



Australian Government

Bureau of Meteorology

White paper 14: solicitation of input from the community at large

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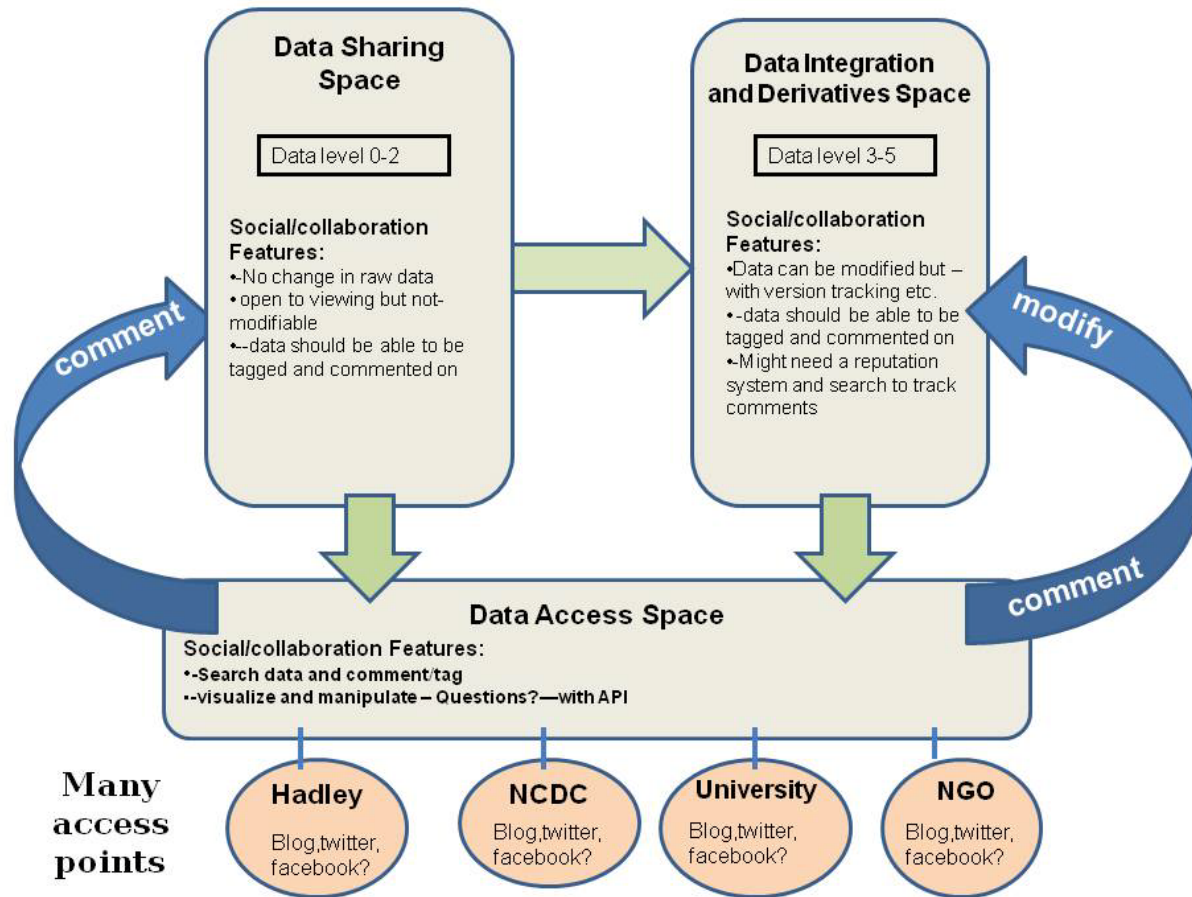
Scope of white paper

- Mechanisms to facilitate communication with all stakeholders (inside and outside climate community)
- Use of internet tools and web presence
- Maximising productive input and debate (and minimising controversy and confusion)
- Identifying desired stakeholder input

How can we engage stakeholders and maintain rigour of scientific process?

- Different stakeholder groups to consider
 - (a) Those in community already or with other relevant technical expertise (e.g. statistics, metrology, data processing)
 - (b) Active users of derivative products for decision-making
 - (c) Others likely to provide limited technical input (e.g. policy makers, general public)

How might an engagement structure work?



New media/IT tools provide many new opportunities for engagement

What active input might we want?

- Ideas on methodologies for data collection/analysis
- Information on the data (e.g. identification of errors, provision of metadata)
- Data rescue/digitisation?
- There is a need for transparency and visibility throughout the process.

How might the model work?

- A “cloud” based data set not tied to any one institution?
- Would need a process for managing and dealing with comments
- Will need comments to be from an identifiable source

- Do we look to provide full access to all data sets and support information for others to analyse in their own way?

How do we engage non-technical users?

- Possibly different portals aimed at different levels of users?
- Integration with tools for visualisation? (e.g. Google Earth)
- Local-scale community experimental projects? (e.g. with schools, interested amateurs)
- Potential for crowd-sourcing digitisation?

Accessibility of data

- Will need data to be in a consistent format with consistent metadata/quality descriptors
- This would depend on data suppliers allowing open access and taking responsibility for its quality
- Desired outcome is for sufficient information (e.g. data, algorithms) to be available to replicate work if required

Communication channels

- Specialist channels (e.g. journals, scientific magazines) – for engaging technical users
- Mainstream media
- Social media
- Blogs
- Visualisation tools (e.g. Google Earth)
- Others?

Outreach (1)

- Outreach will involve multiple groups (e.g. funders, data providers, users, policymakers, educators, media)
- Need it to be a two-way process
- To do outreach properly will need some level of investment
- Will need an outreach team of some kind

Communication

- Web presence should have an active blog, regularly updated with news on data, interesting derived info (e.g. articles on notable historical anomalies)
- Will need a group to manage and moderate it
- Also need to take advantage of other communication opportunities as they arise, both new and traditional media

Portals

- Should have multiple layers of portals for different levels of users (technical and non-technical)
- Hosting of data is not the hard part, building interfaces is

Role of visualisation tools

- Visualisation tools important for building engagement with community
- Involves tools we're involved with ourselves, and making our data available to third-party applications: how much control do we want?

Crowd-sourced digitisation

- Agreed that this should be pursued
- Need to think about what will motivate people to participate – follow lead from previous successful projects
- Building the system architecture to support digitisation will not be trivial
- May also be able to take advantage opportunistically of funding opportunities at a local level