



Greige Room 03

ACCESS TRACKING IN A CONTROL SOCIETY: DELEUZE'S DIVIDUALS
research and analysis by mary dahlman begley and austin young

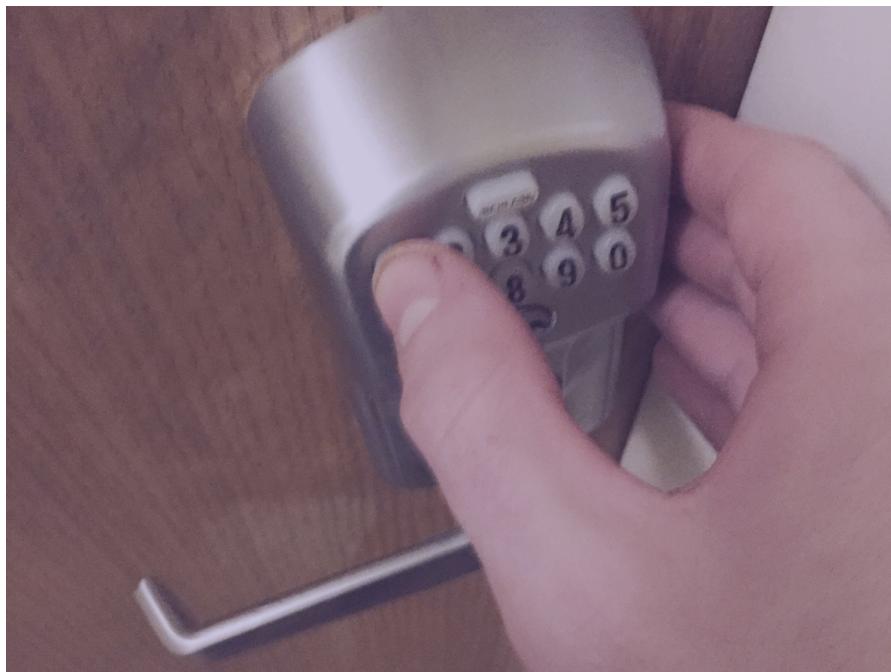
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ACCESS TRACKING IN A CONTROL SOCIETY: DELEUZE'S DIVIDUALS

*research and analysis by
mary dahlman begley and austin young*

On April 9, 2018, MDB and ADY embarked on a day long research project. Every time we exhibited behavior typical of Deleuze's *dividual*, using the continuous and unbounded interface of our daily lives to gain access to new spaces, we logged the event. Our metrics included notation of the type of passcode (analog key or mechanism, swipe/scan of card, password/code type, password/code autofill, or other), the location and time of event, and whether the passcode granted entry to a physical space, digital space, or allowed transaction. The goal of the research project was to probe the limits of control society - to articulate the continuous range of different orbits among which a control man undulates. The results of our research and a postscript analysis are presented here, in Greige Room's exciting first collaborative issue.





MDB 5:43 PM

Today

hello and thank you for joining me in this research and analysis of deleuze's 'postscript on control societies': this is the third issue of greige room and you are our first guest, austin young, fellow elevated head, congratulations and welcome! we spent yesterday logging every time we used a 'password' - tracking ourselves moving through deleuze's 'control society'. you told me your habitus was thoroughly fucked with, wdyt?



austin 5:44 PM

First, thank you mary and to the greige room- really wonderful to be on this slack dm.



I mean that my disposition or habitus throughout the day of logging became affected by a sort of paranoia: first, that I had entered a passcode and did not log it, second that I knew you would have the ability to view the log and know my location or activity, and then third, and perhaps the point of the experiment that many other agents have already been logging this same data simply without my direct acknowledgement at each point of entering a password.

Therefore, as you noted yesterday, some additional logs were avoided for both the hassle of logging the code (1), you knowing what I was doing (2), and the growing urge to be as anonymous as possible (3).

TIMESTAMP	LOCATION	ENTRY TYPE	ENTRY GRANTED
4/9/2018 7:44:56	Pass code on iPhone	PASSWORD/CODE TYPE	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 7:46:49	Snooze on iPhone	PASSWORD/CODE TYPE	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 9:43:55	[REDACTED]	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 9:44:18	CRV	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 9:46:44	Phone	SWIPE/SCAN	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 10:05:12	smb://alch-server	PASSWORD/CODE TYPE	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 10:05:31	[REDACTED]	PASSWORD/CODE TYPE	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 11:43:40	Hampden park coop	SWIPE/SCAN	TRANSACTION ALLOWED
4/9/2018 12:02:00	CRV	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 12:02:50	Home	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 12:07:07	Rapson gd	SWIPE/SCAN	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 13:19:08	Rapson gd	SWIPE/SCAN	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 14:04:39	myunn	PASSWORD/CODE TYPE	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 14:16:13	Rapson printer	SWIPE/SCAN	TRANSACTION ALLOWED
4/9/2018 15:20:45	facebook	PASSWORD/CODE AUTOFILL	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 15:21:02	phone	SWIPE/SCAN	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 15:46:35	Rapson GD	SWIPE/SCAN	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 15:46:52	RAPSON 225	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 16:36:09	texted lise	PASSWORD/CODE TYPE	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 17:26:07	home	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 17:34:34	Jump Desktop	PASSWORD/CODE AUTOFILL	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 17:59:41	CRV	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 18:00:11	T-rex coffee	SWIPE/SCAN	TRANSACTION ALLOWED
4/9/2018 18:41:44	Called mom	PASSWORD/CODE TYPE	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 18:59:31	Trex cookie bathroom	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 19:00:17	CRV	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 20:10:44	Menards	SWIPE/SCAN	TRANSACTION ALLOWED
4/9/2018 20:10:58	Menards return	SWIPE/SCAN	TRANSACTION ALLOWED
4/9/2018 20:11:11	CRV	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 20:11:23	home, back door	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 21:15:25	iphone: text kotono	PASSWORD/CODE TYPE	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 21:18:34	[REDACTED]	PASSWORD/CODE AUTOFILL	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 21:33:56	cyberduck	PASSWORD/CODE AUTOFILL	DIGITAL SPACE

TIMESTAMP	LOCATION	ENTRY TYPE	ENTRY GRANTED
4/9/2018 6:44:12	iPhone	THUMB PRINT	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 6:44:35	iPhone / gmail	PASSWORD/CODE AUTOFILL	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 7:43:56	green line (prospect park)	SWIPE/SCAN	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 7:44:21	iPhone	THUMB PRINT	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 8:05:11	Studio	SWIPE/SCAN	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 8:06:04	Studio (my desk)	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 9:40:17	Studio	SWIPE/SCAN	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 9:40:37	iPhone	THUMB PRINT	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 9:46:03	Studio (my desk)	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 9:46:29	computer	PASSWORD/CODE TYPE	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 9:54:46	computer	PASSWORD/CODE AUTOFILL	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 10:01:39	Slack	PASSWORD/CODE TYPE	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 10:10:43	iPhone	THUMB PRINT	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 10:29:03	Slack	PASSWORD/CODE TYPE	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 11:41:09	Coffman bookstore	SWIPE/SCAN	TRANSACTION ALLOWED
4/9/2018 11:41:26	iPhone	THUMB PRINT	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 11:51:24	studio	SWIPE/SCAN	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 11:51:39	Studio (my desk)	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 11:51:51	computer	PASSWORD/CODE AUTOFILL	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 12:34:29	iPhone	THUMB PRINT	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 15:48:05	iPhone	THUMB PRINT	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 16:15:22	Studio	SWIPE/SCAN	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 17:32:06	Studio (my desk)	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 17:34:21	computer	PASSWORD/CODE TYPE	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 19:09:25	tinyletter	PASSWORD/CODE AUTOFILL	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 19:16:34	Studio (my desk)	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 19:46:32	iPhone	THUMB PRINT	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 20:12:18	iPhone	THUMB PRINT	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 20:12:40	Green line (stadium village)	SWIPE/SCAN	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 20:12:56	iPhone	THUMB PRINT	DIGITAL SPACE
4/9/2018 20:23:11	[REDACTED]	ANALOG KEY OR MECHANISM	PHYSICAL SPACE
4/9/2018 21:33:20	computer (my house)	PASSWORD/CODE TYPE	DIGITAL SPACE

MARY DAHLMAN BEGLEY - ACCESS TRACKING DATA





MDB 5:52 PM

well paranoia is the name of the game in a control society, after all. i did avoid entering passwords for those same reasons - i did not post my regular instagram stories or make any tweets to avoid logging into the digital space and in resistance to sharing even more information.



austin 5:53 PM

Do you mind sharing what you would have instagram storied?



MDB 5:55 PM

as you know, i post photos of objects on the ground - trash. it started as a joke - people look at my story to see something interesting and are tricked into looking at trash - but now it is a whole thing. i saw three colored pencils on the ground in a puddle on washington. could have been a great inclusion to the trash journal.

sort of a life log maybe, cataloging this specific interaction i have ...

i want to talk about a thumb print scanner and return to habitus later in the conversation. you brought up that others (your roommates) have the password to your house.

the biometric - thumb print - is unique to each of us. how does this uniqueness (in case of thumb) or lack thereof (in case of shared code) change the individual access card?



austin 6:02 PM

Yes, at the co-op I live in with 26 people each of us (plus occasional boarders) have access to the door code. I think that this is important to bring up because thresholds in and of themselves were not included (despite the potential that cultural capital may be a "passcode" to enter spaces), but like the thumbprint scan or even a lock and key, there is at least an attempt at security through uniqueness or individuality. I noted that others had the passcode because that would alter its potential relevancy to the log.



MDB 6:06 PM

cultural capital is interesting to consider as a passcode. deleuze spoke of 'the card that may be rejected on a particular day, or between certain times of the day; it doesn't depend on the barrier but on the computer that is making sure everyone is in a permissible place, and effecting a universal modulation'

i suppose i'm trying to draw a line between someone posting good instagrams, gathering cultural capital, and therefore being granted access.



austin 6:08 PM

I think it is telling/relevant that Deleuze identifies the rejection of the access card (almost as virilio would look at a car and think of the car crash, guattari and deleuze think of the individual card and its rejection). Especially in terms of the uniqueness of the access card, the isolating, kafkaesque effect of the rejection is so much more colossal in the individual or thumbprint rather than the shared passcode as there is no one there to open the door or regrant access.



MDB 6:10 PM

you're onto something there: connect to bordieu's 'social space' which is defined by the 'mutual exclusion of positions which constitute it' - rejection and therefore exclusion do you think that rejection/exclusion play a bigger role in the control society or disciplinary society? perhaps the rejection is unavoidable in any society?



austin 6:16 PM

I think you're right that it is unavoidable but the classification of disciplinary and control societies is relevant and applies to the scale of the exclusion.

Where Deleuze begins paraphrasing Foucault, in other writings on control Foucault describes a sort of genealogy of power as such:

Sovereign Power:

[Contract- Oppression]

War Power:

[Domination- Repression]

Capillary Power:

[Disciplinary / Control]

Within war power is exclusionary by nature but deals with (at least) two factions whereas Sovereign Power is almost total control, monarchical control but the exclusion then is also total banishment. (edited)

Capillary power or control power which is what Deleuze describes most and is most likely what was intended through the description is a diffuse form of power but the exclusion seems to be not very different from a Sovereign power. I don't know how else to describe it. (edited)



MDB 6:23 PM

(edited) (it is unethical to forget) (an aside)



austin 6:23 PM

(sorry)





MDB 6:27 PM

perhaps the exclusion is different in a similar way that reforms offer the illusion of freedom. i do not have the passcode, i am rejected from entering your house, but my codes work elsewhere. the exclusion seems softer if i can go somewhere else, but really i am still being controlled, surveilled - i can undulate among a continuous range of different orbits but cannot exit orbit.



austin 6:29 PM

I agree, I think bringing it to the specific rejection gives it that perspective. I was still considering a Josef K. phenomena of a sort of total lock out leading to a Trial etc etc. If you're locked out of my house it's not so bad.

I have a question (is that okay?) and this might bring us back to habitus: you wrote in the google sheet habitus = translating relational characteristics into unitary lifestyle. dividual..uni vs. di

Can you explain?



MDB 6:32 PM

well i was questioning deleuze's neologism - he says '[in a control society] we're no longer dealing with a duality of mass and individual. individuals become *dividuals*'

zooming into the prefix di-, and the archaic meaning of the word *dividual* is that which is separate or distinct

bordieu's habitus rotates around an opposite prefix, uni- "habitus are these ... unifying principles which retranslate the intrinsic and relational characteristics of a position into a *unitary* life-style, that is a *unitary* set of persons, goods, and practices"

at first i thought, Dlvidual, who is the OTHER? is it he who is in control, the snake deleuze warns us of? but now i am thinking that by fucking with habitus, we have broken down the UNItary.

what do you think, is dividual related/in opposition to the unitary habitus or am i surfing myself into linguistic purgatory?



austin 6:37 PM

No, I think this is really productive - I was doing my own linguistic research on logos (as the base for log, analog, and technology) which I think we could talk about later.

But, I had a different reading of the snake, I thought we were inside the snake as we used to be inside of a mole's burrows, both obviously controlled but one with the capability of moving.

This relates to the passcode that gets rejected, where now, instead of merely having to find the right door, the same door tomorrow may have a new lock.

Either way, can you explain how we broke down the UNItary? Is simply being aware enough to break away from a UNItary into a Dlvidual?

After re-reading your interpretation of the snake I think I misinterpreted your interpretation. I think the snake is the other too... maybe.



MDB 6:44 PM

snake is satan and he is always hard to pin down

unitary>dividual: it has to do with awareness. in a habitus, structure is structured, our realizations of the social order are mediated, therefore we have a unitary set of persons, goods, and practices. but by fucking with this habitus (snake slithering about?), we have begun to question who is the other - when i swipe this card, i acknowledge that someone(human or computer) is allowing or rejecting my entry into rapson 3rd floor studio where this reading is unclear, however, is in guattari's town we do not know if those people are aware of who is controlling the barrier. we're unclear on the sentience of those townspeople.

townspeople.

this brings me to what i think should be our final question - greige room only has so many pages after all - and i hope you will share your research on logos tomorrow...

Deleuze told us (young people) that it is "[our] job to discover whose ends [we] serve, just as older people discovered, with considerable difficult, who was benefiting from disciplines." did you discover the answer to his call to action through this research? whose ends are we serving?

[new messages](#)

 **austin** 6:57 PM

The snake's coils being "even more intricate than a mole burrow" as the site of this new discipline indicates I think to a certain extent that if we were to piece together who our collective data and who else knew the passwords we entered, it seems like that only in part would answer this question.

 **austin** 7:05 PM

Deleuze states that "One of the most important questions is whether trade unions still have any role: linked throughout their history to the struggle against disciplines, in sites of confinement, can they adapt, or will they give way to new forms of resistance against control societies?" I think at this moment, few people I imagine are considering this the most important question. I am, a card-carrying wobbly (architects don't actually have a code within the IWW so I'm considered a carpenter or contractor). But I have been in conversation with some of those people trying very very hard to adapt, but they are struggling. In 2016 after the shooting of Philando Castile, the police had compromised the app signal that they were using and so they installed a private server for communication.

The fact that they were targeted and the General Defense Committee (the action arm of the IWW in Minneapolis) is still the epicenter of protests (albeit perhaps best led against disciplinary regimes) is poignant. Also we haven't touched on the idea that perhaps being rejected is not worse than thinking you have a secure "space" and being joined by unwelcome guests.

Maybe the better answer is no, I did not find out the answer through researching. Did you?

 **MDB** 7:08 PM

!!!

you have gotten closer to establishing the sociotechnological principles of these control mechanisms by illustrating this form of resistance.

i have no answer for you.

i suppose in this exercise we are perhaps benefitting the greige room! no unwelcome guests here, do not worry, access is carefully controlled, all thanks to the benefactors of this issue: funded by a grant from the NSA with additional support from the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative! (edited)

 **austin** 7:14 PM

True true, but what about your bookstore purchase huh?

see: 4/9/2018 11:41:09 begle016@umn.edu Coffman bookstore SWIPE/SCAN TRANSACTION ALLOWED

 1  1  1

Thank you for having me and thanks to those great sponsors!

 **MDB** 7:16 PM

Thank you for the discourse and your thorough research, you will receive a check in the mail (we have your address) along with your passcode to enter the Greige Room whenever you like. Have a great evening!

 1

door slams



