Progress in rolling-out a large data repository for scientific data in South Africa: An Initiative by the Department of Science and Technology

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Data is becoming extremely important in ensuring a competitive science and engineering driven economy. The astronomical advancement of processing power of computers drives an explosive growth of data that requires analysis and dissemination. It is no doubt that the storage technology is responding well in achieving the capacity required. However, it cannot be said the same with the readiness of the user community, in curation and utilizing this data efficiently. In this presentation we will outline the steps that South Africa is taking in developing a consolidated cyberinfrastructure with data curation forming a pillar of this initiative.