Survey on Open Government Data use

June, 2017

## Intro:

Welcome!

Thank you for taking part in this survey which examines Open Government Data (OGD) usage in academic research.

OGD is freely available to everyone without restrictions. Popular source of OGD include federal level platform such as [data.gov](https://www.data.gov/about) and state or city level platforms such as data.seattle.gov. OGD aims to creates new forms of transparency and accountability, encouraging social participation, stimulating innovation, and generating public value. The purpose of this study is to understand how OGD is being used in academic research and explore ways to realize the potentials of OGD in advancing data-driven sciences.

The survey is voluntary, and you may answer as few or as many questions as you wish. Your survey responses will be treated as strictly confidential.  Identifiable information will be collected only when you agree to participate in a follow-up interview. Individual identifiers will be removed from the data file prior to analysis. The results of the survey will be shared in summary form only.

The survey should take about 5 minutes to complete. Thank you in advance for your willingness to participate in this research.

# Informed Consent:

(This informed consent will appear before the survey starts. The questions show up only when participants check the box indicating their consent.)

We will not ask you to provide personally sensitive questions in this survey and all the answers provided will be used only in anonymous form.

By signing this form, you confirm the following:

• I have read and understood the purpose of the survey.

• I understand that my words may be quoted in publications, reports, web pages, and other research outputs in anonymous form only (no name or other personal identifiable data will ever be mentioned).

• I understand that my taking part is voluntary. I can withdraw from the study at any time during the survey and I do not have to give any reasons for why I no longer want to take part.

• I understand that my personal details such as my name, email, phone number and address will not be available to anyone outside the research team.

The person responsible for the treatment of the data used in this survey is:

An Yan, PhD student, University of Washington, United States

Email: yanan15@uw.edu

If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to contact her.

I agree to these terms and want to participate in the survey. I confirm that I am 18 years of age or over.

## About you

**Which of the following best describe your primary field of study?**

* Dropdown list of subjects.

**What is your present professional title?**

* Professor
* Associate Professor
* Assistant Professor
* Lecturer
* Postdoc
* PhD student
* Master’s student
* Research staff
* Research scientist
* Other

**What is your primary location of employment (or study if you are a student)?**

* Dropdown list of cities/states

## OGD data usage

**Which of the following best describes your knowledge of OGD? Check all that apply.**

* I’ve never heard of OGD (branch 1)
* I’ve heard of OGD, but do not use this data in my research. (branch 2)
* I use OGD but not for research (branch 3)
* I use OGD (browse, search, or download data) for my research. (branch 4 )

***If checked branch 4:***

(Please answer the following questions based on the experience of the last time you used OGD in your research.)

**Where did you get your OGD for research? (check all that apply)**

* Data.gov (US)
* Data.gov.uk
* City-level OGD portals
* State-level or province-level OGD portals
* County-level OGD portals
* Others (please specify)

**What are the purposes of using OGD in your research? check all that apply**

* OGD was the main data source for new analysis
* OGD was the ancillary data source for new analysis (e.g., as base map)
* OGD was used for result evaluation (e.g., as ground truth)
* OGD was used to demonstrate the effectiveness of a proposed new method (e.g., a new visualization method).
* Providing innovative services or platforms based on OGD (e.g., an application that aggregates all air pollution information)
* Other (please specify)

**What types of OGD did you use? Check all that apply:**

* National Statistics
* Government Budget
* Procurement
* National Laws
* Administrative Boundaries
* Draft Legislation
* Air Quality
* National Maps
* Weather Forecast
* Company Register
* Election Results
* Locations
* Water Quality
* Government Spending
* Land Ownership
* Others (please specify)

**How well do OGD satisfy your research needs?**

* Liker scale: 1-5 not well – very well

**Please give your reasons why OGD satisfy or not satisfy your research needs.**

**How do you rate the following characteristics of OGD you used in your research?**

* 1-5 satisfaction, NA
* OGD portal usability
* Documentation
* Temporal coverage
* Spatial coverage
* Consistency
* Accuracy
* completeness

(Now please reflect all your work which used OGD)

**What inspire you to use OGD in your research?**

**How do you describe the amount of work required to prepare OGD for your research ?**

* liker scale: 1-5 high - low

**Have you ever tried to integrate OGD ?**

* yes
* no

**What types of integration have you done? Check all that apply**

* Integrated OGD across different OGD platforms on the same variables.
* Integrated different datasets from a single OGD platforms to a unified temporal or spatial frame.
* Integrated OGD with non-OGD data.
* Other (please specify)

**Have you encountered any integration challenges while using OGD in your research? Check all that apply**

* Yes, I encountered challenges with integrating OGD from across different OGD platforms
* Yes, I encountered challenges with integrating different datasets within a single OGD platforms.
* Yes, I encountered challenges with integrating OGD with other sources of data
* No
* Not sure

**What did you do to solve the integration problem?**

[The purpose of this study is to understand how OGD is being used in academic research and explore ways to realize the potentials of OGD in advancing data-driven sciences. ]

**How do you think OGD can be improved to better serve the research community?**

***If checked branch 2 or 3:***

**If you have never used OGD, why? Check all that apply.**

* I don’t trust OGD
* Don’t know what data are available
* I know what types of data available on OGD portals, but don’t know what I can do with them
* I know what are out there, but the topics of them are not relevant to my personal life or my research.
* I am concerned with the quality of the data
* I plan to but not yet.
* Others (please specify)

**Have you tried to look for OGD for your research ?**

* Yes
* No

**If you have considered OGD for your research, what are the reasons why OGD did not satisfy your research data needs? (check all that apply)**

* The content did not meet my needs
* The data temporal or spatial coverage did not meet my need
* The resolution/ granularity did not meet my needs
* Bad data quality
* Unclear documentation of data variables
* Proprietary format
* Non-machine readable format
* License restrictions
* Other (please specify)

**Will you consider using OGD in your research in the future?**

* No
* Yes
* Not sure

**Please provide reasons why you would not use or unsure about OGD.**

**If you would consider using OGD in the future, what data will you possibly use in terms of topics, quality, and formats, etc.**

***If checked branch 1:***

**OGD is freely available without restrictions. It covers rich social, economics, and geospatial data. will you consider using OGD in your research?**

* No
* Yes
* Not sure

**Please provide reasons why you would not use or unsure about OGD.**

**If you would consider using OGD in the future, what data will you possibly use in terms of topics, quality, and formats, etc.**

## Closing

**Please share with us any thoughts regarding OGD usage in research.**

**We are very interested in your experience with OGD use, if you are willing to share with us, please leave your name and email address here. Your interview responses will be anonymous and your participation would be voluntary. we would not share this information with anyone outside our team.**

**(show this message only when participants indicated they have used OGD in their research before.)**