

Thoughts on Holochain

This article took a long time for me to read, it felt very dense and abstract. The biggest take away I had from this is that it provided perspective and opened my mind a little to how the whole process of data transferal works. This course has confirmed my hatred of Facebook and makes me drastically want to cover my virtual footprint. One time, I entered my name on Radaris.com a popular Information Broker and found tons and tons of old information, sourced from Facebook, created in a convenient file about me and that was just what I was able to see for free. A couple of my coworkers were thinking about getting their P.I licenses; what's the point when Facebook does it for free? Facebook seemingly has monopolized every other website, most of them saying to access it you can just log in with your Facebook. (Wouldn't want it to miss a beat on what you're doing).

I like the vision of Holochain in taking back our personal interactions from the "man" and back into the hands of the individuals those interactions represent. I think the idea of keeping data decentralized is really nice. It is weird when things go to a large Silo or data farm that Facebook has. Seems like there would be a reduced ecological impact if more companies switched to Holochain mindsets.

It kind of seems like some large corporations have tried to apply these ideals of Holochain at an ironically, much larger scale. Google takes over much of ones information from calendar, email, etc and organizes it for you in one "convenient" list unfortunately sometimes multiple times if you have a number of accounts which can be counterproductive. Ironically, Facebook's Messenger practically insists you sync your phone numbers with your facebook contacts. I have warded it off for now, but there are at least 4 "Are you sure?" confirmations to

go through with the “yes” or “no” options alternating in hopes that you will mess up in bouts of impatience and accidentally give in.

It is interesting that applications on a Holochain network would automatically update through everyone's phone on the peer network so one would no longer have to worry about incompatibility between technology. It seems like Holochain would kind of work like Dropbox and Github software. While a neat idea, I am curious to see how Holochain will integrate with technology we have right now. Will it be something weird like Google Plus that will eventually flop or will it flourish?