



INTRODUCTORY TRAINING ON OPEN SCIENCE

**Wednesday
1 February 2023**

From 13:15 to 16:30

**The event will be held
in Polo Zanotto,
Verona University,
room T5
(Viale Università, 4,
37129 Verona VR)**

THE EVENT WILL
BE HELD
ENTIRELY IN
PRESENCE.

**The reproducibility crisis in scientific
research, a new research paradigm & ITRN
presentation.**

Carlo Miniussi, Center for Mind/Brain Sciences
– CIMEC University of Trento

**Open science practices: From registered
reports to large-scale collaborative
projects.**

Marta Bortoletto, IRCCS Centro San Giovanni
di Dio Fatebenefratelli, Brescia

**Structuring experimental data: rethinking
data acquisitions to enable replications.**

Vittorio Iacovella, Center for Mind/Brain
Sciences – CIMEC University of Trento

Multiverse analysis.

Michele Scandola, NPSY-Lab.VR, Department
of Human Sciences, University of Verona



The reproducibility crisis in scientific research a new research paradigm & ITRN presentation

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UNIVERSITÀ
DI TRENTO

CIMEC
Center for Mind/Brain Sciences

Presentation outline

- **The sustainability problem of science**
e.g., questionable research practices
- **The principles and why of open science**
e.g., FAIR
- **The benefits of collaborative culture**
e.g., more efficient research processes, collaboration

Shifting from competition to collaboration



"Quantitative productivity" is this science or career?



NeuroImage

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ynimg

Human brain connectivity during single and paired pulse transcranial magnetic stimulation

articles

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nature neuroscience

Prefrontal cortex in long-term memory: an "interference" approach using magnetic stimulation

Simone Rossi^{1,2}, Stefano F. Cappa³, Claudio Babiloni^{1,4}, Patrizio Pasqualetti⁵, Carlo Miniussi¹

www.nature.com/scientificreports

SCIENTIFIC
REPORTS

nature research

OPEN

Dependence of connectivity on geometric distance in brain networks

Alessio Perinelli¹, Davide Tabarelli², Carlo Miniussi^{1,2} & Leonardo Ricci^{1,2}

Received: 4 July 2019

Accepted: 5 September 2019



Neurology®

Available online at www.sciencedirect.com

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Cognitive Brain Research 19 (2004) 259–268



Research report

Sub-second "temporal attention" modulates alpha rhythms. A high-resolution EEG study

Claudio Babiloni^{a,b,c,*}, Carlo Miniussi^b, Fabio Babiloni^a, Filippo Carducci^{a,b,c},
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Accepted 2 December 2003

Neuroscience 143 (2006) 793–803

COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE AND NEUROPSYCHOLOGY

NEUROREPORT

COGNITIVE
BRAIN
RESEARCH

www.elsevier.com/locate/cogbrainres

Right dorsolateral prefrontal transcranial magnetic stimulation induces change awareness

Massimo Turiato^{1,2}, Marco Sandrini^{1,2} and Carlo Miniussi¹

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5 August 2004; accepted 18 September 2004

change blindness
induced by transcranial
magnetic stimulation
in the right dorsolateral
prefrontal cortex
induced a change
awareness

to left DLPF-rTMS and sham stimulation. This result is important as
it shows, for the first time, that conscious change perception is as-
sociated with normal activity in the right DLPF cortex. Our find-
ings are in agreement with a recent view emphasizing the role of
frontal areas, in addition to classical ventral and dorsal pathways, in
visual awareness. *NeuroReport* 15:2549–2552 © 2004 Lippincott
Williams & Wilkins.

Keywords: Conscious perception; Change awareness; Prefrontal cortex; rTMS

CONVERSION FROM MILD COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT TO ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE IS PREDICTED BY SOURCES AND COHERENCE OF BRAIN ELECTROENCEPHALOGRAPHY RHYTHMS

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P. PASQUALETTI,^b E. CASSETTA,^b G. BINETTI,^a
G. DAL FORNO,^c F. FERRERI,^{b,c} G. FRISONI,^{a,b}
P. CHIOVENDA,^{b,c} C. MINIUSI,^{a,*} L. PARISI,^c
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Mild cognitive impairment (MCI) is a state of the elderly
brain intermediate between normal cognition and dement-
tia, being mainly characterized by objective evidence of
memory impairment not yet encompassing the definition of
dementia (Petersen et al., 1995, 2001).

There is a growing consensus on the idea that MCI is
a precursor of Alzheimer's disease (AD) (Scheltens et al.,
2002) based on the high rate of progression from this state
to AD (Petersen et al., 2001). Indeed, in normal aging
population annual conversion rate to AD ranges from
0.17% to 3.86% (Petersen et al., 2001; Frisoni et al.,
2004), while in MCI it is remarkably higher ranging be-
tween 6 and 40% in the different series (Petersen et al.,

Integrity & Reliability

Nowadays it becomes extremely difficult to know whether what is reported in an article is a transparent and valid account of what was actually done and found.

“Most scientific publications are utterly redundant, mere quantitative productivity” Gerhard Fröhlich

How do we identify, read and evaluate new information of interest in this “sea” of ~~research~~ papers?

Science sustainability



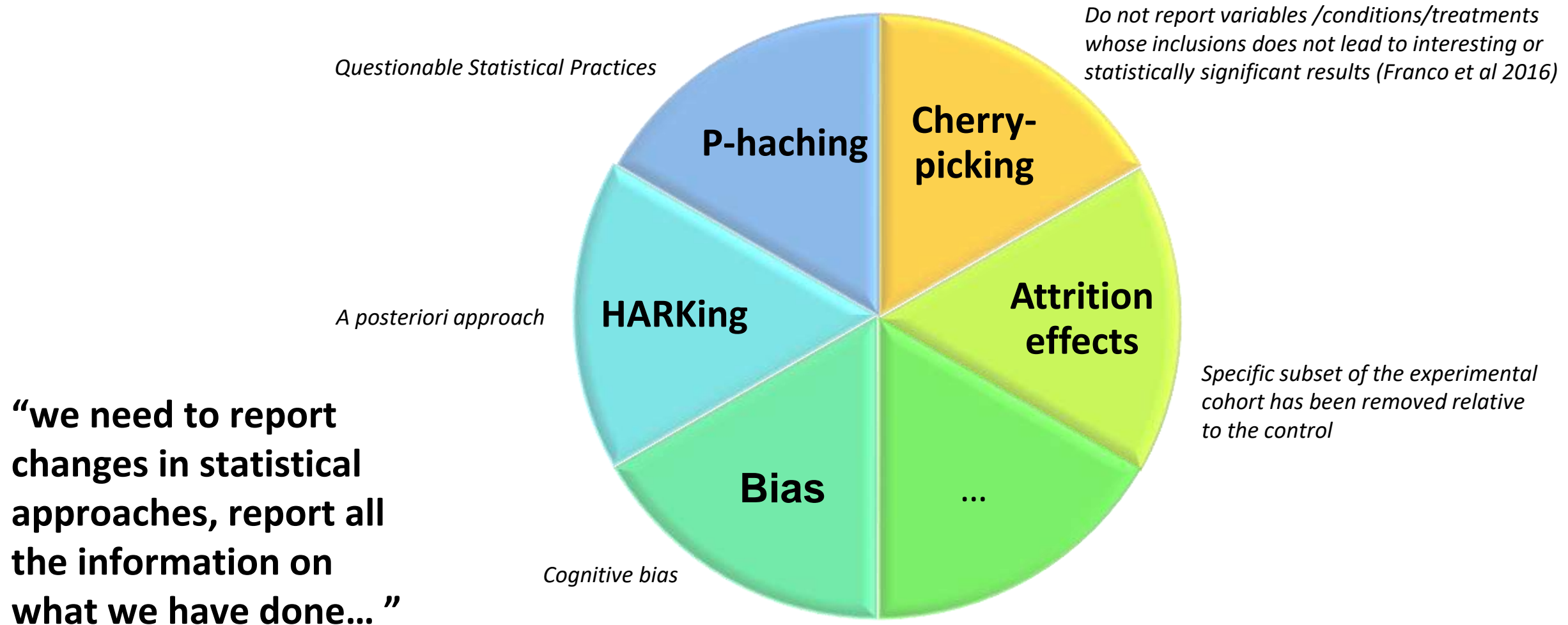
Research misconduct as

“not only fabrication, falsification, or plagiarism ...”

“questionable research practices occur in 72% of published science” Fanelli 2009

Origins of redaction bias

Questionable Research Practices that undermine the credibility of research finding and bias the scientific literature:
exclusion or manipulation of data that are not consistent (with research hypotheses)



Inappropriate Research Practices

Questionable Research Practices

P-hacking

- Finish collecting data earlier than expected if the result are statistical significant (Le Bel et al., 2013)
- Deciding to collect more data after checking for statistical significance
- Chose to exclude individual data after checking if they affect statistical significance
- Use “analyses approaches” that make $p < .05$

But see also: select the analyses after looking at the data (Gelman & Loken 2014)

HARKing (Hypothesizing After Results are Know)

- Present unexpected results as if they were foreseen from the start
- Report results congruent with the hypotheses (Fanelli 2010)
- Exploratory analyses are reported as confirmatory (Wagenmakers et al., 2012)

Questionable Research Practices

Pertinent examples of this range from:

the fraudulent research that deviously and **wrongly linked the measles-mumps-rubella vaccine to autism**

- Godlee F. 2011 The fraud behind the MMR scare. Br. Med. J. 342, d22. (doi:10.1136/bmj.d22)
- Grimes DR. 2019 A dangerous balancing act: on matters of science, a well-meaning desire to present all views equally can be an Trojan horse for damaging falsehoods. EMBO Rep. 20, e48706. (doi:10.15252/embr.201948706)

to the substandard trials that gave the false impression **ivermectin was a viable COVID treatment**

- Lawrence JM, Meyerowitz-Katz G, Heathers JA, Brown NJ, Sheldrick KA. 2021 The lesson of ivermectin: meta-analyses based on summary data alone are inherently unreliable. Nat. Med. 27, 1853–1854. (doi:10.1038/s41591-021-01535-y)
- Reardon S. 2021 Flawed ivermectin preprint highlights challenges of COVID drug studies. Nature 596, 173–174. (doi:10.1038/d41586-021-02081-w)

Mars & Pareidolia



Trends in Cognitive Sciences
Research Culture and
Reproducibility **CellPress**
REVIEWS

Marcus R. Munafò,^{1,2,*}
Christopher D. Chambers,³
Alexandra M. Collins,⁴
Laura Fortunato,^{5,6} and
Malcolm R. Macleod⁷



February 2020, Vol. 24, No. 2

Citation bias

Misemer et al. *Trials* (2016) 17:473
DOI 10.1186/s13063-016-1595-7

RESEARCH

Trials
Open Access



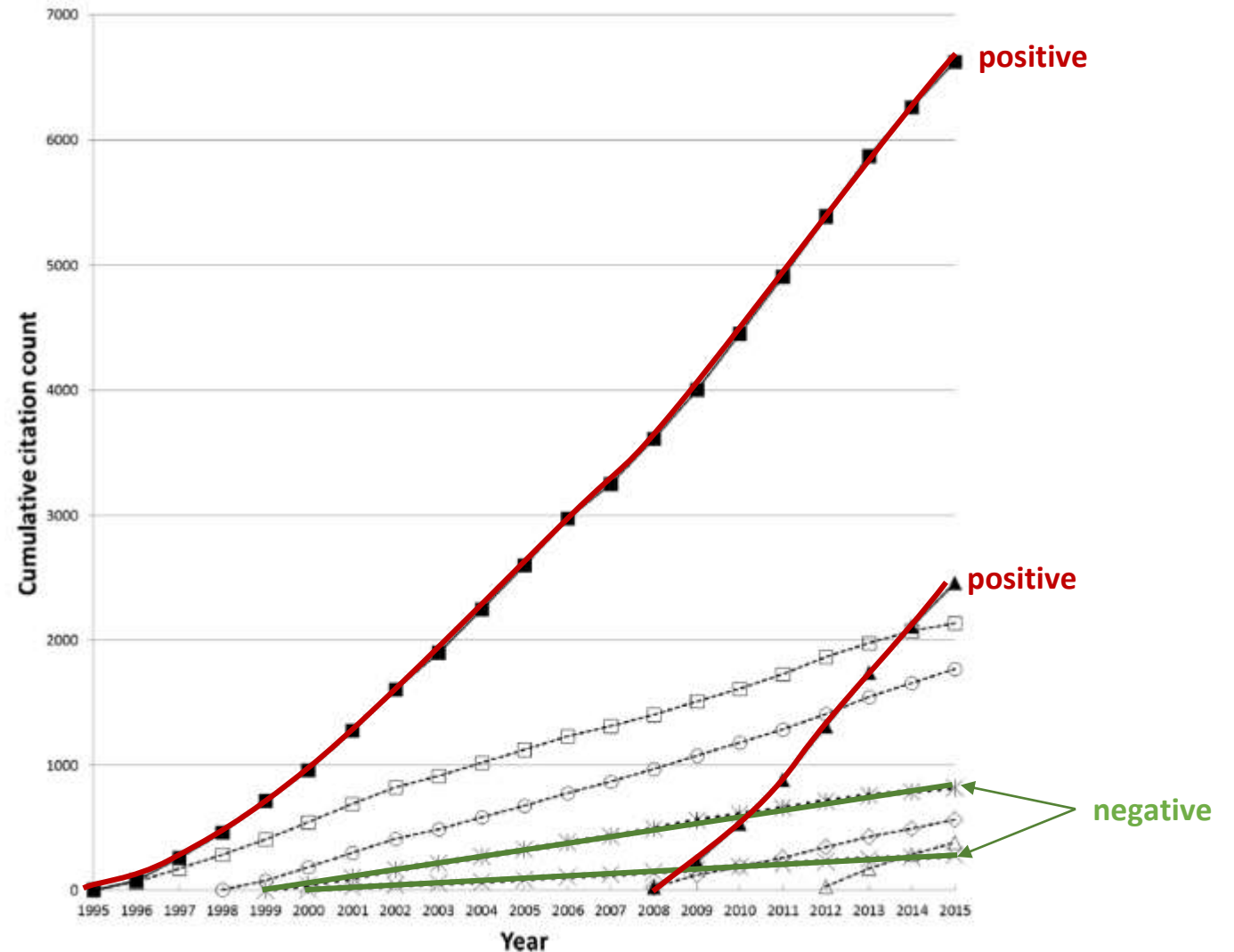
Citation bias favoring positive clinical trials of thrombolytics for acute ischemic stroke: a cross-sectional analysis

Benjamin S. Misemer¹, Timothy F. Platts-Mills² and Christopher W. Jones^{1*}

“Cumulative citation counts over time for:

2 **positive** (solid lines),
4 **neutral** (dashed lines), and
2 **negative** (dotted lines)...”

“when positive trials involving a medical intervention receive more citations than neutral or negative trials of similar quality”



Trials registered in ClinicalTrials.gov

RESEARCH ARTICLE PLOS ONE | DOI:10.1371/journal.pone.0132382 August 5, 2015

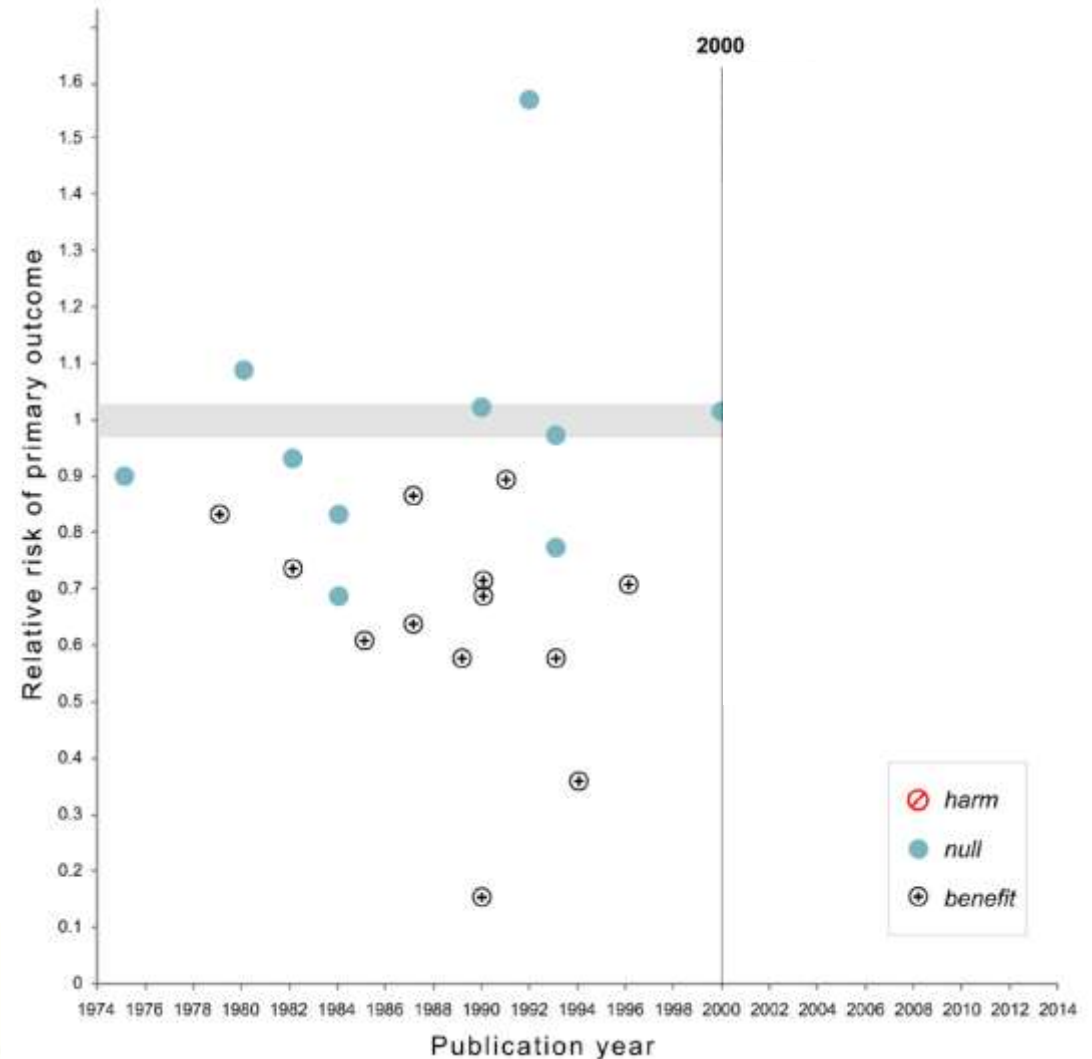
Likelihood of Null Effects of Large NHLBI Clinical Trials Has Increased over Time

Robert M. Kaplan^{1*}, Veronica L. Irvin²

“Prior to 2000 when trials were not registered in clinical trials.gov, there was substantial variability in outcome.

Following the imposition of the requirement that trials preregister in clinical trials.gov the relative risk on primary outcomes showed considerably less variability around 1.0.”

ClinicalTrials.gov PRS
Protocol Registration and Results System



“Relative risk of showing benefit or harm of treatment by year of publication for large National Heart Lung, and Blood Institute trials on pharmaceutical and dietary supplement interventions. “

What is the Primary Purpose of Open Science Practices?

“... purposes of open science practices is to improve the openness, integrity, and reproducibility of research by preventing research misconduct or reducing questionable research and/or reporting practices”

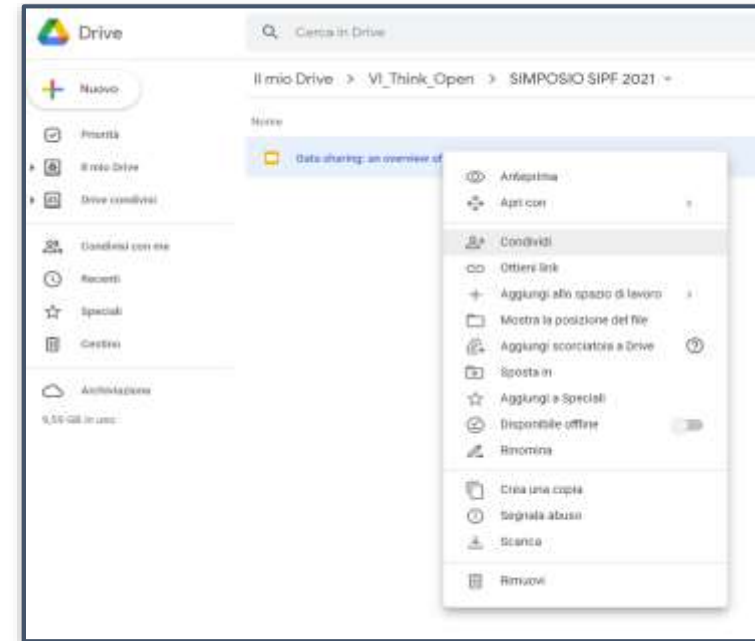
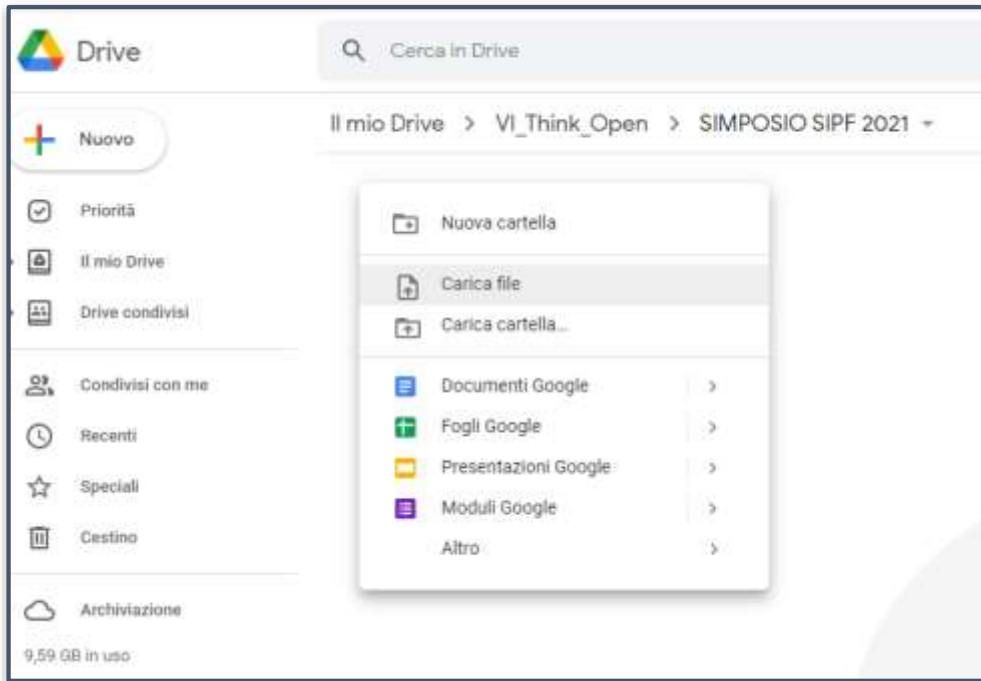
Shifting from competition to collaboration



Data sharing

Not just

and granting access to someone else



uploading information

FAIR Principles for sharing

data available upon reasonable request

FAIR Principles for sharing: the pillars of open science

Guidelines to improve the Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability, and Reuse of digital assets

Findable



Accessible



Interoperable



Reusable



Wilkinson et al. Sci Data 3, 160018 (2016).
<https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18>

Initiative <https://force11.org/>

FAIR Principles for sharing: the pillars of open science

Findable

(Meta-) data are assigned a globally unique identifier and indexed in a searchable resource.



Digital object identifier 10.1016/j.neuroimage.2021.118272



ORCID

stands for

Open Researcher and Contributor ID

<http://toolbox.google.com/datasetsearch>

FAIR Principles for sharing: the pillars of open science



Accessible



GIN

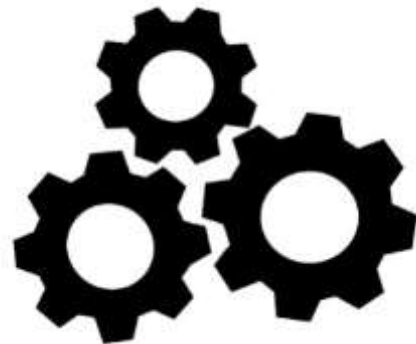
<https://gin.g-node.org/>

gin.g-node.org/CIMeC/TMS-EEG_brain_connectivity_BIDS

From <https://www.go-fair.org/fair-principles/metadata-retrievable-identifier-standardised-communication-protocol/>

FAIR Principles for sharing: the pillars of open science

(Meta-) data use a formal, accessible, shared, and broadly applicable language for knowledge representation.



Interoperable

From <https://www.go-fair.org/fair-principles/i1-metadata-use-formal-accessible-shared-broadly-applicable-language-knowledge-representation/>

FAIR Principles for sharing: the pillars of open science

(Meta-) data are richly described with relevant attributes, released with a clear and accessible data usage license.



<https://creativecommons.org/about/cclicenses/>



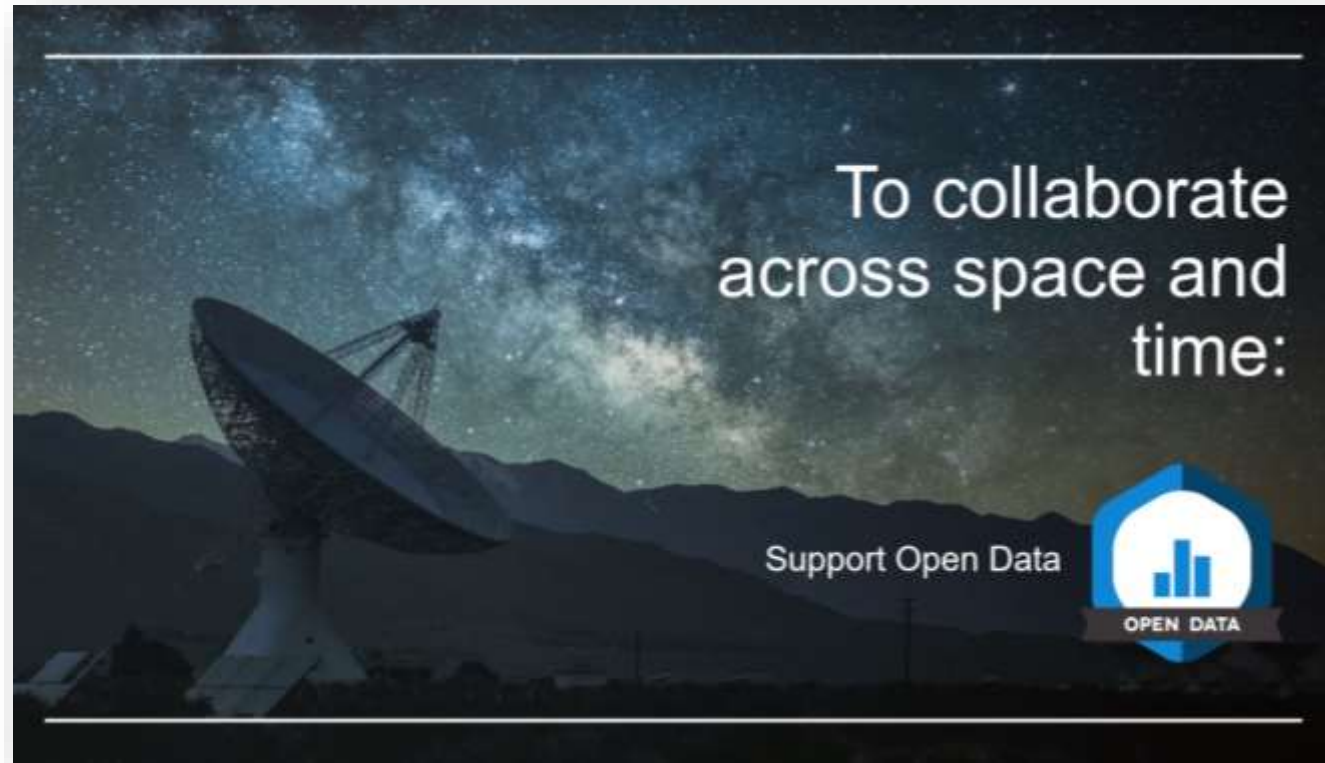
Reusable

From <https://www.go-fair.org/fair-principles/r1-1-metadata-released-clear-accessible-data-usage-license/>

Shifting from competition to collaboration



Collaborative projects – to grant reliability



- Consortium of researchers interested in one “subject” of research
- Radically collaborative, horizontal framework (everyone can lead and contribute)
- Large scale conceptual, consensus-based replication of seminal findings
- Identify sources of variability
- Experimental “best practices” in a given field of research
i.e., fewer original designs but more reliable studies

Shifting from competition to collaboration



Open data vs. data protection

- Opening data is indispensable for scientific progress and can benefit the entire community in terms of an improved knowledge (e.g., public health)
 - Open Science Paradigm
- The use of personal health data for **scientific research purposes** shall comply with the data protection framework to safeguard fundamental rights and freedoms of the data subjects
 - European and national rules to be taken into account

Think Open

- Open data include and grantees **integrity** of research (i.e., reliability, rigor, and replicability). This is a relevant issue to define the international reputation of a research center. Reliability is becoming essential in science.
- For Open data we will reduce costs and increase reputation, for cost **optimisation**.
- Putting big data to good use in neuroscience, will increase collaboration and integration with other centers/groups **implementing relevant discoveries** accelerates research, heightens the quality of results.

What is the Primary Purpose of Open Science Practices?

“Open science is a very broad term that **refers to many different concepts**, ranging from scientific philosophies and cultural norms, such as the ownership of scientific methods (i.e., communality) and the **principle that scientific output should be evaluated on its merit** (i.e., universalism) (Anderson, Martinson, & De Vries, 2007”

“This is a great opportunity to improve the “scientific” world.”

Open Science - ITRN



ITALIAN REPRODUCIBILITY
<https://www.itrn.org> NETWORK



ITALIAN REPRODUCIBILITY NETWORK

<https://www.itrn.org>

MISSION

The Italian Reproducibility Network (ITRN) is a peer-led consortium that aims to **disseminate the factors that contribute to robust research within the Italian scientific community.**

This is achieved by promoting initiatives and offering a hub for scientists to get in touch, exchange ideas and good practices, and promote collective learning.

ITRN seeks collaboration with **scientists in several disciplines, technical experts** in relevant fields and **stakeholders**, so as to connect the widest possible spectrum of skills and knowledge.

INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

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[Slovak Reproducibility Network](#)

[Swedish Reproducibility Network](#)

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[UK Reproducibility Network](#)



The IT Reproducibility Network is supporting several initiatives at various levels across the Italian research system, promoting training activities, disseminating best practice, and working to ensure coordination of efforts across the sectors.

- **Promote Open Research Working Groups**

These are set up by researchers at their institution, and seek to make the processes and products of research as transparent, accessible, and reproducible as possible.

- **International Seminars for PhD on Open Science**

The framework aims to support the teaching of open and reproducible research practices by organizing a cycle of seminars that captures the aspects of open and reproducible research.

- **ReproCofee**

An initiative developed by early-career researchers that aims is to build a community of researchers interested in open and reproducible research.

- Promote **Collaborative projects** – to grant reliability: Co-development and co-production of scientific research (i.e., fewer original designs but more reliable studies)

- **Tutors “hands-on” meetings**



Join the Italian Reproducibility Network

<https://www.itrn.org>

*The presentation is available @
or by writing to carlo.miniussi@unitn.it*

Thank you for your attention

“Transparent and impartial reporting of clinical trial results will ultimately identify the treatments most likely to maximize benefit and reduce harm.” Kaplan & Irvin 2015