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Moving data from research enabler to trusted research output: challenges for infrastructure providers and national services

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For most of the last 200 years, data have been seen as an adjunct to the process of publishing research outputs (articles, conference papers, etc). The data were there to inform the creation of new knowledge, and to enable the production of tables and graphs to appear in publications. Over the last 10 years, data have steadily moved towards becoming first class research outputs. But what does this development mean for research infrastructure and national service providers? The talk will argue that research infrastructure has fundamentally always been about data, and that the role of data in the scholarly communication ecosystem can be seen in terms of a modified set of the fundamental functions required by such a system. The talk will then consider the Australian National Data Service as case study of a national response to these issues, before concluding by talking about the importance of trust both in research outputs and in the locations where these outputs are made available.

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