From physical to digital

ALEXIS BECK & KAMIL DOBOSZ

Presentation of the specimen

Apodemus alpicola, MHNG-MAM-1863.050

Its value comes from the historical data we gathered

•Let's try to organize it !



From the data we have gathered about the specimen, try to create a datamodel (possibly a relational datamodel) which could host them

Activity 1 – core data (10 min)

• MHNG-MAM-1863.050

- Apodemus alpicola Heinrich, 1952
- Determinavit : Gilliéron, Jacques
- Full without skull & Skull
- Collecting date : 29 July 1933
- WGS84 : 46.6° N / 10.06° E, uncertainty in meters : 7070
- Grabunden, Switzerland
- Male
- Collectors : Revilliod, P. & Baer, J.G.

Activity 1 - presentation

2 or 3 groups present their proposition

Pre-digitization : cataloguing a specimen

- Possible on paper (entry book)
- Basics information to retrieve the physical specimen
 - Reference number
 - Genus and Species
 - Collecting date
 - Collecting location
 - Specimen parts
 - Main attributes

Pre-digitization : cataloguing a specimen

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Flat file digitization

Possible on paper (offline)

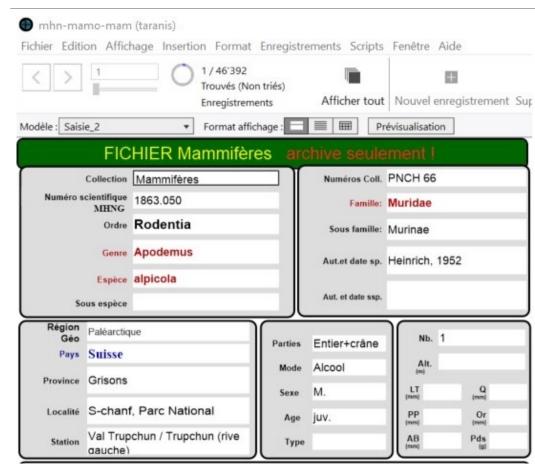
Enhancing data by adding more information

Verbatim data (original data) and Interpreted data (inferred)

Basis for a digital specimen in a simple way

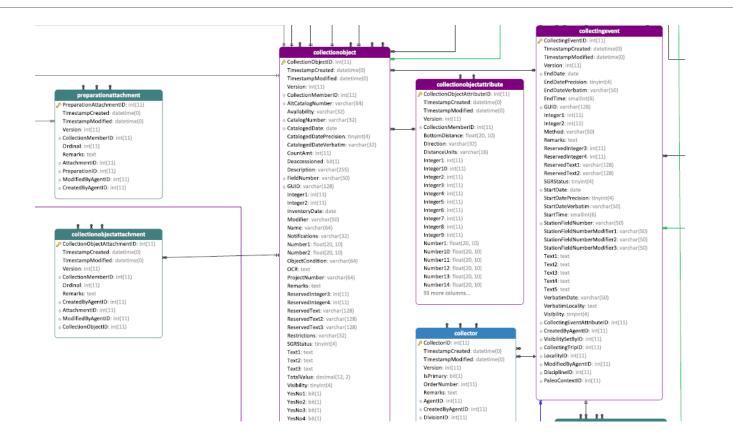


Flat file digitization



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Relational vs Flat database



Relational vs Flat database

Example

You want to modify an error on a person's name whose appears 100 times in the database in different fields.

+ if you want to add its phone number/email address?

Relational vs Flat database

PROS

- Global error correction
- Storage space-saving
- Possibility of enriching data models
- Modifications with global information propagation

CONS

- Increases data complexity
- Increases maintenance costs
- Steep learning curve

CMS : Modern digitization

Relational database

Complex and domain-specific data model

•Functionalities grouped within a single software, including :

- Thesauri management
- Loans management
- Attachments
- Labels creation
- Facilitate the export to data aggregators (SVNHC, GBIF)

a CMS doesn't make it for you : Data interoperability

Resilient database model

- For specific cases
- For future needs
- Non-aggregate fields
- Use of standards when possible (DwC or ABCD)
- Build you database around vocabularies
- Include identifiers and not only free text
 - Taxonomy (eg. catalog of life Ids, Gbif Ids)
 - Persons (ORCID, WikiData, VIAF)

TAXON IDENTIFIERS

Catalogue of Life ID : FRHS • ITIS TSN : 585126 • NCBI taxonomy ID : 100381 • Freebase ID : /m/02vscbw • MSW ID : 13001205 • Encyclopedia of Life ID : 1178738 • GBIF taxon ID : 2437769 • Fauna Europaea ID : 305581 • IUCN taxon ID : 1907 • iNaturalist taxon ID : 45559 • TAXREF ID : 61494 • ADW taxon ID : Apodemus_alpicola • Fauna Europaea New ID : 23871372-9a8f-4f5b-b291-b6cf47f9354e • IRMNG ID : 10220065 • EUNIS ID for species : 11236 • Observation.org taxon ID : 81785 • CAB ID : 38751 • ZOBODAT taxon ID : 174693 • UMLS CUI : C1046166

source: wikidata: Q302765

References

 Greeff, M., Kolbmann, W., Burri, T., Stöckli, E., Klaasen, S., Beck, A., Chervet, N., Tschudin, P., Menkveld-Gfeller, U. & Frick, H. 2021: Databasing, Digitalisation & Data storage. In: Frick, H. & Greeff, M. (eds.).
Handbook on natural history collections management – A collaborative Swiss perspective. Swiss Academies Communications 16(2): 135-176.

 Dillen M, Groom Q, Hardisty A (2019) Interoperability of Collection Management Systems. ICEDIG Deliverable D4.4 <u>https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3361598</u>



Based on the key elements given during the presentation, try to make a version 2 of your Apodemus alpicola database (correct it)

Activity 2 – core data (10 min)

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Demo

Let's see how Apodemus alpicola is organized in a modern CMS and how its data can be then transferred to an aggregator like the SVNHC