



# Open Data & Code Sharing

## A practical guide

*Sensors CDT*

23 November 2018

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Division Editor

Physical Sciences and Engineering

*PLOS ONE*

	Percent increase in citation count (95% confidence interval)	p-value
Publish in a journal with twice the impact factor	84% (59 to 109%)	<0.001
Increase the publication date by a month	−3% (−5 to −2%)	<0.001
Include a US author	38% (1 to 89%)	0.049
<b>Make data publicly available</b>	<b>69% (18 to 143%)</b>	<b>0.006</b>

We calculated a multivariate linear regression over the citation counts, including covariates for journal impact factor, date of publication, US authorship, and data availability. The coefficients and p-values for each of the covariates are shown here, representing the contribution of each covariate to the citation count, independent of other covariates.

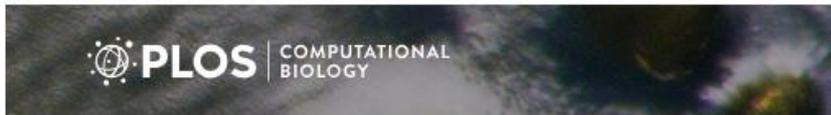
[doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0000308.t002](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0000308.t002)



# Outline

- Introducing PLOS and *PLOS ONE*
- Our Data Policy
  - What does it say?
  - How does it work in practice?
- Practical Data & Code Sharing
  - Data Repositories
  - Protocols.io
  - Code Sharing
- Open Science Innovations at PLOS

# Public Library of Science (PLOS)



- Est. 2001 as a non-profit publisher and advocacy organisation with a mission to accelerate progress in science & medicine by leading a transformation in research communication
- Seven Open Access online journals covering the breadth of science, medicine, engineering and related fields



**Launched on  
December  
20, 2006**

**Not-for-profit,  
Open Access**

**Multi-  
disciplinary  
and inter-  
disciplinary**

**Run for and by  
the community**

**Inclusive**

**Positive and  
negative results,  
replication  
studies, rebuttals**



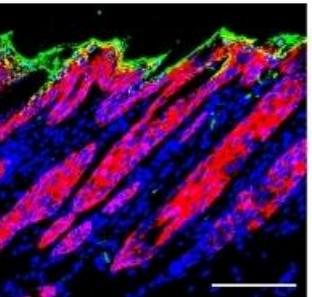
10.1371/journal.pone.0107610

## Considerations for policy implementations

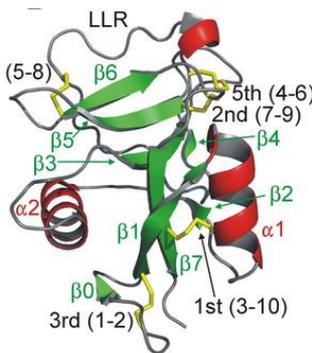
- Scale of PLOS ONE
  - 21,000 publications in 2017
  - 7500 Academic Editors
- 28 staff editors with PhD-level research experience to lead policy discussions
- Multi- and interdisciplinarity: Vastly different communities with different needs, from Social Sciences to Clinical Sciences, from Molecular Biology to Electrical Engineering



10.1371/journal.pone.0012292



10.1371/journal.pone.0017867



10.1371/journal.pone.0002616



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# Making data available fosters scientific progress

Data availability allows:

- Validation, replication, reanalysis, new analysis
- Reproducibility
- Increased value of research through re-use
- Easier citation of data
- Evidence that sharing data increases impact of work

[journals.plos.org/plosone/s/data-availability](https://journals.plos.org/plosone/s/data-availability)

# PLOS Data Policy – what does it say?

## Since March 2014...

PLOS journals require authors to make **all data underlying the findings** described in their manuscript fully available without restriction, with rare exception.

When submitting a manuscript online, authors must provide a **Data Availability Statement** describing compliance with PLOS's policy.

**Guidance** for researchers on which repositories are suitable and how to share data.

# What Data?

## Data underlying the findings

- Dataset used to reach the conclusions, incl. related metadata and methods, and any additional data required for replication

# Where?

## Preferred: Community repository

- PLOS provides list of acceptable repositories
- Authors must provide dois or accession numbers

## Possible: Supplementary information and paper itself

- All supplementary information files have doi and are uploaded to figshare



## Exceptions

- **Ethical or legal reasons**, e.g., compromising patient confidentiality or participant privacy
- Data deposition could present some **other threat**, e.g., revealing the locations of fossil deposits

## Examples of non-compliance

- “Available upon request” from author **without giving valid reason**
- **Proprietary data** that other researchers cannot obtain

**Citation:** Drake JM, Kaul RB, Alexander LW, O'Regan SM, Kramer AM, Pulliam JT, et al. (2015) Ebola Cases and Health System Demand in Liberia. *PLoS ONE* 10(2): e01002056. doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1002056

**Academic Editor:** Steven Riley, Imperial College London

**Received:** October 31, 2014; **Accepted:** November 6, 2015

**Copyright:** © 2015 Drake et al. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License](#), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited

**Data Availability:** All files are available at <http://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.17m5q>.

**Funding:** This research was funded by the National Science Foundation (http://www.nih.gov/). The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily reflect the official views of the National Science Foundation. The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.

**Competing interests:** The authors have no competing interests.

**Abbreviations:** ETU, Ebola treatment unit; SF, Sans Frontières

The screenshot shows the Dryad Digital Repository interface. At the top is the Dryad logo and navigation links: 'About', 'For researchers', and 'For organizations'. Below this is a header for the dataset: 'Data from: Ebola cases and health system demand in Liberia'. A 'PLOS ONE' logo is visible on the right. The main section is titled 'Files in this package' and contains a disclaimer: 'Content in the Dryad Digital Repository is offered "as is." By downloading files, you agree to the Dryad Terms of Service. To the extent possible under law, the authors have waived all copyright and related or neighboring rights to this data.' Below the disclaimer is a table with the following information:

Title	Data from: Ebola cases and health system demand in Liberia
Downloaded	275 times
Description	This zip directory contains the data, R code, and simulation results required to reproduce analyses reported in the associated paper.
Download	<a href="#">README.txt (175bytes)</a>
Download	<a href="#">data-and-code.zip (24.42Mb)</a>
Details	<a href="#">View File Details</a>

Doebley JF (2014) The Role of *cis* in PLoS Genet 10(11): e1004745.

United States of America

Received: October 9, 2014; **Published:** November 6, 2014

**Copyright:** © 2014 Lemmon et al. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License](#), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

**Data Availability:** The authors confirm that all data underlying the findings are fully available without restriction. The raw sequence data has been deposited in NCBI Sequence Read Archive with accessions SRX710894-711341 and the Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) Series with accession number GSE61810 (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo/query/acc.cgi?acc=GSE61810>). Supplemental datasets have been made available from the Dryad Digital Repository: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5061/dryad.4kh67>.

**Funding:** This work was supported by the National Science Foundation grants IOS1025869, IOS0820619, and IOS1238014. The funders had no role in study design, data collection and analysis, decision to publish, or preparation of the manuscript.

The data availability statement is openly available, and machine-readable as part of the PLOS search API

# Data availability checks

- **In-house checks on basic compliance:**
  - Does data availability statement comply with policy?
  - Are there some files available?
- **Academic Editors and Referees:**
  - What constitutes a “data underlying the findings” in any given case?

3. Have the authors made all data underlying the findings in their manuscript fully available?

Yes

The [PLOS Data policy](#) requires authors to make all data underlying the findings described in their manuscript fully available without restriction, with rare exception

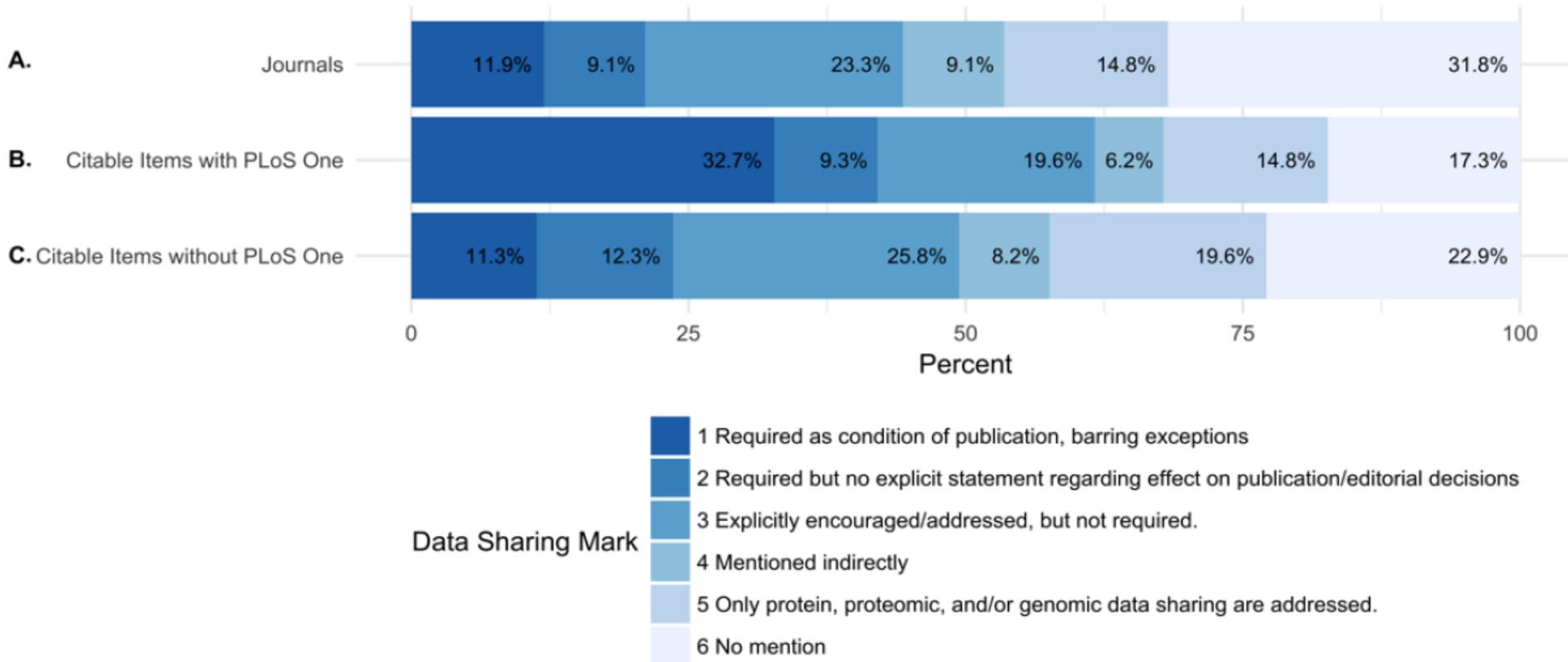
> 100,000

papers published with a data  
statement at PLOS

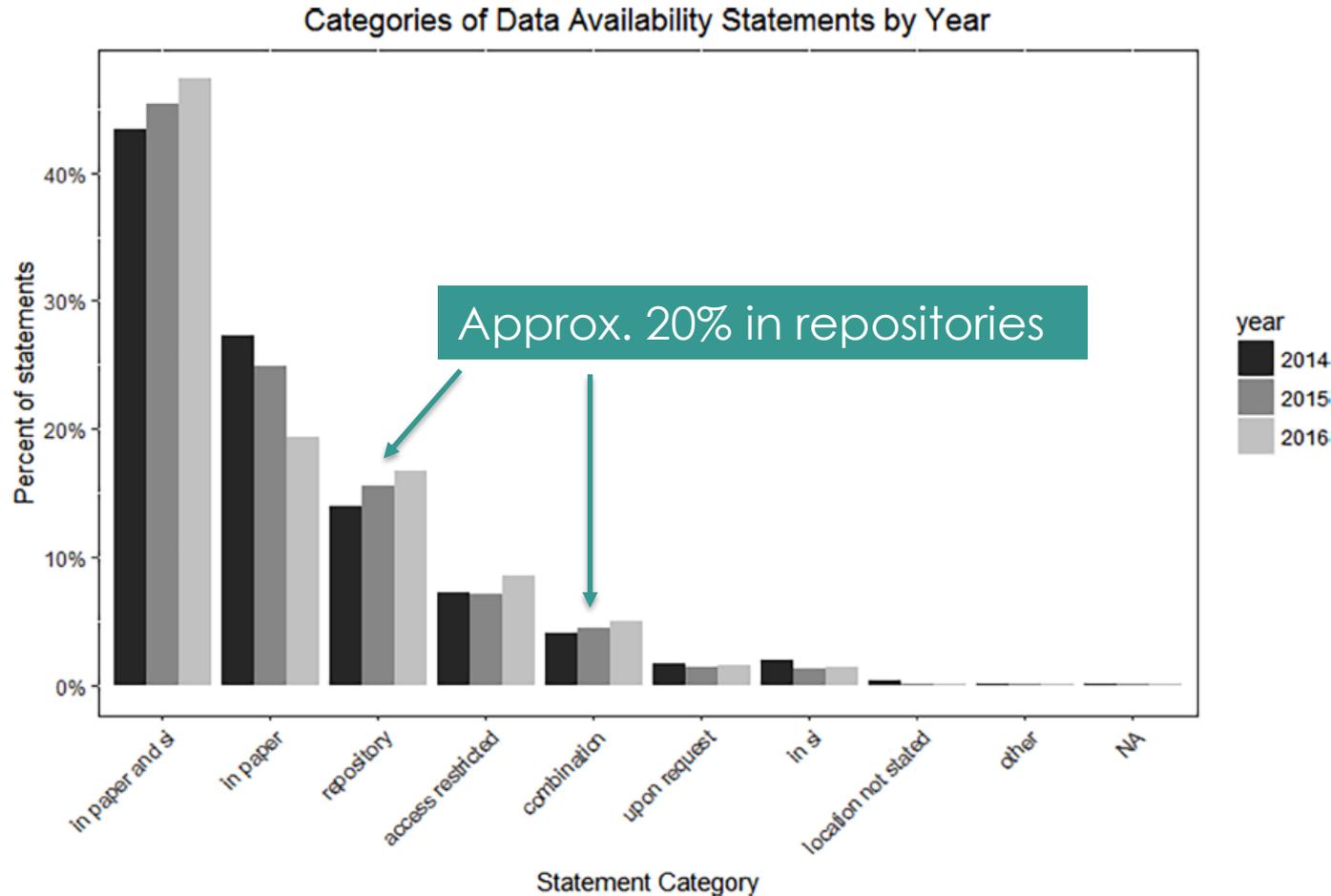
< 0.1%

of submissions rejected due to authors'  
unwillingness or inability to share data

# Data sharing policies make a difference

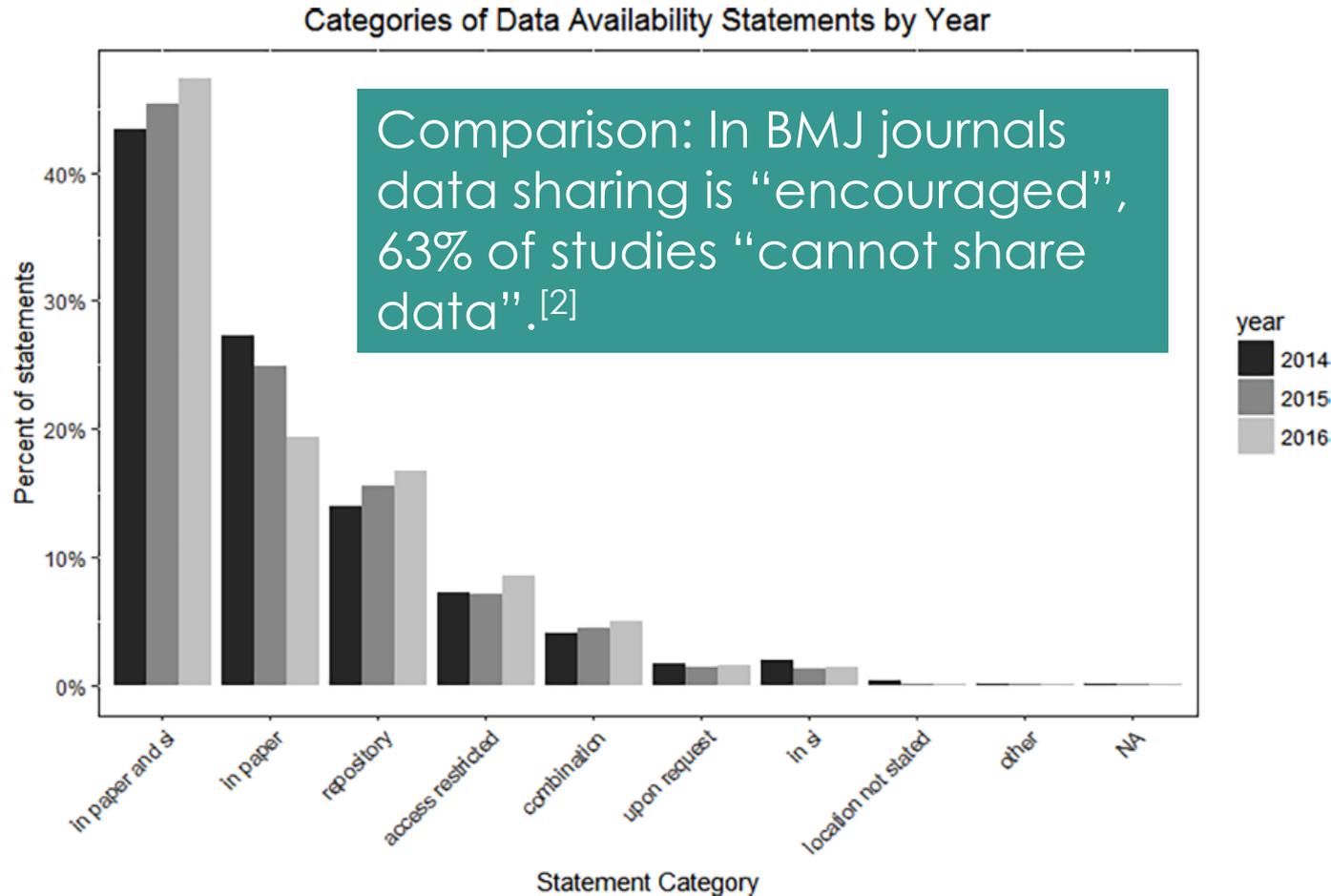


# Data availability statements 2014-16



Federer LM, Belter CW, Joubert DJ, Livinski A, Lu Y-L, Snyders LN, et al. (2018) Data sharing in PLOS ONE: An analysis of Data Availability Statements. PLoS ONE 13(5): e0194768. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0194768>

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[2] McDonald L et al. (2017) A review of data sharing statements in observational studies published in the BMJ: A cross-sectional study. F1000Research 2017, 6: 1708

# Popular repositories 2014-16

Repository	Count of mentions
Figshare	1,446
Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO)	1,001
Genbank	999
Dryad	987
Non-repository website	329
Institutional repository	317
Zenodo	100

Federer LM, Belter CW, Joubert DJ, Livinski A, Lu Y-L, Snyders LN, et al. (2018) Data sharing in PLOS ONE: An analysis of Data Availability Statements. PLoS ONE 13(5): e0194768. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0194768>



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# Practical Data Sharing – general tips

## Build open data sharing into everything you do

Prepare all data sets that you use and produce in the knowledge that they will be shared -- or share openly as you create them.

## Consider

What are community standards around presentation of this data?

Which metadata is necessary to make this data useful?

How to document processing steps?

# Standards around data and metadata

[re3data.org](https://re3data.org)

Some general purpose data repositories:  
Dryad, Harvard Dataverse, Zenodo, Open  
Science Framework

[FAIRsharing.org](https://fairsharing.org)  
standards, databases, policies

If you can't find standards around data sharing and metadata for your specific method, get together with your colleagues and mentors and start the discussion!

# The importance of sharing protocols

✓ protocols.io



**Daniel Gonzales**  
@dgonzales1990

Follow

2017: “Devices were fabricated as previously described [ref 8]”

[ref 8] 2015: “Devices were fabricated as previously described [ref 4]”

[ref 4] 2013: “Devices were fabricated as previously described [ref 2]”

[ref 2] 2009: “Devices were fabricated with conventional methods”

1:16 PM - 17 Jan 2018

231 Retweets 800 Likes



29 231 800



Adapted from Lenny Teytelman

# The importance of sharing protocols



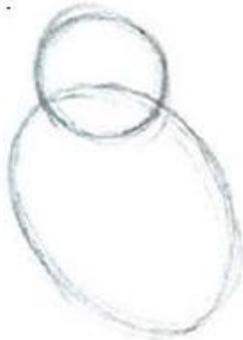
Timothée Poisot [Follow](#)  
Ecologist. Not that kind of doctor.  
Sep 8, 2015 · 2 min read

[protocols.io](#)

## Step 2—do the rest of the ~~fucking~~ analysis

How to draw an owl

1.



1. Draw some circles

2.



2. Draw the rest of the fucking owl

So when starting a new research project, one can feel like one is trying to draw an owl using the above tutorial. This is because we tend to learn about methods by reading papers, and the Methods section of any given paper is often, to put it mildly, *terse*. To pursue the *How to draw an owl* analogy, a Methods section could read

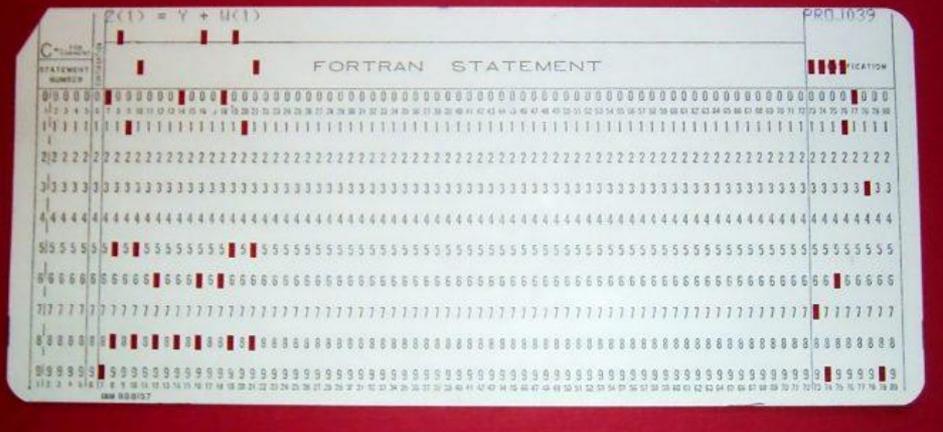
*We draw the owl on 60.2 gsm white paper of the A4 dimension (210mm by 297mm), using 3H and 6B graphite pencils (Derwent, Cumbria, UK). We did so by looking at owls, and drawing what we saw on paper. This protocol yielded one drawn owl.*

<https://medium.com/@tpoi/do-the-rest-of-the-fucking-analysis-8fcef22fd991>



Adapted from Lenny Teytelman

✓ **protocols.io**



# Source Code Sharing: Opportunities

Sharing Code in the 21<sup>st</sup> century does not require snail mail!

- Sharing will increase impact of the work
- Forces better maintenance and documentation
- Credit for software development
- A great GitHub page is invaluable for students who don't stay in academia
- For some, code is easier to understand than equations
- Provenance

Peter Wittek: Stop Hiding your Code

<https://blogs.plos.org/everyone/2018/04/18/stop-hiding-your-code/>



# Good enough practices in scientific computing

Wilson et al. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1005510>

## 2. Software

- a. Place a brief explanatory comment at the start of every program.
- b. Decompose programs into functions.
- c. Be ruthless about eliminating duplication.
- d. Always search for well-maintained software libraries that do what you need.
- e. Test libraries before relying on them.
- f. Give functions and variables meaningful names.
- g. Make dependencies and requirements explicit.
- h. Do not comment and uncomment sections of code to control a program's behavior.
- i. Provide a simple example or test data set.
- j. Submit code to a reputable DOI-issuing repository.

## Make it permanent with Zenodo and give it a licence!

```
implicit none
integer bottles1, bottles2, i

C 99 Bottles of Beer in FORTRAN

bottles1 = 99
  do 10 i = 0, 98
    bottles1 = bottles1 - i
    write(*,*) bottles,'bottles of beer on the wall,'
    write(*,*) bottles,'of beer.'
    bottles2=bottles1-1
    IF (bottles2.GT.1) THEN
      write(*,*) 'Take one down, pass it around,'
      write(*,*) bottles2,'bottles of beer on the wall.'
    ELSEIF
      write(*,*) 'Take one down, pass it around,'
      write(*,*) 'No bottles of beer on the wall.'
    ENDIF
  10 continue
```

# Source Code Sharing: Challenges

“I would like to share my code but I don't know how.”  
-- PLOS ONE Academic Editor



The screenshot shows a Twitter thread with three tweets. The top tweet is from Jason Hill (@Hill\_JasonM) replying to Susan Holmes (@SherlockpHolmes). The middle tweet is from Susan Holmes (@SherlockpHolmes). The bottom tweet is from Jake Taylor (@quantum\_jake) with a 'Following' button. The tweets discuss the challenges of sharing code and data, particularly in the context of machine learning and quantum experiments.

**Jason Hill** @Hill\_JasonM · Apr 26  
Replying to @SherlockpHolmes  
As someone who publishes tutorials with code with manuscripts, I worry I'll be evaluated much more rigorously than those who do not #ShareYourCode, even though I'm pretty sure it should be the other way around.  
2 replies 7 likes

**Susan Holmes** @SherlockpHolmes · Apr 26  
I agree, I find that the more documentation and code the more it is criticized. As an editor/rev., I give authors a lot of extra points for making code and data available, I feel as if this is not often the case, but going forward, we can change this, it's on us, when reviewing.  
1 reply 5 likes

**Jake Taylor** @quantum\_jake  
Following  
We share our data (with code) for machine learning for quantum experiments because we hope others can do it much better than we can. Reluctance on my part because sharing code and supporting code are so linked but so different. See: [catalog.data.gov/dataset/quantu](https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/quantu) ... #shareyourcode @PLOSONE  
5:53 pm - 25 Apr 2018  
12 Retweets 45 Likes

→ Stay tuned for collections with exemplary data sharing on Quantum Computation & Simulation and Machine Learning in Health



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# Preprints – partnership with **bioRxiv**

Authors can choose to have their work posted to the bioRxiv preprint server upon submission to PLOS journals

**bioRxiv**

THE PREPRINT SERVER FOR BIOLOGY

- PLOS staff perform initial screening to determine suitability and match with bioRxiv's scope
- Authors must opt-in at submission
- Editors can consider commentary on the preprint during the peer review process

**Launched in May**



# Transparent peer review



## Transparency, credit, and peer review

Posted August 29, 2018 by Veronique Kiermer in Innovation, Journal enhancements, Open Science, Publishing, Science communication



[orcid.org/0000-0001-8771-7239](https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8771-7239)

Yesterday I signed an open letter on behalf of all PLOS journals, alongside 20 other editors representing over 100 publications, to commit to offering transparent peer review options.

Support for publication of reviewer reports has been mounting as part of a greater effort to inform the discussion on peer review practice. Our joint commitment to transparent peer review comes on the heels of a meeting we attended earlier this year organized by HHMI, The Wellcome Trust and ASAPbio. Funders, editors, and publishers came together and agreed that elevating the visibility of peer review is paramount for informed scholarly discussion and early career development. Context for the initiatives is provided today in a *Nature commentary*.

We are excited to be working alongside so many other journals eager to bring posted reviews to our communities and to help change the way in which we talk about and understand peer review.

In August 2018, PLOS joined over 20 publishers in announcing its commitment to offering optional transparent peer review (publication of review reports) across its journal portfolio.





Questions?

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@PLOSONE



**Backup**