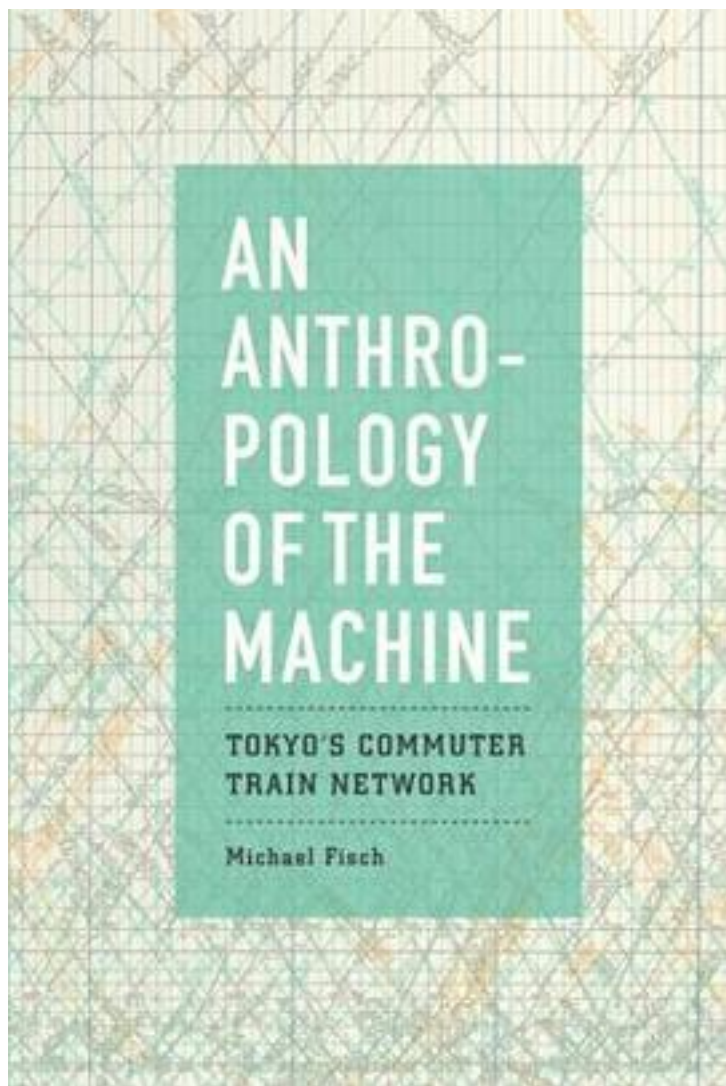


# An Anthropology of the Machine



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著者:Michael Fisch

出版者:University of Chicago Press

出版时间:2018-6-19

装帧:Paperback

isbn:9780226558554

With its infamously packed cars and disciplined commuters, Tokyo's commuter train network is one of the most complex technical infrastructures on Earth. In *An Anthropology of the Machine*, Michael Fisch provides a nuanced perspective on how Tokyo's commuter train network embodies the lived realities of technology in our modern world. Drawing on his fine-grained knowledge of transportation, work, and everyday life in Tokyo, Fisch shows how fitting into a system that operates on the extreme edge of sustainability can take a physical and emotional toll on a community while also creating a collective way of life—one with unique limitations and possibilities.

*An Anthropology of the Machine* is a creative ethnographic study of the culture, history, and experience of commuting in Tokyo. At the same time, it is a theoretically ambitious attempt to think through our very relationship with technology and our possible ecological futures. Fisch provides an unblinking glimpse into what it might be like to inhabit a future in which more and more of our infrastructure—and the planet itself—will have to operate beyond capacity to accommodate our ever-growing population.

#### 作者介绍:

(PhD, Columbia University, 2008; Assistant Professor of Anthropology and of Social Sciences in the College.) Michael Fisch's research is situated at the intersection of sociocultural anthropology and science and technology studies and is concerned with the dynamic between changing conceptualizations of nature, culture, and technological innovation that inform experiences of immersive technological mediation. In his work *Anthropology of the Machine: Tokyo's Commuter Train Network*, he develops an ethnographically performative approach for thinking with the historically inflected practices, experiences, and schemas of operation that emerge within Tokyo's commuter train network. He is currently developing a project that explores the emergence of what he identifies as “experimental ecologies” that work to contest, recast, and re-conceive disaster infrastructure design in post-3.11 Japan. As part of this project, he is looking at locally developed alternatives to the construction of mammoth seawalls to protect against tsunami in northeast Japan.

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Fisch

日本民族誌專題

技术

## 评论

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后面一半有点乱

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不再从人和技术的对立关系里提问题，而是把人和技术看成一个具备边缘不确定性 “margin of indeterminacy” 的整体，特别有价值。写得也好。以东京的火车系统为对象，为人类学能如何应用到理解large-scale infrastructure里提供了一个很好的范本。优秀！

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书评

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