

# Towards Capturing Data Curation Provenance using Frictionless Data Package Pipelines

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#### **Abstract**

At domain-specific data repositories, curation that strives for FAIR principles often entails transforming data submissions to improve understanding and reuse. The Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO, https://www.bco-dmo.org) has been adopting the data containerization specification of the Frictionless Data project (https://frictionlessdata.io) in an effort to improve its data curation process efficiency. In doing so, BCO-DMO has been using the Frictionless Data Package Pipelines library (<a href="https://github.com/frictionlessdata/datapackage-pipelines">https://github.com/frictionlessdata/datapackage-pipelines</a>) to define the processing steps that transform original submissions to final data products. Because these pipelines are defined using a declarative language they can be serialized into formal provenance data structures using the Provenance Ontology (PROV-O,

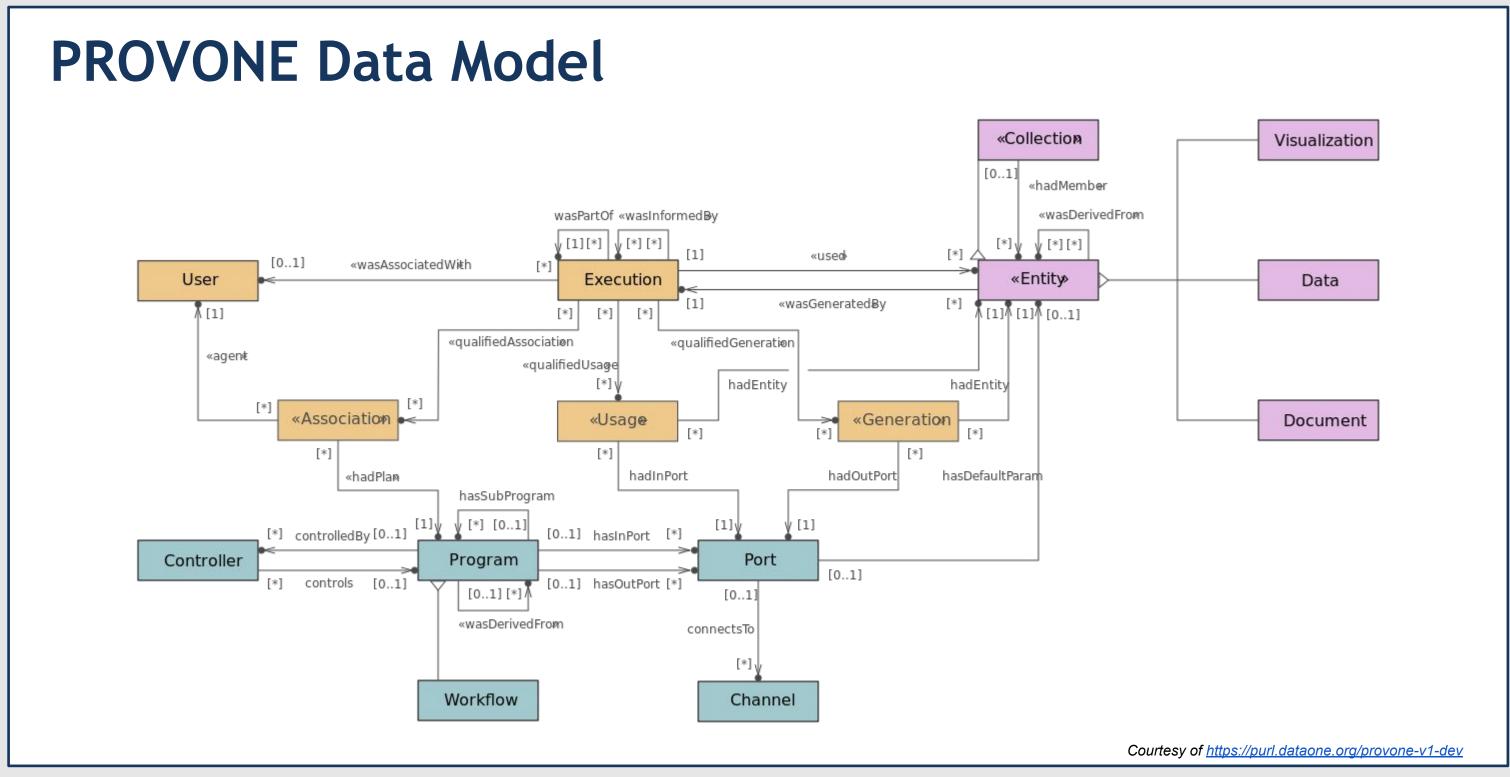
https://www.w3.org/TR/prov-o/). While there may still be some curation steps that cannot be easily automated, this method is a step towards reproducible transforms that bridge the original data submission to its published state in machine-actionable ways that benefit the research community through transparency in the data curation process.

#### What is BCO-DMO?

The Biological and Chemical Oceanography Data Management Office (BCO-DMO) staff work closely with investigators to serve data and information online from research projects funded by the Biological and Chemical Oceanography Sections, the Division of Polar Programs Arctic Sciences and Antarctic Organisms & Ecosystems Program at the U.S. National Science Foundation.

The goal of this partnership is to effectively curate marine ecosystem data and accompanying documentation, facilitating efficient data discovery and re-use. Throughout the process, BCO-DMO provides services that support specific phases of the data life cycle. The result is a rich database of research-ready data spanning the full range of marine ecosystem related measurements including: in situ observations, experimental and model results, and synthesis products. The BCO-DMO system provides access to more than 9000 data sets from more than 900 projects and 2500 researchers.

#### PROV Data Model PROV-O Extended Data Model xsd:dateTime wasRevisionOf hadPrimarySource generatedAtTime actedOnBehalfOf hadMember wasStartedBy wasEndedBy Courtesy of <a href="https://www.w3.org/TR/prov-o/">https://www.w3.org/TR/prov-o/</a>



### Why Provenance?

- Transparency about how archived data differs from originally submitted version
- Empirical evidence of why domain-specific data management are needed for FAIR-ness

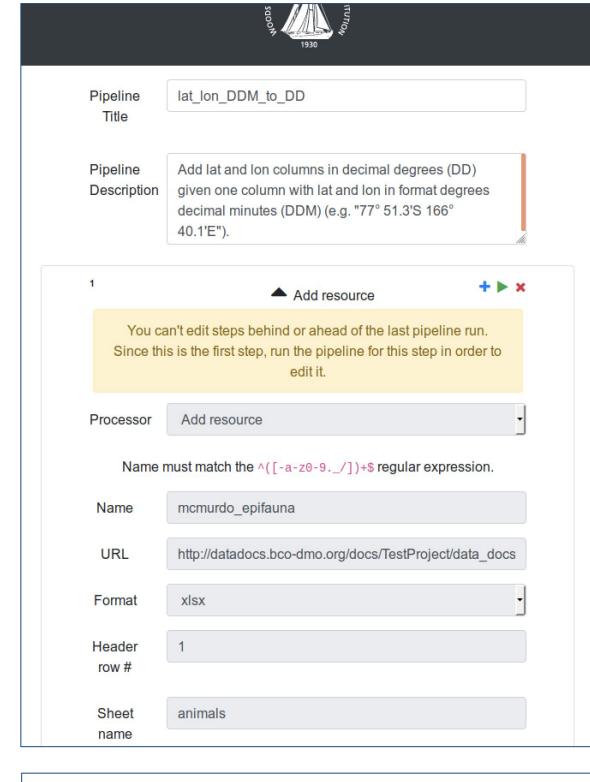
## Frictionlessdata Datapackage Pipelines

Framework for building workflows for processing data.

- A pipeline is a list of processing steps for a datapackage.
- Processing steps are defined in a declarative way using YAML.

https://github.com/frictionlessdata/datapackage-pipelines

# BCO-DMO UI for Frictionlessdata Datapackage Pipelines

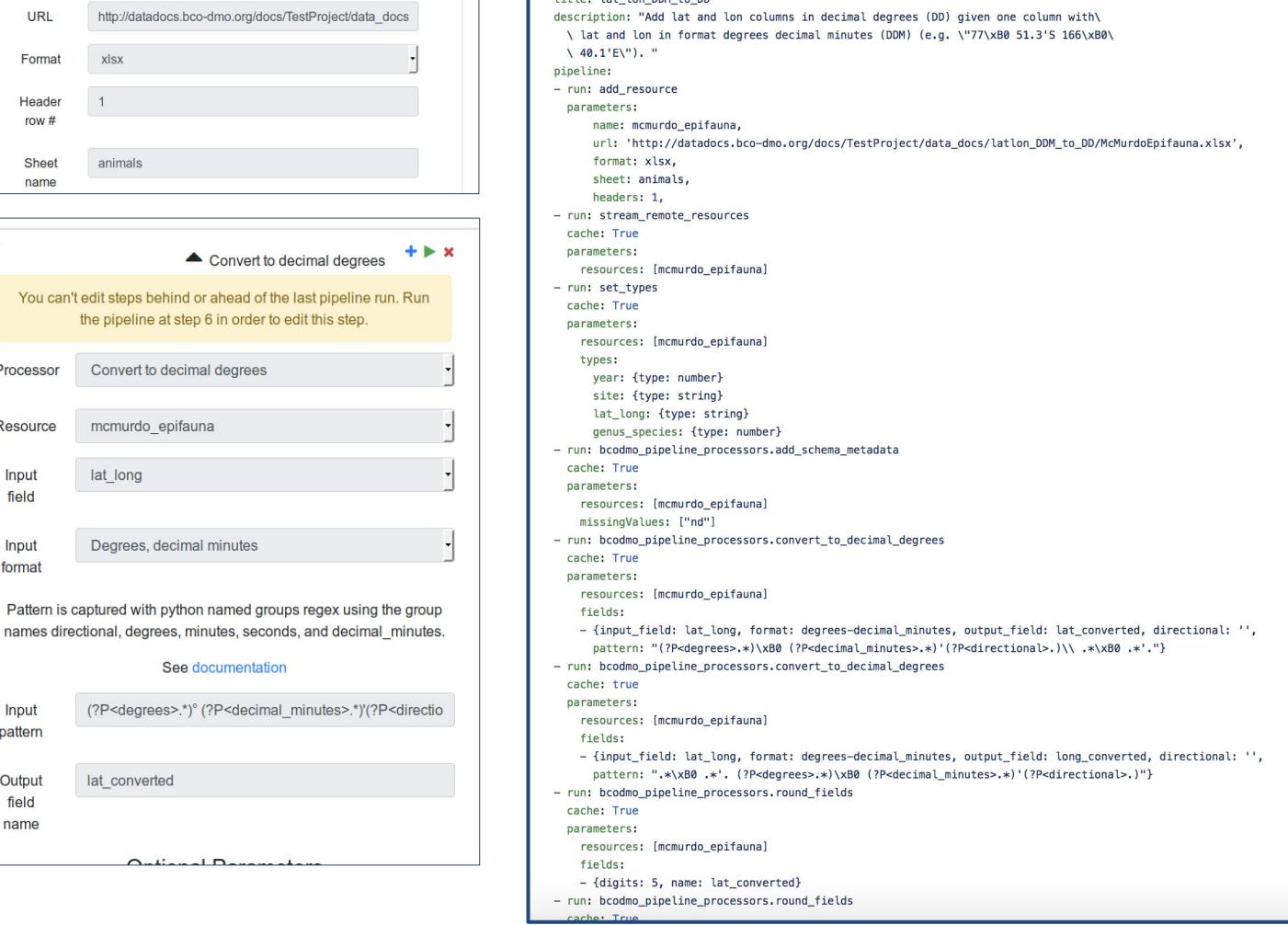


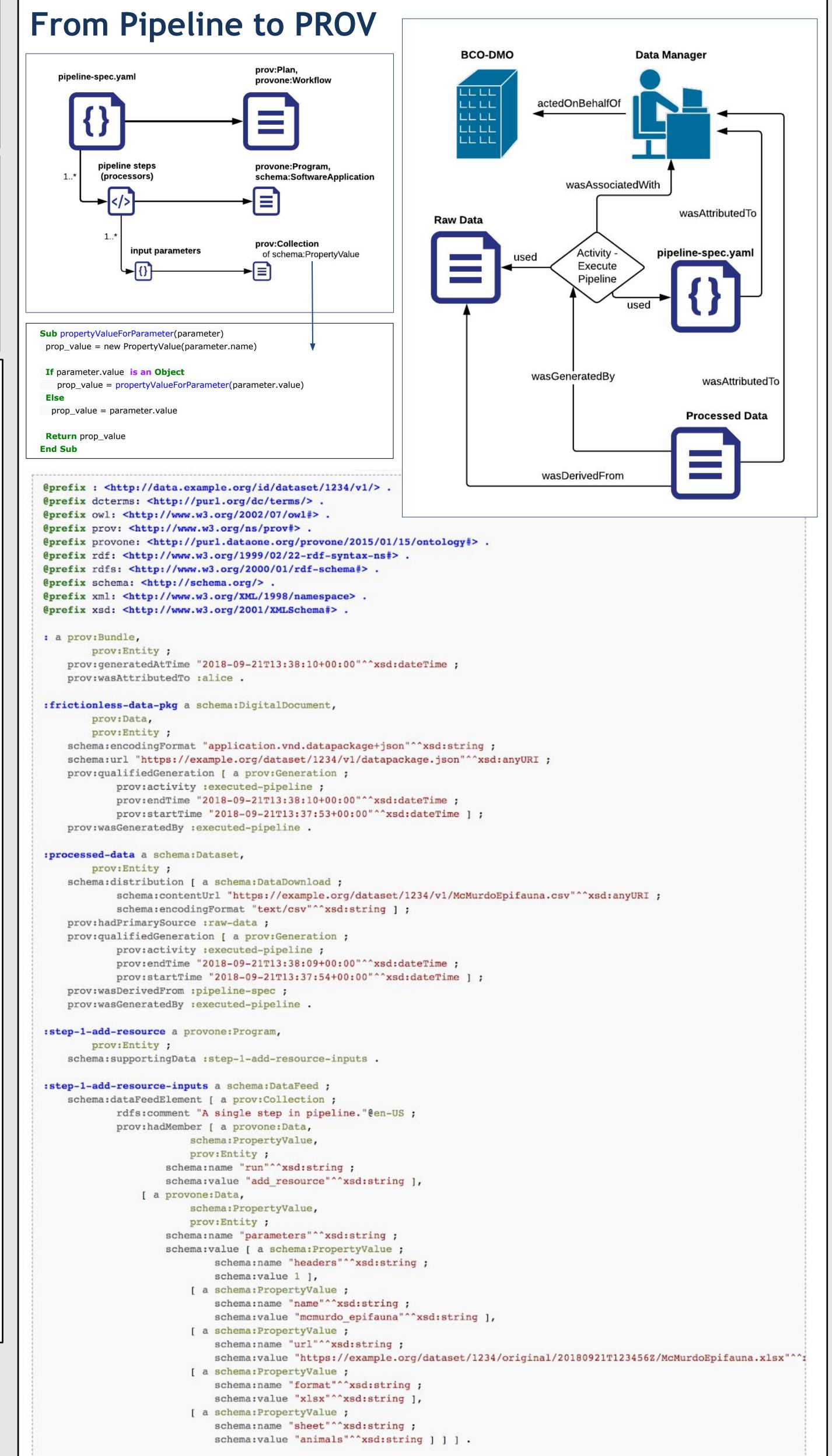
mcmurdo\_epifauna

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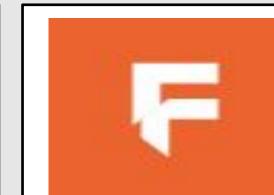
Degrees, decimal minutes

- Encourages consistency across commonly occurring processing tasks
- Ensures proper data validation occurs before data made publicly available
- Manages where data is stored across the system
- Generates a workflow: pipeline-spec.yaml









format



