

Concept design summaries

These summaries were auto-generated using ChatGPT (May 24 Version for workshops 1–3, and July 20 version for workshops 4–5)¹ with the following prompt:

“Can you summarize the following description of a design concept for a contestable algorithmic system in 150 words or less, using plain and straightforward language?” [Raw transcript of design concept verbal description pasted on subsequent line.]

We then checked the summaries against the original transcripts and lightly edited them for correctness.

¹<https://help.openai.com/en/articles/6825453-chatgpt-release-notes>

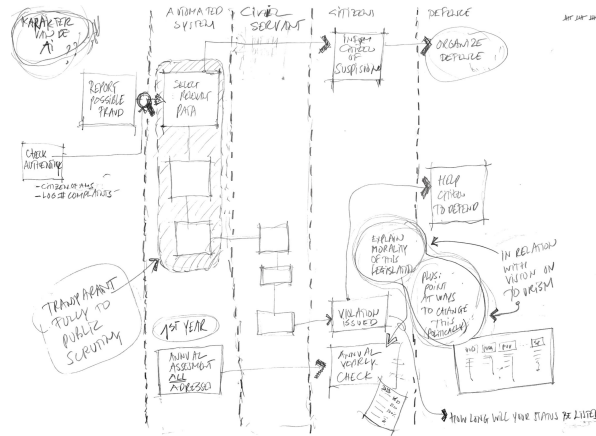


Figure 1: Concept design 1 from workshop 1 (C1.1). Suggests implementing a transparent and fair approach to assess the behavior of citizens in Amsterdam. Initially, everyone starts with a clean status, and annual assessments are conducted for all citizens, regardless of whether they have been reported or not. The system aims to detect illegal renting practices, and individuals who report potential violations will be checked anonymously. The number of complaints filed by a person will be logged and considered in the selection process, as it indicates their behavior patterns. Immediate reports will be provided to individuals under investigation, allowing them to organize their defense early on. The algorithm's selection mechanism will be open to inspection by organizations like Bellingcat and Follow the Money. The annual assessment will provide individuals with information on their fraud listing status and an explanation of why the city of Amsterdam has chosen this approach. Additionally, the system will offer guidance on how individuals can challenge the rules and seek support from political parties if they disagree with the city's vision on tourism. The AI character, representing the system, should be carefully designed to ensure it portrays a fair and informative entity rather than an intimidating presence. (Summarized from 771 words.)

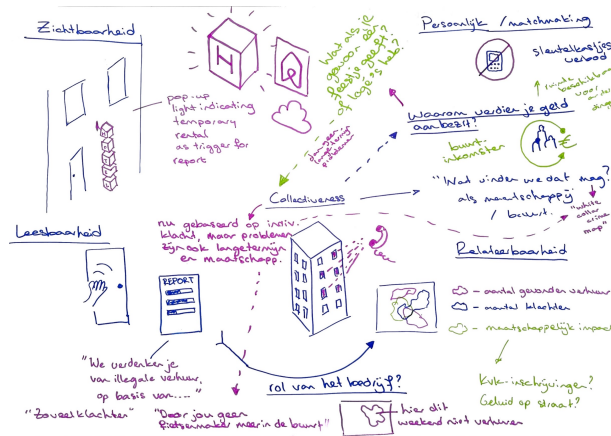


Figure 2: Concept design 2 from workshop 1 (C1.2). Addresses issues related to complaints and the impact of platforms like Airbnb on neighborhoods. The idea involves creating a visible indicator outside homes, similar to hotel signs, to indicate if a property is being rented out. This would help people understand the situation before filing a complaint. Additionally, when authorities investigate a complaint, they would bring a report indicating the specific indicators that raised suspicion, such as previous incidents or neighborhood characteristics. The concept also emphasizes the need to consider collective effects beyond individual complaints, such as changes in neighborhoods due to short-term rentals. It proposes using data from sources like the Chamber of Commerce to understand broader societal trends rather than solely relying on individual statistics. The role of companies is also highlighted, suggesting they could discourage renting in already saturated neighborhoods. Personal matchmaking and the redistribution of profits from rentals are mentioned as additional considerations. Overall, the concept aims to balance individual concerns with collective impacts, enhance transparency, and encourage a more comprehensive approach to address issues related to short-term rentals. (Summarized from 672 words.)

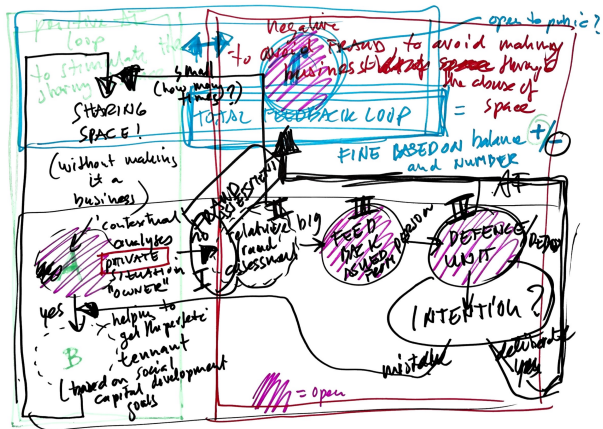


Figure 3: Concept design 3 from workshop 1 (C1.3). Proposes a system for sharing valuable space in a positive and fair way. Instead of focusing on fraud detection, the idea is to encourage individuals to share their empty space with others. A contextual analysis is performed to determine if a person meets the conditions for sharing their space. If they do, the system helps them find a suitable tenant, aiming to bring together diverse individuals who wouldn't have otherwise met. The feedback loop suggests that any financial gains from this sharing could be shared among participants in some manner. To prevent misuse of the sharing space as a business opportunity, a fraud assessment is conducted. However, it's important to assess the severity of the offense, differentiating between minor and major infractions. Small mistakes allow individuals to restart the process, whereas deliberate or significant offenses result in immediate action. Rather than imposing immediate fines, the system considers an individual's past behavior and weighs their positive contributions against negative actions. This approach values and rewards those who consistently contribute positively over time. The concept also suggests the possibility of redistributing capital as a form of justice within the system. (Summarized from 691 words.)

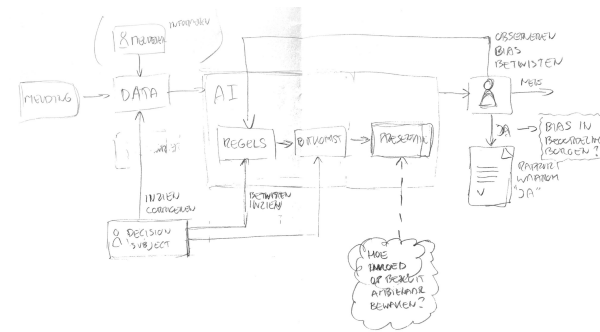


Figure 4: Concept design from workshop 2 (C2). Begins with notifications, followed by data collection based on a specified description. The report is compiled from various sources and fed into an AI. The goal is to allow the “decision subject,” such as a landlord or an individual affected by the decision, to have influence and oversight over the data collected about them. The system should incorporate rules governing the functioning of the AI and factors influencing its decision-making. Transparency and the ability to dispute the outcomes are important. The proposed outcome involves providing the decision subject with a visual representation of the official’s perspective and the factors leading to the decision. However, the challenge lies in ensuring that the official’s presentation remains unbiased, as the design itself can influence decisions. Additionally, the system should address biases that may arise from the civil servant’s assessment. This interpretation aspect requires special attention to ensure its integrity. Regular notifications and visibility into AI outcomes allow individuals to contest the rules and processing methods. A solution is needed to address biases at both the AI and interpretation levels. (Summarized from 360 words.)

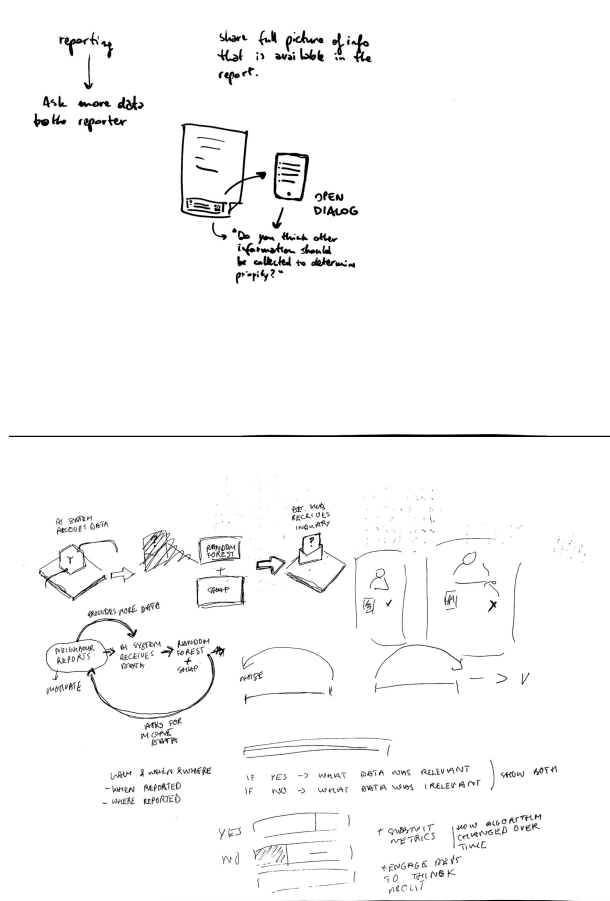


Figure 5: Concept design from workshop 3 (C3). Focuses on transparency, dialogue, and feedback. The system aims to provide a full picture of information, including metrics and sources, to understand why a report is generated and how decisions are made. It encourages dialogue and feedback from both decision subjects and users to improve the system and make it more transparent. The concept involves involving developers and the public in system development and sharing success rates to engage them. It also addresses the communication and impact on individuals being investigated, emphasizing a human approach and minimizing negative effects. The design includes monitoring and collecting feedback, considering both the human and technical aspects. It also highlights the importance of results and ethical discussions while improving the system's fairness and effectiveness. Additionally, the concept suggests involving law enforcement for valuable insights and patterns, and exploring ways to account for errors and improve accuracy. The aim is to create an open, collaborative system that continuously improves with public input and helps achieve desired societal goals. (Summarized from 3090 words.)

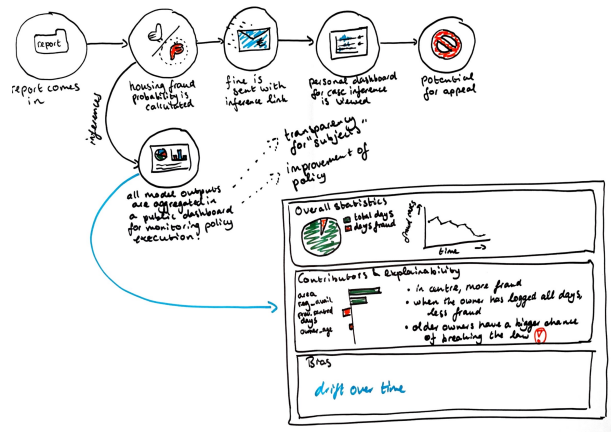


Figure 6: Concept design 1 from workshop 4 (C4.1). Aims to address fraud cases and provide transparency and accountability. When a report indicates potential fraud, a fine is issued, and the person can access an “inference dashboard” showing the factors influencing the decision. The key addition is a “monitoring dashboard” that operates on an aggregated scale, visible to both policymakers and the public. This dashboard has three parts: (1) Overall statistics: Showing the proportion of normal days versus fraud cases over time, giving context and aiding policy adjustments. (2) Contributors: Highlighting features and their impact on the system (e.g., location or age) with explanatory statements for better policymaking. (3) Bias overview: Monitoring model drift and bias evolution over time to identify potential issues. By implementing this system, it becomes possible to steer policy decisions based on data, promote fairness, and build public trust in algorithmic processes. (Summarized from 388 words.)

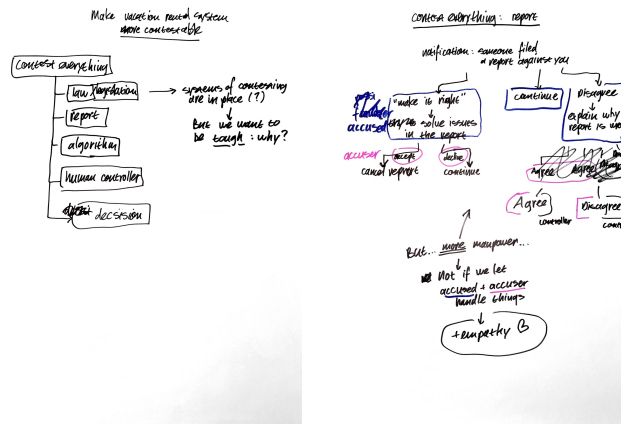


Figure 8: Concept design 3 from workshop 4 (C4.3). Involves contesting various aspects of the process. It begins with legislation, suggesting the need for more empathy and understanding rather than just imposing fines. The second step is contesting the report, where the accused is notified and given options to make things right before the process starts. The accuser can also receive feedback and decide whether to proceed or not. Instead of relying solely on a human controller, the idea is to let the accuser and accused work things out together, fostering empathy and understanding during the process. The final aspect is contesting the algorithm, allowing individuals to challenge the analysis provided by the algorithm along with the report. This approach aims to improve the system's fairness and effectiveness while promoting collaboration and empathy between parties involved. (Summarized from 643 words.)

