



# Data Fabric IG

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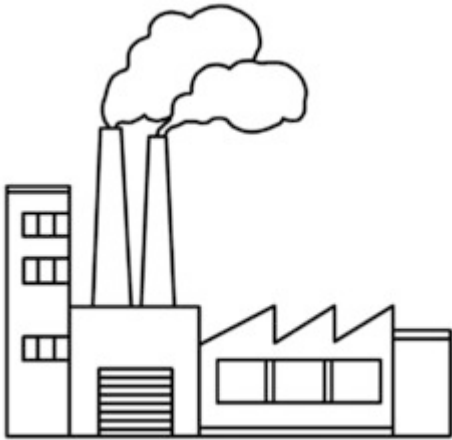
**research data sharing without barriers**  
**[rd-alliance.org](http://rd-alliance.org)**

# Purpose of this plenary session

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- Information on the Data Fabric IG and its intentions
- Synchronize on the “understanding” and scope with everyone in RDA
  - Are we starting from the same points and headed for the same goals?
- Agenda for this session
  - Rob: Introduction (what is DF, history, where we are)
  - Peter: Analysis of first use cases
  - Zhu: Use case template and participation
  - Q&A and discussion
- If you are interested – join
  - DFIG Core Session (Tuesday 4 pm breakout 6)
  - BoF on Repository Registry (Wednesday 11 am breakout 7)

# What is the Data Fabric?



fabrik



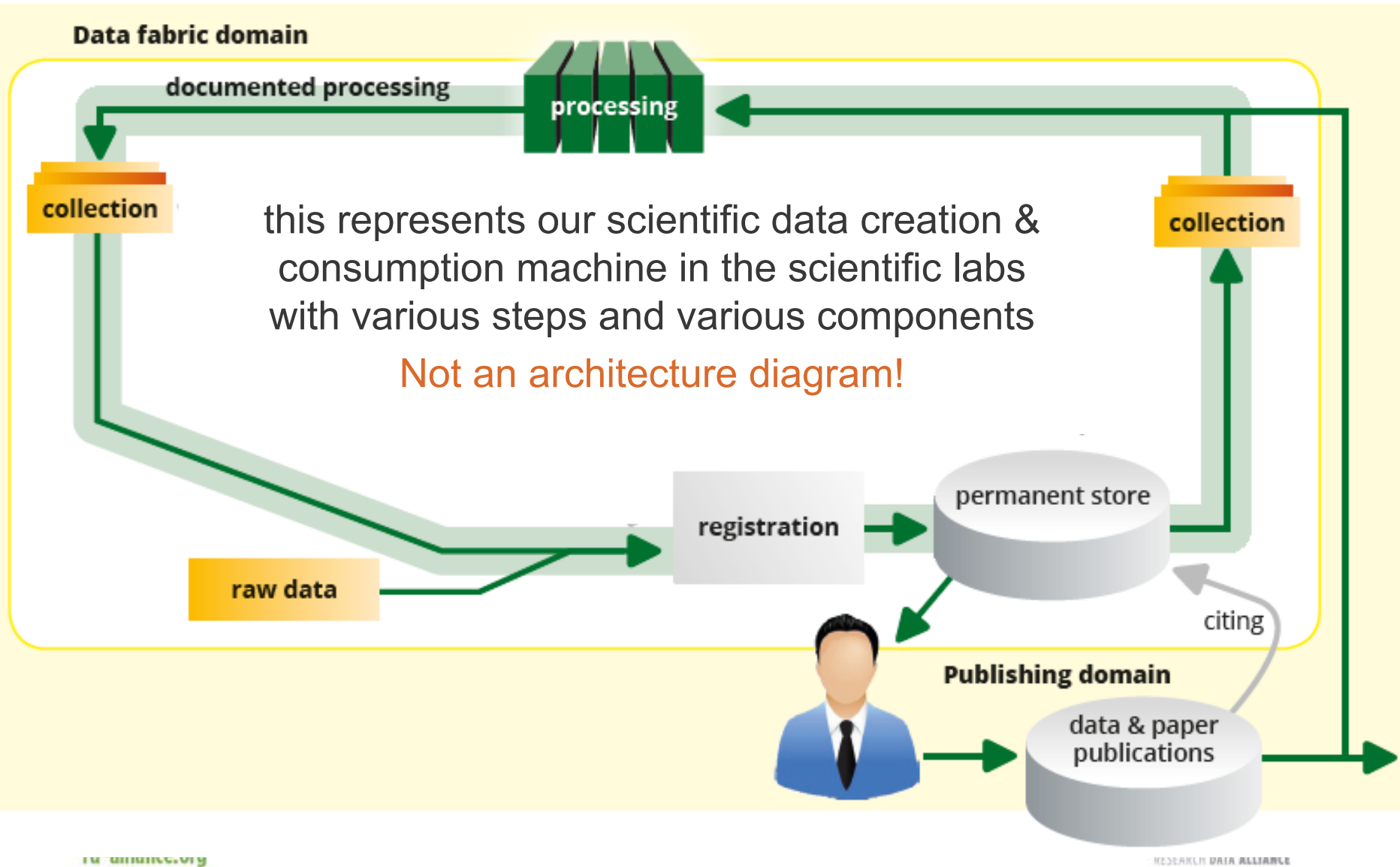
fabric

- “Data Fabric” is ambiguous if you look across-cultures
- Isn’t this at the core of RDA? We like this ambiguity and its possible connotations
- Can we describe what DF is?
- A short history

# Data Fabric is a Bottom-up Effort

- At the first plenaries the first WGs started in a more or less isolated way under pressure to deliver artifacts
- It was understood that we all work on a larger picture of integration – call it a framework for processing our data
- Realization that the WG outputs and also the topics of other groups (WGs/IGs) are working on are  
    **components and their services**  
with a place in this landscape.
- DF is a place to discuss such components and understand how they all will fit together
- So together with a number of chairs we started DF IG

# Data Fabric in a Simple Drawing



# Data Fabric in a Simple Drawing

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Data fabric domain

documented processing



## Some of the Big Questions for RDA:

- How can we maximally support this machinery
- unload researchers from unnecessary details,
- make science reproducible,
- How to identify the essential components and services
- let people configure them according to their needs
- etc.

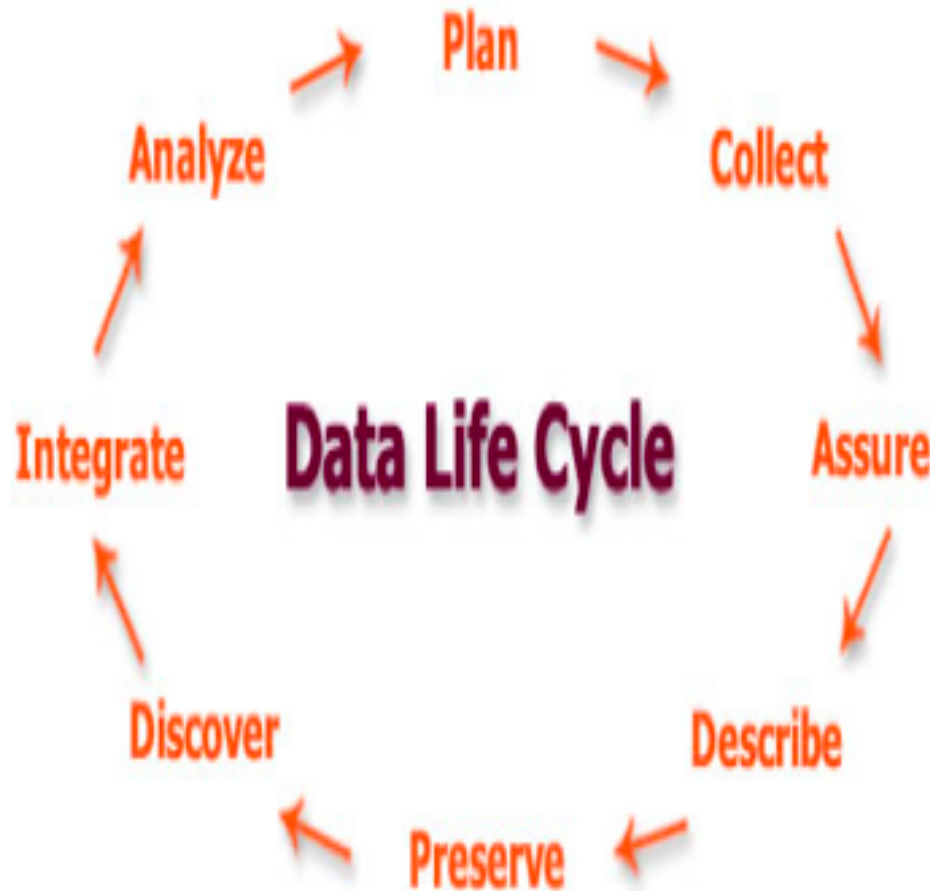


publishing domain

data & paper  
publications

# Thinking about How People Work with Data in their Research

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Originally  
from  
DataONE

all phases must be considered in DF IG

# Data Fabric where we are

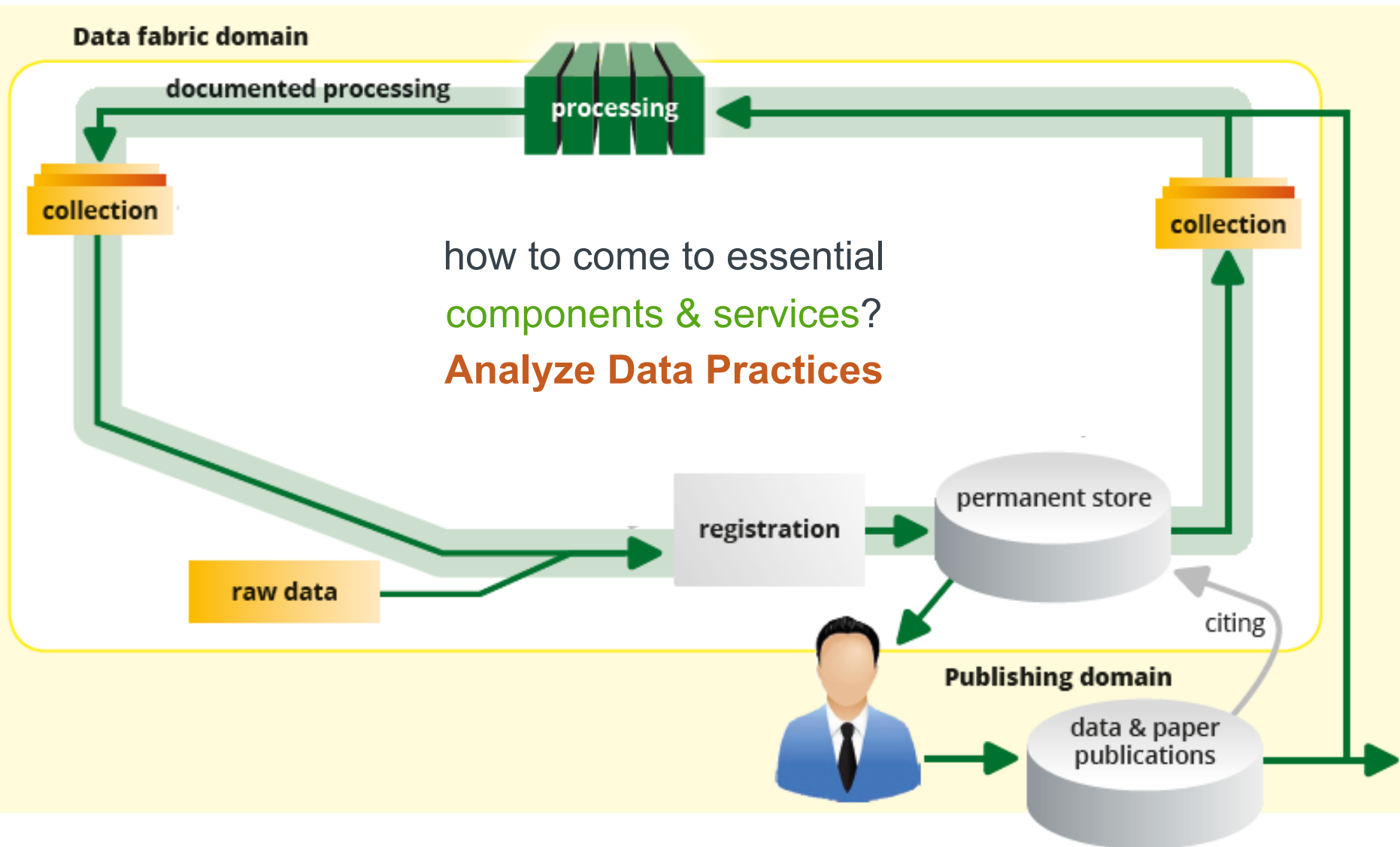
- 2<sup>nd</sup> WG Chairs meeting
- Draft White Paper
- 1<sup>st</sup> DFIG Session at P4 in Amsterdam
- updated draft version of WP
- several meetings where DFIG was presented&discussed
- lots of commenting in DFIG wiki
- first real WP version
- start of collecting Use Cases
- 2<sup>nd</sup> DFIG Session at P5 in San Diego

# Data Fabric first analysis

- goals
  - understand components/services infrastructures are using
  - extract common components/services and their characteristics
- two strands of input for analysis
  - current data practices
  - Use cases
- now also analysis of Large Scale Data Infrastructures

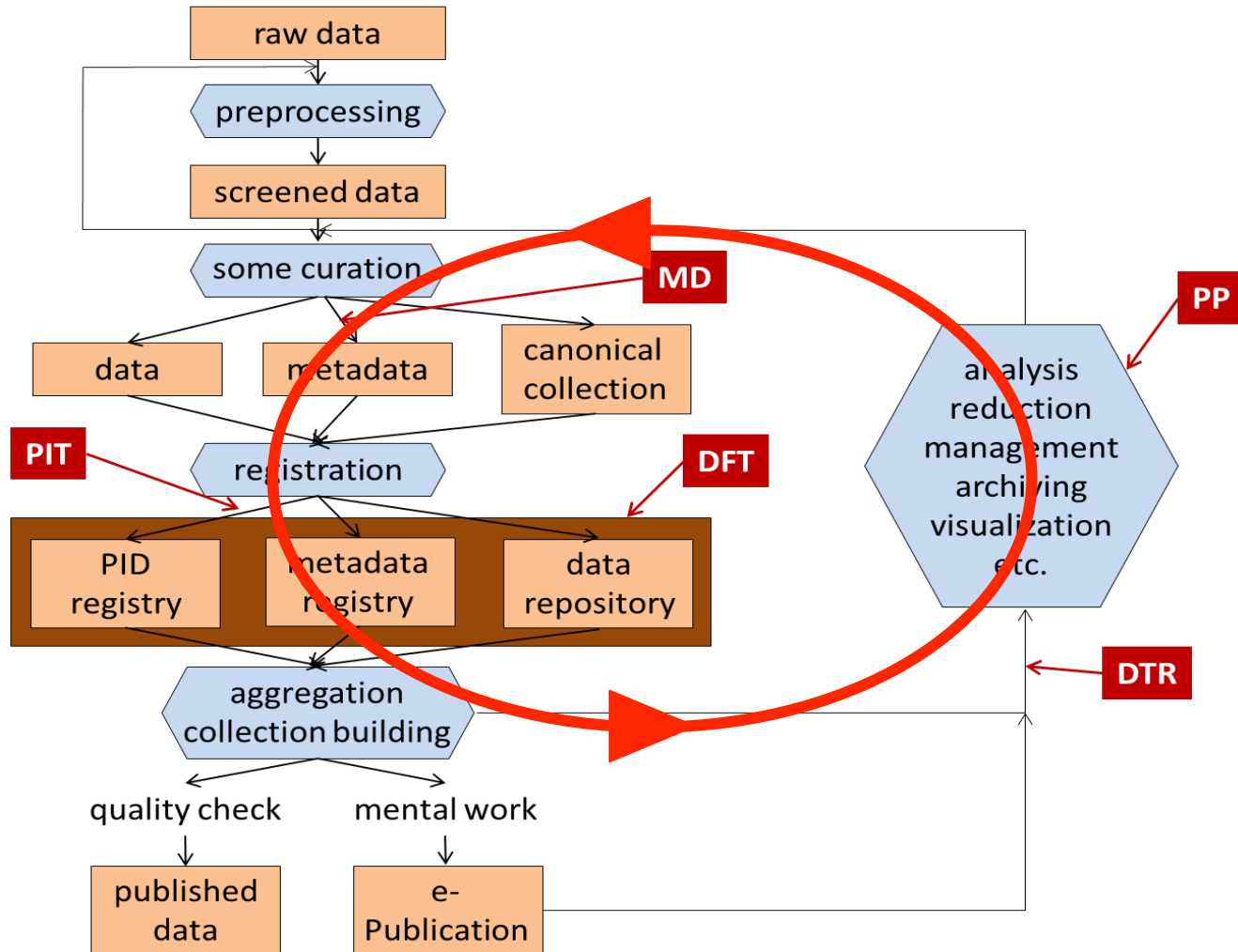
# Data Fabric first analysis

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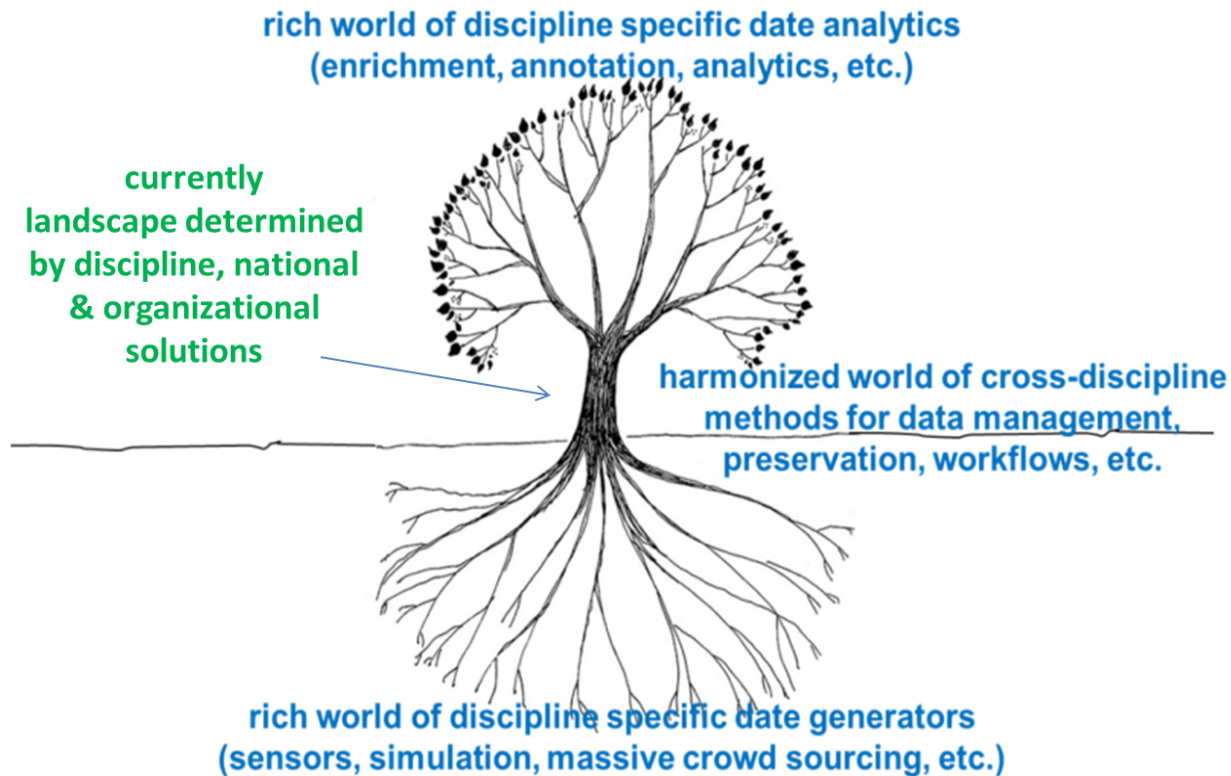
# Data Practices (120 interviews etc.)

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# Data Management Conclusion

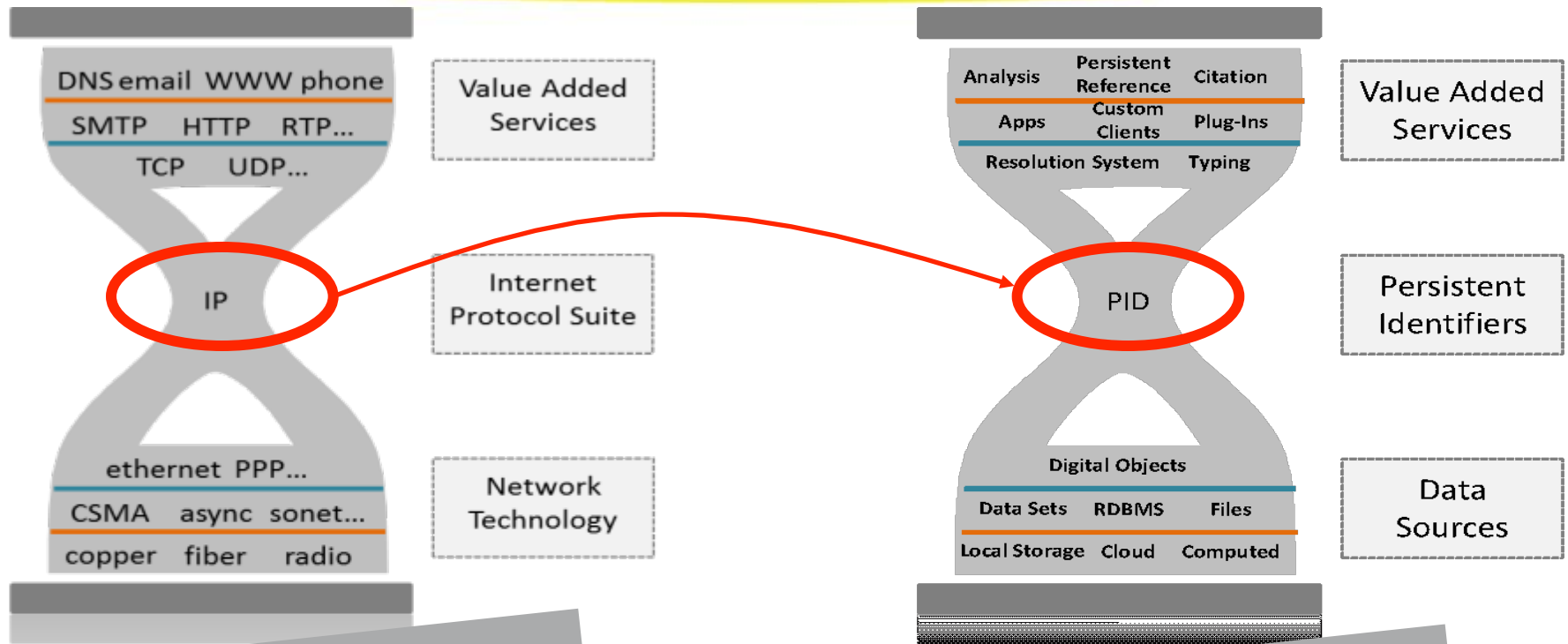
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management of data objects is widely type and  
discipline independent

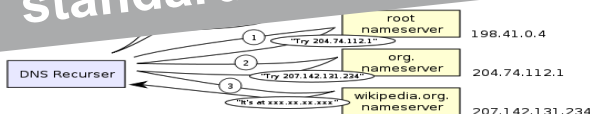
# PID system is core

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**Internet Domain**  
nodes with IP numbers  
packages being  
exchanged  
standardized protocols

**Data Domain**  
objects with PID numbers  
objects being exchanged  
standardized protocols



point to  
each other

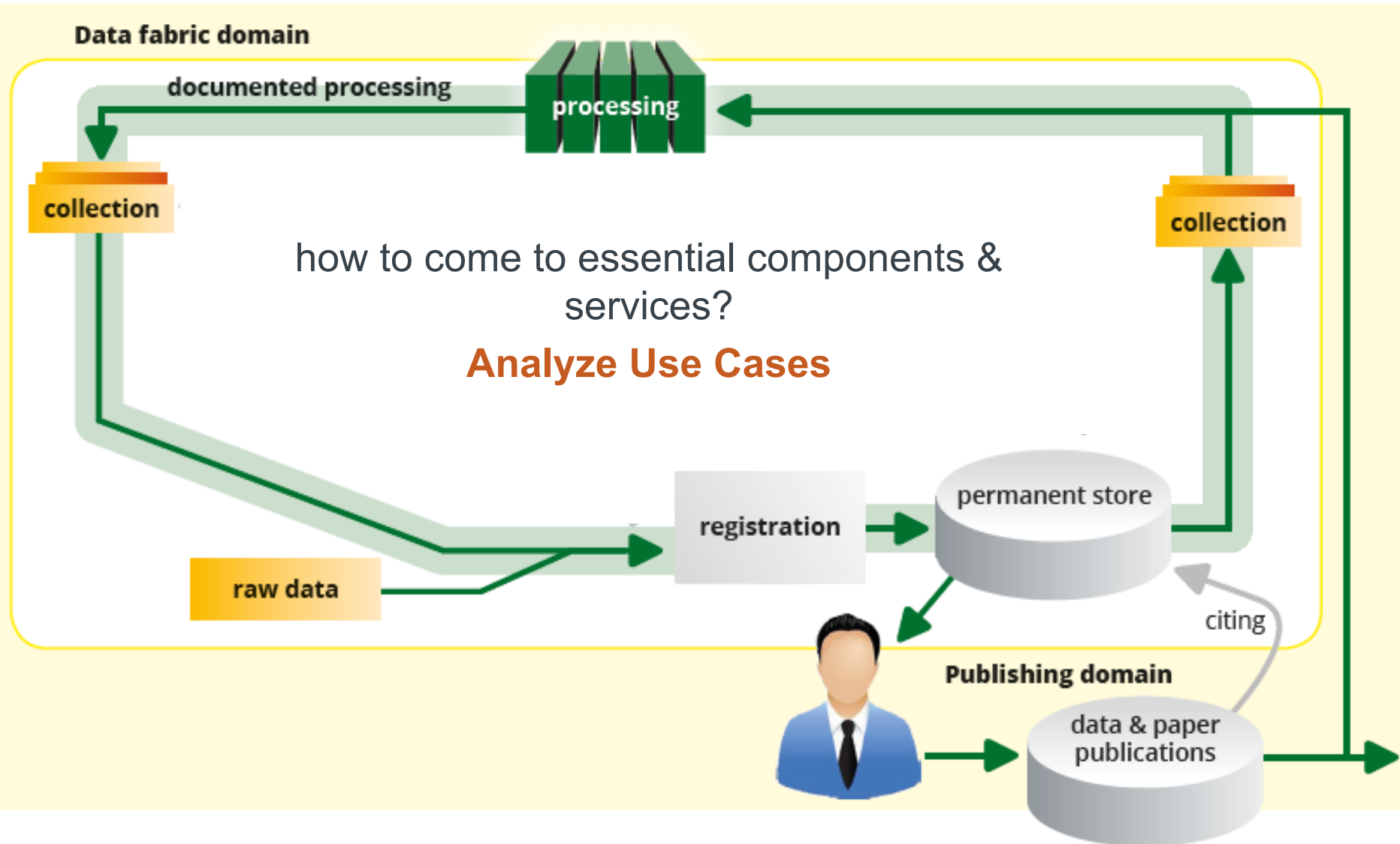
metadata  
attributes

properties  
& context



# Data Fabric first analysis

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# 10 (+5) Use Cases so far (2 in development, others mature)<sup>15)</sup>

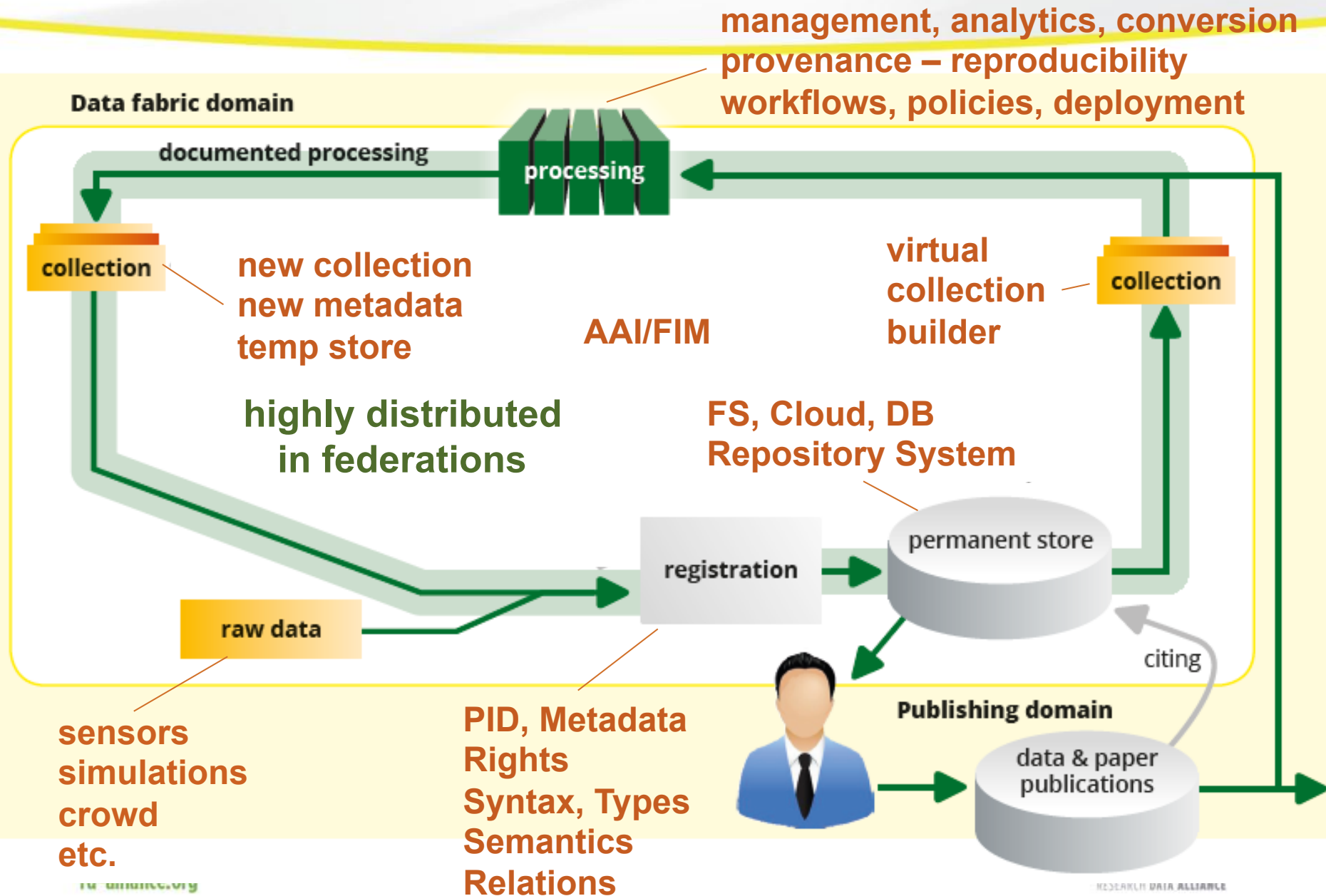


● environmental science ● natural science ● life science ● humanities, soc. sciences ● IT, various

all indicated nodes are centers of national, regional and even worldwide federations

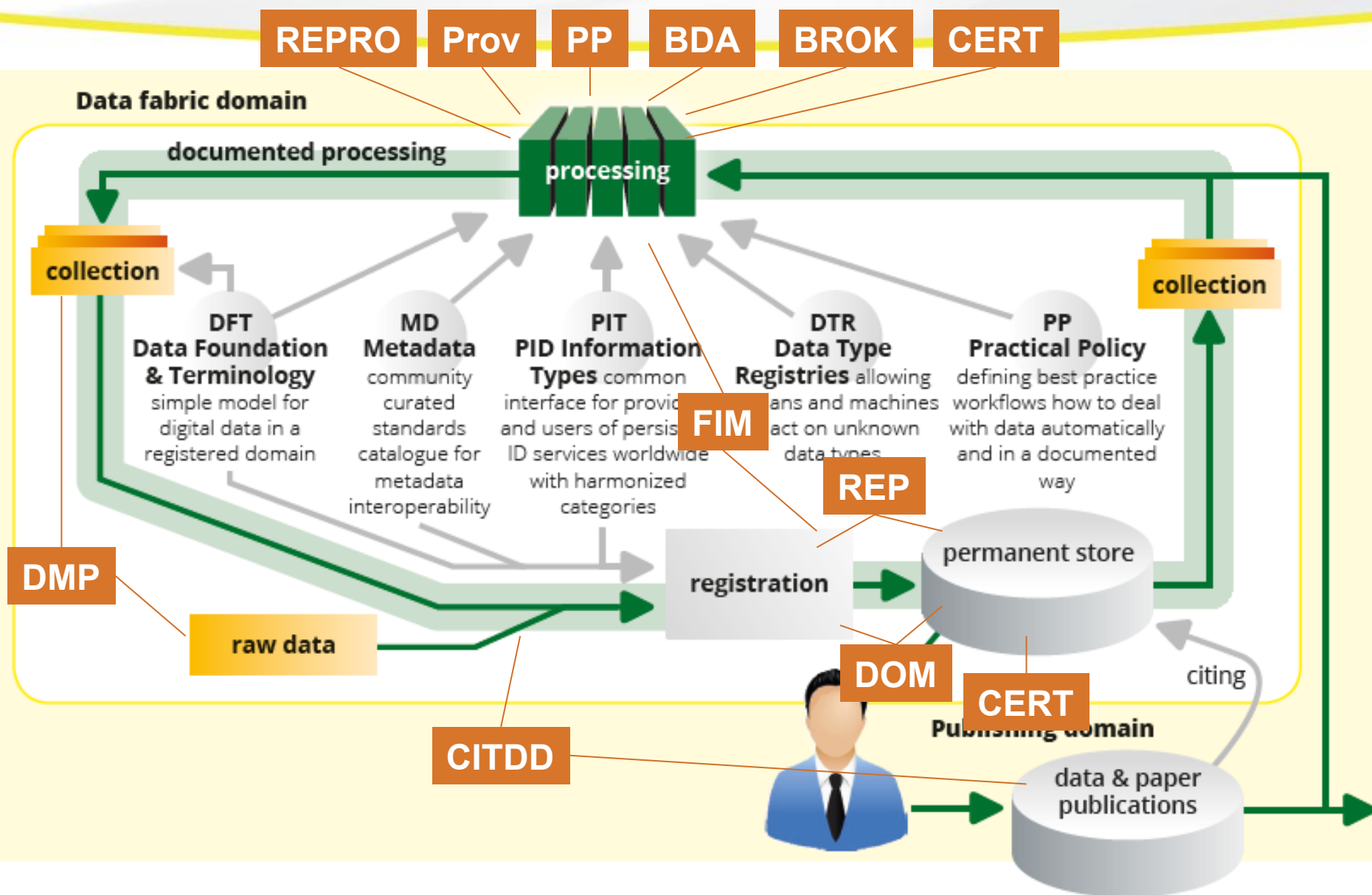
# Issues of Relevance

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# How do WGs/IGs fit?

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# Components I

- domain of registered digital objects (DO) incl. basic organization principles (data, code, knowledge) -> **worldwide PID system (Handles/DOI)**
- domain of registered actors -> **worldwide ID system (ORCID)**
- domain of trusted repositories for DOs -> **worldwide Rep Registry**
  - proper DFT/DSA/WDS compliant **repository systems**
- accepted policy commons (proper organization support, self-documenting, tested/certified, etc.) -> **policy component registry**
- policy/services -> **service registry**
- authentication system -> **various in place (ORCID just number)**
- authorization system -> **authorization registry**

# Components II

- MD components/schemas -> **metadata schema registry**
- data types /schemas/formats -> **data type registry**
- semantic categories

much already out there but ...  
... why does it cost months  
• to federate and integrate data  
• to make data interoperable  
... need to harmonize, raise trust & value  
... make it ready for machines

# Use cases template I

In order to compare different use cases and extract common characteristics of components and services of use cases, DFIG made a use case description template.

1. Scientific Motivation and Outcomes
2. Functional Description
3. Describe essential Components and their Services
4. Describe optional/discipline specific Components and their Services
5. Describe essentials of the underlying Data Organization
6. Indicate the type of APIs being used
7. Achieved Results

# Use cases template II

## 1. Scientific Motivation and Outcomes (*max. 0.5 pages*)

*Provide a short summary of the scientific or technical motivation for the use case. What would be the best possible outcome and why?*

## 2. Functional Description (*max. 1 page*)

*Give at least one diagram that indicates the overall structure/architecture of the data creation and consumption machinery that is being used in the lab/infrastructure. Describe in simple words the functioning of the machinery.*

## 3. Describe essential Components and their Services (*max. 1 page*)

*Describe the most essential infrastructural components of the machinery and the kind of services they offer. These descriptions don't have to be comprehensive.*

## 4. Describe optional/discipline specific Components and their Services (*max. 1 page*)

*Describe the optional/discipline specific infrastructural components of the machinery and the kind of services they offer. These descriptions don't have to be comprehensive.*

## 5. Describe essentials of the underlying Data Organization (*max. 1 page*)

*Describe the most important aspects of the underlying data organization and compare it with the model outlined by DFT.*

## 6. Indicate the type of APIs being used(*max. 1 page*)

*Describe the most relevant APIs and whether they are open for being used.*

## 7. Achieved Results (*max. 0.5 pages*)

*Describe the results (if applicable) that have been achieved compared to the original motivation.*

- DFIG as a platform for WG/IG chair interaction about all kinds of components/services that are essential to make data work more efficient, cost-effective and reproducible
- The idea is to do Use Case studies to identify such components/services based on what people are doing
- The method is thus learning from examples and from there to do abstractions to common components

Please provide your Use Cases and join discussions on their essentials.

# Thanks for your attention.



# some answers !?

- lack of broad conviction in science – missing guidance, thus too risky to invest (thus no broad uptake and lack of quality)
- lack of widely trusted, stable and accessible services
- lack of explicitness of structures and semantics
- lack of agreed common interfaces
- brokering versus harmonization