



THIS IS

RESEARCH

"A Hundred Thousand Lousy Cats" - Collaborative Research Project

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This practice-led research project adopts some feminist principles of data visualization proposed by Catherine D'Ignazio and Lauren Klein. We are interested in looking at the context of data, methods and politics of data collection, and the resulting visualizations/materializations. Data, design, and community use of the data, are all intertwined. We use those preliminary principles to structure our research process and findings. We explore machine-human creative collaborations, the act of training AI systems, with some consideration around socio-political implications of classifications and categorizations. Using the Google QuickDraw dataset and platform, we explore the potential differences of algorithmic "machine", or digitally constructed drawings, and fictional associative "hand" drawings and collages, questioning and exploring then, what it means to draw and to work within classification systems in an algorithm-leaning world. We ask, what is data and what is its politics? How do critical arts practices work to complicate algorithmic logic and question practices of optimization through data?

