

Cross-searching of datasets by linking repository and vocabulary management in materials data platform

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October 23rd, 2024

DCMI 2024 Toronto Best practices session



NIMS Materials Data Platform “DICE”



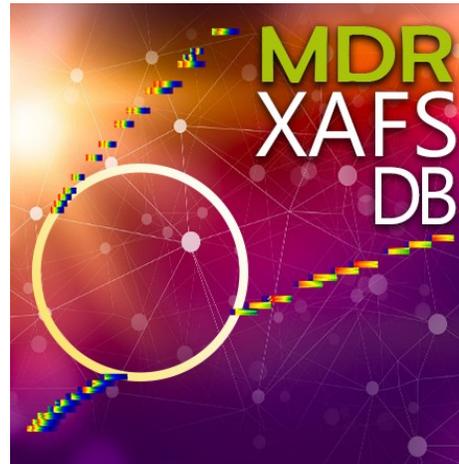
- Research data platform for materials science
- Developed and operated by National Institute for Materials Science (NIMS), Japan
- Consists of several research software and services
 - Materials databases
 - Research data sharing service
 - User authentication / authorization





Selected in this presentation

- Materials Data Repository (MDR)
- MDR XAFS DB
- MatVoc / MatVoc Explorer





NIMS Materials Data Repository (MDR)

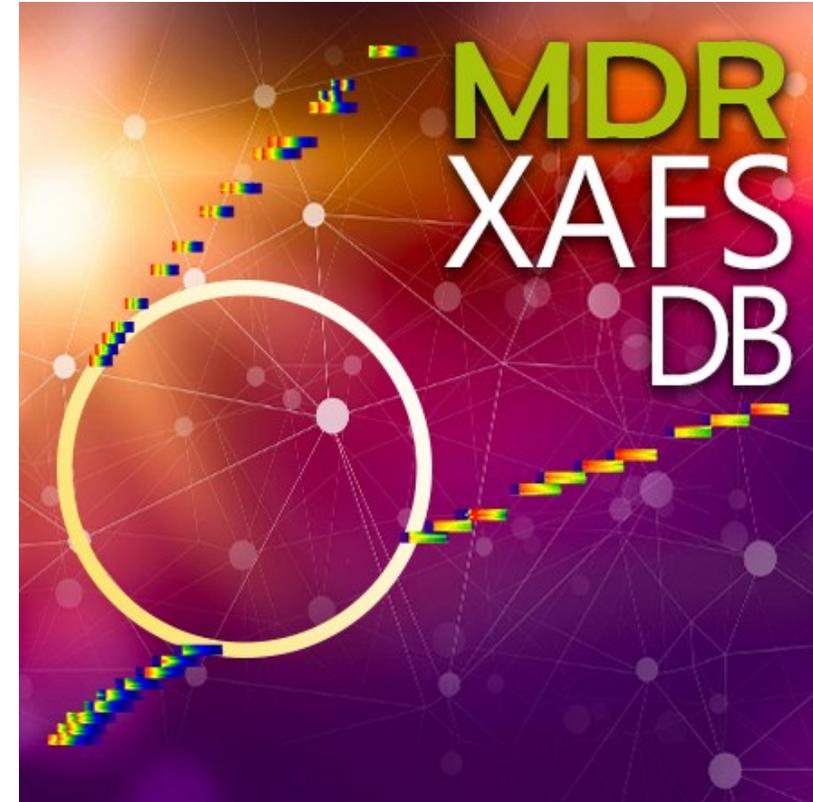
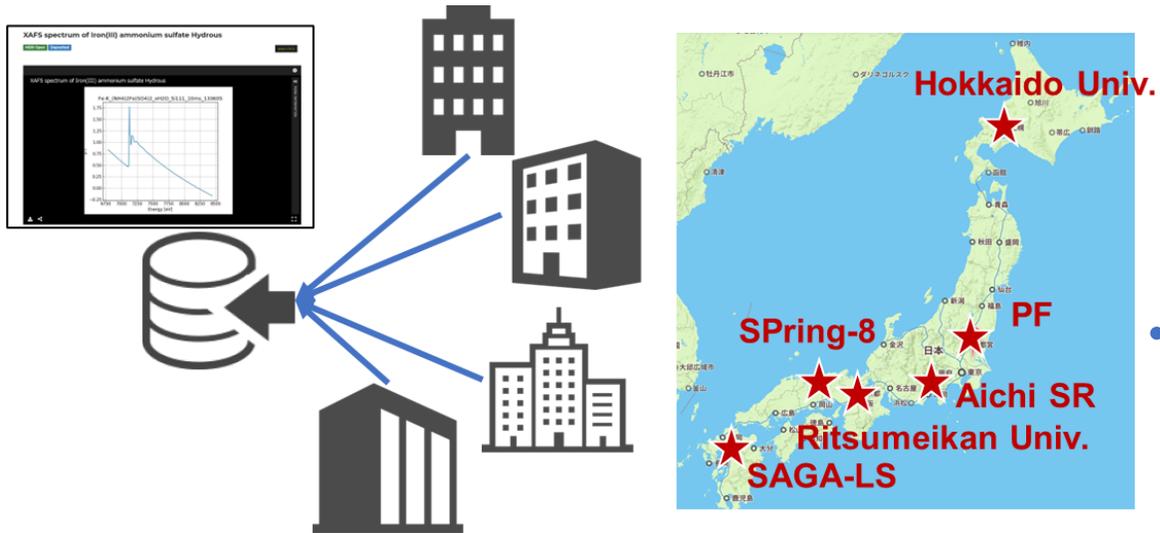


- Data repository in the DICE
 - <https://mdr.nims.go.jp>
- released in June 2020
- About 1,000 articles and 12,800 datasets as of October 2024
- provides facet search UI and REST API
- Built on Samvera Hyrax (OSS)
- Project leader: Kosuke Tanabe

The screenshot displays the NIMS Materials Data Repository (MDR) interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'About', 'Help', 'Contact', and 'Login' links. Below this is a search bar with the text 'Search MDR' and 'Enter search terms', followed by a 'GO' button. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column, titled 'Limit your search', contains a list of filters: 'Type of work' (set to 'Dataset' with 46 results), 'Collection', 'Keyword', 'Language', 'Resource type', 'Data origin', 'Properties addressed', 'Date published', 'Date updated', 'Creator', 'Author', 'Contact person', and 'License'. The right column shows the search results for 'Dataset'. It includes a 'Filtering by: TYPE OF WORK > DATASET' indicator, a 'Start Over' button, and pagination information: '« Previous | 1 - 10 of 46 | Next »'. Below this, there are three result entries, each with a thumbnail image, a title, a description, and metadata (Creator, Date published, Date Modified, Resource Type). The first entry is titled 'Data set used for the article Nonequilibrium magnetic response of anisotropic superparamagnetic nanoparticles and possible artifacts in magnetic particle imaging on PLOS ONE' by MAMIYA, Hiroaki, published on 08/01/2015. The second entry is 'Photographs of deformed areas after fiber fuse ignition' by TODOROKI, Shin-ichi, published on 17/06/2016. The third entry is 'Fiber fuse propagation (1st trial, overexposed)' by TODOROKI, Shin-ichi, published on 22/01/2013. The fourth entry is 'Fiber fuse propagation and voids left behind (overexposed)' by TODOROKI, Shin-ichi, published on 03/07/2014.



- Collection of X-ray absorption fine structure (XAFS) datasets
 - One of the most popular collections in MDR
- Includes approximately 2600 XAFS spectra datasets collected by six research institutions in Japan
- Project leader: Masashi Ishii



- <https://doi.org/10.48505/nims.1447>



Search MDR

Limit your search

- Type of work >
- Collection >
 - MDR XAFS DB ✖ 2,264
- Keyword >
- Publisher >
- Resource type >
- Visibility >
- Rights Statement Sim >
- Data origin >
- Characterization methods >
- Material/Specimen >

Filtering by: COLLECTION > MDR XAFS DB ✖

[Start Over](#)

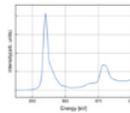
« Previous | 1 - 10 of 2,264 | Next »

SORT BY RELEVANCE

10 PER PAGE



XAFS spectrum of Nickel(II) oxide



Description/Abstract: This dataset consists of X-ray absorption fine structure (XAFS) spectra at Ni L-edge of Nickel(II) oxide measured at SAGA SR BL12, and is...

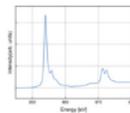
Keyword: BL12, Ni L-edge, NiO, Nickel(II) oxide, Oxide, SAGA-LS, XAFS, and collection - MDR XAFS DB

Resource Type: Dataset

Data origin: experiment

Date Uploaded: 09/06/2023

XAFS spectrum of Nickel(II) oxide



Description/Abstract: This dataset consists of X-ray absorption fine structure (XAFS) spectra at Ni L-edge of Nickel(II) oxide measured at SAGA SR BL10, and is...

Keyword: BL10, Ni L-edge, NiO, Nickel(II)

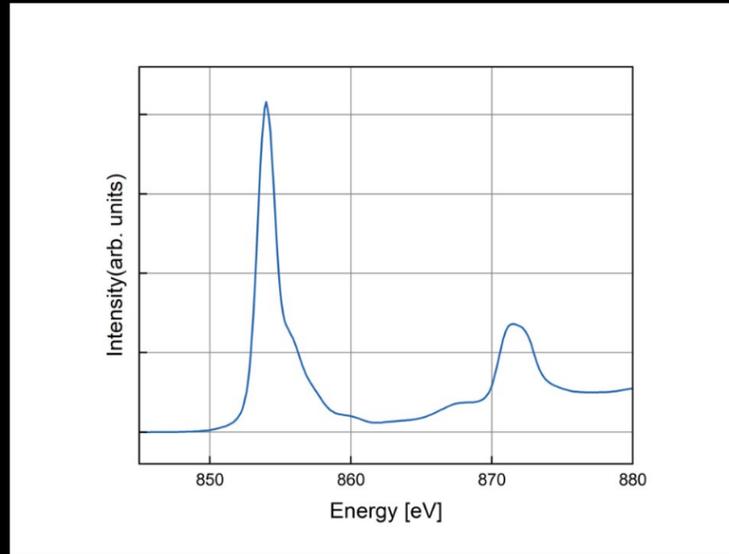


XAFS spectrum of Nickel(II) oxide

MDR Open Deposited

ANALYTICS

XAFS spectrum of Nickel(II) oxide



Specimen details

Specimen type

Title Nickel(II) oxide
Description on carbon tape

Chemical composition

Description NiO
Category <http://matvoc.nims.go.jp/entity/Q1631>

Structural feature

Description local structure
Category <http://matvoc.nims.go.jp/entity/Q686>

Preview: primary.tsv

Show 10 entries

Search:

key

@data_info@data_depositor@organization
@data_info@data_depositor@affiliation
@data_info@data_depositor@name
@data_info@data_depositor@role
@data_info@contact_name@organization
@data_info@contact_name@affiliation
@data_info@contact_name@name
@data_info@contact_name@role
@data_info@access_rights
@data_info@license

value

Kyushu Synchrotron Light Research Center
Beamline Group
Kyushu Synchrotron Light Research Center
Beamline staff
Kyushu Synchrotron Light Research Center
Beamline Group
Kyushu Synchrotron Light Research Center
Beamline staff
open
CC-BY-NC-SA

Showing 1 to 10 of 47 entries

Previous 1 2 3 4 5 Next



MatVoc / MatVoc Explorer



- MatVoc: <https://matvoc.nims.go.jp>
 - Vocabulary service for materials science
 - Built on Wikibase
 - Includes more than 2400 entities
 - Provides SPARQL endpoint
- MatVoc Explorer: <https://matvoc.nims.go.jp/explore/en/home>
 - Provides browse and search UI
 - Provides a link to MDR and other external databases associated with each vocabulary
- Project leader: Asahiko Matsuda



**MatVoc
Explorer**
Materials Vocabulary



English | 日本語



[Home](#)

[About MatVoc](#) ?

Select Dictionaries ▾

Search by label or QID

Loose ▾

[Search](#)

Open a specific dictionary

Q21 : DICE Materials Data Vocabulary

Q713 : NIMS XAFS DB Project Materials Dictionary

Q1882 : ARIM Instrument Dictionary

Q1883 : DICE Instrument Dictionary

Q3518 : NIMS Thermophysical Property DB Project Dictionary

Q3604 : Magnetic materials vocabulary

Others (Items with no parent or child)

National Institute for Materials Science

Research Network and Facility Services Division
Materials Data Platform

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[DICE Portal](#) ↗

[Privacy Policy](#) ↗

[Contact](#) ↗





NIMS XAFS DB Project Materials Dictionary > Chemicals > Inorganic materials > Oxide > Zinc oxide

Q1800: Zinc oxide

Vocabulary ID <http://matvoc.nims.go.jp/entity/Q1800>

Language	Label	Description	Alias
English	Zinc oxide	BENTEN-registered chemicals, ZnO	ZnO, Zinc white, Zinc oxide (ZnO), Zinc oxide, philosopher's wool, flowers of zinc, Chinese white, calamine, 1314-13-2
Japanese	酸化亜鉛	BENTEN登録済み化学物質、ZnO	ZnO

Semantic Relatives

Parents

DICE Links

AtomWork [Zn+O](#) , MDR [Zinc+oxide](#)



Semantic Relatives

▼ Parents

▶ [Q736: Oxide_ate](#)

Link to relative MatVoc entities

DICE Links

MDR [Silver\(I\)+chromate](#)

Link to MDR and other DICE services associated with the entity

External Links

[Silver_chromate](#) , [Q416277](#)

Link to Wikipedia and Wikidata



Metadata schemas around MDR and MDR XAFS DB



Scientific metadata

- **XAFS Metadata**

- **DICE common messaging format**

- **MDR Schema**

- DataCite Metadata Schema

- JPCOAR Schema

Bibliographic metadata



- <https://github.com/xafs-db/xafs-schema>
- Metadata schema developed by the Japan XAFS Society
 - <https://www.jxafs.org/xafs-database>
- Includes domain-specific properties (e.g., instruments, measurement)

```
measurement:  
| detectors:
```

```
# 1. IC => 電流アンプ - V/F - カウンタ の場合
```

```
- name: I1  
  arrangement: ...//Current Amp.//V/F Converter//Counter  
  processing_lines:  
  - conversion_factor: 1e-14  
    conversion_factor_unit: A  
  processors:  
  - processor: Current Amp.  
    type: Average  
    manufacturer: NF  
    model_number: CA5350  
    gain: 1e6  
    gain_unit: V/A  
    time_constant: 1e-3  
    time_constant_unit: s
```



DICE common messaging format



- <https://doi.org/10.48505/nims.3240>
- Designed for entire datasets and research areas on the data platform DICE
- Supports many scientific entities and properties including instruments, specimens and experimental methods
- Consists of many deeply-nested properties
- *“We have defined a common metadata schema for research dataset distribution/exchange/storage, with features for not only system-to-system communication but also description of the datasets. The metadata were initially defined by a XML Schema, and has been converted into JSON Schema. The schema has a complex structure, which includes the dataset's bibliographic metadata as well as description of the dataset from the materials science viewpoint.”*



The structure of DICE common messaging format



Mandatory	Common metadata ID, Depositor, Specimen, Instrument, Data origin...				
	Characterization metadata Method, Environment...	Specimen metadata Material type, Structural features	Property metadata Characteristic properties	Synthesis/Process metadata Processed date, Temperature	Calculation metadata Computer Software
Domain-specific					
Parameters (uncontrolled)	Characterization primary parameters	Specimen primary parameters	Property primary parameters	Synthesis/Process primary parameters	Calculation primary parameters
Arbitrary data	Arbitrary data	Arbitrary data	Arbitrary data	Arbitrary data	Arbitrary data

S. Kikuchi et al., IEICE Tech. Rep. vol. 119, no. 66, SC2019-2, pp. 7-17, 2019, in Japanese

<https://ken.ieice.org/ken/paper/20190531k1nc/>

(also in Ranganathan et al., 14th Int. Conf. Open Repositories, 2019. <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3553963>)



An example of the DICE common messaging format



```
C: > Users > kosuke > Downloads > {} meta.json > {} data > {} included > {} additional-attachment-pointer > {} spared-description-for-token
  2      "data": {
 24      "attributes": {
 25          "common-term": {
 32          "basic-data-description": {
190          "deposit-execution-identifier": {
191              "description": "API-FWK",
192              "identifier-type": "nims-internal",
193              "nims-identifier": "urn:USER_IDENTIFIER.dpfc.nims.go.jp:2bf8fb6a-44a3-4892-9d33-e0dac3c99f0f"
194          }
195      },
196      "instrument-description": [
197      {
198          "name": "BL14B2_XAFS",
199          "identifier": {
200              "identifier-type": "local-identifier",
201              "local-identifier": "RDEtagid-64568318"
202          },
203          "manufacturer": {
204              "description": "",
205              "identifier-type": "descriptonal",
206              "organization-identifier": "",
207              "organization-description": {
208                  "title-sub-organization": "",
209                  "title-major-organization": "Japan Synchrotron Radiation Institute"
210              }
211          },
212          "process-date": {
213              "date": "2020-02-06",
214              "time": "00:00:00+09:00"
215          },

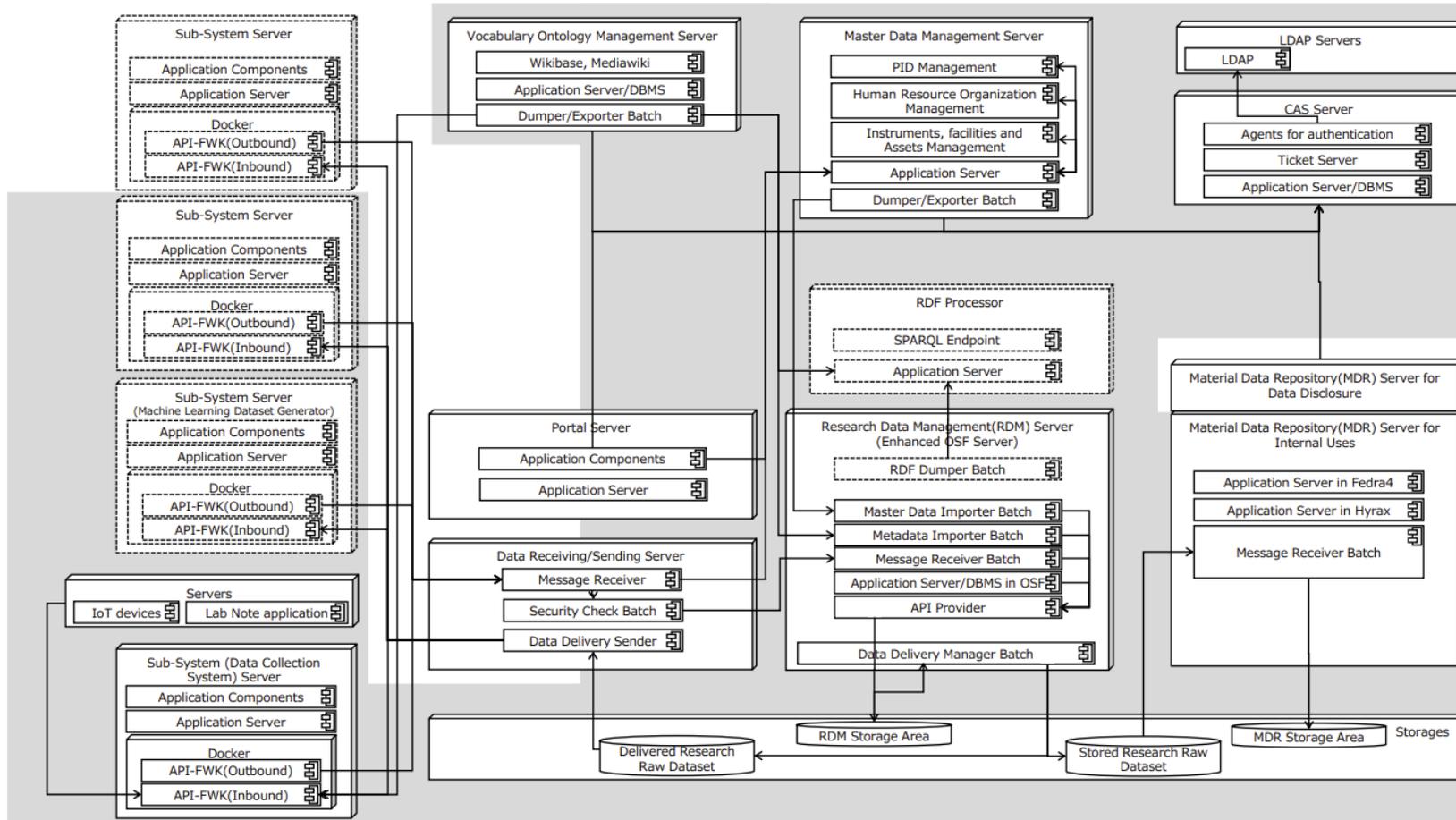
```



Initial plan in depositing XAFS datasets to MDR



- All research datasets and applications are expected to use the DICE common messaging format to describe and share its metadata



S. Kikuchi et al.,
IEICE Tech. Rep. vol.
119, no. 66,
SC2019-2, pp. 7-17,
2019, in Japanese
<https://ken.ieice.org/ken/paper/20190531k1nc/>



Difficulties in applying the huge metadata schema



- Some of the XAFS datasets were deposited to MDR using the schema, but it took much more efforts than expected
- It was extremely difficult for researchers and application engineers to understand its complex specification
 - Encountered implementation incompatibilities in handling the metadata and schema between the application software
 - Encountered many limitations and bugs in the software (customized OSS)
- After some operations, it was officially abandoned in 2022

DICE common message format schema

A common metadata schema for distribution, exchange, and storage of research data among DICE systems.

With the discontinuation of the system that used this schema, this schema was also discontinued as of December 2022.

<https://dice.nims.go.jp/about.html>



Technical limitations in MDR

- MDR basically supports only keyword search
- MDR doesn't fully support nested metadata structure in the DICE common messaging format
 - e.g., cannot update a value in a nested property
- These came from technical limitations in MDR's software stack

- "...What should we do?"



MDR Schema



- <https://github.com/nims-dpfc/mdr-schema>
- Simplified version of the DICE common messaging format
- Solely designed for depositing datasets to MDR
 - Mostly compatible with the existing metadata on MDR
- Eliminates deeply-nested hierarchy structure
- Expects to be written in YAML



An example of metadata in MDR Schema



```
managing_organization:  
| ror: https://ror.org/026v1ze26  
| organization: National Institute for Materials Science  
  
instruments:  
- name: BL14B2_XAFS  
| description: SPring-8 Engineering Science Research Beamline XAFS setup  
  
experimental_methods:  
# x-ray photoelectron spectroscopy  
- category_vocabulary: https://matvoc.nims.go.jp/entity/Q31  
  
specimens:  
- name: HAVAR  
| description: Standard Sample  
  
chemical_compositions:  
- description: W(CO)6  
  
structural_features:  
- description: radial distribution function
```



Validating MDR Schema YAML

- Using Yamale to create and validate the metadata schema
 - <https://github.com/23andMe/Yamale>

```
$ yamale metadata-sample.yaml
Validating /home/kosuke/mdr-schema/metadata-sample.yaml...
Validation failed!
Error validating data '/home/kosuke/mdr-schema/metadata-sample.yaml':
    titles.0.title: Required field missing
$ |
```



Schema definition of MDR Schema



```
159 # 人物
160 person:
161     name: str()
162     orcid: str(required=False)
163     e_rad: str(required=False)
164     organization: str(required=False)
165     department: str(required=False)
166     ror: str(required=False)
167     role: enum('author', 'editor', 'translator', 'depositor',
168
```



Schema definition of MDR Schema



```
228 # 試料
229 specimen:
230     name: str()
231     description: str(required=False)
232     identifier: str(required=False)
233     material_type_vocabulary: str(required=False)
234     material_type_description: str(required=False)
235
236 ---
237 # 試料の化学組成
238 chemical_composition:
239     specimen_identifier: str(required=False)
240     identifier: str(required=False)
241     category_vocabulary: str(required=False)
242     category_description: str(required=False)
243     description: str(required=False)
```



Why YAML?

- human-readable and (almost) writable
 - Easy to create and distribute a metadata template file since it supports single-line and inline comments
 - It is painful for human to read and write a spreadsheet that has a lot of columns
- It can be converted to JSON or other formats easily



An example of MDR metadata migration



- “instruments”->“function”->“category” is moved to “function_category”
- “instruments”->“managing_organization” is moved to “instrument_management_organization”
- Assigns local identifier “instrument_00001” to the instrument and refers it from the “instrument_management_organization”

```
instruments:  
- name: BL14B2_XAFS  
  description: SPring-8  
  function:  
  - category: spectroscopy  
    identifier: https://matvoc.nims.go.jp/entry/Q30  
  managing_organization:  
  | organization: JASRI
```

DICE common messaging format (converted to YAML)

```
instruments:  
- identifier: instrument_00001  
  name: BL14B2_XAFS  
  description: SPring-8  
  function_category:  
  - https://matvoc.nims.go.jp/entry/Q30  
instrument_managing_organization:  
| instrument_identifier: instrument_00001  
| organization: JASRI
```

MDR Schema



Comparison of metadata schemas around MDR XAFS DB



	XAFS Metadata	DICE common messaging format	MDR Schema
Support scientific metadata properties?	Yes	Yes	Partially yes
Research domain specific?	Yes	No	No
Format	YAML, JSON or TSV	XML, JSON	YAML, JSON
Metadata structure	deeply-nested	deeply-nested	single-nested
Human-friendly?	?	No	Yes(?)



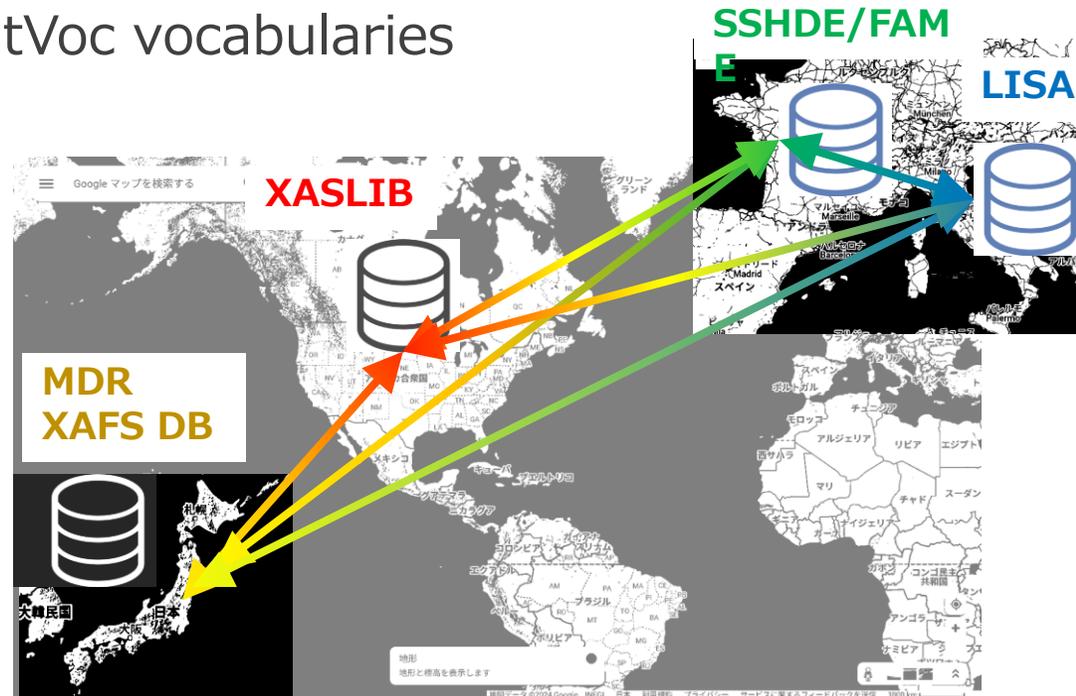
advanced case study: International XAFS DB Portal



International XAFS DB Portal



- Cross-search for MDR XAFS DB and other three XAFS databases in the world
 - SSHADE/FAME (France)
 - XASLIB (US)
 - LISA XAS Database (Italy)
- All datasets are linked with MatVoc vocabularies
- <https://ixdb.jxafs.org/>





International XAFS DB Portal

Absorption edge search

Absorption element :

Edge :

Material name search

Material name containing:
(Chemical formula, customary name, etc.)



International XAFS DB Portal

Material name containing: 銅

[Q1426](#) : [Copper](#)

[Q1412](#) : [Copper acetate](#)

[Q2319](#) : [Copper bis\(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-3,5-heptanedionate\)](#)

[Q1393](#) : [Copper chromite](#)

[Q1409](#) : [Copper fluoride](#)

[Q1428](#) : [Copper molybdate](#)

[Q889](#) : [Copper nickel](#)

[Q1413](#) : [Copper nitrate, hydrous](#)

[Q1417](#) : [Copper nitride](#)

[Q1410](#) : [Copper phthalocyanine](#)

[Q1433](#) : [Copper tungstate](#)

[Q1851](#) : [Copper\(I\) chloride, anhydrous](#)



International XAFS DB Portal

Links for Copper(I) sulfide

<https://xaslib.xrayabsorption.org/spectrum/86/> (IXAS)
<https://mdr.nims.go.jp/concern/datasets/9p290d467> (KEK)
<https://mdr.nims.go.jp/concern/datasets/bk128f46k> (KEK)
<https://mdr.nims.go.jp/concern/datasets/sx61dq71s> (KEK)
<https://mdr.nims.go.jp/concern/datasets/9306t179v> (SPring-8)
<https://mdr.nims.go.jp/concern/datasets/pv63g2653> (SPring-8)

Related crystal structures

[F m -3 m](#)
[P 1 21/c 1](#)
[P 43 21 2](#)
[P 63/m m c](#)

Link to MDR XAFS DB and other XAFS databases associated with the entity



Related COD ID List for Copper(I) sulfide F m -3 m

[return](#)

[Return To Top](#)

[1530508](#)

[1532316](#)

Link to
Crystallography Open
Database

Crystallography Open Database

COD Home

[Home](#)
[What's new?](#)

Accessing COD Data

[Browse](#)
[Search](#)
[Search by structural formula](#)

Add Your Data

[Deposit your data](#)
[Manage depositions](#)
[Manage/release prepublications](#)

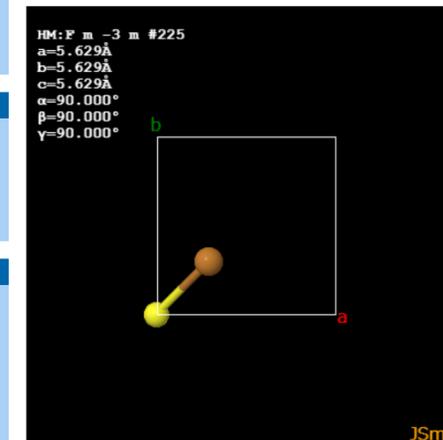
Documentation

[COD Wiki](#)
[Obtaining COD](#)
[License](#)
[Privacy and GDPR](#)
[Querying COD](#)
[Citing COD](#)
[COD Mirrors](#)
[Advice to donators](#)
[Useful links](#)

Information card for entry 1530508

[1530507](#) << [1530508](#) >> [1530509](#)

Preview

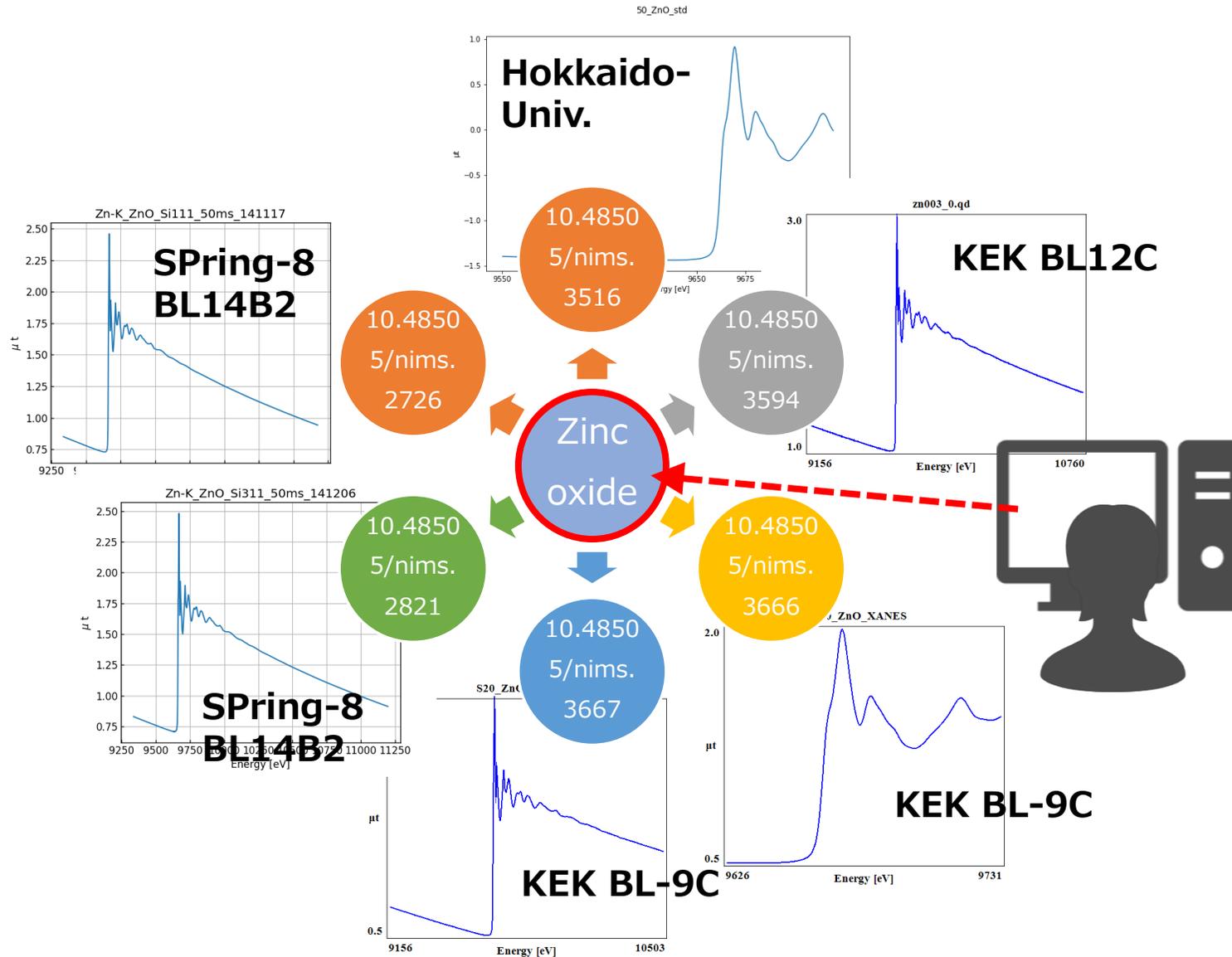


Coordinates [1530508.cif](#)

<https://www.crystallography.net/cod/1530508.html>

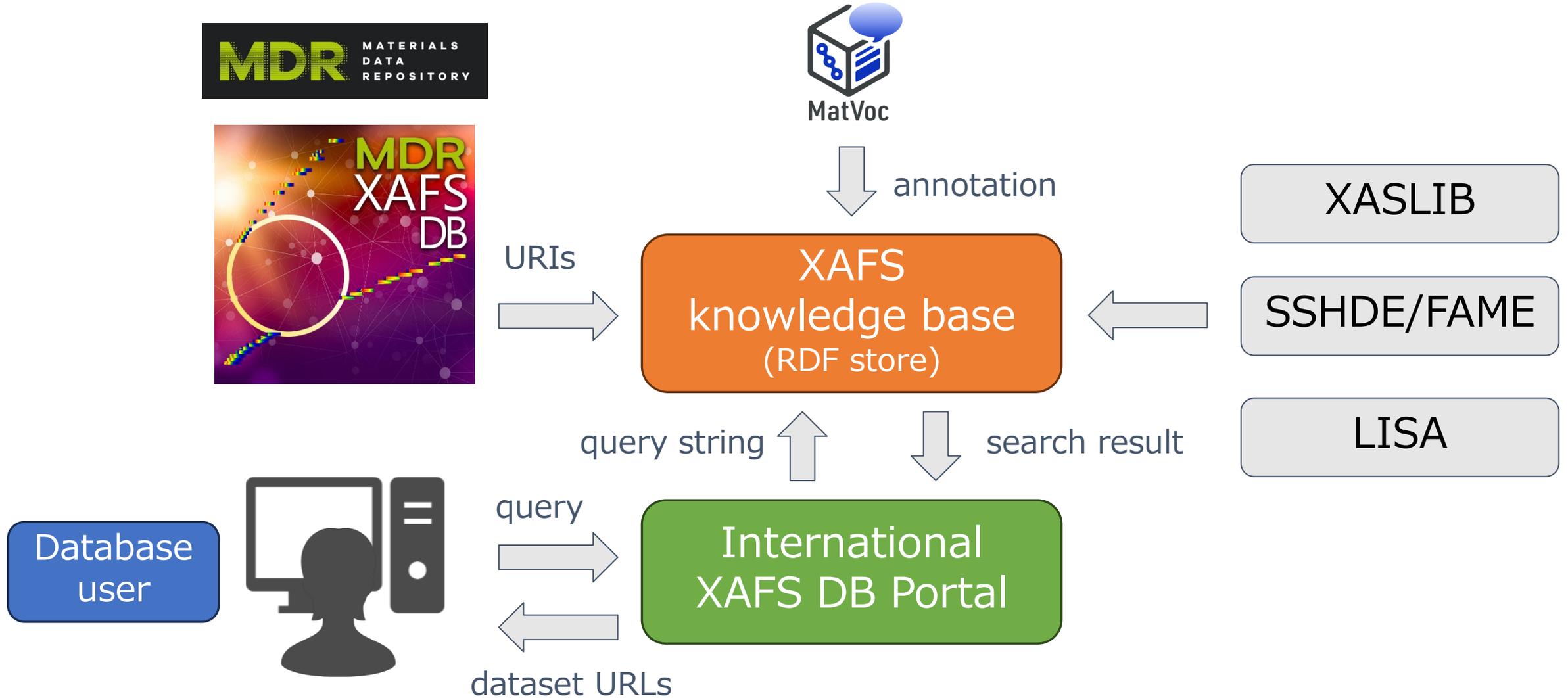


Linking metadata using MatVoc





XAFS knowledge base





Lessons learned

- One big metadata schema does not fit all actually
- Everyone says, “Metadata is important”, but the meaning depends on the context
 - Researchers, engineers, and librarians have different viewpoints on metadata and its use
 - Especially we should consider researcher-friendly metadata creation environment
- Browse and search features are essential in research data management even if they are basic implementations and have basic metadata
 - It is difficult for even researchers and data curators to grasp the whole picture of their datasets
- Identifier (for datasets and vocabularies) is the key to tame diverse research data and their domain-specific metadata



Further plans

- Support querying MatVoc URIs in MDR REST API
- Add MatVoc URIs to datasets previously deposited on MDR
- Add MatVoc URIs to datasets on other DICE services
- Expand MatVoc vocabulary for a focused domain of materials and enhance findability of those data
- Linking materials to their crystallographic information through MatVoc
- **Cross-linking more XAFS databases around the world**



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