Network Neutrality
Surveillance and Privacy
Algorithmic Living
Digital democracy
Constant connectivity
Public/Private digital goods

Reminder: Final video project proposals due Friday 11/7 by 5pm.
- Angle/Topic/Point- Basic outline
- By the end of week 7: Storyboards, details, treatments showcasing actual work done.

Final Project Ideas/Scope:
- Topics from class
- Team exercises
- Email professor for verification of ideas/proposals prior to 11/7 deadline

Inflection point in class:
- Spent the last couple of weeks going over topics that contain ‘currency'
- How to we deal with/think about technology.
- Moving beyond this, we are going to approach the topic(s) from a design perspective. Address not just the politics of technology, but also how we might engage with technology as features of a process.
- How to designs come to embed and embody values?

Today’s Topic: Wrapping up our series of discussions.
- Six topics (top of page) from the quarter thus far
- Conceptual framework: association with social construction of technology. “Technologies come to be the way they are and to have the meanings that they do, in society.”
- What is technically possible, but also socially acceptable?
  o Interpretive Flexibility
- How should I be thinking about technology?
  o Social groups have a stance on interpretive flexibility
  o Question our own attitudes and questions our interactions within social groups.
- Can Social groups be created by the use/appearance of certain technologies?
- Rhetorical closure- by coming into power, certain groups come to control the dialogue.
- Technological change happens through a process of variation and selection
  o Something produces variation in population (related technologies.)
Something produces a selection within those (a favoring of one over others)
Evolutionary analogy helps us consider what the causes are for each of these.
Think in terms of: the space of possibilities and alternatives. What are the possibilities for thinking differently about how technologies might be crafted to be?
What creates variation and selection? The process of creation itself, may introduce methods through which procedural pressures may create variation. Natural forms of regulation may cause selection.
Biological factors involved in the selection process?

Class Discussion (Network Neutrality & Digital Democracy)
- Identify (3) social groups, which seem to be relevant for that domain.
- What are their respective positions?
- What are the relationships of that position?
- What are the selection pressures that are driving or CAN drive us towards stabilization.

Network Neutrality:
1) Lobbyists - Neutral, sides on both ends, politician gain
2) Distributors - No on net neutrality, Monetary gain & competition
3) End users - Yes on net neutrality, privacy & freedom to access content

Digital Democracy:
1) Politicians - Neutral, two sides. More publicity, whatever the public favors
2) Voters - Freedom to express opinions, pressure from given rights to expression.
3) Developers/Designs - Freedom to create & distribute their work, pressure from the ability to design & develop for the public based on desires and needs.

Notes post-discussion:

Network Neutrality:
- Power of fixed infrastructure.
- There isn’t a real “free” choice among network providers. Different type of network technologies available changes the game.

Surveillance and Privacy:
- Environmentalist movement: coming together those whose interests whose positions were, in the past, diametrically opposed.
- Groups come together under an umbrella to use a means to be heard.
- There are both relevant social groups and the entrenched groups.
Digital Democracy:
- Corporate or institutional examples are fairly obvious.
- Everyday use has a complicated lens on whether or not we may think of ourselves as members of social groups.
- Anonymity is an issue, maybe not a pressure that leads us towards a solution.
- Questions of legitimacy of different expression and platforms where one might engage in discussions.

Discourse surrounding connectivity is heavily dependent on age and verification. Should access to technology be reliant on age and a person's disposition within their social group?