



Opening up the science:



# Methodological transparency and reproducibility in second language acquisition research

Emma Marsden

University of York, UK

BRITISH  
ACADEMY



THE UNIVERSITY of

# Towards Methodological Transparency & Reproducibility in SLA research

1. Open science & the IRIS digital repository of materials
2. Relationship between transparency and quality
3. Replication & the importance of transparency
4. Challenges and Recommendations

# The sticks and carrots of open science



Publicly funded research **should** be made freely available

## *OPEN PUBLICATION*

> cited more



Wagner, A. B. (2010).

## *OPEN DATA*

- Corpora of oral production data, L1 and L2: FLLOC, SPLLOC, CHILDES
- Trønso
- CLARIN

> increased citations



Piwowar & Vision (2013)

> stronger evidence and better statistical reporting



Wicherts, J., Bakker, M., Molenaar, D. (2011).

# OPEN METHODS

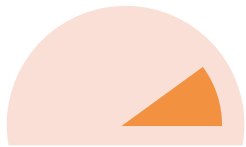
Making materials available

Materials = Data collection tools,  
instruments, stimuli, scoring and coding  
procedures, analysis protocols

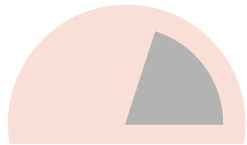
# Part 1: Open science: METHODS

Materials design for L2 data collection: a lonely, mysterious business

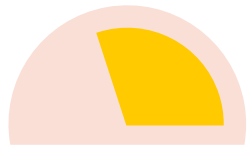
- Some problems:



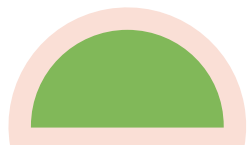
Researchers create and keep own instruments  
-> re-invention of wheel, poor systematicity of research



Maintenance and access to instruments is *ad hoc*



Publications just have brief descriptions with short samples



What a contrast with full instrument!

# How much of the methods do we see in journals?

(17) Experimental: \*[-past] *shì ... de* (4 tokens)

\*Xiǎo Wáng shì míngtiān chī-wán nà gè dàngāo de, bú shì jīntiān.

Xiao Wang COP tomorrow eat-up that CL cake DE not COP today

Intended: It is tomorrow that Xiao Wang (is going to) eat up that cake, not today.

(18) Control A: [+past] *shì ... de* (4 tokens)

Xiǎo Wáng shì zuótiān chī-wán nà gè dàngāo de, bú shì jīntiān.

Xiao Wang COP yesterday eat-up that CL cake DE not COP today

It was yesterday that Xiao Wang ate up that cake, not today.

(19) Control B: [-past] canonical (4 tokens)

Xiǎo Wáng dǎsuàn míngtiān chī-wán nà gè dàngāo.

Xiao Wang intend tomorrow eat-up that CL cake

Xiao Wang intends to eat up that cake tomorrow.

Mai, Z., & Yuan, B. (2016). Uneven reassembly of tense, telicity and definiteness features in L2 acquisition of the Chinese *shì ... de* cleft construction by English speakers. *Second Language Research*, 32(2), 247-276.



## What is IRIS?

### *Instruments for Research Into Second Languages*

A sustainable digital repository

2200+ materials used to collect data:

- e.g. questionnaires, grammaticality judgment tests, observation & interview schedules, word lists, sound & video files, language tests, pictures, teaching materials, software scripts,

- **And ANALYSIS PROTOCOLS and DATA**

Downloadable

Uploadable

Searchable

# Scope of content

as wide as the field of L2 research...







IRIS

A digital repository of data collection instruments for research into second language learning and teaching

THE UNIVERSITY of York  
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Part 1: IRIS: Transparency of MET  
Marsden, Mackey & P

# Rationale behind IRIS



Materials can be adapted to suit different contexts, learners, languages



Promotes transparency



Easier to evaluate quality and reliability



Quality assurance: only peer-reviewed publications



Stimulates & facilitates replication



IRIS

A digital repository of data collection instruments for research into second language learning and teaching

THE UNIVERSITY of York  
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

Part 1: IRIS: Transparency of MET  
Marsden, Plonsky, M

- 2400 files -> **over 1100 data collection instruments**
  - new materials contributed almost daily
- From 1300 researchers
- Searchable across 330+ parameters,
  - ✓ research area
  - ✓ type of instrument
  - ✓ language feature
  - ✓ L1, L2
  - ✓ participant characteristics: age, proficiency
  - ✓ author
- Materials qualify for IRIS if used for:  
**peer-reviewed publications**  
**or PhDs**

- Submission to IRIS supported by 37 journals
  - In acceptance letters from editors to authors, and in author guidelines
- Upload to IRIS in publication guidelines of the *American Association of Applied Linguistics*
- Formally endorsed by *British Association of Applied Linguistics*
- Only venue in AL that qualifies articles for [Center for Open Science](#) badge
- 16,500+ downloads of research materials
- Cited in handbooks, methods books, position pieces & syntheses
- Used in many research methods training courses

# Materials used for 'year abroad' research?

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the IRIS Digital Repository search results for the query 'year abroad'. The browser's address bar shows the URL [www.iris-database.org/iris/app/home/search?query=year+abroad](http://www.iris-database.org/iris/app/home/search?query=year+abroad). The IRIS logo and tagline, 'A digital repository of instruments and materials for research into second languages', are visible at the top. The navigation menu includes 'Home', 'Submit materials', 'Search and Download', 'Statistics', and 'Login to IRIS'. The 'Search and Download' section features a search bar with the query 'year abroad' and a 'Search' button. Below the search bar, there are radio buttons for filtering results: 'All' (selected), 'Records with materials', and 'Records with information only\*'. A note explains that records with information only may not contain the actual materials. The left sidebar offers filters for 'Type of Instrument', 'Author of Publication', and 'General Research Area'. The main content area displays the first result, a document icon, and its details: Title: [Study Abroad Instructions Diary Writing and Language Learning (SAIDLLe)], Publication: Pérez-Vidal & Juan-Garau (2009), Research area: Study abroad; Writing; Learner attitudes; Learning style; Linguistic identity; Motivation; Acquisition, and Type of instrument: Primary label: Instructional / Intervention / Teaching / Training materials; Secondary label(s): Questionnaire > Learning strategy questionnaire; Questionnaire > Attitude questionnaire. A 'View more details' link is provided at the bottom of the result. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the system clock at 9:14 PM on 3/30/2017.

Holbrook\_2005 US impa x Search- IRIS Digital Repo x

www.iris-database.org/iris/app/home/search?query=year+abroad

Apps Subject - E-resources Compose Mail - emm Home Page- IRIS Digi Google Imported From IE YorSearch - University University of York: A V Finance - Staff home

Home Submit materials Search and Download Statistics Login to IRIS

Search and Download Search Help

year abroad Search

Filter your results

Please scroll down for more filters.

- Type of Instrument

- Grammar test / Morphosyntax test[1]
- Productive [1]
- Instructional / Intervention / Teaching / Training materials[3]

View more

- Author of Publication

- Heaton, J. B.[1]
- Juan-Garau, Maria[6]

View more

- General Research Area

- Acquisition[6]
- Complexity[1]

View more

All  Records with materials  Records with information only\*

\*These search results may contain some records which hold information about data collection materials (IRIS does not yet hold the materials themselves). You can request these materials by clicking on the relevant record below and then clicking 'Request materials'.

Please use the filters on the left to find only those records which hold the materials.

Results 1 - 7 of 7  
« Previous Next »

Results per page 10 Sort by Relevance

 **Title:** [Study Abroad Instructions Diary Writing and Language Learning (SAIDLLe)]  
**Publication:** Pérez-Vidal & Juan-Garau (2009)  
**Research area:** Study abroad; Writing; Learner attitudes; Learning style; Linguistic identity; Motivation; Acquisition.  
**Type of instrument**  
Primary label: Instructional / Intervention / Teaching / Training materials  
Secondary label(s): Questionnaire > Learning strategy questionnaire; Questionnaire > Attitude questionnaire

View more details

Ask me anything 9:14 PM 3/30/2017

Part 2: Open methods to improve rigour and replicability...

The “methodological turn” in applied linguistics

“methodological issues ...demand a kind of professional scrutiny that goes directly to the core of what we do and what we know...”

Byrnes, 2013, p. 825

“Methodological practices and study quality need to be measured, not assumed”

Plonsky, 2013

# Benefits of transparent instrument design

## Part 2a: Grammaticality judgment tests

Indicate how acceptable the following sentences are

*completely*

*unacceptable*

1

2

3

*completely*

*acceptable*

4

1) I don't know what is he eating for dinner tonight.

2) I don't know what he is eating for dinner tonight.

frequent use of judgment tests because *assumed* to be...

Easy to...

- develop
- administer
- score

Common conventions

→ greater comparability across studies



# JTs are controversial

Tests of *explicit* or *implicit* knowledge?

(e.g., Ellis, 2005; Gutierrez, 2013; Vafae et al., 2016)

**Theoretical perspectives on linguistic knowledge-> methodological decisions**

- Do instructions say ‘how *acceptable...*’ or ‘how *correct...*’ ?
- Scaled vs. dichotomous response
- Oral vs. written
- ...



# Methodological synthesis of JTs

How do we design, administer and report on JTs?

$K = 299$  studies

382 JTs

Total sample size in our synthesis = 24,679 !

# Transparency?

% of JTs available

88% =

306 instruments unavailable  
open scrutiny.

\*\*\*\*\*

252 not available for replication, even if you  
have a journal subscription

0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100

**A 'Special  
Collection of JTs'  
on IRIS is  
improving this!**

## Consequences

Imagine the 'n' if  
JTs available across  
the globe?

Think of the L1 – L2  
combinations!

Existing JTs used to  
investigate change over  
time,  
e.g. after teaching or  
year abroad

- Median *N* whole study
  - L2 learners = 47
  - NS controls = 20
  - Overall study = 60
    - Field median = 60 (Plonsky, 2013)
- L1s
  - 45% = English
  - 15% = Chinese
  - 9% = Japanese
  - 8% = French
- TLs
  - English = 59%
  - Spanish = 17%
  - French = 10%
- 77% one-shot design -> non-developmental,  
not within-subject over time

Transparent design -> clearer operationalisation of knowledge  
type

-> the reader has to *infer* what kind of knowledge  
the researchers elicited ...  
*without* full reporting of design features,  
*without seeing* the instrument!

0 20 40 60 80 100

## Consequences of lack of full transparency: **Construct validity**

*Time pressure matters.*

52% we don't know whether timed or not

*Modality matters.*

18% we don't know whether written or aural

*Breadth of construct - types and tokens of linguistic feature tested?*

51% we don't know if there was only one 'version'

If one version, narrows breadth of construct being elicited

## Consequence of Instrument Transparency: **Reliability**

Reliability coefficients can be given alongside instruments on IRIS.

New coefficients posted every time that JT used

coefficient

in SLA (Plonsky, 2013)

0.80 (=field average, Plonsky & Derrick, 2016)

the instrument

ungrammatical

Part 2b: Instrument transparency: SPRs. *Marsden, Thompson, Plonsky (subm*

## Part 2b: Instrument transparency: Self-paced reading

### **Similar aim to JTs**

Eliciting sensitivity to grammatical structure and norms

But, SPRs identify precise point of difficulty  
*during* parsing,  
without an explicit judgment

# Self-paced reading: an example

Try to understand this sentence.

Click for each word to appear.

You will be asked a question at the end!

I



# Self-paced reading: an example

**don't**

# Self-paced reading: an example

**know**

# Self-paced reading: an example

**what**

# Self-paced reading: an example

**is**



# Self-paced reading: an example

**she**



# Self-paced reading: an example

**having**

# Self-paced reading: an example

**for**

# Self-paced reading: an example

**dinner**



# Self-paced reading: an example

**tonight**

Which picture best matches

The word 'dinner' -  
after the critical region

A



B



# Transparency of instrument design: SPR

**Methodological synthesis**

**63 studies**

**reporting a total of 71 SPR tests**

# Transparency and reproducibility of SPR tests in SLA research

Availability	No. of studies
Full stimulus on IRIS	3
Another	
Excluded	4
Full	16
Just	28
Not	16

**96% of full materials not yet available on permanent, open repository**

**A 'Special Collection of SPRs' on IRIS is improving this!**

Part 2b: Instrument transparency: SPRs. Marsden, Thompson, Plonsky (submitted)

Consequences of poor availability: **Agenda limiting - L2s?**

Language	No. studies: L1	No. studies: target language
English	19	43
Chinese	9	2
Spanish	5	11
Greek	4	1
German	3	6
Korean	3	1
Dutch	3	2
Japanese	3	0
French	1	2
Russian	1	0
Arabic	1	0
Multiple languages	18	

Part 2b: Instrument transparency: SPRs. Marsden, Thompson, Plonsky (submitted)

Consequence of poor availability:

Agenda limiting: Cross-linguistic influence?

We know the L1 matters for online processing

52 / 71 with learners with one L1

14 compared across different L1s

Consequence of poor availability:

## Agenda limiting. Who are the participants?

Beginner	Interm	Advanced	Near Native	Bilingual
7	18	50	3	8

56 / 71 = university students

- Higher meta-linguistic knowledge could affect reading times

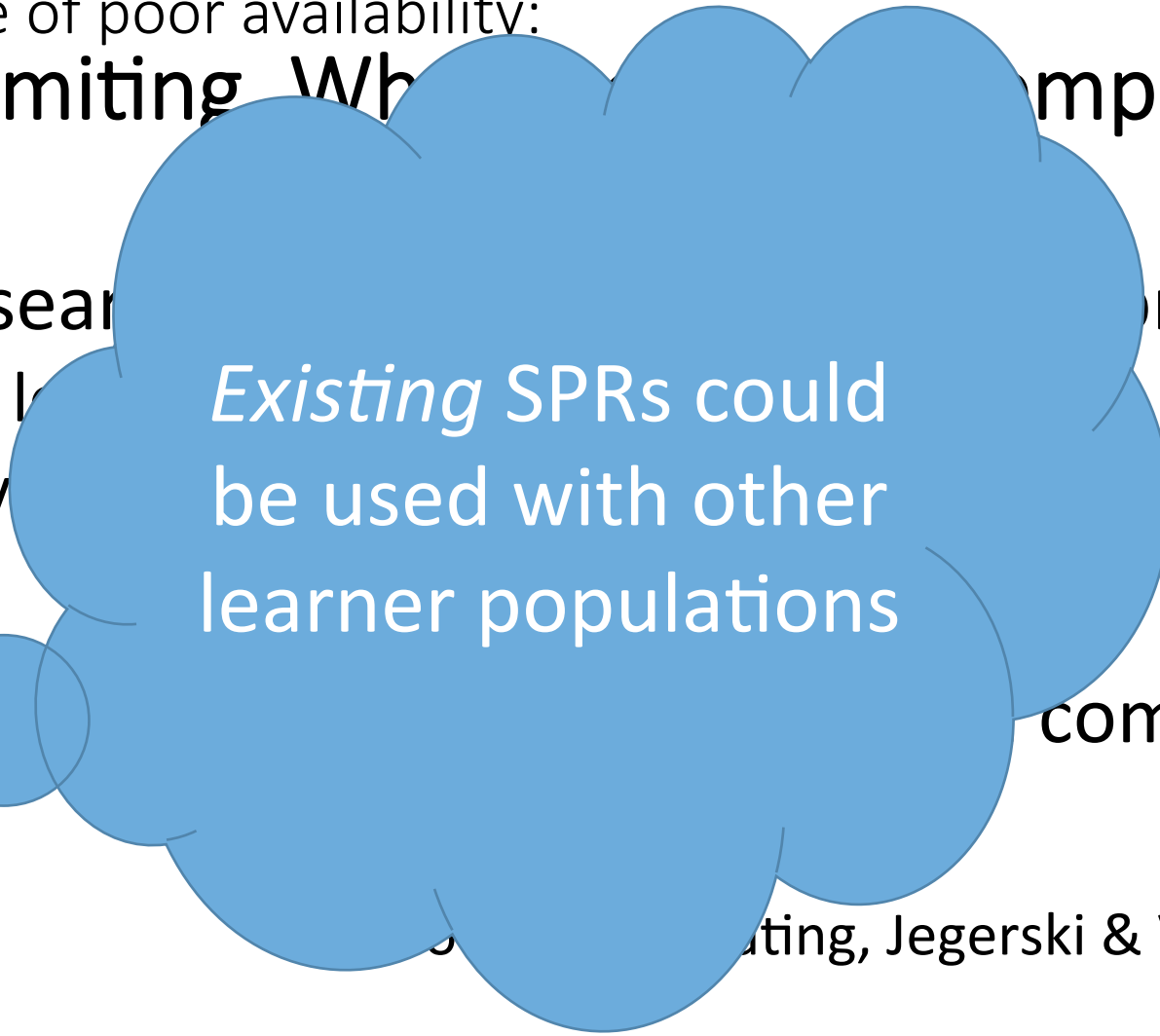
(Keating & Jergerski, 2015)

Consequence of poor availability:

# Agenda limiting. Why? Comprehension only?

To date, research on SPRs and comprehension is *high*

- advanced learner
- only analyzing



*Existing SPRs could be used with other learner populations*

*But learner comprehension is poor*



Part 2b: Instrument transparency: SPRs. Marsden, Thompson, Plonsky (submitted)

Consequence of poor availability:

**Agenda limiting. Investigating over time?**

Growing interest

(Altmann  
et al.)

Existing SPRs could be used in  
longitudinal designs

& Garod, Chae  
*Approaches  
to Second Language  
Acquisition, 5,*

YET, SOME

e.g. before, during, after year  
abroad

7

24%

able

One a with

Though see: McManus, K., & Marsden, E. (2016). L1 explicit instruction can improve L2 online and offline performance. *Studies in Second Language Acquisition*, 1-

Part 2b: Instrument transparency: SPRs. Marsden, Thompson, Plonsky (submitted)

Consequences of lack of transparency:

## Construct validity - Comprehension of *what*?

Central tenant of SPR: processing *during reading comprehension*

Comprehension question u

Question should not

56 / 71 used CQs

BUT what do these CQs fo

17 – no example

34 - *one* example

One example of a CQ does not tell u  
where attention is repeatedly  
focussed during reading

Only 5 studies provided multiple examples of comprehension questions

Part 2b: Instrument transparency: SPRs. Marsden, Thompson, Plonsky (submitted)

Consequences of lack of full transparency: Construct validity

## Stimuli design ( $k$ items, word frequency, length)

Length matters: affects

(Marsden, 2011).

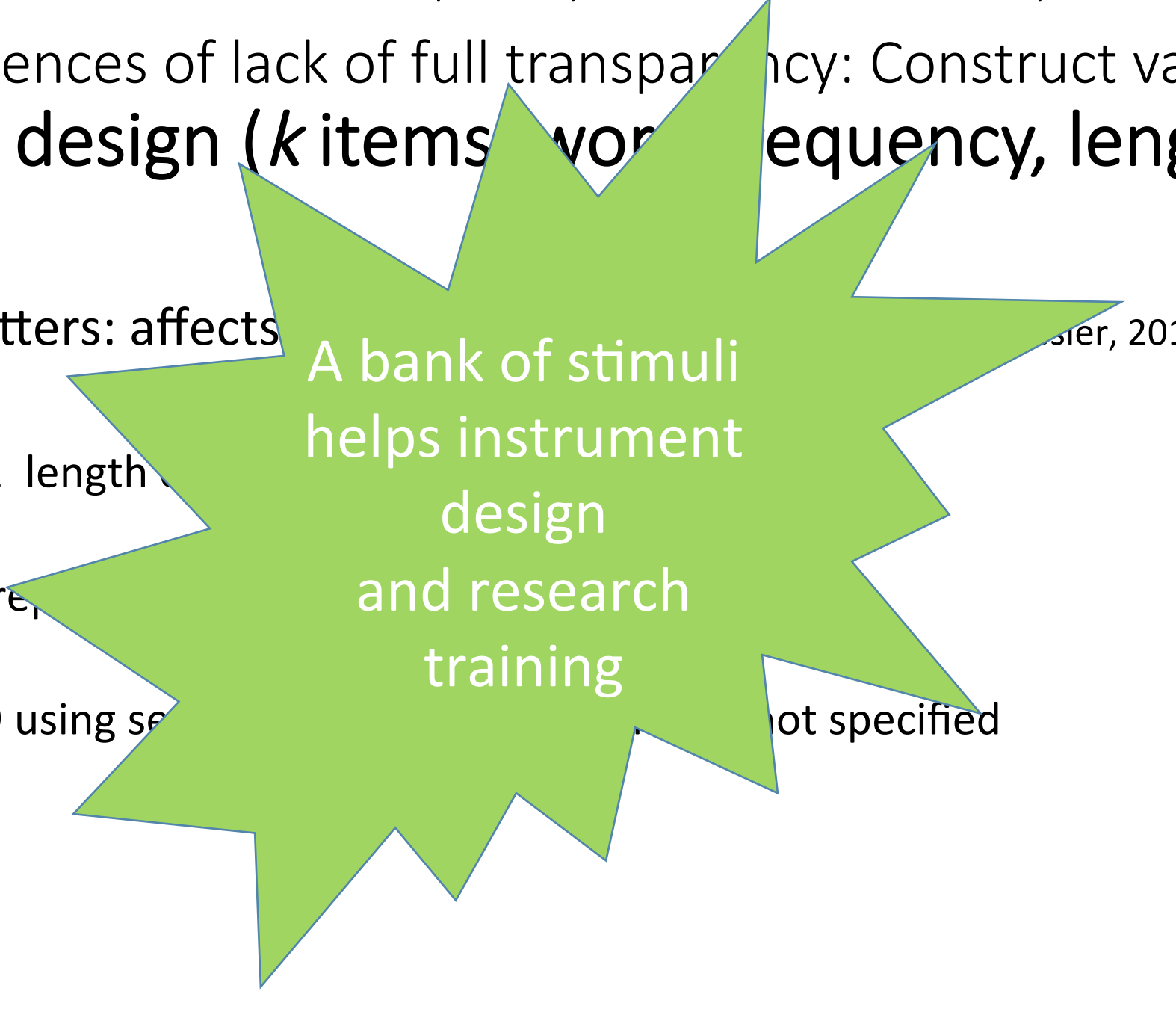
Yet...

- 25 / 71 length

- 5 / 71 rep

- 19 / 29 using se

not specified



A bank of stimuli  
helps instrument  
design  
and research  
training

Part 2b: Instrument transparency: *SPRs*. Marsden, Thompson, Plonsky (submitted)

Consequence of lack of transparency:

## Data cleaning and analysis protocols

### Outlier removal?

- 12 did
- 44
- 15

**Out** Having analysis protocols available would make analyses more systematic and reproducible

- 14
- 5 u
- Wi

er).

### Analyse all data or just correct responses?

- 7/56 studies analysed all
- 28/56 analysed only correct responses
- 21/56 didn't report

## Summary of Part 2:

Greater transparency and

Agenda setting and research aims

Scope and power of studies (differ

Operationalise our constructs (des

Comparability across studies (data c

‘Better reporting’ unlikely  
to fully address all these  
problems  
(across all journals & techniques...)

The actual materials  
necessary

**More transparency and systematicity of methods ->  
Benefits for all types of validity & reliability**

# Part 3: Replication research in SLA

“Conducting a research study again, in a way that is either identical to the original procedure or with small changes (e.g., different participants), to test the original findings” (Mackey & Gass, 2005: 364).

“essential ... support for theory” (Porte, 2012)

Strong replication movement in Psychology

- “Many Labs” & Reproducibility projects
- *Pre-registration* of materials & analyses

# Commentaries and calls for replication

**46** published commentaries & calls for replication in L2 research

Santos 1989...Polio & Gass 1997... Porte 2012...Vandergirft & Cross 2017

**23 +** from other disciplines: Psychology, Education, Sociology, Business, Marketing, Organisation Science

Replications... lacking prestige, originality, or excitement

(Makel et al 2012, citing Lyndsay & Ehrenberg, 1993; Neuliep et al 2004)

Other syntheses of replications:

for Psychology: Makel, Plucker & Hegarty (2012)

for Education research: Makel & Plucker (2014)



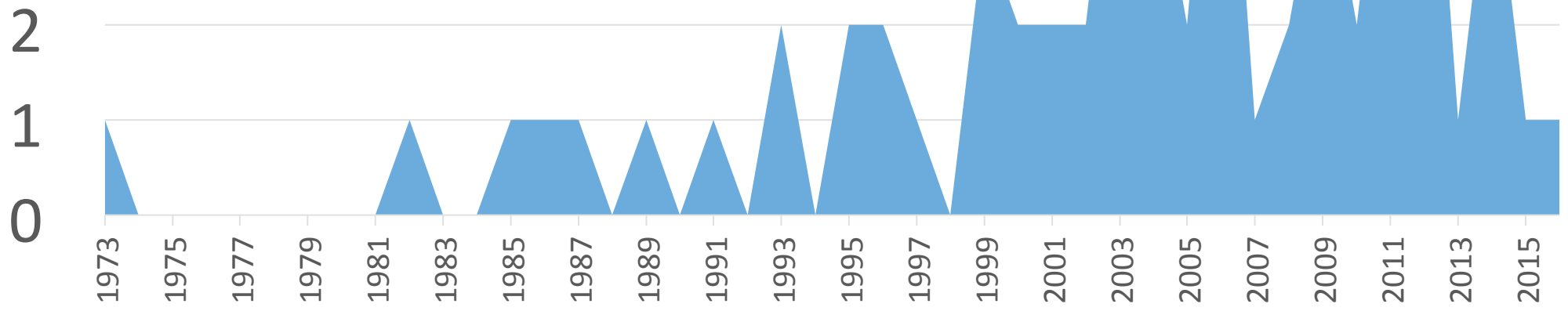
0 initial studies

# How long does it take for a study to be replicated?

- mean 6.64 years (sd 6.16)
- range 0-37 years

Norris & Ortega 2000?

Mean of 1.5 replications per year





Proportion of replication in journals that published more than 100 articles

	<i>SSLA</i>	<i>The MLJ</i>	<i>FLA</i>	<i>LL</i>	<i>AP</i>	Mean rate	
TOTAL articles	562	1009	1528	855	1030		
100+ replications	13	8	5	5	4		
% of total	2.31%	0.79%	0.33%	0.58%	0.39%	0.88%	<b>0.70%</b>

across the 26 journals that have published replications = **0.26%**

*1973 – 2015, last complete year before synthesis*

Compared to other disciplines?

**.07%** Psychology, but NB: pre-replication-boom & **top 100** journals

**1% - 3%** Business, Marketing, Communication

**.13%** Education (**top 100**, 1938-2014)

# What do we replicate? Study design and findings

## Participants? The WEIRDest

Western Educated Industrialized Rich Democratic (Mishra et al. 2012) ...  
speaking (1/4) or learning (1/2) English

'ages' and 'proficiency' **not reported** (67%, 37% studies) (Thomas 1994) -> replicability?!

## of replications whose initial findings were...

Null	Null but trend	Stat sig differences	other
3	3	83	7

need to replicate null findings too

When power (n) is low, "null findings"  $\neq$  "no effect"

Schmidt, F.. & Oh, I.-S. (2016) The Crisis of Confidence in Research Findings in Psychology: Is Lack of Replication the Problem? Or Is It Something Else? *Archives of Scientific Psychology* 4, 3

# How much do we change when we replicate?

% studies with changes between I and R...

Number of changes	changes = reasons for replication % studies		
0	33		
1	28		
2	21		
3	9		
4	7		
5	1		
Mean per study (st dev.)	1.34 (1.31)		

# How much do we change when we replicate?

% studies with changes between I and R...

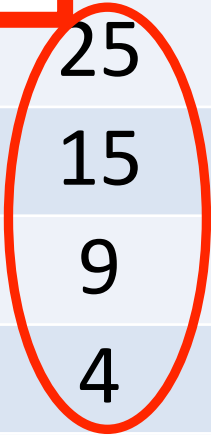
Number of changes	changes = reasons for replication	changes acknowledged, but not reason for replication <i>% studies</i>	
0	33	45	
1	28	31	
2	21	13	
3	9	9	
4	7	1	
5	1	0	
Mean per study (st dev.)	1.34 (1.31)	0.91 (1.04)	

# How much do we change when we replicate?

% studies with changes between I and R...

	s = reasons for replication	s acknowledged, but not reason for replication	changes not acknowledged by authors
Number of changes			<i>studies</i>
0			46
1	28	31	25
2	21	13	15
3	9	9	9
4	7	1	4
5	1	0	0
Mean per study (sd)	1.34 (1.31)	0.91 (1.04)	1 (1.18)

**no relationship to what the replication calls itself (e.g., 'partial replication,' just 'replication', extension, conceptual)**



# Do “authorship overlaps” relate to whether findings are supportive of initial study?

% “supportive of Initial”, as function of authorship independence

	Findings in relation to initial study (% of replication studies)	
Author overlap? (% total R studies)	% not or partially not supportive	% partially or very supportive

How do relations between studies  
relate to the nature of the studies?

**psychology:**

2% supportive if  
5% supportive if

**education:**

9% supportive with overlap, in same publication  
1% with overlap, in new publication  
4% when no author overlap

Questionable Research  
Practices (bias, p-hacking)

Or

Materials availability and  
fidelity to initial study

??

How do studies use the *findings* and the *data* of the Initial study?

Only 6% of Replications provided Initial study's effect size.

Only 6% of Replications used Initial's raw data in a new analysis

Data Sharing!

Open data is associated with strength of evidence  
and quality of reporting

Wicherts JM, Bakker M, Molenaar D (2011) Willingness to Share Research Data Is Related to the Strength of the Evidence and the Quality of Reporting of Statistical Results. PLoS ONE 6(11): e26822



# How do Replicators compare their findings to Initial Study?

## % of Replication Studies that compared their findings to Initial Study using...

<b>% narrative Comparisons</b>	<b>% mentioned original findings</b>	<b>% dichotomous decision from Null Hypothesis Significance Test</b>	<b>% descriptive statistics</b>	<b>% unclear</b>	<b>% effect sizes</b>
93	90	84	34	6	1

How do Replicators compare their findings to Initial Study?

Learning from the Reproducibility Project in Psychology:  
Mass coverage:

“in only 36% of the studies were the original results replicated” [because  $p > 0.05$ ]

BUT... 77% of replication effect sizes were within a 95% prediction interval of original effect size

(Patil et al. 2016)

Transparency: How do replicators get hold of materials?

**Only 4% of Initial studies had materials in IRIS or some other open access**

Availability in Initial Study	How	%

# 1) Replication: cultural changes in academia

Replication *not* an easy route; it's an *essential* route

Facilitate student apprenticeship model

“a lot is hidden behind the final [published article].”

Roxana, a replicator, SLA grad student/ trainee teacher from Vasquez & Harvey 2010 p.436



***"Ralph is doing a preliminary study of re-inventing the wheel."***

# Effects of publication bias on replication effort

only 4/67 tried to replicate a study that had null findings

hear that replication won't 'replicate findings of original'

how to make 'null findings' more publishable?

transparent replication e.g. via **pre-registration** should help

methods fully **reviewed** and **approved** ->

**Principle Acceptance IPA**

**FN data collected**

**reviewers cannot 'argue out' on basis of methodological flaw**

*pectives in Psychological Science, Cortex, Journal of Child Language*



# Part 3: Example of a multi-site replication

Morgan-Short, Marsden, Heil, et al. (manuscript)

<https://osf.io/>

The screenshot shows a web browser displaying an Open Science Framework (OSF) project page. The browser's address bar shows the URL: [https://osf.io/Effects-of-attention-to-form-on-second-language-comprehension: A multi-site replication study](https://osf.io/Effects-of-attention-to-form-on-second-language-comprehension-A-multi-site-replication-study/). The OSF navigation bar includes options like 'Dashboard', 'My Projects', 'Browse', and 'Kara Morgan-Short'. The project title is 'Effects of attention to form on second language comprehension: A multi-site replication study'. Below the title, it lists contributors: Kara Morgan-Short, Jeanne Heil, Alaidde Berenice Villanueva Aguilera, Emma Marsden, Zerbrina Valdespino-Hayden, and Charlotte Oliver. The page also shows the date created (2014-05-14 10:48 AM) and last updated (2016-09-12 10:39 AM). The description states the project's aims: (1) To investigate the feasibility of carrying out multi-site replication studies, and (2) To deepen understanding about the extent to which learners' attending to language form interferes with comprehension. The description also mentions that the project will provide a clear protocol and materials for 5 replication studies. The page includes sections for 'Wiki' (with a meeting log from 12/9/2016) and 'Citation' (osf.io/ed9ws). The Windows taskbar is visible at the bottom.

# The study: Is comprehension affected by attending to grammatical or lexical forms?

**EITHER** read a written text (and spot forms):

El pueblo azteca, como pueblo primitivo, podía encontrar un  
problemas presentados por las fuerzas de la (La1) naturaleza.  
importancia a su religión. En ella su Dios principal y todopoderoso  
sol) (Sol1) . Se lo admiró mucho. Tonatiuh tenía las bondades y los  
humanos, pero con un gran poder sobrenatural. Según la (La2) religión  
sol (Sol2) Tonatiuh necesitaba que lo alimentaran (- n1) con una sustancia...

Available on IRIS  
[www.iris-database.org](http://www.iris-database.org)

**OR** hear the same in the oral modality (and spot forms)



**THEN** comprehension measured by 10 multiple choice questions

# Participants: Sites by Modality

704 participants across 7 research sites

- 4 sites ran **listening version**
  - University of Illinois at Chicago\*
  - University of Oregon
  - Southampton University
  - Kazimierz Wielki University & Adam Mickiewicz University
- 3 sites ran **reading version**
  - University of York\*
  - Georgetown University
  - University of South Carolina



## Demonstration of the need for replication:

- Clearly replicated findings in 4 sites
- Not clear in 2 sites
- Not replicated in 1 site

# Challenges for multi-site replication

1. Seeking collaborators
2. Parity in proficiency at different sites (Thomas, 1994)
3. Compatibility of software (E Prime / superlab scripts)
4. Responsibilities for data entry & analysis

we provided detailed protocols

# Benefits of multi-site replication!

1. N=704

2. Protocols ready to be used again

Four further replications ongoing:

1 in China, 1 Native speakers, 1 Heritage learners, 1 after year abroad

3. Having different sites tempered our claims:

One individual study could have *concluded* on basis of site with differences

Similar findings across **6** sites suggest something special in one 'odd' site

= More reliable reason for generating new hypothesis

**CONCLUSIONS:**  
Challenges for open methods  
and  
Recommendations

# Some challenges for open materials

***Concern 1: Open materials will encourage bad use of materials***

still need critical thinking about...

*purpose of materials*

*use or adaptation of materials*

*analysis and interpretation*



“I thought I was on to something  
but I can’t figure out how  
to move it.”

Osborne, R. (2013). Why open access makes no sense.

In N. Vincent & C. Wickham (Eds.) *Debating Open Access*. (pp 96-105). London: The British Academy.

## Concern 2: Reluctance to share

“Others might misuse my materials”

but notes about use on IRIS

We gatekeep to reduce bad science: peer review

“My next study might be ‘scooped’”

the existing study should be open to full scrutiny

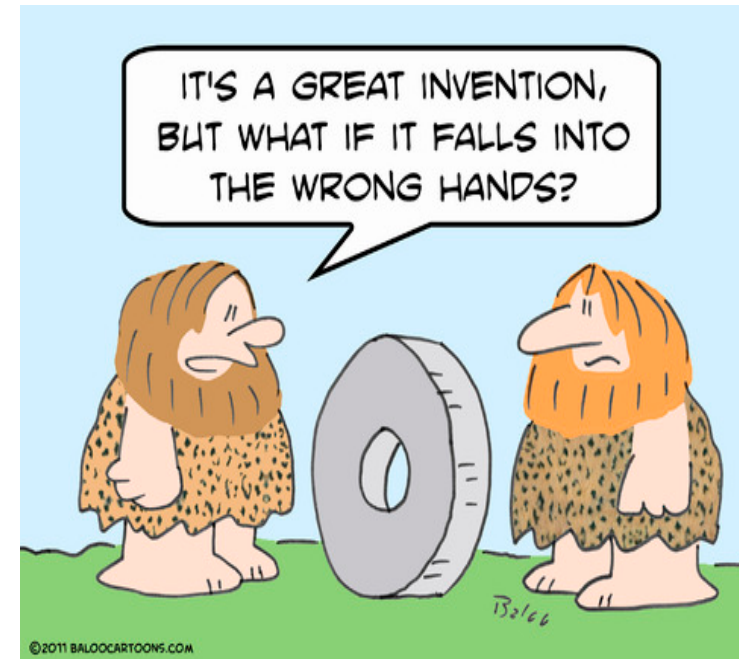
our plan won't be same as others'

“I might be proved wrong”

Good!

but... unlikely to be so clear-cut

>citations!



**“I don't have time”**

- 15 minutes of your time vs 3 years of PhD student'
- Sharing *magnifies* impact of time & public money

**“I can't find my materials or data”**

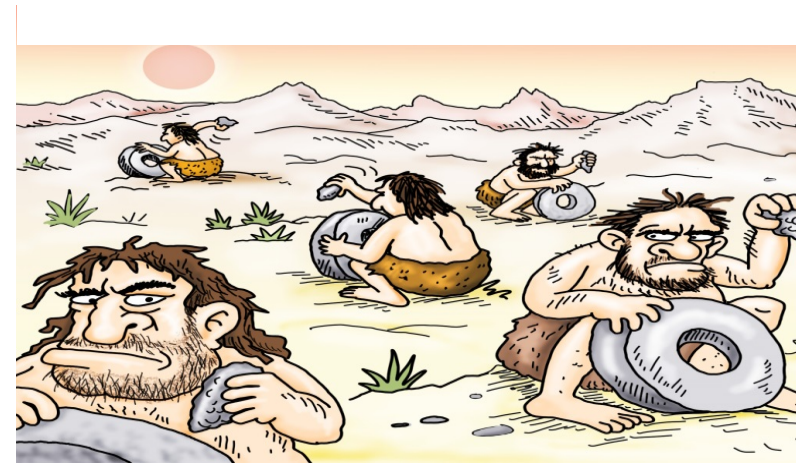
- All the more reason for IRIS to exist!

# Concluding remark (1)

## researchers:

- Ethics: sharing with *all*
- Etic: one study individualism *vs synthetic, across contexts and over time*  
(Plonsky 2012, Norris & Ortega 2000)
- a *collective methodological* memory

Rather than:  
I'll share with *you (theoretical ally)*,  
but I won't share with *them*



# Concluding remark (2)

**you, future reviewers and editors of journals and books:**

Without seeing FULL materials, can *reviewers properly* evaluate?

Without open access to materials and data, can *researchers have properly*:

- built on previous methods *systematically*?
- compared their data to previous data?
- reduced potential bias? (given that independence helps)



Ask your journal editors...

***incentivise and recognise open science***



## **Open Science Badges** (from the Center for Open Science)

*Language Learning* adopted the scheme in 2015.

*Studies in Second Language Acquisition*, available from now

*Applied Linguistics*, board approved

*The Modern Language Journal*, board approved

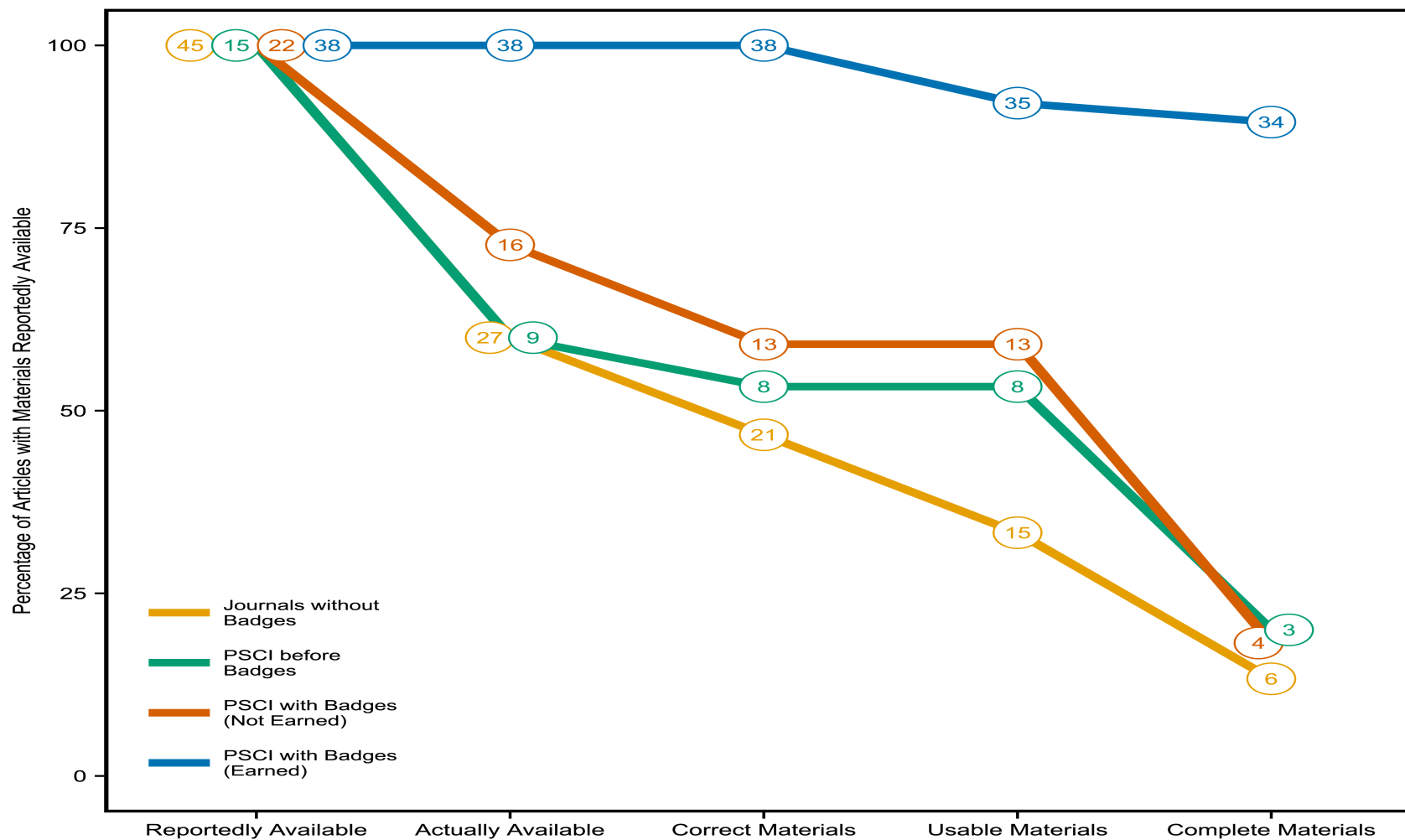
*Linguistic Approaches to Bilingualism*, pending

*Language, Interaction and Acquisition*, pending

➤ Trofimovich & Ellis (2015) Editorial *Language Learning*. [Open Science Badges]

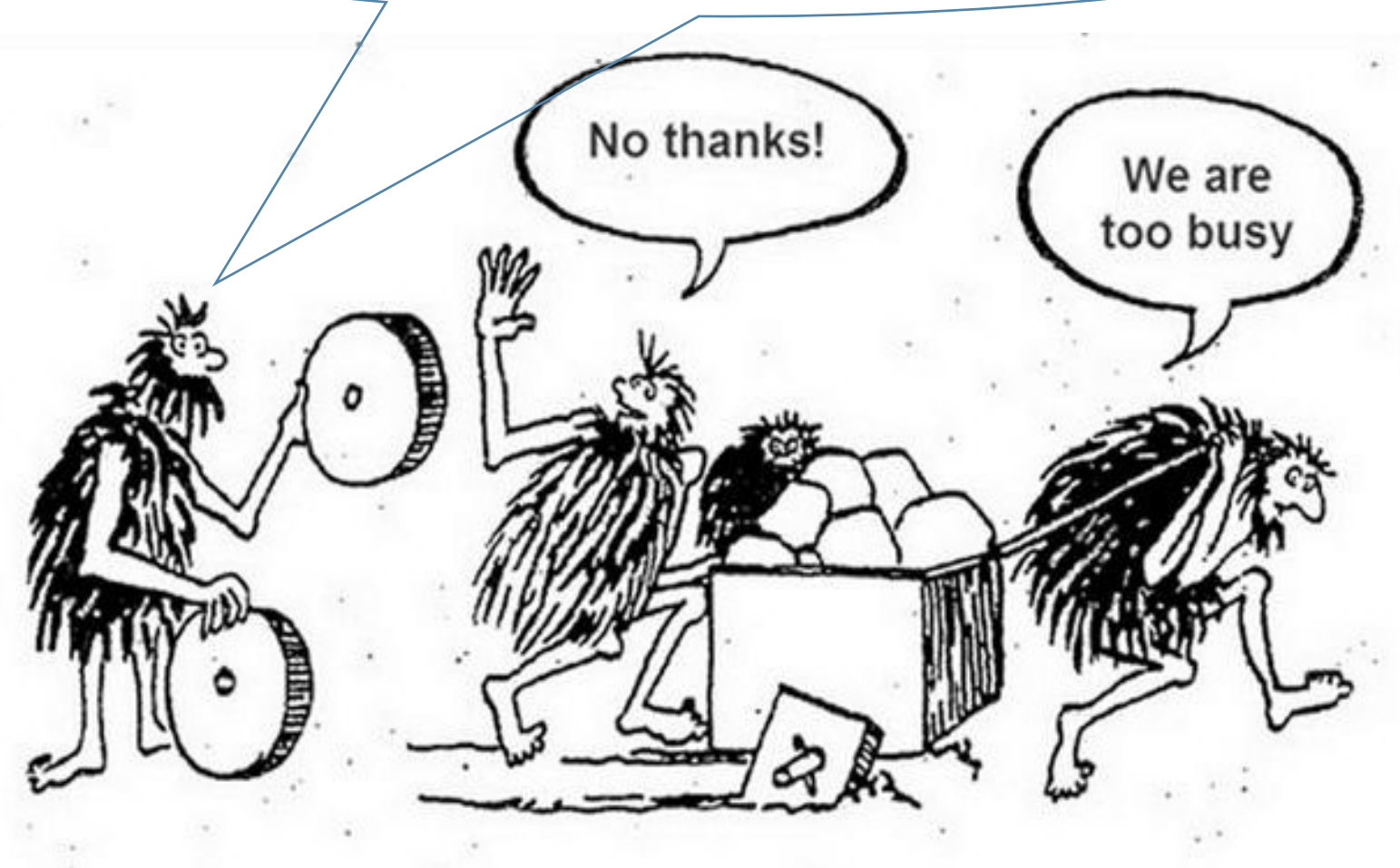
➤ Blohowiak, B., Cohoon, J., de-Wit, L., Farach, F., Hasselman, F., & DeHaven, A. (2016). Badges to acknowledge open practices. [osf.io/tvyxz](https://osf.io/tvyxz)

# Effectiveness of journals recognising open materials with badges



dwelling MC, Lazarević LB, Baranski E, Hardwicke TE, Piechowski S, Falkenberg L-S, et al. (2016) Badges to Acknowledge Open Practices: A Simple, Low-Cost, Effective Method for Increasing Transparency. PLoS Biol 14(5): e1002456. doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1002456

Heh guys, have you seen these on [www.iris-database.org](http://www.iris-database.org) ?



Thank  
you for  
listening

With thanks to:

**My collaborators**

Susan Gass, Patti Spinner, Dustin  
Rowther (JT)

Elison Mackey (IRIS)

Chris Mitchell & Florence Myles  
(learner language corpora projects)

Mara Morgan-Short, Jeanne Heil,  
David Abugaber (Replication)

Duke Plonsky (IRIS, JT, SPR, Replication)

Sophie Thompson (SPR, Replication)

**funders**



Phew! I'm glad I went to  
[www.iris-  
database.org](http://www.iris-database.org)



# Selected references

Kidwell MC, Lazarević LB, Baranski E, Hardwicke TE, Piechowski S, Falkenberg L-S, et al. (2016) Badges to Acknowledge Open Practices: A Simple, Low-Cost, Effective Method for Increasing Transparency. *PLoS Biol* 14(5): e1002456. doi:10.1371/journal.pbio.1002456

Morgan-Short, K., Heil, J., Botero-Moriarty, A., & Ebert, S. (2012). Allocation of Attention to Second Language Form and Meaning. *Studies in Second Language Acquisition*, 34(04), 659-685.

Open Science Collaboration. (2015). [Estimating the reproducibility of psychological science](#). *Science*, 349(6251), aac4716. Doi: 10.1126/science.aac4716

Plonsky, L. (2012). Replication, meta-analysis, and generalizability. In G. Porte (Ed.), *Replication research in applied linguistics* (pp. 116-132). New York: Cambridge University Press.

Polio, C., & Gass, S. (1997). Replication and reporting: A commentary. *Studies in Second Language Acquisition*, 19 (4), 499-508.

VanPatten, B. (1990). Attending to form and content in the input: An experiment in consciousness. *Studies in Second Language Acquisition*, 12, 287-301.

Wagner, A. B. (2010). Open access citation advantage: An annotated bibliography. *Issues in Science, Technology & Librarianship*. 60: Winter

[Louise Corti](#) - [Veerle Van den Eynden](#) - [Libby Bishop](#) - [Matthew Woollard](#) - 2014 *Managing and Sharing Research Data A Guide to Good Practice*, Sage

UK Data Archive *MANAGING AND SHARING DATA a best practice guide for researchers 2<sup>nd</sup> ed*  
<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/media/global/wwwadminoxacuk/localsites/researchdatamanagement/documents/managingsharing.pdf>

Klein, R. et al. (2014). Investigating variation in replicability: A “Many Labs” replication project. *Social Psychology* 45 (3), 142–152.

Leow, R. P., Hsieh, H., & Moreno, N. (2008). Attention to form and meaning revisited. *Language Learning*, 58(3), 665-695.

Marsden, E., Mackey, A., Plonsky, L. (2016) The IRIS repository: Advancing research practice and methodology. In Mackey, A. & Marsden E. (Eds.) *Advancing Methodology and Practice: The IRIS repository of Instruments for Research into Second Languages*. Taylor & Francis.

Makel, M. & Plucker, J (2014). Facts are more important than novelty: Replication in the Education sciences. *Educational Researcher*, 43 (6), 304 –316.

Makel, M., Plucker, J. & Hegarty, B. (2012). Replications in psychology research: How often do they really occur? *Perspectives in Psychological Science*, 7 (6) 537 –542.

Wicherts, J., Bakker, M., Molenaar, D. (2011). Willingness to share research data is related to the strength of the evidence and the quality of reporting of statistical results. *PLoS One* , 6, 11, e26828