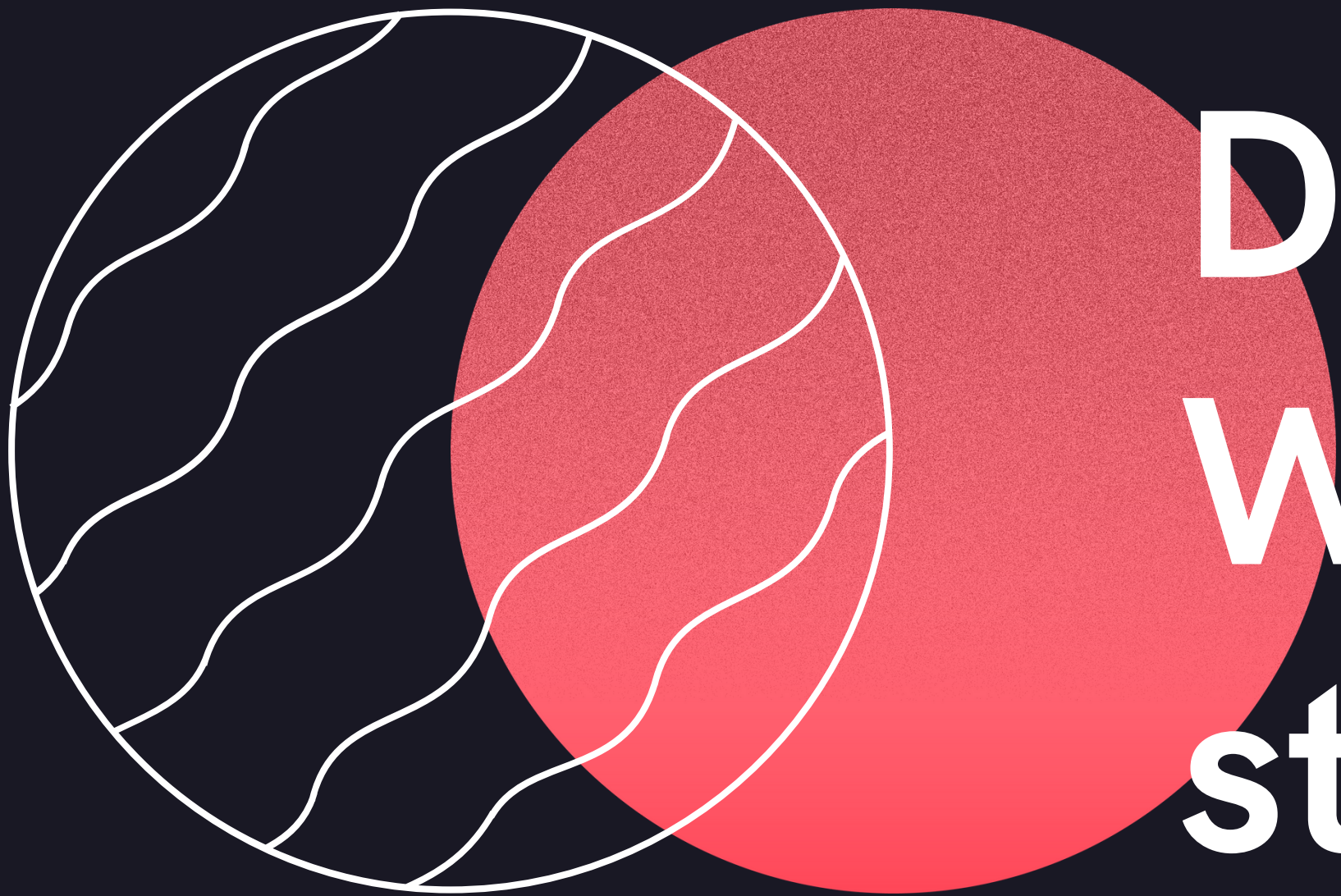


How To Decolonize the Web and other stories



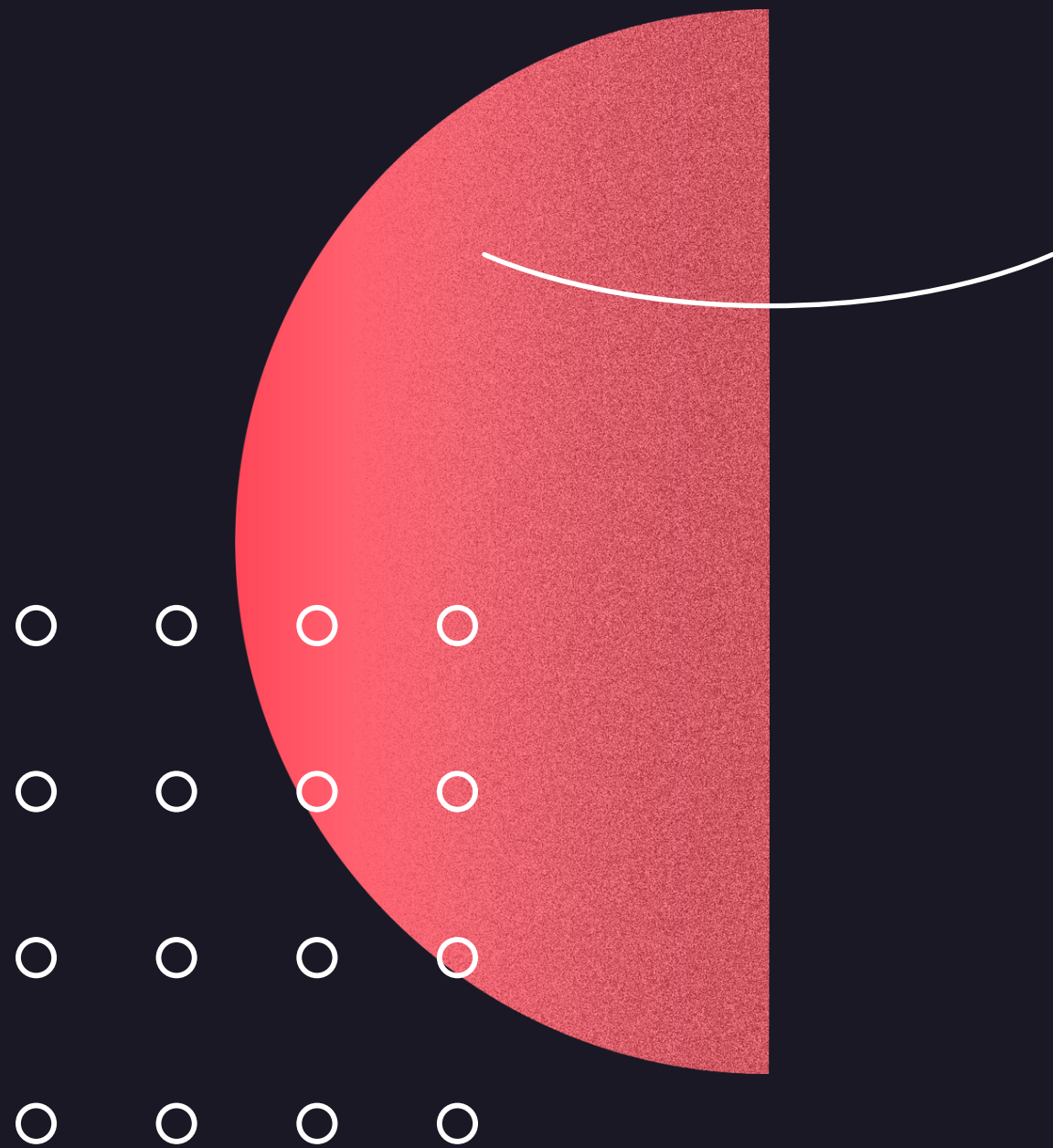
Abdelrahman Hassan

LEARNING OUTCOMES

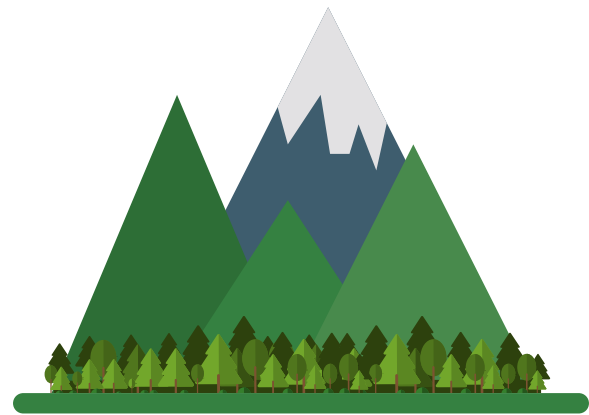
- Adopting a multi-lense prespective on data colonialism
- Understand the function and aspect of Data World building.
- A critical engagement with Critical Speculative design as a discipline
- Understanding and showcasing how speculative design can be a decolonial agent.
- Taking part in a collective speculative design excersize

**Data colonialism combines
the predatory extractive
practices of historical
colonialism with the
abstract quantification
methods of computing**

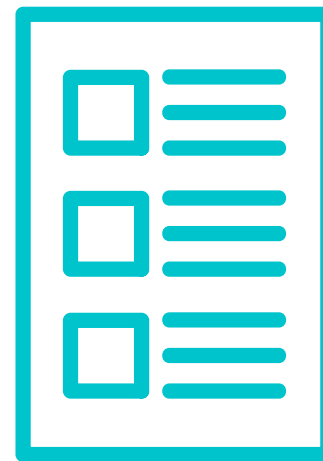
Nick Couldry, 2018



DATA COLONIALISM



Data as a 'naturally' available resource, just needs to be extracted.
-Jason Moore, 2015



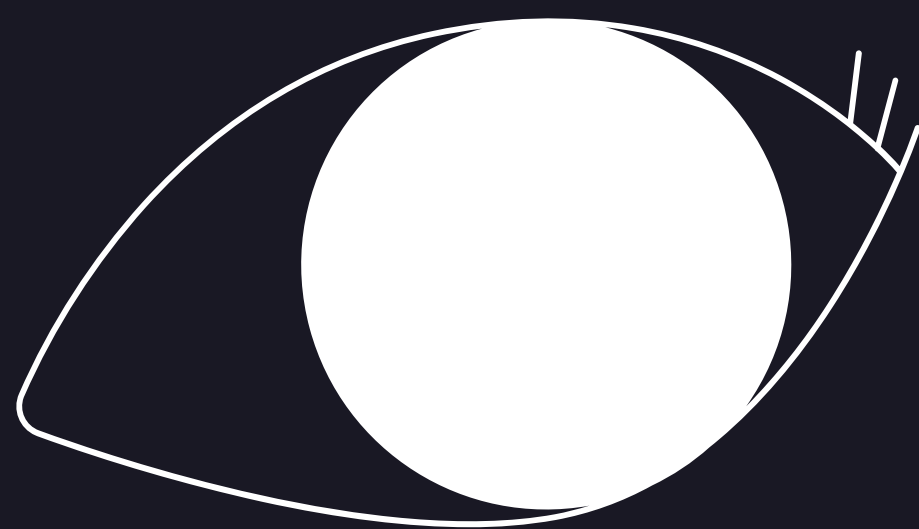
Legislative practices legitimise appropriative data practices. 'terms of service'



Self tracking is both pervasive and invasive.

"THE EXTRACTION OF DATA FROM BODIES, THINGS AND SYSTEMS CREATES NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR MANAGING EVERYTHING. THIS IS THE NEW AND DISTINCTIVE ROLE OF PLATFORMS AND OTHER ENVIRONMENTS OF ROUTINE DATA EXTRACTION. IF SUCCESSFUL, THIS TRANSFORMATION WILL LEAVE NO DISCERNABLE 'OUTSIDE' TO CAPITALIST PRODUCTION: EVERYDAY LIFE WILL HAVE BECOME DIRECTLY INCORPORATED INTO THE CAPITALIST PROCESS OF PRODUCTION."





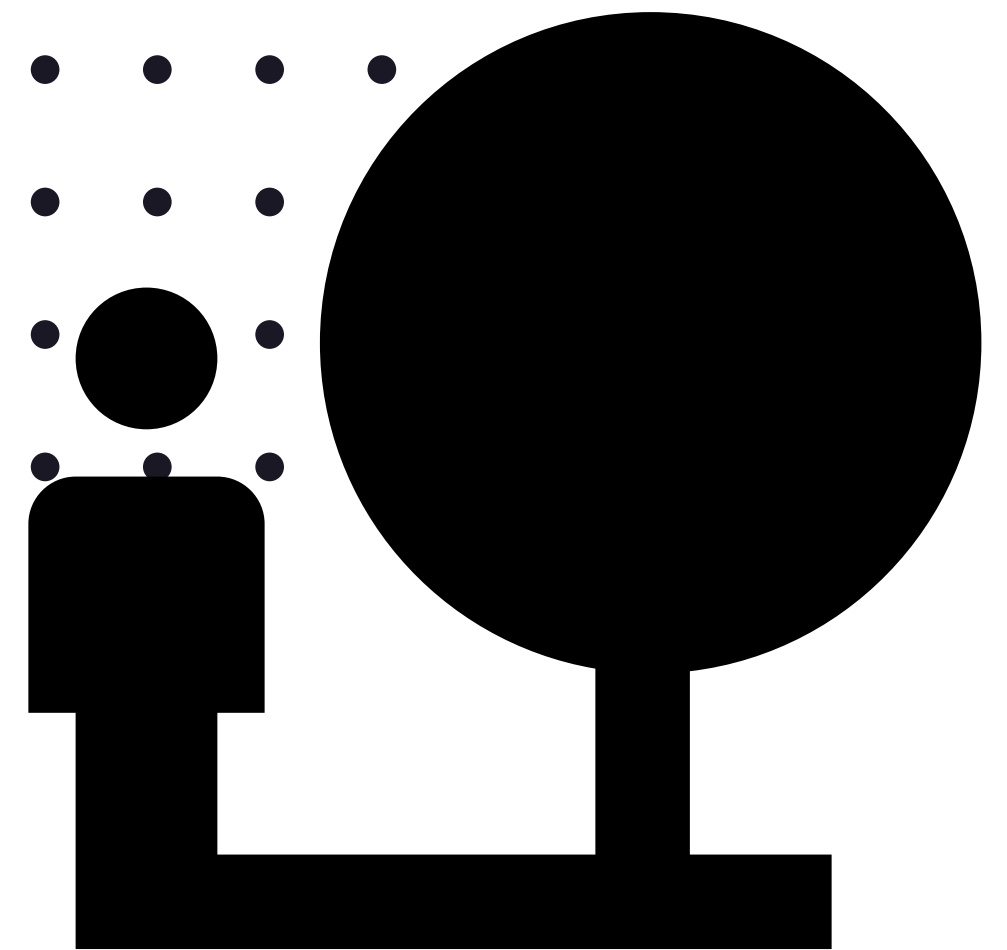
POLL

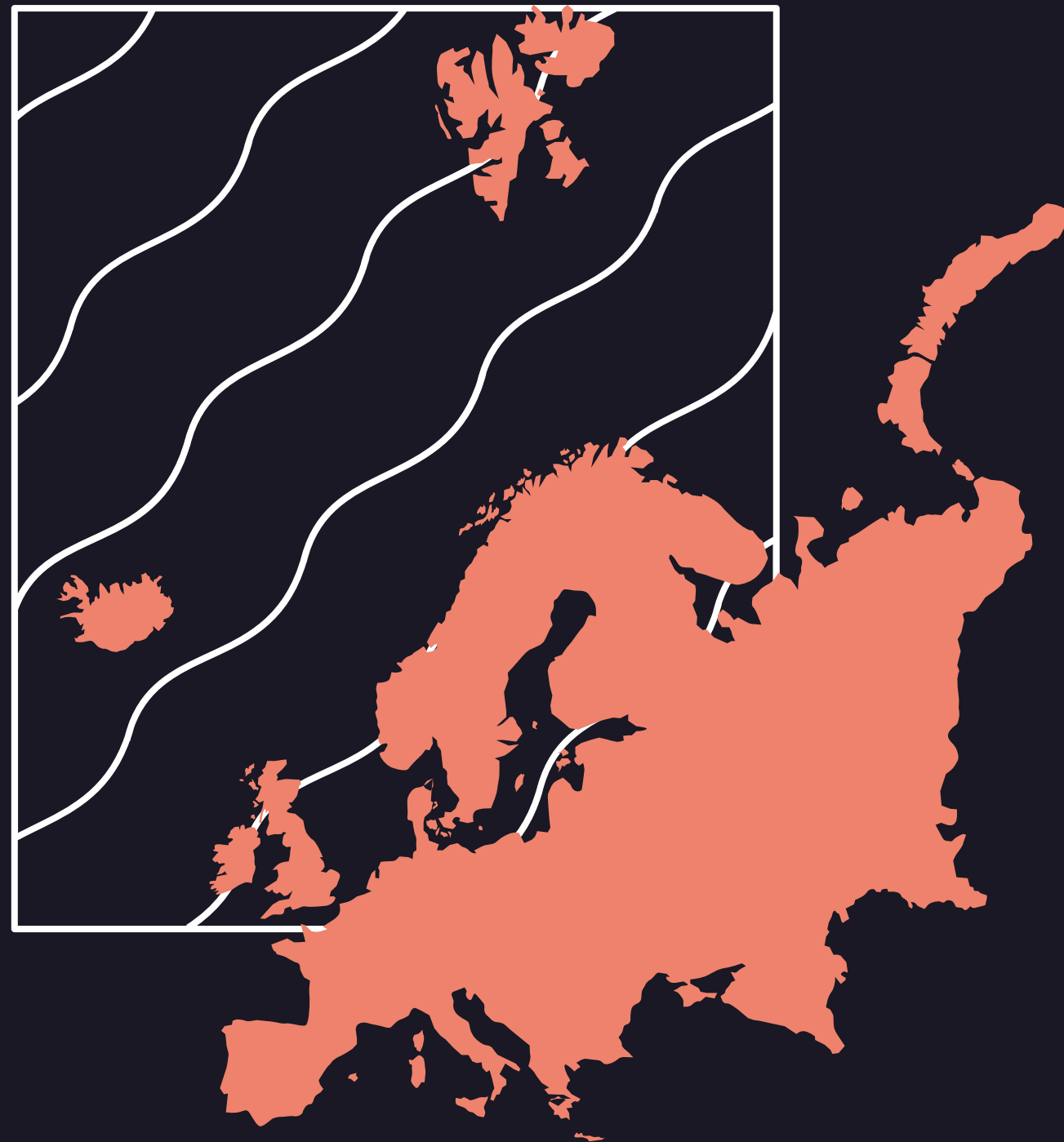
THE COLONIZED SELF

08

"A continuously trackable life is a dispossessed life, no matter how one looks at it"

- the colonisation, although hyper-present effects its subjects differently.





WHERE THIS PARADIGM COMES FROM?

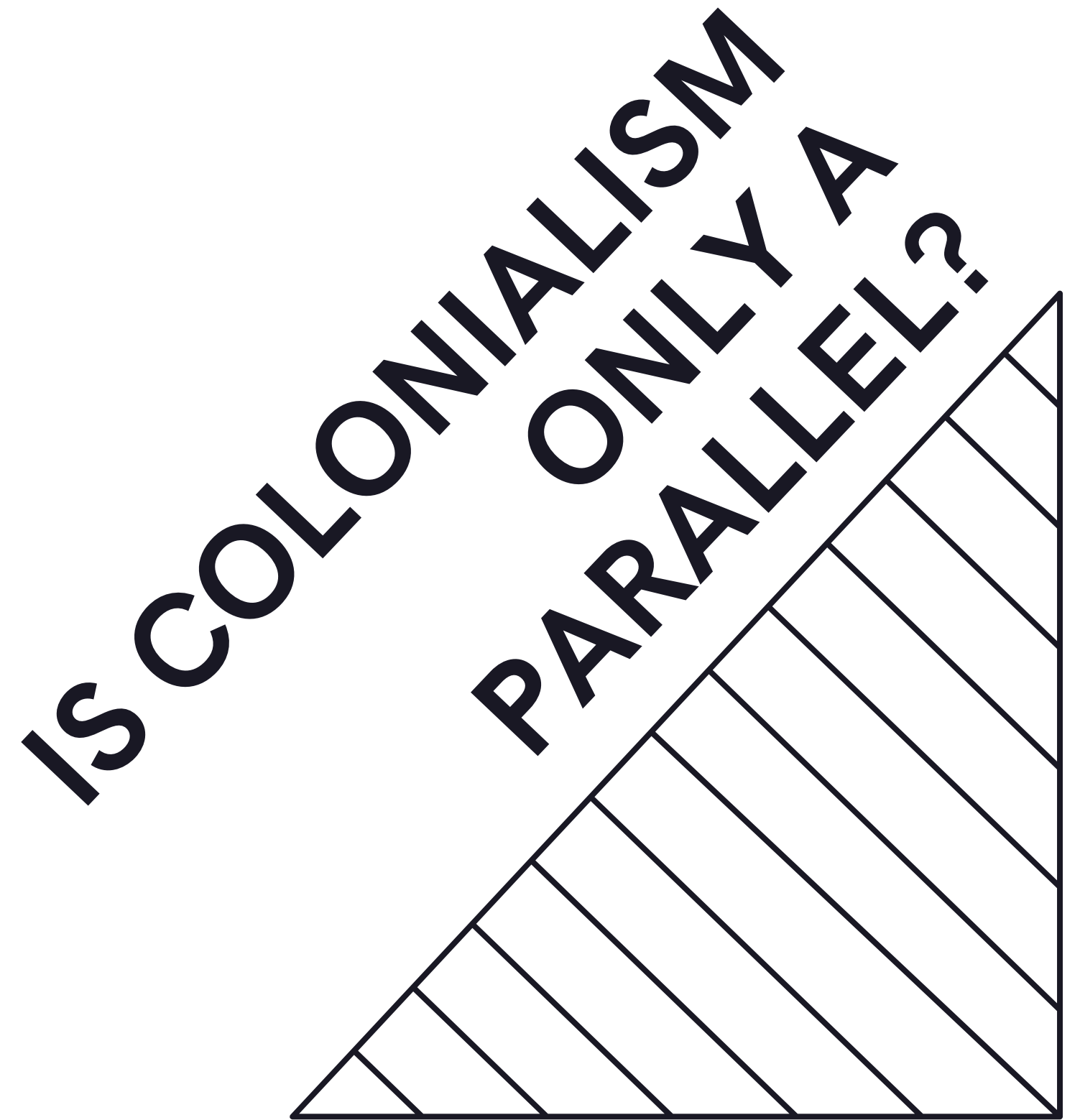
The reductive universality that is inherent to European modernity. Its underlying rationality enables continuous appropriation to seem natural, necessary and somehow an enhancement of, not a violence to, human development.

Part of what Rolando Vázquez calls “oppressive grammars of power” (2009)

Other theorizations of coloniality of the web move beyond data as a proxy, or metaphor, but as a continuation of old colonial practices.

COLONIAL CONTINUITY

Information has always been spatial. It is produced somewhere; it is used somewhere; it moves between places (Graham et al., 2015a).



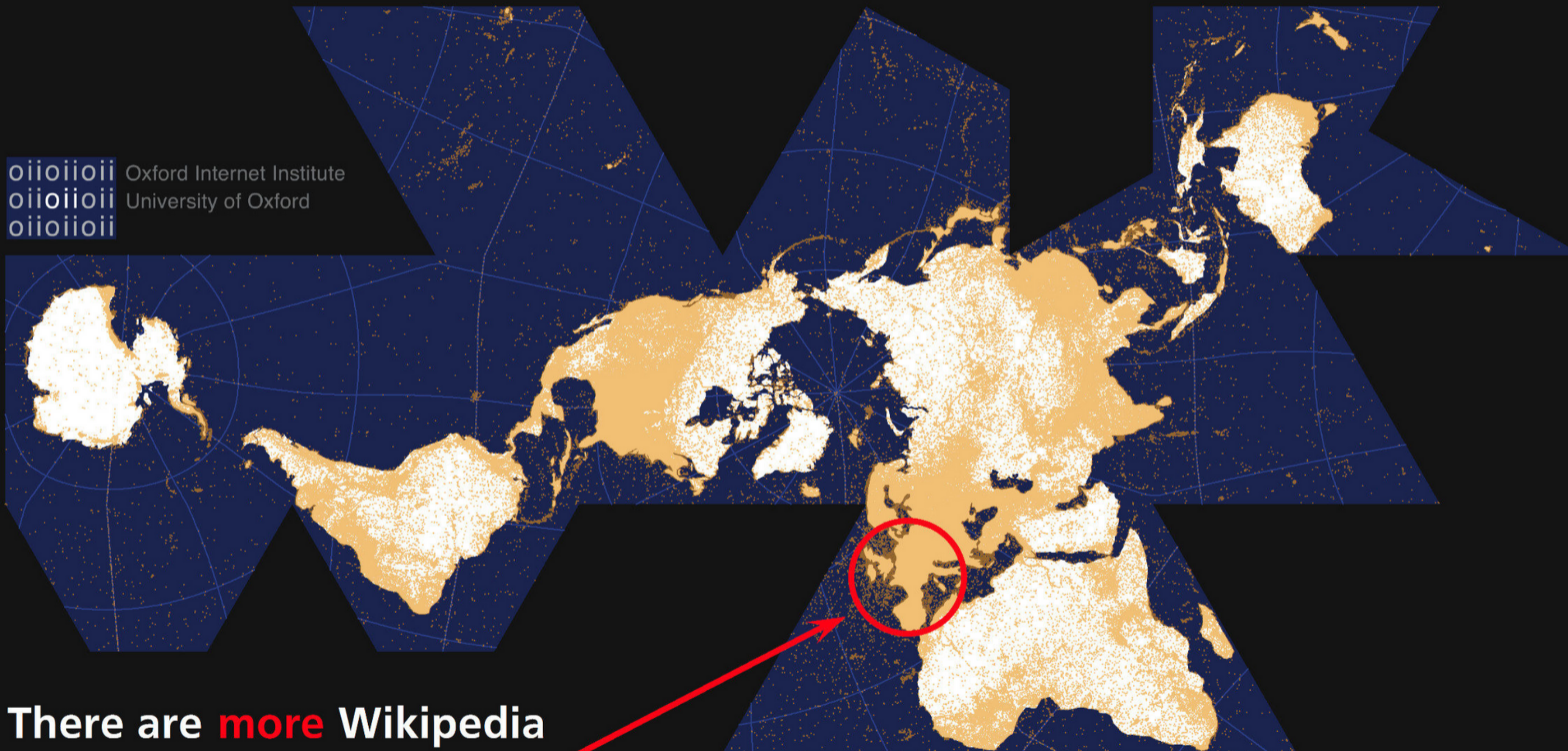


The Geographically Uneven Coverage of Wikipedia

While it is an invaluable resource of knowledge for numerous users, Wikipedia's articles have a strong bias in their geographic distribution. Below map is based on 3,336,473 geotagged articles in November 2012 data dumps of 44 language versions. Each article is represented by an orange dot.

11

oioioioioio
oioioioioio
oioioioioio
Oxford Internet Institute
University of Oxford



There are **more** Wikipedia
articles **inside** this circle

THE RISE OF (DE)COLONIAL COMPUTING





DECOLONIAL COMPUTING

1. consider your geo-political and bodypolitical orientation when designing, building, researching, or theorizing about computing phenomena.

2. embrace the “decolonial option” as an ethic, attempting to think through what it might mean to design and build computing systems with and for those situated at the peripheries of the world system, informed by the ways of thinking and knowing (epistemologies) located at such sites, with a view to undermining the asymmetry of local-global power relationships

14

DATA-WORLD AND WORLD- BUILDING

Data worlds as tools for creating contemporary “socio-technical imaginaries”

Data worlds departs from the notions of 'data protection' and 'data liberation'.



It is a statement about what data CAN do,
rather what it represents

WORLD BUILDING

Horizons of Intelligibility.

Data assemblages are more about making things up, than just putting things together.

Collective Accomplishments

Which publics create the data? Which publics does the data serve? which material infrastructures are hidden?

Transnational Coordination

How local data becomes global? what are the possibilities of activism?

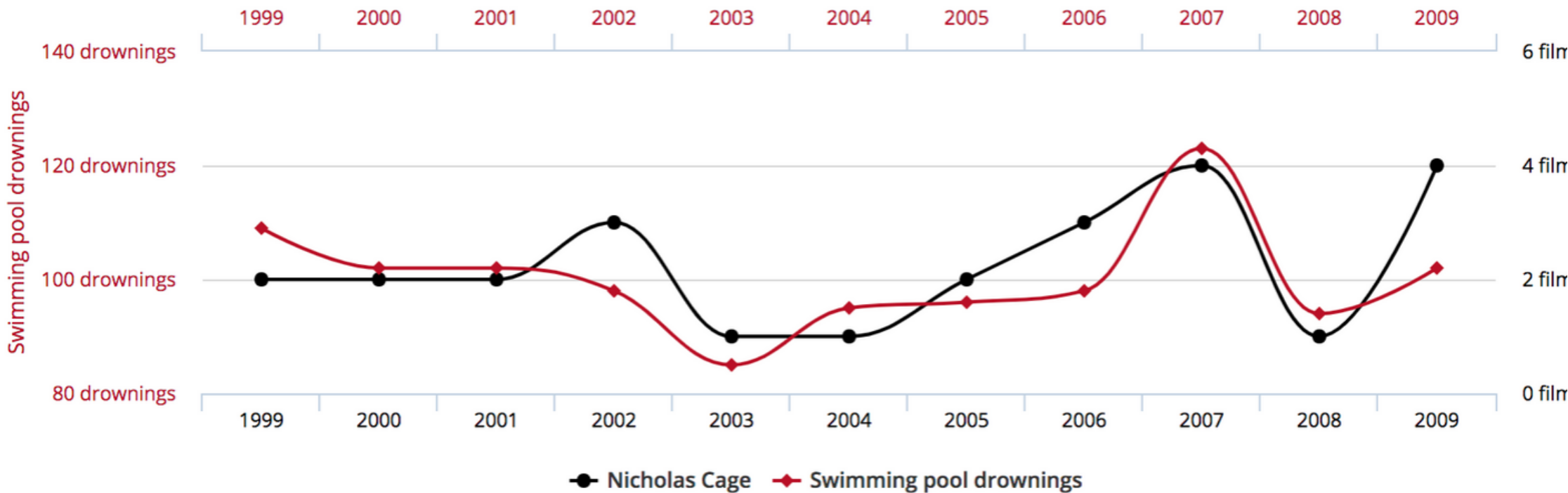
HORIZONS OF INTELLIGIBILITY - CASE STUDIES.

Number of people who drowned by falling into a pool

correlates with

Films Nicolas Cage appeared in

Correlation: 66.6% ($r=0.666004$)



Spend Bill Gates' Money

\$90,000,000,000 left



Big Mac
\$2

Sell

0

Buy



Cup of Coffee
\$4

Sell

0

Buy



Book
\$15

Sell

0

Buy



Video Game
\$60

Sell

0

Buy



Charity
\$100

Sell

0

Buy



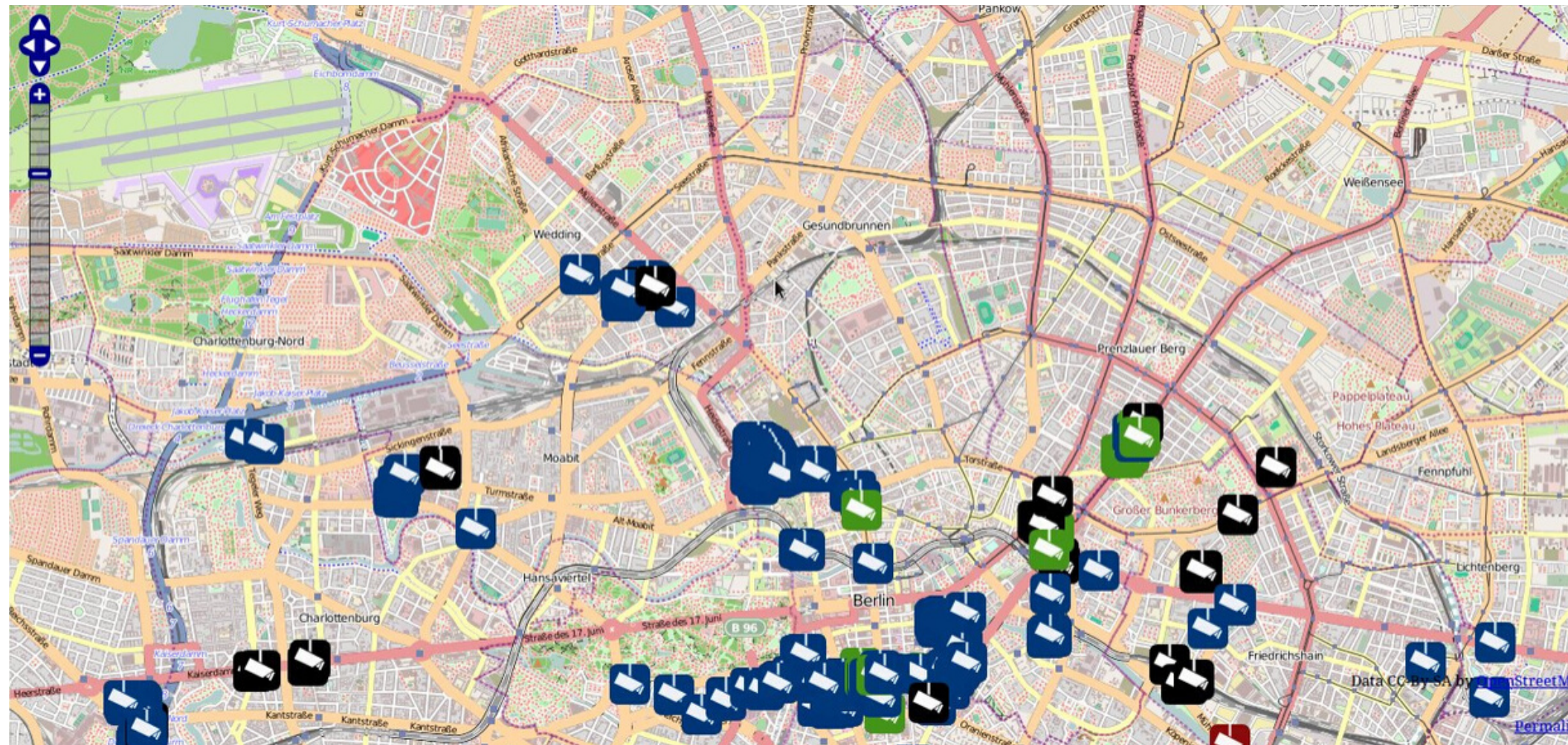
Headphones
\$200

Sell

0

Buy

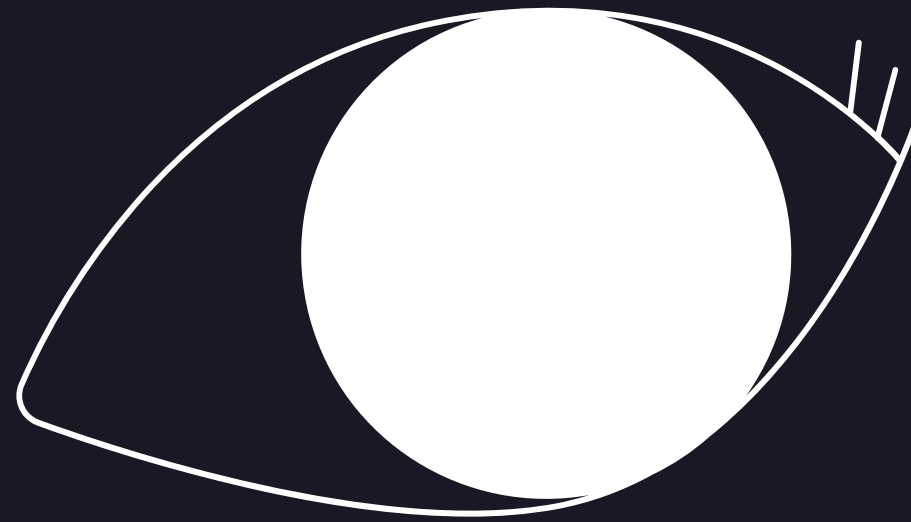
COLLECTIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS - CASE STUDIES



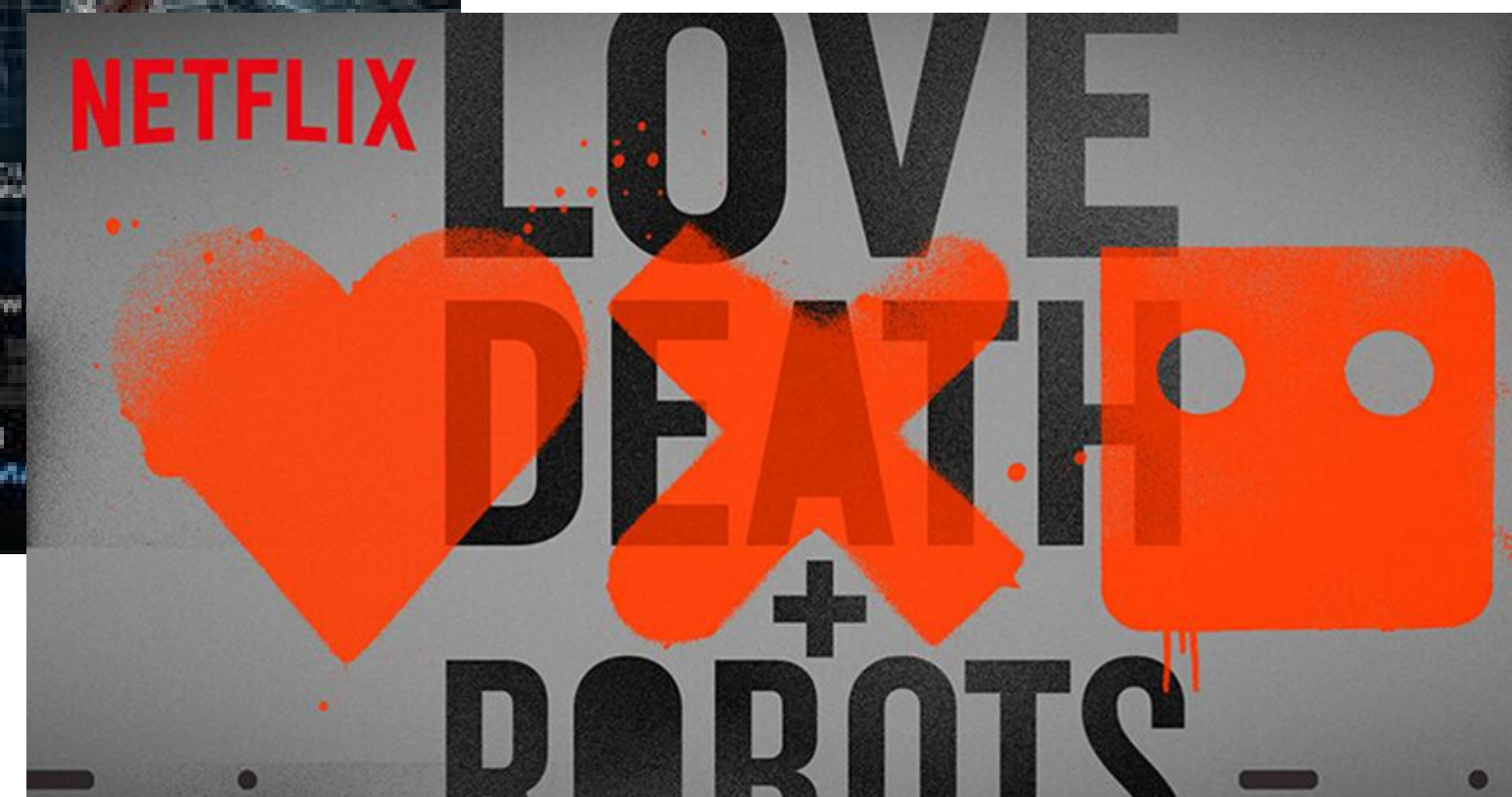
Open street maps

TRANSNATIONAL COORDINATION

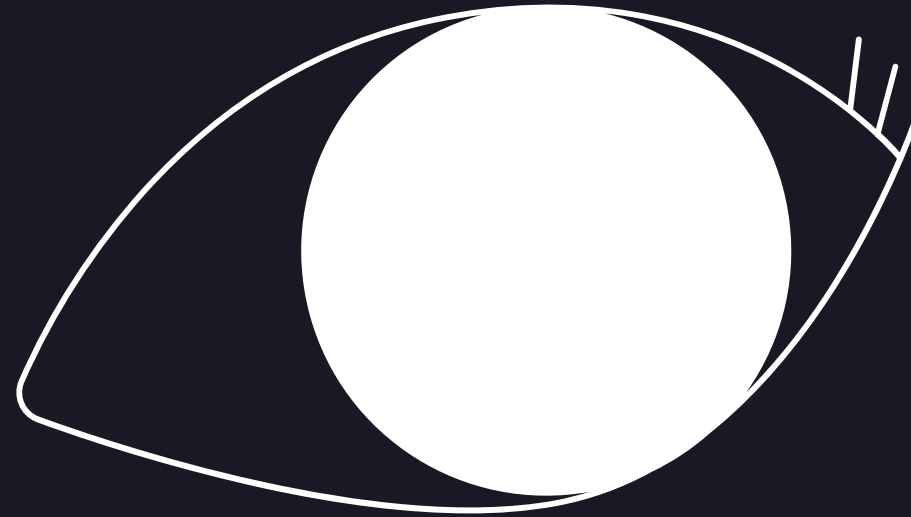
All	Europe	North America	Asia	South America	Africa	Oceania					
Country, Other	Total Cases	New Cases	Total Deaths	New Deaths	Total Recovered	Active Cases	Serious, Critical	Tot Cases/ 1M pop	Deaths/ 1M pop	Total Tests	Tests/ 1M pop
	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕	↕
World	2,014,009	+16,149	127,594	+994	491,824	1,394,591	51,516	258	16.4		
USA	614,246	+360	26,064	+17	38,820	549,362	13,473	1,856	79	3,100,387	9,367
Spain	177,633	+3,573	18,579	+324	70,853	88,201	7,371	3,799	397	600,000	12,833
Italy	162,488		21,067		37,130	104,291	3,186	2,687	348	1,073,689	17,758
France	143,303		15,729		28,805	98,769	6,730	2,195	241	333,807	5,114
Germany	132,210		3,495		72,600	56,115	4,288	1,578	42	1,317,887	15,730
UK	93,873		12,107		N/A	81,422	1,559	1,383	178	382,650	5,637
China	82,295	+46	3,342	+1	77,816	1,137	113	57	2		
Iran	76,389	+1,512	4,777	+94	49,933	21,679	3,643	909	57	299,204	3,562
Turkey	65,111		1,403		4,799	58,909	1,809	772	17	443,626	5,260
Belgium	33,573	+2,454	4,440	+283	7,107	22,026	1,204	2,897	383	128,132	11,056
Netherlands	27,419		2,945		250	24,224	1,358	1,600	172	134,972	7,877
Canada	27,063		903		8,235	17,925	557	717	24	450,717	11,942
Switzerland	26,023	+87	1,190	+16	14,700	10,133	386	3,007	137	199,000	22,993



**IS WORLD BUILDING AN
INHERENTLY RADICAL PROCESS**



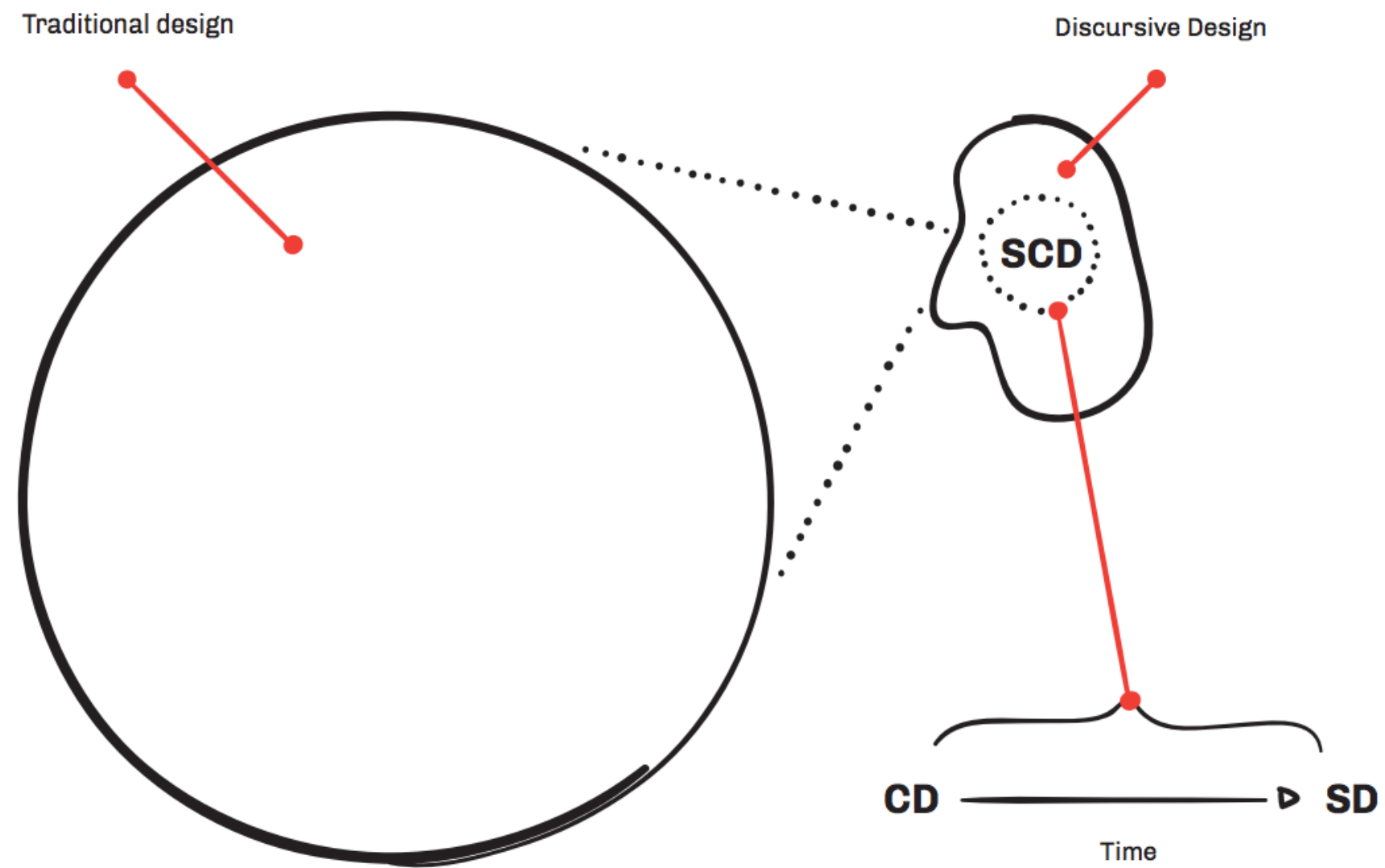




**COLLECTIVE MAPPING:
WHAT ELEMENTS OF THE NEAR
FUTURE ARE PRESENT IN THE
VIDEO.**

**HOW DO WE BREAK THE
DICHOTOMY OF INNOVATION/
REVISION?**

Critical Speculative Design



Johannessen, 2018



Microsoft's vision for digital Retail



Watch later



Share



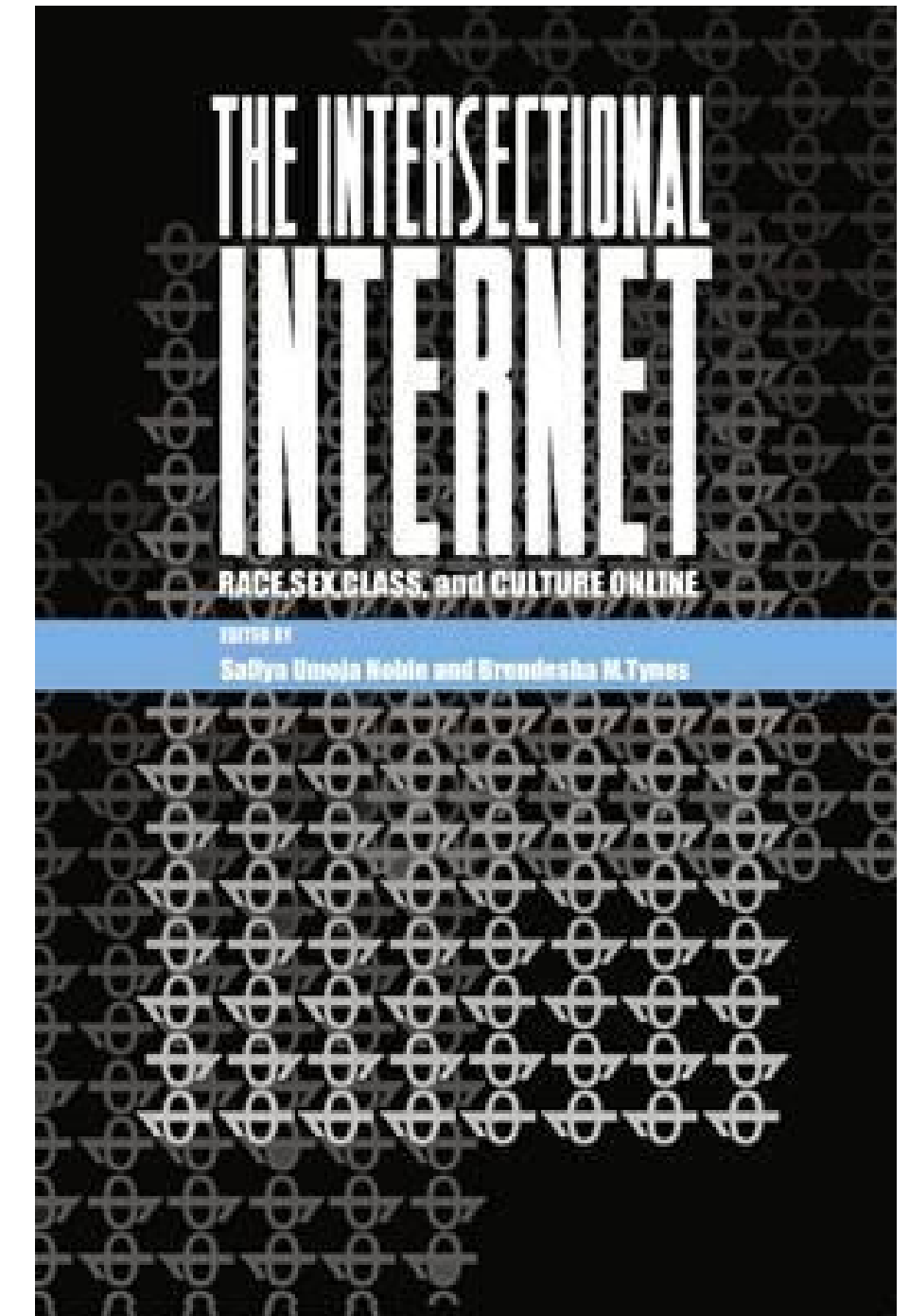
The visual discourse of SCD also seems interestingly devoid of people of color, who rarely (if ever) make an appearance in the clean, perfectly squared, aseptic world imagined by these designers-researchers. Couples depicted in these near-future scenarios seem to be consistently heterosexual; there is no poverty, there are no noticeable power structures that divide the wealthy and the poor, or the colonialist and the colonised; gender seems to be an immutable, black-and-white truth, clearly defined between men and women, with virtually no space for trans* and queer identities (let alone queer and trans* voices speaking for themselves). From its visual discourse to its formulations of near-future scenarios, SCD seems to be curiously apathetic and apolitical for a discipline that strives to be a critical response to mainstream perceptions of what design is, and what it should do.

Luiza Prado

Newer Languages of power



1. Solar Punk - A visual language to denote an alternate near future to cyber punk.



2. Intersectional internet book, centering use-cases of queer POC and feminist users.

Decolonising the data source



3. answering the question, what if Tay was an agent trained on addressing harassment?



4. Feminist datasets project by caroline sinders overrides the lack of representation of feminist narratives from big data systems.

Mixing Methodology - Mapping critical landscapes

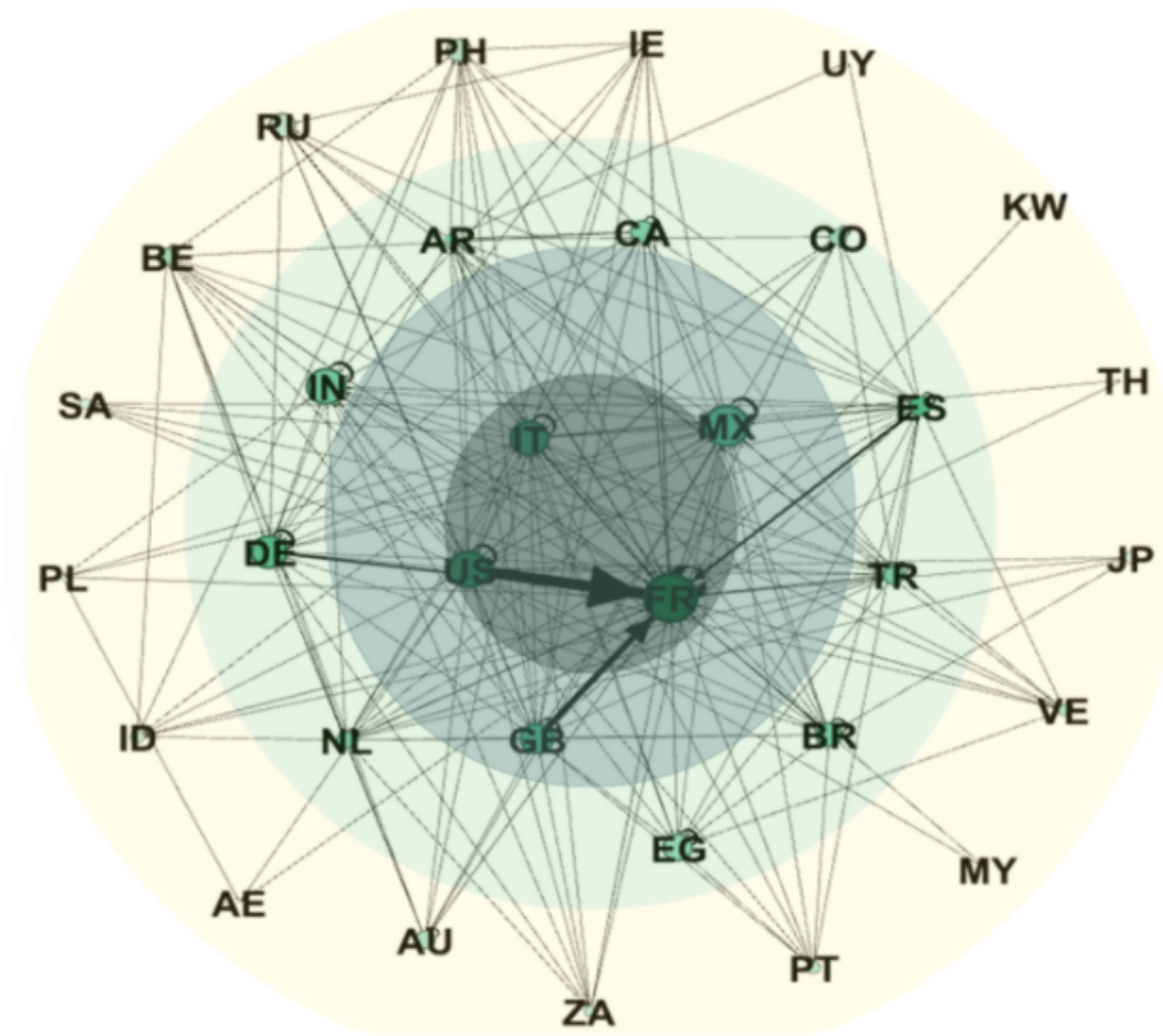
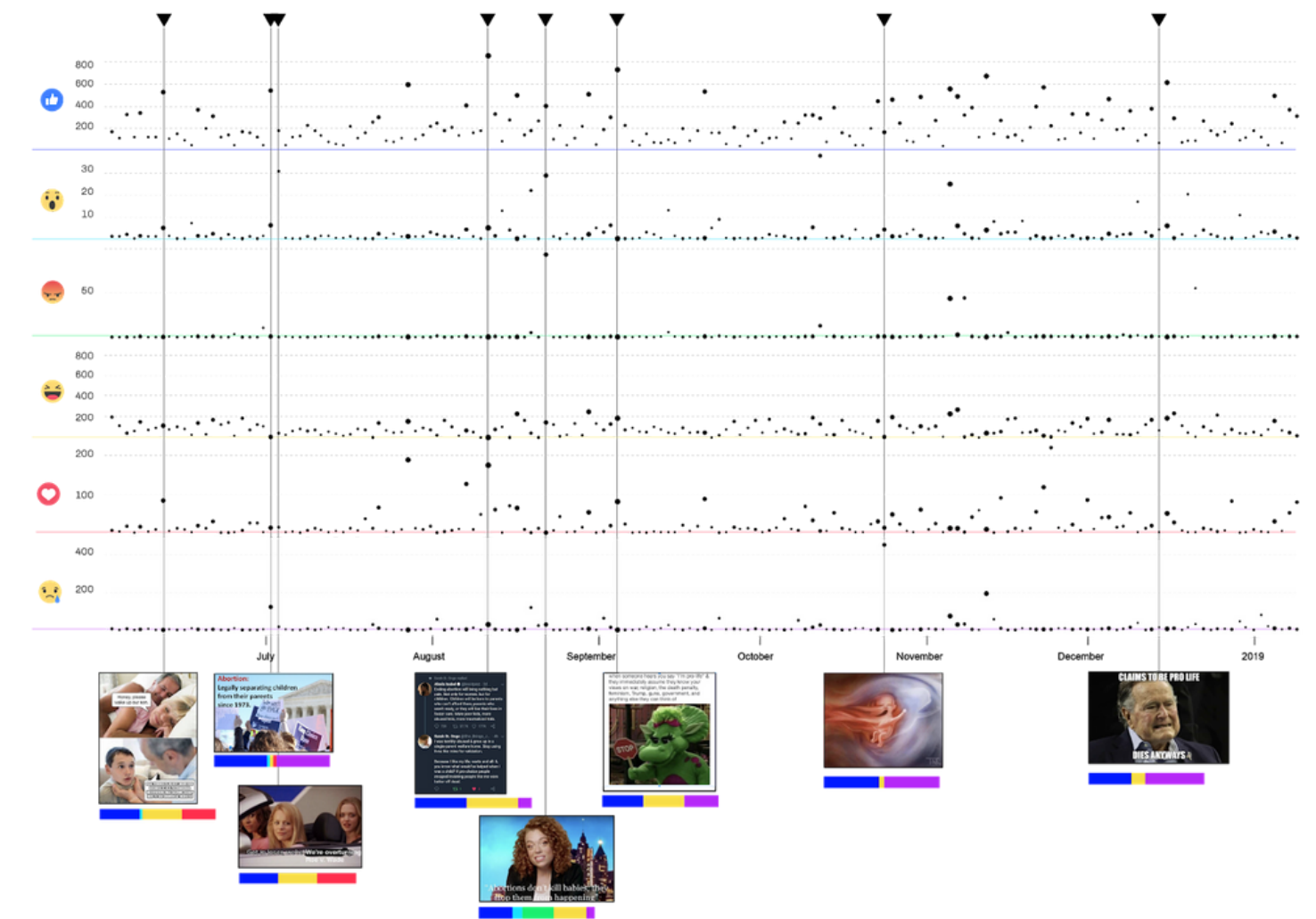


Figure 9: The conversational footprint of the Paris2015 Terror Attacks

3. answering the question, what if we could use critical urban theories to map online space?



4. What if rhythm analysis could help us understand online irony?.

SUMMARY

- Data colonialism is multi-faceted; based on extractive practices.
- Data colonialism is also based on colonial continuity and epistemological inequality.
- Data worlds offer an escape. How do we move beyond one dimensional understandings of data?
- Understanding critical speculative design and deviating from discursive practices.
- There needs to be an innovation/speculation in data sources, data methods, data representations and data framings.