



# The Shifting Analogue Divide

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## what i'm not talking about

- interoperation of video platforms
- interior across great halal firewalls
- end-to-end crypto/privacy
- annoyingness of VR/AR/XR UX
- usefulness of keynote/latex integration
- student fee refunds for online edu year



# Virtualisation and Inclusivity

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- 14 months of WfH & Virtual Events
  - led to “free” conferences/classes
  - attendance much wider geo/  
demography
  - but- not from places with poor  
international connectivity
  - (africa, south america - that  
hemisphere...)



# We're missing the hallway meets?

- but also reveals a v. real problem
  - attendance at (e.g.) US conf in person
  - exclusive to people that could afford
  - flight/accommodation/registration  
£5k a shot
  - Access to mentors/faculty&postdoc  
hires/funders/coauthors etc very  
privileged



# we're working on virtual hallways

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- breakout rooms, gather town, etc
- also hybrid events with local f2f hubs
- how to ensure these democratise the access to further up the pyramids of power?



# Conference/event as a platform

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- the incumbents (PC/steering ctte) elite
  - have power/reputation
  - rich get richer/preferential attachment/network effect/monopolistic etc etc
- virtualising has only fixed the data plane (papers/talks/posters/attendee)
  - need to fix control pane



# not so different from closed journal world

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- elsevier et al are platforms too
  - and we, poor suckers, empower them
- fight back w/ true free open access ok
  - arXiv, SSRN, etc (sort of)
- but problem (like Uber&AirBnB) is
  - **brand** < how to poison (detox) this...?