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Working with Commercial Partners

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UNIVERSITY OF
BATH

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Our Close Association with Industry

*The objects of the University shall be to advance learning and knowledge by teaching and research, particularly in science and technology, and **in close association with industry and commerce**¹.*

Charter Of Incorporation, 1962



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¹ <http://www.bath.ac.uk/charter/pdf/CharterStatutesAug09.pdf>

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Our Close Association with Industry

- ❖ Collaborative research projects
- ❖ Co-sponsored research students
- ❖ Industrial/business placement years - 60% of undergraduates
- ❖ Professional and Industrial Doctorates
 - Vocationally orientated doctorate suited to industry needs
 - 1 year taught course
 - 3 years research embedded within companies



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Research360 - Information Gathering

- ❖ Research data survey
 - Analysis based on whether research is sponsored by commercial partners
- ❖ Case Studies
- ❖ Feedback from industry contacts
- ❖ Restricted access to collaboration agreements
- ❖ Collaboration with legal advisors



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Benefits of RDM to commercial collaborations

- Access to students, graduates & academics with relevant data skills
- Cost efficiencies from shared data services & improved data workflow

Benefits to University

- Attract new collaborators via data and data management tools
- Accelerate deepening of existing relationships
- Help reduce the lag between academic and industrial research, via longer term data availability
- Access to “real world” data projects outside university

Benefits to Industry

- Secure access/transfer mechanisms for commercially sensitive data
- More reference data sets available to test new approaches
- Lower level of data management barriers for SMEs by partnering with university with good research data infrastructure



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Developed in collaboration with Neil Beagrie;
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Commercially Sensitive Research Data

- ❖ Commercially valuable
 - Data to be exploited or underpinning patents
- ❖ Data about commercial organisations
 - Provided under confidentiality agreements for research e.g. business/management
- ❖ Release of data to competitors might harm research or business interests
- ❖ Conducted as a service e.g. microscopy



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Case Study – system, not data security

The Research

- Temporal data from systems monitoring by commercial partner
- Modelling and data analysis by Bath researcher
- Periodic updates of dataset provided by commercial partner
- Data itself not commercially sensitive

The Problem

- System security essential to commercial partner
- Few computers linked to the internet & these are isolated from the internal network
- Commercial Partner would not allow access *in* to their systems
- Data sharing via email, but no longer able to handle size of data

The Solution

- SSH set up to enable secure data transfer via SFTP
- Commercial partner able to *push* data onto our systems

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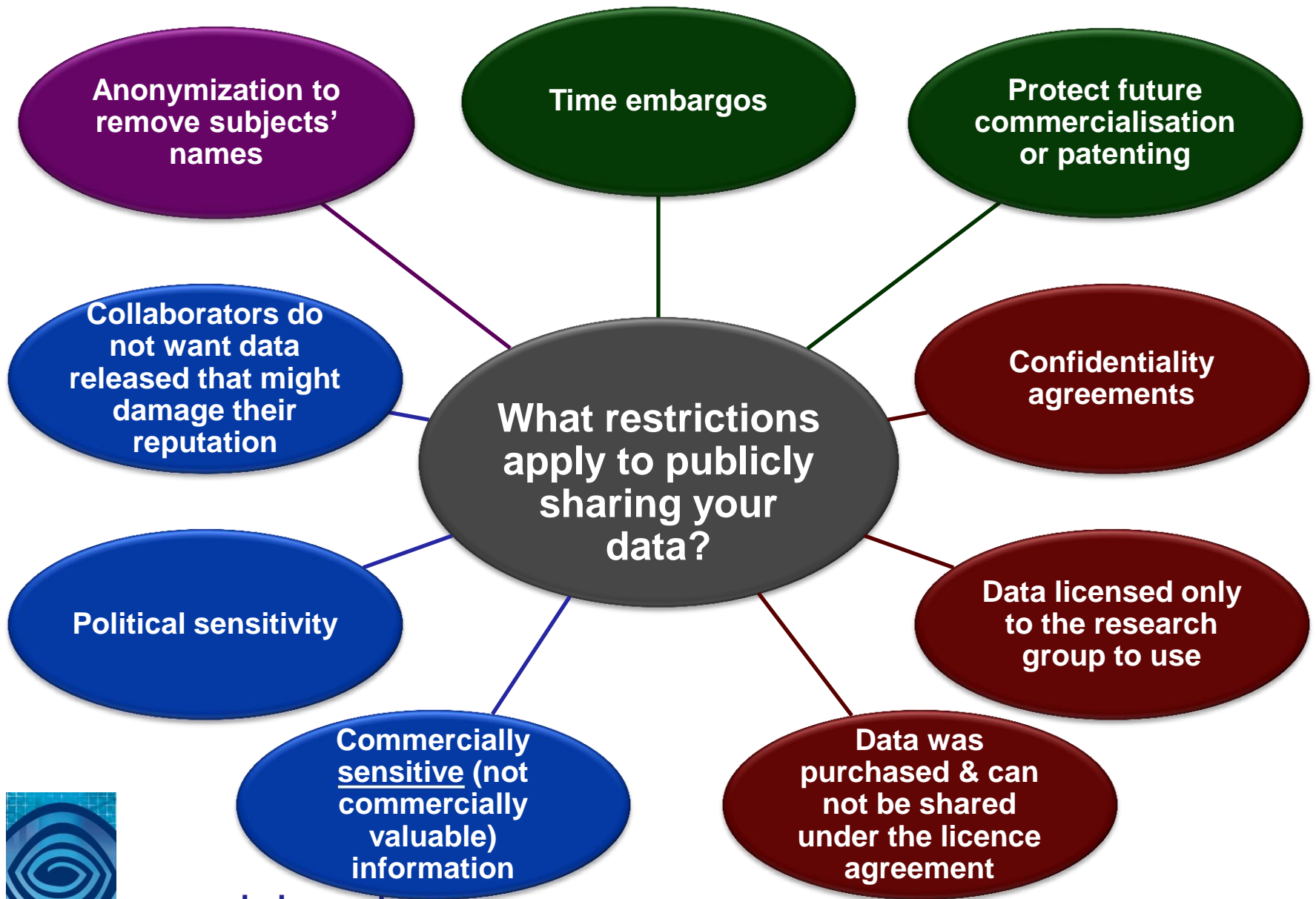
Researchers views of data publication

Q Are you planning to make your primary research data publicly available for download?

	Industry or commercial sponsor	Other sources of funding
Yes, I am required to	2.6%	3.6%
Yes, I'd like to	15.8%	15.4%
No, I don't want to	21.1%	27.4%
No, I'm not allowed to	34.2%	15.2%
I don't know	21.1%	26.0%
Other	5.2%	12.4%

Twice as many industry vs. non-industry funded researchers did not provide data when requested





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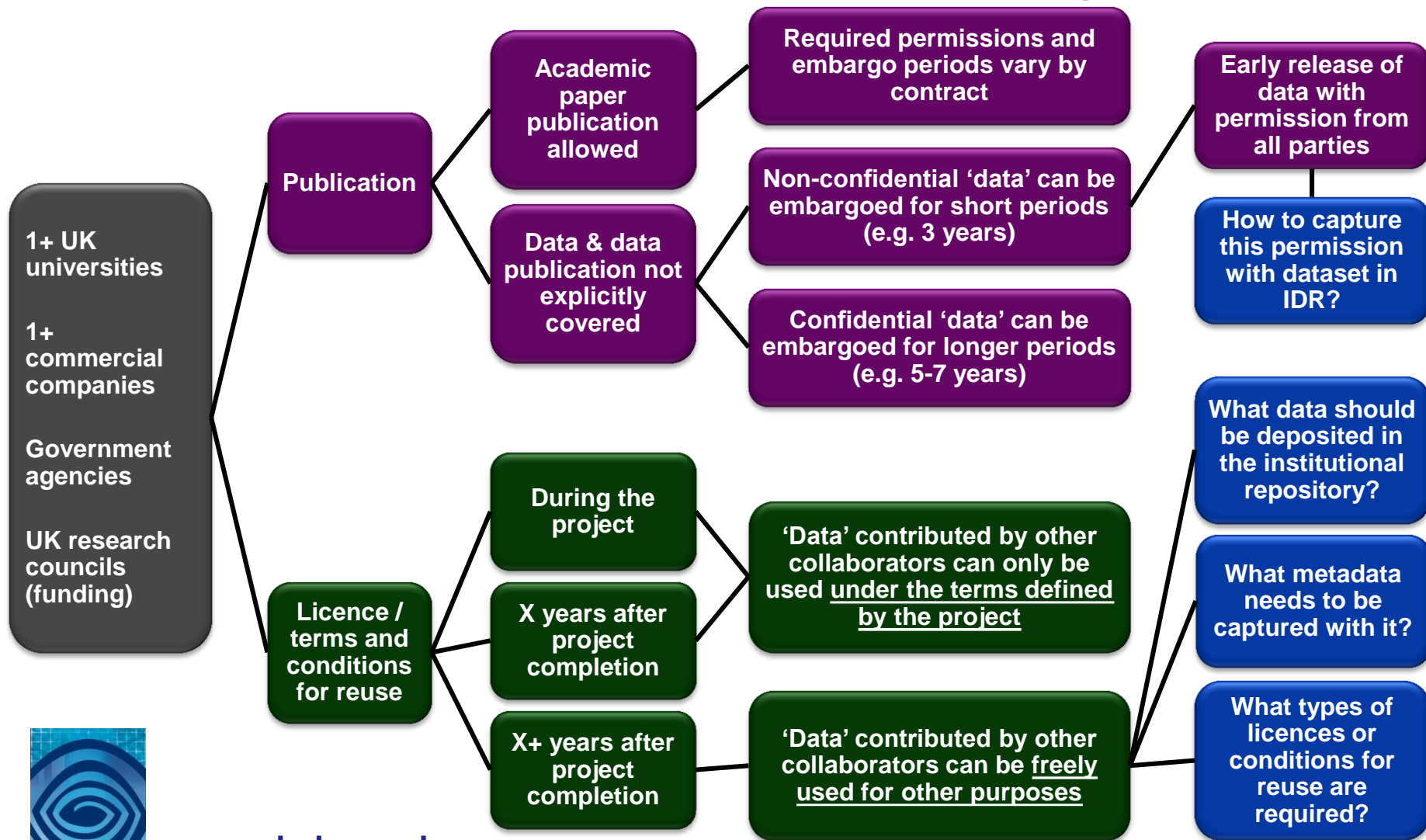
1. Are these perceptions valid?
2. What are the implications for institutional data repositories?



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Research Data in Collaboration Agreements



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Note: This is the author's interpretation of a small sample of collaboration agreements. It does not constitute legal advice or University of Bath policy

University of Bath's RDM Policy

- ❖ **What does an RDM policy need to do?**
 - Comply current collaboration agreements
 - Inform new collaboration agreements
- ❖ **Scope of draft policy based on needs of diverse collaboration agreements**
 - Covers management of data released to us by collaborators
 - Management (covered) separated from ownership (not covered)
- ❖ **Who is expected to comply with the policy?**
 - Can't mandate how data generated by embedded students is managed
 - Can't cover contract research



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What are Institutional Data Repositories for?

❖ **Data supporting publications?**

- Only data generated at the institution?
- How do publications reference data created by research partners?

❖ **All research data from completed projects?**

❖ **Snap-shots of datasets for researchers to refer back to?**

- Resource for our researchers?

❖ **Data obtained from elsewhere?**

- Data shared by collaborators?
- Can't use now, but a resource for the future...
- Legality of archiving data purchased/obtained from third parties?



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Metadata for Commercial Data

Element	Possible options	Implications & unanswered questions
Persistent identifier	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DOI? • Handle? • Other? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DataCite advise not to issue a DOI if the data is not available • Delay DOI minting for embargoed data until data published <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manually mint (who?) • Automatically mint (based on data publication/access date?)
Metadata and/or dataset embargo period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None (default) • Fixed period (manual entry) • Permanent 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent = maximum fixed period (e.g. 50 years) or until dataset destroyed? • How to ensure/validate accuracy? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • By data depositor (deposit agreement) • By repository manager • Collaboration agreement → DMP • Capture from or reference DMP
Metadata and/or dataset publication date	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date of deposit (default) • Date of deposit + embargo period • Date of project end + embargo period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guidance required for data depositors • If automatically generated, additional metadata elements required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date of deposit • Date of project completion • Selection to calculate release date from embargo period



Metadata for Commercial Data

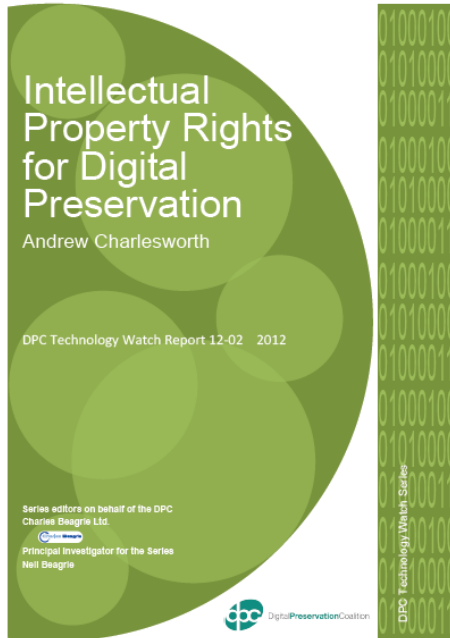
Element	Possible options	Implications & unanswered questions
Reason for embargo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List options Permit free text for other? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval required (repository manager)? Capture from or reference DMP?
Data creator		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential if not a member of the institution Required to determine terms and conditions for reuse
Permissions for access to dataset or metadata	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depositing author (default) Data owner? Data creator? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Depositing researchers should retain access What if they leave the institution? How do external collaborator gain access?
Licence or terms & conditions for reuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutional default? Multiple options may be required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What about bespoke conditions set out in collaboration agreements? Capture from or reference DMP?
Licence dates	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> From 'date of deposit' to 'end of embargo'? From 'end of embargo' onwards? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to switch from one licence to another? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Automatic based on embargo periods? Manual verification (repository manager)?



Outcomes of Licence Confusion

❖ Complicated terms and conditions for re-use for collaborative research with industry may result in:

- Licence selection places more restrictions on data reuse than intended
- Licence selection permits use of data that was not intended (e.g. different purpose, commercialisation)
- Deposit of data for which deposit is not permitted, or where a third party holds IP or copyright
- No data deposit due to insufficient time to understand what the licence(s) allow



<http://dx.doi.org/10.7207/twr12-02>



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Taken from: A. Charlesworth, "Intellectual Property Rights for Digital Preservation", DPC Technology Watch Report 12-02, Digital Preservation Coalition, 2012; ISSN:2048-7916

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Commercial data in Research360 outputs

**How to Develop a
Research Data
Management Policy**



University of Bath
Research360 Project



“How to develop a RDM
Policy” Guidelines

AWARENESS LEVEL

A Digital Curation Centre Briefing Paper
1st September 2011



**Making the Case for
Research Data Management**
Angus Whyte (DCC) and Jonathan Tedds (University of Leicester)

- Introduction
- Drivers
- Building the Services
- Identifying Benefits and Challenges
- Creating the Environment
- Looking to the Future
- Conclusions
- Sources for Further Reading

Tools, services and standards are emerging to help researchers manage their research assets, and to make more widely available the evidence including raw and processed data that underpins their research articles. Effective management is providing institutions with new ways to find synergies across research groups, producing new knowledge by engaging a broader range of stakeholders, and enabling wider reuse of data in teaching and learning, commercial exploitation and policy development.

Measuring the Benefits

Int
Do

DCC Briefing Paper on
managing academic-
industry research data

A Digital Curation Centre and Australian
National Data Service 'working level' guide



**How to Appraise
& Select Research Data
for Curation**
Angus Whyte (DCC) and Andrew Wilson (ANDS)

DCC How To Guide on
managing academic-
industry research data



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Watch this space...

- ❖ Research360 blog

blogs.bath.ac.uk/research360/

- ❖ New Research Data Website

www.bath.ac.uk/research/data



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