

BART THOMEE

THE TAMING OF THE SOCIAL MEDIA WILDERNESS

THE WILDERNESS



Jan Fiddler

THE RULES

- there are many different social media platforms
- there are many different terms of service
- there are many different laws and regulations



THE PATH



Samir Luther

WHY YOU SHOULD CARE

- you may be breaking the law
- you may be breaking codes of ethics/conduct
- advancing science
- more citations, better reputation, etc.

COPYRIGHTED DATA

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COPYRIGHTED DATA

- **situation:** you have permission to use this amazing dataset with which you can do great research, but it's proprietary...
- **solution:** there's no problem. just use it and do the cool research - that you can't share the data is unfortunate, but that's the way it is.

COPYRIGHTED DATA

- **situation:** you don't have permission to use this amazing dataset with which you can do great research, but you already collected/used the data...

COPYRIGHTED DATA

- **situation:** you don't have permission to use this amazing dataset with which you can do great research, but you already collected/used the data...
- **solution:** ask for permission, and stop using the data until you have received approval.

EXISTING DATA

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EXISTING DATA

- **situation:** you found a existing dataset that is almost, but not exactly, what you need.
- **solution:** check if you can expand or refine the dataset, before considering collecting your own data

PERMITTED DATA

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PERMITTED DATA

- **situation:** you have found this amazing source of suitably licensed and freely sharable data with which you can do great research.
- **solution:** fantastic, it looks like you're on the right track - let's figure out how to collect and share this data.

CASE STUDIES

- MIRFLICKR dataset
- ImageCLEF photo annotation task
- MediaEval placing task
- YFCC100M dataset

MIRFLICKR



by [Silke Gerstenkorn](#)



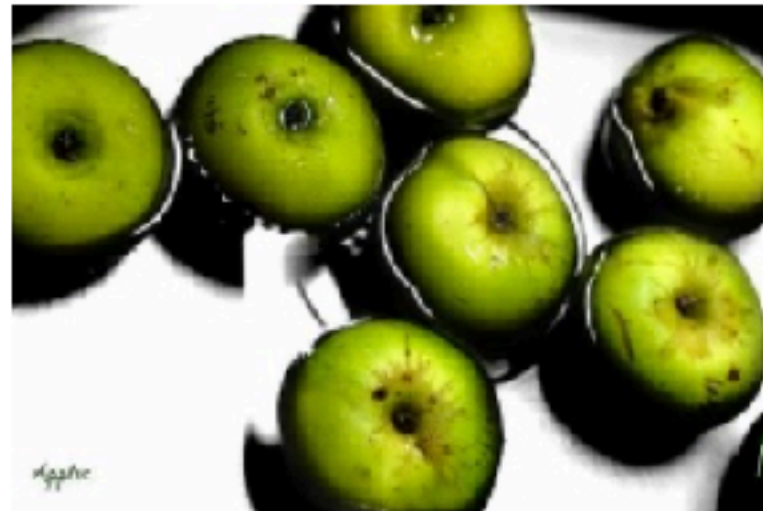
by [Dave Wild](#)



by [Hugo A.B. Olivas](#)



by [Martin P. Szymczak](#)



by [Mani Babbar](#)



by [Lee Otis](#)

MIRFLICKR

- the good
 - relatively large and well-annotated dataset
 - freely usable due to Creative Commons licenses
 - dataset includes images, tags, features, exif, code, tools
- the bad
 - hosting and downloading was challenging

IMAGECLEF: PHOTO ANNOTATION

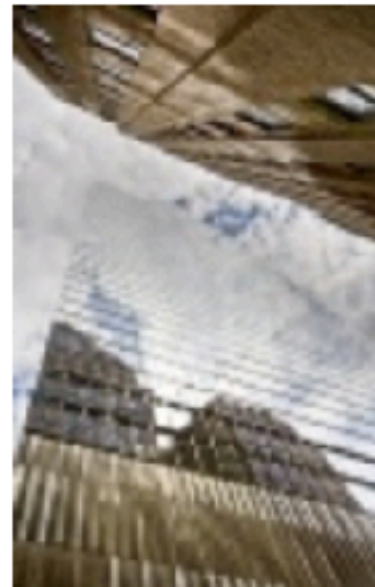


Figure 1. Images annotated with the concept 'reflection'.



Figure 2. Images retrieved for the query 'traffic light trails'.

IMAGECLEF: PHOTO ANNOTATION

Which of the following concepts are clearly present in the picture below? Tick all that apply

☐ Cat

☒ Dog

☐ Horse

☐ Fish

☐ Bird

☐ Insect

☐ Animal (other)

☐ None of the above



[click to view image in larger size](#)

IMAGECLEF: PHOTO ANNOTATION

- the **good**
 - diverse and challenging concepts compared to other tasks
 - revealed trends in how participants approached the task
- the **bad**
 - concepts and evaluation metrics evolved over time, making year-over-year comparisons difficult
 - code of participants not shared
 - data not shared with non-participants
 - annotation funding

MEDIAEVAL: PLACING TASK



Sean Davis

MEDIAEVAL: PLACING TASK



George Megas

MEDIAEVAL: PLACING TASK



Nikos Roussos

MEDIAEVAL: PLACING TASK



MEDIAEVAL: PLACING TASK

- the good
 - accuracy increased and then started plateauing
 - baseline methods provided some bar of entry
- the bad
 - training set grew over time, so even with the same test set year-over-year comparisons were difficult
 - participants didn't learn as much from each other as we hoped

YFCC100M



YFCC100M

YFCC100M

Original Metadata

title *tags* *description* *geo-tag*
uploader info *capture device* *date*
URL to the original item ...

Expansion Packs

autotags : presence of visual concepts
Exif *place labels*

Multimedia Commons

AWS S3 repository

 *images*  *videos*

Pre-computed features

deep features : CNN codes, VLAD, ...
conventional features : SIFT, FCTH, ...

Annotated subsets

YLI-MED : multimedia event detection
YLI-GEO : geo-location

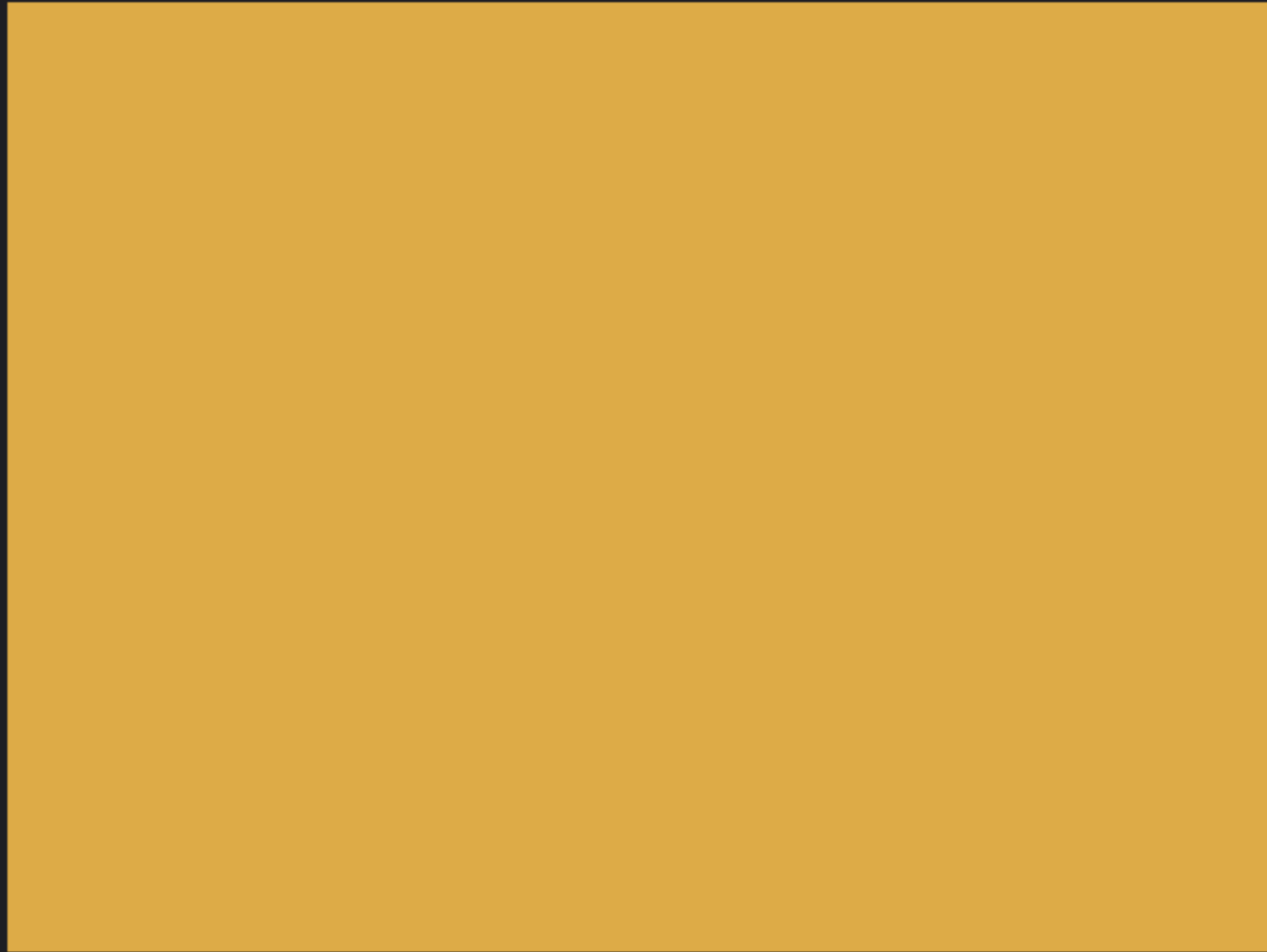
tools

tutorials

workshops

YFCC100M

- the **good**
 - large and richly annotated dataset
 - overlaps with other well-known datasets
 - images, videos, metadata, features all in the cloud
- the **bad**
 - photos and videos disappeared before a copy could be made of them
 - hosted across two platforms, and gaining access is not easy
 - stored in an organized yet impractical way
 - random selection biased towards prolific photographers



PRO

Your photo has been dele...

+ Follow

image

8,746
views

4
faves

0
comments

Taken on October 12, 2013

 Some rights reserved



Houxo Que, Vallant Rand Carlton and 2 more people faved this



Show EXIF

REFLECTING



fumigraphik

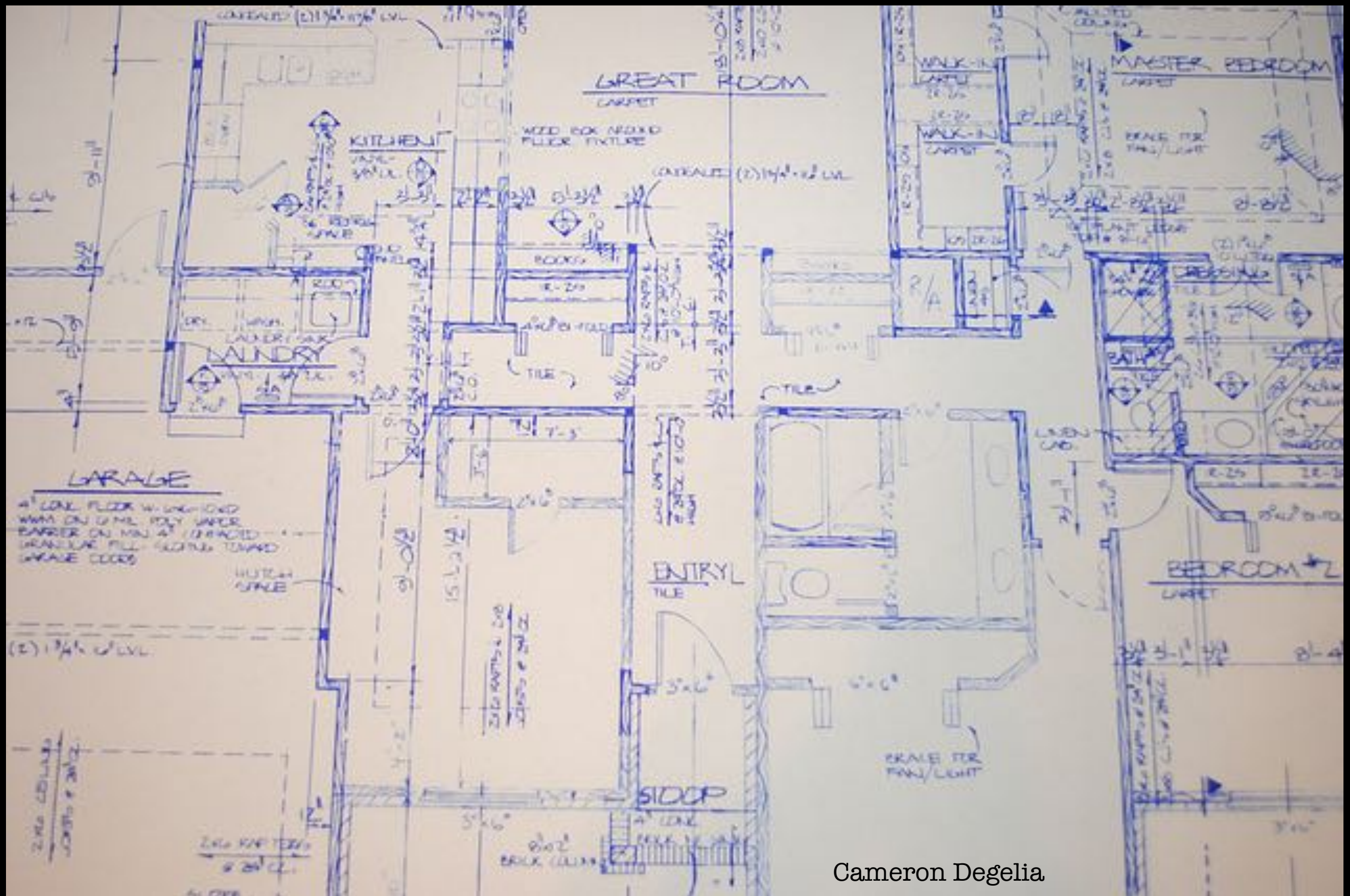
REFLECTING

- annotating, storing, hosting, serving data is not necessarily cheap
- handling large amounts of non-text data is a pain
- the format in which to store data is not obvious
- the easier you make it for the data to be used, the more it will be used and the fewer questions you get

REFLECTING

- user data requires legal and privacy considerations
- registration walls and additional license agreements make the data less free and less accessible
- no control over repository = no control over its future

PLAN AHEAD



Cameron Degelia

PLAN AHEAD

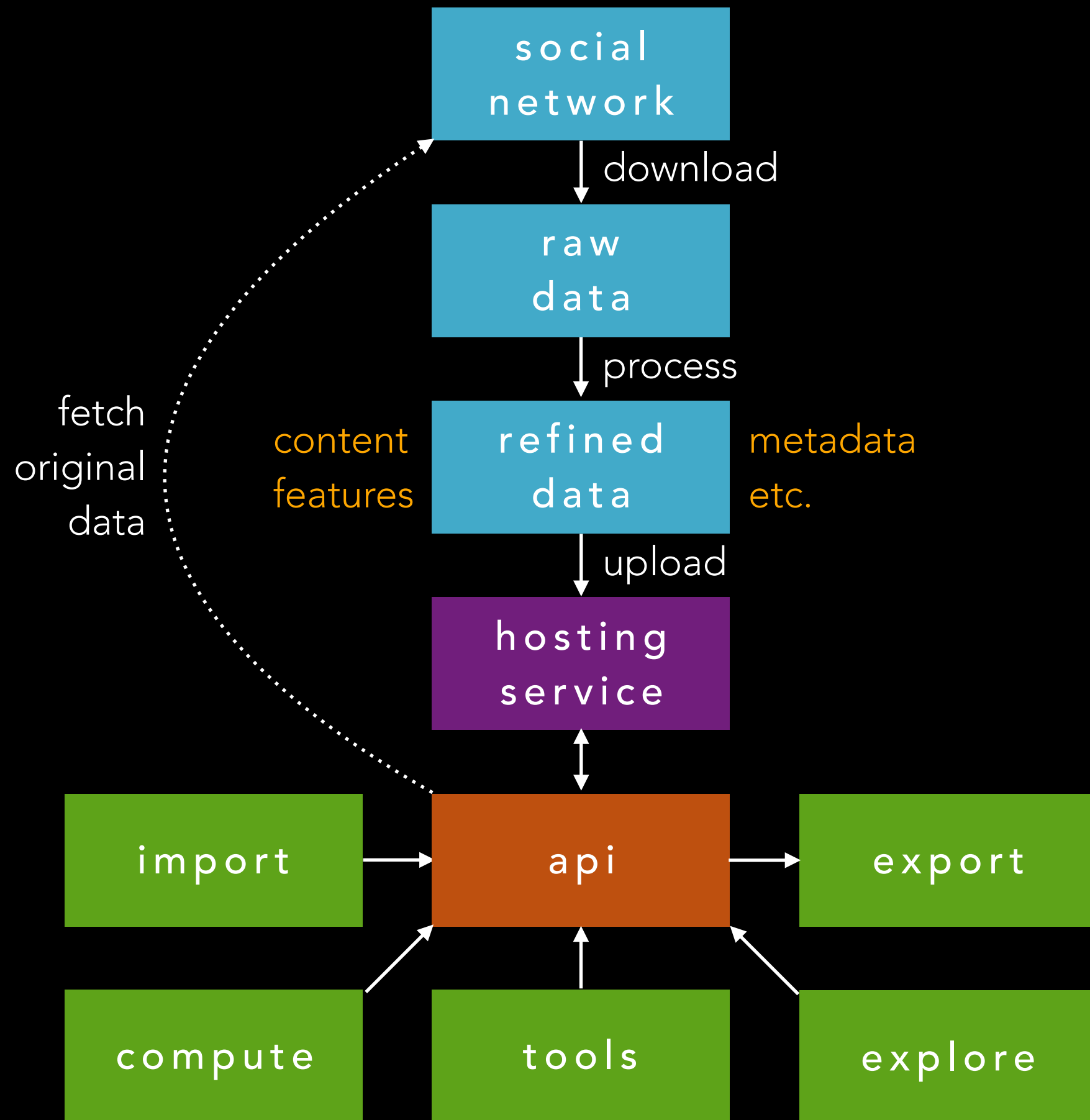
- consider what data needs to be collected
- obtain written permission from all stakeholders
- adhere to licensing, privacy & deletion requirements

PLAN AHEAD

- consider who will use your data and how
- consider how to process, format & annotate the data
- secure enough space to store all data
- be aware of platform limitations

DO_s

- make it easy for people to see and use the data
- consider offering an API as single point of access
- consider offering code, features, etc.
- consider offering separate download options
- consider allowing anyone to contribute



DO

- link-only social media platforms
 - collect more data than you really need
 - devise an approach that can deal with missing data
- full-content social media platforms
 - also collect more data than you really need
 - keep some as backup in case of mistakes or data corruption
- random sampling, but not too random

DO

- consider applying for research/academic grants/programs
- use a spot instance instead of on-demand compute



FINAL WORDS

- collecting and sharing data is hard
- a well-planned approach is key to success
- make sure the data can live on even if you move on