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# **Accelerated academy and doctoral studies**

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## Accelerated modernity

Hartmut Rosa (*Beschleunigung: Die Veränderung der Zeitstrukturen in der Moderne*, 2005):

We will not understand the nature of modern times unless we understand the temporal structures of modern times and the forms of general acceleration.

Modernity: different time regime (traditional vs. modern society)

Acceleration is the core and driving force of modernity - acceleration in the sphere of production (i.e. production and technology), acceleration in the sphere of urban life, in the economy, in politics, in everyday life...



## **Accelerated academy**

- **Technological acceleration of academia**
  - from copiers to PCs to communication platforms (technology accelerates communication and performance)
- **Structural and institutional acceleration**
  - differentiation between disciplines, differentiation between academic organizations, pressure for efficiency, highly competitive environment (weakening of cooperation)
- **Acceleration of the pace of academic life**
  - changes in the nature of work, pressure on the quantity and quality of publications, changes in individual strategies



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# **Time in PhD education - tensions in time series**

- study timetable**
- family timetable**
- timetable of employment**
- existential temporal order of life**



## **Time in different parts of accademia**

- Time and the world of PhD students in the natural and medical sciences**
  - study, work and family schedules do not conflict sharply
  - "publishing time" is shorter - faster outputs, more outputs
  - teamwork - better socialization, more publications in quality journals
- Time and the world of PhD students in the humanities and social sciences**
  - study, work and family schedules conflict
  - "publication time" is longer - fewer outputs
  - Working in isolation - less socialization, less support, harder to publish



## Conclusion

- 1) there is a general pressure to accelerate
- 2) there is a tension between different time series of individuals (PhD candidates)
- 3) there are significant differences in time in the medical and natural sciences and in time in the humanities and social sciences
- 4) the effects of acceleration are more destructive in the humanities and social sciences