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Title

Keynote: Big Data, Little Data, or No Data? Why Human Interaction with Data is a Hard Problem (slides)

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Big Data, Little Data, or No Data?

Why Human Interaction with Data is a Hard Problem

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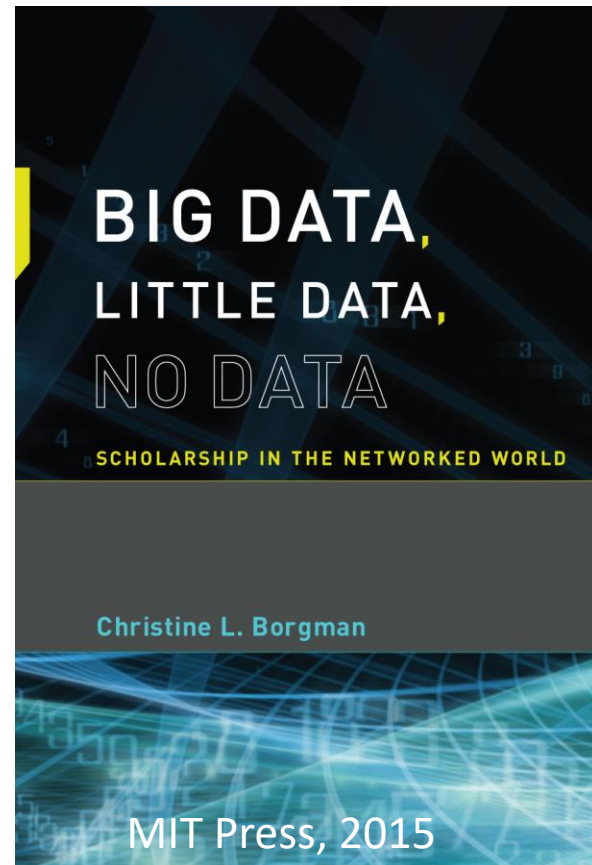
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Keynote Presentation, March 15, 2020 / August 13, 2020

ACM SIGIR Conference on

Human Information Interaction and Retrieval

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada / Zoom

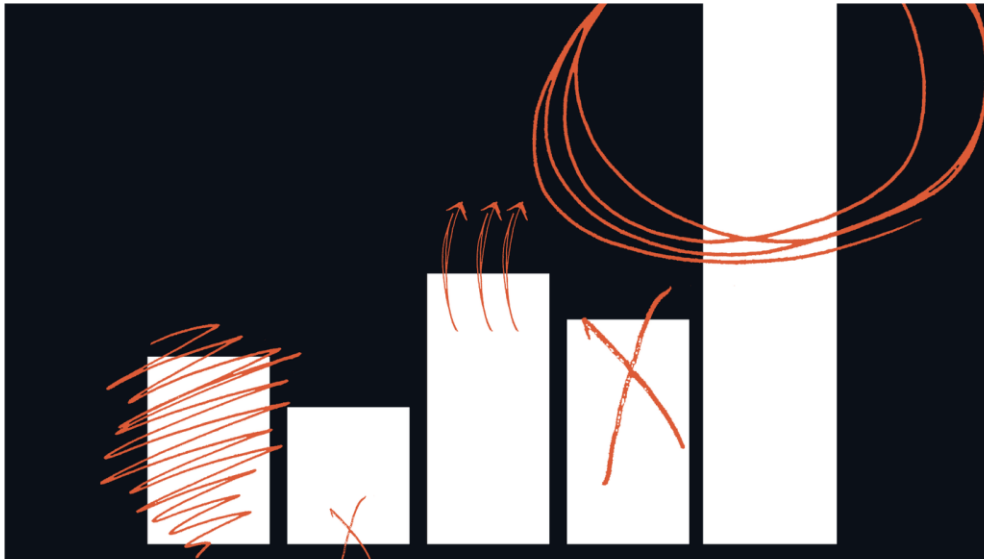


TECHNOLOGY

The Official Coronavirus Numbers Are Wrong, and Everyone Knows It

Because the U.S. data on coronavirus infections are so deeply flawed, the quantification of the outbreak obscures more than it illuminates.

ALEXIS C. MADRIGAL MARCH 3, 2020



THE ATLANTIC

We know, irrefutably, one thing about the coronavirus in the United States: The number of cases reported in every chart and table is far too low.

The data are untrustworthy because the processes we used to get them were flawed. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's testing procedures missed the bulk of the cases. They focused exclusively on travelers, rather than testing more broadly, because that seemed like the best way to catch cases entering the country.

MORE STORIES

The Coronavirus Is a Data Time Bomb

ALEXIS C. MADRIGAL



You're Likely to Get the Coronavirus


JAMES HAMLIN



Epidemics Reveal the Truth About the Societies They Hit

ANNE APPLEBAUM





What are
data?

183.102

154.178

133.23



Data sharing policies

- European Union
- U.S. Federal research policy
- Research Councils of the UK
- Australian Research Council
- Individual countries, funding agencies, journals, universities



Supported by
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 Australian Government
National Health and Medical Research Council

 National Science Foundation
WHERE DISCOVERIES BEGIN

Policy RECommendations for Open Access to Research Data in Europe



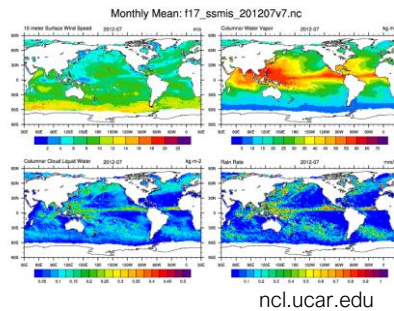
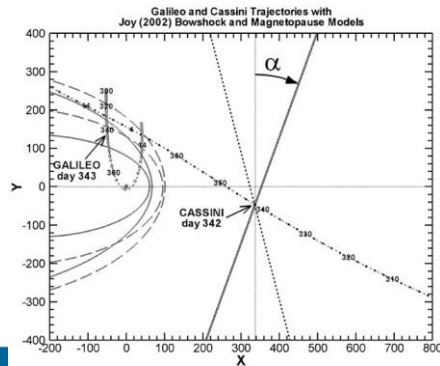
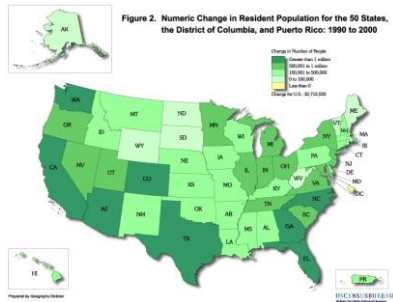


Data are representations of observations, objects, or other entities used as evidence of phenomena for the purposes of research or scholarship.*

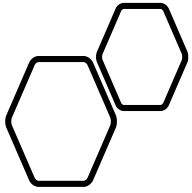


<http://www.genome.gov/dmd/img.cfm?node=Photos/Graphics&id=85327>

*C.L. Borgman (2015). *Big Data, Little Data, No Data: Scholarship in the Networked World*. MIT Press



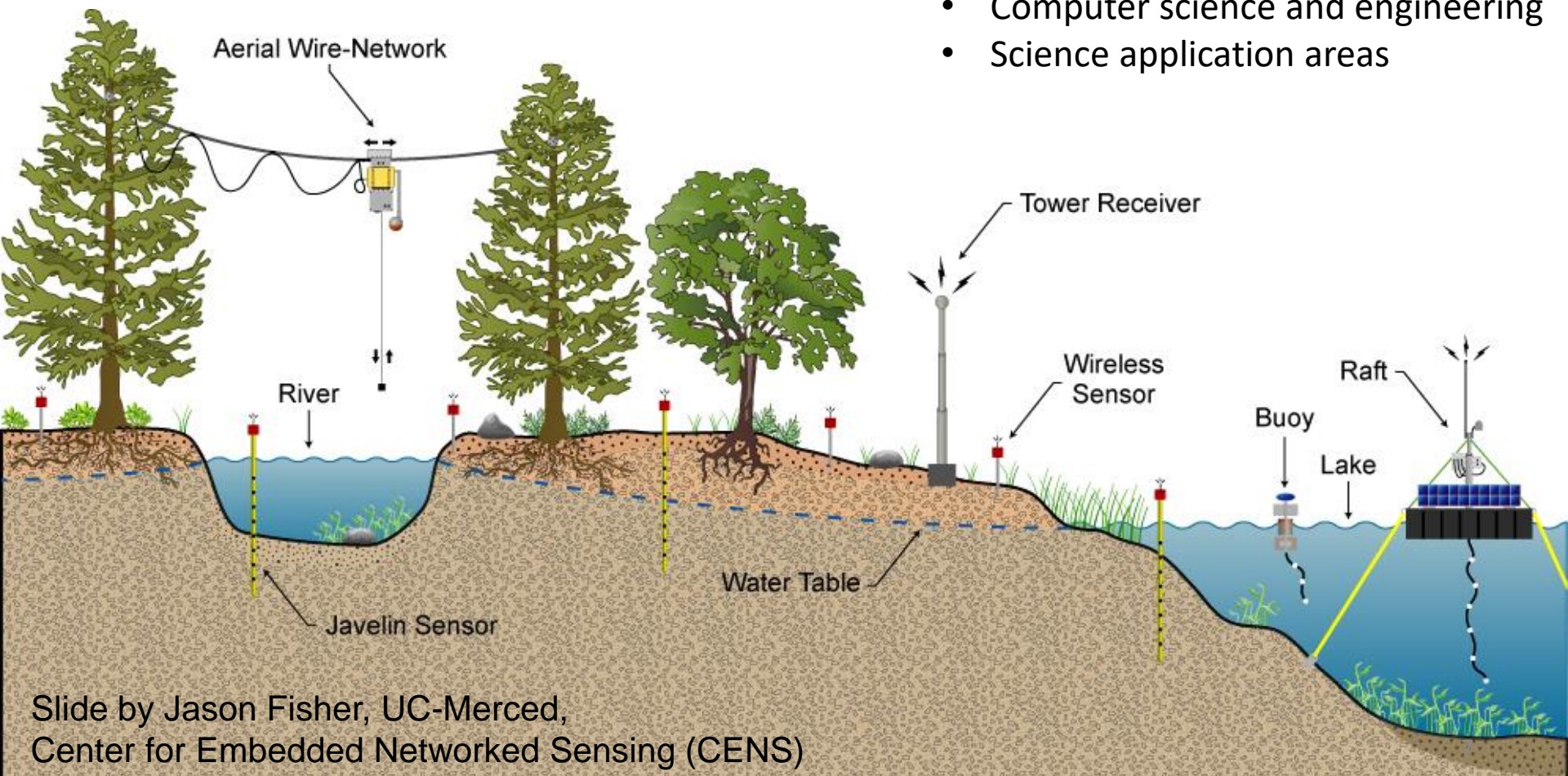
Kivelson, M. G., & Southwood, D. J. (2003). First evidence of IMF control of Jovian magnetospheric boundary locations: Cassini and Galileo magnetic field measurements compared. *Planetary and Space Science*, 51(13), 891–898.
[https://doi.org/10.1016/S0032-0633\(03\)00075-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0032-0633(03)00075-8)



How to interpret data?

Center for Embedded Networked Sensing

- NSF Science & Tech Ctr, 2002-2012
- 5 universities, plus partners
- 300 members
- Computer science and engineering
- Science application areas



Slide by Jason Fisher, UC-Merced,
Center for Embedded Networked Sensing (CENS)

Science \leftrightarrow Data

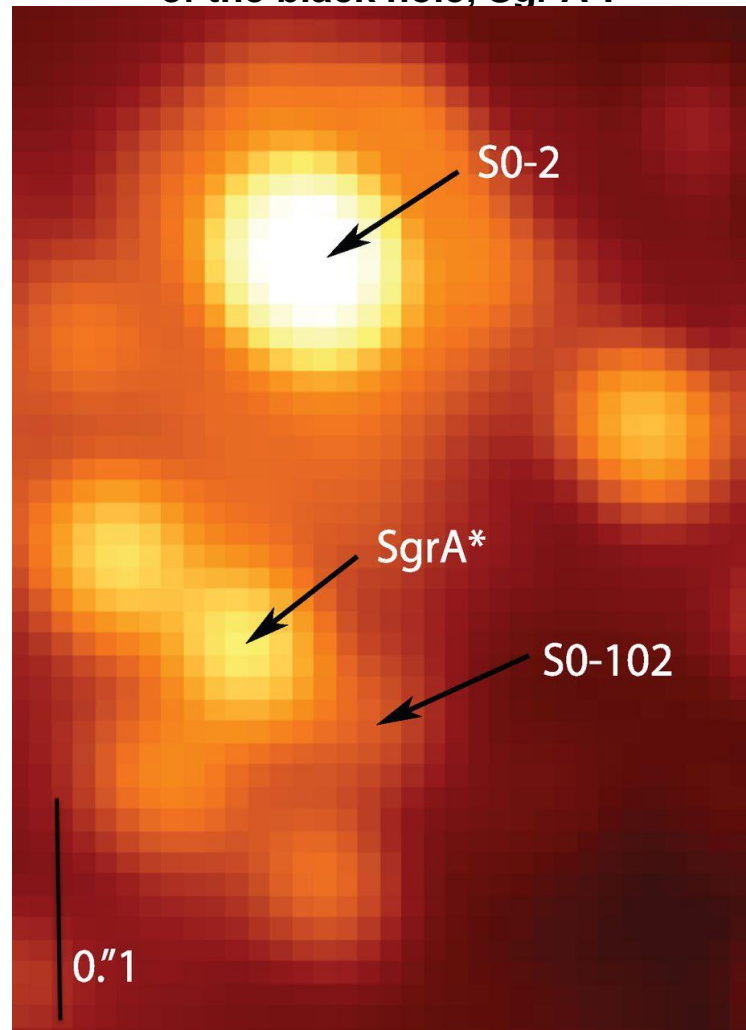
Engineering researcher:
“Temperature is temperature.”



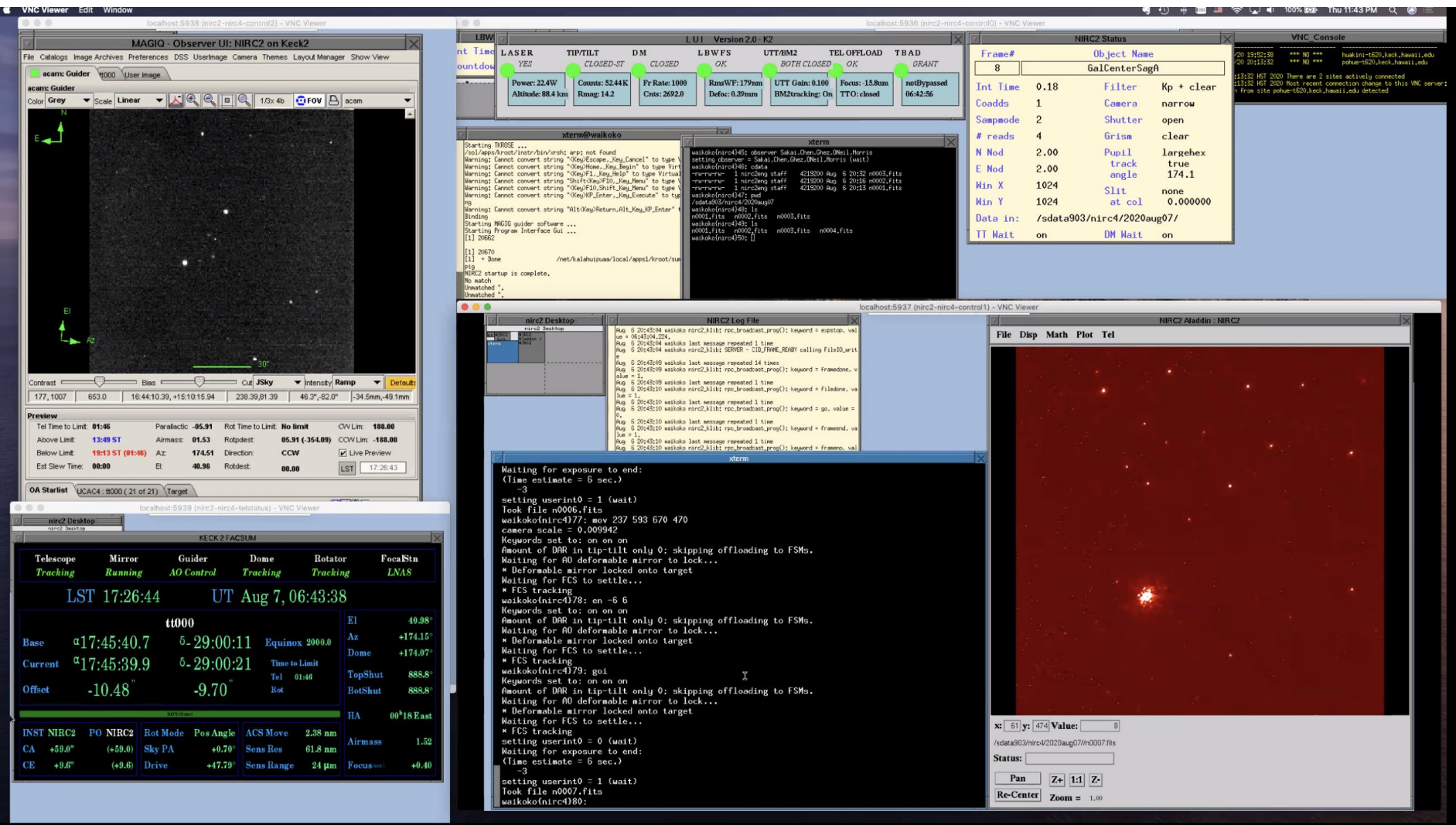
CENS Robotics team

Biologist: ***“There are hundreds of ways to measure temperature.*** ‘The temperature is 98’ is low-value compared to, ‘the temperature of the surface, measured by the infrared thermopile, model number XYZ, is 98.’ That means it is measuring a proxy for a temperature, rather than being in contact with a probe, and it is measuring from a distance. The accuracy is plus or minus .05 of a degree. I [also] want to know that it was taken outside versus inside a controlled environment, how long it had been in place, and the last time it was calibrated, which might tell me whether it has drifted..”

Fig. 1 A Keck/NIRC2 AO image from May 2010 showing the short-period star S0-102, which is, besides S0-2, the only star with full orbital phase coverage, and the electromagnetic counterpart of the black hole, Sgr A*.



L. Meyer et al. Science 2012;338:84-87

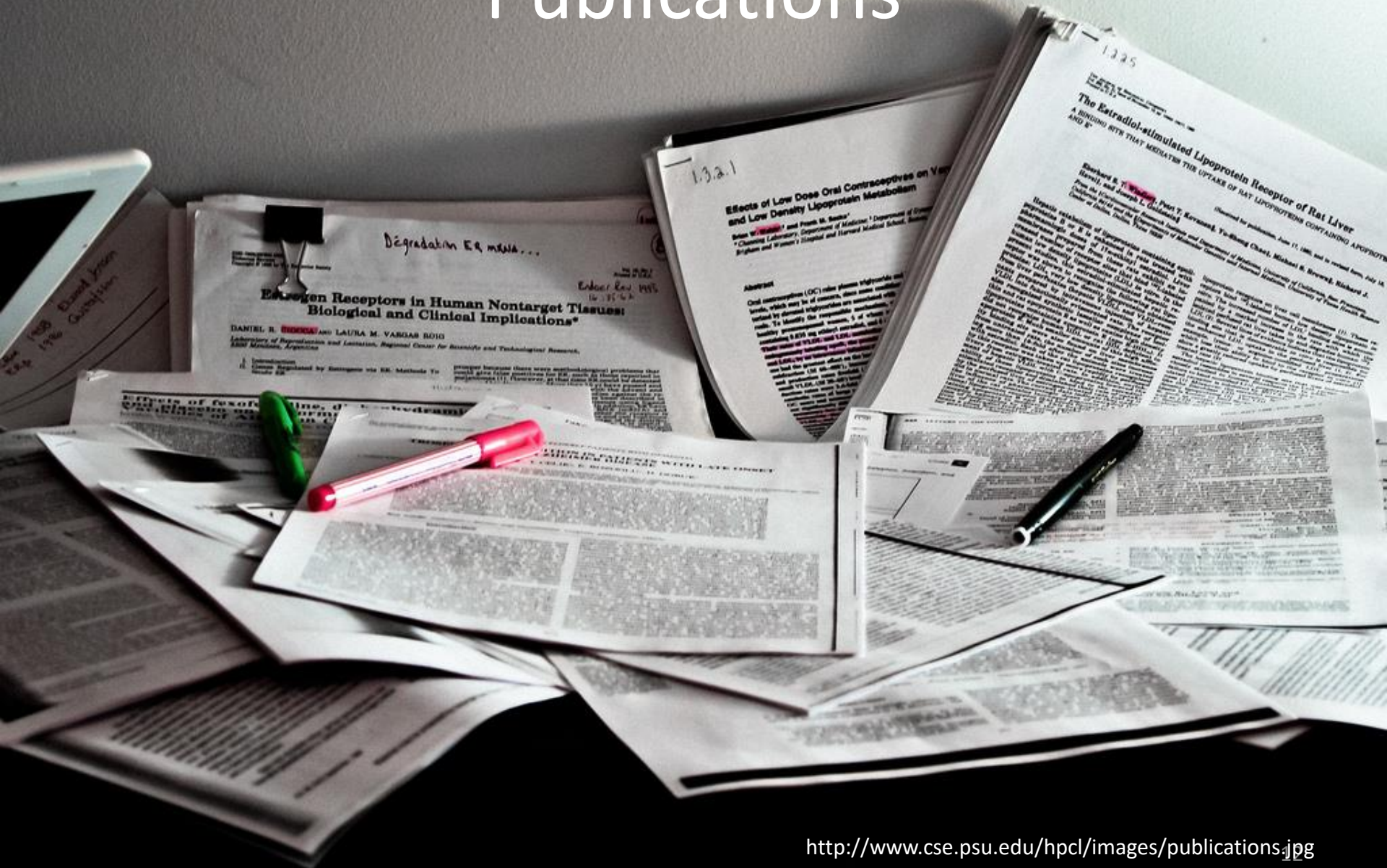


Astronomers' user interface for taking observations at a major ground-based telescope (August 2020)

Publications vs data



Publications

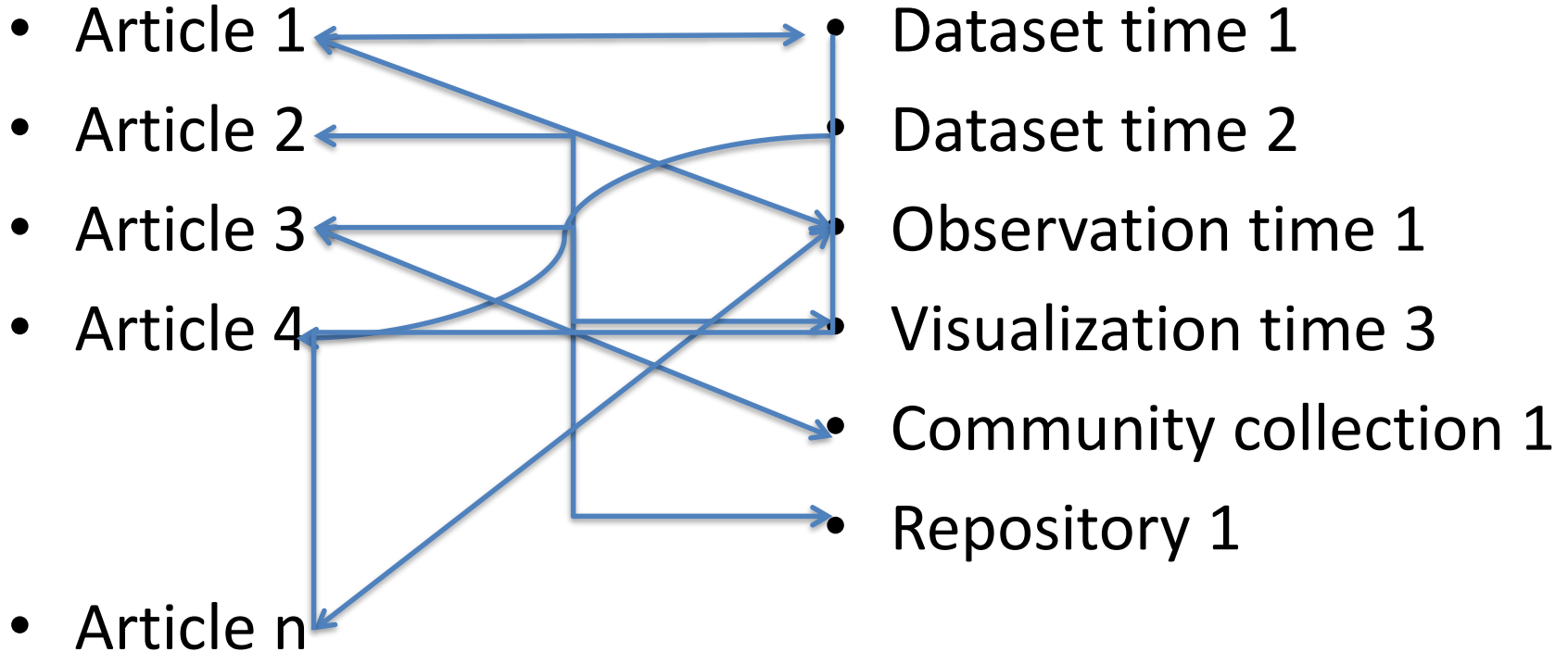


Publications \leftrightarrow Data: Role

Publications are arguments made by authors, and data are the evidence used to support the arguments.



Publications \leftrightarrow Data: Mapping



11 February 2011

Science

A word cloud on a dark background with the word "Science" in large white letters at the top. Other visible words include "change", "use", "important", "future", "cell", "work", "efforts", "databases", "web", "available", "approaches", "must", "research", "information", "climate", "time", "made", "lead", "challenges", "tools", "public", "analysis", "2009", "visualization", "health", "many", "project", "human", "become", "2010", "et", "make", "2006", "growing", "tools", "changes", "methods", "one", "AAAS".

Why cite data?

- Credit
- Attribution
- Discovery

A word cloud on a dark background with the word "data" in large blue letters at the bottom. Other visible words include "research", "information", "climate", "time", "made", "lead", "challenges", "tools", "public", "analysis", "2009", "visualization", "health", "many", "project", "human", "become", "2010", "et", "make", "2006", "growing", "tools", "changes", "methods", "one", "AAAS", "need", "large", "science", "sharing", "scientists", "global", "brain", "researchers", "access", "new", "used", "digital", "project", "human", "become", "2010", "et", "make", "2006", "growing", "tools", "changes", "methods", "one", "AAAS", "example knowledge".



Credit

Bibliometrics, Scientometrics, Informetrics, Webometrics...

data—associating stored genes with nonidentifying numbers—to protect privacy.¹⁹ Other guidelines recommend anonymization in contexts such as electronic commerce,²⁰ internet service provision,²¹ data mining,²² and national security data sharing.²³ Academic researchers rely heavily on anonymization to protect human research subjects, and their research guidelines recommend anonymization generally,²⁴ and specifically in education,²⁵ computer network monitoring,²⁶ and health studies.²⁷ Professional statisticians are duty-bound to anonymize data as a matter of professional ethics.²⁸

Market pressures sometimes compel businesses to anonymize data. For example, companies like mint.com and wesabe.com provide web-based personal finance tracking and planning.²⁹ One way these companies add value is by aggregating and republishing data to help their customers compare their spending with that of similarly situated people.³⁰ To make customers comfortable with this type of data sharing, both mint.com and wesabe.com promise to anonymize data before sharing it.³¹

Architecture, defined in Lessig's sense as technological constraints,³² often forces anonymization, or at least makes anonymization the default choice. As one example, whenever you visit a website, the distant computer with which you communicate—also known as the web server—records some information

19. Roberto Andorno, *Population Genetic Databases: A New Challenge to Human Rights, in ETHICS AND LAW OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY* 39 (Christian Lenk, Nils Hoppe & Roberto Andorno eds., 2007).

20. ALEX BERSON & LARRY DUBOV, *MASTER DATA MANAGEMENT AND CUSTOMER DATA INTEGRATION FOR A GLOBAL ENTERPRISE* 338–39 (2007).

21. See *infra* Part II.A.3.b.

22. G.K. GUPTA, *INTRODUCTION TO DATA MINING WITH CASE STUDIES* 432 (2006).

23. MARKLE FOUND. TASK FORCE, *CREATING A TRUSTED NETWORK FOR HOMELAND SECURITY* 144 (2003), available at http://www.markle.org/downloadable_assets/nstf_report2_full_report.pdf.

24. See *THE SAGE ENCYCLOPEDIA OF QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS* 196 (Lisa M. Given ed., 2008) (entry for "Data Security").

25. LOUIS COHEN ET AL., *RESEARCH METHODS IN EDUCATION* 189 (2003).

26. See Ruoming Pang et al., *The Devil and Packet Trace Anonymization*, 36 *COMP. COMM. REV.* 29 (2006).

27. INST. OF MED., *PROTECTING DATA PRIVACY IN HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH* 178 (2000).

28. European Union Article 29 Data Protection Working Party, *Opinion 4/2007 on the Concept of Personal Data*, 01248/07/EN WP 136, at 21 (June 20, 2007) [hereinafter 2007 Working Party Opinion], available at https://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/fsj/privacy/docs/wpdocs/2007/wp136_en.pdf.

29. See Eric Benderoff, *Spend and Save the Social Way—Personal Technology*, SEATTLE TIMES, Nov. 8, 2008, at A9.

30. See Carolyn Y. Johnson, *Online Social Networking Meets Personal Finance*, N.Y. TIMES, Aug. 7, 2007, available at <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/08/07/technology/07iht-debt.1.7013213.html>.

31. See, e.g., Wesabe, *Security and Privacy*, <http://www.wesabe.com/page/security> (last visited June 12, 2010); Mint.com, *How Mint Personal Finance Management Protects Your Financial Safety*, <http://www.mint.com/privacy> (last visited June 12, 2010).

32. LESSIG, *supra* note 18, at 4.

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Authorship Credit

Searches for author: Christine Borgman, Christine L. Borgman, CL Borgman (excluding other C Borgman authors) on July 28, 2014 for Google Scholar, Web of Science (Thompson-Reuters, Clarivate), Scopus (Elsevier)

Source	Publications 2014	Citations received 2014	H-index 2014
Google Scholar	380	7766	39
Web of Science	145	1629	20
<i>Scopus</i>	<i>77</i>	<i>1314</i>	<i>14 (after 1995)</i>

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

“Altmetrics”

If We Share Data, Will Anyone Use Them? Data Sharing and Reuse in the Long Tail of Science and Technology

Jillian C. Wallis , Elizabeth Rolando, Christine L. Borgman

Published: July 23, 2013 • <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0067332>

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Abstract

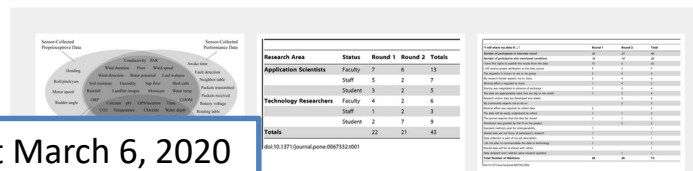
- Introduction
- Literature Review and Background
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusions
- Acknowledgments
- Author Contributions
- References

- Reader Comments (1)
- Media Coverage (2)
- Figures

Abstract

Research on practices to share and reuse data will inform the design of infrastructure to support data collection, management, and discovery in the long tail of science and technology. These are research domains in which data tend to be local in character, minimally structured, and minimally documented. We report on a ten-year study of the Center for Embedded Network Sensing (CENS), a National Science Foundation Science and Technology Center. We found that CENS researchers are willing to share their data, but few are asked to do so, and in only a few domain areas do their funders or journals require them to deposit data. Few repositories exist to accept data in CENS research areas. Data sharing tends to occur only through interpersonal exchanges. CENS researchers obtain data from repositories, and occasionally from registries and individuals, to provide context, calibration, or other forms of background for their studies. Neither CENS researchers nor those who request access to CENS data appear to use external data for primary research questions or for replication of studies. CENS researchers are willing to share data if they receive credit and retain first rights to publish their results. Practices of releasing, sharing, and reusing of data in CENS reaffirm the gift culture of scholarship, in which goods are bartered between trusted colleagues rather than treated as commodities.

Figures



Subject Areas

- Data management
- Scientists
- Seismology
- Computer and inform...
- Research laboratories
- Science policy
- Oceans
- Surveys

Archived Tweets

24 Jul 2013

Jason M Kelly
@Jason_M_Kelly
MT @trevormunoz: To read: RT @SciTechProf: If

Attribution



14 Contributor Roles

Conceptualization

Data curation

Formal Analysis

Funding acquisition

Investigation

Methodology

Project administration

Resources

Software

Supervision

Validation

Visualization

Writing – original draft

Writing – review &
editing

CRedit – Contributor Roles Taxonomy. (2020). <http://credit.niso.org/>

Publications \leftrightarrow Data: Attribution

- Publications
 - Independent units
 - Authorship is negotiated
- Data
 - Compound objects
 - Ownership is rarely clear
 - Attribution
 - Long term responsibility: Investigators
 - Expertise for interpretation: Data collectors and analysts





Discovery

Metadata for Discovery

- Identity

- Identifiers

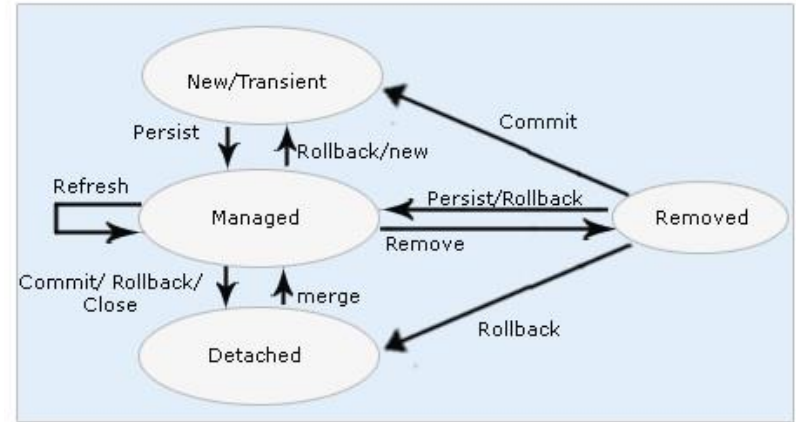
- DOI, Handles
- URI, PURL...

- Naming and namespaces

- Authors/creators: ORCID, ISNI, VIAF...
- Generic/specific: registry number...

- Description

- Self-describing
- Metadata augmentation



Persistence Content

Discovering Useful Data

- Identify the form and content
- Identify related objects
- Interpret
- Evaluate
- Open
- Read
- Compute upon
- Reuse
- Combine
- Describe
- Annotate...

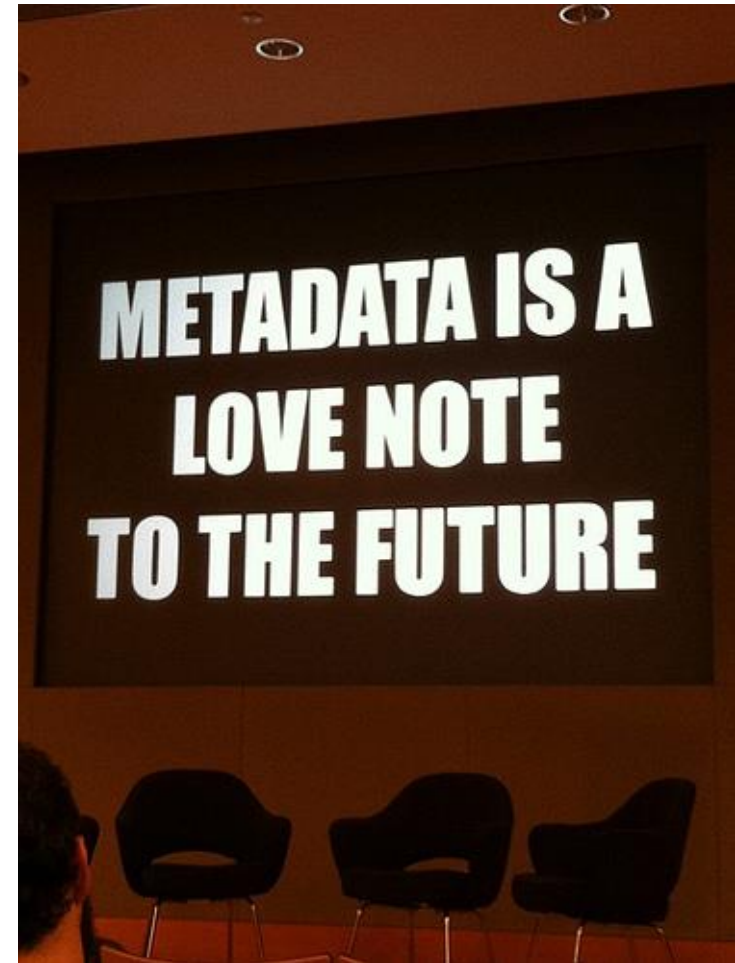
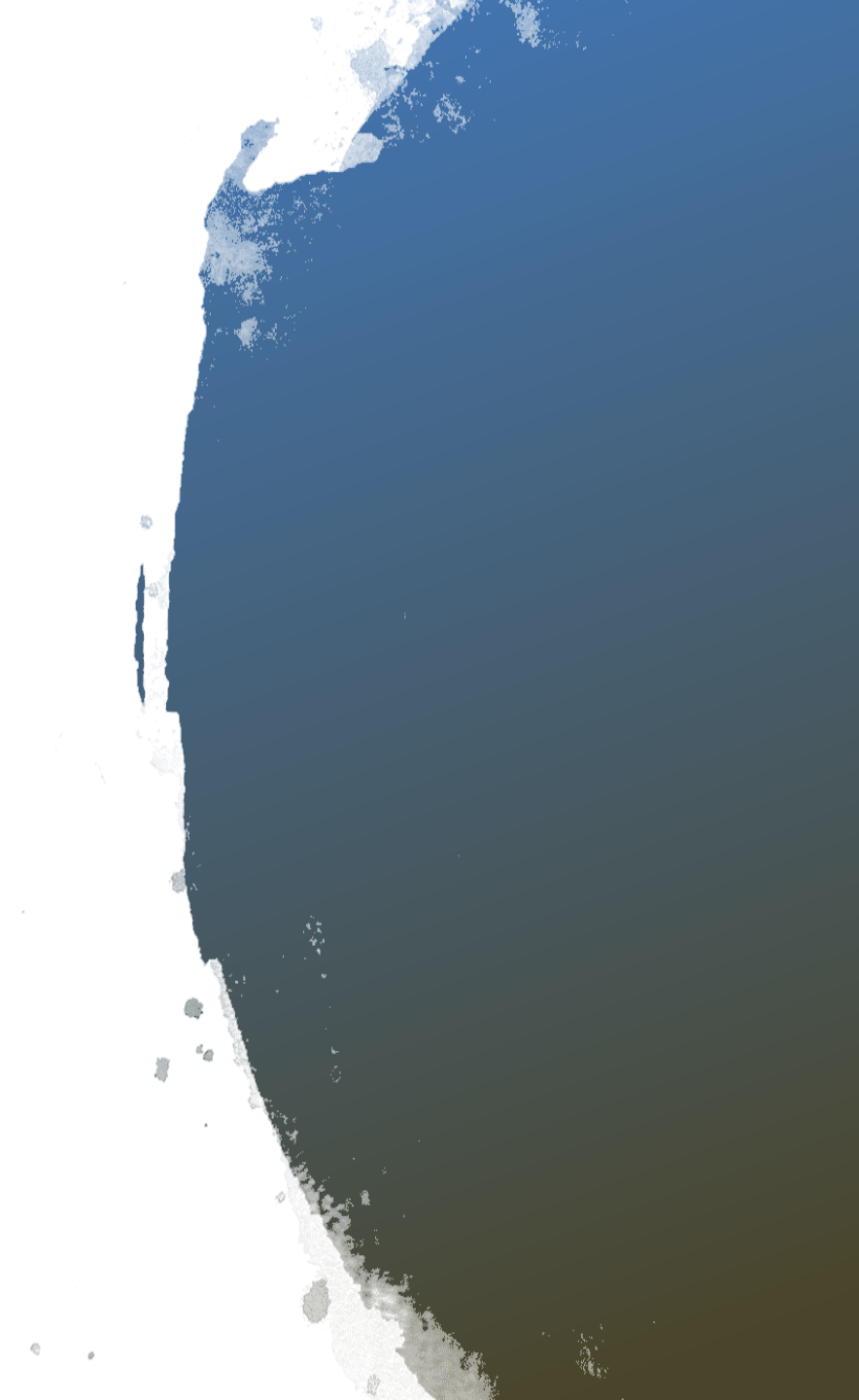
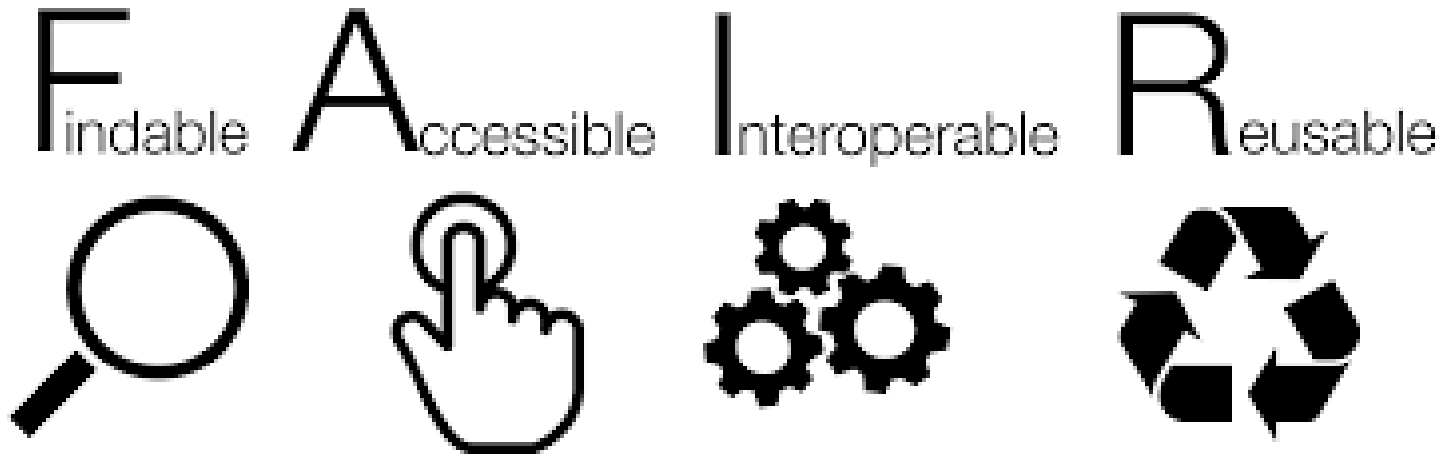


Photo by [@kissane](#); presentation by Jason Scott (@textfiles)

Stewardship, Incentives, and Scientific Practice



Data Stewardship: The Ideal



Wilkinson, et al. (2016). The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship. *Scientific Data*, 3, <http://dx.doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18>

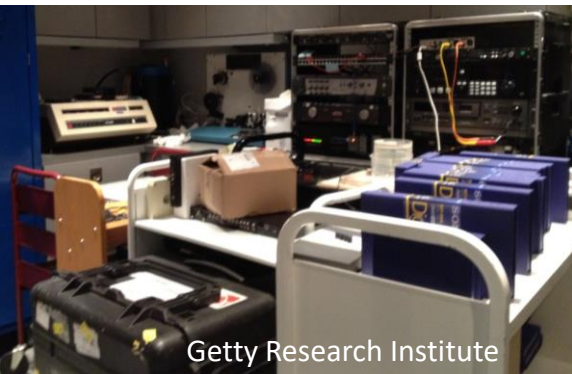
Data Stewardship: the Reality



We just need to migrate the data from these systems to fit into that hole over there.



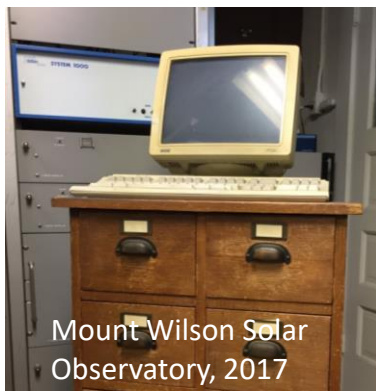
<http://www.datamartist.com/data-migration-part-1-introduction-to-the-data-migration-delema>



Graduate students



Post-doctoral fellows



Lack of incentives to share data

- Labor to document data
- Benefits to unknown others
- Competition
- Control
- Confidentiality
- Lack of expertise and staff
- Lack of sustainability...



Image: <http://www.buildingsrus.co.uk/.../target1.htm>

The Data Creators' Advantage

	Comparative Data Reuse <--> Integrative Data Reuse	
Goal	“Ground truthing:” calibrate, compare, confirm	Analysis: identify patterns, correlations, causal relationships
Example	Instrument calibration, sequence annotation, review summary-level data	Meta-analyses, novel statistical analyses
Frequency	Frequent, routine practice	Rare, emergent practice
Interpretation	Interactional expertise, ‘knowledge that’	Contributory expertise, ‘knowledge how,’ tacit knowledge

Pasquetto, I. V., Borgman, C. L., & Wofford, M. F. (2019). Uses and reuses of scientific data: The data creators' advantage. *Harvard Data Science Review*, 1:2, <https://hdr.mitpress.mit.edu/>. Winner of the 2020 ASIS&T SIG SI Social Informatics Best Paper Award

Why Human Interaction with Data is a Hard Problem

- Data exist in contexts
- Data are complex objects
 - Signals, observations
 - Software, tools, methods, models
 - Digital records, physical objects
- Data management is undervalued
- Data creators have interpretive advantages





Alberto Pepe, David Fearon, Katie Shilton, Jillian Wallis, Christine Borgman, Matthew Mayernik (2009)



Christine Borgman



Peter Darch



Ashley Sands



Irene Pasquetto



Milena Golshan



Bernie Boscoe



Cheryl Thompson



Morgan Wofford



Michael Scroggins



Sharon Traweek