

Gil

Nelson:[https://www.idigbio.org/wiki/index.php/Paleo Digitization Working Group](https://www.idigbio.org/wiki/index.php/Paleo_Digitization_Working_Group)

Gil Nelson:[https://www.idigbio.org/wiki/images/3/3a/Webster et al 2008.pdf](https://www.idigbio.org/wiki/images/3/3a/Webster_et_al_2008.pdf)

Bruce MacFadden:What database program do you use?

Mark D. Uhen:Have you tried using Macrostrat?

Bruce MacFadden:So how does Specify handle this problem?

Bruce MacFadden:Isn't this analogous to when taxonomic names change with revisions, etc.

Talia:Specify only allows you to have one "determination" for litho or chronostrat. There isn't a way to track the history

Mark D. Uhen:My microphone isn't working...

Bruce MacFadden:Does anyone know a database program that is better than Specify for handling strat data?

Una Farrell:<http://macrostrat.org/>

Roger Burkhalter:Would adding some kind of time stamp to the lithostrat data help?

Mark D. Uhen:Macrostrat is a database of North American stratigraphic units and beyond. It can be helpful.

Jessica Utrup:In EMu, we have an "other values" table in the stratigraphy section, but it is only rarely used. Most stratigraphic notes go into our stratigraphic details field.

Mark D. Uhen:I'm afraid my microphone problems are local, not Adobe Connect.

Paul Mayer:We can use multiple values/opinions in KE EMu both with Chronostrat and Lithostrat.

Bruce MacFadden:Roger your mic if breaking up

Roger Burkhalter:Yes, that's what I was saying

Carolyn Levitt:What website was that?

Talia:GeoLex

Carolyn Levitt:thanks

Una Farrell:http://ngmdb.usgs.gov/Geolex/geolex_qs.html

Tiffany Adrain:Still using "Lexicon of Stratigraphic Names of the US for 1936-1960" for here! Certainly record the original, because everything else is ***my*** interpretation. Also refer to Iowa Geological Survey website and publications for local stratigraphy.

Erica Clites:Can anyone talk more about how you would use macrostrat to update the stratigraphy? I'm not very familiar with it.

Roger Burkhalter:Geolex only updates based on what has been published, but is responsive if you e-mail them updates

Bruce MacFadden:I'd like to know the status of Specify updates that will incorporate stratigraphic data, or are there no plans to do this?

Mark D. Uhen:There is an API for Macrostrat, so you can use it to retrieve data if you know how to communicate with the API.

Roger Burkhalter:Try the Hughes Creek mbr

Mark D. Uhen:I think they started with COSUNA for Macrostrat

Trish Weaver:Gil, after this meeting could you please post the links to GeoLex and Macrostrat into the meeting notes?

Mark D. Uhen:Macrostrat also has geographic info from the 2005 Geologic Map of North America

Mark D. Uhen:I'm nodding.

Mark D. Uhen:Paleobiology Database also has an API. One could potentially draw data from PaleobioDB into databases like Specify and KEMu as well in the future.

Mark D. Uhen:It would be good to have options for one to one and one to many relationships for all of the stratigraphic names in our databases to handle this sort of thing.

Talia:Other problems: can't do multiple determinations with strat. in Specify and also linked to collection object and not locality

Paul Mayer:One nice thing we can do in KE EMu is have multiple values for a formation for example the Francis Creek Shale Member of the Carbondale formation is Desmoinesian in the North American Stage and Moscovian in European and Westphalian C in the older German stage names.

YPMsusan:Paul was the one saying emu could do multiple values

YPMsusan:oops - there it is...

Paul Mayer:We have it as a multiple value lookup field. If that makes sense.

Talia:we have the same Una

Talia:us too

Bruce MacFadden:Yes, that's a real problem for us to. What do you call a locality, is you collect from multiple strat levels in the same geogr place!

Patricia Burke:KE also has a notes field called interpretation history to explain the naming.

Tiffany Adrain:We have a lot of zonules and faunules. Does that fit in a Specify tree?

Talia::)

Mark D. Uhen:Paleobiology Database conceptualizes a "collection" as the intersection of time, geologic unit, and geographic place.

Tiffany Adrain:We put "messy data" in our "StratigraphyRemarks" field, but we have two "DetailedStrat" fields too, in Specify 5.

Tiffany Adrain:The zonules go in the Detailed Strat fields in Specify 5, but what happens in 6? Yes they're free fields.

Tiffany Adrain:I think consistency of where you put the data is really important!

Talia:Yes! Our problems came from serial undergrad data entry mistakes

Bruce MacFadden:Yes, right now each collection is trying to find a place to put these data because the standard field(s) do not yet exist to accommodate these data.

Talia:The paper copies are initialed and dated I can track which undergrad did what back in the day

Mark D. Uhen:C4P RCN is hosting a workshop in May where we are going to talk about trying to standardize the metadata structures for this (and other) types of data too.

Mark D. Uhen::-)

Mark D. Uhen:We'll see what we can do!

Bruce MacFadden:Mark--will you be talking about other kinds of data--like isotopes attached to specimens?

Mark D. Uhen:We are hosting several of these workshops and if we don't get to it in this one, we will in a future workshop.

Mark D. Uhen:Excellent. It is definitely needed.

Mark D. Uhen:Happy to do it, but I need to fix my microphone...

Mark D. Uhen:This is getting old

Tiffany Adrain:How do you handle something that is e.g., Late Miocene-Early Pliocene?

Mark D. Uhen:I need to run, but will look forward to seeing many of you in Florida this weekend.

Talia:i have this problem too

Talia:us too

Jessica Utrup:We add it to our lookup lists.

YPMsusan:we would use verbatim strat details field

Bruce MacFadden:do you add million years BP?

Mark D. Uhen:Thanks!

Talia:nope

Erica Clites:Yes, we have a lot of those, too. I would be interested in talking about these stratigraphic issues further. We are doing a lot of data updating right now.

Tiffany Adrain:Absolute ages and anything related in Strat Remarks if there's an associated reference with the specimens.

Talia:yes

Tiffany Adrain:Yes!

Paul Mayer:There is an absolute date tab in Ke EMu.

Roger Burkhalter:Vert Paleo here has an absolute ae/radiometric date data field

Talia:you could also add it as a preparation maybe

Talia:ture

Talia:true

Bruce MacFadden:Paul--do you use the absolute date tab?

Erica Clites:Yes, I think some metadata for stratigraphic assignments is important!

Paul Mayer:We like to include images of the original labels.

Tiffany Adrain:Maybe produce a list of what "free" fields are being used for to demonstrate a specific need?

Talia:yes, there isn't a lot of standardization about what is in the fields etc

Paul Mayer:It is a lot easier to image labels than fossils.

Talia:maybe we can do that at the specify workshop

Talia:make a list of fields

Tiffany Adrain:I'll bring my list...

Patricia Burke:KE has the absolute date tabs but so far I have not had any specimens with the data. And the fossil imaging is not rapid.

Talia:that would be great

Talia:we do it all the time

YPMsusan:paul - you have an absolute date tab in emu?? cool!

Jessica Utrup:Yeah, Paul, which module?

Paul Mayer:Stratigraphy Module

Paul Mayer:Absolute Date Tab

Erica Clites:Maybe we could invite someone from USGS to talk about Geolex in more detail? And where they are in the updating process, if it is still underway?

Paul Mayer:I think we got it from NHM London

Talia:ooh good Ann!

Bruce MacFadden:I need to sign off, thanks! Bruce

YPMsusan:Thanks Una!!!

Patricia Burke:thanks Una

Erica Clites:Thanks, Una!

Tiffany Adrain:Thank you Una, and everyone!

YPMsusan:Thanks Gil!

L Catherine Riddle:thanks Una