Metadata handling: Part I

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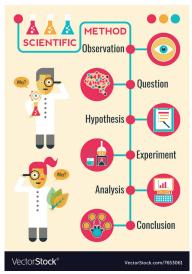
Fondazione Edmund Mach Research and Innovation Centre Computational Biology Unit

5th February 2020





The scientific method

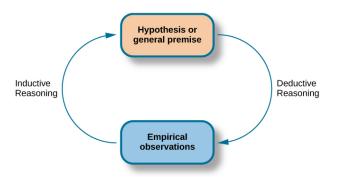


The scientific method

Inductive learning

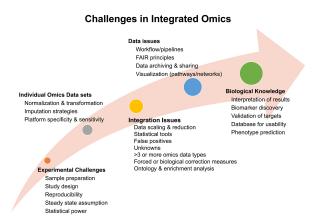


The scientific method



In order to be valid, a conclusion has to be general (reproducible)

Data integration



To tackle **complex** scientific questions, experimental data sources often need to be **harmonized**

The FAIR principales



Wilkinson, M., Dumontier, M., Aalbersberg, I. et al. *The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship.* Sci Data 3, 160018 (2016) doi:10.1038/sdata.2016.18

The FAIR principales

Findable

- (meta)data are assigned a globally unique and persistent identifier
- data are described with rich metadata (defined by R1 below)
- metadata clearly and explicitly include the identifier of the data it describes
- (meta)data are registered or indexed in a searchable resource

Accessible

- (meta)data are retrievable by their identifier using a standardized communications protocol
- the protocol is open, free, and universally implementable
- the protocol allows for an authentication and authorization procedure, where necessary
- metadata are accessible, even when the data are no longer available

Interoperable

- (meta)data use a formal, accessible, shared, and broadly applicable language for knowledge representation.
- (meta)data use vocabularies that follow FAIR principles
- (meta)data include qualified references to other (meta)data

Reusable

- meta(data) are richly described with a plurality of accurate and relevant attributes
- (meta)data are released with a clear and accessible data usage license
- (meta)data are associated with detailed provenance
- (meta)data meet domain-relevant community standards

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Uniprot is a comprehensive resource for protein sequence and annotation data.

- All entries are uniquely identified by a stable URL
- Records contain rich metadata in different format
 - Text
 - HTML
 - RDF
- RDF formatted response utilizes shared vocabularies and ontologies





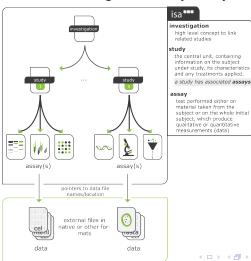
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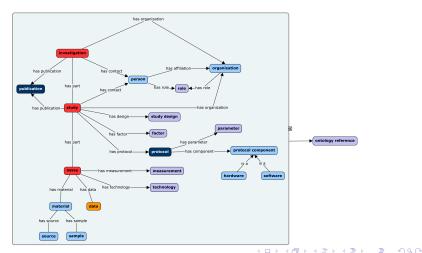


ISA is a community-driven metadata tracking **framework** to facilitate standards-compliant collection, curation, management and reuse of life sciences datasets. The ISA model has several representation: Tabular, JSON and RDF.

ISA - Investigation Study Assay



ISA Abstract Model



Example of ISA

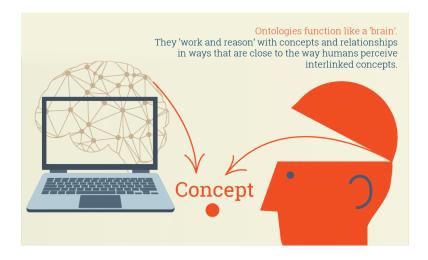


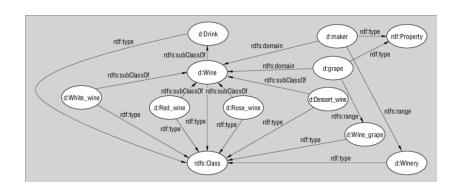
Minimum Information About a Plant Phenotyping Experiment



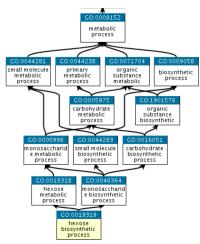
Minimum Information About a Plant Phenotyping Experiment

It defines a **list of attributes** that might be necessary to fully describe a **phenotyping** experiment. An MI document should rather be considered as a **checklist**, and consulted by a person describing or depositing the data to ensure the inclusion of all important data characteristics, i.e. what is meaningful for the **interpretation** and potential **replication** of the research.





The Gene Ontology

















Resource Description Framework

- World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) standard;
- Metadata data model;
- Based on the idea of making statements about resources;
- Statements are expressions of the form subject-predicate-object, known as triples;

The RDF Triple



Subject - the resource being described Predicate - a property of that resource Object - the value of the property

Subject and predicate are defined using URIs.

Object can either be a URI or a 'literal' (text, number, date, etc.)

