Woodpecker

A common interface for climate-data fixes

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https://github.com/roocs/woodpecker

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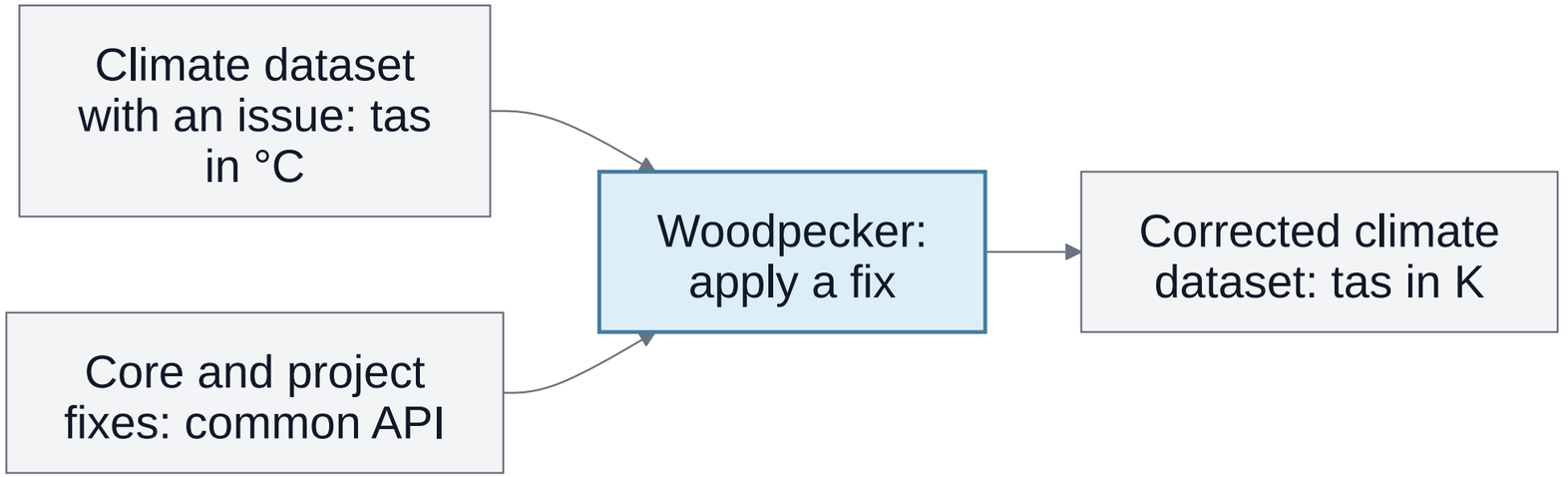


Male pileated woodpecker foraging on a tree

Photo: Joshlaymon, Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA 3.0.

1. What is Woodpecker?

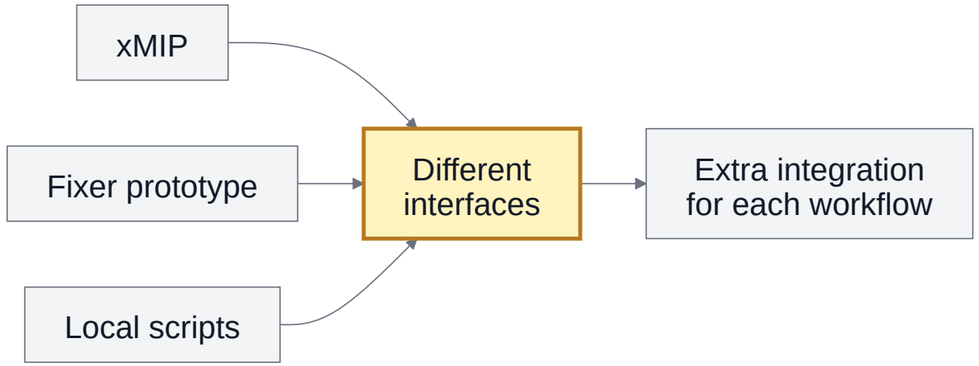
A **lightweight Python interface** for applying climate-data fixes.



- **Example:** temperature is in Celsius; the workflow needs Kelvin.
- **Core and project fixes** follow the same API and can be applied through Python or the CLI.
- Already used by **Rook** for **Copernicus CDS fixes**.

2. The problem: fragmented fixes

- **xMIP**: CMIP preprocessing for Pangeo workflows.
- **ESMValTool fixer prototype**: configurable fixes with CMIP7 and ESA-CCI examples.
- **Project and service scripts**: repairs maintained in local workflows.

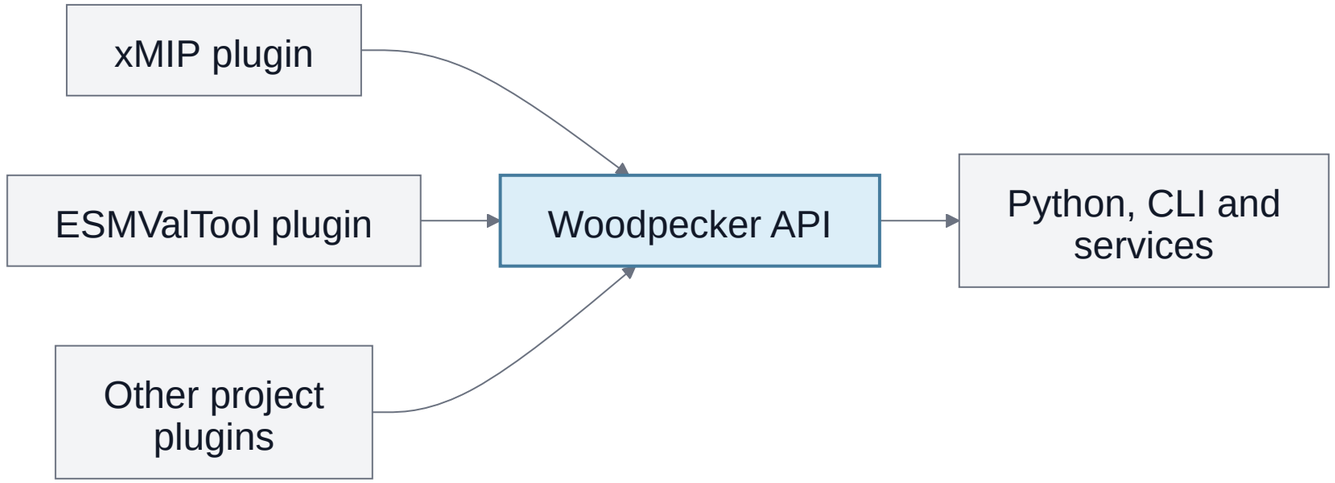


Different interfaces are the main obstacle: each workflow needs its own integration to reuse existing fixes.

> It would be really great if we could all work together on the fixes package to avoid developing fragmented fixes solutions again.
>
> — Bouwe Andela, ESMValTool

3. What does Woodpecker provide?

A thin common API for independent plugins.



- **Common structure:** plugins implement fixes as subclasses of `FixFunction`.
- **Maintainable fixes:** express repair logic as focused, testable fix implementations.
- **Independent scope:** each plugin decides what to fix and how; Woodpecker discovers and runs it through the shared API.

Projects own their fixes; Woodpecker provides the common interface.

4. A core fix: Celsius to Kelvin



Implementation sketch — Celsius input already checked; registration and metadata omitted.

```python
class NormalizeTasUnitsToKelvin(FixFunction):
    def apply(self, dataset, dry_run=True):
        if not dry_run:
            tas = dataset["tas"]
            tas.data = tas.data + 273.15
            tas.attrs["units"] = "K"
        return True
```

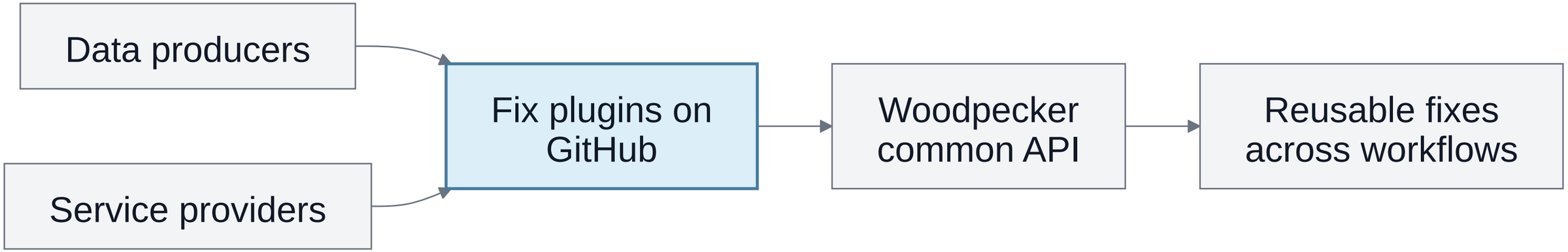
Prefix (core package)	Suffix (from class name)
`woodpecker`	`normalize_tas_units_to_kelvin`

```
woodpecker apply tas.nc \
  --select woodpecker.normalize_tas_units_to_kelvin
```

ID = prefix.suffix. Updates `tas.nc`; add `--dry-run` to preview.

5. Summary: a common API, shared work

Technical solution: independent fix plugins use a common API.



The hope: data producers and service providers **develop, review, and maintain fix plugins together on GitHub**.

First step: choose one known dataset issue and collaborate on its plugin fix.

https://github.com/roocs/woodpecker

Appendix

Technical details and discussion

- Core, plugins, fixes, and recipes
- Stable identifiers, the fix browser, and ESGF Errata
- Python and CLI examples, Rook integration, and current plugins
- Collaboration questions and reference links

A1. Climate-data fixes already exist

Many projects have developed useful **repair** and standardization code:

- xMIP cleans and organizes MIP data for analysis in the Pangeo ecosystem.
- ESMValTool's fixer prototype explores configurable fixes with CMIP7 and ESA-CCI plugins.
- Services and projects maintain further fixes in local libraries, scripts, and workflows.

These implementations reflect different data, communities, and use cases. That specialization is useful.

The problem is the lack of a **small common contract** for finding, referencing, and running them.

A2. Woodpecker does not replace the fix ecosystem

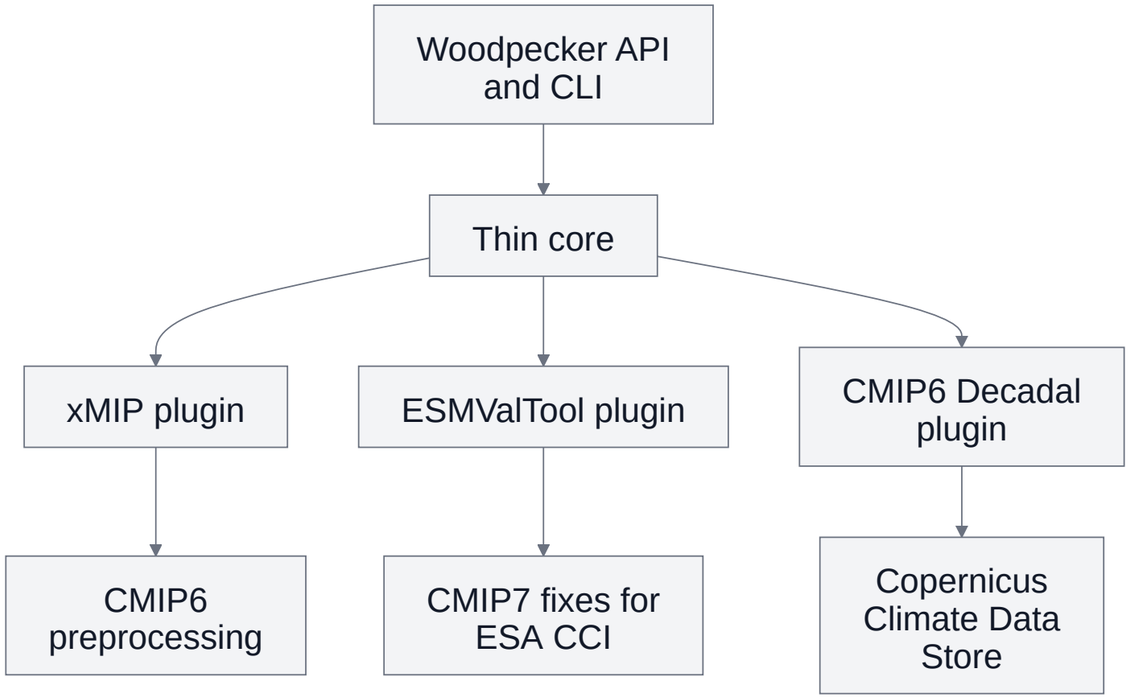
Woodpecker **does not aim to become the single fixing library** for every climate-data project.

It provides:

- a **thin interface layer**
- a small set of common functions
- **plugin discovery**
- **stable identifiers** for fixes and recipes
- a **Python API and command-line interface**
- checking, dry-run previews, execution, and provenance

The **plugins contain most of the domain-specific work**.

A3. Thin core, independent plugins



Plugins implement focused, testable `FixFunction` **subclasses** and may be narrow and project-specific.

Each project controls its fixes, dependencies, and scope.

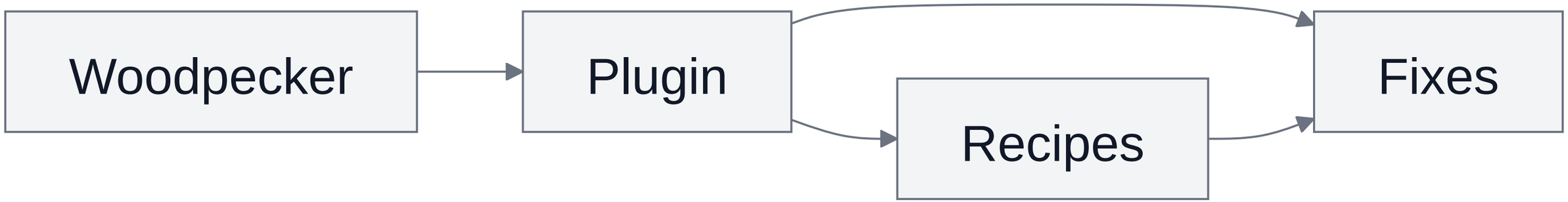
Woodpecker gives each plugin the **same entry point** while its maintainers keep control of the implementation.

A4. A small common vocabulary

Fix
One check or repair exposed through a stable identifier.

Recipe
An ordered set of fixes, options, matching rules, and supporting links.

Plugin
A separately owned package that provides fixes and recipes for a project, dataset family, or use case.



A5. Plugins provide fixes and their namespace

Interface sketch; registration and metadata omitted.

```python
class RenameCmip6Axes(FixFunction):
    def apply(self, dataset, dry_run=True): ...
```

- A plugin fix derives from the Woodpecker `FixFunction` **base class**.
- Its `apply()` **method performs the repair**.

The **stable fix ID** combines two parts:

Plugin prefix	Fix suffix	Stable fix ID
`xmip`	`rename_cmip6_axes`	`xmip.rename_cmip6_axes`

Woodpecker joins the prefix and suffix with a dot.

- The **prefix** defaults to the plugin package namespace: `xmip`.
- The **suffix** comes from the class name or an explicit declaration.
- The **plugin owns** the implementation, tests, and domain knowledge.

Woodpecker provides registration, discovery, execution, results, and provenance.

A6. Recipes combine fixes for a use case

Excerpt from the xMIP recipe; options and other steps omitted.

```yaml
recipes:
  - id: xmip.cmip6_preprocessing
    steps:
      - id: woodpecker.rename_variables
      - id: xmip.broadcast_lon_lat
      - id: woodpecker.normalize_longitude_convention
```

- A recipe combines fixes for a **defined workflow**.
- The fixes can come from **one or several plugins**.
- Plugins retain their own namespaces and release cycles.
- JSON and YAML make recipes **portable and reviewable**.
- Catalogue, JSON, and DuckDB stores support different deployment needs.

A7. Stable identifiers form the common contract

```
xmip.rename_cmip6_axes
woodpecker.normalize_longitude_convention

xmip.cmip6_preprocessing       # recipe
```

The identifier is **independent of the calling environment**.

The same fix or recipe can be referenced by:

- a Python workflow
- a processing service such as Rook
- a command-line call
- an ESGF Errata record or another portal
- documentation and tests

The portal can point to a **maintained, executable definition** instead of reproducing repair instructions.

- **ESGF Errata:** https://errata.esgf.io/static/index.html
- Woodpecker fix IDs: https://roocs.github.io/woodpecker/fixes.html

A8. The fix browser makes identifiers visible

The Woodpecker documentation includes an interactive overview of all registered fixes:

- **search** by ID, name, category, dataset, or source
- distinguish **core fixes from plugin-provided fixes**
- inspect descriptions, severity, labels, aliases, and package sources
- link directly to a fix through its **stable anchor**

Example: `woodpecker.normalize_tas_units_to_kelvin`

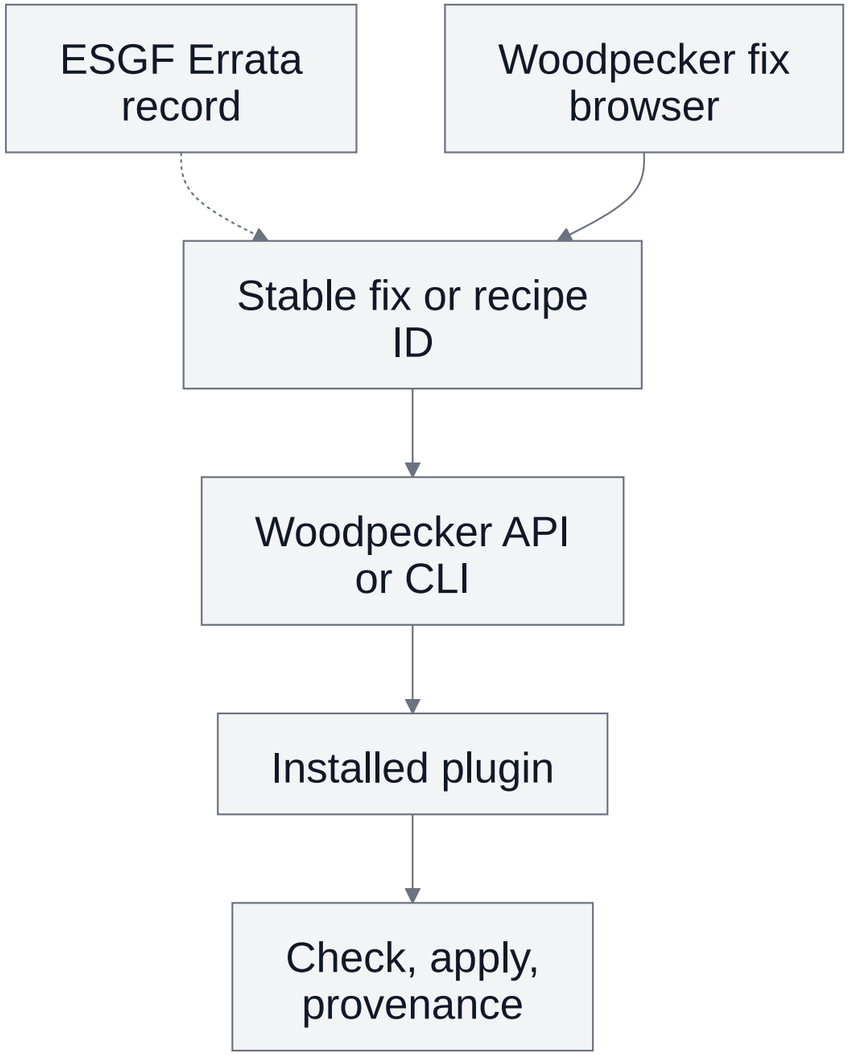
This browser is a demonstration of how a portal, an Errata entry, or documentation can refer to one precise fix.

A9. Proposed link from ESGF Errata to a fix

A **proposed integration** between issue documentation and executable repair logic:

1. The **Errata record** identifies the affected data.
2. It could reference a **stable fix or recipe ID**.
3. The fix browser makes the **ID and its source discoverable**.
4. Woodpecker resolves the ID through an **installed plugin**.
5. A user or service can **check, preview, and apply** the repair.

The plugin remains the authoritative implementation.



A10. One interface for local and service use

The xMIP plugin is installed; `dataset` is an xarray dataset.

Python library

```python
import woodpecker

recipe = woodpecker.recipe.get("xmip.cmip6_preprocessing")
result = woodpecker.recipe.apply(dataset, recipe, dry_run=False)
```

Command line

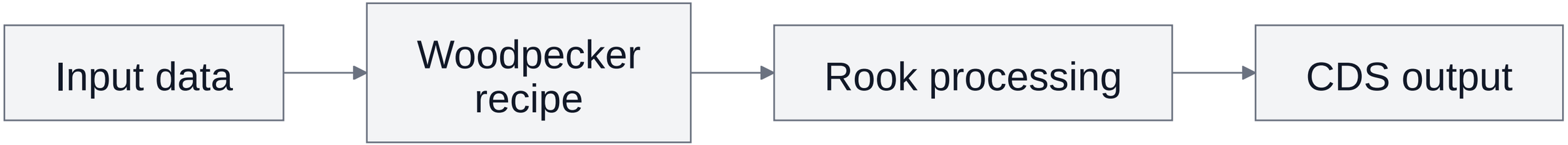
```
woodpecker apply ./data --store catalog \
  --recipe-id xmip.cmip6_preprocessing
```

Both routes use the **same identifiers, plugins, and recipes**.

Matching, separate checks, and dry-run previews are also available when needed.

A11. Rook uses Woodpecker as a library

Rook is a service for **remote operations on large climate datasets**. It is used by the **Copernicus Climate Data Store** and is being considered as a processing service for **ESGF-NG**.



- **Woodpecker prepares** known dataset issues through the Python API.
- **Rook continues** with generic operations such as subset, concatenate, or regrid.
- **Dataset-specific behaviour stays outside** the generic processing code.
- The same recipe remains available outside Rook through the CLI or another Python workflow.

Woodpecker prepares the data. Rook operates on it.

A12. Current plugins demonstrate the pattern

Plugin or example	Focus
Atlas	Production adaptations for the Copernicus Climate Data Store
CMIP6 Decadal	Production Decadal adaptations for the Copernicus Climate Data Store
CMIP6	Dummy plugin used as a placeholder
ESMValTool CMIP7 example	CMIP7 and ESA-CCI examples based on the ESMValTool fixer prototype
xMIP	xMIP-style CMIP6 preprocessing exposed as Woodpecker fixes and recipes

These plugins **do not define the limit of Woodpecker**.

Other projects can provide independent plugins while keeping their own code, scope, governance, and users.

A13. Collaboration without one central fixes library

> **It would be really great if we could all work together on the fixes package to avoid developing fragmented fixes solutions again.**
>
> — Bouwe Andela, ESMValTool

A common Woodpecker interface allows cooperation without forcing every project into one implementation:

- **projects own** their fix logic
- **plugins expose** that logic through a shared pattern
- **stable identifiers** make fixes discoverable and referenceable
- **recipes combine** fixes for specific workflows
- **services and users** call them through the same interface

The aim is for **data producers and service providers to develop, review, and maintain fix plugins together on GitHub**.

A14. Questions

- Can **data producers contribute fixes through GitHub**?
- Can data producers and service providers **collaborate on plugin code and review**?
- Can projects implement their fixes as focused, maintainable `FixFunction` subclasses?
- Which identifiers should ESGF Errata and other portals reference?
- Who maintains each project or dataset plugin?

A practical first step

Choose **one known dataset issue** and let a data producer and service provider implement and test the plugin fix together through GitHub.

A15. Technical recap

- Woodpecker provides a **thin common interface**, not one universal fixes library.
- **Independent plugins** contain the project-specific and dataset-specific knowledge.
- Every fix has a **stable `prefix.suffix` identifier** and implements the `FixFunction` pattern.
- **Recipes combine fixes** and can be used through Python, the CLI, Rook, or other services.
- **ESGF Errata and other portals** can reference maintained, executable fix definitions.

Main goal

Work together through a shared pattern while projects keep ownership of their fixes.

A16. Links and installation

One interface, many fix implementations

- **Woodpecker:** https://github.com/roocs/woodpecker
- **Documentation:** https://roocs.github.io/woodpecker/
- **Fix browser:** https://roocs.github.io/woodpecker/fixes.html
- **ESGF Errata:** https://errata.esgf.io/static/index.html
- **xMIP:** https://github.com/jbusecke/xMIP
- **ESMValTool fixer prototype:** https://github.com/ESMValGroup/fixer-prototype

```
pip install roocs-woodpecker
```