

Space-time Separation and Modernity in Network Society

Xiuqing Liu^{1,*}, Shuhua Xu¹, Rong Zhang¹

¹*School of Political Science and Law, Jinan University, Jinan, Shandong 250022, China*

^{*}*Corresponding author. Email: 893963016@qq.com*

ABSTRACT

The rapidly rising network society is not only the social background of our daily life, but also one of the main fields of our various social activities. Giddens uses the logical system of space-time separation to study modernity, and other sociologists have also studied time and space. As the product of modern society, network society has profoundly changed people's concept of time and space. The unprecedented time and space experience in the network society is an important embodiment of modernity. The study of space-time separation and reorganization, space-time compression and expansion of network society is of great significance to reveal the subjective feelings and objective behaviors of the living subjects, the development of network society and the connotation of modernity.

Keywords: *Network society, space-time separation, space-time re-integration, modernity*

1. INTRODUCTION

With the rapid development of Internet technology and the extensive penetration of network into social life, a new network society has risen on a large scale, and people living in the real society are closely connected with the network all the time. Time and space are a pair of basic categories of our understanding of things. In the rapidly rising network society, we have a space-time experience different from the previous traditional society. Network society is a virtual space system. The unprecedented time and space experience in the network society is an important embodiment of modernity. Network society is a highly virtual modern space system, which profoundly changes the concept of time and space of social subjects. The social interaction and social practice of the subject are embodied in the space system with a symbolic feature. The vacuity of time and space at the same time not only causes the social relations and social system to break away from the fixed field, but also makes the communication psychology of the social subject break away from the system. Time and space are two dimensions of social interaction. The study of space-time separation and reorganization, space-time compression and expansion of network society is of great significance to reveal the subjective feelings and objective behaviors of the living subjects, the development of network society and the connotation of modernity.

2. A rapidly rising cyber society

Manuel Castell (Manuel Castells), the publication of the book "the rise of the Internet Society ", means that the academic community has seen the revolutionary

significance caused by Internet technology, and the network society has become an irresistible trend of social development in modern society, and has been further deepened in breadth and depth. According to the 43rd Statistical report on the Development of China's Internet Network, as of December 2018, the number of Internet users in China has reached 829 million, the popularization rate has reached 59.6 percent, the number of mobile phone users has reached 817 million, and the proportion of Internet users accessing the Internet through mobile phones has reached 98.6 percent.[1]Cell phones are updated every year, Internet broadband into ordinary people's homes, all kinds of APP registration is increasing..... More and more people begin to contact the network and continue to integrate into the booming network society. The network society originates from the support of information technology, shapes the design and conception of the social subject, and finally forms the participation and interaction of more social subjects. There is a relationship between the development of network society and the behavior of social subjects. Network society acts on the way of thinking, working and life of social subjects, and social subjects shape the development of network society in design, participation and feedback. The influence of network society on social subject in real society is reflected in all aspects.

Network social interaction replaces the traditional society "face to face" interaction and communication, as long as there is network connectivity can achieve communication, regardless of distance. Whether it is family, friendship or love, social networking has become one of the important ways to carry feelings, because it can cross thousands of mountains and rivers, and achieve instant communication. A netizen can join multiple network groups at the same time, which greatly expands the social circle of netizens, and our social circle is clearer and clearer than the

traditional social circle. Social networking is not only between acquaintances, but also between strangers, which is more obvious in the group of young people. The social interaction and social interaction of network society have the characteristics of virtuality, heterogeneity, anonymity and sociality.

The network society continuously produces the network information, and spreads rapidly under the technical support of the Internet. We learn about events around the world through browsing news, solving a large number of life problems through online retrieval, improving our professional skills through online courses, and so on. Our dependence on network information determines the penetration of network society into our real life world. The transience of network communication is one of the causes of explosive news, which is an important feature of network information dissemination.

Online shopping is a network behavior that can not be ignored in the network society. Online shopping not only greatly changes people's consumption mode, but also changes people's consumption culture under the construction of network society. Online shopping poses a severe challenge to traditional business, and greatly promotes the development of express delivery industry. The network society is a virtual society, the fictitious nature lies in the human construction. Modern society is also a production-centered shift to consumption-centered consumer society. The network society is through constructing the consumption pattern of all walks of life, creating all kinds of consumption illusions, guiding the consumption habits and consumption culture of the people in the real society.

The rapidly rising network society is not only the social background of our daily life, but also one of the main fields of our various social activities. In the field of network society, time and space have also changed as a pair of basic categories of our understanding of things. Our space-time experience in network society is different from that in the past. The theoretical perspective of Giddens space-time separation provides us with the space-time logic of network society, how to separate time and space in network society, and how to combine it again? What kind of social implications does this reflect? This paper will analyze and think about these problems.

3. Space-time Separation and Re-integration in Network Society

The famous British sociologist Eli declared: "The history of social theory in the 20th century is also a strange and missing history of the concept of time and space." [2] British scholar Anthony Giddens agrees. "Due to the division of disciplines, time may be of great concern to historians, space may be of great concern to geographers, and social theory researchers have greatly ignored these aspects." [3] He advocated the thought of time and space as the core of social theory. In the traditional society, time and space are closely related, people understand time by

the specific relationship between the places where the actors are present, the scale of time and the place of social action are connected with the characteristics of the action itself. Giddens first discussed the dialectical way of space-time separation. The separation of time and space means that, on the one hand, the appearance and unity of clock and calendar, time can be clearly and clearly reflected in the subjective world of social subject and exist as an objective thing. On the other hand, the appearance and precision of world map and the invention of science and technology make space independent of any particular place and area and breed elements for lack of field. According to Giddens, "the clock embodies a unified scale of "virtual (empty time)" time," and "the development of "virtual space" can be understood from the angle of separation between space and place." [4] This kind of time vacuity and space vacuity finally point to a kind of globalization, is a kind of time and space unification and standardization in the global scope. Giddens also dialectically analyzes the separation of time and space. Space-time separation is not the ultimate destination of space-time order, but is recombined in some social activities according to the subjective needs of social subjects, thus crossing the vast space-time tunnel. The separation of time and space is the union of social relations across the vast field of time and space, and up to the state of the global system. [4]

Harvey has argued deeply about space-time compression, "a term that marks processes that revolutionize the objective qualities of space and time so that we are forced, and sometimes quite radical, to change the way we present the world to ourselves". Space-time compression means the acceleration of social concentration, efficient and fast. Space-time compression is accompanied by space-time expansion, which is reflected in the large-scale expansion of life stock, geographical space range, human behavior and lifestyle, and living space. [6]

In the rapidly rising network society, this separation and reorganization of space-time and the formation of space-time compression and space-time expansion on this basis are more extreme. First of all, network communication gets rid of the "synchronicity" and "presence" of "face-to-face" communication in real society, that is, it gets rid of the limitation of time and breaks the obstacle of geospatial distance. Through the design of narrative background, online games can enable players to experience the past primitive society, agricultural society and future society through the tunnel of time, which is a kind of existence completely divorced from this time and here. Of course, in addition to online games, network audio and video, network information, network social and other network platforms can achieve this effect. In the network society, time and space are imaginary and can be transcended. Secondly, the network society reshapes the new space-time scene. Online shopping is a new space for the construction of network society, but in recent years, people's daily life has been widely deepened, and the birth of such a grand space-time scene as "double 11" has been born. The virtual space, the construction festival, the network society time and the space union actually walked into the populace daily life, has completed a network

carnival together. The combination of time and space in network society is also reflected in the combination of virtual space and real space. Xi'an, Chengdu, Chongqing and other places become network popular cities, network and city is the combination of virtual and reality. The planning and design of modern cities should consider the network propaganda and dissemination of cities, and promote the development of cities by obtaining the recognition of network subjects. Thirdly, we can find that some mobile phone software is opening the interface and hiding the information of time, which makes users more involved in the use of these software. To some extent, it strengthens the separation of network space-time and real space-time. Time and space have completed a new combination in the network society. The space-time separation and reorganization in the network society can be regarded as complementary and simultaneous, and the space-time reorganization means another kind of space-time separation at the same time.

The separation and reorganization of time and space in the network society have occurred widely. Based on this, people can rearrange their own space-time order and form the space-time compression and space-time expansion in the network society. "One-click transmission" reflects the instantaneous nature of the network society and becomes the profound time experience of the main body of the network society. "Compressed package" is the real portrayal of compressed space in the network society. We also have a deep experience of space-time expansion. The 24-hour mobile phone does not turn off greatly expands our work and the life time, the late sleep, stays up late to surf the net is also most network society main body's daily life. The development from the 2G era to the 5G era reflects not only the improvement of the speed of Internet access, but also the further compression of time in the network society, that is, the high efficiency of limited time, which is an extension of time. Our mobile phone memory requirements step by step, our use of cloud disk, more deeply reflects our network society to expand the space. Not only that, the new space-time scene with the separation of time and space, that is, we constantly construct new virtual space and expand the space we experience.

4. Network society is a highly modern virtual space system

Social space system is divided into real space system and virtual space system. Network society is a virtual space system without entity. The virtuality of network society is embodied in its construction, symbolization and simulation. First, all the network platforms are built by manpower, and then rely on the participation of social subjects to continuously produce and update network information to form a dynamic network society, the whole process is completely constructed by the social interaction of social subjects in virtual space; secondly, in virtual space systems, the information exchange of entities is transformed into

virtual symbol exchange, and virtual space systems carry out social interaction of social subjects through symbols such as text, sound, video and even emoticons, which greatly enhances the dissemination of virtual information; Finally, through the mimic of the real space system, the social individual can experience the environmental things that he can not contact in his own real social environment through the network, or make the life of the social individual more convenient and efficient. But this kind of mimic space system is a virtual value system.

Modernity is an important subject in the field of sociology. Different sociologists have different understanding of modernity from different angles. Giddens thinks Through the separation and reorganization of time and space, and the mechanism of delocalization and institutional reflection established on its basis, modernity has developed rapidly and has become a worldwide system with the extension of time and space.[2] According to Giddens, modernity refers to "social life or form of organization, which appeared in Europe in about the 17th century and, in later years, influenced in varying degrees around the world".[2] In its simplest form, modernity is an acronym for modern society or industrial civilization. During the middle and late 20th century, with the increase of globalization and the introduction of high-risk parameters, Giddens believes that a new modernity — reflect on the emergence of modernity, which marks the development of modernity from the early stage to the late stage, the end of the industrialized society and the beginning of the post-traditional society. Giddens believes that space-time separation and its formal recombination are one of the main driving forces of modernity. Spatiotemporal separation is the initial condition of the delocalization process. The so-called "dissociation" or "deintercalation" of social system generally refers to the social relations "dug out" from the interactive regional or local scenes, and makes the social relations "reconnected" in the infinite space-time zone. Specifically, Giddens distinguishes between two delocalization or delocalization mechanisms: symbolic markers and expert systems. Symbols or symbols are "the medium in which information is communicated without taking into account the particular qualities of individuals or groups that process it in any particular scenario".[4] For example, as a pull-off mechanism, money is a tool of time and space extension. At the time level, money is a means of credit. Spatial level, it can get rid of the space-time directness of material transaction. In short, money makes it possible to trade between people separated in time and space, making the chain of trading behavior longer, allowing and facilitating a wider exchange.

Habermas mentioned in *Modernity and Massacre* that modernity is inseparable from the development of science and technology, rational calculation and stratification.[7] The space-time logic of network society embodies the modernity characteristic of science and technology and rational calculation. Network society is one of the results of the development of modern society. The space-time experience of network society expresses

the deep control of time and space by modern people. Behind this control is the further pursuit of efficiency in modern society. We say this is an important embodiment of modernity. In the network society, everywhere shows the accurate time, a piece of music, a video, even a paragraph of text, editors will carefully tell the reader about how long it will take to read, so we need to have a grasp of time, and the pursuit of a certain unit of time to obtain higher value, thus extending the limited time to unlimited value. The same is true of space, we need to have an accurate understanding and grasp of space, we have developed accurate instruments to measure natural space, and gradually understand our psychological space and spiritual space. More in the social level to understand us and expand our living space.

People even think that in modern society, the community is always "delocalized", or there is a trend of "delocalization" of a community. That is, people's community relations are emerging from local geographical areas.[8] This process is carried out under the joint influence of technology and society. In this trend, Internet virtual community is just a new manifestation of this kind of network community. In any case, new communication technologies such as Internet-mediated computer-mediated communication do produce new forms of community. Virtual communities are not based on geography and kinship. It is a community formed by netizens through Cyber Space based on interest, individual will and communication motivation. People can build social relations and social groups across regions and even globally. However, there has always been a pessimistic and negative understanding of the impact of the Internet on social relations and communities.

Virtual space system is already a complex social complex, including complex social space. Through the use of technology, the Internet has built a new cyberspace for us, and once again expanded the dimension of space. It is the result of the high development of information symbolization. The extensive participation of social individuals has been integrated into individual values and social cultural connotations. The separation of time and space in the sense of modernity provides the basis for the combination of social activities and social relations. It is not only a general sense of space-time compression has the effect of expansion and distance. It is also an opportunity to reorganize and connect. And these two processes are intertwined in practice many times. For example, as a tool for space-time extension and globalization, electronic media, including the Internet, is a global information system. Countless users behind computers and computers use network connections to realize the transmission of information and resources and the establishment of social relations. With the help of the Internet, the information space seems to truly become a "village". The re-localization effect of the Internet further makes the dialectical process analysis of the separation of modernity time and space more powerful and sufficient.

5. Conclusions and prospects

The network society has profoundly changed the modern people's perception and experience of time and space. With the power of science and technology revolution, people's control of time and space has been further enhanced. It is the embodiment of people's control of time and space. Network is a virtual space, it is completely constructed, is an absolute virtual space system, and because of the participation of people and social, practical, so the network society is a highly modern virtual space social system, virtual and reality are closely combined, and together into our social life, forming a more complex social space system. The development of science and technology is neutral, the social subject exists in the virtual space system with the complex social essence, the network society is expected to further develop to the sustainable and good situation, can not be separated from the human moral responsibility. Only the abundance of the material world is incomplete, and the development of modernity can not be at the expense of human moral deficiency, emotional indifference and value loss. We need the filling of the spiritual world and embrace the future life world with sincerity and kindness. So the development of the network society is the same, spread more positive energy, less false information, less network violence and so on, our network environment will be better and better, our network society can develop healthily.

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