

# Dr.Aid: an automated formal framework to support data-governance rule compliance for decentralized collaboration

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# Rules – heterogeneity, similarity and redundancy

I agree to restrict my use of CORDEX model output for **non-commercial research and educational purposes** only. [1]

In **publications** that rely on the CORDEX model output, I will appropriately **credit the data providers** by an acknowledgement similar to the following: “We acknowledge...” [1]

You may **extract, download, and make copies** of the data contained in the Datasets, and you may **share** that data with **third parties according to these terms of use**. [2]

When **sharing or facilitating access** to the Datasets, you agree to **include the same acknowledgment requirement** in any sub-licenses of the data that you grant, and **a requirement that any sub-licensees do the same**. [2]

Data is **non-transferrable** (other than as permitted in the licence) and **confidential** in nature. [3]

Data is **not** to be used to **identify, contact or target** patients or general

# Problem to solve

- Large collection of ... data
  - personal
  - sensitive
  - valuable

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*Compliance checking* remains ...

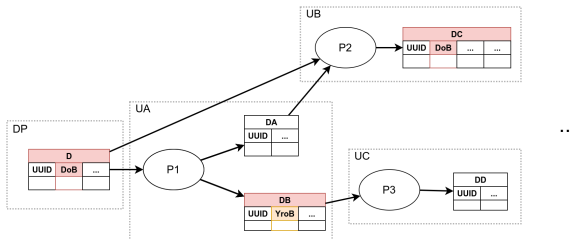
- manual
- time consuming
- error prone

# Example use case

## Data governance rules associated with dataset D by data provider DP

Users should properly acknowledge the data provider in their publications, in a form similar to “This work ...”.

Field DoB (Date of Birth) in the data is potentially *sensitive* and any use of it should be reported to the data provider, through the URL `report.example.ac`.



## Issues identified

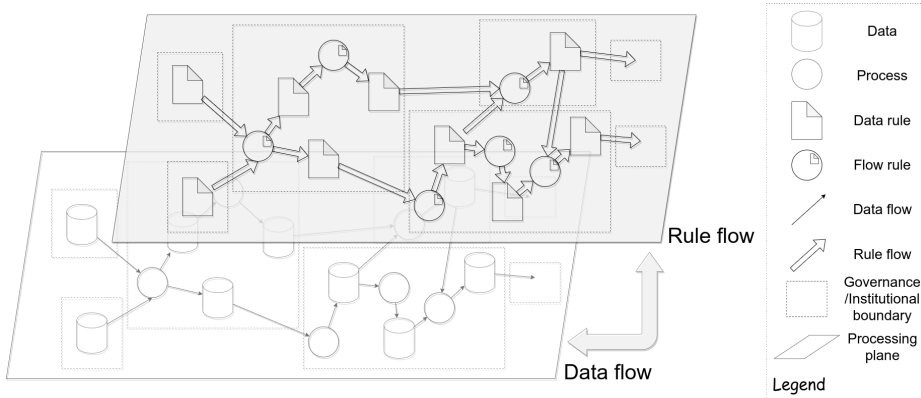
1. (Personnel) **Scattering**: data processing is *multi-institutional* (providers don't work together with users);
2. (Rule) **Propagation**: derived data can be used as input data further;
3. (Rule) **Diversity**: policies can be more than access control, e.g. *obligations*;
4. **Dynamic** (rule) **application**: processes can change the policies applied to data;
5. (Rule) **Combination** and **separation**: processes are multi-input-multi-output (MIMO).

## Related research

Framework	Scattering	Propagation	Diversity	Dynamic application	Combination	Separation
E-P3P[38]	✗	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Thoth[29]	✗	✓	✗	✓ <sup>2</sup>	✓	✗
DAPRECO[26, 57]	?	✗	✓	✗	✗	✗
Smart object[59]	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
CamFlow[53]	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗
Meta-code[36]	✓ <sup>3</sup>	✓	✓ <sup>4</sup>	✓	✗	✗
Dr.Aid (our work)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓



# From data flow to rule flow



# What is Dr.Aid

Dr.Aid (Data Rule Aid) is a *logic-based* framework for *automated compliance checking* of data governance rules over data flow *graphs*.

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## Highlights:

- Logic-based (situation calculus)
- All 5 issues addressed, in particular:
  - Recognises rule diversity
  - Addresses dynamic rule application
  - Supports MIMO

# Model

- Language:
  - **data rule**, for data-governance rules for multi-staged processing, e.g. “*users must properly acknowledge the data providers*”
  - **flow rule**, for the *changes* of data rules in each *process* as a result of data transportation and transformation, e.g. “*column 3 from input 1 is changed to column 2 on output 2*”
- Supports *obligation*: user must do something after using the data
- Retrospective analysis from provenance
  - CWLProv (file-oriented)
  - S-Prov (data-streaming)

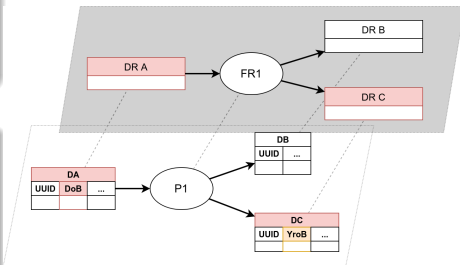
# Language – example

## Data-use policy (as *data rule*)

Field DoB (Date of Birth) in the data is potentially *sensitive* and any use of it should be reported to the data provider.

## Process information (as *flow rule*)

- changes column DoB from input 1 to column YroB on output 2;
- removes column DoB from input 1 on output 1;
- propagates the rest of the data unaffected regarding the data-use policy.



# Language – example modelled

This dataset contains **potentially sensitive information in column DoB**.

**Any use** of it should be **reported to the data providers through link** [report.example.ac](https://report.example.ac).

Natural-language policy

```
attribute(pf, column "DoB")
      Name      Type      Value
attribute(ru, url "report.example.ac")
      Name Type      Value
obligation(report ru, [pf], action = *)
      Obligated Action Validity Activation
      action argument binding condition
```

User notation

```
attribute(pf, column, "DoB", [input1, pf_1], s0)
      History (ID) Situation
attribute(ru, url, "report.example.ac", [input1, ru_1], s0)
      History (ID) Situation
obligation(report, [[input1, ru_1]],
      [[input1, pf_1]], "action = *", input1, s0)
      Port Situation
```

Situation calculus representation

```
obligation(report attribute(ru, url "report.example.ac"), [attribute(pf, column "DoB")], action = *)
```

Nested equivalent view

## Language – example modelled and query

Querying is analogous to the projection task, i.e. querying predicates (fluents) that hold at the targeted final situation:

$$\begin{aligned} S_f = & Do(pr(input1, [output1, output2]) : \\ & delete(input1, output1, *, column, "DoB") : \\ & edit(input1, output2, *, column, "DoB", column, "YroB") : \\ & end([output1, output2]), s0). \\ ? - & attribute(N, T, V, X, S_f). \end{aligned}$$

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resulting in

$$\begin{aligned} & attribute(ru, url, "report@example.ac", [output1, input1, pf_1], S_f) \\ & attribute(pf, column, "YroB", [output2, input1, pf_1], S_f) \\ & attribute(ru, url, "report@example.ac", [output2, input1, pf_1], S_f) \end{aligned}$$

... and the same procedure for *obligations*.



# Language – Data rule

- *attributes* ( $N, T, V$ ), describing properties of the data
  - a name  $N$
  - a type  $T$
  - a value  $V$
- *obligations* ( $OD, VB, AC$ )
  - an obligation definition  $OD$  (the obligated action to perform upon activation)
  - a validity binding  $VB$  (describing additional applicability constraints)
  - an activation condition  $AC$  (the triggering condition)

## Language – flow rule

- **propagate**  $pr(P_{in}, P_{sout})$
- **edit**  $edit(P_{in}, P_{out}, N, T, V, T_{new}, V_{new})$
- **delete**  $delete(P_{in}, P_{out}, N, T, V)$

## Language – flow rule

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- **delete**  $delete(P_{in}, P_{out}, N, T, V)$

$pr(input1, [output1, output2])$

$delete(input1, output1, *, column, DoB)$

$edit(input1, output2, *, column, DoB, column, YroB)$

\* represents *anything*, used as wildcard.

# Situation calculus formalisation

Situation calculus models things into three components:

- *fluent*: predicate with *situation*, holding different truth values at different *situations*
- *situation*: state of the world, where the initial situation specifies the initial state of the world
- *action*: behaviour to change the world, applying to a *situation* and resulting in a new *situation*

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We model:

- data rule terms as *fluents*
- the initial data rules are specified for the initial *situation*
- the flow rules are modelled as *actions*

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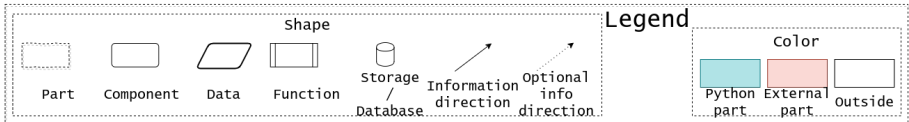
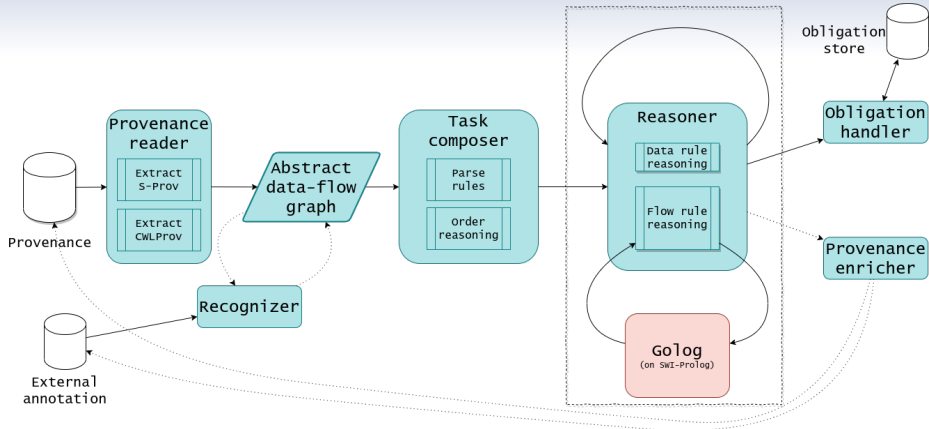
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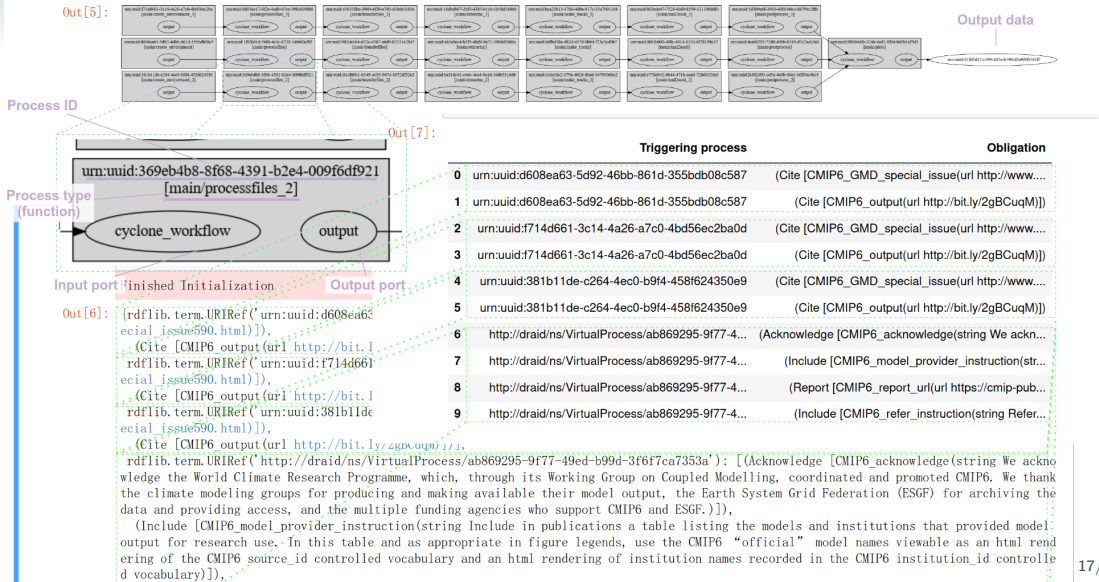
We do:

- flow rules as action sequence
- final situation  $S_f$  as the situation after performing all flow rules starting from the initial situation  $s_0$
- query all *attribute()* and *obligation()* which hold in the final situation  $S_f$

# System structure



# Outcomes from system





# Language coverage

Policy source	# sentences	# rules	# actioning	# implied	# encoded	actioning coverage	total coverage
CMIP6[3]	35	9	8	1	7	100%	89%
EIDA[8]	20	5	3	0	3	100%	60%
INGV[7]	2	2	2	0	2	100%	100%
CC-BY[5]	12	6	5	2	3	100%	83%
CMT Catalogue[9]	15	4	4	0	4	100%	100%
CORDEX[4]	22	9	6	0	5	83%	55%
ISMD[12]	2	1	1	0	1	100%	100%
RCMT[10]	14	3	3	2	1	100%	100%
MIMIC[13]	17	4	4	0	4	100%	100%
CPRD[6]	21	7	6	0	2	33%	29%
PIMA[15]	2	1	1	0	1	100%	100%
ISC[2]	21	7	7	0	7	100%	100%
IRIS[11]	28	10	10	0	10	100%	100%
OGL[14]	30	7	4	3	1	100%	57%
World Bank[16]	40	12	7	2	3	71%	42%
<b>Total</b>	281	87	71	10	54	90%	74%

Thanks  
for listening!