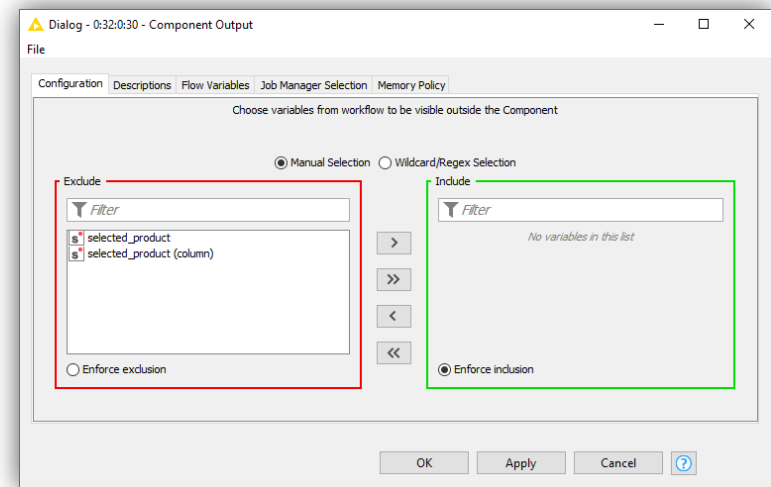
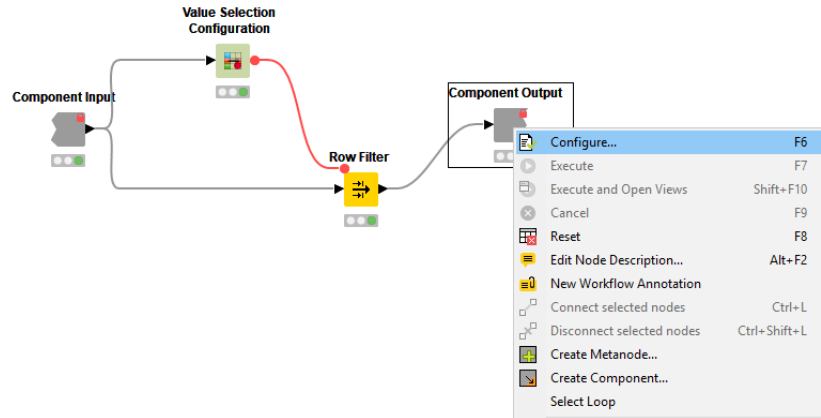
Configure Component Ports

- Add input and output ports to Metanodes/Components
- Remove ports to adapt to changes after creation of Metanode/Component



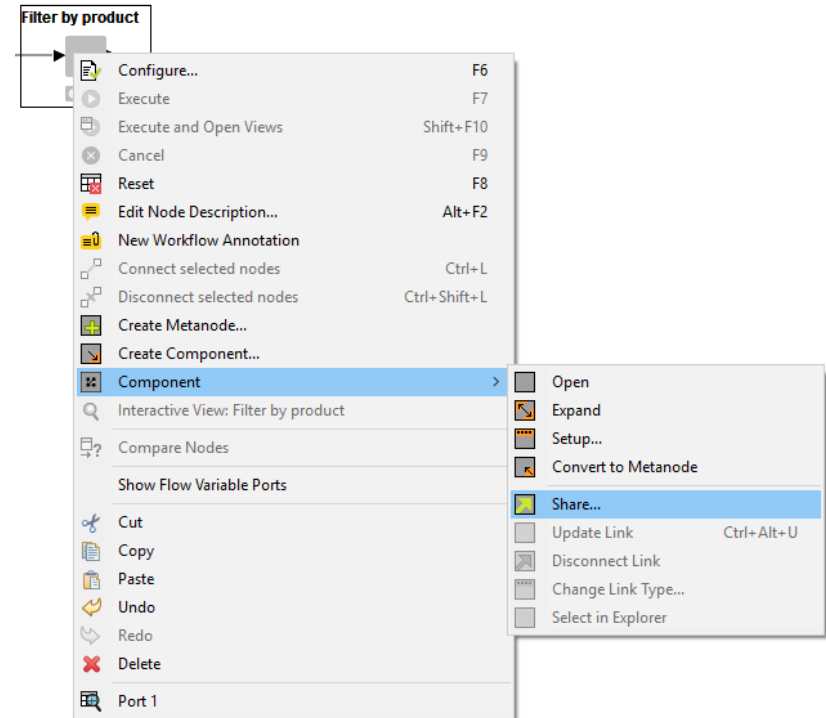
Passing Variables from Components

- Flow Variables by default only available locally inside Component
- Configure Component Input/Output to pass Flow Variables from/to outside Component



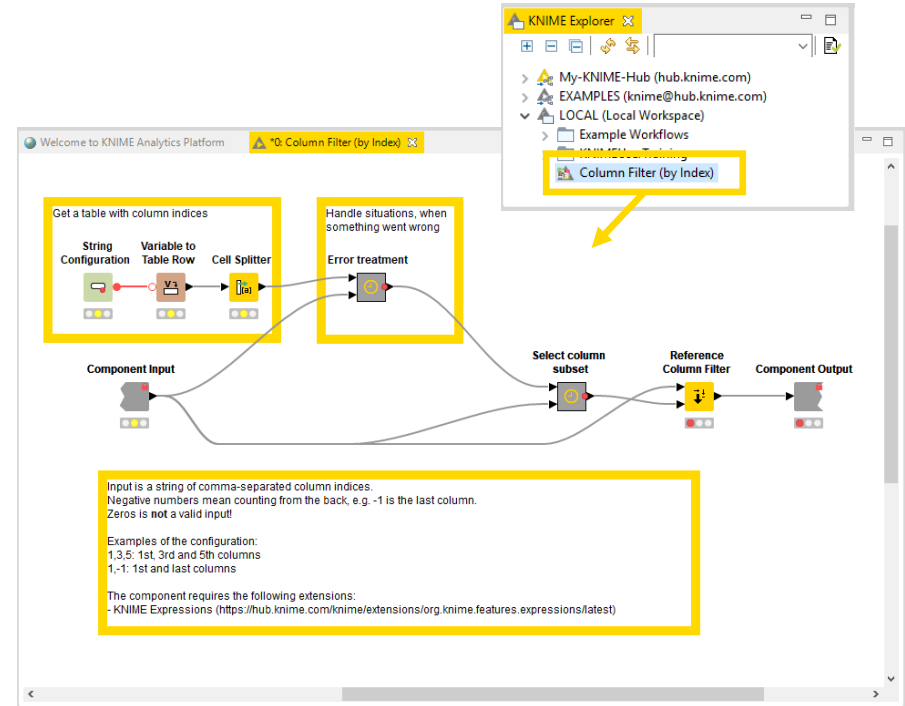
What is a Shared Component?

- Components can be saved in your KNIME workspace for later reuse
- To do this, simply right-click any Component and select “Share...”
- Shared Components are read-only instances of a Component
- Public Shared Components are available on EXAMPLES Server and on KNIME Hub



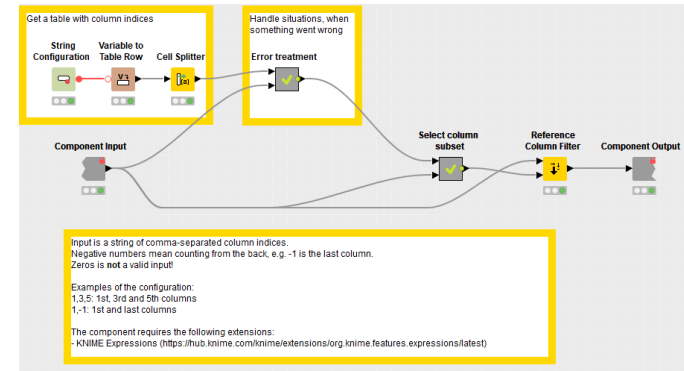
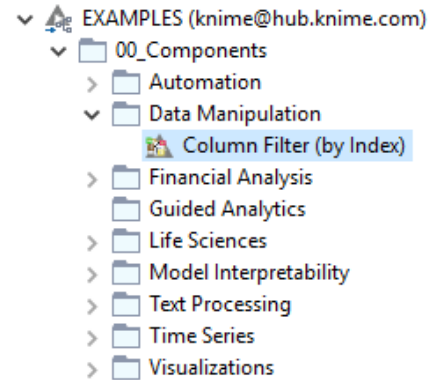
How can you Edit a Shared Component?

- Components can be edited using the Component Editor, similar to workflows
- To edit a Component using the Component Editor, double-click the Component in its location in the KNIME Explorer
- To ensure components are executable when opened in the Component Editor, chose the option to “Include input data with component” when sharing it

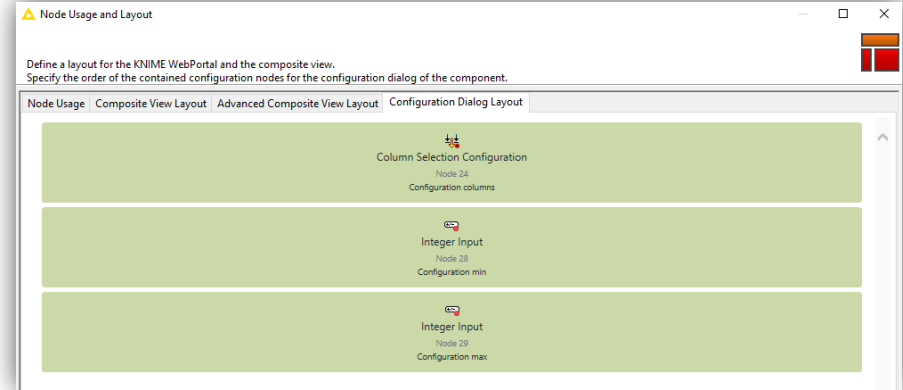
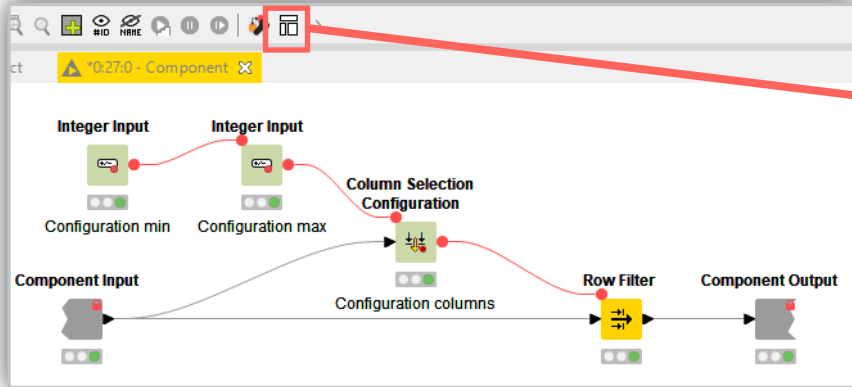


How can you Use a Shared Component?

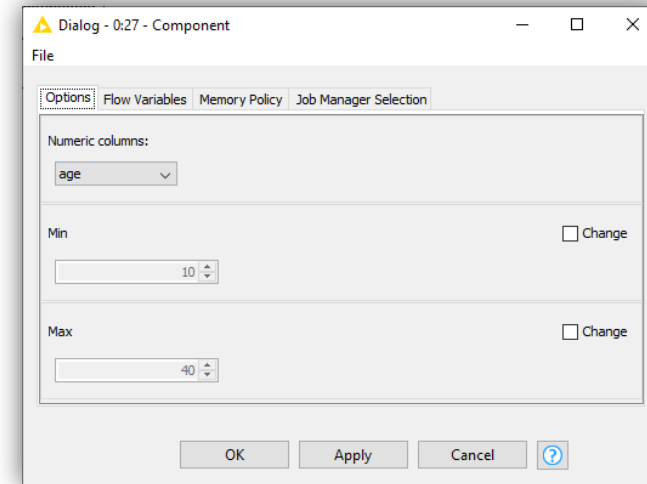
- To use a Shared Component, drag and drop it to the workflow editor
- Instances of Shared Components can be updated either manually or when workflow is opened
- Shared Component can also be unlinked from its original location, which makes it editable in the workflow directly
- Update Shared Components by overwriting them



Configuration Dialog Layout

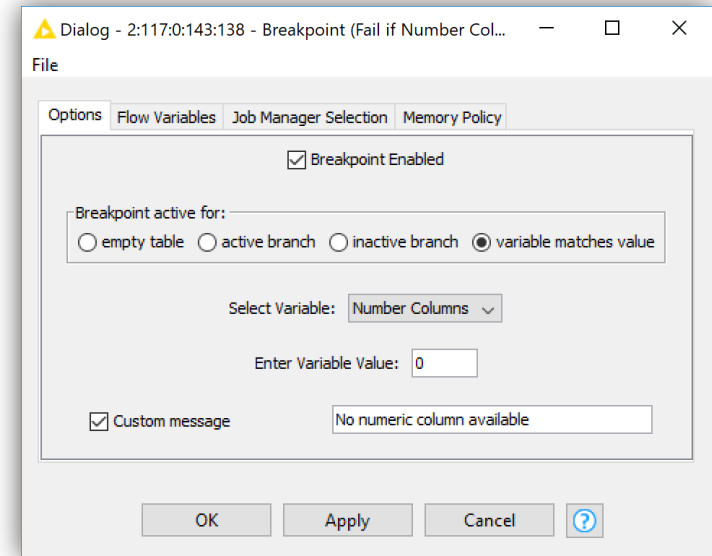
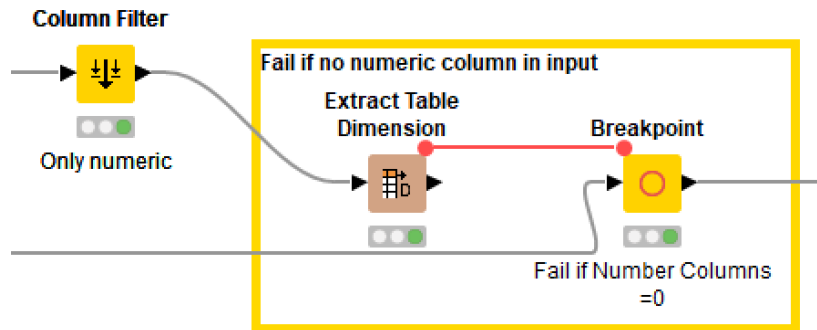


- Click layout button when inside component to modify the order of the setting options in configuration window of the component



Breakpoint

- Stops execution of a workflow branch
- Useful to stop the execution of a component and provide a custom error message
- Execution stops based on the selected condition:
 - Empty table
 - Active/Inactive branch
 - Flow Variable value

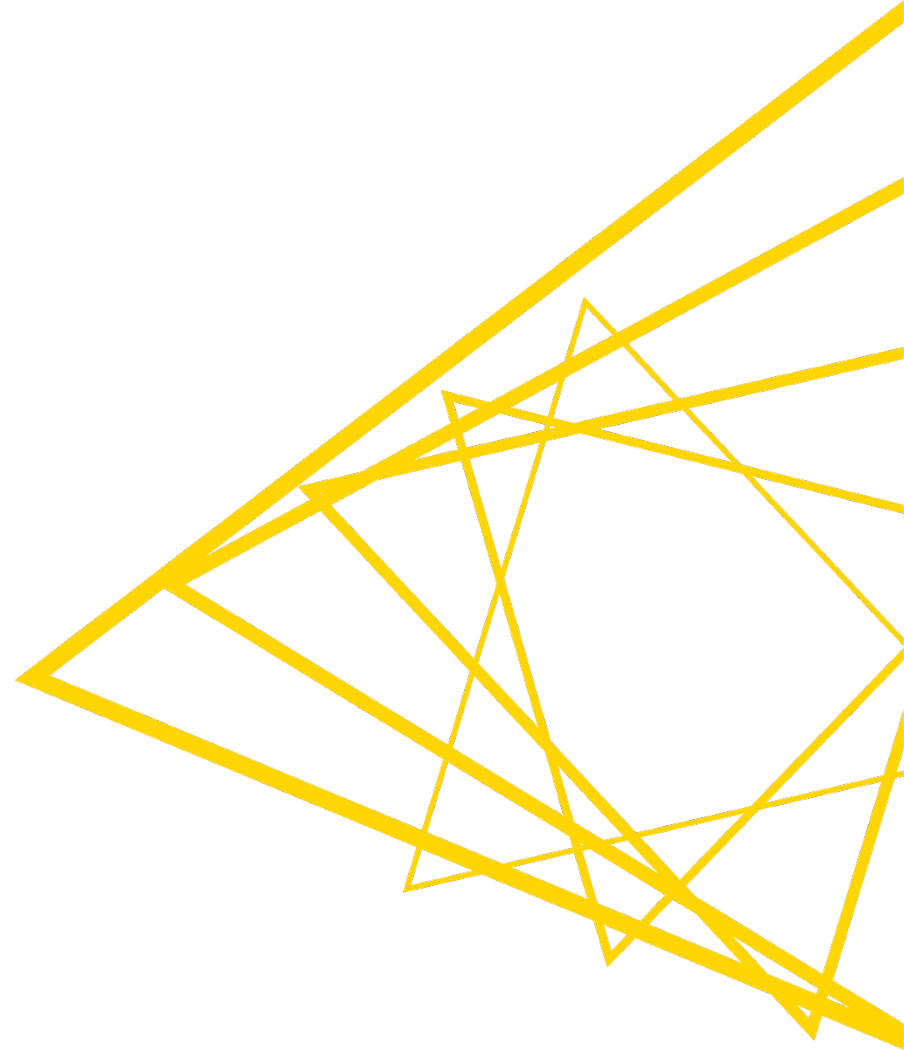


Flow Variables Exercise: Activity II

Start with exercise: *Flow Variables, Activity II*

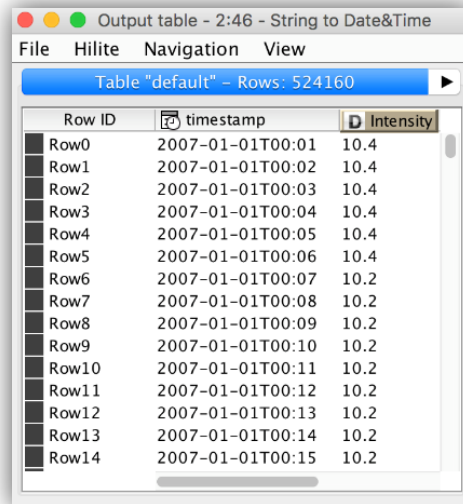
- Create a component that allows a user to choose an investment product and filter the data by that product

Date/Time Data



Date & Time Overview

- Dedicated data type for date and time data
- Supported in Date&Time nodes
 - (and others: GroupBy, Pivot, Line Plot)
- Complete re-write in KNIME 3.4



Output table - 2:46 - String to Date&Time

File Hilite Navigation View

Table "default" - Rows: 524160

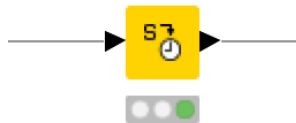
Row ID	timestamp	Intensity
Row0	2007-01-01T00:01	10.4
Row1	2007-01-01T00:02	10.4
Row2	2007-01-01T00:03	10.4
Row3	2007-01-01T00:04	10.4
Row4	2007-01-01T00:05	10.4
Row5	2007-01-01T00:06	10.4
Row6	2007-01-01T00:07	10.2
Row7	2007-01-01T00:08	10.2
Row8	2007-01-01T00:09	10.2
Row9	2007-01-01T00:10	10.2
Row10	2007-01-01T00:11	10.2
Row11	2007-01-01T00:12	10.2
Row12	2007-01-01T00:13	10.2
Row13	2007-01-01T00:14	10.2
Row14	2007-01-01T00:15	10.2

- ▼ ⚙ Other Data Types
 - ▶ 🌐 Network
 - ▶ 📁 Text Processing
 - ▼ 📈 Time Series
 - ▼ 📁 Manipulate
 - 🕒 Create Date&Time Range
 - 🕒 Date&Time Difference
 - 🕒 Date&Time Shift
 - 🕒 Date&Time-based Row Filter
 - 🕒 Modify Date
 - 🕒 Modify Time
 - 🕒 Modify Time Zone
 - ▼ 📁 Transform
 - 🕒 Date&Time to String
 - 🕒 String to Date&Time
 - 🕒 UNIX Timestamp to Date&Time
 - 🕒 Duration to String
 - 🕒 Duration to Number
 - 🕒 String to Duration
 - 🕒 Date&Time to legacy Date&Time
 - 🕒 Legacy Date&Time to Date&Time
 - 🕒 Extract Date&Time Fields
 - 🕒 Extract Duration Fields
 - 🕒 Window Loop Start
 - ▼ 📁 Smoothing
 - 🕒 Moving Aggregation
 - 🕒 Moving Average

String to Date&Time

- Convert date/time data from String into a native Date&time cell
- Guesses correctly many date/time formats in String columns
 - Enter format manually if auto-guessing doesn't work
 - KNIME automatically adds custom formats to auto-guess list
 - Convert multiple columns that have the same date/time format by one node

String to Date&Time



The screenshot shows the 'String to Date&Time' dialog box with several annotations:

- Select columns to transform:** A yellow callout pointing to the 'Include' list on the right, which contains 'timestamp'.
- Enter date format manually:** A yellow callout pointing to the 'Date format' field, which contains 'yyyy-MM-dd'T'HH:mm[:ss[.SSS]]'.
- Select type of output column:** A yellow callout pointing to the 'New type' dropdown, which is set to 'Date&time'.
- Click to auto-guess format:** A yellow callout pointing to the 'Guess data type and format' button.

The dialog box itself has tabs for 'Options', 'Flow Variables', and 'Memory Policy'. It features 'Manual Selection' and 'Wildcard/Regex Selection' radio buttons. The 'Exclude' list on the left contains 'Date' and 'Time'. The 'Include' list on the right contains 'timestamp'. There are 'Enforce exclusion' and 'Enforce inclusion' checkboxes. The 'Replace/Append Selection' section has 'Append selected columns' and 'Replace selected columns' radio buttons, with a 'Suffix of appended columns' field set to '(Date&Time)'. The 'Type and Format Selection' section includes a 'New type' dropdown set to 'Date&time', a 'Locale' dropdown set to 'en-US', a 'Date format' dropdown set to 'yyyy-MM-dd'T'HH:mm[:ss[.SSS]]', and a 'Content of the first cell' field showing '2007-01-01T00:01:00'. There is also a 'Guess data type and format' button.

Date&Time – Data Types

Output table - 2:50 - Create Date&Time Range

File Hilite Navigation View

Table "default" - Rows: 1000

Row ID	Date
Row0	2017-01-19
Row1	2017-01-19
Row2	2017-01-20
Row3	2017-01-20
Row4	2017-01-20
Row5	2017-01-21
Row6	2017-01-21
Row7	2017-01-22
Row8	2017-01-22
Row9	2017-01-22
Row10	2017-01-23

Date

Output table - 2:50 - Create Date&Time Range

File Hilite Navigation View

Table "default" - Rows: 1000

Row ID	Date&Time
Row0	2017-01-19T13:00:46
Row1	2017-01-19T21:46:57
Row2	2017-01-20T06:33:08
Row3	2017-01-20T15:19:20
Row4	2017-01-21T00:05:31
Row5	2017-01-21T08:51:42
Row6	2017-01-21T17:37:53
Row7	2017-01-22T02:24:04
Row8	2017-01-22T11:10:15
Row9	2017-01-22T19:56:27
Row10	2017-01-23T04:42:38

Date & Time

Dialog - 2:50 - Create Date&Time Range

Options Flow Variables Job Manager Selection Memory Policy

Output Settings

Output type: **Date&time**

New column name: Date&Time

Mode Selection

Number of rows: ☒ Fixed: 1,000 ☐ Variable

Starting Point

Start: Date: 2017-01-19 Time: 13:00:46

Time Zone: Europe/Berlin

☐ Use execution date&time

Ending Point

☐ Interval:

☒ End: Date: 2018-01-19 Time: 14:00:46

☐ Use execution date&time

OK Apply Cancel ?

Output table - 2:50 - Create Date&Time Range

File Hilite Navigation View

Table "default" - Rows: 1000

Row ID	Time
Row0	14:02:31.155
Row1	14:02:31.155
Row2	14:02:31.155
Row3	14:02:31.155
Row4	14:02:31.155
Row5	14:02:31.155
Row6	14:02:31.155
Row7	14:02:31.155
Row8	14:02:31.155
Row9	14:02:31.155
Row10	14:02:31.155

Time

Output table - 2:50 - Create Date&Time Range

File Hilite Navigation View

Table "default" - Rows: 1000 Spec - Column: 1

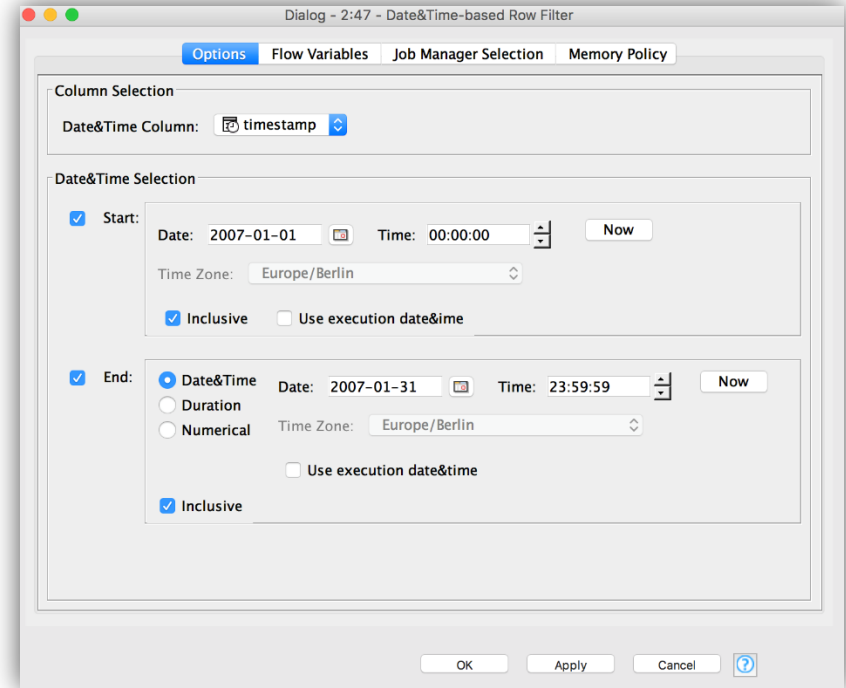
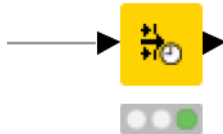
Row ID	Time
Row0	2018-01-19T14:02:31.155+01:00[Europe/Berlin]
Row1	2018-01-19T14:02:31.155+01:00[Europe/Berlin]
Row2	2018-01-19T14:02:31.155+01:00[Europe/Berlin]
Row3	2018-01-19T14:02:31.155+01:00[Europe/Berlin]
Row4	2018-01-19T14:02:31.155+01:00[Europe/Berlin]
Row5	2018-01-19T14:02:31.155+01:00[Europe/Berlin]
Row6	2018-01-19T14:02:31.155+01:00[Europe/Berlin]
Row7	2018-01-19T14:02:31.155+01:00[Europe/Berlin]
Row8	2018-01-19T14:02:31.155+01:00[Europe/Berlin]
Row9	2018-01-19T14:02:31.155+01:00[Europe/Berlin]
Row10	2018-01-19T14:02:31.155+01:00[Europe/Berlin]

Date & Time +
Time zone

Date&Time-based Row Filter

- Filter rows from a specified time period
- Range can be limited on upper bound, lower bound, or both
- Options for end point:
 - Date&Time: Fixed date and time
 - Duration: Duration string (e.g. 2y 3M)
 - Numerical: Select granularity from a dropdown menu and enter a number

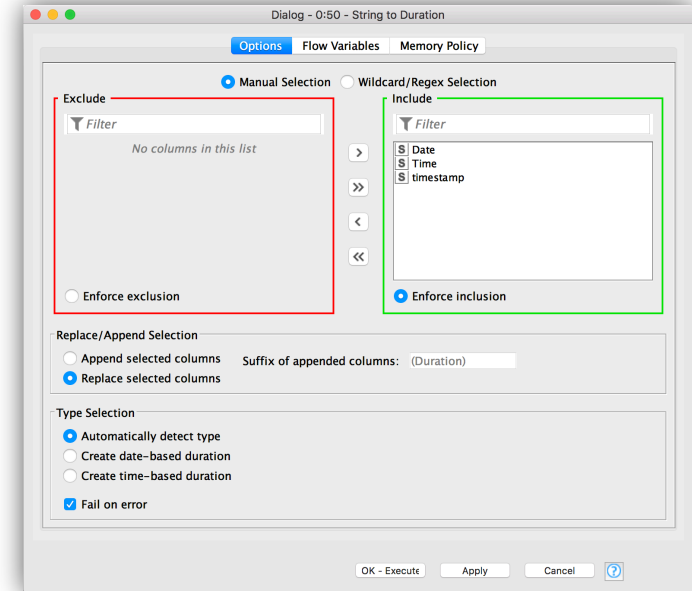
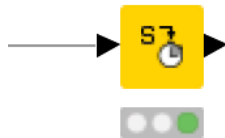
Date&Time-based Row Filter



String to Duration

- Takes a String and converts it to a duration cell
- Three different options to format input Strings
- Example: Convert 1 year, 2 months, 3 weeks, and 4 days to duration cell
 - ISO-8601: “P1Y2M3W4D”
 - Short letter: “1y 2M 3w 4d”
 - Long word: “1 year 2 months 3 weeks 4 days”

String to Duration

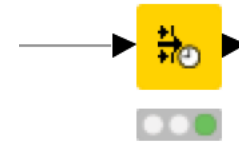


Row ID	iso	short	long	iso(Duration)	short(Duration)	long(Duration)
Row0	P1Y2M3W4D	1y 2M 3w 4d	1 year 2 months 3 weeks 4 days	1y 2M 25d	1y 2M 25d	1y 2M 25d

Duration-based Filtering

- Date&Time-based Row Filter allows to extract time periods
- From the start date, select all rows within the defined period
- Use one of the three options to define the duration, e.g.
 - ISO-8601: “P1Y2M3W4D”
 - Short letter: “1y 2M 3w 4d”
 - Long word: “1 year 2 months 3 weeks 4 days”

Date&Time-based Row Filter



Output table - 0:50 - Create Date&Time Range

File Hilite Navigation View

Table "default" - Rows: 50 Spec - Column: 1

Row ID	Time
Row0	2018-01-19T14:02:31.155
Row1	2018-01-27T00:49:02.991
Row2	2018-02-03T11:35:34.828
Row3	2018-02-10T22:22:06.665
Row4	2018-02-18T09:08:38.502
Row5	2018-02-25T19:55:10.338
Row6	2018-03-05T06:41:42.175
Row7	2018-03-12T17:28:14.012
Row8	2018-03-20T04:14:45.849
Row9	2018-03-27T15:01:17.686
Row10	2018-04-04T01:47:49.522
Row11	2018-04-11T12:34:21.359
Row12	2018-04-18T23:20:53.196
Row13	2018-04-26T10:07:25.033
Row14	2018-05-03T20:53:56.870
Row15	2018-05-11T07:40:28.706

Dialog - 0:60 - Date&Time-based Row Filter

Options Flow Variables Job Manager Selection Memory Policy

Column Selection

Date&Time Column: Time

Date&Time Selection

☒ Start: Date: 2018-02-01 Time: 14:15:19 Now

Time Zone: Europe/Berlin

☒ Inclusive ☐ Use execution date&time

☒ End: ☐ Date&Time ☒ Duration ☐ Numerical 1M

☒ Inclusive

OK Apply Cancel

1 Month

Output table - 0:60 - Date&Time-based Ro...

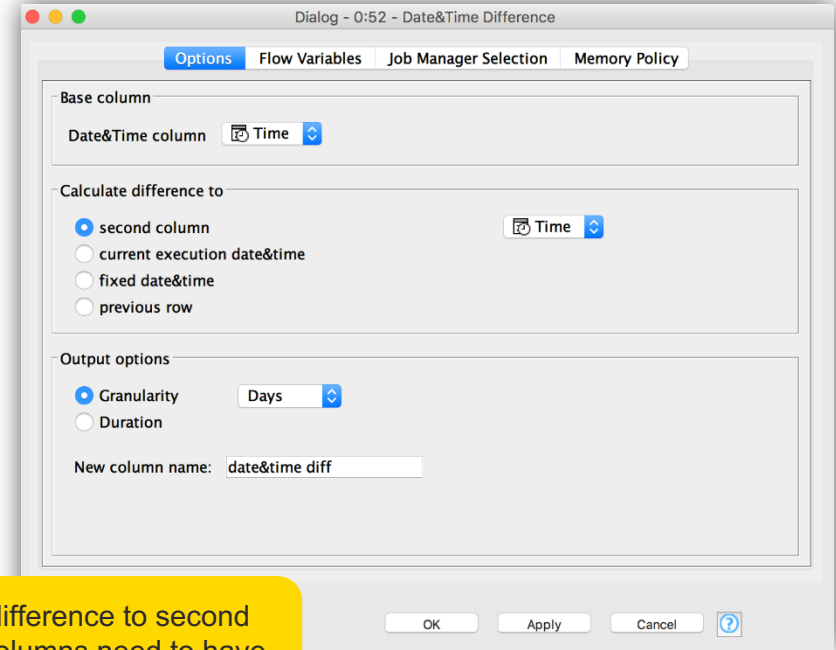
File Hilite Navigation View

Table "default" - Rows: 4

Row ID	Time
Row2	2018-02-03T11:35:34.828
Row3	2018-02-10T22:22:06.665
Row4	2018-02-18T09:08:38.502
Row5	2018-02-25T19:55:10.338

Date&Time Difference

- Choose desired granularity (days, hours, minutes, etc.)
- Check the difference between a time column and...
 - Another time column
 - Execution time
 - User-defined time
 - Previous row

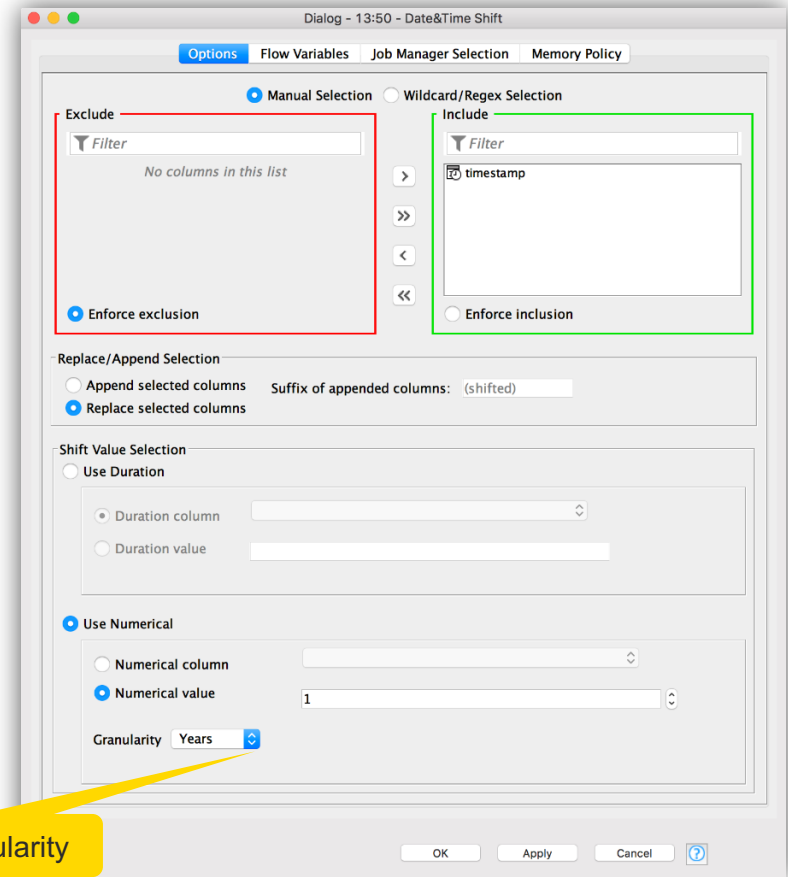
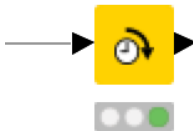


To calculate difference to second column, both columns need to have the same type!

Date&Time Shift

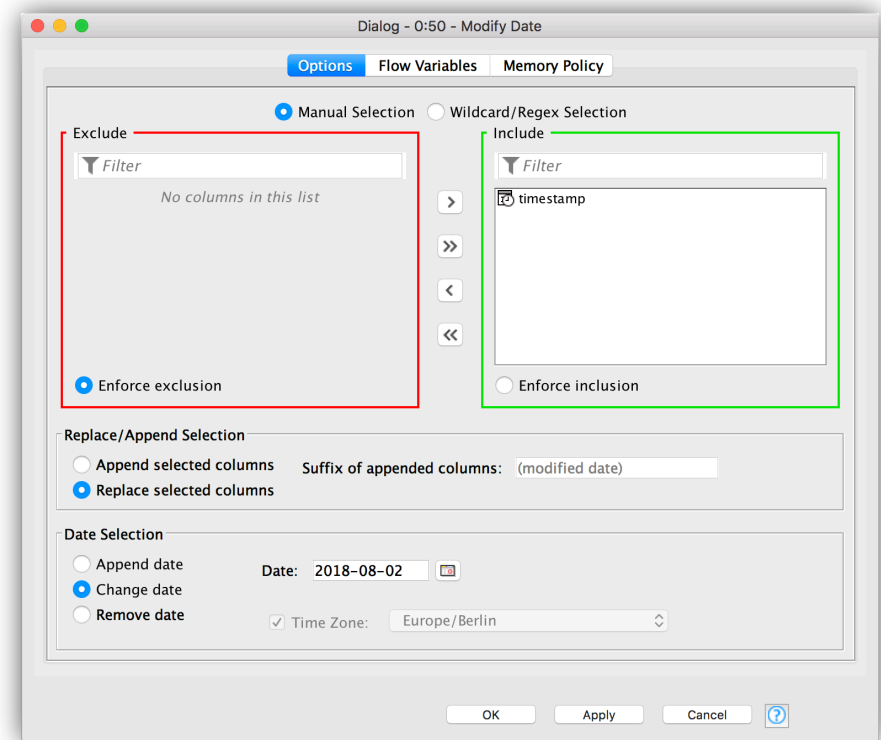
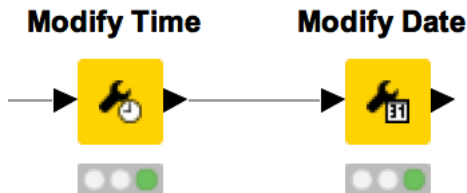
- Shifts date or time by either a duration or a numerical value
- Use duration:
 - Use duration column
 - Or shift by user defined value
 - E.g. 1y, 2M, 5h, etc.
- Use numerical value in combination with selected granularity
 - Use numerical column
 - Or shift by user defined value

Date&Time Shift



Modify Time / Modify Date

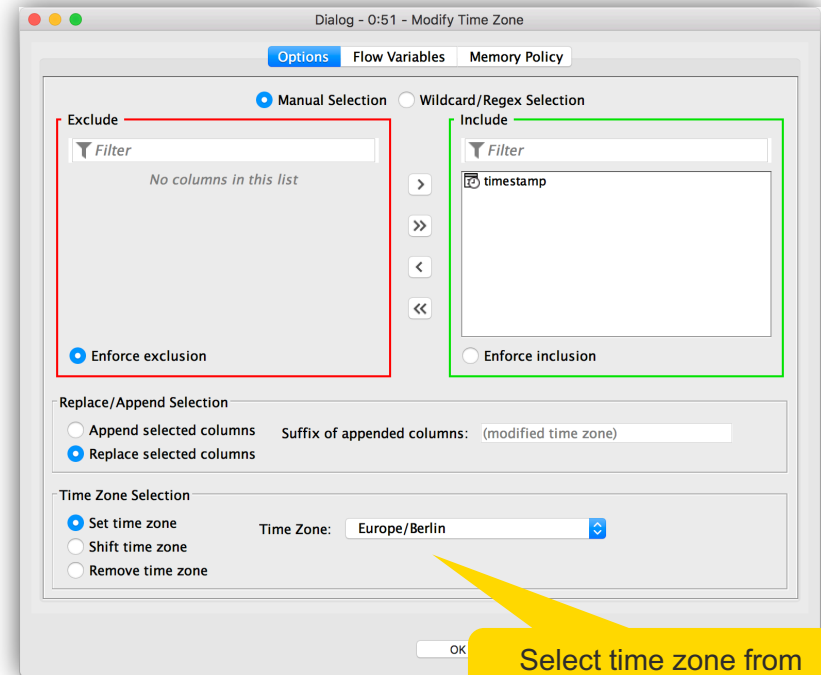
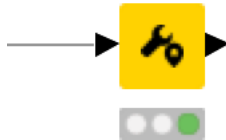
- Modify Date&Time columns
- Three options:
 - Append time (date) to a date (time) column
 - Change time (date) to a fixed value
 - Remove time (date) from a Date&Time column
- Column selection shows only columns that can be modified by the current configuration



Modify Time Zone

- Similar to Modify Time/Modify Date
- Input: Date&Time
 - Set time zone
- Input: Date&Time (Time zone)
 - Set time zone
 - Shift time zone
 - Remove time zone

Modify Time Zone



Date and Time Analysis Exercise, Activity I

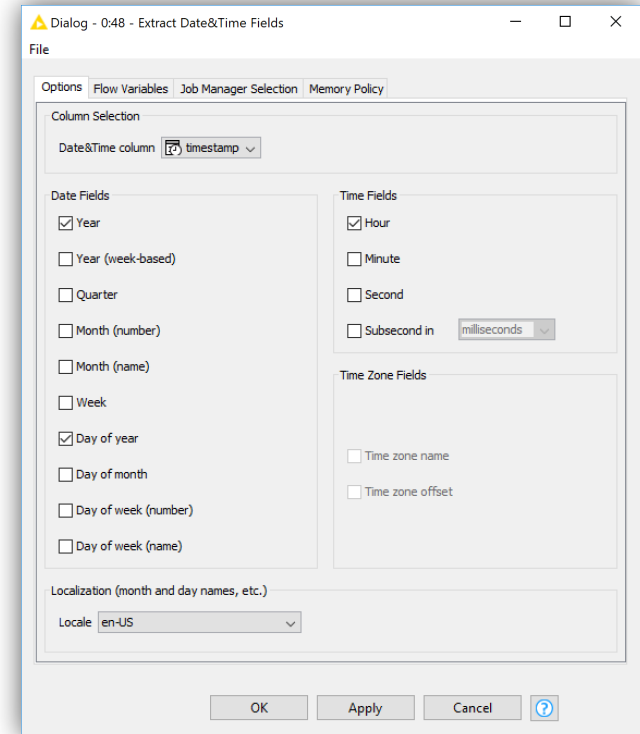
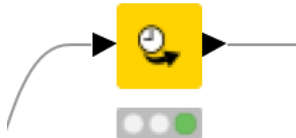
Start with exercise: *Date and Time Analysis, Activity I*

- Read *meter_data.csv* data
- Combine the individual date and time values into a timestamp with the String Manipulation node
- Convert the timestamp from String to Date&Time
- Extract the records for January 2007 with the Date&Time-based Row Filter node

Extract Date&Time Fields

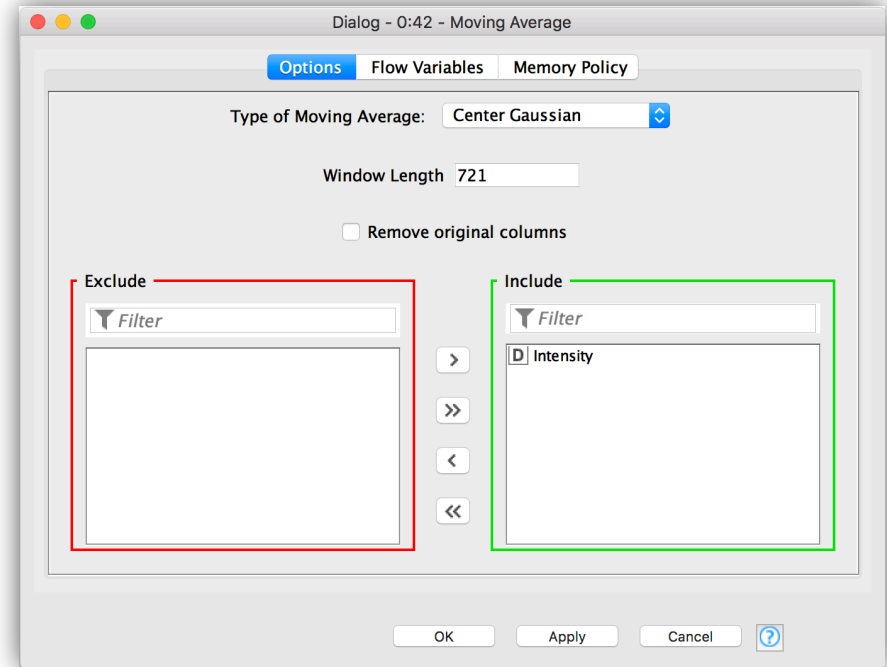
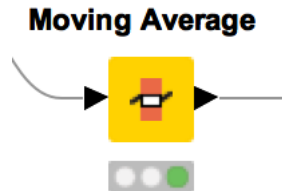
- Extract date fields (year, day, month,...) or time fields (hour, minute, second,...) from a Date&Time cell
- Pick and choose which fields to include
- Useful when used in combination with data aggregation nodes (GroupBy, Pivoting, etc.)

Extract Date&Time Fields



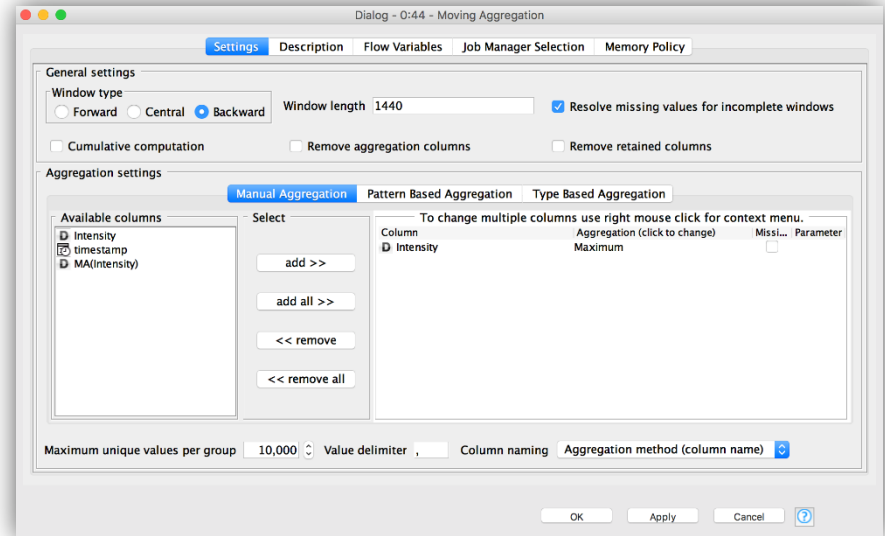
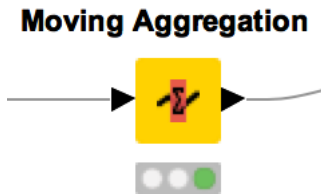
Moving Average

- Effective “smoothing” node
- Smoothing defined by
 - window type (centered, forward or backward)
 - window length
 - weighted or not
- Useful when plotting aggregated time series data to more easily see trends



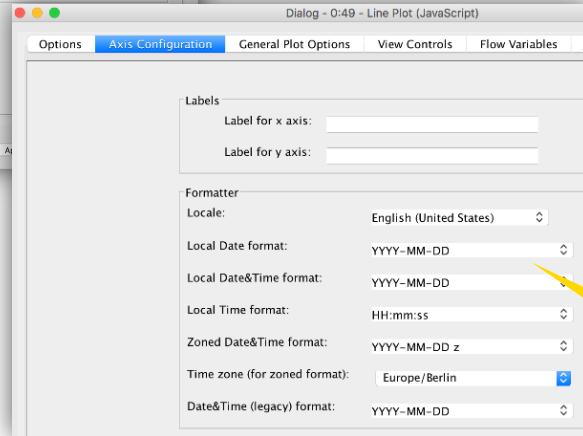
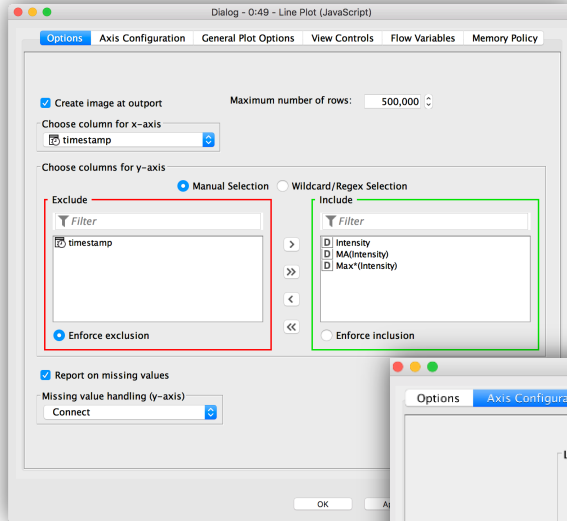
Moving Aggregation

- Blend of GroupBy + Moving Average Functionality
- Group by moving window
- Aggregate using standard KNIME methods

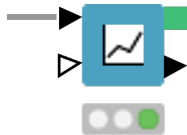


Line Plot

- Line plot with support for Date columns



Line Plot



Format axis

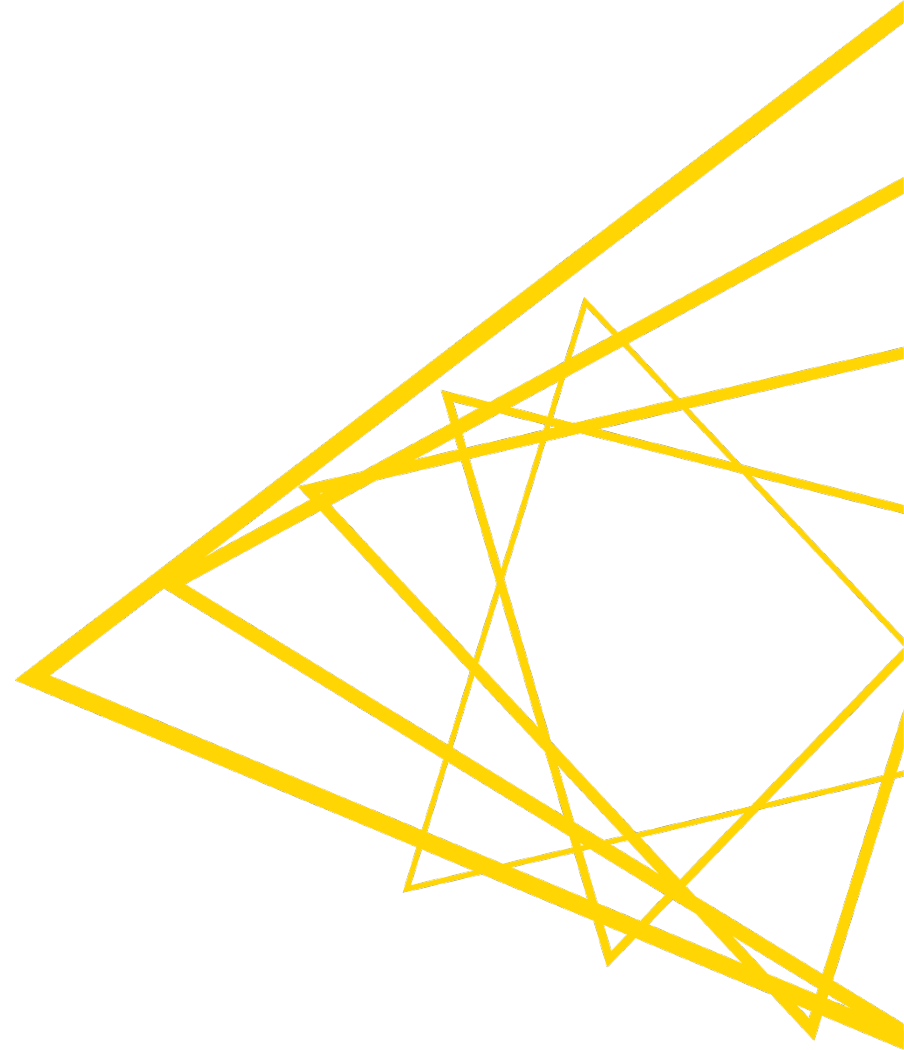
Date and Time Analysis Exercise, Activity II

Start with exercise: *Date and Time Analysis, Activity II*

- Read *sampled_meter_data.table* data
- Extract Year, Day of Year, and Hour values from the timestamp into separate columns
- Calculate the average timestamp and average intensity by year, day, and hour
- Start a new workflow branch and calculate gaussian centered moving average of the intensity
- Calculate the maximum of the intensity column for the preceding day (1440 previous records)
- Plot the original, average, and maximum intensity in a line plot

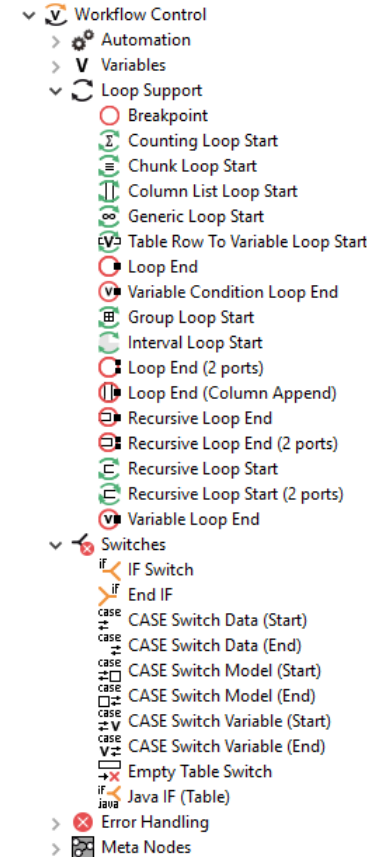
Workflow Control

Loops, Switches, Try-Catch



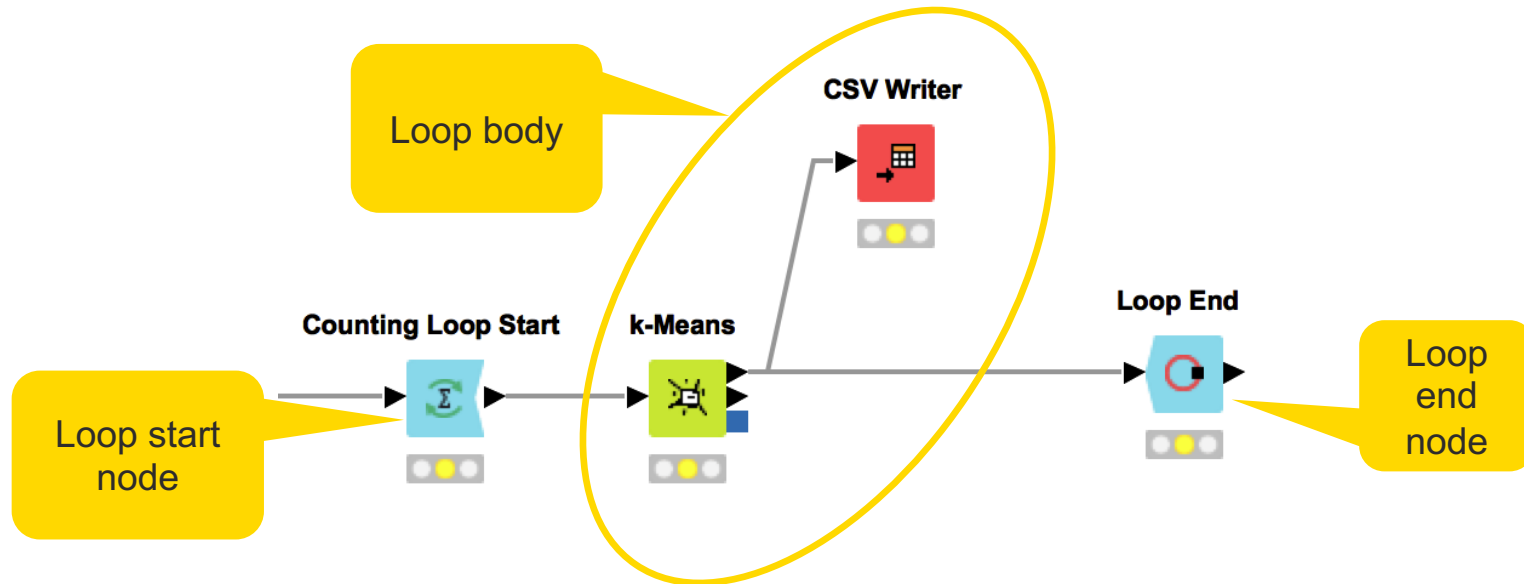
Workflow Control Structures

- Loops
 - Iterate over a workflow snippet with variable inputs.
- Switches
 - Direct the path of a workflow by selectively executing one or more workflow branches.
- Try-Catch
 - Handle workflow branches that may fail in execution and you don't know before execution



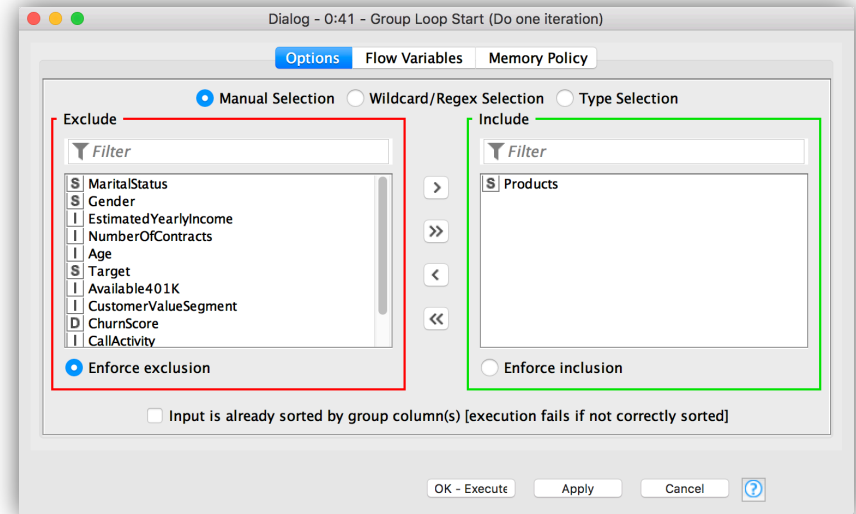
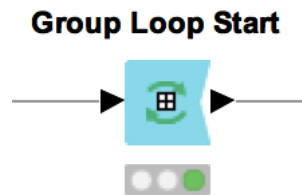
The Loop Block

- A loop block is defined by appropriate loop start and loop end nodes.
- Loop body = Nodes in between (including side branches).



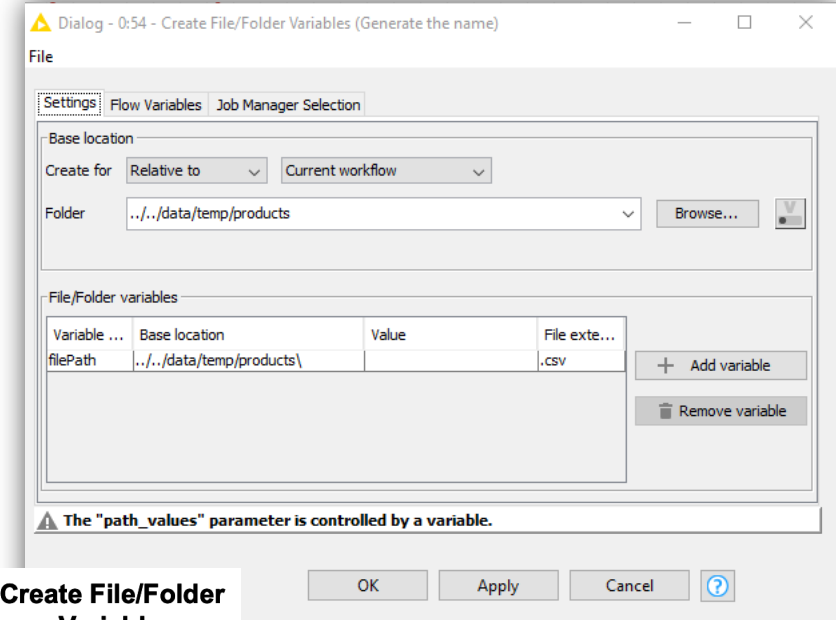
Group Loop Start

- Similar to GroupBy except without aggregation tab.
- Each iteration of the loop passes the next group of rows.
- You implement the aggregation task. It can be any from a complex calculation to updating a database.

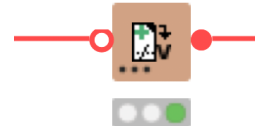


Create File/Folder Variables

- Creates one or multiple path flow variable(s) pointing to files / folders
- Inputs:
 - Base location
 - Flow variable name(s)
 - Value (file name or path relative to base location)
 - File extension (optional)
- Output variables can be used to control the output location in writer nodes.

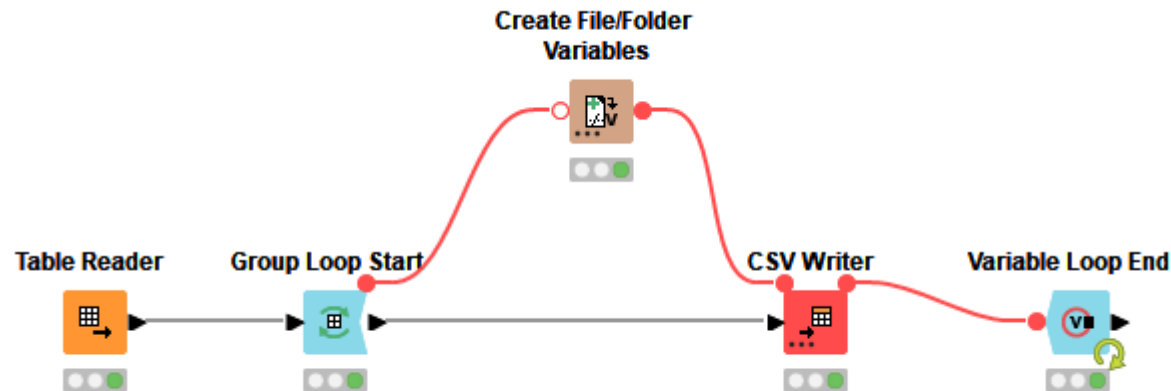


Create File/Folder Variables

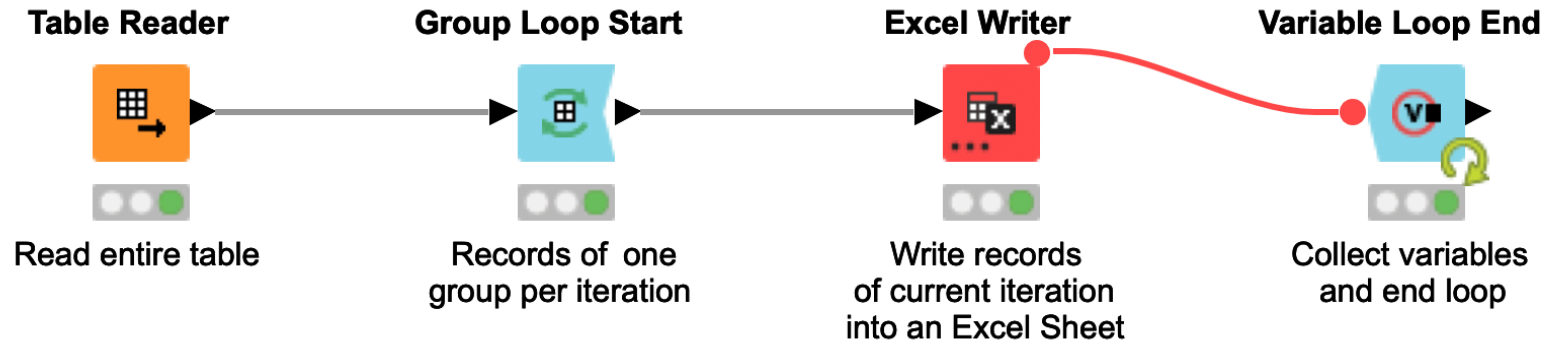


Example: Writing Aggregated Files

- Group Loop Start → Variable Loop End
- Group data by specific column values
- Iterate over all groups of data
- Create an appropriate path variable
- Write grouped data to tables with new file name



Example: Writing Multiple Excel Sheets



Workflow Control Exercise, Activity I

Goal: Build a loop that will create an Excel file with separate Excel sheets for the records of different products.

- Read the table CurrentDetailData.table (Table Reader node)
- Start a loop that handles the records for the different products in separate iterations (Group Loop Start node)
- For each product write one Excel sheet into a single Excel file (Excel Writer node)
- Close and execute the loop (Variable Loop End node)

Example: Reading Many Excel Sheets

- List all sheet names of an Excel file
- Convert sheet name into a flow variable (1 sheet name per iteration)
- In each iteration, read the spreadsheet with the current sheet name
- Close the loop and collect the results

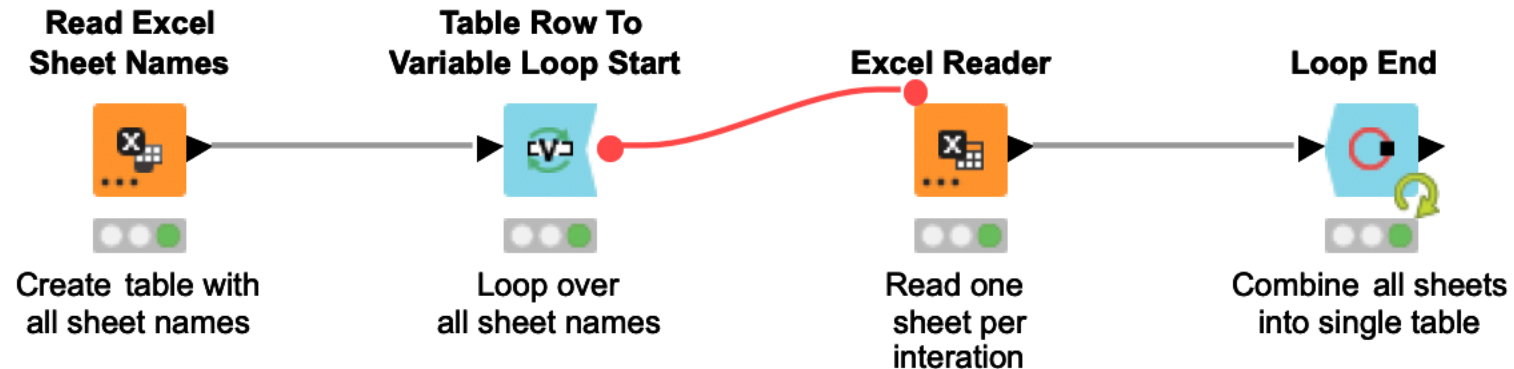
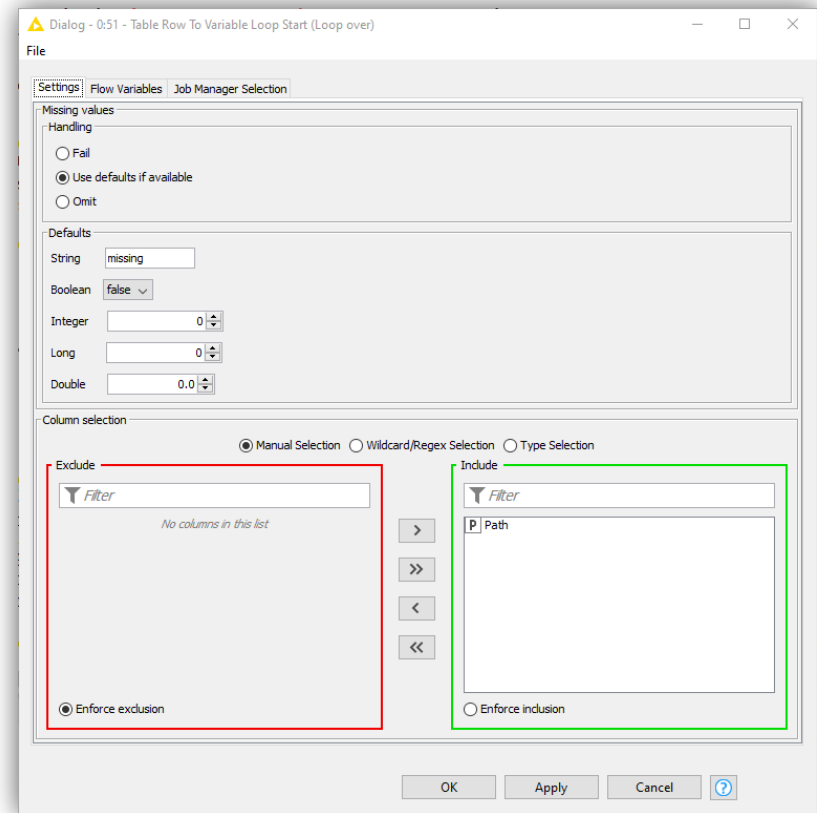
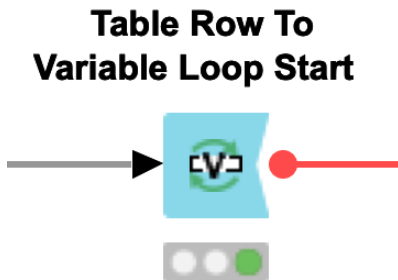


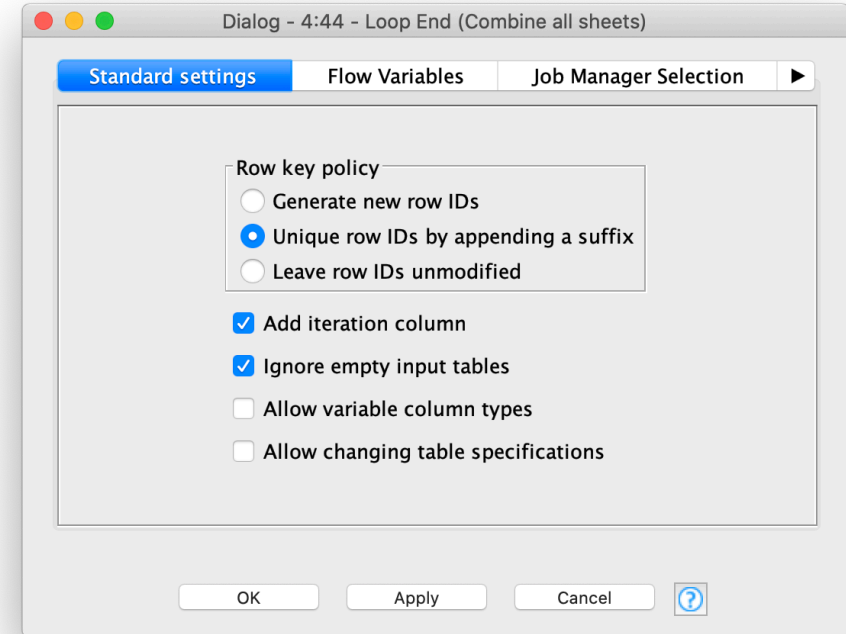
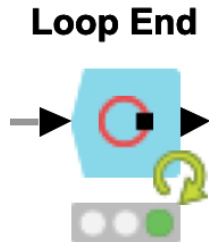
Table Row to Variable Loop Start

- Similar to the Table Row to Variable node
- Each iteration of the loop converts the next row of the input table into Flow Variables
- Injects variables into other nodes to re-execute subflows with a progression of settings



Loop End

- Can be used to end of a loop
- Collects the results of the different iterations by row-wise concatenation of the incoming tables
- Provides options to:
 - Add a column with the iteration number
 - Allow variable column types
 - Allow changing table specifications



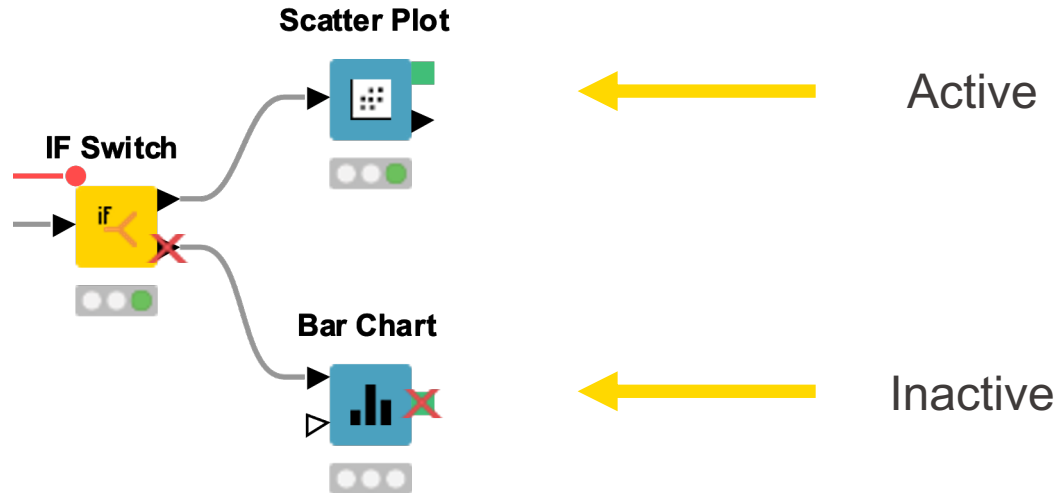
Workflow Control Exercise, Activity II

Goal: Create a loop that reads and concatenates all the sheets in an Excel file.

- Create a table that contains all sheet names of the Excel file created in Activity I (Read Excel Sheet Names node)
- Start a loop that iterates over the sheet names (Table Row to Variable Loop Start node)
- Read the Excel sheet with the sheet name in the current iteration (Excel Reader node)
- Close the loop and concatenate the tables from the different iterations (Loop End node)

Switches

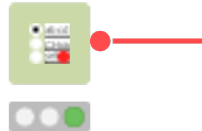
- A switch allows you to selectively activate branches of a workflow
- Inactive branches are marked with a red x on their output ports. Inactive nodes propagate down stream.



Single Selection Configuration

- Configuration: Select single value from list of Strings
- Returns selection as string type Flow Variable
- Choose between different layout options (dropdown, radio buttons...)

Single Selection Configuration



Dialog - 0:49 - Single Selection Configurati...

File

Control Flow Variables Job Manager Selection Memory Policy

Label: Select plot type:

Description:

Parameter/Variable Name: plot_type

Selection Type: Dropdown

Possible Choices: bar
scatter

Default Value: bar
scatter

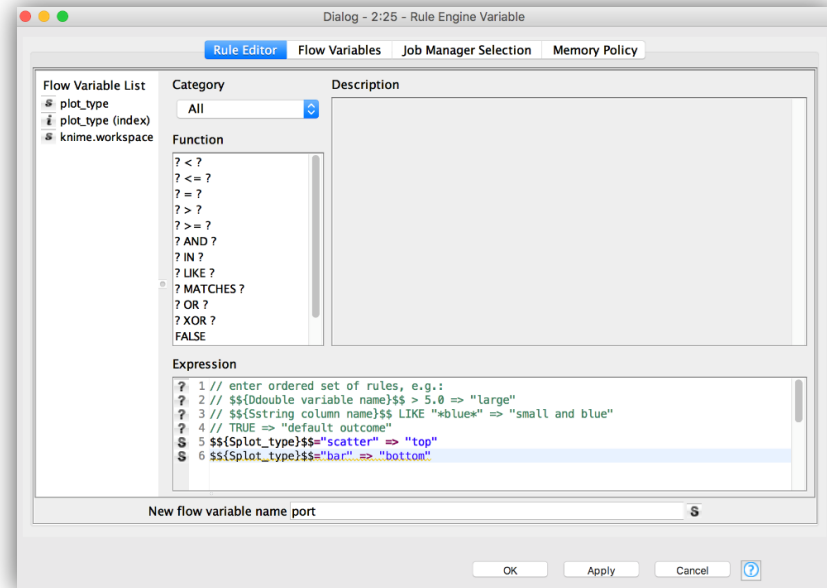
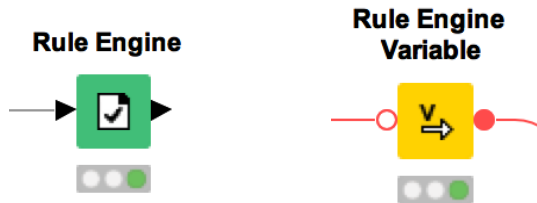
Limit number of visible options: ☐

Number of visible options: 10

OK Apply Cancel ?

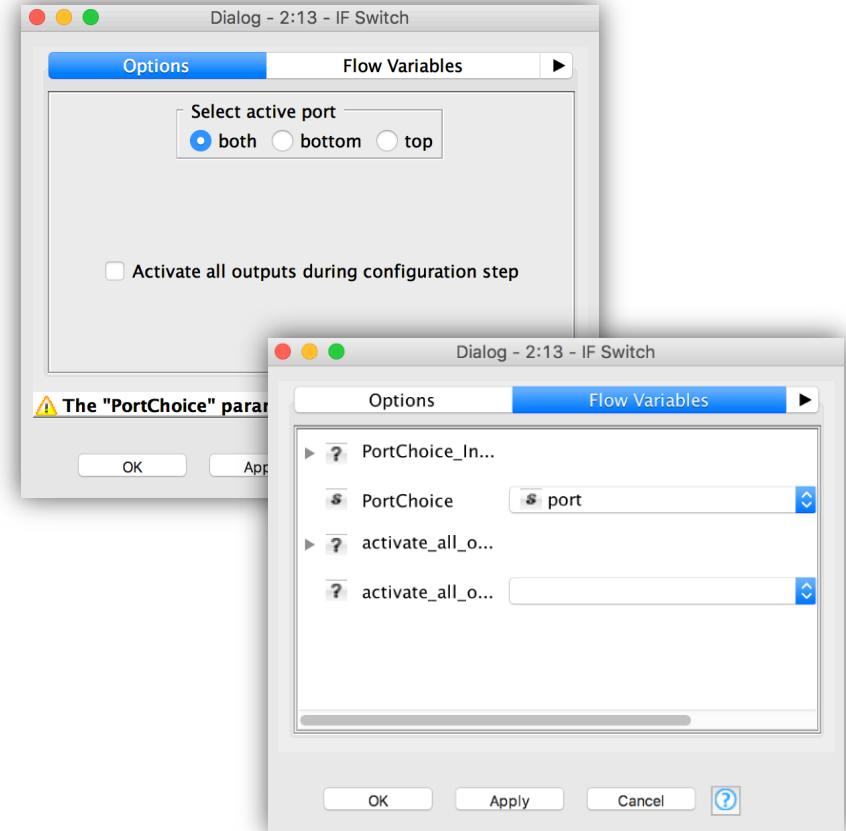
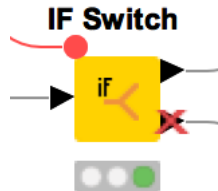
Rule Engine/Rule Engine Variable

- Define custom logic using simple rules.
- Rules like: **<Antecedent>** \Rightarrow **<Consequence>**, e.g **1=1 \Rightarrow "true"**
- May be used in Flow Variables or tables
- Easiest way to encode logic for switches



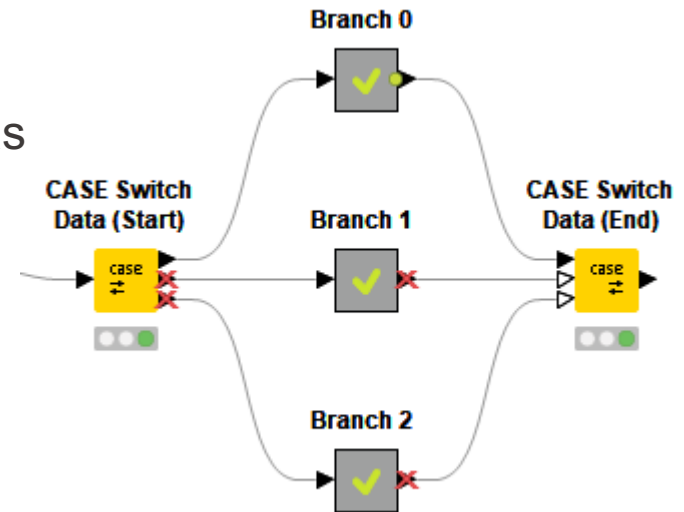
If Switch

- Controls which branches of your workflow are active programmatically
- Controlled with a Flow Variable, setting the value to the literal Strings: “top”, “bottom”, “both”
- May be used in Flow Variables or tables (different nodes)



Case Switch Data

- Similar to If-Switch: Takes data from single input port and passes it to the active output port
- Nodes connected to inactive branches are not executed
- Configure via node dialog, or pass port index as Flow Variable
 - 0, 1, 2 for top, middle, and bottom port
- Case switches also available for Flow Variable and model ports



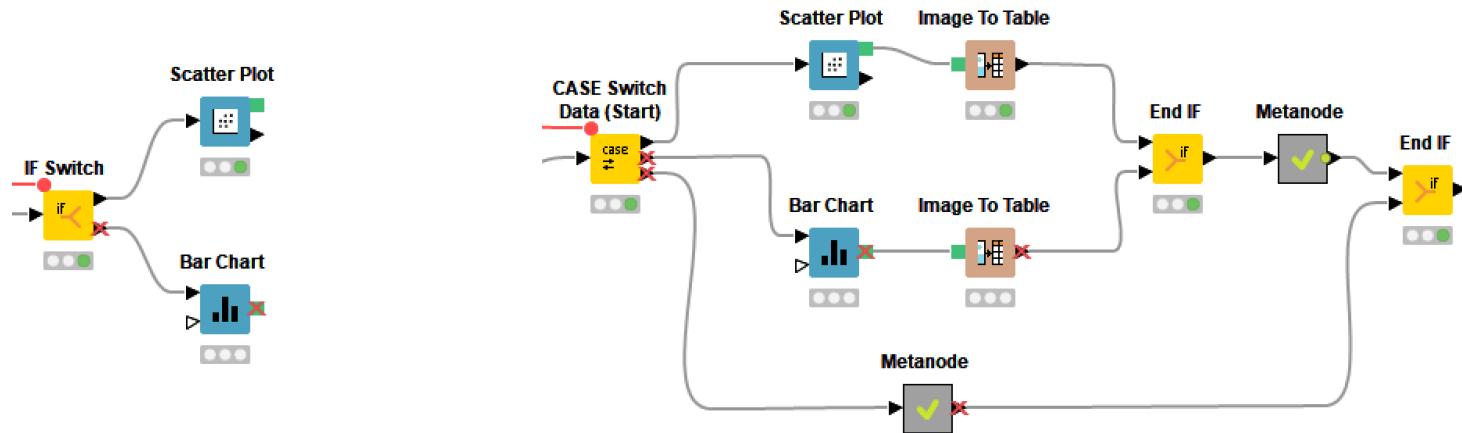
The difference between Loops and Switches

Loops

- The Loop Start is connected to the Loop End node, they form a pair.
- A loop iterates over a workflow part.

Switches

- A Switch Start can be used without a corresponding Switch End. They can also be combined.



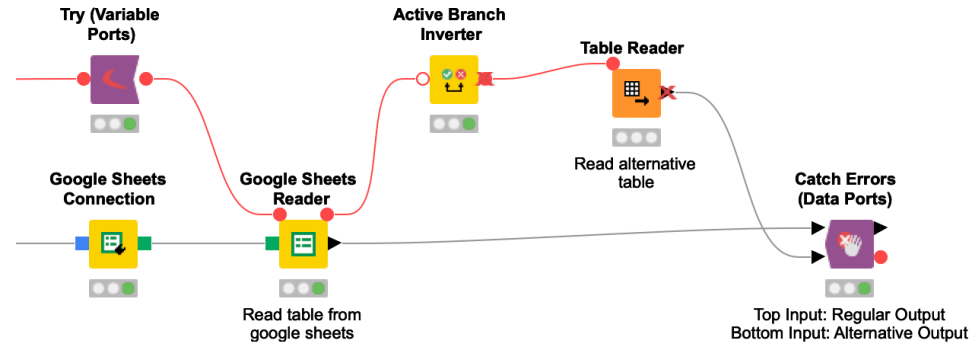
Workflow Control Exercise, Activity III

- Extend the workflow below with a switch that only creates one type of visualization
 - Create a Single Selection Configuration node with the possible values "scatter" and "bar"
 - Use the CASE Switch Data (Start) that activates the top or the middle branch depending on the selection scatter/bar (Use the "... (index)" flow variable to define the active port)
 - Combine the outputs of the two branches with the CASE Switch Data (End) node

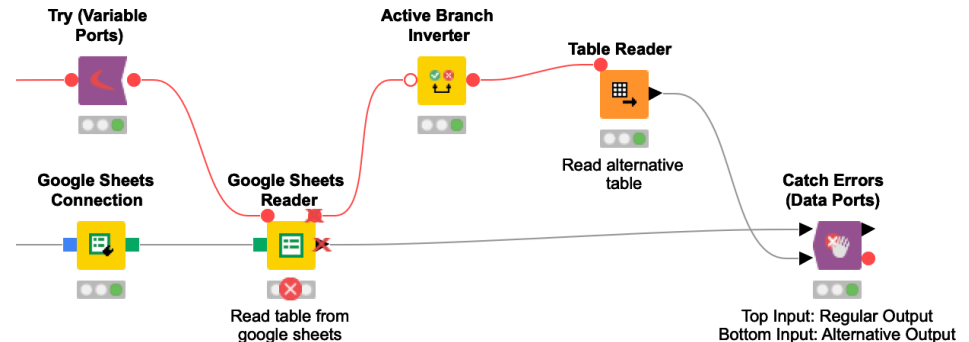
Try-Catch

- A way to catch errors in workflows
- Useful when it is hard to know if a node will execute (for example, when reading from a Google Sheet)
- KNIME tries to execute the nodes, but if it fails will fall back to an alternative branch

Regular Execution



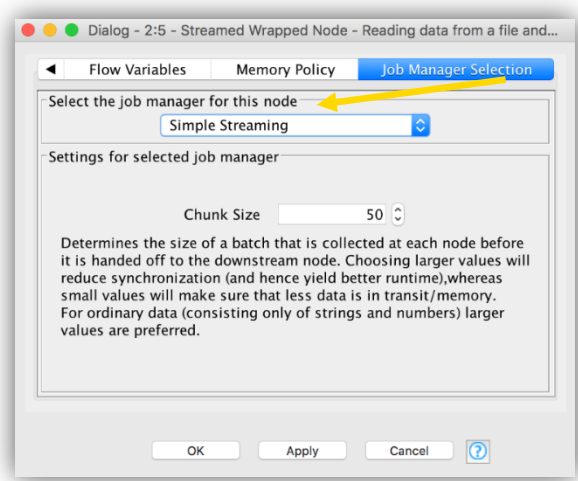
Alternative Execution



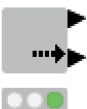
Streaming

- Standard execution: Node by node. Node processes all data, finishes, then passes data to next node, etc.
- Streaming: Nodes executed concurrently, each nodes passes data to the next as soon as it is available, i.e. before node is fully executed
 - Faster execution, esp. for reading/preprocessing data
- Install KNIME Streaming Execution (Beta) extension
- Create Component -> Configure -> Job Manager Selection -> Simple Streaming
 - Not available for all nodes (show in node repository)
 - Can only execute entire metanode, not individual nodes
 - Intermediate results not available since nothing is cached

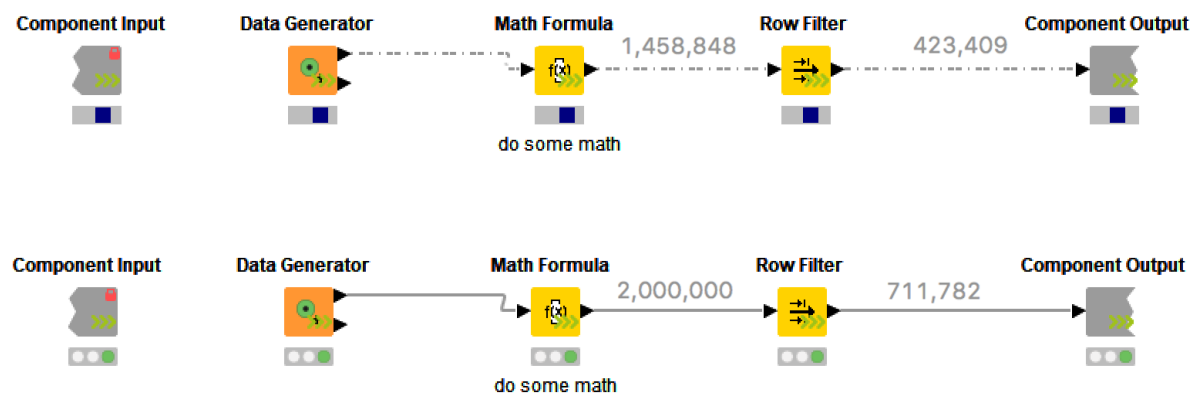
Streaming



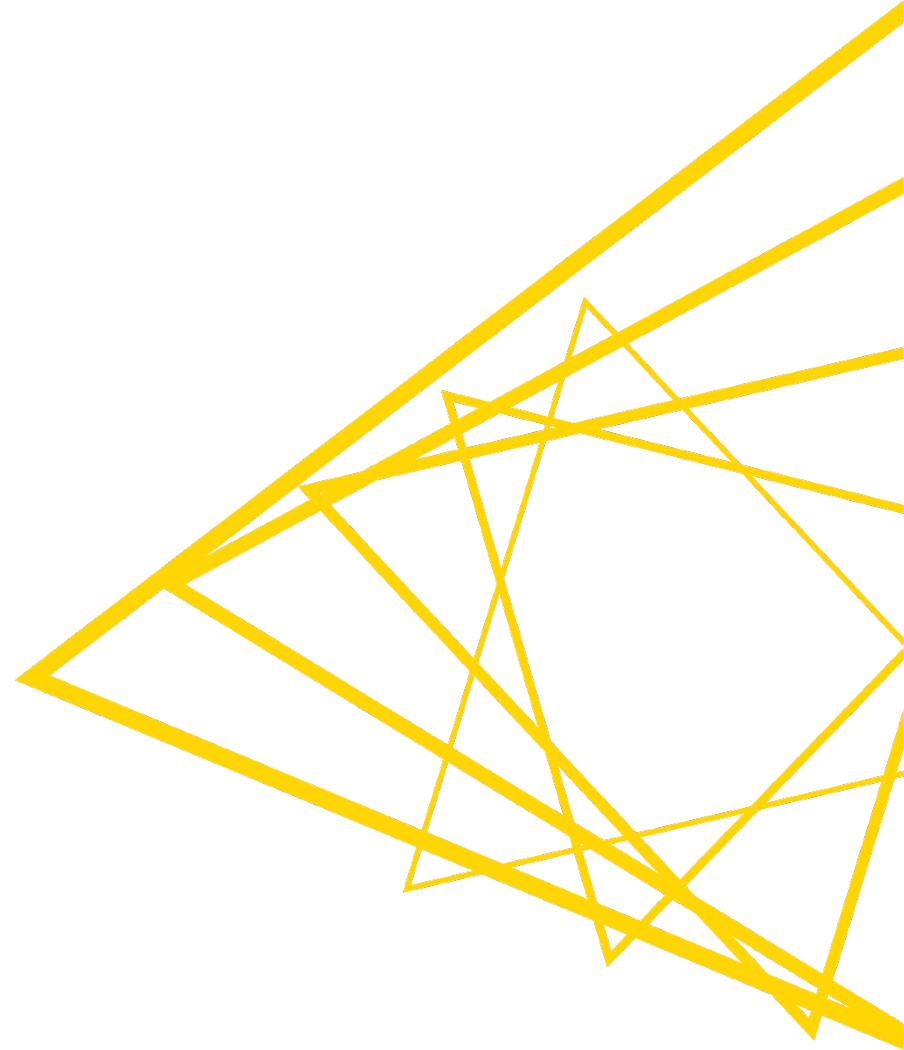
Streamed Component - Reading data from a file and process



Sub Workflow as Component
To open it
- right click > Component > Open
- Ctrl + Double Click



Advanced Data Mining

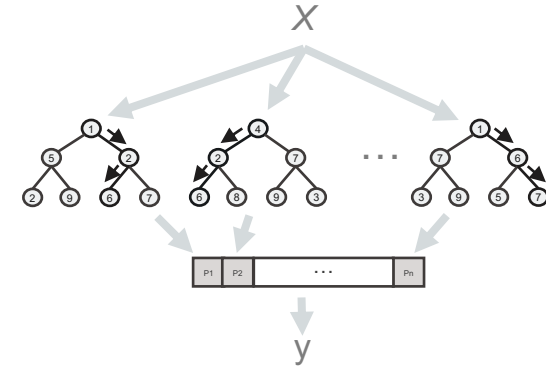


Overview

- Ensemble models
 - Random Forest / Tree Ensembles
 - Gradient Boosted Trees
- Parameter optimization
- Cross validation
- H2O and Keras integration in KNIME

KNIME's Tree Ensemble Models

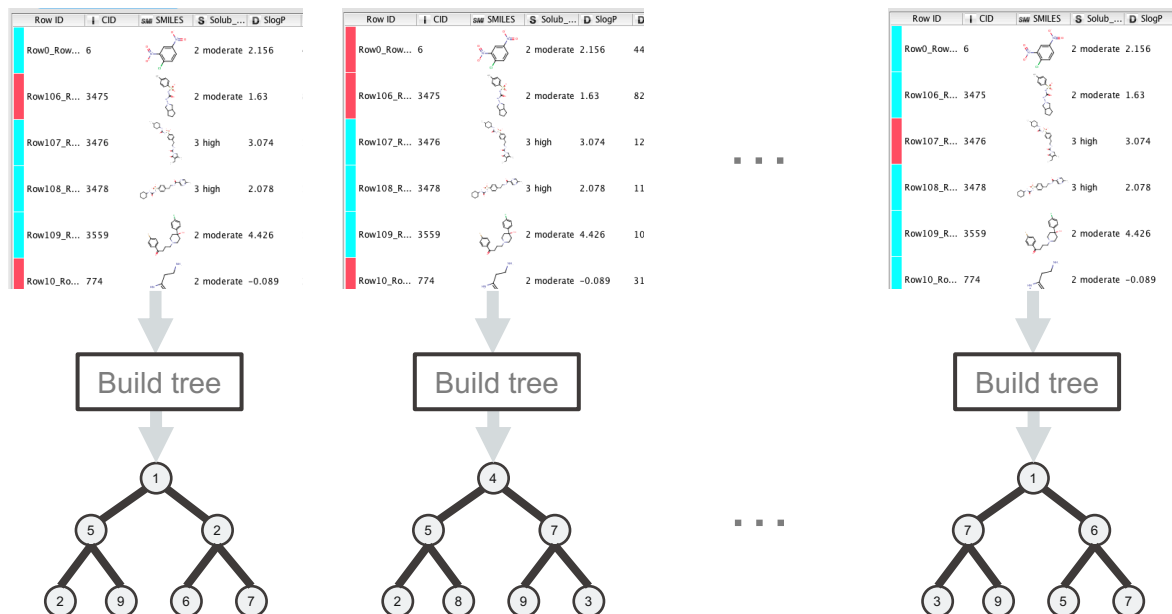
- The general idea is to take advantage of the “wisdom of the crowd”
- Ensemble models: Combining predictions from a large number of weak predictors, e.g. decision trees
- Leads to a more accurate and robust model
- This is called “bagging”



Typically: for classification the individual models vote and the majority wins; for regression, the individual predictions are averaged

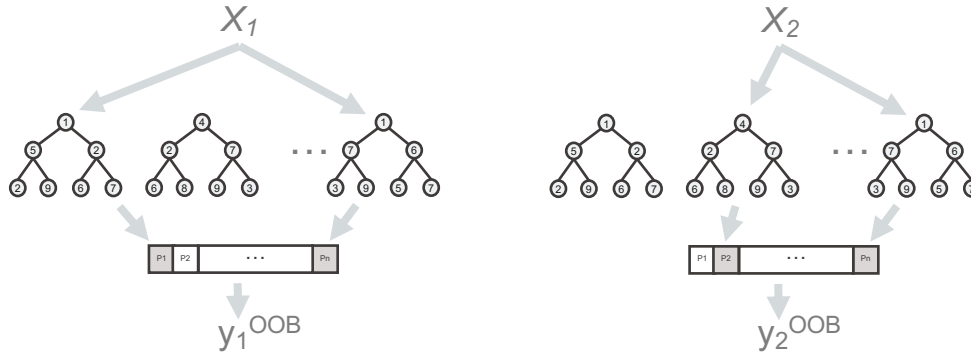
How Does Bagging Work?


- Pick a different random subset of the training data for each model in the ensemble (bag)



An Extra Benefit of Bagging: Out of Bag Estimation

- Allows testing the model using the training data: when validating, each model should only vote on data points that were not used to train it





Out-of-bag error estimates - 0:105 - Random Forest Learner

File

Hilite

Navigation

View

Table "default" - Rows: 2666

Spec - Columns: 26

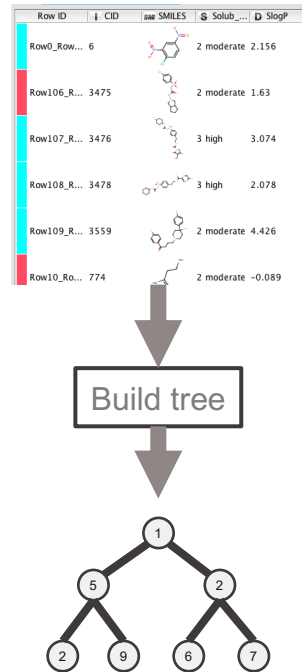
Properties

Flow Variables

Row ID	S	State	D	P (Churn=0)	P (Churn=1)	S	Churn (Out-of-bag)	D	Churn (Out-of-bag)...	model count
Row1_Row0	S		0.943	0.057	0	0	0.943			35
Row2_Row1	JH		1	0	0	0	1			33
Row3_Row2	J		1	0	0	0	1			37
Row4_Row3	JH		0.528	0.472	0	0	0.528			36
Row5_Row4	JK		0.976	0.024	0	0	0.976			41
Row6_Row5	L		0.848	0.152	0	0	0.848			33
Row7_Row6	IA		0.833	0.167	0	0	0.833			36
Row9_Row8	A		0.667	0.333	0	0	0.667			30
Row11_Row...	V		0.138	0.862	1	0	0.862			29
Row13_Row...	A		0.974	0.026	0	0	0.974			39
Row14_Row...	IT		0.917	0.083	0	0	0.917			36
Row15_Row...	A		0.387	0.613	1	0	0.613			31
Row18_Row...	T		0.974	0.026	0	0	0.974			39
Row19_Row...	A		1	0	0	0	1			38
Row21_Row...	L		0.971	0.029	0	0	0.971			34
Row22_Row...	O		0.03	0.97	1	0	0.97			33
Row23_Row...	Z		0.854	0.146	0	0	0.854			41
Row25_Row...	A		0.973	0.027	0	0	0.973			37
Row26_Row...	IE		0.886	0.114	0	0	0.886			35
Row27_Row...	Y		0.912	0.088	0	0	0.912			34
Row28_Row...	IT		0.976	0.024	0	0	0.976			42
Row29_Row...	MO		1	0	0	0	1			42
Row30_Row...	II		1	0	0	0	1			40
Row32_Row...	JH		0.914	0.086	0	0	0.914			35
Row33_Row...	A		0.875	0.125	0	0	0.875			32
Row34_Row...	A		0.875	0.125	0	0	0.875			32

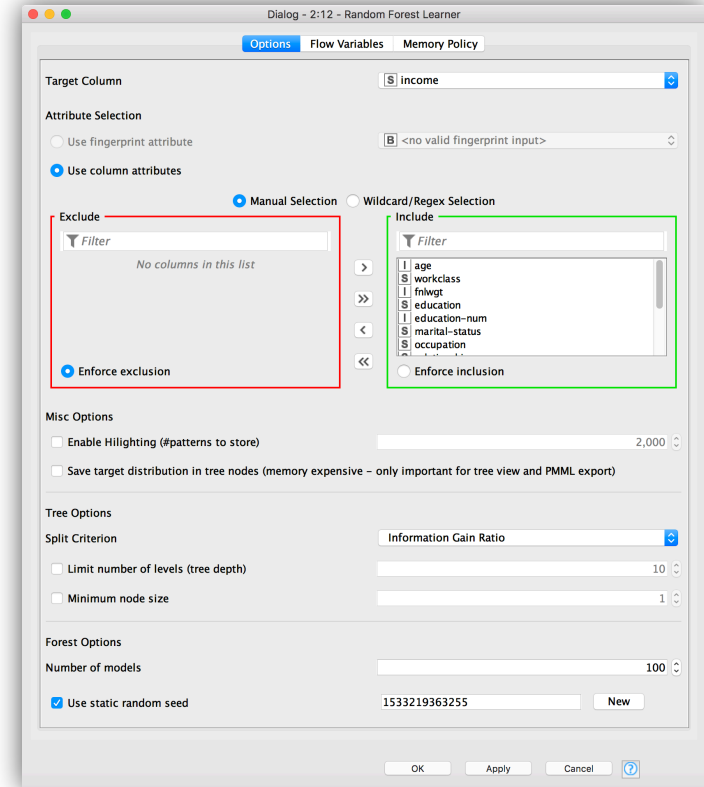
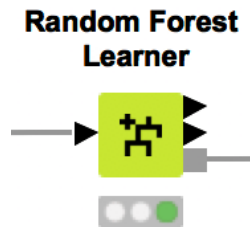
Random Forest

- Train a bag of decision trees
- For each tree / model a training set is generated by sampling uniformly with replacement from the standard training set
- An extra element of randomization is used when building the trees: **each node** in the decision tree only “sees” a **subset of the input columns**, typically \sqrt{N}
- Random forests tend to be very robust w.r.t. overfitting (though the individual trees are almost certainly overfit)
- Extra benefit: training tends to be much faster



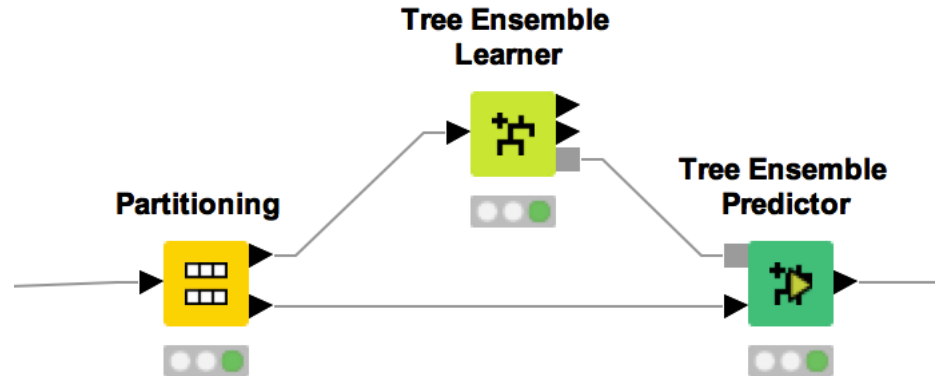
Random Forest Learner

- The output model describes a random forest and is applied in the corresponding predictor node using a simple majority vote
- The statistics table on the attributes tells how often each attribute...
 - ... is used in the first three splits
 - ... was a possible candidate in the first three splits



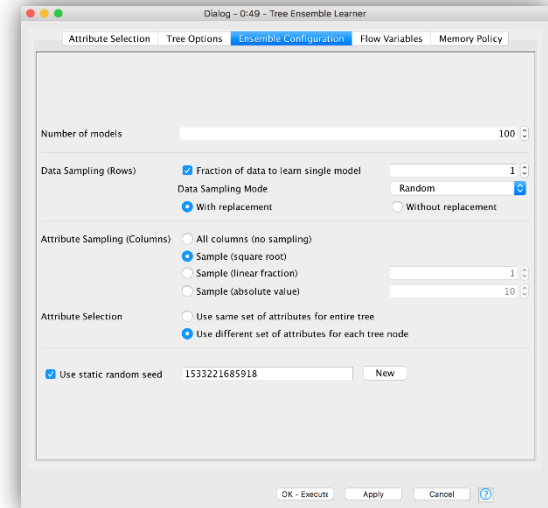
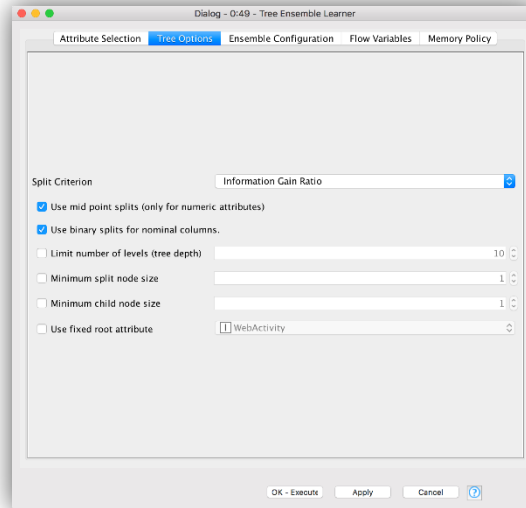
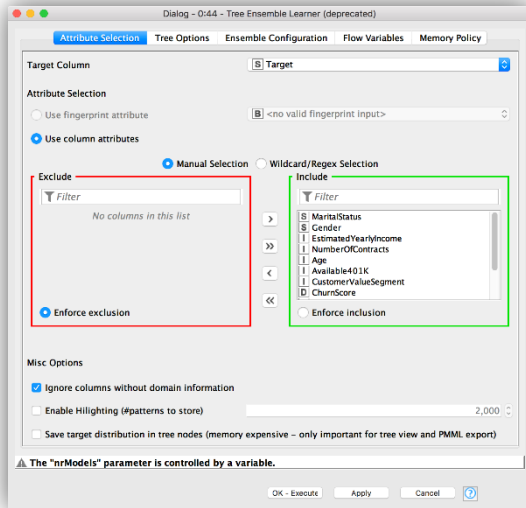
Tree Ensembles

- Random Forest is a specific tree ensemble with predefined ensemble parameters
- The Tree Ensemble Learner node allows to train different tree ensembles
 - E.g. different row and column sampling options
- Optimization of a tree ensemble is complex due to a surplus of configuration options
 - Number of models
 - Number of columns
 - Number of rows
 - Tree depth
 - ...



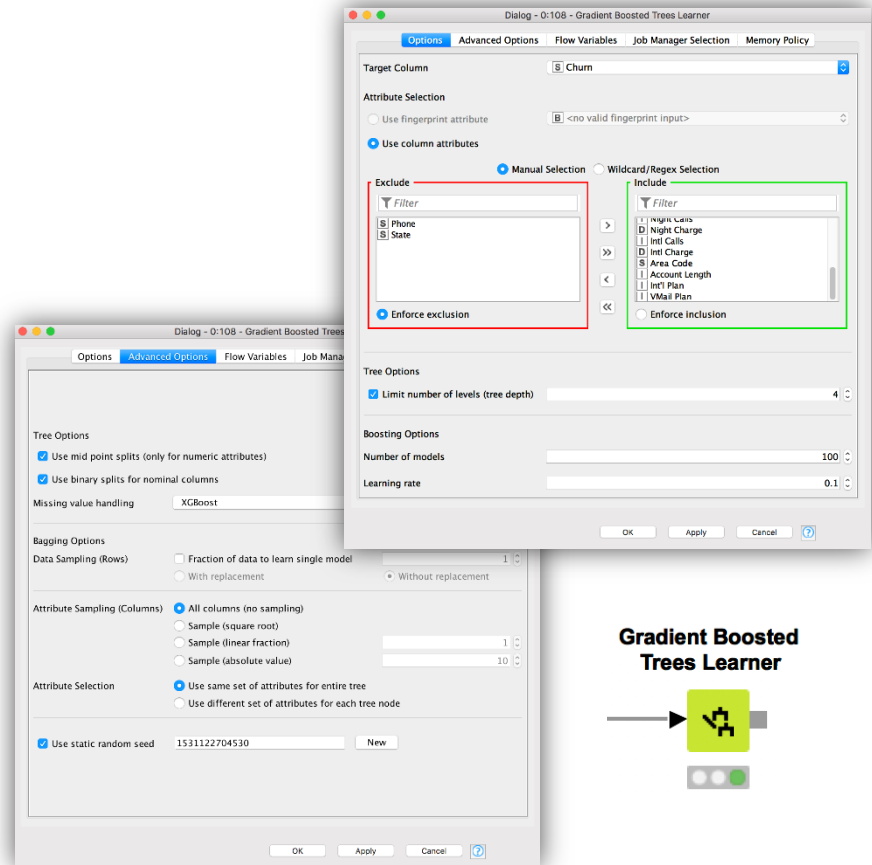
Tree Ensemble Learner

- Choose which columns to include
- Configure a prototype tree (depth, split criteria etc.)
- Setup ensemble parameters (model count, row/column subsampling)

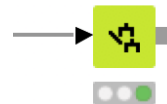


Gradient Boosted Trees Learner

- Another algorithm for creating ensembles of decision trees
- Starts with a shallow tree
- Builds additional trees to fit the residual errors
- Can introduce randomness in choice of data subsets (“stochastic gradient boosting”) and in variable choice (Advanced Options)



**Gradient Boosted
Trees Learner**



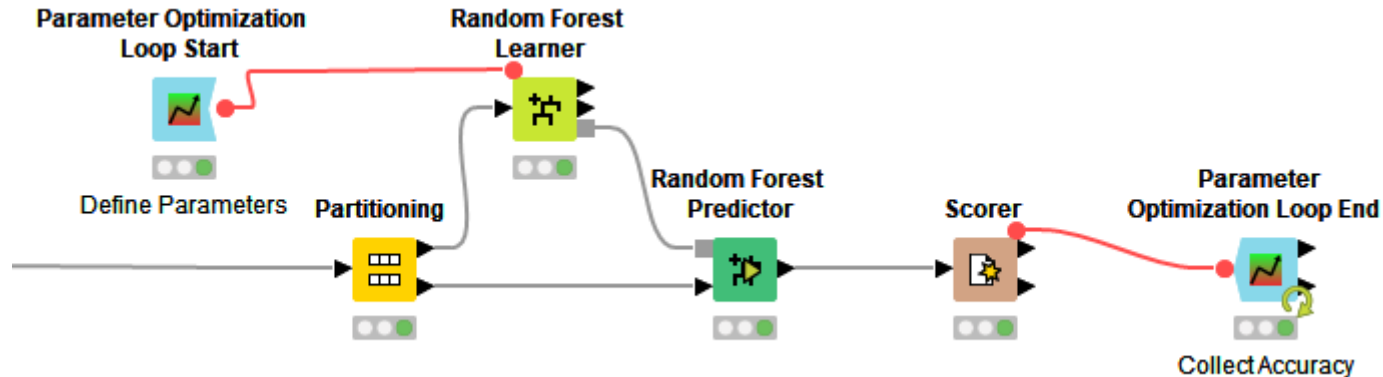
Advanced Data Mining Exercise, Activity I

Start with exercise: *Advanced Data Mining, Activity I*

- Read *CurrentDetailData.table* data
- Partition the data 50/50 using stratified sampling on the "Target" column
- Train and apply a Random Forest model to predict the "Target" column
- Use a tree depth of 5 and 50 models

Parameter Optimization

- Some modeling approaches are very sensitive to their configuration.
- Calculating optimum settings is not always possible.
- Parameter Optimization loops may help find a good configuration.



Parameter Optimization Loop Start

- Define parameters to optimize
- Set upper/lower bounds and step sizes (and flag integers)
- Choose an optimization method
 - Brute force for maximum accuracy, but slower computation
 - Hillclimbing for better faster runtimes, but may get stuck in local optimum settings
 - Random search to randomly search for parameter values within a given range
 - Bayesian Optimization (TPE)

**Parameter Optimization
Loop Start**



Define Parameters

Dialog - 6:33 - Parameter Optimization Loop Start (...)

Standard settings | Flow Variables ▶

Parameter	Start value	Stop value	Step size	Integer?	
nr_models	10	200	10	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	🗑️

➕ Add new parameter

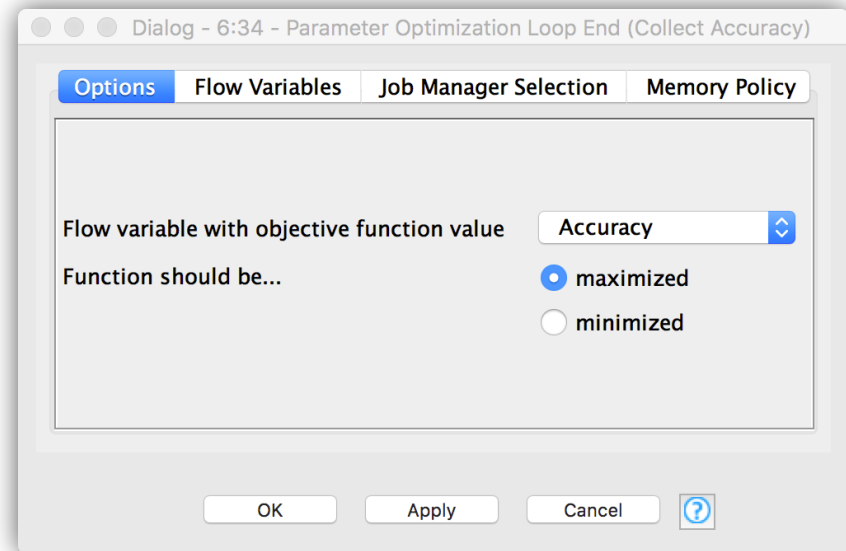
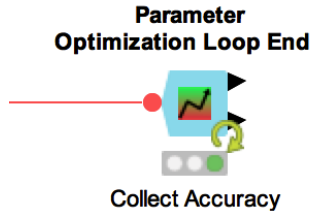
Search strategy: Hillclimbing ▾

☐ Random seed: 1402995326198

OK Apply Cancel ?

Parameter Optimization Loop End

- Collects a value to optimize as Flow Variable.
- Value may be maximized (accuracy) or minimized (error)



Advanced Data Mining Exercise, Activity II

Start with exercise: *Advanced Data Mining, Activity II*

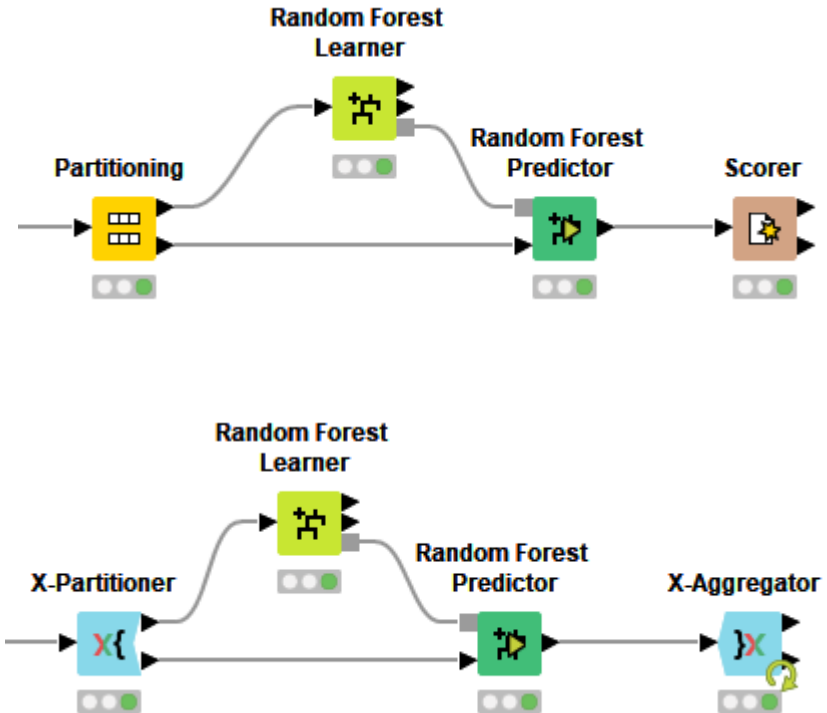
- Add a parameter optimization loop to your model training process
- Use Hillclimbing to determine the optimum number of models (min=10, max=200, step=10, int = yes)
- Use maximum accuracy as the objective value
- What is the best number of models?

(Hint: don't forget to use the flow variable in the Random Forest Learner node)

- (Optional): Train and save a model with the best parameter set (using a Table Row to Variable, Random Forest Learner, and Model Writer node)

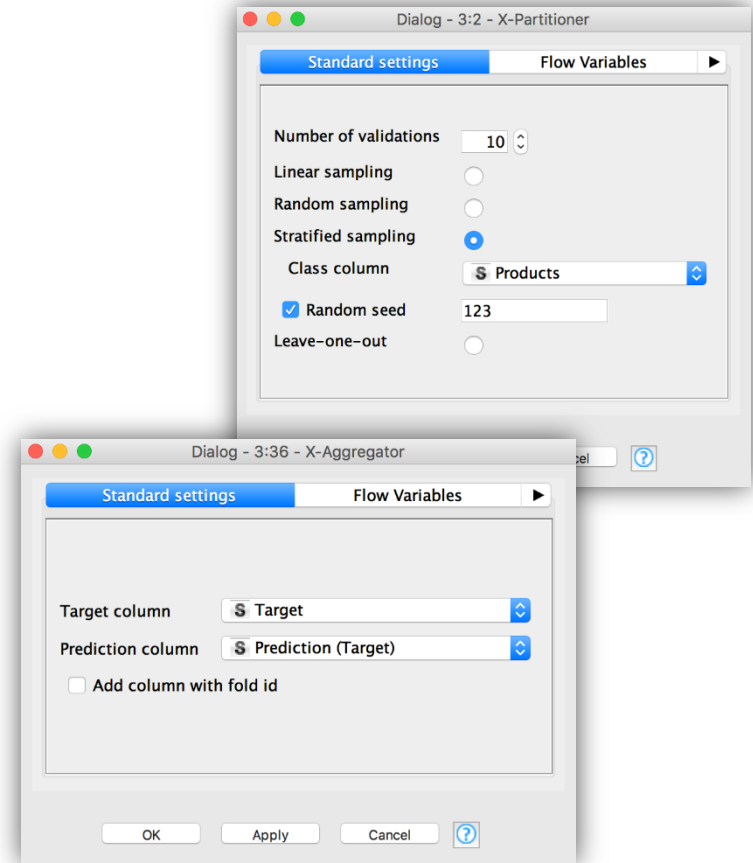
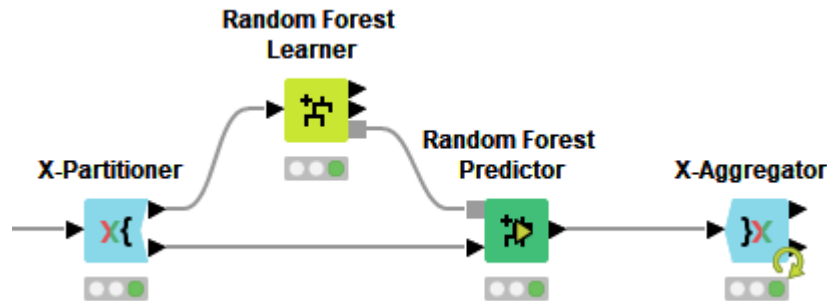
Cross Validation

- Used to evaluate model stability
- Re-execute the modeling process many times using different data partitions
- Collect aggregated statistics on model accuracy



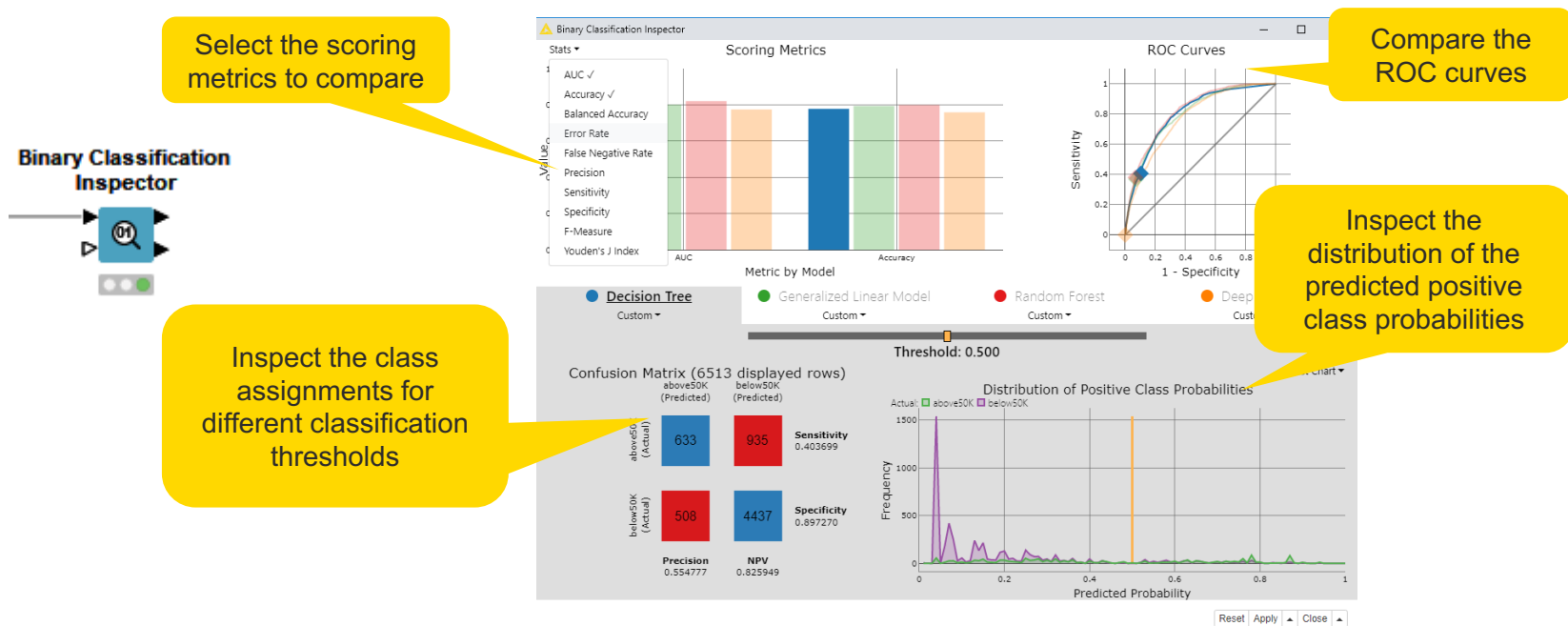
Example: Cross Validation

- X-Partitioner → X-Aggregator
- X-Partitioner replaces Partition
- X-Aggregator replaces Scorer
- Can be used with any learner/predictor



Binary Classification Inspector

- Inspect and compare the performances of classification models
- Adjust the classification threshold according to the goal of your model



Advanced Data Mining Exercise, Activity III

Start with exercise: *Advanced Data Mining, Activity III*

- Create a 10-fold cross validation for your model
- Take a look at the error rates produced by the different iterations. Does the model seem stable?

Advanced Data Mining Exercise, Activity IV (Optional)

Start with exercise: *Advanced Data Mining, Activity IV (Optional)*

Goal: Train a decision tree and a random forest model and compare their performance

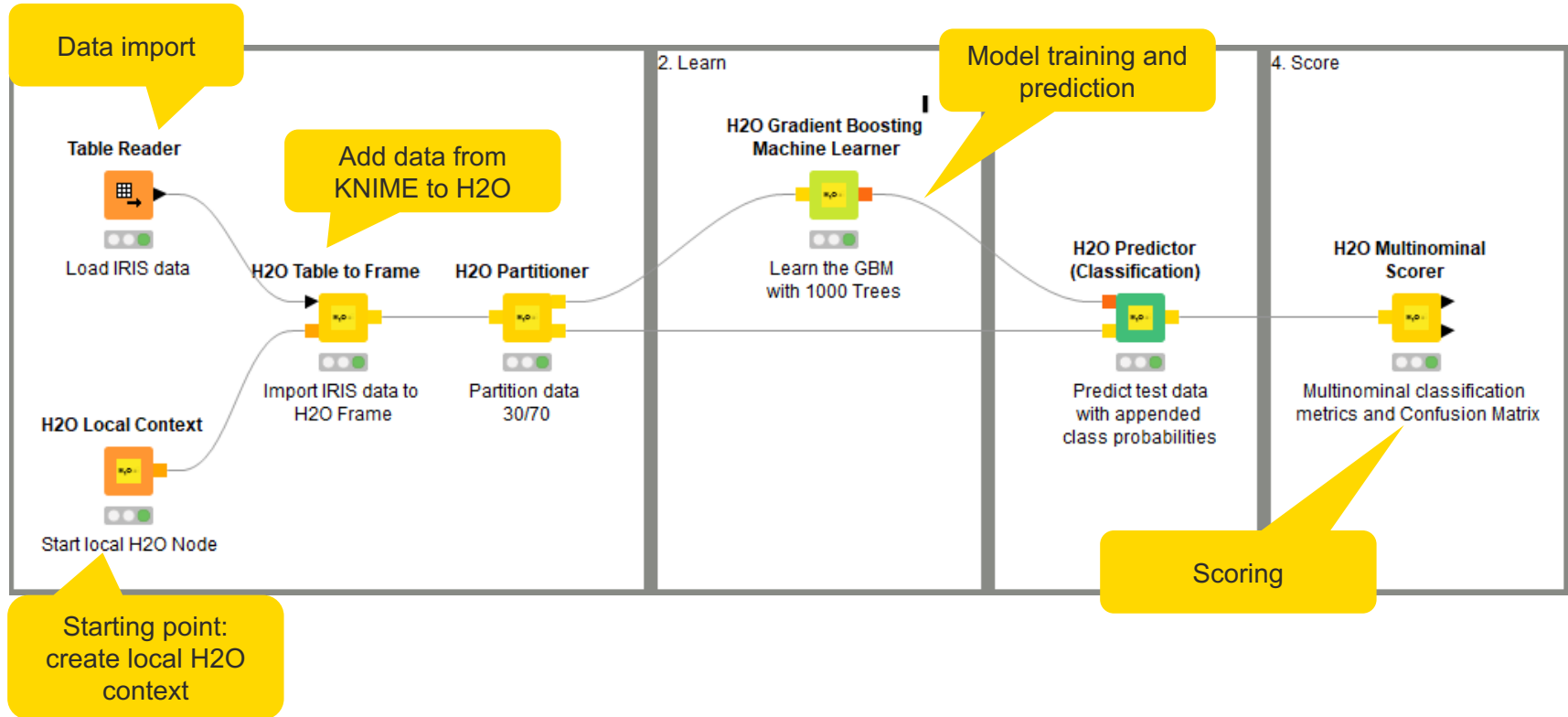
- Partition the data 50/50 using stratified sampling on the "Target" column
- Train and apply a Random Forest model to predict the "Target" column
- Train and apply a Decision Tree model to predict the "Target" column
- Combine the performances of both models (Column Appender node)
- Evaluate the performances of the models (Binary Classification Inspector node)
Which model performs better?

H2O Integration

- KNIME integrates the H2O machine learning library
- H2O: Open source, focus on scalability and performance
- Supports many different models
 - Generalized Linear Model
 - Gradient Boosting Machine
 - Random Forest
 - k-Means, PCA, Naive Bayes, Isolation Forest, etc. and more to come!
- Includes support for MOJO model objects for deployment

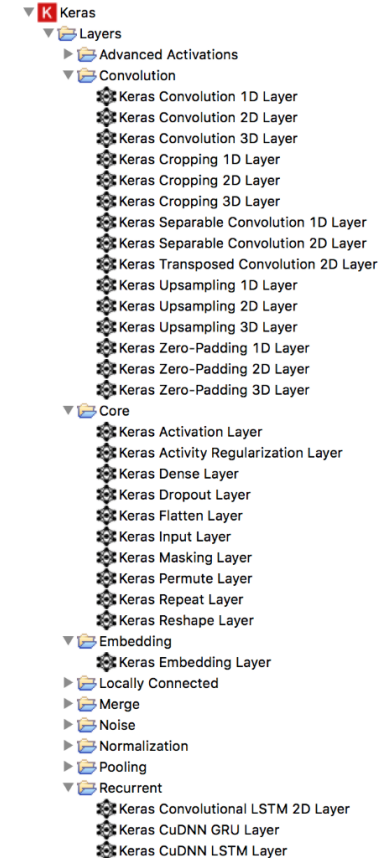
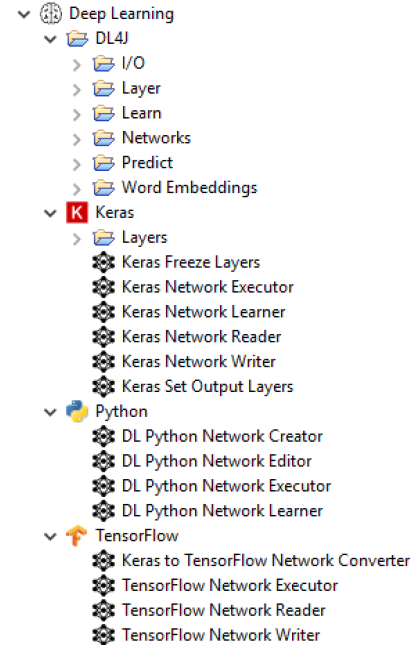
- ▼ H2O Machine Learning
 - > IO
 - > MOJOs
 - > Manipulation
 - > Misc
 - ▼ Models
 - ▼ Generalized Linear Model
 - H2O Generalized Linear Model Learner
 - H2O Generalized Linear Model Learner (Regression)
 - ▼ Generalized Low Rank Models
 - H2O Generalized Low Rank Models (Missing Value Impute)
 - ▼ Gradient Boosting Machine
 - H2O Gradient Boosting Machine Learner
 - H2O Gradient Boosting Machine Learner (Regression)
 - ▼ Isolation Forest
 - H2O Isolation Forest Learner
 - ▼ Naive Bayes
 - H2O Naive Bayes Learner
 - ▼ PCA
 - H2O PCA
 - H2O PCA Apply
 - H2O PCA Compute
 - ▼ Random Forest
 - H2O Random Forest Learner
 - H2O Random Forest Learner (Regression)
 - ▼ k-Means
 - H2O k-Means
 - H2O Cluster Assigner
 - H2O Isolation Forest Predictor

H2O Integration - Example



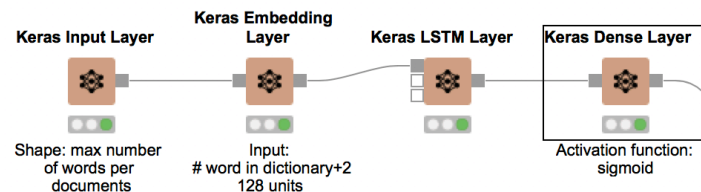
Deep Learning Integration

- Keras integration:
 - Many different layer nodes.
 - Define your network, train and apply a network without a single line of code.
- DL Python integration
- TensorFlow integration

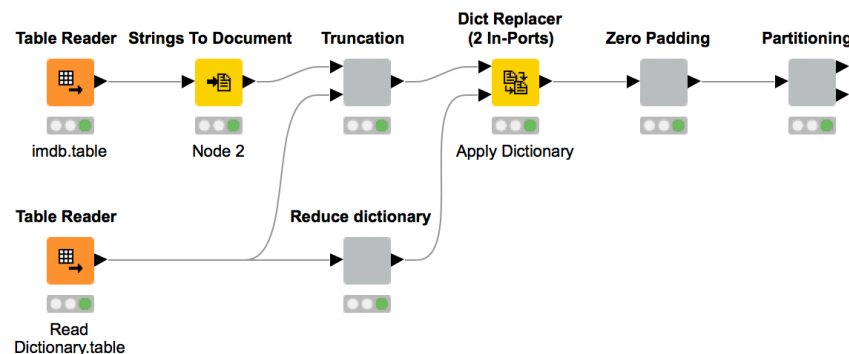


Sentiment Analysis Using Keras

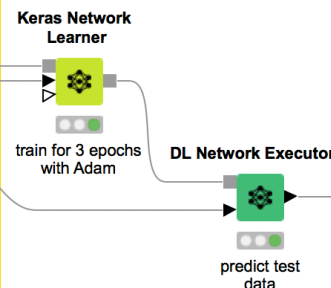
Define Network



Reading and Preprocessing



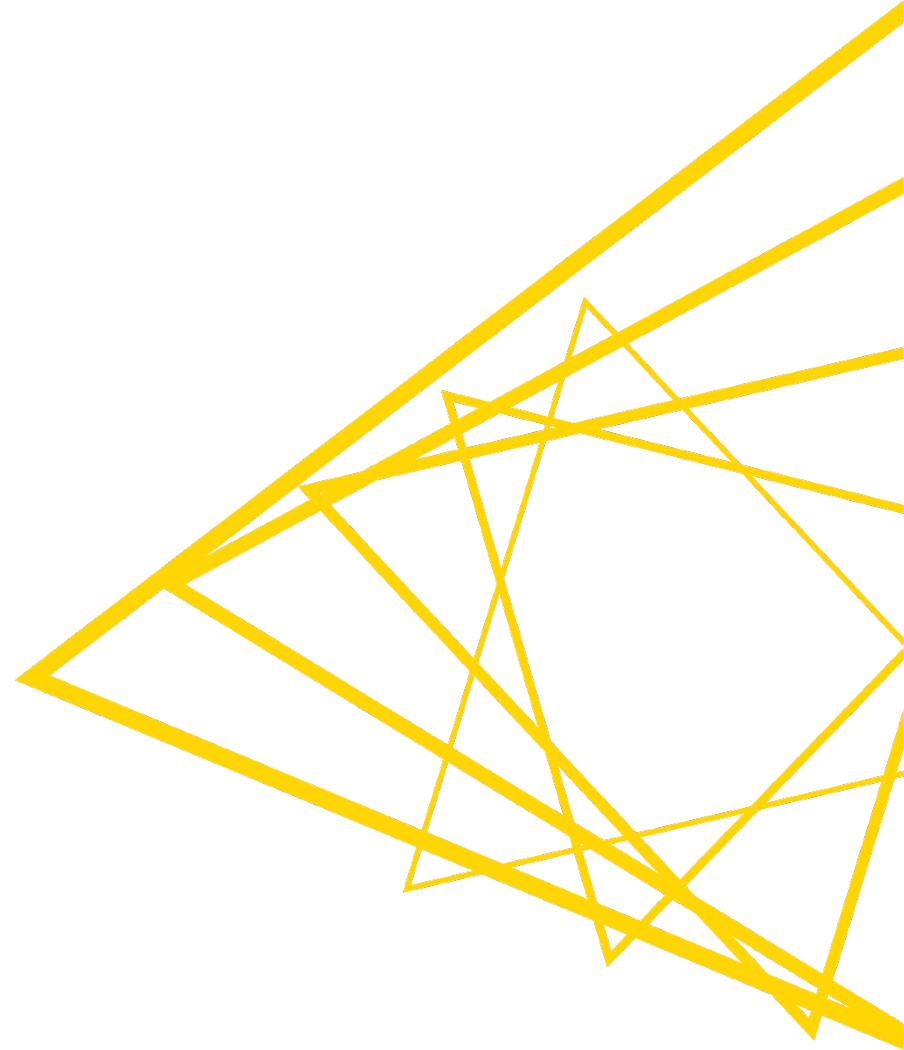
Training and Predicting



Evaluation

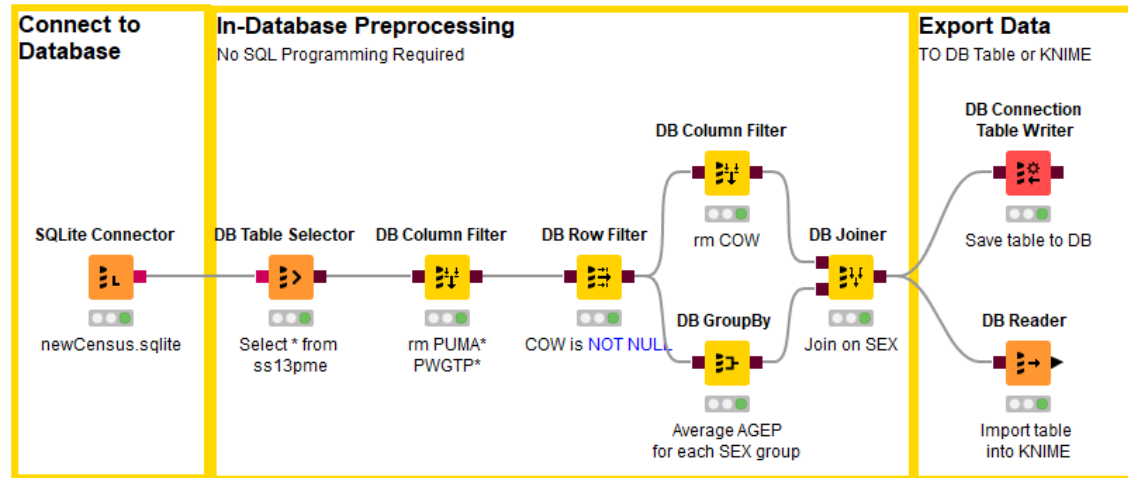


Databases

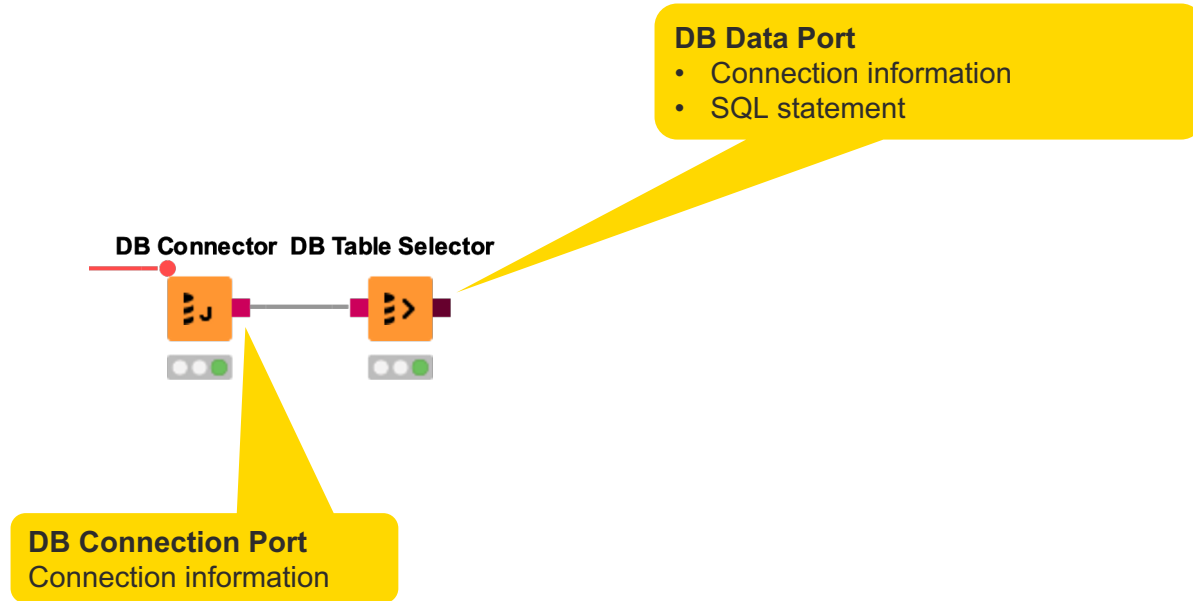


Database Extension

- Visually assemble complex SQL statements (no SQL coding needed)
- Connect to all JDBC-compliant databases
- Harness the power of your database within KNIME
- Complete rewrite in KNIME Analytics Platform 4.0

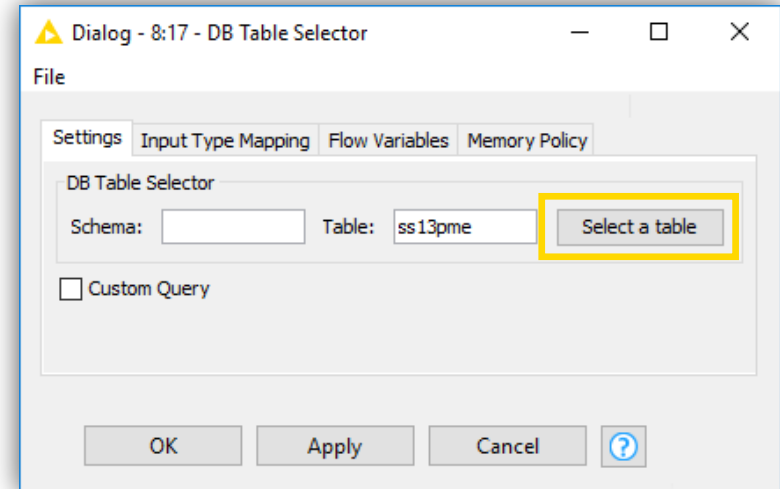
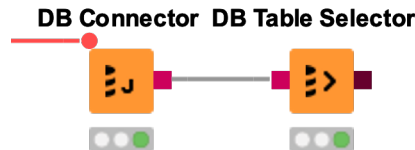
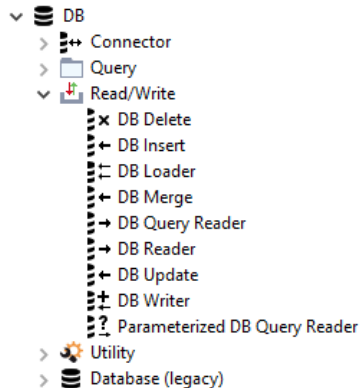


Database Port Types



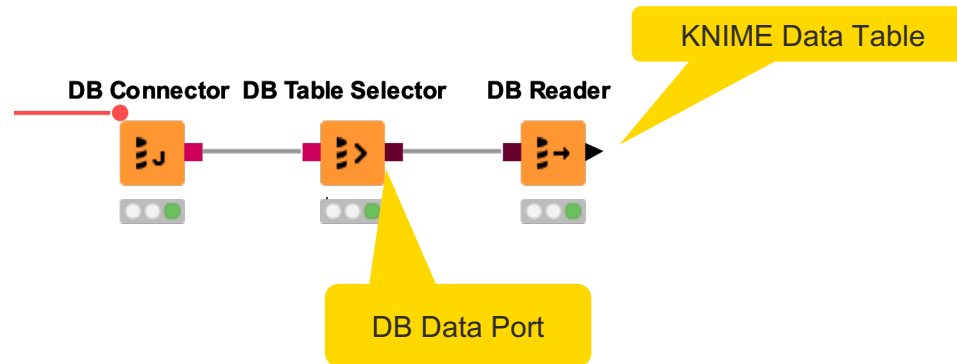
DB Table Selector

- Takes connection information and constructs a query
- Explore DB metadata
- Outputs a SQL query



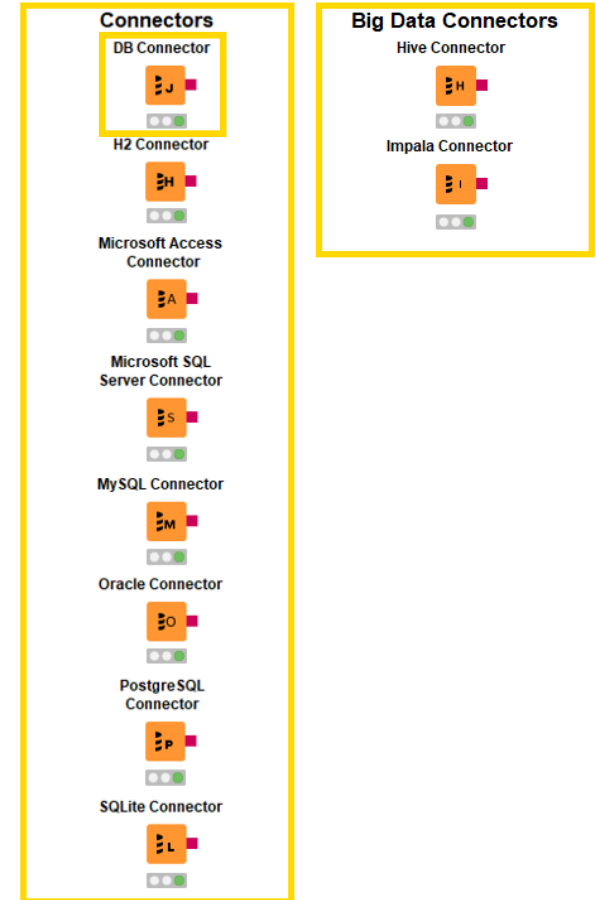
DB Reader

- Executes incoming SQL Query on Database
- Reads results into a KNIME data table



Database Connectors

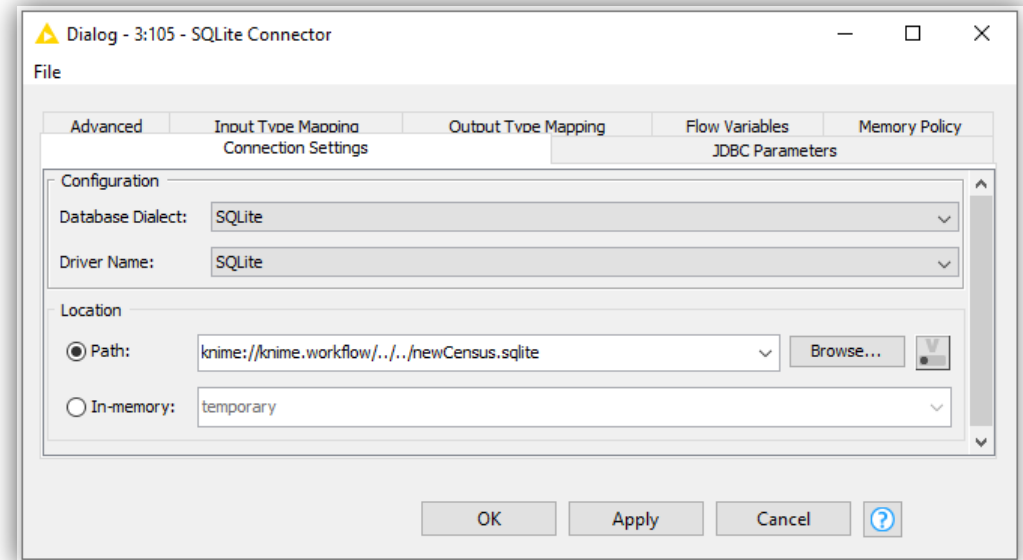
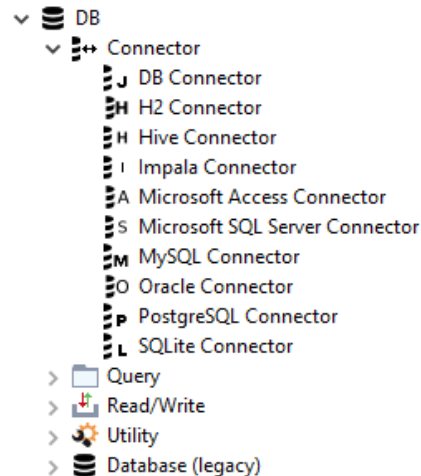
- Dedicated nodes to connect to specific Databases
 - Necessary JDBC driver included
 - Easy to use
 - Import DB specific behavior/capability
- Hive, Impala connectors part of the KNIME Big Data Connectors extension
- General DB Connector
 - Can connect to any JDBC source
 - Register new JDBC driver via
File -> Preferences -> KNIME -> Databases



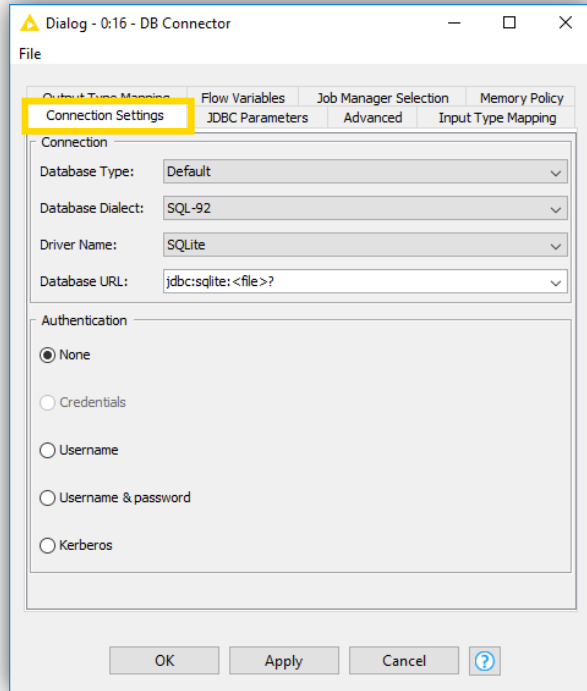
Dedicated Database Connectors

- MySQL, MS SQL Server, Postgres, SQLite, Amazon Redshift, etc.
- Propagate connection information to other DB nodes

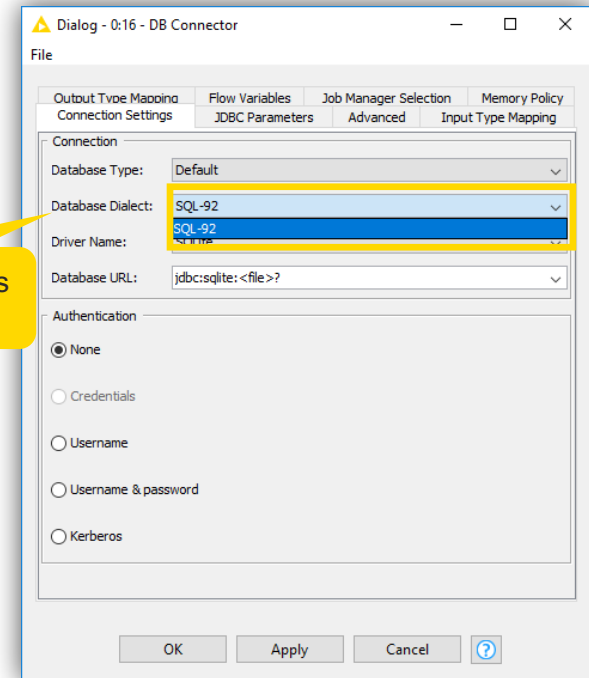
SQLite Connector



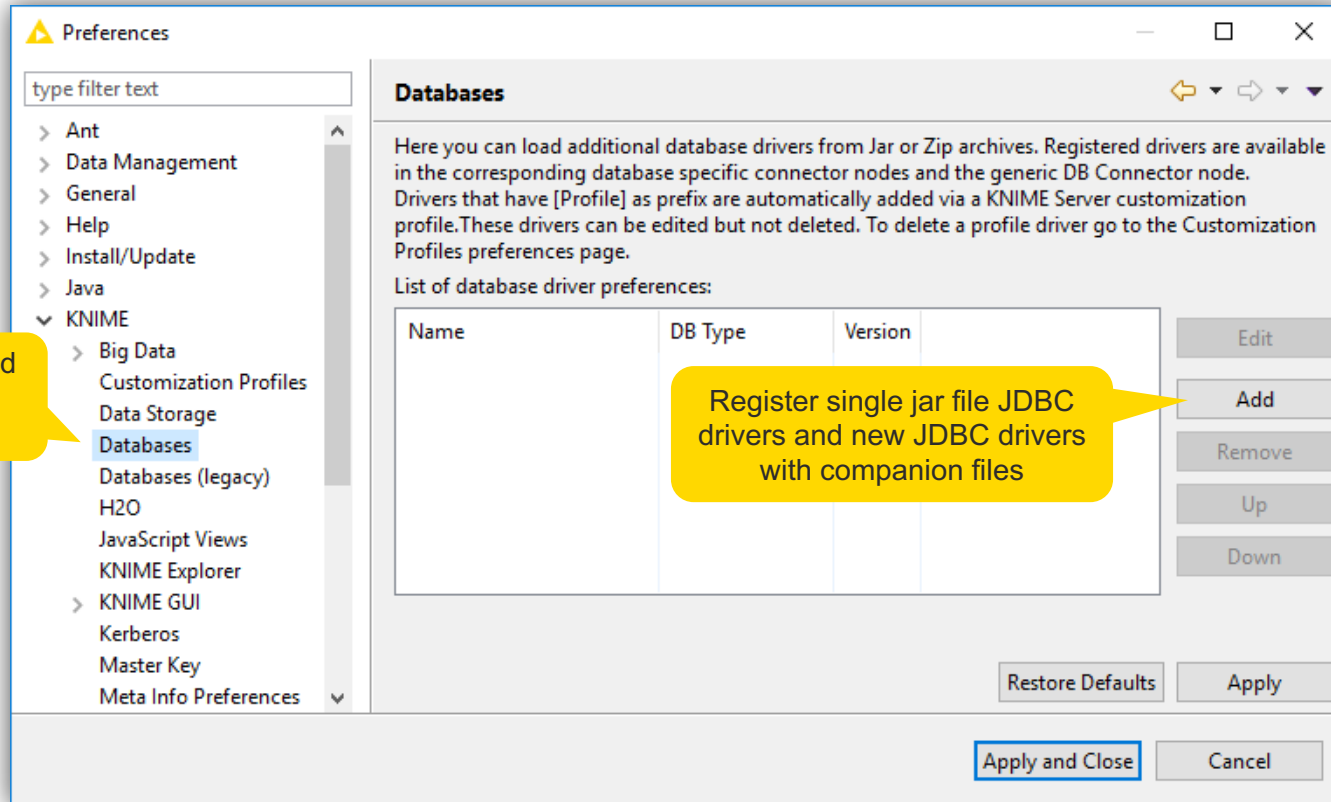
«General» DB Connector Node



Database type defines
SQL dialect

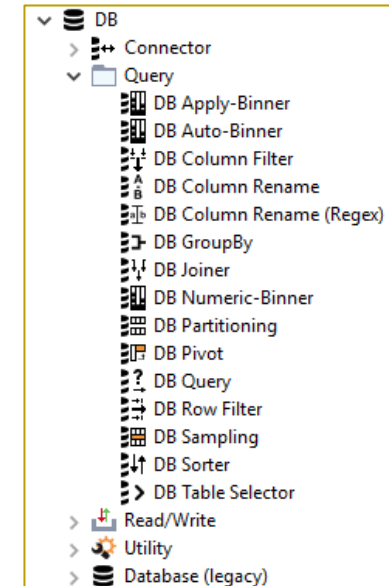
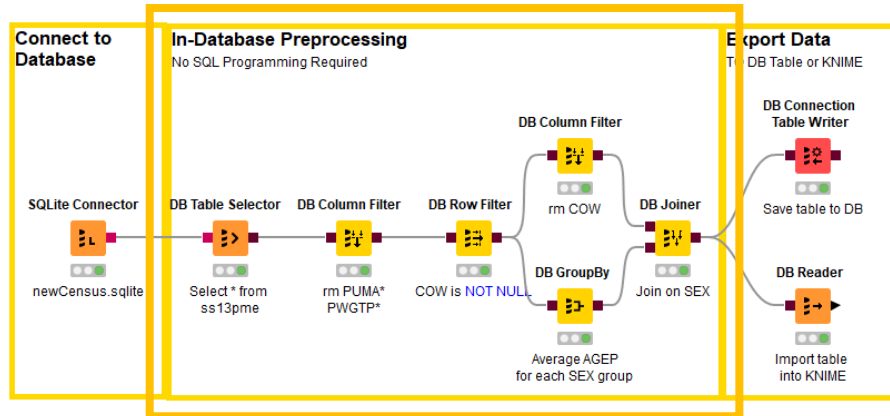


Register JDBC Driver



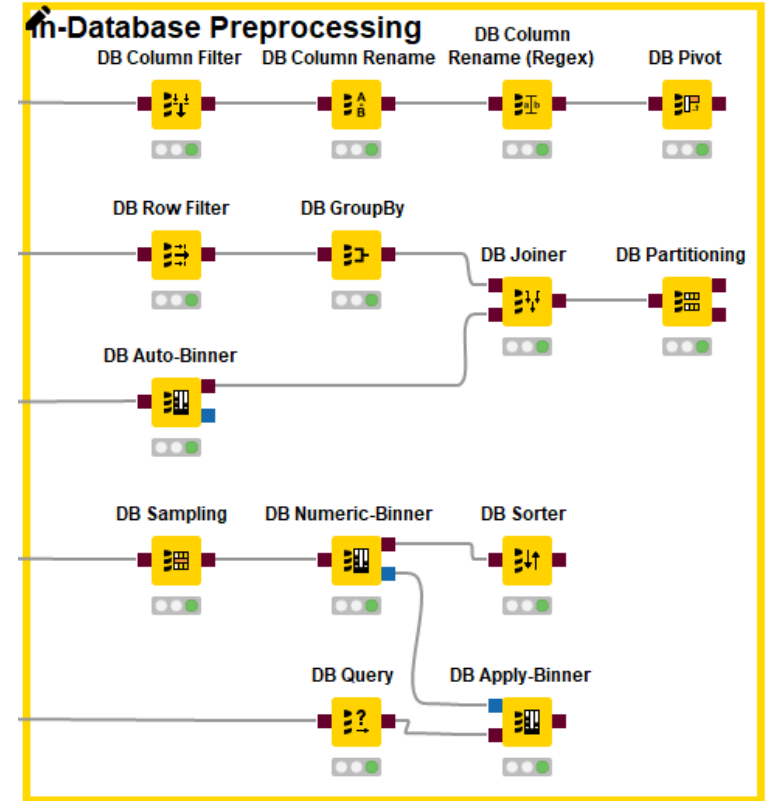
In-Database Processing

- Database Manipulation node generates a SQL query on top of the input SQL query (brown square port)




Query Nodes

- Filter rows and columns
- Join tables/queries
- Extract samples
- Bin numeric columns
- Sort your data
- Write your own query
- Aggregate your data
- Partition your data



Data Aggregation

RowID	Group	Value
r1	m	2
r2	f	3
r3	m	1
r4	f	5
r5	f	7
r6	m	5



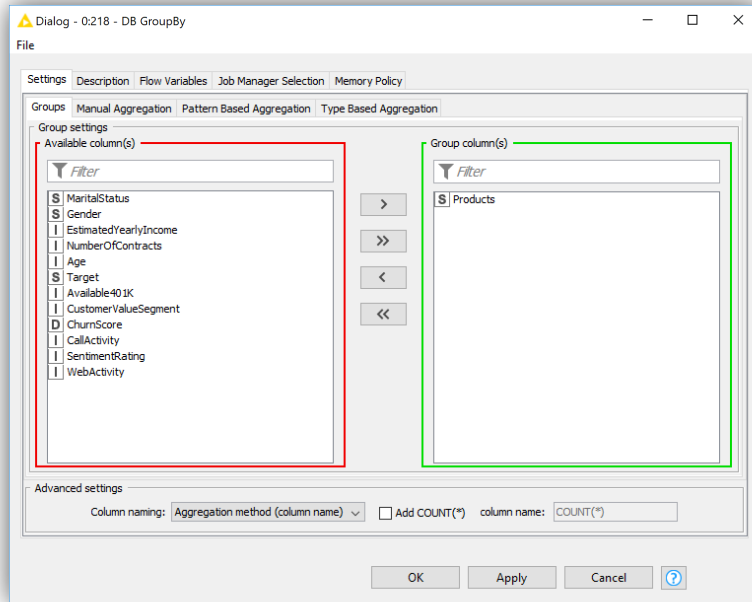
RowID	Group	Sum(Value)
r1+r3+r6	m	8
r2+r4+r5	f	15

Aggregated on “Group” by method:
sum(“Value”)

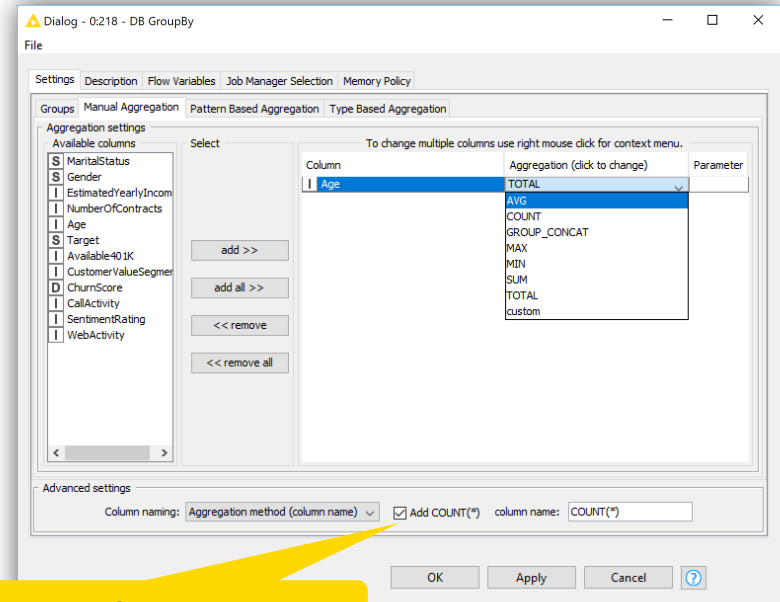
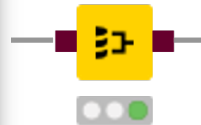
DB GroupBy

Aggregate rows to summarize data

- First tab provides grouping options
- Second tab provides control over aggregation details

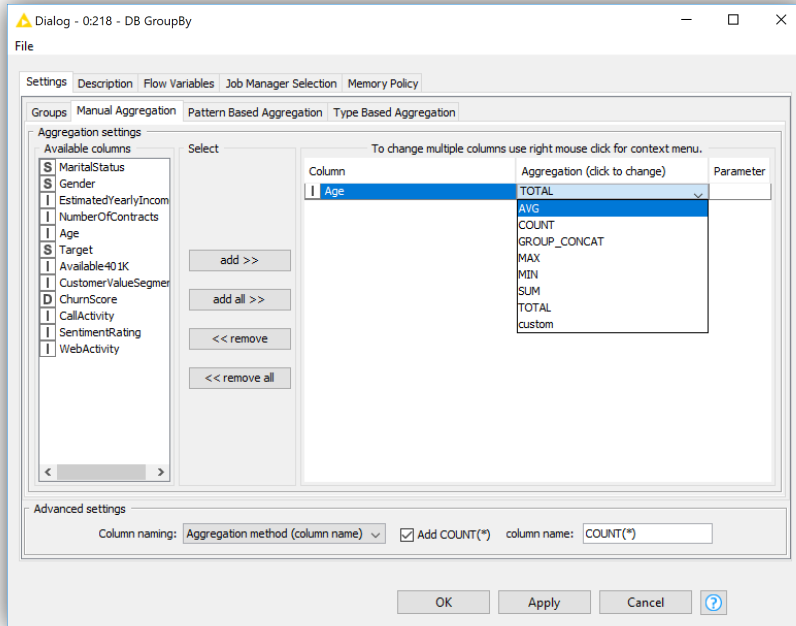


DB GroupBy

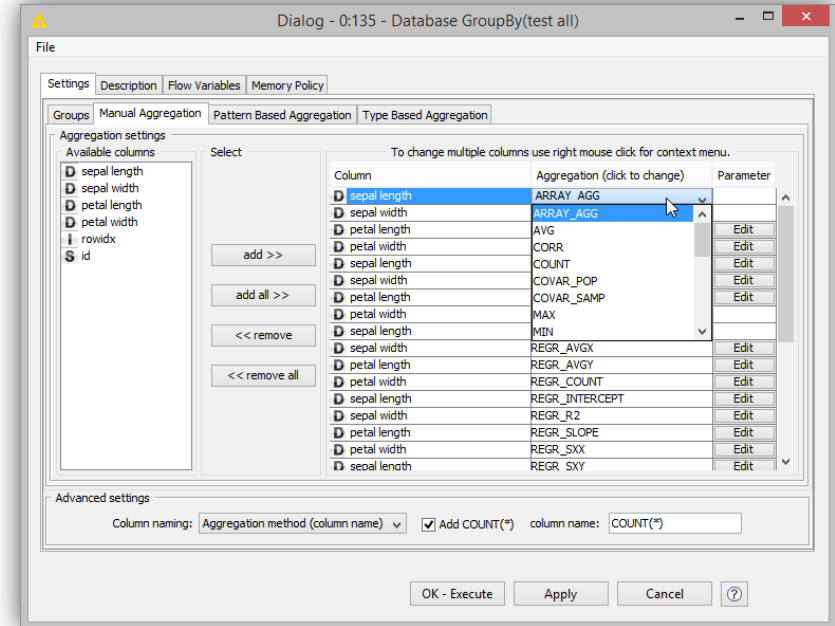


Returns number of rows per group

DB GroupBy – DB Specific Aggregation Methods



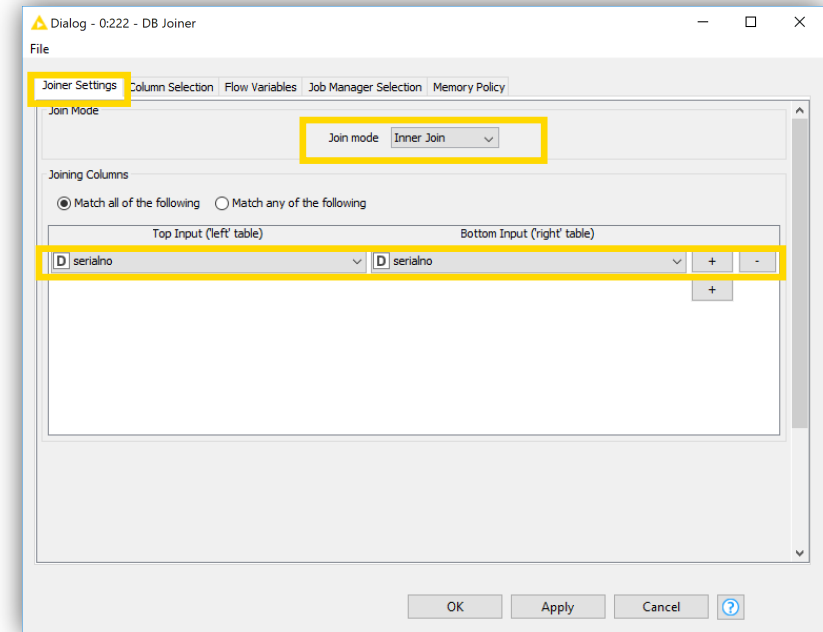
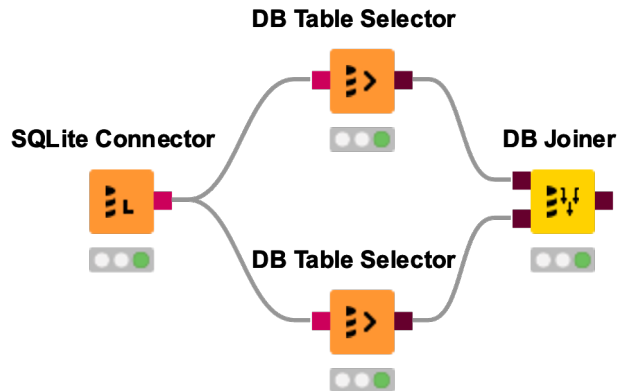
SQLite: 7 aggregation functions



PostgreSQL: 25 aggregation functions

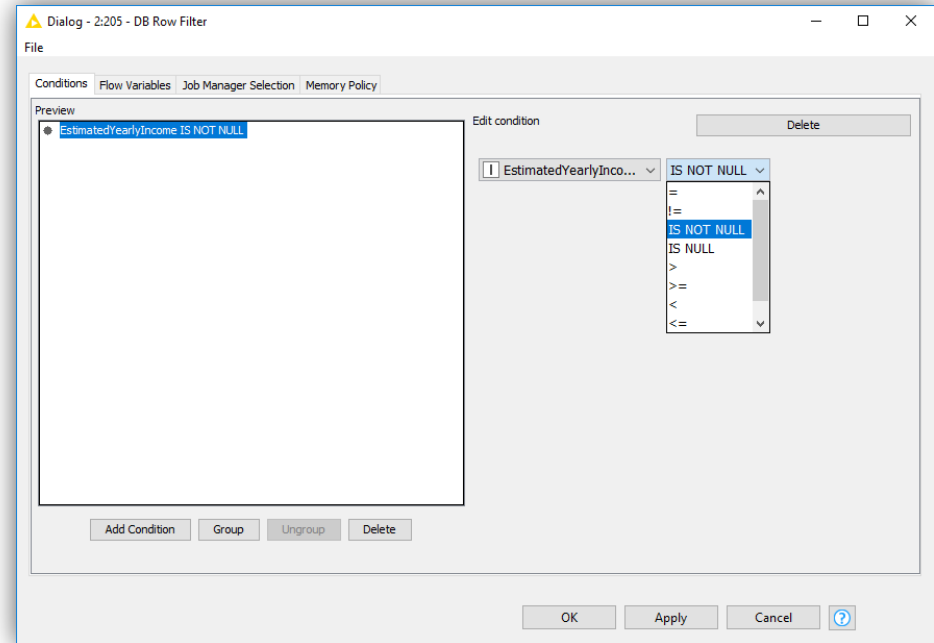
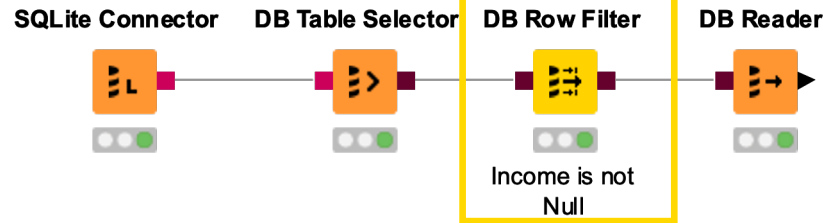
DB Joiner

- Combines columns from 2 different tables
- Top port contains “Left” data table
- Bottom port contains the “Right” data table



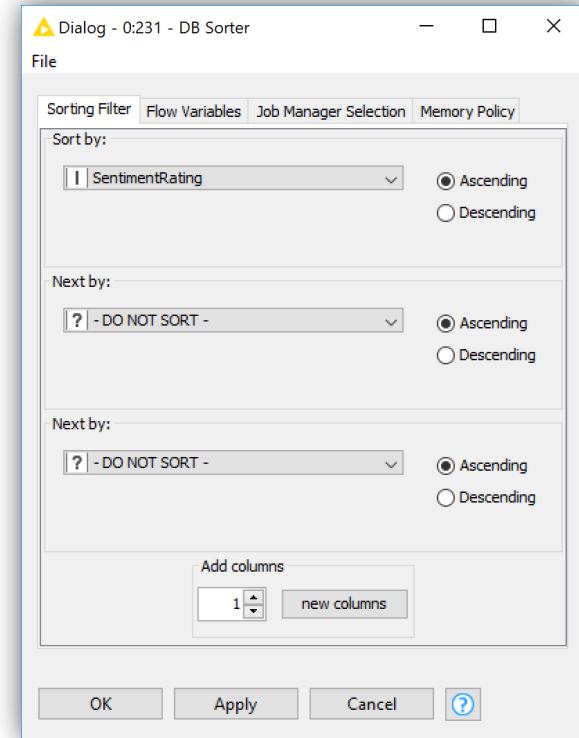
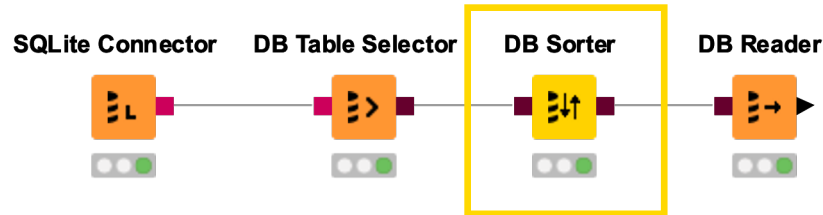
DB Row Filter

- Filters rows that do not match the filter criteria
- Use the *IS NULL* or *IS NOT NULL* operator to filter missing values



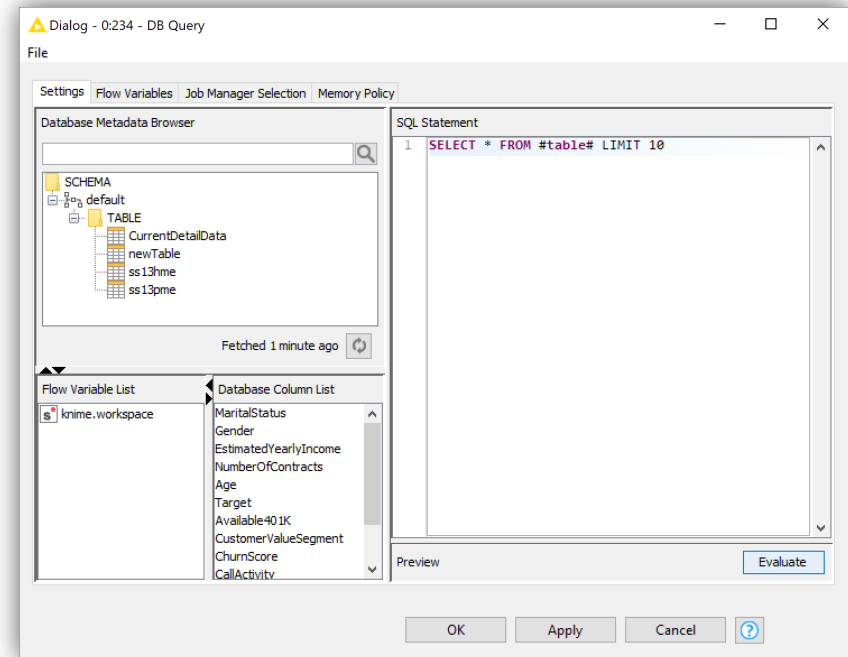
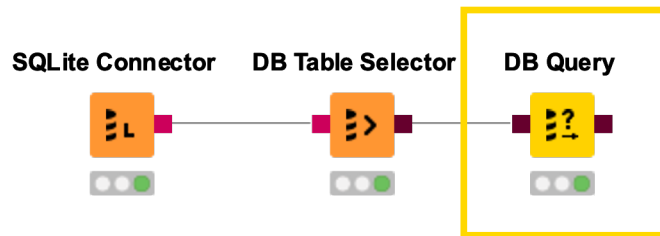
DB Sorter

- Sorts the input data by one or multiple columns

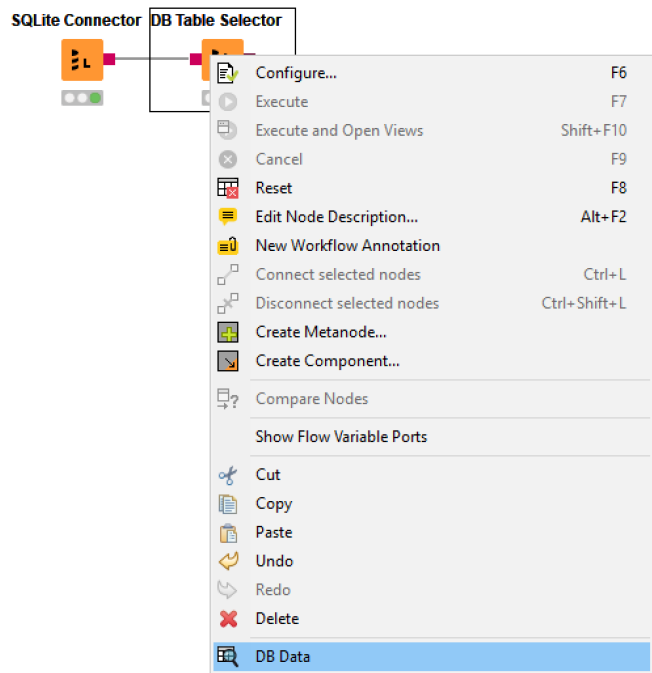


DB Query

- Executes arbitrary SQL queries
- #table# is replaced with input query

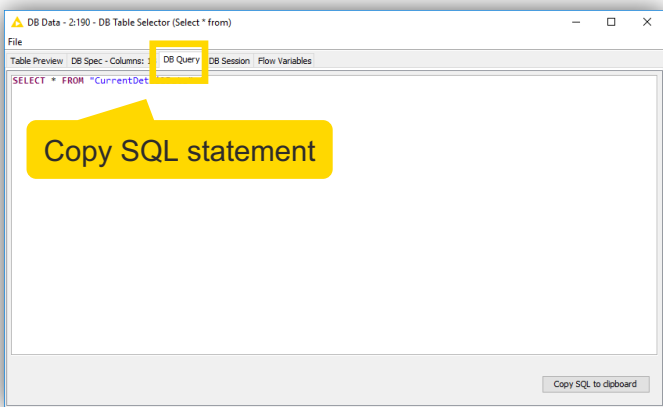


Database Connection Port View



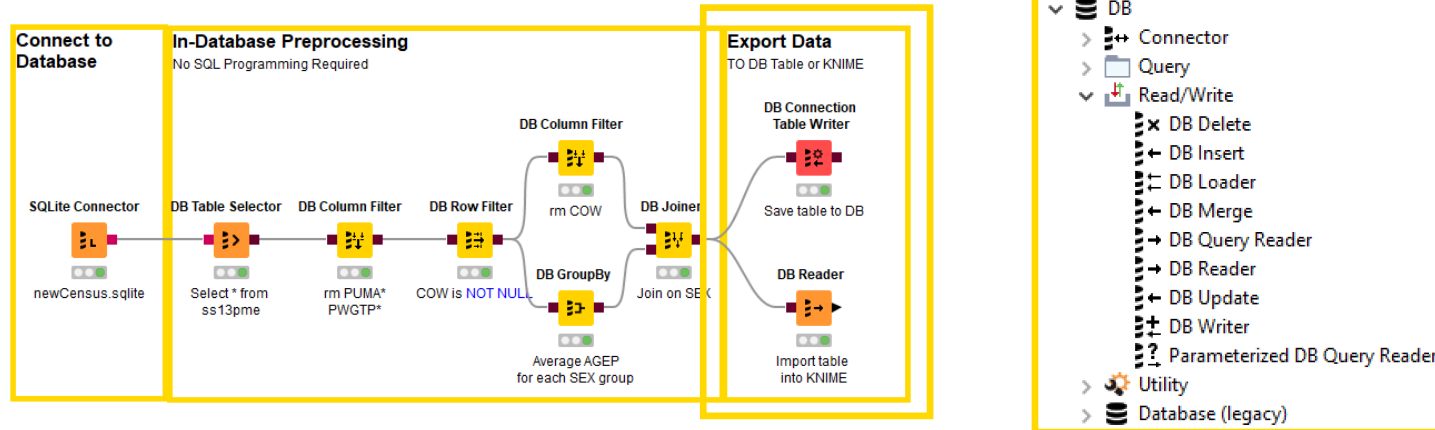
A screenshot of the 'DB Data - 0:235 - DB Table Selector' window. The 'Table Preview' tab is selected and highlighted with a yellow box. It displays a table with 13 columns: Row ID, Marital..., Gender, Estim..., Number..., Age, and Target. The table contains 13 rows of data, with Row 0 selected. A 'Cache no. of rows' input field is set to 100.

Row ID	Marital...	Gender	Estimat...	Number...	Age	Target
Row0	M	M	90000	0	44	1
Row1	S	M	60000	1	45	1
Row2	M	M	60000	1	45	1
Row3	S	F	70000	1	42	1
Row4	S	F	80000	4	42	1
Row5	S	M	70000	1	45	1
Row6	S	F	70000	1	44	1
Row7	M	M	60000	2	46	1
Row8	S	F	60000	3	46	1
Row9	S	M	70000	1	46	1
Row10	S	F	70000	1	46	1
Row11	M	M	60000	4	46	1
Row12	M	F	100000	2	42	0



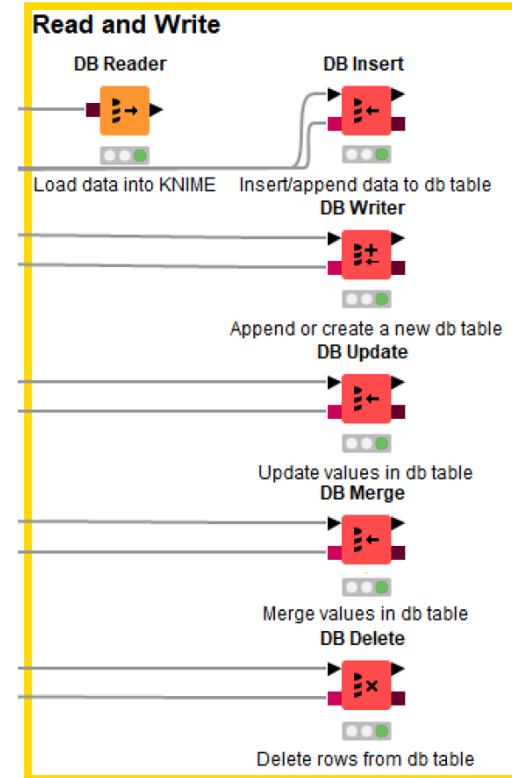
Export Data

- Writing data back into database
- Exporting data into KNIME
- SQL operations are **executed on the database!**



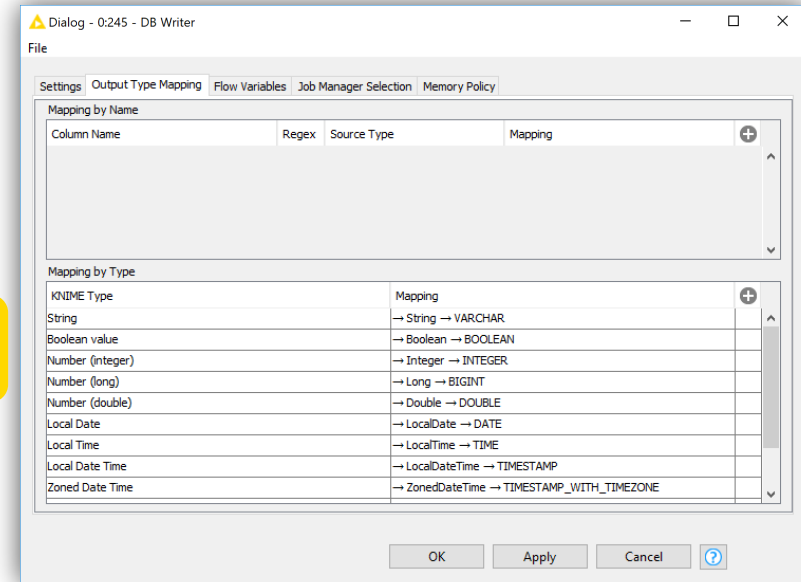
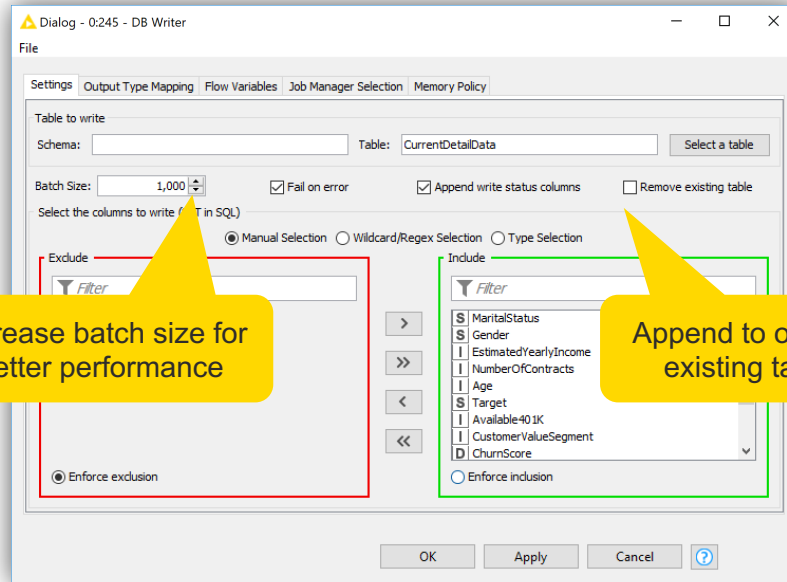
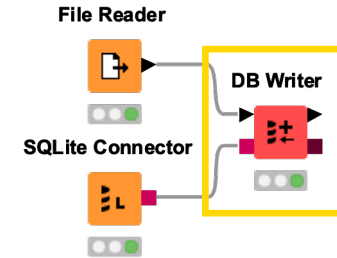
Database Writing Nodes

- Create table as select
- Insert/append/merge data
- Update values in table
- Delete rows from table



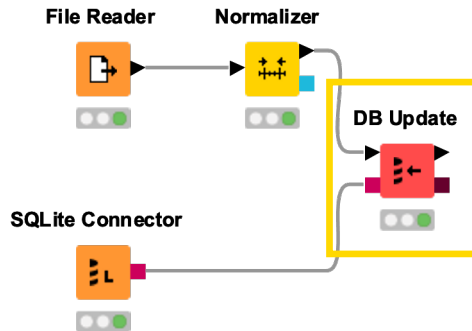
DB Writer

- Writes data from a KNIME data table **directly** into a database table



DB Update

- Updates all database records that match the update criteria



Increase batch size for better performance

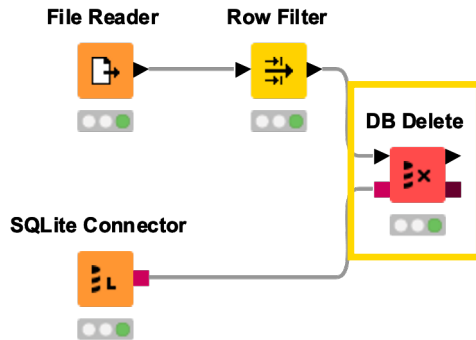
The screenshot shows the 'Dialog - 0:252 - DB Update' window. The 'Table to update' section is highlighted with a yellow box, showing 'Schema: ' and 'Table: CurrentDetailData'. The 'Batch Size' is set to '1,000' and is also highlighted with a yellow box. The 'Columns to update' section is highlighted with a green box, showing 'EstimatedYearlyIncome' in the 'Include' list. The 'Columns that identify the records to update' section is highlighted with a red box, showing 'MaritalStatus' in the 'Include' list. The 'Columns to update' section is also highlighted with a yellow box. The 'Columns that identify the records to update' section is also highlighted with a yellow box.

Columns that identify the records to update

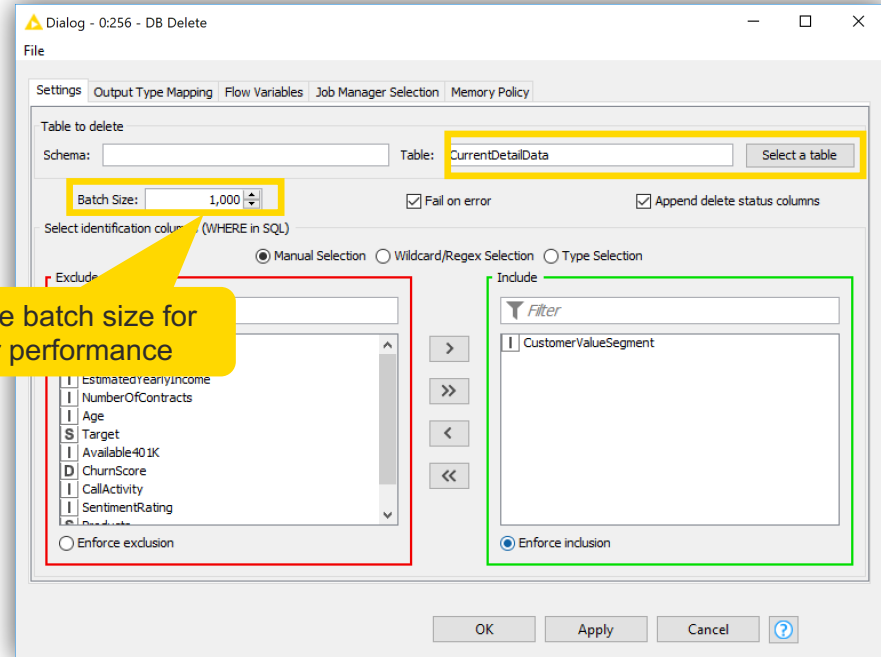
Columns to update

DB Delete

- Deletes all database records that match the values of the selected columns

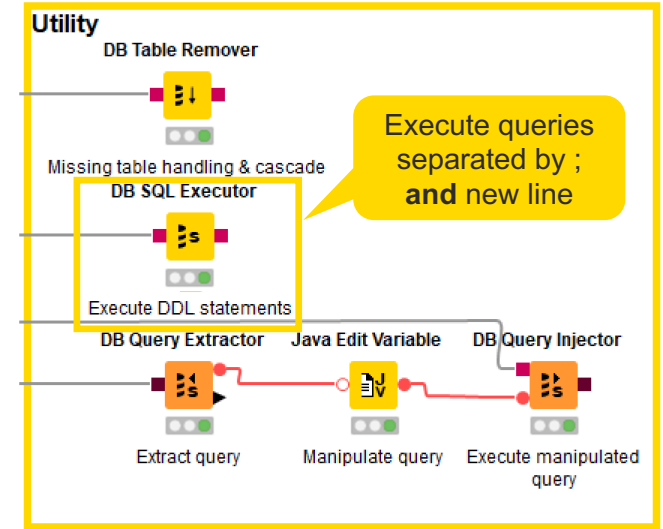


Increase batch size for better performance



Utility

- Drop table
 - missing table handling
 - cascade option
- Execute any SQL statement e.g. DDL
- Manipulate existing queries



Database Exercise

- Connect to the *database.mv.db* database with the H2 Connector node
- Write the Fully Joined Data into the database as a new table called "adult"
- Select the "adult" table in the database
- Count the number of records per product
- Filter out products that occur less than 1000 times by joining the aggregated and the original database table
- Read the filtered database table into a KNIME data table

Thank You!
education@knime.com

