

IBM

Preservation of Real-World Data: The Case for Preservation DataStores

Simona Cohen, **Michael Factor**, Dalit Naor,
Leeat Ramati, Petra Reshef, Shahar Ronen

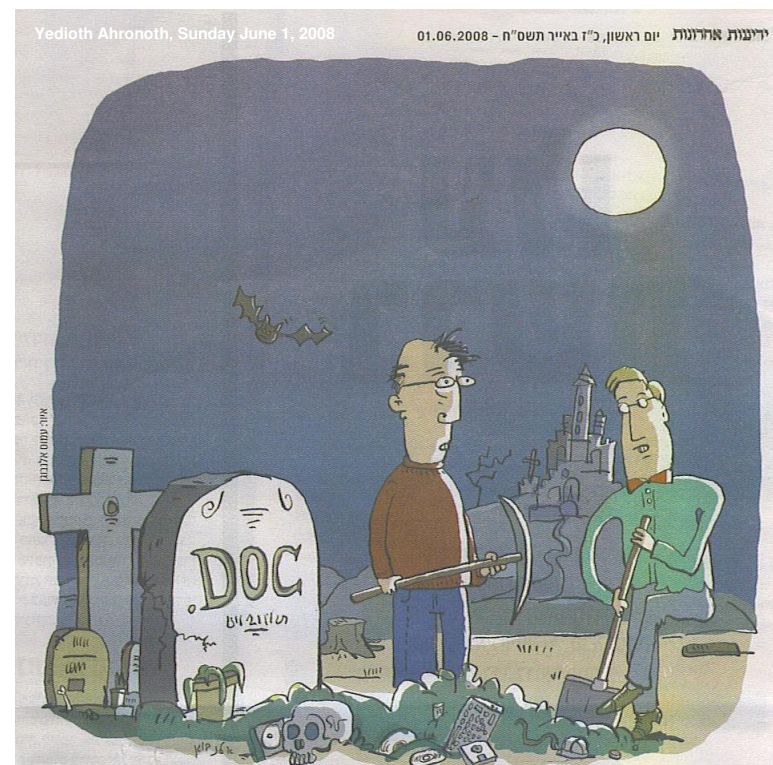
IBM Haifa Research Labs

<http://www.haifa.il.ibm.com/projects/storage/ltdp/index.shtml>



What is Long Term Digital Preservation?

- ◆ *Long Term Digital Preservation (LTDP)* is a means of keeping digital information such that the same information can be used at some point in the future in spite of **obsolescence of everything**: hardware, software, processes, format, people, etc.
 - ◆ *Bit Preservation* addresses obsolescence of hardware
 - ◆ *Information or Logical Preservation* addresses obsolescence of everything else



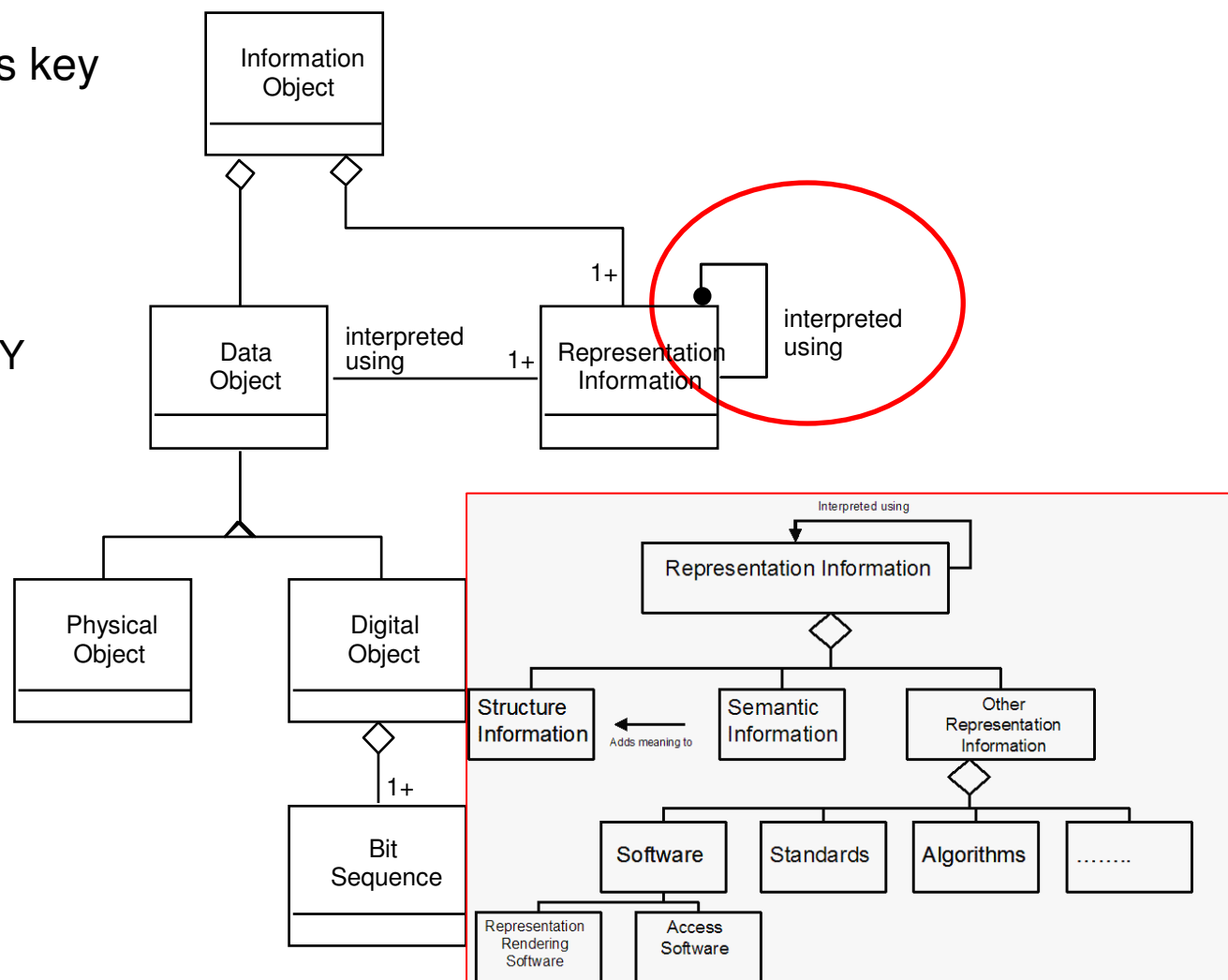


OAIS Information Model & Representation Information

The Information Model is key

Recursion ends at
KNOWLEDGEBASE of the
DESIGNATED COMMUNITY

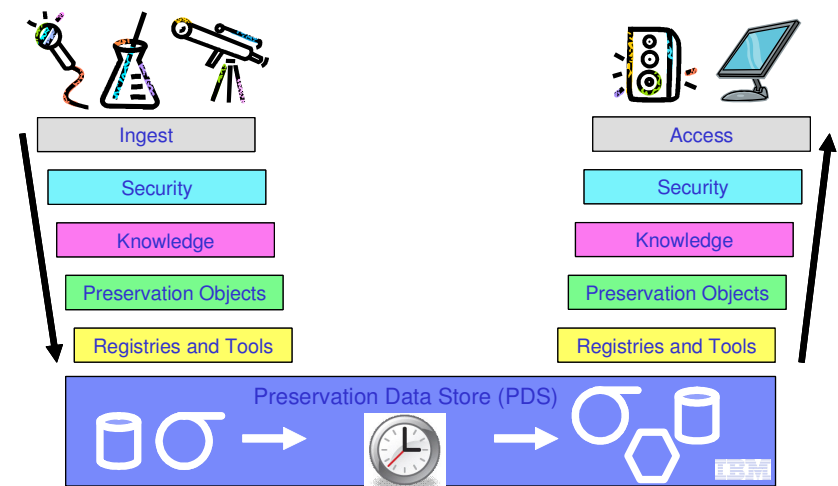
(this knowledge will change
over time and region)



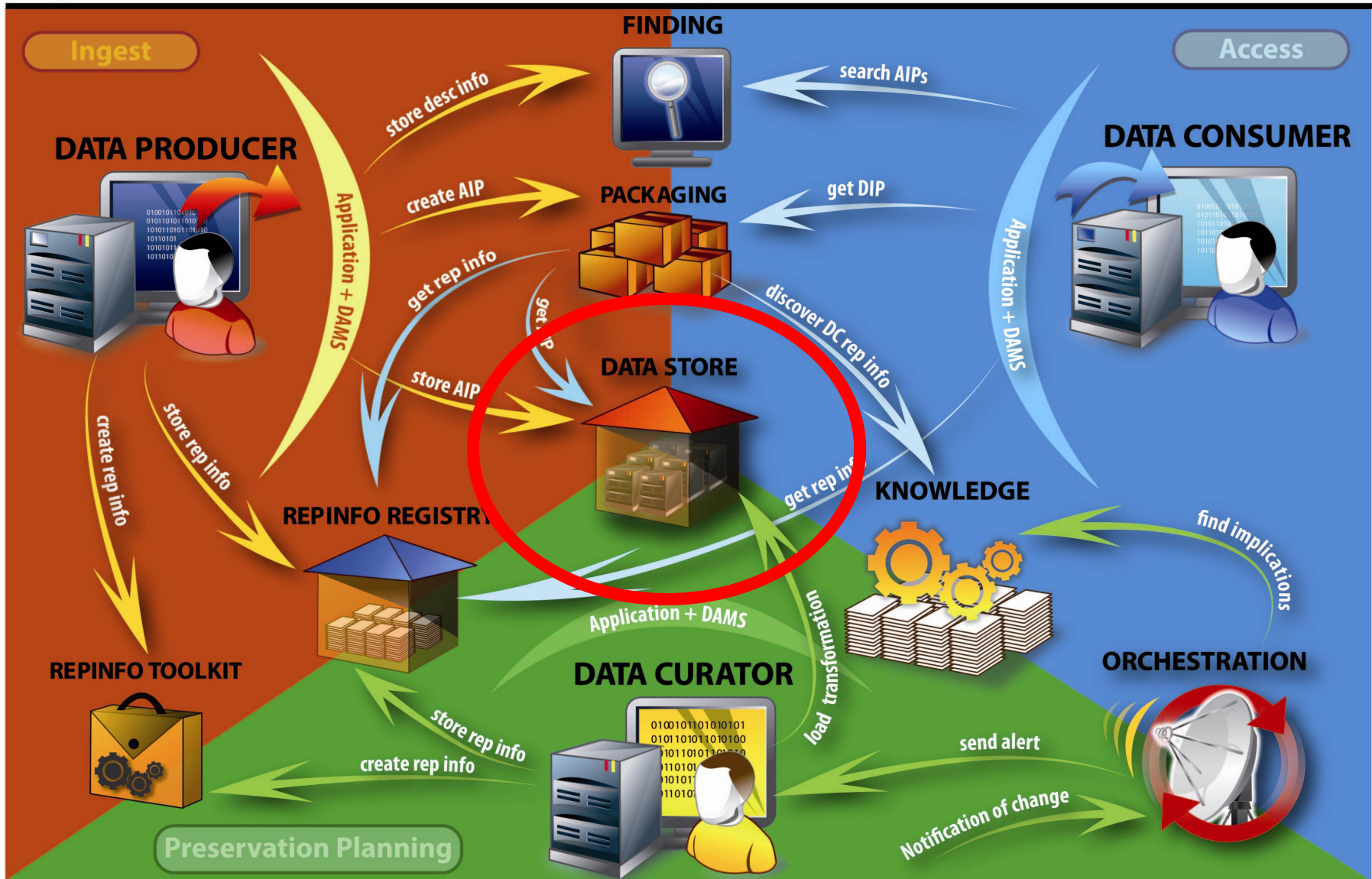


CASPAR and Preservation DataStores

- Objective: Demonstrate validity of OAIS framework with heterogeneous data
 - Open Archival Information System (OAIS) is an ISO Standard Reference Model for Long Term Preservation
- Preservation DataStores (PDS)
 - IBM's responsibility
 - Show how to build standards-based storage that is preservation aware:
 - OAIS-required metadata
 - Transform formats to avoid information obsolescence
 - Manage media for bit obsolescence
- Other partners include data providers such as ESA, UNESCO, etc.
- On June 24th, CASPAR (including PDS) successfully demonstrated preservation of heterogeneous data to the project officer of the European Union.**



<http://www.casparpreserves.eu/> -- <http://www.haifa.il.ibm.com/projects/storage/datastores/caspar.html>





CASPAR Testbed Data

◆ Scientific data

- ◆ European Space Agency (ESA) – IT; Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) – UK
- ◆ Complex digital objects, oriented towards processing, may be high-volume

◆ Cultural heritage

- ◆ UNESCO
- ◆ Dynamic interactive digital objects, oriented towards presentation and replay

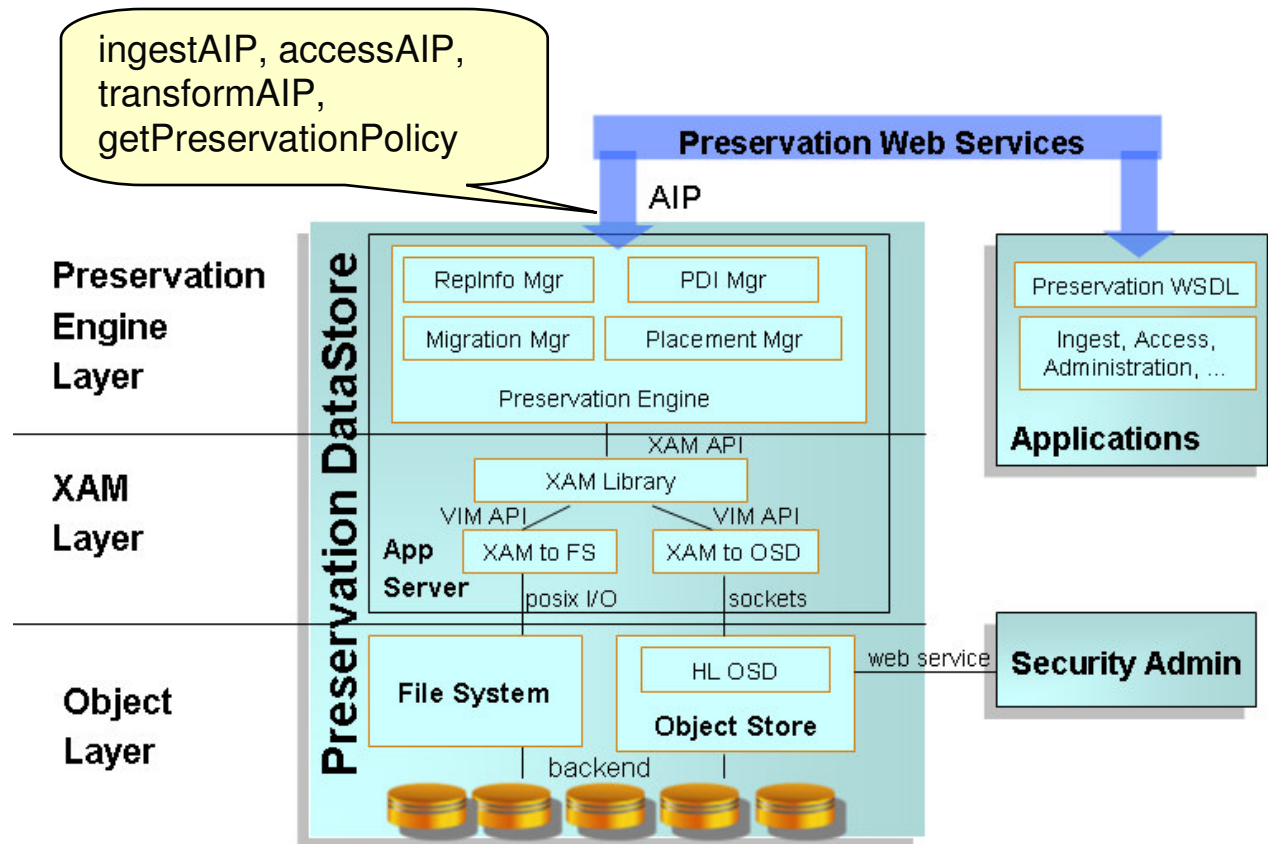
◆ Artistic data

- ◆ INA, University of Leeds, CIANT, CNRS, Ircam
- ◆ Virtual digital objects, spanning between processing and display



PDS Architecture

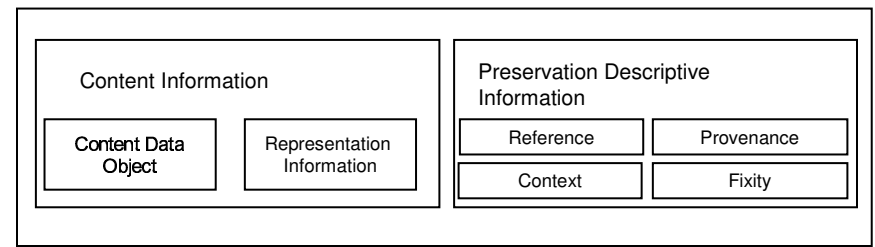
- ◆ Layered approach based on open standards - OAIS, XAM, OSD
- ◆ In CASPAR, all layers are utilized. In other embodiments, only some layers can be used
- ◆ Utilize XAM to provide logical abstraction of containers (XSets)
- ◆ Offload preservation functionality to the storage





Preservation DataStores (PDS)

- ◆ OAIS–based preservation-aware storage, media-agnostic and generic storage to support logical preservation
- ◆ Manage preservation specific metadata
 - ◆ Fixity computations
 - ◆ Update technical provenance
 - ◆ Manage the PDI RepInfo
 - ◆ Ensuring referential integrity
- ◆ Storlet container
 - ◆ Module container that can execute restricted modules with predefined interfaces for data intensive functions, e.g., transformations, fixity calculation.
 - ◆ Optimal scheduling
 - ◆ Update PDS modules (e.g., fixity algorithm, packaging format)
- ◆ Managing availability/ data loss
 - ◆ Physically co-locate data and metadata
 - ◆ Cluster Related AIPs on the same media unit based upon their relative importance
- ◆ AIP identifier generation – Globally unique identifiers





Preservation of an AIP

- ◇ Ingest AIP
 - ◇ Storing an AIP in PDS

- ◇ Bit and logical preservation of an AIP
 - ◇ Bit migrations
 - ◇ Format migrations - data transformation
 - ◇ Transformation modules are packed as AIPs and preserved
 - ◇ Transformation result is a new version to the original AIP
 - ◇ Migrations are documented as Provenance records
 - ◇ During migrations PDS performs operations on AIP
 - ◇ Update PDI (e.g. Fixity calculation, additional Provenance events)
 - ◇ Execute previously loaded storlets

- ◇ Access AIP
 - ◇ Retrieval of an AIP
 - ◇ By retrieval time the original AIP may have several versions and copies



MST data and PDS

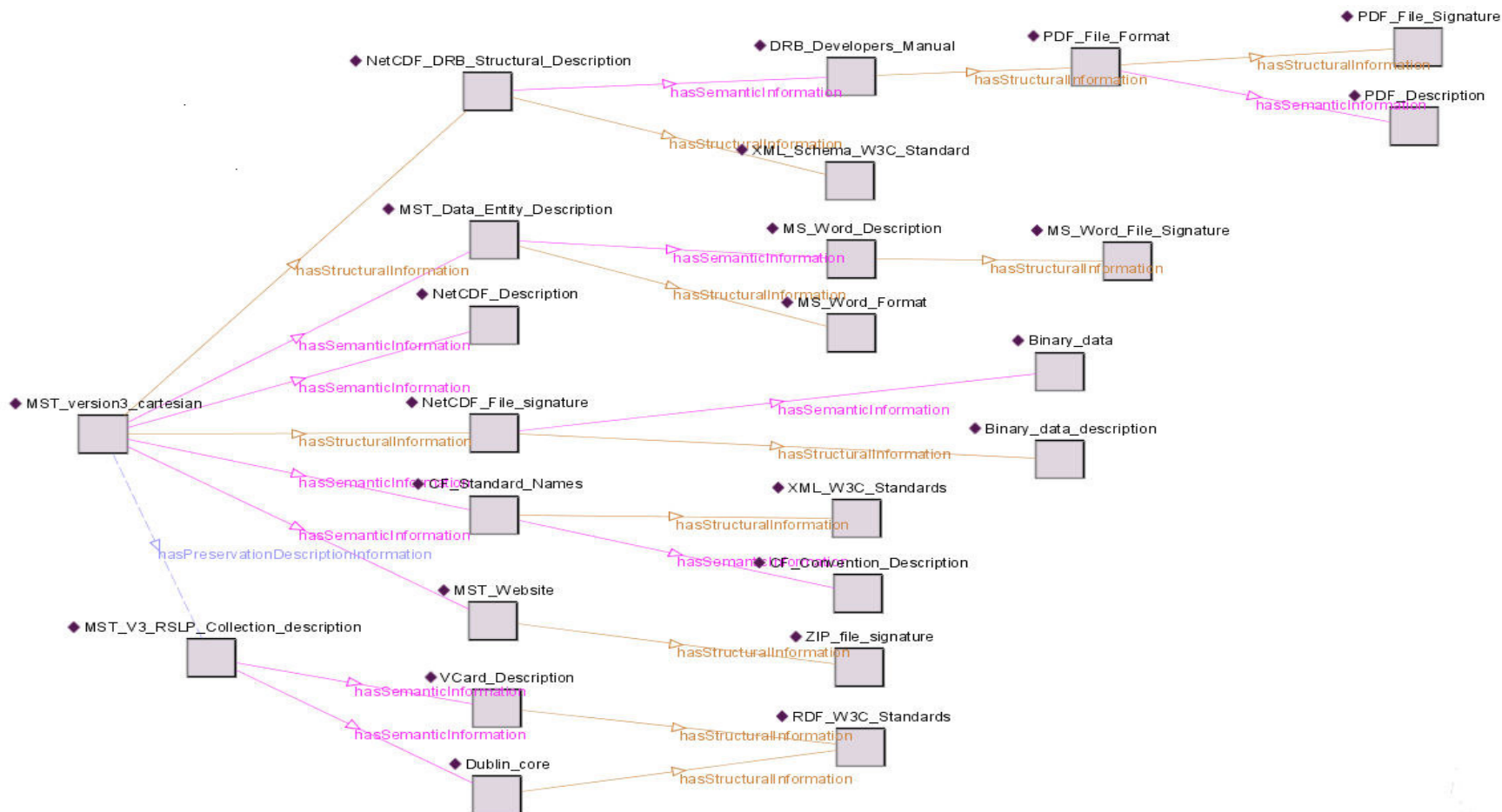
The Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) Mesosphere-Stratosphere-Troposphere (MST) Radar at Aberystwyth



- ◆ MST data ingested to PDS
 - ◆ Highly complex atmospheric data preserved for long periods in self-describing NetCDF binary format
- ◆ PDS handles logical preservation
 - ◆ Handle metadata
 - ◆ Update provenance, compute fixity etc.
 - ◆ Load and execute transformation
 - ◆ The NASA-AMES format has become the preferred data format of the atmospheric scientists community
- ◆ Access
 - ◆ By access time there are several versions to the original AIP

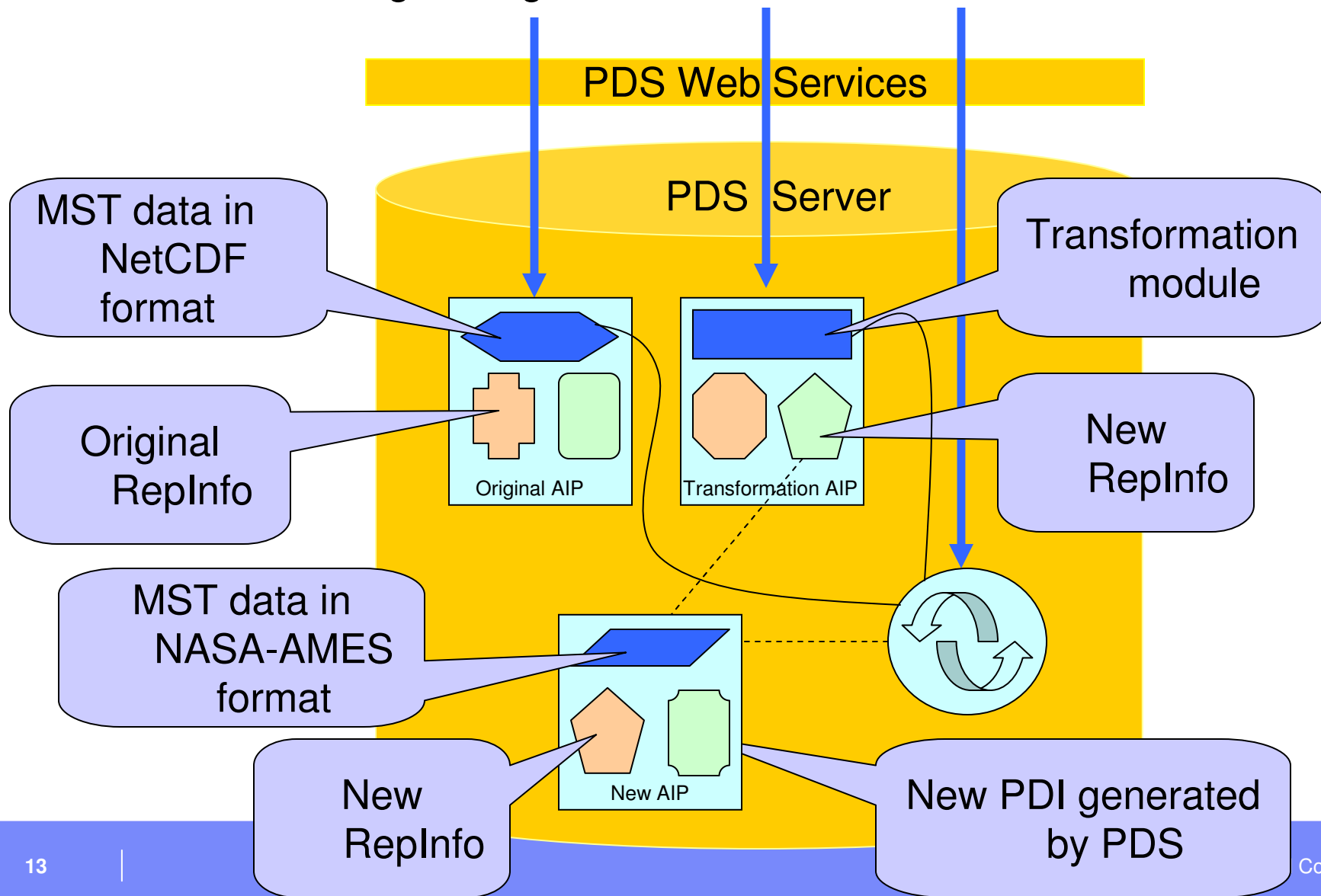


Example: MST RepInfo Network





Ingest original AIP Transformation Transform AIP





The screenshot shows the 'Preservation DataStores Demo' application. The 'Inputs' section has 'accessContentDataAsLink' selected and a 'Requested AIP ID' of '24C1B2010000000000000000'. The 'Result' section displays a large block of text in the NASA-AMES format, which is a standard for digital preservation metadata. A callout bubble points to this text with the label 'NASA-AMES format'.

Access new MST data

The screenshot shows the 'Preservation DataStores Demo' application with 'accessProvenance' selected in the 'Methods' list. The 'Inputs' section has a 'Requested AIP ID' of '4D5285B00000000000000000'. The 'Result' section displays a table of provenance records.

Content	ID	Date	Title	Type	Is PDS Internal
#Mon Sep 15 12:02:44 IDT 2008 ID=0 Date=Mon Sep 15 12:02:44 IDT 2008 Type=Creation PDSInternal=true Title=Transformation result	0	Mon Sep 15 12:02:44 IDT 2008	Transformation result	Creation	true
#Mon Sep 15 12:02:44 IDT 2008 ID=0 Date=Mon Sep 15 12:02:44 IDT 2008 Type=Ingest PDSInternal=true Title=Ingest AIP	1	Mon Sep 15 12:02:44 IDT 2008	Ingest AIP	Ingest	true
#Mon Sep 15 12:03:18 IDT 2008 ID=0 Date=Mon Sep 15 12:03:18 IDT 2008 Type=Access PDSInternal=true Title=Access AIP	2	Mon Sep 15 12:03:18 IDT 2008	Access AIP	Access	true

Access new AIP provenance



Some other things we are doing in IBM Research

- ◆ Storage Networking Industry Association (SNIA)
 - ◆ LTACSI - Long Term Archive & Compliance Storage Initiative
 - ◆ IBM co-chairs the Long Term Retention TWG
 - ◆ A recently-formed working group focusing on a Self-contained Information Retention Format
- ◆ Long Term Digital Preservation Assessment
 - ◆ Research tool to evaluate organization's ability to preserve its digital resources
 - ◆ Based upon emerging standard audit checklists (ISO 14721)



More Info

<http://www.haifa.il.ibm.com/projects/storage/itdp/index.shtml>

Michael Factor: factor@il.ibm.com

IBM Haifa Research Lab