

Parasite or vampire?

The instable characterization of production relations under digital capitalism

World Algorithm

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Introduction: 3 debated shifts related to digital capitalism

	CONTINUITY (Wood 1990)	RUPTURE (Harvey 1989)
NATURE OF EARNINGS	Profit	Rent
	(Morozov 2022 ; Lebayle & Pinsard 2021)	(Durand 2020, Rikap 2020, Christophers 2022)
SPHERE OF ACTIVITY	Production	Circulation
	(Bakioğlu 2020)	(Dyer-Witheford & Mularoni 2024 ; Pfeiffer 2021)
HOW LABOUR IS ORGANIZED	Real subsumption	Absence of subsumption
	(Schaupp 2022 ; Cole & al 2021)	(Vercellone & Dughera 2019)

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VAMPIRE

PARASITE

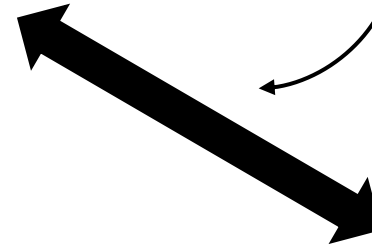
Introduction

VAMPIRE	
Accumulation process	$M \rightarrow C - P - C' \rightarrow M'$
How labor is organized	Real subsumption of labor
Sphere of activity	Production
Type of capital	Industrial capital
Type of earnings	Profits OR rent (guaranteed extraprofits)

PARASITE	
Accumulation process	$M \rightarrow M'$
How labor is organized	No subsumption of labor
Sphere of activity	Circulation
Type of capital	Usury or merchant capital
Type of earnings	Profits upon alienation: nor rent nor production profit

Introduction

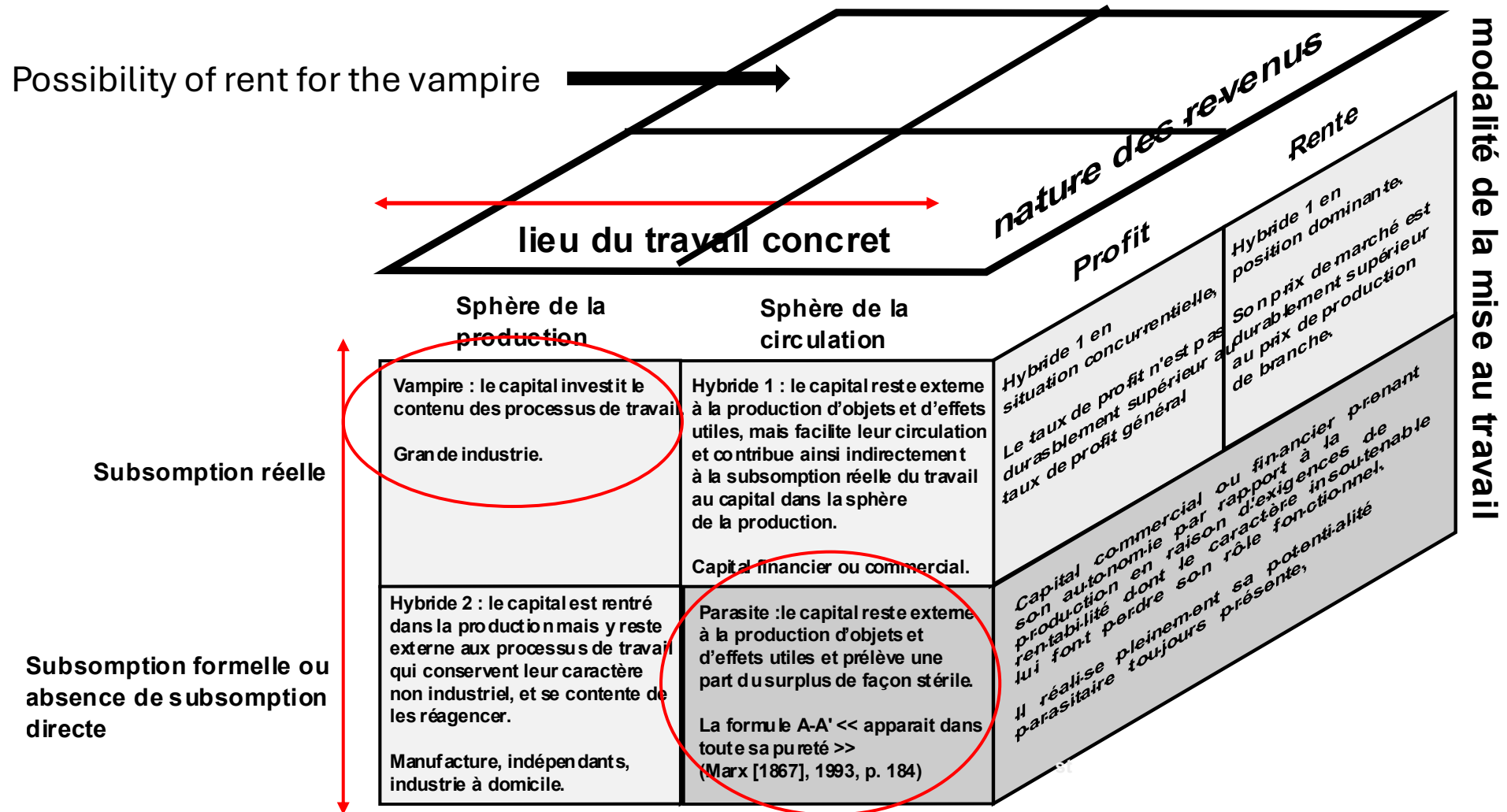
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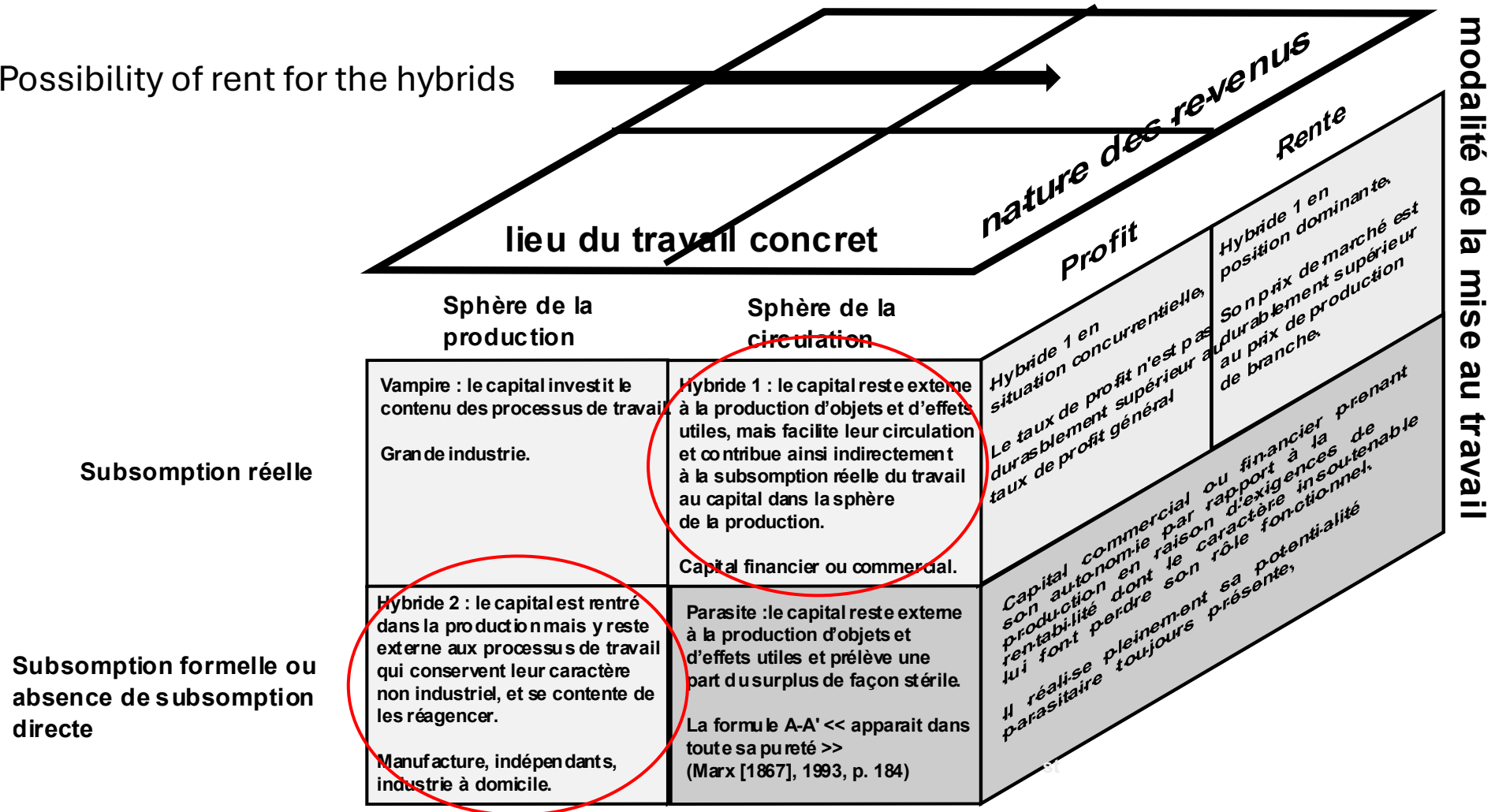
Capital and parasites are **two extreme forms** of capitalist production relations
 → There are **hybrids** forms

Vampires, parasites and 2 hybrids

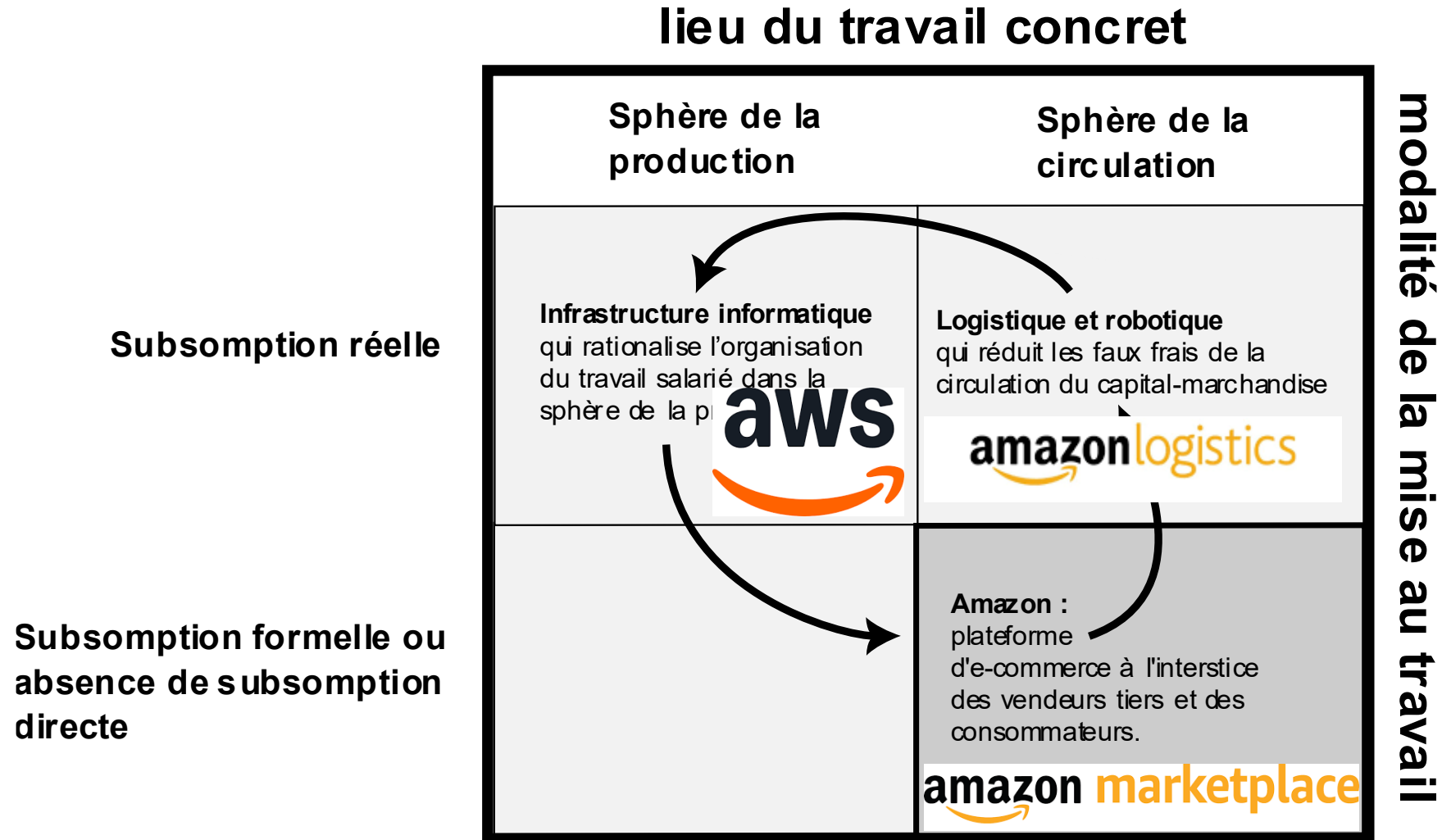


Vampires, parasites and 2 hybrids

Possibility of rent for the hybrids



The case of Amazon: parasite, vampire and distributive force



Conclusion. We aimed at:

- Going beyond the opposition between **continuity** and **rupture** to stress an **ongoing contradiction**
- Shedding light on the **multiplicity** and the **diffusion** of digital capital throughout the economy
- Better understanding capital accumulation in the digital sector

Thanks for your attention!

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