

Information Theory: The State of the Union, the State of the Art, and the Shape of the Horizon

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2019 Information Theory Society President

Who are these Characters?

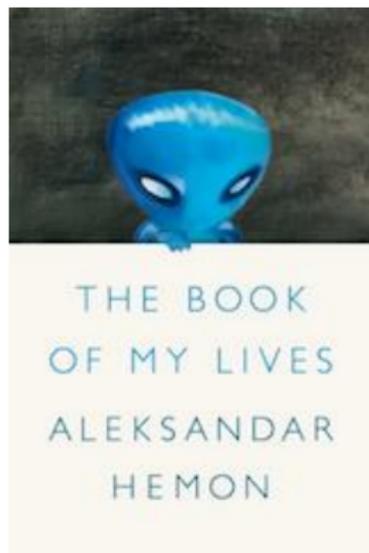
Wise fools in many cultures ...



... preach to the choir and the congregation.

THE STATE(S) OF OUR SOCIETY

The Aquarium by Aleksandar Hemon



I had a strong physical sensation of being in an aquarium: I could see out, the people outside could see me (if they chose to pay attention), but we were living and breathing in entirely different environments.

Who Knows the Solution?

Powers of St. Anthony & some Lesser Known Saints

EVERY UNHAPPY FAMILY IS UNHAPPY IN ITS OWN WAY.

⇒ We can learn a lot from other technical societies,
but their solutions may not be relevant to our problems.

How can the IT Society help its members in the times of
#MeToo and ML ?



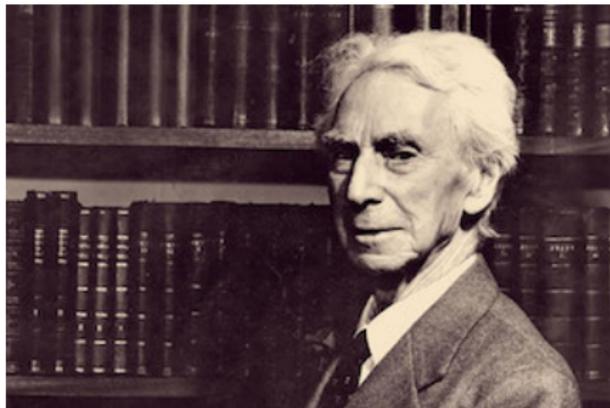
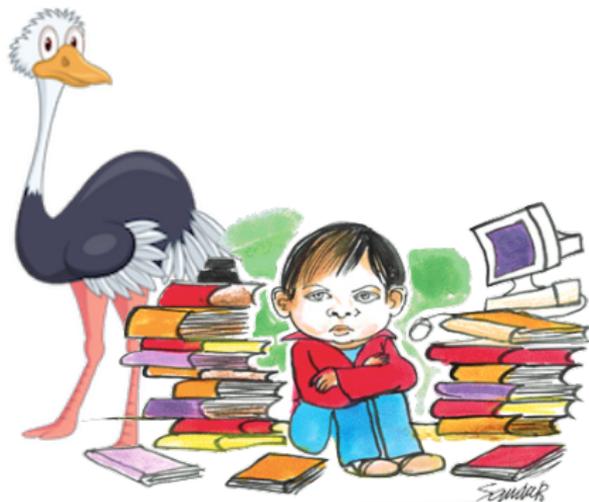
FORGET NOT:

The IT Society was awarded the 2014 IEEE Professional Development Award, which recognizes exemplary educational, mentoring, and member support services.

STAY TUNED

for the second part of this session.

(Personalized) Ways of Coping



War is always a great evil ...

*but in some particularly extreme circumstances,
it may be the lesser of two evils. (still Russell)*

A War with Peace in Mind



Blame, Attack, and Threaten! But beware of the nice!



Bring up the VALUES argument! But know that this is a nuclear option!



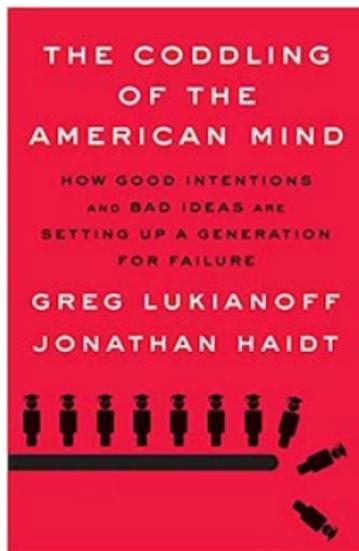
Ask a question: How are we going to keep this from happening again?

In the Time of Convalescence

BRAT Diet



Caution, may lead to



Making Peace with IT and Other People



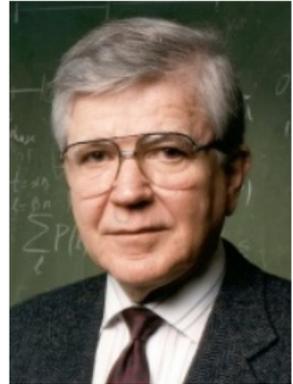
Luck or Reason?



L'enfer, c'est les autres!

BUT SO IS HEAVEN!

THE STATE(S) OF OUR TECHNICAL FIELD



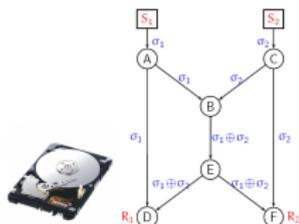
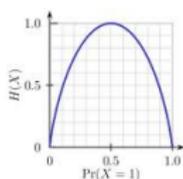
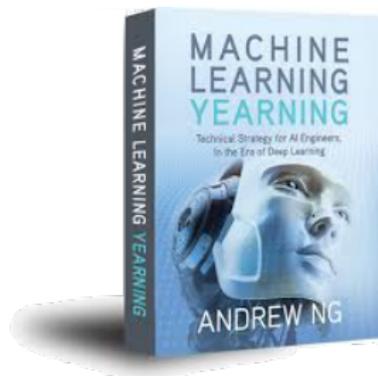
You don't! If you are lucky, you find out in 30 – 40 years.



How do you know you are doing good research?

Should we Change Fields?

Be mindful about your **IDENTITY** & **INTEGRITY**!



What Should We (Not) Become?



Learning Survival Skills from (Cat) Books?

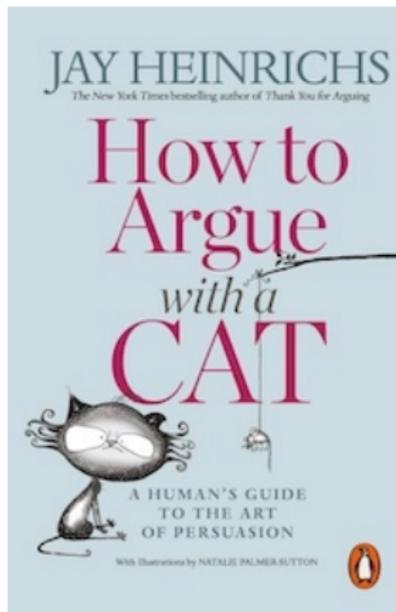
proposal time

SAVE THE CAT!
The Last Book On Screenwriting That You'll Ever Need!

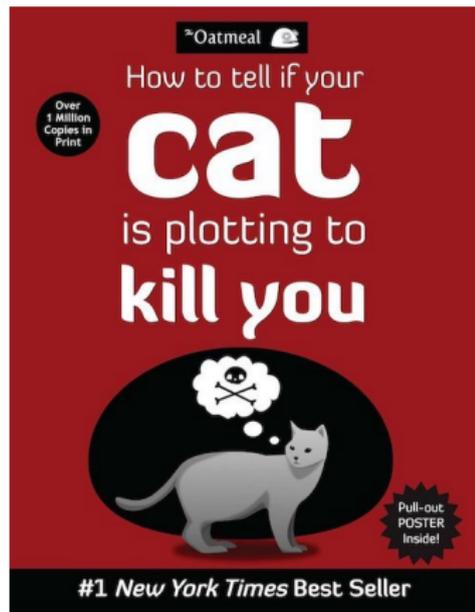


BLAKE SNYDER

faculty meetings



your lab meetings



... yes, cats



but not their owners.

Who Should We Ask for Advice?

Each Other? Sister IEEE Societies?

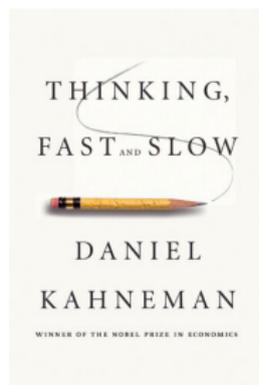
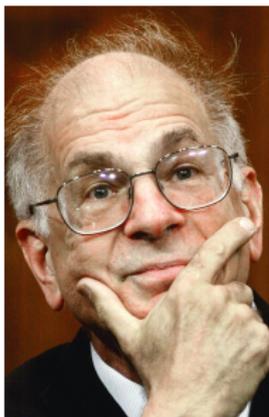
You know a lot of geniuses, y'know.



You should meet some stupid people once in a while, y'know.

You could learn something!

Can We Succeed?



success = talent + luck

great success = a little more talent + a lot of luck

The Rest of the Session



Yours Truly

who finds solace in "The Plague"

... and to state quite simply what we learn in time of pestilence: that there are more things to admire in men than to despise.

... the tale he had to tell could not be one of a final victory ... only the record of what had to be done ... by all who, while **unable to be saints** but refusing to bow down to pestilences, strive their utmost to be healers.



... *the plague bacillus never dies or disappears for good ...*