

# Handling Petabyte Data Sets at European XFEL: Updates on Policy and Implementation



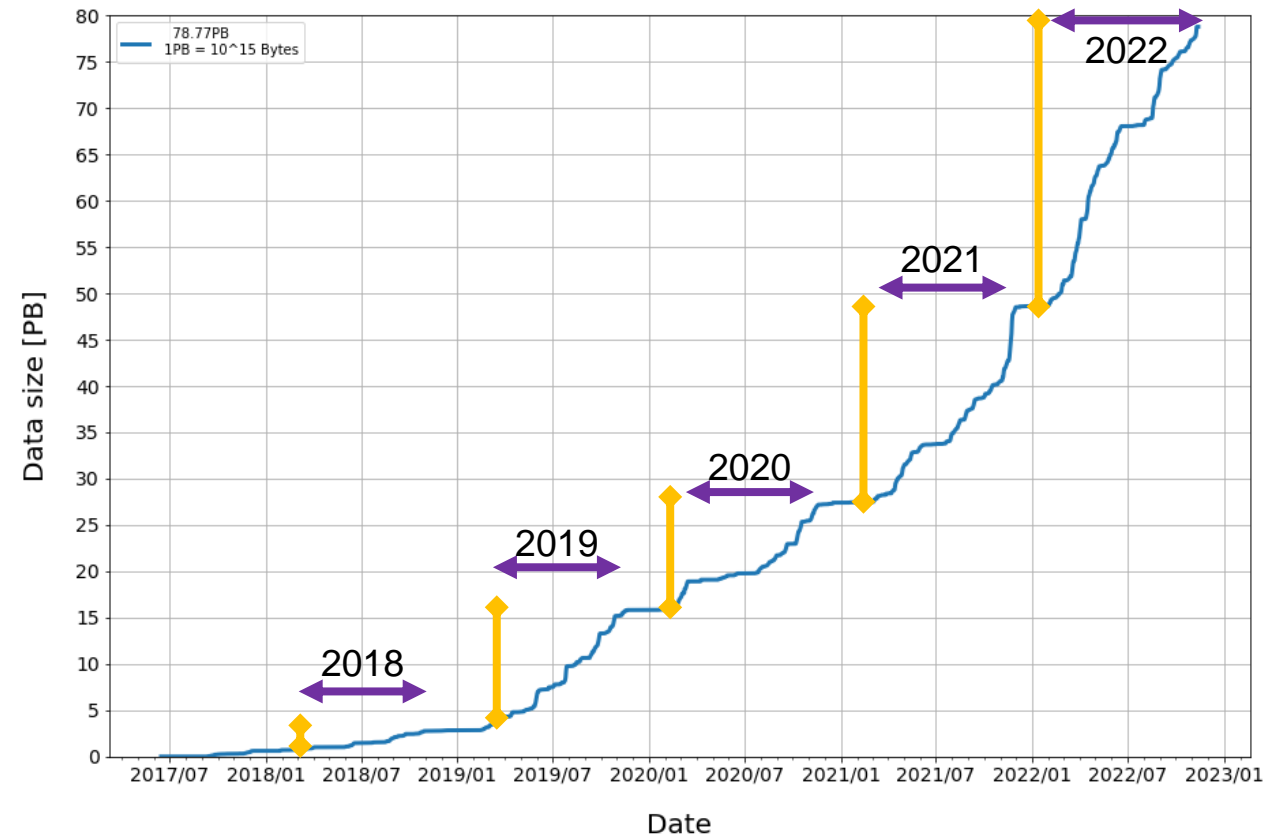
Steve Aplin  
European XFEL

User Meeting 2023  
25<sup>th</sup> January

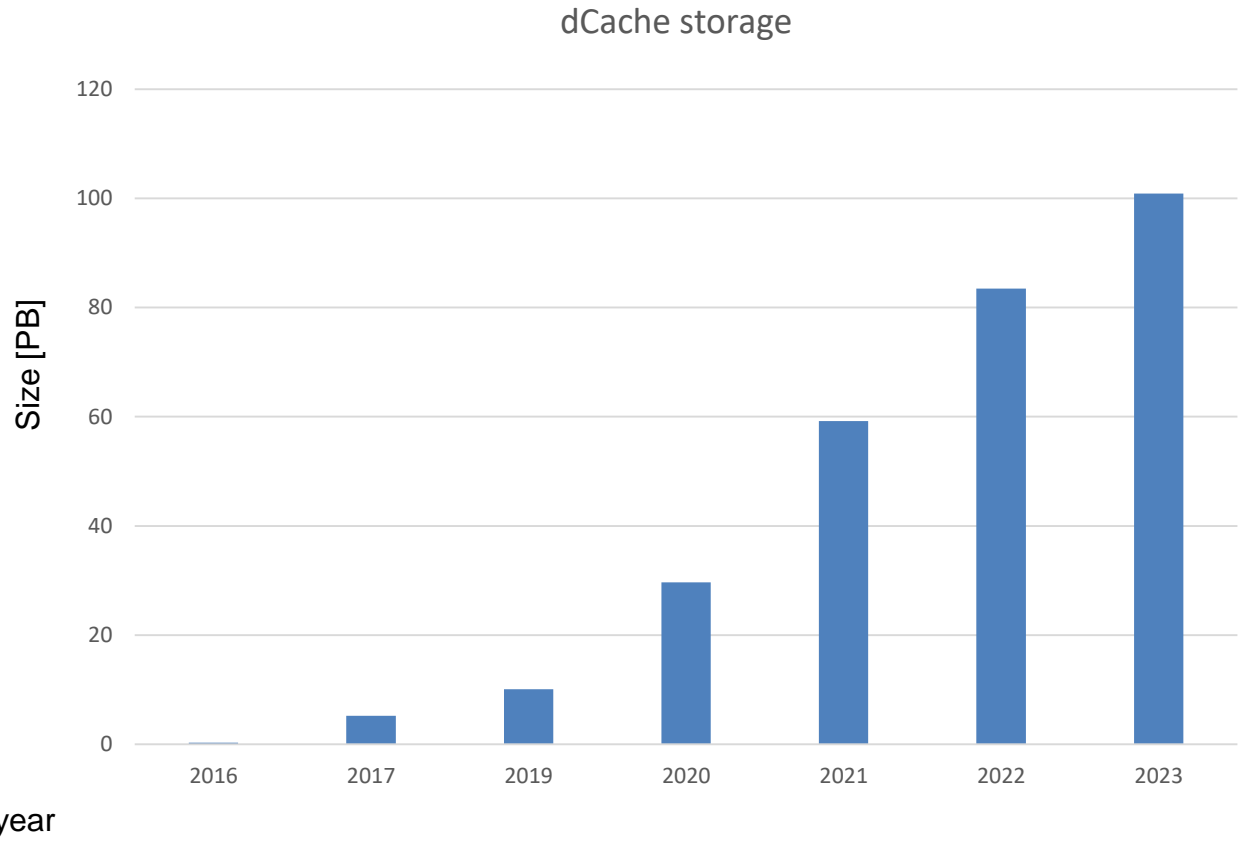
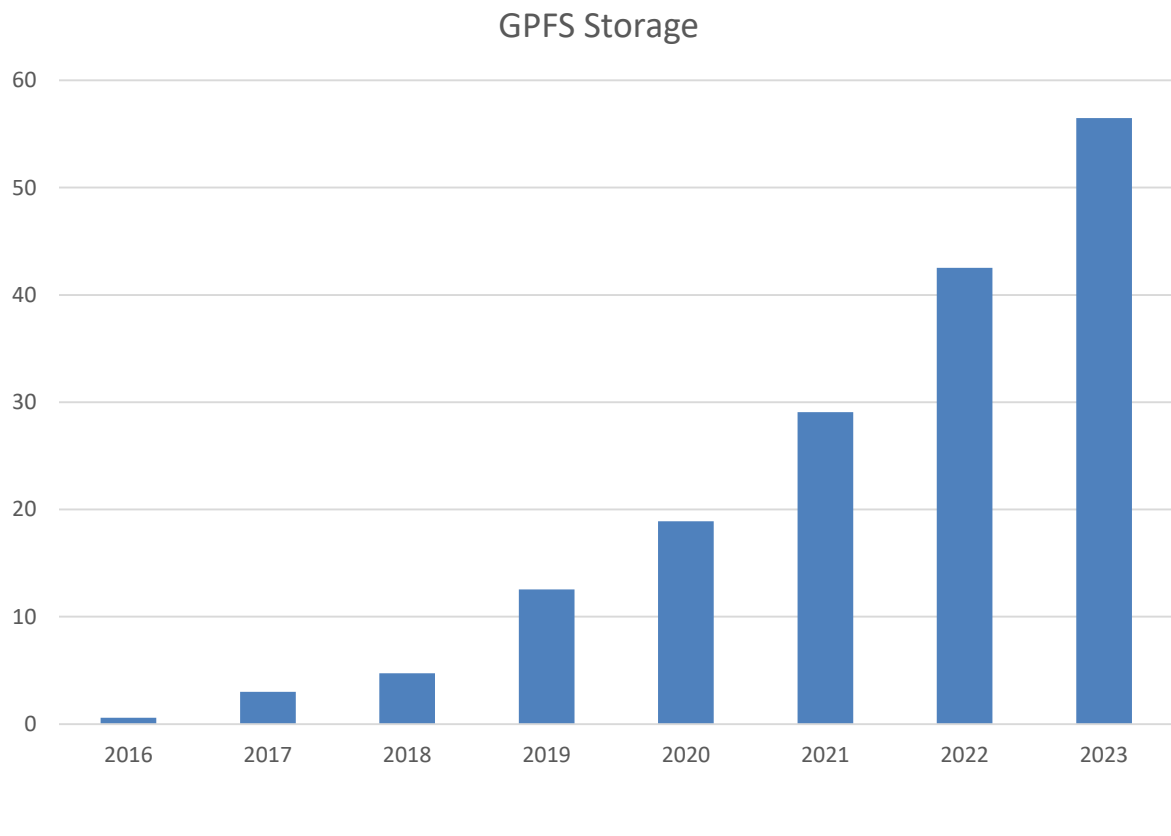
# [in]Valuable Scientific Data

- We continue to generate increasingly massive amounts of scientific data
- The approach of storing all generated data long-term is becoming unsustainable
- We have an obligation to increase the value of the data by adhering to the FAIR principles

Raw Data Generated at European XFEL Instruments

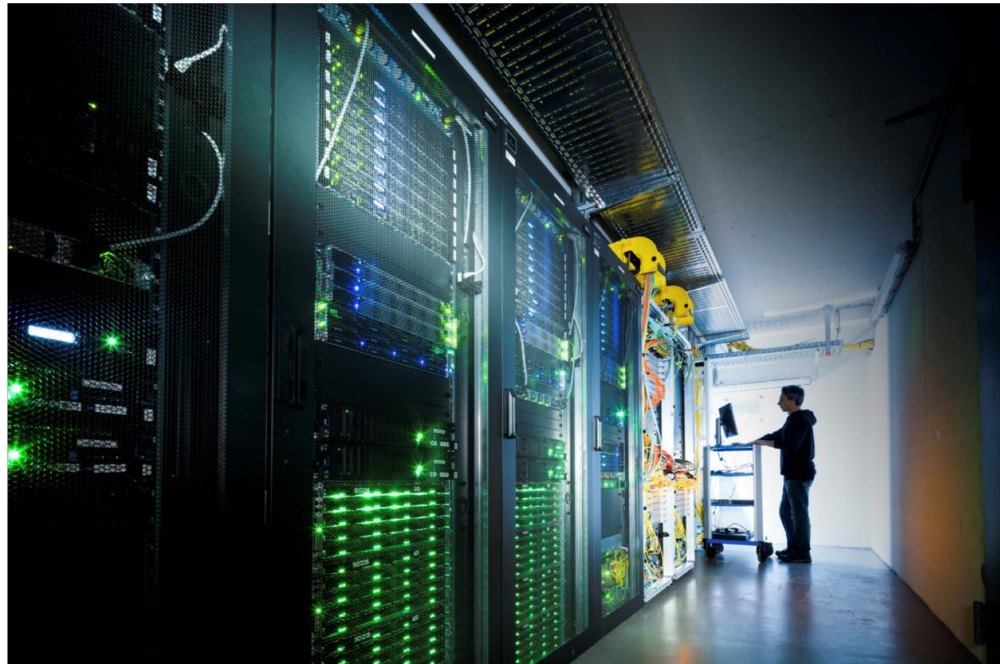


# Data Storage Capacity for European XFEL

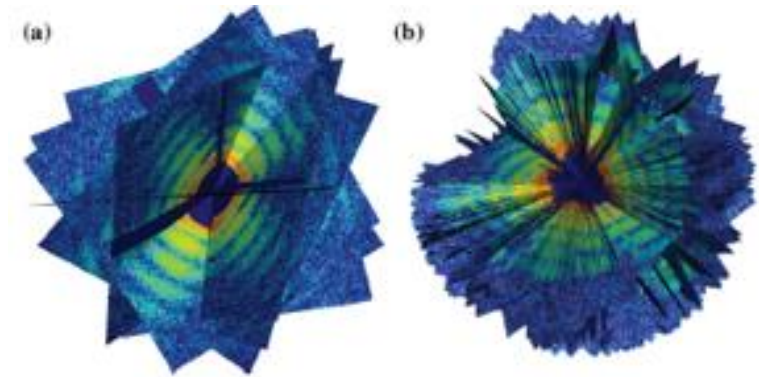


# Data Reduction Becomes Unavoidable

## Reduce to Store



## Reduce to Process



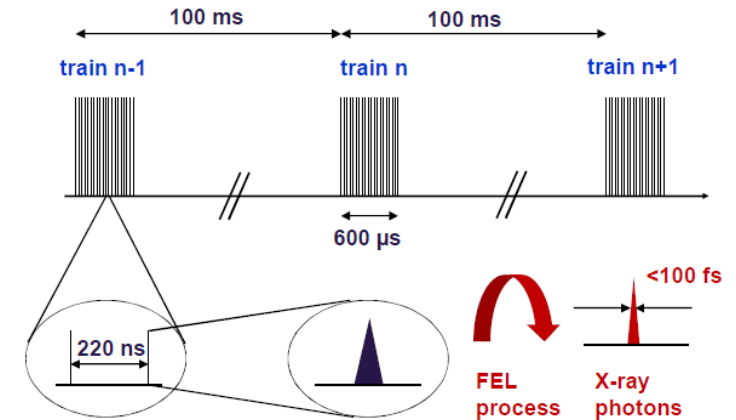
## Reduce to Transport



# Can't you just use a trigger....?

Detector type	Data/sec
AGIPD 1Mpxl	~7 GB/s
AGIPD 1Mpxl Double images	~14 GB/s
AGIPD 4Mpxl	~30 GB/s *
LPD 1Mpxl	~10 GB/s
DSSC 1Mpxl	~16 GB/s

\* Will not be run at full rate in current design



The data flow from all four experiments at LHC for Run 2 was anticipated to be about **25 GB/s** after data reduction

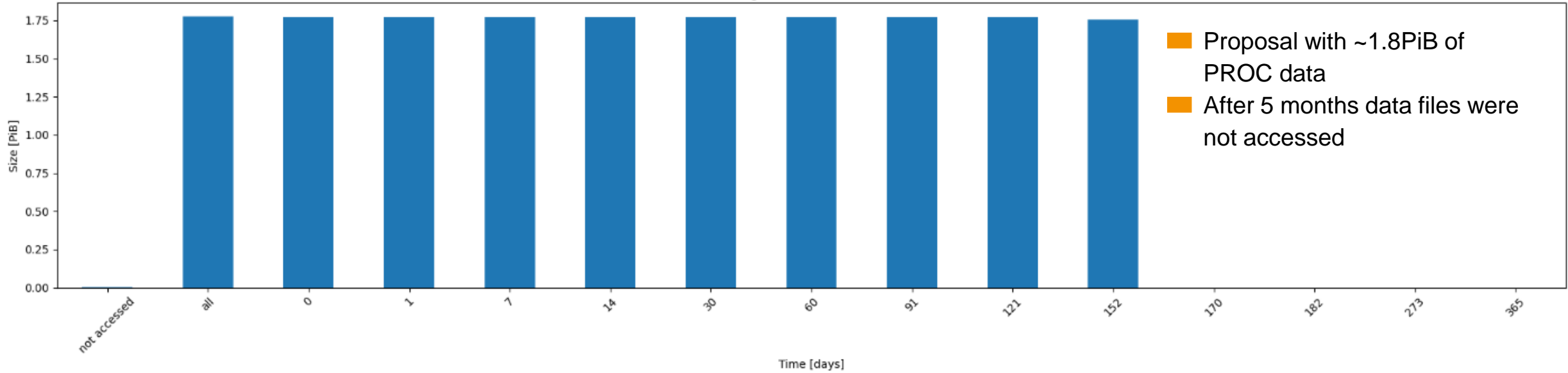
- ALICE: 4 GB/s (Pb-Pb running)
- ATLAS: 800 MB/s – 1 GB/s
- CMS: 600 MB/s
- LHCb: 750 MB/s



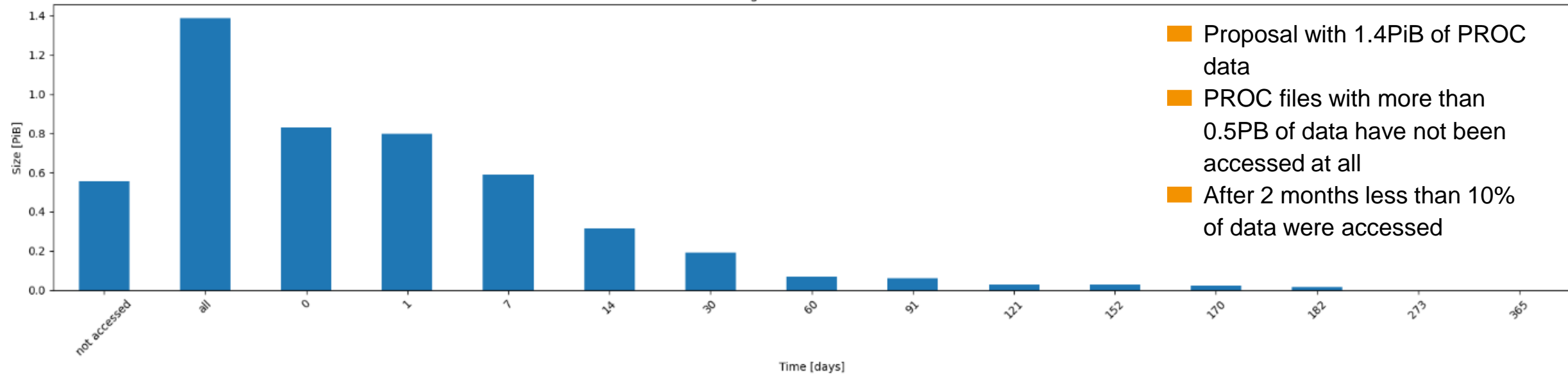
Data reduction in particle physics is built into it's DNA, it is intrinsic to the field's experimental viability.

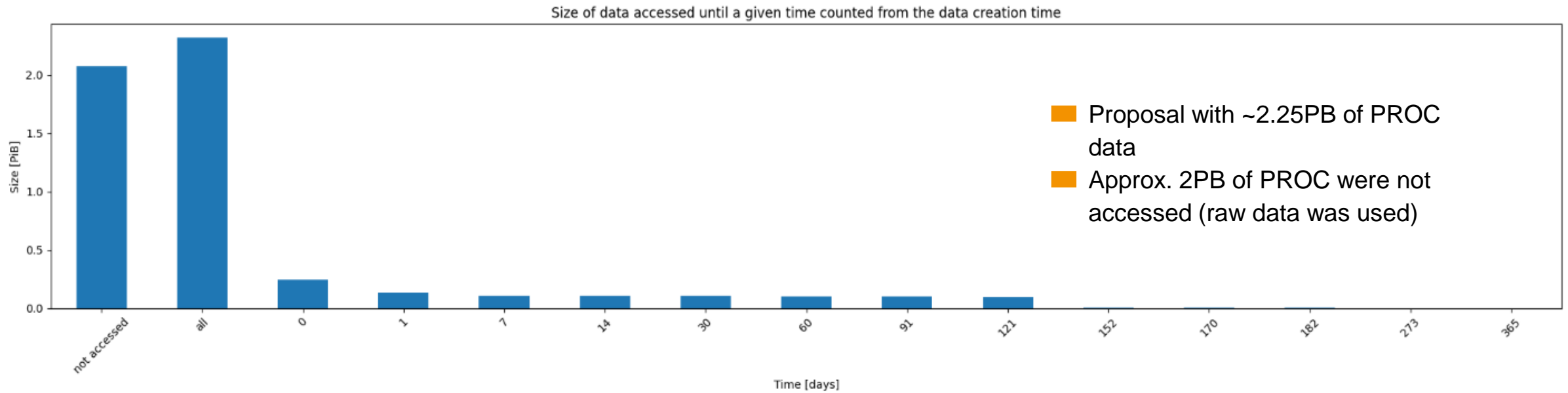
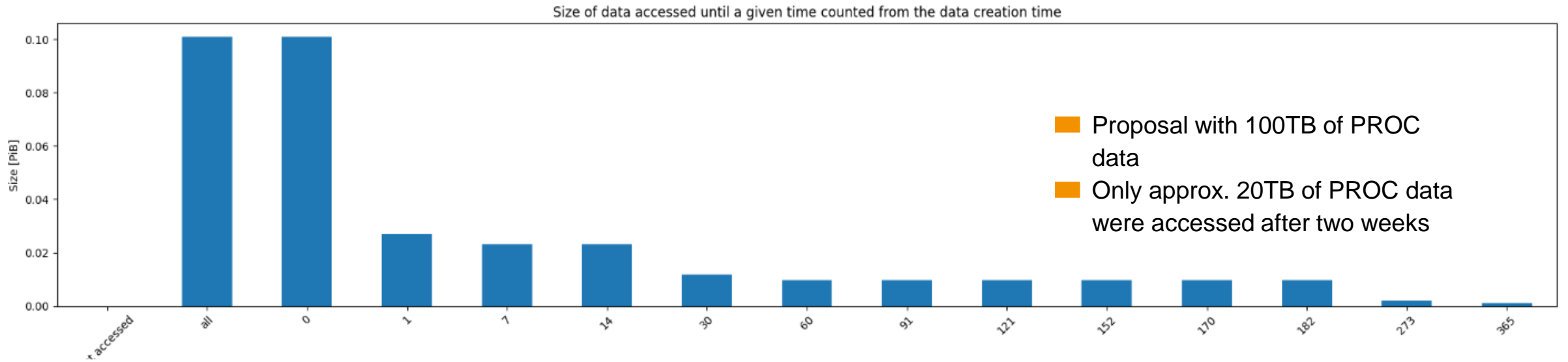
The experiments are designed from the ground up on data reduction.

Size of data accessed until a given time counted from the data creation time



Size of data accessed until a given time counted from the data creation time



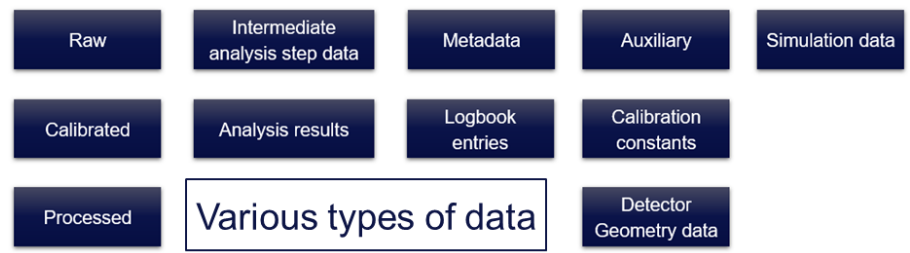


**Scientific Data  
Policy**

**Data Management  
Tools  
&  
Procedures**

**Data Management  
Plans  
per Proposal**





### Data Retention



# Why do we need a Scientific Data Policy?



Data management becomes increasingly complex and expensive



# Scientific Data Policy in place

- European XFEL Scientific Data Policy was approved by the European XFEL Council shortly before European XFEL transitioned from the Construction to the Operation mode.
- The policy has is based on recommendations from the PaN-data Europe Strategic Working Group from 2011 following the majority of modifications from ILL and ESRF
- The policy defines the obligations and rights of the facility and its users with respect to the scientific data
- It allowed for a coherent approach to the data management services across different instruments and laboratories

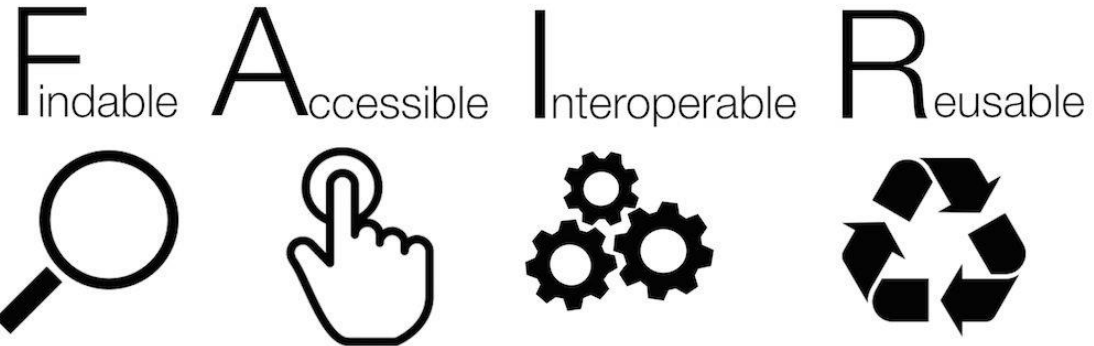


6 June 2017

## Scientific Data Policy of European X-Ray Free-Electron Laser Facility GmbH

as approved by the Council on 30 June 2017

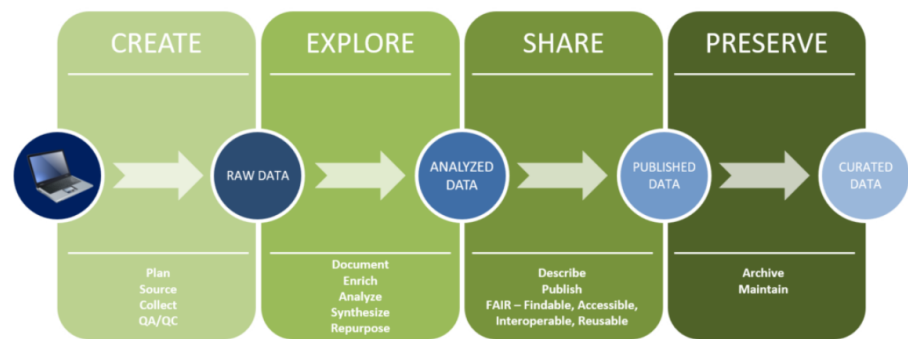
1	Preface.....	2
2	Definitions.....	2
3	General principles.....	5
4	Raw data and associated metadata.....	6
4.1	Access to raw data and associated metadata.....	6
4.2	Curation of raw data and associated metadata.....	7
4.3	Access to raw data and metadata.....	7
5	Processed data and results.....	9
5.1	Ownership of results.....	9
5.2	Curation of processed data and results.....	9
5.3	Access to results.....	10
6	Warranty and liability regarding scientific data, metadata and results.....	10
7	Good practice for metadata captures and results storage.....	11
8	Publication information.....	12
9	Termination of custodianship or metadata catalogue.....	12



- In 2016, the 'FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship' were published in *Nature Scientific Data*.
- The ultimate goal of FAIR is to optimize the reuse of data
- Shifted paradigm from open to FAIR data
- "as open as possible, as closed as necessary"

- ❖ **Findable:** This is the first step for the reuse of the data, which is to find them.
- ❖ **Accessible:** Once the user has found the data, he must know how to access it
- ❖ **Interoperable:** Data needs to be integrated not only with other data, but also with applications or workflows for analysis, storage and processing.
- ❖ **Reusable:** other researchers can reuse all data.

# Highlights of Data Policy changes



■ Introduction of the data management plan



■ Preserving user data



■ PI responsibilities and rights concerning data



■ Definition of European XFEL data format

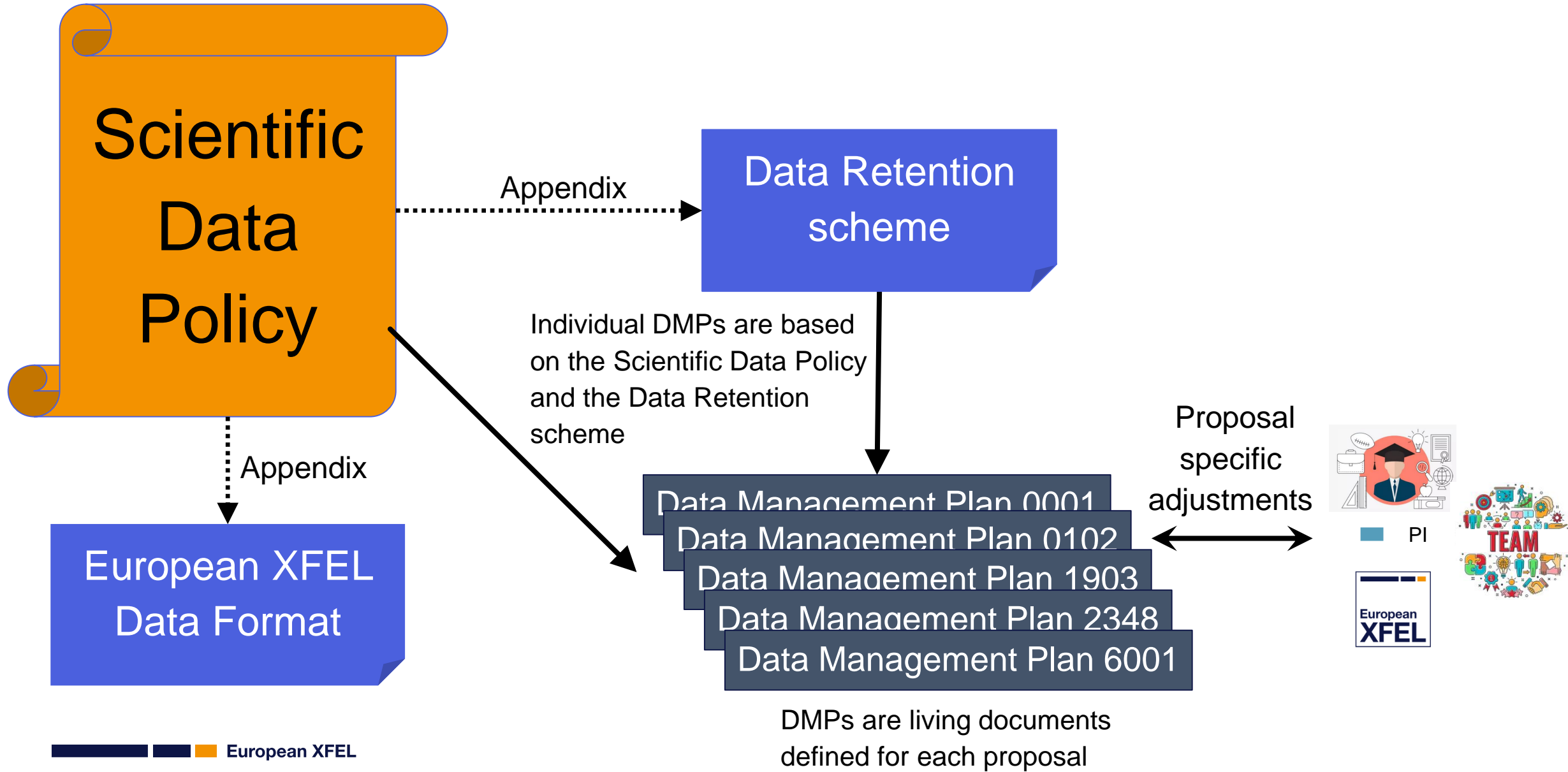


■ More on persistent identifiers  
▶ DOI, ORCID

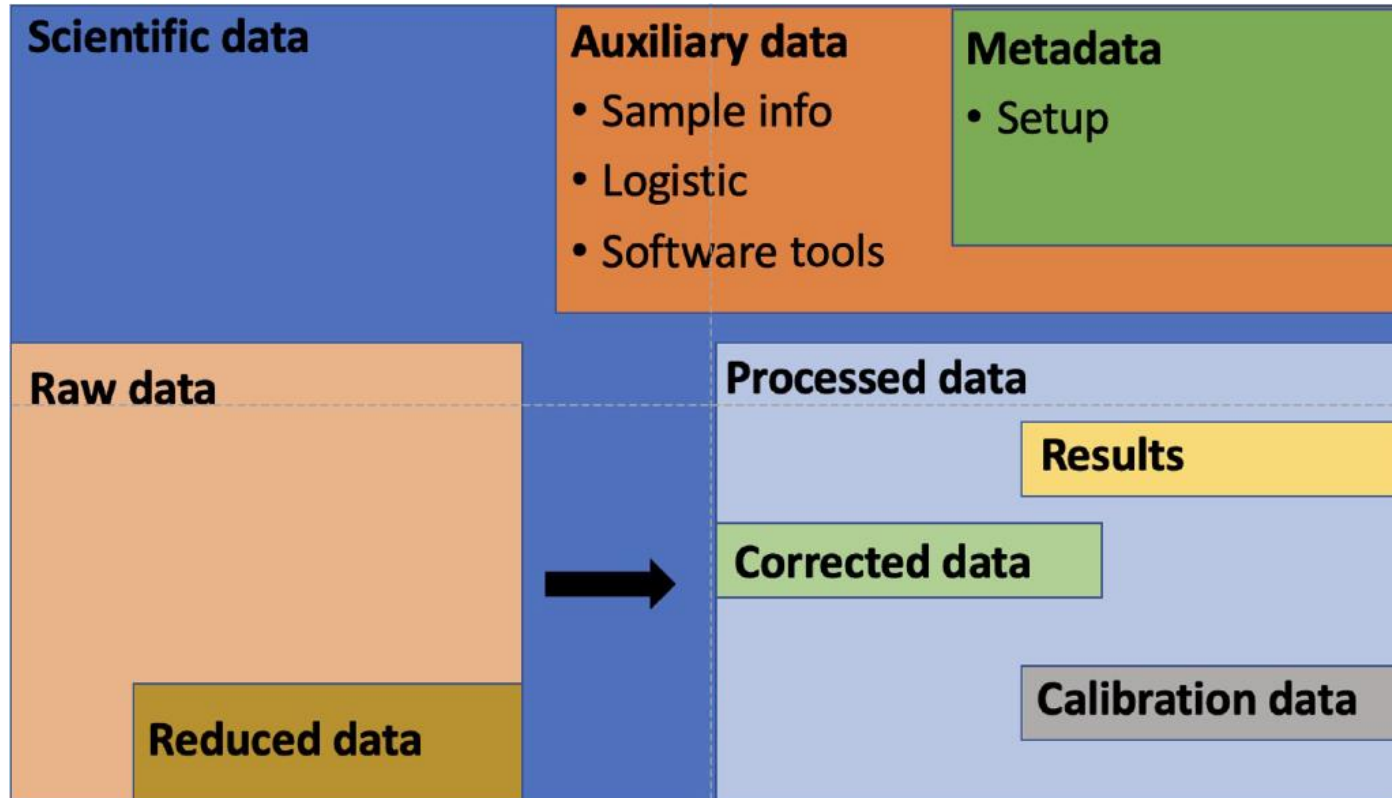


Open Access

■ Free availability  
■ Anonymous access



# Updated definition of scientific data categories



- Introduction of new data categories
  - Auxiliary data
  - Reduced data
- Changing names
  - Calibrated data becomes corrected data according to the European XFEL nomenclature
- Removal of data category
  - Alignment data – it is now included in the auxiliary data

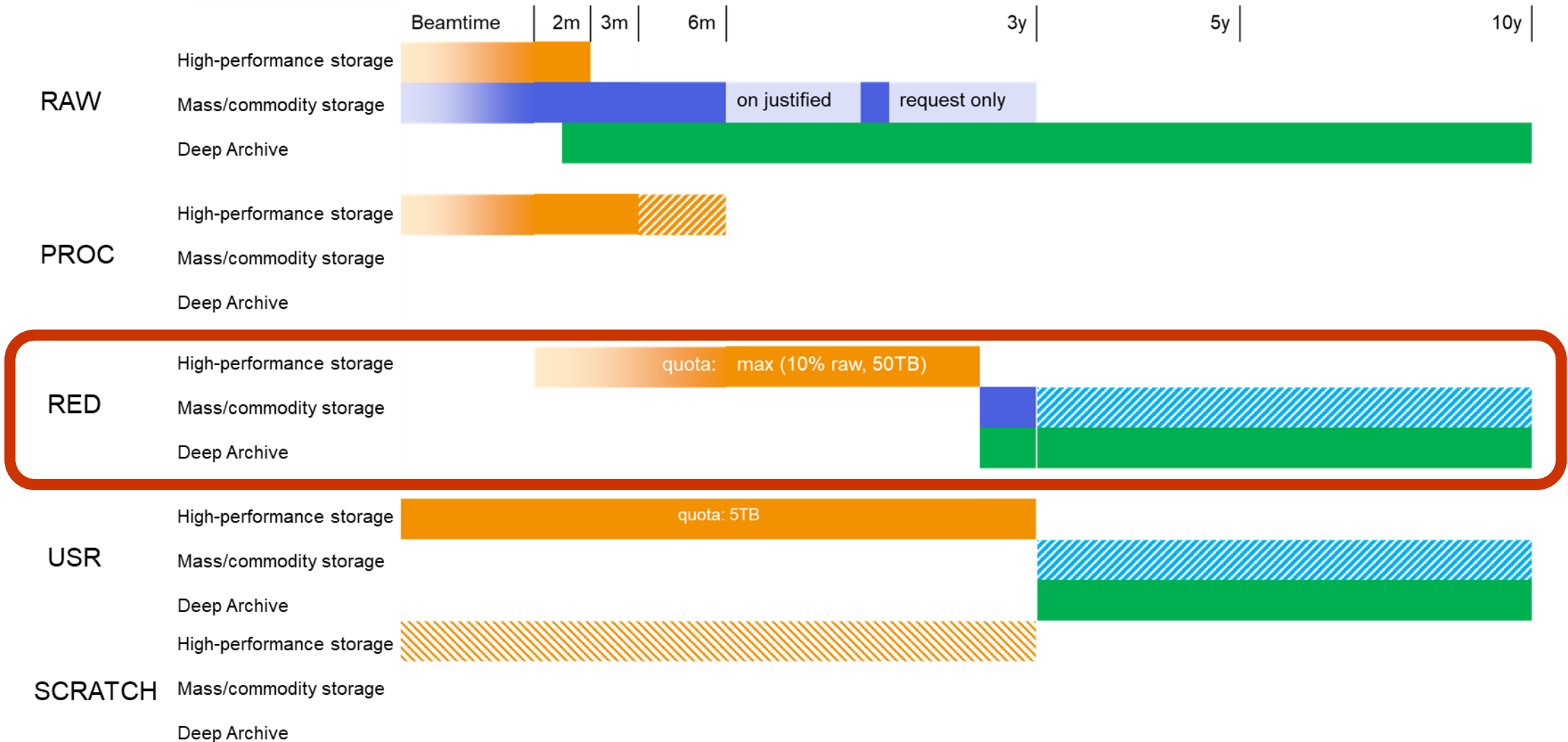
# Data Retention in practice at European XFEL (as defined in 2017)

- Raw data kept on dCache long term
  - Access to tape only is not practical – up to several weeks for staging a dataset from beamtime
  - Two copies principle
- Processed (corrected) data kept on GPFS since the beginning
  - Could not delete calibrated data due to the lack of confidence that it can be exactly reproduced
- Raw data are removed from GPFS immediately when the second copy is flushed to tape (but kept on dCache, see 1st point)
  - Need more space on GPFS for new beamtimes
- **Initial implementation worked for the first stage of operation but is not sustainable for full operation**

Storage class	Quota	Safety	Lifetime	Comment
dcache.raw	None	Tape Archive	6 months	Raw data on commodity disks
raw GPFS	None	None	2 months	Very fast accessible raw data, lifetime not guaranteed
usr GPFS	5TB	Snapshots + Tape Backup	24 months	User data, results
proc GPFS	None	None	6 months	Processed data (e.g. calibrated)
scratch GPFS	None	None	6 months	Temporary data (lifetime not guaranteed)
dcache.cal	None	Tape Archive	10 years	Calibration constants on commodity disks
cal	None	Tape archive	6 months	Very fast accessible calibration data
user home	20GB	Snapshots + Tape Backup	Lifetime of the account	Home folder for user account
archive.raw	None	-	Long-term	"Long term" means 5 years and XFEL will strive for 10 years
archive.cal	None	-	10 years	

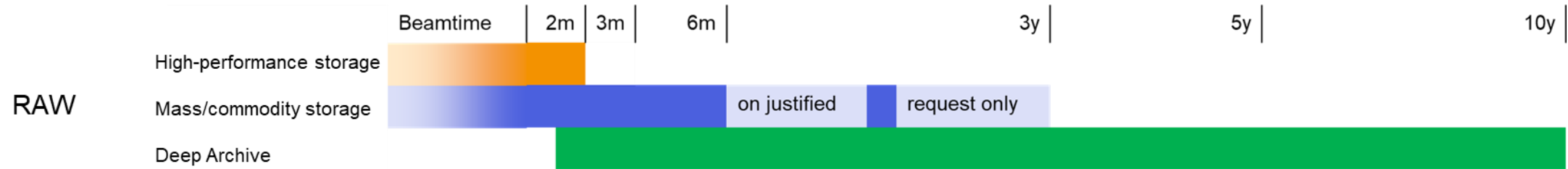
# New Data Retention Scheme

Expected to come into effect in 2025



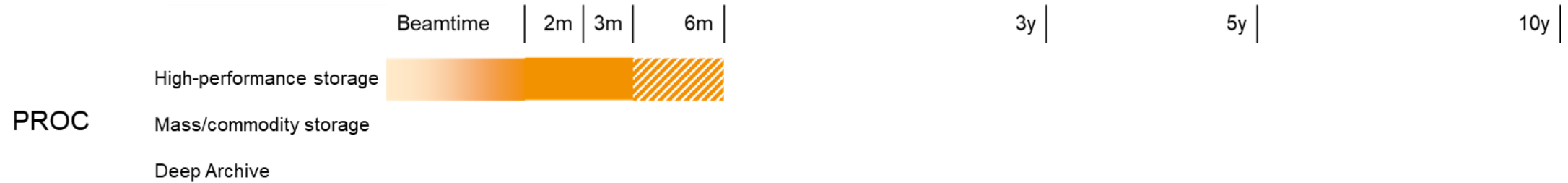


# RAW data



- Initially stored on high-performance disks for two months but can be removed earlier if no space is available
- Will remain on commodity storage for six months
- In exceptional cases, beyond six months, RAW data can be restored from the deep archive to the commodity storage
- Single copy of each data file is stored in the deep archive

# PROC data



- Data derived from RAW data by the facility-provided services (e.g. corrected images)
- Initially stored on high-performance storage for three months
- Stored period can be extended once for another three months

# RED data

RED data is a selection of RAW data, PROC data, and user-processed data adhering to the data format of European XFEL

## RAW

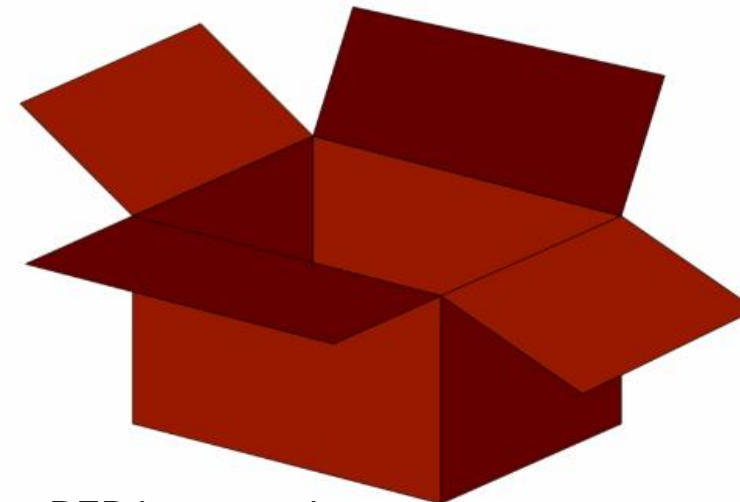
- Selection of runs
- Selection of detector modules
- Extracted events (train/pulse)
- Removed detector gain maps

## PROC

- Selection like for RAW data but contains:
  - corrected detector images
  - processed images (e.g. conversion to photons, azimuthal integration)
  - other derived data

## User-processed

- Selection like for RAW data but contains:
  - User-computed properties
  - Experiment's specific data corrections
- Must adhere to the European XFEL data format

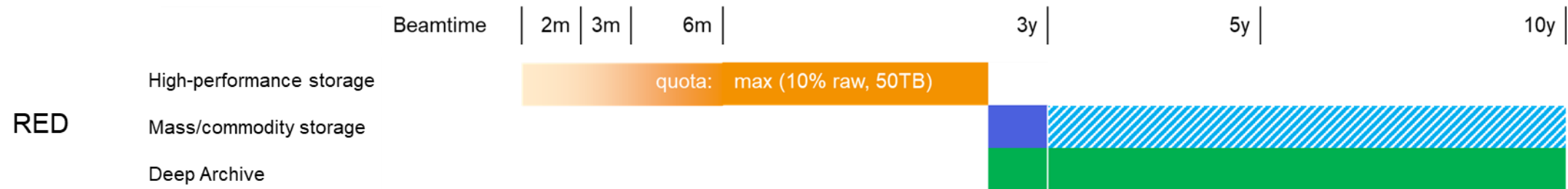


### Examples

Raw Data size	Max. RED data size
20TB	20TB
60TB	50TB
380TB	50TB
620TB	62TB
2100TB	210TB

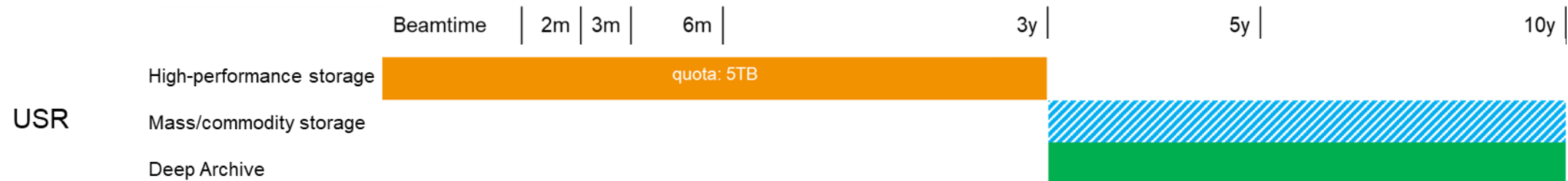
RED box capacity:  
 $\max(10\% \text{ of RAW data size}; \min(50\text{TB}; \text{RAW data size}))$

# RED data



- RED data have to be derived from RAW or PROC data within six months after the beamtime, beyond this period the content becomes read-only
- RED data is stored on the high-performance storage system for a maximum of three years period after the beamtime
- RED data is migrated to the commodity storage and archived during the three years period after the beamtime.
- RED data becomes available as open access after the embargo period

# USR data

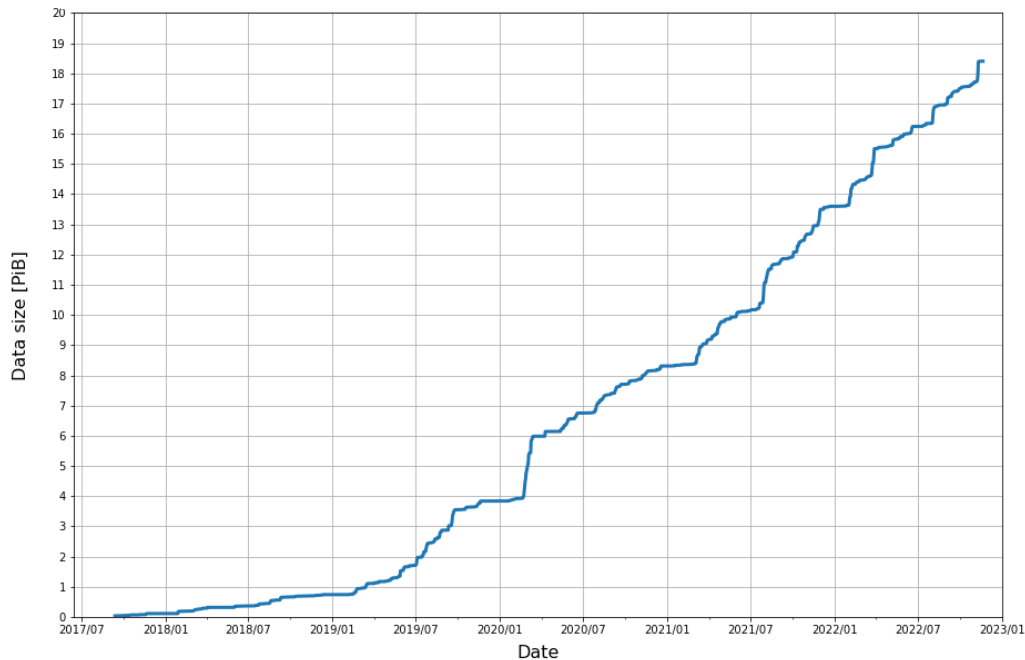


- USR data are kept on the high-performance system for a maximum of three years
- Maximum size of USR data is 5TB per proposal
- Content of the USR folder becomes open access after the embargo period
- It is the responsibility of PI that data stored in the USR folder are not violating any law (e.g. personal data protection, intellectual property rights, licensing)

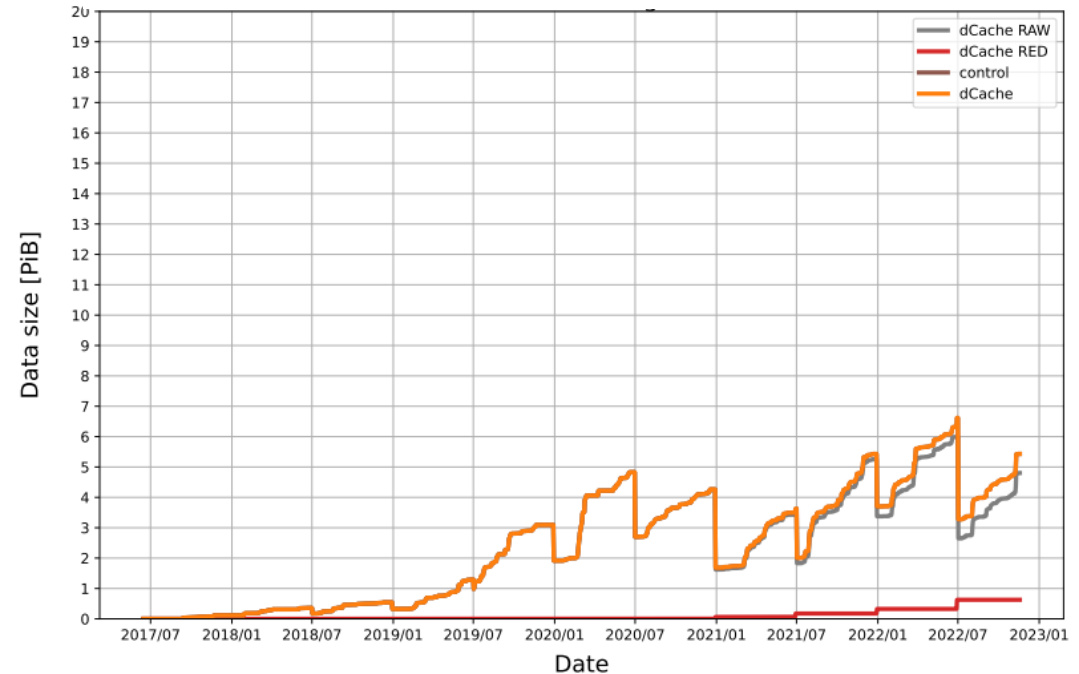
# Implementation of the Data Retention Scheme

■ As the first step we are going to apply the RED data concept to the internal commissioning proposals

dCache storage for RAW data from commissioning proposals



dCache storage required for commissioning proposals after applying RED data concept

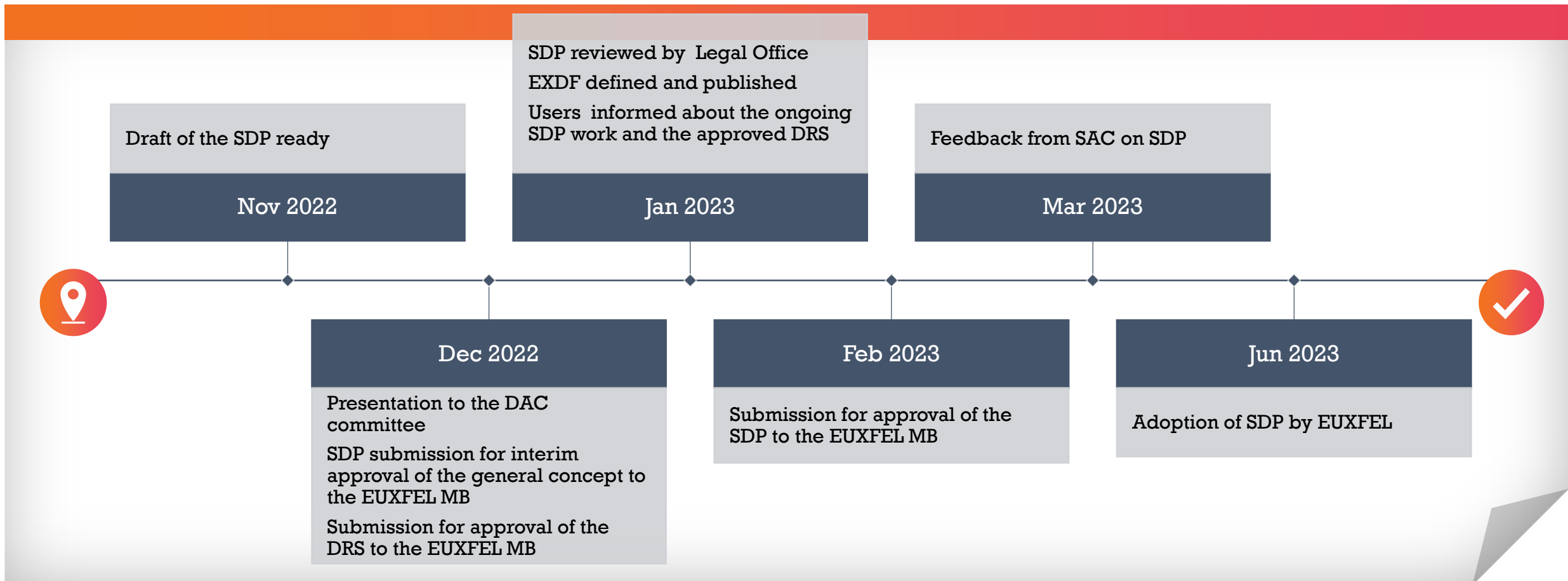


# Scientific Data Policy **ROADMAP**

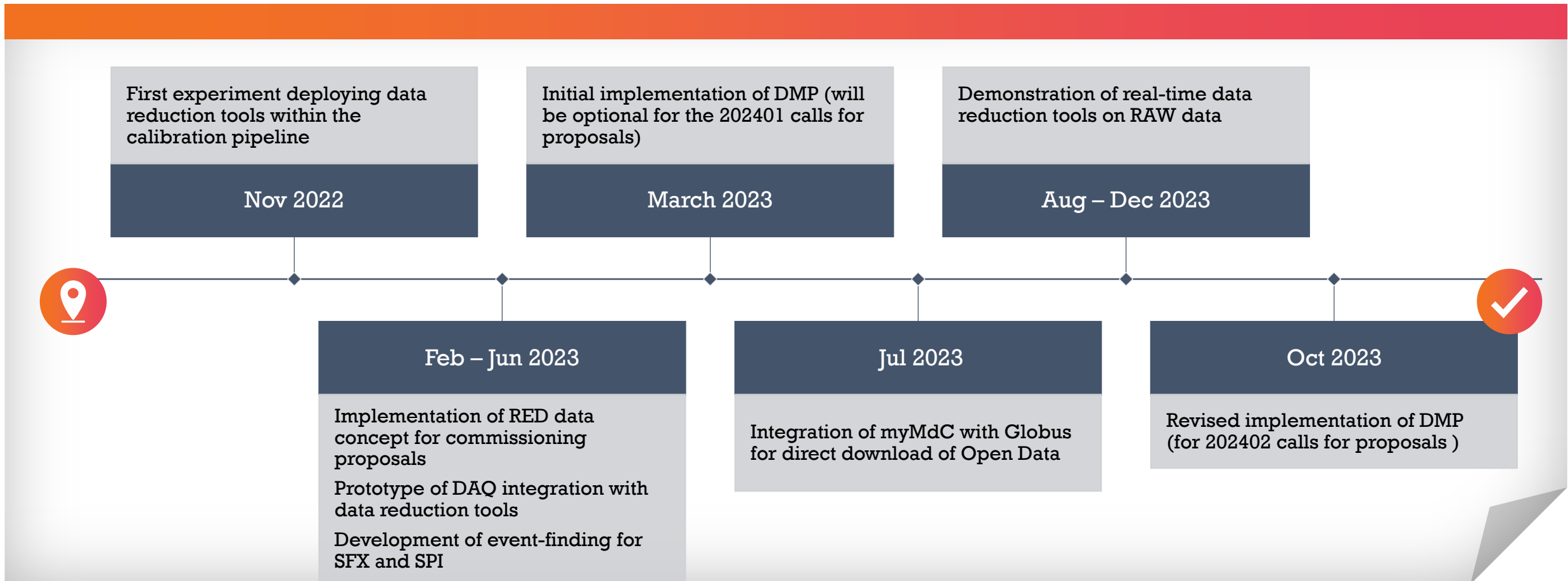
SDP – Scientific Data Policy

DRS – Data Retention Scheme

EXDF – European XFEL data format



# Implementation **ROADMAP**





# Summary

**Stage 0: technical revision of all data sources to ensure removal of NULL data**

## Stage 1

**Finalisation of European XFEL Scientific Data Policy**

**Development and commissioning of data management tools and procedures needed to support implementation of New Data Retention Scheme**

**When: 2023 Who: European XFEL**

## Stage 2

**Introduction of Data Management Plans**

**User Assisted Commissioning of Data Reduction Tools and Procedures**

**When: Late 2023-2025 Who: European XFEL Users**

## Stage 3

**Full deployment of New Data Retention Scheme for all New Proposals**

**When: Late 2025-2026 Who: European XFEL All Users**

# Contributors:

- Working Group leaders: Fabio Dall'Antonia, Janusz Malka
- Data Department: Djelloul Boukhelef, Camille Carinan, Hadi Firoozi, Luca Gelisio, Loïc Le Guyader, David Hammer, Luis Maia, Roman Shayduk, Philipp Schmidt, Marcin Sikorski, Egor Sobolev, Jolanta Sztuk-Dambietz, Janusz Szuba, Hazem Yousef, James Wrigley, Krzysztof Wrona
- Science Division: Richard Bean, Johan Bielecki, Ulrike Boesenberg, Manuel Izquierdo, Chan Kim, Dmitry Khakhulin, Zuzana Konopkova, Kristina Lorenzen, Christopher Milne, Johannes Möller,
- User Office: Silvia Bertini