

Growing  
**ideas**  
through  
**networks**

Cost Action CA 18237

**EU**dapho  
**base**

# Edaphobase Data Structures

Online Training Course 04 September, 2020

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## Edaphobase Data Structures

Block I

- I. Edaphobase's „data philosophy“
- II. Overview of data structures & connections  
Info: Where to find further information
- III. Data on sources  
Info: How personal data is handled
- IV. Data on taxonomy

Block II

- V. Data on spatial geography (sites of occurrence)
- VI. Data on soil-biodiversity observations  
Info: Harmonization of quantitative data
- VII. Data on (site) environmental conditions  
Info: Data & Metadata

Block III

- VIII. Data on methodology
- IX. For experts: Edaphobase's technical data-model

**I. Edaphobase's „data philosophy“**

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All databases are structured  
according to their **goals**

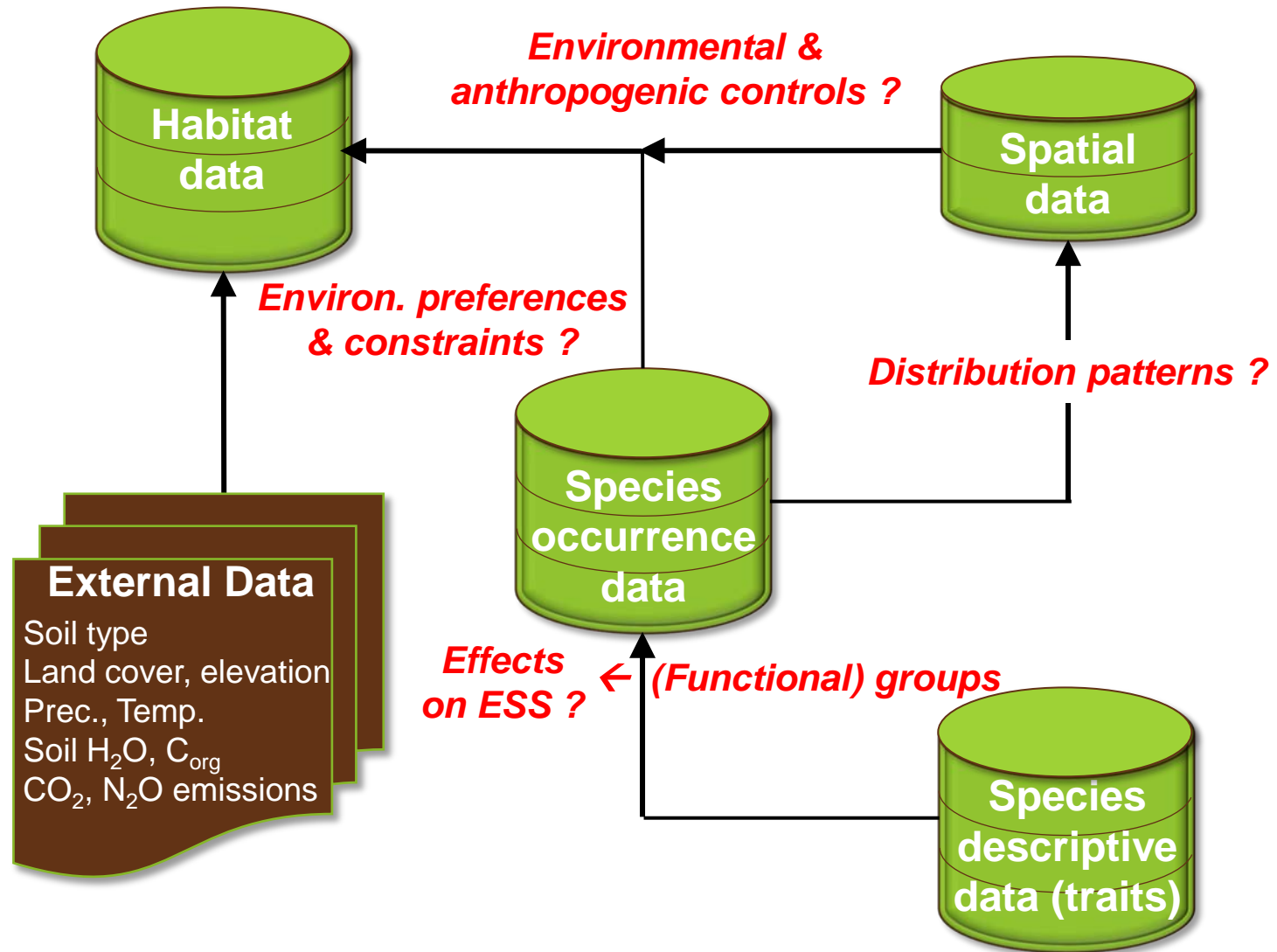
especially: how the data is to be (re-)used  
(= „requirements“)

**Edaphobase** explicitly developed to understand:

Soil biodiversity ecology

- **Species distribution (and its drivers)**
- **Species autecology (niche space)**
- **Soil-biodiversity of areas or habitat types**
- ***Soil-biodiversity functional roles***

# Intended answerable questions with Edaphobase:



## Further Edaphobase intentions:

- Integrate heterogeneous sources
- Accommodate diverse (data-provider) purposes
  - Data repository (→ DOIs)
  - Research data management (RDM)
    - Biodiversity surveys & monitoring programmes*
    - Research projects*
    - Ecotoxicology*
    - Experiments*
    - ...
  - Collection management
- Structure & harmonize to allow common data re-use
- Unsure high data quality
- Follow FAIR principles

# Edaphobase ≠ Data Repository

(storing „stand alone“ tables of data)



**Edaphobase = a Data Warehouse**  
(integrating, harmonizing and storing all data together)

*(Definition á Kimball & Ross 2002, Inmon 2005):*

- *Subject-oriented; Domain specific (= soil biodiversity)*
- *Integrate and structure heterogeneous data (from multiple sources)*
- *Data homogeneously structured for common query and analysis*
- *Time-variant; i.e., data from different acquisition dates together*
- *Non-volatile; i.e., once data is stored, it should not be altered*  
→ *possible corrections*

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I. Edaphobase's „data philosophy“

## II. Overview of data structures & connections

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➔ **> 600 data fields (variables)**  
**= options !**

Most not required (many rarely used)

➔ ***Edaphobase = complex***

Info: Data & Metadata

VIII. Data on methodology

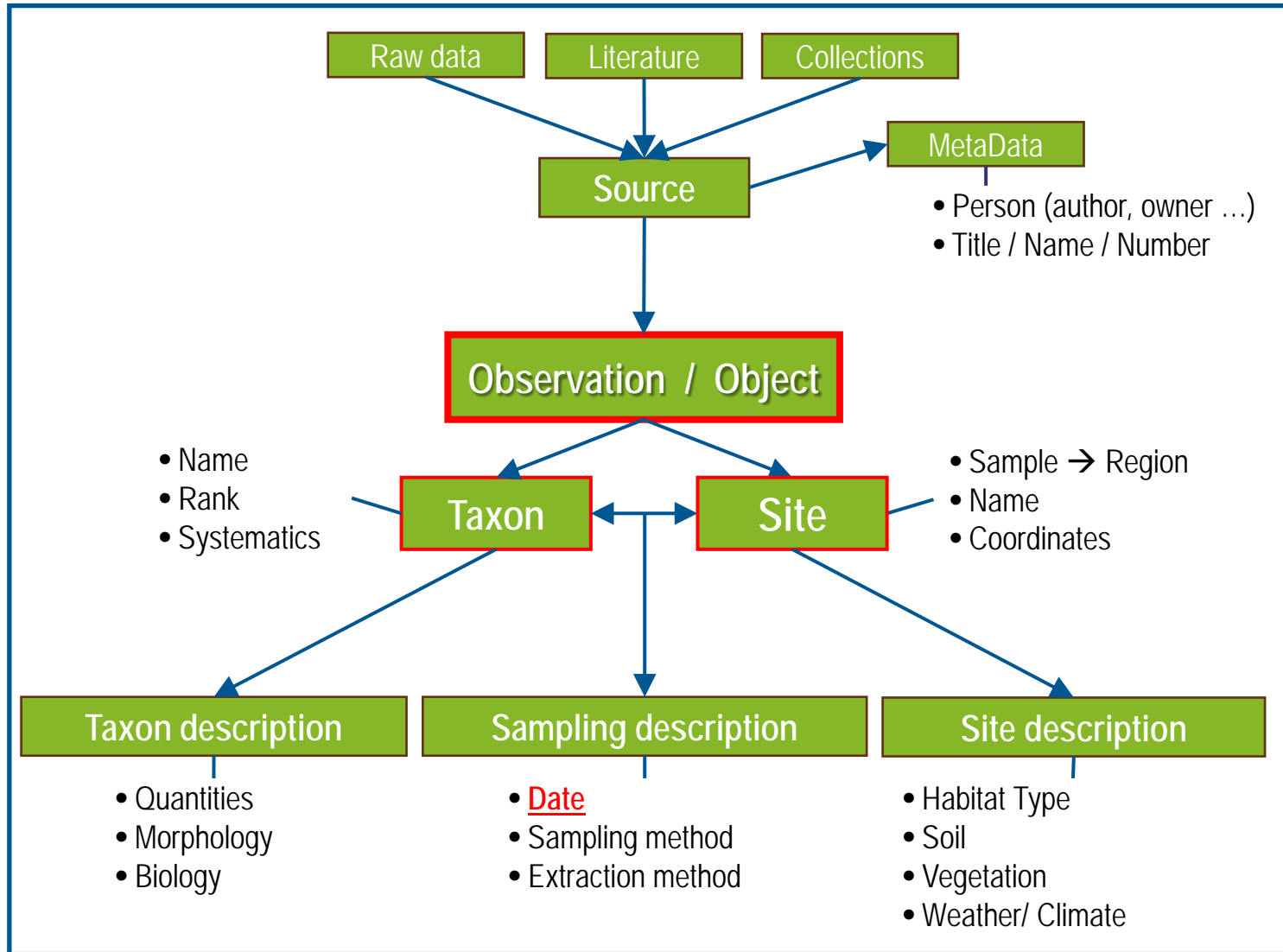
IX. For experts: Edaphobase's technical data-model

## Edaphobase data model structured to assess:

- What** → Which taxa & their quantities
- Where** → Which sites of occurrence
- When** → Sampling dates/periods
- Which conditions** → Site environmental (meta)data
- Who** → Who sampled; Data owners
- How** → Methodological metadata

# Edaphobase Overview

## General data-model concept



# Edaphobase Overview

## Common data sheets & Edaphobase data linkage

### SITE (Spatial / Habitat data)

Biogeo-region	Country	Site	Plot	Sample	Lat	Long	Soil ...	...	Habi-tat...	...	Veg./ Land Use...	...
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

via Site

### TAXON (Species occurrence data)

Species	Site	Sampling date	Abund.	Biomass*	Length*	Width*
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\* Measured; spp overall averages in descriptive data

# Edaphobase Overview

## Common data sheets & Edaphobase data linkage

### SITE (Spatial / Habitat data)

Biogeo-region	Country	Site	Plot	Sample	Lat	Long	Soil ...	...	Habi-tat...	...	Veg./ Land Use...	...
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

via Site

(+ Date)

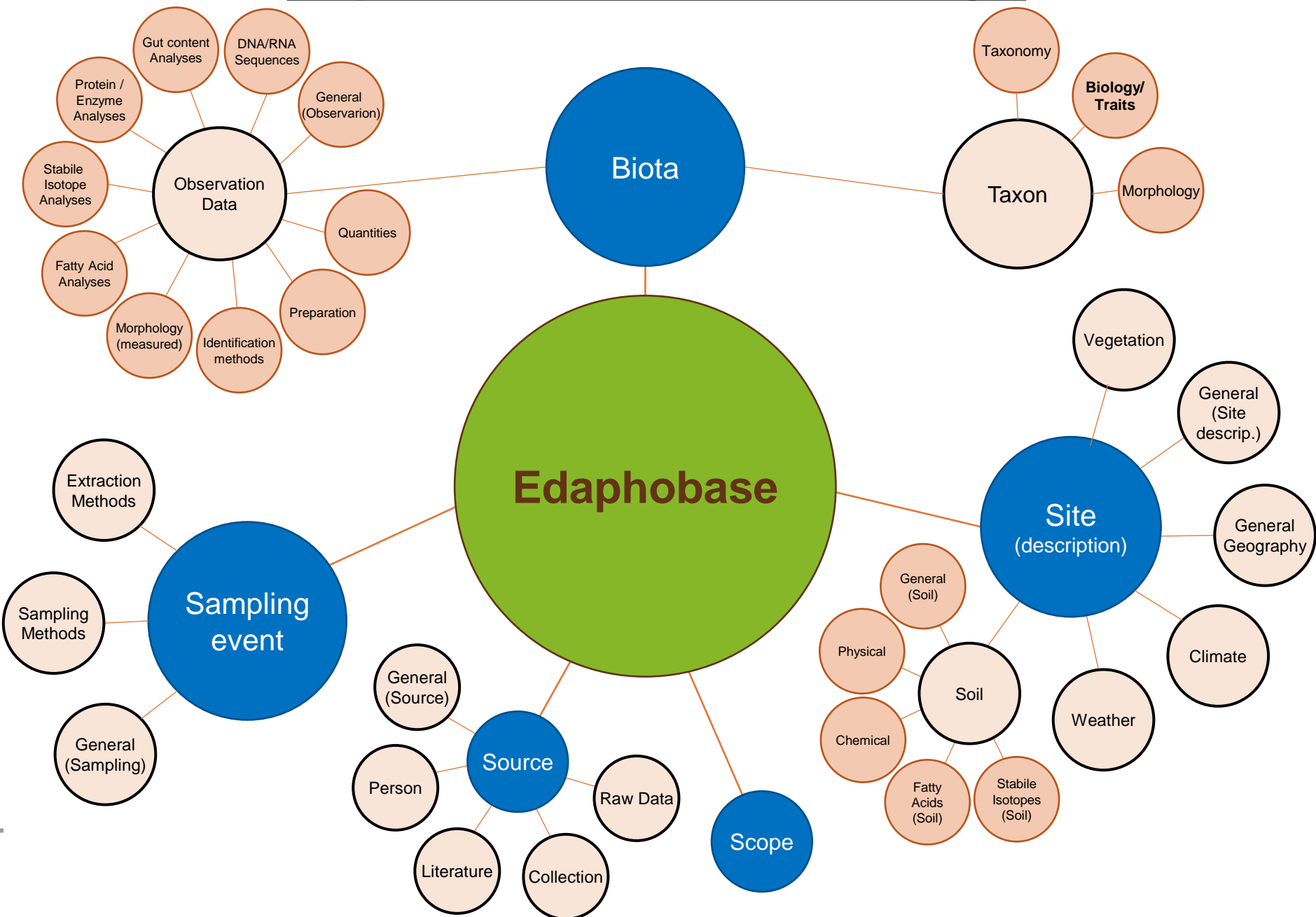
= Observation

### TAXON (Species occurrence data)

Species	Site	Sampling date	Abund.	Biomass*	Length*	Width*
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\* Measured; spp overall averages in descriptive data

# Edaphobase data structures and linkages



Further Info

→ [edaphobase.org](http://edaphobase.org) // Nextcloud / Edaphobase – Information fields (variables)

## Edaphobase-Information fields\_2019v\_EN\_public version.xlsx - Microsoft Excel

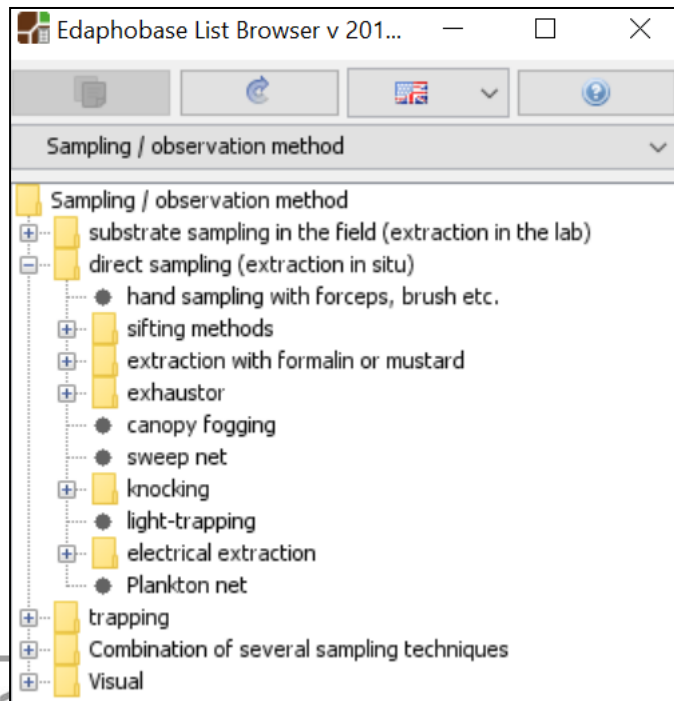
Class	Subclass	Data-field Name	Description	Type	Unit	Hierarchical level	Status
<b>General geographical information pertaining to sampling/study site(s)</b>							
Site description	General geography	Country	Name of country (political)	List		Variable (Observation region, site, or plot)	
Site description	General geography	Federal "state"	For federal states (i.e., of Germany), provinces, regions, cantons etc.; please refer to corresponding selection list. The available list depends on the entry in the "Country" data field	List		Variable (Observation region, site, or plot)	
Site description	General geography	Observation region	Larger geographical unit (e.g., mountain ranges, plains), surrounding region, locatable larger area, large neighboring area. -> <b>Sites are assigned within a region</b> Actual location of sampling/study, spatially coherent, generally homogeneous in its habitat properties (biotope type, soil type, land use type ..., manipulation).	Text		Observation region	A
Site description	General geography	Observation site	* <b>Mandatory</b> field as site name or site code (if possible as named in source). -> <b>May encompass several plots</b> <b>This geographic hierarchical level is the data-harmonization "site"-level used for comparisons</b> <i>(e.g., see previous table) and in the meta-analysis</i>	Text		Observation site	*A

# Categorical variables

(i.e. Taxonomy, Habitat types, Soil types, Soil Horizon, etc.)

→ Standardized vocabularies („authority lists“)  
(data comparability, avoids typo errors)

„Edaphobase selection-list browser“  
slb\_v0.20180419.exe



Further Info

→ [edaphobase.org](http://edaphobase.org)

→ Nextcloud \  
Edaphobase - Information Fields (variables) \  
Authority List Browser

data

Edaphobase-Information fields\_2017v\_EN\_public version.xlsx

Readme - Edaphobase Browser for selection lists.txt

slb\_v0.20180419.exe

slb\_v0.20180419.jar



# Categorical variables

(i.e. Taxonomy, Habitat types, Soil types, Soil horizon, etc.)

→ Standardized vocabularies („authority lists“)  
(data comparability, avoids typo errors)

Use international standards  
(where available)  
i.e., ISO, EUNIS, CORINE, WRB etc.

→ Amendable

Further Info

[Edaphobase.org /](http://Edaphobase.org/)  
[Data Base Content and Structure /](#)  
[Standardized vocabulary for categorical variables](#)

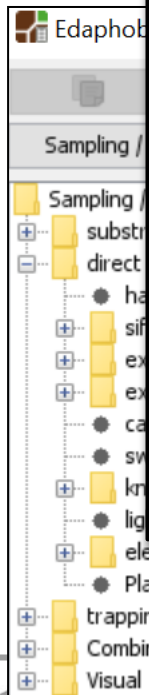
ion Fields (variables)\

7v\_EN\_public version.xlsx

selection lists.txt

slb\_v0.20180419.exe

slb\_v0.20180419.jar



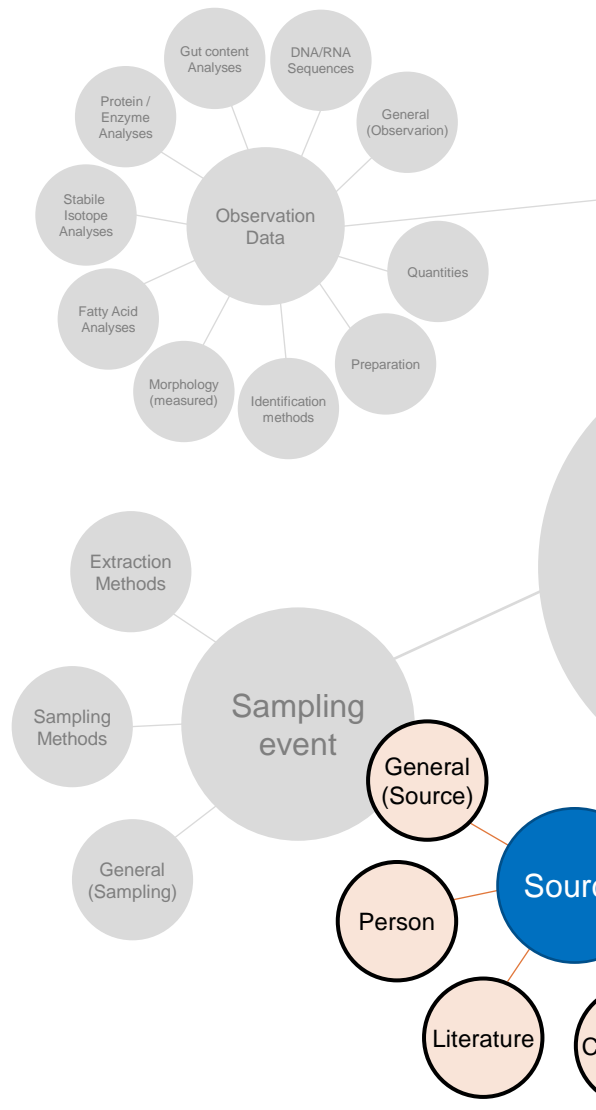
# Database Vocabulary!

(so we're all on the same page today)

## Data set

Data record →

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
1	Taxon	Count in sample(s)	Country	Observation area	Observation site	Latitude	Longitude	
2	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Schlitterley (EB_NW33)	50.6203	6.4938	Eichen
3	Ligidium hypnorum (Cuvier, 1792)	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Naturwald Nord (EB_NW23)	50.5698	6.3601	boden
4	Trichoniscus	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Langerscheid 2 (EB_NW22)	50.5461	6.3405	boden
5	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Langerscheid 1 (EB_NW13)	50.5500	6.3415	Fichten
6	Trichoniscus	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Langerscheid 2 (EB_NW22)	50.5461	6.3405	boden
7	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Schlitterley (EB_NW33)	50.6203	6.4938	Eichen
8	Ligidium hypnorum (Cuvier, 1792)	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Langerscheid 1 (EB_NW13)	50.5500	6.3415	Fichten
9	Porcellio scaber Latreille, 1804	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Weiersheld (EB_NW32)	50.6263	6.4154	Eichen
10	Trichoniscus	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Naturwald Nord (EB_NW23)	50.5698	6.3601	boden
11	Porcellio scaber Latreille, 1804	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Schlitterley (EB_NW33)	50.6203	6.4938	Eichen
12	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Langerscheid 1 (EB_NW13)	50.5500	6.3415	Fichten
13	Philoscia	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Weiersheld (EB_NW32)	50.6263	6.4154	Eichen
14	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Weiersheld (EB_NW32)	50.6263	6.4154	Eichen
15	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Langerscheid 1 (EB_NW13)	50.5500	6.3415	Fichten
16	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Schlitterley (EB_NW33)	50.6203	6.4938	Eichen
17	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Langerscheid 1 (EB_NW13)	50.5500	6.3415	Fichten
18	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	2	Germany	NP Eifel	B265 Gemünd (EB_NW31)	50.5803	6.5020	Eichen
19	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Wächterbuche (EB_NW21)	50.5402	6.3382	boden
20	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Schlitterley (EB_NW33)	50.6203	6.4938	Eichen
21	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	1	Germany	NP Eifel	B265 Gemünd (EB_NW31)	50.5803	6.5020	Eichen
22	Philoscia	1	Germany	NP Eifel	B265 Gemünd (EB_NW31)	50.5803	6.5020	Eichen
23	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Wächterbuche (EB_NW21)	50.5402	6.3382	boden
24	Oniscus asellus Linnaeus, 1758	1	Germany	NP Eifel	Naturwald Nord (EB_NW23)	50.5698	6.3601	boden



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# Edaphobase Data Sources

## Raw data

valid taxon	country	district	Habitat type
237,459	France (FR)	Midi-Pyrénées (FR-M)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,064	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,139	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,163	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,169	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,208	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,226	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,246	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,292	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,545	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,624	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Fir-spruce plantations (4
228,650	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Fir-spruce plantations (4
228,672	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Fir-spruce plantations (4
228,738	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,757	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
231,202	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Riparian and forest fring
231,293	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Riparian and forest fring
232,143	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
232,160	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
233,258	Czech Republic ...	South Moravian Region (Jihomoravský kra...	Natural dry grasslands a
233,259	Czech Republic ...	South Moravian Region (Jihomoravský kra...	Natural dry grasslands a
233,330	Czech Republic ...	South Moravian Region (Jihomoravský kra...	Natural dry grasslands a

## Literature



## Collections



- Research projects
- Monitoring results
- Student courses
- Personal observations

- Journal articles
- Books
- Reports
- „Grey“ literature

- Museum collections
- Sub-collections
- Collection objects
- Types

# Edaphobase Data Sources

## Raw data

valid taxon	country	district	Habitat type
237,459	France (FR)	Midi-Pyrénées (FR-M)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,064	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,139	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,163	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,168	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,208	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,226	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,246	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,292	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,545	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
228,624	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Fir-spruce plantations (4
228,650	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Fir-spruce plantations (4
228,672	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Fir-spruce plantations (4
228,738	Germany (DE)	Baden-Württemberg (DE-BW)	Deciduous and mixed ve
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233,330	Czech Republic ...	South Moravian Region (Jihomoravský kra...	Natural dry grasslands a

- Dataset name
- Project title
- Subproject
- PI / Data Owner
- ...

## Literature



- Article / Chapter title
- Journal / Book
- Pages
- Authors
- ...

## Collections



- Collection name
- Sub-collection name
- Collection object nr.
- Type (Y/N)
- ...

# Edaphobase Data Sources

Raw data

Further Info

Collections

valid taxon	country
237,459	Ceratophysella ... France (FR)
228,064	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
228,139	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
228,163	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
228,169	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
228,208	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
228,226	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
228,246	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
228,292	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
228,545	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
228,624	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
228,650	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
228,672	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
228,738	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
228,757	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
231,202	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
231,293	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
232,143	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
232,160	Ceratophysella ... Germany (DE)
233,258	Ceratophysella ... Czech Repub...
233,259	Ceratophysella ... Czech Repub...
233,330	Ceratophysella ... Czech Repub...

## Personal Information:

- Name (first name, family name)
- Title
- Institution
- Address
- E-Mail address
- (Phone number)

→ Only „Name“ is shown online! (to cite data source!)

→ Edaphobase does **not** share with **any** external source!

- |                   |                           |                         |
|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| • Data            | • Article / Chapter title | • Collection object nr. |
| • Project         | • Pages                   | • Type (Y/N)            |
| • Subproject      | • ...                     | • ...                   |
| • PI / Data Owner |                           |                         |
| • ...             |                           |                         |



# Sampling Scope

(Background information on purpose of data set)

## ➤ **Needed for data (re-)use**

(filtering appropriate data in analysis tools)

i.e., not appropriate:

- single observations as site representative
- species-level studies in community-level analyses
- presence/absence data in quantitative regressions

### 3 (binary) variables:

Sampling Effort

→ *single sample / multiple samples*

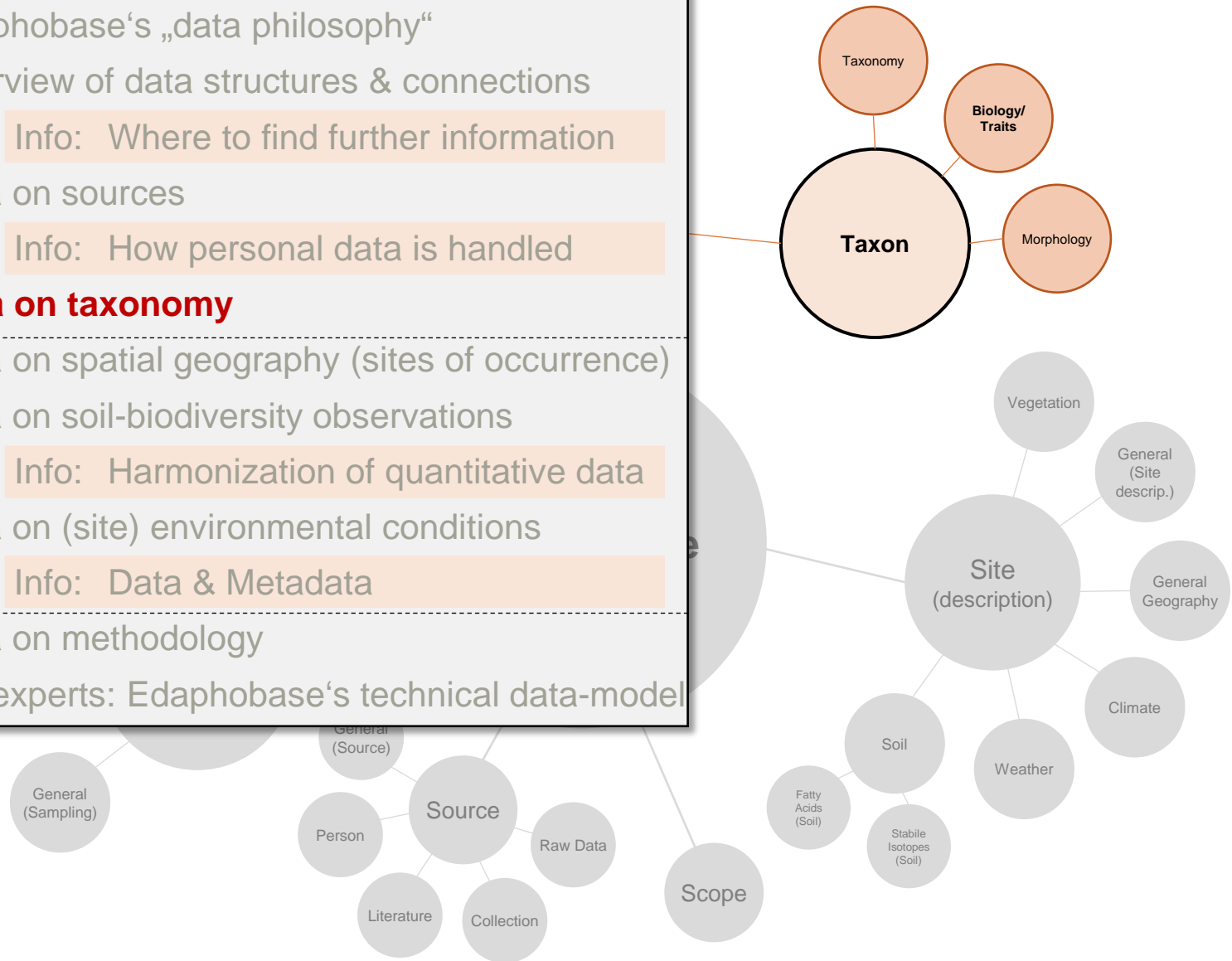
Quantification level

→ *qualitative / quantitative*

Species composition level

→ *single species / community (spp. composition)*

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# Edaphobase Taxonomic “Backbone”

Only full taxonomic nomenclature = distinct & unambiguous  
(*data comparability!*)

Includes:

- taxon name (i.e., genus, species epithet)
- describing author(s)
- year of description
- brackets or not

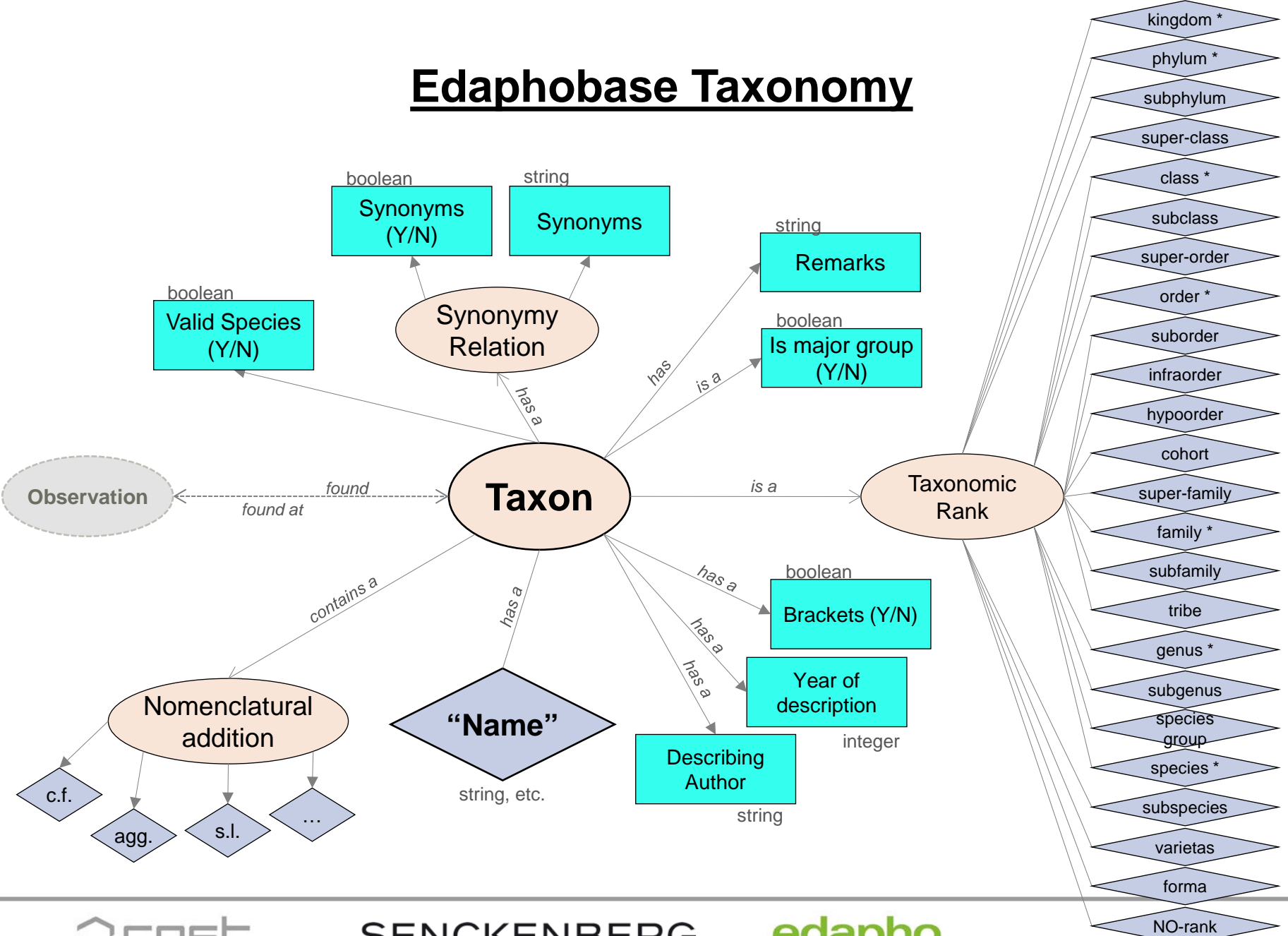
➤ follows int'l nomenclatural rules

Edaphobase maintains a taxonomic „backbone“ for all included organism groups

- Based on authoritative sources (i.e., Fauna Europaea, collembola.org, int'l experts)
- As up to date as possible
- Avoids typographic errors (*data comparability!*)
- Includes synonym relationships
- Amendable! (new taxa can be added as needed)

→ ***Taxonomic review boards needed!***

# Edaphobase Taxonomy



# Edaphobase Taxonomy → Traits

## *Work in Progress*

Currently very rudimentary

- **Trophic level**
- **Nematode feeding types**
- **Life form types (earthworm, etc.)**
- **(many) morphological characters**
- ...

**Plan → strongly expand!**

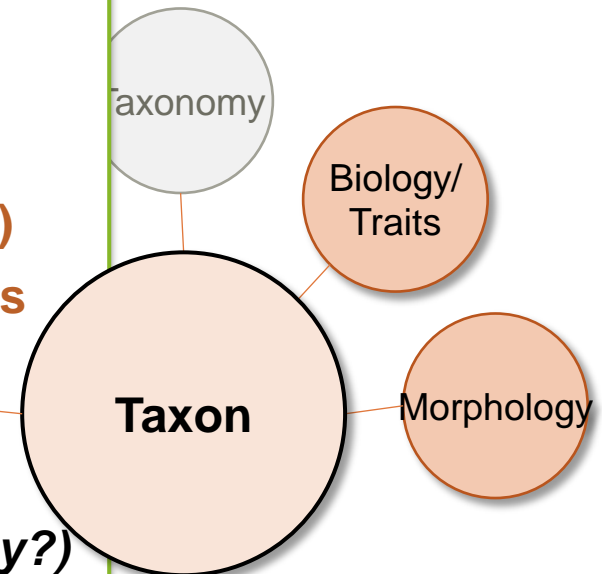
*(links to, e.g., BETSI, EcoTaxonomy?)*

➤ **Behavioural / Physiological traits**

**Effect traits**

**Response Traits**

➤ **Morphological characters**



# Edaphobase Taxonomy → Traits

## *Work in Progress*

Currently very rudimentary

- Trophic level
- Nematode feeding types
- Life form types (earthworm, etc.)
- (many) morphological characters
- ...

(lin

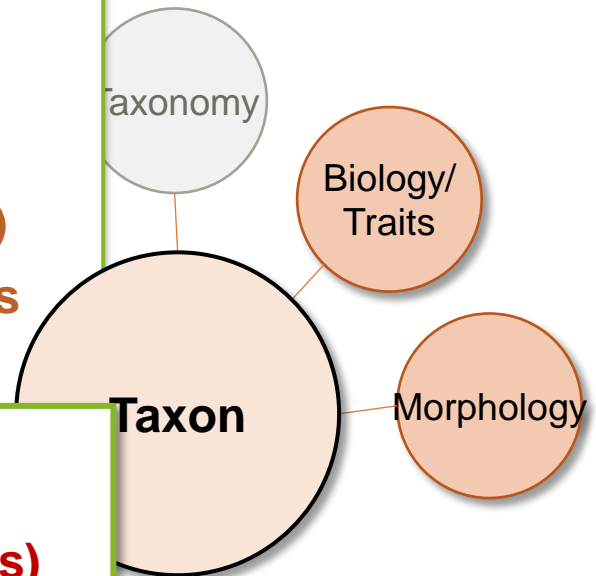


**Linked to the Taxon !  
(not individual measurements)**

**Linked to any systematic level**



**Morphological characters**



# Edaphobase Overview

## Common data sheets & Edaphobase data linkage

### SITE (Spatial / Habitat data)

Biogeo-region	Country	Site	Plot	Sample	Lat	Long	Soil ...	...	Habi-tat...	...	Veg./ Land Use...	...
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

via Site

### TAXON (Species occurrence data)

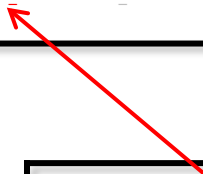
Species	Site	Sampling date	Abund.	Biomass*	Length*	Width*
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

\* Measured; spp overall averages in descriptive data

**SITE (Spatial / Habitat data)**

Biogeo-region	Country	Site	Plot	Sample	Lat	Long	Soil ...	...	Habi-tat...	...	Veg./ Land Use...	...
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Site**



**TAXON  
(Species occurrence data)**

Species	Site	Sampling date	Abund.	Biomass*	Length*	Width*
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Species**



measured; spp overall averages in descriptive data

**TRAITS  
(Species descriptive data)**

Species	Funct. Type*	Endemic/ peregrine	Life stage	Trait <sub>4</sub>	non-native?*
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-

***SITE (Spatial / Habitat data)***

Biogeo-region	Country	Site	Plot	Sample	Lat	Long	Soil ...	...	Habi-tat...	...	Veg./ Land Use...	...
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

**Site**

***TAXON (Species occurrence data)***

Species	Site	Sampling date	Abund.	Biomass*	Length*	Width*
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-	-

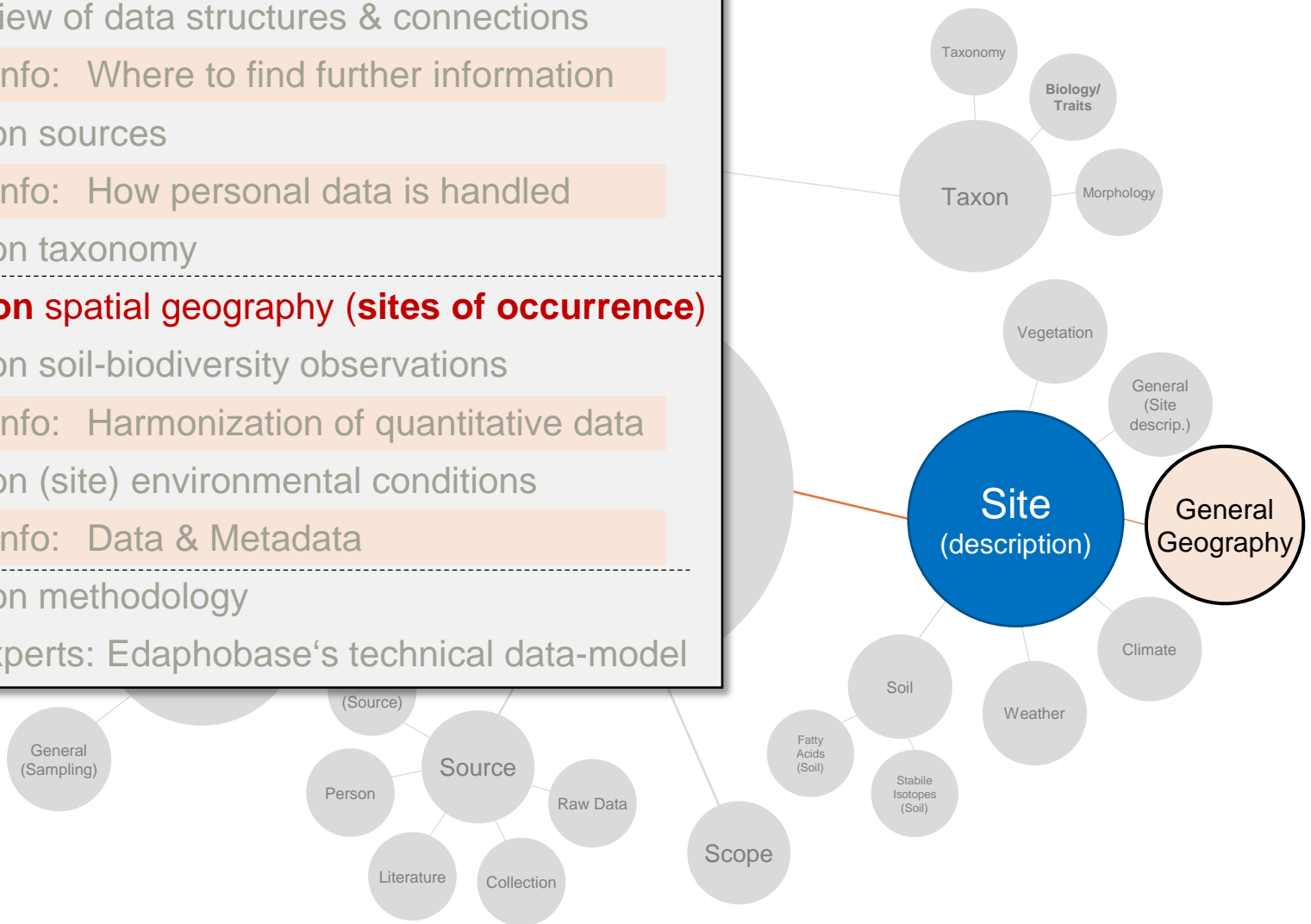
**Species**

measured; spp overall averages in descriptive data

***TRAITS (Species descriptive data)***

Species	Funct. Type*	Endemic/ peregrine	Life stage	Trait <sub>4</sub>	non-native? **
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	-	-

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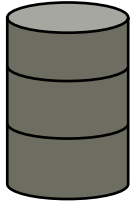




# Edaphobase “Geography”

(*hierarchal spatial relationships*)

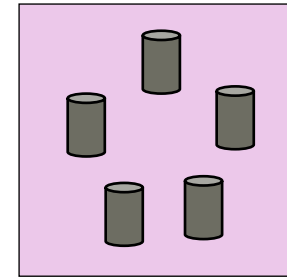
• Sub-Sample



• Sample



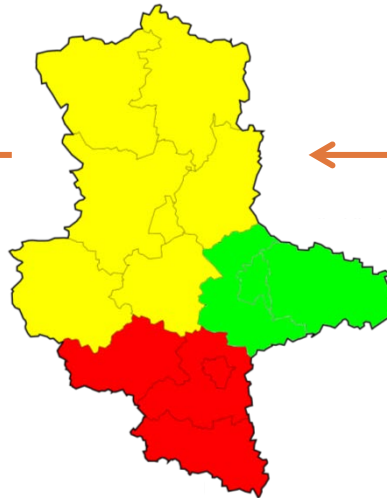
• Plot



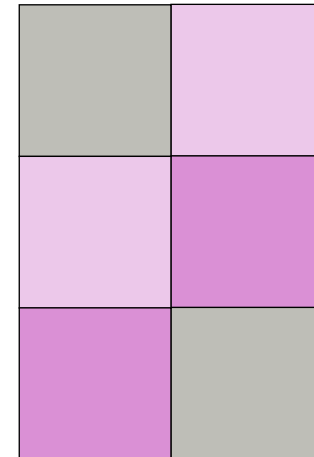
• Country



• „State“ / Region



• Site



# Edaphobase “Geography”

(*hierarchal spatial relationships*)

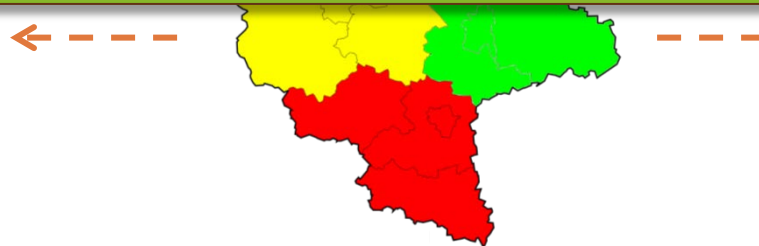
• Sub-Sample

• Sample

• Plot

- **Geo-coordinates !** (+ “radius” [*precision*])
- All data can be added at any hierarchal level
  - coordinates
  - biodiversity
  - site metadata
- **Data harmonization unit = „site“**  
(→ *data comparability*)

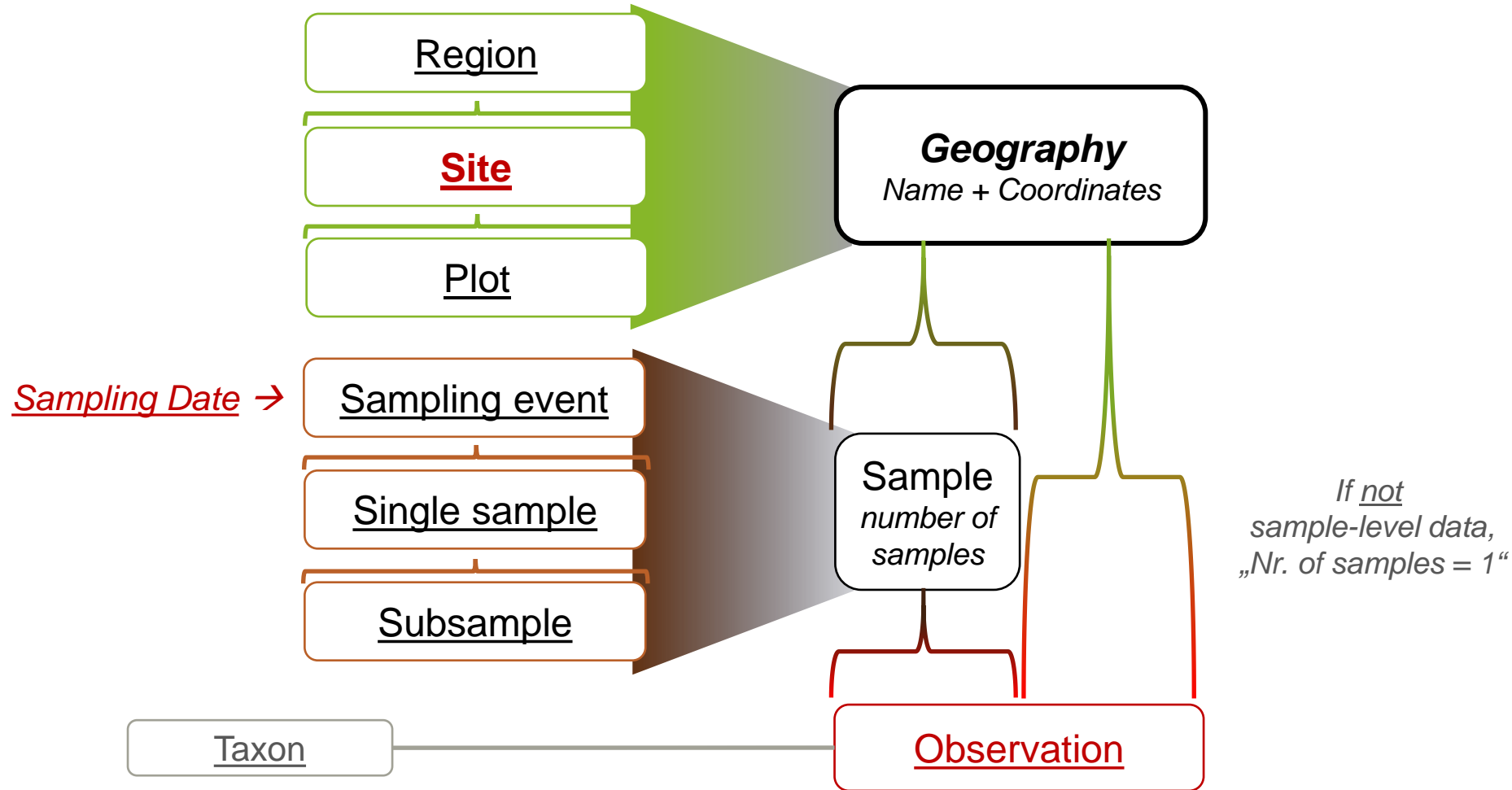
• Coun

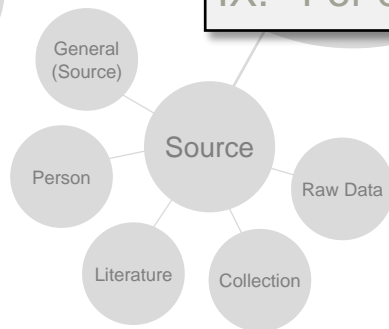
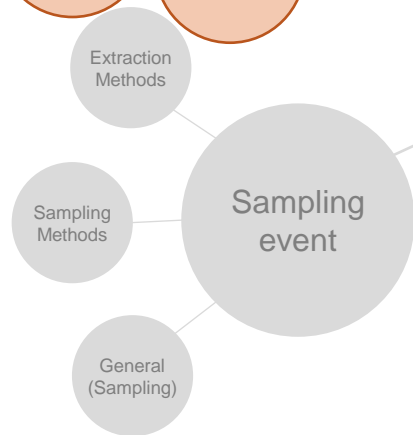
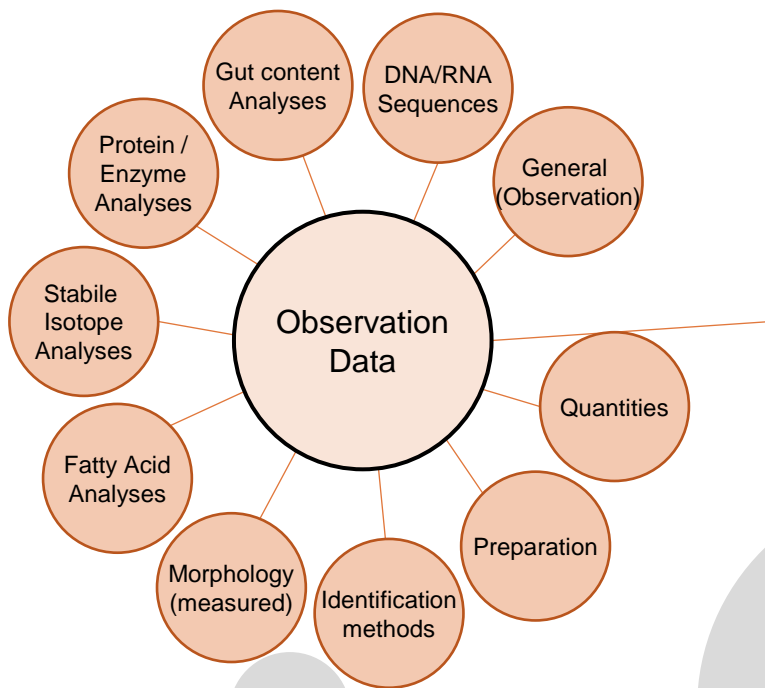


# Edaphobase “Geographical hierarchy”

Variables

Integration in  
Edaphobase data model

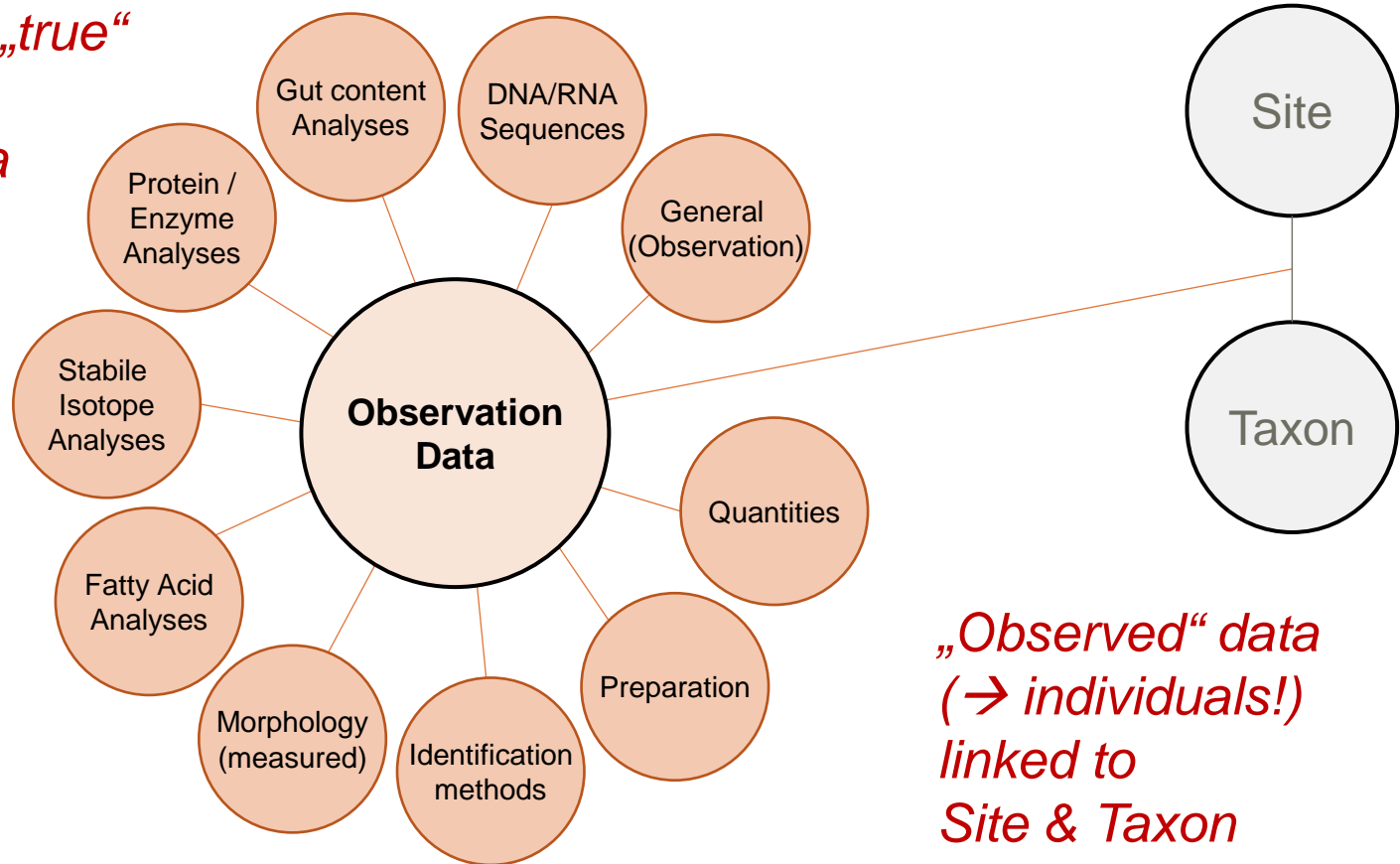




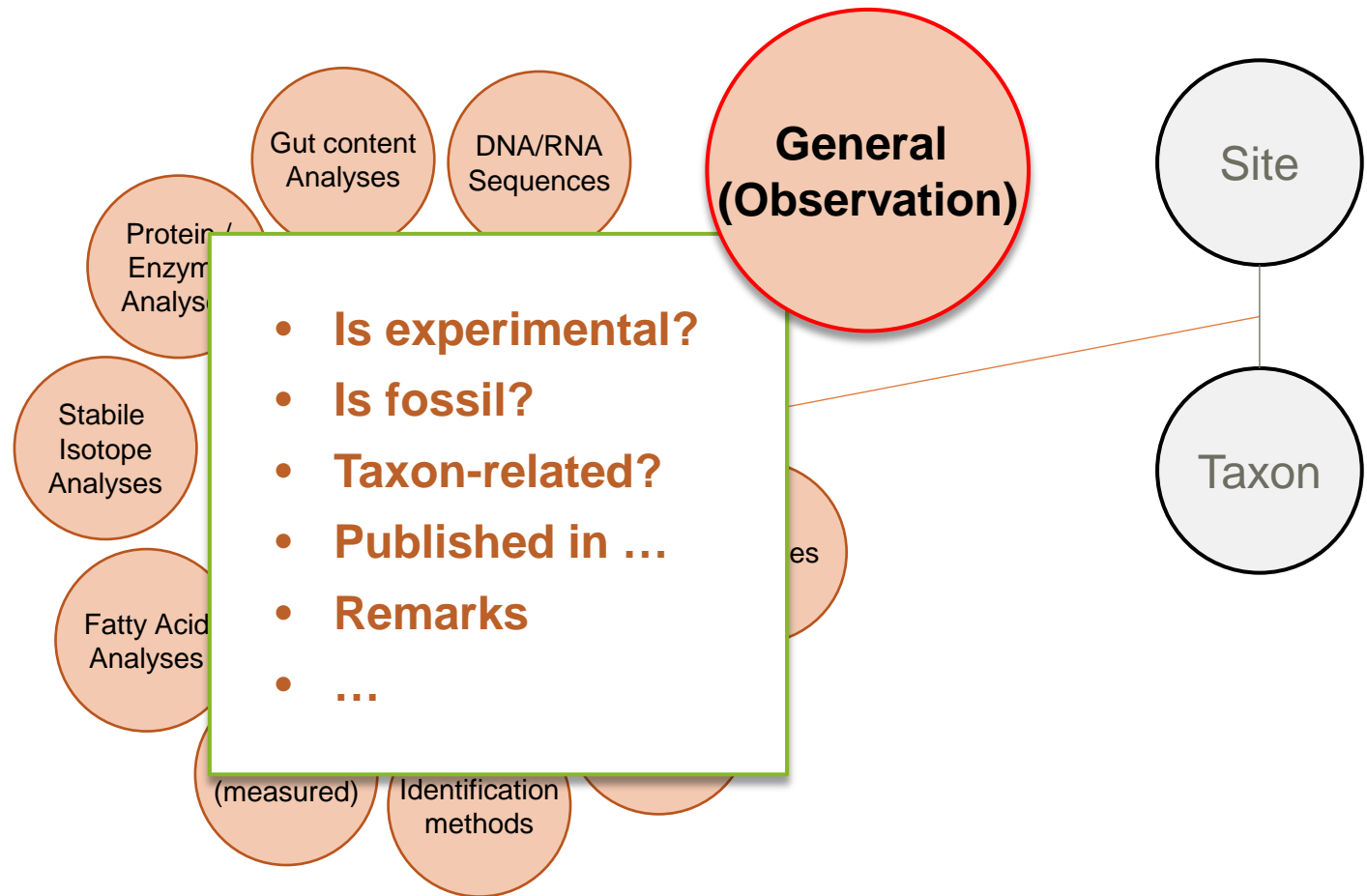
- I. Edaphobase's „data philosophy“
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# Edaphobase Object / Observation

*Represents the „true“  
(= sampled)  
biodiversity data*



# Edaphobase Object / Observation



# Edaphobase Object / Observation

***This is the important biodiv data!***

- **Total ind. in sample (= Counts)**
- **Count in Collection**
- **Abundance (i.e., Ind./m<sup>2</sup>)**
- **Activity density (Ind./Trap/Time)**
- **Dominance or Frequency**
- **Dry or Fresh Weight (*specimen*)**
- **Biomass (*total ind./taxon*)**
- **Sex**
- **Developmental stage**
- ...

**Quantities**

Site

Taxon

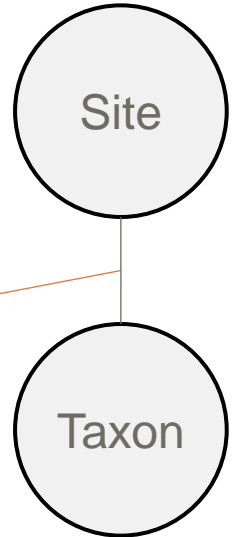
# Edaphobase Object / Observation

*This is the important biodiversity data!*

- Total ind. in sample
- Count in Collection
- Abundance (i.e. %)
- Activity density
- Dominance or evenness
- Dry or Fresh Weight
- Biomass (total)
- Sex
- Developmental stage
- ...

***Specimen quantification  
can be linked to any  
spatial scale !***

- Sub-sample
- Sample
- Plot
- Site
- Region
- Country





# Edaphobase Object / Observation

*This is the important biodiv data  
(either*

***Specimen quantification***

Site

## Further Info

**Harmonization** of quantitative species data:

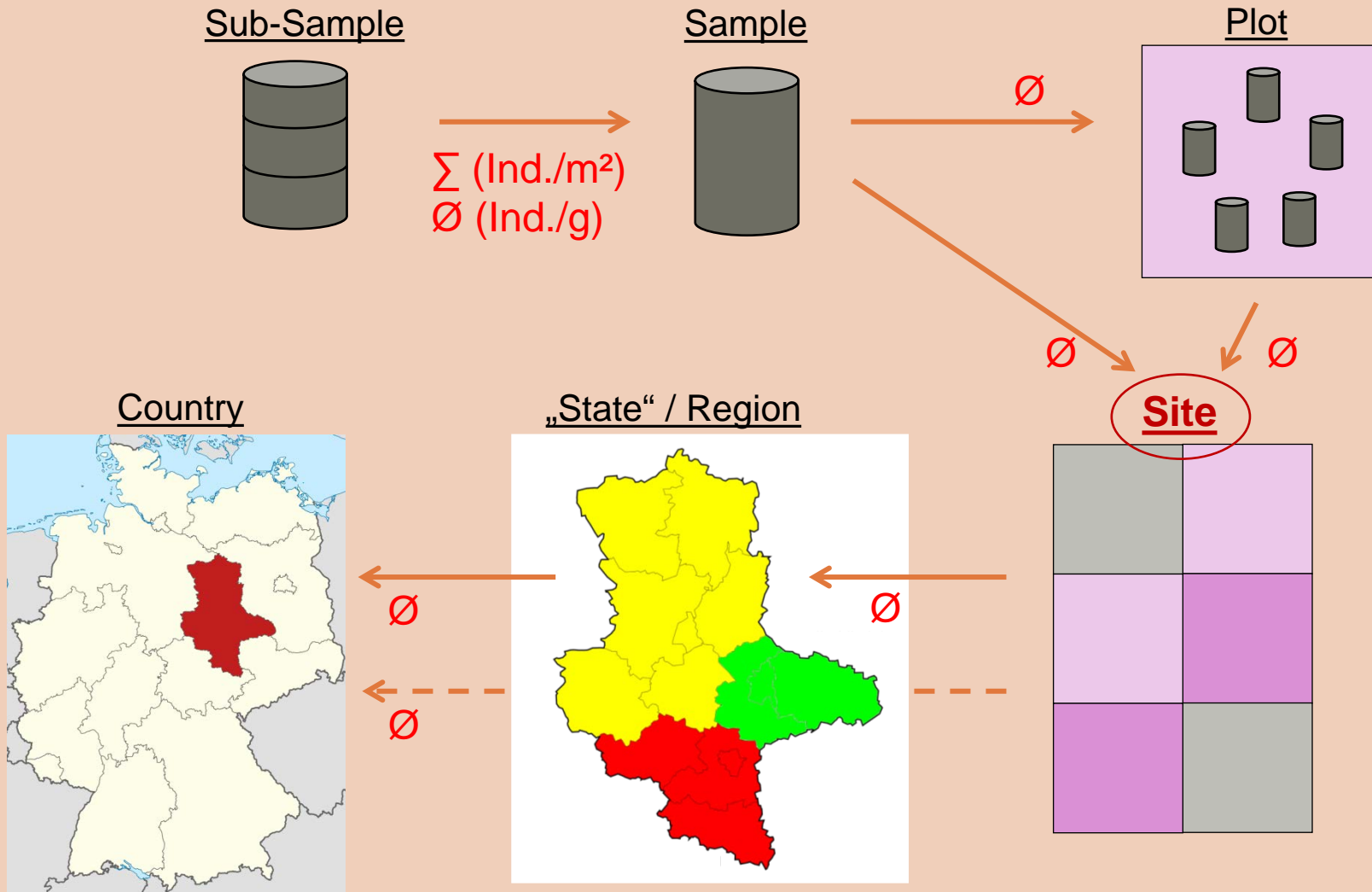
- **Ind./m<sup>2</sup>** (*→ number of samples, surface area or diameter of sample*)
- **Ind./Trap/Time** (*→ number of traps, exposition period*)

- **Developmental**
- ...

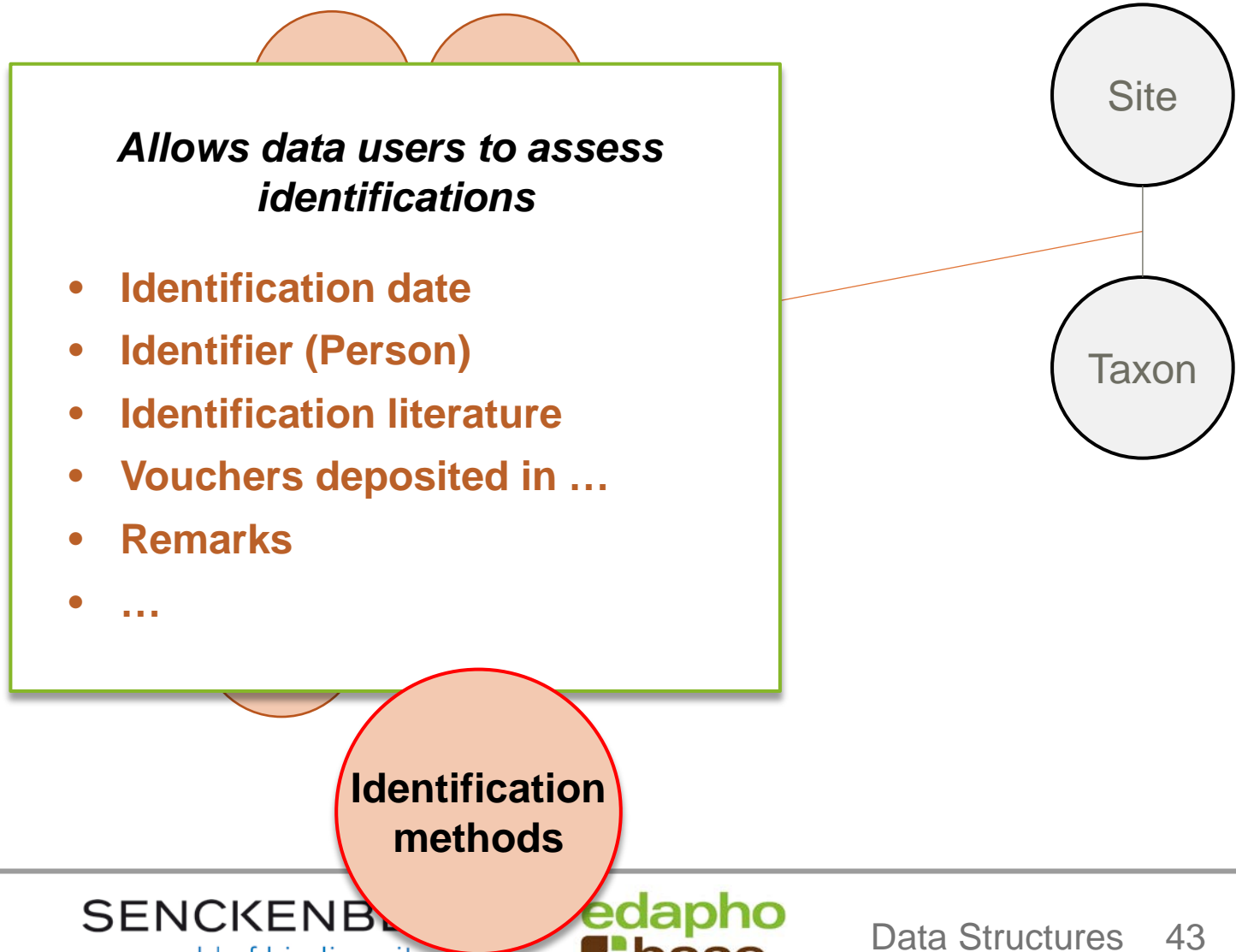
- **Country**

# Further Info

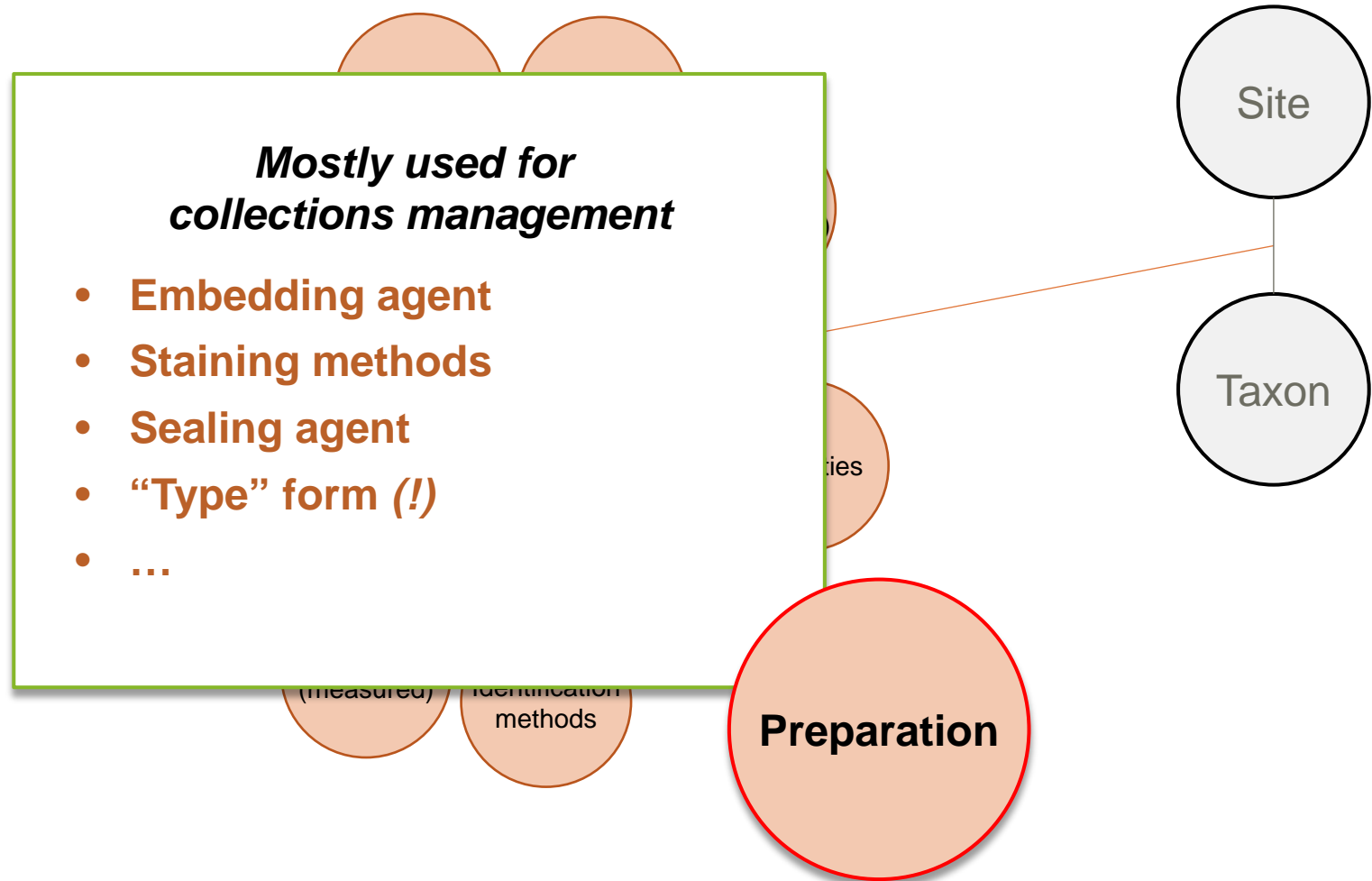
## Spatial harmonization of biodiversity quantities



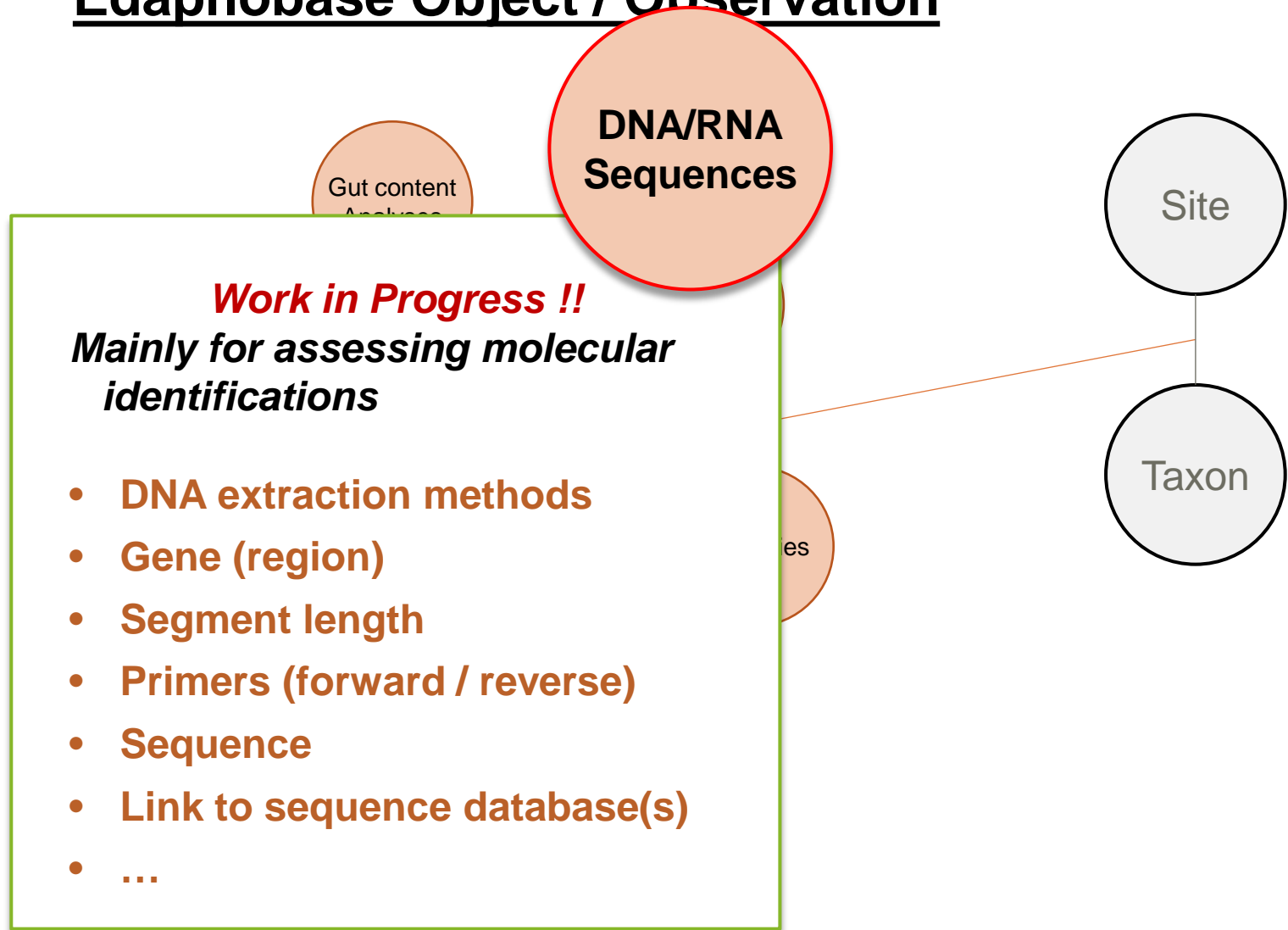
# Edaphobase Object / Observation



# Edaphobase Object / Observation



# Edaphobase Object / Observation



# Edaphobase Object / Observation

Gut content  
Analyses

Protein /  
Enzyme  
Analyses

Stable  
Isotope  
Analyses

Fatty Acid  
Analyses

Morphology  
(measured)

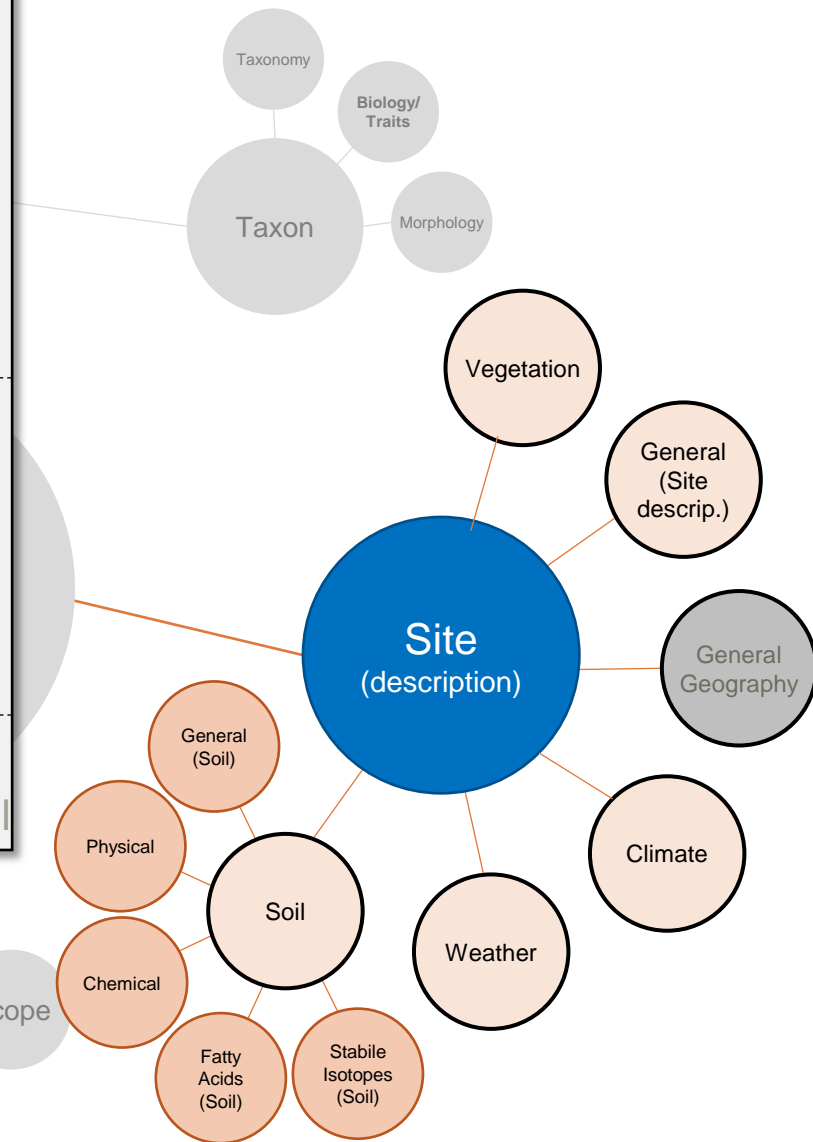
*All of these categories used for  
direct measurements*

- Usually for research data management
- Directly linked to individuals
- “Body part used” also possible
- Input of single FAs, isotopes, etc.
- Units / Some method information

Site

Taxon

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# Edaphobase (environmental) Site description

- **Description date**
- **Habitat Type / Land Use**
  - German BfN
  - CORINE <sup>1</sup>
  - EUNIS <sup>2</sup>
- **Microhabitat**
- **Altitude (m.a.s.l.)**
- **Slope**
- **Monitoring site? (Y/N)**
- **Is experimental? (Y/N)**
- **(Anthropogenic) influence [WiP]**
- ...

General  
(Site  
descrip.)

General  
Geography

Climate

<sup>1</sup> <https://land.copernicus.eu/pan-european/corine-land-cover/clc2018>

<sup>2</sup> <https://eunis.eea.europa.eu/>



# Edaphobase (environmental) Site description

## General

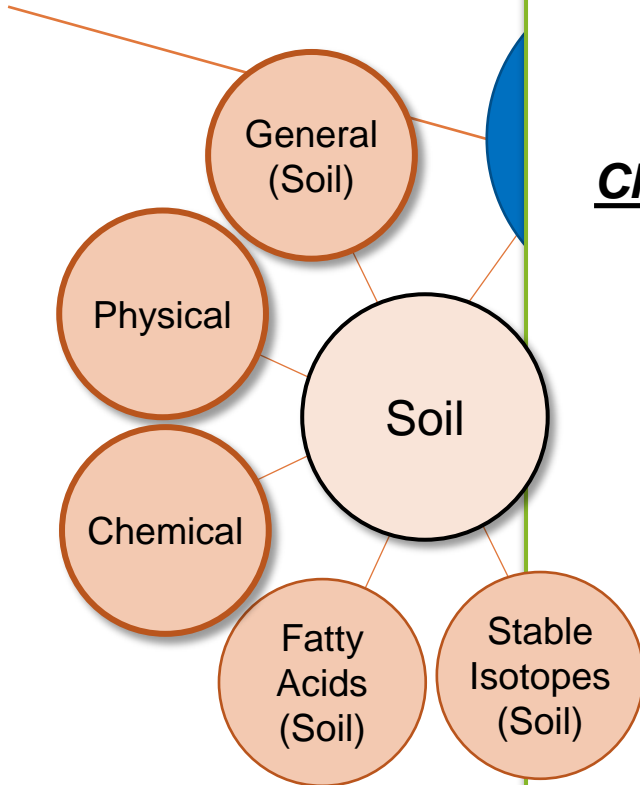
- Description date
- Soil Type
- Humus Form
- Sampled Horizon
- Soil depth
- H<sub>2</sub>O / WHC
- ...

## Chemical parameters

- SOM
- C<sub>org</sub> / total
- N<sub>org</sub> / total
- C/N
- P<sub>total</sub>
- CEC / Base Saturation
- CaCO<sub>3</sub>
- ...

## Physical parameters

- Soil Texture
- % Sand / Clay / Silt
- Density
- Pore Volume
- ...



# Edaphobase (environmental) Site description

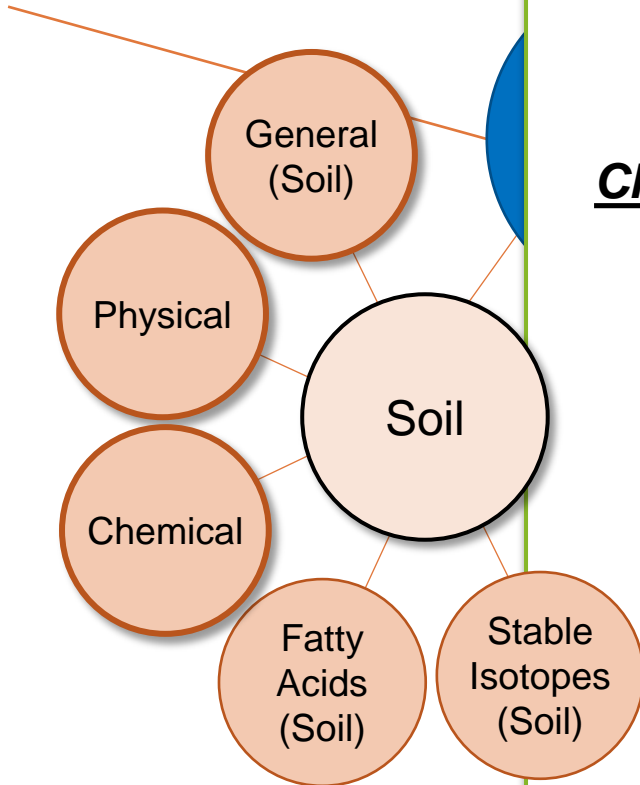
## General

- Description date
- Soil Type
- Humus Form
- Sampled Horizon
- Soil depth
- H<sub>2</sub>O / WHC

## Chemical / parameters

- SOM
- C<sub>org</sub> / total
- N<sub>org</sub> / total
- C/N
- P<sub>total</sub>
- CEC / Base Saturation
- CaCO<sub>3</sub>
- ...
- Soil Texture
- % Sand / Clay / Silt
- Density
- Pore Volume
- ...

Includes Methods!



# Edaphobase (environmental) Site description

## General

### Fatty Acids & Stable Isotopes

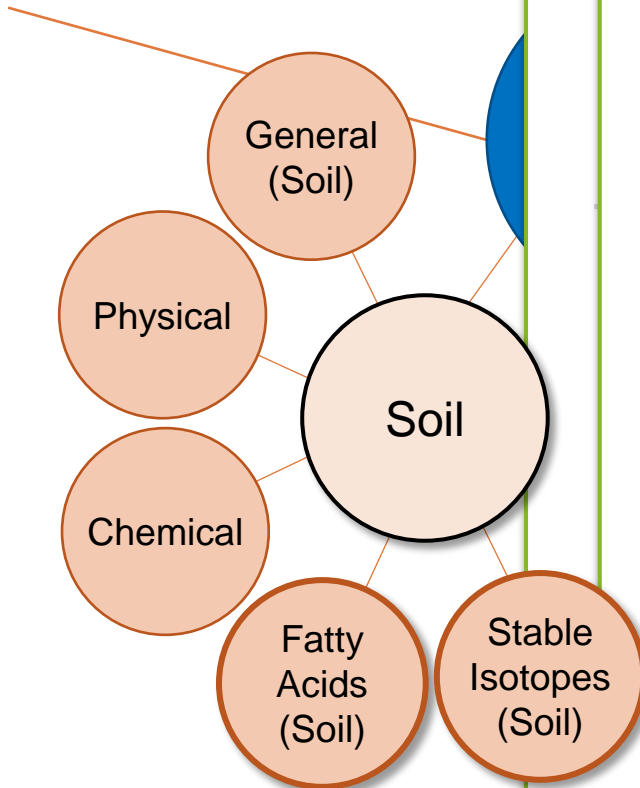
- Soil !! (for comparison with animals)
- Generally for RDM

- Date
- Person
- Substrate
- Methods
- $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  /  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  Baselines
- Total PFLA
- Bacteria : Fungi ratio
- Individual FAs

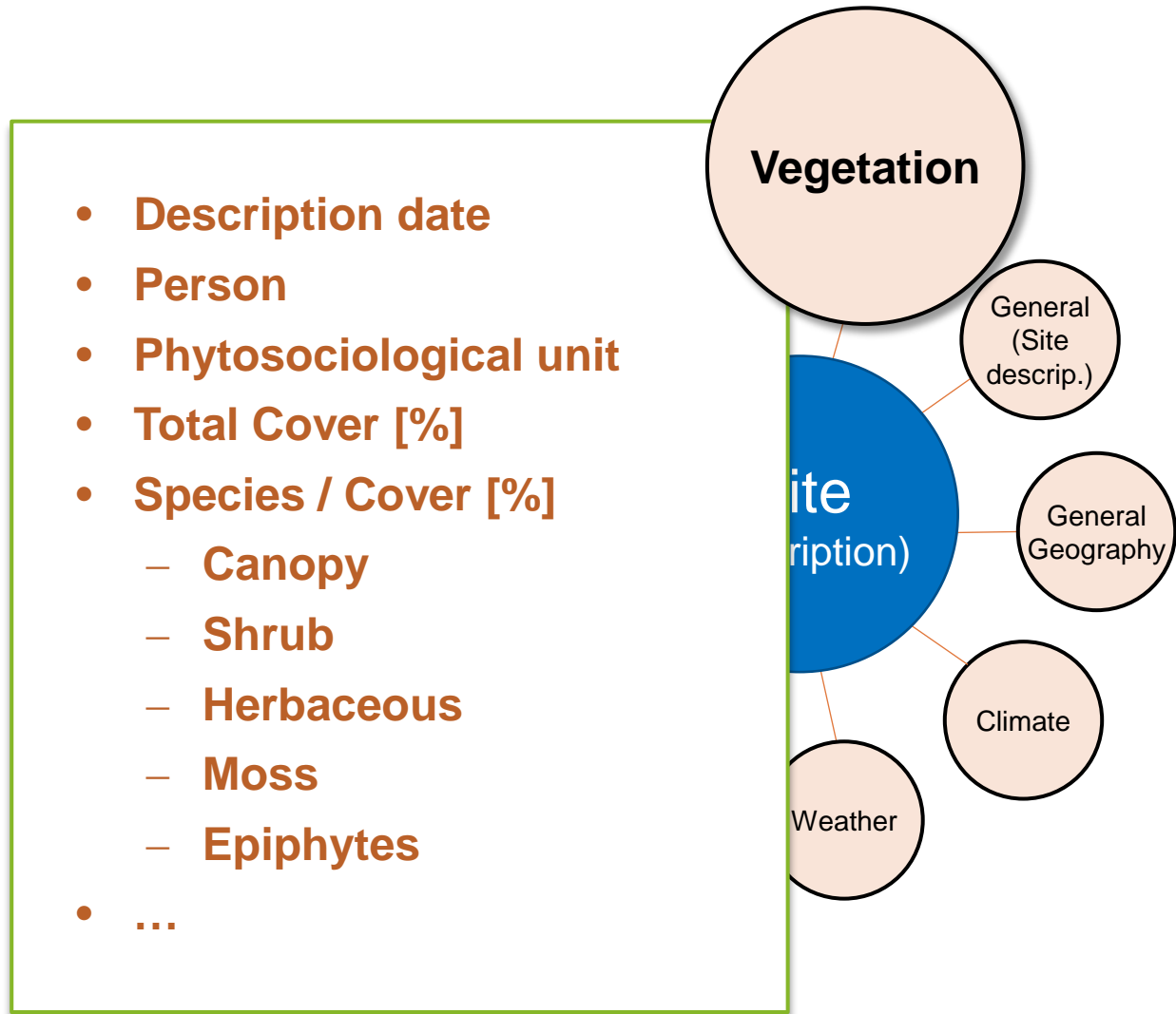
Saturation

–  $\text{CaCO}_3$

– ...



# Edaphobase (environmental) Site description

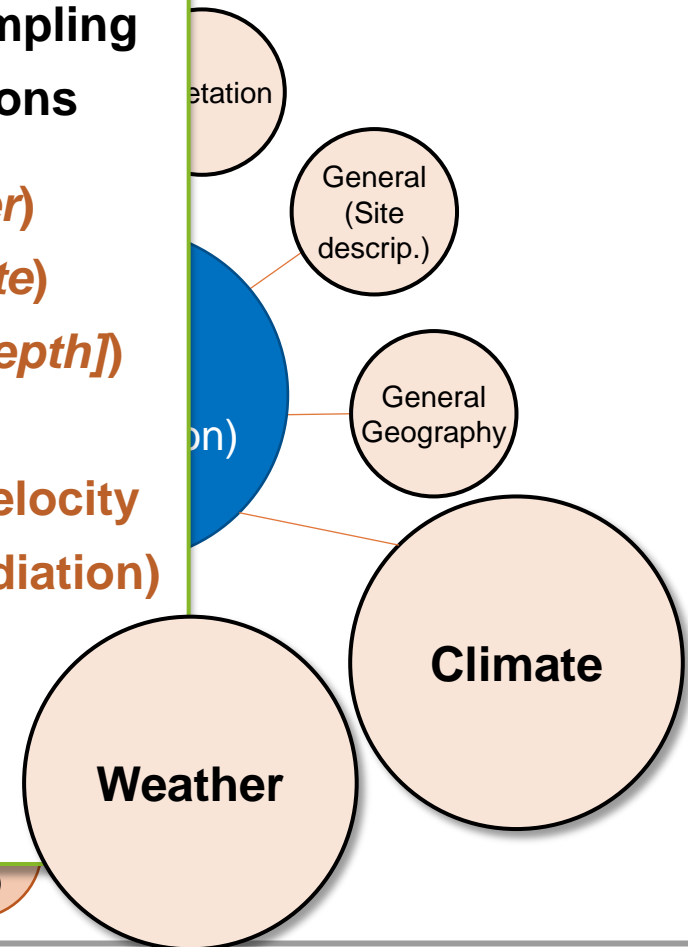


# Edaphobase (environmental) Site description

**Weather** = conditions at sampling

**Climate** = long-term conditions

- **Description date (*weather*)**
- **Measurement site (*climate*)**
- **Temperature (air / soil [*depth*])**
- **Precipitation**
- **(main) Wind direction / velocity**
- **Sunshine (duration / irradiation)**
- **Frost days**
- ...



## „Data“ & „Metadata“

„*philosophical*“ → one person’s metadata is another’s data

„metadata“: one global value for the entire dataset

„data“: different values (*in a column*) for different data records

**Edaphobase can accommodate both viewpoints !**

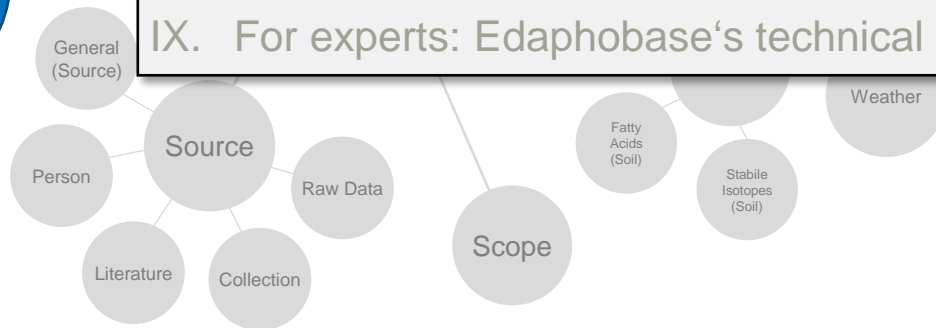
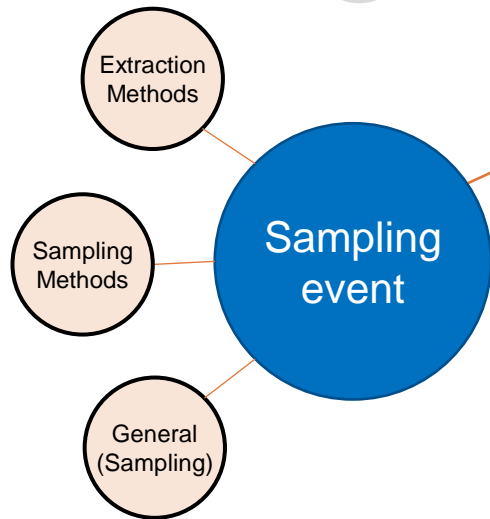
➤ (almost) every variable can be either “data” or “metadata”

### Regarding Metadata

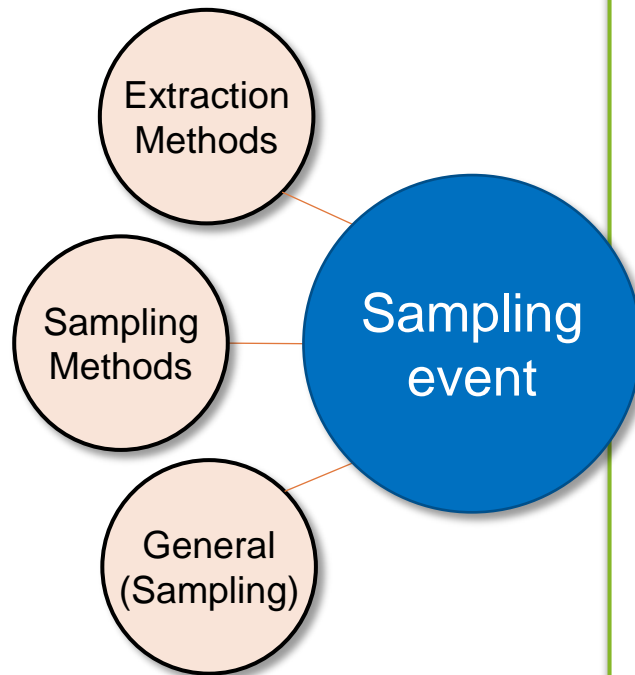
Edaphobase follows, i.e., Inspire, DataCite, BonaRes, etc.

- I. Dataset Metadata → describes the dataset (title, owner, etc.)
- II. Environmental Metadata → describes the sites of occurrence
- III. Methodological Metadata → describes the sampling methods

→ Tab „*Readme – Metadata*“ in *Edaphobase-Information fields\_2019v\_EN\_public version.xlsx*



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## General

- Observation date (sampling event)
- Sample code
- Remarks
- ...

## Sampling methods

- Sampling method (→ from list)
- Standardization (ISO, DIN, etc.)
- Number of samples
- Sample size, area / Exposition time
- Sampled horizon / depth
- ...

## Extraction methods

- Extraction method (→ from list)
- Duration / Temp. gradient
- Conservation / Fixation medium
- ...



# Linking environmental & methodological (meta)data to sites

*Association (linkage) of background data*

*(Spatial) Variables*

*Integration in Edaphobase data model*

Accompanying environmental data  
Accompanying methodological data

Region  
Site  
Plot

**Geography**  
Name + Coordinates

\* If Observation not at sample level, then linkage at plot/site level

Accompanying environmental data \*  
Accompanying methodological data \*

Sampling event  
Single sample  
Subsample

Sample number of samples

Observation

## In conclusion

Edaphobase maintains *very* many data fields (> 600 !)

= **Options !!** (*not all mandatory*)

→ *What is actually required?!*

**Minimum data set:** (*i.e., useful for determining species distributions*)

(→ “*what*”, “*where*”, “*when*”?)

Species, sites (incl. geo-coordinates!), sampling dates

Minimum = presence/absence data

**Recommended data set:** (*i.e., can be used for ecological analyses*)

(→ + “*under what environm. conditions*”, “*how*”, “*by whom*”?)

minimum data set +

habitat types / land-use, soil parameters

sampling methods, who sampled and determined the taxa

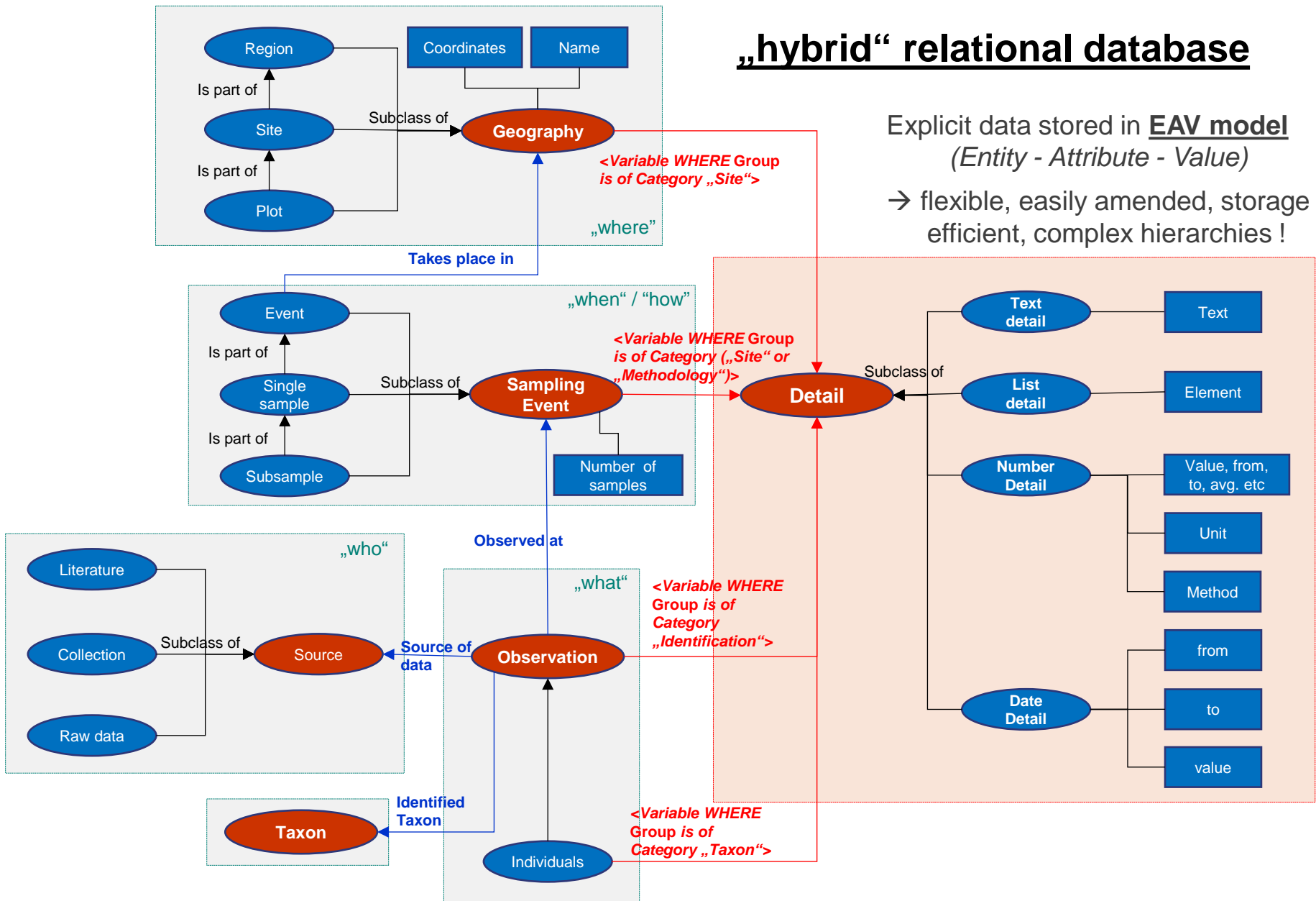
Recommended = abundance data

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# „hybrid“ relational database

Explicit data stored in **EAV model**  
(Entity - Attribute - Value)

→ flexible, easily amended, storage efficient, complex hierarchies !



## → EAV Data Model (explanation)

### Example: common „flat“ table

Site	Habitat	Sample	pH	C/N	Date
1	Forest	1	4.9-5.2		2018-01-01
1	Forest	2	7.0	10	2018-03-21
1	Forest	3			2018-04-24 2018-06-07

### Example: standard EAV table

<u>Entity</u>	<u>Attribute</u>	<u>Value</u>
Sample 1	pH	"4.9-5.2"
Sample 1	Date	"2018-01-01"
Sample 2	pH	"7.0"
Sample 2	C/N	"10"
Sample 2	Date	"2018-03-21"
Sample 3	Date	"2018-04-24"
Sample 3	Date	"2018-06-07"
Site	Habitat	"Forest"

### → Edaphobase's EAV/CR (with Class and Relationships) table

ID	<u>Entity</u>	<u>Attribute</u>	<u>Value exact</u>	<u>Value min</u>	<u>Value max</u>	<u>Value date</u>	<u>Value list entry</u>
10511	Sample 1	pH		4.9	5.2		
10512	Sample 1	Date				2018-01-01	
10521	Sample 2	pH	7				
10523	Sample 2	C/N	10				
10522	Sample 2	Date				2018-03-21	
10532	Sample 3	Date				2018-04-24	
105322	Sample 3	Date				2018-06-07	
10501	Site 1	Habitat					Forest

## Edaphobase is programmed in:

- Database itself:  
PostgreSQL 12
- Query Portal:  
PHP, Javascript, PostGIS 2.2., Apache HTTP Server 2.4
- Data Upload Software (Wizard):  
Java 8 (written in Eclipse iDE)

The software code is open source and freeware  
(but the database software is © Senckenberg Society for Nature Research)

Growing  
**ideas**  
through  
**networks**

Cost Action CA 18237



## Upcoming online training courses:

- Use of Edaphobase (Query Portal)
- Use of Data-Upload “Wizard”

David Russell, Steffan Lesch, Sebastian Rick (Senckenberg, Germany)

Thank you for your  
Interest  
Time  
Attention  
Patience  
Trust

Cost Action CA 18237



and especially ed[medien] Görlitz (<https://edmedien.de>)  
for the friendly, technical support !

# Edaphobase Data Structures

Online Training Course ("Webinar"®)

David Russell, Stephan Lesch, Sebastian Rick (Senckenberg, Germany)