

Big Data Before Data Science, Revised Workshop Schedule

Tuesday, 9 December 2025

Big Picture:

Deborah Kent, chair

9:00 – 9:05 Welcome from PIMS director Ozgur Yilmaz

9:05 – 9:50 Amira Moeding

“Probabilistic Phenomena:” On the history of statistical modelling and the emergence of modern data science.

9:50 -10:35 Christopher Phillips,
Aggregated Individuals

10:35 -11:00 Morning tea/coffee break

11:00 -11:45 Matthew Daniel Eddy

Moral Statistics: Freedom, Bias and Dr James McCune Smith’s Encounter with the 1840 American Census

11:45 - 12:30 Jemma Lorenat

Alice Through a Looking-Glass Darkly

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

Quantified self:

Jemma Lorenat, chair

13:30 - 14:15 Iris Clever

Encoding Race: A History of Statistics, Biometric Data, and Algorithms

14:15 -15:00 Stephanie Dick

“The Blaze of Lights at Western Avenue”: ‘Criminality’ and Computation in the first American Law Enforcement Databank

15:00 - 15:30 Afternoon tea/coffee

Wednesday, 10 December 2025

Historiography:

Christopher Phillips, chair

9:00 - 9:45 Jessica Otis

Death by Numbers: Collecting, Categorizing, and Communicating Mortality Data in Early Modern London

9:45 - 10:30 Michael Friedman

From the 17th century paper tools of Joachim Jungius to the digitalization of his *Nachlass*

10:30 - 11:00 Morning tea/coffee break

11:00 - 11:45 François Le

Counting words to characterize texts and authors: from philosophy and literature to the history of mathematics

11:45 - 12:30 Kim M. Hajek

Paradoxical Reproducibility and Generalisation? Collecting Textual ‘Data’ through Case Histories of Psychotherapy

12:30 -13:30 Lunch

Machines:

13:30 - 14:15 Daniel Rosenberg

Stephanie Dick, chair

The Age of the Keyword
14:15 - 15:00 Florence Hsia
Paper tools for managing astronomers and astronomical data

15:00 - 15:30 Afternoon tea/coffee break

15:30 - 16:15 Peggy Kidwell
Data Processing before Data Science – A World of Tabulating
Machines and Punch Cards
16:15 - 17:00 David Dunning
Thinking with Punch Cards

Thursday, 11 December 2025

Tools:
Ehsan Karim, chair

9:00 - 9:45 Prashant Kumar
'Machines Without the Certainty of Machinery:' On Some
Attempts to Automate Intelligence in the Trigonometrical
Survey of India, 1790-1858
9:45 - 10:30 Moon Duchin
The tangible ballot: A history of voting tools

10:30 - 11:00 Morning tea/coffee break

Weather:
Marysa Laguë, chair

11:00 - 11:45 Hannes Junker
In the Wind: Statistics at the British Met Office in the
Second Half of the 19th Century
11:45 - 12:30 Amy Ackerberg-Hastings
Mathematics and Weather Data in Revolutionary
and Early Republican American Colleges

12:30 + Lunch and free afternoon

17:00 Conference Dinner,
Wildlight Kitchen & Bar
5380 University Blvd #107,
Vancouver, BC V6T 0C9

Friday, 12 December 2025

Pedagogy:
Jemma Lorenat, chair

9:30 - 10:15 Lee Kennedy-Shaffer
Using Historical Materials in the Modern Statistics and
Data Science Classroom
10:15 - 11:00 Deborah Kent
Multi-layered materials: Historical case studies in mathematics
classrooms

11:00-11:30 Morning tea/coffee break

11:30 - 12:30 RSS Special Issue discussion
and submission development

12:30 - Lunch (available to takeaway for travel)