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Biographical information:

Matthew Turner is a professor at Warwick University. He first studied Physics at Southampton University (England), where he received a bachelor's degree in 1988. He carried out his graduate studies at Cambridge University, obtaining a PhD (1991) under the supervision of Prof. Michael Cates, currently Lucasian professor (a chair first held by Isaac Newton). He has since held a number of fellowships, including as a governing Fellow of Trinity College Cambridge (1991-96), as a Royal Society University Research fellow (1995-2003) and as a UK Leadership Fellow (2010-15). He has spent time working in a French CNRS lab, with Prof J-F Joanny (1991-92), resident at the KITP in Santa Barbara (1995-96) and as the W. M. Keck Fellow in the Center for Studies in Physics and Biology at the Rockefeller University in New York (1998-2000). He was recently the Joliot-Curie visiting fellow (2012-2017) and Mayant-Rothschild invited professor (2018) at the Institut Curie in Paris. He is a theorist. His research interests have become quite broad, without him really intending it. He has a background in polymer dynamics & self-assembly, liquid crystals and membrane physics and has more recent interests in active biological systems, collective motion (swarming) and mathematical epidemiology. He prefers to understand systems through simple theoretical models, where possible, augmented by computational approaches, where necessary. He is a frequent visitor to Japan and has very amateur interests in Japanese garden design and its early to medieval poetry.

Title: Choosing a path into a complex future

Abstract

I'll review some of the people and problems that inspired me, some of the opportunities that I've enjoyed (and missed!) and finish with some of the exciting possibilities that I see for the future. This will mainly focus on a new approach to choosing a path into a complex and only partially predictable future. This may even be of relevance to some in the audience.