



TECHNISCHE
UNIVERSITÄT
WIEN
Vienna University of Technology

Repositories for Research Data and Trusted Research Environments

Martin Weise

with adapted slides from Andreas Rauber



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

Data Science Group
Technical University of Vienna

Motivation

Data is the new oil
... or “the new water”
... or “the new light”



v Brussels, Theresa May, 2017. The World's Most Valuable Resource, in *The Economist*. Edition May 6th.
Martin Weise, Technical University of Vienna

Motivation

Data is the new oil ... **if properly managed!**

... or “the new water”

... or “the new light”

Otherwise, it’s an **oilspill**

... or flood

... or blinding flash of lighting



v Brussels, Theresa May, 2017. The World's Most Valuable Resource, in *The Economist*. Edition May 6th.

Martin Weise, Technical University of Vienna

Motivation

Research depends on **data** in virtually all disciplines:

- **Value** of data determined through
 - Exhaustive collection
 - Data (pre-)processing
 - Volume, e.g. meta-studies
 - Reproducibility as core principle of science
- Proper **data management** enables
 - Speedup of research (avoiding repeated collection, processing)
 - Robust research (larger data pools)
 - Increased quality (reproducibility, comparability)

Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Background
3. Repositories for Research Data
 - DSpace
 - Gitlab
 - InvenioRDM
 - **DBRepo**
4. Trusted Research Environments
 - RemoteNEPS
 - SAIL Gateway
 - DEXHELPP
 - **OSSDIP**
5. Future Work
6. Conclusion

1. Introduction

PreDoc Researcher in the first year

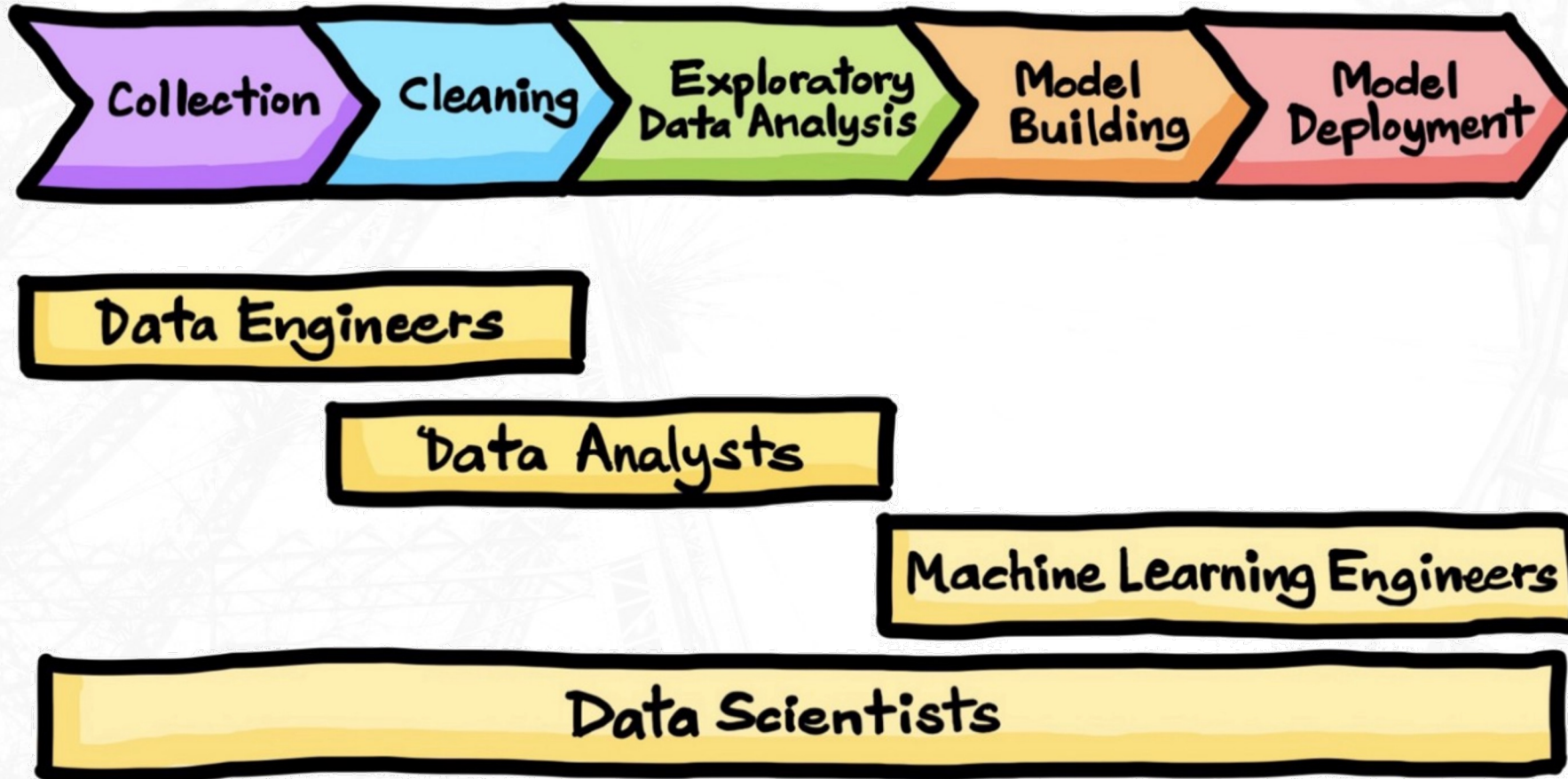
- *MSc in Software Engineering & Internet Computing*
2022 (Technical University of Vienna)
- *BSc in Software & Information Engineering*
2019 (Technical University of Vienna)

Research interests:

- Making sensitive data FAIR



2. Background



2. Background

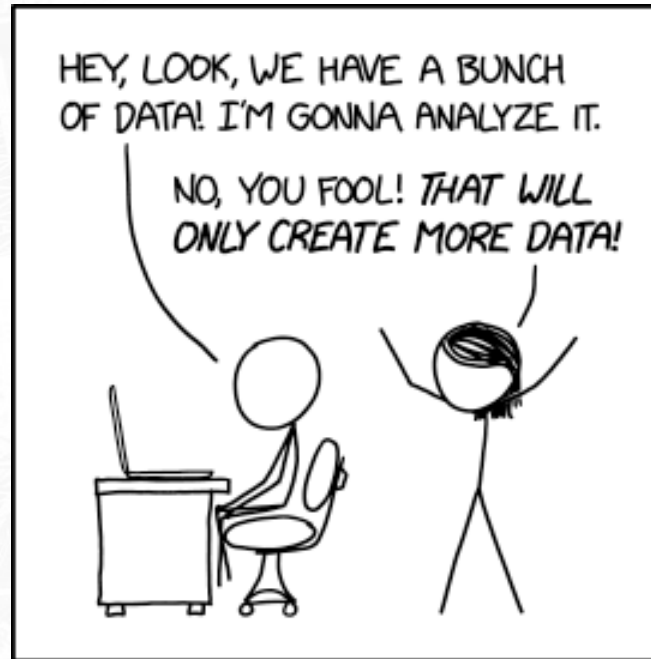


Cleaning and preparing data takes about **80%** of the **total engineering** effort

- Real-world data may be
 - *incomplete*, lacking attribute values, contains only aggregated data,
 - *noisy*, containing errors or outliers,
 - inconsistent, discrepancy in names
- **Preparation** generates a subset of the data, potentially increasing utility
 - *attribute selection*, relevant data, anomaly removal, duplicate elimination
 - *reducing data*, sampling or instance selection
- **Outcome**
 - *recovery* of incomplete data
 - *purify data*, correcting errors, removing outliers
 - *resolve conflicts* using domain knowledge, expert decisions

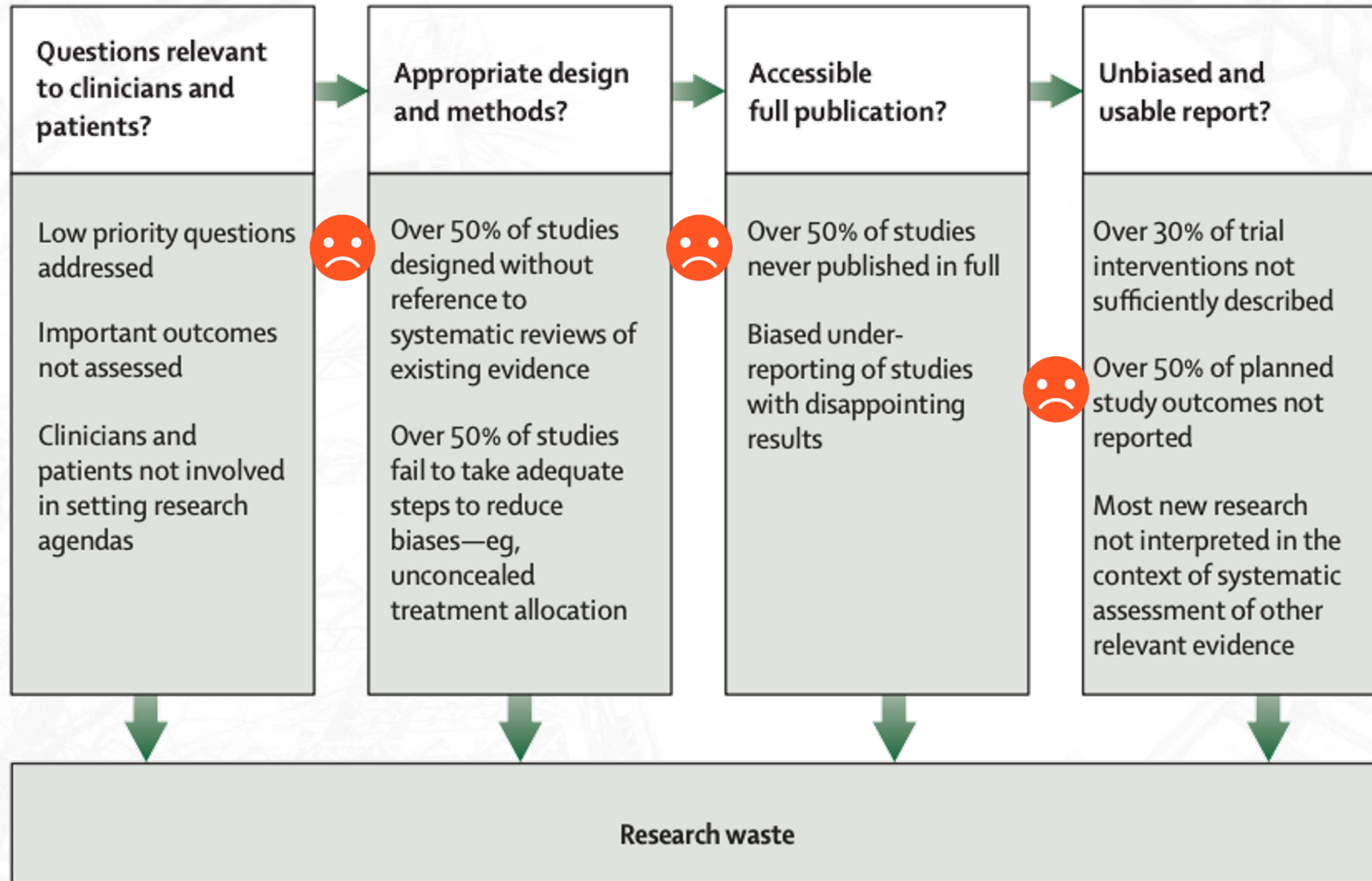
2. Background

After all this effort, people will be happy to re-use data, **right?**



ALT: "It's important to make sure your analysis destroys as much information as it produces."

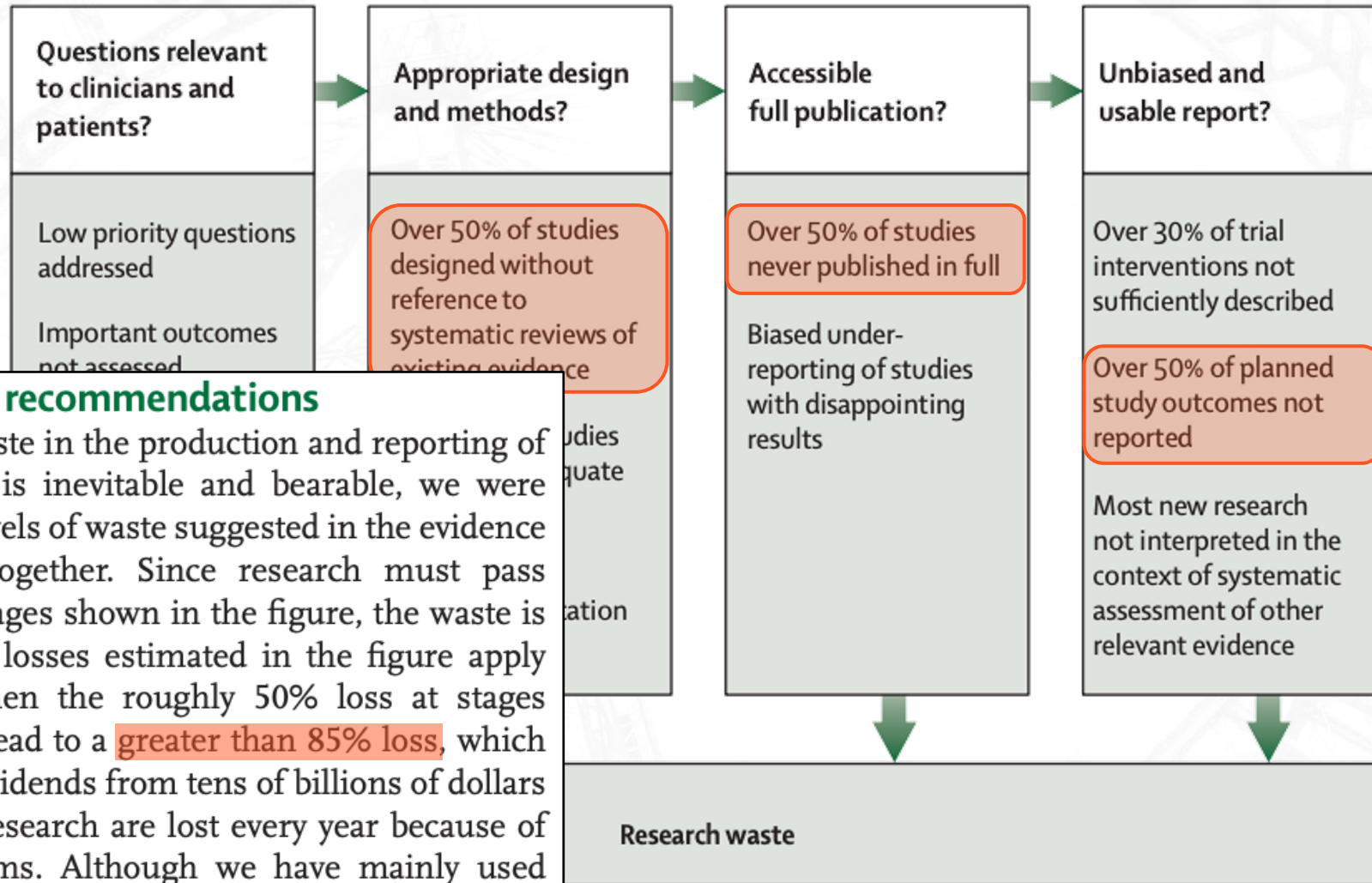
2. Background



Chalmers, I., Glasziou, P., 2009. Avoidable Waste in the Production and Reporting of Research Evidence, in *The Lancet*, 374(9688), p.86-9. DOI: [10.1016/S0140-6736\(09\)60329-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(09)60329-9)

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2. Background



Conclusions and recommendations

Although some waste in the production and reporting of research evidence is inevitable and bearable, we were surprised by the levels of waste suggested in the evidence we have pieced together. Since research must pass through all four stages shown in the figure, the waste is cumulative. If the losses estimated in the figure apply more generally, then the roughly 50% loss at stages 2, 3, and 4 would lead to a **greater than 85% loss**, which implies that the dividends from tens of billions of dollars of investment in research are lost every year because of correctable problems. Although we have mainly used

Chalmers, I., Glasziou, P., 2009. Avoidable Waste in the Production and Reporting of Research Evidence. *Lancet*. 374(9683), p.86-9. DOI: [10.1016/S0140-6736\(09\)60329-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(09)60329-9)

Martin Weise, Technical University of Vienna

2. Background

Why even **share** research data?

- **Increase trust** in the work, allow reproduce and validate findings
- Information is **valuable** to the research community
- **Contribute** work beyond the original findings
- Allow others to **re-use** and build on top of their data

2. Background

Why even **share** research data?

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We contiously use the understanding gained by major thinkers in order to make intellectual progress.

“If I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of Giants.”

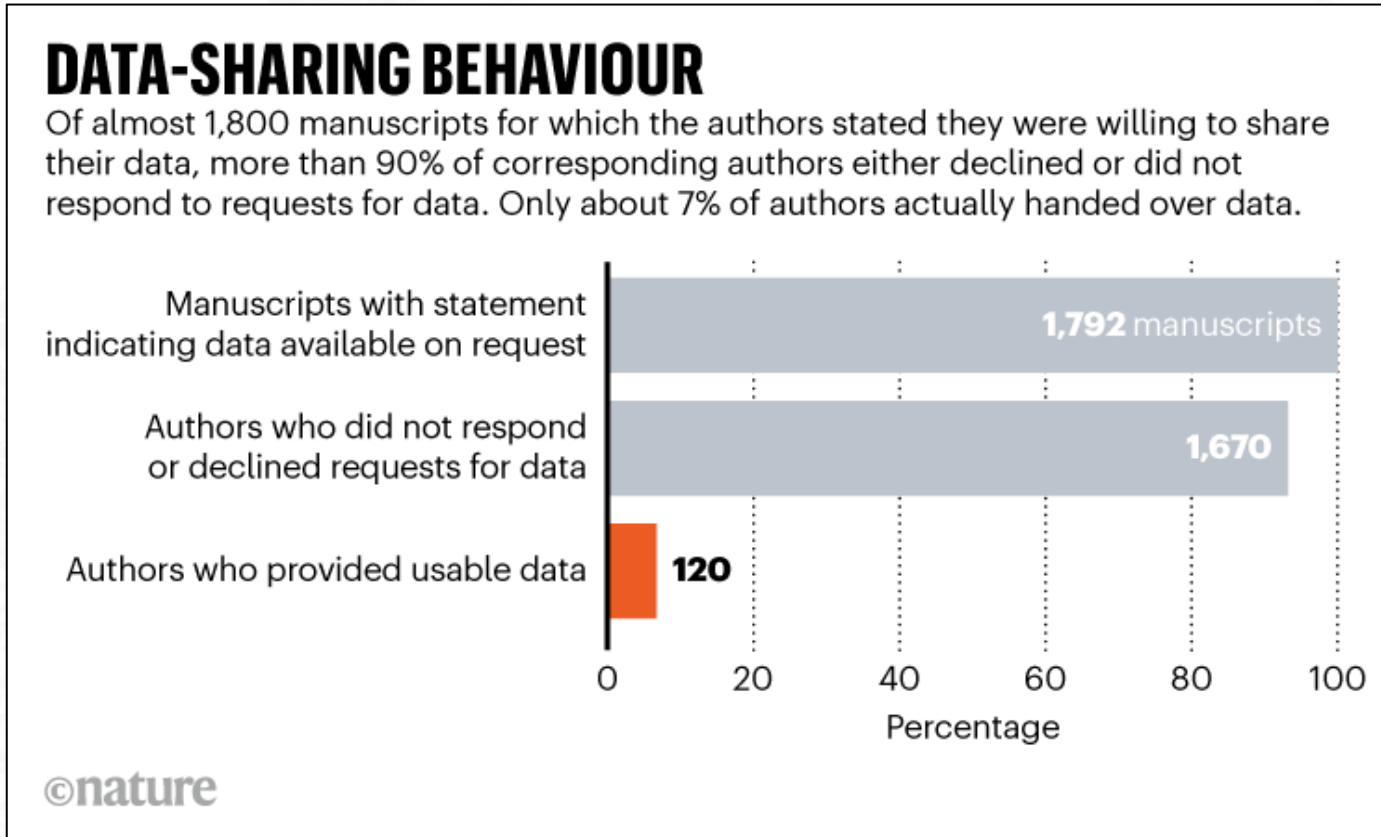
– Isaac Newton, 1675.

2. Background

Is this necessary, why not just **reasonably request** data from researchers?

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Is this necessary, why not just reasonably request data from researchers?

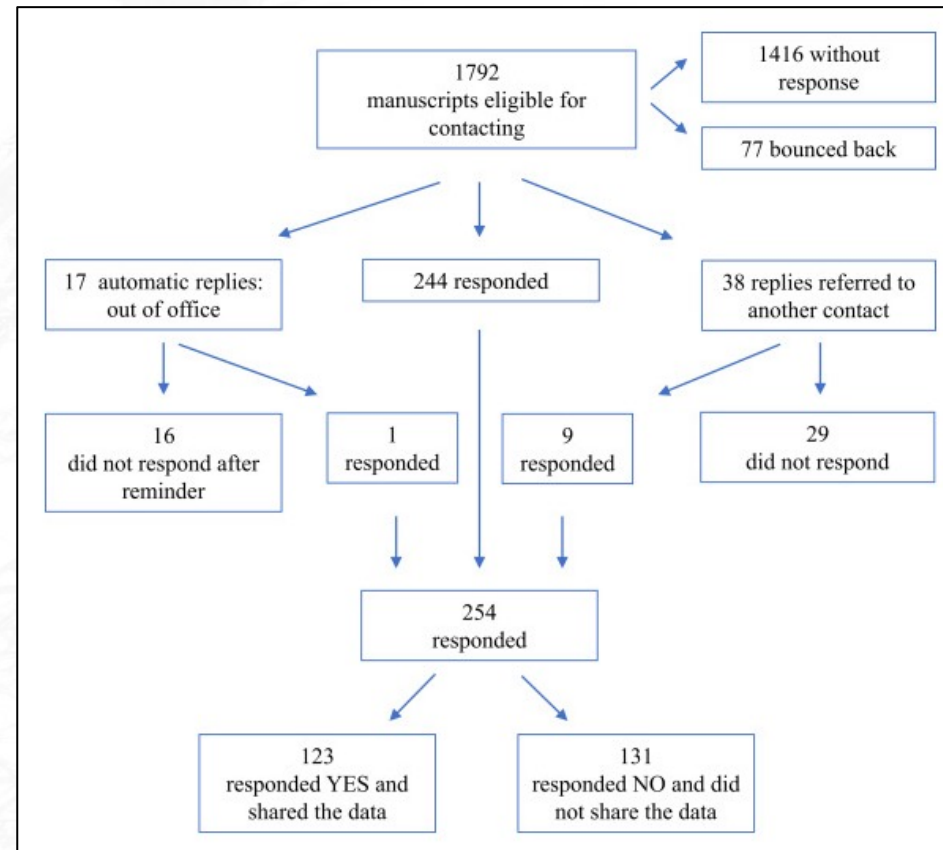


Watson, C., 2022. Many researchers say they'll share data - but don't, in *Nature*, 606, p.853, DOI: [10.1038/d41586-022-01692-1](https://doi.org/10.1038/d41586-022-01692-1)

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2. Background

Is this necessary, why not just **reasonably request** data from researchers?

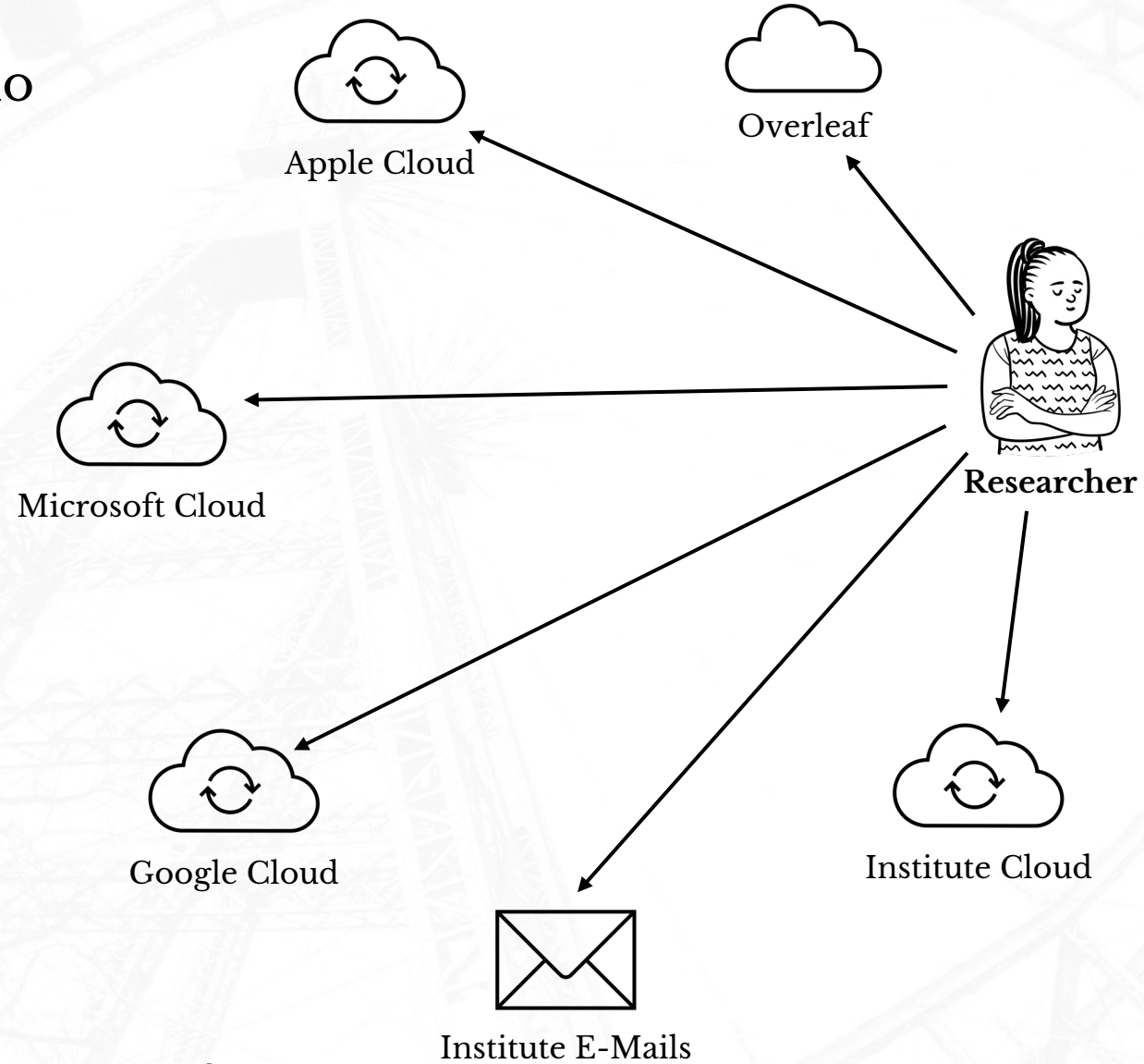


Gabelica, M., Bojčić, R. & Puljak, L., 2022. Many Researchers were not Compliant with their Published Data Sharing Statement: a Mixed-methods Study, in *Journal of Clinical Epidemiology*, DOI: [10.1016/j.jclinepi.2022.05.019](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jclinepi.2022.05.019)

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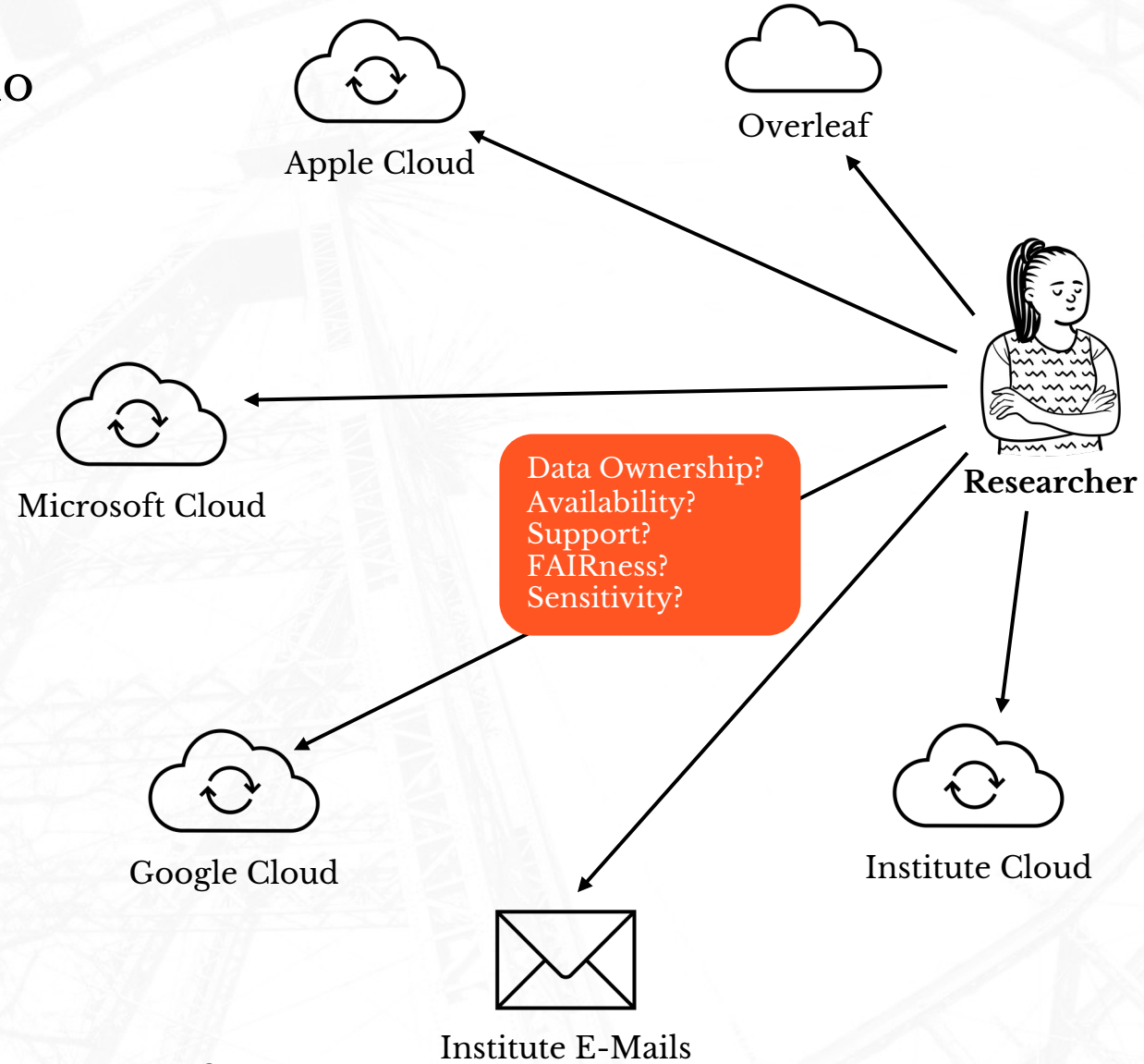
2. Background

Common Scenario



2. Background

Common Scenario

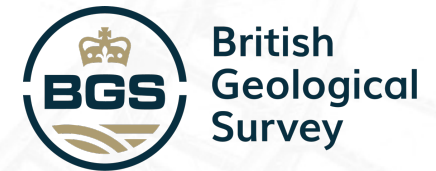


3. Repositories for Research Data

What are research data repositories?



OpenNEURO



TU Wien Research Data



3. Repositories for Research Data

Data Management

- Currently largely on researcher's shoulders
- **Need separation of concerns** (excerpt)
 - *Researchers*, work with data, domain expertise
 - *Data Stewards*, curation, preservation, FAIR
 - *IT-Department*, hardware/software infrastructure, security, backup
 - *Legal-Department*, licenses, NDAs
 - *Admin*, reporting, GDPR, compliance
- **Dedicated infrastructure** to ensure data is properly managed and value realized
- Infrastructure for **research data management** connected to internal information systems, funders, etc.

Research Data Management
is a joint effort!

3. Repositories for Research Data

Steps towards research infrastructure at **TU Vienna**:

- Involved stakeholders, regular round tables (rectorate, support offices, research departments)
- Established **policy** on RDM
- Established **Center for Research Data Management**
- Devised plan for
 - National and European projects
 - **FAIR Data Austria**
 - Austrian Data Labs and Services
 - EOSC-* projects (European Open Science Cloud)
 - Involvement in **Research Data Alliance (RDA)**, EGI, ...
 - Setting up and rolling out infrastructure

3. Repositories for Research Data

[Login](#) DE


[TU WIEN](#)
[STUDIES](#)
[RESEARCH](#)
[PARTNERSHIPS](#)
[SERVICES](#)
[INTERNAL](#)

RESEARCH

- ← RTI SUPPORT
- Research data
- Technical RDM Services & Tools
- Center for RDM >
- RDM infos & tips >


Research Data Management at TU Wien

You want to manage your data and your code according to the FAIR principles? You want to store, share and publish your data and need a repository? Your funding agency requires a data management plan? Use our services for research data management (RDM).




Technical RDM services and tools

TU Wien Research Data repository, TU DMP Tool, TU gitLab



Center for RDM


Training, consulting, projects



RDM infos and tips

DMP handbook, RDM policy, funders' guidelines, basics

Contact us



Office location: Center for Research Data Management, Favoritenstraße 16 (top floor), 1040 Vienna
Phone: +43 1 58801 406120
research.data@tuwien.ac.at
Twitter: @RDMTUWien

Research Data. [Online]. URL: <https://www.tuwien.at/forschung/fti-support/forschungsdaten>, accessed 2022-09-09

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3. Repositories for Research Data

The screenshot shows the FAIR Data Austria website. At the top right is the logo for CLUSTER FORSCHUNGSDATEN. The main navigation bar is orange and contains the FAIR DATA AUSTRIA logo, a menu with items: NEWS, ABOUT FAIR DATA AUSTRIA, ORGANIZATION, MATERIALS, PARTNERS, CONTACT US, and a language selector (DE). Below the navigation bar is a large photo of a group of people at a workshop, with the text "Workshop FAIR National Office" overlaid. To the left of the news section, there is a text block about the project's running time and lead. The news section is titled "NEWS" and contains two articles. The first article is titled "Online Workshop 'From Practice: Data Management at ZAMG'" and the second is "Report: Data Stewardship In The Making". Both articles include a "Read More" link and a date of 14. June 2022.

CLUSTER FORSCHUNGSDATEN

FAIR DATA AUSTRIA

NEWS ABOUT FAIR DATA AUSTRIA ORGANIZATION MATERIALS PARTNERS CONTACT US DE

Workshop FAIR National Office

Running Time: January 2020 to December 2022
Project Lead: TU Graz

The FAIR Data Austria project is designed to strengthen knowledge transfer between universities, industry, and society and supports the sustainable implementation of the European Open Science Cloud (EOSC). Within the project, implementation of the FAIR principles (which mandate that research data be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) plays a major role. Observation of the FAIR principles is secured through 1) integrated data management aligned with generic and discipline-specific needs of researchers, 2) development of next-generation repositories for research data, code, and other research outputs, and 3) development of training and support services for efficient research data management. FAIR Data Austria thereby offers tools to complement the Austrian Data Lab and Services as well as RIS Synergy projects.

Supporting the entire data lifecycle – from data generation all the way to data archiving – with the

NEWS

FAIR DATA AUSTRIA

DATA STEWARDSHIP IN THE MAKING

FAIR DATA AUSTRIA

Online Workshop “From Practice: Data Management at ZAMG ”

The last RDM in Austria webinar before the summer break gives an insight into the work of ZAMG, the Austrian institute for meteorology and geodynamics.

Read More »

14. June 2022

Report: Data Stewardship In The Making

As part of the Cluster Forschungsdaten Symposium on 23-24 May 2022, a report was published by the FAIR Data Austria team. This report contains project

Read More »

14. June 2022

FAIR DATA AUSTRIA

FAIR DATA AUSTRIA

FAIR Data Austria. [Online]. URL: <https://forschungsdaten.at/en/fair-data-austria/>, accessed 2022-09-09

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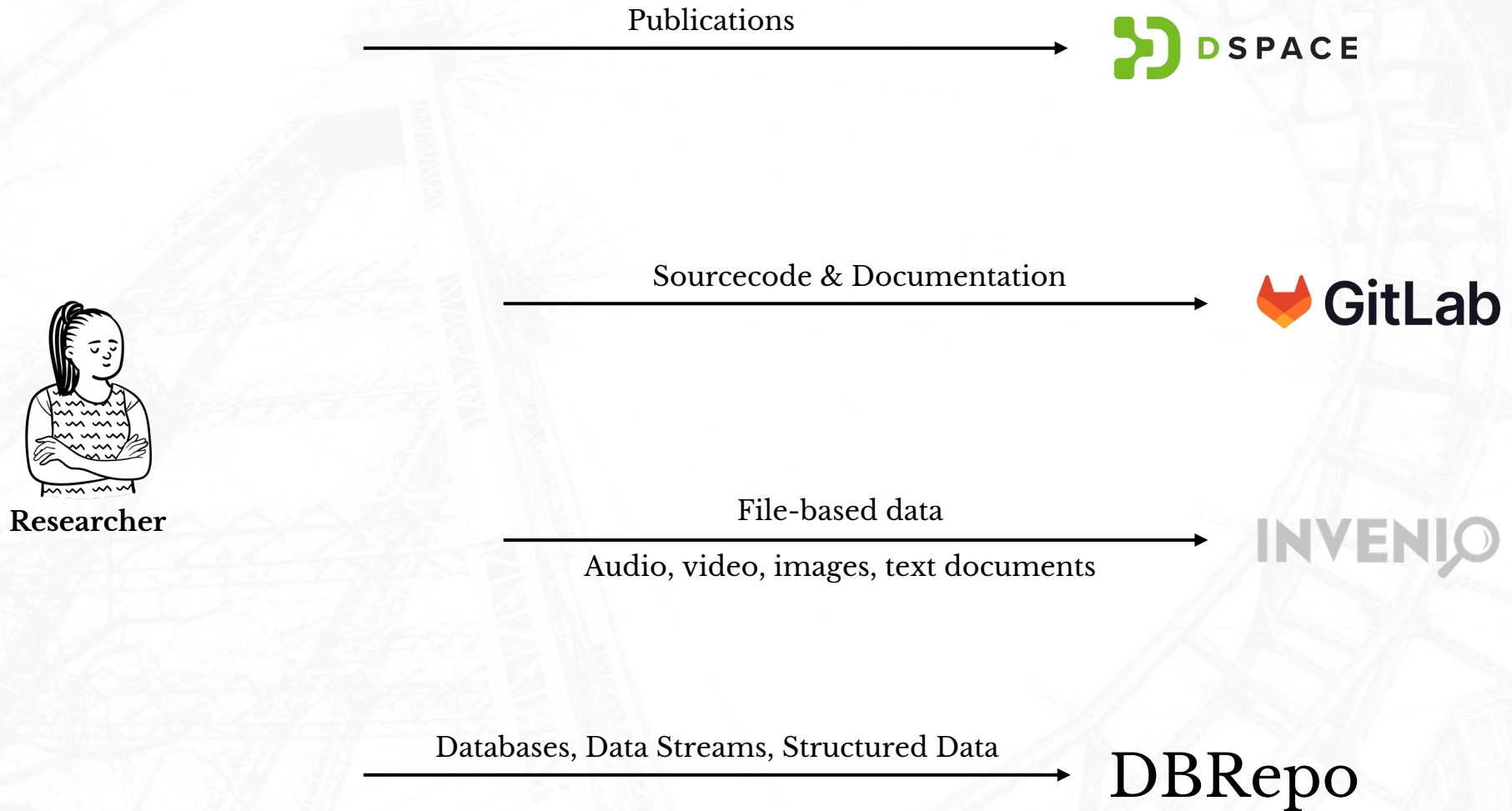
3. Repositories for Research Data

Repository Infrastructure

1. Repositories for **all kinds** of research material
 - Input, output, interim
 - Open and closed / sensitive data
2. Provide **visibility**
 - Citation, impact
 - FAIR compliant
3. Be largely **transparent** to researchers
 - Integration with TU and external infrastructure
4. Be **trustworthy**

3. Repositories for Research Data

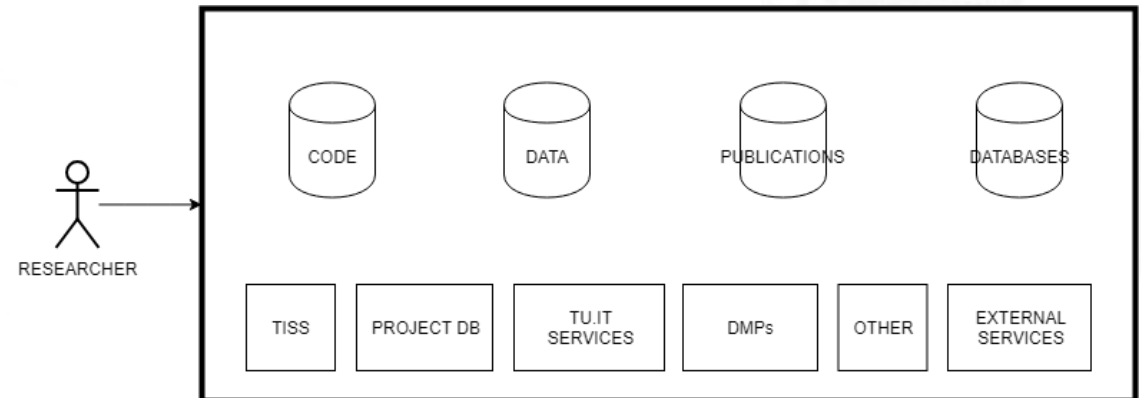
Architecture and vision



3. Repositories for Research Data

Repository Infrastructure

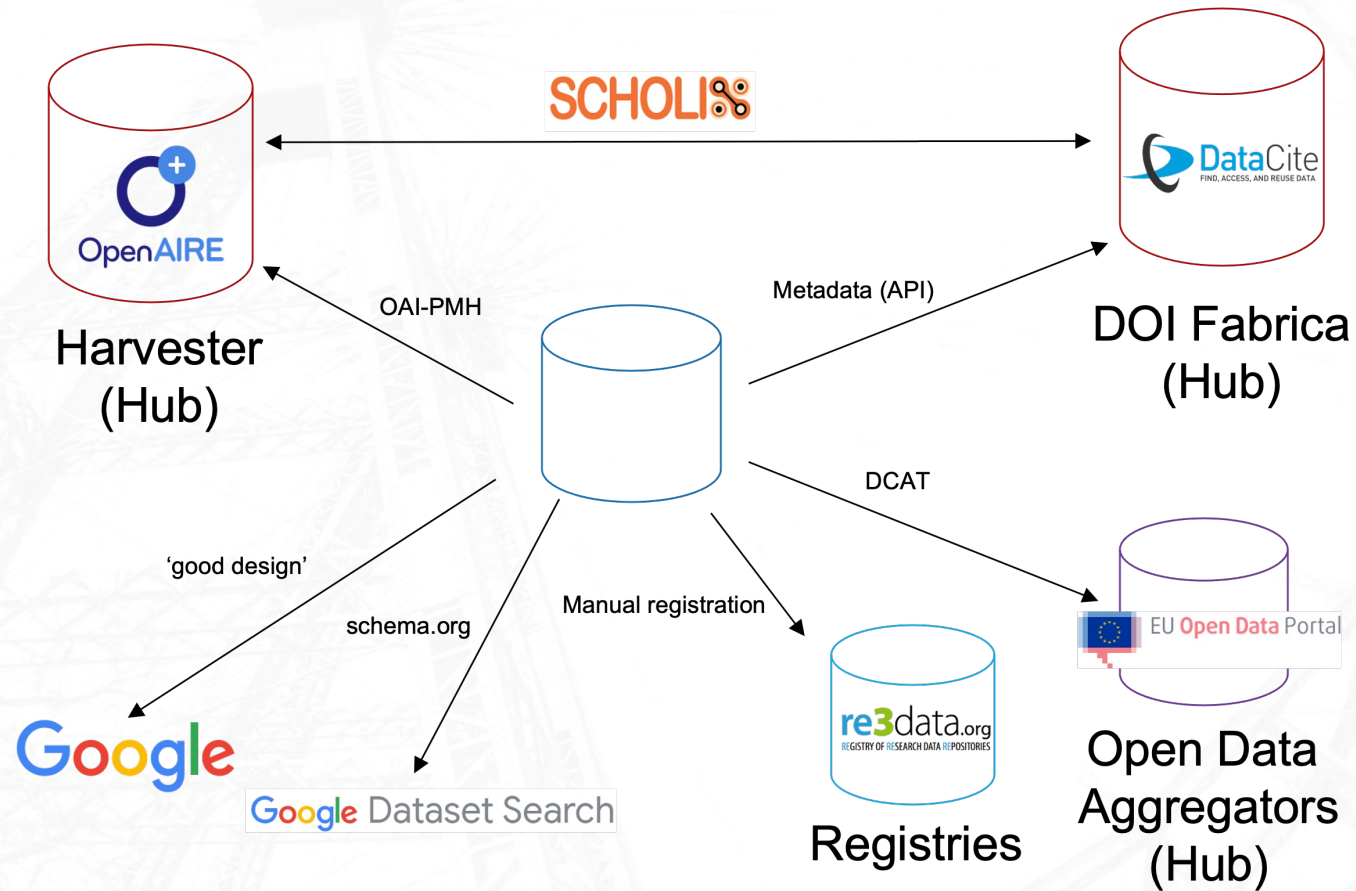
- Provide unified services for research data management
- Cooperation
 - Center for Research Data Management
 - TU.it
 - Campus Development Services
 - TU library
 - Research Unit Data Science (formerly IFS)
 - Central administration, legal department



Systems integrated appear as a 'single repository'

3. Repositories for Research Data

External Visibility: nobody searches in your repo to find data at first



3.1. ReposiTUM (DSpace)

Query Search

Faceted Browsing

Accessibility Filter

The screenshot shows the ReposiTUM search interface. At the top, there is a search bar with the text "Search ..." and a "Go" button. To the right of the search bar are links for "ABOUT REPOSITUM" and "HELP", and the TU WIEN logo. Below the search bar is a "Search Article" section with a "for" input field and a "Start a new search" button. To the right of the search bar is a "Filter results" section with an "Open Access" toggle and a "TU 3bibliothek" logo. Below the search bar is a "Publications" table with columns for "Preview", "Authors / Editors", "Title", "Type", and "Issue Date". The table contains three rows of search results. On the left side of the interface is a sidebar with a "NEWS" section and a "BROWSE BY" section containing various categories like "Publication Types", "Organizations", "Researchers", "Projects", "TU Wien Academic Press", "Open Access Series", "Theses", "Digitised Works", and "Year of Publication".

ReposiTUM. [Online]. URL: <https://repositum.tuwien.at/>, accessed 2022-09-09

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3.1. ReposiTUM (DSpace)

The screenshot shows the ReposiTUM interface with a search bar, navigation menu, and a detailed metadata record for a thesis. The record includes fields for Title, Other Titles, Language, Authors, Qualification level, Advisor, Issue Date, Citation, Number of Pages, Abstract, Keywords, and URI.

Title:	A QR-Code optical covert channel in an air-gapped secure data infrastructure	en
Other Titles:	Optische Covert Channels in Sicheren Dateninfrastrukturen	de
Language:	English	-
Authors:	Weise, Martin	-
Qualification level:	Diploma	-
Advisor:	Rauber, Andreas	-
Issue Date:	2021	-
Citation:	Weise, M. (2021). <i>A QR-Code optical covert channel in an air-gapped secure data infrastructure</i> [Diploma Thesis, Technische Universität Wien]. reposiTUm. https://doi.org/10.34726/hss.2022.84700	-
Number of Pages:	97	-
Abstract:	Die gegensätzlichen Ziele über Schutz und Erhalt der Kontrolle über sensitive Daten, bei gleichzeitigem Gewähren des Zugriffs auf die Daten für Dritte, ist eine Herausforderung. Sichere Dateninfrastrukturen unterstützen Datenbesuche in einer hoch kontrollierten und überwachten Umgebung die, sofern angemessen aufgesetzt und betrieben, hohe Sicherheitsgarantien durch Kombination von technischen, rec... Protection and ongoing confinement of sensitive data while also allowing third parties to visit the data is a conflict and constitutes a significant challenge. A secure data infrastructure that enables visiting the data in a restricted and monitored environment which provides high guarantees to keep the sensitive data confidential, if properly set-up and operated and through the combination of tec...	en
Keywords:	Covert Channel; QR-Code; Secure Data Infrastructure; Steganography	en
URI:	https://doi.org/10.34726/hss.2022.84700 http://hdl.handle.net/20.500.12708/19275	-

Weise, M, 2021. A QR-Code Optical Covert Channel in an Air-Gapped Secure Data Infrastructure. [Thesis], p.97, DOI: [10.34726/hss.2022.84700](https://doi.org/10.34726/hss.2022.84700)

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3.1. ReposiTUM (DSpace)

repositUM DE

Search ... ABOUT REPOSITUM HELP TU WIEN

Login

NEWS

BROWSE BY

- Publication Types
- Organizations
- Researchers
- Projects
- TU Wien Academic Press
- Open Access Series
- Theses
- Digitised Works
- Year of Publication

item.openaccessfulltext	Open Access	-
item.grantfulltext	open	-
item.languageiso639-1	en	-
item.cerifentitytype	Publications	-
item.cerifentitytype	Publications	-
item.openairecritype	http://purl.org/coar/resource_type/c_18cf	-
item.openairecritype	http://purl.org/coar/resource_type/c_18cf	-
item.openairetype	Thesis	-
item.openairetype	Hochschulschrift	-
item.fulltext	with Fulltext	-
crisitem.author.dept	TU Wien, Österreich	-
crisitem.author.orcid	0000-0003-4216-302X	-

Appears in Collections: [Thesis](#)

[Weise Martin - 2022 - A QR-Code Optical Covert Channel in an Air-Gapped Secure...pdf](#)
Adobe PDF (5.07 MB)

[SHOW SIMPLE ITEM RECORD](#)

Items in repositUm are protected by copyright, with all rights reserved, unless otherwise indicated.

© 2022 TU Wien [Legal Notice](#) [Policies](#) [Support](#) [Data Protection Declaration](#)

Controlled Vocabulary
(=machine-readable)

Direct .pdf resource access

Groupings

Weise, M, 2021. A QR-Code Optical Covert Channel in an Air-Gapped Secure Data Infrastructure. [Thesis], p.97, DOI: [10.34726/hss.2022.84700](https://doi.org/10.34726/hss.2022.84700)

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3.2. Gitlab

Single Sign-On
(e.g. eduroam
is also SSO)

Gitlab. [Online]. URL: <https://gitlab.tuwien.ac.at/>, accessed 2022-09-09

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3.2. Gitlab

Software Versioning

License

Contribute

Continuous Integration

ifs OSSDIP
Project ID: 870

1,084 Commits 23 Branches 1 Tag 3.4 MB Project Storage

Topics: privacy security vpn-server + 2 more

Open Source Secure Data Infrastructure and Processes (OSSDIP). Supporting fully controlled data visiting for sensitive data.
http://www.ifs.tuwien.ac.at/~andi/secure_data_infrastructure.html

wiki gitlab license Apache 2.0 doi 10.5281/zenodo.4632903

master ossdip / +

Find file Web IDE Clone

Update README.md
Weise, Martin authored 5 months ago 610b604c

README Apache License 2.0 Add CHANGELOG Add CONTRIBUTING Enable Auto DevOps Set up CI/CD

Configure Integrations

Name	Last commit	Last update
.gitlab/issue_templates	added issue templates	1 year ago
docs	Merge branch 'dev' into 'master'	8 months ago
resources	deprecate the hypervisor folder	10 months ago
roles	fixed some deployment of users	8 months ago
vars	Deleted old files, updated identity node	8 months ago
wiki	Upload New File	8 months ago
.gitignore	Remove unused files	9 months ago
LICENSE	Delete deprecated files, updated licens, u...	8 months ago

9.Sep 21h : 1,716 users | 442 groups | 1,629 projects | 97.3% space used

OSSDIP. [Online]. URL: <https://gitlab.tuwien.ac.at/martin.weise/ossdip>, accessed 2022-09-09

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3.3. Research Data Repository (InvenioRDM)

- Make digital objects FAIR
- Suitable for **research data**
- Not for publications
 - Other system exists (ReposiTUm)
- Running since December 2020

More details will be presented later today!

The screenshot displays the InvenioRDM interface for a dataset. The top navigation bar includes 'Log in', 'HOME', 'COMMUNITIES', and 'MY DASHBOARD'. The dataset title is 'I Can Tell by Your Eyes! Continuous Gaze-Based Turn-Activity Prediction Reveals Spatial Familiarity', published on August 8, 2022, Version 0.0. The author is Alinaghi, Negar, and editors are Giannopoulos, Ioannis and Kattenbeck, Markus. The citation is provided in APA style. The description states the data is used for analysis in a paper published in LIPlcs, Volume 240, COSIT 2022. The files section shows a zip file 'LIPlcs_Volume 240_COSIT 2022.zip' and a folder 'publish data cosit' containing files '1117_fa' and 'export_feature_test.csv' (208.0 kB). The right sidebar shows details like DOI (10.48436/0chy-11p06), resource type (Dataset), publisher (TU Wien), language (English), and rights (Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International).

3.4. DBRepo

- Invenio can handle collection of files well
- How about **relational data in databases?**
 - Releasing a data dump every x amount of time?
 - Adding continuous data streams, e.g. IoT?
 - How to update / correct data in those databases?
 - Allow reproduction of any subset?
- **Private cloud-based environment?**
- Dump the data after the end of a project into some repository – to fulfill some grant agreement?

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	ID_MORE	year	substance	result_type	variant	value	unit_of_measure
2	10005	2016	PFOS	river load	Median	0,156947457	kg/a
3	10005	2017	PFOA	river concentration	Median	0,000713125	µg/l
4	10005	2016	PFOA	river load	Median	0,162680833	kg/a
5	10005	2017	PFOA	emission	Median	0,162596195	kg/a
6	10005	2017	PFOS	river concentration	Median	0,000692205	µg/l
7	10005	2017	PFOS	emission	Median	0,157826458	kg/a
8	10005	2016	PFOS	river concentration	Median	0,000687399	µg/l
9	10005	2016	PFOA	emission	Median	0,162680833	kg/a
10	10005	2017	PFOS	river load	Median	0,157826458	kg/a
11	10005	2016	PFOA	river concentration	Median	0,00071251	µg/l
12	10005	2016	PFOS	emission	Median	0,156947457	kg/a

Name	Size	
catchments_gml.zip <small>md5:07cb0c9c96471ec611bd1fae1977438e ?</small>	8.3 MiB	Preview Download
catchments_shp.zip <small>md5:57bde0cc9fc185683657ac91b21b036f ?</small>	8.3 MiB	Preview Download
River_emissions_concentrations_loads.csv <small>md5:301f211c5e12f5e326410a9517f603b9 ?</small>	2.3 MiB	Preview Download
Emissions_per_pathway.csv <small>md5:6490e1b5622cd9d135ebd67dee775a6c ?</small>	12.0 MiB	Preview Download

Kittlaus, S., 2022. Modelled emissions, river loads and river concentrations for PFOA and PFOS in 2016/2017 in Austrian surface waters (1.0) [Data set]. DOI: [10.48436/jpzv9-c8w75](https://doi.org/10.48436/jpzv9-c8w75)

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3.4. DBRepo

- Cloud hosted repository for structured research data
- Supports data versioning & citeability via query store and dynamic data citations (Recommendations of RDA WGDC)
- **Microservice architecture**
- Each database encapsulated in a Docker container
- Central **metadata database**
- APIs for different levels of SQL-knowledge:
 - Web interface, support for CSV import,...
 - REST, message queue for data streams

3.4. DBRepo

Database Name

Database Visibility

Table information

AMQP information

Create a subset of the data

FAIR Data Austria – Database Repository

AirQuality

INFO TABLES SUBSETS

data_2022_34

Table ID: 1

Table Internal Name: data_2022_34

AMQP Exchange: airquality

AMQP Routing Key: data_2022_34

AMQP Consumer(s): 1

Table Creation: 2022-08-23 12:08:03 (UTC)

Description: This table provides real-time air-data from around 170 air measuring stations in Austria from week 34 of year 2022.

VIEW DATA CREATE SUBSET IMPORT CSV

Name	Type	Unit of Measurement	Primary Key	Unique	Nullable	Sequence
id	Number		• true	• true	false	• true
stationid	Character Varying		false	false	• true	false
component	Character Varying		false	false	• true	false
time	Number		false	false	• true	false

.csv import

Add metadata

3.4. DBRepo

Query Builder for simple subsets

Export .csv Export DataCite Metadata

DataCite Metadata

Have a look yourself



Weise, M., 2022. Early stage Researchers' Training Week Subset. [Dataset]. URL: <https://dbrepo.ossdip.at/pid/55>, accessed 2022-09-10

Martin Weise, Technical University of Vienna

3.4. DBRepo

Metadata makes databases findable (as in FAIR)

- Container name
- Database name, description, -license
- Table name
 - Column name, -type, -uniqueness, -nullability, -date format
 - Column **measurement unit** (controlled vocabulary)
 - Statistical properties

<http://www.ontology-of-units-of-measure.org/resource/om-2/second-Time>
Download

Type

singular unit
unit

Literals

Property	Value	Language
comment	The second is a unit of time defined as the duration of 9 192 631 770 periods of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state of the cesium 133 atom.	en
label	second	en
label	seconde	nl
label	秒	zh
longcomment	The second is a unit of time defined as the duration of 9 192 631 770 periods of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state of the cesium 133 atom. The second is a base unit in the International System of Units.	en

Other relations

Related concept	Property	Concept
zettasecond	has unit	second
zettametre per second	has denominator	second
zeptosecond	has unit	second
zeptometre per second	has denominator	second
yottasecond	has unit	second
yottametre per second	has denominator	second
yoctosecond	has unit	second
yoctometre per second	has denominator	second

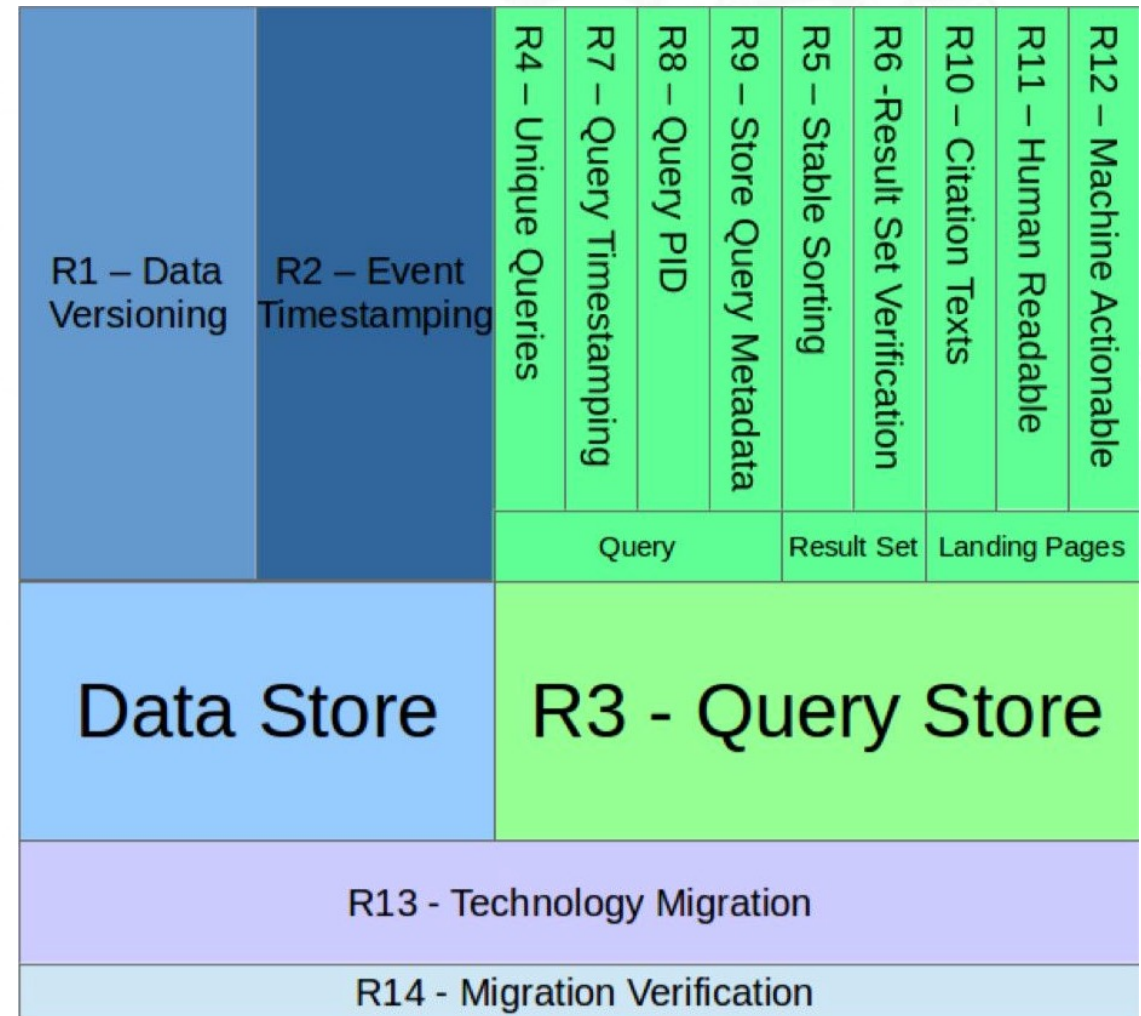
Properties

Property	Value
om2:hasQuantity	duration of 9 192 631 770 periods of the radiation corresponding to the transition between the two hyperfine levels of the ground state of the cesium 133 atom
om2:hasDimension	time dimension

3.4. DBRepo

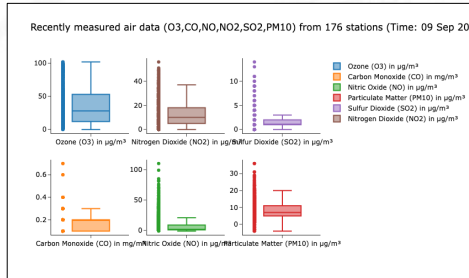
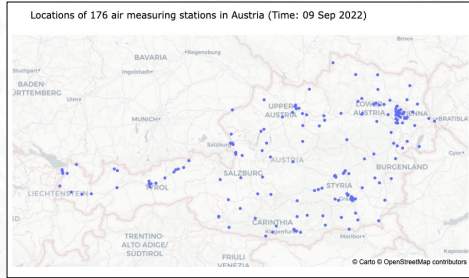
Persistent identification of arbitrary subsets of data

- Each query issued to the database is saved in the Query Store
- Attaching **metadata** to a query statement, following the DataCite schema
- Mirror the query metadata to DBRepo's central database
- Allows precise data citation
- **Implements recommendations of the RDA WGDC**



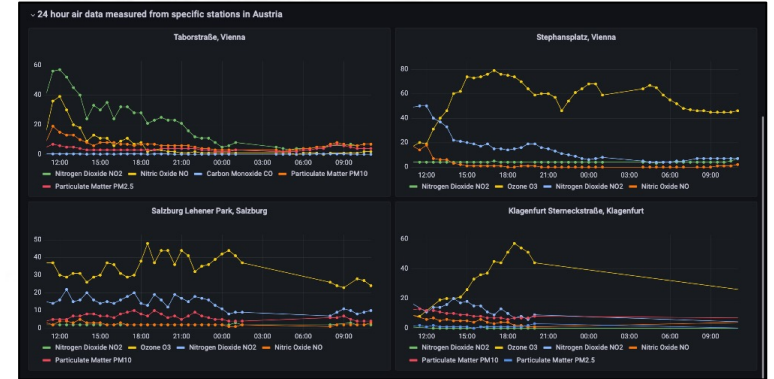
3.4. DBRepo

Simple use-case:



<https://luft.umweltbundesamt.at/>

AMQP Tuples



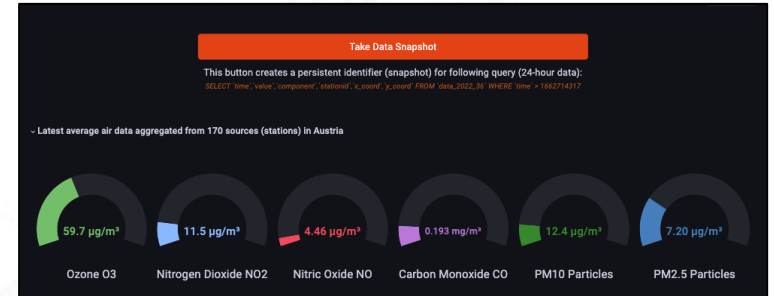
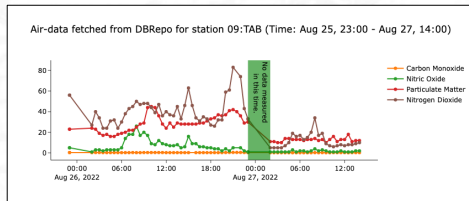
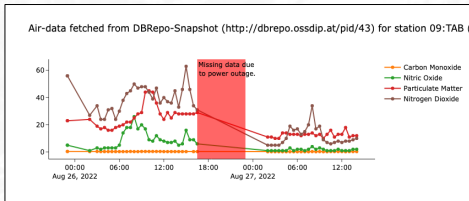
HTTP API

HTTP API



<https://s125.dl.hpc.tuwien.ac.at/user/retropotato/lab>

<http://s125.dl.hpc.tuwien.ac.at:8080/grafana/d/R4B-UWZVz/dbrepo-airquality-austria>



3.4. DBRepo Further Reading

Material

- <https://indico.egi.eu/event/5882/contributions/16724/> (EGI'22 Poster)
- <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6637333> (IDCC'22 paper)
- <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/B7NX5> (iPRES'21 paper)

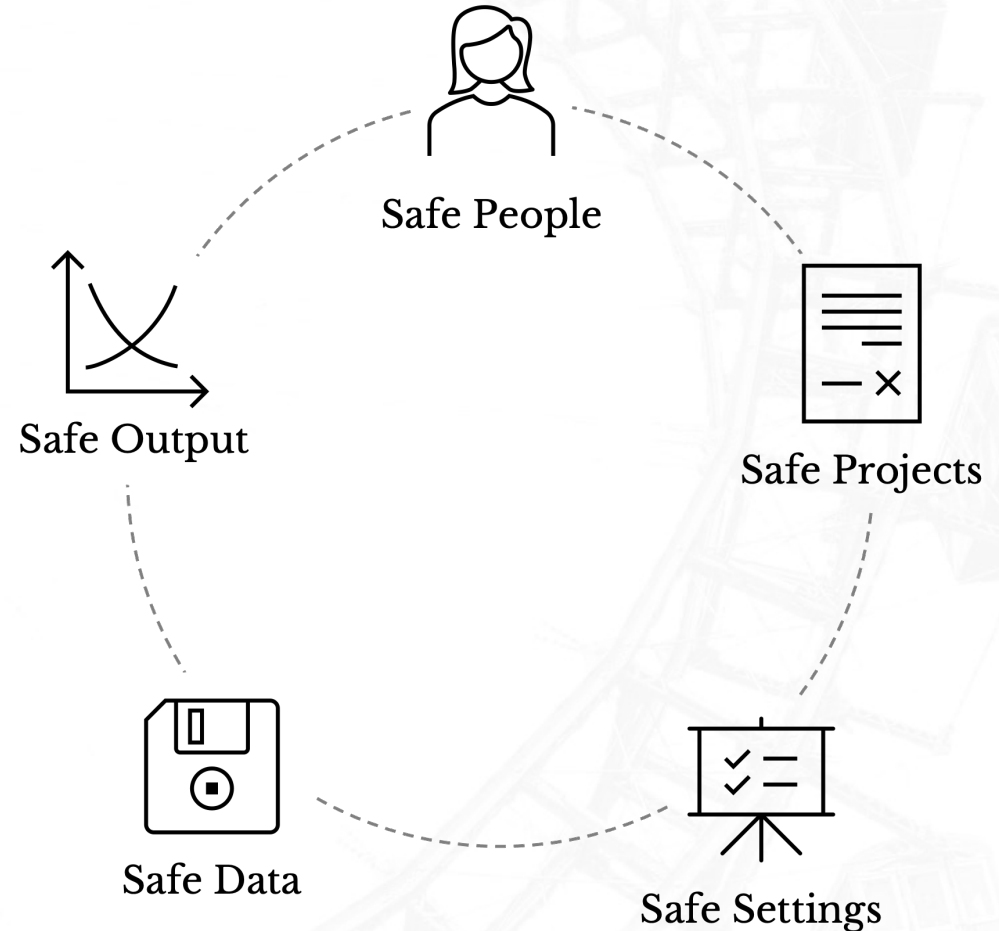
Resources

- <https://dbrepo.ossdip.at> (sandbox)
- <https://dbrepo-docs.ossdip.at> (documentation, getting started guide)
- <https://gitlab.phaidra.org/fair-data-austria-db-repository/fda-services>
(source code)

4. Trusted Research Environments

”five safes” dimensions:

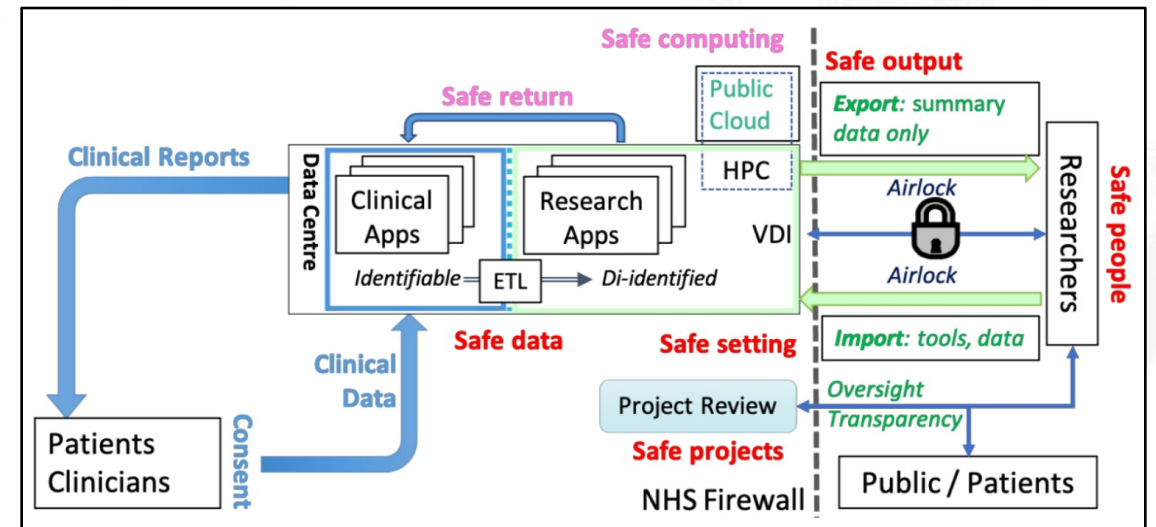
1. *Safe projects*, **appropriateness** of the usage of the data
2. *Safe people*, **identify** users that access sensitive data, legal bindings
3. *Safe data*, **appropriate** data de-identification, research questions formulated
4. *Safe settings*, **necessity** of security and transparency
5. *Safe outputs*, **approved**, aggregated research results can be exported



4. Trusted Research Environments



- United Kingdom Health Data Research Alliance (UKHDRA)
 - Confederation of leading organizations in the healthcare field
 - Extend “five safes”
6. Safe return, allow de-identified research results to be re-identified and securely mapped back to the original data set

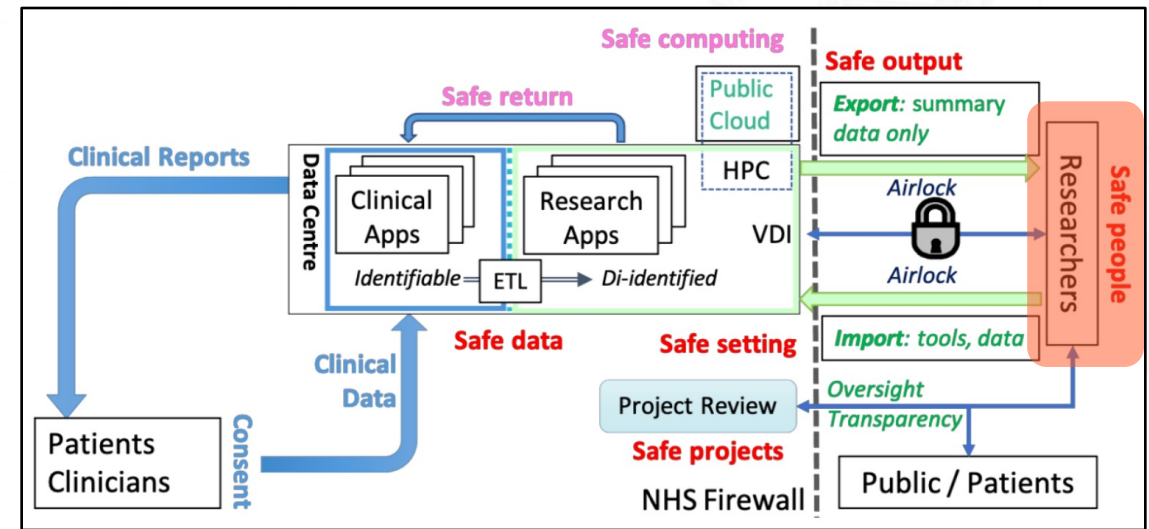


Ensure public trust by implementing UKHDRA’s recommendations on TRE+ and independent accreditation and audit

4. Trusted Research Environments

1. Safe people

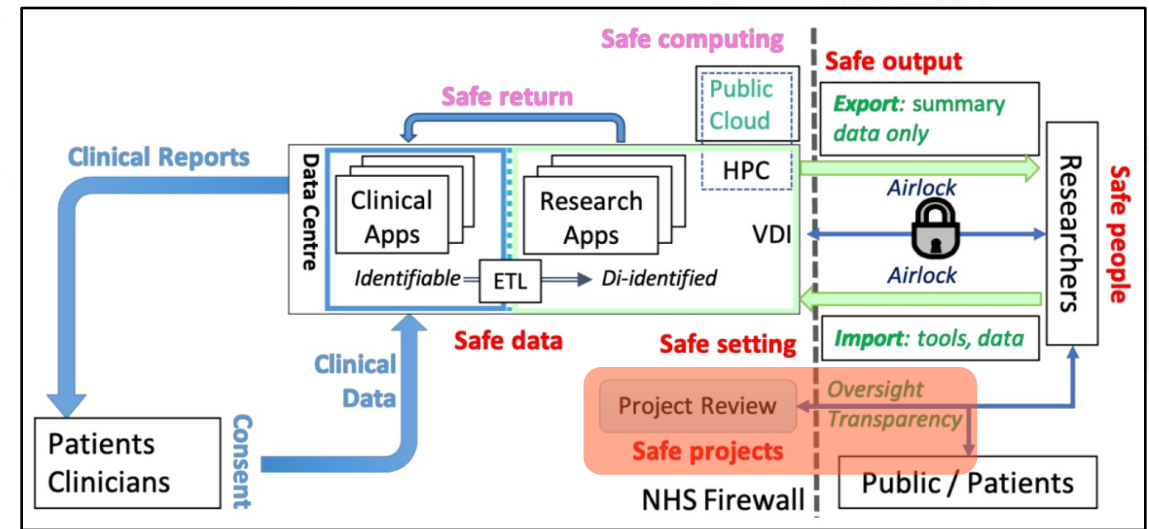
- Control & ensure interests of people where data
 - Collected
 - Analyzed
- Sign legally-binding documents (e.g. NDAs)
- Analysts must undergo information governance training (once approved, access all)



4. Trusted Research Environments

2. Safe projects

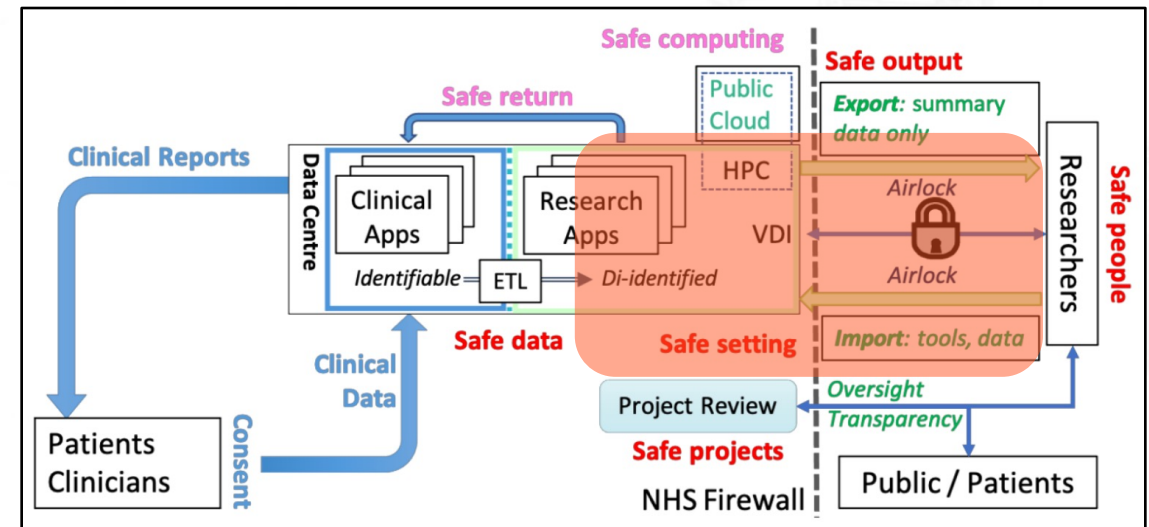
- Appropriate use of sensitive data
- Mandatory possibility to external audits
- **Ethics board** (review the project proposal and gives a clearance)
- Want to **improve the maturity** of the project management processes



4. Trusted Research Environments

3. Safe setting

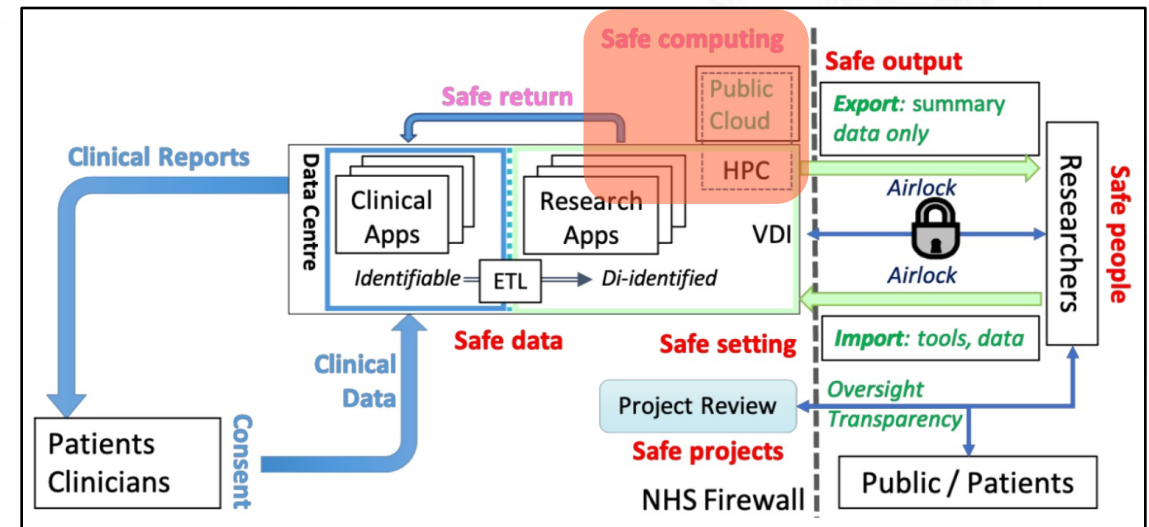
- Ensure a straightforward to use, secure environment for the sensitive data to reside in
- Defined and transparent process
- Trusted administrators with permission to exchange data through the air-gap
- System-internal barriers
- Protected individual data cannot be exported
- Actions of authorized analysts are monitored



4. Trusted Research Environments

4. Safe computing

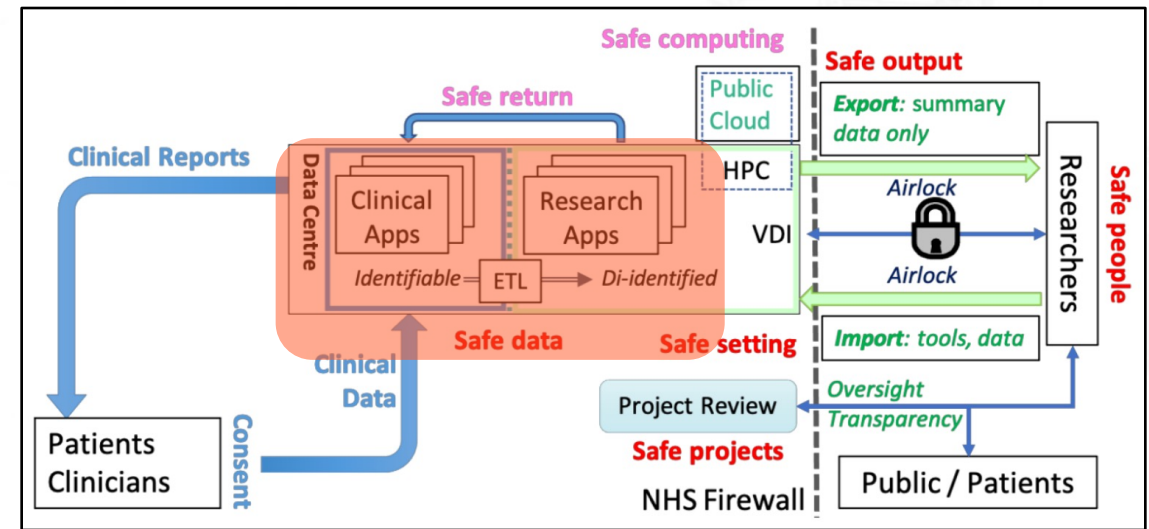
- Outsourcing infrastructure (e.g. content delivery networks)
- Overcome the risk of exposing sensitive data to public cloud providers
- Additional safeguards that disallow any outsourced hardware or software
- Access the sensitive data at any time must be implemented
- This approach is well-studied and supported from major public cloud providers.



4. Trusted Research Environments

5. Safe data

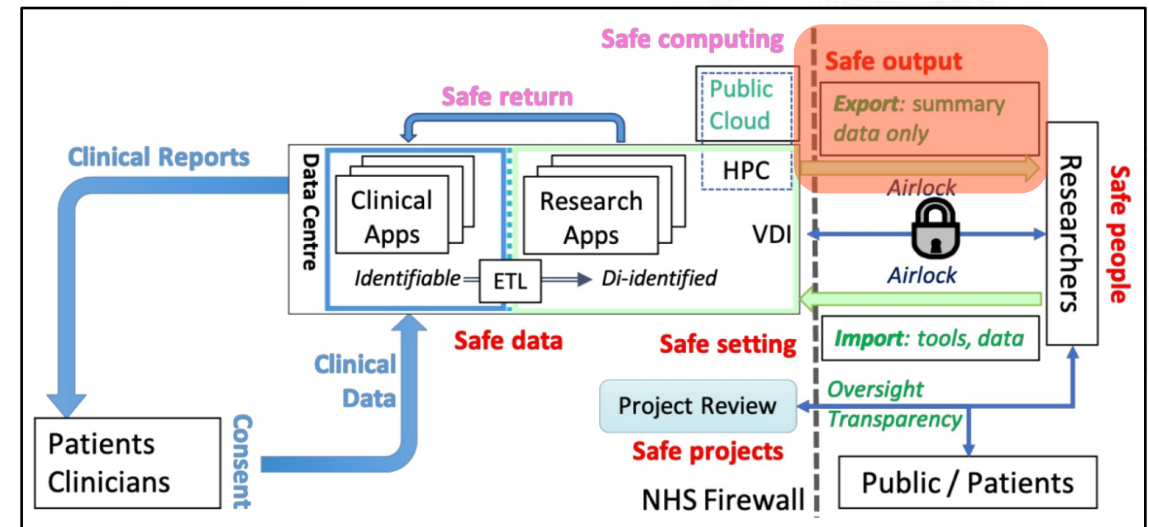
- Minimize risk of (accidental) re-identification of protected individuals when importing data into the TRE
- De-identification software tools and encrypted (virtual) disks
- Prioritizes the interests of the protected individual over the analyst through technical & organizational measures



4. Trusted Research Environments

6. Safe outputs

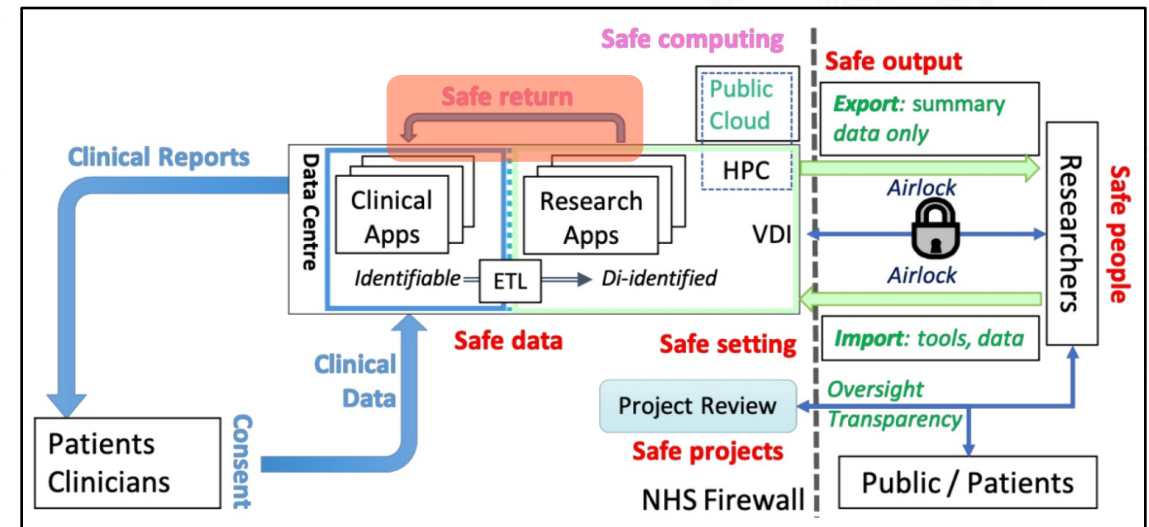
- Barrier (“air-gap”) of the safe setting and the open internet
- Data Ingress/egress process
 - Manual interaction to control risk of disclosure
- Manages the communication to the outside world



4. Trusted Research Environments

7. Safe return

- De-identified research output to be returned into the TRE where the sensitive data comes from and the identity of the protected individual is known
- Gain information about the protected individual itself
- Profit from allowing analysts to work with the data
- Researchers can only access de-identified sensitive data while all their actions are overseen by a committee



Upon approval of both the patient and the ethics board, the research output can be re-identified and mapped back to the original data set to enrich value to it.

National Education Panel Study (NEPS)

- Remote access to data to **utilize** them better than local access
 - Better than conventional methods
 - Remote execution
 - Job-submission systems
- } Queues, input-output (heavily) delayed
- Hosts a full-fledged secure data infrastructure
 - Data access is **moderately** anonymized, the Analyst must sign an additional supplementary agreement
 - Data export is possible via link after signing data us agreements (**heavily** anonymized and aggregated)

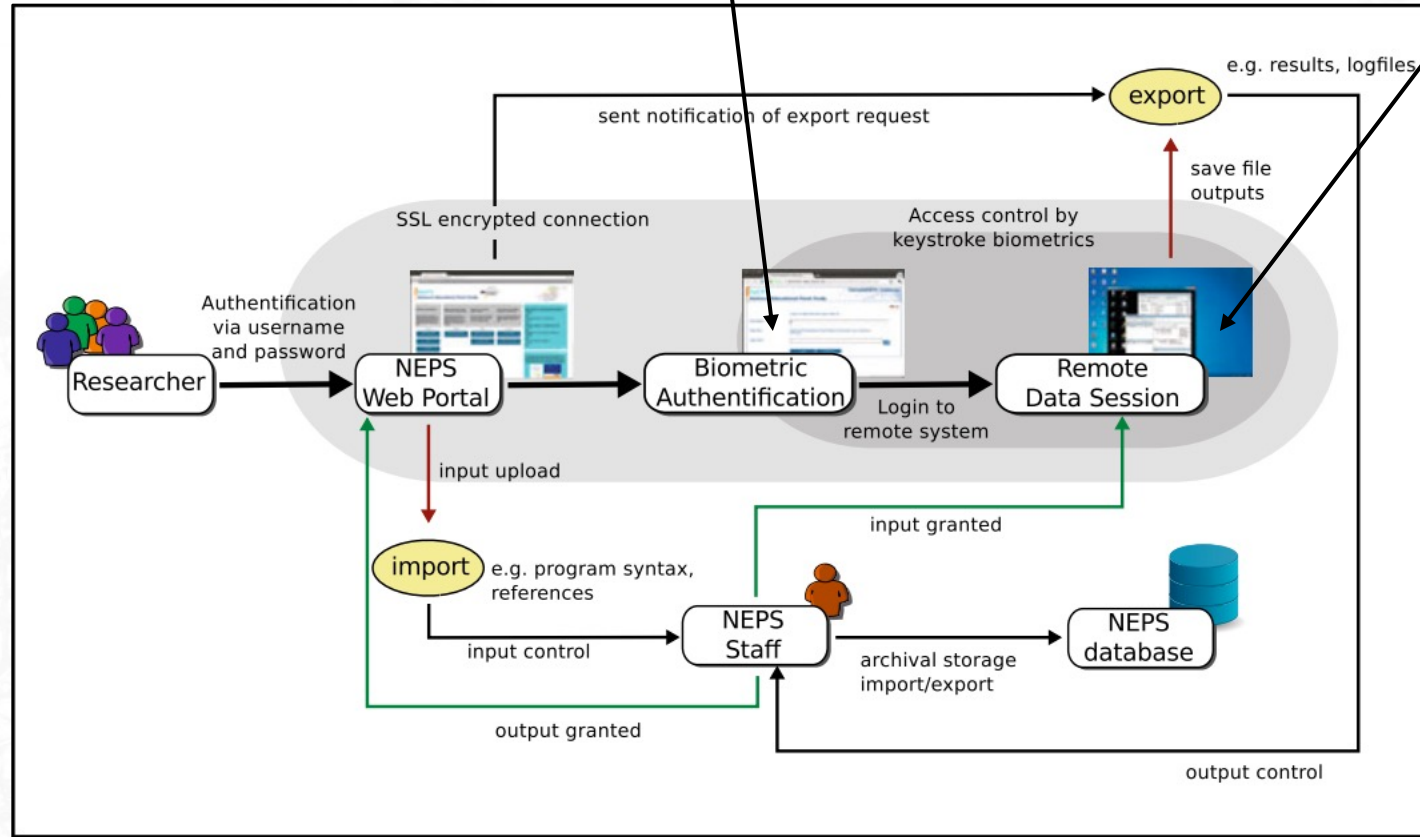
4.1. RemoteNEPS



Social Architecture

Second-factor
(prevent credential sharing)

SPSS, R, Office,
Windows 7



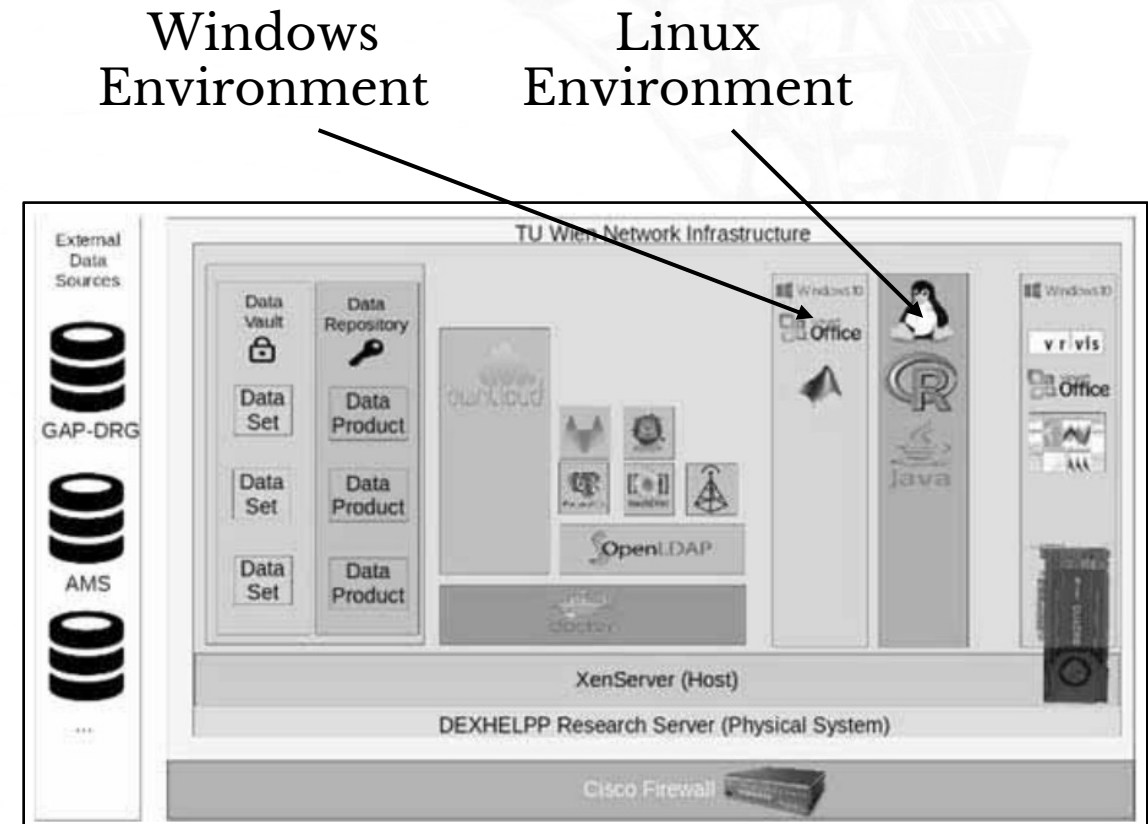
Skopek, J., 2016. RemoteNEPS - An Innovative Research Environment, in *Methodological Issues of Longitudinal Surveys: The Example of the National Educational Panel Study*, p.611-626. DOI: [10.1007/978-3-658-11994-2_34](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-658-11994-2_34)

Martin Weise, Technical University of Vienna

4.2. DEXHELPP

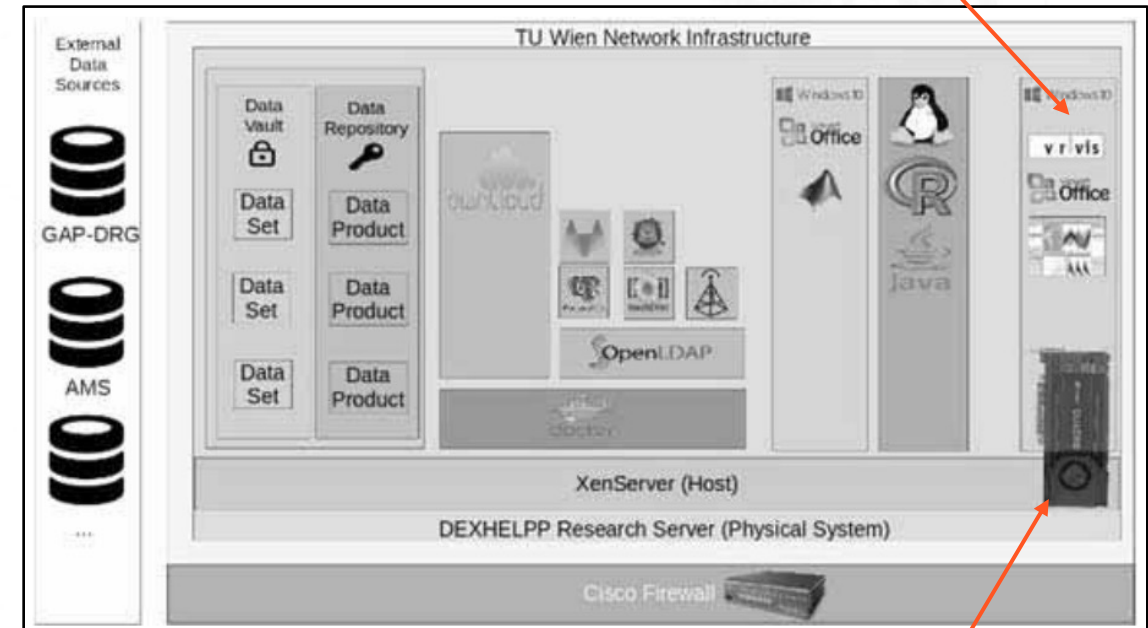
Facilitates research in Austria for almost 10 years

- Provide analysts with a secure and controlled environment **without the need** to exfiltrate data out of the system
- Data owners on the other side **deposit** their data from **heterogeneous** sources in an encrypted vault and specify **fine-grained access rights**, e.g.
 - Entire data assets
 - Just specific subsets



4.2. DEXHELPP

- Monitoring Node continuously **monitors** the access to the Data Endpoint (allows for **auditing** and inspection of the usage of the data at any time)
- **Docker environment** (e.g. PostgreSQL, RStudio, Web Applications)
- Analysts **working** on the Remote Desktop Node, connected through the VPN Client using two-factors
- Special hardware and hypervisor for GPU execution

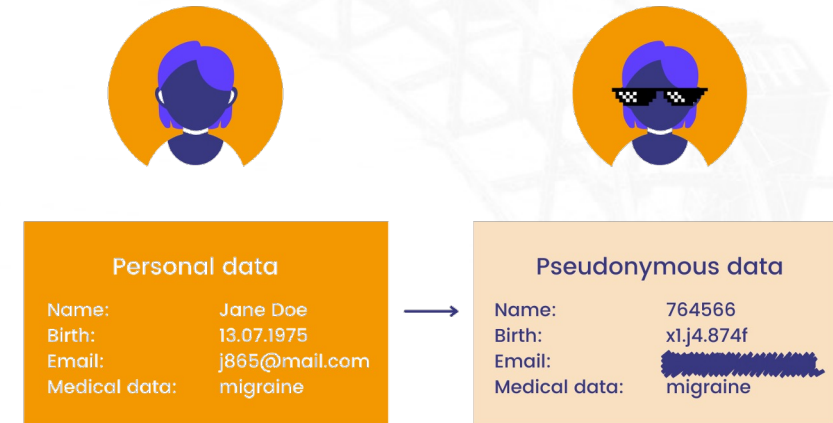


4.3. OSSDIP

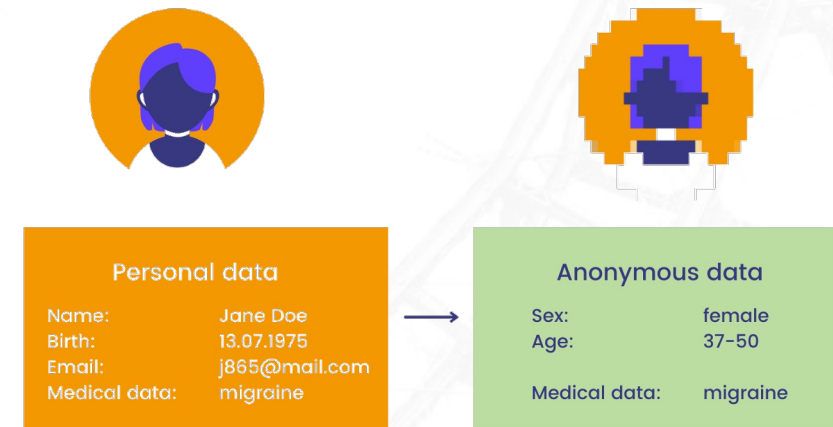


- Sensitive Data (=due privacy issues, commercial interests, ...)
- Provide access for analysis, but ensure data is not leaked or misused
- Standard approach
 - Pseudonymization
 - Anonymization
 - k -anonymity
 - l -diversity
 - t -closeness

Pseudonymous data



Anonymous data



4.3. OSSDIP



- Sensitive Data (=due privacy issues, commercial interests, ...)
- Provide access for analysis, but ensure data is not leaked or misused
- Standard approach
 - Pseudonymization
 - Anonymization
 - *k*-anonymity
 - *l*-diversity
 - *t*-closeness

Alice knows **Bob** is 27yo, lives in 47678 and is in the first three entries

⊆ **Bob has a heart disease**

sensitive attribute

	ZIP Code	Age	Disease
1	47677	29	Heart Disease
2	47602	22	Heart Disease
3	47678	27	Heart Disease
4	47905	43	Flu
5	47909	52	Heart Disease
6	47906	47	Cancer
7	47605	30	Heart Disease
8	47673	36	Cancer
9	47607	32	Cancer

3-anonymity

	ZIP Code	Age	Disease
1	476**	2*	Heart Disease
2	476**	2*	Heart Disease
3	476**	2*	Heart Disease
4	4790*	≥ 40	Flu
5	4790*	≥ 40	Heart Disease
6	4790*	≥ 40	Cancer
7	476**	3*	Heart Disease
8	476**	3*	Cancer
9	476**	3*	Cancer

4.3. OSSDIP



- Sensitive Data (=due privacy issues, commercial interests, ...)
- Provide access for analysis, but ensure data is not leaked or misused
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 - k -anonymity
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 - t -closeness

Alice knows Bob is 27yo, lives in 47678 and is in the first three entries

⊆ Bob has a low salary and some stomach disease

sensitive attributes

	ZIP Code	Age	Salary	Disease
1	47677	29	3K	gastric ulcer
2	47602	22	4K	gastritis
3	47678	27	5K	stomach cancer
4	47905	43	6K	gastritis
5	47909	52	11K	flu
6	47906	47	8K	bronchitis
7	47605	30	7K	bronchitis
8	47673	36	9K	pneumonia
9	47607	32	10K	stomach cancer

3-diverse

	ZIP Code	Age	Salary	Disease
1	476**	2*	3K	gastric ulcer
2	476**	2*	4K	gastritis
3	476**	2*	5K	stomach cancer
4	4790*	≥ 40	6K	gastritis
5	4790*	≥ 40	11K	flu
6	4790*	≥ 40	8K	bronchitis
7	476**	3*	7K	bronchitis
8	476**	3*	9K	pneumonia
9	476**	3*	10K	stomach cancer

4.3. OSSDIP



- Sensitive Data (=due privacy issues, commercial interests, ...)
- Provide access for analysis, but ensure data is not leaked or misused
- Standard approach
 - Pseudonymization
 - Anonymization
 - k -anonymity
 - l -diversity
 - t -closeness

Alice knows Bob is 27yo, lives in 47678 and is in the first three entries

⊆ Bob has a ???

sensitive attributes

	ZIP Code	Age	Salary	Disease
1	47677	29	3K	gastric ulcer
2	47602	22	4K	gastritis
3	47678	27	5K	stomach cancer
4	47905	43	6K	gastritis
5	47909	52	11K	flu
6	47906	47	8K	bronchitis
7	47605	30	7K	bronchitis
8	47673	36	9K	pneumonia
9	47607	32	10K	stomach cancer

0.167-closeness (Salary)

0.278-closeness (Disease)

	ZIP Code	Age	Salary	Disease
1	4767*	≤ 40	3K	gastric ulcer
3	4767*	≤ 40	5K	stomach cancer
8	4767*	≤ 40	9K	pneumonia
4	4790*	≥ 40	6K	gastritis
5	4790*	≥ 40	11K	flu
6	4790*	≥ 40	8K	bronchitis
2	4760*	≤ 40	4K	gastritis
7	4760*	≤ 40	7K	bronchitis
9	4760*	≤ 40	10K	stomach cancer

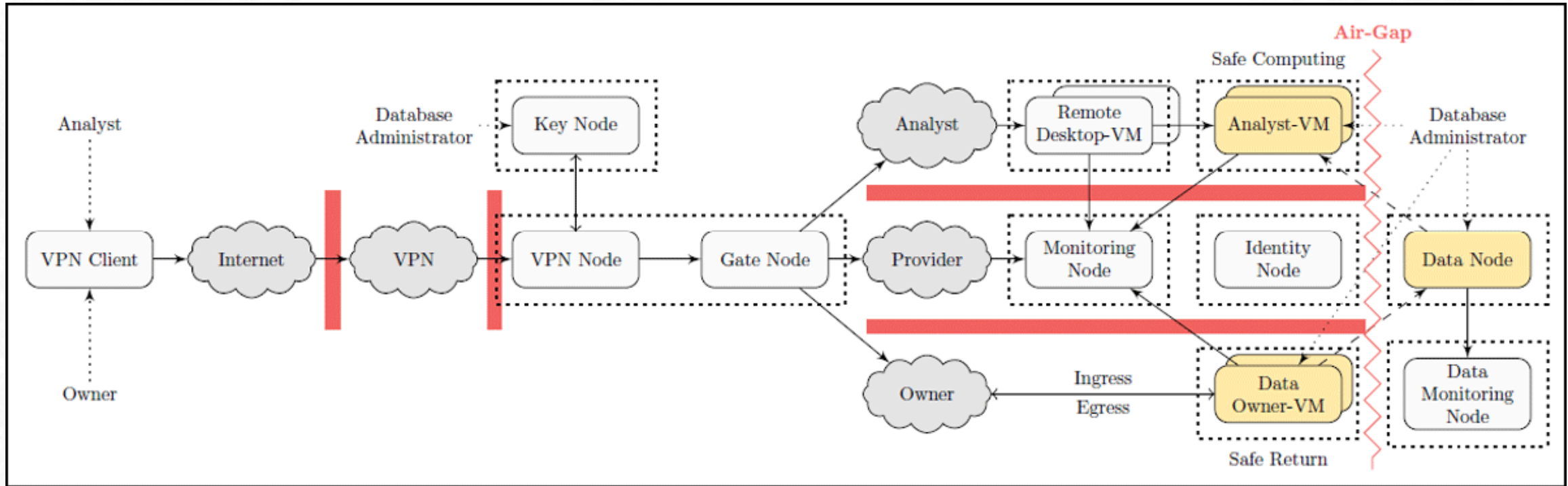
4.3. OSSDIP



- **Data Owner** maintains full control over data and use:
 - Who to **allow access**,
 - Over which **period of time**,
 - For which **subset of data**,
 - To answer which research question / analysis goals,
 - While monitoring what they are doing
- Based on experience of operating DEXHELPP for nearly 10 years

4.3. OSSDIP

Technical Architecture:

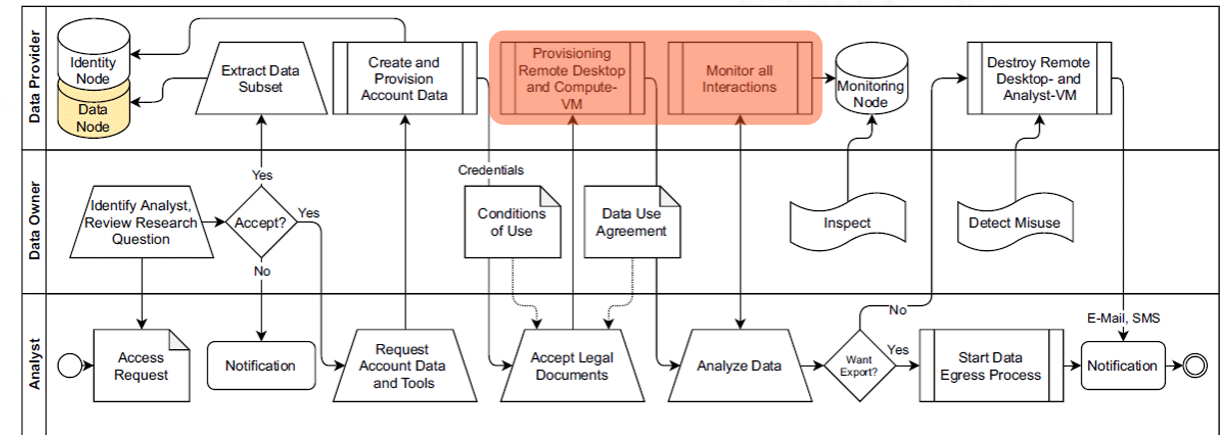


4.3. OSSDIP



(highlight)

1. Researcher sends **request** to Data Owner (*Person, question, required data*)
2. Granted: **subset of data**, at specific **aggregation level**, potentially with **fingerprint** is extracted onto a VM for a dedicated **researcher** for a dedicated **time period** to address the **question** posed
3. Expose metadata of data subsets (FAIRness)
4. ...
5. Provisioning of VNC and Compute VMs with dedicated software and data

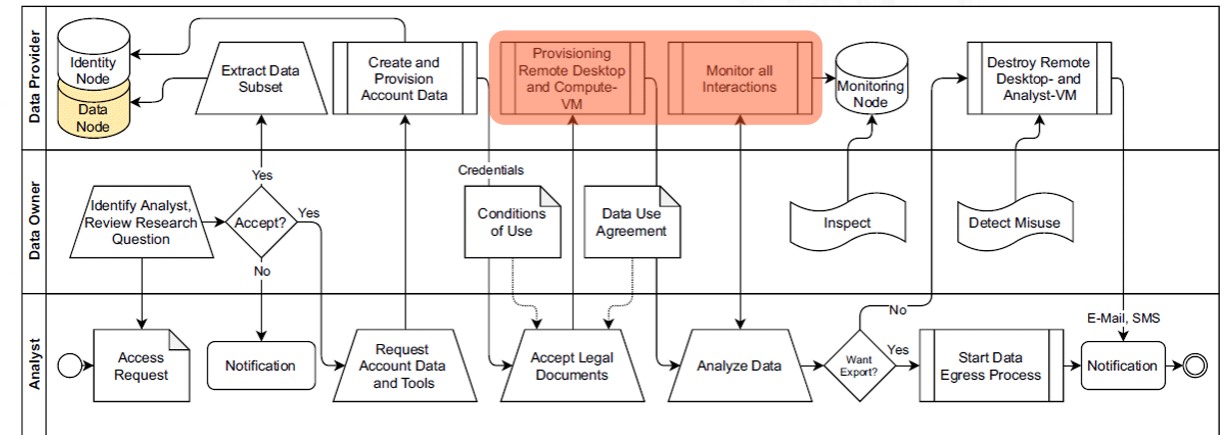


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3. Expose metadata of data subsets (FAIRness)
4. ...
5. Provisioning of VNC and Compute VMs with dedicated software and data



4.3. OSSDIP Further Reading

Material

- <https://doi.org/10.5334/dsj-2022-004> (journal paper)
- <https://doi.org/10.34726/hss.2022.84700> (master's thesis)
- <https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/VKN4R> (iPRES'21 paper)

Resources

- <https://ossdip.at/> (documentation, getting started guide)
- <https://gitlab.tuwien.ac.at/martin.weise/ossdip> (source code)

5. Future Work

DBRepo

- Prepare for **test** phase Q1 2023
- Prepare for **rollout** phase Q1 2024
- Document all endpoints, methods, files, readme, changelog, etc.
- Implement OAI-PMH interface for metadata harvesting

OSSDIP

- Find (friendly) test-users that want to deploy it within their premises using **synthetic** data
- Implement DBRepo features to make sensitive data **findable** and **reusable** (FAIR)
- **Transform** into Virtual Research Environment (e.g. integrating *Jupyterhub*, *Collaborative chat*)
- HPC

6. Conclusion

Different Repositories

- Must support a **wide range** of research objects
- Provide **good visibility** to them
- Will be a **place where research happens**

Trusted Research Environments

- Traditional privacy methods **not sufficient** for exploratory research
- **Virtual** meeting points to work with sensitive data and known tools
- Organizational / Technical / Legal

Composition of systems needed

- Gradual development with increasing complexity
- Integration and automation are key to facilitate adoption

Repositories and TREs are as **trustworthy** as their institutions

Contact

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martin.weise@tuwien.ac.at

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