

AEGIS

Advanced Big Data Value Chains for Public Safety and Personal Security

WP4 – AEGIS Infrastructure Implementation and Rollout



D4.4 - AEGIS Platform - Release 4.00

Version 1.0

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EXPLANATIONS FOR FRONTPAGE

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AEGIS KEY FACTS

Topic: ICT-14-2016 - Big Data PPP: cross-sectorial and cross-lingual data

integration and experimentation

Type of Action: Innovation Action

Project start: 1 January 2017

Duration: 30 months from **01.01.2017** to **30.06.2019** (Article 3 GA)

Project Coordinator: Fraunhofer

Consortium: 10 organizations from 8 EU member states

AEGIS PARTNERS

Fraunhofer Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e.V.

GFT GFT Italia SRL

KTH Kungliga Tekniska högskolan

UBITECH Limited

VIF Kompetenzzentrum - Das virtuelle Fahrzeug, Forschungsgesellschaft-

GmbH

NTUA National Technical University of Athens - NTUA

EPFL École polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne

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EMPORIKON, VIOMICHANIKONKAI NAUTILIAKON

EPICHEIRISEON KON'KAT

HDIA HDI Assicurazioni S.P.A

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This deliverable, as part of WP4 which is responsible for the implementation of the AEGIS platform, consists of the fourth and final version of the software package of the AEGIS core platform and its APIs with corresponding supporting documentation on the deployment of each component and usage of the APIs.

This accompanying document describes the implementation of the different AEGIS components of this final prototype release.

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ABBREVIATIONS

CO Confidential, only for members of the Consortium (including the Commission Services)

D Deliverable

DoW Description of Work

H2020 Horizon 2020 Programme

FLOSS Free/Libre Open Source Software

GUI Graphical User Interface

IPR Intellectual Property Rights

MGT Management

MS Milestone

OS Open Source

OSS Open Source Software

O Other

P Prototype

PU Public

PM Person Month

R Report

RTD Research and Development

WP Work Package

Y2 Year 2

1. Introduction

The present deliverable is released within the context of Workpackage 4 "AEGIS Infrastructure Implementation and Rollout" and is in particular associated with Task 4.4 "Continuous Integration and Testing Activities". Within this task, the third release of the AEGIS platform has been developed.

1.1. Insights from other tasks and deliverables

This deliverable is strictly related to the work done in WP3, more precisely to the work reported in D3.5, regarding two main features: from one hand, the detailed information of the AEGIS components, comprising an overview of its functionalities and positioning in the overall architecture, the technologies used for its implementation and the API (when available) that it exposes in order for other components to interact with. On the other hand, the BPMN diagrams that correspond to the main tasks a user will perform through the AEGIS, as seen from the user perspective, but also outlining component interactions, which provided the basis for the development of the AEGIS prototype. Another important source is the work done in WP2, as reported in D2.1/D2.2, especially the information about the features that must be offered through certain components, clarifying how important parts of the data value chain should be supported in practice, e.g. data policies, data harmonisation, metadata handling, knowledge extraction, and visualisation. Finally, the user perspective when utilising AEGIS, depicted by the usage scenarios reported in D1.2, has also driven the design and development of the AEGIS platform functionalities.

1.2. Structure

Section 2 of this document reports, for each foreseen platform component, the status within the prototype or -in case it is not yet integrated in the prototype- the component concept and application screenshots.

Section 3 concludes the deliverable.

2. AEGIS PLATFORM

In this chapter, we provide the references to the AEGIS project software source code as well as the related documentation about the component deployment and API usage.

Next, for each platform components, its status within the integrated prototype is described, in terms of its functionalities and how it works.

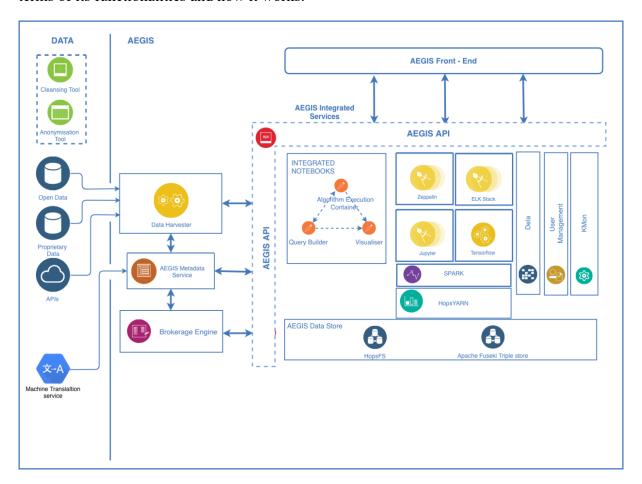


Figure 1: AEGIS platform architecture

2.1. URL

The AEGIS integrated prototype is available at the following URL:

https://platform.aegis-bigdata.eu 1

The software core packages are available in AEGIS code repository at Github.com, at the following link:

¹ User: test@aegisbigdata.com; Password: Test01. The given AEGIS platform prototype URL will be activated in the first days of July 2019, until then the following URL should be used https://bbc6.sics.se:8181

https://github.com/aegisbigdata

The documentation related to the deployment of each component and usage of the APIs is provided on the project Github wiki, at the following link:

https://github.com/aegisbigdata/documentation/wiki

2.2. Data Harvester and Annotator

The following sections describe the status and implementation details of the Data Harvester and Data Annotator components in the final release of the prototype. The application can be accessed here: https://platform.aegis-bigdata.eu/hopsworks-api/harvester/

Data Harvester Microservices

The Data Harvester constitutes a microservice architecture, consisting out of the following four basic services, which services represent the fundamental harvesting pipeline.

- Importer implements all functionality for retrieving data from a specific data source
- **Transformer** converts the retrieved data from an importer into the target format of the AEGIS platform
- Aggregator collects converted data from a transformer over a configurable time interval
- Exporter uploads transformed and/or aggregated data to the AEGIS platform

The orchestration architecture used for the AEGIS Harvester follows a "pipeline" pattern, in which data is passed through several services, with each service manipulating the data in some sort. Each service is responsible for exactly one task. This permits a rather generic implementation of each service. The aim is to encourage a separation of concerns in order to enhance reusability, as well as allowing the dynamic scaling in times of high load. The latter is achieved by deploying additional instances of the services demanded most. Once new instances are spawned, request may dynamically be routed to the instance of a service with the least load.

For the final release of the AEGIS platform the following instances of the services have been implemented and orchestrated:

Importer

Seven importers have been implemented as described in the following table:

Data Provider	Description	Interfaces
OpenWeatherMap (https://openweathermap.org/)	Continuous harvesting of European Weather Data	RESTful JSON

European Data Portal - Single Dataset (https://www.europeandatapo rtal.eu/data)	Harvest the resources and metadata of a single dataset	JSON Action API for metadata, Basic HTTP for files
European Data Portal – Multiple Datasets (https://www.europeandatapo rtal.eu/data)	Harvest resources and metadata from multiple datasets by providing search parameters.	JSON Action API for metadata, Basic HTTP for files
AEGIS Event Detector	Push collected event data to the AEGIS platform	RESTful JSON (Push Method)
EM-DAT The International Disaster Database (https://www.emdat.be/)	Collect disaster data	HTML Crawling Basic HTTP for files
Generic Dataset Creation	Creates CSV datasets and metadata in the AEGIS platform based on tabular data provided as JSON.	RESTful JSON
Generic Dataset Upload	Comprehensive interface for uploading file and metadata to the AEGIS platform. It includes support for bulk upload.	RESTful JSON

Transformer

A basic transformer is available, allowing to provide scripts (JavaScript) for creating custom transformations from source to target. In addition, a basic CSV-to-CSV transformer was implemented.

Aggregator

One aggregator for accumulating CSV data over a specified time interval was developed.

Exporter

One exporter for uploading CSV files to the AEGIS platform was implemented.

To name a concrete example: Weather data may be imported hourly from an external service as JSON, which is then transformed into CSV with values being converted into the metric system. The results are then aggregated for 24 hours and the final file exported to an analytics platform.

Data Harvester Technology

In order to reuse as much as code as possible, the microservices introduced in the previous section have also been written in the Java programming language. However, this does not mean that future services must also be written using the same language, as each service is designed to be an independent piece of software. To aid with the creation of each service the framework Eclipse Vert.x² has been chosen. Apart from propagating an asynchronous programming paradigm ensuring a high availability and throughput, Eclipse Vert.x also provides a lot of built in support for managing microservices. Concepts that come to use are circuit breakers, health checks, and performance metrics.

The final services are deployed via containerization, in which each service is isolated from its host and other service's operating systems. The services are thereby packaged separately as *images*. The technology used for building these images is called Docker³. Aside from enhancing security this method also ensures platform independency, which means that these images (and consequently the services in question) will run on any infrastructure providing a Docker runtime. The concept of containerization also greatly helps with the dynamic launching of service instances mentioned previously.

To handle the frictionless interaction between various microservices their APIs have been defined using the OpenAPI 3⁴ specification, which allows the precise definition of RESTful interfaces in a commonly understood format. The previously mentioned Eclipse Vert.x framework supports loading an OpenAPI document and exposing the endpoints defined, including request validation.

Data Harvester Frontend

The new approach for implementing the Data Harvester requires a specialised frontend, which allows the orchestration, configuration and execution of a specific harvesting process (pipe). The first basic version of this frontend was developed for the third release of the AEGIS platform. Figure 2 shows the main page of the application.

-

² https://vertx.io/

³ https://www.docker.com/

⁴ https://github.com/OAI/OpenAPI-Specification

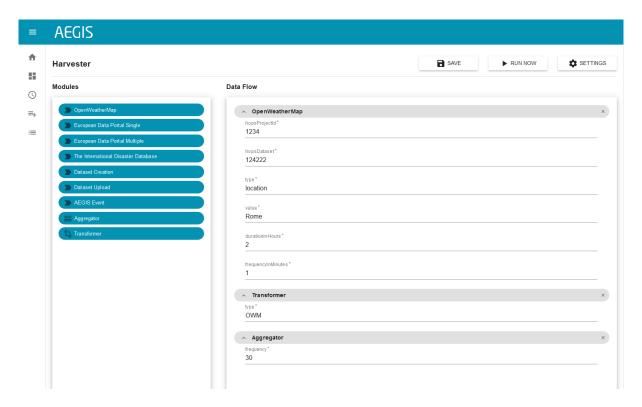


Figure 2: Mainpage of the Harvester Frontend

Data Annotator

The Data Annotator (Metadata) was integrated into the AEGIS platform core frontend, by extending the AngularJS frontend. It allows the simple provision of detailed and semantic valuable metadata for projects, data sets and files in the AEGIS platform. The Data Annotator provides metadata forms and schemas for the three organisational levels of the AEGIS platform and is based on the DCAT-AP specification:

Project - The metadata corresponds to the DCAT-AP class *Catalogue*

Dataset - The metadata corresponds to the DCAT-AP class *Dataset* and is extended by additional properties to represent the marketplace functionality, e.g. the price.

File - The metadata corresponds to the DCAT-AP class *Distribution* and is extended by semantic descriptions for tabular data based on the AEGIS vocabulary and ontology. Each file/distribution is linked to a dataset.

The Data Annotator uses the AEGIS Metadata Service for storing and managing the information. The following figures show the actual annotation interfaces:

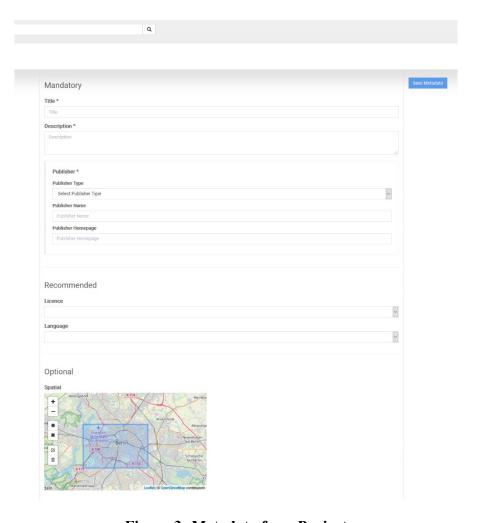


Figure 3: Metadata for a Project

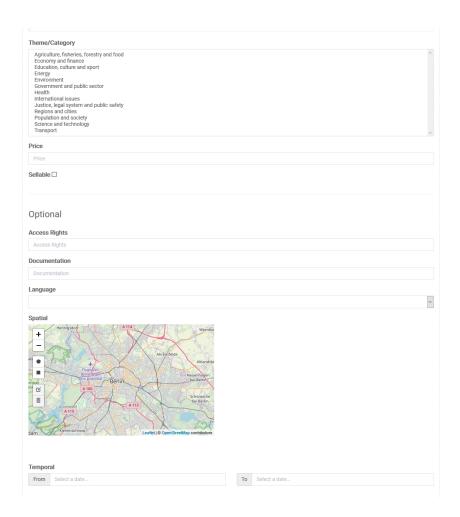


Figure 4: Excerpt of Annotator for a Dataset

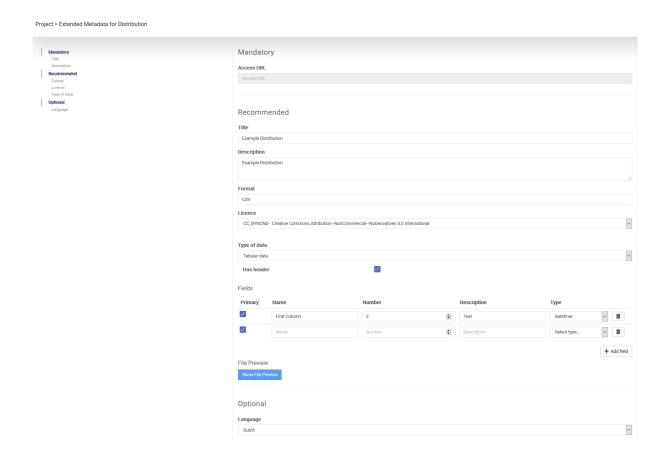


Figure 5: Data Annotator for Files

2.3. Cleansing Tool

Within the context of the AEGIS platform, the data cleansing tasks, as it have been documented also in the deliverables of WP3, are implemented following a two-fold approach: (a) an offline cleansing tool, residing where the data are located, that is offering a variety of cleansing processes and functionalities covering all the crucial and required data cleansing aspects with regard to data validation, data cleansing and data completion that can applied to any datasets prior to importing them in the AEGIS platform and (b) an online cleansing tool suitable for data cleansing and manipulation tasks that are executed during the data query creation process, capable of addressing certain simple cleansing tasks that are time computationally intense leveraging the computational power of the AEGIS platform.

With regard to the online cleansing tool, the described functionalities are the offered functionalities that are incorporated inside the Query Builder component and will be described in the corresponding section (See 2.8).

The AEGIS offline cleansing tool is designed and implemented with the aim of facilitating the users to accomplish the required cleansings tasks. For this reason, the tool is easily customisable

and adaptable to the user's needs taking into consideration the variety of the heterogeneous sources that will be imported in the AEGIS platform. Following the design that is documented in the deliverables of WP3, the offline cleansing tool is implemented as a standalone application written in Python and following the microservices architecture using Flask microframework⁵ and a set of libraries such as Pandas⁶ and NumPy⁷.

The offline cleansing tool offers an extended list of rules for data validation, data cleansing and missing data handling to the user that can be set according the user's needs and the nature of the data. Besides the set of basic and advanced rules that tool is offering, additional rules are included in the list based on the feedback received from the AEGIS stakeholders. The tool is offering an intuitive user interface where the user is able to review the results of the execution of the cleansing tasks. Furthermore, the user interface of the tool has been optimised in order to offer a novel user experience to the users.

The offline cleansing tool is also offering a REST-API with the appropriate endpoints facilitating the uploading of the dataset that will be used in the cleansing process and the execution of the cleansing tasks. The REST-API documentation is also available using the Swagger framework. In addition to this, the tool provides a user interface with an upload form suitable for the cleansing of CSV and XLSX files. Additionally, the tool is optimised in order to handle large datasets efficiently. Also, the offline cleansing tool can be connected with the Harvester, in order to upload the cleaned datasets directly into the platform. However, this is supported only via the exposed REST API and not through the UI. Finally, the tool is available also as a Docker image, facilitating the easy installation on the premises of the user.

The following figures illustrate some indicative examples from the execution of the offline cleansing tool.

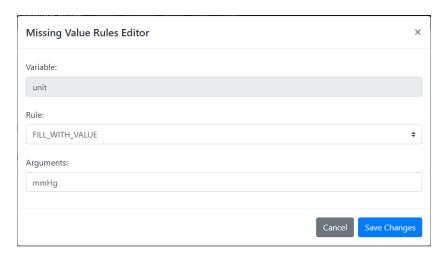


Figure 6: Offline cleansing tool rules editing

⁶ https://pandas.pydata.org/

⁵ http://flask.pocoo.org/

⁷ http://www.numpy.org/

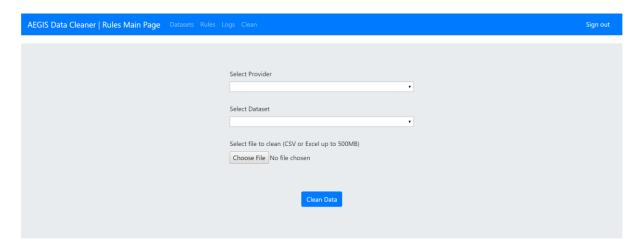


Figure 7: Offline cleansing tool upload form for CSV files

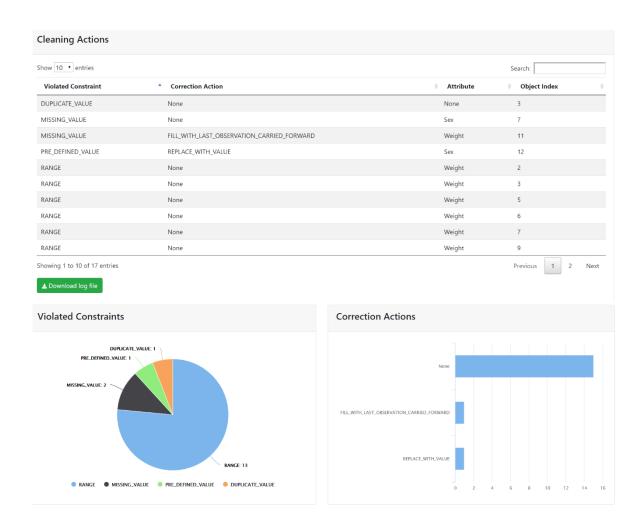


Figure 8: Offline cleansing tool results overview

2.4. Anonymisation Tool

The anonymisation tool is an extensible, schema-agnostic plugin that allows real-time efficient data anonymisation. The anonymisation tool has been utilized for offline, private usage but offers the ability to output the anonymized data through a secured, web API. The anonymization either syncs with private database servers or imports files from the filesystem and executes anonymisation functions on datasets of various sizes with little or no overhead. The purpose of the anonymisation is to allow the exploitation of the raw data in the system by accounting for privacy concerns and legal limitations.

For the final release, the UI was rebranded to match the AEGIS platform and several bugs were fixed.

The first screen of the tool allows the user to setup or edit an existing, saved configuration. Each configuration is basically a separate anonymization project to various database back-ends or text files, with different executed anonymization functions. By creating a new configuration, the system will prompt the user to connect to the private database backend or select the file to open and select the entities / tables to anonymise.

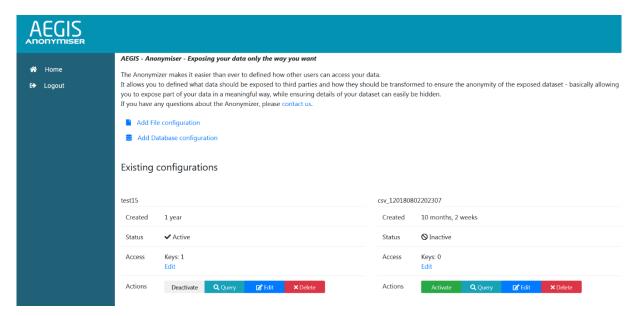


Figure 9: Anonymiser configuration screen

The system then prompts the user to select which fields from the data source to expose to the anonymised set, as well as the anonymisation function to be performed.

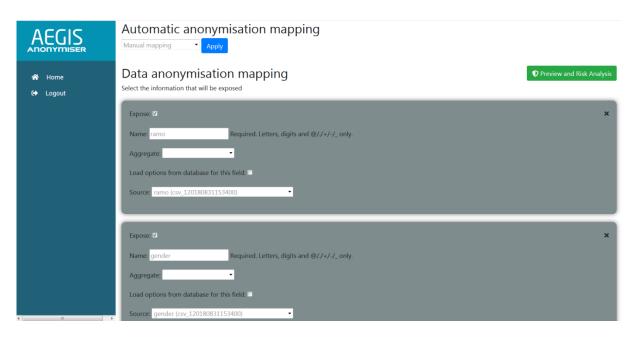


Figure 10: Anonymiser data selection

The anonymisation system comes with a list of predefined anonymisation functions that can be used directly (e.g. city from an exact address, range of values from an integer), as well as a list of aggregation functions (e.g. average).

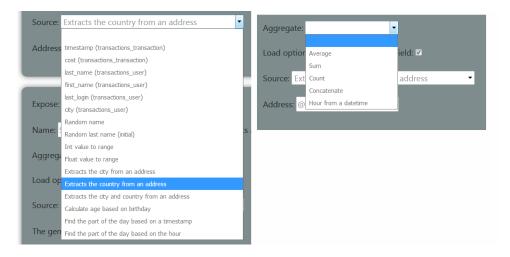


Figure 11: Anonymiser indicative functions

The tool can be easily extended with any new, custom anonymisation functions defined by the user in a python module.

```
def address_to_city_helper(address, info=None):
    if not info:
        info = get_address_info(address)

if not info['results']:
    return '', info

city_name = ''
for component in info['results'][0]['address_components']:
    if 'administrative_area_level_3' in component['types']:
        city_name = component['long_name']
    elif 'administrative_area_level_5' in component['types']:
        city_name = component['long_name']

if city_name:
    break

return city_name, info
```

Figure 12: Anonymiser custom user-defined function

The user is able to execute queries and test the anonymised output through the integrated console of the tool as seen in the following screenshot.

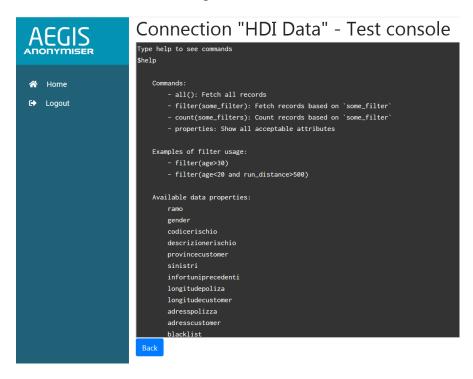


Figure 13: Anonymiser output

By clicking Preview and Risk analysis the user is able to assess the risk levels of his anonymization mapping as shown in the following interface:

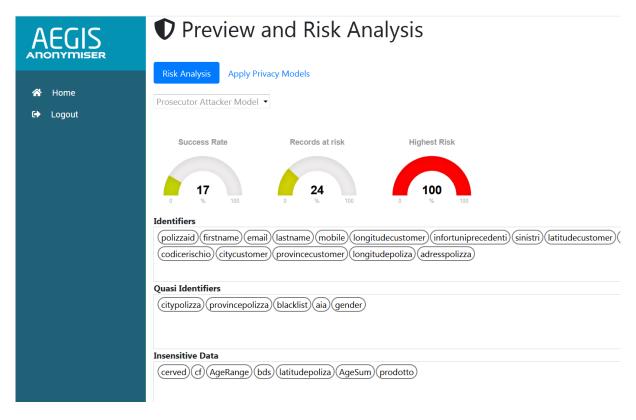


Figure 14: Preview and Risk analysis

The anonymised (output) data can be exposed through API to external parties in a secure way through the provision of access keys.

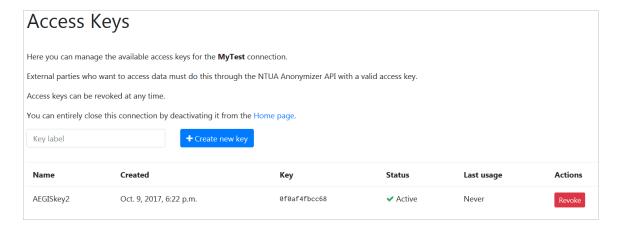


Figure 15: Anonymiser exposed API

Users can access the anonymised data in JSON format through API provided by the anonymization tool using their private access keys.

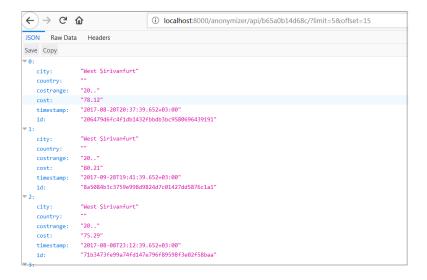


Figure 16: Anonymiser API response

2.5. Brokerage Engine

The AEGIS Brokerage engine has been deployed inside the cluster machines of the AEGIS platform to overcome security and interconnection constrains that were present in previous deployments. With this configuration, the other future nodes of the network can be installed in the AEGIS clusters to be deployed.

The main API methods that were described in the D3.x deliverables have been revised accordingly, and have been implemented using Java, in order to be able for the Brokerage Engine to interconnect to the underlying HOPS engine and invocations will be done at the UI level, to ensure that the calls to the blockchain remain independent from the underlying infrastructure, to allow for better maintenance and updating procedures in both the HOPS backend, and the blockchain network infrastructure.

Those developed calls are the following:

User Management in the Brokerage Engine

• Create new user - Creates a user with user id (uid in the code snippet below) john.doe@example.com, having an initial balance of 1000 tokens:

```
curl -XPOST https://localhost:3000/api/User -H 'Accept: application/json' -d '{ "$class": "eu.aegis.User", "uid": "john.doe@example.com", "balance": "1000.0" }'
```

• Get all users

```
curl -XGET https://localhost:3000/api/User
```

• Get specific user's details - To get a specific user's information, add the uid at the end of the url. i.e.:

```
curl -XGET https://localhost:3000/api/User/john.doe@example.com
```

• Load tokens to a user's account - To load 200 tokens to (user with uid) john.doe@example.com:

```
curl -XGET https://localhost:3000/api/LoadBalance -H 'Accept: application/json' -d '{ "user": "resource:eu.aegis.User#john.doe@example.com", "amount": 200 }'
```

Asset Management

• Create a new asset To create an asset, you need to provide an asset id (aid below), its type (can be any of: Dataset, Microservice, Algorithm, Analysis, Visualization, Other), the cost of the asset, its status (can be Free, Paid, Subscription or Private - i.e. not for sale) and its owner (the uid of the user that owns the dataset).

```
curl -XPOST https://localhost:3000/api/AEGISAsset -H 'Accept: application/json' -d '{ "$class": "eu.aegis.AEGISAsset", "aid": "1", "assetType": "Dataset", "cost": 100, "status": "Paid", "owner": "marios@suite5.eu" }'
```

Get all assets

```
curl -XGET https://localhost:3000/api/AEGISAsset
```

• Get details on a specific asset - As with user, we use the aid as a parameter

```
curl -XGET https://localhost:3000/api/AEGISAsset/1
```

• Change the status of an asset - To change the status of asset with aid=1 to Private, use:

```
curl -XPOST https://localhost:3000/api/ChangeAssetStatus -H 'Accept: application/json' -d '{
"relatedAsset": "eu.aegis.AEGISAsset#1", "newStatus": "Private" }'
```

• Change the cost of an asset - To change the status of asset with aid=1 to Private, use:

curl -XPOST https://localhost:3000/api/ChangeAssetCost -H 'Accept: application/json' d '{"relatedAsset": "eu.aegis.AEGISAsset#1", "newCost": "200" }'

Building Contracts

• Create a new (draft) contract - To create a contract, you need to provide a transaction id (tid), the desired exclusivity (can be None, Subscription or Lifetime), the amount (to be) paid, the status of the contract (always use Draft at this stage), a text containing the terms of the contract (optional), the buyer and the seller (using their uid s) and the asset to be sold (use its aid).

```
curl -XPOST https://localhost:3000/api/Contract -H 'Accept: application/json' -d '{ "$class": "eu.aegis.Contract", "tid": "123", "exclusivity": "None", "amountPaid": "100.0", "status": "Draft", "text": "string", "seller": "marios@suite5.eu", "buyer": "john.doe@example.com", "relatedAsset": "eu.aegis.AEGISAsset#1" }'
```

Get all contracts

```
curl -XGET https://localhost:3000/api/Contract
```

• Get all contracts involving assets bought/sold by someone - To get all contracts with a specific buyer/seller we need to filter the contracts. This is done by appending a (url encoded) filter in the url. For example, to get all contracts involving john.doe@example.com as a buyer, the filter should be:

```
{"where": {"buyer": {"eq":"resource:eu.aegis.User#john.doe@example.com"}}}
```

As a seller:

```
{"where": {"seller": {"eq":"resource:eu.aegis.User#john.doe@example.com"}}}
curl -XGET https://localhost:3000/api/Contract?filter={...}
```

The url encoded example of contracts with assets bought by john.doe@example.com is

```
curl -XGET
https://localhost:3000/api/Contract?filter=%7B%22where%22%3A%20%7B%22buy
er%
22%3A%20%7B%22eq%22%3A%22resource%3Aeu.aegis.User%23john.doe%40exa
mple.com%22%7D%7D%7D
```

• Validate a contract - To validate (switch it from Draft it Active):

curl -XPOST https://localhost:3000/api/ValidateContract -H 'Accept: application/json' -d '{ "contract": "eu.aegis.Contract#123" }'

where 123 is the tid (as set in the draft contract creation).

2.6. AEGIS Integrated Services

The AEGIS platform provides data management and processing, user management, and service monitoring through the use of Hopsworks integrated services. Hopsworks introduces the notion of Project, Dataset, and User to enable multi-tenancy within the context of data management. Data processing includes data parallel processing services such as MapReduce, Spark, and Flink, as well as interactive analytics using notebooks such as Jupyter. Full-text search capability is offered by the included ELK stack component (Elasticsearch). Real time analytics is enabled by the use of the included Kafka service. A Dataset is a directory in the underlying file system (HopsFS) that could contains as many files and directories, and it could be shared between projects. A Project is a collection of datasets, notebooks, users, and jobs (Flink, Spark, Flink). A User in AEGIS can create multiple project, share projects with other users, create datasets, and upload/download/preview data in his/her dataset. In the following subsections, we show the main components provided by AEGIS.

Users API

A new user of the platform is required to first register with AEGIS, by providing: first name, last name, email, password and a security question/answer as we can see in the figure below.

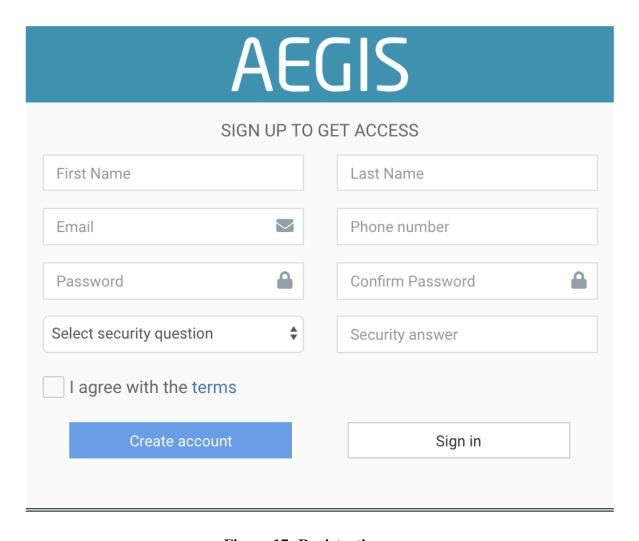


Figure 17: Registration page

Once the user creates an account, an AEGIS administrator can search and validate the new account with the appropriate roles using the admin user interface. Once the account is active, the user can log in with his/her credentials on the AEGIS platform.



Figure 18: Login page

Projects and Datasets

Once the user is logged in, he/she can start using the AEGIS platform by first creating a project by clicking on the New Project button as shown in Figure 19.

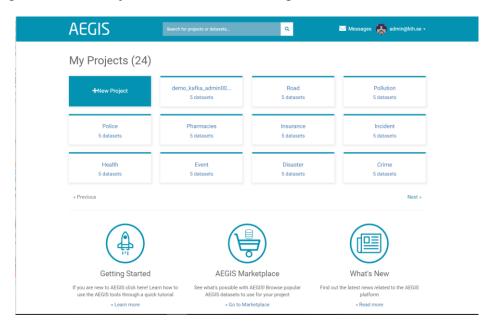


Figure 19: Projects page

Then, the user can navigate to the project 'MyProject' where a list of existing datasets is provided, as shown.

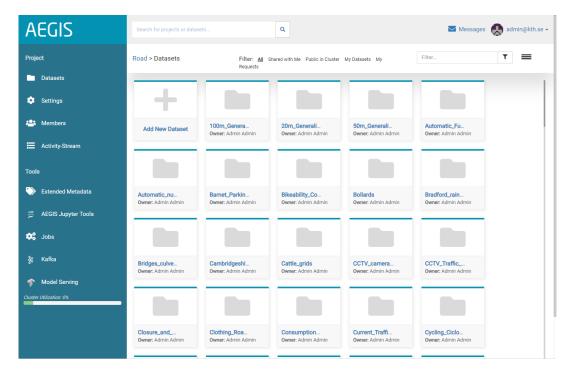


Figure 20: Datasets page

Inside the project, on the left bar there are tools that the users can use to interact/process their data such as AEGIS Jupyter tools. To start interacting with these tools, the users first create their own datasets, then upload their data inside. Inside the dataset, the users can create folders, upload files, and then navigate through the created structure.

Jobs

The AEGIS platform allows users to run their MapReduce, Spark, and Flink jobs on the platform using the Jobs service. To run a job, the users need to first upload their job files (.jar, .py, .ipynb) to a dataset. Then, they can add a new job by clicking on the New job button as shown in the following figure.

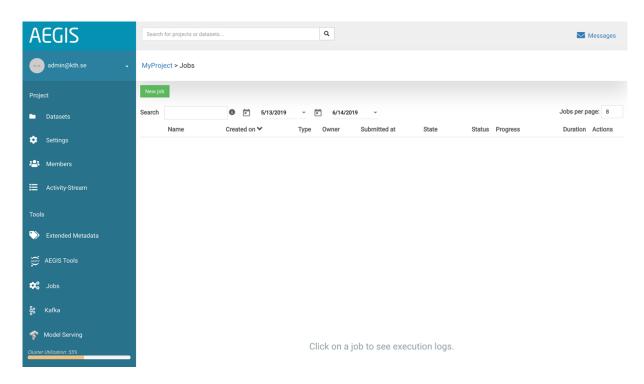


Figure 21: Jobs page (1)

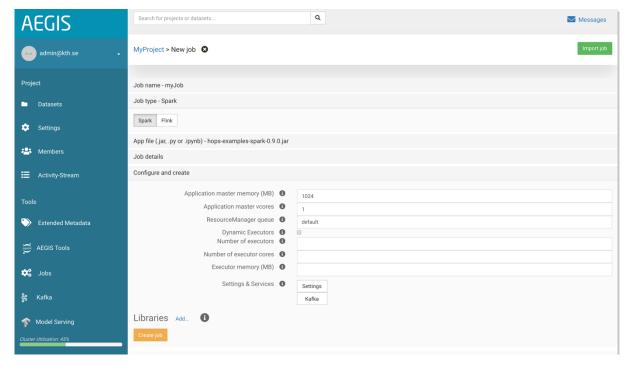


Figure 22: Jobs page (2)

Then once the job is created, the users can run, stop, delete, copy, export, and edit the job. Also, they can look at the execution logs listed at the end of the page.

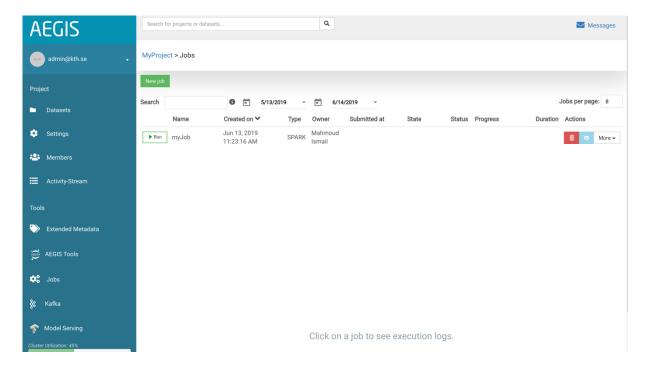


Figure 23: Jobs page (3)

Kafka

The AEGIS platform provides Kafka service for real time analytics. The user interface allows users to create schemas for their topics, then create associated topics that will be used by applications for writing/reading from/to these topics. The user can create a Kafka topic by clicking on the "New Topic" button as shown in the following figure.

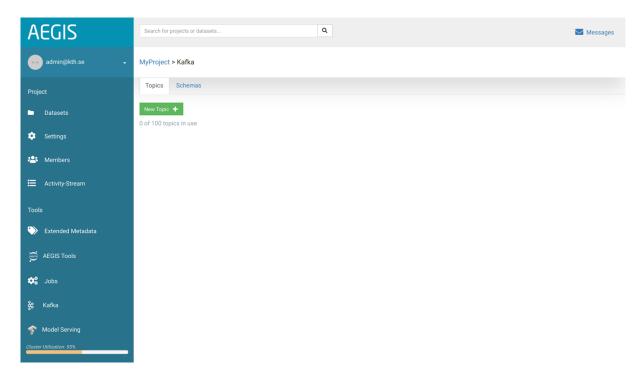


Figure 24: Kafka main page

After clicking on the new topic button, the user is required to fill the topic details such as topic name, number of partitions, number of replicas, and the topic schema. The user can select a schema from the existing schema in the platform or create his own schema first by navigating to the schemas tab.

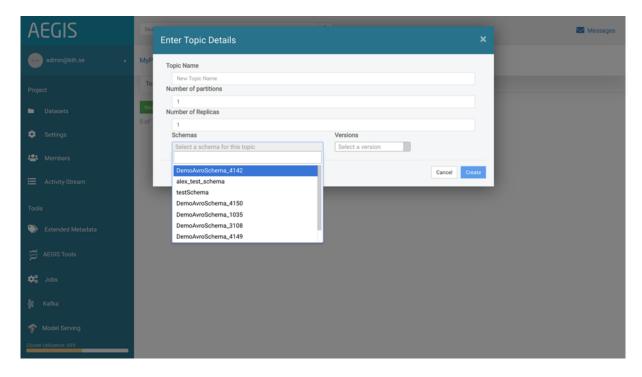


Figure 25: New Kafka Topic

The user can create his/her own schema by clicking on the new avro schema button and then provide the schema's details.

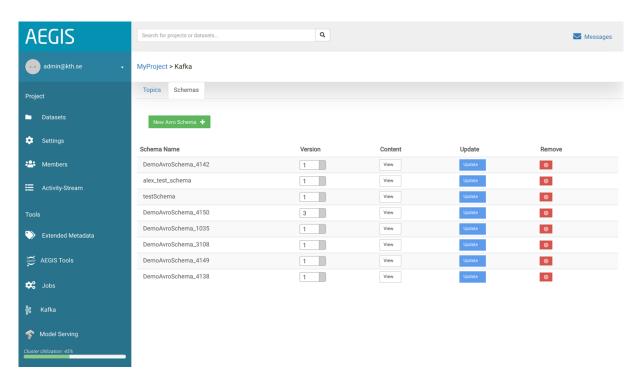


Figure 26: Kafka page (1)

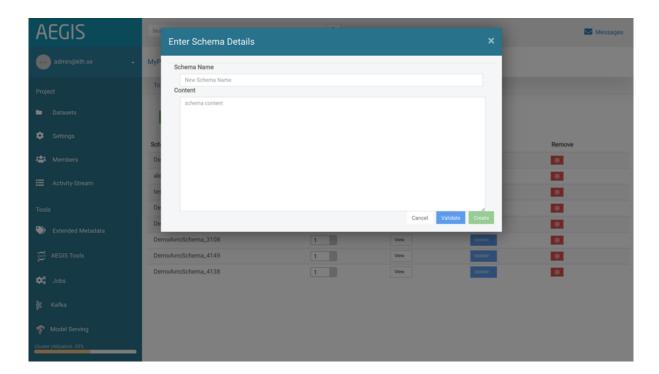


Figure 27: New Kafka Schema

After creating the topic and the schema, the users can then build and run their own applications that interact with the Kafka service using the hops-util (https://github.com/logicalclocks/hops-util py) for Java/Scala applications and hops-util-py (https://github.com/logicalclocks/hops-util-py) for Python applications. The hops-util and hops-util-py libraries abstract away all the

configuration boilerplate code such as Kafka endpoints, topics etc allowing users to easily build their applications.

Tensor Flow

TensorFlow is an ecosystem for developing deep learning models, containing all the tools from building to deployment. TensorFlow has 3 main components:

- TensorFlow(API) -contains the API's to define the models and train the models with the data
- TensorBoard -helps to analyse, visualize, and debug TensorFlow graphs.
- TensorFlow Serving -helps to deploy the pre-trained models.

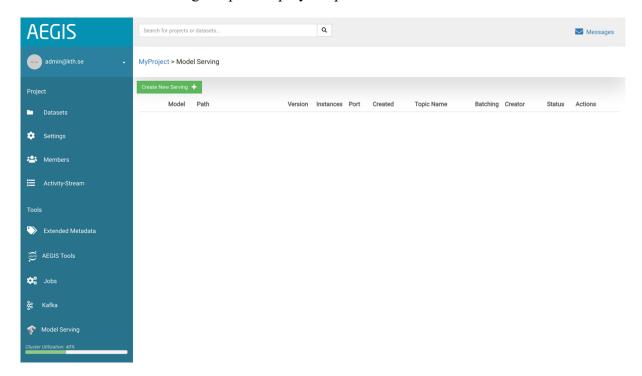


Figure 28: TensorFlow Main page

The AEGIS platform provides a model serving service to deploy pre trained models using the Tensorflow serving. The user can create a new serving by clicking on the "Create New Serving" button and then providing a model name, version, and a path as shown in the following figure.

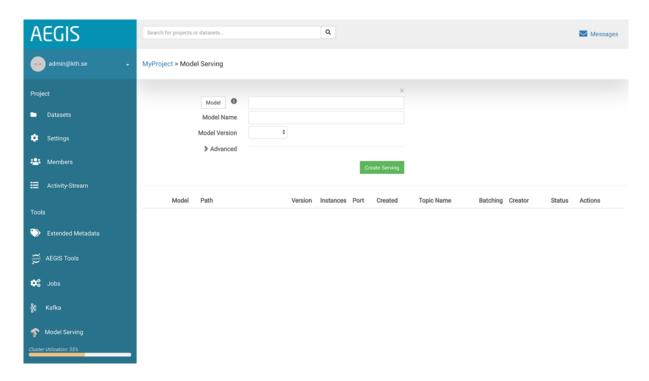


Figure 29: New Model Serving

Full-text Search

Elasticsearch, one of the ELK stack components, is used to provide full text search capabilities to explore projects and datasets within the AEGIS platform. The search space available to each of the users depends on the context from which the user searches. For example, within the context of the home page, the search space includes public datasets, projects, and private datasets. When inside the project, the scope of the search is reduced to the project's datasets including the shared datasets from other projects. After doing the search, the users can filter the search results using the filters on the right side.

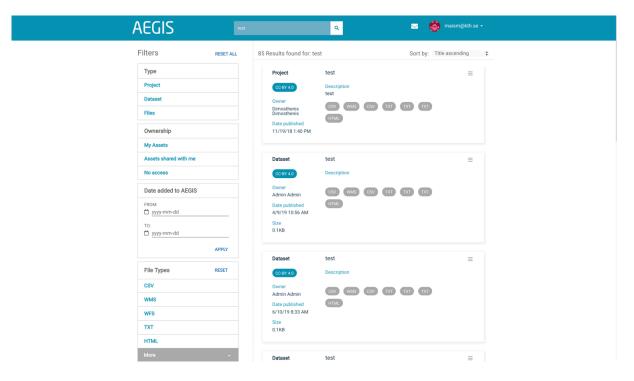


Figure 30: Full text search page

2.7. Metadata Service

The Metadata Service is responsible for storing the metadata associated with a particular dataset within the AEGIS platform. This metadata poses the foundation of the processing of the data within the AEGIS platform. It is based on the AEGIS ontology and vocabulary.

Triplestore

The foundation of the Metadata Service is the Virtuoso Triplestore. It can be directly accessed here:

https://platform.aegis-bigdata.eu/hopsworks-api/virtuoso/

It offers multiple standardised Linked Data interfaces, like SPARQL or the Graph Store HTTP Protocol. These interfaces can be utilised from other components or users of the AEGIS platform. Figure 31 shows the SPARQL interface of Virtuoso.

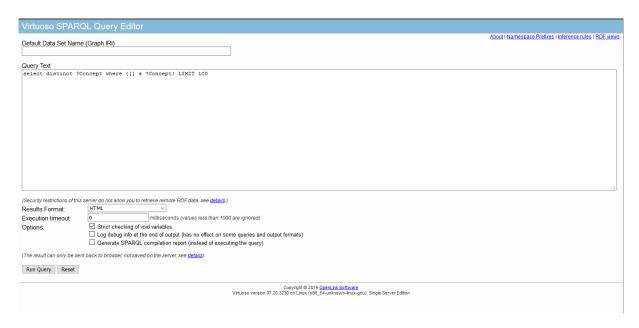


Figure 31: SPARQL User Interface of Virtuoso

Virtuoso only acts as a storage layer and is not supposed to be accessed directly by the users or any other component, with an exception to the SPARQL interface, which can be used for executing complex queries against the metadata of the AEGIS platform. Therefore, the AEGIS ontologies are publicly available: http://aegis.fokus.fraunhofer.de/. Figure 32 shows an example for the metadata stored in the triplestore. In Figure 33 an extract of the AEGIS ontology documentation can be seen.

Figure 32: AEGIS Linked Data Example



Figure 33: Extract of the AEGIS Ontology documentation

Metadata Service

The Triplestore only offers (complex) Linked Data interfaces and no rich management functionalities. Therefore, an additional service is required, providing additional functionalities for the management of the metadata. This includes particularly the straight-forward creation of metadatasets. A first prototype is available here:

https://platform.aegis-bigdata.eu/hopsworks-api/aegis-metadata/

It offers the following core functionalities regarding the management of Linked Data-based metadata:

URI Management

The Metadata Service automatically provides consistent and comprehensive URIs for all entities upon creation time. Those will follow best-practices, especially promoted by the Semantic Interoperability Community (SEMIC) of the European Commission.

Access Control

Datasets may be not public and therefore the metadata needs to be protected too. RDF does not natively support access control. The Metadata Service enables the creation of hidden entities, which are not available via the SPARQL endpoint.

Multilingual Capacities

RDF natively supports the provision of multilingual literals. This feature is harnessed appropriately by adding support for it to the RESTful API of the Metadata Service and the integration of an automatic machine translation service.

Data Store Synchronisation

By definition the metadata refers to actual data in the AEGIS Data Store. Since data and metadata are managed by distinct service, a reliable synchronisation and connection is required. The Metadata Service is hooked into the AEGIS Data Store and enables a synchronisation of the metadata with the actual data.

Recommendation Service

The Metadata Service offers a recommendation service for querying similar or related data for a given dataset or file.

Thesauri and Vocabulary Management

The service integrates the LinDA Vocabulary and Metadata Repository for simplifying the metadata provision through auto-completion.

The Metadata Service interacts with the Virtuoso triplestore and offers a REST-API for creating, deleting and updating metadata. It suggests suitable and similar datasets based on an input dataset. Therefore, several characteristics of the dataset are matched against the stored metadata, e.g. keywords or the semantic tabular information. For future releases this feature will be extended and improved. The metadata service is developed in Java, based on the Vert.x framework.

Translation Middleware

The central task of the translation service is to translate the headings and descriptions of data sets of the metadata into all 24 EU languages. The description of a dataset, for example, is usually only available in one language and requires at least 24 translation requests. This service comprises a middleware for collecting these translation requests, which are bundled and sent to eTranslation - the translation service of the EU Commission. Because of the technical interface of eTranslation, it is necessary to bundle requests and re-assign them to their original texts. By the high amount of data is also important that the requests are processed over a specific period of time, because eTranslation does not translate many gigabytes of data immediately. The translation service also provides configuration parameters for this task. All requests and finished translations are always stored in a database management system (PostgreSQL) for reasons of failure safety. Communication with the external service handled via an encrypted HTTPS method (via JSON) so that no one can access the translations.

Integration

The Metadata Services requires tight integration into the AEGIS platform, since the metadata is present throughout the entire data value chain, from providing until visualizing data. For creating the metadata, the Metadata Service was integrated into the AEGIS frontend via the Data Annotator.

2.8. Query Builder

Query Builder provides the capability to interactively define and execute queries on data available in the AEGIS system. It is primarily addressed to the AEGIS users with limited technical background, but potentially useful for all, as it simplifies and accelerates the process of retrieving data and creating views on them. As explained also in Section 2.3, Query Builder also offers some simple data cleansing functionalities.

As already stated in previous revisions of this document, the name of the component may be misleading, since the word query can be interpreted as the part of the data value chain responsible for retrieving the appropriate data. However, when trying to build the dataset on which an analysis or a visualisation will be applied, the workflow to extract the meaningful parts of the data may include certain processing tasks that cannot be known a priori, in terms of filtering and cleansing. Therefore, and in order to leverage the computational power of the

AEGIS system, Query Builder includes various such functionalities, e.g. null value replacement, filtering based on value, statistics through aggregation functions etc.

The final version of the tool is implemented in a Jupyter Notebook, as also explained in D4.2. The tool, potentially in slightly different flavours (to allow for more customization of the data manipulation processes) is directly accessible inside every newly created project through the AEGIS Jupyter Tools. For the final release, the following updates have been performed:

- User interface improvements
- Better integration with the AEGIS platform
- Embedded metadata browser was removed

The user can initially select a dataset and then see a list of included files in order to choose which one to load. AEGIS shared datasets are also supported. The new version can also handle opening a file directly from the Datasets page of AEGIS platform, using the context menu on CSV files.

Once the selected file is opened, it is loaded as a Spark Dataframe, called temp dataset (TempDF), and it is available for further data manipulation. At all times, the user can have up to two different datasets active in Query Builder: the temporary (TempDF) and the master (MasterDF). The temporary is the one currently being used and changed, whereas the master is used as a "storage point" for intermediate results while the user is processing data and as the final result once all data manipulation is over and the user is satisfied with the outcome.

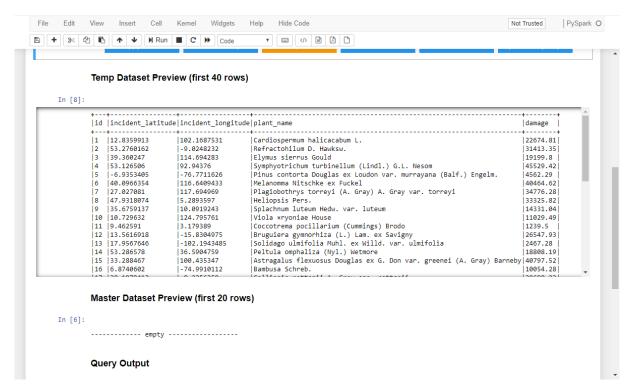


Figure 34: Query Builder Temp dataset preview

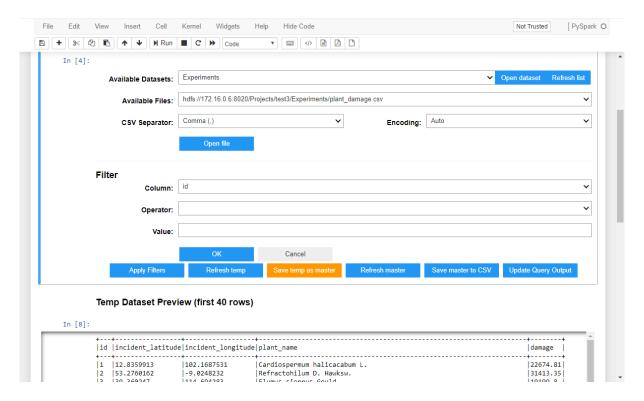


Figure 35: Query Builder data filters view

A number of filters and data processing methods are available for the user to select and apply on the temporary dataset, through the "Controls" panel. Indicatively, the user can fill in null values, filter out entries based on values, rename columns, replace values, select/drop columns etc.

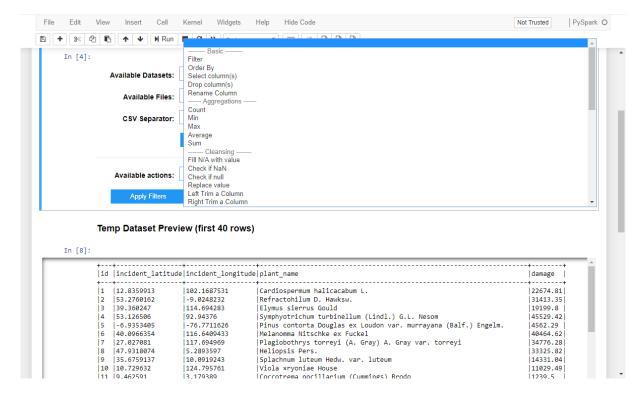


Figure 36: Query Builder data filters view

As shown in the image, the final version has more than 30 operations available, organized in Basic operations, Aggregation operations, Joins, Time Conversions, Mathematic operations, Cleansing operations and others.

The user may also merge or append the temporary dataset with the master dataset. A list of selected data manipulation actions, either already applied or pending application, is always visible under the "Selected filters" panel. A preview of the data processing result is always available upon clicking the "Refresh temp" button.

When the result of a series of data processing tasks on the temporary dataset is satisfactory, it can be saved as the master dataset. The user may continue processing the same temporary dataset or open a new one or, when the query creation process is complete, can save the master dataset as a new csv file or export the query and continue to directly change the generated code. This code can be leveraged (a) by the advanced user as an easily acquired starting point to further elaborate on for more complex queries and (b) by the less technically skilled user as a means to understand the underlying code and facilitate learning. Finally, the result of the data manipulation, i.e. the master dataset, can be directly passed as input to more high-level AEGIS tools, like the Visualiser and the Algorithm Execution Container.

2.9. Visualiser

The Visualiser is the component enabling the advanced visualisation capabilities of the AEGIS platform. In accordance to the latest design and the specification of the component, as documented in deliverable D3.5, the purpose of the Visualiser remains two-fold: (1) to provide visualisations of the results generated by the Algorithm Execution Container and (2) to provide visualisations of the results generated by the queries composed and executed by the Query Builder.

For the realisation of the advanced visualisation capabilities of the AEGIS platform, the Jupyter⁸ notebook development environment, incorporated in the AEGIS platform as part of the AEGIS integrated services, has been exploited. Jupyter supports multiple programming languages and is integrated with data processing frameworks such as Spark, which is utilised in the AEGIS platform. The Visualiser is implemented as a predefined Jupyter notebook following the microservices architecture. As such, a series of microservices where developed and orchestrated through Jupyter in order to implement the functionalities of the Visualiser, which includes the dataset selection, the dataset preview generation, the visualisation type selection, the visualisation configuration, the visualisation generation and the interactive dashboard. The Visualiser can be accessed through Jupyter that is integrated in the AEGIS Front-End as a service.

⁸ http://jupyter.org/

In addition to Jupyter, two Python libraries were utilised, namely the Folium⁹ and the python-highcharts¹⁰ libraries. These libraries are two state-of-the-art open source charting libraries that facilitate the generation of a large variety of interactive charts and visualisations and are used within the Jupyter notebook.

To facilitate the advanced dataset or results visualisation process, an intuitive and easy-to-use user interface has been implemented guiding the user across all the execution workflow of the Visualiser component, as it was designed and documented in the deliverable D3.5. Visualiser offers a variety of visualisation formats which spans from simple static charts to interactive charts with multiple layers of information and several customisation options.

Based on the feedback received from the AEGIS stakeholders, the Visualiser focused on supporting advanced visualisation options for the Maps visualisation type. More specifically, the Visualiser is offering support for Heatmaps on top of Maps (Figure 37) and enhanced map visualisation with support for markers with custom labels and colours (Figure 38). Moreover, the Visualiser supports FastMarkerCluster on Maps and routes can be visualized as polylines with optional support of also adding markers on that routes. Furthermore, the Visualiser supports advanced configuration options on the visualisation parameters for the offered visualisation types.

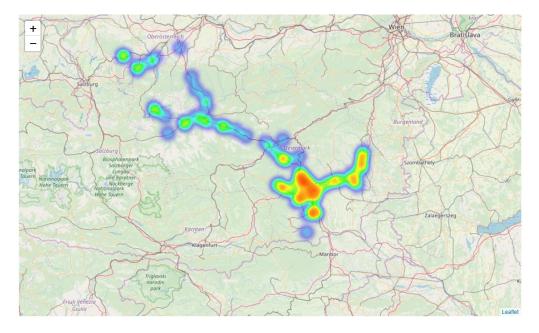


Figure 37: Visualiser Heatmaps on Maps

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⁹ http://folium.readthedocs.io/en/latest/

¹⁰ https://github.com/kyper-data/python-highcharts

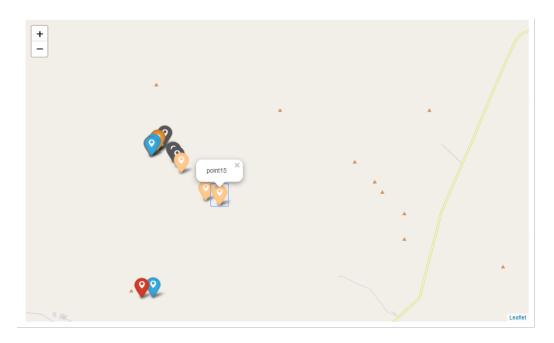


Figure 38: Visualiser Maps with markers with custom labels and colours

In detail, the Visualiser component supports the following visualisation types:

- Scatter plot
- Pie chart
- Bar chart
- Line chart
- Box plot
- Histogram
- Time series
- Heatmap
- Bubble chart
- Map (with support for HeatMaps on Maps, markers with custom labels and colours,FastMarkerCluster, Routes via polylines and Routes with Markers)
- Grid-View (Pretty Tabular Format)
- Area Chart
- Spline
- Choropleth Map
- Earthquake Risk Heatmap (Specific, only for Insurance Demonstrator)

The Visualiser is supporting exception handling that informs the user for any failure during the visualisation process with the prompt message. Finally, the Visualiser is supporting the export of the generated visualisation in the form of HTML file that can be saved in the AEGIS Data Store as a new asset of the user's project. Additionally, the Visualiser is also compatible with both Python 2.7 and 3.6 versions.

The Visualiser is also supporting the connection with the AEGIS Metadata Service. Upon loading a specific file from the Visualiser's file explorer, the Metadata Service is triggered by

passing the full path of the file as parameter and the metadata associated with this file, if any, is returned. If metadata is available, the Visualiser performs a basic recommendation of chart types that can be used. This recommendation is based on the data types of the available variables of the dataset. An example of this feature is depicted in Figure 39. Another useful aspect of the metadata utilisation is that it can be used to pre-fill some fields during the parameterization of the chart, such as geospatial information in maps.

The execution workflow includes the following steps:

1. At first, when the Visualiser is loaded as an interactive notebook the user is presented with a list of options in order to define the dataset that will be utilised for the visualisation creation. The user is able to navigate through the list of available datasets within the project's folders and select the desired dataset. Upon selecting the desired dataset, a preview of the dataset in tabular format is presented to the user (Figure 39). Alternatively, the user can select a specific file from the dataset browser of the main AEGIS platform, right-click on it and then select to open it with the Visualiser. In this case, the drop-down menus will be prefilled with the path of the selected file.

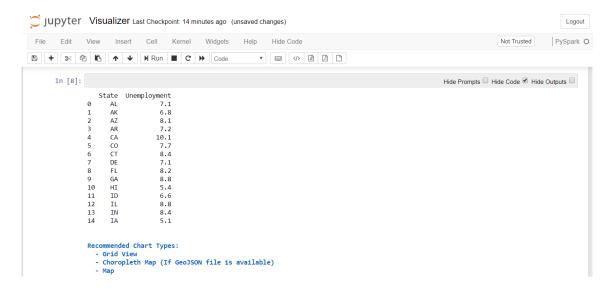


Figure 39: Visualiser - dataset selection

2. In the next step, the user is presented with the list of available visualisation types (Figure 40). Once the desired visualisation type is selected, the user is presented with the list of available parameters for the specific visualisation type. The list of parameters includes a variety of options that spans from the variables that will be used in the visualisation and the titles that will be displayed in the visualisation axis to the selected visualisation's type specific parameters such as the aggregation function or class variable. An example of the visualisation parameters selection is displayed in Figure 41.

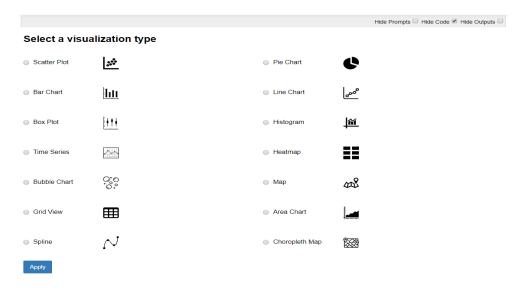


Figure 40: Visualiser - visualisation type selection

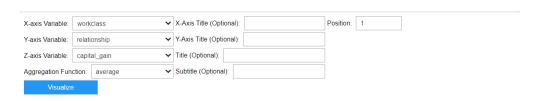
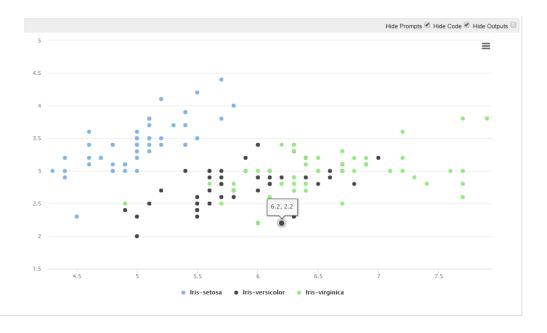


Figure 41: Visualiser - visualisation parameters

3. Once the visualisation type has been selected and the corresponding parameters have been set, the user can trigger the visualisation creation. The following figures illustrate some examples of the visualisations offered by the Visualiser.



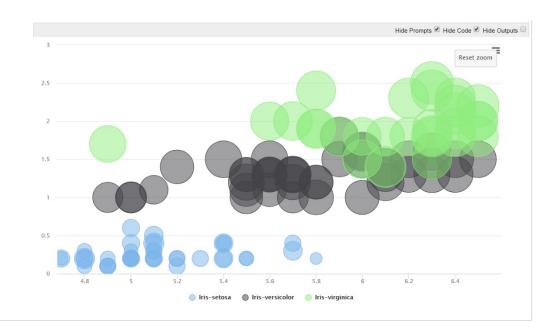


Figure 42: Visualiser – scatter plot

Figure 43: Visualiser - bubble chart



Figure 44: Visualiser - time series

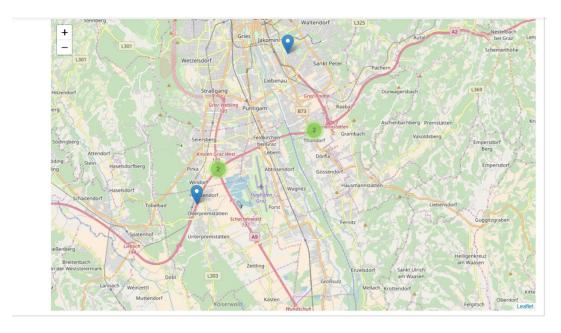


Figure 45: Visualiser – map

2.10. Algorithm Execution Container

The final version of the AEGIS Algorithm Execution Container is based on the Jupyter notebook and includes UX and performance fixes over the version deployed and documented in D4.3.

The current Jupyter version of the container is now based on Python 3.6 (instead of Python 2.7 as in the previous versions) and JavaScript. Moreover, the module is now compliant with the https version of the AEGIS platform, as the internal calls used are now performed over the https protocol, ensuring the secure exchange of information to the AEGIS backend.

Upon launch of the corresponding Algorithm Execution Container (hereinafter container), the user has to initialised it through a dedicated button. The initialisation ensures that the Spark interpreter of the AEGIS platform is started and also creates the basic UI of the container, which is a simple five-tab window:

- An input file selection tab
- An algorithm selection and configuration tab
- An output folder selection tab
- An overview tab showing the current user selections and, when ready, the execution results
- A model application tab, to perform regression or classification with existing trained models on other datasets

Apart from the overview tab, the other three correspond to the basic steps towards applying an algorithm through the container. The first step is to select the file that contains the data to be used by the algorithm, through the interface shown in the next figure, which brings up also a preview of the selected file.

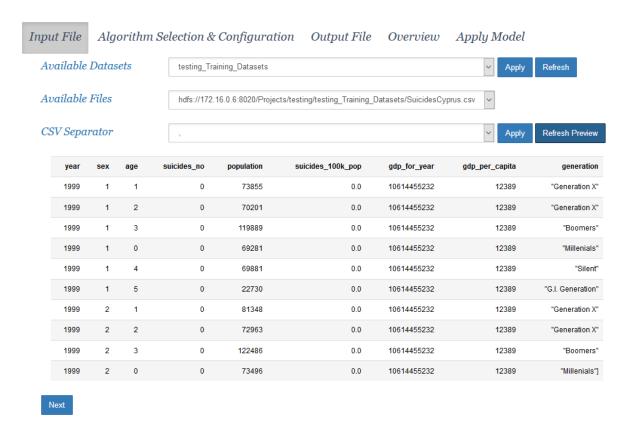


Figure 46: AEC Input File and Data Preview Tab

The next step is to select the algorithm to be applied. The provided algorithms are grouped under five categories (algorithm families). Once an algorithm is selected, a form from which to configure its parameters is shown to the user. A basic form validation is done for the case that a selected value for a parameter is not within the specified boundaries. In this point, the final version of the Algorithm Execution Container includes the option to set a grid of parameters, so that the algorithm may run within those spans, and it automatically selects the best model based on the results produced. A preview of the configuration of the grid parameters is shown in the next figure.

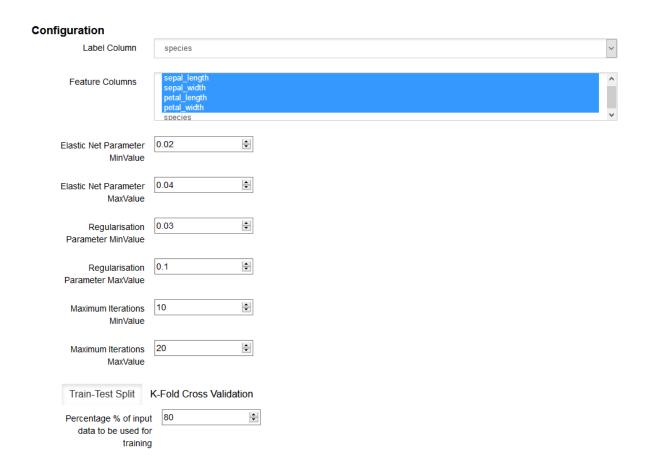


Figure 47: AEC Algorithm Configuration Tab

The model that will be created when an algorithm is applied is saved in the user's datasets, in a folder specified in the last container tab, as shown below:

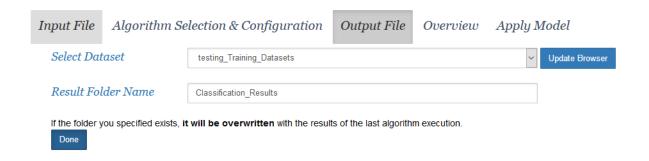


Figure 48: AEC Output File tab

Once this last step is concluded, by pressing the "Apply" button, the user is taken to the Overview Tab:



Figure 49: AEC Overview Tab

There, by pressing Done, the algorithm is applied and when the execution is completed, some algorithm-dependent results are provided to the user in the same tab (Figure 50).

The final output of the analysis is stored back in the AEGIS Data Store, while the model that was used for the analysis, is also stored alongside with the analysis results.

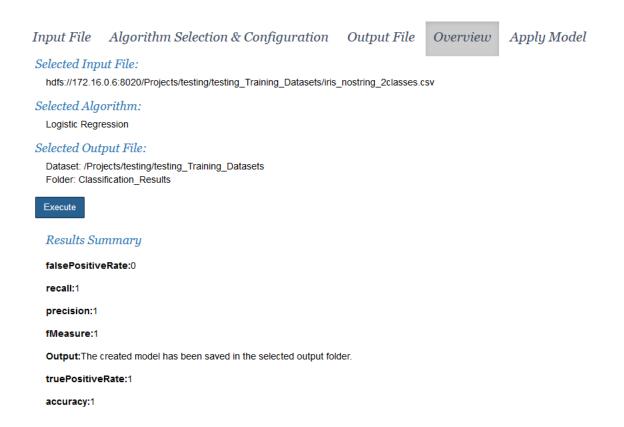


Figure 50: AEC Overview Tab with Results

In case the analysis that has been selected is of a classification or a regression, the model that has been created in the previous steps can be re-applied on new datasets, using the "Apply Model" tab, provided that the format of the input file is same as that of the one used to generate the model. This feature is shown in the next figure, where the user is able to select from existing files and re-apply the model.

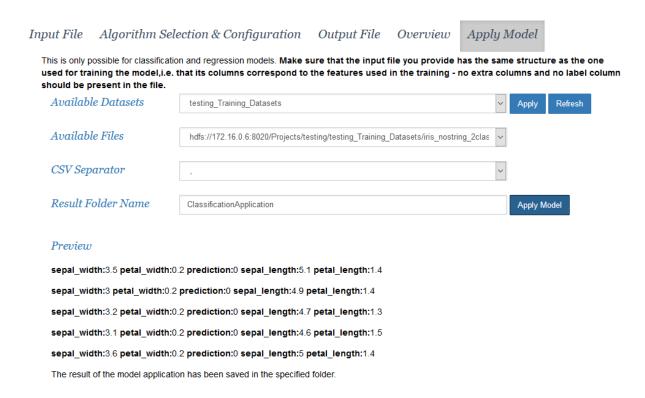


Figure 51: Applying an newly created model to other datasets

As with the previous version, it needs to be mentioned, that in case an analyst is willing to run more complex and customised analyses, the module allows the direct edit of the underlying code.

2.11. AEGIS Front-end

Following the look and feel of the AEGIS institutional web site¹¹ (see Figure 52) an updated GUI/front-end for the AEGIS final integrated prototype has been developed, on top of Hopsworks, using as main technologies HTML and AngularJS¹².

¹¹ https://www.aegis-bigdata.eu/

¹² https://angularjs.org/

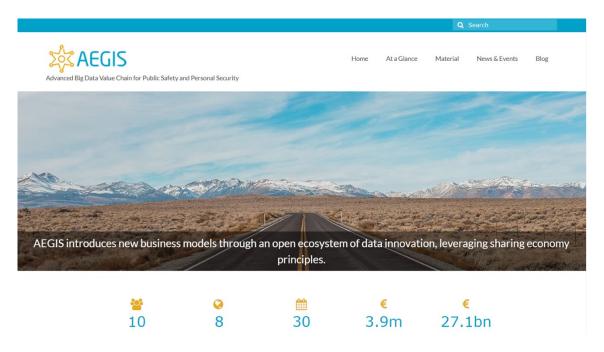


Figure 52: AEGIS web site

The updates consist in many UI graphical improvements and adjustments, also due to the upgrade of Hopsworks versions.

A Landing page has been developed, including main links to Login and Features pages, as well as to objectives and project information (see Figure 53).

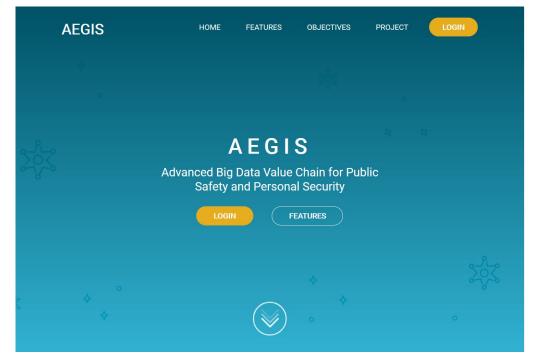


Figure 53: Landing page

The home page has been redefined (see Figure 54) and now features one big space in the centre page, displaying the (current) user projects. The Projects menu on the right side has been removed accordingly. At the bottom of the page, the link to three main features are available:

- Getting started
- AEGIS Marketplace
- What's new

Once selected a project, the project page (see Figure 55: Project Datasets) with the available datasets is displayed. On the left column, the new menu features the following options:

- Datasets
- Settings
- Members
- Activity-stream
- Tools:
 - o Extended Metadata
 - o AEGIS Jupyter Tools
 - o Jobs
 - o Kafka
 - Model Serving

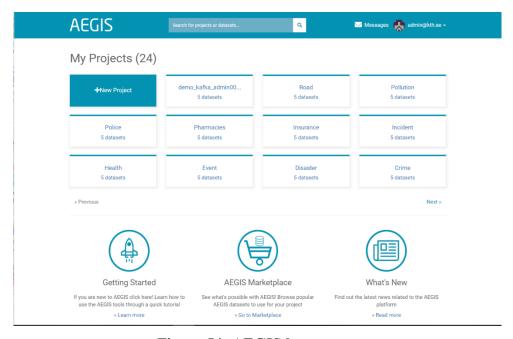


Figure 54: AEGIS home page

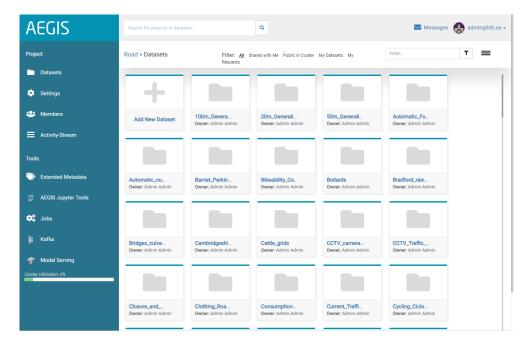


Figure 55: Project Datasets

The new AEGIS Jupyter Tools features the three project notebooks all in a single view, with links to the related documentation and source code.

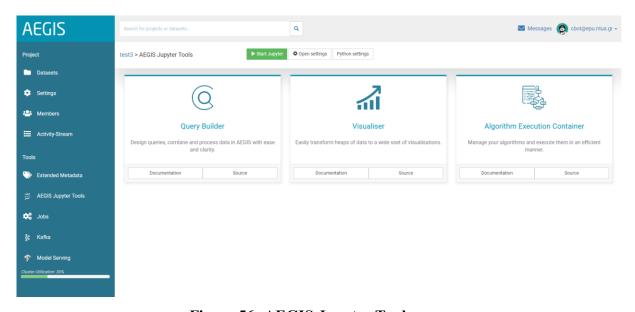


Figure 56: AEGIS Jupyter Tools page

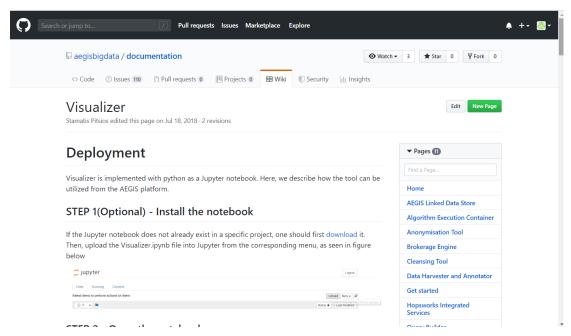


Figure 57: Visualizer documentation

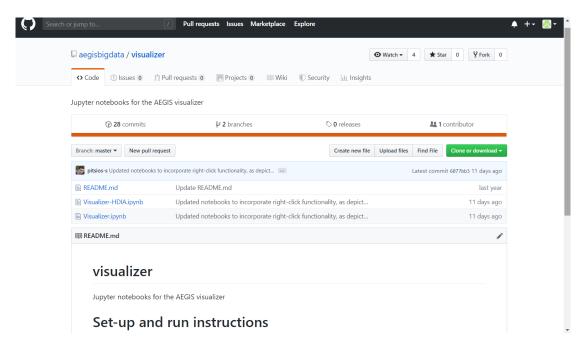


Figure 58: Visualizer source code

As far as the Datasets, the functionalities linked to a dataset have been enhanced and the user/dataset interaction logic has been modified as follows:

- Double-click on the dataset enters the datasets (browse files);
- left-click on the dataset shows details on the column on the right;

• right-click on the dataset opens the menu (browse files, remove dataset, permissions, add metadata, remove metadata, add or edit extended metadata, share with).

Moreover, a new page for the full search functionality has been implemented (see Figure 59).

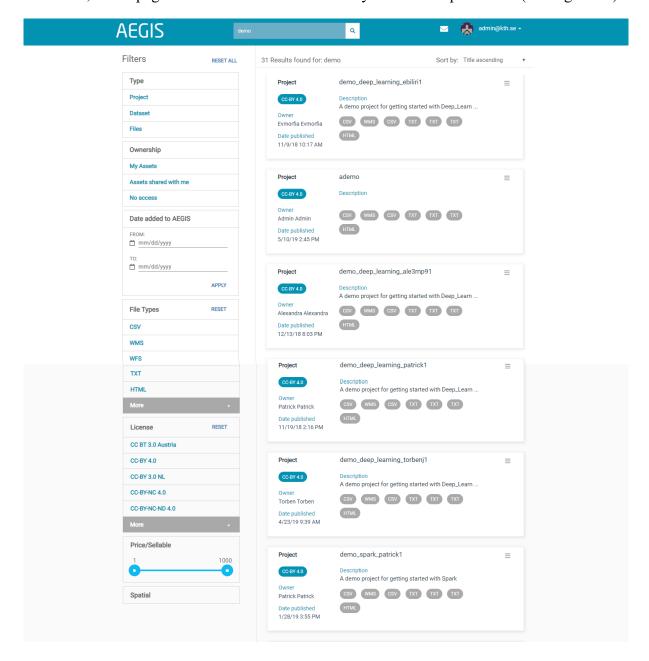


Figure 59: Full Search page

Major technical details about the Front-end technologies have been provided in AEGIS-D3.5 Architecture and Revised Components Microservices and APIs Designs_v4.00_v1.0.

2.12. Third Party AEGIS Services

AEGIS as a platform with specific open APIs is able to cooperate with various third party services that are interested either to consume some of AEGIS outputs and services, but also to provide AEGIS assets (such as datasets) to enrich its content and its offerings to stakeholders. The section below presents such a case, which was implemented during the project as a third-party service (e.g. not part of the AEGIS core platform) to provide data for the Insurance and the Smart Home demonstrators.

2.12.1. Event Detection Module

The Event Detection Module (EDM), residing as a demo at http://aegis-insurance.s5labs.eu, which has been developed during the AEGIS project, is an application that is able to monitor data pushed in the Twitter network, as well as RSS feeds, and provide notifications regarding events that are happening in specific locations, based on a trained model that evaluates whether the content discussed is an event of interest for an analyst that has fired up the application.

In more detail, the EDM can work in two different ways:

- As a system based on a trained model, which takes into consideration the location of tweets (using geofencing to identify tweets coming from a set of neighbouring regions), evaluating whether the tweets come from trustworthy ("followed") or not accounts, whether they refer to actual events and are not past ones, etc.
- As a simple monitoring service, that picks up specific keywords as they appear and displays them as events.

Apparently, the first mode of operation is of higher importance for analysts who would like to be punctually and in a trustworthy manner notified for specific events, and thus the focus was on this mode. For training the EDC model, a large set of tweets and relevant texts were collected and using a training set a model has been constructed using the AEGIS AEC and notebooks, which has been fed back to the EDM system in order for it to be able to identify events. Text inserted was multilingual, and so were the models developed, and as a result the EDM supports English, Greek, Italian and German.

As shown in the following figure which displays the dashboard of the system, a user is able to select specific keywords for events to monitor and specify selected accounts in Twitter, and/or selected RSS feeds, which could be governmental or news portals that push news, etc. witter accounts.

Moreover, the search can be either on a global scale, or in specific cities (for the cause of the demonstrator we experimented with London, Athens, Rome, Lazio, Genova and Gratz – e.g. places of the demonstrators). It needs to be noted that the locality is not only examined based on the "location" of the tweet according to its metadata (as it seems that only few users select the option to provide their location when tweeting), but is extracted out of the content of the message. Moreover, using the Google Geolocation API¹³ the EDM can identify whether a location is in proximity of the selected area (city) of interest, so for example a tweet that

¹³ https://developers.google.com/maps/documentation/geolocation/intro

includes "Soho" in its body will be displayed when one selects the London area, as EDM identifies Soho as an area within London.

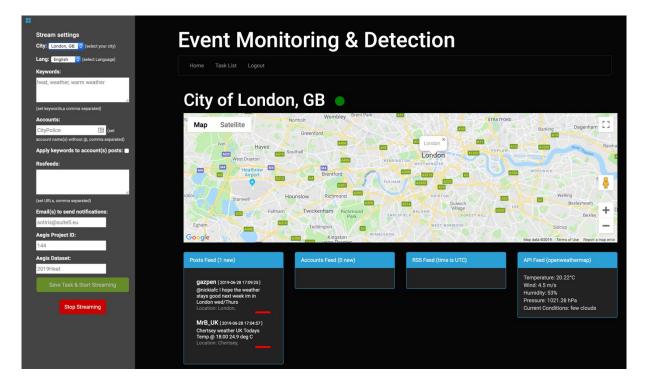


Figure 60: Dashboard of EDM

The main API that is used by the EDM is the Streaming API of Twitter¹⁴, which allows the application to receive a constant feed from Twitter for the specific words under investigation, though due to certain limitation reasons set by Twitter, not all tweets are provided.

The outputs of the EDM, apart from being displayed on the frontend of the application, as shown in the figure above, are also pushed to AEGIS in case an analyst selects so. This is possible with the AEGIS Harvester, which is used to bundle the outputs of the EDM and upload them into a specific dataset under a project, so that analysts can then download this information or preform other set of analyses. Moreover, notifications for new events could also be send (apart from emailing) to the owner of this AEGIS project, using an Apache Kafka interface.

¹⁴ https://developer.twitter.com/en/docs/tutorials/consuming-streaming-data.html

3. CONCLUSION

The document accompanies the fourth and final release of the AEGIS integrated prototype and provides information about the realization of the foreseen software prototype connected to a deployed version of platform. A full description of the platform functionalities developed is provided, as well as references to the software package of the core platform and its API, with corresponding supporting documentation on the deployment of each component and usage of the APIs.