

The Data Documentation Initiative (DDI): Enhancements to the Standard

Sue Ellen Hansen and Mary Vardigan
Survey Research Center, University of Michigan

March 23, 2011
CSDI

DDI

- ▶ Emerging standard for documentation of data from social, behavioral, and economic science
- ▶ eXtended Markup Language (XML)
- ▶ DDI 3
 - Modularized schemas
 - Allows extensions to meet unique documentation requirements
 - Richer documentation of instruments

DDI

- ▶ More recent enhancements
 - Richer metadata for documentation of instruments
 - Metadata documentation throughout the study lifecycle

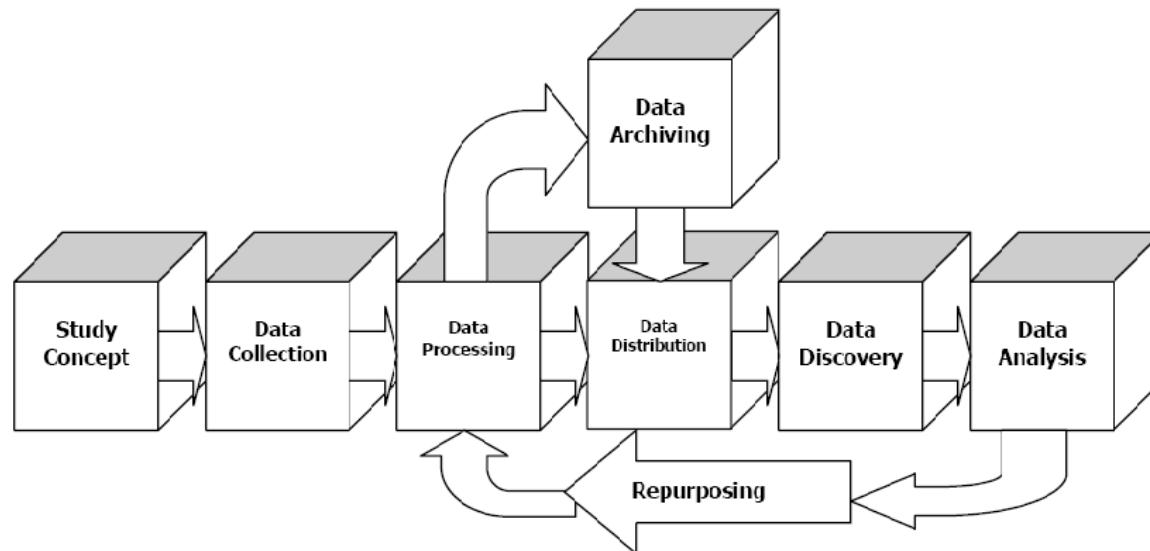


Figure: Combined Life Cycle Model

Survey Documentation Initiative (SDI) Working Group

- ▶ Two proposed extensions for documenting survey lifecycle
 - Questionnaire design
 - Documentation of iterative developmental activities in the development of questionnaires
 - cognitive interviews, focus groups, translation, expert reviews
 - Sampling
 - Documentation of sampling procedures
 - Sampling frames, sample selection, stages of selection
 - Available in 18 months
 - Future extensions

Controlled Vocabularies Working Group

- ▶ Standardized vocabularies (code frames) for elements
 - Semantics – meaning
 - Content – what and how values assigned to elements
- ▶ E.g., ContentType
 - Instrument
 - Question
 - Section
 - ShowCard
 - Invitation

2008 Workshop on Best Practices Across the Data Life Cycle

- ▶ Work Flows – Data Discovery and Dissemination: User Perspective
- ▶ Work Flows for Metadata Creation Regarding Recoding, Aggregation and Other Data
- ▶ Processing Activities
- ▶ Work Flows – Archival Ingest and Metadata Enhancement
- ▶ Controlled Vocabularies
- ▶ Versioning and Publication

2009 Workshop on Development of DDI Use Cases

- ▶ Grouping Data Series
- ▶ Comparison across studies
- ▶ Documentation of the European Social Survey (ESS)
- ▶ Questionnaire Management
- ▶ Extracting Metadata from the Data Analysis Workflow

2010 Workshop on Managing Metadata for Longitudinal Data

- ▶ Beyond Survey Data: Using DDI to Document a Wider Variety of Data
- ▶ Enabling Longitudinal Data Comparison Using DDI
- ▶ Metadata for the Longitudinal Data Life Cycle: The Role and Benefit of Metadata Management and Reuse
- ▶ Metadata-Driven Delivery of Longitudinal Data Using DDI

Comparison and reuse

- ▶ Study units
- ▶ Groups and subgroups
 - Time
 - Instrument
 - Panel
 - Geography
 - Dataset
 - Language translation
- ▶ Comparison module
- ▶ Resource packages

Comparison across study units

