



Workshop on Raw Diffraction Data Reuse:  
“The Good, the Bad and the Challenging”

# Handling big data at the European XFEL

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August 22, 2023

# Outline

- Introduction to the European XFEL
- SFX at the European XFEL
- The data challenge: storage space and reuse options
- The way forward

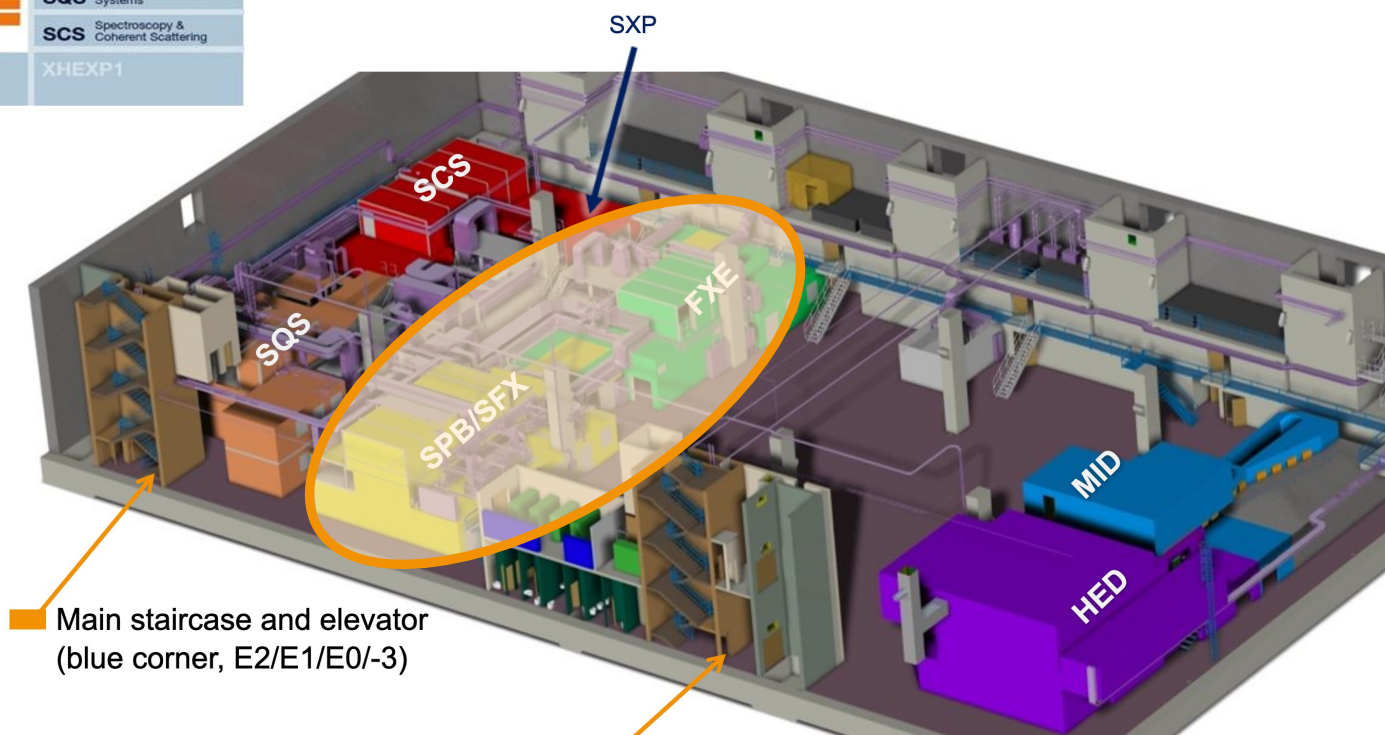
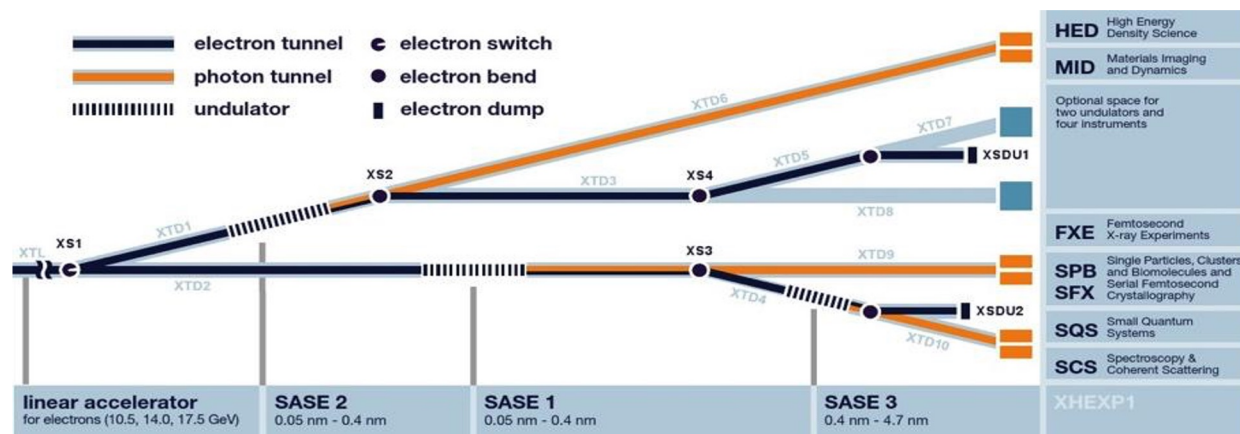
# European XFEL at a glance

- Non-profit company, eleven shareholder countries
- Photon science user facility (plus own science), operation since September 2017
- currently > 500 employees



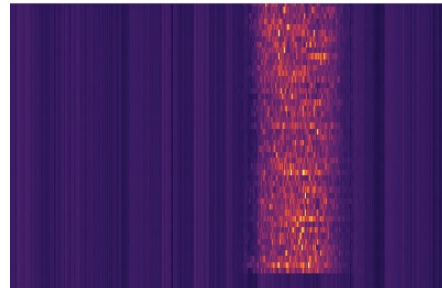
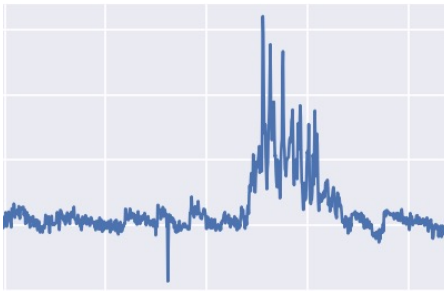
- linear electron accelerator, 3.4 km tunnel
- Seven scientific instruments

# Beamlines and instruments

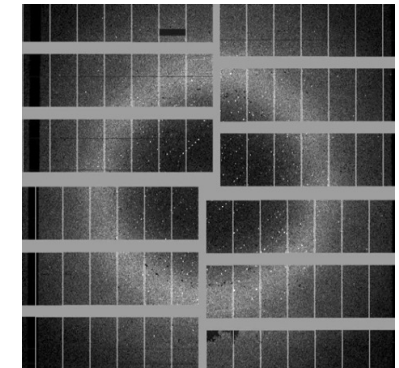
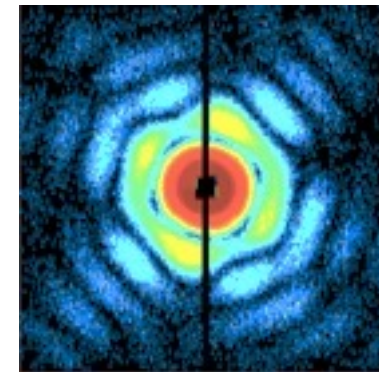


# Major types of data

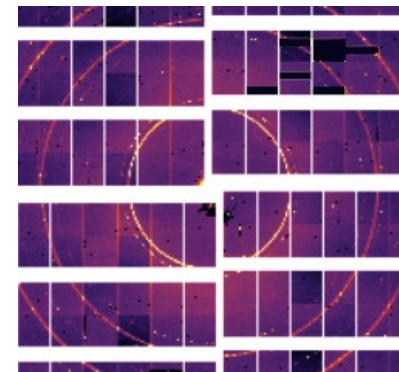
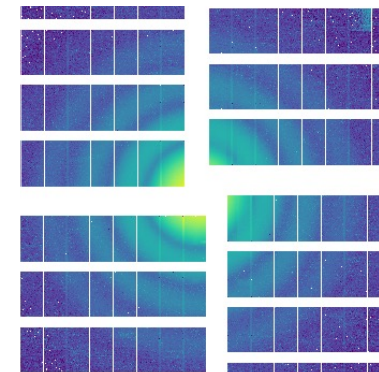
- Diffraction / scattering data: pixel / area detectors
  - integrating, mainly custom-built, multi-gain, MHz (burst mode)
- Spectroscopic data: 1D detectors, partly pulse-resolved (e. g. Gotthard)



- Digitizers, diagnostics devices X-ray-gas monitors etc., control data (motors, valves etc.)...

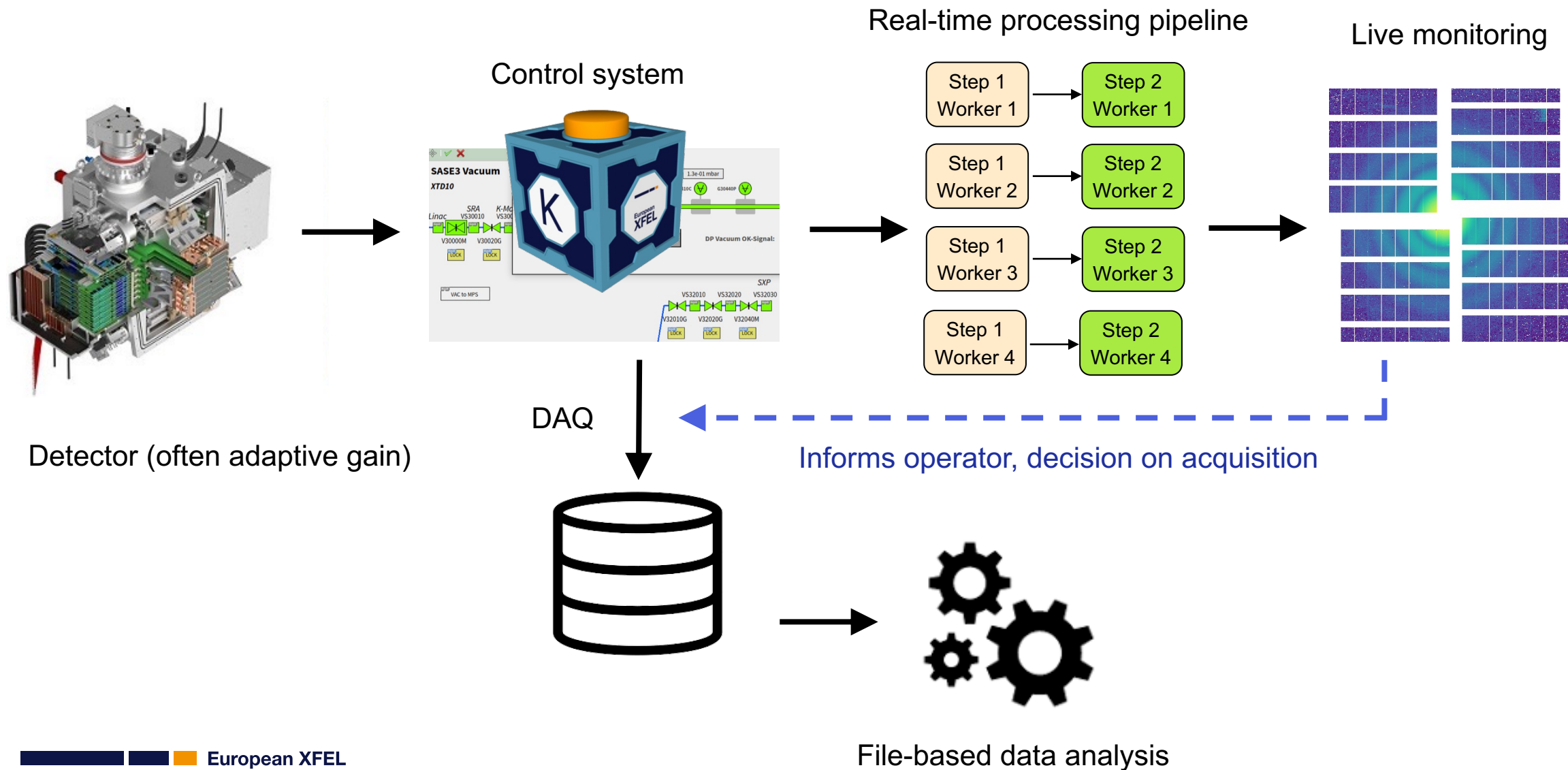


[1]



[1] taken from Kirkwood et al. (2022) Nat. Sci. Data 9

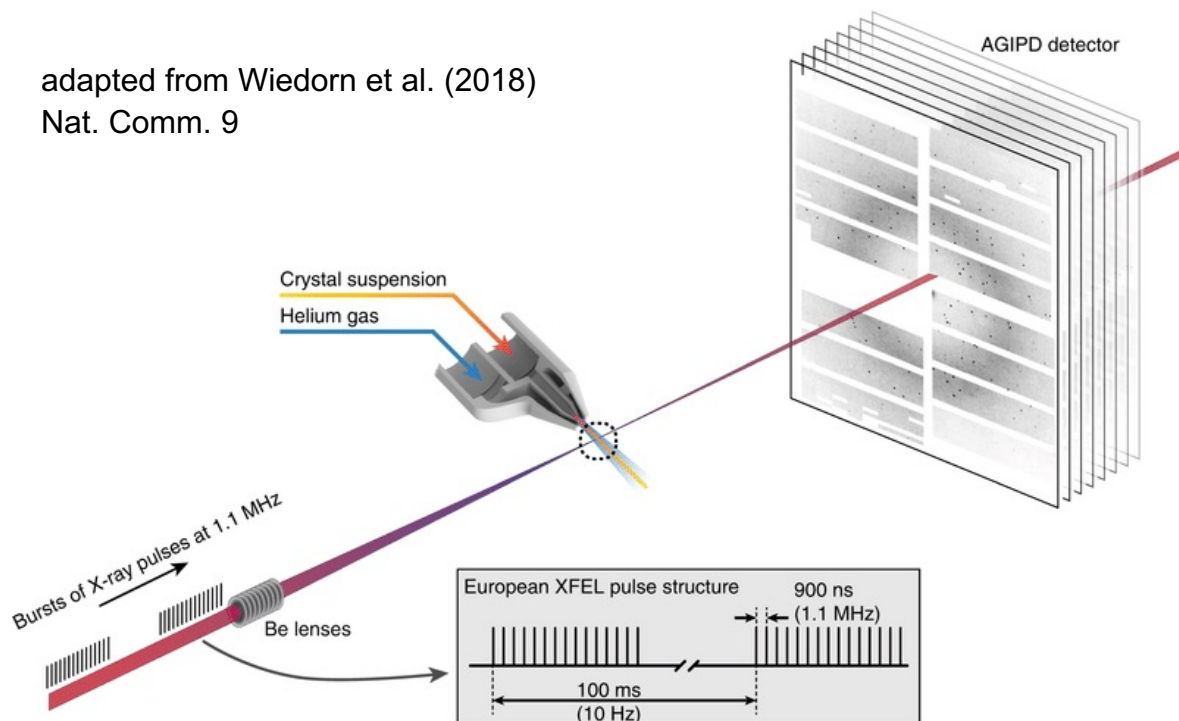
# Flow of experiment data



# SFX at the European XFEL

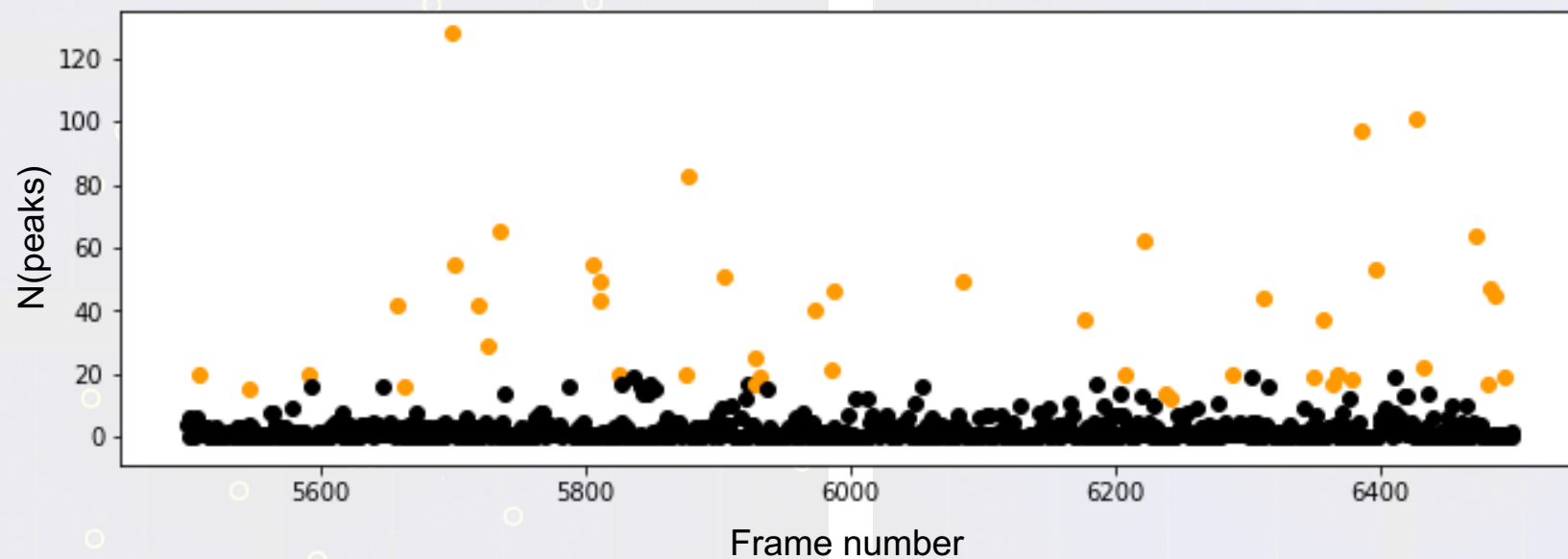
# The typical SFX setup at EuXFEL (SPB/SFX)

adapted from Wiedorn et al. (2018)  
Nat. Comm. 9



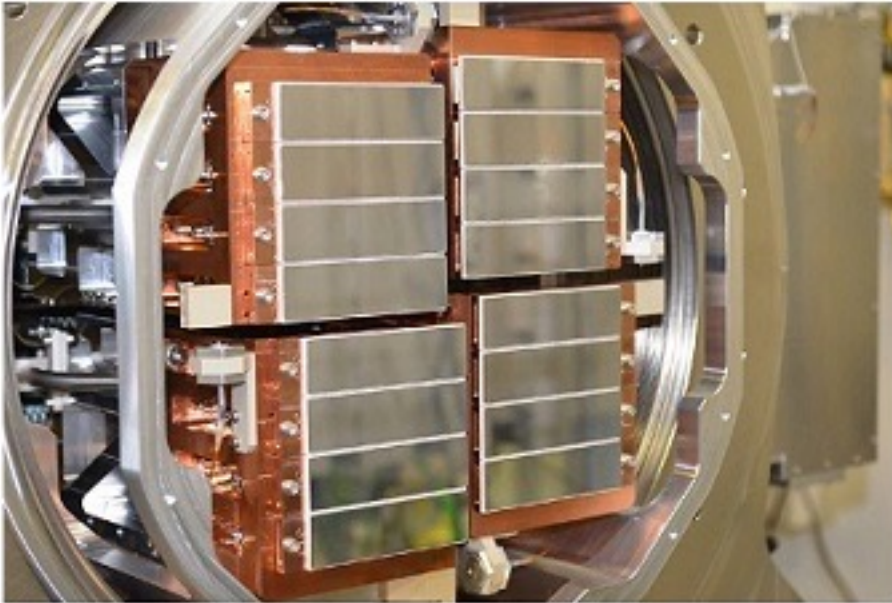
- ▶ Diffraction before destruction
- ▶ Each image stems from a differently oriented crystal, indexing cannot make use of multi-frame information
- ▶ Requirement of high crystal isomorphism, each image must represent (closely) the same crystal “template”
- ▶ Still images, no oscillation range, integration must use a 3D model for 2D pixel data
- ▶ Many empty frames due to missing shots

# Crystal hits and misses

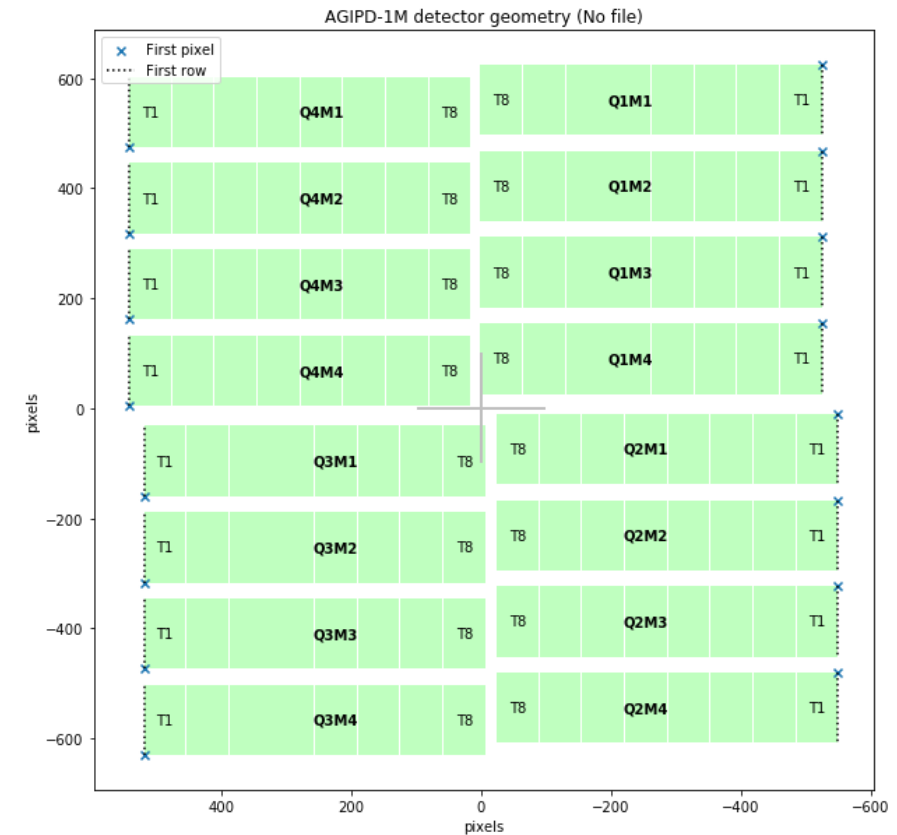


► Parameters, e. g. N(peaks) threshold have to be chosen carefully

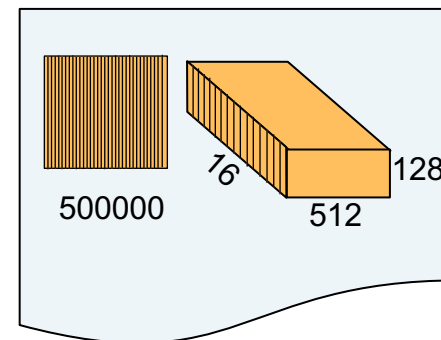
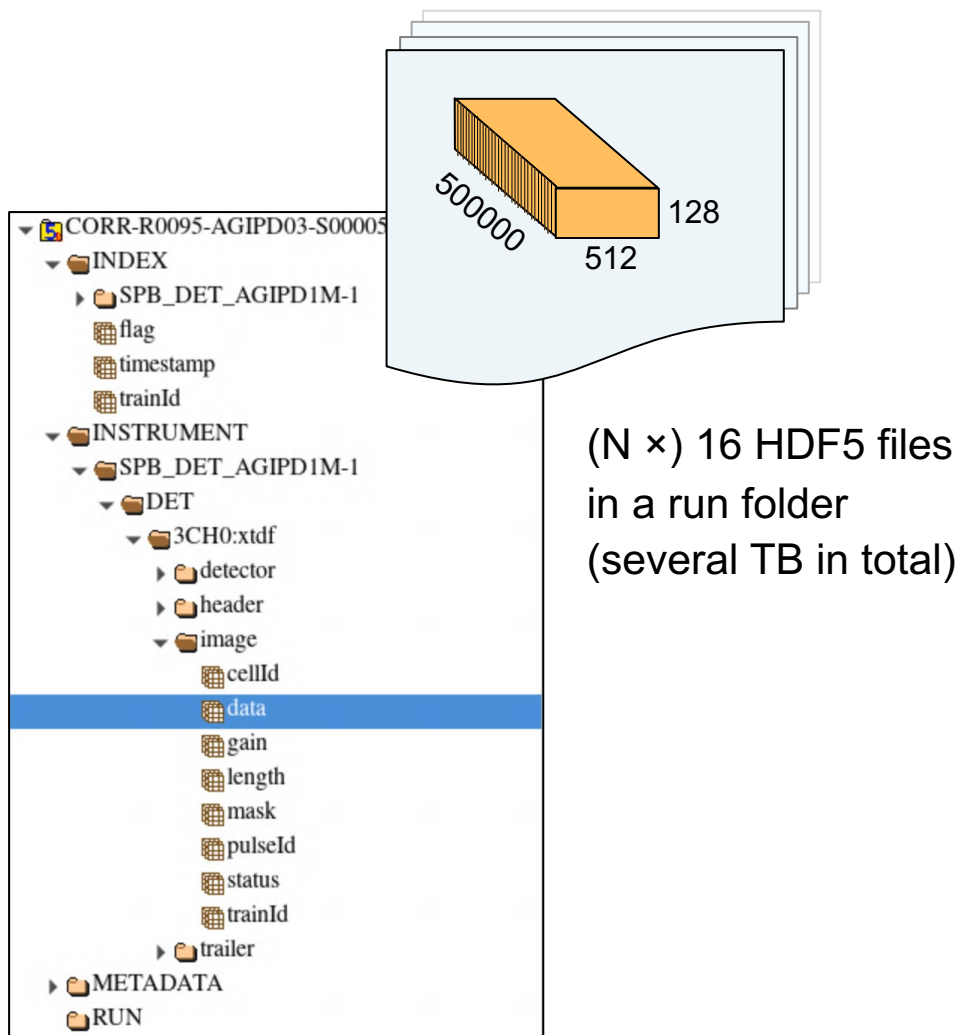
# Detectors: multi-module topology



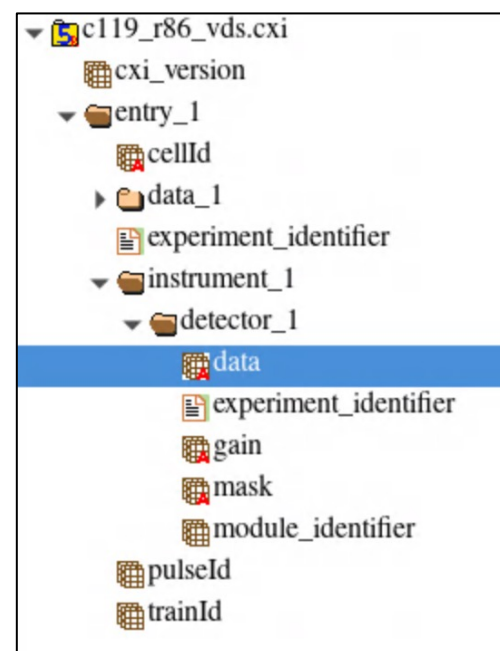
- ▶ AGIPD-1M detector, 16 modules, separate read-out
- ▶ four quadrants of four modules, motor-moveable



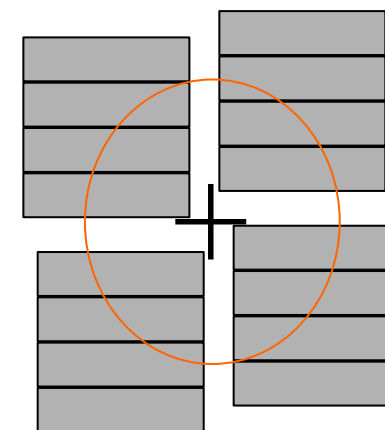
## Data format / shape



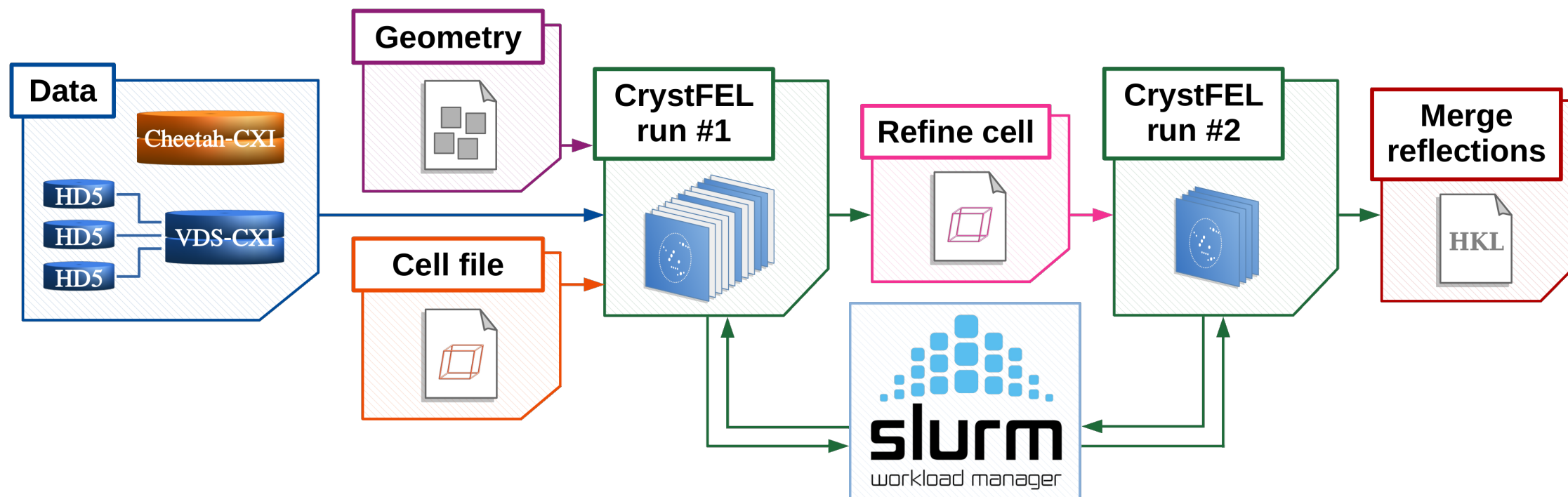
Geometry description  
(text file or HDF5, ...)



single HDF5 file:  
virtual data layout  
(~ 50 MB)



# Extra-Xwiz is a pipeline for data processing with CrystFEL



# The data challenge: storage space and re-use options

# File systems for data storage

## European XFEL Storage Overview

### Schenefeld

#### Online GPFS

- Cache

- Extremely high performance
- Data available immediately
- Optimised for concurrency
- High redundancy
- Dedicated storage for each SASE
- Very high cost per PB
- Capacity for a few days

#### Offline GPFS

- Performance

- High performance
- Large scale data analysis
- High redundancy
- High cost per PB
- Shared within XFEL
- Large capacity

### DESY Data Center

#### dCache

- Capacity

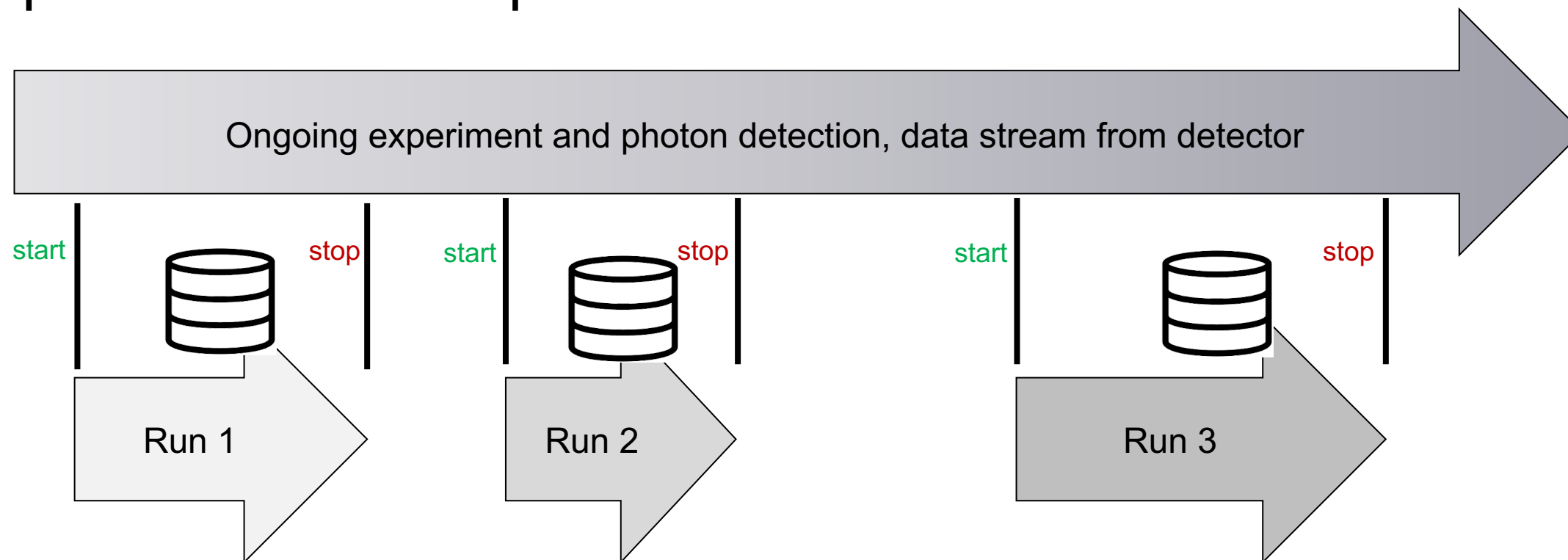
- Lower performance
- Lower cost
- Scalability
- Shared within XFEL
- High capacity

#### Tape Archive

- Safety

- Very slow
- Even lower cost
- Very high capacity
- Safety (second copy)
- Shared within DESY campus
- Long term

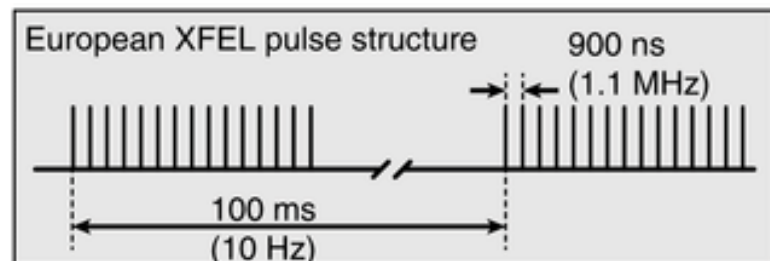
# Experiment data acquisition to runs



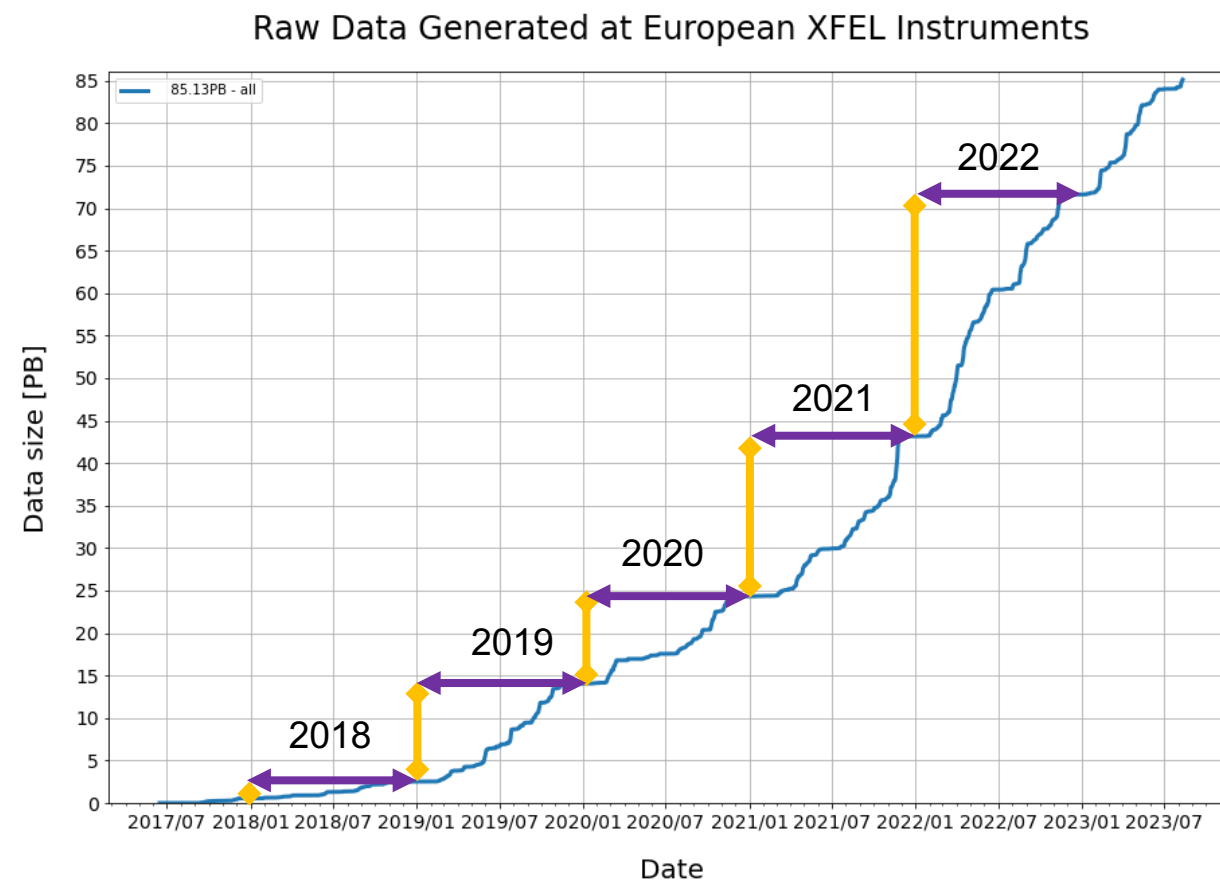
Name	Size	Type
r0001	512 bytes	folder
r0002	512 bytes	folder
r0003	512 bytes	folder
r0004	512 bytes	folder
r0005	512 bytes	folder
r0006	512 bytes	folder
r0007	512 bytes	folder

Name	Size	Type
CORR-R0035-AGIPD00-S00000.h5	12.1 GB	HDF document
CORR-R0035-AGIPD00-S00001.h5	12.9 GB	HDF document
CORR-R0035-AGIPD00-S00002.h5	12.9 GB	HDF document
CORR-R0035-AGIPD00-S00003.h5	12.9 GB	HDF document
CORR-R0035-AGIPD00-S00004.h5	12.9 GB	HDF document
CORR-R0035-AGIPD00-S00005.h5	11.8 GB	HDF document

# Volume of stored data



- accelerator can produce up to 27000 pulses per second (4.4 MHz max intra-train)
- detectors sync to pulse-train structure, typically 3500 to 8000 frames / second
- maximum of 52 TB/h (for the most frequent MHz detector), up to 4 PB raw data per beam-time, assuming highest efficiency



*Krzysztof Wrona & Janusz Malka*

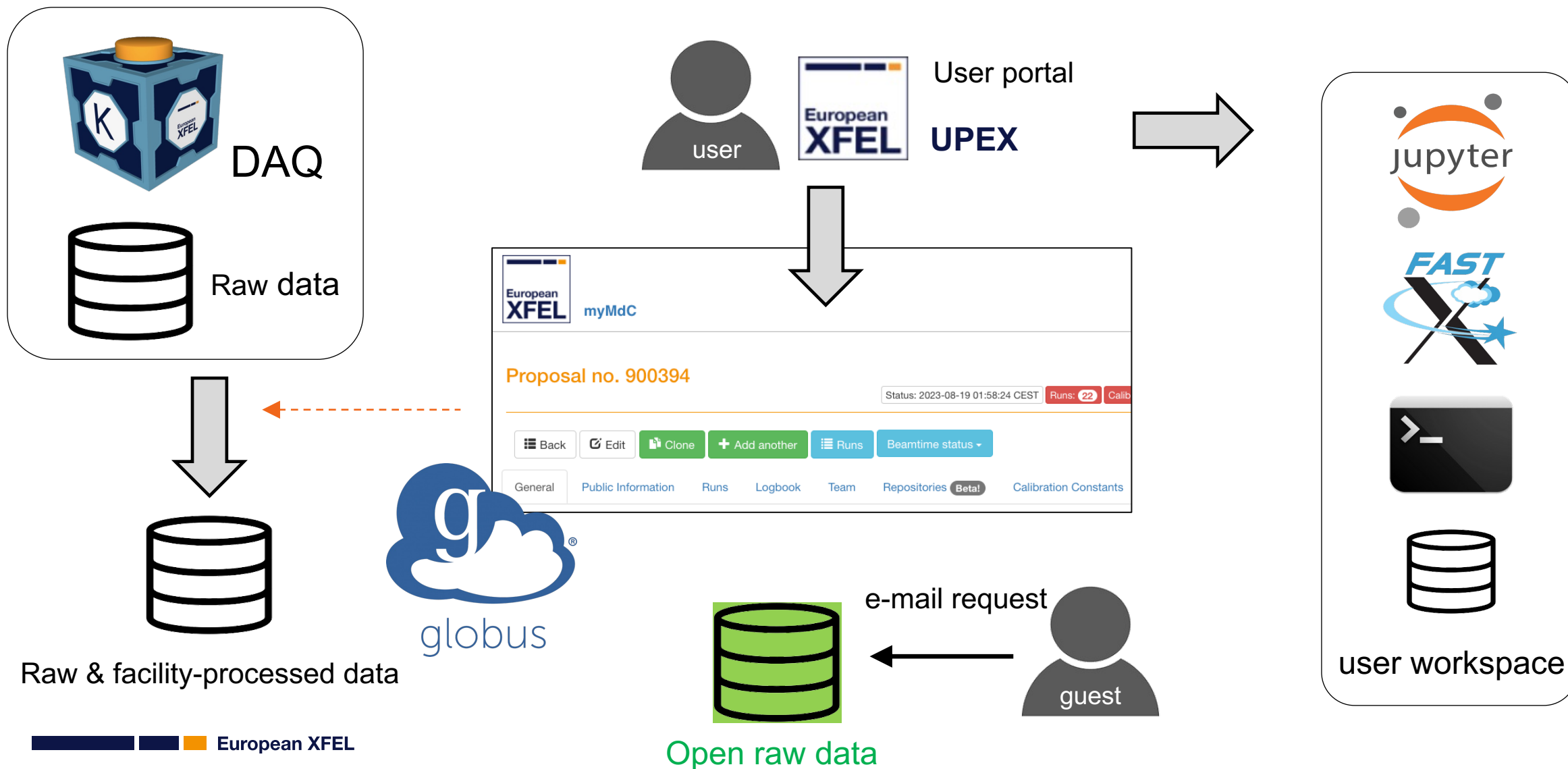
- Experimental efficiency in terms of data taking time fraction has increased within the last year

# The EuXFEL scientific data policy in a nutshell

- Follows PaN Data Europe WG recommendations (2011)
- Users accept it to get beam-time awarded
- Raw data are embargoed for 3 years
  - then become automatically open (not stated what this exactly means)
- Access to results-data is restricted
- Derived data are not retained long-term
  - best-effort curation by EuXFEL, but not including e.g. SW for reproducibility
- Metadata: "good practice is encouraged" (no mention of concrete arrangements)



# Access of EuXFEL data via myMDC



# Open SFX data from EuXFEL

3. Data files

- 3.1. Data policy
- 3.2. Data folders
- 3.3. Reading data in Python
- 3.4. Combining detector data from multiple modules
- 3.5. Geometry files
- 3.6. Data format
- 3.7. Example data
  - 3.7.1. Example runs on Maxwell
  - 3.7.2. Public data from EuXFEL in the CXIDB
- 3.8. Downloading experiment data


4. Compute environment

5. Jupyter hub and notebooks

6. Data analysis software

7. Specific use cases & deployments

r0003	instrument: SFX detector: AGI sample: Lysozyme
r0004	instrument: SFX detector: AGI sample: Lysozyme
r0005	instrument: SFX detector: AGI sample: Lithium
r0006	instrument: SFX detector: AGI sample: Lithium
r0007	instrument: FXE detector: LPD sample: aqueous solution of [Fe(bpy)3]2+



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## CXIDB ID 98

Deposition Summary	
Depositor:	Oleksandr Yefanov
Contact:	oleks...@desy.de
Deposition date:	2020-02-07
Last modified:	2020-02-07
DOI:	10.11577/1598270

Publication Details	
Title:	Evaluation of serial crystallographic structure determination within megahertz pulse trains
Authors:	Oleksandr Yefanov et al.
Journal:	Structural Dynamics
Year:	2019

**Description**

All "hits" in hdf5 files (Cheetah slab format) together with geometries and all CrystFEL .stream files, .hkl files and .mtz files. Also all Phenix .pdb files together with log files. All scripts needed to reproduce the result are also included.

CC BY NC ND PUBLIC DOMAIN

		2017-09-18	User Run
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# The PaNOSC project



- EuXFEL was one of six contributing PaN facilities, 2018-2022
- Outcomes include:
  - FAIR recommendations for PaN data
  - Data analysis software and remote data analysis services
  - Simulation software
  - Solutions for unified authentication and other federated services
  - Training resources (learning platform, summer schools)



[FAIR Principles](#) [Implementation Networks](#) [News](#) [Events](#) [Resources](#) [About GO FAIR](#) [Q](#)

**What is the difference between “FAIR data” and “Open data” if there is one?**

- Open data and FAIR data are two related but different things
- Openness lies in the A of FAIR, access levels (authentication, authorization) need to be adjusted case by case

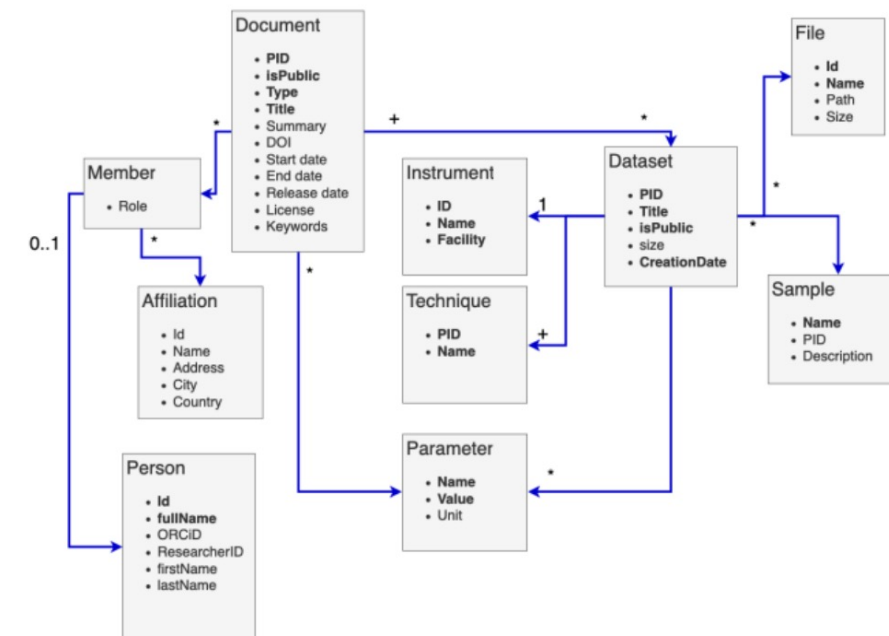
# Finding open EuXFEL data: the PaN search portal

Example data from real experiments (XMPL)

The screenshot shows the panosc search portal interface. At the top, logos for ESRF, European XFEL, MAX IV, and PSI are displayed. Below them, a search bar contains the term 'femtosecond', which is highlighted with an orange circle. To the right of the search bar, it indicates '7 documents found'. The main content area displays two example data entries:

- Example Data**: 10.22003/XFEL.EU-DATA-700000-... (0.900). Description: The European XFEL (EuXFEL) example data proposal contains experimental datasets from various original beam-times, currently covering the techniques of serial femtosecond crystallography (SFX), coherent diffraction imaging (single particle imaging, SPI), X-ray powder diffraction, small-angle X-ray scattering (SAXS) and X-ray photon correlation spectroscopy (XPCS). Metadata: Released 1. January 2018, Facility European XFEL, Type Proposal.
- Optical excitation of electromagnons in hexaferrite**: 10.16907/efb03af6-f28b-414f-8eb1-77b31a035fb7 (0.827). Description: Understanding ultrafast magnetization dynamics on the microscopic level is of strong current interest due to the potential for applications in information storage. In recent years, the spin-lattice coupling has been recognized to be essential for ultras... Metadata: Released by PSI on January 1st.

The URL <https://data.panosc.eu> is prominently displayed in orange text.

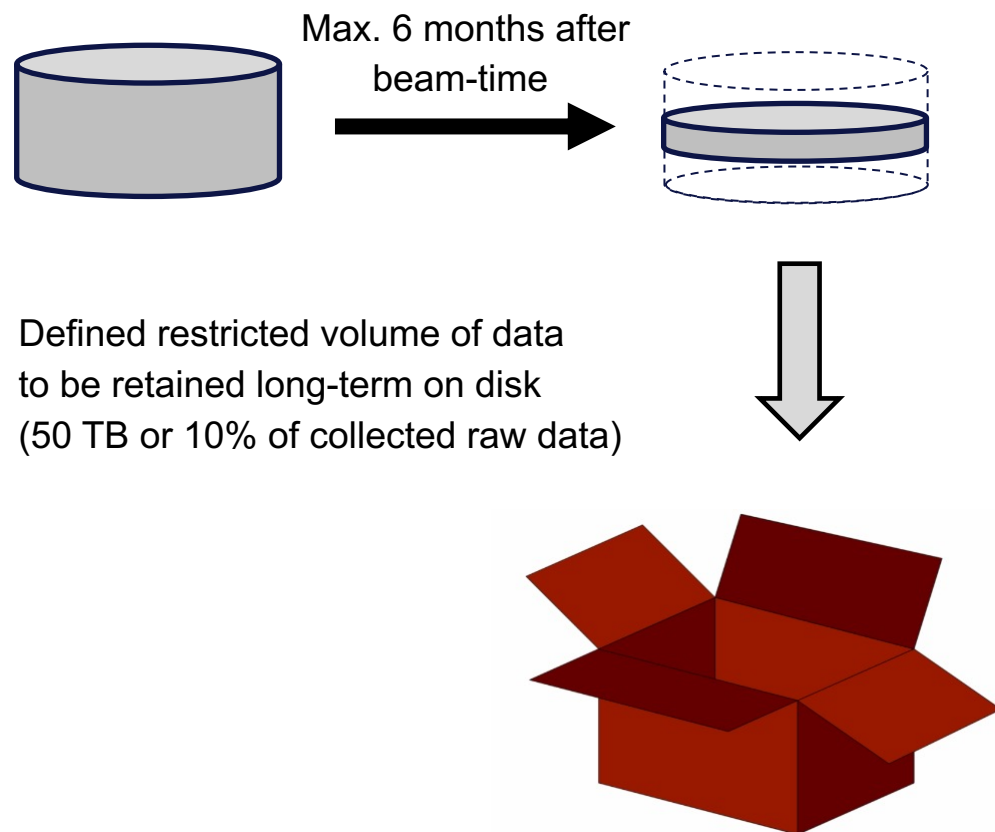


► Metadata model of common items for search and filter terms

- Agreed-on subset, intersection of different catalogue systems
- PaNET ontology for experimental techniques

# The way forward

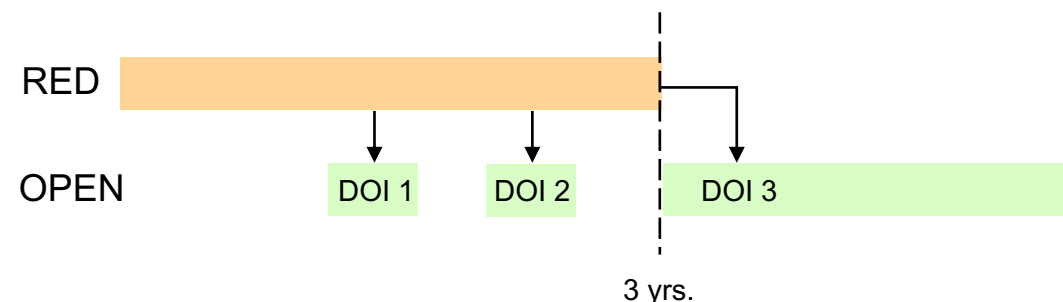
# Data reduction - the aim



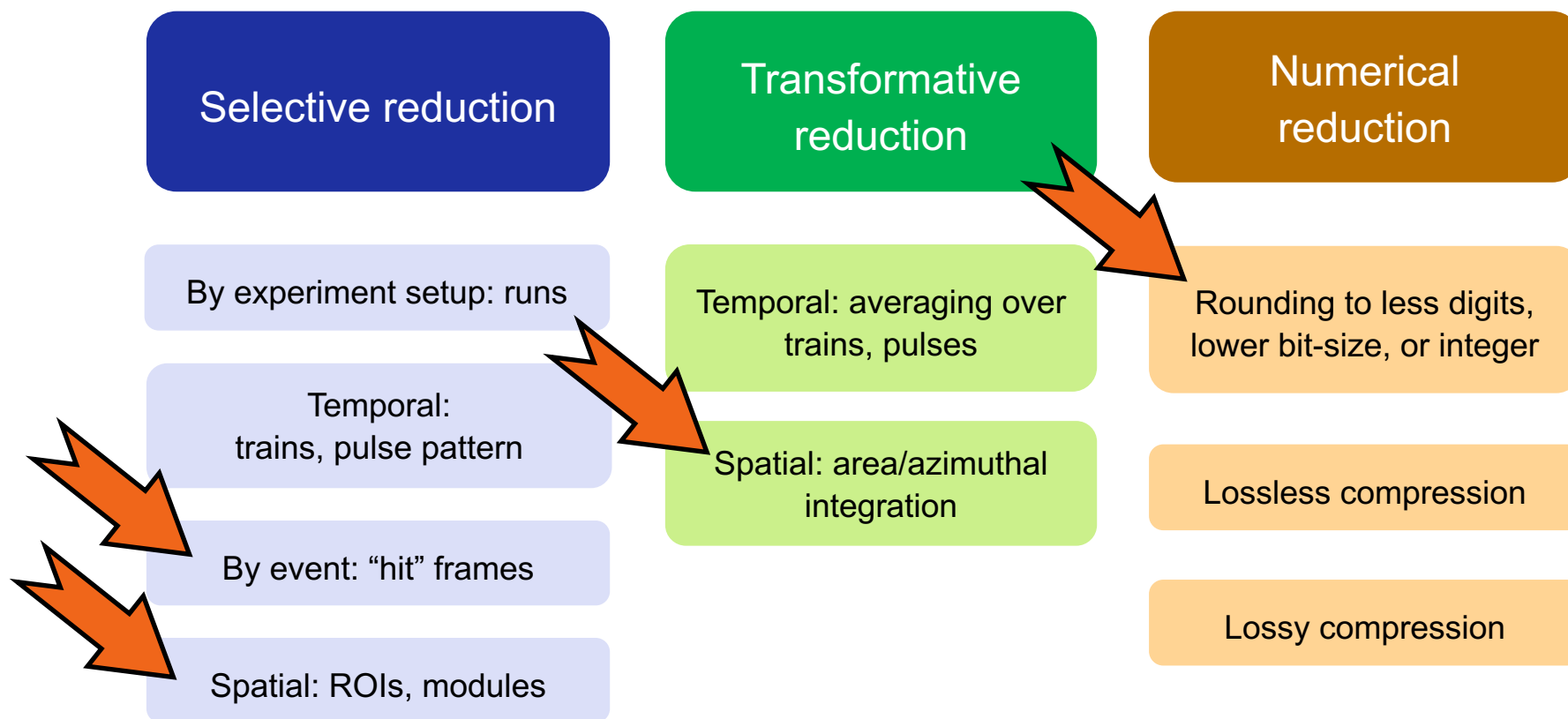
## Optional content of the RED data volume

- ▶ Selected runs of raw data
- ▶ All runs of raw data with event-selected detector frames
- ▶ Only processed data, likely selected and/or reduced, including corrected data in European XFEL format
- ▶ A mixture of selected raw data and processed data

RED data becomes OPEN data automatically after end of the embargo period, allowing for earlier OPEN data subsets upon publication



# Data reduction - the methods



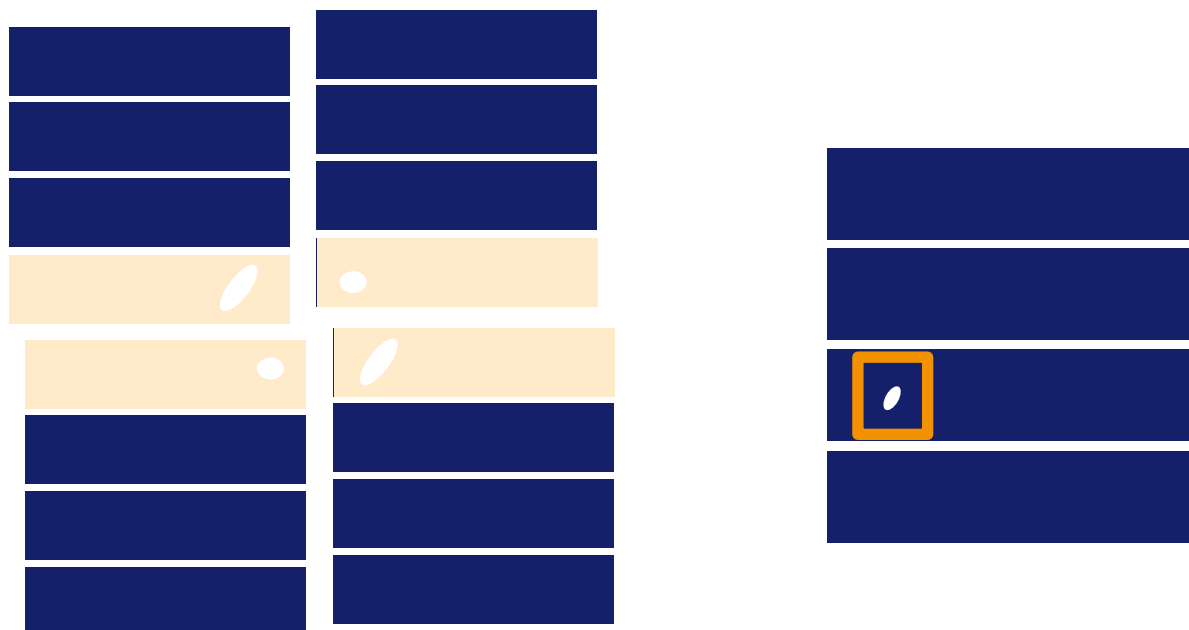
- Most of these methods are performed in users' data analysis "anyway"
- In the context of the RED process, these methods will be implemented to facility procedures and deployed as largely automated services

# Data reduction – conceptual examples

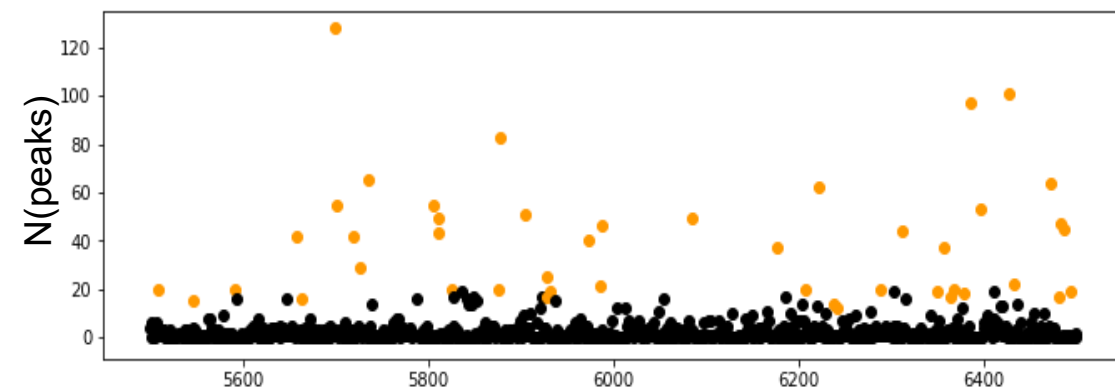
I

II

III



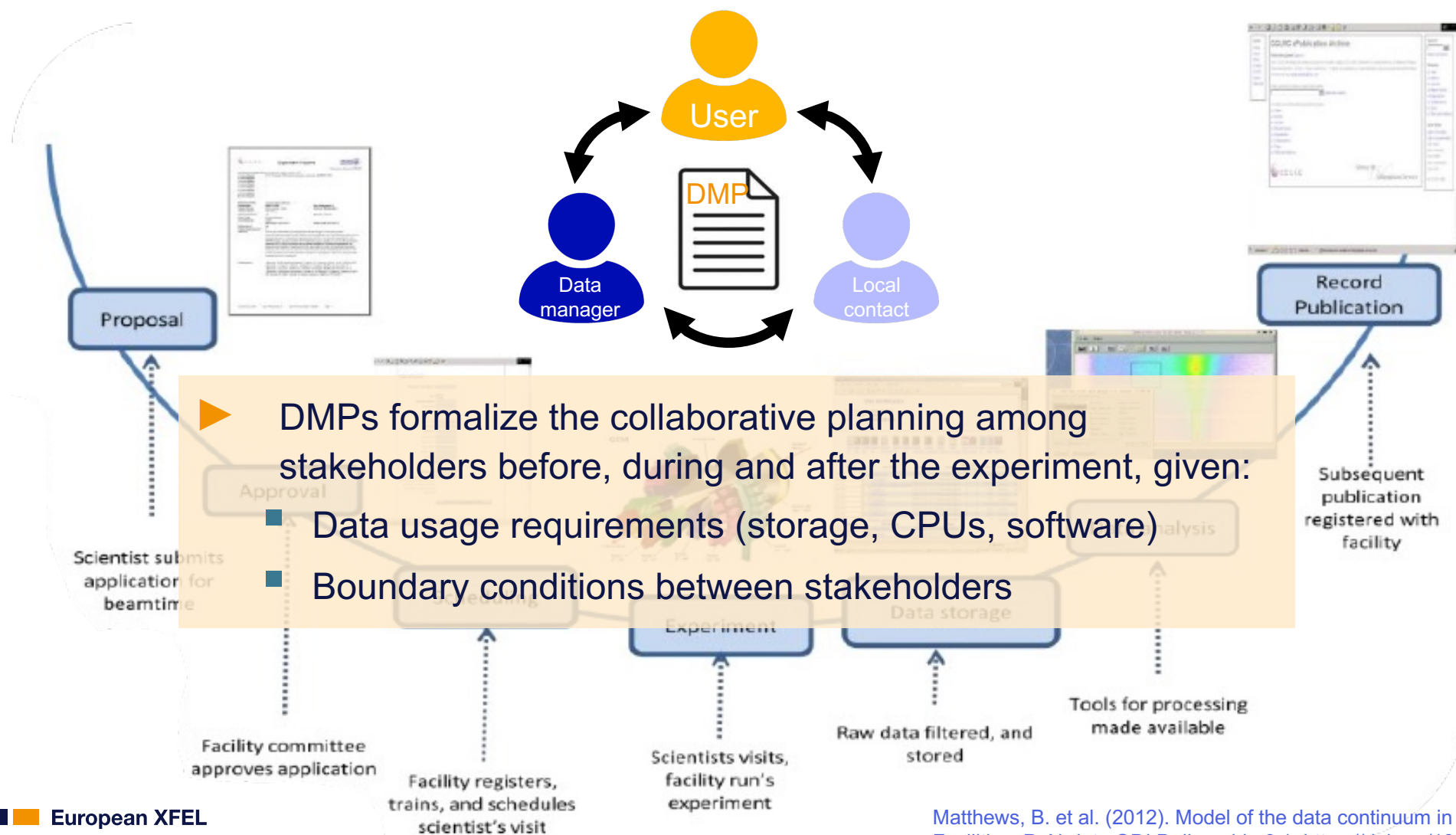
Spatial selection (modules, ROIs)



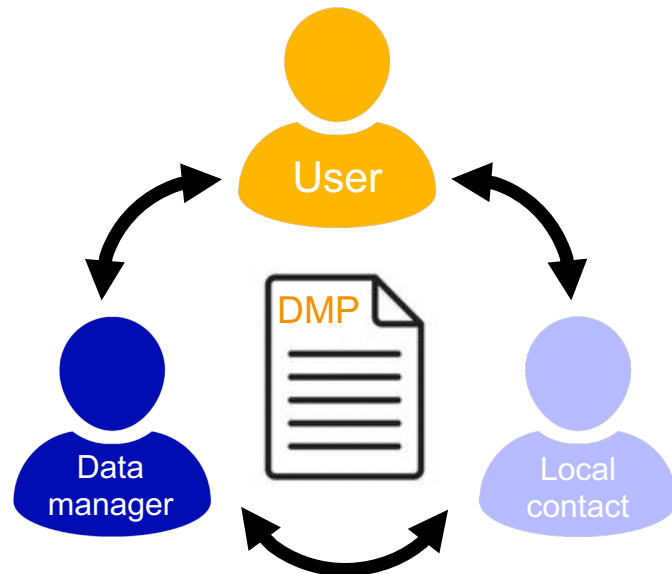
Frame number

Event selection

# Data lifecycle and data management plans



# Features of data management plans



- ▶ DMPs will be integrated to the existing facility workflow
- ▶ DMPs will be automatically pre-filled as much as possible with user office data and other proposal information
- ▶ DMPs are dynamic documents adapted at each stage from proposal acceptance to the open access phase
- ▶ DMPs will be editable by each of the partners, with automatic notification of changes

# Open data access: integration to myMDC

10.22003/XFEL.EU-DATA-700000-00 [↗](#)

## Example Data

The European XFEL (EuXFEL) example data proposal contains experimental original beam-times, currently covering the techniques of serial coherent diffraction imaging (single particle imaging, SPI), X-ray scattering (SAXS) and X-ray photon correlation spectroscopy (XPCS).

Released

Facility

Type

## Services

VISA

PaNdata Software Catalogue

This proposal data is open

Would you like to get access to this proposal datasets?

Please contact us through the [open.data@xfel.eu](mailto:open.data@xfel.eu) email address

Thank you for visiting!

## Proposal Runs

Automatically assess new runs (after being closed by DAQ) as: To be evaluated manually

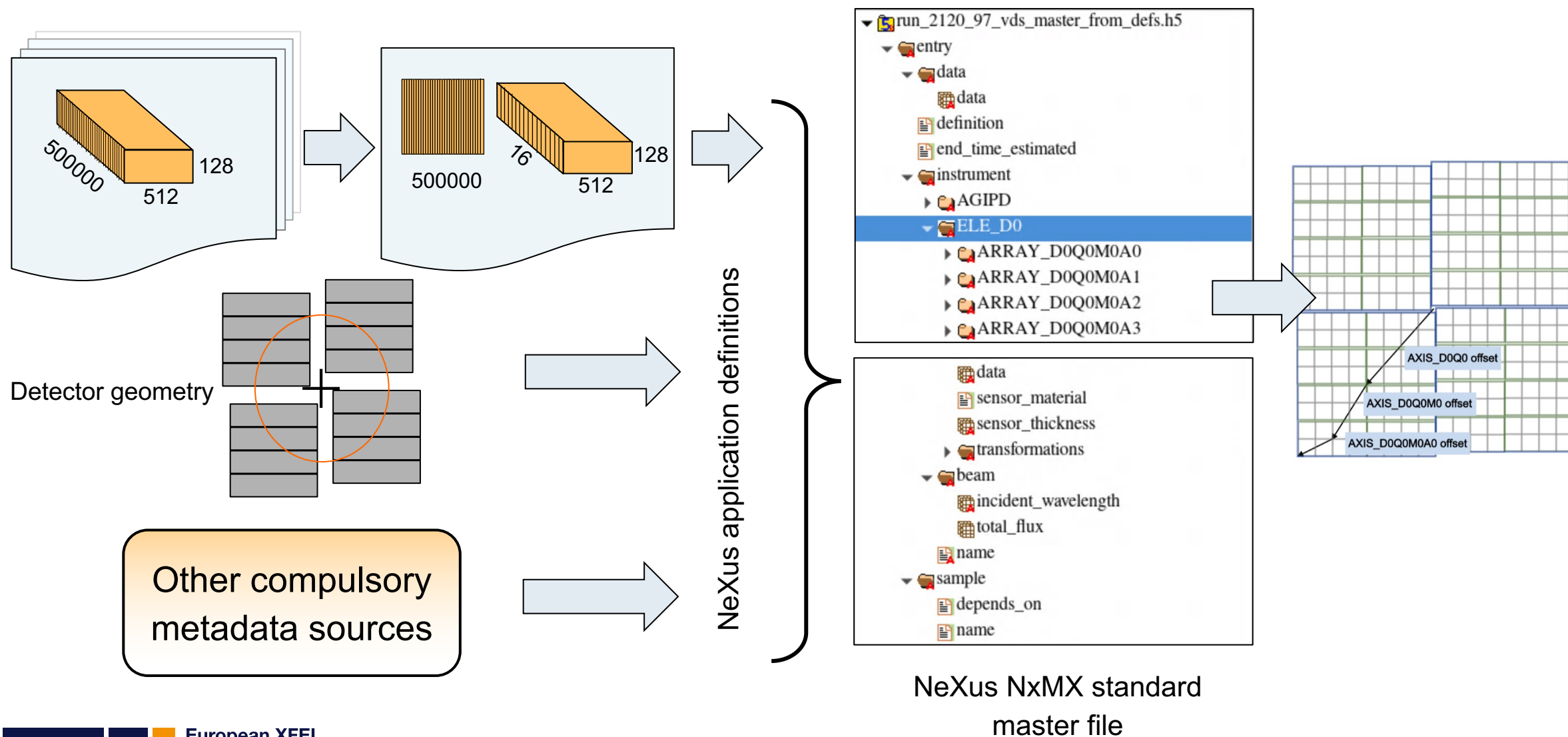
Automatically start run calibration after migration: No

Run Number (alias)	Run type	Sample Name	Techniques	Start date	Run status	Data Assessment	Calibration	Run Comment	Edit
0034 (SPI on sucrose solution, AGIPD detector at SPB instrument)	Single Particle Diffraction	Sucrose Solution 3% v/v	coherent diffraction imaging	2021-06-01 02:25:08 +0200	Closed	Good			
0033 (SAXS on vycor sample, AGIPD detector at MID instrument)	scattering	Vycor	small angle x-ray scattering	2021-04-10 14:48:20 +0200	Closed	Good			
0031 (SFX on Hen egg-white lysozyme, AGIPD detector)	Diffraction data	Lysozyme	serial femtosecond crystallography	2021-04-15 10:48:26 +0200	Closed	Good			
0030 (SFX on Hen egg-white lysozyme, AGIPD detector)	Diffraction	Lysozyme	serial femtosecond crystallography	2020-03-09 01:20:02 +0100	Closed	Good			
0029 (SFX on Hen egg-white lysozyme, AGIPD detector)	Diffraction	Lysozyme	serial femtosecond crystallography	2020-03-09 01:07:51 +0100	Closed	Good			
0027 (SAXS on 50 nm silica, AGIPD detector at MID instrument)	scattering	Silica 50nm	small angle x-ray scattering	2019-09-21 01:12:49 +0200	Closed	Good			
0026 (Time-resolved SAXS on Ni75-11 MLs-b // no pump laser)	SAXS 500kHz	Ni75-11 MLs-b	small angle x-ray scattering	2019-08-23 07:08:02 +0200	Closed	Good			

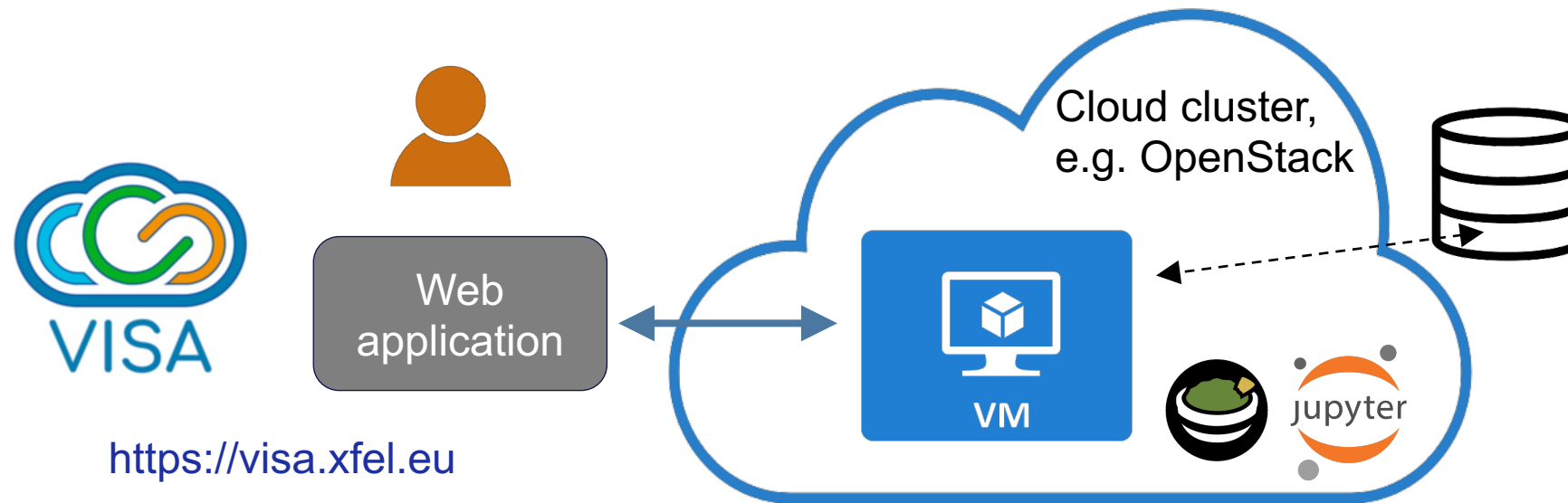


Off

# Data interoperability: NeXus support



# Reusing open EuXFEL data: analysis in the cloud



- Enables data analysis from anywhere with a web browser, requires no local SW requirements or installations
- Data analysis is performed where the facility data is: no need to download tons of data
- Employs cluster resources with simple and transparent configuration of virtual machines
- Brings Jupyter notebooks and GUI programs with remote desktop under the same roof

# Summary and Outlook

- European XFEL data stems from a unique time structure with very high FEL pulse and detector repetition rates and accounts for extreme storage volumes
- Data reduction methods are known and need to be well implemented to automated facility services and anchored in an adequate scientific data policy.
- SFX data offers considerable reduction potential due to low hits rates in typical experimental setups
- Data analysis (incl. re-use) services for users exist – now they have to be expanded for guests interested in open, i. e. post-embargo, data
- To adopt FAIR principles better, developments for catalogue integration to search services, remote/cloud-based data analysis and standards for interoperability are ongoing

Thanks and credits to all colleagues from European XFEL, collaborators of the PaNOSC/ExPaNDS projects, and users – for their work, help and ideas in fostering FAIR science adoption at our facility



### Data Analysis Group

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Amna Majid

Thomas Michelat  
Robert Rosca  
Philipp Schmidt  
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Oleksii Turkot  
James Wrigley

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Krzysztof Wrona



### PaNOSC & ExPaNDS

Andy Götz  
Juncheng E  
Michael Schuh  
Tim Wetzel

**Thank you for your attention!**

