



fli

Leibniz Institute on Aging –
Fritz Lipmann Institute



ELN@FLI

Stage 0 - From market survey to performance specification

Good Scientific Practice ▼

GSP Measures at FLI

Ombudsperson

Publications

processes. This is why improvements, adjustments, and new ideas concerning the framework for GSP at FLI are constantly discussed. With the development of this GSP Concept, further improvements of GSP measures at FLI can be developed and ascertained also in the future.

GSP Measures

- ▼ Ombudsperson
- ▼ Weekly Institute Seminar
- ▼ Leibniz Graduate School on Aging - LGSA
- ▼ GSP Regulations in Work Contracts
- ▼ Compulsory GSP Trainings
- ▼ Electronic Lab Notebook - ELN
- ▼ Primary Data Management
- ▼ Guideline Quality Control
- ▼ Rules for Archiving of Publication-Relevant Data

Initial feature list

- questionnaire - lack of experience

Experiences

- someELN@jena
 - 10 years
 - regular user training
 - $\approx 30\%$
- bring the people using it! (Y. R., MPIIB)
- portfolio of functionalities? (I. P., CSB)

Essence: Usability

- → **Ease of use most important!**
- → follow-up costs (BAuA)

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Budget

Core requirements

- **on premises (no cloud!)**
- **Web based** (only HTML5 browser)
- **Comprehensive Export**
- **Links to external files**
- Links to internal resources
- Search
- Templates, Reuse
- Collaboration
- GSP (Users+Groups • Rights • Versions) → FDA 21 CFR part 11
- writable API
- Inline annotation of images • Freehand drawing
- **Usability**

Market

- LiMSwiki.org: 87 • The Gurdon Institute: 28 • LabsExplorer: 27
 - Harvard Biomedical Data Management: 26 • Labii: 24
- + 10%
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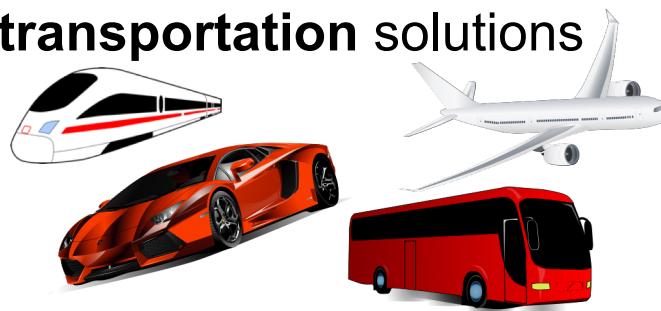
Aquire ELN

lab software solutions

- Abbott Informatics • Agilent • AgiLab
- BIOVIA • Dassault • Dotmatics • IDBS
- DeltaSoft • LabVantage • LabWare
- PerkinElmer • ThermoFisher • Waters
- ...

Aquire transportation tool

transportation solutions



Type not targeted

- database centered
- structured data

- comprehensive

- specific
→ needs adaption

- expensive?
- GUI on DB?

Aimed type

- document centered
"scribbling" software
+ collaboration + GSP + RDM

- lightweight – standalone

- generic
→ straightaway to use

- budget
- easy to use



Shortlisting

→ **not** appropriate: webinars, demos, tutorials, ...

→ **Test in practice!**

(Easy access - cloud, VMs)

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User trial

- 3 ELNs (7 weeks) : 15 testers
- countable feedback from : 6

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| ELN | all testers: 6 (points out from 10) | ranking | “power testers”: 2 (time > 10h / ELN) | ranking |
|-------|--|---------|--|---------|
| ELN 1 | 7.3 | 1 | 7.6 | 1 |
| ELN 2 | 5.9 | 3 | 6.6 | 2 |
| ELN 3 | 6.0 | 2 | 5.6 | 3 |

1. Evaluating trial

- Test environment \neq real life (cloud \neq on premises)
 - editing imported office files
 - data publishing (DOI)
 - Inventory
- initial judgements changed \gtrsim 1h
- “power testers“ \rightarrow Achilles’ heels (\gg sum of rush judgments)

2. ELN suitability

- all tested ELNs suitable (glitches ELN 3)
- ELN 4 – suspected also to fit

3. Requirement specification

- final drop of “must haves”
- phrasing \rightarrow practical needs
 - unambiguous • exhaustive (§ 7 Abs. 1 VOL/A)

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| | old prize (subscr. per seat and year) | new prize (subscr. per seat and year) | raise | comment |
|--------------------------------|---|---|-------|--|
| ELN X | \$ 120 | \$ 600 (2016) | 400 % | sic! |
| ELN 3 „unlimited server” | € 1390 /institution/year (26 th July 2015) | not available anymore | - | vanished from archive.org |
| ELN 3 (industry) | 258 € (June 2017) | 540 € (July 2017) | 109 % | huge framework contracts 10/2016 |
| ELN 3 (academic) | 120 € (June 2017) | 180 € (July 2017) | 50 % | 04/2017 (no tender) |

Commercial ELNs

- No open data format for ELN
- No data transfer between different ELNs
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= **vendor lock-in effect!**

unavoidable, but

avoid exploitation

License & contracting

→ keep on eye level with vendor

Get the data out!

→ Export capabilities

Licensing and contracting

1. end of subscription period → **unlimited (read-only) access!**
2. purchase of licenses. no budget? → **hire** purchase
3. tiered prices
4. long period of notice → time to switch
5. framework contract - fixed prices
 - long period
 - auto-prolonguation
6. “exit” → “prompt adaptations to future changes”
 - legislation
 - requirements of funding organizations
 - technical requirements of GSP

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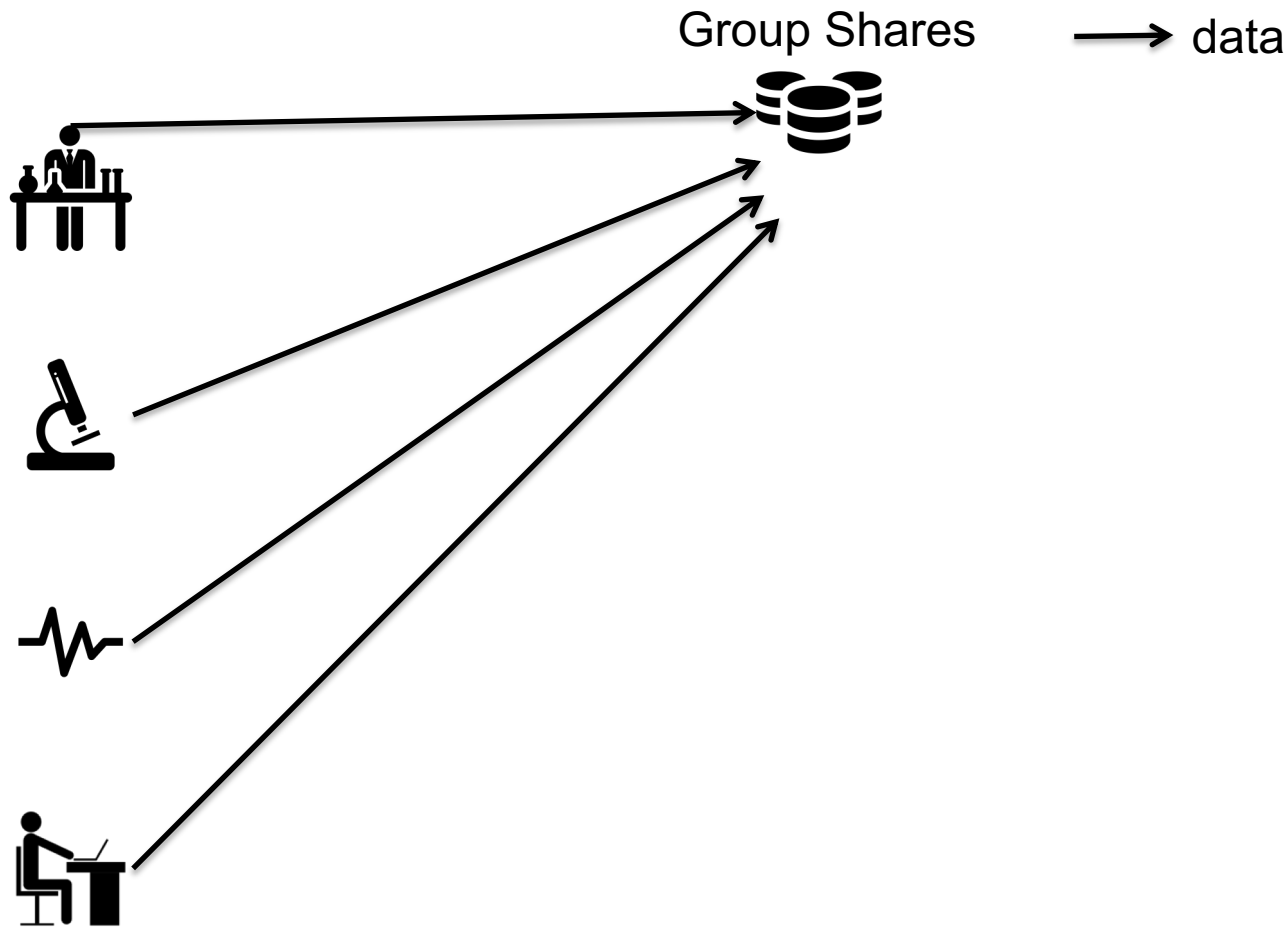
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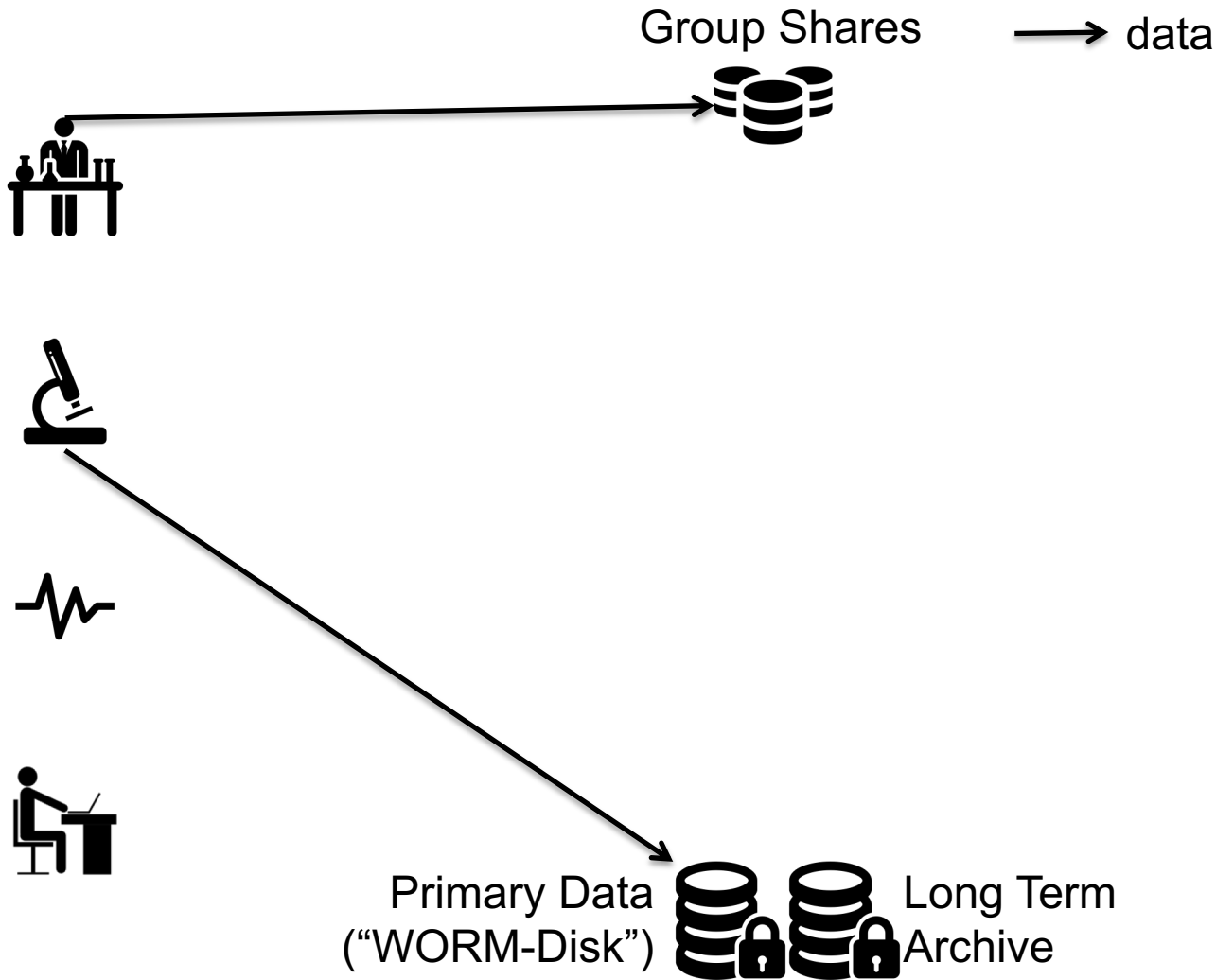
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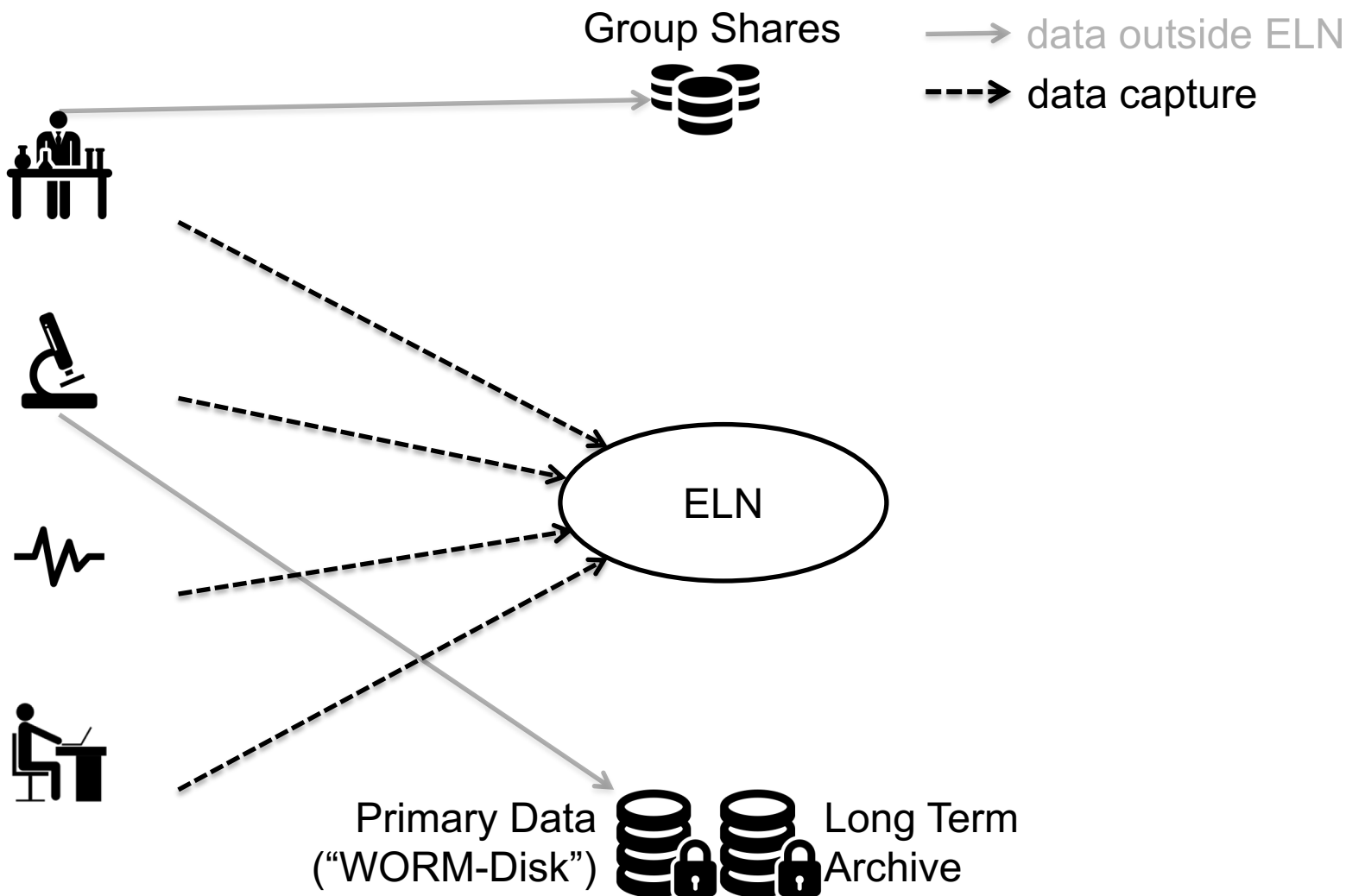
Current situation (simplified)



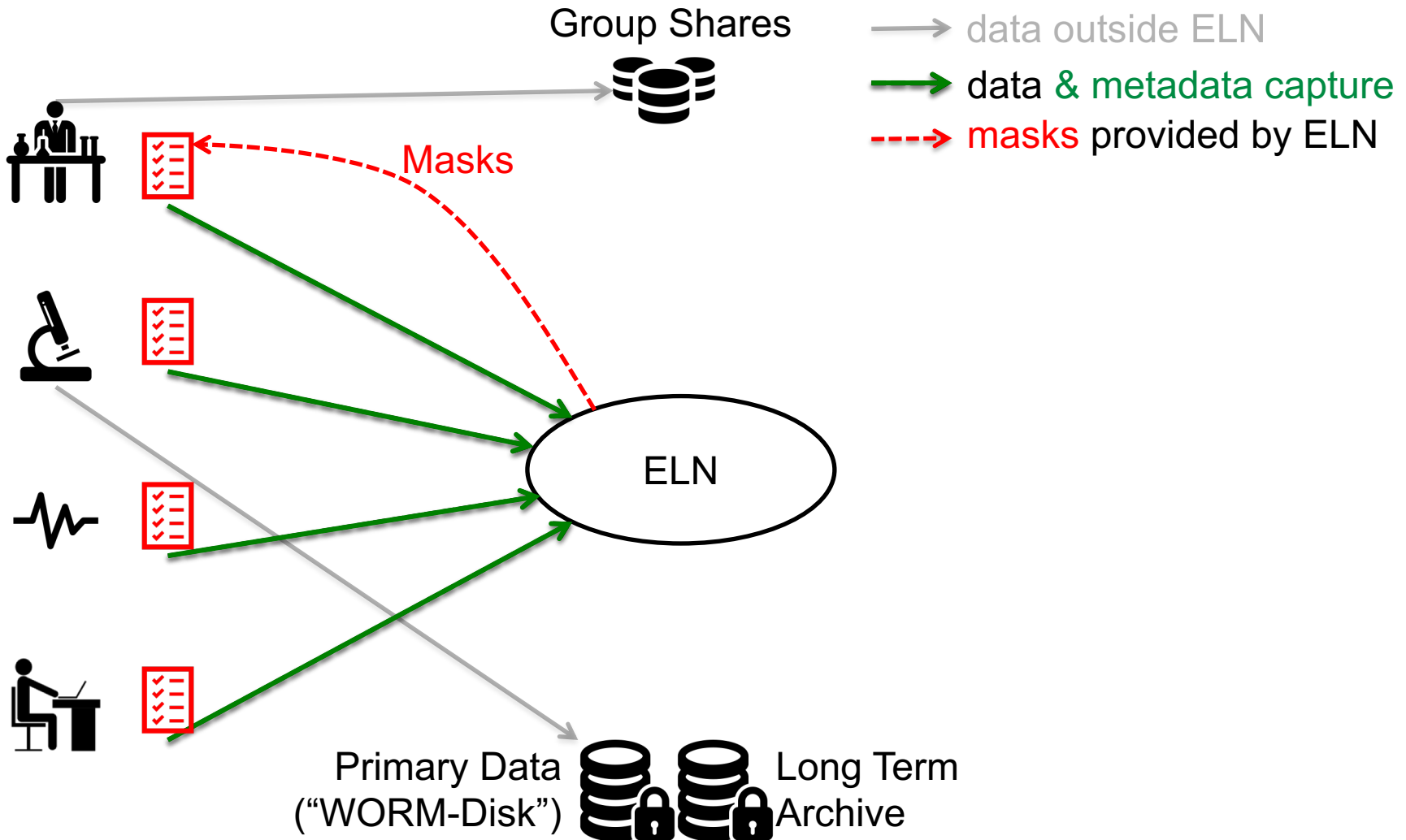
Possible future scenario (RDM currently under development)



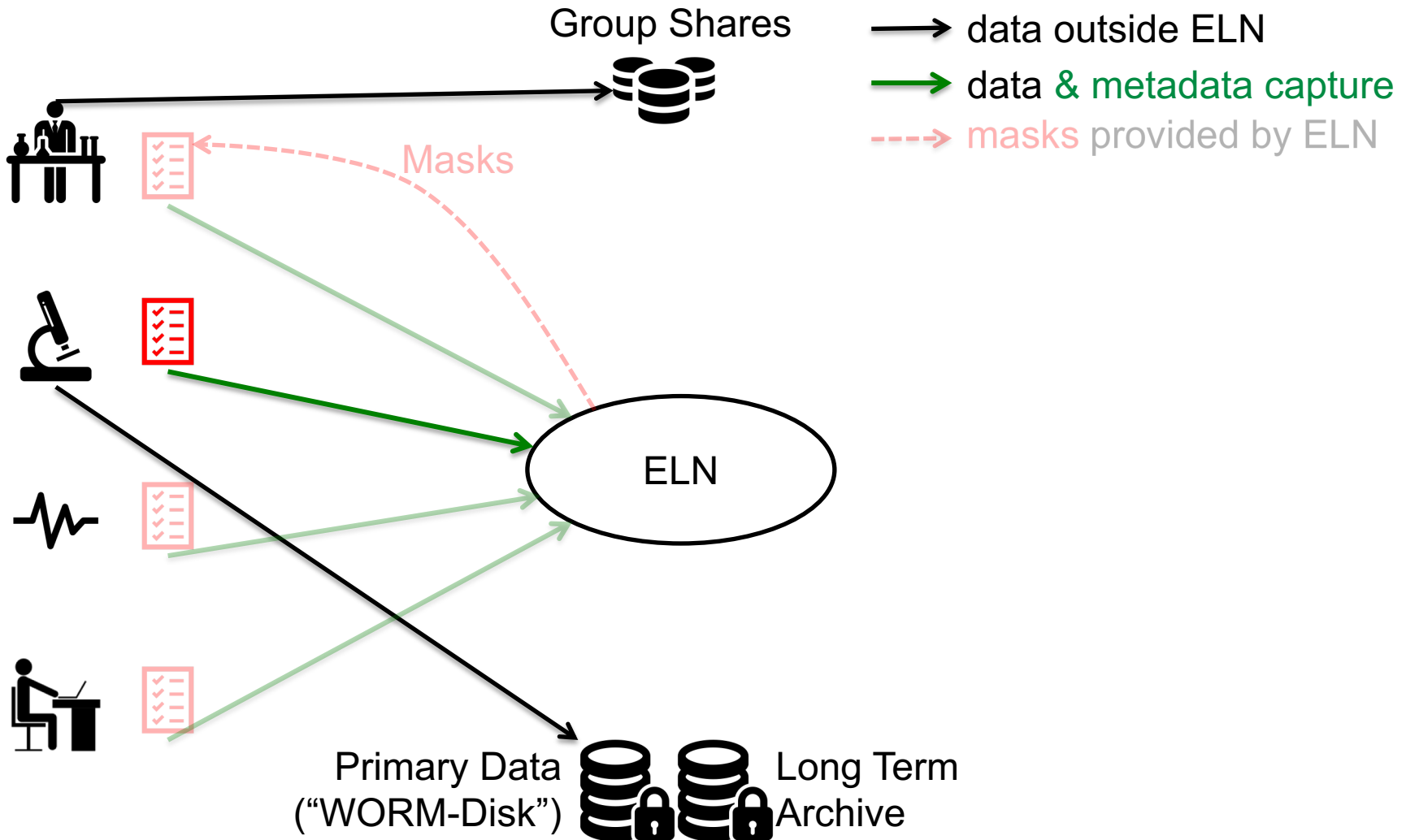
ELN data capture



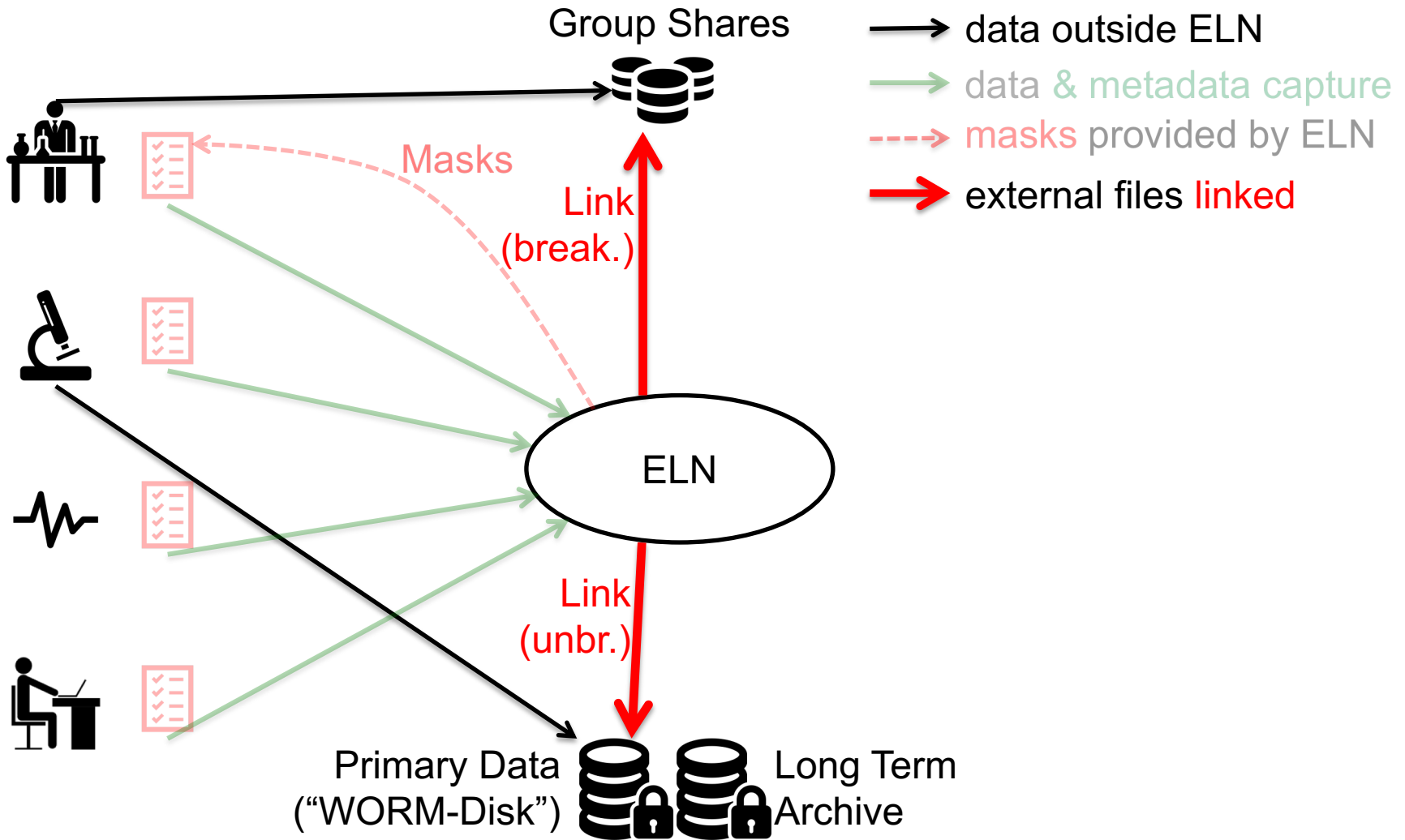
Masks: collect metadata as soon as data captured, provide structure



ELN – another data silo?



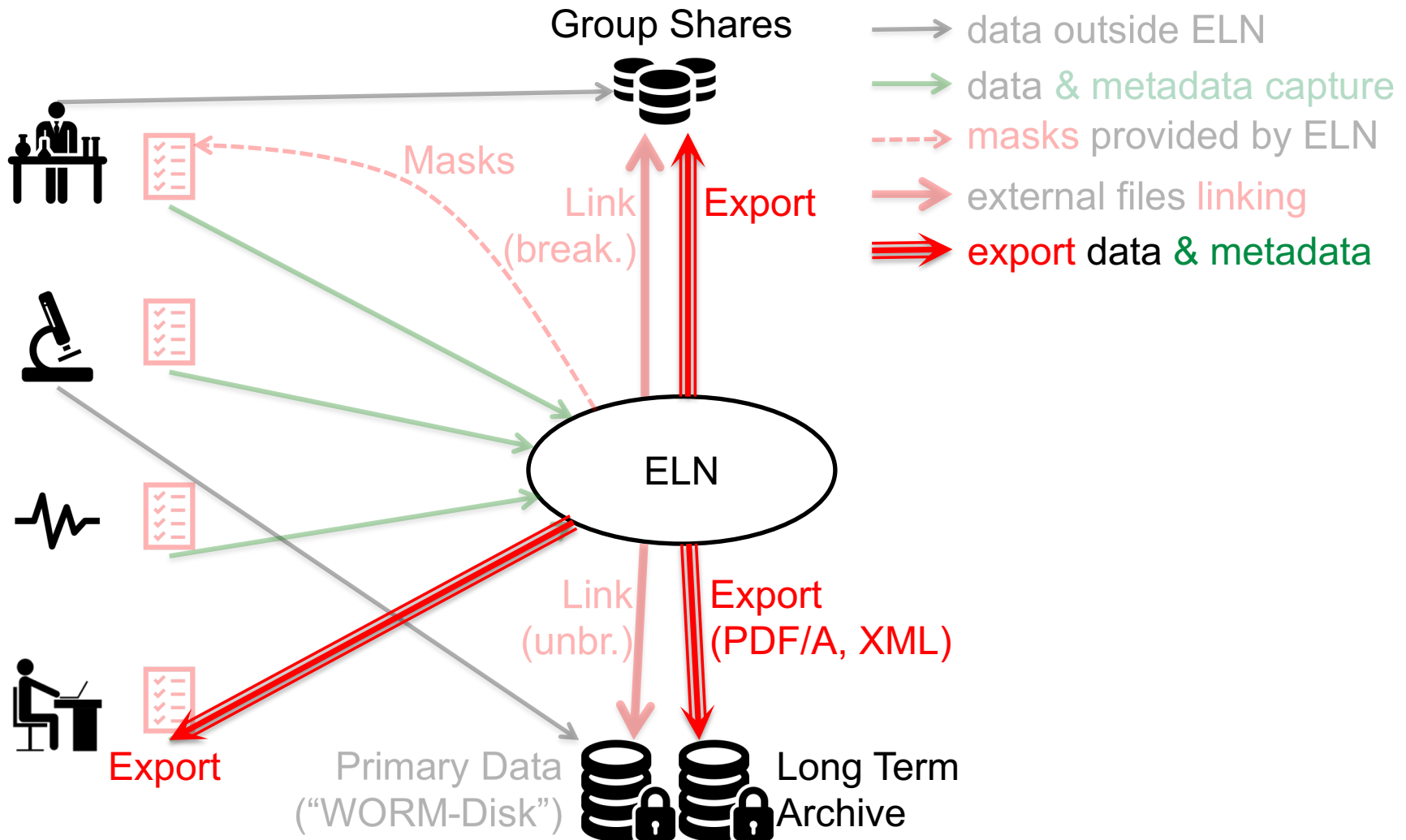
Links tells it: where is the file I created in this experiment?



Linking to external files

- linking to local (institutional) network resources
 - SMB/CIFS
 - NFS
 - sftp
- several shares, simultaneous
- referring external files: “extremely important“
- avoid data duplication → RDM

Get it out - Archive (GSP) - Resist vendor lock-in



Export functionality

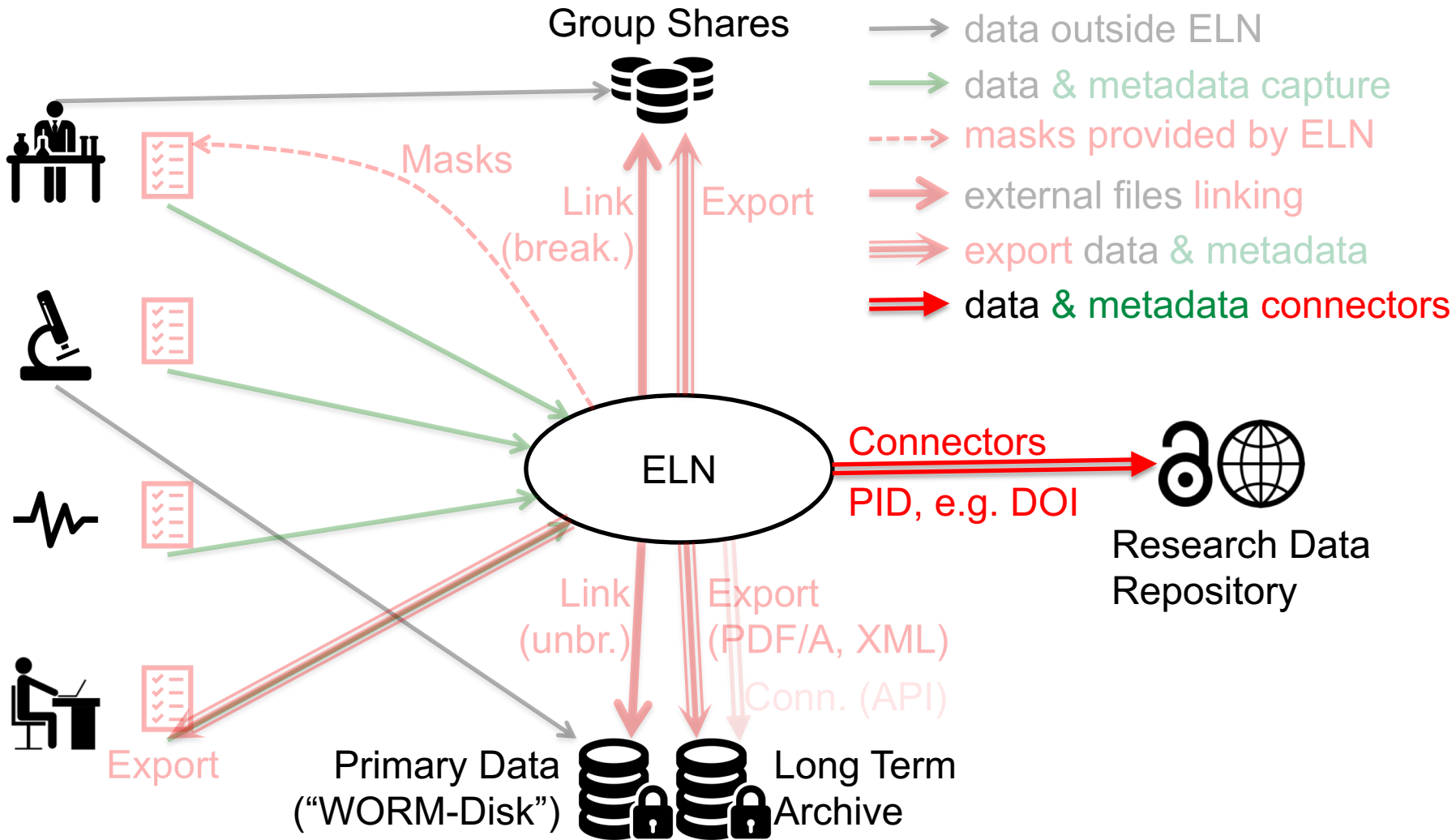
1. Export formats (“how“)
 - long term archiving: BSI (M 4.170)
 - humans → PDF/A
 - machines → XML + schema definition XSD (W3C)
 - “offline version“
 - HTML (not for archiving - BSI)
 - preservation of links, unlimited linking depth
 - format allowing for complete reimport
 - preserving the original ELN structure
 - take all my labbooks to my next research position
 - cloud ⇔ on premises
 - single documents → common office formats

Export functionality (continued)

2. Export content selection (“what“)
 - single + multiple selection
 - on every granularity level
 - from documents, folders, projects, notebooks, group, ...
 - ... whole ELN content

3. Export performers (“who“)
 - Users
 - Group leaders
 - Admins
 - whole content
 - no need for vendor support

Deposit data & metadata: bench → repository



Connectors to general purpose repositories

- publish data directly from ELN
- metadata together with data as suppl. mat.
- create PID (DOI, Handle)

Which repo?

1. open source (one of)
 - CKAN
 - ePrints
 - DSpace
 - Dataverse
 - (also: Invenio)
2. institutional
 - Zenodo or Harvard Dataverse
3. commercial
 - Figshare (amongst)

Bilingual

- broadening the competition
- sticking point
- invitation / performance spec. / communication
- contract: German

Next steps

- invitation to bid – mid of June
- Setup: August 2018
- Stage 1: Preparation
 - metadata capture
 - commitments

Thanks to ELN testers

Nicolas Huber

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Thomas Bates

Danny Schnerwitzki

Omid Omrani

Silke Förste

+ 9 others for valuable feedback

Thanks to many experts

for disclosure of their experiences and insights
by visitations, presentations, workshops, open discussions.

| Graphic | Slide(s) | URL |
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| RO-Storage | 27-31,33,36 | https://www.flaticon.com/free-icon/secure-database_83704 Icon made by Freepik from www.flaticon.com licensed by Creative Commons BY 3.0 |

1

- collection of all protocols from all research groups
- start with most used experiments (e.g. DNA extraction, Western Blot)

2

- review, evaluation, comparison, structure

3

- extraction of a general version
 - get out all experimental steps
 - for each step: define to-be included metadata

4

- development of metadata scheme using DMPs and metadata standards (e.g. Dublin Core? MIBBI?)
- apply ontology based vocabulary

5

- provision of templates (“scientists unable/unwilling to develop”)
- revision, several iterations

Phrasing of requirements

- product neutral
→ no hidden product specific requirements
- evaluation of requirement: transparent for bidders (yes / no)
→ no adjectives, e.g.:
 - ⊘ “leicht verständliche u. leicht zu bedienende Nutzerschnittstelle“
“Gebrauchstauglichkeit nach DIN EN ISO 9241 Teile 11 und 110“
→ verifiable!
- requirement restricting competition → justify reasons

Right order of trial – tender?

1. trial first – then tender
 - early consultation of purchase dept. for instructions on
→ prevention of distortion of market competition
 - tender results with not anticipated ELN: additional test necessary
→ **tender first!**

2. tender first – then trial
 - requirement specification needs practical experience
 - market exploration: allowed, often wished by VOL/A before tender
 - tender for purpose of market survey forbidden (§ 2 Abs. 3 VOL/A)
→ **trial first!**

EU-DSGVO / GDPR

- consultation of data protection officer
- additional requirements in performance specification
- service / support by vendor (e.g. teleservice)
 - mandatory: contract for commissioned data processing

Works council – contact early

- → agreement needed

ELN-requirements to be part of a RDM according to FAIR data princ.

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|---|-----------|
| 1. | masks | to capture metadata <u>together</u> with data | FR |
| 2. | linking | to external files | FA |
| 3. | export | to archives | A |
| 4. | connectors | to research data repositories (PID, DOI) | FA |

F

- F1. (meta)data are assigned a globally unique and persistent identifier
- F2. data are described with rich metadata (defined by R1 below)
- F3. metadata clearly and explicitly include the identifier of the data it describes
- F4. (meta)data are registered or indexed in a searchable resource

A

- A1. (meta)data are retrievable by their identifier using a standardized communications protocol
 - A1.1 the protocol is open, free, and universally implementable
 - A1.2 the protocol allows for an authentication and authorization procedure, where necessary
- A2. metadata are accessible, even when the data are no longer available

I

- I1. (meta)data use a formal, accessible, shared, and broadly applicable language for knowledge representation.
- I2. (meta)data use vocabularies that follow FAIR principles
- I3. (meta)data include qualified references to other (meta)data

R

- R1. meta(data) are richly described with a plurality of accurate and relevant attributes
 - R1.1. (meta)data are released with a clear and accessible data usage license
 - R1.2. (meta)data are associated with detailed provenance
 - R1.3. (meta)data meet domain-relevant community standards

