



Making Research Content Discoverable

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ANDS' mission

- To enable the transformation of data from
 - Unmanaged to Managed
 - Invisible to Findable
 - Single-use to Reusable
- To build a cohesive collection of research resources from all research institutions

ANDS' Activity

- Foster data management expertise
- Set best practice of data sharing
- Fund projects to describe & share data
- Build Research Data Australia portal;
- Fund feeds to Research Data Australia

Researchers vs Teachers

- Researchers competitive
 - Often disincentives to share data
- Research data hard to describe (no tags)
 - Little expertise or interest in describing
- Portals not universally used
- Providers under-resourced for metadata
 - “I’ll get another postdoc on the grant instead”

Custodianship

- Institutions trusted as custodians of data
- Have mandate to manage researchers' data
- Professionalising data management
 - “If researcher doesn't care, we'll do it for them”
 - Will researchers ever do it themselves?
 - Will this scale?
 - Automation for fine-grained, generalist descriptions for coarse-grained

- **Centralised, generalist discovery**
 - Master national portal (... oh, and Google)
 - Generic schemas: DC, RIF-CS
 - Serendipitous discovery outside discipline
- **... vs. Specialist discovery**
 - Using discipline schemas
 - Where researchers actually go
 - Pockets of good practice

Incentives for publishing data

- Altruism only in some communities
- Often no culture of sharing; routine embargos
- Valorise data as first-order research output
 - Citation tracking, Data journals
- Enabling more research
 - ... they assume informal networks
 - But constraints on scope of network

Is it working?

- Some disciplines & institutions doing it anyway
 - Raised standards, built professional culture
- Raised awareness for others
 - Will do something, but will need own steam
 - They now know what they don't know
- Persist the aggregation, not the aggregator