



Metadata & Persistent identifiers



Espen Åberg
Data Steward
ELIXIR Norway/BioMedData



Link to RDMkit: <https://rdmkit.elixir-europe.org/>

Data life cycle	+
Your role	+
Your domain	+
Your problem	-
Compliance monitoring	
Data analysis	
Data management plan	
Data organisation	
Data protection	
Data publication	
Data quality	
Data storage	
Data transfer	
Identifiers	
Licensing	
Documentation and metadata	
Sensitive data	
All tools and resources	
Tool assembly	+

Has a useful purpose

Can be acted upon and processed by humans and machines

"Metadata is constructed, **constructive**, and **actionable**."

Definition from Karen Coyle, Digital Librarian and Author of Coyle's InFormation

"information about something"

What is metadata?



"data about data"

"Data is content, and metadata is context"

"Metadata is a Love Note to the Future"



Why do I care?

Metadata **facilitates** organization, indexing, discovery, access, analysis, and use of data.

Metadata **presence and quality** (or the lack thereof) can significantly **help or hinder** time and money expenditures in research activities.

Metadata helps make data FAIR

Data should be Findable	<p>F1. (meta)data are assigned a globally unique and persistent identifier (DOI)</p> <p><u>F2. data are described with rich metadata</u></p> <p>F3. metadata clearly and explicitly include the identifier of the data it describes</p> <p>F4. (meta)data are registered or indexed in a searchable resource</p>
Data should be Accessible	<p>A1. (meta)data are retrievable by their identifier using a standardized communications protocol</p> <p>A1.1 the protocol is open, free, and universally implementable</p> <p>A1.2 the protocol allows for an authentication and authorization procedure, where necessary</p> <p>A2. metadata are accessible, even when the data are no longer available</p>
Data should be Interoperable	<p>I1. (meta)data use a formal, accessible, shared, and broadly applicable language for knowledge representation.</p> <p>I2. (meta)data use vocabularies that follow FAIR principles</p> <p>I3. (meta)data include qualified references to other (meta)data</p>
Data should be Reusable	<p><u>R1. meta(data) are richly described with a plurality of accurate and relevant attributes</u></p> <p><u>R1.1. (meta)data are released with a clear and accessible data usage license</u></p> <p><u>R1.2. (meta)data are associated with detailed provenance</u></p> <p><u>R1.3. (meta)data meet domain-relevant community standards</u></p>

Experimental design

“Data”

“Metadata”

Outcome = Treatment effect + Biological effect + Technical effects + Error

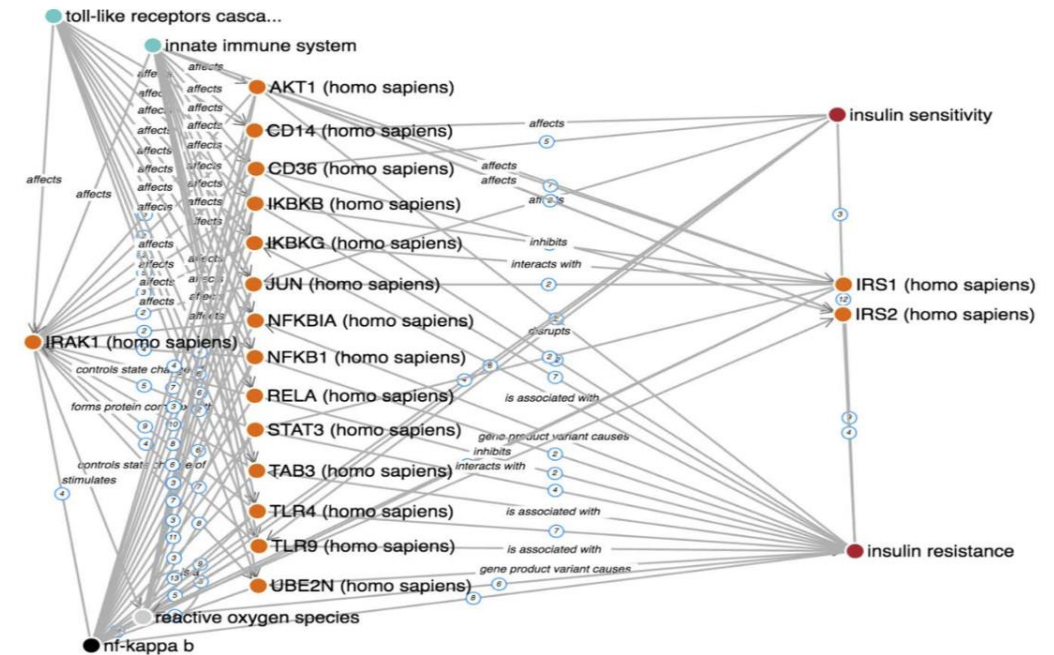
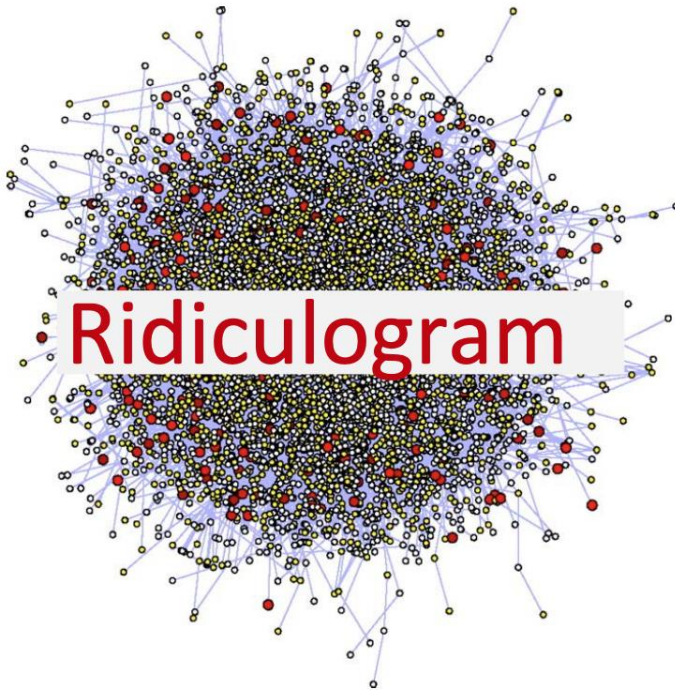
Environment
Compound
Infection
Inhibitor
siRNA
sgRNA
Dose
Time

Sex
Age
Weight
Litter
Genotype
Species
Cell line

Operator
Batch
Plate
Cage
Array
Flowcell
Instrument
Day
Order
Source

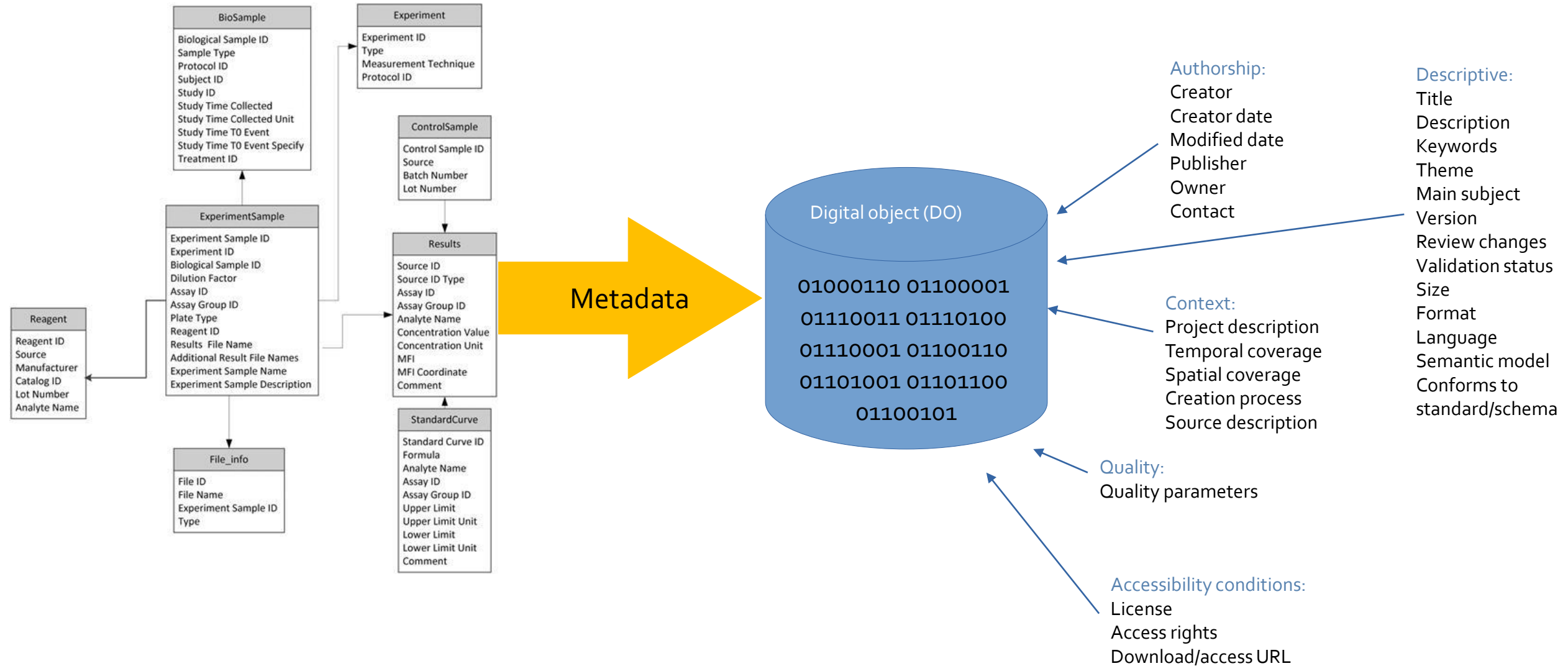
Experimental
Treatment
Sampling
Measurement

Helps to gain insight



"If data is the new oil, metadata is the refinery"

"Rich" Metadata



Metadata templates/checklists

ENA

European Nucleotide Archive

Home

Submit

Search

Rulespace

About

Support

Enter text search terms

Search

Examples: histone, BN000065

Enter accession

View

Examples: Taxon:9606, BN000065, PRJEB402

Sample Checklists

There is a minimum amount of information required during ENA sample registration and all samples must conform to a defined checklist of expected metadata values. The most suitable checklist for sample registration depends on the type of the sample.

These sample checklists have been developed to meet the needs of different research communities. Different communities have different requirements on the minimum metadata expected to describe biological samples.

Filter checklists...

Accession	Name	Description
ERC000012	GSC MixS air	Genomic Standards Consortium package extension for reporting of measurements and observations obtain...
ERC000013	GSC MixS host associated	Genomic Standards Consortium package extension for reporting of measurements and observations obtain...
ERC000014	GSC MixS human associated	Genomic Standards Consortium package extension for reporting of measurements and observations obtain...
ERC000015	GSC MixS human gut	Genomic Standards Consortium package extension for reporting of measurements and observations obtain...
ERC000016	GSC MixS human oral	Genomic Standards Consortium package extension for reporting of measurements and observations obtain...
ERC000017	GSC MixS human skin	Genomic Standards Consortium package extension for reporting of measurements and observations obtain...
ERC000018	GSC MixS human vaginal	Genomic Standards Consortium package extension for reporting of measurements and observations obtain...

Checklist: ERC000031

GSC MixS built environment

Genomic Standards Consortium package extension for reporting of measurements and observations obtained from the environment where the sample was obtained. By choosing the environmental package, a selection of fields can be made from a relevant subsets of the GSC terms.

Checklist Fields

Filter fields...

Filter by type:

non-sample terms

Collection event information

internal environment

sample collection

host description

local environment conditions

concentration measurement

organism characteristics

local environment conditions imposed

Field Name	Field Format	(Field Restriction)	Requirement	(Units)
relative air humidity	restricted text	regular expression	mandatory	%
absolute air humidity	restricted text	regular expression	mandatory	kg
surface humidity	restricted text	regular expression	optional	%
air temperature	restricted text	regular expression	mandatory	°C
surface temperature	restricted text	regular expression	optional	°C
surface moisture	restricted text	regular expression	optional	options
surface moisture pH	restricted text	regular expression	optional	
dew point	restricted text	regular expression	optional	°C

Metadata Submission Workflow

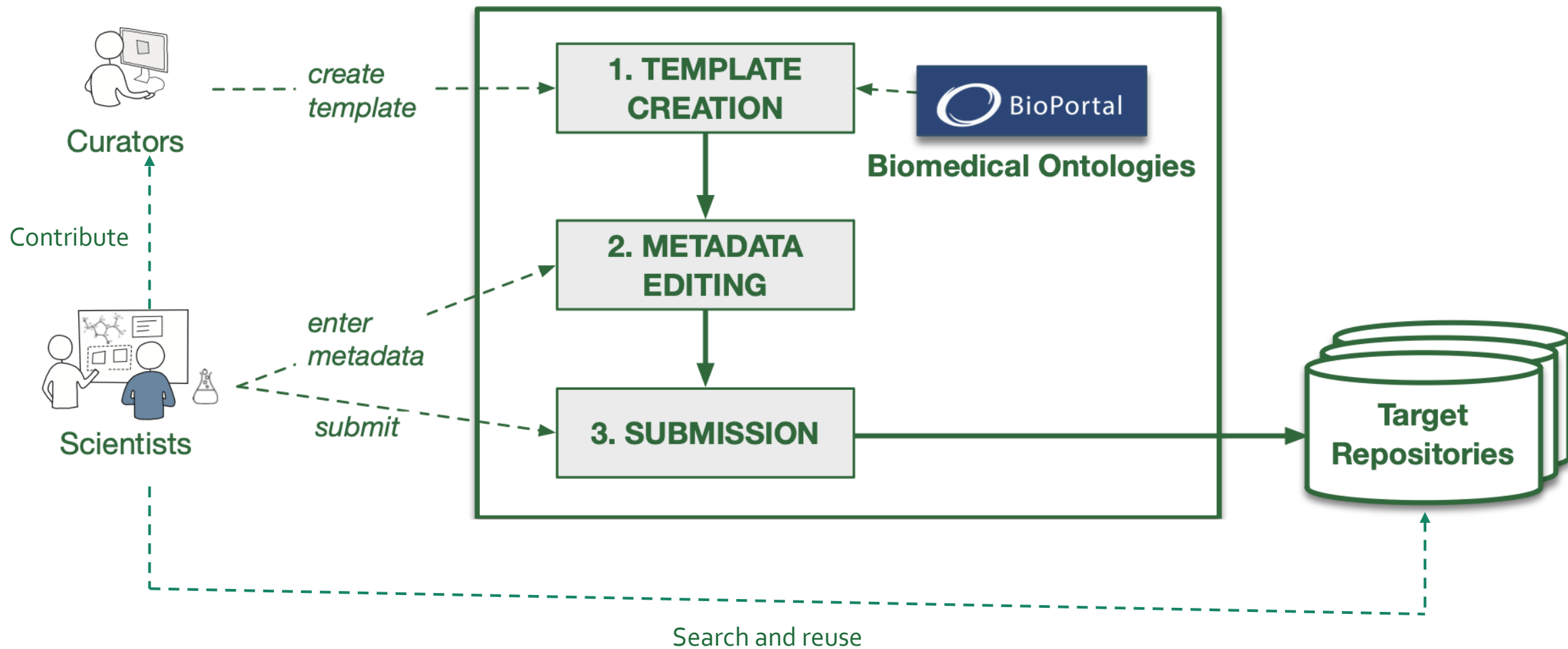
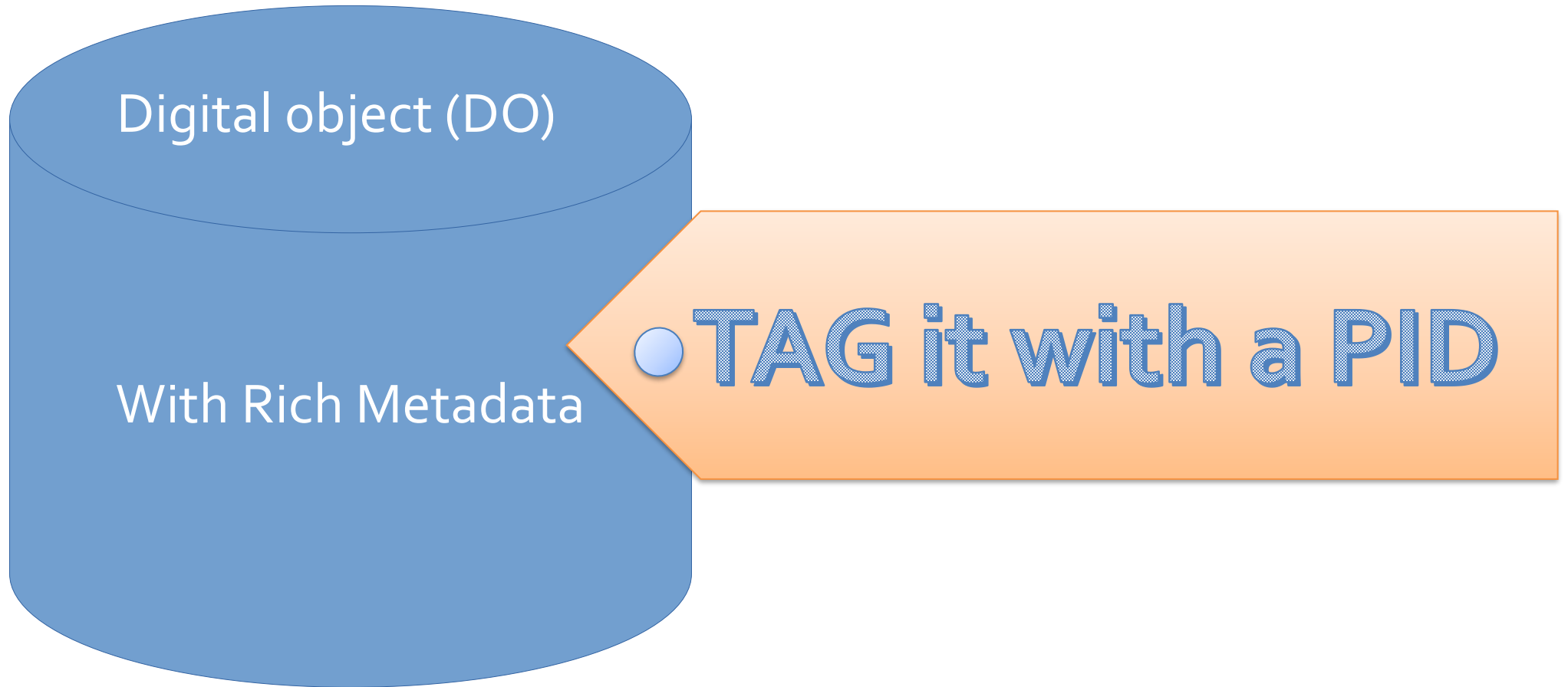


Figure 2 from: [Using Semantic Technologies to Enhance Metadata Submissions to Public Repositories in Biomedicine](#)

Make it visible



PIDs helps make data FAIR

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Why don't I just use a link (URL)?

Science

Contents ▾

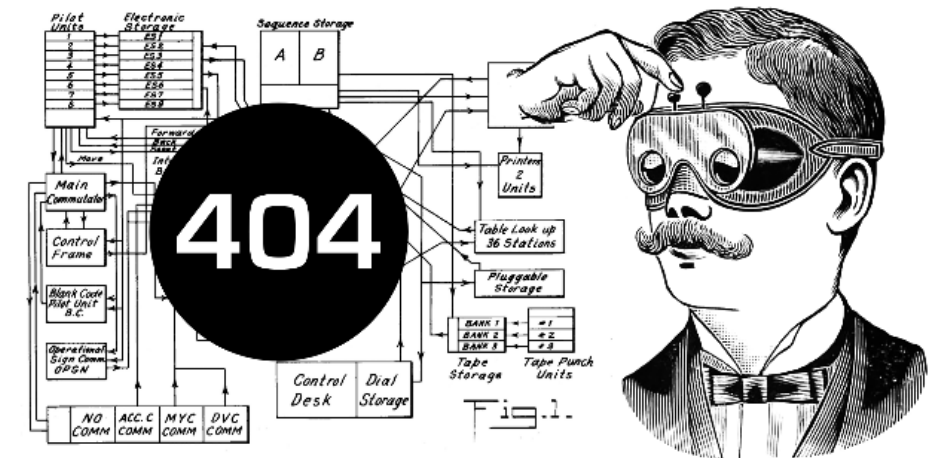
News ▾

Careers ▾

Journals ▾

Read our COVID-19 research and news.

25. Supplemental data showing the predicted secondary structures of each construct (Fig. 3) and explaining the ligation activity of truncated ribozymes (Fig. 2B) are available at Science Online at www.sciencemag.org/feature/data/1050240.shl.



Hmmm...

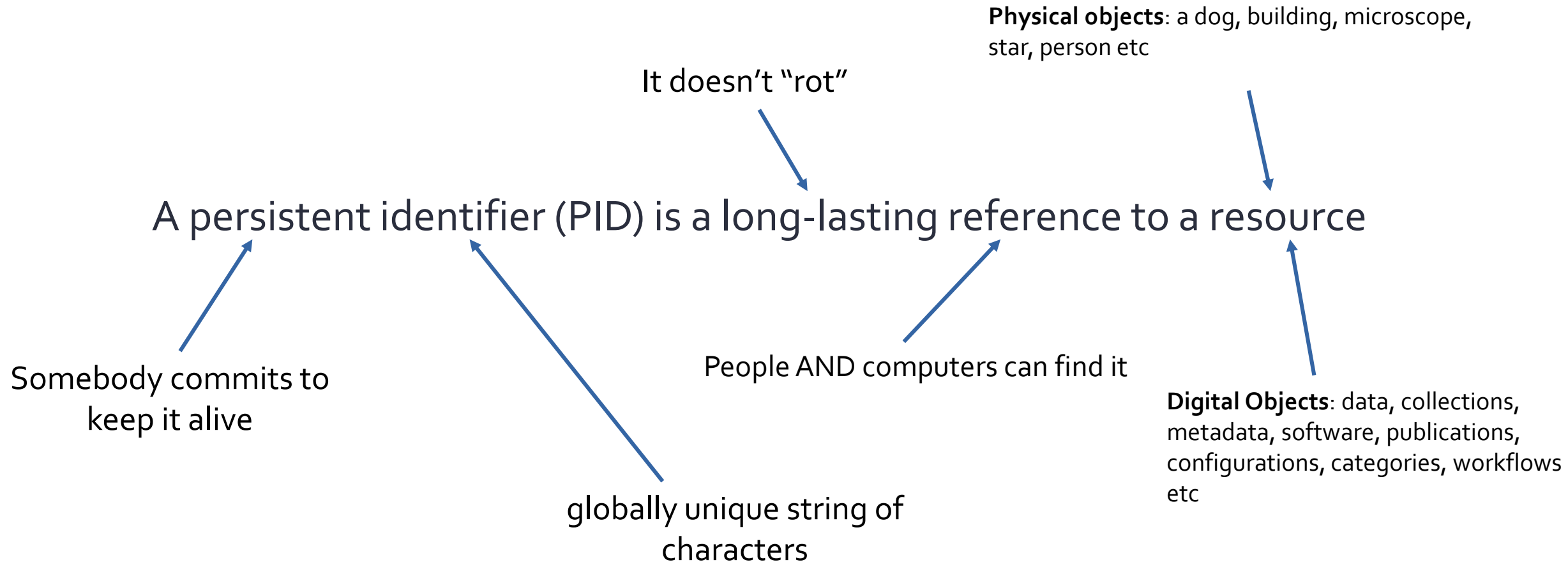
This doesn't *look* like science.

It seems you're in search of a page that doesn't exist, or may have moved. You can use the Back button in your browser to return to the page that brought you here, or [search for your missing page](#).

“Link rot”

PID = PDI = GUID

PID = Persistent Identifier
PDI = Persistent Digital Identifier
GUID = Globally Unique Identifier



A PID consists of two components:

Visible string of letters and/or numbers

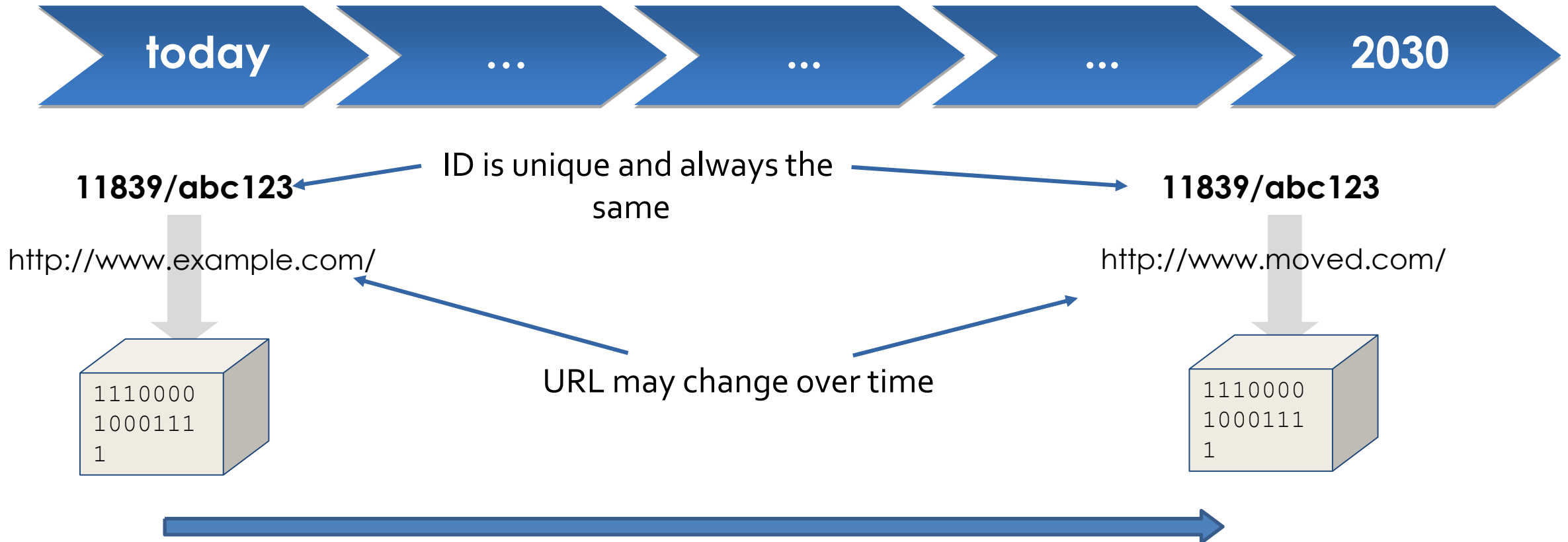
1. A unique identifier

2. A service that locates the resource (or “**resolves**” it)

Behind the scene

Persistent over time

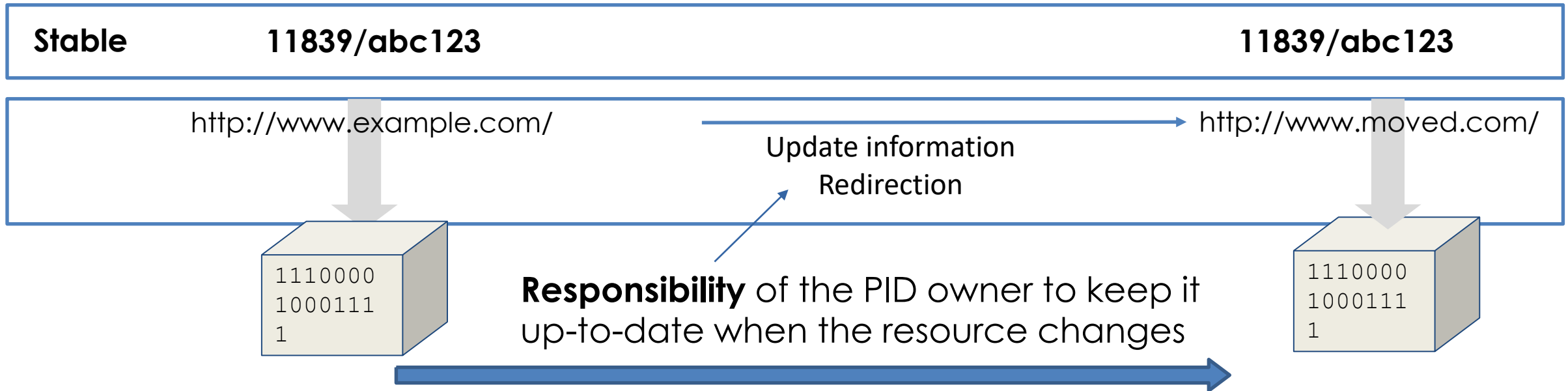
.. by design



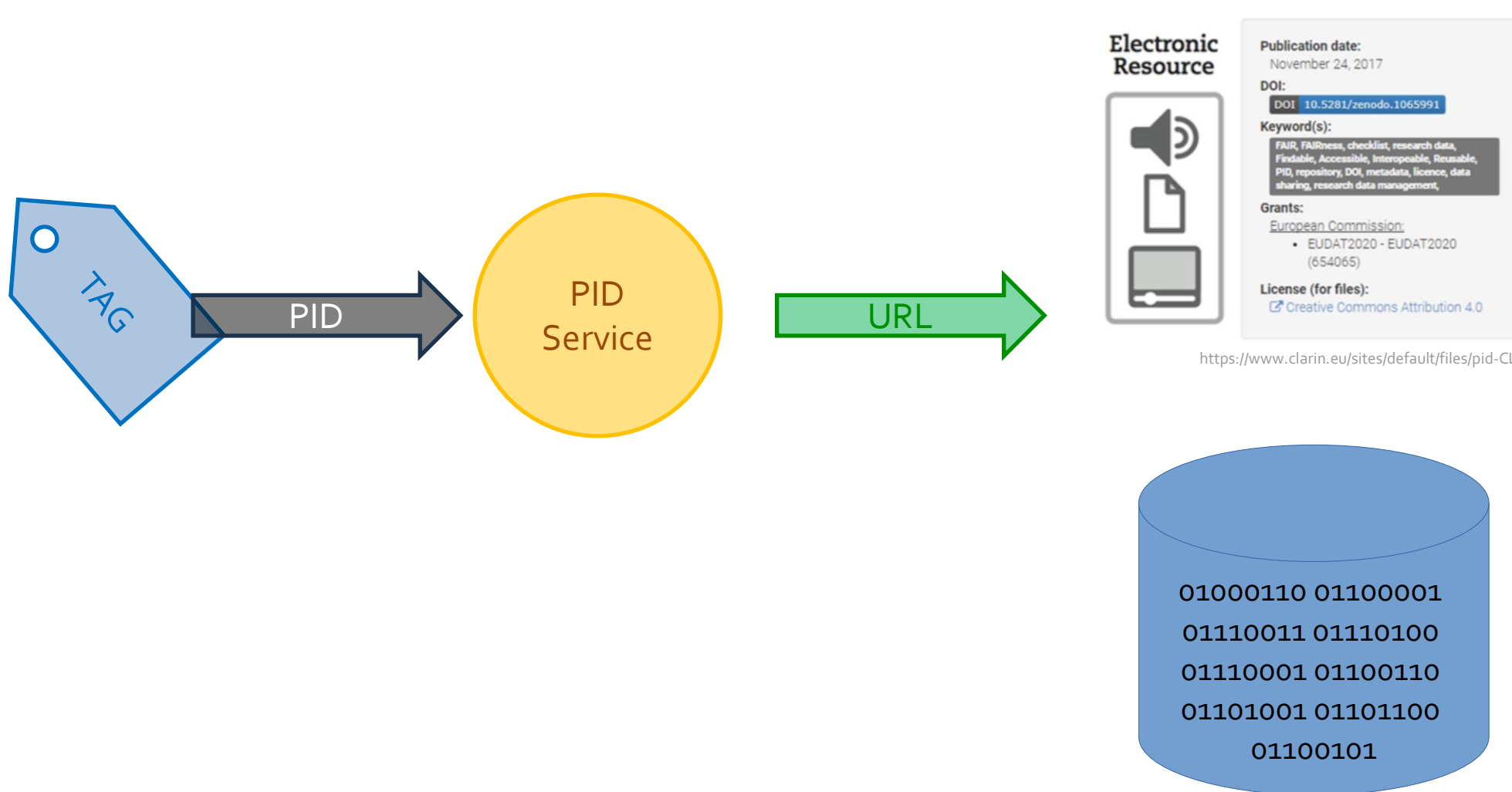
Supports access to resource as it moves from one location to another.

Persistent over time

.. by design



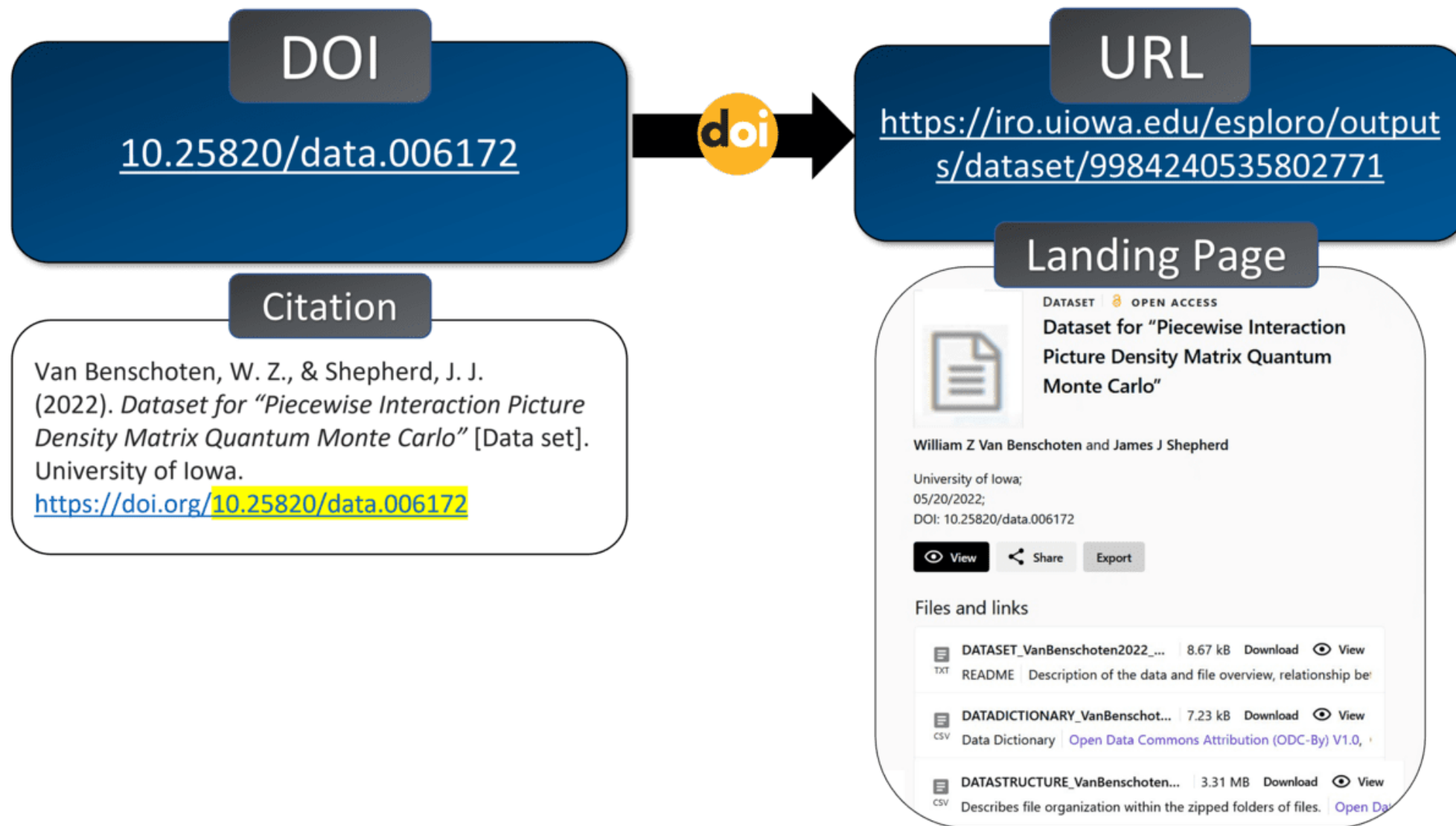
Principle:



<https://www.clarin.eu/sites/default/files/pid-CLARIN-ShortGuide.pdf>

01000110 01100001
01110011 01110100
01110001 01100110
01101001 01101100
01100101

Example



Different systems

Some Common Identifiers:

Digital Object Identifiers (doi:10.1186/2041-1480-3-9)

Handles (hdl:2381/12775)

URN (urn:isbn:0451450523)

Archival Resource Keys (ARK) (ark:/13030/tf5p30086k)

Persistent Uniform Resource Locator (PURL)

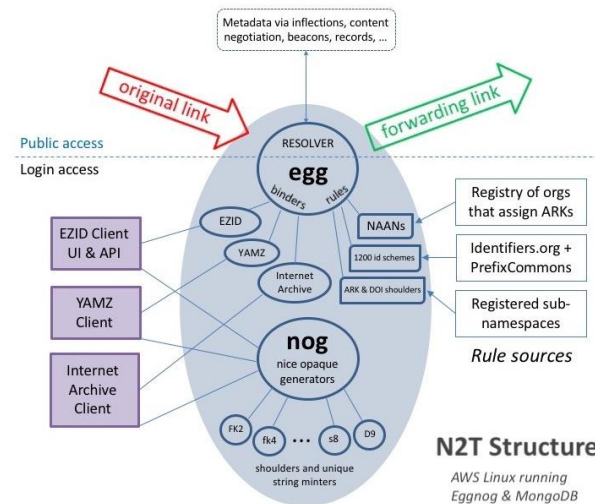


Handle.Net®

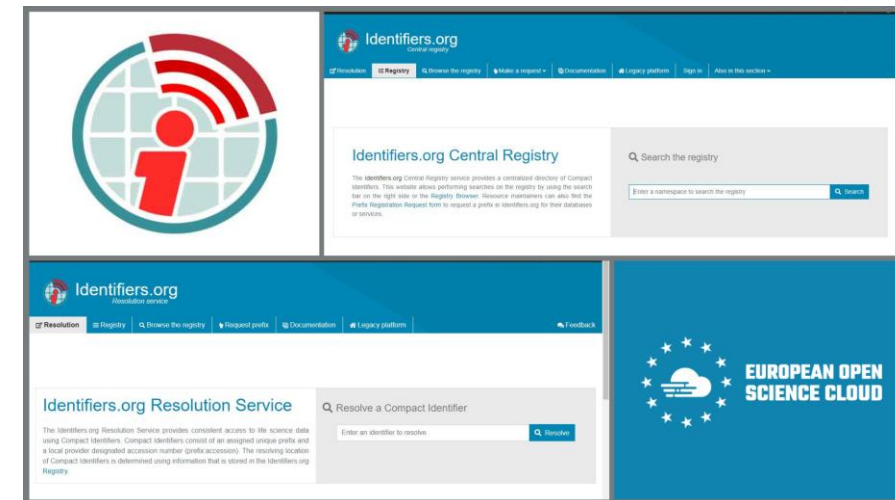
Resolver Services

N2T (Name-to-Thing)

Identifiers.org



<https://arks.org/about/n2t-global-resolver/>



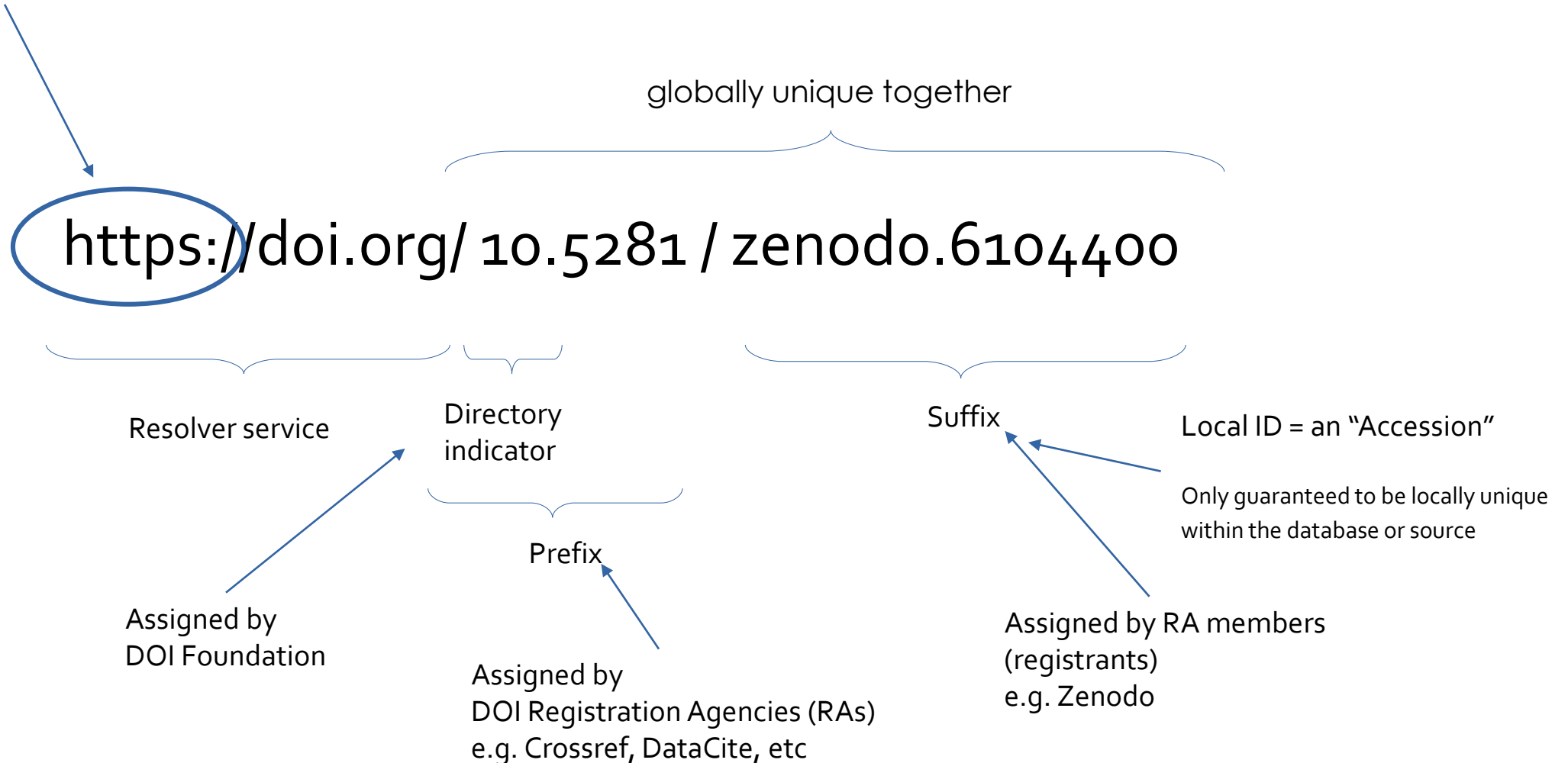
<https://eosc-portal.eu/news-and-events/news/identifiers-ensuring-robust-and-reliable-access-life-sciences-data>

How do I recognize a PID?

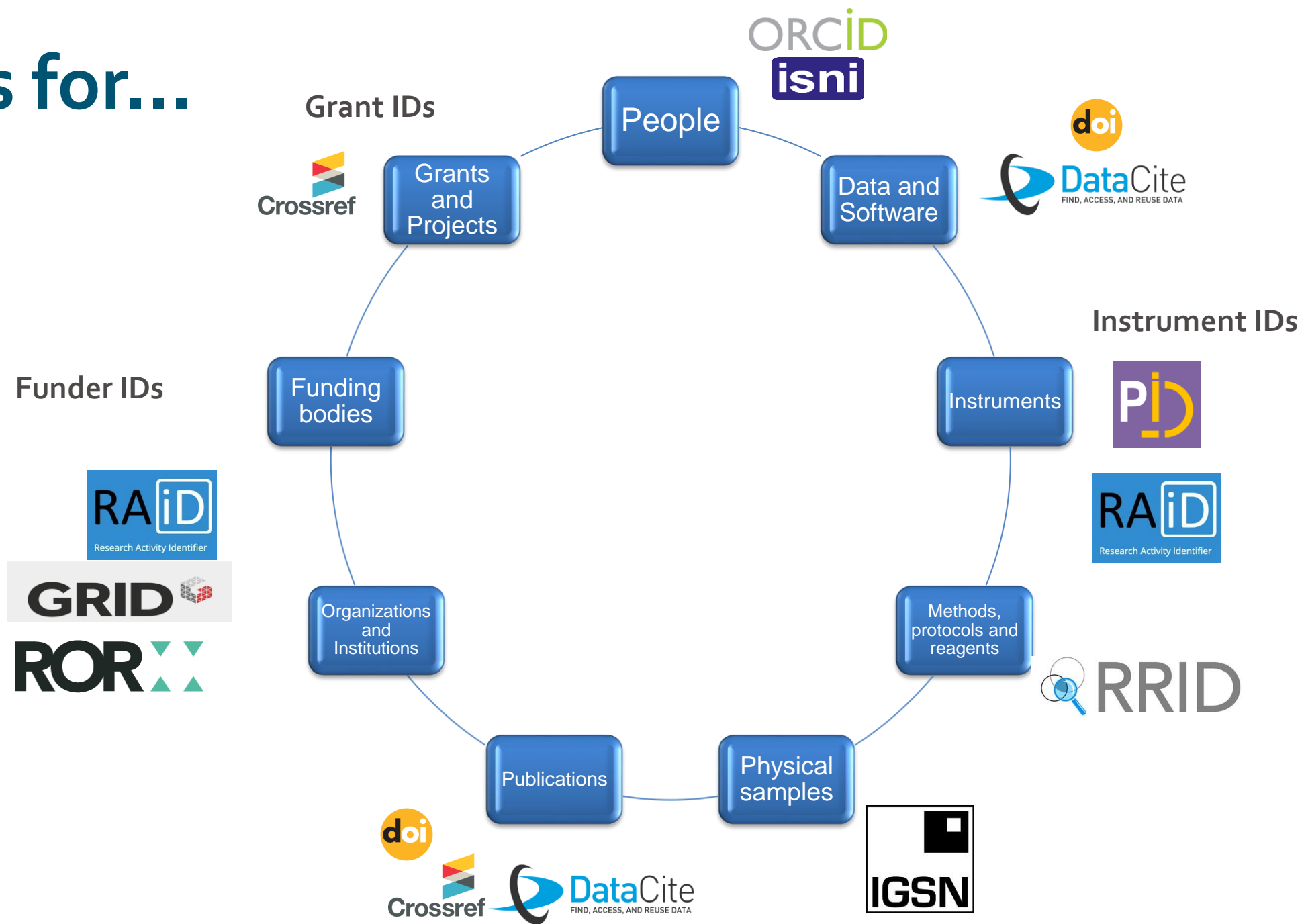
[DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.6104400](#) 

Anatomy of a DOI

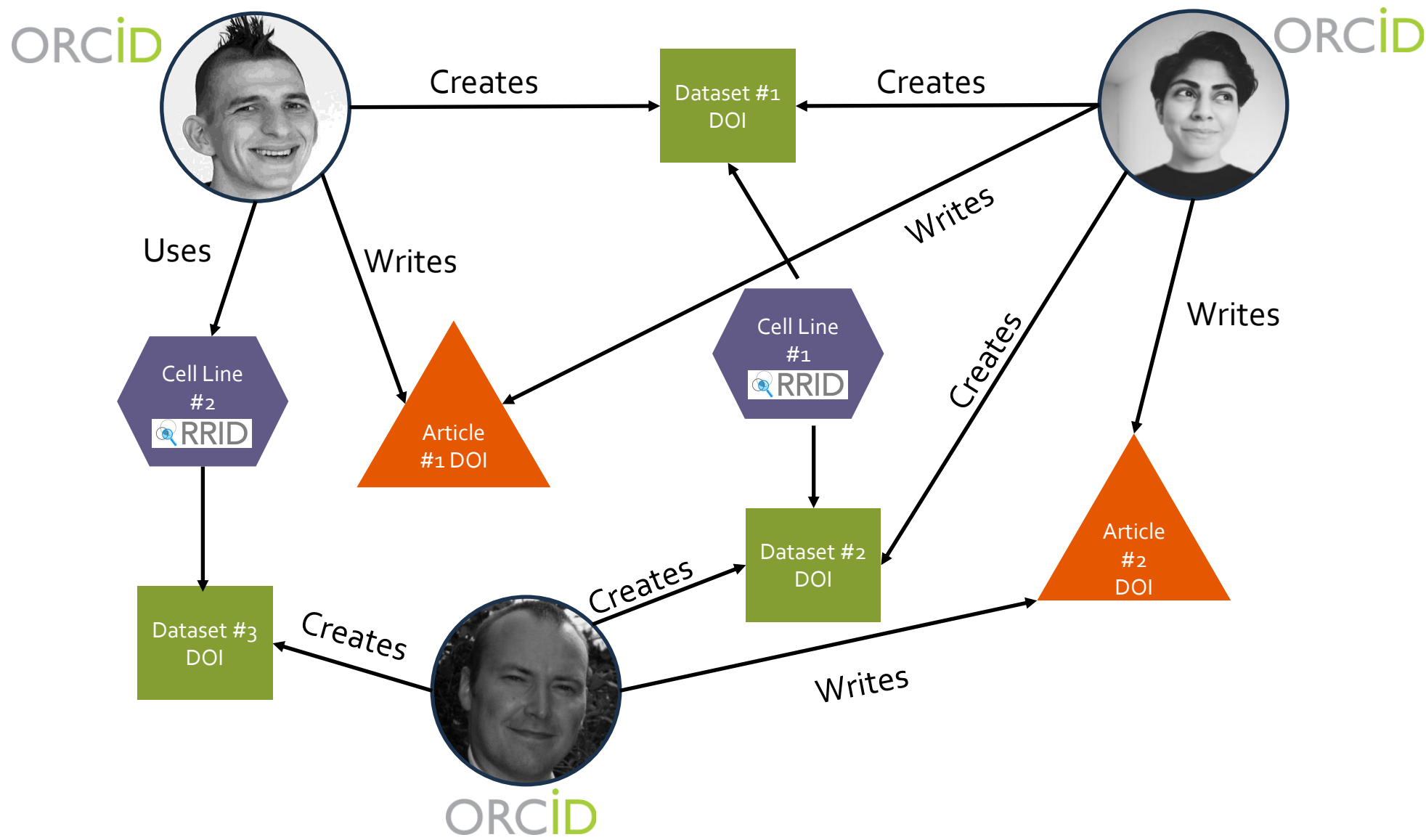
Means that it is actionable: you can paste in a web browser address bar and be taken to the identified source.



PIDs for...



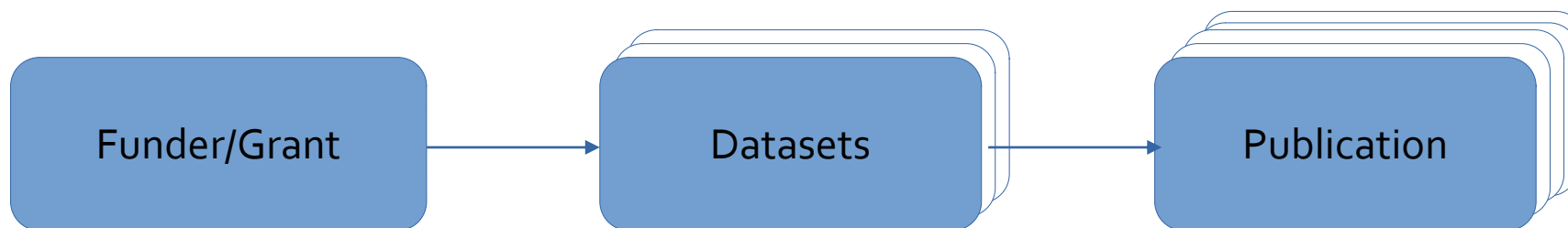
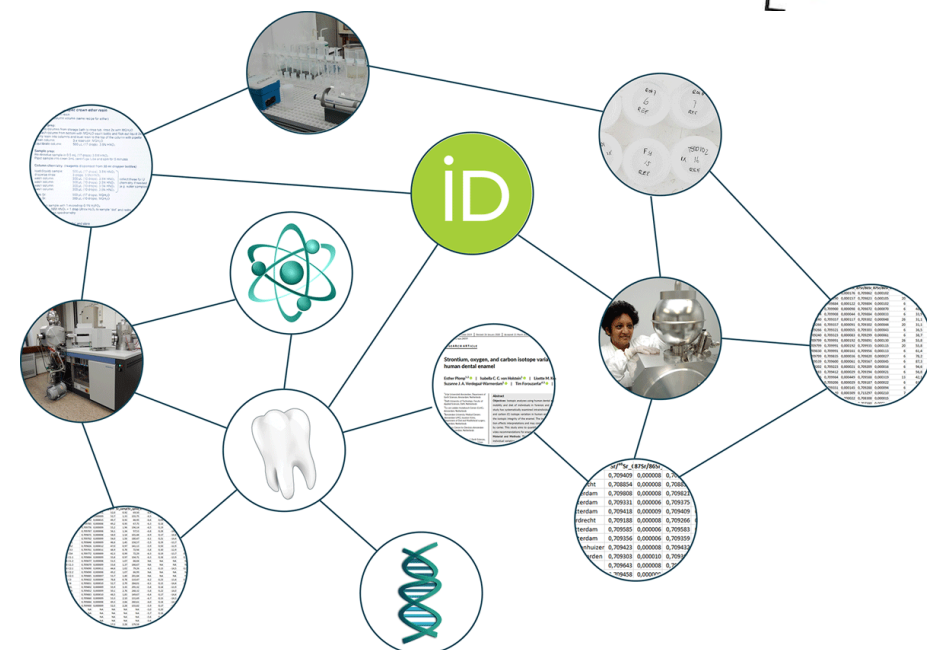
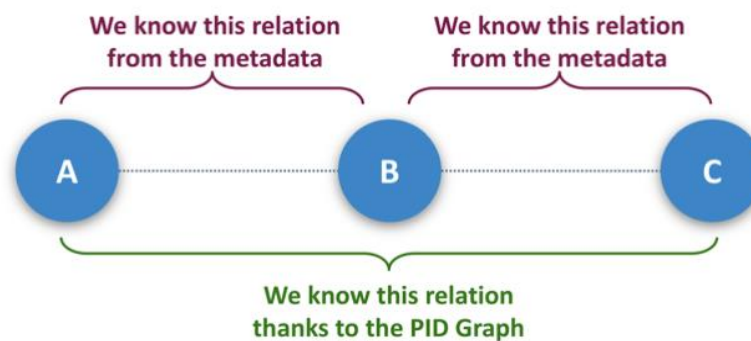
PIDs connect different entities in research

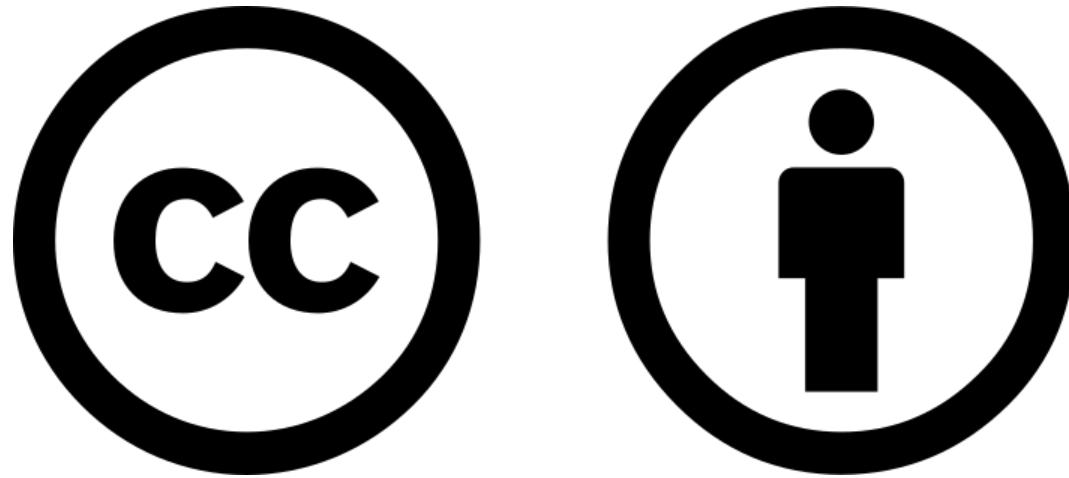


PID graphs



"I want to see all datasets funded by RCN cited by this article"





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