What is [Datasette](#)?

Datasette's creator Simon Willison built it as a tool for data journalists and has likened it to the impulse "we have all this data, let's make it available, say on a Google Sheet", except it is a much more powerful and well-designed solution for sharing data and can be extended in lots of different directions (like using your published dataset in a map for example). But the 'publish via a google sheet' gives you an initial idea of Datasette's starting point. It is built "on top of SQlite".

Quick start: What can I do with it?

— Look at a datasette that other people have published. There is [a list on the datasette website](#).

There is [a datasette of the register of MPs financial interests](#), for example. Write your own queries or look at [some from Simon Willison](#).

— Publish my csv as a live datasette by remixing Simon Willison's [glitch app that runs Datasette](#). Here is an example: a csv I added to my remix of the app, which produces the same thing as the more involved Heroku app further down. Each csv that you add will appear as a table.

https://iot-remix-dsette.glitch.me/data/iot_df_halfclean

— Export the data as JSON or CSV. This can be the entire datasette as is, or as below a selection that you have made (a CSV of ten rows can be exported in this example)

Custom SQL query returning 10 rows (hide)

```
1  select * from iot_df_halfclean LIMIT 10;
```

Format SQL   Run SQL

This data as json, CSV

Share a selection / query result with someone that I have from a published datasette, using the URL

https://r4iot.herokuapp.com/iot?sql=select+*+from+iot_df_halfclean+limit+3%3B

— Install datasette locally and query a sqlite database without the usual options (i.e. GUIs, command line, notebooks). I install it

        pip install datasette

and now I can open it using datasette

        datasette serve /path/some_database.db

and I will get an interface running locally on my browser that lets me write SQlite queries.

* Help! I've already got notebooks running on my default local host: Add an optional argument to launch on a specific local host

        datasette serve -p 8002 iot.db

— Use any of the associated plugins or tools to do lots of other things. The csvs-to-sqlite tool for example will let you flip any local csv to a database with a single table inside (thus making it something you can serve via Datasette).

        csvs-to-sqlite some_file.csv some_database.db

— Publish your datasette database to the web other than via glitch. Follow this guide for step by step to Heroku. It's essentially:

        heroku login
        datasette publish heroku --name name-of-app some_database.db

which gives:

        https://r4iot.herokuapp.com