

SOFTWARE

BIOTORRENTS

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A great idea – published now at [PLoS ONE today and live at www.bitorrents.net](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2857011/) – is a significant step ahead.

The transfer of scientific data has emerged as a significant challenge, as datasets continue to grow in size and demand as open access sharing increases. Current methods for file transfer do not scale well for large files and can cause long transfer times. In this study, we present BioTorrents, a website that allows open access sharing of scientific data and uses the popular BitTorrent peer-to-peer file sharing technology. BioTorrents allows files to be transferred rapidly due to the sharing of bandwidth across multiple institutions and provides more reliable file transfers due to the built-in error checking of the file sharing technology.

Just install a [BitTorrent client](https://www.bittorrent.com/), read the [basics at Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BitTorrent), and convince your computing department that this is a serious scientific endeavour ;-) that has been funded by Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (grant Ka 1082-8).

Category	Name	Files
Chemistry	chEMBL 02	1
Metagenomics	MetagenomeSimulation.tar.gz	1
Genomics	Mauve.Genome.Alignment.2.3.1.Linux-OpenSci	3
Miscellaneous	bitorrents v0.137	2
Password Protected	bactFam.hmm2	2
Genomics	GEBA Data	2
Bioinformatics	JCVI.Cloud.BioLinux.2009.09.18.IMG.ZIP-OpenSci	3
Bioinformatics	ComboDB-flatfile	2

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