

Data Citation December

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Feature Image

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Despite the approaching holidays its been another busy month in the [GigaScience](#) office, with Alexandra attending the InCoB/ISMB-Asia [meeting](#) in Kuala Lumpur (see her talk slides [here](#)) and the Human Variome Project [meeting](#) in Beijing, and Scott attending a number of meetings and workshops in the UK, including the [International Digital Curation Conference](#) (IDCC) in Bristol. The "Digital" in the meeting title was a bit of a giveaway of the level of technological savvy of the attendees, as it was heavily tweeted (see [#idcc](#) and this [storify](#)), blogged (see [here](#) for a good example), and [videos](#) are also available for many of the talks, so we will not repeat what is already well covered.

With additional [workshops](#) on data impact and reuse, Bristol was the center of the Data Citation universe in December, with representatives and talks from many data publishing projects, databases and issuing bodies such as our [DataCite](#) collaborators, so it was an excellent opportunity to assess where things currently stand. Interesting new infrastructure was presented by Mark Hahnel, giving a preview of the new design of the [FigShare](#) platform launching in the new year, which for the first time will use citable DOIs for their datasets. Brian Hole from [Ubiquity press](#) presented on "Publication and Citation", and mentioned data publishing platforms coming from them, and the representatives of other publishers present showed that there are obviously other commercial projects in the pipeline (for example [this](#) from F1000).

Being a curation conference, researcher driven approaches were also on display, and the Environmental Sciences community in particular have been publishing datasets with DOIs for many years, both from the well established [Pangaea](#) database, and by individual data centers (Sarah Callaghan's [talk](#) representing NERC's environmental data centers being a great example). Phillip Bourne's excellent [talk](#) imagined the possibilities that mixing open data stores with well integrated widgets and tools to mashup and produce new analyses could bring, and he mentioned that the very well established [PDB](#) (Protein Database) uses [DOIs](#) as accessions, but these are not integrated and cited into associated publications. This is a bit of a missed opportunity, and Mark Hahnel (video [here](#)) and Heather Piwowar ([slides](#) and [video](#)) both highlighted the needs for proper attribution and impact tracking for datasets to incentivise sharing of data. Our recent examples of DOIs linked to datasets from our [GigaDB](#) database getting integrated into articles in *Nature Biotechnology* (see more [here](#)), and *Genome Biology* (see [here](#)) demonstrates that this is feasible to link datasets with global, resolvable identifiers into articles.

Whilst [Pangaea](#) and the Environmental Science community have managed to do this for a number of years (including [examples](#) from as far back as 2005), the integration of data DOIs into the references of the *Genome Biology* [article](#) was the first time we are aware of that this has been accomplished in the field of genomics. This example is a great example of the practicalities of how data can be cited (following the best practice [guidelines](#) of the DCC), but until the bibliometric indices properly track them this is only a first step. With this important

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next step likely to finally happening in the new year, this meeting was a good opportunity for the data DOI producers and publishers to compare notes and ready themselves for the important year ahead. As December comes to a close, we at *GigaScience* would like to wish you all seasons greetings, and we look forward to an exciting 2012 for the field of data publishing!

The post [Data Citation December](#) appeared first on [GigaBlog](#).