NCNR Data Management Plan

PURPOSE | The purpose of this Data Management Plan (DMP) is to articulate the NCNR approach to data preservation and access.

SUMMARY | The NIST Center for Neutron Research is a national user facility providing access to neutron measurement instruments to thousands of researchers from industry, academia, and government agencies. Products of the NCNR include neutron measurement data created using NCNR neutron measurement instruments and data that are presented in figures and tables in publications.

The NCNR defines *raw data* as raw measurement counts collected using the data acquisition system for a neutron scattering instrument at the NCNR.

The NCNR defines *published data* as data that is presented in figures or tables in publications in which a NIST author or co-author is responsible for creating those figures or tables.

SCOPE | The scope of this data management plan includes raw data and published data. The scope of this DMP does *not* include data files collected under the auspices of an NCNR Facility Use Agreement for Proprietary Use.

DATA TYPES AND CLASSIFICATION | Data produced by the NCNR neutron measurement instruments are in electronic form and they are machine-readable.

PRESERVATION | All NCNR raw data within the scope stated above are archived automatically by the NCNR. The responsibility for preserving published results (i.e. the means by which the data is preserved) resides with the individual NCNR researcher and will be performed consistent with NIST policy and NCNR leadership directives.

DISCOVERABILITY & ACCESS | All NCNR raw data within the scope stated above are made available to the public following an experiment unless the researcher who collected the raw data opts out. In those cases when the researcher opts out, the raw data will be made available after 18 months from the creation date. The data files are made available to the public via external FTP server, ftp.ncnr.nist.gov.

All NCNR published data within the scope stated above are made available upon request of the NCNR scientist.

When the NIST Enterprise Data Inventory (EDI) becomes available, the metadata[1] associated with NCNR raw data within the scope stated above will be entered into the EDI.

[1] The term “metadata” used here does not refer to domain-specific metadata such as wavelength, detector pressure, or instrument configuration parameters, for example. Here metadata refers to title, description, tags, last update, publisher, contact name, contact email, unique identifier, public-access level, and other elements in the NIST Extensible Metadata Scheme as articulated in the NIST Order 105.01 for Managing Public Access to Results of Federally Funded Research.