

Do STEM researchers understand STEM librarians' data management terminology?

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Sort of... but not really.

Research Overview

- Penn State University R1 university
 - 24 unique campuses (23 physical, 1 virtual)
 - 5 campuses with graduate students
- STEM disciplines are among highest enrolled programs
- STEM research expenditures highest at campuses with highest enrollments
 - Not all campuses with STEM programs offer research opportunities/funding
- Conducted quantitative survey and followed up with qualitative focus groups

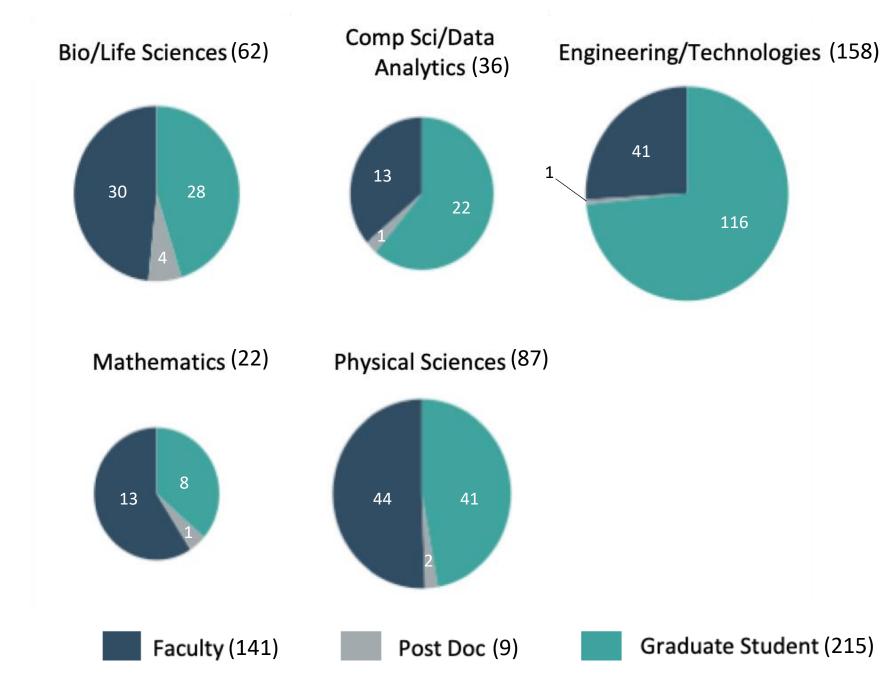
Research Purpose & Goals

- Gain a more in depth understanding of research data management awareness and practices of STEM researchers across various PSU campuses
- Improve research reproducibility and support open science initiatives by improving our understanding of the RDM ecosystem at PSU
- Assist us (University Libraries) in identifying new ways to support STEM research at PSU

Research Questions

- 1. Does awareness of various RDM practices and services differ by campus, career stage, or discipline?
- 2. Do current RDM practices differ by campus, career stage, or discipline?
- 3. Do researchers understand the terminology commonly employed by librarians when discussing RDM?
- 4. What terminology do researchers from different disciplines use when discussing RDM?

Survey participation by discipline



Textual analysis methods

- PSU's Literary Informatics Librarian
 - Expertise with textual analysis research
- Voyant Tools https://voyant-tools.org/
 - Web-based tool; Easy and free to use
- Extracted definition survey responses overall and separated out by discipline to upload to Voyant Tools

How do you define data management?



Top Terms

- 1. Data
- 2. Storage/Storing
- 3. Organizing/Organization
- 4. Management
- 5. Access

Selected Terms from Data Management Definitions

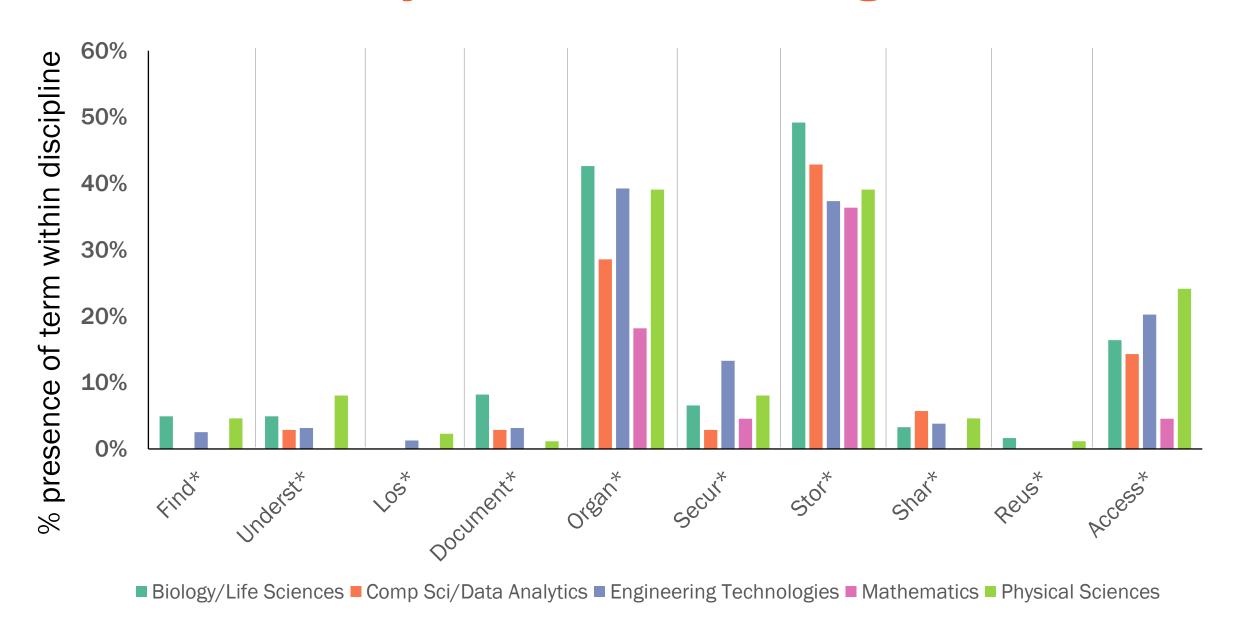
"...the compilation of many small practices that make your data easier to find, easier to understand, less likely to be lost, and more likely to be usable during a project or ten years later" (Briney et al. 2015).

"... includes data management planning, documenting your data, organizing your data, improving analysis procedures, securing sensitive data properly, having adequate storage and backups during a project, taking care of your data after a project, sharing data effectively, and finding data for reuse in a new project" (Briney et al. 2015).

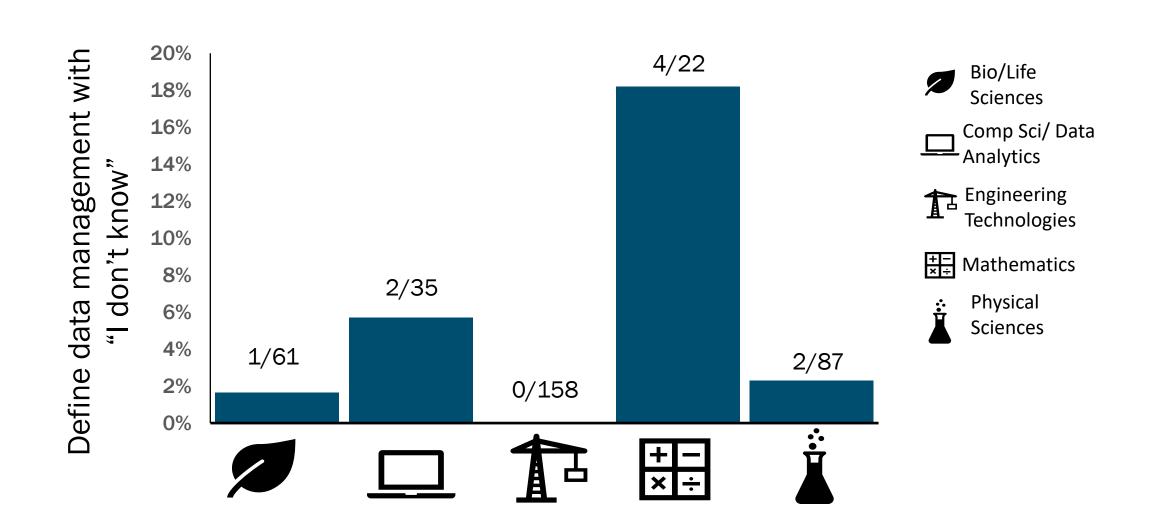
"... is a broad concept that includes processes undertaken to create organized, documented, accessible and reusable quality research data" (Corti et al. 2014).

Find* (find, finding, findable) **Underst*** (understand, understood, understanding, understandable) Los* (lose, loss, lost) **Document*** (document(s), documented, documenting, documentation) **Organ*** (organize(d), organizing, organization, organise(d), organising, organisation) **Secur*** (secure(d), security, securing) **Stor*** (storage, store(d), storing) **Shar*** (share, sharing) Reus* (reuse, reusable, reusability) **Access*** (access(ed), accessibility, accessible, accessing)

How do you define data management?



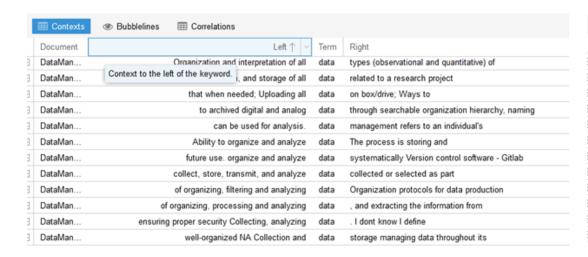
How do you define data management?



Deeper look...

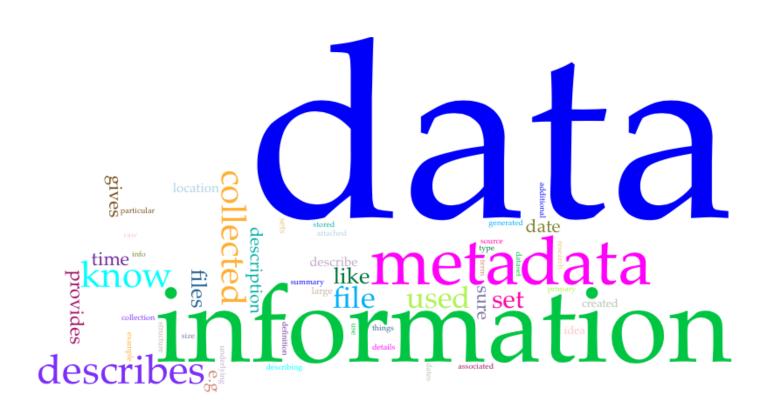
What is left of the word "data"

What is right of the word "data"



	Contexts Bubblelines Electrons			
	Document ~	Left	Term	Right ↑
3	DataMan	The document of the occurrence. esults. organization of	data	A good classification of files
3	DataMan	system to use and store	data	Accessing, archiving, and storing data
3	DataMan	How to store and access	data	acquiring, validating, storing, protecting, and
3	DataMan	better store and work with	data	anything that has to do
3	DataMan	Organizing literature sources and your	data	Data management is a method
3	DataMan	and storage and retrieval of	data	Data management is the process
3	DataMan	Storage, documentation, and maintenance of	data	Data storage that is easy
3	DataMan	The organization and storage of	data	Ensuring that data is properly
3	DataMan	storage and and protection of	data	Gathering, storing, analyzing, and processing
3	DataMan	Collection, organization and storage of	data	How you store the data
3	DataMan	how yet, sorting and processing	data	I am not sure I
3	DataMan	of own and peer-published	data	I define it as a

What are metadata?



Top Terms

- 1. Data
- 2. Information
- 3. Metadata
- 4. Describes
- 5. Collected

Selected Terms from Metadata Definitions

"... is structured information that describes, explains, locates, or otherwise makes it easier to retrieve, use, or manage an information resource. Metadata is often called data about data or information about information." (National Information Standards Organization 2004).

"... is information about the context, content, quality, provenance, and/or accessibility of a set of data (University of Wisconsin Madison Research Data Services).

"Information about a data set that is structured (often in machine readable format) for purposes of search and retrieval. Metadata elements may include basic information (e.g., title, author, date created, etc.) and/or specific elements inherent to datasets (e.g., spatial coverage, time periods)" (Data Curation Network).



Structur* (structure, structural, structured) **Inform*** (informing, information, informational, informative)

Descri* (describe(s), described, describing, description(s), descriptive, descriptors)

Explain* (explain(s), explaining)

Retriev* (retrieve(d), retrieval)

Use* (use(d), reuse, useful) -> exclude user,
username

Data about data

Context* (context, contextual)

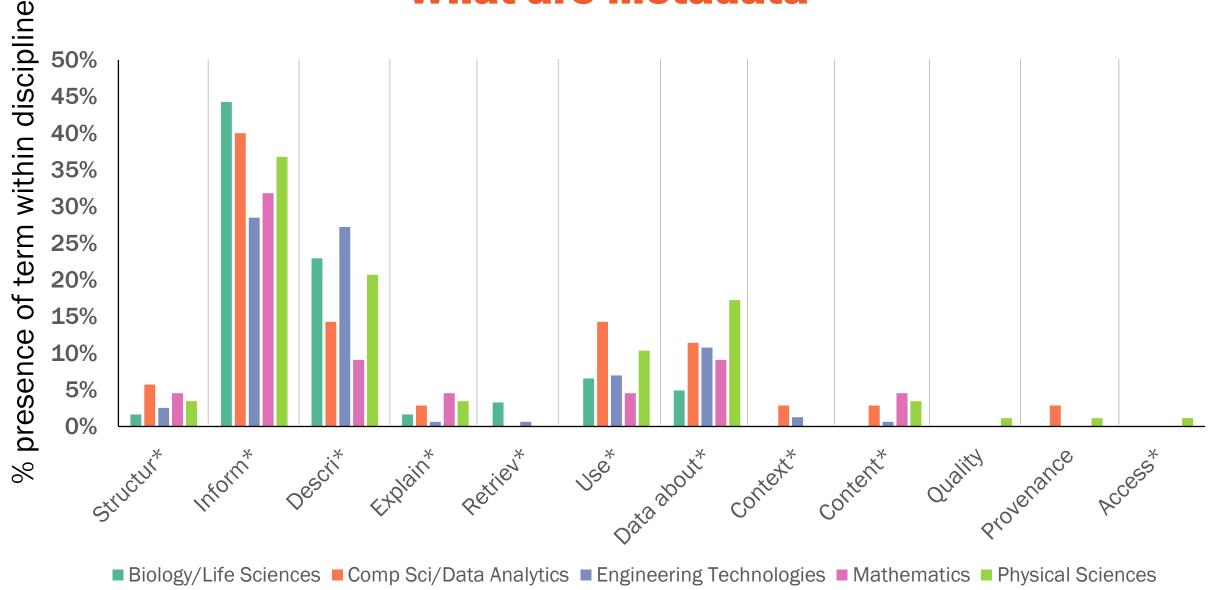
Content* (content(s))

Quality

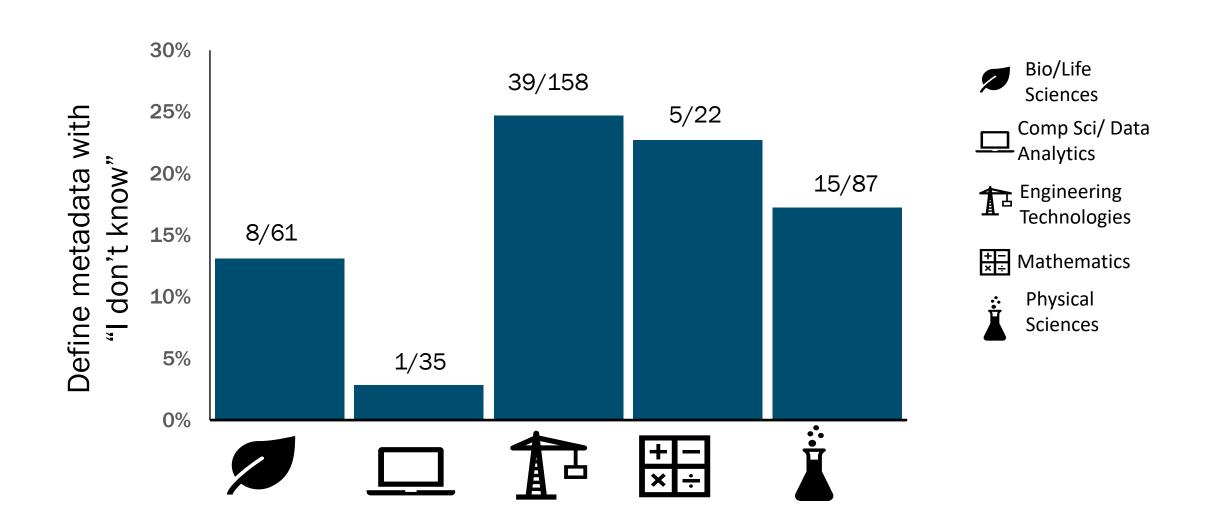
Provenance

Access* (access(ed), accessibility,
accessible, accessing) -> exclude access logs

What are metadata

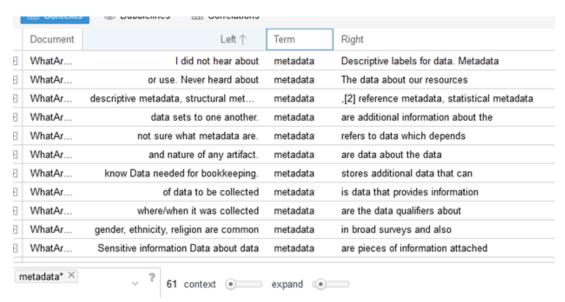


What are metadata?

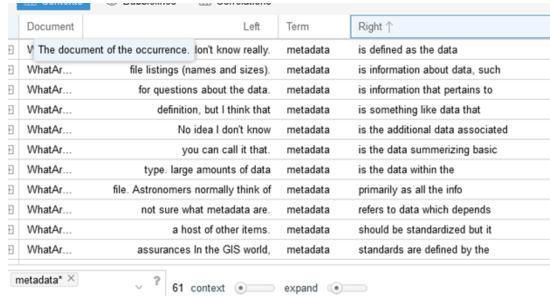


Deeper look...

What is left of the word "metadata"



What is right of the word "metadata"



Preliminary textual analysis

- Top term for both questions is "data" not very helpful
 - "management" and "metadata" are top terms as well
- Lots of "I don't know", "n/a", "I'm not sure"
 - One (1) "I don't really use data"
- Outreach with researchers needs to account for terminology differences and nuances
 - we need to provide more outreach around terminology

Future textual analysis

- Take deeper look at differences between disciplines by looking at the context of terms
- Analyze new root words
 - Valu* (value, valuable)
 - Preserv* (preserve, preservation)
 - Secur* (secure, security)
- Write and publish related articles (coming soon!)