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Open Data and FAIR Data

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What is Open Data?

“Open data is data that can be freely used, reused and redistributed by anyone - subject only, at most, to the requirement to attribute and share alike”. In other words without any restrictions (Open Data Handbook, n.d.)

Open means anyone can freely access, use, modify, and share data for any purpose (Open Knowledge Foundation, n.d.)

Key Features of Open Data

Availability and access:

the data must be available as a whole and at no more than a reasonable reproduction cost, preferably by downloading over the internet. The data must also be available in a convenient and modifiable form.

Reuse and redistribution:

the data must be provided under terms that permit reuse and redistribution, including the intermixing with other datasets. The data must be machine-readable.

Universal participation:

everyone must be able to use, reuse and redistribute — there should be no discrimination against fields of endeavour or against persons or groups. For example, ‘non-commercial’ restrictions that would prevent ‘commercial’ use, or restrictions of use for certain purposes (e.g. only in education), are not allowed.

Reasons why people do not want to make their data open

Terrorists and/or criminals will use it

Its too complicated

People may misinterpret the data

Its not very interesting

I don't mind, but someone else might

I might want to use it in another paper/article

People will contact me to ask about the research

National security may be compromised

It's too big

Others will see that my data is embarrassingly bad

It's not useful to anyone else

It's not a priority and I do not have the time

I don't know how

I'm not sure I own the data

Someone might steal/plagiarise the data and not credit me

My funder does not require it

Reasons for Open Data

- Transparency (Open Knowledge International, n.d.)
- Good scientific practice depends on communicating the evidence (Hodgson, 2018)
- It will enhance the visibility of one's research and increase one's citations (McArthur, 2015) (Emory Libraries and Information Technology, 2019)
- It benefits science – science is based on building on, reusing and openly criticizing scientific knowledge (McArthur, 2015)
- Open data can foster innovation and accelerate scientific discovery through the reuse of data (Hodgson, 2018)
- Allows others to reproduce experiments and verify results
- Reduces inefficiencies, including duplication of research (CODATA, 2015)
- Reduces academic fraud (Emory Libraries and Information Technology, 2019)
- Its for the benefit of society (McArthur, 2015)
- Most research is publicly funded (McArthur, 2015)
- Ensure compliance with funder and publisher mandates. Many funders and publishers are now requiring data to be made openly available (McArthur, 2015) (Emory Libraries and Information Technology, 2019)



FAIR Data

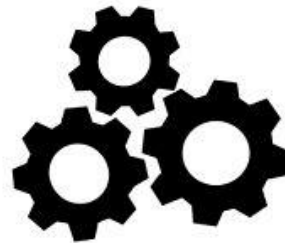
F
Findable



A
Accessible



I
Interoperable

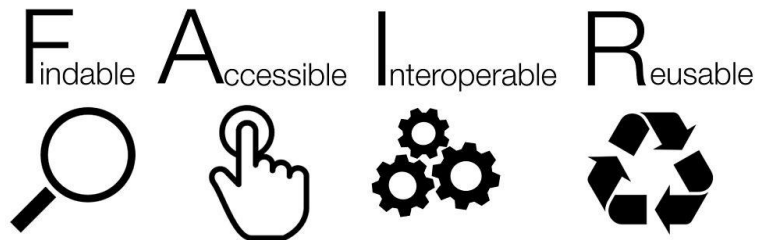


R
Reusable



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What is FAIR?



FAIR is a set of principles that ensure that data are shared in a manner that enables and enhances re-use by humans and machines

Where did the idea of FAIR come from?

Emerged from a workshop held at the Lorentz Centre in Leiden, Netherlands in 2014

Come from life sciences, but is intended for all types of data

Issued by FORCE11 (community of scholars, librarians, archivists, publishers and research funders)

<https://www.force11.org/group/fairgroup/fairprinciples>

Recommended by Association of European Research Libraries (LIBER)



What does FAIR mean?



Findable

To aid automatic discovery of relevant datasets, (meta)data should be easy to find by both humans and machines and be assigned a persistent identifier.

Accessible

Limitations on the use of data, and protocols for querying or copying data are made explicit for both humans and machines.

Interoperable

(Meta)data should use standardised terms (controlled vocabularies), have references to other (meta)data and be machine actionable.

Reusable

(Meta)data are sufficiently well described for both humans and computers to be able to understand them and have a clear and accessible data usage license.

Benefits of FAIR Data Principles

- Gain maximum potential from data assets
- Increase the visibility and citations of research
- Improve the reproducibility and reliability of research
- Stay aligned with international standards and approaches
- Attract new partnerships with researchers, business, policy makers and broader communities
- Enable new research questions to be answered
- Use new innovative research approaches and tools
- Achieve maximum impact from research

(CCAFS, n.d.)

FAIR Principles

Findable

- F1. (meta)data are assigned a globally unique and eternally persistent identifier.
- F2. data are described with rich metadata.
- F3. (meta)data are registered or indexed in a searchable resource.
- F4. metadata specify the data identifier.

Interoperable

- 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.

Accessible

- A1 (meta)data are retrievable by their identifier using a standardized communications protocol.
 - A1.1 the protocol is open, free, and universally implementable.
 - A1.2 the protocol allows for an authentication and authorization procedure, where necessary.
- A2 metadata are accessible, even when the data are no longer available.

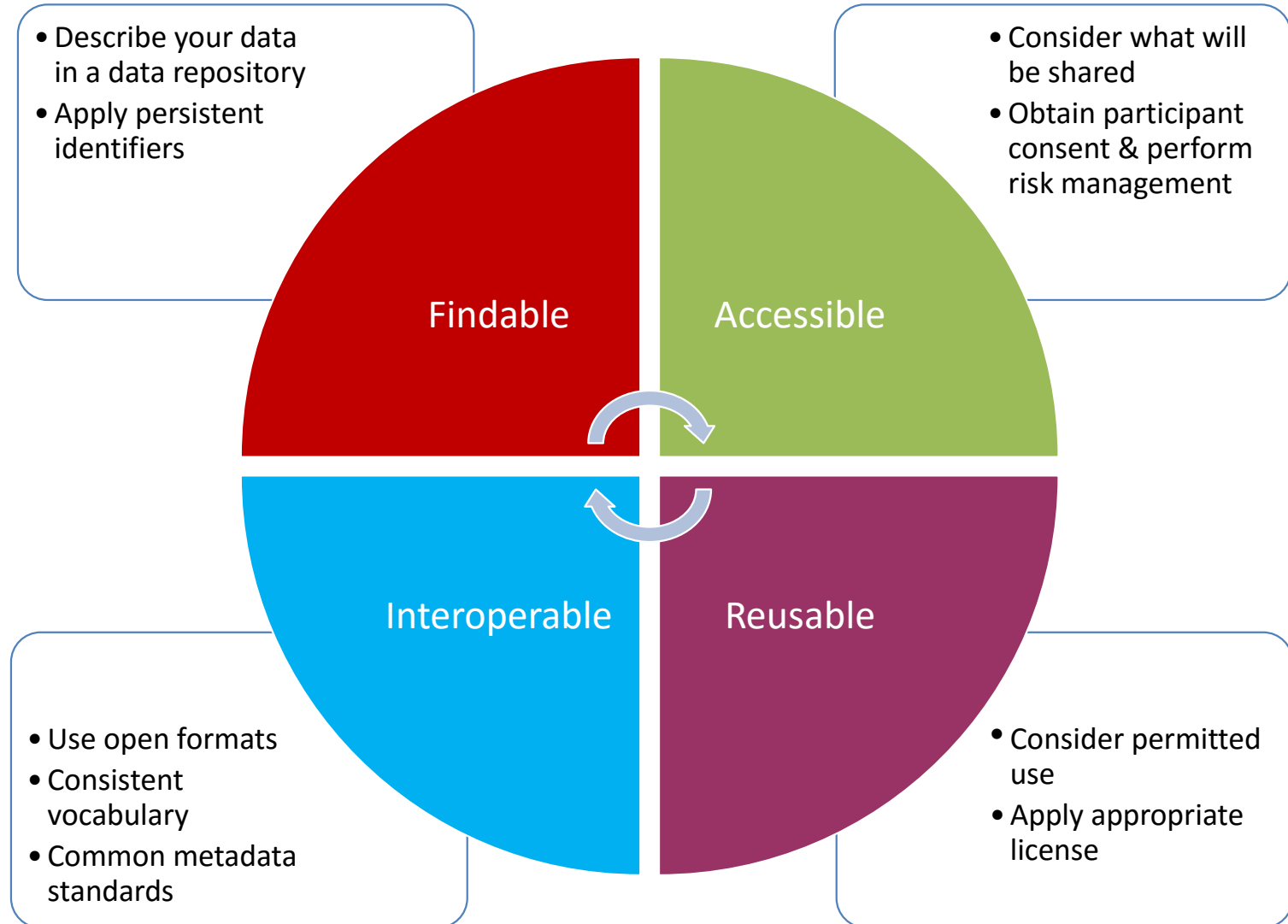
Reusable

- R1. meta(data) have a plurality of accurate and relevant attributes.
 - R1.1. (meta)data are released with a clear and accessible data usage license.
 - R1.2. (meta)data are associated with their provenance.
 - R1.3. (meta)data meet domain-relevant community standards.

FAIR Principles



FAIR Data



FAIR Self-assessment Tool

The Australian ARDC (an initiative between ANDS, Nectar and RDS) developed a FAIR self-assessment tool that enables you to assess the FAIRness of a dataset, and also helps you to determine how to enhance a dataset's FAIRness.

<https://www.ands-nectar-rds.org.au/fair-tool>

FAIR self-assessment tool

Welcome to the ARDC FAIR Data self-assessment tool. Using this tool you will be able to assess the 'FAIRness' of a dataset and determine how to enhance its FAIRness (where applicable).

This self-assessment tool has been designed predominantly for data librarians and IT staff, but could be used by software engineers developing FAIR Data tools and services, and researchers provided they have assistance from research support staff.

You will be asked questions related to the principles underpinning Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable. Once you have answered all the questions in each section you will be given a 'green bar' indicator based on your answers in that section, and when all sections are completed, an overall 'FAIRness' indicator is provided.

Please be aware that additional explanatory information is provided within the tool. The (i) information button provides an overview of each of the FAIR high-level elements (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable). Additionally, each question is hyperlinked, leading users to explanatory information and links to wider resources on related topics.

Findable

Does the dataset have any identifiers assigned?

Is the dataset identifier included in all metadata records/files describing the data?

How is the data described with metadata?

What type of repository or registry is the metadata record in?

Accessible

How accessible is the data?

Is the data available online without requiring specialised protocols or tools once access has been approved?

Will the metadata record be available even if the data is no longer available?

Interoperable

What (file) format(s) is the data available in?

What best describes the types of vocabularies/ontologies/tagging schemas used to define the data elements?

How is the metadata linked to other data and metadata (to enhance context and clearly indicate relationships)?

Reusable

Which of the following best describes the license/usage rights attached to the data?

How much provenance information has been captured to facilitate data reuse?

Total across F.A.I.R.

Does FAIR Data = Open Data?

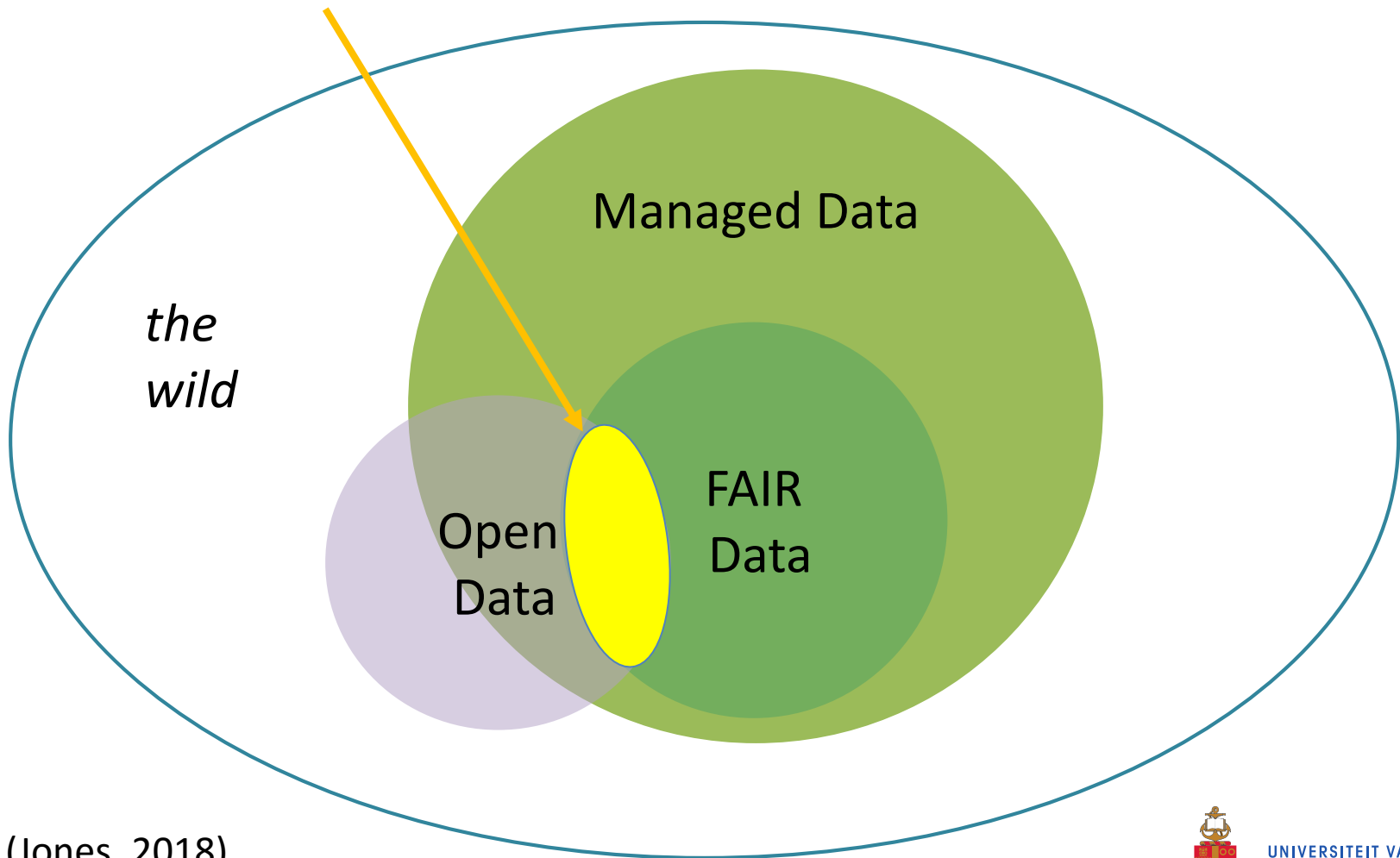
- FAIR data does not have to be Open
- Data can be FAIR or Open, both or neither (Hodgson, 2018)
- Data can be shared under restrictions & still be FAIR
- Making data FAIR ensures it can be found, understood and reused
- Even though [Open Data](#) and FAIR Data are different, they can be overlapping concepts; FAIR data does not automatically imply that it needs to be accessible - there can be limitations to access, for example, for [sensitive data](#).
- Accessibility of FAIR data means “how-to-access”, and is defined in a human- and machine-readable way. ([The AIMS team](#), 2018)

Does FAIR Data = Open Data?

- FAIR data can be accessed by appropriate people, at an appropriate time, and in an appropriate way, depending on the purpose of the data.
- In other words, data can be FAIR when it is private, when it is accessible by a specific group of people or when it is accessible by everyone.
- Open Data though are available for all to access, use and share, without licenses, copyright, or patents. Only subjected to attribution/share alike licenses.
- Greatest potential for reuse and value comes when data are both FAIR and Open (Hodgson, 2018)

All Research Data

Increase that which is FAIR and Open



(Jones, 2018)

International Initiatives

- Enabling FAIR Data Project - <http://www.copdess.org/enabling-fair-data-project/>
- RDA FAIR Data Maturity Model Working Group
<https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/fair-data-maturity-model-wg>
- FAIRsFAIR <https://www.fairsfair.eu/>
- FOSTER Open Science Toolkit
<https://www.fosteropenscience.eu/node/2556>
- GOFAIR <https://www.go-fair.org/>
- EOSC-hub <https://www.eosc-hub.eu/>
- OpenAIRE <https://www.openaire.eu/>
- Open Data Toolkit <http://aims.fao.org/activity/blog/implement-effective-open-data-keep-it-alive-open-data-toolkit>
- Search Engine for Open Data – Google Dataset Search (Beta)
<https://toolbox.google.com/datasetsearch>



Thank you

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