Apprehension of Future Uncertainty Simple Actions – Complex Worlds Unknowable Implications Framing 4th Generation Foresight

Foresight Synergy Network 26 Oct 2017

John Verdon - Complexity & Foresight Consulting johnverdon@gmail.com
@johnverdon +johnverdon www.johnverdon.com

Apprehension of Future Uncertainties



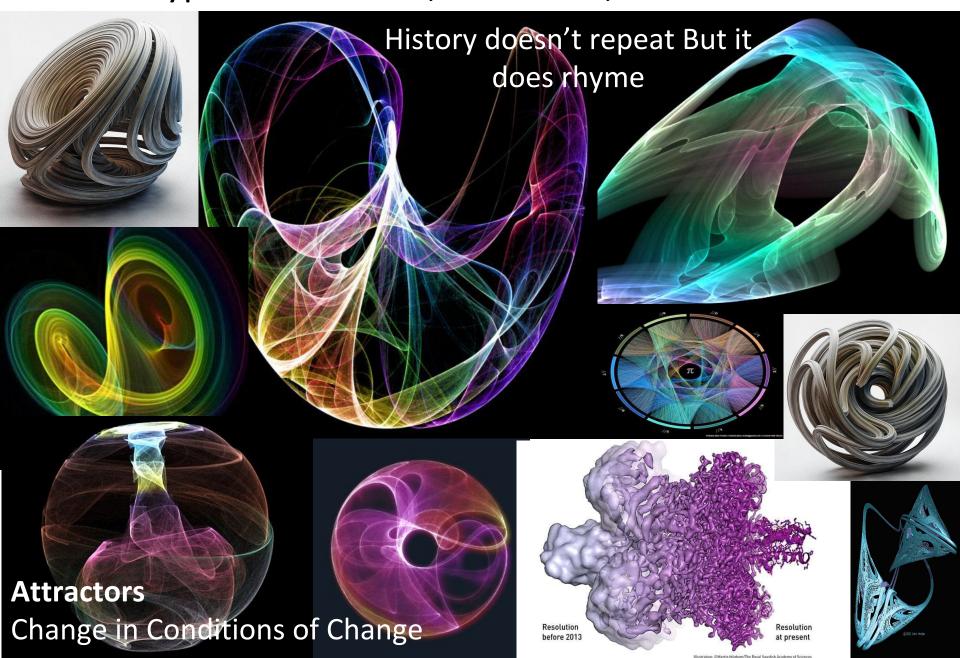


Complex systems have properties that emerge in dynamics of the whole

Not reducible to nature of the parts

Change and propagation of change Not Linear

Archetypes - Individual, Collective, Environment





Properties Shaping Change

Extensive Based on Quantity of matter

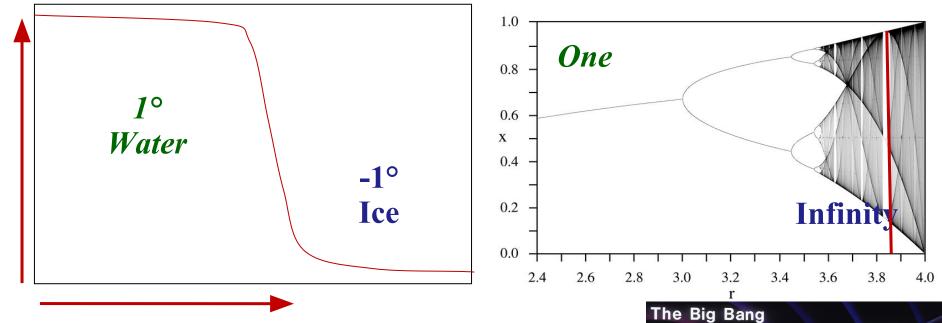
- Length
- Width
- Breadth

Intensive Property of Population

- Density
- Connectedness
- Temperature
- Pressure
- Malleability
- Conductivity

Intensive changes

Density, Connectivity, Temperature, Pressure...

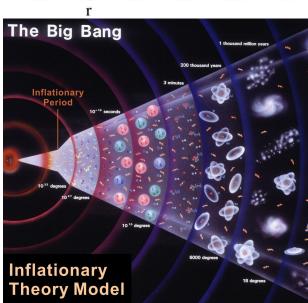


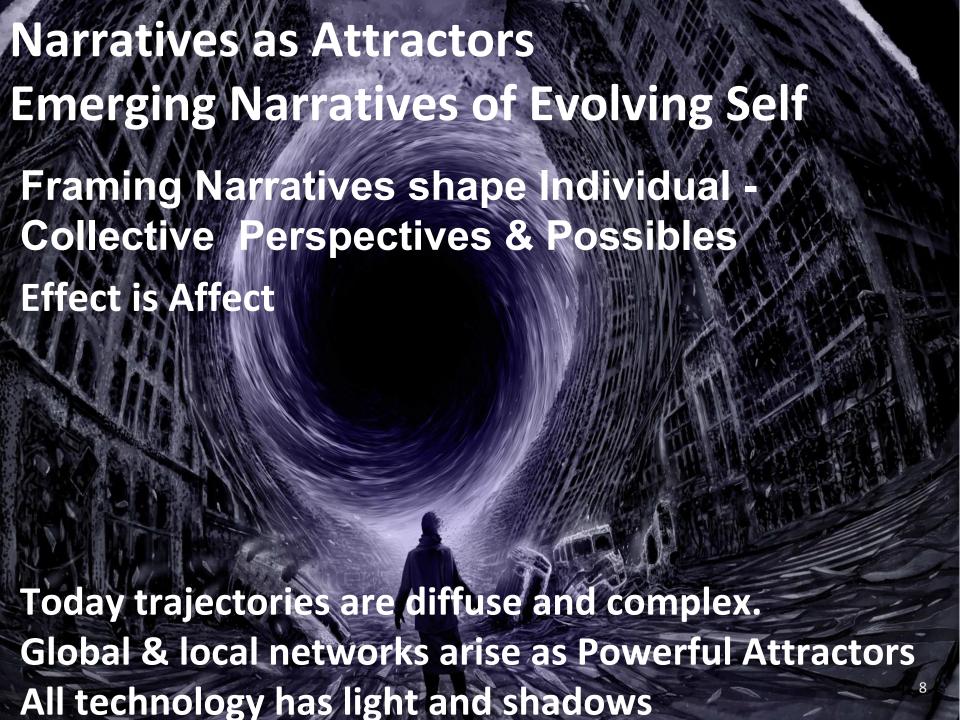
Phase Transition

Trend analysis doesn't prepare observer

Change in conditions of Change is

Not Linear

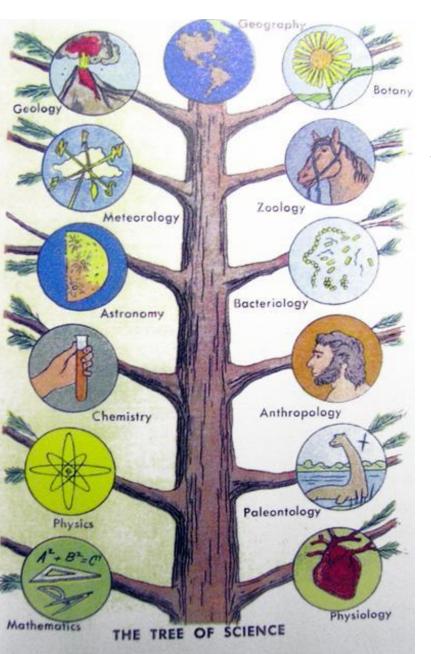




The 20st Century – Shatters Pillars of Certainty

- Bertrand Russel mathematics Inconsistent
- Einstein no objective frame of reference,
- Godel Incompleteness inevitable unprovables
- Quantum uncertainty principle entanglement,
- Turing stopping/halting problem
- Chaos sensitivity to initial conditions,
- Freud, Jung, many others the unconscious
- Cognitive & social science Kahneman & Tversky, Lakoff, etc. demolishing 'rational actor'
- Complexity sciences All models wrong
- Rise of biology-complexity framework
- Entanglement more Moore

TRADITIONAL MODE EXPLICIT KNOWLEDGE



Extracted & Dis-integrated disciplinary domains
Analyse-decompose-reduce "Reliable Knowledge"

Truth

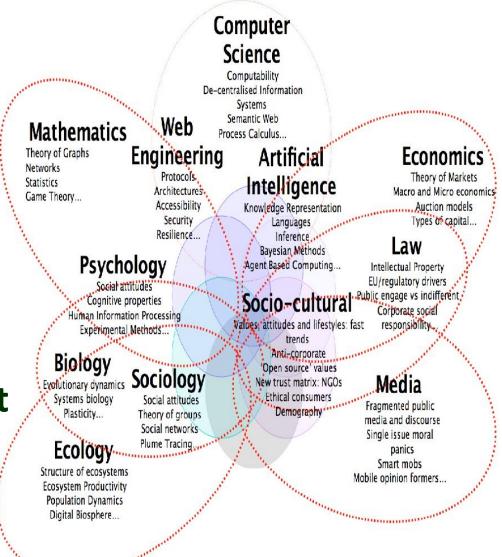


Knowledge of parts
Is Not Knowledge of Whole 10

NEW MODE OF KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION

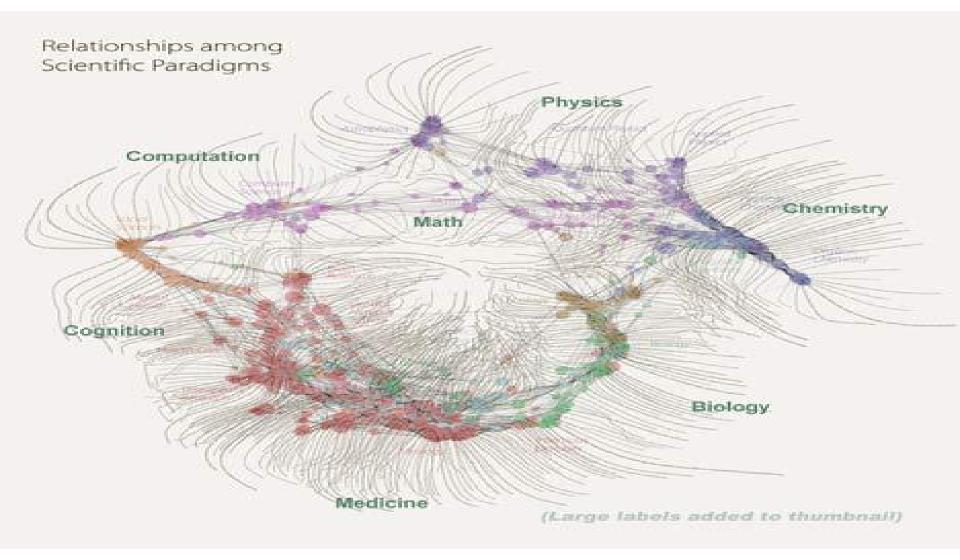
Socially Robust Knowledge

- Context of application
- Transdisciplinary
- Heterarchical & transient
- Context of implication



Colliding Web Sciences

COMPLEXITY OF KNOWLEDGE ECOLOGIES



'Knowers must cross boundaries & learn other languages Horizontal conversations among peers of different networks

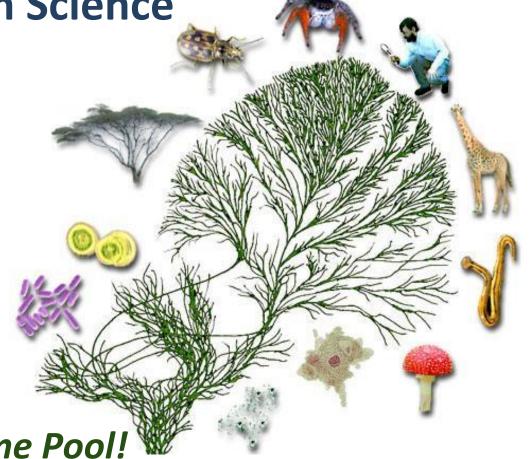
Re-Imagine Everything Change in the Conditions of Change

Biology is information Science

We are in the

Post-Species Era

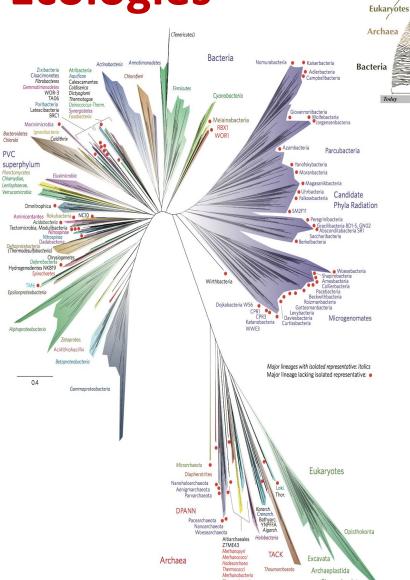
Domesticating DNA



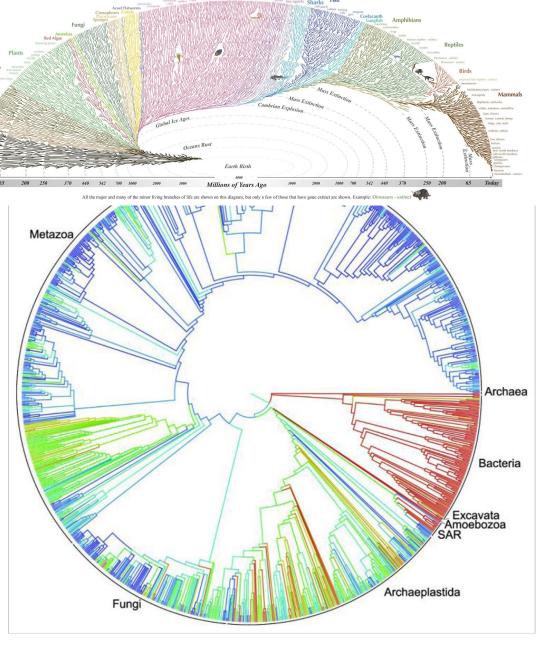
There is now only one Gene Pool!

Genes are not destiny they are our Common Wealth

Far from Ecologies

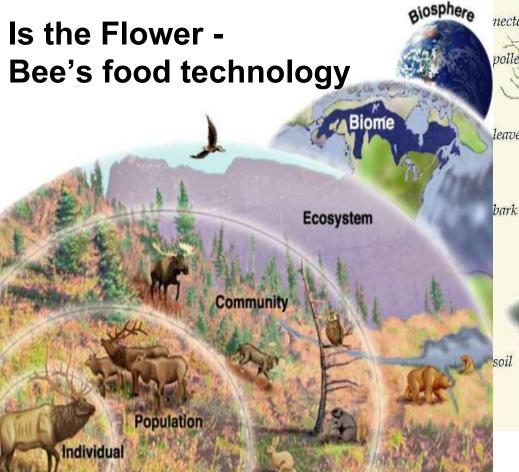


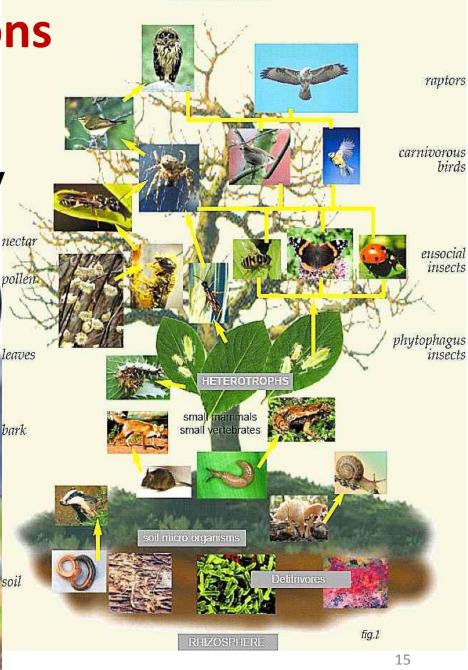
Amoebozoa



Species as Instantiations of Ecologies

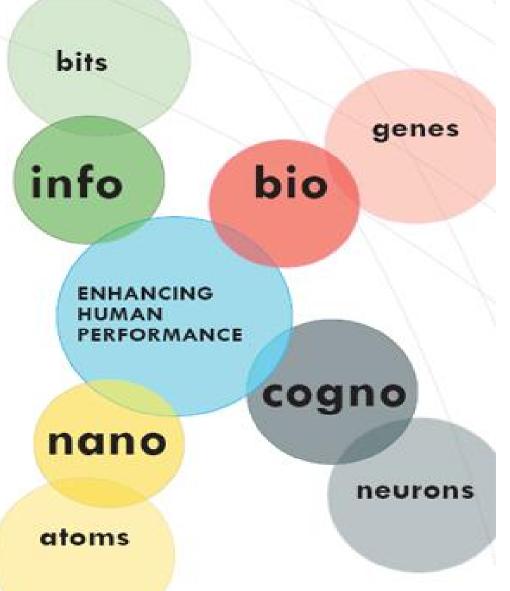
Is the Bee - Flower's fertilization technology





GENUS SALIX SINGLE AUTOTROPH

Technology's Accelerating Convergence



- Computing
- Quantum
- Material
- Awareness
- Robotics
- Energy

Everything is Information

Enhancing humans



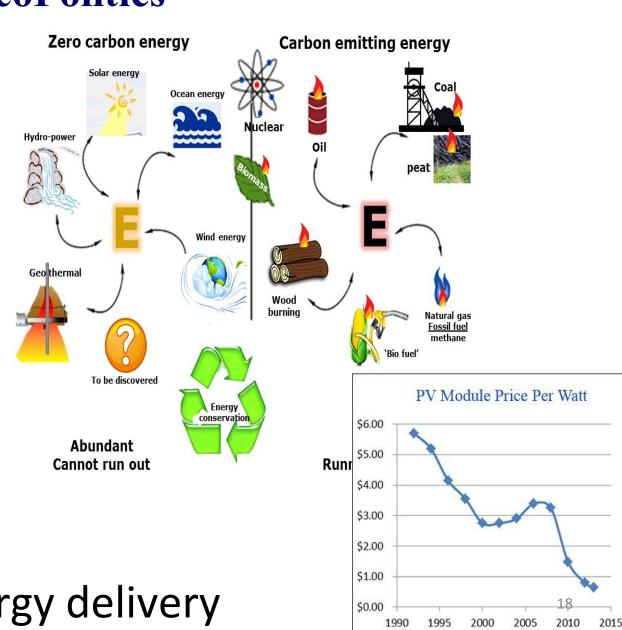
Technology Phase Transition Global Energy GeoPolitics

Alternatives

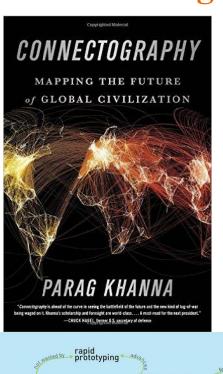
- Solar, Wind,
- Tidal,
- Geo-thermal,
- Hydrogen,
- Bio-fuels,

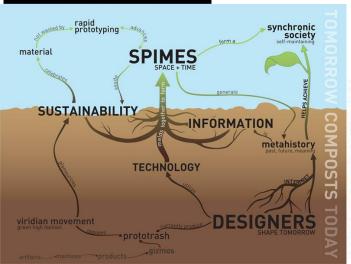
New Sources

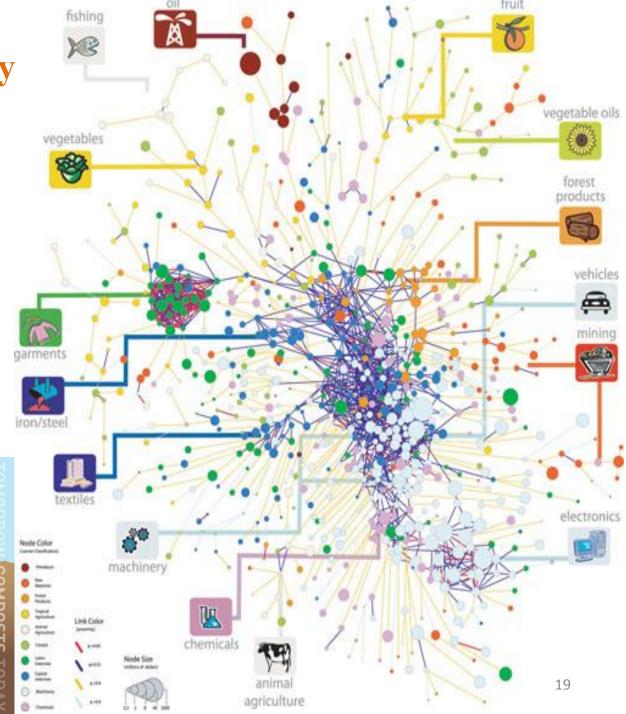
- Biological,
- New Physics
- Models of energy delivery



The Atlas of Economic Complexity Connectography

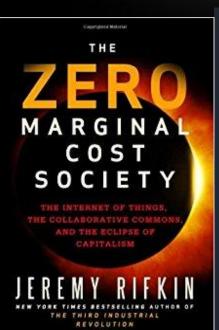












DRIVEN BY A TRANSFORMATION IN 3 KEY ECONOMIC PILLARS



COMMUNICATION









LOGISTICS



When Sputnik went around the planet in 1957 the earth became enclosed in a man-made environment and became thereby an "art" form.



The Digital Universe?

... the real use of computers is not to reduce staff or costs, or to speed up or smooth out anything that has been going on its true function is to program and orchestrate terrestrial and galactic environments and energies in a harmonious way.

McLuhan -War & Peace in the Global Village, 1967 p.89





The Medium – The Digital Environment

What extends the mind, body or senses - Nervous System

Internet-of-Things-Sens ors

100 Trillion -2030

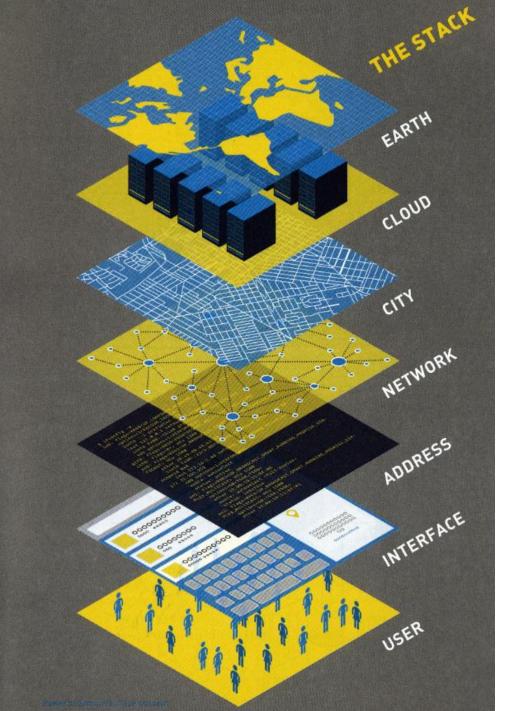
50 Billion -2020

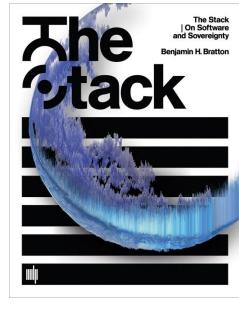
Connecting Machines

One

Computer







Age of global computation and algorithmic governance.

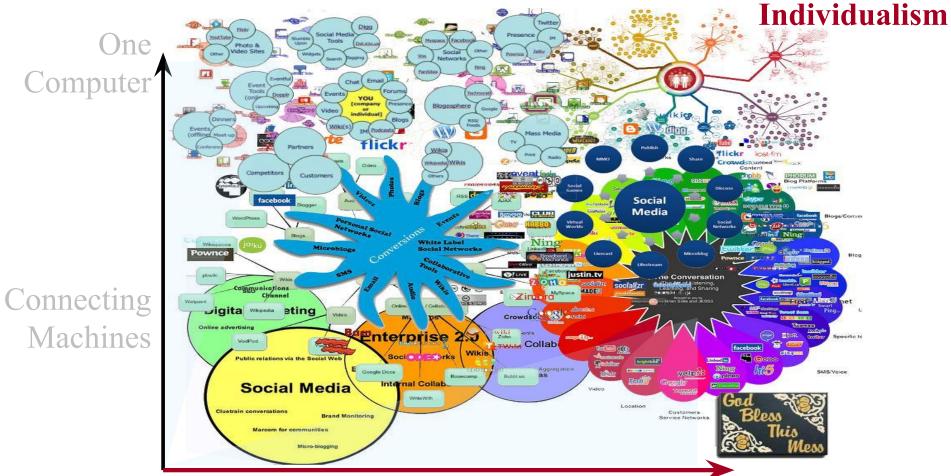
Planetary scale computation -smart grids, cloud platforms, mobile apps, smart cities, the Internet of Things, automation- forming a coherent whole

Medium – extends mind-body-senses

Close-Ties

Collective Intelligence Network

Audience



Connections Between People

Loose-Ties

Medium

extends mind-body-senses



In ten years, nearly every person on the surface of the earth will be online & own a mobile device.

Making Visible New Forms of Value Noosphere
Big Data
Global AI

Information Commons

Massive Real-time Measures Behavior & Value

The Quantified Self - Social Physics

Emergence of New Institutions

Close-Ties Loose-Ties Audience
Connections Between People

The Medium Platforms for Productivity

Big Data - New Measures
New Transparency
Institutional Innovation





The Socio-Metric Badge Behavioral Data Collected

- Face-to-face interactions
- Meetings & turn-taking
- Trust, Stress, Anxiety
- Persuasiveness & interest
- Conversational Dynamics
- Location movement



accelerometer
gyroscope
magnetometer
front and rear cameras
NFC
barometer
speaker
microphone
proximity
light sensor
Bluetooth
GPS
WiFi + cellular
humidity
temperature

Medium - Changing Boundary Conditions



Unprecedented Collapse Transaction costs

Search; Coordination; Communication,

Zero Marginal Costs Exponential Marginal Value

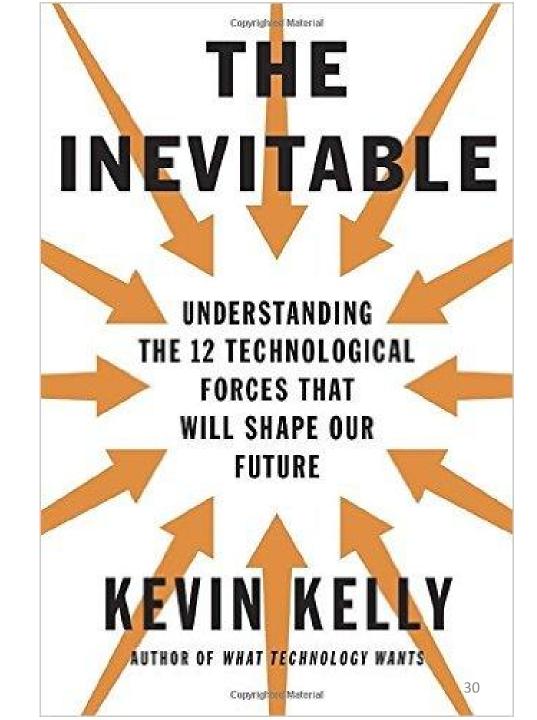
Accelerating Change
Opportunity Costs exceed
Traditional benefits of efficiency

Phase Transition to a Beta World





- Becoming
- Cognifying
- Flowing
- Screening
- Accessing
- Sharing
- Filtering
- Remixing
- Interacting
- Tracking
- Questioning
- Beginning



Complex Networks ---Global Nervous Systems Enabled & Adaptive Learning Needs Institutions of Conversation

Switzerland Germany

Spain

Italy

Japan

Netherlands

Russian Federation

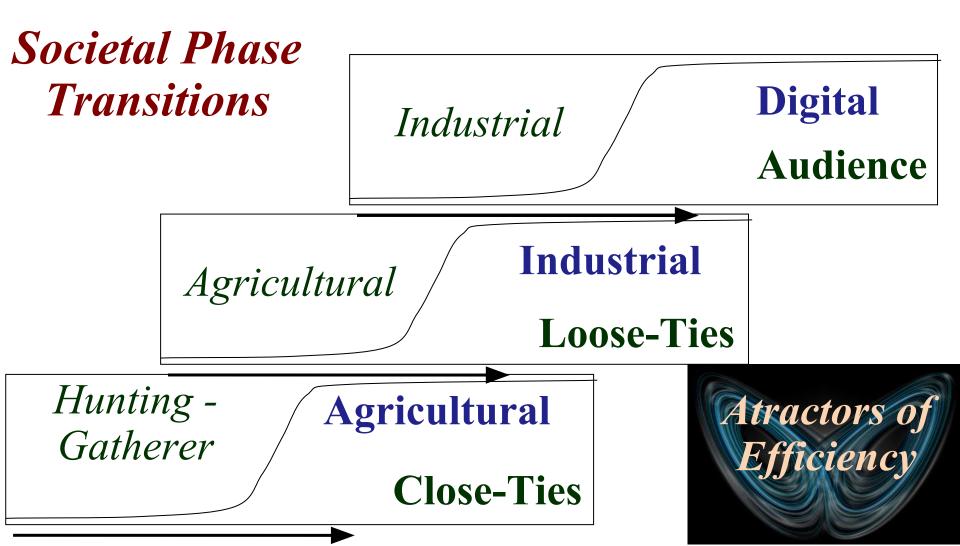
Sweden

USA

The Medium's Message

Changes of pace, scale, scope or pattern

Intensive Population/Communication – Density/Connectivity



Smart Money – Social Currency



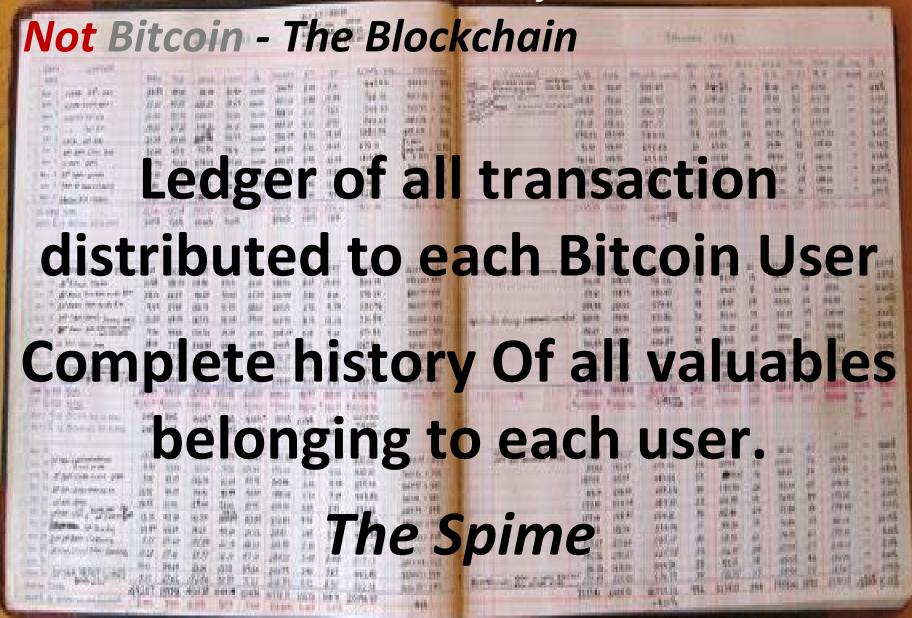
Money = Information Medium enabling Exchange

Imagine a Distributed Non-Sovereign Bank?

KEY Question – How do we value our Values



Distributed Social Currency



Distributed Social Currency

Not Bitcoin - The Blockchain

More than 2 Billion People
'Like' the behavior of Others

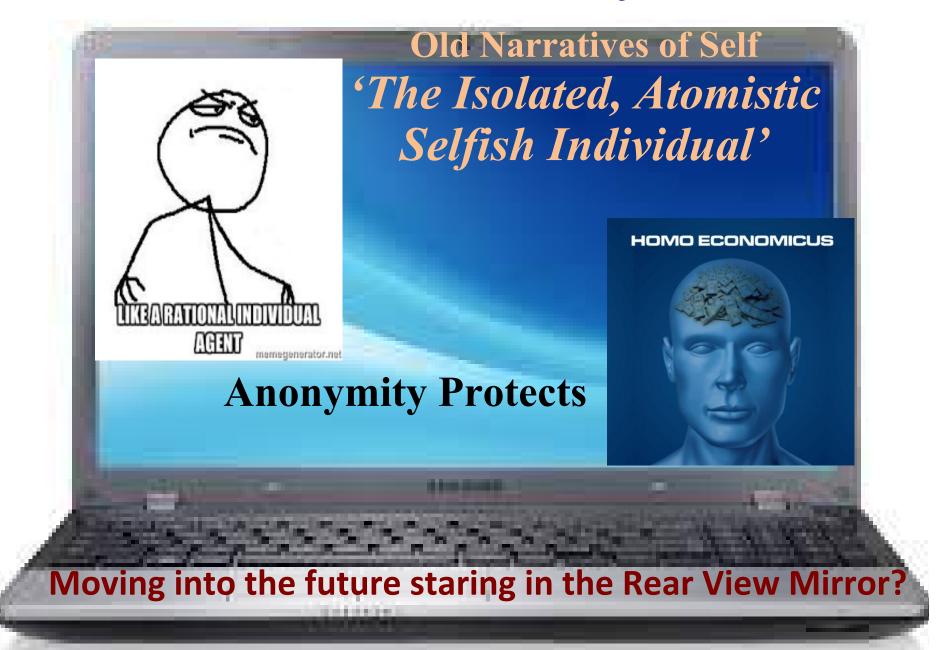
Complete history Of all Valued behavior of each person

China plans to launch Social Credit
System in 2020.

Judging trustworthiness of its 1.3 billion residents



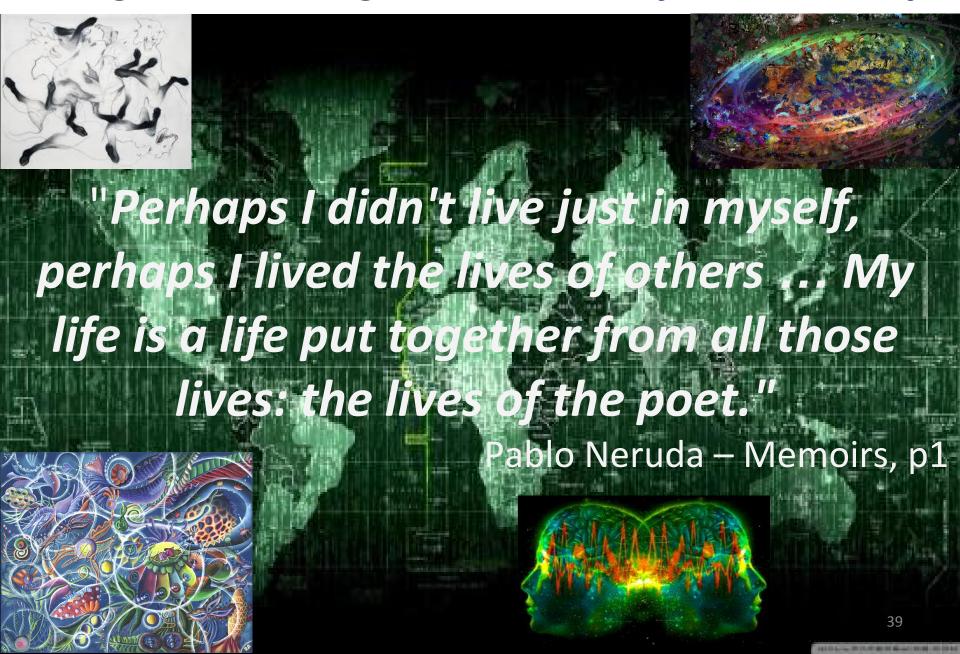
Content of New Media – *Identities of the Past*?



Message of New Media – *Identities of the social self*?



Entanglement Ecologies – *Identities of the social self*?





Content of New Media – *Efficiencies of the Past*?



Content of New Media – *Efficiencies of the Past*?



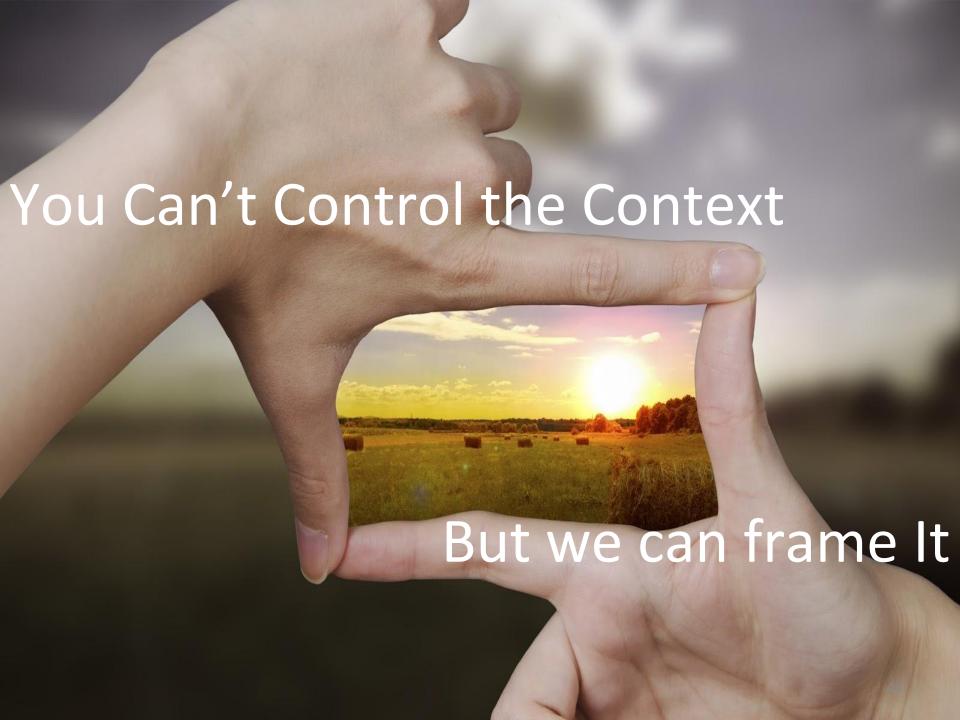
Tomorrow's Employment Models?



Near-Zero Marginal Costs - *ABUNDANCE*Exponential Increase in Marginal Value

Value of Network (n = Node)

- Metcalf's Law n²
- Reed's Law Group Forming Network 2ⁿ



TRUTH is Dead – Long Live Honesty

The TRUTH – All knowledge is always partial knowledge





One Data set – Two Hypotheses

Facts are innumerable – choice of those that matter is more difficult than we often assume.

Observations are contested – and/or have conflicting interpretations.

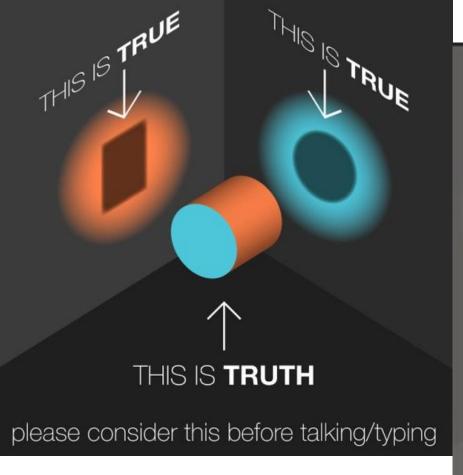
Ocam's Razor is a heuristic choice

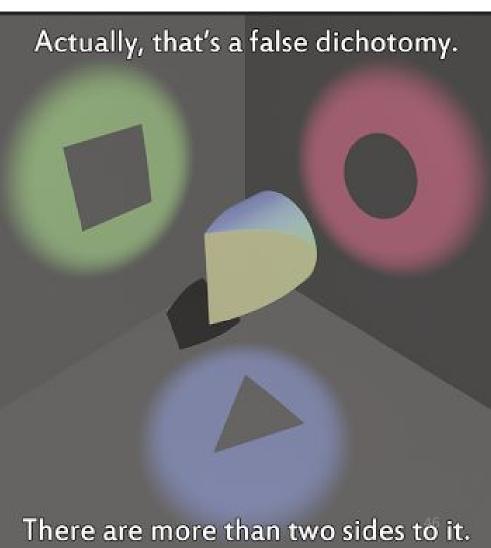
Choice is key to driving enacted, embodied Value/Values

Choice drives institutions of conversation and knowledge 45

TRUTH is Dead – Long Live Honesty

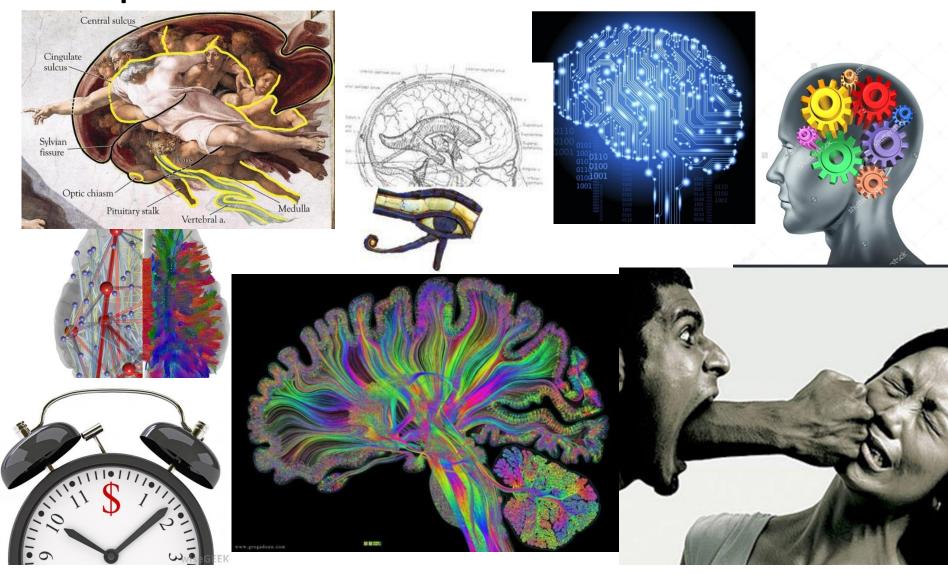
Understanding & Knowledge through conversation





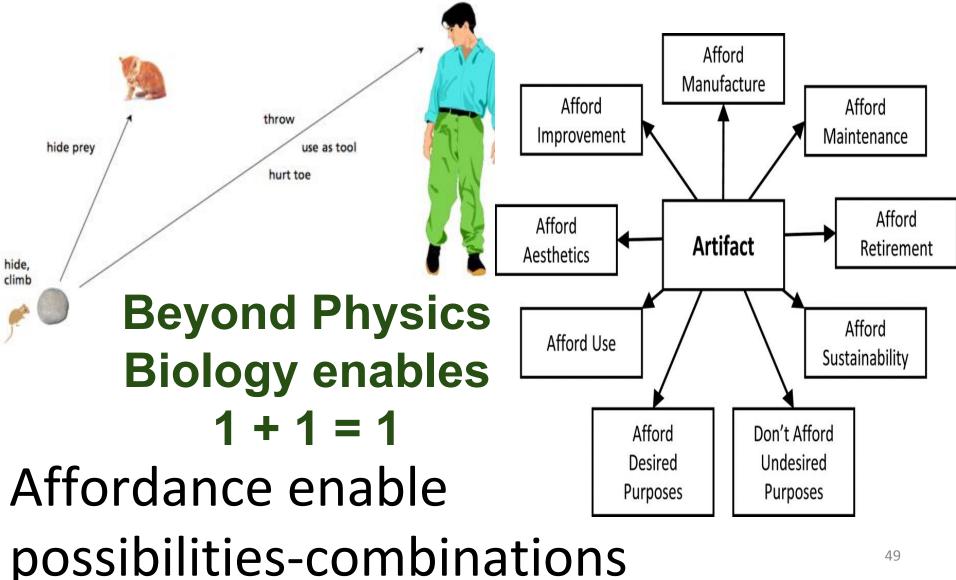


Metaphor Colonizes the Unknown



Narrative Shapes our Reasoning 48

Biology of Affordance, Adjacent Possible, Metaphor, Paradox, Meaning, Function



Biology of Affordance, Adjacent Possible, Metaphor, Paradox, Meaning, Function

LANDSCAPE OF AFFORDANCES:

affordances available in an ecological niche.

FIELD OF AFFORDANCES: affordances that stand out as relevant for a particular individual in a particular situation

Affordances Enable Exaptation - meaning, function, adaptation

The War on Sensemaking

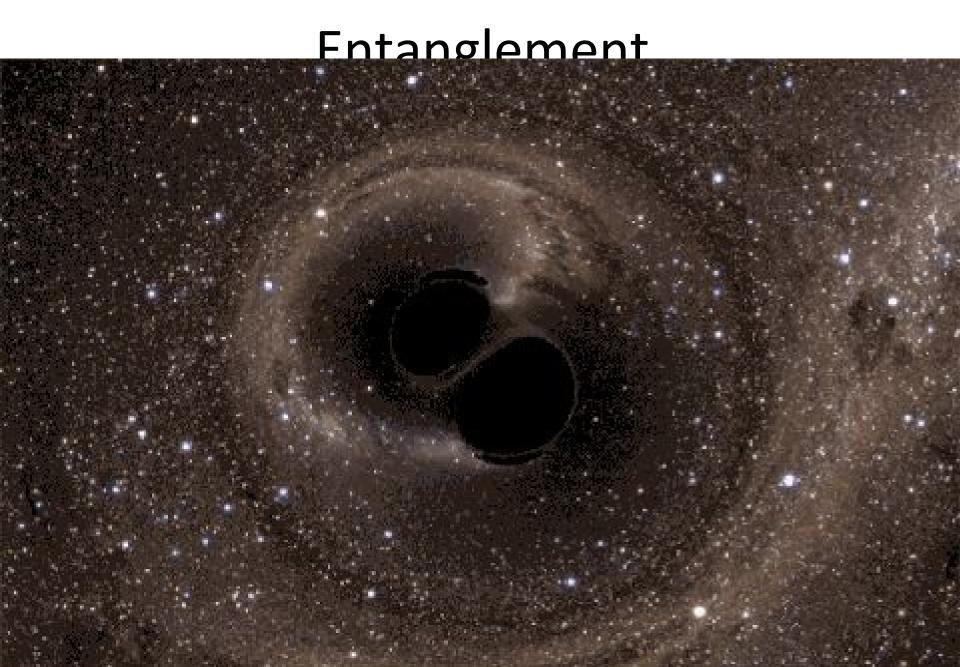
Security is not what you do **TO** people It's what can be done **WITH** people.

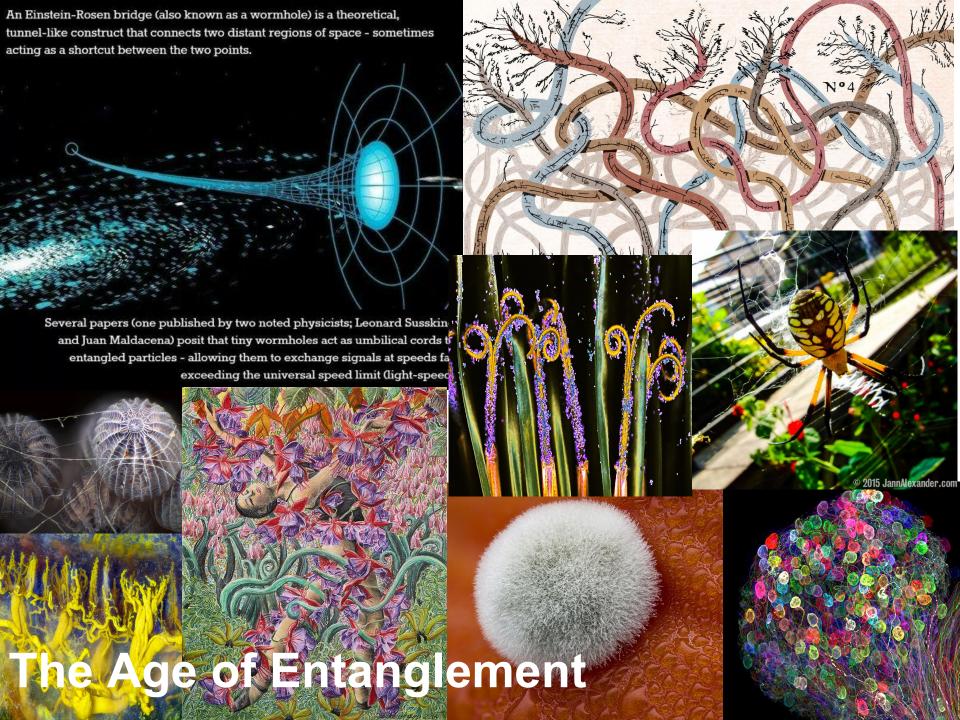
The paradigms of the Digital Environment Social Immune System

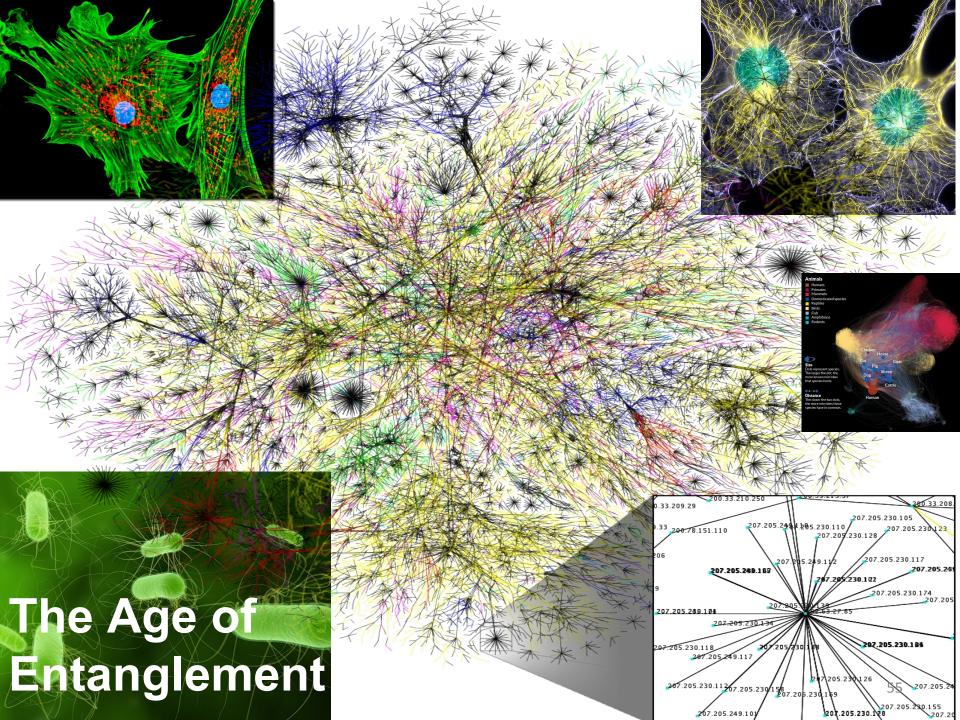
"World War III is a guerrilla information war with no division between military and civilian participation." - Marshall McLuhan, 1970



From Individuation To





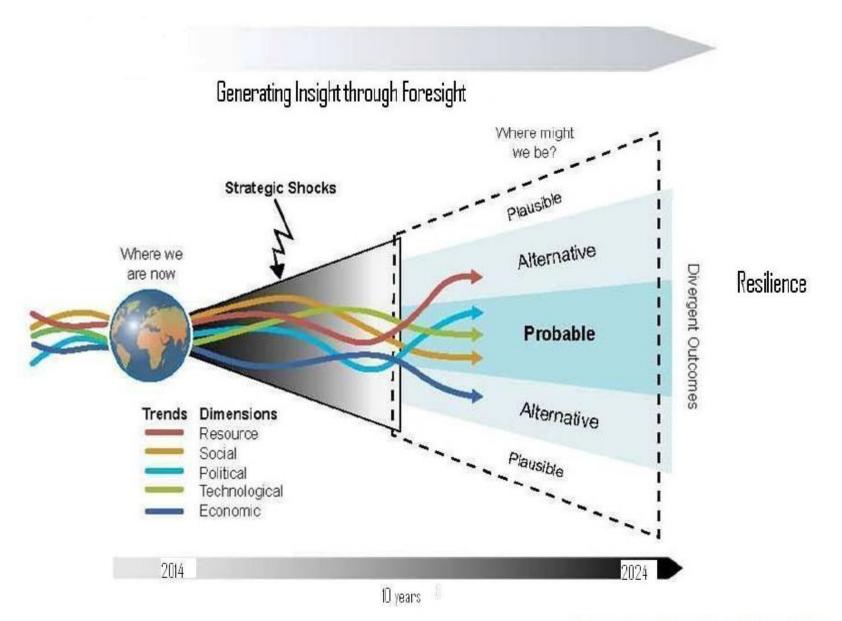


We are at the dawn of the Age of Entanglement. In the Age of Enlightenment, we learned that nature followed laws. ... understanding these laws, we could predict and manipulate. ... We granted ourselves god-like powers: to fly, communicate across vast distances, hold frozen moments of sight and sound, transmute elements, create new plants and animals. ... we orchestrated fantastic chains of causes and effect in our political, legal, and economic systems as well as in our machines. Our philosophies neatly separated man and nature, mind and matter, cause and effect. We learned to control.

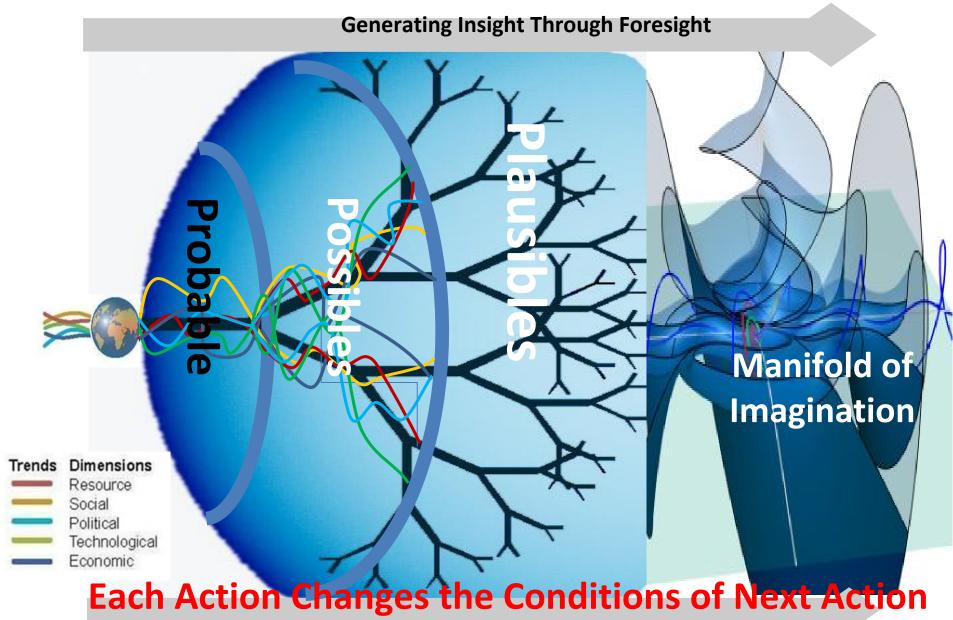
... we constructed digital computers, the very embodiments of cause and effect. Computers are the cathedrals of the Enlightenment, the ultimate expression of logical deterministic control. ... we learned to manipulate knowledge, ... beyond the capacity of our own minds. ... We began to build systems with emergent behaviors that were beyond our own understanding, creating the first crack in the foundation.

So what is this brave new world that we are creating, governed neither by the mysteries of nature or the logic of science, but by the magic of their entanglement? It is governed by the mathematics of strange attractors. Its geometry is fractal. Its music is improvisational and generative rather than composed... progress in the Age of Entanglement is synthetic and comes from putting things together

3rd Gen Foresight Framework - Cone of Plausibility



4th Gen Foresight Framework - Horizon of Plausibility



2016 2030 582050

Change in the Conditions of Change

Foresight based on past trends is obsolete

Technologies already become Pasts

Before they were Futures.

Foresight is not about predicting what will happen.

Foresight is about understanding evolving conditions in order to imagine what they can enable.

59

Questions?



First Pumpkin 2017



EXISTING JOBS Jobs today that humans do—but machines will eventually do better.

Current jobs that humans can't do but machines can.

NEW JOBS Jobs that only humans will be able to do—at first.

Robot jobs that we can't even imagine yet.

HUMAN

MACHINE