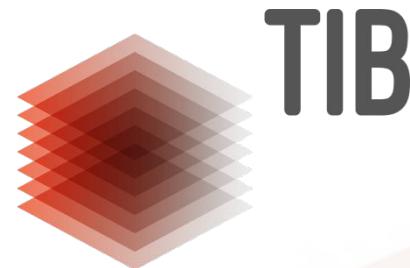


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# Interoperable

Konrad Förstner, Luke Johnston, Mateusz Kuzak, Katrin Leinweber

TIB, 11. July 2018

Recording: [doi.org/10.5446/37826](https://doi.org/10.5446/37826)

FAIR Data & Software (Carpentries-based workshop) **#TIBFDS**

## **Interoperability Agenda**

- 1. Definitions, roles & TIB's vision of knowledge-based information flows**
- 2. Very basic practices for data & software management projects**
- 3. for software: “play well with others”**
  - Using Python modules & creating one**
  - (Using R packages & building one)**

- I1. (meta)data use a **formal, accessible, shared, and broadly applicable language** for knowledge representation
- I2. (meta)data use **vocabularies that follow FAIR principles**
- I3. (meta)data include **qualified references** to other (meta)data

## Your institution's / repository's role

Interoperable 



- provide machine-readable (meta)data with a well-established formalism
- structured, using discipline-established vocabularies / ontologies / thesauri (RDF extensible knowledge representation model, OWL, JSON LD, [schema.org](#))
- support referencing metadata fields between datasets via a schema (relatedIdentifier, relationType)
- offer (meta)data ingest from relevant sources ([Document Information Dictionary or Extensible Metadata Platform from PDF](#))

## Your role as a scientist

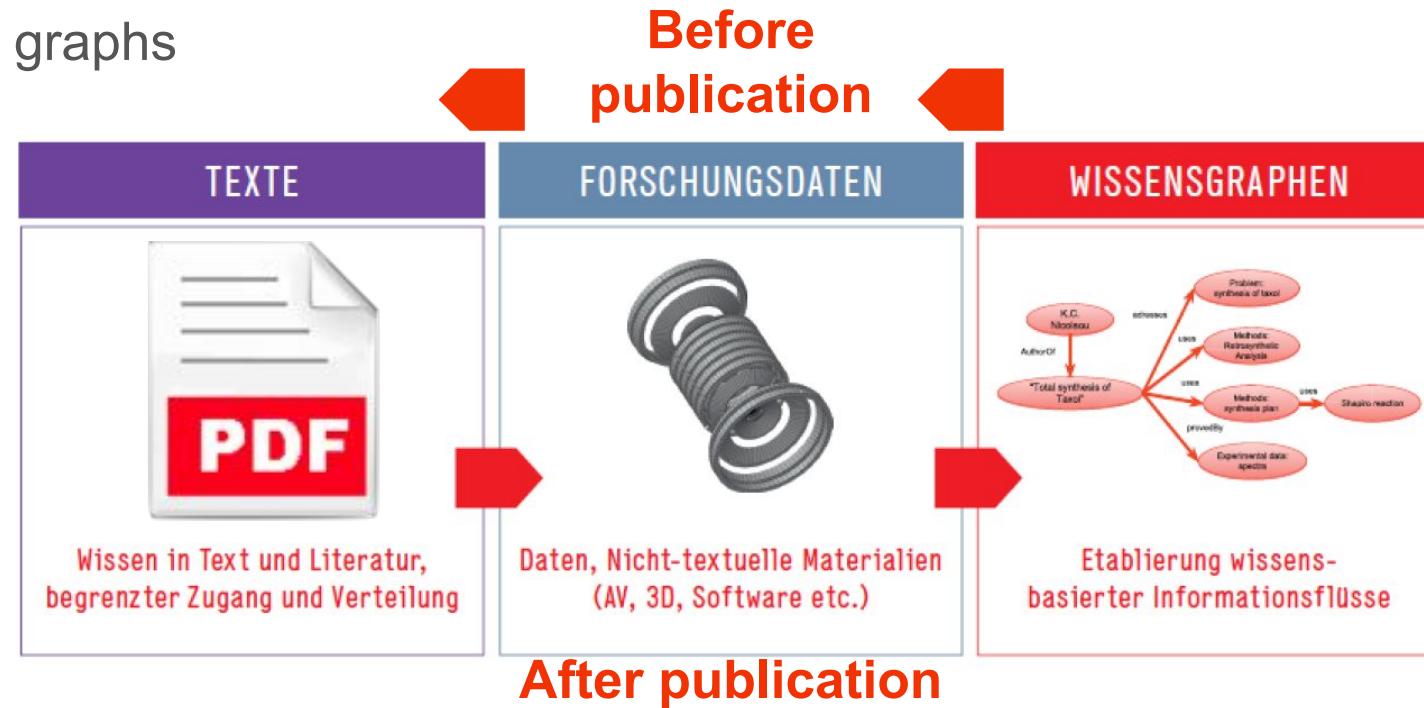
Interoperable 



- provide as precise & complete metadata as possible
- look for metrics to evaluate the FAIRness of a controlled vocabulary / ontology / thesaurus
  - often do not (yet) exist
  - assist in their development
- clearly identify relationships between datasets in the metadata (e.g. “is new version of”, “is supplement to”, “relates to”, etc.)
  - request support regarding these tasks from the repositories in your field of study
- for software: follow established code style guides (thanks to [@npch!](#))

## Vision: Research will move from document- to knowledge-based information flows

- semantic descriptions of research data & their structures
- aggregation, development & teaching of subject-specific vocabularies, ontologies & knowledge graphs



## Vision: Research will move from document- to knowledge-based information flows

several TIB groups are working towards this

- Data Science and Digital Libraries => (research) knowledge graph(s)
- Scientific Data Management
- Visual Analytics to expose information within videos as keywords => [av.tib.eu](http://av.tib.eu)
- Scientific Knowledge Engineering => ontologies

## PIDs provide interoperable Metadata

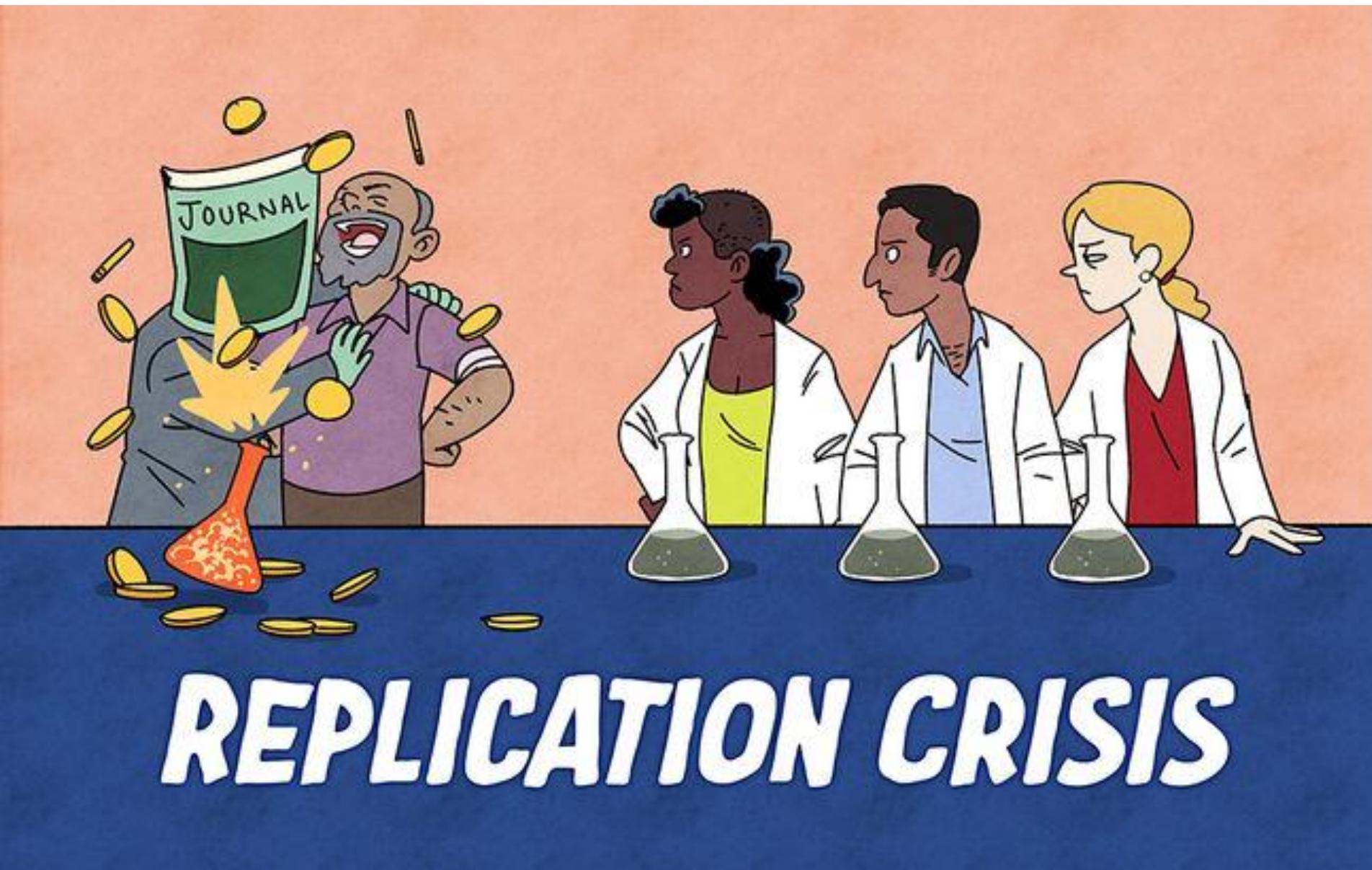
- Example:  
→ Automatic ORCID profile update when DOI is minted

DataCite – CrossRef – ORCID  
collaboration

→ PID of choice for RDM:  
Here: The Digital Object Identifier (DOI)

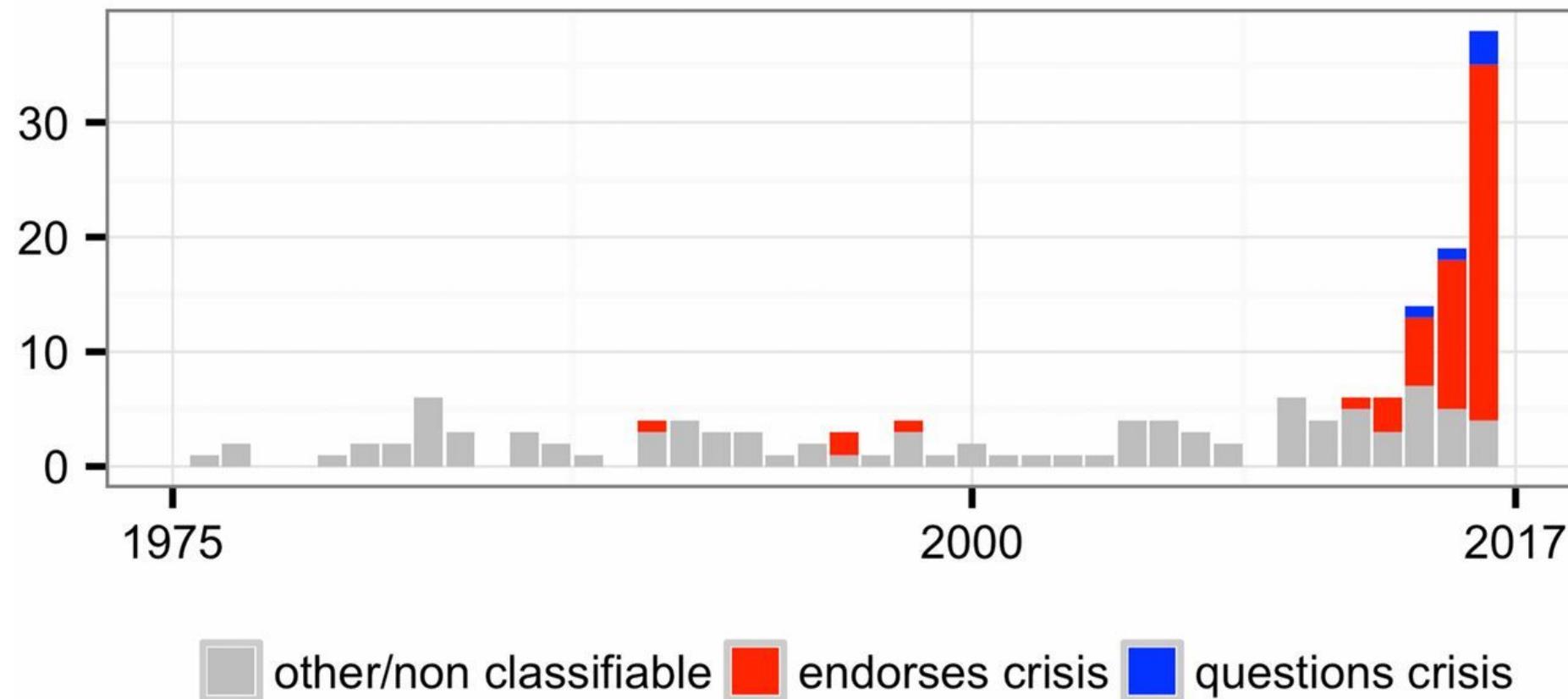


## Detour: Replication / Reproducibility Crisis



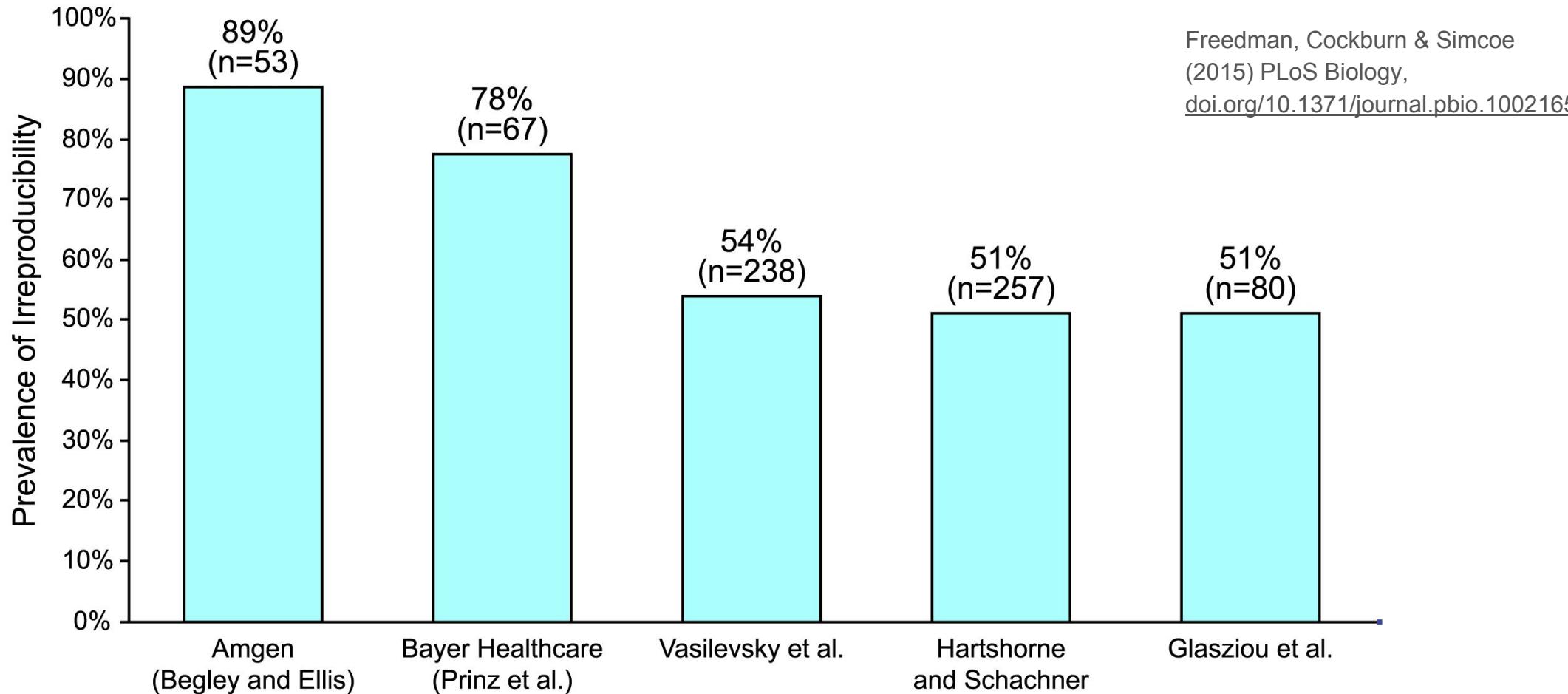
## Detour: Replication / Reproducibility Crisis

### Frequency of Crisis Narrative in Web of Science Records

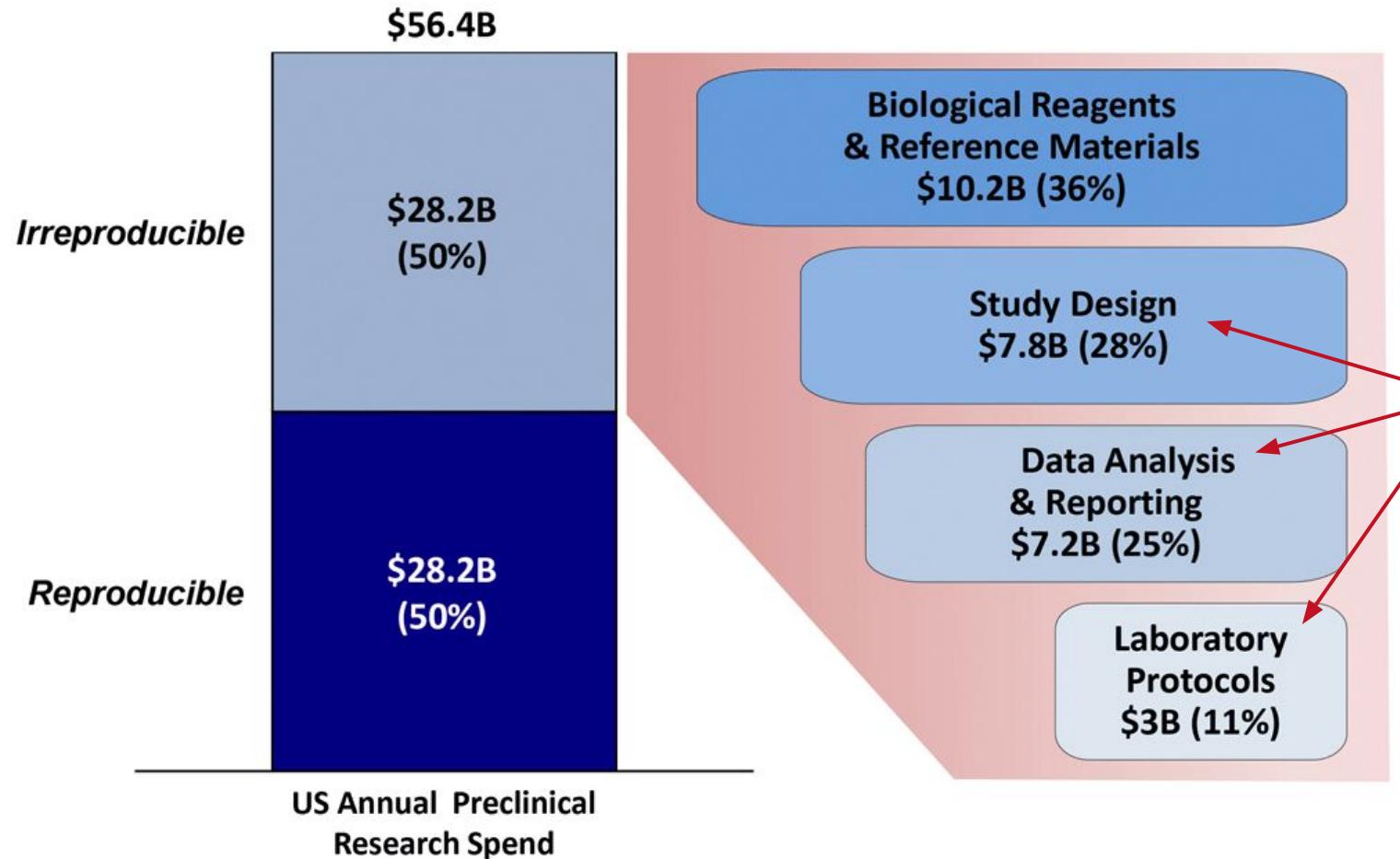


Fanelli (2018) PNAS,  
[doi.org/10.1073/pnas.  
1708272114](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1708272114)

## Detour: Replication / Reproducibility Crisis leaves bad impression



## Detour: Replication / Reproducibility Crisis



Freedman, Venugopalan & Wisman  
 (2017) F1000Research,  
[doi.org/10.12688/f1000research.11334.1](https://doi.org/10.12688/f1000research.11334.1)

may contain traces  
 of software

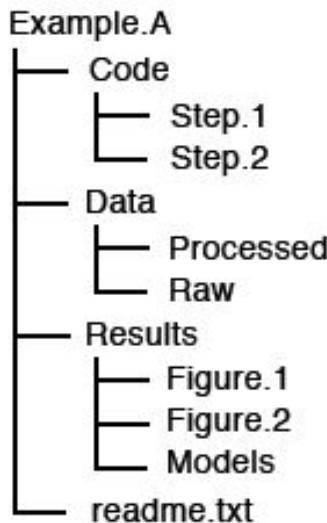
Examples of science failing  
 due to software errors/bugs:  
[figshare.com/authors/  
 Neil\\_Chue\\_Hong/96503](https://figshare.com/authors/Neil_Chue_Hong/96503)

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# Organising files & folders in a project (“cookiecutter”)

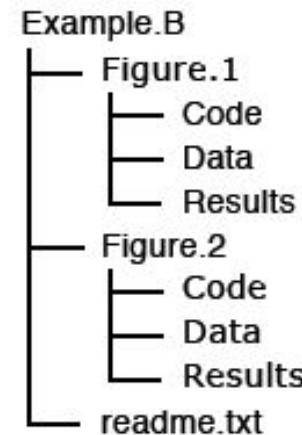
## A) Organized by File type



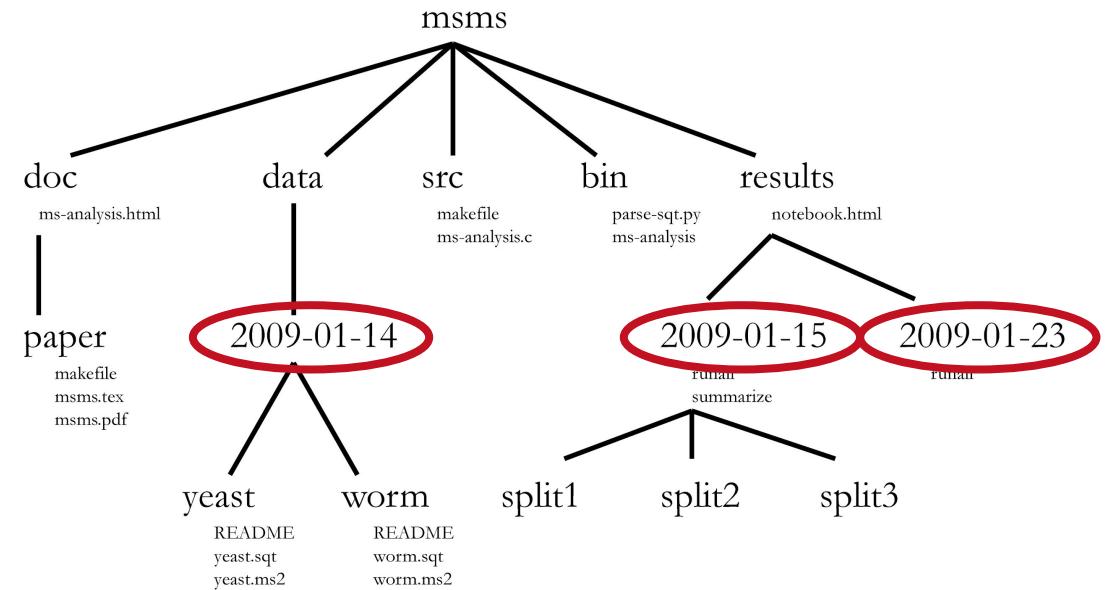
[dataDryad.org/pages/reusabilityBestPractices](http://dataDryad.org/pages/reusabilityBestPractices) (CC-BY 3.0)

- larger project rather use object(-based) storage
  - [docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Ma-hctXcE6AkqdfoHSFrEH9W98V9pnjrvav3Zz3DFSrc](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1Ma-hctXcE6AkqdfoHSFrEH9W98V9pnjrvav3Zz3DFSrc) has unique ID, to which metadata & content are attached regardless of logical or physical location (drive, directory, etc.)

## B) Organized by Analysis



- repository might suggest a scheme
- if not, look in your community of practice
- **stick to an established convention**
- version control enables risk-free changes
- **Date format? ISO 8601: YYYY-MM-DD!**



Noble WS (2009) A Quick Guide to Organizing Computational Biology Projects. PLoS Comput Biol 5(7): e1000424.  
doi:[10doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1000424](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1000424)

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## Basic rules for interoperable scripts



- load modules / packages / etc. explicitly atop the file: `import ... as ... & library('...')`
- hard-coding absolute folder paths results in errors for anyone else
  - instead: relative paths within the organised project folder (see above)



```
numpy.loadtxt(fname='/Users/YOU/project-X/data/inflammation-01.csv')
```



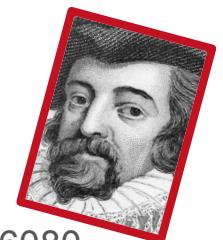
```
numpy.loadtxt(fname='../../data/inflammation-01.csv') or __file__
```



```
setwd("C:\Users\YOU\path\that\nobody\else\has")
```



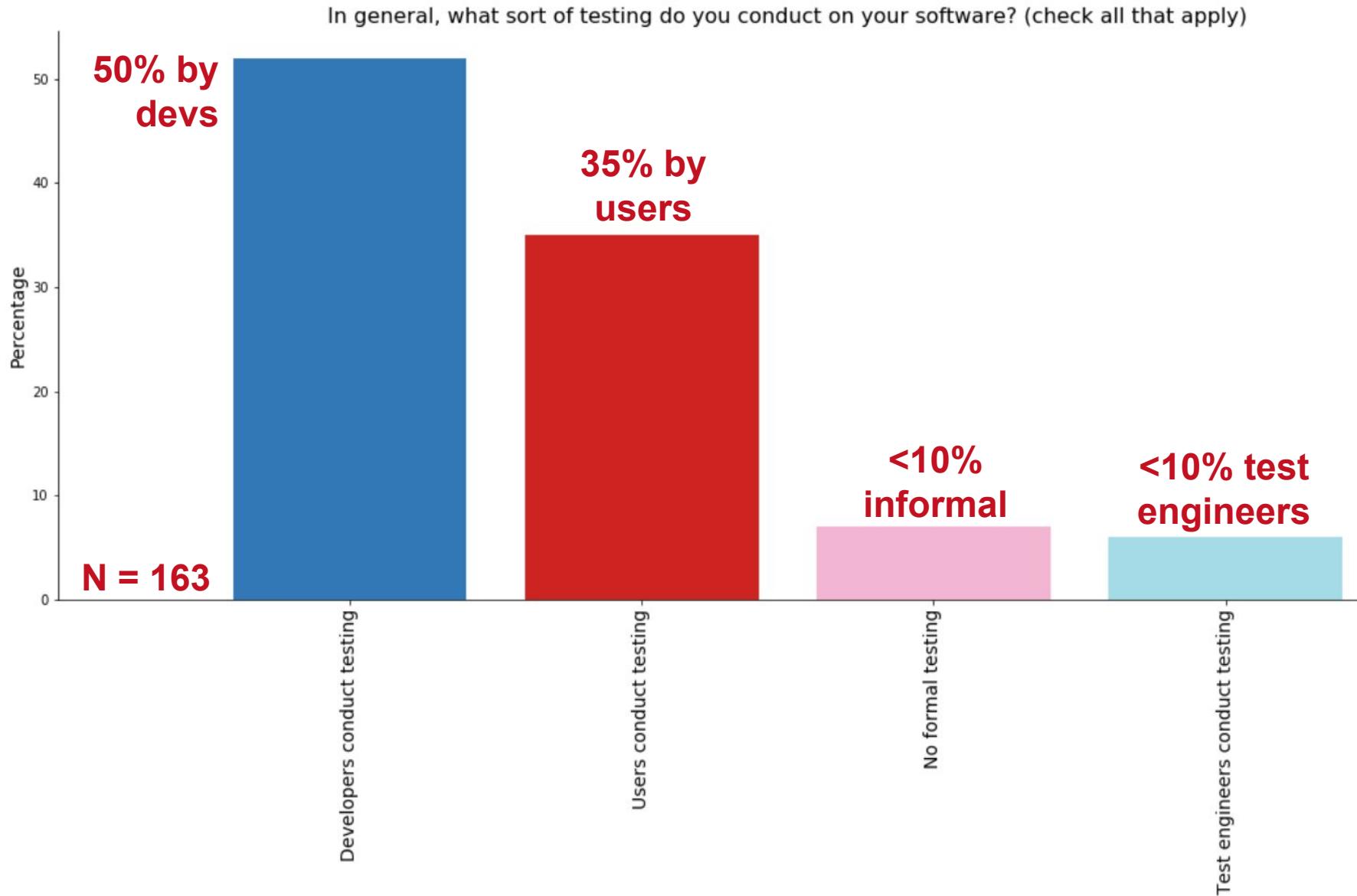
```
.rproj files
```



from: [Jenny Bryan \(2018\) Project-oriented workflow](#) & more tips on [Twitter.com/HadleyWickham/status/940021008764846080](#)

**Better yet: build a module / package!**

# Testing software, preferably automatically

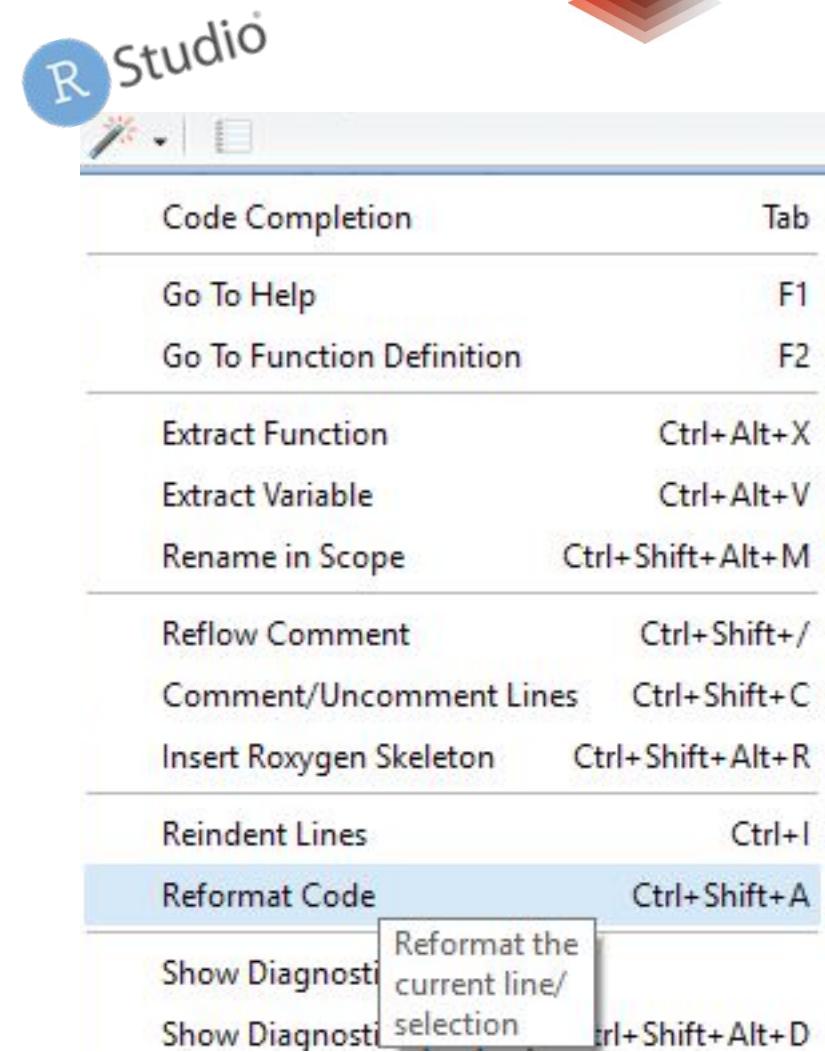


[...] around 70% of research relies on software [...] if almost a half of that software is untested, this is a huge risk to the reliability of research results."

Results from a US survey about Research Software Engineers  
[URSSI.us/blog/2018/06/21/results-from-a-us-survey-about-research-software-engineers](http://URSSI.us/blog/2018/06/21/results-from-a-us-survey-about-research-software-engineers) (Daniel S. Katz, Sandra Gesing, Olivier Philippe, and Simon Hettrick)

Olivier Philippe, Martin Hammitzsch, Stephan Janosch, Anelda van der Walt, Ben van Werkhoven, Simon Hettrick, Daniel S. Katz, Katrin Leinweber, Sandra Gesing, Stephan Druskat. 2018.  
[doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1194669](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.1194669)

# Code style guides & formatters (thanks to Neil Chu Hong)



- faster than manual/manual formatting
- code looks the same, regardless of author
  - can be automated enforced to keep diffs focussed
- PyPI.org/project/[pycodestyle](#), /[black](#), etc.
- [ROpenSci packaging guide](#)
- [style.tidyverse.org](#)
- [Google.GitHub.io/styleguide](#)



# What's in a version number? Semantics!



- If others **can** use your code, convey the meaning of updates with [SemVer.org \(CC BY 3.0\)](#)
    - “version number[ changes] convey meaning about the underlying code” ([Tom Preston-Werner](#))
- v 0 . 4 . 2

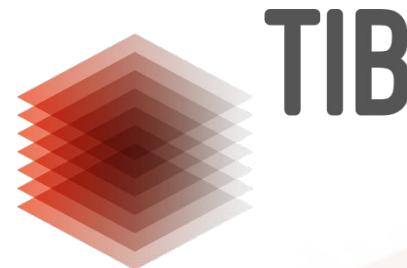
The diagram consists of a central red version number 'v 0 . 4 . 2'. Three lines radiate from it to three text blocks. The top-left line points to 'major (0. => 1.) removed or renamed functions' and the quote '“I need to **update my own code!**”'. The bottom line points to 'minor (.4. => .5.) backwards-compatible additions or changes' and the quote '“If I don't need new stuff, I can ignore this.”'. The top-right line points to 'patch (.2 => .3) backwards-compatible bug-fixes' and the quote '“I can install without updating my code.”'.

major (0. => 1.)  
removed or renamed functions  
“I need to **update my own code!**”

minor (.4. => .5.)  
backwards-compatible additions or changes  
“If I don't need new stuff, I can ignore this.”

patch (.2 => .3)  
backwards-compatible bug-fixes  
“I can install without updating my code.”
- Value **outcome for user(s)** more than output by developer(s)!
  - live coding now: Python & [TIBHannover.GitHub.io/FAIR-R](#)

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**Thanks to Konrad Förstner :-)**

**Which questions do you have for us?**

**Contact information:**

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