

## **An Inquiry into the Production of Data and How it Creates Value**

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My text asks foundational questions about data, and its origins of production, in order to construct a new model to understand operationally how data is created and commoditized to create value. Specifically, I position data as an inherent product of surveillance, resulting in a unique co-creation / co-ownership conundrum that must be resolved by legal mediating mechanisms for data to become an economic instrument in a market economy. Through my analysis I find that data is often not what is being traded as a commodity; instead it is often the use rights to data that is commoditized and traded.