# The effects of big data on research infrastructure

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**Abstract**

If it holds true that big data is the exponential growth of volume, variety and velocity, then what is the consequence of that on the organisation?

As far back as 2001, industry analyst Doug Laney (currently Vice President of Gartner Research) articulated the now mainstream definition of big data as the three V's of big data: volume, velocity and variety.

Big data is more than just hype and we will demonstrate how the IT organization and the Libraries have to think differently to enable the researcher of the 21st century to address their big data needs. We will address the impact on the Libraries and Information and Communication Technology infrastructure and the articulation of joint and separate services in a recently established eResearch Centre.

This paper deals with demands a change in approach. No longer can we rely on the support service framework, when the organizational culture demands a new set of relationships and unlikely partnerships in the wider landscape of data intensive research. This paper deals not only with the effects that big data has on the research infrastructure as evidenced in organizational systems at the University of Cape Town, but also on national and international services and research partners.

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[1}http://www.realsupermarket.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/4-people-research.jpg