

- [Harnessing the Data Revolution](#) is part of the National Science Foundation's "Big Ideas" framework to guide funding of basic research
- Ubiquity of data acquisition and communication devices has led to "data avalanches" in many fields
- This is not especially novel. Circa 1800 BCE, roughly contemporaneous with the Code of Hammurabi, a Babylonian scribe produced a clay tablet known today as [Plimpton 322](#)



Figure 1. Plimpton 322. Obviously there's data inscribed on the clay tablet.