



Working Group on Data Citation: Making Dynamic Data Citeable

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research data sharing without barriers
rd-alliance.org



What is the Problem?

- Citable datasets have to be static
 - Fixed set of data, no changes:
no corrections to errors, no new data being added

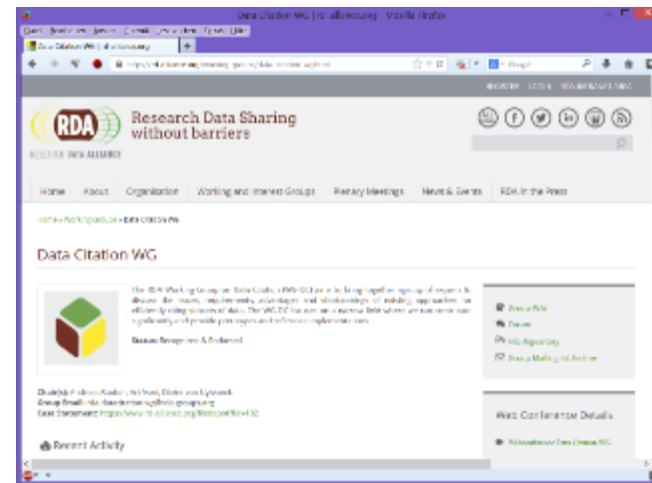
But: (research) data is **dynamic**

- Adding new data, correcting errors, enhancing data quality, ...
- Would like to cite precisely the **data as it existed at certain point in time**, without delaying release of new data
- What about the **granularity** of data to be identified/cited?
 - Databases collect enormous amounts of data over time
 - Researchers use specific subsets of data
 - Need to identify precisely the subset used
- Would like to be able to identify & cite precisely the **subset of (dynamic) data used** in a study

RDA WG Data Citation



- WG on **Data Citation: Making Dynamic Data Citeable**
- WG officially endorsed in March 2014
 - Concentrating on the problems of **large, dynamic (changing) datasets**
 - Focus!
Not: PID systems, metadata, citation string, attribution, ...
 - Liaise with other WGs and initiatives on data citation (CODATA, DataCite, Force11, ...)
 - 138 members around the globe



<https://rd-alliance.org/working-groups/data-citation-wg.html>

Data Citation: Data + Means-of-access

- Data → time-stamped & versioned (aka history)

Researcher creates working-set via some interface:

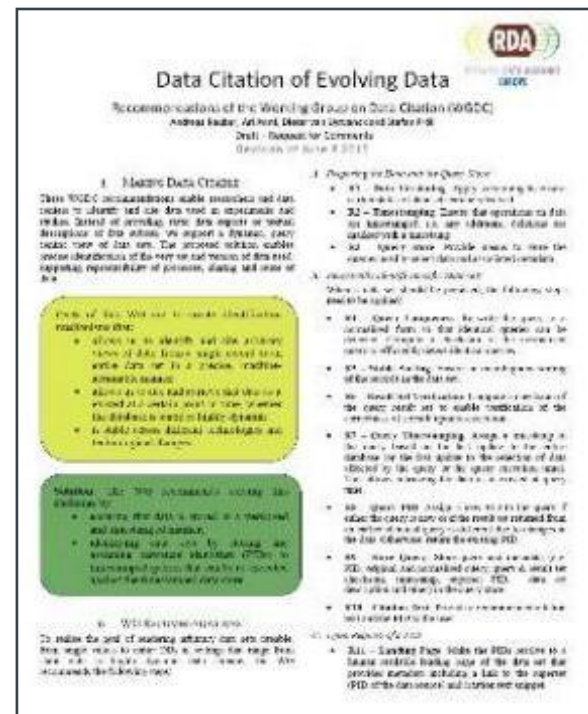
- Access → **assign PID to QUERY**, enhanced with
 - **Time-stamping** for re-execution against versioned DB
 - **Re-writing** for normalization, unique-sort, mapping to history
 - **Hashing** result-set: verifying identity/correctness

leading to landing page

S. Pröll, A. Rauber. **Scalable Data Citation in Dynamic Large Databases: Model and Reference Implementation**. In IEEE Intl. Conf. on Big Data 2013 (IEEE BigData2013), 2013

http://www.ifs.tuwien.ac.at/~andi/publications/pdf/pro_ieeebigdata13.pdf

- 14 Recommendations grouped into 4 phases:
 - Preparing data and query store
 - Persistently identifying specific data sets
 - Resolving PIDs
 - Upon modifications to the data infrastructure
- 2-page flyer
- Technical Report to follow
- Reference implementations (SQL, CSV, XML)
- Pilots



- Pilots and implementations by
 - LNEC: Critical Infrastructure Monitoring System
 - Virtual Atomic and Molecular Data Centre
 - NERC (UK Natural Environment Research Council Data Centres)
 - ARGO Buoy Network
 - River Flow Dataset
 - ESIP (Earth Science Information Partners)
 - BCO-DMO
 - DEXHELPP – Social Security Data
 - ENVRIplus: Carbon Observation System
 - Million Song Database, IR Benchmark DBs
 - Several others under discussion...



- Wrapping up this WG:
 - Finalize detailed report
 - Wrap up reference implementations
 - Publish results
 - Get them adopted as RDA outputs

- Follow-up activities
 - Help with adoption!
Support for implementations – RDA Collaboration Projects:
<http://europe.rd-alliance.org/rda-europe-call-collaboration-projects>
 - Revise / enhance recommendations
 - Tackle some open issues and more challenging settings
(LOD, distribution, generalized views, permissions, ...)