

SOME NOTES

ON CABLES

1. Foam-skin insulated telecommunication cable, gel filling, moisture barrier sheath Ø 82.5mm

"Memoization" disambiguation link www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memoization

[...] Memoization is not to be confused with memorization.

2. PVC insulated signal cable, pair stranded tinned copper wire Ø 16mm

Henri Lefebvre, "Rhythmanalysis: Space, Time and Everyday Life," Continuum, London, 2004, p.47

[...] It resembles the real and presence as a photo of photographed people: it resembles but it has neither depth, nor breadth.

3. PVC insulated signal cable, star-quads, stranded tinned copper wire, inductive protection Ø 18mm

Wikipedia, "Memoization" article, www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Memoization

[...] Derived from the word memorandum (to be remembered), usually truncated as memo, it thus carries the meaning of turning the results of a function into something to be remembered.

4. Coaxial telecommunication cable, interstitial pairs, conductor, polyethylene sheath Ø 75mm

Douglas Kahn, "Earth Sound Earth Signal," University of California Press, 2013, p.173

[...] The optimum network latency one-way across the Pacific Ocean is about 110 milliseconds.

5. Polyethylene-foam skin, star-quad signal cable, reinforced aluminium laminated sheath Ø 53mm

Email sent from Nina Canell to Chris Sharp, January 2014, and later published as part of the press release for an exhibition at Lulu, Mexico City, February 2014

[...] So if cables could be said to be inhabited by some degree of forgetfulness, or at least if we acknowledge that it is a crucial part of their functionality, this would leave no doubt that cables are the opposite of sentimental. The current is only capable of carrying the current. Cable stumps are cross-sections of a vocabulary of interruptions. A cut-off form. Ending mid-sentence

6. Polyethylene-foam skin, insulated star-squad signal cable, solid bare copper wire Ø 47mm

Alexander R. Galloway, Eugene Thacker and McKenzie Wark "Excommunication – Three Inquiries in Media and Mediation," The University of Chicago Press, Chicago, 2013, p.27

[...] writing is an image of speech, Socrates explains, and therefore an image of the self once removed. As a mediation of speech, writing is thus

7. Polyethylene-foam skin, insulated star-quad signal cable, galvanised steel armour Ø 52mm

Note from a short synopsis describing a sculpture

something of a problem for the Platonic tradition. That is, the problem of the translation of memory into physical media supports.

[...] the translation of remembrance ± the translation of forgetfulness

8. Polyethylene-foam skin, insulated signal cable, strand bare copper wire, reinforced sheath Ø 26mm

César Aira, "The Seamstress and the Wind," New Directions, New York, 2011, p.127

[...] In loss everything comes together. Loss is all-devouring. A person can lose an umbrella, a piece of paper, a diamond, a bit of lint... it's all metabolized. To lose is to forget things in cafés. Forgetting is like a great alchemy free of secrets, limpid, transforming everything into the present. In the end it makes our lives into this visible and tangible thing we hold in our hands, with no folds left hidden in the past.

9. Subsea communication cable, multimode fibre optic, coaxial, tinned copper wire braid, polyurethane sheath Ø 24.5mm

Gilles Deleuze and Félix Guattari, "A Thousand Plateaus," University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, 1987, p.25

[...] A rhizome has neither beginning nor end, but always a middle

10. Subsea power cable, copper conductor, bronze wire braid, polyurethane sheath Ø 28mm

Excerpt from press release for an exhibition at Camden Arts Centre, London, January 2014

[...] Near non-existent rarefactions of a stray sock.

11. Subsea cable, twisted bundles, wire braid, PE sheath Ø 53.5mm

Note written while working on this text

[...] Content breaks up geometrically

12. Subsea communication cable, twisted pairs, kevlar braid, bedding, polyurethane sheath Ø 40mm

[...]

.

13. Subsea communication cable, coaxial, copper conductor, TPR sheath Ø 30.8mm

Alexander R. Galloway, "Protocol," MIT Press, Cambridge, 2004, p.5

[...] Each fragment, or packet, is able to find its own way to its destination. Once there, the packets reassemble to create the original message.

14. Subsea cable, twisted screened pair, vectran rope, waterblock compound, PU sheath Ø 29.5mm

James Joyce, "Giacomo Joyce," Faber and Faber, London, 1968, p.1

[...] "Yes: a brief syllable. A brief laugh. A brief beat of the eyelids."

15. Subsea power cable, copper conductors, aramid fibre braid, PU sheath Ø 33.4mm

Note based on a comment by Martin Soto Climent's uncle regarding a sculpture group

[...] Towards an anthropology of energy

16. Subsea communication cable, coaxial, twisted screened pairs, polyurethane sheath Ø 14mm

Wikipedia, "Coupling Loss" article, www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coupling_loss

[...] Coupling loss, also known as connection loss, is the loss that occurs when energy is transferred from one circuit, circuit element, or medium to another. Coupling loss is usually expressed in the same units—such as watts or decibels—as in the originating circuit element or medium. In fibre optics it refers to the power loss that occurs when coupling light from one optical device or medium to another. In electronics, impedance mismatch between coupled components results in a reflection of a portion of the energy at the interface. Likewise, in optical systems, where there is a change in index of refraction (most commonly at a fibre/air interface), a portion of the energy is reflected back into the source component. Another major source of optical coupling loss is geometrical. As an example, two fibres coupled end-to-end may not be precisely

17. Fibre optic cable, aramid yarn, steel wire strength member, polyethylene jacket Ø 11.8mm

Excerpt from a White House memorandum regarding an energy meeting on the 3rd of November 1977

[...] Basically, nothing happened.

18. Fibre optic telecommunication cable, dry filled, metal-free, rodent protection Ø 8mm

[...]

19. Fibre optic telecommunication cable, FRP-central element, plastic foil, FRNC sheath Ø 17mm

Transcription of a colour wheel

[...] yellow
orange yellow
orange
orange red
red
scarlet red
scarlet
crimson

aligned, with the result that the two cores overlap somewhat. Light exiting the source fibre at a portion of its core that is not aligned with the core of the receiving fibre will not (in general) be coupled into the second fibre. While some such light will be coupled into the second fibre, it is not likely to be efficiently coupled, nor will it generally travel in an appropriate mode in the second fibre. Similarly, even for two perfectly aligned cores, where there is a gap of any significant distance between the two fibres, there will be some geometric loss due to spread of the beam. Some percentage of the light rays exiting the source fibre face will not intersect the second fibre within its entrance cone.

magenta
purple magenta
purple
purple violet
violet
blue violet
blue
bluish cyan
cyan blue
greenish cyan
turquoise
bluish green
green
sap green
yellow green
lemon yellow

[...] Communication always seems to happen in the shadow of a lost immediacy with the totality. Communication is always a bringing together of a this with a that. Each this is connected to another that, and each that to another this. There's no beginning or end, and there is always either an excess or a lack to any particular communication, a more-than or less-than. But for there to be connections there have to be dis

[...] Cut.
Removed, extracted, abstracted.
Sheath to no sheath.
Tender wires,
thin vowels.

[...] Refragmentation may be necessary en route. Thus, if a message starts off being frag-

23. Single fibre data system cable, silicone coating, aramid yarns, FRNC sheath Ø 2.8mm

Note written as a reminder of another sculpture that could be made

24. Foam-skin polyethylene insulated telecommunication cable, single mode fibres Ø 4.7mm

Isabella Field Judson, "Cyrus W. Field," Garrett Press Inc., New York, 1969, p.214

25. Subsea power cable, copper conductors, PU sheath Ø 33mm

The title of Vladimir Nabokov's autobiographical novel from 1951

26. Subsea power cable, twisted screened pairs, aramid fibre cord, low smoke PU sheath Ø 26mm

mented into large packets, it may need to refragment itself mid-journey if it encounters a medium-sized pipe somewhere

[...] half here
half withheld
at the end
of a nerve

[...] speaking to you through the 1865 cable. Just going to make splice

[...] Speak, Memory

[...]

.

[...] May the Atlantic Telegraph under the blessings of Heaven prove to be a bond of perpetual peace and friendship between the kindred nations, and an instrument destined by Divine Providence to diffuse religion, civilization, liberty and law throughout the world.

[...] structured like an inverted tree, each branch of the [DNS] tree holds absolute control over everything below it.

[...] from the stock exchange reports of world trade and the telegraph agencies of the world press, to colonial empires

20. Fibre optic telecommunication cable, FRP central element, buffered fibres, FRNC sheath Ø 6.3mm

Alexander R. Galloway, Eugene Thacker and McKenzie Wark, Ibid, p.27

21. Polyethylene insulated telecommunication cable, protective inner steel braid Ø 15mm

Note written as a reminder of a sculpture that could be made

22. Fibre optic communication cable, silicone coated buffered fibres, aramid yarns, FRNC sheath Ø 3mm

Alexander R. Galloway, "Protocol," Ibid, p.46

27. Subsea FTP cable, stranded cores, overall screen, polyurethane sheath Ø 15.8mm

The President of the USA James Buchanan's response to the first transatlantic message sent by Queen Elisabeth of England, 1865. Collection University of Glasgow Library

28. Subsea fibre optic cable, solid PVC filler, contra-helical galvanised steel wire armour, polyurethane sheath Ø 25.5mm

Alexander R. Galloway, "Protocol," Ibid, p.9

29. Subsea communication cable, coaxial, twisted quad, copper braid, polyurethane sheath Ø 23mm

Friedrich Kittler, "The History of Communication Media," 1996, p.75

which, like the British Empire, were founded on a “fleet in being” and consequently on a global undersea cable monopoly.

[...] as naturalized as air or as common as dirt.

[...] Hamlet: Do you see nothing there?
Queen: Nothing at all, yet all that is I see.

[...] Cut.

[...] “One cable is worth more than twelve peace conferences”

[...] Geography breaks up asymmetrically

[...]

.

[...] I shall have remained for another moment with my eyes closed after the space had finished compacting like a plastic wrapping around the last chocolate. And with it the sensation that I was going to wake up in a new Middle Ages rid of the perspective where objects whatever the distance would keep the dimension they will have had in my hands.

37. Fibre optic mini duct cable, centre unitube construction, metal-free, HDPE sheath Ø 3.5mm

Wikipedia, “Electromagnetic Hypersensitivity” article: www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electromagnetic_hypersensitivity

38. Multimode optical fibres, filling compound, PBT tube, polyethylene sheath Ø 3.8mm

From the article “Can the nervous system be hacked?” by Michael Behar: www.nytimes.com

39. FTP data cable, copper conductor, shielded PVC sheath Ø 4.2mm

Note written in a warm place

40. Singlemode optical fibres, jelly filling, swellable powder, glass yarn armour, HDPE sheath Ø 5mm

Alexander R. Galloway, Eugene Thacker and McKenzie Wark, *Ibid*, p.41

41. Subsea communication cable, coaxial, glass fibre rod, copper units, polyethylene sheath Ø 14mm

42. Subsea signal cable, twisted screened pairs, polyurethane sheath Ø 10.5mm

Wikipedia, “Chatterton’s Compound” article: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chatterton%27s_compound

43. Fibre optic subsea cable, water-block compound, polyurethane sheath Ø 9mm

[...] headache, fatigue, stress, sleep disturbances, skin symptoms like prickling, burning sensations and rashes, pain, ache in muscles, tinnitus, dizziness, memory deficits, irregular heart beat, and whole-body skin symptoms. A 2001 survey found that people related their electromagnetic hypersensitivity symptoms most frequently to mobile phone base stations (74%), followed by mobile phones (36%), cordless phones (29%) and power lines (27%).

[...] “No one has really tried to speak the electrical language of the body”

[...] A warm chord

[...] Humanized, but not earthy; thoroughly practical, but most ethereal,

[...]

.

[...] 3 parts gutta-percha
1 part rosin
1 part Stockholm tar

[...]

.

30. Subsea signal cable, vectran fibre cord, drain wire, foil shield, polyurethane sheath Ø 18mm

Alexander R. Galloway, “The Unworkable Interface,” *New Literary History*, Baltimore, 2008, p.931

31. Subsea fibre optic cable, jelly filler, twisted screened pairs, kevlar braid, TPR sheath Ø 25mm

Arthur C. Danto, “Transfiguration of the Commonplace”, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, 1981, preface

32. Subsea signal cable, twisted cores, PU sheath Ø 9.2mm

Extraneous material cut

33. Multimode optical fibres, filling compound, TPR sheath Ø 4.5mm

Popular History, “The Atlantic Cable and World Peace,” Issue 5/1994

34. Fibre optic cable, waterblock units, dielectric strength members polyethylene sheath Ø 4mm

Another note written while working on this text

35. Fibre optic network cable, jelly filling, glass yarns, thermoplastic tubes, HDPE sheath Ø 4.5mm

36. Aerial multimode optical fibres, swellable elements, dielectric armour, HDPE sheath Ø 4mm

Mark Geffriaud, “The Curve of Forgotten Things,” *Book Works*, London, 2012, p.52

44. Subsea cable, jelly filler, aramid fibre cord, PU sheath Ø 17mm

The title of a book by Hans Ulrich Gumbrecht

[...] the production of presence

52. Subsea cable, tinned copper wire braid, EPR bedding, polyurethane sheath Ø 18.4mm

Henri Lefebvre, Ibid, p.48

[...] One of several contradictions: the form of communication eludes the content that it so badly needs for a social existence.

45. Subsea cable, copper conductors, fibre braid, gel compound, polyurethane sheath Ø 44.2mm

[...]

53. Subsea telecommunication cable, coaxials, conductors, polyurethane sheath Ø 22mm

Michel Serres, "Le Parasite," Éditions Grasset et Fasquelle, Paris, 1980, p.107

[...] Systems work because they don't work. Non-functionality remains essential for functionality. This can be formalised: pretend there are two stations exchanging messages through a channel. If the exchange succeeds—if it is perfect, optimal, immediate—then the relation erases itself. But if the relation remains there, if it exists, it's because the exchange has failed. It is nothing but mediation. The relation is a non-relation.

46. Subsea cable, multimode fibres, nylon vent, PU sheath Ø 20.5mm

Alexander R. Galloway, "Protocol," Ibid, p.11

[...] from the central trunks to the radial leaves.

47. Subsea telecommunication cable, bundle yarn fibres, steel wire armour, HDPE sheath Ø 21.3mm

[...]

48. Subsea telecommunication cable, coaxial, waterblock, polyurethane sheath Ø 11mm

[...]

54. Subsea telecommunication cable, singlemode optical fibres, EPR bedding, polyurethane sheath Ø 11mm

Douglas Kahn, Ibid, p.170

[...] intervening media (air, atmospheric currents from wind and temperature, ionized air, rock, walls, electronic circuitry, etc.), objects, and artifacts, including the final absorptions, reflections, and modulations made by the immediate environment of shoulders and clothing, head, hair,

49. Subsea telecommunication cable, coaxial, twisted screened quad, waterblock, PU sheath Ø 13.5mm

[...]

55. Subsea telecommunication cable, twisted copper pairs, coaxial, drain wire, PU sheath Ø 14mm

Alexander R. Galloway, Eugene Thacker and McKenzie Wark, Ibid, p.43

[...] Can there be a tele-telling, a telling at a distance?

50. Subsea telecommunication cable, multimode optic fibres, conductors, kevlar braid, polyurethane sheath Ø 16mm

[...]

56. Subsea cable, twisted screened triple, foil shield, kevlar braid, polyurethane sheath Ø 26.4mm

Henry David Thoreau, "Walden; or, Life in the Woods," Dover Publications, Mineola, 1995, p.80

[...] There came to me a melody which the air had strained, and which had conversed with every leaf and needle of the wood, that portion of the sound which the elements had taken up and mod-

51. Subsea power cable, twisted screened pairs, fillers, drain wire, polyurethane sheath Ø 13.5mm

[...]

ulated and echoed from vale to vale. It is not merely a repetition of what was worth repeating in the bell, but it is in some measure the voice of the wood.

[...]

57. Halogen free switchboard telecommunication cable, static shield Ø 19mm

Douglas Kahn, Ibid, p.162

[...] intrinsic awareness of an energy that includes what has been traversed.

63. Polyethylene insulated jelly filled telecommunication cable, solid copper wire Ø 26.8mm

A common way to end a memorandum

[...] End of memorandum

58. Halogen free switchboard telecommunication cable, solid tinned copper wire Ø 6mm

[...]

.

59. Foam-skin PE insulated telecommunication cable, aluminium foil screening Ø 16.6mm

Yet another note written as a reminder of a sculpture that could be made

[...] that millimetre-thin amber tissue, that millimetre-thin energy issue

60. Signal cable, aluminium foil, drain wires Ø 49.6mm

[...]

.

61. Foam-PE insulated telecommunication cable, aluminium foil, drain wires Ø 81mm

Note written from another continent

[...] the grey of things one can't quite remember

62. Foam-skin PE insulated jelly filled telecommunication cable, annealed copper wire Ø 63mm

The time it takes for light to travel through a fibre optic cable per kilometer

[...] Three long milliseconds

[...]

.

[...]

.

Found cable illustrations and text
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Reassembled by Nina Canell.

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