**Submitting Data to the SMGR**

The SMGR is a small repository dedicated to the highly specialized topic of network-forming slime molds.

If you have, data, which you think should be contained in the SMGR, please do approach us and send us an email. In particular, we welcome images of slime mold networks, ideally accompanied by graph representations of the latter. However, we are open to other forms of data provided it fits the general scope of the SMGR. The only hard criterium we enforce for data to be included is that it be data associated with a submitted or accepted scholarly publication. Any data we receive or link to will be listed and made accessible for everyone on our data page. Contributors of datasets will receive credit and be listed on our contributor page.

The steps of the submission process can be summarized as follows:

1. You have acquired an interesting dataset that fits the scope of the SMGR. Your data has been part of some scientific research and has been subject to peer-review.
2. You contact us to briefly discuss the data and its relevance. This helps us to better understand your submission, react to special requirements and to give you some pointers on how to proceed.
3. You prepare your dataset for submission. I.e. you organize you data such that it becomes easy to understand and easy to work with. To this end you provide sufficient documentation and meta-data. Ideally, your submission is a self-sufficient and reproducible body of data. For more detailed instructions see our FAQ.
4. Upon letting us know that you are ready for submission, you will organize a suitable link facilitating data upload.
5. After upload we will inspect the data set and its documentation. At this point we may request additional meta-data if we feel that the documentation is not yet sufficient.
6. You dataset is added to the SMGR and shared with everyone.

The process seems involved at first glance, but the only real difficulty is acquiring data and a derived publication in the first place! All other steps are either simple or covered already because they are good scientific practice. What you need to do boils down to: Talk to us about your data, make your data understandable/usable for others and upload it. There.

Now, we won’t deny that some effort is required to share. It might even seem that it is not worth the time. However, when comparing the time it takes to share your data with the enormous time and effort that so naturally goes into data creation, universally taking for granted, sharing becomes quite feasible.

Thus, we invite you to support the SMGR, making sure that valuable data is increasingly reused and that data providers receive increased credit for their work. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us or to check out the FAQ.

For general a discussion of the benefits of data sharing and guidines on how to do it please see: White EP, Baldridge E, Brym ZT, Locey KJ, McGlinn DJ, Supp SR (2013) Nine simple ways to make it easier to (re)use your data. Ideas in Ecology & Evolution 6(2):1–10. <http://doi.org/10.4033/iee.2013.6b.6.f>