Against the Cultural Singularity: Toward a Critical Digital Humanities



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Abstract

Following up on the question he asked in the title of his 2012 essay "Where is Cultural Criticism in the Digital Humanities?", Alan Liu will present early drafts from a book he is writing that imagines a mode of cultural criticism appropriate and native to the digital humanities. His talk focuses on the role of technology in, and between, neoliberalism's major "knowledge work" institutions (including higher education) as the context in which digital-humanities research and development can be redirected from being primarily instruments of institution work to becoming also ways to act on institutions and their wider social impact. What methodological framework can assist the digital humanities in exploring that context? What kinds of scholarship, projects, and tool-building might constitute a critical digital humanities?

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