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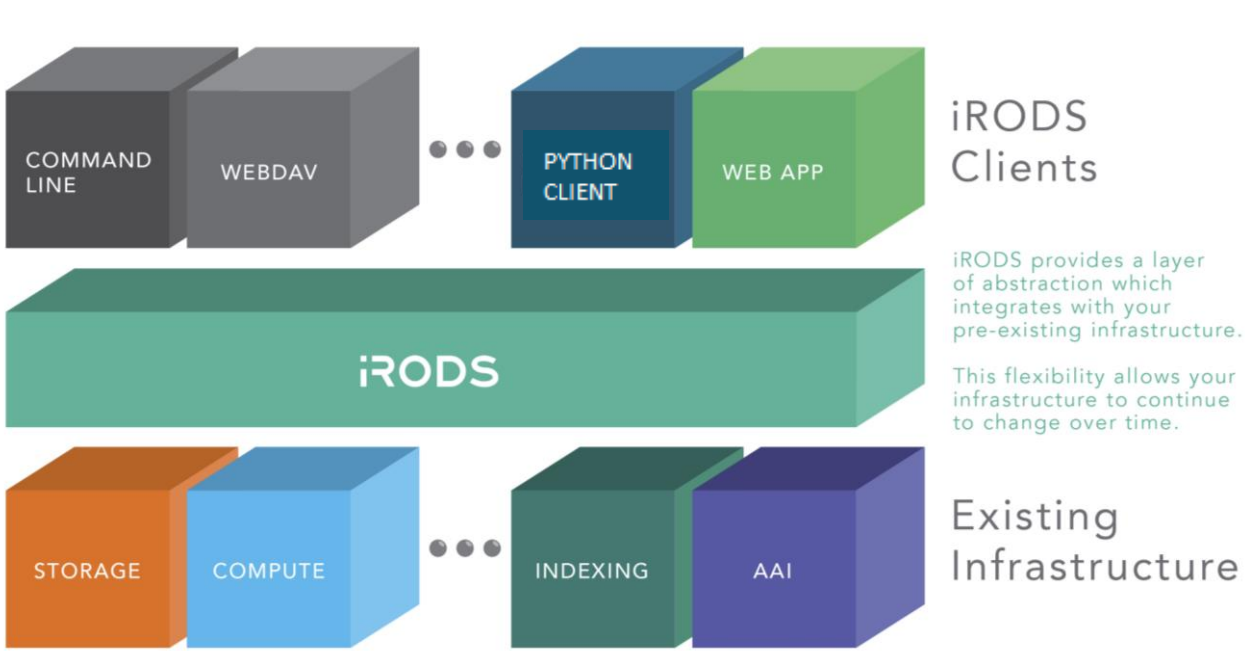
02.Introduction to iRODS

What is iRODS?

- iRODS (integrated Rule-Oriented Data System)
- Open Source distributed data and storage management system
- Configurable data management policies and workflows
- Scalable
- A flexible framework for the abstraction of infrastructure



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KU Leuven is part of the iRODS consortium – Sustained member

iRODS architecture

Clients

Provides access to iRODS

Catalogue Service Consumer – Storage server

Provides access to storage and other resources

Catalogue Service Provider – iRODS server

Provides access to the Catalogue

Metadata catalogue (iCAT)
Postgres/Mysql/Oracle

Where everything is written down

iRODS Core competencies

Unified Storage Namespace

Data virtualization of distributed storage systems

Automation

Rule Engine to enforce data policies

Data Discovery

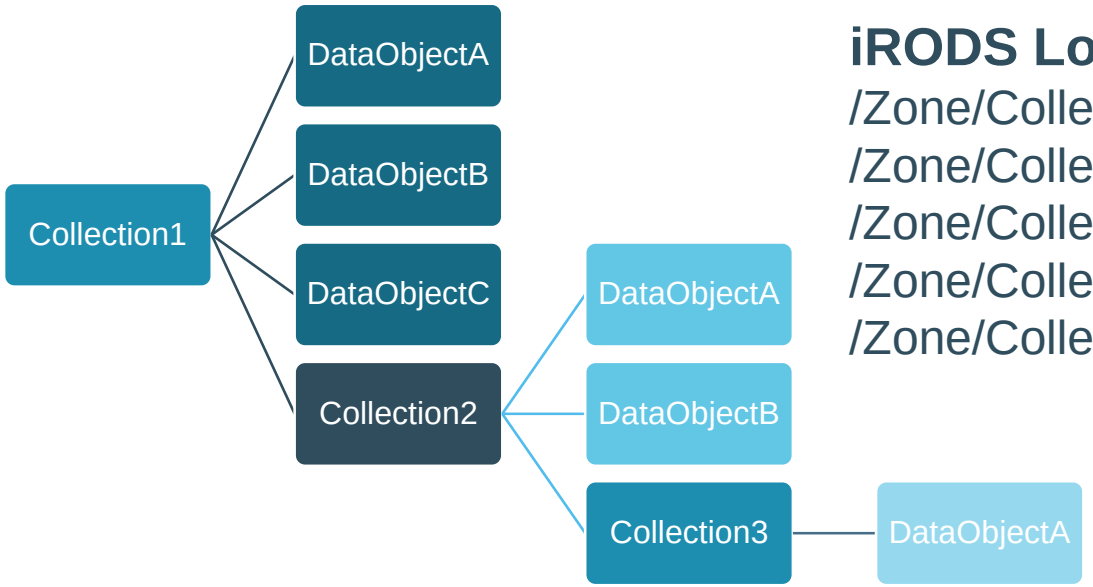
Rich Metadata for collections and data objects (System metadata and user-defined metadata)

Secure collaboration

Three mechanisms: Permissions, Tickets and Federation

Data virtualization in iRODS

Logical representation



iRODS Logical Namespace

/Zone/Collection1/
/Zone/Collection1/DataObjectA/
/Zone/Collection1/Collection2/
/Zone/Collection1/Collection2/DataObjectA
/Zone/Collection1/Collection2/Collection3/DataObjectA

Physical representation

/irods1/s1/Collection1/DataObjectA
/irods1/s2/Collection2/DataObjectA
/irods/s3/Collection2/collection3/DataObjectA

/irods2/Collection1/DataObjectA

/irods3/Collection1/DataObjectA

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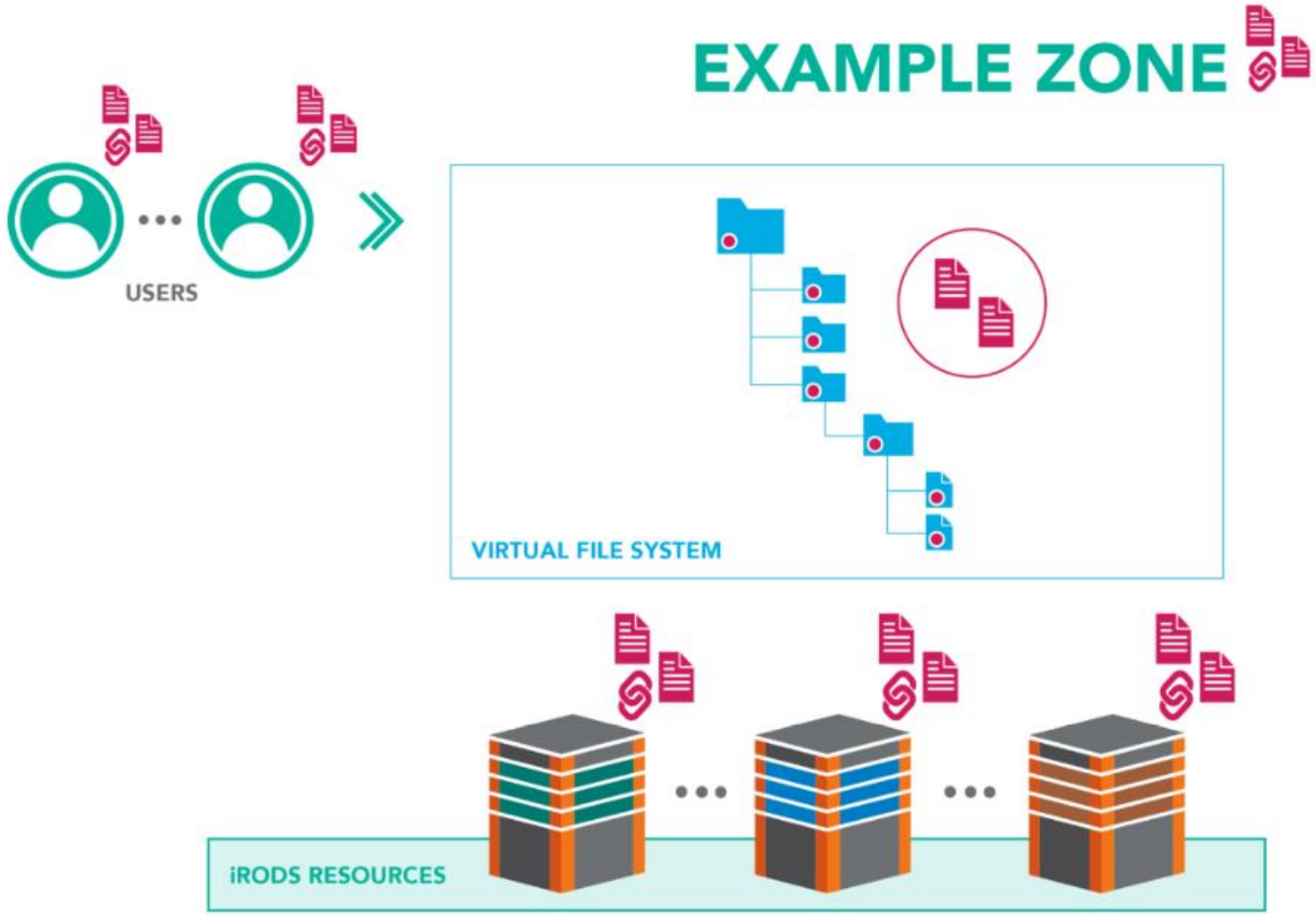
Data discovery: Metadata everywhere



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System Metadata:

- filename, file size, creation date …

User Metadata:

- Manual introduction - AVU
- Metadata templates
- Automation (rules/microservices)

Automation

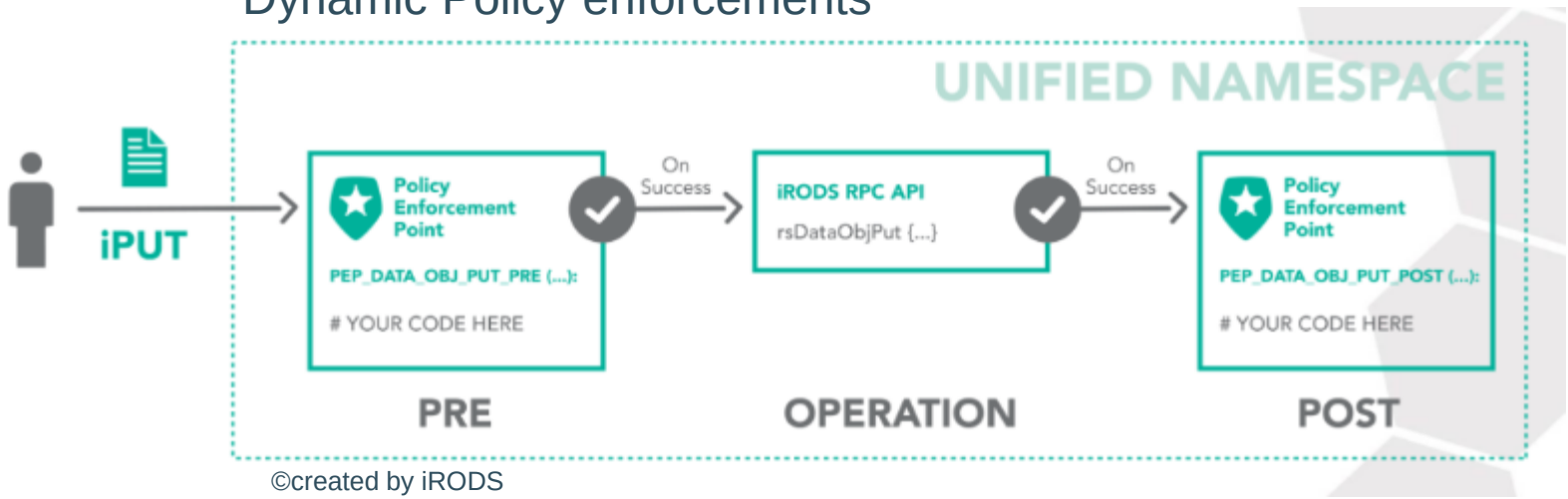
Integrated policy engine can be triggered by any operation:

- Authentication
- Storage Access
- Database Interaction
- Extensible RPC API

Delay rules to do repetitive works - periodically:

- execution time
- execution frequency

Dynamic Policy enforcements



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The iRODS rule may:

- workflow automation – event based
- restrict access
- log for audit and reporting
- provide additional context
- send a notification
- execute a process on the file

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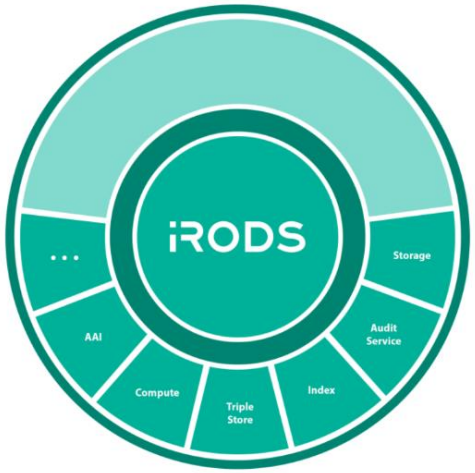
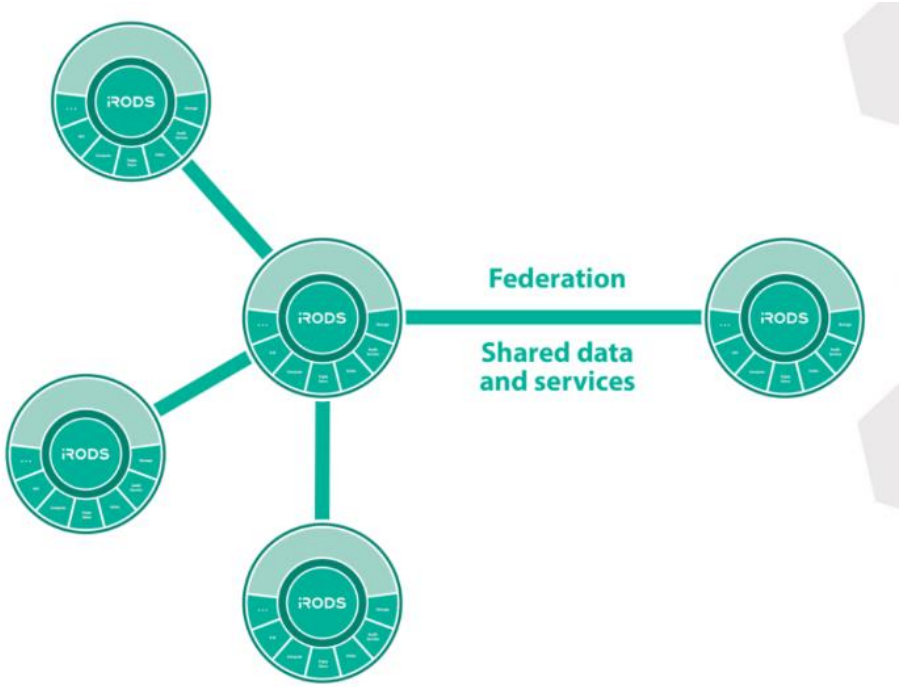
Secure collaboration

Inside a zone

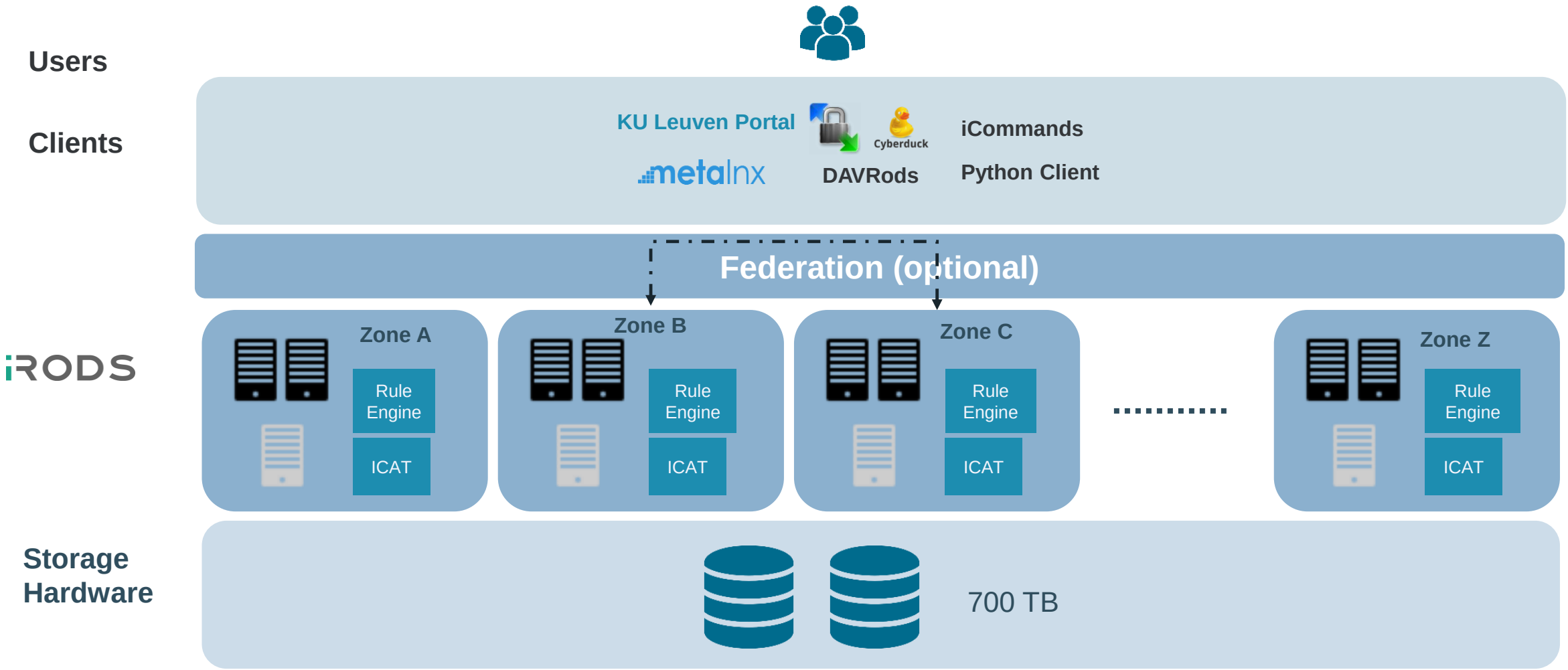
- ACL (users, groups)
- Tickets:
  - Temporary access
  - No iRODS account needed



Between zones: federation



KU Leuven iRODS architecture



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Clients

metalnx

KU Leuven Portal

DAVRods

PRC-Python API

Cadaver client – DAVRods

iCommands

CentOS7
Ubuntu16
Ubuntu18

PRC-Python API

metalnx

KU Leuven Portal

References:

KU Leuven portal: https://{yourZone}.irods.icts.kuleuven.be
Metalnx: https://{yourZone}.icts.kuleuven.be/metalnx/
Cyberduck: https://cyberduck.io/
WinSCP: https://winscp.net/eng/download.php
Cadaver client: http://www.webdav.org/cadaver/
Icommands: https://irods.org/download/
Python iRODS Client (PRC) : https://github.com/irods/python-irodsclient

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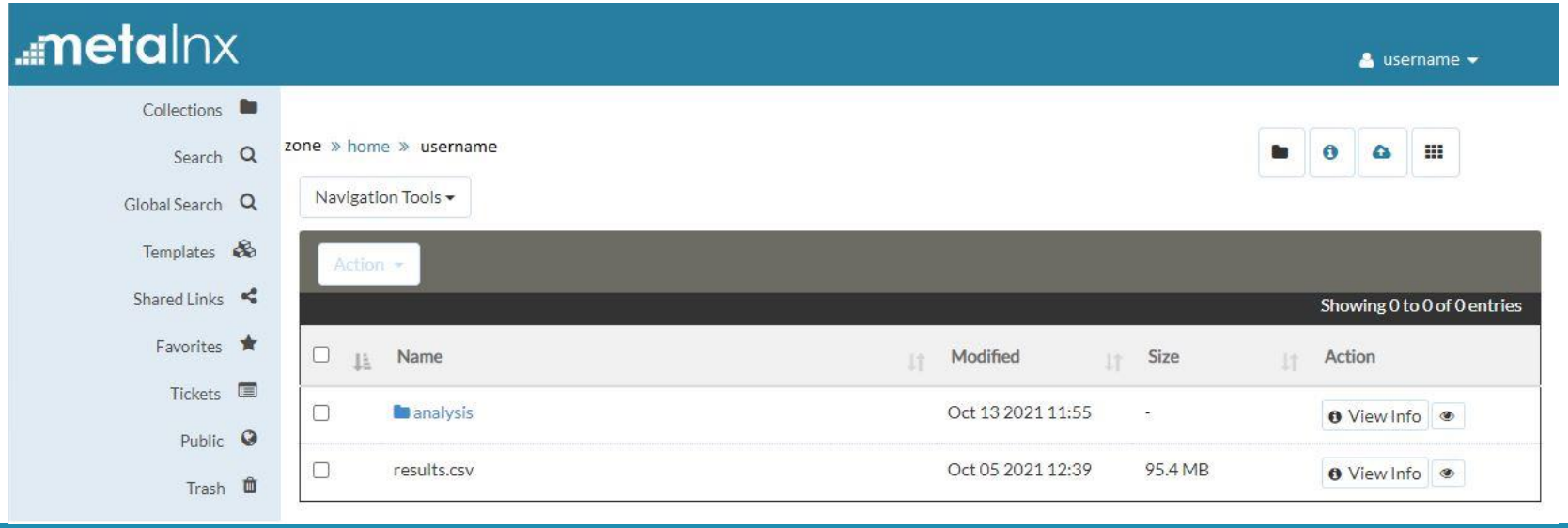
MetaInx

- graphical user interface easiness
- working with data objects/collections
- adding metadata to data objects/collections
- downloading/uploading data objects/collections
- permission management



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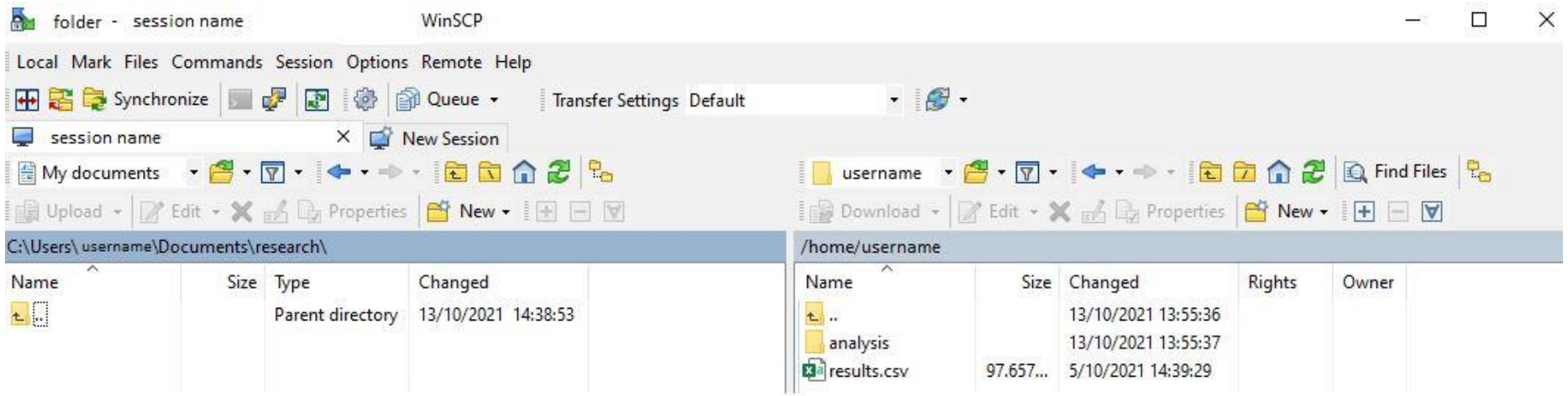
WebDav client

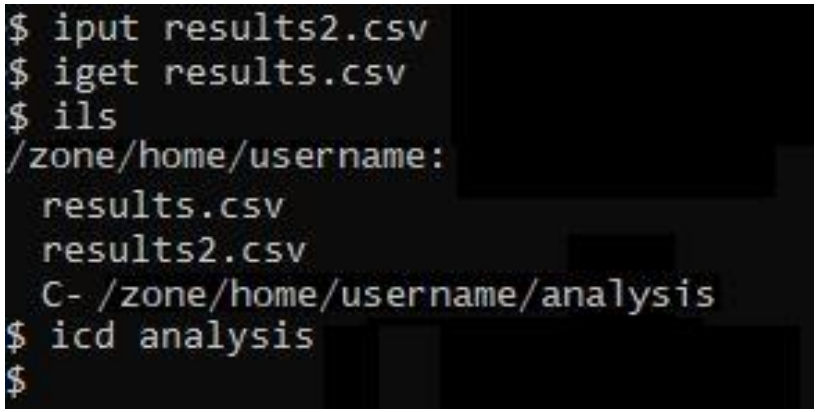
- graphical user interface easiness
- browsing data objects/collections
- downloading/uploading data objects
- read and edit easily



icommands

```
iput – iget- irsync –imeta...
```

- uploading/downloading data
- adding metadata to data objects/collections
- querying based on metadata
- deleting data objects/collections
- synchronization of data
- Permission management



Python iRODS Client (PRC)

`Python3, python-irodsclient`

- scripting to manage data
- working with data objects/collections
- adding metadata to data objects/collections
- permission management
- listing the disk usage

```python
import os
import ssl
from irods.session import iRODSSession

try:
    env_file = os.environ['IRODS_ENVIRONMENT_FILE']
except KeyError:
    env_file = os.path.expanduser('~/.irods/irods_environment.json')

ssl_context = ssl.create_default_context(purpose=ssl.Purpose.SERVER_AUTH, cafile=None, capath=None, cadata=None)
ssl_settings = {'ssl_context': ssl_context}
with iRODSSession(irods_env_file=env_file, **ssl_settings) as session:
    collection = session.collections.get("/path/to/collection")
    for data_object in collection.data_objects:
        print(data_object.name)
```

Hands-on

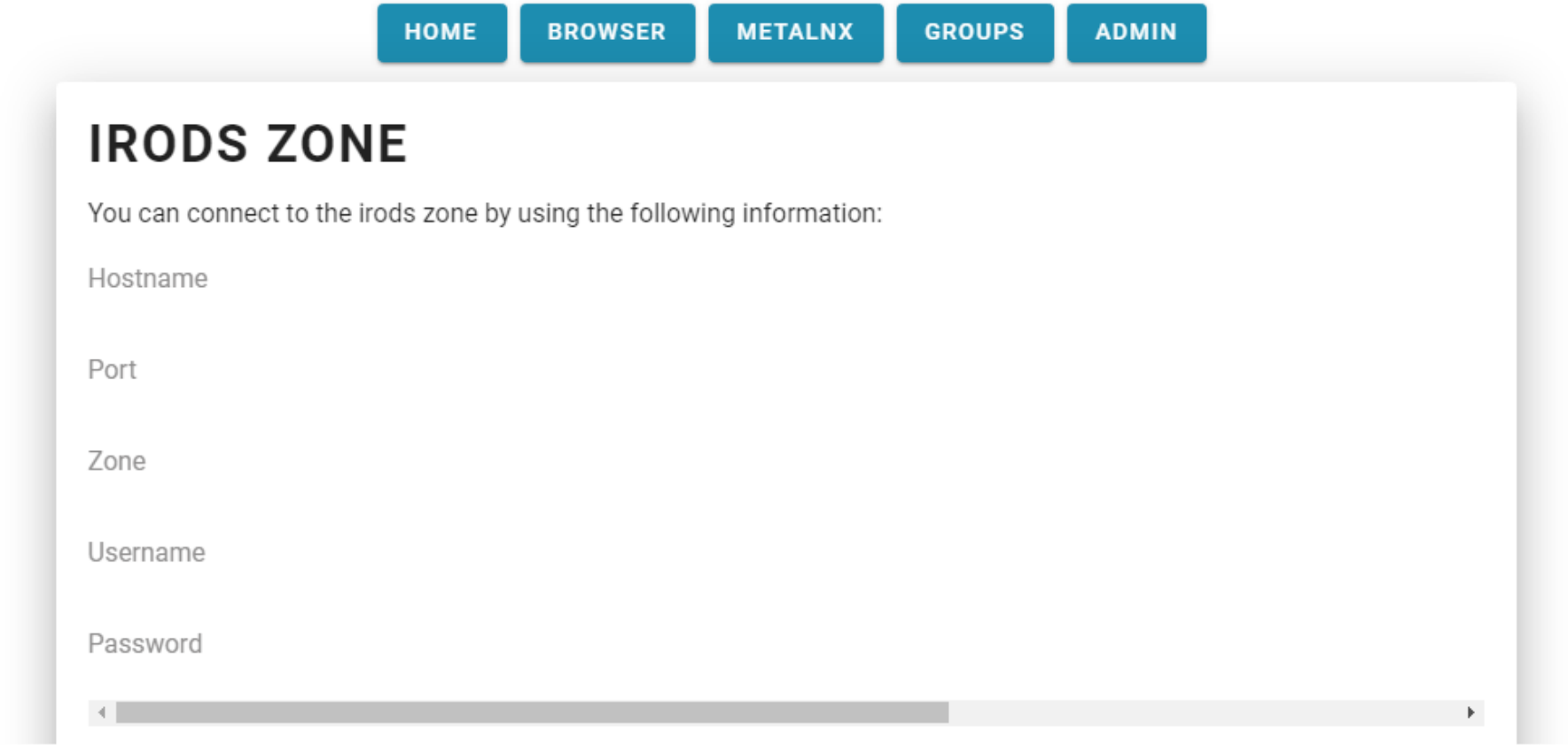
Connecting to your zone

Connecting to iRODS

- Go to: https://{yourZone}.irods.icts.kuleuven.be
- Authenticate using your u-account:
  - You will be sent to the KU Leuven login page

- You are in!

Login portal



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Hands-on

- Demo of the functionalities of the Login Portal
- Explore the demonstrated functionalities
  - Navigate to your home
  - Create a new folder
  - Upload a file
  - Download the file
  - Add a metadata attribute value to the file
  - Look at the metadata
  - Delete the file