KNIME Enalos+ Molecular Descriptor nodes



A Brief Tutorial

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Introduction

Rapid development of information and communication technologies during the last few decades has dramatically changed our capabilities of collecting, analyzing, storing and disseminating all types of data. This process has had a profound influence on the scientific research in many disciplines, including the development of new generations of effective and selective medicines. Large databases containing millions of chemical compounds tested in various biological assays such as PubChem are increasingly available as online collections. In order to find new drug leads, there is a need for efficient and robust procedures that can be used to screen chemical databases and virtual libraries against molecules with known activities or properties.

Molecular descriptors play a fundamental role in chemistry, pharmaceutical sciences, environmental protection policy, and health researches, as well as in quality control, being the way molecules, thought of as real bodies, are transformed into numbers, allowing some mathematical treatment of the chemical information contained in the molecule.

By this definition, the molecular descriptors are divided into two main categories: experimental measurements, such as log P, molar refractivity, dipole moment, polarizability, and, in general, physico-chemical properties, and theoretical molecular descriptors, which are derived from a symbolic representation of the molecule and can be further classified according to the different types of molecular representation.

Enalos+ nodes built upon the existing KNIME infrastructure are divided in five main categories (Modelling, Molecular Descriptors, NCI, PubChem and UniChem) and significantly increase the number of the available nodes, the data handling tools and bridge different chemoinformatics and modelling tools upon the same interface.

The current tutorial is designed to help the user in going step-by-step through the process of building a KNIME workflow, using the Molecular Descriptor Enalos+ nodes of Novamechanics Ltd. This case study deals with a Luminescence Cell-Based Counter screen to Identify Inhibitors of A1 Apoptosis (AID 449761).

Step 1-Workbench overview

The KNIME workbench is organized as follows:

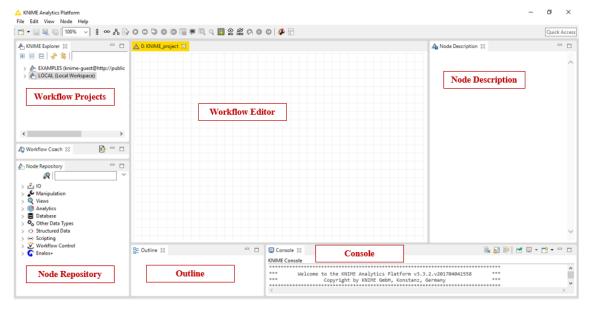


Fig. 1: KNIME workbench

It is composed of 6 main "windows": The Workflow Projects, the Workflow Editor, the Node Description, the Node Repository, the Outline and the Console. A short description of the KNIME's interface windows follows in Table 1:

Table 1: Description of KNIME interface

Workflow Projects	Workflow Editor	Node Description
Each workflow refers to a workflow project. All projects are displayed here.	Here the workflows are assembled by dragging nodes	Provides help about the selected node, its dialog
Import and export of workflows is supported.	onto this editor, connecting, configuring and executing	options, views, expected input data and resulting
Status (closed, idle, executing and executed) is indicated by an icon.	them.	output.
Node Repository	Outline	Console
Find all KNIME nodes here, ordered by categories. Help for selected nodes is displayed in the Node Description. Drag them onto the editor in order to add them to the workflow.	Overview over the workflow and navigation help for large workflows.	Status information, warnings and error messages are logged here. This information is also written to a log file.

Step 2-Building a workflow

The nodes are the basic processing units of a KNIME workflow. A workflow is built by dragging nodes from the Node Repository onto the Workflow Editor and connecting them, creating pipelines: Each node has a number of input-and/or output ports. Data (or a model according to each particular case) is transferred over a connection from an out-port to the in-port of another node.

1. Node status

When a node is dragged onto the workflow editor the status light shows red, which means that the node has to be configured in order to be able to be executed. A node is configured by right clicking it, choosing "Configure", and adjusting the necessary settings in the node's dialog. When the dialog is closed by pressing the "OK" button, the node is configured and the status light changes to yellow: the node is ready to be executed. Right-click on the node again shows an enabled "Execute" option; pressing it will execute the node and the result of this node will be available at the out-port (Fig. 2). After a successful execution the status light of the node is green. The result(s) can be inspected by exploring the out-port view(s): the last entries in the context menu open them. The above options "Configure", "Execute" and "View" are also available in the top ribbon of the KNIME interface window.

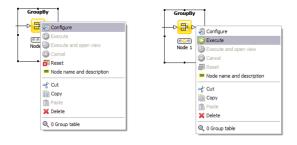


Fig. 2: Configuring and executing nodes



2. Ports

Ports on the left are input ports, where the data from the out-port of the predecessor node are provided. Ports on the right side of the node are called out-ports. The result of the node's operation on the data is provided at the out-port to successor nodes.

Step 3-Activate the Enalos+ nodes

In order to activate the Enalos+ nodes, the user has to copy the .jar file in the plugins folder and the .lic file in the license folder in the KNIME file location.

Step 4-A Brief Introduction

The Enalos+ nodes are divided into 5 main categories: Modelling, Molecular Descriptors, NCI, PubChem and UniChem.

1. Modelling

Modelling contains 11 nodes specified for data handling, preprocessing, testing modeling robustness and testing the accuracy of the predictions:

Table 2: Modelling nodes

Create New Molecules	Domain APD	Domain Leverage
Create New Molecules	Domain APD enables the user	Domain Leverage enables the
enables the user to create a list	to define the domain of	user to define the domain of
of molecules by combining a	applicability of the model	applicability of the model
series of substituents with a	using a method based on the	using a method based on the
core molecule.	Euclidean distances.	extent of extrapolation.
Int 2 Double	Kennard and Stone	MLR
Int 2 Double converts integer	Kennard-Stone node allows	MLR node performs Multiple
values of all columns to	the selection of two	Linear Regression in order to
doubles.	representative subsets (as	model the relationships
	training and test sets) with a	between a scalar dependent
	uniform distribution over an	variable y and two or more
	initial dataset.	independent variables
		denoted as X.
Model Acceptability	Remove Column	Remove Duplicates
Criteria		
Model Acceptability Criteria	Remove Column node	Remove Duplicates enables
gives information about the	removes the selected input	the user to remove the rows of
Quality of Fit and Predictive	columns of the table that	the input table that contain the
Ability of a continuous	contain the same values at a	same values in selected
QSAR Model.	percentage equal or higher	columns. The filtered table
_	than a specified cutoff limit.	contains all rows that are
	•	unique and the first one of
		each repeated row.
Sphere Exclusion	Y Randomization	•
Sphere Exclusion node allows	Y Randomization (or Y-	
the selection of two	scrambling) is a technique,	
representative subsets (such	applied to ensure a QSAR	
as training and test sets). This	model's robustness.	
method attempts to specify		
compounds which most		
effectively cover the		
available data space.		

2. Molecular Descriptors

Molecular Descriptors contains *EnalosMold2* node.

3. NCI

NCI contains CIR node.

Table 3: Molecular Descriptors and NCI

EnalosMold2	CIR
Molecular Descriptors by EnalosMold2	Enalos+ CIR node enables the user to get direct
calculates a large and diverse set of molecular	access to CIR (Chemical Identifier Resolver)
descriptors (777) encoding two-dimensional	through KNIME. The user has the option to
chemical structure information.	select several output formats through a GUI
	menu.

4. PubChem

PubChem contains 8 nodes that give direct access to PubChem database through KNIME in order to extract useful information:

Table 4: PubChem nodes

Assay	Assay Class
Assay node gives the user access to PubChem	Assay Class node searches in PubChem
database via substance or compound IDs (SID	database according to one or more given AIDs
and CID), in order to find the Assays where a	(BioAssay identification numbers) and
particular compound is tested. Using this node	displays only the active or inactive
the user can download in KNIME information	compounds.
about the Assay and the Assay outcome.	-
Main PubChem	Patent
Main PubChem node enables the user to	Patent node gives the user straight access to
search the PubChem database and obtain the	the PubChem database in order to obtain
following information for thousands of	information about the patent coverage
compounds with one request: PubChem CID	information for thousands of compounds with
(Compound ID), IUPAC Name, InChI, InChI-	one request.
Key Molecular Formula, Molecular Weight,	
Canonical SMILES and the direct PubChem	
URL.	
Patent to Sid	Sid
Patent to Sid node helps the user to search the	Sid node exports the CIDs (Compound IDs) of
PubChem database and obtain the SIDs	a given list of SIDs (Substance IDs), searching
(Substance IDs) of the compounds covered by	the PubChem database. The user can search
(Substance IDs) of the compounds covered by the patents in request.	the PubChem database and obtain information
	the PubChem database and obtain information about the CIDs for thousands of compounds
the patents in request.	the PubChem database and obtain information about the CIDs for thousands of compounds with one request.
the patents in request. Similarity	the PubChem database and obtain information about the CIDs for thousands of compounds with one request. Vendor
the patents in request. Similarity Via Similarity node, the user can search the	the PubChem database and obtain information about the CIDs for thousands of compounds with one request. Vendor Vendor node enables the user to search the
the patents in request. Similarity Via Similarity node, the user can search the whole PubChem database for similar	the PubChem database and obtain information about the CIDs for thousands of compounds with one request. Vendor Vendor node enables the user to search the PubChem database and obtain information
the patents in request. Similarity Via Similarity node, the user can search the whole PubChem database for similar compounds (Tanimoto Similarity) and obtain	the PubChem database and obtain information about the CIDs for thousands of compounds with one request. Vendor Vendor node enables the user to search the PubChem database and obtain information about the commercial availability for
Similarity Via Similarity node, the user can search the whole PubChem database for similar compounds (Tanimoto Similarity) and obtain the following information for thousands of	the PubChem database and obtain information about the CIDs for thousands of compounds with one request. Vendor Vendor node enables the user to search the PubChem database and obtain information
Similarity Via Similarity node, the user can search the whole PubChem database for similar compounds (Tanimoto Similarity) and obtain the following information for thousands of compounds with one request: PubChem CID	the PubChem database and obtain information about the CIDs for thousands of compounds with one request. Vendor Vendor node enables the user to search the PubChem database and obtain information about the commercial availability for
Similarity Via Similarity node, the user can search the whole PubChem database for similar compounds (Tanimoto Similarity) and obtain the following information for thousands of compounds with one request: PubChem CID (Compound ID), Molecular Formula,	the PubChem database and obtain information about the CIDs for thousands of compounds with one request. Vendor Vendor node enables the user to search the PubChem database and obtain information about the commercial availability for
Similarity Via Similarity node, the user can search the whole PubChem database for similar compounds (Tanimoto Similarity) and obtain the following information for thousands of compounds with one request: PubChem CID	the PubChem database and obtain information about the CIDs for thousands of compounds with one request. Vendor Vendor node enables the user to search the PubChem database and obtain information about the commercial availability for

5. UniChem

UniChem contains 2 nodes for accessing UniChem databases:

Table 5: UniChem nodes

UniChem	UniChem Connectivity
Enalos <i>UniChem</i> gives the user direct access	UniChem Connectivity is an expanded version
to UniChem databases through KNIME.	of the standard UniChem tool that allows you
UniChem is a superset of all 27 available	to find related molecules. Connectivity Search
databases, separated in 5 friendly and easily	allows molecules to be first matched on the
recognizable categories.	basis of complete identity between the
	connectivity layer of their corresponding
	Standard InChIs, and the remaining layers then
	compared to highlight stereo-chemical and
	isotopic differences

Step 5-Adding Nodes

In the Node Depository, expand the *Enalos*+ and the contained *Molecular Descriptors* category and choose *EnalosMold2* node (Fig. 3). Then, drag & drop the *EnalosMold2* icon into the Workflow Editor window. Do it twice, in order to have 2 *EnalosMold2* in the Workflow editor.

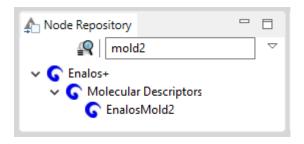


Fig. 3: Node Depository interface

Then, expand the *IO* category followed by the *Read* and drag into the Workflow Editor 2 *Excel Reader (XLS)* nodes. To complete the workflow, you will also need to add 2 more *Column Splitter* nodes, 2 *Joiner* nodes and the *Concatenate*, *Kennard and Stone*, *IBk (3.7)*, *Weka Predictor (3.7)* and *Scorer* nodes. You can search all these nodes by name in the Node Repository.

You can rename the nodes as shown below (Fig. 4).

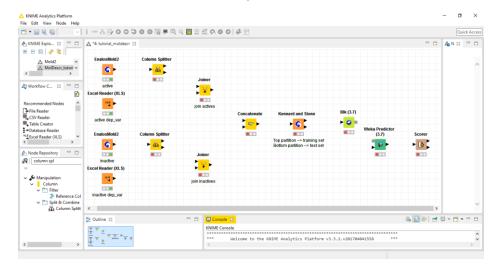


Fig. 4: Workflow editor

Step 6-Connecting Nodes

Now, you need to connect the nodes, in order to get the data flowing. Click an output port and drag the connection to an appropriate input port. Complete the flow as pictured below (Fig. 5). The nodes will not show a green status as long as they are not yet configured and executed.

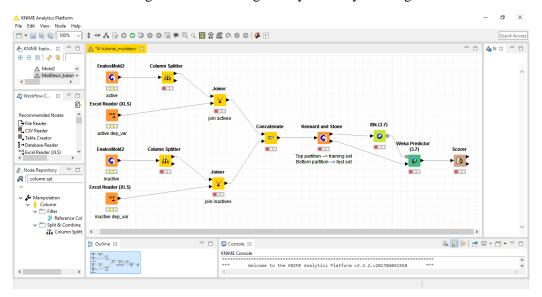


Fig. 5: Connecting nodes

Step 7-Configuring nodes

Fully connected nodes showing a red status icon need to be configured. Start with the *EnalosMold2* "active" node, right click it and select "Configure" from the menu. Press "Browse" button, select the "Mold2" .exe file to read and an .sdf file downloaded from PubChem referring to the active compounds of the AID 449761 (Fig. 6). Press "Apply" and "OK" to close the dialog of the *EnalosMold2* node. Once the node has been configured correctly, it switches to yellow (meaning ready for execution). Follow the same steps for the "inactive" *EnalosMold2* node. In this case select the corresponding .sdf file is referring to the inactive compounds of the AID 449761 (Fig. 7). Both active and inactive .sdf files are downloaded from PubChem database.

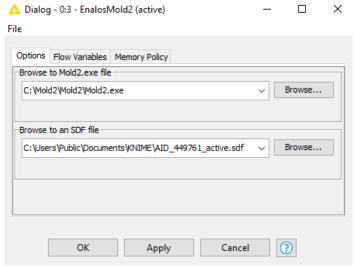


Fig. 6: Configuring the EnalosMold2 "active" node

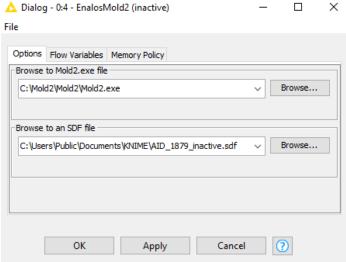
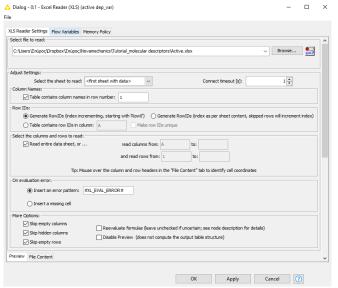


Fig. 7: Configuring the EnalosMold2 "inactive" node

Then, configure *Excel Reader (XLS)* nodes. For the "active dep_var" *Excel Reader (XLS)* node browse for an .xls file containing the values of the 1st set's depended variable (active) (Fig. 8). Repeat the process for the "inactive dep-var" node and select the 2nd set of the depended variable (inactive) (Fig. 9).



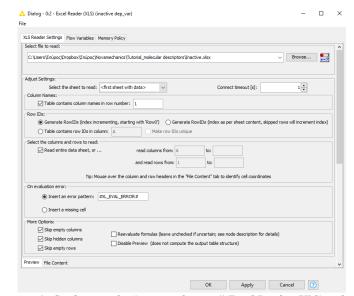


Fig. 8: Configuring the "active dep var" Excel Reader (XLS) node

Fig. 9: Configuring the "inactive dep_var" Excel Reader (XLS) node

Subsequently, you will need to configure the *Column Splitter* nodes in order to exclude from the *EnalosMold2* output the column referring to the row numbers (see Fig. 10).

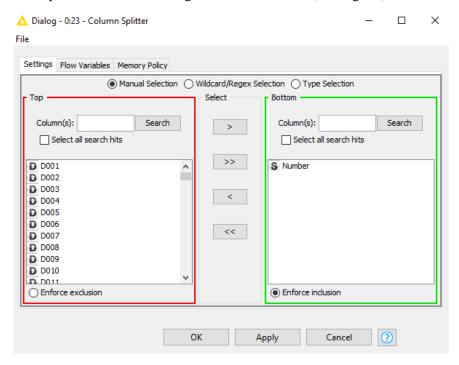


Fig. 10: Configuring Column Splitter nodes

The *Joiner* nodes join two tables in a database-like way. The join is based on the joining columns of both tables. The Joiner nodes' configuring menu is shown below and is exactly the same for both "join actives" and "join inactives" *Joiner* nodes (Fig. 11).

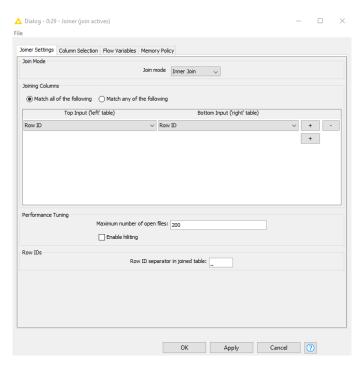


Fig. 11: Configuring Joiner nodes

The *Concatenate* node concatenates the "active" and the "inactive" tables and takes as input, the output of the 2 *Joiner* nodes. Configure this node as depicted in Fig. 12:

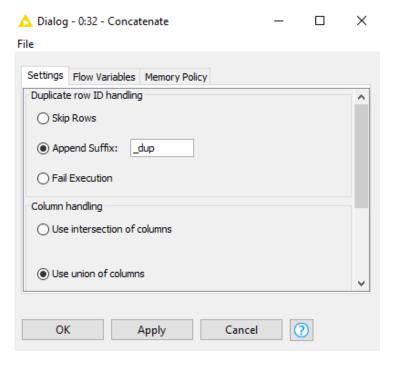


Fig. 12: Configuring Concatenate node

The Kennard and Stone method allows the selection of two representative subsets (as training and test sets) with a uniform distribution over an initial dataset. *Kennard and Stone* node takes as input the table that is going to be partitioned and outputs the 2 partitions (training and test set). Configure *Kennard and Stone* by defining the "Target column" which refers to the depended variable and the "Model percentage". In general, the test set should be about 15-20% of the entire dataset. So, you can select, say, 80% as a "Model percentage" (Fig. 13).

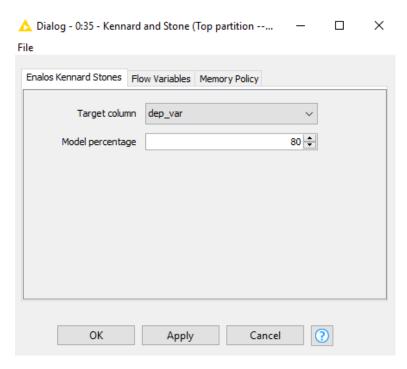


Fig. 13: Configuring Kennard and Stone node

IBk (3.7) node is a k-Nearest-Neighbor (kNN) classifier. In the configuring menu, you can select an appropriate value of K based on cross-validation. You can also do distance weighting. Select, say, 3 in the kNN menu (Fig. 14).

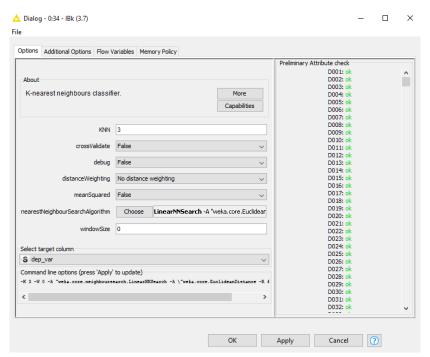


Fig. 14: Configuring IBk (3.7) node

The Weka Predictor node takes a model generated in a weka node and classifies the test data at the import (Fig. 15).

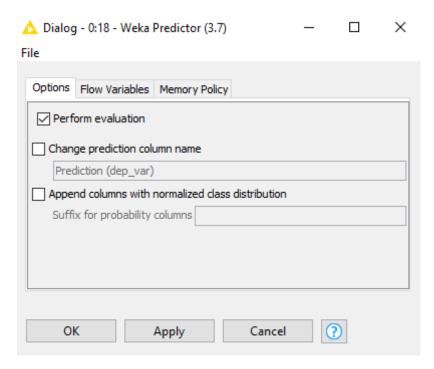


Fig. 15: Configuring Weka Predictor node

Scorer node compares two columns by their attribute value pairs and shows the confusion matrix, i.e. how many rows of which attribute and their classification match. In the configuring menu select the depended variable in the "First Column" and the prediction of the depended variable in the "Second Column" (Fig. 16).

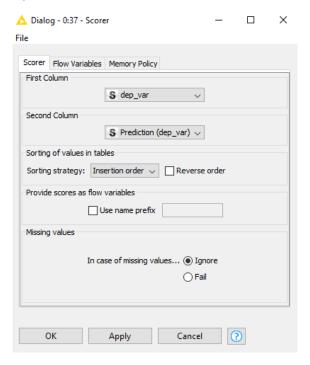


Fig. 16: Configuring Scorer node

Step 8-Executing nodes

Now, right click on the *EnalosMold2* nodes and execute them. Then execute the *Scorer* node. The workbench will execute all predecessor nodes for you. In a larger, more complex flow, you could

select multiple nodes and trigger execution for all of them. The workflow manager will execute the nodes as needed, if possible in parallel. To execute all executable nodes press (Shift+F7).

Step 9-Inspecting the results

In order to examine the data and the results, open the nodes' views. From *EnalosMold2* output ports the table read in is extracted (Fig. 17, Fig. 18).

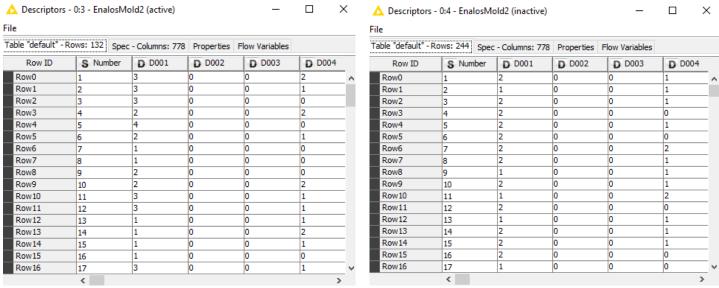


Fig. 17: "active" EnalosMold2 results

Fig. 18: "inactive" EnalosMold2 results

The *Excel Reader (XLS)* and the *Joiner* nodes output is depicted below (Fig. 19, Fig. 20) and (Fig. 21, Fig. 22).

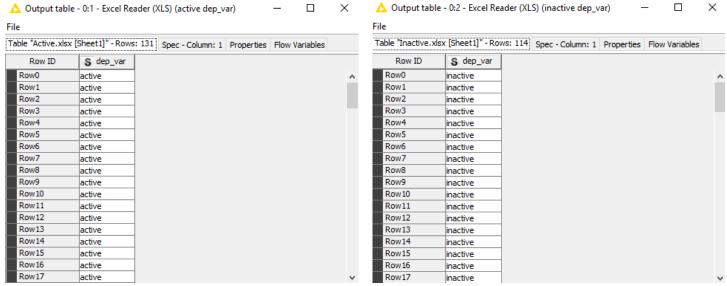


Fig. 19: "active dep_var" Excel Reader (XLS) results

Fig. 20: "inactive dep_var" Excel Reader (XLS) results

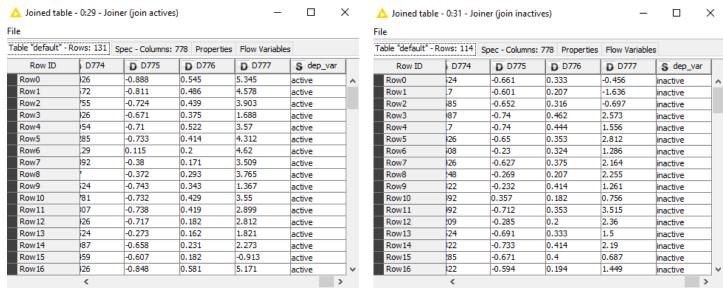


Fig. 21: "join actives" Joiner results

Fig. 22: "join inactives" Joiner results

The Concatenate node exports a table with rows from both the input tables (Fig. 23).

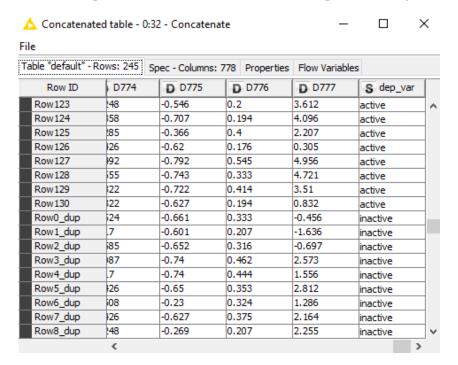


Fig. 23: Concatenate results

The *Kennard and Stone* node extracts a top partition with 196 rows (training set) and a bottom partition with 49 rows (test set).

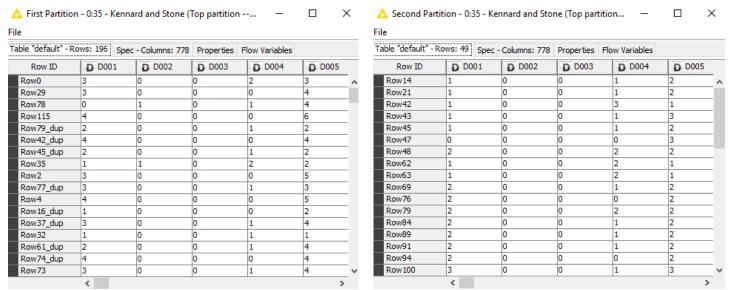


Fig. 24: Kennard and Stone results (Top partition)

Fig. 25: Kennard and Stone results (Bottom partition)

The Weka Predictor (3.7) node outputs the classified test data (Fig. 26).

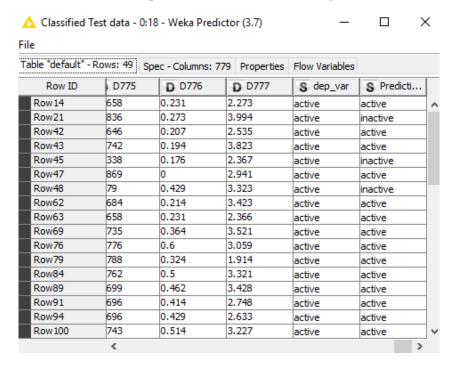


Fig. 26: Weka Prediction (3.7) results

Finally, the Scorer node exports the confusion matrix $(1^{st}$ output-Fig. 27) and the accuracy statistics table $(2^{nd}$ output-Fig. 28).

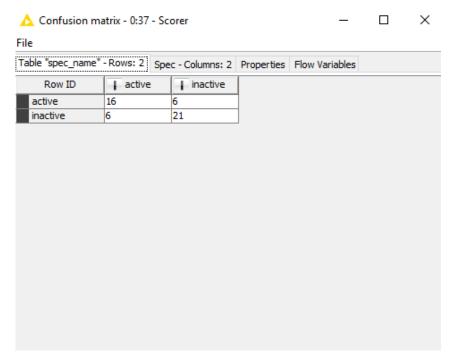


Fig. 27: Scorer results (1)

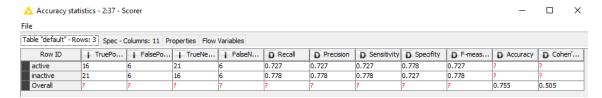


Fig. 28: Scorer results (2)

The executed workflow is depicted in Fig. 29:

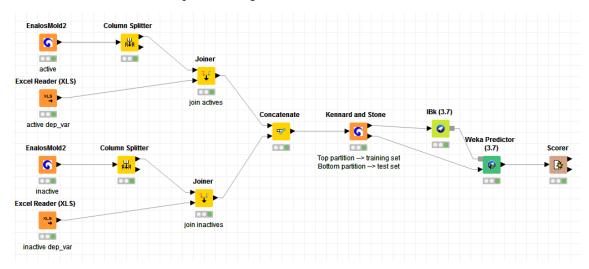


Fig. 29: Workflow using Enalos+ Molecular Descriptor nodes

Step 10-Extending the main Workflow

In order to develop a more consistent and robust model, you can extend the main workflow.

- First of all, add the Enalos+ Remove Column node. This node removes the selected input columns of the table that contain the same values at a percentage equal or higher than a specific cutoff limit. In the configuring menu remove the column containing the depended variable and set 10% as Threshold (Fig. 30)
- Then, drag and drop Shuffle node in the Workflow editor. This node shuffles the rows of the input tables such that they are in random order (Fig. 31)
- You can also add *Normalizer* node, which normalizes the values of all (numeric) columns. In the dialog, you can choose the columns you want to work on and set a method of normalization, for example Z-Score Normalization (Fig. 32).

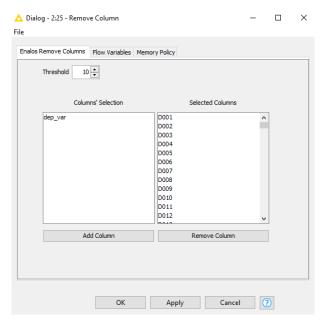


Fig. 30: Configuring Remove Column node

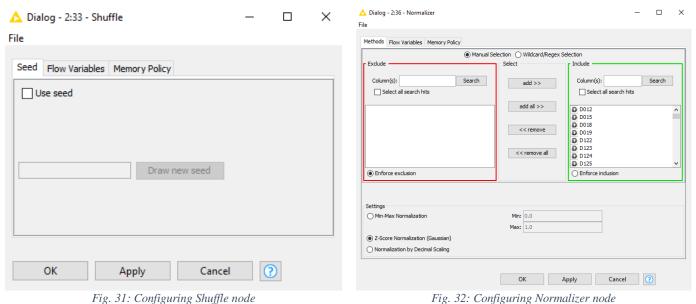


Fig. 32: Configuring Normalizer node

The updated workflow is depicted in Fig. 33.

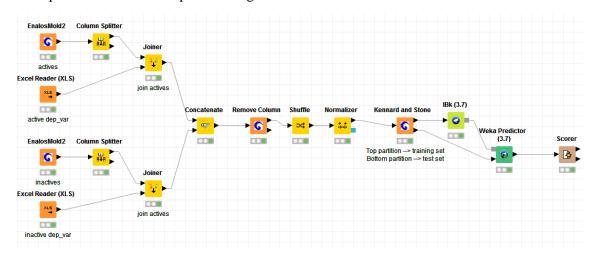


Fig. 33: Updated Workflow

The new, converted results of the workflow nodes are shown below:

- The *Remove Column* node's filtered table contains the 411 of the 778 initial columns (Fig. 34)
- The shuffled table (output of the *Shuffle* node) is depicted in Fig. 35
- The normalized table (output of the *Normalizer* node) is shown in Fig. 36
- The classified test data from the Weka Predictor (3.7) node are displayed in Fig. 37
- Concerning the *Scorer* node's output ports, the 1st one exports the confusion matrix (Fig. 38) and the 2nd the accuracy statistics (Fig. 39)

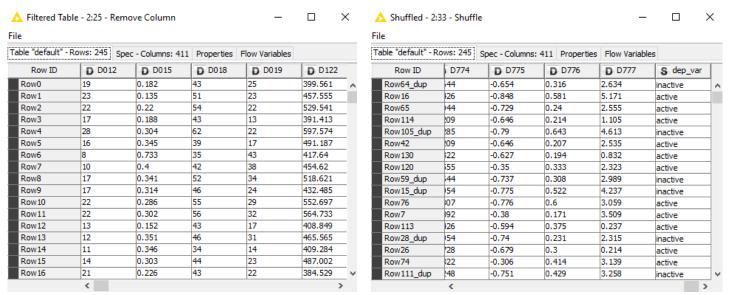


Fig. 34: Remove Column results

Fig. 35: Shuffle results

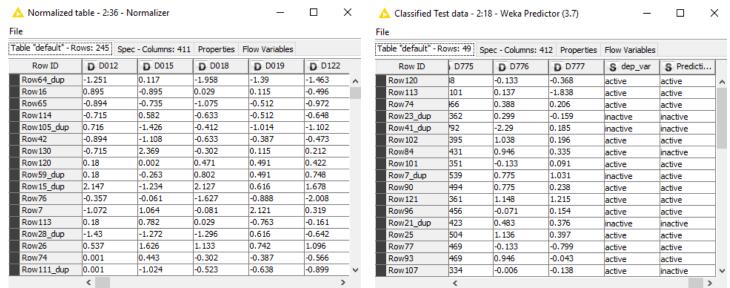


Fig. 36: Normalizer results

Fig. 37: Weka Predictor (3.7) results

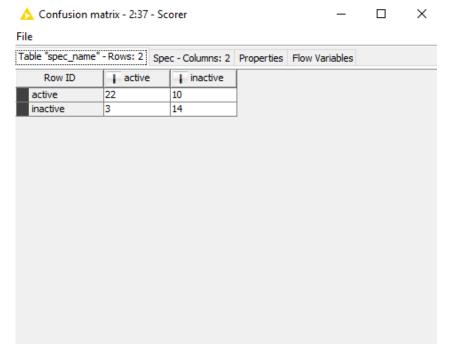


Fig. 38: Scorer results (1)

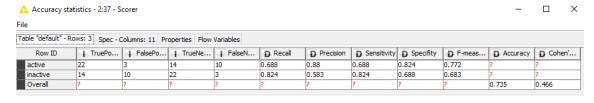


Fig. 39: Scorer results (2)



Embark your own voyage of discovery!

Now, you can compare the accuracy statistics of the simple example (Step 9) and the extended example (Step 10). This was just a simple example to get you started. There is a lot more to discover. Try to explore it! We tried to keep it simple and intuitive. We would love to receive your feedback and find out what you liked and what you did not like; things you find not functional or things that did not seem to work.