

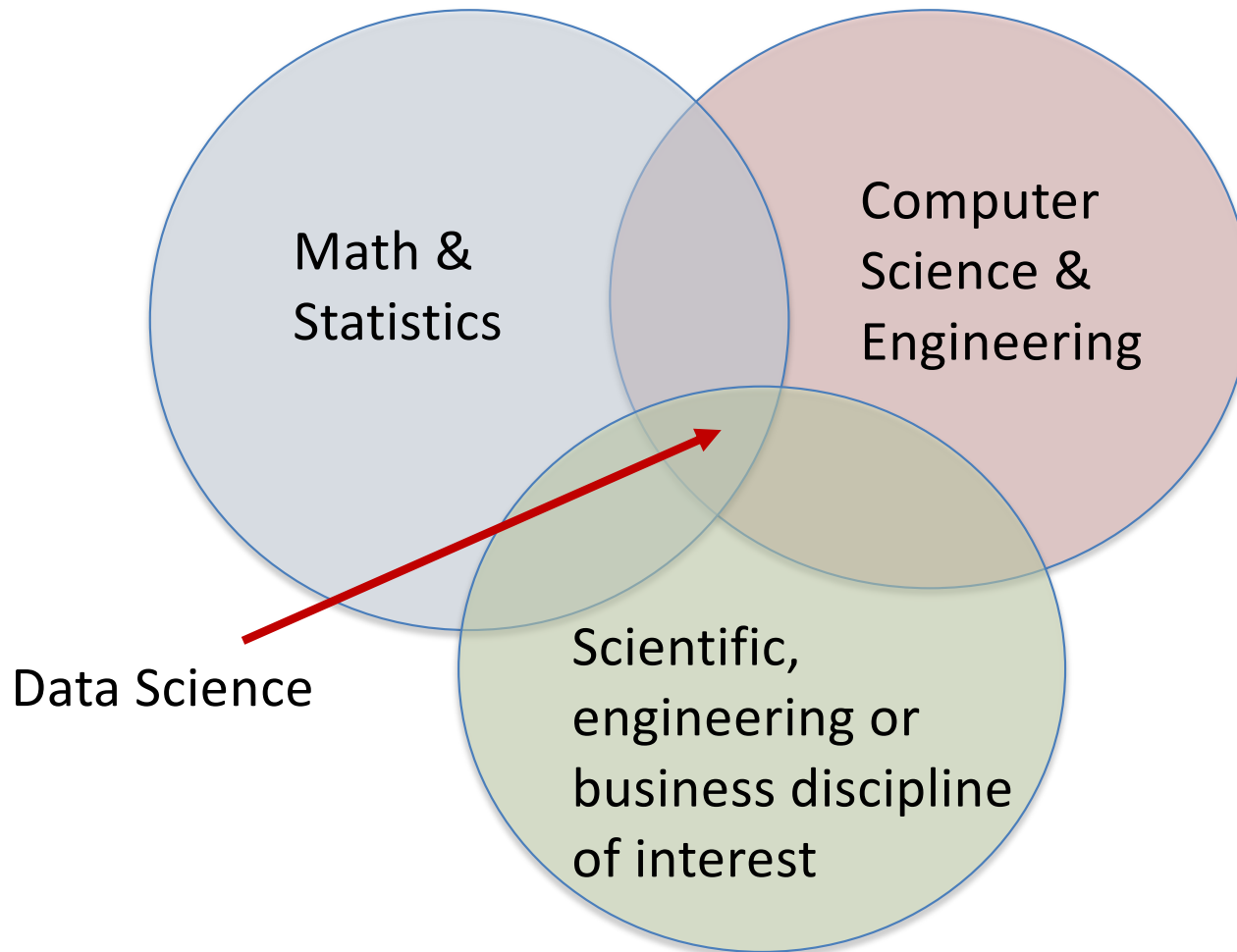


# Introduction to the Center for Translational Data Science (CTDS) and Some of the Data Commons It Develops

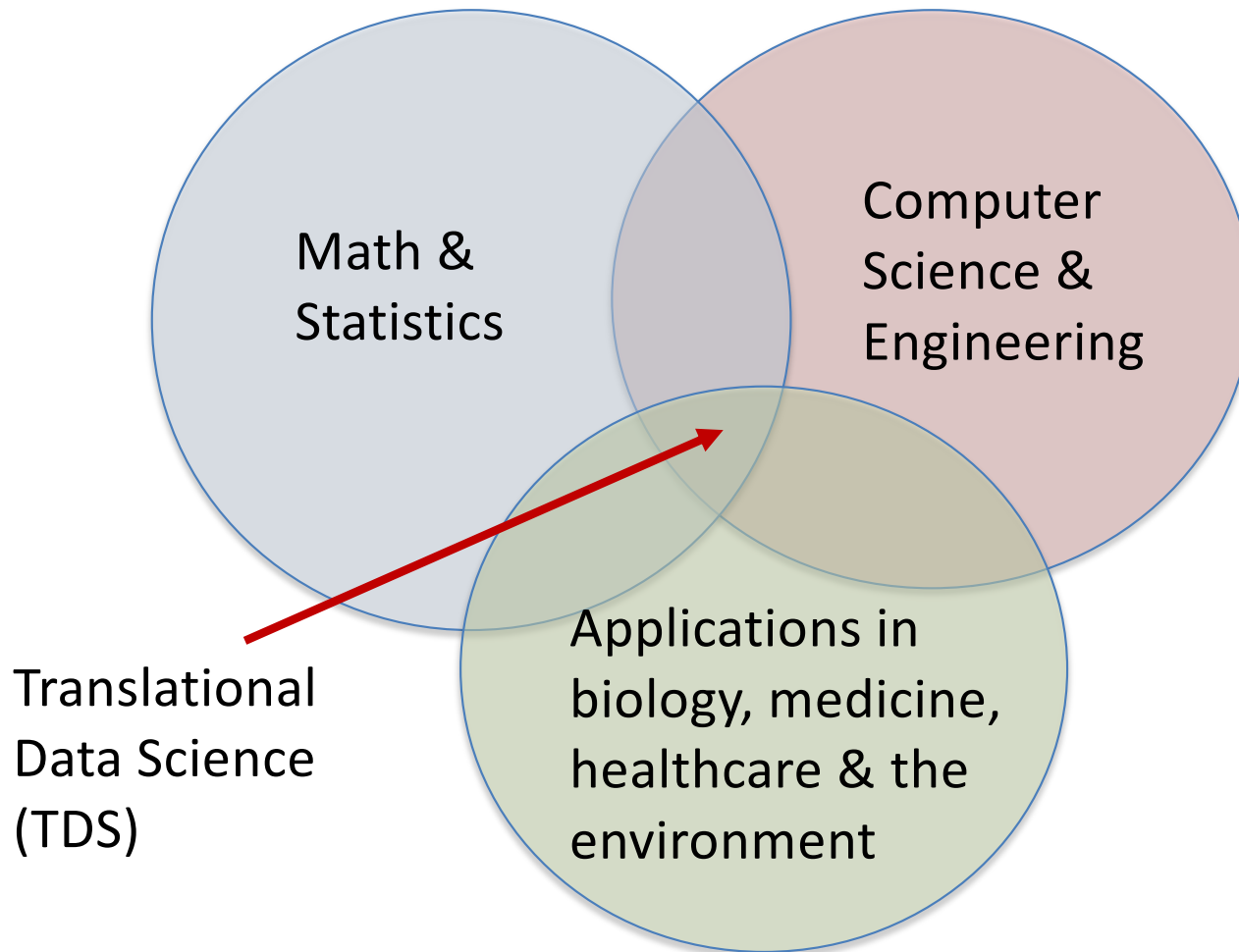
Robert Grossman  
Center for Translational Data Science  
University of Chicago

January 30, 2019

# Part 1: Introduction to the CTDS



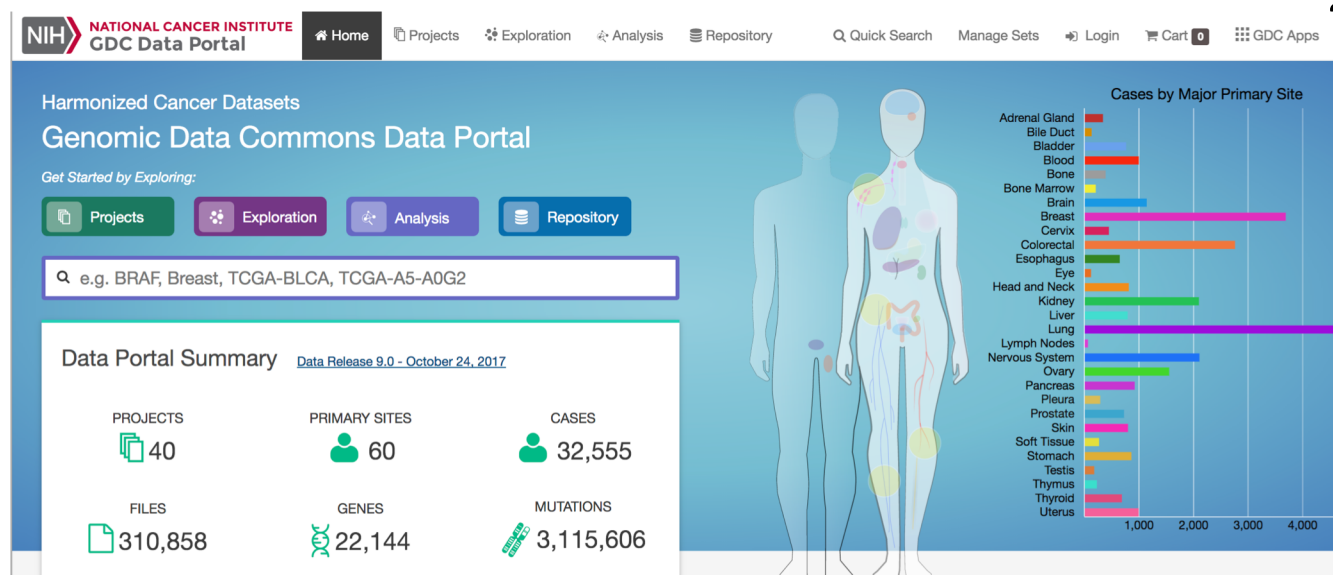
- As usual, we view data science as an approach that integrates math/stat, computer science & engineering, and its applications.



- Translation is about the human or societal impact of the data science.
- The challenge is **translating** a discovery in data science to have an impact.
- Translational data science is the discipline that supports this challenge.



# NCI Genomic Data Commons\*



The GDC makes available over 2.5 PB of data available for access via an API, analysis by cloud resources on public clouds, and downloading.

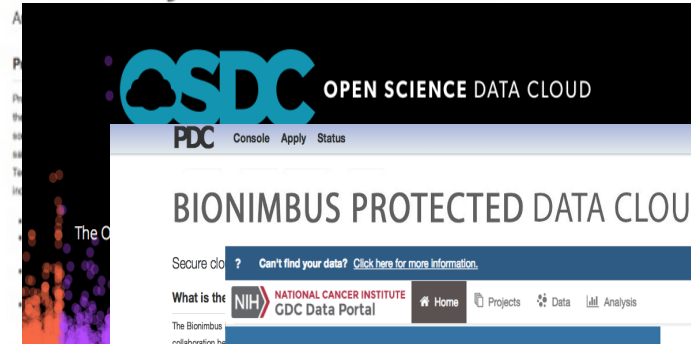
In an average month, the GDC is used by over 22,000 users and over 2 PB of data are downloaded.

The GDC consists of a 1) data exploration & visualization portal (DAVE), 2) data submission portal, 3) data analysis and harmonization system system, 4) an API so third party can build applications.

The GDC is based upon an open source software stack that can be used to build other data commons.

\*See: NCI Genomic Data Commons: Grossman, Robert L., et al. "Toward a shared vision for cancer genomic data." New England Journal of Medicine 375.12 (2016): 1109-1112.

## OCC Project Matsu



OCC – NASA Project Matsu (2009)

OCC Open Science Data Cloud (2010)

**Gen1**

Bionimbus Protected Data Cloud\* (2013)

**Gen2**

NCI Genomic Data Commons\* (2016)

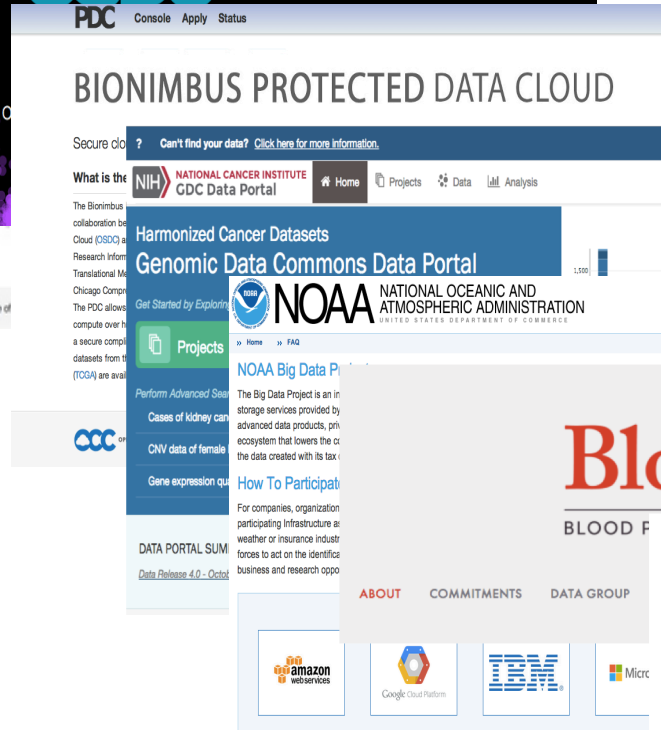
OCC-NOAA Environmental Data Commons (2016)

**Gen3**

OCC Blood Profiling Atlas in Cancer (2017)

Kids First Data Resource (2017)

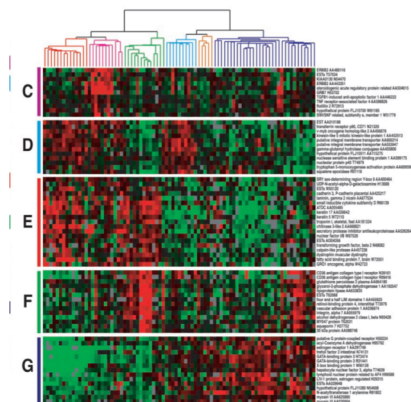
Brain Commons (2017)



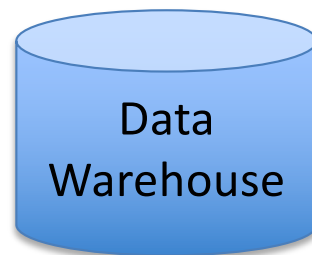
**BloodPAC**



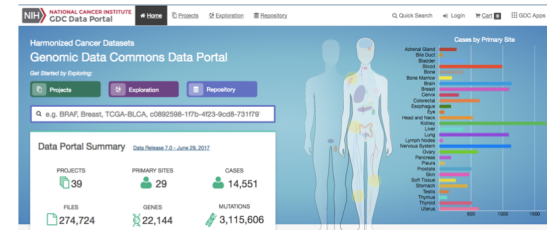
\*Operated under a subcontract from NCI / Leidos Biomedical to the University of Chicago with support from the OCC.



**Databases** organize the data for a project or department.



**Data warehouses** organize the data for an **organization**



**Data commons** organize the data for a research **discipline** or field

## Project



## Databases

1982 - present

- Data repository
- Data catalogs
- Download data

## (Virtual) Organization

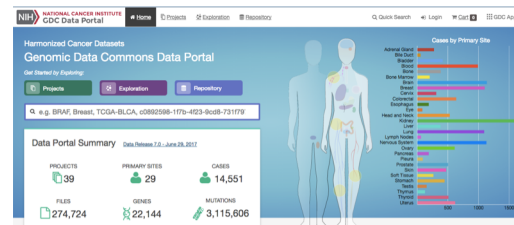


## Data Clouds

2010 - 2020

- Supports large data & data intensive computing with **cloud computing**
- Researchers can analyze data with collaborative tools (**workspaces**) – so data does **not** have to be downloaded)

## Discipline

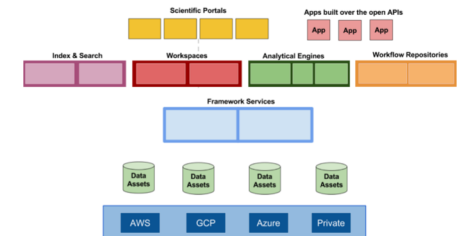


## Data Commons

2014 - 2024

- Supports large data
- Workspaces
- **Common data models**
- **Core data services**
- **Data & Commons Governance**
- **Harmonized data**
- **Data sharing**
- **Reproducible research**

## Multi-Discipline

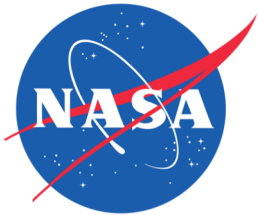


## Data Ecosystems

2018 - 2028

- Interoperates **multiple data commons, databases, knowledge bases, and other resources**
- Supports **ecosystem of commons, portals, notebooks, applications & simulations** across multiple disciplines

# Center for Translational Data Science – Selected Firsts



OCC-NASA  
Project Matsu

**First cloud-based  
processing of  
satellite images**

2009



Bionimbus Protected  
Data Cloud

**First data cloud to earn NIH  
Trusted Partner status & to  
operate at FISMA Moderate**

2013



NCI Genomic Data  
Commons

**First genomic data  
commons**

2016



BRAIN Commons

2017



NCI DCF –  
**First cancer  
data ecosystem**

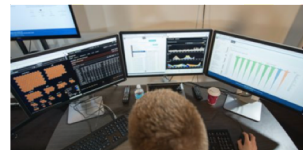
2018



Open Science Data Cloud  
**First petabyte-scale  
data cloud (2011)**



Open Commons  
Consortium  
**First set of open  
legal and  
government  
agreements**

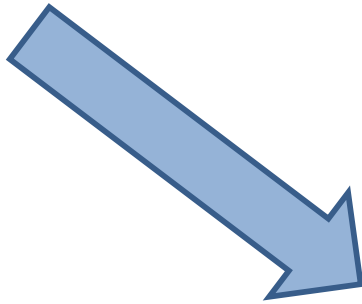


**First Commons  
Services  
Operations  
Center (CSOC)**



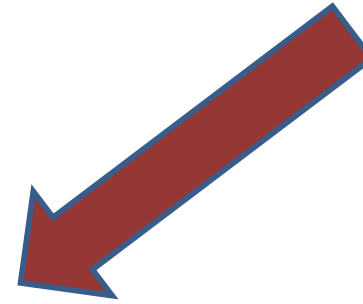
OCC-NOAA  
**First environmental  
data commons**

## 2. Data Commons

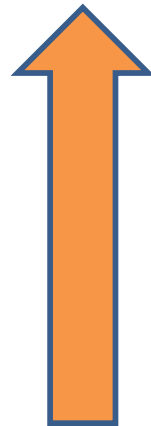


### IT infrastructure challenges

- Data size
- Security & compliance
- Policy restrictions



Growing importance of open data, open reproducible science & data ecosystems



Limited funding

IT infrastructure challenges

Data commons co-locate **data** with **cloud computing** infrastructure and commonly used **software services, tools & apps** for managing, analyzing and sharing data to create an **interoperable resource** for the **research community**.\*



data commons

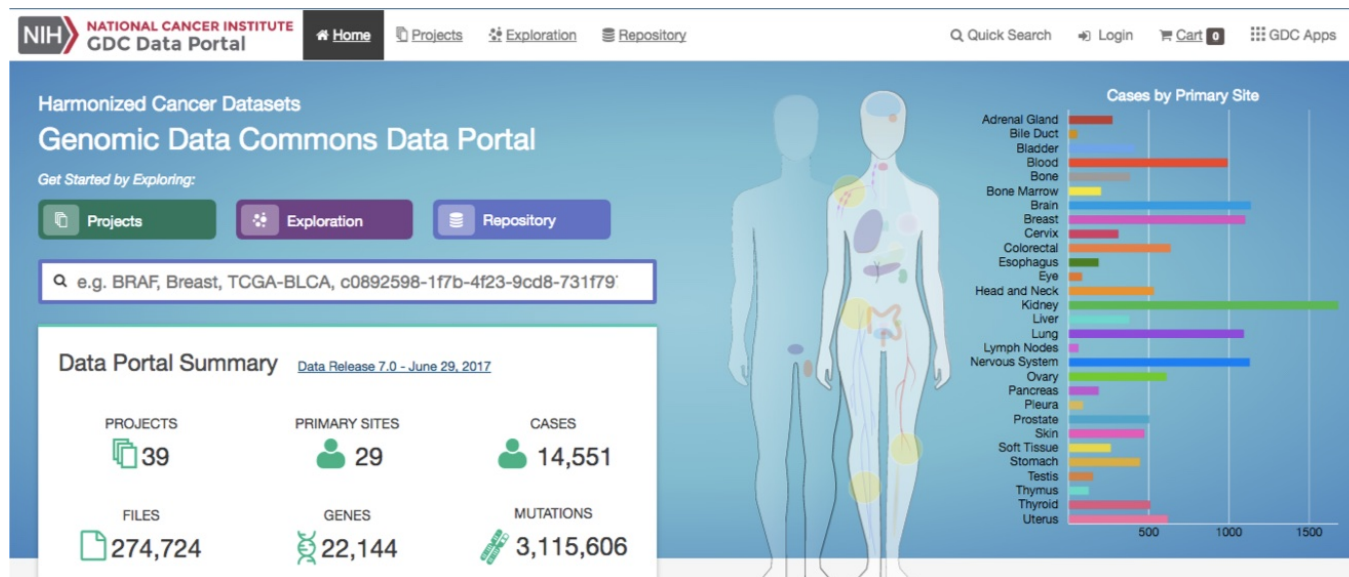
Growing importance of open data, open reproducible science & data ecosystems

Limited funding

\*Robert L. Grossman, Allison Heath, Mark Murphy, Maria Patterson and Walt Wells, A Case for Data Commons Towards Data Science as a Service, IEEE Computing in Science and Engineer, 2016. Source of image: The CDIS, GDC, & OCC data commons infrastructure at a University of Chicago data center.

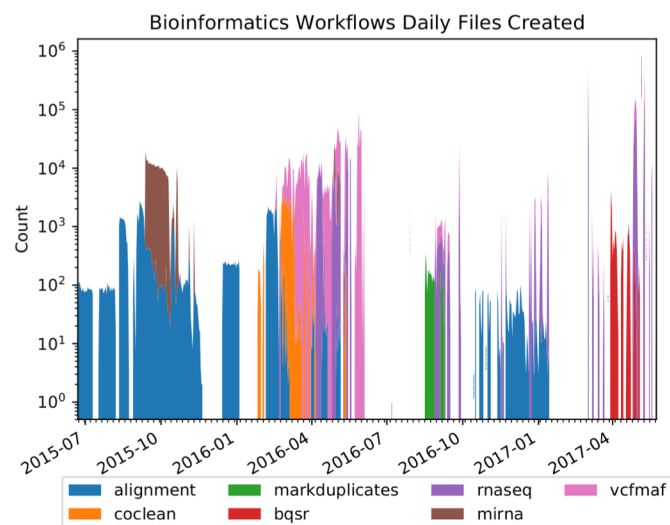
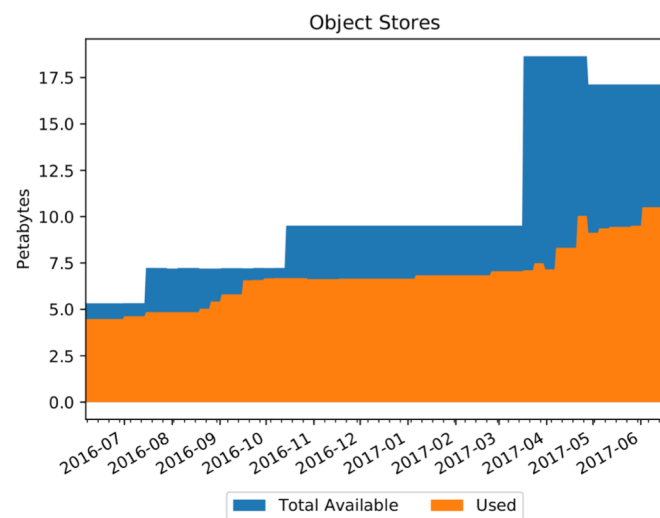
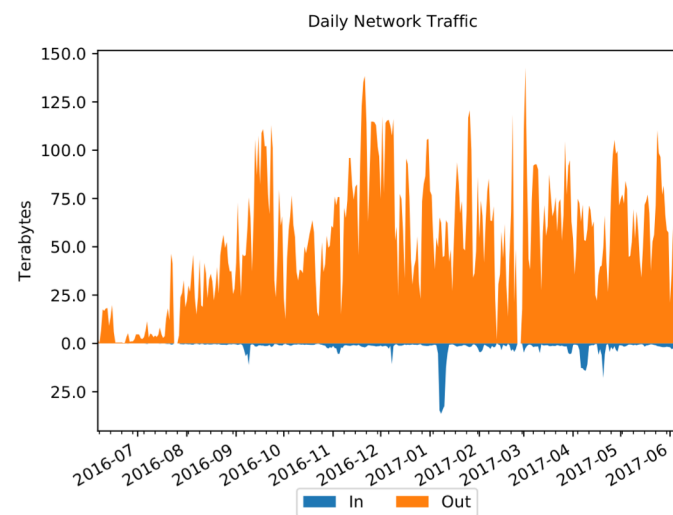
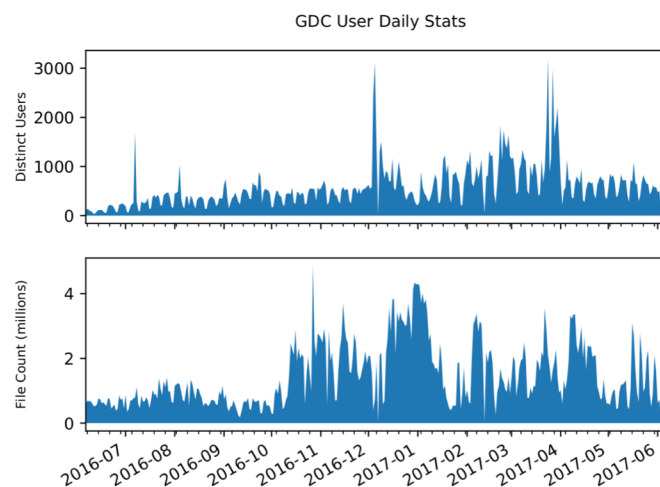


# NCI Genomic Data Commons\*

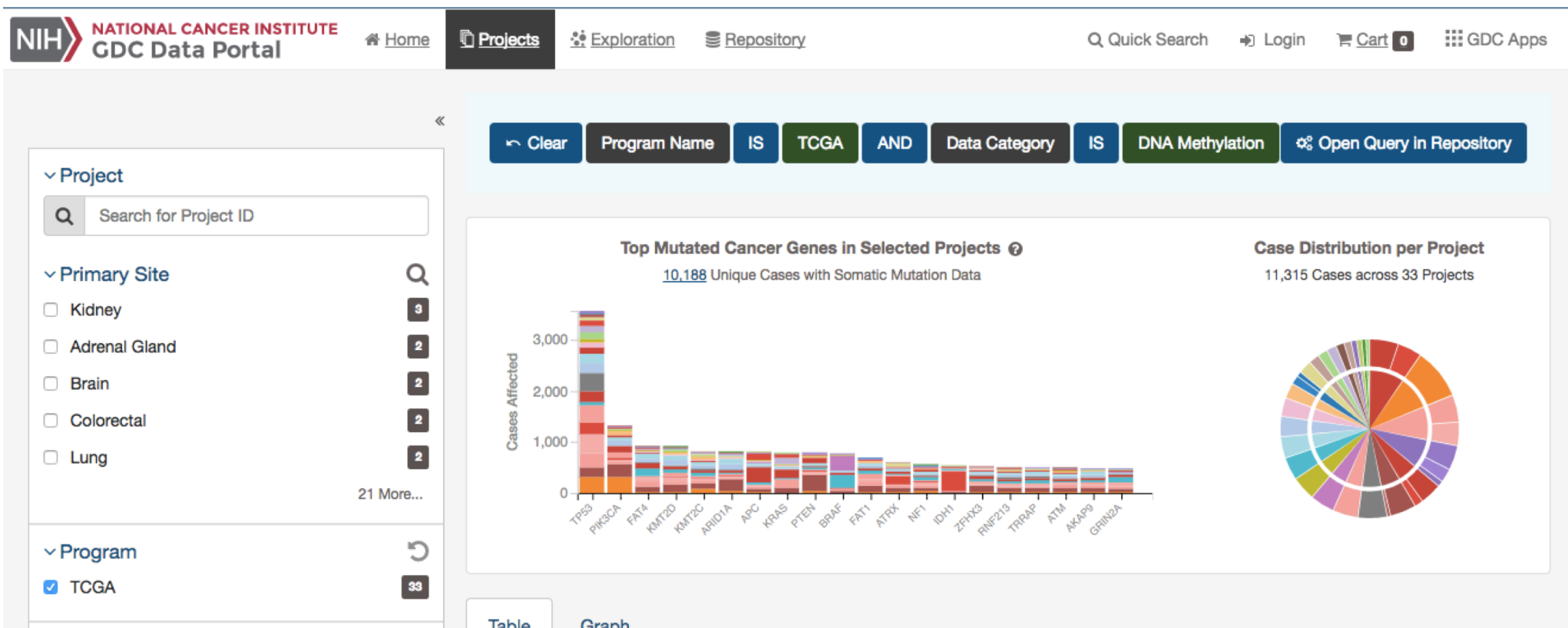


- The GDC was launched in 2016 with over 4 PB of data.
- Used by 1500 - 3000+ users per day and over 36,000 researchers each month.
- Based upon an open source software stack that can be used to build other data commons.

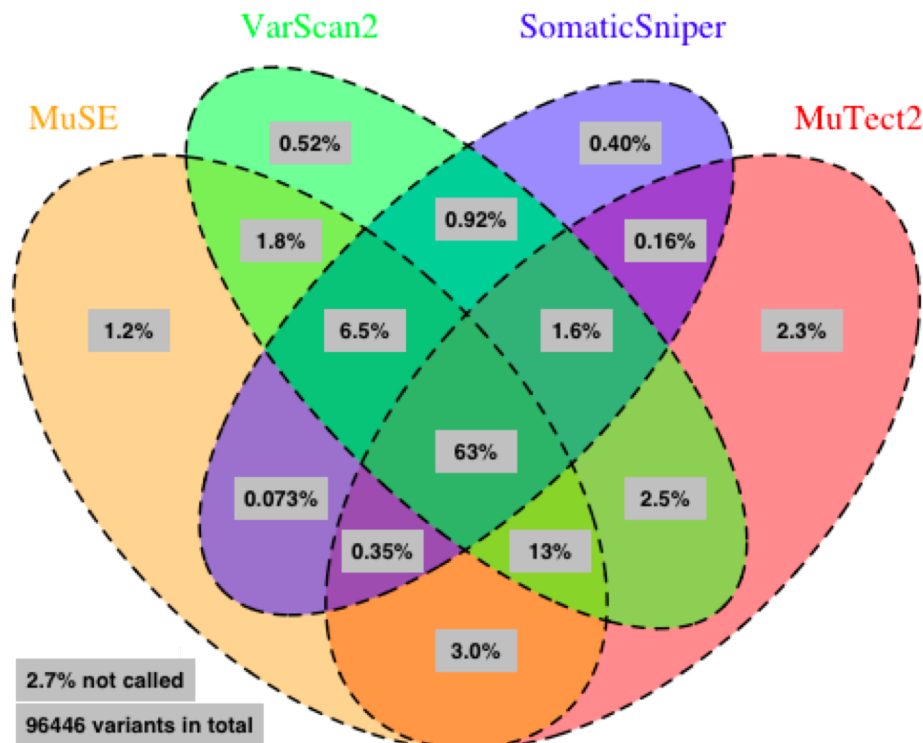
\*Source: NCI Genomic Data Commons: Grossman, Robert L., et al. "Toward a shared vision for cancer genomic data." New England Journal of Medicine 375.12 (2016): 1109-1112.



# Apps 1 and 2: Data Portals to Explore and Submit Data



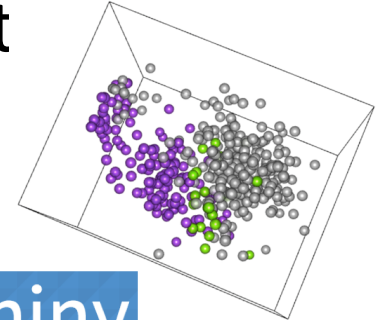
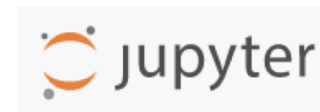
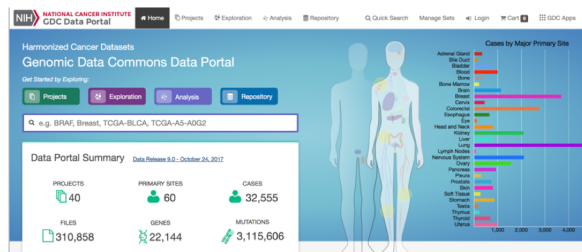
## App 3: Analysis & Harmonization of all Submitted Data with a Common Set of Bioinformatics Pipelines



- MuSE (MD Anderson)
- VarScan2 (Washington Univ.)
- SomaticSniper (Washington Univ.)
- MuTect2 (Broad Institute)

Source: Zhenyu Zhang, et. al. and the GDC Project Team, Uniform Genomic Data Analysis in the NCI Genomic Data Commons, to appear.

# System 4: An API to Support User Defined Applications and Notebooks to Create a Data Ecosyst



GDC developed apps

Third party apps

API URL

Endpoint

Optional Entity ID

Query parameters

<https://gdc-api.nci.nih.gov/files/5003adf1-1cfd-467d-8234-0d396422a4ee?fields=state>

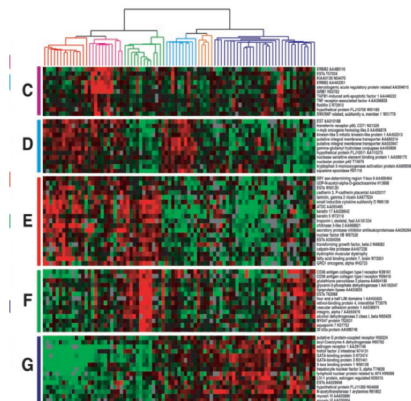
For more about the API, see: Shane Wilson, Michael Fitzsimons, Martin Ferguson, Allison Heath, Mark Jensen, Josh Miller, Mark W. Murphy, James Porter, Himanso Sahni, Louis Staudt, Yajing Tang, Zhining Wang, Christine Yu, Junjun Zhang, Vincent Ferretti and Robert L. Grossman, Developing Cancer Informatics Applications and Tools Using the NCI Genomic Data Commons API, Cancer Research, volume 77, number 21, 2017, pages e15-e18.

# Commons



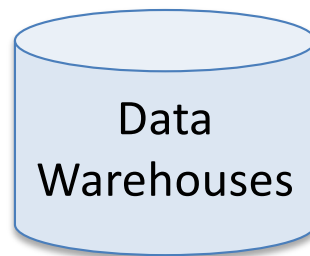
Commons are **resources** that are held in common (and not owned privately) that a group or **community** manage for individual and collective benefit.





## Databases

organize the data around a project or department.



## Data warehouses

organize the data for an **organization** (and are enabled by enterprise computing)



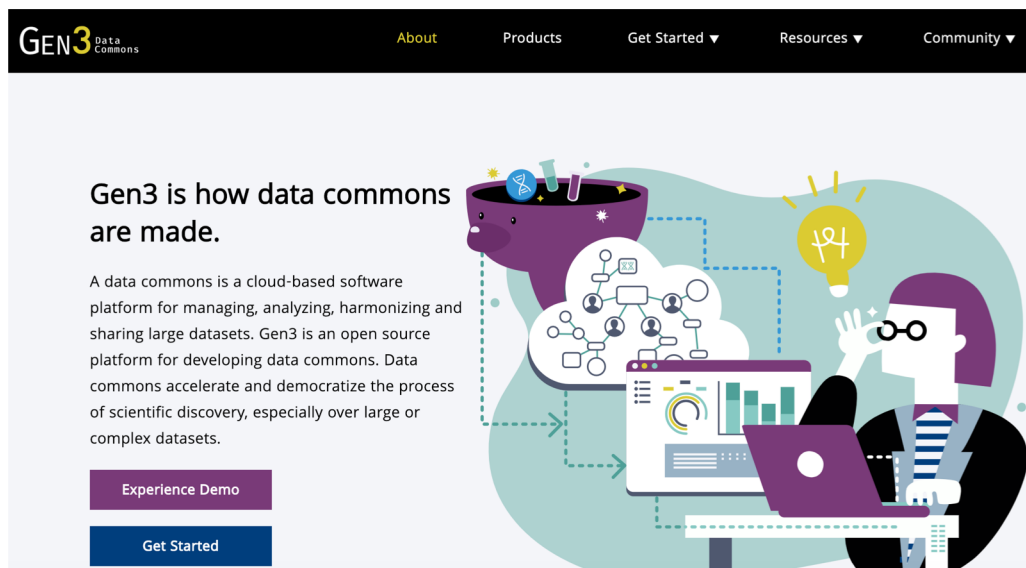
## Data Commons

organize the data for a scientific discipline, **community**, or field and support an information platform.

### 3. Gen3 Data Commons



# A Gen3 Data Commons Platform in Six Steps



Gen3.org  
(an open source platform for developing & operating data commons)

1. Define a data model.
2. Use the Gen3 software to auto-generate the data commons and associated API.
3. Import data into the commons using Gen3 import application.
4. Use Gen3 to explore your data and create synthetic cohorts.
5. Use cloud based platforms, tools and workspaces to analyze the synthetic cohorts.
6. Develop your own container-based workflows, applications and Jupyter Notebooks.

# (Selected) GEN<sup>3</sup> Data Commons



## **BRAIN Commons**

Total Files: 16,733  
Total Size: 270.14 GB



**GenoMEL**  
the Melanoma Genetics Consortium

Total Files: 4,008  
Total Size: 20.77 TB

**BloodPAC**

BLOOD PROFILING  ATLAS IN CANCER

Total Files: 1,855  
Total Size: 295.73 GB

**ACCOUNT**

Total Files: 1,952  
Total Size: 3.77 TB

**NHLBI**  
  
**DATA STAGE**

Total Files: 71,368  
Total Size: 344.03 TB



Total Files: 134,531  
Total Size: 2.33 PB



**NIAID DATA HUB**

Total Files: 156,368  
Total Size: 304.59 GB



**NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE**  
Cancer Research Data Commons

Total Files: 1,688,568  
Total Size: 2.2 PB



**Environmental**  
Data Commons

Total Files: 12,317,334  
Total Size: 28.93 TB

# From Data Commons to Data Ecosystems of Interoperating Data Commons



1. Build data commons over hosted Data Commons Framework Services
2. Interoperate your data commons with other DCFS compliant data commons.

## 4. Suggested Guidelines for Foundations for Data Sharing

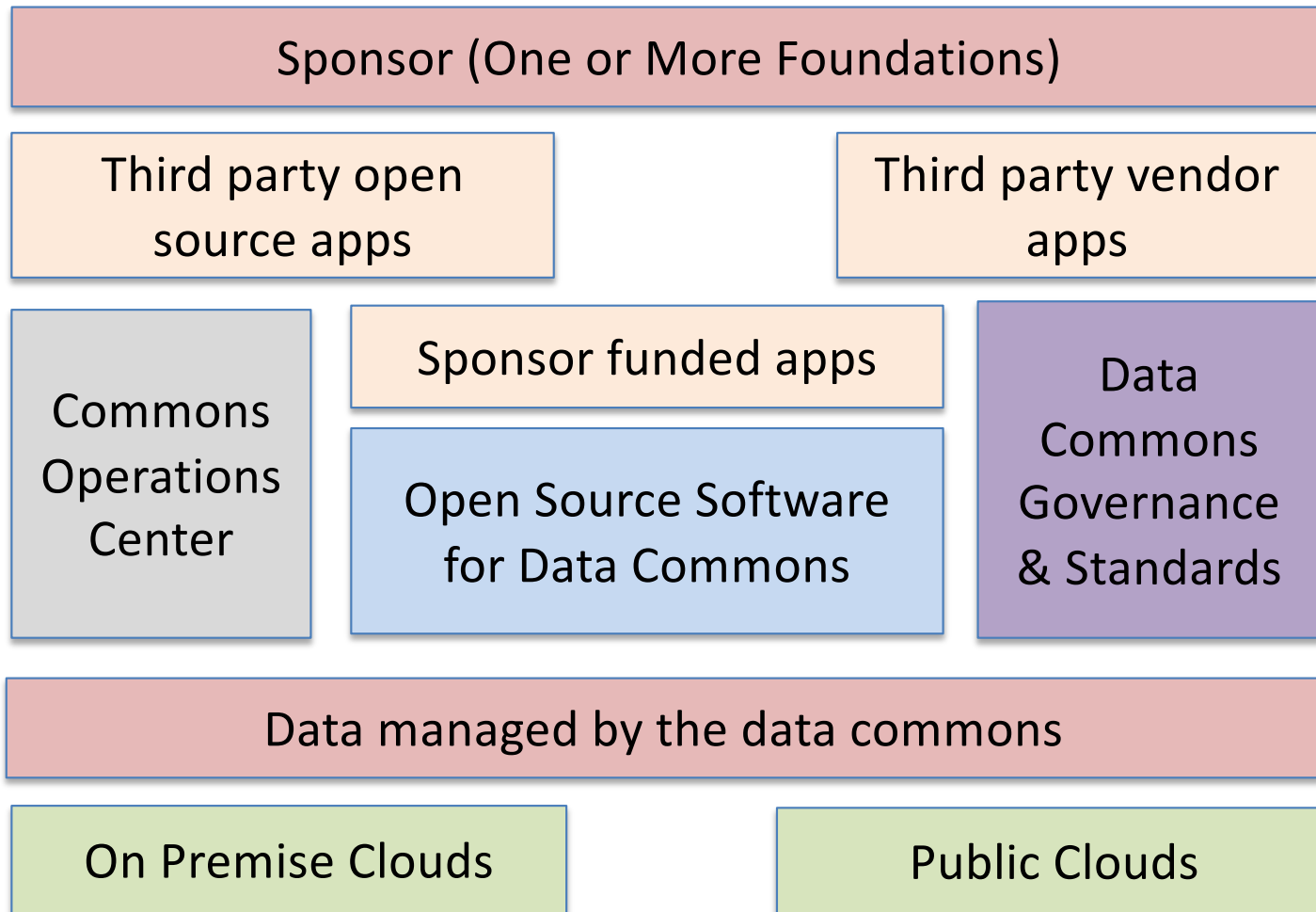
# Key Issues

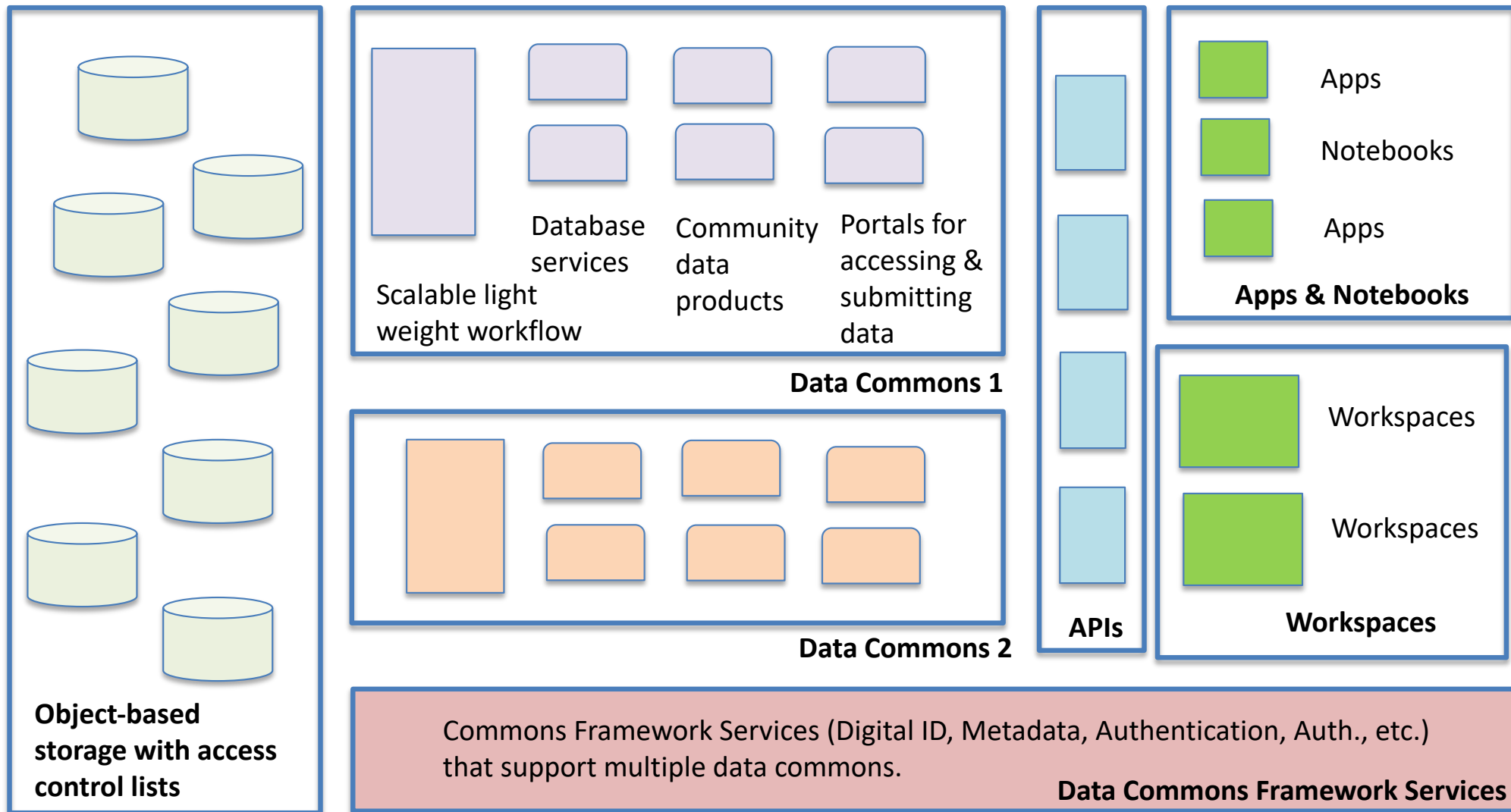
- Data sharing is not as simple as copying data or data & metadata from a repository
- Data Governance and Commons Governance is required
- Data standards
- It is important to fund both the commons and the data scientists that curate the data and build applications for the end users
- Data commons don't care about the specific data, as long as they support the required data types and applications.
- Each research group doesn't need to build their own commons (this is called multi-tenancy).

# Sharing Data with Data Commons – the Main Steps

1. **Require data sharing.** Put data sharing requirements into your grant agreements. We can work out some common language.
2. **Build a commons.** Lead, co-lead or join a data commons, fund it, and develop an operating plan, governance structure, and a sustainability plan.
3. **Populate the commons.** Provide resources to your researchers to get the data into data commons.
4. **Interoperate with other commons.** Fund your commons developers and operators to interoperate with other commons that can accelerate research discoveries.
5. **Support commons use.** Support applications that ask for support to build apps over commons.

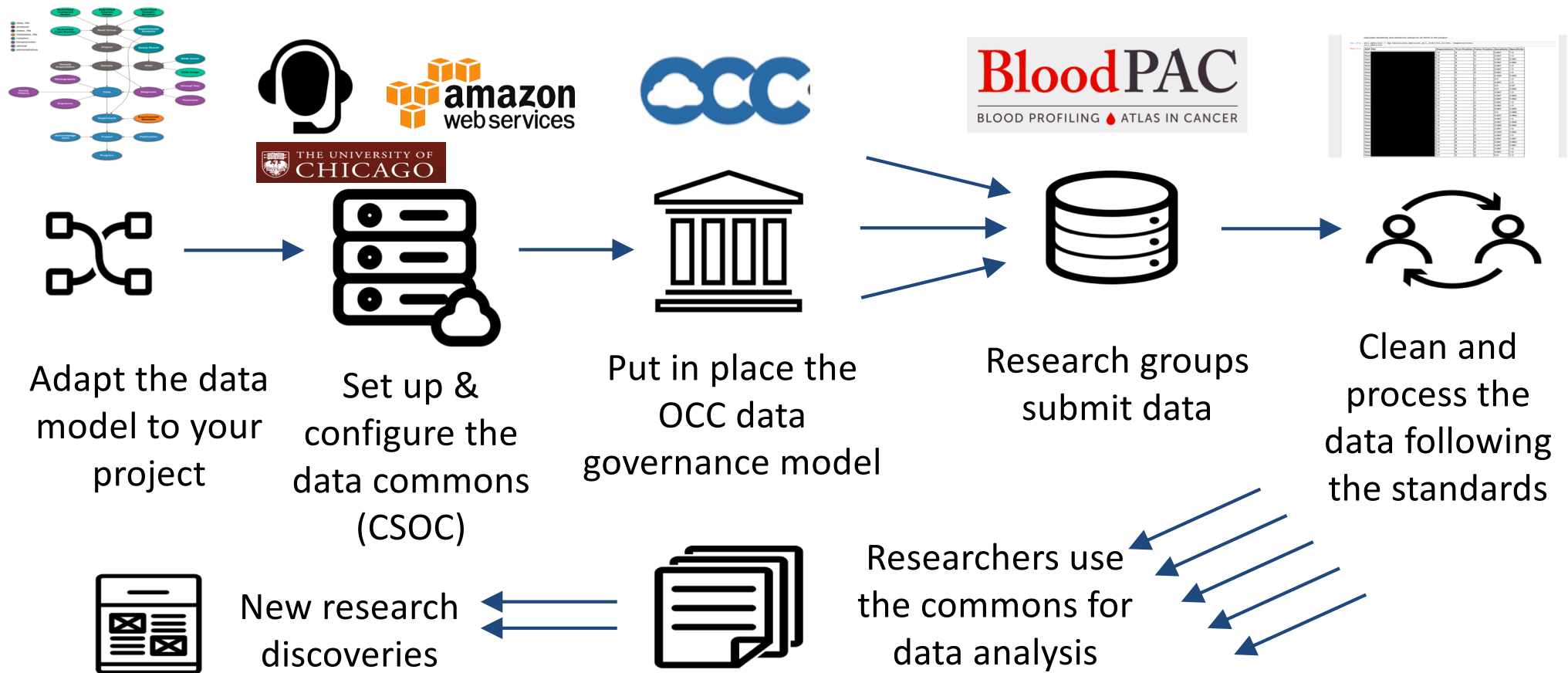
# The Components of a Data Commons







# Building the Data Commons (Exemplar of Principles 1 & 2)



# Three Principles For Foundations Funding Research

1. Require that researchers share the data generated by research that you fund.
2. Foundations should provide the computing infrastructure and bioinformatics resources that is required to support data sharing.
3. The data commons supported by Foundations should themselves share data and interoperate with other data commons.

# Questions?



rgrossman.com  
@bobgrossman

# References

## For more information:

- To learn more about data commons: Robert L. Grossman, et. al. A Case for Data Commons: Toward Data Science as a Service, Computing in Science & Engineering 18.5 (2016): 10-20. Also <https://arxiv.org/abs/1604.02608>
- To learn more about large scale, secure compliant cloud based computing environments for biomedical data, see: Heath, Allison P., et al. "Bionimbus: a cloud for managing, analyzing and sharing large genomics datasets." Journal of the American Medical Informatics Association 21.6 (2014): 969-975. This article describes Bionimbus Gen1.
- To learn more about the NCI Genomic Data Commons: Grossman, Robert L., et al. "Toward a shared vision for cancer genomic data." New England Journal of Medicine 375.12 (2016): 1109-1112. The GDC was developed using Bionimbus Gen2.
- To learn more about BloodPAC, Grossman, R. L., et al. "Collaborating to compete: Blood Profiling Atlas in Cancer (BloodPAC) Consortium." Clinical Pharmacology & Therapeutics (2017). BloodPAC was developed using the GDC Community Edition (CE) aka Bionimbus Gen3

# Contact Information

Robert L. Grossman

[rgrossman.com](http://rgrossman.com)

@BobGrossman

[robert.grossman@uchicago.edu](mailto:robert.grossman@uchicago.edu)



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
CHICAGO



Center for  
Translational  
Data Science

[ctds.uchicago.edu](http://ctds.uchicago.edu)