

# The full force of the state: predictive policing

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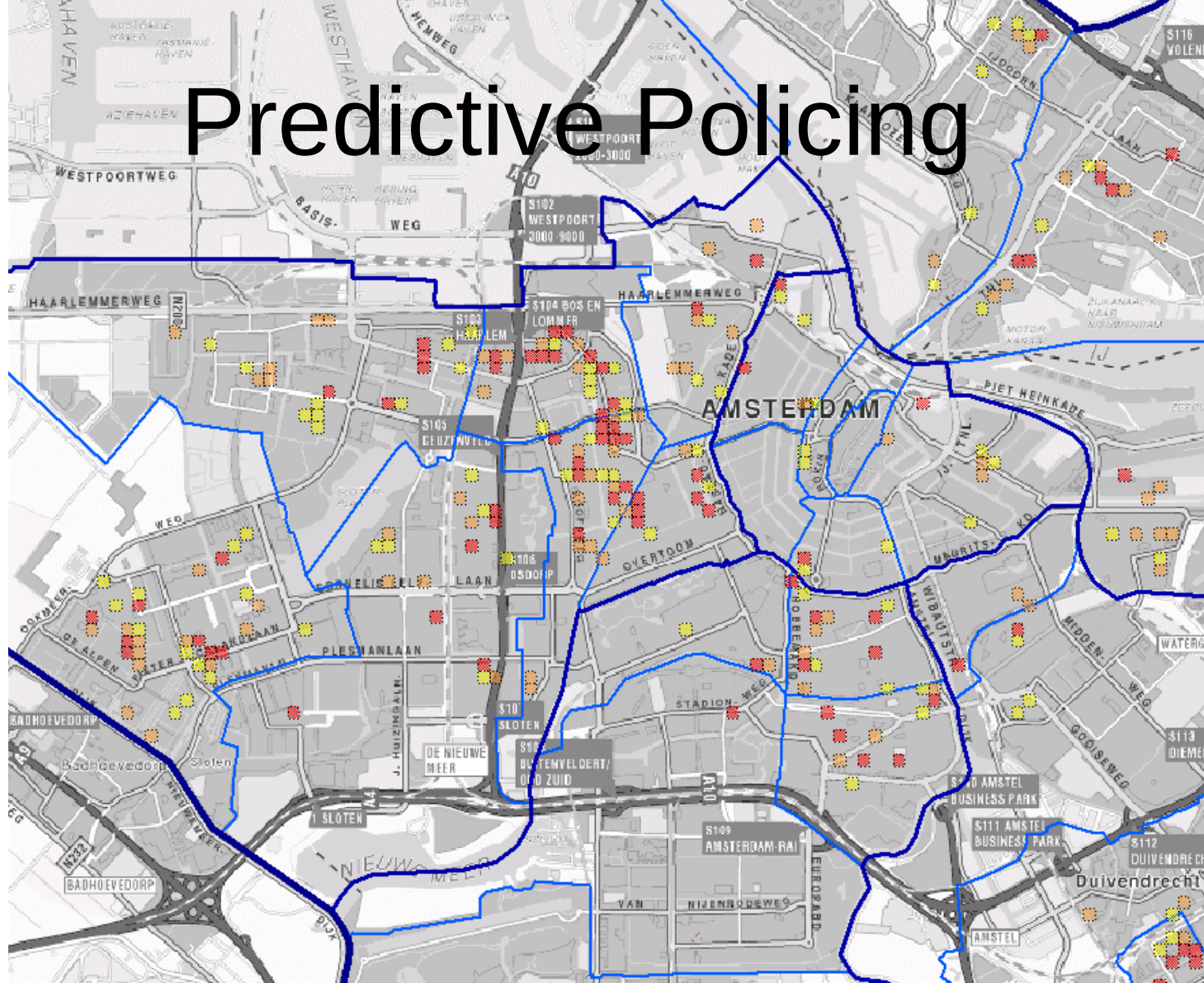


• • • • Data  
• — • Justice  
• — • Lab  
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# Overview

- What is predictive policing
- What are the issues
- Need to contextualize predictive policing

# Predictive Policing



# Predictive Policing

“Use of historical and real-time data to predict when and where a crime is most likely to occur or who is most likely to engage in or become a victim of criminal activity”  
(Brakel, 2016)

# Predicting Location Models

## Near-repeat

- Crime type
- Date and time
- Location

Police data

## Time-space

- Crime data
- Data about the weather, events, holidays,
- Population data
- Geo-spatial data like distance to highway

Police data +

Program	Country	Crime area	Status
PredPol	U.K.: Kent and Met	HIC	Halted
Azevea	U.K.: Met	HIC	Tested and halted
Palantir	U.K.: Met	HIC	Tested and halted
Crime Anticipation System (CAS)	The Netherlands	HIC	Active
PreCobs	Germany	HIC	?
PreMap	Germany	HIC	?
KLB-operativ	Germany	HIC	?
KEYCRIME	Italy	HIC	?

# Predicting perpetrator or victim

- Analysing who is showing concerning behaviour
  - i.e. increase number of small incidents or increased severity that indicate there is reason for concern
- Analysing who belongs to a predefined target group,
  - i.e. most prolific HIC offender
- Analysing who in a predefined target group will escalate from low harm to high harm crimes.
  - i.e. violent crime or violent terrorist attack

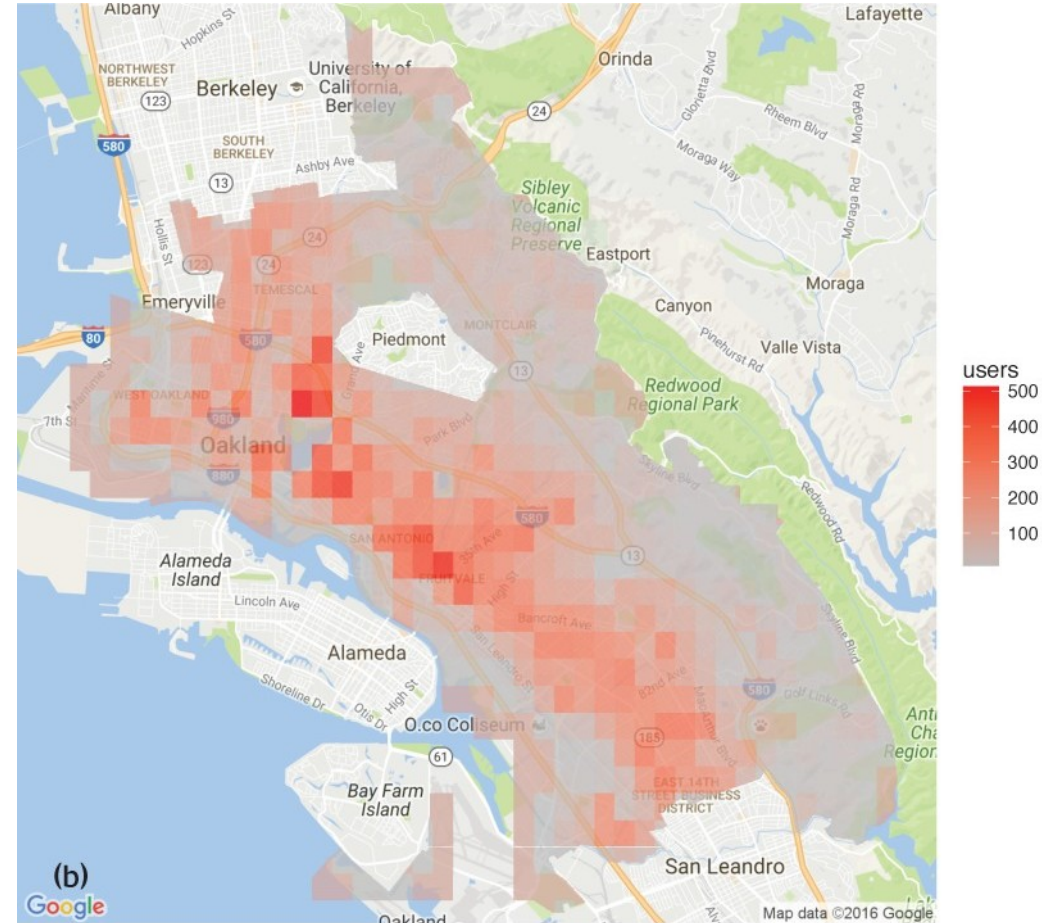
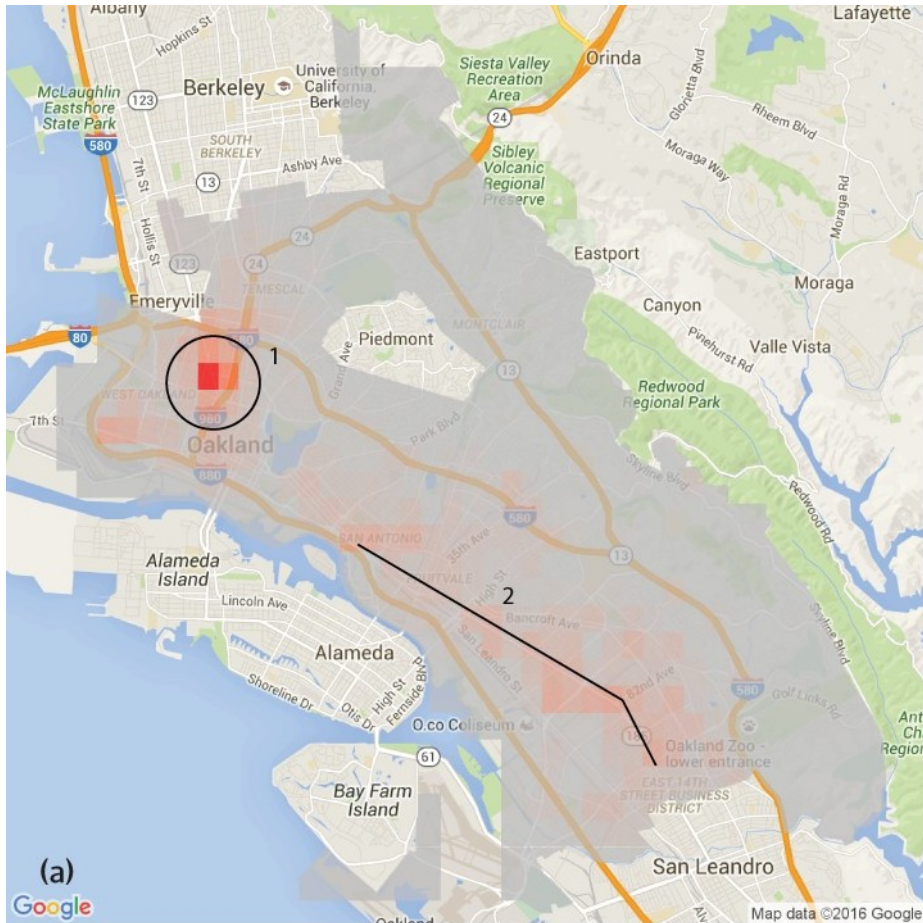
All based on police data

Program	Country	Crime area	What	Status
Gang Matrix	U.K.	Gang Violent	Identifying and tracking individuals involved with gangs	Temporarily suspended
NDAS	U.K.	Gun and knife crime, and modern slavery	Identification of victims and perpetrators	In development
Qlik Sense	U.K.	o.a HIC, vulnerable communities, stalking, domestic violence	Identification and risk Assessment of victims and perpetrators	Active
ML Domestic Violence	U.K	Domestic abuse	Identification of risk to escalate from low to high harm offence	In development
Top 600	The Netherlands	HIC	Identification of repeat offenders	Active
ProKid -12	The Netherlands	HIC	Identification of concerning behaviour (8-12 years)	Active, Prokid -23 is in development
RTI-Geweld	The Netherlands	Violent crime	Identification of violent offenders	Active
Radar-IT	Germany	Terrorism	Selection of individual on watch-list most likely to commit violent crime	Actice

# Critiques



# Reinforcing over-policing communities



Kristian Lum and William Isaac, 2016

# Critiques on Predictive Policing

- Changing the nature of police reactionary → pre-emptive (Brayne, 2017; Brakel, 2016)
- Predictive policing a tool of governance that in turn shapes the political rationalities and further entrenches the centrality of data within police (Henman, 2010; Egbert, 2019)

# A tool to

- Predicting where crime is taking place or where arrest are most likely to happen?
- Managing crime is privileges over changing the conditions that leads to crime (Andrejevic, 2020)

# Policing

- Critical criminologists call the orthodox approach to crime, where crime is seen as a flaw of the individual who commits it rather than the result of unequal distribution of power, material resources and life chances in society that “breed, create, and sustain criminality” (DeKeseredy et al, 2018)

# The need to contextualize predictive policing

# Discussion prompt

- When, if ever, is predictive policing effective, fair, and legitimate? What is the role of data reliability in this?
  - Look at the tool
  - Look at the regulatory environment
  - Look at police and the context they operate in

# A tool to reducing crime?

- Predicting the location of crime
  - Predicting crime  $\neq$  reducing crime
  - Crime rates are to low
  - Reluctance officers on the street
  - Support tool
- Still continue to invest in it

# Full force of the state (1/2)

- Identifying potential perpetrator or victim
  - Often resulted from a moment of crisis
  - Unique characteristic is ‘one government approach’
    - Traditional criminal justice approach has not worked
    - Risk ≠ tied to the individual
  - What is the role of the police?
  - Target group is often diffuse (+/-)

# Full force of the state (2/2)

- Identifying potential perpetrator or victim
  - These list are stigmatizing
  - Can be discriminatory: Gang Matrix: creates constructed identities, such as 'gang member' or 'terrorist', that tie specific racialised communities to a complex process of criminalisation (William & Clarke, 2016)
  - There is reluctance in senior police management to use it

# WHITE COLLAR CRIME RISK ZONES

White Collar Crime Risk Zones uses machine learning to predict where financial crimes are mostly likely to occur across the US. To learn about our methodology, read our [white paper](#).


By Brian Clifton, Sam Lavigne and Francis Tseng for The New Inquiry Magazine, Vol. 59: ABOLISH.

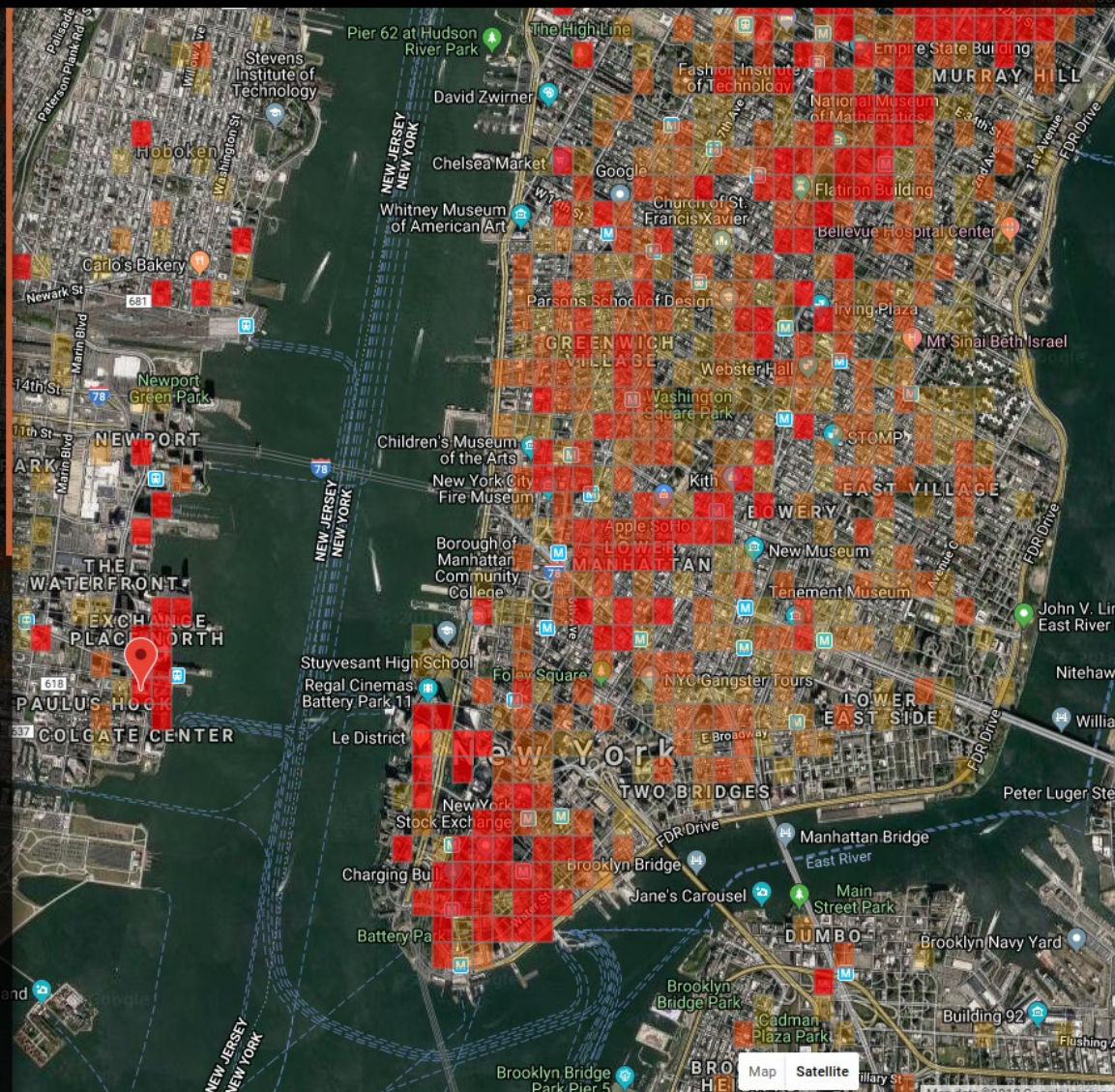
## Most Likely Suspect



## Top Risk Likelihoods

-  FAILURE TO SUPERVISE (24.61%)
-  BUY IN TRADING DISPUTE (20.35%)
-  DEFAMATION (20.13%)

# THE NEW INQUIRY



# Context shapes the use of tech

- Social and political context sets police priorities
- Moments of crisis
  - Specific events have high impact
  - Austerity in combination with financial incentives
- Police cultures
  - ‘Let’s do it culture’ or ‘if not us then who?’
  - Buying of the shelf, developing in-house or developing with Universities
- Police data infrastructures

**Exploring social justice  
in an age of datafication**

- Data Justice Lab
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  - <https://datajusticelab.org>
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