

MaLDReTH 2.0: Advancing Tool Interoperability in the Research Data Lifecycle

24th Plenary Meeting Collaborative Notes

Group(s) name(s) organising the session: Mapping the Landscape of Digital Research Tools II (MaLDReTH II)

Session

link: https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/mapping-the-landscape-of-digital-research-tools-ii-maldreth-ii/plenary-participation/?application_id=174652

Session scheduled date/time/breakout session: 08.04.2025, Breakout 4, 14:00 UTC

Session summary (for Group co-chairs)

We will use the content in the table below to highlight your work to the RDA community as a report organised by the Technical Advisory Board.

Please complete ALL fields below by **Friday 25th April, close of business** to be included in the report & social media activities.

Summarise your session in three sentences:
<i>This session presents the outcomes of the MaLDReTH Working Group and introduces MaLDReTH 2.0, which will focus on establishing standardized approaches for describing and documenting tool interoperability across the research data lifecycle.</i>
Key outcomes/actions/takeaways
1. Showcasing the MaLDReTH framework and visualization prototype for tool categorization 2. Presenting the methodology for mapping tool interoperability and data flow patterns 3. Introducing plans for tool metadata standardization and automated validation 4. Discussing community-driven governance for sustainable tool documentation 5. Outlining integration pathways with existing research infrastructure initiatives 6. GORC II Collaboration kickoff
Synergies and/or possible collaborations identified with RDA groups and other groups:
GORC II, IOI Infra Finder

Get involved in [RDA Community](#)

This meeting will take place according to the [RDA Code of Conduct](#)

Attendee Check-in

Please complete this table to indicate your attendance (add rows as needed):

Full Name	Affiliation	Location	Email	Project affiliated
Andrew Treloar	ARDC	Melbourne, AU	andrew.treloar@ardc.edu.au	
CJ Woodford	DRAC	Ontario, Canada	c.joseph.woodford@gmail.com (RDA), charles.woodford@alliancecan.ca (DRAC)	GORC?
Athina Papadopoulou	RDA Europe	Greece	athina.papadopoulou@rda-foundation.org	
Katy McNeill	Independent	Boston, USA	kfmcneill4@gmail.com	
Graeme Diack	Atlantic Salmon Trust	Perth, Scotland	graeme@atlanticsalmontrust.org	NA
Chrys Wu	Invest in Open Infrastructure (IOI), home of Infra Finder	IOI is globally distributed. I'm joining from US East Coast Happy to connect on LinkedIn!	chrys@investinopen.org	
Jože Hladnik	Civil engineering institute	Ljubljana, Slovenija	joze.hladnik@zag.si	NA
Toshiyuki Hiraki	National Institute of Informatics	Tokyo, Japan	hiraki@nii.ac.jp	
Sidonie Raffy	Inist-CNRS	Vandoeuvre les Nancy, France	sidonie.raffy@inis-t.fr	
Natalie Williams	Digital Research Alliance of	Ontario, Canada	natalie.williams@alliancecan.ca	

	Canada			
Wolmar Nyberg Åkerström	ELIXIR / NBIS, SciLifeLab	Uppsala, Sweden	wolmar.n.akerstro m@uu.se	
Milica Tanasic	Clarivate	Belgrade, Serbia	milica.tanasic@cl arivate.com	
Parul Tewatia	Scilifelab data centre	Stockholm, Seden	parul.tewatia@sci lifelab.se	
Alessandro Morichetta	Inserm	Paris, France	alessandro.moric hetta@inserm.fr	

Collaborative Session Notes (To be used by participants and chairs during the session)

[Link to slides](#)

MaLDReTH Overview

MaLDReTH 1.0 produced a harmonised research data lifecycle model, mapping of research tools, and a prototype database. See group page for details.

MaLDReTH 2.0

Builds on 1.0

Focus on standardising approaches for tool interop

Setting up documentation patterns

Exploring how to make all this sustainable

Engagement with adopters (collaborative co-design)

Tool interop: looking at vertical integration patterns between RDL stages

Looking to develop machine-readable tool interoperability profile, aiming ultimately for automatic tool composition

Possible tool integration patterns: API, shared storage integration, authentication gateway, standard format exchange (but surely the authn gateway is an underpinning element for the other three?)

Co-design via three separate workshops (Q3 2025, Q4 2025, Q1 2026). Aiming to be steered by those who are implementing

Collaboration with GORC II WG

CJ provided an overview of the GORC work to date, noting it is complementary to MaLDReTH.

Have now realised that mapping from MaLDReTH to GORC is right, so need to work on a more nuanced approach. CJ presented some possible approaches

RMN: Really looking forward to working with GORC on this

Community Engagement

To date: use of MaLDReTH as an assessment/reference by institutions (i.e. Oxford), interest from [InfraFinder](#) (MaLDReTH could help here with more structure for how they describe tools),

Aiming for an expanded group of stakeholders this time:



Please let them know about other initiatives they could engage with!

Technical task groups will be where the main tech work will take place

Aiming for validation through participation, plus community review of deliverables

Sustainability is something they are thinking about now to ensure the work is not wasted. Probably needs an organisation to keep updating the MaLDReTH map over time, and to reflect connections to other relevant initiatives.

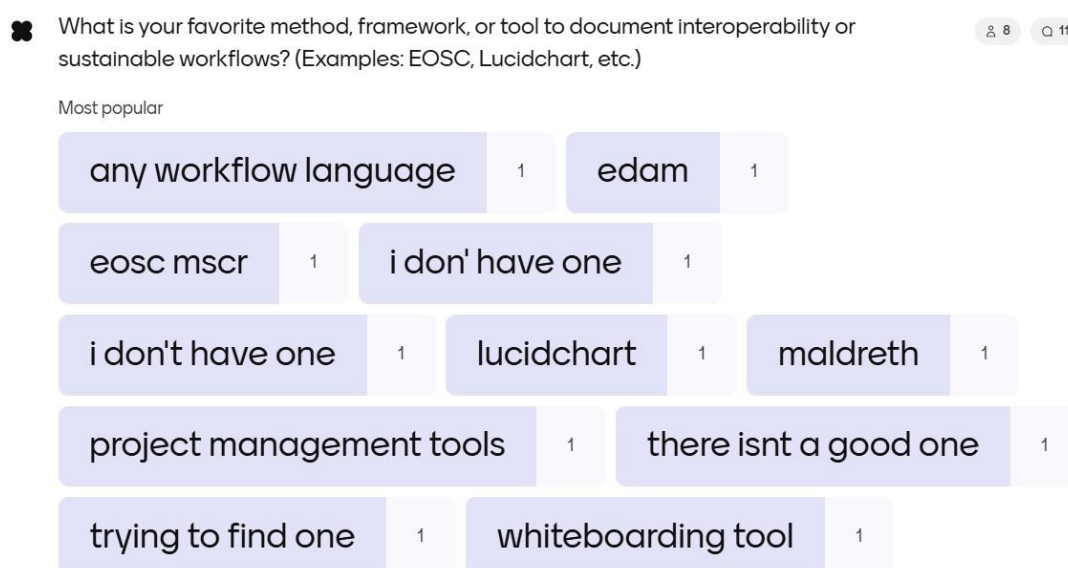
Adoption stories: Looking to set up a web presence to capture these. JISC thinking about using M as a way of structuring conversations with institutions.

RMN: MaLDReTH is not a tools registry and does not plan to be. It focusses on categories of tools, with examples, but these are there to clarify what each category provides. Should probably engage with existing registries as they move forward.

RMN: They are looking to “mine” their adoption stories for implementation patterns, and so the RDA website could perhaps help with that.

Discussion Questions

- What is your favorite method, framework, or tool to document interoperability or sustainable workflows? (Examples: EOSC, Lucidchart, etc.)



any workflow language (1) edam (1) eosc mscr (1) don't have one (2) lucidchart (1) maldreth (1) project management tools (1) there isnt a good one (1) trying to find one (1) whiteboarding tool (1)

[Gravity data](#)

- How do you see yourself or your institution utilising the MaLDReTH framework?

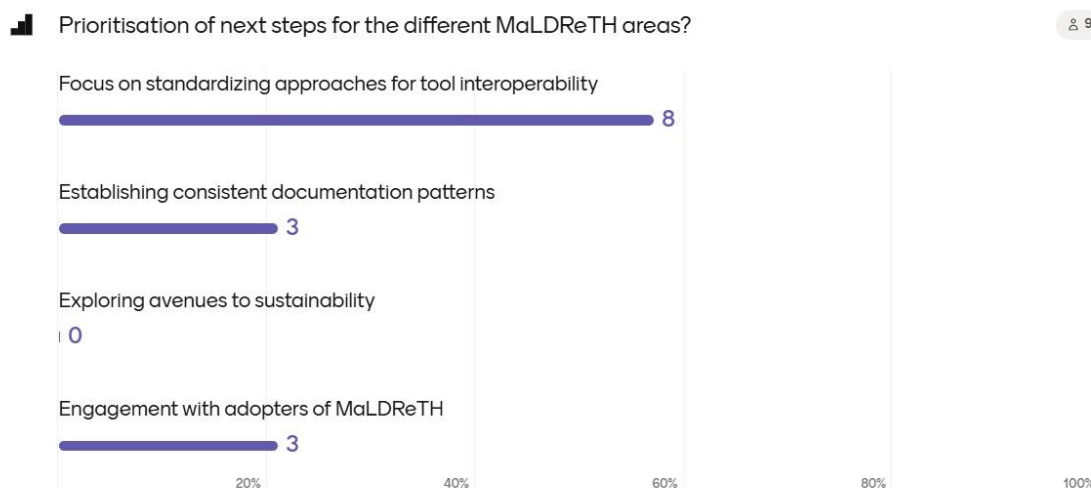
How do you see yourself or your institution utilising the MaLDReTH framework?

5 6

No 	If broadly validated, as a reference to realign existing registries
I'm thinking about it	Use to identify gaps in our services for researchers, structure and organize our researcher-facing services so that researchers can better find and use them based on the MaLDReTH research lifecycle
identify gaps, improve interoperability between our services and platforms with others in the research community.	Focus on standardizing approaches for tool interoperability

- No (1) I'm thinking about it
- identify gaps, improve interoperability between our services and platforms with others in the research community.
- If broadly validated, as a reference to realign existing registries
- Use to identify gaps in our services for researchers, structure and organize our researcher-facing services so that researchers can better find and use them based on the MaLDReTh research lifecycle
- Focus on standardizing approaches for tool interoperability

- Prioritisation of next steps for the different MaLDReTH areas?



Interoperability of tools got the most votes. RMN notes that interop and adoption are intertwined.

Interested in joining MaLDReTH 2.0, either as a working group member or for a workshop?

Please add your information below (add rows as needed):

Full Name	Affiliation	Email	Working Group? (y/n)	Workshop? (y/n)
CJ Woodford	DRAC	c.joseph.woodford@gmail.com	Y	Y
Chrys Wu	Invest in Open Infrastructure	hello@chryswu.com	Y	Maybe?