# Introduction

This version of the ODM Data Loader (based on a beta of version 1.1.5.3) accommodates two features added to ODM for the COMIDA project:

1. The addition of a SourceFile field in the Sources table to store the name of the file containing the data values as sent by the COMIDA investigator
2. The addition of a Taxonomy table to describe organisms in the study, and a TaxaID field in the DataValues table to link to the Taxonomy table.

Note that only the ODM Data Loader was modified. The ODM Data Loader wizard was not modified since it was not used in the project for which BioODM was created.

# Installation

The installer is in the BioOdm-Loader\Installer\Release subfolder.

# Loading Data

The procedure for using the ODM Data Loader is the same as for the latest stable release of the official version, 1.1.5.2. A software manual is available on the HIS website. <http://his.cuahsi.org/odmdataloader.html>

However, the input data files to the data loader can now include Source File and Taxonomy references. Specific instructions are provided below.

**To load Taxonomy records:**

The Taxonomy table does not rely on foreign keys or controlled vocabularies, thereby making it easy to load values. Therefore, the ODM Data Loader has not been modified to load records into the Taxonomy table. To load these records:

1. Prepare an Excel spreadsheet with the data to load. The spreadsheet should include the same columns as in the Taxonomy table. The TaxaID values can be any arbitrary number because they will be overwritten by the auto-increment functionality when the rows are added to the database.
2. TSN (Taxonomic Serial Number) must be populated. For taxa not in ITIS.gov such as Mixed Phytoplankton, make up a number.
3. Select all the data in Excel and copy the data. Do not select the header row with the column names.
4. In SQL Management Studio, right-click to **edit** the Taxonomy table in your database.
5. Click on the left gray rectangle on the blank row in the editor to select that row.
6. Paste. Rows should be created for each row from Excel.

**If you are loading Sources:**

Include a **SourceFile** column in your input table of sources. This column is required by the data loader. The column stores the name of the file containing the data values as sent by the COMIDA investigator, e.g.., *Smith\_data.xls*. This column is used as a unique text identifier for a source row in the database. It is similar to VariableCode in the Variables table in this regard.

**If you are loading Data Values:**

* You MUST load Sources and Taxonomy records before loading Data Values.
* To associate a data value with a source, include either a SourceID or SourceFile column, whose value matches an existing Sources row in the database.
* To associate a data value with a Taxonomy record, include either a TaxaID or TSN column, whose value matches an existing Taxonomy row in the database.