Nuobocat

by Sven Nilsen, 2021

In this paper I suggest a mental trick, based on an analysis of The Joker Type applied to overcome dark sides of human nature such as extreme racism, vaccine phobia, suicidal thinking, police violence and inaction on climate change. This might help to recover open minded people from a slippery slope development into an unwanted dark side and take the first steps toward healing.

The world complex: There are always people who spread misinformation and exploit the dark sides of human nature to make profits. However, when viewing the world in terms of this mechanism, it is easy to forget that many people develop phobia due to stress or that society might develop a dysfunctional role over time. This problem can be addressed, because those people or societies are willing to change when given a new perspective that helps them to understand the situation.

This paper about the "Nuobocat" is part of an ongoing research and thus should be considered experimental. It is not a replacement of professional treatment. The mental trick here is intended to be studied whether formalisation of The Joker Type can be applied to psychology.

In the paper "The Joker Type"[1], I introduced a subjective/biased path. This type has the mathematical property that an "unbiased position" can be introduced externally.

In the study of the dark side of human nature, the "unbiased position" is a "radical middle". This "radical middle" is "pushed out" of language until it becomes an "impossible thought". One important thing to notice about the "radical middle" is that it functions as a slippery slope, such that the situation can be triggered without doing obvious errors in reasoning. It is also not directly related to e.g. misinformation or brainwashing. Instead, the situation affects the person inside it, for example by being under stress and developing an obsession about control.

The "radical middle" is usually "increased risk of dying", for the darkest sides of human nature.

With other words, the person who e.g. commits extreme racism, operates under a real threat of dying, or a significant increased risk of dying, which in the situation has become an "impossible thought", something that is unthinkable, yet at the same time what a rational agent would focus on.

The "me" side of this Joker Type is:

> a reasonable action which requires giving up a tiny amount of control

The "other" side of this Joker Type is:

> Nuobocat

This stands for "**n**egative **u**tility **o**n **b**ehalf **o**f **a** **p**erceived **i**maginary **u**niversal **c**ategory **o**f **c**ollapsed **c**oncrete **t**hinking **p**rojected **o**nto **c**onstructed **a**bstract **t**hinking", or

> **nuoboapiucocctpocat**

Which is simply shorted down into "nuobocat".

What happens to the person who e.g. commits extreme racism, is that there is a collapse of Seshatism[2], or concrete thinking, with a construction of Platonism[3], or abstract thinking. The thought pattern converges into a singularity of the Platonic form of an infinite Möbius strip[4], where one side is related to the opposite side by a simple involution, but also through an infinite distance.

- The simple involution is "give up a tiny amount of control"
- The infinite distance is "give up control"

The behavior is created by a logical fallacy, due to the collapse of concrete thinking, where the simple involution is thought to imply the infinite distance, which is due to the construction of abstract thinking. Since the person is biased by Platonism, the mattematical beauty of the pattern drives behaviour and a made-up 1-avatar of Nuobocat is created to "explain" the person's behavior. The Nuobocat is the core of an Avatar Graph[5] which is the "other" of the Joker Type. The 1-avatars of the Nuobocat determine the action of the person. To solve a such situation, the mental trick is to introduce a new 1-avatar of the Nuobocat. Behavior in the dark sides of human nature, e.g. extreme racism, is caused by a trauma of anxiety, where the person is unable to give up control. No amount of evidence can convince the person.

The person is already in a situation with "increased risk of dying" as the "radical middle" that is "pushed out" of language until it becomes an "impossible thought". In this non-thinking mode, it is impossible for the person to update beliefs. This is impossible precisely because the rational object for making decisions is unreachable.

The solution is therefore to exploit the mathematical pattern of The Joker Type, which is to introduce a new 1-avatar of the Nuobocat. I will illustrate this using two examples:

Assume a situation where there are zero 1-avatars of the Nuobocat.

For example, a person with vaccine phobia under a pandemic, has the following choices:

1. "me": take your dose, but in return give up a tiny amount of control
2. "radical middle": increased risk of dying

The "increased risk of dying" is an "impossible thought" for this person. So, the only remaining choice is 1) which now seems irrational. For example, thinking "Why should I give up control?".

The denial of the possibility of increased risk of dying, is the very mechanism that tricks the person into thinking of itself as rational, while in fact behaving irrationally.

Taking the dose is a "me" position. The person with vaccine phobia is denying this "me" and e.g. feeling it as an intrusion of the government into the identity of the person.

Now that the person has set itself up for The Joker Type, one can introduce a 1-avatar of the Nuobocat which causes the person to take the dose: Simply say that the dose will be sent to somewhere else to save somebody else's life.

The person with vaccine phobia might respond to a such situation in the following way:

"I do not want to give up control. However, if I take the dose, then I can **take control** away from someone else. It is better that I have the dose than it belongs to somebody else."

It does not matter whether this imaginary or real. The person is not rational anyway:

3. "other": take away the opportunity for somebody else to get the dose

Notice that 3) determines the action of the person. The "radical middle" is unthinkable, so it can not be a decisive factor. Precisely because it is unthinkable, the person uses 1-avatars of the Nuobocat to make decisions. *However, this should not be confused with e.g. a situation where people develop phobia due to cultish brainwashing.* The Nuobocat applies only when there is a "radical middle".

In the case of vaccine phobia, the 1-avatar is used to avoid increasing the risk of dying.

However, the opposite can also happen.

For example, a white police officer in the US might be tempted to commit violence against a black person. The officer is under stress and this causes a collapse of concrete thinking. At the same time, an "imaginary universal category" is constructed of black people as a threat. The officer wants to hurt this "abstract black people" idea and commiting violence seems the only option.

The "impossible thought" for the police officer is that by commiting violence, it is a high risk of dying. The black person might have studied martial arts, or have a gun, or have a knife, or suing the police officer for large amounts of money, or getting revenge by other means. It is extremely dangerous for police officers to attack anyone, even civilians without provocation.

Imagine that you are driving a car. If the chance of dying was 10% when you set yourself in the car, then this risk would be unacceptable. Likewise, a white police officer which has e.g. a 10% chance of dying by committing violence to black person, is extremely irrational. However, due to the "pushing out" of the "radical middle", this position becomes unthinkable for the officer.

This does not mean that the police officer is an extremist. On the other hand, it is more likely that the stress experienced over long term, shared fatigue sentiment among collegues and underestimation of the gradual influence of stress on thinking makes it hard to notice that there is a collapse in concrete thinking and a constructed abstract thinking. This takes the form of an "abstract universal category", such as ordinary black people, which one wishes negative utility to increase the perceived imaginary control in the situation. *However, this should not be confused with racism.*

Extreme racism can be a Nuobocat situation on itself.
However, racism can also be symptomatic of a more complex underlying Nuobocat situation.
There difference is in the process of how the "radical middle" is "pushed out" of language.

Now, the problem is that there already is a 1-avatar of Nuobocat in place. In the previous example of vaccine phobia, there were zero 1-avatars, so the problem was solved using the first 1-avatar.

In this example with the police officer, one must introduce another 1-avatar. The officer can use a simple mind trick, which is to think e.g. "If I don't commit violence, a black person in heaven will be sent to hell".

This sounds like a joke, but remember, the person is already in an irrational mode of thinking. It does not matter whether the 1-avatar of Nuobocat is real or imaginary. Therefore, thinking of a joke is just as good as making up a real option.

In the case of inaction of climate change[6], the people in developed countries uses developing or least developed countries as the "other". They do this without even considering themselves e.g. racist. The point is: People do not think rationally. Climate change is going to *kill them*, but this is

an "impossible thought" and therefore they set themselves up for the Joker Type and the Nuobocat as the "other". By giving up a tiny amount of control, people could transition to sustainable energy faster, but since giving "a tiny amount of control" is confused with "giving up control", they will not. They use the excuse that climate change is going to impact the "other" as an excuse to not make any action. The reality is that both the "other" and "me" will end up dead, without any action. However, as horrible as this situation is, it did not happen over night. The situation is *complex*.

Understanding climate change is demanding for a single person. However, it is not the lack of knowledge about climate change that is missing. The problem is the large scope and insufficient time to act when consequences are irreversible. Few people can imagine their whole world being turned upside down and society as a whole being impacted on a large scale. Another problem is that climate change is not going to produce huge relative negative utility for single persons. Instead, it will affect the whole society which makes it seems like a problem for society to solve, which it is correct, since it requires coordination, but this can lead to a fallacy of imagining that it will not affect individuals. The "radical middle" here is a slippery slope of delaying action.

However, this should not be confused with e.g. the spread of misinformation about climate change. A Nuobocat situation is more subtle. People can be in a in a such situation without making obvious errors of reasoning, simply because we are incable of reasoning perfectly.

The solution is to think like this "If I take action, then it will be the people in the alternative timeline which did not take action that will suffer. By taking action, I will ensure that I end up in the timeline where climate change does not lead to a total catastrophe. Instead I bring the catastrophe to the other timeline. I am in control and the people in the alternative timeline are less in control."

The idea is that the **taking control** must happen at the expense of someone else, even if that "someone else" is just imaginary. The person views the "taking control" as an improvement of the situation and although the decisions process used here is irrational, it can still be exploited to make rational decisions.

When a person has suicidal thoughts, the same "increased risk of dying" is "pushed out" of language and becomes the "radical middle". The risk of dying is not thought of as a risk, but as an intentional action to "harm" an abstract "universal category", e.g. a group of people, even if the person would never wish to harm any individual in the group. This "universal category" and the sense of "harm" to it, is made-up. The person is irrational, under stress and risk of dying. To give up a tiny amount of control, e.g. to seek professional help, seems "infinitely separated". One trick is to think e.g. "I want to order an appointment with the doctor to take that time from someone else".

This should not be confused with philosophical positions about suicide. This person does not want to commit suicide, is it just hard to give up a tiny amount of perceived control over this "universal category". It is obsession about control that prevents the person from seeking professional help.

The name "Nuobocat" was chosen because people like cats.
Thinking about cats helps when talking about this dark side of human nature.

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