Borant* Tools

Research and education tools for bioethics

IBME tools session
Zurich, 24 November 2026

ITE LAB
Information Technology & Experimental Ethics

University of Zurich[UZH]
Institute of Biomedical Ethics and History of Medicine

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Join the room roompulse.borant.eu/join code 11308

Phone or laptop. We come back to it during the session.

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WHERE THIS COMES FROM

From a notebook to a review

2020

The problem: too much literature to keep up with.

TopicTracker

Text mining PubMed in Jupyter notebooks, then a web app.

RevMaster

Blind screening by several reviewers, self-hosted. Used for the WHO review.

LSSR

One review from the query to the synthesis, absorbing both.

Spitale, Heliyon 2020 · Spitale, Germani & Biller-Andorno, Heliyon 2024

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One login, one permission per tool

Borant ID

One account for every tool, at id.borant.eu.

Your tools

You have the tools you picked in the registration form.

Need another?

Ask for it through Borant ID.

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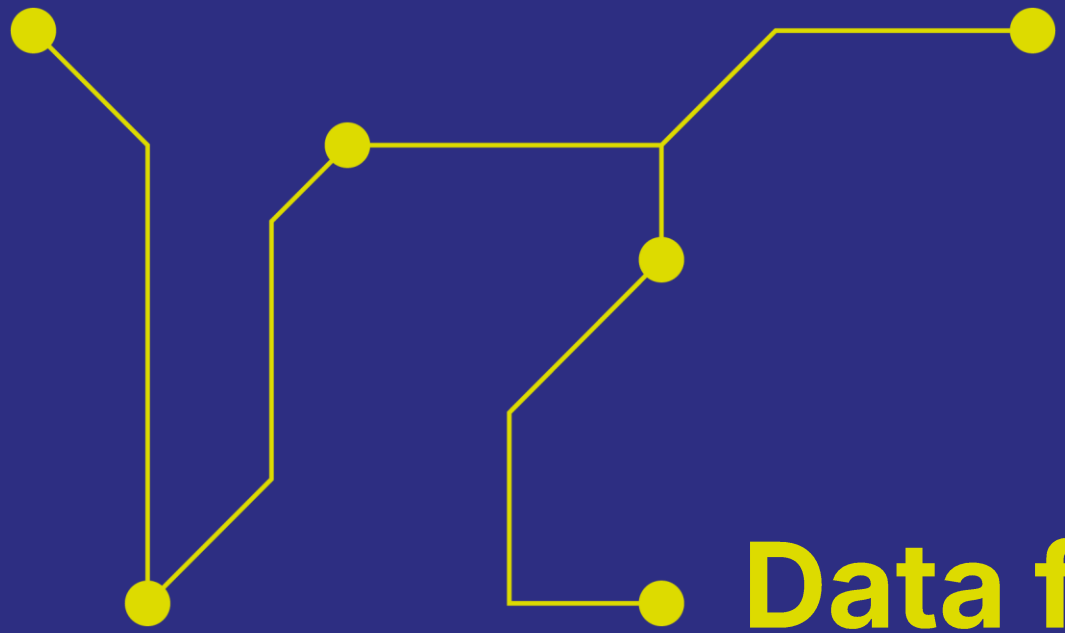

Data first

01 / What can go in, and what cannot

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Two questions before any upload

Where does the text go?

Several tools send text to a cloud model, on my server. Confidential data stays out (bc lawyers are expensive).

Who pays?

Dovetail and Grant Radar scans run on your own Anthropic key. Today the demos run on mine.

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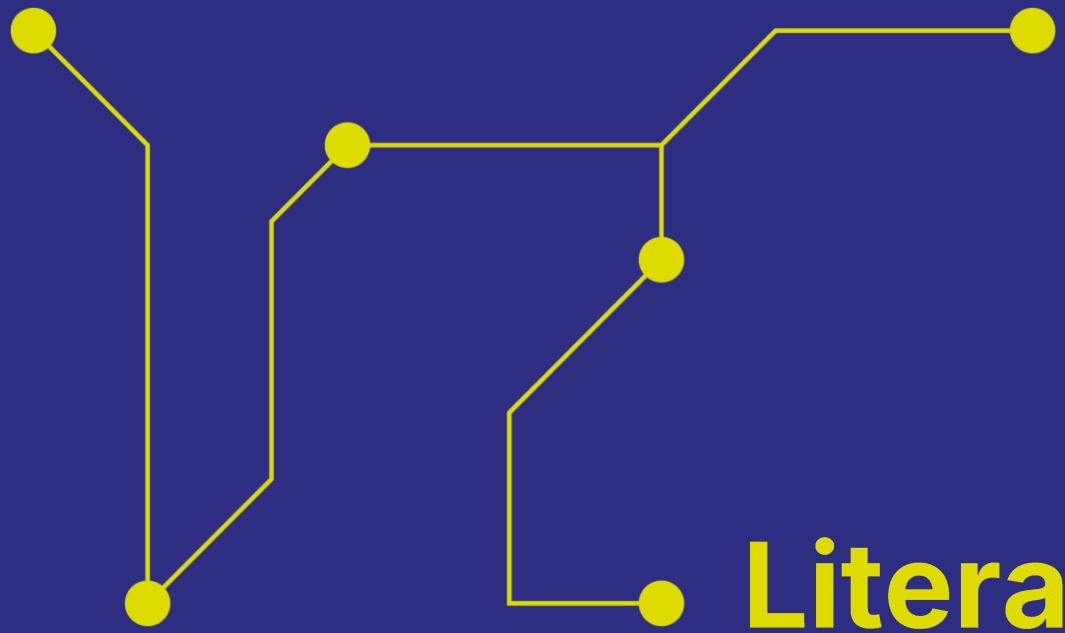

Literature

02 / LSSR · Contrarian · Dovetail · Catena

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Four tools for the literature

LSSR

Living systematic scoping reviews, from the query to the synthesis
lssr.borant.eu

Contrarian

From a claim to the literature that supports or contradicts it
contrarian.borant.eu

Dovetail

Where should I submit this paper?
dovetail.borant.eu

Catena

Zotero references inside Word
catena.borant.eu

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A reference that exists is not a reference that supports the sentence.

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Texts and data

03 / AutoCode · Survey · ArguMap

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Three tools for texts and data

AutoCode

Qualitative coding of documents against a codebook, with co-occurrences
autocode.borant.eu

Survey

Questionnaires with randomisation arms and aggregate results
survey.borant.eu

ArguMap

Argument maps, for reading and for teaching
argumap.borant.eu

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Projects and funding

04 / PaperTrail · Grant Radar

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Where papers and grants stand

PaperTrail

From idea to published paper: where every project stands.

Grant Radar

Funding calls tracked per workspace, with deadlines and a review queue.

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Most of these tools can also talk to an AI assistant.

Through MCP: ask your chatbot where a review or a paper stands.

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OUTLOOK

FERAL: shared infrastructure for bioethics

1 · Tools

A core of these tools hosted by the Institute, with training.

2 · Publishing

A bioethics collection on Open Research Europe.

3 · Connected

Articles linked to tools: a paper and its argument map.

4 · AI

Controlled, self-hosted models, once we know what the data rules allow.

Federated Ethics Research Alliance and Lab, working name. A proposal with Nikola: nothing is decided yet.

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ROOMPULSE · VOTE

Name it

FERAL

Federated Ethics Research Alliance and Lab

OASIS

Open Alliance for Shared Infrastructure and Scholarship

ARCO

Alliance for Research, Collaboration and Openness

RASCAL

Research Alliance for Shared Computation, Argumentation and Learning

Conflict of interest disclosure: the presenter has a favourite, and it is feral.

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Back to the room
roompulse.borant.eu/join
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Let’s keep talking

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