

Integrating Research Information: Requirements of Science Research

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The science we do

Some Integration Drivers

Metadata for integration



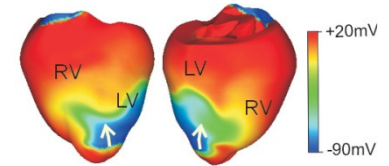
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The science we do

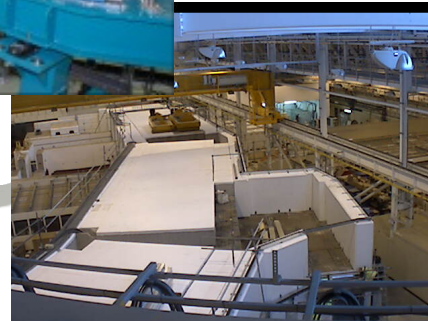
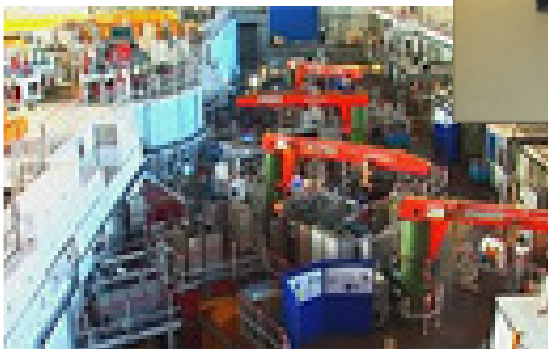
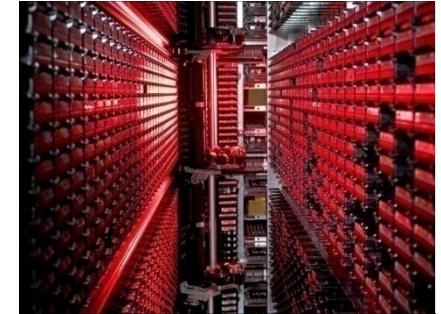


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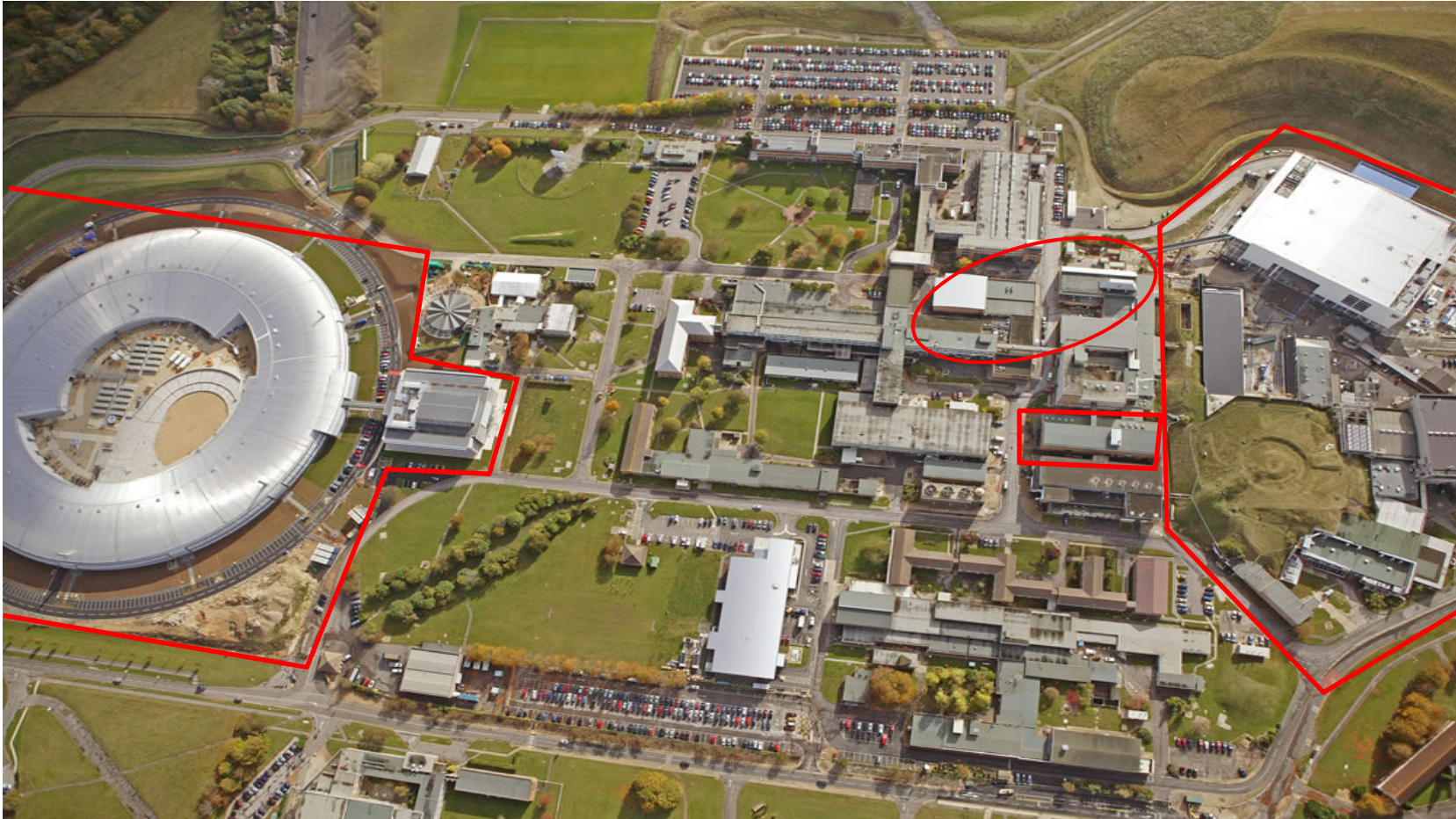
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- Provide large-scale scientific facilities for UK Science
 - particularly in physics and astronomy
 - ISIS and Diamond Light Source facilities
- E-Science Centre
 - Provides advanced IT development and services to the STFC Science Programme
 - Strong role in management of our science data



Large-Scale Facilities



Big Facilities for Small Science



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The Science we do - Structure of materials



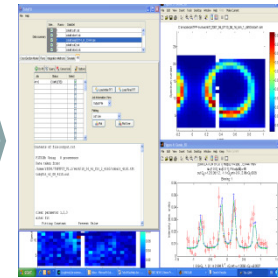
Visit facility on research campus



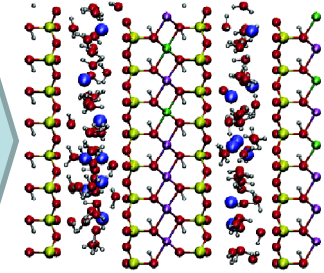
Place sample in beam



Diffraction pattern from sample



Fitting experimental data to model

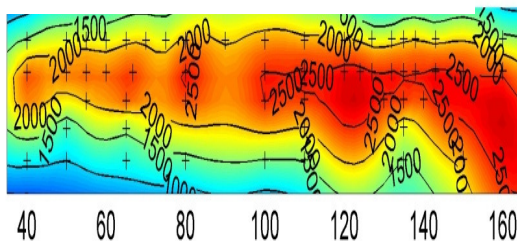


Structure of cholesterol in crude oil

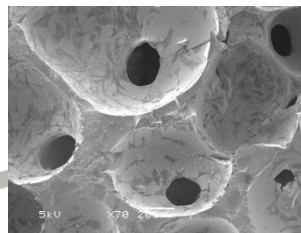
- ~30,000 user visitors each year in Europe:
 - physics, chemistry, biology, medicine,
 - energy, environmental, materials, culture
 - pharmaceuticals, petrochemicals, microelectronics

- Billions of € of investment
 - c. £400M for DLS
 - + running costs
- Over 5.000 high impact publications per year in Europe
 - But so far no integrated data repositories
 - Lacking sustainability & traceability

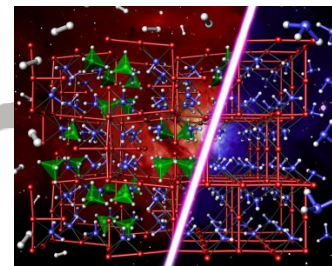
Longitudinal strain in aircraft wing



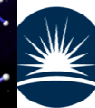
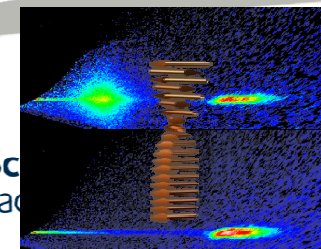
Bioactive glass for bone growth



Hydrogen storage for zero emission vehicles

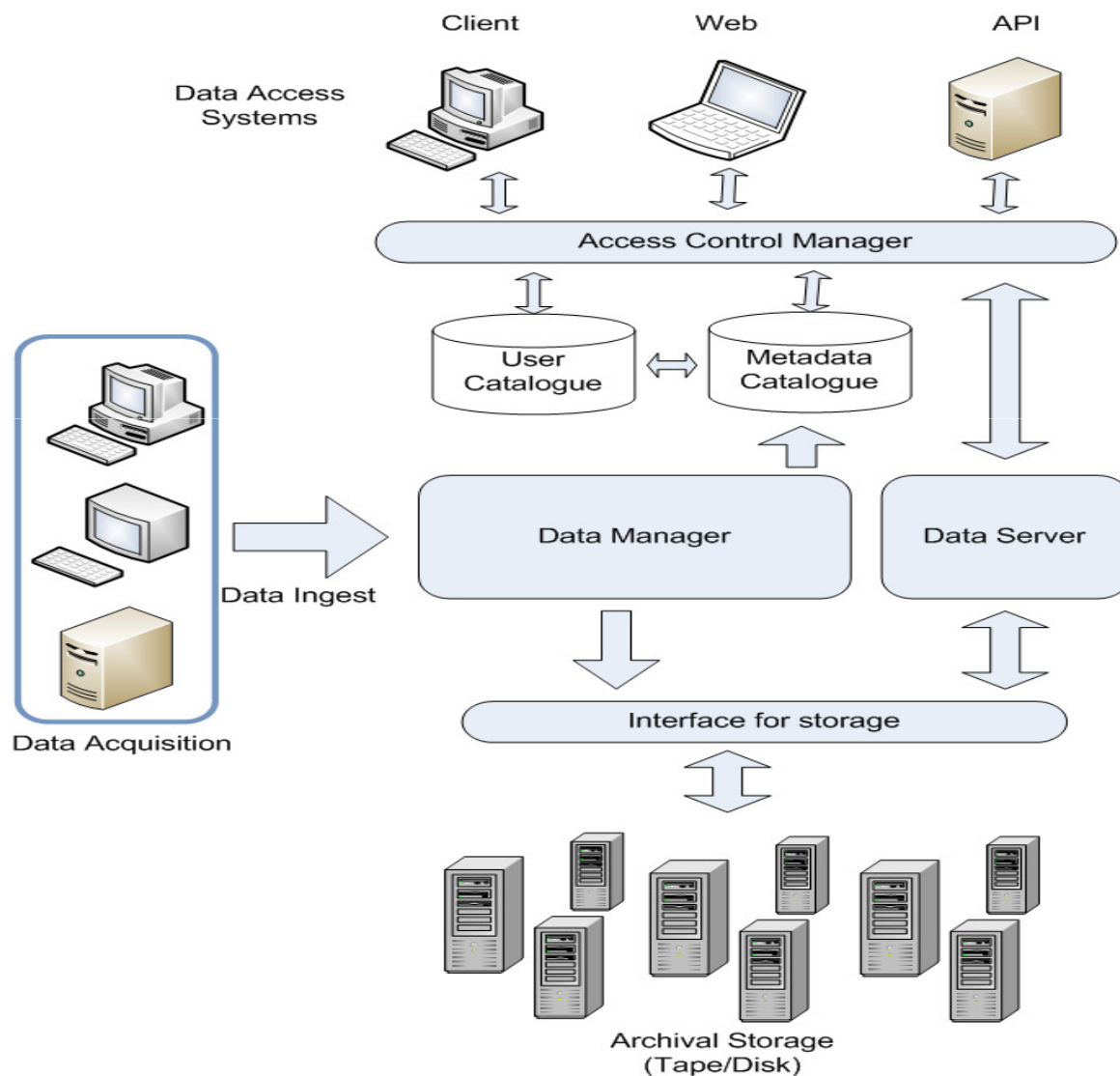


Magnetic moments in electronic storage



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A Data Management Architecture



- Generic
 - Can be applied to different customers
- Robust
 - Can be monitored and maintained
- Fast
 - Manages large rates of data ingest
- Scalable
 - Manages the storage of very large amounts of data
- Secure
 - Allows role-based access control to be applied
- Integrity
 - Data Verification at ingest
 - Does not lose or mis-identify data over time
- Monitoring
 - Must generate reports

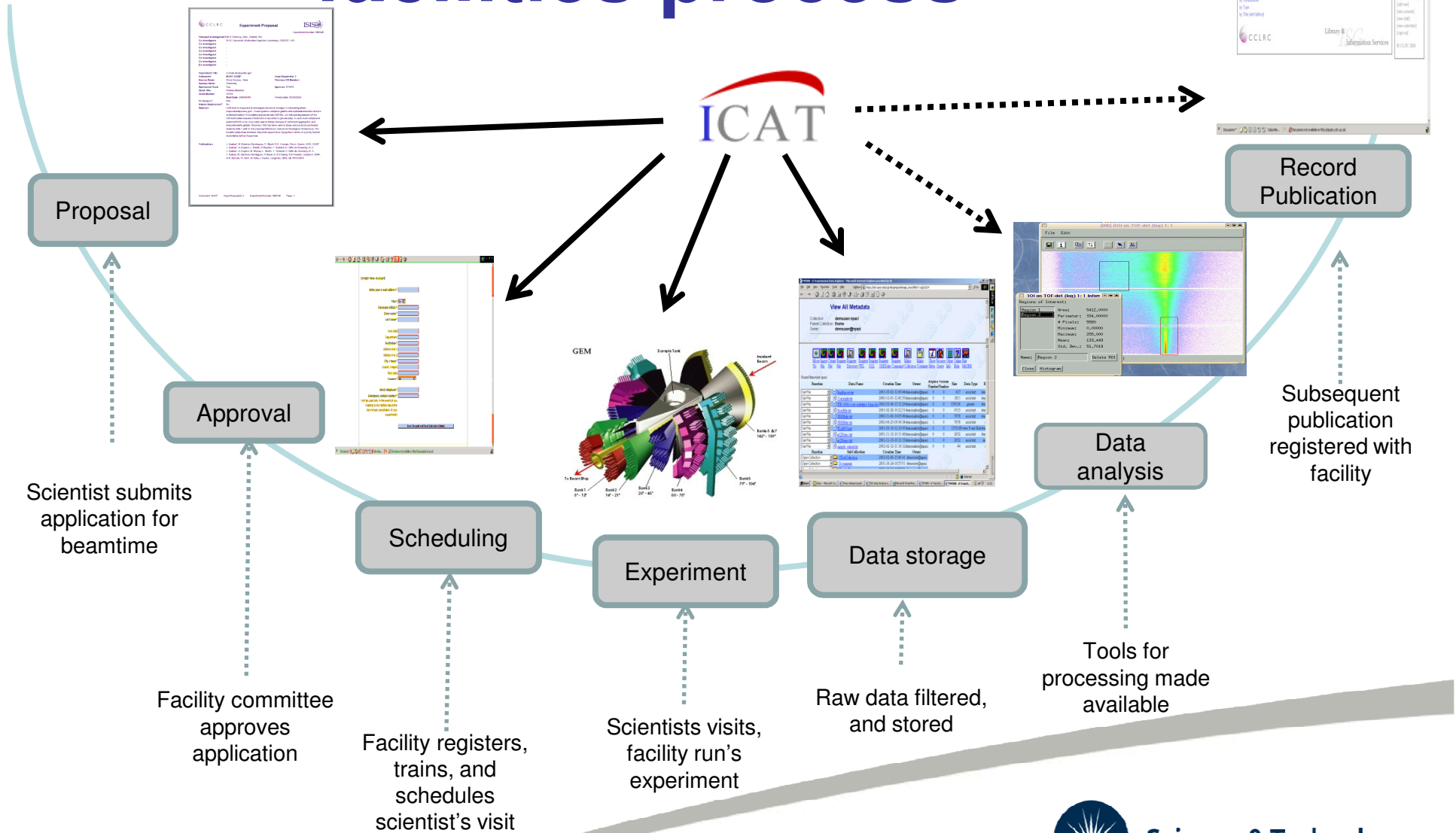


Integration Drivers



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Driver 1: integrating facilities process

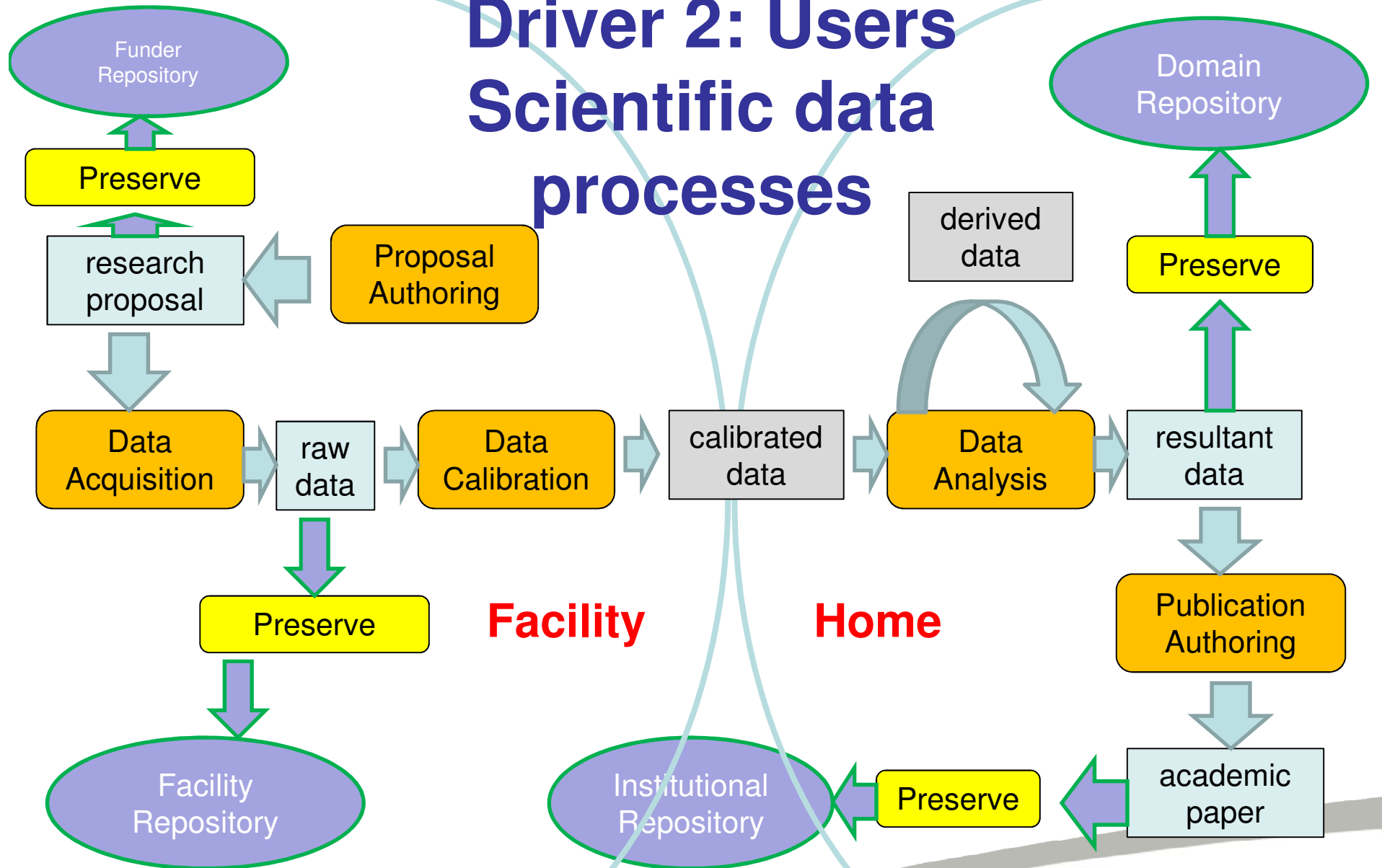


<http://code.google.com/p/icatproject/>



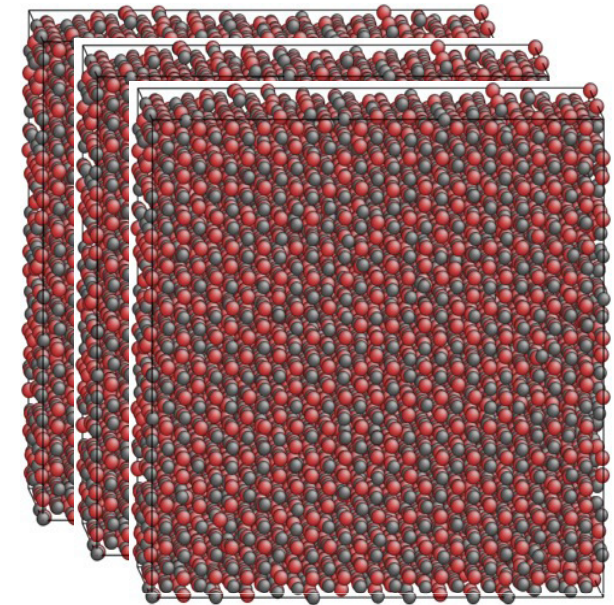
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Driver 2: Users Scientific data processes



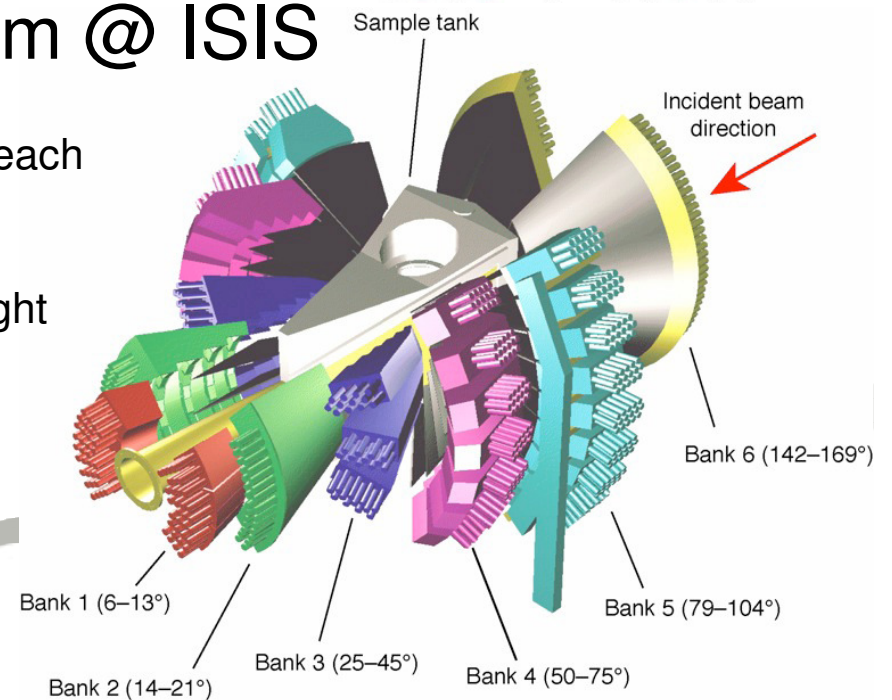
Case Study: Earth Sciences, Cambridge

- Seeking construct large scale atomic models of matter that best match experimental data
 - Reverse Monte-Carlo Simulation techniques
- Experiment and data collection conducted at ISIS (SGEM)

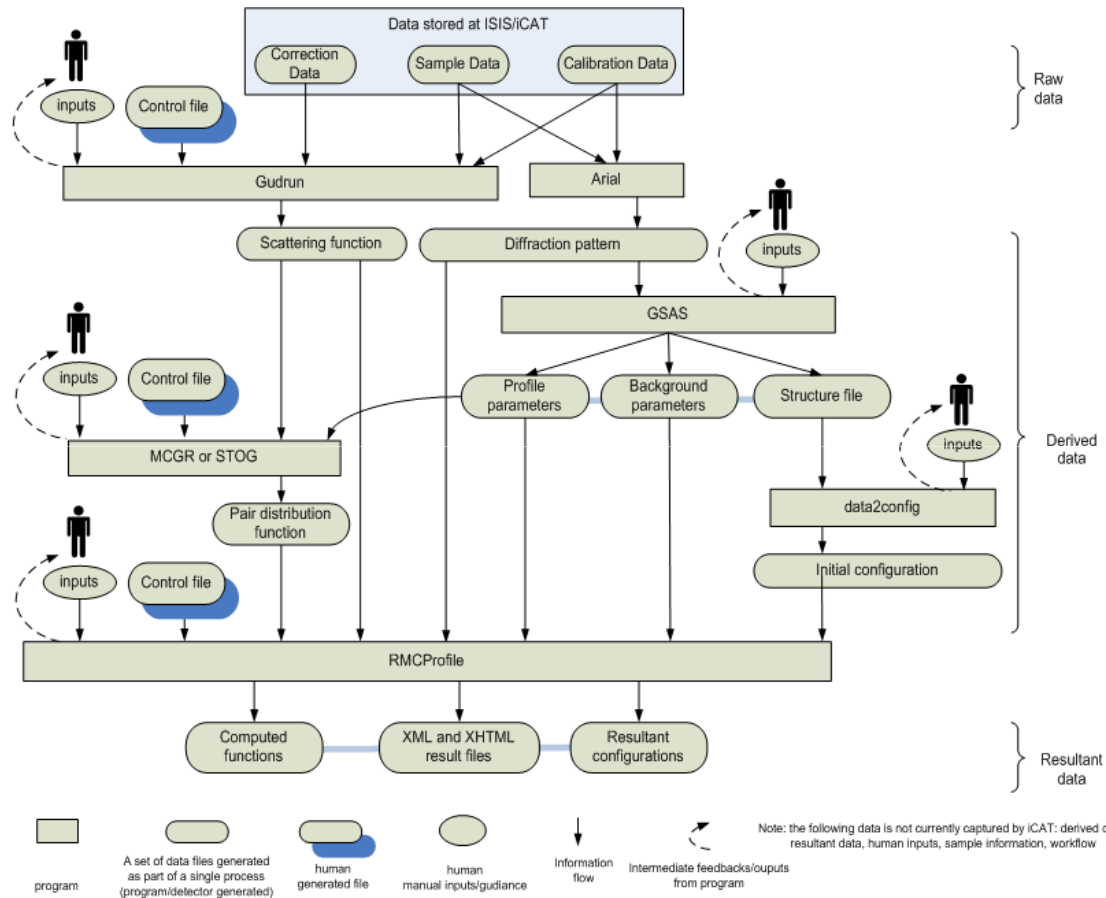


- ~4000 detectors
- Each experiment produces a histogram for each detector
- Each histogram is a binning of all neutron flight times per pulse, summing all pulses
- The data reduction process has to convert these histograms into meaningful data

Gem @ ISIS



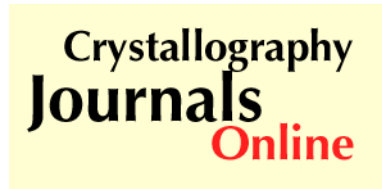
Earth Sciences: typical workflow



- Processing dependent on specialised software
 - Sustainability issues
- Context not routinely captured
- Main analysis is reliant on scientist's knowledge and experience
 - selecting parameters and interpreting data
 - recorded in a lab note book
- Actual workflow not recorded
- Distributed Data - Little shared infrastructure
 - Raw and reduced data stored at ISIS
 - Other data on his/her laptop or WebDAV

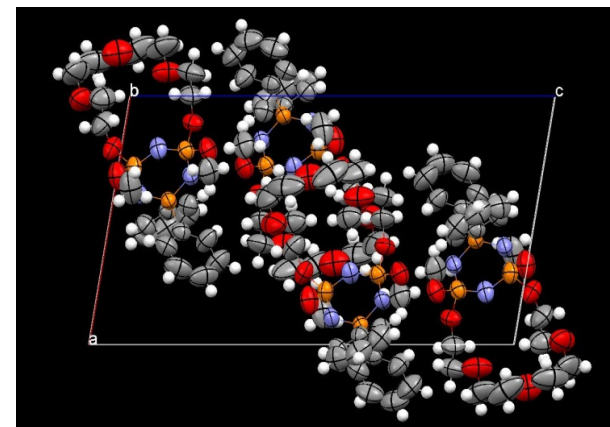


Driver 3: Publishers



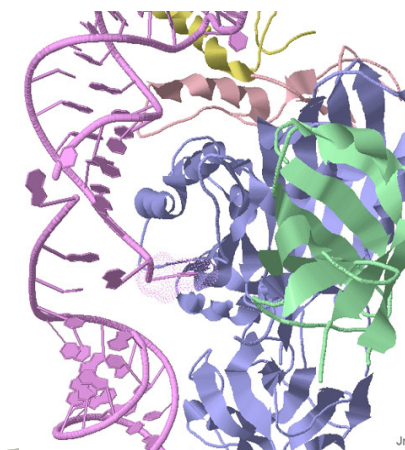
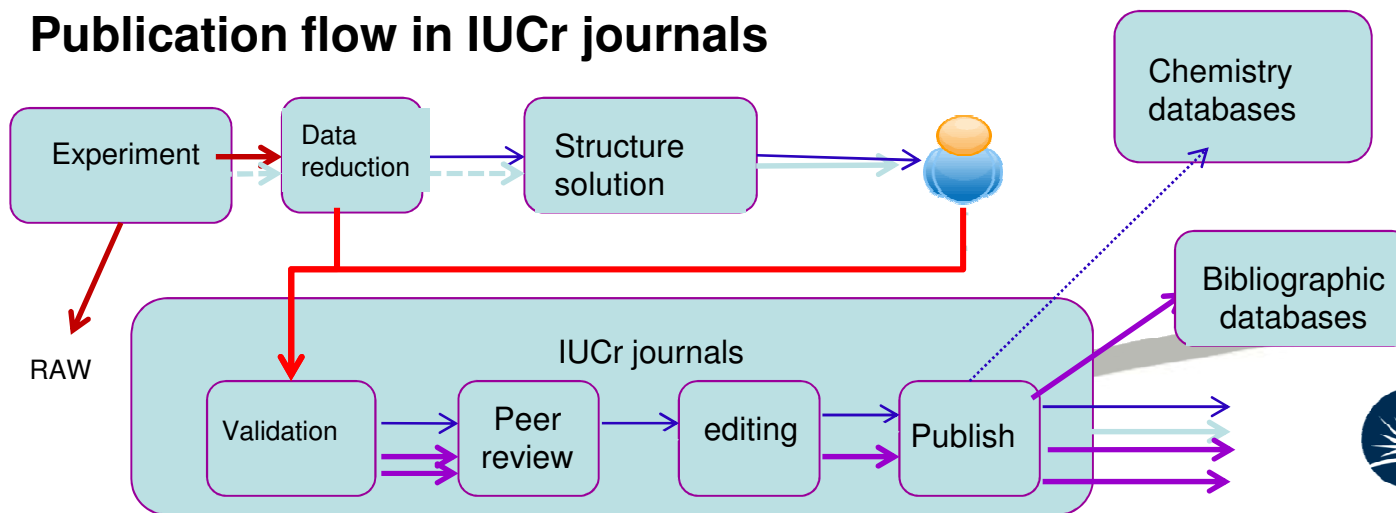
IUCr journal policy - “data” either

- must be supplied in CIF format as an integral part of article submission and are freely available for download or
- must be deposited with the Protein Data Bank before or in concert with article publication; the article will link to the PDB deposition using the PDB reference code



Thanks to Brian MacMahon, IUCr

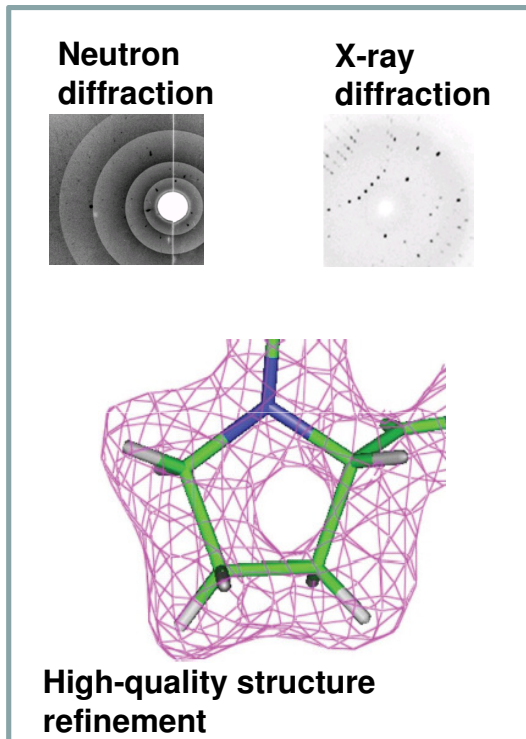
Publication flow in IUCr journals



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Driver 4: Interoperability across Facilities

PaN-data ODI – an Open Data Infrastructure for European Photon and Neutron laboratories
... to construct and operate a shared data infrastructure for
Photon and Neutron laboratories...

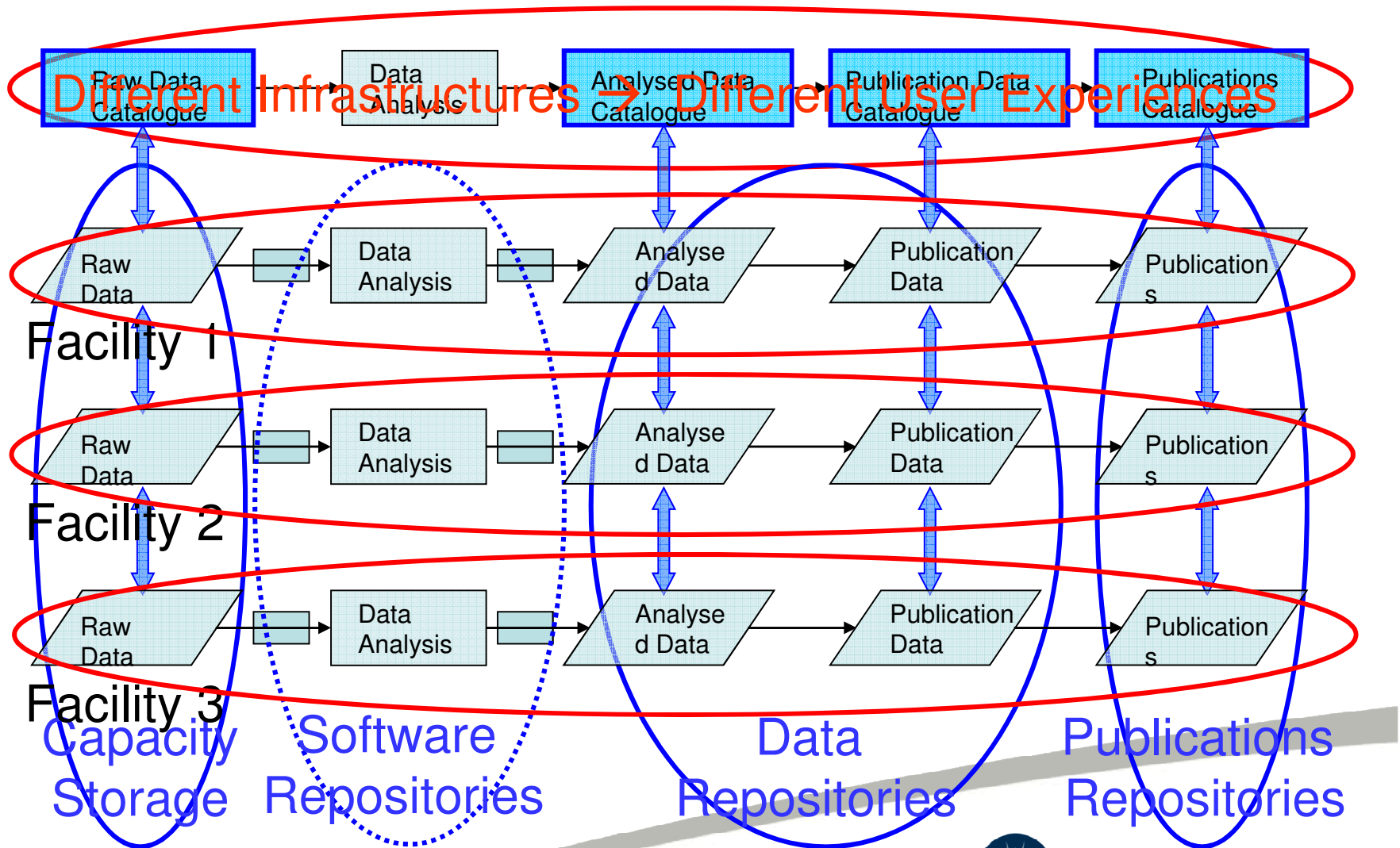


- Common data catalogue
- Integration of users data from different facilities
- Track provenance of data through analysis stages
- Deploy standards for long-term curation
- Support scalability through parallelisation
- Deploy infrastructure in three different techniques



PaN-Data Vision

Single Infrastructure → Single User Experience



Why capture the lifecycle?

From our Drivers (and others) :

- **Maintain consistency**
 - Don't need to type stuff in more than once
- **Easy for the scientists**
 - Infrastructure in university labs is “ad hoc”
 - they lose stuff!
- **Provide the evidential basis for research**
 - Validate and verify publications
 - Safeguard against error or fraud
- **Measure the impact of science**
 - E.g. Measure value to service providers, funders and researchers
 - Influence the policy makers
- **Reuse of data**
 - Get new science from old data
 - Non-repeatable results
 - Value for money
 - Teaching material
 - Comparative studies



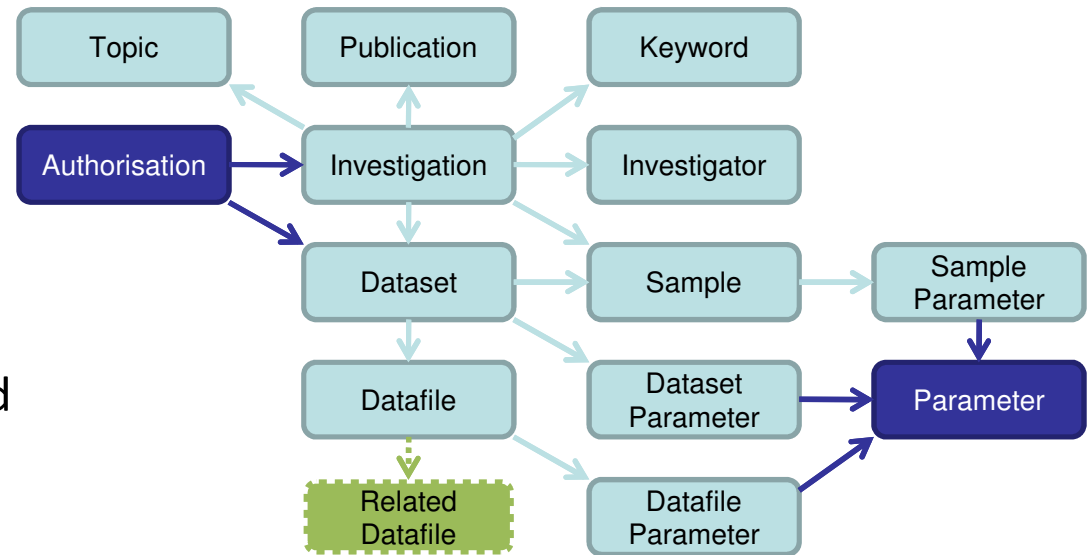
Metadata for Integration



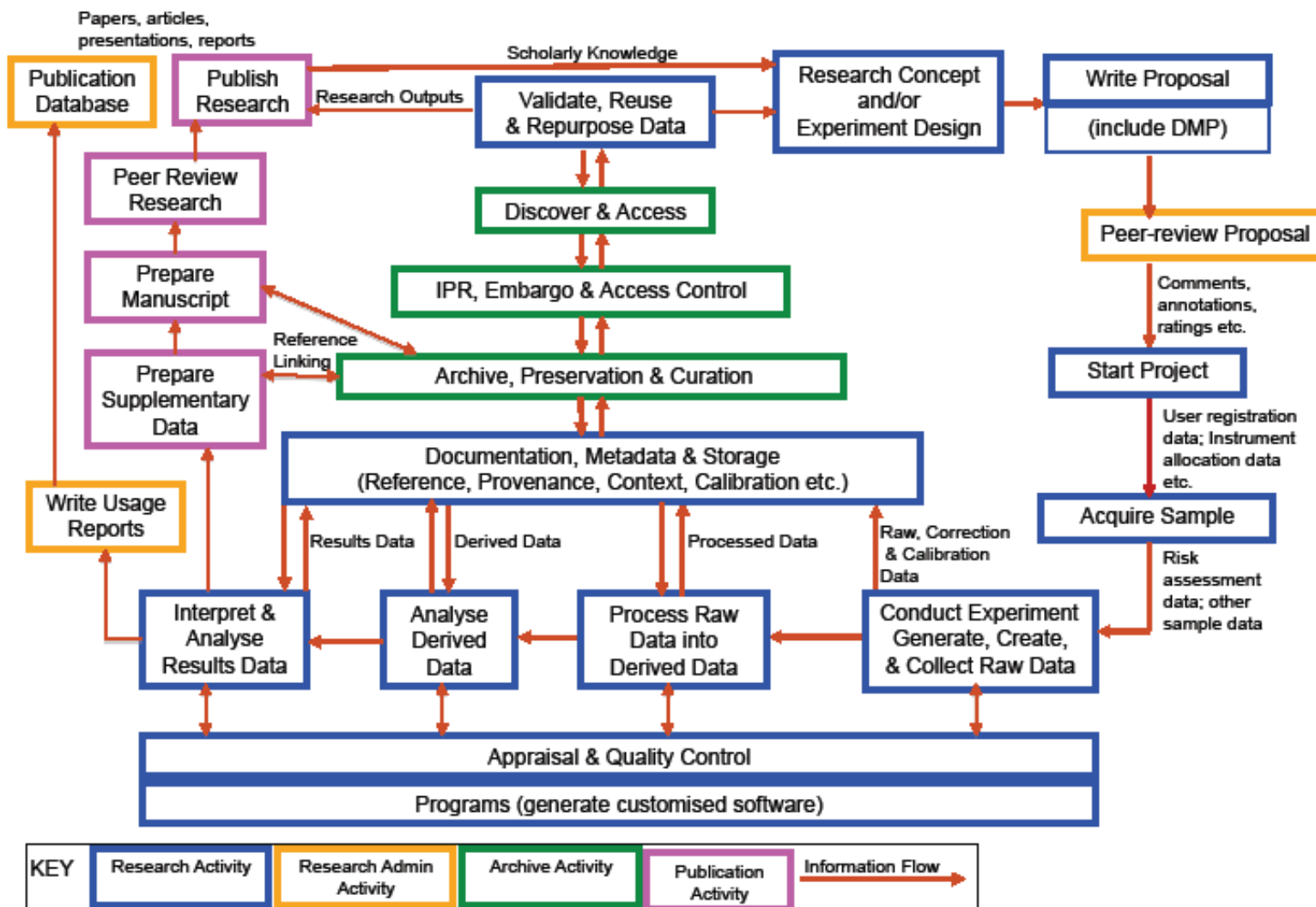
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CSMD

- CSMD: Core Scientific MetaData model
- Designed to describe facilities based experiments in Structural Science
- Forms the information model for ICAT, a production data management infrastructure employed by STFC
- Forms the basis for extensions:
 - To derived data
 - To laboratory based science
 - To secondary analysis data
 - To preservation information
 - To publication data



An Idealised Scientific Research Data Lifecycle Model

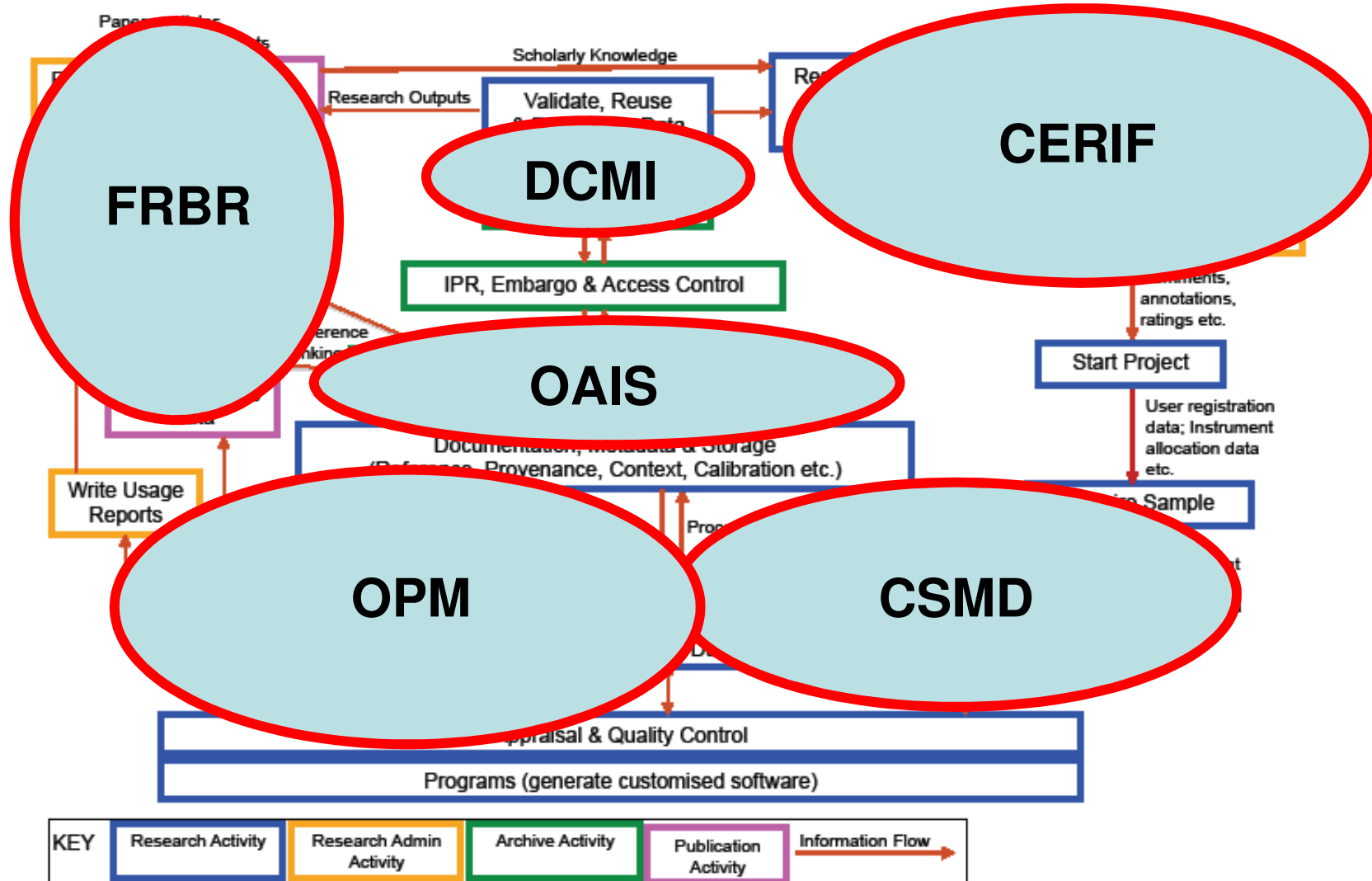


Infrastructure for Integration in Structural Sciences



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An Idealised Scientific Research Data Lifecycle Model

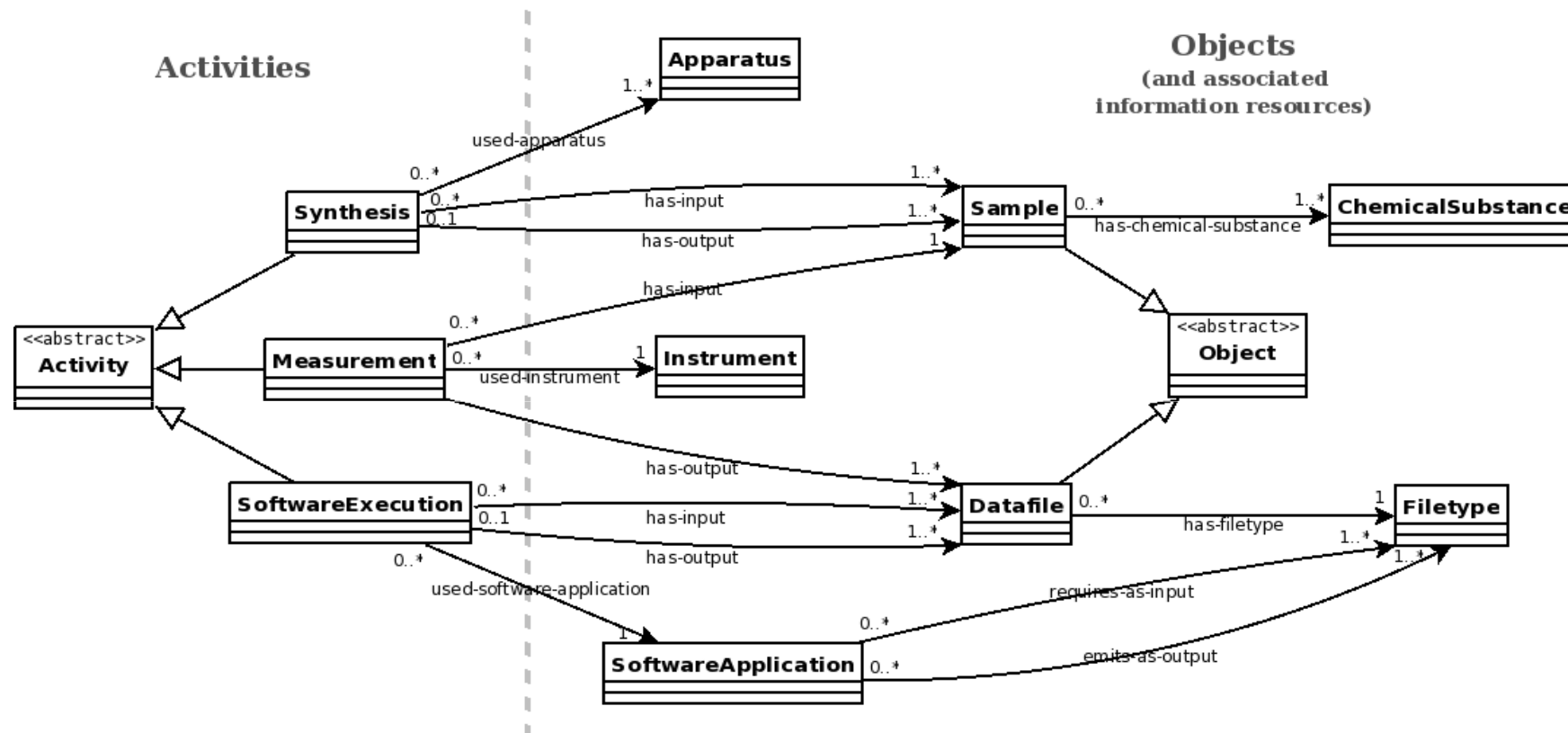


Infrastructure for Integration in Structural Sciences



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Research Activity Model



A notion of a research activity – a step in the lifecycle model
- Can define different types of activity.



Interoperability via metadata

The world is Heterogeneous

- different software, formats, metadata
- Metadata standards for integration
 - In formats (e.g. RDF) and APIs (e.g. Web services)
 - Though not universal – in domains at best
- Need ways of “joining them up”
 - Core standards e.g. DC, CERIF, FRBR
 - Base concepts e.g. “People”
 - Key concept relationships e.g. Owl:EquivalentClass
 - Abstract models to chain metadata together e.g. OPM, RAM
 - Metadata extension e.g. Clarin



Thank You

Questions?

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