

How research funding affects data sharing

- Effective interdisciplinary research requires data sharing
- Making data shareable creates extra work for researchers
- Funding source affects incentives to make data shareable
- Entrepreneurship also affects data-sharing attitudes

Bioinformatics

- Source of funding: NIH
- Standardized data-sharing practices and multiple data repositories

“In my field, if you want to publish a paper you have to put your data in GEO.”*

Biomedical Engineering

- Sources of funding: NIH, DoD, entrepreneurship
- No standardized data-sharing practices

Materials Science

- Sources of funding: DoE, DoD, NSF, industry

“We have so much funding that’s not NSF. We have DoD; we have DoE; we have companies. ... We have a lot of funding that’s not NSF.”

- No standardized data-sharing practices

“The journals seem to be fairly pragmatic about data sharing. It’s not been official for them to force data sharing on us, so they don’t.”

Funding sources

- National Institute of Health (NIH)
 - Enforced data-sharing requirements
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
 - Unenforced data-sharing requirements
- Department of Energy (DoE)
 - No specific data-sharing requirements
- Department of Defense (DoD)
 - Explicit data-sharing limitations
- Industry
 - Explicit data-sharing limitations

Future Work

- Interviewing one researcher in each of three fields is not enough to generalize to a larger population
- Look at many researchers in multiple fields
 - Compare fields with different data sharing norms
- Look at researchers in single field with variety of funding sources
 - Compare funding sources within single field