Lighting up our 'dark' data – using *Dropbox* for collaborative research data projects

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Centre for eResearch, University of Auckland
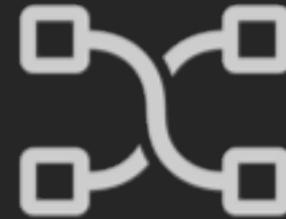
@y_vettles

Overview

THE UNIVERSITY OF
AUCKLAND
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau
N E W   Z E A L A N D

Created by un-delivered
from Noun Project

pilot | our process

Created by Sam Smith
from Noun Project

examples

?

Created by corpus deficit
from Noun Project

problem

Created by Adnen Kadri
from Noun Project

feedback

Created by Nociconist
from Noun Project

going
forward

Who we are.

Centre for eResearch

Compute

Research Data Solutions

Visualisation

Research Partnerships

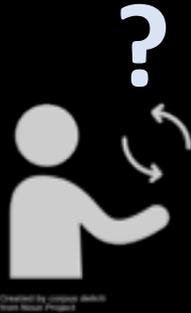Enablement

Training

Advocacy

—

THE UNIVERSITY OF
AUCKLAND
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau
NEW ZEALAND

University of Auckland

11 faculties

6 campuses

42,000 students

~5000 researchers

The Now (Problem)

The problem – for researchers

siloed storage

How are researchers sharing info?

cloud services

usb drives

email

?

The problem – institutional

Metadata?

?

Owner?

Sharing?

Security?

Value?

Insight
Planning

Created by Eucalyp from Noun Project

Created by corpus delicti from Noun Project

Created by Symbolon from Noun Project

Created by Chameleon Design from Noun Project

Created by Maxim Kulikov from Noun Project

Created by Mike Zuidgeest from Noun Project

Helping research move at the speed of thought, not limited by the speed of bureaucracy, and with greater integrity and impact.

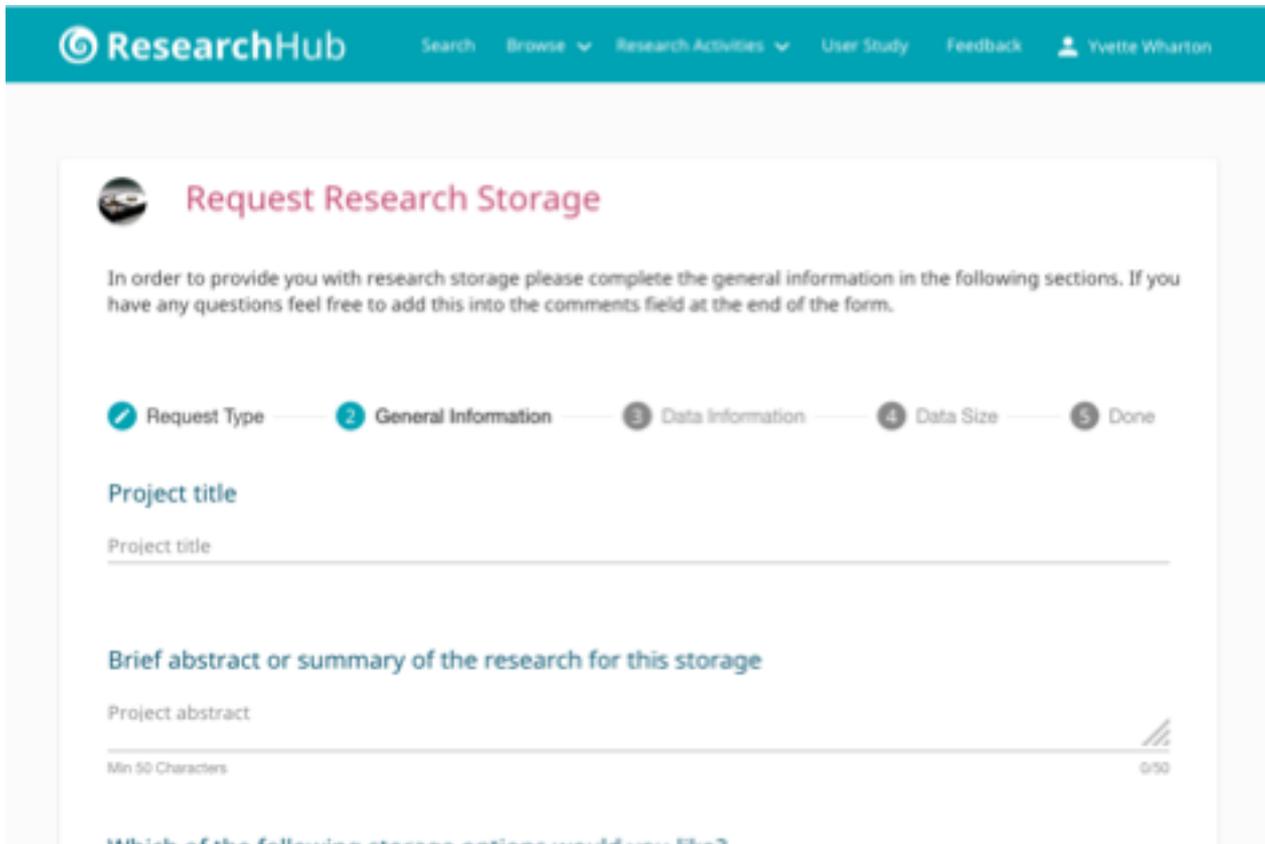# Shedding light on dark research data – the pilot

Our process

Collect research information
through our research hub

Our process

Collect research information

Scripted group |team folders

Invite to join Dropbox pilot

Feedback

Insights

Feedback | Examples

Dropbox footprint – some numbers

Data from all Dropbox @auckland.ac.nz domain users

4620
Registered
Dropbox Users

19.67 TB
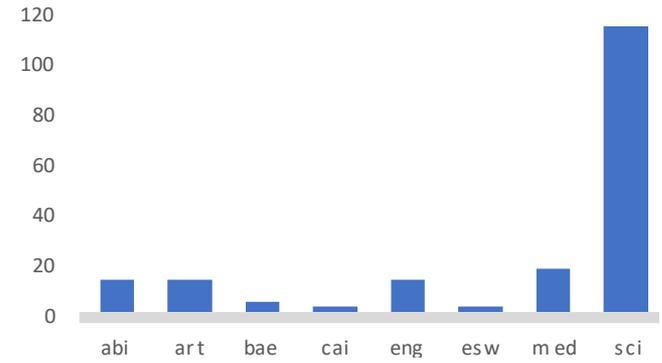data stored

Data from pilot domain users
in 2018

Known info about
191 Projects
8 Faculties
Collaborations
devices

500
Dropbox pilot
user licenses

~10 TB
data stored

Institutional insights

Projects per Faculty | Institute

**Top File Types
UoA Pilot**

.tif
.png
.wav
.m
.jpg
.f
.txt
.dcm
.log
.ndb

Number of active devices used by your team

Devices

Collaboration networks

Legend:
- Both
- External
- Internal
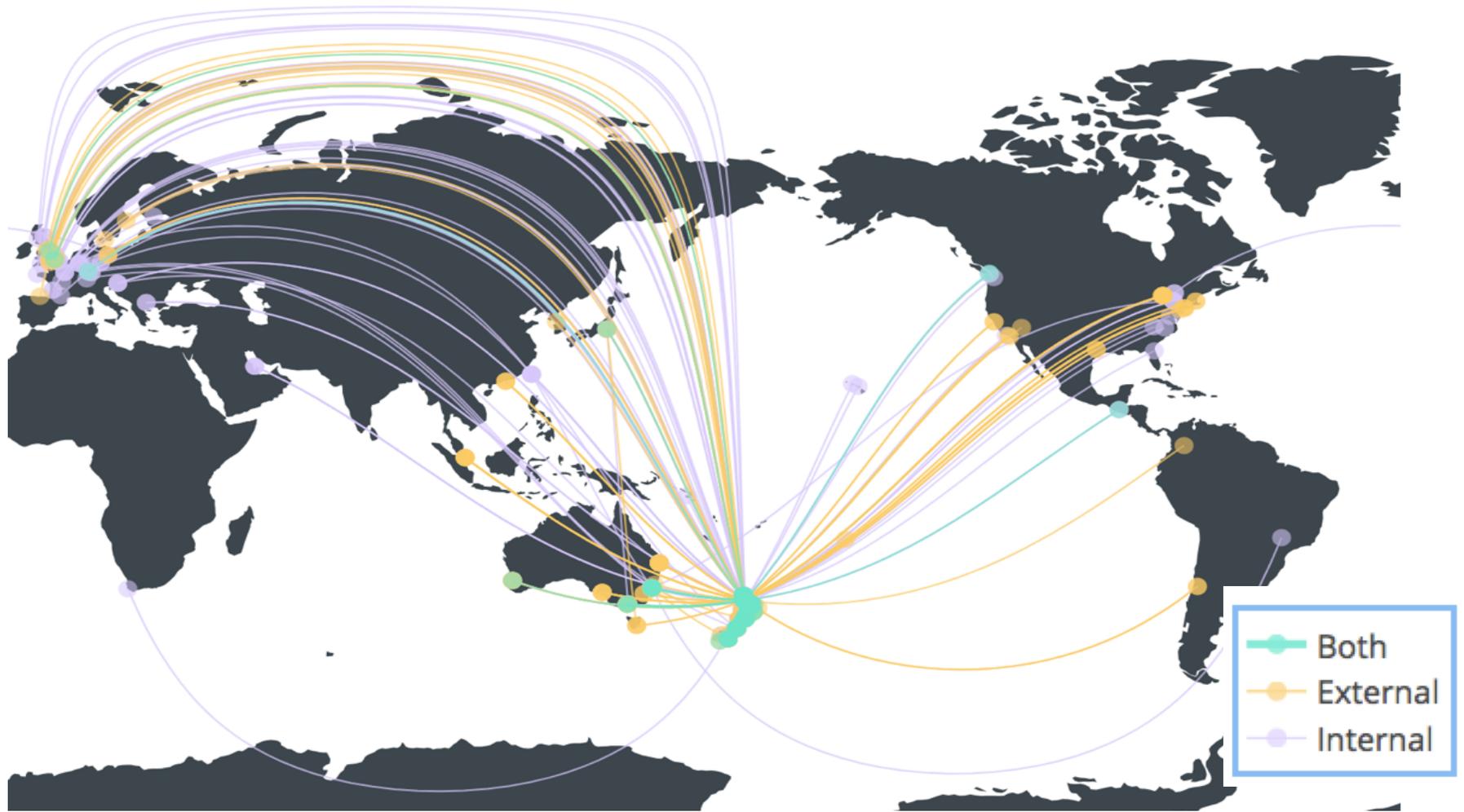
University of Auckland Dropbox users are collaborating within New Zealand & across the globe

Feedback themes | Use Cases

- Improved ease of collaboration
- Linkage to other tools (Slack, Trello, Office 365)
- Research Community use
- Improved workflows
- Ease of off-campus access
- Synchronisation/Smart Sync
- Dropbox papers
- Versioning
- Security - linkage to encryption
- Multiple types of devices

Challenges

- Research Groups vs Projects/Activities

- Folder Permissions inheritance on team folders

- Data Sovereignty

- Project Ethics

- Thanks Dropbox for listening

Next Steps

Questions

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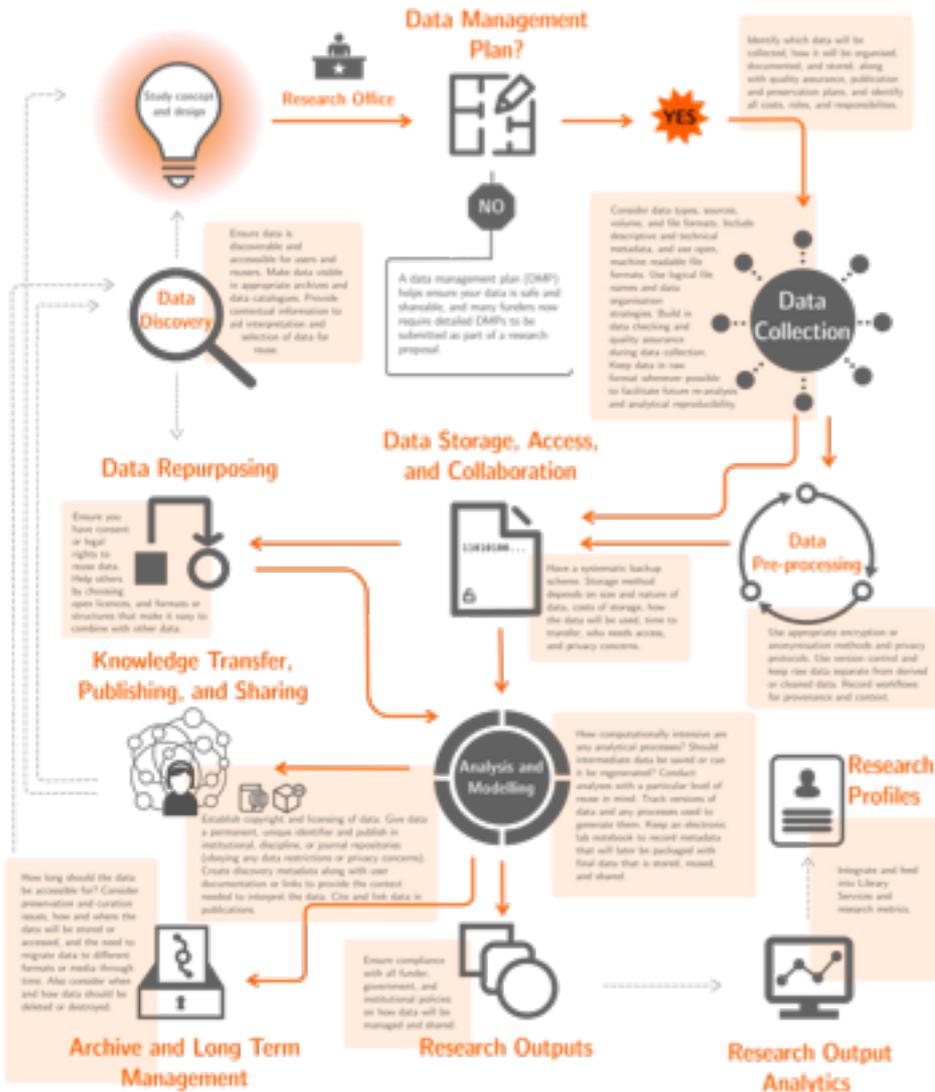
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RD Lifecycle