

PLAYER TYPES

FINAL ETHNOGRAPHY XIV

A CONFERENCE REBORN

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INTRODUCTION

- THIS CONFERENCE IS ABOUT **FFXIV**
- I **HAVE** ACTUALLY **PLAYED** FFXIV
 - FOR A TOTAL OF **2,737.8** HOURS SO FAR
- HOWEVER, THE **LAST** TIME I PLAYED WAS **2022**, SO I'M NOT UP TO **SPEED** ON IT
- THEREFORE, I'M GOING TO BE TALKING ABOUT **PLAYER TYPES**
 - MAYBE WITH SOME **REFERENCES** TO FFXIV
- APPARENTLY, PLAYER TYPES ARE **USEFUL** FOR VIDEO GAME ETHNOGRAPHY

VIRTUAL WORLD THEORY

- VIRTUAL WORLDS SUCH AS FFXIV ARE **UNUSUAL** IN THAT THEY HAVE A THEORY
- IT'S BEEN **SUCCESSFULLY** AND **OFTEN** APPLIED TO COMMERCIAL MMOS
 - STARTING WITH **VO**, IT'S NOW CONSIDERED **STANDARD**
- THIS THEORY IS **PLAYER TYPES**
- UNFORTUNATELY FOR **YOU**, IT'S **MY** THEORY
 - BUT IT'S TAUGHT AT **MANY** UNIVERSITIES, SO I DON'T FEEL **TOO** BAD ABOUT INFLICTING IT ON YOU

ORIGINS

- SO, THE **THEORY** I'M ABOUT TO EXPOUND BEGAN WITH THE QUESTION: "WHAT DO PEOPLE **WANT** OUT OF A MUD?"
 - YES, BACK IN THE OL' TEXTUAL WORLD DAYS...
- IF YOU ASK, PLAYERS WILL USUALLY GIVE THE SAME ANSWER: "TO HAVE **FUN!**"
 - NOT EXACTLY **INFORMATIVE**...
- **MUD2**, NOVEMBER 1989-MAY 1990
 - A BIG DISCUSSION AMONG WIZZES (ADMINS) TO ASCERTAIN WHAT PLAYERS **DO** "TO HAVE FUN"
 - NB: WIZZES AND MORTALS HAVE **DIFFERENT** FUN

PLAYER TYPES

- WHEN I **SUMMARISED** THE DISCUSSION, I FOUND THAT THERE SEEMED TO BE **FOUR** MAIN ACTIVITIES THAT MORTALS FOUND **FUN**:
 - **ACHIEVEMENT** WITHIN THE GAME CONTEXT
 - **EXPLORATION** OF THE GAME
 - **SOCIALISING** WITH OTHERS
 - **IMPOSITION** UPON OTHERS
- YES, YOU **KNOW** WHAT THE NEXT LINE SAYS...
- LET'S LOOK AT THESE **INDIVIDUALLY**

TYPE #1

- MOST **PLAYERS** REGARD VIRTUAL WORLDS AS BEING BASICALLY **GAMES**



ACHIEVERS

- PLAYERS WHO TREAT THE VIRTUAL WORLD AS IF IT WERE A GAME ARE CALLED **ACHIEVERS**
- THEY GIVE THEMSELVES GAME-ORIENTED **GOALS** AND SET OUT TO **ACHIEVE** THEM
- EXAMPLES:
 - FINDING **TREASURE**
 - KILLING **MOBILES**
 - GETTING **POINTS** AND GOING UP **LEVELS**
 - MAKING **MONEY** (GIL)
- ACHIEVERS DO **NOT** LIKE SEEING THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS **UNDERMINED!**

TYPE #2

- SOME PEOPLE JUST LIKE THE **THRILL** OF EXPLORING SOMEWHERE OR SOMETHING **NEW**



EXPLORERS

- **EXPLORERS** TRY TO DISCOVER AS MUCH AS THEY CAN ABOUT THE VIRTUAL WORLD
- THEY USUALLY BEGIN WITH THE **TOPOLOGY**
 - THE **BREADTH** OF THE VIRTUAL WORLD
- THEY THEN MOVE ON TO THE **PHYSICS**
 - THE **DEPTH** OF THE VIRTUAL WORLD
- **DON'T CARE** ABOUT THEIR **CHARACTER**
- THEY KNOW **MORE** ABOUT THE VIRTUAL WORLD THAN **ANY OTHER** PLAYER TYPE

TYPE #3

- THROUGH THEIR **CHARACTERS**, MANY PLAYERS ENJOY **INTERACTING WITH** EACH OTHER



SOCIALISERS

- **SOCIALISERS** USE THE GAME AS A CONTEXT TO **ENGAGE** WITH OTHER PLAYERS
 - THE VIRTUAL WORLD'S **GOINGS-ON** GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO **TALK** ABOUT
- COMMUNICATION IS **ULTRA-IMPORTANT**
 - QUITE OFTEN **ROLE-PLAYING** FITS IN HERE BECAUSE OF THIS, BUT NOT ALWAYS
- SOCIALISERS ARE AN OBVIOUS EXPRESSION OF **COMMUNITY**

TYPE #4

- A FEW PLAYERS ENJOY **ACTING ON** OTHER (USUALLY UNWILLING) PLAYERS...



KILLERS

- **TWO** SORTS
 - THOSE WHO IMPOSE THROUGH **KINDNESS**
 - THOSE WHO IMPOSE THROUGH **UNKINDNESS**
- 1ST ARE BUSYBODY, **MOTHER HEN** FIGURES
 - POLITICIANS
 - THEY OFTEN HAVE A **SUPERIORITY COMPLEX**✕
- 2ND ARE **VILE DREGS** OF HUMANITY
 - GRIEFERS
 - THEY OFTEN HAVE AN **INFERIORITY COMPLEX**✕

INTEREST GRAPH

- WE CAN **PLOT** THESE BEHAVIOURS ON A **GRAPH**:



INTEREST GRAPH

- THE THEORY **SAYS** THAT THIS DISTRIBUTION OF **FUN** APPLIES ACROSS **ALL** VIRTUAL WORLDS **ACTING**

- *EVERQUEST*



PLAYERS



SW:TOR

WORLD

- *SECOND LIFE*



THERE

INTERACTING

FURTHERMORE

- FURTHERMORE, THIS SEEMS TO BE **TRUE**

ACTING

- *SHADOWBANE*



RIFT

PLAYERS

WORLD

- *A TALE IN THE DESERT*

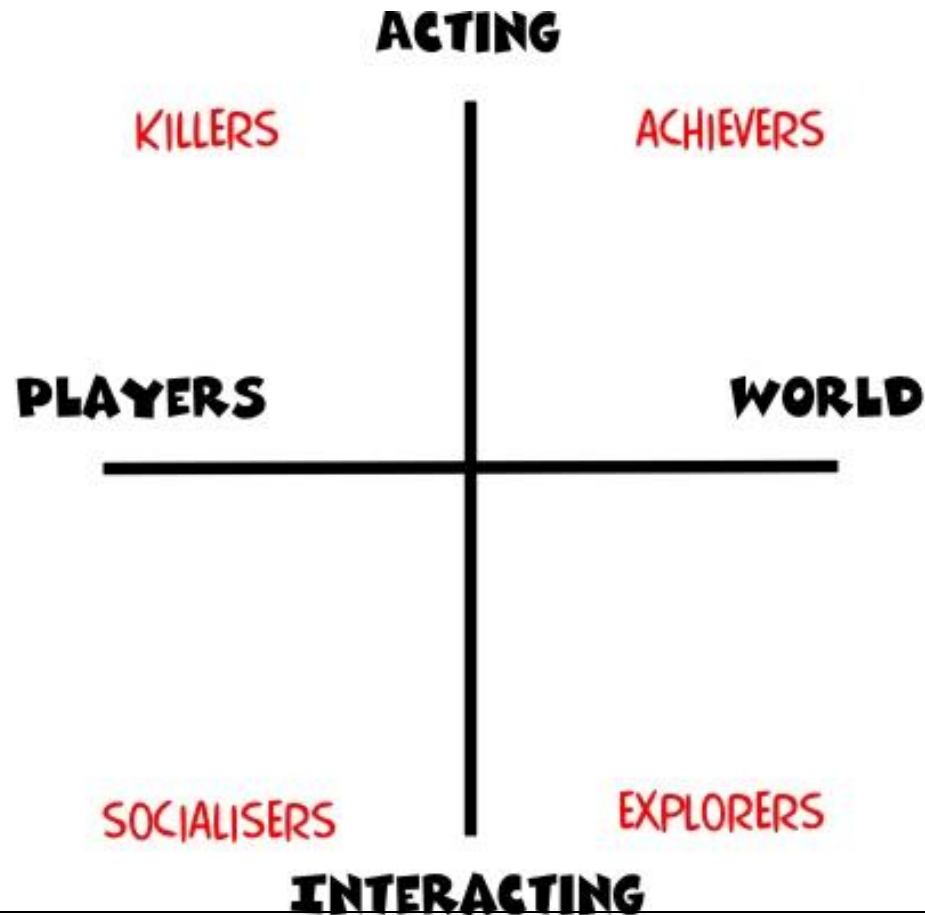


PUZZLE PIRATES

INTERACTING

FORMALLY

- OR, WITHOUT THE **INTRUSIVE** MINI-SCREENSHOTS:



GOPETS

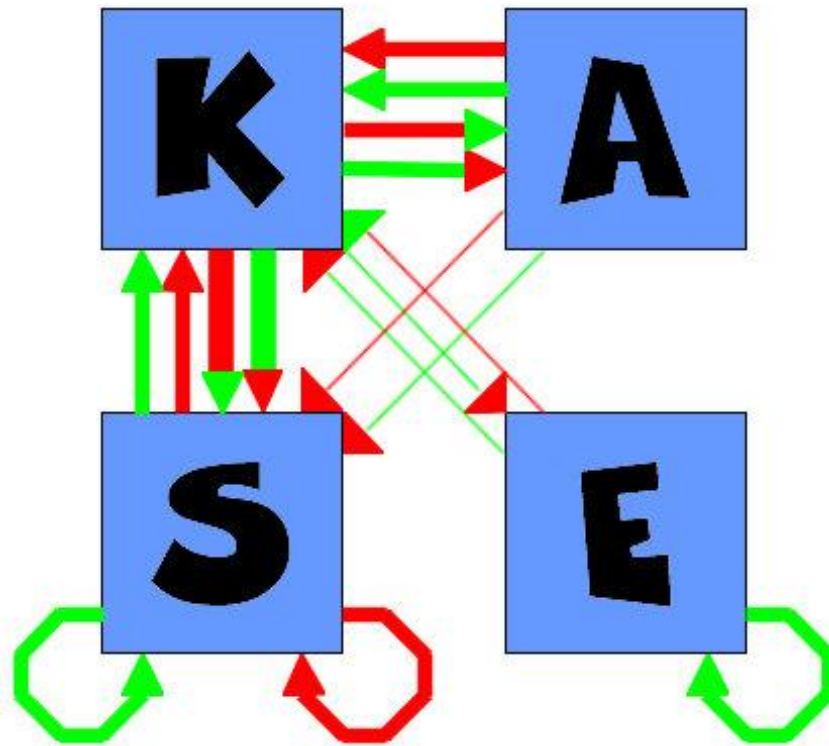
- THIS IS A CUTE PANDA OUT OF *GOPETS*



PLAYER INTERACTIONS

- PLAYERS OF DIFFERENT TYPES **AFFECT** ONE ANOTHER
- FOR EXAMPLE, **INCREASING** THE NUMBER OF **KILLERS** WILL:
 - GREATLY **DECREASE** THE NUMBER OF SOCIALISERS
 - HAVE **VERY LITTLE** EFFECT ON THE NUMBER OF EXPLORERS
 - **LOWER** THE NUMBER OF ACHIEVERS
 - WHICH WILL IN TURN **REDUCE** THE NUMBER OF KILLERS UNTIL AN **EQUILIBRIUM** IS REACHED

GRAPH FORM



- GREEN = INCREASE, RED = DECREASE
- LINE = FROM, HEAD = TO, THICKNESS = EFFECT

FOUR TYPES OF VW

- IF WE **RUN** THESE DYNAMICS, WE FIND THERE ARE **FOUR** STABLE TYPES OF VIRTUAL WORLD:
- 1) **GAME**: KILLERS/ACHIEVERS IN EQUILIBRIUM
 - E.G. FFXIV, GW2, NEW WORLD, LOST ARK
- 2) **SOCIAL**: SOCIALISERS HEAVILY DOMINANT
 - E.G. HABBO, SECOND LIFE
- 3) **BALANCED**: ALL TYPES IN EQUILIBRIUM
 - E.G. ULTIMA ONLINE, EVE ONLINE, MUDI
- 4) **DEFUNCT**: EMPTY GAME...

ANECDOTE

- A VIRTUAL WORLD NEEDS A **MIX** OF PLAYER TYPES
- **GOPETS** WAS A VIRTUAL WORLD THAT **CARPET-BOMBED** THE SOCIAL PART OF THE QUADRANT
- THEY DID **OK**, BUT **THEN** THEY ADDED SOME **SIMPLE** CONTENT FOR ACHIEVERS
- THEY **DOUBLED** THEIR REVENUE WITHIN **7 DAYS**
 - THEIR ACHIEVERS WERE **44X** MORE PROFITABLE THAN THEIR SOCIALISERS
 - THEIR EXPLORERS WERE **64X** MORE PROFITABLE!
- YOU NEED TO ATTRACT **ALL** TYPES OF PLAYER
 - COROLLARY: PUT ONE TYPE **OFF** AND YOU'LL **PAY** FOR IT

SO FAR

- THIS IS A THEORY WITH **APPLICATIONS**
 - PRETTY WELL **ALL** MODERN COMMERCIAL MMOS ARE DESIGNED WITH REFERENCE TO IT
- HOWEVER, IT HAS THREE MAIN **FAULTS**
 1. IT DOESN'T EXPLAIN HOW INDIVIDUAL PLAYERS COME TO **CHANGE** TYPE OVER TIME
 2. IT'S SILENT ABOUT WHY **SOME** OF THESE TYPES HAVE **TWO** SUB-TYPES OF PLAYER IN THEM
 3. IT STILL DOESN'T TELL US **WHY** PEOPLE PLAY VIRTUAL WORLDS

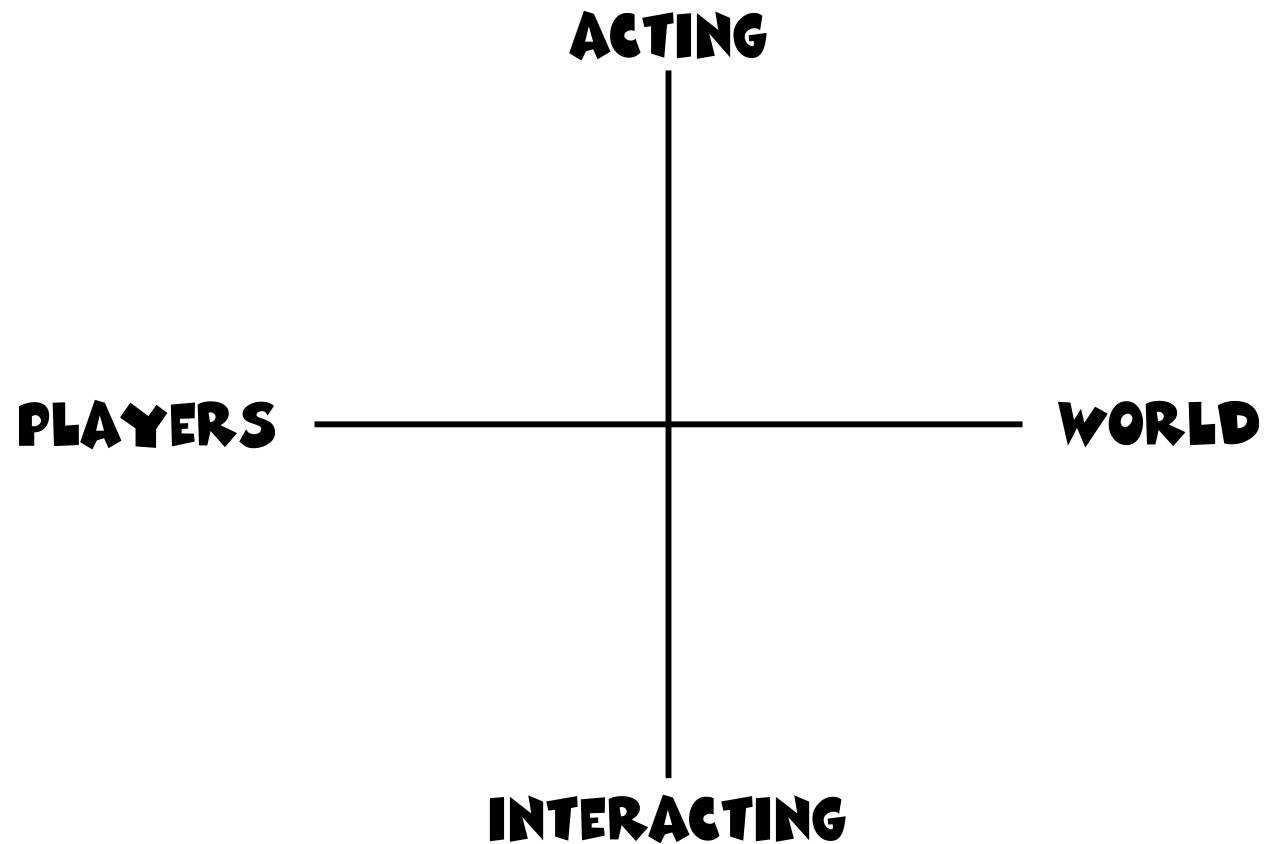
FIXING

- THE THEORY AS I'VE EXPLAINED IT **SO FAR** IS HOW IT WAS IN **1996** WHEN I PUBLISHED IT
- I ADDRESSED THE THREE **ISSUES** THAT PEOPLE RAISED ABOUT IT IN MY **2003** BOOK
- I DID THIS BY ADDING A NEW **DIMENSION**
- THIS CONCERNS WHETHER WHAT PEOPLE DID WAS CONSIDERED **EXPLICITLY** OR **IMPLICITLY**
 - WERE ACTIONS EXTERNALISED OR INTERNALISED?
- THIS IMPLICIT/EXPLICIT DISTINCTION CAME OUT OF MY 1980S **PHD** WORK IN **AI**

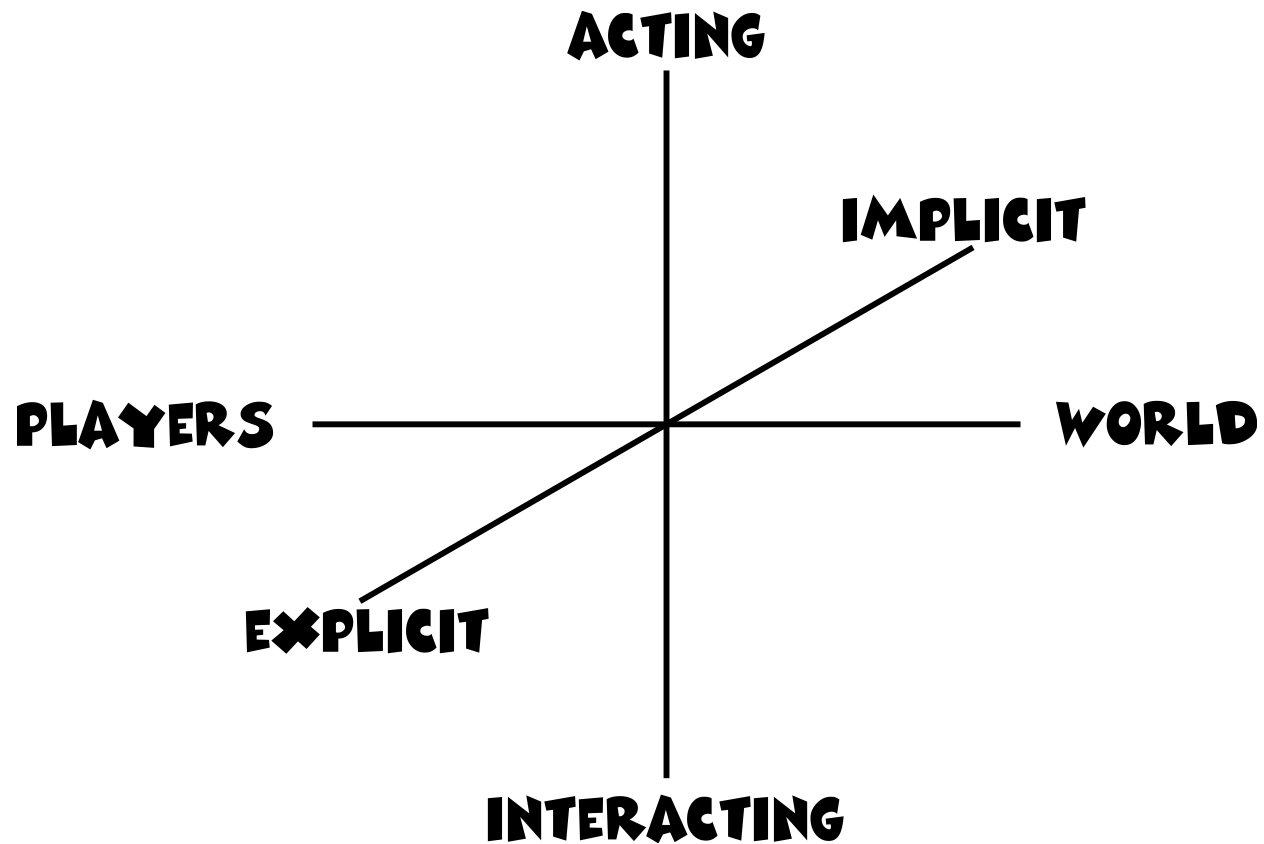
IMPLICIT/EXPLICIT

- **IMPLICIT** ACTIONS ARE ONES YOU CAN DO WITHOUT **THINKING** ABOUT THEM
 - THROWING A DART, WRITING A NOTE TO YOURSELF, BRUSHING YOUR TEETH, DRIVING A CAR, WAVING
- **EXPLICIT** ACTIONS ARE ONES YOU HAVE TO **PLAN** BEFORE/WHILE DOING THEM
 - CATCHING A BUS, WRITING A PROGRAM, BUYING NEW CLOTHES, MAKING A GAME, FREE RUNNING
- **NOTE:** WITH ENOUGH PRACTICE, MOST **EXPLICIT** ACTIONS CAN BECOME **IMPLICIT**

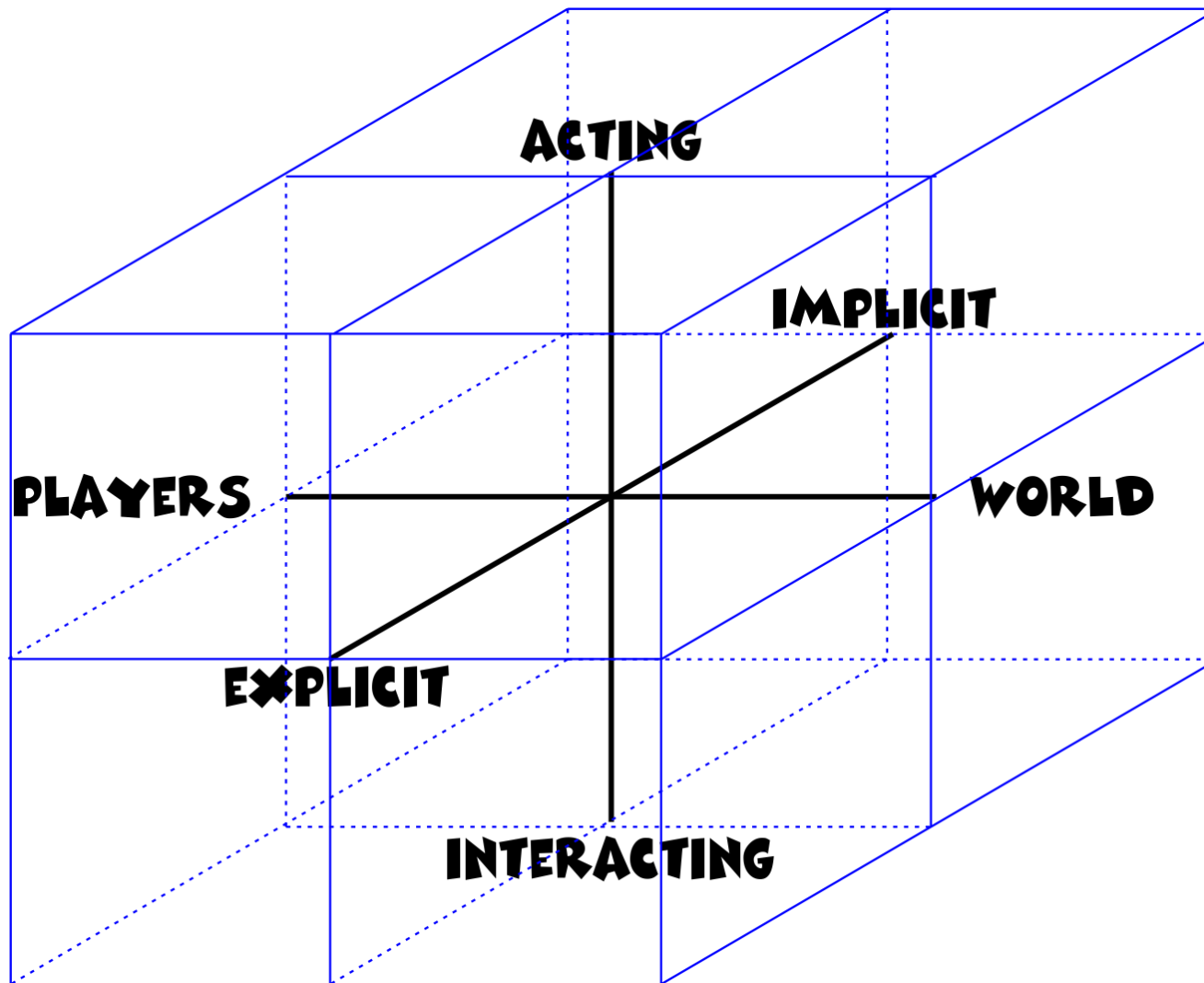
WE GO FROM **THIS**



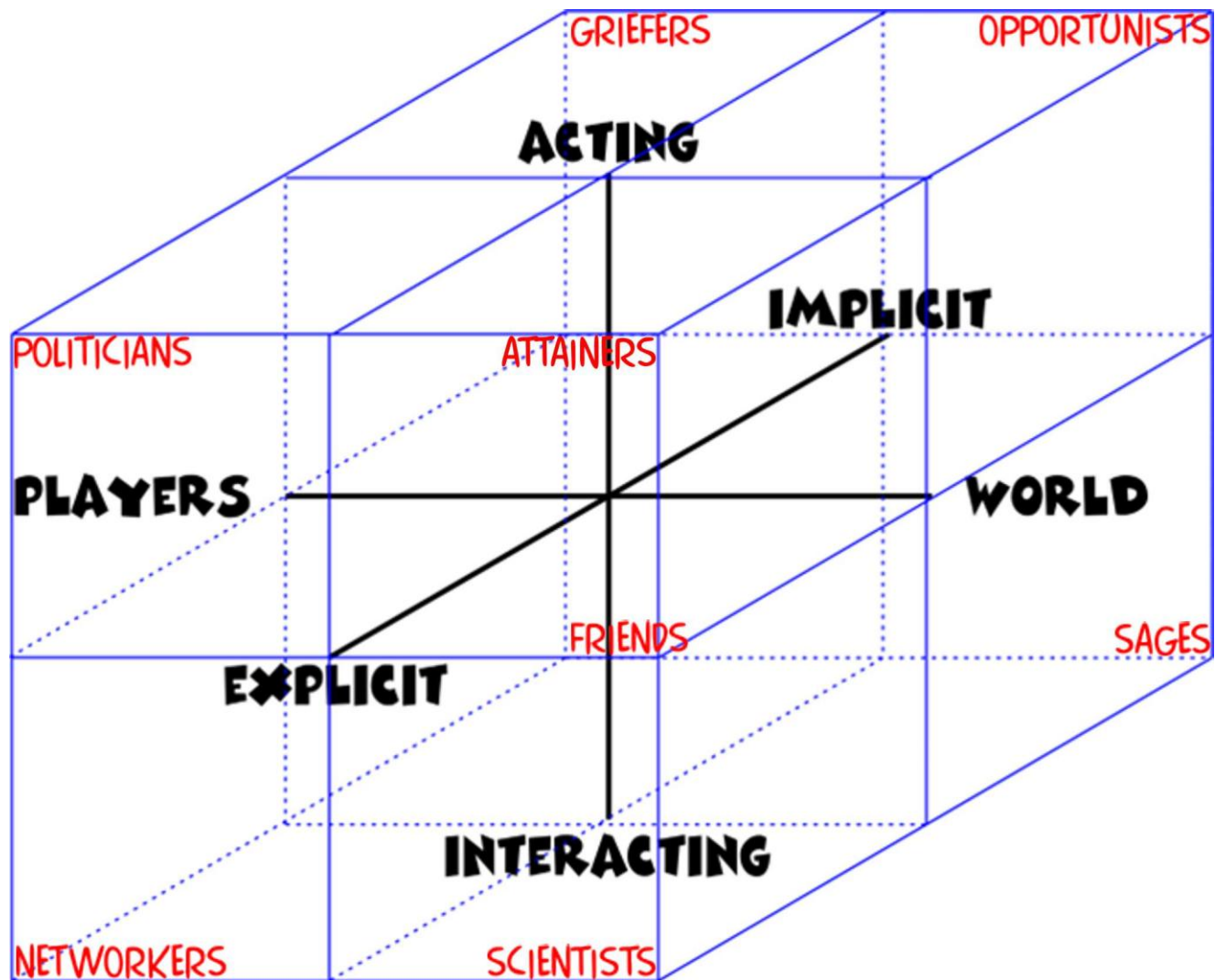
TO THIS



THE SQUARES BECOME CUBES



LABELLING THE CUBES...



ACHIEVERS

- OPPORTUNISTS – **IMPLICIT** ACHIEVERS
 - SEE A CHANCE AND TAKE IT
 - LOOK AROUND FOR THINGS TO DO
 - IF THERE'S AN OBSTACLE, DO SOMETHING **ELSE**
 - FLIT ABOUT FROM IDEA TO IDEA
- ATTAINERS (PLANNERS) – **EXPLICIT** ACHIEVERS
 - SET A GOAL AND AIM TO ACHIEVE IT
 - PERFORM ACTIONS AS PART OF A LARGER SCHEME
 - IF THERE'S AN OBSTACLE, WORK **ROUND** IT
 - PURSUE THE SAME IDEA DOGGEDLY

EXPLORERS

- SCIENTISTS – **EXPLICIT** EXPLORERS
 - EXPERIMENT TO FORM A THEORY
 - USE THEORIES PREDICTIVELY TO TEST THEM
 - METHODOICAL ACQUISITION OF KNOWLEDGE
 - SEEK TO **EXPLAIN** PHENOMENA
- SAGES (HACKERS, GURUS) – **IMPLICIT** EXPLORERS
 - EXPERIMENT TO REVEAL MEANING
 - INTUITIVE UNDERSTANDING, NO NEED TO TEST
 - GO WHERE FANCY TAKES THEM
 - SEEK TO DISCOVER **NEW** PHENOMENA

SOCIALISERS

- NETWORKERS – **EXPLICIT** SOCIALISERS
 - FIND PEOPLE WITH WHOM TO INTERACT
 - GET TO KNOW THEIR FELLOW PLAYERS
 - LEARN WHO AND WHAT THESE PEOPLE KNOW
 - FIND OUT WHO'S **WORTH** HANGING OUT WITH
- FRIENDS – **IMPLICIT** SOCIALISERS
 - INTERACT WITH PEOPLE THEY ALREADY KNOW WELL
 - DEEP/INTIMATE UNDERSTANDING OF THEM
 - ENJOY THEIR COMPANY
 - ACCEPT THEIR LITTLE **FOIBLES**...

KILLERS

- GRIEFERS – **IMPLICIT** KILLERS
 - ATTACK ATTACK ATTACK!
 - VERY IN-YOUR-FACE
 - UNABLE TO EXPLAIN WHY THEY ACT AS THEY DO
 - VAGUE AIM IS TO GET A BIG, **BAD** REPUTATION
- POLITICIANS – **EXPLICIT** KILLERS
 - ACT WITH FORETHOUGHT AND FORESIGHT
 - MANIPULATE PEOPLE SUBTLY
 - EXPLAIN SELVES IN TERMS OF USE TO THE VW
 - AIM IS TO GET A BIG, **GOOD** REPUTATION

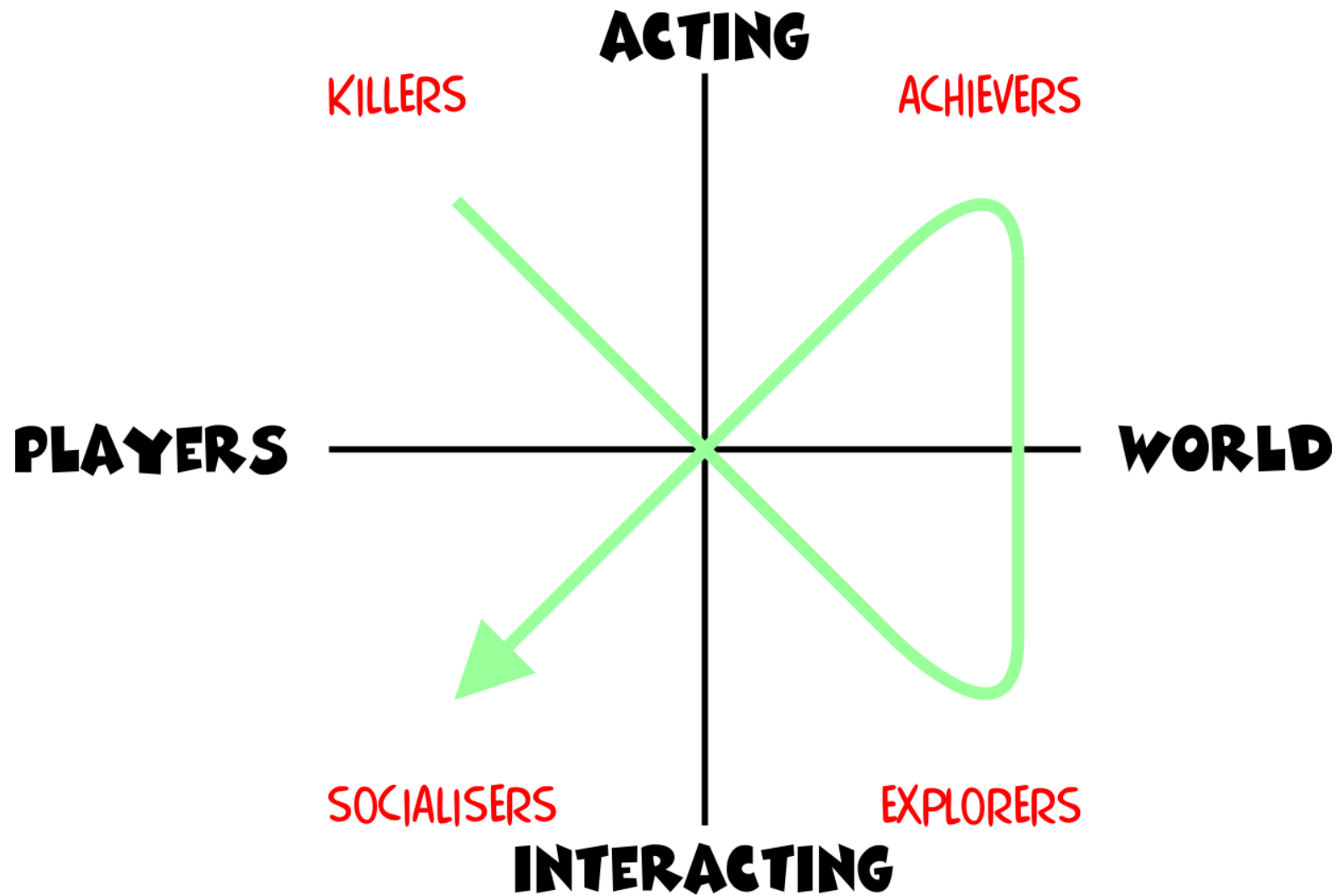
SO WHAT?

- WE NOW HAVE AN **8-TYPES** MODEL
- ALTHOUGH THIS **CAN** EXPLAIN THE TWO SUB-TYPES OF KILLER, IT STILL HAS THE **OTHER** TWO FAULTS OUTSTANDING
- IT SAYS **NOTHING** ABOUT CHANGES IN PLAYER TYPE OVER TIME
- IT STILL DOESN'T TELL US **WHY** PEOPLE PLAY VIRTUAL WORLDS
- OK, SO LET'S **LOOK** AT THOSE, STARTING WITH CHANGES OVER TIME

DRIFT

- ITS **LONG** BEEN KNOWN THAT OVER TIME, WHAT A PLAYER FINDS FUN **CHANGES**
 - SINCE **BEFORE** CONCEPT OF PLAYER TYPES EXISTED!
- IN *MUDI*:
 - NEWBIES STARTED BY **KILLING** ONE ANOTHER
 - THEN ABANDONED THAT AND WENT **EXPLORING**
 - MOVED ON TO RACKING UP POINTS AND RISING LEVELS - **ACHIEVING**
 - FINISHED AS GNARLED OLD-TIMERS **SOCIALISING**
- **MAIN SEQUENCE** FOR PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

ON THE 2D GRAPH

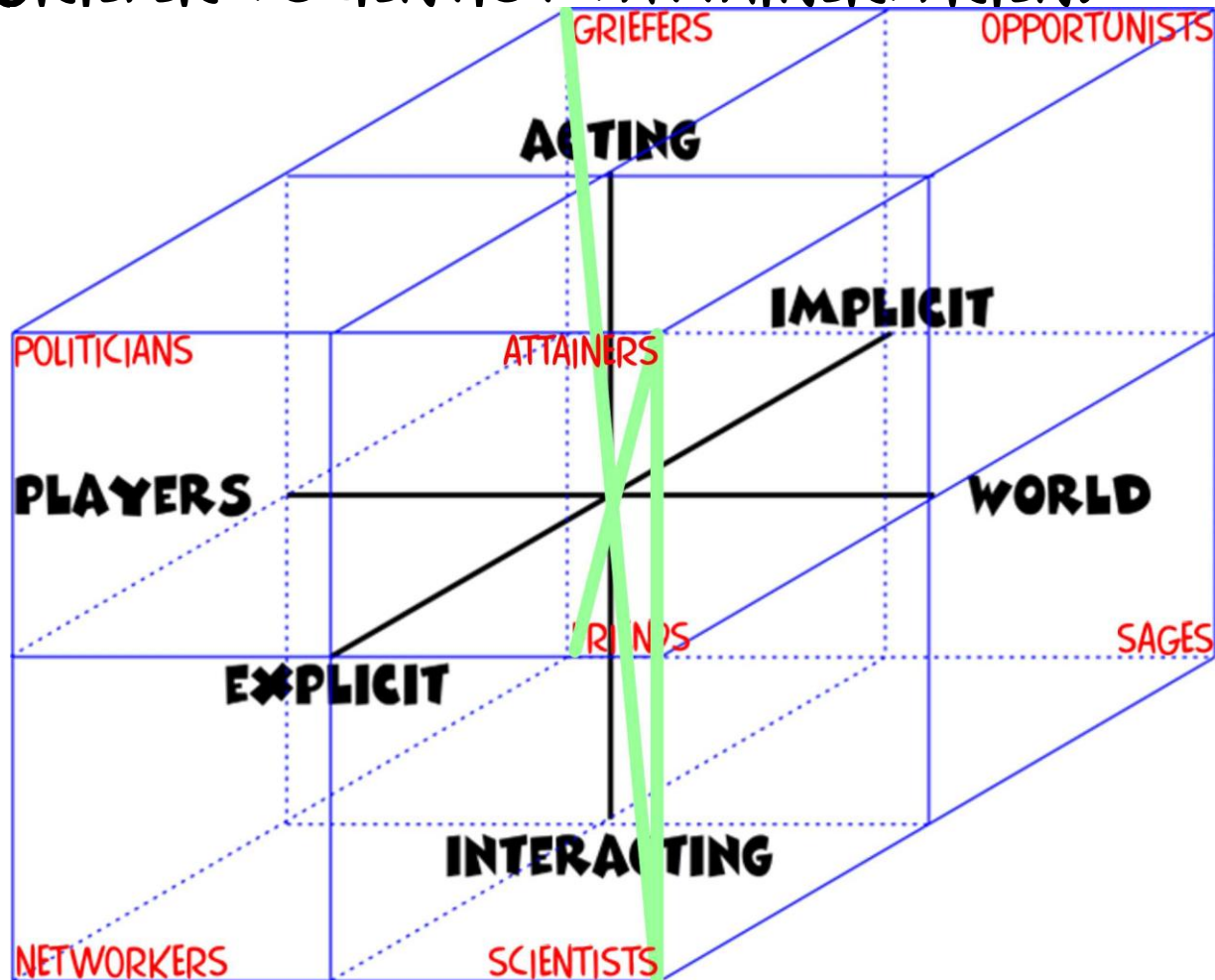


PROBLEMS

- SOME PLAYERS **DON'T** FOLLOW THIS SEQUENCE
 - SOME OSCILLATE **ACHIEVER->EXPLORER**
 - SOME OSCILLATE **KILLER->SOCIALISER**
 - SOME ARE ALL **over the place**
- DOES THE NEW, 3D GRAPH **HELP** ANY?
- YES, IT **DOES**
 - (I DON'T THINK THIS ATTEMPT TO BUILD UP **DRAMATIC TENSION** IS WORKING...)

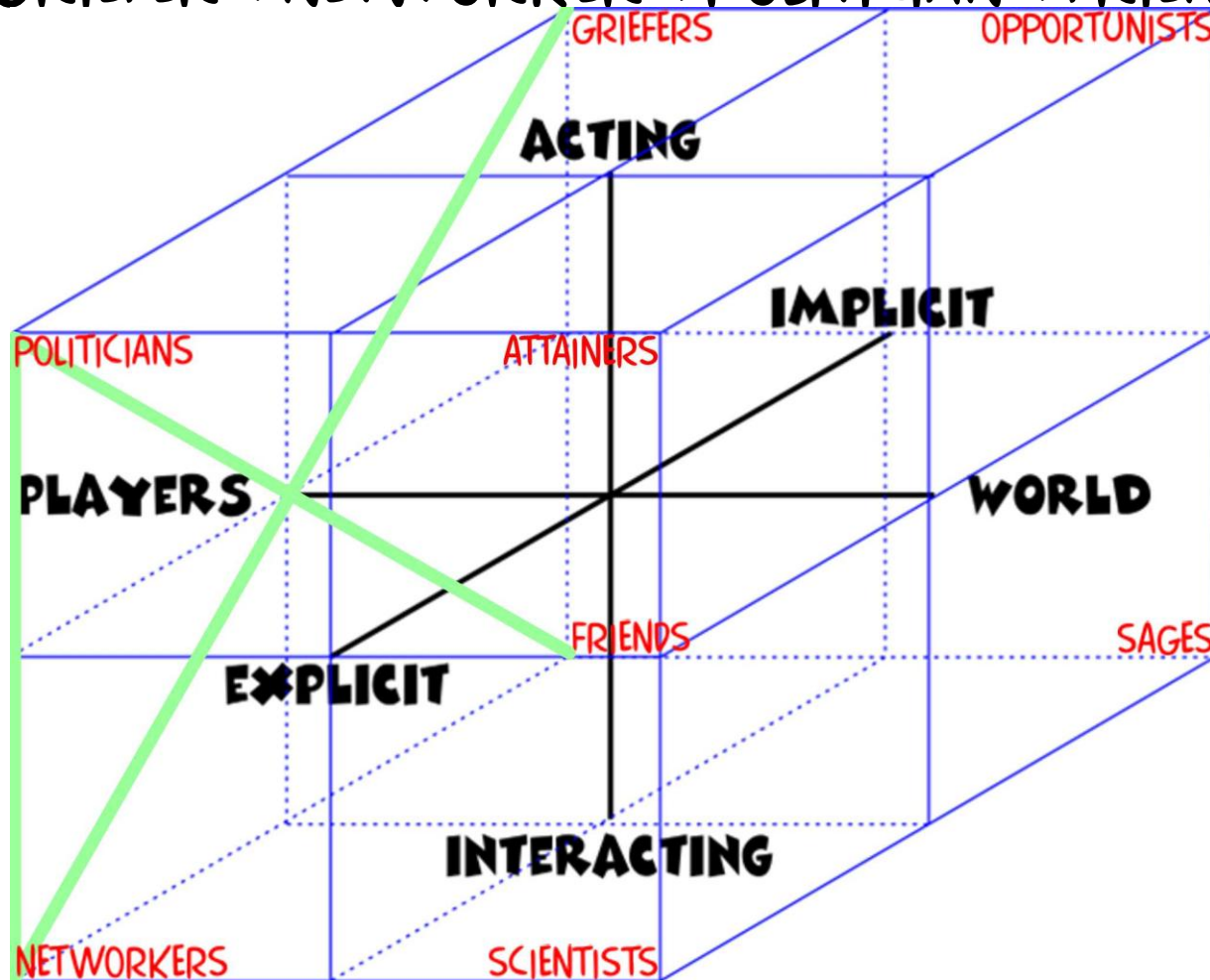
MAIN SEQUENCE

- GRIEFER->SCIENTIST->ATTAINER->FRIEND



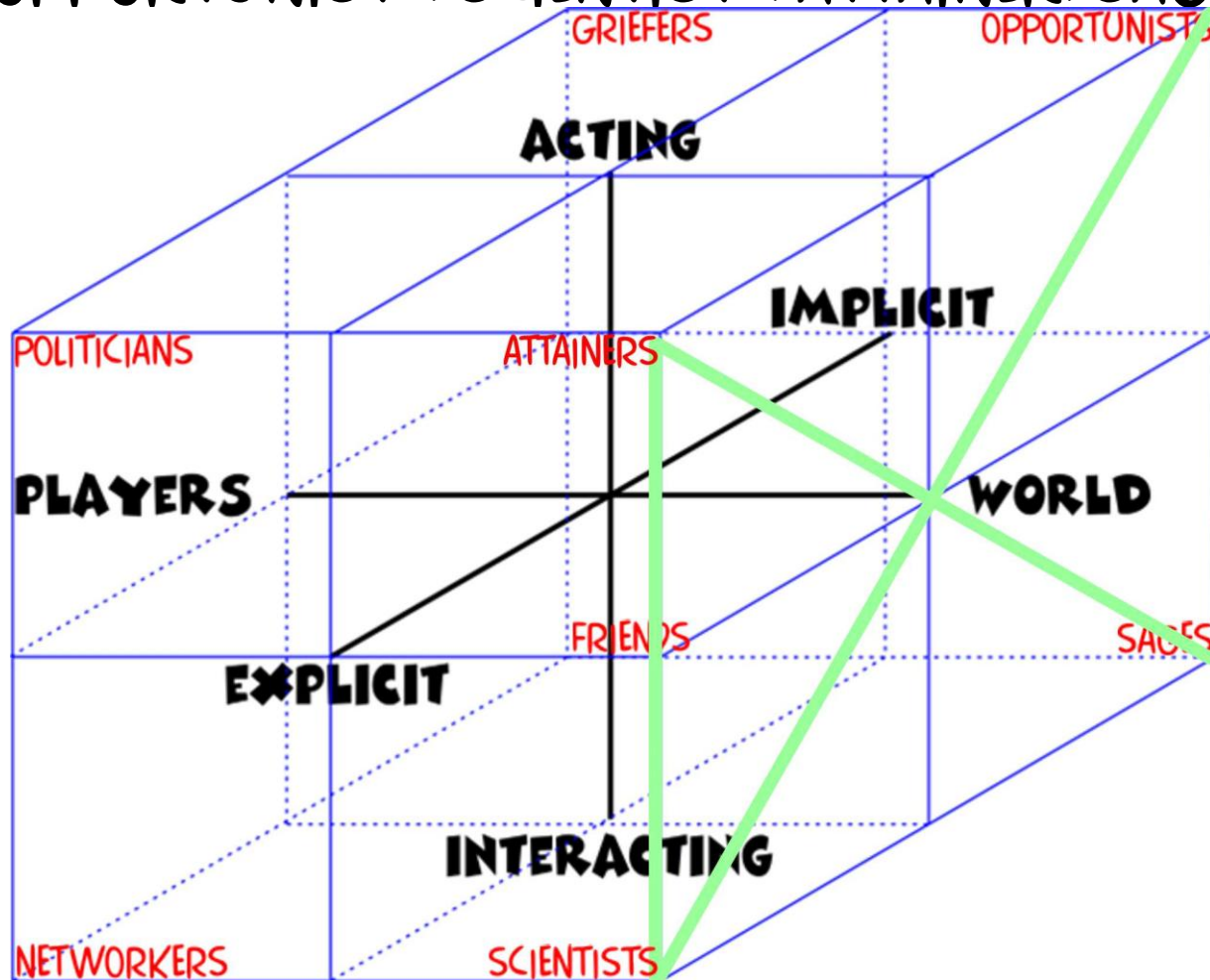
MAIN SOCIALISER SEQUENCE

- GRIEFER->NETWORKER->POLITICIAN->FRIEND



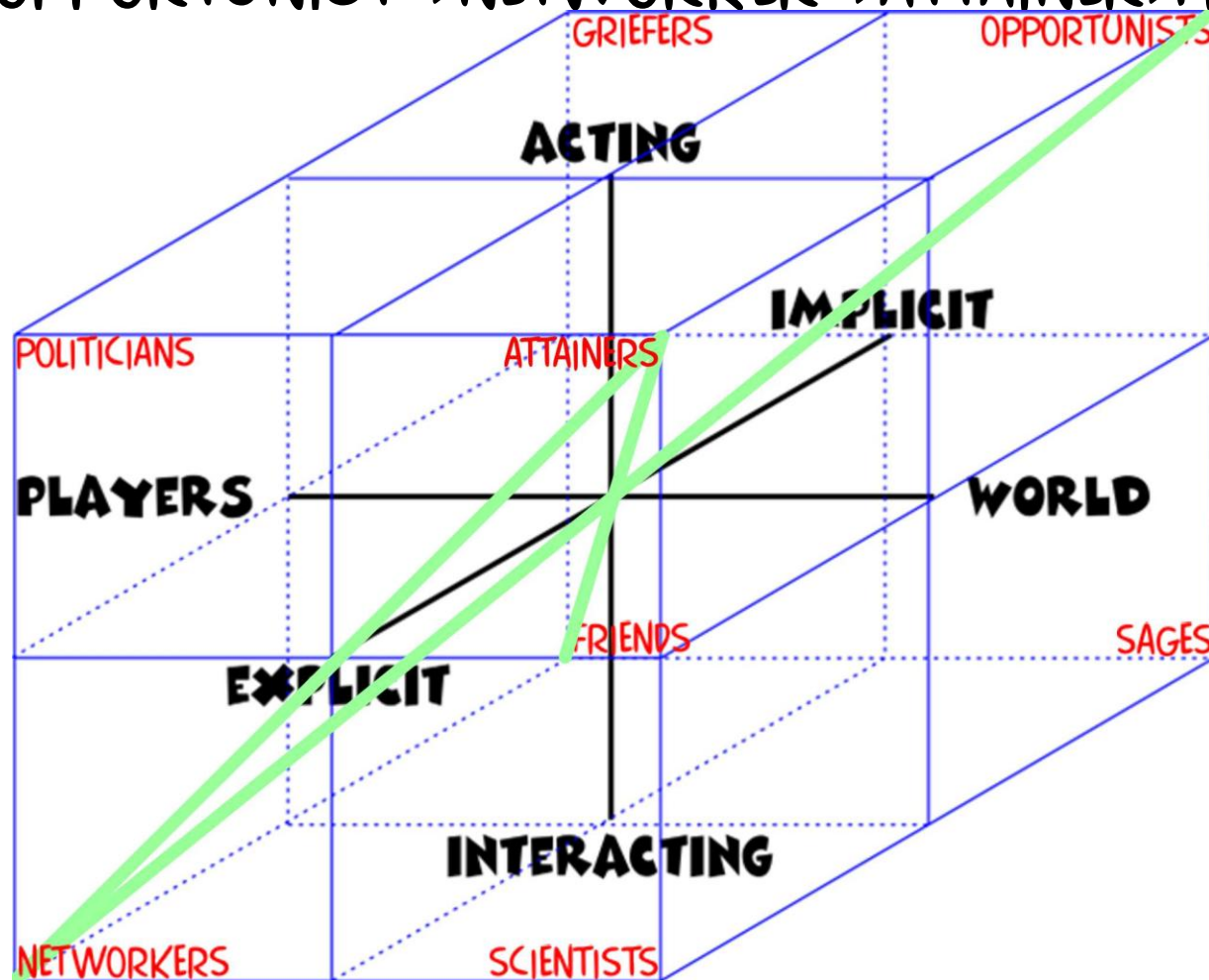
MAIN EXPLORER SEQUENCE

- OPPORTUNIST->SCIENTIST->ATTAINER>SAGE



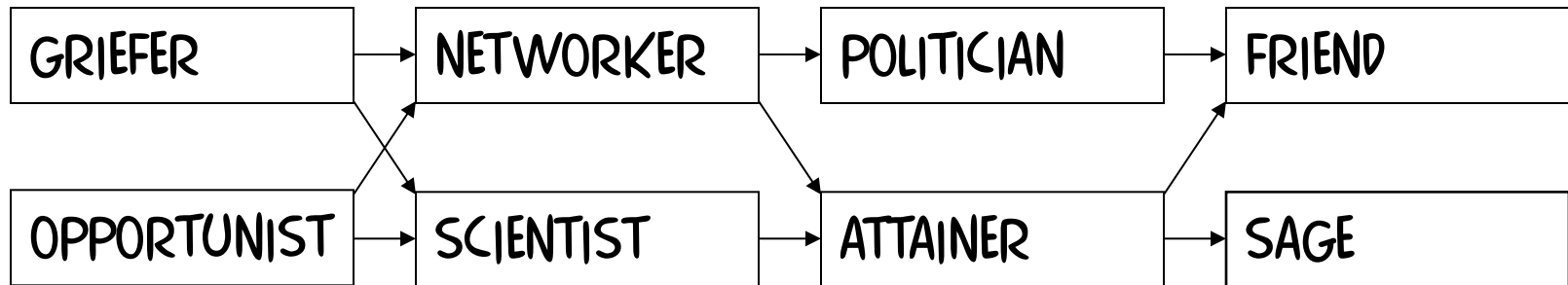
MINOR SEQUENCE

- OPPORTUNIST->NETWORKER->ATTAINER->FRIEND



DEVELOPMENT TRACKS

- ALL THESE START OFF **IMPLICIT**, THEN GO **EXPLICIT**, THEN RETURN TO **IMPLICIT**
- PEOPLE **DO** OCCASIONALLY **SWITCH** BETWEEN SEQUENCES, BUT MAINLY **DON'T**
- WE CAN **COMBINE** THE SEQUENCES TO GIVE **DEVELOPMENT TRACKS**
 - IN ORDER OF INCREASING **IMMERSION**



COMMON ERRORS I

- NOT LOOKING BEYOND THE **GRAPH**. "THE KILLER PLAYER TYPE MEANS WE NEED PVP"
 - PVP IS COMPETITIVE, SO PRIMARILY FOR ACHIEVERS
- GIVING **ONE** TYPE THE REWARD DESIRED BY **ANOTHER** TYPE. "AWARD XP FOR CHATTING!"
 - SOCIALISERS DON'T **WANT** XP, THEY WANT TO **SOCIALISE**; ACHIEVERS WOULD SOCIALISE FOR XP
- UNKNOWINGLY PUSHING THE THEORY **BEYOND ITS LIMITS**
 - IT **DOESN'T** APPLY AS-IS TO GAMES IN GENERAL

COMMON ERRORS 2

- **KNOWINGLY** PUSHING THE THEORY BEYOND ITS LIMITS BUT **FORGETTING** YOU'VE DONE SO
 - “THESE PLAYERS **ACT** LIKE EXPLORERS, SO LET'S TREAT THEM AS IF THEY **WERE** EXPLORERS”
 - REMEMBER THAT IT'S ONLY AN **ANALOGY**
- ADAPTING IT FOR A **SPECIALIST** USE BUT NOT FULLY UNDERSTANDING THE **ADAPTATION**
 - *WILDSTAR* AND THE WHOLE FIELD OF GAMIFICATION DID THIS
- NOT LOOKING BEYOND **FOUR** TYPES

THE STORY SO FAR

- SO, WHAT WE HAVE **NOW** IS A MODEL OF HOW PLAYERS **PROGRESS** THROUGH TYPES
- WHAT DOES THIS **TELL** US, THOUGH
- IN ITSELF, IT'S OK BUT A BIT **SO WHAT?**
- WELL, IT'S THE **KEY** TO UNDERSTANDING **WHY** PEOPLE PLAY VIRTUAL WORLDS ...
 - WE KNOW PEOPLE PLAY THEM FOR "**FUN**"
 - BUT THEY FIND **DIFFERENT THINGS** FUN
- WE STILL DON'T KNOW **WHY** IT'S FUN
- TO **ANSWER**, WE'LL NEED TO **PIVOT**

EXCEPT...

- EXCEPT I DON'T ACTUALLY HAVE **TIME** TO **DO** THIS TODAY
 - I'D NEED AT LEAST AN **HOURL** MORE
- I'LL THEREFORE JUST GIVE YOU A **TASTE** OF IT
- JOSEPH CAMPBELL, 1949: "THE HERO WITH A THOUSAND FACES"
- CAMPBELL NOTICED THAT MYTHS FROM **ACROSS THE WORLD** FOLLOW THE **SAME** BASIC FORMULA, ROOTED IN THE **HUMAN PSYCHE**
 - THE **MONOMYTH**, OR **HERO'S JOURNEY**

ACCEPTANCE

- MOST **CREATIVE WRITING** COURSES STUDY THE MONOMYTH (BUT ITS OVER-USED IN FILM)
 - IT **WORKS** AND DELIVERS **STRONG** NARRATIVES
- SCHOLARS OF **MYTH** AND **FOLKLORE** ARE **AMBIVALENT** OR **DISMISSIVE** ABOUT IT
 - ITS TOO **ACONTEXTUAL** FOR THEIR PURPOSES
- **PSYCHOLOGISTS** QUESTION ITS THEORETICAL **UNDERPINNINGS**
 - PSYCHOLOGY HAS **MOVED ON** SINCE 1949...
- ANTHROPOLOGISTS **BACK IT UP**
 - THEY SPOTTED IT **INDEPENDENTLY**

JOURNEYING

- THE HERO'S JOURNEY ISN'T **JUST** AN AGE-OLD FORMAT THAT LEADS TO EXCITING STORIES
- **UNDERNEATH**, IT'S SOMETHING RATHER MORE PROFOUND: A PATH TO **IDENTITY**
- BY UNDERTAKING **YOUR** HERO'S JOURNEY, YOU CAN BECOME YOUR **TRUE** SELF — THE **HERO**
 - THE **YOU** YOU REALLY **ARE**, RATHER THAN THE **YOU** PEOPLE **WANT** YOU TO BE
- CENTRAL POINT: PLAYING A VIRTUAL WORLD IS A WAY THAT AN **ORDINARY** PERSON CAN **UNDERTAKE** THEIR HERO'S JOURNEY

DEEP MAGIC

- IF YOU SUCCEED, YOU UNDERSTAND **WHO** YOU ARE AND YOUR **PLACE** IN THE WORLD
- CAMPBELL'S BOOK IS BORDERLINE *impenetrable*
 - AS SUCH, HIS WORK IS USUALLY **BOWDLERISED**
- **WARNING:** IF YOU **GOOGLE** THE HERO'S JOURNEY OR ASK YOUR FRIENDLY **AI**, YOU'LL MOSTLY FIND **WATERED-DOWN** VERSIONS
 - VOGLER'S 12 STEPS, COUSINEAU'S 8 STEPS, ADAMS LEEING'S 8 STEPS, SIMPLIFIED VOGLER'S 5 STEPS, ...
- THE **FULL** VERSION HAS **17** STEPS

OUTLINE

- THE BASIC **OUTLINE** OF THE **H'S J** IS THIS:
 - SOMETHING IS **WRONG** WITH THE WORLD
 - THE WOULD-BE HERO NEEDS A **THING** TO FIX IT
 - THE WOULD-BE HERO GOES TO A WORLD OF **DANGER** AND EXCITEMENT TO **GET** THIS THING
 - THE WOULD-BE HERO **RETURNS** TO THE MUNDANE WORLD **WITH** THE THING
 - THE WOULD-BE HERO **FIXES** THE PROBLEM WITH THE THING HE **SPECIFICALLY** WENT TO THE OTHER WORLD TO **GET** TO FIX THE PROBLEM
 - AT **THIS** POINT, THE **WOULD-BE** HERO FINALLY BECOMES AN ACTUAL, *BONA FIDE* **HERO**

APPLICATION IN VWS

- GAME DESIGNERS HAVE KNOWN ABOUT THE HERO'S JOURNEY FOR **DECADES**
- GAMES HAVE BEEN DESIGNED WITH HERO'S-JOURNEY-FORMULA **QUESTS**, BUT THOSE ARE FOR **CHARACTERS**
- THE **PLAYER** NEEDS TO BE THE HERO
- **YOU** DON'T BECOME A HERO **WATCHING** STAR WARS – **LUKE SKYWALKER** DOES
- THE PLAYER IS LIVING THEIR **OWN** STORY, NOT IDENTIFYING WITH SOME **OTHER** PROTAGONIST

PHASES

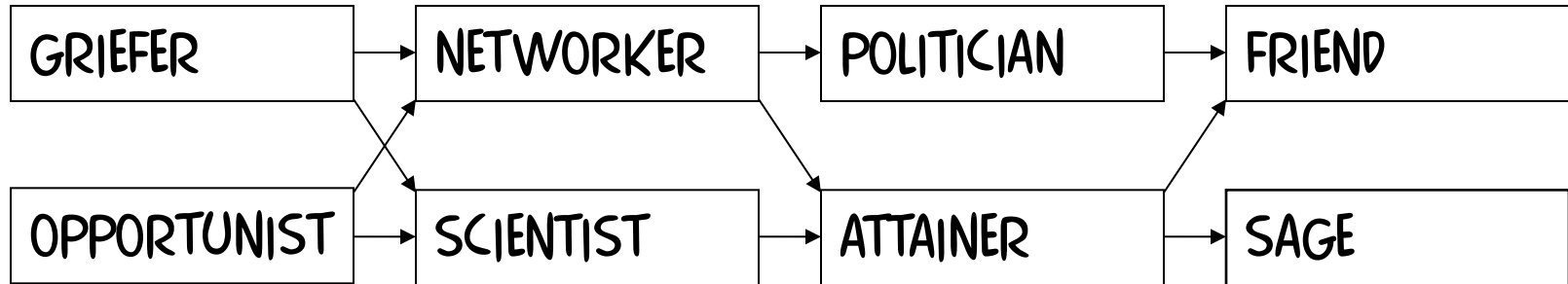
- SO, THE 17 STEPS OF THE HERO'S JOURNEY ARE GROUPED INTO **3** PHASES
- **DEPARTURE** – SET IN THE **MUNDANE** WORLD IN WHICH YOU LIVE YOUR NORMAL LIFE
- **INITIATION** – SET IN THE **OTHER WORLD** WHERE YOU GO FOR YOUR ADVENTURE
- **RETURN** – THE, ER, RETURN **TO** THE MUNDANE WORLD **FROM** THE OTHER WORLD
- IF YOU **FOLLOW** THESE STEPS TO THE **END** YOU'RE A **HERO** – BUT YOU CAN'T FAIL **ANY**

THE "OTHER WORLD"

- THE HERO'S JOURNEY INVOLVES
 - LEAVING THE WORLD OF THE **MUNDANE**
 - BECOMING **REBORN** IN AN "OTHER WORLD" OF **DANGER** AND THE **UNKNOWN**
 - RETURNING TO THE WORLD OF THE MUNDANE ARMED WITH **NEW** KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE AND A RENEWED SENSE OF **SELF**
- **REALITY** IS THE "MUNDANE WORLD"
- THE **VIRTUAL WORLD** IS THE "OTHER WORLD"

QUICK REMINDER

- THIS DIAGRAM IS FROM EARLIER, SHOWING THE **DEVELOPMENT TRACKS** THAT PLAYERS FOLLOW



- THEY MAP **EXACTLY** ONTO THE MIDDLE, **INITIATION** PHASE OF THE HERO'S JOURNEY
 - THE ONE SPENT IN THE **OTHER WORLD**
 - (THAT IS, THE **VIRTUAL** WORLD)

THE ANSWER AT LAST

- I CAN'T DETAIL THIS RIGHT **NOW** BECAUSE OF **TIME** CONSTRAINTS, BUT I **SHALL** EXPLAIN **WHY** PEOPLE PLAY VIRTUAL WORLDS
- IT'S A **QUEST FOR IDENTITY**
- BY BEING SOMEONE **VIRTUAL**, THEY FIND OUT WHO THEY ARE IN **REALITY**
- WHATEVER THEY'RE DOING TO **PURSUE** THAT AIM THEY REGARD AS **FUN**
 - ALSO VERY **COMPELLING** [**NOT** ADDICTIVE]
- **THAT'S** WHY THEY PLAY VIRTUAL WORLDS

SUMMARY

- **PLAYER TYPES** SHOW THAT PEOPLE PLAY VIRTUAL WORLDS (SUCH AS *FFXIV*) FOR **DIFFERENT** REASONS
- THEY **CHANGE** THOSE REASONS AS THEY **PLAY**
- ALL **LONG-TERM** PLAYERS ARE SOCIALISERS/**FRIENDS** OR EXPLORERS/**SAGES**
- THEY PLAY, BECAUSE BY **PLAYING** THEY GET TO BE WHO THEY **ARE**
- **IMMERSION** IS A MEASURE OF HOW **CLOSE** YOU ARE TO KNOWING WHO YOU ARE

AND FINALLY

- HERE ARE SOME LINKS:
 - [HTTP://MATTHEWBARR.CO.UK/BARTLE/](http://matthewbarr.co.uk/bartle/)
 - 1,350,000 PEOPLE KNOW MY NAME
 - [HTTPS://MUDHALLA.NET/TEST/BARTLE3D.PHP](https://mudhalla.net/test/bartle3d.php)
 - 8-TYPES RATHER THAN 4-TYPES
 - [HTTP://WWW.MUD.CO.UK/RICHARD/HCDS.HTM](http://www.mud.co.uk/richard/hcdis.htm)
 - THE ORIGINAL PLAYER TYPES PAPER
 - [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=YXPWZLTDNOW](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXPWZLTDNOW)
 - EXTRA CREDITS, WATCHED 670,000 TIMES OR THEREABOUTS...
 - [HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?V=IISNVDDY4K0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IISNVDDY4K0)
 - TIM CAIN (FALLOUT, WILDSTAR) ON PLAYER TYPES
 - [HTTPS://MUD.CO.UK/RICHARD/DESIGNINGVIRTUALWORLDS.PDF](https://mud.co.uk/richard/designingvirtualworlds.pdf)
 - MY 2003 BOOK *DESIGNING VIRTUAL WORLDS* IN .PDF FORMAT (FREE!)