



history of information feb 10, 2009 of the yere. D. Leff.

for the yere. P. D. Liff.

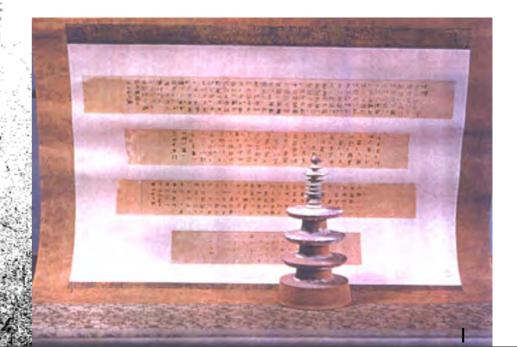
composed by P. Pichael

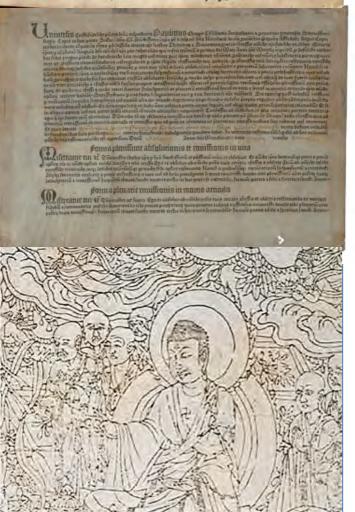
postcadamus Doctour

in Phischerof Salon of
Craux in Province.

Whathe some fapleth & fieff/then shat the monster be seene in the playne day sten shall interprete it farre othermise derth hath no respect/ none shall prouide for it.

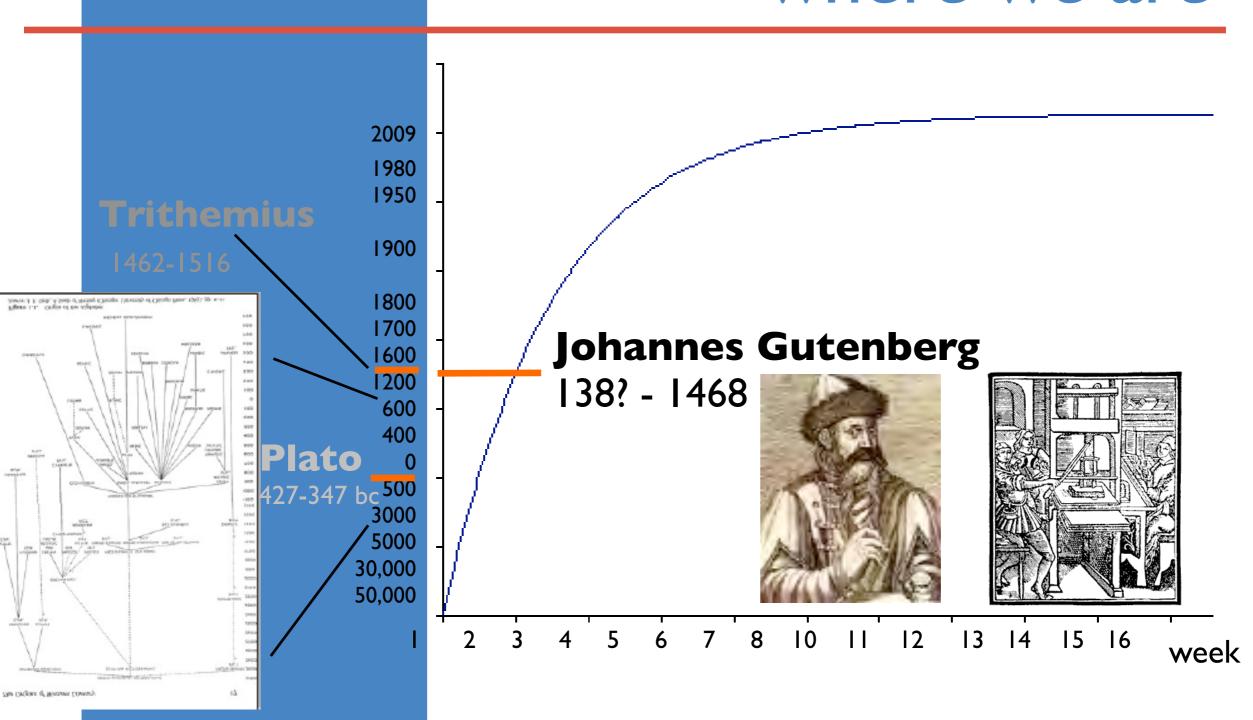








## where we are





## where we're going

### print culture

### Eisenstein:

readers respond

### assessing a revolution:

what happened, what came before, what came after, who was involved what was necessary, what was sufficient, what was incidental

### what to make of it all

# )

## cultures & causality

### scribal culture

Clanchy: from memory to written record

"Up to the eleventh century, western Europe could have returned to an essentially oral civilization. But by 1100 the die was cast".

--Brian Stock

### print culture

"the shift from script to print entailed a large ensemble of changes ... but to say that ... is not the same thing as saying that nothing changed. To the contrary!"

--Elizabeth Eisenstein

### necessary and sufficient conditions

# )

## agent of change



### **Eisenstein**

"I first became concerned with the topic of this book in the early 1960s after reading Carl Bridenbaugh's ... lament over 'the loss of mankind's memory' ... It seemed unhistorical to equate the fate of the 'common culture of Bible reading' with that of all of Western civilization when the former was so much more recent-being the by-product of an invention which was only five-hundred year's old ...

Gutenberg"



## McLuhan is the message

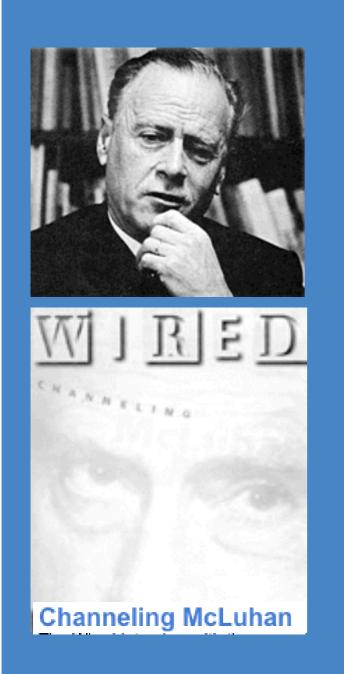


"I ran across a copy of Marshall McLuhan's *The Gutenberg Galaxy* ... He pronounced ... the age of Gutenberg to be at an end ... stimulated my curiosity ... about the specific historical consequences of the fifteenth-century communications shift

"McLuhan raised a number of questions about the actual effects of the advent of printing .."

--Eisenstein

## patron saint of Wired



**McLuhan** (1911-1980) The Gutenberg Galaxy: the making of typographic man, 1962

"Printing ... created the public ... What we have called 'nations' ... did not and could not, precede the advent of Gutenberg technology ... isolation of the visual faculty from other senses ...

> "complementary to ... Albert B. Lord ... Milman Parry ..."



### McLuhan's man



"Science Explores, Technology Executes, Man Conforms" Chicago World's Fair

"When the perverse ingenuity of man has outered some part of his being in material technology, his entire sense ratio is altered. ... In beholding this new thing, man is compelled to become it." --Gutenberg Galaxy



## agent of change



### Eisenstein

"to my surprise ... no one had yet attempted to survey the consequences of the 15th-century communications shift." ... an unacknowledged

# )

## agent of change



"Conjectures .. may be sampled below under headings that indicate my main line of enquiry"

### "some effects produced by ...

"... increased output

"... standardization

'... rationalizing, codifying, cataloguing

"... from corrupted to improved

"... fixity and cumulative change

"... amplification and reinforcement"







## Trithemius vs Eisenstein

### scriptorium to printing shop

"Trithemius somewhat illogically compare the written word on parchment which would last one thousand years with the printed word on paper which would have a shorter life span. The possible use of paper ... by copyists, or of skin for a special printed version went unmentioned.... Whether he was genuinely worried about an increased use of paper ... is an open question. ... He used one Mainz Print shop so frequently that "it could almost be called the Sponheim Abbey Press". --Eisenstein, pp 10-11



# 'the shift from script to print'

"different texts ... were also being brought closer together for individual readers"

"the clerk['s] richer, more varied literary diet than had been provided by the scribe"

"sedentary scholars less apt to be engrossed by a single text"

"knowledge explosion"

"combinatorial intellectual activity"



## 'the shift from script to print'

"a purification of Christian sources"

"the more standardized the type ... the more compelling the sense of an idiosyncratic personal self"

"the printer seems to have taken over where the clerical scribe left off. But in doing so he greatly amplified and augmented older themes"



## Eisenstein concludes

"classical revival"

"Christendom disrupted"

"nature transformed"

## recurring questions

- I. what happened?
- 2. what and who were involved
  - 3. what came before?
    - 4. what came after?
  - 5. what was necessary, what sufficient, what incidental?

## what

### technologies

woodblock printing printing press moveable type

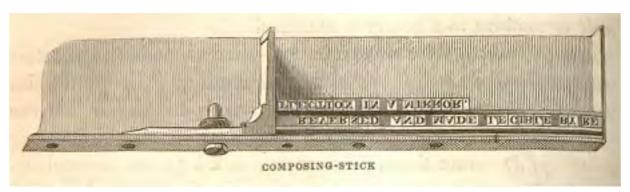
### institutions

church nation-state scientific institutions humanism civil society

punch & matrix

## technology of type

### composing stick



locked down chase





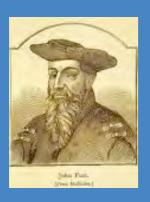
press & chase



### who?







## **Guttenberg:** born Mainz

**I 438:** exile, Strasbourg partners: Riffe, Dritzehn, Helman

**1438, December:** Dritzehn dies "4 pieces to be destroyed"

1439: Dritzehn's heirs sue

1450: back in Mainz creditor Johannes Fust employee Peter Schöffer ally Cardinal Nicholas of Cusa



### complete works





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1454: Cyprus Indulgence

1455: 42-line bible the Cardinal's connections?

1455: Fust sues, wins new partnership of Fust & Schöffer Mainz psalter



### complete works





# mo parint - burtus cape

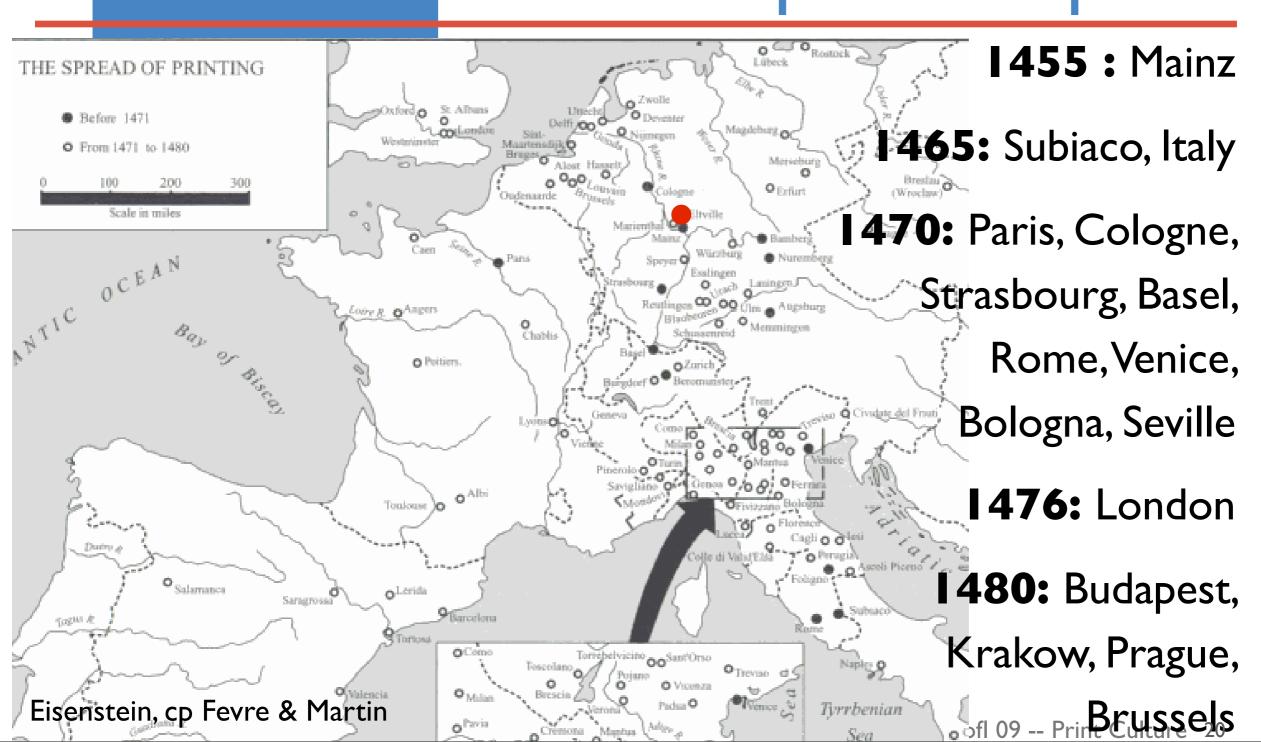
### 1454: Cyprus Indulgence

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## spread of print





## the revolution(s)

renaissance reformation scientific revolution capitalism nation-state



## causality

# Amilifiu Caffejacille piles inde enjoyane à Emilifiu Canage Caffenes dendafaces à prenter province de configuration de la conf

### cause or cure?

Luther and the indulgences of Mainz, 1517

Gutenberg and the indulgence, 1455

Letterae indulgentiarum, 1455



## causality

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Letterae indulgentiarum, 1455

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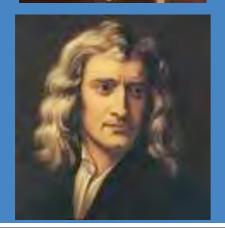
and more thank of information arrange from plantary formation, a common the most. There is easily in high select Enterprise Arrang Sales a particular of part. Here's price in small,"











## questions of timing?

Gutenberg, d. 1468

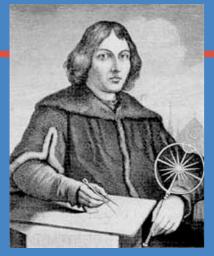
Bacon, 1561-1626

Galileo, 1564-1642

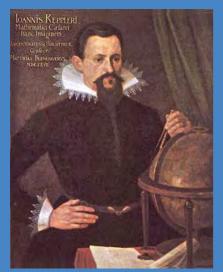
Descartes, 1596-1650

Newton, 1642-1727









## central players

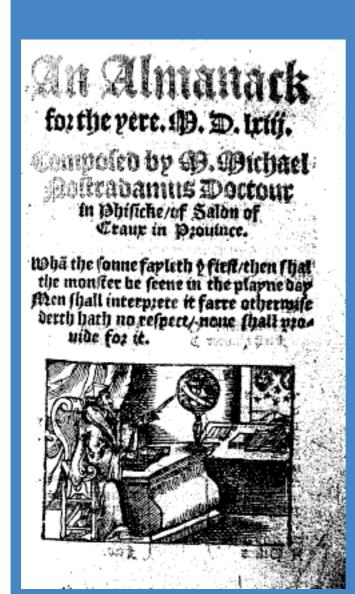
**Copernicus 1473-1543** 

Tycho Brahe I546-I60I

Johannes Kepler 1571-1630

# )

## pseudo-science



### almanacs

"for three-and-a-half centuries, the Almanack has been the most popular book in the English language"

1492-1600, probably 600 published

Bosanquet, English Printed Almanacks and Prognostications, 1917

400,000 a year William St Clair, The Reading Nation, 2005

--diary, encyclopedia, calendar

Mother Shipton
Nostradamus



# stability, reference, and comparison

"Spectacular innovation .. should not divert attention from much less conspicuous, more ubiquitous changes. Increasing familiarity with regularly numbered pages, punctuation marks, section breaks, running heads, indexes, and so forth helped to reorder the thought of all readers, whatever their profession or craft."

--Eisenstein, p. 73



"The expectation of readers was changed, and this was reflected in changes in the physical appearance of books. A writer organized his work for publication, and if he did not ... then a scribe would .. The production of books became more sophisticated ... The most spectacular example ... the Ellesmere manuscript of the Canterbury Tales."

## dividing up

### changing book, changing church

beyond the monastery

"The late medieval book differs more from its early medieval predecessors than it does from the printed book."

--Parkes, "Influence" 1976

running titles
subdivisions: books, chapters
analytical tables of contents
chapter headings
cross references
alphabetical order
page numbers, indexes

# )

### compare

### alphabetical indexing Alexandria

ms: "Sacra Parallela of John Damascene [8th century] ... an alphabetic subject index to the Bible and the Fathers."

Witty, "Early Indexing"

Rome.

### moreover ...

Codex Gigas, 13th century

macco no fine amare to an not. In the odirector Negr & illum frace, O chure an illu upace neuemixe ad me. din, a Experio tra fracto: O capollo gui fre noui facio, qui mulcum ropamen ucuentre aduof cum frib: & way: it functional ent ue nune ueuntett Venice auto cii et nacuum fuerte. Vigilate. Hate mide, until a one & conforcement, oming the mearitate franc deat Objecto all uos frs. nother domum Repliano & forcunadi qui Jum, func prince achaie. & mmuniterin for ordinament ferpforue & not fub acce free ermode. & onn coopana & laborana. Can no all impfurera flephane of forumaurachaici, qui to qui not de erat upfrapplenerune Reference to a men fam of urin. Coo nofaco o quei modi se. Salmaneno cotie afie. Salmaneno i duo mulai aquila or prisa, cu ounetto sua picha apurogi 7 hospi mr. Salurancing fre amig. Saluranemunce morallo fo. Salura nomea manupante. Si que n'amar dimensimilime com fro ana diema maranadia. Gia dinintitu primbum ani. Carraf mea cumommb: mo inxportin amen. consolatoria scribites acroade percuin. Collandans eof horac admetiora contribacos quide eof fed emenda wordtenden . 7

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"From about 1300 very many scribes, librarians, and book owners provided their volumes with leaf numbering ... [by the fifteenth century] the numbers were overwhelming ... " ufo

--Smith, "Printed Foliation"



Il est pourtant hors de doute que l'usage des chilires dans l'imprimerie était déjà connu en 1471, puisque dans cette année Arnoldus Ter Hoernen, un des plus anciens et des plus célèbres impriments de Cologne, les employa pour la première fois dans un onvrage peu connu, dont voici la description;

LIBER DE REMEDIIS UTRIUSQUE FORTUNE.

Coloniæ, Arnoldus Ter Hoernen, 1471,

in - 4°, (8).

Edition très-rare, imprimée à longues lignes, au nombre de vingt-sept sur les pages entières, avec des chiffres,

incunable:
printed book
from before 1500

foliation:
providing leaf
numbers

### moreover ...

### **I 470**: first printed folios

--Serna, Des Signatures et des Chiffres, 1798.

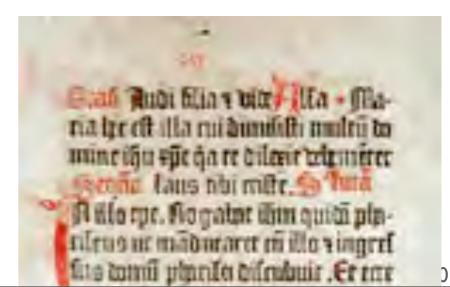
"of 4194 incunables ... only 10.3 percent use printed foliation, none use page numbers ... nearly half ... in the period 1495-1500"

--Smith, "Printed Foliation"

1470: incunable with ms foliation

Missale

"Constantiense"



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## in print

pagination:
providing page
numbers

"pagination ... became common only in the second quarter of the 16th century" --Fevre & Martin, Coming of the Book

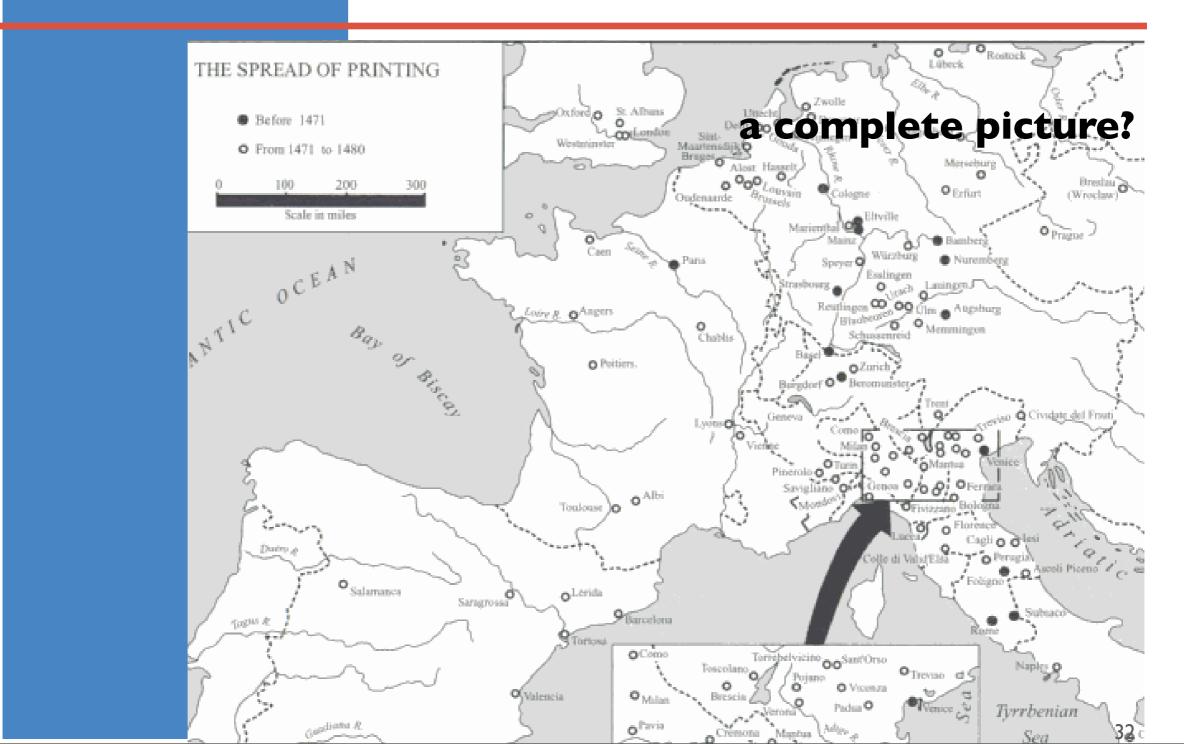
"After examining about 80,000 Dutch books from the 16th and 17th century I think that printers did not care for page numbers ... 60-70% contain mistakes in the page numbers"

[some printed books with 50% of the page numbers wrong]

Verkruijsse, "Wacht u voor de bladwachter!"

# )

### what came before?





## questions of geography

xylography: printing with carved wood blocks

letter press: printing with metal type

### RAND, "printing & the internet"

"The idea of reducing 'printing and publishing' to the Western case alone is not upheld by anyone. On the other hand there are differences between xylography and letter press printing (as there are between alphabetic and ideographic languages). ... two quite different duplicative technologies." --Eisenstein, RAND 2000



## printing in china

## lithography: printing from stone



xylography: wood
carving



c. 200 bc: the use of seals

yin = seal and print

**175 ad:** printing of Confucian classics from stone carvings

868: earliest surviving Chinese printing

**972-83**: *Tripitaka*, 5,048 volumes, 130,000



### furthermore ...



**IO4I:** Pi Sheng clay moveable type

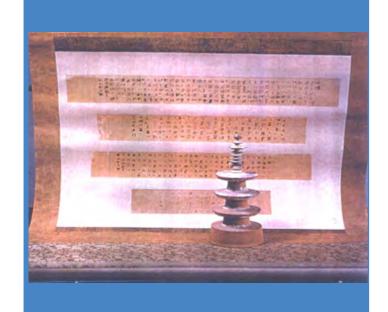
"in the Northern Song in the eleventh century ... there were some thirty printing centers ... and some two hundred in the Southern Song" (twelfth century) "

Lucille Chia, Printing for Profit

**10th century?** playing cards printed textiles paper money

lofl 09 -- Print Culture 35





#### Empress Shotuku, and her charms

770: xylographic printing

? 1,000,000 copies



#### Korea: undetermined





8th century: xylography

918-1392: Koryo Dynasty three methods of publishing transcription, xylography, typography

transcription: Royal library; practice xylography: Buddhist temples typography: civil service

1087: Tripitaka Koreana (xylography)

## Korean printing

#### "demand side"

**949-975:** King Kwangjong Guagou competitive civil service exams

"supply side"

**1231:** Mongol invasion destruction of archives

moveable type

## Korean printing

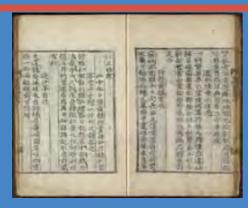
1241: Yi Munsun Chip

**1337:** Jijki

1392: Kyosugam (dept. of publishing)

1403: Jujaso (type foundry)

1446: Hangul alphabet and typography









#### western ways

"[Theodore]De Vinne, in his book [The Invention of Printing, 1789] writes, 'The inventor of printing did not invent paper .. did not originate engraving on wood. He was not the first to print upon paper, he was not the first to make printed books, it is not certain that he made the first press, it is not probable that he was the first to think of or make movable type. What he did was to invent the type mold'

### western ways

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"... it was the type mold that the Koreans developed."
--Carter, The Invention of Printing in China, 1955.

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--Carter, The Invention of Printing in China, 1955.

see also Paul Needham and Blaise Aguera y Arcas, "What did Gutenberg Invent?"

### when?

"Europe reckons the date of the invention of printing from the time when typography was invented, and considers block printing as merley an important step in preparation. The far East reckons the invention of printing from the time when block printing began and considers movable type as rather an unimportant later addition."

Carter, The Invention of Printing in China



#### contact?

#### c. 1290:

"HOW THE GREAT KAAN CAUSETH THE BARK OF TREES, MADE INTO SOMETHING LIKE PAPER, TO PASS FOR MONEY OVER ALL HIS COUNTRY "All the grand Kaan's subjects receive this paper money without hesitation because wherever their business may call them, they can dispose of it again in the purchase of merchandise they have occasion for."

#### Moscow







#### 

### secret history?

"[E]ither the Germanes borrowed this Invention from the Chineses, or at leastwise the Chineses had the practise & vse of it long before them.

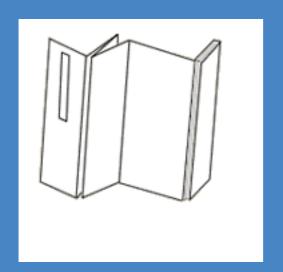
George Hakewill, An Apology of the Power, 1627

"Whether the Germans first borrowed this Invention from the Chineses, or whether amongst the Germans (who undoubtedly lay best claim to it) Iohn Gutenberg the Knight of Mentz, or Iohn Fust a Moguntine, was the first Inventor thereof, it matters not."

Robert Heath, Paradoxical Assertions, 1659



## linear history?





Christian codex, 2d century Islamic codex, 8th century Hebrew codex, 9th century Chinese sutra fold, 10th century

### and now?

#### technological diffusion

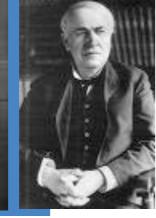
	Paper	Codex	Printing	Typography
China	3d cent bc	10th cent *	8th cent	11th cent
Korea	4th cent ad	19th cent	8th cent	15th cent
Japan	7th cent ad	19th cent	9th cent	17th cent
India	5th cent ad	6th cent*	19th cent	19th cent
Islam	8th cent ad	8th cent	19th cent	19th cent
Europe	12th cent ad	2d cent	15th cent	15th cent

#### Search and find magazines on Google Book Search

12/09/2008 09:47:00 AM

The word "magazine" is derived from the Arabic word "makhazin," meaning storehouse. Since Daniel Defoe published the world's first English magazine back in 1704, millions of magazines catering to nearly every imaginable taste have been created and consumed, passed from person to person in cafes, barber shops, libraries, and homes around the world. If you're wondering what cars people drove in the eighties or what was in fashion thirty years ago, there's a good chance that you'll find that answer in a magazine. Yet few magazine archives are currently available online.









Theuth
Moses
Lord Kulaba
Ts'ai Lun
Daniel Defoe
Morse
Edison
Bell
Marconi
Bill Gates



### print culture

#### the reliability of print vs the search for copy

"Book-sellers follow their owne judgment in printing the antient Authors according to such Text as they found extant ... Errors repeate & multiply in every Edition".

-- John Evelyn, 1666



## problems of authenticity

#### piracy and plagiarism

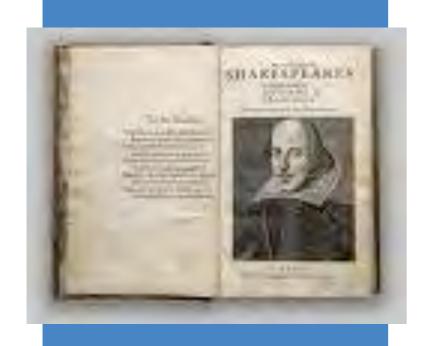
"Martin Luther's German translation of scripture was actually beaten into print by its first piracy."

Johns, The Nature of the Book, 1998

#### church & government responses

censorship copyright sedition acts

## problems of fixity



"[Shakespeare's] first folio
[1623] ... boasted some six
hundred different typefaces along
with nonuniform spelling and
punctuation, erratic divisions and
arrangements, mispaging, and
irregular proofreading. No two
copies were identical."

--Johns



### the search for truth





#### "donations of Constantine"

#### "false decretals"

"Historical criticism became a Protestant weapon, and documents were used as missiles." James Thompson, "The Age of Mabillon," 1942



#### historical criticism

"A certain band of fellows existed, some centuries ago, who had undertaken the task of concocting ancient history as we now have it, there being at that time none in existence; ... they had as aids the works of Cicero, Pliny, the Georgics of Vergil, the Satires and Epistles of Horace. These alone ... [are] the genuine monuments out of the whole of Latin antiquity."

Grafton, "The Antiquary as Pariah", 1999



### detective work

#### back to the monastery

```
"the Reformation era ... bringing to light thousands of documents .. hitherto inaccessible and unknown. ... France pioneered in this new historical research ... Mabillon .... Montfaucon."
```

--Thompson





## science of diplomatics

**Jean Mabillon** (1632-1707)

De Re Diplomatica, 1681

opposing

#### **Paperbroche**

Acta Sanctorum 1675

"The Benedictine order ... regarded Paperbroche's work as ... an attack on their property rights." --Thompson



## beyond the page

"Mabillon frankly admitted that the authenticity of a charter could not be proved by any metaphysical or a priori argument; a decision could be reached only after the expert had examined a whole series of different indications -- the material used, the seal, the signature, the grammar and orthography, the modes of address, the plausibility of the dating, the intrinsic consistency of the whole document."

David Knowles





## a guide to forgery

#### the charter of La Tour d'Auvergne

"skilfully forged [using Mabillon's principles] by a sublibrarian who ended his days in the Bastille"

--David Knowles

#### summary

revolution(s)?

what did & did not come before?

what happened?

what came after?

technology, practices, & institutions

(un)reliability

# 7

#### next time

#### 12 Feb: Emergence of the Public Sphere

Cowan, Brian. 2005. "Inventing the Coffee House" and "Penny Universities," pp. 79-112 in The Social Life of Coffee: The Emergence of the British Coffeehouse. New Haven. Yale University Press.

Darnton, Robert. 2000. "An Early Information Society: News and the Media in Eighteenth-Century Paris." American Historical Review 105.1.