



NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS

CLOSEOUT MEMORANDUM

Case Number: A07090050

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We were informed about the overlap between the PI's proposal¹ and research already funded by NSF (the grant).² Multiple reviewers commented on the similarity of the proposal to the grant, with particular attention paid to a scientist who was collaborating with both groups and whose hypothesis both groups are interested in testing. The scientist is listed as a collaborator in the grant and in the proposal, and the scientist's CV in the proposal lists the PIs of the grant as his collaborators.

The existence of some specific research does not prohibit anyone from submitting proposals to conduct similar research, expand the original research, or even replicate it, including doing so with some of the same collaborators. We conclude the PI did not act unethically and is not in violation of NSF's research misconduct policy. Accordingly, this case is *closed*.

¹ Footnote redacted.

² Footnote redacted.