

csv,conf,6 | May 5th 2021

Identifying the who, what, and (sometimes) where of research data sharing at an academic institution

John Borghi, PhD
Manager, Research and Instruction
Lane Medical Library
Stanford University

CAN I SEE THE DATA
RELATED TO YOUR SCIENTIFIC PAPER?

HERE'S THE DOI OR
ACCESSION NUMBER!

TOTALLY! BUT THE
TOOLS YOU'LL NEED
TO ACTUALLY OPEN
IT AREN'T READILY
AVAILABLE IN 2021.

"DATA" AVAILABLE
UPON REASONABLE
REQUEST.

IT'S NOT AVAILABLE
BECAUSE IT'S HIGHLY
SENSITIVE, BUT WE'LL
EMAIL IT TO YOU!

SOME OF THE CODE IS
ON GITHUB, SOME OF
THE DATA IS IN GEO,
SOME OF THE DATA IS
IN THE SUPPLEMENT...

DATA "AVAILABLE"
UPON REASONABLE
REQUEST.

IT'S IN THE PAPER?

IT'S ON A STACK OF
HARD DRIVES THAT
ARE MAYBE IN
ANOTHER COUNTRY.

MAYBE. SOMEDAY.

IF YOU CAN FIND THE
CORRESPONDING
AUTHOR. THEIR LAST
E-MAIL ISN'T VALID.

DATA AVAILABLE
UPON "REASONABLE"
REQUEST.

NO, YOU CAN'T

A substantial part of my job is helping researchers at my institution manage and share their data.

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Research Data: The inputs or outputs required to evaluate, reproduce, or built upon the analyses or conclusions of a given research project. Includes code and documentation.

Data Management: Activities related to data storage, organization, documentation, and communication.

Data Sharing: The release of data for use by others. Doesn't necessarily refer to making data open.

Who is sharing their data?

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What kind of data are they sharing?

How are they sharing?

Do they know that I exist?



Artwork by August Isler Borghi, Age 4

One way I've looked for researchers and their data is by looking outside the university – at PubMed Central.

PubMed Central

- A repository containing the full text of almost 7 million biomedical and life sciences articles.
- Is distinct from PubMed, the free search engine covering (among other things) the MEDLINE database of references and abstracts.
- Includes articles covered by the NIH Public Access Policy as well as the contents of participating journals.
- Has filters to locate articles with associated data sets, including those with **data availability statements**.

Data Availability Statements

- Tells the reader how to access the data supporting the results of a given scholarly work.
- May contain direct links to publicly available datasets and/or conditions for accessing more restricted datasets.
- Can provide information about what's available (and what isn't).

“All of the data associated with this study have been deposited in [name of repository] at [DOI/Accession number]”

“All data used in this study are available within the article and its supplementary information files.”

“The data used and analyzed in the present study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.”

“Data is not publicly available due to participant confidentiality.”

“This manuscript has no associated data.”

“The datasets generated during the current study are not available due to protection of privacy but are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.”

“All data used in this study are available within the article and its supplementary information files. Other files can be provided by the corresponding author upon reasonable request. The code is available via GitHub [Link to GitHub repository].”

“Most of the raw data are presented in the manuscript or supplement.”

“Some study data is available.”

Limits of this approach

- Incomplete coverage: There are about 10x as many abstracts of papers from Stanford authors in PubMed than there are papers from Stanford authors in PubMed Central with data availability statements.
- Statements are unstructured and may not contain all relevant information.
- Data stated to be available may not actually be available or usable in practice.

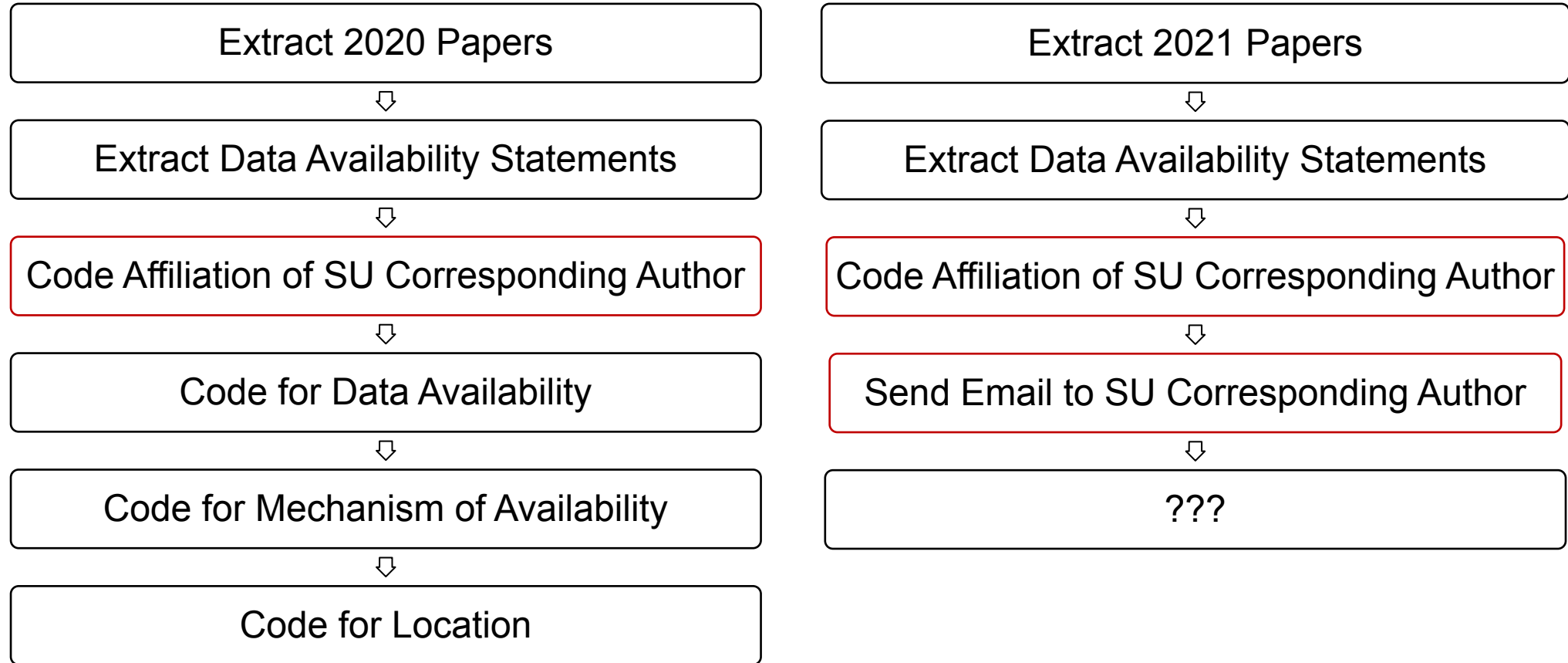
((has data avail[filter] OR has
data citations[filter]) AND
Stanford[AD] AND
("2020/01/01"[PDat] :
"2020/12/31"[PDat]))

1422 Results

((has data avail[filter] OR has
data citations[filter]) AND
Stanford[AD] AND
("2021/01/01"[PDat] :
"2021/12/31"[PDat]))

540 Results

Every week, I check for new results in PubMed Central and then...



Sample e-mail to a Stanford SOM-affiliated corresponding author

TO: Corresponding Author from Stanford SOM
FROM: John Borghi
SUBJECT: Data Services at Stanford School of Medicine

Hello,

To help us provide research data-related services to the Stanford Medicine community, Lane Medical Library periodically looks into where Stanford researchers are sharing their data, code, and other materials. One of the ways we do this is through looking for papers in PubMed Central with Stanford authors that have data availability statements. For example, your paper [-----] was recently deposited into PMC.

I am reaching out to make you aware of some of the data-related resources available to you through Lane Library. Whenever possible, we recommend sharing data through a data repository rather than “by request” or as a supplementary material. Similarly, we recommend archiving code associated with a publication in a repository like Zenodo rather than sharing a link to a Github repo.

Through Lane, Stanford is a member of the [Dryad](#) data repository. This means that Stanford researchers are able to publish and share their data and code through Dryad free of charge. Data deposited into Dryad are automatically given a DOI, lightly curated to ensure files can be opened and do not inadvertently include protected health information, and are preserved over the long term. Code uploaded to Dryad is automatically deposited into Zenodo.

In addition to our Dryad partnership, Lane Library currently maintains [this page](#) as a source of information about data management and sharing-related best practices and holds free workshops on these topics (see our [classes and events](#) page for our upcoming schedule or request an on-demand version for your group). We are also available for 1 on 1 consultations to help you meet data-related requirements from funding agencies, scholarly publishers, and other stakeholders.

In general, our goal is to meet you where you are and help you get to where you need to be. We’ve partnered with Dryad because we believe it is an excellent general purpose data repository, but we want to help you find the repository that works best for you and your data. We also know that data-related expectations and requirements are constantly evolving, including the [new policy from NIH](#) which will come into effect in 2023, so we strive to be dynamic and proactive in terms of how we offer our services.

Thank you,
John Borghi

For 2020:

1200

Total
Papers
Screened

For 2020:

1200

Total
Papers
Screened

8

Errors Removed

1094

Data is not
unavailable

9

Data not (yet)
available

7

Unclear if data
is available

25

Data is not
available

57

No Related Data

150

Secondary Data

For 2020:

1094

Papers where
data is not
unavailable.

For 2020:

1094

Papers where
data is not
unavailable.

451

Request to
Author(s)

68

Request to
Other(s)

334

In Article or
Supplement

9

Unclear

467

In Repository

How to Share Data (An hour workshop condensed to one slide)

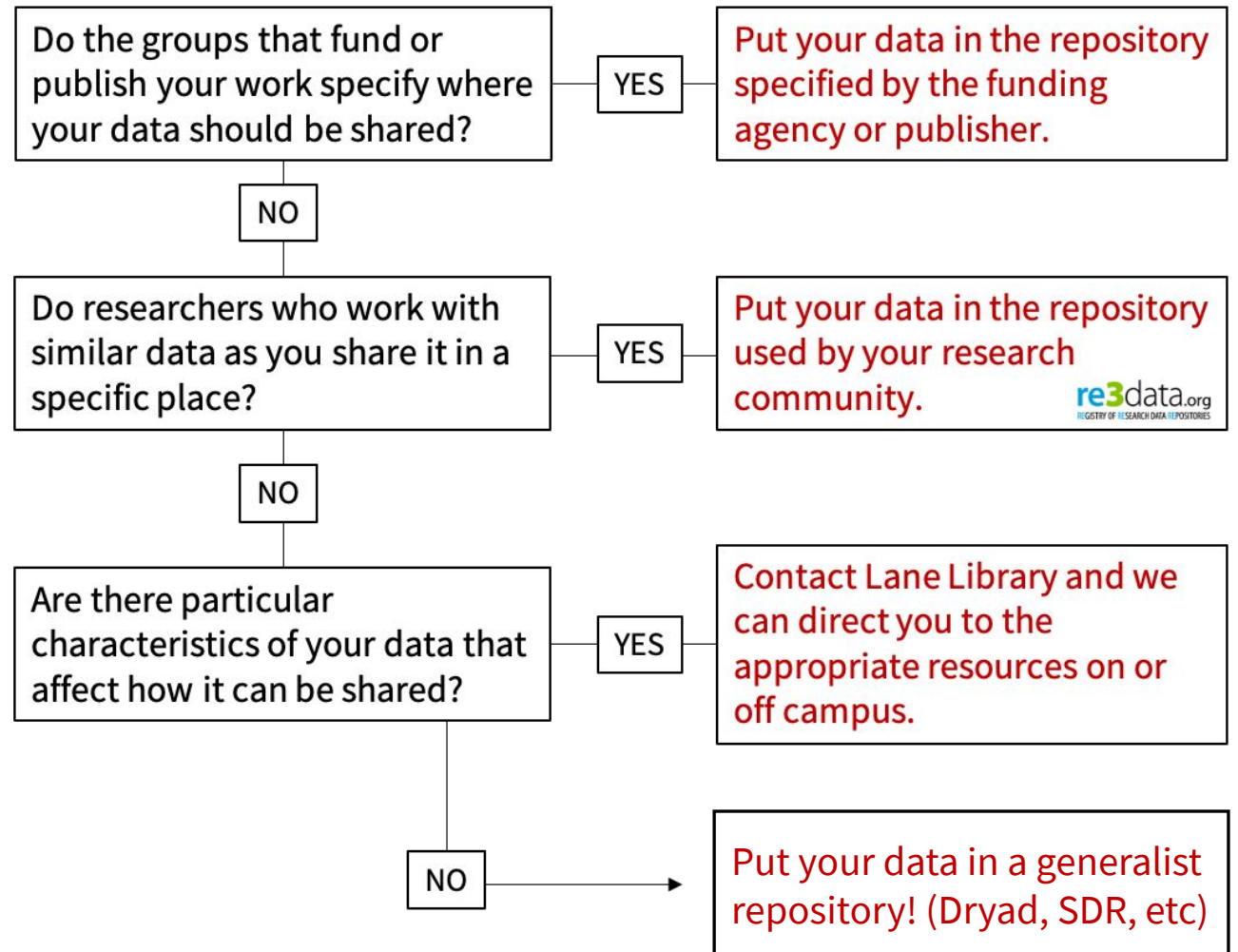
Sharing “upon request”

- When data is shared “upon request”, the requester must contact a member of the research team and a team member must have the data on-hand.
- As contact information changes, team members move on, and data is archive requesting data and responding to requests become more difficult.

Sharing data as a supplementary material

- Links between supplementary materials and the articles they are associated with may break down.
- Whenever feasible, upload data into a repository that is designed to preserve and make data then link to and/or cite that dataset in your manuscript.

Choosing a repository



Github	125	European Nucleotide Archive	7
Gene Expression Omnibus	103	SimTK	5
Website	53	Harvard Dataverse	5
Sequence Read Archive	45	Institutional Repository	4
Protein Data Bank	30	GTEX	4
Figshare	29	ClinVar	4
Open Science Framework	25	The Cancer Genome Atlas	3
Dryad	23	Software Heritage	3
BioProject	23	Open Neuro	3
Zenodo	19	NIMH Data Archive	3
Electron Microscopy Data Bank	15	NCI Genomic Data Commons Data Portal	3
European Genome/Phenome Archive	13	EMBL-EBI	3
Database of Genotypes and Phenotypes	13	Unclear	2
Mendeley Data	12	Protein Xchange	2
Genbank	12	NIA Genetics of Alzheimer's	2
Stanford Digital Repository	11	Disease Data Storage Site	2
Proteomics Identification Database	11	Import	2
Flow Repository	10	Array Express	2

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John Borghi

E-Mail: JBorghi@Stanford.edu

Twitter: [@JohnBorghi](https://twitter.com/JohnBorghi)