

Peer Review

Review of: "About Capitalism: Four Remarks"

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The essay develops an intriguing synthesis of political philosophy (accelerationism), evolutionary biology, and Derridean deconstruction, proposing a systemic metaphor between capitalist dynamics and biological processes. The text critically examines Nick Land's "pure accelerationism," emphasizing that capitalist deterritorialization, if unaccompanied by reterritorialization, risks generating anarchic outcomes rather than post-capitalism. To substantiate this claim, the work draws on biological lineage theory as a model for social macroevolution, positioning Deleuzian "repetition with difference" as the key mechanism to circumvent capitalism's microevolutionary stagnation.

This framework is reinforced through the dialectic between *arche-capitalism* and contemporary capitalism – a tension articulated through the Deleuzian (and Spinozist-inflected) dichotomy of *puissance* (immanent transformative potential) versus *pouvoir* (institutionalized capitalist authority).

While the parallel between evolutionary lineages and sociopolitical dynamics offers an innovative framework for reimagining post-capitalist transition, this approach is not entirely unprecedented. Similar conceptual bridges appear in neo-Schumpeterian theories of technological evolution (Nelson, Winter, Dosi), though here they are uniquely applied to political philosophy. This enables the text to propose a theoretical third way between "right accelerationism" (Land) and "left accelerationism" (Williams/Srnicek). The analysis gains particular salience when addressing neoliberalism's declining role: is it a potential vector for post-capitalist evolution, or an obstacle to transcending capitalism itself?

However, the text inadequately specifies concrete strategies, particularly within the schizoanalytic context of contemporary capitalism's operations. Here, engagement with Franco "Bifo" Berardi's work on semicapitalism and psychic exhaustion could strengthen its praxis-oriented dimension.

In conclusion, while the essay presents compelling theoretical innovations, it requires further development. Three areas demand particular attention:

1. **Platform capitalism's evolution:** How algorithmic governance and digital infrastructure reshape technological dynamics, human-machine relations, and capital-labor configurations.
2. **Operationalizing *puissance*:** Translating immanent potential into institutional alternatives that bypass neoliberal co-optation.
3. **Schizoanalytic praxis:** Addressing the psychopolitical effects of deterritorialization in an era of cognitive capitalism.

Future iterations of this framework would benefit from empirical engagement with post-work theories, platform studies, and materialist analyses of technocapitalism's metabolic rift.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.