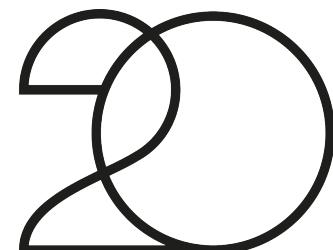
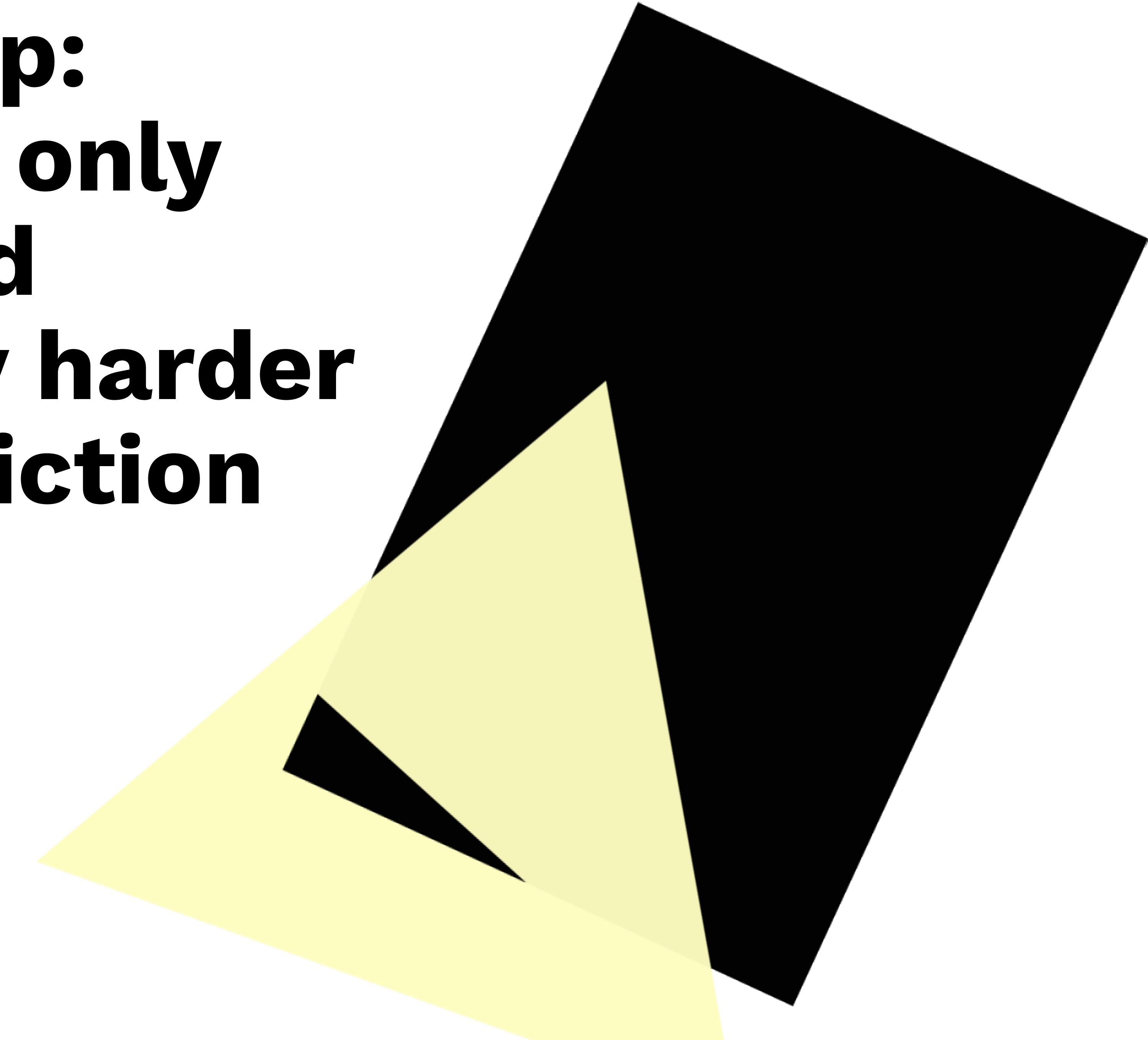


# **Computer, Stop: why Star Trek only goes so far and we need to try harder than science fiction**

Dan Hon



interaction20



# Computer, Stop:

Why Star Trek only  
goes so far, and we  
need to try harder  
than science fiction.



Dan Hon / @hondanhon





Computer, Stop.

5

TECH AMAZON STAR TREK

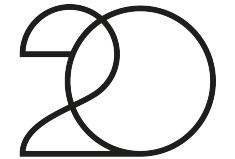
# TL;DR

## You can finally say 'Computer' to your Echo to command it

Still can't make Tea. Earl Grey. Hot.

By Dieter Bohn | @backlon | Jan 23, 2017, 7:42pm EST

f t SHARE

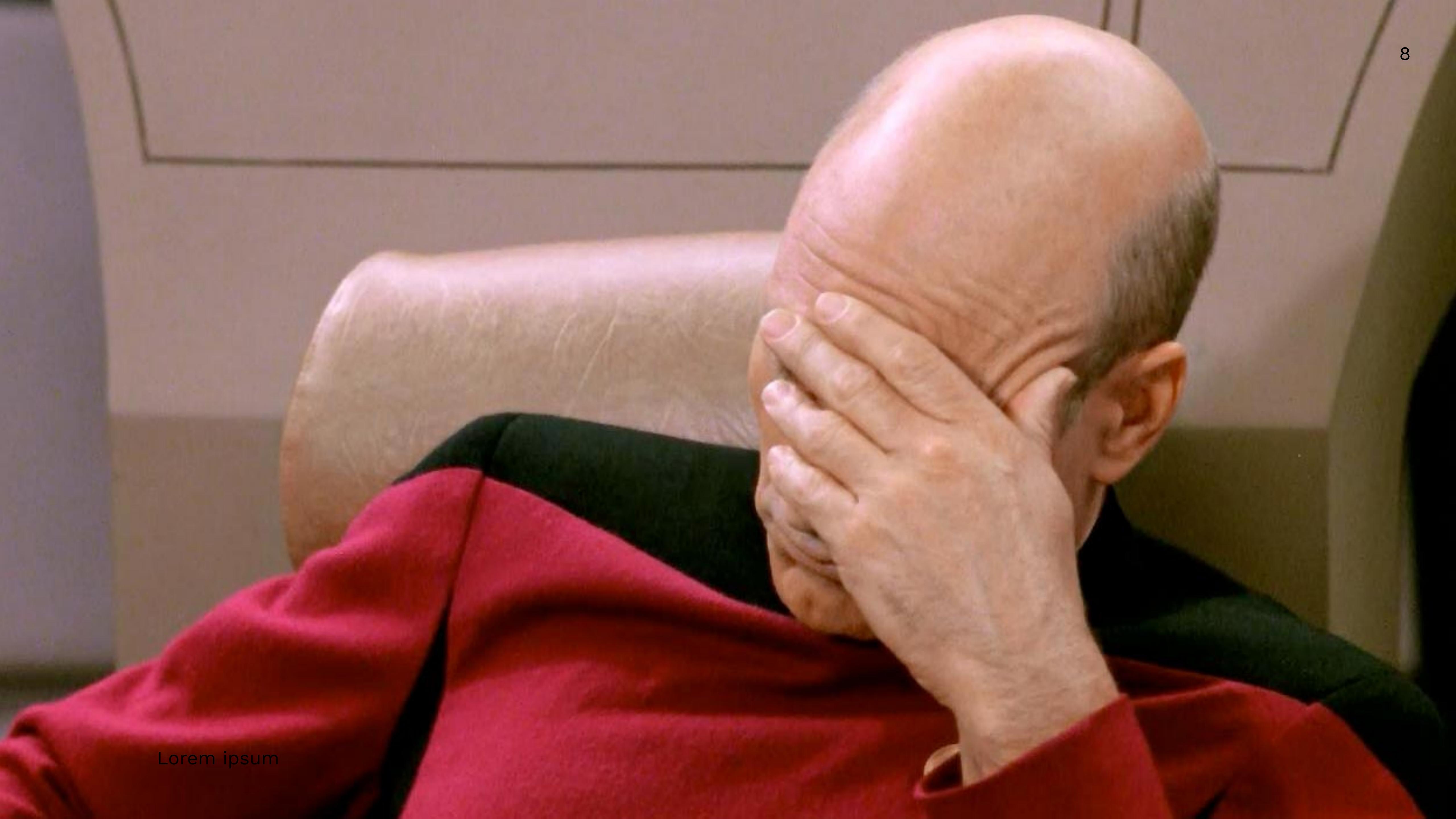


The Verge

Dan Hon | @hondanhon



Actually, *Tea, Earl Grey, Hot* is the name of a 16 million lines of code macro Picard wrote in the Academy to make sure he got a passable hot drink.



Lorem ipsum

Computer, Stop.

9



Computer, Stop.

10



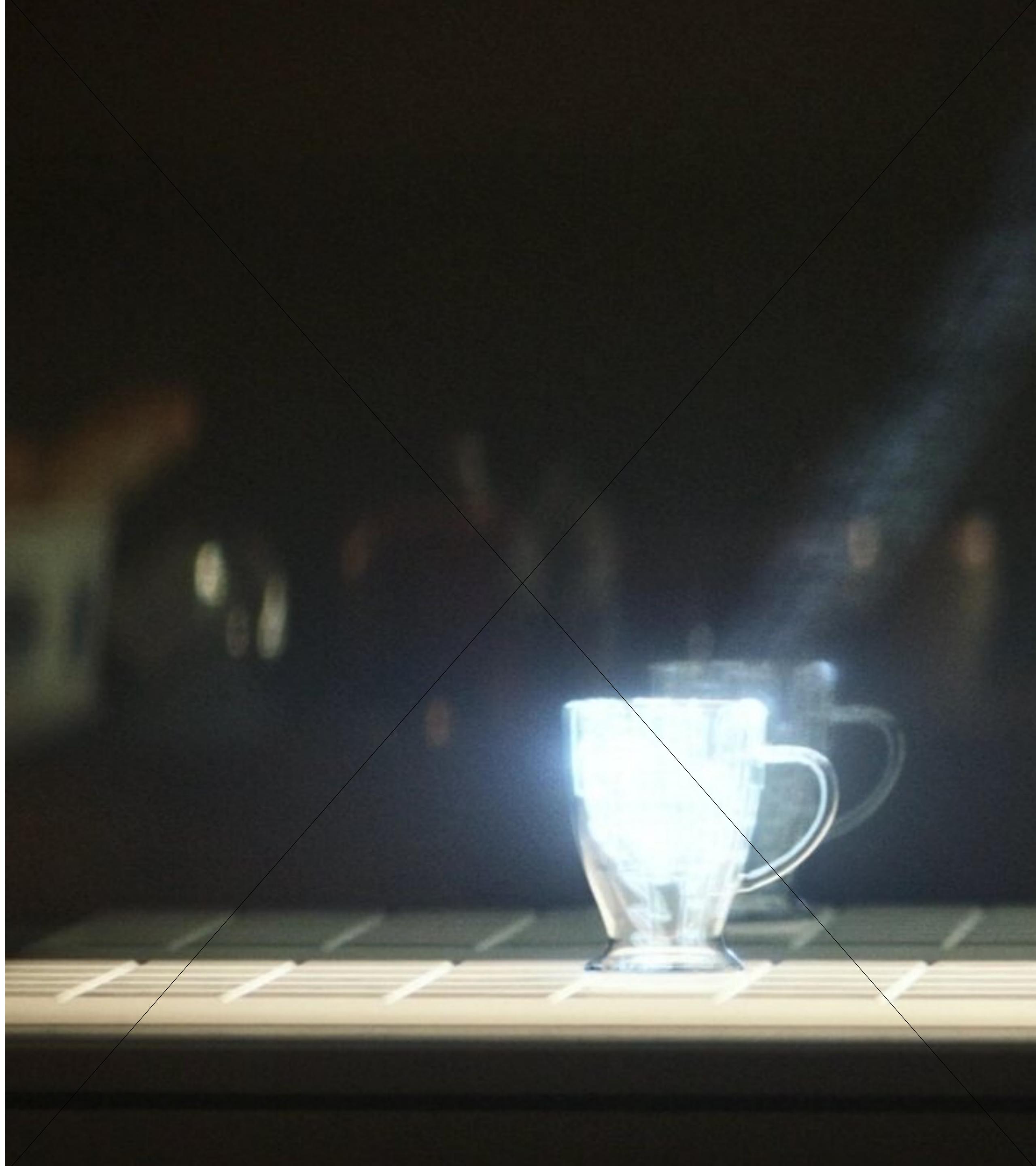
20

Star Trek: Picard, CBS, 2020

Dan Hon | @hondanhon

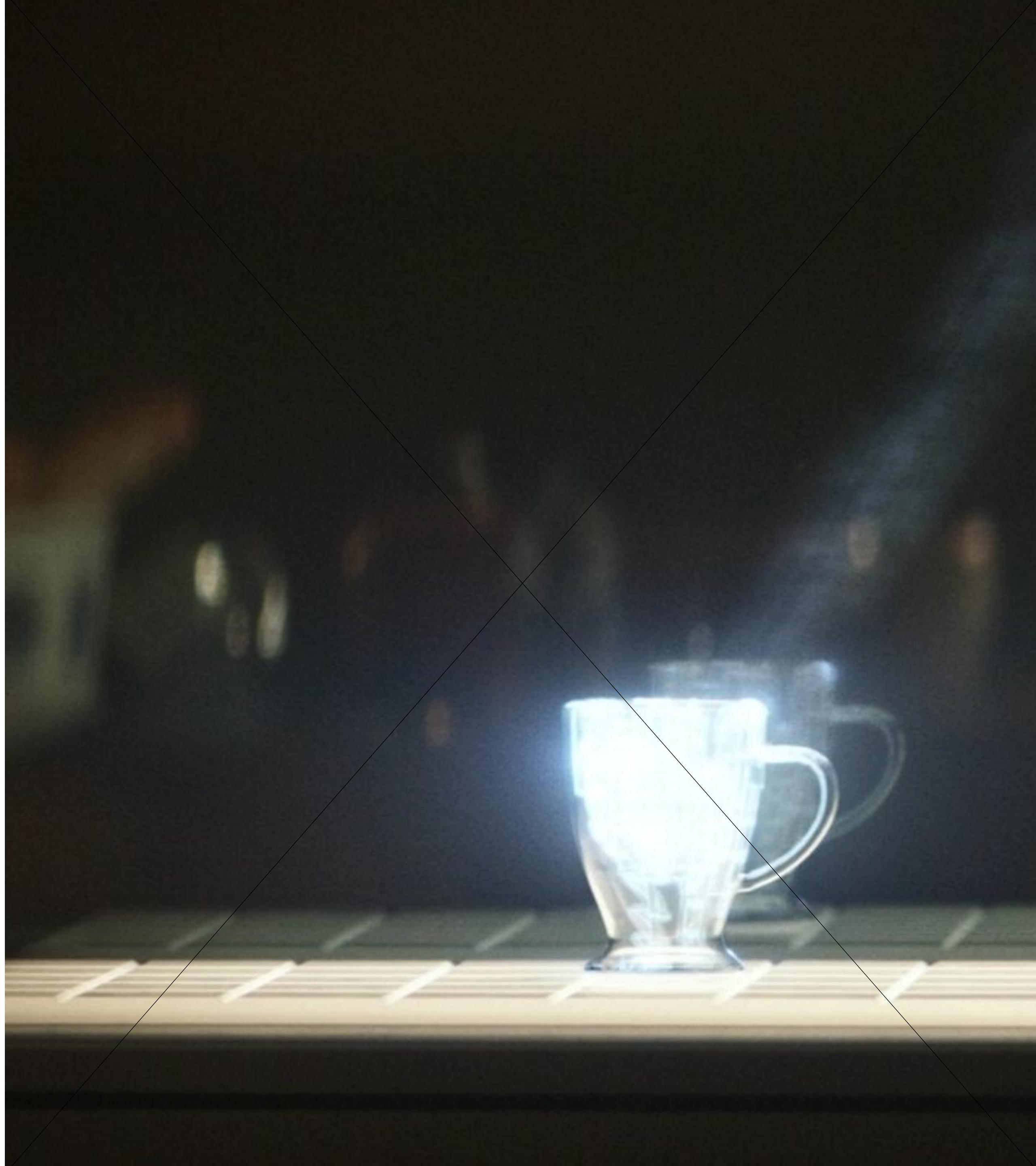
Computer, Stop.

**Tea.**



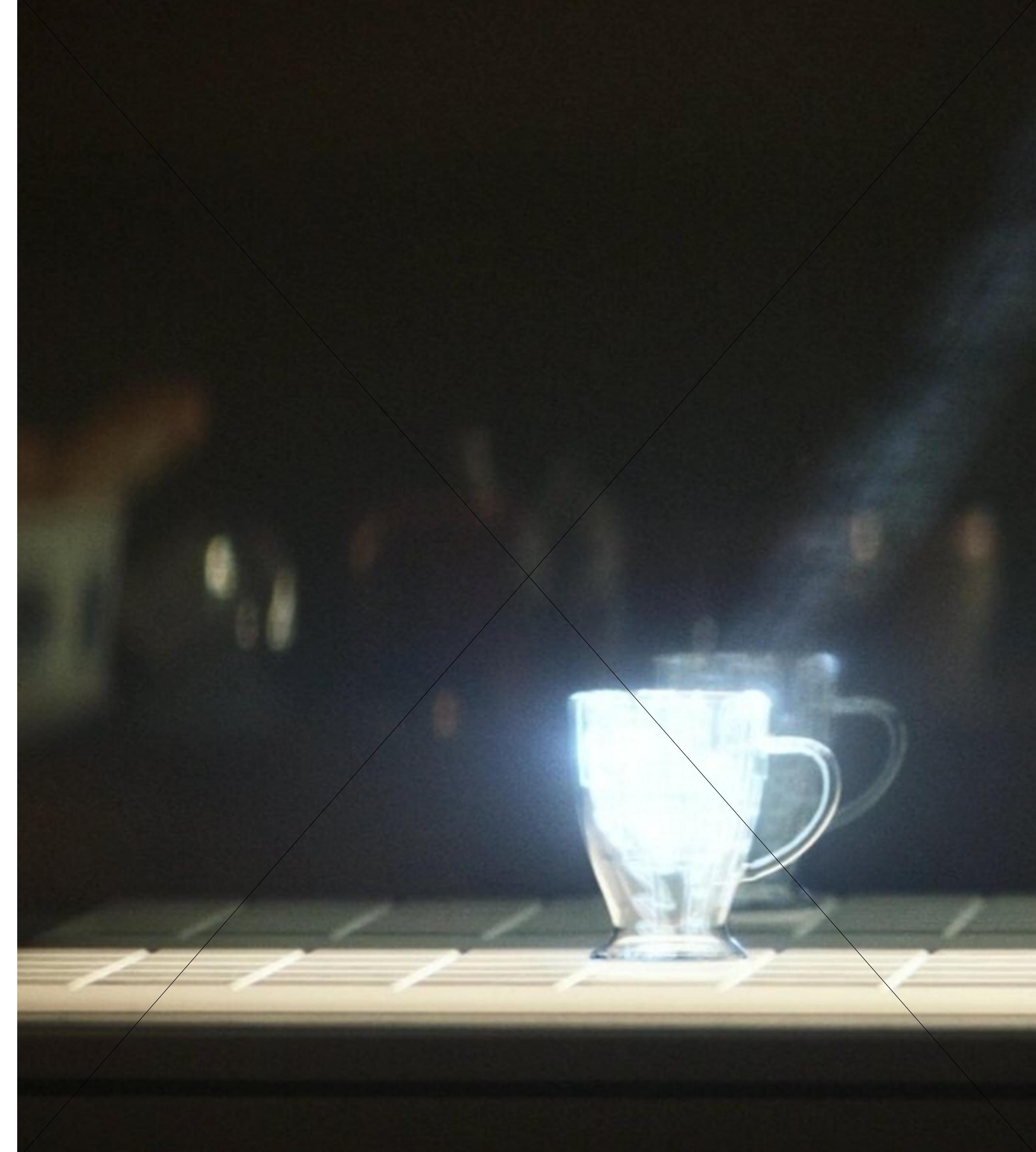
Computer, Stop.

Tea.  
**Earl grey.**



Computer, Stop.

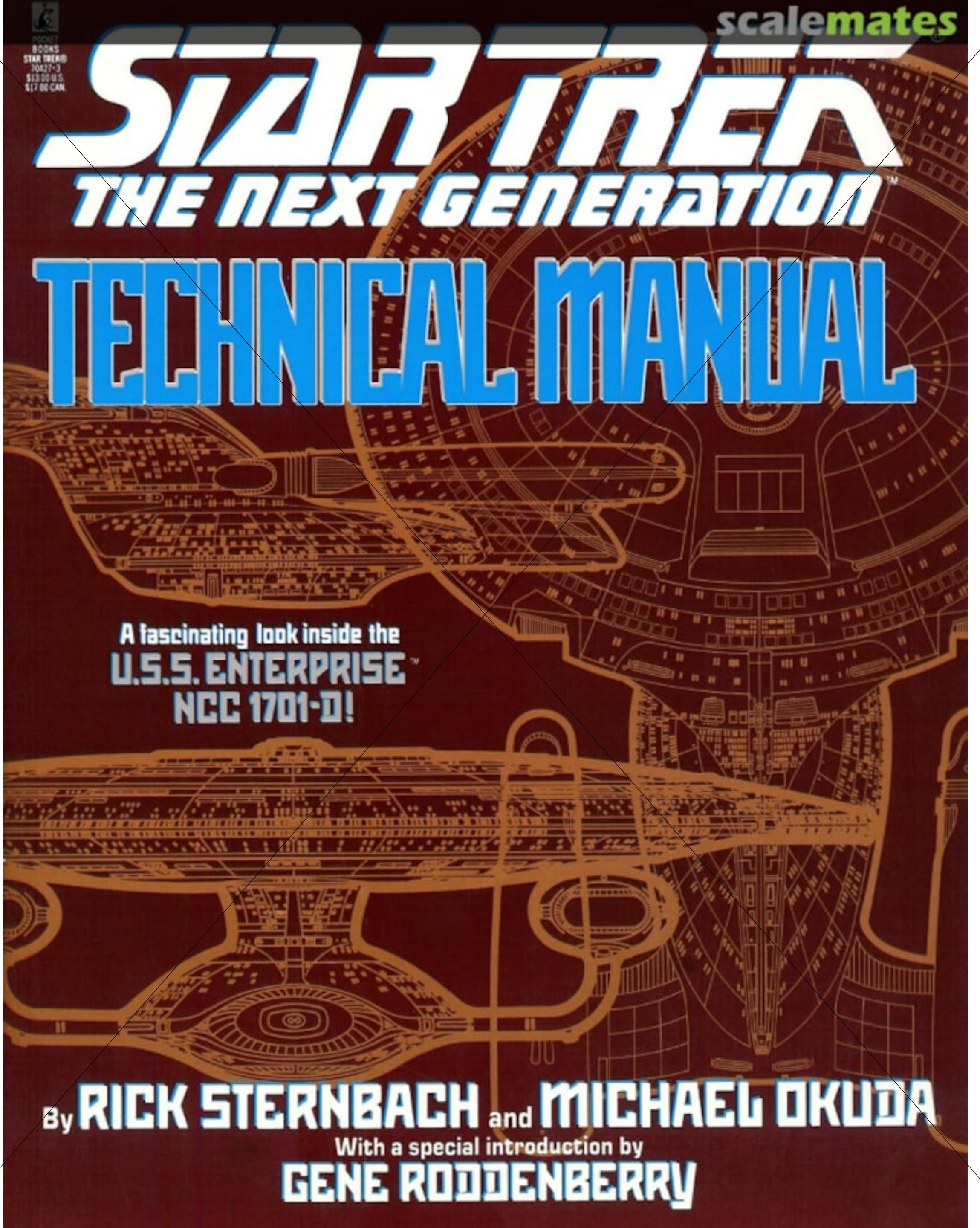
Tea.  
Earl grey.  
**Decaf.**



Computer, Stop.

Tea.  
Earl grey.  
**Decaf.**

20



Computer, Stop.

## 2/ Why do we keep borrowing?



Computer, Stop.

# Make It So

Nathan Shedroff &  
Christopher Noessel, 2012

<https://scifiinterfaces.com>

20



Science fiction creates interface as by-product. Its focus is entertainment, and this affects the interfaces that come from it.

**Make It So** Schedroff and Noessel

# 1/ We love stories set in believable worlds



Quietus

You Decide When

p to £2.00



U.S. Air Security & Border Protection

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Employees Access verification Secure access

Passport Clearance Checks

CLEARANCE STATUS

LHR LONDON HEATHROW

- Ticket Check: Cleared
- US VISA Check: Cleared
- UK Customs: Cleared

LAS LAS VEGAS McCARRAN INTL

- Facial Recognition: Failed
- Passport Status: Failed

CHECK DATABASE

CHECK DATABASE

Passenger Details

Surname : MICHAELS Given Names : CHRISTOPHER  
Nationality : UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
Date of Birth : 27 SEPT 1978

Code : USA  
POB : USA  
Sex : M

MODIFY

Passenger Manifest

heatherjee@cia-cyber: ~ \$ ssh root@199.256.09.21  
root@199.256.09.21's password: \*\*\*\*\*  
[root@TSACONTROLSRV-]# cd/bin/database  
[root@TSACONTROLSRV-]# access LAS DATABASE

LAS VEGAS McCARRAN PASSPORT CONTROL

[root@TSACONTROLSRV-]# -search Christopher Michaels  
[searching]: 1 result returned

1071587USA MICHAEL CHRISTOPHER482852111  
CHRISTOPHER MICHAELS

MICHAELS / CHRISTOPHER  
S. McCARRAN

BOOKING REF: GM5LW1  
DATE: 20 OCT

SEAT NUMBER: 35 CLASS: Y  
SEQ. NO. 146 CHK LUG: 0

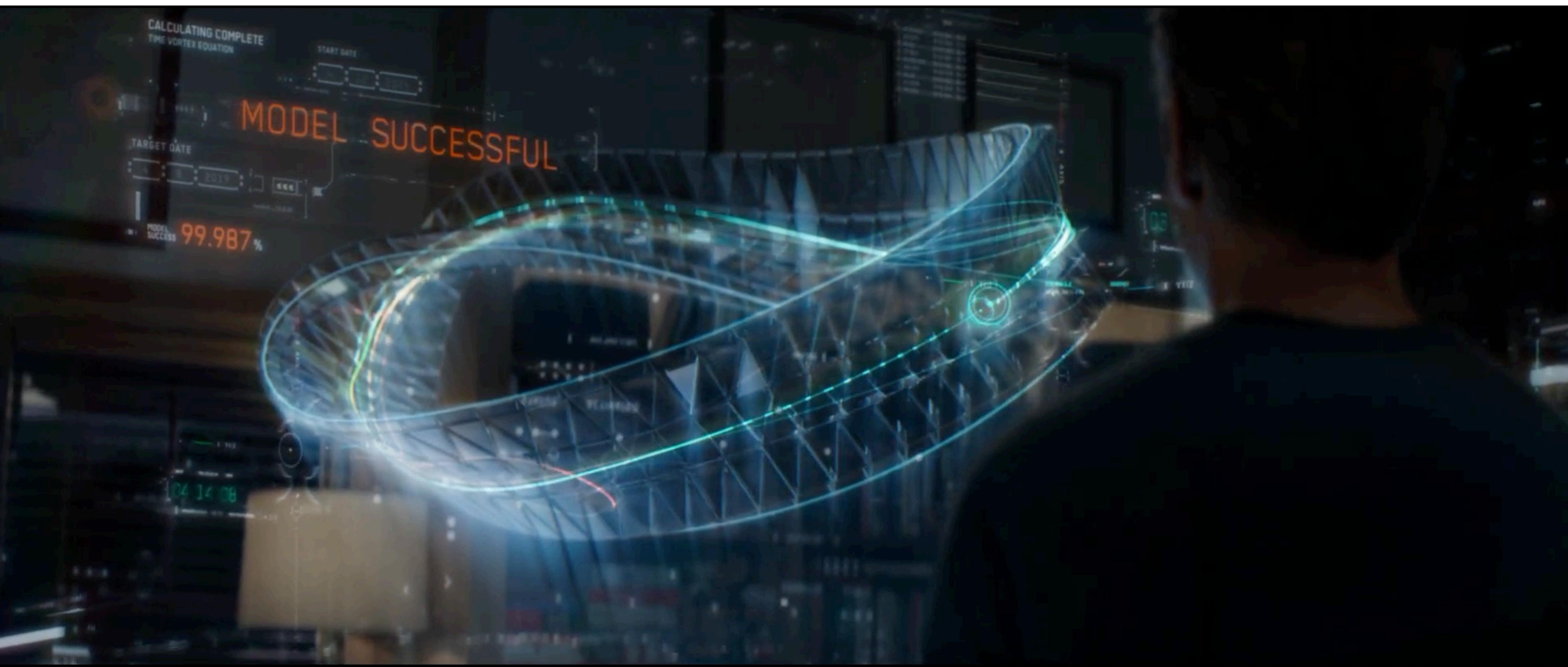
FLT CPNS POS: 0  
TOTAL CHECKED: 0

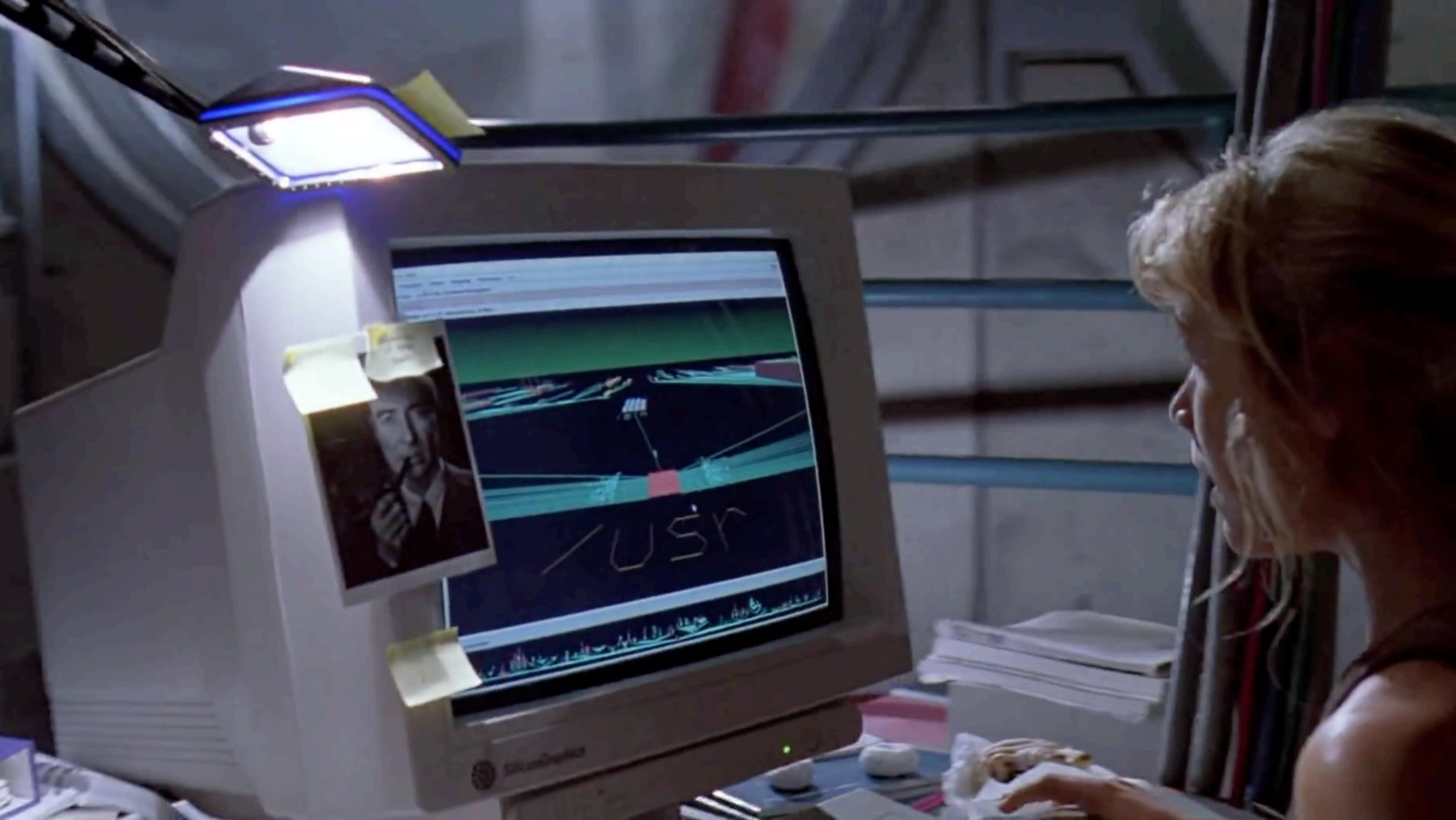
ZONE 1	1-10	ZONE 2	11-21	ZONE 3	22-38	ZONE 4	39-47	ZONE 5	48-56	ZONE 6	57-65

Central Passenger Log

**2/ I have superpowers  
I'm a heroine  
I have mastery  
I have agency**

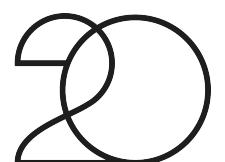
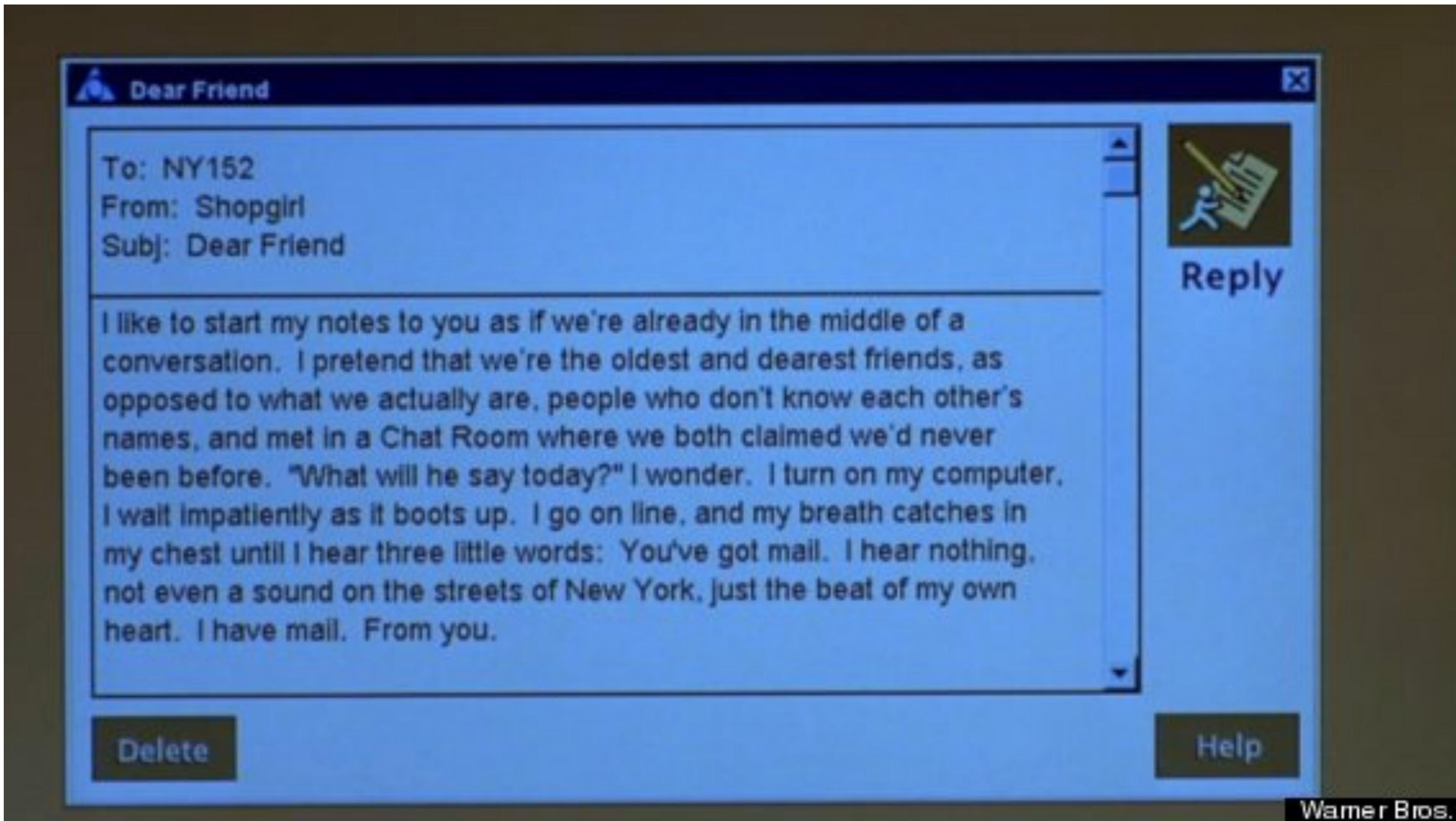
Computer, Stop.





# **3/ You understand me, you really understand me**



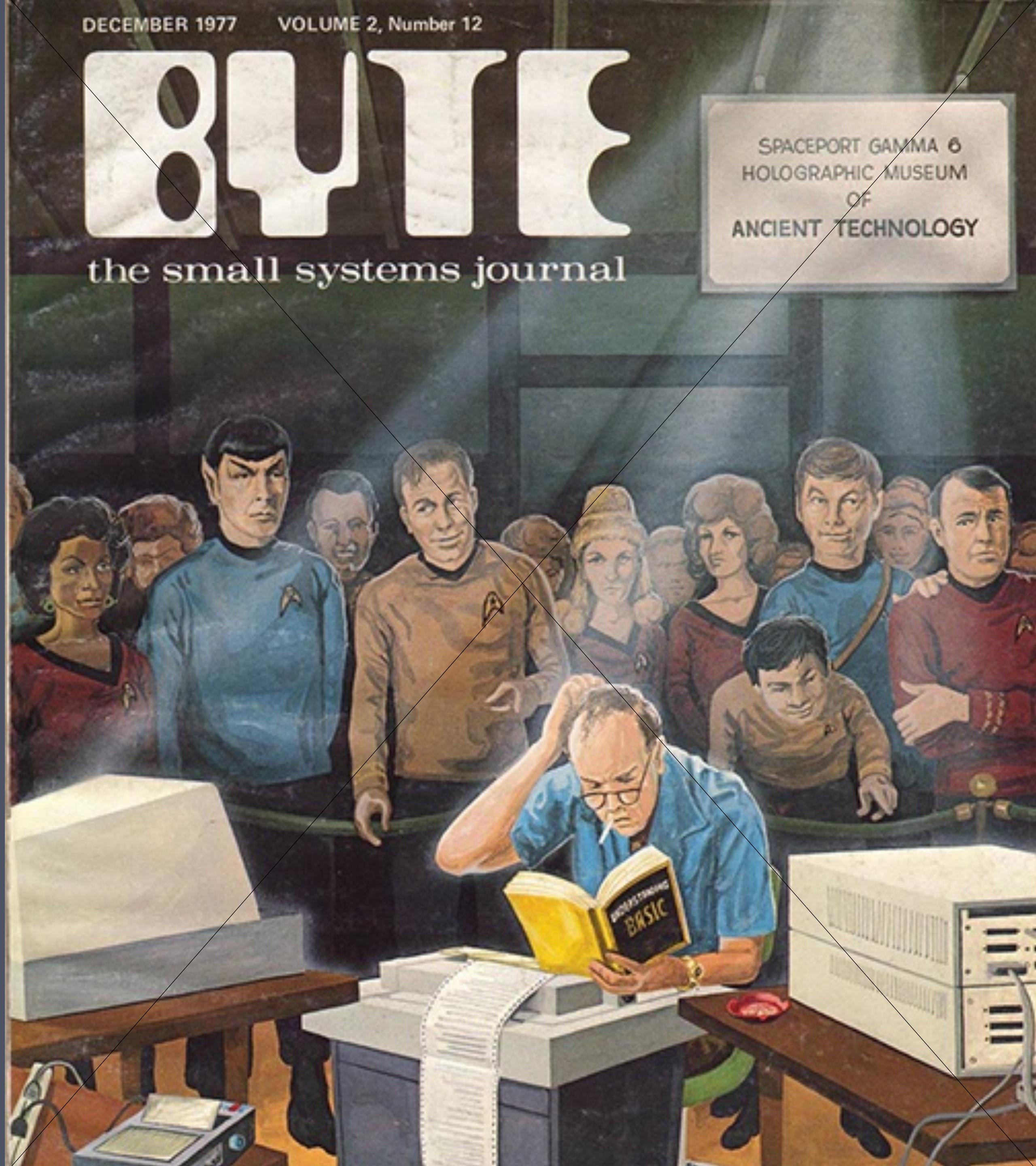




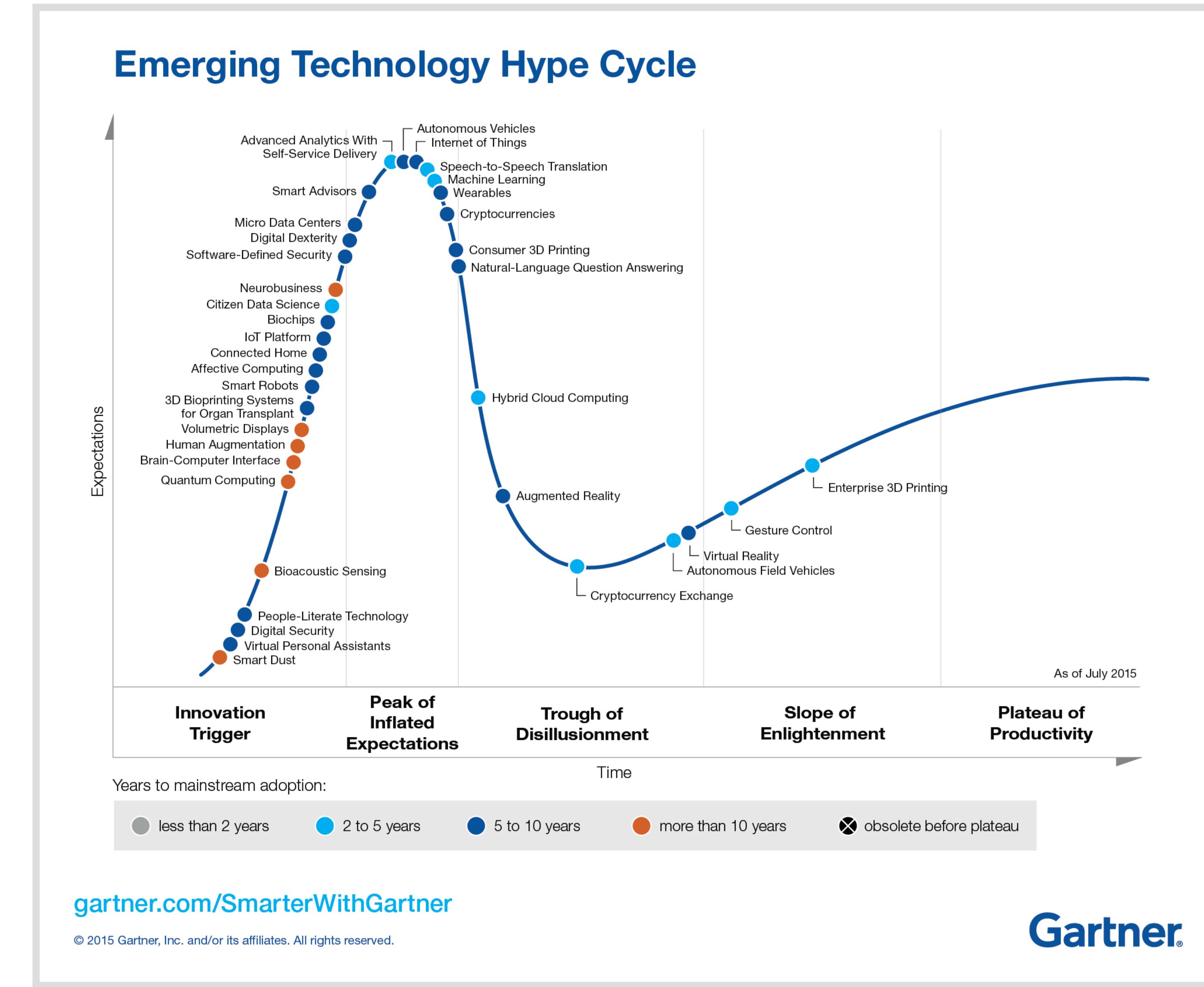
Computer, Stop.

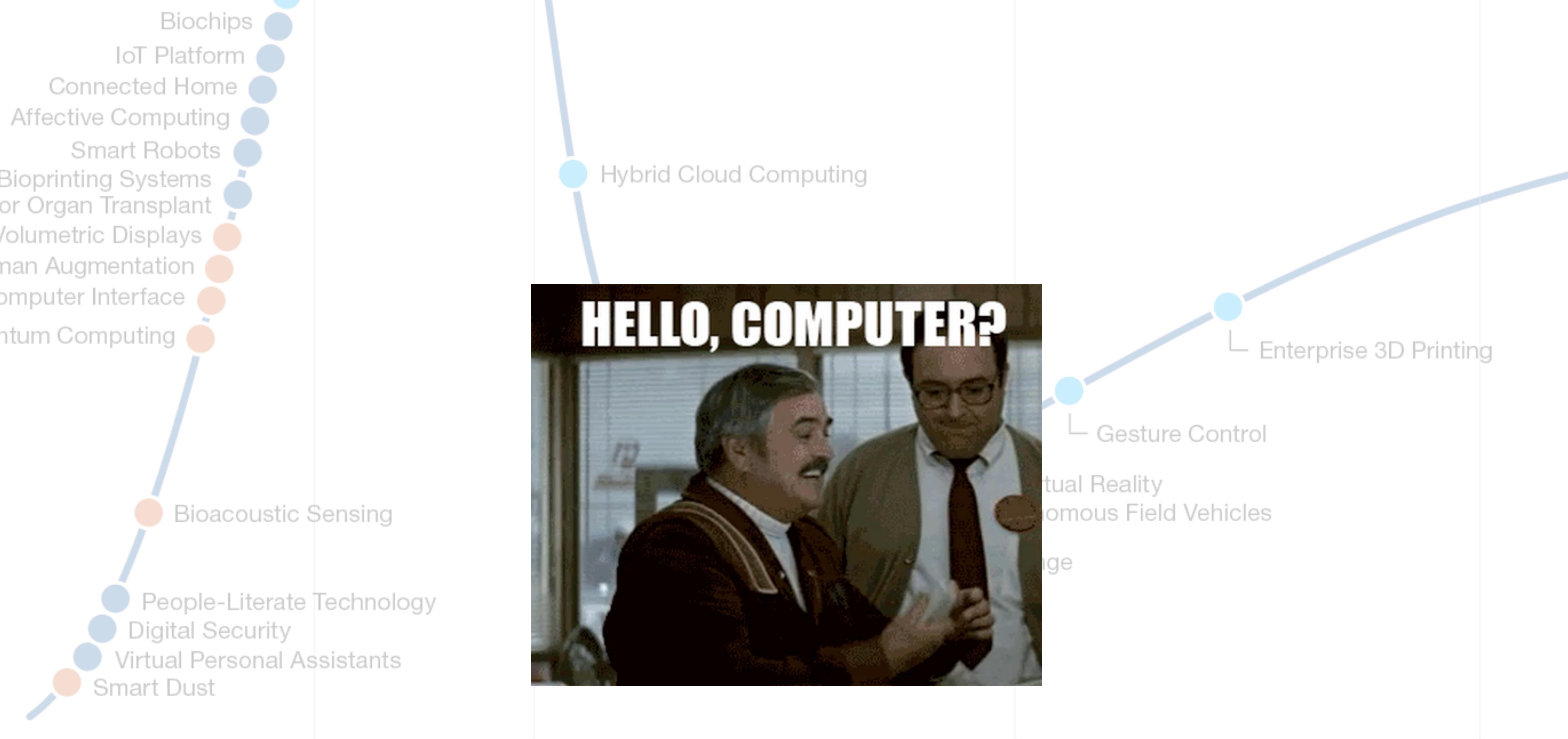
# 3/ The undiscovered country of missed expectations and unforeseen consequences

20



# 1/ We lose trust



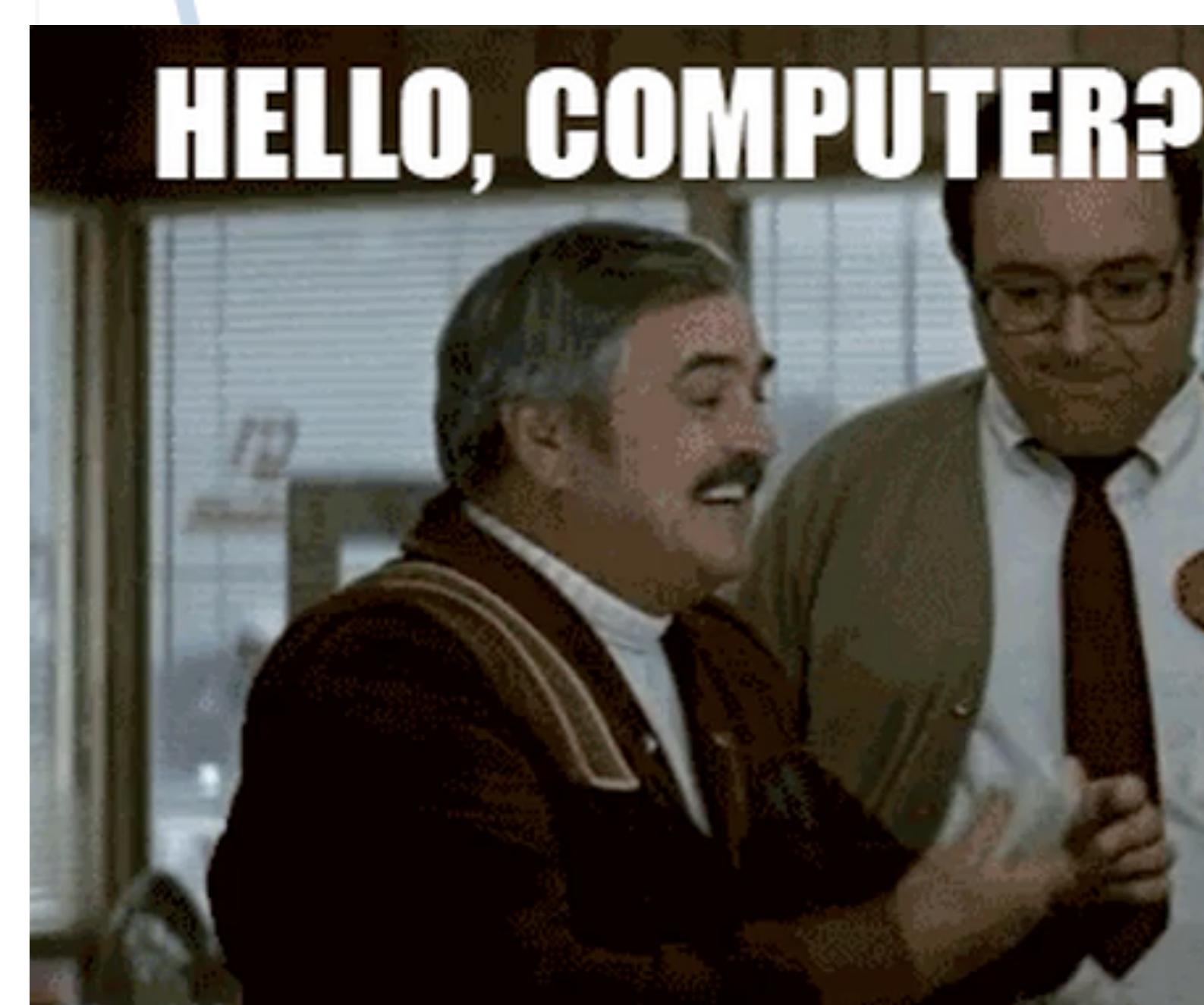


**Innovation  
Trigger**

**Peak of  
Inflated  
Expectations**

**Trough of  
Disillusionment**

**Slope of  
Enlightenment**







Computer, Stop.

35



**2/ Without interrogation,  
it presents a happy  
path of social  
outcomes**

Computer, Stop.

37



### **3/ Science fiction has its own issues of diversity, equity and inclusion**

Computer, Stop.

## 4/ Responsible inspiration



# 1/ **Science fiction isn't design fiction**

October 2019

Near Future Laboratory

Julian Bleecker, Nick Foster, Fabien Girardin,  
Nicolas Nova

Creating an artifact forces you to get into the details of your future world in a way that writing a story does not.

**Near Future Laboratory, October 2019**

When writing, it is easy to skip over uncomfortable details in favor of the “big picture”. Design Fiction makes you sweat the details. Good design sweats the details through-and-through.

**Near Future Laboratory, October 2019**

## **2/ The Case For Mundanity: You Might Not Be The Hero**

Computer, Stop.

44



Computer, Stop.

45



20

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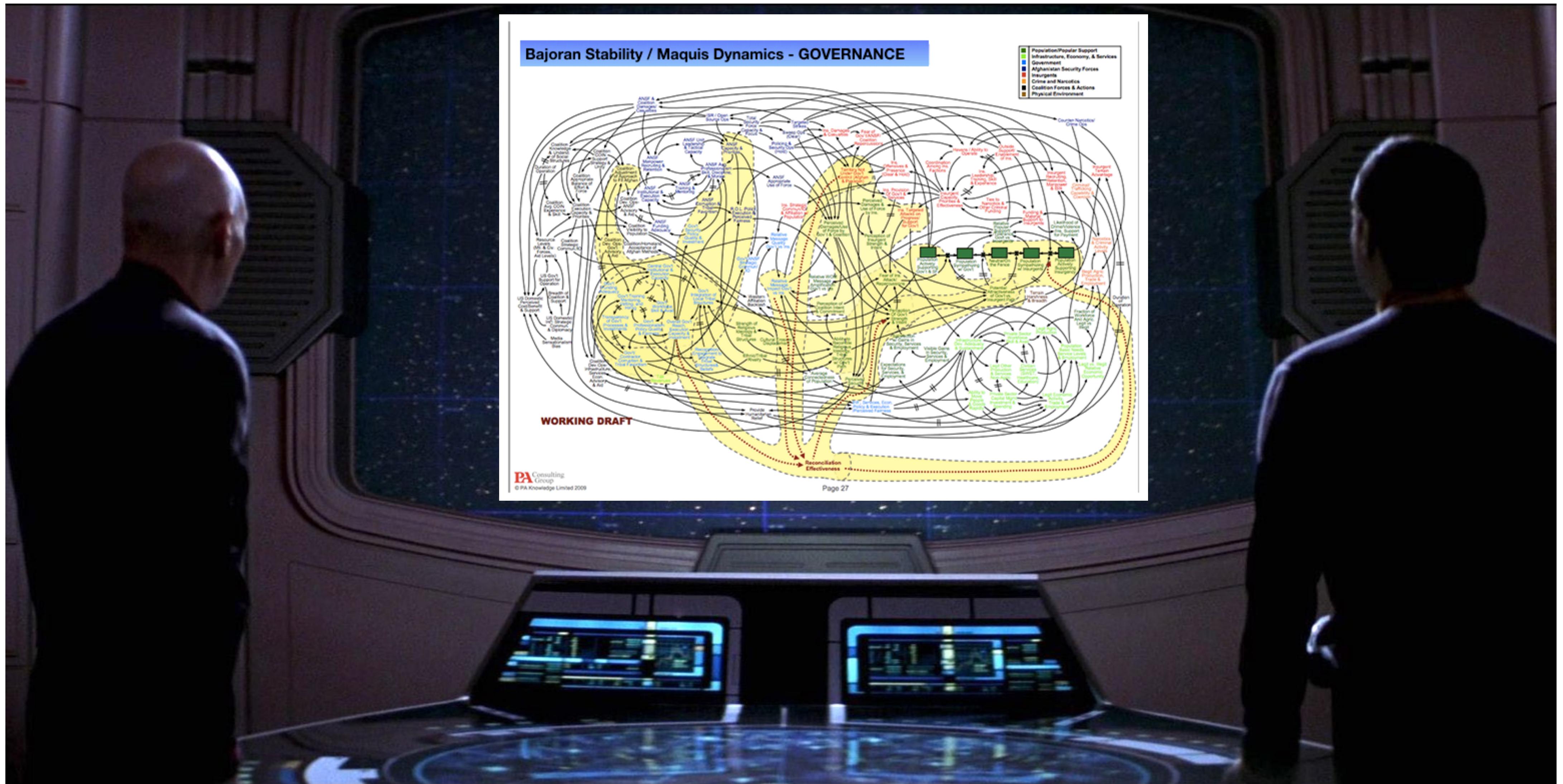
Computer, Stop.

46



20

Dan Hon / @hondanhon



Computer, Stop.

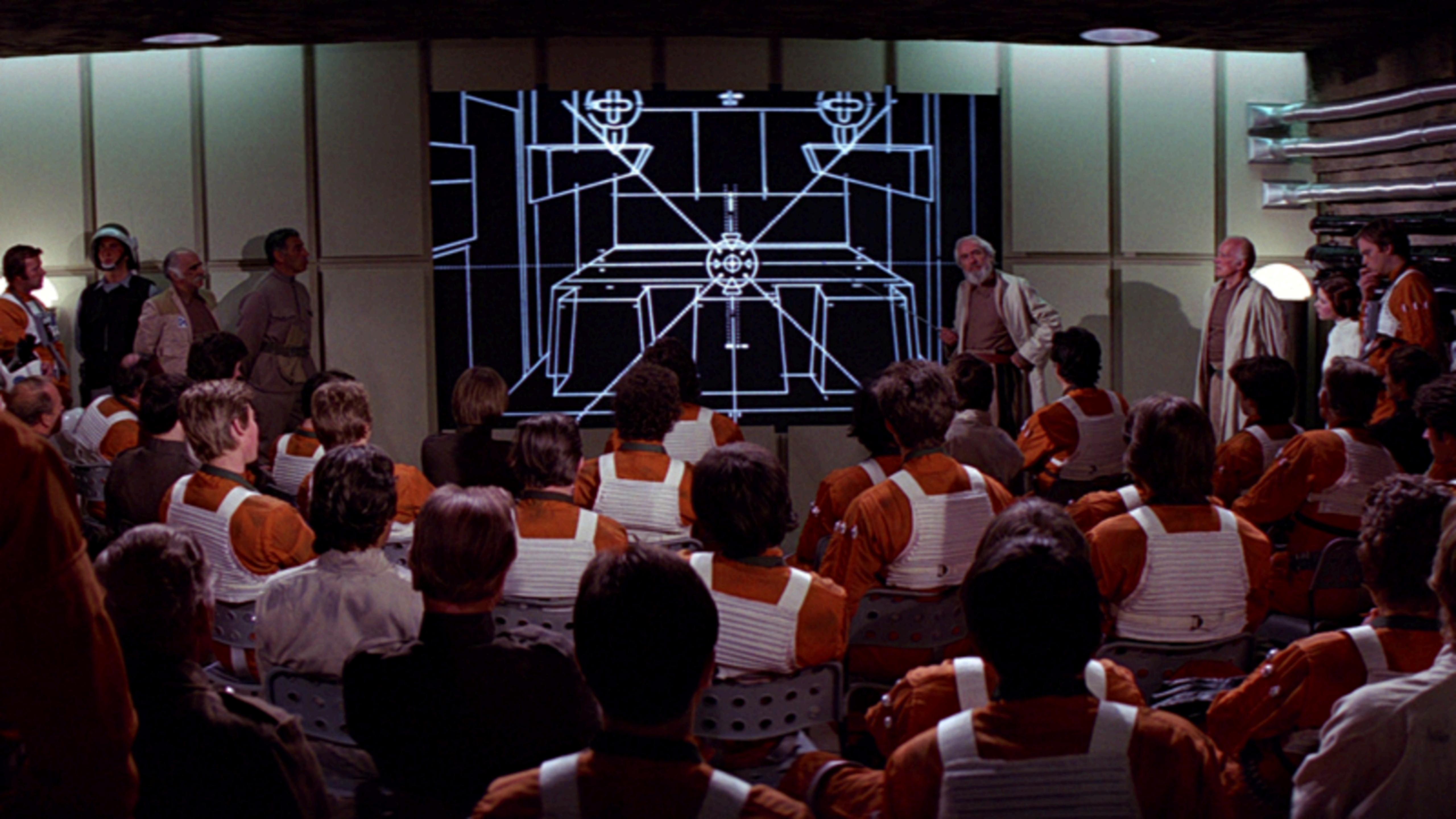
48

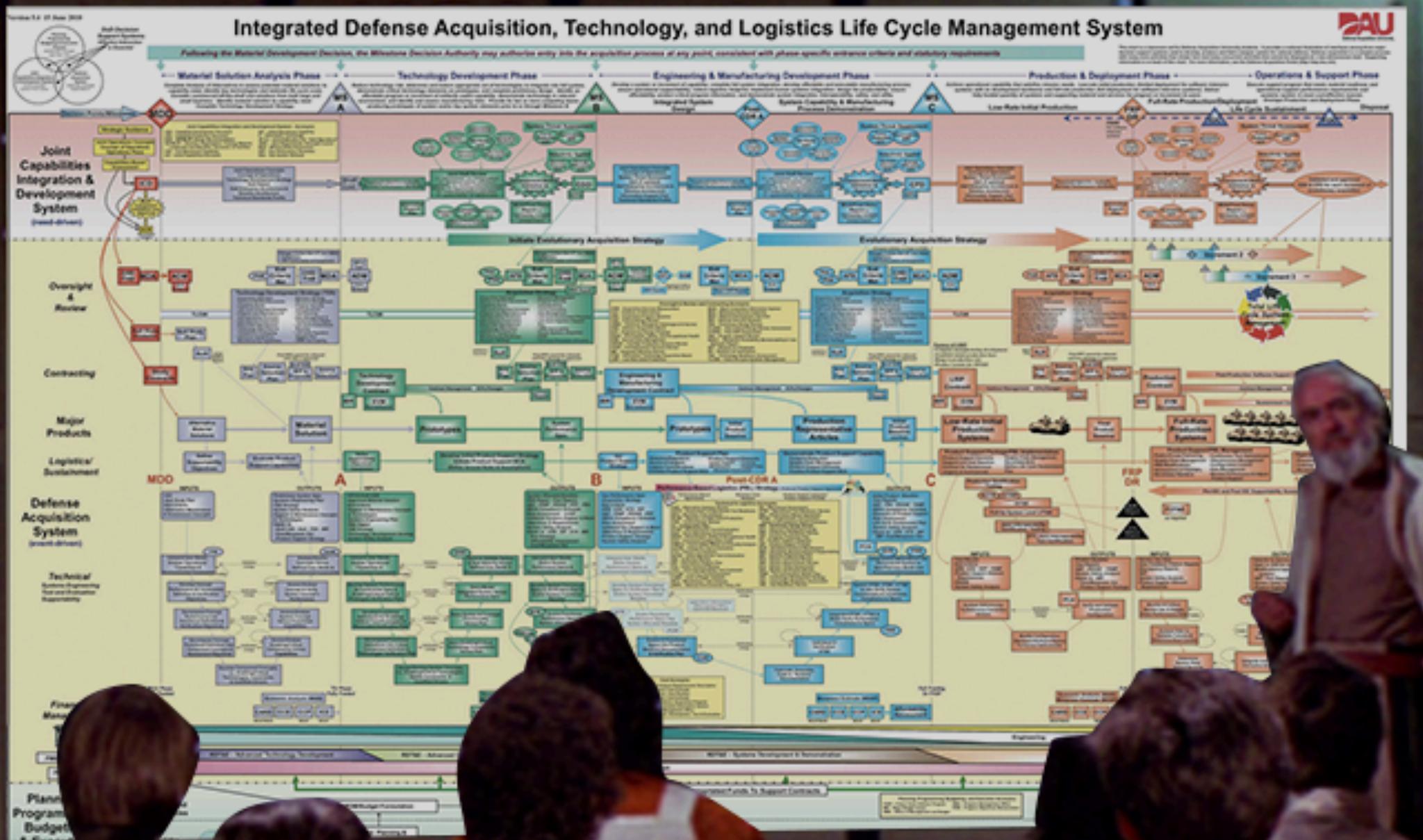


20

Dan Hon / @hondanhon







# **3/ The Case For Mundanity: Can You See It Now?**



Computer, Stop.

54



20

Dan Hon / @hondanhon

Computer, Stop.

55



20

Dan Hon / @hondanhon

Computer, Stop.

56



Computer, Stop.

57





**dan hon is at Interaction20**  
@hondanhon



**CRUSHER:** "Sir, the nebula is emitting readings we've never encountered before."

**RIKER:** "On screen, Ensign."

**CRUSHER:** \*takes screenshot of his LCARS terminal and DMs it to @bridgemainscreen\*

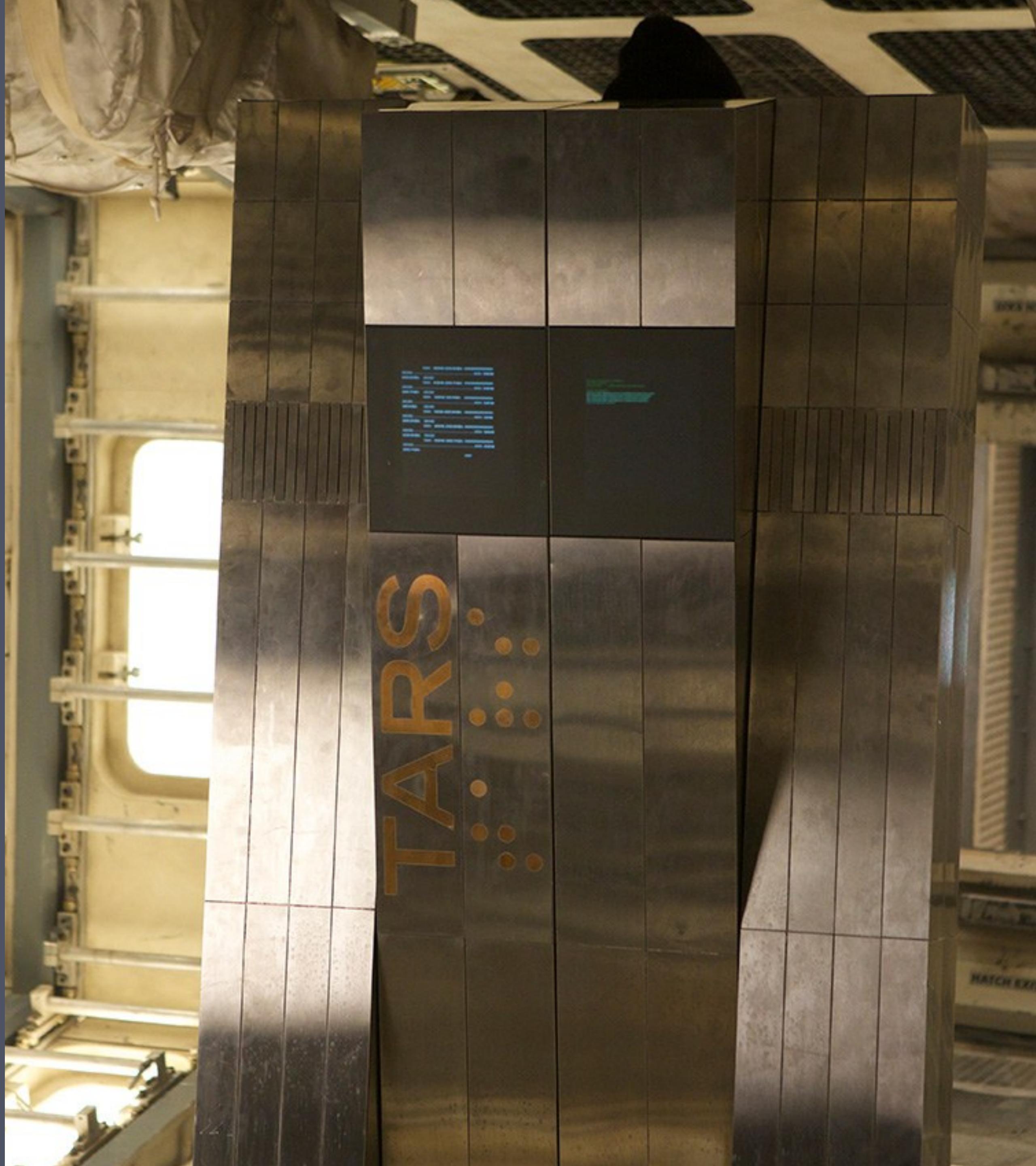
**DATA:** \*facepalm\*

7:35 PM · Jul 11, 2019 · [Twitter Web Client](#)

Computer, Stop.

## 5/ Two short examples

20



Computer, Stop.

# GERTY Moon (2009)

20





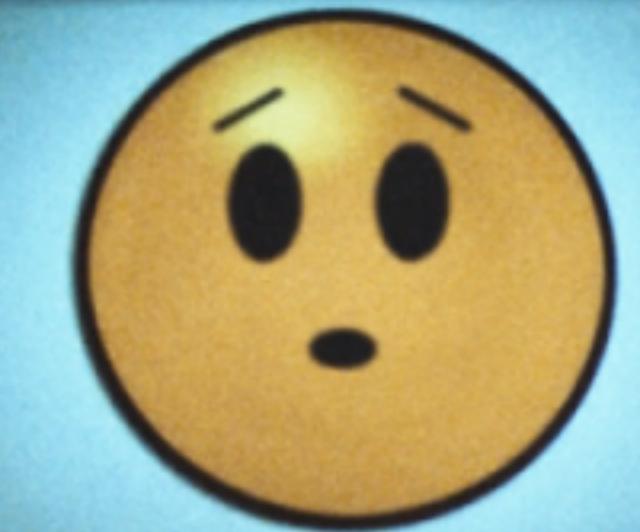
**LUNAR**  
INDUSTRIES INC.

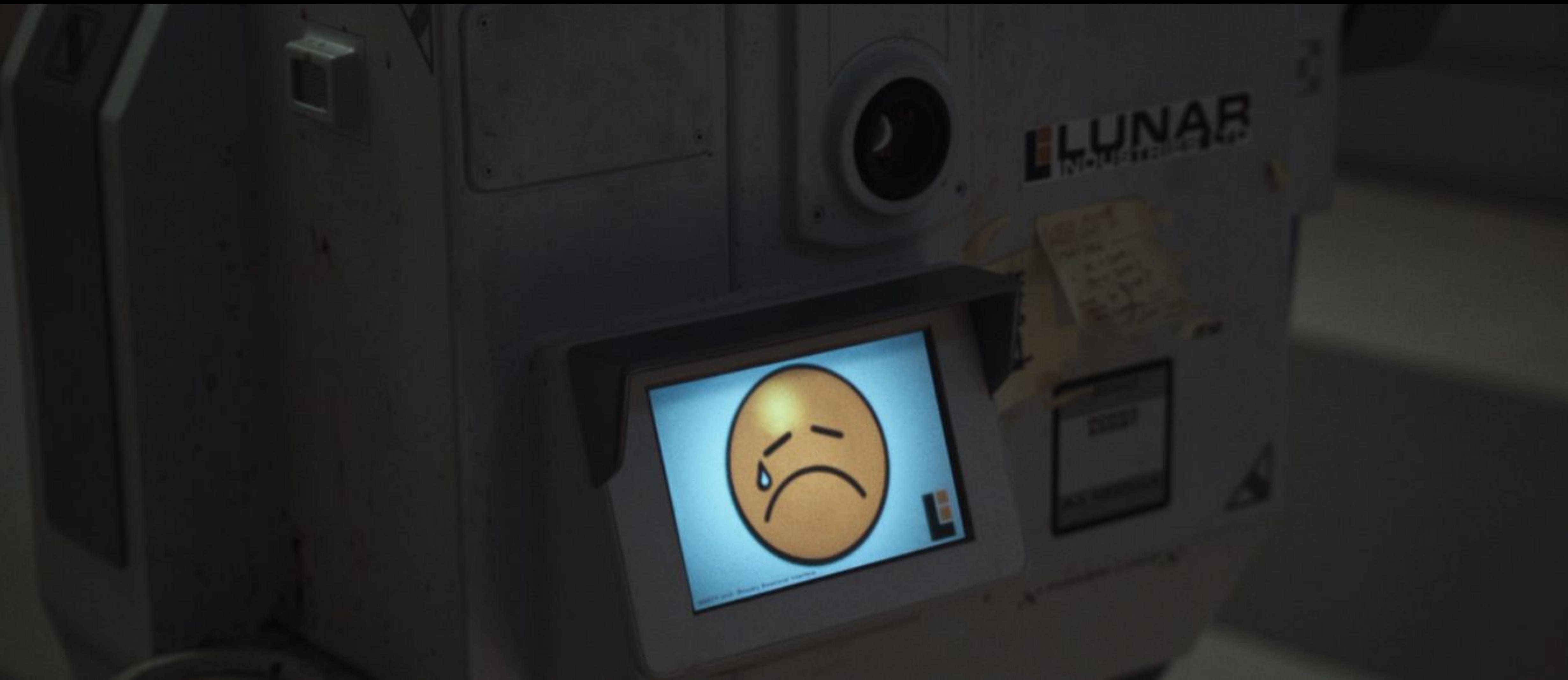
SERVICE  
ROVER 3  
BOOM

CHECK POWER  
ASIST UNIT IN  
MAIN DECK  
OK - BANK 1  
OR  
POWER 2  
POWER 3  
TOWER 1  
TOWER 2  
TOWER 3  
SOLAR PANELS

300HZ  
POWER ASSIST  
A.I. MODULE

POWER LOCK

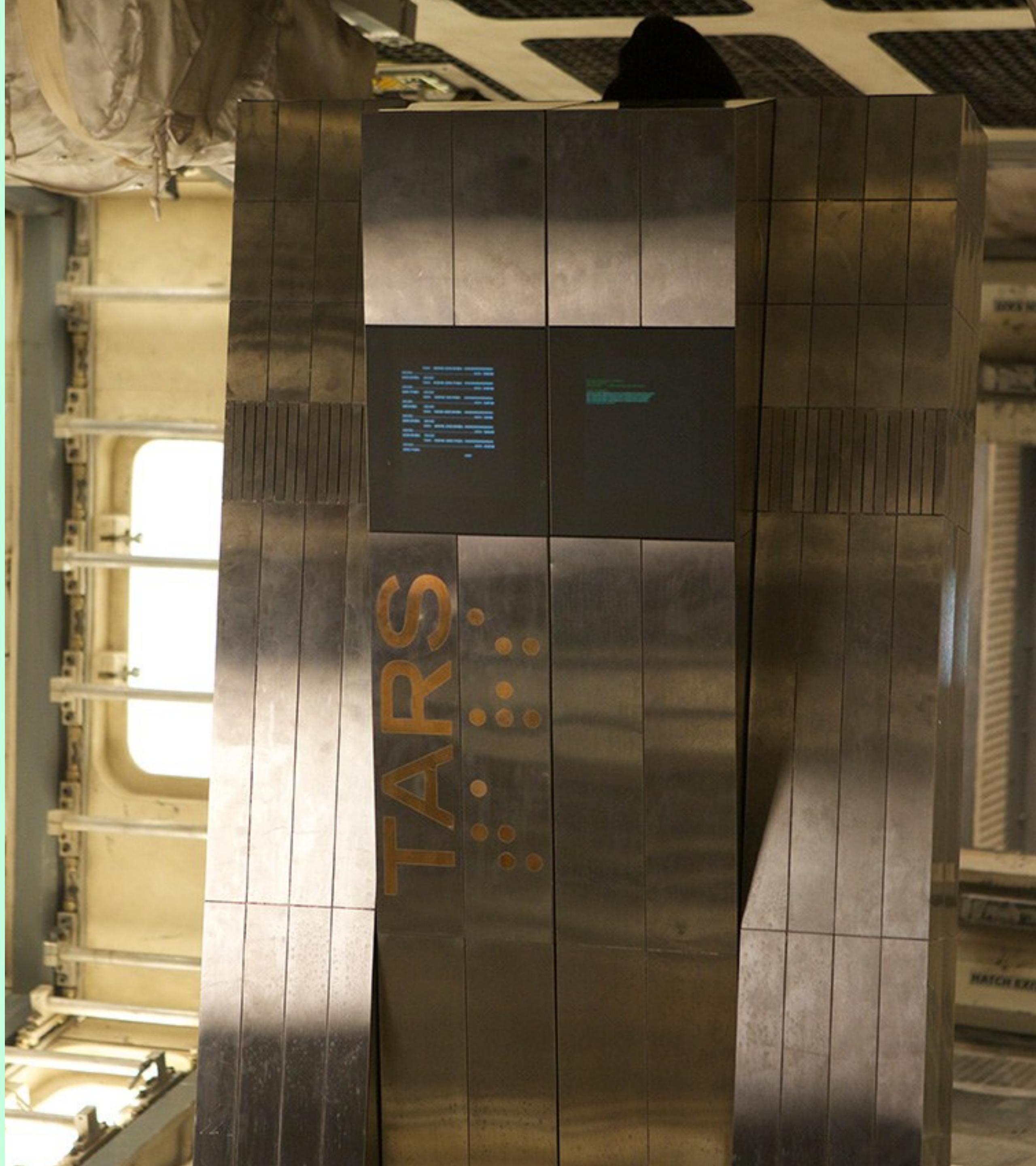




Computer, Stop.

# TARS and CASE Interstellar (2014)

20



Computer, Stop.

# Baxter (2011)



Computer, Stop.

# Star Trek communicator badge (1987)

20



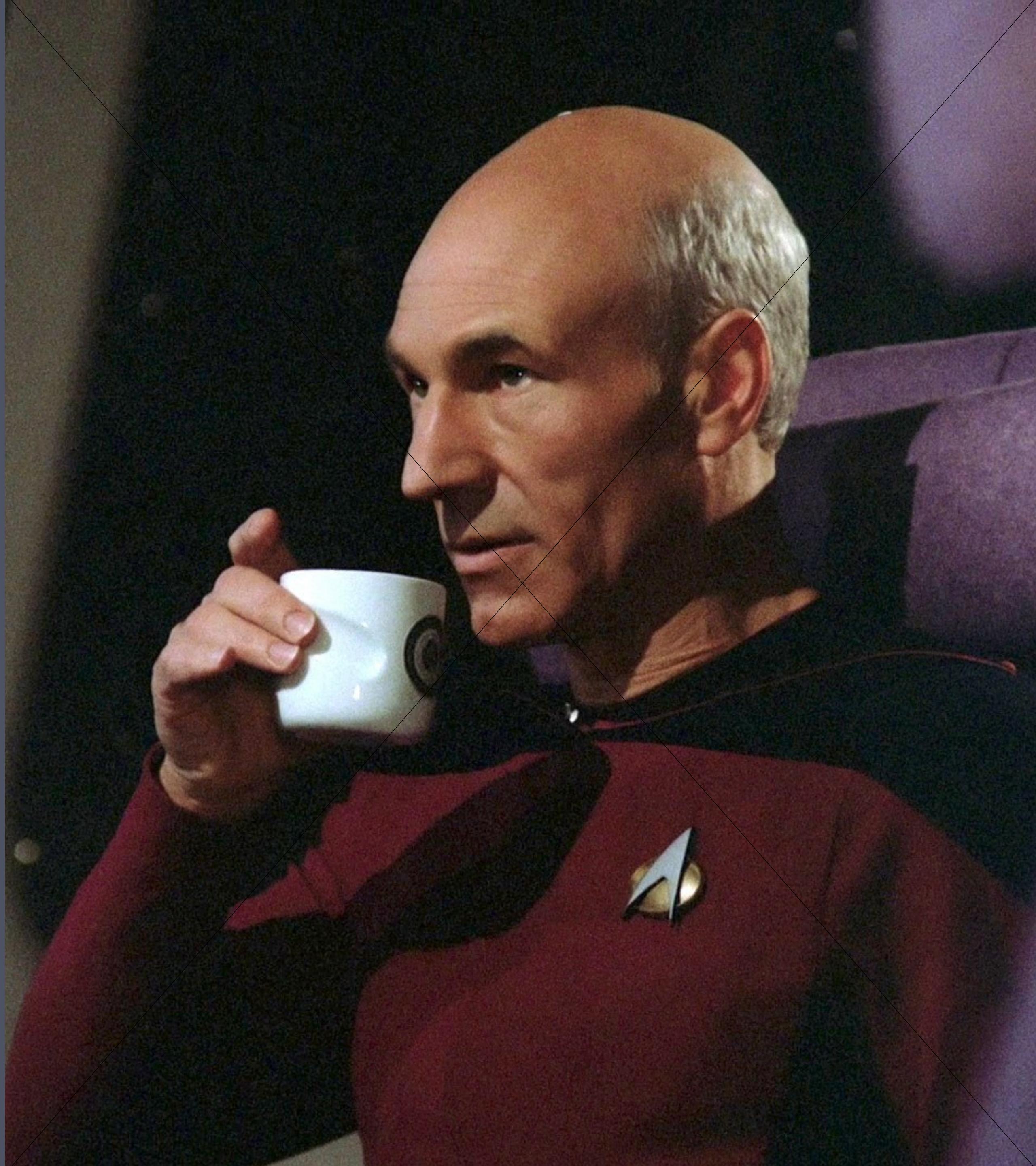
Computer, Stop.

# Withings Activité



Computer, Stop.

# 6/ Wrapping up



# **1/ Inspiration from science fiction is rooted in storytelling**

## **2/ These storytelling artifacts have specific goals**

# **3/ Interrogate by creating actual artifacts, not by telling stories**

**3/ Interrogate by creating  
actual artifacts, not by  
telling stories**

**... and by being bloody-  
mindedly stupid.**

Dan Hon  
[danhon.substack.com](https://danhon.substack.com)  
@hondanhon

Thank you.