

# Data citation practices in the CRAWDAD wireless network data archive

Tristan Henderson

School of Computer Science  
University of St Andrews

<http://tristan.host.cs.st-andrews.ac.uk/>  
[tnhh@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:tnhh@st-andrews.ac.uk)



University of  
St Andrews

---

FOUNDED  
1413

---

*“If you can not measure it,  
you can not improve it.”*

*— Lord Kelvin*



- Computer systems researcher
- *Measure* and *improve* the behaviour of real-world computer systems and their users
- e.g.,
  - networked games
  - wireless networks
  - pervasive computing
  - opportunistic networks
  - online social networks
- Archive and share the data



# RAWDAD

Community Resource for Archiving Wireless Data at Dartmouth

<http://crawdad.org>

- World's largest (!! ) wireless network data archive
  - Funded by NSF, ACM SIGCOMM, ACM SIGMOBILE, Intel, Aruba
  - (always looking for more!)
- Archives:
  - wireless network traces
  - tools for collecting traces
  - (always looking for more!)
- Community support:
  - event calendar
  - bibliography
  - HOWTO documents / wiki
  - workshops



As of September 2014:

- 6,501 users from 104 countries
- 116 datasets and tools used in over 1,500 papers (that we know of), including all of our top venues
- Some popular datasets:
  - Cambridge Bluetooth encounters: 328 papers
  - Dartmouth WLAN data: 268 papers
  - MIT Reality Mining: 149 papers
  - EPFL taxi cabs: 127 papers
- Definition of “wireless” is broad
  - have recently started archiving mobile/social datasets
  - datasets have been used for security, network management, geography, epidemiology, animal sociology, ...
  - i.e., ESRC, BBSRC, MRC, NERC as well as EPSRC remit

# How did we get popular?



- Data sharing is good for science<sup>[1]</sup>
  - Indeed it is now required by RCUK<sup>[2]</sup>
- So everyone should be lining up to give us their datasets!
  - Not quite...
- Useful carrots:
  - citation/download tracking
  - literature on increased citations <sup>[3]</sup>
  - letters for department chairs/heads
  - toys! stickers!



[1] T. Henderson. Sharing is caring: so where are your data? *ACM SIGCOMM Computer Communication Review*, 38(1):43–44, Jan. 2008. doi:10.1145/1341431.1341439

[2] [www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/DataPolicy/](http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/research/DataPolicy/)

[3] H. A. Piwowar, R. S. Day, and D. B. Fridsma. Sharing detailed research data is associated with increased citation rate. *PLoS one*, 2(3):e308+, 21 Mar. 2007. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0000308



- We provide canonical URLs, e.g., `crawdad.org/dartmouth/campus`
  - indexed by Google Scholar (and Thomson Reuters when we get around to it)
  - no DOIs yet, although DataCite etc may help
- We provide BibTeX etc for authors, e.g., G. Bigwood, D. Rehunathan, M. Bateman, T. Henderson, and S. Bhatti. CRAWDAD data set `st_andrews/sassy` (v. 2011-06-03). Downloaded from `http://crawdad.org/st_andrews/sassy`, June 2011
- We request that authors tell us when they publish, or add to our CiteULike group<sup>[4]</sup>

---

[4] [citeulike.org/groupfunc/5303/home](http://citeulike.org/groupfunc/5303/home)



How many people have told us when they have published a paper using CRAWDAD datasets?





How many people have told us when they have published a paper using CRAWDAD datasets?

3



How many people have told us when they have published a paper using CRAWDAD datasets?

3

How many people (other than ourselves) have added papers to the CiteULike group?



How many people have told us when they have published a paper using CRAWDAD datasets?

3

How many people (other than ourselves) have added papers to the CiteULike group?

5



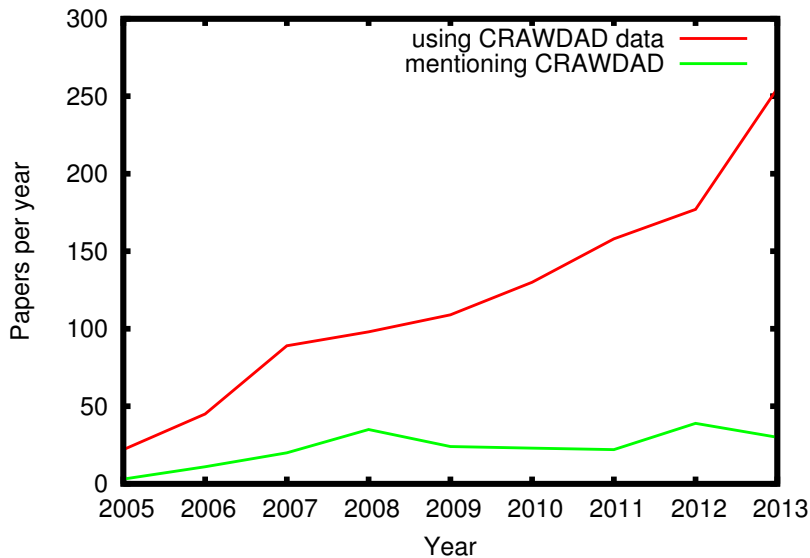
1. Google Scholar/ScienceDirect/IEEEExplore/... searches for "CRAWDAD"
2. filter out all the references to shellfish, CRAWDAD text analysis tool, CRAWDAD neurophysiology tool
3. check paper manually to determine which (if any) datasets were used



1. Google Scholar/ScienceDirect/IEEEExplore/... searches for "CRAWDAD"
  2. filter out all the references to shellfish, CRAWDAD text analysis tool, CRAWDAD neurophysiology tool
  3. check paper manually to determine which (if any) datasets were used
- There *must* be a better way!



- $\approx 3,800$  papers matching “CRAWDAD” full-text search
- 1,219 papers appear to use CRAWDAD datasets
  - able to find PDF files for 1,206 of them





🌐 [force11.org/datacitation](http://force11.org/datacitation)

1. Importance
2. Credit and Attribution
3. Evidence
4. Unique Identification
5. Access
6. Persistence
7. Specificity and Verifiability
8. Interoperability and Flexibility





• [force11.org/datacitation](http://force11.org/datacitation)

1. Importance
2. Credit and Attribution
3. Evidence
4. Unique Identifier
5. Access
6. Persistence
7. Specificity and Verifiability
8. Interoperability and Flexibility

In short:

- data are important
- cite them accurately
- different fields have different conventions



• [force11.org/datacitation](http://force11.org/datacitation)

1. Importance
2. Credit and Attribution
3. Evidence
4. Unique Identifier
5. Access
6. Persistence
7. Specificity and Verifiability
8. Interoperability and Flexibility

In short:

- find a data archive that helps others cite your data
- find the conventions for your particular field



- $\approx 3,800$  papers matching “CRAWDAD” full-text search
- 1,219 papers appear to use CRAWDAD datasets
  - able to find PDF files for 1,206 of them



- $\approx 3,800$  papers matching “CRAWDAD” full-text search
- 1,219 papers appear to use CRAWDAD datasets
  - able to find PDF files for 1,206 of them
- 1,091 (90%) cited CRAWDAD data in a “reproducible” way



- $\approx 3,800$  papers matching “CRAWDAD” full-text search
- 1,219 papers appear to use CRAWDAD datasets
  - able to find PDF files for 1,206 of them
- 1,091 (90%) cited CRAWDAD data in a “reproducible” way:
  - **credit and attribution:** do the data citations appropriately credit the creators of the dataset?
  - **unique identification:** we provide unique names for each dataset; are these mentioned?
  - **access:** do the data citations provide sufficient information for a reader to access the dataset?
  - **persistence:** we provide persistent URLs for each dataset; are these used?



- $\approx 3,800$  papers matching “CRAWDAD” full-text search
- 1,219 papers appear to use CRAWDAD datasets
  - able to find PDF files for 1,206 of them
- 1,091 (90%) cited CRAWDAD data in a “reproducible” way:
  - **credit and attribution:** do the data citations appropriately credit the data source? **i.e., used our BibTeX**
  - **unique identification:** we provide unique names for each dataset; are these mentioned?
  - **access:** do the data citations provide sufficient information for a reader to access the dataset?
  - **persistence:** we provide persistent URLs for each dataset; are these used?



The *B*-Matrix is generated based on the RSS trace files provided by the CRAWDAD project [15]. In this work, the

[15] "Community resource for archiving wireless data at dartmouth (crowdad)," October 2012. [Online]. Available: <http://crowdad.cs.dartmouth.edu/>

features in the model. This model was constructed using real data traces from the IEEE INFOCOM 2006 conference [6, 20], which consists of the contact data of participants, along with their social and cultural background. Using these

[20] CRAWDAD – A Community Resource for Archiving Wireless Data at Dartmouth, <http://crowdad.org/>, accessed on November 2012.

In this section, the real taxi trace data within 30 days in San Francisco from [17] is used. We used the IEEE 802.11p

[17] <http://crowdad.cs.dartmouth.edu/data.php>.

To evaluate the performance of our algorithm, we exploit a data set of sensor mote encounter records and corresponding social network data of a group of participants at University of St Andrews by the CRAWDAD team [6]. In the first data set,

To investigate the effectiveness of opportunistic communication for content dissemination using only interactions among the creator and the consumers, in [11] we analyzed the contact traces generated from Dartmouth data set [1].

In addition to using an urban scenario, we perform evaluation using real-world data trace of Bluetooth and Wi-Fi (*UIUC*) collected at the University of Illinois. For *ALAR*, we

Fi network. We analyzed the SIGCOMM traces and other 802.11 datasets obtained from [crowdad](http://crowdad.org/) website [18] to evaluate various characteristics of a de-authentication frame(s). We

TABLE V  
DATA SETS USED

Parameters	Real Trace	SLAW Data
Number of users	39	100
Duration	10 hours	24 hours
Interval of data	30 seconds	60 seconds
Subgroup Regeneration	every 15 minutes	every 30 minutes



**115** papers that use data but we don't know which data or how to find them...





**115** papers that use data but we don't know which data or how to find them...

- **36** papers cite the original papers that created the data
  - good, but papers often published before data are released and don't foreshadow location



**115** papers that use data but we don't know which data or how to find them...

- **36** papers cite the original papers that created the data
  - good, but papers often published before data are released and don't foreshadow location
- **45** papers describe the dataset rather than use our identifiers
  - good, but makes it hard to track usage



**115** papers that use data but we don't know which data or how to find them...

- **36** papers cite the original papers that created the data
  - good, but papers often published before data are released and don't foreshadow location
- **45** papers describe the dataset rather than use our identifiers
  - good, but makes it hard to track usage
- **72** cited CRAWDAD website without specifying dataset
  - 23 cited the website and original papers (so not space issue)



**115** papers that use data but we don't know which data or how to find them...

- **36** papers cite the original papers that created the data
  - good, but papers often published before data are released and don't foreshadow location
- **45** papers describe the dataset rather than use our identifiers
  - good, but makes it hard to track usage
- **72** cited CRAWDAD website without specifying dataset
  - 23 cited the website and original papers (so not space issue)
- **21** papers provided no means to find the used data at all
  - 1 paper provided a non-existent URL



**115** papers that use data but we don't know which data or how to find them...

- **36** papers cite the original papers that created the data
  - good, but papers often published before data are released and don't foreshadow location
- **45** papers describe the dataset rather than use our identifiers
  - good, but makes it hard to track usage
- **72** cited CRAWDAD website without specifying dataset
  - 23 cited the website and original papers (so not space issue)
- **21** papers provided no means to find the used data at all
  - 1 paper provided a non-existent URL
- **6** papers cited me (yay h-index!) or Dartmouth as authors of data when they were not our data
  - Does the subject-specific database hinder rather than help?



**115** papers that use data but we don't know which data or how to find them...

- **36** papers cite the original papers that created the data
  - good, but papers often published before data are released and don't foreshadow location
- **45** papers describe the dataset rather than use our identifiers
  - good, but makes it hard to track usage
- **72** cited CRAWDAD website without specifying dataset
  - 23 cited the website and original papers (so not space issue)
- **21** papers provided no means to find the used data at all
  - 1 paper provided a non-existent URL
- **6** papers cited me (yay h-index!) or Dartmouth as authors of data when they were not our data
  - Does the subject-specific database hinder rather than help?
- **31** papers were so vague that I could not work out which datasets were used!
  - 3 were so vague that I couldn't work out if they used any data at all



- Redirects...
- Old version of website used PHP
  - <http://crawdad.org/dartmouth/campus/> would redirect to <http://crawdad.cs.dartmouth.edu/meta.php?name=dartmouth/campus>
- 74 papers used these `meta.php` URLs
- New version of website has to redirect these `meta.php` URLs back to original persistent URL
- DOIs would help
  - (but only if people cite the DOIs and not the resolved URL)



- This sample is only the papers that mention CRAWDAD or that we were told about
- What about all the papers that don't even do this?
- $\approx 6,500$  users, but only  $\approx 1,200$  papers?
- Are we better than other fields?
  - other people have looked at data contribution rather than citation, and rates are poor unless pressure is applied (e.g., can't publish until data are deposited) [5]
  - "evaluation research" is highlighted as a future topic of research [6]

---

[5] B. D. McCullough, K. A. McGeary, and T. D. Harrison. Do economics journal archives promote replicable research? *Canadian Journal of Economics/Revue canadienne d'économique*, 41(4):1406–1420, 30 Sept. 2008. doi:10.1111/j.1540-5982.2008.00509.x

[6] CODATA-ICSTI Task Group on Data Citation Standards and Practices. Out of cite, out of mind: The current state of practice, policy, and technology for the citation of data. *Data Science Journal*, 12:CIDCR1–CIDCR75, 13 Sept. 2013. doi:10.2481/dsj.osom13-043





- This sample is only the papers that mention CRAWDAD or that we were told about
- What about all the papers that don't even do this?
- $\approx 6,500$  users, but only  $\approx 1,200$  papers?
- Are we better than other fields?
  - other people have looked at data contribution rather than citation, and rates are poor unless pressure is applied (e.g., can't publish until data are deposited) [5]
  - "evaluation research" is highlighted as a future topic of research [6]
  - help?

---

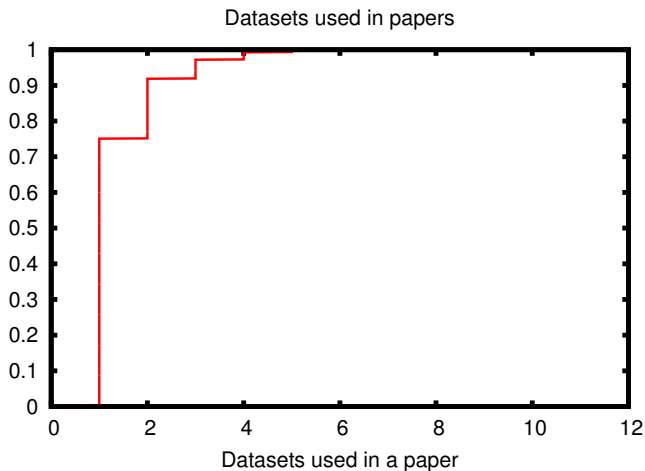
[5] B. D. McCullough, K. A. McGeary, and T. D. Harrison. Do economics journal archives promote replicable research? *Canadian Journal of Economics/Revue canadienne d'économique*, 41(4):1406–1420, 30 Sept. 2008. doi:10.1111/j.1540-5982.2008.00509.x

[6] CODATA-ICSTI Task Group on Data Citation Standards and Practices. Out of cite, out of mind: The current state of practice, policy, and technology for the citation of data. *Data Science Journal*, 12:CIDCR1–CIDCR75, 13 Sept. 2013. doi:10.2481/dsj.osom13-043

# What datasets do people use?



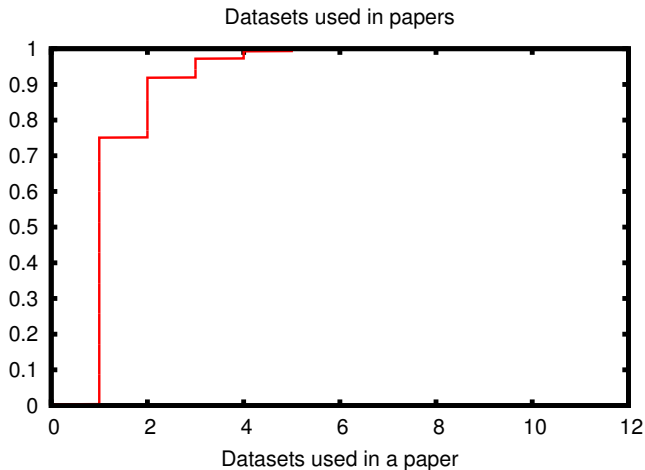
35% use more than one dataset



# What datasets do people use?

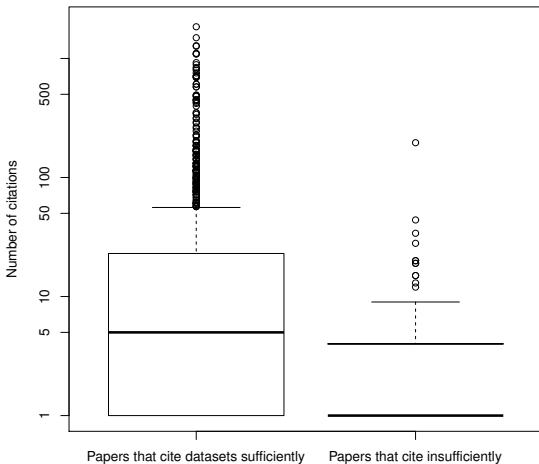


35% use more than one dataset



- Does the subject-specific database help rather than hinder?

# Are better-citing papers cited better?





- Education
  - authors/reviewers/publishers
- Research
  - why don't people cite?
- DOIs (surprisingly complicated)
  - DataCite not really cost-effective
  - looking at EZID through Dartmouth



- Many cite papers rather than datasets
- Papers don't link to datasets
  - authors might not even have thought of sharing data at point of writing/publishing paper
- Why are papers immutable?
- Updating links between papers and datasets would also be useful (cf. our `meta.php` links)



- Find more missing papers
- Understand motivations for data citation
- Wrapping this all up into reproducible papers: i.e., not just datasets!



Community Resource for Archiving Wireless Data at Dartmouth  
<http://crawdad.org>

🏠 [tnhh.org](http://tnhh.org)

✉ [tnhh@st-andrews.ac.uk](mailto:tnhh@st-andrews.ac.uk)

🐦 [@tnhh](https://twitter.com/tnhh)

[crawdad.org](http://crawdad.org)

[crawdad@crawdad.org](mailto:crawdad@crawdad.org)

[@CRAWDADdata](https://twitter.com/CRAWDADdata)