We think of star wars as the rebellion versus the empire -- good versus evil with key figures: the Jedi, the Sith, Darth Vader, Luke Skywalker, the Emperor, Rey, Kylo Ren.

But actually, star wars is a story of really bad data management practices.

[The downfall of the governing bodies was not Darth Vader, Luke Skywalker, Kylo Ren or Rey. It was actually really bad data management.]

1. The republic: decent jedi archives, but any jedi can delete information? That ain’t good. It led to the clone wars and eventual rise of the empire.
2. Original empire: where all the bad stuff starts: nice job with off-site backup, but poor security, insane system for accessing data (massive tower, requires remote tool that apparently has no backup generator in case of a power loss), data archives had to be \*browsed\* rather than searched, and really cumbersome tools for accessing and sharing the data - world’s biggest satellite dish, physical tapes, and droids. Seriously, this is why the empire failed.
3. first order: insufficient backups resulting in lost information: map to luke skywalker, map to Exogol has 2 copies ever made, one of them on a destroyed death star sitting in the middle of raging ocean? It’s amazing these were very found. Without these maps, we have no sith and no jedi (maybe not a such a bad thing).

*The point is that if the jedi had better data practices, then they might have avoided the rise of the empire. And if the empire had better data practices, they may not undergone such a rapid downfall.*

What happens with good data management:

* Secure data that can only be modified by authorised users
* Validation of data values to prevent errors
* Accessible - can be accessed in many places, by many, in formats that are easy to use
* Easy to search and summarise
* Sufficient backups if something goes wrong

In the case of star wars:

* Rogue jedi can’t delete whole planets
* Poorly equipped rebels can’t break into your most secure archive and steal critical plans
* All the jedi don’t have to die in order to steal and transmit important data files
* Luke would have been found sooner, mabye Palpy, too

What we can do better:

* Organized data linked across crops, years, sites, and varieties
* No data losses
* easy to search and summarise

Var testing Data - very important to Idaho, important to the bioregion, important to the nation

Right now these data are incredibly important - and there’s no telling what future utility it will hold. These are remarkably uniform data sets which in itself makes it incredibly useful.