RDM and DP communities: Finding the common ground to develop a collaborative future service landscape

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Duration: 2-3h
Preferably: online

Research data management (RDM) is a major step-stone to keep computational research comprehensible, re-usable and reproducible. With the FAIR data principles abstract concepts have been developed that need to be implemented into RDM frameworks and services. Basic long-term preservation challenges e.g., bit preservation, cataloging, (domain specific) metadata, publication and byte-stream access can be considered as conceptually 'solved' and services to provide this are mostly implemented in productive deployments. However, due to the amount and complexity of data, processing of research data has also become more complex, thus, preserving the digital "scientific context" remains a more challenging task while increasingly necessary for re-use or reproducing research results.

Furthermore, software-tool chains reached a level of complexity that these are modeled as workflows to improve standardization, foster re-use and especially portability. Workflows provide machine actionable descriptions of a multi-step computational process, orchestrating tasks, resources as well as data in- and output. FAIR principles for software and workflows are currently discussed, but especially (long-term) aspects of "re-use" still require conceptual and implementation work. While concepts for preserving (scientific) software, citation of software as well as re-execution of software are in principle well understood and the ability of re-using, reproducing or replicating of software-based methodology is not yet (fully) embedded into typical RDM services and more importantly also not very well embedded into planning and execution of scientific projects.

This workshop proposal aims to bring together active RDM practitioners within the NFDI with the digital preservation and digital library communities to

- Identify common ground, tasks and collaborations
- Common tools and concepts to avoid duplication of work, especially in the areas of dealing with software archiving and access as well as legal issues