
The Environmental Data Initiative (EDI)



Supporting Curation and Archiving of Environmental Data



EDI is funded by the NSF DEB



Overview

EDI's mission and approaches - Corinna Gries

Data repository and publishing - Duane Costa

Data publication workflow support - Colin Smith

Outreach and training - Kristin Vanderbilt

Data integration support - Margaret O'Brien

<https://environmentaldatainitiative.org/>

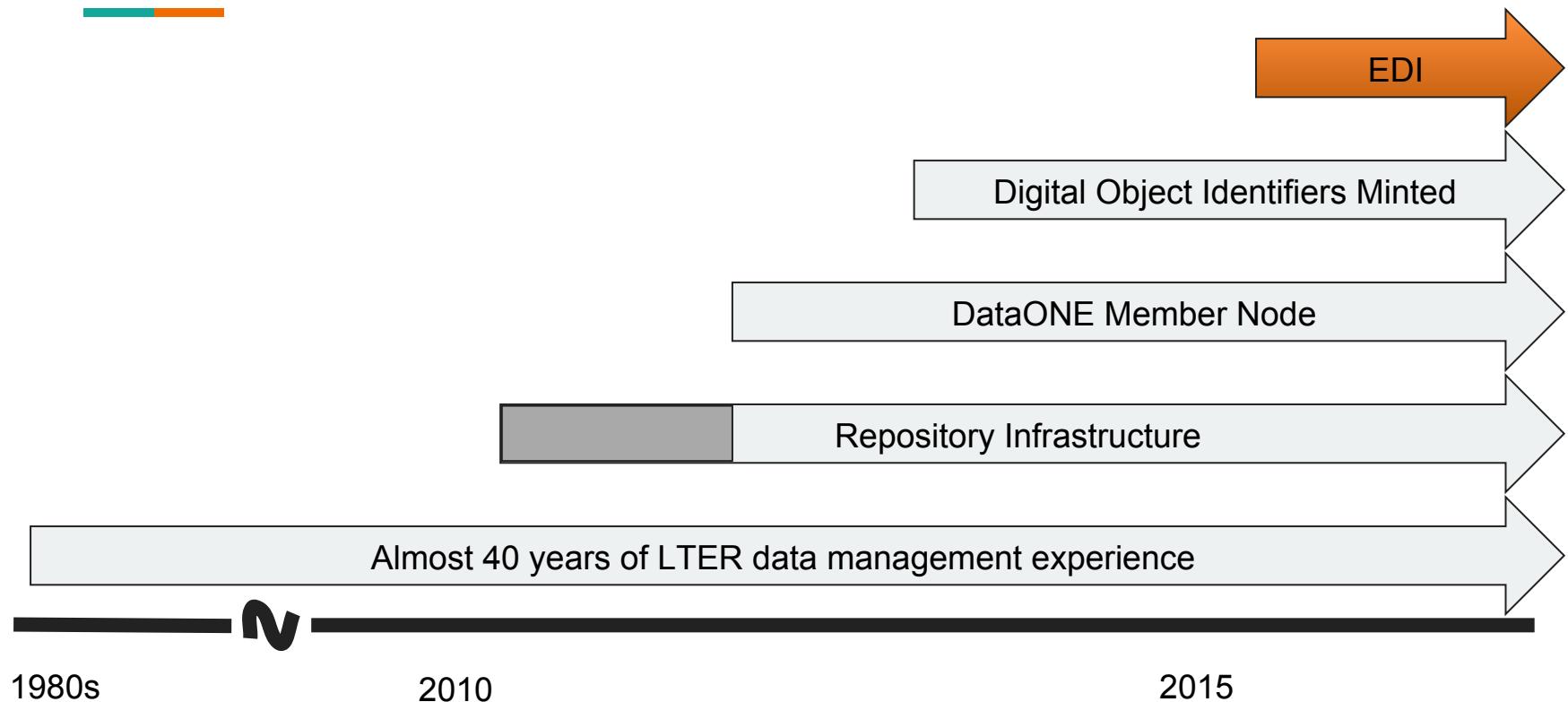
<https://portal.edirepository.org>

 @EDIdatagotedi

 edi-got-data



History - we are standing on the shoulders of giants





Mission and Goals

Accelerate the curation, archiving, and dissemination of environmental data

Ensure that environmental data are:

- Deposited into a data repository for long-term preservation and data integrity
- Easily discoverable and seamlessly accessible
- Documented with rich science metadata to enable reuse and integration



Curation

Data curation support for data providers

- Experienced data managers on staff
- Consultation
- Training
- Data Curation Tool Development



Archiving

EDI's repository builds on cyber infrastructure developed for LTER

Certified and registered as trustworthy repository (re3data, Nature, ESA, others)

Data are documented in Ecological Metadata Language standard

High quality standards enforced through automated congruence and completeness checking



Dissemination

DataONE member node

Local search interface

Digital Object Identifier (DOI) through DataCite

Collaborations with FAIR project, journal publishers

Linking of publications and data sets

Documentation of data provenance

The screenshot shows the DataONE member node interface. On the left, there is a sidebar with a search bar and filters for 'Data source', 'Creator', 'Year', 'Identifier', 'Taxon', and 'Location'. The main area displays a list of datasets with columns for title, author, year, and DOI. To the right, there is a map of North America with various regions highlighted in different colors, likely representing data distribution or collection areas.

The screenshot shows the EDI Data Portal Advanced Search interface. It features a map of the world with a specific region highlighted. Below the map are input fields for 'North' (-90), 'South' (-90), 'East' (180), and 'West' (-180). A checkbox labeled 'Dataset is Contained within Boundaries' has 'Select' next to it. There are also tabs for 'Spatial / Place Name', 'Sites', 'Subject', 'Creator / Organization', 'Temporal', 'Taxonomic', and 'Identifier'. At the bottom, there are 'Submit' and 'Clear All' buttons.



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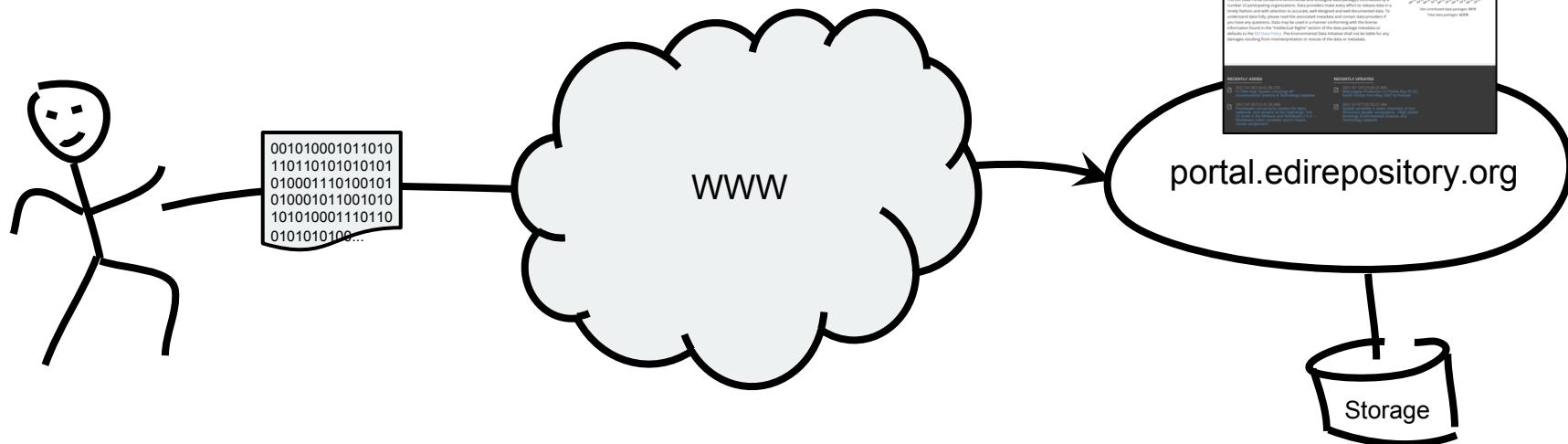
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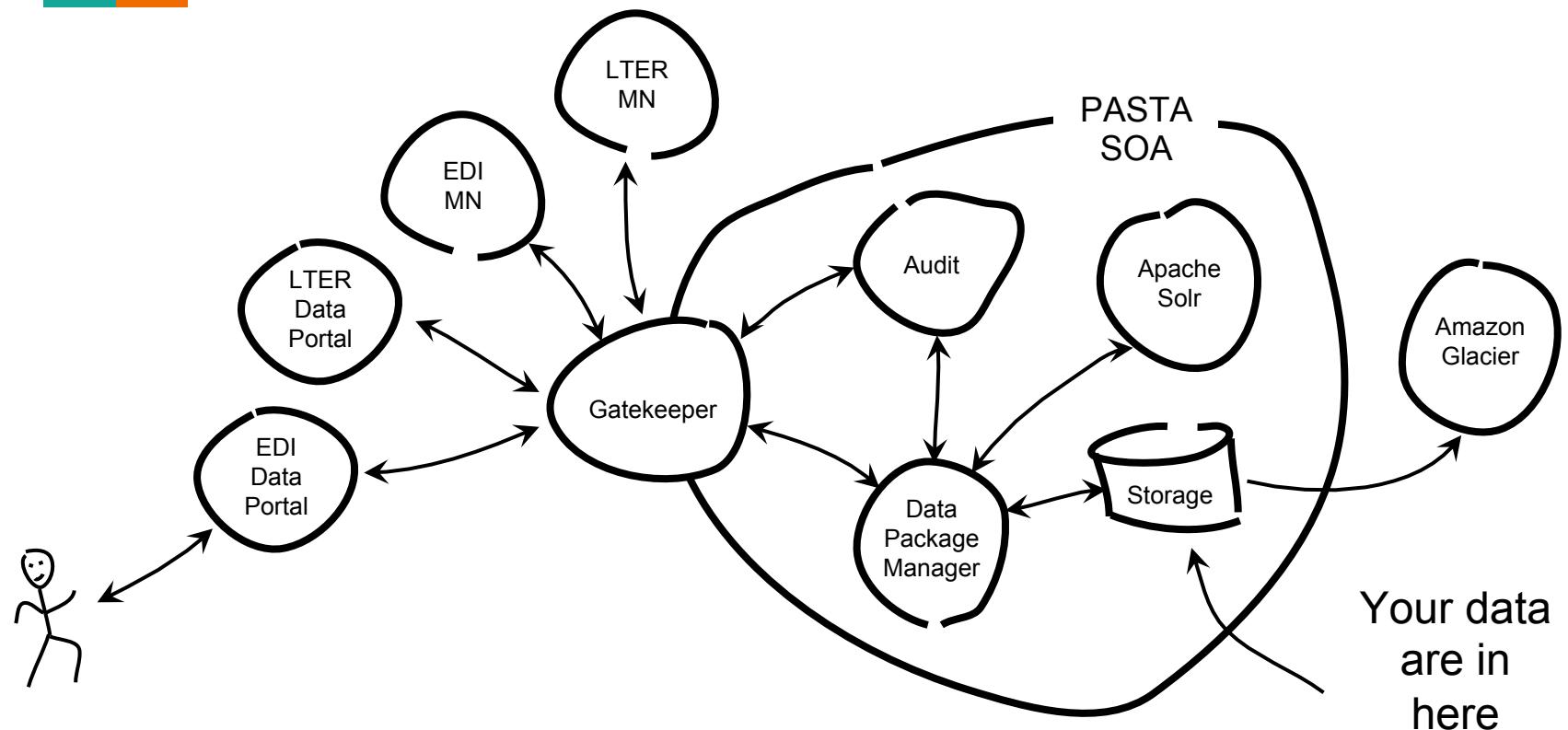


The EDI Data Repository





Components of the EDI Data Repository





About the EDI Data Repository (1 of 2)

- Community (LTER Network) designed with transparency in mind
- In continuous production since January 2013
- An Internet accessible, open data repository, open source project (GitHub)
- The EDI Data Repository is an *implementation instance* of a PASTA data repository. To put it another way, the EDI Data Repository is *powered by* PASTA software.
 - Metadata-driven (Ecological Metadata Language)
 - Java SE/EE implementation
 - Service Oriented Architecture (SOA) with a RESTful web service API
 - PASTA itself is *not* a website designed for direct human interaction
 - EDI Data Portal provides a GUI interface to PASTA web services



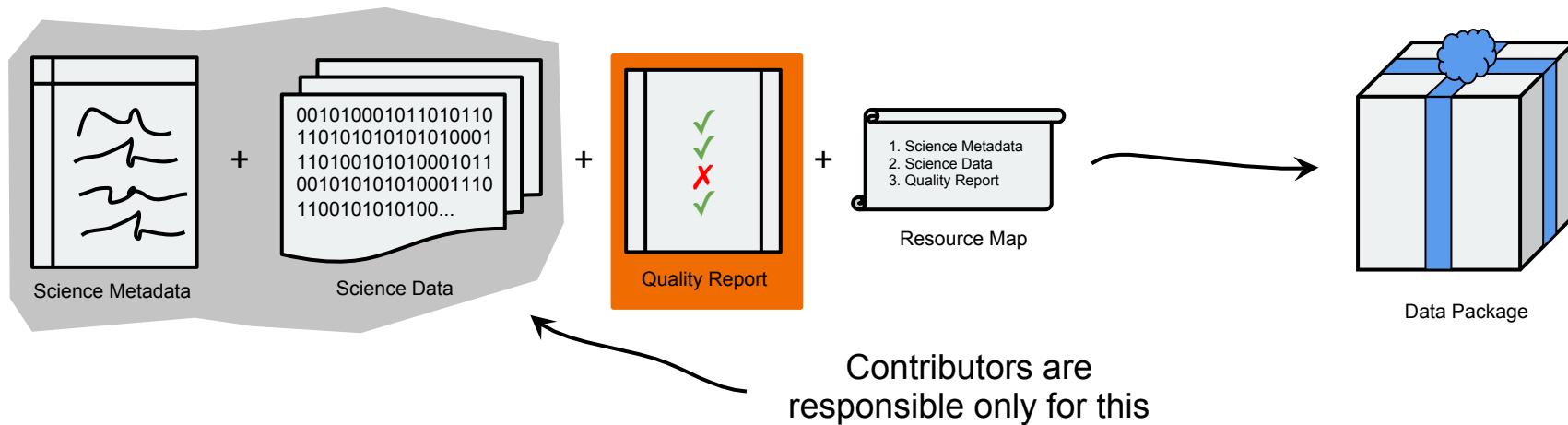
About the EDI Data Repository (2 of 2)

- Content summary
 - 42,000+ data packages
 - ~9TB data volume
- DataONE member node operator for the EDI MN and LTER MN (GMN)
- DOIs minted for all public data packages through DataCite
 - [10.6073/pasta/c868deb66af9c0f72c9672f65b484995](https://doi.org/10.6073/pasta/c868deb66af9c0f72c9672f65b484995)
 - Assigned at the data package level, not assigned to its individual components
- Ensures data integrity through checksums and multiple backup strategies (AWS Glacier)
- Supports upload notification to drive workflows (e.g. Twitter bot)
- Funded by US National Science Foundation - DEB/LTER/ABI and ARRA



What's A Data Package?

Data Package (noun): an assemblage of science metadata (e.g., EML) and one or more science data objects; PASTA data packages include a “quality report” object and are described by package metadata called a “resource map” (i.e., manifest)





Identifiers in the EDI Data Repository

- PASTA data package identifier
 - edi.12.1 (internal)
 - <https://pasta.lternet.edu/package/eml/edi/12/1> (external, public facing)
- DOI
 - doi:10.6073/pasta/43e9a619cbebb98da0011ada25ad5c12
 - <https://dx.doi.org/10.6073/pasta/43e9a619cbebb98da0011ada25ad5c12>
- DataONE identifier
 - doi:10.6073/pasta/43e9a619cbebb98da0011ada25ad5c12 (data package)
- Identifiers support
 - immutability
 - strong versioning
 - reliable access



PASTA Congruence/Quality Checking

- Are all required/recommended metadata fields present?
- Do metadata values comply with best practices?
- Is the data available for download?
- Does metadata accurately describe the data, i.e. are the two congruent?

info, valid, warn, error

Data Package Quality Report

Packageld: knb-lter-nwk.1424.50

Report Date/Time: 2017-11-22T20:38:36

Dataset Report

#	Identifier	Status	Quality Check	Name	Description	Expected	Found
1	packageldPattern	valid	Type: metadata System: Iter On Failure: error	packageld pattern matches "scope.identifier.revision"	Check against LTER requirements for scope.identifier.revision	'scope.n.m', where 'n' and 'm' are integers and 'scope' is one of an allowed set of values	knb-lter-nwk.1424.50
	emlVersion	valid	Type: metadata	EML version 2.1.0 or	Check the EML version	2.1.0	eml://ecoinformatics.org/eml/2.1.1/namespaces
6	keywordPresent	warn	Type: metadata System: Iter On Failure: warn	keyword element is present	Checks to see if at least one keyword is present	Presence of one or more keyword elements	0 'keyword' element(s) found
7	methodsElementPresent	valid	Type: metadata System: Iter On Failure: warn	A 'methods' element is present	All datasets should contain a 'methods' element, at a minimum a link to a separate methods doc.	presence of 'methods' at one or more xpahs.	2 'methods' element(s) found
8	coveragePresent	warn	Type: metadata System: Iter On Failure: warn	coverage element is present	At least one coverage element should be present in a dataset.	At least one of geographicCoverage, taxonomicCoverage, or temporalCoverage is present in the EML.	0 'coverage' element(s) found
9	geographicCoveragePresent	info	Type: metadata System: Iter	geographicCoverage is present	Check that geographicCoverage exists in EML at the	geographicCoverage at least at the dataset level.	0 'geographicCoverage' element(s) found
12	onlineURLs	valid	Type: congruency System: knb On Failure: error	Online URLs	URLs return something		
13	integrityChecksum	error	Type: congruency System: Iter On Failure: error	Compare the metadata checksum for an entity to the checksum of the downloaded entity	Two possible responses: valid if checksums match; error if checksums do not match.	915a52bd06ef5730ca5ef33dd359380a59c86ef5	815a52bd06ef5730ca5ef33dd359380a59c86ef4



Data Package Landing Page

Citation suggestion

Provenance information

Code generation

Data Package Summary [View Full Metadata](#)

Title: Daily Water Sample Nutrient Data for North Inlet Estuary, South Carolina, from 1978 to 1992, North Inlet LTER

Creators: Gaucho, Chase; Conquerors of the Useless

Publication Date: 2006

Citation: Gaucho C. 2006. Daily Water Sample Nutrient Data for North Inlet Estuary, South Carolina, from 1978 to 1992, North Inlet LTER. Environmental Data Initiative. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5072/FK2/f77109ef542e04740af0b4521ebfae08>. Dataset accessed 11/15/2017.

Abstract: This data package consists of Daily Water Sample Nutrient Data for North Inlet Estuary, South Carolina, from 1978 to 1992, North Inlet LTER. Its purpose is to establish a long term data base on the nutrient dynamics of a...
[Show more >](#)

Spatial Coverage:



N: 33.357 S: 33.1925 E: -79.1002 W: -79.2936

Package ID: edi.98.1 [+](#)

Resources: [Metadata](#)

[Report](#)

[Data](#)

[1. DailyWaterSample-NIN-LTER-1978-1992 \(902K\)](#)

[Download Zip Archive](#)

Intellectual Rights: LTER Network Data Access Requirements The access to all LTER data is subject to requirements set forth by this policy document to enable data providers to track usage, evaluate its impact in the community, and confirm us...
[Show more >](#)

Digital Object Identifier: doi:10.5072/FK2/f77109ef542e04740af0b4521ebfae08

PASTA Identifier: <https://pasta-s.ternet.edu/package/eml/edi/98/1>

Provenance: Generate [provenance metadata](#) for use within your derived data package

Code Generation: Analyze this data package using [Matlab](#), [R](#), [SAS](#), [SPSS](#)



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Data submitted to EDI

Long term data sets - regular updating (e.g. LTER, LTREB, OBFS)

Data associated with one project (e.g., MSB, other short term funding)

Data associated with a publication (may be subsets, usually are well curated)



Data policies in EDI

Data have to be submitted at the same time as metadata

- Except human subject data
- Special access to sensitive data (e.g., endangered species location) can be arranged, but data need to be on EDI server

Embargo time during paper review can be arranged

Data are licensed to be in the public domain or require attribution



Data publication workflow support

Best practices for organizing, cleaning, and documenting data

Software to help organize, clean, and document data

One-on-one support for any step of this process



Software to format, clean, and document data

Data formatting tools to help reformat data into a standardized structure

Data cleaning tools

Data documentation tools to help create high quality EML metadata

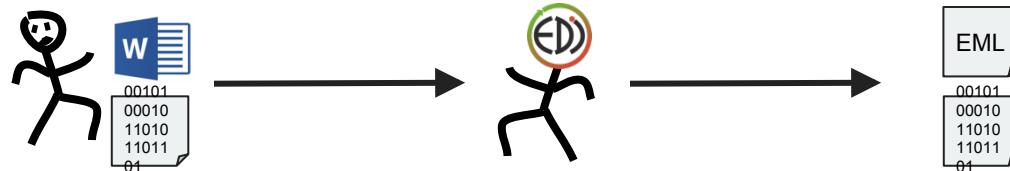
The screenshot shows three GitHub repository pages side-by-side:

- EDlorg / ecomDP**: A data management tool with 8 stars and 1 fork. It has 0 issues, 0 pull requests, 3 projects, and 0 wiki pages.
- EDlorg / taxonomyCleanr**: A workflow and set of functions to make EML using R. It has 6 stars and 1 fork. It has 0 issues, 0 pull requests, 0 projects, and 0 wiki pages.
- EDlorg / EMLassemblyline**: A workflow and set of functions to make EML using R. It has 12 stars and 2 forks. It has 0 issues, 0 pull requests, 0 projects, and 0 wiki pages. It shows 381 commits, 2 branches, 1 release, and 1 contributor. The latest commit was 5 days ago. The repository includes files for R, documentation, inst/templates, man, vignettes, Rbuildignore, AUTHORS.md, CODE_OF_CONDUCT.md, CONTRIBUTING.md, and DESCRIPTION.

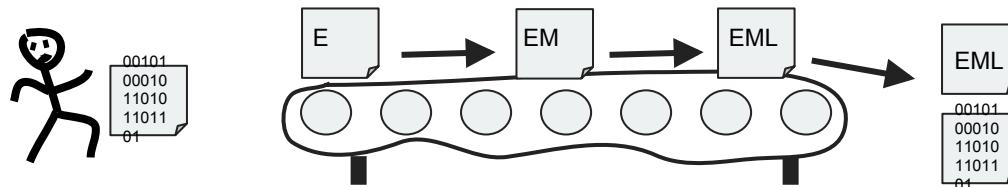


Metadata generation

Metadata template, a Microsoft Word document completed by the data provider and converted to EML by EDI's data curation team



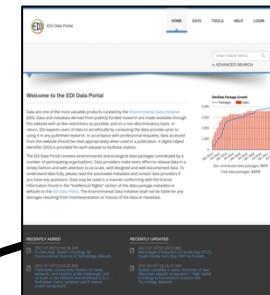
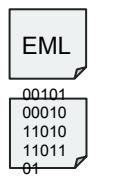
EML Assembly Line, a user friendly R library for data providers to generate EML metadata on their own





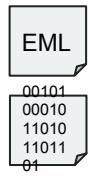
Data and metadata upload

Via the data curation team



portal.edirepository.org

Via the data provider with a user account





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Outreach:

Website:

<https://environmentaldatainitiative.org/>

Twitter: @EDIgotdata

The screenshot shows the Environmental Data Initiative (EDI) website. At the top is a navigation bar with links: WELCOME, ABOUT, DATA, NEWS, EVENTS, RESOURCES (which is highlighted with a red arrow), and EDI-BLOGS. Below the navigation bar is a main content area with a "Welcome" section. To the right of the welcome section is a sidebar with three items: TRAINING, WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS, SUMMER 2018 INTERNSHIP PROGRAM, and TRAVEL SUPPORT. A tweet from the EDIgotdata Twitter account is displayed on the right side of the page. The tweet is from January 6, 2018, and discusses a new EDI data package related to the Bonanza Creek LTER project.

Environmental Data Initiative

- Create . Package . Archive . Discover . Use -

WELCOME · ABOUT · DATA · NEWS · EVENTS · RESOURCES · EDI-BLOGS

Welcome

The *Environmental Data Initiative* is an NSF-funded project accelerating the archive of environmental data, emphasizing data from projects funded by the Long Term Research in Ecosystems (LTREB), Organization for Biological Field Stations (OBFS), Macrosystems Biology (MSB), and Long Term Ecological Research (LTER). Programs served include, but are not limited to, Long Term Research in Ecosystems (LTREB), Organization for Biological Field Stations (OBFS), Macrosystems Biology (MSB), and Long Term Ecological Research (LTER).

We provide support, training, and resources to help you archive and publish high-quality data and metadata. We operate a secure data repository and work closely with the LTER NCO and DataONE to promote data management best practices and stewardship. Our team consists of highly motivated and experienced data practitioners, software developers, and research scientists. Please contact us to find out how we may be of assistance.

RESOURCES

TRAINING, WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS

SUMMER 2018 INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

TRAVEL SUPPORT

EDI @EDIgotdata New EDI data package knb-lter-bnz.176.21 (portal.edirepository.org/nis/mapbrowsing...) "Bonanza Creek LTER: Hourly Evaporation measurements at Core Sites from 1988 to Present in the Bonanza Creek Experimental Forest near Fairbank..."

Jan 6, 2018

Embed View on Twitter

Data Portal

Featured Data Contribution

News

NEWS

Outreach:

Website:

<https://environmentaldatainitiative.org/>

Twitter: @EDIgotdata

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Environmental Data Initiative (EDI) website. At the top center is the EDI logo, which consists of the letters 'EDI' in a stylized font inside a circular arrow. Below the logo is the text 'Environmental Data Initiative' and a tagline '- Create . Package . Archive . Discover . Reuse -'. A red arrow points downwards from the word 'Resources' in the sidebar to the 'RESOURCES' menu item in the navigation bar. The navigation bar includes links for WELCOME, ABOUT, DATA, NEWS, EVENTS, RESOURCES, and EDI-BLOGS. The main content area has two columns. The left column contains sections for 'Resources' (with a link to 'FIVE PHASES OF DATA PUBLISHING') and 'EDI' (with a list of links: Five phases of data publishing, Training Resources, Data Package Design, Good Reads, EDI on GitHub, and PASTA+ on GitHub). The right column contains sections for 'TRAINING RESOURCES', 'GOOD READS', 'EDI ON GITHUB', 'PASTA+ ON GITHUB', and 'EDI ON YOUTUBE'. Below these columns is a section titled 'External' with a list of links: Write Data Management Plans for US Funding Agencies with the DMP Tool and Manage streaming data with the GCE Data Toolbox for Matlab ("Comprehensive software framework for metadata-based analysis, quality control, transformation and management of ecological data sets").

Newsletter

<https://environmentaldatainitiative.org>

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA INITIATIVE



Newsletter . October 2017

HIGHLIGHTS

EDI is happy to announce funding in support of 3 data management internships for the summer of 2018. For more information see [here](#).

On 11 October 2017, EDI had the first meeting with its Scientific Advisory Board (Peter Arzberger, Nathan Booth, Aaron Ellison, Ian Foster, Rebecca Koskela and Mary Martin).

FEATURED DATA CONTRIBUTION

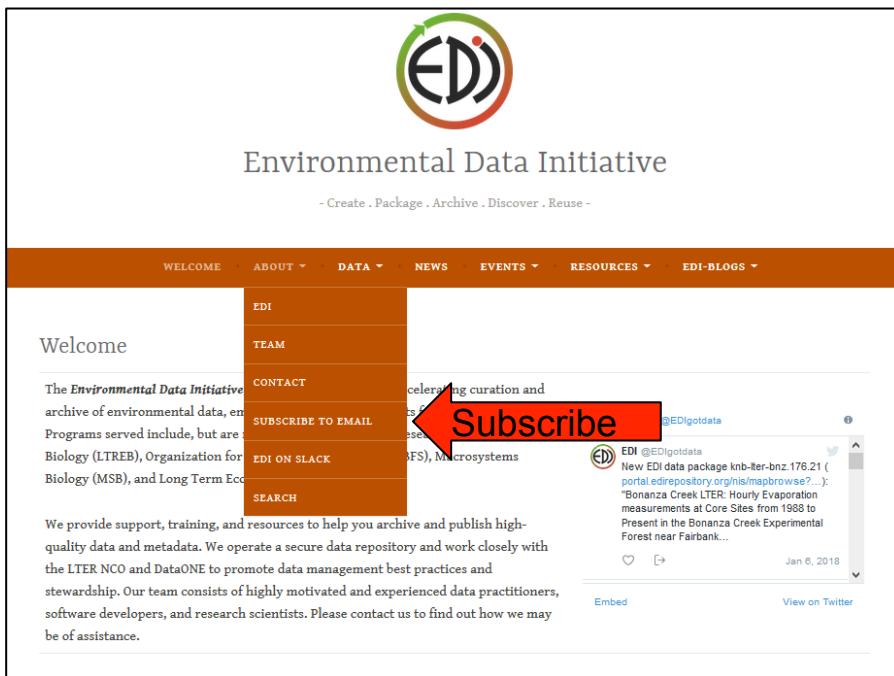
[Climate history of the northeastern United States during the past 3000 years](#)

Marlon, J., et al. (2017) Environmental Data Initiative,
<http://dx.doi.org/10.6073/pasta/6ced33c5e07f9fa7f11efb259001bacb>.

UPCOMING EVENTS

For details on our upcoming events see [here](#):

Newsletter



The screenshot shows the EDI website's homepage. At the top is the EDI logo and the text "Environmental Data Initiative". Below that is a navigation bar with links: WELCOME, ABOUT, DATA, NEWS, EVENTS, RESOURCES, and EDI-BLOGS. A secondary navigation menu is open under the "DATA" link, showing options like EDI, TEAM, CONTACT, SUBSCRIBE TO EMAIL, EDI ON SLACK, and SEARCH. A large orange button labeled "Subscribe" with a white arrow pointing to it is prominently displayed. To the right of the "Subscribe" button is a Twitter feed from the account @EDigodata. The feed includes a tweet about a new EDI data package and another about Bonanza Creek LTER. At the bottom left, there is a "Welcome" section with text about the EDI's mission and support services.

<https://environmentaldatainitiative.org>

ENVIRONMENTAL DATA INITIATIVE



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UPCOMING EVENTS

For details on our upcoming events see [here](#):

Student Internships

- Project leaders apply to host a student to work with particular data sets
- Students will
 - Learn to create metadata, quality control data and archive data packages in the EDI repository
 - Be trained and mentored by EDI
 - Conduct a small data analysis project
- \$5000 scholarship for the summer



Information Management Training: In-Person

- Technical
 - IMs from OBFS, LTREB, LTER (2017)
 - EDI interns/OBFS/LTREB/LTER (2018)
 - Early Career faculty and their lab members (2018)
- Overview
 - GLEON scientists (2017)
 - OBFS site managers (2018)



Info Management Training: Online

- VTC (Git, EML Creation Using R, PASTA+ REST API)
 - Slides and YouTube videos
- Upcoming: Five Phases of Data Publishing
 - January 30: "What are Clean Data?"
- EDI data managers available to help!

Previous EDI Events

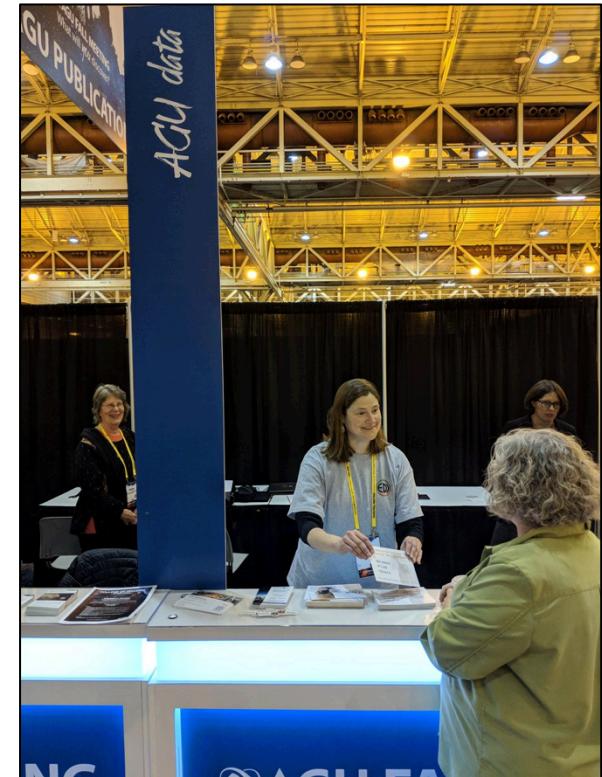
The Environmental Data Initiative is on YouTube! Stop by for past tutorials and discussions on information management in the environmental sciences [here](#).

VTC Discussions & Tutorials

- [VTC tutorial: "DEIMS, the Drupal Ecological Information Management System"](#), 5 December 2017.
- [VTC tutorial: "Using checksums to speed up data package uploads"](#), 28 November 2017.
- [VTC tutorial \(2\): "Transform and visualize data in R using the packages tidyverse, dplyr and ggplot2"](#), 24 October 2017.
- [VTC tutorial \(1\): "Transform and visualize data in R using the packages tidyverse, dplyr and ggplot2"](#), 17 October 2017.
- [VTC Discussion: "Data package design, featuring the candidate model for community survey data"](#), September 26, 2017
- [VTC Tutorial: "The PASTA+ Rest API" \(part 2 of 2\)](#), July 18, 2017
- [VTC Tutorial: "The PASTA+ Rest API" \(part 1 of 2\)](#), July 11, 2017
- [VTC Tutorial: "Creating EML with R and sharing on GitHub"](#), June 27, 2017
- [VTC Tutorial: "Git and GitHub"](#), June 20, 2017
- [VTC Tutorial: "R basics"](#), June 13, 2017

Other Outreach:

- National and International Meetings (OBFS, ESA, AGU, ILTER, ESIP)
- Targeted seminars
- Code Repository





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Data Integration Support

Rationale

As archived, primary data are often difficult to use in synthesis - even with complete metadata

EDI Provides

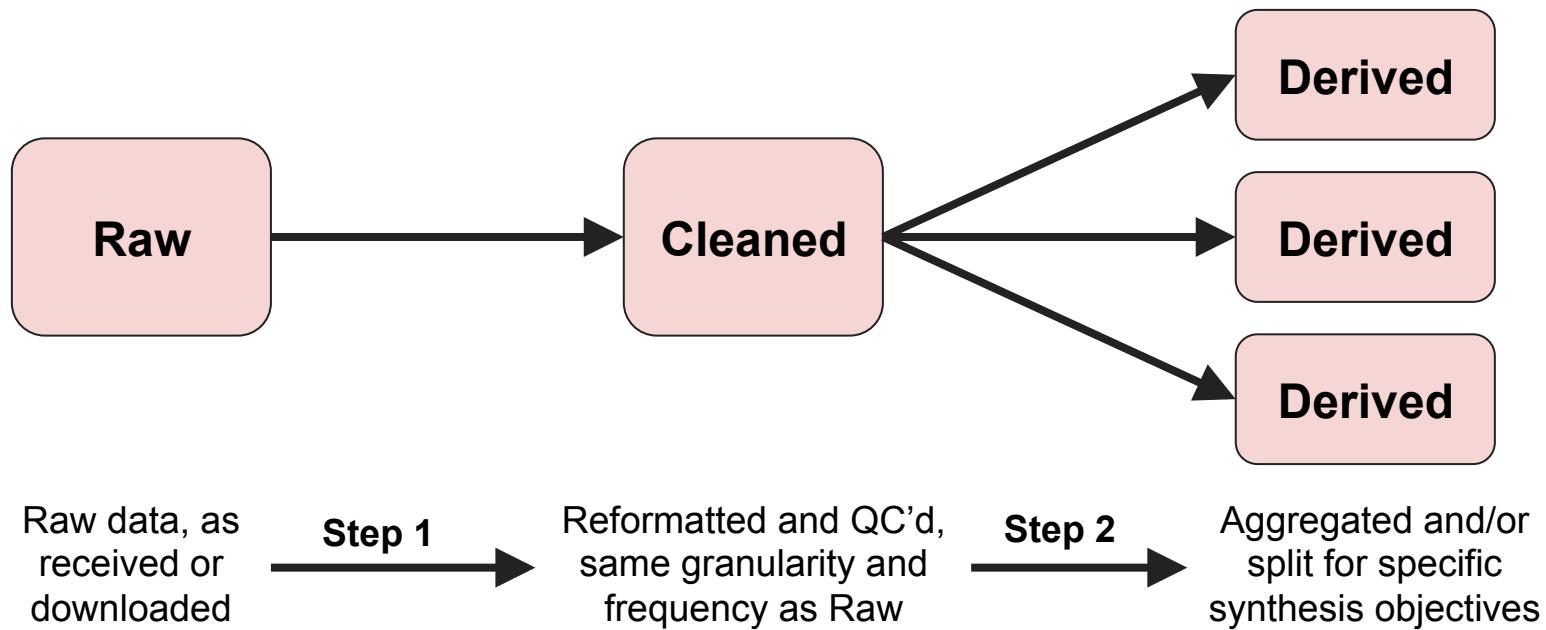
Expertise from data managers to define best practices for data package design

Approach

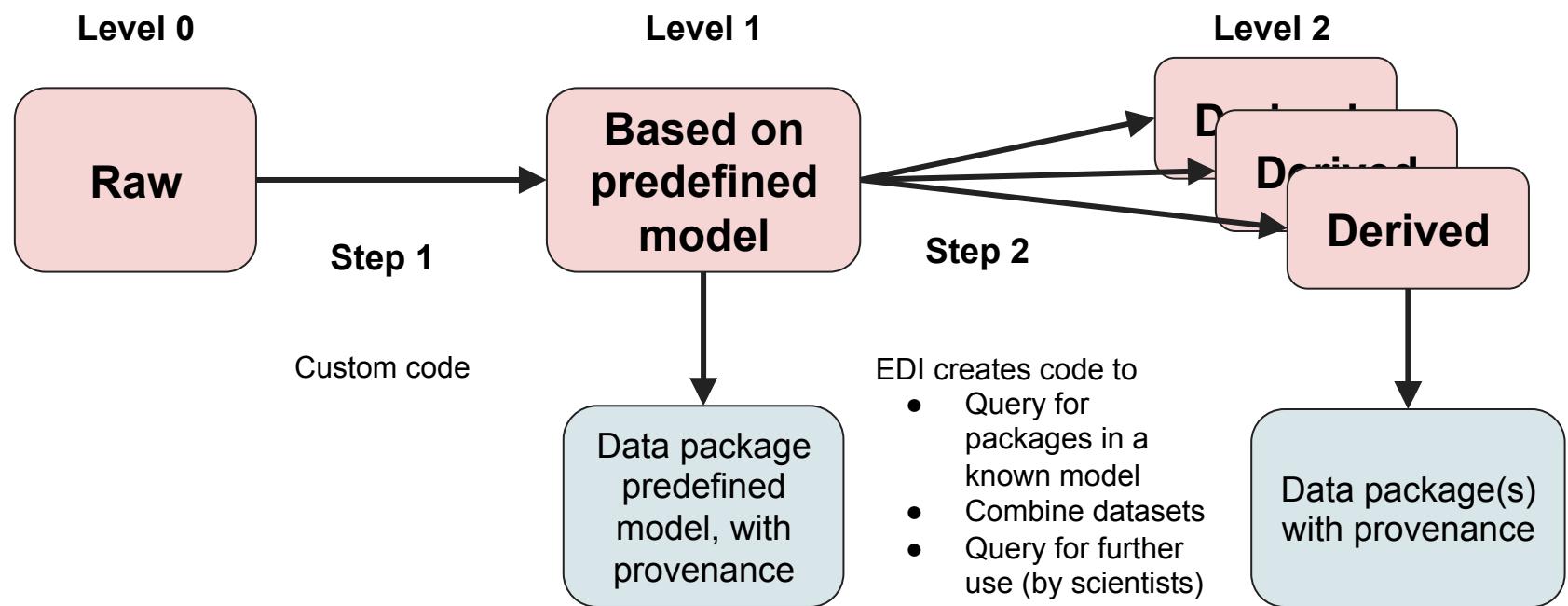
- 1) Recommend format and content so analyses can be streamlined
 - a) Mechanism for preparers to know
 - i) Data elements that are most important
 - ii) Layouts that are easiest to use
- 2) Work with scientists currently engaged in synthesis of primary data

Template for a process that can be reused in many scientific domains

Typical Synthesis Workflow



Ideal Synthesis Workflow



Objectives - Design Pattern for Level 1 Dataset

Flexible format for a particular domain of data, but usable for multiple types of measurements and synthesis projects

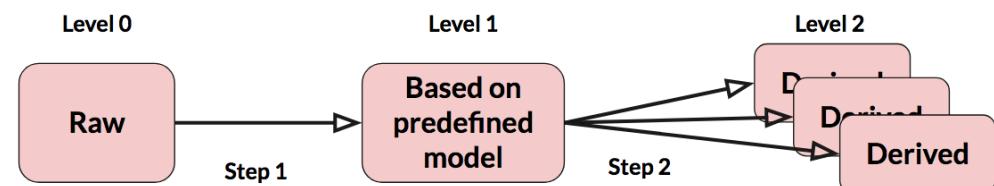
Metadata in EML

Reformat only, no calculations, aggregations or other steps requiring ecological judgement

Original data referenced, one to one relationship with reformatted Level 1 data

Complete; original records can be recreated

Distributed, not complex database application for maintenance



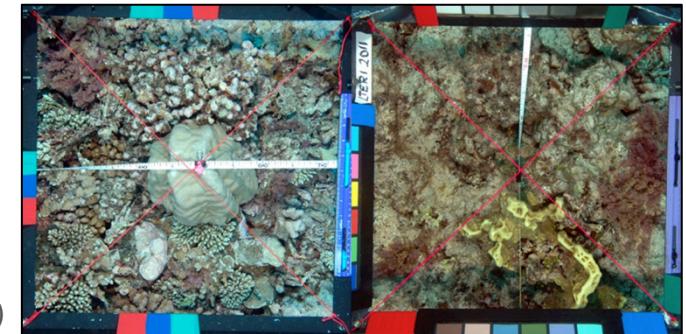
Basic Process

1. Examine available models currently in use
2. Examine *ad hoc* cleaned (Level 1) data created by a synthesis working group
3. Describe patterns
4. Define design pattern tables and value typing
5. Test model against data of interest
6. Create utility scripts for QC, metadata generation

Example - Design Pattern for Community Surveys

1. Examine available models currently in use: ***Popler, Darwin Core, CUAHSI ODM2***
2. Examine *ad hoc* cleaned (Level 1) data created by a synthesis working group: ***LTER Synthesis WG: Synchrony, Metacommunities***
3. Describe patterns: ***quite similar to DC-A but with many custom fields, especially for spatial info***
4. Define design pattern tables, typing - “***ecocomDP***”
5. Test model against data of interest
6. Create utility scripts for QC, metadata generation

Benthic cover at a Moorea Coral Reef (credit, <http://lternet.edu>)

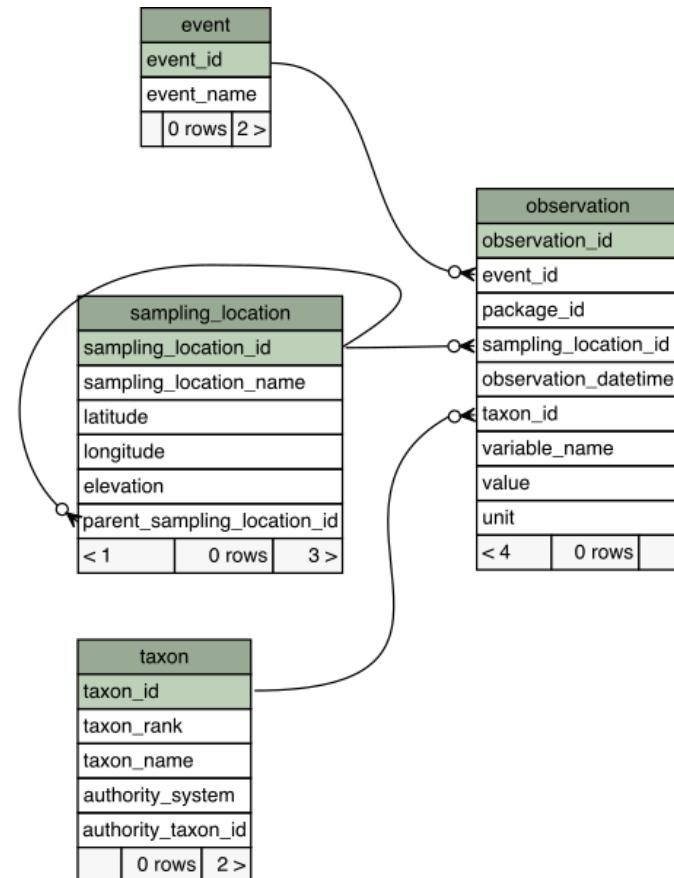


ecocomDP

Observation table for data related to
Count, biomass, abundance, density
Primary organization
Entity, name, value, unit (EAV, U)

Linked Tables for
Sampling location
Organism
Event

*Model includes ancillary tables and summary
(<https://github.com/EDlorg/ecocomDP>)*



Progress

Creating Level 1

Usability

Metadata
generation

Using Level 1

Query scripts



Woody encroachment at Konza Prairie (credit, <http://lternet.edu>)



Thank you

- Contact - info@environmentaldatainitiative.org
- Website - <https://environmentaldatainitiative.org/>
- Data portal - <https://portal.edirepository.org>
- Twitter - [@EDIgotdata](https://twitter.com/EDIgotdata)
- Slack - [edi-got-data](https://slack.com/archives/edi-got-data)
- GitHub - <https://github.com/EDIorg> <https://github.com/PASTAplus/PASTA>
- PASTA+ User/Developer Documentation - <http://pastaplus-core.readthedocs.io/en/latest/>
- Data Package Manager Web Service API - <https://pasta.lternet.edu/package/docs/api>
- Audit Manager Web Service API - <https://pasta.lternet.edu/audit/docs/api>