

Researchers' needs : understand how they work to implement a EU-RAN

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Introduction

- Currently :

- More and more researchers want to use very detailed data
- but especially at national level

- Future :

- Develop transnational access to data
- Build a EU-RAN

- Our study : **researchers' needs**

- when using **confidential micro data**
- using **remote access**
- through a **secure system**

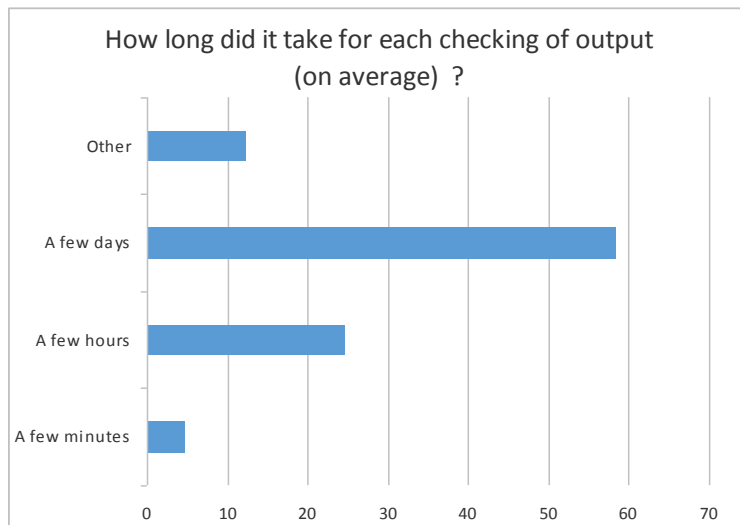


Our survey : a methodology in three steps

Step	Description	Sample	Goals
1	Business case Exploratory approach (2012)	One international research team (D, F, NL, UK)	Identify major obstacles for European research projects based on micro-data
2	On-line survey Quantitative approach (February 2013)	65 researchers who experienced RA, In 5 RDCs, DwB partners D, F, NL, UK	-further explore 4 phases of a research project -further explore the impact of various technical modes and security constraints on data processing -identify the more specific difficulties in the case of transnational access
3	Interviews Qualitative approach (May 2014)	2 individual interviews 20 researchers in 2 workshops (CASD, France and CBS, The Netherlands)	-understand how researchers work together, when in teams -imagine how they would work with the EU-RAN

Requirement n°1 : reduce waiting time throughout the process

- Too long to wait for accreditation
- Several steps between accreditation and real access (example : enrolment)
- Lengthy delays to obtain outputs checking



- Outputs checking too long for one third of the researchers
- *« such delay is not convenient for quality research », « ... any waiting just to learn that the program crashed is very frustrating »*

Requirement n°2 : no travel to access points

- WHY ?
 - Time consuming
 - Financial cost
 - Organizational problem
 - No Interaction or discussion between researchers
 - No usual documentation at hand
 - Discriminating

« It would be possible to do more with the research with accessibility from my desktop computer in the office. »

Requirement n°3 : a more flexible access point in the case of mobility

- *In case of short term mobility*, a researcher is unable to resume data processing instantly in order to modify or test new models or refine the analysis
- In case of long-term mobility, researchers have to ask for a new accreditation

"I wish the box could be usable from several locations"

Requirement n°4 : be able to access one's own research environment

Less than **1 out of 10** could work with their own computer

→ often problematic BECAUSE :

- need for specific software not provided by the secure center
- transfer of programs can take time
- communication with other colleagues is difficult



no web access



Requirement n°5 : improve data documentation and support

- Poor quality of documentation is an issue

“clear and up-to-date documentation, standard format for standard variables (e.g. time variables, geographical units id, etc.)

- Need for a reactive human support (hot lines,)

“sometimes it would be easier to explain the problem orally», « The hot-line could be made more efficient by providing, for example, a specific contact address per project or specific addresses for each kind of services (input, output, IT technical support, data technical support, accounting, etc.). »

- Language issue is particularly important too : which language(s) for documentation?

Requirement n°6 : output checking is an essential issue

- Fewer technical and methodological restrictions pertaining to outputs
- Discuss or compare either final outputs or intermediary outputs
 - « it's particularly a problem when you work with external people “major problem is that an RA may run a program and can look at the output (complete , which is necessary for checking), but is prevented from showing it to an off-location researcher. » ;

Requirement n°7 : merging data : an opportunity for new research

International comparative analysis = new research opportunities

→ Need to be able to merge data

Conclusion

Researchers want to work :

- FASTER
- in ANYPLACE
- with their WORKSPACE
- in a COLLABORATIVE way

WHILE respecting security issues

Thanks for Listening

Website: <http://www.dwbproject.org/>

