

Enabling a data-informed public sector:

From hype to action using the Big Data Test Infrastructure (BDTI)

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Business Owner:
DG CNECT

Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology

Service Provider:
DG DIGIT

Directorate-General for Digital Services



Road Map



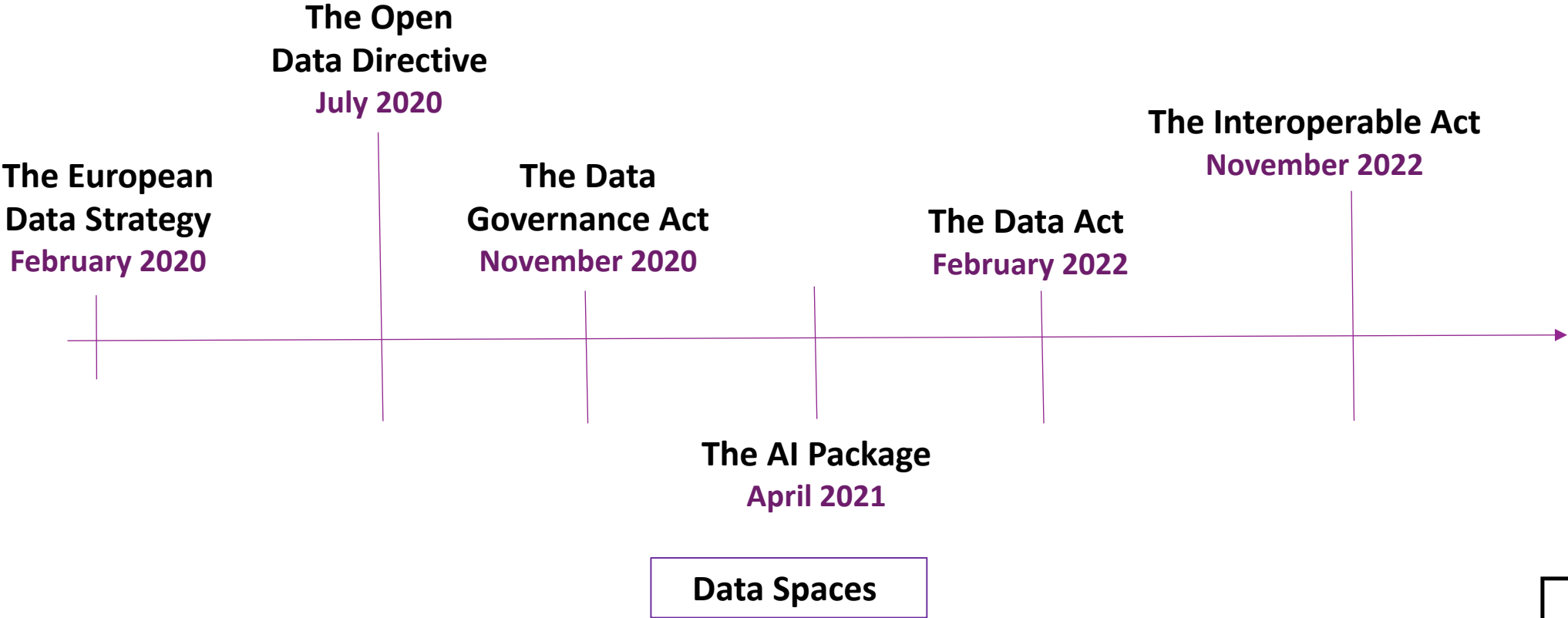
- 1** Policy context
- 2** BDTI in a nutshell
 - Its context and why use it
- 3** BDTI in practice
 - Access and overview of the BDTI portal
 - Concrete application of the BDTI
- 4** BDTI's community
 - Developing the BDTI community and how can you help us



1

Policy context

Policy timeline



Big Data Test Infrastructure (BDTI) in a nutshell: its context

The BDTI is funded by the the **Digital Europe Program (DEP)**, an EU funding programme (€7.5 bn) focused on bringing digital technology to businesses, citizens and public administrations.

The DEP provides strategic funding in five crucial areas:

High performance computing

Cybersecurity

Artificial intelligence

(Cloud, data and AI)

Advanced digital skills

Deployment and wide use of digital technologies





2

BDTI in a nutshell

- Its context and why use it

Public Sector Information and the role of Data analytics

Big Data is identified as

1. Data created by **private citizens** in their interaction
2. Data collected by **sensors and automatically** transmitted online
3. Data collected by **public bodies** during their operation

(Mergel et al., 2016)

In **public policy** Big Data is associated with

1. new **formats**
2. **quality**
3. **availability**

of **administrative data**

(Pirog, 2014).



Mergel, I., Rethemeyer, R. K., & Isett, K. (2016). Big data in public affairs. *Public Administration Review*, 76(6), 928-937.

Pirog, M. A. (2014). Data will drive innovation in public policy and management research in the next decade. *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, 537-543.

What is the Big Data Test Infrastructure (BDTI) ?



Not only for big data, for public sector in general (i.e. open data)



To help the public sector to derive insights from data and accelerate transition towards data-informed decision making.

Big Data Test Infrastructure Objectives



Objectives

- Increase the easy accessibility, interoperability, quality and usability of public sector information in compliance with the requirement of the **Open Data Directive**
- Boost the **re-use and combination of open public data** across the EU for the development of information products and services, including AI applications
- High Value Datasets – Open Data Directive
- Testing **Business-to-Government (B2G)** data sharing collaborations for the **public good**
- **Data Space Support Centre: explore and experiment with your data***
 - BDTI provides a safe **testing environment to run big data experiments** for data space customers

* <https://joinup.ec.europa.eu/collection/semic-support-centre/data-spaces>

Who is the Big Data Test Infrastructure (BDTI) for?



European Public Administrations
All European Public Administrations at **local, regional and national level** can independently apply for a BDTI pilot project



Ecosystem with **academia** and **private sector**
Academia, spin-off, startups can apply for pilot projects as long as there is a **clear collaboration** with a Public Administration which will be the main point of contact for the project (Master/PhD, GovTech startups)



Are you working for a public administration in need of infrastructure for data analytics?

Contact

EC-BDTI- us:

PILOTS@ec.europa.eu



Why use the BDTI ?



Benefit of six months free of charge service, including **advisory and technical** support during the duration of the pilot



Experiment with data analytics using high **performance infrastructure** that leverages the power of the **elastic cloud**



Receive guidance to move from a pilot to a **production-ready** process – **EXIT package**

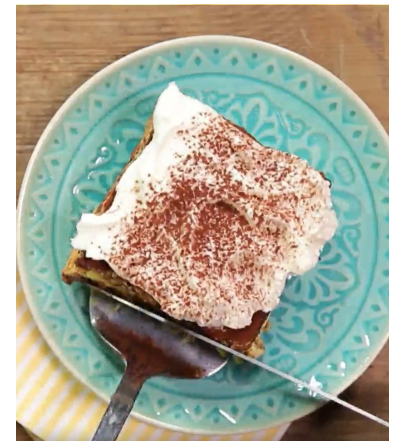
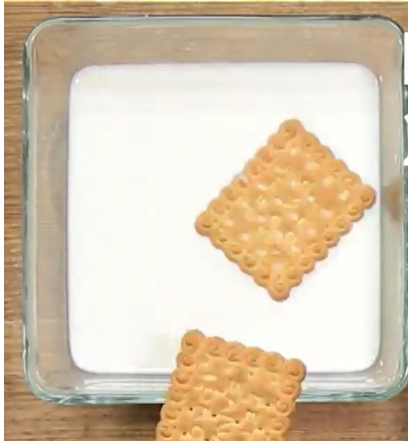


Test your idea → Extract value → Create knowledge

Why use the BDTI ?



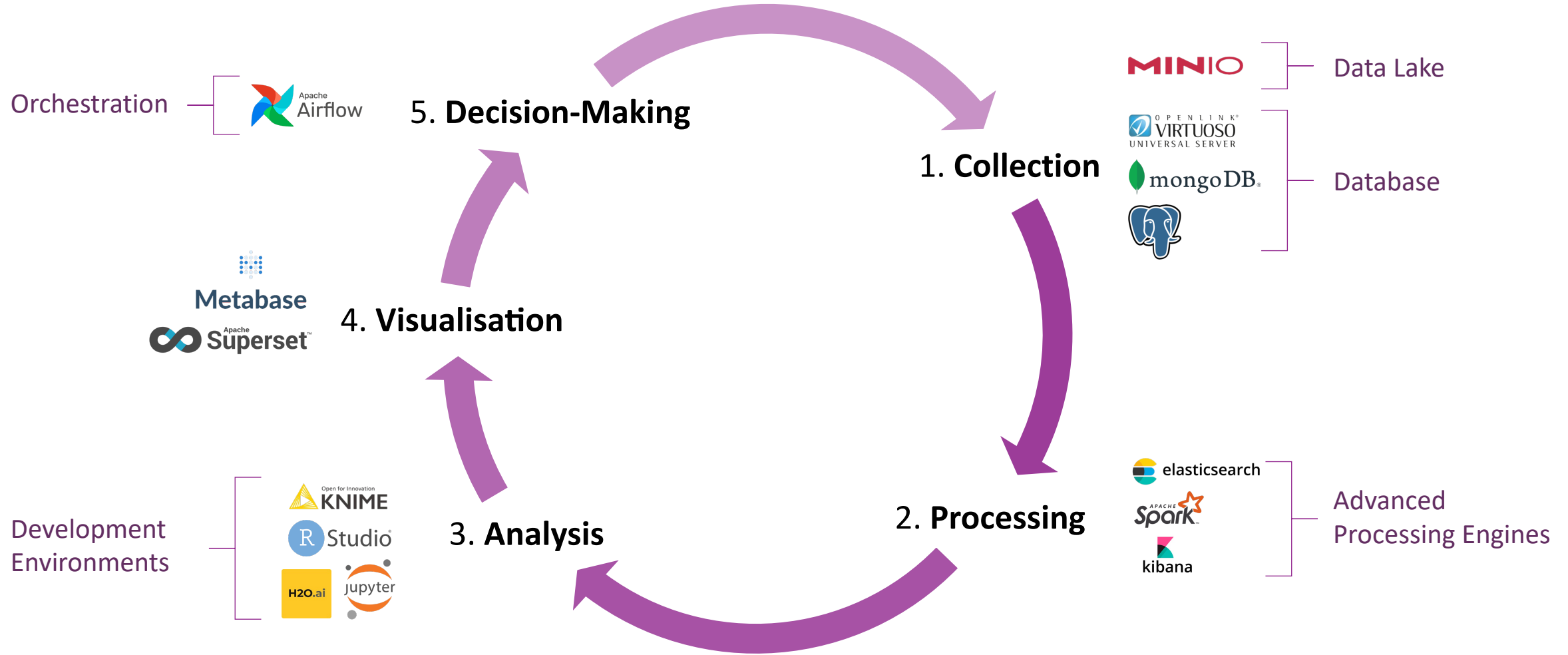
Data → Information → Presentation → Knowledge



You have the key ingredients (datasets),
we provide you the best tool to generate amazing recipes.

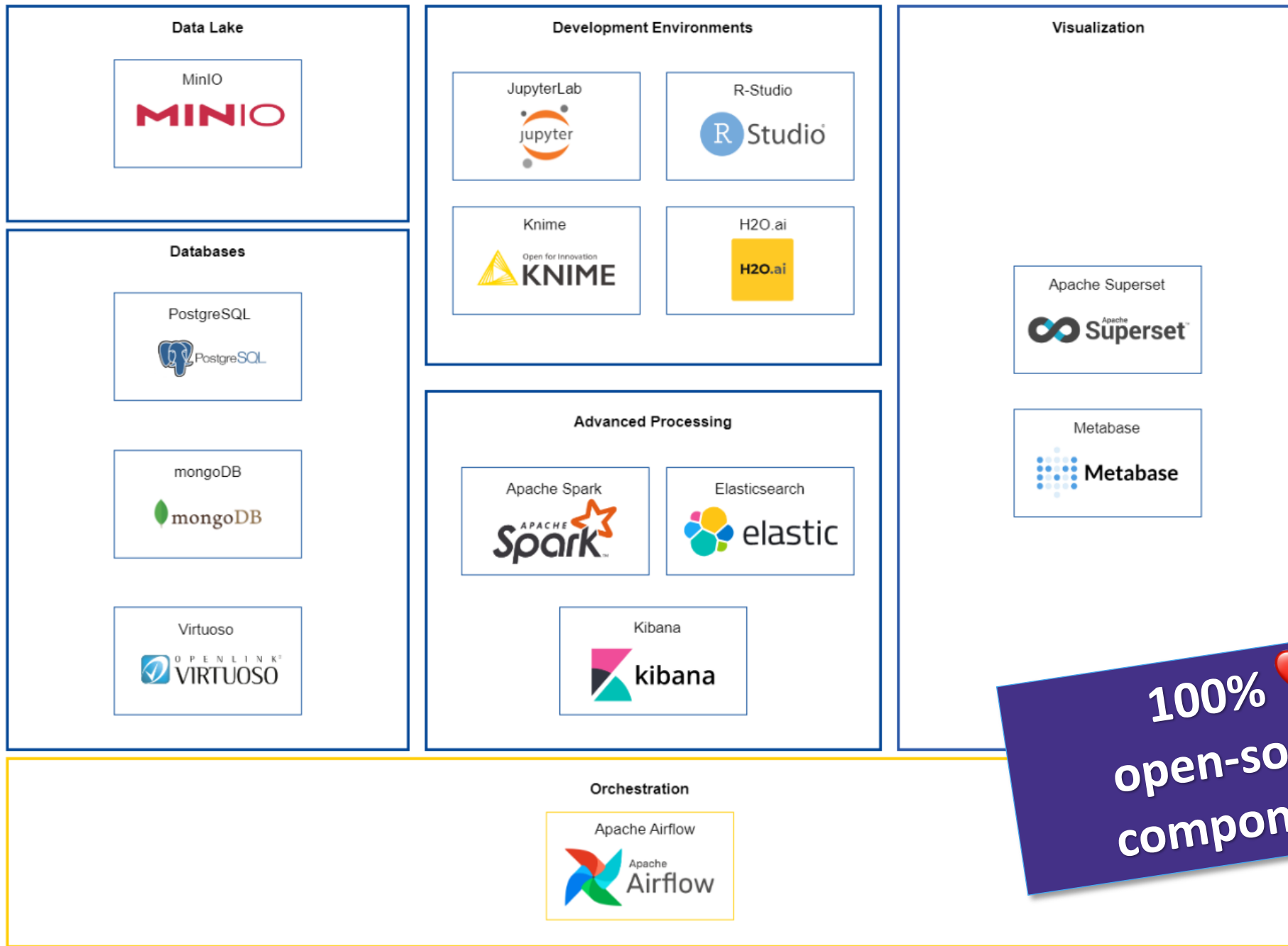
2

With its open source tools, BDTI supports you throughout your data journey



BDTI's Data Analytics Stack

2



100% ❤️
open-source
components

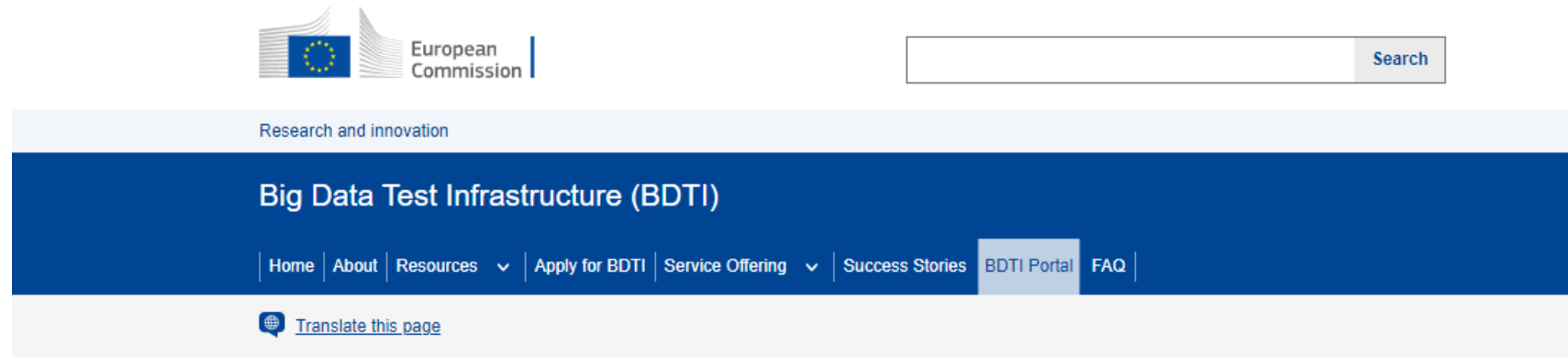


3

BDTI in practice

- Access and overview of the BDTI portal
- Concrete application of the BDTI

Access to BDTI portal directly from your browser (EU Login integration)



Home > BDTI Portal

BDTI Portal

The BDTI portal is a web application which allows users to easily deploy and manage containerized data science workloads. In this section, you can access the portal and find documentation about the portal.

Access the BDTI Portal

Disclaimer: The BDTI portal is only available to users who have a BDTI pilot.

The user documentation for the BDTI portal can be found [here](#).

[Access the BDTI Portal](#)

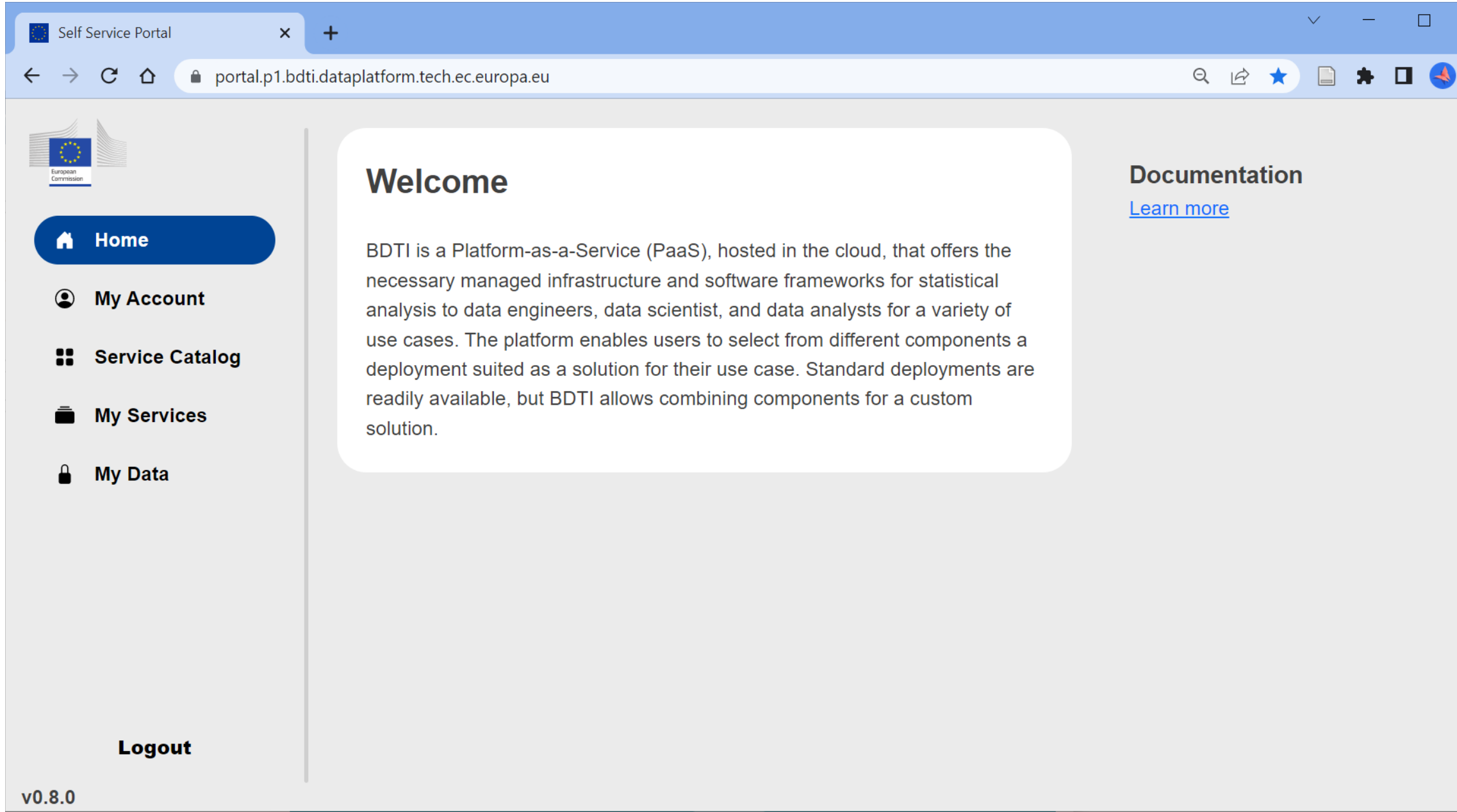


For teams part of BDTI pilots

EU Login
One account, many EU services



The BDTI portal



The screenshot shows a web browser window with the following elements:

- Browser Tab:** Self Service Portal
- Address Bar:** portal.p1.bdti.dataplatform.tech.ec.europa.eu
- Header:** European Commission logo
- Navigation Menu (Left):**
 - Home (highlighted with a blue background)
 - My Account
 - Service Catalog
 - My Services
 - My Data
- Main Content Area:**

Welcome

BDTI is a Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS), hosted in the cloud, that offers the necessary managed infrastructure and software frameworks for statistical analysis to data engineers, data scientist, and data analysts for a variety of use cases. The platform enables users to select from different components a deployment suited as a solution for their use case. Standard deployments are readily available, but BDTI allows combining components for a custom solution.
- Right Sidebar:**

Documentation

[Learn more](#)
- Footer (Left):** Logout
- Footer (Bottom Left):** v0.8.0

The BDTI portal: My Services

Self Service Portal

portal.p1.bdti.dataplatform.tech.ec.europa.eu/my-services

European Commission

- Home
- My Account
- Service Catalog
- My Services**
- My Data

Service Deployments

Name	Group	Status	Type	Date	Sharing	
LeonJupyter_6	DSL0003	ACTIVE	JUPYTERLAB	Tue Nov 15 2022	SHARED	Terminate Open
Knime_demo	DSL0003	ACTIVE	KNIME	Fri Apr 28 2023	SHARED	Terminate Open
SharedSuperset_5	DSL0003	ACTIVE	SUPERSET	Wed Jan 11 2023	SHARED	Terminate Open
SharedPost_1	DSL0003	ACTIVE	POSTGRESQL	Tue Nov 29 2022	SHARED	Terminate Copy

Logout

v0.8.0

The BDTI portal: service catalogue

portal.p1.bdti.dataplatform.tech.ec.europa.eu/service-catalog

Home My Account Service Catalog My Services My Data Logout

Service Catalog

Airflow - v2.3.0

Description
Airflow is a platform created by the community to programmatically author, schedule and monitor workflows.

[Launch](#)

Apache Superset - v1.0

Description
Apache Superset is a modern data exploration and visualization platform. It is fast, lightweight, intuitive, and loaded with options that make it easy for users of all skill sets to explore and visualize their data, from simple line charts to highly detailed geospatial charts.

[Launch](#)

Apache Superset v2.1

Description
Apache Superset is a modern data exploration and visualization platform. It is fast, lightweight, intuitive, and loaded with options that make it easy for users of all skill sets to explore and visualize their data, from simple line charts to highly detailed geospatial charts.

[Launch](#)

ElasticSearch - v7.17.3

Description
Elasticsearch is the distributed, RESTful search and analytics engine at the heart of the Elastic Stack.

[Launch](#)

H2o-3 - v36.1.1

Description
H2O is an in-memory platform for distributed, scalable machine learning. H2O uses familiar interfaces like R, Python, Scala, Java, JSON and the Flow notebook/web interface, and works seamlessly with big data technologies like Hadoop and Spark.

[Launch](#)

Jupyterlab - lab-3.2.8 - datascience-notebook

Description
The Jupyter Notebook is a web application for creating and sharing documents that contain code, visualizations, and text. It can be used for data science, statistical modeling, machine learning, and much more.

[Launch](#)

Jupyterlab - lab-3.4.2 - all-spark-notebook

Description
The Jupyter Notebook is a web application for creating and sharing documents that contain code, visualizations, and text. It can be used for data science, statistical modeling, machine learning, and much more. Used for spark.

[Launch](#)

Jupyterlab - lab-4.0.4 - all-spark-notebook

Description
The Jupyter Notebook is a web application for creating and sharing documents that contain code, visualizations, and text. It can be used for data science, statistical modeling, machine learning, and much more. Used for spark.

[Launch](#)

Jupyterlab - lab-4.0.4 - datascience-notebook

Description
The Jupyter Notebook is a web application for creating and sharing documents that contain code, visualizations, and text. It can be used for data science, statistical modeling, machine learning, and much more.

[Launch](#)

Kibana - v7.17.3

Description
Kibana is your window into the Elastic Stack. Specifically, it is a browser-based analytics and search dashboard for Elasticsearch.

[Launch](#)

Knime - v4.5.3

Description
KNIME Analytics Platform is the open source software for creating data science. Intuitive, open, and continuously integrating new developments, KNIME makes understanding data and designing data science workflows and reusable components accessible to everyone.

[Launch](#)

Knime - v5.1.0

Description
KNIME Analytics Platform is the open source software for creating data science. Intuitive, open, and continuously integrating new developments, KNIME makes understanding data and designing data science workflows and reusable components accessible to everyone.

[Launch](#)

Metabase - v0.43.3

Description
Metabase sets up in five minutes, connecting to your database, and bringing its data to life in beautiful visualizations. An intuitive interface makes data exploration feel like second nature—opening data up for everyone, not just analysts and developers.

[Launch](#)

MinIO - RELEASE.2022-06-20T23-13-45Z

Description
MinIO offers high-performance, S3 compatible object storage. Native to Kubernetes, MinIO is the only object storage suite available on every public cloud, every Kubernetes distribution, the private cloud and the edge. MinIO is software-defined and is 100% open source under GNU AGPL v3.

[Launch](#)

MongoDB - v4.4.13

Description
MongoDB® is a relational open source NoSQL database. Easy to use, it stores data in JSON-like documents. Automated scalability and high-performance. Ideal for developing cloud native applications.

[Launch](#)

PgAdmin4 - v6.8

Description
PgAdmin is the most popular and feature rich Open Source administration and development platform for PostgreSQL, the most advanced Open Source database in the world.

[Launch](#)

Postgresql - v14.2.0

Description
PostgreSQL is a powerful, open source object-relational database system with over 30 years of active development that has earned it a strong reputation for reliability, feature robustness, and performance.

[Launch](#)

RStudio - v4.1.2

Description
An integrated development environment for R and Python, with a console, syntax-highlighting editor that supports direct code execution, and tools for plotting, history, debugging and workspace management.

[Launch](#)

Spark - v3.2.1

Description
Apache Spark is an open-source unified analytics engine for large-scale data processing. Spark provides an interface for programming clusters with implicit data parallelism and fault tolerance.

[Launch](#)

Virtuoso - v7.2.7

Description
OpenLink Virtuoso is a next-generation Universal Server that facilitates the development and deployment of a new generation of Enterprise-wide, Internet, Intranet, and Extranet-based solutions, transcending prevalent enterprise challenge areas such as Disparate Databases and Data Sources, Web Service Composition, and Business Process Management.

[Launch](#)

BDTI Demonstrator: Towards a data-Informed Government Spending



Goal:

Show how the BDTI can be used by different users (at different levels of complexity) to **derive** insights from government spendings to take data-informed actions



A user-centered approach:

- Elena and Daniel, public servants
- Low data literacy skills
- **Problem:** high government spending in public lighting
- **Solution:** how to optimize public lighting to reduce government spending

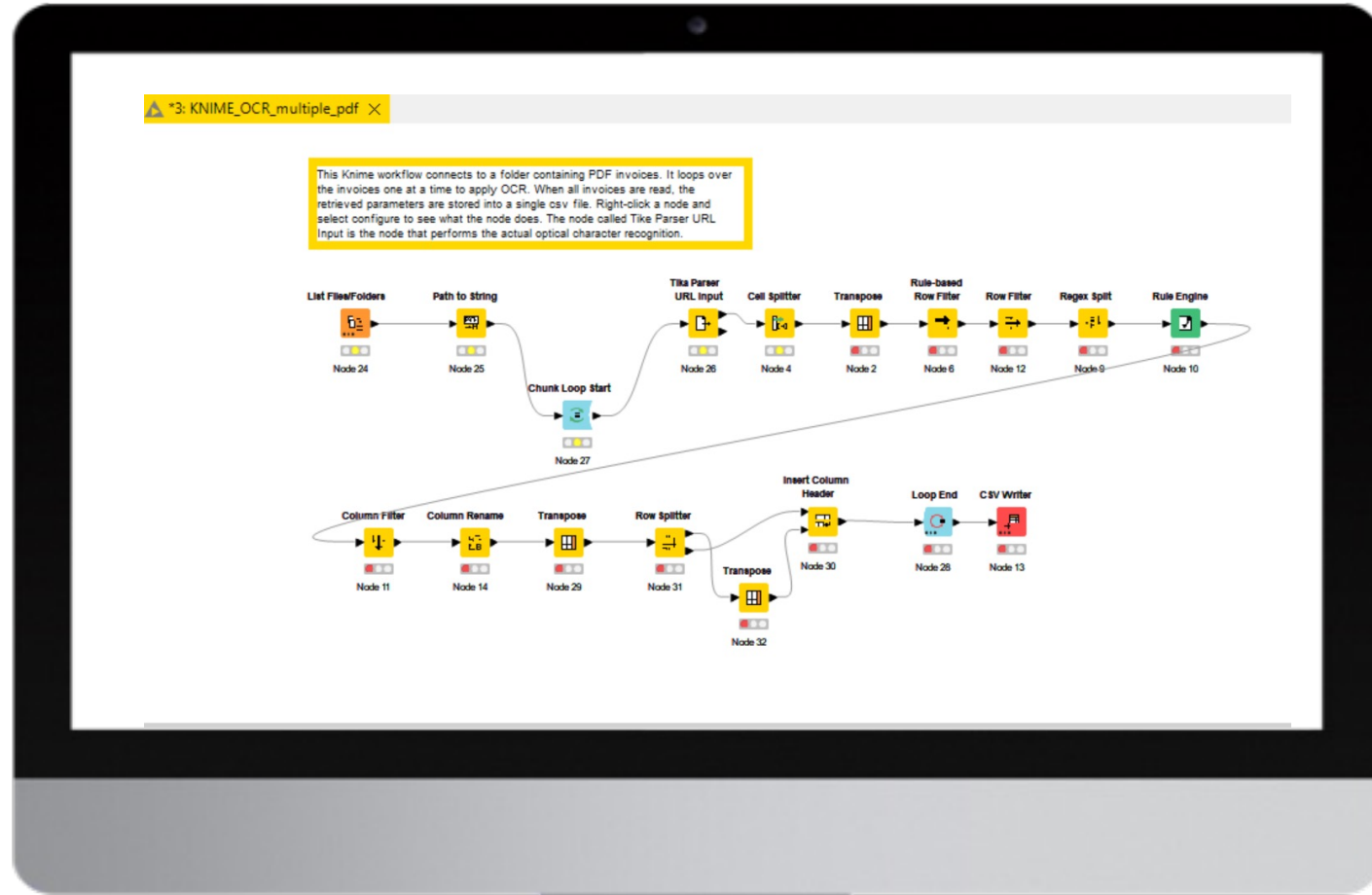
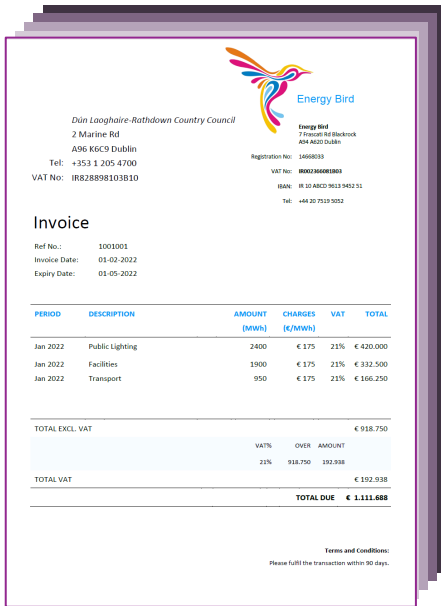
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ETL - Data extraction from non-machine readable PDF files



Storage & structuring of collected data



- Collection
- Processing
- Analysis
- Visualisation
- Decision-making

Row ID	Ref No	Invoice...	Public ...	Total ...	Iteration
Value#0	1001001	01-02-2022	420.000	1.111.688	0
Value#1	1001010	01-11-2022	350.000	847.000	1
Value#2	1001011	01-12-2022	437.500	1.132.863	2
Value#3	1001012	01-01-2023	463.750	1.185.800	3
Value#4	1001002	01-03-2022	385.000	1.016.400	4
Value#5	1001003	01-04-2022	350.000	931.700	5
Value#6	1001004	01-05-2022	367.500	942.288	6
Value#7	1001005	01-06-2022	332.500	815.238	7
Value#8	1001006	01-07-2022	315.000	794.063	8
Value#9	1001007	01-08-2022	280.000	667.013	9
Value#10	1001008	01-09-2022	280.000	645.838	10
Value#11	1001009	01-10-2022	315.000	762.300	11

3

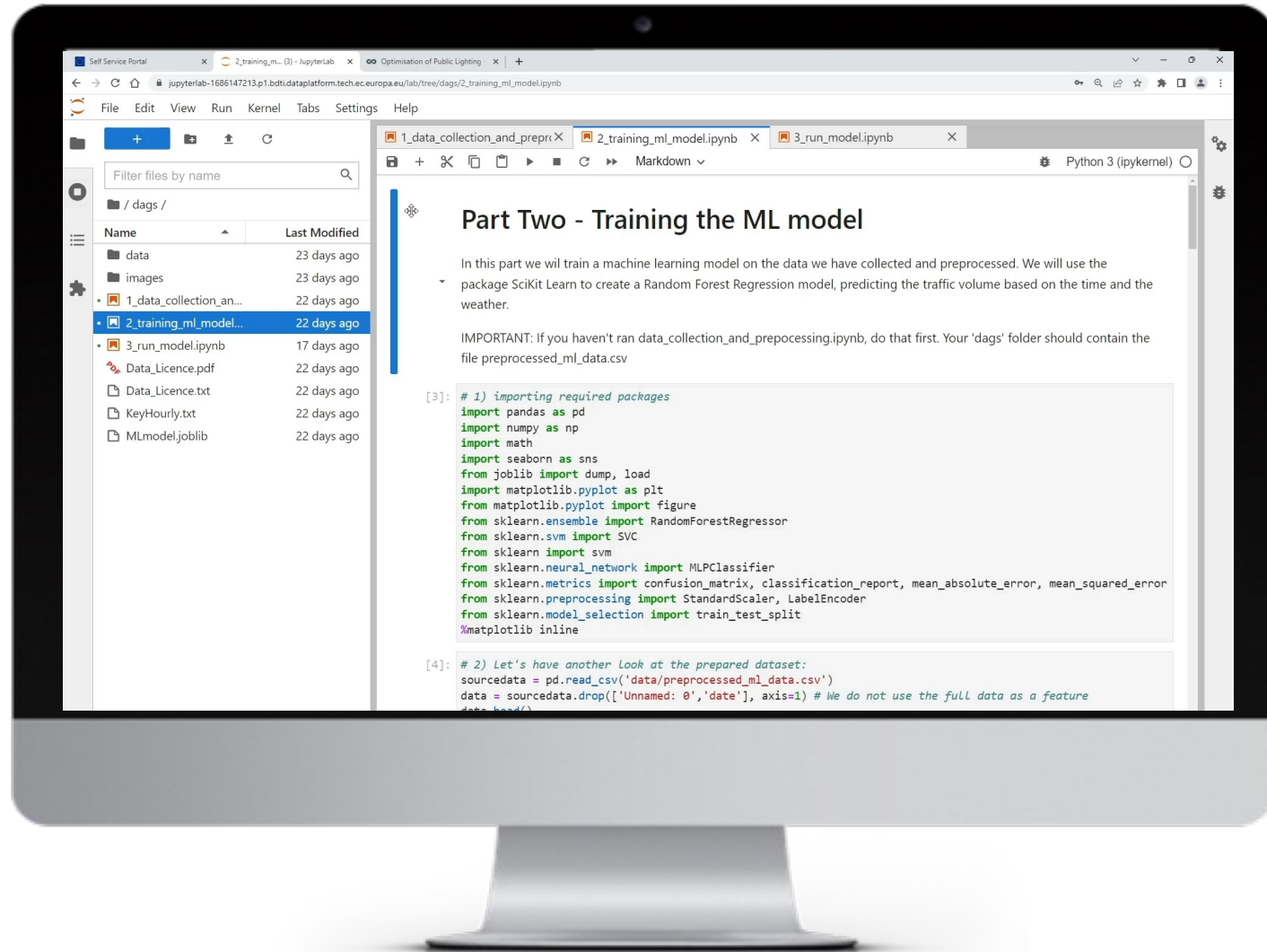


To train Machine Learning (ML) models to analyse big (or small) amount of data



PostgreSQL

Stores the newly analysed data

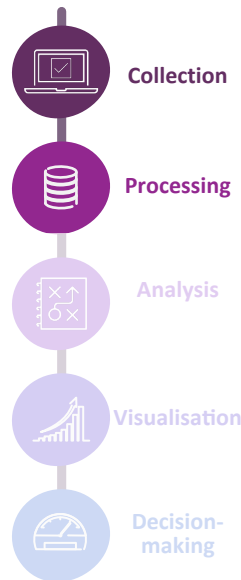
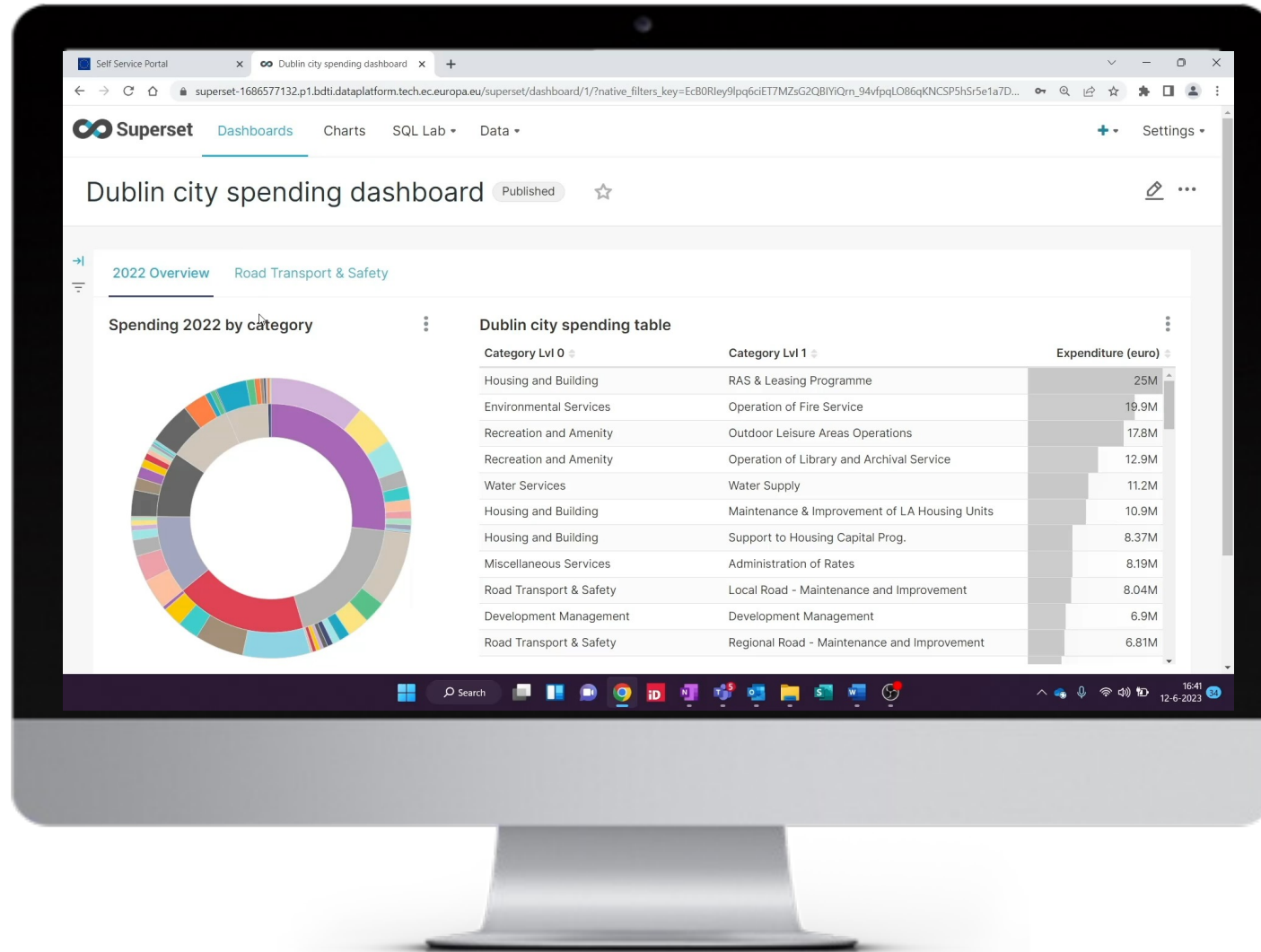


Collection
Processing
Analysis
Visualisation
Decision-making

3



Interactive overview of expenditures per category
Ability to benchmark against different data sets

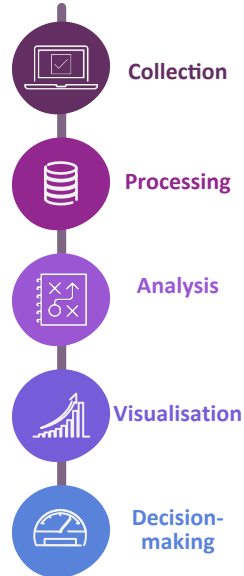
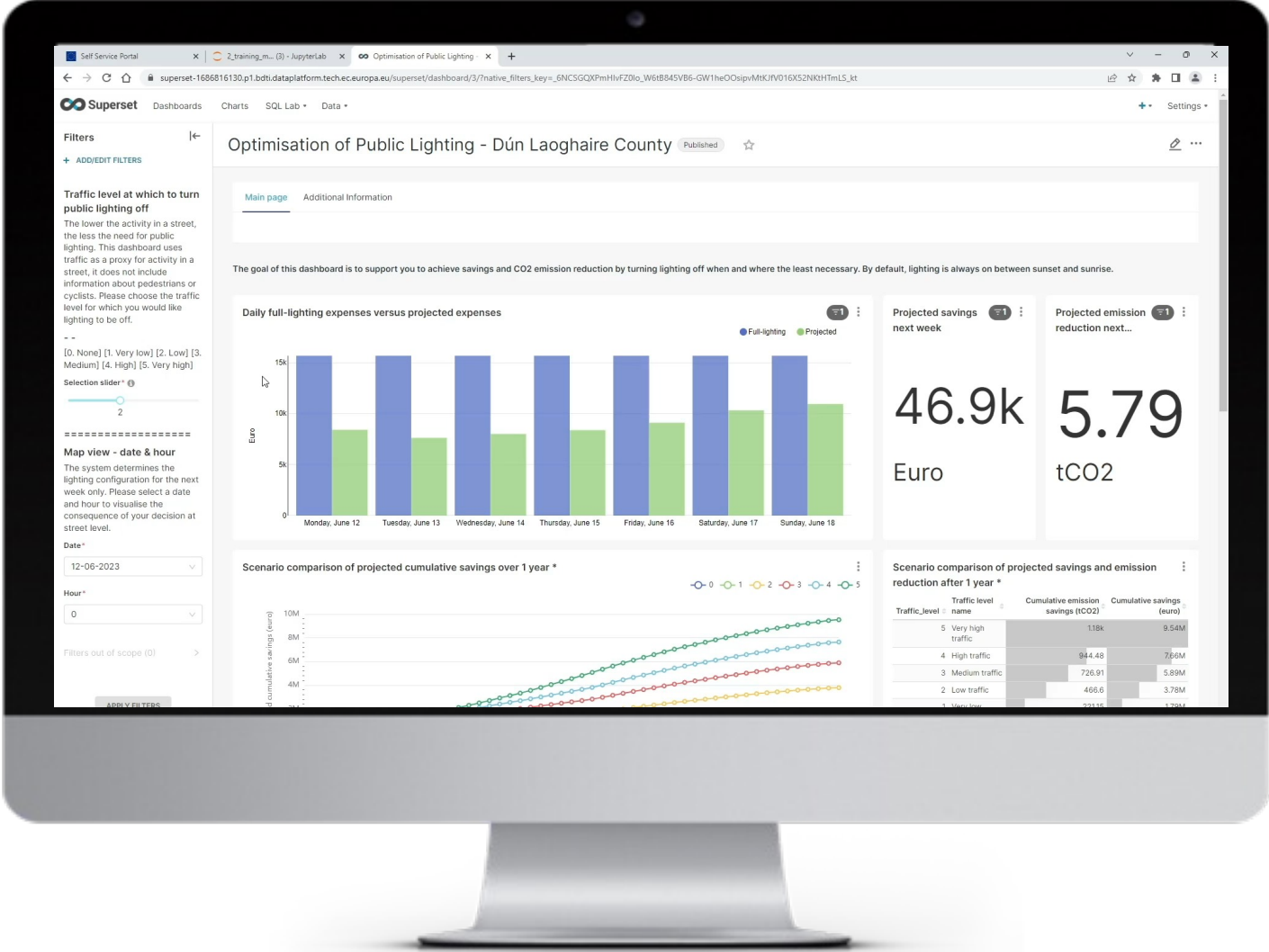


3



Can display the created data through an interactive dashboard.

Thanks to the ML trained model, it is possible to create different simulations and visualise the outcome through different graphics



3

https://code.europa.eu/bdti/bdti-demonstrator



Code development platform for open source projects from the European Union institutions

Search GitLab

- BDTI Demonstrator
- Project information
- Repository
- Issues 0
- Merge requests 0
- CI/CD
- Deployments
- Packages and registries
- Monitor
- Analytics
- Wiki
- Snippets

Name	Last commit	Last update
BDTI - Data-informed Government Spend...	Update 4 files	4 months ago
.gitlab-ci.yml	modify pipeline - gitleaks implementation	2 months ago
BDTI_Banner_generic.png	Upload BDTI banner	3 months ago
Data-informed Government Spending - Ge...	Update Data-informed Government Spending - General i...	9 months ago
Licence_BSD-3-Clause	fix license name	2 months ago
Licence_CC-BY-4.0	License	2 months ago
Notice.txt	add notice.txt	2 months ago
README.md	License	2 months ago

README.md

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From hype to action:
Enabling a data-informed public sector using the
Big Data Test Infrastructure (BDTI)



4

BDTI's community

- Developing the BDTI community and how can you help us

4

Who used it already?



CONSELLERIA DE SANITAT (CS) - Text Mining

Conselleria de Sanitat, the Health Public Administration of the Comunidad Valenciana Regional Government, needed a tool capable of analysing and extract knowledge from the huge quantity of scientific clinical articles coming from different sources (i.e. PubMed.gov, Covid-19 related clinical articles).



Advanced **data visualization** and **text mining** tools to help **extracting knowledge contained in the documents**, supporting clinicians and managers in their clinical practices and day-to-day work.

EU CONVALESCENT PLASMA DATABASE – Data sharing

The European Blood Alliance is working together with the European Commission (DG SANTE) to create and manage an **EU-wide open-access platform** that collects data to support a study on **Covid-19 convalescent plasma therapy**. The aim of the study is to assess in which conditions the convalescent plasma treatment is most effective, in order to take data driven decisions on the therapy and focus the efforts of the research in the most promising directions.



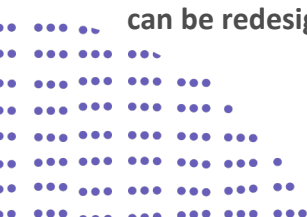
A ready-to-use, virtual environment in which **data collected through a custom-built website** are ingested and anonymized, to be then analyzed with advanced data visualization and analytical tools. Initially, only donation data were processed, then the scope was increased to capture the **end-to-end of blood plasma, from donation to patient/clinical trial**.

CITY OF FLORENCE – Mobility data

The main goal of the Municipality is to perform a **cross correlation between the multiple datasets** available within the city to understand how people were and are moving between the different districts, to then derive precious insights about mobility the most and about **how services can be redesigned to foster cultural activities and events**.



Predictive, descriptive and time-series analysis on multiple datasets collected **before, during and after the Covid-19 pandemic** such as: public Wi-Fi sensors, parking and geo-referenced data of people movements (i.e. tourists).






Who used it already?

Semantic Knowledge Graphs for Distributed Data Spaces



The Public Procurement Pilot Experience

Semantic Knowledge Graphs for Distributed Data Spaces: The Public Procurement Pilot Experience

Cecile Guasch¹ , Giorgia Lodi² , and Sander Van Dooren¹ 

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{cecile.guasch,Sander.VAN-DOOREN}@ext.ec.europa.eu

² Institute of Cognitive Sciences and Technologies of the Italian National Research Council (ISTC-CNR), Rome, Italy
giorgia.lodi@cnr.it

Abstract. This paper presents the experience gained in the context of a European pilot project funded by the ISA2 programme. It aims at constructing a semantic knowledge graph that establishes a distributed data space for public procurement. We describe the results obtained, the follow up actions and the main lessons learnt from the construction of the knowledge graph. This latter requires to support different data governance scenarios: some partners control, with their own tools, the building process of their portion of the knowledge graph. Other partners participate in the pilot by providing only their open CSV/XML/JSON datasets, in which case transformations are required. These are performed on the infrastructure made available by the European Big Data Test Infrastructure (BDTI). The paper introduces the design and implementation of the knowledge graph construction process within such a BDTI infrastructure. By instantiating an OWL ontology created for this purpose, we are able to provide a declarative description of the whole workflow required to transform input data into RDF output data, which form the knowledge graph. The declarative description is therefore used to provide instructions to a workflow engine we use (Apache Airflow) for knowledge graph construction purposes.

Guasch, C., Lodi, G., & Dooren, S. V. (2022, October). Semantic Knowledge Graphs for Distributed Data Spaces: The Public Procurement Pilot Experience. In *The Semantic Web—ISWC 2022: 21st International Semantic Web Conference, Virtual Event, October 23–27, 2022, Proceedings* (pp. 753-769). Cham: Springer International Publishing. <https://iswc2022.semanticweb.org/index.php/accepted-papers/>



The BDTI Canva

by the BTDI Team

The BDTI Canva aims to help you build a strong data use case through a series of questions.

For more information, visit the [BDTI website](#)

Contact us by email: EC-BDTI-PILOTS@ec.europa.eu

Context:

Who are you? Who are your stakeholders?



Objective(s):

What is the problem you are trying to address?
What is your timeframe?



Data's added value:



Which information helps you address the problem? From which sector and or domain?

Data's availability:



Does the data you need exist? If it doesn't exist, can you collect it? From whom can you get the data you need? Can you reuse the data? What license applies to the data you'd like to use? How is the quality of the data you'd like to use? Are the different datasets interoperable? Do you know how to connect the dots?

Data's risk(s):



What could go wrong when using data to address this objective? Are there legal and ethical considerations to make? Are you dealing with personal data?

Data's processing:



What do you need to gather, process and analyze the data (i.e., tools, software, computing power, ...)? Do you already have them? If you do not, where can you get them (e.g., applying to the BDTI)?

Data skills:



What data literacy and skills do you need (i.e., data engineering, data analysis, data science, data visualization)? Do you already have these available within your team/organization?

Your solution

Combine what you've learned from the elements above into a statement describing your solution

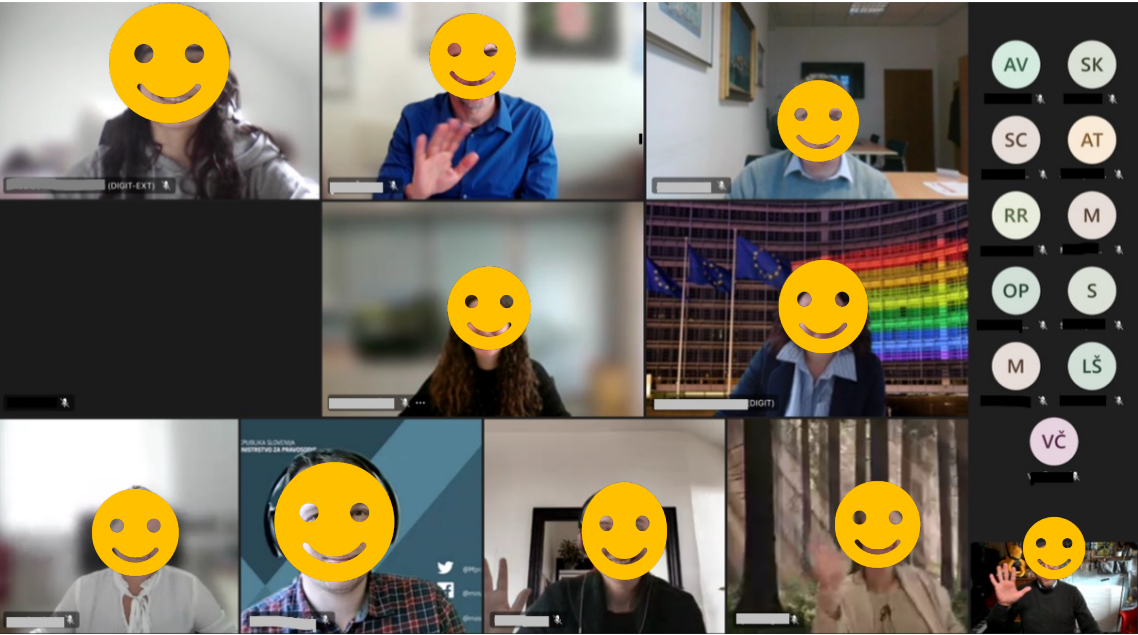


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BDTI National Information Sessions



Goal: introduce BDTI, learn about data analytics projects, develop your data analytics community!



BDTI Information Session in Slovenia in collaboration with the Slovenian Ministry of Digital Transformation

National information centre/Nacionalno informacijsko središče

Context Slovenska turistična organizacija projekt zaveja v okviru reforme NOD v želji pomagati deležnikom pri podetovno podpirnem odločitju.		Objective Cilj projekta je vzpostavitev Nacionalnega informacijskega središča, ki bo merilo učinke turizma na različnih ravneh ter pomagal pri geografski razprtosti in usmerjanju turističnih tokov. Cilj oblikovanja središča je tudi opozrevanje zelenega in digitalnega prehoda ter nadgradnje Zelenega sname slovenskega turizma. NIŠ bo edinstveno podatkovno in informacijsko središče v katerem se bodo zbirali in obdelovali lokalni in globalni podatki, relevantni za turizem, s ciljem najprej osnovnih, nato pa tudi naprednih analiz za podetovno podortu odločitje ter ovig sodene vrednosti oziroma stebre trajnosti v turizmu.		
Data's added value Podetkovni viri so ključ do uspeha projekta. Ključno bo sodelovanje z necloninimi viri podatkov (SURS, AJPES, MOPE, NCUP, BS, ...). Trenutno je ne voljo že kar nekaj podatkov, ki po se v večini zbirajo na mesečni ali letni ravni.	Data's availability Izziv je frekvence in raven podatkov, ki so trenutno ne voljo. Cilj je pridobivanje dnevnih podatkov, ki v večji meri niso ne voljo.	Risks and issues with relation to data Določeni podatki niso ne voljo, zato bo potreben zekup alternativnih podatkovnih virov. Alternativni podatkovni viri so običejno zelo dragi, hkrati pa ne dajo vedno najboljših informacij oziroma niso najbolj točni.	Data's processing V prvi fazi je potrebne identifikacije primerov uporabe, ki bodo ne voljo v središču. Po identifikaciji teh, bo potrebne tudi izbire ustreznega orodja, ki bo ne enem mestu omogočelo teko preproste prikaze kot tudi napredne analize.	Data skills Za izvedbo projekta je bil izbrani zunanji izvajalec, saj naprednih znanj znotraj organizacije nimamo.
DODATNI PREDLOGI?	PRILOŽNOSTI?	PRILOŽNOSTI?	PREDLOGI / IZZIVI?	PREDLOGI / IZZIVI?
Solution Combine what you've learned from the elements above into a statement describing your solution.				
you can type here you can type here you can type here you can type here you can type here you can type here you can type here you can type here you can type here you can type here				

BDTI Canva used in Mural during the BDTI Information Session in Slovenia

BDTI Essentials Course – February 2024



Foundation course

6 online sessions
suitable to all
levels

Become familiar with open-source data analytics tools

A free course helping public administrations explore BDTI delivered through a practical use case. Analysing H2020 funding allocated for research and innovation to universities across EU nations with high carbon emissions

Use open-data sources for public sector innovation

Learning how to harness open data sources to address a real-world application by leveraging the resources offered by data.europa.eu

**Registration will
be open next
week**

Prepare to build your own data use case

After this course, you will be ready to apply for BDTI and build a public sector data use case using the platform

How to apply:



Get familiar with the [BDTI service on our website](#)



» Brainstorm on your data analytics project using our [BDTI Canva](#) and then fill in the [BDTI template request form](#)



» Submit your pilot request (template) by email: EC-BDTI-PILOTS@ec.europa.eu



» Meet with us to elaborate on your use case



» Pilot Project is approved if:
Brings value,
can be done in 6 months, sufficient resources available (skills, team, data)



» Your test environment is set up



» You can start piloting and create value!

Get in touch and follow the BDTI activities



Are you working for a public administration in need of infrastructure for data analytics?



EC-BDTI-
PILOTS@ec.europa.eu



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website



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References



Academic references:

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