

Improving the use of data to support management of piscirickettsiosis in Chile

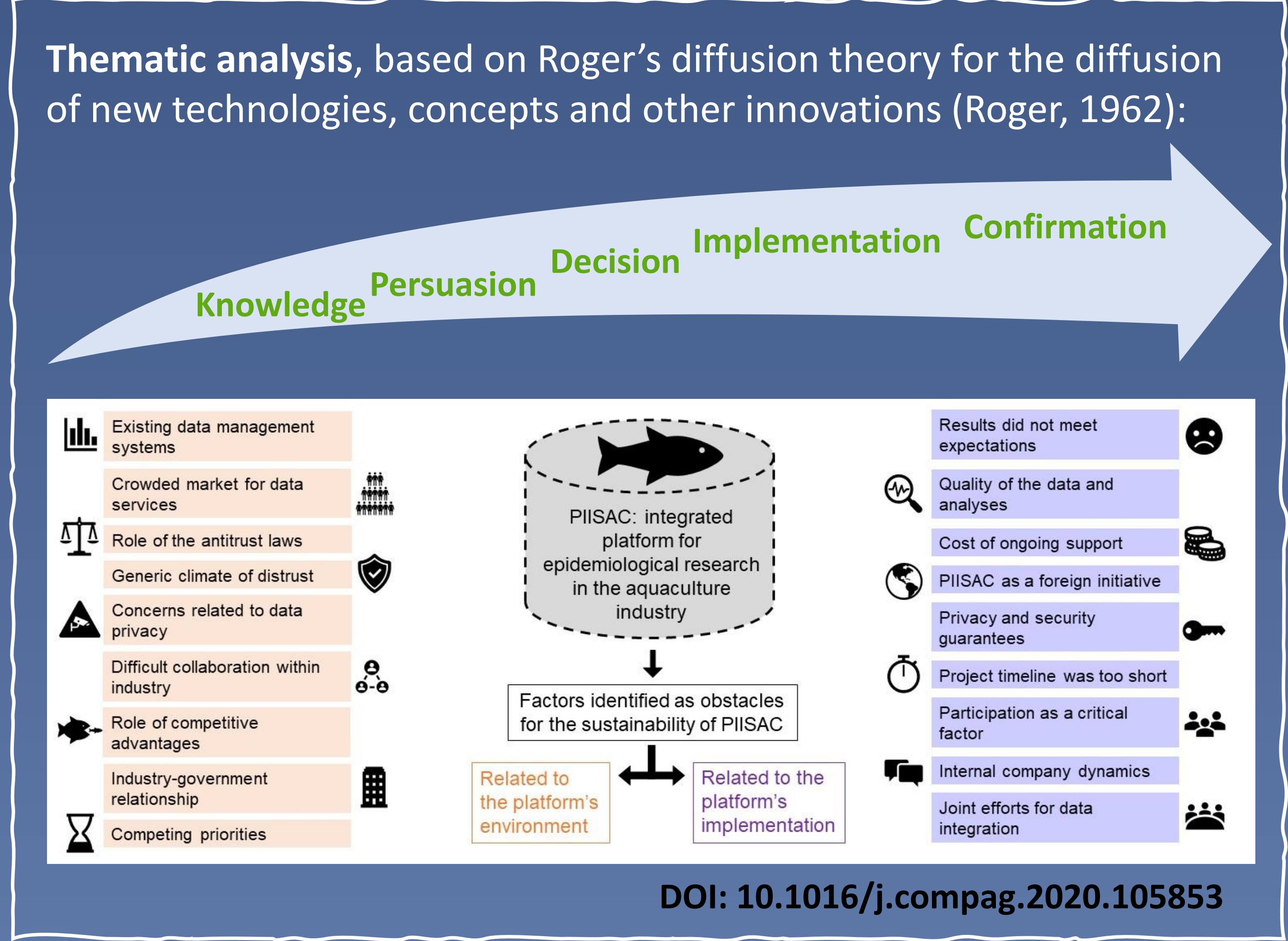
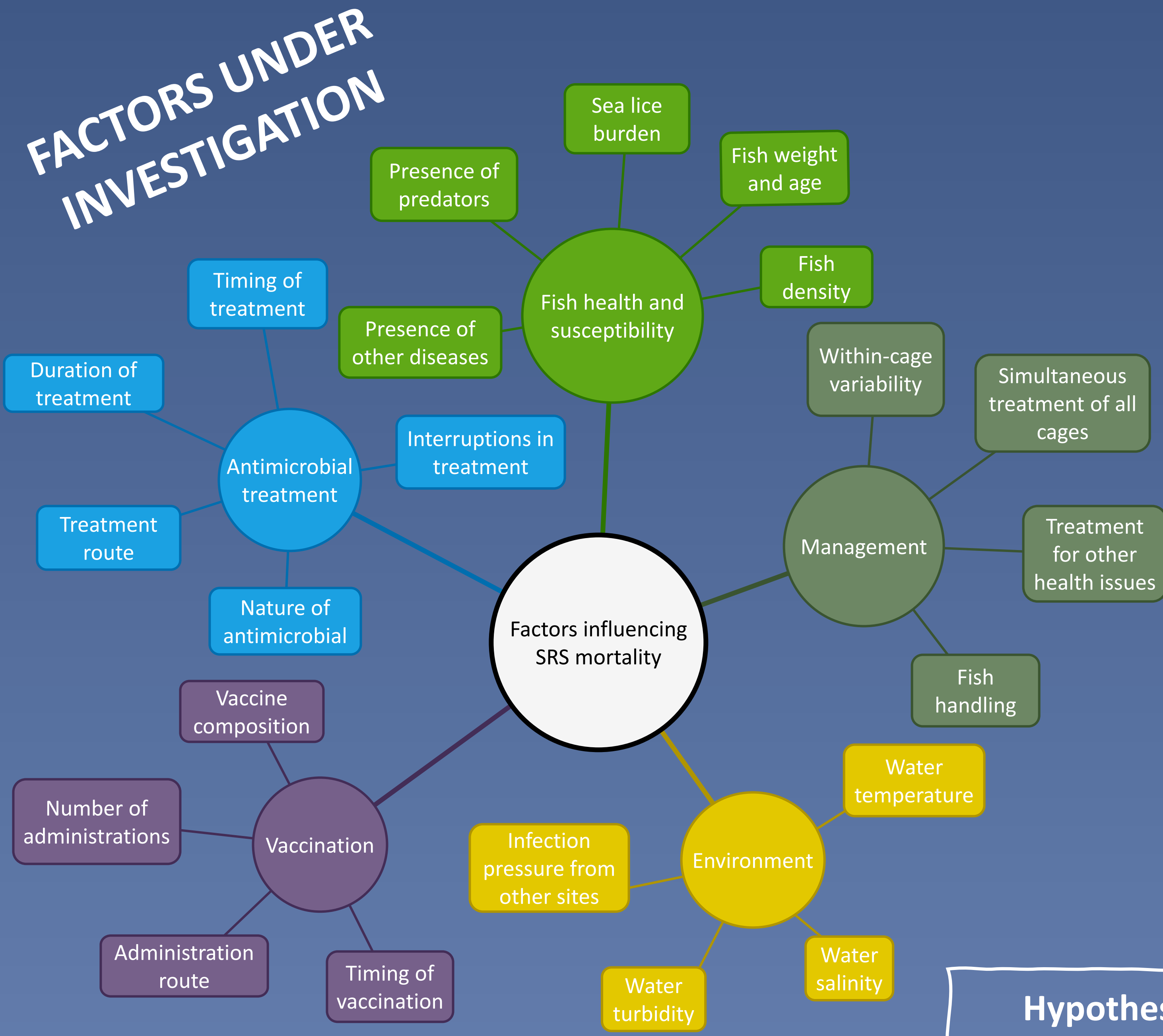
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Salmonid rickettsial septicaemia
Caused by the bacterium *Piscirickettsia salmonis*, SRS is the major cause for antibiotic treatment of salmon and trout in Chile.



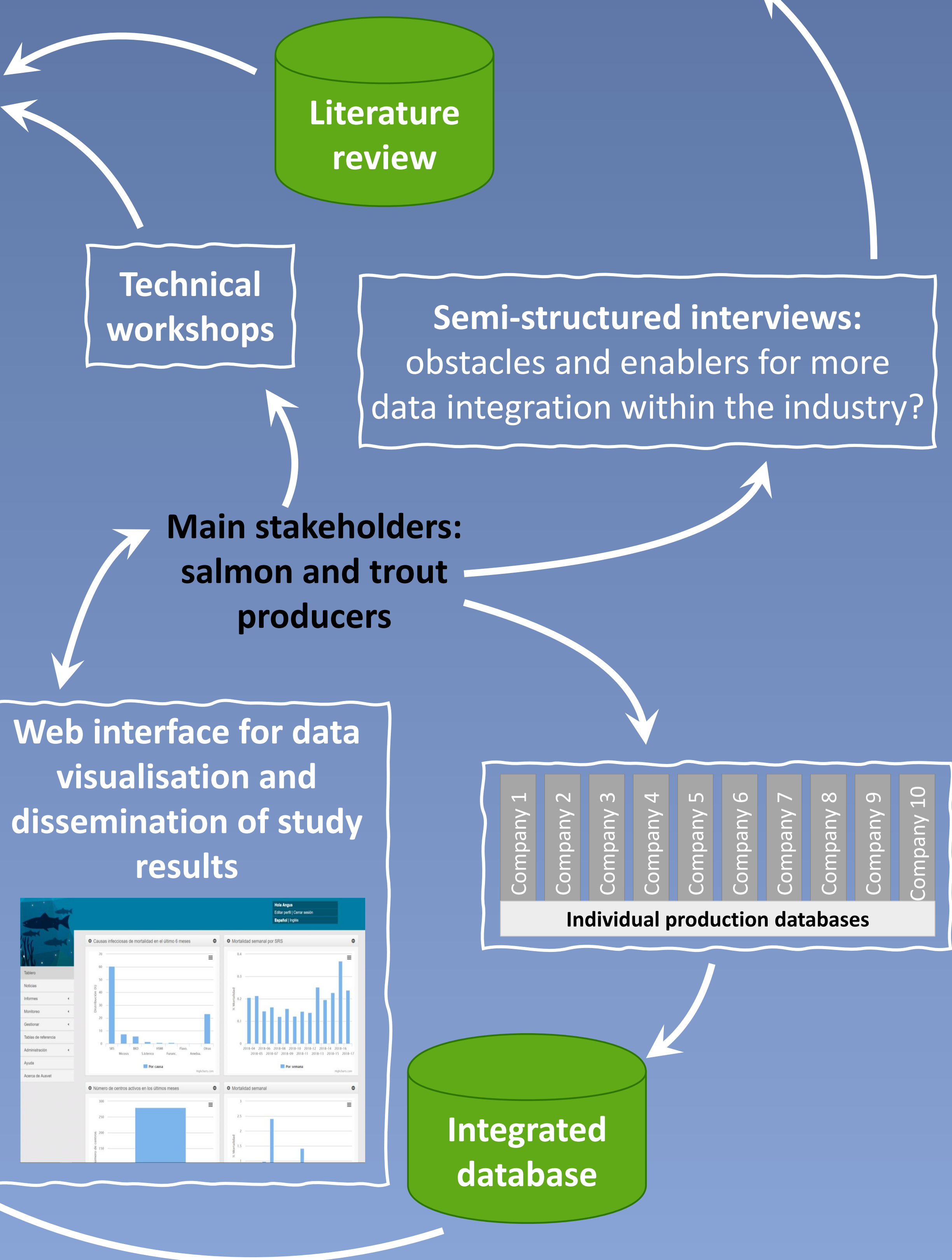
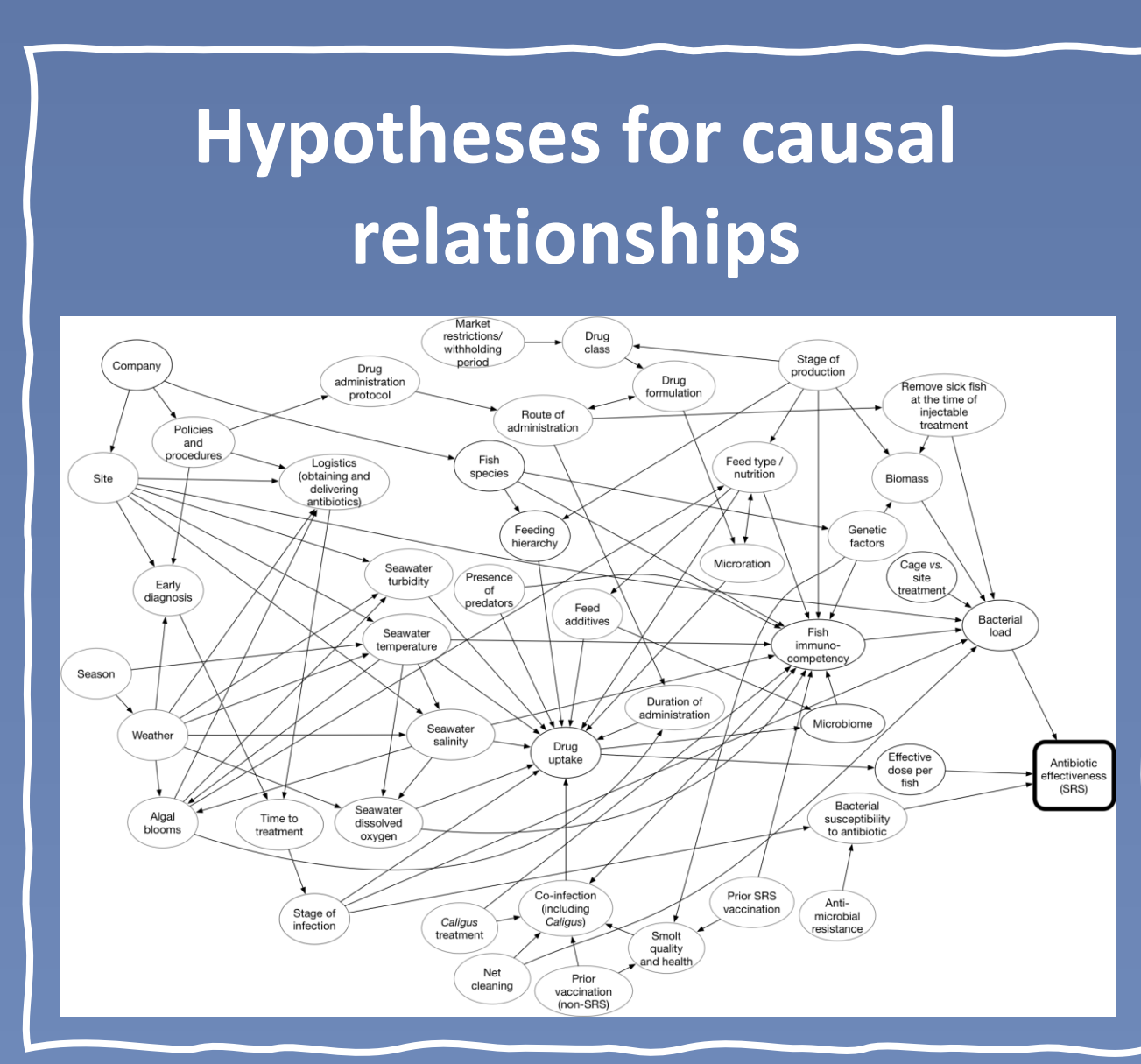
Methods used in this PhD project:

- Stakeholder consultations
- Creation of a platform integrating health and management data from individual companies
- Epidemiological studies



Specific studies* conducted within the project:

- Is between-farm water-borne pathogen dissemination an important driver in the epidemiology of SRS?
- Which vaccines are more effective in delaying SRS outbreaks and reducing mortality at sea?
- What factors influence the effectiveness of antibiotic treatments in terms of reduction in mortality during SRS outbreaks?
- What are the effects of lice burden and lice bathing treatments on SRS mortality?



Lessons learned: building relationships with stakeholders takes time and effort but it is crucial for the success of data integration:

- Data harmonisation is a complex and time-consuming task requiring stakeholder inputs on a regular basis
- Stakeholder consultations contribute to better understand a complex system before conducting in-depth data analysis
- Providing outputs that can be used to support decision-making is critical to maintain engagement, improve knowledge transfer and increase the impact of the work

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