

## OVERVIEW OF CERIF FOR DATASETS

The overall aim of C4D is to develop a **framework for incorporating metadata into CERIF** such that research organisations and researchers can better discover and make use of existing and future research datasets, wherever they may be held. In order to demonstrate the facility of the approach a **subject specific demonstrator** will be built and this approach verified at the three partner HEIs, each within their own research administration infrastructure.

Whilst a survey of current datasets and metadata will be undertaken it is likely that the specific area chosen will be one in which the three university partner institutions are active; namely **marine sciences**. EPSRC currently identifies research data metadata as a key part of the outputs from its funded activities. In their expectations they clearly state that research organisations are expected to publish metadata to enable their results to be found, and also to support the data curation lifecycle, as part of the conditions of their award. C4D will facilitate this process, and **increase community engagement** with the process of metadata production and publication.

## DATASETS & STANDARDS

The University of Sunderland currently co-owns or has access to several suitable research datasets for C4D. Specifically, these include the **Climatological Database for the World's Oceans (CLIWOC)** and the JISC-funded **UK Colonial Registers and Royal Navy Logbooks digitisation project (CORRAL)** providing historical and marine climatology datasets.

At the University of St Andrews, the **Sea Mammal Research Unit** is a NERC collaborative centre and provides the UK's main science capability in the field of marine mammal biology collecting data on seal and cetacean populations and related oceanographic data.

At the University of Glasgow, the School of Geographical and Earth Sciences currently has access to **marine climatological datasets**, primarily for the North Atlantic, extending back up to 650 years as part of the **Digital Curation Centre**.

NERC supports 7 data centres and an environmental data discovery service. It has supported CERIF as a standard for the exchange of research input and output information, and is keen to explore the potential role of CERIF alongside research data metadata standards such as the **INSPIRE ISO standard**, and others such as **UKLII, UK GEMINI2, MOLES** and **MEDIN**.

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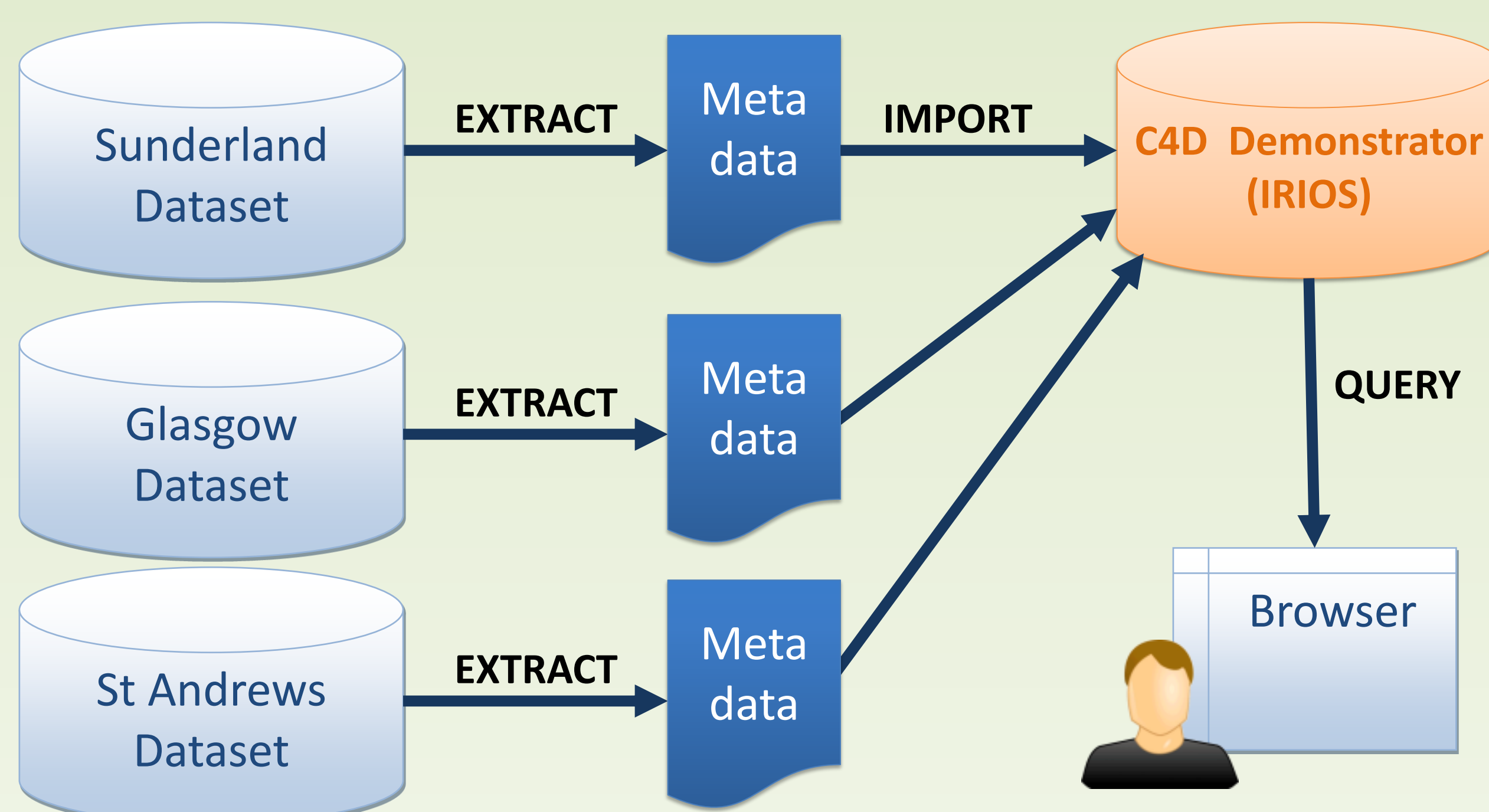
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## KEY AIMS

- ❖ Evaluate the feasibility of using CERIF as a standard protocol to represent 'higher-levels' of **research data metadata**
- ❖ **Demonstrate** how this data metadata can be used alongside other CERIF entities for projects, people, institutions and outputs
- ❖ Add the capacity to **store and search research-data metadata** onto the existing IRIOS platform; this repository will be made available to other research organisations thus enhancing the discovery of datasets by researchers



By developing the processes to integrate CERIF with other research data metadata standards, C4D will ensure the resulting methodologies are applicable in a wide range of instances where there is a need to report on research data as one of a range of outputs from a research project.

## IRIOS

In the JISC funded project, IRIOS (Integrated Research Input and Output System) the same consortium developed a platform for managing **research information exchange using CERIF**. IRIOS supports the import of grant data (inputs) from Research Councils and publication data (outputs) from HEIs. The system allows **inputs to be linked to outputs**, which can then be **exported in CERIF** and used in other CERIF-compliant information systems (e.g. Pure, ePrints and, in the near future, RMAS). See [www.iriios.sunderland.ac.uk](http://www.iriios.sunderland.ac.uk) for further info.