

# ELN-DIY-Meta: Creating Interoperability for ELNs

Catriona Eschke\*, Fabian Kirchner\*, Sayed Ahmad Sahim,\* Martin Held\*, Nicole Jung<sup>◊</sup>

\* Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, Institute of Metallic Biomaterials, Institute of Membrane Research. <sup>◊</sup> Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Institute of Biological and Chemical Systems

## Motivation

- ELNs = key to research data management of experimental metadata
- ELNs enable documentation, tool integration and large, coherent databases in experimental science
- Interdisciplinary research combines different discipline-specific ELNs
- Interoperability between ELNs generally not available

## Goal

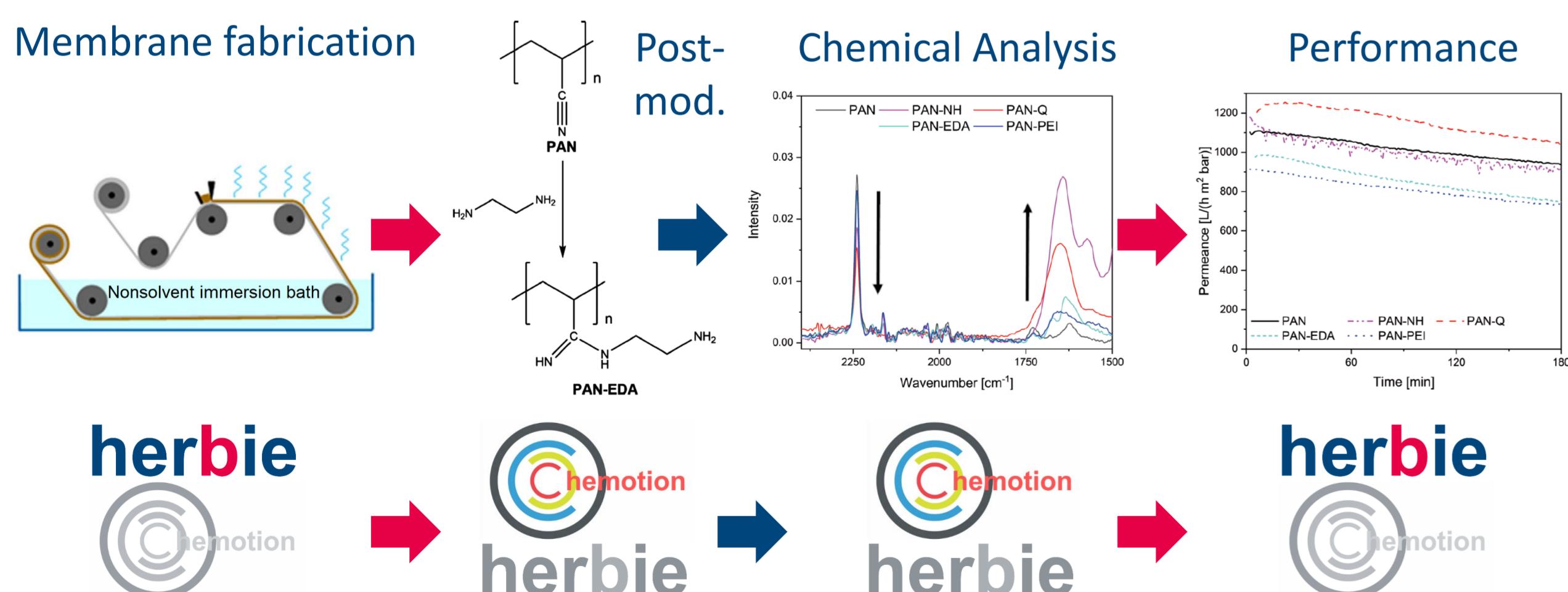
- API-based data exchange for ELNs Herbie and Chemotion
- Multiple ELNs in one institution with high interoperability
- Synchronize all information for the use case → data entry into either ELN

herbie



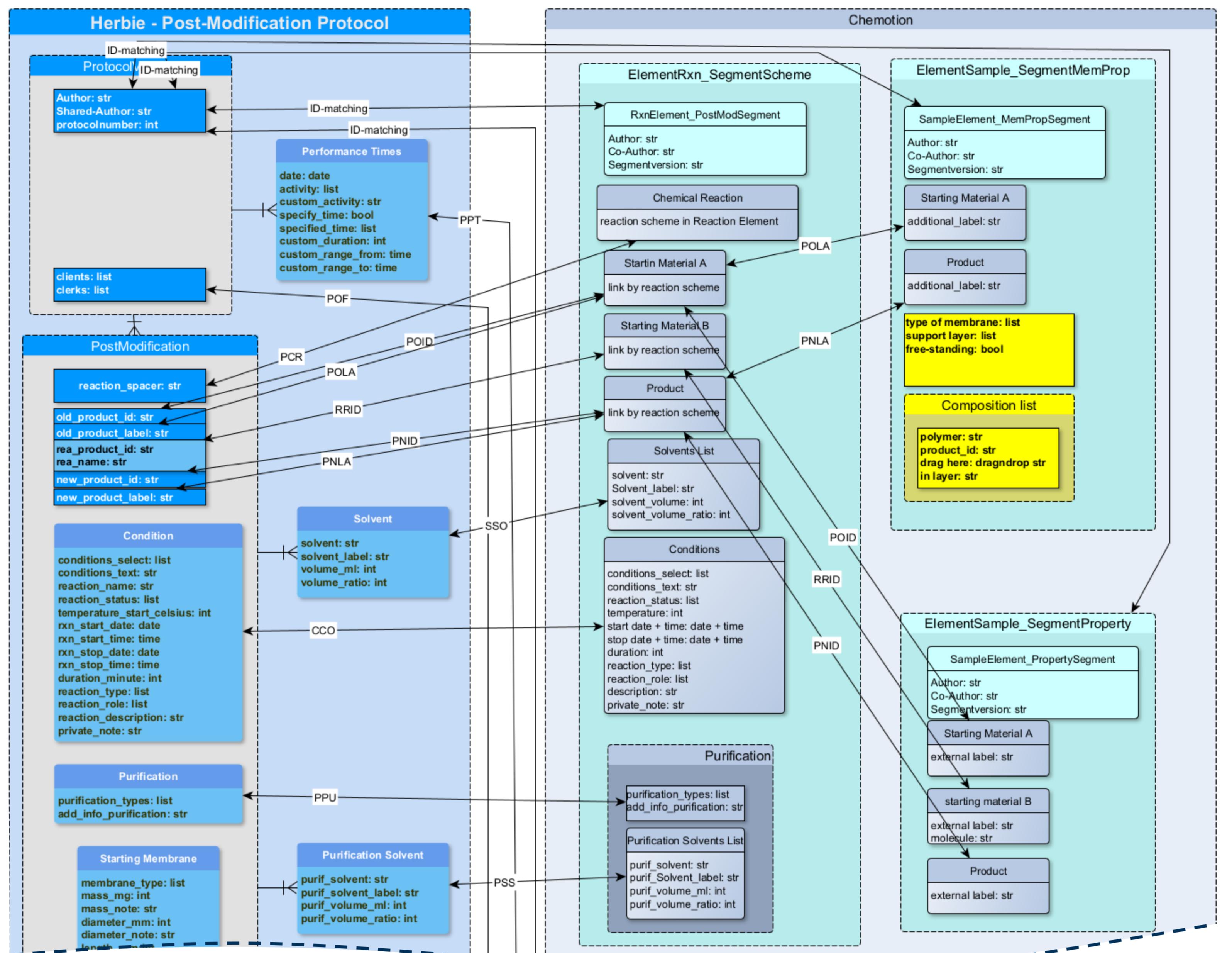
## Use case

- Chemical post-modification of PAN membranes

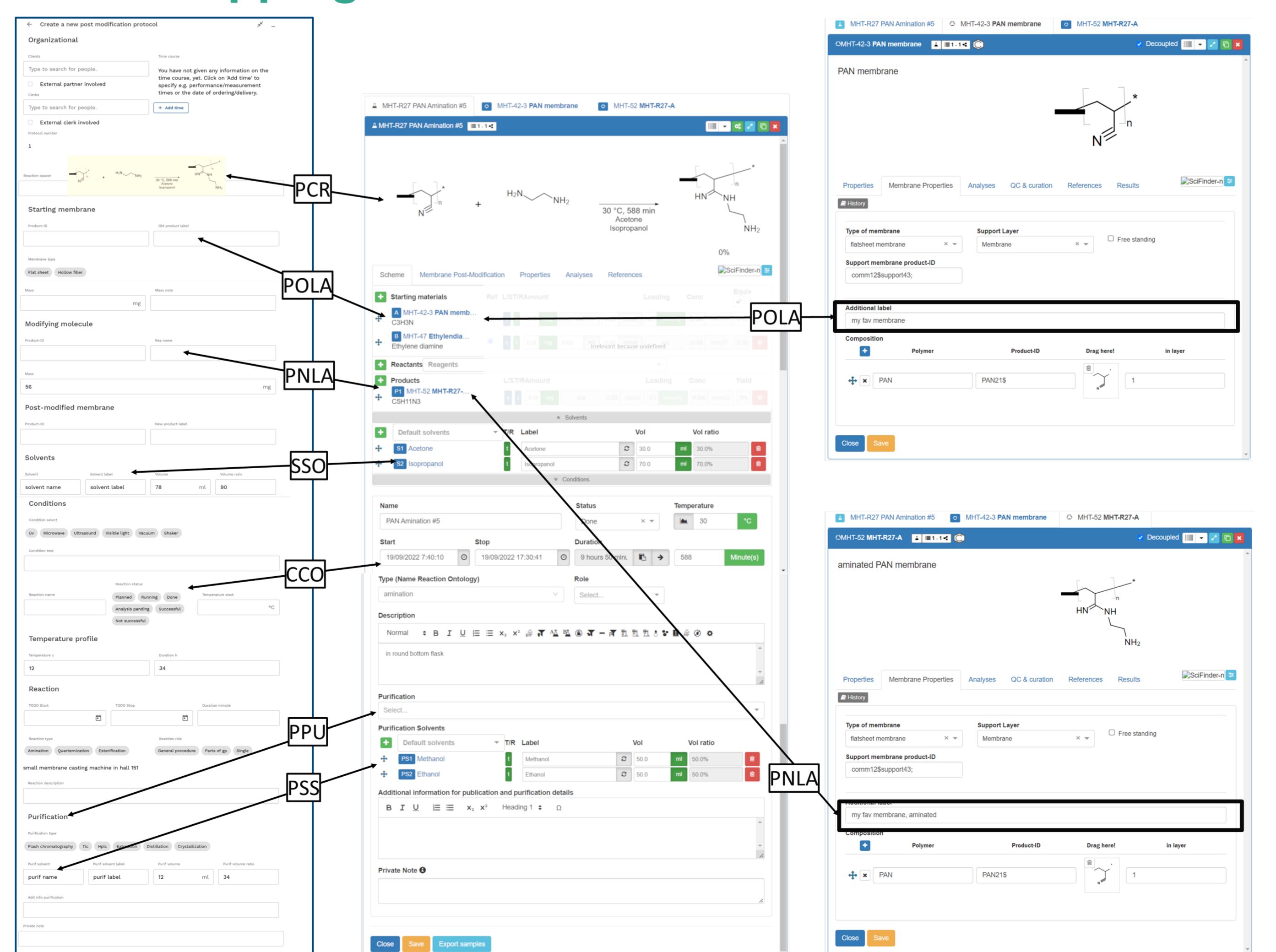


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## Backend mapping



## Frontend mapping



## Step 01: Analysis

- Analyze fundamental design & strengths of ELNs  
→ Chemotion has more restrictions in types of input fields and layout design → start here
- Classify metadata to be exchanged

## Step 02: Design I

- Fundamental decision: Synchronize or create complimentary read-only fields
- Create frontend in Chemotion
- Consider mandatory metadata in Herbie

## Step 03: Mapping

- Create mapping of backend of Chemotion & Herbie  
= Interoperability entity relationship diagram
- Define editable and information-only metadata sets

## Step 04: Design II

- Implement missing types of input fields and functions in both ELNs
- Document metadata that cannot be represented in one of the ELNs due to fundamental restrictions
- Create backend & frontend in Herbie according to mapping

## Outlook

- Derive specific metadata exchange format from general metadata scheme
- Develop API for both ELNs
- Embed experimental datasets
- Develop metadata converter for other ELNs
- Publish guide