

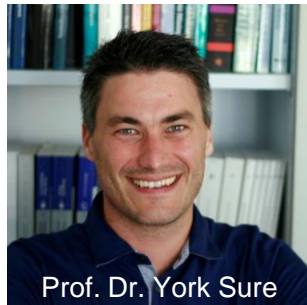
# QDDS

**[Questionnaire Development Documentation System]**

State and strategy for DDI 3

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## Information Processes in the Social Sciences



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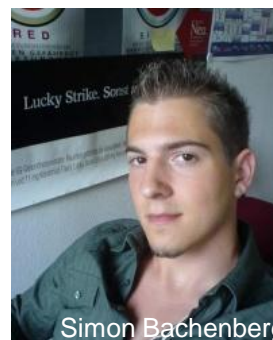
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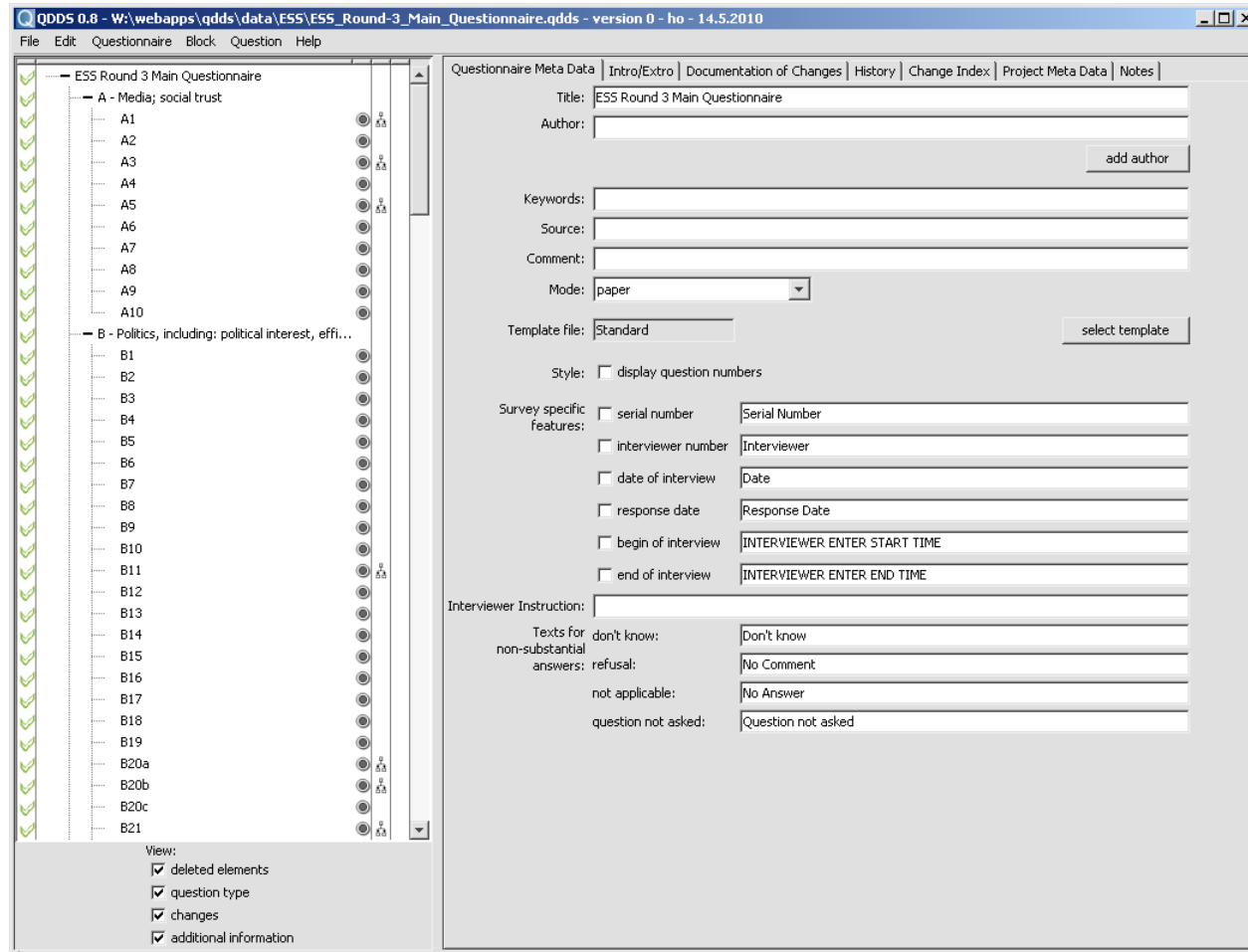
## Contents

1. Approach
2. Solution
3. Advantages from going DDI 3

# Initial situation

- Questionnaire development is a process with several steps
- Information is kept for the final state
- **Decisions get lost**
- The reason is the gap between documentation needs and available software support

# Software approach from 2006



# Software approach from 2006

- The questionnaire should be developed independent from the projected survey system (paper&pencil, CATI...).
- Questionnaires could be structured by content
- questionnaire development and change documentation must be supported by the same system



# Versioning concept

- A version always includes the entire questionnaire
- A version is reasoned by an external event (pretest, meeting etc.)
- All changes to single entities are documented within every version

# Software approach from 2006



The screenshot displays the QDDS 0.8 software interface. The left pane shows a hierarchical tree of survey questions under the 'defect' category. The right pane shows the 'Question Data' view for a selected question, displaying its history across five versions from 2007.

Version	Question	Answer	Filter	Misc.
<b>In version 0 from 27.4.2007</b>	Einbruch (niemand in der Wohnung)			
New element				
<b>In version 1 from 3.5.2007</b>	Besorgnis_Einbruch (niemand in der Wohnung)	x		
Position changed				
<b>In version 2 from 4.5.2007</b>	Besorgnis_Einbruch (niemand in der Wohnung)		x	
Position changed				
<b>In version 3 from 25.5.2007</b>	Besorgnis_Einbruch (niemand in der Wohnung)	x		
Position changed				
<b>In version 4 from 15.6.2007</b>	Angst_Einbruch (niemand in der Wohnung)		x	
Position changed				
<b>In version 5 from 26.6.2007</b>	Angst_Einbruch (niemand in der Wohnung)	x		

At the bottom of the right pane, there is a 'Report...' button.





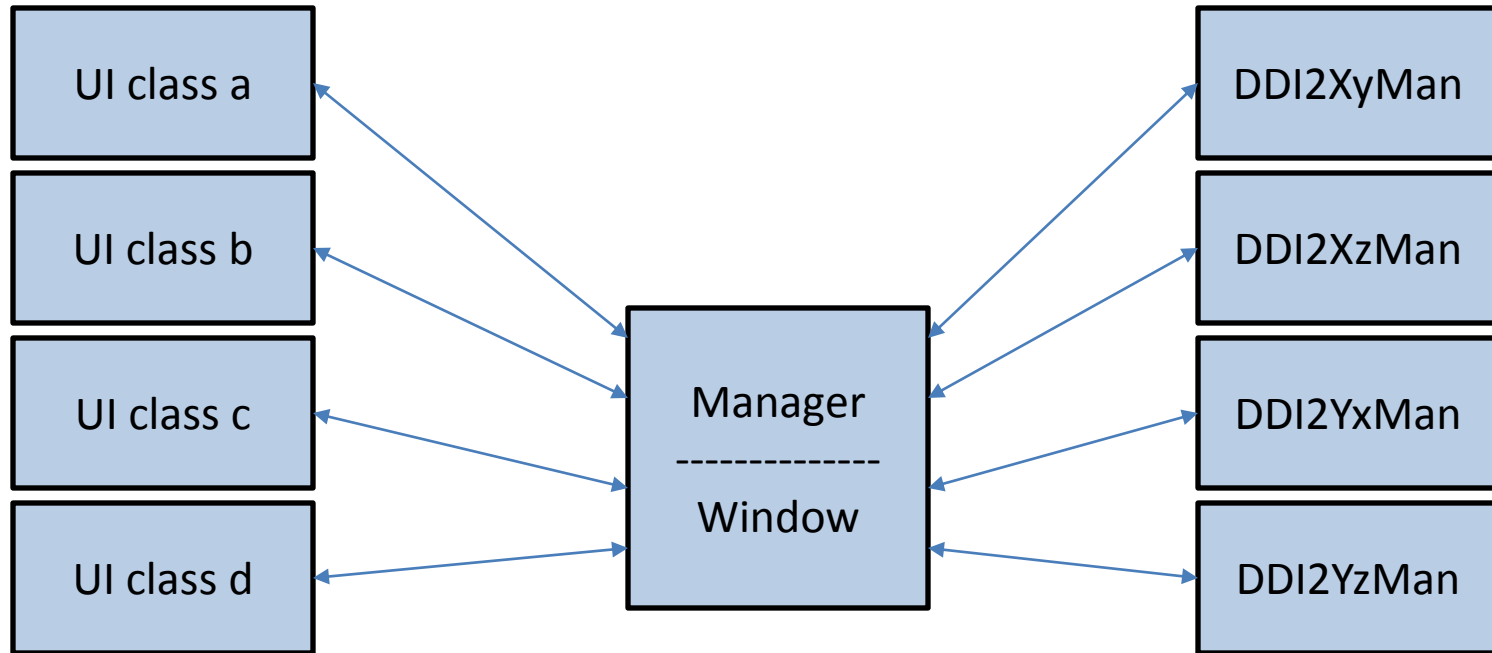
# Problems with usage of DDI 2.1

- Data
  - No versioning mechanism
  - Some fields missing (e.g. text presets, layout information, ...)
- Structure
  - Questions „live“ underneath variables -> variables will not be the same as in codebook

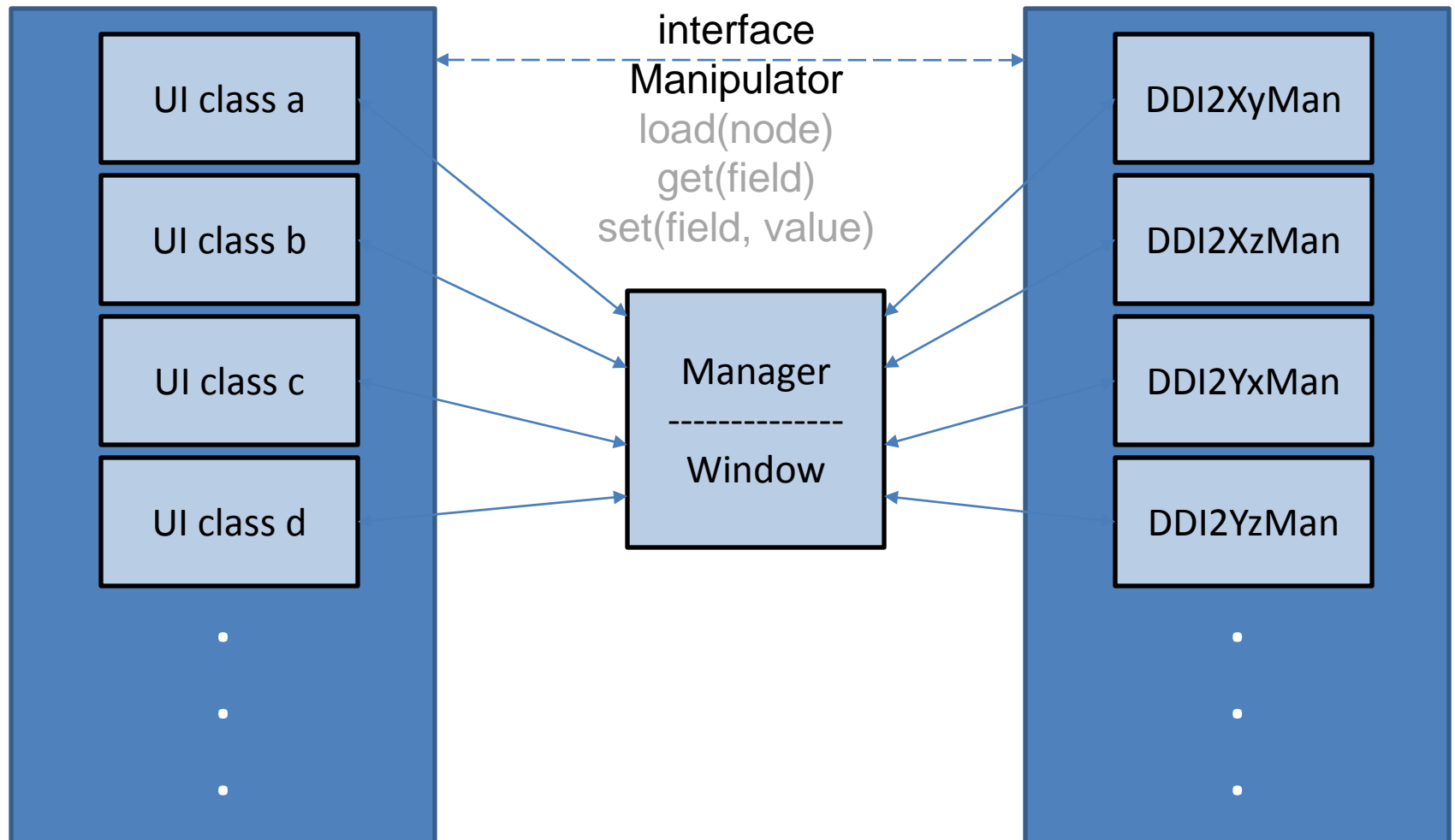
# Usage of DDI 2.1

- Surrounding `codeBook` with versioning information and general settings
- Mainly using `codeBook/dataDscr/var`
- Putting additional information and versioning comments into `var/notes` as self-defined XML nodes
- Packing XML structures into zip archives

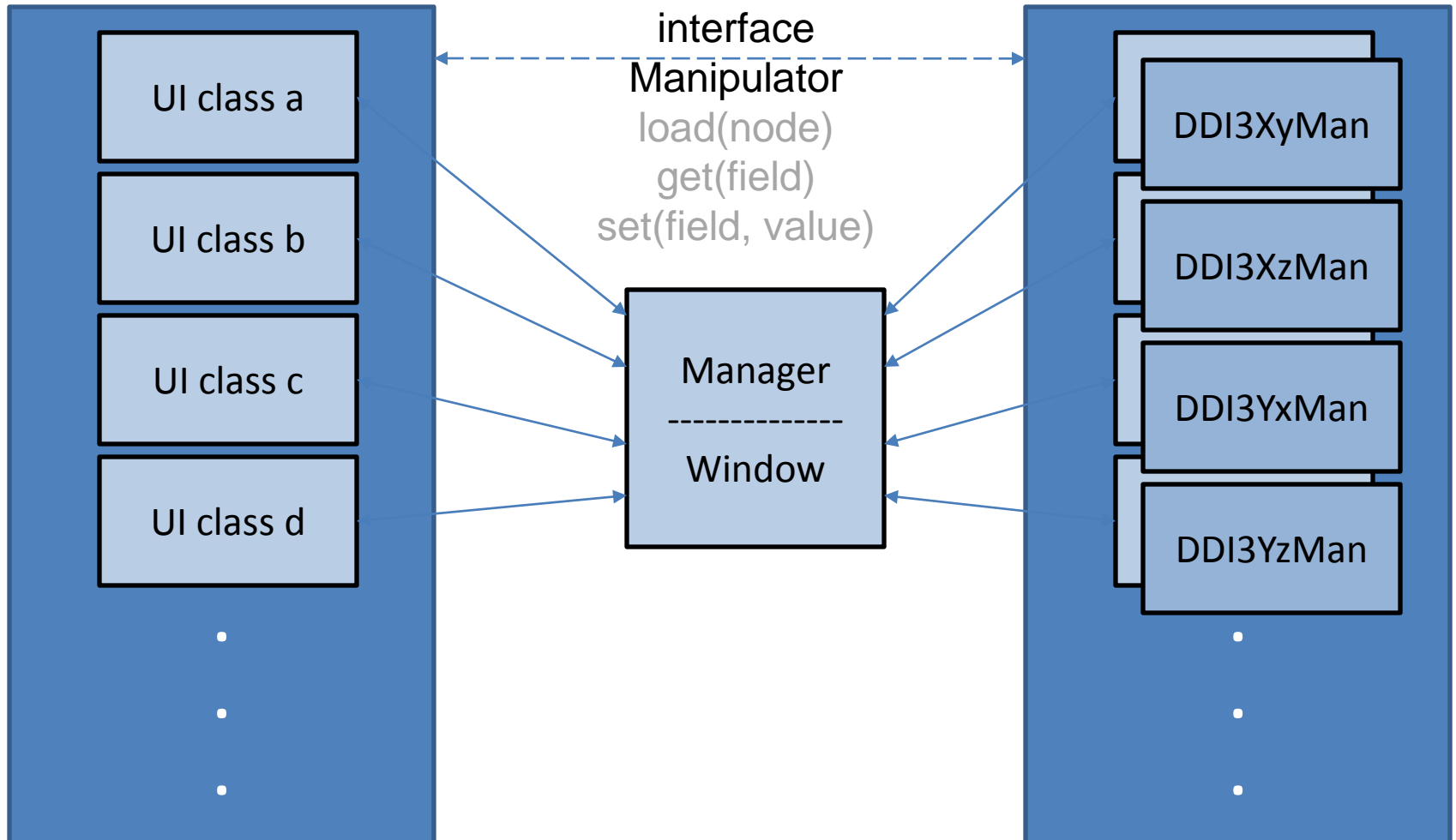
# Architecture



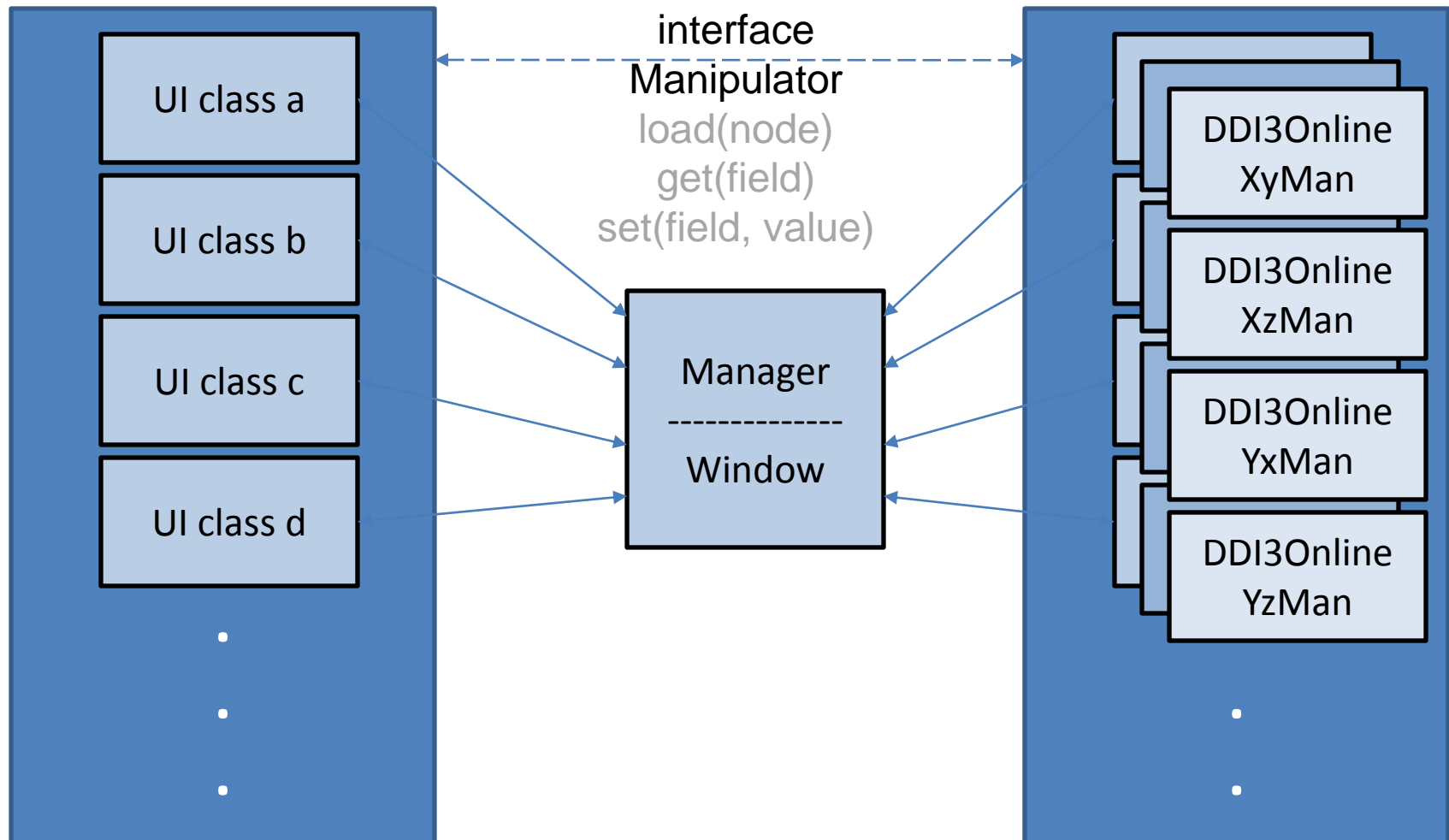
## Architecture



## Architecture



## Architecture



# Advantages from going DDI 3

- Interoperability with future information systems
- Putting everything inside DDI 3 Format
- Versioning based on DDI 3
- Separation between variables and questions
- Multi-language support
- Re-usage of data from QDDS

# Do you want to participate?

- Usage of QDDS Software is free of charge.
- Download available on <http://www.qdds.org/>
- Example Documents provided.
- “Source-Code” available by agreement.



# Acknowledgement

There were three QDDS projects funded by the German Science Foundation (DFG), two of them together with gesis.

## Ongoing Work (as planned)

1. Supporting DDI 3 (final phase)
2. Multi-user and multi-language support