COCI, the OpenCitations Index of Crossref open DOI-to-DOI citations

Heibi, I., Peroni, S., & Shotton, D. (2019). COCI, the OpenCitations Index of Crossref open DOI-to-DOI citations. *Scientometrics*. https://doi.org/10.1007/s11192-019-03217-6

Ivan Heibi

Digital Humanities Advanced Research Centre (DHARC),
Department of Classical Philology and Italian Studies,
University of Bologna, Bologna (Italy)
ivan.heibi2@unibo.it

OpenCitations

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA
DIPARTIMENTO DI FILOLOGIA CLASSICA E ITALIANISTICA

About me

… - 2017

Bachelor and Master degree in Computer Science at the **University of Bologna, Italy**

2017-18

Research fellow under the supervision of **Silvio Peroni** on the "**OpenCitations** Enhancement Project", funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

2018 - …

Ph.D. student at the Department of Classical Philology and Italian Studies, University of Bologna, Bologna, Italy;
The application of Semantic Publishing technologies in the Science of Science research domain

A Citation

- A **bibliographic citation** is a conceptual directional link from a **citing entity** to a **cited entity.** N.B.

- The **citation data** related to a particular citation must include:
  - The **representation** of such a **conceptual directional link**
  - The basic **metadata** of the **citing entity and the cited entity**, i.e. sufficient information to create or retrieve textual bibliographic references
- A bibliographic citation is an **open citation** when the data needed to define the citation are: **structured, separate, open, identifiable, available**

Peroni, Shotton (2018): Open Citation: Definition. Figshare. DOI: https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.6683855

Open citations: characteristics

Joined

Unstructured

Structured (JSON Format)

```
"reference":[{
    "issue":"2",
    "key":"10.7717/peerj.4375/ref-11",
    "article-title":"Anatomy of green open access",
    "volume":"65",
    "author":"Björk",
    "year":"2014",
    "journal-title":"Journal of the Association for
},
...
```

Identifiable: "DOI":"10.1002/asi.22963"

Available (E.g. via HTTP)

Separate (e.g. via REST calls): https://api.crossref.org/works/10.7717/peerj.4375

Open

"No claims of ownership to individual items of bibliographic metadata" https://api.crossref.org

Closed

"Estimation of WOS costs is about $100,000 per year for large organizations [...] the cost of Scopus database is about 85-95% of the cost of WOS for the same organizations" https://doi.org/10.5539/ass.v9n5p18

OpenCitations

OpenCitations (http://opencitations.net) is a **scholarly infrastructure organization,** and one of the **founders of The Initiative for Open Citations (I4OC)**

It works on:

- **advocacy for open citations**
- the **publication of open bibliographic and citation data** by the use of **Semantic Web technologies,** and RDF for its description

It provides:

- **data models**: the OpenCitations Data Model (based on SPAR Ontologies)
- **datasets (in CC0)**: OpenCitations Corpus, and Citation Indexes
- **software**: GitHub repository released with open source licenses
- **online services**: dumps, REST APIs, SPARQL endpoints, and interfaces

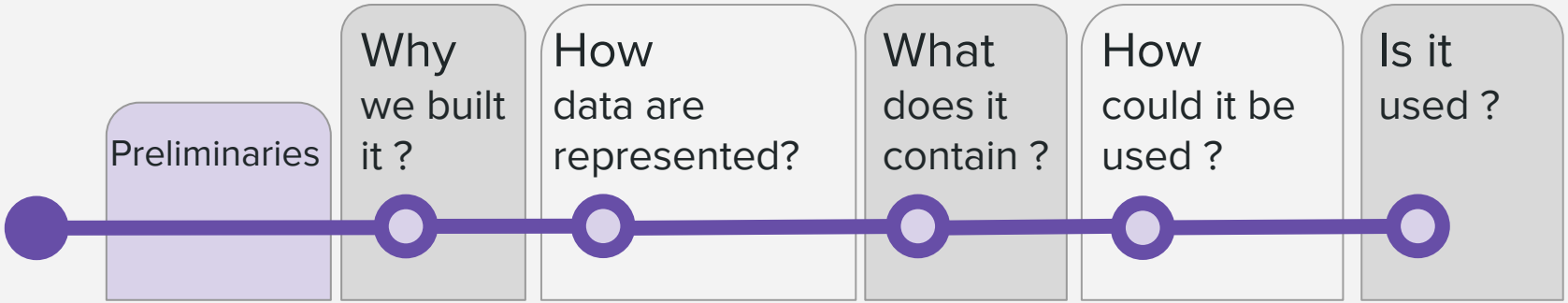
About the datasets

- OpenCitations **Corpus** (OCC, http://opencitations.net/corpus): new instance was set up at the University of Bologna in early July 2016, and currently contains **~14M citation links** to over **7.5M cited resources**
- OpenCitations **Indexes** (http://opencitations.net/index, launched in July 2018): contain **~445M citations** between **~46M bibliographic entities**

COCI, is the main dataset here

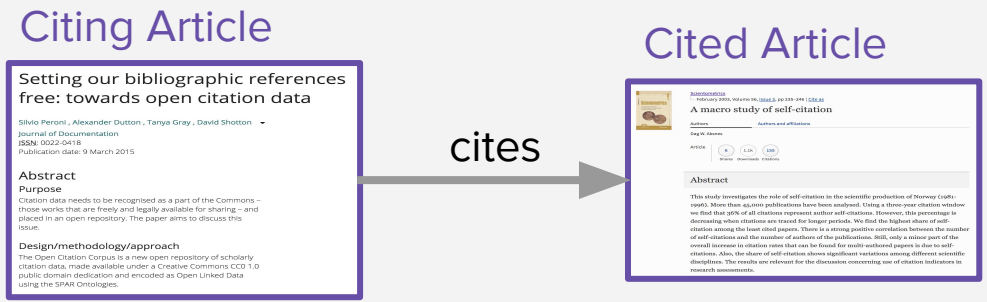
COCI

The OpenCitations Index of Crossref open DOI-to-DOI citations (https://w3id.org/oc/index/coci), is the **first of the indexes** proposed by OpenCitations, in which **citations are exposed as first-class data entities with accompanying properties**

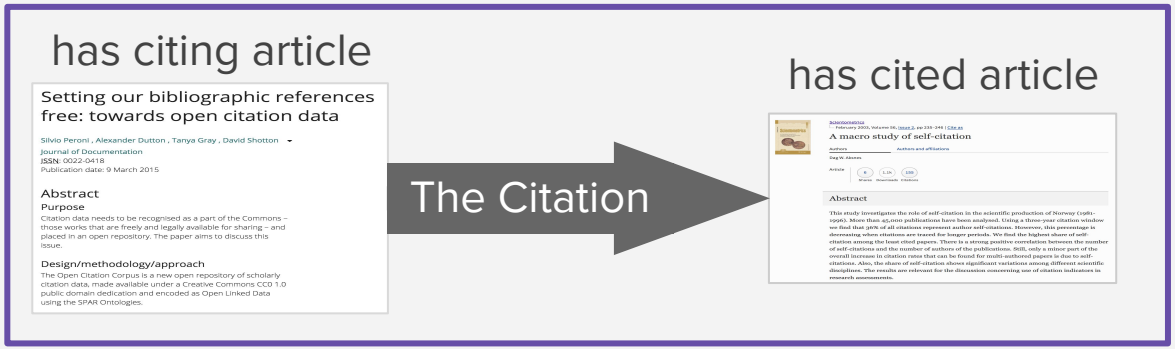


Citations as first-class data entities

Citations are normally treated simply as the links between published entities



Alternative richer view is to regard a **citation as a data entity** in its own right



More info at https://opencitations.wordpress.com/2018/02/19/citations-as-first-class-data-entities-introduction/

Open Citation Identifier (OCI)

We defined the **Open Citation Identifier (OCI)**, a persistent identifier scheme for citations contained in bibliographic databases

Structure: **oci:number-number,** where “oci:” is the identifier prefix

Some examples:

- *oci:01027931310-01022252312* (citation in Wikidata, identified by “010”)
- *oci:020010108063601070506630807020263066305090200101080636010705066308070202630563030*1 (citation in Crossref, identified by “020”)
- *oci:0302544384-0307295288* (citation in the OCC, identified by the “030”)

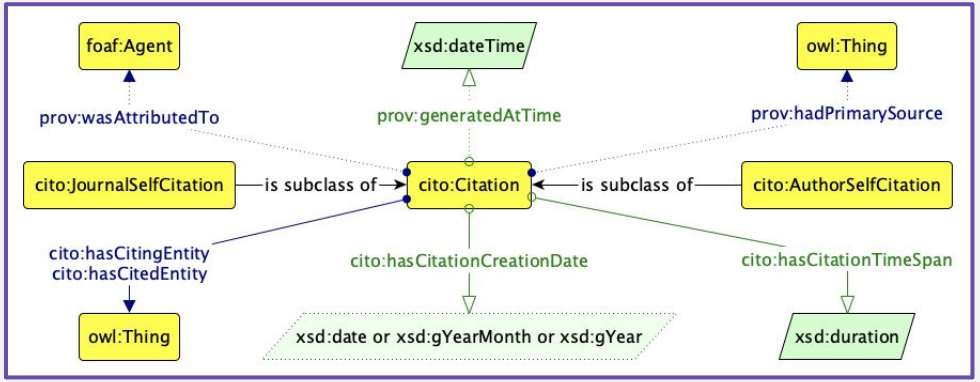
Peroni S, Shotton D (2019). Open Citation Identifier: Definition. Figshare. DOI: https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.7127816

Why we built it ?

- **Citations have a significant value** to the academic community and the general public, from different perspectives:
  - **Topologically:** through the definition of citing-cited graph evolution over time;
  - **Sociologically:** identifying researchers behaviours, or elitist access paths;
  - **Quantitatively:** creating citation-based metrics for impact evaluation;
  - **Financially:** defining the researcher's scholarly “value” within their communities.
- A large dataset embedding citations with multiple characteristics/metadata will enforce the above benefits, and its representation in RDF will help us query and apply novel methodologies for different discoveries.
- COCI dataset is of great support to **I4OC**

How data are represented ? (model)

- The OpenCitations **data representation is based on OCDM** (OpenCitations Data Model) It has been defined for **encoding scholarly bibliographic and citation data in RDF.** The **SPAR Ontologies** are the core elements needed to establish a semantical meaning for the OpenCitations data entities, and to define the relations between them.
- To define citations as a first-class entities we have **extended OCDM**. In particular, we have used a revised/extended version of the **Citation Typing Ontology** (CiTO, http://purl.org/spar/cito), which is part of the SPAR Ontologies.
- The new OCDM version will allow also the definition of the citations data **provenance**



- A new extended OCDM version is coming soon …

Peroni, S., & Shotton, D. (2018). The OpenCitations Data Model. Figshare. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.3443876

How data are represented ? (citation characteristics)

Characteristic	Description	In COCI
citing entity	The bibliographic entity which acts as source for the citation.	DOI (e.g. 10.1108/JD-12-2013-0166)
cited entity	The bibliographic entity which acts as target for the citation.	DOI (e.g. 10.1001/jama.295.1.90)
citation creation date	The date on which the citation was created. This has the same numerical value as the publication date of the citing bibliographic resource, but is a property of the citation itself. When combined with the citation time span, it permits that citation to be located in history.	A date in yyyy-mm-dd format (e.g. 2018-03-15)
citation timespan	The temporal characteristic of a citation, namely the interval between the publication date of the cited entity and the publication date of the citing entity.	Duration in PnYnMnD format, such that: nY: number of years; nM: number of months; nD: number of days. (e.g. P4Y3M)
type	A classification of the citation according to particular dimensions, e.g. whether or not it is a self-citation.	Check if it is a journal self citation or an author self citation

What does it contain ?

- COCI was first created and **released on July 4, 2018**. The most recent update to it, has been made on **November 2018**, and it contains **445,826,118 citations** between **46,534,705 bibliographic entities**. These are stored by means of **2,259,134,894 RDF statements** (around 5 per citation)
- An upcoming new extended version of COCI is planned to be released in the following weeks.

Publisher	Outgoing citations	Incoming citations
Springer Nature	79,860,827	52,257,862
Wiley	76,819,685	48,174,542
Elsevier	2,853,739	96,310,027
Informa UK Limited	41,433,917	14,975,989
Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)	30,114,985	20,940,703
American Physical Society (APS)	15,729,297	16,065,862
SAGE Publications	15,933,805	7,915,082
Ovid Technologies (Wolters Kluwer Health)	9,971,274	12,840,293
Oxford University Press (OUP)	9,891,000	11,466,659
AIP Publishing	10,130,022	8,455,097

How could it be used ? : REST API Service

- **REST API** (https://w3id.org/oc/index/coci/api/v1)
  A REST API Service implemented by means of RAMOSE, the Restful API Manager Over SPARQL Endpoints

  Users can easily retrieve:
  - Citations and References of a specified bibliographic item identified by a DOI
  - The citation data for a precise citation identified by an OCI
  - Metadata of the bibliographic items identified by specific DOIs

Usage example:

To get the list of citations received by the article identified by the DOI= 10.1002/adfm.201505328.

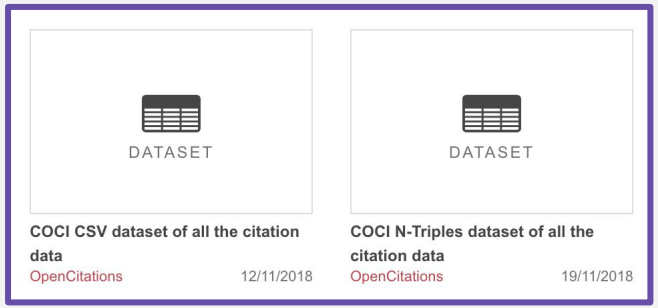
https://w3id.org/oc/index/coci/api/v1/citations/10.1002/adfm.201505328

***Note:** results format, CSV or JSON, could be specified with the "?format" parameter


```
[
  {
    "oci": "020010000023619-020010000023610",
    "timespan": "P11M20D",
    "citing": "10.1002/jrs.5087",
    "creation": "2017-02-06",
    "author_sc": "no",
    "journal_sc": "no",
    "cited": "10.1002/adfm.201505328"
  },
  ...
]
```

How could it be used ? : downloads for local reuse/analysis

- **Data dumps** (https://w3id.org/oc/download#coci)
  All the citation data of COCI are available as dumps stored in **Figshare** (https://figshare.com) in both **CSV** and **N-Triples** (for RDF graphs) formats, while a dump of **the whole triplestore** is available on **The Internet Archive** (https://archive.org).

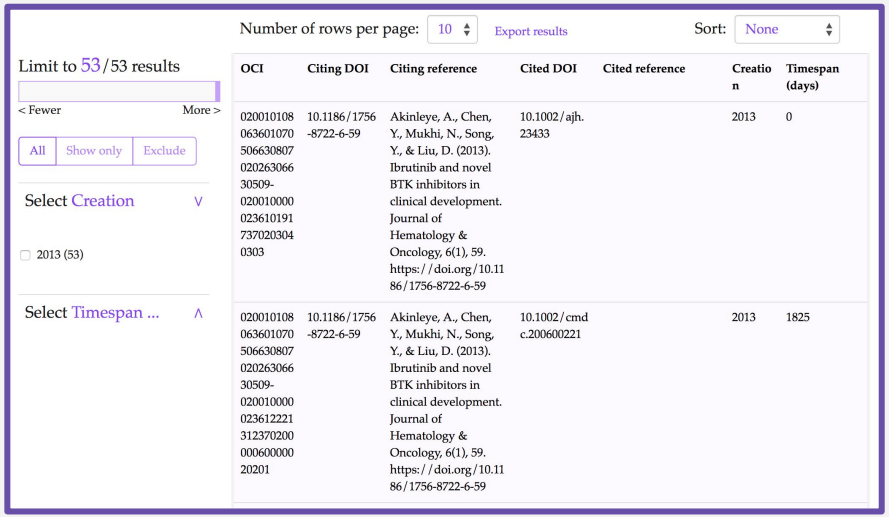


https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.6741422.v3
https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.6741425.v3

https://archive.org/details/coci-triplestore-2018-10-03

How could it be used ? : user friendly interfaces and SPARQL editor

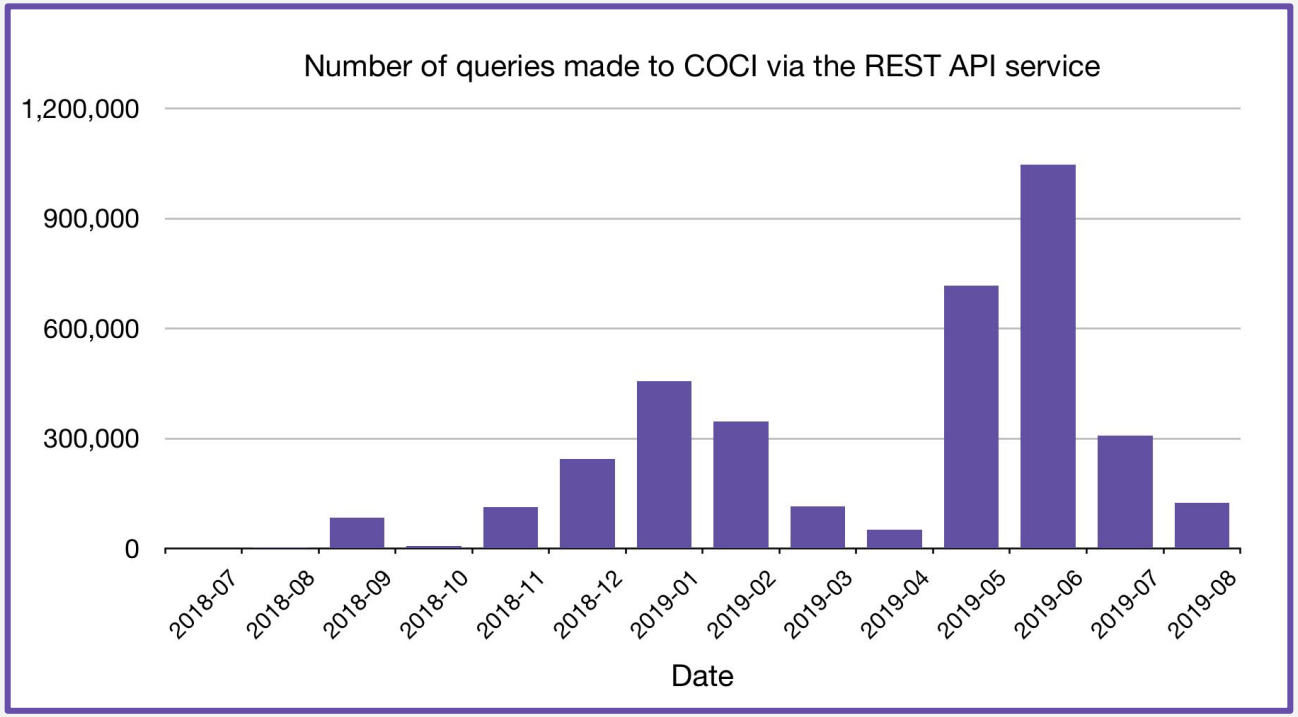
- **Searching and browsing interfaces** (https://w3id.org/oc/index/search)
  Two interfaces have been developed by means of OSCAR, the OpenCitations RDF Search Application, and LUCINDA, the OpenCitations RDF Resource Browser.



- **Open Citation Index SPARQL endpoint** (https://w3id.org/oc/index/sparql)

Heibi, I., Peroni, S., & Shotton, D. Enabling text search on SPARQL endpoints through OSCAR. Data Science, 1-23. https://doi.org/10.3233/DS-190016

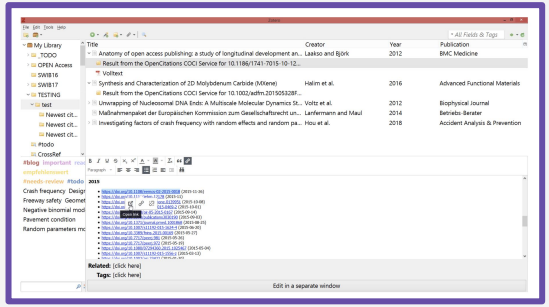
Is it used ? : a quantitative analysis



- The Figshare COCI dumps register: **680 downloads for the CSV data dump,** and **128 for the N-Triples data dump.**

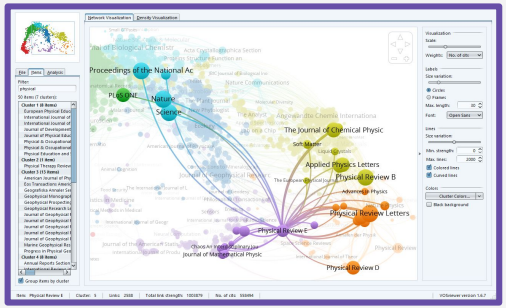
Is it used ? : community uptake

- **Zotero:** a free, easy-to-use tool to help users collect, organize, cite, and share research. The Open Citations Plugin with COCI has been released, (https://github.com/zuphilip/zotero-open-citations)



- **VOSviewer:** a tool for constructing and visualizing bibliometric networks. (https://www.vosviewer.com/)

  Developed by CWTS, Leiden University, The Netherlands (https://www.cwts.nl/)



- **Citation Gecko:** uses COCI data to generate a citation network, starting from some seed articles. (http://citationgecko.com)
- **OCI Graphe:** Web tool that allows one to search articles via COCI queries, which are then visualised in a graph showing retrieved articles citations network. (https://tinyurl.com/y3lkzqjq)
- **citecorp:** a client for the OpenCitations Corpus and COCI in R. (https://github.com/ropenscilabs/citecorp)

Thank you for your attention

COCI, the OpenCitations Index of Crossref open DOI-to-DOI citations

Ivan Heibi

Digital Humanities Advanced Research Centre (DHARC),
Department of Classical Philology and Italian Studies,
University of Bologna, Bologna (Italy)
ivan.heibi2@unibo.it – @ivanheib – https://ivanhb.github.io

OpenCitations

ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA