

Abstract: The tradition of the last few centuries allows **mathematics** to reveal purely formal meanings, science to add meanings acquired through experiment formally supported by mathematics, and knowledge to come with its purely experimentally accessed meanings. Information technology, IT, manages, in the last few decades, to change the hierarchical balance established between sense, significance and syntax in the trio formed by knowledge, science and mathematics. By relating to IT, the relationships between the latter change, primarily because their nature is strongly influenced by the new actor on the scene of the interaction of the human mind with existence. The relationship with IT of each form of access to the meanings of existence becomes dominant, and the interaction between these forms is increasingly intensified through information media. The central and mediating position that IT acquires induces more complex and nuanced relationships in the knowledge - science - mathematics trio, which will hopefully allow access to a wider range of meanings.

IT is an integrative technology

- ♦ By the main functions of IT:
 - ♦ Modeling
 - ♦ Simulating
 - ♦ Interconnecting (internet of things & more)
 - ♦ Sensing (gathering information)
 - ♦ Learning (from the acquired data)
 - ♦ Acting (according to AI-based decisions)
- ♦ IT increases the complexity of our approach
- ♦ But we are faced with unpredictable consequences

In the pre-informatic age

♦ Mathematics: *build* abstract systems

governed by syntactic order

of forms partially inspired by the real world

♦ Science: *reveals* forms in the real world

by reducing real phenomena

to rigorously manageable forms

Knowledge: appropriates useful meanings

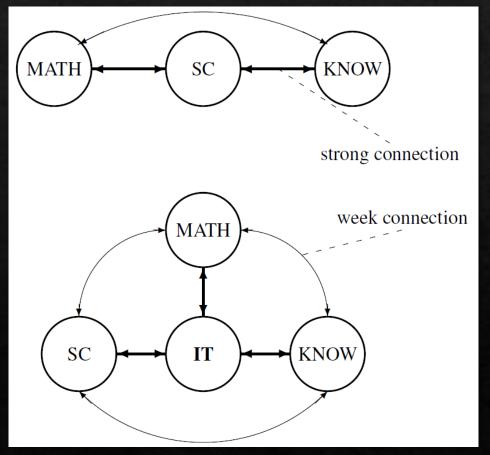
as evocative senses

considering real phenomena, where the scientific reduction doesn't work

IT multiplies strongly mediated connections in the triad Mathematics – Science – Knowledge

In the pre-informational age

In the information age



What is added in the information age

♦ Mathematics:

acquires experimental instruments borrowed from science mediated by information technologies (provides approximate solutions for hard problems)

♦ Science:

discovering by complex and intense simulation (how proteins fold) investigating hidden realities using data processing (looking for oil fields)

♦ Knowledge:

add knowledge by appropriate learning mechanisms (experimenting on real data using artificial intelligence technologies)

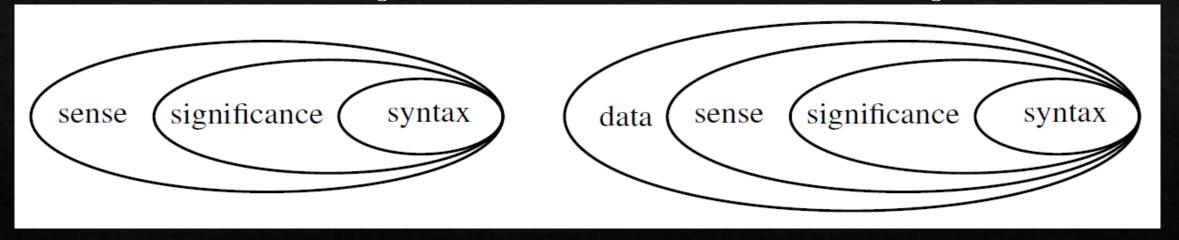
Symbolic spaces

Pre-information age

The new data symbolic layer wrapped around the traditional layers represented by:

- ♦ Syntactic order
- ♦ Significance
- ♦ Sense

Information age



Data is a *buffer* emerged between the real world and the traditional symbolic word. The natural symbolic space is isolated from the real world by more or less structured data.



Thank You!

Questions

&

possible answers

Întrebare:

Ana Bazac:

pentru dl profesor Stefan: (pentru mine este un singur calup de intrebari) este cumva o legatura intre rolul matematicii asa cum a fost prezentat si, pe de alta parte, calitatea in matematica? Exista aceasta calitate? Dar cum se defineste aceasta calitate in matematica? Si nu se poate sa legam definitiile calitatii in matematica de calitatea din IT? A propos de meanings (sensuri, semnificatii)? Se poate?

Răspuns:

Calitatea in matematica este specificata, de regula, prin acuratete. Problema se pune incepand cu sfarsitul secolului al 17-lea odata cu aparitia calculului infinitesimal (ex: precizia cu care se poate folosi o dezvoltare in serie pentru a aproxima valoarea intoarsa de o functie). Insa atunci nu vorbeam de o situatie critica, pentru ca aproximatiile obtinute erau intotdeuna acceptabile. Astazi, problemele pe care le abordam cu metodele matematicii experimentale bazate le TI, sunt probleme critice pentru care solutiile obtinute prin metode conventionale, riguroase, sunt departe de a da rezutate acceptabile. Este vorba, de regula, de probleme de optimizare pentru care computatia creste exponential cu dimesiunea variabilelor implicate. TI permit folosirea unor euristici care ofera solutii ce se apropie de optim, mai mult sau mai putin, in functie de efortul (financiar, computational, intelectual) implicat. In acest sens am putea vorbi astazi de rezultate matematice cu o calitate cuantificabila.

O alta modalitate de interferenta a TI in matematica este obtinerea unor rezultate matematice prin metode pur computationale (ex: teorema celor patru culori). Atunci cand metodele matematice traditionale nu fac fata, uneori forta bruta a computerelor ofera solutii. Asta nu descalifica matematica, atat timp cat TI sunt fundamentate pe logica si matematica.

Calitatea IT-ului provine strict din matematica iar aspectele cantitative provin din tehnologiile electronice.

Deocamdata, IT prin matematica permite accesul la un spatiu extins al semnificatiilor. Nu pot spune, in acest stadiu al intelegerii mele, nimic despre sensuri.

Întrebare:

Henrieta Şerban:

Referitor la expunerea d-lui Ștefan, mă gândeam dacă s-ar putea modela o dinamica a unei relaționări sau chiar a unei stimulări reciproce între relațiile slabe și cele tari ...între matematică și tehnologie, spre exemplu.

Răspuns:

Directia de investigare pe care o sugerati este promitatoare. Daca voi redacta un text bazat pe ce am prezentat, atunci voi elabora suplimentar asupra diferentelor dintre relatiile slabe si cele tari. De asemenea, intradevar, discutia despre tehnologie trebuie extinsa si dincolo de limitarea la tehnologiile informatice.