

Open source & data sharing

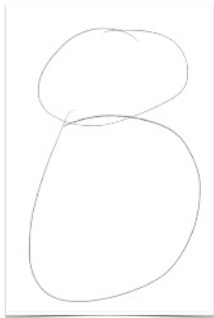
Or . . . how to stop worrying and leverage your research

Thomas de Graaff

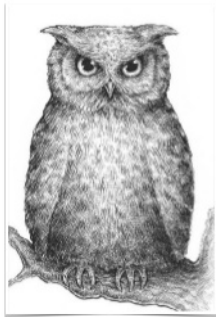
June 23, 2020

Department of Spatial Economics

Open source—free as in beer, not in time!



1. Draw some circles



2. Draw the rest of the damn owl

@Koenighotze

What I advocate

To make available online and for anyone to **access**, **assess**, **reuse** & **contribute** to:

- All your **data**. And, if not possible
 - metadata
 - subset
 - simulated/scrambled data
- All **text** files, including scripts, figures, working paper

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So, why 'give' it away?

- The greater good: **transparency** & **reproducibility**
 - avoid "additional results available upon request"
- **Private** gains:
 - higher visibility (others will actually use your research)
 - Nunn & Puga (Restat, 2012)
 - incentives on working 'tidy'

How can I do that?

- Using a **versioning** system and an online platform
 - To **share**, **distribute** and **cooperate** on data
- Currently, **Git** and **GitHub** is the default (but Bitbucket, etc.)
- Complete version history with time stamps

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- You work on a piece (data) and using Git **commit** to your own local repository
- Then you push to an **open** online repository (GitHub)
- Which now serves as your (ugly) website as well
 - Actually people (well, me) blog using GitHub as a free server using Jekyll or Hugo (blogdown)

Applications for Git/GitHub

- GUI applications
 - GitHub desktop, GitKraken, ScourgeTree
- Built-in most proper editors:
 - Sublime, Emacs, Overleaf, RStudio, etc.
- Command line (most powerful, but ...)



Package it!

Instead of just providing the data you can wrap it in an (R-)package

- give examples (vignettes) of the code and data
- data easier to read
- distribution again via CRAN or [GitHub](#)

Many R-packages contain (access) to economic data

- `AER` package—all applied econometrics textbook data (California test score data...)
- `IMFData`
- `wbstats`—World bank data

Presentation can be found on:

**[https://github.com/Thdegraaff/
Datasharing_presentation](https://github.com/Thdegraaff/Datasharing_presentation)**