7.
Paul Mason, «An simple outline of the postcapitalism thesis», octubre de 2018.

Information technology
- Collapses production costs
    - Shrinking amounts of value available for profit/interest
- Promotes automation faster than job creation
    - (breaking the usual adaptation process of capitalism)
- Positive network effects
    - (creating utility for free)
- Democratises knowledge
    - (the general intellect. Marx)

This creates the possibility of a transition beyond capitalism

It also creates a dysfunctional form of info-capitalism dominated by
- Monopoly pricing, predatory consolidation
    - 99c a track on iTunes
    - Facebook buys instagram
- Precarious work
    - Jobs that don't need to exist, created in order to keep us able to service our debts, cellphone contracts and consume low-value stuff
- Rent seeking
    - Uber, AirBnB
- Vast asymmetry of knowledge
    - Facebook's algorithm: you are not allowed to see it

This is unsustainable, as the main form of value extraction becomes credit and rent, and requires massive money creation, debt and financial risk which cannot be supported by value creation in the real economy.

It is also creating massive power imbalances between corporations, states and people. It is creating the conditions for algorithmic control, and provides an injustice/powerlessness component, on top of an inequality component, that is driving hopelessness even in developed societies (eg AfD, Vox, UKIP, Trump).

The main tasks of a transition beyond scarcity and market-driven economies are:
- Breakup or public ownership of the big tech companies
- De-link work and incomes
- Attack rent-seeking, promote the commons
- Suppress information asymmetry

This project, and the crisis it answers, will interact with exogenous crises:
- Climate change and environmental damage
- Demographic ageing and the resulting bankruptcy of states
- De-globalisation
- Migration and the rise of xenophobia

The transition to postcapitalism will be measured using a modified version of the labour theory of value. The unit of measurement is an hour's abstract labour time. The purpose of the transition is, in a controlled and prudent way, to move the number of hours people work out of the market sector and the state and into non-market sector, characterised by horizontality, peer production, non-management and sustainability.

Key to this is the rapid rollout of automation, reducing the number of necessary work hours by the population of the planet. This involves the left giving up Utopias based on work.

The programme of the radical left, greens and social democrats and progressive nationalist parties should combine a traditional social justice agenda with a new agenda that kickstarts this transition.

Key elements of the old agenda are:
- End neoliberalism
- Tax, borrow and spend
- Re-industrialise the global north
- Boost the wage share
- Industrial strategy

Key elements of the new agenda are:
- Breakup the tech monopolies (vertically and horizontally)
- Data sovereignty and national controls over key intellectual property assets
- Universal Basic Services from taxation: health, education to degree level, city transport.
- The right to a secure, affordable home
- New Companies Act, promoting co-operatives, mutual, credit unions, municipal ownership, state aid and nationalisation
- Data defined as a public good
- A ministry for the non-market economy (including reproductive labour)
- A holistic modelling function, operating at all levels of government, open sourced and available to all
- Human-centred controls over algorithms and AI

These economic projects are of course combined with eg women's rights, the rights of ethnic minorities, LBGTQ, and the zero carbon agenda.

The postcapitalist agenda can be pursued at every level: form a co-op (tenants), demand the smart city data is a public good (city council),

outlaw rent-seeking business models (state), breakup and tax major tech monopolies (state and EU), suppress information property rights, shortern copyright, promote open source/creative commons (WTO/TRIPS).

The point is to understand and model how action at each level might affect the whole process; to map the points of resistance; to document the failures and successes rigorously in a way that is useful to a 100+ year process.