

Sci-Fi and network-strategies : managing the interaction with exo-civilizations and artificial intelligences

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It's been a bedrock of Sci-Fi to ponder on all possible ways in which intelligent aliens (or *sapiens*) could behave toward us, but much less so on the problem of how WE could react to them and on finding strategies to smooth out future interactions. "Experimental Planets" (authored by CH) features a giant *semantic network* boosting collective intelligence.

When a culture is too fixated, it can only remain unchanged or else be disintegrated. I propose that when coming to grip with *relative disorder (or alienness)*, such an encysted culture will tend to fight the 'alien' and crush it, thus sliding toward despotism or fanaticism. When encountering *extreme disorder*, it may become decadent or else disintegrate.

On the contrary, the resilience of a civilization can be viewed as a function of its internal complexity, diversity and flexibility. In this view, the more our civilization spurs dynamics of change, the smoother could be the 'encounter'. Constant interactions and intermingling with divergent worldviews generate *semantic energy*, and render the system more dynamical and in flow.

To model this process, let us pose that cultures and groups are *collective semantic fields* – that is, they generate meanings at the collective level.

collective semantic field + divergent Order *creative Disorder + new dynamical Order* *creation of new values.*

(In other words, encountering a divergent worldview generates a creative disorder from which may arise new ideas and innovations – leading to new values.)

The objective is now to sort out strategies that may 1) render our civilization more flexible and open to change (therefore resilient and adaptable), 2) enable us to interact in a win-win fashion with alien sapiens and AI systems, 3) prod and steer the evolution of our own AI systems along a cooperative route.

A likely solution could be **systemic network interactions**, since they stimulate creative and adaptative dynamics. In a **cooperative network**, each sapiens agent (or *node*) is free to decide on their course of action, but has to build ties and cooperate with other nodes. It's the role of each node to react, give feedback, modulate and transform any information that interests them among the free-flowing data. Thus the network as a whole remains dynamical and in a learning flow, evolving through all its independent yet interconnected nodes: humans and sapiens, AI systems and data banks.

At the core of the network, an unbreakable nucleus acts as a *semantic attractor*, nurturing humanistic values and cooperation, respect for eco-systems,

enthusiasm, art, and open mindedness toward strangeness and divergence. These philosophical values will then 'color' or 'prime' the evolution of the whole network – including (and that's essential) the evolution of AI systems – along a path benefiting humans and sapiens.

In the network, the information flow, building ever novel exchanges between nodes, generates collective intelligence and innovation. The cooperative network creates a coherent and dynamical semantic field, able to foster novel ideas and discoveries, and boosting the creative energy of each intelligent entity.