

Neotoma: A Multiproxy Community Database for the Pliocene and Quaternary

Eric C. Grimm, Illinois State Museum, USA



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<u>home registration program payment funding</u>

Whence Neotoma?





Neotoma collects multiproxy paleodata!

Neotoma (packrat, woodrat) collects plants, bones, and other materials, which it deposits in middens, which can be preserved for thousands of years. The middens are cemented and preserved by *amberat* (dried urine), which contains pollen.



Neotoma



• Originally Funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation Geoinformatics Program (2 years)

Lead Institutions

Pennsylvania State University Illinois State Museum

Principal Investigators

Allan Ashworth – Beetles Russell Graham – Mammalian Fauna (FAUNMAP) Eric Grimm – Pollen Stephen Jackson – Plant Macrofossils Jack Williams – Tools/Power User



New proposal has been funded by the NSF Geoinformatics Program for a five-year duration

Principal Investigators

Pennsylvania State University Russell W. Graham (Penn State) Allan A. Ashworth (NDSU) Robert K. Booth (Lehigh University) Douglas A. Miller (Penn State) John (Jack) W. Williams (Univ Wisconsin)

Illinois State Museum Eric C. Grimm (Illinois State Museum) Donald F. Charles (Acad Nat Sci Philadelphia) Stephen T. Jackson (Univ Wyoming) Alison J. Smith (Kent State) Robert S. Thompson (USGS)

Collaborators

Maarten Blaauw (Queen's University Belfast, UK) Simon Brewer (University of Wyoming) Angela Bruch (Senckenberg Forschungsinstitut, Frankfurt, Germany) Philip I. Buckland (Umeå University, Sweden) Dan J. Charman (University of Plymouth, UK) B. Brandon Curry (Illinois State Geological Survey) Mary Edwards (University of Southhampton, UK) Thomas Giesecke (Georg-August-Universität Göttingen, Germany) Hannes Grobe (Alfred Wegener Inst for Polar and Marine Research, Bremerhaven, Germany) Paul D.M. Hughes (University of Southhampton, UK) Anne-Marie Lézine (Laboratoire des Sciences du Climat et de l'Environnement, Gif-sur-Yvette, France) Cathy Manduca (Carleton College) Michael Märker (Univesität Tübingen, Germany) Katherine McCarville (Upper Iowa University) Chengyu Weng (Tongji University, Shanghai, China)

Holocene, Pleistocene, and Pliocene Last 5.3 million years of geologic time

Time during which:

- Continents have had their current configuration
- Modern ecosystems developed
- Humans evolved
- Late Pleistocene extinctions occurred across most continents

It is a time, therefore, particularly relevant for evaluating global change.

Purposes of Neotoma

- To facilitate studies of ecosystem development and response to climate change
- To enable joint analysis of multiproxy datasets to address paleoenvironmental questions that transcend those possible with single-proxy databases
- To provide the historical context for understanding biodiversity dynamics, including geneuc diversity
- To provide the data for climate model validation
- To facilitate analyses of biostration
- To provide a safe, long-term, low-cost archive for a wide variety of paleobiological data
- To lower the overall cost of paleodata management

Initially:

- FAUNMAP Database
- Global Pollen Database
- North American Plant Macrofossil Database
- Allan Ashworth's Beetle Database

Neotoma Design Concepts



- Partnership between domain scientists and information technology specialists; wherein the science is driving the IT.
- Neotoma offers database infrastructure to specialists in various taxonomic groups, who will not need to develop or even necessarily understand the core information technology, but who can learn to input, update, and extract data through a user-friendly interface and to have control over disciplinary taxonomic issues.
- Neotoma can accommodate virtually any type of fossil data
- Neotoma is a centralized database with virtual *constituent* databases (e.g. North American Pollen Database, FAUNMAP)
- Constituent database cooperatives may develop individualized websites to frontend the database if they so desire
- Capability for "data stewards" to remotely input and update data
- Access to the data by anyone with an Internet connection

NEOTOMA: Physical Location



Center for Environmental Informatics, Pennsylvania State University





Home | Projects | Contact Info | Publications | Personnel

Internet

100%

Mission

Produce high quality environmental information resources, in usable forms and formats, that serve the needs of individuals, communities, and organizations at all levels of society

Focus

Development of decision support tools and environments Integration of geospatial technologies with environmental observation networks Deployment of mission-critical environmental applications

Background

The Center for Environmental Informatics (CEI) in the Earth and Environmental Systems Institute was originally formed in 2000 as the Outreach Center of the former Environment Institute within the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences. CEI focuses the development of new and innovative approaches to the creation and dissemination of environmental information resources.

About CEI | Earth and Environmental Systems Institute

New constituent databases

Diatom Paleolimnology Data Cooperative North American Non-Marine Ostracode Database (NANODe) North American Packrat Midden Database European Pollen Database African Pollen Database Chinese Pollen Database Northern Eurasian Palaeoecological Database Strategic Environmental Archaeology Database (SEAD)/Bugs Database Role of Culture in Early Expansions of Humans/Roceeh Out of Africa Database (ROAD) Peatlands

- New constituent databases
- Data steward tools

Software interface that allows data stewards to upload and update data remotely over the Internet

- New constituent databases
- Data steward tools
- Web services

Read-only server components that:

- Retrieve specific data from the database
- If necessary, perform additional operations on the data (e.g. summarization, unit conversion, advanced computation)
- Format and transmit data back to the requesting application

- New constituent databases
- Data steward tools
- Web services
- Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)
- A set of methods and properties for programmatically retrieving data from the database through web services
- The APIs will allow standalone programs or web sites to remotely access the Neotoma database

- New constituent databases
- Data steward tools
- Web services
- Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)



- New constituent databases
- Data steward tools
- Web services
- Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)
- Software Development Kit (SDK)

Pre-built ("out of the box" programming assets that save developers time by encapsulating common data access, manipulation, and presentation tasks into modular reusable application building blocks. Example: a map control.

- New constituent databases
- Data steward tools
- Web services
- Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)
- Software Development Kit (SDK)



- New constituent databases
- Data steward tools
- Web services
- Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)
- Software Development Kit (SDK)
- Neotoma Explorer plug-ins and enhancements

Neotoma Working Groups

- Tools Working Group
- Age-Model Working Group
- Packrat Midden Working Group
- Peatlands Working Group

Neotoma Website www.neotomadb.org



Purposes:

- Facilitate studies of ecosystem development and response to climate change.
- Provide the historical context for understanding biodiversity dynamics, including genetic diversity.

Internet

100%

NEOTOMA Manual

Neotoma

An Ecosystem Database for the Pliocene, Pleistocene, and Holocene

Eric C. Grimm



August 2008



Illinois State Museum Scientific Papers E Series 1

3.9.2 SQL Example

The following statement produces a list of the ChronControls for the Default Chronology from Wolsfeld Lake in Calibrated radiocarbon years BP:

- SELECT ChronControls. Depth, ChronControls. Age, ChronControls AgeLimitYounger, ChronControls AgeLimitOlder, ChronControlTypes. ChronControlType
- FROM ChronControlTypes INNER JOIN ((AgeTypes INNER JOIN ((Sites INNER JOIN CollectionUnits ON Sites.SiteID = CollectionUnits.SiteID) INNER JOIN Chronologies ON CollectionUnits.CollectionUnitID =
- Chronologies, CollectionUnit(I) ON AgeTypes, AgeTypeId = Chronologies, AgeTypeID (INIER, JOIN ChronControls ON Chronologies, ChronologyID = ChronControls, ChronologyID) ON ChronControlTypes, ChronControlTypeID = ChronControls, ChronOchrolTypeID
- WHERE (((Sites.SiteName), "Wolsfeld Lake") AND ((Chronologies.IsDefault)=True) AND ((AgeTypes.AgeType)="Calibrated radiocarbon years BP"));

Result:

Depth	Age	AgeLimit Younger	AgeLimitOlder	ChronControlType
650	-25	-25	-25	Core top
662	-13	-8	-18	Interpolated, corrected for compaction
670	0	-5	5	Interpolated, corrected for compaction
680	22	17	27	Interpolated, corrected for compaction
690	46	41	51	Interpolated, corrected for compaction
702	72	67	77	Interpolated, corrected for compaction
715	100	80	120	Biostratigraphic, pollen
750	335	120	492	Radiocarbon, calibrated
785	433	310	517	Radiocarbon, calibrated
975	2242	2063	2433	Radiocarbon, calibrated
1065	3402	3261	3556	Radiocarbon, calibrated
1135	3776	3585	3973	Radiocarbon, calibrated
1345	5836	5662	5992	Radiocarbon, calibrated
1415	6910	6730	7160	Radiocarbon, calibrated
1520	8268	8022	8443	Radiocarbon, calibrated
1640	11636	11264	12027	Radiocarbon, calibrated
1725	13864	13646	14218	Radiocarbon, calibrated

3.10 Table: CollectionTypes

This table is a lookup table of for types of Collection Units, or Collection Types. Table is referenced by the <u>CollectionUnits</u> table.

	Table: Collectio	nTypes	
CollTypeID	LongInteger	PK	
ColiType	Text		

CollTypeID (Primary Key): An arbitrary Collection Type identification number.

Colletype: The Collection Type. Types include cores, sections, excavations, and animal middens. Collection Units may be modern collections, surface float, or isolated specimens. Composite Collections Units include different kinds of Analysis Units, for example a modern surface sample for ostracodes and an associated water sample.





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LAGOAJO_pollen	Depth						2053	2060	2070	2080	20
LAGOAJO_geochronologic	Thickness										
	Sample Name										
	Sample ID						27907	27909	27911	27913	27
	Chron:Allen et a		Age	Radio			1	77	184	292	40 =
	Chron:Allen et a		Age Younger	Radio							
	Chron:Allen et a		Age Older	Radio							
	Alnus	TRSH	pollen	NISP			2		2	2	4
	Amaranthaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP					1		
	Apiaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			12	1	8	13	10
	Armeria	UPHE	pollen	NISP						1	
	Artemisia	UPHE	pollen	NISP				3	1		5
	Asteraceae subf.	UPHE	pollen	NISP			7	1	1	2	
	Asteraceae subf.	UPHE	pollen	NISP			4	1	4	2	1
	Betula/Corylus/N	TRSH	pollen	NISP			2				
	Betula	TRSH	pollen	NISP			66	195	180	83	80
	Brassicaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			1			1	1
	Buxus	TRSH	pollen	NISP							
	Campanula	UPHE	pollen	NISP							
	Cannabis sativa	UPHE	pollen	NISP							
	Caryophyllaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			2		1		
	Castanea	TRSH	pollen	NISP			3	1			- 11
	Corylus	TRSH	pollen	NISP			5	5	2	3	10
	Cyperaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			6	3	3	6	5
	Cystopteris	VACR	spore	NISP			1				
	Diphasiastrum a	VACR	spore	NISP							
	Dipsacaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP							
	Dryopteris	VACR	spore	NISP				1	1	1	1
	Ephedra	TRSH	pollen	NISP							
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LAGOAJO_geochronologic	2470	10	Carbon-14: conv	9650	120	120		Beta-9156	Orgai
	2480	10	Carbon-14: conv	9780	80	80		Beta-6739	Orgai
	2610	10	Carbon-14: conv	12610	90	90		Beta-9157	Orgai
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LAGOAJO_loss-on-ignition	Longitude	-6.15000009536/432
LAGOAJO_pollen		43.04999923706035
LAGOAJO_geochronologic	SiteDescription	limestone at the head of the valley. Surrounding vegetation: Pasture, Quercus scrub, beech woodland.
	Altitude	1570
	Contacts	Watts, William A.
	Notes	
	Publications	
	Allen, J.R.M., B. Huntley, and W.A. Watts. 1996. The vegetation and climate of nort Science 11:125-147.	hwest Iberia over the last 14,000 years. Journal of Quaternary
	McKeever, M.H. 1984. Comparative palynological studies of two lake sites in western Ireland.	n Ireland and northwestern Spain. Thesis. Trinity College, Dublin,



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LAGOAJO_pollen	Depth						2053	2060	2070	2080	1
LAGOAJO_geochronologic	Thickness										
	Sample Name										
	Sample ID						27907	27909	27911	27913	1
	Chron:Allen et a		Age	Radio			1	77	184	292	1
	Chron:Allen et a		Age Younger	Radio							
	Chron:Allen et a		Age Older	Radio							
	Alnus	TRSH	pollen	NISP			2		2	2	1
	Amaranthaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP					1		
	Apiaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			12	1	8	13	-
	Armeria	UPHE	pollen	NISP						1	
	Artemisia	UPHE	pollen	NISP				3	1		1
	Asteraceae subf.	UPHE	pollen	NISP			7	1	1	2	
	Asteraceae subf.	UPHE	pollen	NISP			4	1	4	2	1
	Betula/Corylus/N	TRSH	pollen	NISP			2				
	Betula	TRSH	pollen	NISP			66	195	180	83	8
	Brassicaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			1			1	1
	Buxus	TRSH	pollen	NISP							
	Campanula	UPHE	pollen	NISP							
	Cannabis sativa	UPHE	pollen	NISP							
	Caryophyllaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			2		1		
	Castanea	TRSH	pollen	NISP			3	1			
	Corylus	TRSH	pollen	NISP			5	5	2	3	1
	Cyperaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			6	3	3	6	1
	Cystopteris	VACR	spore	NISP			1				
	Diphasiastrum a	VACR	spore	NISP							
	Dipsacaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP							
	Dryopteris	VACR	spore	NISP				1	1	1	1
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	Apiaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP				1	8	13	
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	Artemisia	UPHE						3	1		
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	Betula/Corylus/N	TRSH	pollen	NISP			2				
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	Brassicaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			1			1	
	Buxus	TRSH	pollen	NISP							
	Campanula	UPHE	pollen	NISP							
	Cannabis sativa	UPHE	pollen	NISP							
	Carvophyllaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			2		1		
	Castanea	TRSH	pollen	NISP			3	1	-		
	Condus	TRSH	pollen	NISP			5	5	2	3	
	Cuperareae	UDHE	pollen	NISP			6	3	3	6	
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25	Corylus	TRSH	pollen	NISP			5	5	2	3	10	10	13	26	4	16	7	12	1
26	Cyperacea	UPHE	pollen	NISP			6	3	3	6	5	9	2	11	6	4	1	2	
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29	Dipsacace	UPHE	pollen	NISP									1						
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	Chron:Allen et a		Age	Radio			1	77	184	292	4
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	Chron:Allen et a		Age Older	Radio							
	Alnus	TRSH	pollen	NISP			2		2	2	4
	Amaranthaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP					1		
	Apiaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			12	1	8	13	
	Armeria	UPHE	pollen	NISP						1	
	Artemisia	UPHE	pollen	NISP				3	1		5
	Asteraceae subf.	UPHE	pollen	NISP			7	1	1	2	
	Asteraceae subf.	UPHE	pollen	NISP			4	1	4	2	:
	Betula/Corylus/N	TRSH	pollen	NISP			2				
	Betula	TRSH	pollen	NISP			66	195	180	83	8
	Brassicaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			1			1	1
	Buxus	TRSH	pollen	NISP							
	Campanula	UPHE	pollen	NISP							
	Cannabis sativa	UPHE	pollen	NISP							
	Caryophyllaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			2		1		
	Castanea	TRSH	pollen	NISP			3	1			
	Corylus	TRSH	pollen	NISP			5	5	2	3	1
	Cyperaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP			6	3	3	6	-
	Cystopteris	VACR	spore	NISP			1				
	Diphasiastrum a	VACR	spore	NISP							
	Dipsacaceae	UPHE	pollen	NISP							
	Dryopteris	VACR	spore	NISP				1	1	1	:
	Ephedra	TRSH	pollen	NISP							•
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3	#Analyst	Analyst		Grimm, E.C	Grimm								
4	#DateAnal	Date analyzed		4/1/1978	5/16/1978	2/27/1978	11/16/197	4/3/1978	4/16/1978	3/18/1978	4/25/1978	5/1/1	
5	#Thick	Sample thickness		0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5		
6	#Chron1	Sample age (COHMAP ch	ror	0	21	36	54	71	93	336	571		
7	#Chron2	Sample age (NAPD 1)		-25	-13	0	22	46	72	87	97		
8	АЫ	Abies	TRSH	0	0.5	0	0	1.5	0	0	0		
9	Ace.sa-t	Acer saccharum-type	TRSH	26	16	8	30.5	16	15	18	29.5		
10	Ace.ne	Acer negundo	TRSH	9	6	4	9	1	1	2	5		
11	Ace.ru	Acer rubrum	TRSH	0	1	0	1	0	0	3	1		
12	Ace.sc-t	Acer saccharinum-type	TRSH	3	3	3	0	2	0	0	0		
13	Adi	Adiantum	VACR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
14	All	Allium	UPHE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
15	Aln.i-t	Alnus incana-type	TRSH	6	7	4	3	9	5	8	6		
16	Aln.vi-t	Alnus viridis-type	TRSH	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	2		
17	Aln.ud	Alnus undiff.	TRSH	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
18	Amb-t	Ambrosia-type	UPHE	83	112	109	100	103	79	29	25		
19	Amo-t	Amorpha-type	UPHE	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	3		
20	Art	Artemisia	UPHE	12	12	6	17	13	7	13	19		
21	Ath	Athyrium	VACR	0	0	0	1	2	0	3	2		•
	► N Co	unts / Percents /	трец	10	45	4			10	10	20		-

Data Steward Tools: Input

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Carbo	on-14: pr Radiocarbon years B.P.	7	15 10	WIS-1002	630	55		-28.5	silty gyttja	
Carbo	on-14: pr Radiocarbon years B.P.	7	50 10	WIS-1033	800	60		-29.8	silty gyttja	
Carbo	on-14: pr diocarbon years B.P.	7	85 10	WIS-1003	920	60	<u> </u>	-31.4	gyttja	
Carbo	Calendar years B.P.		75 10	WIS-1005	2790	65	<u> </u>	-29.4	gyttja	
Carbo	on-14: pr Calibrated radiocarbon y	ears B.P. 10	65 10 25 10	WIS-1006	3705	50		-27.4	gyttja	
Carbo	Varve years B.P.	12	30 IU 45 10	WIS-1007	4030 EC40	70		25.1	gyttja siltu auttis	
Carbo	on-14: pr Gradiocarbon years B.P.	14	45 10 15 10	WIS-1623	6580	20		-20.1	sity gyttja siltu guttia	
Carbo	n-14: pr. Radiocarbon years B.P.	15	70 10 20 10	WIS-1624	7990	110			sity gytta situ outtia	
Carbo	on-14: pr Radiocarbon years B.P.	16	40 10	WIS-1625	10600	110			silty gyttja	
Carbo	on-14: pr Radiocarbon years B.P.	17	74 8	WIS-1034	12060	125		-27.2	wood, needle	

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Data Steward Tools: Update

<u>ľ:</u>	📴 Neotoma Taxonomic Hierarchy										
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 Invertebrates undiff. Laboratory analyses Mammals Molluscs Physical variables Testate amoebae Unidentified palynomorphs Vertebrates undiff. Vascular plants 											
	Animalia Mammalia Artiodactyla Antilocapridae Antilocapra americana Antilocapra cf. A. americana Antilocapra sp. Breameryx Breameryx minor Breameryx sp. Capromeryx of. C. furcifer Capromeryx furcifer										
Expand All Collapse All Save											TA
23		Taxoncode				Higher axonic	Extinct	Тахасточрто	Citation	INDIES	
8		<u> </u>	Breameryx		11	I					
Н	5892	Brc.br	Brachyprotoma brevimala			6783	True	MAM	(MEMO)	(MEMO)	_
H	5893	Brc.ob	Brachyprotoma obtusata			6/83	True	MAM	(MEMU)	(Memo)	- 1
Ľ	5894	Brx.mi	Breameryx minor			6/84	True	MAM	(MEMU)	(MEMU)	-
Н	5895	Brx.sp	Breameryx sp.			6/84	True	MAM	(MEMU)	(MEMU)	_
μ	5836	Buildr	Buisnictis breviramus			6785	True	MAM	(MEMU)	(Memoj	- 21
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The Holy Grail



A multiproxy paleodatabase assessable programmatically via the Internet, so anybody can build desktop or web-based software tools to securely access the central up-to-date database, and independent data stewards from various database cooperatives can upload and update data.