

QuakeML

XML concepts for a European
seismological data exchange
infrastructure

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(ETH, GFZ, USC, USGS, IRIS)

QuakeML – Design Principles

- Intended to cover a broad range of seismological fields
- Support real-time data transfer of seismic events
- Designed as data exchange format, independent of further persistent storage
- Modular approach:
 - Basic event data
 - Moment tensor
 - Metadata infrastructure
 - ...
- Written from scratch, no adaption of existing (DB-) schema, uses full XML flexibility
- Community-driven development of standards
 - Documents are first discussed in working group, then subjected to **Request for Comments** process
 - Sequence of document maturity levels: Working Draft, Proposed Recommendation, Recommendation

QuakeML – Definition and Standardization

- SED, GFZ and others are in the process of defining a set of QuakeML 1 elements (6 meetings held so far)
- Request for Comments document available April 2007
- Further QuakeML development will be based at SED
- SeisComP 3 and ZMAP++ use QuakeML for internal communication
- Already developed toolchain for automated data structure generation and code generation
- Standard UML 2.0 schema description

QuakeML – Development Roadmap

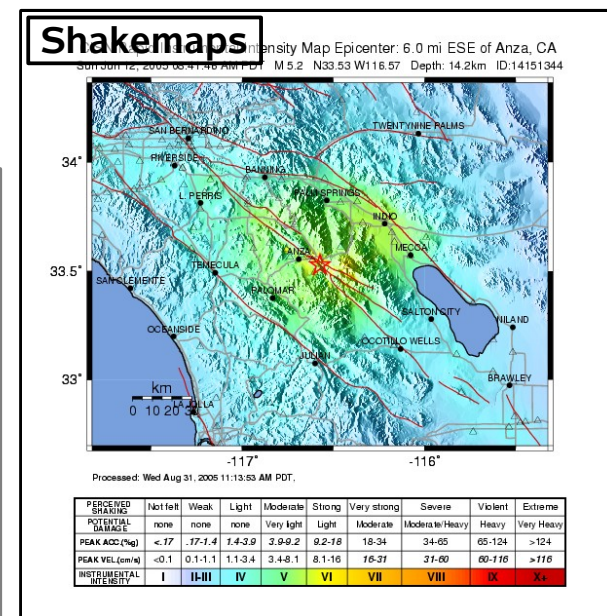
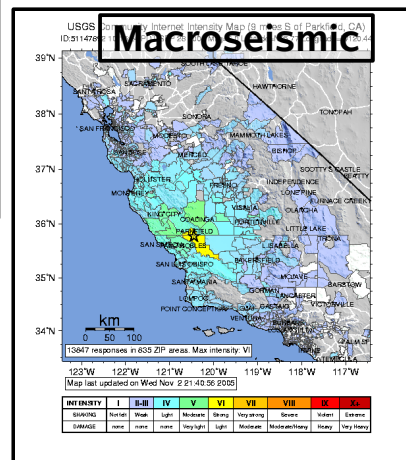
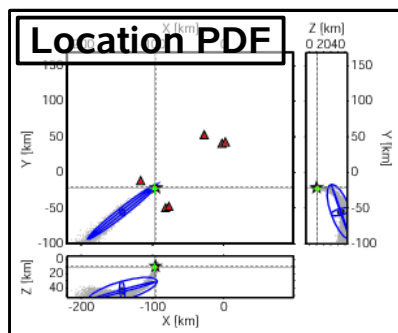
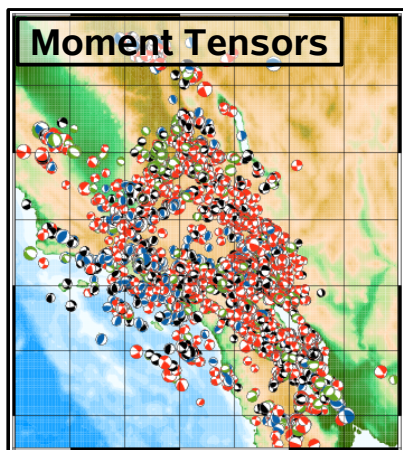
QuakeML development roadmap

Basic event description
(incl. moment tensors)
Metadata infrastructure
Inventory

RFC starts April 2007
RFC starts Summer 2007
RFC starts ?

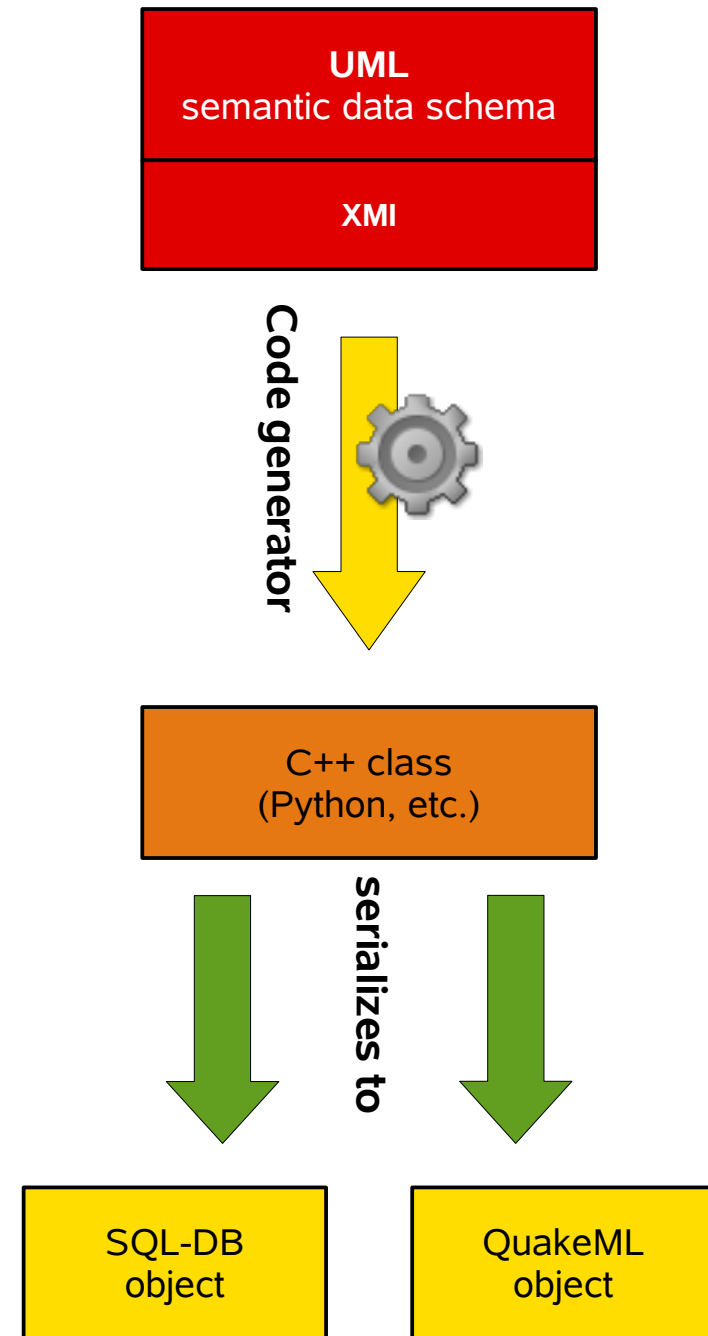
Further development: location PDF (Nlloc), macroseismic information, slip distribution, shakemaps, ...

<QuakeML>



QuakeML – Tools and Services

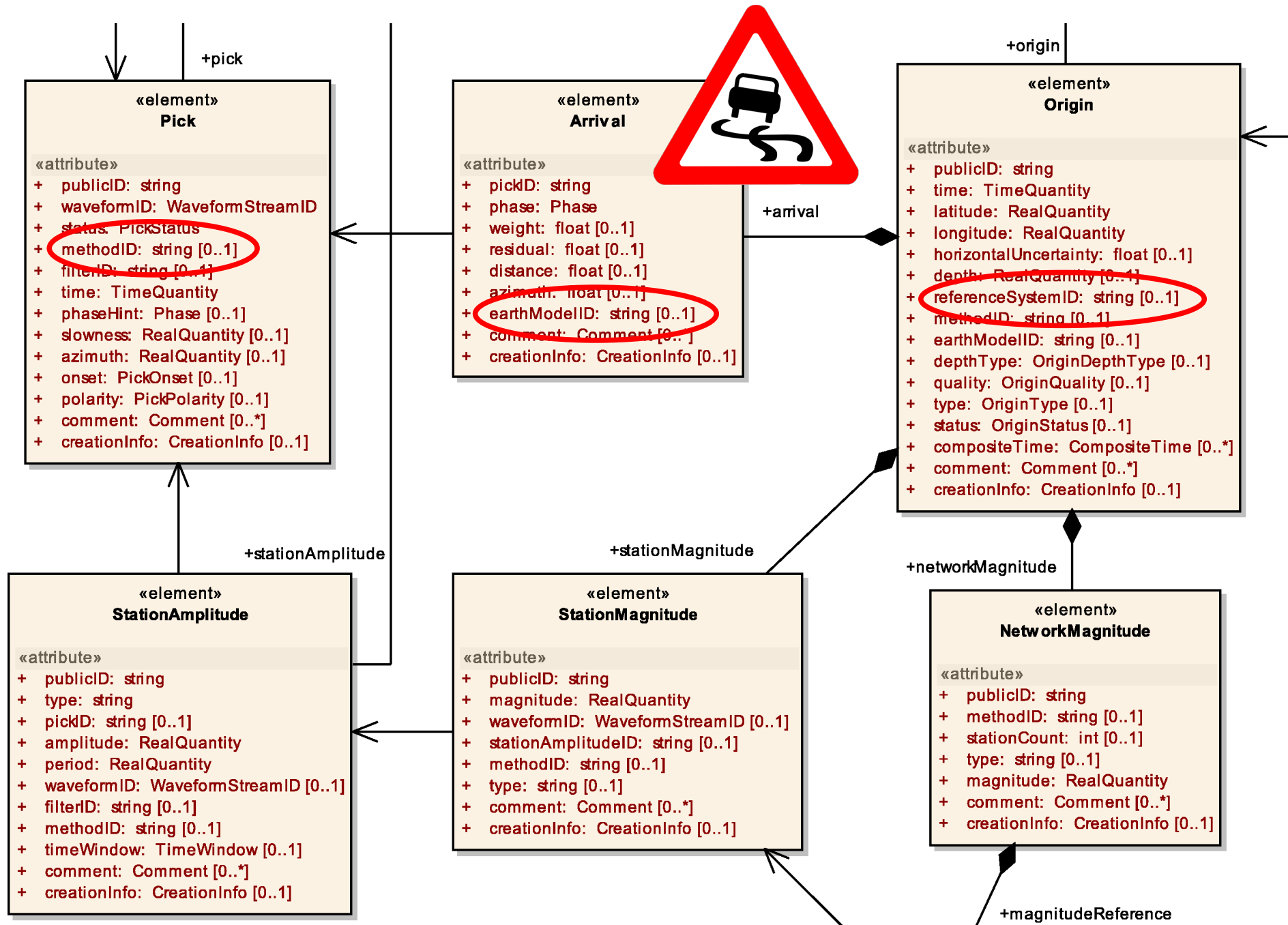
- QuakeML data model available as UML class diagram (and XMI)
- We will maintain and distribute a software library for QuakeML:
 - Use XMI for automated code generation
 - Library native in C++, can be used from other object-oriented languages (Python, Java) using wrappers
 - Objects can be serialized as XML (QuakeML) or SQL



QuakeML – Code Generator

- creates C++ class library, XML Schema, and SQL DB schema from [UML/XMI](#) data model
- creates [Python](#) wrappers using [SWIG](#) toolkit (wrappers for other OO languages can be added)
- written in Python, uses [Cheetah](#) template engine
- open source (GPL)
- originally developed by GFZ as a part of [SeisComP](#), many dependencies on SeisComP components
- a stand-alone version will be provided with the QuakeML standard documents and Schema
- QuakeML code generator/class library enable users to work with QuakeML without having to write own code
- code generator toolchain allows to create own, site-specific [extensions](#) of QuakeML

Metadata/Data Problem



Data Exchange Infrastructure & Resource Identifiers

Requirements for seismological information exchange in a global network

- unambiguous, persistent **identifiers** of networked resources
- rich standardized metadata description (Dublin Core)
- resource discovery by standardized query gateways
- information retrieval using standardized services and protocols

QuakeML supports unique, location-independent **identifiers** for resources in a seismological network (in URI format)

`smi://<authority-id>/<resource-key>[#<local-id>]`

URI schema **`smi://`** stands for **seismological meta-information**

Example: SED autopicker

`smi://ch.ethz.sed/Software/Picker/Autopicker/6.0.5`

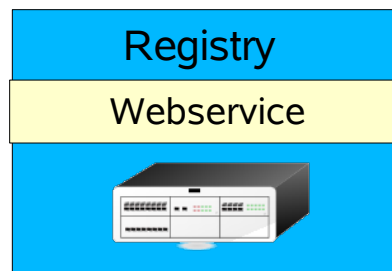
Data Exchange Infrastructure & Resource Identifiers

A **registry** is a resource that stores and provides metadata about other resources

- provides a **Web Service** which resolves **identifiers** into a **RDF metadata description**
- vocabulary will be based on Dublin Core, with extensions for seismological resources

Metadata will cover the resource's

- identity (name and description)
- curation (who maintains it?)
- content (what kind of information?)
- data quality
- service (how to retrieve the resource?)



QuakeML Resource Metadata

The **RDF metadata** contain information on how to retrieve the **resource data**, e.g., URLs, pointers to Web Service descriptions (WSDL), etc.

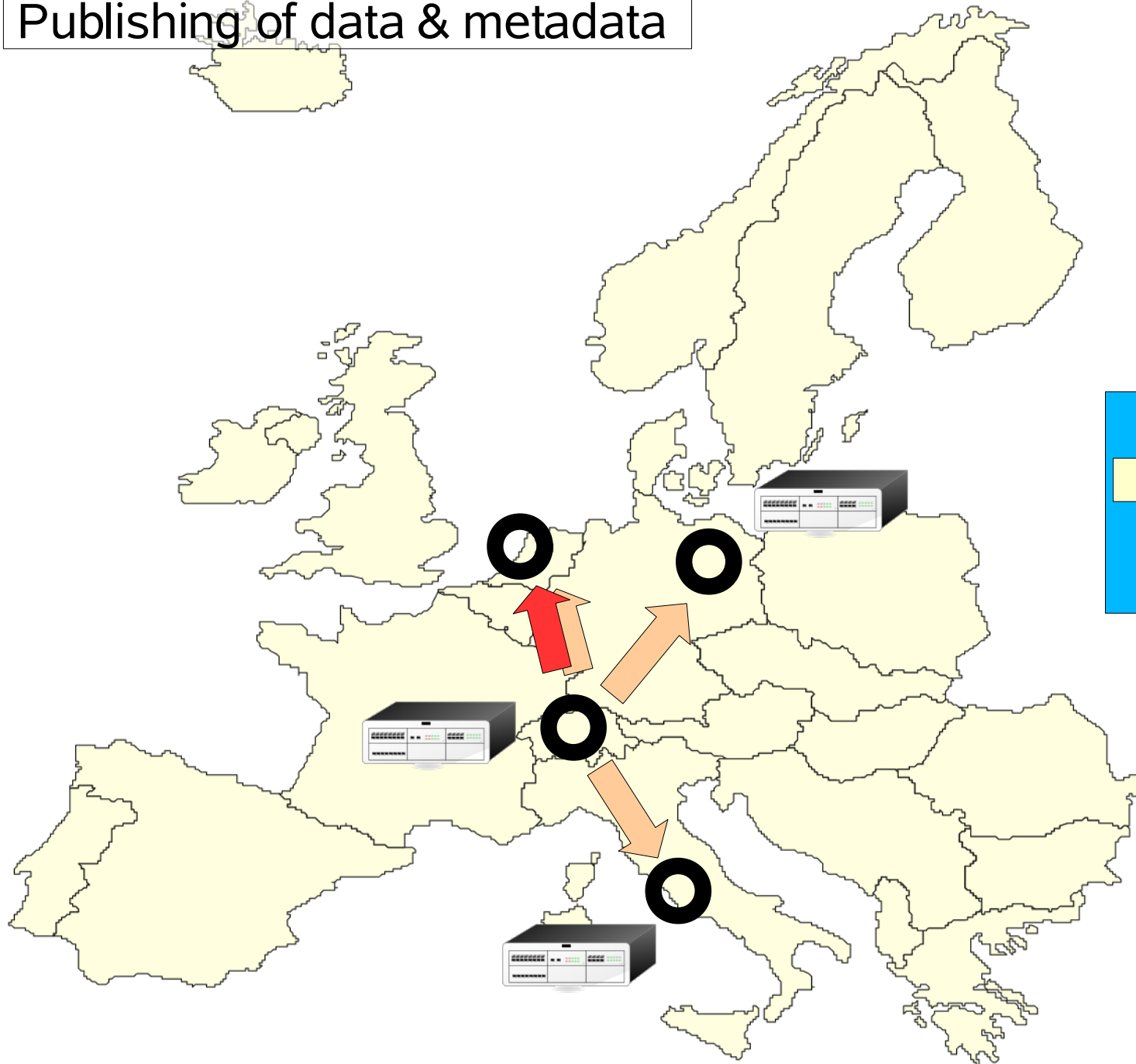
- if the resource data are in **QuakeML format**, they can be retrieved via registries with a short-cut identifier

quakeml://<authority-id>/<resource-key>[#<local-id>[?<parameters>]]

- URI schema **quakeml://** indicates that resource data are available in QuakeML format
- additional <parameters> may be required to retrieve the resource data (e.g., waveform data for a time interval)
- <parameters> part is in URL parameter format:
par1=value1&par2=value2&...

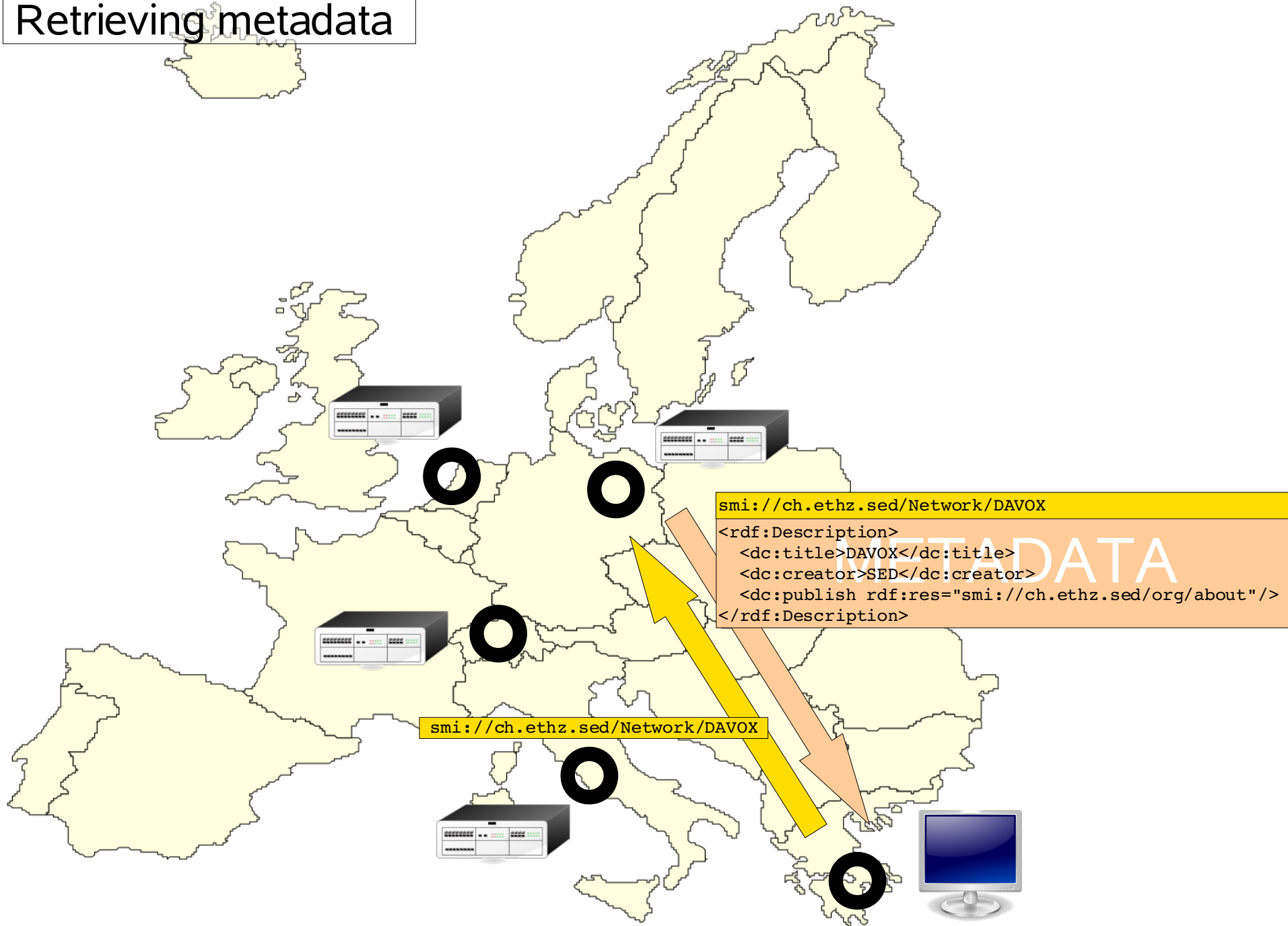
Metadata & Data Exchange

Publishing of data & metadata



Metadata & Data Exchange

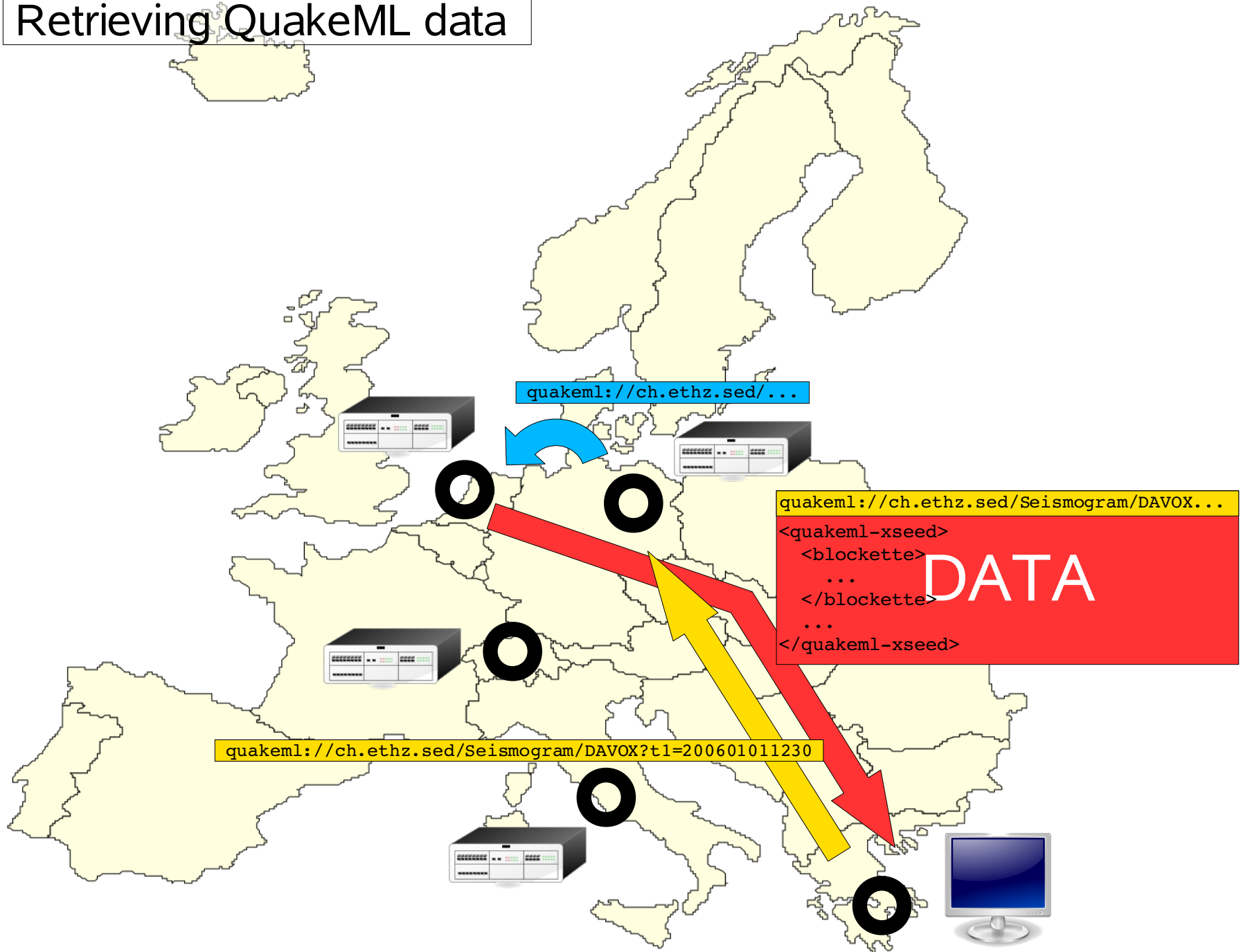
Retrieving metadata



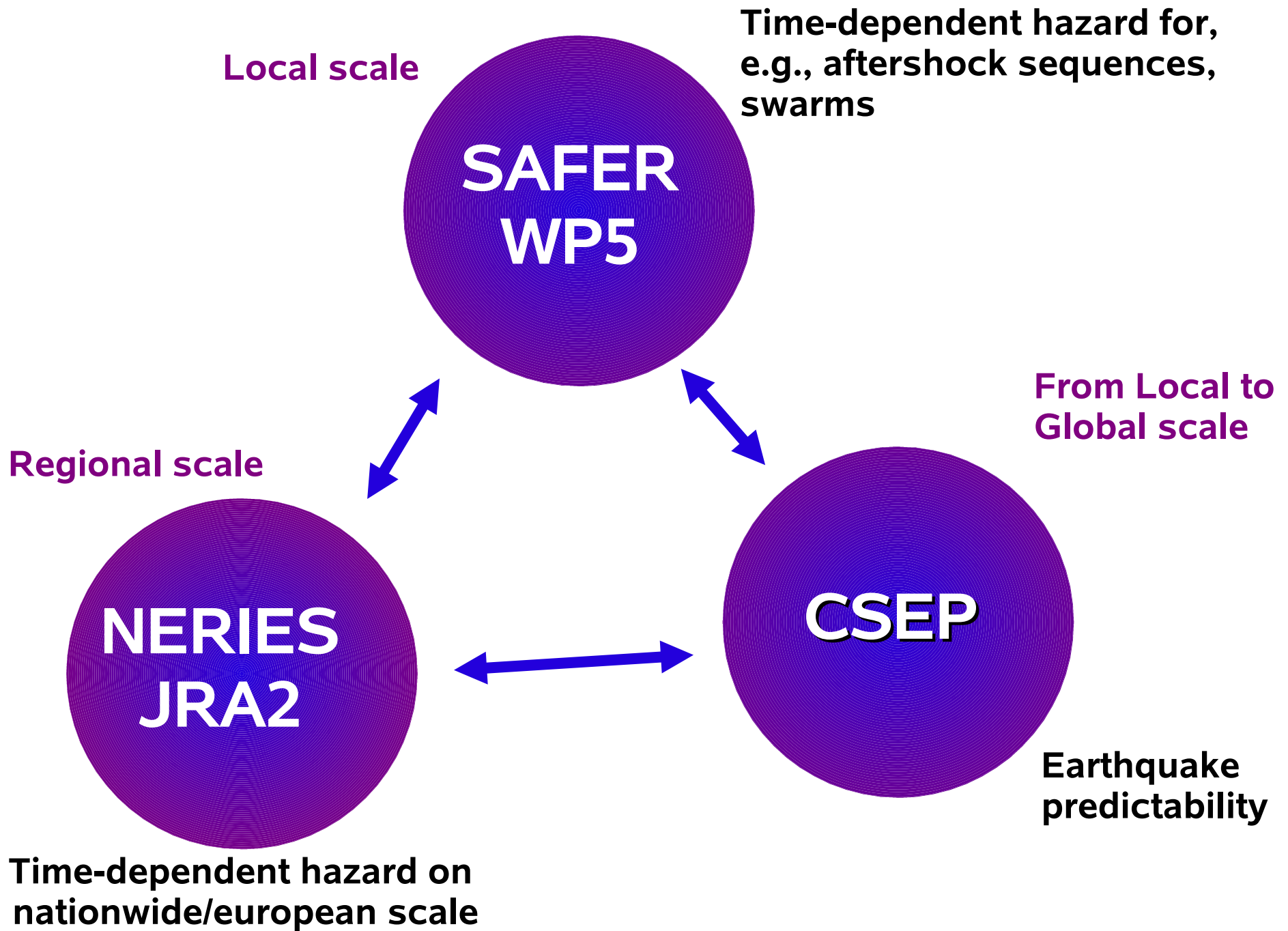
Metadata & Data Exchange

Retrieving QuakeML data

<QuakeML>



QuakeML – In International Projects



QuakeML Development Team

QuakeML core development team (quakeml@sed.ethz.ch)

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- ★ Ray Buland

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Contact Us

- Check our website

<http://www.quakeml.ethz.ch>

<http://www.quakeml.org> (upcoming)

- Write us

quakeml@sed.ethz.ch

- for participating in the request for comments process:
Send us your email-address and you will receive the RFC documents
- for questions
- for suggestions