

Title: The Everett interpretation

Date: Sep 21, 2007 10:00 AM

URL: <http://pirsa.org/07090069>

Abstract: I shall present an overview of quantum mechanics in the Everett interpretation, that emphasises its structural characteristics, as a theory of what exists. In this respect it shares common ground with other fundamental theories in physics. As such its appeal is conservative; it makes do with the purely unitary equations of quantum mechanics as exceptionless and universal. It also makes do with standard methods for extracting '\high level\' or '\emergent\' ontology, the furniture of macroscopic worlds, from largish molecules on up. It would appeal all the more if it made do with standard epistemological principles too - for example, in the context of inductive statistical confirmation, with standard Bayesian epistemology. But this links to the question of the interpretation of probability in the Everett interpretation, and here the theory seems anything but conservative. It is a common complaint that the approach leaves no room at all for talk of uncertainty. I shall argue, again on conservative interpretative practises, that this claim is incorrect. Chance events are, indeed, revealed in a surprising light - as quantum branchings - but they are the more perspicuous, and their properties and quantitative measure better explained, in light of that.

The Everett interpretation:

a

Simon Saunders

Oxford University

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The Everett interpretation: a user's manual

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<http://users.ox.ac.uk/~everett/>

Why many worlds?

The Everett interpretation: a user's manual

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Why many worlds?

Why many worlds?

To solve the measurement problem

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The problem of how to relate the (unitary, deterministic) equations of motion of quantum mechanics to observed phenomena

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 $\Psi = \sum c_k \varphi_k$
depending on what is measured

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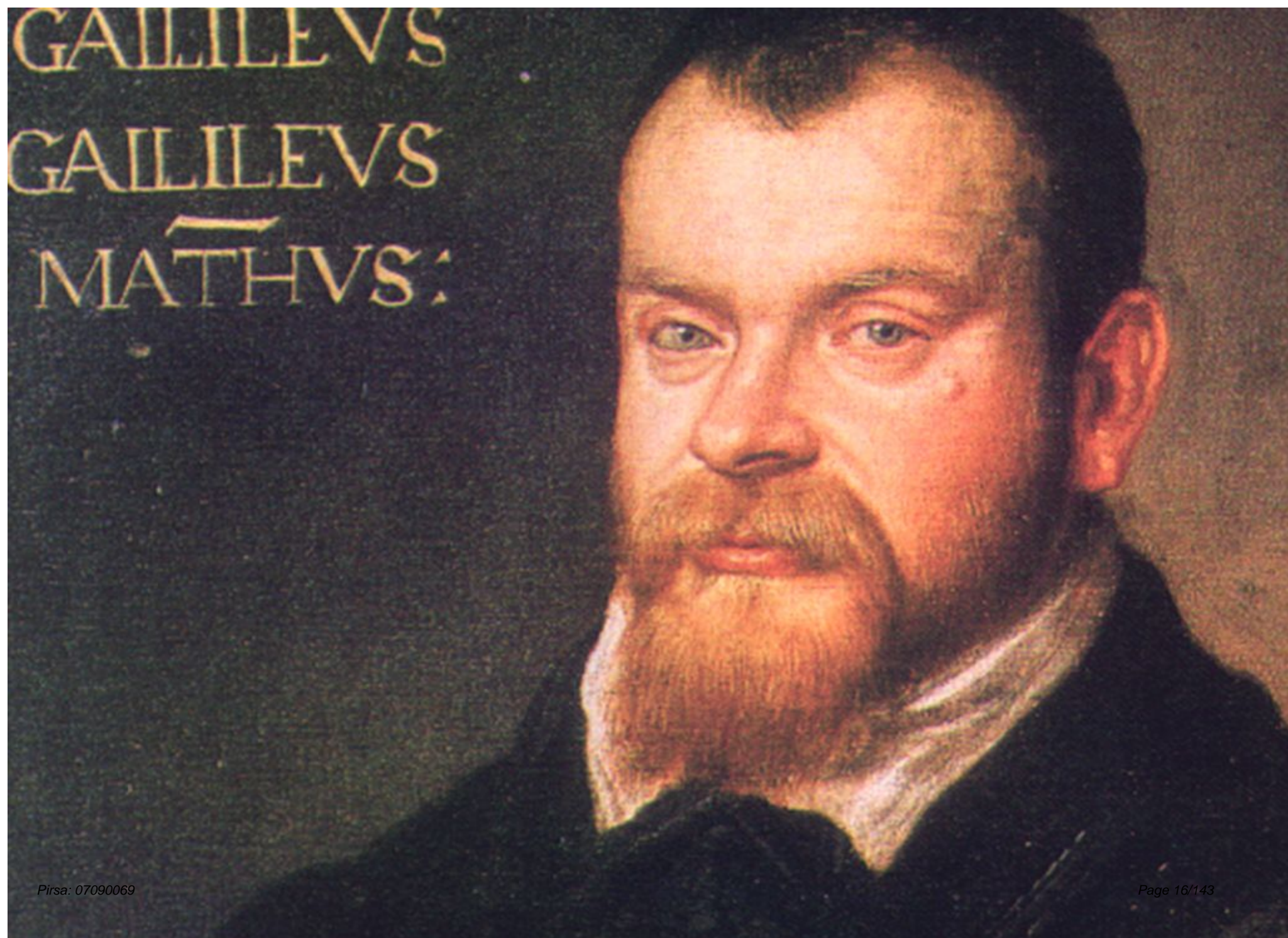
The problem of how to relate the (unitary, deterministic) equations of motion of quantum mechanics to observed phenomena

- The theory is to apply universally
- Without any special mention of 'the observer' or 'measurement'
- And without any special interpretative assumptions or additional equations

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GAILILEVS
GAILILEVS
MATHVS:



GAILILEVS
GAILILEVS
MATHVS:

Why don't we see the
earth move?

GAILILEVS GAILILEVS MATHVS:

Why don't we see the
earth move?

- if the earth moved,
there should be a great
wind

GAILILEVS GAILILEVS MATHVS:

Why don't we see the earth move?

- if the earth moved, there should be a great wind
- if the earth moved, falling bodies would fall behind in the direction of its motion



GAILILEVS GAILILEVS MATHVS:

Why don't we see the
earth move?

*Answer: the earth and
everything on its surface
and in its atmosphere
are subject to the same
motion*

GALILEO'S GALILEO'S MATHS:

Why don't we see the
earth move?

*Answer: the earth and
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are subject to the same
motion*

**Only relative motions are
observable**

Everett



Everett

Why don't we see
superpositions?



Everett

Why don't we see superpositions?

- if there are only superpositions, we would all turn into blacmange



Everett

Why don't we see superpositions?

- if there are only superpositions, we would all turn into blacmange
- if there are only superpositions, there would be no meaning to probability



Everett

Why don't we see superpositions?

Answer: when macroscopic superpositions arise, everything enters into the superposition, including the apparatus and the environment



Everett

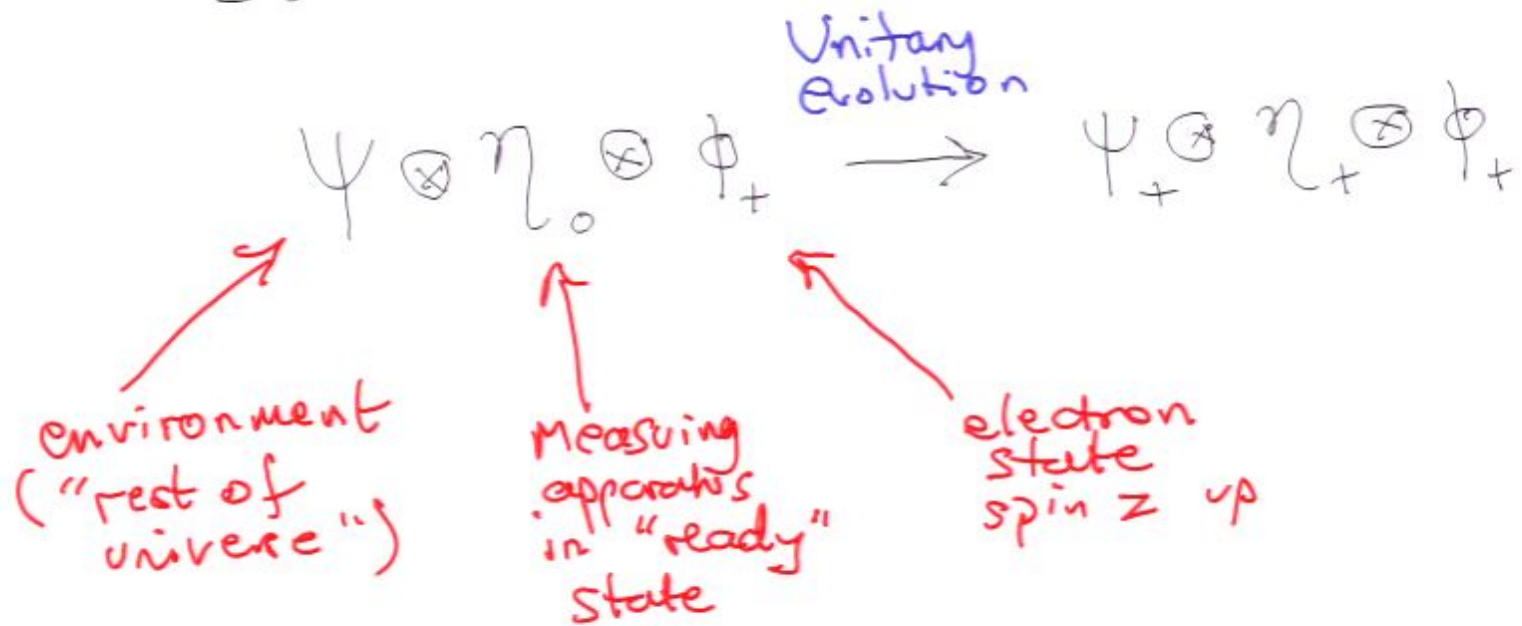
Why don't we see superpositions?

Answer: when macroscopic superpositions arise, everything enters into the superposition, including the apparatus and the environment

Only correlations are observable



Stern-Gerlach expt



Stern-Gerlach expt

$$\psi \otimes \eta_0 \otimes \phi_+ \rightarrow \psi_+ \otimes \eta_+ \otimes \phi_+$$

Some coupling
between
apparatus and
environment

apparatus
records
'Spin 2-up'

$$\psi \otimes \eta \otimes (c_+ \phi_+ + c_- \phi_-)$$

$$\longrightarrow \psi \otimes (c_+ \eta_+ \otimes \phi_+ + c_- \eta_- \otimes \phi_-)$$

$$\longrightarrow c_+ \psi_+ \otimes \eta_+ \otimes \phi_+ + c_- \psi_- \otimes \eta_- \otimes \phi_-$$

'Relative state' of η_+ is ϕ_+

" " " η_- is ϕ_-

$$\psi \otimes \eta \otimes (c_+ \phi_+ + c_- \phi_-) \otimes (c_+ \phi_+ + c_- \phi_-)$$

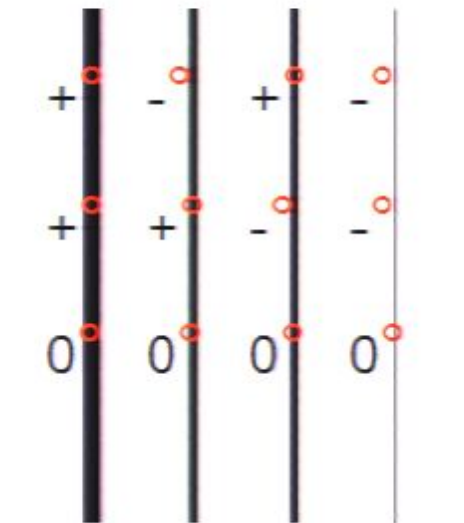
$$\rightarrow \psi \otimes \left(c_+ c_+ \eta_{++} \otimes \phi_+ \otimes \phi_+ + c_+ c_- \eta_{+-} \otimes \phi_+ \otimes \phi_- \right. \\ \left. + c_- c_+ \eta_{-+} \otimes \phi_- \otimes \phi_+ + c_- c_- \eta_{--} \otimes \phi_- \otimes \phi_- \right)$$

\rightarrow etc.

measurement
device displays
record of outcome
'spin up' followed
by 'spin down'

$$\psi \otimes \eta \otimes (c_+ \phi_+ + c_- \phi_-) \otimes (c_+ \phi_+ + c_- \phi_-)$$

$$\rightarrow \psi \otimes \left(\underbrace{c_+ c_+}_{c_+ c_+} \eta_{++} \otimes \phi_+ \otimes \phi_+ + \underbrace{c_+ c_-}_{c_+ c_-} \eta_{+-} \otimes \phi_+ \otimes \phi_- + \underbrace{c_- c_+}_{c_- c_+} \eta_{-+} \otimes \phi_- \otimes \phi_+ + \underbrace{c_- c_-}_{c_- c_-} \eta_{--} \otimes \phi_- \otimes \phi_- \right)$$



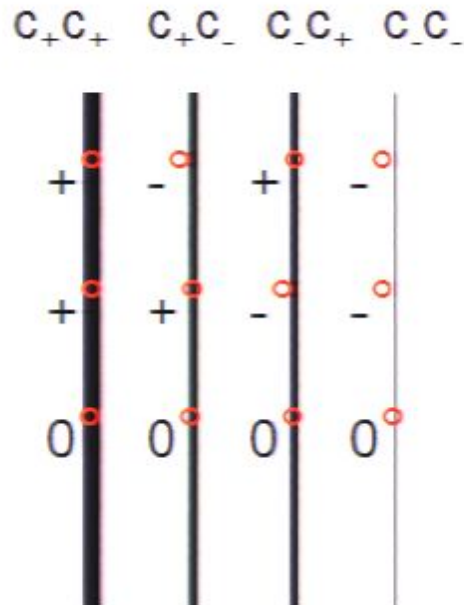
→ etc.

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Why many worlds?

To solve the measurement problem...

Universality • no mention of measurement • no special interpretative assumption or additional eqs



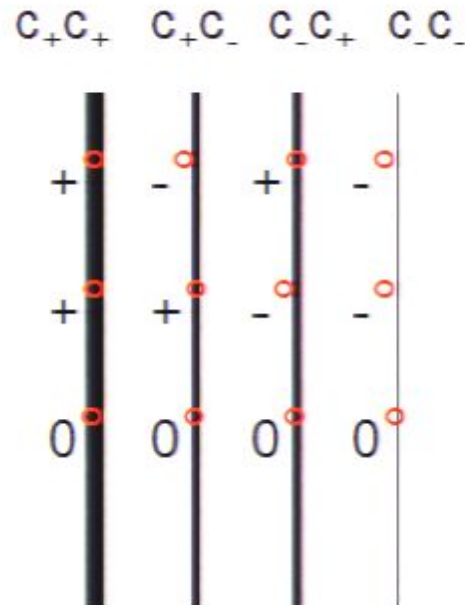
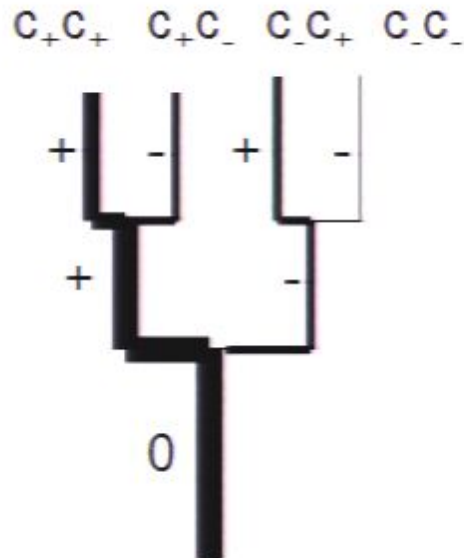
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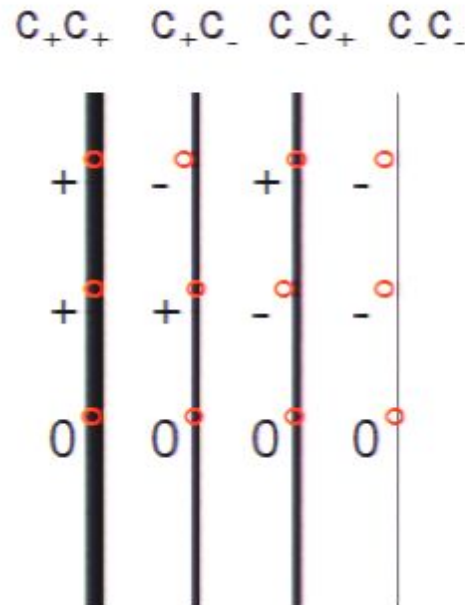
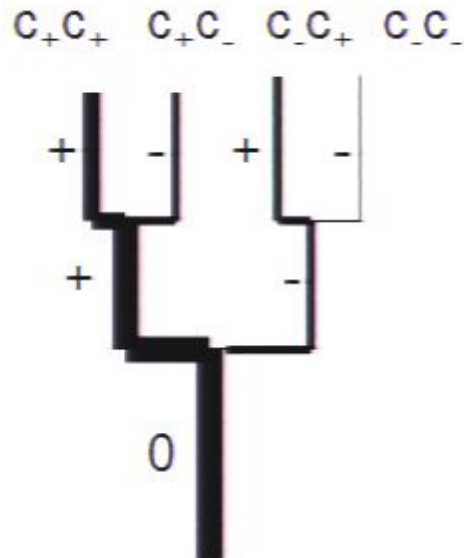
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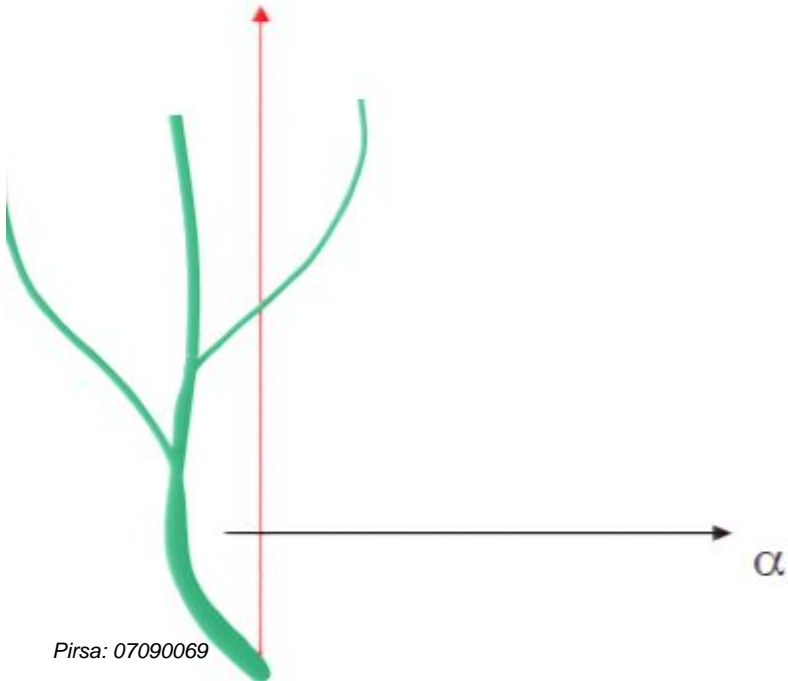
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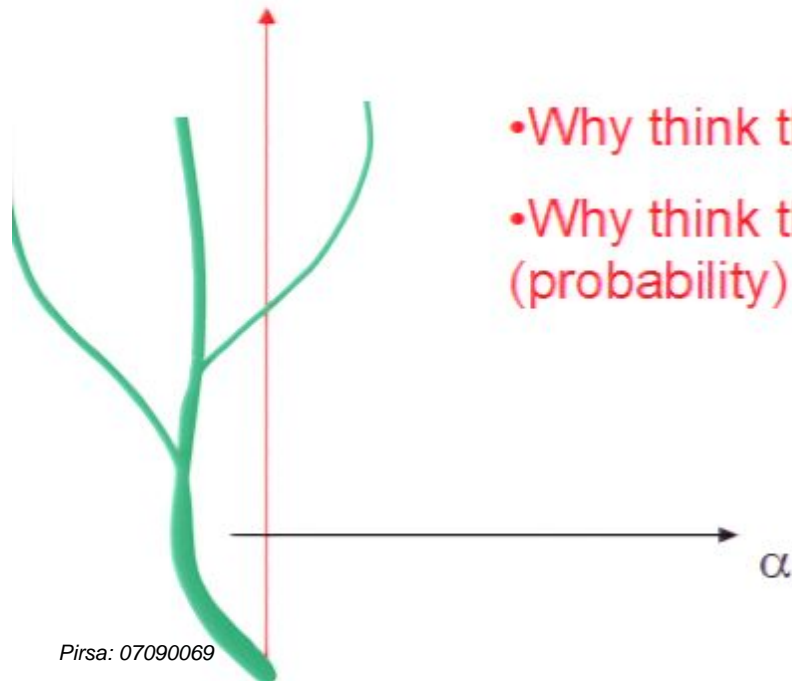
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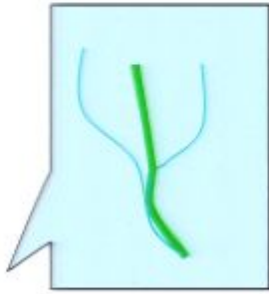
Why many worlds?

To solve the measurement problem...

Universality • no mention of measurement • no special interpretative assumption or additional eqs



- Why think there is a branching structure at all? (ontology)
- Why think there are probabilities in the theory at all? (probability)

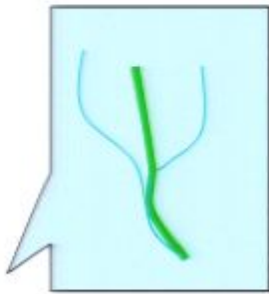


- Ontology

- Probability

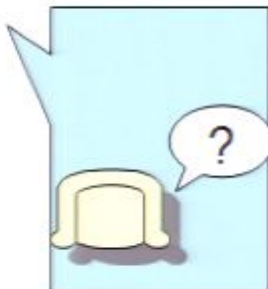


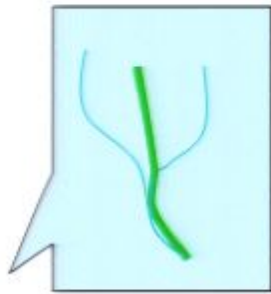
Incoherence
problem



•Ontology

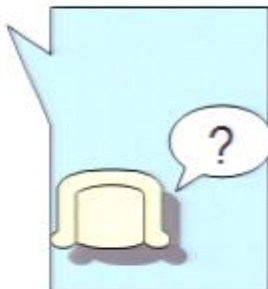
•Probability





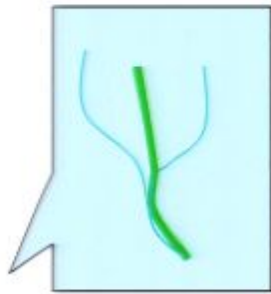
•Ontology

•Probability



Incoherence
problem

quantitative
problem



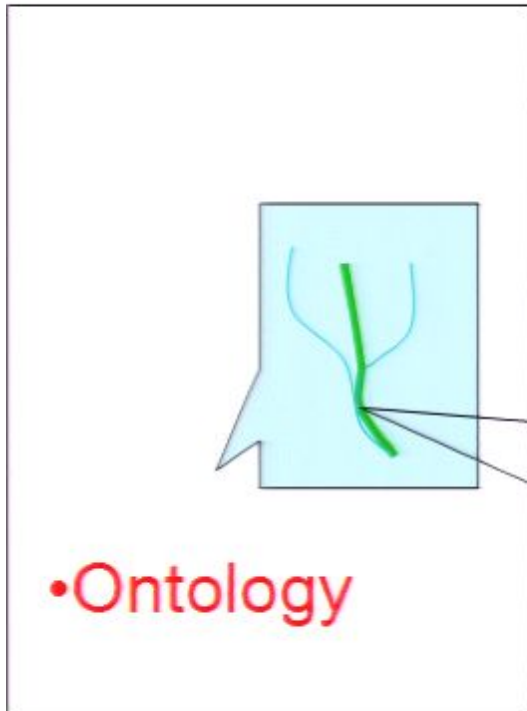
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•Probability



Incoherence
problem

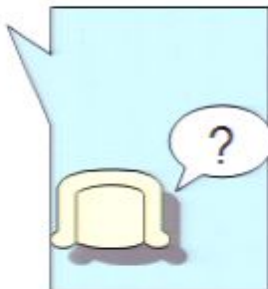
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problem

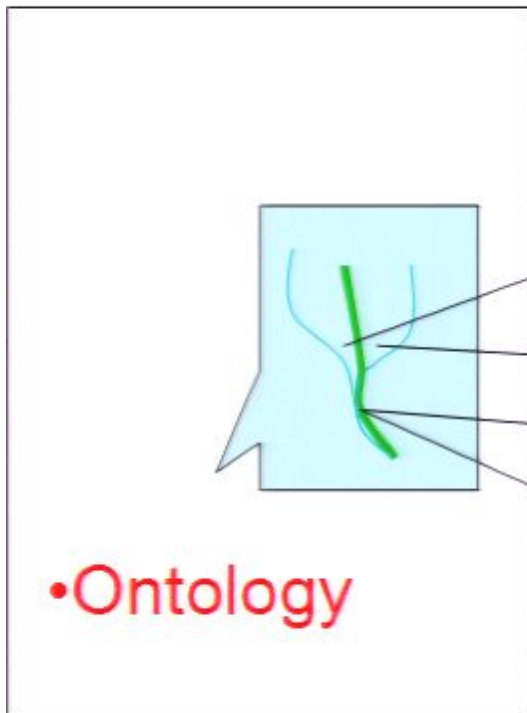


Incoherence
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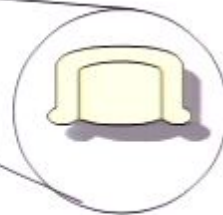
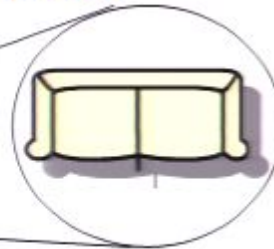
quantitative
problem

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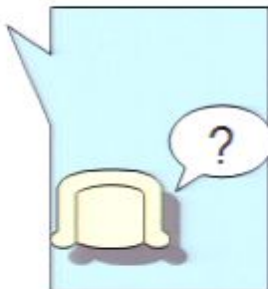




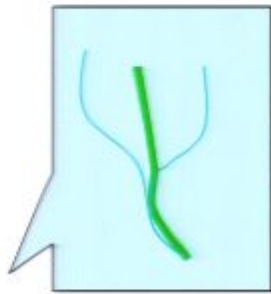
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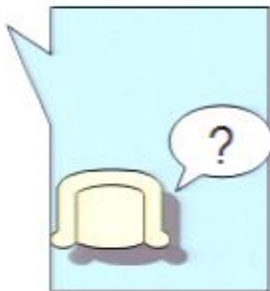


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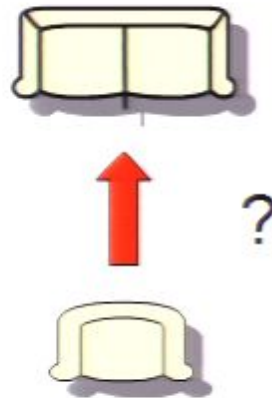


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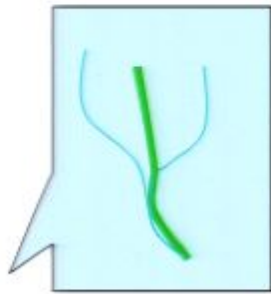
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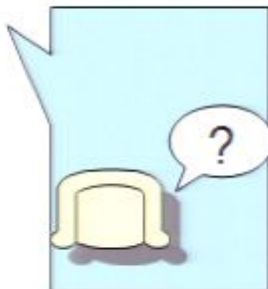


quantitative
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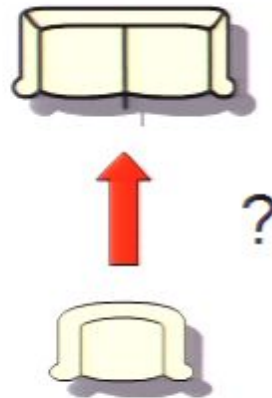


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•Probability

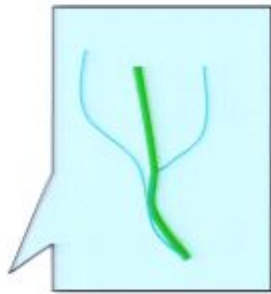


Incoherence
problem



the problem arises
with *any*
materialistic theory
of the self

quantitative
problem

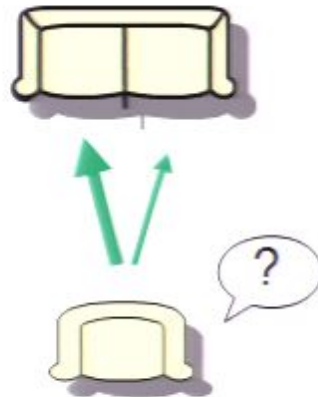


•Ontology

•Probability

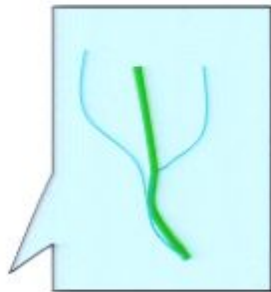


Incoherence
problem



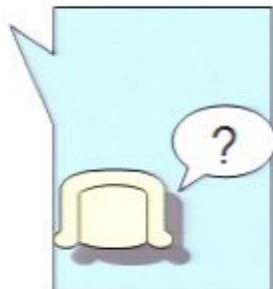
quantitative
problem

suppose
solved

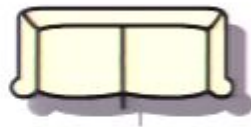


•Ontology

•Probability

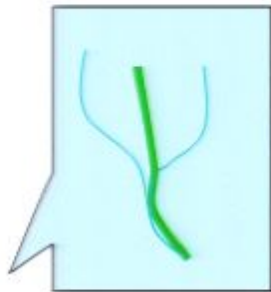


Incoherence
problem



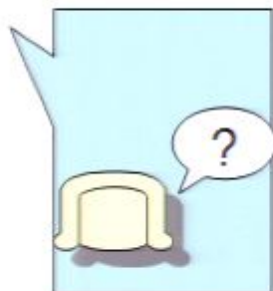
quantitative
problem

suppose
solved

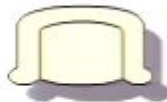
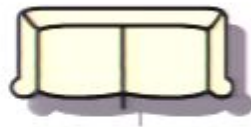


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Incoherence
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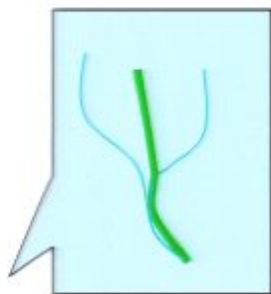


Uncertainty
intelligible-
'chance'

Uncertainty
unintelligible-
'caring
measure'

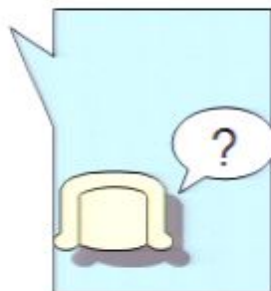
quantitative
problem

suppose
solved

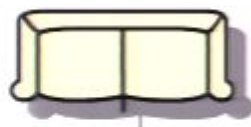


•Ontology

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Incoherence
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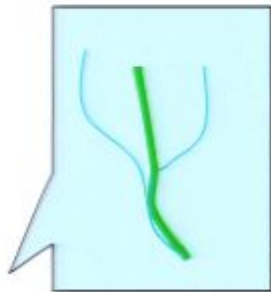
Uncertainty
unintelligible-
'caring
measure'

quantitative
problem

Given the
ontology

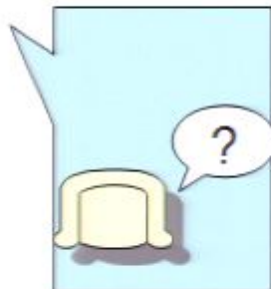
Not given
the ontology

suppose
solved

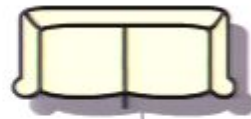


•Ontology

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Incoherence
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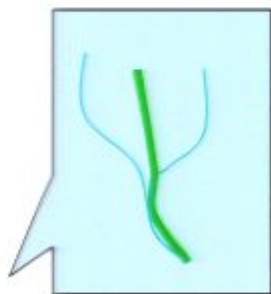
Given the
ontology

practical
problem

Not given
the ontology

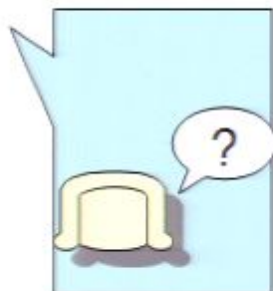
epistemic
problem

suppose
solved

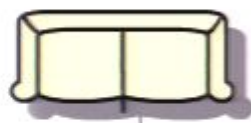


•Ontology

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Incoherence
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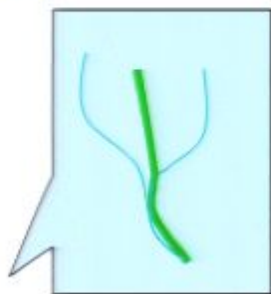
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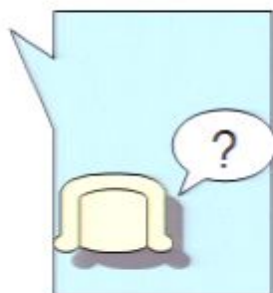
epistemic
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solved

suppose
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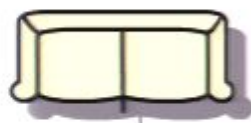


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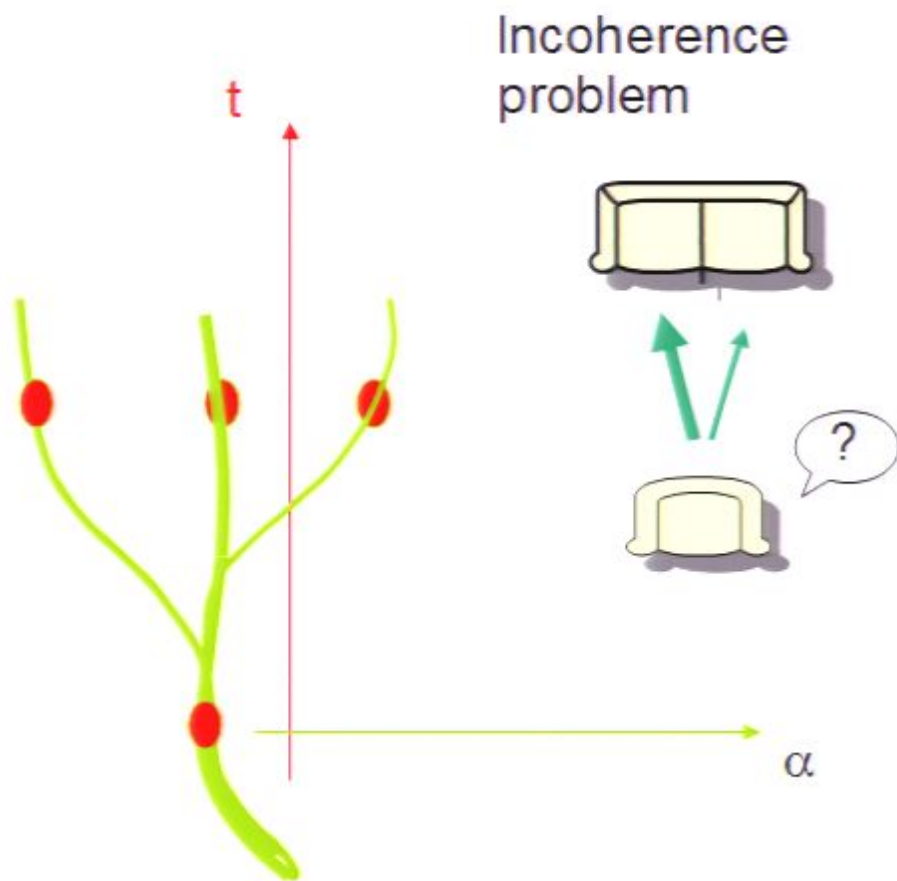
quantitative
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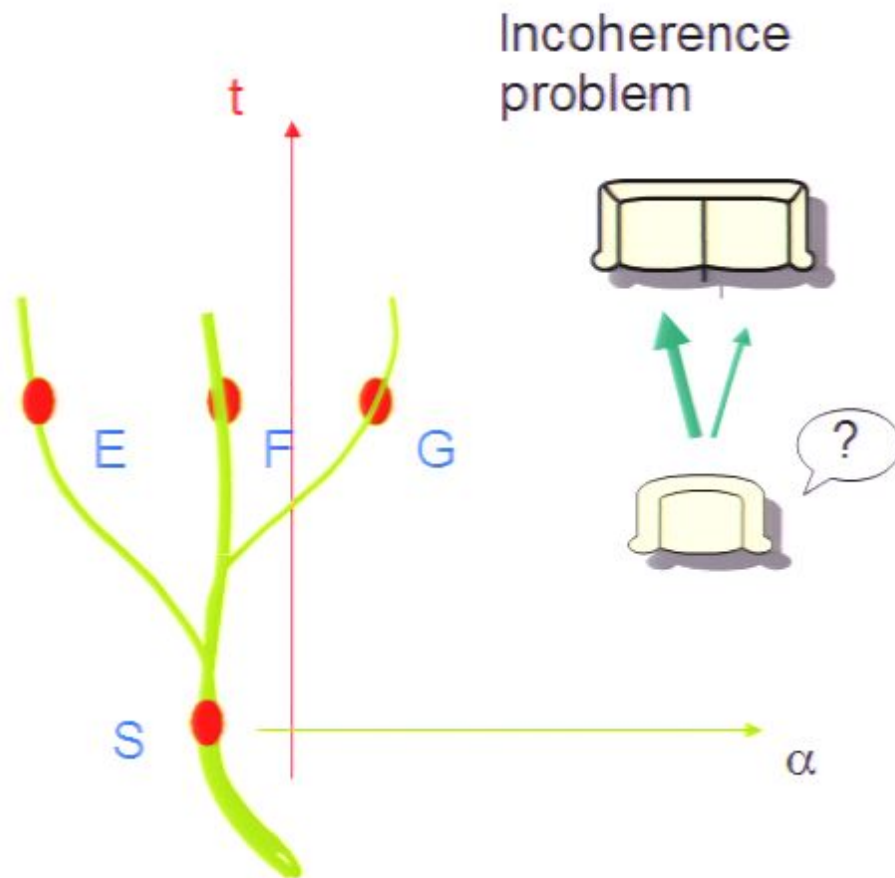
Given the
ontology

practical
problem
solved

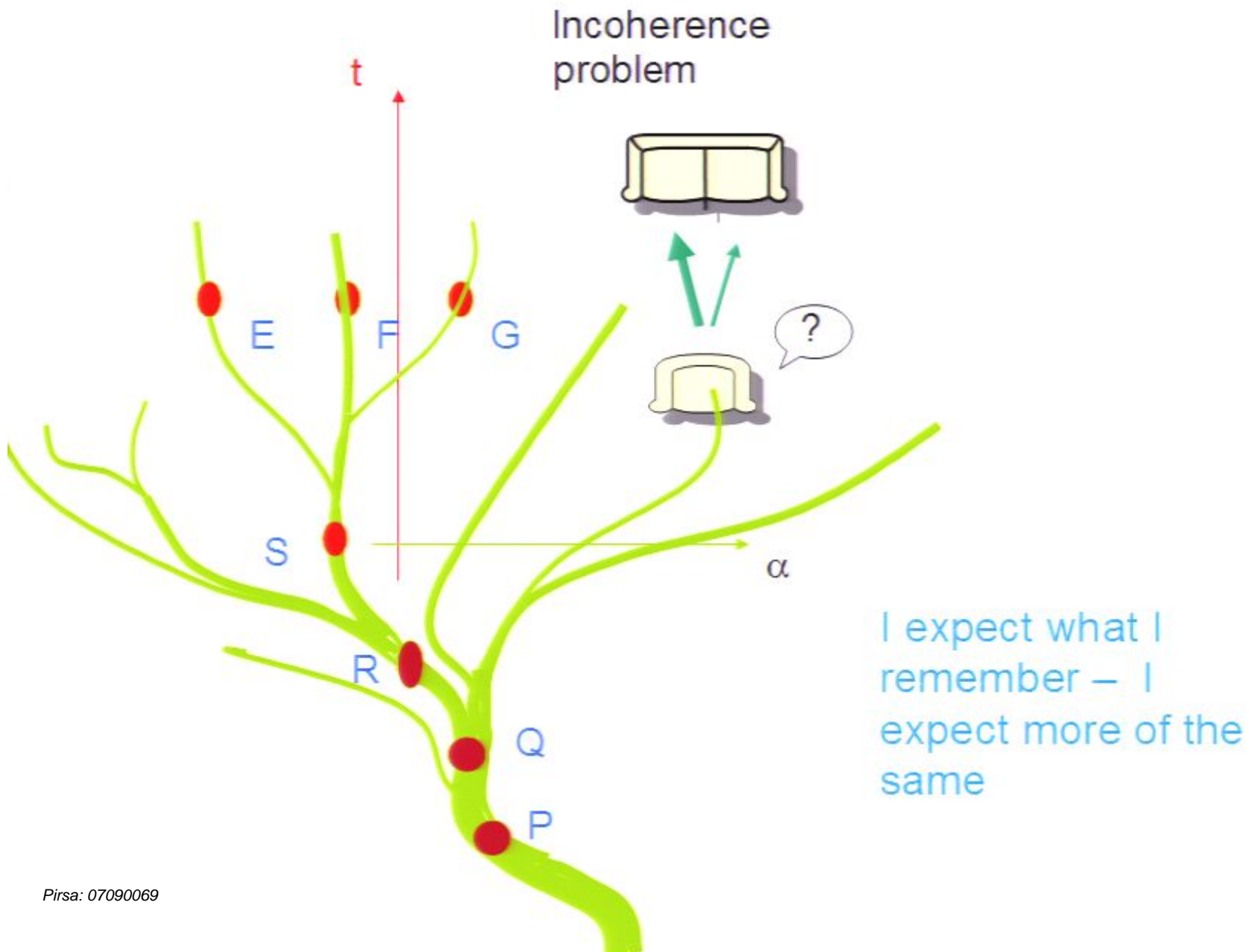
Not given
the ontology

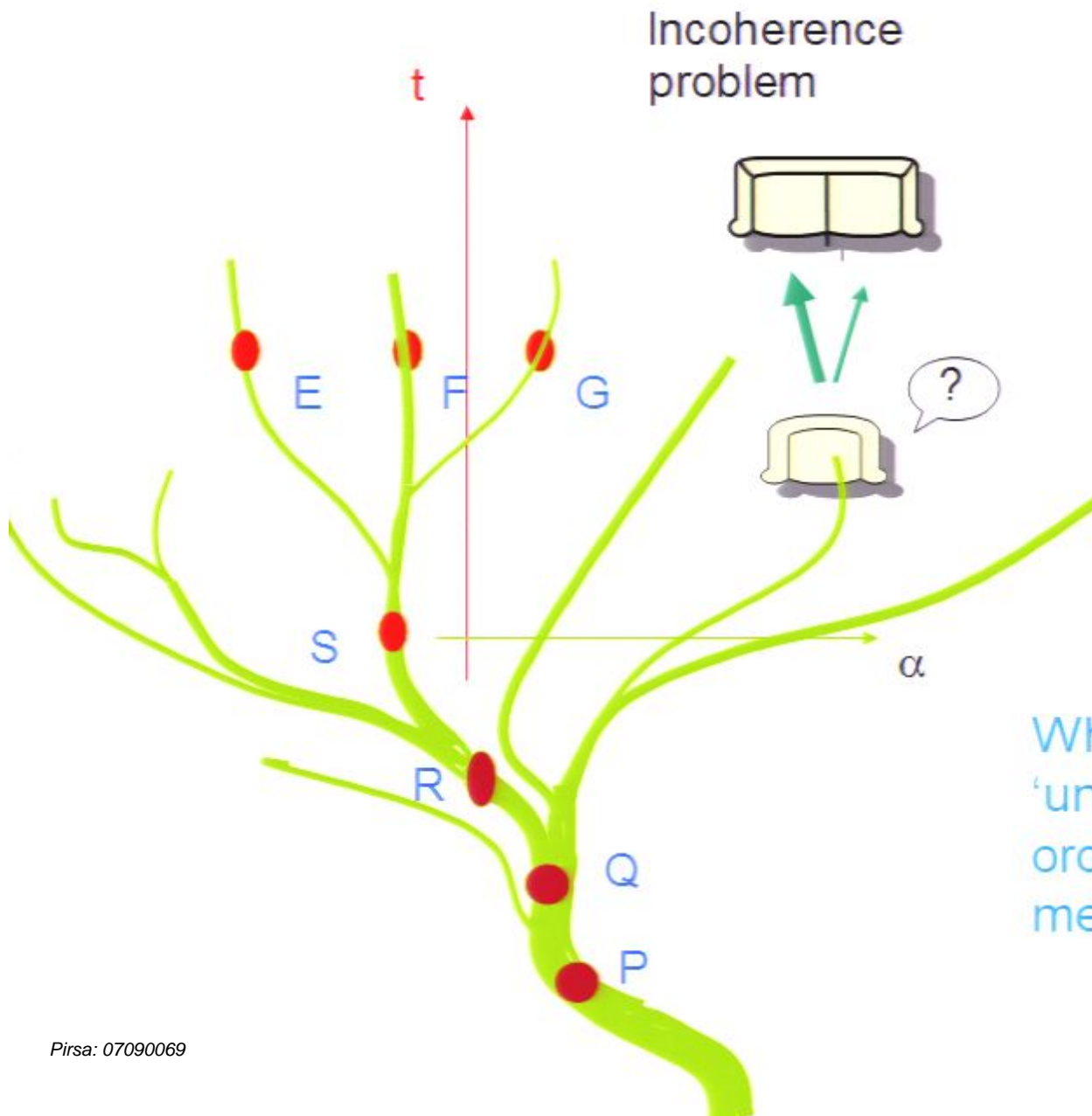
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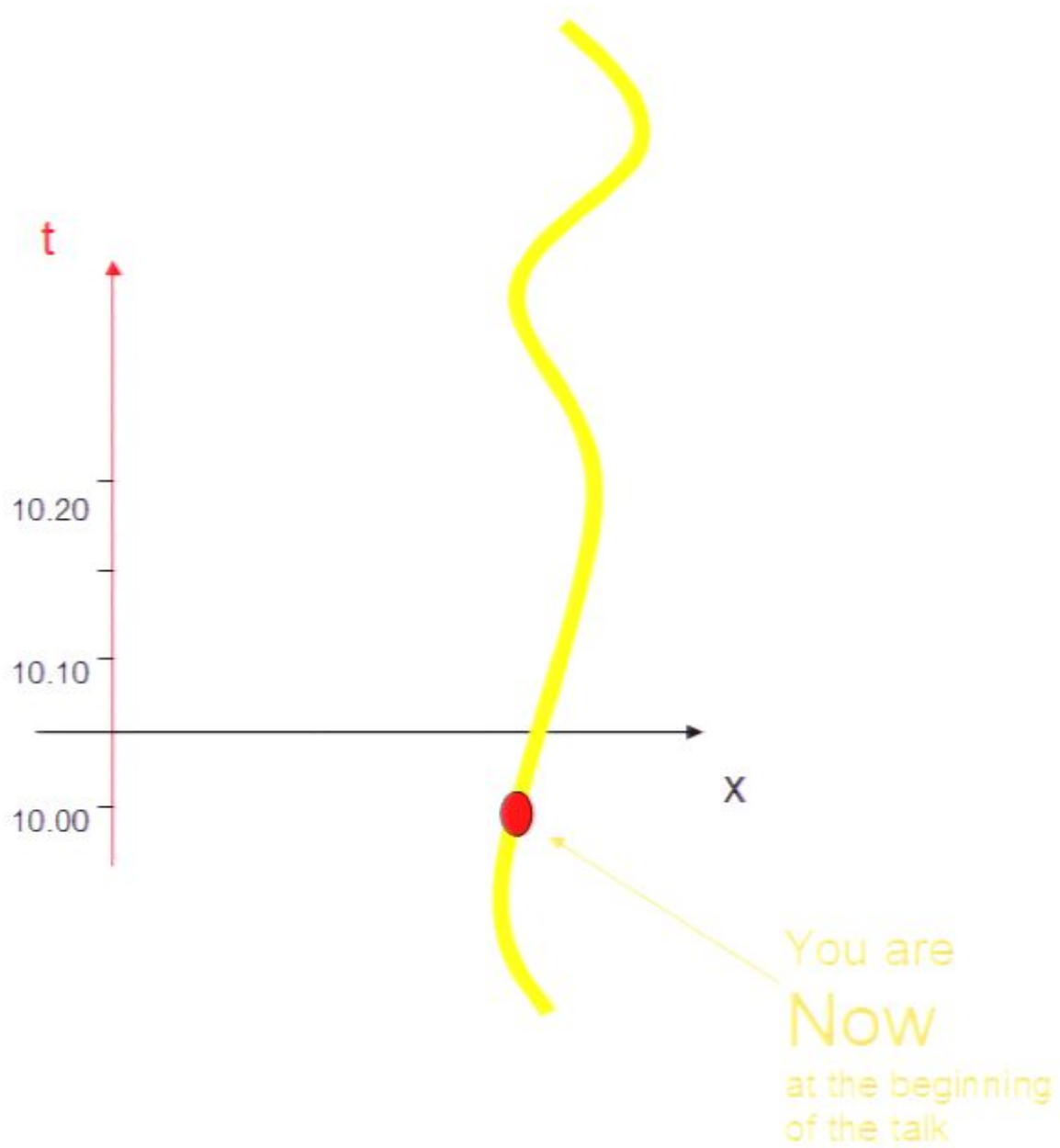


I expect what I
remember – I
expect more of the
same

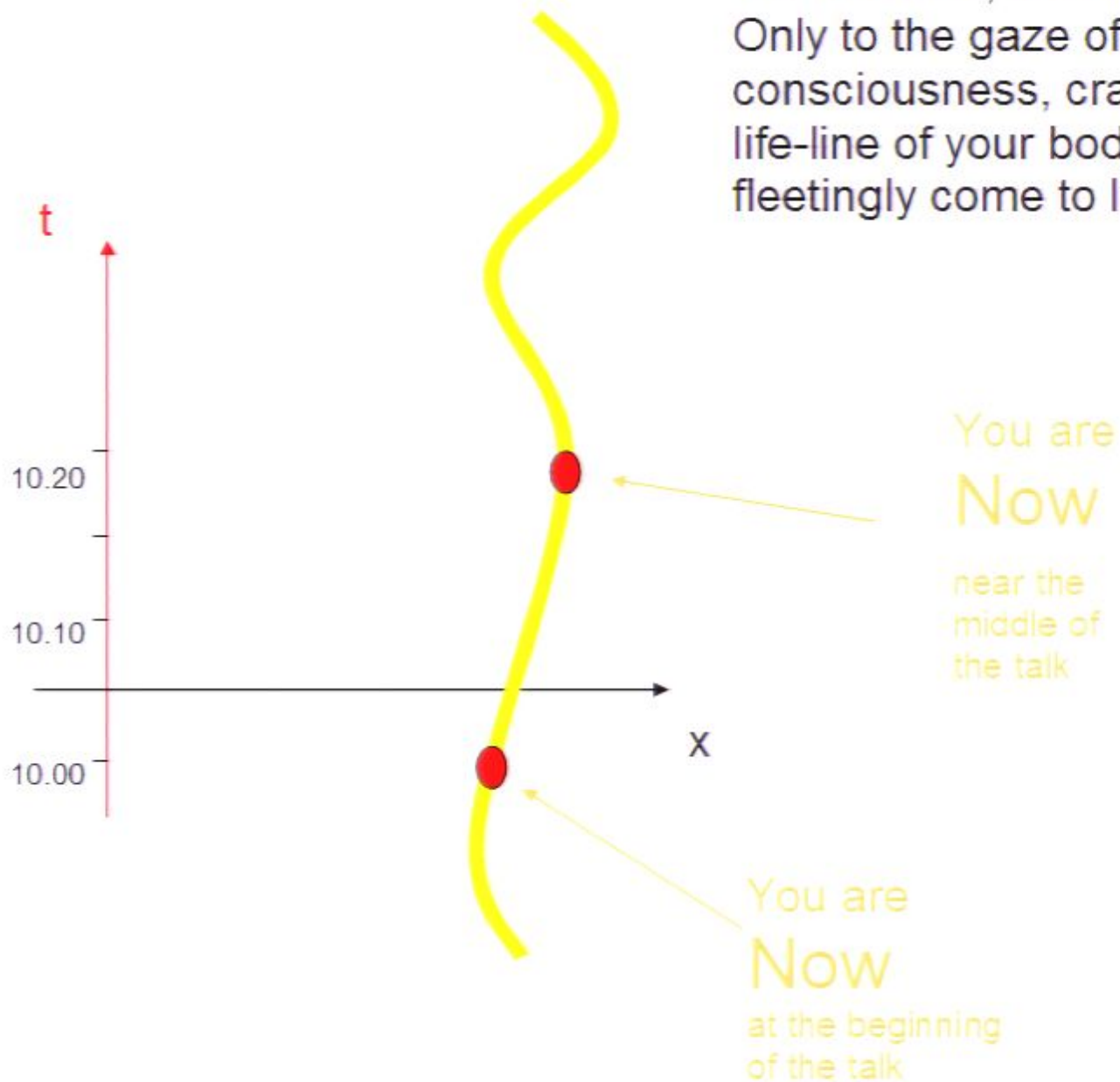


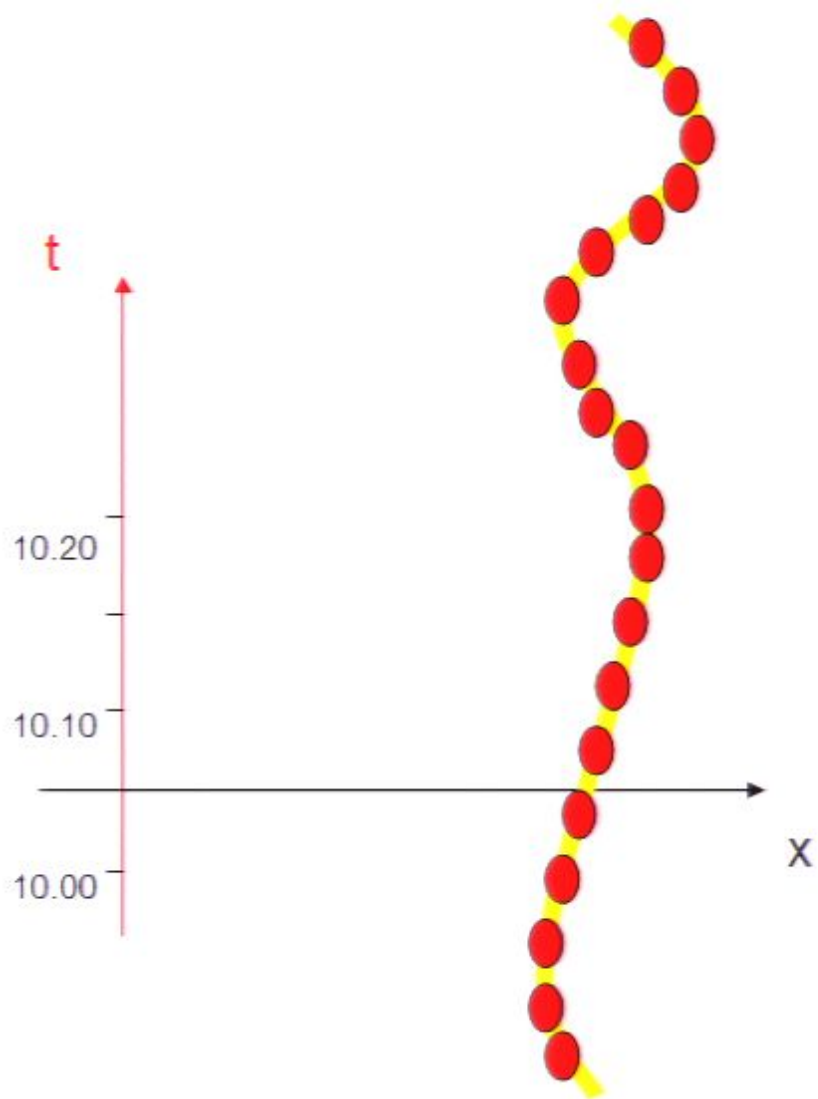


What do words like
'uncertainty' (as
ordinarily used)
mean anyway?



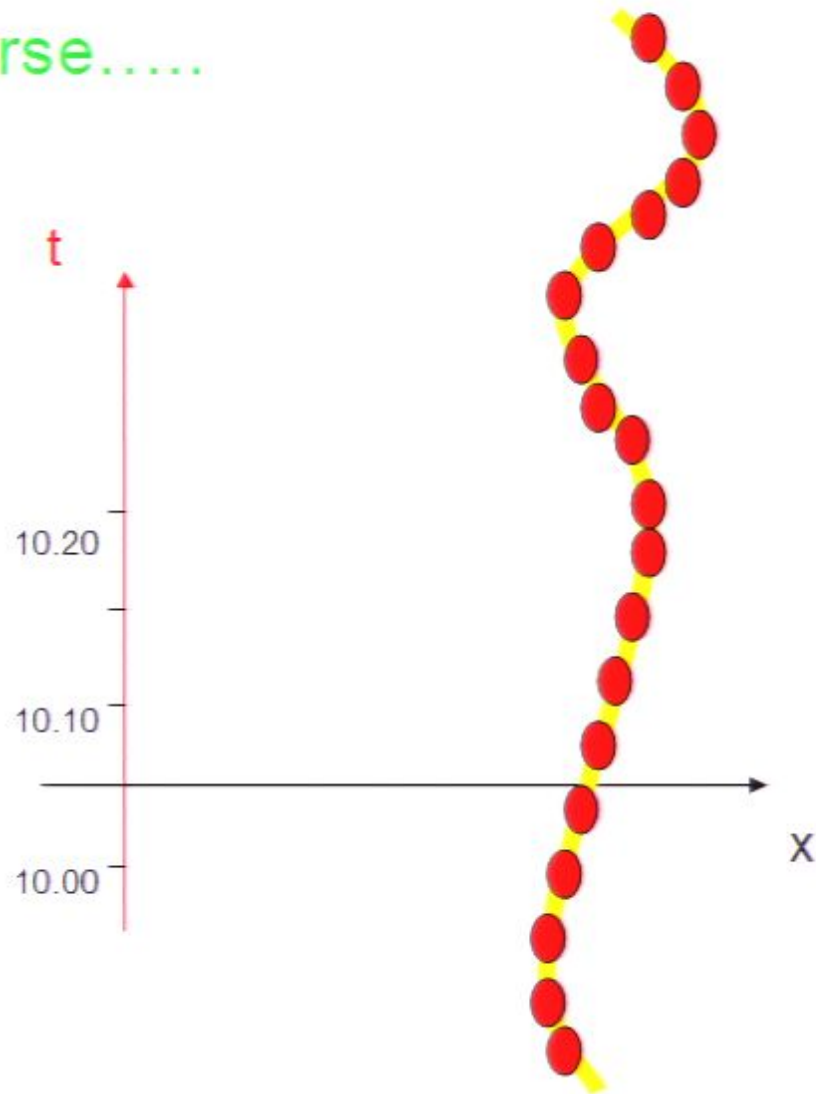
The world is, it does not happen.
Only to the gaze of
consciousness, crawling up the
life-line of your body, does it
fleetingly come to life (Weyl)



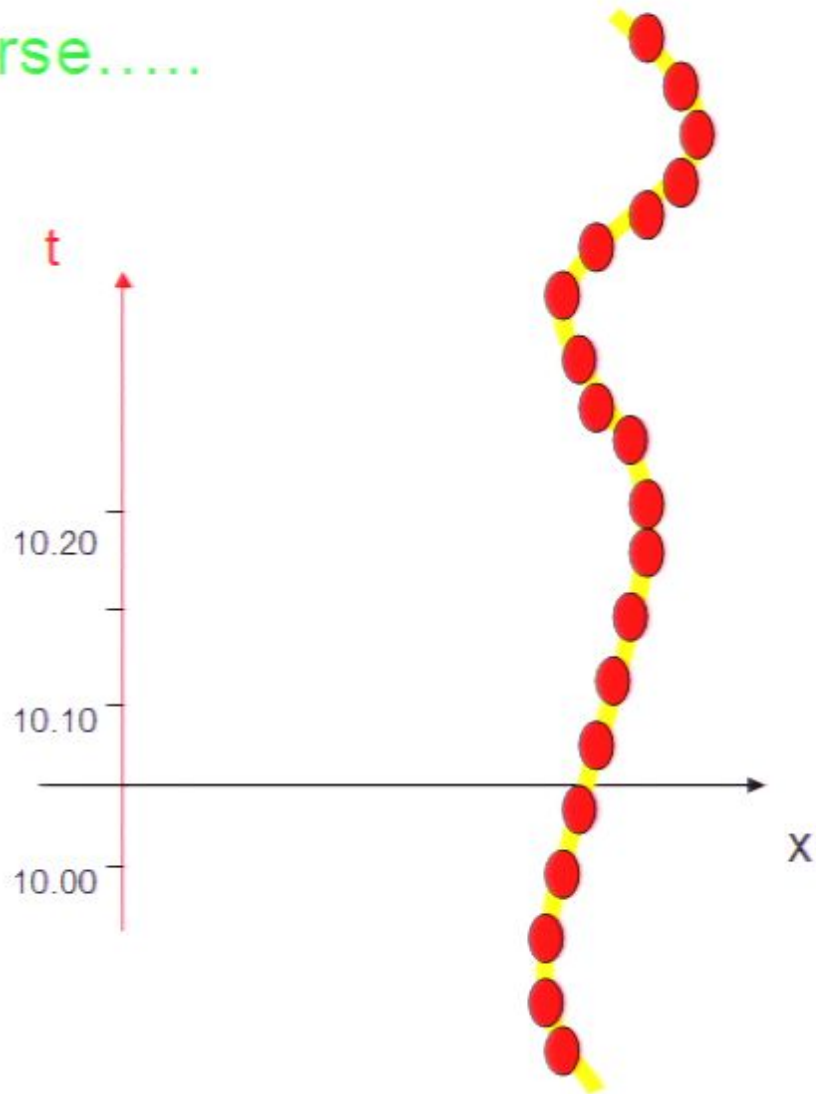


In a block universe.....

There is no change



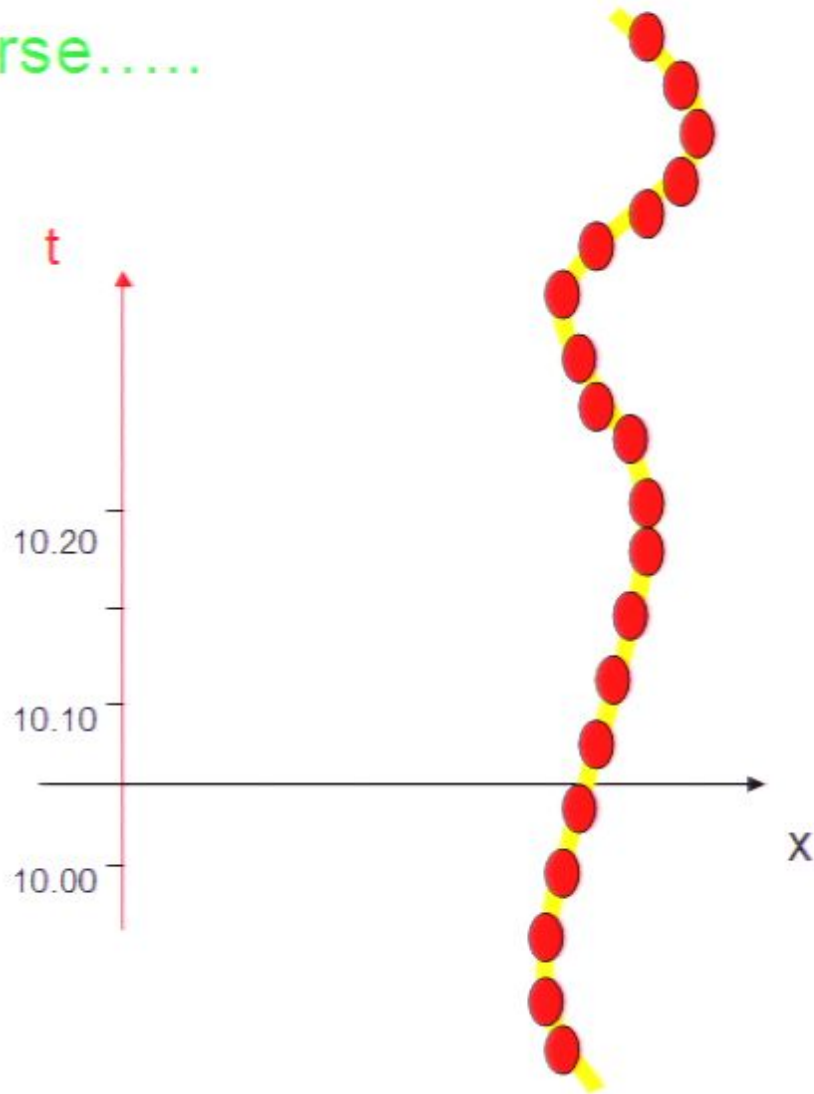
In a block universe.....



There is no change

- Time does not flow
- There is no becoming

In a block universe.....

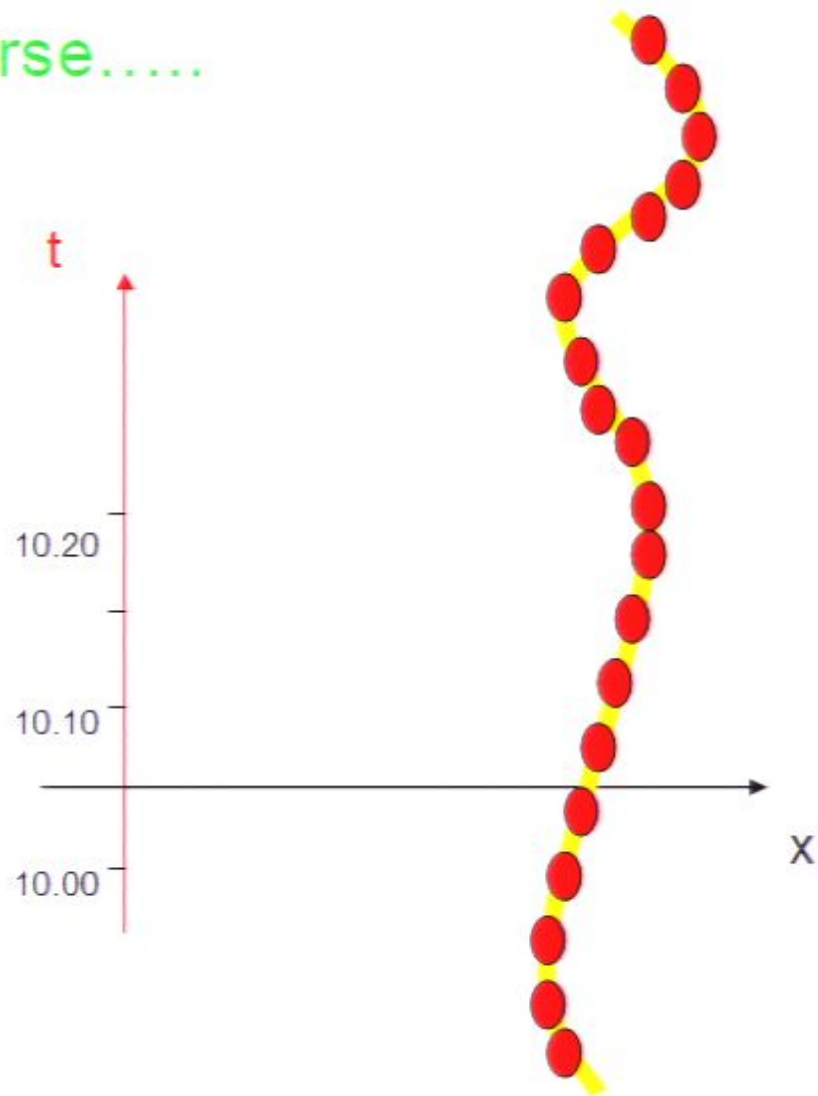


There is no change

- Time does not flow
- There is no becoming
- There is no free-will

In a block universe.....

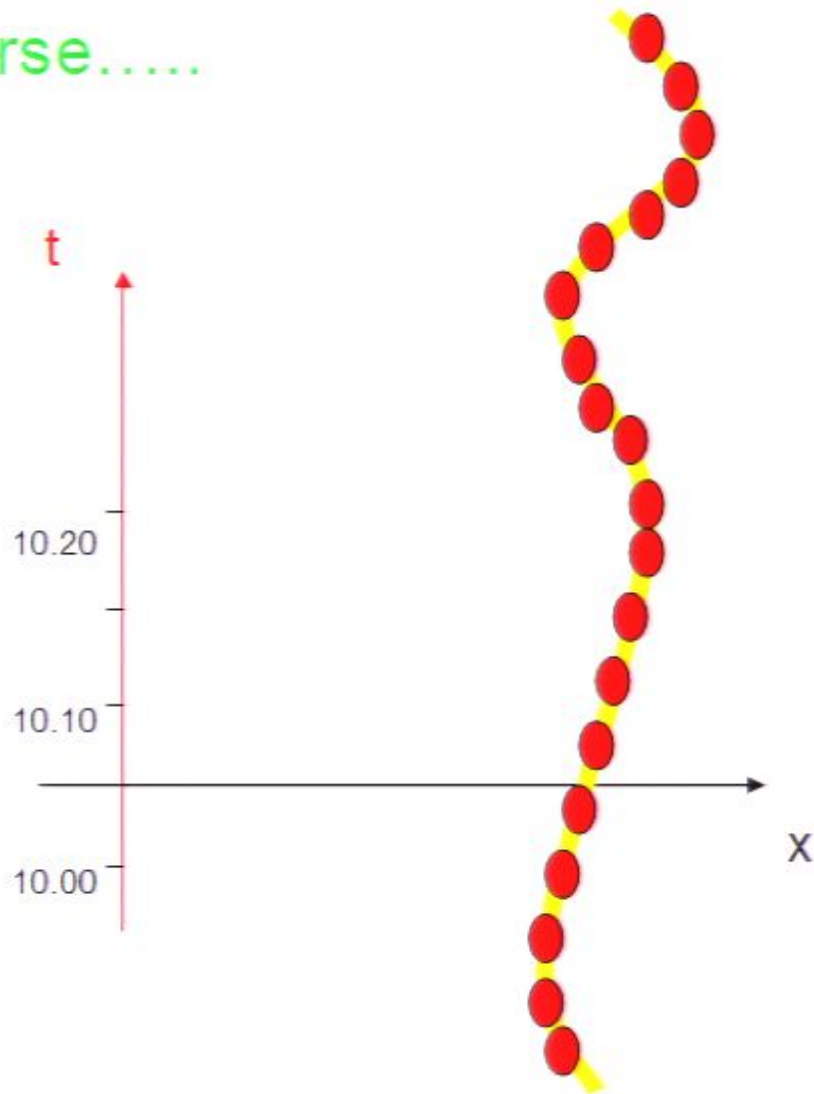
Alternatively:



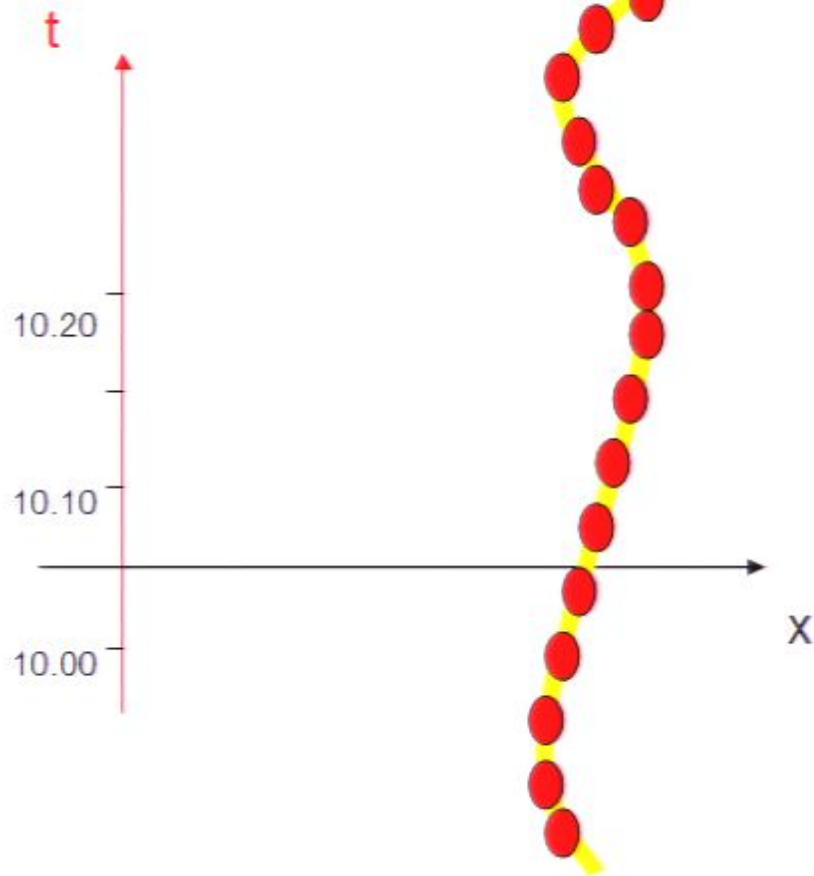
In a block universe.....

Alternatively:

Change resides in the relations among events throughout your life-line



In a block universe.....

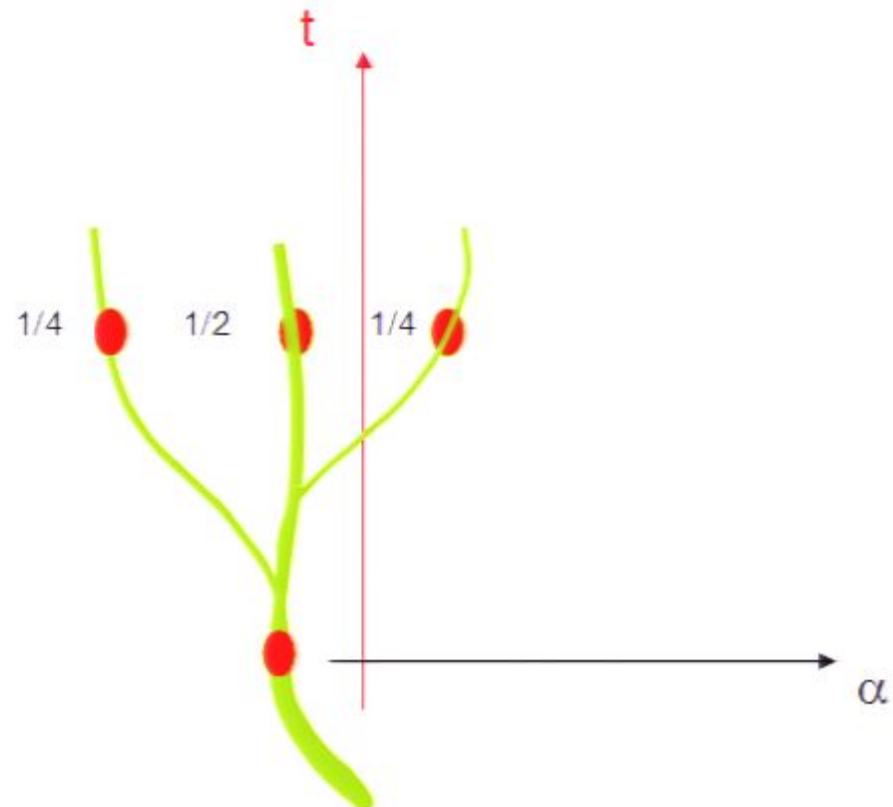


Alternatively:

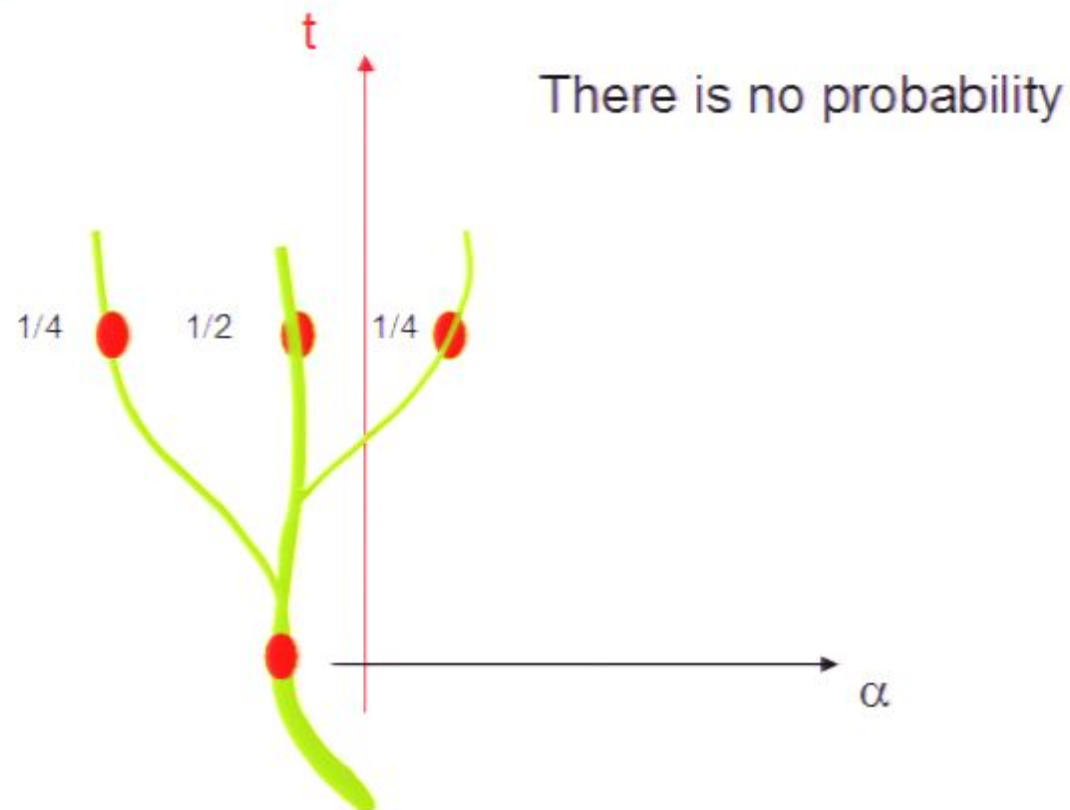
Change resides in the relations among events throughout your life-line

- The flow of time is....
- Becoming is...
- Free-will is...

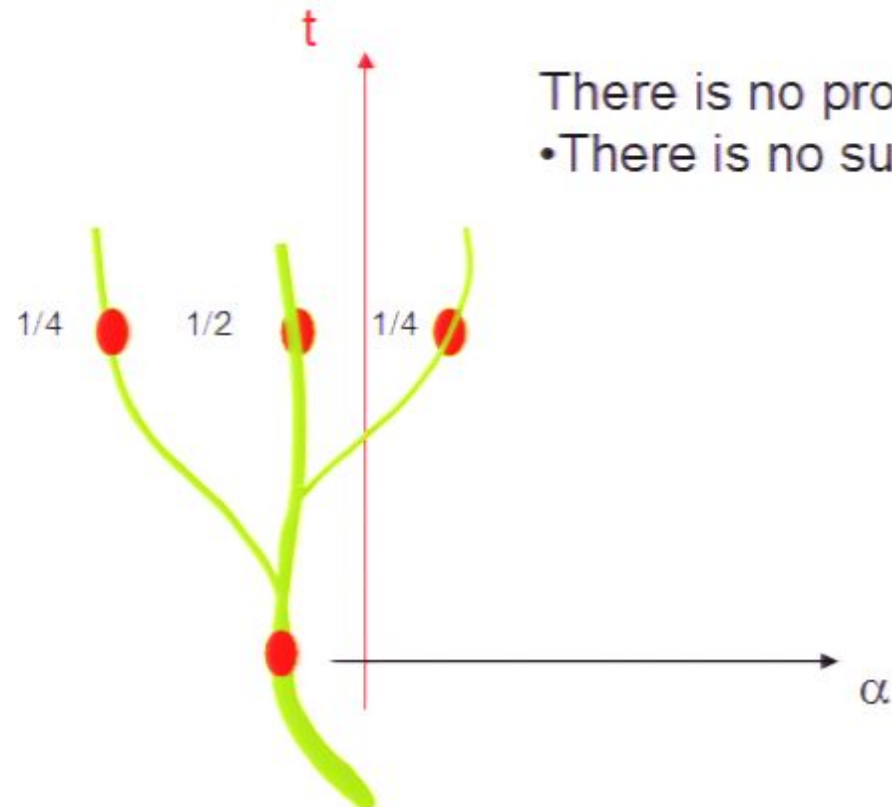
In a branching
universe....



In a branching
universe....

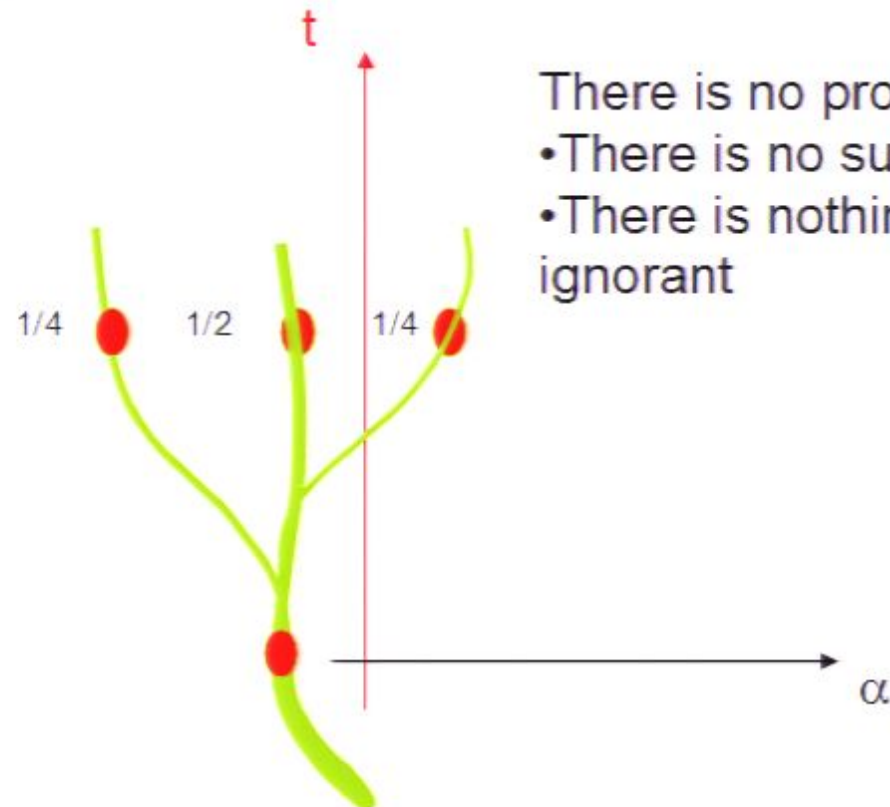


In a branching
universe....



There is no probability
• There is no such thing as uncertainty

In a branching
universe....

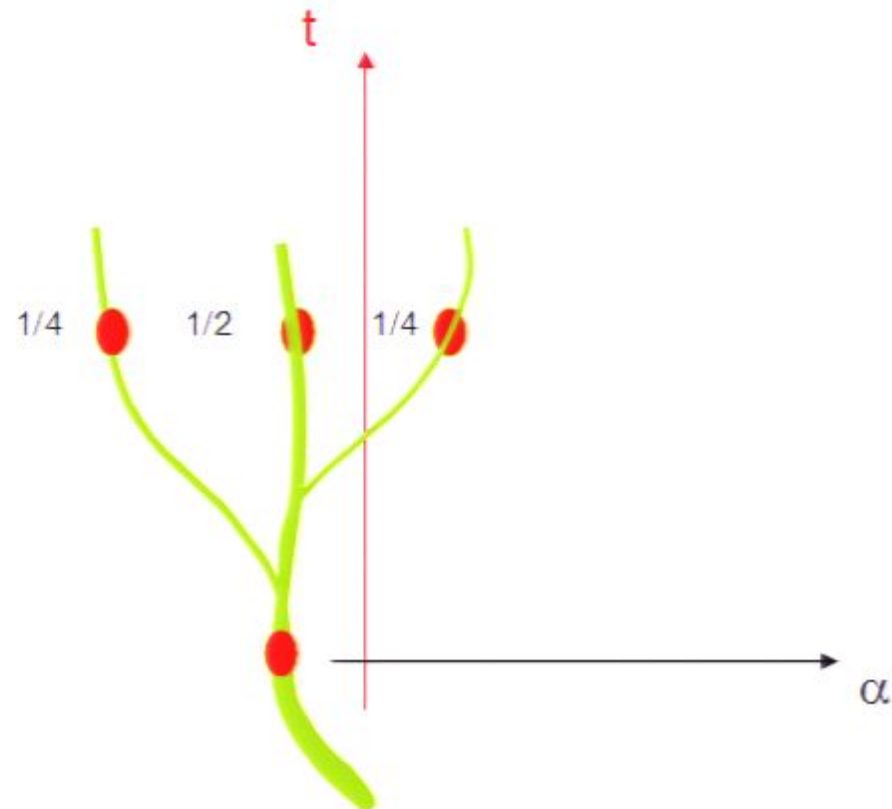


There is no probability

- There is no such thing as uncertainty
- There is nothing about which to be ignorant

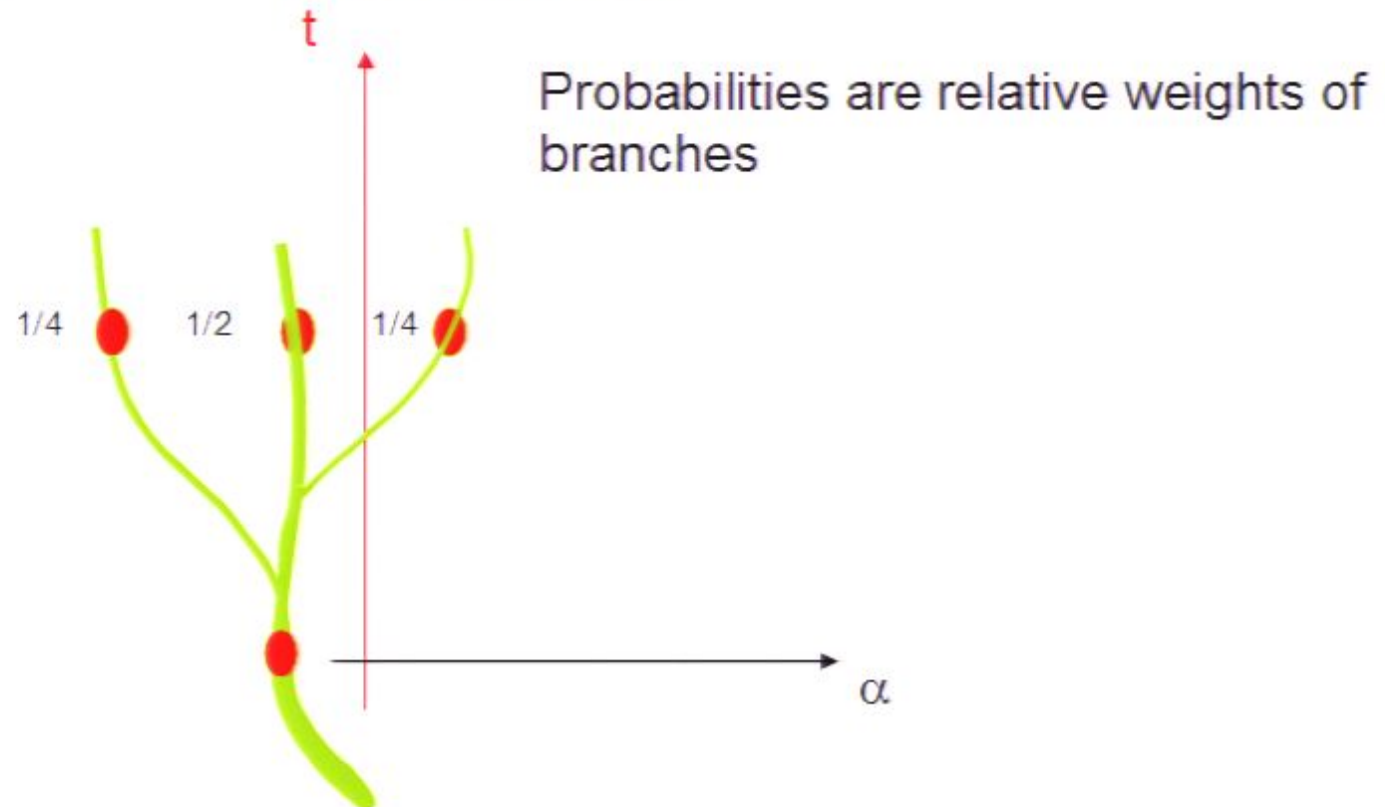
In a branching
universe....

Alternatively:



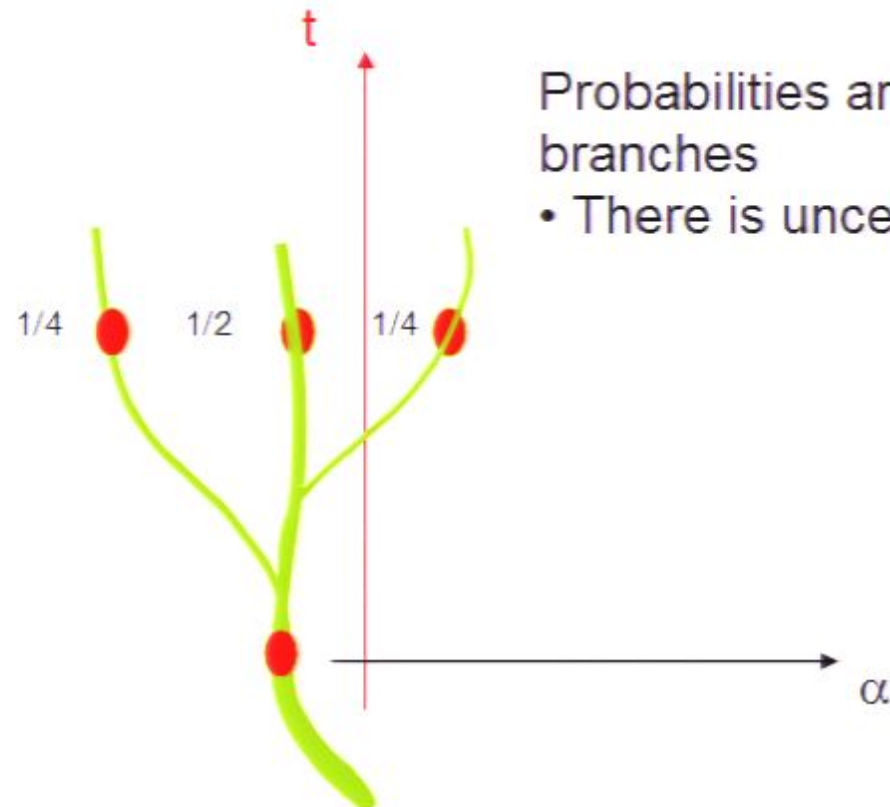
In a branching
universe....

Alternatively:



In a branching
universe....

Alternatively:

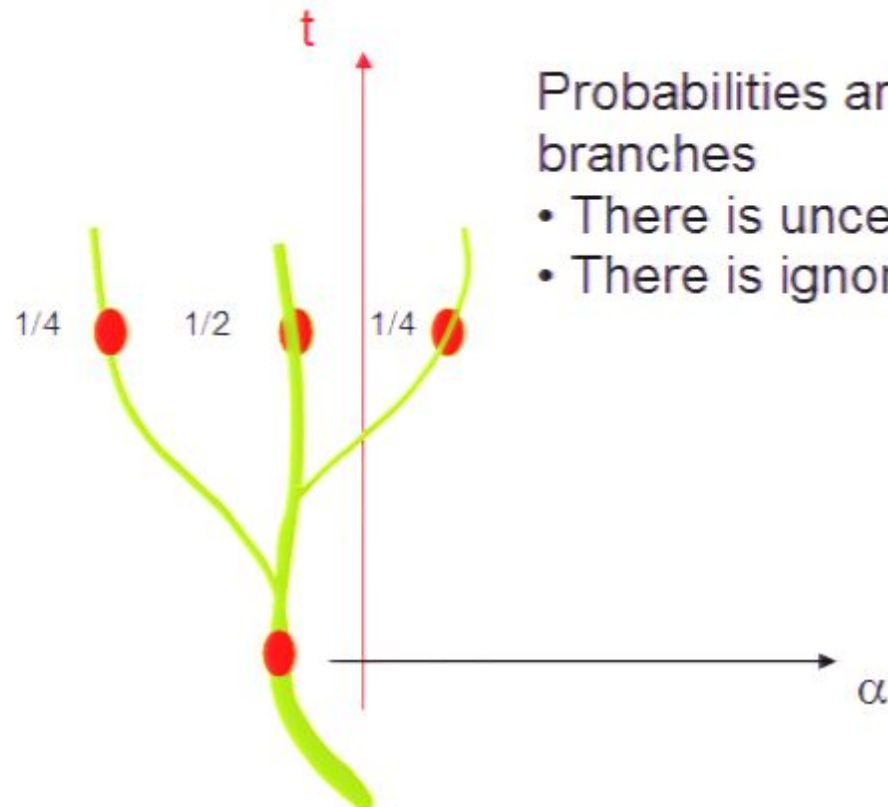


Probabilities are relative weights of
branches

- There is uncertainty about...

In a branching
universe....

Alternatively:

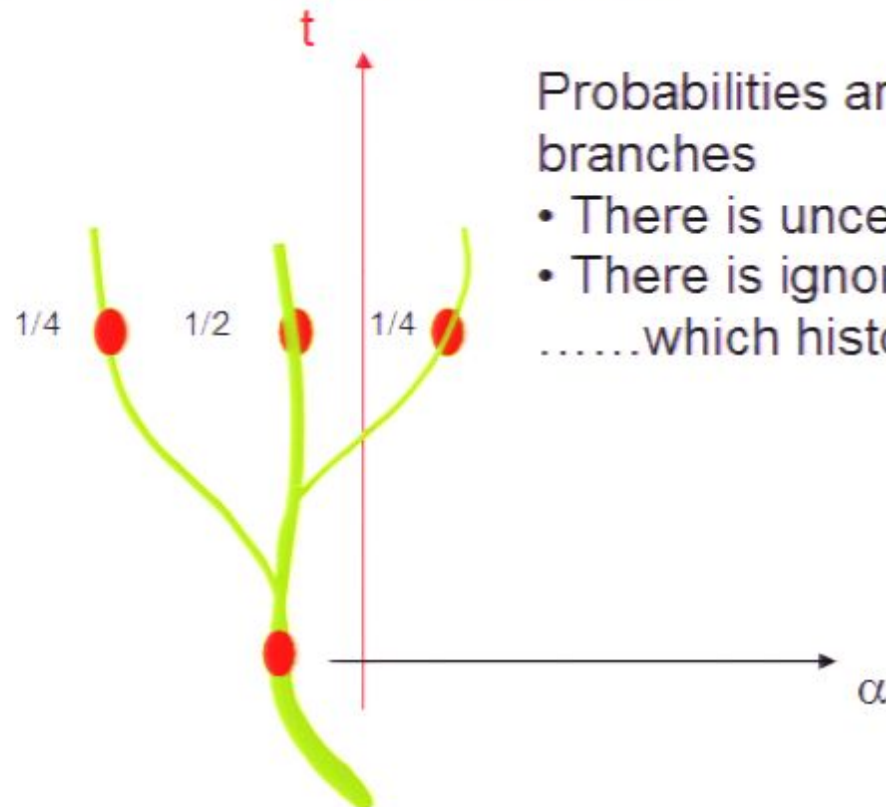


Probabilities are relative weights of
branches

- There is uncertainty about...
- There is ignorance of....

In a branching
universe....

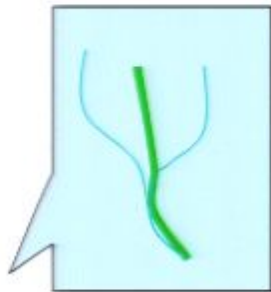
Alternatively:



Probabilities are relative weights of
branches

- There is uncertainty about...
 - There is ignorance of....
-which history is one's own

suppose
solved

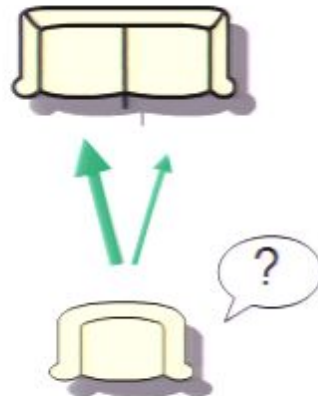


•Ontology

•Probability



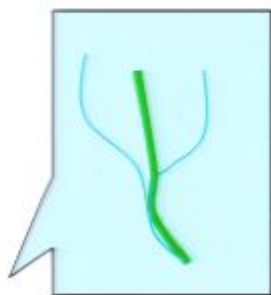
Incoherence
problem



Uncertainty
intelligible-
'chance'

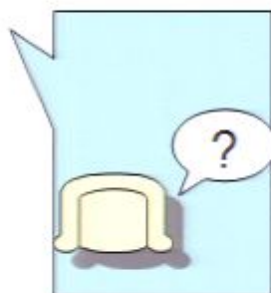
quantitative
problem

suppose
solved

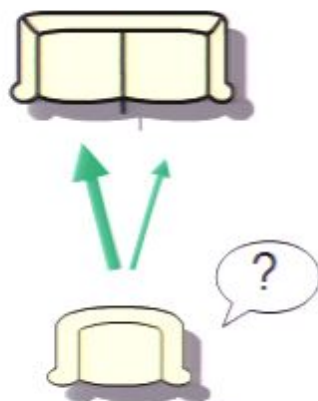


•Ontology

•Probability



Incoherence
problem



Uncertainty
intelligible-
'chance'

quantitative
problem

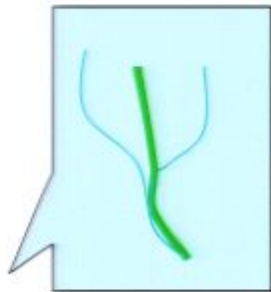
Given the
ontology

practical
problem
solved

Not given
the ontology

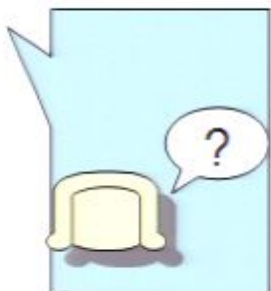
epistemic
problem
solved

suppose
solved

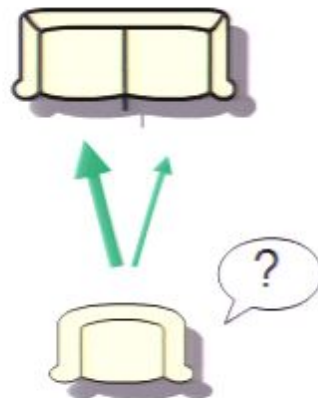


•Ontology

•Probability



Incoherence
problem

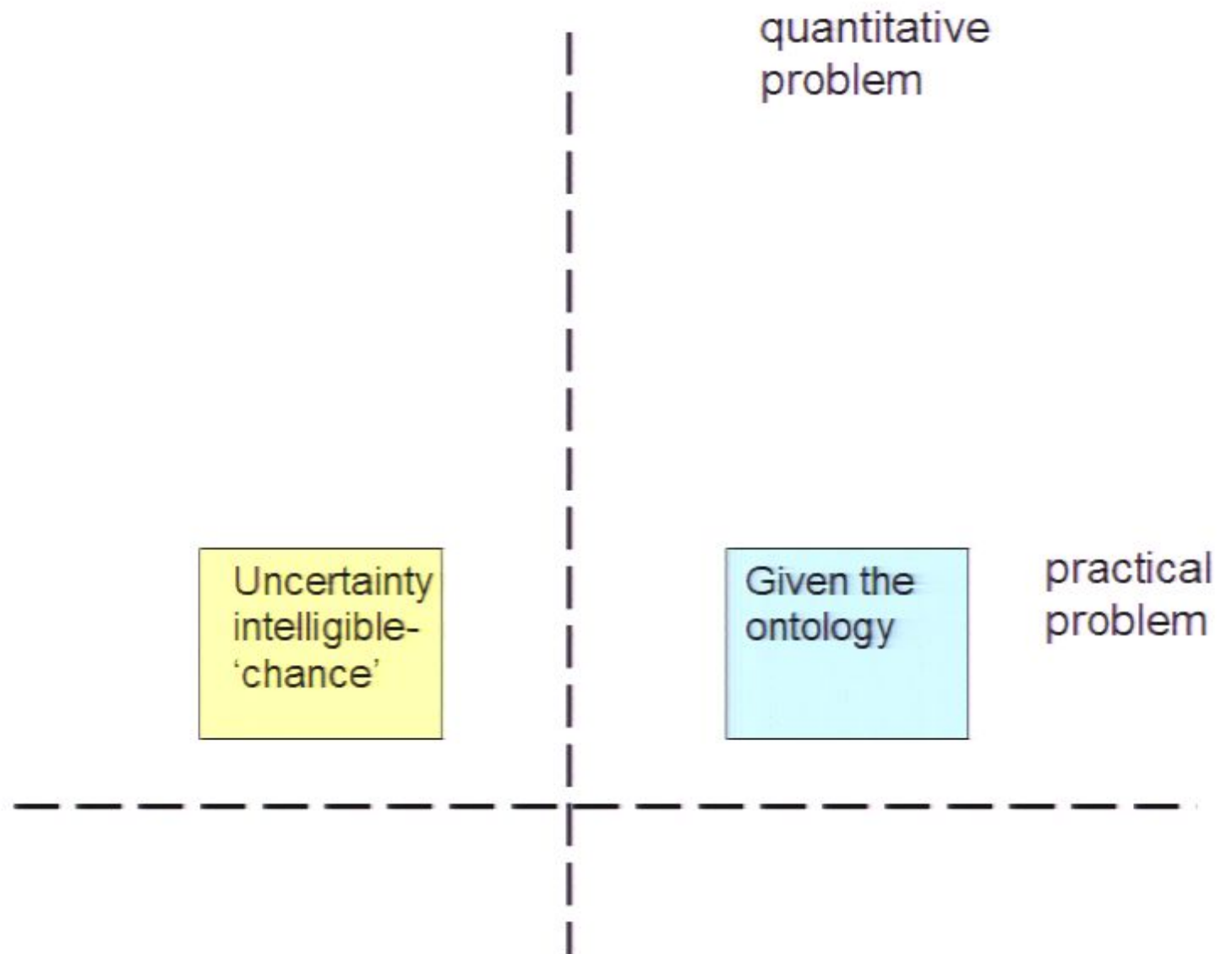


Uncertainty
intelligible-
'chance'

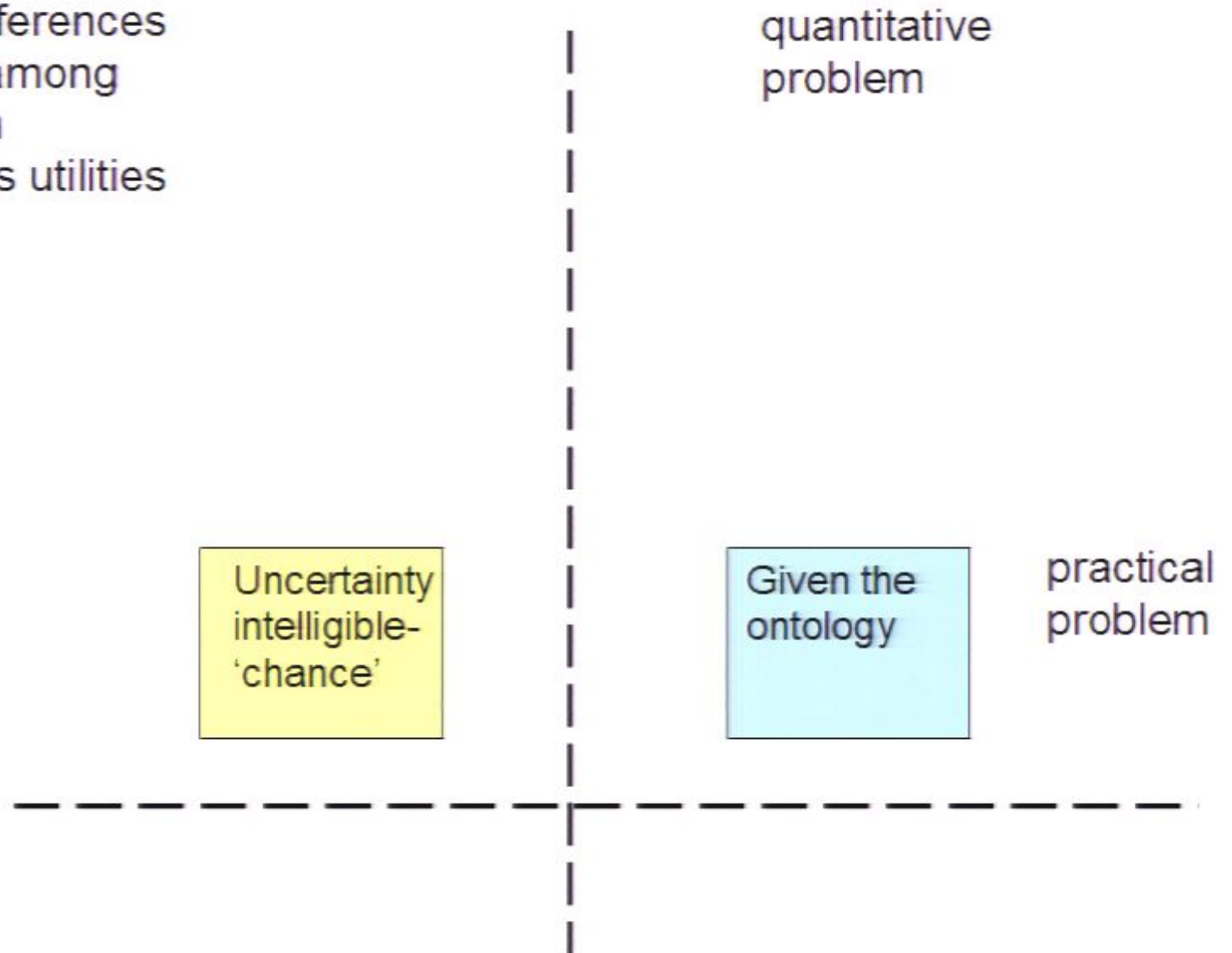
quantitative
problem

Given the
ontology

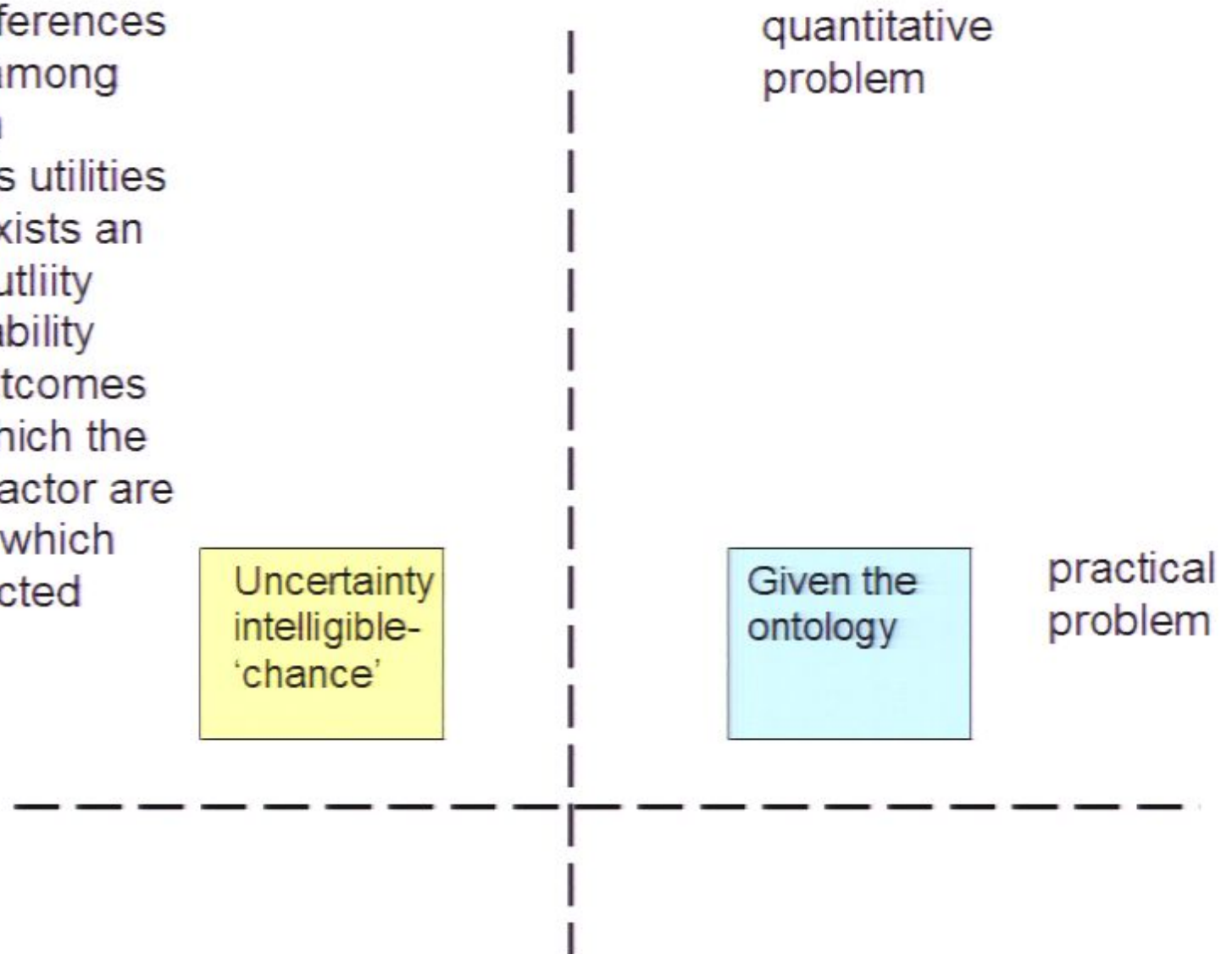
practical
problem
solved



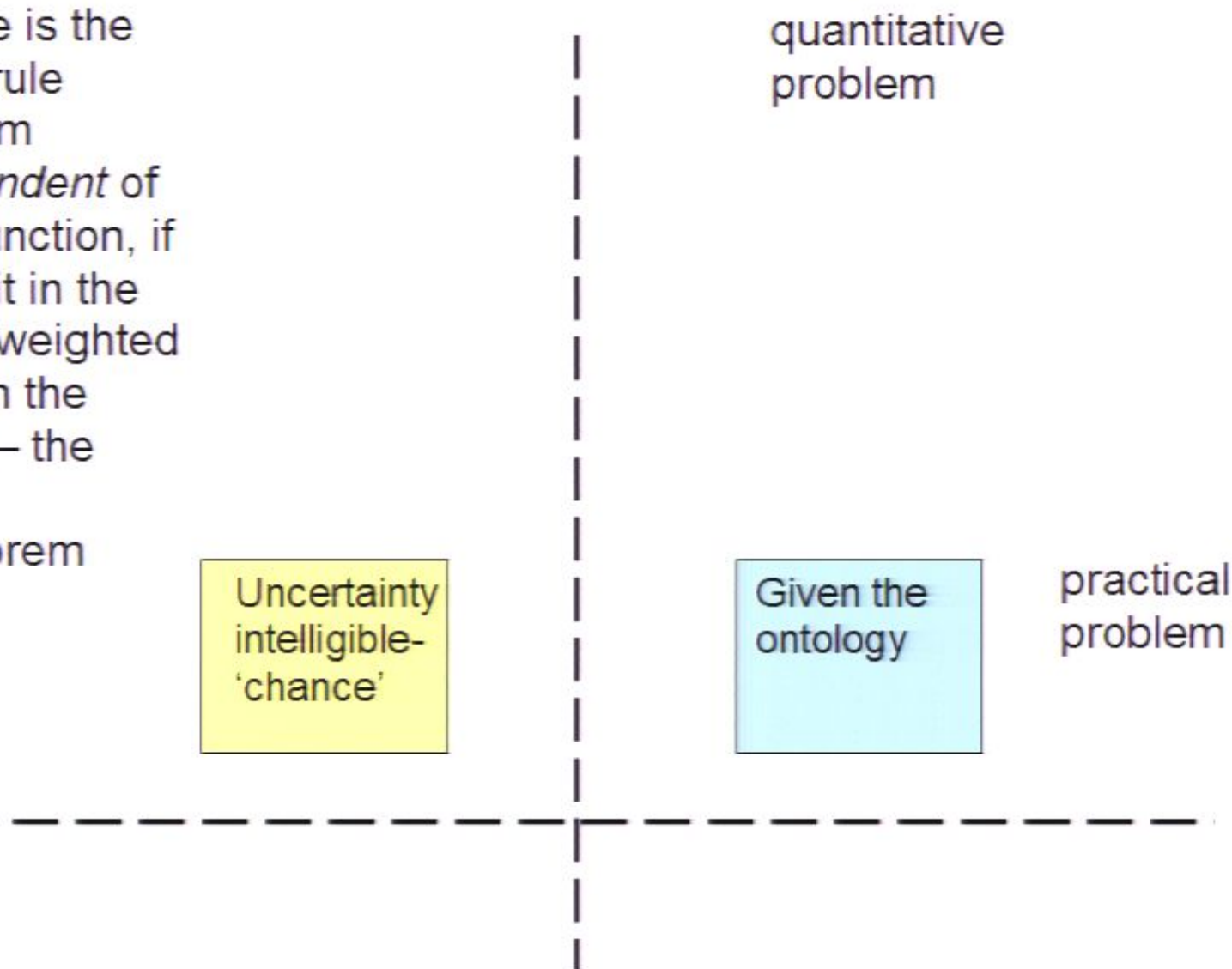
- Introduce axioms of rationality, to be satisfied in the rankings of preferences of a rational actor among quantum games, in accordance with his utilities



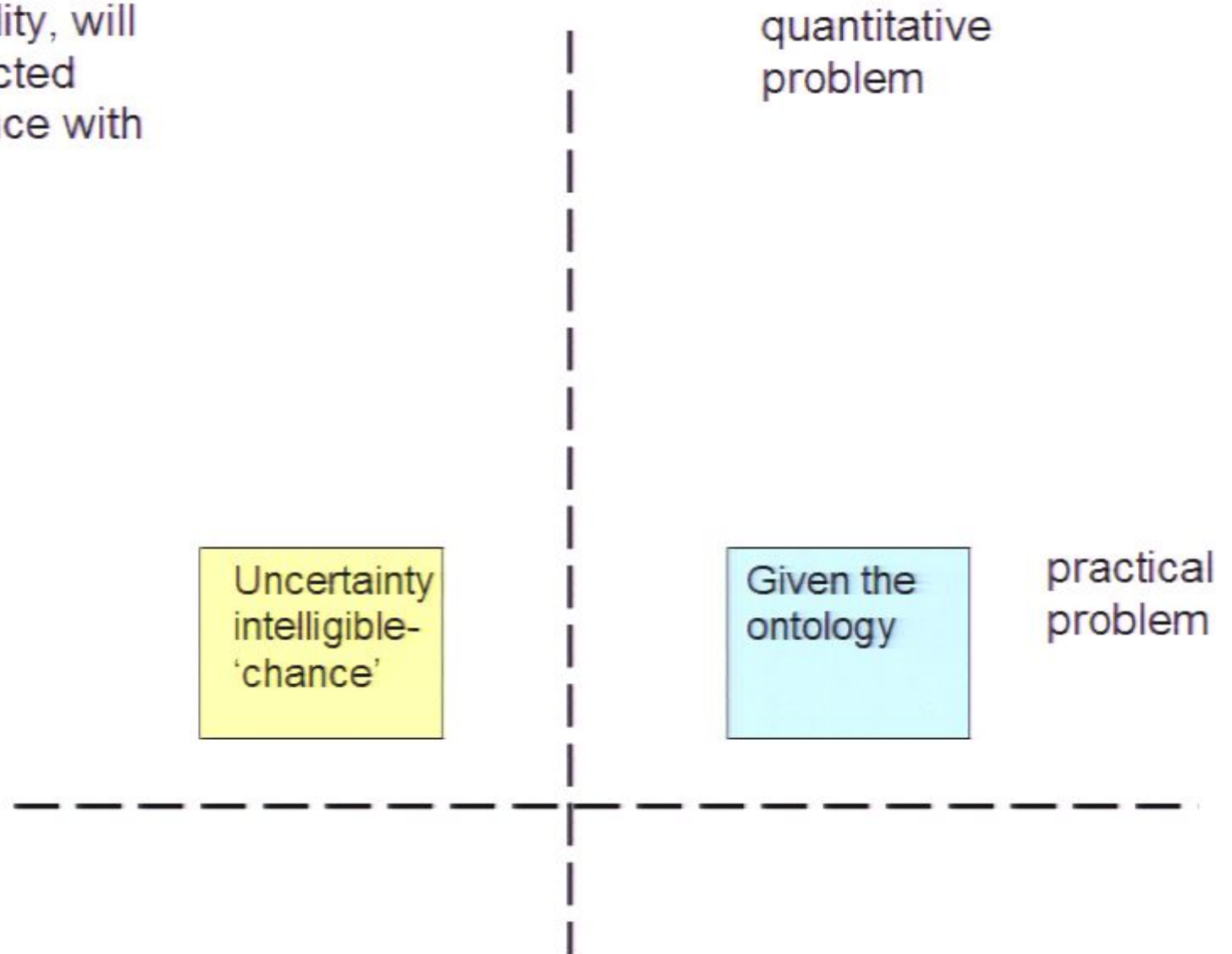
- Introduce axioms of rationality, to be satisfied in the rankings of preferences of a rational actor among quantum games, in accordance with his utilities
- Prove that there exists an essentially unique utility function and probability distribution over outcomes of games, under which the preferences of the actor are the same as those which maximize the expected utilities.



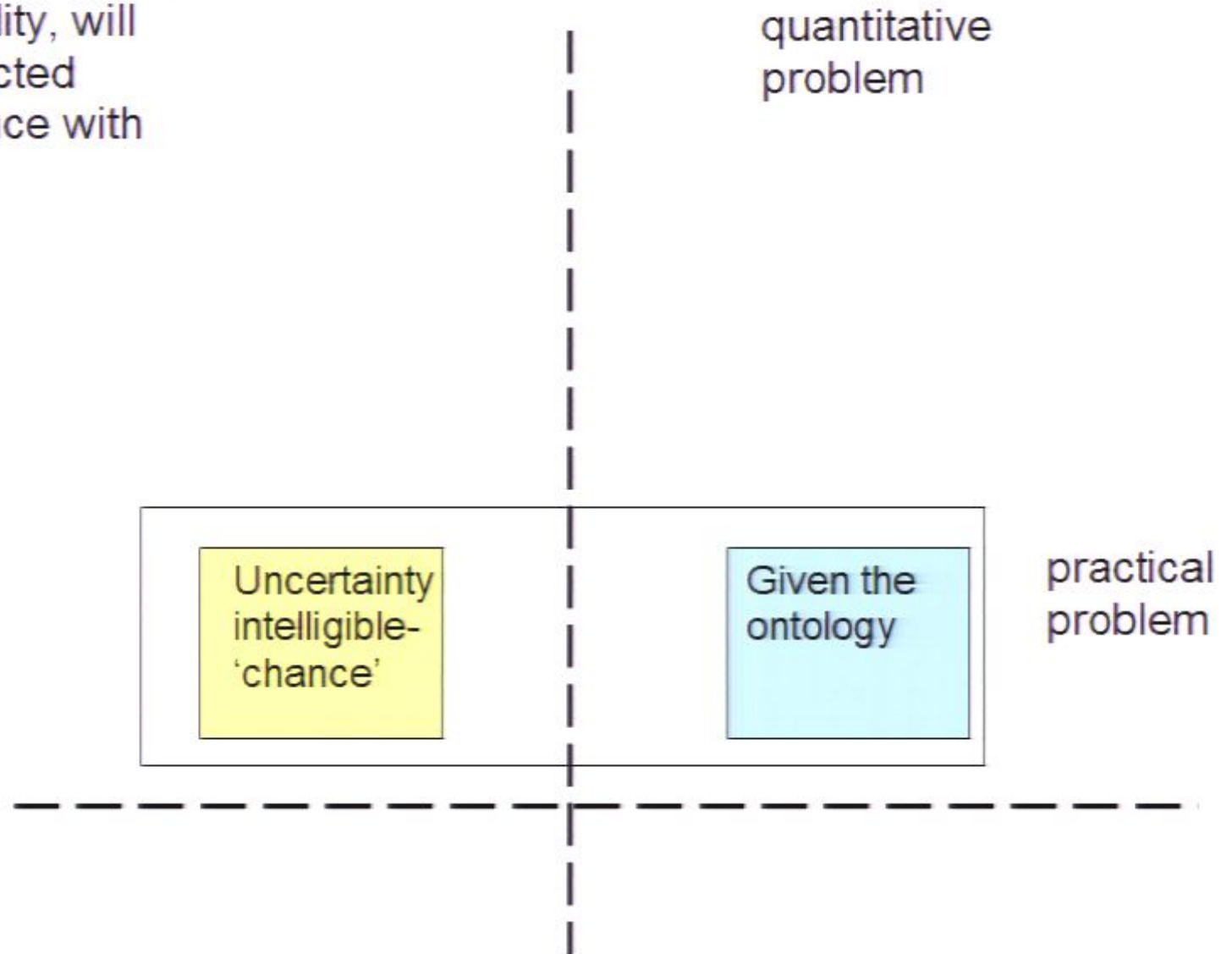
•And prove (this is the essential point) that that probability measure is the same as the Born-rule measure of quantum mechanics, *independent* of the agent's utility function, if only it agrees with it in the case of EQUALLY weighted branches (i.e. given the 'equivalence rule') – the Deutsch-Wallace representation theorem



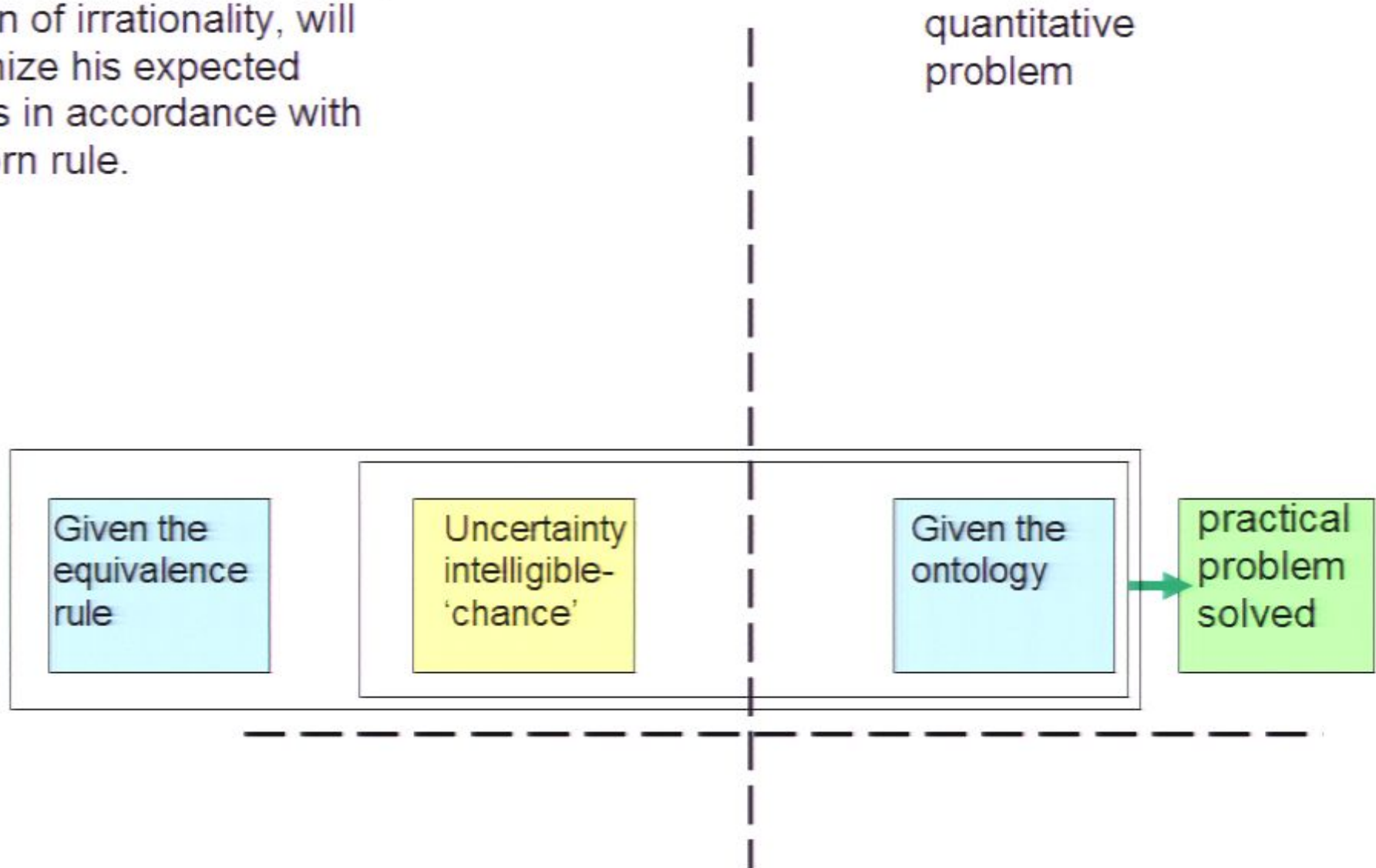
Conclude: if he obeys the equivalence rule, the agent, on pain of irrationality, will maximize his expected utilities in accordance with the Born rule.



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Why the equivalence rule?

Consider a Stern-Gerlach experiment, in which an atom is prepared in the superposition:

$$\phi = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\phi_+ + \phi_-)$$

Game 1: The agent receives the payoff iff the result is spin up

Game 2: The agent receives the payoff iff the results is spin down

Game 1: $\psi \otimes \eta \otimes \phi \rightarrow \psi' \otimes \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\eta_+^r \otimes \phi_+ + \eta_-^r \otimes \phi_-)$

Game 2: $\psi \otimes \eta \otimes \phi \rightarrow \psi'' \otimes \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(\eta_+^r \otimes \phi_+ + \eta_-^r \otimes \phi_-)$

where ψ' , ψ'' differ in inessential ways that the agent doesn't care about

Why the equivalence rule?

$$\eta_+^r = |\alpha\rangle |\text{Reward}\rangle$$

$$\eta_+^{nr} = |\alpha\rangle |\text{No Reward}\rangle$$

$$\eta_-^r = |\beta\rangle |\text{Reward}\rangle$$

$$\eta_-^{nr} = |\beta\rangle |\text{No Reward}\rangle$$

So the choice is between

$$\text{Game 1: } \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\alpha\rangle |\text{Reward}\rangle + |\beta\rangle |\text{No reward}\rangle)$$

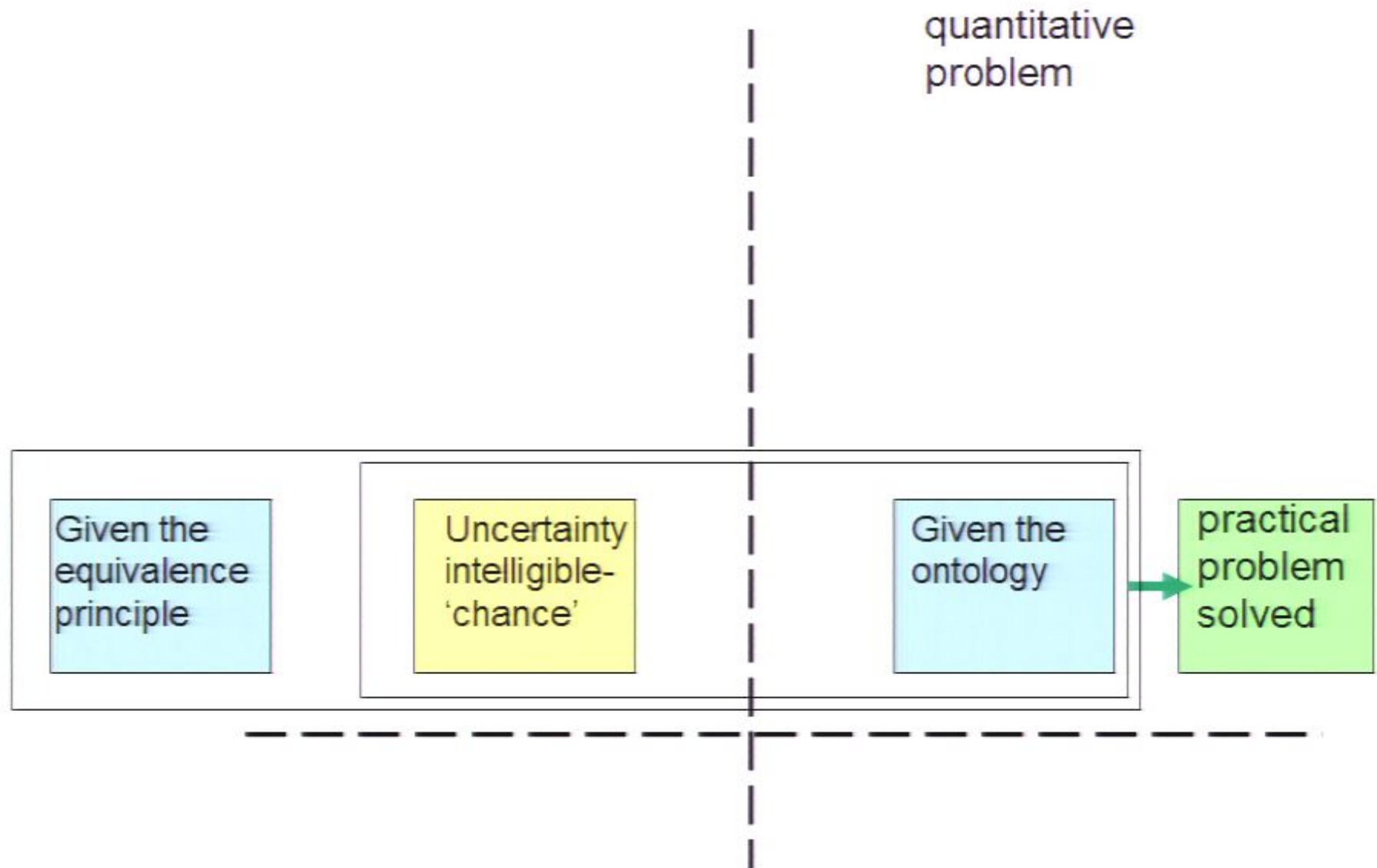
$$\text{Game 2: } \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\alpha\rangle |\text{No Reward}\rangle + |\beta\rangle |\text{Reward}\rangle)$$

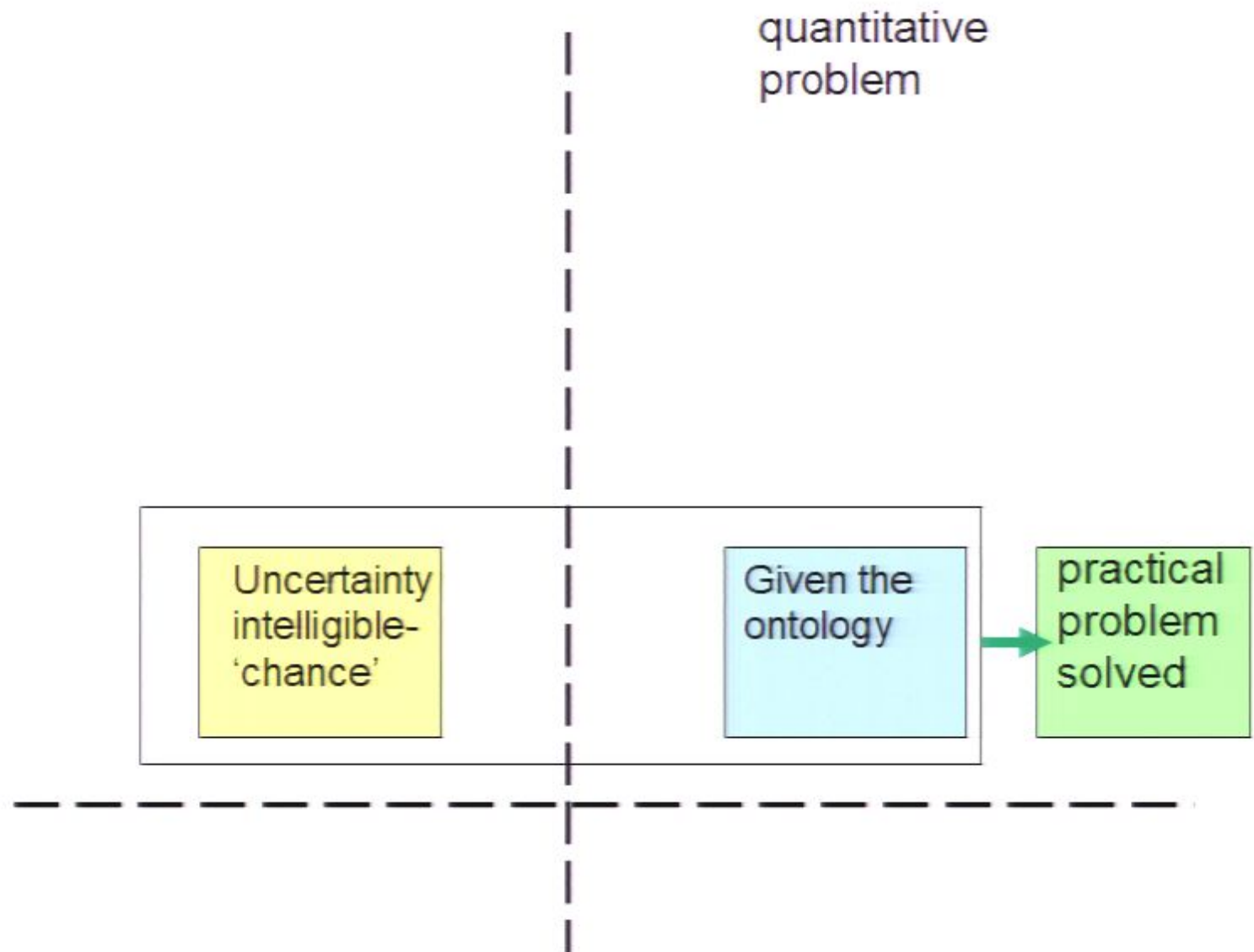
Why the equivalence rule?

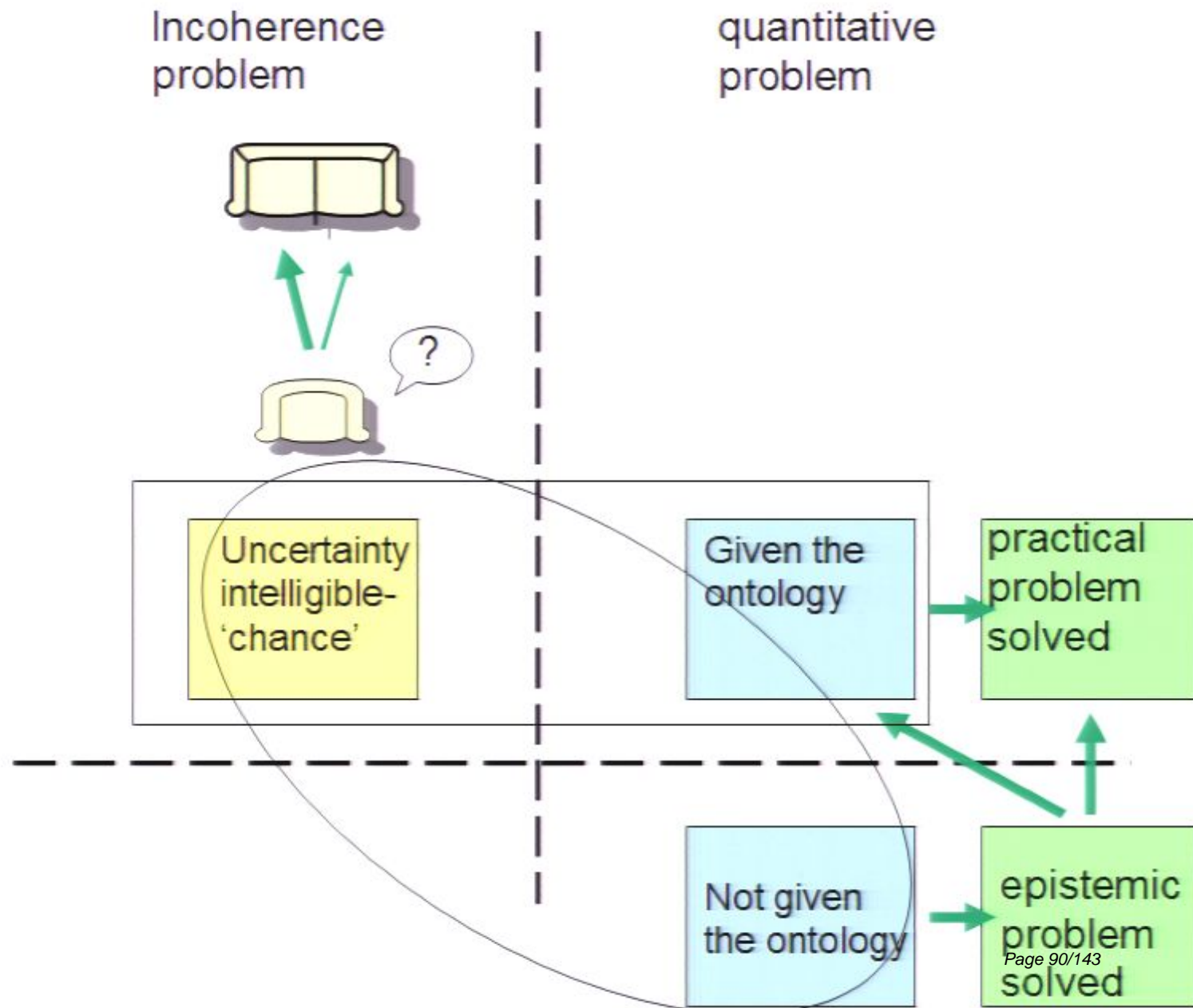
But the agent doesn't care about $|\alpha\rangle$ and $|\beta\rangle$!
So let the numerical value displayed be erased

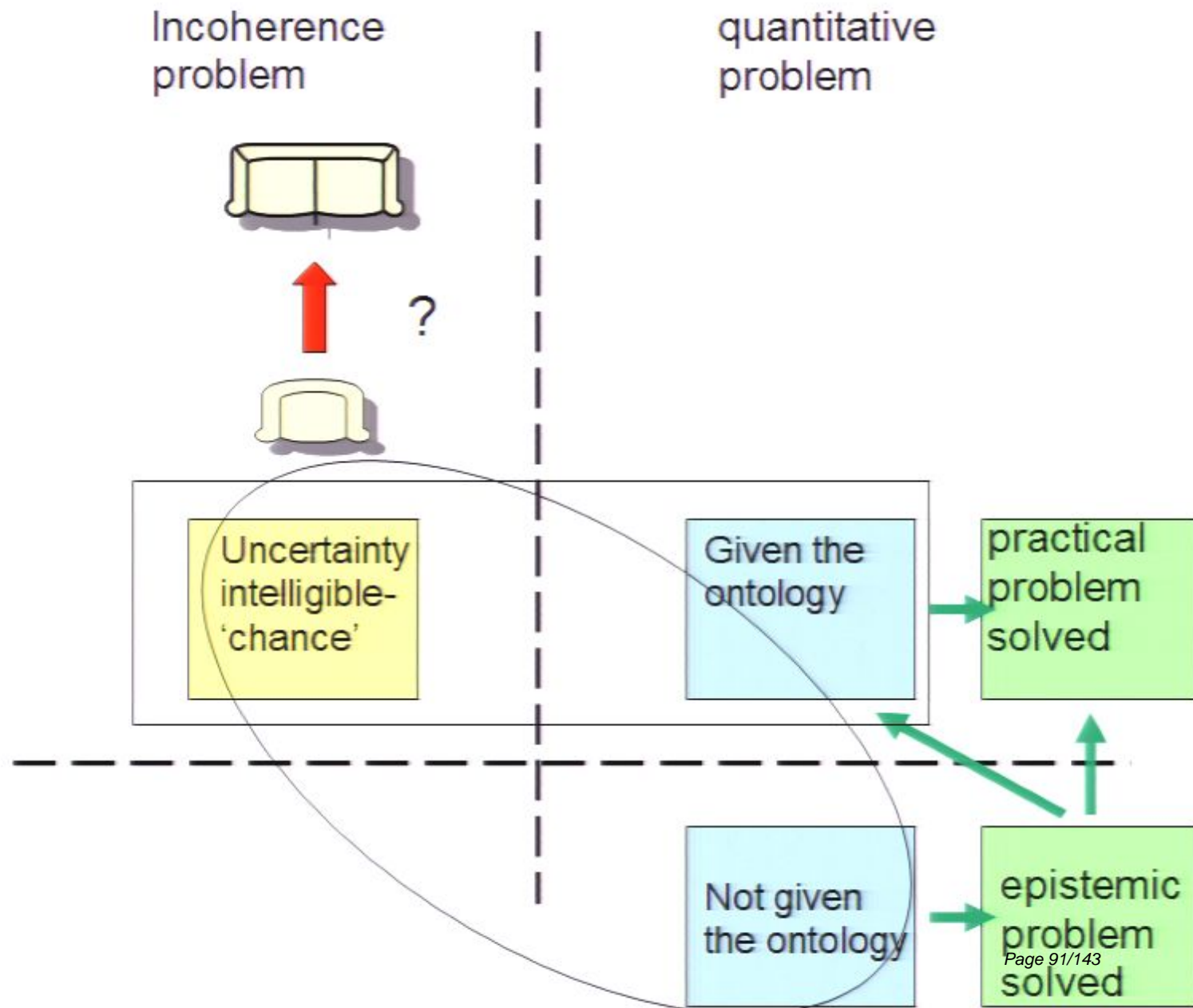
The result is:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Game 1:} & \quad \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\text{erased}\rangle | \text{reward} \rangle + |\text{erased}\rangle | \text{no reward} \rangle) \\ \text{Game 2:} & \quad \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} (|\text{erased}\rangle | \text{No reward} \rangle + |\text{erased}\rangle | \text{Reward} \rangle)\end{aligned}$$

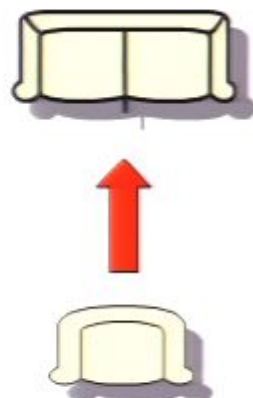








Incoherence
problem



quantitative
problem

Given the
ontology

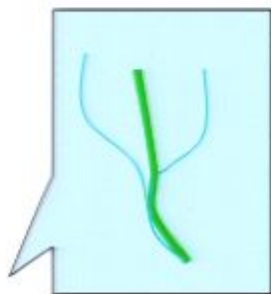
practical
problem

Uncertainty
unintelligible-
'caring
measure'

Not given
the ontology

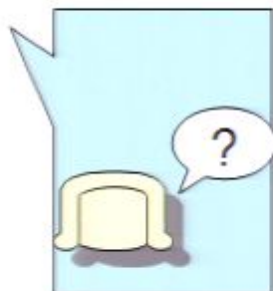
epistemic
problem

suppose
solved

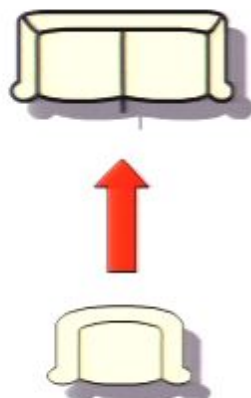


•Ontology

•Probability



Incoherence
problem



quantitative
problem

Given the
ontology

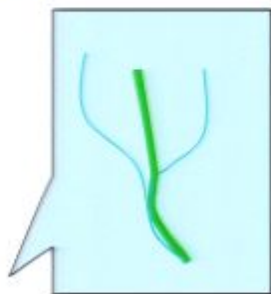
practical
problem

Not given
the ontology

epistemic
problem

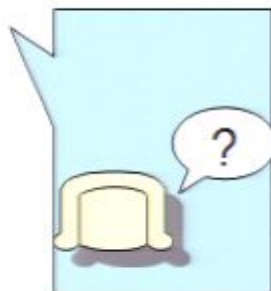
Uncertainty
unintelligible-
'caring
measure'

suppose
solved

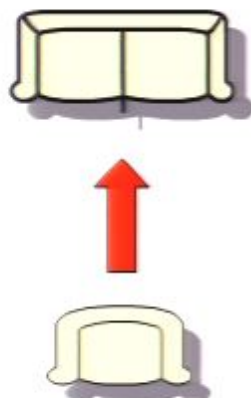


•Ontology

•Probability



Incoherence
problem



quantitative
problem

Given the
ontology

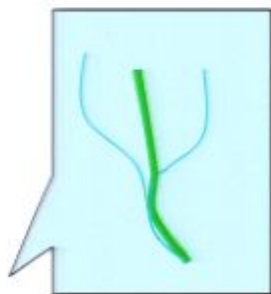
practical
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Uncertainty
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the ontology

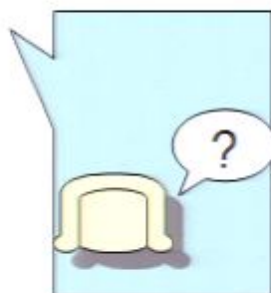
epistemic
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solved

suppose
solved

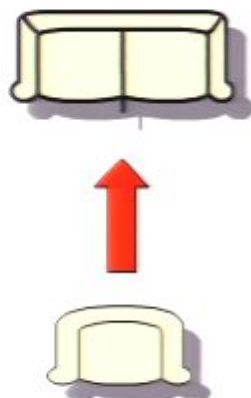


•Ontology

•Probability



Incoherence
problem



quantitative
problem

Given the
ontology

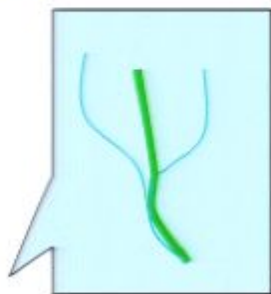
practical
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Uncertainty
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Not given
the ontology

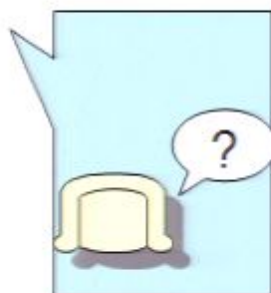
epistemic
problem
solved

suppose
solved

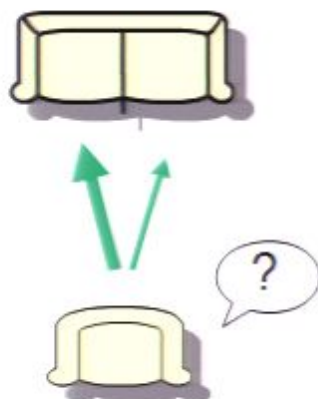


•Ontology

•Probability



Incoherence
problem



Uncertainty
intelligible-
'chance'

Uncertainty
unintelligible-
'caring
measure'

quantitative
problem

Given the
ontology

practical
problem
solved

Not given
the ontology

epistemic
problem
solved

quantitative
problem

practical
problem
solved



Uncertainty
unintelligible-
'caring
measure'

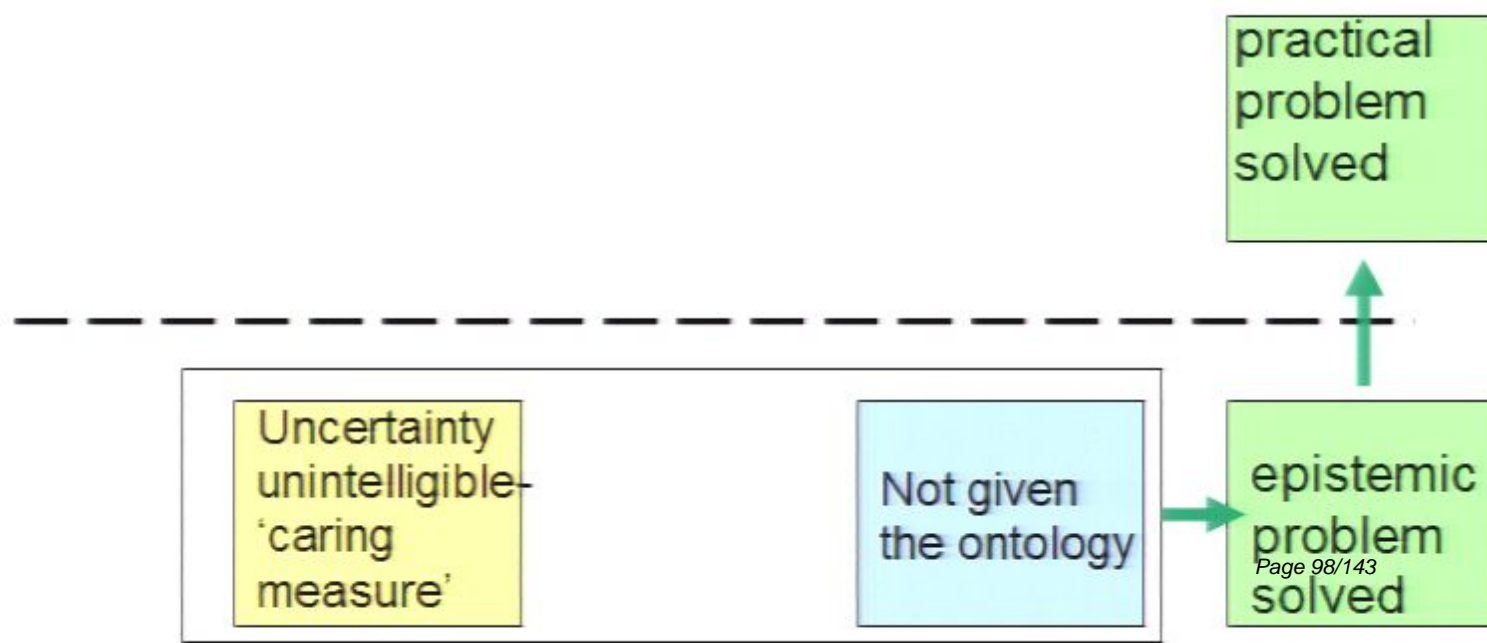
Not given
the ontology

epistemic
problem
solved



- Introduce axioms of rationality as before
- to be satisfied in the rankings of preferences of a rational actor among quantum games

quantitative
problem



- Introduce axioms of rationality (Savage)
- to be satisfied in the rankings of preferences of a rational actor among quantum games.
- Prove there exists an essentially unique utility function and probability distribution over outcomes of games, under which the preferences of the actor are the same as those which maximize the expected utilities.

quantitative
problem

practical
problem
solved

Uncertainty
unintelligible-
'caring
measure'

Not given
the ontology

epistemic
problem
solved

- Introduce axioms of rationality (Savage)
- to be satisfied in the rankings of preferences of a rational actor among quantum games.
- in accordance with which she acts as if employing standard Bayesian updating of priors, on given evidence.

quantitative
problem

practical
problem
solved

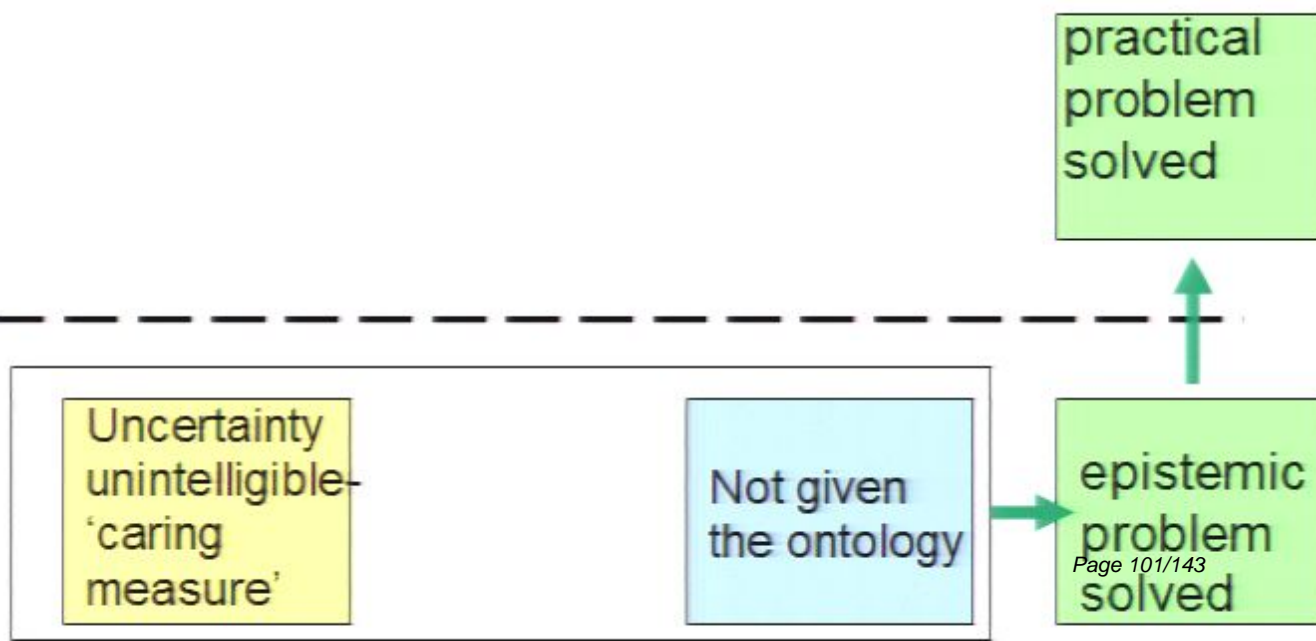
Uncertainty
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Not given
the ontology

epistemic
problem
solved

- Introduce axioms of rationality (Savage)
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- and (and this is the central point): *this reasoning applies equally to branching as to non-branching universes*

quantitative
problem



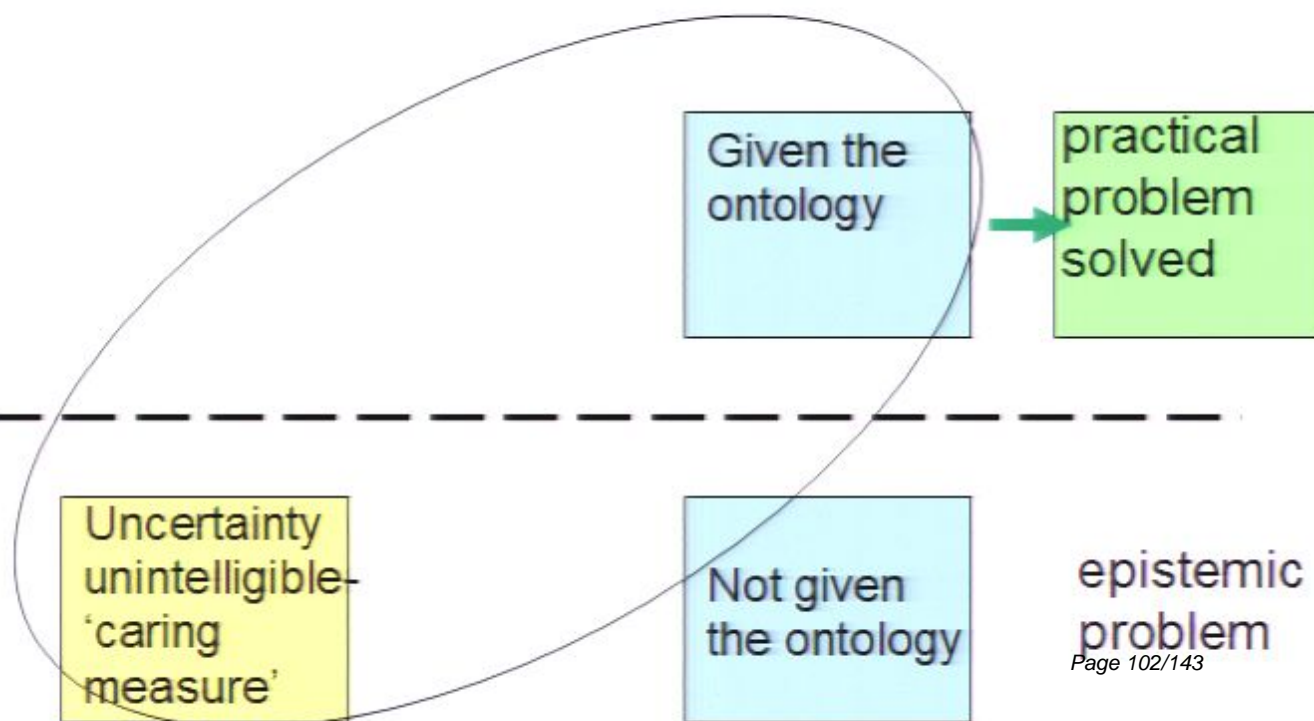
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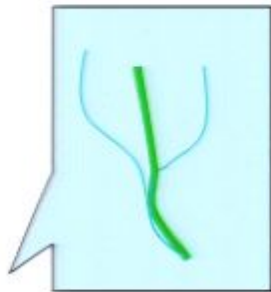
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quantitative
problem



suppose
solved

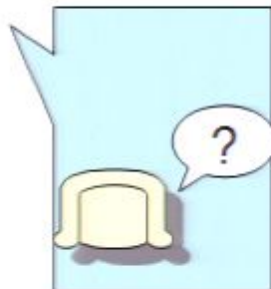


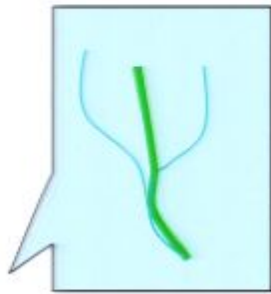
Incoherence
problem

quantitative
problem

•Ontology

•Probability





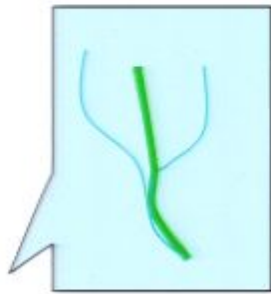
•Ontology

•Probability



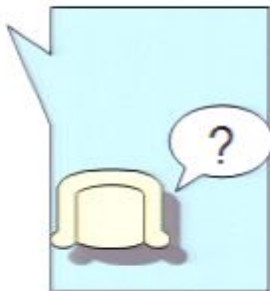
Incoherence
problem

quantitative
problem



•Ontology

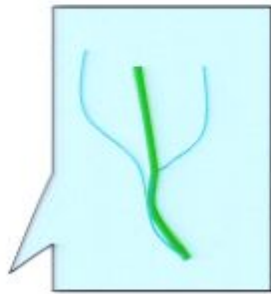
•Probability



Incoherence
problem

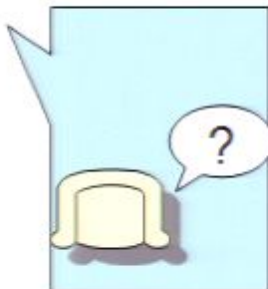
What's the
wave-function
a function of?

quantitative
problem



•Ontology

•Probability



Incoherence
problem

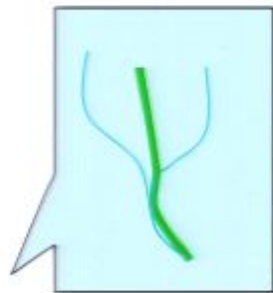
What's the
wave-function
a function of?

Is
configuration
space real, in
the way that
spacetime is
real?

quantitative
problem

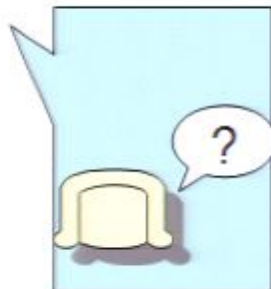
To solve the measurement problem...

Universality • no mention of measurement • no special interpretative assumption or additional eqs



•Ontology

•Probability



Incoherence
problem

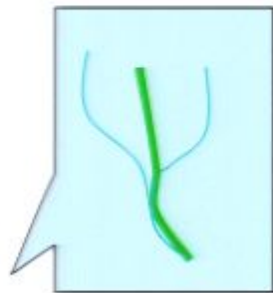
What's the
wave-function
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quantitative
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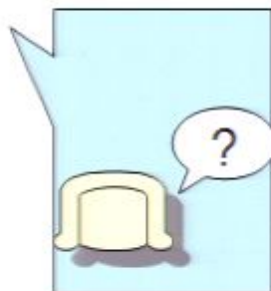
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•Ontology

•Probability

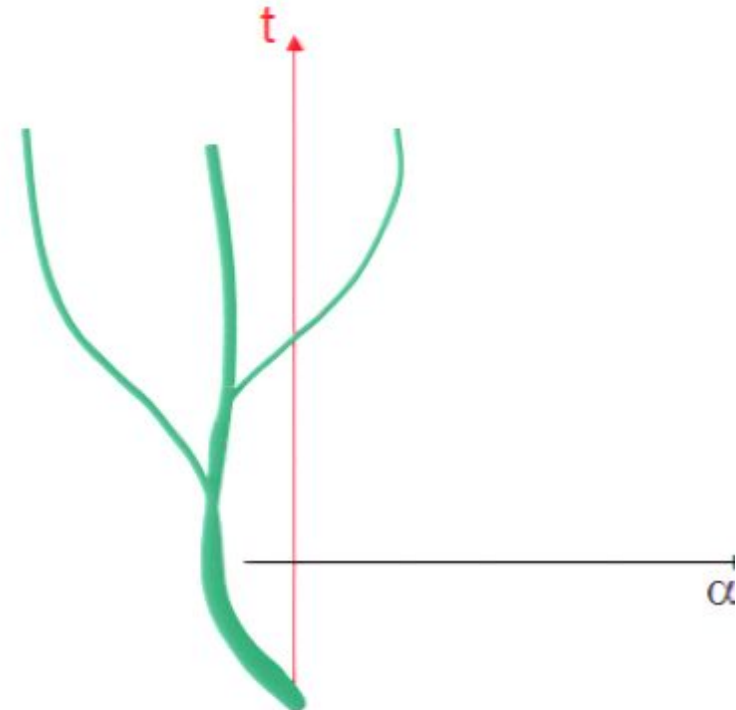


Incoherence
problem

What's the
wave-function
a function of?

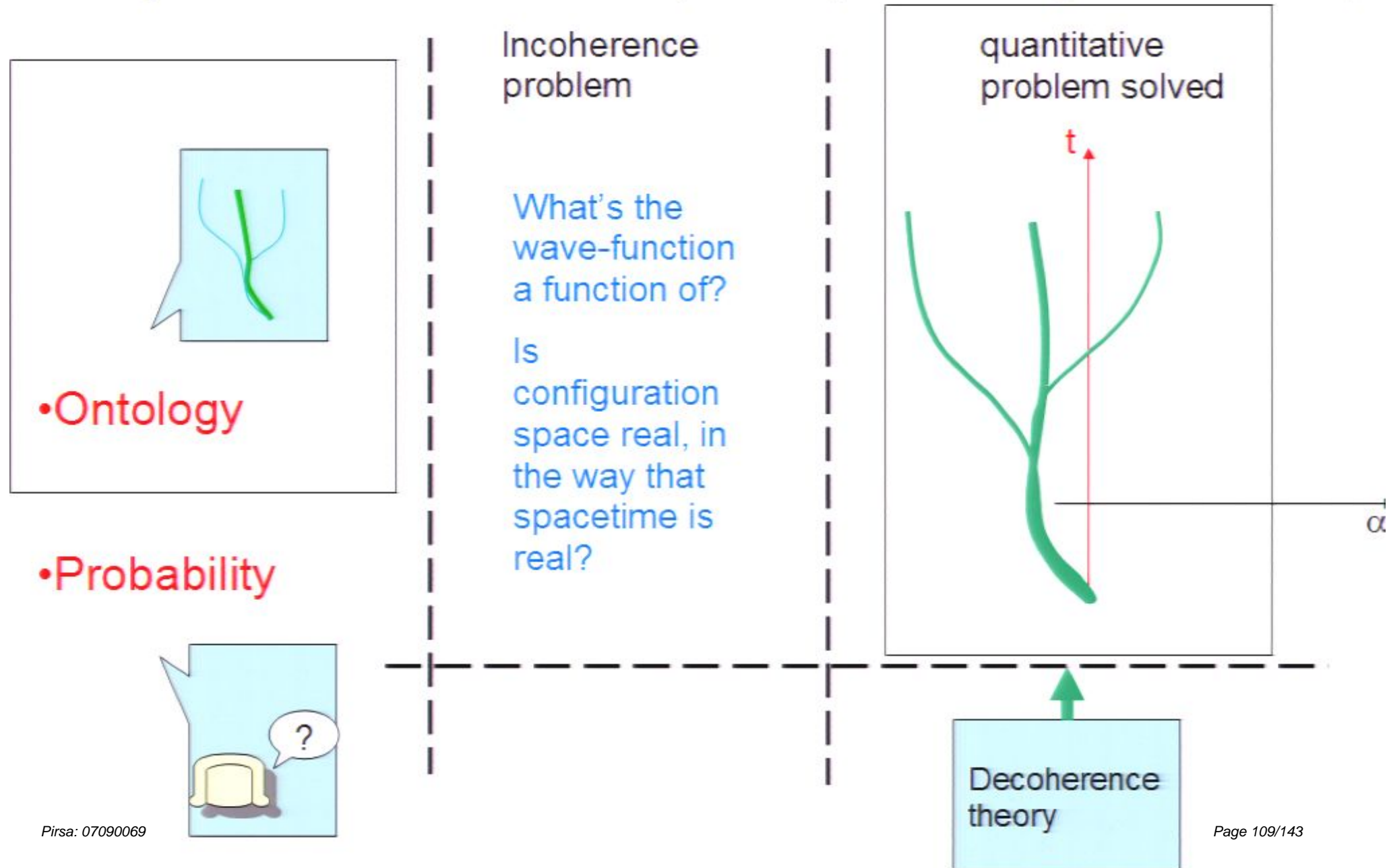
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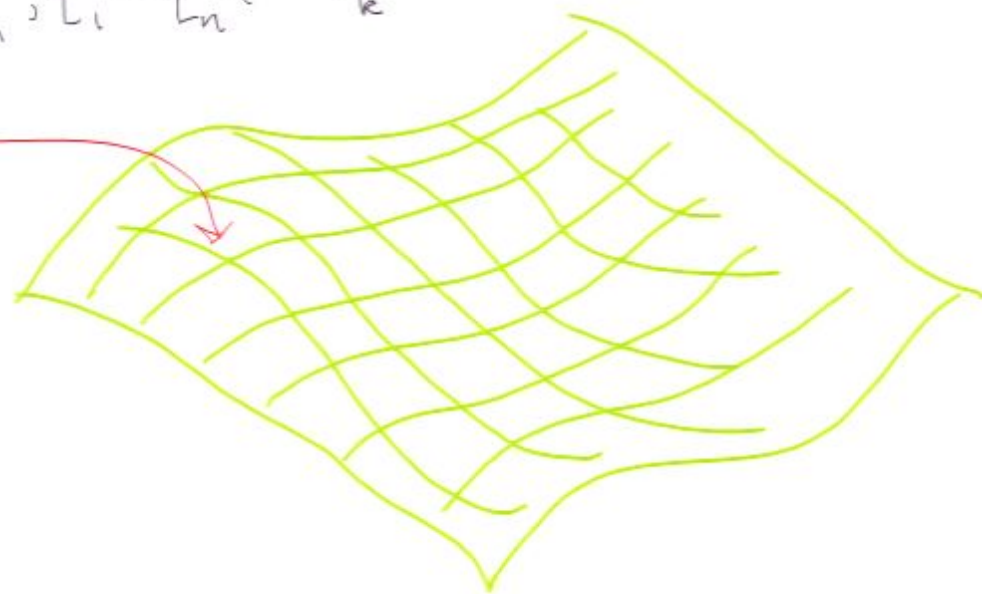


To solve the measurement problem...

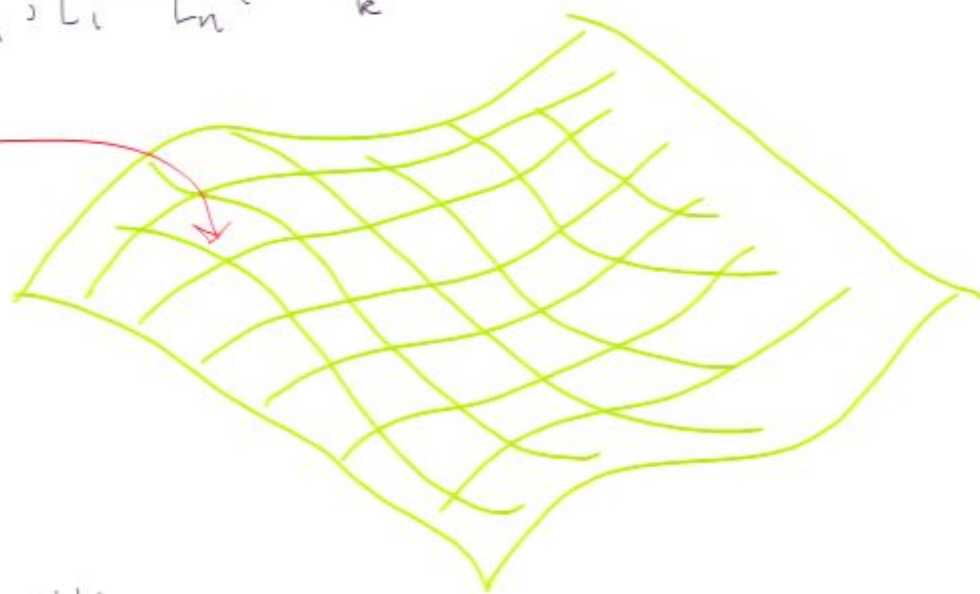
Universality • no mention of measurement • no special interpretative assumption or additional eqs



k^{th} cell in phase space
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$



k^{th} cell in phase space
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$



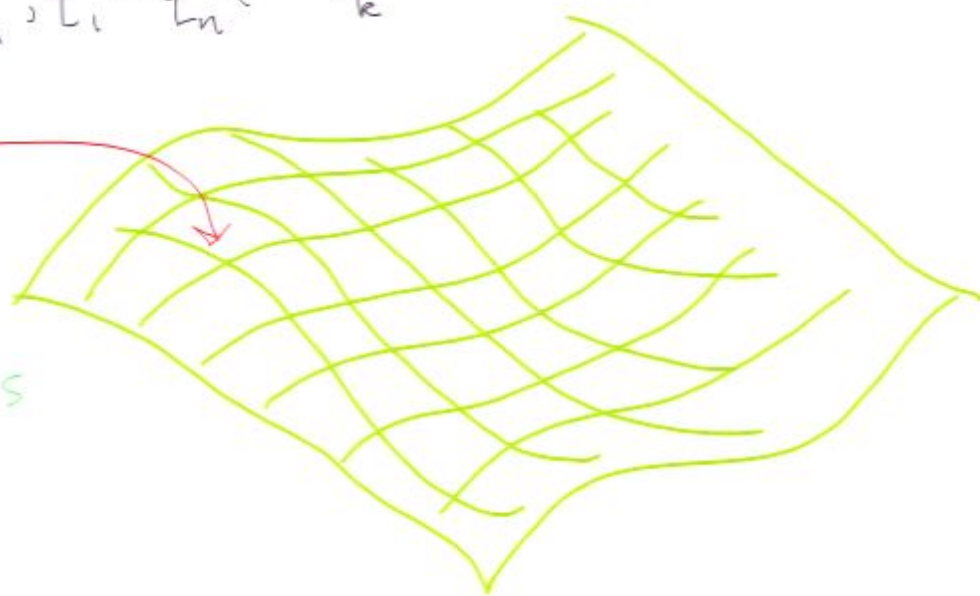
Define Heisenberg picture
operators

$$P_{\alpha_k}(t) = e^{-iHt} P_{\alpha_k} e^{iHt}$$

A 'history' is a sequence of such projections

$$C_{\alpha} = P_{\alpha_k}(t_n) \dots P_{\alpha_j}(t_1)$$

k^{th} cell in phase space
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$



'Absolute' probability
of a history α in state ψ is

$$W_{\psi}(\alpha) = \|C_{\alpha} \psi\|^2$$

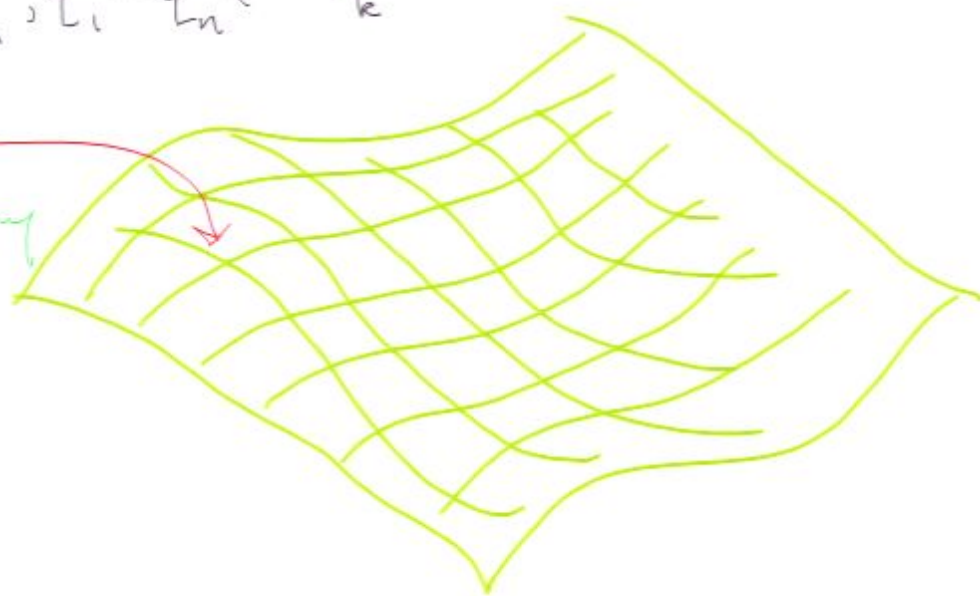
A 'history' is a sequence of such projections

$$C_{\alpha} = P_{\alpha_k}(t_n) \dots P_{\alpha_j}(t_1)$$

k^{th} cell in phase space
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$

Conditional or relative probability

$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha} C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}$$



Consistency conditions of the form:

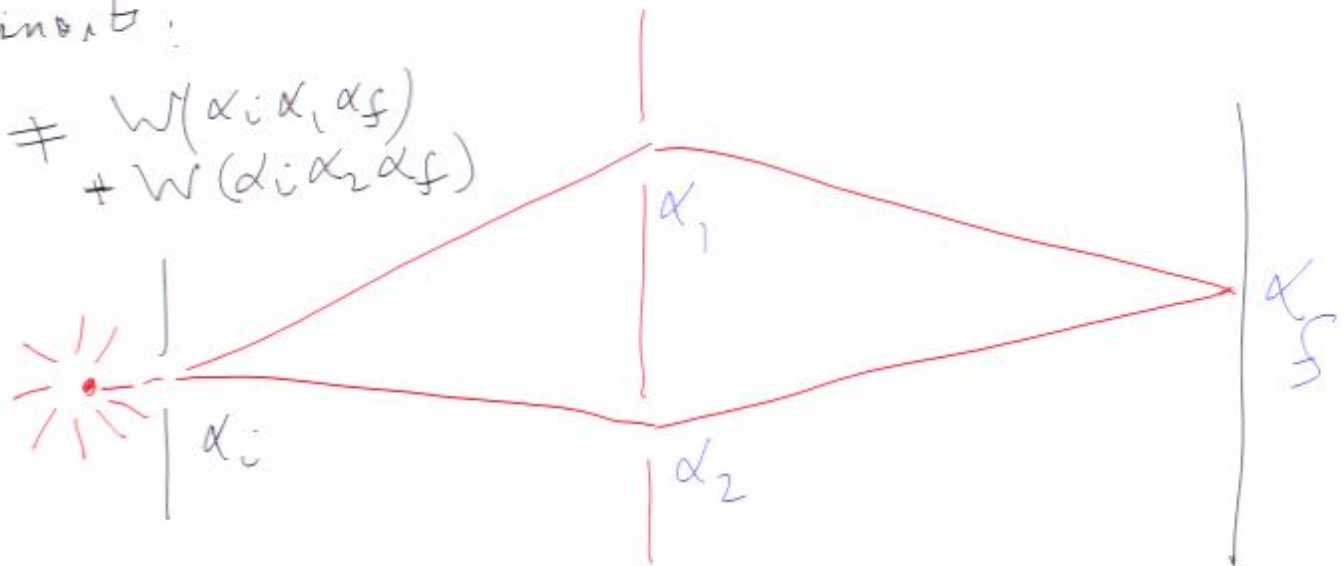
$$W(\alpha_0, \alpha_k) = \sum_{\alpha_j} W(\alpha_0, \alpha_j, \alpha_k)$$

satisfied if $\{C_\alpha \Psi\}$ are orthogonal

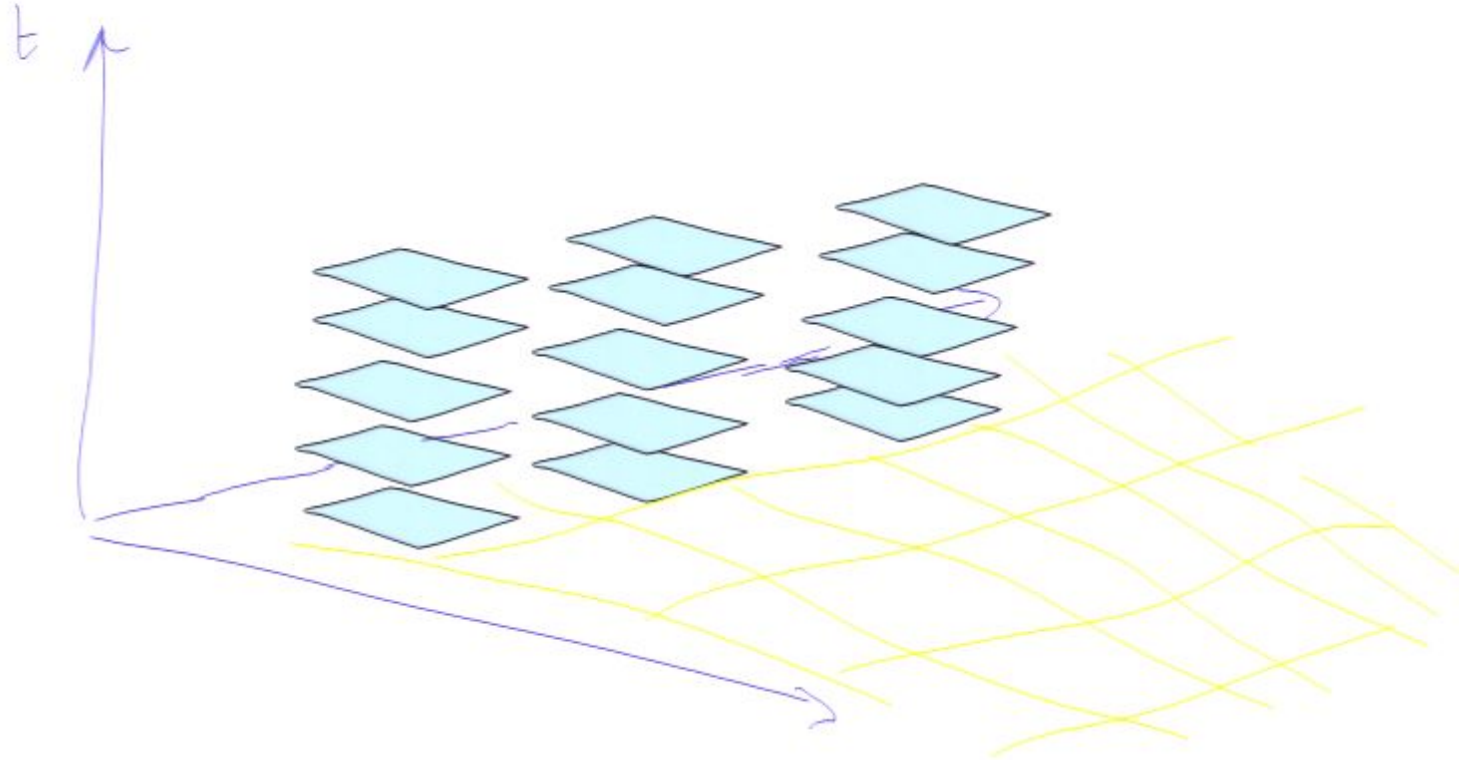
$$\langle C_\alpha \Psi, C_\beta \Psi \rangle = 0 \quad \text{if } \alpha \neq \beta$$

Two slit experiment:

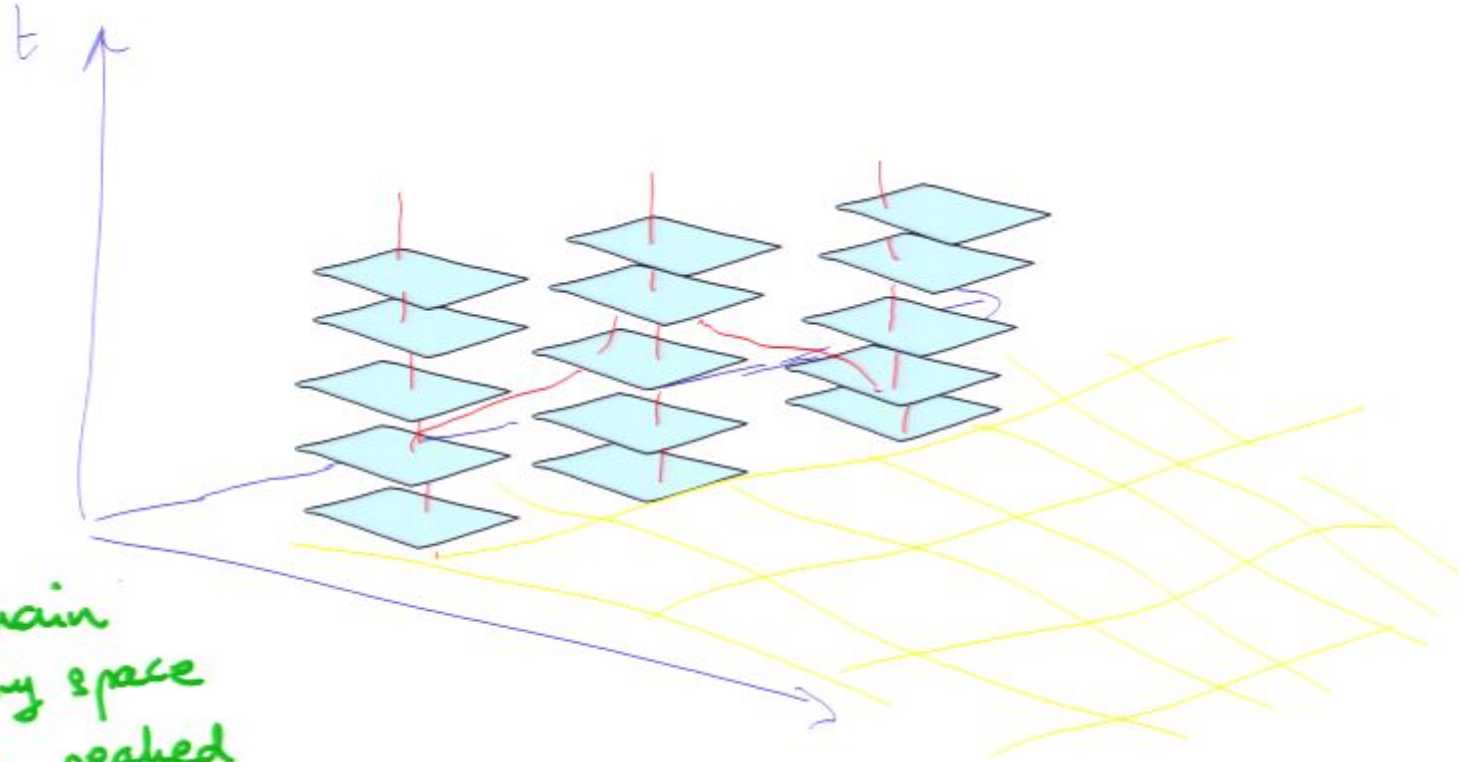
$$W(\alpha_i, \alpha_f) \neq W(\alpha_i, \alpha_1, \alpha_f) + W(\alpha_i, \alpha_2, \alpha_f)$$



A consistent or decoherent history space
requires a choice of projections at each time t
summing to unity satisfying the consistency condition



A consistent or decoherent history space
 requires a choice of projections at each time t
 summing to unity satisfying the consistency condition



A quasiclassical domain
 is a consistent history space
 and a state sharply peaked
 on histories obeying approximately classical
 deterministic equations

A formulation of the expression $\langle C_\alpha \psi, C_\beta \psi \rangle$ when the projections are coarse-grainings in q at time t :

$$\mathcal{D}(q'(t), q(t)) = \delta(q_f' - q_f) \exp \left[\frac{i}{\hbar} (S(q) - S(q')) \right] \rho(q_0', q_0)$$

$$\mathcal{D}(\Delta\alpha', \Delta\alpha) = \underbrace{\int_{q' \in \Delta\alpha'} \delta q' \int_{q \in \Delta\alpha} \delta q}$$

$$= \int \delta q' \int \delta q \delta(q_f' - q_f) \exp \left[\frac{i}{\hbar} (S_{\text{free}}(q') - S_{\text{free}}(q)) + W(q', q) \right] \rho(q', q)$$

where

$$W(q', q) = -M\gamma \int dt (q' \dot{q}' - q \dot{q} - \dot{q}' q - \dot{q} q') \\ + i \frac{2M\gamma k_T}{\hbar} \int dt [q'(t) - q(t)]^2$$

Decoherence time $t \sim \frac{1}{\gamma} \left[\frac{t}{\sqrt{2MkT}} \frac{1}{d} \right]^2$

thermal
relaxation
time

$t\gamma \sim 1$ for small molecules
 $T \sim 300K$
 $d \sim$ small molecules

$$= \int dq' \int dq \delta(q'_f - q_f) \exp \left[\frac{i}{\hbar} (S_{\text{free}}(q') - S_{\text{free}}(q)) + W(q', q) \right] \rho(q', q)$$

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decoherence

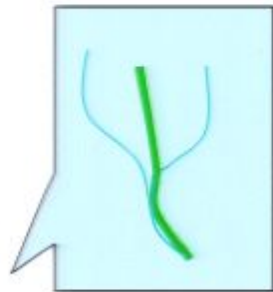
examples:

Brownian motion (density matrix approach)
Joos + Zeh 1985
(quantum state diffusion)
Zurek 1994, 2001,
Halliwell + Zappalà 1997.

Diffusion in fluids + gases (hydrodynamic
variables)
Halliwell 1998.

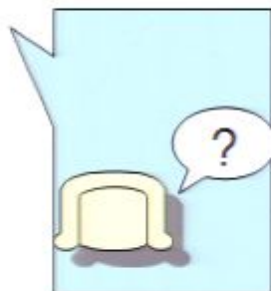
To solve the measurement problem...

Universality • no mention of measurement • no special interpretative assumption or additional eqs



•Ontology

•Probability

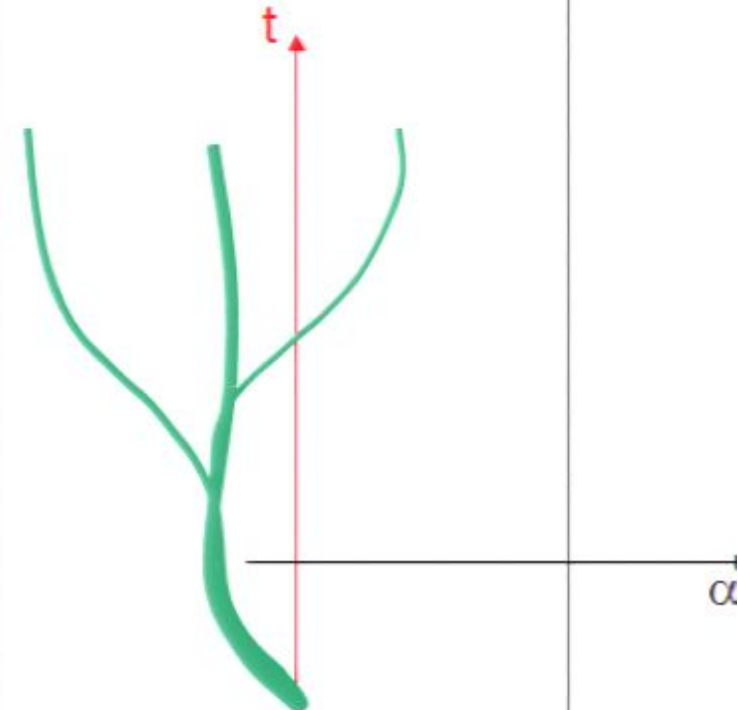


Incoherence
problem

What's the
wave-function
a function of?

Is
configuration
space real, in
the way that
spacetime is
real?

quantitative
problem solved



Decoherence
theory

To solve the measurement problem...

Universality • no mention of measurement • no special interpretative assumption or additional eqs

Incoherence
problem

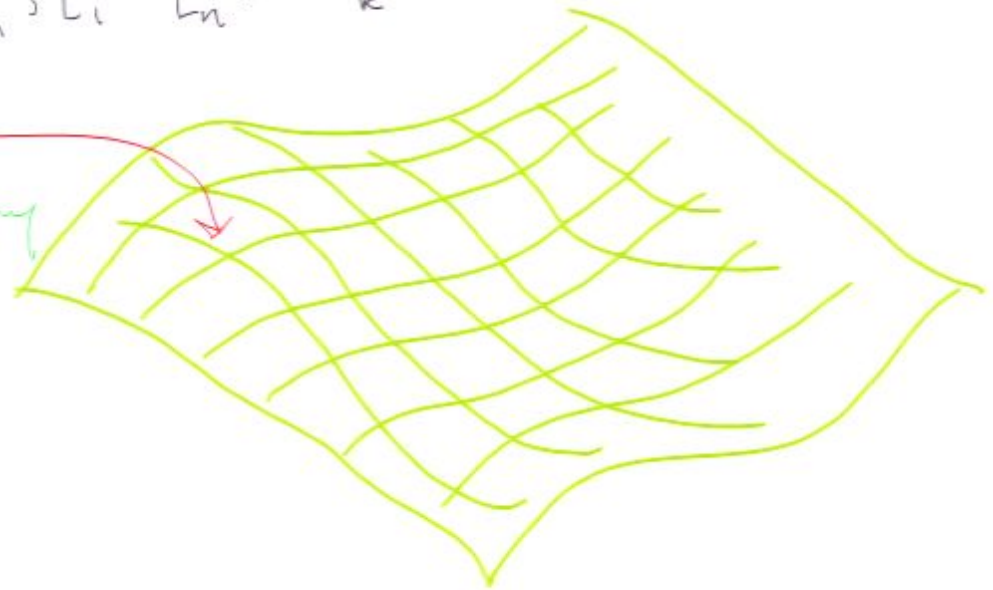
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k^{th} cell in phase space
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$

Conditional or relative probability

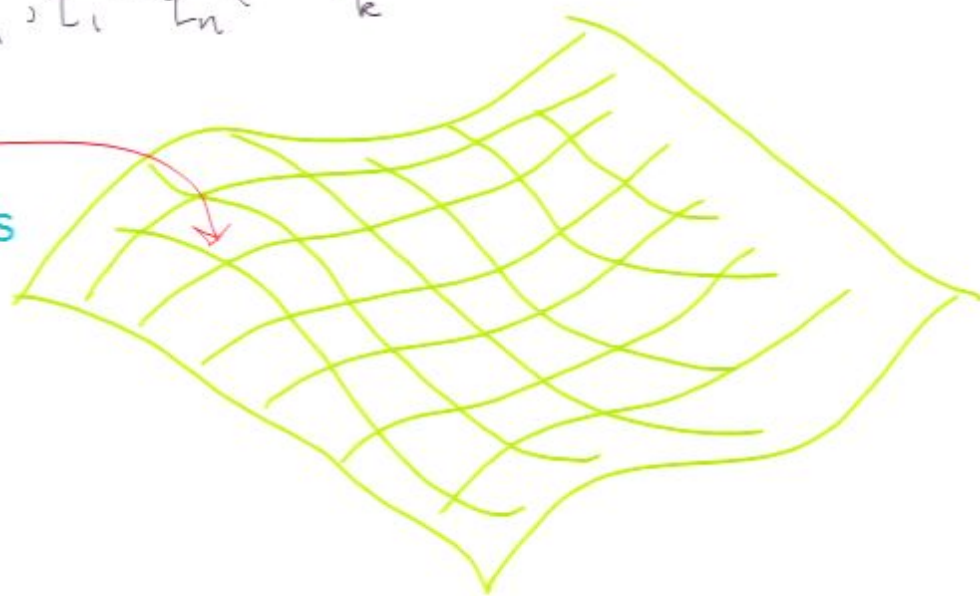
$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha} C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}$$



k^{th} cell in space of canonical coordinates
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$

Conditional or relative correlations

$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha} C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}$$



$$\psi \otimes \eta_0 \otimes (c_+ \phi_+ + c_- \phi_-)$$

$$\longrightarrow \psi \otimes (c_+ \eta_+ \otimes \phi_+ + c_- \eta_- \otimes \phi_-)$$

$$\longrightarrow c_+ \psi_+ \otimes \eta_+ \otimes \phi_+ + c_- \psi_- \otimes \eta_- \otimes \phi_-$$

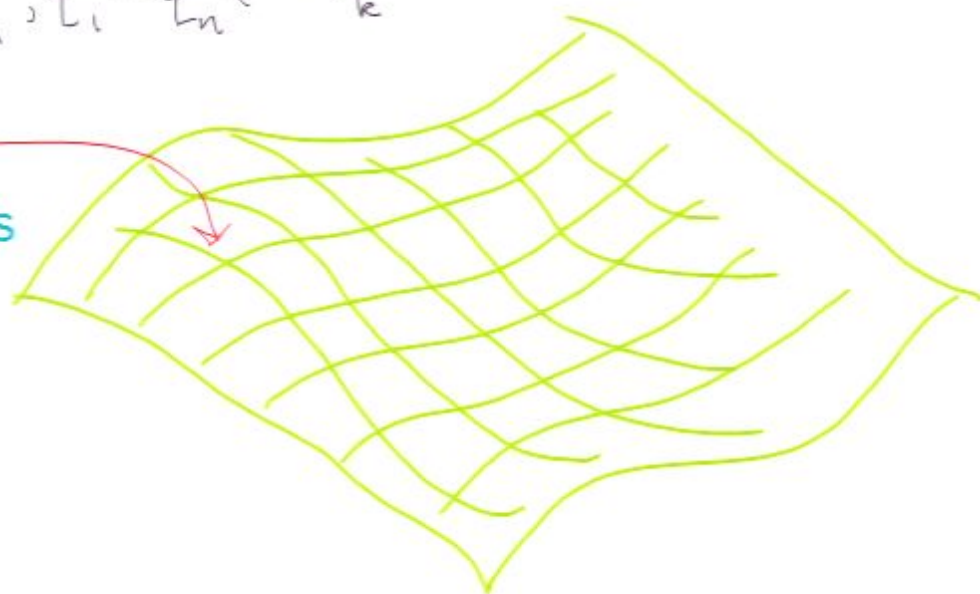
'Relative state' of η_+ is ϕ_+

" " " η_- is ϕ_-

k^{th} cell in space of canonical coordinates
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$

Conditional or relative correlations

$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha} C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}$$



Define relation 'Def_p' as:

$$\text{Def}_p(\alpha_k/\alpha_j) \text{ iff } W_{\Psi}(\alpha_k/\alpha_j) = 1$$

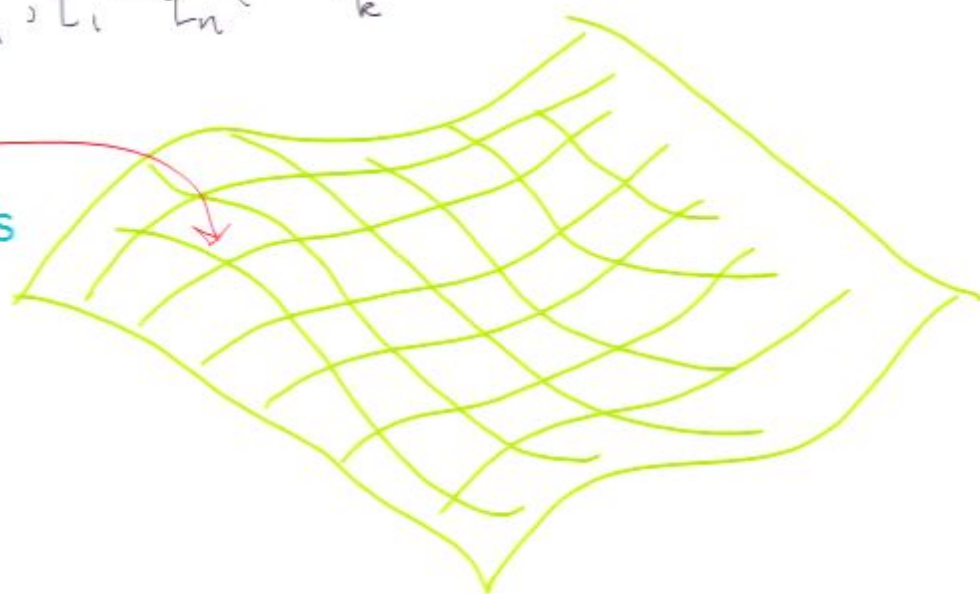
read as:

"configuration α_k is value definite relative to α_j
in state p "

k^{th} cell in space of canonical coordinates
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$

Conditional or relative correlations

$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha}C_{\beta}\Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta}\Psi\|^2}$$

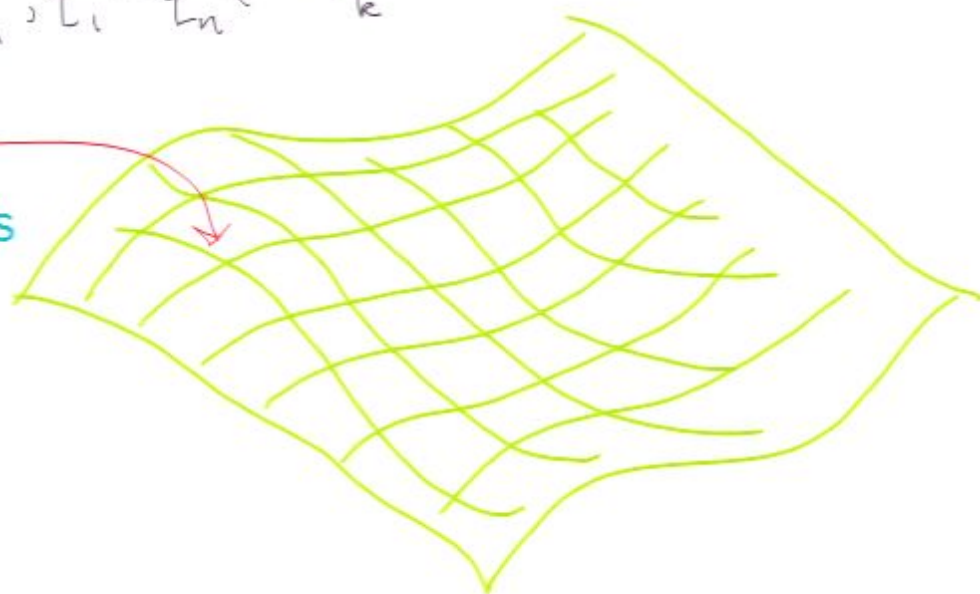


Def_{Ψ} is transitive for spacelike projectors and for consistent timelike projectors

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Conditional or relative correlations

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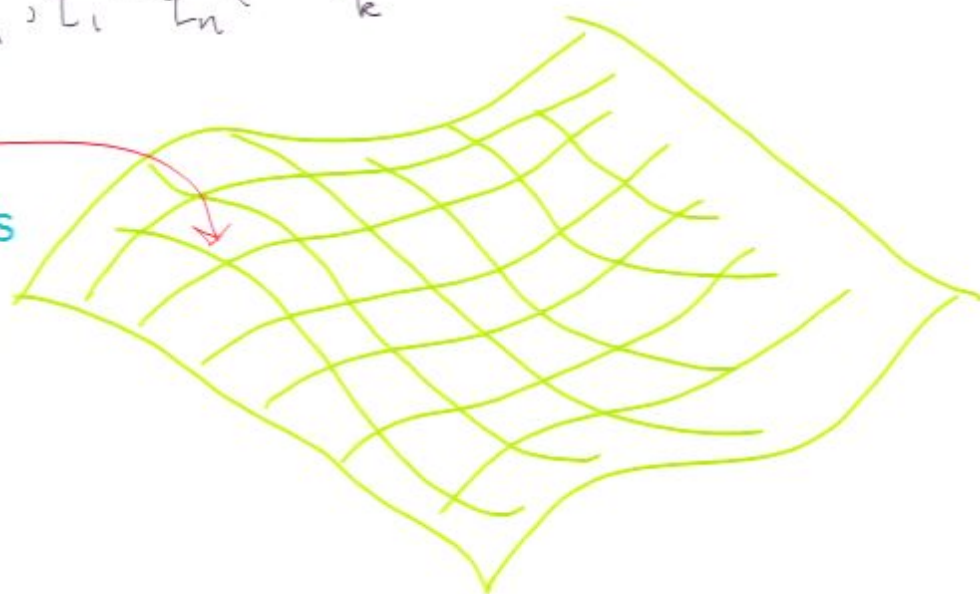


In a quantum mechanical particle theory:

k^{th} cell in space of canonical coordinates
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$

Conditional or relative correlations

$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha} C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}$$



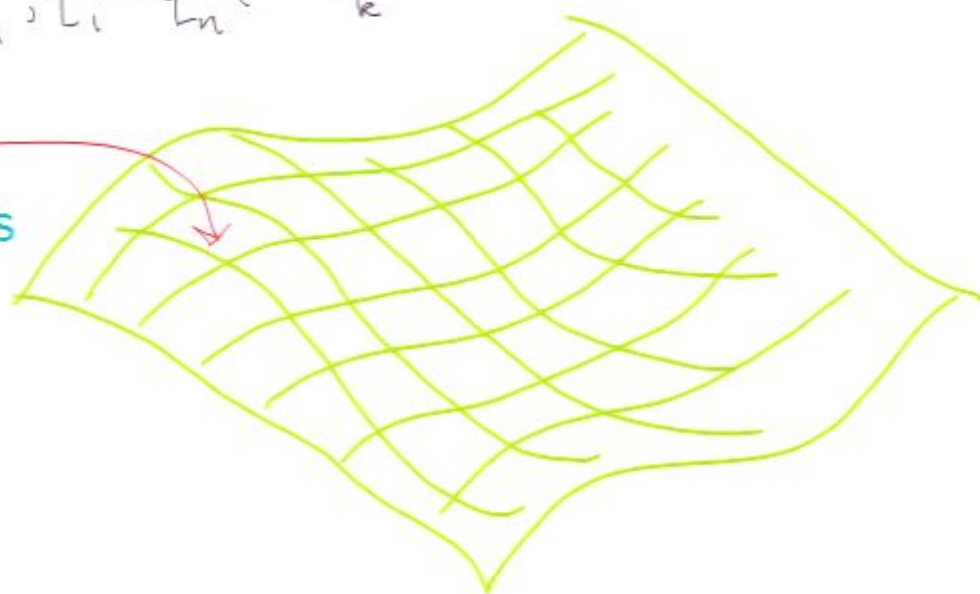
In a quantum mechanical particle theory:

- All correlations among patterns of particles (relative positions and momenta) exist

k^{th} cell in space of canonical coordinates
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$

Conditional or relative correlations

$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha} C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}$$



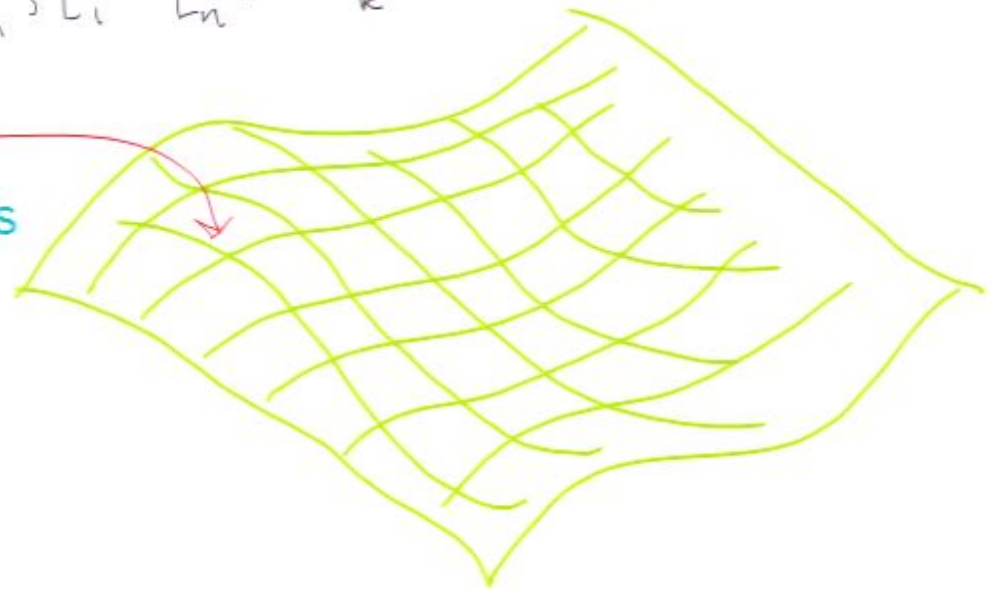
In a quantum mechanical particle theory:

- More generally: all correlations among patterns of polarizations on n-particle phase space exist

k^{th} cell in space of canonical coordinates
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$

Conditional or relative correlations

$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha} C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}$$



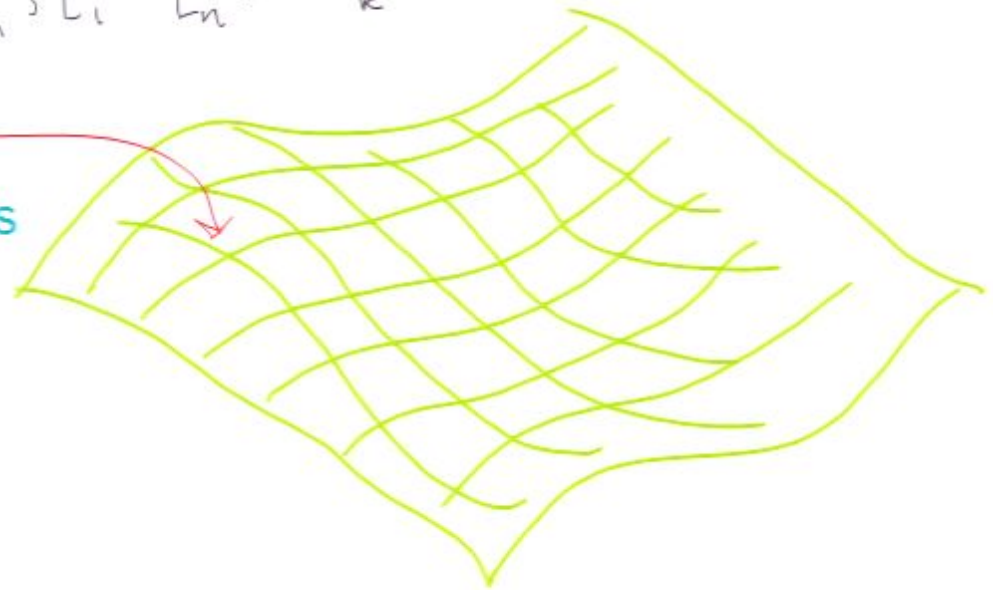
In a quantum mechanical particle theory:

- More rigorously: all correlations among patterns of polarizations on n-particle phase space exist
- as given by invariant relations among projections

k^{th} cell in space of canonical coordinates
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$

Conditional or relative correlations

$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha} C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}$$



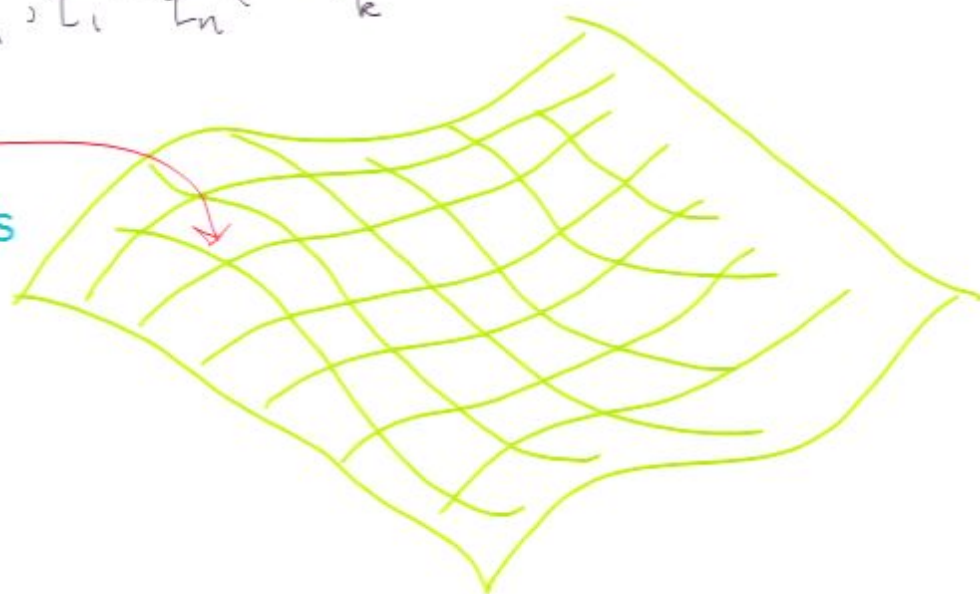
In a quantum mechanical particle theory:

- More rigorously: all correlations among patterns of polarizations on n -particle phase space exist
- as given by invariant relations among projections
- but only some of these correlations among patterns are stable under perturbations (typically coarse-grainings), yielding dynamically decoupled (branching) histories.

k^{th} cell in space of canonical coordinates
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$

Conditional or relative correlations

$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha} C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}$$



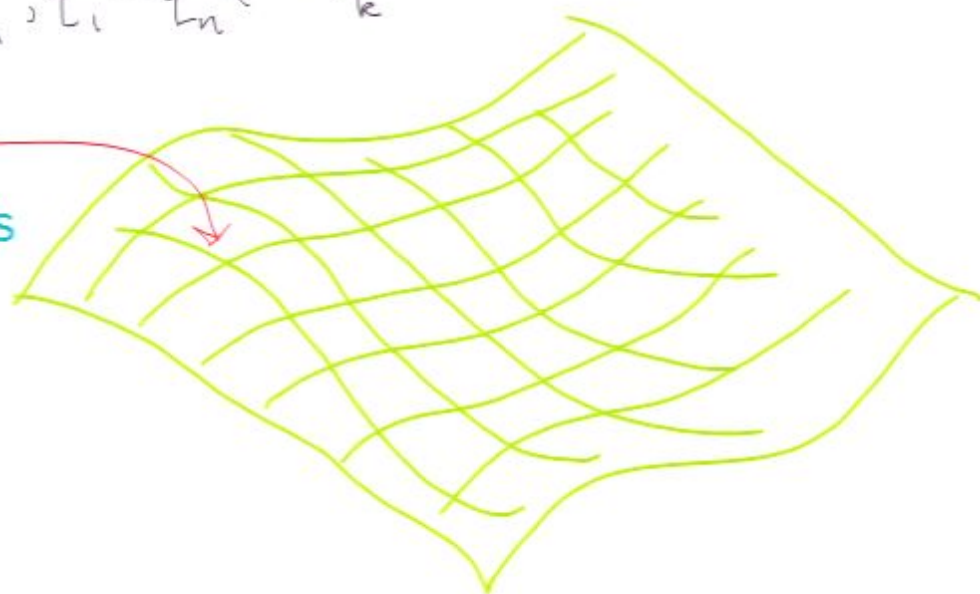
In a quantum mechanical field theory:

- More rigorously: all correlations among field configurations (polarizations of phase space) exist
- as given by invariant relations among projections
- but only some of these correlations of field configurations are stable under perturbations (typically coarse-grainings), yielding dynamically decoupled (branching) histories.

k^{th} cell in space of canonical coordinates
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$

Conditional or relative correlations

$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha} C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}$$



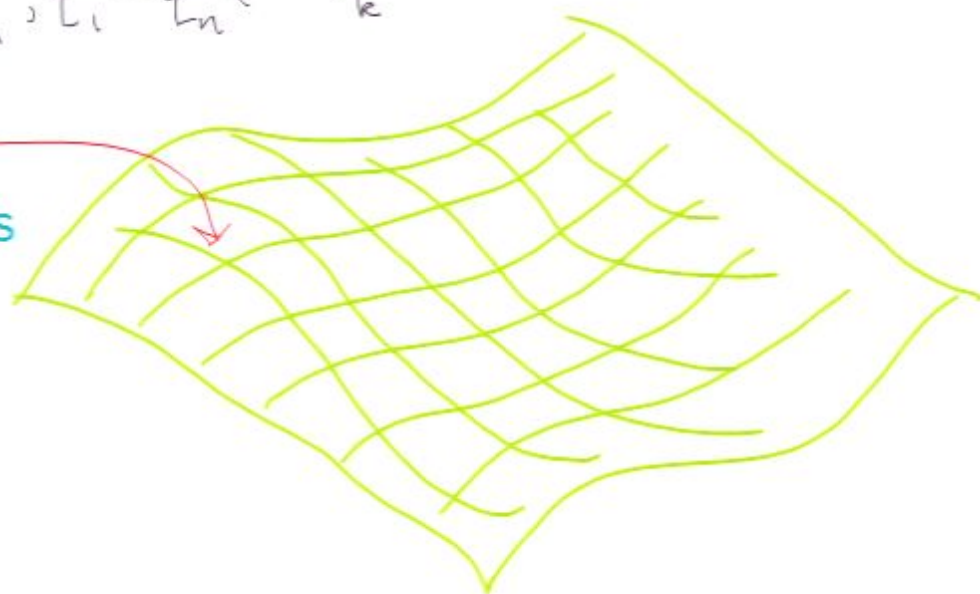
In classical general relativity:

- All correlations among values of fields on the manifold exist
- as given by diffeomorphic-invariant relations among them
- but only some of these correlations of field configurations are stable under perturbations (typically coarse-grainings), yielding dynamically decoupled (but non-branching) histories

k^{th} cell in space of canonical coordinates
has $p_1, \dots, p_n, q_1, \dots, q_n \in \alpha_k$

Conditional or relative correlations

$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha} C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}$$



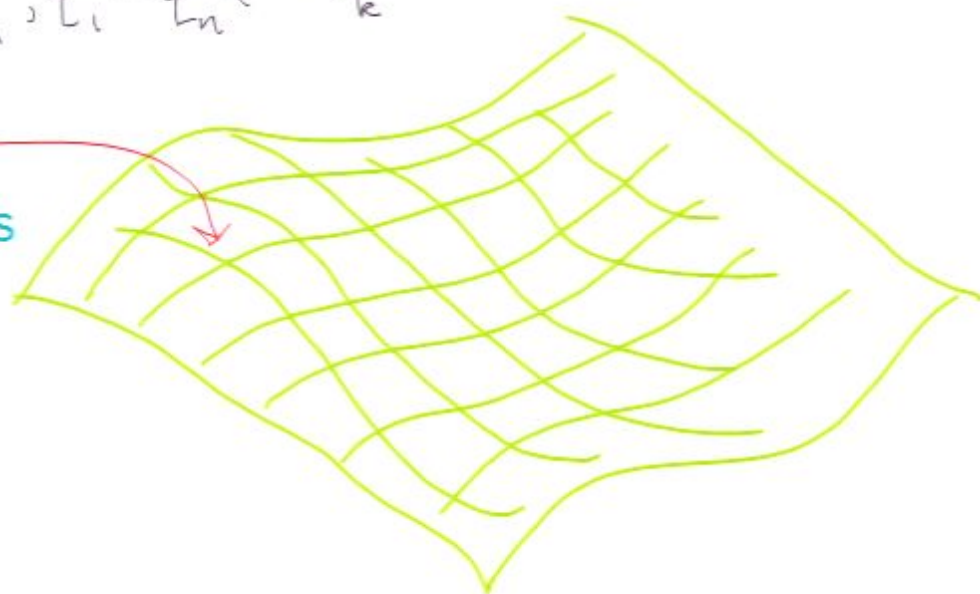
In classical general relativity:

- ...like galaxies, stars, planets

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Conditional or relative correlations

$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha} C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}$$



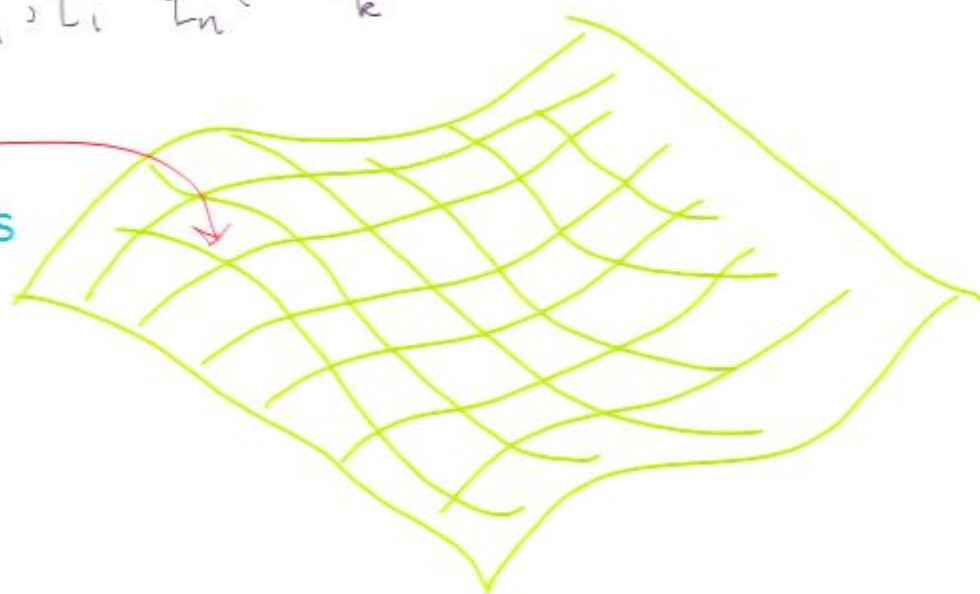
In classical general relativity:

- ...patterns of values of fields can be referred to any foliation, but some foliations are more perspicuous than others (simpler, better 'adapted', etc.)

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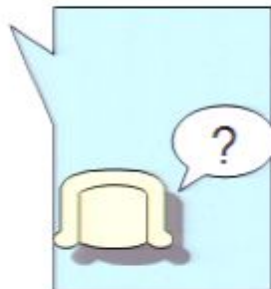
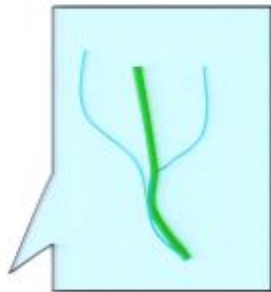
In classical general relativity:

- ...patterns of values of fields can be referred to any foliation, but some foliations are more perspicuous than others (simpler, better 'adapted', etc.)
- but only if ALL (correlations among field-values on) leaves of a foliation are real.

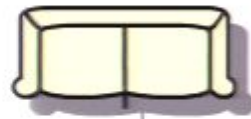
Conclusions:

•Ontology

•Probability



Incoherence
problem



Uncertainty
intelligible-
'chance'

Uncertainty
unintelligible-
'caring
measure'

quantitative
problem

Given the
ontology

Not given
the ontology

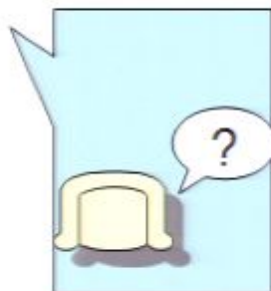
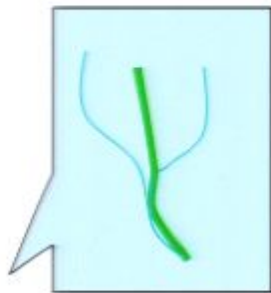
practical
problem

epistemic
problem

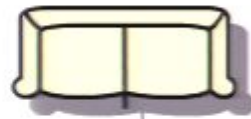
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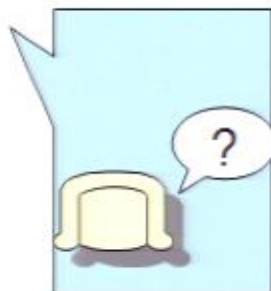
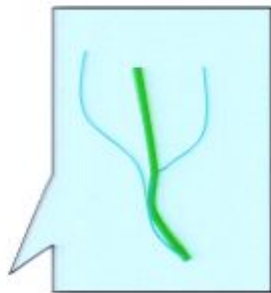
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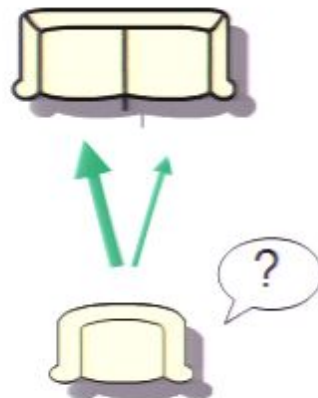
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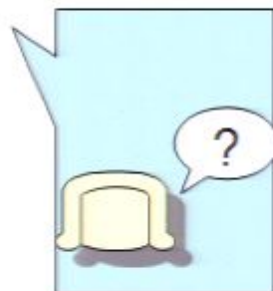
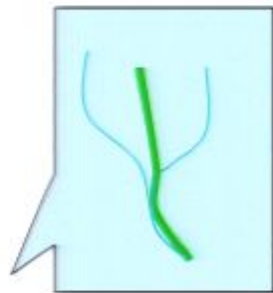
epistemic
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End of slide show, click to exit.

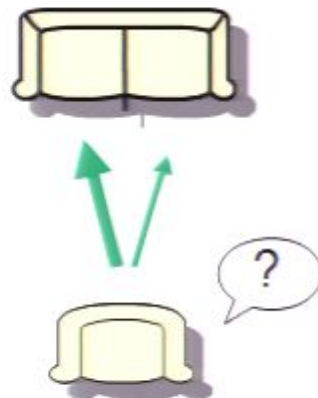
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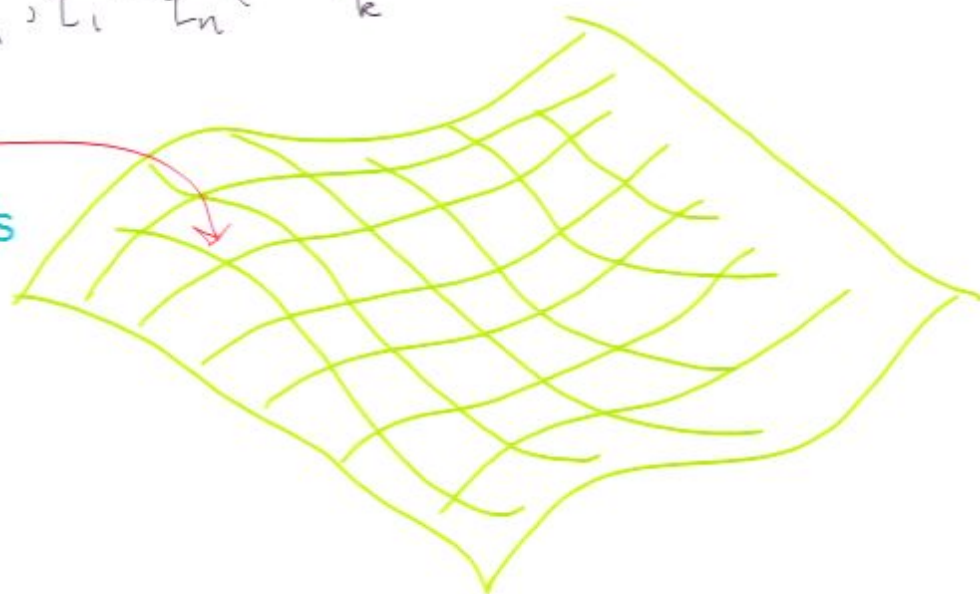
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Conditional or relative correlations

$$W_{\Psi}(\alpha/\beta) = \frac{\|C_{\alpha} C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}{\|C_{\beta} \Psi\|^2}$$



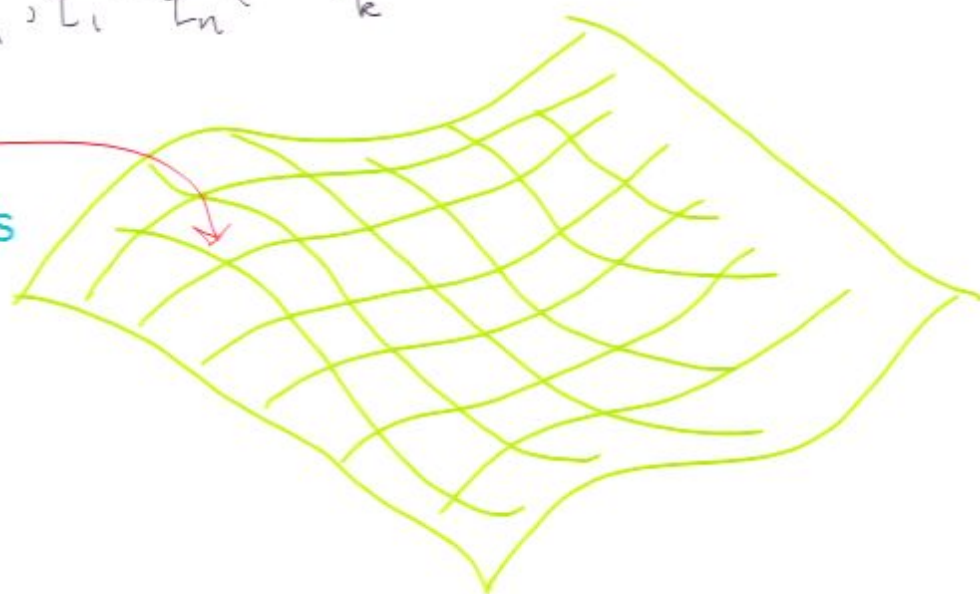
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