# Research Data Management

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#### What we'll talk about

- What is research data?
- Data Management vs. Data Management Plans
- Data Storage & Access
- Backups & Versioning
- Documentation
- File Names & Structures
- File Formats & Units of Measurement
- Data Management Plans
- Tools



# No two people on any campus will agree on what "Data" actually is.



- Primary / Secondary
- Qualitative / Quantitative
- Experimental / Observational

- 3D models and printable files
- Accreditation reports
- Archival university papers
- Artistry and performance materials
- Audio
- Books
- Computer code & scripts
- Conference proceedings
- Course catalogs
- Datasets
- Designs & blueprints
- Digital journals
- Dissertations
- Documentation
- GIS files
- Grant proposals
- "Grey" literature
- Historical documents
- Images
- Interviews
- Journals
- Lab notebooks

- Learning materials
- Lecture transcriptions
- Maps
- Methodologies & Workflows
- MOOCs
- Newsletters
- Oral History
- Physical artifacts and specimens
- Point clouds
- Posters
- Presentations
- Seismic recordings
- Software
- Spreadsheets / CSV files
- Surveys
- Technical reports
- Teaching tools designed by faculty
  - Theses
- Transcripts
- Video
- Visualizations
- Websites
- \Mhita papara



# Data Management vs.

# Data Management Plans

(and Data Management and Sharing Plans)

# Data Management vs DMPs

- Data management refers to the things researchers do as they create, collect, describe, store, and work with data generated by their research.
- Data Management Plans (DMPs) are a written description of what data is generated or otherwise acquired for a particular research project, and how the data will be utilized and stored during and after a project.

#### Data Management vs DMPs

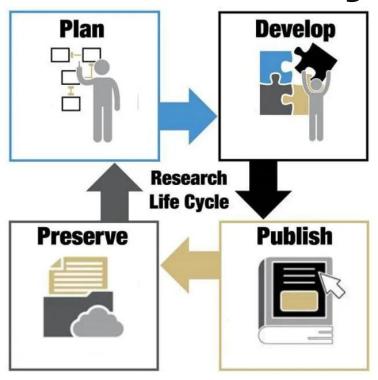
- Data management is what you do.
- Data Management Plans are where you write about what you're going to do. (Usually because a grant requires one.)

#### Why is data management important?

- Protects data from loss
- Saves you time
- You can find your data when you need it
- Helps new members of research teams understand processes faster
- Facilitates reproducibility
- Improves the quality of published data
- Keep sensitive data secure



# Research Lifecycle



# What Data Management isn't

- Data management is <u>not</u> data sharing
- You can manage your data without sharing it
- You can share your data without managing it
  - (please don't do this)

# Data Storage & Access



#### **Data Storage & Access**

- Where will the data be stored?
  - When the data is being collected
  - When the data is being analyzed
  - After the project is over
- Who can access the data?
  - How can they access it?
  - Is there sensitive or confidential data?
  - What security measures are in place to protect the data?

#### Things to think about

- Who's paying for data storage?
- How long will you have access to this storage?
  - What happens when you graduate?



I lost several years of DnD world-building with the google email change, looking for help

3 votes · 8 comments



Has anyone had any success trying to have their Google school account recovered? Or am I screwed?

2 votes · 6 comments

# **Big Data**

- Larger data sets means increased complexity!
- It's harder to store and provide access to data when you're working with terabytes or petabytes of data

# Backups & Versioning



# Why backup your data?

- Technology failure
- Natural disasters
- Theft
- Human error
- Rogue Als

#### All of your data has been deleted.

Pod 042

All of your data has been deleted



#### 3-2-1 Rule

- Three copies
  - One primary and two backups
- Two formats/media
  - e.g. External hard drive & cloud storage
- One off-site
  - Where is your cloud storage located?

#### 3-2-1 Rule

- Not always feasible
  - Big data (terabytes or petabytes of data)
  - Frequently changing data
  - Data collected in places with terrible internet
- Ask yourself:
  - How often do you need to backup your data?
  - If you lost a specific piece of data could your research project continue?

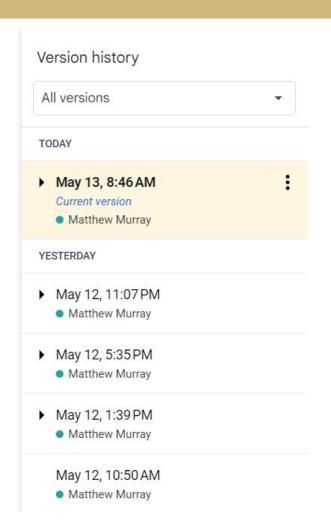
#### **USBs are Not Data Storage**

You will lose them



# Versioning

- Versioning is when you save specific versions of your files
- Some software (Git!) does this automatically
- Can be as basic as having "raw" and "cleaned" versions
- Be consistent in giving version numbers



# **Documenting Data**



#### What is Documentation?

- Documentation is capturing your research process (from data collection through analysis)
- Includes the Five Ws (and One H)
  - What was done, Who did it, When it happened, Where it happened, Why it was done, and How it was done
- There are many different ways to do this

# Why is Documentation Important?

- You can keep track of what still needs to be done
- Your future self will thank you for writing down what you did
- Allows others to understand your process and replicate your work

#### **Examples of Documentation**

- Data Dictionaries & Codebooks
  - Contain a description of elements in a dataset, including names, definitions, acronyms, and other relevant information.
- README files
  - A plain text file that provides information and instructions about a project, including its purpose, usage instructions, known issues, and contact information for support or collaboration.

#### Codebooks

- Define the variables and their units
- Explain the formats for dates, time, geographic coordinates
- Define any coded values and missing values
- Allows others outside of your research group to understand the data

# Why is it Important?

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6	943cacbae JF330061	07/24/202	25 NO CONTF NO CONTF CLEAR	DAYLIGHT PARKED N	ONE-WAY	STRAIGHT DRY	NO DEFEC ON SCE	NE NO INJURY /	DRIVE AWAY		OVER \$1,5 07/24/202 NOT APPL NOT APP		823
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16	4ca492845 JF319187	07/15/202	30 NO CONTF NO CONTF RAIN	DAYLIGHT PARKED N	NOT DIVIDED	STRAIGHT WET	NO DEFEC NOT O	N S NO INJURY /	DRIVE AWAY		\$500 OR L 07/16/202 NOT APPL NOT APP		113
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18	b1c666d9dJB163972	02/24/201	25 NO CONTF NO CONTF CLEAR	DAYLIGHT SIDESWIP	DIVIDED -	4 STRAIGHT DRY	NO DEFEC NOT O	N S NO INJURY /	DRIVE AWAY	N	\$501 - \$1, 02/24/201 UNABLE T UNABLE		123
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29	be4779908 JB506955	11/07/201	30 NO CONTF NO CONTF CLEAR	DAYLIGHT PARKED N	NOT DIVIE	2 STRAIGHT DRY	NO DEFEC NOT O	N S NO INJURY /	DRIVE AWAY	Y	OVER \$1,5 11/07/201 UNABLE T UNABLE		1935
30	9f6316976 JE122789	01/25/202	10 NO CONTF NO CONTF CLEAR	DAYLIGHT REAR TO F	ONE-WAY	STRAIGHT DRY	NO DEFEC NOT O	N S NO INJURY /	DRIVE AWAY		OVER \$1,501/25/202 IMPROPEI UNABLE		2211
31	7baf8ac46(JF318925	07/15/202	30 NO CONTF NO CONTF RAIN	DAYLIGHT OTHER NO	NOT DIVIDED	STRAIGHT WET	OTHER ON SCE	NE INJURY AND	/ OR TOW DUE T	O CRASH	\$501 - \$1, 07/15/202 UNABLE T NOT APP		1224
32	94ef43765 JF318676	07/15/202	30 TRAFFIC S FUNCTION RAIN	DAYLIGHT TURNING	DIVIDED - W/MI	EDIA STRAIGHT WET	UNKNOW NOT O	N S NO INJUR'Y			OVER \$1,5 07/15/202 FAILING T FAILING	100 mm	2531
33	b63a439b7JB366967	07/27/201	30 TRAFFIC S FUNCTION CLEAR	DARKNES! PEDALCYC	CENTER T	5 STRAIGHT UNKNOW	UNKNOW ON SCE	NE NO INJURY /	DRIVE AWAY	Y	\$500 OR L 07/27/201 FOLLOWIN FOLLOW	V	1434
34	a43552917 JF318249	07/15/202	30 STOP SIGN FUNCTION RAIN	DAYLIGHT REAR END	NOT DIVIDED	STRAIGHT WET	UNKNOW! ON SCE	NE NO INJUR'Y			OVER \$1,5 07/15/202 FOLLOWIN UNABLE	T	1411
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36	a77bed557 JE267857	06/16/202	30 TRAFFIC S FUNCTION CLEAR	DAYLIGHT REAR END	DIVIDED - W/M	EDIA STRAIGHT DRY	NO DEFEC NOT O				OVER \$1,506/16/202 UNABLE T UNABLE		725
37	da8a78c1a JF318221		30 NO CONTF NO CONTF CLEAR	UNKNOW PARKED N	NOT DIVIDED	STRAIGHT DRY	NO DEFEC NOT O	N SI NO INJURY /	DRIVE AWAY	Y	OVER \$1,507/15/202 UNABLE T NOT APP	1	1611
38	a98b33a77JB311906	06/16/201	30 TRAFFIC S FUNCTION CLEAR	DAYLIGHT TURNING	NOT DIVIDED	STRAIGHT DRY	NO DEFEC NOT O	N S NO INJUR'Y			\$501 - \$1, 06/18/201 FOLLOWIN UNABLE		2022

#### **Documentation matters**

- HIT\_AND\_RUN\_I
- INTERSECTION\_RELATED\_I
- STATEMENTS\_TAKEN\_I

#### **README Files**

- Title of Dataset
- Authors
- Contact information
- Date of data collection
- Licenses/restrictions placed on the data
- Links to publications that cite or use the data
- Recommended citation for the data
- Structure and organization of the data files
- List of software (with version numbers) and instruments

#### Metadata

- Data about data!
- Descriptions that help you find and understand data
- Different fields/disciplines use different metadata standards

#### Creator Gifford, Lauren Nacu-Schmidt, Ami Osborne-Gowey, Jeremiah Boykoff, Max **Date Issued** 2023-04 **Academic Affiliation** Cooperative Institute for Research in Environmental Sciences **Last Modified** 2023-05-02 Resource Type Data Set **Rights Statement** In Copyright 🖸 DOI ttps://doi.org/10.25810/c862-0e81.60 Language English [eng] License Creative Commons BY Attribution 4.0 International

# File Names & Structures



### "FINAL".doc







FINAL\_rev. 2. doc







FINAL\_rev.6.COMMENTS.doc

FINAL\_rev.8.comments5. CORRECTIONS.doc







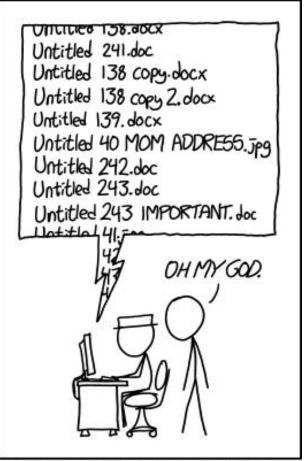
FINAL\_rev.18.comments7.corrections9.MORE.30.doc

FINAL\_rev.22.comments49. corrections.10.#@\$%WHYDID ICOMETOGRADSCHOOL????.doc

ICOMETOGRADSCHOOL

PHD Comics:
NotFinal.Doc. Jorge
Cham, 2012.
<a href="https://phdcomics.com/comics.php?f=1531">https://phdcomics.com/comics.php?f=1531</a>.

xkcd: Documents. Randall Munroe. https://xkcd.com/1459/



PROTIP: NEVER LOOK IN SOMEONE. ELSE'S DOCUMENTS FOLDER.

# File Naming Best Practices

- Be consistent
  - Do: Use the same format for all files
  - Don't: Keep changing file names
- Be descriptive
  - Do: Avoid generic terms
  - Don't: Use "Final" in your file name
- Limit file name length
  - Do: Use abbreviations
  - Don't: write-out-every-word-in-your-data-file.xlsx

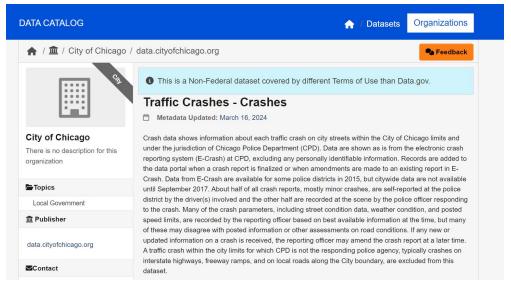
## **Abbreviations**

- Use meaningful abbreviations
- Document your decisions
  - Don't assume you'll remember what an abbreviation means
- Have group & individual identifiers
- Use version numbers

# File Naming Best Practices

- Use CamelCase (not all systems preserve case)
  - Do: FileName-2023.pdf
  - Don't: use spaces in your file names.doc
- Use standardized numbers and dates
  - Do: Use leading zeros (001.png)
  - Don't: Have files named 9-12-11.csv
- Use the Latin alphabet
  - Don't: Use punctuation or special characters
  - and are okay!

## Don't use spaces in your file names



Traffic\_Crashes\_-\_Crashes.csv

This also breaks certain software (or makes it harder to use)

https://catalog.data.gov/dataset/traffic-crashes-crashes

### **Dates**

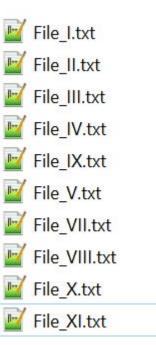
- Don't use terms like "Quarter 1" or "spring"
- ISO 8601
- 2023-10-31 or 20231031 (YYYY-MM-DD)
- Remember that historically dates were not consistent
  - 1712-02-30 (February 30th, 1712) was a real date in Sweden

# **Use the Latin alphabet**

- This sucks
- I'm sorry
- If your data features non-latin characters reach out to us and we can help make sure it will work
- When you use them, make sure they're encoded properly

## Don't use Latin numerals

- Don't use Latin numerals to name your files (they won't sort properly)
- You can use them in documentation (sometimes)



# 235 Chapter 17: What About Crowdfunded Comics?

Matthew Murray 😭 and Mara L. Thacker

Part 4. How Can Comics Be Used as Primary and Secondary Source Material by Students and Faculty?

Chapter 17: What About Crowdfunded Comics?

Matthew Murray �� and Mara L. Thacker

#### Additional file 4: of The gut of the finch: uniqueness of the gut microbiome of the GalĂĄpagos vampire finch

Cite Download (132.15 kB) Share Embed + Collect

Journal Contribution posted on 2018-09-18, 23:00 authored by Alice Michel, Lewis Ward, Shana Goffredi, Katherine Dawson, Daniel Baldassarre, Alec Brenner, Kiyoko Gotanda, John McCormack, Sean Mullin, Ariel Oâ□□Neill Gabrielle Tender, J. Uy, Kristie Yu, Victoria Orphan, Jaime Chaves

Additional information regarding the observations of finch feeding behavior, core microbiome results, and microbiome differences between vampire finches on Darwin and Wolf islands. (DOCX 20 kb)

#### **FUNDING**

#### Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation (US)

#### HISTORY

- 2018-09-18 Posted date
- 2018-09-19 First online date

#### RELATED MATERIALS

1. DOI - Is supplement to The gut of the finch: uniqueness of the gut microbiome of the Galápagos vampire finch

View PDF

USAGE METRICS [7] 118 10 0 downloads citations views Is supplement to The gut of the finch: uniqueness of the gut

microbiome of the Galápagos vampire finch

#### SPRINGER NATURE

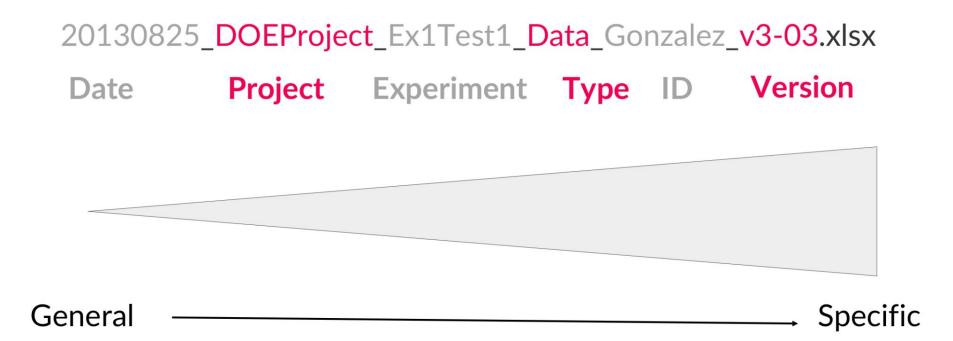
#### **CATEGORIES**

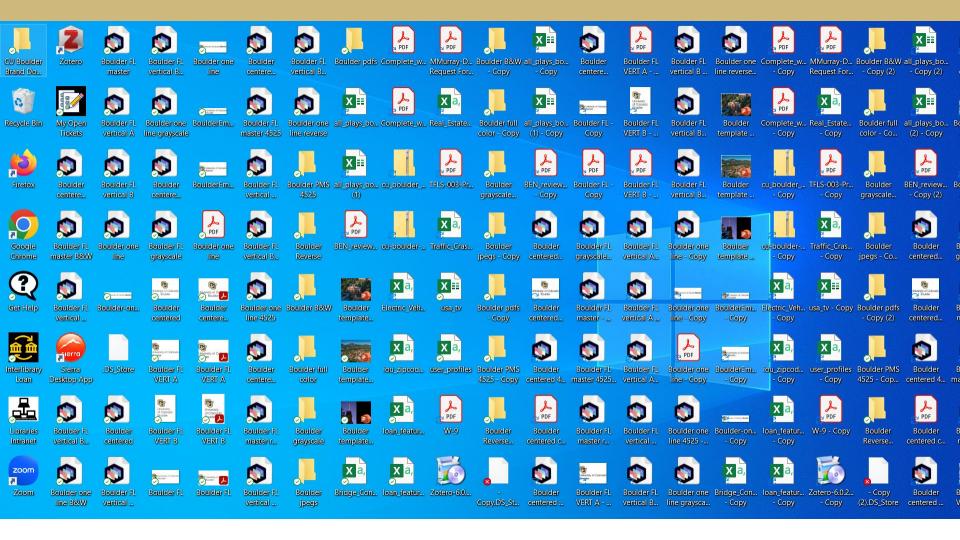
- · Evolutionary Biology
- · Environmental Sciences not elsewhere classified
- Ecology
- · Biological Sciences not elsewhere classified



LICENCE

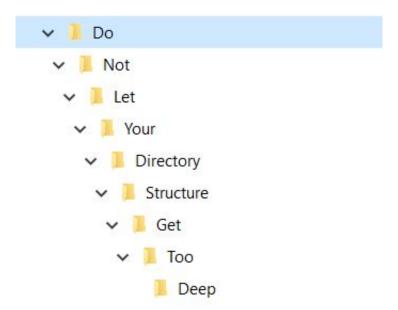
CC BY + CC0





# File Structuring

- Don't save everything to the desktop
- Don't let your structure get too deep



#### **Project directory structure**

#### Project\_1

- methods
- 🔹 raw\_data 🔷
  - 。 readme
- analysis
  - analysis\_method\_1
    - **.** 2017
    - . 2018
  - analysis\_method\_2
- scripts
- manuscript
  - 。 text
    - version\_1
- readme and/or ELN link

# Always keep your raw data!

(Raw data should be "read-only" if possible.)

# File Archiving and Compression

- Usually called "zipping"
- Means collecting different files and directories into one file
- Many programs/methods of doing this
  - o .zip, .rar., .7z, .tar, .gz, etc.
- Done to minimize size of files (compression)
- Done to collect many files and directories into one file (archiving)
- Makes it easier to share many files

# File Archiving and Compression

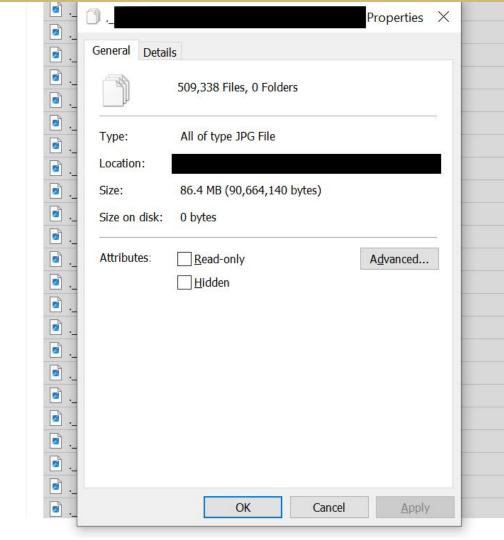
- Consider how the files will look once they're extracted (unzipped).
- Create a directory structure that will make it easy for people to understand and use your files.
- Ensure all file paths will allow associated code to work.

## **MacOS**

- \_\_MACOSX, .DS\_Store, & .\_ files are created automatically in MacOS
- They're invisible on Mac, but visible on Windows and Linux systems
- They will be included in .zip files

Name	Status	Date modified	Туре	Size	
MACOSX	$\odot$	2023-12-11 2:42 PM	File folder		
DS Store	$\Theta$	2023-12-11 2:42 PM	DS STORE File	7	KB

This .zip file contained over 500,000 .\_ files



1 KB

# File Formats & Units of Measurement



## **File Formats**

- Non-proprietary/Open
  - Can still be used even if original software is inaccessible
  - e.g. Use CSV files instead of .vc
- Unencrypted
- Uncompressed/lossless

## File Formats

- Use the default file extension
  - Do: Save Excel files as .xlsx
  - Don't: Save Excel files as .spreadsheet
- Yes, I have seen people use non-standard file extensions.

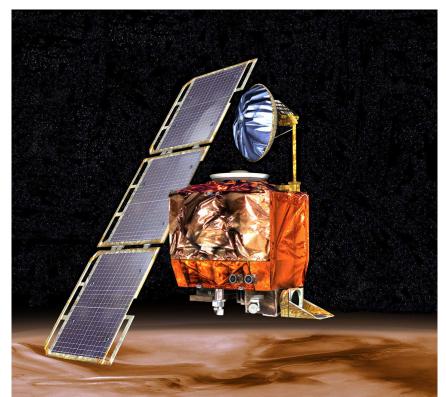
## **Units of Measurement**

- Be consistent
- Use standardized measurements
- Don't keep changing between them
- Ensure everyone is using the same system
- Define them in your documentation

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- 3
- 6
- 1
- 4
- 6
- 1
- 10
- 12
- 1
- 12
- 2
- 3

# Learn from the Mars Climate Orbiter



# **Data Preservation**



## What is Data Preservation?

- What you do with your data <u>after</u> the research project is over
- Not all data has to be preserved!
  - What data should be preserved?
  - What data can be gotten rid of? When do you get rid of it?
- Consider all the stuff we talked about before (storage, access, documentation, etc.)

# **Computer Code**

- GitHub is a collaboration tool (not a repository)
- To preserve code or software put it in a repository
- Connect your GitHub account to Zenodo

openforcefield/openff-qcsubmit: 0.50.0

Published November 1, 2023 | Version 0.50.0

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This release adds support for QCFractal's refactor and 0.50.0 release.

#### What's Changed

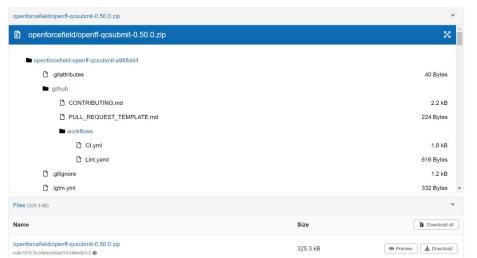
- · Update versioneer by @Yoshanuikabundi in https://github.com/openforcefield/openff-qcsubmit/pull/235
- · Changes to openff-qcsubmit to use next QCFractal by @dotsdl in https://github.com/openforcefield/openff-qcsubmit/pull/195

#### **New Contributors**

@pre-commit-ci made their first contribution in https://github.com/openforcefield/openff-qcsubmit/pull/234

Full Changelog: https://github.com/openforcefield/openff-gcsubmit/compare/0.5.0...0.50.0

#### Files



129 VIEWS

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Version 0.50.0 10.5281/zenodo.10060049

Nov 1, 2023 Aug 16, 2023

Nov 15, 2022

Nov 8, 2022

Version 0.5.0 10.5281/zenodo.8253341

Version 0.4.1

Jan 6, 2023

10.5281/zenodo.7510744 Version 0.4.0

10.5281/zenodo.7320745

Version 0.3.2 10.5281/zenodo.7305244

View all 9 versions

Cite all versions? You can cite all versions by using the DOI 10.5281/zenodo.5503441. This DOI represents all versions, and will always resolve to the latest one. Read more.

External resources

Available in

openforcefield/openff-qcsubmit

Indexed in

C OpenAIRE



DOI 10.5281/zenodo.10060049

Resource type Software



# Before you share your code...

- Remove irrelevant comments
- Ensure you're using relative paths and not absolute paths
  - /MMurray/i\_hate\_this\_project/script.sh

# Data Management Plans & Data Management and **Sharing Plans**



## What is a DMP/DMSP?

- A framework for how you'll manage your data
- Describe your plans for collecting, organizing, storing, and sharing your data
- About two pages long

# When should you make a DMP?

- When you have to for grant requirements
  - Different grants have different requirements
- When you don't have to, but want to, keep track of your data

## Two types of DMPs

- The "final" version you'll submit with a grant proposal
- The "living" version that you'll continue to update as your research project progresses

## What goes in a DMP?

- Types of data generated in this project
- Estimated size of data
- Software and file formats that will be used
- Where data will be stored, who can access it, and any security considerations
- Any privacy, legal, or ethical constraints
- Metadata standards
- How the data will be preserved/shared
- How the data can be reused
- A description of roles and responsibilities

# **DMPTool**



## **DMPTool**

- Has pre-formatted DMP templates from various funding agencies
- Walks you through the process of completing the DMP

# **DMPTool Activity**

- Go to <a href="https://dmptool.org/">https://dmptool.org/</a>
- When signing in, indicate that you're from CU Boulder
- Select a DMP Template relevant for your field (if you're having trouble choosing, pick the generic NSF template)
- Look through the prompts
- Attempt to answer the prompts in the context of your proposed project

# **DMPTool Activity**

- Were any of the prompts challenging or confusing?
- Is there anything you would like clarification on?

 We're happy to read drafts and provide feedback on your draft DMPs, so please send them our way!

# Other Useful Tools



# **Data Management Tools**

- Git and GitHub
  - Track changes to data and code
- Open Science Framework
  - One-stop shop for project management
- Open Refine
  - Clean data
- File Renamers (various)
  - Rename files so they're consistent
- Zotero
  - Reference management software

# Consultations



# How CRDDS can assist with Data Management

- One-on-one or small group consults
- Review draft DMPs and README files
- Help navigate data policies
- Find data repositories
- Advice on file formats, etc.
- Email us: <a href="mailto:crdds@colorado.edu">crdds@colorado.edu</a>