

FAIR Bioinfo 2022

Best practice in your bioinformatic projects¹



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25 octobre 2022



1. This work is derived from the IFB and I2BC team members

Essay

Why Most Published Research Findings Are False

John P.A. Ioannidis

Summary

There is increasing concern that most current published research findings are false. The probability that a research claim is true may depend on study power and bias, the number of other studies on the same question, and, importantly, the ratio of true to no relationships among the relationships probed in each scientific field. In this framework, a research finding is less likely to be true when the studies conducted in a field are smaller; when effect sizes are smaller; when there is a greater number and lesser preselection of tested relationships; where there is greater flexibility in designs, definitions, outcomes, and analytical modes; when there is greater financial and other interest and prejudice; and when more teams are involved in a scientific field in chase of statistical significance. Simulations show that for most study designs and settings it is more likely for a research claim to be false than true. Moreover, for many current scientific fields, claimed research findings may often be simply accurate measures of the prevailing bias. In this essay I discuss the implications of these problems for the conduct and interpretation of research.

factors that influence this problem and some corollaries thereof.

Modeling the Framework for False Positive Findings

Several methodologists have pointed out [9–11] that the high rate of nonreplication (lack of confirmation) of research discoveries is a consequence of the convenient, yet ill-founded strategy of claiming conclusive research findings solely on the basis of a single study assessed by formal statistical significance, typically for a p-value less than 0.05. Research is not most appropriately represented and summarized by p-values, but, unfortunately, there is a widespread notion that medical research articles

is characteristic of the field and can vary a lot depending on whether the field targets highly likely relationships or searches for only one or a few true relationships among thousands and millions of hypotheses that may be postulated. Let us also consider, for computational simplicity, circumscribed fields where either there is only one true relationship (among many that can be hypothesized) or the power is similar to find any of the several existing true relationships. The pre-study probability of a relationship being true is $R/(R+1)$. The probability of a study finding a true relationship reflects the power $1-\beta$ (one minus the Type II error rate). The probability of claiming a relationship when none truly exists reflects the Type I error rate, α . Assuming that c relationships are being probed in the field, the expected values of the 2×2 table are given in Table 1. After a research finding has been claimed based on achieving formal statistical significance, the post-study probability that it is true is the positive predictive value, PPV. The PPV is also the complementary probability of what Wacholder et al. have called the false positive report probability [10]. According to the 2×2 table, one gets $PPV = (1-\beta)R/(R+\beta c)$.

It can be proven that most claimed research findings are false.

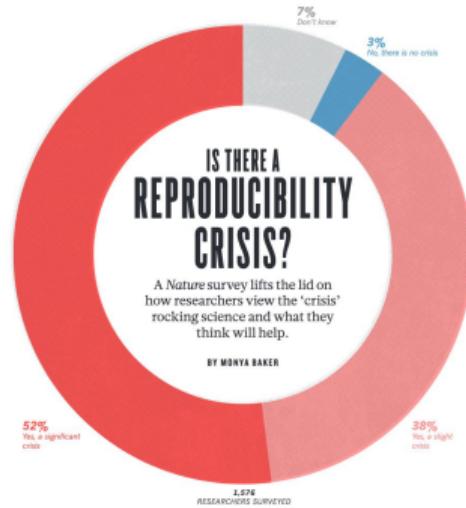
should be interpreted based only on p-values. Research findings are defined here as any relationship reaching formal statistical significance, e.g., effective interventions, informative predictors, risk factors, associations. "Negative" research is also very useful, "Negative" is actually a misnomer, and

Crisis elements

- Highlighted around 2005
- Since 2010 more articles related to the non reproducibility
- Medicine is one of the most impacted discipline

Reproducibility crisis

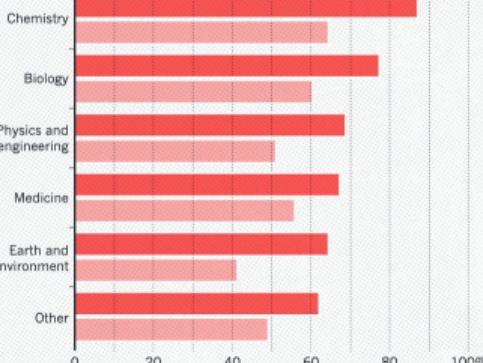
2016



HAVE YOU FAILED TO REPRODUCE AN EXPERIMENT?

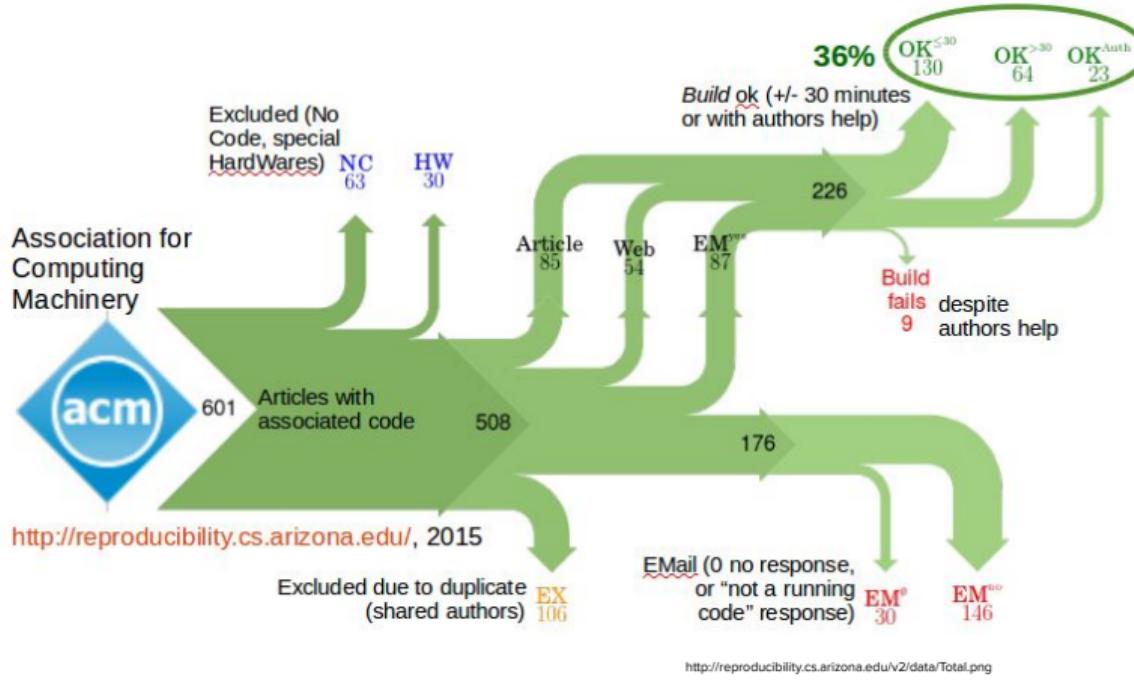
Most scientists have experienced failure to reproduce results.

● Someone else's ● My own



Baker, M. 1,500 scientists lift the lid on reproducibility. *Nature* 533, 452–454 (2016). <https://doi.org/10.1038/533452a>

Also in computer sciences

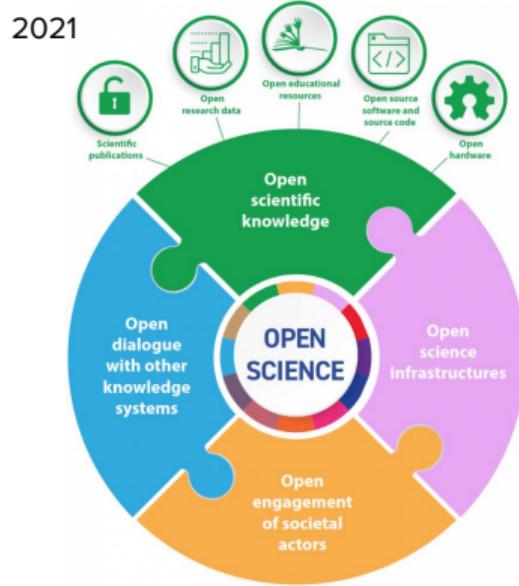


Long term negative impact of retracted papers

| Article | Year of retraction | Citing Articles before retraction | Citing Articles after retraction | Total cites (journals indexed by Web of Science) |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Primary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease with a Mediterranean Diet. N ENGL J MED; APR 2013 . Estruch R, et al. | 2018 | 1919 | 816 | 2735 |
| 2. Ileal-lymphoid-nodular hyperplasia, non-specific colitis, and pervasive developmental disorder in children. LANCET; FEB 28 1998 . Wakefield AJ, et al. | 2010 | 642 | 867 | 1509 |
| 3. Visfatin: A protein secreted by visceral fat that mimics the effects of insulin. SCIENCE; JAN 2005 . Fukuhara A, et al. | 2007 | 232 | 1192 | 1424 |
| 4. An enhanced transient expression system in plants based on suppression of gene silencing by the p19 protein of tomato bushy stunt virus. PLANT J; MAR 2003 . Voinnet O, et al. | 2015 | 896 | 375 | 1271 |
| 5. Lysyl oxidase is essential for hypoxia-induced metastasis. NATURE; APR 2006 . Erler JT, et al. | 2020 | 977 | 81 | 1058 |

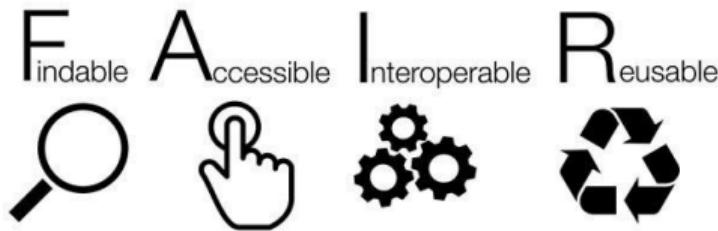
Retraction Watch : Top 10 most highly cited retracted papers
<https://retractionwatch.com/the-retraction-watch-leaderboard/top-10-most-highly-cited-retracted-papers/> 6

A way out: Open science and FAIR principles



Graphic on page 11. [UNESCO Recommendation on Open Science](#). CC BY IGO 3.0 C. Green

2016



Wilkinson, M., Dumontier, M., Aalbersberg, I. et al. The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship. *Sci Data* **3**, 160018 (2016).
<https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18>

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FAIR history

- Born in 2016 with *The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship*
- How to build, stock, share, use and publish data
- Make criteria to better use our data

. <https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18>

SCIENTIFIC DATA

Amended: Addendum

OPEN

SUBJECT CATEGORIES

- » Research data
- » Publication characteristics

Received: 10 December 2015

Accepted: 12 February 2016

Published: 15 March 2016

Comment: The FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship

Mark D. Wilkinson et al.[#]

There is an urgent need to improve the infrastructure supporting the reuse of scholarly data. A diverse set of stakeholders—representing academia, industry, funding agencies, and scholarly publishers—have come together to design and jointly endorse a concise and measurable set of principles that we refer to as the FAIR Data Principles. The intent is that these may act as a guideline for those wishing to enhance the reusability of their data holdings. Distinct from peer initiatives that focus on the human scholar, the FAIR Principles put specific emphasis on enhancing the ability of machines to automatically find and use the data, in addition to supporting its reuse by individuals. This Comment is the first formal publication of the FAIR Principles, and includes the rationale behind them, and some exemplar implementations in the community.

FAIR principles

F
indable



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<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=88894774>

PID
Repository

8

<https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18>

To be Findable

- (meta)data are assigned a globally unique and persistent identifier
- data are described with rich metadata
- metadata clearly and explicitly include the identifier of the data it describes
- (meta)data are registered or indexed in a searchable resource

FAIR principles

F
indable



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A
ccessible



<https://nitsfirstworldproblems.tumblr.com/post/147555650875/i-can-t-reach-the-top-shelves-of-the-kitchen>

PID
Repository

Protocols
(free, open, auth.)

9

<https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18>

To be Accessible

- (meta)data are retrievable by their identifier using a standardized communications protocol
- the protocol is open, free, and universally implementable
- the protocol allows for an authentication and authorization procedure, where necessary
- metadata are accessible, even when the data are no longer available

FAIR principles

Findable



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Accessible



<https://nitsfirstworldproblems.tumblr.com/post/147555650875/i-can-t-reach-the-top-shelves-of-the-kitchen>

Interoperable



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PID
Repository

Protocols
(free, open, auth.)

Standards
(format, vocabulary)

10
<https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18>

To be Interoperable

- (meta)data use a formal, accessible, shared, and broadly applicable language for knowledge representation.
- (meta)data use vocabularies that follow FAIR principles
- (meta)data include qualified references to other (meta)data

FAIR principles

Findable



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Reusable



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PID
Repository

Protocols
(free, open, auth.)

Standards
(format, vocabulary)

Metadata
License
Origin

11
<https://doi.org/10.1038/sdata.2016.18>

To be Reusable

- meta(data) are richly described with a plurality of accurate and relevant attributes
- (meta)data are released with a clear and accessible data usage license
- (meta)data are associated with detailed provenance
- (meta)data meet domain-relevant community standard

FAIR tools

Findable



Accessible



Interoperable



Reusable



Data



European Nucleotide Archive

Software
and
analyses

standards, databases, policies



The Document Foundation



How to integrate FAIR concepts in my work ?

Some tools for reproducible research



FAIR session with AuBi

Objectives

- Discover FAIR practices
- Discover tools for best practices
- Use tool and best practices in practice sessions
- 5 sessions for courses and practices
 - Day 1 : Introduction to FAIR training and Git
 - Day 2 : Git practice
 - Day 3 : Encapsulation course
 - Day 4 : Encapsulation training
 - Day 5 : Documentation course and training

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- Introduction to FAIR practices

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 - Gitlab and Github  

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- Literate programming and documentation
 - Markdown syntax 
 - Rmarkdown for R 
 - Jupyterlab for Python 