

OXLOD Open Workshop

Date: Tuesday 9th January 2018

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The 3rd [OXLOD open workshop](#) Open Workshop started with a presentation by [Stephen Johnston](#) about the migration of the catalogue of the Museum of the History of Science to [EMu](#). This was followed by a presentation from Sarah Joomun (Museum of Natural History) with a detailed account of the steps and considerations for exporting data from EMu (slides below).

Meetings with OXLOD stakeholders

During the past month the focus has been on two collections. [Athanasios Velios](#), the OXLOD Data Architect, has met with Sarah Joomun on the integration of the fossil collection of MNH, and [Chris Powel](#) on the integration of Islamic, Indian and Chinese collections in the Ashmolean. Sarah and Chris are Museum leads in the OXLOD project, and the meetings have been an opportunity for discussion around methodology and planning for Linked Data in the two museums.

Fossil collection (MNH)

The data from the fossil collection of the MNH (in EMu) were selected for integration with the data from the fossil plants from the [Druce collection](#) (in [BRAHMS](#)). The two collection management systems are significantly different in terms of structure; although transferring data from BRAHMS to EMu has been attempted in the past (see for example [here](#)), there is still no standard way to cross-search collections managed by them. OXLOD is an opportunity for integration of the two collections where the different collection management systems co-exist and data is mapped to a generic ontology. Following the work done on BRAHMS we continue the integration using the [Scientific Observation Model](#) (CRMsci) which is an extension of the [Conceptual Reference Model](#) tailored for activities such as sample collection and measurement. The 3rd workshop highlighted the parallel structures of EMu and BRAHMS. While the naming of the fields and the database structures are different, the mapping to CRMsci follows the same principle: identifying the events which are implicit in the data structure, such as the *collection event* (when a sample was collected) or the *determination event* (when the sample was given a type). Reconciliation with [IPNI](#) and Geonames was attempted. The results indicated that only a small percentage of records can be reconciled automatically. This led to a small overlap of the two datasets which re-enforces the value of accurate reconciliation. An example is shown in the attached map which shows (in blue) the common locations of the collection events.

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The team will be working with Chris Powel and Aruna Bhauggerutty from the Ashmolean Museum to integrate the Islamic, Indian and Chinese collections. The Museum and Library leads (Sarah Joomun, Chris Powel and Andrew Morrison) will also start their regular meetings with the OXLOD Data Architect to plan the integration tasks for the remaining collections.

OW3 Slides

<https://sharepoint.nexus.ox.ac.uk/JMRKOT>

