

# Code Sharing Policy Survey

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Thank you for your interest in our survey. We are seeking feedback from researchers in the Computational Biology community on their experiences with sharing computer code generated during their research.

If *PLOS Computational Biology* introduced a new policy that requires you to publicly share code you created during your research along with your published article, we would like to know how this might affect your experience in the journal.

## ABOUT THE SURVEY

The survey should take about 5 minutes to complete.

Your participation in this survey is completely voluntary, and you are free to withdraw from the study at any time until you submit the survey. Answers will never be associated with individual participants and the results will only be analyzed in aggregate.

If you have any questions about the survey, please contact Iain Hrynaskiewicz or *PLOS Computational Biology*.

## ABOUT PLOS

PLOS is a nonprofit, Open Access publisher empowering researchers to transform science. Find out more about PLOS.

## DO YOU KNOW SOMEBODY WHO MIGHT WANT TO PARTICIPATE?

If you know someone who would be interested in participating in this study, please feel free to pass on the link to this survey!

## 1. Have you published in *PLOS Computational Biology*? \*

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

## 2. Where are you located? \*

Afghanistan  
Albania  
Algeria  
Andorra  
Angola  
Antigua and Barbuda  
Argentina  
Armenia  
Australia  
Austria  
Azerbaijan  
Bahamas, The  
Bahrain  
Bangladesh  
Barbados  
Belarus  
Belgium  
Belize  
Benin  
Bermuda,  
Bhutan  
Bolivia  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Botswana  
Brazil  
Brunei

Burundi  
Bulgaria  
Burkina Faso  
Burundi  
Cambodia  
Cameroon  
Canada  
Cape Verde  
Central African Republic  
Chad  
Chile  
China  
Colombia  
Comoros  
Congo, Democratic Republic of the  
Congo, Republic of the  
Costa Rica  
Cote d'Ivoire  
Croatia  
Cuba  
Curacao  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Djibouti  
Dominica  
Dominican Republic  
East Timor (see Timor-Leste)  
Ecuador  
Egypt  
El Salvador  
Equatorial Guinea  
Eritrea  
Estonia  
Ethiopia  
Fiji  
Finland

Finland  
France  
Gabon  
Gambia, The  
Georgia  
Germany  
Ghana  
Greece  
Grenada  
Guatemala  
Guinea  
Guinea-Bissau  
Guyana  
Haiti  
Holy See  
Honduras  
Hong Kong  
Hungary  
Iceland  
India  
Indonesia  
Iran  
Iraq  
Ireland  
Israel  
Italy  
Jamaica  
Japan  
Jordan  
Kazakhstan  
Kenya  
Kiribati  
Kosovo  
Kuwait  
Kyrgyzstan  
Laos  
Latvia

Lebanon	
Lesotho	
Liberia	
Libya	
Liechtenstein	
Lithuania	
Luxembourg	
Macau	
Macedonia	
Madagascar	
Malawi	
Malaysia	
Maldives	
Mali	
Malta	
Marshall Islands	
Mauritania	
Mauritius	
Mexico	
Micronesia	
Moldova	
Monaco	
Mongolia	
Montenegro	
Morocco	
Mozambique	
Myanmar	
Namibia	
Nauru	
Nepal	
Netherlands	
Netherlands Antilles	
New Zealand	
Nicaragua	
Niger	
Nigeria	

North Korea  
Norway  
Oman  
Pakistan  
Palau  
Palestinian Territories  
Panama  
Papua New Guinea  
Paraguay  
Peru  
Philippines  
Poland  
Portugal  
Qatar  
Romania  
Russia  
Rwanda  
Saint Kitts and Nevis  
Saint Lucia  
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines  
Samoa  
San Marino  
Sao Tome and Principe  
Saudi Arabia  
Senegal  
Serbia  
Seychelles  
Sierra Leone  
Singapore  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Solomon Islands  
Somalia  
South Africa  
South Korea  
South Sudan  
Spain

Spain  
Sri Lanka  
Sudan  
Suriname  
Swaziland  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Syria  
Taiwan  
Tajikistan  
Tanzania  
Thailand  
Timor-Leste  
Togo  
Tonga  
Trinidad and Tobago  
Tunisia  
Turkey  
Turkmenistan  
Tuvalu  
Uganda  
Ukraine  
United Arab Emirates  
United Kingdom  
United States  
Uruguay  
Uzbekistan  
Vanuatu  
Venezuela  
Vietnam  
Yemen  
Zambia  
Zimbabwe

### 3. What is your research field? \*

Computational Biology  
Bioinformatics  
Biology and Life Sciences  
Ecology and Environmental Sciences  
Engineering and Technology  
Medicine and Health Sciences  
Physical sciences  
Social sciences  
Other (please specify)

### 4. State your research field: \*



**5. Approximately how many research papers have you published? \***

- ☐ 0
- ☐ 1-5
- ☐ 6-20
- ☐ 21-50
- ☐ 51-100
- ☐ 100+

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**About Your Research**

**6. Of your previously-published research papers, for approximately what proportion (%) of them did you generate your own code or software as part of the research? \***

- ☐ Enter a number between 1% and 100%
- ☐ None of my previously published research generated code or software
- ☐ I don't know

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**About Your Research and Code/Software**

**7. Of your previously-published research papers that generated code or software, for approximately what proportion (%) of them were you *not able* to share your code publicly? \***

☐ Enter a number between 1% and 100%

☐ I shared my code publicly for all my research papers that generated code or software

☐ I don't know

**8. Why have you not shared your code publicly in the past? [select all that apply] \***

☐ I needed to protect intellectual property

☐ My code had commercial value

☐ Concern of misuse or misinterpretation of by others

☐ It takes too much time to prepare code for sharing

☐ Software and systems dependencies

☐ I was unsure of which license to apply to my code

☐ I needed special permission to share my code

☐ I might have lost publication opportunities if I shared my code

☐ Concerns with my ability to properly prepare the code for public sharing

☐ Other (please specify)

\*

9. If *PLOS Computational Biology* required you to publicly share any computer code you created to interpret your results, how would this affect your likelihood to submit to the journal?

\*

A lot more likely

☐

A little more likely

☐

No difference

☐

A little less likely

☐

A lot less likely

☐

10. How important to your research is reuse of other researchers' code? \*

Not at all Important

☐

Not very Important

☐

Neutral

☐

Important

☐

Very Important

☐

11. How satisfied are you with your ability to access other researchers' code? \*

Very  
Dissatisfied

☐

Dissatisfied

☐

Somewhat  
Dissatisfied

☐

Neutral

☐

Somewhat  
Satisfied

☐

Satisfied

☐

Very Satisfied

☐

12. How important to your research is sharing of your own code? \*

Not at all Important

☐

Not very Important

☐

Neutral

☐

Important

☐

Very Important

☐

13. How satisfied are you with your ability to share your code? \*

Very  
Dissatisfied

☐

Dissatisfied

☐

Somewhat  
Dissatisfied

☐

Neutral

☐

Somewhat  
Satisfied

☐

Satisfied

☐

Very Satisfied

☐

14. Do you have any additional thoughts you would like to share?

15. *PLOS Computational Biology* is recruiting researchers to participate in further research related to code sharing and computational reproducibility. Please leave your email address if you agree to be invited to take part in further research.

Thank You!

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Your survey is now complete. Thank you very much for your time!  
Please contact Iain Hrynaskiewicz if you have questions.