



Repurposing Legacy Data: Innovative Case Studies (Computer Science Reviews and Trends)

By Jules J. Berman

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Repurposing Legacy Data: Innovative Case Studies takes a look at how data scientists have re-purposed legacy data, whether their own, or legacy data that has been donated to the public domain.

Most of the data stored worldwide is legacy data?data created some time in the past, for a particular purpose, and left in obsolete formats. As with keepsakes in an attic, we retain this information thinking it may have value in the future, though we have no current use for it.

The case studies in this book, from such diverse fields as cosmology, quantum physics, high-energy physics, microbiology, psychiatry, medicine, and hospital administration, all serve to demonstrate how innovative people draw value from legacy data. By following the case examples, readers will learn how legacy data is restored, merged, and analyzed for purposes that were never imagined by the original data creators.

- Discusses how combining existing data with other data sets of the same kind can produce an aggregate data set that serves to answer questions that could not be answered with any of the original data
- Presents a method for re-analyzing original data sets using alternate or improved methods that can provide outcomes more precise and reliable than those produced in the original analysis
- Explains how to integrate heterogeneous data sets for the purpose of answering questions or developing concepts that span several different scientific fields

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Editorial Review

From the Back Cover

Most of the data stored worldwide is legacy data, data created some time in the past, for a particular purpose, and left in a format that is not in current use. Legacy data lives in the attics of our information-centric world. We've somehow come into possession of the data; we think that some of our data may hold great value; we're afraid to discard it; but we don't quite know what to do with it. It is taken as an article of faith that if we ever get around to dusting off the stuff, we can put it to good use. *Re-Purposing Legacy Data: Innovative Case Studies* takes a look at how data scientists have re-purposed their own legacy data, or legacy data that has been donated to the public domain. Case studies selected from such diverse fields as cosmology, quantum physics, high-energy physics, microbiology, psychiatry, medicine, and hospital administration, all serve to demonstrate how innovative people draw value from legacy data. By following the case examples, readers will learn how legacy data is restored, merged, and analyzed for purposes that were never imagined by the original data creators.

About the Author

Jules Berman holds two bachelor of science degrees from MIT (Mathematics, and Earth and Planetary Sciences), a PhD from Temple University, and an MD, from the University of Miami. His post-doctoral studies were completed at the U.S. National Institutes of Health, and his medical residency was completed at the George Washington University Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Dr. Berman served as Chief of Anatomic Pathology, Surgical Pathology and Cytopathology at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Baltimore, Maryland, where he held joint appointments at the University of Maryland Medical Center and at the Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions. In 1998, he became the Program Director for Pathology Informatics in the Cancer Diagnosis Program at the U.S. National Cancer Institute. In 2006, Dr. Berman was President of the Association for Pathology Informatics. In 2011 he received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for Pathology Informatics. Dr. Berman has made many contributions to the field of data science, particularly in the areas of identification, deidentification, data exchange protocols, standards development, regulatory/legal issues, and metadata annotation. He is first author on over one hundred journal articles and a co-author on over two hundred scientific publications. Today Dr. Berman is a free-lance author, writing extensively in his three areas of expertise: informatics, computer programming, and medicine. A complete list of his publications is available at <http://www.julesberman.info/pubs.htm>

Users Review

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