

Notre Dame EaaS Statement of Importance

Please provide 250 words that address the following:

- Why is software preservation important?
- What are the advantages to community infrastructure or approaching software preservation and emulation as a collective action problem?
- What are your strongest use cases for emulation?
- What are you hoping to learn through your participation in the EaaS Network?

As scientific research is increasingly born digital, more researchers are using computational resources for simulations and data analysis. Developing solutions for software preservation is of paramount importance to ensuring contributions to scientific knowledge that are reproducible and reusable. Participating in EaaS is a way we can act on cloud advantages for emulation processes in digital preservation.

Our most compelling use cases for emulation center around keeping the software running in order to continue to provide access to underlying data for our campus researchers and the broader community at large. Through participation in the EaaS network, we seek to improve software preservation for our researchers, expand our knowledge of how emulation fits in the context of digital scholarship.

Approaching software preservation, emulation, and its infrastructure as a community allows us to move from the current landscape of idiosyncratic solutions to a commons centric approach that ensures greater interoperability with existing tools and platforms and their host institutions. The community can “divide and conquer” particular emulation environments: an emulation can be implemented once and used across the consortium.