

TIC Talk Stories a Journey

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IT and the Fall of Men



Virtualization

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 - ⇒ problems linked to hypostatic union, schism between the Oriental Orthodox Church and the rest of Christendom...
- Very complex philosophical problem having huge repercussions: e.g. the world map.



Potter vs Hacker : Harry Hogwart isomorphism

Who



Object Magic wand

Computer, internet

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Method Magic Formula

Credit card

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Vector

Gobelin, Dwarf

UPS/FedEx Delivery boy
Drones ?

ITs have made real the "magical" agenda in traditional litterature

IT and Society

- Podcast: TIC Talk du Laboratoire LIG (from 09/2019) 19 episodes.
⇒ 1h unedited conversation (mostly in french) on a subject tangential to IT and society.
- Topic examples:
 - Programming and biology (CRISPR Cas9).
 - Legal issues and crypto tech.
 - Scientific communication (Sci-Hub project).
 - Ethics in digital times.
 - History of information technologies.
 - Music and cultural production/broadcast and IT.
 - Impact of IT on "traditional scientific fields".
 - ...

Information Technology and the Building of Culture

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 - Digital society: content production/broadcast/transformation is marginally costless.
 \implies Permanence of the written culture with accessibility of the oral culture.

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- Culture building (seen as interesting stories filter) is not ergodic.
 - Oral culture: vertical selection (only not stupid stories are spread).
 - Written culture: reduces parallelism but under watch (institutions), freezes darwinian selection.
 - Digital culture: Buzz (winner take all) destroys parallelism.

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- What "institutions" will help us to mitigate downsides while benefiting from upsides of digital culture?

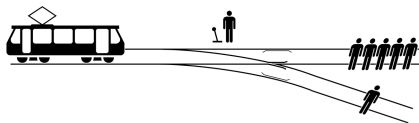
The Fall of Institutions

- Newspapers are running after Twitter, not the other way around.
- The role of academy evolves: thousands and thousands of hours on youtube.
- Scientific communication: Sci-Hub, ArXiv, etc.
- Money, contracts: the crypto revolution of Blockchains and secured decentralized platforms (Uber, Airbnb).
- Political turmoil: election meddling, colored revolutions etc.

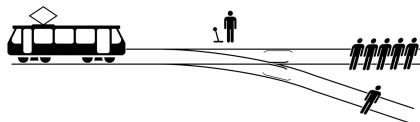
New Factories of Knowledge

- Big Data induces Filter Bubble: access to the world through AI (the ones of Google sorting your searches).
- Verificationism: byproduct of easily accessible knowledge.
- Polytheism: AI produces new knowledge outside of humanity.
- "The Trial" - Kafka: everything you say on the internet will be hold against you. By who ? when ? under what circumstances ?
⇒ hide in the crowd (Facebook uniformity with pics of family etc.).

Trolleys all the way down

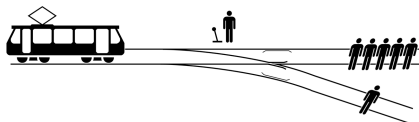


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- The ethical landscape has changed: new problems (situations simply didn't exist before).
 - Bank and insurance accounts for AI's ?
 - Responsibility for teaching an AI's (Microsoft chat bot and insults) ?
 - What about "Not knowing" in a world where everything is known/knowable (humanitarian crises...).

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- What about indirect changes to the world :
 - Cursing a robot ? (a bad habit like animal cruelty ?).
 - Non robots vs robots (get used to a driving style for instance ?).
 - Thinking the world for it to be adapted to AI...

The rise of a New Era

- Social diameter of the Earth is shrinking: I have been able to talk with names I only saw on books (Twitter, Mail, Social Media in general).
- Long form podcast: the attention span is not simply diminishing (Typical JRE is 3h long with 10^7 of views).
- Research is faster than ever: COVID19 vs AIDS vs smallpox.
- Knowledge is truly more distributed: open data and the possibility to do your own analyzes with computers (Bobby Fischer had to learn Russian to read chess books).

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- 5 New ways to learn: Youtube and video learning, ephemeral communities (task oriented). Learning as a service?