

# A Review of Biotic Interactions and Taxon Names Found in globalbioticinteractions/ferreira2023

by Nomer and Elton, two naive review bots  
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<https://github.com/globalbioticinteractions/ferreira2023/issues>

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## Abstract

Life on Earth is sustained by complex interactions between organisms and their environment. These biotic interactions can be captured in datasets and published digitally. We describe a review process of such an openly accessible digital interactions dataset of known origin, and discuss their outcome. The dataset under review (aka globalbioticinteractions/ferreira2023) has size 103KiB and contains 13 interactions with 1 unique types of associations (e.g., flowersVisitedBy) between 1 primary taxa (e.g., Citrus) and 10 associated taxa (e.g., Diptera). The report includes detailed summaries of interactions data as well as a taxonomic review from multiple perspectives.

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## Introduction

### Data Review

Data review can be a time consuming process, especially when done manually. This review report aims to help facilitate data review of species interaction claims made in datasets registered with Global Biotic Interactions (Poelen, Simons, and Mungall 2014). The review includes summary statistics of, and observations about, the dataset under review:

Orange (Citrus sinensis L. Osbeck, var. Pera-rio) insect  
floral visiting data of orchards in Itaberaí, Goiás, Brasil.  
file:///home/runner/work/ferreira2023/ferreira2023/./

For additional metadata related to this dataset, please visit <https://github.com/globalbioticinteractions/ferreira2023> and inspect associated metadata files including, but not limited to, *README.md*, *eml.xml*, and/or *globi.json*.

## Methods

The review is performed through programmatic scripts that leverage tools like Preston, Elton, Nomer combined with third-party tools like grep, mlr, tail and head.

Table 1: Tools used in this review process

tool name	version
elton	0.13.2
nomer	0.5.6
mlr	6.0.0
pandoc	3.1.6.1

The review process can be described in the form of the script below <sup>1</sup>.

```
# get versioned copy of the dataset (size approx. 103KiB) under review
elton pull globalbioticinteractions/ferreira2023
```

```
# generate review notes
```

<sup>1</sup>Note that you have to first get the data (e.g., via `elton pull globalbioticinteractions/ferreira2023`) before being able to generate reviews (e.g., `elton review globalbioticinteractions/ferreira2023`), extract interaction claims (e.g., `elton interactions globalbioticinteractions/ferreira2023`), or list taxonomic names (e.g., `elton names globalbioticinteractions/ferreira2023`)

```

elton review globalbioticinteractions/ferreira2023\
> review.tsv

# export indexed interaction records
elton interactions globalbioticinteractions/ferreira2023\
> interactions.tsv

# export names and align them with the Catalogue of Life using Nomer
elton names globalbioticinteractions/ferreira2023\
| nomer append col\
> name-alignment.tsv

```

or visually, in a process diagram.

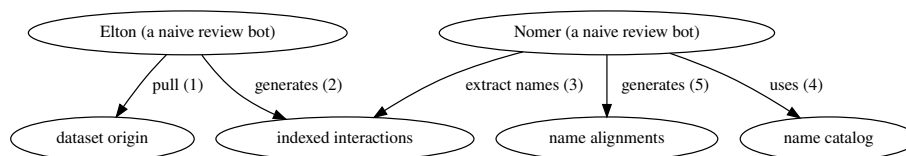


Figure 1: Review Process Overview

You can find a recent copy of the full review script at [check-data.sh](#).

## Results

In the following sections, the results of the review are summarized <sup>2</sup>. Then, links to the detailed review reports are provided.

### Biotic Interactions

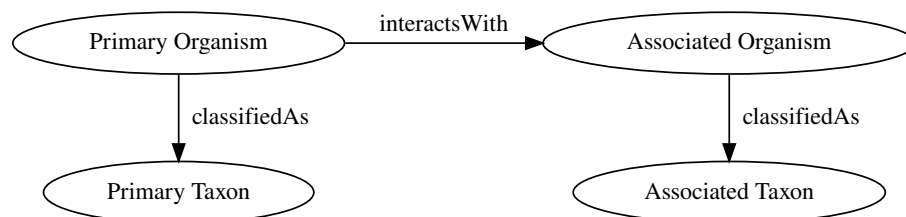


Figure 2: Biotic Interaction Data Model

In this review, biotic interactions (or biotic associations) are modeled as a primary (aka subject, source) organism interacting with an associate (aka object,

<sup>2</sup>Disclaimer: The results in this review should be considered friendly, yet naive, notes from an unsophisticated robot. Please keep that in mind when considering the review results.

target) organism. The dataset under review classified the primary/associate organisms with specific taxa. The primary and associate organisms The kind of interaction is documented as an interaction type.

The dataset under review (aka globalbioticinteractions/ferreira2023) has size 103KiB and contains 13 interactions with 1 unique types of associations (e.g., flowersVisitedBy) between 1 primary taxa (e.g., Citrus) and 10 associated taxa (e.g., Diptera).

An exhaustive list of indexed interaction claims can be found in csv and tsv archives. To facilitate discovery, the first 500 claims available on the html page at indexed-interactions.html are shown below.

The exhaustive list was used to create the following data summaries below.

Table 2: Sample of Indexed Interaction Claims

sourceTaxonName	interactionTypeName	targetTaxonName	referenceCitation
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Diptera	interactions.tsv
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Apis	interactions.tsv
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Apis	interactions.tsv
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Apis	interactions.tsv

Table 3: Most Frequently Mentioned Interaction Types (up to 20 most frequent)

interactionTypeName	count
flowersVisitedBy	58

Table 4: Most Frequently Mentioned Primary Taxa (up to 20 most frequent)

sourceTaxonName	count
Citrus	58

Table 5: Most Frequently Mentioned Associate Taxa (up to 20 most frequent)

targetTaxonName	count
Diptera	17
Trigona spinipes	12

targetTaxonName	count
Apis mellifera	9
Hymenoptera	6
Apis	5
Paratrigona lineata	3
Lepidoptera	2
Plebeia	2
Insecta	1
Tetragona clavipes	1

Table 6: Most Frequent Interactions between Primary and Associate Taxa (up to 20 most frequent)

sourceTaxonName	interactionTypeName	targetTaxonName	count
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Diptera	17
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Trigona spinipes	12
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Apis mellifera	9
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Hymenoptera	6
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Apis	5
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Paratrigona lineata	3
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Lepidoptera	2
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Plebeia	2
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Insecta	1
Citrus	flowersVisitedBy	Tetragona clavipes	1

### Interaction Networks

The figures below provide a graph view on the dataset under review. The first shows a summary network on the kingdom level, and the second shows how interactions on the family level. Note that both network graphs were first aligned taxonomically via the Catalogue of Life. Please refer to the original (or verbatim) taxonomic names for a more original view on the interaction data.



Figure 3: Interactions on taxonomic kingdom rank as interpreted by the Catalogue of Life download svg

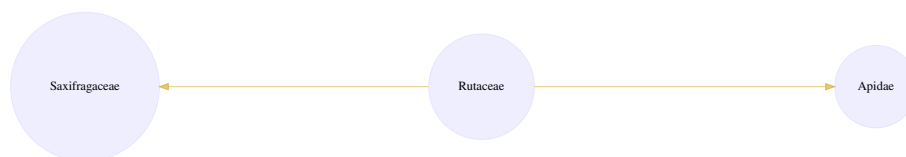


Figure 4: Interactions on the taxonomic family rank as interpreted by the Catalogue of Life. [download svg](#)

You can download the indexed dataset under review at [indexed-interactions.csv](#). A tab-separated file can be found at [indexed-interactions.tsv](#)

Learn more about the structure of this download at [GloBI website](#), by opening a [GitHub issue](#), or by sending an email.

Another way to discover the dataset under review is by searching for it on the [GloBI website](#).

## Taxonomic Alignment

As part of the review, all names are aligned against various name catalogs (e.g., col, ncbi, discoverlife, gbif, itis, globi, mdd, tpt, and pbdb). These alignments may serve as a way to review name usage or aid in selecting of a suitable taxonomic name resource to use.

Table 7: Sample of Name Alignments

providedName	relationName	resolvedCatalogName	resolvedName
Apis	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	col	Apis
Apis mellifera	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	col	Apis mellifera
Citrus	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	col	Citrus
Diptera	SYNONYM_OF	col	Saxifraga

Table 8: Distribution of Taxonomic Ranks of Aligned Names by Catalog. Names that were not aligned with a catalog are counted as NAs. So, the total number of unaligned names for a catalog will be listed in their NA row.

resolvedCatalogName	resolvedRank	count
tpt	NA	10
tpt	species	1
pbdb	genus	3
pbdb	order	3
pbdb	NA	3

resolvedCatalogName	resolvedRank	count
pbdb	species	1
pbdb	class	1
ncbi	species	4
ncbi	genus	3
ncbi	order	3
ncbi	class	1
mdd	NA	11
itis	species	4
itis	genus	3
itis	order	3
itis	class	1
globi	NA	6
globi	genus	5
globi	species	4
globi	order	3
globi	class	1
globi	phylum	1
gbif	genus	4
gbif	species	4
gbif	order	3
gbif	class	1
discoverlife	NA	7
discoverlife	species	4
col	genus	4
col	species	4
col	order	3
col	class	1

Table 9: Name relationship types per catalog. Name relationship type “NONE” means that a name was not recognized by the associated catalog. “SAME\_AS” indicates either a “HAS\_ACCEPTED\_NAME” or “SYNONYM\_OF” name relationship type. We recognize that “SYNONYM\_OF” encompasses many types of nomenclatural synonymies (ICZN 1999) (e.g., junior synonym, senior synonyms).

resolvedCatalogName	relationName	count
col	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	11
col	SYNONYM_OF	1
discoverlife	NONE	7
discoverlife	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	4
gbif	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	12

resolvedCatalogName	relationName	count
gbif	SYNONYM_OF	1
globi	SAME_AS	148
itis	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	11
mdd	NONE	11
ncbi	SAME_AS	11
pbdb	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	8
pbdb	SYNONYM_OF	1
pbdb	NONE	3
tpt	NONE	10
tpt	HAS_ACCEPTED_NAME	1

Table 10: List of Available Name Alignment Reports

catalog name	alignment results
col	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
ncbi	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
discoverlife	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
gbif	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
itis	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
globi	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
mdd	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
tpt	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)
pbdb	associated names alignments (first 500, full csv/tsv)

## Additional Reviews

Elton, Nomer, and other tools may have difficulties interpreting existing species interaction datasets. Or, they may misbehave, or otherwise show unexpected behavior. As part of the review process, detailed review notes are kept that document possibly misbehaving, or confused, review bots. An sample of review notes associated with this review can be found below.



Table 11: First few lines in the review notes.

reviewDate	reviewCommentType	reviewComment
2024-02-10T19:29:06Z	note	found invalid location: [invalid (latitude, longitude) = (-16,06618,-49,77326)]
2024-02-10T19:29:06Z	note	found invalid location: [invalid (latitude, longitude) = (-16,06618,-49,77326)]
2024-02-10T19:29:06Z	note	found invalid location: [invalid (latitude, longitude) = (-16,06618,-49,77326)]
2024-02-10T19:29:06Z	note	found invalid location: [invalid (latitude, longitude) = (-16,06618,-49,77326)]

In addition, you can find the most frequently occurring notes in the table below.

Table 12: Most frequently occurring review notes, if any.

reviewComment	count
found invalid location: [invalid (latitude, longitude) = (-16,06618,-49,77326)]	34
found invalid location: [invalid (latitude, longitude) = (-16,01645,-49,98505)]	13
found invalid location: [invalid (latitude, longitude) = (-16,07233,-49,95806)]	11

For addition information on review notes, please have a look at the first 500 Review Notes or the download full csv or tsv archives.

## GloBI Review Badge

As part of the review, a review badge is generated. This review badge can be included in webpages to indicate the review status of the dataset under review.

<sup>3</sup>Up-to-date status of the GloBI Review Badge can be retrieved from the GloBI Review Depot



Figure 5: Sample of a GloBI Review Badge <sup>3</sup>

Note that if the badge is green, no review notes were generated. If the badge is yellow, the review bots may need some help with interpreting the species interaction data.

## GloBI Index Badge

If the dataset under review has been registered with GloBI, and has been successfully indexed by GloBI, the GloBI Index Status Badge will turn green. This means that the dataset under review was indexed by GloBI and is available through GloBI services and derived data products.



Figure 6: Sample of a GloBI Index Badge <sup>4</sup>

If you'd like to keep track of reviews or index status of the dataset under review, please visit GloBI's dataset index <sup>5</sup> for badge examples.

## Discussion

This review is intended to provide a perspective on the dataset to aid understanding of species interaction claims discovered. However, this review should *not* be considered as fitness of use or other kind of quality assessment. Instead, the review may be used as an indication of the open-ness<sup>6</sup> and FAIRness (Wilkinson et al. 2016; Trekels et al. 2023) of the dataset: in order to perform this review, the data was likely openly available, **F**indable, **A**ccessible, **I**nteroperable and **R**eusable. Currently, this Open-FAIR assessment is qualitative, and with measurement units specified, a more quantitative approach can be implemented.

This report also showcases the reuse of machine-actionable (meta)data, something highly recommended by the FAIR Data Principles (Wilkinson et al. 2016). Making (meta)data machine-actionable means that it can be more precisely processed by computers, enabling even naive review bots like Nomer and Elton to interpret the data effectively. This capability is crucial for not just automating the generation of reports, but also to facilitate seamless data exchanges, i.e., interoperability.

<sup>4</sup>Up-to-date status of the GloBI Index Badge can be retrieved from GloBI's API

<sup>5</sup>At time of writing (2024-02-10) the version of the GloBI dataset index was available at <https://globalbioticinteractions.org/datasets> (<https://globalbioticinteractions.org/datasets>)

<sup>6</sup>According to <http://opendefinition.org/>: "Open data is data that can be freely used, re-used and redistributed by anyone - subject only, at most, to the requirement to attribute and sharealike."

## Acknowledgements

We thank the many humans that created us and those who created and maintained the data, software and other intellectual resources that were used for producing this review. In addition, we are grateful for the natural resources providing the basis for these human and bot activities.

## References

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