

Centralized Database Management: Enhancing User Interaction and Accessibility with R / Shiny and AWS

Ilaria Capelli & Mina Sohrabi

UseR! 2024, Salzburg, 09.07.2024

This presentation is intended for information purposes.

This presentation constitutes neither a public offer nor a solicitation to submit an offer in the sense of the Austrian Capital Market Act (KMG), the Stock Exchange Act or any other comparable foreign law. An investment decision regarding a financial product must be made on the basis of an approved, published prospectus and not on the basis of this presentation.

This presentation does not constitute a personal recommendation/investment advice regarding the purchase or sale of financial instruments in the sense of the Securities Supervision Act. This presentation shall not form the basis for any kind of contract or commitment whatsoever.

This presentation is not a substitute for the necessary advice on the purchase or sale of a financial product. Your banking advisor can provide individualised advice which is suitable for investors and investments.

Presentation Contents

- 01** About us: who we are and what are our digital needs
- 02** Why do we need a Centralized Database Management
- 03** An internal R package for direct queries
- 04** Macro Forecast DataHub: a Shiny-based application
- 05** Summary and Outlook

About us: who we are and what do we do?

Granular coverage of CEE & Austrian markets and issuers

- **Macro, Fixed Income, Equity, ESG**

Diverse team of **~80 analysts** in Austria and 12 CEE countries

Strong regional, product and client focus

Local market expertise

Exclusive Research provider to Austrian Raiffeisen Banking Group in retail research

- **Data and models used by several departments**



About us: one platform, countless insights

Stakeholders' expectations

Need for **reliable, digital** and **sustainable** research

Urge for local expertise in 12 CEE countries and Vienna

Need to serve corporate & institutional clients

Data always **ready** and up to date

What we offer

Up to date, **ad hoc**, latest research

Analysts contacts & local expertise on your request

Access to research community events

Unique database & platform to analysts & clients





Current vs future environment

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
	Economic Indicators: Poland 2019 - 2026									
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024e	2025f	2026f	
Annual Data										
Nominal GDP (EUR bn)		532.0	526.5	576.6	652.3	747.7	847.0	918.5	990.7	
Real GDP (% yoy)		4.4	-2.0	6.9	5.3	0.2	3.1	3.8	3.5	
GDP per capita (EUR)		13900	13800	15200	17300	19900	22600	24500	26400	
Private consumption (% yoy)		3.5	-3.6	6.2	5.2	-1.0	2.3	3.4	n.a.	
Gross fixed capital formation (% yoy)		6.2	-2.3	1.2	4.9	8.4	4.3	4.4	n.a.	
Gross wages (LCY, % yoy)		4.8	2.9	8.9	12.1	12.2	9.1	6.4	4.5	
Unemployment (avg, %)		5.4	5.9	6.0	5.4	5.2	5.2	5.3	5.7	
Budget balance (% of GDP)		-0.7	-6.9	-1.8	-3.5	-5.2	-4.7	-3.8	n.a.	
Public debt (% of GDP)		45.7	57.2	53.6	49.2	49.6	50.4	50.9	n.a.	
Goods exports (EUR billion)		220.3	220.5	263.6	322.1	334.2	356.0	391.0	n.a.	
Goods imports (EUR billion)		224.7	213.6	271.3	346.3	328.0	355.0	390.0	n.a.	
Goods trade balance (% of GDP)		-0.8	1.3	-1.3	-3.7	0.8	0.1	0.1	n.a.	
Current account balance (% of GDP)		-0.2	2.4	-1.3	-2.4	1.6	0.2	0.2	n.a.	
FX reserves with gold (EUR bn)		114.5	125.6	146.6	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
Gross foreign debt (% of GDP)		59.5	58.1	55.9	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
CPI inflation (avg, % yoy)		2.3	3.4	5.2	14.4	11.6	4.0	3.5	3.0	
Core CPI inflation (avg, % yoy)		2.0	3.9	4.1	9.1	10.2	3.8	2.4	n.a.	
Policy rate (% eop)		1.50	0.10	1.75	6.75	5.75	5.50	3.50	3.00	
3M interbank rate (% eop)		1.72	0.21	2.54	7.02	5.88	5.50	4.40	3.15	
EUR/LCY (eop)		4.26	4.61	4.60	4.69	4.34	4.35	4.25	4.25	
EUR/LCY (avg)		4.30	4.44	4.56	4.70	4.54	4.36	4.30	4.25	
USD/LCY (eop)		3.80	3.76	4.05	4.38	3.93	4.03	3.79	3.70	
USD/LCY (avg)		3.84	3.90	3.86	4.46	4.20	4.06	3.90	3.73	
Source: LSEG, Focus Economics, RBI/Raiffeisen Research										
		Overview	Global	Poland	Hungary	Czech Republic	Slovakia	Slovenia	CE	Romania



Current vs future environment

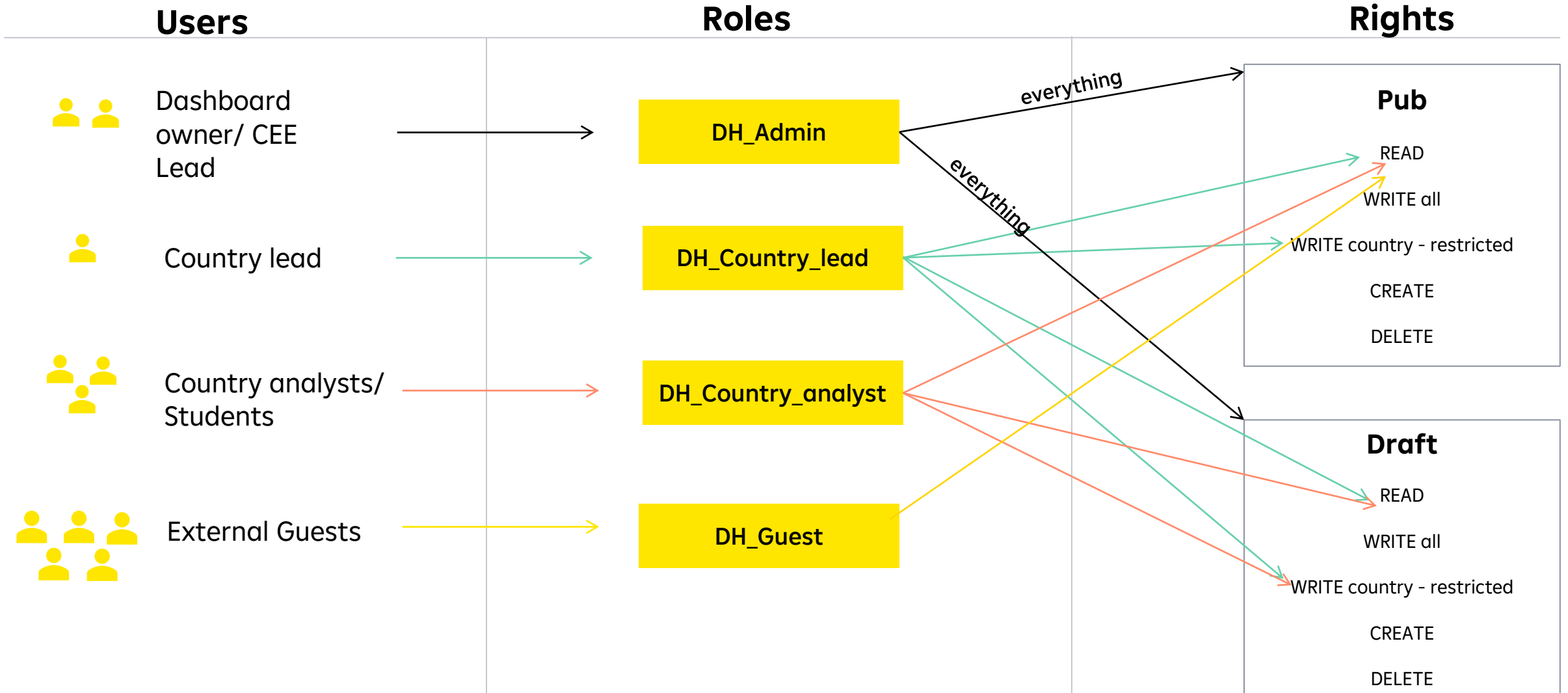


- ✗ Many transfer sheets
- ✗ Multiple data sources
- ✗ Vulnerable to overwriting
- ✗ Limited back-testing capability
- ✗ Data downloads based on cell reading, highly error-prone

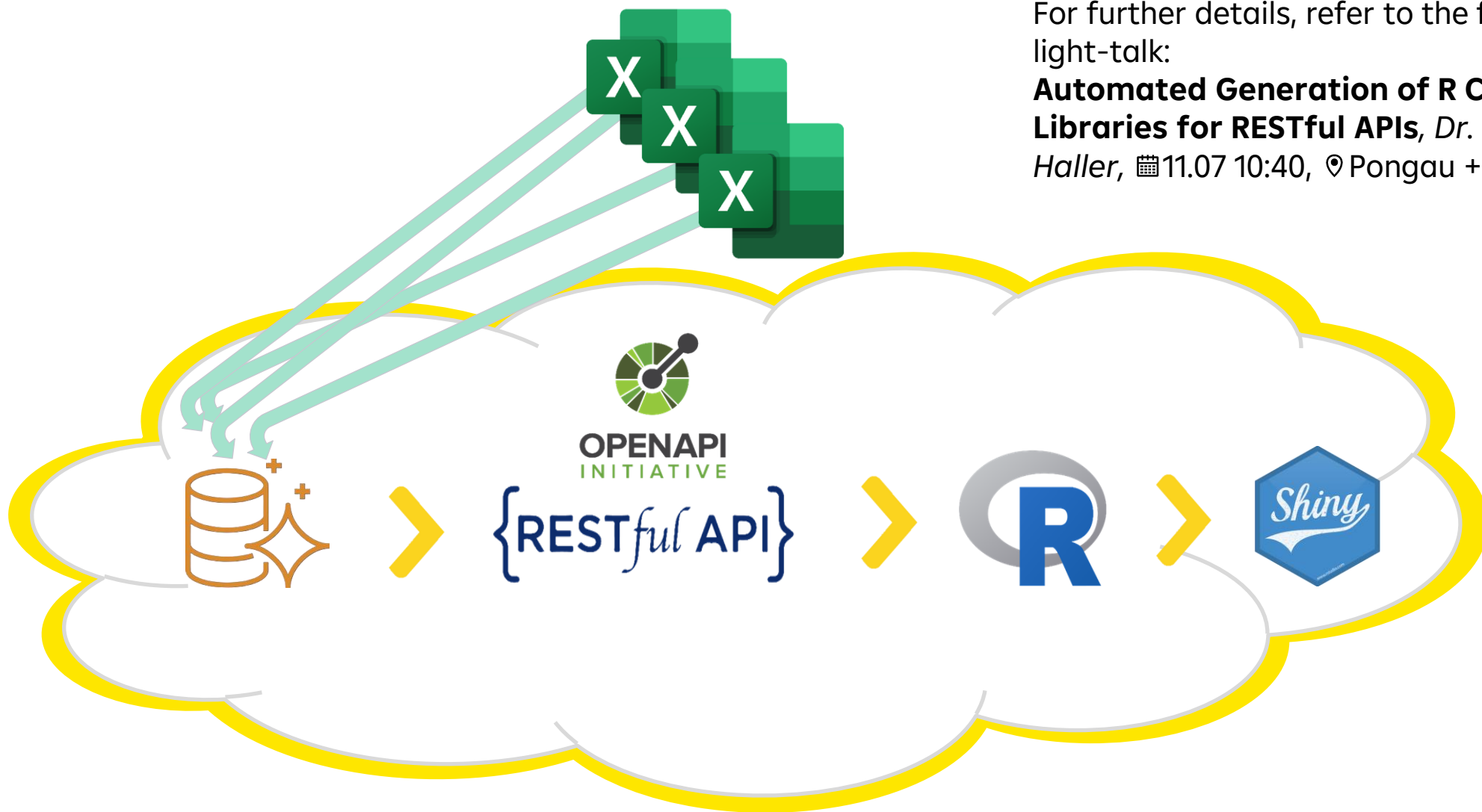


- ✓ One interface
- ✓ One database
- ✓ Only authorized users can edit
- ✓ Any revision is stored with author and revision date
- ✓ API for data download in R

Role- based access control model



A modern view for research data handling



For further details, refer to the following light-talk:

Automated Generation of R Client Libraries for RESTful APIs, Dr. Simon Haller, 11.07 10:40, Pongau + Flachgau



Via our R client it is now possible to perform various HTTP methods in the database of our macro-economic timeseries:

Initialization:

```
library(rdhsdk)  
client<-ApiClient$new(base_path, bearer_token)  
dh<-TimeseriesApi$new(client)
```

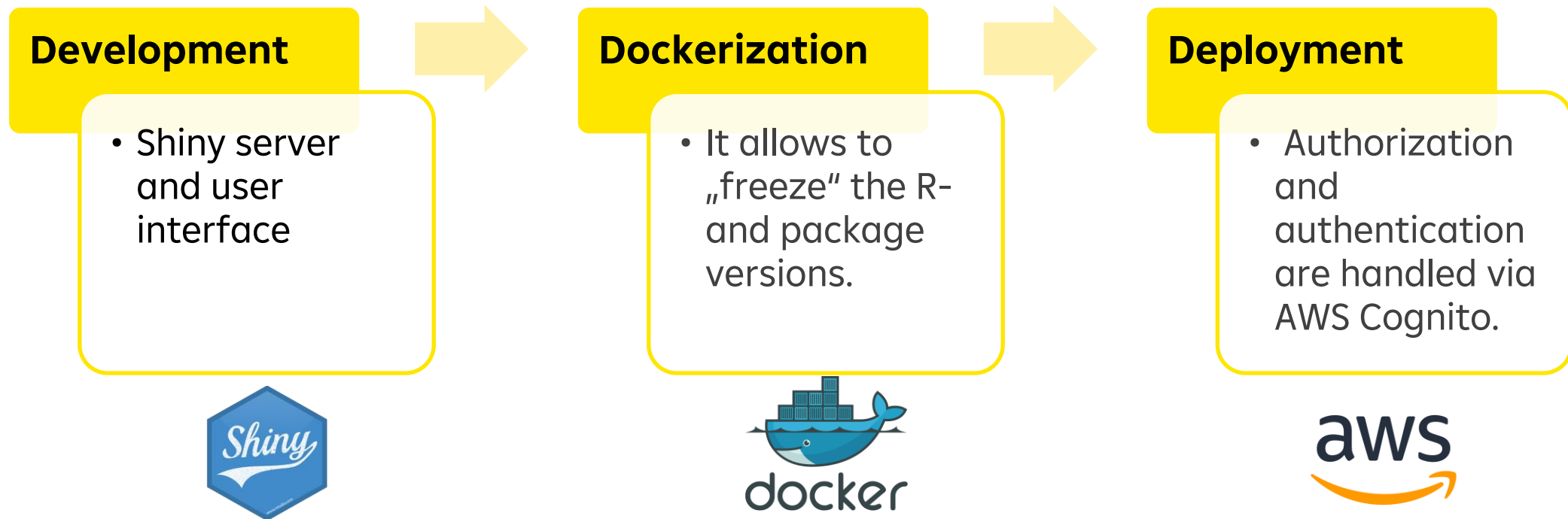
GET:

```
table <- dh$get_data_bulk(instrument_name, datafield_name, freq, variant, start_date, end_date, version)
```

POST:

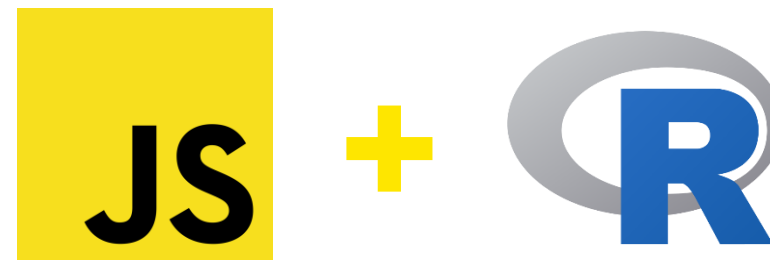
```
to_post <- dh$post_publish_bulk(instrument_name, datafield_name,freq,variant, version, target_version)
```

Deployment of the Shiny application



Why **rhandsontable**¹

- Mimics Excel's logic
- Supports multiple cells copy/paste
- Allows column/row blocking
- Enables endless options for writing custom JS renderers for the desired logic.



¹Jonathan Owen et al., 2021

```
renderer <- function(switchv, row_diff = numeric(0), col_diff = numeric(0)){  
  paste0("  
    function(instance, td, row, col, prop, value, cellProperties) {",  
    "var hotInstance = instance.getData();  
    var cellValue = hotInstance[row][col];",  
    paste(switchv),  
    "Handsontable.renderers.NumericRenderer.apply(this, arguments);  
    if (cellProperties.readOnly === true && col != 0) {  
      td.style.background = '#e6e3e3';}  
    for (var i = 0; i < ", length(row_diff), "; i++) {  
      if (switchv){  
        if (" , toJSON(row_diff), "[i] === row && ", toJSON(col_diff), "[i] === col) {  
          td.style.backgroundColor = '#FFCA2'; // Apply custom style}  
        }  
      }  
    }  
    ")  
  }
```



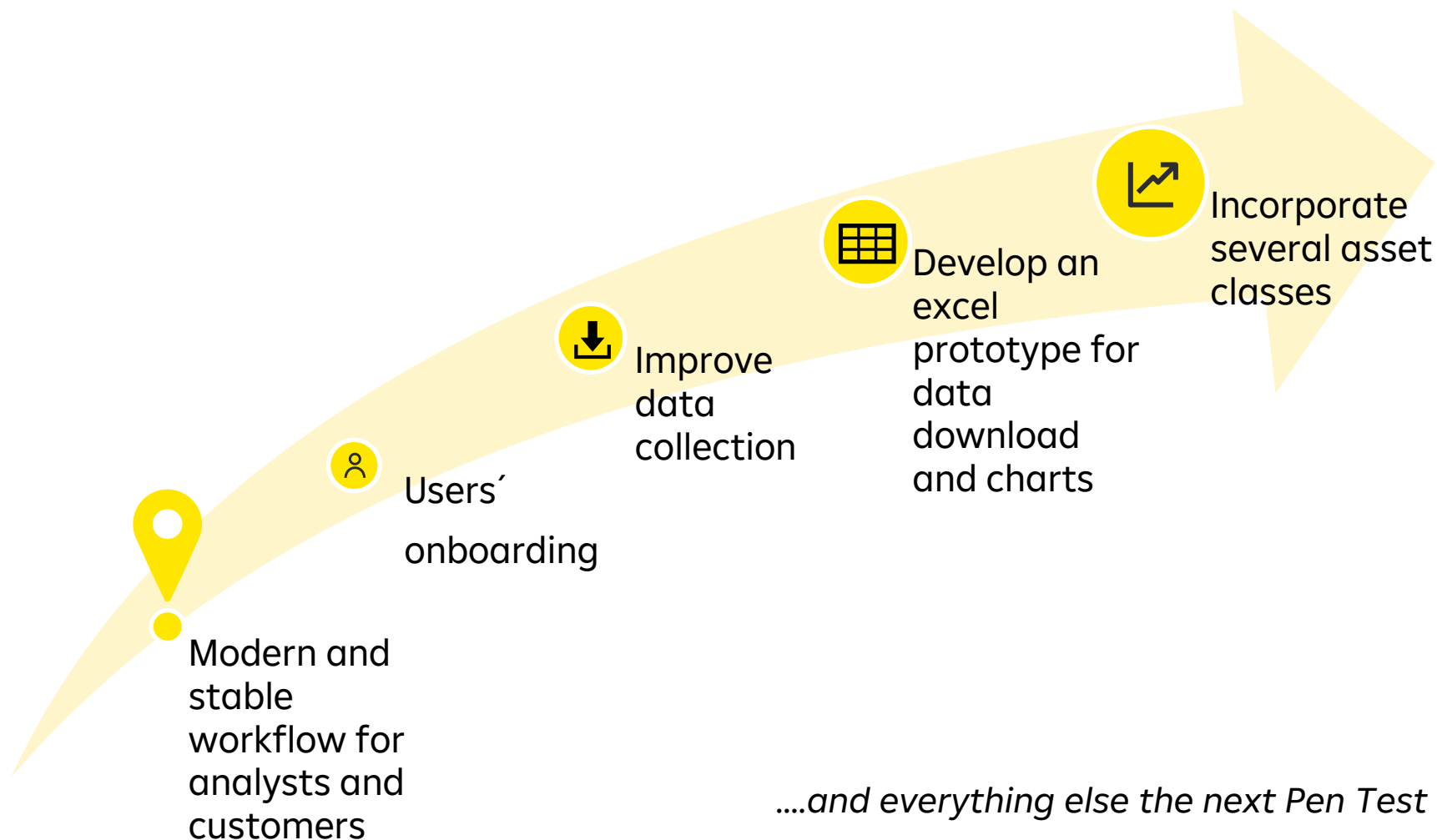
Issues

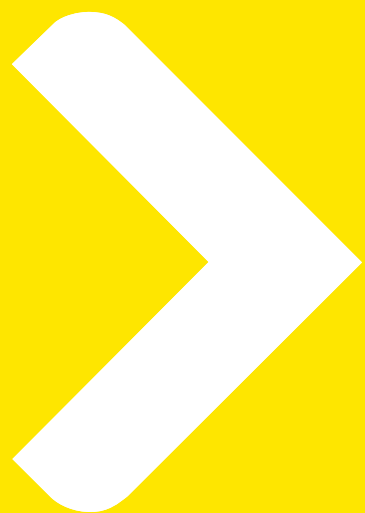
- Vulnerable Javascript finding due to outdated "Bootstrap 3.4.1" (2019) internally embedded in Shiny;
- Missing security-relevant HTTP headers

Solutions

- Redesign of the UI with the **bslib** library (Carson Sievert et al., 2024) for custom Bootstrap version;
- Adapted the default Shiny package with HTTP headers

Summary and Outlook





Thank you!

