The Body and the Machine

How can we think about the relationship between body and the computational machine?





"media determine our situation"



Global Finance

Who or what is in charge?



but...

"One chief trader, remarking on this aspect of the culture, observed that if a star trader 'behaves like a pig you can be sure that within two months everyone behaves like a pig.'" (100)

Hayles argues that humans and machines coevolve and collaborate

How the chapter breaks down

87-88: Introduction

88-93: Hayles discussion of Kittler

94-102: Hayles example of global finance

103-120: Hayles discussion of Hansen and how technology and human coevolve

120-126: Application of this discussion of "body and machine" to electronic literature

The Body and the Machine

How can we think about the relationship between body and the

How can we think about the relationship between body and the computational machine?

Who or what is in charge?

Friedrich Kittler



"media determine our situation"

Mark Hansen



"Hansen posits that only meaning can enframe information...and in his view it is humans, not machines, who provide, transmit, and interpret meanings." (103)

Global Finance



The work environment of exchange traders working in global finance is determined by screens. They can see the "whole market" in the screen, and "the traders' experience [is] so intimately and tightly connected with the screens that they can sense the 'mind' of the market." (98)

Friedrich Kittler



"media determine our situation"

but...

"One chief trader, remarking on this aspect of the culture, observed that if a star trader 'behaves like a pig you can be sure that within two months everyone behaves like a pig.'" (100)

Mark Hansen



"Hansen posits that only meaning can enframe information...and in his view it is humans, not machines, who provide, transmit, and interpret meanings." (103)

Hayles: "The media conditions alone [aren't the only factor]...Other factors, particularly cultural models linked with masculine dominance, are necessary to explain how the media function to 'determine our situation."" (101)

Hayles argues that humans and machines coevolve and collaborate

How the chapter breaks down

87-88: Introduction

88-93: Hayles discussion of Kittler

94-102: Hayles example of global finance

103-120: Hayles discussion of Hansen and how technology and human coevolve

120-126: Application of this discussion of "body and machine" to electronic literature