Website: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/17nYMzLcVTAbWEyuvHbLf_sqG-73cZ5EywJ_zq_GHes0/edit>

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| Topic/Question | Notes |
| **Digital Explosion**  *Why Is It Happening, and What Is at Stake?* | * September 19, 2007: Tanya Rider got into an accident and was trapped and badly injured in her car for eight days * She was rescued and brought to a medical facility where she would make a full recovery * She was eventually found by her cell phone, which sent out a signal showing where the phone is and in turn her * The combination of police suspecting her innocent husband with the technologies involved saved Tanya’s life |
| **The Explosion of Bits, And Everything Else** | * The world has become accustomed to reducing pictures, files, and many other things into 1s and 0s, AKA “bits” * Some of these bits might not even be seen by the human eye at all * March 2008: Information on Eliot Spitzer, former governor of New York, regarding suspicious transactions from his bank about lead to his resignation * Information, whether it be simple pictures to bank accounts, are all digitized and can possibly leak your information regardless if you’re conscious of such or not |
| **The Koans of Bits** | * Bits are complex and have very weird behaviors, making metaphors for such to be very difficult * Claud Shannon was the founding figure and pioneer of information and communication theory   + His paper “A mathematical theory of communication,” published in 1948 would show the true significance of bits * There are seven oversimplified and over-generalized truths regarding koans |
| **Koan 1: It’s all Just Bits** | * Computers successfully creates bits that contains photographs, letters, songs, and movies. They contain bits, lots of them patterned in ways that the human eye can’t see * Computers are designed to store bits, files and folders and different types of data are illusions created by computer programmers |
| **Koan 2: Perfection if Normal** | * Computers are not immune to failure, as they hold their own issues of: power failure or breaking down * To avoid these imperfections, bits are checked before being sent and any mistake spotted will be corrected accordingly * Copies of music before were not regulated as the copies of the original song (tapes, records, etc.) were always worse than the original * Care now being regulated heavily due to the fact that anyone can duplicate the original song to a perfect level and share it nearly instantaneously |
| **Koan 3: There Is Want in the Midst of Plenty** | * The constant increase of data being digitally stored caused a decline of data being stored physically * Digital data storage is useless if there was no means to access it * With the increase in online data storage, search engines (i.e. Google) are used first by an individual when finding an answer to something more so than asking their piers |
| **Koan 4: Processing is Power** | * The speed of computers is measured by the number of basic operations such as additions that can perform in one second * Computers in the 1940’s can perform about 5 operations per second, compared to computers nowadays can perform about a trillion operations |
| **Koan 5: More of the Same Can Be a Whole New Thing** | * Explosive growth is rapid growth, doubling at a steady rate. * Imagine getting 100% annual interest in your savings account. In 10 years your money would have increased more than a thousandfold |
| **Koan 6: Nothing Goes Away** | * 2,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 is the number of bits that were created and stored away in 2007 according to one industry estimate * Wal-mart has millions of transactions made everyday with every detail saved such as time bought, the items, the costs, payment methods |
| **Koan 7: Bits Move Faster Than Thought** | * The internet was originally created for the purpose of connected a few university and military computers, which would go on to develop into a worldwide phenomenon * The travel time to pass on information has been severely reduced, allowing for many business practices to adapt and use the new and convenient means   + Medical staff no longer need to be there in person to see x-rays   + Orders can be placed instantly   + International contacting no longer requires travel time, but a simple message online * Major events no longer take time to get around the world as newscasters can simply record the event live and broadcast it around the world * The concept of “Cyberspace” came along as a frontier that was a lawless digital realm where people would be interconnected * Cyberspace was ultimately refuted, as the laws and regulations of the countries still apply online regardless   + A book published in Britain and shipped to another country is still under the British libel laws and not those of the country that it’s shipped to |
| **Good and Ill, Promise and Peril (Micah Fulgoni)** | * The benefits of technology is far greater than the defects of technology or if anything equal * Major powers all have a say within the world of the internet of what occurs and what is passed |
| **Technology Is Neither Good nor Bad (Micah Fulgoni)** | * Nuclear reactions tends to be a power source of weapons of mass destruction * Messages being sent to a friend via emails or messages can also be deciphered and broken down by others * Photomanipulation is a tool used by others for improving pictures but also used by child pornographers to lessen suspicion * Regulations on the morals of computers is only possible through restrictions or new programs to regulate the internet world * Technology we have access to is also used to tracking someone's behavior/habits * Technology is being used for protection but also being abused by others |
| **New Technologies Bring Both Risks and Opportunities (Micah Fulgoni)** | * Those with a computer jeopardize security of their selves * Websites like Facebook have brought together friendships and bonds for all * Technology has brought out the evil in some humans because such power is at their fingertips with little to no repercussions |