

Fidus Writer in the Social Sciences

The Opening Scholarly Communication in the Social Sciences (OSCOSS) project and its attempt to help create a publishing alternative for the social sciences

Problems:

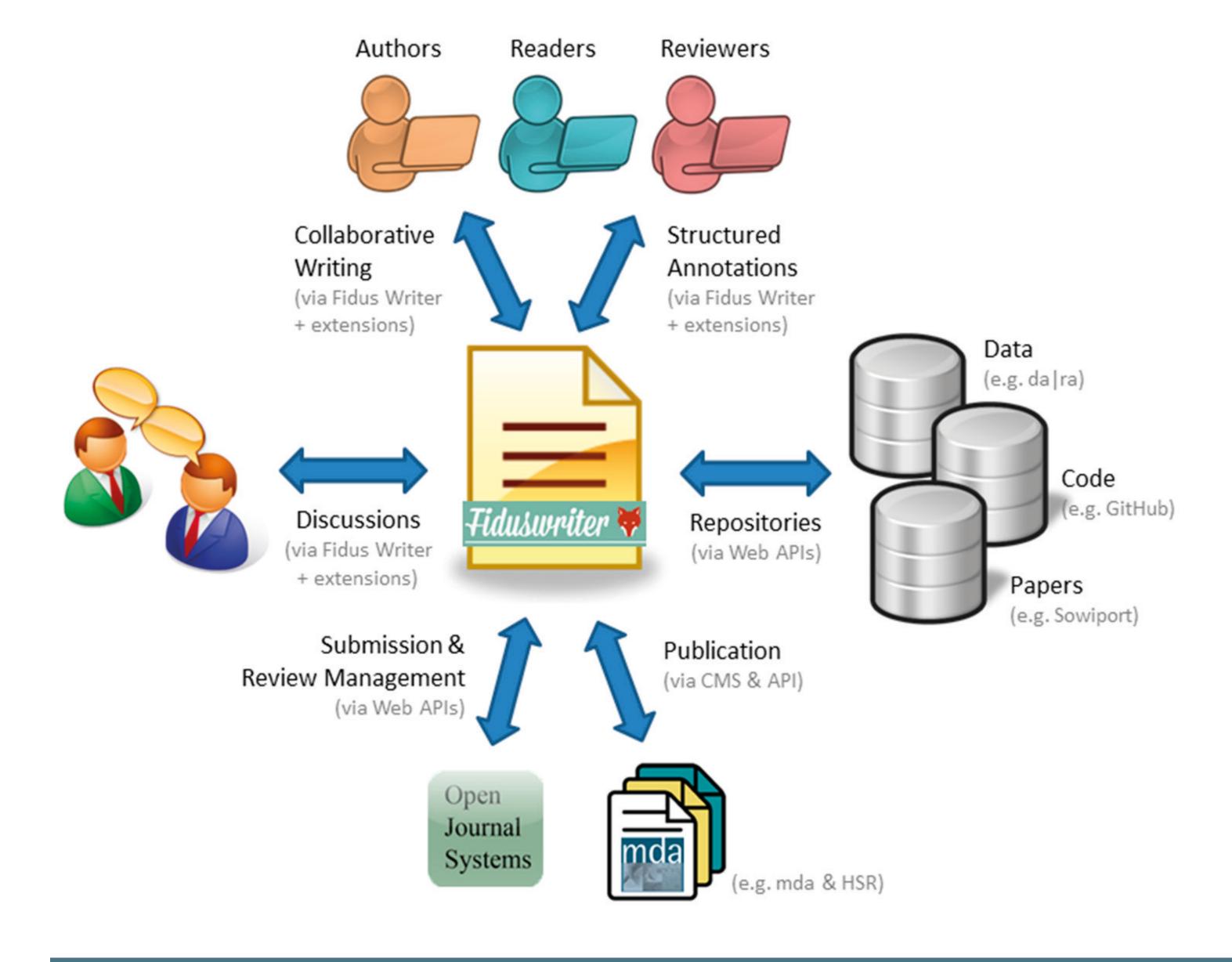
- Scholarly communication is changing (Open Access, Open Science)
- Many systems are needed to produce and publish a paper or monograph
- Social scientists and humanists require tools that do not require them to write code
- Final papers are often only distributed as PDFs, which is not a good format for usages other than print

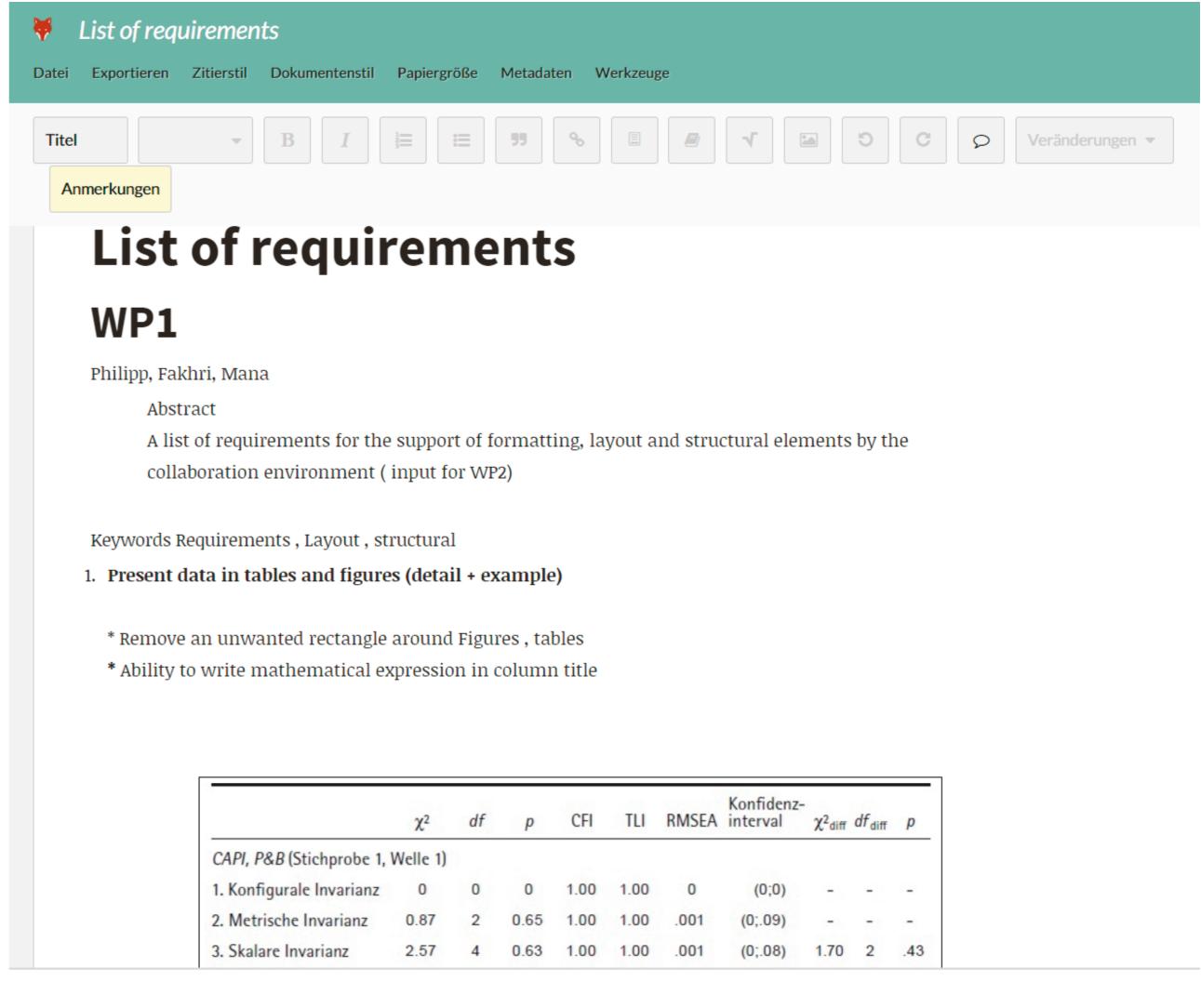
Objectives:

- Create an integrated environment that non-technical researchers can use to write and review papers
- Output files that can be used directly in publishing workflows without extensive cleaning
- A plugin system for Fidus Writer to allow integration with other software and relevant tools
- System trial with in-house publishing teams

Integrations:

- Open Journal Systems (OJS) for peer-review
- Crossref / DataCite / GESIS Search for citations
- LanguageTool for spell and grammar check
- LibreOffice / Google Docs / Microsoft Word through paste-import and file-export
- Zotero for citation import through drag-and-drop





Some additional achievements:

- 4 versions of Fidus Writer released since start of OSCOSS
- Support for tables, including header cells and merged cells
- Automatic IDs for headers and figures and ability to add IDs manually for arbitrary content
- Much improved Bibtex/Biblatex importers
- Automatic testing as part of the development process allows for higher level of stability

