

# Timeline

Date		
23.2.	Course introduction / Institutions	
1.3.	Institutions II	
8.3.	Doughnut Economics: From Planetary Boundaries to thinking how an economy can be regenerative by design (Claudio Cattaneo)	
15.3.	Application of the doughnut at the city scale (Claudio Cattaneo)	
22.3.	Barcelona as an example (Claudio Cattaneo)	
29.3.	[Easter – Great Friday]	
5.4.	Classical Institutionalism and New Institutional Economics, Property rights and resource regimes, Commons	
12.4.	Ecological Resource Economics	
19.4.	Applications: water, forests, fisheries Case study: The Water–Energy–Food Nexus in India	
26.4.	Q&A, discussion of your assignments	
3.5.	Case study II: Forestry	
10.5.	Presentations I	
17.5.	Presentations II and Debate, Open Space, Experiment (4 hrs)	

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## Ecology, Economics - etymology

- **Ecology:** oikos (“house” or “habitation”) & logia (“study of”)

([https://www.etymonline.com/word/ecology#etymonline\\_v\\_979](https://www.etymonline.com/word/ecology#etymonline_v_979))

- **Economics:** oikos (“house” or “habitation”) nomos (“managing” or “custom” or “law”)

([https://www.etymonline.com/word/economy?ref=etymonline\\_crossreference#etymonline\\_v\\_980](https://www.etymonline.com/word/economy?ref=etymonline_crossreference#etymonline_v_980))

➤ Institutions are rules / custom / law and *should* be a fundamental part of economics

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## Definitions

### BOX 1.2 DIFFERENT DEFINITIONS OF AN INSTITUTION

Berger and Luckmann (1967): ‘Institutionalization occurs whenever there is a *reciprocal typification* of habitualized actions by types of actors. Put differently, any such typification is an institution’ (p. 72).

Scott (1995a): ‘Institutions consist of *cognitive, normative, and regulative structures* and activities that provide stability and meaning to social behavior. Institutions are transported by various carriers – cultures, structures, and routines – and they operate at multiple levels of jurisdiction’ (p. 33).

Veblen (1919): ‘[Institutions are] *settled habits of thought* common to the generality of man’ (p. 239).

Bromley (1989): ‘[Institutions are the] *rules and conventions* of society that *facilitate coordination* among people regarding their behavior’ (p. 22).

North (1990): ‘Institutions are the *rules of the game* in a society or, more formally, are the humanly devised constraints that shape human interaction’ (p. 3).

Italics added.

- John Dewey (1931): “An institution is defined as collective action in control, liberation and expansion of individual action.” in «Institutional Economics» American Economic Review, Vol. 21 (December 1931), pp. 648–657.

Vatn 2005, p. 10

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## Greeting institutions

- Handshakes / Namaste / Chinese greeting / ...



- Why do greetings exist?
- Is greeting a convention or a norm?

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## Greeting institutions

**After Covid-19:** Do you think that handshakes will come back?



A New Institutional Economics perspective:  
Allen and Lueck (1992) on handshakes, reputation, and farmland contracts

Austrian term: "Handshake quality"

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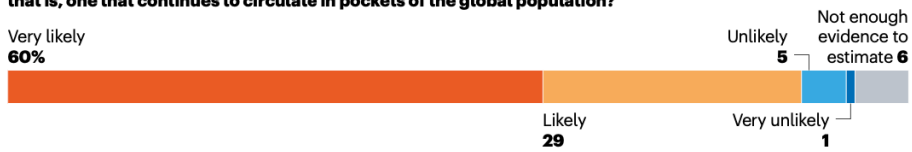
# Expectations and institutions

A *Nature* survey shows many scientists expect SARS-CoV-2 is here to stay, but it could pose less danger over time. **By Nicky Phillips**

## ENDEMIC FUTURE

In a *Nature* poll, 89% of scientists felt that SARS-CoV-2 was either very likely or likely to become an endemic virus.

**How likely do you think it is that SARS-CoV-2 will become an endemic virus: that is, one that continues to circulate in pockets of the global population?**



**How likely do you think it is that SARS-CoV-2 can be eliminated from some regions?**



119 immunologists, infectious-disease researchers and virologists from 23 countries. Percentages do not add up to 100% because of rounding.

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# Expectations and institutions



Earth's Future

10.1029/2019EF001311

AGU100  
Earth's Future  
December 2019 | Volume 11 | Issue 12

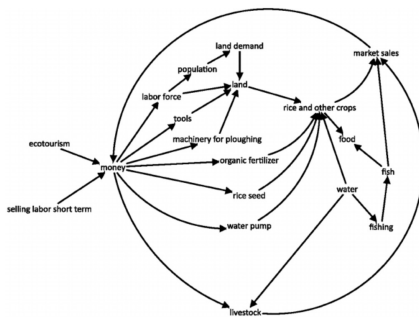
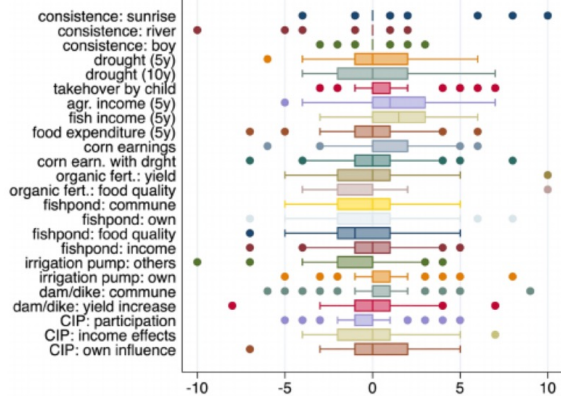


Figure 1. A causal loop diagram produced by Group 3 in our intervention in approximately 45 min of discussion and deliberation (see Script S4 in the supporting information). It depicts key variables and the cause-and-effect relationships linking them, as identified by the group participants with the support of facilitators.



➤ Collective action requires shared expectations

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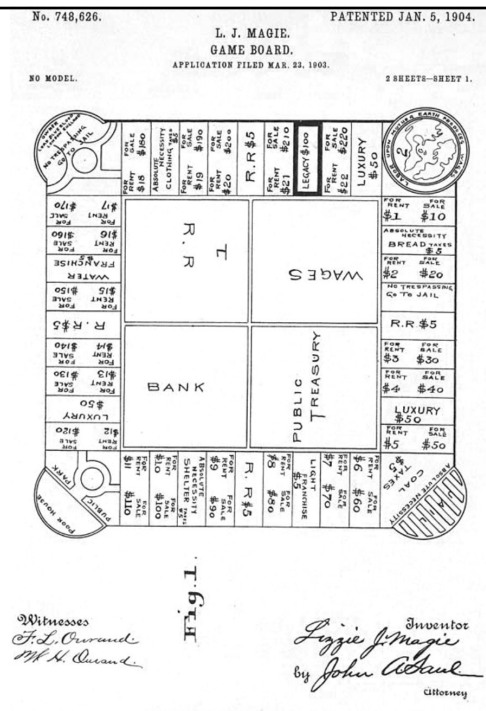


- Institutions as “rules of the game” (Douglas North)?  
Are the rules of a game always social institutions?

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- The Landlord’s Game - Henry George

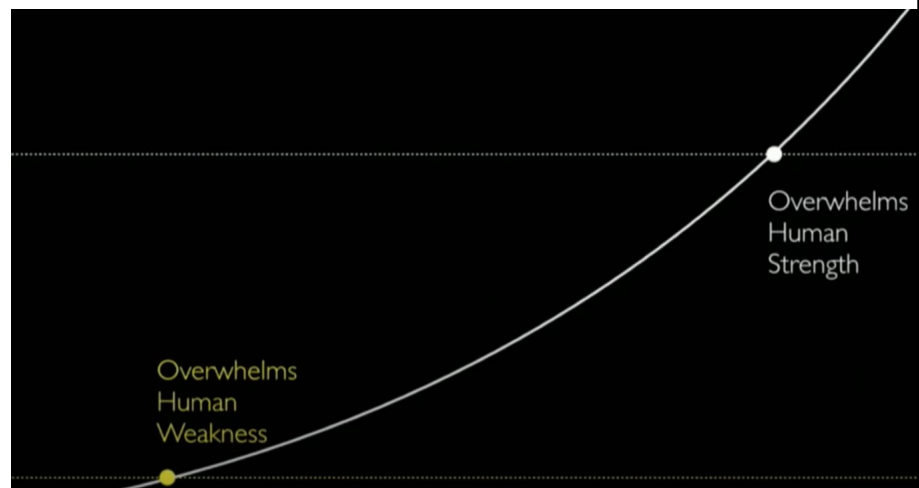


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“The real problem of humanity is the following:  
 we have Palaeolithic emotions; **medieval institutions**; and god-  
 like technology”  
 (sociobiologist E.O. Wilson, interview in 2009)

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Singularity  
 passed



Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYVVgGWUKKg>

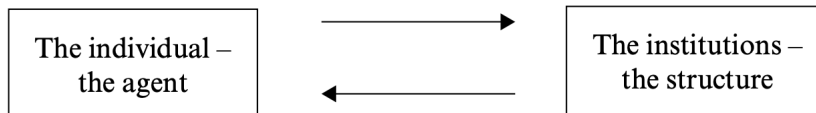
«The Social Dilemma - Tristan Harris - New Age In Tech Presentation»

➤ Can you give an example of where technology overwhelms humans?

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## The individual and society

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*Understanding institutions*

*Figure 2.1 The individual and the institutions*

Vatn 2005, p. 26

- Positivist, Constructivist, Realist
- Methodological Individualism vs. Holism: Systemism/Relationism/Institutionalism
- Structuration and Critical Realism (Anthony Giddens, Roy Bhaskar, Margaret Archer)
- Different types of structures (property rights, money, etc.)

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## The Danger is not Machines Becoming Humans, but Humans Becoming Machines

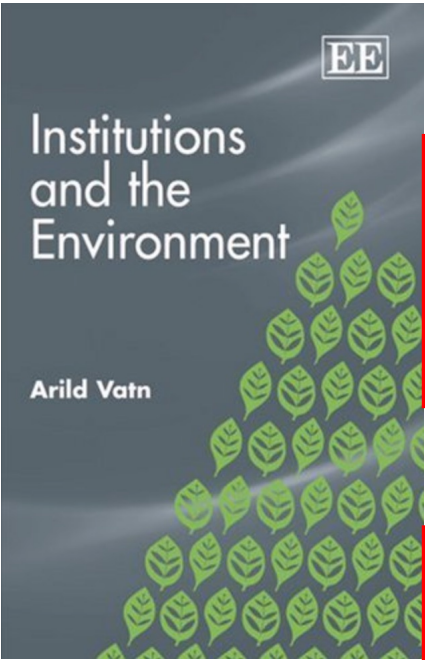
The extent to which human beings are willing to be duped by computers is already very large.

**DAVID GELERNTER** 13 December, 2013

Source: <https://bigthink.com/in-their-own-words/the-danger-is-not-machines-becoming-humans-but-humans-becoming-machines>

- Which dangers result from humans behaving like machines?  
Which roles do/can institutions play?

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