

## Data Science Midpoint Report

Date of Meeting: 7/23 @ 1PM

### Report

As a general statement, I feel confident in the direction of my paper and think I am in a good position to complete the final version of the paper. Both my goal and team have gone unchanged, and I am on track per my project milestones.

My initial goal for the project involved assessing blockchain applications within the realm of peer-to-peer energy trading. It was then suggested that I narrow the focus to something more specific, so I pivoted to an assessment from an ethical perspective. With that in mind, I collected a wealth of primary sources, and read through them. As several of them discuss similar points, I wrote up an annotated bibliography to help keep myself organized and differentiate between them. At this stage I also began to try and build a skeleton for my arguments based on what I had read, and keep my main points connected to evidence.

From this point, I began to write my first draft of my midpoint version of the paper. However, I began to notice that, if I were to continue with my skeleton as planned, I would either have to severely abbreviate many points and not adequately explain the peer-to-peer energy model to the reader, or would have to omit other more introductory points to make room for proper explanations. However, this felt like an alright problem to have, so I kept my skeleton in mind and trimmed away several of the more in-depth looks into case studies I had planned to use, and saved them for the final version of the paper. While this meant that I didn't engage as deeply with my sources as I had originally planned, I felt like my paper still came out relatively accessible to outsiders while still adequately explaining the core concepts I originally set out to explain.

From here, I feel like I have good places in my analysis to more thoroughly discuss several of the case studies in my sources, and the ways in which they support/challenge the main points I have brought up. I do not currently think any new points will need to be inserted wholesale, but some points will likely get expanded upon enough to get their own subheaders as they had in my original skeleton. My next plan will be to reinsert the aspects from my skeleton I omitted due to space constraints, and flesh them out. From there, I will see where my page count is at, and if needed retrieve more sources. Over the course of this paper, I have come across several news stories and blog posts by companies focused on equality through blockchain that I think would provide some nice additional backing to the benefits of blockchain in this approach (an area I felt I left a little lean in my report).