

Institut pro demokracii a ekonomickou analýzu

Nezávislý think tank při
Národohospodářském ústavu AV ČR, v.v.i.
zaměřující se na analýzu, vyhodnocování
a vlastní návrhy veřejných politik

IDEA CERGE
EI 



Akademie věd
České republiky

Strategie AV21

Špičkový výzkum ve veřejném zájmu



Think tank IDEA at the Economics Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences invites you to attend a seminar with a discussion:

Access to confidential micro data for research and policy analysis

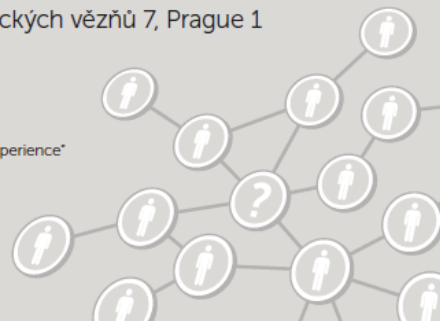
March 22, 2018 | CERGE-EI
16:00 – 18:00 | Politických vězňů 7, Prague 1

16:00
Introduction

16:15–17:00
Presentation on
“Safe Centre at the Statistical Office: Hungarian Experience”
Zsolt Németh, Hungarian Central Statistical Office

17:00–17:30
Comments and reflections
Marek Rojíček, Czech Statistical Office
Martin Srholec, CERGE-EI

17:30–18:00
Discussion



National statistical offices collect a wealth of data on individuals and firms. Besides being the base for official statistics, the data also represent an invaluable resource for the research community. Statistical offices thus provide access to the anonymized micro data for research purposes through various channels. Hungarian Central Statistical Office – similarly to many advanced countries – arranges access to confidential statistical data in a dedicated safe centre and more recently through remote access and remote execution. The seminar will bring first-hand experience from these schemes and provide a platform for discussing their potential in the Czech Republic. The seminar will primarily address these questions:

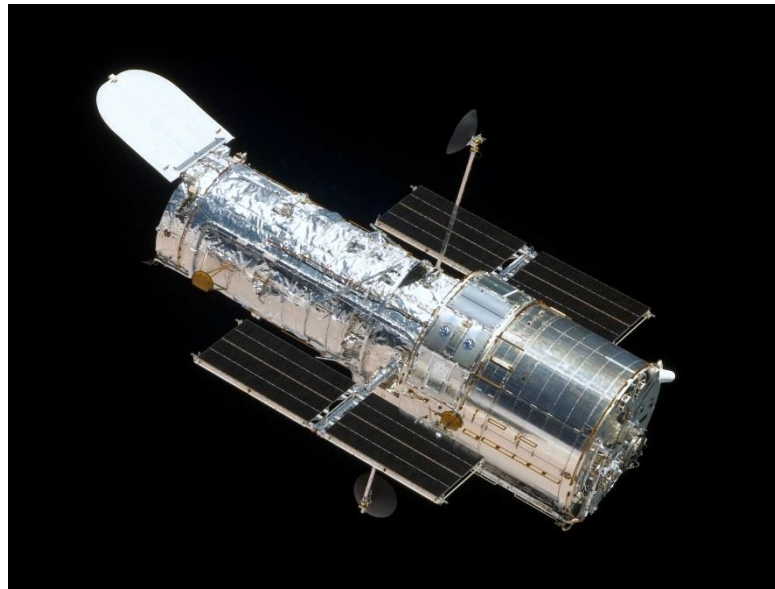
- Why and how do statistical offices provide access to confidential micro data?
- What are the benefits and challenges of running a safe centre for researchers?
- What data is accessible, what for and what are the main results in Hungary?
- What implications can be derived from the Hungarian experience for the Czech Republic?
- Should the micro data be accessible also for legitimate policy evaluation purposes?

The seminar is in English. A small refreshment follows the discussion. Register by e-mail: idea@cerge-ei.cz or by filling out this form: http://bit.ly/micro_data, this link is also available here: <http://idea.cerge-ei.cz>.

The seminar considers:

- Micro data
- Confidential data
- Anonymized data
- Statistical data
- Safe and controlled environment
- For the purpose of research (and policy analysis)

Access to micro data is like



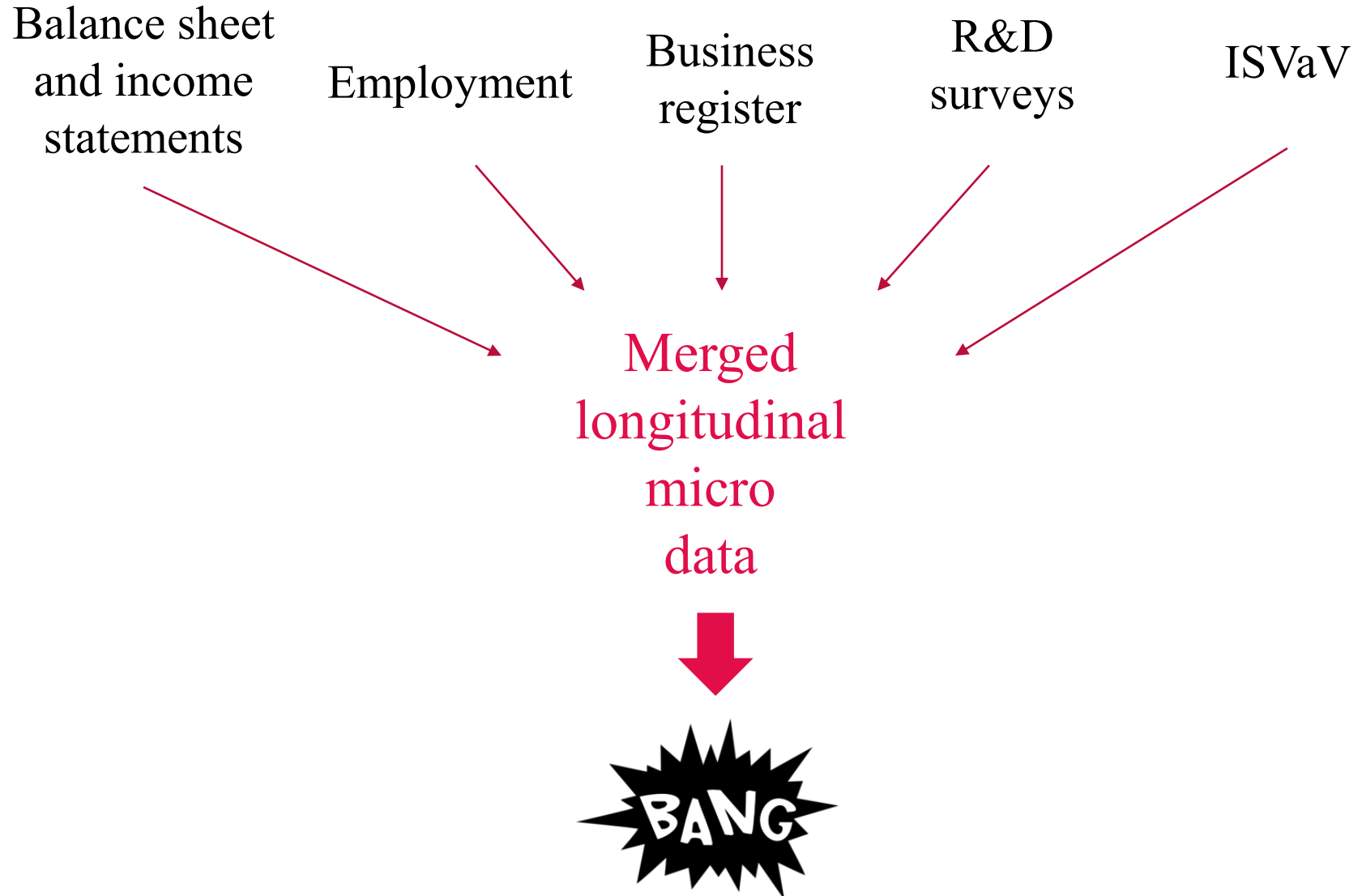
the **Hubble telescope** for (not only) social scientists

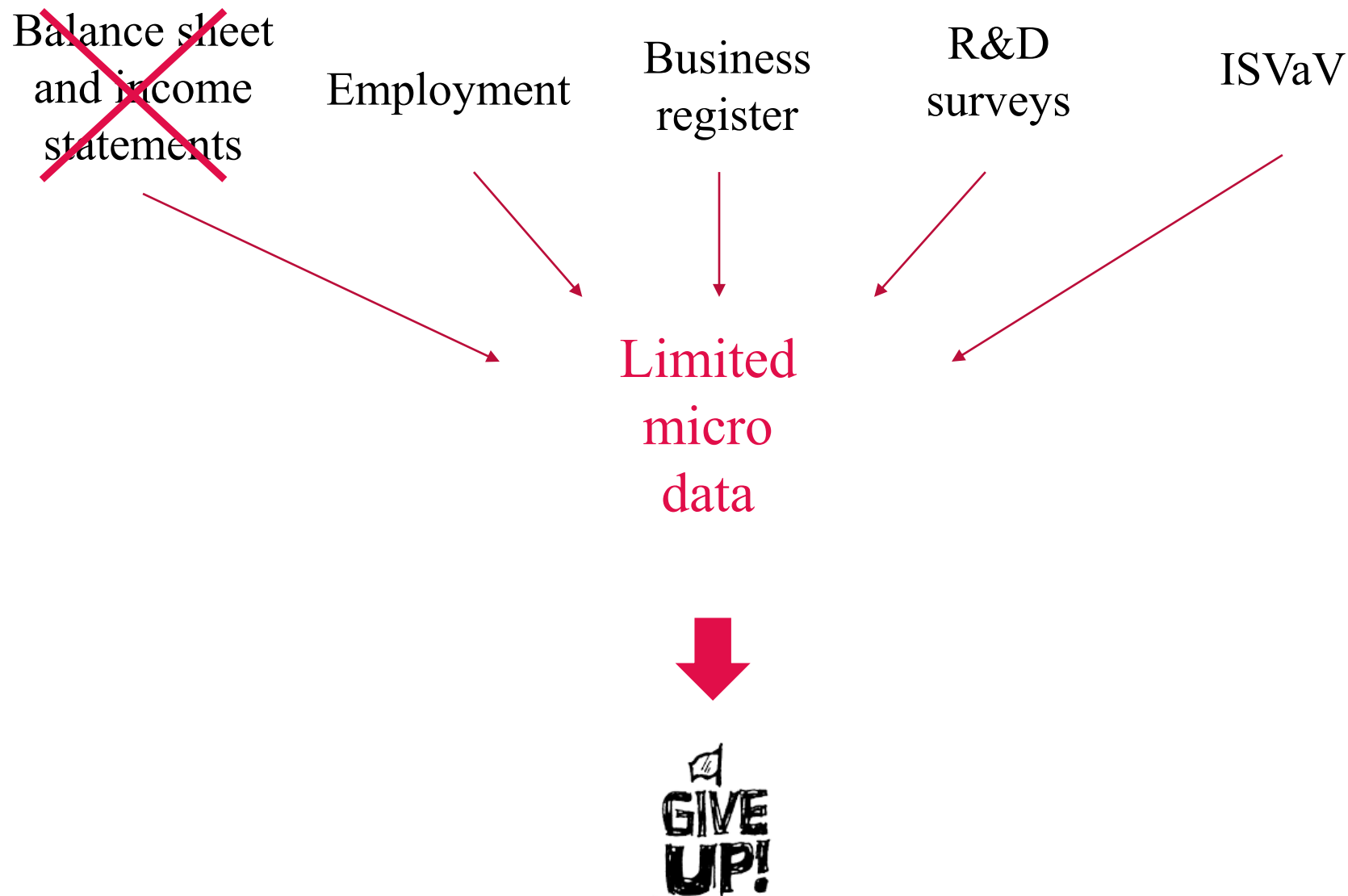
Does it make a difference?



VS.







Regulation of the European Commission (2009, Article 23): “Access to confidential data which **only allow for indirect identification** of the statistical units may be granted to researchers carrying out statistical analyses for scientific purposes by the Commission (Eurostat) or by the NSIs or other national authorities, within their respective spheres of competence.”

Směrnice ČSÚ (2012, s. 6) ohledně zásad pro poskytování statistických informací externím uživatelům podobně uvádí, že „... jejichž základním posláním je vědecký výzkum; údaje se poskytnou ve formě **neumožňující přímé určení** zpravodajské jednotky, které se poskytnuté údaje týkají.“

European Commission (2009) Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2009 on European Statistics, European Commission, Brussels, L 87/164, <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2009:087:0164:0173:en:PDF>

ČSÚ (2012) Směrnice k zásadám pro poskytování statistických informací z ČSÚ externím uživatelům. Český statistický úřad, IP: 133/2011-1101, Poř. č. 1/2012.

European Commission (2013) Regulation (EC) No 557/2013 of 17 June 2013 implementing Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European Statistics as regards access to confidential data for scientific purposes European Commission, Brussels, L 164/16, <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/ENG/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32013R0557&from=EN>

- Distributed micro data (Czech Statistical Office and Statistics Norway)
- Safe room ([Virtual Microdata Laboratory \(VML\)](#)) of the Office for National Statistics in the UK)
- Remote access ([Microdata Online Access \(MONA\)](#) in Statistics Sweden)
- CERGE-EI data lab

But also “[Safe Centre](#)” in Eurostat and similar regimes in Denmark, Finland, Netherlands, France and many other countries. See also the pan-European initiative „[Data without Boundaries](#)“.

Advantages:

- Security, security, security
- Oversight over the impacts
- Harmonized and updated micro data
- Scale economies from clearing and merging data
- More valuable service to the public (and to the government)
- Prestige and status of a modern forward-looking organization

Challenges:

- Initial investment and maintenance costs
- Legal barriers
- Cultural change
- Security threats

Should the micro data be accessible also for legitimate policy evaluation purposes?

Zákon č. 89/1995 Sb., o státní statistické službě (§ 17, odst. f): “Orgány vykonávající státní statistickou službu předávají důvěrné statistické údaje **pro účely vědeckého výzkumu** na základě smlouvy, která stanoví splnění podmínek ochrany těchto údajů a přesný způsob jejich využití v souladu s právem Evropských společenství, a to právnickým **osobám, jejichž základním posláním je vědecký výzkum**; údaje se poskytnou ve formě **neumožňující přímé určení zpravodajské jednotky, které se poskytnuté údaje týkají**”

Chicken or Egg?



Upcoming IDEA seminar

The hidden treasure for policy research:
Administrative micro data

April 27, 2018

16:00-18:00

Thank you!

