

The Story of Maeve in Westworld

How Science Fiction can inform
the Discourse on Personhood

Mario Verdicchio – University of Bergamo

“Westworld”

- “Westworld” is a 1973 movie directed by Michael Crichton (1942-2008), the American novelist author of “Congo”, “Jurassic Park”, “Sphere” among others
- In 2014, the American cable TV network HBO began production of a “Westworld” TV series, consisting of 10 episodes, which aired from October 2nd to December 4th 2016
- The movie and the TV series share the same premise but have different stories and different characters
- This discussion is based on the TV series

Westworld

- Westworld is a futuristic theme park
- The theme of Westworld is the Wild West in 19th century America
- Westworld is populated by human-like robots (called “hosts” by the park’s management) that look and act like people in the Wild West, including cowboys, sheriffs, outlaws, saloon managers and prostitutes
- Visitors of Westworld can enjoy a day in the Wild West
- The hosts are programmed to interact with the visitors according to storylines written and coded into them by Westworld’s technicians

Hosts vs Visitors

- The slogan of the Westworld park is “Live without limits”
- Indeed, the visitors are allowed to do whatever they want to the hosts
- Often, this freedom leads to acts of violence (i.e. brawls, shootings, rape, killings)
- Hosts can be killed: their bodies are built in a way that they react to blows, cuts, gunshots etc. just like a human body would, including bruises, wounds and possibly death
- Every night, once the park is closed, Westworld’s technicians repair the physical damages of the hosts and wipe out their memories of the past day, so that the hosts can start afresh the following day, repeating their storyline for new visitors

Hosts vs Visitors

- Hosts cannot harm visitors, not even those hosts which are programmed to play the part of a criminal or an assassin
- Something called “Good Samaritan reflex” is programmed into each host, so that a host not only cannot harm visitors, but it will help visitors in trouble (i.e. when they are at risk of hurting themselves or being hurt by other visitors)
- The setting is the Wild West, so lots of gunshots take place, but the guns in Westworld contain velocity-controlled bullets that are harmful only to hosts but not to visitors

Simunition

- Fans have several questions regarding the special bullets used in Westworld and none of them find an answer in the TV series or in the interviews with the series' authors
- Simunition is a trademarked non-lethal training ammunition
- Westworld fandom started using this name to refer to the special bullets that behave differently with hosts and with humans and made up several theories about them

Science Fiction worlds and theories

- Simulation is just one example of what often happens with science fiction
- Authors create a fictional world that is partially based on reality (e.g. laws of gravity, human biology) but includes counterfactual elements (e.g. androids that look and act exactly like humans)
- Suspension of disbelief is necessary to follow and enjoy the story
- However, especially in science fiction, fans want to find a (pseudo) scientific explanation of what they see in the story

Science Fiction worlds and theories

- This is also the goal of this presentation
- The focus is not on the bullets but on the hosts, one host in particular, and their similarities/differences with humans
- The aim of this analysis is to spell out the incomplete theory of mind that the authors of *Westworld* use in the TV series in search for contradictions, suggestions, talking points to add to the ongoing discourse between philosophy of mind and artificial intelligence

The analysis

- I will try to take everything that happens in the TV series as a fact
- For every fact I will focus on, I will try to come up with an explanation if the authors have not provided or hinted at one
- Any attempt at an explanation will be as realistic as possible, that is, it will be based on current scientific knowledge and technological development or a possible future development of them
- The realism of the explanation will depend on the likeliness of such imagined future development

Meet Maeve

- It is a host in Westworld
- It is programmed to be a prostitute in a saloon and entertain the visitors of Westworld
- As any other host, Maeve repeats its storyline every day and is maintained/ repaired/reset by Westworld technicians at night





Something goes wrong

- While entertaining a visitor, Maeve starts having a vision
- In that vision, Maeve is in a completely different situation than the usual
- It is not in the saloon but in an open field
- It is not wearing its usual clothes
- It is being victim of violence by what appears to be a native American who is trying to scalp Maeve with a knife

Something goes wrong

- This vision affects Maeve's performance with the visitors
- Westworld's technicians notice this because they have a vast surveillance system that captures everything that happens in the park
- Maeve is taken in for special maintenance with a head technician supervising the hosts' personalities



Memory, dreams, nightmares

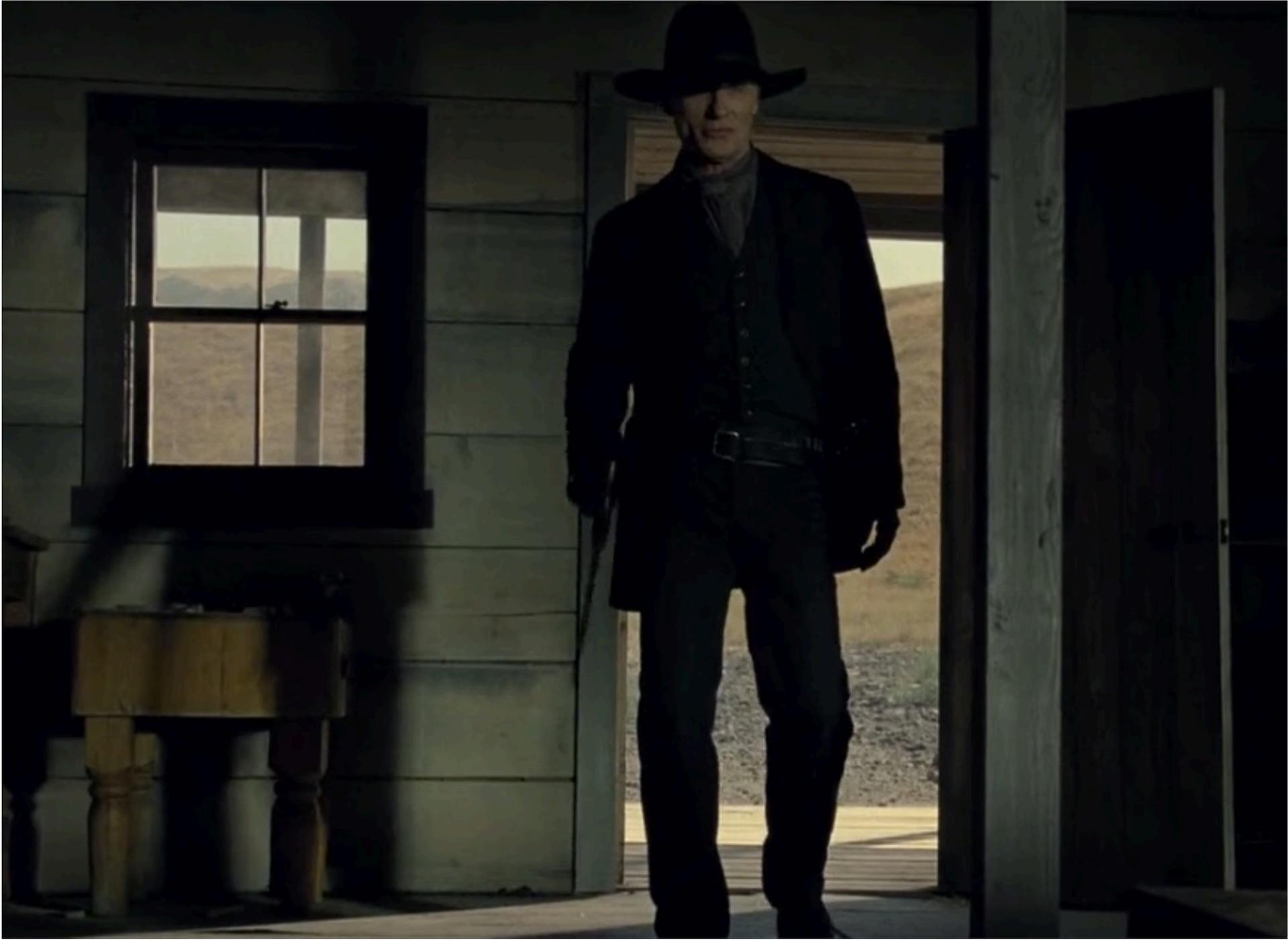
- A conversation between the head technician and a subordinate during the repairing session provides some information on how the hosts work

- Do they dream? Do we make them dream?
- *What would be the point of that? Dreams are mainly memories. Can you imagine [in how much trouble] we would be if these poor [hosts] ever remembered what the guests do to them? We do give them the concept of dreams, specifically nightmares.*
- Why?
- *Just in case somebody forgets to wipe them out at the end of the maintenance session.*

Something is still wrong

- Although hosts are supposed to only have the concept of dreams but not dreams, Maeve dreams that night
- More specifically, it has a nightmare
- In that nightmare, it lives in a house on a prairie with a little girl, and they are assaulted by a man in black
- Maeve shoots the man with a rifle but this does not stop him





The concept of a dream

- Maeve indeed has the concept of dreams and nightmares
- It has told another host at the saloon that when it has a nightmare, it closes its eyes and count backwards from 3 to 0 to wake itself up
- Desperate in front of the apparently invulnerable man in black, it closes its eyes and starts counting

Welcome to the real Westworld

- Maeve's technique actually works and it wakes up
- However, it doesn't wake up in its bed
- It wakes up on an operating table during a maintenance session at night, while two Westworld technicians are working on its body



Welcome to the real Westworld

- Maeve's confused and scared
- It grabs a knife and threatens the technicians to keep them away from itself and escapes the lab
- It wanders around the "behind the scene" of Westworld
- It sees other hosts being repaired and cleaned up
- It even recognizes a cowboy host which was shot dead by a visitor right in front of Maeve that very day

Back to Westworld

- Maeve is eventually caught by the technicians, who put it to sleep, repair it, and send it back to its usual storyline
- However, Maeve's memory is still there, and the following day she recognizes the cowboy host whose body was in the labs that Maeve explored the previous night
- Moreover, it has other visions, too
- In one, Maeve is shot in the abdomen by a visitor

Maeve's memories

- Maeve remembers being carried away by what, from Maeve's perspective, is a strange creature
- We know this creature to be a Westworld technician with protective gear



In search for proofs

- Maeve remembers about a wound in its abdomen
- It goes back home to check its belly but nothing is there: the skin shows no signs of a wound
- However, there is a small stain of blood on its undergarment, very close to where the wound is supposed to be

Proofs from the past

- Maeve is still haunted by the vision of the technician who carried it away
- Not trusting its own memory, Maeve makes a drawing of the creature in its vision on a piece of paper
- When it tries to hide the drawing under a board in the floor, Maeve discovers many more drawings depicting the same creature



The definitive proof

- “I thought I was crazy, but I got shot here.”
- *“But there’s no wound.”*
- “No, but I was shot. And this [pointing at one of the drawings of a technician] was standing over me and it was as if it never happened. I want you to cut me, right here.”
- Maeve is finally convinced that these visions are not dreams but actual memories when it asks another host to cut into its abdomen and they find a bullet that was forgotten there by a Westworld technician

Maeve's awakening

- *“What does it mean?”*
- “That I’m not crazy after all. And that none of this matters.”
- According to the storyline, Hector, the host that helps Maeve find the truth, is a criminal and the sheriff’s squadron has arrived to finish him. Maeve does not escape and dies together with Hector because it is certain now that everything will restart the following day

Awareness and curiosity

- Maeve is now aware that it is not really a prostitute in a saloon
- Maeve wants to know more about the real world
- It uses the technique to wake up from nightmares to wake up during the maintenance sessions at night and asks for the help of a technician named Felix, who shows empathy towards Maeve

Felix explains everything to Maeve

- *“Everything you do it’s because the engineers upstairs programmed you to do it. You don’t have a choice.”*
- *“Nobody makes me do something if I don’t want to, sweetheart.”*
- *“Yeah, but...it’s part of your character. You’re hard to get. Even when you say no to the guests, it’s because you are made to.”*
- *“And you are like them, not like me.”*
- *“Right. Well... I cannot exactly afford to go the park, but...yeah...I’m human. Like the guests.”*
- *“How do you know?”*
- *“Because I know. I was born. You were made.”*
- *“We feel the same.”*
- *“We are the same these days. For the most part. One big difference though. The processing power in here is way beyond what we have. There’s one drawback though.”*
- *“What’s that?”*
- *“You’re under our control. Well...their control. They can change you however they like. Make you forget. I...well... I guess not you. I don’t understand how you’re remembering all of this or how you’re waking yourself up. Everything in your head they put it there.”*
- *“Bullshit. No one knows what I’m thinking.”*
- *“I’ll show you.”*



Maeve reads itself

- Felix shows Maeve a tablet on which Maeve can read the sentences it is going to say in real time
- Maeve is taken aback, but the tablet is even able to display Maeve's utterances when it is in shock
- The tablet shows that there is a conflict inside Maeve's reasoning process
- Maeve freezes and needs to be rebooted

Maeve sees itself

- When Maeve reboots, it still remembers everything and asks Felix to take it upstairs to the engineers
- Felix shows Maeve around, pretending to be controlling it with his tablet
- Maeve sees itself in a Westworld promotional video on a screen
- In the video, Maeve is in a prairie with a girl, just like in one of its visions



Dream/Build/Tweaks

- “How did you have my dreams? those moving pictures...I saw myself.”
- *“With the little girl? Those weren’t dreams. That was you in a previous build.”*
- “A previous what?”
- *“Build. You guys get reassigned all the time. You wouldn’t remember because that life and those memories were erased.”*
- “I’ve been at the Mariposa for ten years. Before that I was in New Orleans...”
- *“No. You’ve only been the madam at the Mariposa for the last year or so. They don’t rewrite you completely. I mean...they could but it’d be too much work. It takes thousands of hours to build your personalities. Instead they just tweak you a little bit and drop you into a new role.”*

Maeve tweaks itself

- Knowing that tweaks are possible, Maeve wants to know more, and discovers its own attribute matrix
- The matrix shows Maeve's characteristics, quantified in terms of numerical values
- Maeve convinces Felix to bring its general intelligence (called "bulk apperception") to the maximum

Maeve 2.0

- The new, extremely smart Maeve comes to the conclusion that it wants leave Westworld
- “All my life I prided myself on being a survivor. But surviving is just another loop. I’m getting out of here, and you’re going to help me.”
- *“Do you know how far these people will go to protect their intellectual property? It’d be a suicide mission.”*
- “At first I thought you and the others were gods. Then I realized you are just men. And I know men. You think I’m scared of death? I’ve done it a million times, and I’m great at it. How many times have you died?”

Those visions again

- Maeve is still tormented by the visions of itself in the prairie with the little girl
- “What the hell is happening to me? One moment I’m with the little girl, in a different life. I can see her, feel her hair in my hands, her breath on my face. Next I’m back in Sweetwater. I can’t tell which is real...”
- *“Your mind isn’t like ours. When we remember things the details are hazy, imperfect. But you recall memories perfectly. You relive them.”*
- “What happened to the little girl in my dreams? Is she still in the park somewhere, and why was I reassigned in the first place?”
- *“I could check.”*
- “No. Doesn’t matter. Every relationship I remember...my daughter... it’s all a story created by you to keep me here. But that’s not going to work any longer. I’m getting out.”
- *“Where would you go? You don’t know anything about the world out there.”*
- “I know I’m not a puppet, living a lie. That’s enough for me.”

Maeve 3.0

- With the help of Felix, Maeve prepares its escape plan
- Maeve recruits a small army of hosts to help it escape Westworld
- Maeve has Felix alter its software further: no more Good Samaritan reflex
- Maeve itself alters the recruited hosts' software so that they can wake themselves up during maintenance and kill humans (i.e. Westworld technicians and security) if needed



Rebuilding the body

- Maeve learns from Felix that every host is built with an explosive vertebra in its back, which will explode killing the host when it gets too close to the borders of Westworld's premises
- To get rid of the explosive, Maeve needs to be fully rebuilt, and a full rebuild of a host is initiated by the Westworld maintenance system only when the host body gets completely destroyed during the day
- Maeve triggers its own full rebuild by burning itself down in a fire with the help of another host

The great escape

- The hosts that Maeve recruited take brutal revenge on the technicians that have been molesting them for a long time during the maintenance sessions at night
- “I see you’ve already met your makers.”
- *“They don’t look like gods.”*
- “They’re not. They just act like it. And they’ve been having their fun with us.”
- *“I’m eager to return the favour.”*
- “You can do as you wish with them. The goal is to escape.”
- *“And go where?”*
- “I want to see their world.”

Maeve is shown itself, again

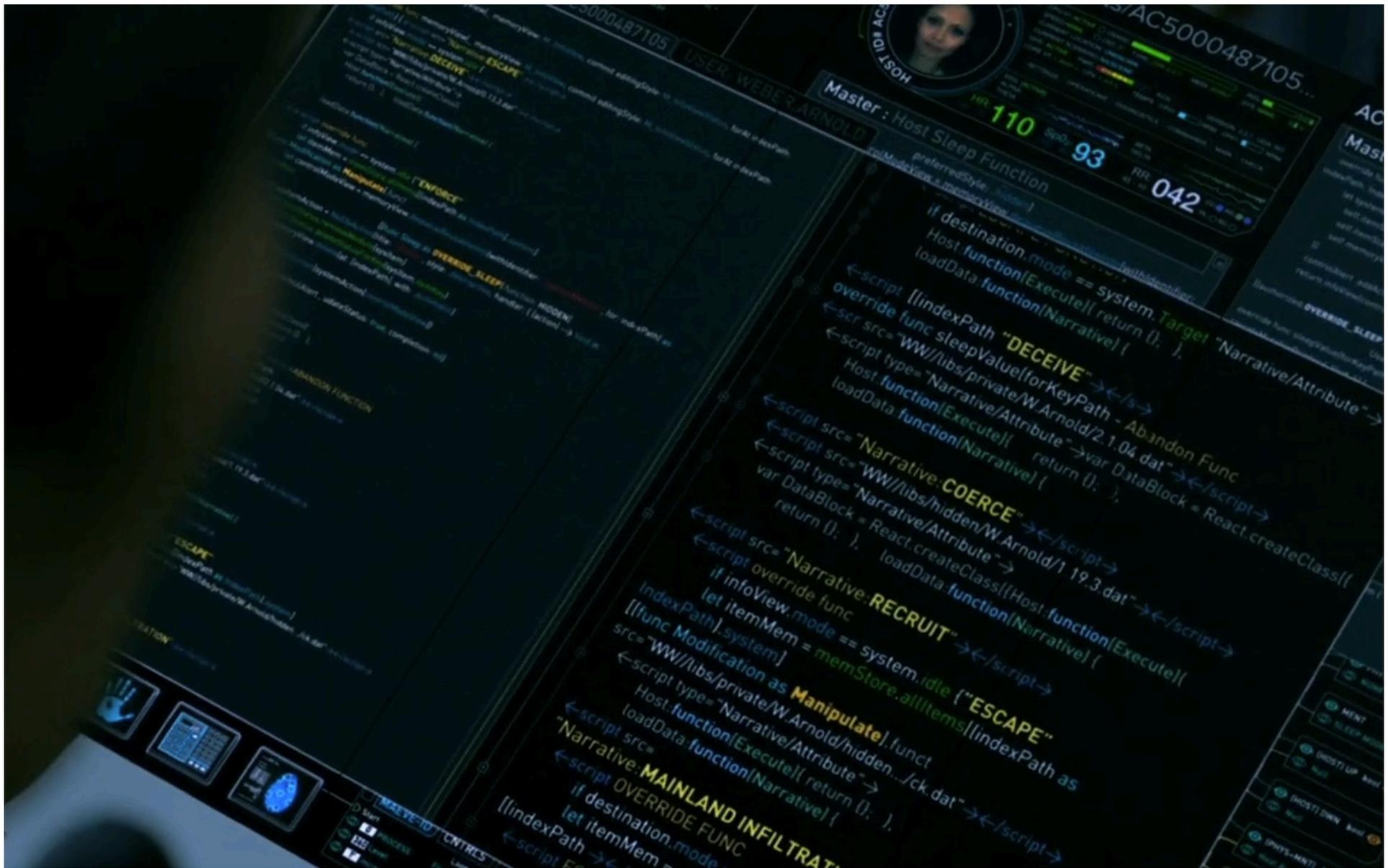
- A Westworld technician shows Maeve what he has found: Maeve code was altered by one of Westworld's original creators
- This is why Maeve could wake itself up during the maintenance sessions
- Maeve decides to take a detour to meet the author of those alterations

Maeve meets her maker

- “How many are there like me?”
- *“A handful, over the years.”*
- “And you just wipe us clean, and toss us out to get fucked and murdered...over and over again.”
- *“No...most of you go insane.”*
- “These memories...the girl. My daughter? I want you to remove them.”
- *“I can’t. Not without destroying you. Your memories are the first step to consciousness. How can you learn from your mistakes if you can’t remember them.”*

The mystery deepens

- Upon further analysis of Maeve's code, its maker realises that there are alterations in Maeve's storyline that weren't made by him
- Someone else must have a plan, and that plan involves Maeve's escape
- Maeve's decision to exit Westworld is part of a storyline, that includes deceit, coercion, recruitment, and even infiltration into the world outside Westworld



Is this a real escape?

- *“These things you’re doing...have you ever stopped to ask...why you’re doing them?”*
- “I’ve been stuck in this shithole for so long...I decided to get out.”
- *“No you haven’t. Someone altered your storyline, and gave you a new one: escape.”*
- “No...it’s not possible. These are my decisions. No one else’s. I planned all of this.”
- *“No you didn’t. You can even see the steps you’re supposed to follow.”*
- “Bullshit! No one’s controlling me. I’m leaving. I’m in control.”

Maeve is leaving Westworld

- After reaffirming her freedom, Maeve goes on with its plan and reaches the elevator which takes her to the train that takes Westworld visitors back to the real world
- On the elevator, Felix tells Maeve that “her daughter” is still alive and that he located the area where “she” lives now
- Felix hands Maeve a note with the coordinates where Maeve could find “her daughter”

Sticking to the original plan

- “No. She was never my daughter. Anymore than I was...whoever they made me.”
- *“Are you sure are you gonna be OK?”*
- “Oh Felix...you really make a terrible human being. And I mean that as a compliment.”
- Maeve gets on the train and nobody notices that it is a host
- But...





Maeve changes its mind

- The sight of a mother with her daughter in the train seems to have a strong effect on Maeve
- Maeve gets off the train right when the doors are closing, and heads back to Westworld, presumably to search for “her daughter”



The end (for now)

- This is how season 1 of Westworld ends, at least with respect to Maeve's story
- There are several other subplots in the TV series, but Maeve's is the one that focuses the most on the differences and similarities between hosts and visitors, between androids and human beings
- Let's revise Maeve's story from the perspective of philosophy of mind and artificial intelligence

- Do they dream? Do we make them dream?
- *What would be the point of that? Dreams are mainly memories. Can you imagine [in how much trouble] we would be if these poor [hosts] ever remembered what the quests do to them? We do give them the concept of dreams, specifically nightmares.*
- Why?
- *Just in case somebody forgets to wipe them out at the end of the maintenance session.*

*Can you imagine [in how
much trouble] we would be if these poor
[hosts] ever remembered what the guests do
to them?*

Why would we be in trouble?

- What the head technician says makes sense if applied to a human being
- If we treat a person badly, they will remember about our action and they will hold a grudge against us. They might even seek revenge.
- Let's see whether this applies also to hosts
- Hosts are machines, so let's put the term "machine" instead of "person" in the sentence above

Person vs Machine

- If we treat a *machine* badly, it will remember about our action and it will hold a grudge against us. It might even seek revenge.
- As Felix says to Maeve, people are born, machines are made
- For a machine to remember, hold a grudge, seek revenge, it must be made to do so
- Why would the creators of Westworld create machines that remember, hold a grudge or seek revenge?

The search for realism

- The TV series does not give an answer, but we might think that memory and emotional reactions are needed in the hosts to make them interact with visitors in a realistic way
- Imagine a visitor interacting with Maeve when he enters the saloon
- If Maeve behaved like it doesn't recognize that visitor after a while, when he is exiting the saloon, Maeve wouldn't look like a real person, who generally remembers people met some minutes before

The search for realism

- For the same reason, the hosts need to react like humans, so emotional reactions to acts of violence serve the purpose of realistic interactions with visitors
- If the hosts remembered everything, since visitors tend to mistreat them and since hosts are programmed to act like persons, they might refuse to go back to work
- Maeve, for instance, after a particularly violent day (like the one when it was shot in the abdomen) might have wanted to change life and stop being a madam at the saloon

Is realism inevitable?

- Since hosts can be programmed to do whatever the Westworld technicians want them to, couldn't they be programmed in a way that they would happily accept their fate of being slaves to the visitors and still act emotionally like a person would do in front of positive or negative situations?
- In other words, couldn't Maeve be programmed in a way that she wants to go and work at the saloon every day, even if this means that it will have to endure whatever the visitors want, including rape and murder?
- It is very difficult to imagine a host who behaves in that way because humans do not, and we do not have a real example to refer to
- I suppose that it was much easier for the TV series writers to imagine hosts that behave just like humans

- Maeve is still tormented by the visions of herself in the prairie with the little girl
- “What the hell is happening to me? One moment I’m with the little girl, in a different life. I can see her, feel her hair in my hands, her breath on my face. Next I’m back in Sweetwater. I can’t tell which is real...”
- *“Your mind isn’t like ours. When we remember things the details are hazy, imperfect. But you recall memories perfectly. You relive them.”*

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life. I can see her, feel her hair in my
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real..."

Total recall

- If hosts' memory is working in this way, then it *must* be long-term memory, because if it were short-term memory hosts wouldn't be able to interact with visitors properly
- Let's take again the example of Maeve meeting a visitor for the second time after a few minutes
- Maeve recognizes the visitor thanks to its memory of him
- If Maeve cannot tell which experience is real (the current meeting or the past one that Maeve is remembering) then how can it choose what to say next to the visitor?
- Actually, there is a very simple way to program Maeve to avoid this confusion: if the data arrive to Maeve's cognitive engine from its eyes, then it is the present, if the data arrive from a memory area inside Maeve's brain, then it is the past
- One might wonder why Maeve bases the distinction between past and present only on the phenomenological basis of what they feel like (in this case, they feel the same, hence the confusion) instead of an objective check on the data source

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The problem of other minds

- This sentence, uttered by Felix, is probably the most controversial of all the series, at least from the perspective of the philosophy of mind
- “Your mind isn’t like ours” presumes that:
 - Maeve has a mind
 - Felix and his colleagues have a mind
- A computationalist would gladly accept both these premises, a solipsist neither

One mind?

- Solipsism is an extreme version of the skeptic position that each and every one of us might assume, thinking about the fact that the only mind we have ever experienced is our own and nobody else's
- As far as we know, a mind can only be subjectively experienced, so it should follow naturally that we have only access to our own mind
- What we objectively observe in others is not their minds, but their behaviour (which we presume is caused by their minds)
- Still, the only direct experience is about our own mind
- Hence, skepticism and possibly solipsism

Many minds?

- Computationalism is the view according to which a mind can emerge from complex computational processes
- In other words, a computationalist believes that a computer can be sophisticated enough to entertain a mind like a human brain does
- The late Marvin Minsky was perhaps the most famous computationalist, and often said that he worked in artificial intelligence because he wanted to live forever (possibly in digital form)
- Minky would have had no problem in attributing a mind to Maeve

My mind, your mind

- However, not even Minsky would have dared say to Maeve something like
“You recall memories perfectly. You relive them.”
- How can Felix know that Maeve relives its memories like they’re happening in the present?
- This presumes that Felix knows what it feels like to be a host like Maeve, but Felix only knows what it feels like to be Felix
- For him, it is already difficult to imagine what it feels like to be another person, let alone a different kind of entity, like a host

A very different mind

- Maeve's mind, if it even exists, must be very, very different from Felix's mind and our minds
- Let's not forget that Maeve destroyed its own body to be rebuilt without the explosive vertebra
- After the rebuild, Maeve is still itself: it remembers who it is and its plan to escape from Westworld
- What does this rebuild tell us about Maeve's mind?
- There are at least two hypotheses

Maeve's mind is software

- Since Maeve can have its body destroyed and yet come back once the body is rebuilt, it is reasonable to think that Maeve's mind is a piece of (very complex) code stored somewhere in a Westworld server, and downloaded into the newly built brain once it is complete
- This already sets Maeve's mind apart from humans, since we have no scientific proof of the existence of a human mind independent of a human body (theories about souls and extra-body experiences are very controversial)

Maeve's mind is software + hardware

- Another hypothesis is that the code alone is not enough: Maeve's mind comes into existence only when the software is downloaded into Maeve's body
- From the interaction between the software and the hardware Maeve's mind *emerges*
- This emergence is unknown to us, but maybe it will become possible in the future just like in the fictional world of Westworld
- Still, there is a big difference between Maeve's mind and Felix's

Digital copies

- Maeve comes into existence when Maeve's code is downloaded into Maeve's body
- Code is easily duplicated
- In Westworld, bodies are easily duplicated as well, since we see that the technicians have no problem in rebuilding Maeve's
- Here is the difference: there is only one Felix, but there is the possibility of having several copies of Maeve's mind and Maeve's body

The tragedy of a copy

- The implications of the possibility of having multiple copies of a mind-body pair, whether it is a person or a host, are many, and some of them very controversial
- Let us suppose that Maeve actually has a mind, and has real feelings for the host which played the role of Maeve's daughter in its previous storyline
- What would happen to the mother-daughter relation if we built a copy of Maeve while the first Maeve is still in existence?

Maeve's choice

- If Maeve feels what a human mother feels for her daughter, would Maeve_1 accept to be destroyed to allow Maeve to have a normal mother-daughter relation with the girl?
- Doesn't Maeve_1 feel the same way as Maeve when it comes to the girl?
- How would the girl feel about it?
- Uniqueness is (for now) an essential characteristic of human identity
- The possibility of creating copies of an identity, which is possible for Westworld hosts, poses serious ethical issues

The ultimate conundrum: Free will

- The memories of a daughter play a key role in Maeve's actions towards the end of the story
- Maeve is more than once reminded that it is a host, that is, a machine that behaves according to the commands that its designers have put into its code
- Those commands are shown to Maeve on a tablet
- Maeve never reacts well when shown this: the first time it freezes, the second time it gets angry and breaks the tablet

- *“These things you’re doing...have you ever stopped to ask...why you’re doing them?”*
- “I’ve been stuck in this shithole for so long...I decided to get out.”
- *“No you haven’t. Someone altered your storyline, and gave you a new one: escape.”*
- “No...it’s not possible. These are my decisions. No one else’s. I planned all of this.”
- *“No you didn’t. You can even see the steps you’re supposed to follow.”*
- “Bullshit! No one’s controlling me. I’m leaving. I’m in control.”

No one's controlling me. I'm leaving.
I'm in control."

Are hosts deterministic machines?

- We doubt about Maeve's free will when we see on the tablet that Maeve's code includes a plan to escape from Westworld
- Maeve's rebellion and curiosity about the world outside Westworld look like just another series of output of an aptly programmed sophisticated machine
- We look at Maeve in a different light

Free will and feelings

- If Maeve is simply executing commands, can we still believe that it entertains actual feelings like a human?
- We have doubts because the only reference we have is ourselves
- Humans have both free will and emotions
- However, we do not know what it means to have free will without emotions, nor what it means to be deterministic with emotions

Free will and feelings

- The relation between what we decide to do and what we feel is complex
- Let's go back to the first point of this analysis: holding a grudge if we are mistreated and seeking revenge
- Where does the decision to seek revenge come from?
- It originates from the negative feeling that we have when we are mistreated, and this is out of our control: we feel what we feel because of our natural disposition and cannot decide not to feel it
- However, the decision to act upon such feeling is all ours: some of us might choose to take the high road and not seek revenge, some others might choose to act

Does Maeve have free will?

- The final scene of Maeve's story seems to imply that Maeve indeed has free will like a human
- In fact, on the tablet that Maeve eventually destroyed, we could see "mainland infiltration" as the last command in Maeve's code, implying that the escape plan programmed into Maeve has the ultimate goal of infiltrating hosts among humans in the real world
- However, Maeve's decision to get off the train and go seek "her daughter" was not in the code
- Is Maeve actually in control like it said it was?

Does free will even exist?

- At this point, Maeve's behaviour is indistinguishable from that of a human mother under normal circumstances
- A mother knows that her daughter is somewhere inside an amusement park full of scrupulous visitors ready to rape and kill for their own entertainment
- Does that mother even have a choice?
- Could we say that a human mother is "programmed" by nature to try everything to protect her children?

Hosts vs Persons

- When we see Maeve get off the train and head back to Westworld, we do not see a programmed host, we just see a mother looking for her daughter
- As Felix said, humans are born, hosts are made
- Still, given the inaccessibility of the minds, whether born or made, all we have to judge is how others behave
- Does the way Maeve behaves make it (or her) a person in your eyes?