e-Planning Core

•The ICT Qualitative Jump

2007-2021

Pedro Ferraz de Abreu

UA - UL - UNL

Programa Doutoral Conjunto e-Planning

Are recent ICT developments a Qualitative Jump?

ICT-Information & Communication Technologies

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ICT Qualitative Jump:

1. The Nature of Information Technologies

2. The Nature of Last Generation of ICT: "enabling factor" and social decision models

3. The ICT impact on economy, sovereignty, regulation and administration

ICT-Information & Communication Technologies

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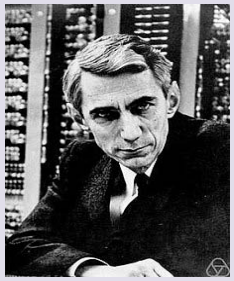

1. The Nature of Information Technologies

- Thermodynamics and information theory (negative entropy)

1948 1906

(**$I = \log_2 1/P$; $S = K \log_e P$** ***K -> Ct. Boltzman***)

- Engine eficiency gains / energy transfers (heat transfer & feedback/regulated systems, Watt)

- Extension of brain vs. Extension of muscle.

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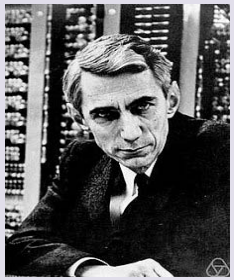

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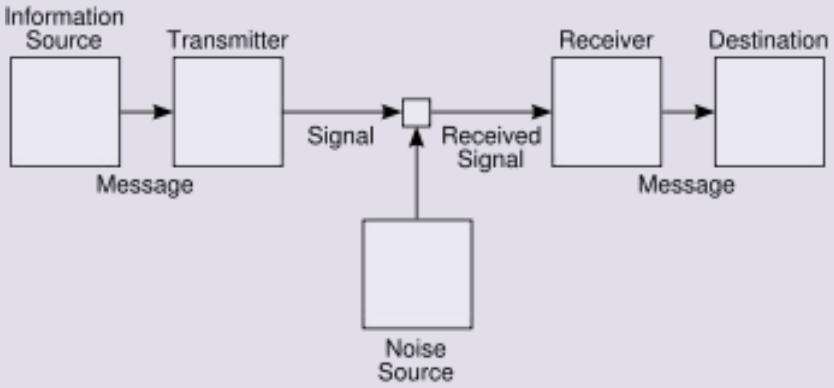

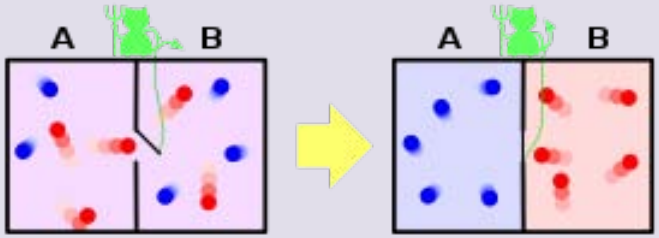

Maxwell's Demon

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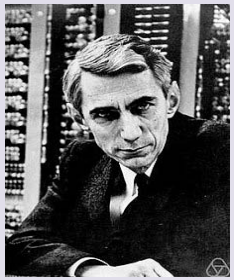

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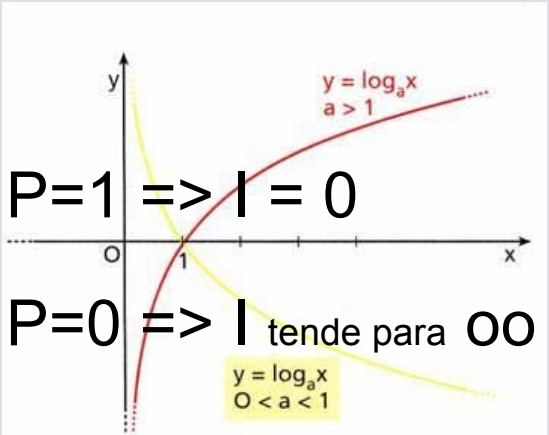

Entropy of an information source [edit]

Based on the probability mass function of each source symbol to be communicated, the Shannon entropy H, in units of bits (per symbol), is given by

$$H = -\sum_i p_i \log_2(p_i)$$

where p_i is the probability of occurrence of the i-th possible value of the source symbol. This equation gives the entropy in the units of "bits" (per symbol) because it uses a logarithm of base 2, and this base-2 measure of entropy has sometimes been called the "shannon" in his honor. Entropy is also commonly computed using the natural logarithm (base e, where e is Euler's number), which produces a measurement of entropy in "nats" per symbol and sometimes simplifies the analysis by avoiding the need to include extra constants in the formulas. Other bases

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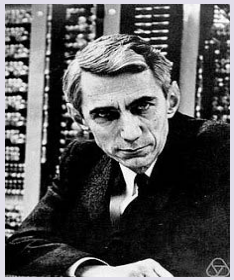

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If all the microstates are equiprobable (a microcanonical ensemble), the statistical thermodynamic entropy reduces to the form, as given by Boltzmann,

$$S = k_B \ln W,$$

where *W* is the number of microstates that corresponds to the **macroscopic** thermodynamic state. Therefore S depends on temperature.

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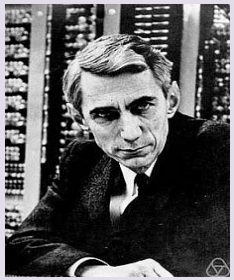

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2. The Nature of Last Generation of ICT: "enabling factor" and social decision models

Democracy cannot extend beyond the reach of a man's voice

(Plato, according to Wriston)

Who will serve (the state) has its herald unless he has the lungs of a Stentor?

(Aristotle, Polit, VII, 1326 b, 7-11)

to know each other [personal character] therefore it is clear that is / for it to be a state limiting principle the best the expansion [dimension, size] of the population / multitude the largest / hiperbole / expansion so that city (autarcy) life can be taken in at one view (sinoptic)

In (Ferraz de Abreu) , 2002"New Information Technologies in Public Participation: A Challenge to Old Decision-making Institutional Frameworks"

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Table 7.3.1.-1 - Period before broadcasting

>600 BC	The abacus (=arithmetic unit of CPU) is invented in China
387 BC	Foundation of Plato's Academy
1450	Printing press invented (Johannes Gutenberg)
1876	First telephone patent (Alexander Bell)

Table 7.3.1.-2 - Period between broadcasting and microcomputer + world wide network

1906	First broadcast of human voice, AM radio (Reginald Fessenden)
1930	18 million radios owned by 60% USA households
1936	Regular TV broadcast begins in UK
1956	72 % USA households own a TV
1968	First ARPANET (IMP), installed at UCLA (precursor to INTERNET)

Table 7.3.1.-3 - Period after microcomputer + world wide communications network

1971	First microcomputer in USA
1972	Created the InterNetwork Working Group, creating the INTERNET
1975	First Personal Computer (PC) introduced
1991	First Internet Web Server and Web Browser (CERN)
2001	529 million people on-line (Internet)

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2. The ICT "enabling factor":

Evolution of Information & Communication Technology and its impact on social decision models

Information Technology	Features / Attributes	Decision Models
Voice Manuscript	• from "few" to "few" • limited reach • without auxiliary processing • cheap, potentially universal access (low cost to enter the market) • low control / regulatory costs	Direct Democracy Heterogeneous Empires
Press Radio TV	• from "few" to "many" • non-limited reach • with processing in source • expensive, restricted access (high cost to enter the market) • average control / regulatory costs	Representative Democracy Homogeneous Dictatorships
Satellite network Fiber optics net *µ*computer Internet	• from "many" to "many" • non-limited reach • with processing in source and destination • moderate access cost, potentially universal (low cost to enter the market) • high control / regulatory costs	Participatory Democracy Technocrat Dictatorships

In Ferraz de Abreu, P. 2002 "New Information Technologies in Public Participation: A Challenge to Old Decision-making Institutional Frameworks" *(in first working paper, 1994)*

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ICT Qualitative Jump:

3. The ICT impact on economy, sovereignty, regulation and administration

- New Competition Modes (ex. Changing brand vs. software learning curve + compatibity; captive market; cost of market entry)

- New (re)Production Modes (ex. fabric & stock of "hardware" products vs. software cloning)

- New Business Models (ex. Microsoft vs. OpenSource; temporal contract lock, ISPs , e-escolas, adv. profiling, the cost of "free")

- New Organization Modes (ex. Time-shared mainframe vs. PC; “chain of tenure” -> paper vs. email; network vs hierarchy)

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ICT & new “Market Faillures”

1984

(Apple_1984.mov)

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Participatory Science

CITIDEP PROGRAMS Citizenship & ICT

Contact nodes: pfa@mit.edu

Tânia Fonseca	UK
Timothy Sieber	USA
Luis Rionda	Mexico
Muriel Gavira	Brasil
Clelia Guinazu	Argentina
Valérie Aillaud	France
Laura Colini	Italy
Vesna Dolnicar	Slovenia
Pedro Ferraz de Abreu	Portugal

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- ICT & participatory science
- ICT & participatory democracy
- ICT, inclusion & cooperation
- ICT, policy & strategy

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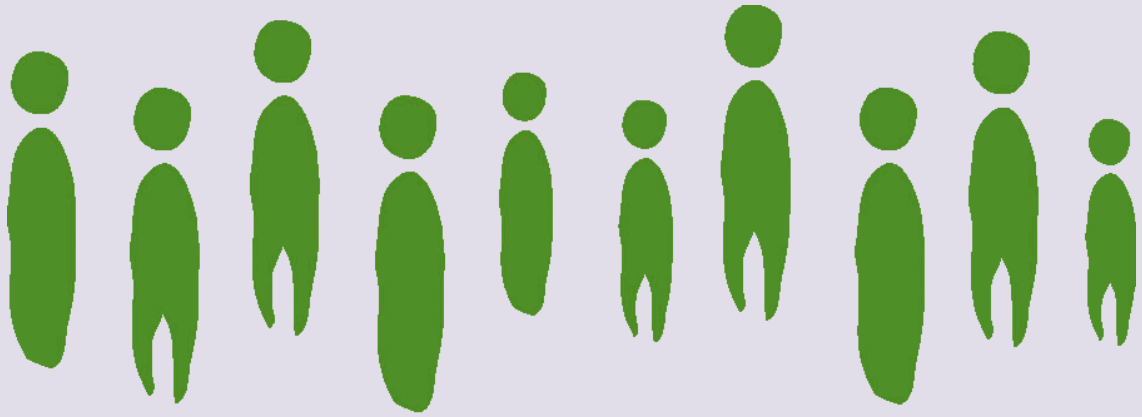

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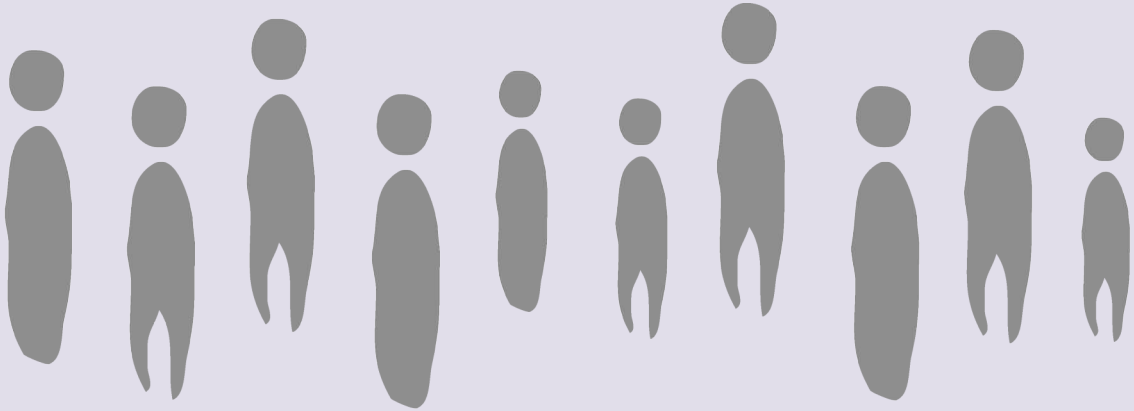

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Pedro Ferraz de Abreu, PhD

pfa@mit.edu

CITIDEP - Centro de Investigação de Tecnologias de Informação para uma Democracia Participativa

Presidente

MIT - Massachusetts Institute of Technology

DUSP - Dept. of Urban Studies & Planning

Research Associate

Universidade de Lisboa, Universidade de Aveiro

ISCSP-UTL (2007-12); FC-UL (2013-14); UA (2015-19); FA-UL (2019-21)

Prof. Catedrático Convidado

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