The Alan Turing Institute

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Impact story

Transforming the culture of data science

The Turing Way is an online handbook – and global community – dedicated to fostering gold-standard reproducible research. It's a cultural movement with the potential to transform data science.

- There is a crisis of reproducibility in science.
- 'Publish-or-perish' incentives and excessive data secrecy stifles progress and wastes resources: siloed science is slow science.
- The Turing Way (TW) is an evolving online 'handbook' on how to conduct world-leading, reproducible research in academic data science and AI with the goal of making reproducible research "too easy not to do".
- The book deals not only with the 'how' of things, but also the 'why' – the ethos and long-term benefits of reproducible research.
- The TW is also a flourishing global community of research engineers, data librarians, industry professionals and research experts dedicated to capturing and sharing research best-practise, tools and data.
- The team is collaborating on workshops with the people behind Binder, a key research platform that enables highly sharable research.
- Through community contributions, the handbook will grow into a 'How-To Guide for Data Science' covering areas including research design, collaboration, visualising results, the ethics of data science, and more.

Impact

- The Turing Way is shared through its growing, global community of like-minded expert advocates.
- It shines a light on a broken publishing system that works against sharing and makes research less effective.
- It represents the Institute's commitment to changing data science for the better.

"The reuse of other people's data provides useful insights for new research questions and products, and drives new scientific discoveries."

Susanna-Assunta Sansone, Associate Professor in Data Readiness at the University of Oxford

Illustration by Scriberia highlighting an important Turing Way principle. Produced during a 'book dash' – an intense day of collaborative work.