

Acknowledgments

Writing this reasonably short book took a long time. It required help, support, and forbearance from a significant number of people, all of whom themselves contributed something real.

We would like to thank Susan Buckley at the MIT Press, who has believed in this book since approximately two lifetimes ago. She is the ideal editor: supportive, honest, informative, thoughtful, human, and enthusiastic. Honestly, there is no chance this book would have happened without her. Thanks, Susan—honestly.

Matthew thanks, first and foremost, his brilliant, funny, odd, and wonderful wife, Prof. Leema Berland, who may not have known that he was ever working on a book. Love you! He thanks his son, Asher, for punching up the occasional joke, watching weird movies, and being a great kid; he thanks his daughter, Ella, for her macabre/curious questions, her unflagging enthusiasm, and being a great kid. Nicole, thank you both for being the greatest sister possible and for editing this book! (Sorry that we messed up your incredible editing with our fidgety language.) Gamma and Gammups, thank you for being the most supportive and loving parents; I love y'all. Thanks to my brilliant colleagues at UW–Madison—specifically, Erica Halverson, Peter McDonald, Peter Wardrip, Krista-Lee Malone, and YJ

viii Acknowledgments

Kim—for letting me bounce some of these ideas off you over the years, and to Tom Popkewitz, Kurt Squire, Michael Apple, and Rich Halverson for persistent encouragement to write the book. Thanks to the Complex Play Lab and all my students (current and former) for creating and maintaining a support group for researchers.

Antero would like to say, “Ditto.”

As always, anything you hate about this book is probably the authors’ collective fault, though we both insistently “blame society.”

This is a section of [doi:10.7551/mitpress/14381.001.0001](https://doi.org/10.7551/mitpress/14381.001.0001)

The Left Hand of Data

Designing Education Data for Justice

By: Matthew Berland, Antero Garcia

Citation:

The Left Hand of Data: Designing Education Data for Justice

By: Matthew Berland, Antero Garcia

DOI: 10.7551/mitpress/14381.001.0001

ISBN (electronic): 9780262377645

Publisher: The MIT Press

Published: 2024

The open access edition of this book was made possible by generous funding and support from MIT Press Direct to Open



The MIT Press

© 2024 Massachusetts Institute of Technology

This work is subject to a Creative Commons CC-BY-NC-ND license.

This license applies only to the work in full and not to any components included with permission. Subject to such license, all rights are reserved. No part of this book may be used to train artificial intelligence systems without permission in writing from the MIT Press.



The MIT Press would like to thank the anonymous peer reviewers who provided comments on drafts of this book. The generous work of academic experts is essential for establishing the authority and quality of our publications. We acknowledge with gratitude the contributions of these otherwise uncredited readers.

This book was set in Stone Serif and Stone Sans by Westchester Publishing Services.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Berland, Matthew, author. | Garcia, Antero, author.

Title: The left hand of data : designing education data for justice /
Matthew Berland and Antero Garcia.

Description: Cambridge, Massachusetts : The MIT Press, [2024] | Includes
bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2023030088 (print) | LCCN 2023030089 (ebook) |
ISBN 9780262547529 (paperback) | ISBN 9780262377652 (epub) |
ISBN 9780262377645 (pdf)

Subjects: LCSH: Education—Data processing. | Education—Research. |
Educational evaluation.

Classification: LCC LB1028.43 .B45 2024 (print) | LCC LB1028.43 (ebook) |
DDC 370.285—dc23/eng/20230718

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2023030088>

LC ebook record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2023030089>