

Citable Publication of Scientific Data

**John Helly
Scripps Institution of
Oceanography
San Diego Supercomputer Center
University of California, San Diego**

Outline

- Evolution of Scientific Data Publication (Helly@SDSC)
- Changing Workflows
- Scope & Structure
- Data & Metadata
- Bibliographic Approach
- Protection of Intellectual Property Rights
- Editorial Policy
- Discussion

NONGEOSPATIAL METADATA FOR THE ECOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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Abstract. Issues related to data preservation and sharing are becoming increasingly important to ecologists. Ecologists, for example, are increasingly using data collected at broader spatial, temporal, and thematic scales (sustainability). No data set is perfect and self-explanatory upon a set of instructions or documentation to acquire suitability for meeting specific research objectives, and subsequent processing, analysis, and modeling.

"Metadata" represent the set of instructions or documentation that describe the context, quality, structure, and accessibility of a data set. Such standards have been developed and widely endorsed by the scientific community, but such standards do not yet exist for the ecological sciences. We present a set of generic standards for nongeospatial ecological data. We present a set of generic standards for nongeospatial ecological data. We present a set of generic standards for nongeospatial ecological data. We present a set of generic standards for nongeospatial ecological data. We present a set of generic standards for nongeospatial ecological data.

Key words: data archive; data lineage; data management; data assurance.

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CEED: 'Caveat Emptor' Ecological Data Repository


Search & Retrieve	Contributed Data
Register	Required for Data Downloading and Correspondence
Contribute	Your Data
Help	User's Guide Support by Email
Metadata	Example
Links	ESA Ecological Archives
Why	Rationale

Supported by a grant from the [National Science Foundation](#) at the [San Diego Supercomputer Center](#)

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1998


Netscape - [San Diego Bay Project Perspective]

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San Diego Bay

Interagency Water Quality Panel

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Modeling	Modeling home page
Library Access	SD Bay Bibliography at Scripps Institution of Oceanography
Sites of Interest	LiveNet San Diego Bay Cam Chesapeake Bay

Document Done

1993

FLED: Future of Long-term Ecological Data

Funding needed for creative science

Sir — For science to contribute breakthroughs to help people to live longer and healthier lives, it has to be creative. Pioneers are being squeezed out.

Too many scientists spend time repeating what their colleagues or competitors do in their field of research with no new ideas, no new concepts or creation. The race for grants and publication, if possible in leading

journals with a high impact factor, probably account for this behaviour.

Awards like the Realizing Our Potential Awards (ROPA), recently extended in the United Kingdom (*Nature* 392, 10; 1998), should be developed by governments elsewhere. By allowing the funding of 'risky' projects, they provide scientists with the opportunity to do creative research. Please, let us have more creativity, and more ROPA-like awards, for science in the future.

Bertrand Le Douarin

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New concepts of publication

Sir — I read with interest your leading article¹ about the withholding of data from "full and open access"², which is increasingly at issue across the sciences.

During the past four years or so, my colleagues and I have been developing

methods and procedures for the publication of research data in general and

because of the unique and influential role professional societies and journals play in the debate about intellectual property rights in data.

There are recurring and fundamental issues limiting 'full and open access' to data that are intrinsic to institutionalized scientific research. Examples include the fear of being 'scooped' by someone using one's data or inadequate attribution for one's intellectual investment in a research programme resulting in the data, and the relationship this has to academic career advancement. The efforts of *Nature* and *Science* to address the issue of restricted access to data is a crucial and significant crack in the cultural mind-set that fosters, permits and even necessitates the withholding of research data.

The next steps along this path require fuller discussion and involvement of the scientific community along with the funding agencies and academic policy-makers. New ideas are needed. As digital library and data repository technology improves and the potential for broader and more rapid dissemination of data increases, consideration needs to be given to new concepts of publication. One approach

would be to raise data collections to the status of citable entities in journals.

‘... One approach would be to raise data collections to the status of citable entities in journals. ...’

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1. *Nature* 391, 617 (1998).
2. National Research Council. *Bits of Power: Issues in Global Access to Scientific Data* (National Academy Press, Washington DC, 1997).
3. Gross, K. et al. *Report of the Committee on the Future of Longterm Ecological Data* (1995) <http://esa.sdsc.edu/FLED/FLED.html>
4. Helly, J., Elvins, T., Sutton, D., Martinez, D. *Controlled Publication of Digital Scientific Data: An Example in Ecology*. In preparation.

Out of order

Sir — Blaxter *et al.* in "A molecular evolutionary framework for the phylum Nematoda" (*Nature* 392, 71; 1998) incorrectly attribute to me "the view that vertebrate parasites evolved from arthropod parasitic ancestors". The oxyurids of vertebrates have long been considered to have been derived from oxyurids in insects, but to extend this idea to the other orders of the nematode of vertebrates is weird indeed and cannot be attributed to me or to any expert on helminthology I can think of.

Roy C. Anderson

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University of Guelph,
Guelph, Ontario,
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Nature,
v393, May
1998

CONTROLLED PUBLICATION OF DIGITAL SCIENTIFIC DATA

How to balance free and open access to scientific data with privileged access to new results by authors while protecting them from being scooped by competing interpretations of their own data.

John J. Helly, T. Todd Elvins,
Don Sutton, David Martinez,
Scott E. Miller, Steward Pickett,
and Aaron M. Ellison

Although the principle of equal access to data is a key aspect of U.S. government-funded science policy [10], there are strong, institutionalized, though sometimes contradictory, incentives for investigators to maintain proprietary control over that data; there is also increasing commercial and in some cases federal pressure to treat data as a commodity [4]. Efforts by the scientific community to prevent potentially deleterious international commercialization of scientific data through the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) have had some success, thanks to support from the U.S. State Department. A recent example is the Anti-Piracy Bill (H.R. 2652) passed by the U.S. House of Representatives in 1998 but never approved by the Senate; it was similar in some ways to the WIPO proposal. Related pressures continue to build, including from within the U.S. private sector. It seems the commercialization of sci-

entific data and treating it as a commodity represent an increasingly important aspect of how scientific data is published today; further complicating this scenario is the growth of the Internet-based business sector and the increasing commercial value of the data itself, especially biomedically significant data. These changes have influenced many aspects of scientific research, including the published content of professional journals, both online and on paper. The special role of research data in the advancement of science and its distinctly non-commodity character were identified as threatened by efforts to put a price on data [5].

Efforts by some scientists and policymakers to prevent the commercialization of scientific data reflect a certain irony and tension attending the purpose and politics of such data. On one hand is vigorous support for free and open access to the data consistent with the scientific

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of the ACM
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Electronic data publication in geochemistry

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Scalable models of data sharing in Earth sciences

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Properties Required for Controlled Publication

Function	Purpose
User Registration	A user ID and password are assigned to a given user while acquiring the user's email address and related contact information. The ID is used to audit data access and communication with users.
Data Acquisition	Data is acquired through contribution and submissions, along with at least a minimal set of metadata. This initiates the automatic creation of a unique name for the ADO and a transportable metadata file bundled within the ADO.
Search and Retrieval	A search system provides for spatial, temporal, and thematic (such as keyword) queries based on metadata content.
Deletion Control	The ability to delete an ADO is tightly controlled to prevent the arbitrary deletion of data copied by users. In a manner analogous to journal articles, no one should be able to unpublish data. Errata can be accommodated by publishing a revision of the data. An important special case to consider is the editorial peer-review process requiring confidentiality and the ability to remove an ADO if not accepted for peer-reviewed publication. A looser deletion policy might allow deletion of data if it had never been copied.
Assignment of Persistent Names	The persistent name, or accession number of an ADO, as in Figure 1, is used in the data repository to access the ADO, monitor updates of previously published ADOs, identify the retrieval of ADOs by users, notify users of anomalies or issues related to an ADO, establish precedence by publication date, and enable citation in other publications.
Quality Control and Quality Assurance Policy and Methods	This function can exist (or not exist) to varying degrees, exemplified by peer review and non-peer review, as well as by anomaly detection and reporting, though it must be stated explicitly. Some investigation is beginning on how to semiautomate QA/QC for specific types of data.
Access Control	Access control enables data contributors to specify a password only they know and that may be provided to other users to access the contributed ADO. This approach enables data submitters to independently control access to their own published data. Any user attempting to retrieve a password-protected ADO from the system needs to obtain that password from the data's contributor.
Traceability of Data Heritage	A mechanism for establishing the heritage of data contained within an ADO informs users of the data's measured, derived, or computed nature. This approach is also essential to preserving intellectual property rights analogous to claims of copyright or trademark.

Discipline-specific Data Sharing Platforms

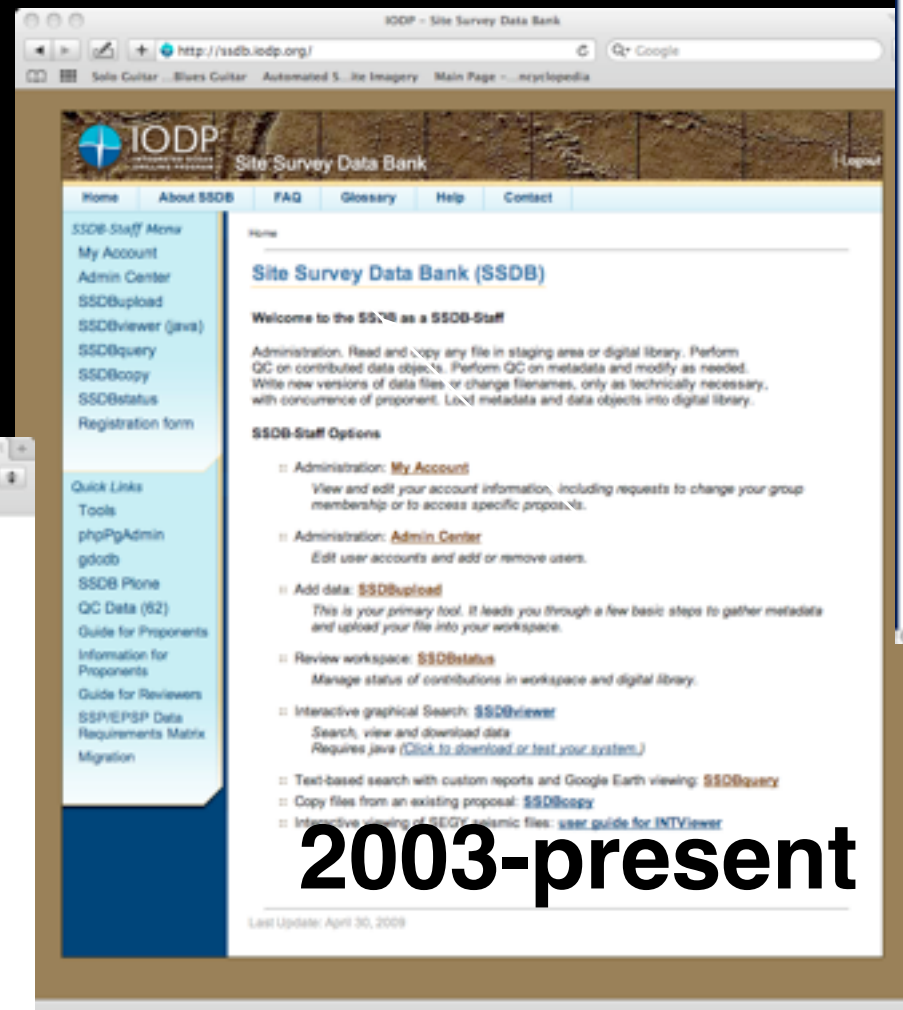
Deep-sea Drilling

Oceanography

Atmospheric Science



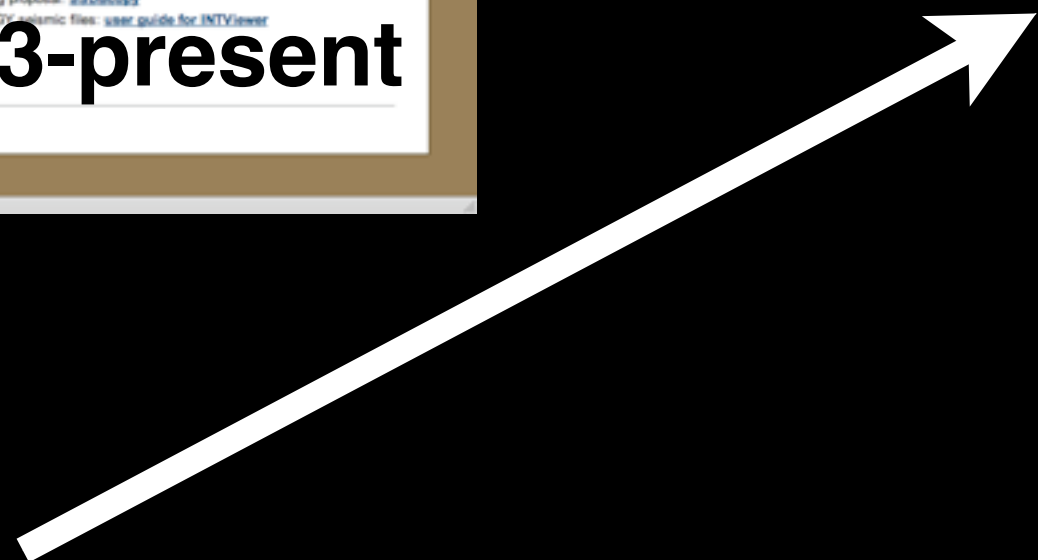
2001-present



2003-present



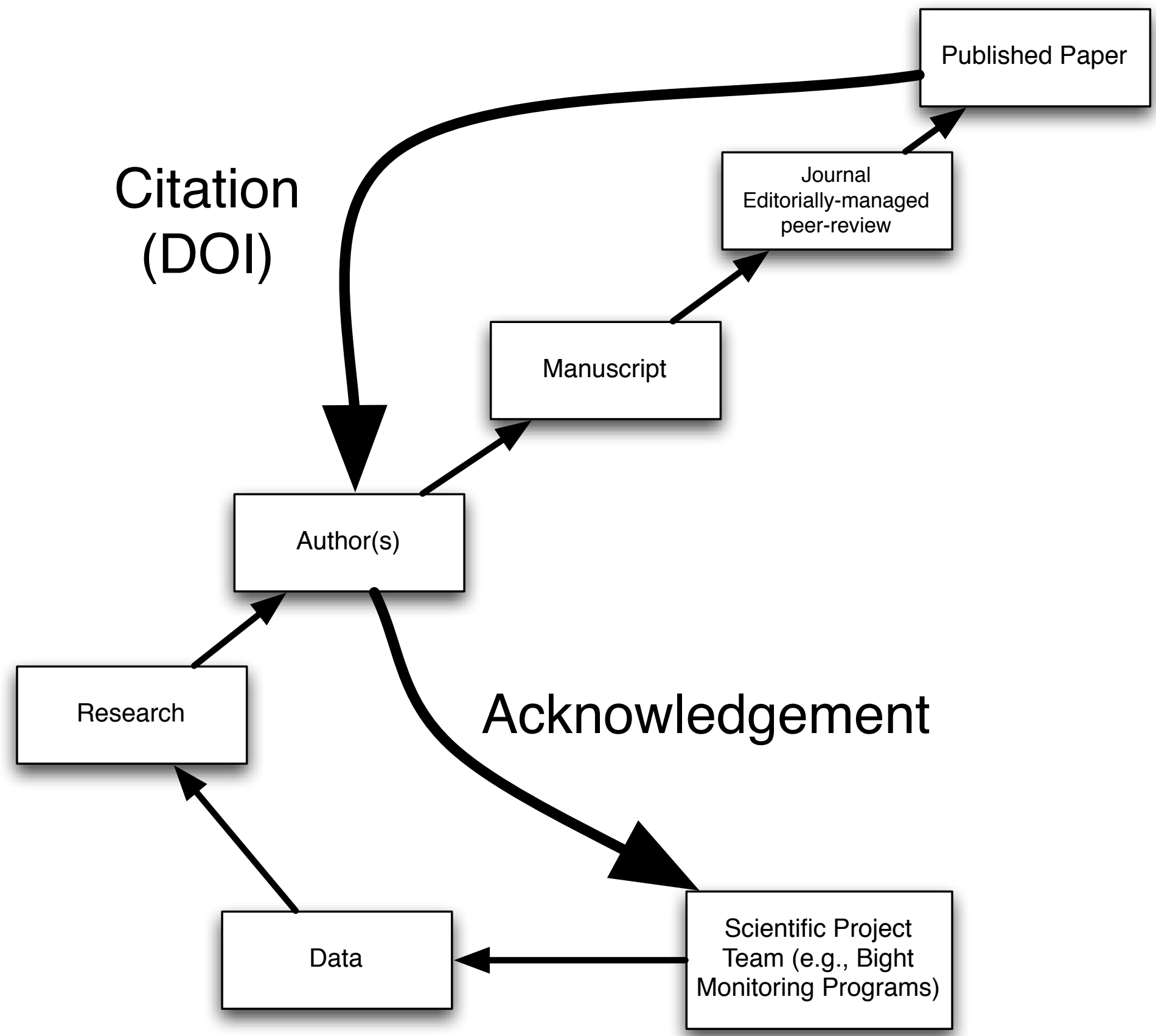
2005-present



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Journal Publication Workflow



DOIs for Data

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CROSSREF BLOG

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CROSSREF INDICATORS
08/24/09 4:59 pm

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CROSSTECH BLOG

Discuss new publishing technologies.

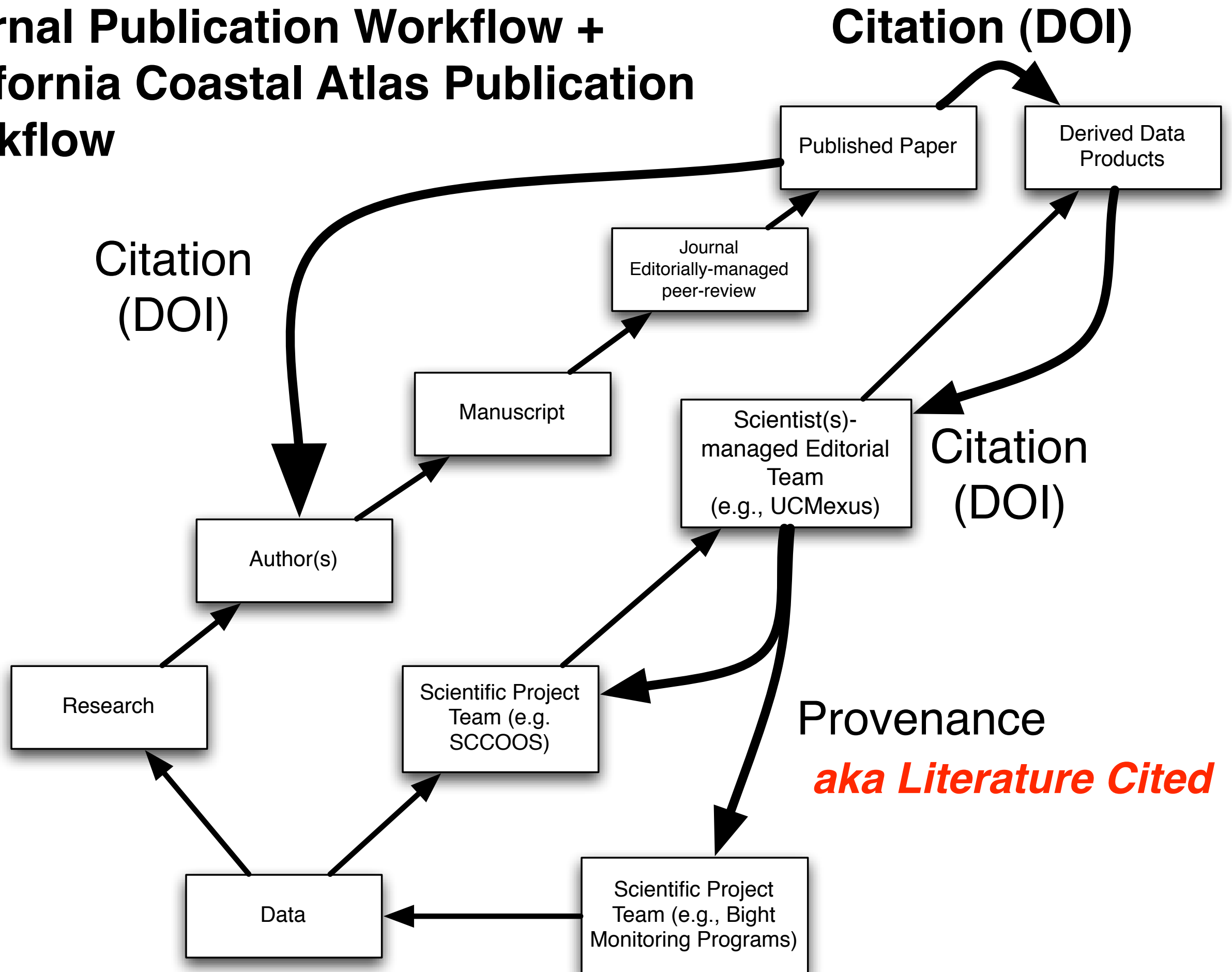
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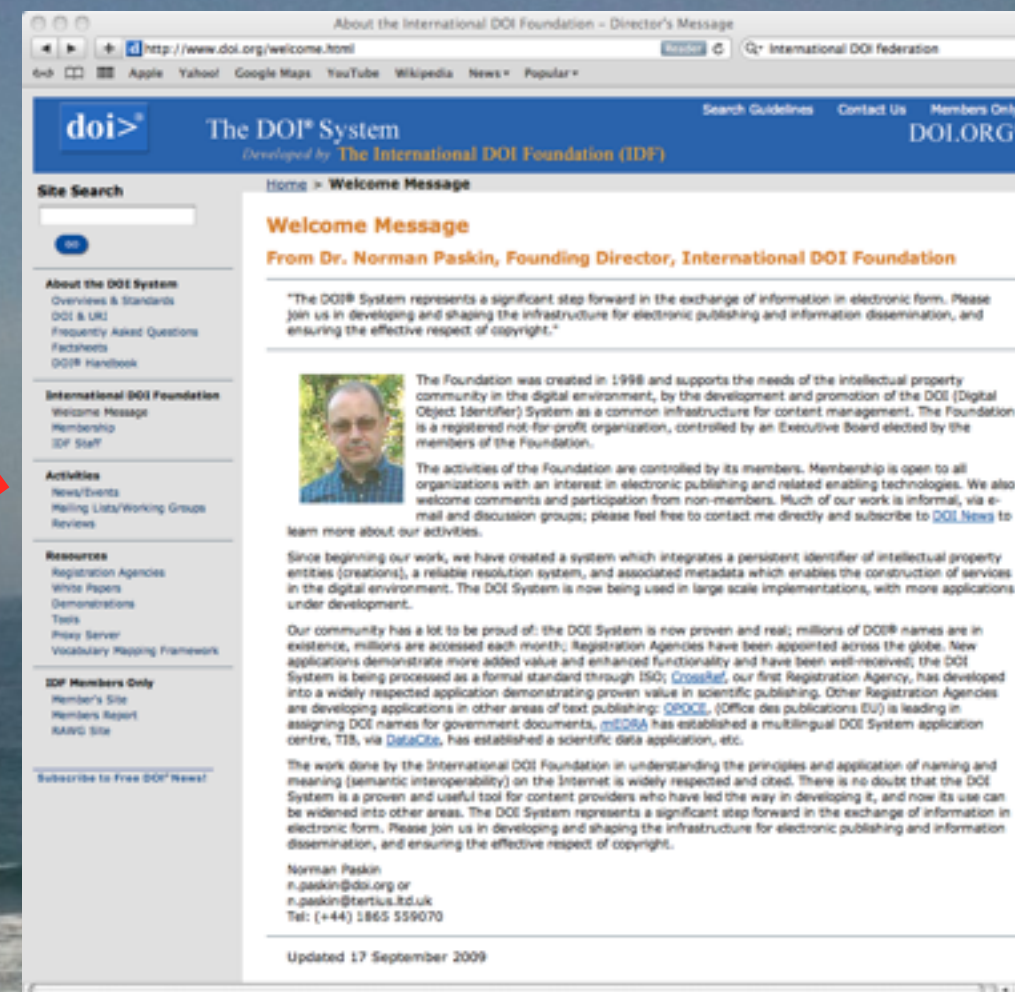
Journal Publication Workflow + California Coastal Atlas Publication Workflow



Obstacles to Progress

- Only scientific experts can ensure data quality and provide sufficient metadata
- Sticks are out there now in terms of agency archival requirements, no carrots
- How are long-term archives to be paid for?
- Recent information suggests that main DOI providers for data are not interoperating (i.e., stove-piped)

For reasons not yet clear
It seems these organizations are stove-piped



The scientific community
may need another solution
that fully realizes the value of
DOIs and warrants the effort to
use them.



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California Coastal Atlas

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THE COMMON LINKING BACKBONE

ICAN

International Coastal Atlas Network

hellyj

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Welcome to the California Coastal Atlas

This atlas is devoted to the publication of original and derived data from scientific research projects relating to coastal California; broadly interpreted. Projects are hosted by the California Coastal Atlas (CCA) during their period-of-performance through research collaboration between the Editor of the CCA and the project Principal Investigator and colleagues. The goal is to provide cyberinfrastructure support to the project and the project participants agree to develop their data products in a manner consistent with the CCA approach to citable scientific data publication. A presentation on this approach, **Citable Scientific Data Publication**, is provided [here](#). Investigators are encouraged to contact the Editor (editor_at_californiacoastalatlus.net) regarding their projects and the type of support available through collaboration with the CCA. Investigators retain all rights in their intellectual property while gaining from the application of the CCA approach to scholarly publication of scientific data in a manner similar to that of journal manuscripts.

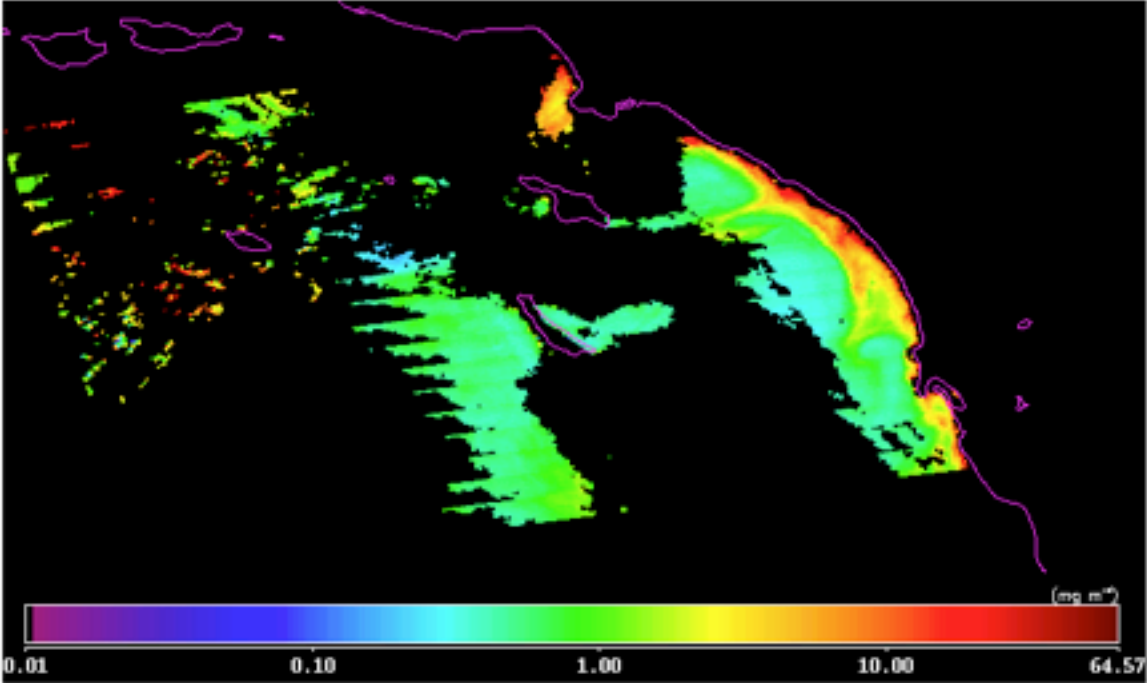


Figure CCA_AAA_001. Green algal (*Tetraselmis* sp.) bloom along the San Diego coastline August 2010. Color bar is chlorophyll-a concentration as measured by NASA MODIS-A sensor. Image produced by J. Helly using the NASA SeaDAS system. Source data: Feldman, G. C., C. R. McClain, Ocean Color Web, MODIS-A Reprocessing, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. Eds. Kuring, N., Bailey, S. W. 2010-08-18. <http://oceancolor.gsfc.nasa.gov/>


description

home

High-quality Scientific Information
(1° geospatial)

Public Policy and Natural Resource Management

Contact: hellyj@CaliforniaCoastalAtlas.net / editor@CaliforniaCoastalAtlas.net

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The California Coastal Atlas is a member of CrossRef.

California Coastal Atlas

designed for data publication

Monday, August 22, 2011

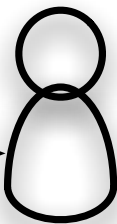
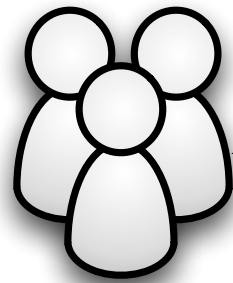
Scalable

Project Editors
(Principal Investigators)

Chief Editor



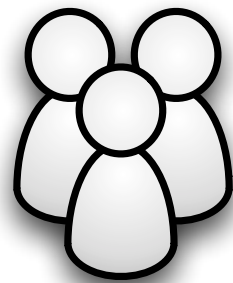
Project A



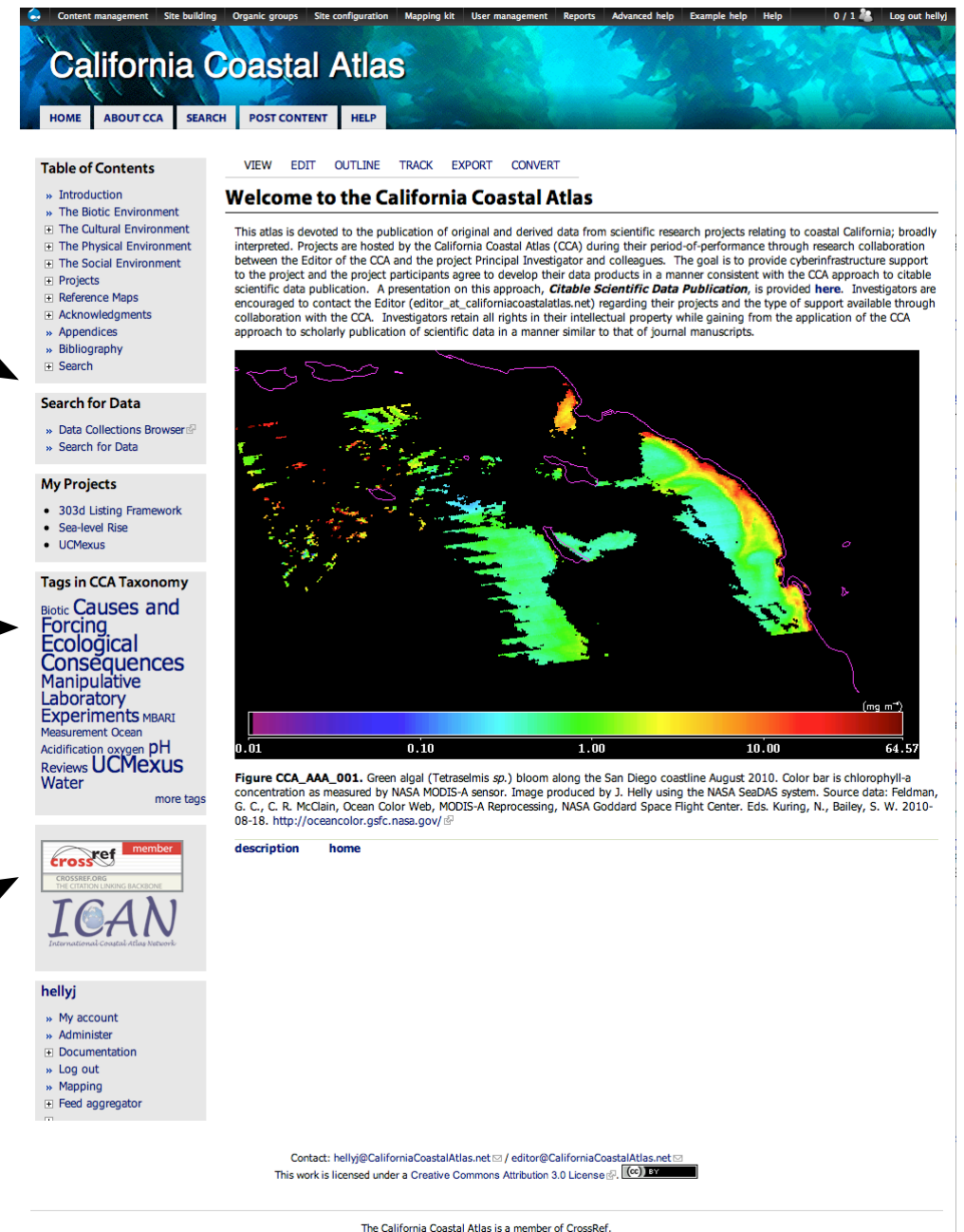
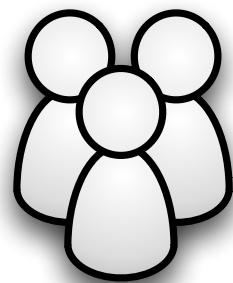
Data
and
Metadata

DOI

Project B



Project C



Current Projects

- UCMexus: Declining Oxygenation and pH of the Eastern Pacific Margin
- US Navy: A Methodology For Assessing the Impact of Sea Level Rise on Military Installations in the Southwestern United States
- California Environmental Data Exchange Network: 303D-listing Dataset
- California Spatial Data Infrastructure

California Coastal Atlas

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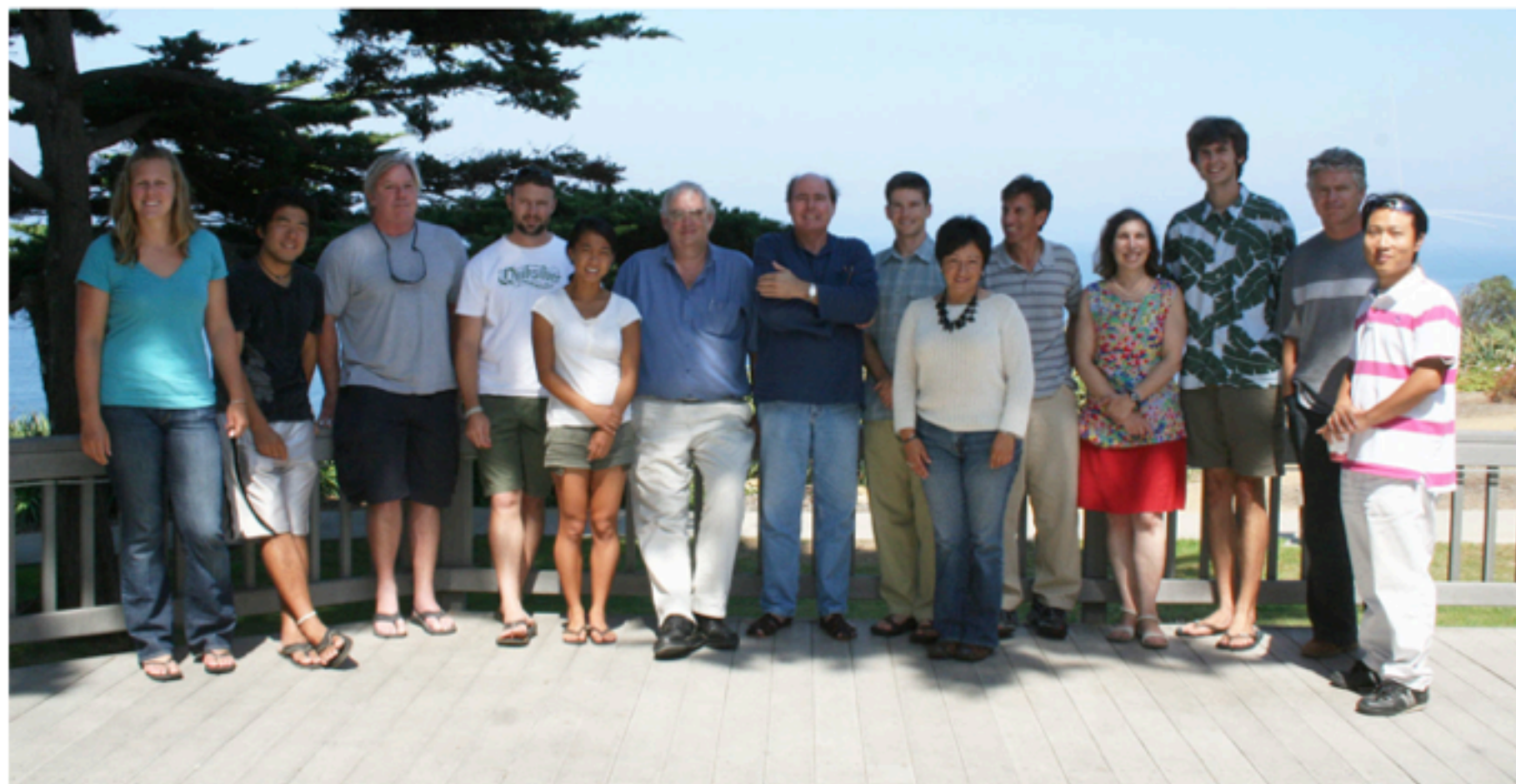
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UCMexus



Introduction

The UCMexus program is supporting this project to describe and evaluate declining oxygenation and pH of the Eastern Pacific Margin by looking at trends and ecosystem-level consequences for California and Mexico. This is the beginning of a long-term effort to establish a baseline for this phenomenon and California Coastal Atlas is the home for the publication of the work product of this effort.

Why Does This Work?

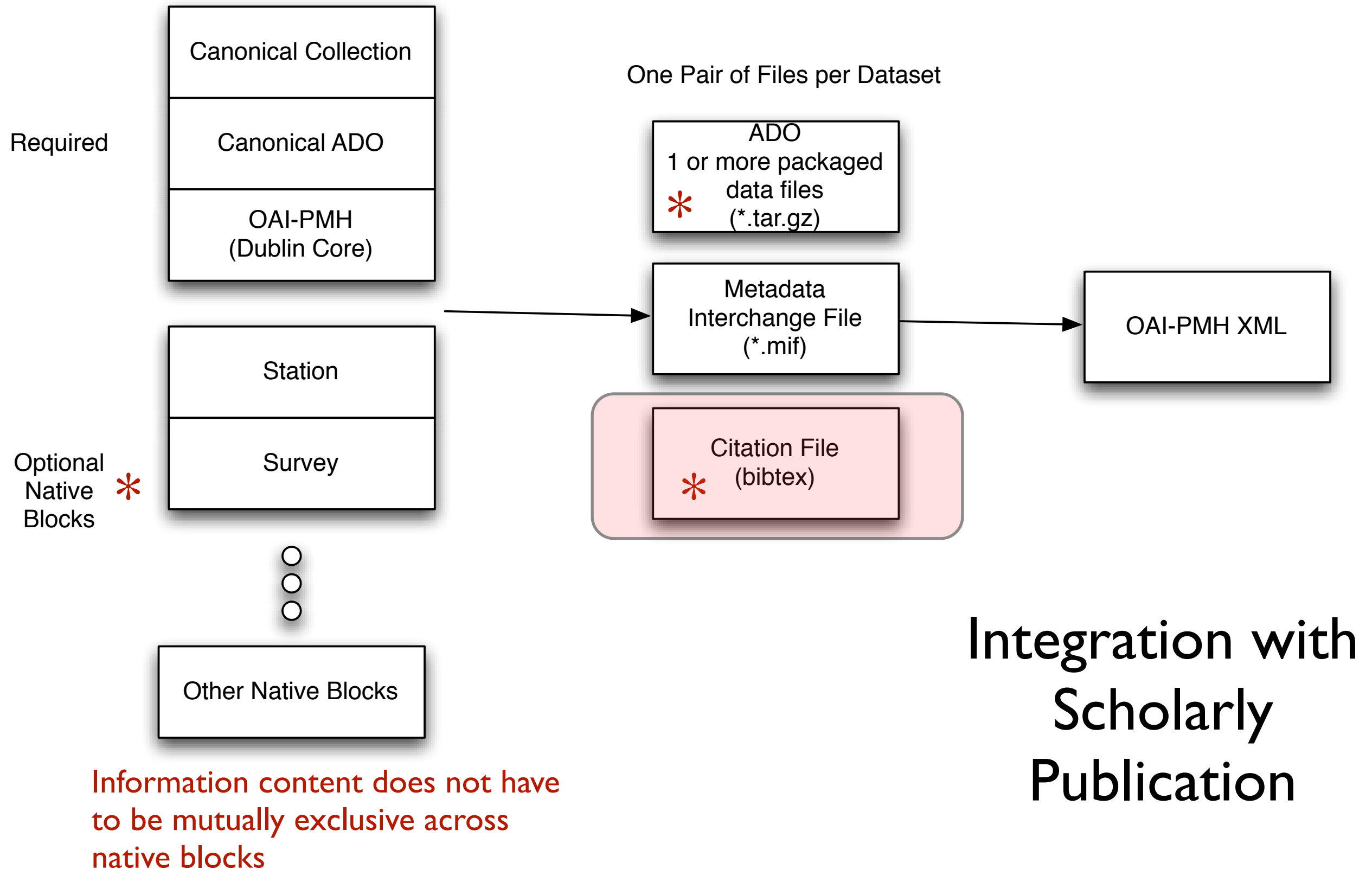
- Changing scientific workflows in familiar but powerful way to attribute high-quality data to the authors of it
- Incentivize researchers to modify their existing workflows only slightly (and provide tools to do it)
- Integrating into a well-established and trusted system of scholarly publication
- Providing the basis for protecting intellectual property rights

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Metadata Production

Metadata Template File (Schema)





LaTeX project site

LaTeX3 news, issue one,
released
(February 10, 2009)

If you are in trouble and need to get some help, please read our hints on where you might find help.

We would also like to make development code available to you via this site. We are continuing to add new material at this location so as to stimulate further discussion of the underlying concepts.

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iceberg 1

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manual 1

mapready 1

melting 1

Mississi... 1

mixing 1

ocean 1

phytopl... 1

quikscat 1

salinity 1

SAM 3

SAR 1

SAS 1

scatter... 1

Keywords	Date	First Author	Title	Second Author	Third Author	Cite Key
	1988	J. L. Sarmiento	Ocean Carbon-Cycle Dynamics and Atmospheric pCO ₂ [and Discussion]	J. R. Toggweiler	R. Najjar	1988
SAR, AS...	2006		ASF MapReady User Manual Version 2.2			ASF:fv
	1997	G. R. Bigg	Modelling the dynamics and thermodynamics of icebergs	M. R. Wadley	D. P. Stevens	Bigg:1997k
	2007	S. Blain	Effects of natural iron fertilization on carbon sequestration in the Southern Ocean	B. Queguiner	L. Armand	Blain:2007c
	2005	M. van den Broeke	Strong surface melting preceded collapse of Antarctic Peninsula ice shelf			Broeke:200
Antarcti...	2005	M. van den Broeke	Strong surface melting preceded collapse of Antarctic Peninsula ice shelf			Broeke:200
Antarcti...	2010	P. Bromirski	Transoceanic infragravity waves impacting Antarctic ice shelves	O. V. Sergienko	D. R. MacA...	Bromirski:2
Antarcti...	2004	A. J. M. Bromwich, D. H.	Modeling the ENSO modulation of Antarctic climate in the late 1990s with the polar MM5	Z. Guo		Bromwich:2
	2002	N. S. Center	Larsen B Ice Shelf Collapses in Antarctica	I. Data		Center:200
	2003	A. J. Constable	Southern Ocean productivity in relation to spatial and temporal variation in the physical en...	S. Nicol		Constable:2
	2007	J. A. Dowdeswell	Keel depths of modern Antarctic icebergs and implications for sea-floor scouring in the ge...	J. L. Bamber		Dowdeswel
Weddell...	1976	T. D. Foster	Temperature and Salinity Structure in the Weddell Sea	E. C. Carmack		Foster:1976
	Sep 1979	H. G. Gade	Melting of Ice in Sea Water: A Primitive Model with Application to the Antarctic Ice Shelf an...			Gade:1979e
Antarcti...	2002	A. C. N. Garabato	On the export of Antarctic Bottom Water from the Weddell Sea	E. L. McDonagh	D. P. Stevens	Garabato:20
AOI, AA...	1999	D. Gong	Definition of Antarctic Oscillation Index	S. Wang		Gong:1999:
	1960	P. A. Gordienko	The role of icebergs in the ice and thermal balance of coastal Antarctic waters			Gordienko:
	2000	A. Indermuhle	Atmospheric CO ₂ concentration from 60 to 20 kyr BP from the Taylor Dome ice core, Antarctica	E. Monnin	B. Stauffer	hle:2000fk
	1980	H. E. Huppert	Ice blocks melting in to a salinity gradient			Huppert:19
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61 publications

Citation Manager for References (another form of metadata)



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```
\subsection{SIO Coastal LIDAR}
```

This summary is the result of discussions between Helly and Guza after discussions between Helly SIO survey are taken directly from an email from Guza to Helly.

The goal is to reference all surveys to the same vertical datum, NAVD88, and horizontal datum, NAD83. The current basemap has source data with variable accuracy and precision in addition to different datums, and these errors are in each source and produce a self-consistent dataset that can be progressively improved as more data is available. At this point, we are not trying to get complete consistency of geoids and epochs between different sources. The difficulties of reconciling differences in geoids retrospectively. For example, the current GEOID09 is based on models that have been differentially applied to the source data we are using. Were we to attempt to update the geoids now, it would introduce horizontal location shifts in data that has been used for prior analyses and create confusion. This will be addressed prospectively once we have a sound basemap for vertical reference.

The standard we are using is the March, 2006 SIO LIDAR survey. From these data we select four (San Diego Beach, Coronado, SIO, Oceanside) since these provide the needed coastal locality as well as intertidal. The accuracy of this survey has been documented against multiple ground control regions between San Diego Beach. Each quality control (QC) region, pier or frontage road, is divided into a few hundred 2x2 m cells. Each cell contains USGS benchmarks for verification that we are in NAVD88. On piers, the surveyors run a 2 m grid to avoid side rails and other sources of noise. On a 200m long pier there would be 100 cells. Each cell is compared to a ground control point, so it is not a problem that piers slope up to seaward. In the Coronado and Pendleton areas, the accuracy bias was ± 10 cm with estimated precision (rms scatter) = ± 15 cm.

\subsection{USGS High-resolution Southern California}

As described in the accompanying metadata file, this is a:

Vemph...seamless, three-meter digital elevation model (DEM) was constructed for the entire South extending 473 km from Point Conception to the Mexican border. The goal was to integrate the mo: available (for example, Light Detection and Ranging (Lidar) topography, multibeam and single bea Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar (IfSAR) topography) into a continuous surface from at lea elevation contour.}

The complete description of the dataset can be found as a USGS publication \cite{Barnard:v},

\subsection{Army Corps of Engineers LIDAR}

The US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) LIDAR data were provided by an Army contractor, NOBL were analyzed against the other sources of data and found to be biased relative to the SIO Coast difference between the GEOID and the ELLIPSOID as expected since these were referenced to W vertical datum. The use of WGS84 for both datums is a common source of confusion between Dej and National Geodetic Survey conventions.

Textb(Definition: Horizontal/Geometric Datum) -- All such datums are comprised of 8 primary elements:

- 1 - Definition of the origin of the coordinate system
- 2 - Definition of the reference ellipsoid used to express the latitude and longitude values
- 3 - Definition of the orientation of the coordinate system

This is where WGS 84 and GRS 80 can get to be a little confusing. The name World Geodetic System 1984 (WGS 84) is used by the Defense Department, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) to mean both the ellipsoid and the datum. The Geodetic Reference System 1980 (GRS 80) (<http://www.gfy.ku.dk/~jag/HB2000/par>) is the contemporary reference ellipsoid recommended by the International Association of Geodesy. GRS 80 is the datum definition. For all practical purposes the size and shape of the WGS 84 and GRS 80 ellipsoids are the same. The datums that they help to define (the first 6 parameters) that can be quite different. This is why the datum, not the ellipsoid) can be different - around 1 m each in latitude/longitude and ellipsoid height (Doyle, NGS)).

However, since this only addresses the horizontal datum explicitly but implicitly imposes the vertical (i.e., GRS80), the elevations in these data have to be corrected to be compatible with NAVD88 use this basemap. This was done using the `vextit{grdmath_calibrate.bash}` procedure (cf. source code) calculated relative to the SIO Coastal LIDAR at the pier locations listed in Table [vref{tbl:SIOxACOE}](#).

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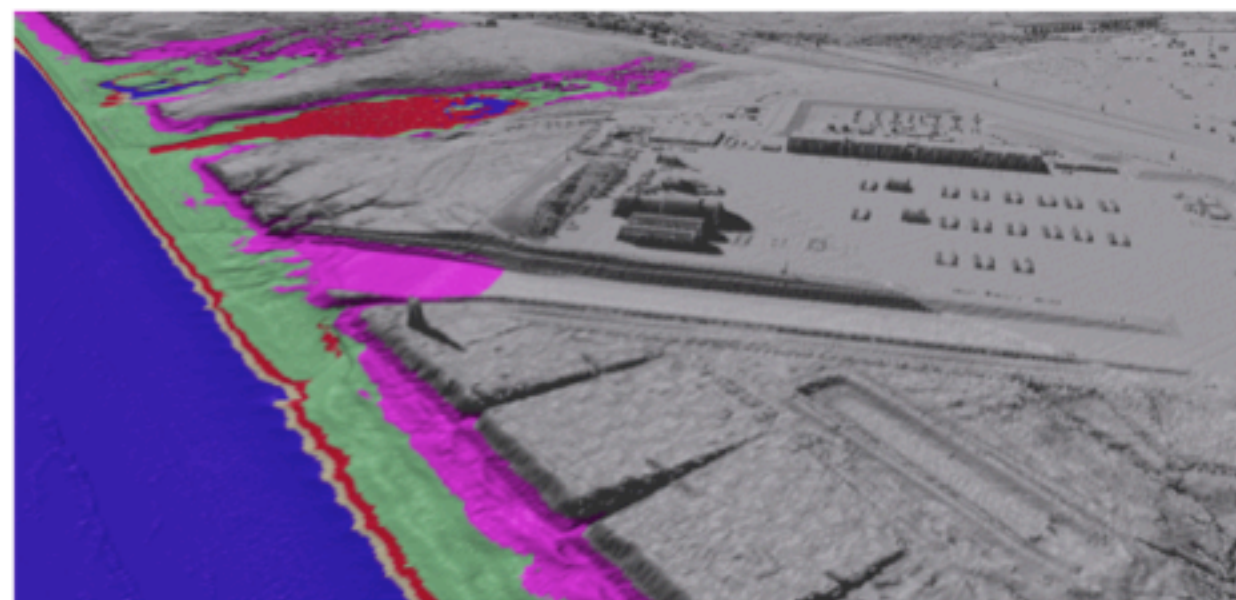


Figure 4: Fused ACOE LIDAR (calibrated) with SIO coastal LIDAR. View is looking northeast towards the LCAC facility at Camp Pendleton from offshore.

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California Coastal Atlas

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High-resolution Shoreline Methodology

Updated 2011-08-13 by hellyj

Sea-level Rise Risk Framework Project Basemap Production Conventions and Procedures

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Outline

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- Data & Metadata
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- Protection of Intellectual Property Rights
- Editorial Policy
- Discussion



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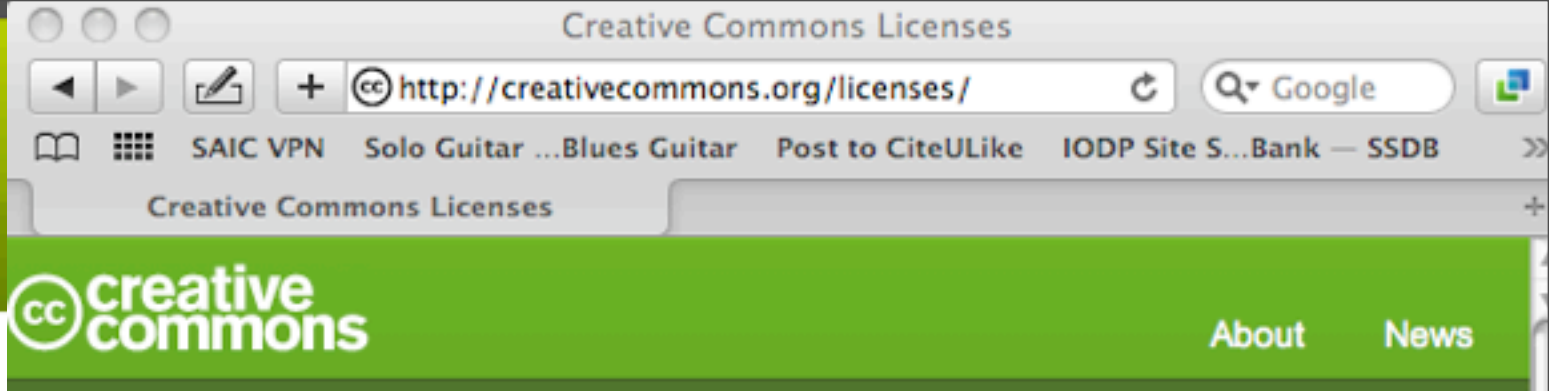
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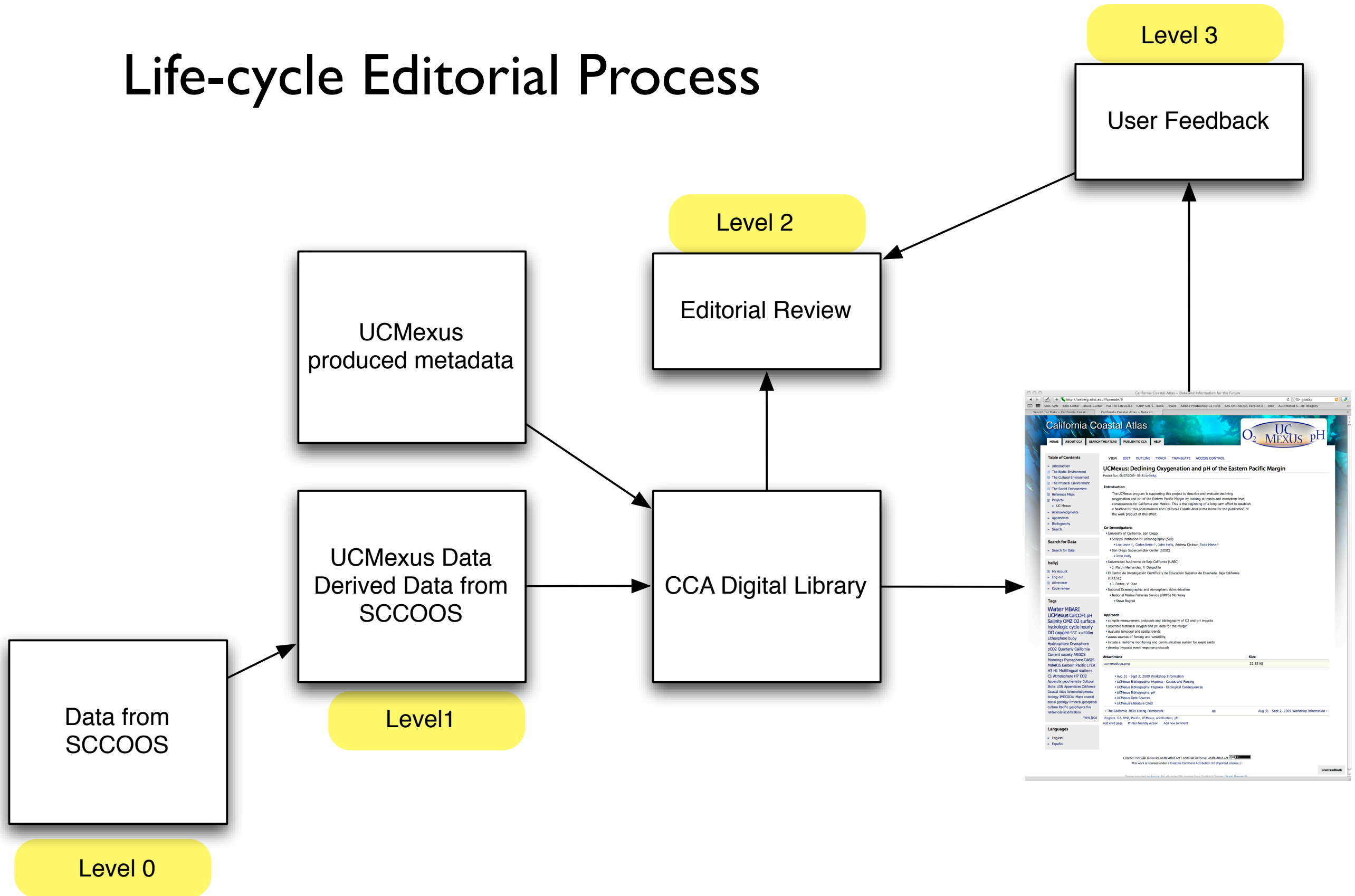


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Life-cycle Editorial Process



Editorial

‘Publish’ Requirements

- Derived data product in CCA-conforming data format & packaging
- CCA-conforming metadata (fully-provenanced)
- Procedural software for reading Level 1
- Confirmatory listing for verification
- DOI
- Manifest with summary description (e.g., README)
- Licensing statement

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Backup

Monday, August 22, 2011

Approach

- Provide a locus for scientific research projects to share data within project
- Teach 'best practice' data management methods to students
- Incentivize researchers to publish data according to CCA standards and conventions
- Use the published data to populate the CCA chapters in narrative context