

Interactive comment on “A metadata template for ocean acidification data” by L.-Q. Jiang et al.

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I applaud the efforts of Jiang and colleagues. A metadata template is an essential tool to better manage ocean acidification data and would provide the scientific community with the required information to perform metaanalyses and syntheses. To achieve this goal, it is critical that the metadata template is approved and used by all major databases around the world. I therefore suggest that Jiang and colleagues should recognize and use previous efforts and make sure that the metadata template does not serve the needs of a single organization or country.

For instance, they should at least recognize the ongoing data management activity of the Ocean Acidification International Coordination Centre (OA-ICC; <http://www.iaea.org/ocean-acidification>), which I am supervising. The OA-ICC has resumed, in close collaboration with Xiamen University and PANGAEA, a data res-

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cue and transformation effort initiated in 2008 by the European projects EPOCA (<http://www.epoca-project.eu>) and EUR-OCEANS (Nisumaa et al., 2010, 2012). The compilation is hosted at PANGAEA (<http://www.pangaea.de>), Data Publisher for Earth and Environmental Science, jointly operated by the MARUM at the University of Bremen and the Alfred Wegener Institute in Bremerhaven. It currently includes data from 554 publications investigating the biological response to ocean acidification (<http://www.iaea.org/ocean-acidification/page.php?page=2205>). The data portal is available here (<http://www.iaea.org/ocean-acidification/page.php?page=2203>) and user instructions here (http://wiki.pangaea.de/wiki/Project_data_management/OA-ICC). More information can be obtained from Yan Yang (<mailto:yangyan@xmu.edu.cn>), the OA-ICC data curator based at the University of Xiamen (China).

Additionally, the OA-ICC organized a technical meeting that brought together data managers and curators of major databases as well as scientists to discuss coordination of existing efforts, best practices and the way forward in ocean acidification data management and access. The effort focused on the management of experimental data. More information is available in Hansson et al. (2014) as well as here (<http://www.iaea.org/ocean-acidification/page.php?page=2228>). The present comment has been endorsed by several meeting participants.

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