GLOBALISATION: The good, the bad and the ugly Simon Marginson

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1. Beginnings







State School No. 1295. In the same year as the first human space flight (Yuri Gagarin, 1961)



'All things are in flux, like a river . . . Everything flows'

~ Attributed to Heraclitus of Ephesus (544-484 BCE)

In Chinese thought the *I-Ching*, the *Book of Changes*, 10th-2nd centuries BCE, is premised on the same foundational insight – everything is always changing







2. The global







Annual number of science papers in Scopus, by type of collaboration, world: 1996-2018



US National Science Board

3. Euro-American globalisation



Neo-liberal globalisation

Global market competition in higher education is grounded in hierarchy and fosters growing inequality over time, within and between countries, *unless* nation states intervene

Mono-cultural globalisation of knowledge

Privileging of Euro-American science and suppression of diverse understandings



L1 speakers (million)						
Chinese (Mandarin)	909					
Spanish	442					
English	378					
Hindi	260					
Bengali	243					
Portuguese	223					
Russian	154					
Western Punjabi	93					
Javanese	84					
Chinese (Wu)	81					
Turkish	79					
French	77					

L1 & L2 speakers (million)					
English	1121				
Chinese (Mandarin)	1107				
Hindi	534				
Spanish	513				
French	285				
Standard Arabic	274				
Russian	265				
Bengali	262				
Portuguese	237				
Indonesian	198				
Urdu	163				
German	132				

Countries where over 50% of people are English first language speakers





White supremacy as globalisation in higher education



Incoming international students: 2018



English language countries dominate at global level, accepting as many students as they choose, but China and Western Europe are also 'magnets'. Some countries function as regional hubs – Russia in Central Asia, Japan in East and SE Asia, Malaysia in Muslim South Asia and Middle East, Saudi Arabia in Arab countries, South Africa in Sub-Saharan Africa, Argentina in Latin America







4. The unforeseen



multipolarity



Number of science papers in Scopus by large world region: 1996-2018



World-wide spread of science systems

Average annual growth (%) in science papers: 2000-2018, countries with growth rate *above world average* of 4.95% per year and more than 5000 papers in 2018



Top universities in STEM research

(1) physical sciences and engineering, and (2) mathematics and complex computing, Papers in top 5 per cent of their field by citation rate, World: 2015-2018

University	System	Physical sciences & engineering	University	System	Maths & computing
Tsinghua U	CHINA	830	Tsinghua U	CHINA	300
Massachusetts IT	USA	687	Harbin IT	CHINA	252
Zhejiang U	CHINA	569	U Electronic S&T	CHINA	217
Stanford U	USA	563	Xidian U	CHINA	201
Nanyang TU	SINGAPORE	533	Beihang U	CHINA	197
Harvard U	USA	532	Zhejiang U	CHINA	197
U Calif., Berkeley	USA	531	Huazhong U S&T	CHINA	195
U Science & T.	CHINA	500	Nanyang TU	SINGAPORE	181
Harbin IT	CHINA	455	Massachusetts IT	USA	180
Xi'an Jiaotong U	CHINA	455	Shanghai JT U	CHINA	153
Shanghai JT U	CHINA	439	Stanford U	USA	151
U Cambridge	UK	424	Northwestern P. U	CHINA	149
Huazhong U S&T	CHINA	419	Southeastern U	CHINA	148
ETH Zurich	SWITZERLAND	417	NU Singapore	SINGAPORE	140



We do not know the future



'Whoever cannot seek the unforeseen, sees nothing. The known way is an impasse.'

~ Attributed to Heraclitus of Ephesus (544-484 BCE)

It is difficult to change structure, but we can change agency

The self is the only object that we can freely will 'without having to take into consideration external determinations'

Michel Foucault, The Hermeneutics of the Subject: Lectures at the College de France 1981-82 lt, (2005), p. 133

Structure, agency, contingency



A doorway in time



Behind the curtain, the Wizard's machinery is revealed



1960s political globalisation:

Vietnam's war of self-defence opened space for the US Civil Rights movement



5. Conclusions







Central European University

'An ecology of knowledges': closing the 'abyss' between the legitimated and the excluded knowledge

'... the understanding of the world by far exceeds the Western understanding of the world and therefore our knowledge of globalization is much less global than globalization itself... the more non-Western understandings of the world are identified, the more evident it becomes that there are still many others to be identified and hybrid understandings, mixing Western and non-Western components, are virtually infinite. Post-abyssal thinking thus stems from the idea that the diversity of the world is inexhaustible and that such diversity still lacks an adequate epistemology. In other words, the epistemological diversity of the world does not yet have a form.'

'Post-abyssal thinking confronts the monoculture of modern science with the ecology of knowledges. It is an ecology, because it is based on the recognition of the plurality of heterogeneous knowledges (one of them being modern science) and on the sustained and dynamic interconnections between them without compromising their autonomy ... knowledge is interknowledge.'

- Boaventrua de Susa Santos (2007). Beyond abyssal thinking: From global lines to ecologies of knowledges. *Review (Fernand Braudel Centre)*, 30 (1), pp. 64-66



Thank you for sharing this paper Enjoy the rest of the conference!

Thank you very much to Trevor Treharne, Anna Smolentseva, Xin Xu, James Robson, Carolina Guzmán Valenzuela and David Mills