

The Philosophy of Being



The Philosophy of Being is primarily the study of reality.



Welcome to reality

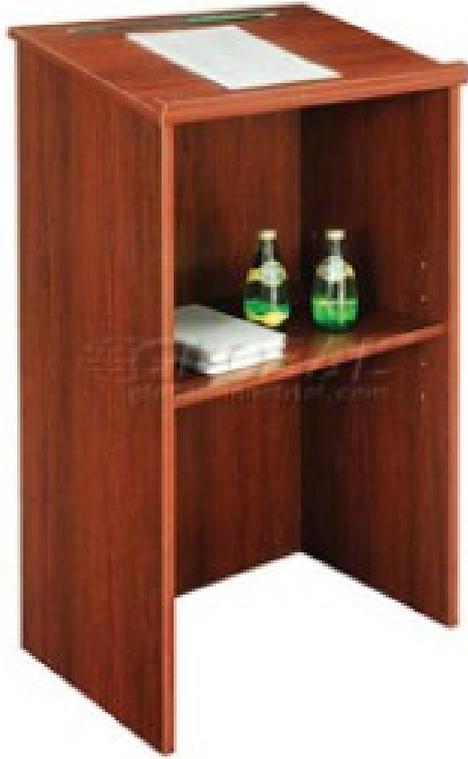
Is Reality Material Conceptual Or Both?

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September 25th 11:00–12:50

My Sources

- **180 half hour DVD Teaching Co. lectures by many different well known professors.**
- Recent three courses were: tel: 800-832-2412
 1. *The Modern Intellectual Tradition*, by Prof. Lawrence Cahoon of Holy Cross.
 2. *The Philosophy. Religion and the Meaning of Life* by Prof. Francis Ambrosio of Georgetown Univ.
 3. *Philosophy of Science*, by Prof. Jeffrey Kasser of North Carolina State Univ.
- **22 Books addressing philosophical questions. Those specifically addressing reality were:**
 1. *The Atheist's Guide to Reality* by Rosenberg
 2. *The Magic of Reality* by Richard Dawkins
 3. *The Trinity and the Entangled World* by John Polkinghorne
 4. *Exploring Reality* by John Polkinghorne
 5. *Plato & Aristotle* by Charles River Editors
 6. *The Problems of Philosophy* by Bertrum Russell
 7. *New theories of Everything* by John Barrow
 8. *The Universe From Nothing* by Lawrence Krauss
 9. *The Grand Design* by Stephen Hawking

This Lectern



- You see It as box like thing called a lectern. material
- I see is as a place to keep my water and notes. conceptual
- It's use and form defines it's name, a lectern. both

Definitions

- **Reality:** All that actually exists or happens
- **Materialism:** Theory that physical matter and its relations constitute reality.
- **Physical:** real and touchable (*or measurable*)
- **Conceptualism:** Theory that mental concepts determine reality
- **Concept:** Thought or imagined unicorn
- **Mutable:** Tending or likely to change
- **Immutable:** Unchanging or unchangeable

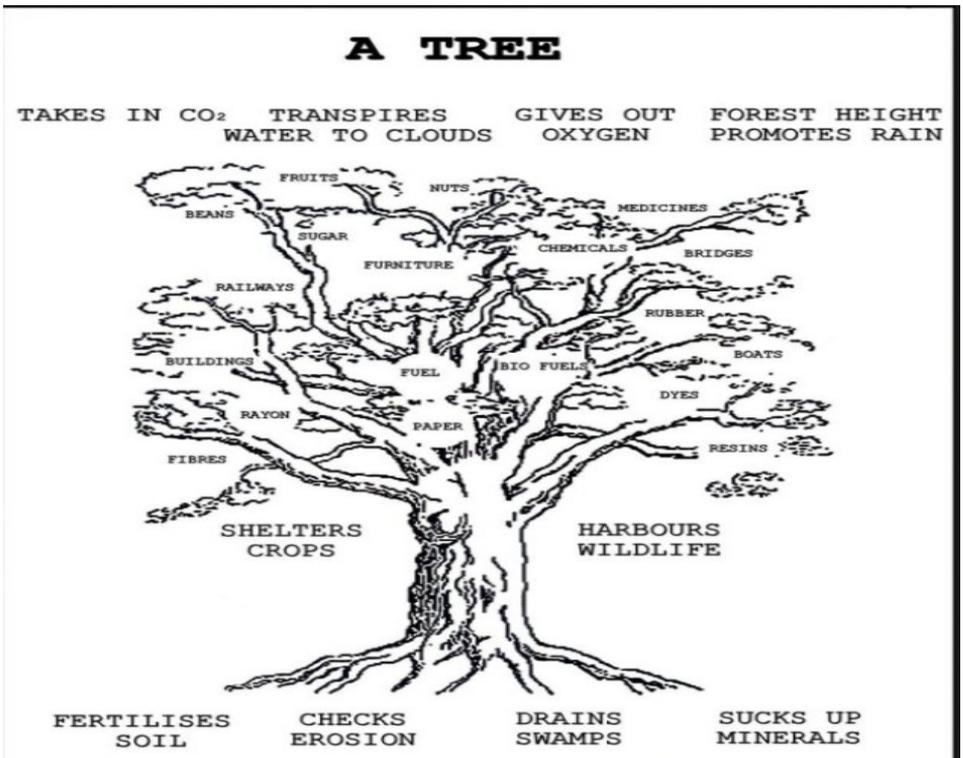
Reality

- **Reality**: is all the things we know through our senses or from communication with others. It is fundamentally relational.
- It is either **material** or **conceptual** in form.
- If it is material it is always **mutable**.
- If it is conceptual it can be either **mutable** or **immutable**.

hungry

triangle

Materialism



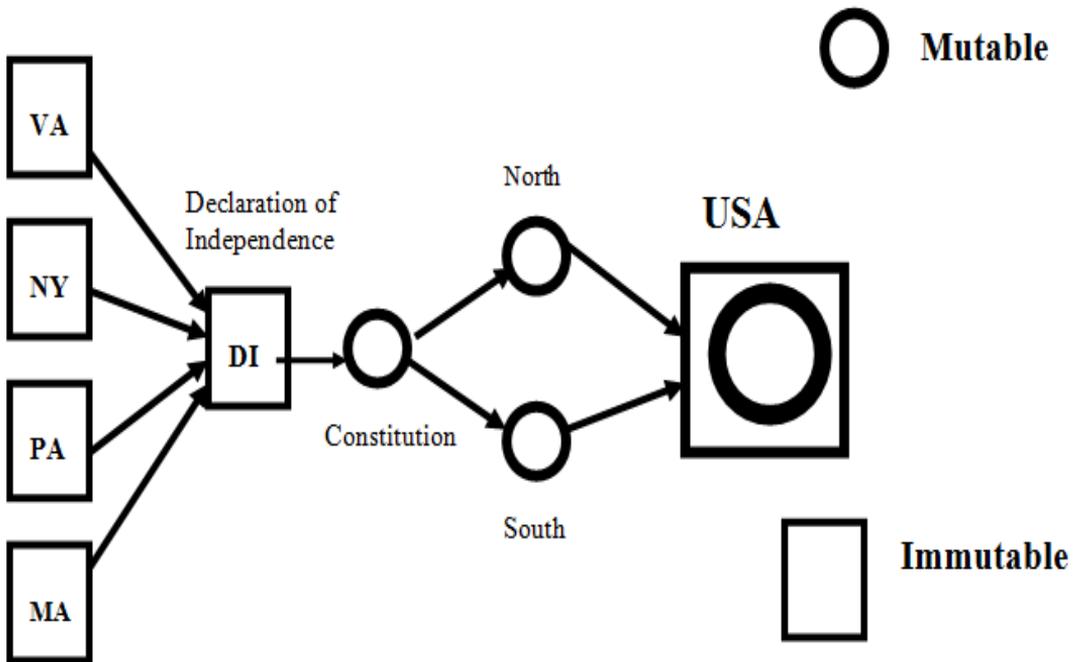
- Some say matter is the only reality
- Emotions, thought can be explained physically.
- Things out there have definable characteristics
- All macro sized things can be explained by deterministic calculable laws.
molecular size can not
- Science is best maybe the only way to explain reality. Reduction, auto
- Material things are mutable
humpty dumpty, entropy

Conceptualism



- * The theory that mental concepts determine reality.
- Reality is dynamic and constantly evolving new forms according to indeterminate natural or divine incalculable laws.
- Scientific laws are only approximate.
- Conceptual things can be mutable or immutable.
- Beauty can be appreciated conceptually but not materialistically
- I would like to have a picnic under this beautiful tree. Beverly, character

USA Conceptual Example

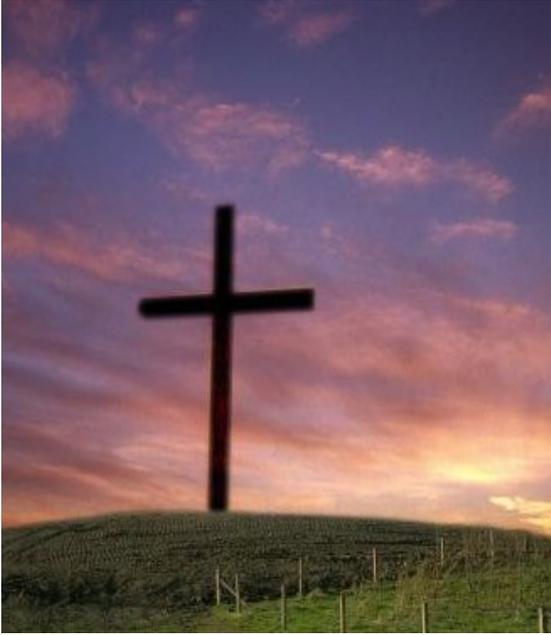


- 13 Colonies became USA through the immutable Declaration of Independence. quote
- Constitutional USA became mutable when it called human slaves property.
- Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation formed a more immutable USA.
- It is becoming more mutable as the Supreme Court makes proactive case decisions. immutable constitutions, roman patriotism

Philosophers by Era

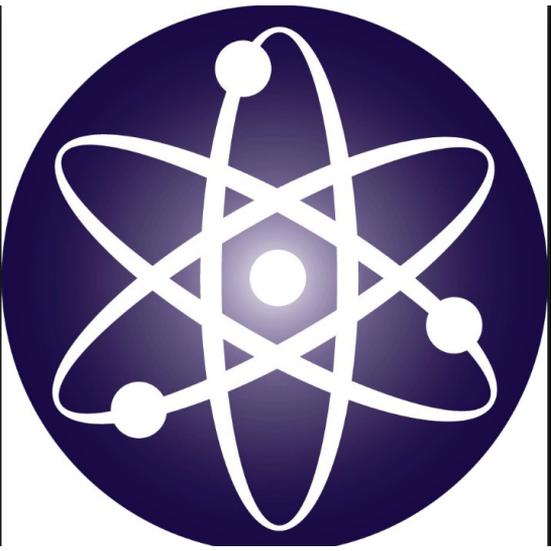
Philosoper	Philosopy	Categ.	Date
Socrates s	Virtue	Concept.	420bc
Plato s	Forms	Concept.	380bc
Aristotle h	Logic	Material	330nc
Ceasars h	Roman	Material	100bc
Augustine s	Trinity	Concept.	420
Aquinas s	Christian	Concept.	1260
da Vinci s	Renaissan.	Concept.	1500
Luther s	Reformat.	Concept.	1517
Copernicus h	Science	Material	1543
Leibniz h	Science	Material	1705
Jefferson h	Democracy	Material	1800
Kierkegaard s	Existential	Concept.	1854
Darwin h	Evolution	Material	1859
Einstein h	Relativity	Material	1915
Bohr s	Quantum	Concept	1925
Heidegger s	Phenom.	Concept	1927
Lorenz s	Complexity	Concept	1983
Hawking s	Multiverse	Concept	1998
Rorty s	Pragmatic	Concept	2003
Polkinghorne	Relational	Concept	2010

The Evolution of Western Thought



Plato 429-347 bce

Aristotle 384-322 bce



Christianity

Philosophy

Science

As One

Today, these three modes of western thought are so entangled, I can treat them as one. ³ not calculable

Historical Summary of Reality

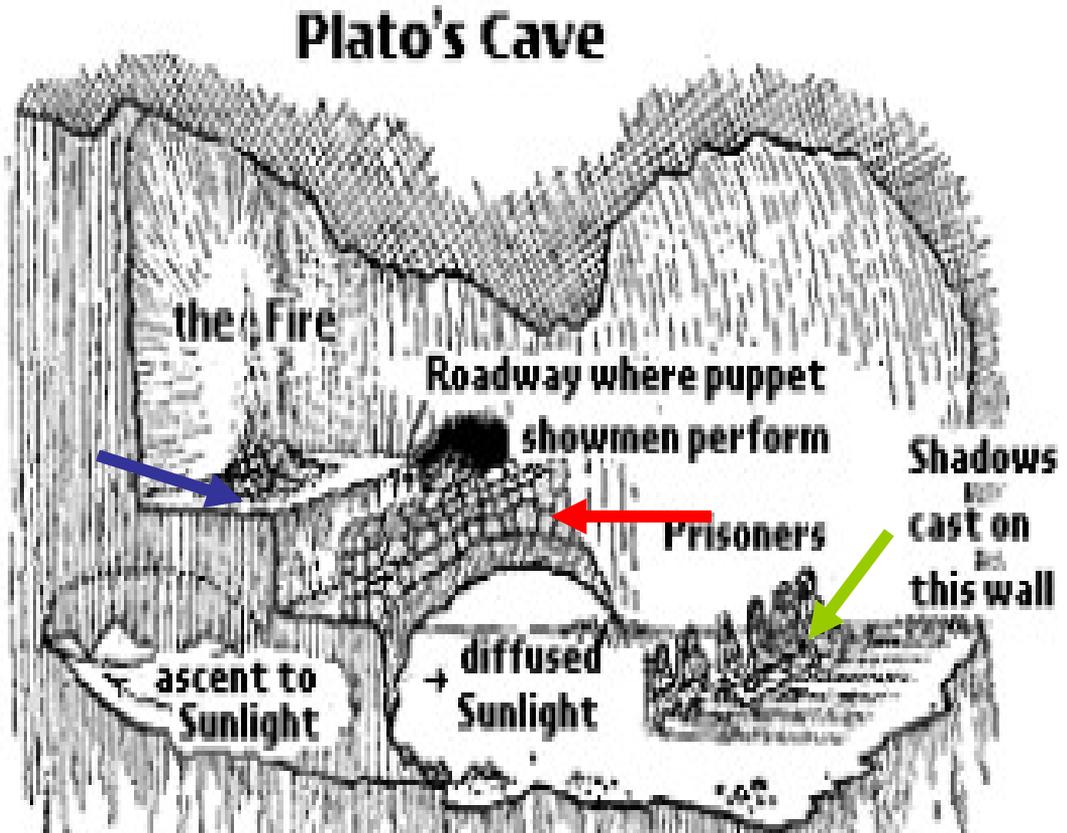
- Aristotle (philosopher) from Plato's Conceptualism to Materialism, 330bc
- St. Augustine (Christian) from Roman Materialism to Christian Conceptualism, (390 ad)
- Bacon & Newton (scientists) led the conversion from the Conceptual religious Era to the Material enlightenment Era, (17th century) thought modes just by intellectuals @1st
- Plank, Maxwell & Einstein (scientists) converted skepticism back to Materialism with Relativity. (1915)
- Niels Bohr (scientist) led the conversion from Einstein's Material reality to the Conceptual reality of quantum mechanics. (1920)
- Richard Rorty (philosopher) proposed the death of philosophy with his Pragmatism, (2002)
- John Polkinghorne (Christian) led to the post modern addition to Bohr's Conceptual reality with his Relational Ontology. (2005) philosopher in church

Ancient Greek Philosophy

The Ancient Greek Phillosophers																	
Date BC	470	460	450	440	430	420	410	400	390	380	370	360	350	340	330	320	
Socrates age		10	20	30	40	50	60	70									
Plato age						10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80				
Aristotle age											4	14	24	34	44	54	62

- Top row are the dates bc when the famous Greek philosophers Socrates, Plato and Aristotle lived.
- Next three rows are their ages at the dates shown.
- Plato was Socrates student
- Aristotle was Plato's student.
- They laid the foundations for most philosophical arguments throughout history including the new Post Modern theory of "Relational Ontology".

The Allegory of the Cave



Prisoners (green arrow) were chained for life facing the wall of a cave. Their only environment was the shadows on the wall cast by the puppets (red arrow). The fire (blue arrow) was the light source.

Plato described this scene in his book called “The Republic” in order to show metaphorically that one’s real world is what he observes it to be. conceptual colors

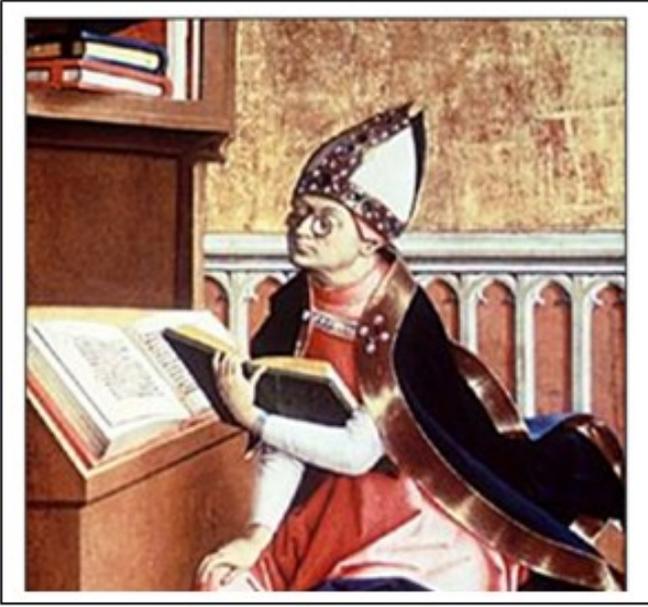
Conceptual Relational Reality



The Last Supper by Leonardo de Vinci

- **The Last Supper formed a foundation for Conceptual and Relational reality**
- **Aristotle's and Roman Materialism was converted to Conceptualism.**
- **Jesus as both human & divine made Conceptualism relational through his loving relations with his disciples.**

Creation of Christian Doctrine



Saint Augustine

354 – 430 AD



St. Thomas Aquinas

1225 – 1274 AD

- St. Augustine used Aristotle's logic in his formation of early Christian doctrine but used Plato's concept of holistic forms for his creation of the Christian Trinity doctrine.
- St. Thomas Aquinas accepted Aristotle's belief that: "The substance of finite things consists in the union of substance and form." He supported Plato's philosophy that the real world is relational.
- They each converted from Material to Conceptual. 81 years for me, 12-93

Indulgence & Reformation



Indulgence

- The rich paid Priests for the right to sin.
- Ferdinand & Isabella tortured those who resisted their specific religious doctrine.
- Martin Luther and Calvin formed the Protestant version of Christianity which recommended personal scripture interpretation instead of clergy reading. 30 yr war

The Inquisition

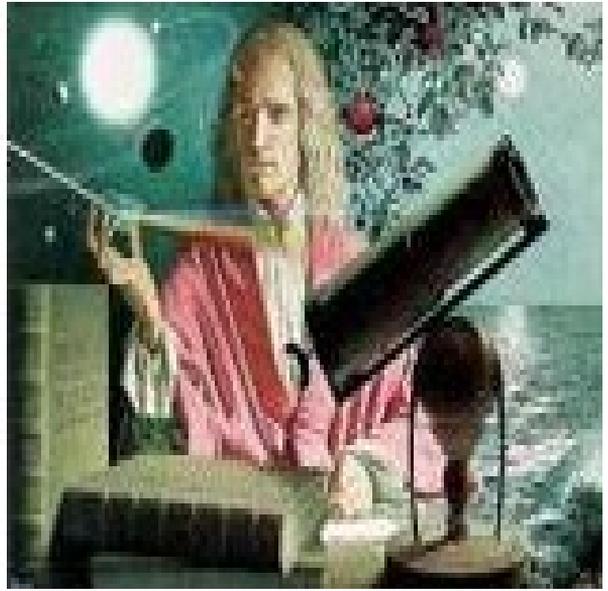


- Ferdinand & Isabella still
Conceptual but evil
no saints, king unimportant
- It was an evil Christianity with
erroneous axioms. 7 crusades

The Scientific Method



Sir Francis Bacon (1561 - 1626)

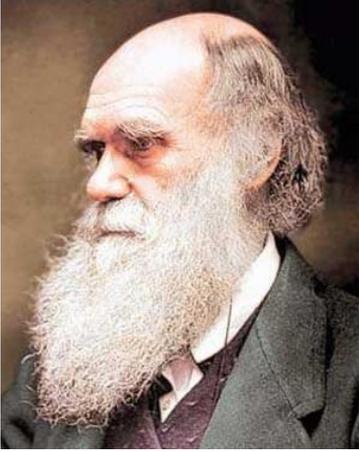


Isaac Newton
1643-1727

- In the early 17th century Bacon created the scientific way to understand the laws of nature.
- Newton used this method to create and evolve the universal laws of motion.
- Intellectuals sat in coffee houses talking of how God used science to create and control the World. There was no conflict between religion and science, just war between religions.
- Theories were later found to be correct only for limited conditions.

Sukey & my bible

Material to Conceptual



Charles Darwin
1809-1882



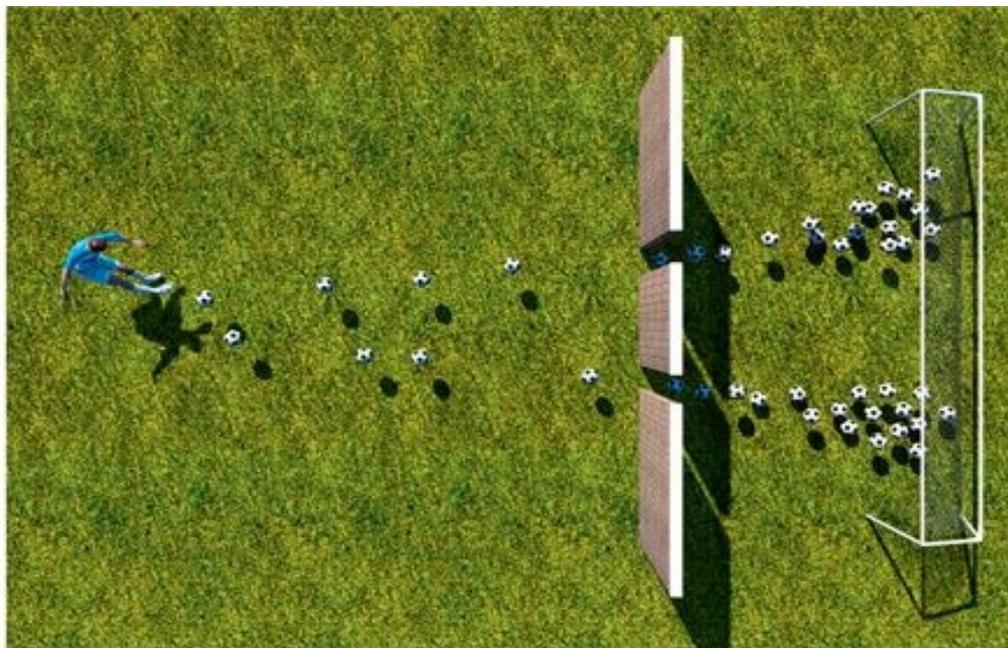
Albert Einstein
1879-1955



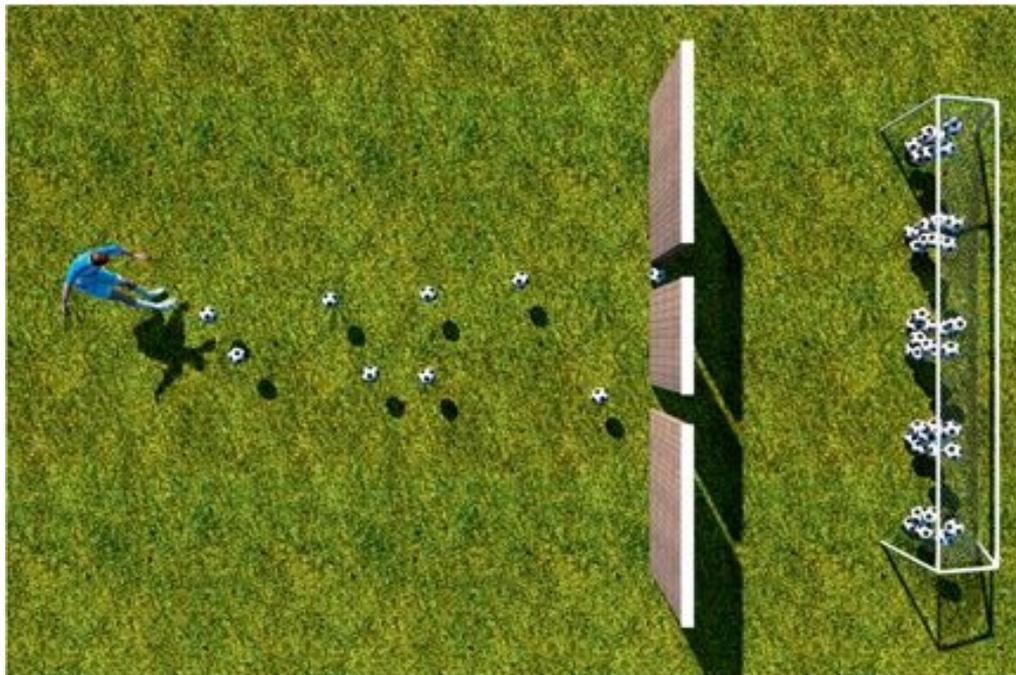
Niels Bohr
1886-1965

- Darwin's "Origin of Species" 1858 revolutionized our understanding the evolution of life. (*material*)
- Einstein's quantum theory of light, 1905 and general relativity, 1915 $E=Mc^2$ (*material*)
- Bohr invented quantum physics. Einstein who never accepted the theory argued with him for 3 years. (*conceptual*) *death bed equation*

Molecules as Particles & Waves



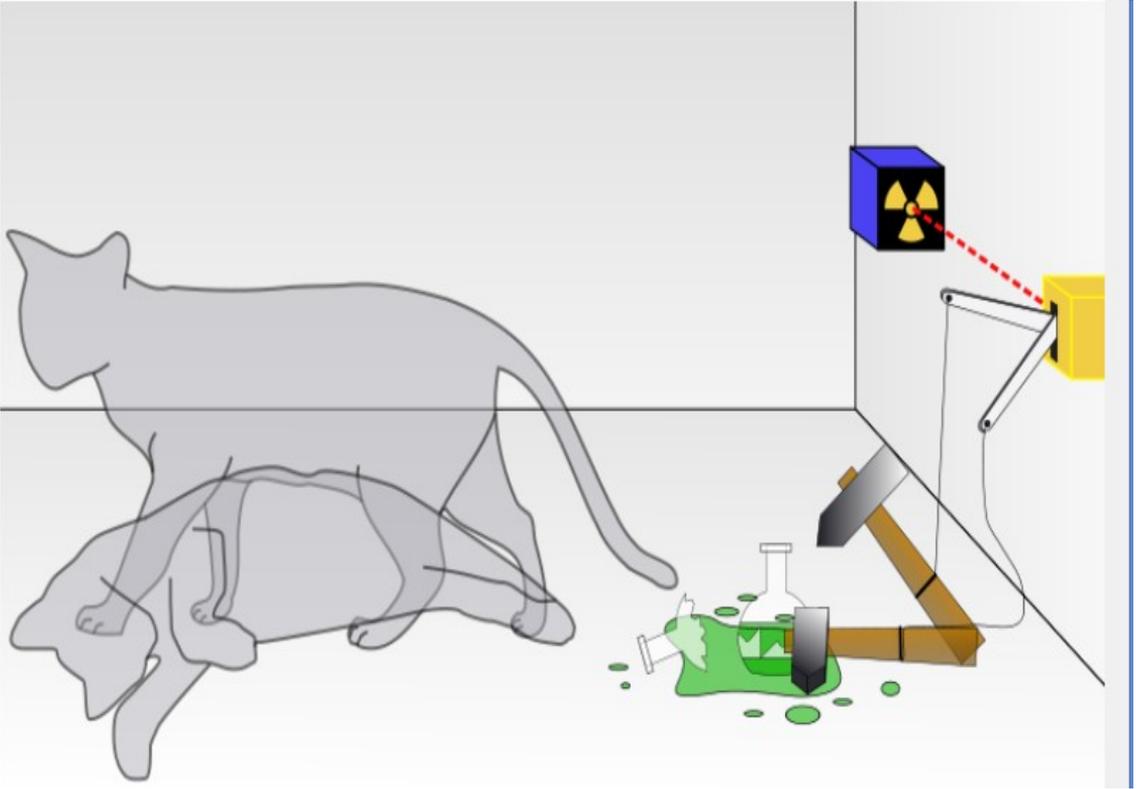
Bucky balls as Particles



Bucky balls as Waves

From "The Grand Design", Hawking

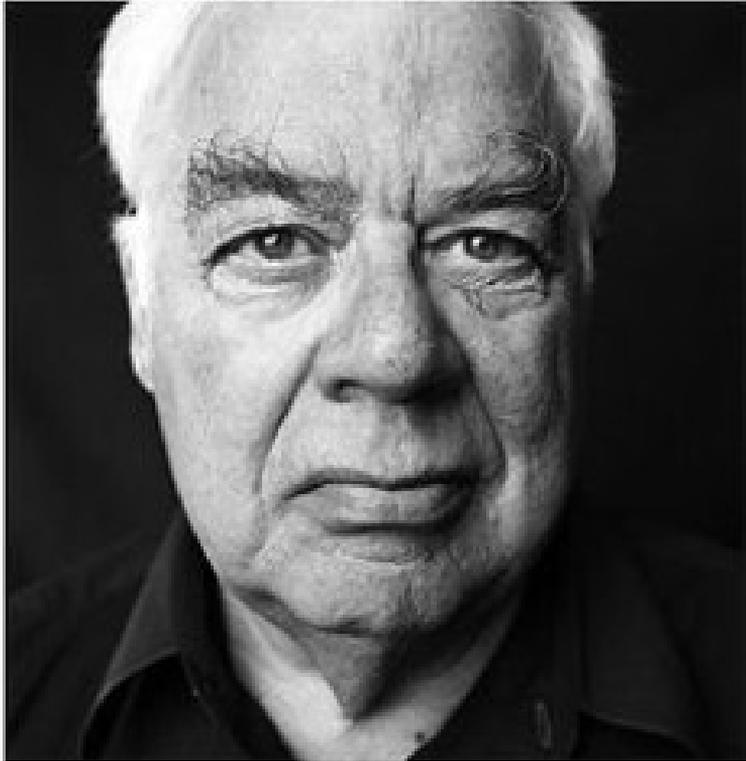
Schrödinger's Cat



- Today one must think **outside the box.** Jane & Bob,
human affect
- Forget your common **experiences** a dumb son

Richard Rorty

Conceptual Pragmatist 1931-2007



- “The best we can hope for truth is a sort of consensus over what is useful to believe.”
2 X 2 = 4 no
- “The world is out there but descriptions of it are not.”
- “The world does not speak only we do.”

Does human suffering negate the sacred?

The long tale of human misery and suffering has also to be treated with the most profound seriousness. It is precisely as it struggles with these difficult issues that theology manifests itself as being a truth seeking and rational form of human enquiry.



John Polkinghorn

Pope Benedict, Infinite God paradox

“My friend who was an agnostic and a skeptic once said: “There are no atheists in a fox hole.” We all, some day will be in that fox hole of life and most of us at that time will believe in God.”

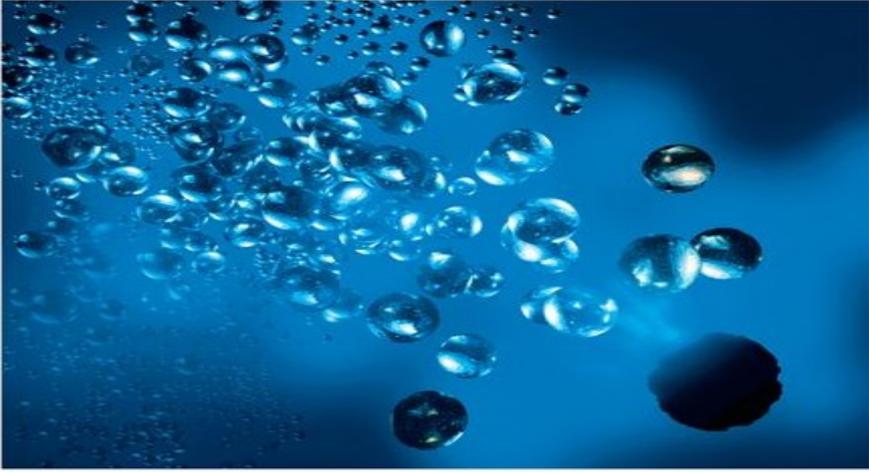
relational ontology, mach's principle, Trinity

Relational Ontology



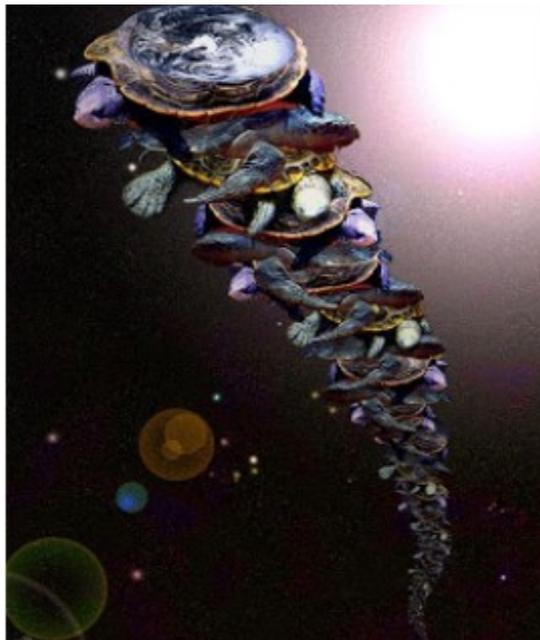
- Evolution, Chaos and Relational Ontology are almost all the same theories.
- They all depend upon the self organization of new more complex entities from previous simpler entities which had turned chaotic.
- Arab Spring, 13 colonies, Cambrian Explosion, galaxy formation etc.

Stephen Hawking's Reality

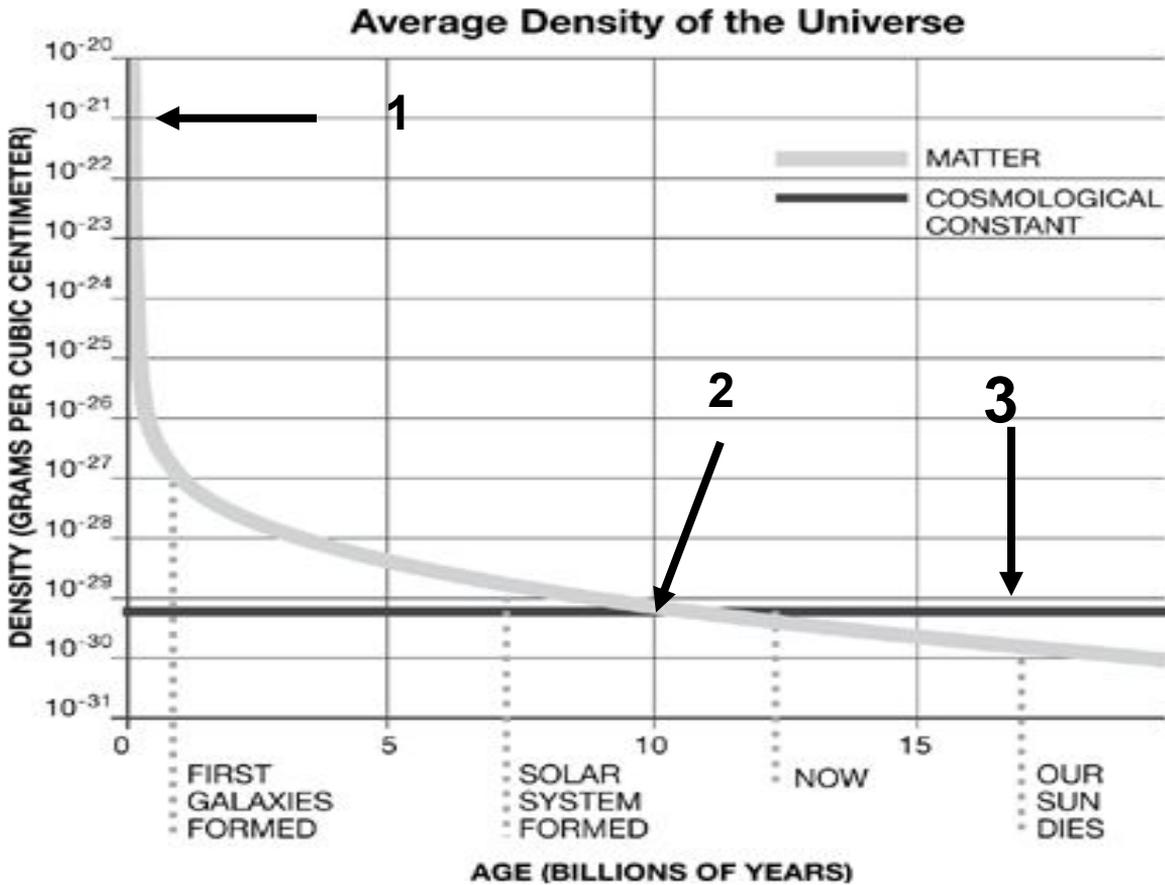


From Hawking's book *Grand Design*:

A lady listening to Hawking's ideas didn't agree with him: "Reality is a flat world on the back of a turtle." Hawking asked: "What supported the turtle?" God didn't care about nonhuman univ. "It was turtles all the way down!"



Anthropic Principle



From: “A Universe from Nothing”, Krauss

This is a graph of the total energy in the Universe, light gray curve from its creation, #1 to the present, #2 and to its future 10 billion years from now. The dark black line marked, #3 is the constant energy in all of space. It is called the cosmological constant.

The cosmological constant was determined empirically to be as shown other theoretical calculations predicted it to be significantly greater in which case galaxies and stars would not have formed and therefore no life. 120 0.s

Conclusion

- The Philosophy of Being is the study of Reality and is called “Ontology”.
- Humans have been attempting to understand what is out there for the past 2300 years.
- I now realize that my seven years of study was really the study of reality.
- It led me to a rational belief that a Christian God defined by the Trinity and the resurrection is a reality.

Beverly's Cross



This cross appeared on the hospital's entrance wall during my wife's last few days. Did God put it there by using his sacred laws of nature? I think so, but I will concentrate on God's reason for putting it there. couldn't resist