



The Social Construction of Technological Systems

New Directions
in the
Sociology and
History
of Technology

edited by
Wiebe E. Bijker,
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and Trevor Pinch

Social Construction Of Technological Systems

Jane Summerton



Social Construction Of Technological Systems:

The Social Construction of Technological Systems Wiebe E. Bijker, Thomas Parke Hughes, Trevor J. Pinch, Trevor Pinch, 1989 The impact of technology on society is clear and unmistakeable The influence of society on technology is more subtle The 13 essays in this book have been written by a diverse group of scholars united by a common interest in creating a new field the sociology of technology They draw on a wide array of case studies from cooking stoves to missile systems from 15th century Portugal to today s AI labs to outline an original research program based on a synthesis of ideas from the social studies of science and the history of technology Together they affirm the need for a study of technology that gives equal weight to technical social economic and political questions Back cover *The social construction of technological systems*

Wiebe E. Bijker, Thomas P. Hughes, 1990 An anniversary edition of an influential book that introduced a groundbreaking approach to the study of science technology and society **The Social Construction of Technological Systems** Wiebe E. Bijker, Thomas Parke Hughes, Trevor Pinch, 1987 *The Social Construction of Technological Systems, anniversary edition*

Wiebe E. Bijker, Thomas Parke Hughes, Trevor Pinch, 2012-05-18 An anniversary edition of an influential book that introduced a groundbreaking approach to the study of science technology and society This pioneering book first published in 1987 launched the new field of social studies of technology It introduced a method of inquiry social construction of technology or SCOT that became a key part of the wider discipline of science and technology studies The book helped the MIT Press shape its STS list and inspired the Inside Technology series The thirteen essays in the book tell stories about such varied technologies as thirteenth century galleys eighteenth century cooking stoves and twentieth century missile systems Taken together they affirm the fruitfulness of an approach to the study of technology that gives equal weight to technical social economic and political questions and they demonstrate the illuminating effects of the integration of empirics and theory The approaches in this volume collectively called SCOT after the volume s title have since broadened their scope and twenty five years after the publication of this book it is difficult to think of a technology that has not been studied from a SCOT perspective and impossible to think of a technology that cannot be studied that way **The Social Construction of Technological Systems, anniversary edition**

Wiebe E. Bijker, Thomas Parke Hughes, Trevor Pinch, 2012-05-18 An anniversary edition of an influential book that introduced a groundbreaking approach to the study of science technology and society This pioneering book first published in 1987 launched the new field of social studies of technology It introduced a method of inquiry social construction of technology or SCOT that became a key part of the wider discipline of science and technology studies The book helped the MIT Press shape its STS list and inspired the Inside Technology series The thirteen essays in the book tell stories about such varied technologies as thirteenth century galleys eighteenth century cooking stoves and twentieth century missile systems Taken together they affirm the fruitfulness of an approach to the study of technology that gives equal weight to technical social economic and political questions and they demonstrate the illuminating effects of

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Enterprise Information Systems VI Isabel Seruca, José Cordeiro, Slimane Hammoudi, Joaquim Filipe, 2006-07-08 This book contains the best papers of the Sixth International Conference on Enterprise Information Systems ICEIS 2004 held in Porto Portugal and organized by INSTICC Institute for Systems and Technologies of Information Communication and Control in collaboration with PORTUCALENSE UNIVERSITY who hosted the event Following the route started in 1999 ICEIS has become a major point of contact between research scientists engineers and practitioners on the area of business applications of information systems This conference has received an increased interest every year from especially from the international academic community and it is now one of the world largest conferences in its area This year five simultaneous tracks were held covering different aspects related to enterprise computing including Databases and Information Systems Integration Artificial Intelligence and Decision Support Systems Information Systems Analysis and Specification Software Agents and Internet Computing and Human Computer Interaction The sections of this book reflect the conference tracks *Changing Large Technical Systems* Jane Summerton, 2021-12-13 This international anthology presents case studies of historical and contemporary transformations of large technical systems such as railways telecommunications electricity and automobiles The authors working at the forefront of historical and social science research on the dynamics of large technical systems analyze how and why these systems undergo change Because of their important roles in contemporary society large technical systems such as railways airlines road systems telecommunications and electric power network share drawing considerable academic and political interest In this collaborative study on processes of change in large technical systems the contributing authors present historical and current case studies of transformation within these systems Working at the forefront of historical and social science research on the dynamics of large technical systems the authors specifically analyze how and why the systems undergo change In some cases new technologies are solving old problems and presenting opportunities for system growth In other areas new regulatory approaches have brought competition and deregulation often posing challenges to system builders The authors also show how the breakup of national boundaries and new corporate strategies for global management of technology are transforming systems in ways that will have significant impacts on all consumers *Social Science, Technical Systems, and Cooperative Work* Geoffrey Bowker, Susan Leigh Star, Les Gasser, William Turner, 2014-05-12 This book is the first to directly address the question of how to bridge what has been termed the great divide between the approaches of systems developers and those of social scientists to computer supported cooperative work a question that has been vigorously debated in the systems development literature Traditionally developers have been trained in formal methods and oriented to engineering and formal theoretical problems many social scientists in the CSCW field come from humanistic

traditions in which results are reported in a narrative mode In spite of their differences in style the two groups have been cooperating more and more in the last decade as the problems associated with computing become increasingly evident to everyone The authors have been encouraged to examine rigorously and in depth the theoretical basis of CSCW With contributions from field leaders in the United Kingdom France Scandinavia Mexico and the United States this volume offers an exciting overview of the cutting edge of research and theory It constitutes a solid foundation for the rapidly coalescing field of social informatics Divided into three parts this volume covers social theory design theory and the sociotechnical system with respect to CSCW The first set of chapters looks at ways of rethinking basic social categories with the development of distributed collaborative computing technology concepts of the group technology information user and text The next section concentrates more on the lessons that can be learned at the design stage given that one wants to build a CSCW system incorporating these insights what kind of work does one need to do and how is understanding of design affected The final part looks at the integration of social and technical in the operation of working sociotechnical systems Collectively the contributors make the argument that the social and technical are irremediably linked in practice and so the great divide not only should be a thing of the past it should never have existed in the first place

The Governance of Socio-Technical Systems Susana Borrás, Jakob Edler, 2014-11-28 Why are so few electric cars in our streets today Why is it difficult to introduce electronic patient records in our hospitals To answer these questions we need to understand how state and non state actors interact with the purpose of transforming so

Social Responses to Large Technical Systems Todd R. La Porte, 2012-12-06 This volume stems from the efforts of scholars who seek to understand the social dynamics of large technical systems The purpose is to develop concepts and empirical knowledge concerning the dynamics of such systems with particular emphasis on the processes of control and or management in a variety of national settings and to improve the basis of public policy so that future developments might be less distressing in consequence and more shaped to the desires of their host societies One vehicle for this enterprise is a series of international conferences on the Evolution and Dynamics of Large Technical Systems LTSs This series was instituted to encourage the coalescence of the multidisciplinary group of scholars who are actively engaging in the empirical study of these phenomena Their disciplines span history sociology political science and economics studies They come from Australia France the Netherlands Norway Sweden the United Kingdom the United States and West Germany And they possess strong backgrounds in the empirical study of specific technical areas and a taste for conceptual and theoretical integration

Conceptualizing Technological Change Govindan Parayil, 2002 Technological change has been rightfully identified as the single most important factor for improving material well being Yet despite its centrality in our lives we seem to know very little about technology and how it develops and changes both spatially and temporally In this original and thoughtful book Govindan Parayil draws together current scholarship from disciplines ranging from history to economics to sociology as he develops a cohesive theory of technological change Drawing on a

detailed case study of the Green Revolution in Indian agriculture Parayil convincingly argues that technological change is contingent upon the social historical process of knowledge change Thus he explores the policy implications of analyzing technological change as a problem solving activity An innovative contribution to the literature on technological change this ambitious book will also be valuable for those interested in such practical applications as understanding the process of technology transfer

The New Engineer Sharon Beder,1998

The Social Psychology of Science William R. Shadish,Steve Fuller,1994-01-01 The social psychology of science is a compelling new area of study whose shape is still emerging This erudite and innovative book outlines a theoretical and methodological agenda for this new field and bridges the gap between the individually focused aspects of psychology and the sociological elements of science studies Presenting a side of social psychology that until now has received almost no attention in the social sciences literature this volume offers the first detailed and comprehensive study of the social psychology of science complete with a large number of empirical and theoretical examples The volume s introductory section provides a detailed analysis of how modern social psychology might apply to the study of science Chapters show how to analyze science in terms of social cognition attribution theory attitudes and attitude change social motivation social influence and social conformity and intergroup relations weaving extensive illustrations from the science studies literature into the theoretical analysis The nature and role of experimentation are discussed as are metaanalytic methods for summarizing the results of multiple studies Ways to facilitate the generalization of causal inferences from experimental work are also examined The book focuses on such topics as interactions among small groups of scientists and the impact of social motivation influence and conformity on scientific work Also covered are scientists responses to ethical issues in research differences in cognitive style distribution creativity in research and development and the sociologists s view of the social psychology of science and technology In addition the book provides two annotated bibliographies one on the philosophy of science and the other on social psychology to guide readers in both disciplines to salient recent works Valuable to the entire science studies community this text will be of special interest to philosophers sociologists psychologists and historians of science interested in the nature of knowledge development in science Because of its novel application of social psychological theories and methods this book will be useful as a primary text or a secondary text in courses on science studies in psychology sociology or philosophy departments

The Governance of Large Technical Systems Olivier Coutard,2002-01-04 This work examines the governance of large technical systems LTS at firm industry and state levels and the interactions between the systems and society In particular international contributors explore the implications of major technological economic and social changes during the last twenty years for traditional forms of LTS governance Their research is centred around the following themes traditional forms of governance new regulatory challenges the governability of complex technologies conceptual issues related to the governance of inter organizational networks

Encyclopedia of Library and Information Sciences John D. McDonald,Michael

Levine-Clark,2017-03-15 The Encyclopedia of Library and Information Sciences comprising of seven volumes now in its fourth edition compiles the contributions of major researchers and practitioners and explores the cultural institutions of more than 30 countries This major reference presents over 550 entries extensively reviewed for accuracy in seven print volumes or online The new fourth edition which includes 55 new entire entries and 60 revised entries continues to reflect the growing convergence among the disciplines that influence information and the cultural record with coverage of the latest topics as well as classic articles of historical and theoretical importance

Ideas, Machines, and Values Stephen H. Cutcliffe,2000 Ideas Machines and Values is an introductory overview of the emergence of STS as a field of study as well as a portrait of its current interests and concerns The book examines the growth of STS from its birth in the mid 1960 s through its development as an interdisciplinary field to its present state Also addressed are the questions Why should we study STS and In what direction should STS be headed This work is highly recommended for anyone interested in building a solid foundation for Science Technology and Society Studies

Responsible Innovation in Large Technological Systems J. Roland Ortt,David van Putten,Linda M. Kamp,Ibo van de Poel,2020-03-04 Large technological systems such as seaports nuclear power stations wind farms and natural gas extraction provide vital functions for society And yet these large technological systems have an impact on different stakeholder groups in both positive and negative ways This book defines responsible innovation and describes how both the innovation process and the resulting innovation outcome can be designed created and implemented in a way that respects the various stakeholder groups involved and affected by the system Taking a case based approach a number of large technological systems are profiled including hydraulic engineering nuclear energy smart metering and wind power The values of each of the stakeholder groups and the costs and benefits of the systems presented are analysed The book concludes by combining these insights to provide a framework for how responsible innovation of large technological systems can be implemented in practice The book will be of particular interest to undergraduate and postgraduate students and researchers in technology and innovation management and corporate governance CSR and business ethics

Teaching and Learning about Technological Systems Jonas Hallström,P. John Williams,2022-01-31 This book discusses the teaching and learning about technological systems in technology education and adjacent curriculum areas It describes analyzes and synthesizes contemporary research on technological systems in technology education By delving into the philosophy sociology and history of technology technology education and the learning and teaching of technological systems it summarizes prior research and analyzes new research This book thereby serves as a resource and reference work for professionals in this area of research and education

Technological Change Robert Fox,2012-10-12 In this volume scholars from these two very different traditions are brought together Never before has a single volume contained such a distinguished and diverse group of historians of technology

Consumers in the Country Ronald R. Kline,2000-04-28 From 1900 to 1960 the introduction and development of four so called urbanizing technologies the telephone automobile radio and

electric light and power transformed the rural United States But did these new technologies revolutionize rural life in the ways modernizers predicted And how exactly and with what levels of resistance and acceptance did this change take place In Consumers in the Country Ronald R Kline avoiding the trap of technological determinism explores the changing relationships among the Country Life professionals government agencies sales people and others who promoted these technologies and the farm families who largely succeeded in adapting them to rural culture

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