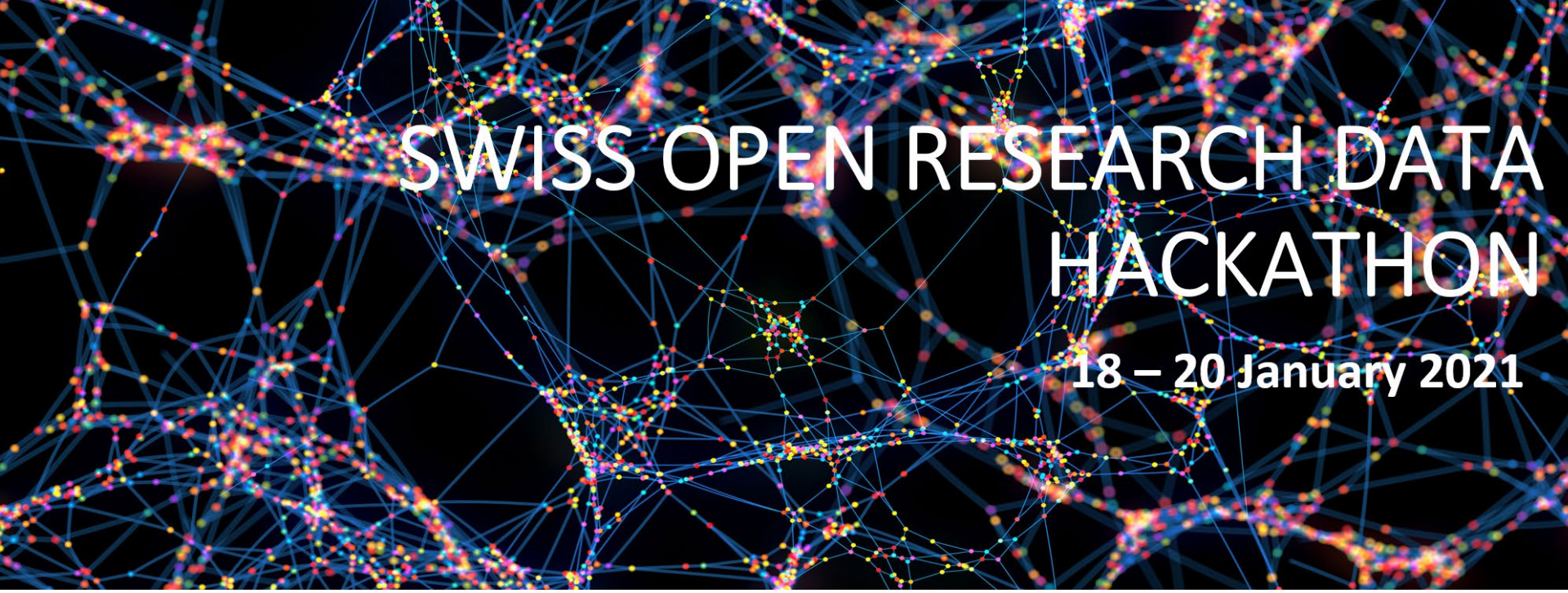

#12 – Facilitating data citation

An app to import metadata in reference management software

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FORS

Why this idea?

Problem

Research data are often not correctly cited in texts and omitted in the bibliographic section, resulting in:

- Limited tracking
- Limited acknowledgement for the data creators
- Less incentive to archive and share their data

Goal

Facilitating and improving data citation practice by making the data citation process identical to the citing process of other sources (e.g., book chapters, articles, website).

How

Creating an app to import all needed metadata in reference management software that could be included as a plugin in data archives' catalogues

Definition of a minimum viable product

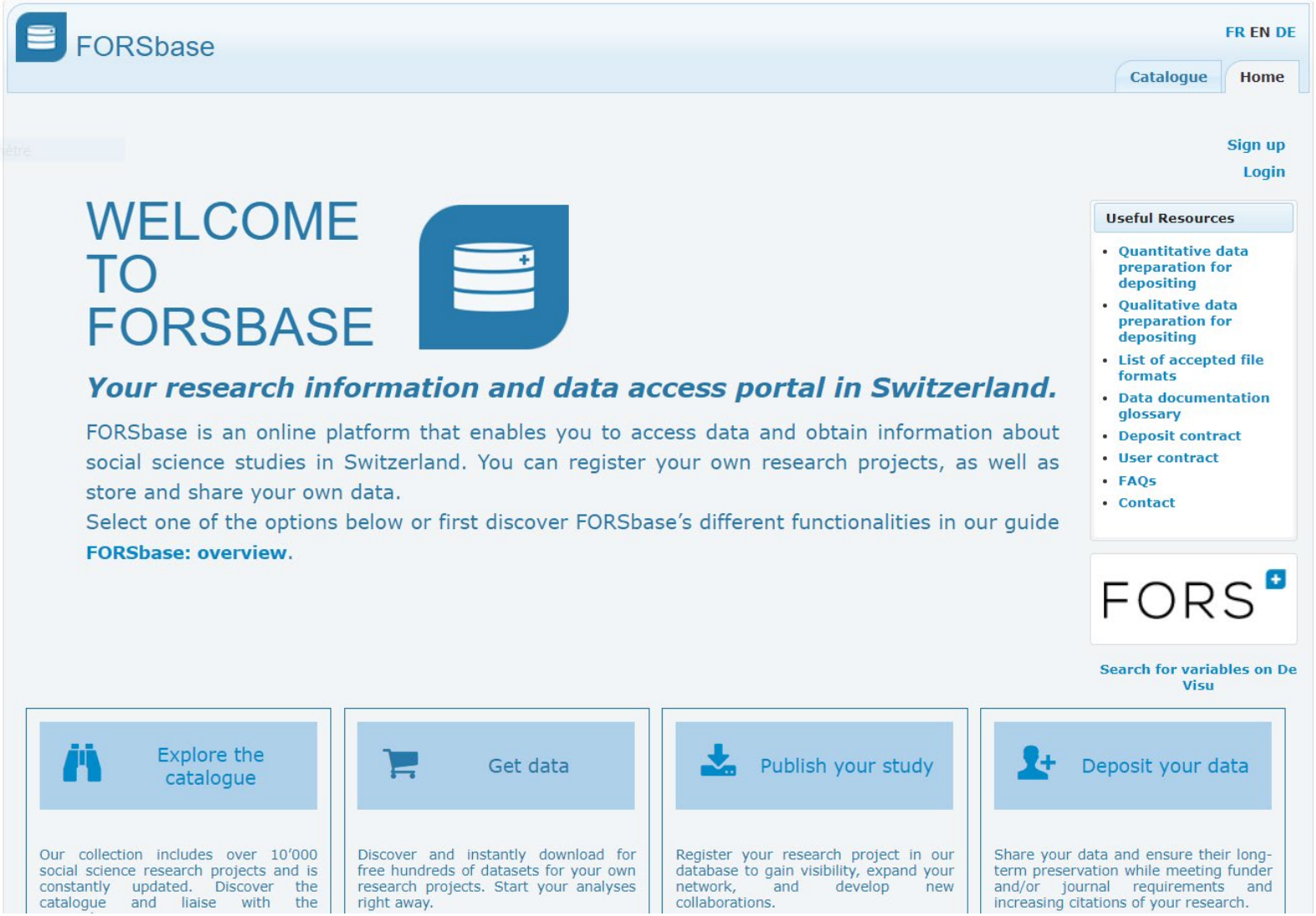
- Use of RIS format which is compatible with commonly used reference management software (e.g., Zenodo, Mendeley, Endnote)

- Selection of mandatory and extra metadata fields

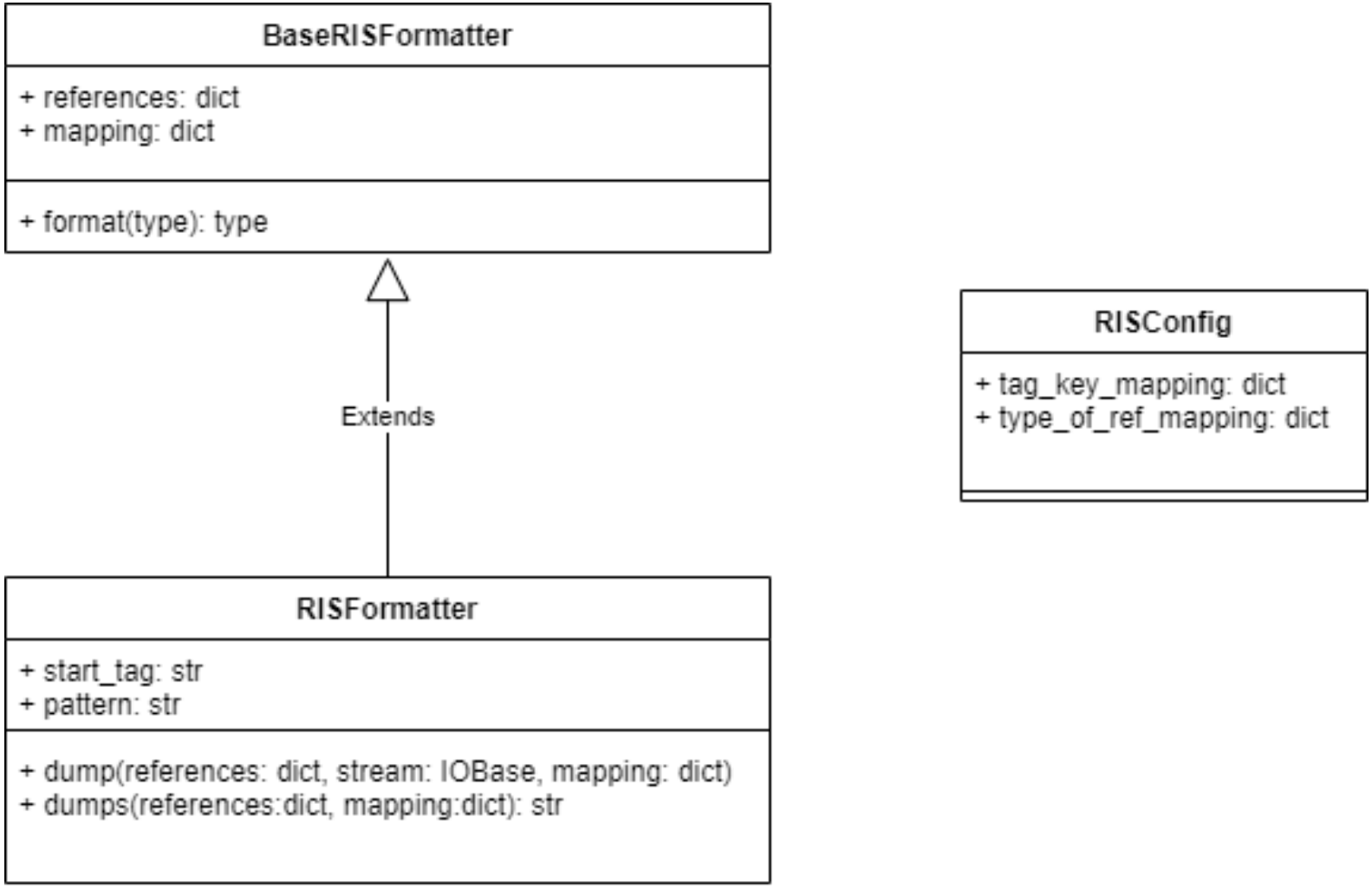
  Based on prior analysis of data citation recommendations at different institutions (e.g., data archives and repositories, university libraries, specialised organisations, journals)

Mandatory fields	Extra fields
Reference type	Dataset Number
Authors/creators	URL (based on DOI)
Publication year	Place Published
Title	Access Date
Data type	
Publisher/distributor	
Version	
DOI	

Using FORSbase as a test case



UML


BaseRISFormatter
+ references: dict
+ mapping: dict
+ format(type): type
Extends
RISFormatter
+ start_tag: str
+ pattern: str
+ dump(references: dict, stream: IOBase, mapping: dict)
+ dumps(references:dict, mapping:dict): str
RISConfig
+ tag_key_mapping: dict
+ type_of_ref_mapping: dict

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Achievements

- Export from an existing system – FORSbase in our case – of the mandatory and extra metadata fields used for data citation in a RIS format
  - The resulting module could be adapted for other systems.
- Import the created RIS file in a reference management software
  - Tests done in Endnote and Zotero

→ Successful result!

Next features

- Extend the module to other formats than RIS
- Apply the solution to SWISSUbase (https://info.swissubase.ch/fr/)

Image retrieved from https://farm4.staticflickr.com/3579/3534506648_8d0d0f5fb6_z.jpg