

* * * READ ME FIRST * * *

Welcome to the second package of goodies for your Protocol Kit!

The broad themes of this collection of kit inserts are memory and time, which are arguably central concerns in the study of protocols. Throughout the program, many of us found ourselves circling these themes repeatedly and were left convinced that to study protocols is to study memory and time.

Anchoring this exploration, we have Kei Kreutler's essay, *Memory as Orientation*, and Chenoë Hart's study of spatial addressing schemes, *Addressable Space*. The other essays, artifacts, and fictions explore the many subtleties of the core themes and offer ways to develop your intuitions around them.

For those of you who are involved in the analysis or design of protocols, we think asking questions about time and memory should be the first order of business. Here are some to get you started.

What is the **information structure** of your protocol?
Who knows what, when? Who forgets what, and when?

What is the **temporality** associated with your protocol?
How does it change in time? How does it **embody** time?

What are the **spatialities** and **materialities** associated with memory and temporality in your protocol?
What atoms embody time and memory?
Where in space are those atoms located, and how are they arranged and governed?

Building on these questions, we can ask more subtle ones. Josh Stark's essay, *Atoms, Institutions and Blockchains*, suggests a particularly important one:

Where is the **hardness** in your protocol, from which it derives its certainties and constants? What is the source of this hardness? What does it cost? Who pays the costs?

This package also includes a bit of institutional memory-making of our own: the archival form of the pilot study that kicked off this program, *The Unreasonable Sufficiency of Protocols*.

We leave you with an overall prompt:

Pick a protocol in which you are personally invested. On the blank back of this letter, make a little mind map exploring its memory and temporality aspects, using the contents of this mailer for inspiration.