

# AGU data citation community of practice - Credit for creators of data within collections using the concept of a reliquary

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## Abstract

A gap in community practice on data citation that emerged during the AGU fall meeting 2020 Data FAIR Town Hall, “Why Is Citing Data Still Hard?” with the goal of addressing the use case of citing a large number of datasets such that credit for individual datasets is assigned properly. The discussion included the concept of a “Data Collection” and the infrastructure and guidance still needed to fully implement the capability so it is easier for researchers to use and receive credit when their data are cited in this manner. Such collections of data may contain thousands to millions of elements with a citation needing to include subsets of elements potentially from multiple collections. Such citations will be crucial to enable reproducible research and credit to data and digital object creators. To address this gap, the data citation community of practice formed including members from data centres, research journals, informatics research communities, and data citation infrastructure. The community has the goal of recommending an approach that is realistic for researchers to use and for each stakeholder to implement that leverages existing infrastructure. To achieve data citation of these subsets of large data collections the concept of a “reliquary” is introduced. In this context the reliquary is a container of persistent identifiers (PIDs) or references defining the objects used in a research study. This can include any number of elements. The reliquary can then be cited as a single entity in academic publications. The reliquary concept will enable data citation use cases such as the citation of elements within a data collection that are formed from numerous underlying datasets that have their own PIDs, unambiguous citation of data used in IPCC Assessment Reports, and citing the subsets of collections of research data that contain millions of elements. The discussions over the course of 2021 have developed a theoretical concept, at the time of writing formal use cases and initial applications are being defined. The recommendation developed by this effort will be available for review and comment by communities such as ESIP and RDA. All are welcome.

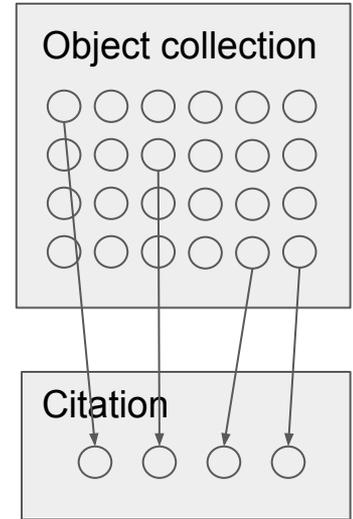
# Data citation community of practice - Credit for creators of data within collections using the concept of a reliquary

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(Plus many more contributors to the workshops)

# The challenge

- Enable citation of a large numbers of papers, software, and datasets (research objects) in a paper by providing a means to collapse them into a small number of references.
- Allow a project or data system collecting large numbers of research objects to enable citation of the group and constituents within it
- Empower an individual to create a group of research objects that might span repositories
- Provide an ability to cite any subset of research objects belonging to one or multiple groups



# The data citation community of practice

## Academic publishing

- AGU
- JATS4R
- Citation styles
- Outreach/guidance/training

## Infrastructure

- DataCite
- CrossRef
- Scholix / OpenAire
- RO-Crate
- Zenodo
- Schema.org
- Web of Science

## Community use cases

- RO-Crate
- BioStudies
- Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF)
- PANGAEA
- Intergovernmental panel on climate change (IPCC)
- British Oceanographic Data Centre

# Solution - primary goal of unambiguous citation

Data collection

Data collection

Data collection



## Reliquary

```
PID, ID_NAME/ID_DESC, UR(L/I/N), COMMENT  
, RELIQUARY_CREATOR, R_CREATOR_TYPE  
PID, ID_NAME/ID_DESC, UR(L/I/N), COMMENT  
, RELIQUARY_CREATOR, R_CREATOR_TYPE  
PID, ID_NAME/ID_DESC, UR(L/I/N), COMMENT  
, RELIQUARY_CREATOR, R_CREATOR_TYPE  
... one row for each entity included in citation ...
```

(NOTE: example reliquaries currently being drafted for each use case)

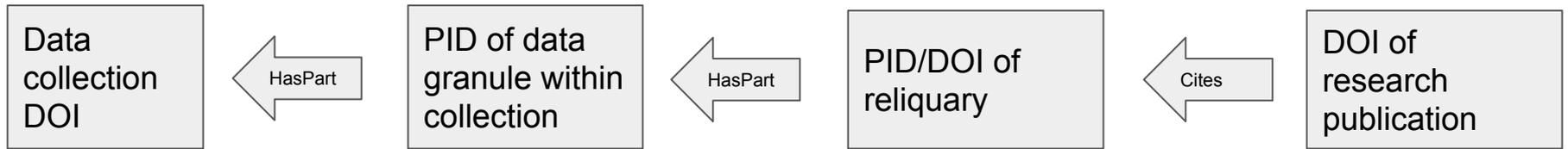


Each PID points to a landing Page

- Includes link to data
- Link may be brittle if data version is updated (pointer to new version?)
  - Reproducibility is important, current focus is transparency though

# Dual role of reliquary

PID graph



# Dual role of reliquary

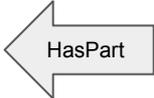
Transparent citation of objects with reliquary



PID graph

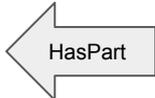
Data  
collection  
DOI

HasPart



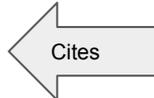
PID of data  
granule within  
collection

HasPart



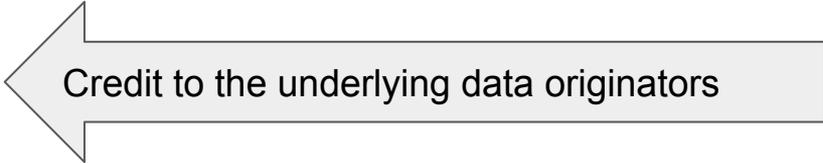
PID/DOI of  
reliquary

Cites



DOI of  
research  
publication

Credit to the underlying data originators



# Next steps and how to engage with the community

Reliquary is the working title for the approach.

New research data alliance **Earth, Space, and Environmental Science Complex Citations** working group:



- <https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/earth-space-and-environmental-science-complex-citations-working-group>

More information on the data citation community of practice site

- <https://agu-data.github.io/DataCitationCoP/>

If you have a use case or are keen to contribute to the working group we encourage you to get in touch.

# Thank you



**National Oceanography Centre**  
British Oceanographic Data  
Centre BODC

# Abstract here for notes but will not be in the final version

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To address this gap, the data citation community of practice formed including members from data centres, research journals, informatics research communities, and data citation infrastructure. The community has the goal of recommending an approach that is realistic for researchers to use and for each stakeholder to implement that leverages existing infrastructure.

To achieve data citation of these subsets of large data collections the concept of a “reliquary” is introduced. In this context the reliquary is a container of persistent identifiers (PIDs) or references defining the objects used in a research study. This can include any number of elements. The reliquary can then be cited as a single entity in academic publications.

The reliquary concept will enable data citation use cases such as the citation of elements within a data collection that are formed from numerous underlying datasets that have their own PIDs, unambiguous citation of data used in IPCC Assessment Reports, and citing the subsets of collections of research data that contain millions of elements.

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