

CONTRIBUTORS

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1. Bureaucracy

Jennifer Raso is an Assistant Professor at McGill University's Faculty of Law, where she teaches Administrative Process; Science Technology and Law; and Law and Poverty. Her research investigates the relationship between discretion, data-driven technologies, and administrative law. She is particularly intrigued by how humans/non-humans collaborate and diverge as they produce institutional decisions, and the consequences for procedural fairness and substantive justice.

Victoria Adelmant is the Director of the Digital Welfare State and Human Rights Project at the Center for Human Rights & Global Justice and an Adjunct Professor at NYU School of Law. Her research and practice focuses on how the digital transformation of the state impacts human rights, particularly examining sectors that affect marginalized groups — such as welfare and immigration.

2. Capture Corporations

Burcu Baykurt is an Assistant Professor of Media Studies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Her research examines how digital infrastructures reshape and perpetuate durable inequalities. She is currently working on a book, *Smart as a City*, based on her fieldwork in Kansas City on experiments with implementing a gigabit internet service and a smart city program.

3. Bureaucracy

Ludmila Costhek Abílio is a sociologist who researches informal, precarious, and socially invisible work. She is currently a researcher at the Institute for Advanced Studies at the University of São Paulo and a visiting professor in the sociology graduate program at the University of Campinas. She has been closely following transformations in the work of motorcycle delivery drivers for more than ten years in the city of São Paulo and more recently, in England.

Carolina Cruz is a militant of the Landless Workers' Movement, acting in the technological studies area.

4. Data Publics

Youngrim Kim is an Assistant Professor of Media Studies at Rutgers University School of Communication and Information. She examines how state institutions build and utilize digital technologies to manage complex governance challenges, specifically in the context of public health or environmental crises. Working across media studies, critical data studies, science and technology studies (STS), she investigates how crisis response technologies reconfigure state-society relations in moments of risk and uncertainty.

5. Public Administration

Amina Abdu is a PhD candidate at the University of Michigan School of Information. Located at the intersection of values, power, institutions, and law, her research explores state data collection practices, government procurement of algorithmic technologies, and the rise of “evidence-based policy” in policymaking practices. She is interested in how various groups use data-driven technologies to gain legitimacy in policy spaces and how this in turn reshapes the nature of knowledge, expertise, and values that are seen as a legitimate basis for policy interventions.

Abigail Jacobs is an Assistant Professor in the School of Information and in the Center for the Study of Complex Systems at the University of Michigan. She is interested in how the hidden assumptions in technological systems act as a type of governance; how measurement and validation can help reveal those assumptions; and what the implications are for scientific and practical implementations of those technologies (e.g., into government settings).

6. Public Interest

Anne L. Washington is a Public Interest Technologist serving as an Assistant Professor of Data Policy at the New York University Steinhardt School. Her expertise on public sector information currently addresses the emerging governance needs of data science. As a computer scientist trained in organizational ethnography, her multi-disciplinary work considers the impact of technology on society through the lens of digital record keeping.

Joanne Cheung is an artist, architect, and researcher. Her work focuses on the political economy of digital “public space” and alternative property regimes such as community land trusts, social housing, and agrarian commons. She lectures at UC Berkeley’s Haas School of Business, co-organizes the New Economy Workshop, and is affiliated with the Harvard Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society.

7. Automation

Georgia van Toorn is an Associate Investigator at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) node of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision-Making & Society (ADM+S). Specializing in international social policy, politics, disablement, and social justice, she explores global transformations in welfare governance, with a particular focus on processes of marketisation, the commodification of social care, and the growing impact of data analytics and algorithmic decision-making in the public sector.

Christopher O’Neill is a Research Fellow at the Monash University node of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision-Making & Society (ADM+S). He analyzes the social and operational issues arising from the deployment of automated decision-making systems with a particular interest in the development of biometric technologies such as facial recognition cameras, and their implications for conceptions of identity and governance.

Maitreya Shah is a Fellow at the Berkman Klein Center for Internet & Society at Harvard University. As a blind lawyer and technology policy researcher, he integrates perspectives from AI ethics and critical disability studies to foreground the experiences of people with disabilities with emerging technologies. He has worked in the diverse areas of regulatory technologies, digital accessibility, public accountability, and AI governance.

Mark Andrejevic is a Chief Investigator at the Monash University node of the ARC Centre of Excellence for Automated Decision-Making & Society (ADM+S). He is Professor of Media Studies in the School of Media, Film, and Journalism at Monash University. His research covers the social, political, and cultural impact of digital media, with a focus on surveillance and popular culture.

8. Digital IDs

Mardiya Siba Yahaya is digital sociologist, researcher, and community movement builder and works as a Global Community Manager, Team CommUNITY at Article 19. Working at the intersection of digital labor, gender and cybersecurity, surveillance, counterpublics and digital identities, she investigates the implications of technology-facilitated surveillance and datafied societies on minoritized communities in the global South.

Bonnita Nyamwire is the Head of the Research Department at Pollicy Uganda, where she oversees the design of research studies, survey instruments, gathering, and analysis of data into actionable insights to influence service delivery as well as reporting on the findings. Her area of specialization is social, behavioral, and public health research.

9. Public interest technology

Maria Filippelli is a data, technology, and policy professional. As a practitioner, Maria's experience includes roles as a nonprofit data director, public interest technology census fellow, and regional planner. Her work emphasizes the need for coordination between data management, tech products, and policy to ensure responsible implementation.

10. Open data

Malavika Raghavan is a lawyer with a background in policy-focused research, studying the impacts of digitisation on low-income individuals. Her current doctoral research at the London School of Economics (LSE) examines the socio-legal consequences of digitalising welfare administration, drawing on India's experience with digital ID-linked welfare transfers. She is particularly interested in the interdependencies that develop between the technological and legal requirements of digital systems, and how they influence the exercise of administrative power within the datafied state.

11. Counterpublic

Matthew Bui is an Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan School of Information, Director of the Race and Data Justice Lab, and Co-Director of the Urban Tech Collective. His research program examines issues of race, racism, and racial justice within digital and data-driven technologies, platforms, and policy, especially at the local and community-level.

Bianca Wylie is a writer with a dual background in technology and public engagement. She is a co-founder of Digital Public, a public interest digital governance firm, where she is: a teacher, a student, an advocate for increased public power in the design and use of technology, and a democracy worker.

12. Counterdata

Seyi Olojo is a PhD student in the UC Berkeley School of Information and a visiting researcher at the Weizenbaum-Institute for Networked Society in Berlin, Germany. She is broadly interested in stratification within socio-technical systems and in investigating the role of alternative epistemological paradigms in imagining safer and more humane data practices. Her research investigates the way politicized identity categories perform within machine learning practice, most notably within commercial recommender systems and machine translation.

13. Counterdata

Vanessa Massaro is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Geography Department at Bucknell University. She is committed to innovative teaching of courses in cultural and social geography, specifically incorporating community engaged pedagogy and service learning opportunities for students. Her research draws on mixed quantitative and ethnographic methods to explore the uneven, community impacts of mass incarceration in the United States.

Darakhshan J. Mir is an Associate Professor of Computer Science and the John P. and Mary Jane Swanson Professor in Engineering and the Sciences at Bucknell University. She is also a non-residential fellow at the Center for Democracy and Technology in Washington, DC. Her research interests are focused on using computing to interrogate inequalities in our world and to help envision a new justice-oriented narrative of computing that challenges these inequities through the kinds of questions we ask and think through as scholars, community-members, and teachers. Most recently, she has been involved in a trans-disciplinary project with colleagues, students, and community partners that examines the impacts of algorithmic decision-making (and its associated ideologies baked into the carceral state) on incarcerated people in Pennsylvania.

Terrell Mosley is the Re-entry and Reintegration Coordinator at Susquehanna Valley Mediation in Selinsgrove, Pennsylvania. He works with formerly incarcerated people before, during, and after their release to constructively address conflict in their personal lives and living situations, as well as other models for restorative justice-based parole and reintegration.

Nathan C. Ryan is a Professor of Mathematics at Bucknell University and an affiliate faculty member in the Latin American Studies program. He is trained as a computational mathematician and is interested in modeling complex systems. He is involved in analyzing data from the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections related to how incarcerated people are securitized and dehumanized.

14. Missing data

Alessandra Jungs de Almeida is a PhD candidate in International Relations at the Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC), Brazil. She is a research affiliate at the Data + Feminism Lab and a visiting scholar (pre-doctoral fellow) at the Women's and Gender Studies Program, both at MIT. Her research connects transnational activism and feminist organizing with abortion rights, violence against women, technology, peacebuilding, and feminist security studies.

Lauren Klein is Winship Distinguished Research Professor and Associate Professor in the departments of Quantitative Theory & Methods and English at Emory University. Her research brings together computational and critical methods in order to explore questions of gender, race, and justice. Klein serves as PI of the Atlanta Interdisciplinary Network and directs the Emory Digital Humanities Lab.

Catherine D'Ignazio is an Associate Professor of Urban Science and Planning in the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). She is a scholar, artist/designer and hacker mama who focuses on feminist technology, data literacy, and data activism. D'Ignazio is the director of the MIT Data + Feminism Lab which uses data and computational methods to work towards gender and racial justice, particularly as they relate to space and place.

15. Indigenous Data Sovereignty

Stephanie Russo Carroll (Ahtna-Native Village of Kluti-Kaah) is an Associate Research Professor, Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy (UC) and the Native Nations Institute (NNI) in the UC; Associate Professor in the Community, Environment and Policy Department, Mel and Enid Zuckerman College of Public Health (MEZCOPH); Associate Professor, American Indian Studies Graduate Interdisciplinary Program; and Affiliate Faculty, College of Law at the University of Arizona (UA). Her research explores the links between Indigenous governance, data, the environment, and community wellness. Her interdisciplinary research network, the Collaboratory for Indigenous Data Governance, develops research, policy, and practice innovations for Indigenous Data Sovereignty.

Marisa Elena Duarte (Pascua Yaqui Tribe/Chicanx) is an Associate Professor in Justice and Social Inquiry and the Center for Indian Education at the School of Social Transformation at Arizona State University. Her research focuses on Indigenous peoples' approaches to digital technologies, from tribally-owned Internet infrastructure to activism, Indigenous digital methods, and the politics of digitization. She applies a co-creative pedagogy in her teaching that focuses on justice theory, learning technologies in Indigenous contexts, digital activism, surveillance, and Indigenous methodologies.

Max Liboiron (Michif/Red River Métis and settler) is a Professor in Geography at Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador, where they direct the Civic Laboratory for Environmental Action Research (CLEAR). They have played leading roles in the establishment of the field of Discard Studies (the social study of waste and wasting), the Global Open Science Hardware Movement (GOSH), and are a figure in feminist science studies, Indigenous science and technology studies, and justice-oriented science methods.

Editors

Jenna Burrell is a Data & Society Affiliate, and previously served as the organization's Director of Research. Before joining D&S, she was a Professor at the School of Information at the University of California, Berkeley. Burrell's research focuses on how marginalized communities adapt digital technologies to meet their needs and to pursue their goals and ideals. These days she spends a lot of time thinking about ways of protecting human control and autonomy in the wake of artificial intelligence and the possibilities for democratizing technology.

Ranjit Singh is a Senior Researcher at Data & Society focussed on qualitative methods to evaluate impact of algorithmic systems at the Algorithmic Impact Methods Lab and a research fellow with Siegel Family Endowment. With a particular focus on research equity, he also helps guide the organization's commitment to equitable research practices both internally and with its external partners. Singh's work examines the everyday experiences of people subject to data-driven practices and follows the mutual shaping of their lives and their data records.

Patrick Davison is the Associate Director of Research at Data & Society and ensures the quality of all research outputs of the organization. He is a media historian whose work examines the influence of 20th century US social science on contemporary social media.

Acknowledgments

The contributions published in this collection represent a key milestone for our 2022–2024 research strategy to work on power, control, and the datafied state. When we started this project we wanted to explore how algorithms become part of and influence state functions, how trust and doubt in public sector data infrastructures are shaped — and what the implications are for democratic practice. This exploration has involved numerous conversations at Data & Society since 2022, including small group seminars organized by Jenna Burrell, a series on methods to study the datafied state put together by Tamara K. Nopper and Jenna Burrell, and a public three-part Databite series curated by Jenna Burrell, Ranjit Singh, Tamara K. Nopper, Chaz Arnett, and Rigoberto Lara Guzmán. We would like to express our deep gratitude to everyone who participated in these conversations. Their keen interest and valuable insights have not only inspired us to continue working on this project but also significantly shaped its outcomes.

The work towards this collection began with the Keywords of the Datafied State workshop. We express our heartfelt appreciation for the time and effort that the workshop participants put into providing feedback and encouraging our contributors. Putting this workshop together would not have been possible without CJ Brody Landow's incredible event management skills. Thank you, CJ! The curatorial work on this collection involved generous feedback from and supportive conversations with Ania Calderon, Jacob Metcalf, Sareeta Amrute, Aiha Nguyen, Charley Johnson, Tamara K. Nopper, and Janet Haven. Kiara Childs provided invaluable support to the process of proofreading each contribution. Producing this collection would have been impossible without the support of the Communications

and Research Management teams — Sona Rai, Chris Redwood, Eryn Loeb, Gloria Mendoza, Alessandra Erawan, and Siera Dissmore. Special thanks to Gloria Mendoza for designing the beautiful cover and layout of this collection.

Last, but certainly not the least, we would like to thank all the contributors — Jennifer Raso, Victoria Adelmant, Burcu Baykurt, Ludmila Costhek Abílio, Carolina Cruz, Youngrim Kim, Amina Abdu, Abigail Jacobs, Anne L. Washington, Joanne Cheung, Georgia van Toorn, Christopher O’Neill, Maitreya Shah, Mark Andrejevic, Mardiya Siba Yahaya, Bonnita Nyamwire, Maria Filippelli, Malavika Raghavan, Matthew Bui, Bianca Wylie, Seyi Olojo, Vanessa Massaro, Darakhshan J. Mir, Terrell Mosley, Nathan C. Ryan, Alessandra Jung de Almeida, Lauren Klein, Catherine D’Ignazio, Stephanie Russo Carroll, Marisa Elena Duarte, and Max Liboiron — for their generous support and engagement with the process of putting this collection together. Their commitment to a global conversation on the datafied state is exemplary and we remain grateful for their expertise and camaraderie.

All citations made in this collection are publicly accessible in a [Public Zotero Library on the Datafied State](#). Please reach out to Ranjit Singh (ranjit@datasociety.net) if you’re interested in curating and building it further.