

# Scientific Data Goes Digital

A new digital lab notebook proves that digitalization of scientific data opens up new horizons for scientific data processing. Developed by scientists turned entrepreneurs from Berlin, the lab management tool labfolder simplifies documentation and archiving procedures of scientific results, with an immense effect on the overall efficiency of laboratory research.

The advantages are obvious: Digital platforms like labfolder offer well organized, maximum protected data in one place, accessible anytime, from anywhere. Scientists can effortlessly manage and share their scientific data online, a move that saves valuable research time and money.

Nonetheless, most research institutes, universities and research driven enterprises still struggle to implement the benefits of digital research tools into their everyday work environments. As a result, piles of paper, scattered notes and vast collections of different digital storage locations continue to pose challenges to scientists on a global scale.

## Labfolder – A Free and Secure Digital Lab Notebook

As a viable alternative to conventional paper laboratory notebooks, the cloud-based online platform labfolder allows scientists to document, archive and share their research data in a digital format. With an interface similar to a page in a conventional paper lab book, the electronic lab notebook provides tools like protocol templates, an image editor and a sketching pad that accelerate lab work to a great extent. At the



same time labfolder promotes communication and collaboration between scientists, offering extended team editions with tailor-made group functions, knowledge management and access control.

Another big bonus of labfolder are the free mobile apps, available for all portable devices operating under Android and iOS. Within seconds scientists can turn their smartphones, tablets and ipads into digital lab notebooks with unlimited access to scientific data, anytime and anywhere. Once recorded with the labfolder app, all scribbled notes, sketches and photos of experiments are seamlessly transferred into the digital lab notebook. In turn, archived research data

can be retrieved anywhere - directly at the lab bench, at a conference or outside in the field. The integration of reference managers and academic social networks like Mendeley and Figshare also allow for the linking of scientific literature and experimental raw data. The good news: labfolder is absolutely free for individual scientists and small groups; advanced packages for the management of larger groups and enterprises are available for a monthly fee.

## Data security – Maximum Protection 24/7

In terms of data security, labfolder incorporates state-of-the-art enterprise security procedures for maximum data protection. Daily backups, redundant servers and encrypted data communication give maximum data safety and security. Being compliant to the rules of Good Laboratory Practice, all entries are also provided with a full audit trail, timestamps and digital signatures.

Developed from scientists for scientists, the Berlin-based labfolder GmbH is continuously improving its product and strongly encourages customer feedback to boost the overall lab experience for researchers worldwide. ■

