

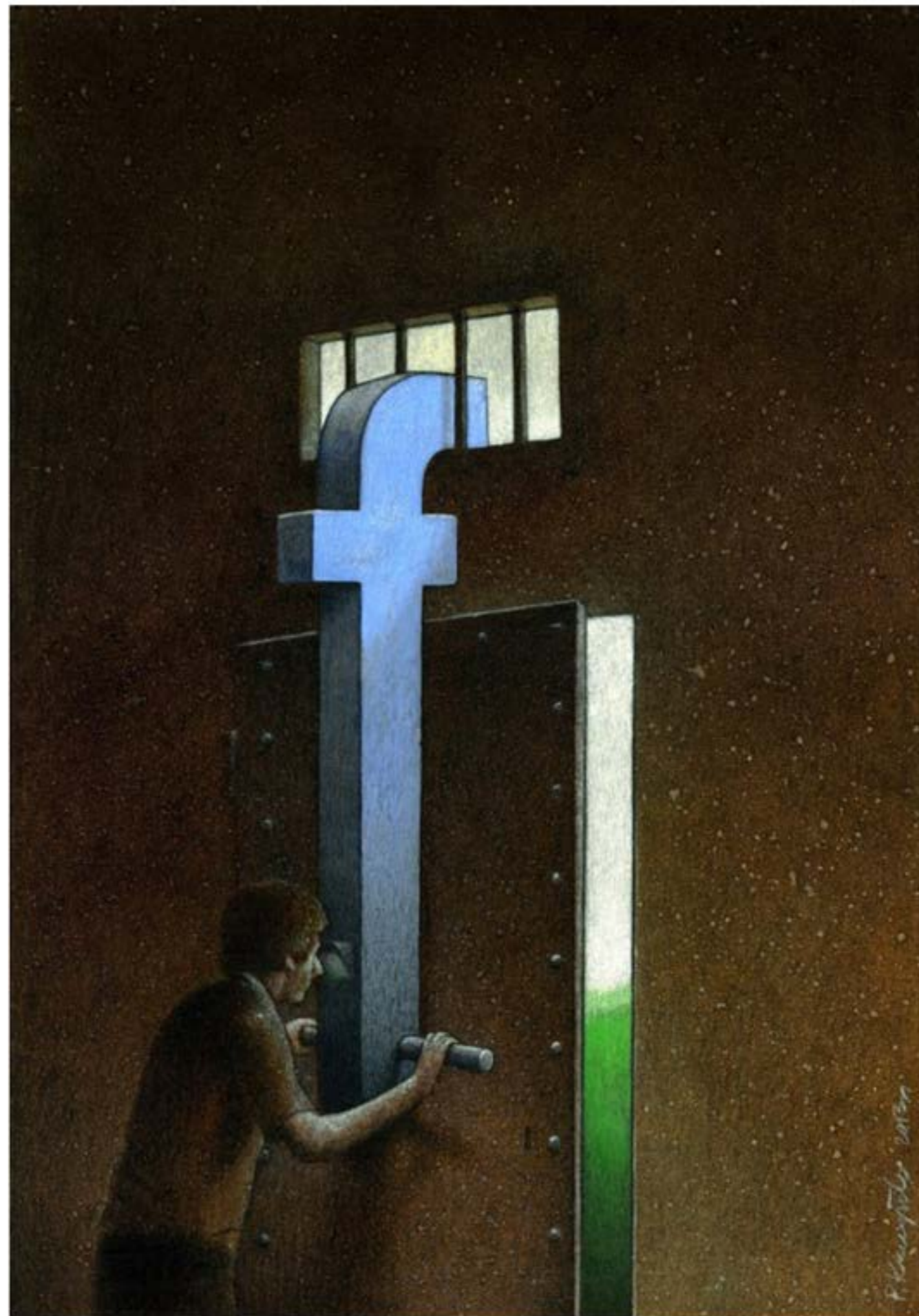
statements

- a little **semantics** goes a long way to **both granting and harming** a **trade-off between privacy and security**
- the **trade-off** between privacy and security is a suq-like issue, where the **attempts to cleanly control** it may create **more harm than good**
- as with the majority of human-accessible worlds, **semantics is broken**, but humans **co-evolved** with brokenness: probably the only reason why we haven't collapsed yet

current opportunities

- transparency of dimensions and features to be used in data (graph) mining
- conceptual proximity of data
- linking emergent social discussion and existing data
- machine reading empowerment through linking to background knowledge

but



drawing by Pawel Kuczynski



Everything Is Broken

Quinn Norton:

it's hard to explain to regular people how much technology barely works, how much the infrastructure of our lives is held together by the IT equivalent of baling wire.

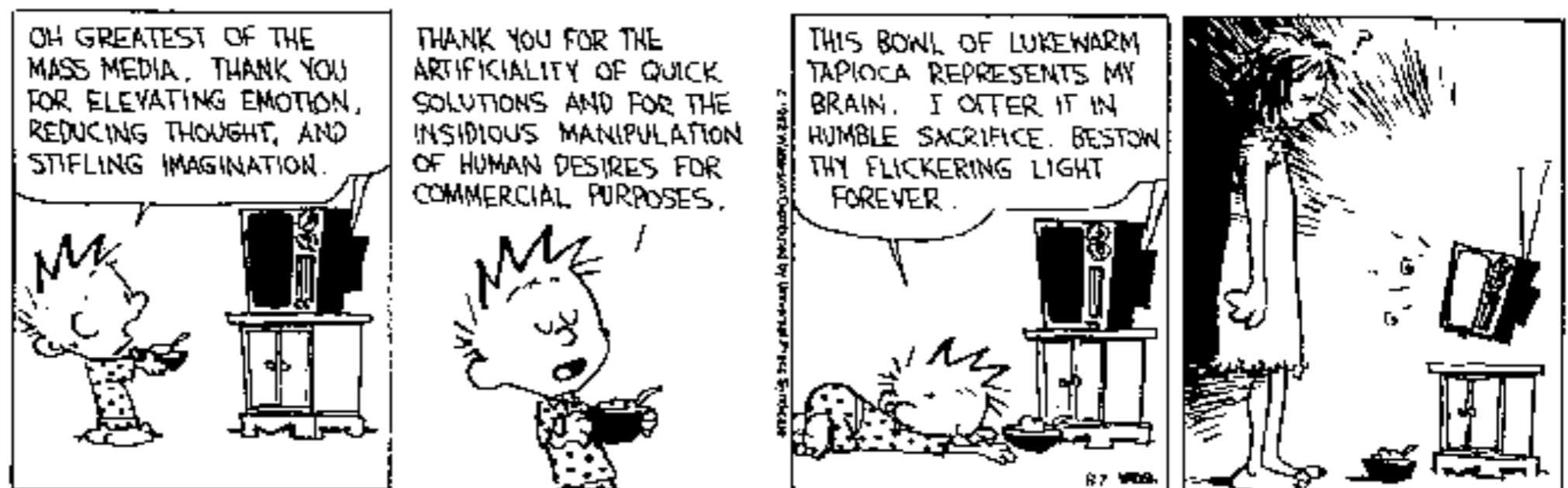
sec spoiler alert: Everything's got 0days, everyone's tracked, all the data leaks, all the things are vulnerable. It's all fucking pwned.

Jim Hendler:

why are we wasting the best minds of our generation on getting better ad sales on Web sites?

Calvin and Hobbes

by Bill Watterson



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but ...



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ANOMALY DETECTION AT MULTIPLE SCALES (ADAMS)

The Anomaly Detection at Multiple Scales (ADAMS) program creates, adapts and applies technology to anomaly characterization and detection in massive data sets. Anomalies in data cue the collection of additional, actionable information in a wide variety of real world contexts. The initial application domain is insider threat detection in which malevolent (or possibly inadvertent) actions by a trusted individual are detected against a background of everyday network activity.

still ...

SCIENCE

DARPA hands BBN \$30m in evil 'Machine Reading' plan

Satanic devil project to automate low-rent journalism

By Lewis Page, 29th June 2009

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A buyer's guide to endpoint protection platforms

Famed techsploration company BBN - renowned for inventing forerunner internet kit, and for giving the world the "@@" symbol in email addresses - has received a hefty wedge of green from the US military to automate out of business everyone who uses the internet for a living.

The Pentagon's Machine Reading programme, which we here on the Reg my-job-went-into-the-cloud desk reported on [last November](#), last week awarded BBN \$29.7m to develop processing software able to turn "natural language" information - for

instance text written by humans for humans - into "formal language" data usable by military AI systems. Machine Reading technology would be used particularly by military intelligence staff seeking to boil down mountains of information about theatres or areas of operation into useful form.

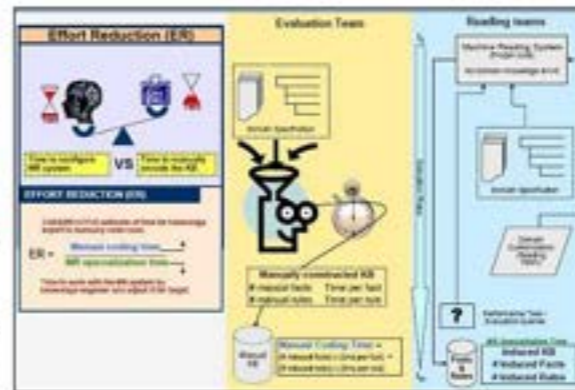
One need hardly add, of course, that Machine Reading comes to us courtesy of DARPA - the agency which seeks to develop the possibly-battle-winning technologies of the future not only before the enemy is able to do so, but in most cases before its own people are able to do so.

In the case of Machine Reading, DARPA plan to assess several candidate systems - BBN's among them - by a complex process apparently involving the implantation of a funnel into somebody's head (see graphic).

"The machine reading system that DARPA envisions is not evolutionary, but revolutionary," says Prem Natarajan, speech and language processing veep at BBN. "Such a system could eliminate many of the impediments to stability that our military faces such as a lack of understanding of local customs, and give us the ability to assess global technology developments continuously."

Sadly for many people, the Machine Reading ware would also be of use to skinflint biz and gov overlords seeking to avoid the expense of having people in offices reading the internet and reprocessing it. This could see intelligence officers, analysts and pundits of every stripe, even Reg hacks forced out of employment.

This last aspect of the matter may have something to do with the fact that all authoritative analysis suggests that Machine Reading can never work. ©



The spinoff cartoon series should be interesting, at least

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“satanic devil”
“it’ll never happen”
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The **FuturICT** project will do so by developing new scientific approaches and combining these with the best established methods in areas like multi-scale computer modeling, social supercomputing, large-scale data mining and participatory platforms.

FET flagship rejected (inter alia) as "scaring"

any solutions?

interview with TBL !

[CNET, March 13, 2009]

- **Q:** *researchers have warned that the combination of such personal information could lead to privacy compromises, including increased data mining ...*
 - Semantic Web technology “certainly” will enhance privacy, Berners-Lee said. “The Semantic Web project is developing **systems which will answer where data came from and where it's going to** - the system will be architected for a set of appropriate uses.”
 - Another principle of the Semantic Web is that **people** who make a Web request for personal information being held by third parties, such as companies and government agencies, **will be able to see all the data those organizations hold on them**, according to Berners-Lee.
 - ... the project will include **accountable data-mining components, which let people know who is mining the data**, and its teams are looking at making the **Web adhere to privacy preferences set by users**.

some proposals since 2009

- SIOC+FOAF
- OpenID, Okkam
- PROV-O
- ...

any impact on the web
yet?

2014 TBL reloading ...

- Are we going to set up something like a Magna Carta for the World Wide Web and say, actually, now it's so important, so much part of our lives, that it becomes on a level with human rights?
- Identifying the right tradeoff on the Web is probably even more complicated, as we deal with a virtual world, where geographical borders lose their importance and role.

- just a list of values in a Magna Carta?
- how articulated wrt ethical principles, legal norms?
- emerging from the crowds?



a little optimism

- co-evolution patterns in human societies
 - not Spencer's social darwinism (rather, Kropotkin's mutual aid)
 - but slow, while now accelerating
- but we need to get involved, and get used to defend our rights, preferably by using semantically-aware systems