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**International identification and
white & grey literature.**

**Identities, retrieval, reuse and the certainty of knowledge.
Sharing and connecting information**

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Identifiers in bibliographic fields.

The oldest identifiers

During the 20th century the development of identifier codes - in most cases internationally spread under ISO auspices - encouraged the idea that few things were yet “unidentifiable” and “uncontrollable” in document field.

Then, social control for documents data and metadata: distributed technology and bottom-up control.

The expansion of new technologies for info retrieval via web made thinkable the advent of a sort of social control for documents, data and metadata identifiers: in conflict with the concept of a unique identification coming from an authoritative origin.



New century and identifiers in bibliographic fields

- ▶ More recently we saw a new proliferation of bibliographic identifiers, mainly concerning digital environment documents.
- ▶ Some new publishing sectors not directly interested to now in the topic of identification have been involved in.

Finally, also responsibility entities
(individuals, groups, corporate bodies...)
have been included under identifying activity.

The identification of publishing or documentary products/actors seems to be now consolidated.



Flexibility of Grey Literature: «pleasure and pain»

- ▶ The flexibility of Grey literature is a strength but also a weakness because GL lacks lots of infrastructures and best practices used by academic publishers;
- ▶ Grey literature is made by researchers and ‘fedded’ by Research, but isn’t still usually viewed in the ‘Upper Class’ of the scholarly literature because...
- ▶ it’s difficult to cite in academic journals
Grey documents are not all considered in citation indexes like Web of Science or Scopus: some editors and publishers (e.g. Oxford Journals) discourage any formal citation of preprints and similar.

How to control the controllers?

It's urgent to establish common guidelines -
description, metadating, cross-identification -
widely shared and implemented by agencies or
any other component of the information chain.

*The Publishing Identifiers must be Unique
(permanent naming system)*

*how to draw the information
cross-exchange?*

→ usefulness of a dynamic model for cross-sharing
and cross-use of data, metadata and identifiers

Usefulness of Persistent Identifiers for GL evaluation

- ▶ Without knowing even how much grey literature material is created each year is difficult to realize how complete any citation index is, even using altmetrics.
- ▶ **Use of persistent identifiers**
The constant use of a PI as **Handle System** - in which resources are assigned a unique identifier that can be resolved to a URL by the creator - would represent a significant solution to ensure track of documents, even if they move around the internet

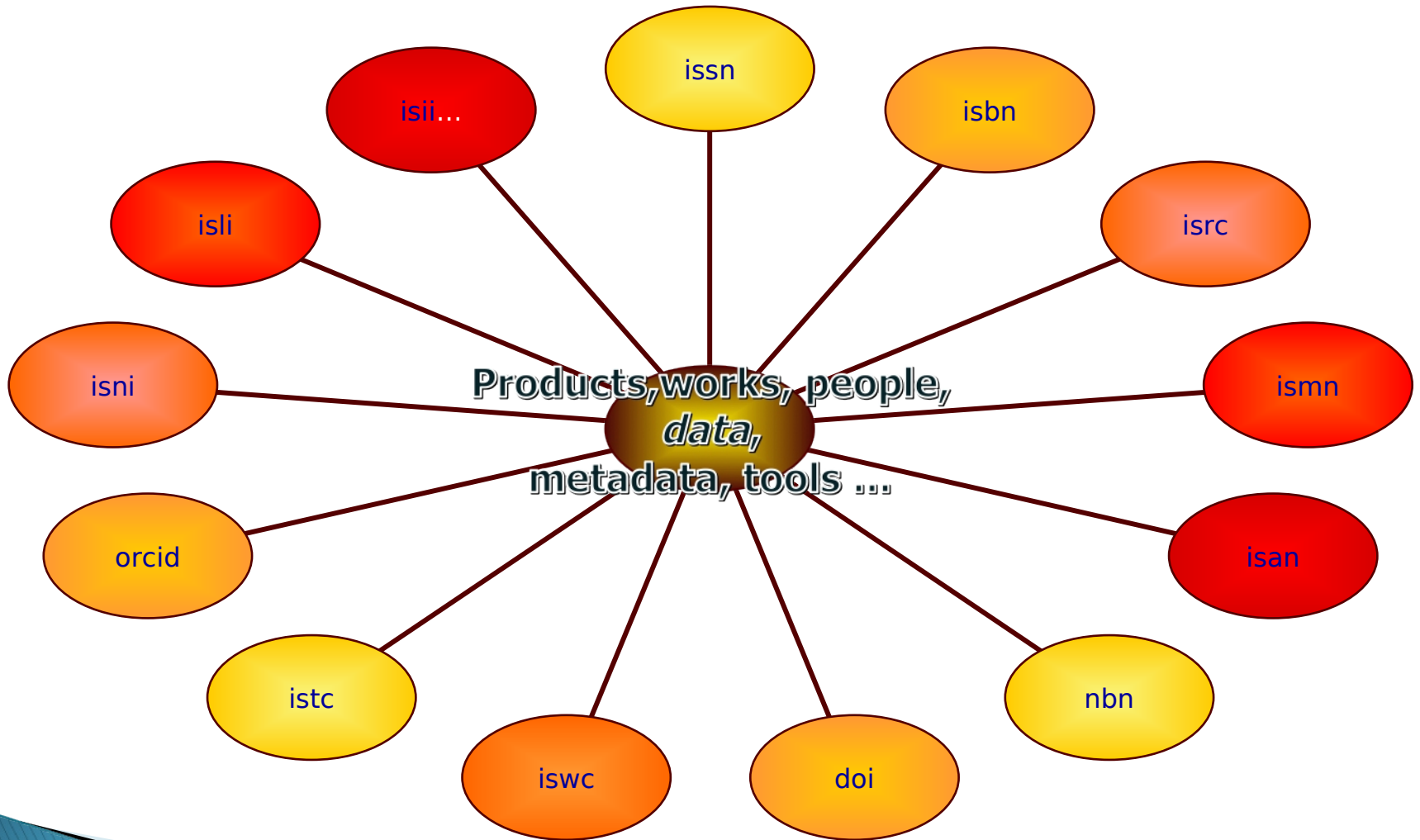
The dynamic model

- ▶ Usefulness of a dynamic model for cross-sharing and cross-use of data, metadata and identifiers, that allow international agencies to pool or exchange their information collections, avoiding duplications when same data match in more than one archive.
- ▶ Moreover this model could be easily supported by current techniques for information retrieval via linked data.
- ▶ Obviously the aim would not be to create the *nth* super archive, but to encourage the disseminated allocation of multiple information, that could be found or summarized just when searched by users.

A new *dynamic model*: ***why not?***

It's necessary the cooperation among agencies to obtain a general improvement of the quality level of public information, thanks to the exponential circulation of authoritative data: "lowcost" for agencies, publicly available for everybody, and easy to be updated

The *dynamic model* now



The future dynamic model:

The INFORECYCLING

Where *publishing products, works, people, data, metadata, tools* are dynamically described by linked data coming from identifiers databases

