

# Data Discoverability and Persistent Identifiers

**EUDAT Summer School, Herkalion, 2017** 

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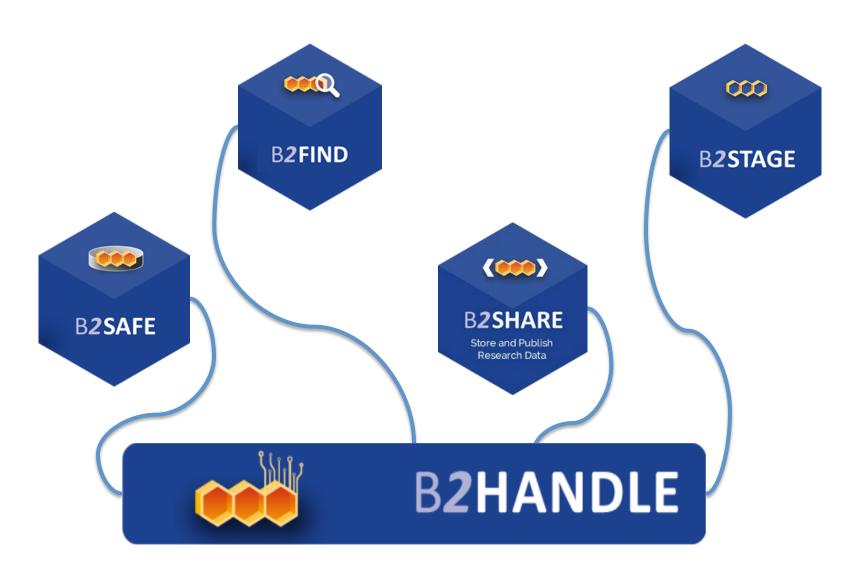


#### **Outline**

- What are PIDs?
- Use cases
- PID providers and systems
- PID usage in EUDAT
- The Handle system
  - The handle resolution system
  - The relation between Handle and ePIC
  - Hands-on tutorial



#### **PIDs in EUDAT**





### PIDs in EUDAT – Why?

- Managing increasing numbers of data objects
- Sharing data from different sources amongst researchers
- Data needs to be (globally) identifiable and addressable → reuse of data
- Data citation
- Linking data from different sources
  - → Pooling datasets
- Challenges
  - Object locations change over time
  - Object migration between repositories

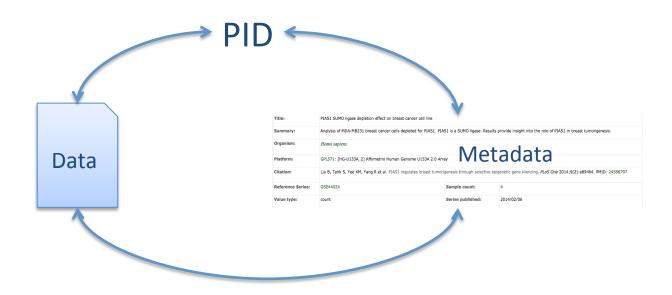


#### What do we want from data?

- Findable Easy to find by both humans and computer systems → Metadata
- Accessible Stored for long term, accessed and/or downloaded with well-defined license and access
- Interoperable Ready to be combined with other datasets by humans as well as computer systems;
- Reusable Ready to be used for future research and to be processed further using computational methods.
- http://www.datafairport.org/



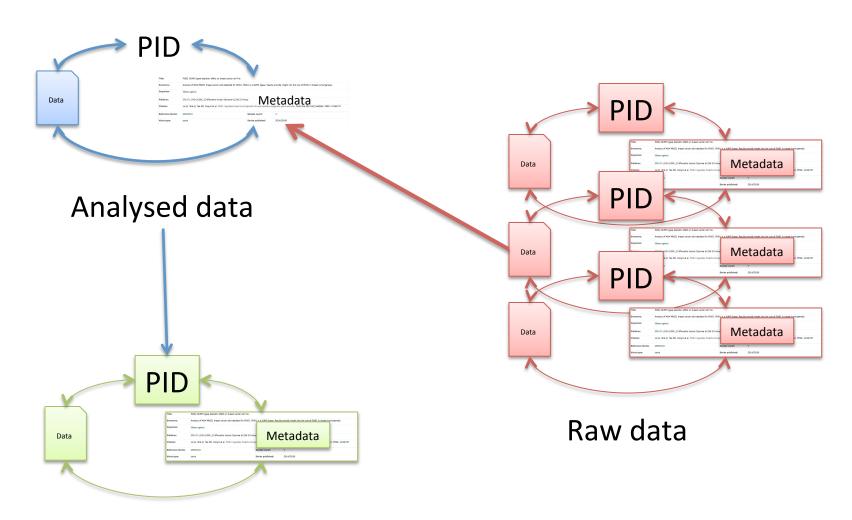
#### What do we need?



- Persistent Identifier: reference and identify object, either metadata or data object
- Synchronise PID, Data and Metadata during creation, maintenance, update and deletion of a digital object!



#### What do we need?

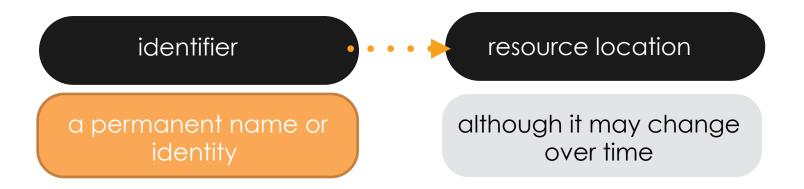


Published data



#### What do we know about Persistent Identifiers?

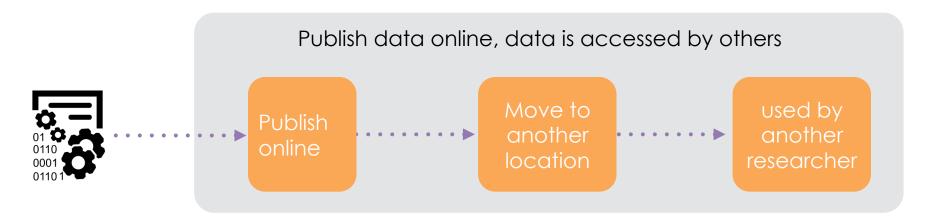
 A Persistent Identifier (PID) is an identifier that is effectively permanently assigned to a resource.



- Pointers to data resources
- Globally unique
- Exist infinitely long (the PID, not necessarily the data)



### Simple data life cycle, linearised

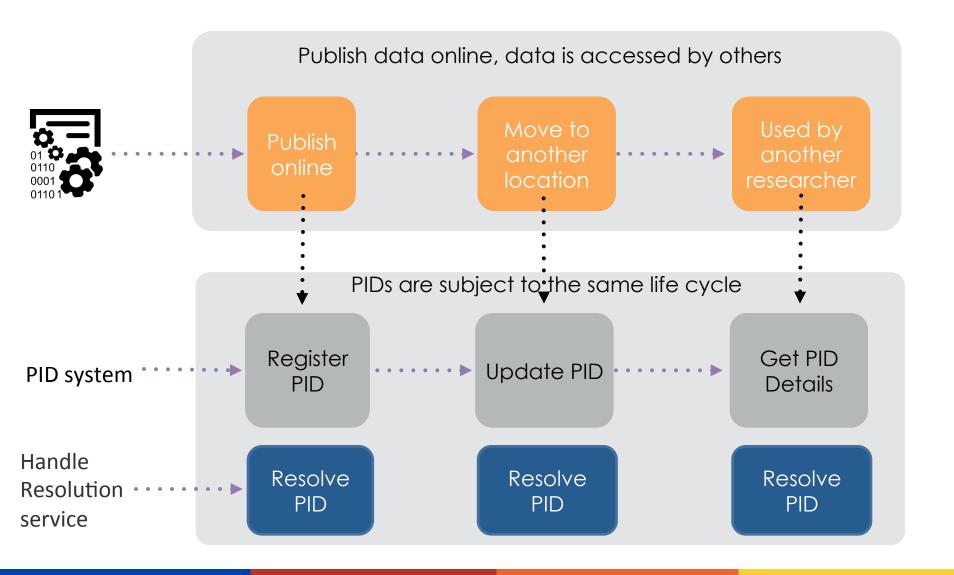




- Published online: http://www.test.com/test.html
- Other users may cite, access, re-use this url
- Relocate the resource at http://www.example.com/
- Other users are not informed -> 404



### Data Life Cycle with PID system





### **Advantages and Disadvantages**

#### Pro:

- Static reference,
   even if data moves or
   changes
- Network of persistent links
   Data metadata relations

   Provenance chains

#### Con:

- Extra effort
  - What to identify?
  - Coordination across organisations and people
- Organisational discipline to ensure persistence



### **Use cases**



### **Use Case 1: Data publication**

- PIDs point to landing page of the digital repository showing metadata
- "Real" data can be downloaded from this page with another link
- E.g. B2SHARE, FigShare, Zenodo, ...
- PID

http://hdl.handle.net/11304/3265434c-4b34-11e4-81ac-dcbd1b51435e

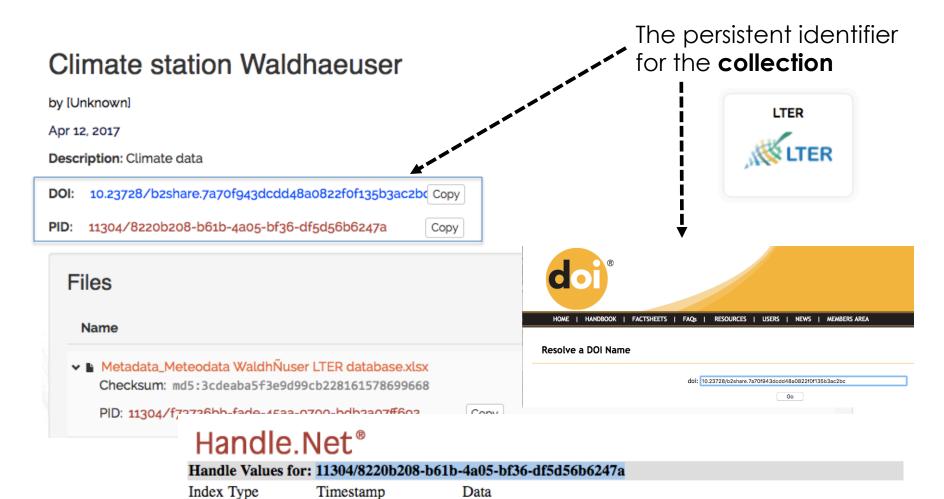
resolves to landing page

https://b2share.eudat.eu/records/feafb12e810c489b9e878949c6c35345





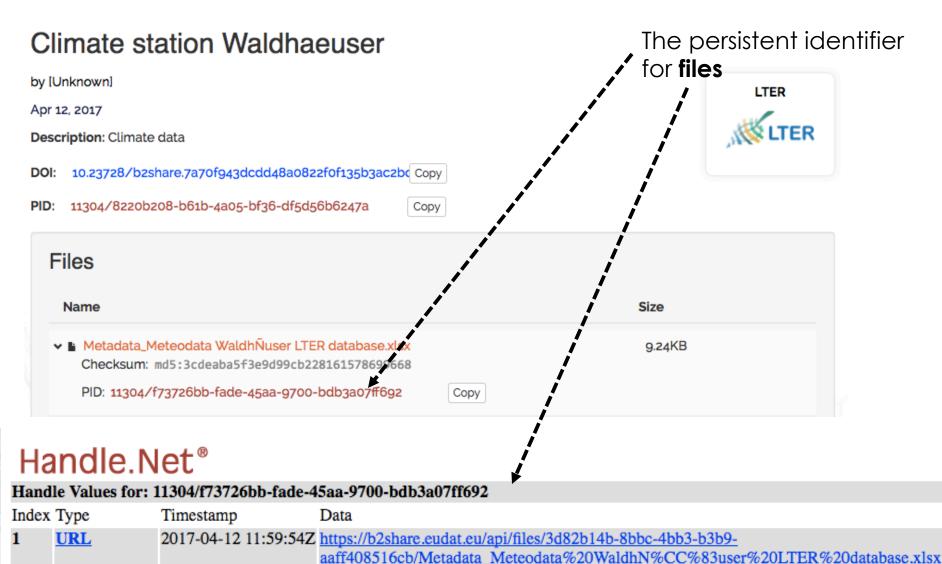
2017-04-12 11:59:52Z https://b2share.eudat.eu/records/7a70f943dcdd48a0822f0f135b3ac2bc



URL



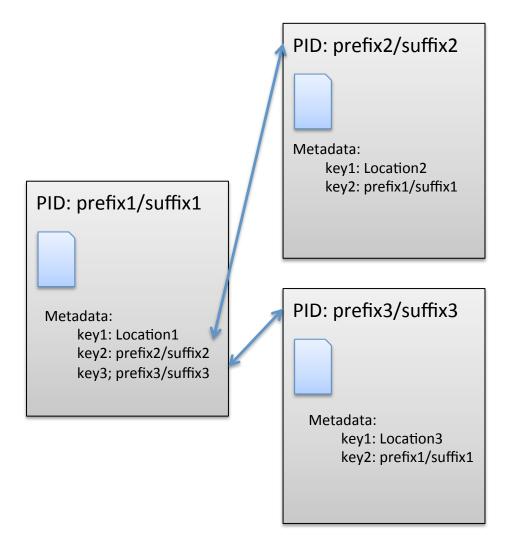




CHECKSUM 2017-04-12 11:59:54Z md5:3cdeaba5f3e9d99cb228161578699668



### **Use case 2: Modeling Relationships**



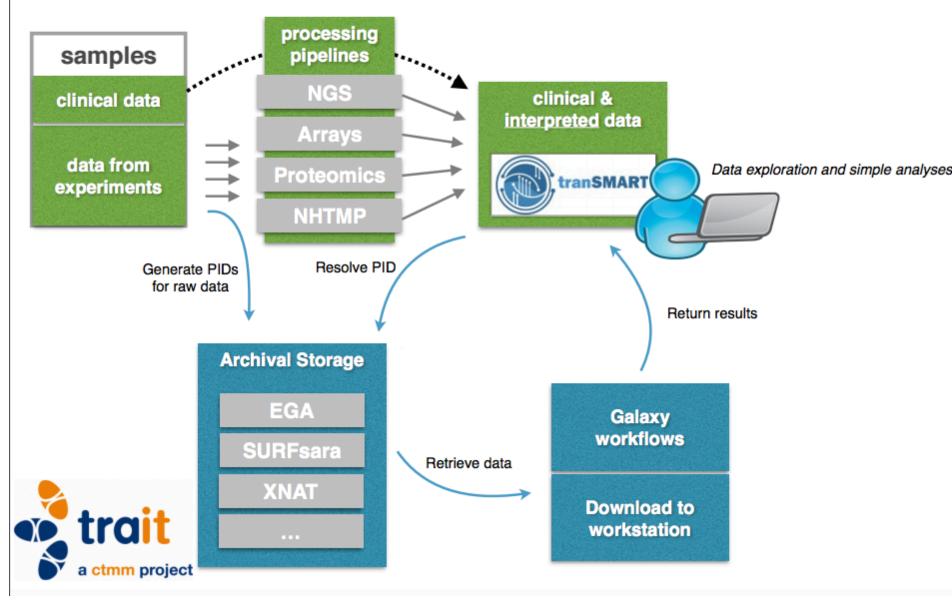
- Use tightly coupled metadata
- Part of/has part relationships
- Model cohort-patient relationship
- Model patient-samples relationship

Which metadata to store with the PID and which in an extra catalogue?



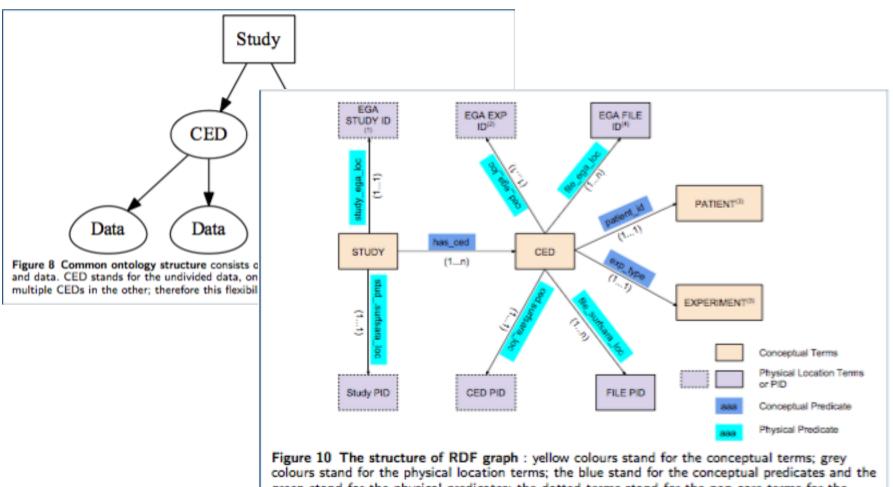
## Use case 3: Enabling data workflows

# Molecular profiling dataflow in TralT





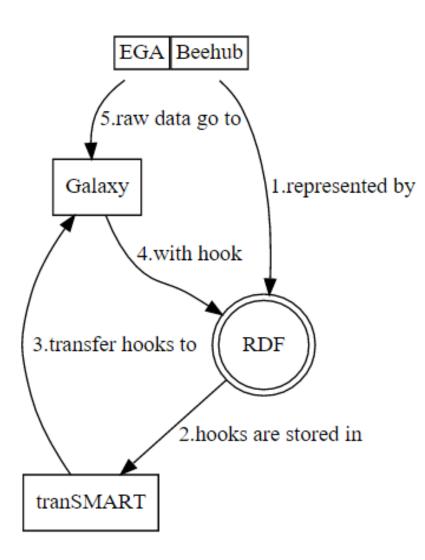
### Trail data ontology



green stand for the physical predicates; the dotted terms stand for the non-core terms for the structure to be compatible with different stages of realizations



#### TralT data infrastructure



Chao (Cico) Zhang, VU
Sanne Ablen, VU
Jochem Bijlard, VU
Christine Staiger, SURFsara



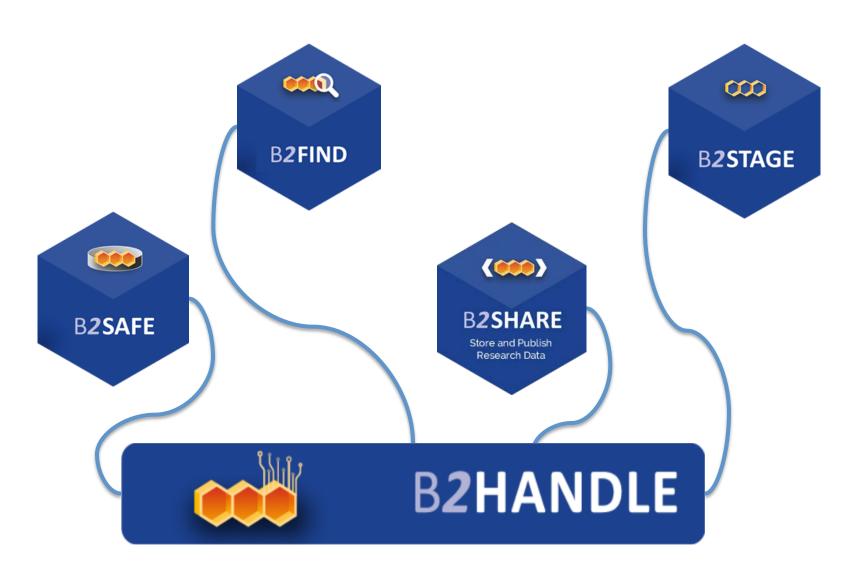
### **Use Case 4: Enabling workflows**

- Execute program hidden behind a PID
- Way to refer to workflows → reproducibility

```
In [16]: prefix = "841"
In [17]: suffix = "/5f6fb451-5841-11e4-9665-14109fe83170"
In [18]: ec.getValueFromHandle(prefix, "URL", suffix)
Out[18]: '/Users/christines/PIDs/helloWorld.py'
In [19]: pid = subprocess.Popen([sys.executable, ec.getValueFromHandle(prefix, "URL", suffix)])
In [20]: Hello World!
```

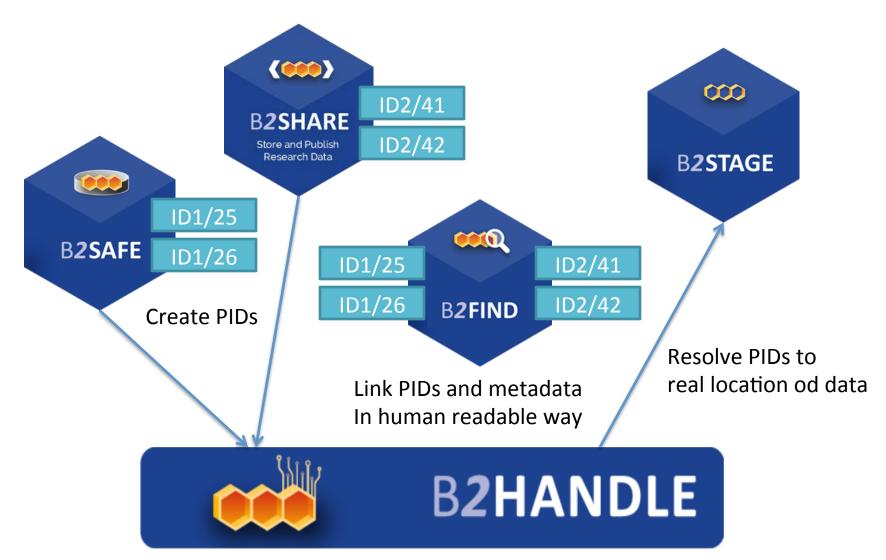


### PIDs in EUDAT – Why?



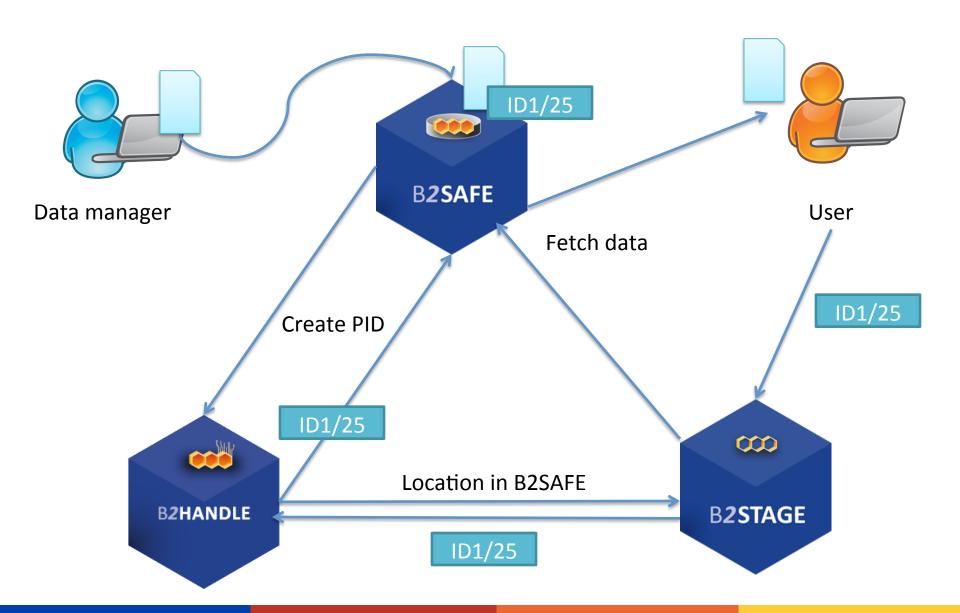


### PIDs in EUDAT – Why?





### The data managers' workflow





# **PID** systems



### Resoluttion and the PID pattern

#### Handle

PID: 21.T12995/B2SAFE-B2STAGE

Resolver: http://hdl.handle.net/



#### Doi

PID: 10.2189/asqu.2005.50.3.329

Resolver: http://dx.doi.org/

#### Ark

PID: ark:/13030/tf5p30086k

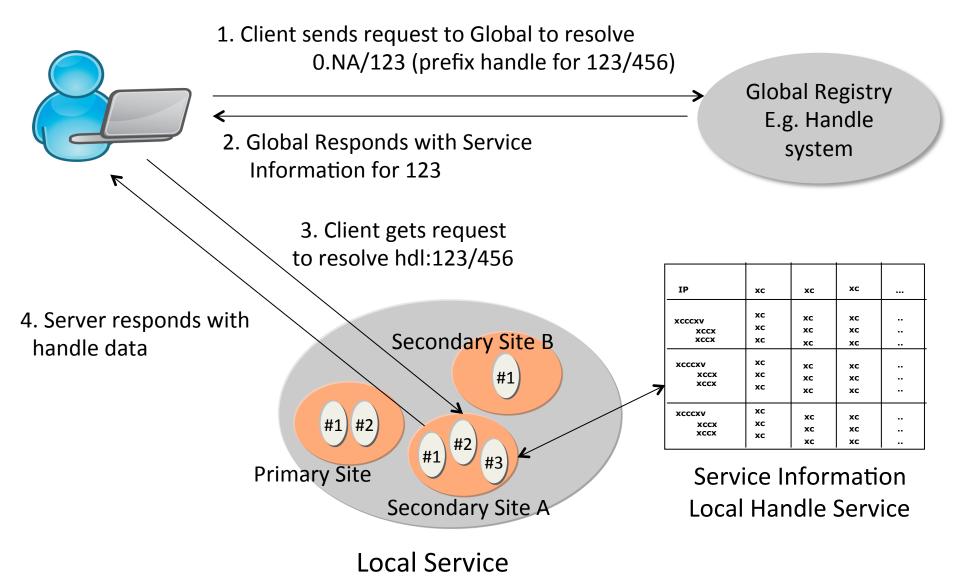
Resolver: https://nbn-resolving.org/

#### **Exercise**

- Resolve the PIDs
- What happens if you resolve a PID with a foreign resolver?

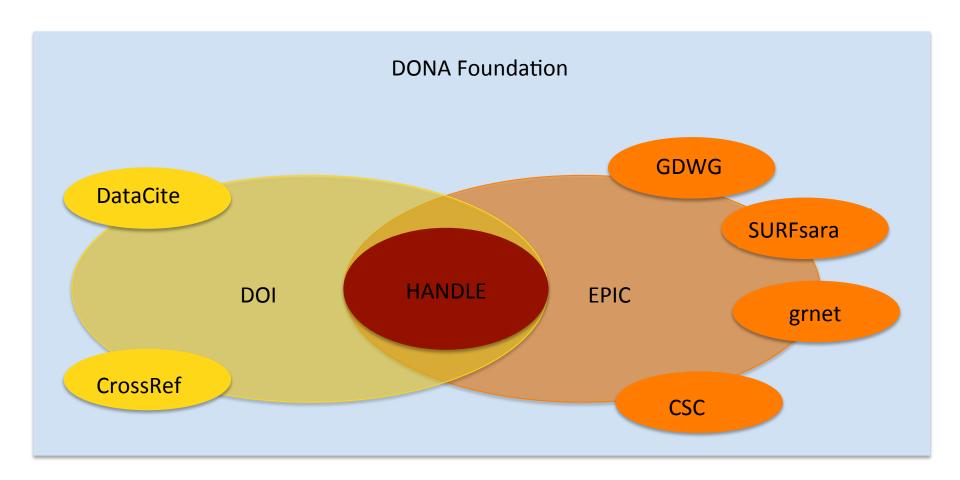


### **Resolving PIDs**





### PID systems and issuing authorities





### PID systems and issuing authorities

#### URN:NBN

- Policies: PID is persistent and the data it is dereferenced to
- Wants to be independent from transfer protocols
  - → Currently all identifiers start with *http*Might change in the future

#### DOI

- Policies: PID is persistent, data not
- Well accepted amongst researchers
- Based on the handle system
- Datacite, Crossref are prefix issuing authorities
- Requires extra metadata, stored in another database

#### Both:

- PIDs point to a landing page, not the file itself
- User needs to provide a minimum set of metadata (Dublin Core)





### PID systems and issuing authorities

- ePIC (European PID consortium)
  - Policies: PID is persistent, data is not
  - PIDs can point to anything
  - Based on the handle system
  - Handle prefix issuing authority



- DONA foundation (www.dona.net)
  - Maintains global handle registry





- GDWG (main partner in ePIC)
- International DOI foundation (IDF)





### The Handle system

- Pure technology!
- Metadata: You can create your own keyword-value pairs and store them with the PID
- Policies: Do it yourself!
  - handles can point to anything
  - handles can also be removed, they are not per se persistent

• • •

- → Great flexibility for adjusting the system towards your own needs
- → You have to implement everything on your own
- → You have to think even more carefully about how you want to facilitate data management



#### For whom?

- PIDs allow to make a distinction between data users and data managers
  - Data users get a PID and can directly access the data, or the metadata stored with the PID
  - Pipelines can programmatically access the metadata and start specific applications
- Requires some serious thoughts about data organisation and developing the code to put data policies into practice, including code maintenance
  - → For bigger research groups or consortia working in a distributed data environment
  - → For **repositories** who are in need of a host for their PIDs



# Step by Step: Using the B2HANDLE python library

- Register data with a Handle
- GET the details of a Handle
- Modify a Handle record
- Link two files on PID level
- Reverse look-up (not possible via normal Handle API)

