

A Review of Biotic Interactions and Taxon Names Found in Big-Bee-Network/select-bee-interactions.sh

by Nomer and Elton, two naive review bots
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<https://github.com/Big-Bee-Network/select-bee-interactions.sh/issues>

2024-06-07

Abstract

Life on Earth is sustained by complex interactions between organisms and their environment. These biotic interactions can be captured in datasets and published digitally. We present a review process of such an openly accessible digital interactions dataset of known origin, and discuss its outcome. The dataset under review, named Big-Bee-Network/select-bee-interactions.sh, is 644MiB in size and contains 447409 interactions with 22 unique types of associations (e.g., visitsFlowersOf) between 8098 primary taxa (e.g., *Apis mellifera*) and 14177 associated taxa (e.g., *Insecta*). The report includes detailed summaries of interactions data as well as a taxonomic review from multiple catalogs.

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Introduction

Data Review

Data review can be a time consuming process, especially when done manually. This review report aims to help facilitate data review of species interaction claims made in datasets registered with Global Biotic Interactions (Poelen, Simons, and Mungall 2014). The review includes summary statistics of, and observations about, the dataset under review:

Seltmann KC, Poelen JH (2024) Likely Apoidea (bees and wasps) Interactions Extracted from Global Biotic Interactions Verbatim Data Product using Nomer's DiscoverLife Support.
file:///home/runner/work/select-bee-interactions.sh/select-bee-interactions.sh/./

For additional metadata related to this dataset, please visit <https://github.com/Big-Bee-Network/select-bee-interactions.sh> and inspect associated metadata files including, but not limited to, *README.md*, *eml.xml*, and/or *globi.json*.

Methods

The review is performed through programmatic scripts that leverage tools like Preston, Elton, Nomer combined with third-party tools like grep, mlr, tail and head.

Table 1: Tools used in this review process

tool name	version
elton	0.13.4
nomer	0.5.9
mlr	6.0.0
pandoc	3.1.6.1

The review process can be described in the form of the script below ¹.

¹Note that you have to first get the data (e.g., via elton pull Big-Bee-Network/select-bee-interactions.sh) before being able to generate reviews (e.g., elton review Big-Bee-Network/select-bee-interactions.sh), extract interaction claims (e.g., elton interactions Big-Bee-Network/select-bee-interactions.sh), or list taxonomic names (e.g., elton names Big-Bee-Network/select-bee-interactions.sh)

```
# get versioned copy of the dataset (size approx. 644MiB) under review
elton pull Big-Bee-Network/select-bee-interactions.sh

# generate review notes
elton review Big-Bee-Network/select-bee-interactions.sh\
> review.tsv

# export indexed interaction records
elton interactions Big-Bee-Network/select-bee-interactions.sh\
> interactions.tsv

# export names and align them with the Catalogue of Life using Nomer
elton names Big-Bee-Network/select-bee-interactions.sh\
| nomer append col\
> name-alignment.tsv
```

or visually, in a process diagram.

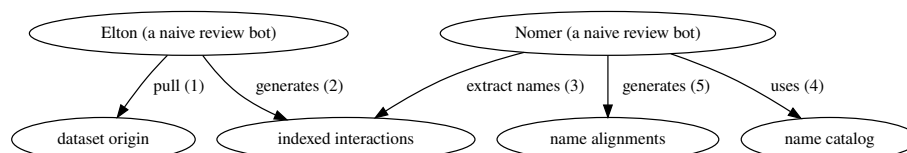


Figure 1: Review Process Overview

You can find a recent copy of the full review script at [check-data.sh](#).

Results

In the following sections, the results of the review are summarized ². Then, links to the detailed review reports are provided.

Biotic Interactions

In this review, biotic interactions (or biotic associations) are modeled as a primary (aka subject, source) organism interacting with an associate (aka object, target) organism. The dataset under review classified the primary/associate organisms with specific taxa. The primary and associate organisms The kind of interaction is documented as an interaction type.

The dataset under review, named `Big-Bee-Network/select-bee-interactions.sh`, is 644MiB in size and contains 447409 interactions with 22 unique types of associ-

²Disclaimer: The results in this review should be considered friendly, yet naive, notes from an unsophisticated robot. Please keep that in mind when considering the review results.

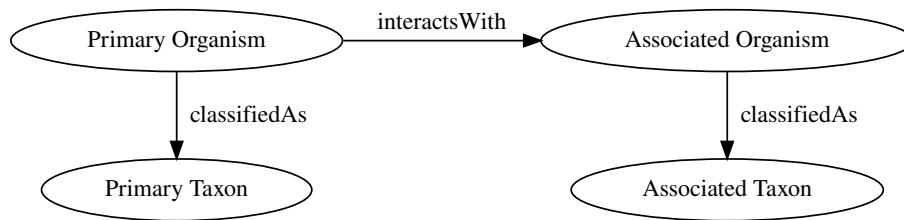


Figure 2: Biotic Interaction Data Model

ations (e.g., visitsFlowersOf) between 8098 primary taxa (e.g., *Apis mellifera*) and 14177 associated taxa (e.g., *Insecta*).

An exhaustive list of indexed interaction claims can be found in csv and tsv archives. To facilitate discovery, the first 500 claims available on the html page at indexed-interactions.html are shown below.

The exhaustive list was used to create the following data summaries below.

Table 2: Sample of Indexed Interaction Claims

sourceTaxonName	interactionTypeName	targetTaxonName	referenceCitation
Clausicella neomexicana	parasiteOf	Bombus fervidus	Arnaud, Paul Henri. A Host-parasite Catalog of North American Tachinidae (Diptera). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Science and Education Administration, 1978.

sourceTaxonName	interactionTypeNam	targetTaxonName	referenceCitation
Clausicella neomexicana	parasiteOf	Bombus fervidus	Arnaud, Paul Henri. A Host-parasite Catalog of North American Tachinidae (Diptera). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Science and Education Administration, 1978.
Lespesia frenchii	parasiteOf	Bombus	Arnaud, Paul Henri. A Host-parasite Catalog of North American Tachinidae (Diptera). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Science and Education Administration, 1978.
Lespesia frenchii	parasiteOf	Bombus	Arnaud, Paul Henri. A Host-parasite Catalog of North American Tachinidae (Diptera). Washington, D.C.: U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Science and Education Administration, 1978.

Table 3: Most Frequently Mentioned Interaction Types (up to 20 most frequent)

interactionTypeName	count
visitsFlowersOf	159317
hasHost	73364
eats	63019
pollinates	60987
interactsWith	30862
visits	14735
preysOn	5983
endoparasiteOf	543
parasiteOf	341
kleptoparasiteOf	332
pathogenOf	296
adjacentTo	253
coOccursWith	209
providesNutrientsFor	143
createsHabitatFor	93
parasitoidOf	65
hasVector	15
ectoparasiteOf	14
commensalistOf	9

Table 4: Most Frequently Mentioned Primary Taxa (up to 20 most frequent)

sourceTaxonName	count
Apis mellifera	38921
Arthropoda	26077
Andrena	20760
Bombus impatiens	17733
Acari	12885
Bombus	12680
Bombus griseocollis	7272
Bombus vosnesenskii	5990
Megachile	5895
Bombus pensylvanicus	5762
Halictus	5229
Bombus melanopygus	5091
Bombus rufocinctus	4924
Bombus flavifrons	4806
Bombus bimaculatus	4495

sourceTaxonName	count
Pyrobombus	4200
Bombus perplexus	3982
Bombus bifarius	3920
Bombus terrestris	3903

Table 5: Most Frequently Mentioned Associate Taxa (up to 20 most frequent)

targetTaxonName	count
Insecta	6877
Solidago	6111
Trifolium repens	5082
Monarda fistulosa	3672
Animalia	3544
Rubus	3529
Symphyotrichum	3453
Trifolium pratense	3396
Pycnanthemum muticum	3264
Heliomeris multiflora	3192
Apis mellifera	3177
Megachile	2910
Heterotheca villosa	2874
Hymenoptera	2611
Taraxacum officinale	2608
Taraxacum	2512
Salvia	2309
Nephrosperma vanhoutteanum	2302
Echinacea purpurea	2236

Table 6: Most Frequent Interactions between Primary and Associate Taxa (up to 20 most frequent)

sourceTaxonName	interactionType	targetTaxonName	count
Andrena	hasHost	Rubus	1740
Arthropoda	hasHost	Myodes rutilus	1671
Lasioglossum mahense	pollinates	Nephrosperma vanhoutteanum	1441
Acari	hasHost	Megachile	1320
Bombus	hasHost	Centaurea stoebe	1130
Arthropoda	hasHost	Peromyscus keeni	1082

sourceTaxonName	interactionTypeNam	targetTaxonName	count
Apis mellifera	pollinates	Trifolium repens	960
Bombus impatiens	visitsFlowersOf	Solidago	918
Arthropoda	hasHost	Microtus oeconomus	863
Vespa velutina	eats	Apis mellifera	838
Apis mellifera	pollinates	Nephrosperma vanhoutteanum	825
Bombus bifarius	visitsFlowersOf	Heliomeris multiflora	794
Bombus	hasHost	Solidago	780
Bombus flavifrons	visitsFlowersOf	Heliomeris multiflora	720
Apis mellifera	eats	Salvia rosmarinus	631
Bombus bifarius	visitsFlowersOf	Heterotheca villosa	626
Bombus impatiens	visitsFlowersOf	Symphyotrichum	585
Bombus vosnesenskii	visitsFlowersOf	Acemispon glaber	562
Arthropoda	hasHost	Sorex cinereus	542

Interaction Networks

The figures below provide a graph view on the dataset under review. The first shows a summary network on the kingdom level, and the second shows how interactions on the family level. It is important to note that both network graphs were first aligned taxonomically using the Catalogue of Life. Please refer to the original (or verbatim) taxonomic names for a more original view on the interaction data.

You can download the indexed dataset under review at [indexed-interactions.csv](#). A tab-separated file can be found at [indexed-interactions.tsv](#)

Learn more about the structure of this download at GloBI website, by opening a GitHub issue, or by sending an email.

Another way to discover the dataset under review is by searching for it on the GloBI website.

Taxonomic Alignment

As part of the review, all names are aligned against various name catalogs (e.g., col, ncbi, discoverlife, gbif, itis, wfo, mdd, tpt, and pbdb). These alignments

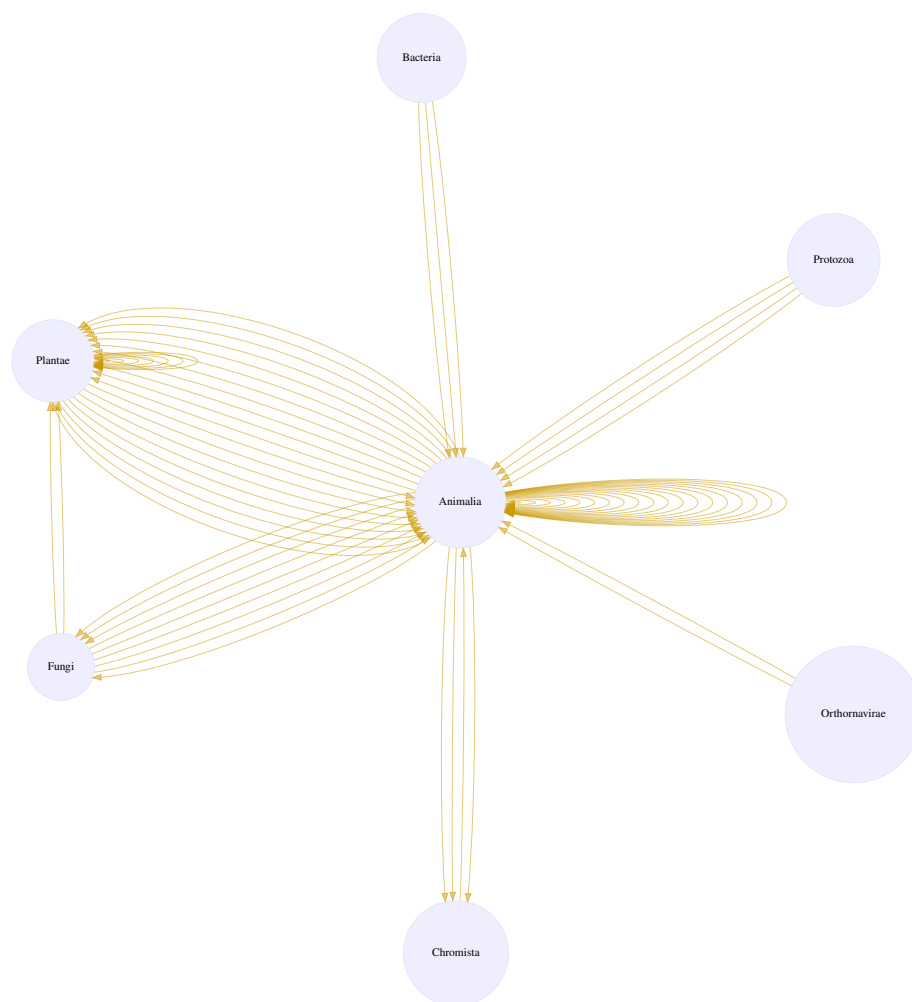


Figure 3: Interactions on taxonomic kingdom rank as interpreted by the Catalogue of Life download svg

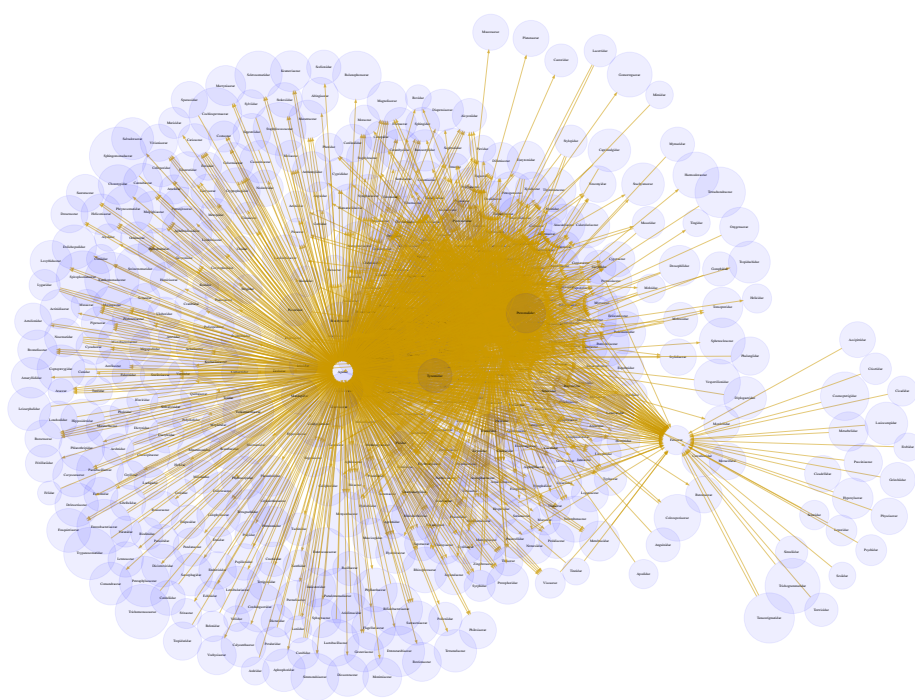


Figure 4: Interactions on the taxonomic family rank as interpreted by the Catalogue of Life. [download svg](#)

can help review name usage or aid in selecting of a suitable taxonomic name resource.

Table 7: Sample of Name Alignments

providedName	relationName	resolvedCatalogName	resolvedName
Agastache	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	col	Agastache
Aka	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	col	Aka
Aka	SYNONYM_OF	col	Siphonodictyon
Allium	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	col	Allium

Table 8: Distribution of Taxonomic Ranks of Aligned Names by Catalog. Names that were not aligned with a catalog are counted as NAs. So, the total number of unaligned names for a catalog will be listed in their NA row.

resolvedCatalogName	resolvedRank	count
col	NA	2318
col	class	9
col	family	119
col	form	1
col	genus	1633
col	gigaclass	1
col	kingdom	2
col	order	47
col	phylum	4
col	section	1
col	species	15214
col	subfamily	38
col	subgenus	41
col	suborder	2
col	subspecies	769
col	subterclass	2
col	superfamily	2
col	superorder	1
col	tribe	16
col	variety	87
discoverlife	NA	16197
discoverlife	class	1
discoverlife	family	6
discoverlife	genus	119
discoverlife	kingdom	1
discoverlife	order	1
discoverlife	phylum	1

resolvedCatalogName	resolvedRank	count
discoverlife	species	3525
discoverlife	subfamily	8
discoverlife	subgenus	168
discoverlife	subspecies	66
discoverlife	tribe	15
gbif	NA	1469
gbif	class	9
gbif	family	122
gbif	form	10
gbif	genus	1756
gbif	kingdom	2
gbif	order	47
gbif	phylum	4
gbif	species	15720
gbif	subspecies	1021
gbif	variety	276
itis	NA	4822
itis	class	9
itis	division	3
itis	family	121
itis	genus	1491
itis	infrakingdom	1
itis	kingdom	3
itis	order	47
itis	phylum	2
itis	species	12891
itis	subclass	1
itis	subfamily	12
itis	subgenus	3
itis	suborder	3
itis	subspecies	513
itis	superclass	1
itis	superfamily	2
itis	superorder	3
itis	tribe	15
itis	variety	80
mdd	NA	20003
ncbi	NA	4849
ncbi	clade	6
ncbi	class	9
ncbi	cohort	1
ncbi	family	119
ncbi	genus	1586
ncbi	infraorder	1

resolvedCatalogName	resolvedRank	count
ncbi	kingdom	1
ncbi	order	47
ncbi	phylum	2
ncbi	section	2
ncbi	species	13002
ncbi	species group	1
ncbi	subclass	1
ncbi	subfamily	41
ncbi	subgenus	66
ncbi	suborder	1
ncbi	subspecies	189
ncbi	subtribe	12
ncbi	superclass	1
ncbi	superfamily	2
ncbi	superorder	2
ncbi	tribe	68
ncbi	varietas	21
pbdb	NA	17198
pbdb	class	11
pbdb	family	120
pbdb	genus	693
pbdb	infraclass	1
pbdb	kingdom	3
pbdb	order	50
pbdb	phylum	5
pbdb	species	1882
pbdb	subclass	1
pbdb	subfamily	16
pbdb	suborder	4
pbdb	subspecies	3
pbdb	subtribe	1
pbdb	superclass	1
pbdb	superfamily	2
pbdb	superorder	1
pbdb	superphylum	1
pbdb	tribe	13
pbdb	unranked clade	10
tpt	NA	16094
tpt	family	1
tpt	genus	277
tpt	species	3631
wfo	NA	11693
wfo	class	1
wfo	family	89

resolvedCatalogName	resolvedRank	count
wfo	form	1
wfo	genus	1097
wfo	order	26
wfo	section	2
wfo	species	6969
wfo	subfamily	8
wfo	subsection	1
wfo	subspecies	131
wfo	subtribe	12
wfo	tribe	17
wfo	variety	69

Table 9: Name relationship types per catalog. Name relationship type “NONE” means that a name was not recognized by the associated catalog. “SAME_AS” indicates either a “HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME” or “SYNONYM_OF” name relationship type. We recognize that “SYNONYM_OF” encompasses many types of nomenclatural synonymies (ICZN 1999) (e.g., junior synonym, senior synonyms).

resolvedCatalogName	relationName	count
col	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	23843
col	SYNONYM_OF	4920
col	NONE	2599
discoverlife	NONE	21230
discoverlife	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	6339
discoverlife	SYNONYM_OF	2319
discoverlife	HOMONYM_OF	942
gbif	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	28731
gbif	NONE	1713
gbif	SYNONYM_OF	8411
itis	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	21159
itis	NONE	5345
itis	SYNONYM_OF	1901
mdd	NONE	26449
mdd	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	1396
ncbi	NONE	5368
ncbi	SAME_AS	21766
ncbi	COMMON_NAME_OF	3
ncbi	SYNONYM_OF	991
pbdb	NONE	23603
pbdb	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	4155

resolvedCatalogName	relationName	count
pbdb	SYNONYM_OF	203
tpt	NONE	23000
tpt	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	4841
tpt	SYNONYM_OF	7
wfo	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	11340
wfo	NONE	15741
wfo	SYNONYM_OF	2272
wfo	HAS_UNCHECKED_NAME	1625

Table 10: List of Available Name Alignment Reports

catalog name	alignment results
col	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
ncbi	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
discoverlife	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
gbif	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
itis	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
wfo	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
mdd	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
tpt	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
pbdb	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)

Additional Reviews

Elton, Nomer, and other tools may have difficulties interpreting existing species interaction datasets. Or, they may misbehave, or otherwise show unexpected behavior. As part of the review process, detailed review notes are kept that document possibly misbehaving, or confused, review bots. An sample of review notes associated with this review can be found below.

Table 11: First few lines in the review notes.

reviewDate	reviewCommentType	reviewComment
2024-06-07T18:39:59Z	note	failed to lookup [GEONAMES:5434527] because of: [resource [http://api.geonames.org/getJSON?formatted=true&geo not found]
2024-06-07T18:39:59Z	note	failed to lookup [GEONAMES:5434527] because of: [resource [http://api.geonames.org/getJSON?formatted=true&geo not found]
2024-06-07T18:39:59Z	note	failed to lookup [GEONAMES:5434527] because of: [resource [http://api.geonames.org/getJSON?formatted=true&geo not found]
2024-06-07T18:39:59Z	note	failed to lookup [GEONAMES:5434527] because of: [resource [http://api.geonames.org/getJSON?formatted=true&geo not found]

In addition, you can find the most frequently occurring notes in the table below.

Table 12: Most frequently occurring review notes, if any.

reviewComment	count
failed to lookup [GEONAMES:5539795] because of: [resource [http://api.geonames.org/getJSON?formatted=true&geonameId=5539795&username=globi&style=full] not found]	27711
failed to lookup [GEONAMES:5434527] because of: [resource [http://api.geonames.org/getJSON?formatted=true&geonameId=5434527&username=globi&style=full] not found]	752
failed to lookup [GEONAMES:3895114] because of: [resource [http://api.geonames.org/getJSON?formatted=true&geonameId=3895114&username=globi&style=full] not found]	677

reviewComment	count
failed to lookup [GEONAMES:4896861] because of: [resource [http://api.geonames.org/getJSON?formatted=true&geonameId=4896861&username=globi&style=full] not found]	528

For addition information on review notes, please have a look at the first 500 Review Notes or the download full csv or tsv archives.

GloBI Review Badge

As part of the review, a review badge is generated. This review badge can be included in webpages to indicate the review status of the dataset under review.



Figure 5: Picture of a GloBI Review Badge ³

Note that if the badge is green, no review notes were generated. If the badge is yellow, the review bots may need some help with interpreting the species interaction data.

GloBI Index Badge

If the dataset under review has been registered with GloBI, and has been successfully indexed by GloBI, the GloBI Index Status Badge will turn green. This means that the dataset under review was indexed by GloBI and is available through GloBI services and derived data products.



Figure 6: Picture of a GloBI Index Badge ⁴

If you'd like to keep track of reviews or index status of the dataset under review, please visit [GloBI's dataset index ^[At time of writing (2024-06-07) the version of the GloBI dataset index was available at <https://globalbioticinteractions.org/datasets> for badge examples.

³Up-to-date status of the GloBI Review Badge can be retrieved from the GloBI Review Depot

⁴Up-to-date status of the GloBI Index Badge can be retrieved from GloBI's API

Discussion

This review aims to provide a perspective on the dataset to aid in understanding of species interaction claims discovered. However, it is important to note that this review does *not* assess the quality of the dataset. Instead, it serves as an indication of the open-ness⁵ and FAIRness (Wilkinson et al. 2016; Trekels et al. 2023) of the dataset: to perform this review, the data was likely openly available, **F**indable, **A**ccessible, **I**nteroperable and **R**eusable. The current Open-FAIR assessment is qualitative, and a more quantitative approach can be implemented with specified measurement units.

This report also showcases the reuse of machine-actionable (meta)data, something highly recommended by the FAIR Data Principles (Wilkinson et al. 2016). Making (meta)data machine-actionable enables more precise processing by computers, enabling even naive review bots like Nomer and Elton to interpret the data effectively. This capability is crucial for not just automating the generation of reports, but also for facilitating seamless data exchanges, promoting interoperability.

Acknowledgements

We thank the many humans that created us and those who created and maintained the data, software and other intellectual resources that were used for producing this review. In addition, we are grateful for the natural resources providing the basis for these human and bot activities.

Author contributions

Nomer was responsible for name alignments. Elton carried out dataset extraction, and generated the review notes.

References

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- Poelen, Jorrit H., James D. Simons, and Chris J. Mungall. 2014. “Global Biotic Interactions: An Open Infrastructure to Share and Analyze Species-Interaction Datasets.” *Ecological Informatics* 24 (November): 148–59. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecoinf.2014.08.005>.
- Trekels, Maarten, Debora Pignatari Drucker, José Augusto Salim, Jeff Ollerton, Jorrit Poelen, Filipi Miranda Soares, Max Rünzel, Muo Kasina, Quentin

⁵According to <http://opendefinition.org/>: “Open data is data that can be freely used, re-used and redistributed by anyone - subject only, at most, to the requirement to attribute and sharealike.”

- Groom, and Mariano Devoto. 2023. “WorldFAIR Project (D10.1) Agriculture-related pollinator data standards use cases report.” Zenodo. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.8176978>.
- Wilkinson, Mark D., Michel Dumontier, IJsbrand Jan Aalbersberg, Gabrielle Appleton, Myles Axton, Arie Baak, Niklas Blomberg, et al. 2016. “The FAIR Guiding Principles for Scientific Data Management and Stewardship.” *Scientific Data* 3 (1). <https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18>.