User Interaction:
How does human-object interaction change with technoculture

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INF 133 Fall 2013
Shaping Things

- Ch 1: It Ought to Concern
  - audience, purpose
- Ch 2: Tomorrow Composts Today
  - epochs, boundary lines, spikes
- Ch 3: Old wine in New Bottles
  - wine as an example of technosocial transformation
  - designers and designing
“The quest for a sustainable world may succeed, or it may fail. If it fails, the world will become unthinkable. If it works, the worlds will become unimaginable”
artifacts, machines, products, gizmos, spime

Hunters and Farmers
Customers
Consumers
End-users
Wranglers
“Effective intervention takes place not in the human, not in the object but in the realm of the techno-social”
Humans are limited in their capacity to process information. This has important implications for design.
“It is important to explicitly acknowledge the downsides of any technological transformation”
“Metrics make things visible”
“Spimes begin and end as data”
“When the entire industrial process is made explicit, when the metrics count for more than the object they measure, the gizmos become spimes.”
“How do people know what to expect from their things?”
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“a culture’s meta-history helps it to determine whether new things are appropriate, whether they fit into the trajectory that is considered the right track.”
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“a culture’s meta-history helps it to determine whether new things are appropriate, whether they fit into the trajectory that is considered the right track.”

History vs. Meta-History
“metahistory is the ultimate determinant of the shape of things”

It is making a story out of history

As a culture we don’t just record history, we make it by

- arranging events in a certain order
- deciding which events in the chronicle to include and exclude
- stressing some events and subordinating others

http://www.lehigh.edu/~ineng/syll/syll-metahistory.html
“The premier argument for metahistorical intervention is that the status quo will kill us”
“The ability to make small mistakes in a hurry is a vital accomplishment for any society that intends to be sustainable”

Every SPIME is a metahistory generator
“The ability to make small mistakes in a hurry is a vital accomplishment for any society that intends to be sustainable”

Every SPIME is a metahistory generator
“The values of a synchronic society are temporalistic: Do we gain more time by doing this or less time?”
“Temporalistic thinking is a moral worldview”
“Consuming irreplaceable resources no matter how sophisticated the method cannot mean ‘progress’ judged by a SYNCHRONIC perspective. Because to do so is erasing many future possibilities: it is restricting the range of future experiences”
“We are in trouble as a culture, because we lack firm ideas of where we are in time and what we might do to ensure ourselves a future. We’re also in trouble for technical and practical reasons: because we design, build and use dysfunctional hardware”
“We are not nouns, but verbs”
### Beijing - PM2.5

**Past 24-hour AQI was Very Unhealthy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index Range</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Health Advice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unhealthy (151-200)</td>
<td>cardiopulmonary disease and the elderly; increased respiratory effects in general population.</td>
<td>Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, such as asthma, should avoid all outdoor exertion; everyone else, especially children, should limit outdoor exertion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Very Unhealthy (201-300)</td>
<td>Significant aggravation of heart or lung disease and premature mortality in persons with cardiopulmonary disease and the elderly; significant increase in respiratory effects in general population.</td>
<td>Everyone should avoid all outdoor exertion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous (301-500)</td>
<td>Serious aggravation of heart or lung disease and premature mortality in persons with cardiopulmonary disease and the elderly; serious risk of respiratory effects in general population.</td>
<td>Everyone should avoid all outdoor exertion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beyond Index (&gt;500)</td>
<td>Extremely High Levels of PM2.5: Steps to Reduce Your Exposure – Click Here</td>
<td>Everyone should avoid all outdoor exertion.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Most Recent AQI**

- **346 AQI**
- **Hazardous**
  - If at this level for 24 Hours
    - Concentration: 296.0 μg/m³
  - Active children and adults, and people with respiratory disease, such as asthma, should avoid all outdoor exertion; everyone else, especially children, should limit outdoor exertion.