Data Curation 2018
November 5th, 2018
Charleston, South Carolina

Part One
Introduction to Data Curation
What is Data? What is Data Curation?
CONUNDRUM
Pictures, Pictures, Pictures
Data Curation

Data Curation is “applying the archival principles of library and information sciences to a wide variety of data objects from all disciplines and prepare them for ingest, access, and long term preservation within an environment that facilitates discovery and access while not diminishing their content, authenticity and value” - Lisa R. Johnson
Research Data

Instrument measurements
- Experimental observations
- Still images, video and audio
- Text documents, spreadsheets, databases
- Quantitative data (e.g. household survey data)
- Survey results & interview transcripts
- Simulation data, models & software
- Slides, artefacts, specimens, samples
- Sketches, diaries, lab notebooks
Research Data Classes

Observational - (Climate readings, field notes, etc.) - Historical, cannot be reproduced in any way, may need indefinite archiving.

Computational - May require information about hardware, and perhaps the complete software, but not necessarily the results

Experimental Data - Data gained from running experiments. May or may not be reproducible.
Data Curation: Then and Now

Then:

Journal articles primary means of scholarly communication

Data behind the articles accessible, but difficult

Articles contained in structured metadata (journals)

Cited according to rigid standards

No real data standards other than IRB rules.
Data Curation: Then and Now

Now:

Technology makes data easily shareable

Data now required to be made available by

Grant writing bodies - https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/dmp.jsp
Data Curation: Then and Now

Publishers - https://www.elsevier.com/authors/author-services/research-data/data-statement
https://authorservices.taylorandfrancis.com/understanding-our-data-sharing-policies/
Data Curation: Then and Now

Now:
Data Curation: Then and Now

New kinds of collaboration

Data must be standardized, catalogued, distributed

Benefits everybody, including the researcher
Data Sharing & Management Snafu in Three Acts
What’s Wrong With This Dog?

https://youtu.be/66oNv_DJuPc
Data Curation ‘tions

Preparation
Evaluation
Communication
Clarification
Standardization
Documentation
Purpose of the Curator

Proof - Proofread data

Question - Ask researchers about what’s missing, Descriptions or pieces

Describe - Apply or improve labels and metadata

Translate - File formats

Clarify - Intelligibility to wide audience

Data Curation Thesaurus
GASP!

INHALE, PANT, PUFF, RESPIRE....

Thesaurus.
Reasons to Curate

- Easier for fellow scholars and future collaborators to understand
- More likely to be trusted
- The research they represent are more likely to be reproducible
- More likely to be properly cited
- Represent potential cost-savings
Data is Being Lost

Data decay - The Quest to Save Millions of Climate Records

Deliberate scrubbing - http://datarefuge.org

https://freegovinfo.info/node/13099

Obsolete Media - Rescuing the Computer Code that Took Us to the Moon
Other Data Issues

- Open Data - [https://cos.io/](https://cos.io/)
  - [https://osf.io/grhz7/](https://osf.io/grhz7/)
- Citizen Science
- [https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-07106-5](https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-018-07106-5)
- [https://www.citizenscience.gov/#](https://www.citizenscience.gov/#)
Data Curation and Libraries

“How Important are Data Curation Activities to Researchers?”

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- Focus Groups
- Card Swapping
- Surveys

“How Important are Data Curation Activities to Researchers?”

● 47 different activities http://bit.ly/DCNcurationActivities
● How important are these activities?
● How satisfied are you with how they are being done?
● Results: “No single data curation activity was happening in ways that satisfied the majority of our participants”

http://doi.org/10.7710/2162-3309.2198
“How Important are Data Curation Activities to Researchers?”

- “Our study found gaps in support for data curation activities that are very important but that are either not happening or not happening in a satisfactory way…”

- “These may be areas of opportunity for libraries to invest in new services and/or heavily promote services that may already exist but are not reaching the researchers who value them”


http://doi.org/10.7710/2162-3309.2198
Opportunities for Libraries

- Creating adequate documentation
- Providing secure storage
- Performing quality assurance for data
- Creating or applying metadata
- Visualizing data

http://doi.org/10.7710/2162-3309.2198
If Libraries Don’t.....

**Others will**: Springer Research Data Support -

https://www.springernature.com/gp/authors/research-data-policy
Activity #1: Make the Case
FAIR
Data Principles
FAIR Data Principle Guidelines

Created at an International Loretz Center workshop in 2014 by a group representing academia, industry, grant funding bodies, and publishers

Published in *Nature* in 2016

No real binding power, but best practices to follow

Not a standard or specification, but rather guidelines to assist curators and data producers in ascertaining whether their practices are optimizing the usefulness of their data
The F A I R Data Principles

Findable
Accessible
Interoperable
Reusable
FAIR: Findable

F1. Assigned a globally unique and persistent identifier
F2. Data are described with rich metadata (defined by R1 below)
F3. Metadata clearly and explicitly include the identifier of the data it describes
F4. Data are registered or indexed in a searchable resource
F A I R: Findable

DOI: Digital Object Identifier

Providers:

DataCite - https://www.datacite.org/doi.html

OSF (Open Science Framework): http://help.osf.io/m/sharing/l/524208-create-dois
F A I R: Findable

Google Dataset Search
**F A I R: Accessible**

A1. Data are retrievable by their identifier using a standardized communications protocol

   A1.1 the protocol is open, free, and universally implementable

   A1.2 the protocol allows for an authentication and authorization procedure, where necessary

A2. metadata are accessible, even when the data are no longer available
Repositories

R3Data Repository Search Engine: https://www.re3data.org/search/results/?term=

Dryad: https://youtu.be/RP33cl8tL28

ICPSR: https://deposit.icpsr.umich.edu/deposit/home

Zenofo: https://zenodo.org/

Open Source Repository Software -
http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Free_and_open-source_repository_software
F A I R: Interoperable

I1. Data use a formal, accessible, shared, and broadly applicable language for knowledge representation.

I2. Metadata use vocabularies that follow FAIR principles

I3. Metadata include qualified references to other data

F A I R: Interoperable
W3C Best Practices for Data on the Web -
https://www.w3.org/TR/dwbp/
1. Consider what information is needed for the data to be read and interpreted in the future.

2. Understand your funder requirements for data documentation and metadata.

3. Consult available metadata standards in your field: 
   http://www.dcc.ac.uk/resources/subject-areas/general-research-data
Metadata: Digital Curation Centre: [http://www.dcc.ac.uk/](http://www.dcc.ac.uk/)

4. Describe data and datasets created in your research lifecycle. Assign or capture:

   Descriptive - Creator, Author, Title(s), File Name, File Location, File Size

   Technical - Format, Compression, Software, Hardware, OS Used

   Administrative - Creation, Updates, Migration, etc.
F A I R: Reusable

R1. Data are richly described with a plurality of accurate and relevant attributes
   R1.1. Data are released with a clear and accessible data usage license
   R1.2. Data are associated with detailed provenance
   R1.3. Metadata meet domain-relevant community standards
Licensing: Creative Commons - [https://creativecommons.org/share-your-work/](https://creativecommons.org/share-your-work/)

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Exercise #2

DataSets in the Wild

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fRBiWktZfC7CvPxKPt-eikC1BiHLK2Kg2bGxu1VISM/edit?usp=sharing