**Our Mission**

Slime molds such as P. polycephalum that form impressive networks have proven to be an exciting substrate for interdisciplinary research. The study of the structure and function of theses organism's intricate vein-networks has captured the interest of biologists, physicists and computer scientists alike.

A popular two-step approach consists of capturing images of slime mold networks and converting them to mathematical graphs enabling a detailed investigation of their properties. The first part relies on cultivating specimen in the lab whilst taking images documenting the development of their networks. Obtaining such series of images is a process, which needs to be repeated many times in order to obtain a reliable body of observations. Naturally, such data aquisition comes at a considerable cost in terms of time and resources.

In the past such "graph-based" approaches have been quite successful and various interesting results are readily available online. However, the data used to establish these results, i.e. graphs and their underlying images, is not nearly as available and remains overlooked in most cases. This is most unfortunate because due to their ease of handling and their abstraction power, graphs naturally lend themselves to reuse, potentially gaining impact beyond their initial publications or even beyond their domain of origin.

To encourage and facilitate the reuse of experimental data we start the Slime Mold Graph Repository, providing a central location for research-grade data revolving around network-forming slime molds. We believe that cultivating a small but dedicated data repository is one way to enable the research community to make the most of their hard-earned data. After all … sharing IS caring.