

“A *User* (animal, vegetable, or mineral) would occupy its own unique position and from there activate an *Interface* to manipulate things with particular *Addresses*, which are embedded in the land, sea and air of urban surfaces on the *City* layer, all of which can process, store and deliver data according to the computational capacity and legal dictates of a *Cloud* platform, which itself drinks from the *Earth* layer’s energy reserves drawn into its data centers.

Paths between layers are sutured by specific protocols for sending and receiving information to each other, up and down, that do the work of translating between unlike technologies gathered at each plateau”.

Benjamin H. Bratton, *The Stack: On Software and Sovereignty*,  
MIT press, 2015.