

Autonomous Technology



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The truth of the matter is that our deficiency does not lie in the want of well-verified "facts." What we lack is our bearings. The contemporary experience of things technological has repeatedly confounded our vision, our expectations, and our capacity to make intelligent judgments. Categories, arguments, conclusions, and choices that would have been entirely obvious in earlier times are obvious no longer. Patterns of perceptive thinking that were entirely reliable in the past now lead us systematically astray. Many of our standard conceptions of technology reveal a disorientation that borders on dissociation from reality. And as long as we lack the ability to make our situation intelligible, all of the "data" in the world will make no difference.;

From the Introduction

作者介绍:

兰登·温纳 Langdon Winner, 1944年生于美国加利福尼亚的San Luis Obispo. 1973年毕业于加州大学伯克利分校, 获得博士学位。他曾经在欧美多所大学任教, 从1985年至今一直担任Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute的 讲座教授 (Thomas Phelan Chair of Humanities and Social Sciences)。他的主要著作还有The Whale and the Reactor, Technology and Democracy。

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标签

媒介研究

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评论

一直很好奇为什么我读到的写技术的文章里, 几乎没有人认真地引用Winner, 而是顺便提及有这么个人, 也在某某阵营里, 主张技术自主, 讨论过技术决定论。题目和本书的出版年代, 明明就觉得很Relevant。看了这本书, 生出了一种 “OK, tell me something I don't already know.” 的感觉。正如Winner所说, 技术本身是一个非常模糊的感念, 因此它其实包含特别广泛的内容。如果讨论技术的ontology, 那么很显然Winner没有Heidegger, Stiegler的深入。如果是讨论技术与Senses的关系, 那么McLuhan做的更好。如果是讨论大的技术系统的倾向性, 又显然不如后来观注系统, 标准和规范的学者做的清晰。读完这本书感觉必须了解一些J Ellul

人造物（技术的产物）有政治属性吗？技术有自主性吗？关注两大点：the social determinants of technology/ technical arrangement/ flexibility of tech politics以及technological determination （inherently political technologies）看大佬写论文真是被炸得无地自容

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书评

首先，本书写于1977年。40年间，社会和技术都发生了很多变化。本书内容虽不失其价值，但读者和作者的立足点毕竟不同了。技术在我们这个时代，看起来更加危险！关于技术的自主性，或曰技术的意识，是一个引人入胜的话题（至少对我而言）。书的前半部分，详尽地罗列和分析了技术...

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