

The Coherency Manifesto

Towards Communal Data Platforms

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Draft 4: Aug 27, 2021 As a community who produces, consumes, and manages data we hold these truths to be self-evident:

1. Our most precious resource as a community is our ability to make **better decisions** together ("coherency")
2. **Higher Quality Data** enables better decisions
3. Our cohesion is limited by how fast our *Communal Data Platform* can **adapt to new realities**
4. Rational Trust is enabled by **immutable public histories** of past decisions and context ("datasets") plus **transparency of the decision-making process** over time ("analyses")
5. **Forking culture** is how we preserve cohesion while encouraging diversity
6. The core Platform must be built around open source, interfaces & standards, so we **control our own evolution**
7. Vendors may be used to provide *well-defined components* and *innovative endpoints*, where they won't constrain the overall architecture

Definitions

- **Communal Data Platform:** An ecosystem of people, pipelines, and policies designed to provide us with continually better data
- **Forking Culture:** mechanisms for thoughtfully enabling both edge-experimentation plus adoption of others' innovations
- **Quality Data:** timely | accurate | comprehensive | digestible
- **Rational Trust:** using all available information to estimate the ability of an entity to keep its promises, relative to our values and expectations about the future

The fundamental Human Right is the freedom to choose for ***myself*** what is good

The fundamental Human Responsibility is the duty to choose for myself what ***is good***

Better Decisions