Costs and benefits of sharing code

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my position

- everything out in the open since 2005
- all code
 - github.com/davidwhogg
 - trac.astrometry.net
 - Astrometry.net kplr bart daft TheTractor emcee
- all papers and all grant proposals
- in every stage of development from birth
- all my group members are involved

ethical issues

- reproducibility
- taxpayer support
- transparency
- progress of science

costs

- getting scooped? but...
- embarrassment
- ▶ time
 - ▶ (if you want to avoid embarrassment)
- email and support requests
- ▶ licensing, ownership, agreements

benefits

- priority (the opposite of getting scooped)
- pull requests & contributions
- visibility & goodwill
- re-use & citations
- feedback & bug catching
- moral high ground
- protections of licensing and academic standards

conclusion

- we aren't running a hedge fund!
- publications & citations rule
 - sharing code increases both of these
- don't be embarrassed, we're changing the culture
 - (but you might end up writing a lot more email)