

"Humans engineer computers and computers reengineer humans in systems bound together by recursive feedback and feedforward loops, with emergent complexities catalyzed by leaps between different media substrates and levels of complexity" (46)

Human and machine are "partners in a dynamic heterarchy bound together by intermediating dynamics" (47)

Intermediation

How the chapter lays out:

pp43-44: Introduction of chapter

pp44-59: Description of "intermediation" (Rely on this section when you're writing your "summary" section.)

pp59-70: Application of "intermediation" to Michael Joyce's work (Rely on this section when you're writing your "analysis" section. You will be applying "intermediation" to Moulthrop's Reagan Library just as Hayles uses the concept to analyze Joyce's work.)

Open as Hayles is doing in this chapter

- To see the impact of media changes on "it"
- With media the human becomes doubly so
- And just as doubly so
- To see the way's technology mediates
- In high-tech, low-tech, and other
- Performance is mediated by an intelligent user and "it"



hierarchy



heterarchy



Intermediation

Intermediation: "a first-level emergent pattern is captured in another medium and re-represented with the primitives of the new medium, which leads to an emergent result captured in turn by yet another medium, and so forth" (45)



Intermediation and the Reader

What does intermediation mean for e-lit?

- It describes the interaction between human and computer
- Reader of e-lit notices patterns, makes a choice, and sends the program in a different direction.
- Two cognitive systems at work, one simple (computer) and one complex (human)

Intermediation and the Writer

"When a programmer/writer creates an executable file, the process re-engineers the writer's perceptual and cognitive system as she works with the medium's possibilities" (56)

Intermediation

Questions Hayles is asking in this chapter:

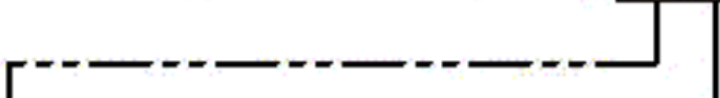
- How is computational media related to e-lit?
- What are the differences between electronic and print literature?
- How are a user's “embodied interactions brought into play when the textual performance is enacted by an intelligent machine?” (44)



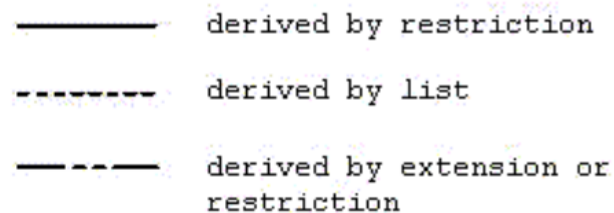
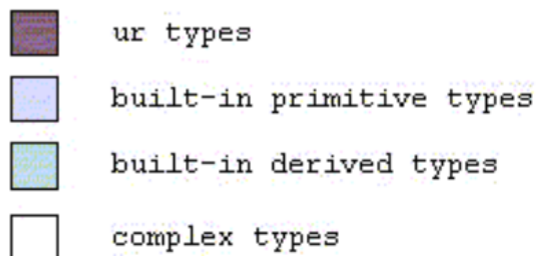
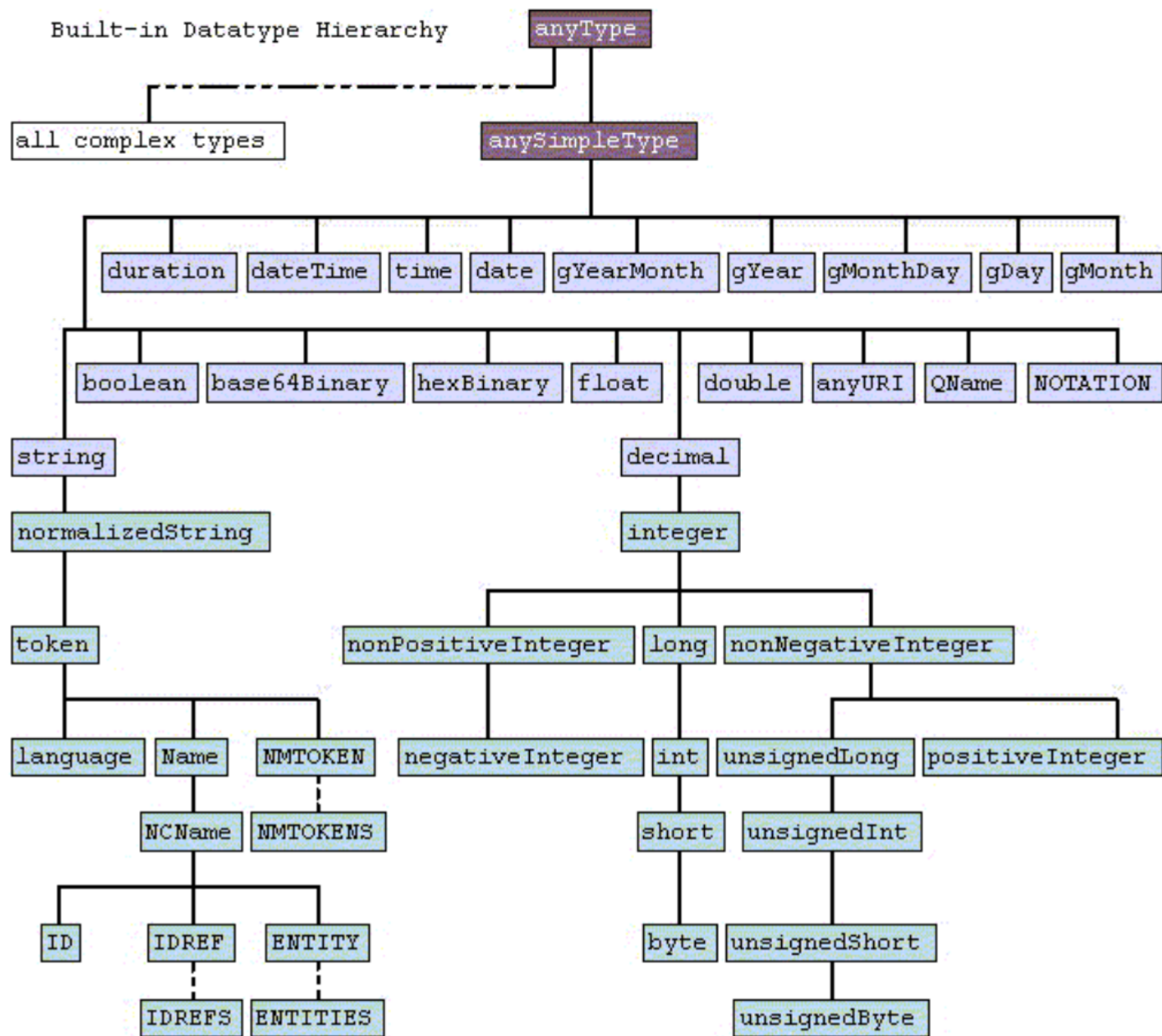
hierarchy

Built-in Datatype Hierarchy

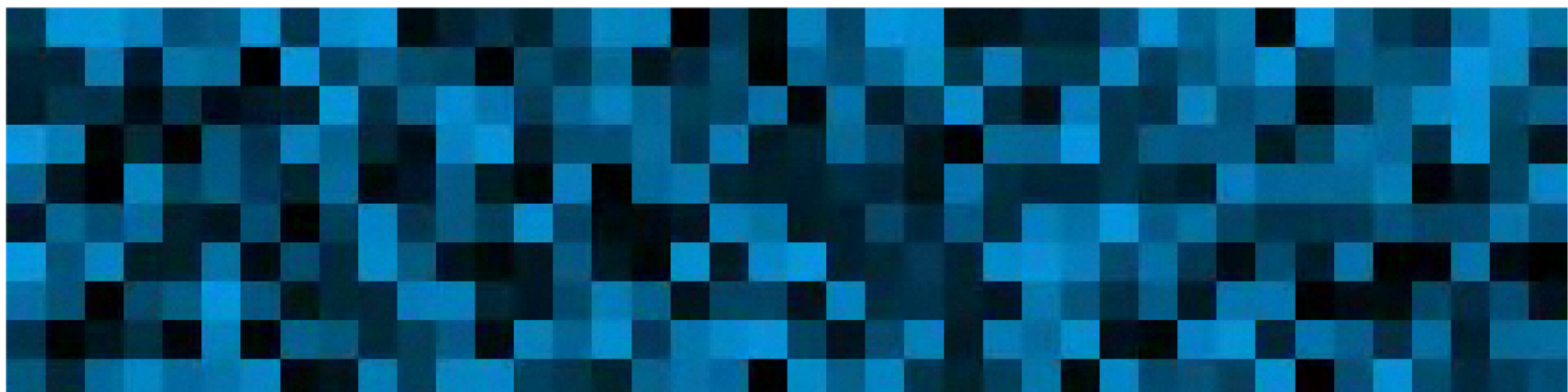
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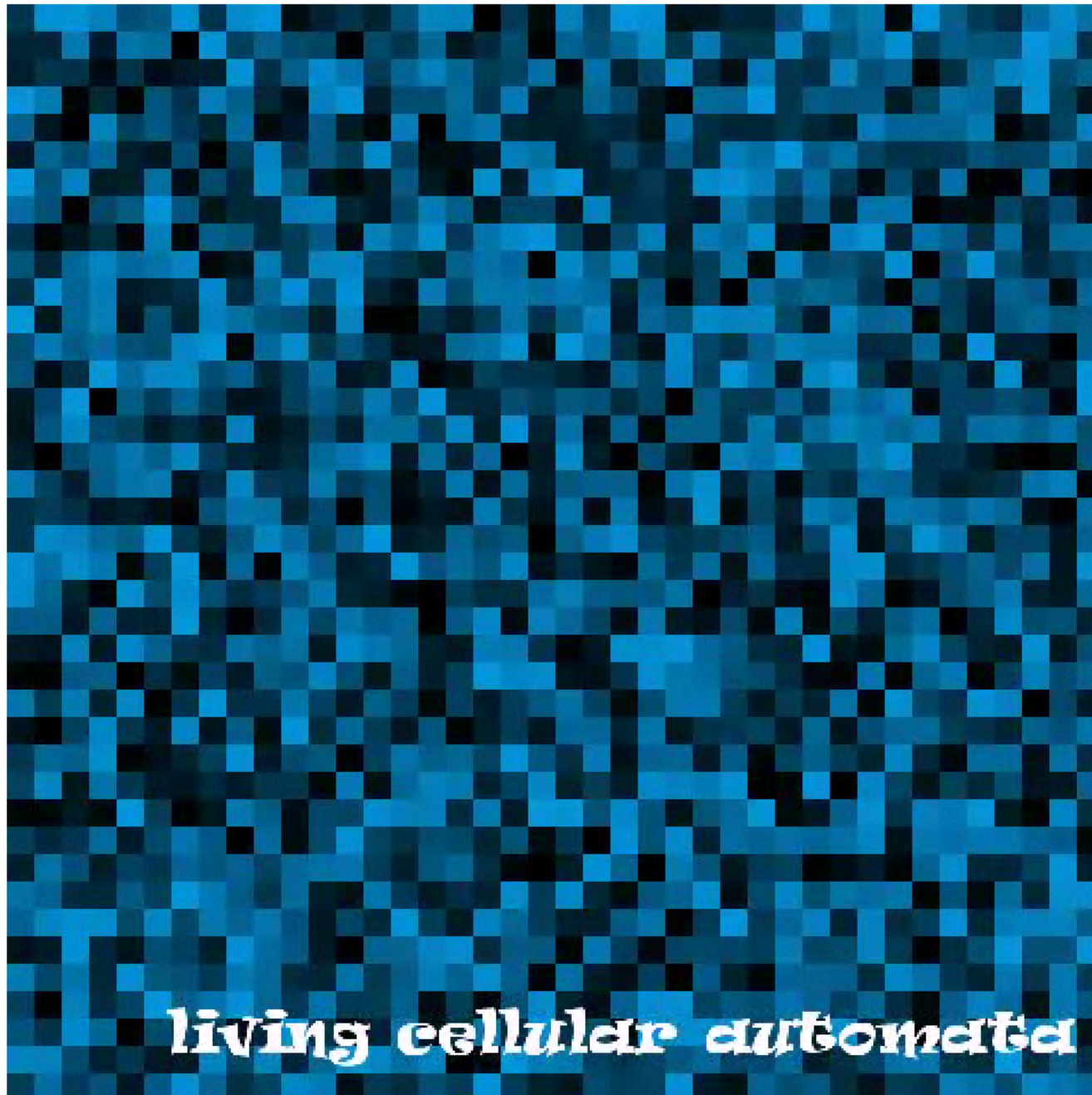


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heterarchy

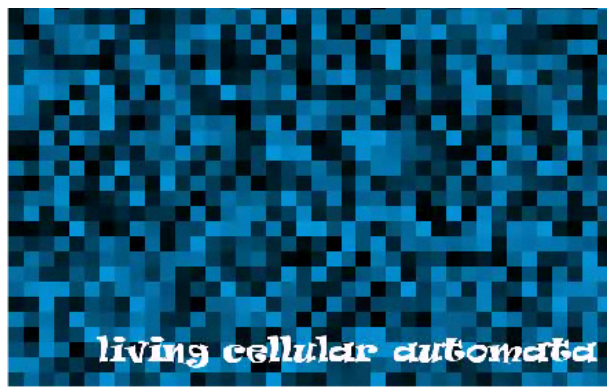






Intermediation

Intermediation: “a first-level emergence of a new medium and re-representation of an existing medium, which leads to an emergence of yet another medium, and so forth.”



Intermediation

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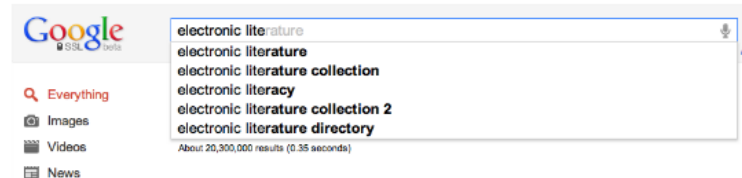
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Stuart Moulthrop  January, 1999

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