



Knowledge graphs in the context of the National Research Data Initiative (NFDI)

Daniel Mietchen; [Leipzig Semantic Web Day #LSWT2025](#)

for the project team:

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Structure of the talk

- NFDI contexts
 - NFDI - National Research Data Infrastructure
 - Base4NFDI - data infrastructure and workflows shared across NFDI consortia
 - KGI4NFDI as Basic Service in Base4NFDI
- Knowledge graphs in NFDI
- Interoperability with and between NFDI knowledge graphs
- Discussion

Introduction

NFDI - an unofficial disambiguation

NFDI (Nationale Forschungsdateninfrastruktur; National Research Data Infrastructure)
can have different meanings in different contexts

- Sense 1:  A vision for a research landscape of which data are a fully integrated component
- Sense 2:  A research funding initiative aimed at a practical implementation of NFDI/Sense 1
- Sense 3:  A set of projects funded by the NFDI/Sense 2
- Sense 4:  Actual infrastructure operated by NFDI/Sense 3
- Sense 5:  A legal entity (e.V.) supporting any of the above
- Sense 6:  A community of people, institutions and others involved with any of the above

Introduction

NFDI - Vision and mission

Vision

“NFDI: Data as a common good for excellent research, organised by the scientific community in Germany. ”

Mission

“Step by step, we are improving the possibilities for using data for science and society.

Through our cooperation in the NFDI Association, an umbrella organisation for research data management in all branches of science is being created. In cooperation with national and international partners, we are creating the framework conditions for legally compliant, interoperable and sustainable data infrastructures that are easily accessible for researchers in their everyday work. We educate people, strengthen their competence in dealing with data and open up new career paths. ”

Introduction

NFDI Consortia



Network of consortia:
Base4NFDI

💰 2018-2028-?
 2020-2025
 2021-2026
 2022-2027

Base4NFDI: Data infrastructure and workflows shared across NFDI consortia

- Base4NFDI funds Basic Services that are deemed useful across multiple NFDI consortia
- <https://base4nfdi.de/>

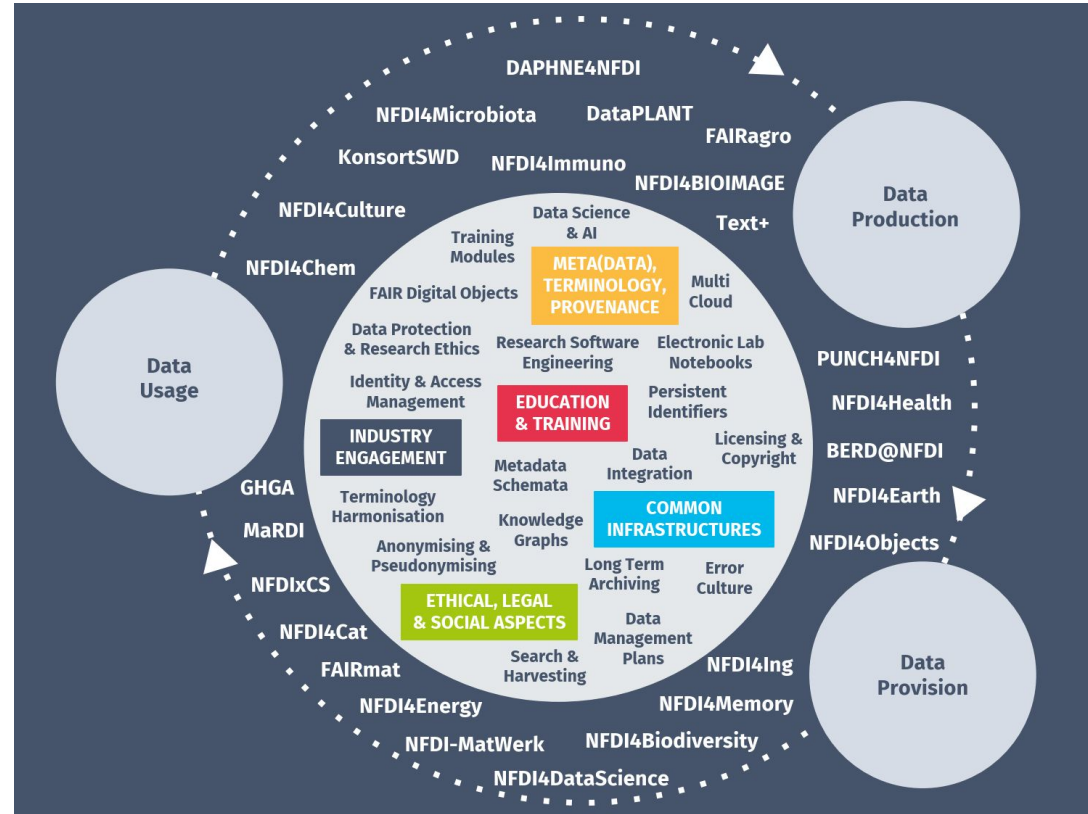


Image from <https://base4nfdi.de/> . CC BY 4.0.

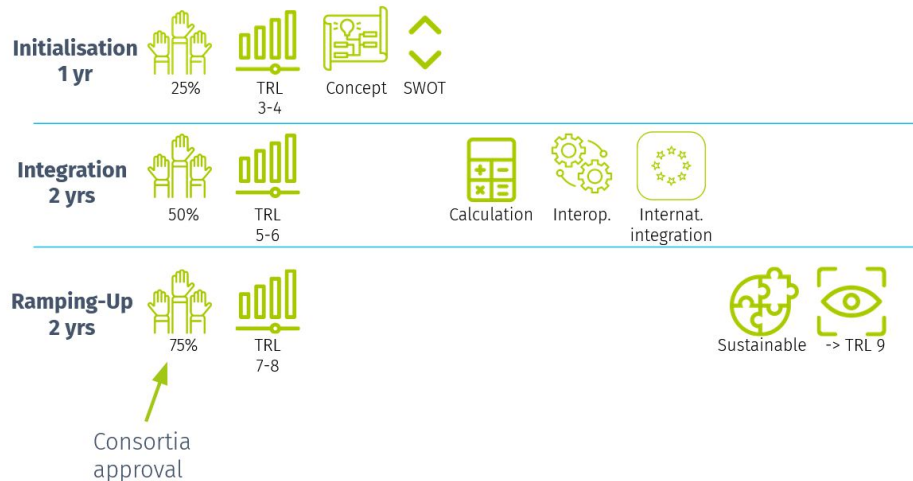
Base4NFDI: Currently funded basic service projects

Currently in Initialisation Phase

Jupyter@4.nfdi A central JupyterHub for the German National Research Data Infrastructure 	DMP4 nfdi Data Management Plans for the German National Research Data Infrastructure 	KGI4 nfdi Knowledge Graph Infrastructure for the German National Research Data Infrastructure 	nfdi.software A research software marketplace for the German National Research Data Infrastructure 	RDMT4 nfdi Research Data Management Training for the German National Research Data Infrastructure
Jupyter4NFDI	DMP4NFDI	KGI4NFDI	nfdi.software	RDMTraining4NFDI
A central JupyterHub	Data Management Plans	Knowledge Graph Infrastructure	Software Marketplace	Research Data Management Training
- Phase started in June 2024 -	- Phase started in June 2024 -	- Phase started in June 2024 -	- Phase started in Nov 2024 -	- Phase starts in Feb 2025 -

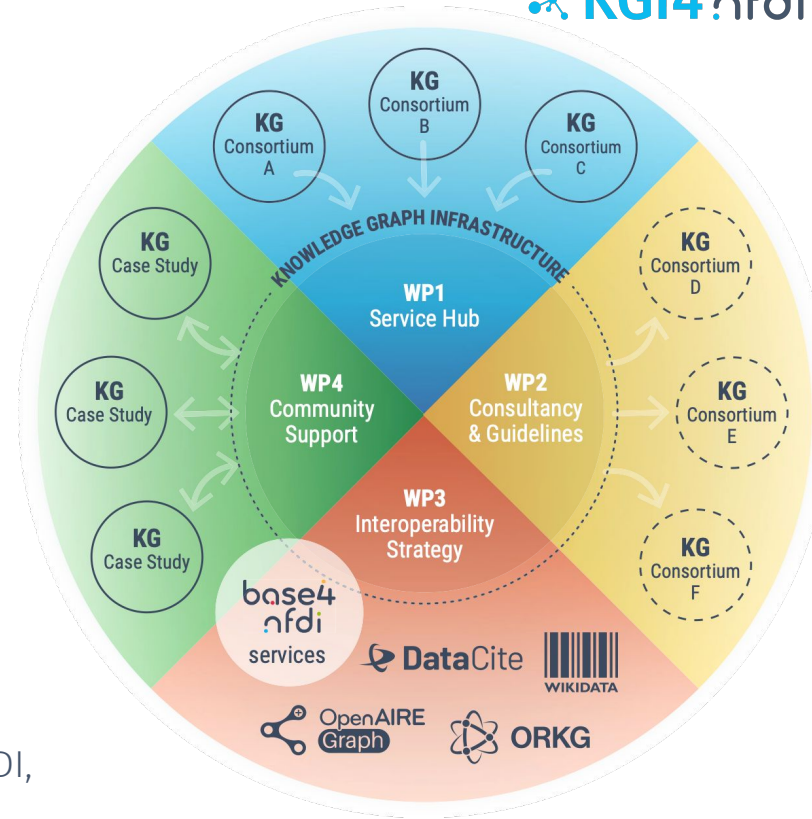
Currently in Integration Phase

IAM4 nfdi Identity and Access Management for the German National Research Data Infrastructure 	PID4 nfdi Persistent Identifier Services for the German National Research Data Infrastructure 	TS4 nfdi Terminology Services for the German National Research Data Infrastructure
IAM4NFDI	PID4NFDI	TS4NFDI
Identity and Access Management	Persistent Identifiers	Terminology Services
- Phase started in Feb 2024 -	- Phase started in Jan 2025 -	- Phase started in Jan 2025 -



KGI4NFDI as Basic Service in Base4NFDI

- KGI4NFDI - **K**nowledge **G**raph **I**nfrastructure
 - is currently in its Initialization Phase
 - provides cross-disciplinary infrastructure and services around knowledge graphs (KG)
 - runs NFDI knowledge graph registry
 - supports technological diversity
 - provides examples and guidelines
 - aligns with other Basic Services, e.g. TS4NFDI, which handles terminology services
 - more info at: <https://kgi.services.base4nfdi.de/> and <https://base4nfdi.de/projects/kgi4nfdi>



Introduction

KGs in NFDI consortia

Humanities and social sciences

- BERD@NFDI (KGs)
- KonsortSWD
- NFDI4Culture (KGs)
- NFDI4Memory (KGs)
- NFDI4Objects (KGs)
- Text+ (KG)

Engineering sciences

- NFDI4DataScience (KGs & KG Software)
- NFDI4Energy (KG)
- NFDI4Ing (KG Software)
- NFDI-MatWerk (KGs & KG Software)
- NFDIxCs

Life sciences

- DataPLANT
- FAIRagro
- NFDI4Immuno
- GHGA
- NFDI4Biodiversity
- NFDI4BIOIMAGE (KG)
- NFDI4Health
- NFDI4Microbiota (KG)

Natural sciences

- DAPHNE4NFDI
- FAIRmat
- NFDI4Cat (KG)
- MaRDI (KGs)
- NFDI4Chem (KGs)
- NFDI4Earth (KG)
- PUNCH4NFDI

Use Cases

The KGI Service Hub



Aleana

When I

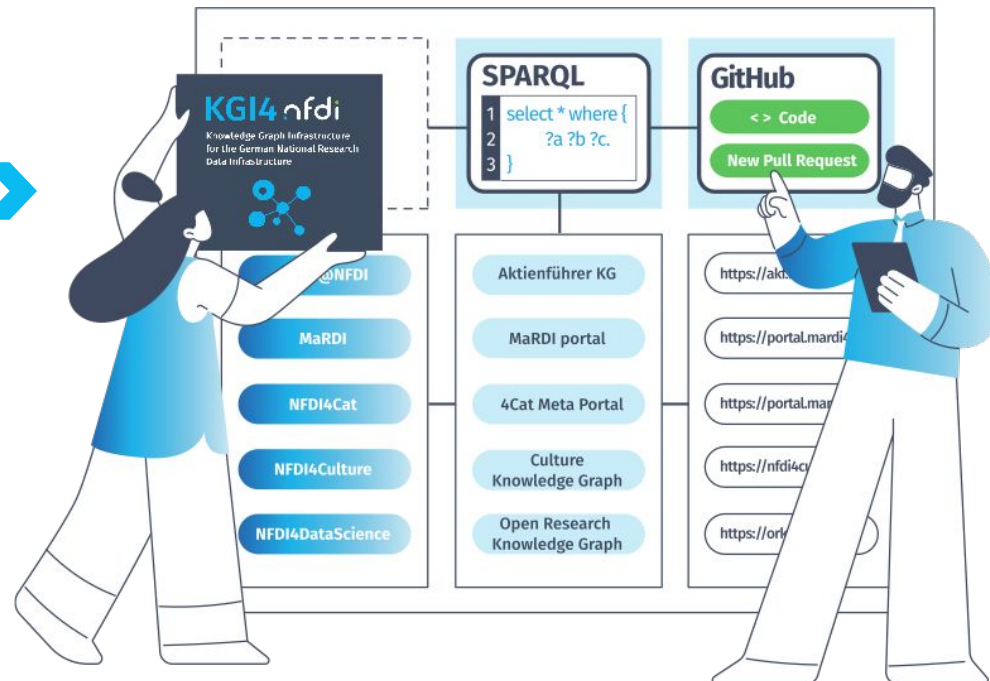
am looking for existing knowledge graphs in the domain of Bioinformatics,

I need / I wish

I need a centralised registry of knowledge graphs.

I am frustrated when

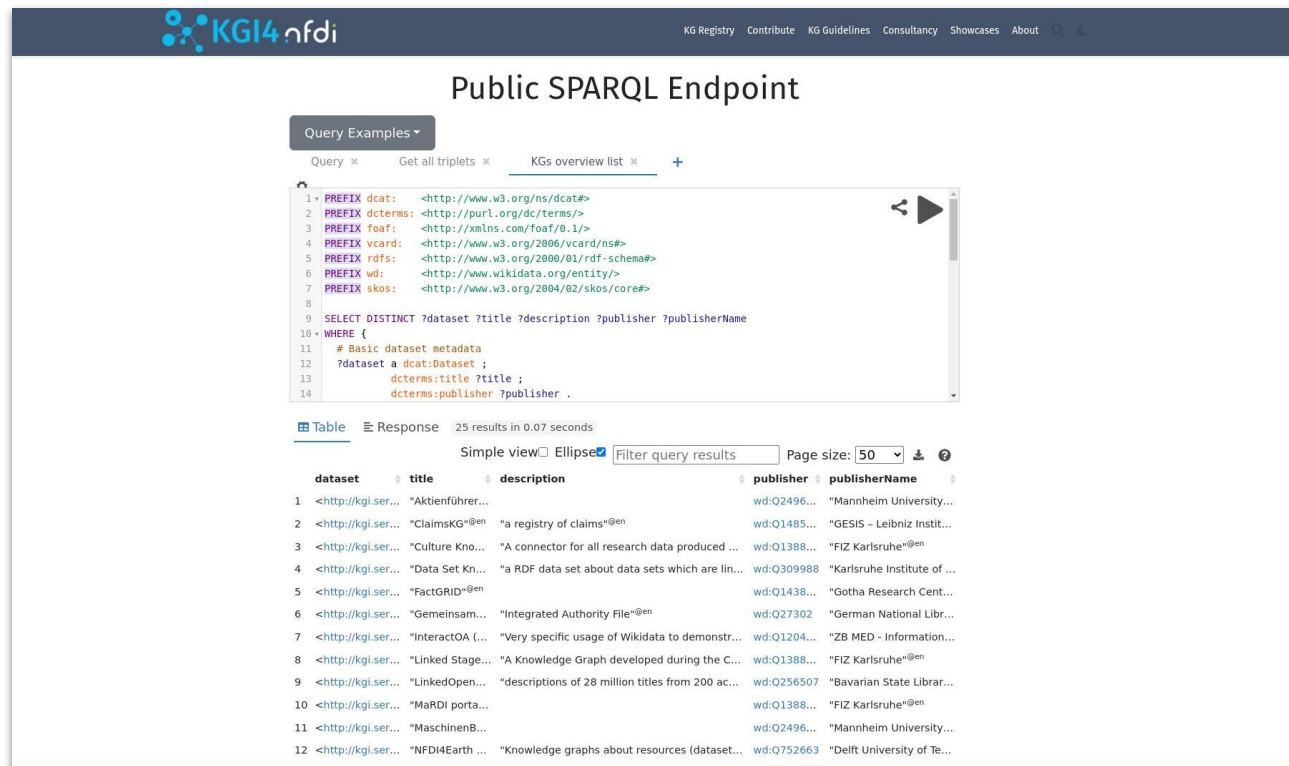
I don't know what question to ask in the query interface and how best to formulate it.



- ★ Registry of KGs in NFDI
- ★ Search and query platform
- ★ Query examples to get started

Use Cases

Example query: List of NFDI KGs registered in the KG Registry



The screenshot shows the KGI4nfdi Public SPARQL Endpoint interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links: KG Registry, Contribute, KG Guidelines, Consultancy, Showcases, About, and a search icon. The main heading is "Public SPARQL Endpoint". Below it, there's a "Query Examples" dropdown menu. The active tab is "KGs overview list". The query editor shows a SPARQL query that selects distinct datasets with their titles, descriptions, and publishers. The query is as follows:

```

1 PREFIX dcat: <http://www.w3.org/ns/dcat#>
2 PREFIX dcterms: <http://purl.org/dc/terms/>
3 PREFIX foaf: <http://xmlns.com/foaf/0.1/>
4 PREFIX vcard: <http://www.w3.org/2006/vcard/ns#>
5 PREFIX rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#>
6 PREFIX wd: <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/>
7 PREFIX skos: <http://www.w3.org/2004/02/skos/core#>
8
9 SELECT DISTINCT ?dataset ?title ?description ?publisher ?publisherName
10 WHERE {
11   # Basic dataset metadata
12   ?dataset a dcat:Dataset ;
13           dcterms:title ?title ;
14           dcterms:publisher ?publisher .

```

Below the query editor, there's a "Table" tab selected, showing 25 results in 0.07 seconds. The results are displayed in a table with columns: dataset, title, description, publisher, and publisherName. The table lists various datasets registered in the KG Registry, including "Aktienführer...", "ClaimsKG@en", "Culture Kno...", "Data Set Kn...", "FactGRID@en", "Gemeinsam...", "InteractOA (...", "Linked Stage...", "LinkedOpen...", "MaRDI porta...", "MaschinenB...", and "NFDI4Earth ...".

https://kgi.services.base4nfdi.de/kg_registry/

Use Cases

How can you interact with (NFDI) KGs?

- Search/ find / describe existing KGs
 - within NFDI
 - within your fields ([biodiversity example](#))
 - in general
 - starting from a specific piece of knowledge
- Use existing KGs
 - alone
 - in combination
 - with each other
 - with other resources
 - including other Basic Services
- Deploy your own KG
- Increase the interoperability of your KG with other KGs
- Tell us about any of the above and how it interacts with your workflows
- ...

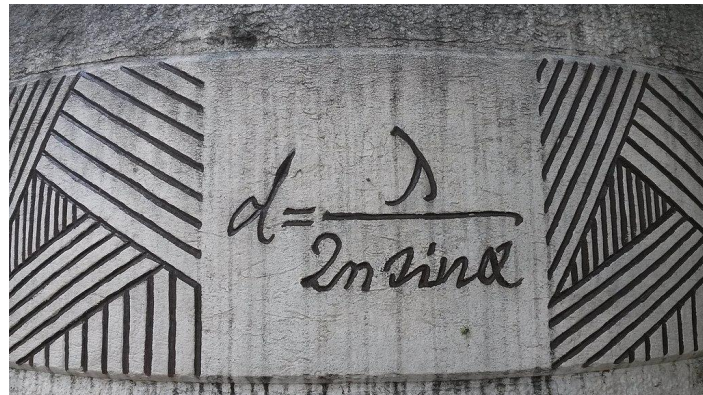


Facets of Cross-Disciplinarity in KGs

Types of relevant questions

- Which KGs should (or do) hold which knowledge about an entity?
- How should the details be modeled within and across KGs?
- What normalization rules should be applied, and where and how should they be stored?
- What if different KGs have conflicting information on “the same” entity?
- How do we identify “the same” concept or relationship across KGs?
- How to leverage initiatives like the Scientific Knowledge Graphs Interoperability Framework (SKG-IF)?
- How to standardize workflows for dumps, subsetting or propagation of curation events?
- How to federate queries at scale?

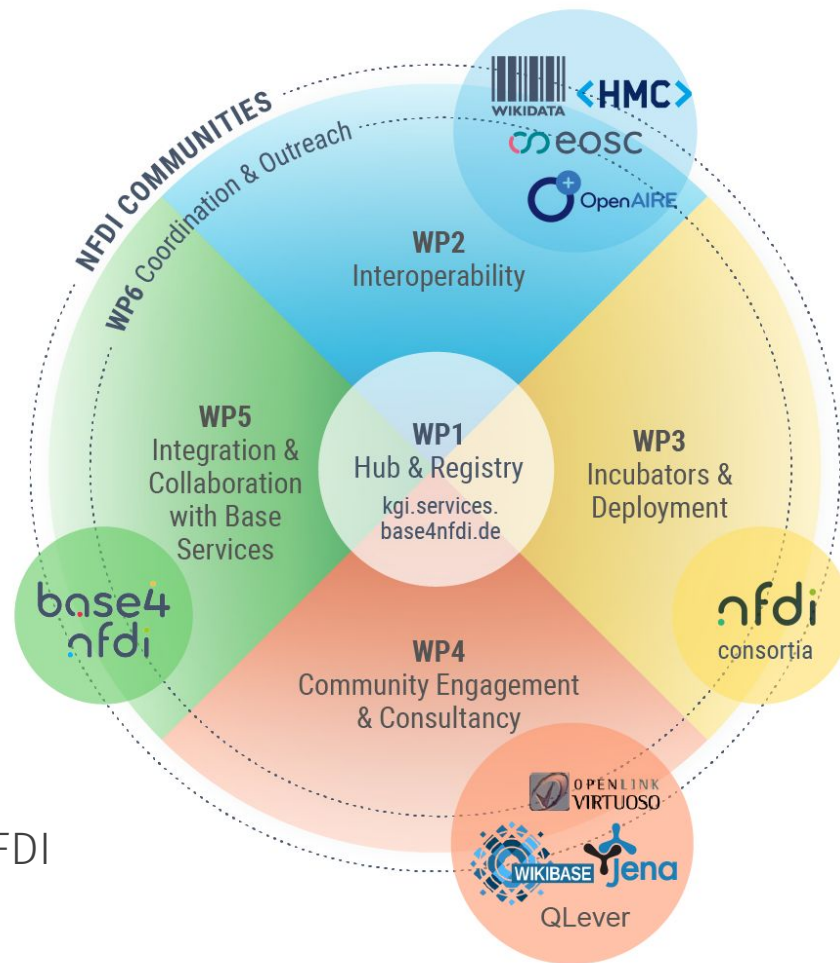
- It's a photograph of (part of) a monument.
- The monument depicts Latin and Greek letters.
- The letters are part of a mathematical formula.
- The formula represents some physical concepts.
- The physical concepts describe a limit.
- The limit could be circumvented by engineering.
- The engineering got the Nobel Prize in Chemistry.
- The chemistry is widely used in biology and medicine.
- All of this has a history as well as material, social and data aspects ...



Integration Phase

Provisional Plans

- Run incubator projects
- Extend the registry
- Enrich the hub
- Benchmark KG technologies
- Harmonize metadata
- Streamline deployment
- Integration with Base Services
- Community engagement
- Consultancy
- Provide training
- Documentation and reporting
- Coordination within and beyond NFDI



Get involved



More info at: <https://kgi.services.base4nfdi.de/> and <https://base4nfdi.de/projects/kgi4nfdi>

- ★ Share KG-related use cases
 - integration needs
 - existing KGs in your domains ([example](#))
 - data models for KG entries
 - ...
- ★ Take-advantage of consulting opportunities
 - Plan an incubator project
 - Attend open consulting sessions (third Wednesday of the month, 3pm)
 - Access training resources
 - ...
- ★ Explore KGI resources and provide feedback
 - [KGs in the registry](#)
 - [Virtuoso & Jena KG Guidelines](#)
 - [MaRDI meets 4Memory](#)
 - [FAIRJupyter](#)

Thank you!
Questions?



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 base4nfdi.de/projects/kgi4nfdi

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