Some advice from a reproducible researcher about how some advice from research data repositories to irreproducible researchers about reproducibility and repositories might help researchers, repositories, and reproducibility

Thomas J. Leeper

Department of Government London School of Economics and Political Science

Why reproducibility?

- Journal requirements
- Funding agency requirements
- Institutional requirements
- The coming revolution

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How can we shift thinking from *extrinsic* motivations to intrinsic motivations?

Getting intrinsic





"Reproducibility is collaboration with people you don't know, incl. yourself next week." – @philipbstark #openscience

• 17 * …

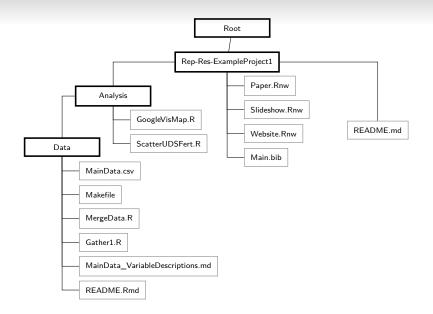
Nobody seems to agree!

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Tables 2011-12-28.docx	Tables.doc	Tables.xlsx	

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Tables 2011-12-28.docx	Tables.doc	Tables.xlsx	

Confession: This is my PhD dissertation.

- Gandrud's template
- rOpenSci's "Research Compendium"
- Project TIER



project

- |- DESCRIPTION # project metadata and dependencies
- |- README.md # top-level description of content
- |- analysis/ # any programmatic code | +- my_scripts.R # R code used to analyse data

TIER Protocol Documentation						
Original Data	Documents					
Original data files Importable data files (if necessary) Metadata The Metadata Guide Supplementary metadata documents (if necessary)	The final paper The Data Appendix The Read Me file					
Analysis Data Analysis data files	Command Files					

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- Docker container?

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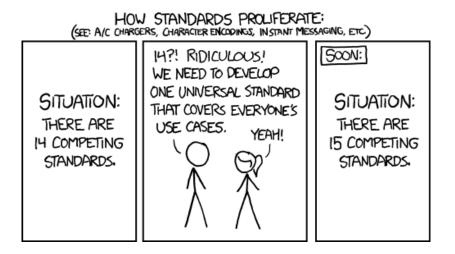
More is probably better for *reproducibility*, but declining marginal returns for the researcher.

Big disagreements

- What exactly is being reproduced?
- What is being assumed about software, hardware, data formats, etc.?
- What tools are best? packages? make? docker?

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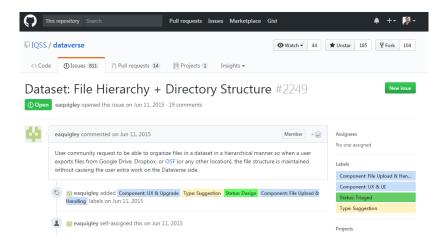
What exactly is being reproduced?

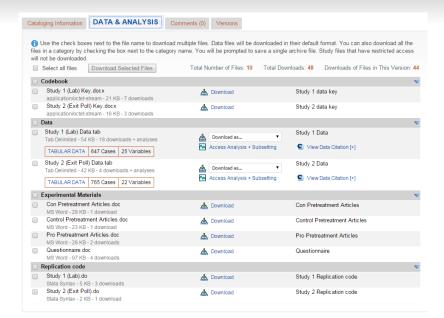
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Provide templates to use when starting a project

Big disagreements

- What is being assumed about software, hardware, data formats, etc.?
- What tools are best? packages? make? docker?
- Consensus is not possible! *Nudge* instead.
 - Provide templates to use when *starting* a project
 - Provide exemplars to show how to conceptualize the organization of a project





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The Advice to Researchers

- Reproducibility isn't just one more burden
- It's about helping your (future) yourself first
- 3 Be reproducible for science second

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- Lack of methodological transparency

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- Analysis unavailable

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- Human error
- Lack of methodological transparency
- Proprietary data and file formats
- Unavailable data
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- Analysis unavailable
- "Available from the author"

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- "Available from the author (now deceased)"





"'Reproducible research' is a redundant term. 'Irreproducible research' just used to be known as 'bullshit'." - @fperez_org ::slow clap::



6:11 PM - 8 May 2014