



Requirements of e-science and Grid projects towards long-term archiving of scientific data

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The enormous amounts of data from Grid projects and the complexity of data from e-science projects suggest that these new types of projects also have new requirements towards long-term archiving of data. These types of projects are becoming increasingly important in Earth and Space Science Informatics, posing new challenges in data curation and the long-term availability of geoscience data.

The study "Requirements of e-science and Grid projects towards long-term archiving of scientific and scholarly data" was commissioned by the German "Network of Expertise in Digital Long-term Preservation" (nestor). The study investigates from a technological and from a management perspective whether existing infrastructures in data producing research e-science and Grid communities meet the requirements of long-term digital preservation. The study also investigates, whether technologies and best practices from e-science and Grid project can be transferred to organisations and systems in the field of long-term digital preservation.

The interviews conducted as part of this study showed considerable differences between projects in the way they approached long-term digital preservation of data. Their achievements –but also their deficits– are analysed and discussed. The recommendations given in this study are derived from this analysis and discussion. The results of this study were discussed and validated in workshops with stakeholders from German Grid and eScience projects.