in the wake
[of]
emergence

Speaking to Ancestors
Berlin
27 June 2023

Professor Johnny Golding, director
proto-Centre for Radical Matter:
Art. Philosophy. Wild Science
Royal College of Art, London, UK
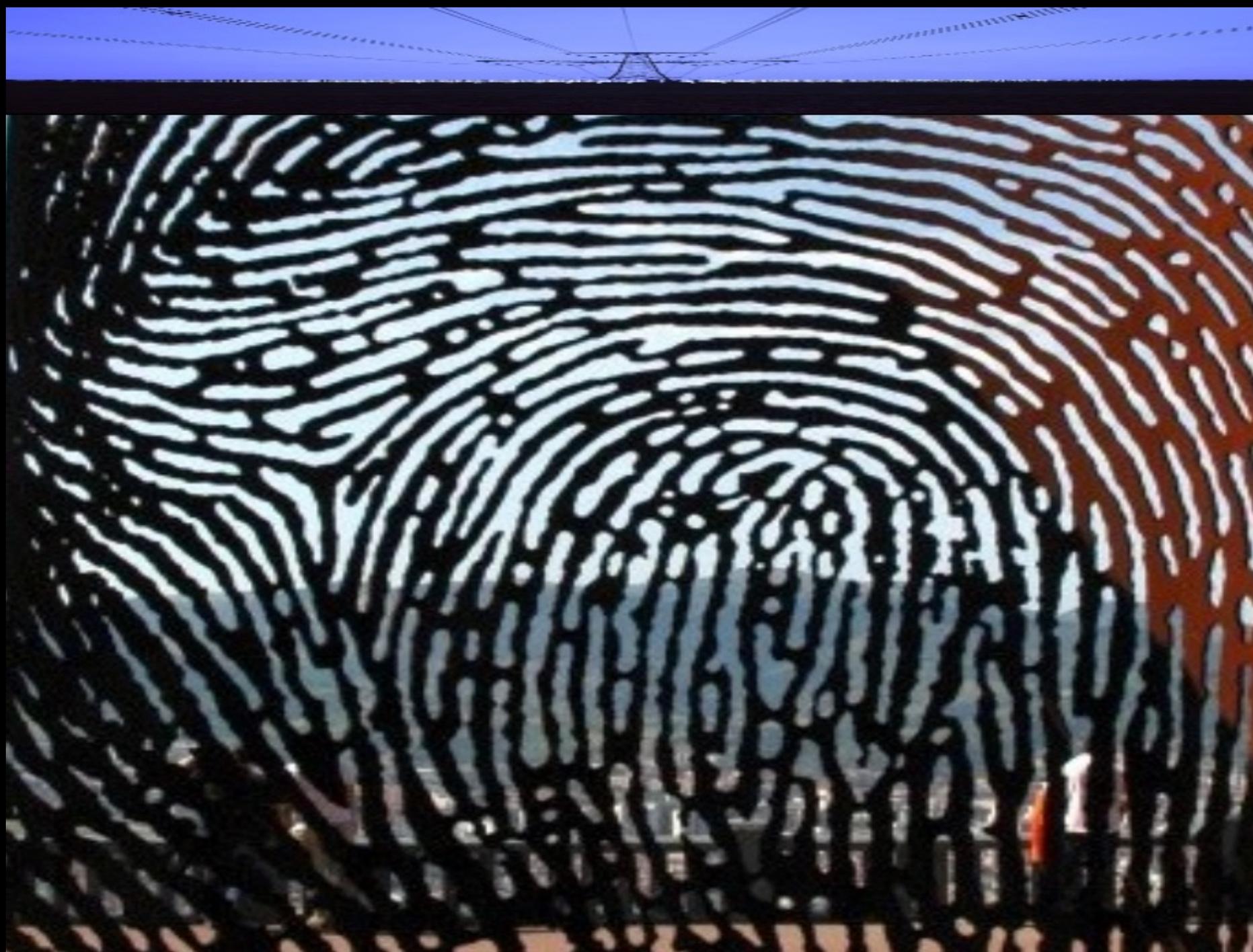
Wake work
the wake   the ship   the hold   the weather

- Christina Sharpe, *In the Wake – On Blackness and Being*

Frottage work (and play) – in 7 movements

- Keguro Macharia, *Frottage: Frictions of Intimacy Across the Black Diaspora*
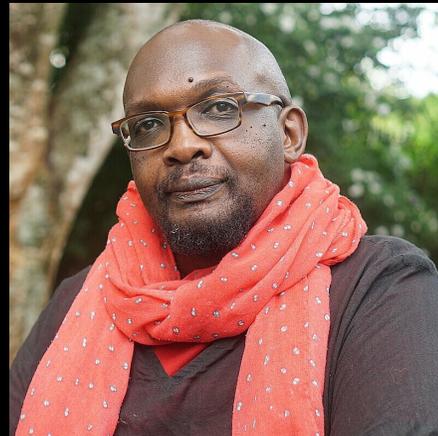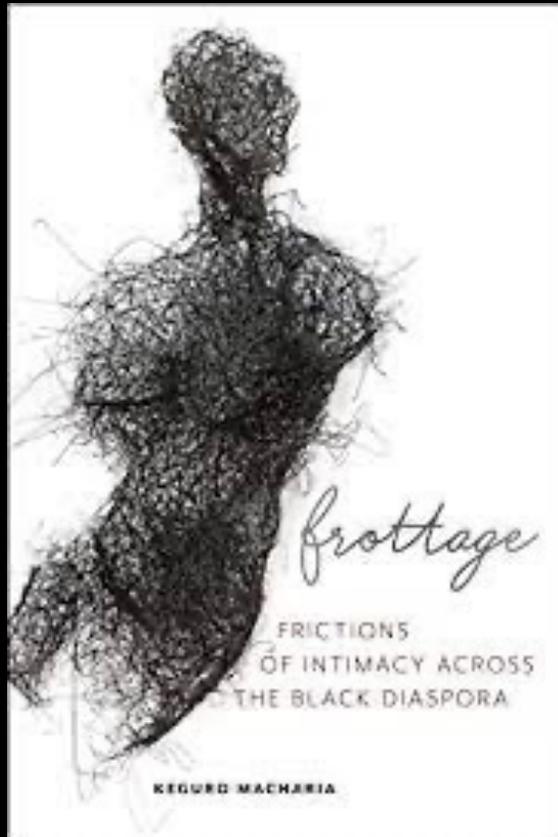
1. Rubbing along: silence mingling with conversation
2. Begins with your fingers touching pages, scratching your head; creating geographies that start and stop and have a beat
3. What is touching you now? How do you want to be touched?
4. Present as past, future as presentFrom the afterlife of slavery – cartographies of the world's waterways continue to be saturated with black people's suffering
5. Rubbing the tongue against the mouth's soft palate
6. Wool scratch on skin
7. My words in your mouth

a familiar equation $E = mc^2$

- Albert Einstein, *Does the inertia of a body depend upon its energy-content.* Fourth paper in a series of 4; September 27, 1905
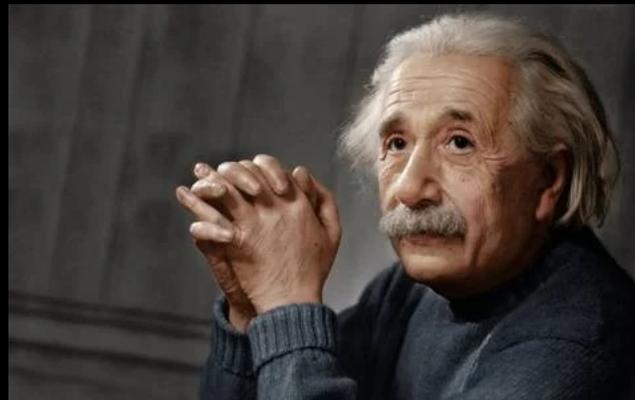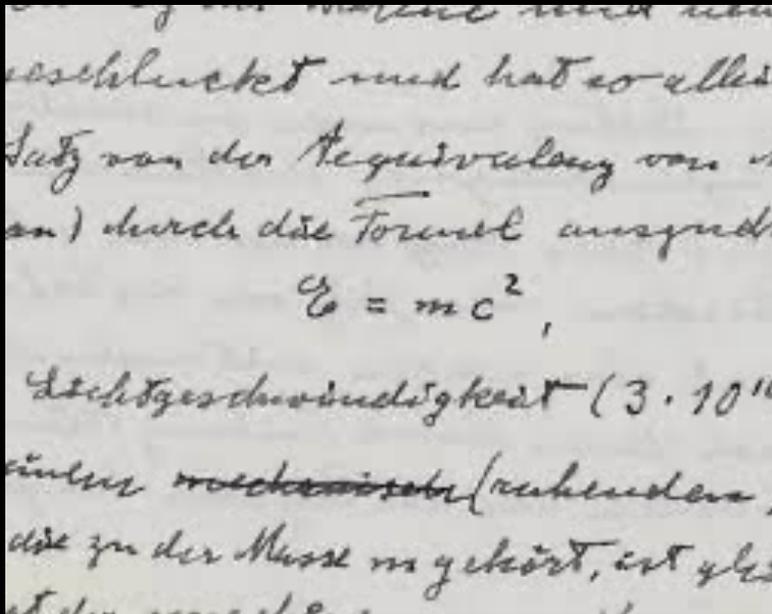
Vital takeaway no. 1: encounter

$$E = MC^2$$
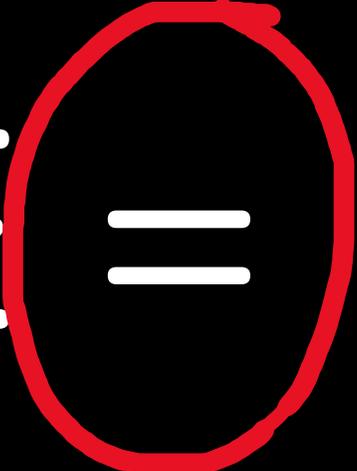
Or even better:

$$E \quad MC^2$$
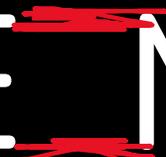
hint:
The topological surface is the = sign

Vital takeaway no. 2: sticky cohesion(s)

- These 'topological surface structures' can be called 'sticky cohesions' 😅

- These cohesions have a 'thickness' (without having a thickness) 😖

- This '=' sticky cohesion goes out in all directions (forever expanding, forever contracting) 😬

- And it has been (re-)named as….

they can form libidinal economies and bring with them
weird things around thickness circulation and logics of sense
[what we might call: topological surface 'aliveness']

present

Past/future

- Jean François Lyotard, *Libidinal Economy*

LIBIDINAL ECONOMY

Translated by Iain Hamilton Grant

möbius strip

future

elsewhere

present

past
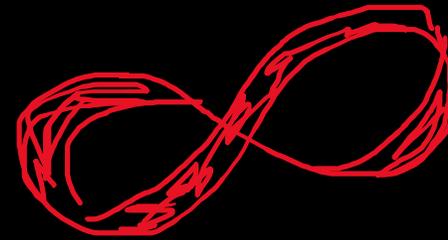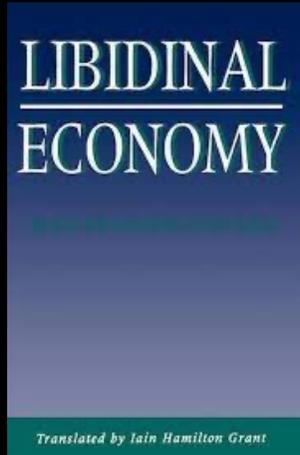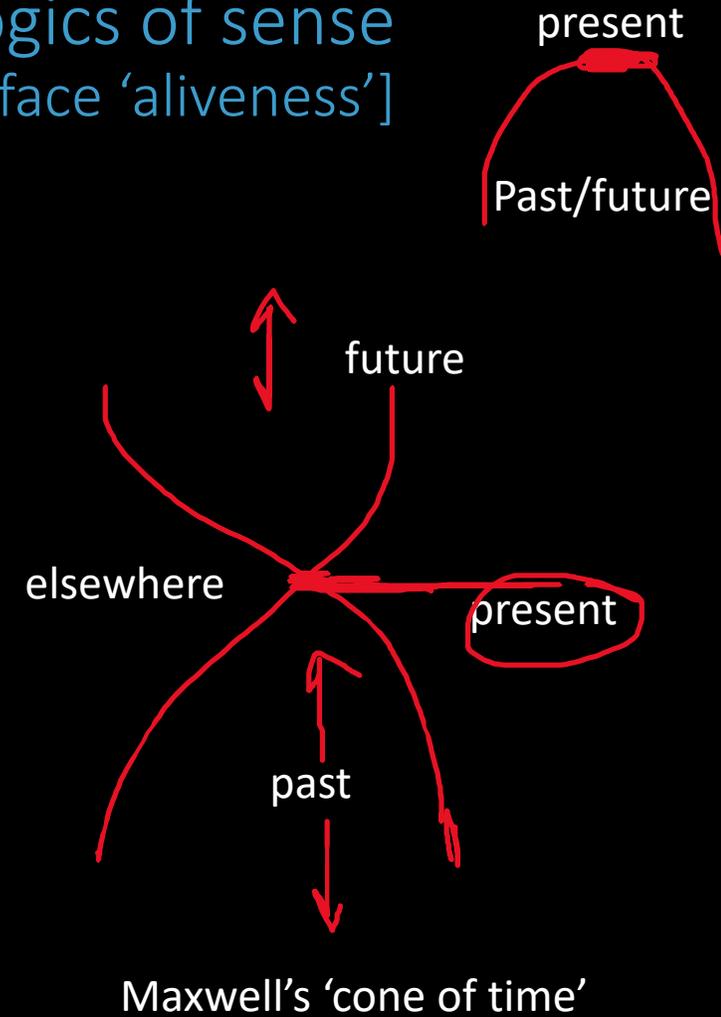
Maxwell's 'cone of time'

zero

Zero as topological aliveness:
⇌encounter ⇌cohesion ⇌emergence⇌wake ⇌frottage

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{c} --- \\ --- \end{array} \right\}$$
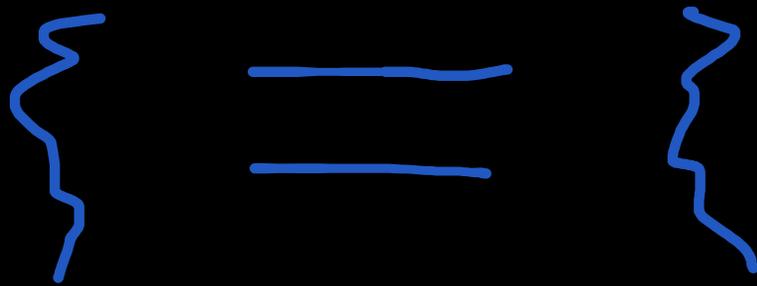
emergence

[here emergence does not mean what one ends up becoming; it simply is the 'is' (eg: the 'wake' or 'frottage' or 'event')- a collective self-assemblage).

But now also:

Topological aliveness as mark [or segment]

⇌encounter ⇌cohesion⇌emergence ⇌ wake ⇌ frottage
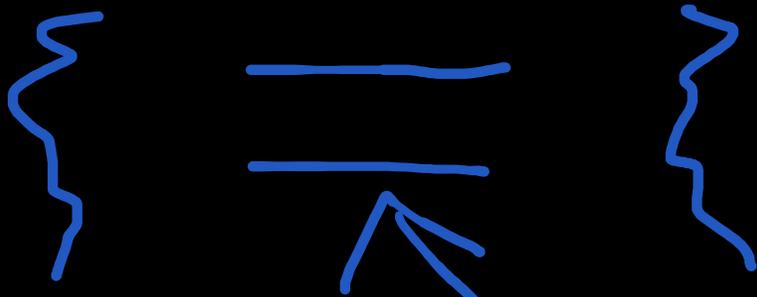
emergence

Now as a mark, as rhythm, as beat for example –
it is the 'limit' of the edge – a kind of portal to
an infinitely expanding or contracting 'is'

(In coding we can now see a very different 'o' and a very different '1')

# Its pseudomorphic edges can look like this:

Or this:
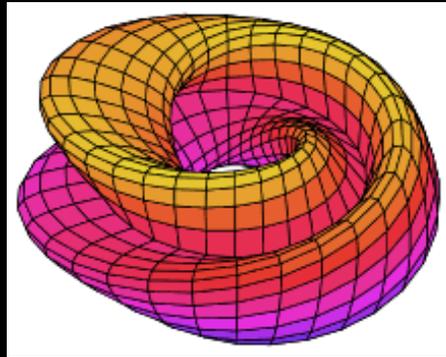
Or this....
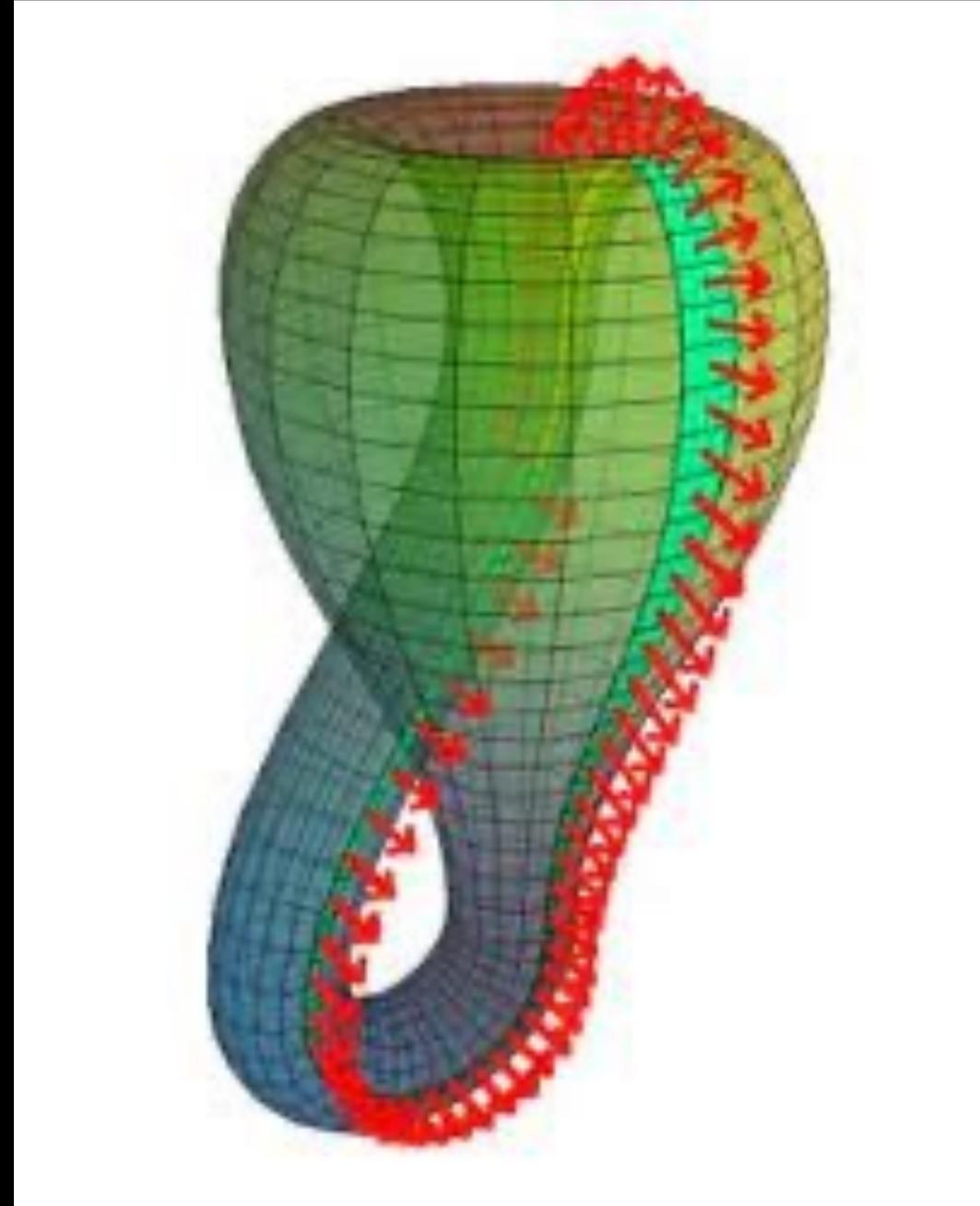
Key: RP2-9 (Strand 1: initial phases delineated for Single bodied artificial & distributed intelligence)
a) structure of the database in 2D environment
b) re-clustering and growing of the database in 3D
c) edges connecting the vertices
d) edges – "hair" expressed as a cloud of potential connections
e) "flaking" elements of datasets marking potential moments of emergence
f) the generated surface (skin (environment) warping and becoming a part of the dataset
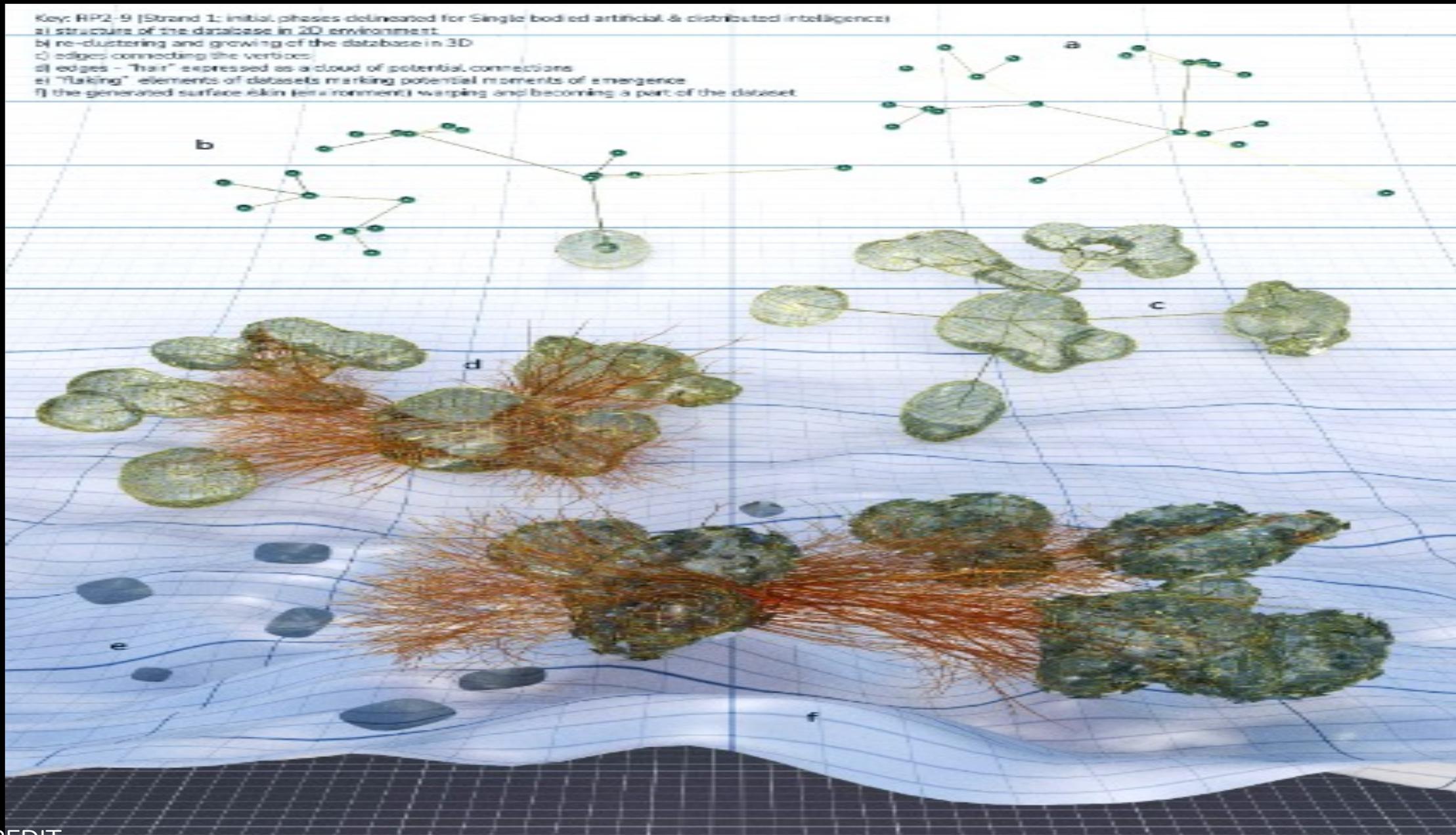
CREDIT:
SONIA BERNAC

Oh, the joys of zeroes and ones in generative AI

Memory not only circulates, but proliferates, forms sticky cohesions, and makes its mark

[and sometimes the 'mark' travels
And sometimes the 'sticky cohesion' travels
And sometimes neither do; and sometimes
Something else happens altogether.

That something else we can call (sometimes): art or politics or agency or not giving up].