

# Alex Hanna

Curriculum Vitae (December 5, 2024)

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## EMPLOYMENT

- 2022-     Distributed AI Research Institute  
           Director of Research
- 2021-     University of California-Berkeley  
           Lecturer, School of Information
- 2018-22   Google  
           Nov 2020 - Feb 2022, Senior Research Scientist, Ethical AI  
           Feb 2020 - Nov 2020, Research Scientist, Ethical AI  
           July 2019 - Feb 2020, Program Manager, ML Fairness  
           July 2018 - July 2019, Technical Curriculum Developer, ML, Google Cloud
- 2016-18   Assistant Professor, University of Toronto Mississauga  
           Institute of Communication, Culture, Information and Technology  
           Faculty of Information (Graduate appointment)

## EDUCATION

- 2016     PhD, Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2013     MS, Sociology, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2007     BA, Sociology, Purdue University.
- 2007     BS, Computer Science and Mathematics, Purdue University.

## PUBLICATIONS

### Books

- 2025     *The AI Con* (with Emily M. Bender). Harper Books.

### Peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings

- 2023     Jiang, H. H., Brown, L., Cheng, J., Khan, M., Gupta, A., Workman, D., **Hanna, A.**, Flowers, J., and Gebru, T. "AI Art and its Impact on Artists." *AIES '24*.
- 2023     Pinney, C., Raj, A., **Hanna, A.**, Ekstrand, M. "Much Ado About Gender: Current Practices and Future Recommendations for Appropriate Gender-Aware Information Access." *ACM SIGIR Conference on Human Information Interaction and Retrieval (CHIIR '23)*.

- 2022 Miceli, M., Yang, T., Garcia, A., Posada, J., Wang, S., Pohl, M., **Hanna, A.** "Documenting Data Production Processes: A Participatory Approach for Data Work." *Proceedings of the 2022 Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW '22)*.
- 2022 Thakkar, D., Ismail, A., Kumar, P., **Hanna, A.**, Sambasivan, N., Kumar, N. "When is Machine Learning Data Good?: Valuing in Public Health Datafication." *Proceedings of the 2022 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems*.
- 2021 Raji, I. D., Bender, E. M., Paullada, A., Denton, E., **Hanna, A.** "AI and the Everything in the Whole Wide World Benchmark." *NeurIPS (Datasets and Benchmark Track)*.
- 2021 Koch, B., Denton, E., **Hanna, A.**, Foster, J. G. "Reduced, Reused and Recycled: The Life of a Dataset in Machine Learning Research." *NeurIPS (Datasets and Benchmark Track)*.  
**\*Best Paper Award**
- 2021 Scheuerman, M. K., Denton, E., **Hanna, A.** "Do Datasets Have Politics? Disciplinary Values in Computer Vision Dataset Development." *Proceedings of the 2021 Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW '21)*.  
**\*Best Paper Award**
- 2021 Hutchinson, B., Smart, A., **Hanna, A.**, Denton, E., Greer, C., Kjartansson, O., Barnes, P., Mitchell, M. "Towards Accountability for Machine Learning Datasets: Practices from Software Engineering and Infrastructure." *Proceedings of the 2021 Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency*.
- 2021 Milagros, M., Yang, T., Naudts, L., Schuessler, M., Serbanescu, D., **Hanna, A.** "Documenting Computer Vision Datasets: An Invitation to Reflexive Data Practices." *Proceedings of the 2021 Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency*.
- 2020 Mitchell, M., Baker, D., Moorosi, N., Denton, E., Hutchinson, B., **Hanna, A.**, Gebru, T. and Morgenstern, J., 2020, February. Diversity and inclusion metrics in subset selection. *Proceedings of the AAAI/ACM Conference on AI, Ethics, and Society* (pp. 117-123).
- 2020 **Hanna, A.**, Denton, E., Smart, A. and Smith-Loud, J., 2020, January. Towards a critical race methodology in algorithmic fairness. *Proceedings of the 2020 Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency* (pp. 501-512).
- 2020 Paullada, A., Raji, I. D., Bender, E., Denton, E., **Hanna, A.** "Data and its (dis) contents: A survey of dataset development and use in machine learning research." *Proceedings of the NeurIPS 2020 Workshop: ML Retrospectives, Surveys & Meta-analyses (ML-RSA)*.  
**\*Best Paper Award**
- 2020 Raji, I. D., Bender, E. M., Denton, E., **Hanna, A.**, Paullada, A. "AI and the Everything in the Whole Wide World Benchmark." *Proceedings of the NeurIPS 2020 Workshop: ML Retrospectives, Surveys & Meta-analyses (ML-RSA)*.
- 2020 Denton, E., **Hanna, A.**, Amironesei, R., Smart, A., Nicole, H. and Scheuerman, M.K. "Bringing the People Back In: Contesting Benchmark Machine Learning Datasets." *Proceedings of the 2020 ICML Workshop: Participatory Approaches to Machine Learning*.

- 2020 **Hanna, A.**, Park, T. "Against Scale: Provocations and Resistances to Scale Thinking." *Proceedings of the 2020 CSCW Workshop: Reconsidering Scale and Scaling in CSCW Research*.
- 2013 **Hanna, A.**, C. Wells, P. Maurer, D. V. Shah, L. Friedland, and J. Mattes. Partisan Alignments and Political Polarization Online: A Computational Approach to Understanding the French and U.S. Presidential Elections. *Politics, Election, and Data Workshop (PLEAD)*. San Francisco, CA. November 1.
- 2011 **Hanna, A.**, B. Sayre, L. Bode, J. Yang, and D. V. Shah. Mapping the Political Twitterverse: Candidates and Their Followers in the Midterms. In *Proceedings of the Fifth International AAAI Conference on Weblogs and Social Media (ICWSM)*. Barcelona, Spain. July 17-21.

### Peer-Reviewed Journal Articles

- 2024 Berrey, E., **Hanna, A.**, Bass, K., and Kim, N. "U.S. and Canadian Higher Education Protests and University and Police Responses, 2012 to 2018." *Socius: Sociological Research for a Dynamic World*.
- 2023 Khan, M. and **Hanna, A.** "The Subjects and Stages of AI Dataset Development: A Framework for Dataset Accountability." *Ohio State Technology Law Review*.
- 2023 Oliver, P., **Hanna, A.**, Lim, C. "Constructing Relational and Verifiable Protest Event Data: Four Challenges and Some Solutions." *Mobilization: An International Quarterly*.
- 2022 Oliver, P., Lim, C., Matthews, M. C., **Hanna, A.** "Black Protests in the United States, 1994 to 2010." *Sociological Science*.
- 2021 Scheuerman, M., Pape, M., **Hanna, A.** "Auto-essentialization: Gender in automated facial analysis as extended colonial project." *Big Data & Society*.
- 2021 Paullada, A., Raji, I. D., Bender, E., Denton, E., **Hanna, A.** "Data and its (dis) contents: A survey of dataset development and use in machine learning research." *Cell Patterns*.
- 2021 Denton, E., **Hanna, A.**, Amironesei, R., Smart, A., and Nicole, H. "On the Genealogy of Machine Learning Datasets: A Critical History of ImageNet." *Big Data & Society*.
- 2016 Shah, D. V., **A. Hanna**, E. P. Bucy, D. S. Lassen, J. Van Thomme, K. Bialik, J. Yang, and J. Pevehouse. "Dual Screening During Presidential Debates: Political Nonverbals and the Volume and Valence of Online Expression." *American Behavioral Scientist* 60(14): 1816-1843.
- 2016 Wells, C., J. Van Thomme, P. Maurer, **A. Hanna**, J. Pevehouse, D. V. Shah, and E. P. Bucy. "Coproduction or Cooptation? Real-time Spin and Social Media Response During the 2012 French and US Presidential Debates." *French Politics* 14(2): 206-233.
- 2015 Bode, L., **A. Hanna**, J. Yang, and D. V. Shah. "Candidate Networks, Citizen Clusters, and Political Expression: Strategic Hashtag Use in the 2010 Midterms." *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 659(1): 149-165.

- 2015 Shah, D. V., **A. Hanna**, E. P. Bucy, C. Wells, and V. Quevedo. "The Power of Television Images in a Social Media Age: Linking Biobehavioral and Computational Approaches via the Second Screen." *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 659(1): 225-245.
- 2013 **Hanna, A.** "Computer-aided Content Analysis of Digitally-enabled Movements." *Mobilization: An International Quarterly* 18(4): 367-388.  
**\*2014 Outstanding Graduate Student Paper Award, Mathematical Sociology Section, American Sociological Association.**

### Book Chapters

- 2017 **Hanna, A.** "Being transgender on the academic job market." in *Reflections on Academic Lives: Identities, Struggles, and Triumphs in Graduate School and Beyond*, eds. Staci Zavattaro and Shannon Orr.
- 2015 Shah, D. V., K. Culver, **A. Hanna**, T. Macafee, and J. Yang. "Computational Approaches to Online Political Expression: Rediscovering a 'Science of the Social'." in *Handbook of Digital Politics*, eds. Stephen Coleman and Deen Freelon.

### Book Reviews

- 2012 The Second Palestinian Intifada: Civil Resistance. *Mobilization: An International Quarterly* 17(1): 103-104.

### Pre-prints

- 2017 "MPEDS: A Semi-automated Approach to Generating Protest Event Data." [\[Preprint\]](#)

### Blogs and Selected Media

- 2023 ["AI Causes Real Harm. Let's Focus on That over the End-of-Humanity Hype."](#) (with Emily M. Bender) *Scientific American*, August 2023.
- 2022 ["AI Ethics Are in Danger. Funding Independent Research Could Help."](#) (with Dylan Baker). *Stanford Social Innovation Review*, June 2022.
- 2020 ["Lines of Sight."](#) (with Emily Denton, Razvan Amironesei, Andrew Smart, and Hilary Nicole). *Logic Magazine*, December 2020.
- 2016 ["Being Transgender on the Job Market."](#) *Inside Higher Ed*, July 15.
- 2013 ["The Signal and the Noise in Middle East Elections."](#) (with Kevan Harris). *Foreign Policy*, December.
- 2013 ["Lipsyncing for Your Life: A Highly Detailed Survival Analysis of RuPaul's Drag Race Jezebel"](#), March 13.
- 2013 ["Institutionalizing Computational Social Science."](#) *orgtheory.net*, July 3.

- 2012      Featured (with Marc Smith) in [“Visualizing the War on Women Debate.”](#) *Foreign Policy*, July / August.

## SOFTWARE

Machine-learning Protest Event Data System (MPEDS)

[Website](#) / [Python package and Docker container](#) / [Annotation Interface](#)

## GRANTS

### Major grants

- 2023      “Social Movements in Higher Education, 2012-18.” (with Ellen Berrey). National Science Foundation (SES-2241920)
- 2020      “Student Protests and University Responses in the United States and Canada, 2012-2018.” (with Ellen Berrey). Insight Grant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).
- 2018      “U.S. and Canadian Anti-Racism Student Protests, 2012-2016.” (with Ellen Berrey). Insight Development Grant, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC).
- 2014      “Constructing and Validating an Automated Coding System for Electronic News Sources.” (with Pamela Oliver and Chaeyoon Lim). National Science Foundation, SES-1423784.
- 2011-15   National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program.
- 2011      Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, academic year (declined).
- 2010      Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, summer.

### Minor Grants

- 2018      Connaught New Researcher Award, University of Toronto (declined).
- 2017      SSHRC Institutional Grant (SIG), University of Toronto Mississauga.
- 2016      Research and Scholarly Activity Fund, University of Toronto Mississauga.
- 2015      Vilas Travel Grant, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2014      Department of Sociology Conference Travel Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2014      Department of Sociology Small Grants Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2013      Department of Sociology Conference Travel Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2013      Social Science History Association Tilly Travel Award.
- 2013      International Studies Association Travel Award.
- 2013      Project on Middle East Political Science (POMEPS) Travel-Research-Engagement Grant (declined).

- 2011 Department of Sociology Small Grants Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- 2011 Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery Emerging Interfaces Award.
- 2011 Graduate Student International Field Research Award, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

## AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2024 [Fast Company Queer 50](#).
- 2022 [Go Magazine Women We Love](#).
- 2021 Featured in California Academy of Sciences [New Sciences exhibit](#).
- 2021 [Fast Company Queer 50](#).
- 2020 [100 Brilliant Women in AI Ethics](#).

## TEACHING

### Courses Taught

Data, Power, and Infrastructure  
 Political Change, Social Movements, and Media  
 Social Data Analytics  
 Methods of Sociological Inquiry

### Selected Workshops and Online Courses

- 2020 Algorithmically-Encoded Bodies. Conference on Fairness, Accountability, and Transparency (FAT\*), Barcelona, Spain. January 27-30.
- 2018 Introduction to Text as Data, University of New Mexico.
- 2018 Analyzing Social Media Data in Python. DataCamp.
- 2018 Introduction to Social Network Analysis. Zurich Summer School for Women in Political Methodology. University of Zurich.
- 2016 Data Science and Social Science. New York University.
- 2015 Software Carpentry Workshop for the Social Sciences. University of Wisconsin-Madison. June 3-4.
- 2014 Introduction to Python for Social Scientists. Indiana University, September 26.
- 2014 Programming as a Research Method: Beginner's Guide to Wrangling Social Media Data with Python. Association of Education in Journalism and Mass Communication. Montreal, QC, Canada, August 6-9.
- 2013 International Summer School on Social Network Analysis. National Research University - Higher School of Economics, St. Petersburg, Russia. August 15-22.
- 2012-13 Social Media and Democracy Workshops, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

## SERVICE TO PROFESSION

Sociologists for Trans Justice, 2016-Present.

CRAFT Co-Chair, FAccT 2021

Program Committee: FAccT (2020, 2021), AIES (2020, 2021), International Conference on Computational Social Science (2016-Present), International Conference on Weblogs and Social Media (2016-Present), #SMSociety (2014, 2015, 2017), SocInfo (2014, 2015, 2017)

Ad hoc Reviewer: American Behavioral Scientist; American Journal of Political Science; American Sociological Review; Big Data + Society; British Journal of Sociology; Computer-Supported Cooperative Work & Social Computing (2014); European Political Science Review; Information, Communication & Society; International Journal of Public Opinion Research; Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media; Journal of Information Technology & Politics; Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology; Journal of Open Source Software; Mobilization; Political Communication; PLoS ONE; Social Forces; Social Media + Society; Social Problems; Social Thought and Research; Sociological Methodology; Sociological Methods & Research

Webmaster, ASA Collective Behavior and Social Movements section, 2013-2016.

Department of Sociology Website Committee, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2009-2016.

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Sociological Association  
Society for the Social Studies of Science (4S)  
Association for Computing Machinery (ACM)

## SOFTWARE SKILLS

Technical skills: Python (SciPy, NumPy, pandas, scikit-learn), R (ggplot2, tidyverse), Hadoop (Java MapReduce, Hive, Pig, streaming), SQL, HTML/CSS, JavaScript, Flask, Perl, PHP, C/C++, Java, Git, Bash, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

## LANGUAGES

English (native)  
Arabic (heritage learner, ACTFL OPI: Intermediate High [Summer 2010])  
French (novice)

## REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST