On the Existence of Digital Objects

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著者:Yuk Hui

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Digital objects, in their simplest form, are data. They are also a new kind of industrial object that pervades every aspect of our life today—as online videos, images, text files, e-mails, blog posts, Facebook events.Yet, despite their ubiquity, the nature of digital objects remains unclear.

On the Existence of Digital Objects conducts a philosophical examination of digital objects and their organizing schema by creating a dialogue between Martin Heidegger and Gilbert Simondon, which Yuk Hui contextualizes within the history of computing. How can digital objects be understood according to individualization and individuation? Hui pursues this question through the history of ontology and the study of markup languages and Web ontologies; he investigates the existential structure of digital objects within their systems and milieux. With this relational approach toward digital objects and technical systems, the book addresses alienation, described by Simondon as the consequence of mistakenly viewing technics in opposition to culture.

Interdisciplinary in philosophical and technical insights, with close readings of Husserl, Heidegger, and Simondon as well as the history of computing and the Web, Hui's work develops an original, productive way of thinking about the data and metadata that increasingly define our world.

Reviews:

This is a major contribution to the subfield of the philosophy of technology, and as such, takes on two of the towering figures in the 20th century thinking on humans' relationship with technics: Heidegger and Simondon. — Parrhesia: A Journal of Critical Philosophy

Hui's project is remarkable for a conceptual engagement with twentieth-century philosophies of technology (Simondon, Heidegger, Husserl, Stiegler, Ellul) that pushes these theories further by confronting them with questions of the digital. — Radical Philosophy

Hui hat ein Buch vorgelegt, das die Aktualitat von Metaphysik und den dringenden Bedarf an neuen Ontologien in digitalen Zeiten uberzeugend darstellt und uberzeugende, teils kuhne Vorschlage liefert — Zeitschrift für Medienwissenschaft

Hui develops in this essay an absorbing philosophical investigation of these objects which goes well beyond the ample definition of digital humanities. — Neural Magazine

Hui adeptly blends his technical training and philosophical knowledge to address a fundamental question: what is the relationship between technological and humanistic concerns? — Public Books

作者介绍:

Yuk Hui (許煜) is a postdoctoral researcher at the Institute of Culture and Aesthetics of Digital Media in Leuphana University in Germany.

Bernard Stiegler is head of the Institut de recherche et d'innovation of the Centre Pompidou.

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评论

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说实话就是个严谨的学者而已。。。。。创新的东西很少

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书评

许煜这本书是一场冒险的远征，它的目的地是未来。
未来是可惊可怖的。在科幻小说和电影里，机器成为母亲甚至母体，大地母亲盖娅失去了她的自然原力，河流冻结，山峦变成摩天大厦又变为蒸汽废墟，人类被追杀，在宇宙中流浪，而意义坍缩成为黑洞乃至空洞。这一切，源自于人类创造...

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