

Data, Metadata and "Data Quality" for Databases

Fred Klaessig 4 December 2014, nanoWG Discussion

Confidence & Purpose

- Reproducibility instills confidence;
- Protocols and metadata are other tools;
- Legal certainty is not scientific certainty;
- Relevance implies purpose;
- Explanations encompassing protocols, controls and metadata choices are preferred when setting acceptable reproducibility.

Outline of talk:

- 1. Illustrate divide between scientific and legal purposes;
- 2. Examine effect of a nascent MOA on metadata ; and
- 3. Differentiating roles and responsibilities of curator and database user.



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Mixing Hypotheses & Risk Assessment Purposes



Risk Assessment Avoids False Positives for Legal Reasons Hypotheses Balance False Positives & False Negatives

Daphnid Constipation

- **EPA poster**: protocol adjustment (static renewal) and controls lead to whole organism <u>Mode of Action (MOA)</u> useful to risk assessment: <u>gut obstruction</u>;
- MOA focuses on: ingestible particles (<<u>30 μm</u> in *Daphnids*) & <u>suspended solids</u> literature for ecological insight; and
- **Recent articles**: <u>nanoTiO2 ~ clay</u> and possible size distinctions based on cell entry (<500 nm for viruses; FK).
- Pursuing reproducibility with current metadata would not reduce test variability;

Static renewal might lower variability; and

For MOA, needed dosing technique and added controls.

See references for additional commentary

Independent & Dependent Variables



* See Theophel reference for continuous growth discussion

Recommendations

- Database Curator (or Administrator) has a different role and responsibility from the Database User
- These can be expressed in a description of the database, its purpose, sources & operation:
- 1. The selection criteria regarding data sources;
- 2. "Study evaluation" criteria (a.k.a. compliance or Klimisch scores), & their breadth & function, plus articles illustrating these preferences; and
- 3. Database boundaries, such as raw vs. processed data or publication dates covered or confidentiality requirements, etc.



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See Leonelli reference

Thank You

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Citations

Slide	Reference(s)
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