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DATA AUTONOMY: RECALIBRATING STRATEGIC AUTONOMY AND DIGITAL SOVEREIGNTY

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PRESENTATION

- Introduction
- What is Data Autonomy?
- Data Autonomy at UG & beyond
- Cases
- Q & A

INTRODUCTION



WHAT IS DATA AUTONOMY?

WHAT IS DATA AUTONOMY?

In its broadest sense, data autonomy describes the ability of individuals and organisations to make meaningful decisions about their data.

Gstrein, Ars Aequi, 2023



WORKING DEFINITION – MAY 2023

‘Data autonomy is the effective capacity of the academic community of the University of Groningen to make meaningful decisions about access to data, data flows, the uses of data and the design of the informational environment, to the degree necessary to freely and independently pursue the university's mission, to promote knowledge dissemination and to protect the rights of its students and employees. This capacity is required to protect academic freedom and the independence of the university.’

Titus Stahl

Blog Post 14 Feb 2024

WHAT IS DATA AUTONOMY?

- Subject on the intersection of

  Data Protection / Responsibly re-using personal data / Gstrein, Beaulieu (2022)

  Strategic Autonomy

- Value-Driven approach

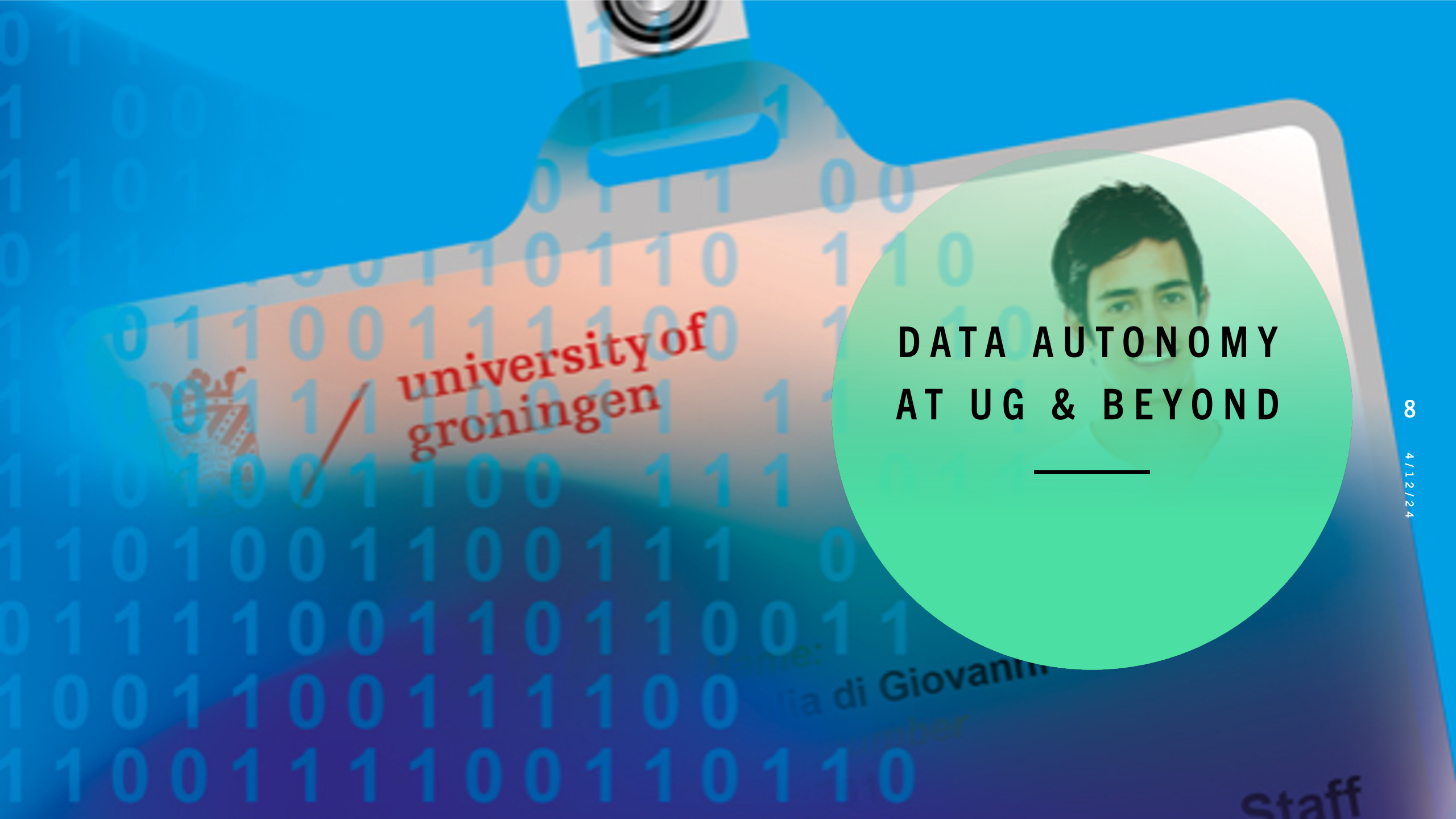
  Vs. Power-based approach / Gstrein, Zwitter (2020)

- Relates to

  Teaching

  Research

  Administration



DATA AUTONOMY AT UG & BEYOND

DATA AUTONOMY AT UG & BEYOND

- Policy website with blog & DAIX

  https://rug.nl/data-autonomy

- Going to national and international events

  Public spaces conference, ETH Zurich, CPDP 2023 workshop

- Similar initiatives in NL & beyond

  Public values – SURF, University of Utrecht

  Digital sovereignty – University of Amsterdam

  KNAW, Jonge akademie – 'Hackaton Big Tech in Academia', 9 Sep 2024

  Schleswig-Holstein – Germany

CASES



TEACHING

- Perusall
- Blog Post Marit de Jong, 20 Jun 2023
- Students feeling tracked
- Space to fail safely?
- Learning metrics vs. self-determination



RESEARCH

- PURE research platform
- Blog post YAG | UG, 31 Aug 2023
- Ownership of data?
- It is all about data access

  Profiling of people & communities

  Business intelligence

  Access to data to train models

ADMINISTRATION



Google Cloud

[The digital university – Humans of RUG 3 December 2021]

[De universiteit moet haar meerwaarde opnieuw uitvinden – Scienceguide 12 May 2020]

SCENARIOS

- Embrace Big Tech

  ‘Goede afspraken’

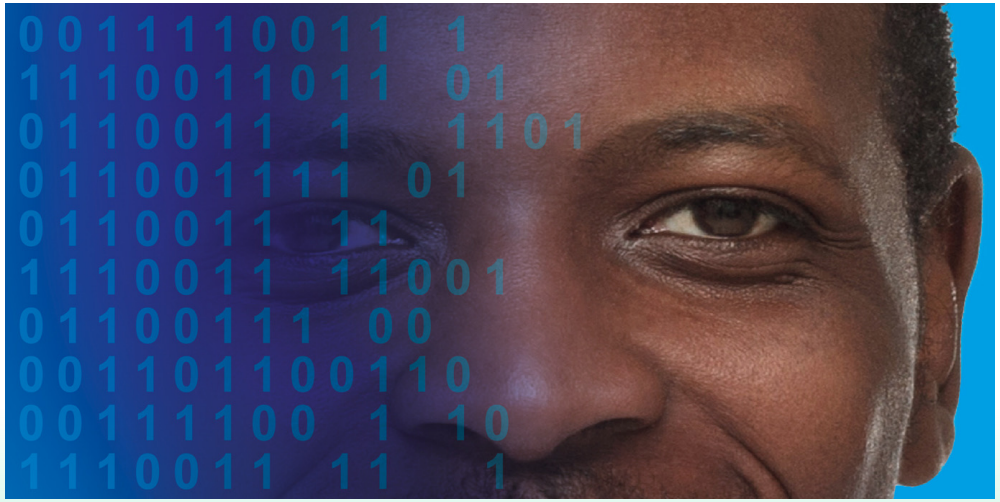
  Are GAFAM ‘our’ companies?

- Go fully Open Source

  ‘We can do it!...But who is we exactly?!’

- Choose hybrid solutions

  ‘Make repositories of solutions (e.g. UG Open Source Programe Office), choose on case by case basis’





Q & A

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