MINDLESS INTELLIGENCE

THE ECTOMENTAL MANIFESTO

Jordan Pollack

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AI should be a top goal of Mankind!

! Funded right up there with a Cure for Old Age, Colonizing Mars, and Green Energy

! Intelligent machines would lead to much smaller populations with higher living standard
  – No need for slave labor economies
  – No need for mass production consumerism
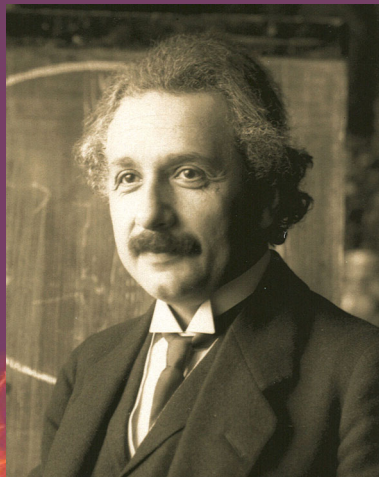 – Sustainable energy usage

! But, instead…

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AI has gone Missing

! Computers as smart as people have been promised repeatedly within our lifetime.
! Moore's law was supposed to deliver, but it hasn't! CPU time ain't the issue.
! Is AI
  – Tardy (Like Artificial Flight),
  – Magical (Like ESP), or
  – Provably Impossible (Like perpetual motion)?

AI's Great Mistake

! Assume that "human-like" symbolic intelligence is the zenith, e.g. Human Genius is the greatest intelligence there is.

! Therefore, model cognition, as accessed by introspection and psychological experiment

We don't think the way we think we think

Conscious reports are now known as after-the-fact **fictional reconstructions** of much faster, unconscious processes.
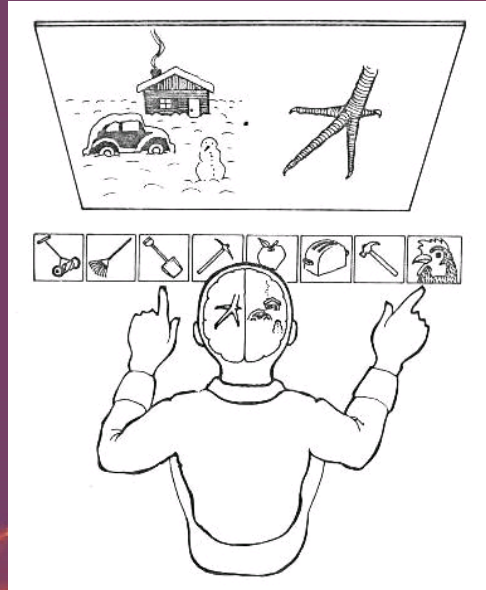
A LAUGHINGSTOCK OF SCIENCE

! We can't prevent bogus claims by entrepreneurs or crazies on the net

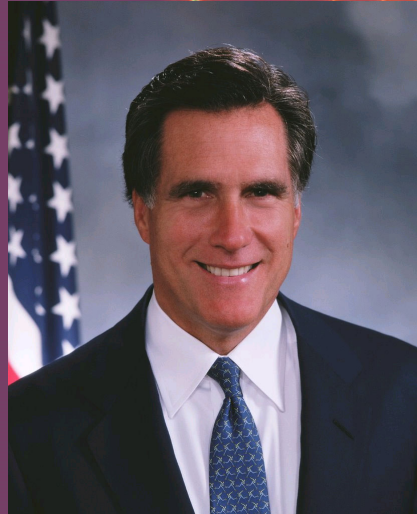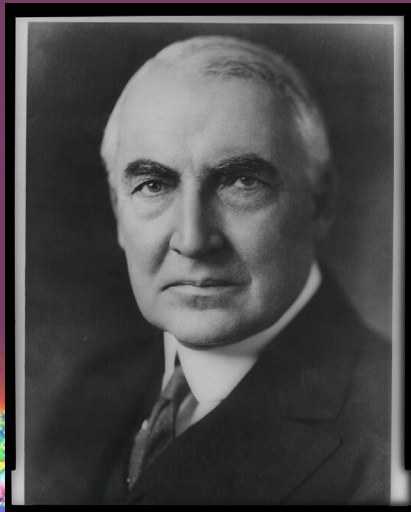! We allow fictional characters (Terminator, Michael, Data, Sonny) to represent success to the general public.

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Gazzaniga's Split Brain Studies
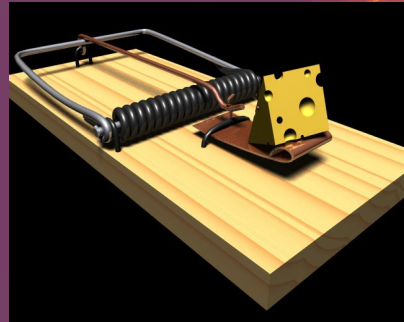

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Blink: The Warren Harding Error
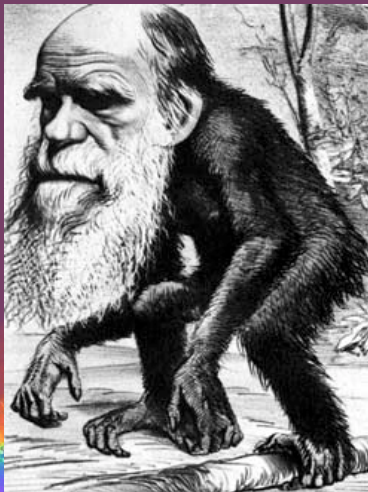

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Its the same mistake as Creationism

! Biological machinery is of such high complexity that many believe in a "super human" Intelligent Designer.

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ID is Crypto-Creationism

The Biochemical Challenge to Evolution

DARWIN'S BLACK BOX

"No one can propose to defend Darwin without meeting the challenges set out in this superbly written and compelling book."
—David Berlinski, author of A TOUR OF THE CALCULUS

MICHAEL J. BEHE

Alternative to Creationist AI?

! Evolution is a nonlinear iterative process.

! Evolution is responsible for design complexity of biological life forms as well as Brains and Language

! Evolution doesn't use linguistic and logical symbol processing necessary for cognition

! Therefore this mindless process provides super-human design intelligence.
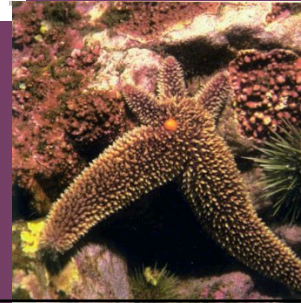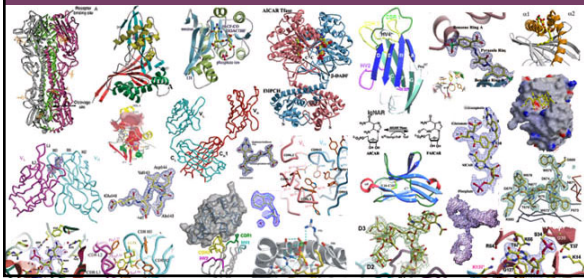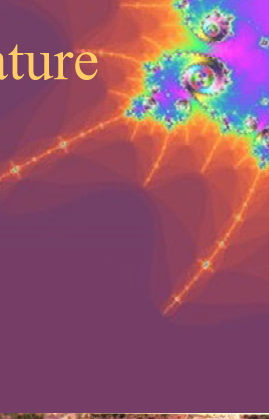
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Mindless Intelligence

! Find a complex process in nature previously conceptualized as "auto-XXX or self-XXX"
! Discover that it operates without any self, or any *accoutrements* of cognition:
  – Logic
  – Grammar
  – Symbols
  – Lisp Interpreter
! How many human minds are needed to replace it?
! What mathematical principles enable it?

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Mindless Intelligence in Nature

Find "Self-" and "Auto-" concepts

!	Self	!	Organization
!	Self	!	Reproduction
!	Self	!	Repair
!	Self	!	Maintenance (autopoesis)
!	Self	!	Assembly
!	Automatic	!	Control
!	Self	!	Regulation
!	Auto	!	Design

But there is no SELF!

Replace "self" with Mindless

! Mindless ! Organization
! Mindless ! Reproduction
! Mindless ! Repair
! Mindless ! Maintenance
! Mindless ! Assembly
! Mindless ! Control
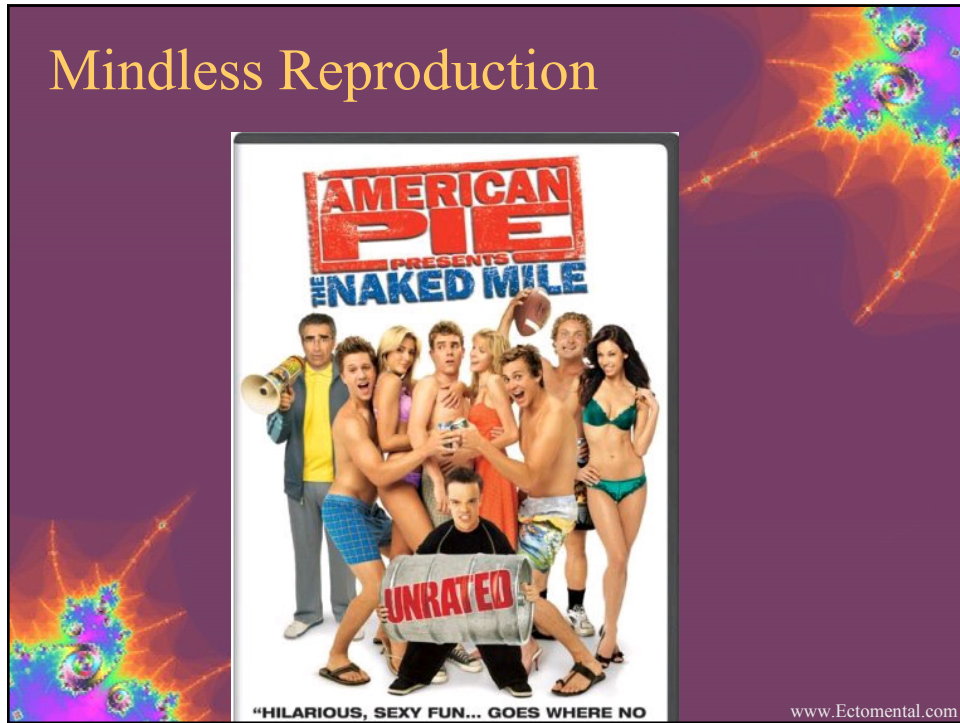! Mindless ! Regulation
! Mindless ! Design

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Mindless Organization

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Mindless Reproduction

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Mindless Repair

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Mindless Maintenance
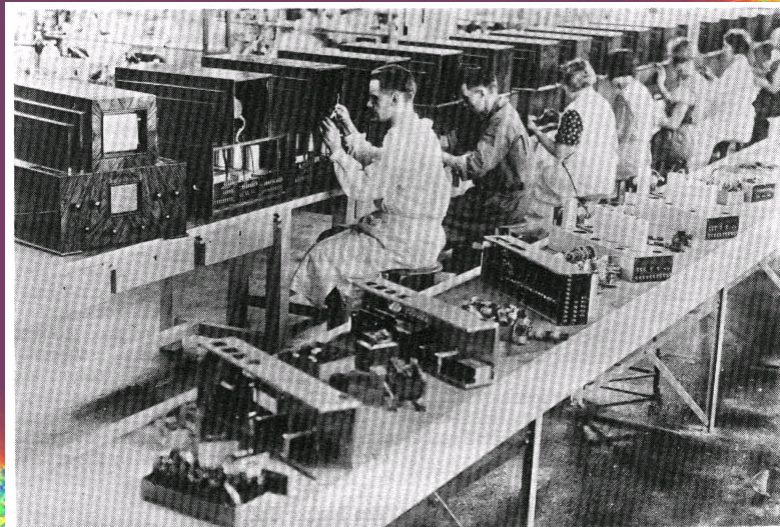

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Mindless Assembly

FIG. 3.—A STAGE IN THE MANUFACTURE OF TELEVISION RECEIVERS AT THE D. S. LOEWE WORKS
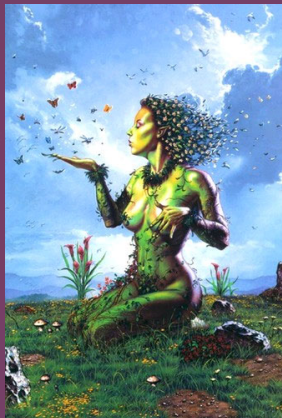
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Mindless Control

! No Nailclippers
! No Sneakers
! No Toothpaste
! No Batteries

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Mindless Regulation

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Mindless Design

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Need a new word…

ecto-, ect-
(Greek: outside, external, beyond)
menti-, -mental
(Latin: mind, intellectual faculties)

Thanks to Carl Feynman

Replace "mindless" with Ectomental

- Ectomental ! Organization
- Ectomental ! Reproduction
- Ectomental ! Repair
- Ectomental ! Maintenance
- Ectomental ! Assembly
- Ectomental ! Control
- Ectomental ! Regulation
- Ectomental ! Design

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Ectomental Manifesto

- Find superhuman intelligence in nature
- rediscover powerful principles of convergence to complexity
- Exploit for beneficial and economic value
- Don't promise Helpful Humanoid Robots.

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