

#### **Overview**

- · Researcher perspective: current practice and needs
- · Research infrastructure project for curation and publication of data
- · Infrastructure and workflow
- Benefits
- · Next steps



# **Current practice: curation and publication**

- Most of my colleagues publish their datasets on their own (noninstitutional) websites, along with documentation such as the codebook and publications that used the data
- Larger group efforts for data-collection publish via own institutional website, i.e. Varieties of Democracy, Polity IV, Freedom House
- Some also deposit datasets at data archives like Harvard Dataverse.
- Need to balance recognition, impact, and efficiency.



# Data on Elections, Democracy and Autocracy (DEDA)

- The Quality of Elections in Democracies and Autocracies dataset.
   Election and election fraud in over 900 elections in 97 third and
   fourth wave regimes between 1974-2012, including data on
   presidential and parliamentary election timing, results, electoral
   fraud, characteristics of opposition and incumbent, turnover, and
   presence of civil wars and coup d'etat.
- Developed for PhD (van Ham 2012)
- Currently being expanded until 2016 and to over 120 countries, funded by the Australian Research Council DECRA "Getting Elections Right", RG142911.

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#### Research

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I am a Lecturer in Comparative Politics at the School of Social Sciences at UNSW and an ARC Discovery Early Career Research Award recipient. My research interests are: democratization and authoritarianism, election integrity and electoral fraud, and political representation, accountability and legitimacy.

I am currently working on the following research projects:

- ARC DECRA project 2015-2017 Getting elections right? Electoral reform in democracies & autocracies. Project
  investigates: (a) why and under what conditions electoral reform in electoral democracies and electoral autocracies is
  successful; (b) how election integrity can be effectively strengthened; and (c) how election integrity affects democratization.
  This project involves mixed-method research using large-N quantitative analyses as well as qualitative country-case
  studies. The research project is connected to the Electoral Integrity Project at Sydney University and the Varieties of
  Democracy Project at Gothenburg University.
- ANDS project 2016-2017 Data on Elections, Democracy and Autocracy (DEDA). Website hosted at UNSW mapping
  quantitative datasets on Elections, Democracy and Autocracy. Website: (a) enables sharing of data on these topics; (b)
  provides a macro data guide to other important datasets in this field accompanied by syntax to merge datasets to enable
  easy use; (c) aims to provide online data visualisation tools that would allow researchers and the general public to carry out
  simple data analyses online. Data on Peace & Conflict and Human Rights to be added in 2<sup>nd</sup> stage of project.
- Electoral Management Research Network 2016-ongoing. Improving Electoral Management: The Organisational
  Determinants of Electoral Integrity, with T. James, H. Garnett and L. Loeber, University of East Anglia and McGill
  University. First phase of the project is to collect data on EMB organizational structure and personnel through two surveys
  set out among EMBs in 30 European countries with support from the Venice Commission. Surveys currently in the field,
  phase 1 to be completed in April 2017, and results collated in a series of journal articles as a special issue. Phase 2
  consists of setting up the Electoral Management Research Network, bringing together European and international scholars
  in this field to strengthen collaboration and dissemination of research. Funding from University of East Anglia, EIP project
  and UNSW.



# **ANDS High Value Collection Program**



**UNSW partners**: School of Social Sciences, Office of PVC – Research Infrastructure, UNSW Library

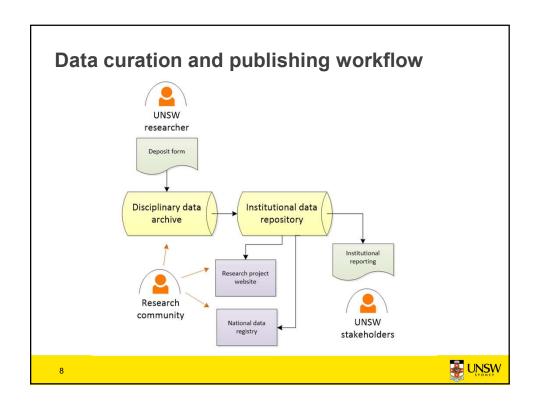
**External partner**: Australian Data Archive, Australian National University

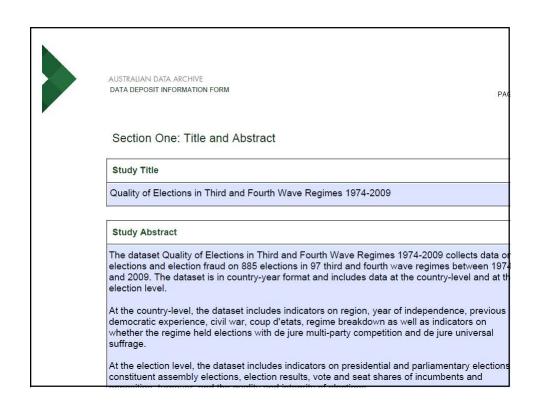


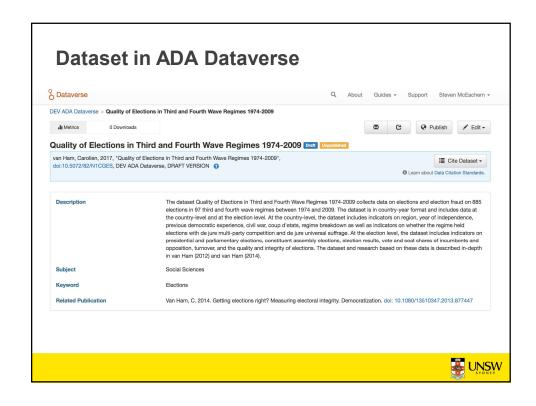
### Goals of the project

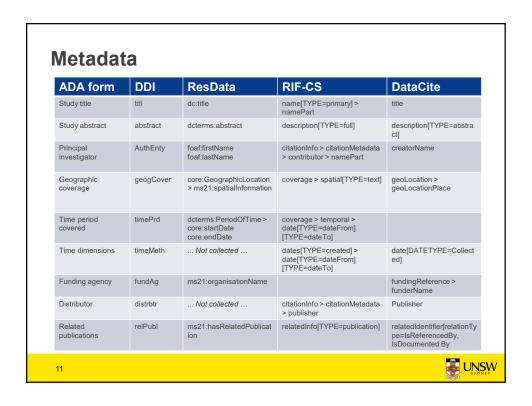
- Curate and openly publish several datasets on elections, democracy and autocracy collected by the researchers and colleagues at School of Social Sciences (SoSS) UNSW.
- 2. Create an institutional website on data on Elections, Democracy and Autocracy
  - enables sharing of data collected by researcher and UNSW colleagues on these topics
  - includes a macro data guide to other important datasets in this field
  - guides users to online data visualisation tools that would allow researchers and the general public to carry out simple data analyses online.

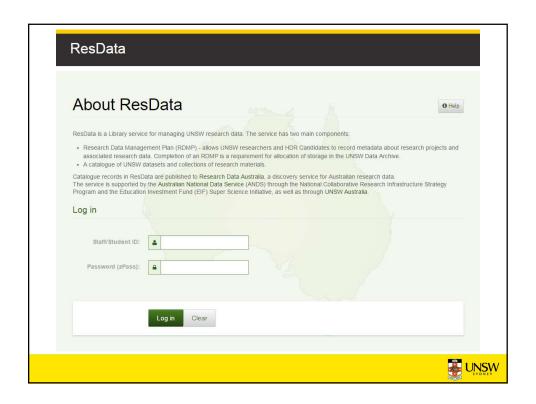


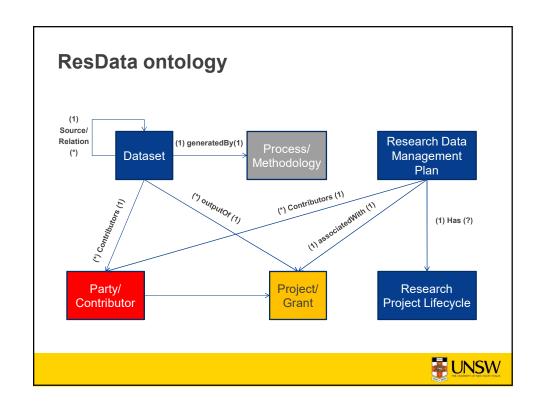












#### **Benefits**

- · Dataset recognized as research output through DOI
- Direct link to dataset at ADA allows publicizing dataset on my website, while data safely deposited, and findable via multiple pathways (ADA, website, library research collection)
- Increased usage of our data, not only by academics but also by students and practitioners/policymakers
- Increased visibility of UNSW research in these areas, supporting future grant applications and research collaboration with other universities in this field
- Provides a platform to expand the website in the future to include data visualization tools and data on peace & conflict, development, and human rights, providing an opportunity to showcase the key research strengths of the School of Social Sciences at UNSW
- Process of data depositing at ADA encouraged thorough documentation of data collection process and improved quality of codebook.

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# Recognition - Impact - Efficiency

- · Recognition: Academic recognition for data collection effort
  - Usually via publications about the dataset or publications that analyse data
  - Data archive mints a DOI dataset can be directly recognised as research output
- · Impact: Platform for dissemination of data
  - Link to dataset from researcher's website links directly to data archive source
  - Institutional repository links data to related publications and disseminates to national metadata registry
- · Efficiency:
  - ADA submission process highly efficient: description of data & consent form.



#### What do we need to do next?

- 1. Shift from PDF based to direct entry of metadata into Dataverse (out of the box DV functionality)
- 2. Review of data and metadata by ADA staff
- 3. Publishing the data at ADA
  - Automated minting of DOI through Datacite (indirectly through ANDS minting service)
- 4. Harvesting metadata from ADA to UNSW ResData
  - a) OAI-PMH from Dataverse
    - Mapping already done from DDI to ResData
    - Need to configure harvester (in Dataverse)

OR

b) Harvest from Research Data Australia / Datacite

