

In Medias Res


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Principles of Complex Systems, Vols. 1, 2, & 3D
CSYS/MATH 6701, 6713, & a pretend number, 2024–2025

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Computational Story Lab | Vermont Complex Systems Center
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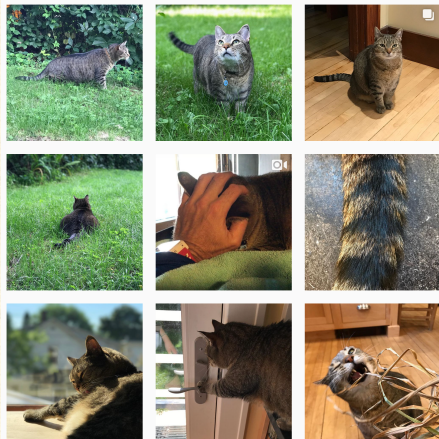
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Outline

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What we learned in PoCS Vols. 1 and 2:



The statistics of surprise.

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What we learned in PoCS Vols. 1 and 2:



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The everywhere-ness of the rich-getting-richer mechanism.




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What we learned in PoCS Vols. 1 and 2:

-  The statistics of surprise.
-  The everywhere-ness of the rich-getting-richer mechanism.
-  How systems expectedly unexpectedly fall apart.








What we learned in PoCS Vols. 1 and 2:

-  The statistics of surprise.
-  The everywhere-ness of the rich-getting-richer mechanism.
-  How systems expectedly unexpectedly fall apart.
-  Non-universal universality.



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-  How things spread.









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-  The statistics of surprise.
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-  Why COVID-19 was predictably unpredictable.










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-  Fate does not exist, only the story of fate.












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-  Groups, groups, groups, groups. And pyramids.
















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-  The true compass of essential meaning.



Some other things that were proclaimed:



Complexity—everything—starts with gravity.

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-  Stories ~ Characters + Time.
-  Large majorities of people in groups of all sizes can be harmoniously wrong.
-  Large social groups are
 1. pyramid schemes
 - or
 2. fandoms
 - or
 3. both











What do the following all have in common?




-  Astrology.
-  The Navier-Stokes equations.
-  The law of gravitation.
-  Evolution.
-  Jane Austen.
-  Politicians.
-  Test cricket.
-  Proverbs.




What do the following all have in common?

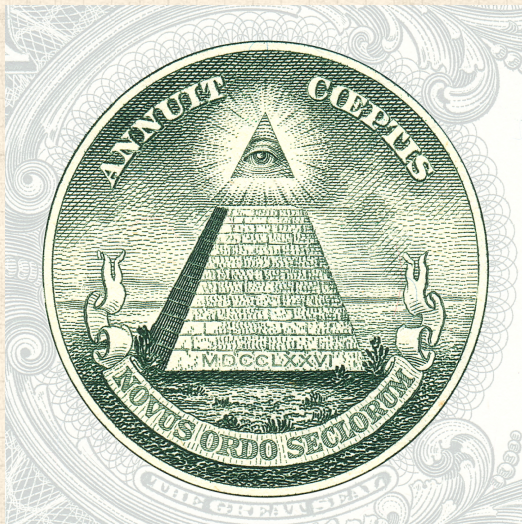
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-  The Navier-Stokes equations.
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-  Jane Austen.
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They are all storytellers.

-  Scripting the past, the present, the future.
-  What is, what could be, what should not be.
-  From deterministic to probablistic.



The Pyramid  knows what you did.



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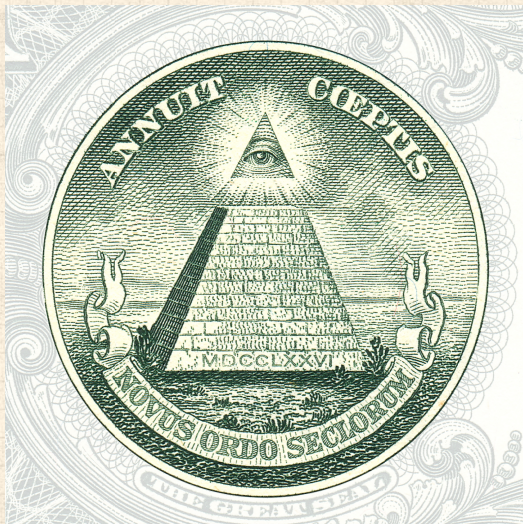


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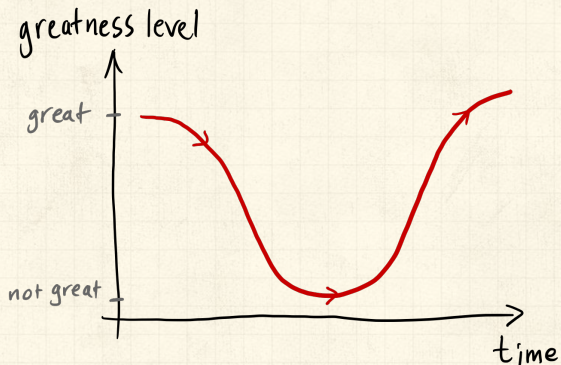
References





Mass surveillance by story.





Stories really matter:




Not starting at the start:¹  




figures/localized/How we got here: It's going to be tropes all the way down¹  



¹Three weeks earlier ...  [1]

The complex dynamics of course reviews:



¹Three weeks earlier ...  [1]

247 days earlier in the PoCSverse



References I

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References

- [1] D. Harmon, R. Ridley, and J. Rolland.
Look Who's Purging Now, 2015.

