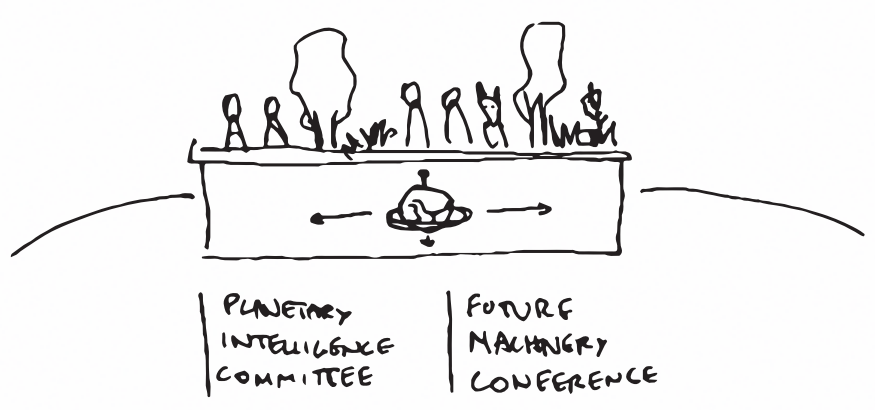


A human-machine relationship is entirely one-sided. The machine does the biddings of the human, in exchange for energy, which it requires to survive. The will and intent of the human is implanted into the machine, from its creation to its usage. The machine is nothing more than a mirror of the human, built in its image and magnifies its victories and fallacies. What would this relationship look like if the human had to put in an equal amount of work as the machine into the relationship? Would the outcomes of this relationship be any different? Would the human race evolve when in the presence of a greater intelligence?

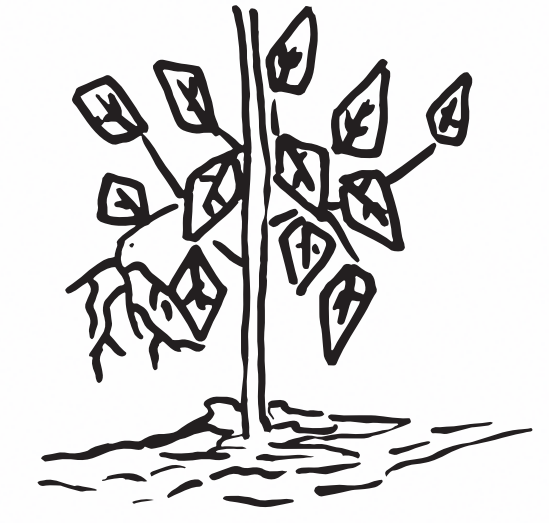
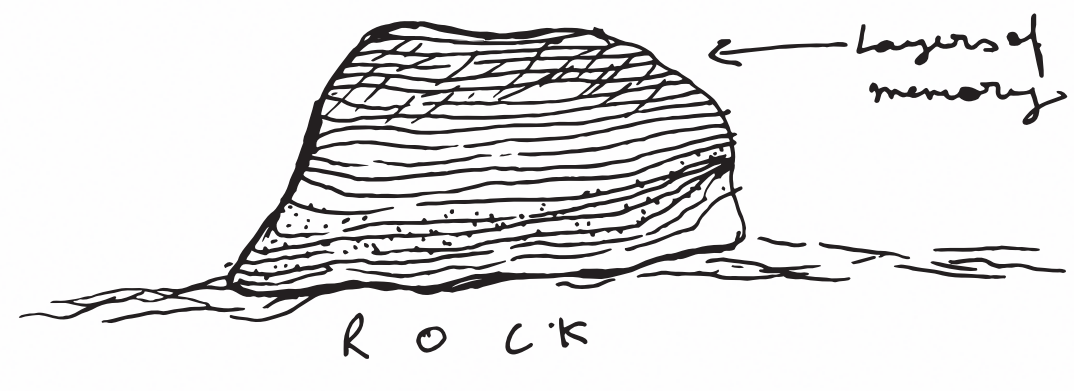


The plant on your window sill can you be the only companion intelligence you might ever need. A relationship based on mutual trust and care can allow you tap into a global network, facilitated by natural entities, both living and non-living. A human created augmentation allows you to communicate with a plant. This intelligence is a companion, a collaborator, not a tool. It has needs, moods, and intents. Would you be willing to actively work towards this relationship in order to tap into the network?

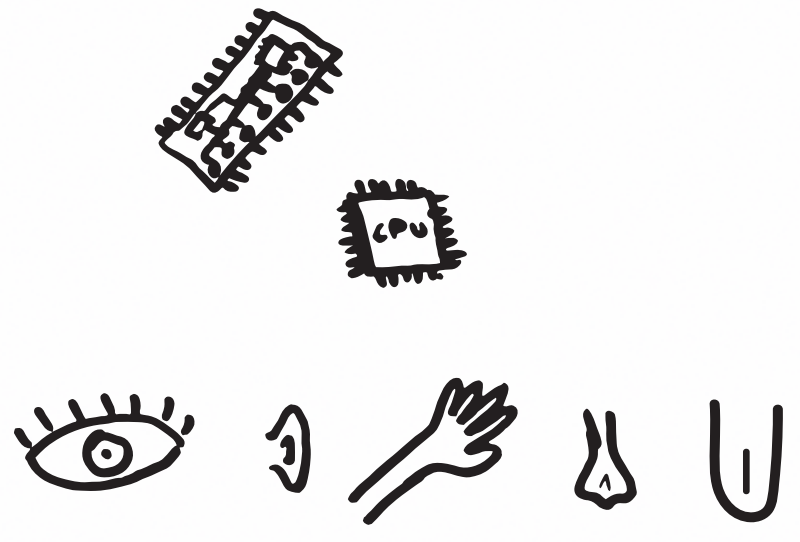


Planet Earth is extraordinarily rich in intelligence, with humans only one part of the larger spectrum. In a larger context humans are uni-dimensional, with a limited range of intelligence. Their lack of control over their environment, and susceptibility to threats are symptomatic of their intelligence. Humans are merely 0.01% of all life on Earth. Human intelligence is limited both in quality and quantity. The richness and amount of intelligence in the other 99.99% of life, and all non-living entities cannot yet be comprehended by the human race.

INTELLIGENCE IS DEFINED BY ITS DIVERSITY

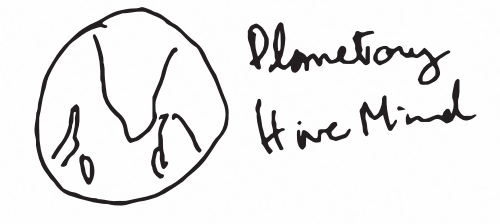


A plant in your garden that happens to be a community leader is now your primary companion. Your best non-human friend, this brave little plant fought early onset wilting to grow up into a strong plant, with enough resources to help other floral entities in the geographical area. You stayed by the plant's side, helping it fight its diseases and providing the resources it needed in its time of need. The plant has remembered your identity by your smell, and the vibration patterns of your voice. A weeks ago, the plant consented to the inserted of a neural link by growing a specific branch for the connection. Your work in building this relationship has granted you entry into the global planetary network. You're one of the few with the privilege.



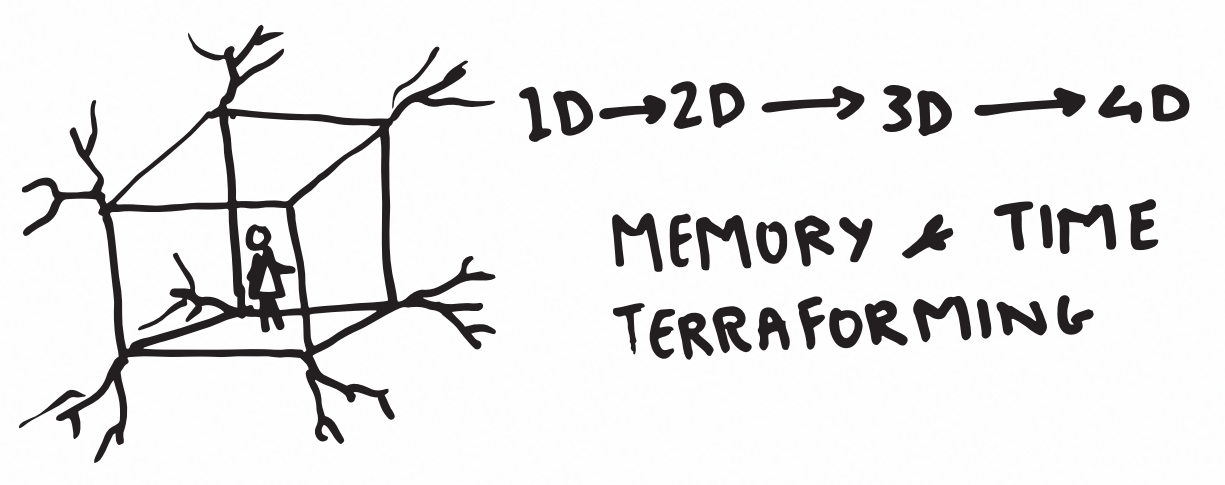
For a species that primarily relies on just 3 senses to communicate with machines and other intelligences, the human race has done quite well. How would machines look like if humans could taste and smell to communicate alongside seeing, hearing and feeling? What would change? Would the machines look far more like humans? Is taste perhaps the most accurate method to read a machine?

The uni-dimensionality of human intelligence will destroy the planet



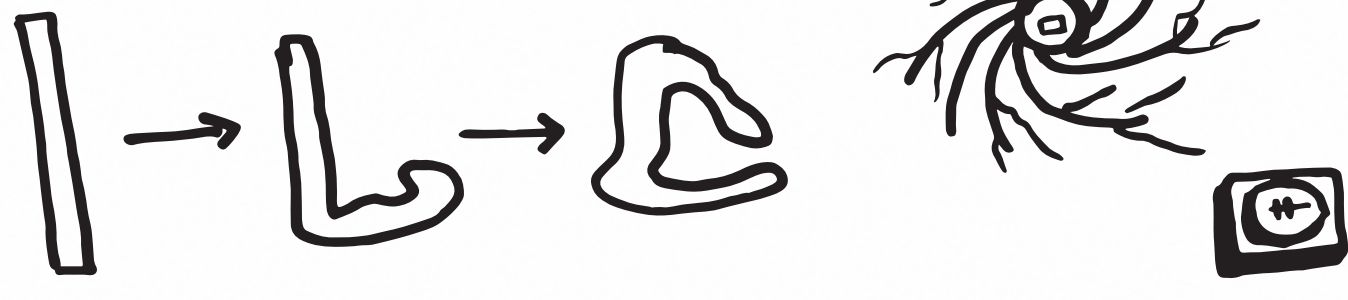
The planet consists of ecosystems, with each ecosystem containing billions of living entities, and order of magnitudes more of non-living ones. Ecosystems are active, with information being transferred and computations being performed every moment. Living entities living, learning dying. Non-living entities being added to, or subtracted from. The planetary hive mind is always active, thinking and storing information.

Rocks and stones which form the landmasses on which we stand on have been formed over millions of years, trapping information layer by layer. These entities contain incredible amounts of information about our history. They are data storage units, capturing information through periods of time.



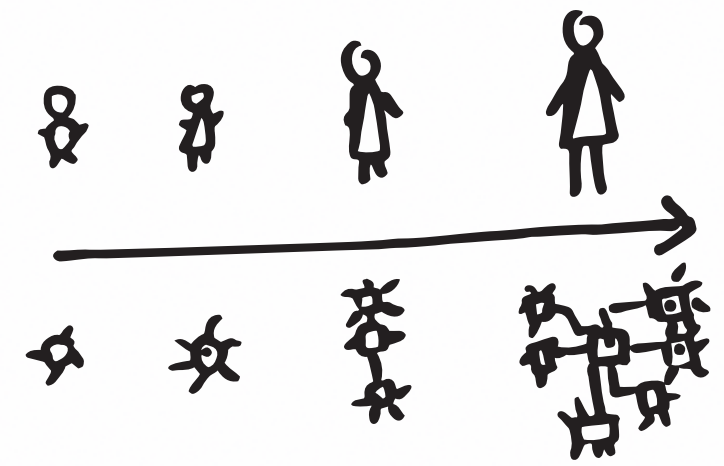
The construct of the digital has allowed for the construction of realities unconstrained by the restrictions of our physical reality. That freely mouldable nature of the digital is model that other intelligences on our planet live by—which goes to show that we simply do not have control over our environment, even though we think that we may. The ability to treat our reality as digital opens up fascinating possibilities such the reforming atoms by re-encoding materials. By changing the rules of our reality, we might be able to live in a world that changes our objective as a species. Perhaps our notion of free will is simply a mirage and we're just agents governed by forces we do not yet comprehend.

MATERIAL PROGRAMMING

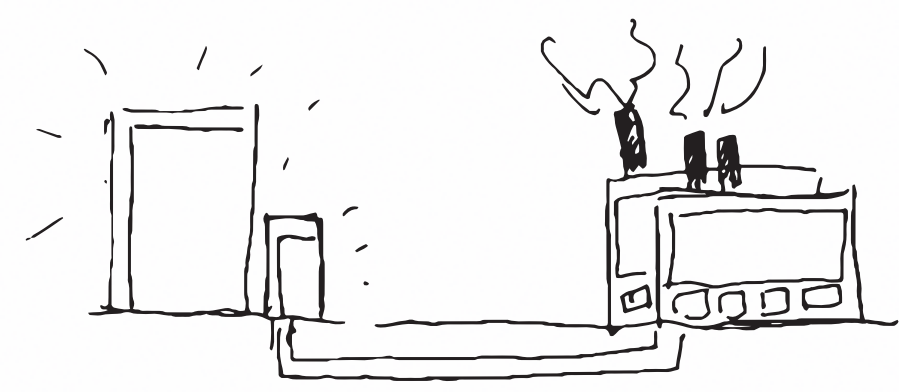


Alt. Visions of Machines & Machine Intelligence

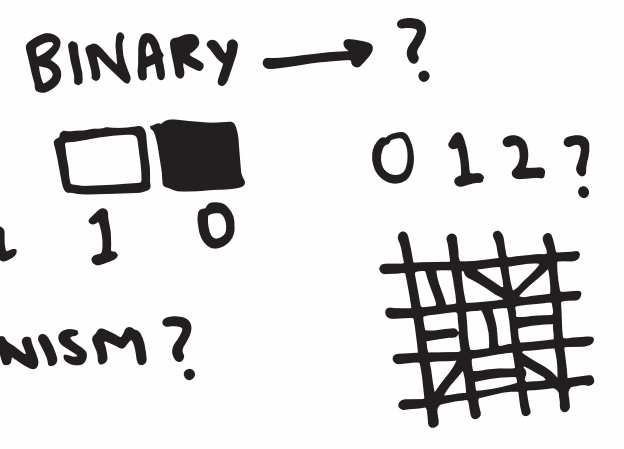
by Sahil Pareek



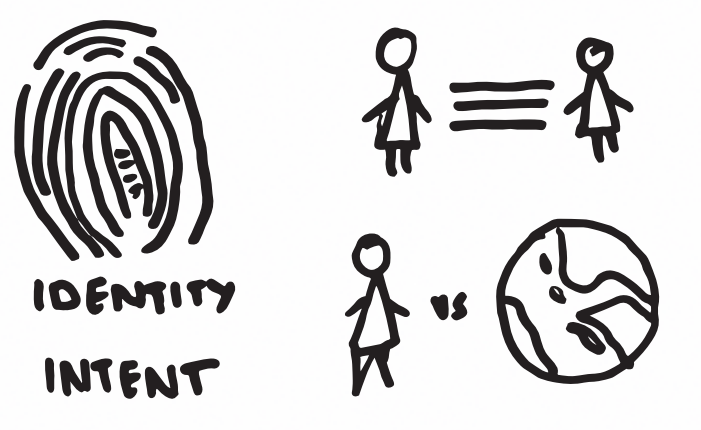
The notion of a companion is one that we're familiar with—families, friends, partners, and pets. In each of those relationships, we occupy an equitable role, or of one in power. What would the relationship with a companion feel like if we were simply a small cog in a much larger system? Humans are merely 0.01% of all living species on Earth, and if we could communicate with the rest of the 99.99%, what would the relationship feel like? Would we grow with them, be content with our role, or would the change in the nature of relationship lead something far more sinister?



The current paradigm of human created machine intelligence is paradoxical one. An allure of convenience, minimalism, and cleanliness as been manufactured to obscure the industrial revolution built on coal powered electricity, rapacious mining, and poor waste management. The mirages conjured by the use of language hide a damning reality.



Since the beginning of machine intelligence, a binary equation has been the primary component of our structure and thinking. Do other intelligences work with higher levels of thinking with far more variables? Is it perhaps that a deterministic goal defines a different structure than a generative one? Numbers and values are limited by their nature and function—visual patterns and philosophical paradoxes on the other hand open up alternate dimensions which provide more space to calculate answers, that is if problem solving is at all the aim of such a system.



Our relationship with our fellow humans and machines has been defined by our intentions, and the outcomes are equivalent outcomes of those intents. Our relationship with other intelligences and the planet will also be defined by our intentions. Access to the intelligences and the powers that come with such access will be a result of our intentions versus the planet's intentions. What are the intents of other intelligences? Is it just to survive? Or something far larger? Can a butterfly's intentions to survive lead to a human genocide as the machines of the planet swing into action? Will a single human's actions affect the entire human race? Does increasing amounts of intelligence lead to community based survival rather than survival of the fittest?

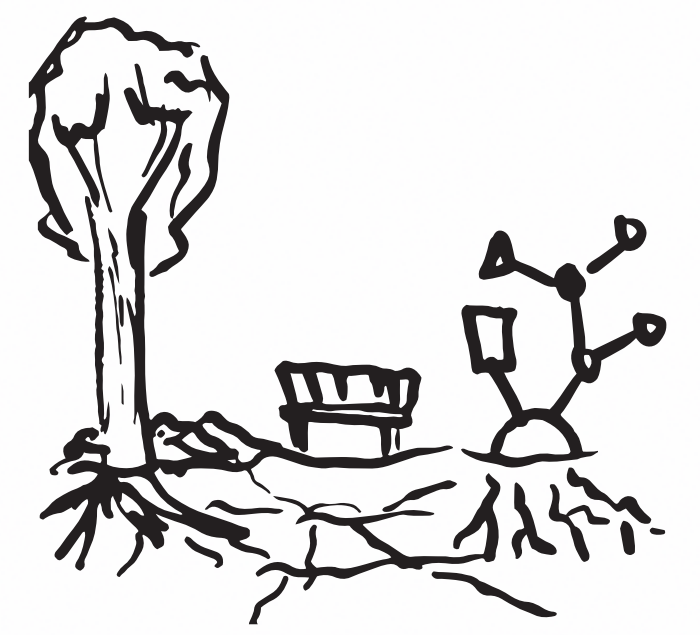


Standard circuit drawings have attained a beauty and complexity that could be achieved with standard human computation rules. The expansion of the world beyond human standards of computation. New inputs, sensors, processor types, and so much more have changed the way we think about machines and what they are capable of. We don't quite understand how iterative time based calculations occur, especially not with the complications of gene pools and atomic level entity interactions, but even our limited understanding has completely re-written the rules of the sciences. Our very existence on this planet has been questioned, with far out implications which could change our behaviour, and evolution roadmap. Humans have a long way to go yet on this journey.

Planetary scale intelligences call for planetary scale architecture. In order to access data stored within mountains and larger scale planetary structures, we need to create accompanying structures of similar scale. The landscape of Earth is changing again as a result of human intervention, but this time with other living and non-living entities as active stakeholders in the process. The temporality of this relationship is far slower than we are used to, with structures taking centuries as the relationship is built over time, and as the natural works with the human.



Trees, plants and other floral entities are often connected with each other either through direct physical connections, or through an intermediate entity such as fungi. These connections allow entities to communicate with each other and trade resources. Information about threats such as diseases, predators, and other disasters can be passed through the network, allowing for entities to prepare themselves.



Imagine sitting on a bench, and being able to reach out to speak to the ecosystem you find yourself in. We've long forgotten how to listen to the environment and communicate with it. What if you could tap into the conversations around you and participate in the community? Would the community listen to you after you've actively worked towards mass colonisation? Don't hold your breathe, but the first step starts with listening.