



# Implementing the RDA Data Citation Recommendations for Long Tail Research Data

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research data sharing without barriers  
[rd-alliance.org](http://rd-alliance.org)

# Overview

- Introduction
- Recap of the WGDC Recommendations
- Long Tail Research Data
- SQL Prototype
- Git Prototype
- Conclusion

# Data Driven Research

- Modern research is data driven
    - Results are based on data
    - But the results are still published in papers
  - Data sets are often
    - Not available or accessible
    - Not cited
    - Ambiguous
- Reproducibility is at risk

# Data Citation

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- Citing data may seem easy
  - from providing a URL in a footnote
  - via providing a reference in the bibliography section
  - to assigning a PID (DOI, ARK, ...) to dataset in a repository
- What's the problem?

Fig. 2. Image examples with ground truth object annotation for different categories of the PASCAL 2005 challenge. The dataset may be obtained from <http://www.pascal-network.org/challenges/VOC>.

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present suggests the presence of 4 lineages, if *Eriophorum crinigerum* groups with the rest of Scirpeae: the Dulichieae (*Dulichium* + *Blysmus*), *Khaosokia*, Scirpeae, and Cariceae. More targeted work on the Scirpeae will be necessary to clarify this. The Fuireneae + Cyperaceae clade presents a similar problem: the monophyletic Cyperaceae contains 2 well-supported clades (*Cyperus* s.l. and *Ficinia*/Isolopis), but the taxa usually attributed to the Fuireneae form a polytomy below Cyperaceae (Figs. 6 and 7). Previous studies have seen these lineages positioned in many different locations, usually without strong support (Simpson et al. 2007; Muasya et al. 2009), but a study using *ndhF* and *psbB-psbH* (Hinchliff et al. 2010) showed strong support for a Fuireneae grade leading to the Cyperaceae. Additional sampling of *ndhF* and other data-rich cpDNA regions such as *psbB-psbH* and perhaps *matK* may help clarify these relationships.

Overall, 9 clades are strongly supported and morphologically diagnosable (Mapanioideae, Trilepideae, Sclerieae, Schoeneae, Rhynchosporae, Abildgaardieae, *Eleocharis*, and Cyperaceae), and should be recognized in a new classification, as previous classifications are clearly do not define phylogenetic lineages as we now know them. Additional research will clarify how many diagnosable lineages will need to be recognized within the *Carex* + Dulichieae + *Khaosokia* + Scirpeae clade and the Fuireneae assemblage.

**SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL**  
Data files and/or other supplementary information related to this paper have been deposited on Dryad at <http://datadryad.org> under doi: 10.5061/dryad.6p76c3pb.

**FUNDING**  
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**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**  
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**REFERENCES**  
Aberer A.J., Krompass D., Stamatakis A. 2012. Pruning rogue taxa improves phylogenetic accuracy: an efficient algorithm and webservice. *Systematic Biology* (in press) doi:10.1093/sysbio/sys078.

This dataset is available from: <http://www.cs.utexas.edu/users/ml/nldata.html>

2 There is also a dataset consisting of 250 questions available from the University of Texas but this is merely a subset of the larger dataset.

3 <http://www.w3.org/TR/owl-features/>

quantitative analysis of the problem of constructing an NLI we shows: we downloaded a dataset which has been frequently used of natural language interfaces, i.e. the Geobase dataset col- and his student. The Geobase dataset describes states, cities, rivers and roads in the U.S., together with attributes such as population (state, city), length (river), height (mountain, lo- consists of a set of 880 test questions (actually 883 questions) through a web interface hosted at the University of Austin in the 883 test questions for our analysis. After downloading the g), we converted the whole dataset into the ontology languages OWL<sup>3</sup>. The datasets are available from <http://www.cimiano.de> datasets and other Material → ORAKEL.

# Main Challenges

- Scalability
  - More and more data sets
  - Growing amounts of data
  - Granularity
- Infrastructure
  - Sophisticated data management is not always available
  - Processes not defined well
- Dynamics
  - Frequent updates
  - Evolving data
- Precise identification
  - Ambiguity?



Src: CC BY 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=30978545>

# Granularity of Subsets

- What about the **granularity** of data to be identified?
    - Enormous amounts of data
    - Researchers use specific subsets of data
    - Need to identify precisely the subset used
  - Current approaches
    - Storing a copy of subset as used in study -> scalability
    - Citing entire dataset, providing textual description of subset
    - -> imprecise (ambiguity)
    - Storing list of record identifiers in subset -> scalability,
    - not for arbitrary subsets (e.g. when not entire record selected)
- Would like to be able to identify precisely the **subset of (dynamic) data used** in a process



# Identification of Dynamic Data

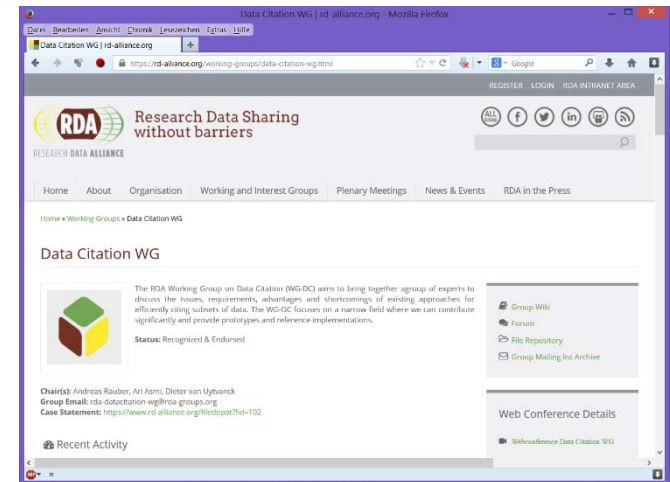
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- Citable datasets have to be static
- Fixed set of data, no changes:
  - no corrections to errors, no new data being added
- But: (research) data is **dynamic**
  - Adding new data, correcting errors, enhancing data quality, ...
  - Changes sometimes highly dynamic, at irregular intervals
- Current approaches
  - Identifying entire data stream, without any versioning
  - Using “accessed at” date
  - “Artificial” versioning by identifying batches of data (e.g. annual), aggregating changes into releases (time-delayed!)
- Would like to identify precisely the **data as it existed at a specific point in time**

# RDA WG Data Citation



- Research Data Alliance
- WG on **Data Citation:**
- **Making Dynamic Data Citeable**
- WG officially endorsed in March 2014
- Concentrating on the problems of
  - **large, dynamic (changing) datasets**
  - Focus! Identification of data!
  - Not: PID systems, metadata, citation string, attribution, ...
  - Liaise with other WGs and initiatives on data citation
  - (CODATA, DataCite, Force11, ...)



- <https://rd-alliance.org/working-groups/data-citation-wg.html>



# Basic Principle

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## Idea: Versioned data + timestamped queries

- Data: timestamped and versioned (aka history)
- Query: Timestamped
- Access: Re-execute query on versioned data with the appropriate timestamp.
- Trick: **Assign the PID to the query**

S. Pröll, A. Rauber. **Scalable Data Citation in Dynamic Large Databases: Model and Reference Implementation.** In IEEE Intl. Conf. on Big Data 2013 (IEEE BigData2013), 2013

[http://www.ifs.tuwien.ac.at/~andi/publications/pdf/pro\\_ieeebigdata13.pdf](http://www.ifs.tuwien.ac.at/~andi/publications/pdf/pro_ieeebigdata13.pdf)

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# Data Citation – Output

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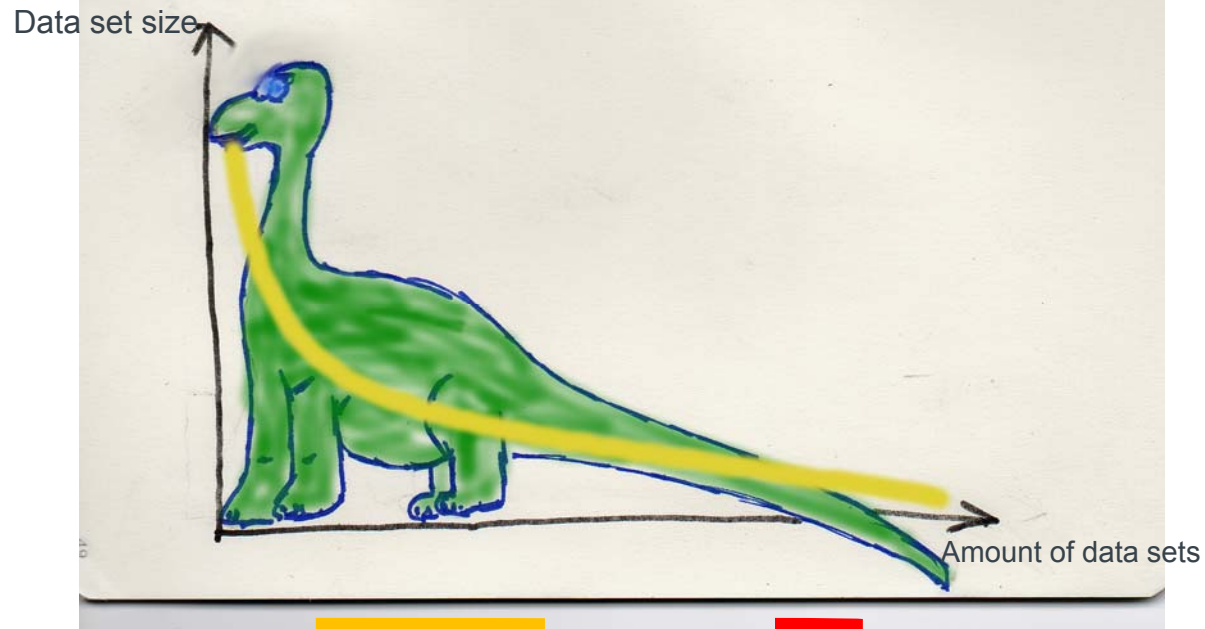
## 14 Recommendations

- Grouped into 4 phases:
  - Preparing data and query store
  - Persistently identifying specific data sets
  - Resolving PIDs
  - Upon modifications to the data infrastructure
- 2-page flyer
- More detailed Technical Report:
  - <https://rd-alliance.org/group/data-citation-wg/wiki/wgdc-recommendations.html>
- Reference implementations
- (SQL, CSV, XML) and Pilots



# Long Tail Research Data

Big data,  
well organized,  
often used and cited



Less well organized, “Dark data”  
non-standardised  
no dedicated infrastructure

# Dynamic Data Citation for CSV Data

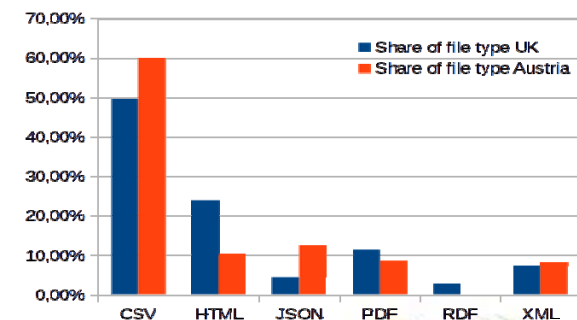
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## ■ Goals:

- Ensure cite-ability of CSV data
- Enable subset citation
- Support particularly small and large volume data
- Support dynamically changing data
- Establish links between data set and subsets
- Scalable approach without storing copies of data exports

## ■ Why CSV data?

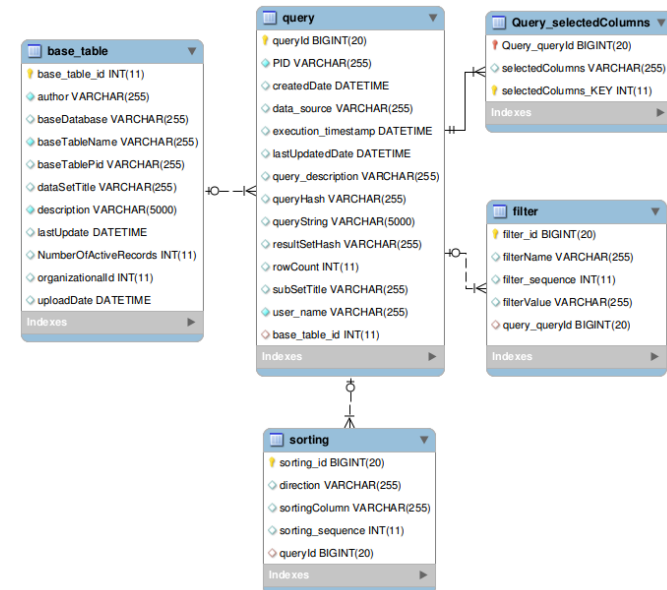
- Well understood and widely spread
- Small and big data settings
- Simple and flexible



# Large Scale Research Settings

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- Advanced data infrastructure
  - Large data sets
  - Database driven
  - Defined interfaces
  - Trained experts available
  -
- Required adaptations
  - Ingest CSV files
  - **Capture subset process**
  - Implement dedicated query store
  -
- ⑦ SQL Prototype



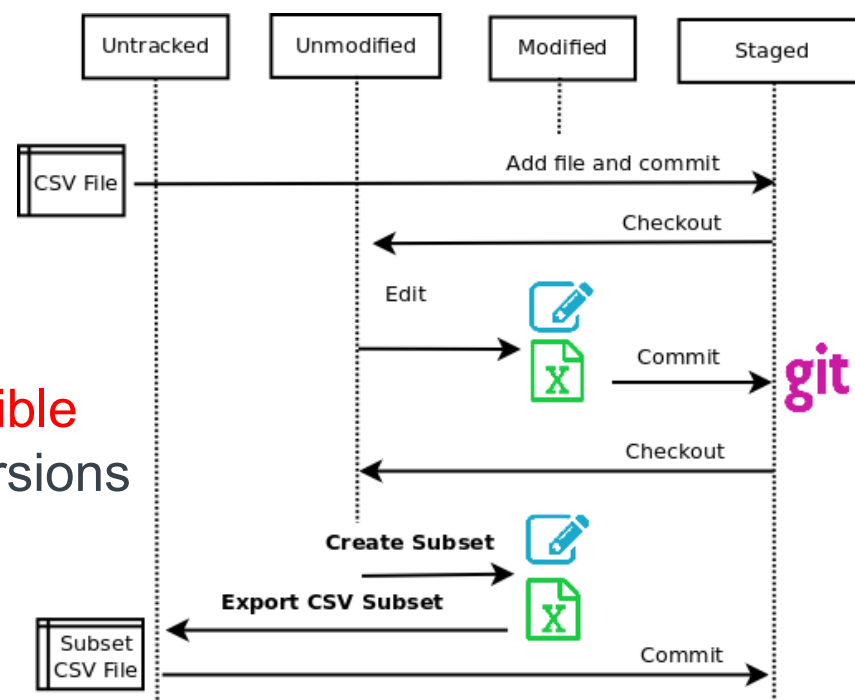


# Small Scale Research Settings

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- Local workstations
  - Smaller data sets
  - Local storage and tools
  - Scripting languages
- Required adaption
  - Data versioning, e.g. with Git
  - Store scripts versioned as well
  - **Make subset creation reproducible**
  - Document software and OS versions
  - Share repositories

## 7 Git Prototype



# Prototype Implementations

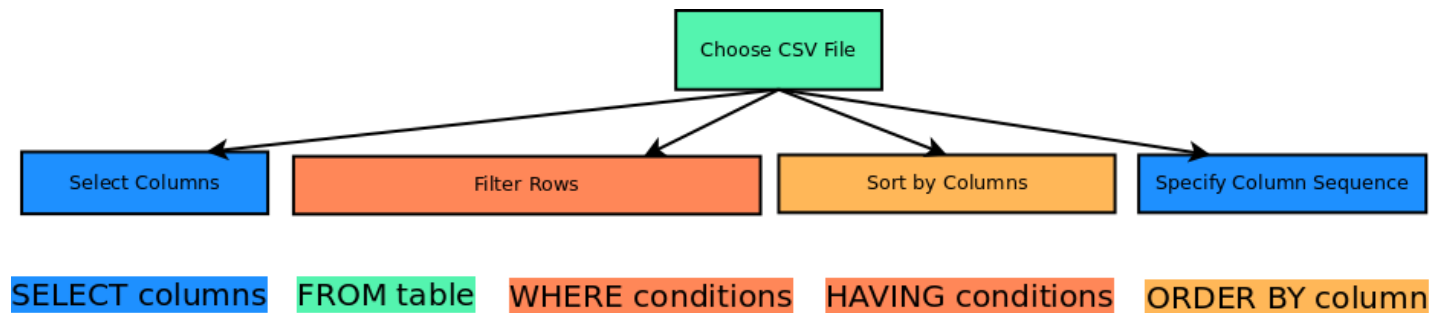
15

- SQL based Prototype
  - A) Migrates CSV data into relational database
- Git based Prototypes
  - A) Git as backend only
  - B) Using branches for data and scripts
- Data backend responsible for versioning data sets
- Subsets are created with scripts or queries

# Reproducible Subsets with SQL

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- CSV files have the same structure as relational database tables
- Subsetting process via SQL SELECT statements



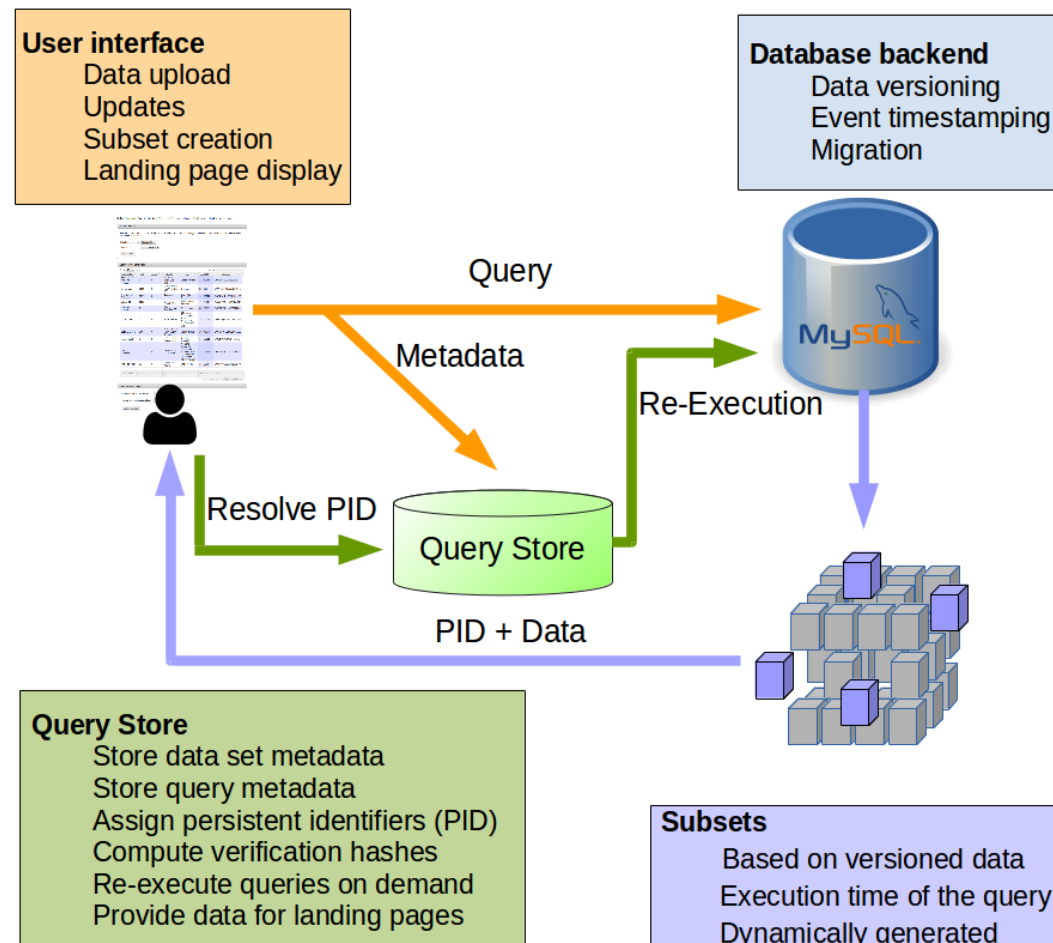
# Data Citation – Deployment

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- Researcher uses workbench or tool to identify subset of data
- Upon executing selection („download“) user gets
  - Data (package, access API, ...)
  - PID (e.g. DOI) (Query is time-stamped and stored)
  - Hash value computed over the data for local storage
  - Recommended citation text (e.g. BibTeX)
  - Query string
- PID resolves to landing page
  - Provides detailed metadata, link to parent data set, subset,...
  - Option to retrieve original data OR current version OR changes
- Upon activating PID associated with a data citation
  - Query is re-executed against time-stamped and versioned DB
  - Results as above are returned
- **Query store** aggregates data usage

# Reproducible Subsets with SQL Prototype

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# Implementation Overview

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- Presentation layer
  - Web interface
- Application server layer
  - CSV module
  - Query store module
  - Persistent identification module
  - Result set verification module
- Data server layer
  - Database module
- Technologies: Java 8, Maven 3, MySQL 5.7, Hikari CP, JSF, Primefaces, jQuery

Hello *Stefan Proell*! Your organizational ID is *12345*. Click here to [logout](#). Click here to get back to the [start page](#).

**Select Dataset**

Pick the table which contains the data you are interested in. After clicking on the button Load table, you will see the list of columns of this table.

Database schema: CitationDB ▾

Table name: stefan\_msd ▾

**Data Selection Interface**

Show 10 ▾ entries

Search:

artist_name	year	release	title	duration
London Mozart Players_ Harry Blech	0	Mozart: Symphony No. 34 in C Major_ K. 338 and K. 409	Symphony No. 34 in C Major_ K. 338 and K. 409: III. Minuet and trio_ K. 409	330.60526
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	0	Don Giovanni	Ecco il Birbo Che Tha Offesa (Don Giovanni_ Act 1	313.52118
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	0	Le Nozze di Figaro	Mozart: Le Nozze di Figaro: Signore_ cos'e quel stupore?	342.72608
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart	0	Classical Selections (Digitally Remastered)	Serenade In Strings	113.68444
Go-Kart Mozart	2005	The Indie Vigils	Glorious Chorus	146.38975

First Previous 1 2 3 4 5 Next Last

**Create a new subset**

Provide a title for the subset:

Provide a dataset description:

- Demo SQL Prototype
- 

Videos available at: <http://www.datacitation.eu/>

# Git as Data Backend

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- Git
  - Distributed source code management software
  - Version control
  - Track changes
  - Ideal for text based file formats
- Advantages of Git
  - Local install possible
  - Available for all platforms
  - Repositories can be easily shared
  - Does not require central administration
  - Open source

git

# Query Store + Git

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- Provide the same interface
  - Data selection with GUI
  - Git as backend
  - Query store preserves CSV2SQL query
  - Re-execution on top of CSV file revision
  - 
  -
- Git as Data Backend
  - Ideal for text based formats
  - Simple query translation via the interface
  - Version all changes by committing
  - Sharing via repositories (e.g. Github)

git

# Scripts and Git Branches

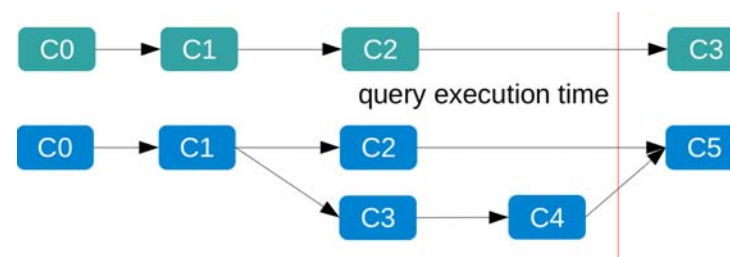
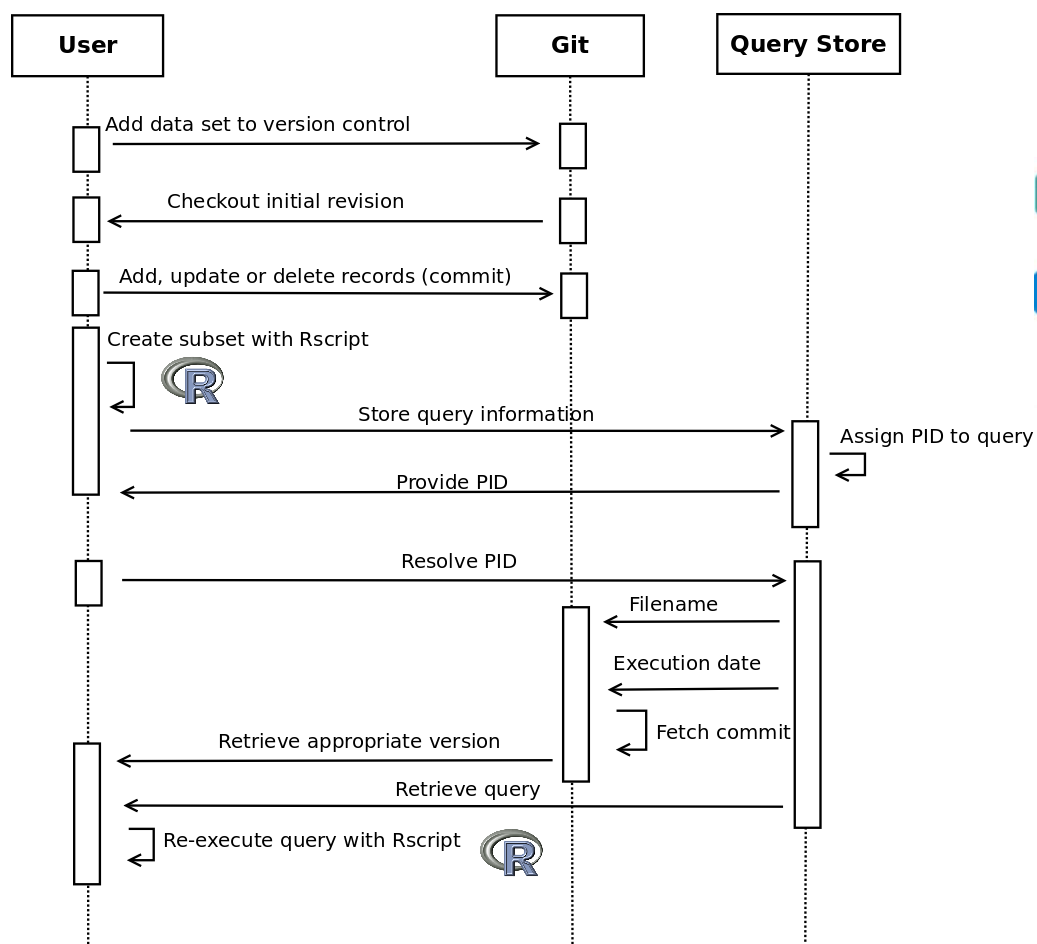
23

- Subsets are created with a scripting language (e.g. R)
  - Select columns, filter records and sort result set
  - Script produces CSV file
- Users store the subsetting script also in Git
  - Subsetting process can be automatically executed
  - The subsetting script is also stored in Git
  - Metadata file describes script execution, language version, etc
- Use Git to retrieve proper data set version and re-execute script on retrieved file
  
- Advantage: Simple method, Integration with a Query Store
- Disadvantage: Git commit history contains data set and script files



# Reproducible Subsets with Git

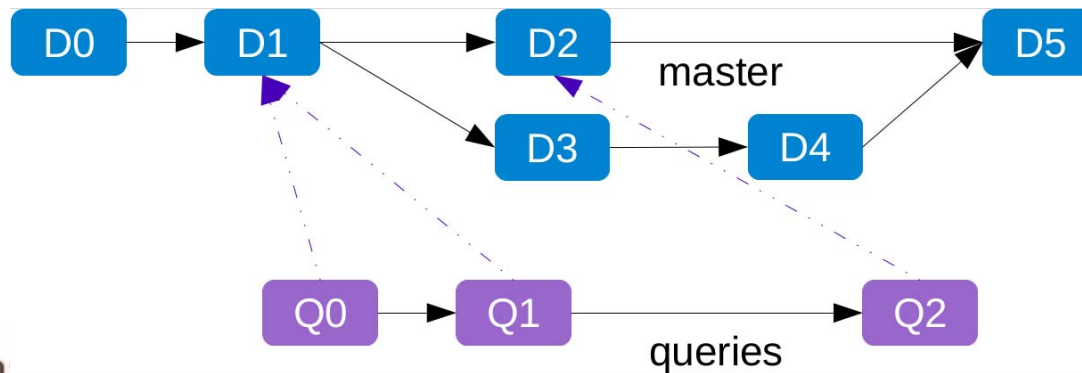
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# Reproducible Subsets with Git Branches

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- Using the Git branching model
  - Branches allow separation of data and scripts
  - Keeps commit history clean
    - Allows merging of data files
  - Use commit hash for identification
    - Assigned PID hashed with SHA1
    - Use hash of PID as filename
  - Orphaned branch for queries and metadata files



# Reproducible Subsets with Git Prototype

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**ReCitable**

**Choose Action!**

Create new dataset from:  
ZAMG-MetroData

Select

Select query to rerun:  
Choose One

Rerun

Step 1: Select a CSV file in the repository

**ReCitable**

**Create new dataset.**

Dataset:  
ZAMG-MetroData

Query:  
select Name, Station, "WG km/h" from ZAMG-MetroData

Commit:  
41893abdcf4f4c7258920d1f93f9e161bd81b3e

PID:  
12c28122-5c3b-48c6-b0b9-51fad89664f9

Description:  
My first query

Save

Step 3: Store the query script and metadata

**ReCitable**

**Create new dataset.**

Context: ZAMG-MetroData

Query:  
select Name, Station, "WG km/h" from ZAMG-MetroData

Try Save

Station	Name	Höhe m	Datum	Zeit	T °C	TP °C
11010	Linz/Hörsching	298	28-02-2016	18:00	7,5	2,2
11012	Kremsmünster	383	28-02-2016	18:00	7,3	2,6
11022	Retz	320	28-02-2016	18:00	8	4,4
11035	Wien/Hohe Warte	203	28-02-2016	18:00	8,6	5,4
11036	Wien/Schwechat	183	28-02-2016	18:00	8,6	5,5
11101	Bregenz	424	28-02-2016	18:00	4	1,8
11121	Innsbruck	579	28-02-2016	18:00	12,5	1,1
11126	Patscherkofel	2247	28-02-2016	18:00	-1,9	-3,6
11130	Kufstein	495	28-02-2016	18:00	6,5	2,1
11150	Salzburg	430	28-02-2016	18:00	6,7	3,3

Step 2: Create a subset with a SQL query (on CSV data)

**ReCitable**

**Choose Action!**

Create new dataset from:  
ZAMG-MetroData

Select

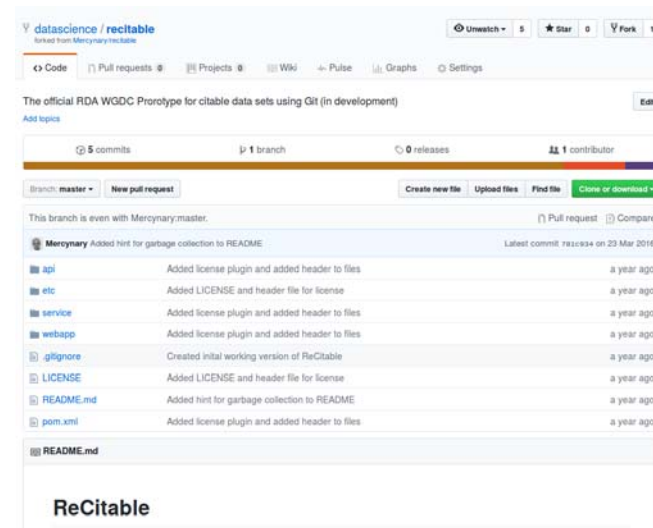
Select query to rerun:  
12c28122-5c3b-48c6-b0b9-51fad89664f9

Rerun

Step 4: Re-Execute!



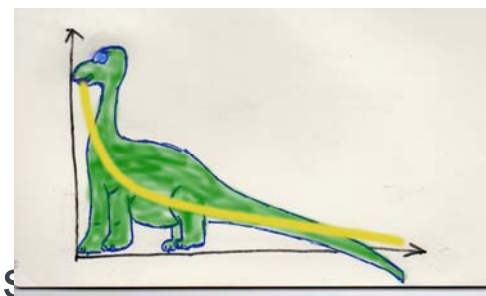
- SQL Backend
- Git Backend
- Source code of all prototypes available at Github
- <https://www.github.com/datascience>



# Conclusion

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- Query based data citation for evolving research data
  - Enhances reproducibility
  - Relies on data versioning and query (script) timestamping
- Implementation in small scale settings
  - Git repositories can be easily shared
  - Metadata included
- Implementation in large scale settings
  - Versioning often already available
  - Interfaces for subsetting processes can be used in implementation





# Thank You

Questions?  
Comments?

Thank you very much for your attention!

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