

Education in the third machine age

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Agenda of my talk

1. Context: The third machine age
2. Behavioral and economic implications
3. Education and technical change
4. Conclusions

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FIRST MACHINE AGE

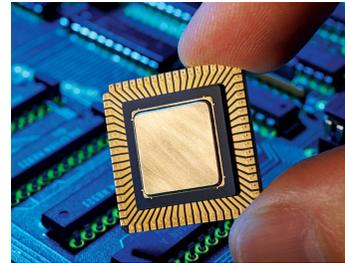
- Machines with cognitive power



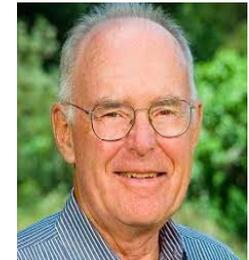
1960's



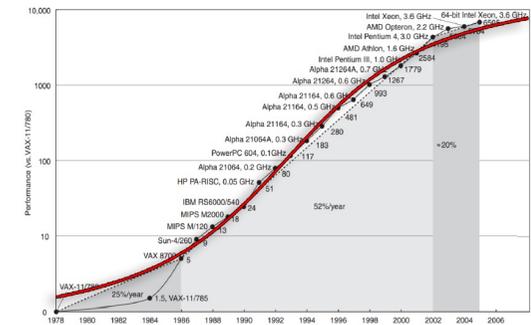
1970's



1980's



Gordon Moore 1929-today. Cofounder of Fairchild in 1957 and Intel in 1968

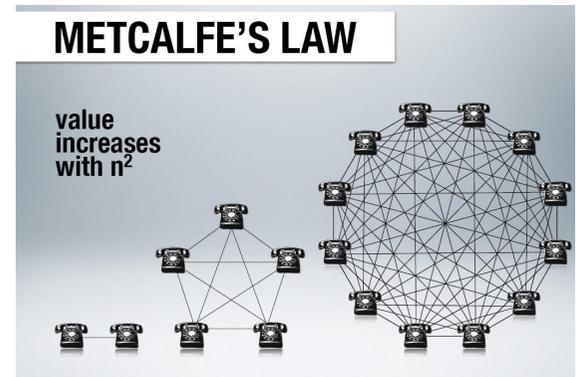


SECOND MACHINE AGE

- Information and relations at the fingertips

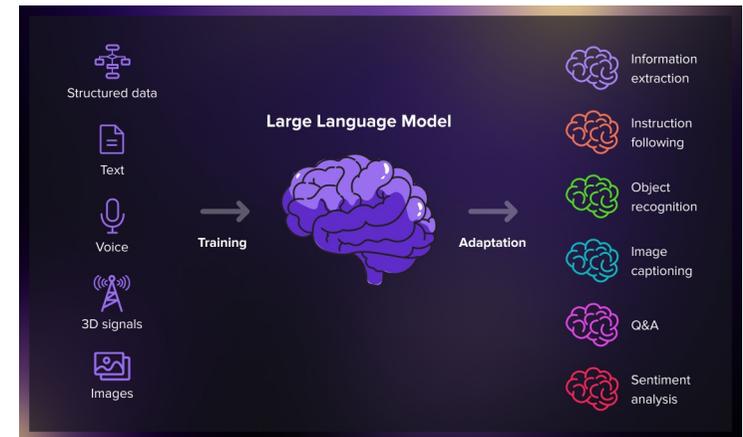
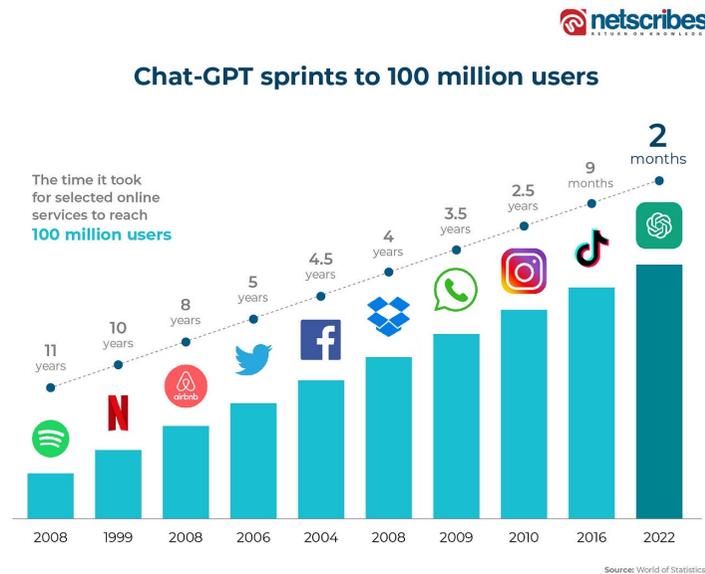
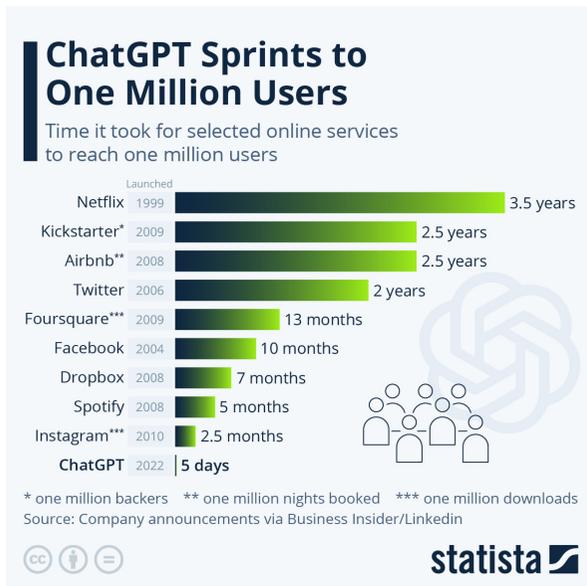


Bob Metcalfe
co-creator of the
Ethernet in 1974
at Xerox



THE THIRD MACHINE AGE

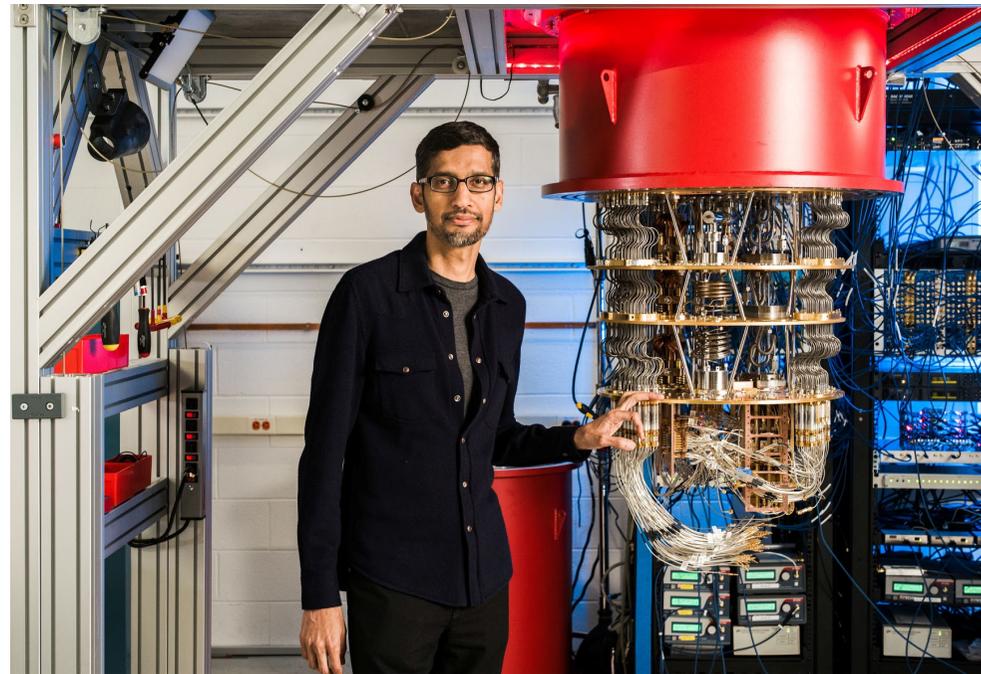
- “Skills at the fingertips” Satya Nadella, WEF Jan 2024



FROM BITS TO QUBITS

A binary digit, characterized as 0 or 1, is used to represent information in classical computers.

There are two possible outcomes for the measurement of a qubit—usually taken to have the value "0" and "1", like a bit or binary digit. However, whereas the state of a bit can only be either 0 or 1, the general state of a qubit according to quantum mechanics can be a coherent superposition of both. Moreover, whereas a measurement of a classical bit would not disturb its state, a measurement of a qubit would destroy its coherence and irrevocably disturb the superposition state.

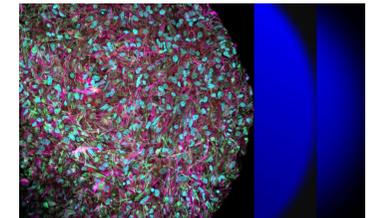
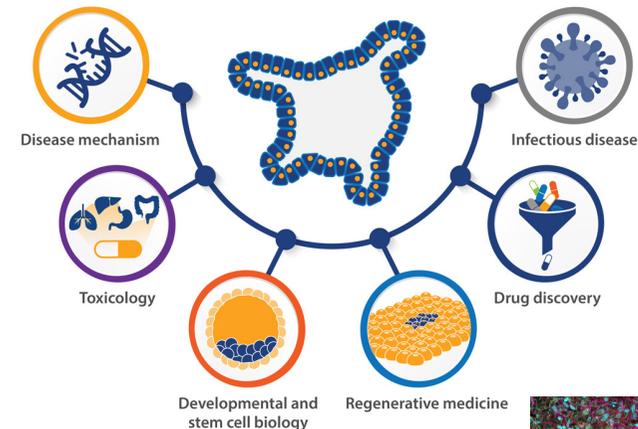


Sundar Pichai, CEO of Google, with a quantum computer

ORGANOIDS AND COMPUTING

Organic computing is computing that behaves and interacts with humans in an organic manner. The term "organic" is used to describe the system's behavior, and does not imply that they are constructed from organic materials. It is based on the insight that we will soon be surrounded by large collections of autonomous systems, which are equipped with sensors and actuators, aware of their environment, communicate freely, and organize themselves in order to perform the actions and services that seem to be required.

Organoid Applications



<https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/science/article-hubs/organoid-intelligence-a-new-biocomputing-frontier/lay-summary>

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DISRUPTION OF BEHAVIORS

“Many companies have us engaging in behaviors that would have seemed unthinkably foolhardy as recently as five years ago. We are hopping into strangers’ cars ([Lyft](#), [Sidecar](#), [Uber](#)), welcoming them into our spare rooms ([Airbnb](#)), dropping our dogs off at their houses ([DogVacay](#), [Rover](#)), and eating food in their dining rooms ([Feastly](#)). We are letting them rent our cars ([RelayRides](#), [Getaround](#)), our boats ([Boatbound](#)), our houses ([HomeAway](#)), and our power tools ([Zilok](#)). *We are entrusting complete strangers with our most valuable possessions, our personal experiences - and our very lives.*” (italics added)

(Wired, April 23 issue 2014).



STUDENTS IN THE CLASSROOM



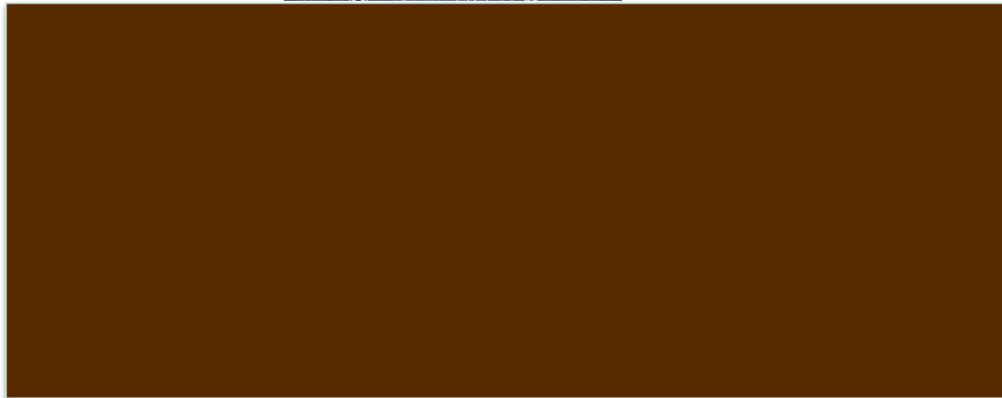
INDUSTRIES AND THE TECHNOLOGICAL CLIFF

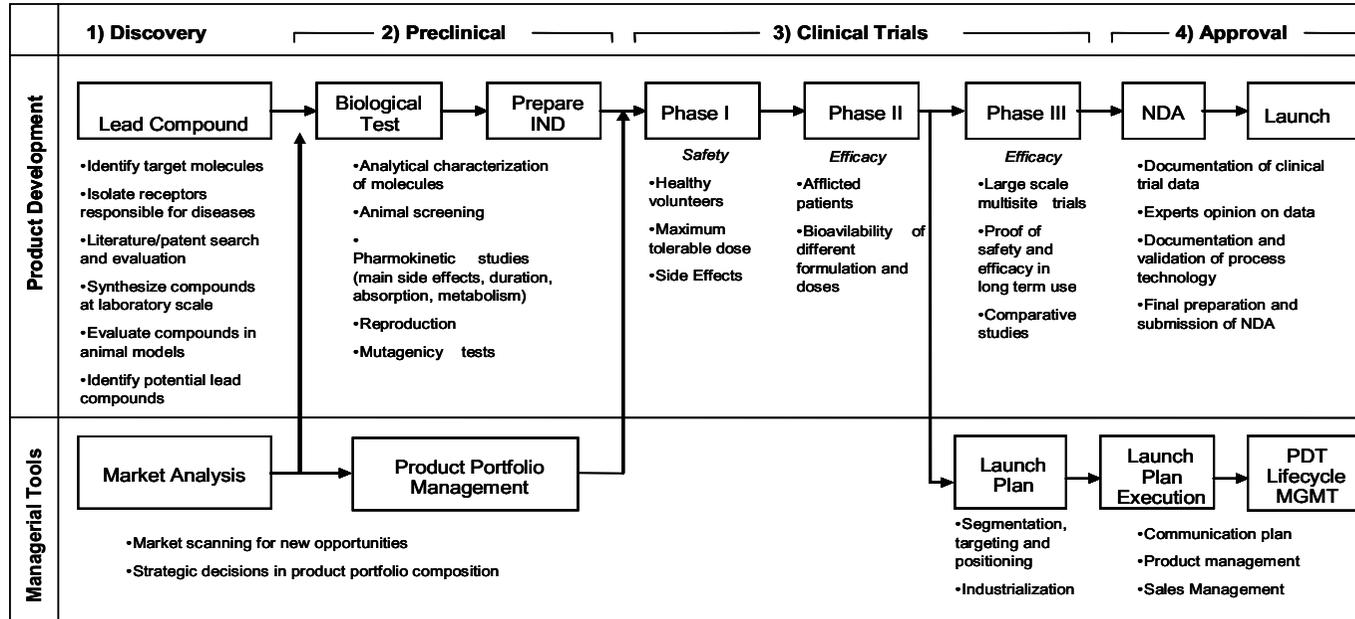
Manufacturing ind Fintech

TV&Movies Music

News

Retailing



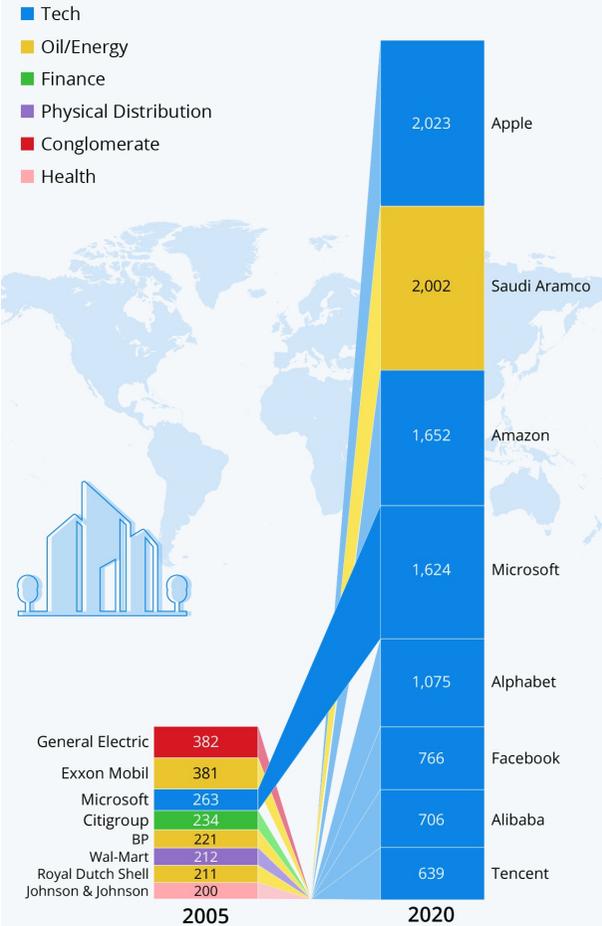


ECONOMIC IMPACT



The Age of the Tech Giants

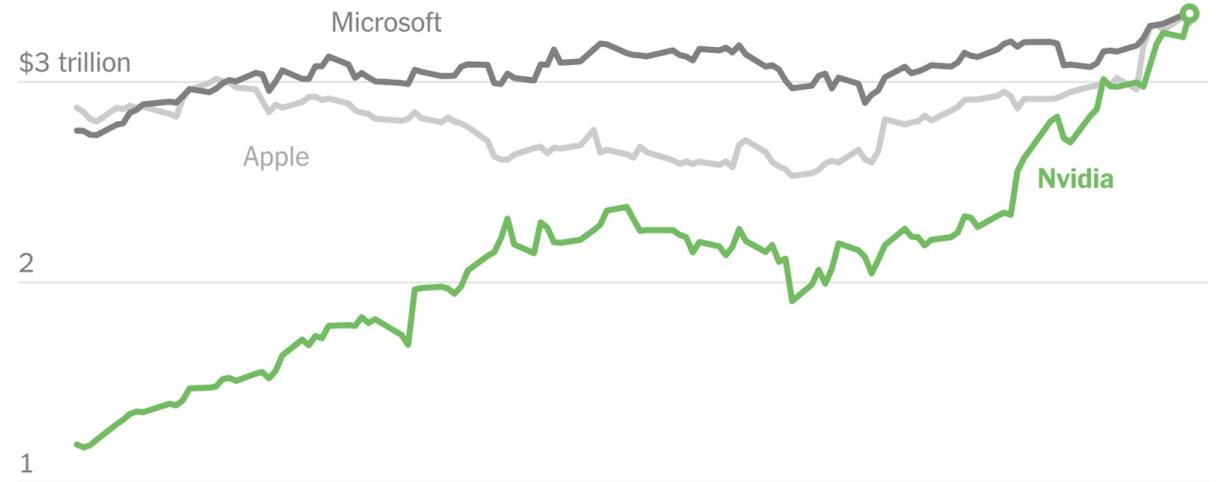
Companies with the world's largest market capitalizations in 2005 and 2020 (in billion U.S. dollars)*



* As of March 31, 2005 and August 20, 2020.
Sources: Financial Times, Yahoo! Finance



CONTINUES

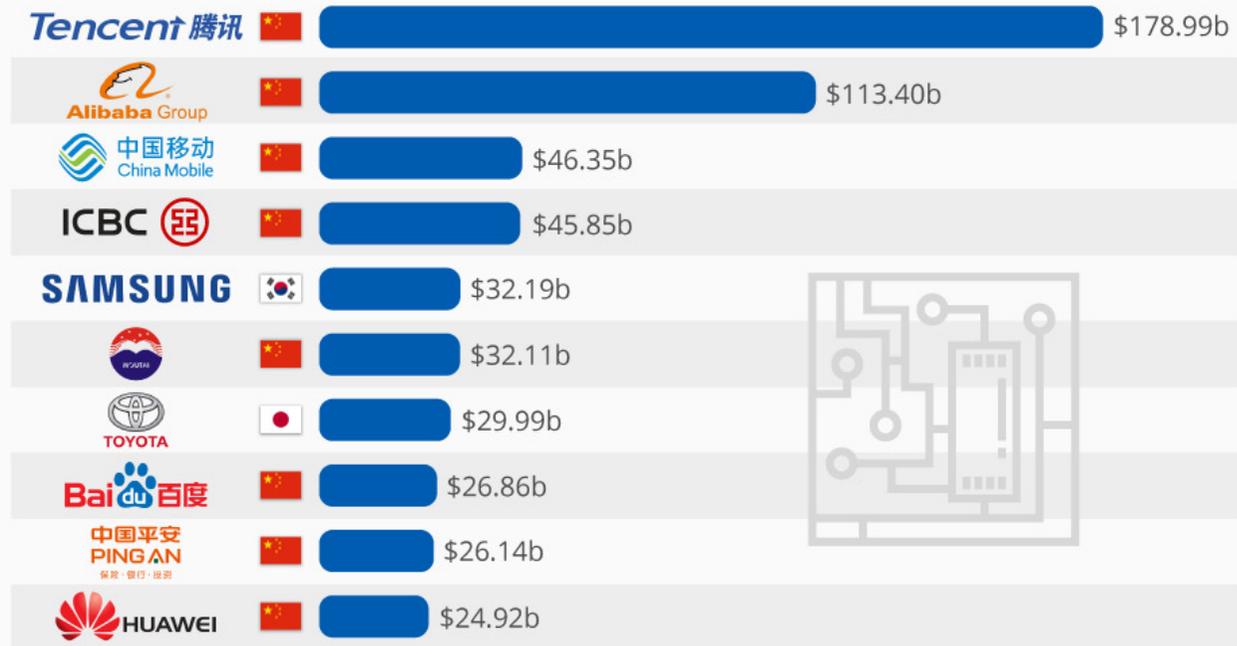


Market Value Since the Beginning of the Year

CONTINUES

Chinese tech giants lead Asia's top 10 brands

Top 10 most valuable corporate brands in Asia as of May 2018*



* Value has been rounded.
@StatistaCharts Source: Kantar Millward Brown

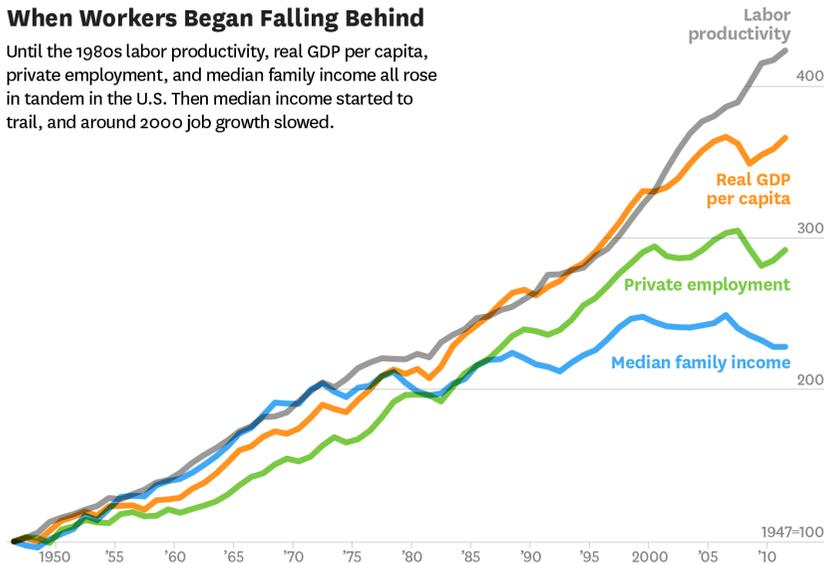
COLD WAR 2.0



MORE IMPORTANTLY: WORK AND DIVIDE

When Workers Began Falling Behind

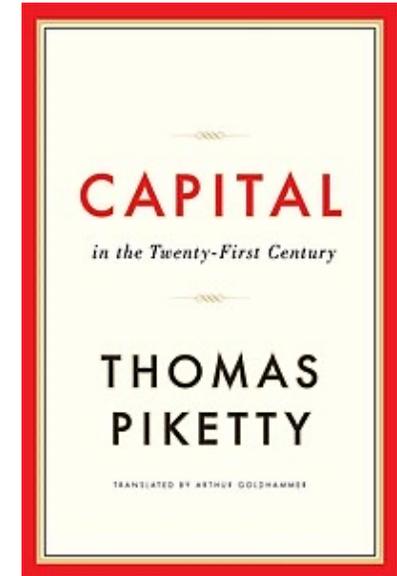
Until the 1980s labor productivity, real GDP per capita, private employment, and median family income all rose in tandem in the U.S. Then median income started to trail, and around 2000 job growth slowed.



SOURCE: FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF ST. LOUIS; ERIK BRYNJOLFSSON AND ANDREW MCAFEE
FROM "THE GREAT DECOUPLING," JUNE 2015

© HBR.ORG

«The great decoupling»
Brynjolfsson and McAfee 2015



Thomas Piketty (above) e Claudia Goldin (below)



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Would Chat GPT Get a Wharton MBA?



CHRISTIAN TERWIESCH

<https://mackinstitute.wharton.upenn.edu/2023/would-chat-gpt3-get-a-wharton-mba-new-white-paper-by-christian-terwiesch/>

CONTENT: STEM AND INTERDISCIPLINARITY

- More STEM: From kindergarten to 12
- More modularity of learning in high school:
 - Humanities with STEM and STEM with humanities
- More interdisciplinary curricula at the university level
 - Depth of knowledge but also breadth



PROCESS: FLIPPED CLASSROOM?

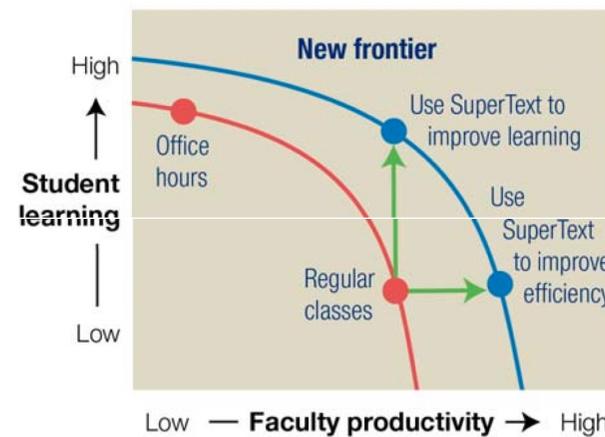
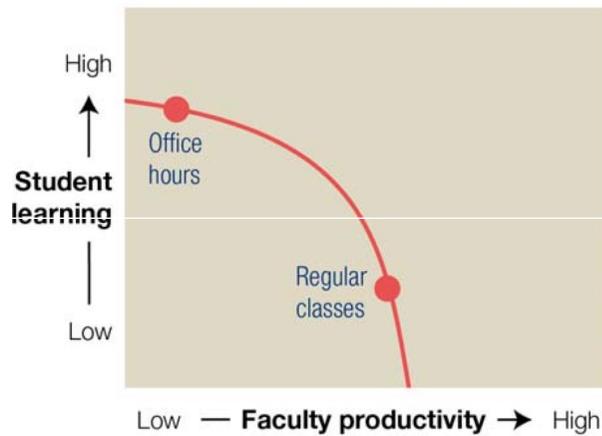


KARL ULRICH

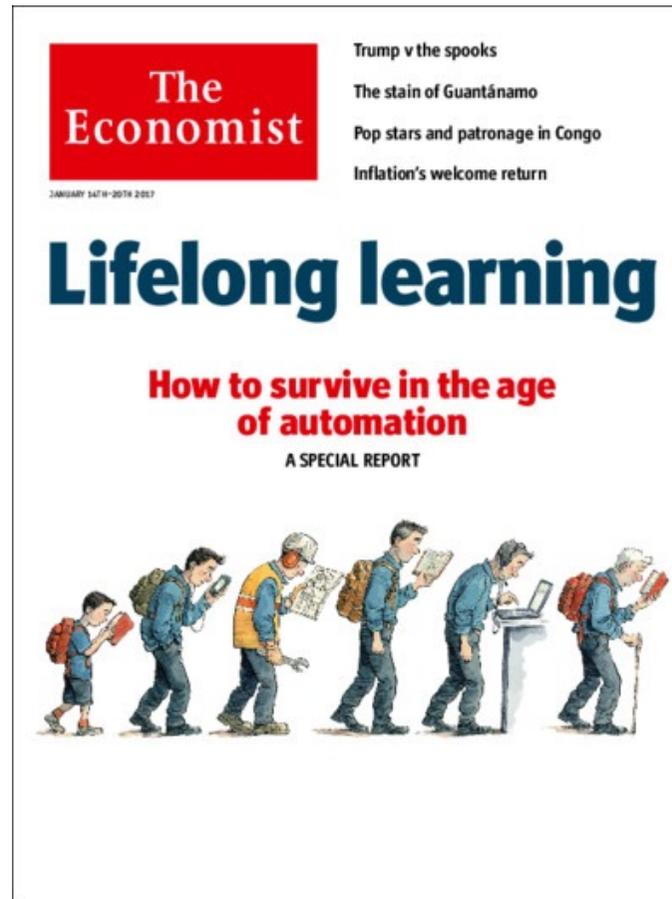


CHRISTIAN TERWIESCH

<http://mackinstitute.wharton.upenn.edu/2014/will-video-kill-classroom-star/>



NEETS AND WORKERS: TRAINING!



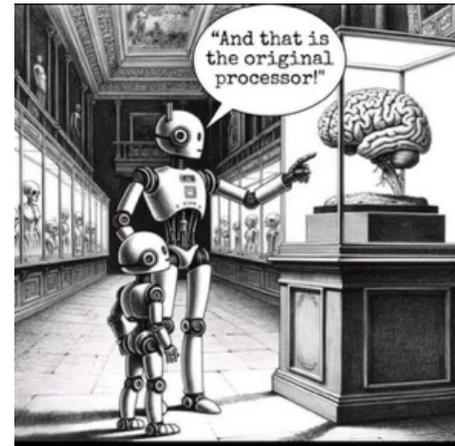
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TO CONCLUDE

- History tells us that waves of technological change are unstoppable (although governable)
- We are living a third machine age which opens opportunities but also important caveats
- In addition to direct regulation through EU, it is also crucial to provide the right incentive to people and firms to innovate
- With regard to education, revising curricula to inject more STEM and interdisciplinarity and the classroom experience is a great starting point
- Supporting training for NEETS and in general seniors will be as much as important

Thank you!
Questions?



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