

# Actually Accessible Data: A Call to Action

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## Who We Are

Randy D. Colón is a PhD student in Disability Studies at the University of Illinois Chicago. He is also a research assistant at ADA PARC and a disability advocate.

Abigail Goben is an Data Management Librarian, Data Policy Advisor, and an associate professor at the University of Illinois Chicago.

Sebastian Karcher is the Associate Director of the Qualitative Data Repository and a research assistant professor of political science at Syracuse University.

# Defining Data Accessibility

At Least Five Options:

- Data is in a format and location where it can be retrieved
- Data can be downloaded by a new user after discovery
- Data can be accessed by machine / automation (FAIR)
- Data has socio-economic access -- is there a paywall?
- Data is easily used by everyone, including disabled people

# Include the Historically Overlooked

Ethical duty to Include large portion of the population:

- Over 1 out of every 4 adults in the United States have a disability
- An approximate 1 billion people worldwide

Data is not inherently inaccessible

- Disabled people often can use technology needed to access data
- The choices we make impact accessibility

# Consider Laws and Policies

- Laws and policies ever changing
- Increasingly litigious environment
- Calls to only accept vendors who create accessible content
- Easier to build-in accessible features than to retrofit

# Improve Products for Other Users

Making content easier to navigate visually can benefit other groups

- E.g. People with dyslexia and other people with print disabilities

Making content easier to use with a screen reader can benefit overall design

- E.g. Streamlining content for ease of use for all people

Other people may benefit from accessibility features

- E.g. ability to have content read aloud

# Where We Are - Accessible Repositories

## The not so good

OSF

WAVE powered by WebAIM web accessibility evaluation tool

Styles: OFF ON

Summary

19 Errors	9 Contrast Errors
6 Alerts	1 Features
32 Structural Elements	30 ARIA

View details

HOME

Wiki Analytics Registrations

Test

Contributors: Curtis Carlson

Date created: 2019-07-12 12:25 AM | Last Updated: 2019-07-12 12:39 AM

Category: Project

Files

Name Modified

Harvard Dataverse

WAVE powered by WebAIM web accessibility evaluation tool

Styles: OFF ON

Summary

60 Errors	37 Contrast Errors
33 Alerts	10 Features
17 Structural Elements	100 ARIA

View details

HARVARD Dataverse Harvard Dataverse Home Page

Add Data Search About User Guide Support Sign Up Log In

Metrics 34,600,614 Downloads Contact Email: Dataverse@fas.harvard.edu Share

testing

Advanced Search

1 to 10 of 11,882 Results

Testing BIDS Dataset

10/22/2021

Wed, Oct 21, 2021: "Testing BIDS Dataset" https://doi.org/10.7927/H7V9L2L2 Harvard Dataverse

LINK: #DqHHC270yG5h3KxvA= (644NF)

19 testing public: BIDS dataset from Preseuler labolans. This is testing to modify the Dataset description. Test.html

Research Project (1)

## The good

figshare

WAVE powered by WebAIM web accessibility evaluation tool

Styles: OFF ON

Summary

0 Errors	0 Contrast Errors
2 Alerts	9 Features
15 Structural Elements	85 ARIA

View details

Share

Browse Search

aria-label="Search"

aria-label="About"

Features

aria-label="Features"

Dryad

WAVE powered by WebAIM web accessibility evaluation tool

Styles: OFF ON

Summary

1 Errors	0 Contrast Errors
4 Alerts	10 Features
26 Structural Elements	13 ARIA

View details

DRYAD

Data from: Automation and with SOWHAT

Church, Samuel H., Brown University

Ryan, Joseph F., Whitney Laboratory for Marine Bioscience

Dunn, Casey W., Brown University

Publication date: August 13, 2015

Publisher: Dryad

# Where We Are - Standards

No mention of accessibility in

- FAIR
- CARE
- Core Trust Seal
- Selecting a Repository for Data Resulting from NIH-Supported Research



# Where We Are - Curation Guides

## No mention of accessibility in

- QDR Curation Manual
- Johnston (ed.), *Curating Research Data*
- ARL SPEC Kit 354: Data Curation
- ICPSR. Guide to Social Science Data Preparation and Archiving
- Majority of Data Curation Primers

## Accessibility is addressed explicitly in

- R Data Curation Primer
- Cornell University's eCommons

## What To Do *Now*

1. Ensure Data Repository is web accessible
2. Ensure accessibility of common data formats (e.g., MS Office, PDF)
3. Provide supplementary accessibility information for audiovisual data

# A Call To Action

- Mainstream accessibility in curation practice and guidance
- Choose accessible vendors and/or tools
- Include disabled people as developers, designers, and testers

# Questions & Contact

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