How do you adopt Open and Reproducible Research Practices?

Dr Andrew J. Stewart

Fellow of the Software Sustainability Institute
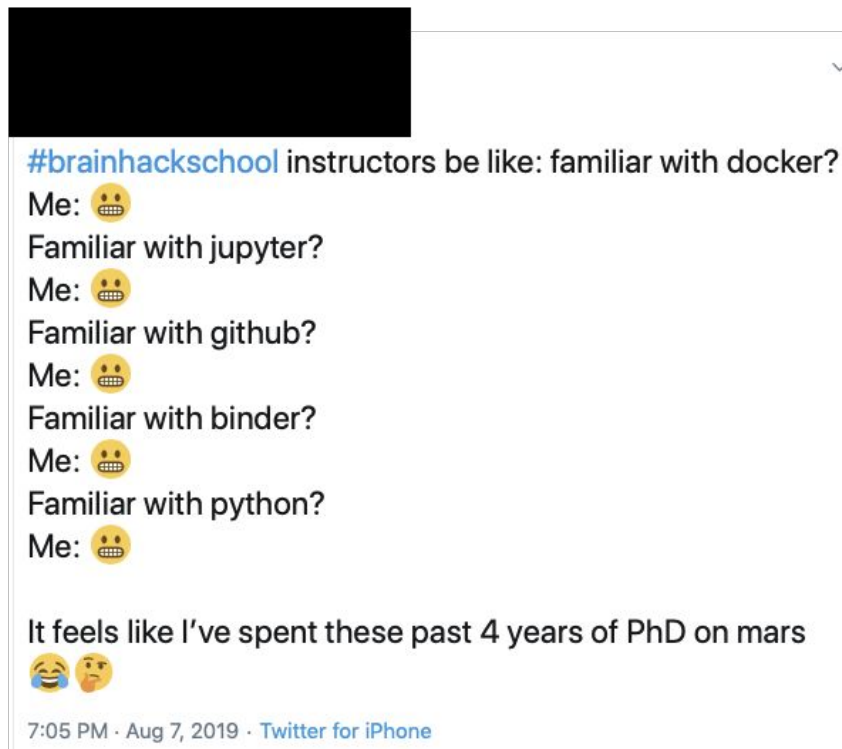
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G: ajstewartlang

The world of research is rapidly changing...

#brainhackschool instructors be like: familiar with docker?
Me: 😬
Familiar with jupyter?
Me: 😬
Familiar with github?
Me: 😬
Familiar with binder?
Me: 😬
Familiar with python?
Me: 😬

It feels like I've spent these past 4 years of PhD on mars
😂🤔

7:05 PM · Aug 7, 2019 · Twitter for iPhone

Open Research is recognised by the G7...

Focus: Incentives and the researcher ecosystem

Ambition: Foster a research environment in which career advancement takes into account Open Science activities, through incentives and rewards for researchers, and valuing the skills and capabilities in the Open Science workforce.

Recommendations:

At national levels: G7 nations should each engage with research stakeholders to identify and implement enhancements to research evaluation and reward systems that take into consideration the Open Science activities carried out by researchers and research institutions. Topics that could be discussed include:

- Recognizing Open Science practices during evaluation of research funding proposals, and research outcomes;
- Recognizing and rewarding research productivity and impact that reflect open science activities by researchers during career advancement reviews;
- Including credit for service activities such as reviewing, evaluating, and curation and management of research data; and,
- Developing metrics of Open Science practices.

…by the REF…

200. The sub-panels welcome research practice that supports reproducible science and the application of best practice. Examples include registered reports, pre-registration, publication of data sets, experimental materials, analytic code, and use of reporting checklists for publication purposes and those relating to the use of animals in research. These contribute to the evaluation of rigour for submitted outputs. Replication studies may be submitted as outputs and will be evaluated on the extent to which they contribute significant new knowledge, improved methods, or advance theory or practice1.

346…
Within the context of the institution's strategy, how the submitting unit is progressing towards an open research environment, including where this goes above and beyond the REF open access policy requirements, and wider activity to encourage the effective sharing and management of research data, as appropriate to the discipline. Consideration of reproducibility should also be included where relevant to the discipline.

...is forming part of University's teaching manifestos...

Teaching with Open Science commitment:
To teach the practices and skills of open research and science in our undergraduate and postgraduate degree programmes

    a. Promote open science in our teaching.

    b. Design a Research Methods curriculum that teaches skills for open science and uses open science to enhance teaching (for example: teach R and use open data to practice analysis skills).

    c. Learn about and adopt open educational practices in our teaching.

    d. Produce and promote tools for helping student researchers adopt open practices, including training and guidance suitable to their level of study.

    e. Author, share and use open educational resources to promote teaching with open science beyond our School and Institution.

    f. Support our colleagues to learn the skills of teaching Open Science.

…and is required by many funders.

Wellcome signs open data concordat | Wellcome   https://www.ukri.org/files/legacy/do
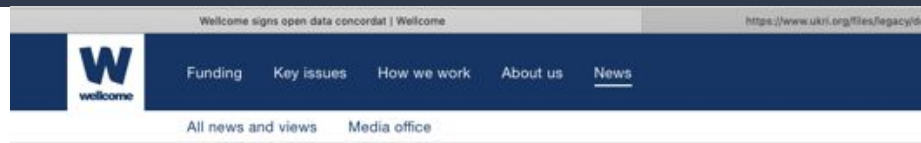
News | 28 July 2016

Wellcome signs open data concordat

Wellcome has signed a concordat to ensure that research data gathered and generated by members of the UK research community is made openly available wherever possible. HEFCE, Research Councils UK and Universities signatories.

The Concordat on Open Research Data [PDF 178 through consultation with the research community. It for sharing research data, including the:

- importance of developing data skills
- importance of ensuring data underlying publicati publication date
- rights of data creators to reasonable first use
- expectations of data users to acknowledge use o

Data sharing
Influencing policy
Open access

RESEARCH & INNOVATION
Participant Portal H2020 Online Manual

> H2020 Online Manual > Cross-cutting issues > Open access & Data management >

| Open access | Data management |

Open access & Data management

These pages guide you through

- the context and Horizon 2020 rules on **open access to scientific publications**, which is an *obligation*, and
- **open access to research data**, where opt-outs are possible, and **research data management**

Detailed guidance for both aspects is available through the buttons on top of the page and the pdf reference documents below.

There are many aspects to Open Research...

Including pre-registering of studies before you start data collection, reproducible data wrangling and analysis, open data, open code, open publications, and community science involving diversity and inclusivity.

Before data collection

- Specify your hypotheses and analysis plan.

- Pre-register your hypotheses and analysis plan at osf.io

- Consider data simulation so that you can write your analysis script **before** you have your real data.

- Consider submitting as a **registered report** - currently more than 200 journals now support this route. This involves acceptance in principle before you have even started collecting your data - so you are **guaranteed** a publication regardless of what you find.

Registered Reports

RAPID RISE

Since 2013, the number of journals offering Registered Reports (RRs) has risen to more than 200 titles.

BMC Medicine launches first RRs for clinical trials.

First multidisciplinary journal launches RRs across 200 sciences (*Royal Society Open Science*).

First journal exclusively for RRs (*Comprehensive Results in Social Psychology*).

Publication of 100th completed RR.

Number of journals

200

100

0

2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019*
(*As of June)

©nature

https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-02674-6

After data collection

You need to use analysis software that allows for open sharing and reproducibility of the entire data wrangling/analysis/write-up workflow.
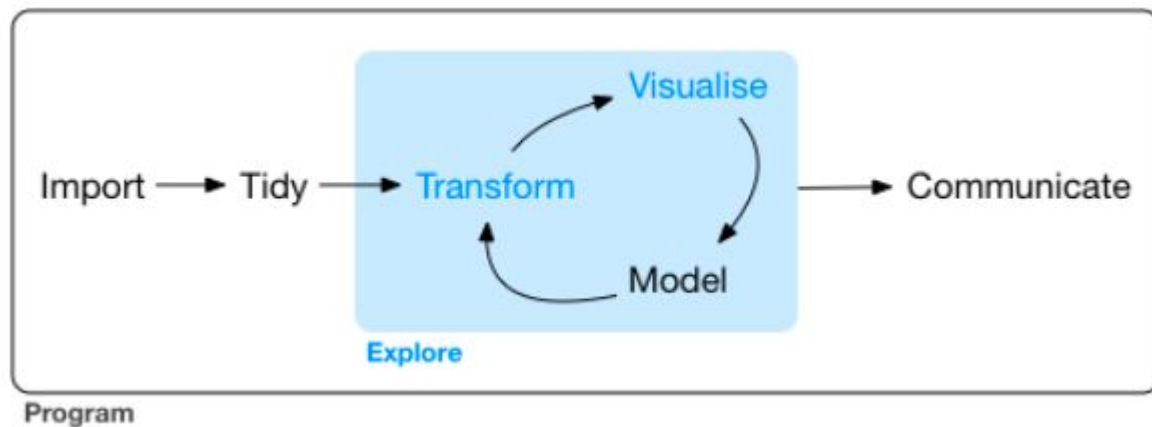
Hadley Wickham and Garrett Grolemund, R4DS

Reinhart, Rogoff... and Herndon: The student who caught out the profs

By Ruth Alexander
BBC News

20 April 2013

f   y   Share

This week, economists have been astonished to find that a famous academic paper often used to make the case for austerity cuts contains major errors. Another surprise is that the mistakes, by two eminent Harvard professors, were spotted by a student doing his homework.

It's 4 January 2010, the Marriott Hotel in Atlanta. At the annual meeting of the American Economic Association, Professor Carmen Reinhart and the former chief economist of the International Monetary Fund, Ken Rogoff, are presenting a research paper called Growth in a Time of Debt.

Codifying your Analysis Workflow

You can't use proprietary (closed) software like SPSS, GraphPad, MATLAB etc.

You need to use open source analysis software such as R, Octave or Python.

You need to think about your entire analysis pipeline from data importing, data wrangling, visualisation, statistical modelling, and report generation.

Scripts are fine for small tasks but what about the multiple tasks needed in a research project? How do you connect them together so the entire workflow can be reproduced?
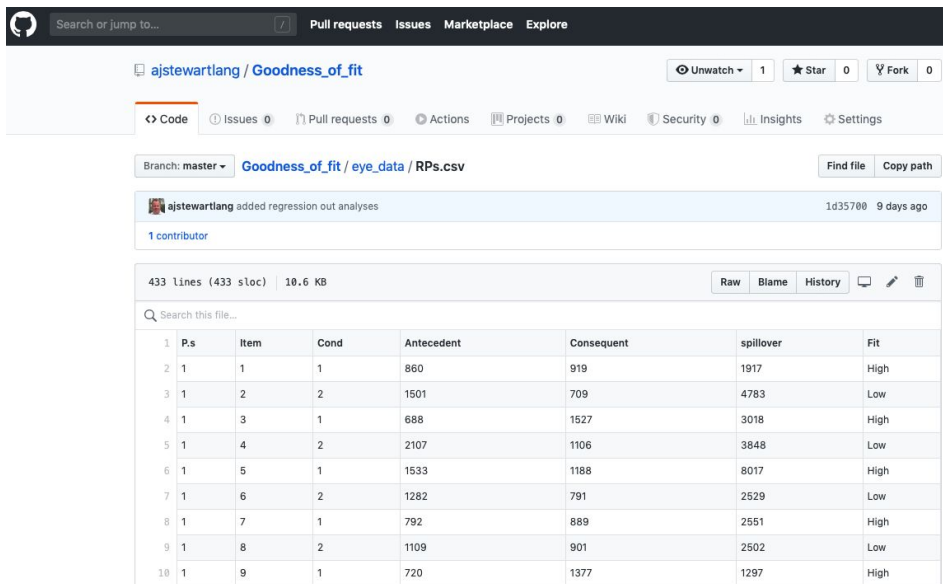
What happens when you want to share your workflow with colleagues elsewhere or in another lab (with a different infrastructure)?

"It worked on my machine!" - but it's not good when it doesn't work on your collaborators' machines (or on your new machine!)

Adopt literate programming principles

- Write analysis code that's easy for others (and future you!) to understand - have lots of commenting - and break your code down into manageable chunks or separate scripts/functions controlled by a master script.

- Later in this unit we'll explore one example of literate programming using R Markdown where you can generate documents containing a blend of narrative, code, and output 'knitted' together (in lots of possible document formats - html, pdf, doc etc.)

- The workshops in this unit are all written in R Markdown - you can even examine the source code behind each of these by looking at the .Rmd file in each workshop repository.

Sharing your data and code (and add a licence!)

Make your data and code citeable – preserve it with a doi on Zenodo
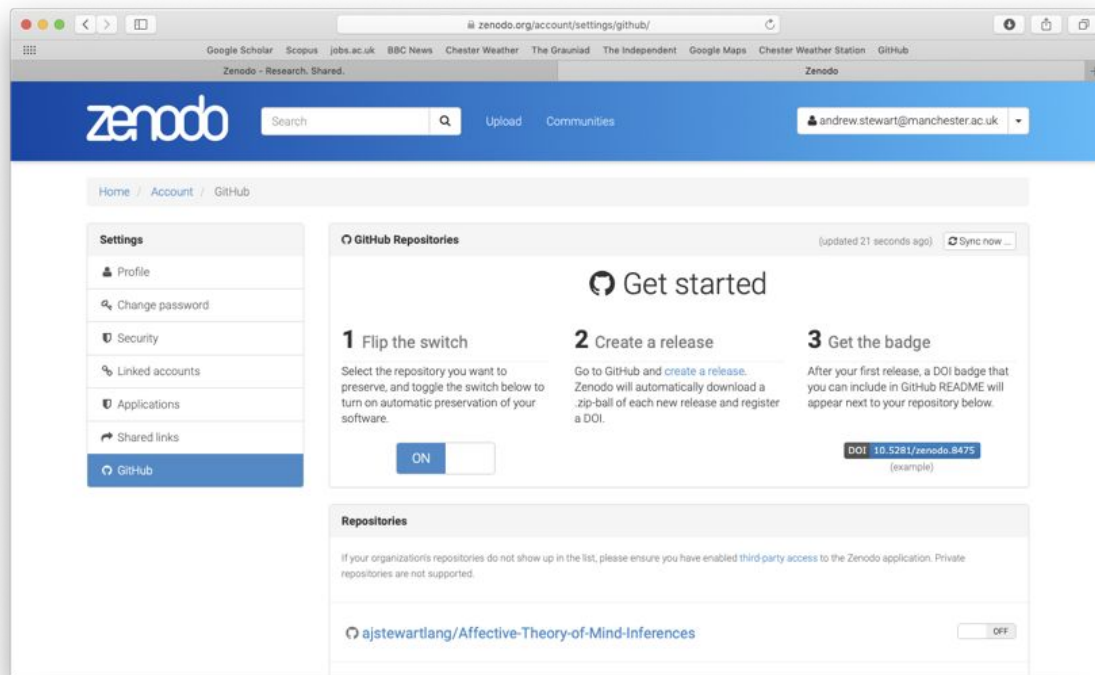
Concordat on Open Research Data – Nine Principles

- Open access to research data is an enabler of high quality research, a facilitator of innovation and safeguards good research practice.

- There are sound reasons why the openness of research data may need to be restricted but any restrictions must be justified and justifiable.

- Open access to research data carries a significant cost, which should be respected by all parties.

- The right of the creators of research data to reasonable first use is recognised.

- Use of others' data should always conform to legal, ethical and regulatory frameworks including appropriate acknowledgement.

https://www.ukri.org/files/legacy/documents/concordatonopenresearchdata-pdf/

Concordat on Open Research Data – Nine Principles

- Good data management is fundamental to all stages of the research process and should be established at the outset.

- Data curation is vital to make data useful for others and for long-term preservation of data.

- Data supporting publications should be accessible by the publication date and should be in a citeable form.

- Support for the development of appropriate data skills is recognised as a responsibility for all stakeholders.

https://www.ukri.org/files/legacy/documents/concordatonopenresearchdata-pdf/

TOP GUIDELINES
TRANSPARENCY AND OPENNESS PROMOTION

Transparency, open sharing, and reproducibility are core values of science, but not always part of daily practice. Journals, funders, and societies can increase research reproducibility by adopting the TOP Guidelines.

8 MODULAR STANDARDS

CITATION STANDARDS Cite shared data to incentivize their publication	**DATA TRANSPARENCY** Disclose, require, or verify shared data
ANALYTICAL METHODS TRANSPARENCY Disclose, require, or verify shared code	**RESEARCH MATERIALS TRANSPARENCY** Disclose, require, or verify shared materials
DESIGN AND ANALYSIS TRANSPARENCY Sets standards for research design disclosures	**PREREGISTRATION OF STUDIES** Specification of study details before data collection
PREREGISTRATION OF ANALYSIS PLANS Specification of analytical details before data collection	**REPLICATION** Encourages publication of replication studies

DISCLOSURE:
The article must disclose whether or not materials are available.

REQUIREMENT:
The article must share materials when possible.

VERIFICATION:
Third party must verify that the standard is being met.

HOW TOP IS IMPLEMENTED

TOP Statements are standardized tools for disclosing research outputs such as datasets.

Open Science Badges signal transparent research.

Registered Reports protect research against biased analysis and publication.

OVER 5,000 JOURNAL SIGNATORIES

LEARN MORE AT COS.IO/TOP

Your data need to be FAIR

Data and supplementary materials have sufficiently rich metadata and a unique and persistent identifier.
FINDABLE

Metadata and data are understandable to humans and machines. Data is deposited in a trusted repository.
ACCESSIBLE

Metadata use a formal, accessible, shared, and broadly applicable language for knowledge representation.
INTEROPERABLE

Data and collections have a clear usage licenses and provide accurate information on provenance.
REUSABLE

And you need to remember to add a license – such as CC BY

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Choosing a License

Which of the following best describes your situation?

I need to work in a community.

Use the **license preferred by the community** you're contributing to or depending on. Your project will fit right in.

If you have a dependency that doesn't have a license, ask its maintainers to **add a license**.

I want it simple and permissive.

The **MIT License** is short and to the point. It lets people do almost anything they want with your project, like making and distributing closed source versions.

Babel, **.NET Core**, and **Rails** use the MIT License.

I care about sharing improvements.

The **GNU GPLv3** also lets people do almost anything they want with your project, *except* distributing closed source versions.
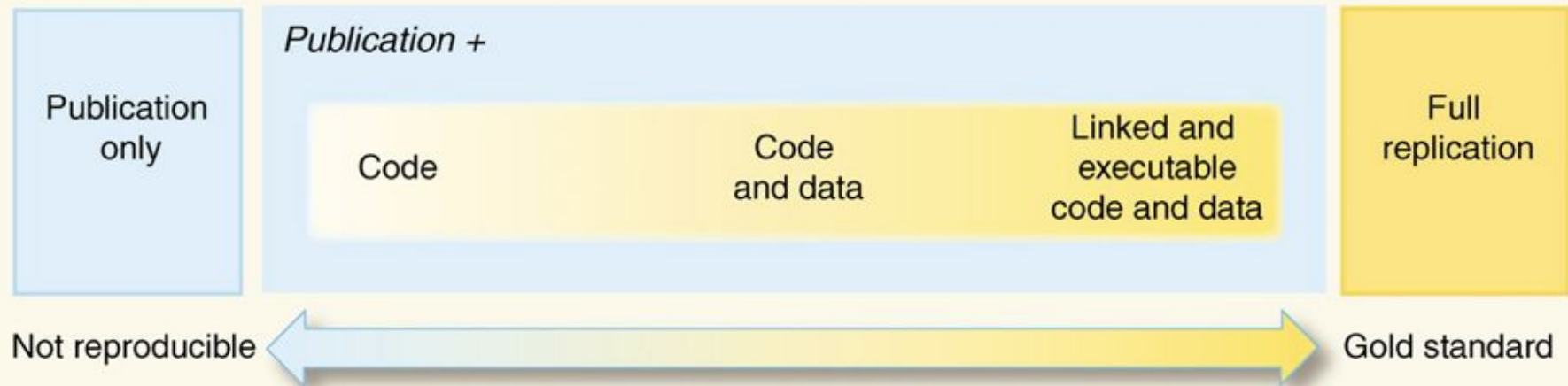
Ansible, **Bash**, and **GIMP** use the GNU GPLv3.

https://choosealicense.com

Why do we need to reproduce the computational environment?

Quite often analysis code 'breaks' - often in one of two ways:

Code that worked previously now doesn't - maybe a function in an R package was updated (e.g., `lsmeans` became `emmeans` so old code using `lsmeans` wouldn't now run).

Code that worked previously still works - but produces a slightly different result or now throws a warning where it didn't previousy (e.g., convergence/singular fit warnings in `lme4` version 1.1-19 vs. version 1.1-20).

When R moved from version 3.5 to 3.6, the way in which random numbers were generated using the `sample()` function changed - so even with the same randomisation seed, *different* random numbers were produced.

Much Twitter confusion ensued!

Capturing your local computational environment

- You need to capture the versions of your software packages (plus their dependencies incl. system-level ones).

- This may sound trivial but trying running some old analysis code and be amazed at how many things now don't work as they once did!

Binder to the rescue!

The Turing Way
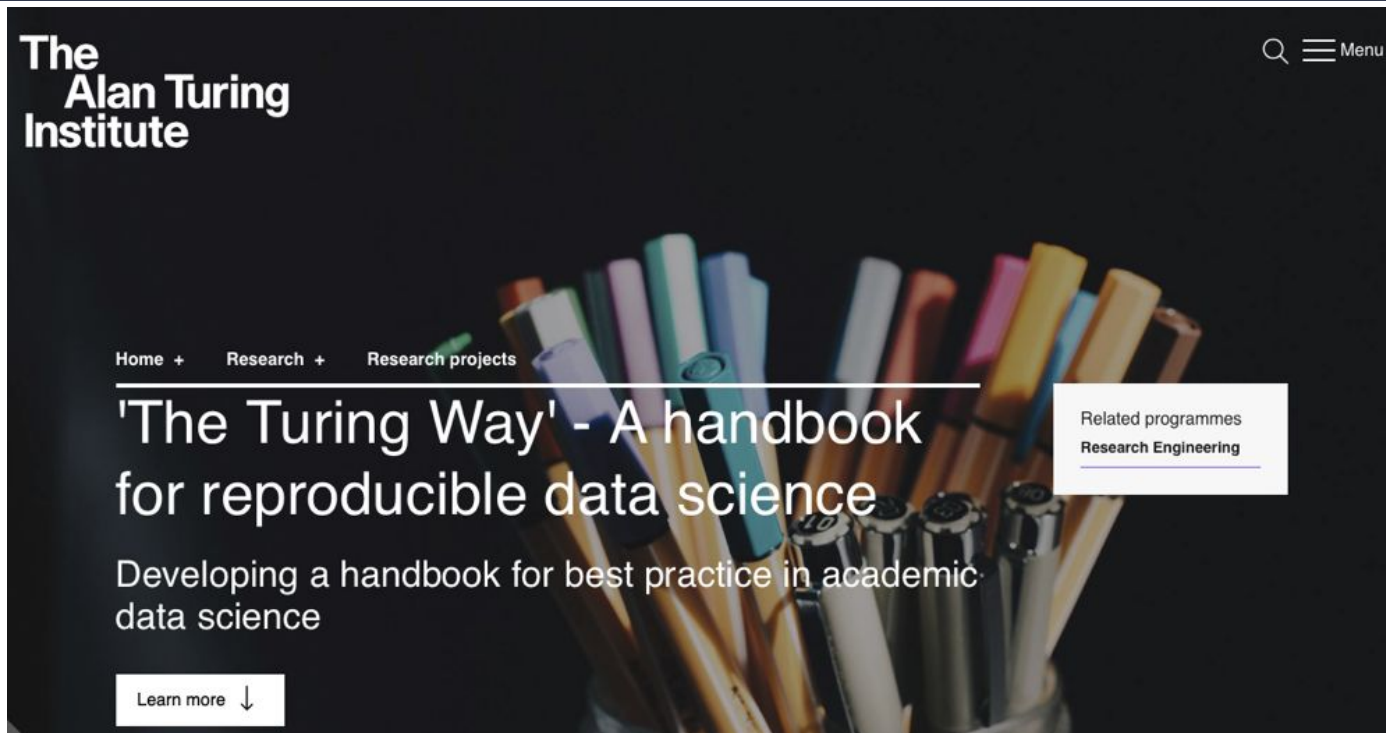
Summary

- Open data and open code are the future - remember to make your data FAIR and add a license to both your data and code.

- Pre-registration allows you to capture your predictions - time-stamped at a point in time so when you come to write up your work you can use the pre-reg as evidence that you really did make your predictions before data collection commenced.

- In many cases conducting research in a reproducible manner is easy - it requires a bit of planning and organisation up-front, but the pay-off is huge.

- Not only will others be able to reproduce your results, but so will you at some future point in time.

- Working in an open and reproducible manner also makes large-scale collaborations easier - with the extra computational skills that you acquire, you'll be a more effective researcher.