

## INTRODUCTION

### Texas Data Repository (TDR):

- A consortial platform for publishing, sharing, and archiving data created by faculty, staff, and students at member Texas higher education institutions
- Hosts small to mid-sized datasets that are free of confidential or sensitive information

### Purpose of this study:

- To examine the usability of the TDR for the data depositors who are unfamiliar with its interface
- To use the results of the usability examination to improve user experience

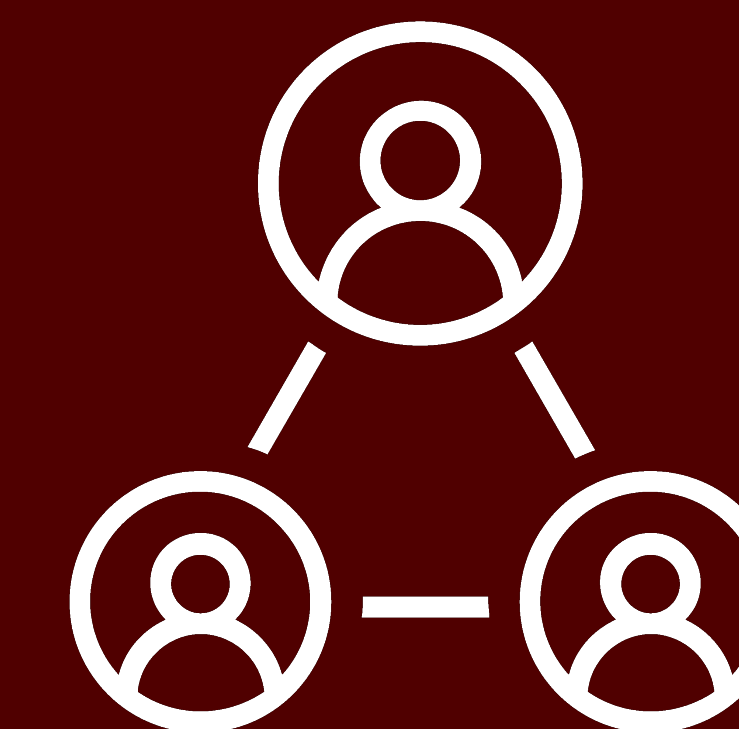
### The research questions are:

- Are the data depositors satisfied with their use of the TDR?
- Can the data depositors use the TDR effectively and efficiently?
- What training materials and guidance can the libraries provide to depositors to improve the user experience?

## METHODS

### Participants

- IRB approval and participants signed the consent forms
- Seven researchers from different departments across the university participated

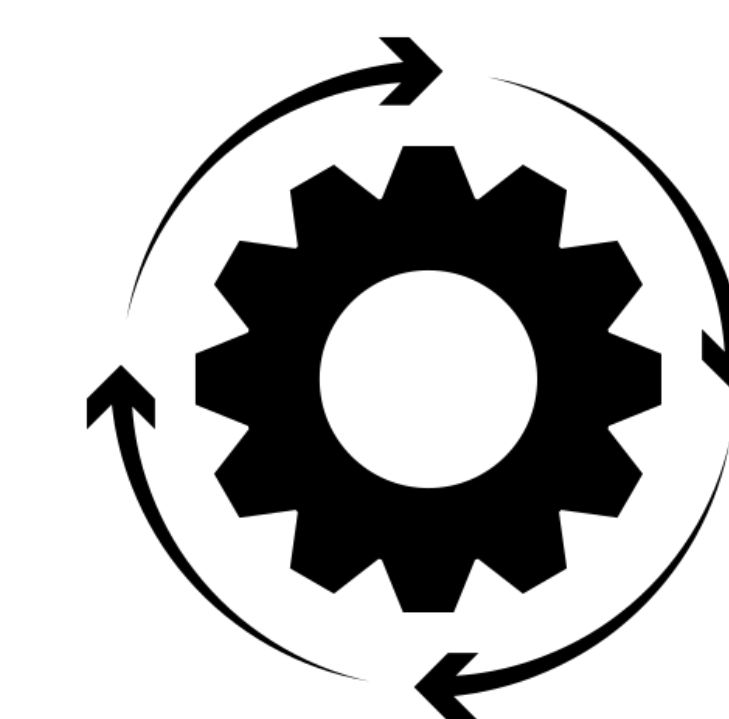
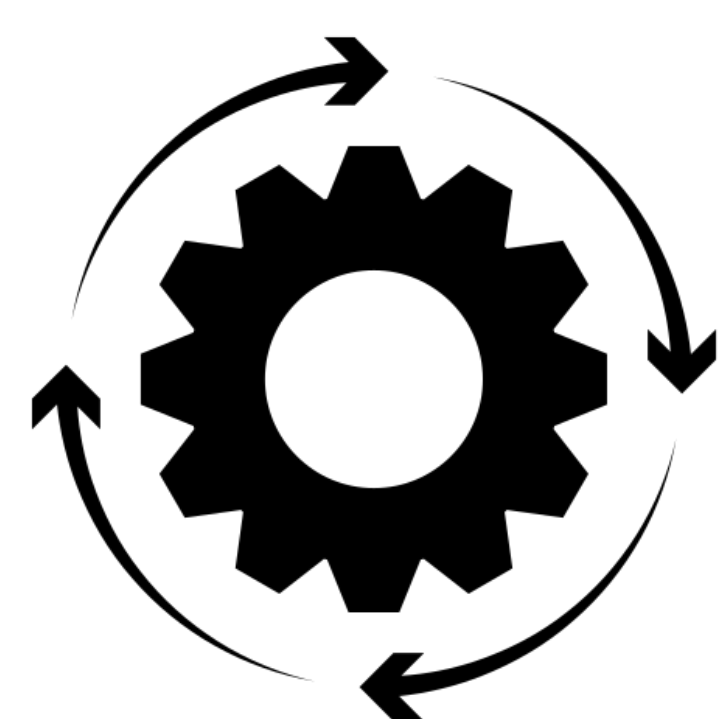


### Procedures

- Pre-survey: collect the participants' demographic information and knowledge/experience about TDR
- A task-oriented usability test observation with concurrent thinking aloud protocol
  - Participants were directed to complete the 5 tasks with verbalizing their thoughts, feelings, opinions, and decisions
  - Two authors observed researchers as they worked through the usability questions, one to take notes and one to help step the researcher through the process and encourage a think-aloud process
  - Researchers' progress through each step was timed to determine if there were steps more challenging than others
- An exit questionnaire asking about experience with the TDR and reflections

### Usability Test Observations

- Task 1: Logging into the TDR through the institutional login
- Task 2: Setting up your dataverse collection for your research project
- Task 3: Adding/uploading a dataset to your dataverse
- Task 4: Adding/editing your metadata
- Task 5: Editing your file description



## DATA ANALYSIS

A mixed-method research

- Quantitative: descriptive statistics
- Qualitative: content analysis of thinking aloud protocol

## TAKEAWAY

- Need for new tutorials to teach core concepts and prepare user for deposit
- A more robust curation service to augment metadata and documentation post-deposit