REIMAGINING CIE AS A META-ASSEMBLAGE THROUGH BIG DATA

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CONTOURS OF THE CIE META-ASSEMBLAGE

We are conceptualizing CIE as a meta-assemblage of subordinate and interwoven assemblages exerting influence on one another by establishing relational patterns informed by Deleuze and Guattari’s (1987) assemblage theory.

- **Connections**, connective patterns, and linkages are continuously formed not only at formally established institutional or organizational levels, but also along professional and disciplinary boundaries across socio-cultural environments as heterogeneous as they are related.

- **Asignifying rupture** acknowledges that, as any malleable construction, there is a probability of fractures in the system (CIE).

- **Cartography** in assemblage theory means the map is subject to constant modification. All points of the meta-assemblage can be connected.

- The **multiplicity** of contiguous assemblages manifest themselves in cartographies as professional and scholarly associations in the field give rise to dense geospatial, and disciplinary representations. The contextual extensions of multiple disciplines can overlap and reframe a problem on multiple connected dimensions.

- The relationships among the assemblages are increasingly undergirded by the circulation of massive data streams along faster and more extensive computing infrastructures.

IMPLICATIONS FOR CIE

- The field of CIE “comprises infinite combinations of factors, whether scholarly or professional, and there is no one group, approach, or canon of literature that defines it.” (Wiseman & Wolhuter, 2019)

- It is characterized by a certain degree of fluidity in the era of data-driven technologies, as the increasing velocity, volume, and variety of Big Data can exert (re)territorializing and deterritorializing effects on CIE.

- **Ontologically**, the meta-assemblage paradigm places CIE on constantly evolving planes of scholarly inquiry.

- **Epistemologically**, the arrangements and rearrangements (re-territorialization and deterritorialization) create conditions for intensified connectivity among individual or group actors to co-share and co-construct multidimensional scholarly collectives.

- **Axiologically**, the meta-assemblage allows for juxtapositions of value orientations in CIE research, as scholars participate and engage in intersecting sub-assemblages of knowledge production.

- **Praxiologically**, through its malleability, flexibility, and state of constant flux, this paradigm opens spaces for practitioners in its various sub-assemblages to interface with, permeate and bridge micro- and macro-verses of scholarship for the emergence of symbiotic relationships between research and praxis in CIE.