



# HPCC Systems<sup>®</sup> GSoC 2016 project preview



HPCC SYSTEMS<sup>®</sup>

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January 2016

 RELX Group



# Proposed GSoC 2016 Ideas List

[HPCC Systems GSoC/Interns Wiki](#)

# What happens when...

- 9<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> Feb Accepted organizations application period
- 29<sup>th</sup> Feb Accepted organizations are announced
- 14<sup>th</sup>- 25<sup>th</sup> March Students application period
- 25<sup>th</sup> April Accepted students announced
- 25<sup>th</sup> Apr - 23<sup>rd</sup> May Community Bonding Period
- 23<sup>rd</sup> May Coding starts
- 22<sup>nd</sup> August Coding ends



# Find out more about HPCC Systems and GSoC

- Read various blogs about GSoC 2015 written by Lorraine Chapman: <http://bit.ly/1OJUIBT>
- GSoC 2015 completed projects details: <http://bit.ly/1QvMEqO>
- Keep in touch! Visit the GSoC Forum: <http://bit.ly/1K6MTHs>
- Want to know more about the projects? Visit our GSoC 2016 Ideas page: <http://bit.ly/1Ummxl5>
- Recommend the HPCC Systems GSoC/Intern Wiki to interested students: <http://bit.ly/1UmqhDo>



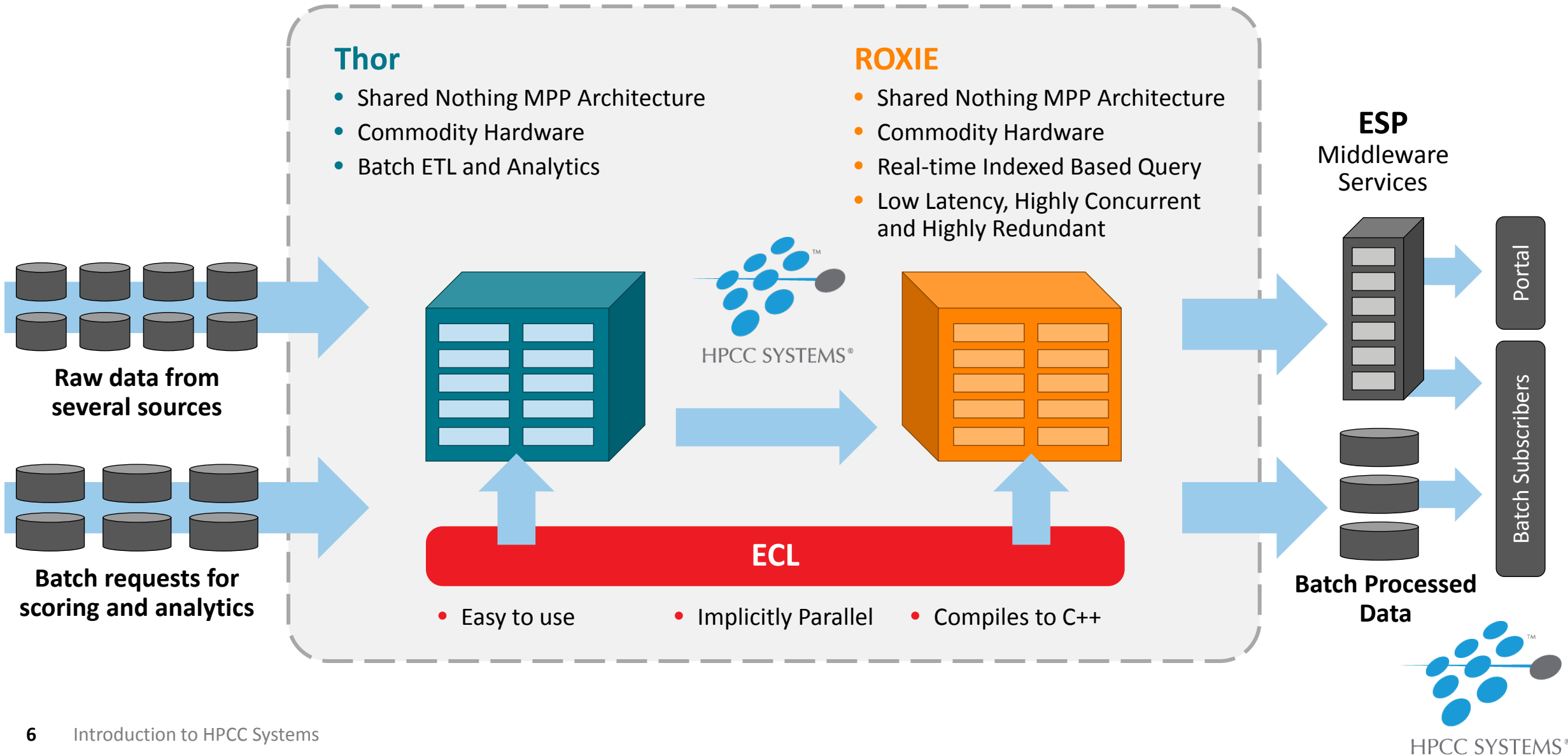
# Highlights of features coming soon in HPCC Systems® 6.0.0

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# Data Flow Oriented Big Data Platform





# HPCC Systems 6.0.0 – What's the focus?

## Performance



- Virtual slave thor
- Dali replacement for workunit storage
- Optimized merge sort for large numbers of cores
- Affinity support in Thor
- Parallel activity execution
- LZ4 compression for temporary files

## Usability



- Trace activity
- Refresh boolean option on persist
- Improved ECL compiler error reporting
- DFUPLUS restore superfiles
- Security enhancements
- Init system improvements
- Ability to merge multiple package files
- NEW ESP service methods

## New Features

- HPCC Systems Visualization Framework
- Kafka plugin
- RESTful roxie
- Security manager plugin support
- Quantile activity
- Option to bind queries to cores in ROXIE
- Dynamic ESDL support for writing web services in JAVA



## Performance – Faster and even better

- **Optimized merge sort** - Faster execution of sorts and more efficient use of multiple core processors
- **Parallel activity execution** - Refactoring of the engines makes it easier to allow activities and sections of a graph to be executed in parallel
- **LZ4 compression for temporary files** – Implemented as the default in Thor for temp files (e.g. spills)





## Performance – Faster and even better (cont'd)

- **Affinity support in Thor** - Improvement in overall performance because you can now bind each process to a single socket
- **Dali replacement for workunit storage** – The first release to contain an option to use a Cassandra database instead of DALI
- **Virtual slave Thor** - Thor clusters can be configured to take full advantages of the resources available per node

# Thor - Cluster Configuration

Before – SlavesPerNode is set to N

N independent slave processes per node

| Node1   | Node 2  | Node 3   |
|---------|---------|----------|
| RAM     | RAM     | RAM      |
| RAM     | RAM     | RAM      |
| RAM     | RAM     | RAM      |
| RAM     | RAM     | RAM      |
| Slave 4 | Slave 8 | Slave 12 |
| Slave 2 | Slave 6 | Slave 10 |
| Slave 3 | Slave 7 | Slave 11 |
| Slave 1 | Slave 5 | Slave 9  |

After – Virtual slave Thor

Virtual slaves created with a single slave process

| Node1   | Node 2  | Node 3  |
|---------|---------|---------|
| RAM     | RAM     | RAM     |
| Slave 1 | Slave 2 | Slave 3 |
| VS1     | VS5     | VS9     |
| VS2     | VS6     | VS10    |
| VS3     | VS7     | VS11    |
| VS4     | VS8     | VS12    |



## Virtual slave Thor – Sharing resources

- Each virtual slave shares cached resources
- Slaves can request and share all available RAM
- Startup and management of the cluster is faster and simpler
- Access to all available memory is significant for some activities e.g. Smart/Lookup join



## Smart/Lookup join example

### How does a lookup join work?

- Streams local slave RHS dataset to all other slaves
- All slaves gather global RHS into 1 table
- Hash table based on the hard key match fields is built
- Slaves finish and the LHS is streamed/matched against the hash table producing joined results

# What is a 'Smart' join?

Lookup join evolved. Two things...

- 1. If global RHS won't fit in memory it is hash partitioned. The LHS is hash distributed and a local lookup join is performed.**
- 2. If it cannot fit local RHS set into memory on any given node, both local datasets are gathered and sorted and a standard join is performed.**

## Smart/Lookup join advantages on a virtual slave thor

- ✓ **N times as much memory available for RHS**

4 times as much in the Smart/lookup join example

- ✓ **Significantly less communication of row data**

Faster processing for larger RHS sets





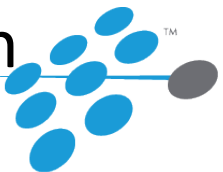
## Usability – Easier and even more efficient

- **Refresh boolean option on persist** – Can now read cached copies of data without requiring them to be rebuilt when out of date
- **Improved ECL compiler error reporting** – More specific errors and follow on errors kept to a minimum
- **Ability to merge multiple package files** – Smaller packages files can be added or removed individually and organized locally, only affecting those queries individuals/teams are responsible for



## Usability – Easier and even more efficient And even more...

- **DFUPLUS restore superfiles** – Restore all the files from a previous session including the ability to export and restore superfiles
- **Init system improvements** – Better checking to detect configgen failures including more specific error messages, improved startup for ROXIE and Thor and more.
- **New ESP service methods** – Temporarily change the ESP logging level when it is running (`WSESPControl.SetLogging`) and get the list of graphs you want (`WsWorkunit.WUGrapQuery`).
- **Trace Activity** – Add and control tracing which doesn't change the graph and can be left in place when not being used



# The Trace Activity – What is it?

- TRACE provides a way of putting ‘tracepoints’ in your ECL code using the syntax:  

```
myds:=TRACE(ds [, traceOptions]);
```
- Some or all of the data going through that part of the graph is saved into a log file:  

```
TRACE: <name><fieldname>value</fieldname>...</name>
```
- The workunit debug value traceEnabled must be set.
- Request tracing on a deployed query in ROXIE by specifying traceEnabled=1 in the query XML.



# TRACE Activity - Options

- Zero or more expressions which act as a filter
- KEEP (n) – How many rows will be traced
- SKIP (n) – n rows will be skipped before tracing starts
- SAMPLE (n) – Only every nth row is traced
- NAMED(string) – Name for the rows in the tracing

*‘...much better than scattering OUTPUT statements throughout your code!’*

Gavin Halliday



## New features – More cool and useful stuff

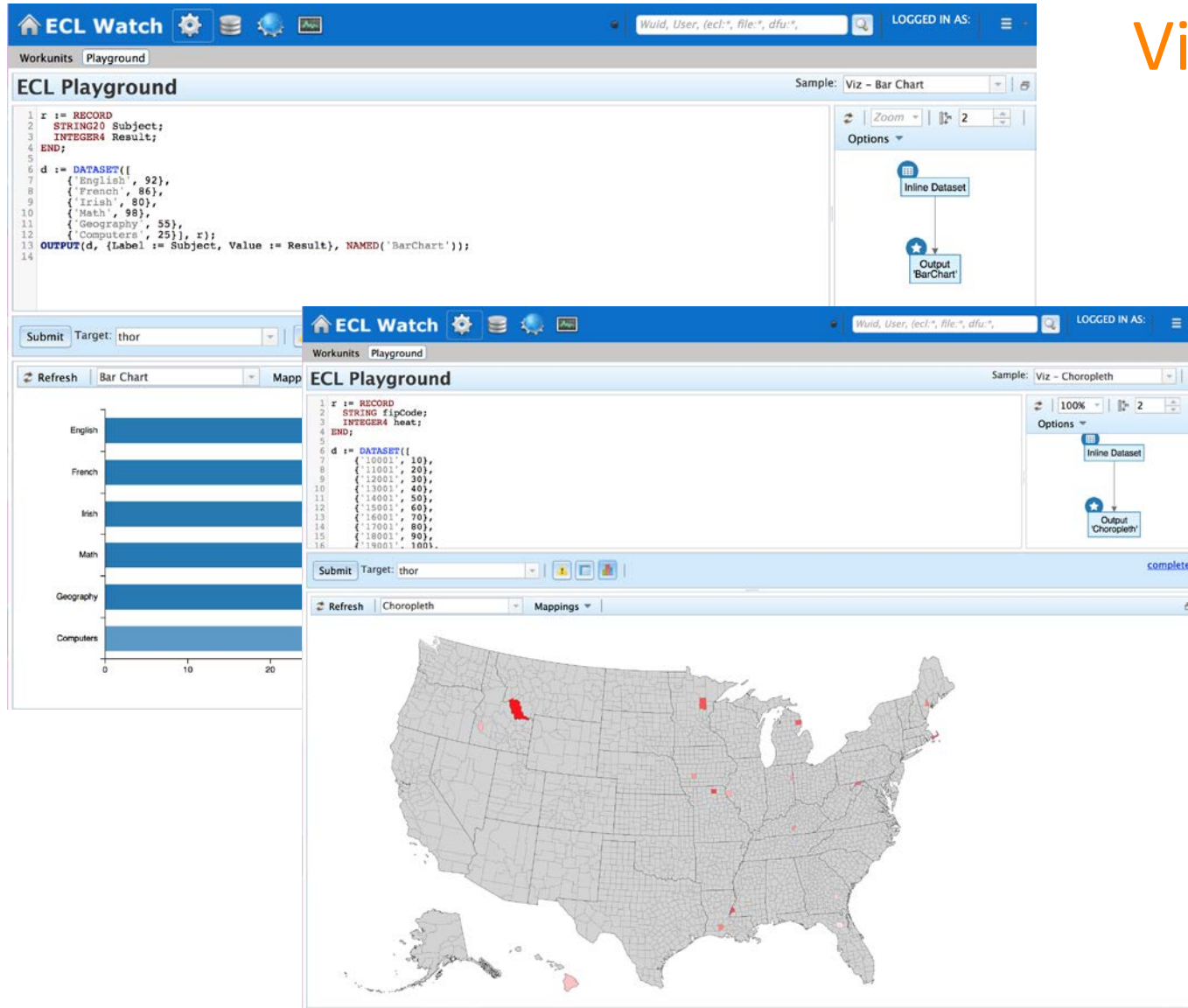
- **Kafka plugin** – Interface to Apache Kafka from ECL code
- **RESTful ROXIE** – Native ROXIE support for these additional REST access formats, SOAP, JSON, HTTP-GET, Form-UrlEncoding etc
- **Quantile activity** – Find the records that split a dataset into two equal sized blocks to locate the median, percentiles or split a dataset for distribution across the nodes in a system without performing a full sort



## New features – More cool and useful stuff (cont'd)

- **Option to bind queries to cores in ROXIE** – Improve the performance of ROXIE using thread affinities to restrict a query's threads to a subset of cores on a machine.
- **Dynamic ESDL support for writing web services in JAVA (Technical Preview)** – Configure an instance of Dynamic ESDL to run on ESP using the HPCC Systems Configuration Manager.  
Walkthrough: `opt/HPCCSystems/examples/EsdExample`
- **HPCC Systems Visualization Framework** – a wrapper making it easier to put your HPCC Systems, or hand coded visualizations onto a web page.





# Visualizations in HPCC Systems

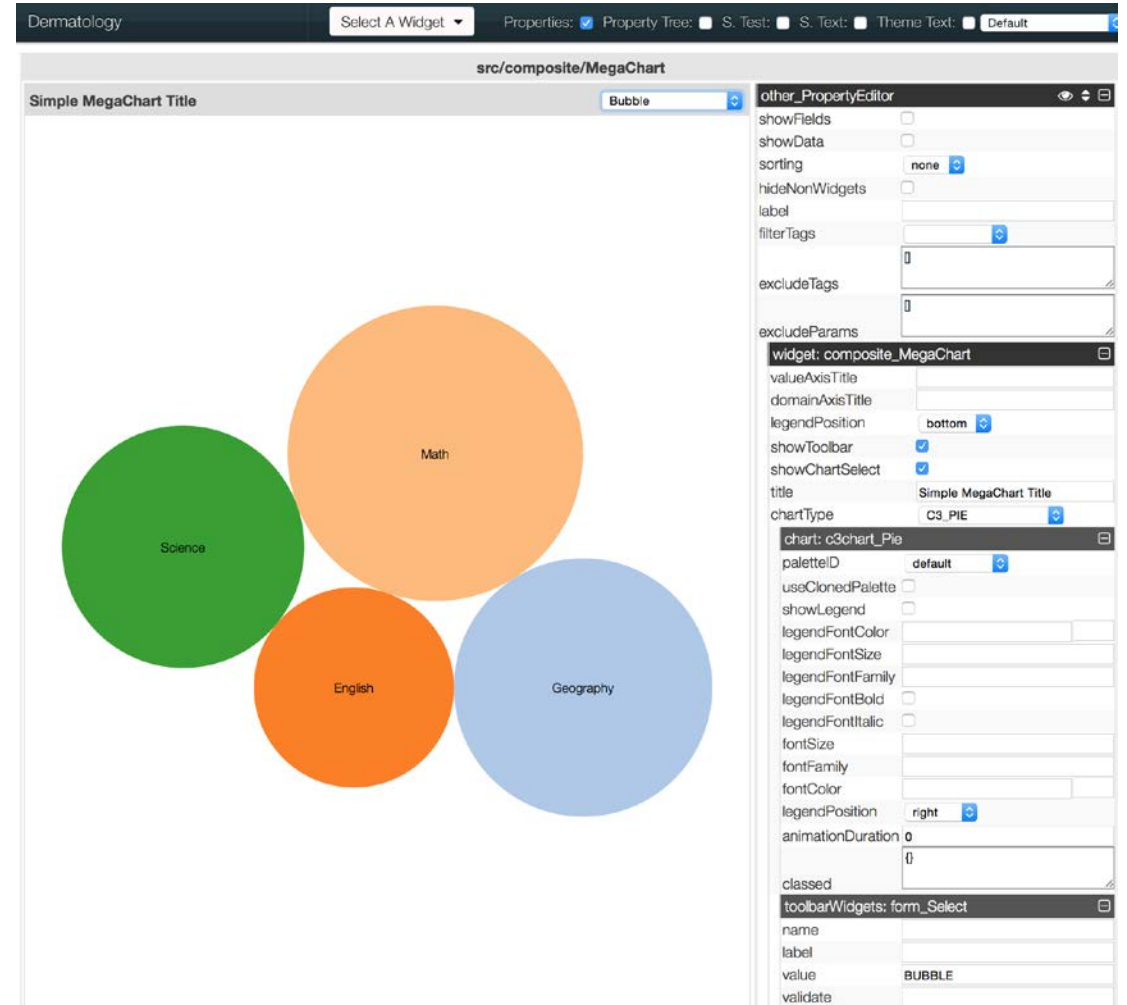
What's available now since 5.0.0...

- Visualizations for a number of chart/graph types including bar, scatter, pie, histogram etc.
- Examples available in the ECL Playground for bar and choropleth
- Include additional resources (e.g an index web page) in your ECL code via the manifest mechanism
- Helper functions to facilitate calling Roxie from inside web pages.

# Visualizations Framework – Dermatology Page

If you want to go and play with any of the widgets:

- Look at the sources on github:  
<https://github.com/hpcc-systems/Visualization>
- Dermatology page for widget properties:  
<http://rawgit.com/hpcc-systems/Visualization/master/demos/dermatology.html?src/map/Layered>



## Want to know more...

- Email [Lorraine.Chapman@lexisnexis.com](mailto:Lorraine.Chapman@lexisnexis.com) or post on the developer forum: <http://bit.ly/23nLjYn>
- HPCC Systems 6.0.0 Blogs – Beta 1: <http://bit.ly/1WPkLKY> and Beta 2: <http://bit.ly/1VubyGI>
- Quantile activity blogs: <http://bit.ly/1nJzMIg>
- Kafka plugin: <https://github.com/hpcc-systems/HPCC-Platform/blob/master/plugins/kafka/README.md>
- Dynamic ESDL docs: <http://bit.ly/1njlXtA> and example: `/opt/HPCCSystems/examples/EsdExample`