The Center for Advanced Systems Understanding

An institute crossing borders

Michael Bussmann



www.casus.science

















Data science and the COVID-19 pandemic



What have we learned so far?

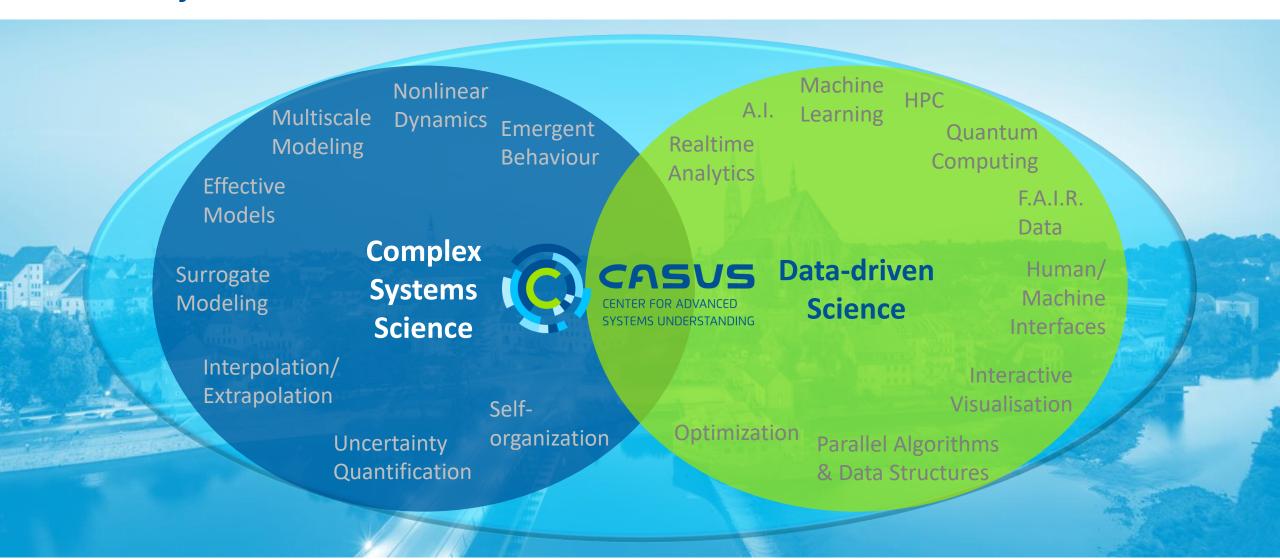
- The Covid-19 pandemic was a global phenomenon in which science and scientists played an important role
- Data availability, access and openness were seen by many as decisive, yet were far from optimum
- Sustainable solutions to cope with future disruptive events are needed more than ever



Understanding complex systems through data



Excellency in method research enables excellent science



Domain knowledge + digital method excellency + sustainability



Interdisciplinary, diverse research teams as the key to success



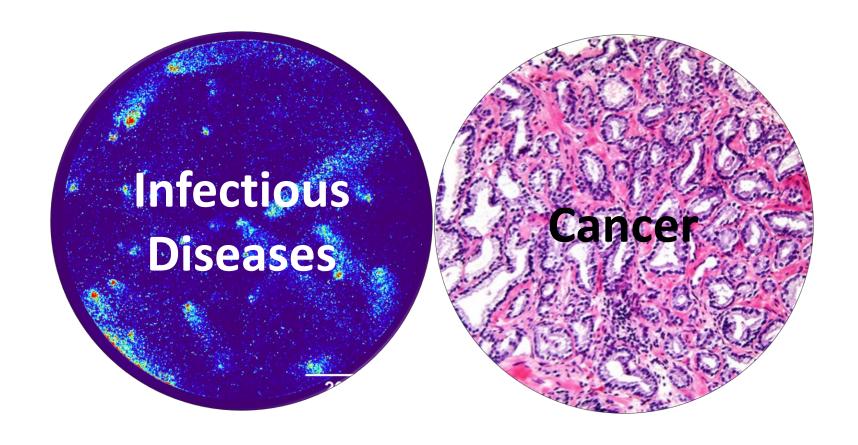
Key ingredients

- **Interdisciplinary research teams** include domain scientists, data scientists, computer scientists and mathematicians
- Young investigator groups draw new connections between research areas
- A dedicated team of research software scientists provides professional, sustainable software solutions
- Collaborative funding supports joint positions between research teams and with strategic partners

Two focus areas in digital health – Cancer & Infectious Diseases



Combining domain knowledge with digital expertise



CASUS Cancer Research





Real World Evidence databases and methods



Largest European Database for patient data on prostate cancer



Al-support for better clinical decision making in prostate, lung and breast cancer



Database on lung cancer screening effectiveness

Big Data and real world evidence in Prostate Cancer





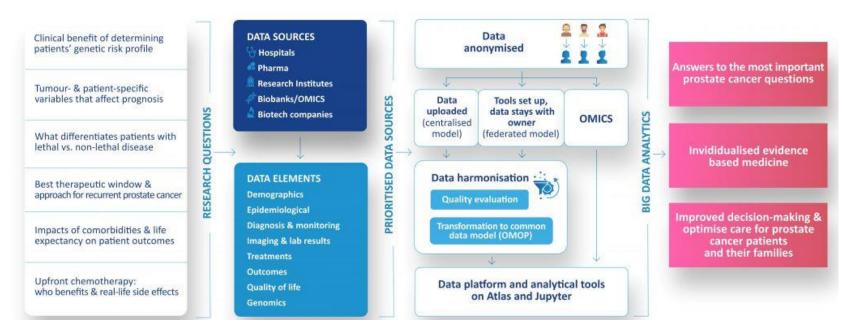




BIG DATA PLATFORM

THE EUROPEAN NETWORK OF EXCELLENCE FOR BIG DATA IN PROSTATE CANCER

Together we can ensure each individual patient receives the right treatment for them at the right time.



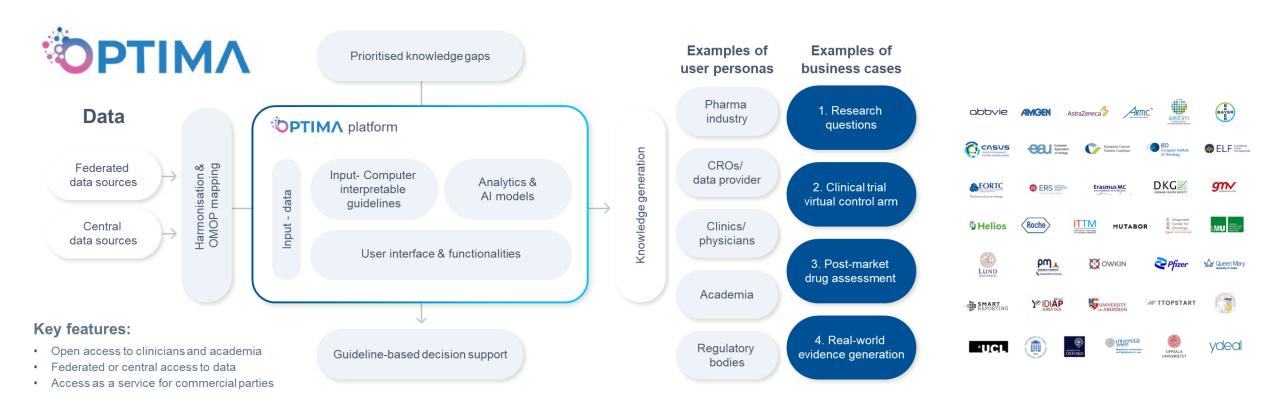


Tackling cancer through real world data and Al





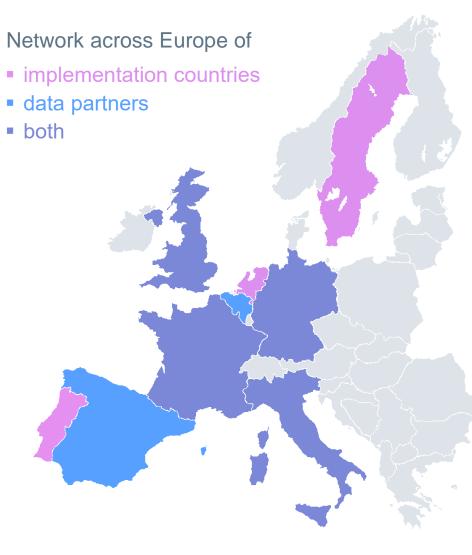
Al-augmented decision support for clinical cancer treatment



Tackling cancer through real world data and AI

Federated data and a central analytics hub at HZDR

Country	Data provider	OPTIMA partner	Cancer type	OMOP mapping	Access type	Data type(s)	Number of people
France	INSERM*		All three	In progress	Federated	EHR	66 million
Germany	IQVIA (DA)*		All three	Complete	Federated	Ambulatory EMR	37 million
Belgium	IQVIA (LPD)*		All three	Complete	Federated	Ambulatory EMR	2 million
France	IQVIA (LPD)*		All three	Complete	Federated	Ambulatory EMR	7.8 million
Spain	SIDIAP	IDIAPJGoI	All three	Complete	Federated	EHR	6 million
Scotland	eDRIS	University of Aberdeen (UoA)	All three	No	Federated	EHR	5.4 million
UK	CPRD	Oxford University (UOXF)	All three	Complete	Federated and Central	EHR	21 million
Italy	SIMG (IQVIA)*		All three	Complete	Federated	EHR	2 million
	Cancer registries	and biobanks for Al model b	ouilding				
Denmark	Danish registry* RKKP		All three	In progress	Federated	National registry	6 million
UK	Oxford University	Oxford University (UOXF)	All three	In progress	Federated and Central	Biobank linked to EHR	400.000
Estonia	Biobank	University of Tartu (TU)	All three	In progress	Federated	Cohort (EHR-XML)	198.000
Germany	Helios clinics	Helios Klinikum Emil von Behring (HC)	All three	No	Federated	Admin, EHR	163.264 patients
Germany	DKG	German Cancer Society (DKG)	Prostate, Breast	No	Federated	Cohort/QA data	100.000 patients
France	ICO	Institut de Cancerologie de l'Ouest (ICO)	All three	No	Federated	Cohort**	47.269 patients
Scotland	ICAIRD & DaSH	University of Aberdeen (UoA)	All three	No	Federated	EHR with imaging	11,708 patients
Czechia	MMCI*		All three	No	Federated	Cohort**	13.587 patients
Netherlands	EMC	Erasmus Universitair Medisch Centrum Rotterdam (EMC)	Prostate	In Progress	Federated/Cent ral	EHR**	8.800 patients
UK	Barts Breast Cancer	Queen Mary University of London (QMUL)	Breast	No	Federated	EHRs, imaging, Seq**	2500 patients
	EFPIA data						
US	OPTUM*		All	Complete	Federated	EHR	56 million
EU and Non EU	Pfizer	Pfizer	Breast	No	Central	Clinical trial; Non interventional, prospective	2000-3000
EU	AMGEN	AMGEN	Lung		Central	Cohort, prospective	1000
EU and non EU	AMGEN	AMGEN	Breast, PCa and Lung	No	Central	Clinical trial; Non interventional, prospective	2000
EU and non- EU	Roche	Roche	Breast and NSCLC	No	Federated	Non-interventional, prospective	~1,000
	Total						>200M

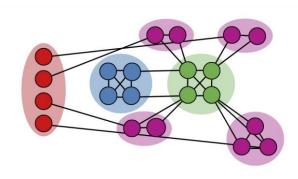




2Test Testing as a resource allocation problem









The Where2Test project

- Funded by the Saxon ministry of science, culture, and tourism (SMWK)
- Limited testing capacity emerged as a key constraint

- This problem was largely unstudied in the literature
- Focus on testing within organizations such as businesses, retirement homes, etc
- Developed both underlying network-based models and web applications for end users





















Dr Lennart Schüler



Dr Jiri Vyskocil



Dr Guiseppe Barbieri





The Where2Test platform













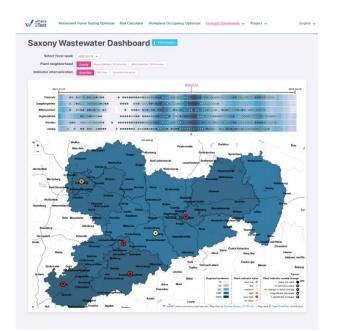


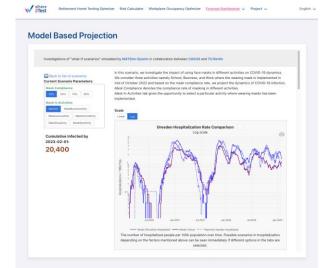
Key papers

Mertel et al. 2023. Spatial & Spatiotemp. Epid.

Davoodi et al. 2023. PLoS ONE

Batista et al. In revision. Comp. & Ind. Eng.





www.where2test.de

• COVID incid. dashboards Saxony & nearby regions

• Dashboard for wastewater monitoring in Saxony

• Workplace presence optimization app for institutions

• ODS integrating diverse regional and national data

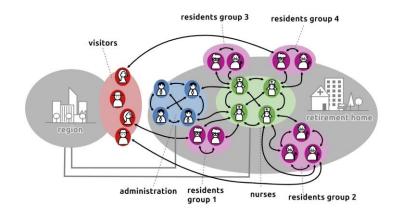
• Adaptation of EpiSim COVID model for Dresden area

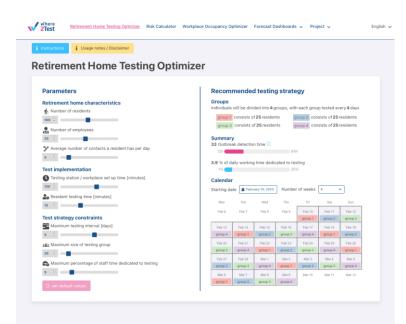


Optimal testing strategies in retirement homes









Retirement home app

• Very high mortality in RHs early in pandemic

• RHs test to identify outbreaks as quickly as possible

- Testing typically done by existing RH staff
- App calculates optimal grouping & testing schedule
- Developed collaboratively with RHs operated by Diakonisches Werk Löbau-Zittau





Key papers

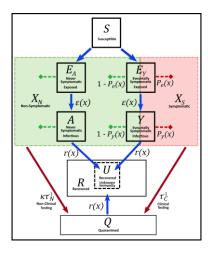
Davoodi et al. In review. Ann. Operations Res.

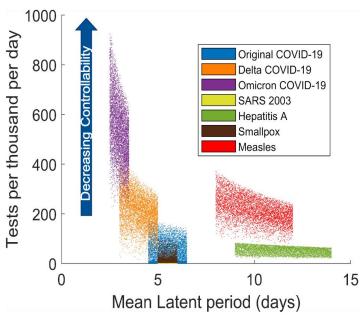
Davoodi et al. In review. JMIR Aging

Understanding outbreak controllability across diseases









The optimal control project

- From testing-focused work on COVID to a general model of epidemic control
- Allows direct comparisons across infectious diseases
- Identifies *combinations* of factors that make diseases more or less difficult to control
- For COVID, combination of short mean latent period + asymp transmission + large R_0 is key
- Omicron family is a "perfect storm" of these factors





Prof Dr Justin Calabrese

Dr Jeffrey Demers



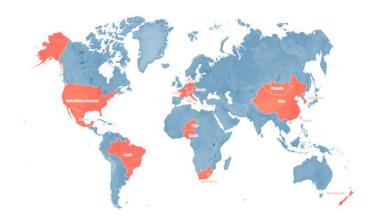
Key papers

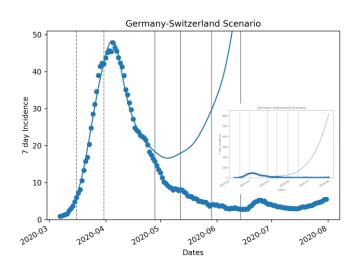
Calabrese & Demers. 2022. J. Theor. Biol.

Demers et al. 2023. Infectious Disease Mod.

Demers, Fagan & Calabrese. In prep.

Data-driven, cross-national analyses of outcomes





The COCAP project

• Pandemic played out differently in different nations

- Unprecedented amount of data available worldwide
- Combines epid + econ + behavioral models with multifaceted data across contrasting nations
- Goal: identify which interventions worked and why
- Emphasis on lessons for future pandemics









Prof Dr Justin Calabrese

Dr Xiaoming Fu



Dr Kai Fan

HELMHOLTZ RESEARCH FOR GRAND CHALLENGES



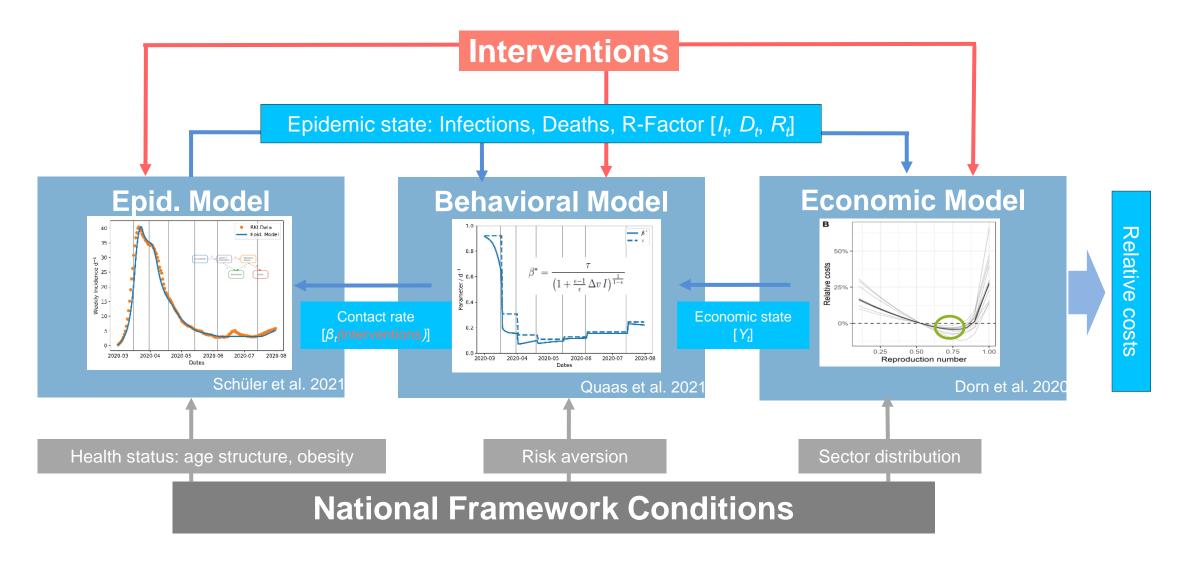




Understanding outbreak controllability across diseases











understanding complex systems