Data citation for the Humanities and Social Sciences: a special case?

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Journal of Open Humanities Data

Open Science and Open Knowledge

- Our common goal is **Open Science,** meaning we promote openness, integrity, and reproducibility in research;
- and the results to be treated as **Open Knowledge**; knowledge that is free to use, reuse, and redistribute without legal, social or technological restriction
- The **FAIR principles** help us with both
  - *Findability*, Accessibility, Interoperability, *Reusability*
- We (researchers, librarians etc.) like it, public funders like and require it

Project:

SSHOC

social sciences & humanities open cloud

Horizon 2020
European Union Funding
for Research & Innovation

Type of action & funding:

Research and Innovation action
(INFRAEOSC-04-2018)

Partners: 48

(23 beneficiaries + 25 LTPs)

SSH ESFRI Landmarks and Projects
& international SSH data infrastructures

Duration: 40 months

(January 2019 – 30 April 2022)

Project budget:

€ 14,455,594.08

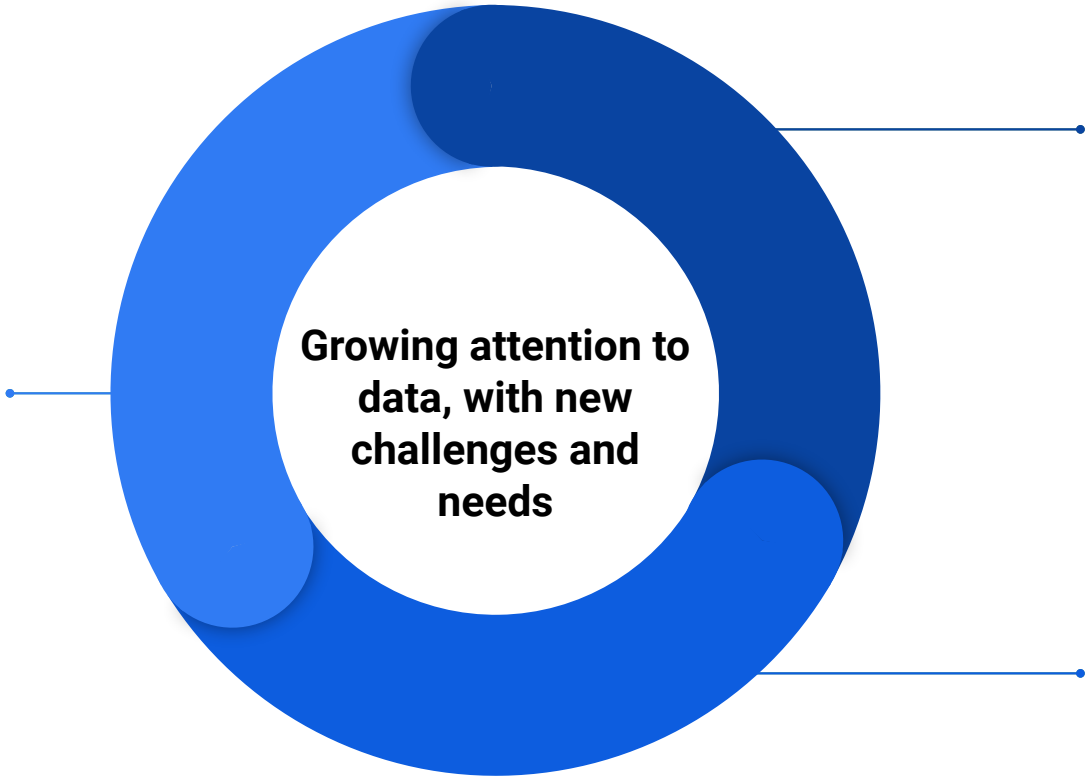
Project website:

www.SSHOpenCloud.eu

Objectives:

- creating the social sciences and humanities **(SSH)** part of European Open Science Cloud **(EOSC)**
- maximising **re-use** through **Open Science** and **FAIR** principles (standards, common catalogue, access control, semantic techniques, training)
- interconnecting existing and new infrastructures (clustered cloud infrastructure)
- establishing appropriate **governance model** for SSH-EOSC

Specificities of SSH



New types of digitized and born-digital data, and very diverse types of data, including cultural heritage

Growing adoption of data-intensive methods

Increased number of data professionals and stewards in libraries

A variety of data types

```
dvdrental=# select title, release_year, length, replacement_cost from film
dvdrental-#   where length > 120 and replacement_cost > 29.50
dvdrental-#   order by title desc;
          title          | release_year | length | replacement_cost
-------------------------+--------------+--------+------------------
 West Lion               |         2006 |    159 |            29.99
 Virgin Daisy            |         2006 |    179 |            29.99
 Uncut Suicides          |         2006 |    172 |            29.99
 Tracy Cider             |         2006 |    142 |            29.99
 Song Hedwig             |         2006 |    165 |            29.99
 Slacker Liaisons        |         2006 |    179 |            29.99
 Sassy Packer            |         2006 |    154 |            29.99
 River Outlaw            |         2006 |    149 |            29.99
 Right Cranes            |         2006 |    153 |            29.99
 Quest Mussolini         |         2006 |    177 |            29.99
 Poseidon Forever        |         2006 |    159 |            29.99
 Loathing Legally        |         2006 |    140 |            29.99
 Lawless Vision          |         2006 |    181 |            29.99
 Jingle Sagebrush        |         2006 |    124 |            29.99
 Jericho Mulan           |         2006 |    171 |            29.99
 Japanese Run            |         2006 |    135 |            29.99
 Gilmore Boiled          |         2006 |    163 |            29.99
 Floats Garden           |         2006 |    145 |            29.99
 Fantasia Park           |         2006 |    131 |            29.99
 Extraordinary Conquerer |         2006 |    122 |            29.99
 Everyone Craft          |         2006 |    163 |            29.99
 Dirty Ace               |         2006 |    147 |            29.99
 Clyde Theory            |         2006 |    139 |            29.99
 Clockwork Paradise      |         2006 |    143 |            29.99
 Ballroom Mockingbird    |         2006 |    173 |            29.99
(25 rows)
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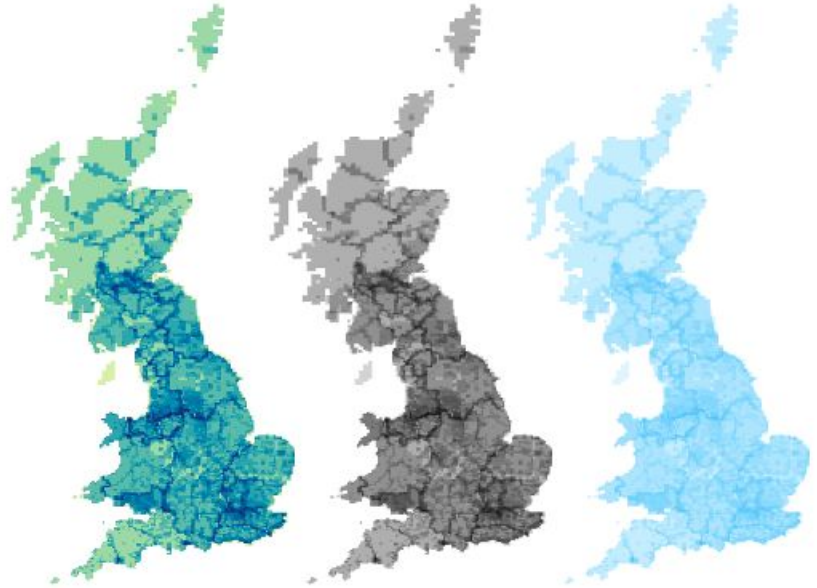

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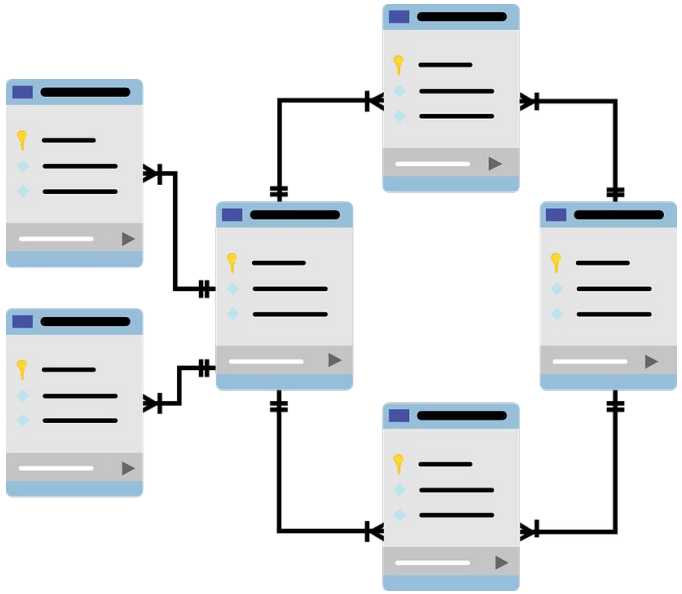


Data traditions and data practices

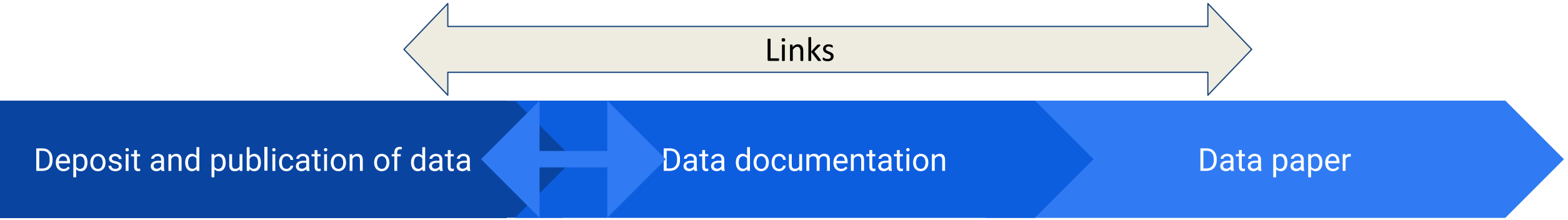
Variety

Different traditions for quantitative/computational methods

Focus

Historically, on publications (book) rather than data

From data to data papers



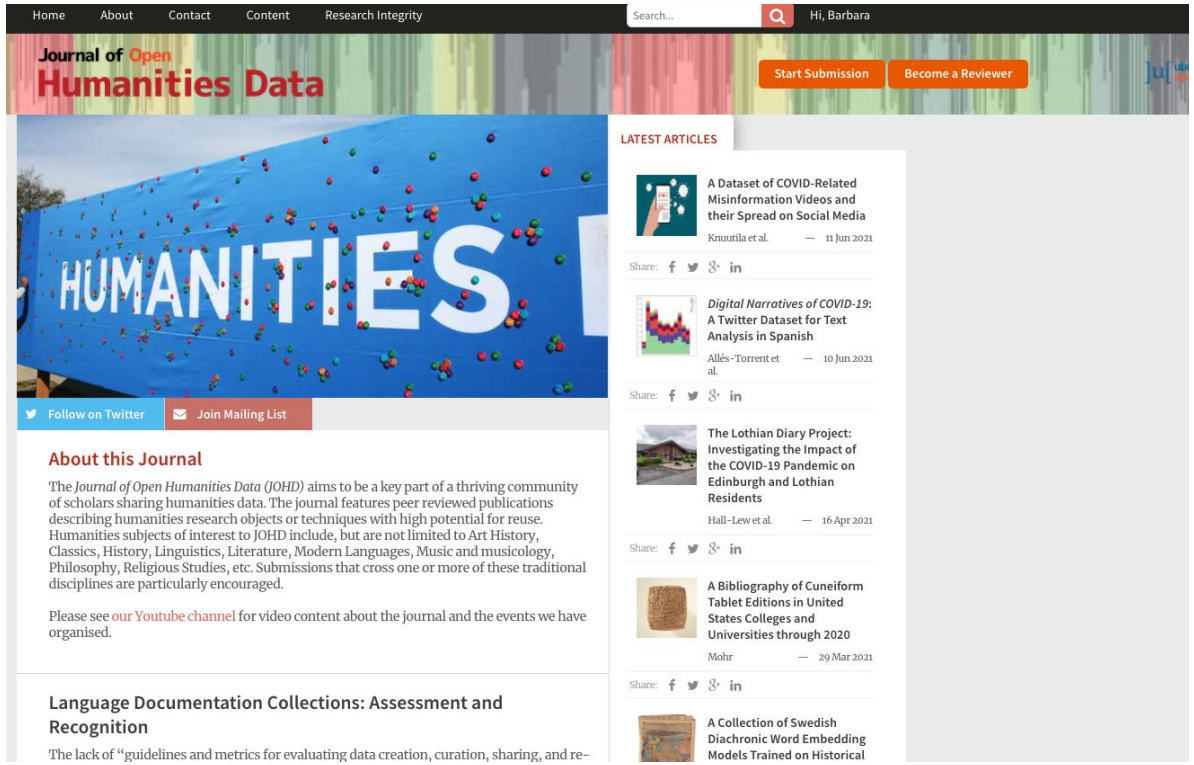
Typically in open repositories assigning DOI

+intellectual organisation

Peer-reviewed publications describing datasets and crediting their creators

The Journal of Open Humanities Data

- Launched in 2015; open access and peer-reviewed
- Vision: be a key part of a thriving community of scholars sharing humanities data
- Fastest growing data journal for humanities research
- 25 articles published so far (6 in 2021)
- Two publication types
- Short data papers (1000 words): descriptions of datasets with high reuse potential
- Full-length research papers (3000-5000 words): discussion of methods, challenges, and limitations in the creation, collection, management of humanities data

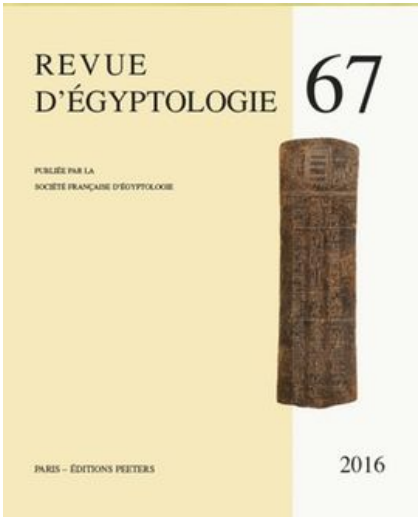


https://openhumanitiesdata.metajnl.com/

Data citation in SSH

- The notion of “publishing data” is relatively new
- Data until a recent period was not really “*noble*” … the focus was more on the “final product” (e.g. an article or a book)

- Very diverse and no specific common approach to data citation A lot of initiatives … so far no real standard, but more “communities of practices” (See SSHOC deliverable ” Inventory of SSH citation practices ….” https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4436736)



-> In order to cite data, you need **infrastructures** to publish them in a proper (FAIR) way but you also must develop mechanism(s) to cite SSH data:

- Build stronger links between data and publication
- Facilitate and develop a “culture of data publication/citation”

etc.

SSHOC
social sciences & humanities open cloud

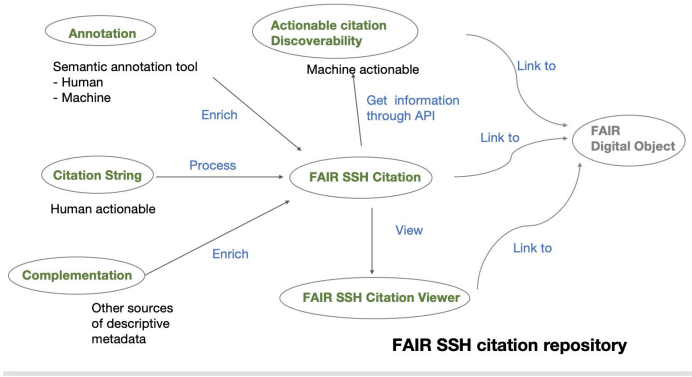
One goal of SSHOC is to address the problems of the current data landscape with its disciplinary silos

SSHOC Project and Data citation

- Recommendations based on “Force11 Citation Principles” adapted to SSH specificities
- Make citations “actionable” as a classic citation isn’t machine actionable

-> Proposition to create a prototype of *“FAIR SSH Citation Infrastructure”*

- Process existing citations or create new ones
- Enrich them automatically (other sources) and manually (annotations)
- Standardized citations
- Publish citations into the “Citation Infrastructure” to make them actionable



The future for data publication and citation

Although the potential for data creation, processing and (re)sharing have increased enormously

- Data citation practices still mainly based on traditional publication model ie. paper citing paper citing paper
- More complex collaborative and dynamic workflows are possible
- and also needed for using distributed and dynamic data sources e.g. social media and virtual collections of heterogeneous and distributed data
- Key is proper data identification, description and provenance tracking during the whole data life-cycle

Libraries in the centre?

- Increased need for Openness and Sharing of data and information at all phases of the SSH DLC
- More data and new types of data
  - how do we cite millions of data points?
  - how do we cite dynamic data e.g. social media
- Are the current practices wrt data publication and citation still valid?

- Libraries may ask if they can go far beyond caring only for the end-result (papers & data),
- they are already involved in
  - storing project result data-sets for reproducibility
  - training and facilitating researchers wrt Open Science and Open Knowledge and FAIR principles
  - Providing catalogues and meta-science information
- However the physical and conceptual distance between Libraries and research labs poses limitations