

(NON-MEDICAL RESEARCH)

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET

As a participant in one of the Ada Lovelace conferences from 1987 to 2024, your data has been collected as part of research on the evolving diversity of the geodynamics community. Dr. Iris van Zelst (Patience Cowie Research Fellow) at the University of Edinburgh is leading this research with the research team further consisting of Anne Glerum (GFZ, Germany), Adina Pusok (University of Oxford, UK), Fabio Cramer (ISSI, Switzerland), Juliane Dannberg (GEOMAR, Germany), and Cedric Thieulot (Utrecht University, The Netherlands).

Through these communications, we want to make sure you understand why the research is being conducted and what it will involve. Please take time to read the following information carefully.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE STUDY?

The purpose of the study is to map the evolution of the diversity of scientists in the field of computational geodynamics over the years 1987 to 2024 using the participants of the Ada Lovelace conference as a proxy.

WHAT KIND OF DATA WAS COLLECTED?

For all listed attendees of the Ada Lovelace workshops from 1987 to 2024, we have collected name, (binary) gender, year of highest degree obtained, primary country and institute of affiliation at the time of the conference, presentation type and organisational role in the conference, based on information available online, such as the workshop program booklets and institute, ORCID, Google Scholar, and personal websites, and where necessary social media profiles.

WHY WAS MY DATA COLLECTED?

Using this dataset, we are able to analyse the diversity in gender, career stage, and country of affiliation of each conference overall, of the local and science organisation committees and of the invited speakers. This allows us to map these specific diversity aspects of the geodynamics community over time. Based on the available data, we cannot make any inferences about other aspects of diversity.

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF MY DATA BEING COLLECTED?

Collecting your data helps Iris van Zelst, the University, and the research team to better understand how the geodynamics community evolved over the years in terms of gender, career-stage, and country and affiliation diversity. By analysing and publishing this analysis in an open-access journal, the entire geodynamics community (and wider geophysics and geosciences communities) will benefit from the increased insights into diversity of the community over time. Note that in this publication all data will be presented in an anonymised, aggregated form that does not allow for the identification of individuals. The raw data will not be published.

ARE THERE ANY RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH MY DATA BEING COLLECTED FOR THIS STUDY?

There are no significant risks associated with the collection of your data. Note that Iris van Zelst has the responsibility to report any evidence of abuse or criminal activity that arises from this data collection.

WILL MY PERSONAL DATA BE PUBLICLY SHARED?

No. None of the personal and professional data that we collect will ever be publicly shared. Only the 6 people of the research team headed by Iris van Zelst will see the identifiable data. This is true for both the time period when we execute the study (only the 6 PIs will have access to the restricted-access, GDPR-compliant OneDrive data storage of the University of Edinburgh) and the time after publication of the results (the raw data will be archived on the University of Edinburgh's DataVault with restricted access to only the PIs). Data will only be shared in the exceptional circumstance that future researchers want to conduct a follow-up study with the same research goals and intent who adhere to the same principles we outline in this Participant Information Sheet, and our Data Management Plan, Data Protection Impact Assessment, Ethics Assessment, and Data Sharing Agreement.

Note that in any research outputs or communications on this project, all data / results presented will be aggregated, anonymous, and hence unidentifiable.

WHAT IF I DO NOT WANT MY DATA COLLECTED?

If you do not want your data collected, please inform the project administrator (Iris van Zelst, iris.vanzelst@ed.ac.uk). We will then remove your name and any other data we have collected from the database, but we will retain an anonymous entry in the database to indicate the presence of a participant. Note that your data may be used in the production of formal research outputs (e.g. journal articles and conference presentations) prior to your withdrawal and so you are advised to contact the research team at the earliest opportunity should you wish to withdraw from the study.

DATA PROTECTION AND CONFIDENTIALITY

Your data will be processed in accordance with the Data Protection Law. All information collected about you will be kept strictly confidential. Your data will only be viewed by the research team: Iris van Zelst, Anne Glerum, Juliane Dannberg, Adina Pusok, Fabio Crameri, and Cedric Thieulot. All electronic data will be stored on a restricted-access and/or password-protected computer file.

INTERNATIONAL DATA TRANSFERS

Your data will be stored and processed in the UK, Switzerland, Germany, and The Netherlands. Please note countries outside of the European Economic Area (EEA) may not offer the same level of data privacy protection as in the UK. Switzerland is not in the EEA, but the European Commission has determined that the level of data protection in Switzerland is adequate. We have obtained a legal Data Sharing

Agreement between all six participating institutes to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation.

WHERE AND HOW LONG WILL MY DATA BE STORED?

For the duration of the study, the data will be stored on the University of Edinburgh's OneDrive, which is compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). After the study, the data will be stored at the University of Edinburgh's DataVault to comply with research reproducibility requirements. The data will be restricted access and only available on request if potential scientific users have the same intent with the data as the study described here and adhere to the same GDPR measures we have taken. The data will be stored on DataVault for at least 10 years after publication of the study, after which the lead researcher of the study will assess if a further 10-year extension of data storage is required.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN WITH THE RESULTS OF THIS STUDY?

The results of this study will be summarised in published articles, posters and presentations. Findings will always be aggregated and made anonymous and non-identifiable in any formal outputs. Information may also be securely kept for future research and to comply with the FAIR data principles of e.g., research reproducibility.

WHO CAN I CONTACT?

If you have any further questions about the study, please contact the lead researcher, Iris van Zelst, iris.vanzelst@ed.ac.uk.

If you are worried about this research, or if you are concerned about how it is being conducted, you can contact the Chair of the GeoScience Ethics Committee, University of Edinburgh, Drummond St, Edinburgh, EH8 9XP, ethics.geos@ed.ac.uk

In your communication, please provide the study title (*The evolving diversity of the geodynamics community: Ada Lovelace workshop participants from 1987 to 2024*), lead researcher (*Iris van Zelst*), and detail the nature of your inquiry.

For general information about how we use your data go to:

<https://data-protection.ed.ac.uk/privacy-notice-research>

Note that we have obtained ethical approval from the Research Ethics and Integrity Committee of the School of GeoSciences to analyse, interpret, and write up the findings of this project on 6 November 2025.