Decisions, Decisions: Access, Privacy & Ethics



The Archival Intelligence [AI] Assistant
Image source: Lark, AI Superapp Ethical Implications of Artificial Intelligence

InterPARES Trust AI: Keeping Evidence Symposium

Jim Suderman

Pellan Room, Library & Archives Canada

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Agenda

1. Considering archival ethics in the context of AI
2. The case for privacy protection as a core archival function
3. Building ethics into AI-enabled workflows

Archival Ethics in the Context of AI

Universal Declaration on Archives

Archives record decisions, actions and memories.

Archives are a unique and irreplaceable heritage passed from one generation to another. Archives are managed from creation to preserve their value and meaning. They are authoritative sources of information underpinning accountable and transparent administrative actions. They play an essential role in the development of societies by safeguarding and contributing to individual and community memory. Open access to archives enriches our knowledge of human society, promotes democracy, protects citizens' rights and enhances the quality of life.

3rd Principle of the *Reconciliation Framework*

Acknowledgement of the harm done by the Canadian archival community to First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples: Archival practices have perpetuated racist, colonial ideology and supported the legislated dispossession, silencing, assimilation, and genocide of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. The resulting colonial archival record has significantly contributed to the formation of a Canadian historical narrative that privileges the accomplishments of Eurocentric settler society at the expense of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis identities, experiences, and histories.

Is Privacy a Core Archival Function?

Contexts of record creation

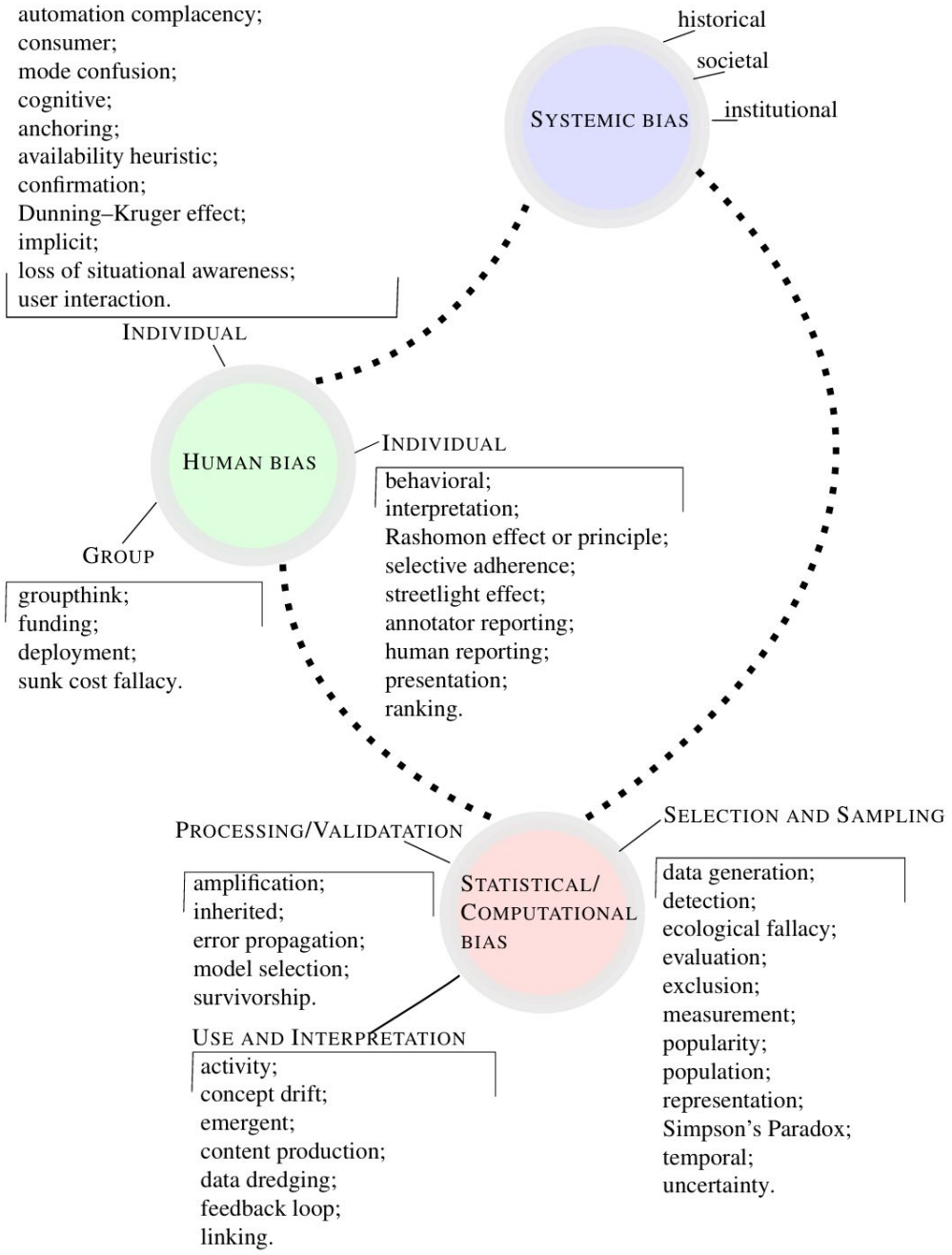
- Administrative/Juridical
- Provenancial
- Procedural
- Documentary
- Technological

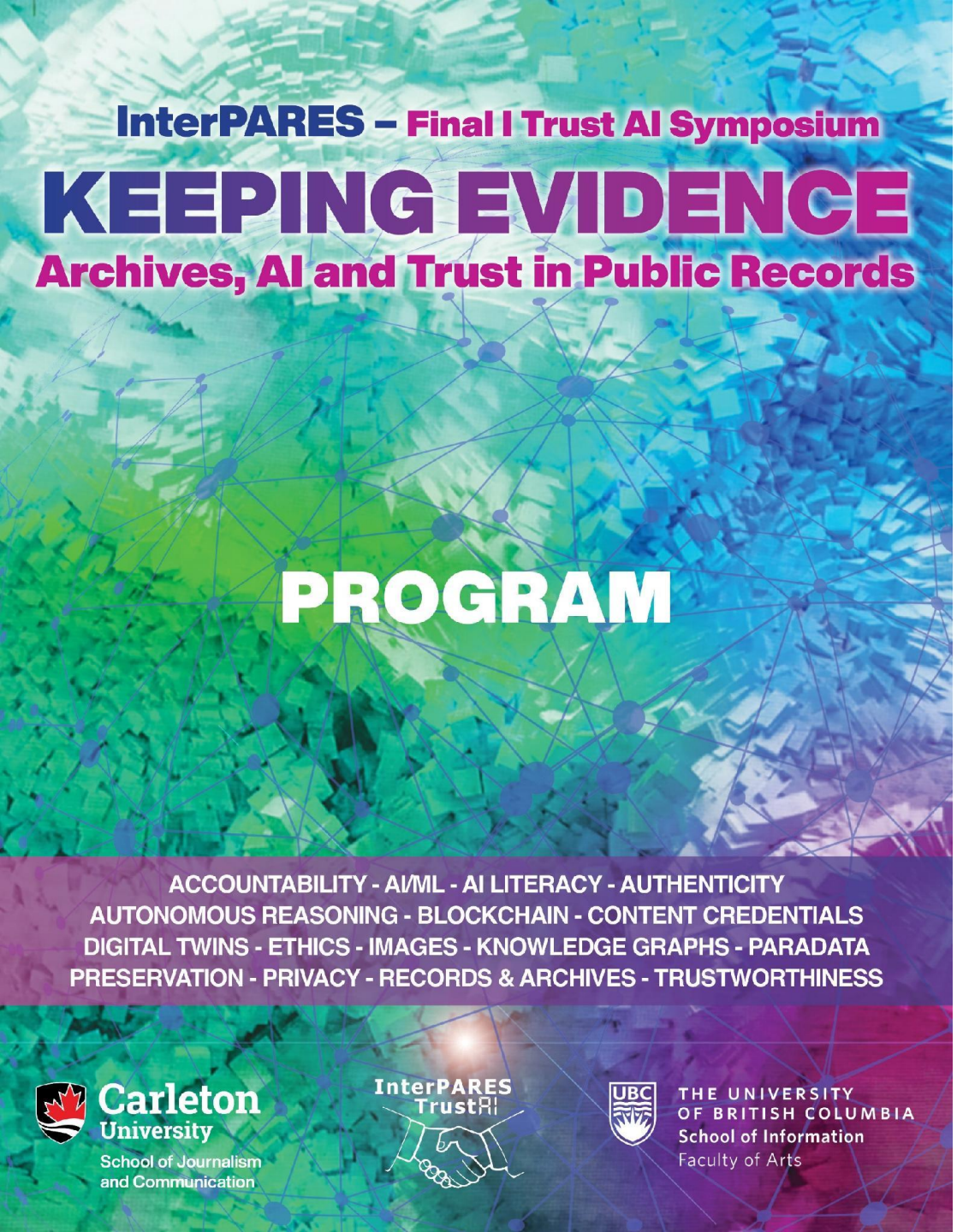
Contexts of privacy

- Sender
- [Information] Subject
- Recipient
- Information Type
- Transmission Principle(s)

Building Ethics into AI-enabled Workflows

- Researching effects of new workflows
- Advocating for remediation for harms
- Ethical by design (Why not?)
- Moderating users (Wait, what?)





InterPARES TrustAI

Thank you!

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