

Nathanael Sheehan

PhD Student

Curriculum Vitae

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About

I am Nathanael Sheehan (he/him) a first year doctoral candidate at the University of Exeter, where my research focuses on the “Diversity and Injustice of Open Research Environments”. This research is generously funded by the EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Environmental Intelligence and is a component of the project “Philosophy of Open Science for Diverse Research Environments” run by Professor Sabina Leoneli. My doctoral research seeks to construct an empirically informed philosophy of Open Science (OS) that acknowledges the varied research environments globally and strives to delineate the circumstances wherein OS can harness this diversity to foster exemplary research practices. To address these conditions, I develop a philosophical analysis of the epistemic significance of research environments with quantitative research on how researchers working in different environments enact and conceptualize OS, specifically within the spheres of virology and global health. My methodological framework draws inspiration from the “philosophy of science in practice” (PSP) approach, providing a comprehensive lens to explore the nuances of OS and facilitate fruitful collaborations between scientists and policymakers. Central to my thesis is the objective of critically re-envisioning OS. I aim to shift the perception of OS from an object-oriented perspective, which perceives it as a capitalist paradigm built on perpetual growth and speculative profit, to an ethical understanding that positions openness as the cultivation of judicious collaborations amongst researchers.

Education

2014-2018	BSc Computer Science (1st) Manchester, UK	Manchester Metropolitan University
2019-2020	Master of Smart Cities and Urban Analytics (Distinction) London, UK	University College London
2021-2025	PhD Environmental Intelligence Exeter, UK	Exeter University

Work Experience

2017-2019	Software Engineer London, UK	RetalMeNot
2020	Research Assistant Remote	University College London
2021	Geographical Information System Engineer Remote	Bristol City Council
2021	Research Engineer Remote	Oxford University
2021-2022	Research Fellow Remote	Leeds University
2024	Research Assistant Exeter, UK	Exeter University

Research Publications

- Talbot, J., Lucas-Smith, M., Speakman, A., Streb, M., Nuttall, S., Carlino, D., Johansson, P., Sheehan, N., Groot, N., & Lovelace, R. (2022). Active Travel Oriented Development: Assessing the suitability of sites for new homes. *European Journal of Transport and Infrastructure Research*, 22(4), 51–72. <https://doi.org/10.18757/ejtir.2022.22.4.6015>
- Sheehan, N., Botta, F. and Leonelli, S. (2024) ‘Unrestricted Versus Regulated Open Data Governance: A Bibliometric Comparison of SARS-CoV-2 Nucleotide Sequence Databases’, *Data Science Journal*, 23(1), p. 29. Available at: <https://doi.org/10.5334/dsj-2024-029>
- Sheehan, Nathanael & Leonelli, Sabina, Reconciling Data Actionability and Accountability in Global Health Research. Available at: <https://philpapers.org/rec/SHERDA-4>

Research Software

- Joseph Talbot, M. L.-S., Nathanael Sheehan. (2021). ActDev.
- Robin Lovelace, L. H., & Sheehan, N. (2021). Pct: Propensity to cycle tool.
- Sheehan, N. (2022). Thames21 socio-ecological data.
- Sheehan, N. (2022). Dimaqdata: Data integration model for air quality data.
- Sheehan, N., Lovelace, R., Nederlof, T., & Carlino, D. (2022). Abstr: R interface to the a/b street transport system simulation software.
- Sheehan, N (2022). IndoorRSSI: Indoor Received Signal Strength Indicator
- Sheehan, N (2023). eaCatcher: The eaCatcher R package provides an interface to data from the environment.data.gov.uk catchment planner.
- Sheehan, N (2023). Gigwork Stories: Doing Gig Work, a research project which studies the management, solidarity and resistance of platform food couriers in Manchester (UK), Cluj-Napoca (Romania) and Lyon (France).
- Sheehan, N (2023). C2A: CTA contains the code and data used to produce the results presented in the paper "From collection to analysis: A comparison of GISAIID and the Covid-19 Data Portal.

Research Presentations

2020	Digital Ecologies, Online Performing digital water publics: a computational approach
2021	Decarbon8, Online Working with origin-destination and activity data to model decarbonisation
2021	Intelligent Machines, Emotions, and Our Planet, Online Linking Sentiment with River Health in the Thames Basin
2021	Modelling World, Online The ActDev Project
2022	Data Crunch, Online Open Data in the Private Industry
2022	Philosophy of Open Science open meeting, Online Responsible Repositories
2022	PhillinBioMed conference, Pittsburgh Analysis of COVID-19 sequencing platforms
2023	Research Data Alliance, Gothenburg Analysis of COVID-19 sequencing platforms
2023	Institute for Data Science and AI, Exeter Analysis of COVID-19 sequencing platforms
2023	PHIL_OS Exploratory Conference, Exeter Open Data and Software in Science
2023	International Society for the History, Philosophy and Social Studies of biology, Toronto Covid-19 Genomic Data: Diverse Enough?
2024	Understanding Life in a Changing Planet , Exeter Between Open and Closed Data: A metascientific study on global health data practices