

Long-term Information Preservation

CCSDS Contributions

Introduction

- **We are the CCSDS Data Archive Ingest (DAI) WG**

- Consolidates former DAI WG, Information Packaging and Registry (IPR) WG and Repository Audit and Certification (RAC) WG

- **What we've done**

- Working within CCSDS, but is more broadly accepted than space industry
- OAIS Reference Model
 - “now adopted as the de facto standard for building digital archives”
Cyberinfrastructure Vision for 21st Century Discovery (<http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2007/nsf0728/nsf0728.pdf>)

- **What we're doing**

- Certification - ISO
- Guidance on information to capture to aid preservation

- **What we plan to do**

- Continued development of digital archiving standards
- We'd like you to be an advocate for our work.
- We'd appreciate inputs from you on suggested directions.

- **Details** What we're doing and why we approach digital preservation the way we do

Reference Model for an Open Archival Information System (OAIS)

- OAIS reference model provides: fundamental concepts for preservation
 - fundamental definitions so people can speak without confusion
 - Provides vocabulary – widely applicable
 - defines important **roles** in digital preservation
 - Conformance to OAIS Standard defined
 - OAIS approach to digital preservation:
 - covers all types of digitally encoded information
 - provides a way to test whether preservation is successful
 - does not require seeing into the future
 - does require transparency
 - but does not require “open access”
 - does not cover
 - social and organizational aspects
 - finance etc.
 - many detailed aspects noted in the "roadmap of follow-on standards"
- is not meant as a **design/blueprint** for a repository
 - it allows greater flexibility for implementations
- OAIS does provide a good basis for certification

Challenges

- Wanted it to be applicable to all kinds of
 - Digital objects
 - Organizations
- Hardware
- Software
- Sources
- Users
- Legal systems
- All kinds of changes

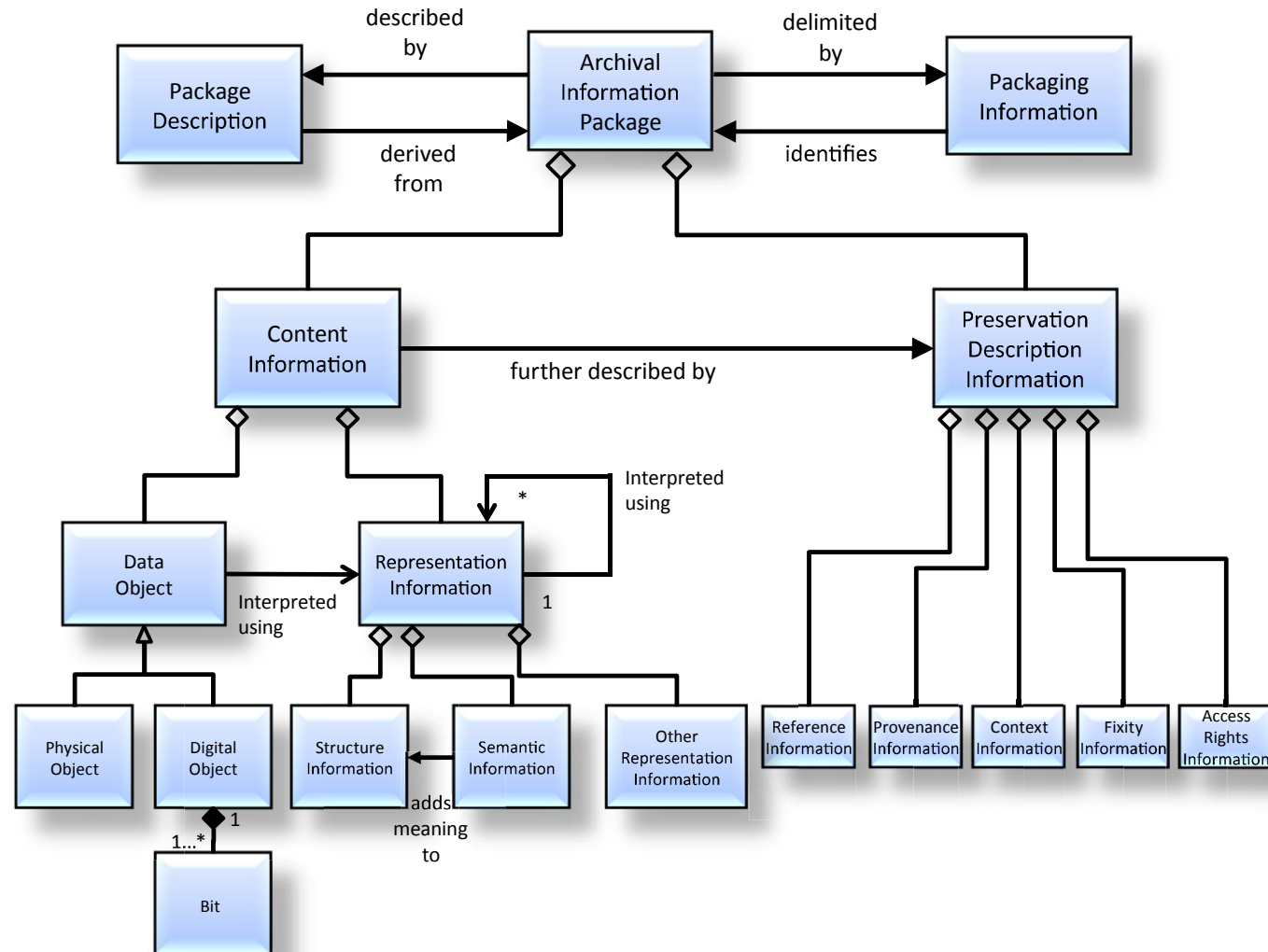
Key OAIS Concepts

- Claiming “This is being preserved” is untestable
 - Essentially meaningless
 - Except “BIT PRESERVATION”
- How can we make it testable?
 - Claim to be able to continue to “do something” with it
 - Understand/use
 - Need extra information to help this (Representation Information)
- Still meaningless...
 - Things are too interrelated
 - Representation Information potentially unlimited
 - Need to define a target group (Designated Community) – those we guarantee can understand – so we can test
- Many other concepts identified
- Finer grained taxonomy than simply saying “metadata”
 - Allows one to ask if one has all the required types

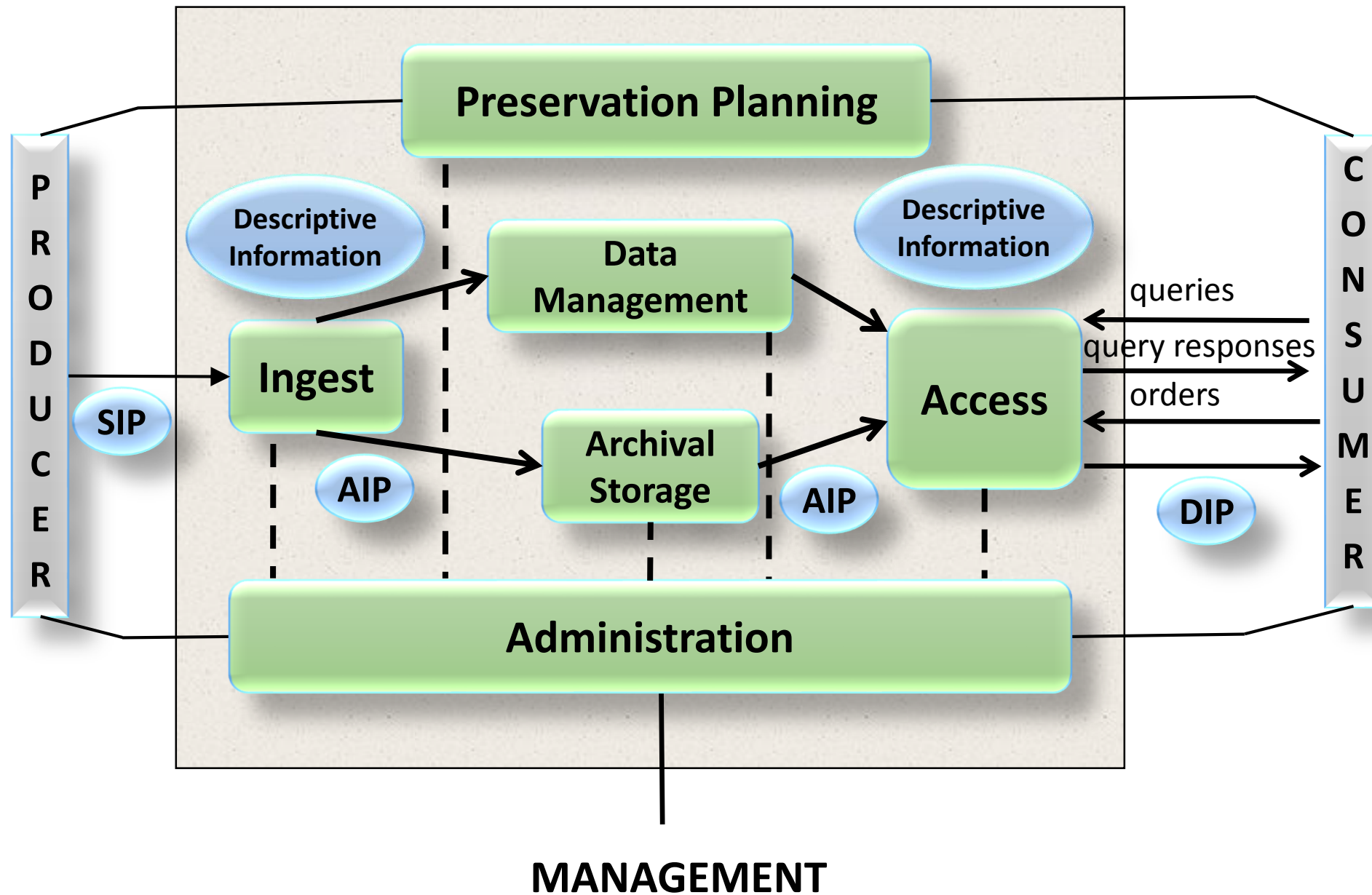
OAIS Standard Overview

- Provides information model
- Provides mandatory requirements
- Provides framework for additional standards
- Follow-ons
 - Auditing and Certification Standards
 - Detailed Processes
 - Some Protocols
- Builds on previous data description standards

Archival Information Package



- Logical package e.g. using pointers
- Contains everything needed for long term preservation
 - Usability
 - Authenticity

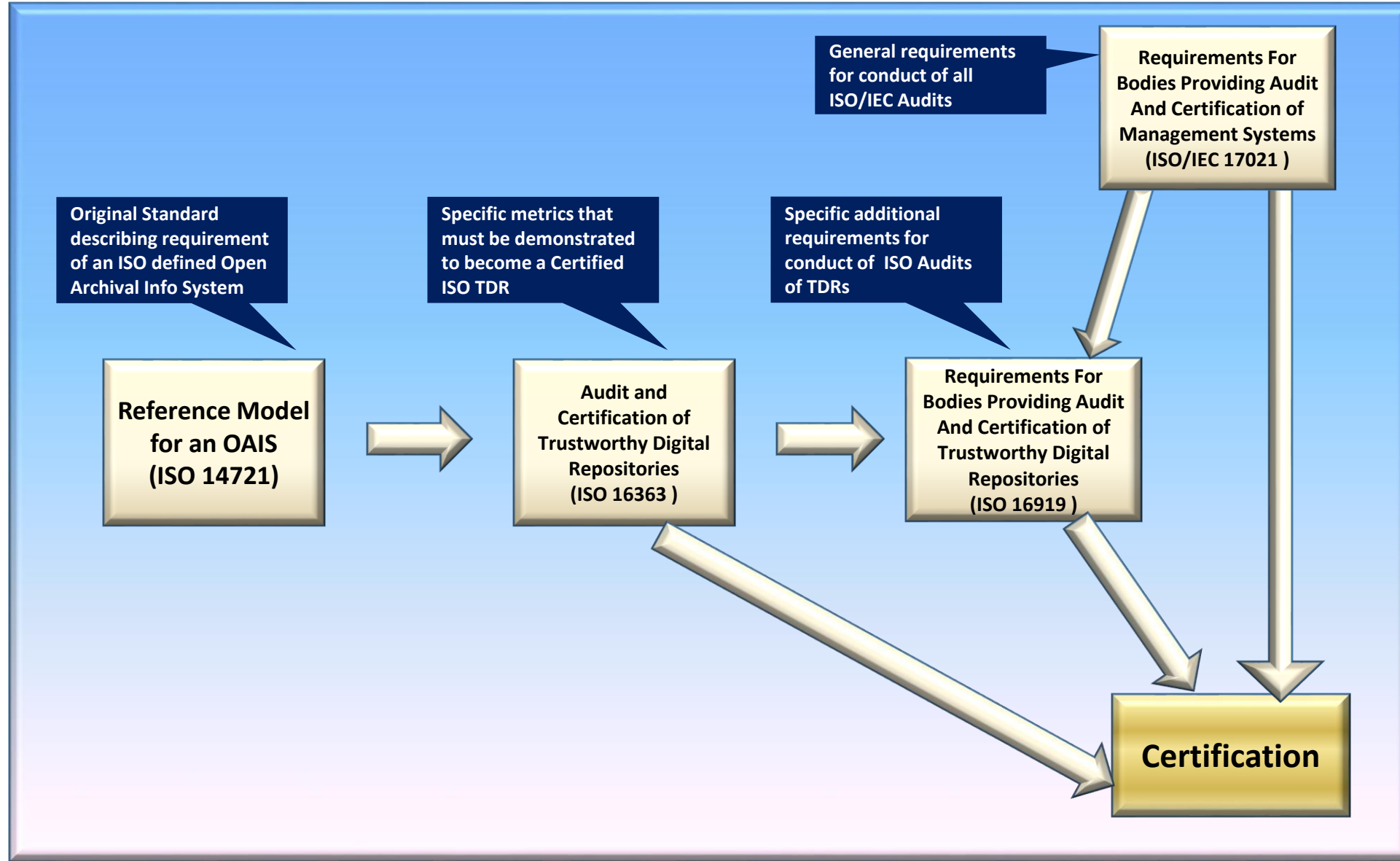


Menu

- What we've done – the standards
- Relationship to previous work – origins of digital preservation
- Examples of archives using OAIS
- Data – more details about the issues
- Preservation techniques
- New standards in development
- Advocating

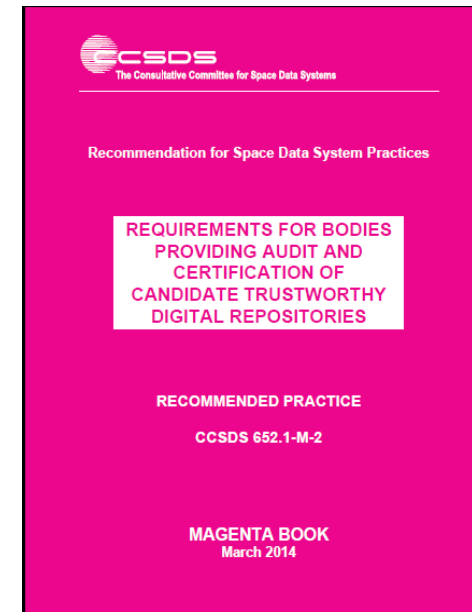
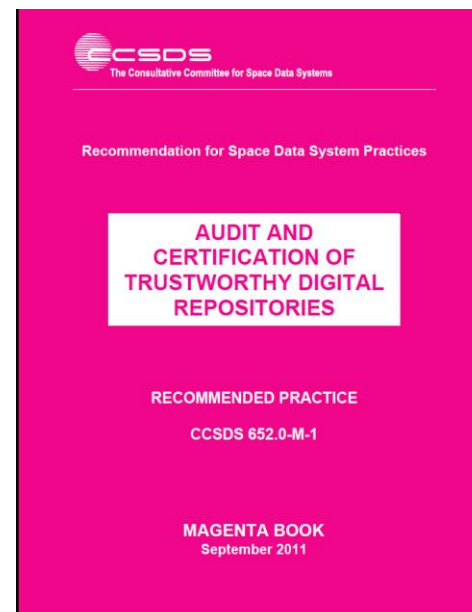
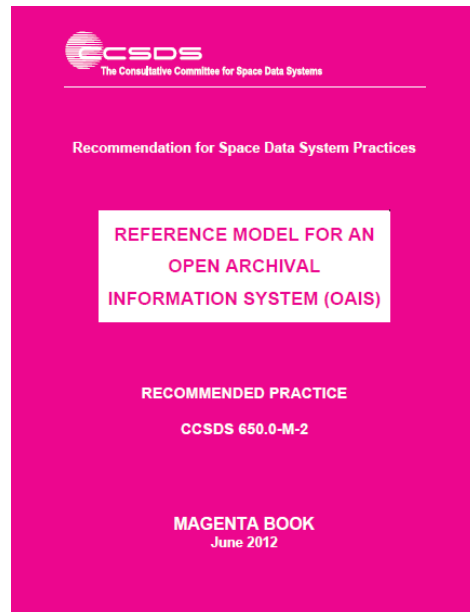
What we've done – the
standards

Standards based Repository Audit and Certification (ISO 16363 and ISO 16919)

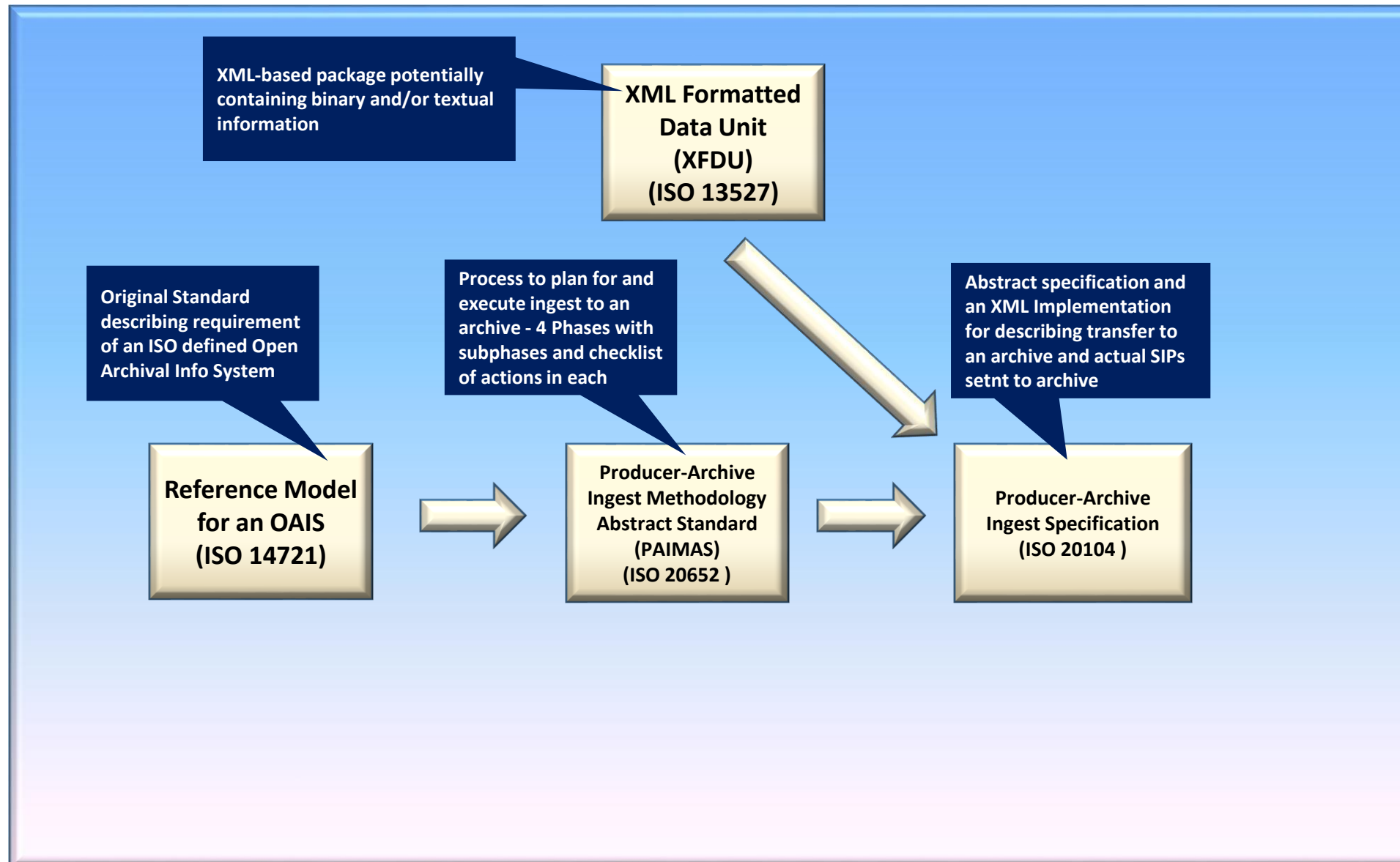


Get Your Standards

- You can get all ISO Standards from ISO website at:
http://www.iso.org/home/store/catalogue_tc/
- You can also download the CCSDS Magenta Book equivalents of the ISO docs for free
 - ISO 14721 (OAIS) equivalent here:
<http://public.ccsds.org/publications/archive/650x0m2.pdf>
 - ISO 16363 (RAC metrics) equivalent here:
<http://public.ccsds.org/publications/archive/652x0m1.pdf>
 - ISO 16919 (RAC process) equivalent here:
<http://public.ccsds.org/publications/archive/652x1m2.pdf>

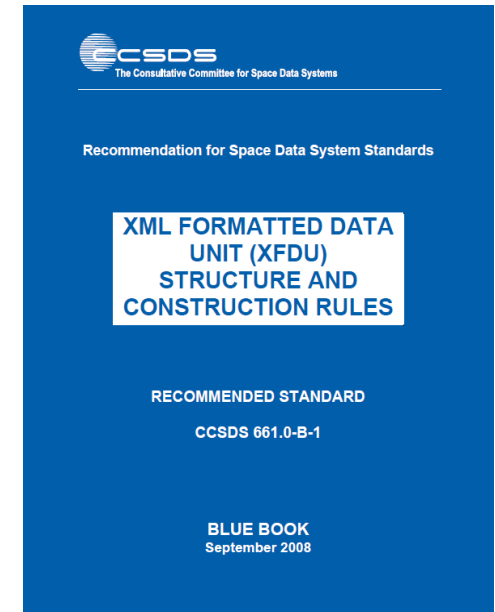
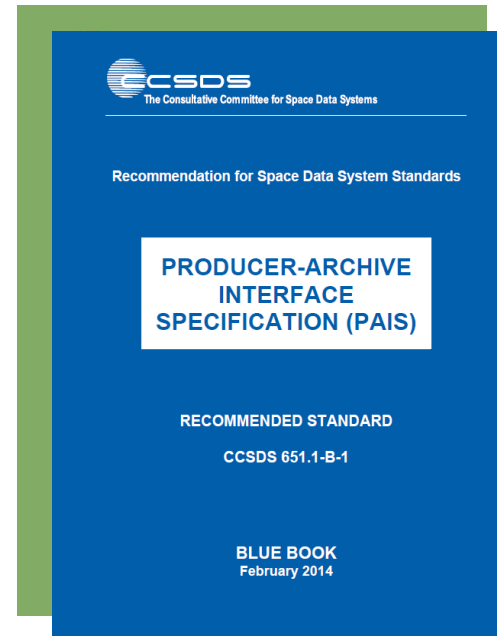
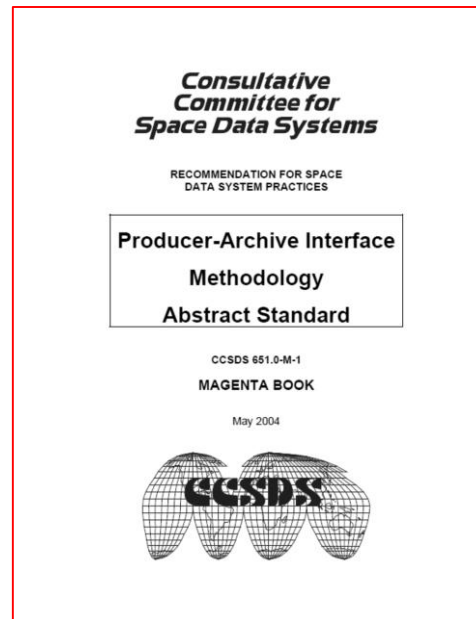
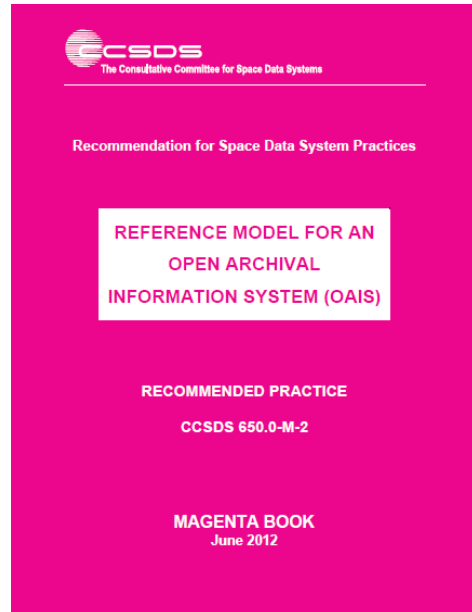


Archive Process and Protocol Standards (ISO 20652 and ISO 20104)



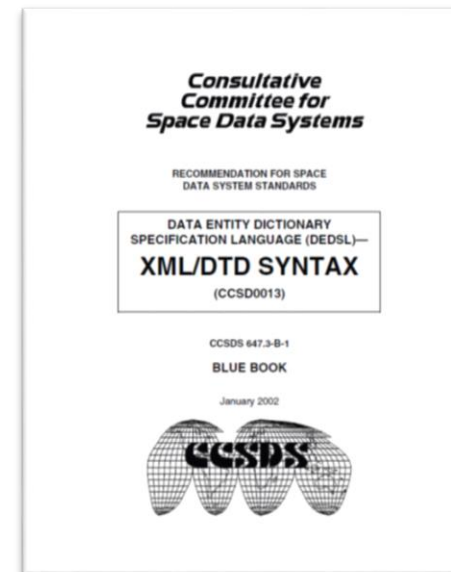
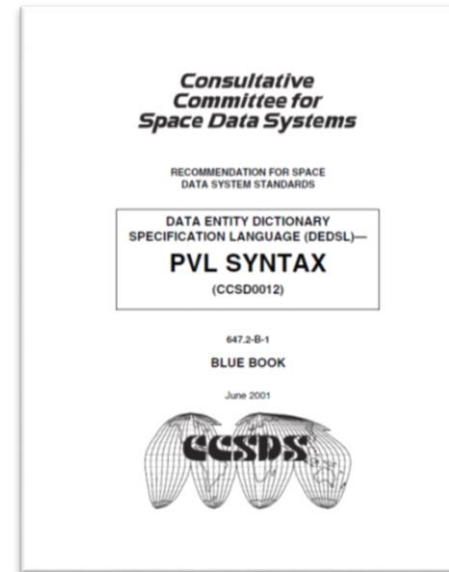
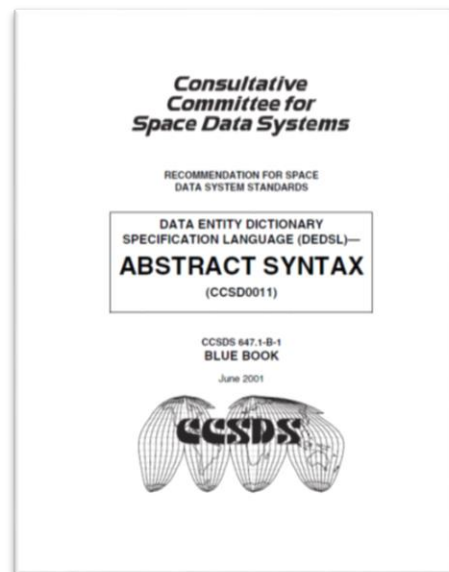
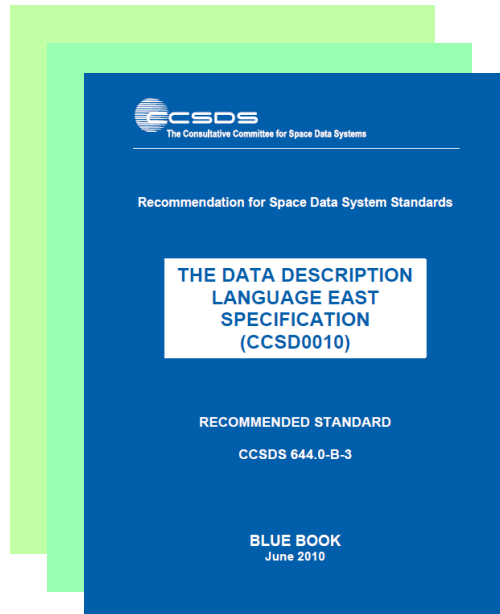
Get Your Standards

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 - ISO 14721 (OAIS) equivalent here: <http://public.ccsds.org/publications/archive/650x0m2.pdf>
 - ISO 20652 (PAIMAS) equivalent here: <http://public.ccsds.org/publications/archive/651x0m1.pdf>
 - ISO 20104 (PAIS) equivalent here: <http://public.ccsds.org/publications/archive/651x1b1.pdf>
 - ISO 13527 (XFDU) equivalent here: <http://public.ccsds.org/publications/archive/661x1b1.pdf>



Other CCSDS DAI WG Standards

- EAST (Data Format Structure Description Language)
- Data Entity Dictionary Specification Language (DEDSL)
 - Abstract definition
 - Parameter Value Language (PVL), XML/DTD, and XML Schema implementation



Relationship to previous work –
origins of digital preservation

Who Begat Whom? Certification Standards

- Bruce Ambacher

Examples of archives using OAIS

Influence of OAIS-RM and Certification Audit on CIESIN Archive

- Bob Downs

Influence of the OAIS-RM on PDS4

- The Planetary Data System (PDS4) is NASA's official archive for all Solar System Exploration science data.
- PDS4 is a major revision and transition to a modern system based on best practices for data system development while leveraging 20 years of lessons learned.
 - PDS4 has been operational since 2013.
 - PDS4 has been adopted by the international Planetary Science Community and considered to be a first-of-its-kind where a single system and set of standards has been adopted by an entire science community.
- The OAIS-RM heavily influenced the architecture and design of PDS4.
 - PDS4 complies with the *Mandatory Responsibilities* required to operate an OAIS archive.
 - The PDS4 system and services architecture maps to the *OAIS Functional Model*.
 - The PDS4 Information Model is based on OAIS-RM concepts.
 - The *Information Object*, consisting of a *Data Object* and its *Representation Information*, is a foundational concept.
 - *Preservation Description Information* (PDI) is required for all data.
- The PDS4 functional infrastructure is designed to respond to the OAIS-RM based PDS4 Information Model.
 - The model is independent from the implementation technology allowing both to evolve separately.
 - Model extracts are used to design and configure system software and services.
- The PDS is well positioned to be accredited against the ISO-16363 standards.

Data – more details about
the issues

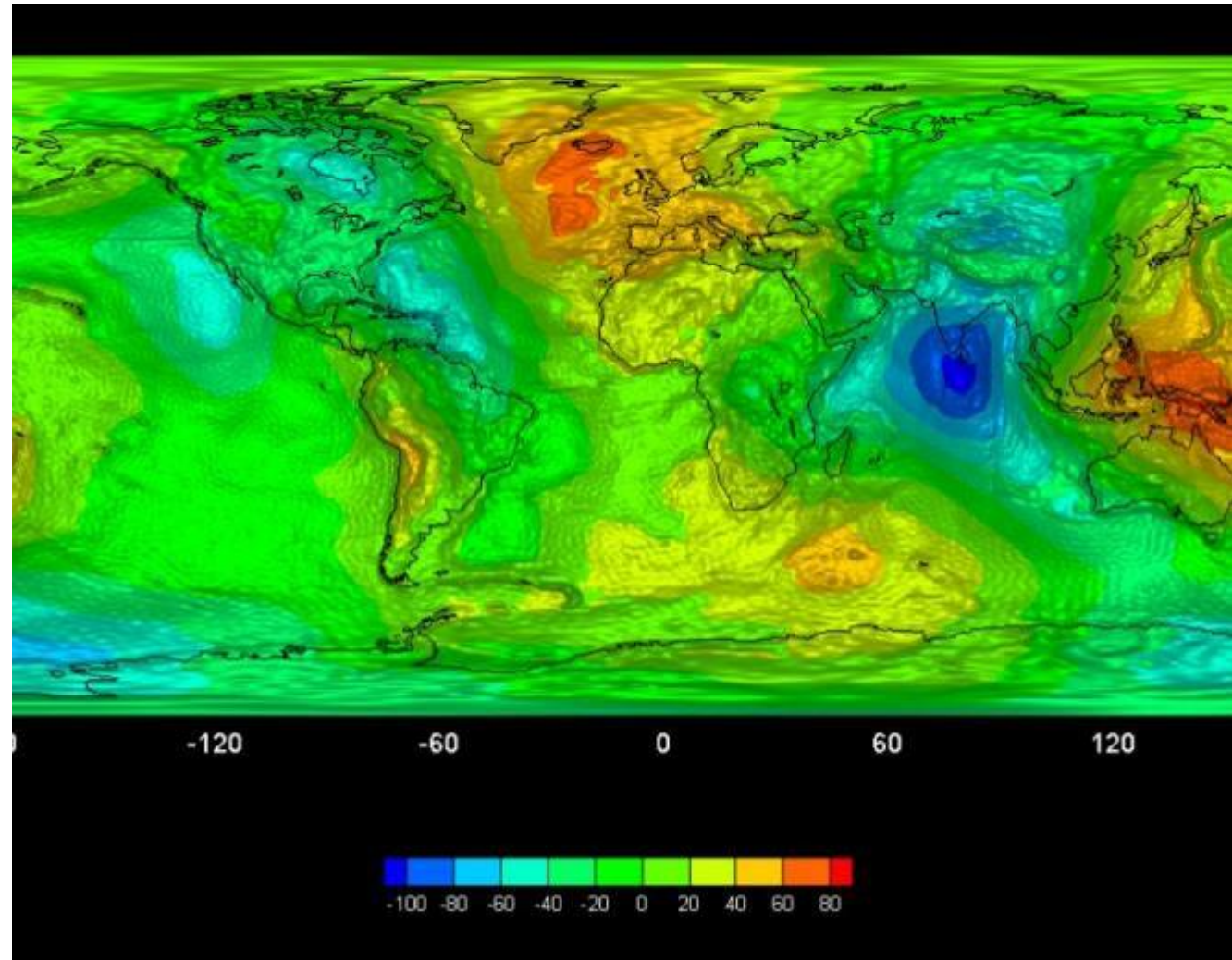
Data contains numbers, etc.

May be digitally encoded

But a lot of additional information is needed to understand it

Layout, Bit Format, Structure
Units, Field Names, Meaning,
Semantics
Etc.

To be combined and
processed to get this



Preservation techniques

Options

- **EITHER**

- Hand on the information to some other custodian

- **OR**

- Keep the information – in which case one can

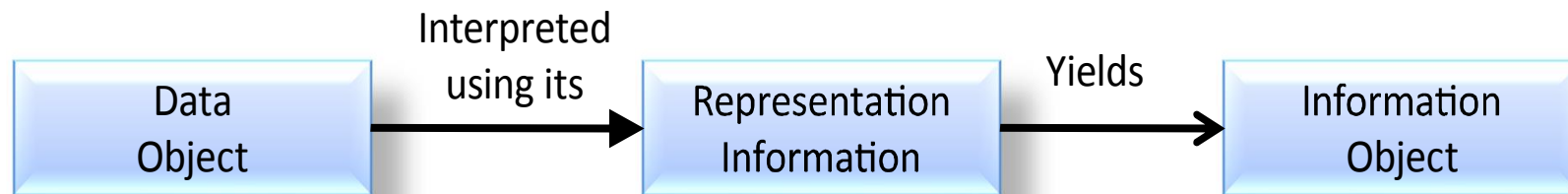
- **EITHER**

- Keep the bits unchanged
 - In which case one must add what OAIS calls “Representation Information” to ensure the information encoded in the bits can still be understood/used (by the Designated Community)

- **OR**

- Change the bits
 - In which case one must keep evidence about why this new object should be considered “authentic”
 - And enable the new bit sequences to be understandable/usable (add appropriate “Representation Information”)

Information



Digital Preservation Methods

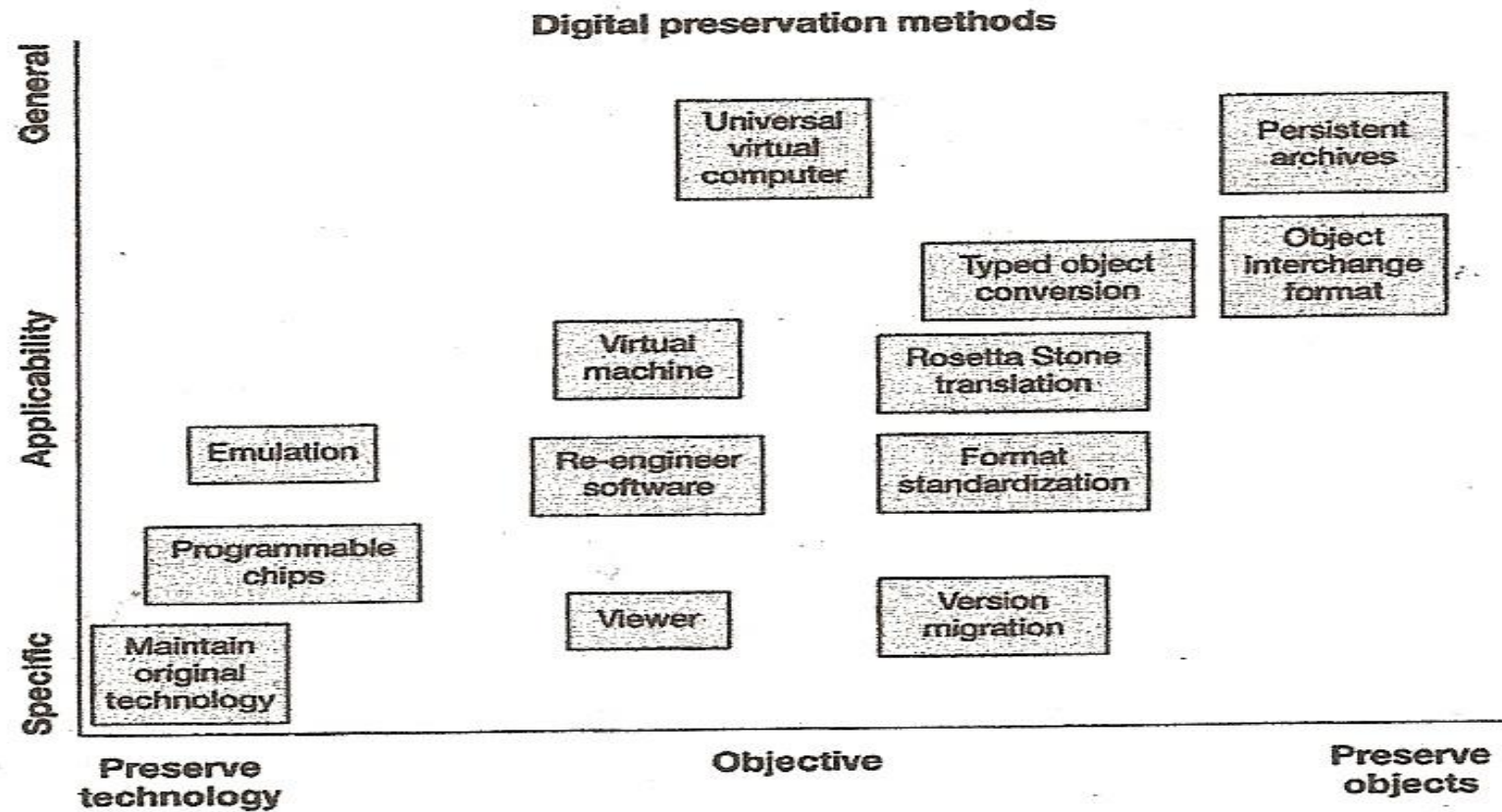


Figure 6.3 Digital Preservation Methods (From Thibodeau, 2002, p.19)

Representation Information examples

- Emulation support
- Documentation
- Data Dictionaries
- Data descriptions

Emulation – advantages and drawbacks

- Advantage

- Can do what was do-able previously e.g.
 - display document in an format which is no longer supported by using emulation to enable use of old software. Might need to emulate chip instruction sets, operating systems etc.
 - Analyse old data using old analysis software e.g. CERN/LHC analysis software to repeat analyses of data, perhaps tweaking parameters etc

- Disadvantage

- Can ONLY do what was do-able previously
- BUT
 - Difficult to use OLD data in NEW analysis software
 - Difficult to combine OLD data with NEW data

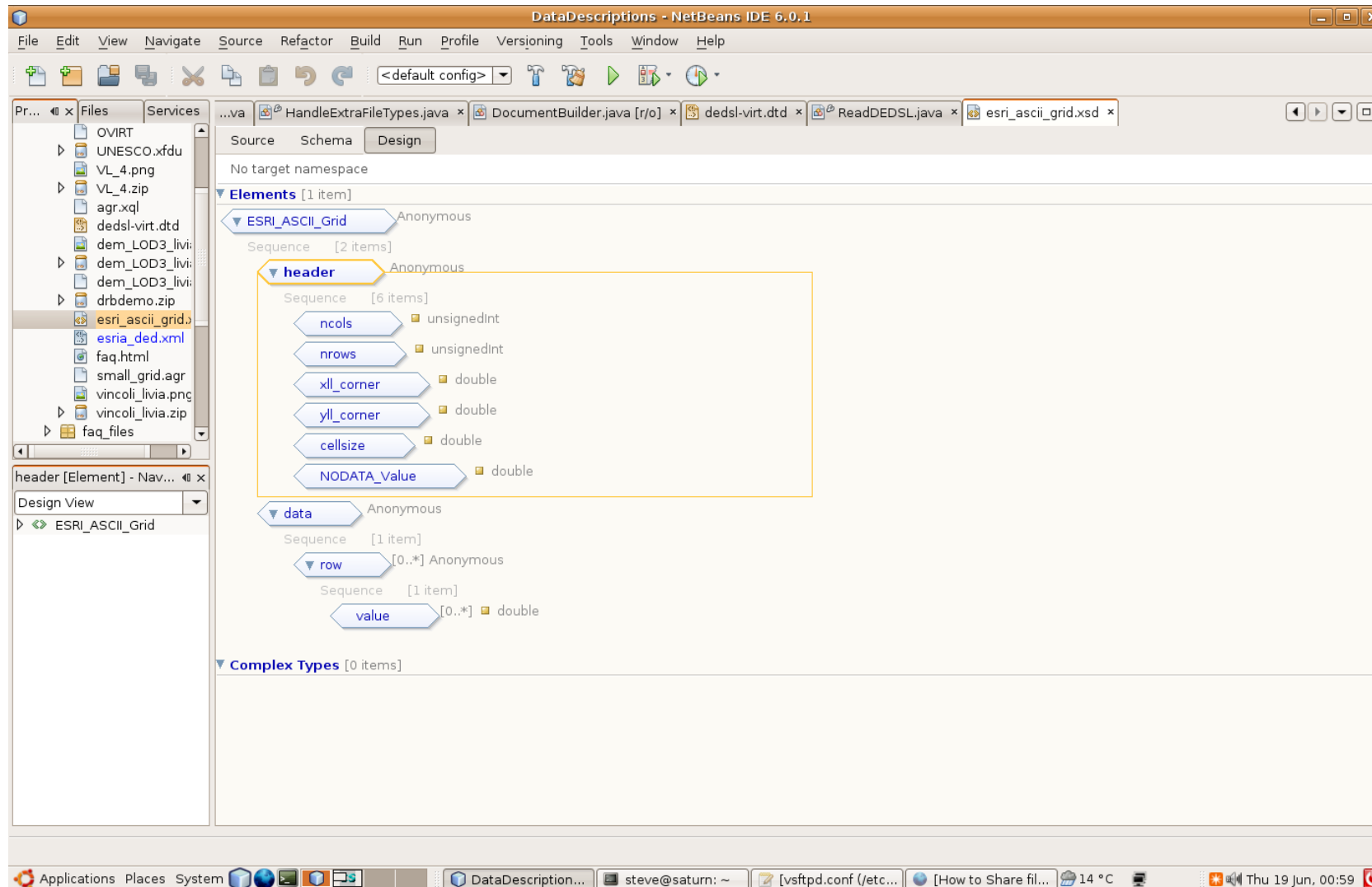
Formal Descriptions of Structure and Semantics

- CNES EAST tools (<http://east.cnes.f>), OASIS, EAST C Library (reference implementation).
- Also DEBAT (BEST Tools) <http://debat.c-s.fr/>
- Data Request Broker (DRB) - <http://www.gael.fr/drb/site/>
- JNI Wrapper for EAST C Library (jnieast).
- DEDSL Abstract, PVL, and XML(DTD) syntax for defining some simple data semantics. RDF, RDFS and OWL.
- Interfaces for a more general data description language and semantics API (DSSIL).
- GUI Tools for capturing Object Oriented Semantics (RDF and RDFS) and Code Generation.
- DFDL (Data Format Description Language from Open Grid Forum) <https://www.ogf.org/ogf/doku.php/standards/dfdl/dfdl>

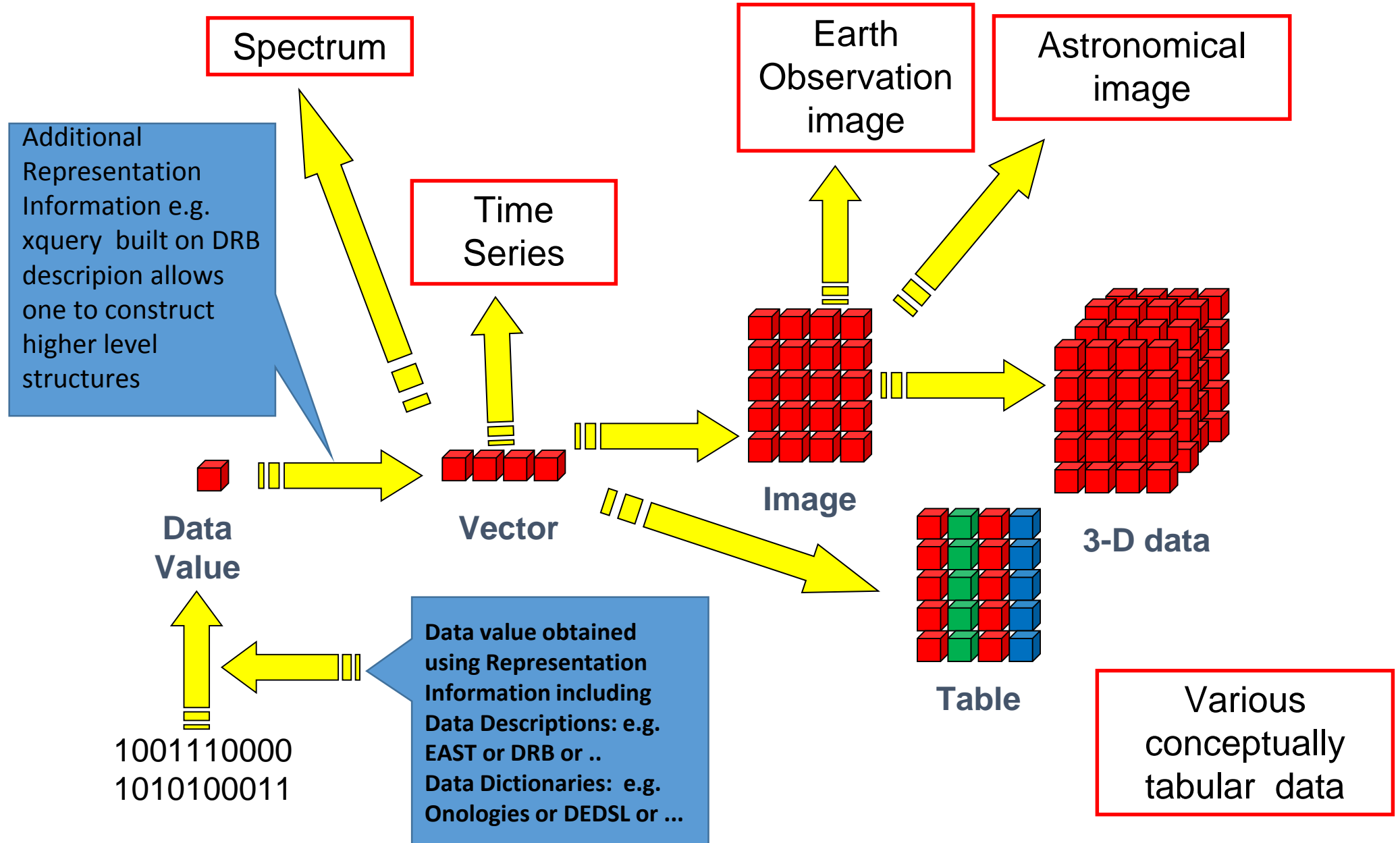
Advantages of Formal Descriptions of Structure

- Formal descriptions of structure gives a user the knowledge an ability to map data bits to data values in software.
- Gives a common language for syntactic information to describe many different data formats.
- One software API for many data formats:
 - may increase likelihood of data reuse
- Machine readable descriptions.

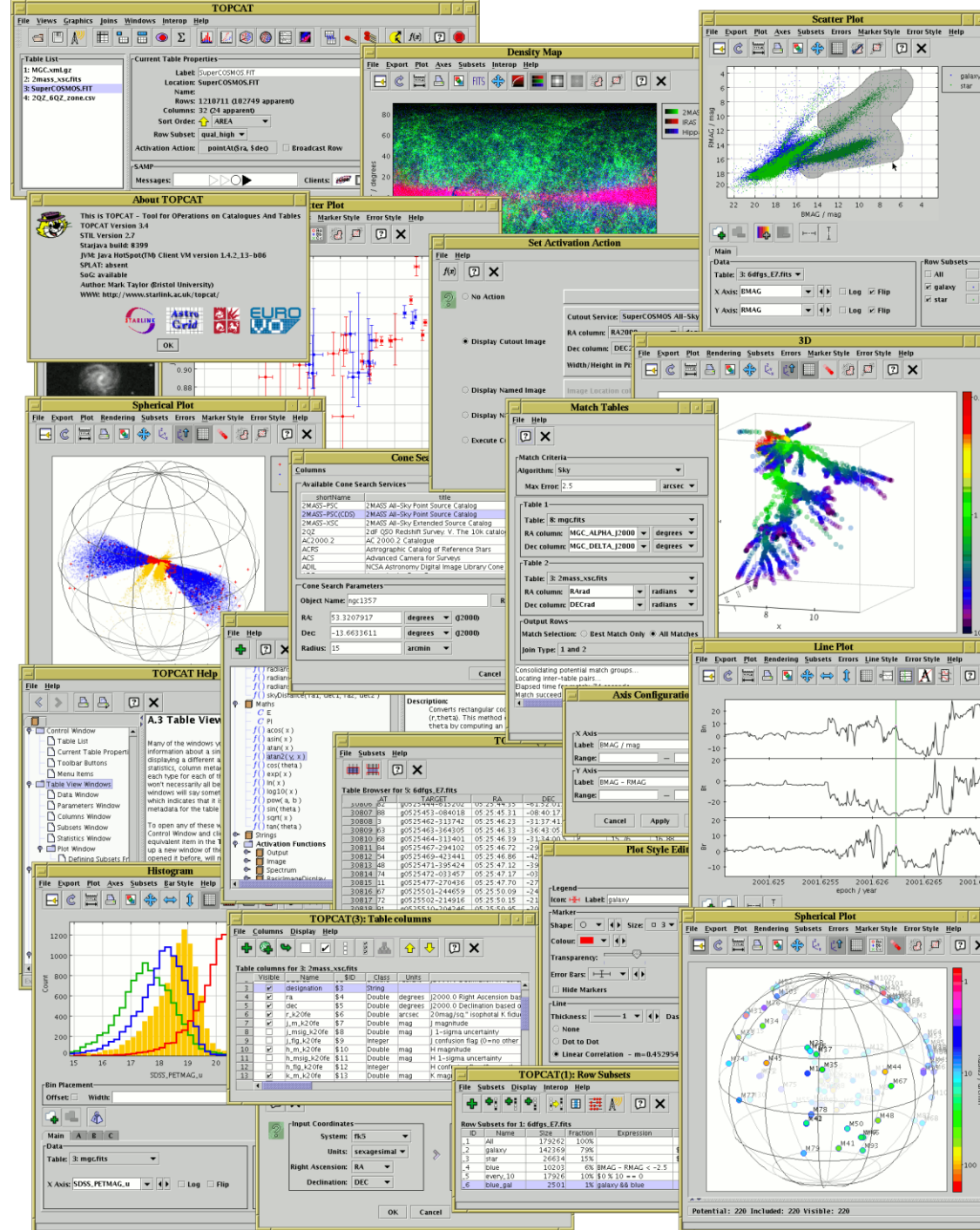
Formal Descriptions of Structure (Examples)



Virtualisation - building up data types...



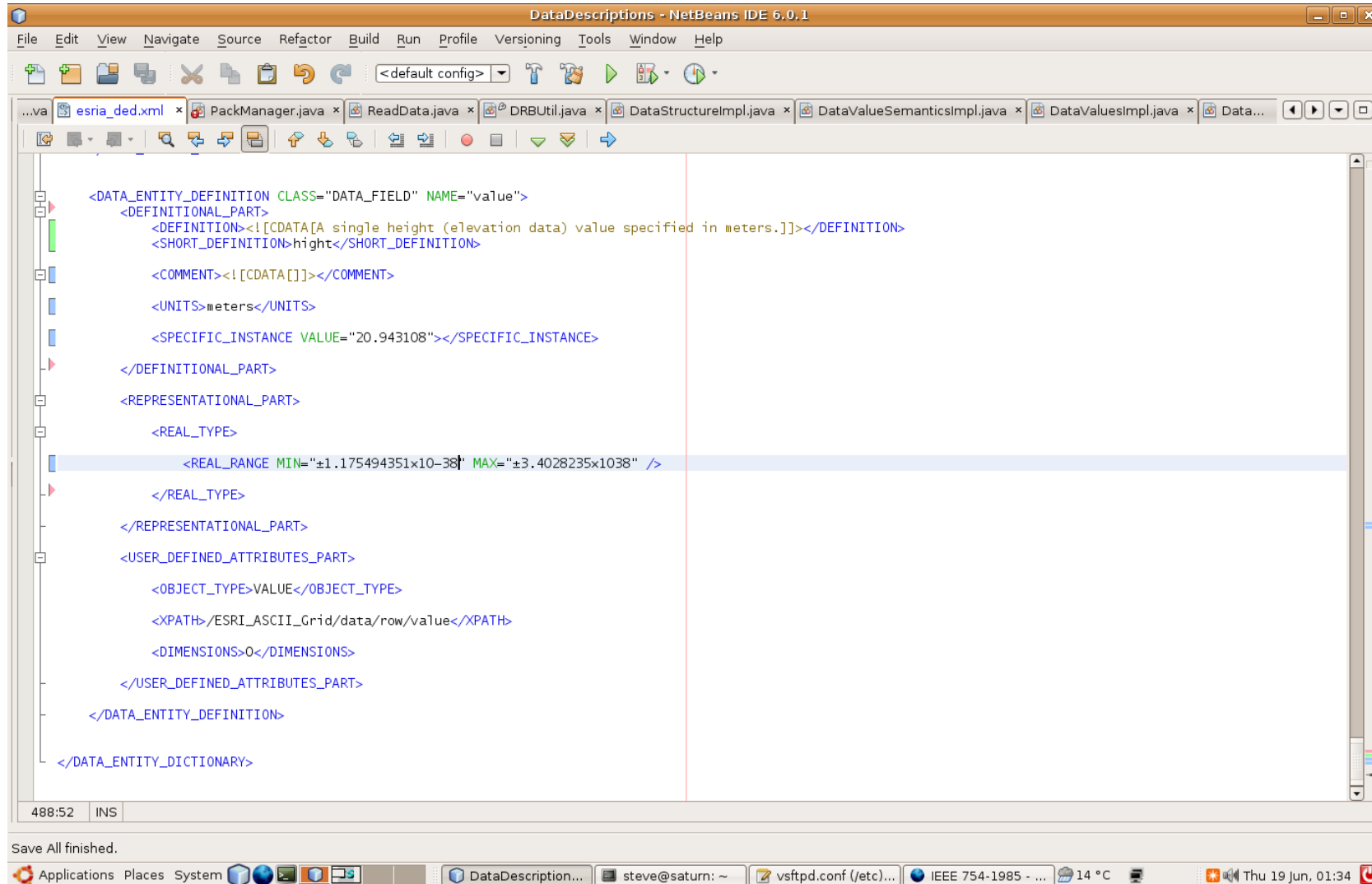
- Building on simple virtualisation of tabular data into JTable based application
- Can combine data in different formats



Advantages of Formal Descriptions of Semantics

- Semantic properties such as name, description and units add meaning to the data values and data objects.
- Object oriented view of the data combined with the structure and semantics virtualises the process of going from the bits to a usable data object in software.
- Combined with formal structure it encapsulates all the knowledge needed to go from the bits to a data object in software.
- Remove the need for data specific Access Software!

DEDSL Example



```
<DATA_ENTITY_DEFINITION CLASS="DATA_FIELD" NAME="value">
  <DEFINITIONAL_PART>
    <DEFINITION><![CDATA[A single height (elevation data) value specified in meters.]]></DEFINITION>
    <SHORT_DEFINITION>height</SHORT_DEFINITION>
    <COMMENT><![CDATA[]]></COMMENT>
    <UNITS>meters</UNITS>
    <SPECIFIC_INSTANCE VALUE="20.943108"></SPECIFIC_INSTANCE>
  </DEFINITIONAL_PART>
  <REPRESENTATIONAL_PART>
    <REAL_TYPE>
      <REAL_RANGE MIN="±1.175494351×10−38" MAX="±3.4028235×1038" />
    </REAL_TYPE>
  </REPRESENTATIONAL_PART>
  <USER_DEFINED_ATTRIBUTES_PART>
    <OBJECT_TYPE>VALUE</OBJECT_TYPE>
    <XPATH>/ESRI_ASCII_Grid/data/row/value</XPATH>
    <DIMENSIONS>0</DIMENSIONS>
  </USER_DEFINED_ATTRIBUTES_PART>
</DATA_ENTITY_DEFINITION>
</DATA_ENTITY_DICTIONARY>
```

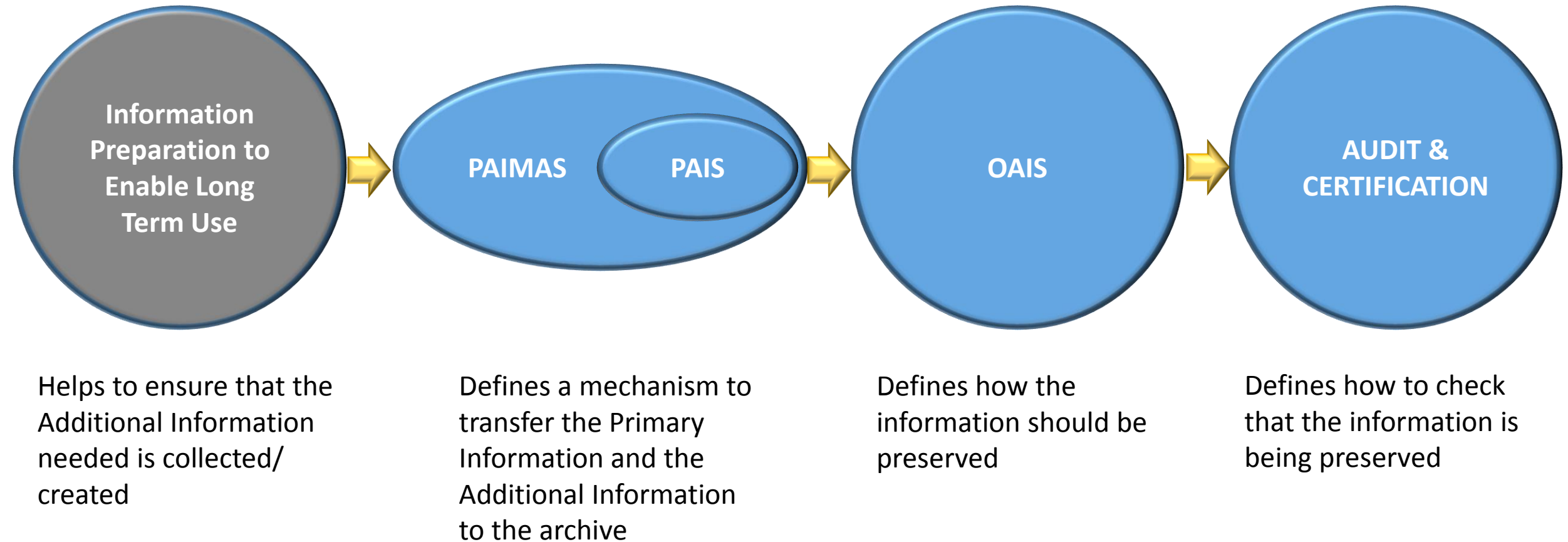
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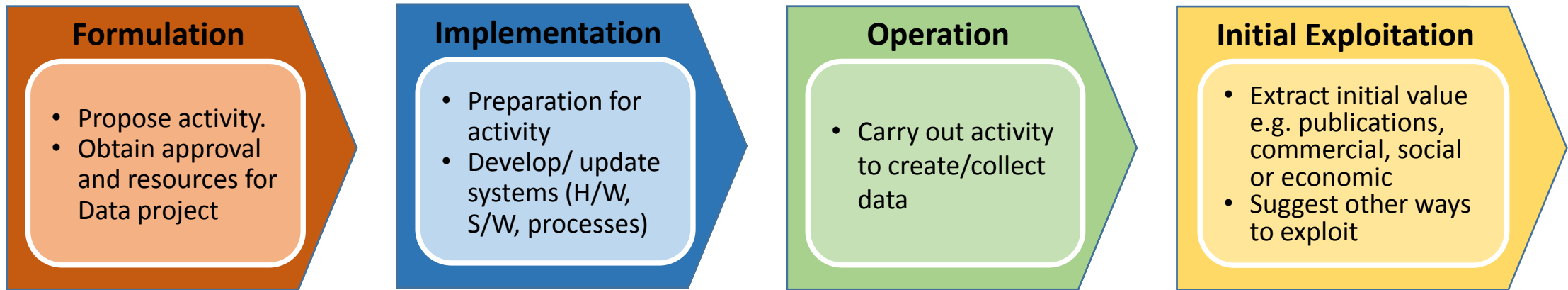
Save All finished.

Applications Places System DataDescription... steve@saturn: ~ vsftpd.conf (/etc)... IEEE 754-1985 - ... 14 °C Thu 19 Jun, 01:34

New standard in
development

Information Preparation to Enable Long Term Use





Important for the development of Data Management Plans
- Working with RDA Active Data Management Plans Interest Group

Brown Dog

- Presentation from Mark Conrad

Advocating

CCSDS

- Presentations in many fora
- Working with
 - National Accreditation Bodies e.g. ANAB
 - Certification Bodies
 - various industries e.g. aerospace
 -
- Need help

Backup Slides

Relationship between standards

