

# **Measuring Impact by Empowering Users to Illustrate the Effort they Put in Natural History Collections**

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## Biology Needs a Modern Assessment System for Professional Productivity FREE

Lucinda A. McDade, David R. Maddison, Robert Guralnick, Heather A. Piwovar, Mary Liz Jameson, Kristofer M. Helgen, Patrick S. Herendeen, Andrew Hill, Morgan L. Vis

*BioScience*, Volume 61, Issue 8, 1 August 2011, Pages 619–625,

<https://doi.org/10.1525/bio.2011.61.8.8>

**Published:** 01 August 2011

“Is it possible that the lack of recognition in the academic assessment system of these forms of productivity has contributed to the diminished status—indeed even the near disappearance from many academic departments—of traditional systematics...”

# Natural History Museums Desperately Need

Brand Awareness

Meaningful Measures of Impact



DISCO

Distributed System of Scientific Collections



How Do We Fix This?  
(or at least make it better)

CERAMBYCIDAE



UCSB-IZC00018988

Rosalia  
funebria  
Det.: R. Behm, 2018

USA: CA: Santa Barbara Co.  
Refugio Creek ; Sweep Net  
July 24, 2018; WGS84  
34.9723, -120.4436

On a tree next to the  
creek ; Col. Jacqueline  
Pena-Sosa; EEMB 118  
Entomology Class

Det.: R. Behm, 2018

Col. Jacqueline Pena-Sosa



# Harvard University Herbaria & Libraries

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## Index of Botanists

Name	Gray, Asa
Date of birth	1810
Date of death	1888
Remarks	[author note: Herbarium and types: GH. Exsiccatae: North American Gramineae and Cyperaceae (original in Gray Herbarium library).] [collector note: B, BM, BUF, C, DWC, FI, G, G-DC, GH (orig.), GRA, HBG, K, LE, LY, MASS, NY, OXF, P, P-DU, P-JU, S, W, WAG. Plantae Exsiccatae Grayanae issued long after Asa Gray's death]
URL	<a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asa_Gray">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asa_Gray</a>
ASA Botanist ID	100103 botanist
GUID	<a href="http://purl.oclc.org/net/edu.harvard.huh/guid/uuid/3f8c70aa-1862-4784-8a53-f69ffe810fao">http://purl.oclc.org/net/edu.harvard.huh/guid/uuid/3f8c70aa-1862-4784-8a53-f69ffe810fao</a>



## **Authority Management for People Names**

Sofia, BU, 12-13 March 2019

Leader and Co-Leader:

**Elsbeth Haston** (RBGE) and

**Arnald Marcer** (CREAF)

17 Participants

Review of existing people name identifiers

Presented existing pilot case studies

Recommended use of ORCID, wikidata, &

International Standard Name Identifier (ISNI)



For the Living

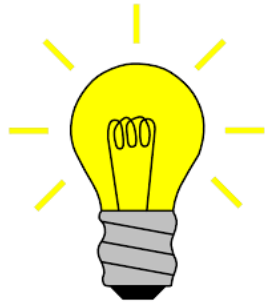


**WIKIDATA**

For the Deceased



Loaned specimens are returned with new det.  
Specimens are donated and exchanged  
Experts visit museums to identify specimens

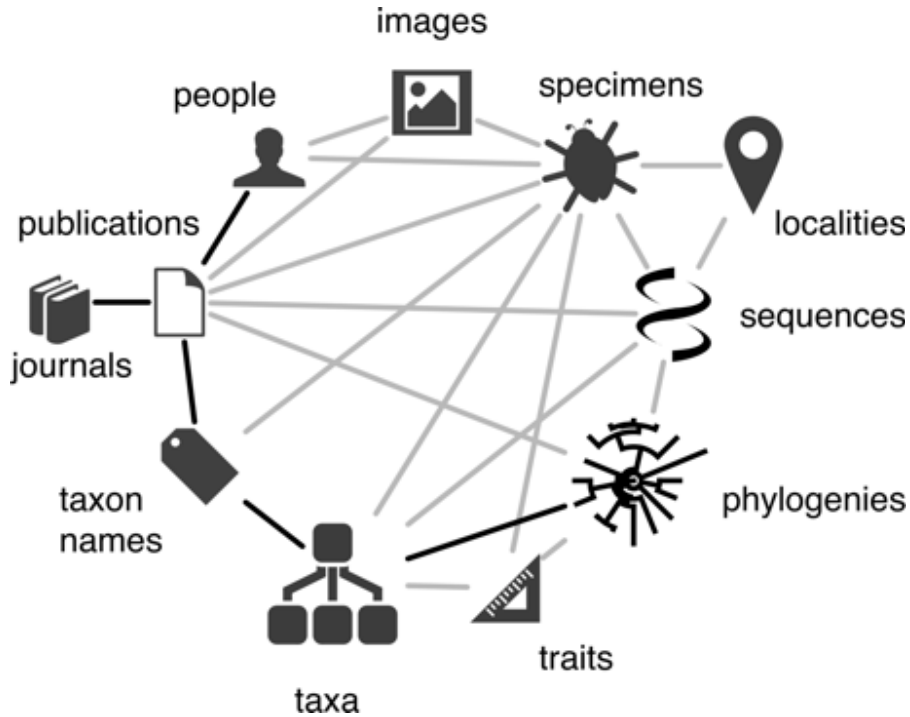


A citation graph!

# Ozymandias: a biodiversity knowledge graph

Roderic D.M. Page

IBAHCM, MVLS, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, United Kingdom



## ABSTRACT

Enormous quantities of biodiversity data are being made available online, but much of this data remains isolated in silos. One approach to breaking these silos is to map local, often database-specific identifiers to shared global identifiers. This mapping can then be used to construct a knowledge graph, where entities such as taxa, publications, people, places, specimens, sequences, and institutions are all part of a single, shared knowledge space. Motivated by the 2018 GBIF Ebbe Nielsen Challenge I explore the feasibility of constructing a “biodiversity knowledge graph” for the Australian fauna. The data cleaning and reconciliation steps involved in constructing the knowledge graph are described in detail. Examples are given of its application to understanding changes in patterns of taxonomic publication over time. A web interface to the knowledge graph (called “Ozymandias”) is available at <https://ozymandias-demo.herokuapp.com>.



# Drivers for the Institution



**David Shorthouse**

@dpsSpiders



Just wrote a use-case: "As a visiting taxonomist, I want my curatorial activities in foreign collections to be seamlessly & transparently recorded so that my institution receives recognition for having partially paid for my travels."

← recognition for host institution

← recognition for taxonomists' institution

2:16 PM - 7 Mar 2019

2 Retweets 6 Likes



1 2 6



**David Shorthouse** @dpsSpiders · Mar 7

...I don't mean by video camera. That'd be creepy.

3



Add another Tweet

“And don't make me count it!”

Fully automated

Quantifiable / Verifiable



# Ingredients to Make This Happen

Newly digitized specimen



**identifiedBy / recordedBy**

Biodiversity  
Information  
Standards  
TDWG



<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9144-2848>

GRBIO ?

**institutionCode**

ORCID: ringgold, GRID

not sameAs



**dateIdentified**

ORCID: employment/education  
start/end date



Claim the natural history specimens you collected or identified, track their use in new science, and help acknowledge your peers, mentors, and organizations.

<https://bloodhound-tracker.net>



## Impact on Activities in Other Organizations

Current and previous personnel have claimed specimens now curated at the following organizations that they collected or identified while affiliated with Canadian Museum of Nature.

All Years ▾

### Specimens Collected

33 organizations

86,952 specimens

KU	76,834
UTC	3,396
US	2,678



Are There Other Drivers?



Newly digitized specimen



**identifiedBy / recordedBy**

<http://rs.tdwg.org/dwc/iri/identifiedBy>



<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9144-2848>



**Andrew Johnston**

@MAndrewJohnston

Following



This is a really cool tool! Claiming all the specimens you have identified/collected is uplifting and addicting (albeit a little time consuming) - This is an awesome profile that can be attributed to your [@ORCID\\_Org](#) ID



**Dr. Hannah Owens**

@HannahOish

Following



WOW! Natural history collector friends, there is a tool out there to link \*YOU\* to specimens you've collected and identified. Birds I prepped as a grad student in Kansas have made it as far as museums in Auckland!  
[@BloodhoundTrack](#)



**Dean Hendrickson**

@HendricksonDean

Follow



@dpsSpiders please add collector John Roscoe Hendrickson (Q62011107) to Bloodhound. Thx!

7:08 PM - 9 Mar 2019



1



© Kris-Mikael Krister



**Dean Hendrickson** @HendricksonDean · Mar 19



Replying to @dpsSpiders

Uncle John had a huge influence on getting me addicted to biology & conservation. Downloaded Bloodhound set, added some pivot tables and map, and sent it to cousins working on cataloging his specimens at Bishop Museum and working on his biography. They're psyched. THX!



1



1



2





## ENETwild modelling of wild boar distribution and abundance: initial model output based on hunting data and update of occurrence-based models Literature

Acevedo, P. Croft, S. Smith, G. Vicente, J. (2019) EFSA Supporting Publications

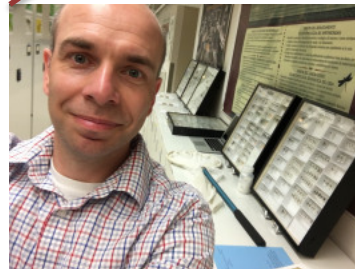
After presenting preliminary models to estimate the habitat suitability for wild boar in MSs and neighbouring countries as a proxy for its relative abundance (i.e. the relative representation of a species in a particular ecosystem, a kind of proxy of the density) the ENETWILD consortium has develop...

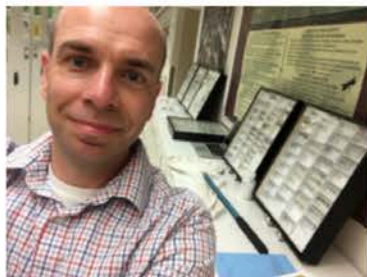
[Sus scrofa](#) • [distribution](#) • [game management](#) • [hunting tags](#) • [population abundance](#) • [population monitoring](#)

[Journal article](#) [Open access](#) [Peer-reviewed](#)

Data used in study [DOI 10.15468/dl.v2ydsu](https://doi.org/10.15468/dl.v2ydsu)

The screenshot shows the GBIF Occurrence Download interface. At the top, a green navigation bar contains the GBIF logo and links for "Get data", "Share", "Tools", and "Inside GBIF". On the right of this bar are icons for a search, a list, and a "Login" button. Below the navigation bar, the text "DOWNLOAD | 31 OCTOBER 2018" is displayed. The main heading reads "140,403 occurrences downloaded". Below this, a blue "DOI" button shows the identifier "10.15468/dl.v2ydsu". To the right of the main heading are two buttons: a green "DOWNLOAD" button and a black "1 CITATION" button. Below these buttons is a "FILTER APPLIED 31 OCTOBER 2018" section. The citation information is as follows: "Citation: GBIF.org (31 October 2018) GBIF Occurrence Download https://doi.org/10.15468/dl.v2ydsu", "License: CC BY-NC 4.0", "File: 9 MB CSV", and "Involved datasets: 131". A note at the bottom of this section says "Make sure to read the data user agreement and citation guidelines." On the far right, there is a "RERUN QUERY" link.





## Torsten Dikow

*cladistics, taxonomy, cybertaxonomy, biodiversity*

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4816-2909>

 Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC, US

 United States of America

 Field notes

Overview

Specialties

Network

Deposited At

Science Enabled

Specimens

2 publications used Torsten's specimen data from the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF).

### Science Enabled by Specimen Data

Figueira, R., & Lages, F. (2019). Museum and Herbarium Collections for Biodiversity Research in Angola. *Biodiversity of Angola*, 513–542. doi:10.1007/978-3-030-03083-4\_19 [https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-03083-4\\_19](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-03083-4_19)

The importance of museum and herbarium collections is especially great in biodiverse countries such as Angola, an importance as great as the challenges facing the effective and sustained management of such facilities. The interface that Angola represents between tropical humid climates and semi-dese...

 11 specimens

Park, D. S., & Razafindratsima, O. H. (2018). Anthropogenic threats can have cascading homogenizing effects on the phylogenetic and functional diversity of tropical ecosystems. *Ecography*, 42(1), 148–161. doi:10.1111/ecog.03825 <https://doi.org/10.1111/ecog.03825>

Determining the mechanisms that underlie species distributions and assemblages is necessary to effectively preserve biodiversity. This cannot be accomplished by examining a single taxonomic group, as communities comprise a plethora of interactions across species and trophic levels. Here, we examine ...



## Michael Pirie

*Annonaceae, Erica, Evolution, Phylogeny, Systematics, Taxonomy*

 <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0403-4470>

 Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz, Mainz, Rheinland-Pfalz, DE

 Germany

 0 Field notes

Pirie, Michael. 2019. Natural history specimens collected and/or identified and deposited. [Data set]. Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2670039>

DOI [10.5281/zenodo.2670039](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2670039)



## Michael D. Pirie

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Natural history specimens collected and/or identified and deposited. 

Zenodo

2019-05-07 | data-set

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.2750946](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.2750946)

Source: DataCite

★ Preferred source



# Be Responsible – The Metric Mantra

- Respect privacy
  - People, places, dates on specimen labels *could* reveal sensitive, incriminating information
- Anticipate potential for misuse
  - Numbers of specimens collected or identified by individuals is partly an artifact of the taxa, community practices
- Anticipate changes in behavior
  - *Should* we support or dissuade the gaming of a metric?
- Cut the wick at the first sign of weaponization



# A metric (on/for people) must...

1. Be recognized and used when hiring new staff and when evaluating applications for promotion
2. Be voluntarily reported on and included in professional resumes
3. Be included as criteria when evaluating applicants for awards (funding, honoraria from societies)
4. Be easily, transparently, and verifiably calculated
5. Fluctuate in response to known causes
6. Lead to decisions that trigger action
7. Not disenfranchise anyone
8. Incorporate network effects