DATA

the 7 most important questions

AKADEMISCHE INTEGRITÄT

1) What is data and what kind of data am I collecting?

Values resulting from observations and measurements of experiments (or field observations) you carry out are your data.

2) What do I have to pay attention to in the documentation?

The origin/collection of the values and of course the values themselves must be documented precisely, comprehensively and completely. Pay attention to a realistic & honest consideration of errors!

3) Does my data only belong to me?

This is often not that simple – if you work with other people's materials or are paid to do so, there are also other claims. Talk to examiners, colleagues and superiors to figure out who has which rights.

4) Which third-party data may I use and how?

First of all, you can use all the data published – but of course you have to cite them correctly! For unpublished data, you must check who owns the rights to it. With personal data, you must conform to data protection regulations!

5) How long do I have to back up my data for?

Research data must be stored for at least 10 years on durable data carriers. This can be on paper / in the lab book or, for example, with an electronic lab book on suitable servers or other storage media.

6) How can I share my data?

Many researchers today use the possibilities of Open Data and Open Access publications (copyright sill applies!). If you want to release the usage rights in general, there are Creative Common licenses.

7) Who can help me if I have further questions?

Talk to your supervisors and lecturers about the requirements in your subject! If you have general questions, the competence centre "Academic Integrity" (www.akin.uni-mainz.de) is happy to help.

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