

# **Technology and Education: Adventures in the Eternal Triangle**

**Sir John Daniel  
President  
Commonwealth of Learning**

What do we  
mean by new  
technology?

Changing technology  
is the main force  
behind globalisation

Globalisation

unites

and

divides

Changing  
technology  
affects everyone

Changing  
technology  
affects everyone

(except in  
education?)

# WHY?

- technology unsuitable?
- teachers reluctant?
- don't know how to use it?

# Questions

- Why?
- How?
- What principles?
- For whom?
- Where?
- What technologies?



# Questions

Why should we use  
technology in  
education?

TECHNOLOGY  
IS  
THE ANSWER

but

WHAT WAS  
THE QUESTION?

# Ambitions for Education

1. Access – increase it!
2. Quality – improve it!
3. Cost – reduce it!



**Education  
for All**

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**Dakar Follow-up + 1**

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# Ambitions for Education

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# Ambitions for Education

1. Access – increase it!
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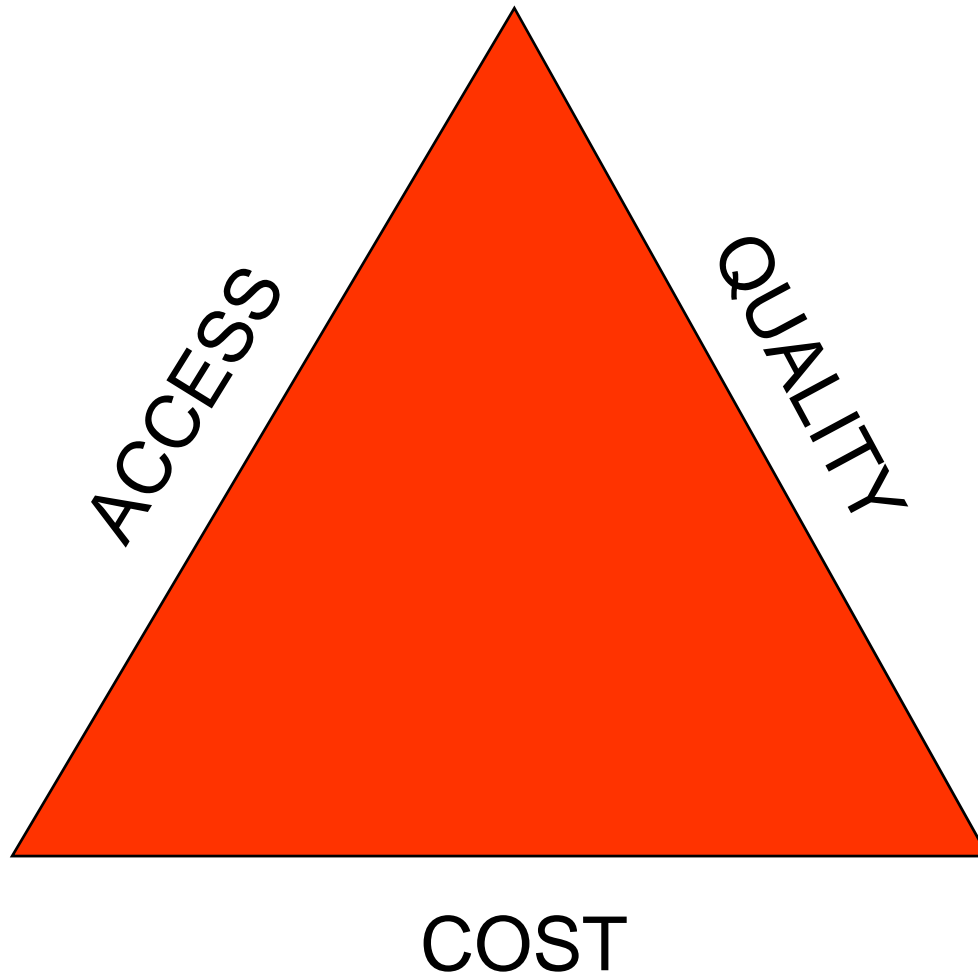
QUALITY

is fitness for purpose at  
minimum cost to society.

# Objectives:

- human capital
- social capital

# THE ETERNALLY CHALLENGING TRIANGLE



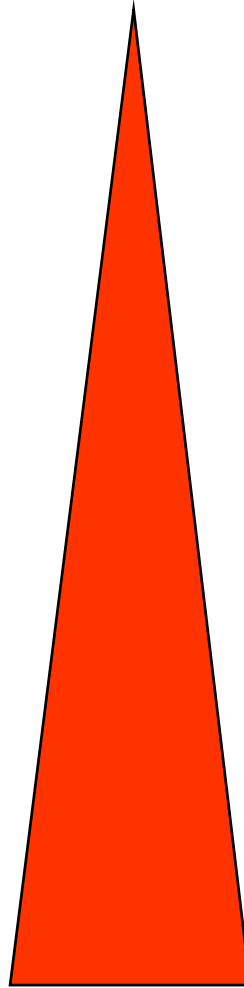


# THE ETERNALLY CHALLENGING TRIANGLE

**ACCESS**

**QUALITY**

**COST**



# TECHNOLOGY

is the application of scientific  
and other organized  
knowledge to practical tasks  
by organizations consisting  
of people and machines

Two types of  
learning activities:

**INDEPENDENT**

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learning activities:

**INDEPENDENT**

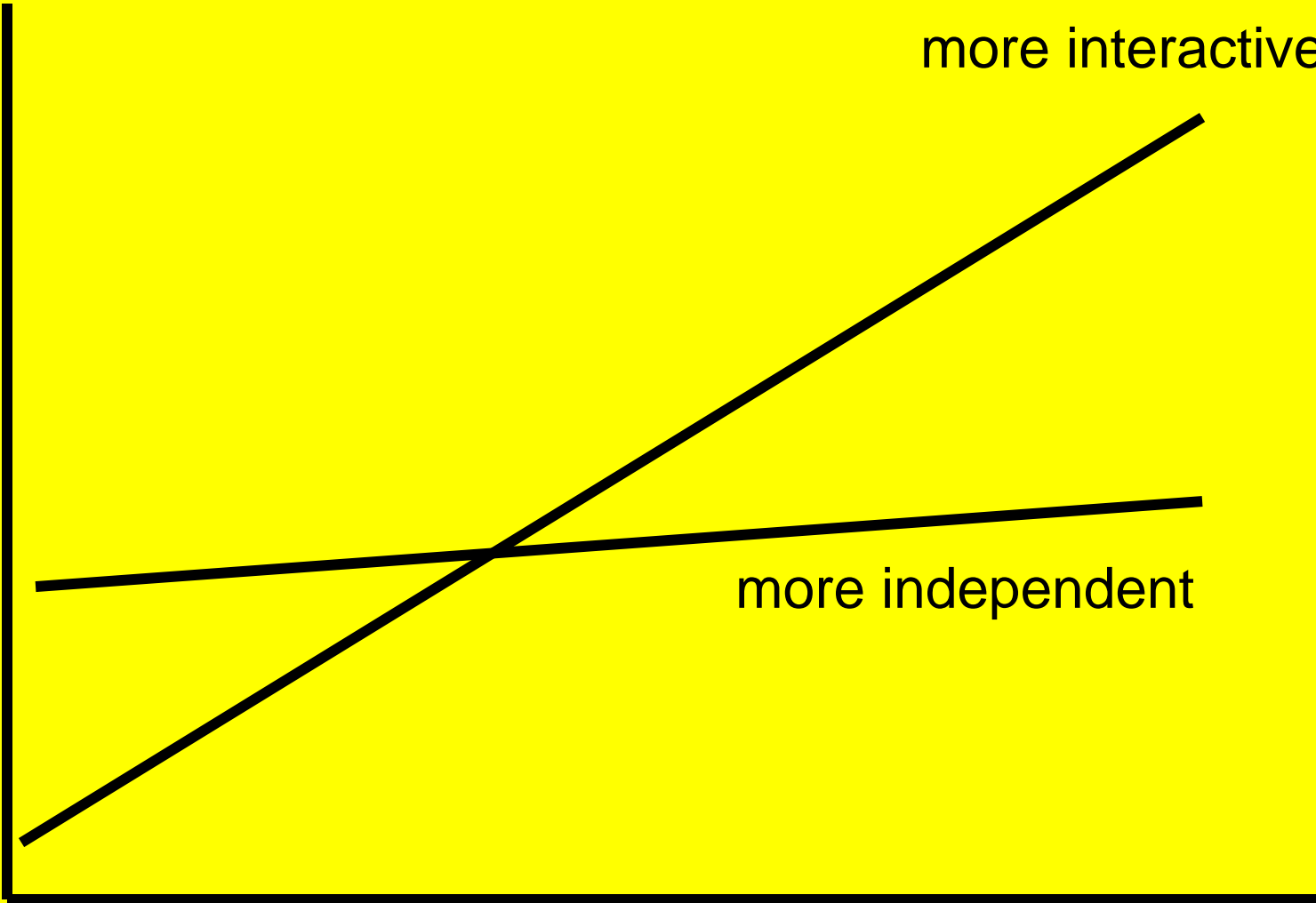
**INTERACTIVE**

The example  
of the

OPEN

UNIVERSITIES

Total cost

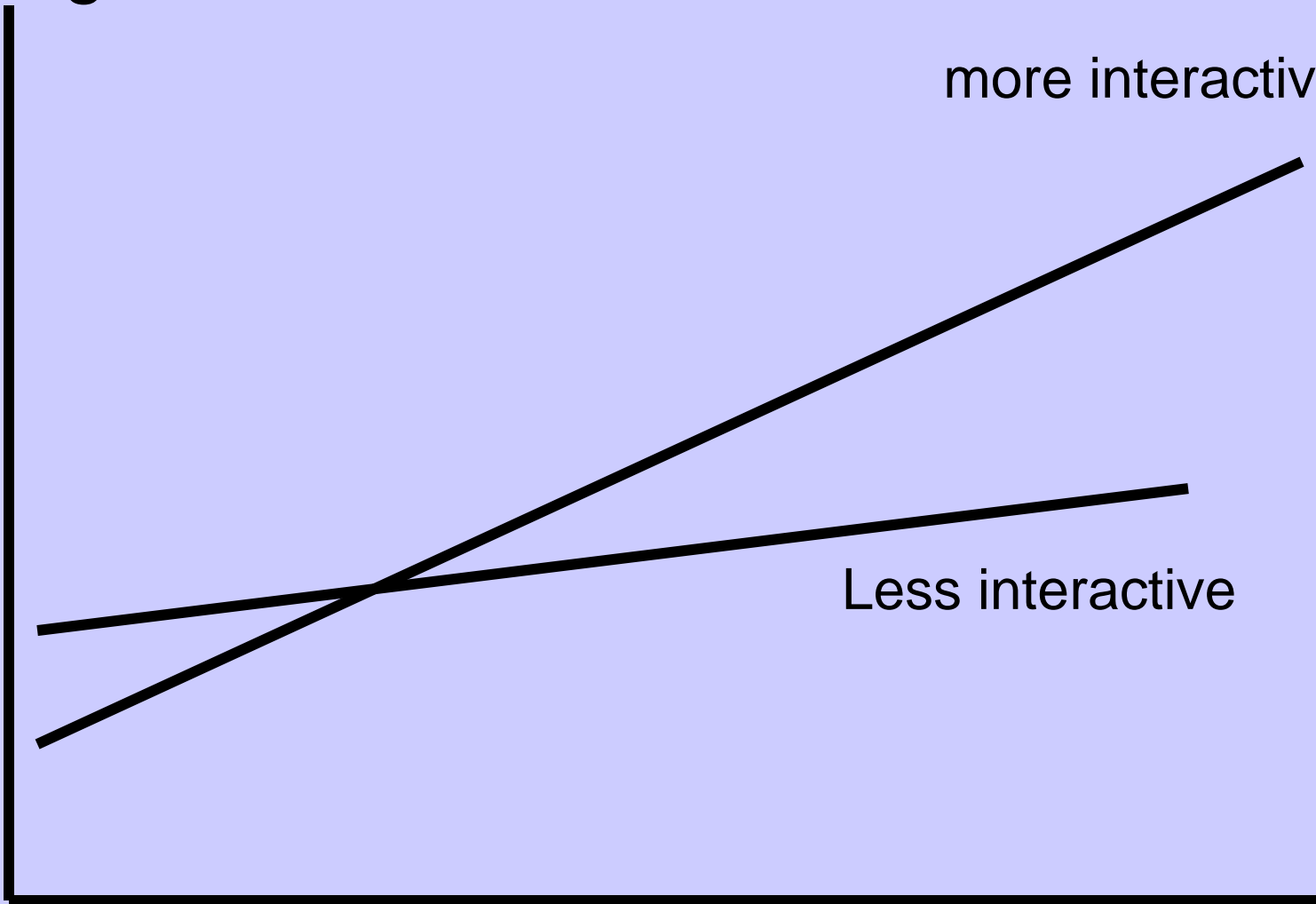


more interactive

more independent

Number of students

Marginal cost



more interactive

Less interactive

Number of students

# Questions

- Why?
- How?
- What principles?
- For whom?
- Where?
- What technologies?



The success  
of the

OPEN

UNIVERSITIES

'essential reading for all involved in higher education'  
TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPLEMENT

# Mega- Universities & Knowledge Media

Technology Strategies  
for Higher Education

John S Daniel

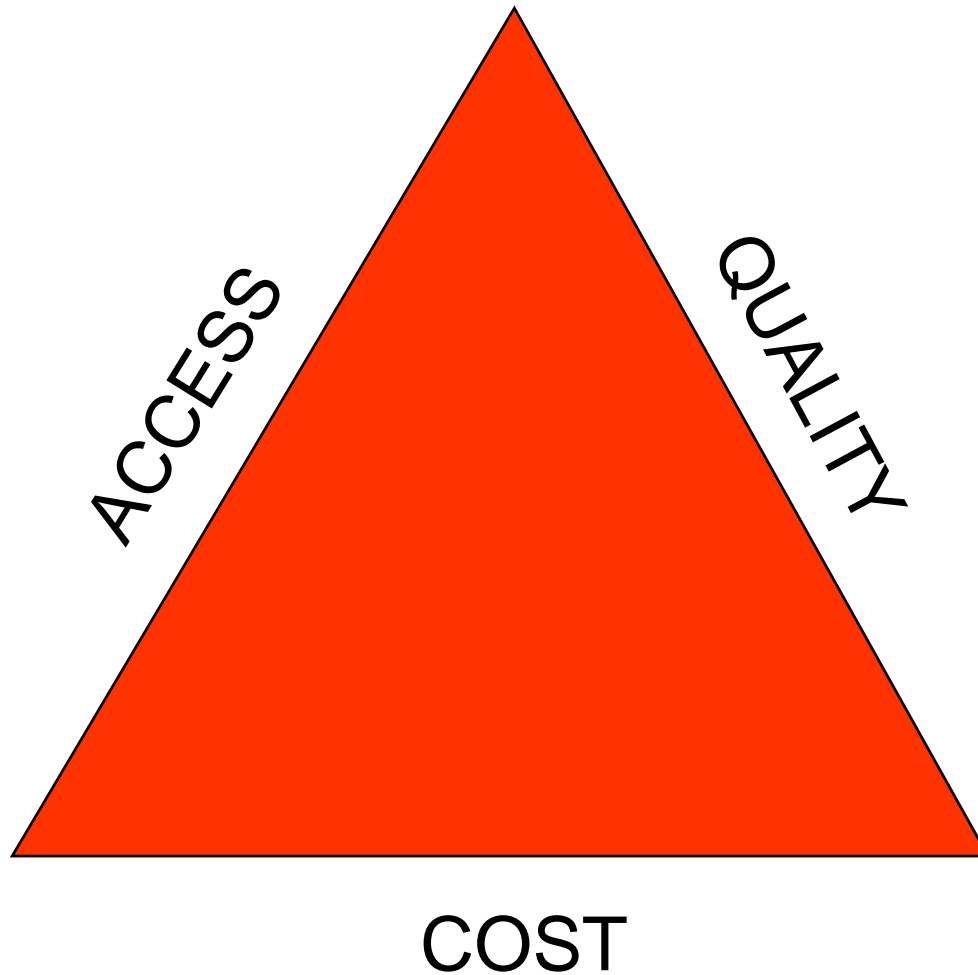
# BRITAIN'S TOP NINE UNIVERSITIES

## Quality Rankings of Teaching

based on all subject assessments 1995-2003  
(*Sunday Times University Guide 2003*)

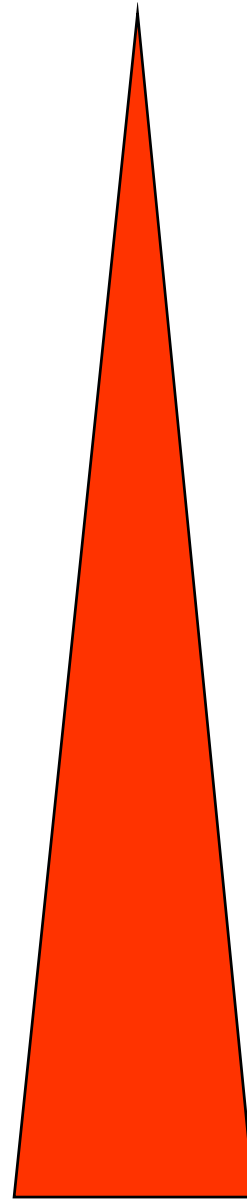
1	CAMBRIDGE	96%
2	LOUGHBOROUGH	95%
3=	LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS	88%
3=	YORK	88%
5	<b><u>THE OPEN UNIVERSITY</u></b>	<b>87%</b>
6	OXFORD	86%
7	IMPERIAL COLLEGE	82%
8	UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON	77%
9	ESSEX	77%

# THE ETERNALLY CHALLENGING TRIANGLE



**ACCESS**

**QUALITY**



**COST**

human capital

social capital

# Questions

- Why?
- How?
- What principles?
- For whom?
- **Where?**
- What technologies?

## Distances:

- GEOGRAPHIC
- TIME
- SOCIAL
- DISABILITY



“When I asked their views on the possible use of alternative learning technologies, one woman replied that her most pressing need was not for learning technologies, but for technologies such as a washing machine, a cooker and a vacuum cleaner, which would help her to reduce the time she spent on housekeeping and give her more time for study”

*Edith Mhehe*

# Questions

- Why?
- How?
- What principles?
- For whom?
- Where?
- **Which technologies?**

Start

with the

student!

# Technologies:

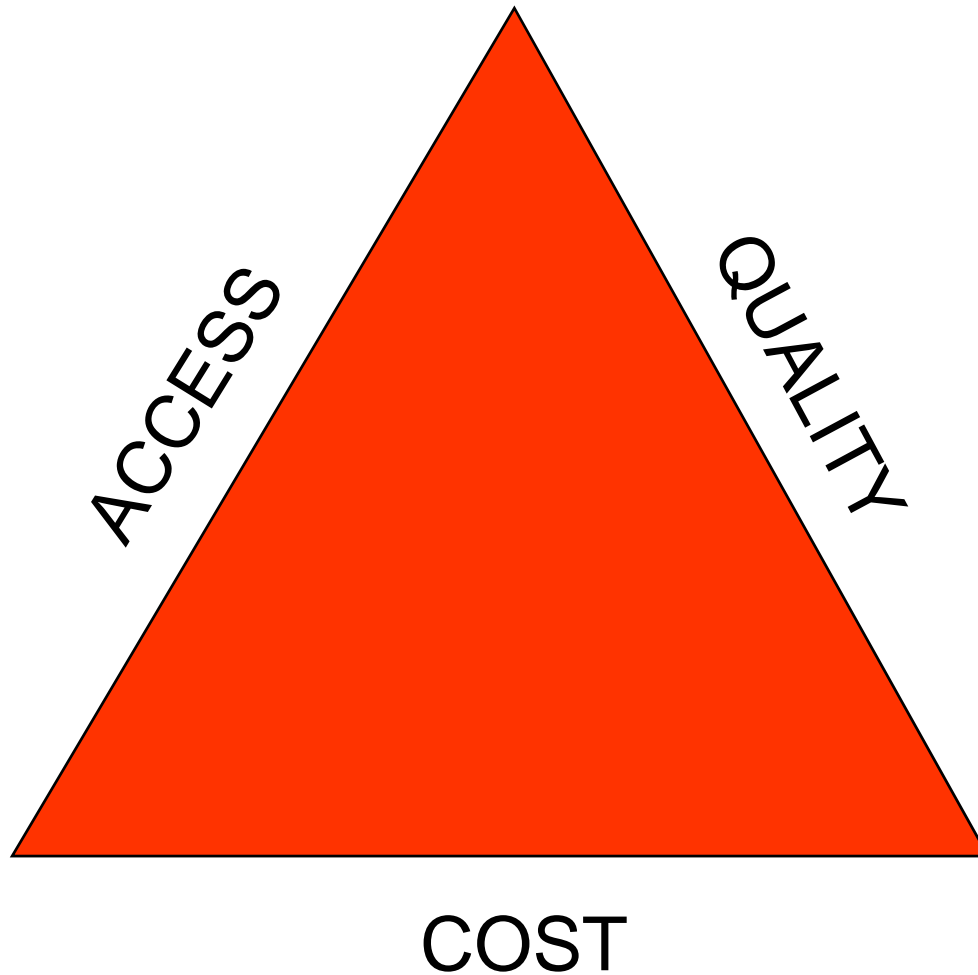
- available?
- at reasonable cost?
- easy to use?
- independent or interactive?

Two types of  
learning activities:

**INDEPENDENT**

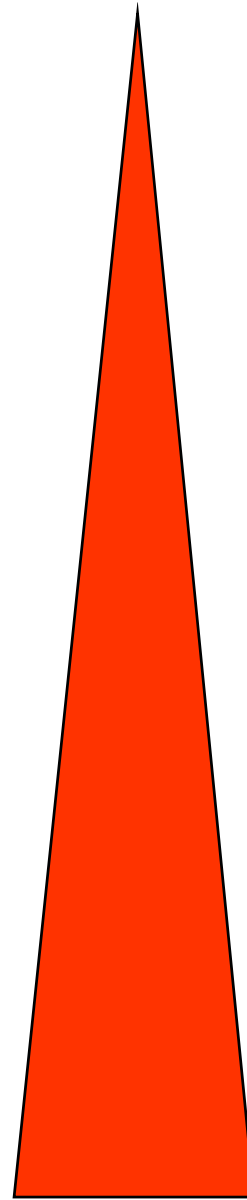
**INTERACTIVE**

# THE ETERNALLY CHALLENGING TRIANGLE



**ACCESS**

**QUALITY**



**COST**

