DATA SERVICES

Bits and Bytes

November 2025

Hello Data Enthusiast,

We hope you're staying warm and getting ready for the holidays! As finals are quickly approaching, be sure to explore the many ways we support researchers at NYU by visiting our website. Happy Thanksgiving!

Donuts and Data at Dibner Library!

Image Credit: elaine ross baylon from Quezon City, Philippines, CC BY 2.0 https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0, via Wikimedia Commons

Feeling stressed with finals and projects all coming up so soon? Stop by room LC433 at Dibner library on December 4th from 1:30PM-3:30PM for last minute help with any Python related queries, all while enjoying some delicious donuts! Registration is required.

In Case You Missed It...

Photo Credit: NYU Data Services

Recap: NYU GIS Day

[NYU's GIS Day](#) buzzed with activity as about 80 students, researchers, and staff packed the space to celebrate what maps can do. Manushi Majumdar - our Data Services and NYU alumna, now at Esri - kicked things off with an engaging keynote followed by lightning talks that dove straight into real-world issues from public health to justice and urban planning. Hands-on GeoAI sessions kept the momentum going, and the map competition brought an impressive burst of creativity across both print and interactive formats. Thanks to everyone who showed up, shared their work, and made the day feel alive.

Photo Credit: NYU Data Services

Pictured to the left/top are students on GIS Day engaged in the keynote event and to the right/bottom are our first place winner and runner up for the mapping competition - Snighda Anantharaju and Ruoyu Li.
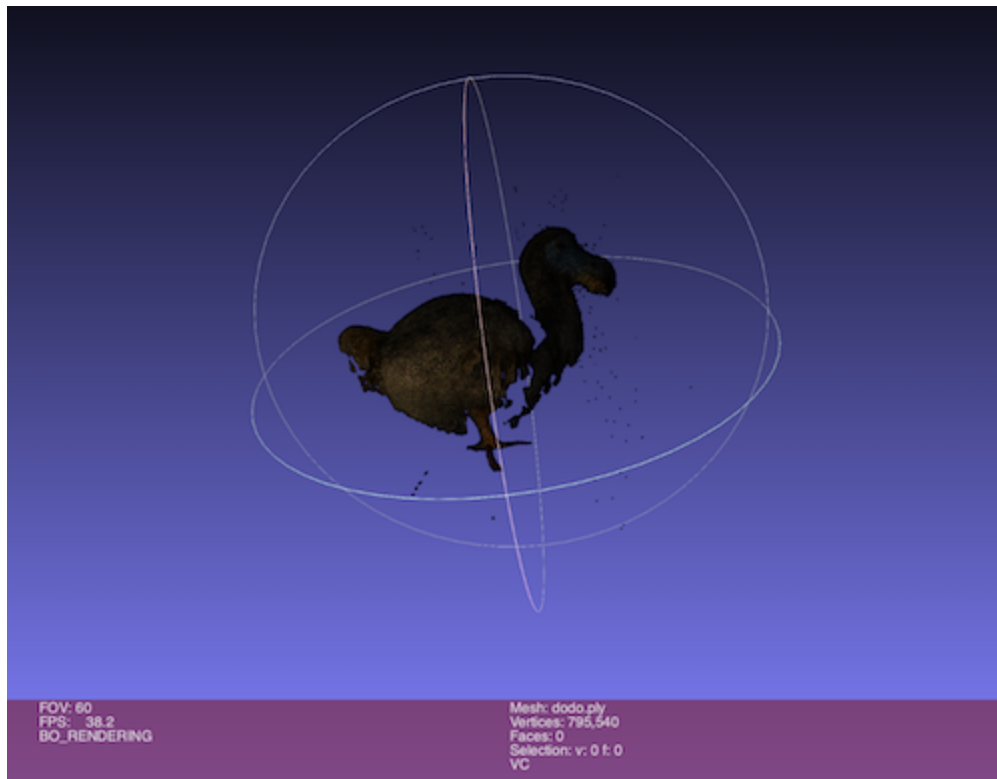

Featured Data

Data in the Library

Looking for new ways to find data for your next project? Consider taking a look at OpenAlex, a large-scale data-search project that provides a free and open alternative to the usual data-source aggregators (think Google Dataset Search, Google Scholar, or EBSCO). OpenAlex is built on the fact that many of the world's data assets are put online with a persistent identifier attached such as a DOI (digital object identifier). By bringing together that data in collaboration with the providers of identifiers, OpenAlex has been able to provide a searchable database of hundreds of millions of datasets, articles, reports, and more. Moreover, OpenAlex provides this service without a paywall. The project recently enhanced its search by ingesting a new set of records (numbering some 190 million) as described in a news release this month.

What's New in UltraViolet

UltraViolet is part of a suite of repositories at NYU that provide a home for research materials. Data Services helps NYU researchers prepare their materials for deposit in UltraViolet to facilitate open access and long-term preservation. One of the latest additions to UltraViolet comes from a team at Courant: Data for LookUp3D: Data-Driven 3D Scanning. This deposit contains captured and processed data for LookUp3D, a novel calibration and reconstruction procedure for the creation of 3D images using structured light scanning techniques. Rather than the traditional method of explicit point triangulation, the team developed a data-driven algorithm that makes use of a lookup table. 3D data has its own set of access and preservation challenges, so to curate this dataset we relied on

the book *3D Data Creation to Curation: Community Standards for 3D Data Preservation* (find it in [our catalog](#) or check out the [open access edition](#)).

Image Credit: Pereira, G., Gao, Y., Piadyk, Y., Fouhey, D., Silva, C., & Panozzo, D. (2025). Data for LookUp3D: Data-Driven 3D Scanning [Data set]. New York University. https://doi.org/10.58153/1n4p2-ygf77

Spotlight: Urban Data at NYU

UltraViolet needs your data! We're conducting a yearlong effort to map out the creators of urban data around NYU -- whatever the discipline, if it's about cities, we'd love to know what you're collecting and synthesizing and where you're putting it. We'll be hosting a related event later this spring! **Please email uv@nyu.edu if you're interested in sharing your work or learning more about our project.**

Data Services Team Spotlight

Photo Credit: Adomaa Kumi

Q. What's your name, program, and year?
My name is Adomaa Kumi. I am a second-year Master's in Urban Planning student at NYU Wagner and a Data Curation and Outreach Student Specialist at Bobst Library.

Q. What's your service area at Data Services and how long have you worked here?
I specialize in data curation and outreach where I identify urban research and dataset creators at NYU, and reach out to those data creators to preserve their research into NYU's very own repository called Ultraviolet. I have been working with NYU Libraries/ Data Services since August 2025.

Q. What do you like most about working at Data Services?
I like the level of technical expertise at Data Services. There is so much to learn from everyone and in so many different fields. I also like how kind and receptive everyone is to sharing knowledge and skills.

Q. Describe your favorite data-related project that you've worked on.
My favorite data-related project is data curation for Ultraviolet. Preservation of data and research is of absolute importance, and I take pride in contributing to that preservation. I love talking to faculty and researchers across NYU during my outreach sessions and getting to know all the urban research worth preserving. When you think of urban data, do you think art, genealogy, or urban microbiome? Exactly! Those outreach sessions broaden my worldview of urban data.

Q. What's your favorite place to get a meal or a snack near Bobst Library?
My favorite place is getting warm ginger milk bubble tea at Kunfu Tea, especially during the colder months.

Thanks for reading! We hope to see you soon either on the 5th floor at Bobst or online.

- Your friends at Data Services

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