

# FAIR Data Management

# FAIR Data Sharing

Mercè Crosas, Ph.D.  
Chief Data Science and Technology Officer  
Institute for Quantitative Social Science  
Harvard University  
[@mercecrosas](mailto:@mercecrosas) [mercecrosas.com](http://mercecrosas.com)

**Critical Perspectives of on the Practice of Digital Archeology, Harvard University, February 3, 2017**

primary data

order, transform,  
& analyze them

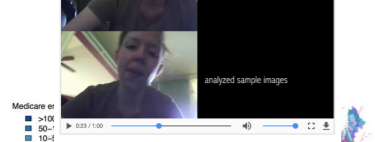
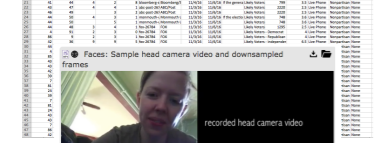
gain knowledge,  
make decisions

Digital  
Humanities

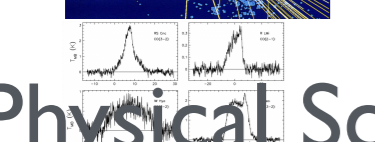
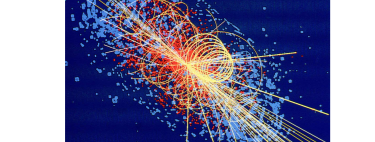
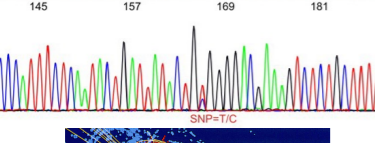


POSITION	Player Name	Team/Value	ID	TYPE	NAME	DATE
	Health state event					401700
	Player implant					401700
	Company					401700
	Player					401700
	Player					401700
	Player					401700
	Player					401700
	Player					401700
	Player					401700

Social Sciences



Life Sciences



Physical Sciences

Catalog  
Classify  
Visualize  
Quantify  
Summarize  
Geo reference  
Inference  
Missing data  
Forecast  
Causal Inference  
Coding  
Annotations  
Associations  
Likelihoods  
Compare with theory

Learn about  
the whole  
from a part.

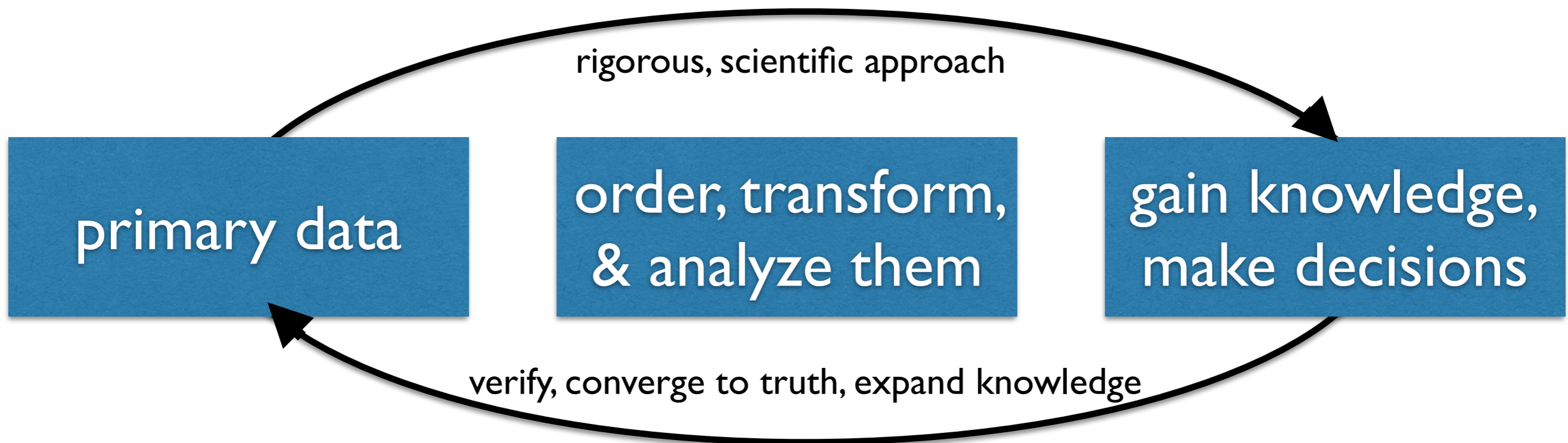
Tell a story.

Make a  
prediction.

Ultimately  
explain.

# Nullius in Verba: “Take nobody’s word for it”

(Royal Society, Philosophical Transactions, 1965)



- **Replication:** Independent scientific experiments to validate findings
- **Reproducibility:** Calculation of quantitative results by others using original datasets and methods

(Definitions by Stodden, Leisch, Peng, Implementing Reproducible Research, 2014)

\* Replication and reproducibility definitions vary across disciplines

# “Answering even a simple scientific question requires lots of choices that can shape the results”

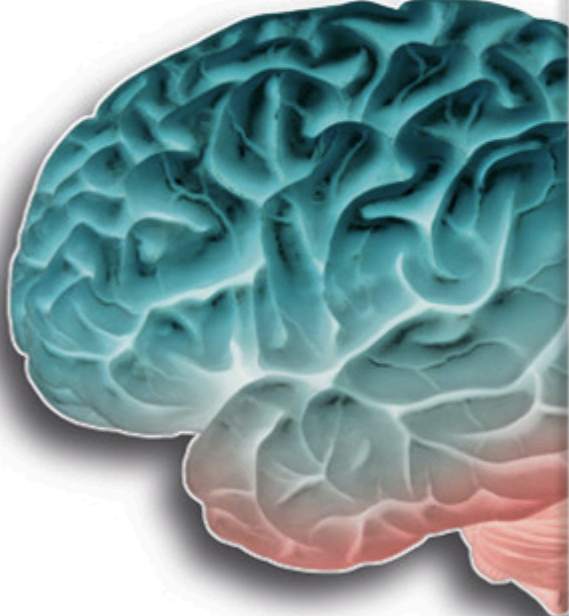
The Economist World politics Business & finance Economics

Problems with scientific research

## How science goes wrong

Scientific research has changed the world. Now it needs

Oct 19th 2013 | From the print edition



A SIMPLE idea underpins science: “trust, but verify”. Results are challenged from experiment. That simple but powerful idea has shaped our knowledge. Since its birth in the 17th century, modern science has gone beyond recognition, and overwhelmingly for the better.

## INSIGHTS

Design principles for synthetic ecology p. 1425

Whacking hydrogen into metal p. 1429

PERSPECTIVES



SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY

### Self-correction in science at work


Improve incentives to support research integrity

By Bruce Alberts,<sup>1</sup> Ralph J. Ciccone,<sup>2</sup> Stephen E. Fienberg,<sup>3</sup> Alexander Kamb,<sup>4</sup> Marcia McNutt,<sup>5\*</sup> Robert M. Nerem,<sup>6</sup> Randy Schekman,<sup>7</sup> Richard Shiffrin,<sup>8</sup> Victoria Stodden,<sup>9</sup> Subra Suresh,<sup>10</sup> Maria T. Zuber,<sup>11</sup> Barbara Kline Pope,<sup>12</sup> Kathleen Hall Jamieson<sup>13,14</sup>

Week after week, news outlets carry word of new scientific discoveries, but the media sometimes give suspect science equal play with substantive discoveries. Careful qualifications about what is known are lost in categorical headlines. Rare instances of misconduct or instances of irreproducibility are translated into concerns that science is broken. The October 2013 *Economist* headline proclaimed “Trouble at the lab: Scientists like to think of science as self-correcting. To an alarming degree, it is not” (1). Yet, that article is also rich with instances of science both policing itself, which is how the problems came to *The Economist's* attention in the first place, and addressing discovered lapses and irreproducibility concerns. In light of such issues and efforts, the U.S. National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and the Annenberg Retreat at Sunnyslands convened our group to examine ways to remove some of the current disincentives to high standards of integrity in science.

Like all human endeavors, science is imperfect. However, as Robert Merton noted more than half a century ago “the activities of scientists are self-policing, to a degree not paralleled in any other human activity” (2). As a result, as Popper (3) of the very few human activities that are self-policing, the only activity that is self-policing is science. Instances in which address flaws in work of success, not failure, demonstrate the underpinnings of science at work. Still, as in any human endeavor, self-policing does not always work. Although attempts at self-policing in the Wakefield study are between autism and

FiveThirtyEight Science



THE SCIENTIFIC METHOD | 7:00 AM | AUG 19, 2015

## Science Isn't Broken

It's just a hell of a lot harder than we give it credit for

By CHRISTIE ASCHWANDEN  
Graphics by RITCHIE KING

If you follow the headlines, your confidence in science may have taken a hit lately. Peer review? More like self-review. An investigation in November uncovered a scam in which researchers were rubber-stamping their own work, circumventing peer review at five high-profile

“When possible, make data, methods, and code open to verify”

“Science/research might be imperfect, but is self-correcting”

“It's not unreliable, but more challenging that we give it credit for”

# Caring for and sharing your data (and code) enable you and others to correct and reuse them



The image shows a screenshot of a PLOS Computational Biology article page. At the top right is the URL "plos.org". The PLOS logo is on the left, with "COMPUTATIONAL BIOLOGY" to its right. Navigation links "Browse", "Publish", and "About" are on the right. Below the header, there is an "OPEN ACCESS" icon and the word "EDITORIAL". The main title is "Ten Simple Rules for the Care and Feeding of Scientific Data". The authors listed are Alyssa Goodman, Alberto Pepe (with an email icon), Alexander W. Blocker, Christine L. Borgman, Kyle Cranmer, Merce Crosas, Rosanne Di Stefano, Yolanda Gil, Paul Groth, Margaret Hedstrom, David W. Hogg, Vinay Kashyap, Ashish Mahabal, Aneta Siemiginowska, and Aleksandra Slavkovic. At the bottom, it says "Published: April 24, 2014 • <http://dx.doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1003542>".

1. Love your data
2. Share your data
3. Conduct science with reuse in mind
4. Publish workflow
5. Link data to publications
6. Publish your code
7. State how you want to get credit
8. Foster and use repositories
9. Reward colleagues who share
10. Boost Data Science

# Data should be Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable (FAIR) **by machines**



SCIENTIFIC DATA

Altmetric: 442 Views: 29,187 Citations: 32 [More detail >>](#)

[Comment](#) | [OPEN](#)

## The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship

Mark D. Wilkinson, Michel Dumontier, IJsbrand Jan Aalbersberg, Gabrielle Appleton, Myles Axton, Arie Baak, Niklas Blomberg, Jan-Willem Boiten, Luiz Bonino da Silva Santos, Philip E. Bourne, Jildau Bouwman, Anthony J. Brookes, Tim Clark, Mercè Crosas, Ingrid Dillo, Olivier Dumon, Scott Edmunds, Chris T. Evelo, Richard Finkers, Alejandra Gonzalez-Beltran, Alasdair J.G. Gray, Paul Groth, Carole Goble, Jeffrey S. Grethe, Jaap Heringa, Peter A.C 't Hoen, Rob Hooft, Tobias Kuhn, Ruben Kok, Joost Kok, Scott J. Lusher, Maryann E. Martone, Albert Mons, Abel L. Packer, Bengt Persson, Philippe Rocca-Serra, Marco Roos, Rene van Schaik, Susanna-Assunta Sansone, Erik Schultes, Thierry Sengstag, Ted Slater, George Strawn, Morris A. Swertz, Mark Thompson, Johan van der Lei, Erik van Mulligen, Jan Velterop, Andra Waagmeester, Peter Wittenburg, Katherine Wolstencroft, Jun Zhao & Barend Mons  - [Show fewer authors](#)

Wilkinson et al, 'The FAIR Guiding Principles scientific data management and stewardship,' Nature Scientific Data, 2016; NIH Data Commons Principles; Joint Declaration of Data Citation Principles (Force 11)

“**FAIR Principles** put specific emphasis on enhancing the ability of machines to automatically find and use the data, in addition to supporting its reuse by individuals.”

“**Good data management** is not a goal in itself, but rather is the key conduit leading to knowledge discovery and innovation, and to subsequent data and knowledge integration and reuse by the community after the data publication process.”

# FAIR Data Principles in Brief

- **To be Findable:**

- (meta)data are assigned a globally unique and persistent identifier
- data are described with rich metadata
- metadata clearly and explicitly include the identifier of the data it describes
- (meta)data are registered or indexed in a searchable resource

- **To be Accessible:**

- (meta)data are retrievable by their identifier using a standardized communications protocol
- the protocol is open, free, and universally implementable
- the protocol allows for an authentication and authorization procedure, where necessary
- metadata are accessible, even when the data are no longer available

- **To be Interoperable:**

- (meta)data use a formal, accessible, shared, and broadly applicable language for knowledge representation.
- (meta)data use vocabularies that follow FAIR principles
- (meta)data include qualified references to other (meta)data

- **To be Reusable:**

- meta(data) are richly described with a plurality of accurate and relevant attributes
- (meta)data are released with a clear and accessible data usage license (meta)data are associated with detailed provenance (meta)data meet domain-relevant community standards



# We built Dataverse to incentivize data sharing, with “good data management” in mind

- An **open-source** platform to share and archive data
- Developed at Harvard’s Institute for Quantitative Social Science since 2006
- Gives **credit and control** to researchers
- Builds a **community** to:
  - define new standards and best practices
  - foster new research and collaboration in data sharing
- Has brought **data publishing** into the hands of researchers

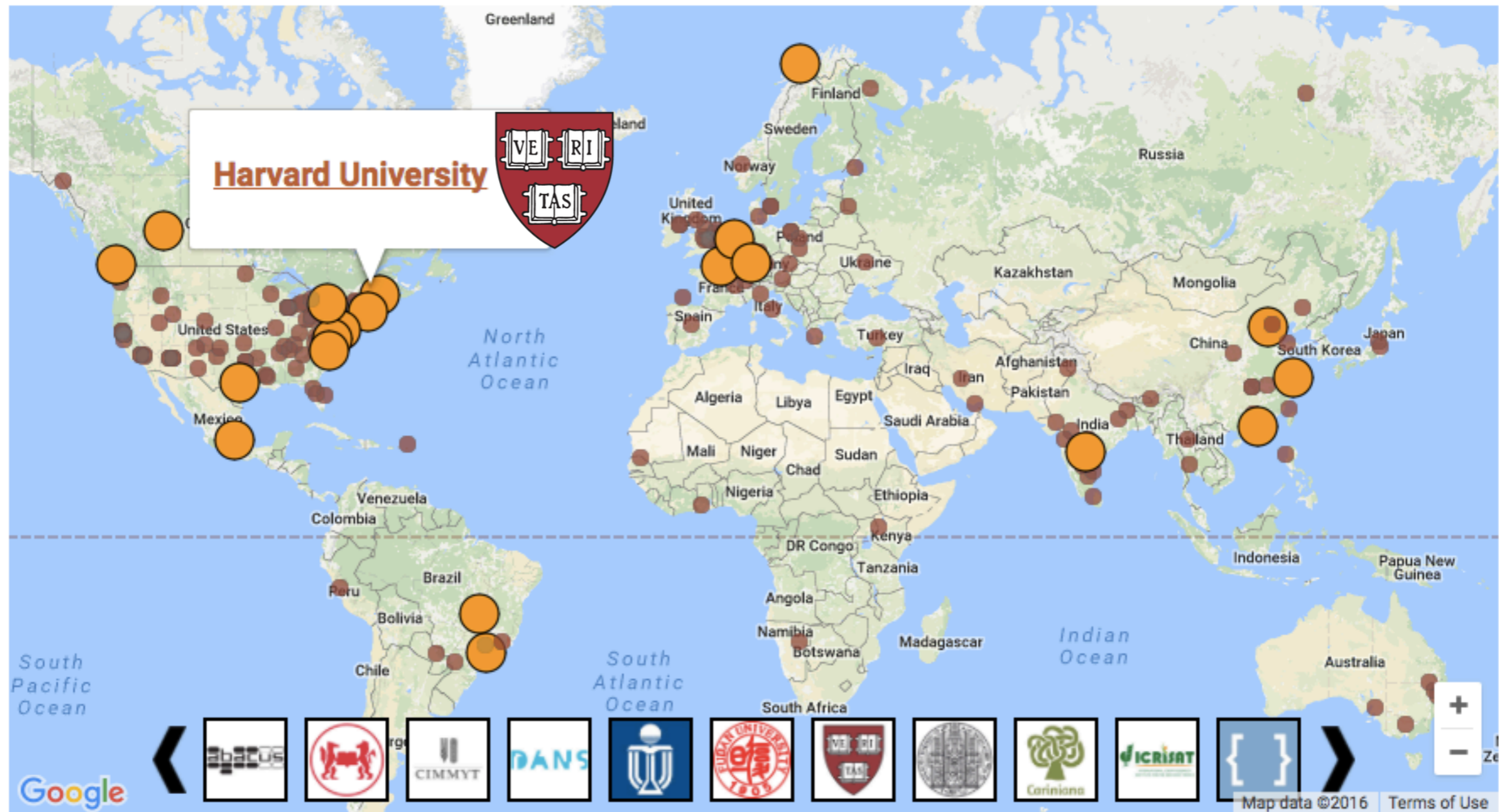
# Dataverse is now a widely used repository platform

21 installations around the world

Used by researchers from > 500 institutions

60,000 datasets in Harvard Dataverse repository

<http://dataverse.org>



# Dataverse has a growing, engaged community of developers and users

38

GitHub contributors

332

members in the community list

23

community calls

with 239 participants from

8 countries

Annual

Community Meeting,  
with 200 attendees

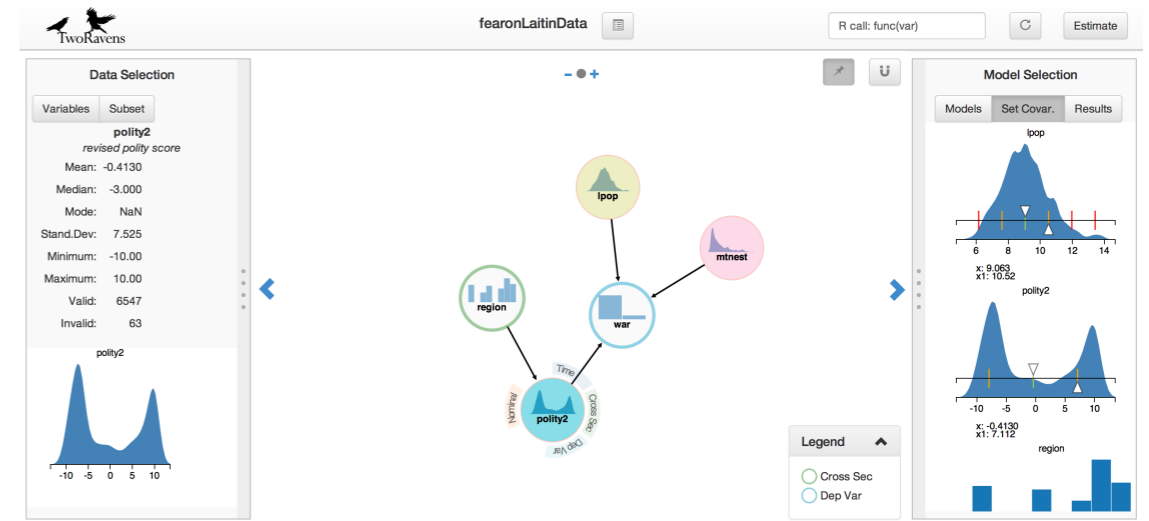
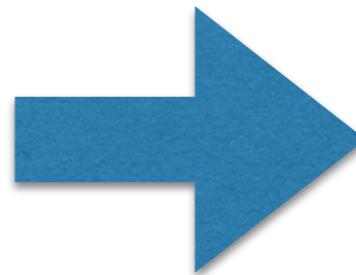
# Dataverse implements FAIR Data Principles

- **Data Citation with global persistent IDs:**
  - Generate DOI automatically
  - attribution to data authors and repository
  - registration to DataCite
- **Rich Metadata:**
  - citation metadata
  - domain-specific descriptive metadata
  - variable and file metadata (extracted automatically)
- **Access and usage controls:**
  - open data as default, with CC0 waiver
  - custom terms of use and licenses, when needed
  - data can be restricted, but citation & metadata always publicly accessible
- **APIs and standards:**
  - SWORD, OAI-PMH, Dataverse native open API
  - Dublin Core and DDI metadata standards
  - PROV ontology standard to capture provenance of a dataset (coming soon)

# Standard file formats and automatic metadata extraction allow data exploration

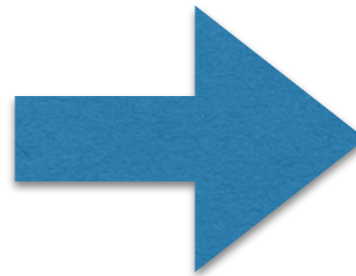
## TwoRavens: summary stats & analysis

Var1	Var2	Var3	Var4

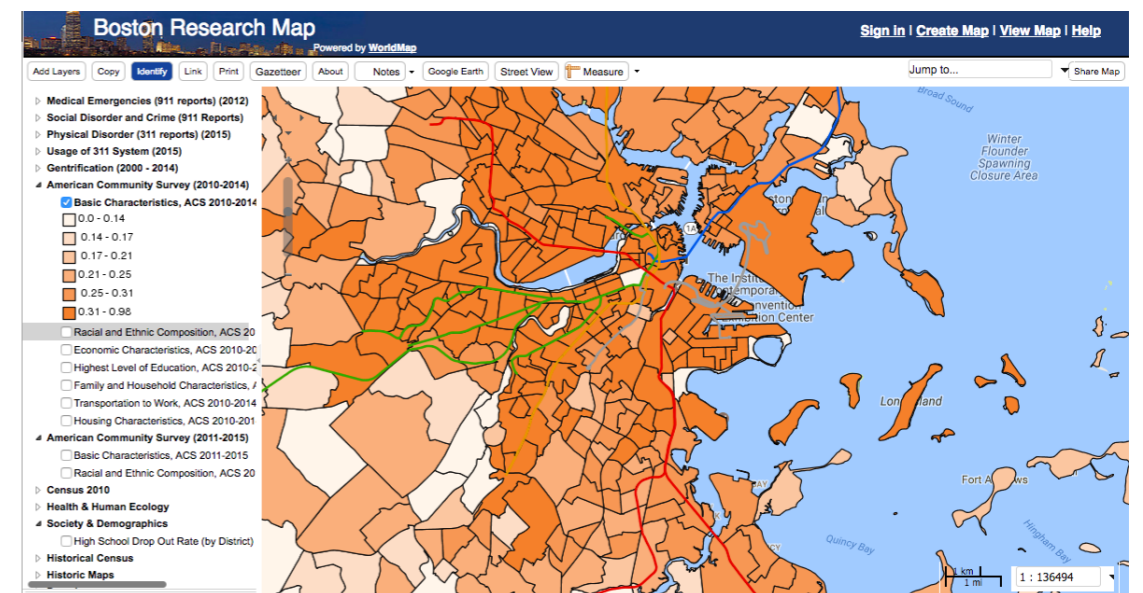


geospatial variable

Var1	Var2	Var3	Var4



## WorldMap: geospatial exploration



# Archeology Example

**DataVerse** | About | Guides | Support | Dashboard | Merce Crosas

**Harvard Dataverse**

Harvard Dataverse > Replication Data for: The Hydraulic Landscape of Nimrud

Metrics | 6 Downloads

**Replication Data for: The Hydraulic Landscape of Nimrud**

Ur, Jason, 2015, "Replication Data for: The Hydraulic Landscape of Nimrud", doi:10.7910/DVN/W04NWB, Harvard Dataverse, V1



**Description** Geospatial data for ancient sites and landscape features in the area of Nimrud, northern Iraq.

**Subject** Social Sciences

Files | Metadata | Terms | Versions

Search this dataset... Find

2 Files

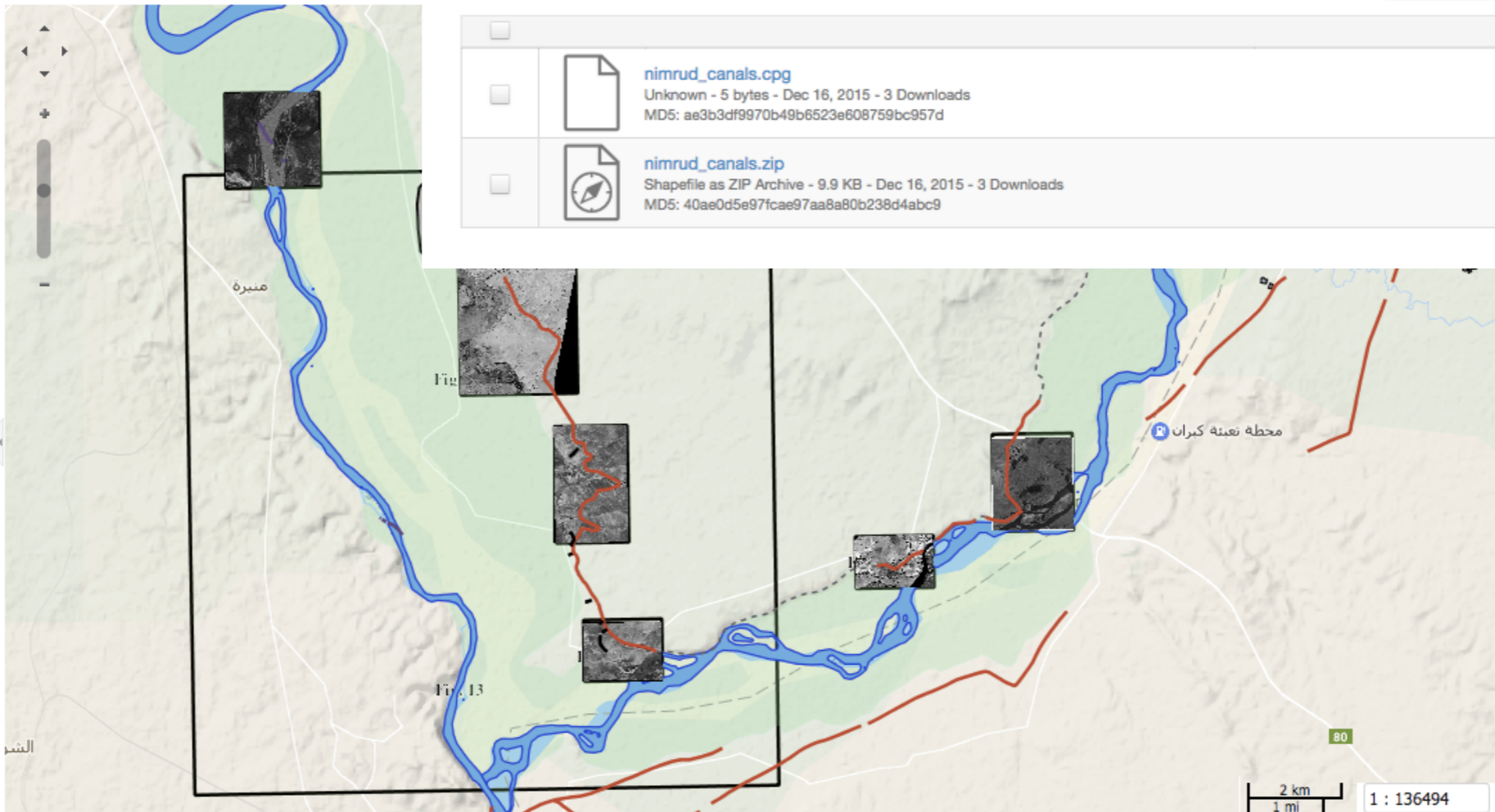
<input type="checkbox"/>		<b>nimrud_canals.cpg</b> Unknown - 5 bytes - Dec 16, 2015 - 3 Downloads MD5: ae3b3df9970b49b6523e608759bc957d	<input type="button" value="Download"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>		<b>nimrud_canals.zip</b> Shapefile as ZIP Archive - 9.9 KB - Dec 16, 2015 - 3 Downloads MD5: 40ae0d5e97fcae97aa8a80b238d4abc9	<input type="button" value="Download"/>

**WorldMap** | The Hydraulic Landscape of Nimrud

Add Layers | Save | Identify | Link | Print | Gazetteer | About | Notes | Google Earth | Street View

**Overlays**

- General
- Structures
  - Canals
    - Dam/Aqueduct
    - Local Irrigation
    - Subterranean/Karez
    - Excavated/Visible
    - Reconstructed
- Imagery & Base Maps
  - Wardak U2 aerial photo
  - Qazakan-Abzakh U2 mission 1554
  - Qazakan-Abzakh HEXAGON 1214
  - Qazakan-Abzakh HEXAGON 1213
  - South Nimrud HEXAGON image
  - Ibrahim al-Khalil U2 photograph
  - Tigris Terrace WorldView-2 image
  - Awai Dam WorldView-2 image
  - Awai Dam U2 aerial photograph
  - Awai Dam CORONA 1039 image
  - Tigris Terrace CORONA 1039 photo
  - Kubayba CORONA 1039 image

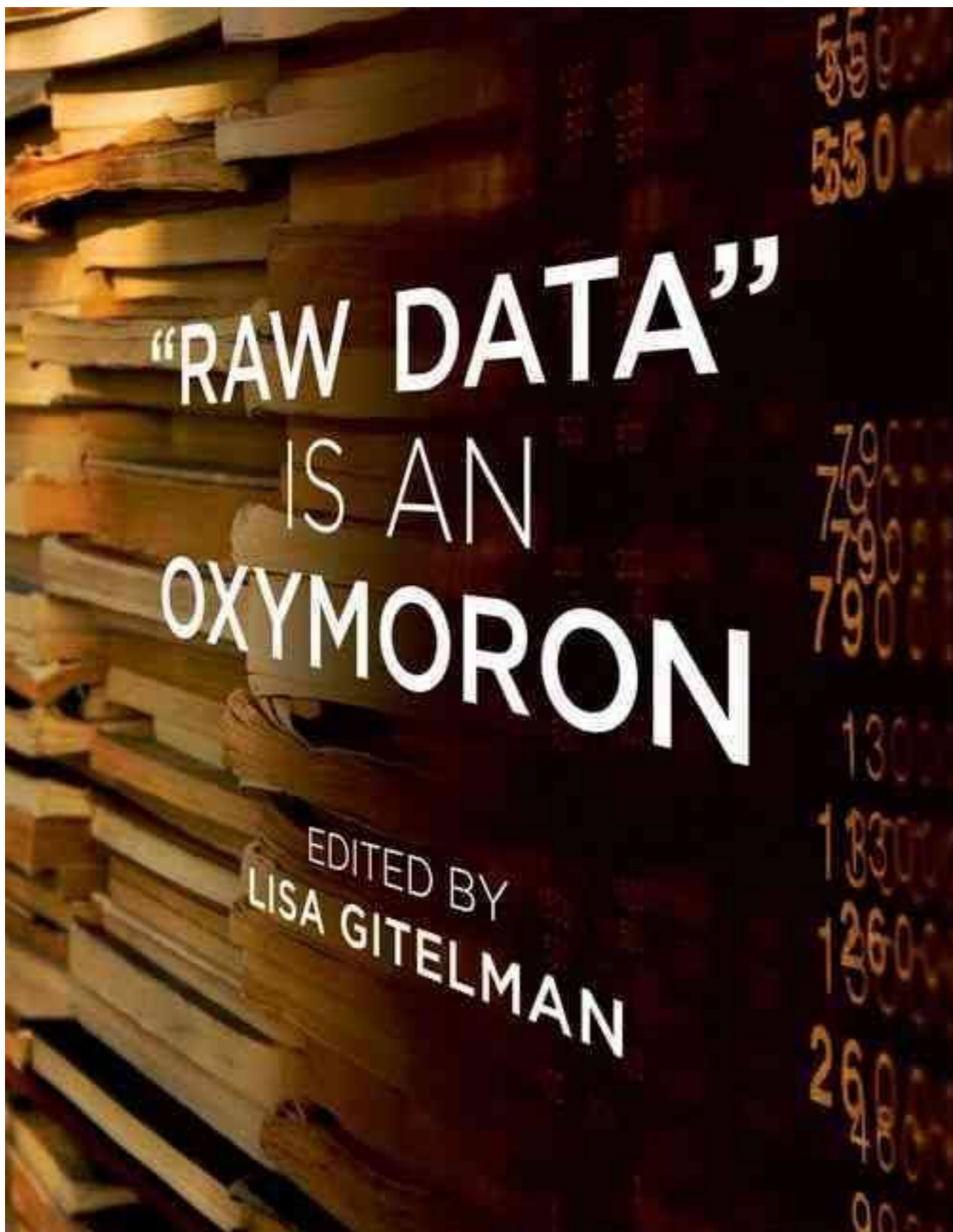


# In the works: data citation roadmap to improve data discoverability

- Force11 Data Citation Implementation Pilot
- Landing page for dataset with machine-actionable standard citation metadata
- Working with Google to include dataset metadata in [schema.org](https://schema.org)



The screenshot shows the bioRxiv preprint server interface. At the top left is the Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory (CSH) logo. The bioRxiv logo is prominently displayed in the center, with the tagline 'THE PREPRINT SERVER FOR BIOLOGY'. In the top right corner, there are navigation links for 'HOME' and 'ABOUT', and a search bar. Below the header, the page is titled 'New Results' and features the article title 'A Data Citation Roadmap for Scholarly Data Repositories'. The authors are listed with ORCID iD icons: Martin Fenner, Mercè Crosas, Jeffrey Grethe, David Kennedy, Henning Hermjakob, Philippe Rocca-Serra, Robin Berjon, Sebastian Karcher, Maryann Martone, and Timothy Clark. The DOI is provided as <https://doi.org/10.1101/097196>. A disclaimer states: 'This article is a preprint and has not been peer-reviewed [what does this mean?].'. Below the text, there are navigation tabs for 'Abstract', 'Info/History', and 'Metrics', along with a 'Preview PDF' button. The 'Abstract' section is expanded, showing the following text: 'This article presents a practical roadmap for scholarly data repositories to implement data citation in accordance with the Joint Declaration of Data Citation Principles (Data Citation Synthesis Group, 2014), a synopsis and harmonization of the recommendations of major science policy bodies. The roadmap was developed by the Repositories Early Adopters Expert Group, part of the Data Citation Implementation Pilot (DCIP) project (FORCE11, 2015), an initiative of FORCE11.org and the NIH BioCADDIE (2016) program. The roadmap makes 11 specific recommendations, grouped into three phases of implementation: a) required steps needed to support the Joint Declaration of Data Citation Principles, b) recommended steps that facilitate article/data publication workflows, and c) optional steps that further improve data citation support provided by data repositories.'



**Thank you!**

“we shouldn't think of data as a natural resource but as a cultural one that needs to be generated, protected, and interpreted.”

T: [@mercecrosas](https://twitter.com/mercecrosas) W: [mercecrosas.com](http://mercecrosas.com)