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# Raising the bar on data recovery and discovery for the Southern Ocean Observing System

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The Southern Ocean is the most undersampled and important ocean on the planet, linking the major ocean basins and influencing the global climate. The first steps in developing a Southern Ocean Observing System are to bring together disparate multi-disciplinary datasets to improve discoverability of legacy datasets and hence facilitate their reuse, and to lay the foundation for efficient management of data from future Southern Ocean studies. Our initial focus is on assembling the registry of mooring sites and associated datasets and developing a web-based data discovery tool. This tool will utilise the Global Change Master Directory catalogue developed and maintained by NASA. Initial findings indicate a long tail of data from large research projects which has little visibility and are at risk of being lost forever. We will indicate the scale of the problem and outline our approach to bringing these data the surface.