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# Tensions in data sharing and reuse

## The perspective of researchers


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## Overlapping practices



Managing data,  
Sharing data,  
Discovering data,  
Reusing data,  
Citing data...

# 4 Tensions

In practice, policy,  
infrastructure

Accounting for data diversity

New and traditional practices

Balancing practice and policy

Data management is work.

Accounting for data diversity

Tension One

# Diversity of (meta)data

One person's signal is  
another person's  
noise

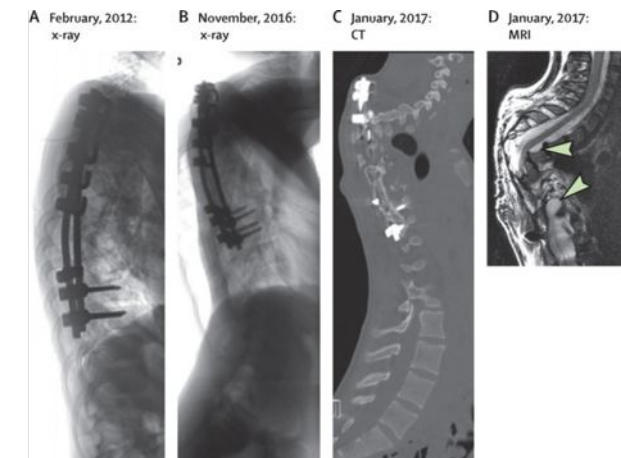
# Data do not stand alone.



# Beyond disciplines

Diversity within & across disciplines

Belong to multiple 'data communities' with own norms



*The Lancet Digital Health* 2019 1e163-e171DOI: (10.1016/S2589-7500(19)30067-6). CC-BY license.

New and traditional practices

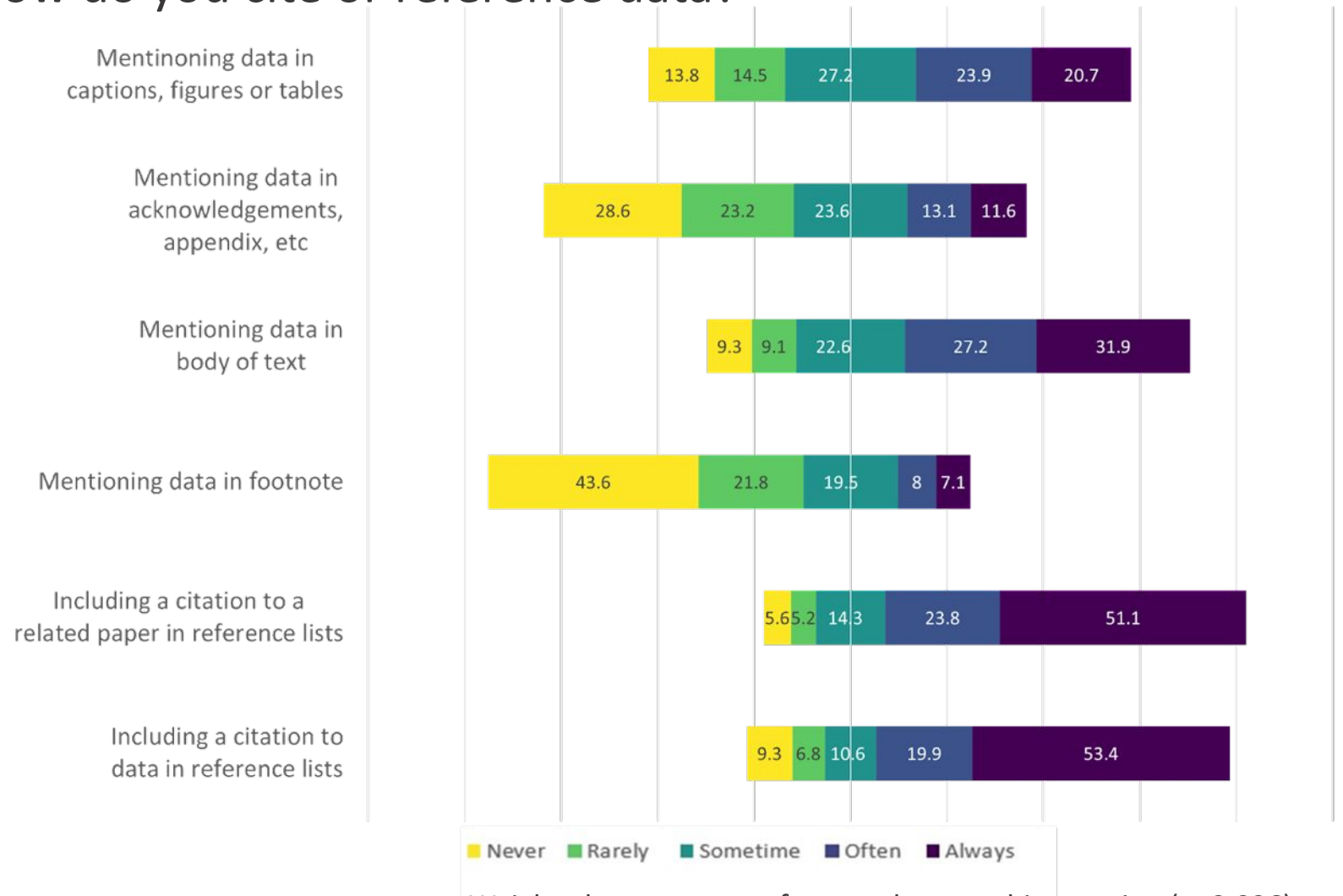
Tension Two

# Citing data

Variation in how  
reference data

Tied to long-standing  
community practices

## How do you cite or reference data?



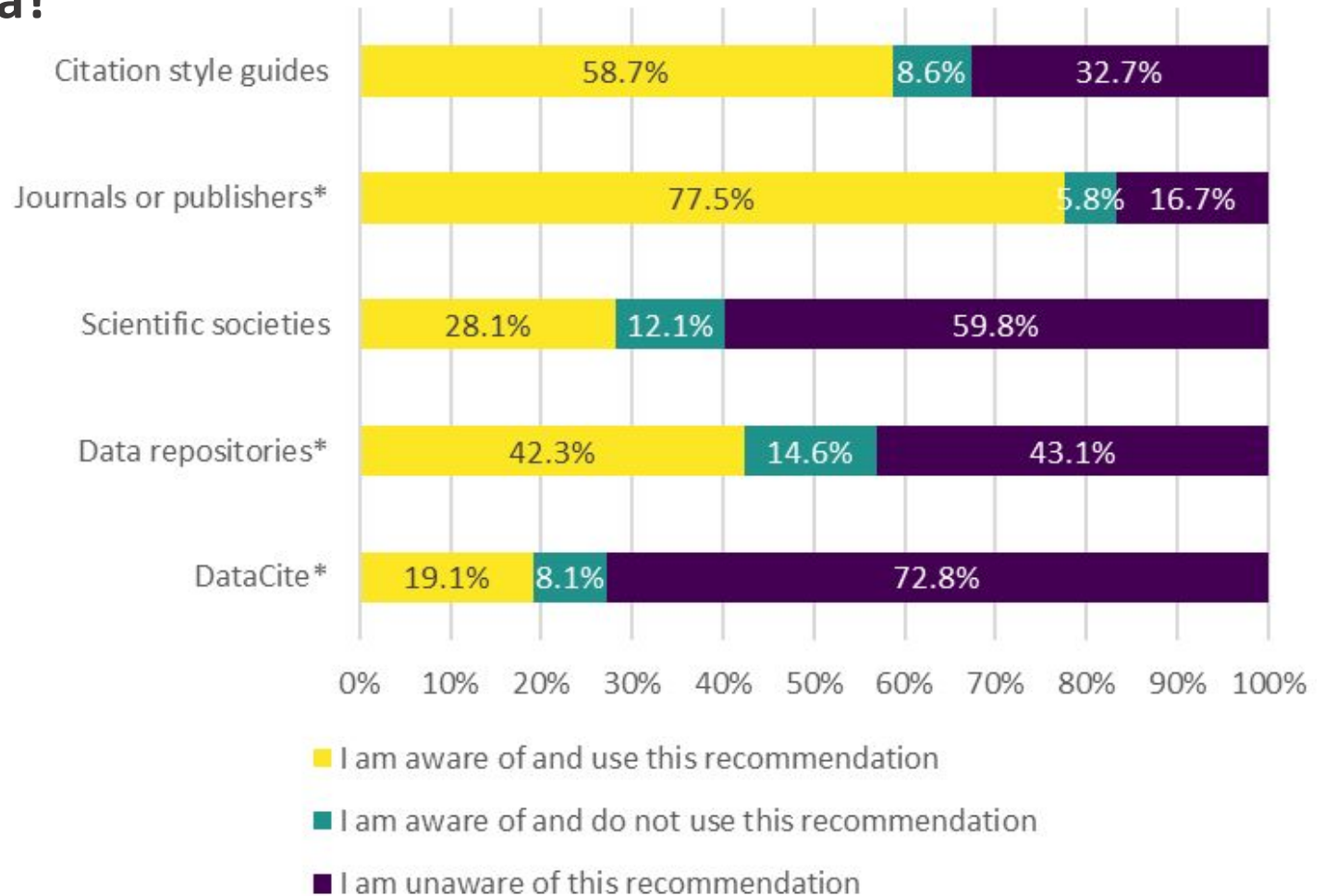
Weighted percentages of respondents to this question (n=2,026)



# Citing data

Challenge of new standards?

Are you aware of & do you use these standards for **citing data**?



Weighted percentages of respondents to this question (n=2,492)

Balancing practice and policy

Tension Three

Practice vs  
policy

**When do we meet researchers  
where they are?**

Data management is work.

Tension Four

This takes  
work.

Detailed, iterative work  
Duplicative work

## DATA DISCOVERY AND REUSE PRACTICES IN RESEARCH

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Overview

Description

Data files (6)

Cite as:

Gregory, K.M. (Data Archive and Networked S  
DANS. <https://doi.org/10.17026/dans-xsw-kke>

2020 | Gregory, K.M. (Data Archive and Networked S

This dataset presents the results from a global survey of data discovery and reuse secondary data. The data cover 105 countries. The data are provided in two files: one for the data and one for the README file provides extensive guidance on using the data.

[www.nature.com/scientificdata](http://www.nature.com/scientificdata)

# SCIENTIFIC DATA

Check for updates

OPEN

DATA DESCRIPTOR

## A dataset describing data discovery and reuse practices in research

Kathleen Gregory 

This paper presents a dataset produced from the largest known survey examining how researchers and support professionals discover, make sense of and reuse secondary research data. 1677 respondents in 105 countries representing a variety of disciplinary domains, professional roles and stages in their academic careers completed the survey. The results represent the data needs, sources and strategies used to locate data, and the criteria employed in data evaluation of these respondents. The data detailed in this paper have the potential to be reused to inform the development of data discovery systems, data repositories, training activities and policies for a variety of general and specific user communities.

# Incentives & Rewards

Well, yes...but what about just more time?

**If we add to researchers' plates,  
what can get taken away?**

# To recap

4 tensions

Accounting for data diversity  
New and traditional practices  
Balancing practice and policy  
Data management is work.

Thank you.

Questions?





# References

- Borgman, C. L. (2015). Big data, little data, no data: Scholarship in the networked world. MIT Press.
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- Gregory, K. (2020). A dataset describing data discovery and reuse practices in research. Scientific Data, 7(1), 1-11. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-020-0569-5>
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