

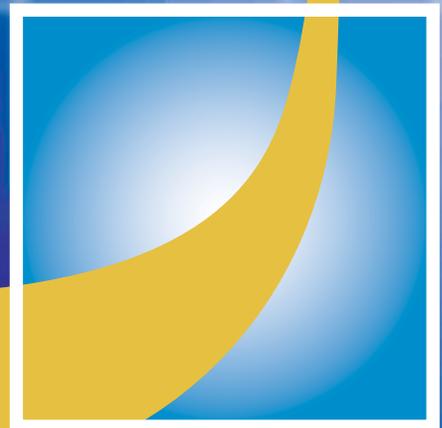
Accelerating Change Conference

Exploring the Future of Accelerating Change

Stanford University
Palo Alto, California
September 12 - 14

2003

What will the world be like if
Moore's Law continues to hold
for another 30 years?



The Conference

Dear Future-Oriented Thinker:

This September 12-14, at Stanford University, IAC will host its first **Accelerating Change Conference (ACC2003)**. The only gathering of its type in the world, ACC2003 offers a unique opportunity to become familiar with leading thinkers in the science, technology, business, and humanism of accelerating change.

ACC2003 will deliver three main benefits: a **community** of selectively invited attendees, **foresight** into coming events, and **guidance** for navigating the future. ACC2003 will network top change-aware, future-oriented individuals with diverse backgrounds, who seek increasingly balanced and inclusive ways of understanding the changes that affect their lives. The conference will provide guidance for discriminating between evolutionary and developmental change, for understanding the unprecedented changes now occurring and soon to occur in computation-driven technologies, and for choosing intelligent paths through the thicket of information, options, and technological innovation.

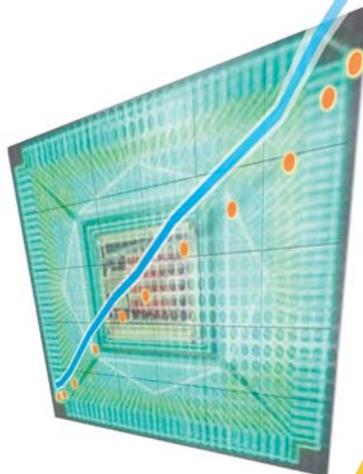
Why Should You Attend? Today, every technology-dependent executive and organizational leader is a *de facto* futurist. Certain types of change are now so rapid, and occasionally so disruptive, that only the most vigilant and foresighted are ready for what comes. Seeing your way in the modern world requires a change-aware attitude, a philosophy of lifelong learning, and a desire to network with a multidisciplinary community of insightful thinkers.

Intelligent, long-range thinking begins with a commitment to support communities like ACC2003. I cordially invite you to join us at Stanford this September.

Respectfully,



John Smart
President, IAC



There should be a periodic conference of different types of people to think about ... some means by which we can make the best of both worlds. The best of the purely human world, and the best of this extraordinary, wonderful, and terrifying world of [technological] technique.

Aldous Huxley (1959)

The Institute

The Institute for Accelerating Change is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, based in Los Angeles. Our mission is to help society explore the risks and benefits of accelerating technological change through our conferences, gatherings, publications, websites, and sense of community. We explore the accelerating development of special domains in science and technology, and their impact on business and society. We recognize that humanity's central choice in technology development is not a blind advocacy of acceleration, but a selective catalysis. Discovering which technologies hold the greatest promise, and selectively advancing them in a beneficial manner, while regulating and delaying destabilizing technologies, is the essence of our individual and social choice.

Politics can change, but a scientific innovation, once released into the world, cannot be taken back. Nor can its impact be legislated away or forbidden by the chairman of the board.

Peter Schwartz

Themes

ACC2003 emphasizes four concurrent themes (**Science, Technology, Business, and Humanism**) focusing on the accelerating rate of change. These themes are explored in three main conference sections (**Analysis, Speculation, and Action**).

Science

Exploring paradigms of the future that provide insight into the nature and measurement of accelerating change, in the technologies that we use today, and in universal history.

Technology

Identifying technologies that increase in speed, productivity, and efficiency; understanding the increasing intelligence and autonomy (human-independence) of specific technological systems; and considering scenarios for technology's development in the coming decades.

Business

Finding best-in-class strategies and models for guiding the accelerating rate of change across the enterprise; identifying business entities and environments (markets, sectors, networks, databases, platforms) that are undergoing computationally driven accelerating change.

Humanism

Considering the personal, social, and political impacts of accelerating technological change; monitoring emerging risks and benefits; and seeking diverse opinions on how to chart humane courses in a world of powerful, problematic technologies.

Features

- ▶ 24 leading thinkers on the topic of accelerating change
- ▶ Up to 300 attendees, most through selective invitation
- ▶ Two days and nights of networking with some of the top minds in the world
- ▶ Three keynotes, two plenaries, two debates, and numerous breakout and Q&A sessions
- ▶ Conference Handbook and post-conference Proceedings
- ▶ Special networking events, such as the Collective Intelligence Dinner
- ▶ Ray Kurzweil's Keynote & Debate via 3D telepresence*
- ▶ Howard Bloom's "An Infinity of Singularities" video and teleconference Q&A
- ▶ DVD conference record at production cost

More to be announced. Please visit www.accelerating.org for the latest updates.

* Visit www.teleportec.com to see the next generation of interactive teleconferencing

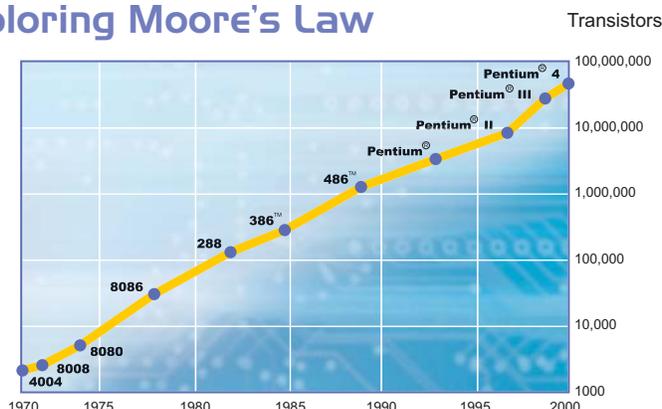
Two billion years ago our ancestors were microbes; a half-billion years ago, fish; a hundred million years ago, something like mice; ten million years ago, arboreal apes; and a million years ago, proto-humans puzzling out the taming of fire. Our evolutionary lineage is marked by mastery of change. In our time, the pace is quickening.

Carl Sagan

When the rate of change on the outside exceeds the rate of change on the inside, the end [of a business] is near.

Jack Welch

Exploring Moore's Law



Is Ray Kurzweil right? Is there a "generalized Moore's Law," not just for the past and present of computing (vacuum tubes and integrated circuits), but also as we move ahead into the future? If so, what are our near-term risks and opportunities? If not, when will the 'law' fail?

Join us as Silicon Valley considers Kurzweil's 'Law of Accelerating Returns'.

Program

Friday September 12

Opening Remarks and Orientation

Evening Reception

Saturday September 13

Introduction — John Smart and Steve Jurvetson

Keynote Analysis — Ray Kurzweil (via Teleportec's 3D telepresence)
The Singularity is Near: Multifold Trends in Accelerating Change

Debate Analysis — Ray Kurzweil and Michael Denton
Evaluating Kurzweil's 'Law of Accelerating Returns'

Breakouts — Analysis

John R. Koza — *Biologically Inspired Computing*

K. Eric Drexler — *Nanotechnology and Nanoscience*

Keith Devlin — *Interface, Information, Communication*

Ben Goertzel — *Artificial General Intelligence*

Keynote Speculation — James N. Gardner
The Selfish Biocosm Hypothesis

Debate Speculation — William A. Dembski and Nick Bostrom
An Anthropic Universe: Replication, 'Intelligent Design,' or Ensemble?

Breakouts — Speculation

Greg Papadopoulos — *Network Entropy: A Driver of Change*

William H. Calvin — *Social Symbiosis, Stability and Foresight*

Collective Intelligence Dinner

Plenary Address — Howard Bloom (video and teleconference)
'An Infinity of Singularities': Big Bang to the 23rd Century

Nightowl Seminar — John Smart
Development and the Singularity: Understanding Accelerating Change

Sunday September 14

Keynote Action — Steve Jurvetson
Venture Capital in a World of Accelerating Change

Plenary Address — Robert Wright
Technology and Interdependence: Nonzero Sumness as the Arc of History

Corporate Sponsor Sessions

Breakouts — Action

Matt Lennig — *The Linguistic User Interface*

James H. Crawford — *Autonomy, Robotics & World Modeling*

Tim O'Reilly — *Diffusion of New Memes in the Media*

Paul H. Ray — *Values and Consciousness Trends*

Scott A. Hunt — *Accelerating Change and World Peace*

Ross Mayfield — *Social Software Solutions*

Closing Sessions

Analysis has an educational focus, providing references to literature, tools, and resources for understanding the accelerating rate of change from a multidisciplinary perspective. This section includes data-driven interpretation, methods, and models.

Speculation is a hypothesizing, debate, and discussion environment where participants may explore and critique controversial or uncertain topics, and think significantly "outside the box" without regard to professional censure. Some sections closed to press; non-attributed note-taking is allowed.

Action emphasizes near-term agendas, tools, and systems for prioritization of, investment for, and selective development and guidance of accelerating change; includes business, social, and political perspectives. methods, and models.

Speaker List (partial)



Analysis Keynote
Ray Kurzweil
 (via Teleportec's 3D telepresence)
 Kurzweil Technologies
 Author of *The Age of Spiritual Machines*



Speculation Keynote
James N. Gardner
 Complexity Theorist
 Author of *Biocosm*



Action Keynote
Steve Jurveston
 Draper Fisher Jurvetson
 Founding VC Investor in Hotmail



Plenary Address
Howard Bloom
 New York University
 Author of *Global Brain & The Lucifer Principle*



Plenary Address
Robert Wright
 University of Pennsylvania
 Author of *Nonzero and The Moral Animal*



Analysis Debate
Michael Denton
 University of Otaga
 Author of *Nature's Destiny*



Speculation Debate
Nick Bostrom
 Oxford University
 Author of *Anthropic Bias*



Speculation Debate
William A. Dembski
 Baylor University
 Author of *No Free Lunch*



Analysis Breakout
John R. Koza
 Genetic Programming
 Author of *Genetic Programming IV*



Analysis Breakout
K. Eric Drexler
 Foresight Institute
 Author of *Engines of Creation*



Analysis Breakout
Keith Devlin
 CSLI
 Author of *The Millennium Problems*



Speculation Breakout
Greg Papadopoulos
 Sun Microsystems
 Executive VP and CTO



Speculation Breakout
William H. Calvin
 University of Washington
 Author of *A Brain for All Seasons*



Nightowl Session
John Smart
 IAC
 Founder and President

Additional speakers to be announced.



Action Breakout
Tim O'Reilly
 O'Reilly & Associates
 Creator of The Emerging Technology Conference



Action Breakout
Paul H. Ray
 American LIVES
 Author of *The Cultural Creatives*



Action Breakout
Scott A. Hunt
 Peace Scholar & Advocate
 Author of *The Future of Peace*



Action Breakout
Ross Mayfield
 CEO Socialtext
 Leader Social Software Movement

Gold



Silver



Bronze



Korn & Associates

Sponsorship Opportunities

Title Sponsor	\$10,000
Platinum Sponsor	\$5,000
Gold Sponsor (SOLD)	\$3,000
Silver Sponsor	\$2,000
Bronze Sponsor	\$1,000
Walk Through Time Sponsor	\$2,000
Howard Bloom Video Sponsor	\$1,000
Contributor	\$500

For information on sponsorship benefits, visit
www.accelerating.org/ACC03/sponsorship.html

Innovation occurs for many reasons including greed, ambition, conviction, happenstance, acts of nature, mistakes, and desperation. But one force above all seems to facilitate the process. The easier it is to communicate, the faster change happens.

James Burke

