Understanding and Improving Human Data Relations

Alex Bowyer

Contents

Appendices A The Pilot Study: CHI 2018 Paper	
Index of Key Ideas, Insights and Contributions	1
Glossary of Pre-Existing Abbreviations, Names and Terms	4
Bibliography	8

Appendices

A The Pilot Study: CHI 2018 Paper

For additional context, see 1.3.1. The paper is on the following pages.

B Ethics Approvals

Index of Key Ideas, Insights and Contributions

This section serves as both a glossary to explain abbreviations and existing terms used, as well as an index to easily locate key HDR-related concepts, ideas and contributions that this thesis contributes.

HDR Wants

Direct Data Relations:

- 1. Data Visibility 6.1.1
- 2. Data Understanding 6.1.2
- 3. Data Useability10 6.1.3

Indirect Data Relations:

- 1. Process Transparency 6.2.1
- 2. Individual Oversight 6.2.2
- 3. Involvement in Decision Making 6.2.3

HDR Objectives

The objectives are introduced in 7.2.4. They are explored in 7.3:

Objective 1. Data Awareness & Understanding - 7.3.1 Objective 2. Data Useability10 - 7.3.2 Objective 3. Data Ecosystem Awareness & Understanding - 7.3.3 Objective 4. Data Ecosystem Negotiability - 7.3.4 Objective 5. Effective, Commercially Viable and Desirable HDR Systems - 7.3.5

HDR Obstacles

The obstacles are collectively shown in Figure 7.3 and are explained in the following subsections of 7.3:

- Closed, Insular and Introspective Practices 7.3.5
- Complex and Invisible Personal Data Ecosystems 7.3.3
- Diminishing Individual Agency 7.3.4
- Data Holder Hegemony 7.3.4
- Immobile Data 7.3.2
- Inaccessible Data 7.3.1, 7.3.2
- Insufficient Machine Understanding of Human Data 7.3.5
- Intractable Data Self, the 7.3.4
- Invisible Data 7.3.1
- Lack of Metadata 7.3.3
- Lack of Individual Demand 7.3.5
- Lack of Interoperability 7.3.5
- Lack of Provider Investment 7.3.5
- Non-Interrogable Data 7.3.2
- Personal Data Diaspora, the 7.3.1
- Unmalleable Data 7.3.2
- Unrelatable Data 7.3.1

HDR Insights

Insights in 7.3:

Insight 1 - Life Information Makes Data Relatable. Insight 2 - Data Needs to be United and Unified. Insight 3 - Data Must be Transformed into a Versatile Material. Insight 4 - Ecosystem Information is an Antidote to Digital Life Complexity. Insight 5 - We Must Know Data's Provenance. Insight 6 - Data Holders use Four Levers of Infrastructural Power. Insight 7 - Human-centred Information Systems Must Serve Human Values, Relieve Pain and Deliver New Life Capabilities. Insight 8 - We Need to Teach Computers to Understand Human Information.

Insights in 7.4:

Insight 9 - Individual GDPR Requests can Compel Companies to Change Data Practices. Insight 10 - Collectives can Compare and Unify their Data and Use it to Demand Change. Insight 11 - Automating the Identification of Entities can enhance Machine Understanding and Unburden Life Interface Users. Insight 12 - The 'Seams' of Digital Services need to be identified, exploited and protected. Insight 13 - It is Possible (and Necessary) to Demonstrate Business Benefits of Transparency and Human-centricity.

HDR Approaches

The four approaches are collectively summarised in 7.5, and illustrated and explained individually in subsections of 7.4:

Approach 1. Discovery-Driven Activism - 7.4.2 Approach 2. Building the Human-centric Future - 7.4.3 Approach 3. Defending User Autonomy and Hacking the Information Landscape - 7.4.4 Approach 4. Teaching, Championing and Selling the HDR Vision - 7.4.5

Contributions and Major Concepts of This Thesis

Auditing Data Holders - 7.4.2 Categories of Family Civic Data - ARI4.1 Categories of Personal Data - Figure 3.6 Data Access & Understanding Services - 7.4.2, 7.4.4 Data Literacy in an HDR Context - see HDR Literacy Data Cards - Figure 3.5, 3.5.2, 4.2.1; 4.4.2, Bowyer et al. (2018) Data Wants - Chapter 6 Data Relations, Direct - 6.1 Data Relations, Indirect - 6.2 Digital Self Curation - 4.4.3, 5.5.2, 6.3 Ecosystem Detection - Insight 4 Ecosystem Information - 7.2.4, Insight 4 Ecosystem Information Display - Insight 4 Ecosystem Negotiability - 7.2.4, 7.3.4 Empowerment (in the context of data wants)** - 6.3 Family Design Games - see Bowyer et al. (2018) Family Facts - see Bowyer et al. (2018) Free Data Interfaces - Bowyer (2018) Human Data Relations (HDR) - 7.2 HDR Literacy - 7.4.5 HDR Wants - see Data Wants Human Information Operating System - 7.3.2 Human Information - see Life Information and Ecosystem Information Inclusive Data Flows - 7.4.3 Information Standards - 5.5.1, 7.3.5 Landscape of HDR Opportunity - Figure 7.3, 7.4, Figure 7.36 Life Concepts - 7.3.1 Life Information Utilisation -7.2.3, Figure 7.1 Life Information - Insight 1 Life Interface Design - 7.4.3 Life Partitioning - 7.4.3 Locus of Decision Making (LDM) - 4.4.3 Meaning in Data - Figure 2.1, 4.3.2, 5.4.2, 6.1.2, Insight 1 Perceived Individual Power - 5.3.4 Personal Data Diaspora, the - 7.3.1 Personal Data Ecosystem Control - 7.2.3, Figure 7.1 Personal Data as a Proxy for Involvement - 5.4.4, Bowyer et al. (2018) Personal Data Stewardship - 4.3.3, 5.6 Pushing the Seams - Insight 12 Proxy Representations of Immobile Data - Insight 4 Shared Data Interaction - 4.2.4 Surface Information Injustices - 7.4.5, Insight 12 Storyboarding Action Cards -ARI4.3 Trust - 4.3.4, 4.4.1, 5.3.4, 5.4.4, 6.2.1, Insight 13 Types of Personal Data (by origin) - Table 5.2 Useability 10 (as distinct from Usability) - 6.1.3]

Glossary of Pre-Existing Abbreviations, Names and Terms

Action (stage of Personal Informatics) - see SI Action Research - a mode of research where cycles of investigation shape future studies Accessibility Tags (ARIA) - tags within HTML code that screenreaders use and which can be exploited for seam hacking Activism - using vigorous campaigning to bring about political or social change Agency - the ability, described in HDI, to act for oneself in a system, see HDI Barriers Cascade - a series of obstacles in SI BBC R&D - the Research & Development division of the British Broadcasting Corporation, where I did a research internship **Boundary Objects** - tangible objects and representations that help different populations that may think in different terms to collaborate effectively Card Sorting - a technique used in Participatory co-design where participants arrange cards to convey their thinking CHC - Connected Health Cities - government initiative behind the SILVER project, which I worked on Civic Hacking - technologists or enthusiasts working to reconfigure the way society works Civil Libertarianism - argues for the supremacy of individual rights and personal freedoms over imposition by authority Collection (stage of Personal Informatics) - see SI Consent, Dynamic - ongoing and changeable expression of preference Consent, Informed - initial one-time expression of preference Constructivism - a belief that new knowledge is formed by developing one's own mental models in order to explain new experiences Conceptual Anchors - the mental scaffolds which we use to organise our thinking and human information Context-aware Computing - designing systems that take account of the user's situation and varying needs Co-experience - bringing participants towards a shared perspective Cornmarket - codename for the BBC R&D PDS project I interned with Critical Algorithm Studies research into making computer systems and their behaviour more understandable and accountable Data Access Request - see Subject Access Request Data Brokers - third parties that buy and sell user's data Data Controller - an organisation responsible for collecting and storing user data Data Download Portal - a website or service that allows users to access held data in a 'selfservice' manner Data Flow Auditing - the use of apps or system services to monitor the communication and data sharing behaviours of consumer apps **Data** Justice - research into the relationship between datafication and social justice Data Portability Request - a particular kind of access request focussed on retrieving data in a machine-readable and useable format Data Processor one who handles user data on behalf of a data controller Data Provenance the history and origin of a piece of data Data Self - the representation of an individual in data through which state or commercial actors understand that person when making decisions Data Subject - the individual about whom data is stored Data Transcendence - the idea that data should not be tied to a single machine, but should move freely to the places it is needed Data (general) - digitally-encoded human information Data, Civic / Family Civic - the data stored about families by social care organisations such as Early Help

programmes Data, Acquired - personal data that has been obtained from an official or public source or a third party Data, Derived - new data that has been extrapolated through interpretation of existing data Data, Metadata - data about the data itself, or about the incident recorded in data Data, **Observed** - data collected about individuals automatically, as a by-product of other actions or in the background Data, Personal - data about or related to identifiable individuals Data, Volunteered - personal data that has been knowingly shared by that individual with an organisation Data, Trapped data that is hard to access due to technical, commercial or other restrictions **DERC** - Digital Economy Research Centre, funders of the Healthy Eating Web Augmentation project **Design**, Co- - researchers and participants collaboratively exploring problems and solutions Design, Adversarial - the design of systems or processes that challenge current norms Design, Design After the ability to repurpose products or services for new objectives that might not have been initially considered **Design**, **Disrespectful** - design practices (often in user interfaces) that prioritise commercial needs over human convenience **Design**, Experience-centred - design that focusses on human psychology and lived experience of the situation **Design**, **Magical** - the presentation of technology offerings as powerful and mysterious, that need not be examined or understood **Design**, **User-centred Design** - design approach that builds up an understanding of user needs that is subsequently used by technical experts **Design**, Value-centred **Design** - designing in ways that focus on positive impacts on human life Device Tenancy - the idea that we are no longer owners of our devices, and lack control and autonomy over their use Digital Civics - a multi-disciplinary research field encompassing HCI, governance, education, planning, social science and computer science, practiced by Open Lab, where I studied this PhD Digital Self - see Data Self DIKW pyramid - see Wisdom Curve \mathbf{DPA} - Data Protection Authority** - the official authority for regulating data use in a given country **DPO** - Data Protection Officer** - the individual legally responsible for managing data use within a company and for handling access requests EPSRC - Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, funders of this PhD research Early Help - a set of programmes in UK local authorities designed to identify 'at risk' families and help them with targeted interventions Effective Access - ensuring that individuals have all necessary skills, systems and capabilities necessary to see and understand information Embodied Interaction - allowing users to create their own practices in information interaction **Empowerment in Use** - having freedom to use products and services in the way you want Entities - people, places, organisations, brands, topics or other identifiable 'things' that could be a stakeholder of, or related to, a piece of data Entity Extraction - the process of identifying real-world entities in data Explainable AI - algorithms whose decision making processes are described to system users Faceted Search - the ability to search information by its shared aspects File Biography - the lifetime of past actions on a computer file Files, why they need to die - article by myself (Bowyer, 2011) GDPR -General Data Protection Regulation - the EU's 2018 regulations that give users rights over the collection and use of their personal data Gatekeeper - One

who controls the flow of data or information between an organisation and an individual HCI - Human Computer Interaction - research and practice that explores how people relate to and use computer systems HDI - Human **Data Interaction** - a subdiscipline of HCI that focuses on people's relationship with data, rather than with the system **Hestia.ai** - Swiss company working in the data access and understanding services space, which I currently work for HII - Human Information Interaction - a discipline in library sciences that considers how humans relate to information regardless of technology used **Humane Technology** - a movement focused on making technology that is more sensitive to people's lives and needs ICO - Information Commissioner's Office - the UK's Data Protection Authority Ideation Deck - a participatory design technique that uses 'ingredients' cards shuffled in a grid to generate new ideas Individualism - the pursuit of one's own objectives as a primary objective Information (general) - facts and assertions understood by interpreting data **Information**, **Human** - information about people that can be related to their lives or to their digital world **Information**, **Life** - information about people's lived experience that can be found within data Information, Ecosystem information about people's data, where it is stored, and how it is used and shared Information Landscape - the general terrain of available information that a user can see and interact with through the services and apps they use Infrastructural Power - see Power, Infrastructural Integration (stage of Personal Informatics) - see Self Informatics Interoperability - getting systems to connect and exchange information through data standards or conversion Interoperability, Adversarial - making systems connect together in ways that were not intended by manufacturers Legibility - the ability, as defined in HDI, of being able to understand stored data Lifelogging - the practice of maximal data capture for personal SI benefit Lenses - different ways of focusing on some data or information according to the aspect of interest or the current role Life Sketching - a process of mapping out mental models of one's life on paper MyData - an organisation whose members pursue a human-centric change agenda Negotiability - the ability described in HDI to flexibly adapt and change one's preferences as the world or digital system changes NER - Named Entity Recognition - see Entity Extraction Open Lab - the research lab in Newcastle University in which I conducted this PhD research Orienteering an associative process of information-finding PDS - Personal Data Store -See Personal Data Lockers PIM - Personal Information Management the 1990s/2000s discipline that focused on new ways to manage and interact with data and information PIM systems, contextual - PIM systems that organise information according to what context it relates to PIM systems, networked - PIM systems that focus on the relationships between different pieces of information PIM systems, semantic - PIM systems that focus on the underlying meaning of the stored data PIM systems, spatial - PIM systems that focus on arranging data in a virtual space for easier management PIM systems, subjective - PIM systems that focus on the varied individual needs of users **PIM systems, temporal** - PIM systems that represent information using timelines or other visualisations that highlight change over time PIMS - Personal

Information Management Services** - See Personal Data Lockers Participatory Action Research - see Action Research PDE - Personal Data Economy the emergent marketplace of companies innovating and offering services relating to the management, self-exploitation or harnessing of one's personal data **Per**sonal Data Ecosystem - the network of systems, accounts, files and digital information that constitutes an individual's digital life Personal Data Lockers - a place to store personal data so that it can be united, unified and interpreted by the data subject Personal Data Vault - See Personal Data Lockers Personal Informatics - see SI Preparation (stage of Personal Informatics) - see SI **Perspectives** - different presentations or aspects of information that support different mental models, focus or tasks Point of Severance - the point at which data is handed over, beyond which data subjects lose visibility, control and influence Power - Behavioural Influence - persuading others to carry out the desired behaviour **Power - Interpretative Influence** - determining how reality is externally represented Power - Network Centrality - becoming an indispensable hub of a wider ecosystem **Power**, **Authority** - ownership of technology or infrastructure **Power**, **Disciplinary** - using an influential position to affect others' mental models **Power**, **Infrastructural** - a model of understanding how providers exert power over their users, created as part of the digipower investigation Power, Interpretive - creating the internal representations of reality within an organisation Power, (power to) - an individual's ability to act (see Agency) Power, (power over) - a dominant actor's ability to limit or manipulate the actions of others Power, Obscure - where the subservient cannot tell when they are watched Power, Pervasive - where the one in power can see everything all the time Power, Processual - changing processes for competitive advantage Power, Rational - controlling decision-making processes Power, Resource Control - controlling the flow of resources Power, Social power where the power holder attempts to influence the behaviour of individuals in pursuit their desired outcomes Power, Socially-shaped - influencing a wide audience to settle upon a preferred interpretation Power, Systems/Structural - see Infrastructural Power Power, Zero Sum - winning a battle for ownership/resource control at the other party's expense Power Imbalance (over Personal Data) - the established fact that data holders have more power in service relationships than data subjects. **Pragmatism** - an epistemology that believes knowledge is constantly renegotiated by individuals QSM - Quantified Self Movement - see SI R&D - Research & Development Reflection (stage of Personal Informatics) - see SI Recursive Public - a community of people who are attempting to reconfigure society for the better SAR - Subject Access **Request** - a request to a DPO of an organisation for a copy of held personal data SI - Self Informatics - an umbrella term for Personal Informatics and the Quantified Self Movement, where people track their activity in data and reflect upon it, setting goals and tracking progress SILVER - the project working in the Early Help space that I worked with for Case Study One Sitra - Finnish non-profit research organisation for which the digipower investigation was conducted **Scraping** - the process of programmatically extracting information from interfaces such as websites that were intended for human browsing. Seams - the

'edges' of products and services, at which service providers can exert restrictions and at which users can find new ways to adapt their product usage and data access Support Worker - a specialist social worker who helps a family in an Early Help context Supported Family - a family participating in an Early Help social care programme **Text Mining** - the process of programmatically examining textual data to infer new facts and assertions from the data ToC - Theories of Change - a model for thinking about how to achieve change in society Things to Think With - the idea that tangible representations can be useful to aid discussions Timelines - visual representations of information anchored against points in time TrackerControl - see Data Flow Auditing. Troubled Families - historic term for those families targeted for help by programmes such as Early Help VRM - Vendor Relationship Management - a model where vendors are selected by customers in response to their published needs, instead of relying on broadcast advertising to find customers Web Augmentation - the process of modifying a web page to provide new functionality or access data after it has been downloaded to a user's we browser Web Extensions - pieces of user code that are loaded into a web browser to modify or programmatically interrogate web pages Wisdom Curve - the process of converting data, to information, to knowledge, to wisdom world2vec - a system in Facebook that attempts to understand the world through analysis of social media content

Bibliography

Bowyer, A. (2011) 'Why files need to die'. available at: http://radar.oreilly.com/ 2011/07/why-files-need-to-die.html.

Bowyer, A. (2018) 'Free Data Interfaces: Taking Human- Data Interaction to the Next Level', *CHI Workshops 2018*. available at: https://eprints.ncl.ac.uk/273825. Bowyer, A. *et al.* (2018) 'Understanding the Family Perspective on the Storage, Sharing and Handling of Family Civic Data', in *Conference on human factors in computing systems - proceedings*. New York, New York, USA: ACM Press, pp. 1–13. doi: 10.1145/3173574.3173710.