Vocabularies Are Fun
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VertNet Vocabularies

Taxonomy

Geography

Informed by:

- Multiple hand-selected authorities
- Millions of real occurrence records from published datasets

Geography

- Don't miss this opportunity!

- 200,000 unique verified localities

- Authorities include GADM, Google Maps, Wikipedia, and more

- VertNet validates full geographies from continent to municipality

Taxonomy

- More than 100,000 genus terms validated

- VertNet taxonomic vocabularies are validated at the level of GENUS.

- 2 phases of validation
  - Automated
  - Manual

Taxonomy

- Automated validation occurs during the use of the VertNet Migration Toolkit and multiple authorities.

Clade	Primary Authority
General	*Global Names Resolver*
Amphibians	*AmphibiaWeb*
Birds	*Avibase*
Fish	*Catalog of Fishes*
Mammals	*Mammal Species of the World (3rd)*
Reptiles	*Reptile Database*
Paleobiology	*Fossilworks*

Taxonomy

- Manual validation occurs when a genus cannot be validated unambiguously or cannot be identified by primary authorities.

- Authority priority:
  - Clade authority first, then,
    - Catalogue of Life / ITIS / Paleobiology Database
      - WoRMS / IRMNG / GBIF Taxonomic Backbone
        - Published papers / other literature / Wikipedia

Taxonomy - Considerations

- VertNet keeps the verbatim source taxonomy
  - Resolves to dwc:HigherTaxonomy

- Vocabularies are not comprehensive, but are based on millions of real biodiversity records

- Updates and additions are not scheduled

Taxonomy

- Look closely at the GBIF / Catalogue of Life collaboration

- iDigBio will likely to adopt the GBIF / CoL vocabularies when implemented.

VertNet Vocabularies

- There for the taking – but please give credit where credit is due.

- https://github.com/VertNet/DwCVocabs

- https://github.com/VertNet.DwCVocabs/wiki

Questions?

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And hey, we can help with data publication via the IPT and registration with GBIF, too.