

Data Curation & Preservation Summary

*IVOA Interop Meeting
May 13-17 2013
Heidelberg*

Data Citation

- Data Citation is going mainstream across disciplines, WG within the Research Data Alliance (RDA) and the World Data System (WDS) are drafting documents now. “Data” in this context includes tables, files, datasets possibly generated dynamically through database queries
- Recommendation: Archives are strongly encouraged to participate in current debate on data citation, making sure all use cases are properly represented
- We have the first Data DOI in Astronomy, courtesy of the CADC and its VOSpace implementation
- Recommendation: Learn from CADC’s experience in minting DOIs and managing “published data” in the upcoming months
- Thomson-Reuters is interested in working with Astronomical Archives to index their datasets and incorporate them in its Data Citation Index
- To discuss: Should we encourage creation of value-added services (such as a citation index) over our data by private companies? Should we invite them to upcoming IVOA meetings? How much effort can/should we dedicate to this?

Bibcodes and Open Access

- Bibcodes are showing their age and are becoming difficult to compute in a reliable pattern. While there is no crisis yet, ADS will need to transition its system to be bibcode-independent eventually
- Recommendation: **No immediate action required at IVOA level; developers linking to literature should use ADS's API in an model-agnostic way**
- There are pending Open Access mandates and legislation in the US, EU and UK which will impact both publication and data. While the impact on publications is fairly well understood, impact on research data is not so clear
- Recommendation: **follow discussions at national policy level, leverage on the existing infrastructure in Astronomy and Physics (arXiv, ADS, publishers) to minimize impact on scientist**

Unified Astronomy Thesaurus

- The Unified Astronomy Thesaurus is now available as a beta document from the CfA library, which is its primary curator
- The steering group (ADS, CfA, IVOA, AAS, and publishers) is looking for participation from other IVOA partners and the broader community
- Recommendation: Extend core group of stakeholders to include the Paris Observatory, the CDS, IAU Commission 5 members
- The Thesaurus needs expert curation and expansion of its concepts
- Recommendation: Recruit research astronomers to act as editors, build out from the core UAT concepts to include other Thesauri or controlled vocabularies. Use will inform further development goals and roadmap