How can research data be reused?

Pre-existing publicly available data can be reused multiple times by their creators and collectors or by other parties not involved in the original study. Below are the most common approaches for data reuse:

Re-analysis

Follows the same analytical process employed by the original study for verification purposes (refute or confirm previous findings).

Integration

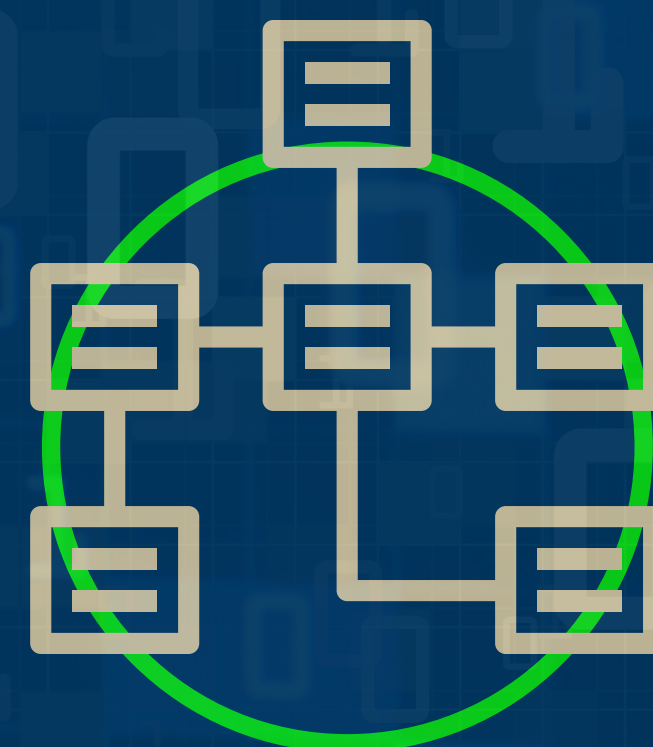Combines data from disparate data sources linked by one or more related variables.

Repurposing

Explores existing datasets in different ways to answer new research questions.

Aggregation

Gathers data from multiple existing sources to form a unique dataset.

Meta-analysis

Merges analyses (not raw data) from multiple independent sources.

Need help to find datasets? Email: collaboratory@library.ucsb.edu

Always remember to correctly cite the datasets you reuse!
Check our infographic on data citation or contact us: rds@library.ucsb.edu

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