ÓBUDA UNIVERSITY, BUDAPEST

ETHICAL QUESTIONS of the virtual world

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INTRODUCTION

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KELETI KÁROLY
GAZDASÁGI KAR

BASIC RULE

Ask

   questions

      whenever

         you

            need!

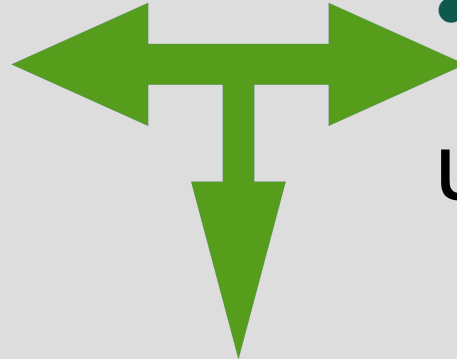(Or whenever you think you need:)

STRUCTURE

- Paradigm shift
- New rules of
a new era

- Ethics
- Written and
unwritten rules
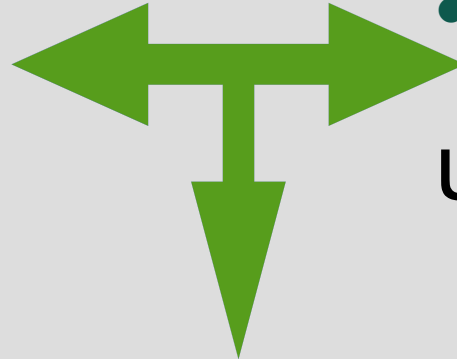
- Questions
and problems
- What to do?

STRUCTURE

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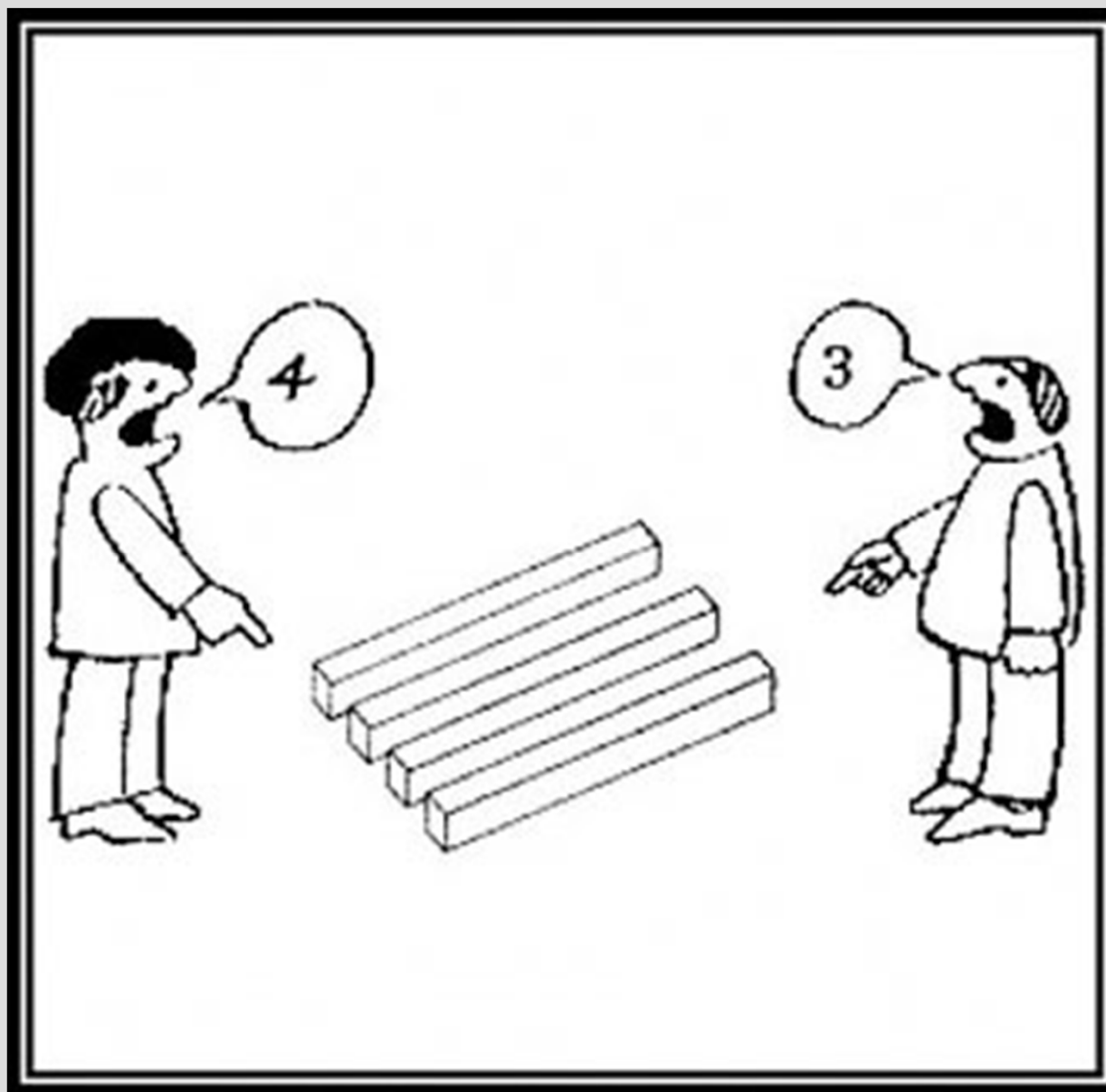
unwritten rules

- Questions

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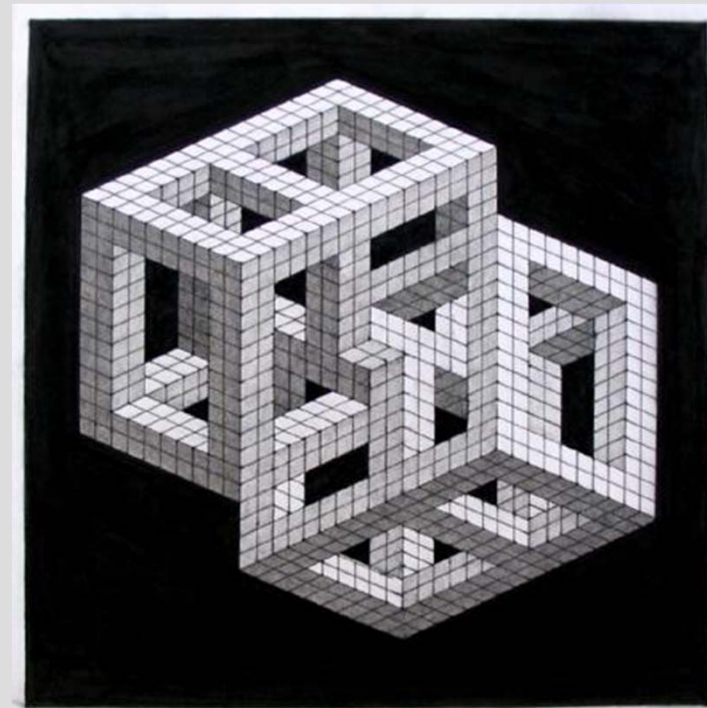- What to do?

Paradigm shift

- Paradigm, paradigm shift

- Historical example

- Development in IT – consequences
  - books / music / movies
  - business: long tail
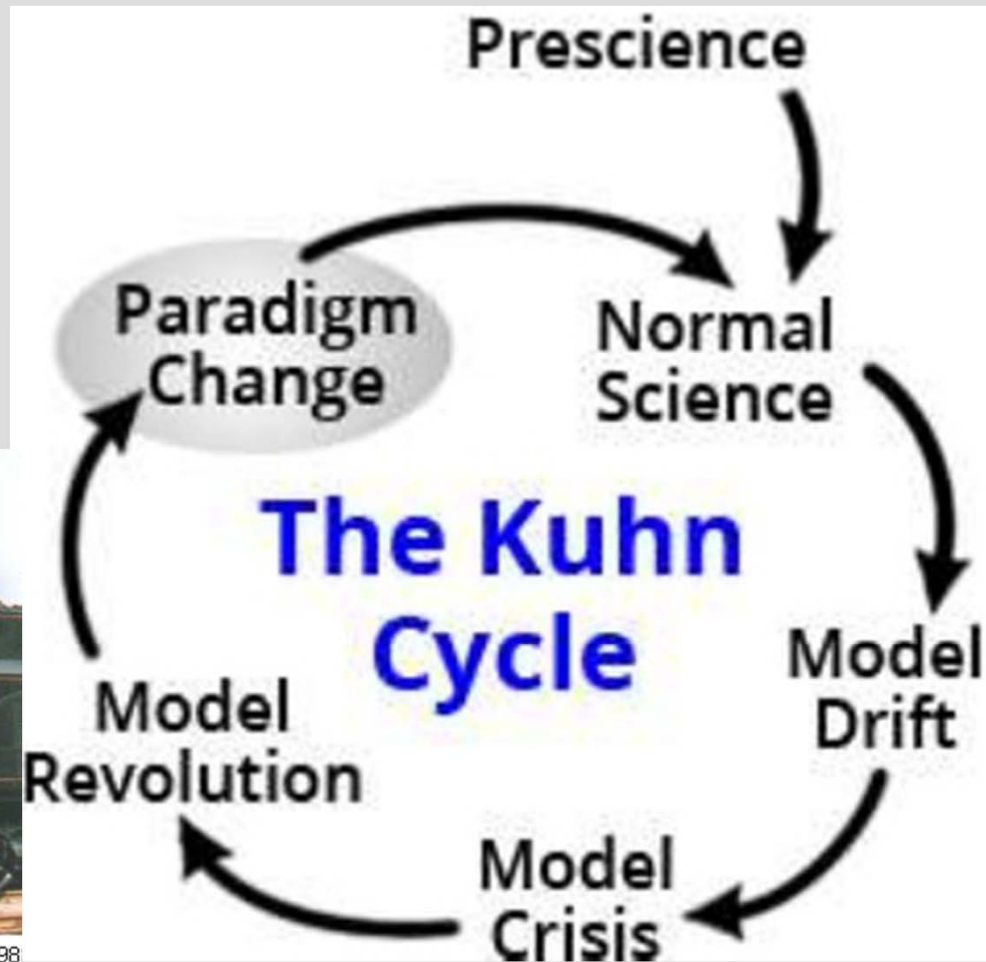 - sharing economy
  - etc.

Paradigm

Paradigm

- generally accepted rules
  - in a given field
  - in a given period of time
- to question them is dangerous
  - Sun goes around Earth
  - speed of light
  - „De strigis, quae non sunt..."
  - political correctness

Paradigm shift

- the paradigm changes

– got more knowledge
– got a new technology

Photo & Scan by J. Erö ©1993, 1998

Prescience

Paradigm Change

Normal Science

The Kuhn Cycle

Model Revolution

Model Drift

Model Crisis

example

Historical example

1452

Historical example

- fraction of time

- many-many copies

- **industrial process**

Historical example

- codex copying ended

- knowledge transfer: more efficient

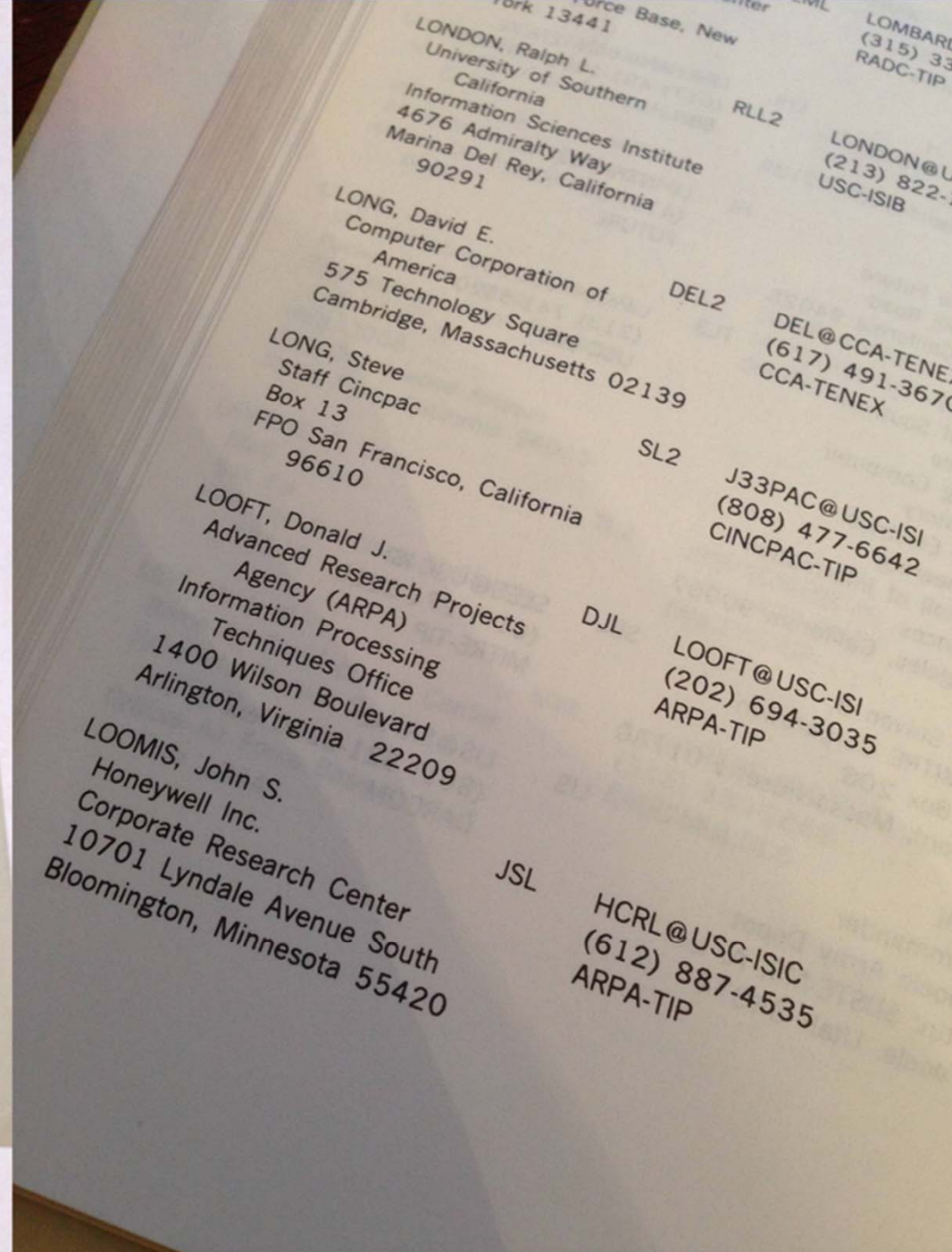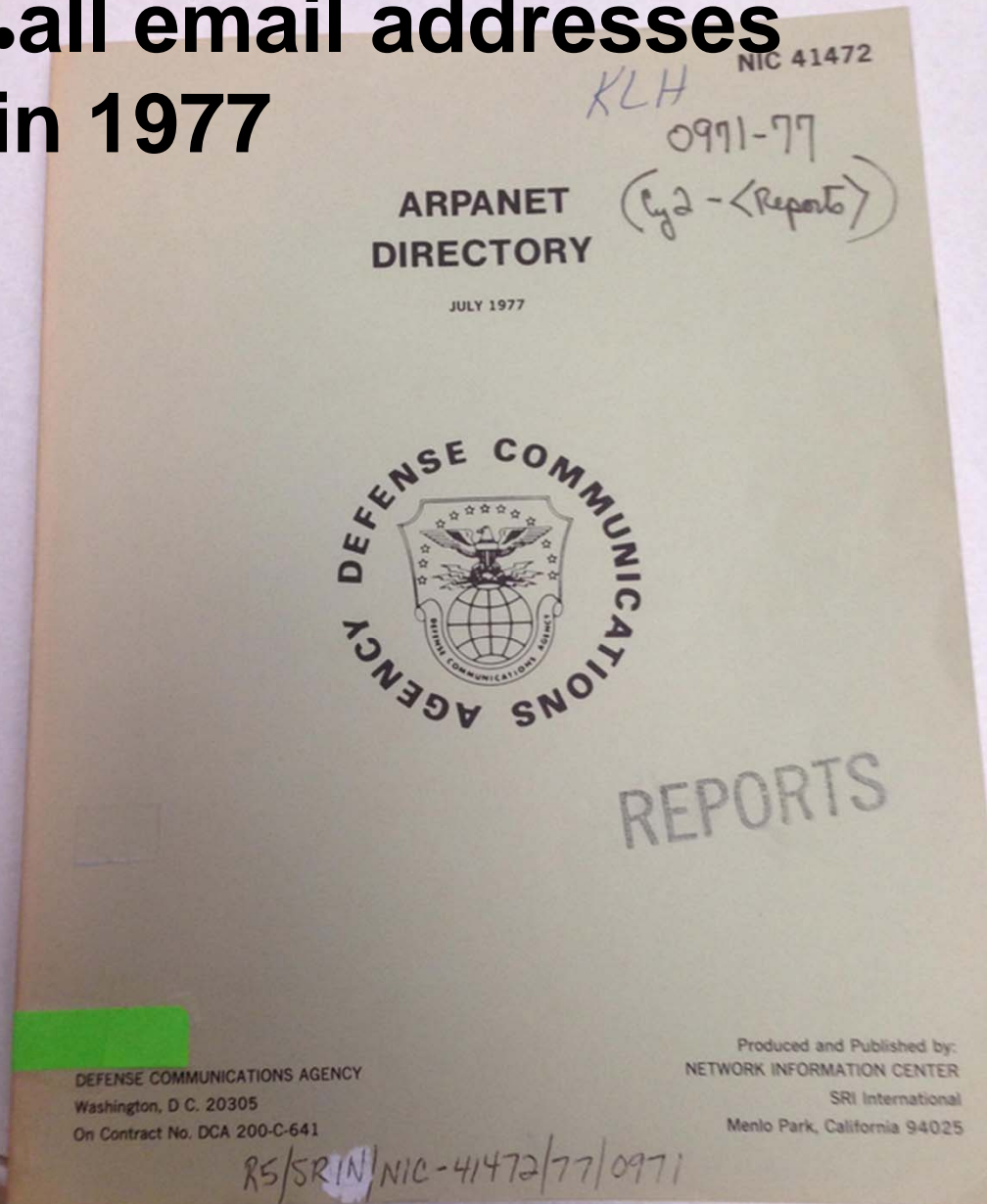- literacy became most important

Development in IT

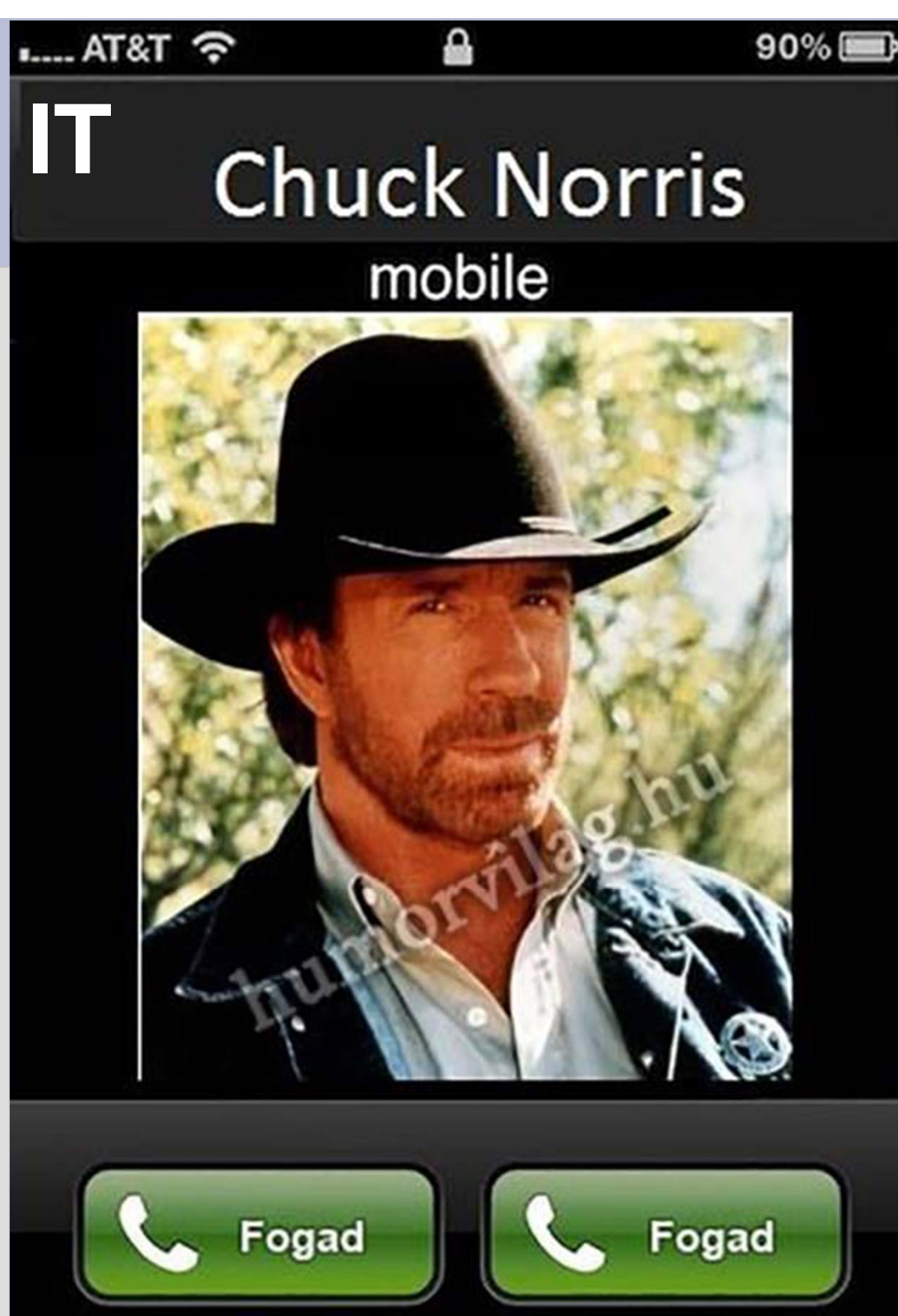# Development in IT

- all email addresses in 1977

Development in IT

- computers and digital networks has become part of everyday life

Development in IT

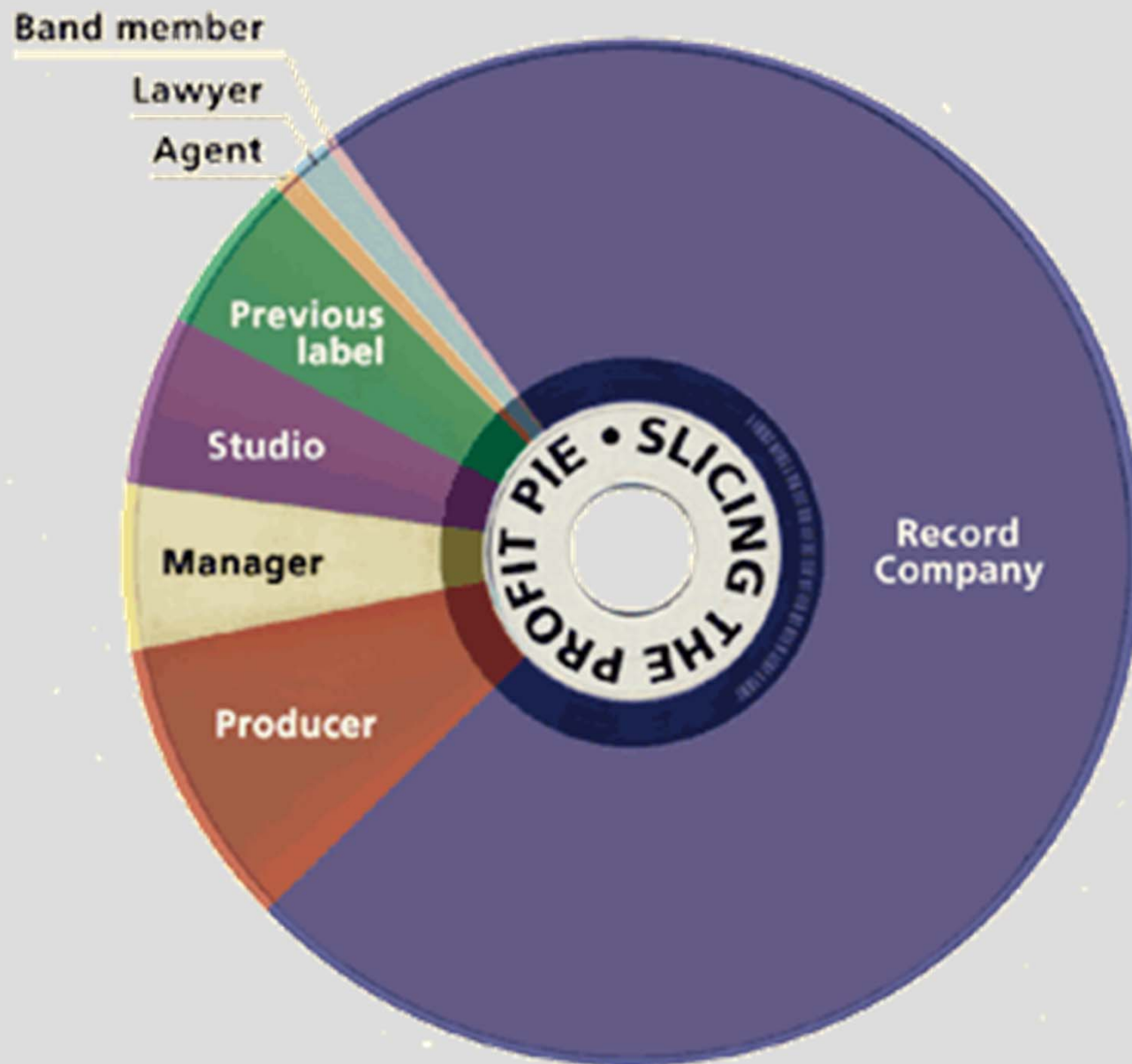- computers and digital networks has become part of everyday life

Consequences

- DIGITAL NETWORK endpoints everywhere
- in NO TIME
- unlimited no. of copies of any digital material
- can be transferred to anywhere
- of same quality
- at no cost at all

Consequences – books

- Google
- Ctrl-F

Consequences – music

Consequences – music
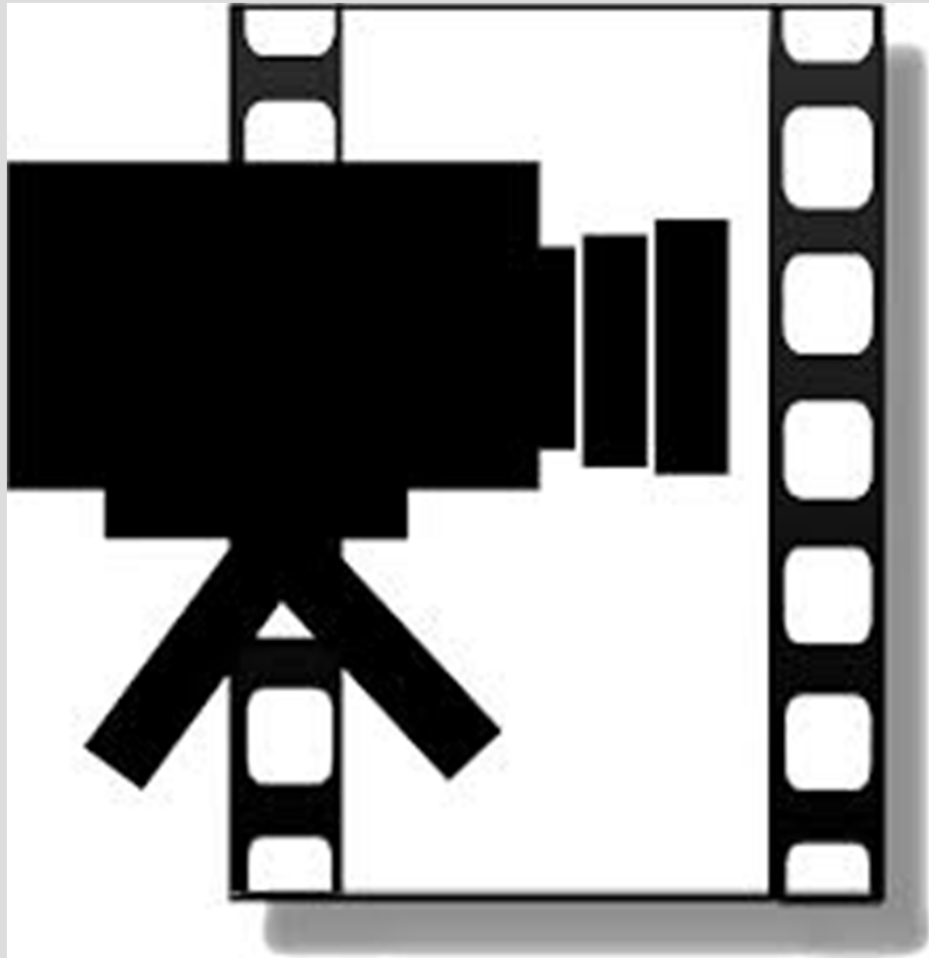
Consequences – movies

Consequences – movies

Business – Long tail

HOSSZÚ FAROK [*LONG TAIL*] MODELL
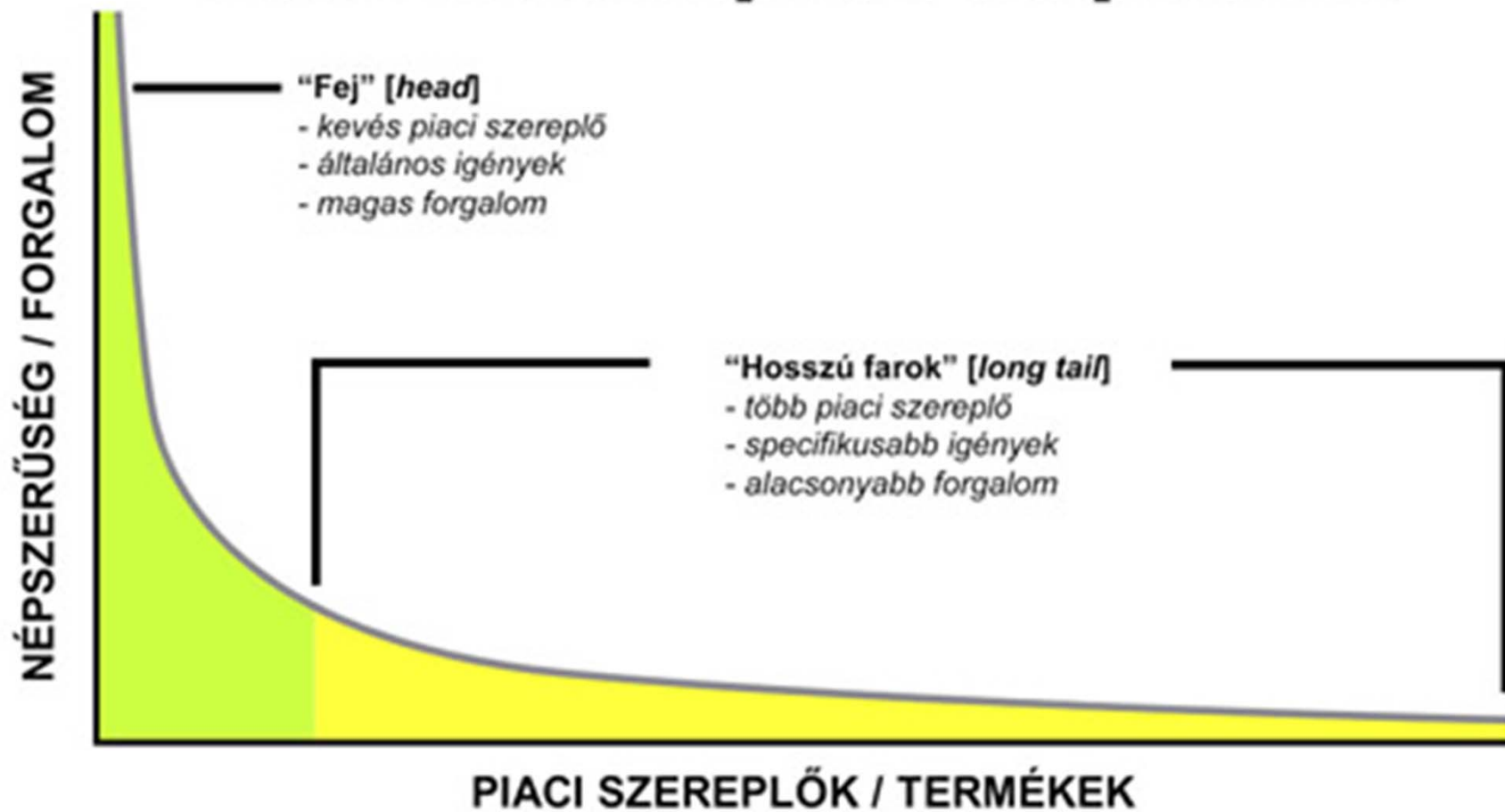
"Fej" [*head*]
- kevés piaci szereplő
- általános igények
- magas forgalom

"Hosszú farok" [*long tail*]
- több piaci szereplő
- specifikusabb igények
- alacsonyabb forgalom

NÉPSZERŰSÉG / FORGALOM

PIACI SZEREPLŐK / TERMÉKEK

SHARING ECONOMY

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  a new era

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New rules of a new era

New rules of a new era

?
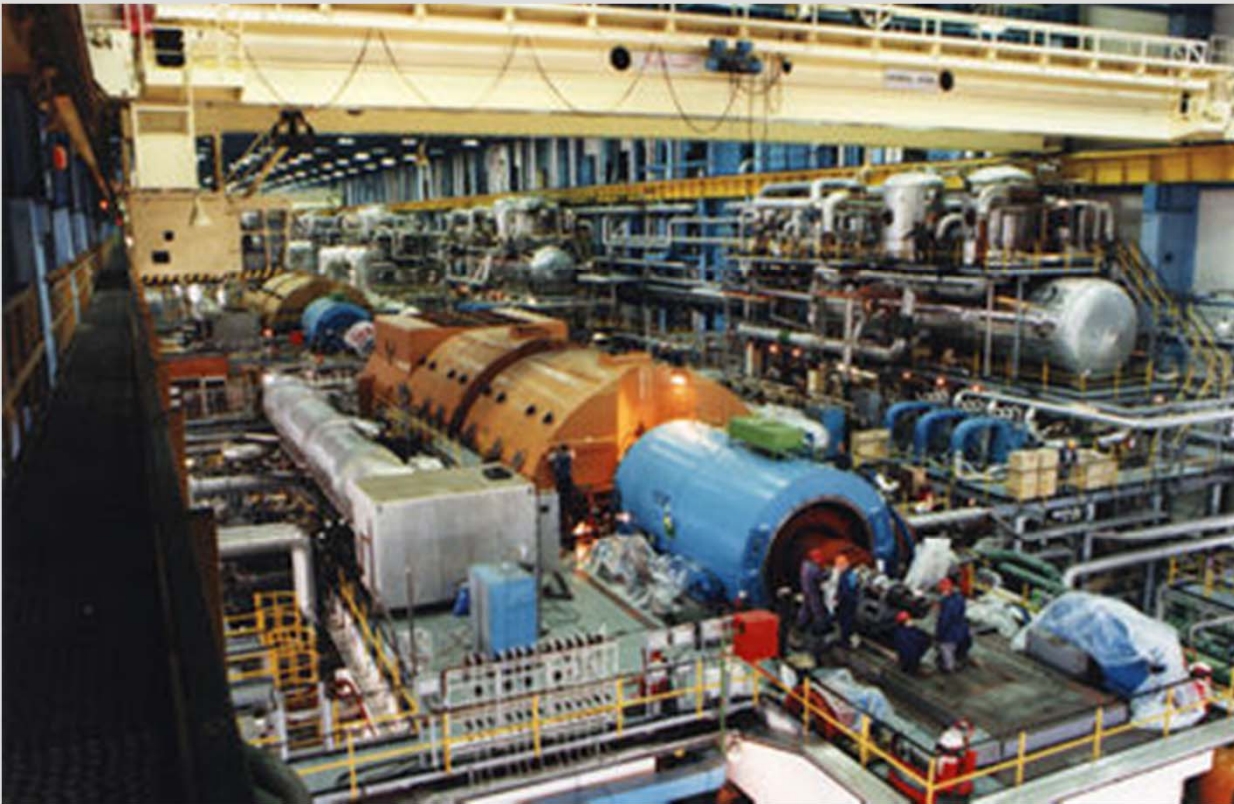
New rules of a new era

Your data may be stolen

New rules of a new era
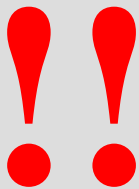
Your data may be stolen

Your computer may be shared

‼️

New rules of a new era
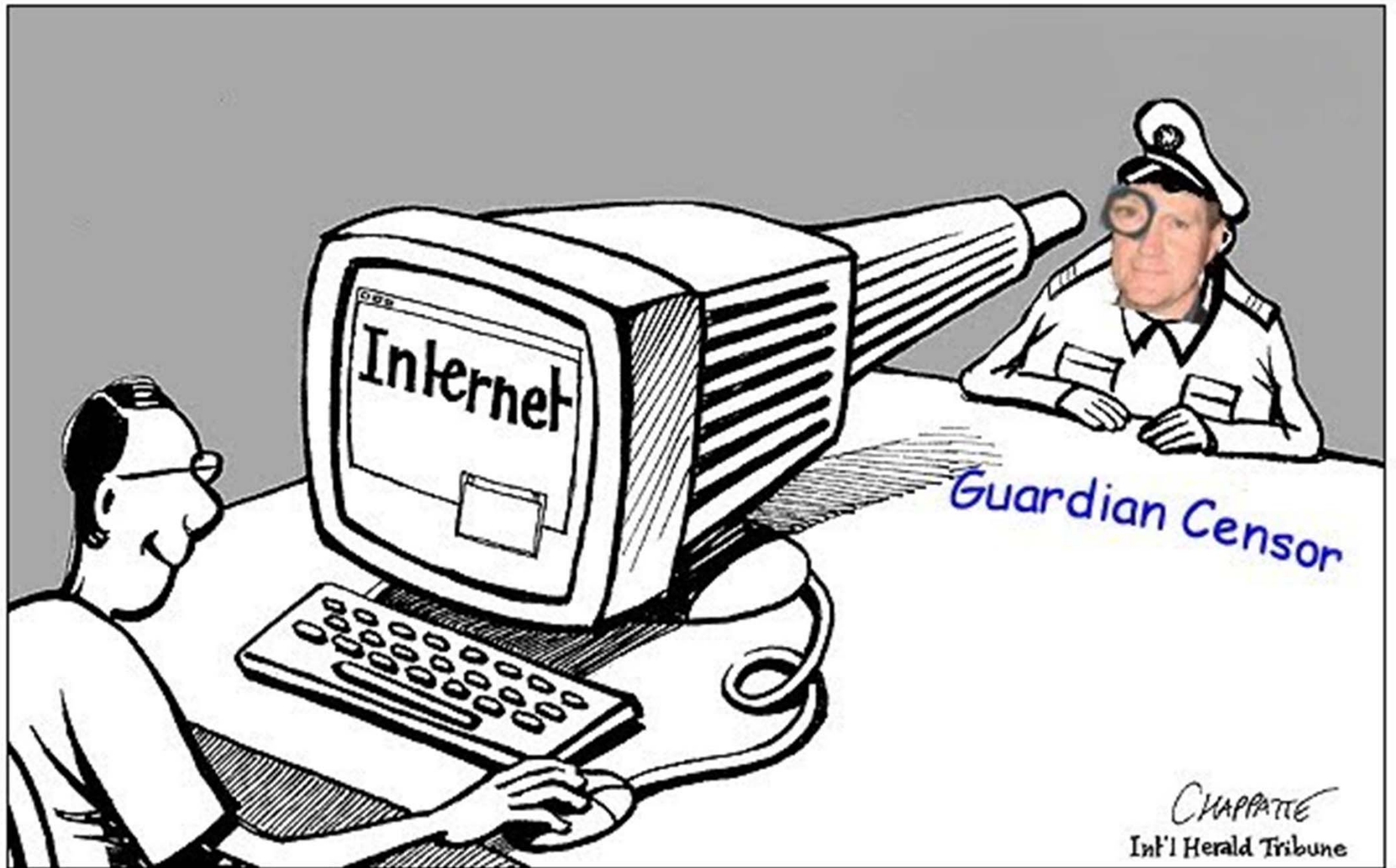
New rules of a new era

Your data may be stolen

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Appearances are deceiving

!!!
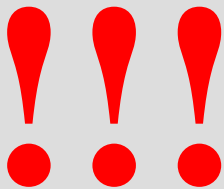
New rules of a new era

Appearances are deceiving

New rules of a new era

Your data may be stolen

Your computer may be shared

Appearances are deceiving

Perpetrator: Where and when?

Re-usability

!!!!

New rules of a new era

Re-usability

❗❗❗❗

New rules of a new era
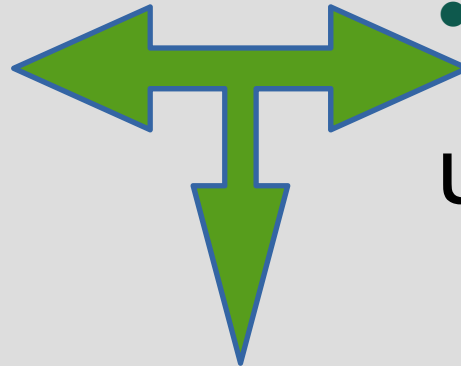

TRADITIONAL CONCEPTS ARE NOT VALID ANYMORE!

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Ethics

- universal and general rules of life

- natural moral rules (lex moralis naturalis): inner motivation

– to do the good

– to avoid the bad

- examples

– defense of life,

– defense of justice,

– defense of private property, etc.

Ethics

- objective rules (see prev. slide)

- subjective rules (made by mankind)

– ethical codex of an organization, e.g.

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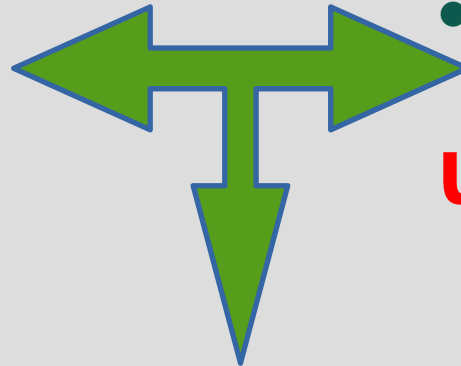
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Written and unwritten rules

- formal law vs. ethical/moral rules
- "Unwritten rules do exist and those people, who sometimes make written rules a little bit softer, must strictly keep them." (Rejtő)

Written and unwritten rules

- Consciousness is always before written law!
- Official law is stronger than you.

IT-ethics

- Three laws of robitics,
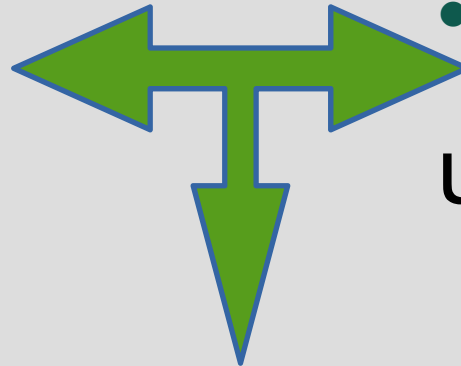by Isaac Asimov, 1942.

- Computer ethics,
by Moor, 1985

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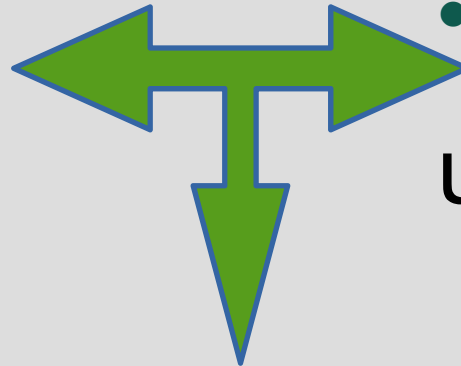
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Questions and problems

- Copyright (music, movie, software)
- Content filtering (censorship?)
- Freedom of speech, anonymity
- Whistleblowing (Edward Snowden, e.g.)
- Online life and privacy
- Technical field
- ???

Copyright, music

- case of Capitol Records v. Thomas-Rasset

- 1.500.000 USD for sharing 12 songs

- Is it real and normal?

- Can the whole society be criminalized? (when anyone can up-/download music)

Copyright, movie

- (Bodó, Lakatos, 2010):
¾ of torrentable movies were
 not available in cinemas

- How many cinemas in Bor? In Belgrade?

- How many movies do exist?

- Is it true that one download means one less cinema ticket?

- Can the whole society be criminalized?
(when anyone can up-/download music)

Copyright, books

- What if the book cannot be bought in paper?
- Should they be lost forever for the new generations?

Copyright, software

- Developer is not responsible for anything?

- If you wanted to test a software before buying it?

- If a student wanted to try out a particular sw?

Copyright

- Is downloading good for the society itself?

- ...for the bands and film studios?

- May free file-sharing make greater benefit...

– ...for the whole society than the losses of the industry?

– ...even for the industry itself?

Content filtering / censorship

- Should parents decide what content their children may (must not) access?

- What if school rules differ from home rules?

Content filtering / censorship

- Internet usage of employees at an enterprise?

- What in case of BYOD, official and private usage cannot be strictly distinguished?

Content filtering / censorship

- State financed (local government) institutions: Should they finance accessing...

– porn sites?

– The Terrorist's Handbook?

Content filtering / censorship

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- Research for steganography in porn photos?

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– The Terrorist's Handbook?

- Research for steganography in porn photos?

- Great Firewall of China?

Content filtering / censorship

- Technical problems:

- xxx: aic78xxx SCSI driver,

- babes: Babes-Bolyai University, etc.

- photo/audio/movie filtering...

Freedom of speech, anonymity

- Should ISP give user data to police?

- Lavabit case (Snowden)

- Difference between private conversation and publication?

– Shared (and further shared) posts on FB?

Whistleblowing

- Is an Edward Snowden a terrorist or a hero?

Online life and privacy

- Should, e.g., a FB profile be part of the heritage?

- What to do with accounts of dead people?

- Charity workers posed as a (fake) 10 year „old" Filipina girl – a supposed-to-be pedophile guy was convicted.

- What law(s) must be applied when:

- service provider in one country,

- data center in another,

- user is citizen of a third...?

Technical field

- Government backdoors?

- If those backdoors got known by others?

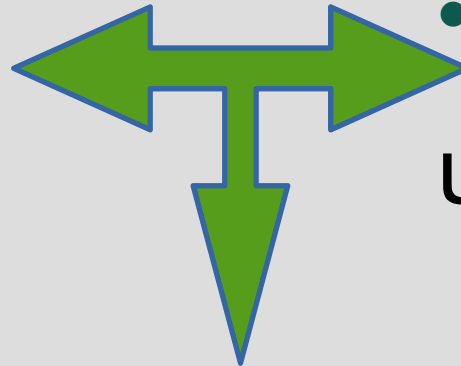- Even in case of SSL encryption used by netbanking (too)?

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What to do?

- quickly changing world – paradigm shift

- relevance of ethics is much higher

- role of education and learning is stronger

- formal education is important
world is changing faster than any field in past

- technical knowledge

– necessary

– not enough

- must – possible/acceptable – unacceptable