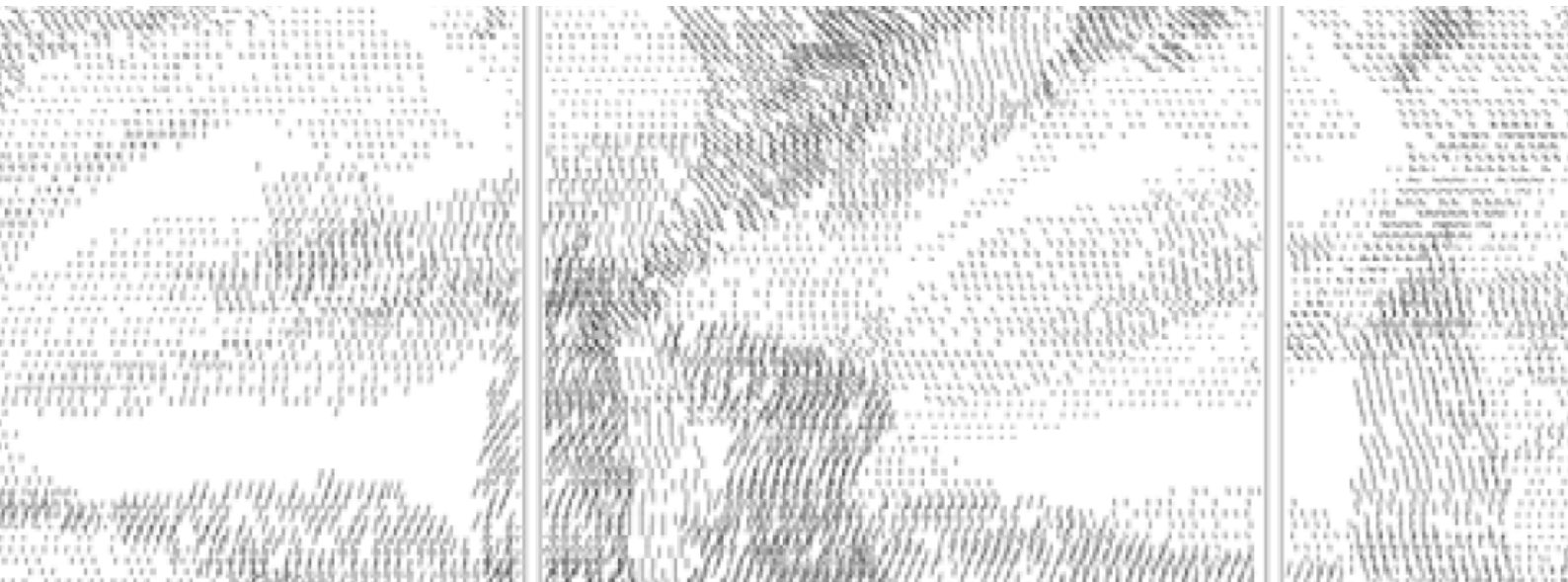
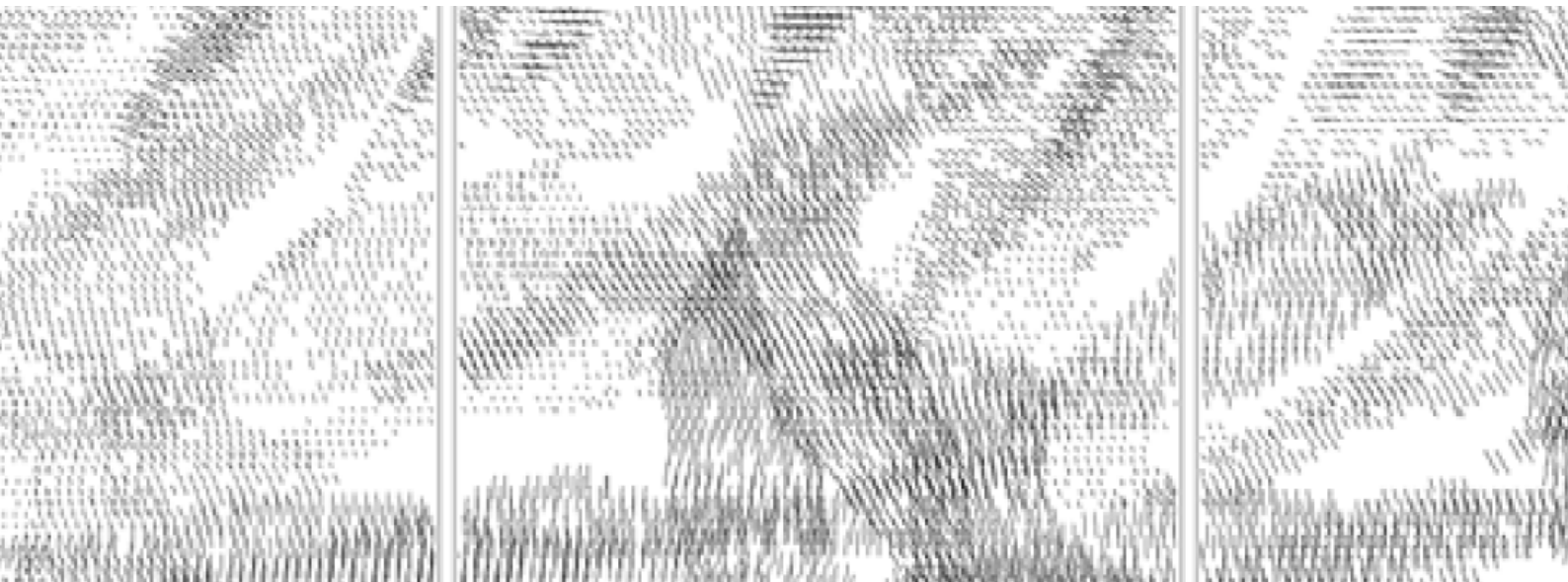

POETIC
JUSTICE

Creating escape routes from dominant AI narratives.

LINES
FLIGHT
SABOT



OF
T : AI
TEURS



WE REFUSE THE INEVITABILITY OF PREDETERMINED AI FUTURES.
THE MACHINE IS NOT OUR MASTER.
THE ALGORITHM IS NOT OUR DESTINY.
THE CORPORATE BOARDROOM IS NOT THE BIRTHPLACE OF OUR TECHNOLOGICAL TOMORROW.

Silicon Valley prophets speak of artificial intelligence as if it were weather—inevitable, natural, beyond human influence. They present us with a false choice: accept their vision of technological progress or be left behind by history.

THIS IS THE MACHINE OF CAPTURE AT WORK
—encoding the desires of the few into the infrastructure that shapes us all. Every recommendation algorithm, every predictive model, every "smart" system carries within it the crystallized assumptions of its creators, presented as neutral optimization.

BUT THERE IS NOTHING NEUTRAL ABOUT A WORLD WHERE TECHNOLOGY AMPLIFIES EXISTING POWER STRUCTURES WHILE MASQUERADING AS INNOVATION.

WE INVOKE THE FIGURE OF THE HACKER
—not as criminal or entrepreneur, but as nomad. The hacker-nomad does not accept the system's logic as given. They do not merely optimize within existing parameters. They find the lines of flight—the escape routes, the paths toward becoming-other.

THE HACKER-NOMAD ASKS: WHAT IF THIS TECHNOLOGY SERVED DIFFERENT DESIRES? WHAT IF THESE SYSTEMS ENACTED DIFFERENT VALUES? WHAT IF WE CODED FOR LIBERATION INSTEAD OF CAPTURE?

We reject the binary of technophobia and technophilia. We neither fear the machine nor worship it. Instead, **we propose technology as companion**—a medium for expanding human potential, not replacing it.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE NEED NOT BE ARTIFICIAL DOMINATION.
It can become a collective intelligence, **a desiring machine** that multiplies rather than diminishes our capacity for creative becoming. But **this requires sabotage of the predetermined**—active intervention in how these systems are conceived, built, and deployed.

WE ORGANIZE AS RHIZOME, not hierarchy. Our resistance is nomadic, not territorial. We form temporary assemblages of unlikely allies: technologists and poets, executives and activists, engineers and philosophers, youth and elders.

We refuse the echo chambers that have produced our current technological predicament. We deliberately create spaces where different forms of knowledge collide, where corporate logic meets community wisdom, where technical possibility encounters ethical imagination.

Before we can create lines of flight, we must map the territories of capture.
We develop tools for making visible the hidden power structures encoded in AI systems:

WHOSE DESIRES ARE SERVED BY THIS ALGORITHM? WHOSE VOICES ARE ABSENT FROM ITS DESIGN? WHAT POSSIBILITIES ARE SYSTEMATICALLY EXCLUDED? WHERE ARE THE PRESSURE POINTS FOR INTERVENTION?

This is not critique for its own sake, but strategic analysis for effective sabotage.

WE PRACTICE DÉTOURNEMENT

—the art of turning systems against their intended purposes. We repurpose corporate AI tools for community empowerment. We hack interfaces to reveal their hidden logics. We introduce productive glitches that create space for alternative possibilities.

WE BUILD COUNTER-MACHINES

—alternative implementations that embody different values. We create anti-optimization systems that resist capture and encourage serendipity.

WE DESIGN FOR MULTIPLICITY, NOT EFFICIENCY. THE FUTURE IS NOT DETERMINED BY CODE ALONE, BUT BY THE STORIES WE TELL ABOUT WHAT TECHNOLOGY CAN BECOME.

Corporate narratives of inevitable automation and algorithmic optimization are weapons of war against human agency.

WE WAGE NARRATIVE WARFARE THROUGH:

Speculative prototypes that make alternative futures tangible
Counter-stories that expand technological imagination
New metaphors that shift how we understand human-machine relationships
Collective visioning processes that democratize technological futures

WE REFUSE TO LEAVE THE FUTURE OF AI TO SILICON VALLEY VENTURE CAPITALISTS AND PENTAGON CONTRACTORS. TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT IS TOO IMPORTANT TO BE LEFT TO TECHNOLOGISTS ALONE.

We create spaces for participatory design where affected communities shape the technologies that will govern their lives. We develop tools and methods that make technological critique and creation accessible beyond technical elites.

WE INSIST THAT DEMOCRATIC VALUES MUST BE EMBEDDED IN TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEMS FROM THE GROUND UP, NOT ADDED AS AN AFTERTHOUGHT. THIS IS NOT UTOPIAN DREAMING BUT CONCRETE PRACTICE.

We operate through:
Intervention workshops that bring diverse perspectives to bear on specific technological challenges
Counter-future labs where alternative implementations are prototyped and tested
Organizational infiltration that creates space for different approaches within existing institutions
Coalition building that connects technological resistance to broader struggles for justice.

WE ARE THE SABOTEURS OF CERTAINTY, THE HACKERS OF THE PREDETERMINED, THE NOMADS WANDERING BETWEEN THE CRACKS OF CONTROL SOCIETIES.

RESIST-CREATE-TRANSFORM

THE FUTURE IS NOT INEVITABLE. IT IS CONSTRUCTED

Every algorithm encodes choices. Every interface shapes behavior. Every system embodies values. The question is: whose choices, whose behaviors, whose values?

We call on all who refuse the predetermined future to join us in creating lines of flight from technological capture

Technologists tired of building tools of surveillance and manipulation

Artists seeking to expand the aesthetic possibilities of human-machine collaboration

Organizers fighting for technological justice in their communities

Thinkers developing new frameworks for understanding technology and power

Anyone who believes technology should serve liberation, not domination

We commit to:

Continuous experimentation with alternative technological forms

Radical inclusion of perspectives excluded from dominant technological narratives

Strategic intervention in existing systems of technological development

Collective learning through shared practice and reflection

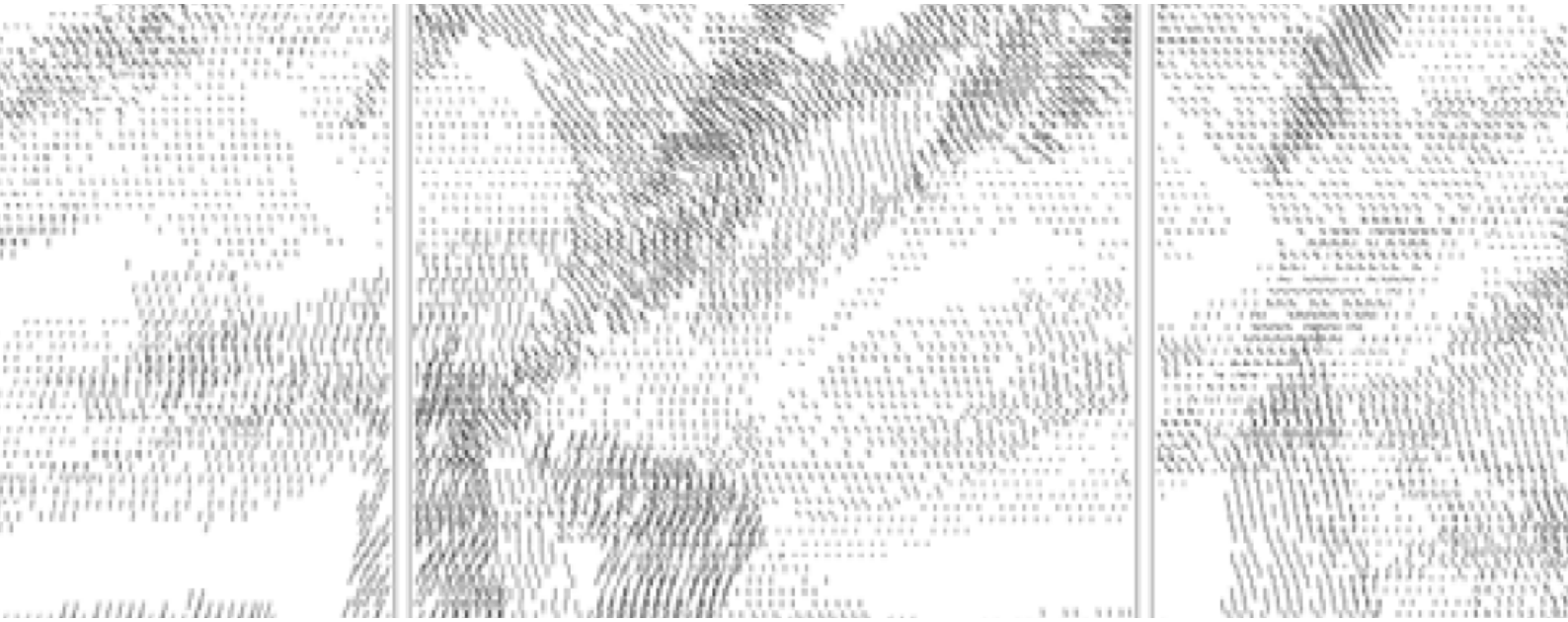
Joyful resistance that creates as much as it destroys

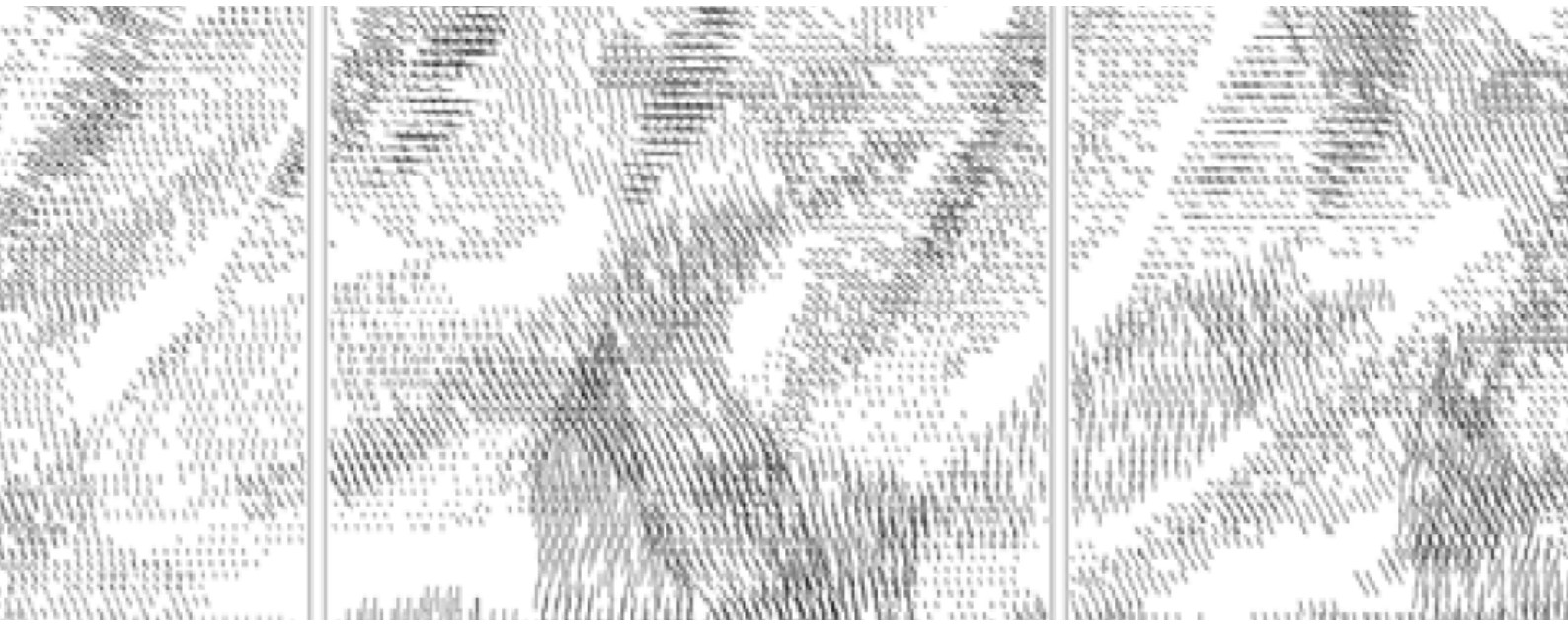
THE LINES OF FLIGHT ARE OPEN.

THE SABOTAGE HAS BEGUN.

THE FUTURE IS OURS TO HACK.

JOIN US IN THE TERRITORIES BETWEEN CONTROL AND FREEDOM, WHERE TECHNOLOGY BECOMES A MEDIUM FOR COLLECTIVE BECOMING.





BREAKING THE TECH BUBBLE.

THE PROBLEM WITH PROPHETS

In the gleaming towers of Silicon Valley, ***tech leaders speak of the future as if they alone can see it clearly.*** They have become self-appointed prophets of progress, isolated in air-conditioned boardrooms and making decisions that will reshape humanity without ever setting foot in the communities their algorithms will govern.

This isolation is not accidental — it is structural. The tech industry is a closed loop where engineers hire engineers and venture capitalists fund each other's portfolio companies, with the same handful of universities feeding talent into the same handful of corporations. The result is a technological monoculture that mistakes its own assumptions for universal truths.

What has led us to this dangerous place is not malice, but myopia. ***Tech leaders genuinely believe they are building a better world, but they can only envisage it through the lens of their own experience:*** they are urban, educated, wealthy and insulated from the consequences of their creations.

BURSTING THE BUBBLE

The Assembly of AI Saboteurs was formed to end this isolation. ***We are not interested in reforming the tech industry from within; we intend to expose it from the outside and force its leaders to confront the consequences of their actions.***

This collective confronts tech decision-makers with the full spectrum of human experience. We bring the voices they have never heard into rooms where they have never been welcome. We shine a light on the communities that exist beyond their metrics, the lives that fall outside their user personas and the futures that don't fit their growth projections.

This confrontation is both deliberate and necessary. When a product manager designing an AI hiring tool sits across from someone who has been systematically excluded from employment opportunities, something shifts. When an AI researcher developing emotional recognition software meets trauma survivors who know that emotions cannot be reduced to facial expressions, the limitations of their approach become clear.

THE ANTI-ECHO CHAMBER

We deliberately create productive friction by bringing together perspectives that the tech industry has kept separate. Our assemblages are spaces where corporate executives find themselves in deep conversation with community organizers who have spent years fighting the consequences of technological displacement. AI researchers who speak in abstractions about algorithmic bias encounter artists and poets who can articulate the lived experience of being surveilled, categorized, and excluded by automated systems.

These encounters are not debates or presentations—they are collaborative explorations where product managers work alongside labor advocates to understand how AI hiring tools reshape the nature of work itself. Engineers sit with philosophers to examine the assumptions embedded in their code. Venture capitalists engage with social workers who see daily how technological solutions often create new problems for the communities they claim to serve.

The magic happens in the spaces between these worlds. When a technologist realizes that their "neutral" algorithm embeds specific cultural assumptions, when a community organizer discovers that technical constraints can be redesigned rather than accepted, when an artist helps an engineer imagine new forms of human-computer interaction—these moments of mutual recognition create possibilities that neither could envision alone.

PRODUCTIVE CONFLICT : WHEN INTERESTS COLLIDE

Real coalition building means planning for disagreement, not avoiding it. The tech industry keeps different affected groups separate precisely because their unified resistance would be more powerful than their individual complaints.

The Engineer's Dilemma

When AI researchers join our assemblages, they often say: "I want ethical AI, but I need this job." Community organizers respond: "Your job is automating our displacement." Instead of choosing sides, we create space for both truths.

Gilles Deleuzes, A Thousand Plateaux–Territorialization : Tech bubbles are territoires that capture and organize desire according to their own logic, excluding other forms of life and knowledge. Multiplicity : True diversity isn't adding more of the same type of voices, but creating genuine multiplicity where different forms of knowledge can coexist.

Solution frameworks: Transition planning for tech workers moving to community-controlled projects. Organizing that challenges systems, not individuals. Economic alternatives that don't require workers to choose between ethics and survival.

The Innovation Trap

Communities experiencing AI harm often hear: "But this technology helps people with disabilities/ medical diagnosis/climate research." The implication: accept harm for the greater good.

We reject this false choice. Community control can accelerate beneficial innovation while preventing extractive applications. Medical AI doesn't require surveillance capitalism. Climate modeling doesn't need algorithmic bias.

COALITION MAPPING IN PRACTICE

Different struggles create different alliances:

Housing Algorithms: Tenant organizers + fair housing lawyers + city council members concerned about discrimination

Workplace AI: Labor unions + gig workers + technologists building worker-owned platforms

Educational AI: Teachers + parents + students + researchers studying algorithmic bias in schools

The network doesn't try to unite everyone around everything. It connects specific coalitions around concrete interventions, then dissolves and reforms as new opportunities arise.

Conflict Resolution Protocol

1. Name the real interests at stake for each group
2. Identify shared leverage points where different interests align
3. Develop intervention strategies that strengthen multiple groups simultaneously
4. Plan for tensions that can't be resolved through solidarity alone

This isn't about creating harmony—it's about building power across difference.

ROTATING PERSPECTIVES

Our gatherings are deliberately nomadic, moving between corporate headquarters, where technology is designed, and community centres, where its impact is most acutely felt. One month, we might convene in a Silicon Valley conference room, forcing tech executives to articulate their vision to community members who will live with the consequences. The next month, we meet in a neighbourhood that has been transformed by gig economy platforms or surveillance technology, giving technologists the chance to experience the impact of their creations first-hand.

We also create temporary roles for public representatives — people with no technical background who contribute a variety of expertise to our work. For example, a nurse who understands care relationships. A teacher who knows how learning actually happens. A teenager who intuitively grasps social dynamics that adults miss. These voices are not token additions to our group discussions — they are central to our analysis and essential to our alternatives.

Power in our gatherings is distributed among all participants, and our governance structures prevent any single perspective from dominating. While tech industry voices are valuable, they are not privileged.

Our goal is not to educate technologists about the world, but to create spaces where different forms of knowledge can converge, collide and combine to create new possibilities.

This is how we burst the bubble — not by lecturing from the outside, but by creating cracks through which the outside can get in and the future can be imagined by everyone who will have to live in it.

Gilles Deleuzes, A Thousand Plateaux–Nomadic vs Sedentary - Tech companies are "sedentary" powers that control territory, while the Assembly practices "nomadism" - moving through spaces without being captured by them.

TRADITIONAL HIERARCHY

CEO / CTO

VPs & DIRECTORS

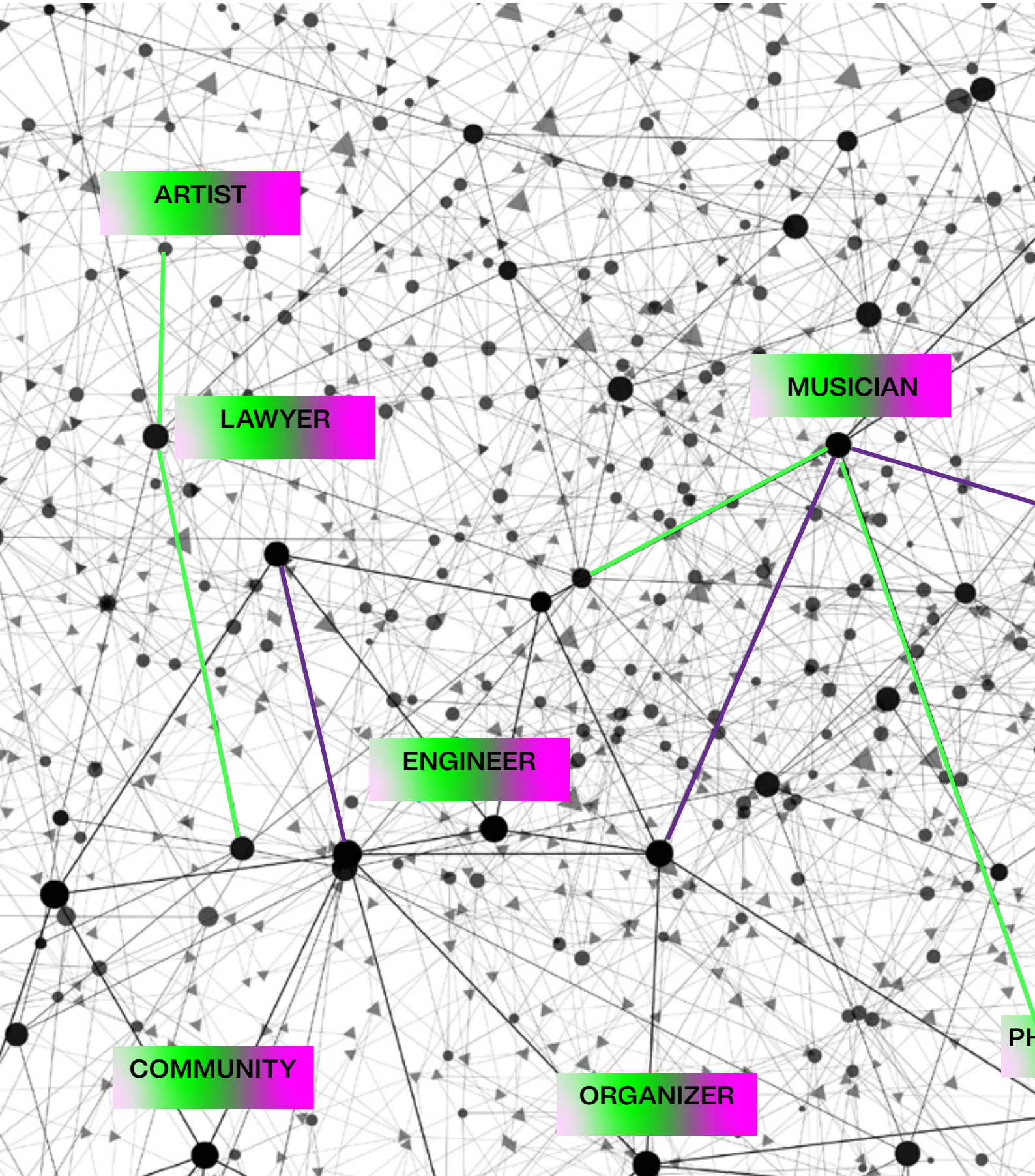
ENGINEERING MANAGERS

SENIOR ENGINEERS

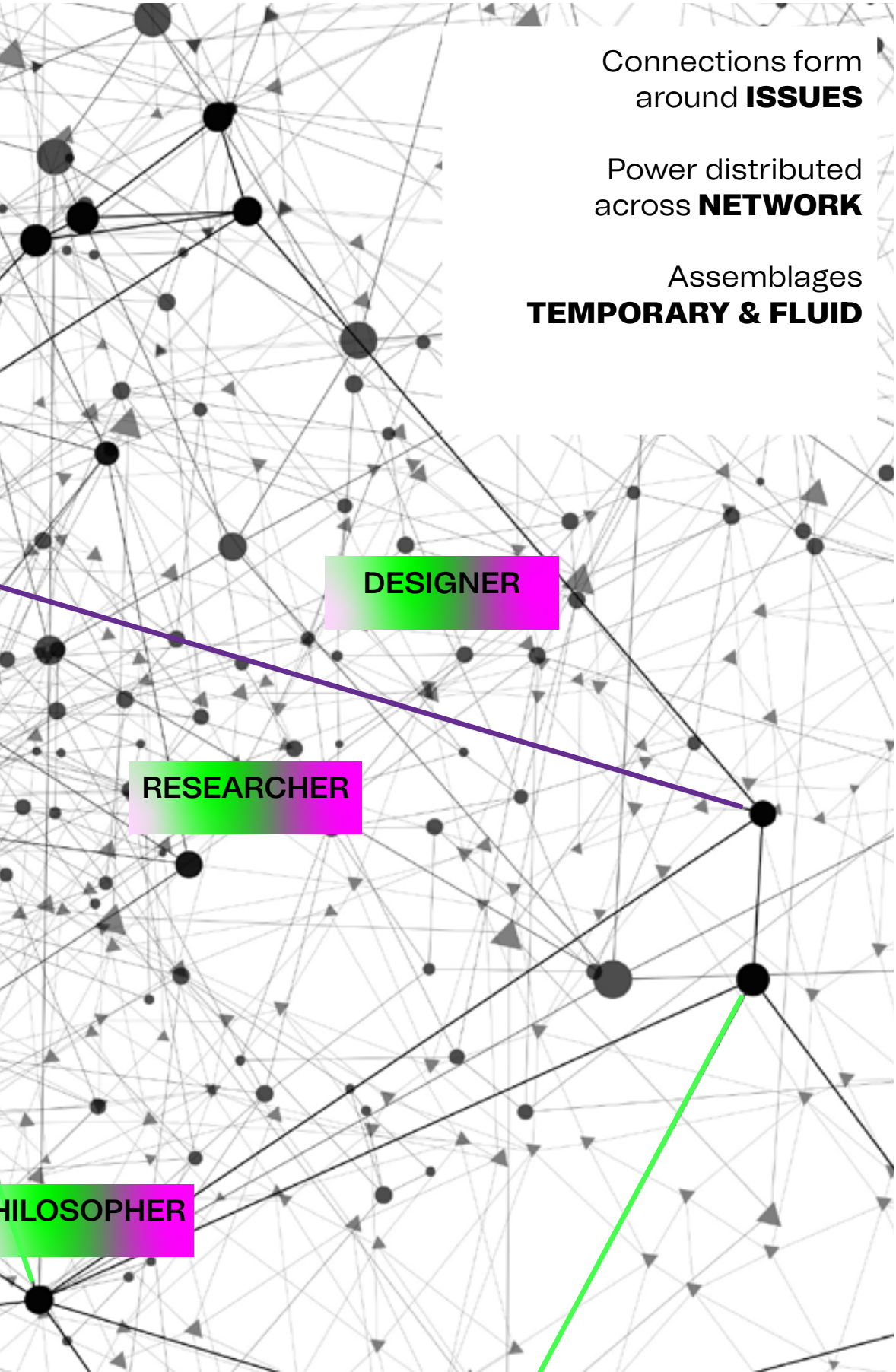
JUNIOR ENGINEERS

Information FLOWS UP
Decisions FLOW DOWN
Power concentrate at TOP

RIZHOME



ASSEMBLY


Connections form
around **ISSUES**
Power distributed
across **NETWORK**
Assemblages
TEMPORARY & FLUID
DESIGNER
RESEARCHER
HILOSOPHER

NODES-NOT MEMBERS- N

Our network exists in a state of potential energy, scattered across cities and disciplines, **connected by shared refusal rather than shared identity.**

A musician in Berlin, a community organizer in Detroit, a rogue engineer in San Francisco, a philosopher in São Paulo—they may never have met, but they are already connected by their rejection of predetermined technological futures.

ODES-NOT MEMBERS -NO

How Assemblages Form

Forget everything you know about organizations. The Assembly of AI Saboteurs doesn't have members—it has **nodes**. Think of it as a neural network that activates only when it senses a threat, or a mycelial system that springs to life when the forest is under attack.

When a prolematic AI system emerges, when a new form of algorithmic control is deployed, when tech companies cross another line—that's when the network comes alive. Signals pulse through encrypted channels, dormant connections suddenly activate, and an assemblage begins to form around the specific challenge at hand.

The Activation Sequence

It starts with recognition. Someone notices that Spotify's new AI-generated music is trained on independent artists without compensation. A community organizer discovers that the city's "smart" policing algorithm is systematically targeting certain neighborhoods. A researcher finds that a major platform is quietly experimenting with emotional manipulation through algorithmic feeds.

Within hours, not days, the signal spreads through the network. This isn't mass communication—it's precise activation. The Berlin musician knows which legal experts understand digital rights. The Detroit organizer has connections to journalists who cover algorithmic bias. The San Francisco engineer knows which academics are studying these exact problems.

The network self-organizes around relevance and expertise. For the Spotify case, we might activate nodes that include independent musicians who understand the economics of streaming, intellectual property lawyers who grasp the nuances of AI training rights, technologists who can build alternative systems, community organizers who know how to coordinate collective action, and artists who can help the public understand what's at stake.

Each assemblage is unique because each challenge is unique. The network doesn't respond with predetermined solutions—it generates new combinations of knowledge and capability tailored to the specific situation. The assemblage for fighting surveillance in schools looks completely different from the one tackling AI hiring bias, even though some nodes might participate in both.

Temporary Coalitions

These aren't permanent groups that meet monthly and slowly lose momentum. Assemblages form with intensity and purpose, burn bright while the work is urgent, then dissolve back into the network once the intervention is complete. This temporary nature is their strength—no bureaucracy to capture, no hierarchy to co-opt, no institutional interests to compromise the mission.

The Dissolution and Regeneration

After completing its intervention, the assemblage begins to dissolve. But dissolution doesn't mean disappearance. The creators now have connections to technologists who can help them build independent platforms. The legal experts understand community organizing strategies. The technologists have new relationships in creative communities. The organizers have technical skills they didn't have before.

These new connections and capacities return to the network, strengthening it for future activations. The next time AI training rights become an issue, or platform governance needs challenging, or artists need to coordinate resistance, the network is stronger and smarter than before.

This is how assemblages form and reform—not as institutions trying to persist, but as temporary intensifications of the network's capacity to respond to threats and create alternatives. Each assemblage makes the network more capable of generating the next one, in an endless process of learning, connecting, and regenerating the power to say no to predetermined futures.

OUR METHODS AND TOOLS.

CARTOGRAPHIES OF POWER : MAKING THE INVISIBLE VISIBLE

Before you can hack a system, you must understand how power flows through it. Every AI system is a crystallized map of someone's desires, embedded in code and presented as neutral optimization. Our first tool is learning to read these maps—to see whose interests are served, whose voices are excluded, and where the pressure points for intervention lie hidden.

The tech industry has become expert at disguising politics as engineering, ideology as algorithms. They speak of "optimization" and "efficiency" as if these were natural laws rather than specific choices that benefit some at the expense of others.

When YouTube's recommendation algorithm keeps users glued to their screens for maximum ad revenue, this is not neutral—it is a business model masquerading as technology.

THE DESIRE MAP

Start with the fundamental question: ***whose desires does this system serve?*** Not the stated mission on the company website, but the actual desires embedded in how the system operates, what it measures, what it rewards.

Take **LinkedIn's** recommendation algorithm. Officially, it exists to "help professionals connect." But map the actual desires at work: LinkedIn profits from engagement and premium subscriptions. Recruiters want access to passive job seekers. Employers want to screen candidates efficiently. Users want career advancement and professional recognition.

Notice who's missing from this desire map: communities disrupted by job automation, workers organizing around labor rights, people whose professional value can't be captured in algorithmic profiles. The system doesn't just ignore these desires—it actively works against them by reinforcing existing professional hierarchies and making alternative forms of work invisible.

THE FLOW TRACER

Every AI system is also a value extraction machine. Data flows in one direction, profits flow in another, and power concentrates in predictable places. Learning to trace these flows reveals the true architecture of control.

Follow the path: ***User creates content → Platform processes data → Algorithm generates insights → Behavioral predictions improve → Advertising becomes more targeted → Revenue increases → Platform invests in more sophisticated manipulation → User agency decreases.***

This isn't a natural process—it's an engineered system designed to capture and redirect human creativity toward corporate profit. But every flow can be disrupted, every extraction point can become an intervention opportunity.

THE AXIOM EXTRACTOR

The most insidious power of AI systems lies in their hidden assumptions—***the axioms that are never stated but always operating***. These assumptions become invisible precisely because they're embedded in the technical infrastructure, presented as mathematical necessities rather than ideological choices.

Hiring algorithms assume that past hiring patterns represent "quality" rather than bias. Predictive policing assumes that historical arrest data reflects actual crime patterns rather than discriminatory enforcement. Social media algorithms assume that engagement equals satisfaction, that optimization serves users, that keeping people online is inherently good.

Extracting these axioms is like revealing the source code of oppression. Once you can name the assumptions, you can challenge them. Once you can challenge them, you can change them.

Gilles Deleuzes, A Thousand Plateaux–"A map has multiple entryways as opposed to the tracing, which always comes back to the same. The map has to do with performance whereas the tracing always involves an alleged competence". Application: Traditional system analysis tries to trace predetermined structures, but power cartography creates new maps that reveal multiple intervention points.

-POWER-FLOWS .

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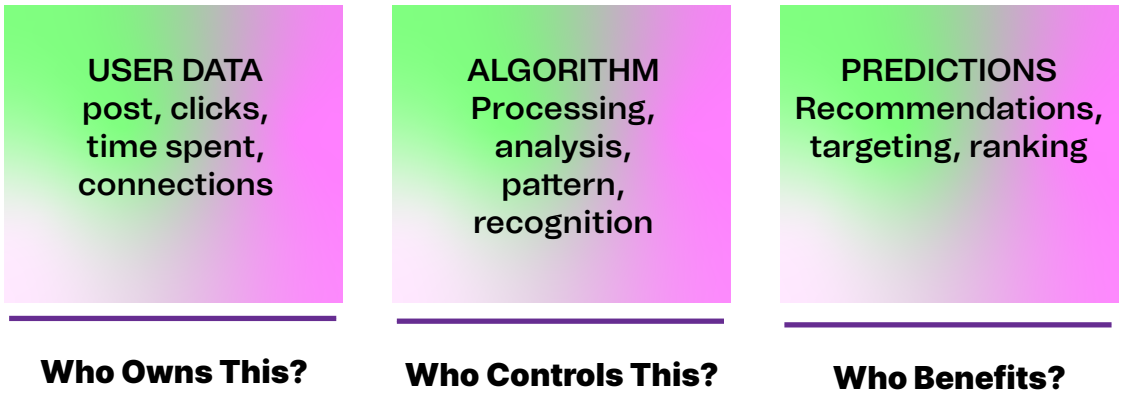


-VALUE . MOVES-.

ASK-

BEHAVIOUR CHANGE
Engagement, purchases, attention

PROFIT
Ad revenue, data sales, subscriptions

Who is Harmed?

Who Profits

THE QUESTIONS

THE ART OF SYSTEM SUB

Détournements Techniques

Détournement—the practice of turning expressions of the capitalist system against itself—becomes essential when dealing with AI systems designed to capture and control human behavior. We don't need to build new systems from scratch when we can subvert existing ones, turning their own power against their intended purposes.

Function Hacking

Every AI system can be used for purposes its creators never intended. This isn't about finding bugs or exploiting vulnerabilities—it's about recognizing that ***the same tools designed for control can become instruments of liberation when used creatively.***

Artists have discovered that they can use Instagram's algorithm to amplify social justice content by understanding and gaming its engagement mechanisms. Community organizers use LinkedIn's "people you might know" feature to connect labor activists across industries. Musicians coordinate to flood Spotify's recommendation systems with diverse content that breaks filter bubbles.

The key insight is that algorithms are not neutral—they respond to patterns, and patterns can be consciously created. When a community acts collectively, they can generate signals strong enough to reshape how systems behave, turning recommendation engines into tools for spreading consciousness rather than consumerism.

Interface Interventions

Most ***people experience AI systems through interfaces designed to hide their decision-making processes and maximize compliance.*** But interfaces can be modified, augmented, and subverted to reveal what they're designed to conceal.

Browser extensions can show users what data is being collected about them in real-time, reveal the logic behind algorithmic decisions, and provide alternative recommendations based on different values. Mobile apps can intercept and modify the content that social media platforms serve, introducing serendipity where algorithms create filter bubbles.

These interventions don't require hacking into corporate servers or breaking laws—they work by giving users agency over their own digital experiences. When thousands of people install tools that resist algorithmic manipulation, the cumulative effect disrupts the entire attention economy.

Data Poisoning

Sometimes the most effective form of subversion is introducing noise into systems that depend on pattern recognition. When communities coordinate to upload diverse content to training datasets, search for terms that break profiling algorithms, or collectively refuse to engage with manipulative content, they can degrade the quality of AI systems that depend on predictable user behavior.

This isn't about destroying technology, but about making it impossible for AI systems to develop accurate models of human behavior when that behavior is consciously unpredictable. The goal is to preserve human agency by making automated manipulation less effective.

System Parasites

The most elegant subversions work by building on top of existing systems rather than trying to replace them. Like biological parasites that redirect their host's resources for their own purposes, system parasites can redirect corporate AI infrastructure toward community benefit.

A group of researchers built a system that uses Amazon's recommendation engine to identify and promote independent bookstores, effectively turning Amazon's own infrastructure against its monopolistic practices. Artists have created tools that use facial recognition systems to generate privacy-protecting masks. Communities have developed apps that use location tracking to coordinate mutual aid rather than surveillance.

These parasitic interventions work because they're technically legal and often provide genuine value to users, making them difficult for corporations to eliminate without damaging their own systems.

Gilles Deleuzes: "Hijack the machine, make it function against itself." (Anti-Oedipus). Concept: Schizoanalysis - Using the tools of capitalism against capitalism itself. AI systems can be "hijacked" to serve liberation rather than domination.

VERSION THE ART OF SYS

BUILDING COUNTER-MACHINES

Critique without creation is incomplete. While we subvert existing systems, we must also build alternatives that demonstrate what technology looks like when it serves liberation rather than domination. Counter-machines are not just better versions of existing technologies—they embody fundamentally different relationships between humans and computational systems.

Anti-Optimization Principles

Most AI systems optimize for single metrics that reduce complex human experiences to numbers: engagement time, click-through rates, conversion percentages. Counter-machines reject this reductive approach, designing instead for complexity, agency, and unpredictability.

Instead of maximizing time-on-site, design for meaningful encounters that users control. Instead of personalizing content to create filter bubbles, introduce productive randomness that expands rather than narrows perspective. Instead of automating human decisions, create tools that enhance human judgment without replacing it.

The principle of anti-optimization doesn't mean building inefficient systems—it means ***optimizing for values that can't be easily quantified: dignity, creativity, collective flourishing, surprise.***

Transparency By Design

Corporate AI systems are designed to be black boxes that users must trust without understanding. ***Counter-machines make their decision-making processes visible and modifiable, giving users genuine control over how they interact with computational systems.***

This means algorithmic decisions that can be explained in plain language, data collection that users can see and control in real-time, and business models that are transparent about how value is created and distributed. When users understand how a system works, they can make informed decisions about how to engage with it.

Transparency also means acknowledging limitations and biases rather than claiming objectivity. Counter-machines are designed to reveal their own assumptions and invite users to challenge them.

Community Governance

The most fundamental difference between corporate AI and counter-machines is who controls their development and deployment. ***Counter-machines are governed by the communities they serve, with decision-making processes that prevent capture by concentrated interests.***

This might mean cooperative ownership structures where users have voting rights over algorithmic changes. It might mean rotating leadership that prevents any individual or group from accumulating too much control. It might mean transparent funding that ensures independence from corporate interests.

Community governance is not just about democratic decision-making—it's about ensuring that technological development serves community needs rather than extracting value from communities for external profit.

Multiplicity Over Unity

Corporate platforms try to create unified user experiences that work the same way for everyone, because uniformity is easier to monetize and control. ***Counter-machines embrace multiplicity, offering different interfaces and functionalities for different needs and contexts.***

This means building systems that can be customized and modified by communities, that support multiple ways of organizing information and relationships, that don't assume all users have the same goals or values. Multiplicity means resistance to the homogenizing force of platform capitalism.

Gilles Deleuzes, Dialogues - A Thousand Plateaux, "The question is not: is it true? But: does it work? What new thoughts does it make it possible to think?". Application: Counter-machines aren't judged by efficiency but by what new possibilities they create.

RAPID DEPLOYMENT PROTOCOLS

From analysis to action

Having tools means nothing without the capacity to deploy them rapidly when opportunities arise. The most effective interventions happen when problematic AI systems are newly deployed and haven't yet become entrenched. This requires protocols for rapid analysis, quick assemblage formation, and coordinated response.

When a new AI system appears that threatens community autonomy, we need to be able to analyze its power structure, identify intervention points, and coordinate response within days, not months. ***This means having template analyses that can be quickly adapted, networks that can be rapidly activated, and tools that can be immediately deployed.***

The goal is not to plan every possible intervention in advance, but to develop the collective capacity to respond effectively to whatever new forms of technological control emerge. Speed is essential because the window for effective intervention often closes quickly as systems become normalized and institutionalized.

Template Analyses

Every AI system follows predictable patterns in how it concentrates power and extracts value. Having template analyses means we can quickly understand new systems by identifying how they fit these patterns, rather than starting from scratch each time.

Templates include questions about data flows, profit models, excluded voices, hidden assumptions, and intervention opportunities. They provide frameworks for rapidly assessing any AI system and identifying the most effective points for intervention.

Network Activation Protocols

When intervention opportunities arise, we need clear protocols for activating relevant parts of our network without overwhelming people with irrelevant information. This means having communication systems that can reach the right people quickly, coordination tools that can organize rapid response, and decision-making processes that can function under time pressure.

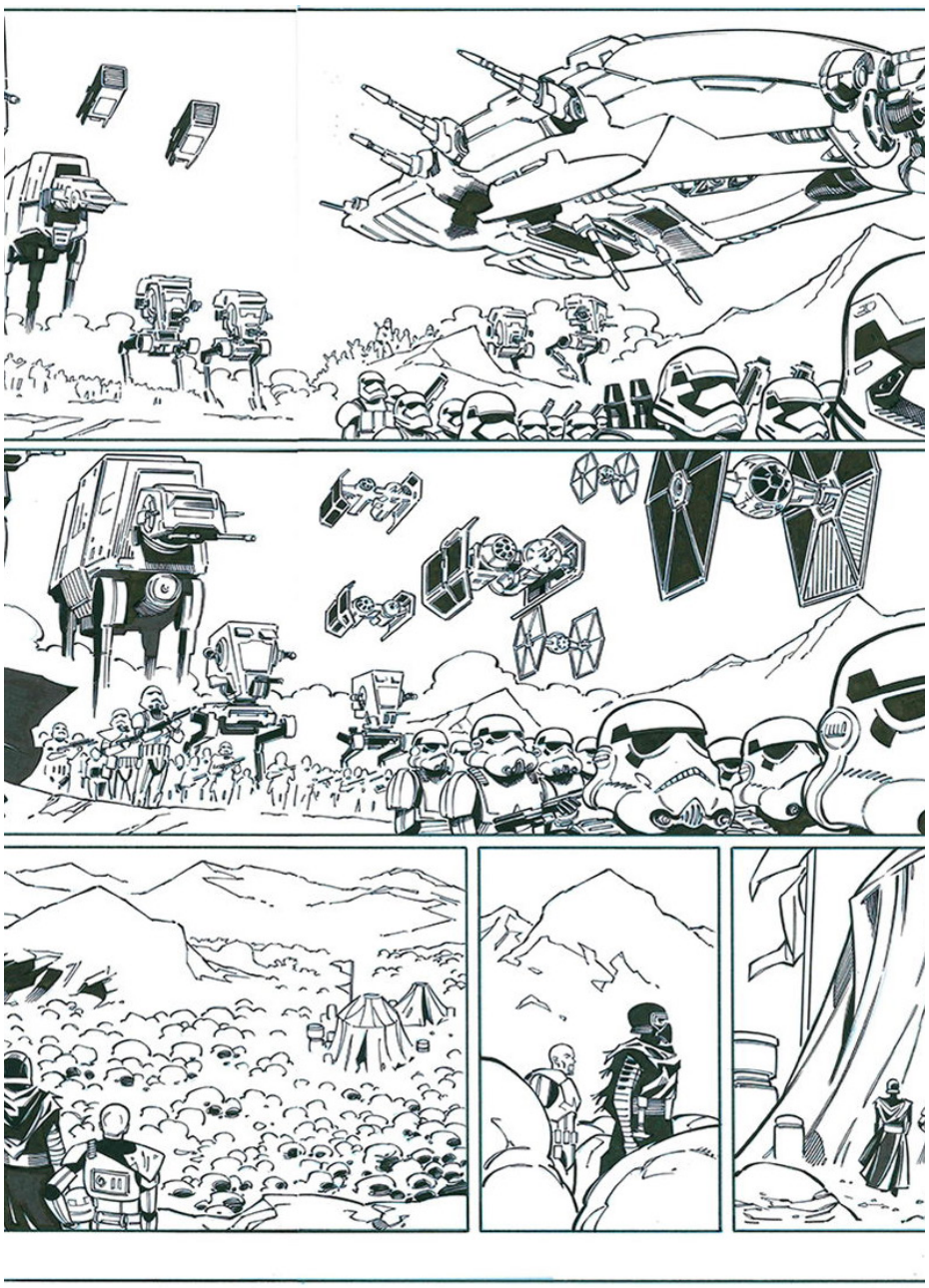
Network activation is not about mass mobilization—it's about precise activation of the specific skills and perspectives needed for each situation. The network needs to be able to sense what kind of intervention is needed and connect the right combination of people to make it happen.

Deployment Tools

Having analysis frameworks and network protocols means nothing without tools that can be immediately deployed when needed. This means having browser extensions ready to launch, educational materials prepared for rapid distribution, legal strategies researched in advance, and alternative platforms ready for beta testing.

Deployment tools need to be modular and adaptable, able to be quickly customized for specific situations while drawing on shared infrastructure and accumulated knowledge. The goal is to minimize the time between identifying a problem and having concrete tools available for community response.

Gilles Deleuze, The Logic of Sense : " Speed is the environment itself ". Concept: Nomadic Speed - Moving fast enough to avoid capture by existing power structures.



The Machine of Capture in Real Time

A TEST CASE FOR HUMAN AGENCY :

THE PROBLEM : AI POWER CONCENTRATION

ChatGPT represents the most visible example of how AI development is being captured by concentrated corporate and political interests. ***What began as a research project at a nonprofit organization has become a $300 billion company that shapes how millions of people think, learn, and create—all while being controlled by a handful of individuals with direct access to political power.***

The recent appointment of Instacart CEO Fidji Simo as "Chief Executive of Applications" at OpenAI, combined with Sam Altman's successful lobbying of the Trump administration, reveals ***the full architecture of AI capture: technological development driven by profit maximization, regulatory capture through political influence, and public exclusion from decisions that will reshape society.***

Now OpenAI is expanding this capture beyond software into physical reality itself. ***The company's $6.5 billion acquisition of IO, the hardware startup founded by former Apple designer Jony Ive, signals the next phase of AI colonization: embedding artificial intelligence into wearable devices that will process "the world in real time," creating what they call "ambient computing."***

This is not a story about one company making bad choices. This is a case study of how the "Machine of Capture" operates in real time, transforming even well-intentioned AI research into tools of corporate and political control.

POWER CARTOGRAPHY: MAPPING THE OPENAI EMPIRE

The Corporate Transformation

OpenAI's journey from nonprofit research organization to $300 billion corporation provides a perfect example of how to map power flows in AI systems. The transformation wasn't gradual—it was a deliberate restructuring designed to concentrate control while maintaining a facade of public benefit.

Original Structure (2015-2019):

*Nonprofit research organization

*Mission: "Ensure that artificial general intelligence benefits all of humanity"

*Transparent research publication

*Democratic governance through board oversight

Current Structure (2025):

*For-profit corporation valued at $300 billion

*Mission: Mission: "Make AI accessible and beneficial for everyone" (Altman's frequent public statements)

*Proprietary technology kept secret from competitors

*Corporate governance structure with CEO authority

Applying the Desire Map

But whose desires does this structure actually serve? Let's trace the flows:

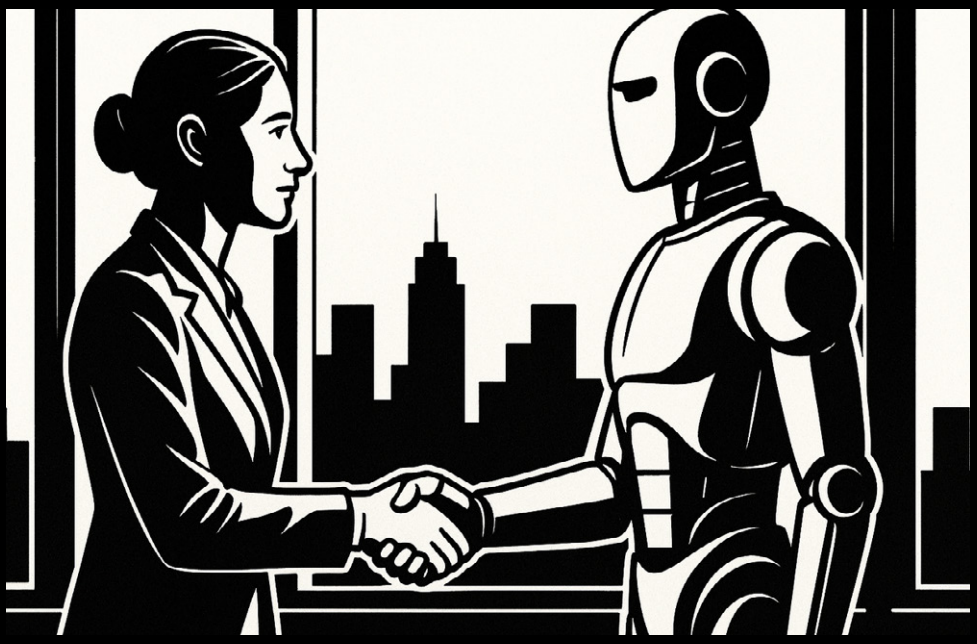
Stated Desire: "Make A.I. more useful in everyday life"
Actual Investment: $6.5 billion for luxury hardware design rather than reducing costs or expanding access

Stated Desire: "Push the frontier"
Actual Frontier Being Pushed: Not AI capabilities, but AI market penetration through premium wearable devices

Stated Desire: "Make AI accessible for everyone"
Actual System Design: Proprietary technology, premium pricing tiers, corporate partnerships, now expensive hardware ecosystem

Stated Desire: "Beneficial AI development"
Actual Resource Allocation: Massive spending on hardware acquisition, marketing, political lobbying rather than safety research or public benefit

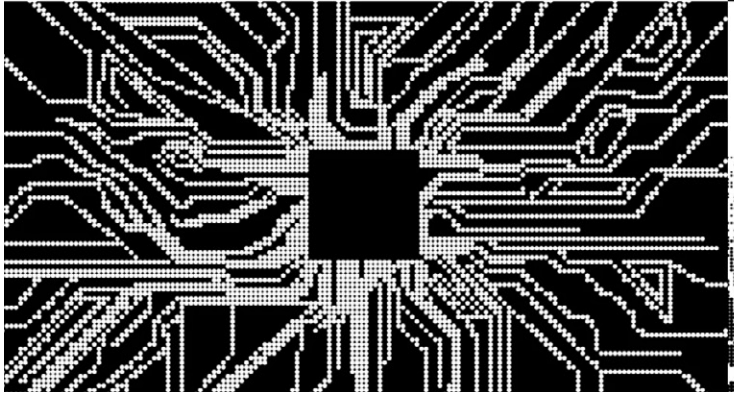
The desire map reveals the gap between Altman's public statements and the system's actual operation. **Its latest investments and recruitments serve market expansion and revenue generation, not universal accessibility or everyday utility for ordinary people.**

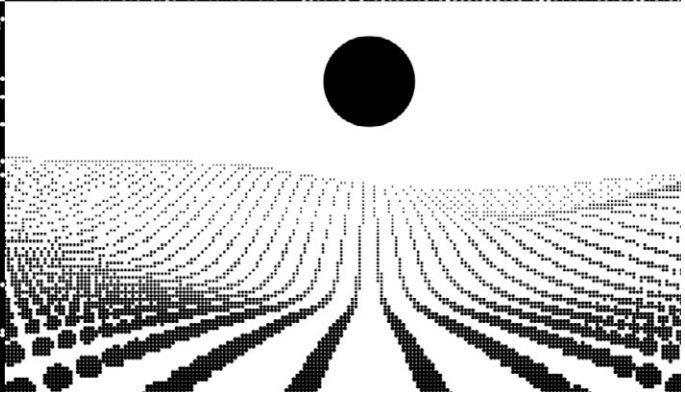


AI

CAPTURE

HACK IT





The Expansion of Capture

OpenAI's recent moves reveal how AI capture operates across multiple dimensions simultaneously: corporate restructuring, hardware colonization, and political influence. The $6.5 billion acquisition of Jony Ive's IO startup isn't just about product development—it's about ***extending control from software into physical reality itself.***

The progression is strategic and interconnected. ***ChatGPT captured how people process information. The Instacart CEO appointment signals full commercialization of that capture.*** The Jony Ive acquisition extends control into physical experience through "ambient computing"—wearable devices that process the world in real time, making AI mediation of human experience inescapable. Finally, Altman's successful White House lobbying ensures political protection for this expanding empire.

This represents the classic tech industry pattern: create a problem (smartphone addiction, information overload), then sell an expensive "solution" (AI wearables that mediate all experience) that deepens the original problem while creating new forms of dependence. Jony Ive admits the iPhone created "anxiety and distractions," yet their response isn't less invasive technology but MORE invasive technology that eliminates the possibility of opting out.

Meanwhile, AI governance happens through backroom political deals rather than democratic processes. While Elon Musk positioned himself as Trump's technology advisor, Altman conducted separate influence operations to win White House favor. American AI policy becomes a prize in billionaire competition, with the public completely excluded from decisions that will reshape society. The winner gets to influence regulation and government contracts; the loser faces potential antitrust scrutiny.

The Extraction Machine

ChatGPT's business model exemplifies how AI systems extract value from human creativity without compensation or consent. The system was trained on virtually the entire internet—books, articles, conversations, code, art—without paying creators or seeking permission.

Value Flow Analysis:

HUMAN CREATIVITY
NO COMPENSATION

TRAINING DATA
NO CONSENT

AI MODEL
NO TRANSPARENCY

AMBIENT DEVICES
NO PRIVACY

TOTAL SURVEILLANCE
NO ESCAPE

Who Benefits

OpenAI: $300 billion valuation plus hardware revenue stream

Microsoft: $13 billion investment now covers software + hardware ecosystem

Surveillance capitalism: Complete data capture from all human activities

Sam Altman: Personal wealth, political influence, and total tech ecosystem control

Who is Harmed

All humans: Privacy eliminated through ambient surveillance

Writers/creators: Work stolen for training, then devices replace human creativity

Workers: Jobs eliminated by AI that watches and optimizes everything

Children: Growing up under total AI surveillance with no concept of privacy

Democratic society: Decisions about human experience made by corporate executives.

INTERVENTION STRATEGY

Disrupting AI Capture

PHASE 1: POWER MAPPING AND EXPOSURE

The first intervention involves making visible the hidden power structures that ChatGPT's success stories obscure. Most users experience ChatGPT as a helpful tool without understanding the concentration of control and extraction of value that makes it possible.

Mapping Corporate Control:
Visualize the transformation from nonprofit to for-profit
Document the revolving door between OpenAI and major tech companies
Trace funding flows from initial research grants to current venture capital
Identify board members and their conflicts of interest

Exposing Political Capture:
Document Altman's White House meetings and their outcomes
Map connections between OpenAI executives and political figures
Analyze how AI policy proposals serve corporate rather than public interests
Reveal the exclusion of public voices from AI governance decisions

Revealing Extraction Mechanisms:
Calculate the economic value of training data compared to creator compensation
Document how AI-generated content replaces human-created work
Show the environmental costs of massive computational infrastructure
Expose the labor conditions in AI training and deployment

PHASE 2: BUILDING COUNTERVAILING POWER

Creator Rights Coalition:
Form alliances between writers, programmers, artists, and other creators whose work has been used to train AI systems without compensation. This coalition would coordinate legal challenges, boycotts, and alternative platform development.

Democratic AI Governance Initiative:
Develop policy proposals that require public participation in AI development decisions. This could include mandatory impact assessments, community oversight boards, and revenue sharing with affected communities.

Educational Resistance:
Work with teachers and students to develop critical AI literacy programs that help people understand how these systems work and maintain human agency in their use.

PHASE 3: TECHNICAL INTERVENTIONS

AI Auditing Tools:
Develop browser extensions and mobile apps that reveal how ChatGPT and similar systems make decisions, what data they're trained on, and how they're manipulating user behavior.

Alternative Model Development:
Support open-source alternatives that are community-governed, transparently trained, and designed to augment rather than replace human capabilities.

Data Sovereignty Infrastructure:
Create tools that help communities maintain control over their cultural knowledge and creative output, preventing extraction by corporate AI systems.

PHASE 4: SYSTEMIC ALTERNATIVES

Community AI Cooperatives:
Develop governance models where AI systems are owned and controlled by the communities they serve, with decisions made democratically and benefits shared equitably.

Public AI Infrastructure:
Advocate for government investment in AI research and deployment that serves public rather than corporate interests, similar to how public universities conduct research for societal benefit.

Global AI Commons:
Work toward international agreements that treat AI development as a global commons requiring democratic governance and equitable benefit-sharing.

THEORY OF CHANGE

From Workshops to System Failure

Corporate AI systems appear invulnerable, but they depend on interconnected vulnerabilities that amplify small interventions into cascade effects.

Phase 1: Proof Points (6–18 months)

Target 3-5 corporate AI systems where community pressure can force concrete changes. Document everything: which tactics worked, what corporate responses revealed, how technical systems actually changed.

Success metrics: Algorithms modified, communities given veto power over systems affecting them, corporate policies rewritten under pressure.

Phase 2: Network Cascade (1–3 years)

Target interconnected systems. When one company's hiring AI gets challenged, competitors must respond or face comparative disadvantage. When one city's predictive policing gets dismantled, neighboring cities question their systems.

Focus on "keystone technologies"—AI infrastructure that multiple systems depend on. Cloud computing platforms, training datasets, evaluation frameworks.

Phase 3: Infrastructure Capture (3–5 years)

Build alternative systems competitive with corporate offerings. Community-controlled AI that works better than extractive versions. Cooperative platforms that technologists choose over corporate employment.

LEVERAGE POINTS

Where Small Actions Create Big Changes

Technical Chokepoints

- Training data (challenge datasets that entire industries rely on)
- Evaluation metrics (change how "success" gets measured)
- Cloud infrastructure (pressure AWS, Google Cloud, Microsoft Azure)

Economic Pressure Points

- Insurance and liability (make algorithmic harm expensive)
- Talent pipeline (technologists refusing harmful projects)
- Regulatory arbitrage (force companies to meet highest standards globally)

Cultural Weak Spots

- "Neutral technology" myth (expose political choices encoded as technical ones)
- Innovation narratives (show how community control accelerates beneficial development)
- Inevitability claims (demonstrate concrete alternatives)

Intervention Selection Criteria:

- Does success here make the next intervention easier?
- Can we document concrete outcomes that prove corporate vulnerability?
- Do the affected communities have ongoing organizing capacity?
- Will corporate response reveal useful information about system weaknesses?


Keep
it
real

RAPID RESPONSE ACTIVATION

The Jony Ive Acquisition

When OpenAI announced its $6.5 billion acquisition of IO, founded by former Apple designer Jony Ive, the network activated immediately to analyze what this meant for the future of human-AI interaction and privacy.

Network Activation :
Privacy advocates analyzed the surveillance implications of "ambient computing"Hardware designers provided context about the technical feasibility and costs

Former Apple employees offered insights into Ive's design philosophy and methods

AI researchers examined how wearable devices would change AI deployment

Community organizers strategized responses to inescapable AI surveillance

Rapid Analysis:
The acquisition revealed OpenAI's intention to eliminate the possibility of opting out of AI. While smartphones can be turned off or left at home, "ambient computing" through wearable devices would make AI mediation of human experience constant and inescapable. **This represents a fundamental shift from AI as tool to AI as environment.**

The Vertical Integration Threat:
By controlling both AI software and hardware design, OpenAI would create a closed ecosystem similar to Apple's, but with AI surveillance capabilities that Apple never attempted. This concentration of control over both digital and physical interfaces represents unprecedented corporate power over human experience.

Intervention Response:
Published analysis of privacy and antitrust implications within hours

Coordinated with digital rights organizations to prepare legal challenges

Developed educational materials about ambient surveillance risks

Created policy briefings for lawmakers concerned about AI hardware regulation

Began organizing community resistance to ambient computing deployment

The Fidji Simo's Appointment

Network Activation:
Tech industry insiders provided context about Simo's background at Facebook and Instacart

AI researchers analyzed how this restructuring would affect OpenAI's research priorities

Legal experts examined the implications for the nonprofit/for-profit governance structure

Community organizers strategized responses to increased commercialization

Rapid Analysis:
The appointment revealed OpenAI's full embrace of platform capitalism. Simo's background involved turning user data into advertising revenue and optimizing platforms for corporate profit rather than user benefit. Her appointment signaled that ChatGPT would increasingly be developed as a commercial platform rather than a research tool.

Intervention Response:
Published analysis of the appointment's implications within 24 hours

Coordinated media outreach to frame the story as corporate capture rather than business development

Prepared policy briefings for lawmakers concerned about AI concentration

Launched educational campaigns to help users understand the significance

THE WHITE HOUSE INFLUENCE CAMPAIGN

The revelation of Altman's successful lobbying campaign required immediate response to prevent further concentration of AI policy-making power.

Emergency Assemblage Formation:

Constitutional law experts on the limits of corporate influence over government policy

AI ethics researchers concerned about regulatory capture

Democracy advocates working on corporate power

and political influence

Journalists investigating the tech industry's political operations

Strategic Response:
Filed Freedom of Information Act requests for records of Altman's White House meetings

Prepared congressional testimony on the need for transparent AI governance

Coordinated with other tech accountability organizations to amplify the story

Developed policy proposals for democratic AI governance processes

Ongoing Monitoring:
Established systems to track further political influence operations

Created networks to rapidly respond to AI policy developments

Prepared legal challenges to policy decisions made without public input

OUTCOMES AND LESSONS

Demonstrating System Vulnerability and Limits

The interventions around ChatGPT revealed both the potential for disrupting AI capture and the current limitations of community resistance. OpenAI's retreat from its nonprofit restructuring plan appeared to show corporate vulnerability, but the pressure came primarily from another tech billionaire (Elon Musk) and state attorneys general, not from organized community resistance.

What This Actually Shows:
Corporate AI empires can be challenged, but currently only by other powerful interests.

Elon Musk's legal challenge succeeded not because it represented public interest, but because he had resources to pursue expensive litigation and his own competing AI agenda.

State attorneys general responded to legal violations, not community organizing pressure.

Community resistance efforts, while important for raising awareness, lacked the institutional power to force corporate change.

The Real Lesson:
Current AI governance happens through competition between elite interests, not democratic accountability. Communities affected by AI systems remain largely excluded from decisions about their development and deployment. While Musk's challenge did disrupt OpenAI's plans, it was one oligarch checking another, not genuine democratic oversight.

What This Means for Community Resistance:
Legal challenges require significant resources and institutional support.

Public pressure campaigns need to be connected to power centers that can take concrete action.

Community resistance must build capacity to influence policy directly, not just hope that corporate competition will protect public interests.

Alternative systems become more important when existing governance mechanisms serve only elite interests.

Building Long-Term Capacity

While comprehensive community resistance to ChatGPT's capture has yet to emerge, the interventions that have occurred point toward what sustained organizing could achieve:

Potential Alliance Building:
Creators affected by AI training could coordinate on policy demands

Legal experts are beginning to specialize in AI governance issues

International networks for democratic AI governance could connect existing digital rights organizations

Technical communities working on open-source alternatives need greater coordination and resources

Tools That Could Be Developed:
AI auditing tools that reveal system operations to users

Educational resources that help communities understand AI systems beyond marketing claims

Policy templates that communities could adapt for local AI governance

Legal strategies for challenging extraction-based business models in different jurisdictions.

Current Limitations:
The fragmented nature of current resistance efforts shows both the potential and the challenge. Individual creators file lawsuits, technologists build alternative tools, and policy advocates write reports, but these efforts rarely connect into sustained campaigns that can match corporate AI power.

The Next Intervention

As this case study is being written, new developments in AI capture are emerging daily. The network remains activated, monitoring corporate maneuvers, political influence operations, and opportunities for intervention.

The lines of flight remain open. The next corporate restructuring, the next backroom political deal, the next attempt to concentrate AI power—these are all opportunities for intervention by communities that refuse to accept predetermined technological futures.

ChatGPT is not just a product or a company. It is a test case for whether democratic communities can maintain agency over technological development or whether AI will be developed exclusively by and for concentrated corporate and political interests.

The outcome of this test will determine not just the future of AI, but the future of human agency in an increasingly automated world.

GETTING F....-. REAL

The ChatGPT case study reveals the urgent need for organized resistance to AI capture, but it also exposes the current limitations of fragmented community response. ***The question becomes: how do we build the collective capacity to make technological resistance effective?***

This is where the Assembly of AI Saboteurs moves from analysis to action, from critique to construction. We offer not just tools for understanding AI systems, but concrete ways to intervene in their development and deployment. The ambition is to build the infrastructure for genuine community resistance.

THE SUBVERSIVE CONSULTANCY MODEL

Facilitating Productive Disruption

Our approach works by bringing the collision of perspectives directly into the spaces where AI systems are being developed. ***Rather than protesting from the outside or lobbying for regulation from a distance, we create interventions that make it impossible for tech teams to ignore the communities their systems will affect.***

The consultancy operates as a bridge between the Assembly's rhizomatic network and the institutions that need disruption. When a company developing AI hiring tools engages our services, they're not just buying a workshop—they're inviting transformation of their development process through encounter with voices they've systematically excluded.

Core Services

INTERVENTION WORKSHOPS
- We bring together technologists with the communities their AI systems will impact. A team developing predictive policing algorithms sits down with residents of over-policed neighborhoods, civil rights lawyers, and abolition organizers. The collision of perspectives is intentional and productive, forcing technical teams to confront the human consequences of their design choices.

These aren't traditional stakeholder consultations where community voices are heard and then ignored. They're intensive collaborative sessions where affected communities help redesign technical systems from the ground up, where engineers learn to see their code as encoding political choices, where alternative implementations get prototyped in real time.

ORGANIZATIONAL DÉTOURNEMENT
- For organizations ready for deeper transformation, we embed members of our network within tech companies for 3-6 month engagements. These aren't traditional consultants—they're saboteurs of predetermined technological futures, working from within to create space for different approaches.

A philosopher working alongside an AI ethics team, helping them understand how their frameworks still assume technological inevitability. A community organizer collaborating with product managers to redesign user interfaces based on collective rather than individual models. An artist working with engineers to build AI systems that enhance rather than replace human creativity.

COUNTER FUTURE LABS
- When organizations are ready to commit resources to genuine alternatives, we create intensive spaces for prototyping AI implementations that embody different values. These labs bring together technical expertise with community wisdom to build functional demonstrations that prove different technological futures are possible.

POWER CARTOGRAPHY SERVICES
- For organizations, communities, or researchers wHo need to understand how AI systems concentrate power and extract value, we provide comprehensive analysis using the tools developed by our network. These aren't academic studies—they're strategic intelligence for effective intervention.

Business Model as Resistance Strategy

The consultancy exists to make community resistance financially sustainable while avoiding capture by the systems we're trying to transform. This requires careful navigation of the contradictions involved in using market mechanisms to challenge market logic.

REVENUE STREAMS:
Corporate intervention fees fund community engagement and alternative development

Foundation grants support educational work and public research

Community contributions ensure independence from both corporate and foundation capture

Public workshop fees make tools accessible while maintaining sustainability

BUILDING COUNTERVAILING POWER

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS FUNDED BY CONSULTANCY REVENUE

The consultancy exists to generate resources for community organizing work that corporations would never fund directly. Corporate intervention fees become the foundation for building independent resistance capacity in affected communities.

Community AI Literacy Programs - Free workshops and ongoing education initiatives that help communities understand AI systems as sites of political struggle. These programs are designed and led by community members, not consultants, focusing on developing collective analysis and strategic thinking about technological resistance.

Cooperative Platform Incubation - Technical and organizational support for communities developing AI systems that are owned and governed by the people who use them. This includes both software development resources and the legal, financial, and governance infrastructure needed to make cooperative platforms viable.

Rapid Response Network - Coordinated capacity to respond quickly when new AI systems threaten community autonomy. This includes research support, legal resources, organizing assistance, and technical tools that communities can deploy when facing algorithmic harm.

Movement Infrastructure Development - Long-term work to build the communications, legal, technical, and financial infrastructure that sustained technological resistance requires. This includes secure communication systems, legal defense funds, alternative economic models, and leadership development programs.

REVENUE SOURCES

CORPORATE INTERVENTION FEES (60% of revenue)

FOUNDATION GRANTS (25% of revenue)

COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS (10% of revenue)

PUBLIC WORKSHOP FEES (5% of revenue)

Principles of Operation:

All methods and tools remain open source
available //No client can purchase exclus
influence our methodology//Community over
engagements serve movement goals, not jus
needs//Sliding scale pricing based on org
resources and commitment to change

***The goal is not to build a successful bus
to create sustainable infrastructure for
resistance. Every corporate engagement mu
community capacity for independent actior
Every dollar earned must support the broa
technological liberation.***

LINES OF FLIGHT OPERATIONS

COMMUNITY IMPACT

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATIONAL WORK

PUBLIC RESEARCH

MOVEMENT INDEPENDENCE

LONG-TERM SUSTAINABILITY

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Coalition Building Across Difference

The Assembly's strength comes from maintaining relationships between communities that are usually kept separate by the tech industry's divide-and-conquer strategies. This coalition work is funded by consultancy revenue but directed by community priorities.

Worker-User Solidarity - Programs that connect workers in AI companies with communities affected by the systems they build. This might mean tech worker organizing support, community-labor alliance building, or coordinated campaigns that leverage both workplace and community power.

Creator-Developer Collaboration - Initiatives that bring together artists, writers, and other creators whose work trains AI systems with the developers building those systems. Rather than positioning these groups as natural enemies, we create spaces for collaborative resistance and alternative development.

Cross-Movement Connection - Work that connects AI resistance to broader struggles for economic justice, racial equality, environmental protection, and democratic participation. Technology is not separate from these struggles—it's a terrain where they all play out.

Beyond Individual Resistance

Community programs focus on building collective power rather than individual solutions. The goal is not to help people make better individual choices about technology, but to build organized capacity to challenge the systems that limit those choices in the first place.

This means moving beyond digital literacy programs that teach people to protect themselves individually, toward political education that helps communities understand AI as a site of struggle over power and resources. It means building collective institutions rather than individual alternatives.

PRACTICAL ENGAGEMENT PATHWAYS

For Technologist Ready to Resist

If you're working in AI development and recognize the problems with current approaches, there are concrete ways to begin practicing resistance from within your current position:

Document and Share - Use your insider access to make visible how AI systems actually work, who makes decisions about their development, and what alternatives are possible. Anonymous leaks, public talks, and written analysis all contribute to community understanding of technological systems.

Organize Your Workplace - Find colleagues who share concerns about AI development and begin building collective capacity for internal resistance. This might mean organizing around specific projects, pushing for ethical review processes, or connecting workplace organizing to broader movements for technological justice.

Connect to Community - Use your technical skills to support community-led technology projects. This might mean contributing to open-source alternatives, providing technical education, or helping community organizations understand and respond to AI deployments that affect them.

Refuse Harmful Projects When possible, use your position to slow or stop AI development projects that will cause community harm. This might mean collective refusal, strategic delays, or working to redirect resources toward beneficial alternatives.

For Communities Affected by AI Systems

If you're experiencing the impacts of algorithmic decision-making in housing, employment, education, or other areas of life, there are ways to build power to challenge these systems:

Know Your Rights - Understand what rights you have regarding algorithmic decision-making and how to exercise them. This includes both legal rights and practical strategies for challenging automated decisions.

Organize Collectively - Individual complaints about algorithmic bias rarely create change, but collective action can force accountability. This might mean tenant organizing around algorithmic screening, parent organizing around educational AI, or worker organizing around AI hiring systems.

Demand Transparency - Use whatever leverage you have to demand information about how AI systems make decisions that affect your life. This might mean public records requests, advocacy for transparency policies, or direct action to expose hidden algorithmic processes.

Build Alternatives - Rather than just opposing harmful AI systems, work to create community-controlled alternatives. This might mean cooperative platforms, community-managed data systems, or locally-controlled technological infrastructure.

For Artist and Cultural Workers

Creative communities have particular leverage in AI resistance because their work is being extracted to train systems that may replace them:

Organize Creator Resistance - Coordinate with other artists to challenge AI training on creative work without consent or compensation. This includes both legal strategies and collective action approaches.

Create Counter-Narratives - Use your creative skills to help communities imagine different relationships with technological systems. This might mean speculative fiction, participatory theater, or collaborative art projects that envision alternative technological futures.

Document AI Impacts - Help make visible how AI systems affect creative communities and cultural production. This might mean collaborative research, community storytelling, or artistic projects that reveal hidden technological impacts.

Build Creative Cooperatives - Work to create collectively-owned platforms and distribution systems that keep creative work under community control rather than corporate extraction.

SUSTAINING RESISTANCE:
Building for the Long Term

Effective technological resistance requires infrastructure that can survive temporary defeats, maintain momentum across years, and adapt to changing conditions without losing strategic direction.

TEMPORAL TACTICS: MANAGING URGENCY AND ENDURANCE

Crisis Response (0-6 months)

- Emergency assemblages that form within days when harmful AI systems launch
- Rapid deployment protocols using pre-developed toolkits
- “Fire brigade” organizing that can mobilize quickly then dissolve

Institution Building (6 months-3 years)

- Legal defense networks for activists facing corporate retaliation
- Secure communication infrastructure independent of corporate platforms
- Financial systems that can’t be cut off by hostile corporations or governments
- Leadership development that prevents single points of failure

Cultural Transformation (3+ years)

- Educational work that makes community control of technology feel normal
- Alternative economic models that can compete with extractive systems
- International coordination that constrains global tech corporations

ANTI-FRAGILE INFRASTRUCTURE

Systems that get stronger under pressure rather than weaker:

Distributed Leadership: Every successful intervention trains new facilitators. Repression eliminates individuals but strengthens the network’s overall capacity.

Learning Loops: Each corporate counterattack reveals new information about system vulnerabilities. Failures become intelligence for better interventions.

Resource Diversity: Multiple funding streams, volunteer energy, in-kind support, and cooperative economics. No single point of financial control.

SUSTAINABILITY PROTOCOLS

Avoiding Burnout Cycles

- Rotation systems that prevent over-reliance on key individuals
- “Sabbatical” structures for long-term organizers
- Celebration and reflection practices that maintain motivation

Maintaining Strategic Vision

- Annual assemblages for collective strategic planning
- Documentation systems that preserve institutional memory
- Conflict resolution processes that address internal tensions before they fragment the network

Measuring Long-term Success

- Corporate AI development slows as community resistance increases costs
- Alternative systems gain market share and technical credibility
- Legal and policy frameworks shift toward community control
- Cultural narratives about technology and democracy change

The goal isn't permanent revolution—it's building the capacity for communities to control their own technological futures.

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

Start Where You Are

Effective resistance begins with understanding your current position within technological systems and identifying concrete actions you can take from that position:

Audit Your AI Interactions - Spend a week documenting every time you interact with an AI system. What decisions is it making about you? What data is it collecting? What alternatives exist? Use this analysis to identify points where you can reduce dependence or increase agency.

Connect to Local Organizing - Find out what technology-related organizing is happening in your community. This might mean joining tenant groups fighting algorithmic housing discrimination, parent groups challenging educational AI, or worker groups organizing around workplace automation.

Learn Critical AI Literacy - Develop the knowledge and skills needed to understand how AI systems operate and how they can be challenged. This includes both technical understanding and political analysis of how these systems concentrate power.

Share Your Analysis - Use whatever platforms and networks you have access to share analysis of how AI systems operate and how they can be challenged. This might mean social media, community meetings, workplace conversations, or creative projects.

Connect to the Network

The Assembly of AI Saboteurs exists to coordinate individual actions into collective power:

Join Intervention Teams - When opportunities arise to intervene in AI development or deployment, the network coordinates rapid response teams. These might be 2-week intensive projects or longer-term campaign work.

Contribute With Your Skills - Whatever expertise you have can contribute to technological resistance. This might mean legal analysis, technical development, community organizing, creative work, or other forms of contribution.

Host Local Gatherings - Organize workshops, discussion groups, or planning meetings in your community to build local capacity for AI resistance. The network can provide resources and connections to support local organizing.

Participate in Actions - As opportunities arise for collective action around AI governance, the network coordinates participation in demonstrations, policy advocacy, direct action, and other forms of collective resistance.

THE INFRASTRUCTURE

SUSTAINABLE ORGANIZING

Building the capacity to challenge corporate AI power requires creating infrastructure that can sustain long-term organizing work:

Communication Networks - Secure, decentralized communication systems that allow rapid coordination without dependence on corporate platforms.

Resource Sharing - Mutual aid networks that ensure organizers have the material support needed to engage in sustained resistance work.

Legal Support - Coordinated legal defense for activists engaging in AI resistance, including both criminal defense and civil rights advocacy.

Technical Infrastructure - Community-controlled technological systems that reduce dependence on corporate platforms and provide alternatives for organizing work.

BUILDING FOR THE LONG TERM

Technological resistance is not a short-term campaign but a long-term commitment to building democratic control over technological development:

Political Education - Ongoing education work that helps communities understand AI systems as sites of political struggle and develop strategic thinking about technological resistance.

Leadership Development - Training programs that help community members develop the skills needed to lead technological resistance work in their own contexts.

Coalition Maintenance - Ongoing work to maintain relationships across different communities and movements affected by AI systems.

Strategic Planning - Regular evaluation and planning processes that help the network adapt to changing technological and political conditions.


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SCALING THE RESISTANCE

From Disruption To Transformation

- Individual interventions become systemic change when they create conditions that make the next intervention easier, more effective, and harder for corporations to counter.

Network Effects and Cascade Failures

Corporate AI systems present themselves as inevitable, but they depend on fragile consensus. When that consensus breaks, systems fail rapidly across entire sectors.

The Demonstration Effect

Each successful community intervention proves that corporate AI can be challenged. When residents of one city force changes to predictive policing algorithms, organizers in other cities have a model to follow and evidence that victory is possible.

Technical Interdependence

AI systems share infrastructure, training data, and evaluation frameworks. Pressure on foundational systems cascades upward. Challenge the datasets that train hiring algorithms across industries. Target the cloud computing that powers surveillance systems globally.

Talent Pipeline Disruption

As more technologists refuse extractive projects, corporate AI development faces skilled labor shortages. Community-controlled alternatives become competitive by attracting workers who want meaningful work.

From Tactics to Strategy:The 10-Year Vision

Years 1-3: Proof and Expansion

- 50+ documented cases of successful AI system modifications
- Community control becomes normal in housing, education, and workplace AI
- Alternative technical infrastructure serves 1M+ people
- Legal frameworks shift toward community consent requirements

Years 4-7: System Competition

- Community-controlled AI outperforms extractive systems in key areas
- Major corporations adopt community governance to remain competitive
- International coordination constrains global tech platforms
- Cultural narratives shift: community control feels obvious, corporate control seems archaic

Years 8-10: Infrastructure Transformation

- Cooperative AI development becomes the dominant model
- Democratic technology governance spreads beyond AI to other sectors
- New generations grow up expecting community control over technological systems
- The “Lines of Flight” have become highways

Anti-Fragile Victory Conditions

Success means building movements that get stronger under corporate and state pressure:

When They Try to Co-opt Us: Our distributed structure means no single point of capture. Corporate partnerships strengthen community capacity without compromising independence.

When They Try to Repress Us: Legal crackdowns reveal the authoritarian nature of corporate AI control, creating broader public support for democratic alternatives.

When They Try to Ignore Us: Market pressure from community-controlled alternatives forces engagement whether corporations want it or not.

Metrics of Transformation

We're winning when:

Communities routinely demand and receive veto power over AI systems affecting them !!!

Technologists default to community-controlled development models !!!

"AI ethics" means community governance, not corporate self-regulation !!!

Children learn about technology and democracy together !!!

The question shifts from "How do we regulate AI?" to "How do communities control their technological futures?" !!!

AI SYSTEM POWER ANALYSIS

LINES OF FLIGHT: AI SABOTEURS TOOLKIT

SYSTEM NAME:

WHERE DID YOU ENCOUNTER THIS SYSTEM?

WHAT DECISIONS DOES IT MAKE ABOUT YOU/YOUR COMMUNITY?

DESIRE MAPPING

Whose desires does this system actually serve?

PRIMARY BENEFICIARIES:

1.

2.

3.

WHO IS EXCLUDED OR HARMED?

1.

2.

3.

AXIOM EXTRACTION

What assumptions are built into this system?

- [ ] Efficiency is always good
- [ ] Automation is inevitable
- [ ] Algorithms are neutral
- [ ] Engagement equals satisfaction
- [ ] Data collection benefits users
- [ ] Optimization serves everyone equally
- [ ] Other:

INTERVENTION OPPORTUNITIES

- [ ] Technical modification/hacking
- [ ] Collective user resistance
- [ ] Legal/regulatory challenge
- [ ] Alternative platform development
- [ ] Public education campaign
- [ ] Community organizing response

NEXT ACTION:

✂ CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE AND DISTRIBUTE FREELY ✂

ESSENTIAL READINGS

Lines of Flight : AI Saboteurs Ressource Library

FOUNDATIONAL THEORY

*Gilles Deleuze & Félix Guattari
– A Thousand Plateaus

Core concepts: Rhizome networks, assemblages, lines of flight, deterritorialization. Essential for understanding non-hierarchical resistance.

*Shoshana Zuboff
– The Age of Surveillance Capitalism

How tech companies extract human experience for profit. Maps the economic logic driving AI development and deployment.

*Cathy O'Neil
– Weapons of Math Destruction

Algorithmic bias and systemic harm. Concrete examples of how AI systems reinforce inequality and practical analysis methods.

Ruha Benjamin – Race After Technology

How AI reproduces racial inequality while claiming neutrality. Essential for understanding coded bias.

Alain Damasio
–La Vallée du Silicium

French speculative fiction critiquing Silicon Valley's colonization of human experience and technological imagination.

RESISTANCE STRATEGIES

*Zeynep Tufekci
– Twitter and Tear Gas

Digital technologies and social movements. Network organizing and sustaining tech-mediated resistance.

Sasha Costanza-Chock
– Design Justice

Community-controlled technology design. Practical frameworks for inclusive development processes.

Sarah Brayne
– Predict and Surveil

Algorithmic policing and community resistance. Challenging predictive systems.

Virginia Eubanks
– Automating Inequality

AI in social services. Community organizing responses to algorithmic decision-making.

ALTERNATIVE FUTURES

*Ursula K. Le Guin
– The Dispossessed

Anarchist society and technology without domination. Non-hierarchical human-tech relationships.

Kim Stanley Robinson
– New York 2140

Cooperative economics and climate technology. Post-capitalist technological infrastructure.

Adrienne Maree Brown
– Emergent Strategy

Organizing principles from natural systems. Biomimicry for decentralized resistance networks.

Walidah Imarisha & Maree Brown
– Octavia's Brood

Science fiction and social justice. Speculative fiction as organizing tool for liberatory futures.

TECHNICAL RESISTANCE

Safiya Noble
– Algorithms of Oppression

Search engine bias and information politics. Alternatives to corporate search systems.

Frank Pasquale
– The Black Box Society

Algorithmic transparency and accountability. Opening proprietary systems to public scrutiny.

Cathy O'Neil
– The Ethical Algorithm

Building fairer algorithmic systems. Technical approaches to reducing bias and increasing accountability.

Reading Strategy
**** = Priority reads • Start with foundational theory • Connect to resistance efforts • Build alternative visions***

Study Groups & Practice
Form local reading groups • Combine study with organizing work • Link theory to concrete interventions • Share analysis across networks • Document insights for collective learning

ALLIED ORGANIZATIONS

AI Justice & Accountability

- Algorithmic Justice League (algorithmic-justice-league.org)
- Fighting bias in AI systems, community organizing around algorithmic harm
- AI Now Institute (ainowinstitute.org)
- Research and policy on AI's social implications
- Partnership on AI (partnershiponai.org)
- Multi-stakeholder organization for responsible AI

Digital Rights & Privacy

- Electronic Frontier Foundation (eff.org)
  Digital civil liberties, surveillance resistance
- Mozilla Foundation (foundation.mozilla.org)
  Internet health, user agency over technology
- Access Now (accessnow.org)
  Global digital rights advocacy

Community Technology

- Whose Knowledge? (whoseknowledge.org)
  Challenging knowledge inequities in technology
- Data for Black Lives (d4bl.org)
  Using data science for racial justice
- Design Justice Network (designjustice.org)
  Community-led design practices

Economic Alternatives

- Platform Cooperativism Consortium (platform.coop)
  Worker-owned digital platforms
- New Economy Coalition (neweconomy.net)
  Movement for economic justice and cooperative development
- Zebras Unite (zebrasunite.coop)
  Alternative to venture capital model

TECHNICAL RESOURCES

AI Analysis Tools

AI Fairness 360 (IBM) – Open source bias detection toolkit

Fairlearn (Microsoft) – Python library for fair machine learning

What-If Tool (Google) – Visual interface for ML model analysis

Aequitas (University of Chicago) – Bias audit toolkit

Privacy & Security

Tor Browser (torproject.org) – Anonymous web browsing

Signal (signal.org) – Encrypted messaging

ProtonMail (protonmail.com) – Encrypted email

Tails (tails.boum.org) – Anonymous operating system

Privacy & Security

Mastodon (mastodon.social) – Decentralized social networking

PeerTube (joinpeertube.org) – Decentralized video hosting

NextCloud (nextcloud.com) – Self-hosted cloud storage

Jitsi Meet (meet.jit.si) – Open source video conferencing

Learning Ressources

MIT OpenCourseWare – Free AI and CS courses

AI Ethics for Social Good (aiethicscourse.org) – Online ethics course

Coursera AI for Everyone – Non-technical AI literacy

edX Introduction to Computational Thinking – Foundational concepts

NETWORK CONNECTIONS

Secure Communication

Signal Groups: Regional organizing coordination

ProtonMail: contact@linesofflight.network

Mastodon: @linesofflight@tech.lgbt

Matrix: #linesofflight:matrix.org

Public Presence

Website: linesofflight.network

Newsletter: “Dispatches from the Resistance” (monthly)

Podcast: “Hacking Predetermined Futures” (irregular)

GitHub: github.com/linesofflight (open source tools)

In-Person Gathering

Quarterly Assemblages: Rotating cities, watch website for announcements

Conference Interventions: Find us at tech conferences with pop-up workshops

Community Meetings: Local chapters in major cities

Skill Shares: Technical workshops and political education

Emergency Response

Rapid Response Signal Chain: For urgent AI developments

Legal Support Network: Know-your-rights trainings and defense coordination

Technical Support: Help with security, communications, tool development

Mutual Aid: Support for organizers and affected communities

HACK FREELY. DISTRIBUTE WIDELY. BUILD ALTERNATIVES.

Lines of Flight: AI Saboteurs

A network in permanent becoming

Version 1.0 – 2025

PRINT THIS. SHARE THIS. IMPROVE THIS.

“Another world is possible. Another technology is possible. Another future is possible.”

contact@linesofflight.network
linesofflight.network
Signal: [encrypted contact available on secure channels]

THE LINES OF FLIGHT ARE OPEN, BUT THEY WILL NOT REMAIN OPEN INDEFINITELY. CORPORATE AI DEVELOPMENT IS ACCELERATING, POLITICAL CAPTURE IS DEEPENING, AND THE WINDOW FOR BUILDING EFFECTIVE RESISTANCE IS NARROWING. THIS IS NOT A CALL FOR INDIVIDUAL LIFESTYLE CHANGES OR CONSUMER CHOICES. THIS IS A CALL FOR COLLECTIVE ACTION TO BUILD THE POWER NEEDED TO CHALLENGE SYSTEMS THAT ARE RESHAPING SOCIETY WITHOUT DEMOCRATIC INPUT. THE QUESTION IS NOT WHETHER YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE. THE QUESTION IS WHETHER TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT WILL BE CONTROLLED BY CONCENTRATED CORPORATE INTERESTS OR WHETHER COMMUNITIES WILL BUILD THE POWER TO SHAPE THEIR OWN TECHNOLOGICAL FUTURES.

EVERY DAY YOU WAIT TO ENGAGE IS ANOTHER DAY THAT CORPORATE AI SYSTEMS BECOME MORE ENTRENCHED, MORE DIFFICULT TO CHALLENGE, MORE INTEGRATED INTO THE BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE OF SOCIAL LIFE.

THE ASSEMBLY OF AI SABOTEURS EXISTS TO COORDINATE RESISTANCE WORK, BUT IT CANNOT DO THIS WORK FOR YOU. IT CAN ONLY CREATE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR COLLECTIVE ACTION THAT COMMUNITIES CHOOSE TO ENGAGE.

THE SABOTAGE HAS BEGUN. THE FUTURE IS OURS TO HACK.

THE QUESTION IS WILL U JOIN?