

Beautiful is better than ugly.  
Explicit is better than implicit. Simple is better than complex. Complex is better than complicated. Flat is better than nested. Sparse is better than dense. Readability counts. Special cases aren't special enough to break the rules.

GENERALISABLE

RESEARCH?

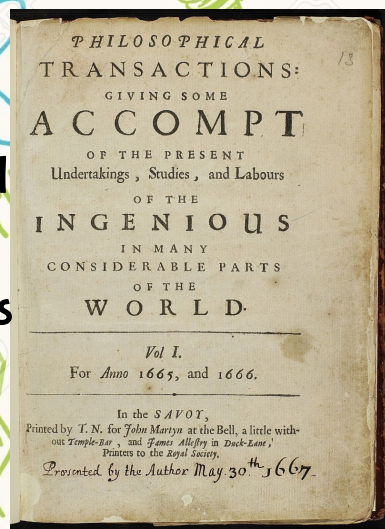
AND WHY DO WE

NEED IT?



The way academia works at the moment is that **scientists do lots and lots of work** and then **publish their work in journals** to share their findings with others.

Originally they were visited in person by other researchers...



But nowadays its very difficult to know **exactly** what people did! It isn't standard to share data or detailed instructions!

Publication  
only

Publication +

Code

Co  
and

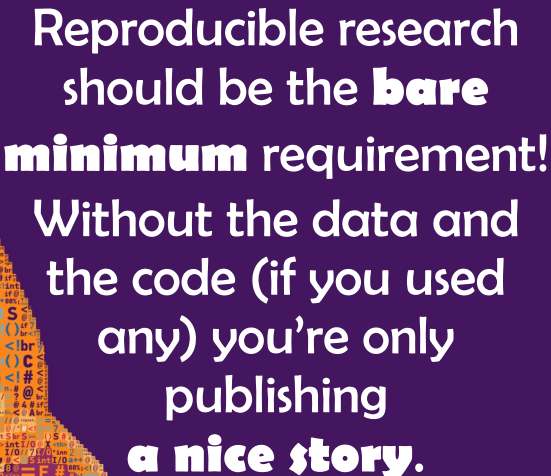
Not reproducible

## JARGON BUSTIN'

**JARGON BUSTIN'**

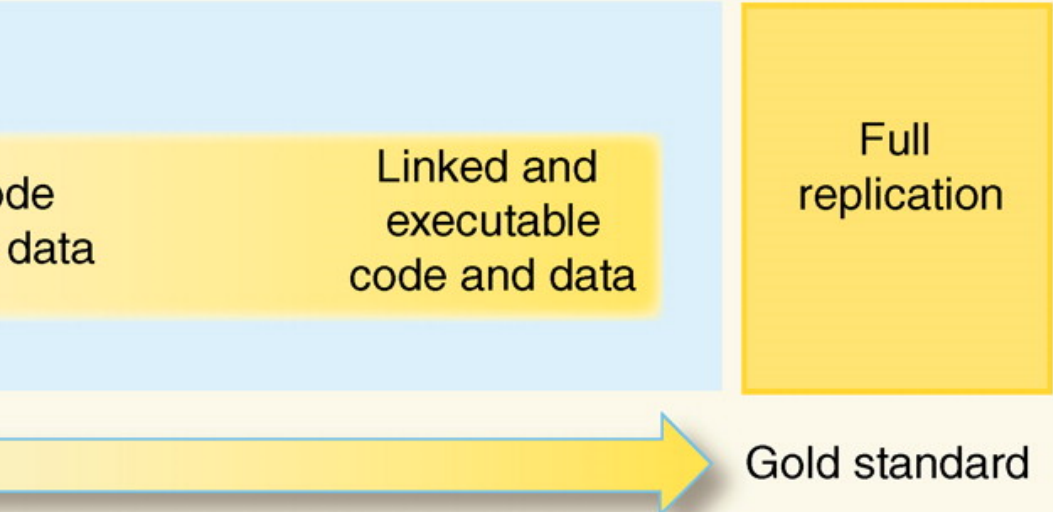
Research is **REPRODUCIBLE** if independent scientists can get exactly the same results

give them your data



Reproducible research  
should be the **bare  
minimum** requirement!

Without the data and  
the code (if you used  
any) you're only  
publishing  
**a nice story.**





The idea that failed replications have the potential to cause great damage to the original authors' reputations, and so we should have a very high bar for publishing them--



Blindsight is when people who can't consciously see can accurately guess what's around them.

Some blind people can even walk around avoiding obstacles. (Even though when you ask them they say they don't know what's there!)

**JARGON BUSTIN'**

*Research is **REPLICABLE** if other scientists*

*(or you!) conclude the same message*

*when they follow your exact analysis*

*but using an independent data set*

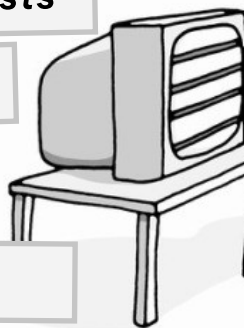


The original authors found evidence for blindsight...

But know  
means

Maybe  
type o

...but recently other scientists didn't replicate

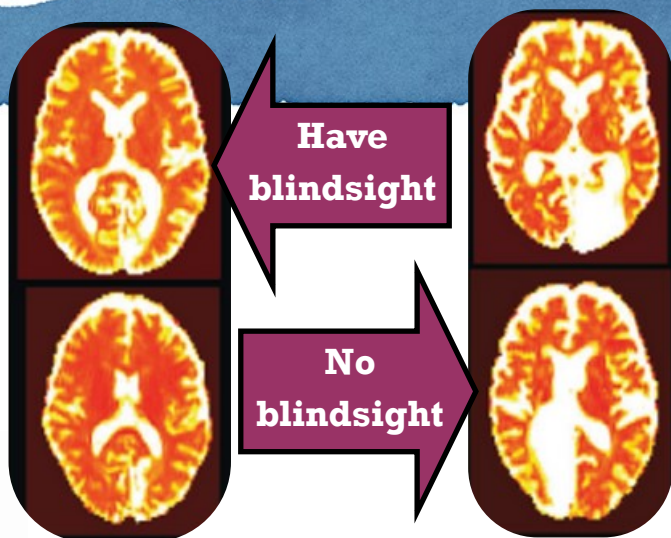




That seems problematic to me.

Following these conflicts we **can refine our understanding.**

It depends on what kind of brain damage the patients have!?



**It's ok if we don't replicate everything!** It doesn't mean anyone is lying.

But it is important to know if the finding only works for the original data.

Otherwise we can't begin to **generalise** the finding.



**There are  
lots of ways  
to skin a cat!**

(But don't worry,  
this one was born  
this way!)

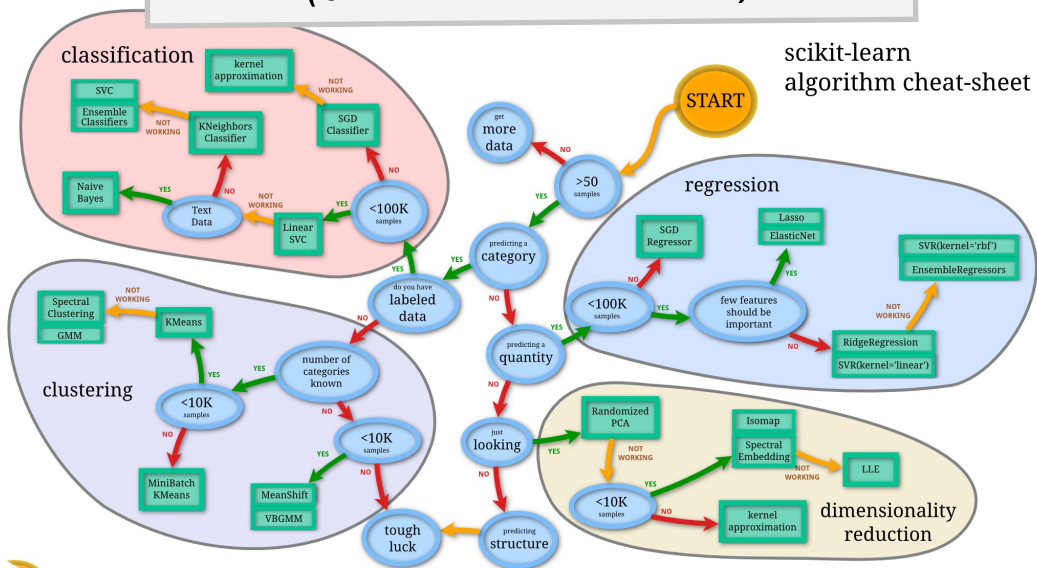
## JARGON BUSTIN'

**Research is ROBUST if you conclude**

*the same answer even when you*

***use different analysis techniques***

**(on the same data set)**







## JARGON BUSTIN'



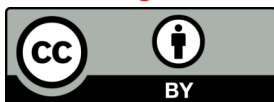
## Governments

need generalisable  
research to make useful  
policies, and **doctors** need it to  
know how best to treat you!



Research is **GENERALISABLE** when independent  
scientists come to the same take home result  
using their own data and methods  
(but asking the same question!)

# YOUR HANDY DANDY GUIDE TO GENERALISABLE RESEARCH



mozilla

Science Lab

Made by Kirstie Whitaker  
Mozilla Fellow for Science 2016/17  
& Space Wrangler for MozFest 2016  
Stay in touch on twitter [@kirstie\\_j](https://twitter.com/kirstie_j)

Data			
Same	Different		
		Same	Different
		Reproducible	Robust
		Code	
		Replicable	Generalisable