

# Designing an institutional research data management infrastructure for the life sciences



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## providing Research Data Management services for

### Life Sciences Faculty

- Independent research groups
- Heterogeneous (meta)data
- Right incentives

### Academic Hospital

- Patient privacy
- Electronic Health Records
- Bridging organisations

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# Life science background



**Life science** depends more and more on the collection and analysis of **comprehensive datasets**.



**'Small Science'**. Life science is performed in small temporary project groups.



**Open Science**. There is an urgent call for more open, transparent and reproducible science.

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# DataHub characteristics



**FAIR**-inspired from start.



**Open-source** where possible.



(Meta)data **structuring** + ontology **enrichment**.



**Project data structuring**; Hierarchical organisation in projects and datasets.

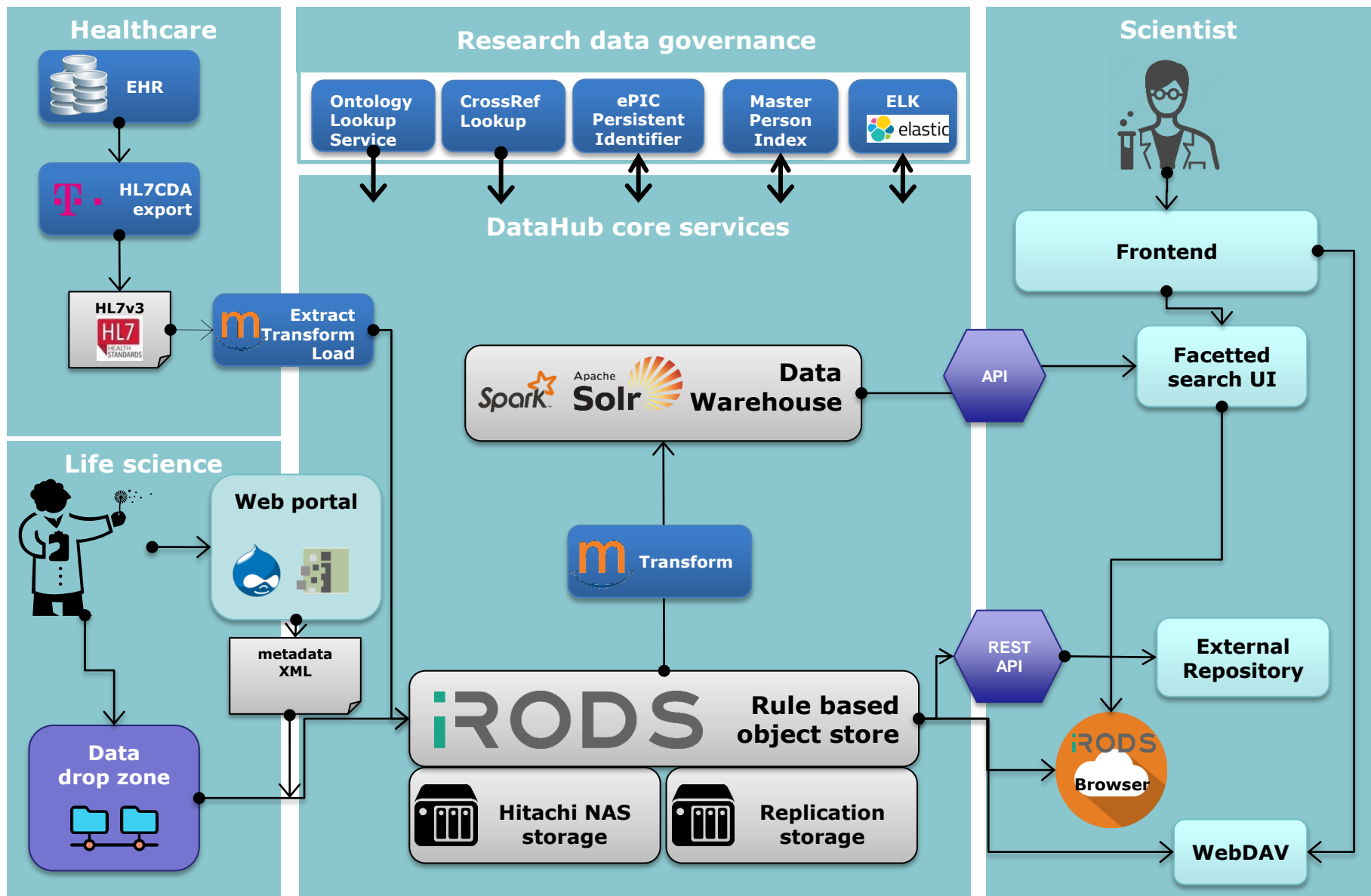


**Faceted search**, Lucene & ontology-powered, authorization controlled



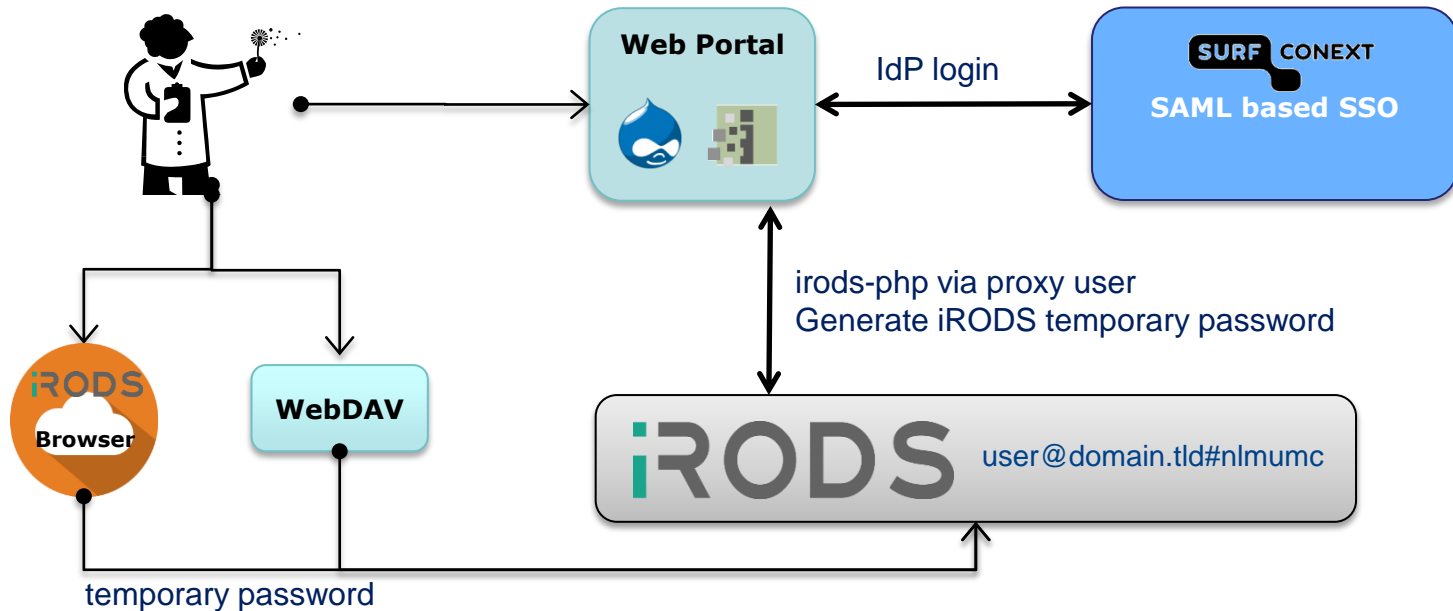
**High volume**; The infrastructure has been designed and tested with petabyte scale and high throughput in mind.

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# Authentication (federated)



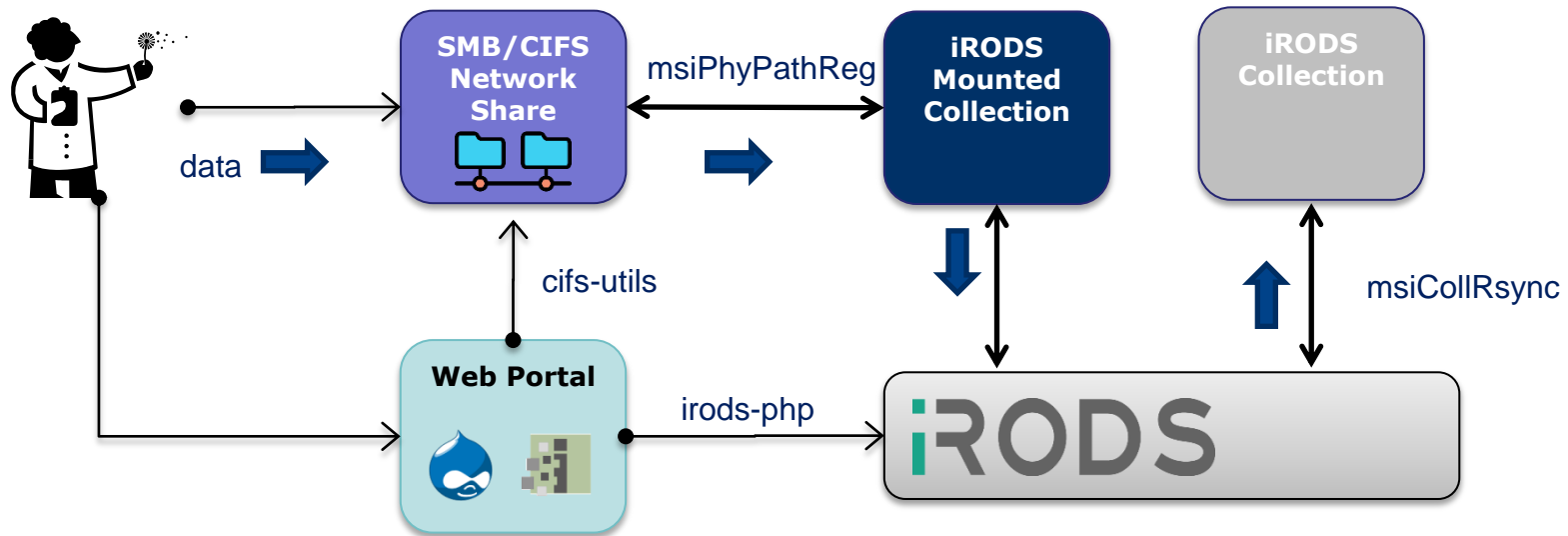
**Providing federated authentication in two methods: proxy-user and temporary password**

Outstanding issue:

- Automated handling of user provisioning/expiration

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# Ingesting high volume data



**SMB/CIFS network share connected as iRODS mounted collection is ingested into iRODS using msiCollRsync**

## Advantage:

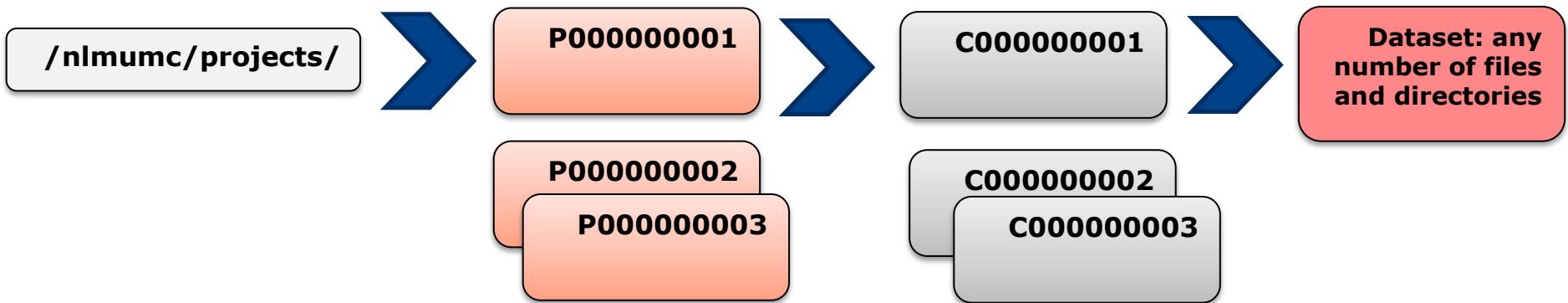
- No extra (client) software for users
- SMB/CIFS performs very well

## Disadvantage:

- Not compatible with federated authentication
- msiCollRsync not performing (yet)

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# Project collection structure



Providing a generic project collection hierarchy with no assumptions

- Unidentifiable collection names
- Virtual collections?
- Title AVUs on Project and Collections

nlmumc projects P000000001 ▾

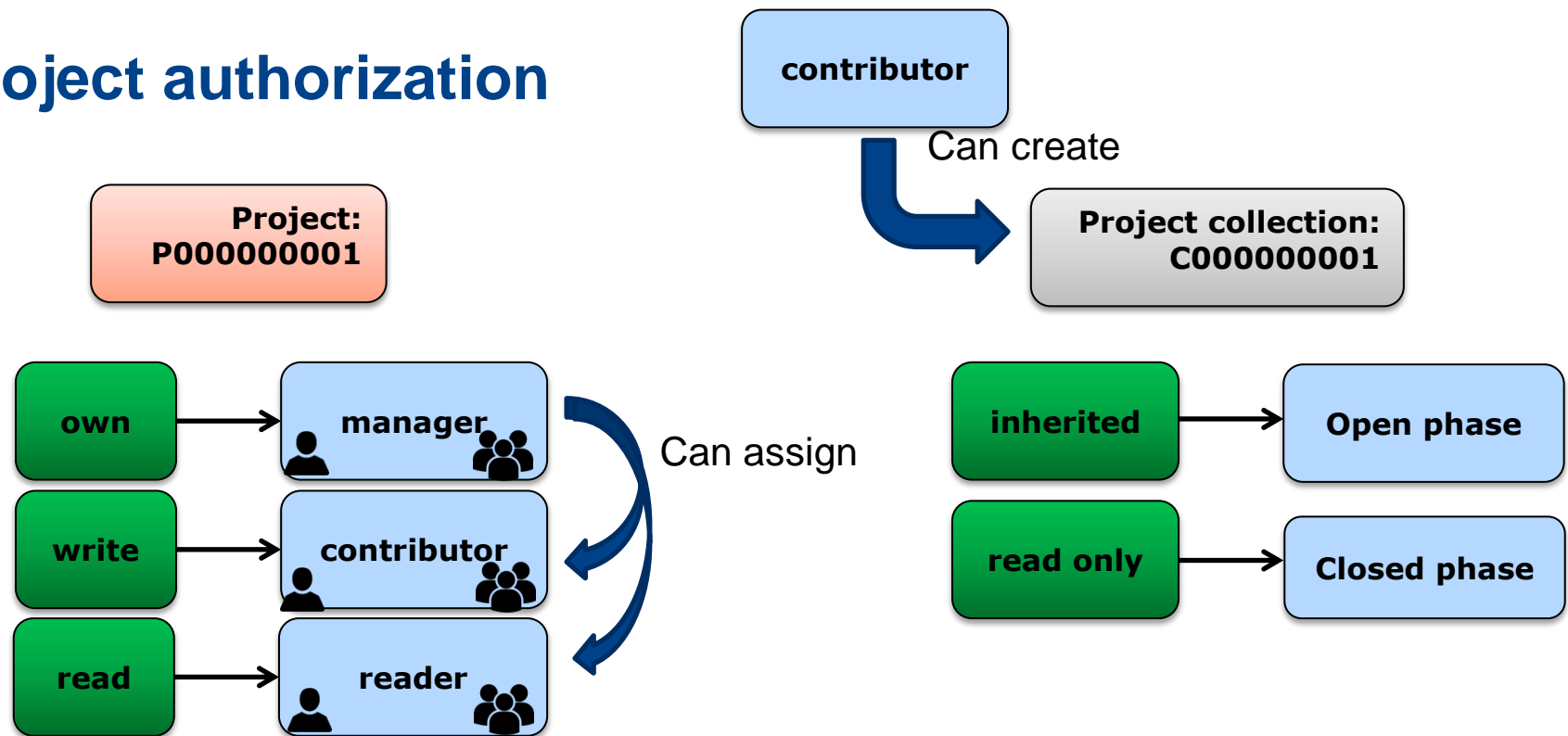
You've selected: C000000001

Name	Title
C000000001	Maandag
C000000002	
C000000003	
C000000004	testMaarten en Daniel
C000000005	Test woensdag
C000000006	woensdag2
C000000007	Daniel en Maarten
C000000008	test Maarten
C000000009	Dataset voor demo

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# Project authorization



Keeping data authorization in iRODS using the rule engine to enforce policies

## Disadvantages:

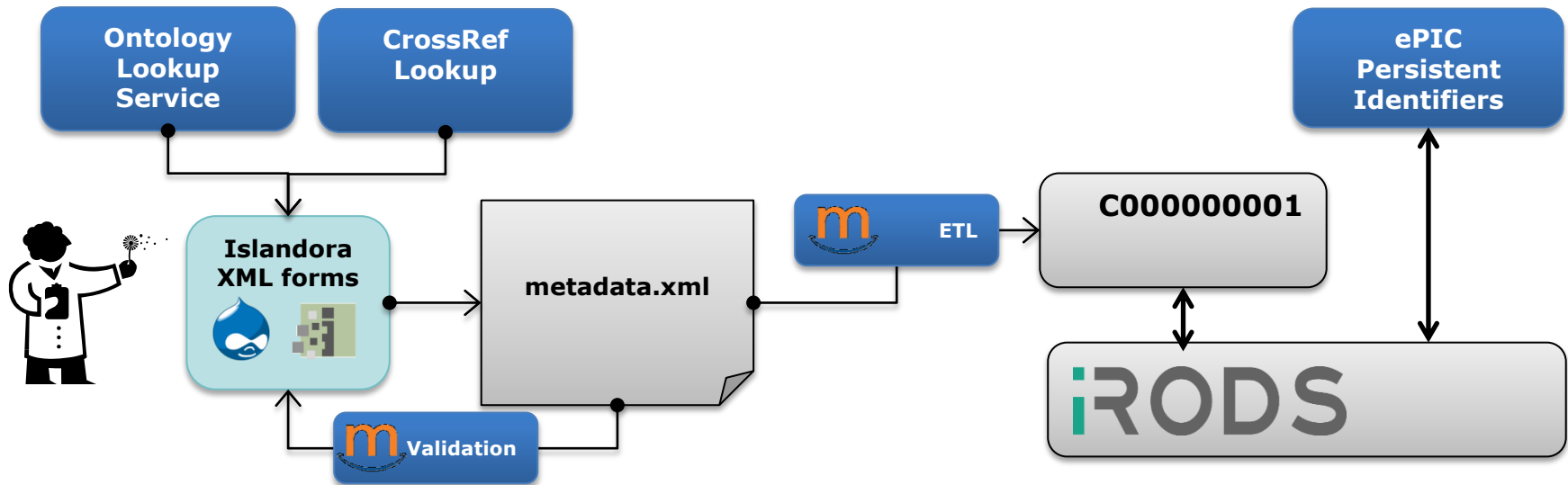
- Only on project level
- Too simplistic?



Note: iRODS groups are organizational units (departments)

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# Metadata modeling: being FAIR



## Helping users early with annotating data FAIR

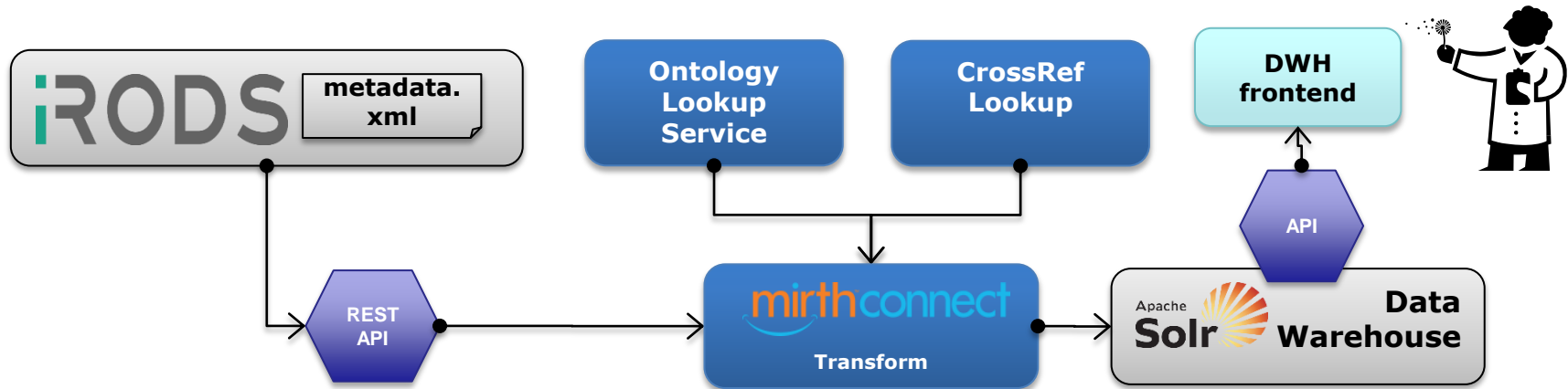


### Project -> Investigation -> Sample -> Assay (PISA)

- Inspired by ISA tools, compatible with HCLS
- Implemented Project and Investigation level
- Descriptive metadata stored in file (!), AVUs for system metadata

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# Metadata indexing



**Providing a user friendly faceted search interface for data findability**

- Indexed in SOLR:
  - All metadata
  - Semantics (OLS)
  - References (CrossRef)
  - Authorization on data (iRODS)
- Rebuild on demand

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# Metadata: making use of semantics

Organism ⓘ

Select an ontology term

homo sapiens

Homo sapiens	NCBITAXON	NCBITaxon:9606
Homo sapiens neanderthalensis	NCBITAXON	NCBITaxon:63221
Homo sapiens ssp. Denisova	NCBITAXON	NCBITaxon:741158
Homo sapiens/Rattus norvegicus xenograft	NCBITAXON	NCBITaxon:1573476
Homo sapiens/Mus musculus xenograft	NCBITAXON	NCBITaxon:1383439
Homo sapiens/Mus musculus hybrid cell line	NCBITAXON	NCBITaxon:1383440

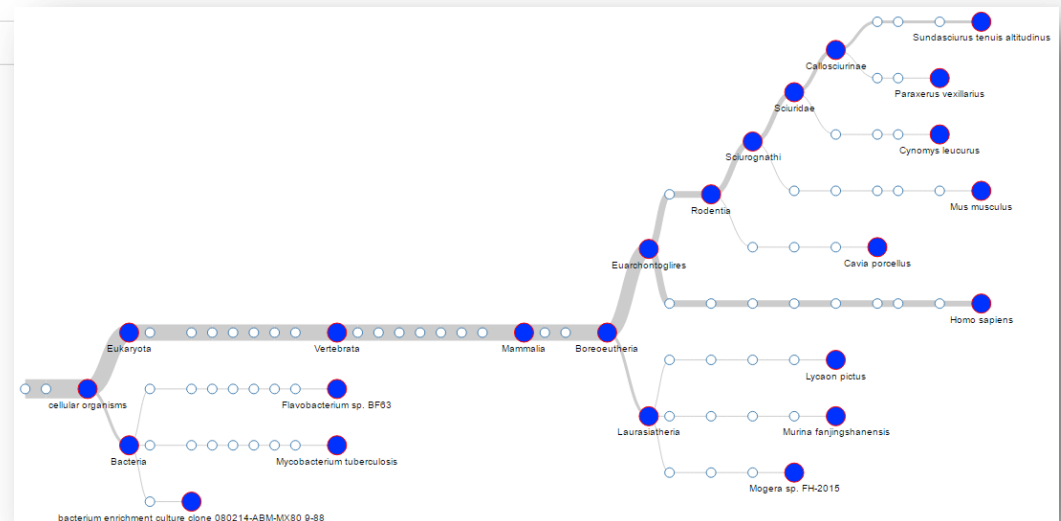
**Autocomplete for ontology terms**

Related publications (DOIs) ⓘ

<https://doi.org/...>

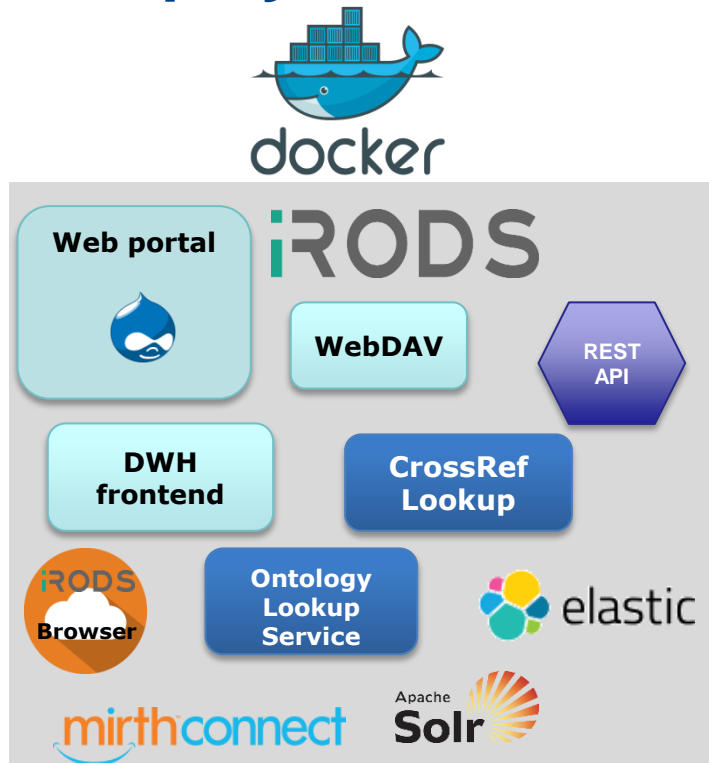
Add article

**Ontology derived  
facetted search**

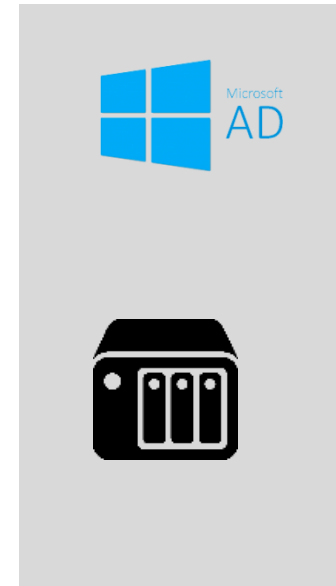


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# DTAP: deployment for development



External



## Challenge

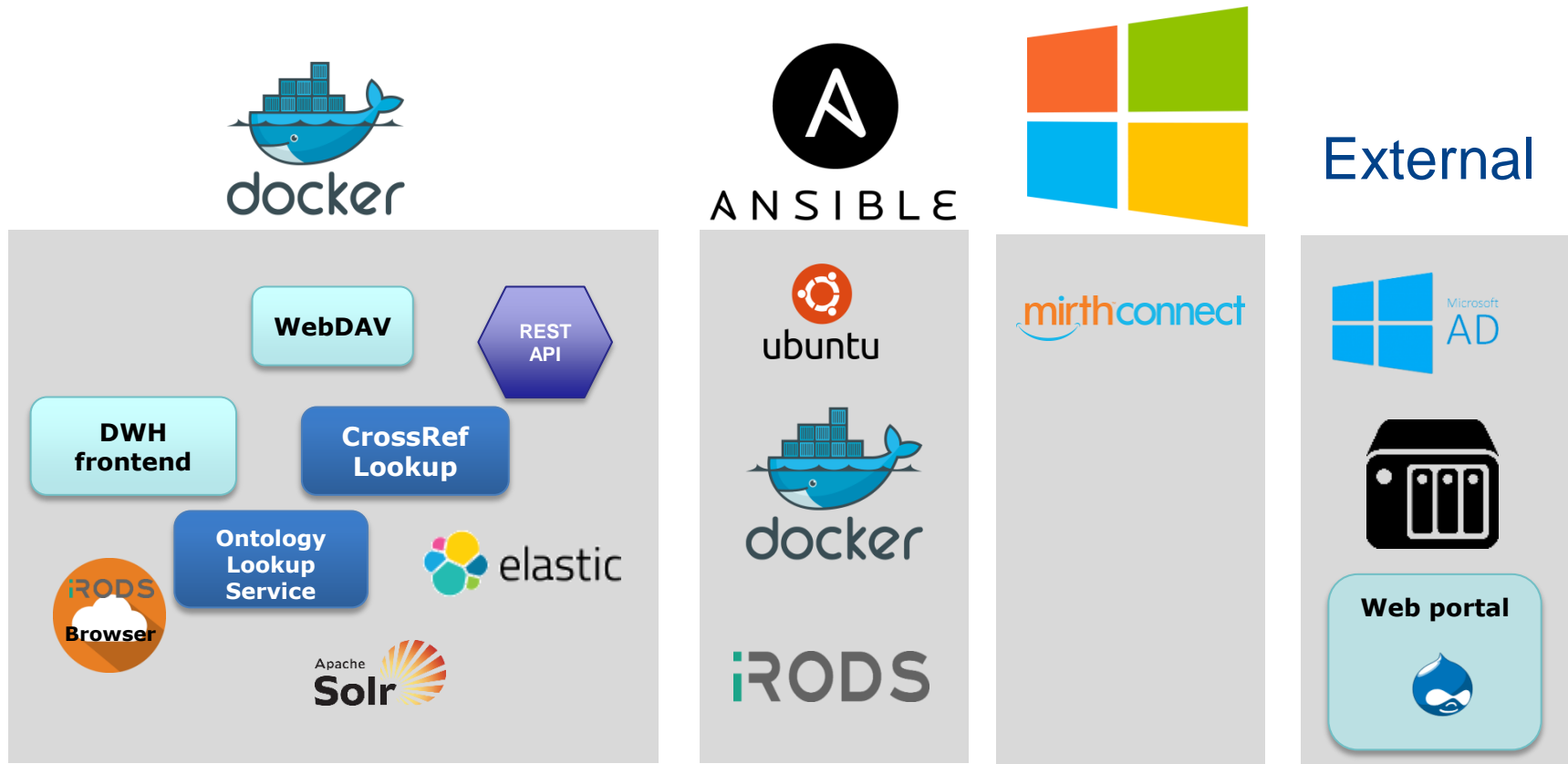
- Interactions with external services (AD, NAS storage)

## Highlights

- 16 interacting containers for full environment
- Runnable from laptop

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# DTAP: deployment for acceptance/production



## Challenge

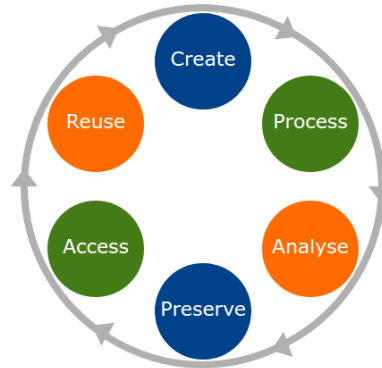
- Differences in deployments and some environments

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# Today's challenge in the data life cycle

## Active data

- Phases
  - Create
  - Process
  - Analyse
- Highly specific RDM solutions



## Preserved data

- Phases:
  - Archive
  - Access
  - Re-use
- Generic repositories
- Domain specific repositories



**FAIR**

**BRIDGE THE GAP!**



**iRODS**

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# Lessons learned

1. Dual position of staff. Decentralize data stewards
2. Micro Service approach
3. Remote Procedure Calls for rules
4. Funding for long term storage is hard...
5. Open Source re-useable parts



<https://github.com/MaastrichtUniversity>

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# Questions?



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