


# Data Settings & Assemblages

# What does a "data setting" refer to?




*"...both the technical and the human processes that affect what information is captured in the data collection process and how the data are then structured."*

*Data Feminism, p. 132*

What sort of questions  
might you ask about a  
dataset to determine its  
"setting"?

# Data Assemblages




*A complex socio-technical system  
that is composed of many  
apparatuses and elements that are  
thoroughly entwined and whose  
central concern is the production,  
management, analysis, and  
translation of data*

Kitchin, 2014, p. 24

# Data Assemblages

A more succinct summary:



*All of the technological, political, social, and economic apparatuses that frame the nature, operation, and work of a data system or infrastructure*

Kitchin & Lauriault, 2018, p. 8

# An example of a Data Assemblage:

## The U.S. Census

Hall & Dávila, 2022, Chapter 3

What are some "technological, political, social, and economic apparatuses that frame the nature, operation, and work" of the U.S. Census?

# Another Data Assemblage:

*Crawford & Joler's Anatomy of an AI System:*

# Anatomy of an AI system

An anatomical case study of the Amazon Echo as a virtual intelligence system made of human labor

