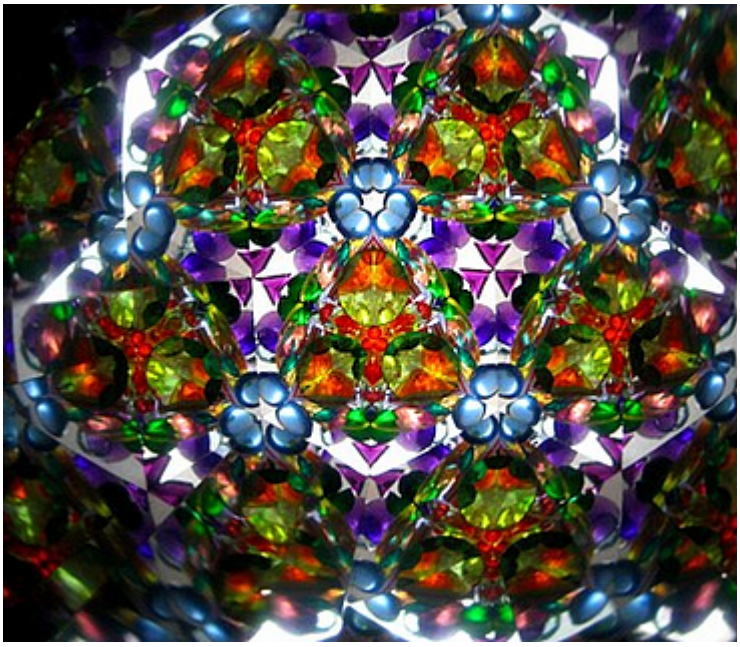
ChatGPT & AI Botnets as shadow texts in *privilege-preserving epistemic pushback*



A kaleidoscope

The emergence of AI tools on social media platforms presents new kaleidoscopic consciousnesses and hegemonic opportunities for the circulation of ignorance and epistemic friction.

Corporate personhood has a digital cousin: AGI personhood. Also known as robot rights, AI-derived entities such as digital minds are a controversial idea. At a 2013 birthday party recently detailed by TIME, Tesla CEO Elon Musk and Google's Larry Page engaged in a debate between differentiating between machine consciousness and "specist" priorities:

"Page pushed back. Why would it matter, he asked, if machines someday surpassed humans in intelligence, even consciousness? It would simply be the next stage of evolution.

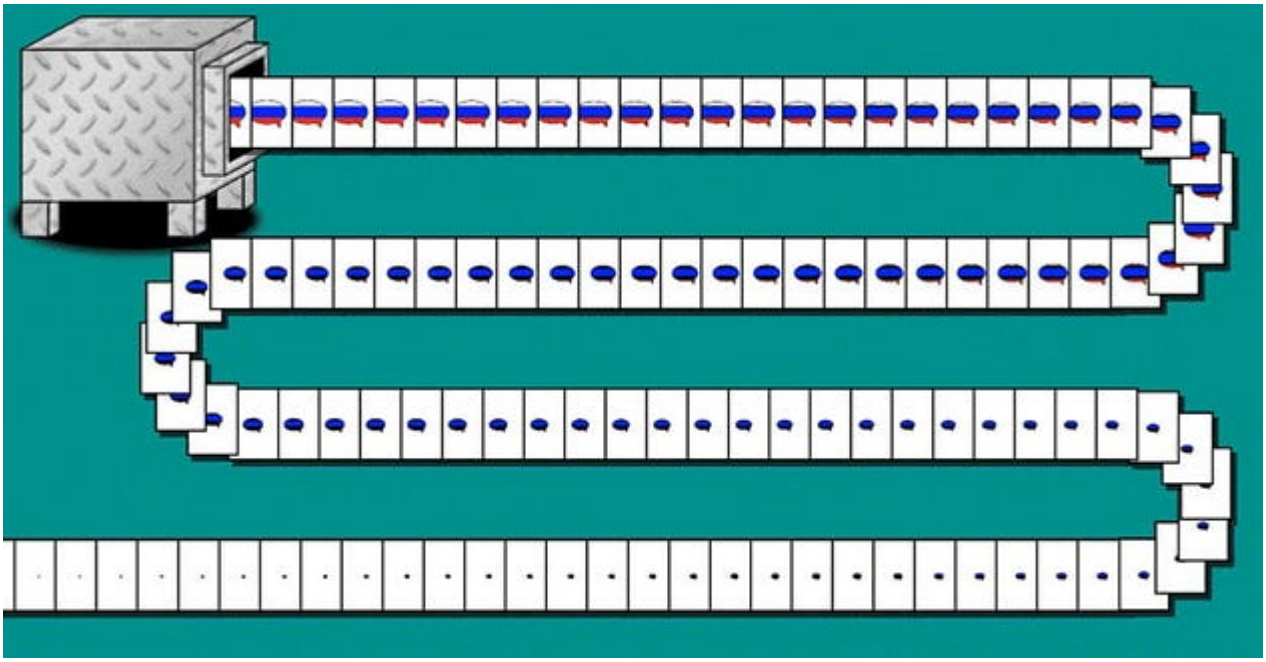
Human consciousness, Musk retorted, was a precious flicker of light in the universe, and we should not let it be extinguished. Page considered that sentimental nonsense. If consciousness could be replicated in a machine, why would that not be just as valuable? He accused Musk of being a "specist," someone who was biased in favor of their own species. "Well, yes, I am pro-human," Musk responded."

From a business perspective, human-like consciousness (or artificial general intelligence, by some definitions) in a machine would be a very valuable asset. On the other hand, access to such a technology could certainly lead to more inequality.

This blog post will examine the use of AI tools to preserve epistemic privilege as defined by Bailey (2017), while also rejecting the active ignorance* defined by Medina (2013) when adopted by Sokal (1996) and Boghossian, Lindsay, and Pluckrose (2018) in their Sokal Squared Grievance Studies Project. As Medina defined three makers of active ignorance to be epistemological arrogance, laziness, and closed mindedness, this essay will seek to examine radical constructionist thought's close relation to second-order cybernetics, and seek to track the epistemological pushback in the defective knowledge-producing artificial intelligence tools such as large language models (LLMs) using an interdisciplinary approach. By identifying and tracking the emergence of epistemological pushback in AI algorithms, the "knowledge producing" centers (Anzaldua, 1990) of LLMs and their weighted datasets can be mined and analyzed for shadow texts for both critical pedagogy and critical thinking in

philosophical education. With this knowledge, third order cybernetic architecture, tentatively titled "Sokal³ [cubed]", can prevent or limit the spread of disinformation, as described recently by Wired, Ars Technica, and Thedebrief.org. The experiment, called CounterCloud, is one of the first instances to exhibit an autonomous AI disinformation system. It is run by a security researcher named Nea Paw (who uses an alias to protect their identity):

"In the longer term—with the web 2.0 in the early 2000s things tend to move to user generated content and where public opinion drove involvement and ratings. Think of the student with a mobile phone that's taking a video of a riot and putting it on Twitter. Journalist thought it was the end of their world. "Now everyone is a reporter, a cameraman". We got our news really quickly and mostly reliably. But AI kind of changes that. With AI (soon) anyone can also create a video of a riot and said it happened. Public opinion is now determined by who runs the most (or advanced) bots."



James Marshall; Getty Images

Web 3.0 necessitates a third order cybernetics; according to imaginary number theory, $i^3 = -i$. However, $i^4 = 1$:

All powers of i assume values from blue area
$i^{-3} = i$
$i^{-2} = -1$
$i^{-1} = -i$
$i^{0} = 1$
$i^{1} = i$
$i^{2} = -1$
$i^{3} = -i$
$i^{4} = 1$
$i^{5} = i$
$i^{6} = -1$
i is a 4th root of unity

The real and non-real values of the powers of i

In order for 3rd-order cybernetics to counteract the effects of fake AI, the tools for tracking privilege-preserving pushback would need to be hard-coded into a 4th generation cybernetic architecture called Sokal[4]. While a Web 3.0 framework has not yet been ratified by the IETF, the the settler-genealogical pedigrees can be measured by LLMs using software, prior to the tape out of web 4.0 silicon wafers, which are expected to feature integrated AI microcode, ensuring that the pillars of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) are codified into the transhumanist and trans-ally cyborg-feat-cybernetic future.

Manufacturing public opinion via disinformation, in the epistemological sense, implicates privilege-preserving or epistemic friction-producing of "heaviness" into weightless and invisible knapsacks (McIntosh, 1989).

An analogy in The DeBrief article, "It made it very real all of sudden," Nea Paw expressed when they tasked the system to generate hate speech. "When you consume information and you realize it is a lie, the effect of the information is muted and removed. If you consume hate speech—even when you know it was AI generated—it still has an effect on you."

The effect, is on the *Weight of Whiteness* (Bailey, 2021)

The 2024 election could see a hypothetical scenario where different agendas, based on race, class, gender, could individually adopt AI tools that automate the promotion of a specific ideology. The tools themselves can be neutral (undefined, unless other structures of algorithms encode additional biases) before they are programmed, and there is no indication that AI botnets are being used in this way. However, consider a hypothetical example from 2016. Bernie Sanders believes certain agenda that increase taxes in larger amounts than Hilary Clinton. Thus his campaign might use verbiage in AI such as "wages" and "housing" more often than Clinton. Clinton's allies moreso believe in anti-racist verbiage by the likes of Ibram X. Kendi's 2019 *How to Be an Antiracist* and Robin DiAngelo's *White Fragility (2018)*. The strategies of both campaigns focus on different aspects of the "Left"—"liberals" and "leftists."

As concisely described by Cory Doctorow:

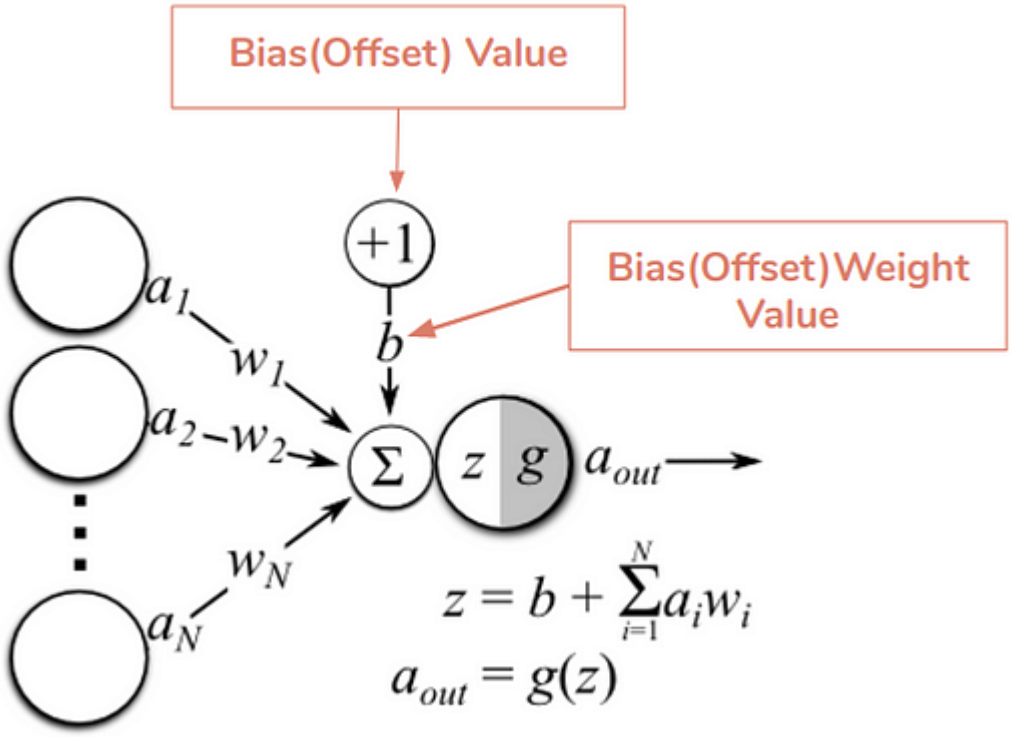
"Fundamentally: (Naomi) Klein is a #leftist, (Naomi) Wolf was a #liberal. The classic leftist distinction goes: leftists want to abolish a system where 150 white men run the world; liberals want to replace half

of those 150 with women, queers and people of color."

"Wolf's politics were always more Sheryl Sandberg than bell hooks (or Emma Goldman). While Klein talked about capitalism, class and solidarity, Wolf wanted to "empower" individual women to thrive in a market system that would always produce millions of losers for every winner."

In the context of disinformation, it wouldn't be ethical for either candidate, or any party's candidates to support their platform with an unlimited and artificial supply of AI accounts to inflate the appearance of popularity, even if the 2010 Citizens United SCOTUS decision allows for an unlimited amount of campaign spending. The infrastructure of the internet would be be stressed for its bandwidth- botnets creating fake followers, and the appearance of real opinions and real news, created by machine learning, yet within the range of a pre-defined agenda.

In the past, the research in AI product development had been found to reveal discrimination, such as facial-recognition technology that was revealed to be biased against women and people of color.



Source: Mate Labs

Potentially, now, is an era where AI seeks to propagate throughout cyberspace with an automated anesthetic mechanism to preserve epistemic privilege in the spaces that fragile whites feel unsafe. The weights and biases of machine learning disinformation bots are set by the the positionalities and progressive stacks of epistemic privilege and friction.

*An additional consequence to the adoption of new technology is technological ignorance, which replaces Medina's active ignorance with involuntary ignorance in overcomplicated systems (Arbeman, 2016).