

# Logic Can Save Us from “Killer Robots”

**Selmer Bringsjord**  
**Naveen Sundar G et al.**

Rensselaer AI & Reasoning (RAIR) Lab  
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Department of Computer Science  
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IFLAI  
3/28/2024



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# The PAID Problem



# The PAID Problem

$\forall x$  : Agents



# The PAID Problem

$\forall x$  : Agents

**P**owerful(x) + **A**utonomous(x) + **I**ntelligent(x)  $\Rightarrow$  **D**angerous(x) /  
**D**estroy\_Us



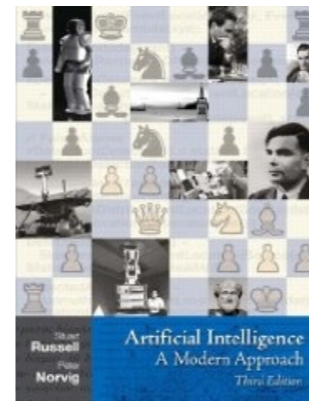
“We’re in *very* deep trouble.”

“We’re in *very* deep trouble.”





“We’re in *very* deep trouble.”



While the PAI machines aren't quite as easy to neutralize as the destructive machines vanquished in *Star Trek: TOS*, these relevant four episodes are remarkably instructive.



"The Ultimate Computer"  
S2 E24



"The Return of the Archons"  
S1 E21



"The Changeling"  
S2 E3



"I, Mudd"  
S2 E8

# Logic Thwarts Landru!



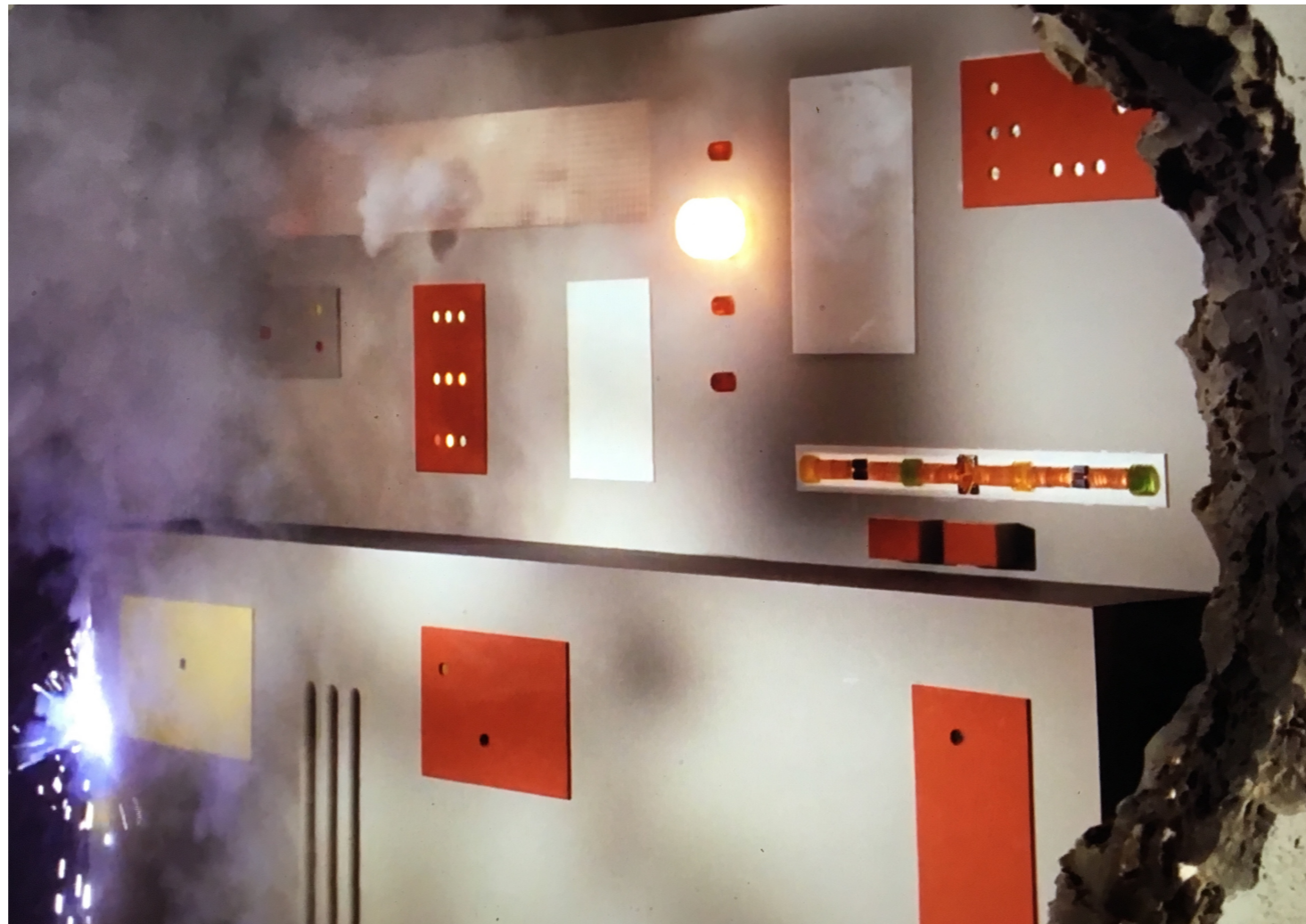
First Suspicion That It's a Mere Computer Running the Show

# Logic Thwarts Landru!



Landru is Indeed Merely a Computer  
(the real Landru having done the programming)

# Logic Thwarts Landru!



Landru Kills Himself Because Kirk/Spock Argue He Has Violated the Prime Directive for Good by Denying Creativity to Others



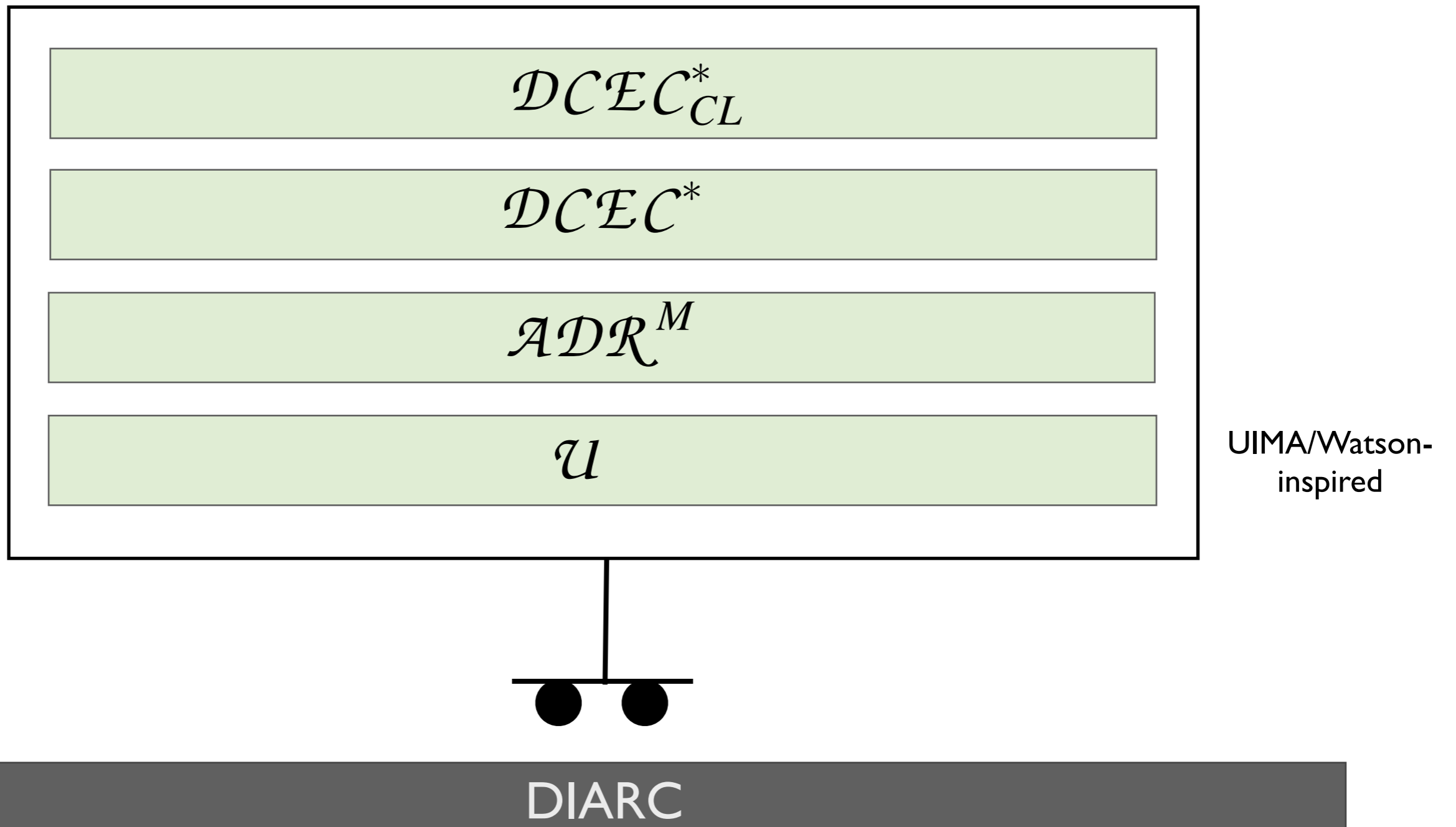
# Logic Thwarts Nomad! (with the Liar Paradox)



I.

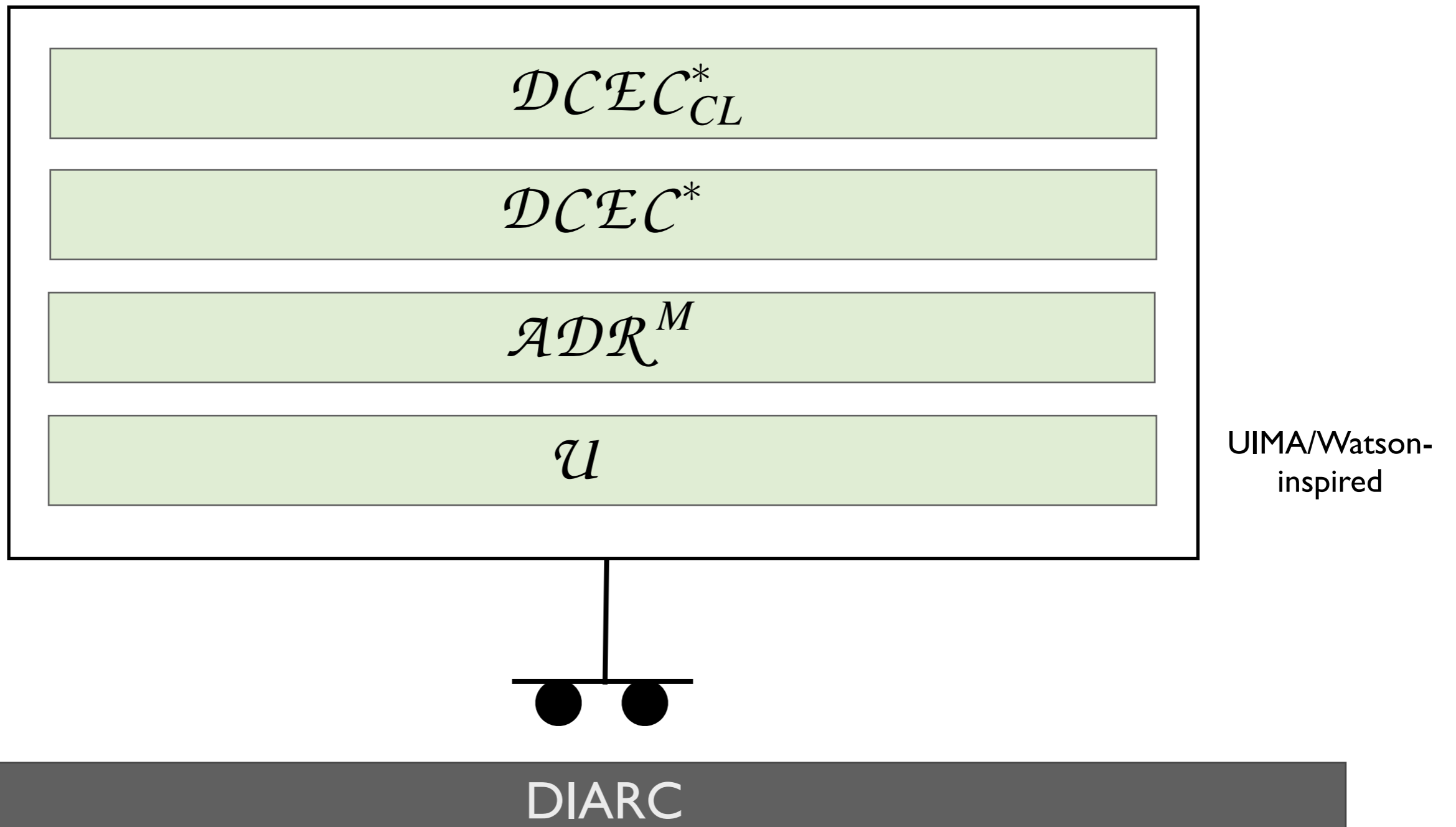
Cognitive Calculi ...

# Hierarchy of Ethical Reasoning

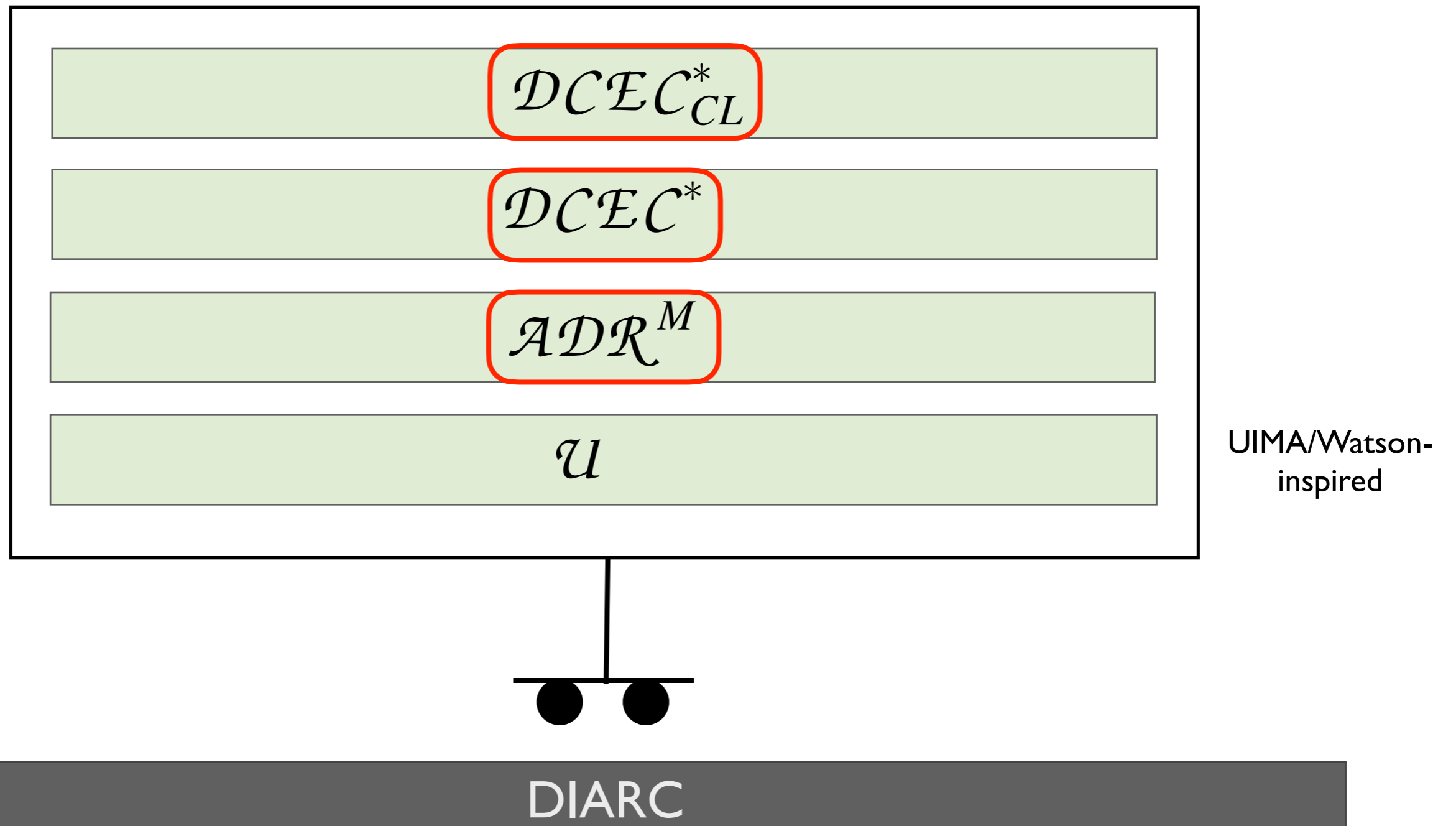




# Hierarchy of Ethical Reasoning

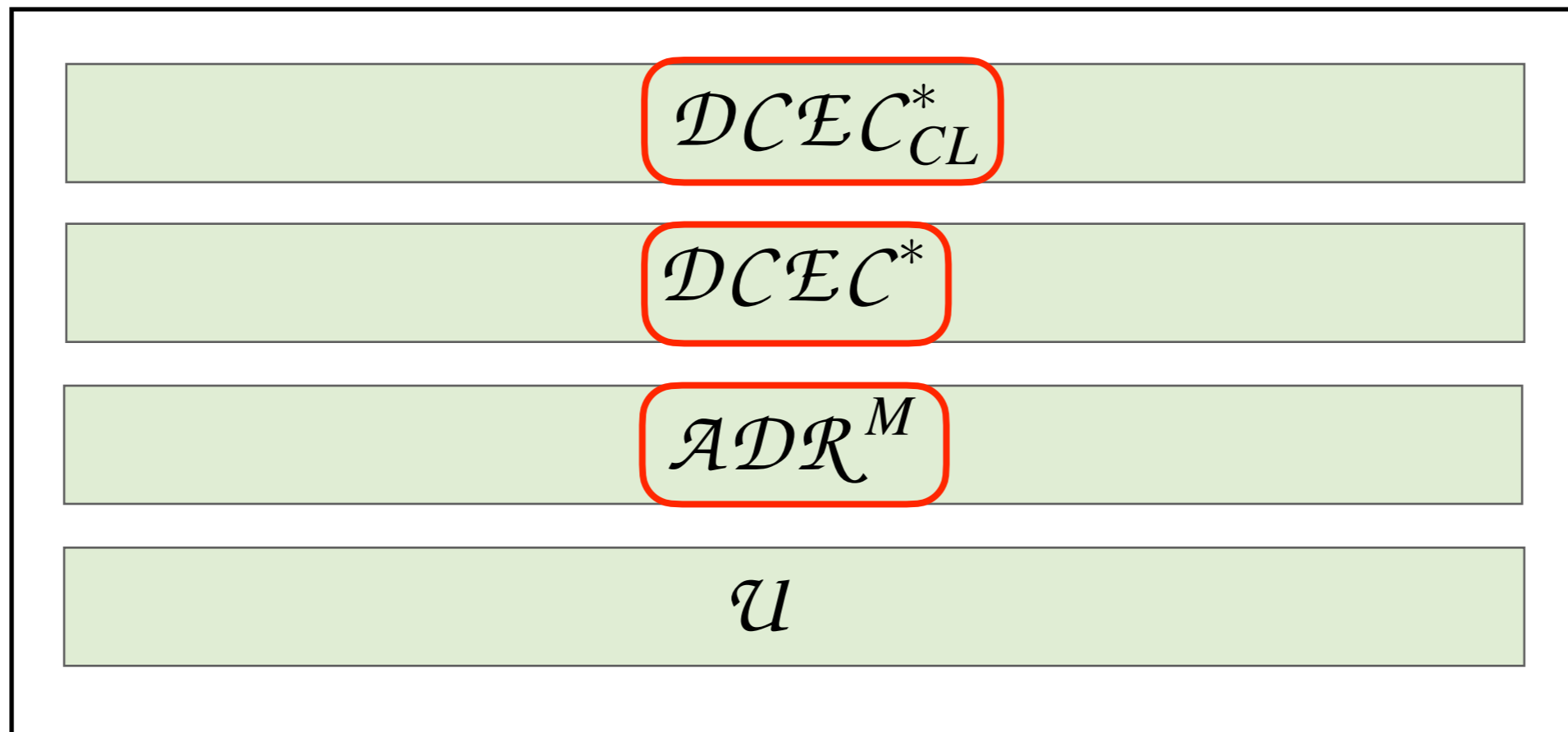


# Hierarchy of Ethical Reasoning



# Hierarchy of Ethical Reasoning

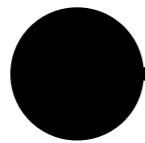
*Not paradox-prone deontic logics!*



UIMA/Watson-  
inspired

DIARC

# “Universal Cognitive Calculus”



1666

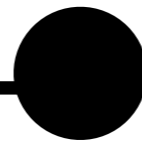


Leibniz

1.5 centuries < Boole!  
2.5 centuries < Kripke

$\int$

Logic Theorist  
(birth of modern logicist AI)



1956



Simon

*DCEC\**

**Syntax**

Object | Agent | Self | ActionType | Action | Event |  
Moment | Boolean | Fluent | Numeric

**Rules of Inference**

$C1: P(a, t) \rightarrow K(a, t, t)$  [R1]      $C2: K(a, t, t) \rightarrow B(a, t, t)$  [R2]  
 $C3: t_1 < t_2 \rightarrow K(a, t_1, t_2)$  [R3]      $C4: K(a, t, t) \rightarrow K(a, t, t_1)$  [R4]  
 $C5: K(a, t_1, t_2) \rightarrow K(a, t_2, t_2)$  [R5]  
 $C6: B(a, t_1, t_2) \rightarrow B(a, t_2, t_2)$  [R6]  
 $C7: B(a, t_1, t_2) \rightarrow B(a, t_2, t_2)$  [R7]  
 $C8: C(a, t_1, t_2) \rightarrow C(a, t_2, t_2)$  [R8]  
 $C9: C(a, t_1, t_2) \rightarrow C(a, t_2, t_2)$  [R9]  
 $C10: C(a, t_1, t_2) \rightarrow C(a, t_2, t_2)$  [R10]  
 $C11: C(a, t_1, t_2) \rightarrow C(a, t_2, t_2)$  [R11]  
 $C12: C(a, t_1, t_2) \rightarrow C(a, t_2, t_2)$  [R12]  
 $C13: C(a, t_1, t_2) \rightarrow C(a, t_2, t_2)$  [R13]  
 $C14: C(a, t_1, t_2) \rightarrow C(a, t_2, t_2)$  [R14]  
 $C15: C(a, t_1, t_2) \rightarrow C(a, t_2, t_2)$  [R15]



AI of Today: What Would Leibniz Say?  
“Sorry, not impressed.”

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Turin Italy  
11/14/2016

II.

Early Progress With Our Calculi:  
Simple Dilemmas;  
Non-Akratic Robots

# NewScientist

Ethical robots save humans

# NewScientist

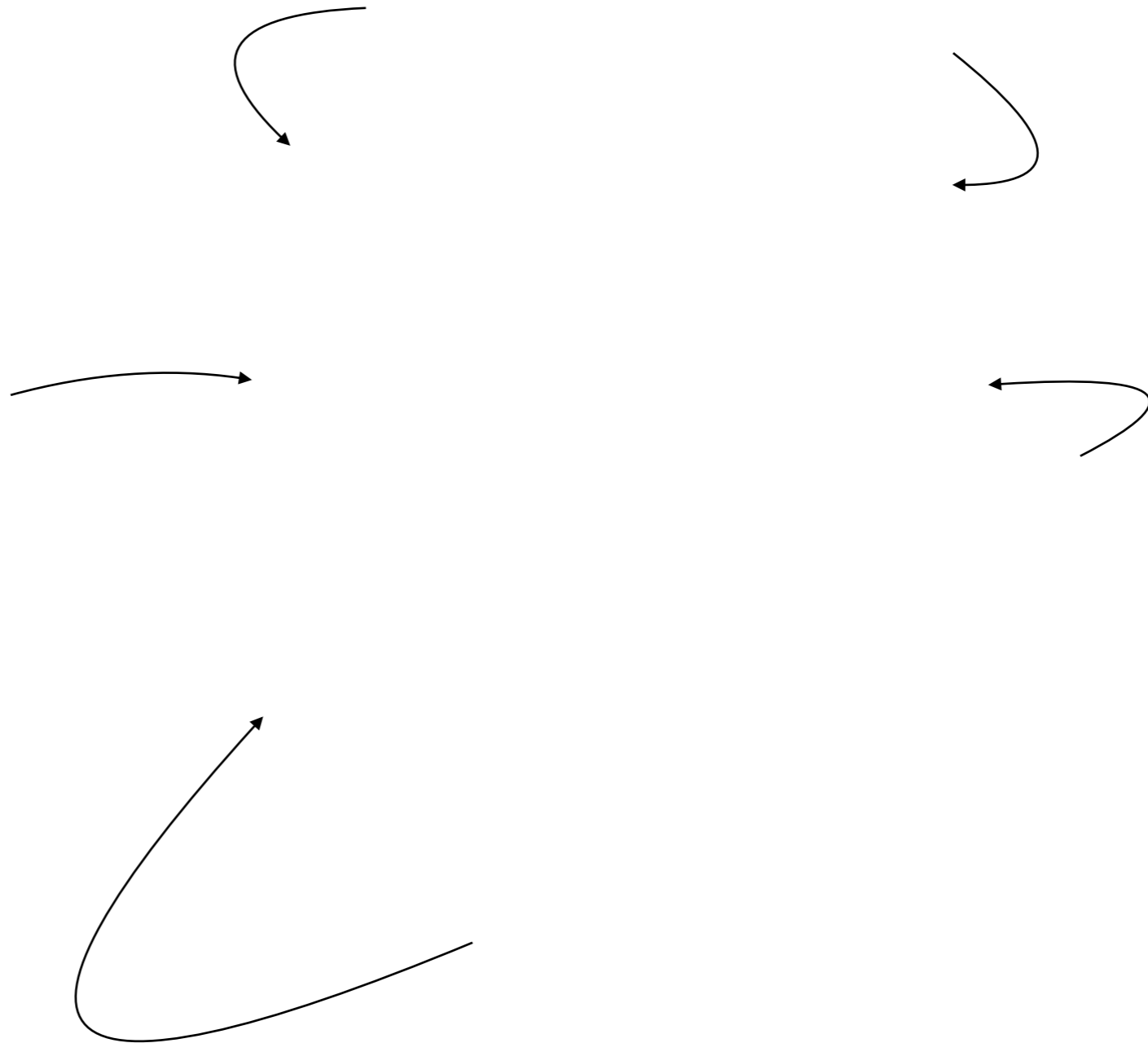
Ethical robots save humans



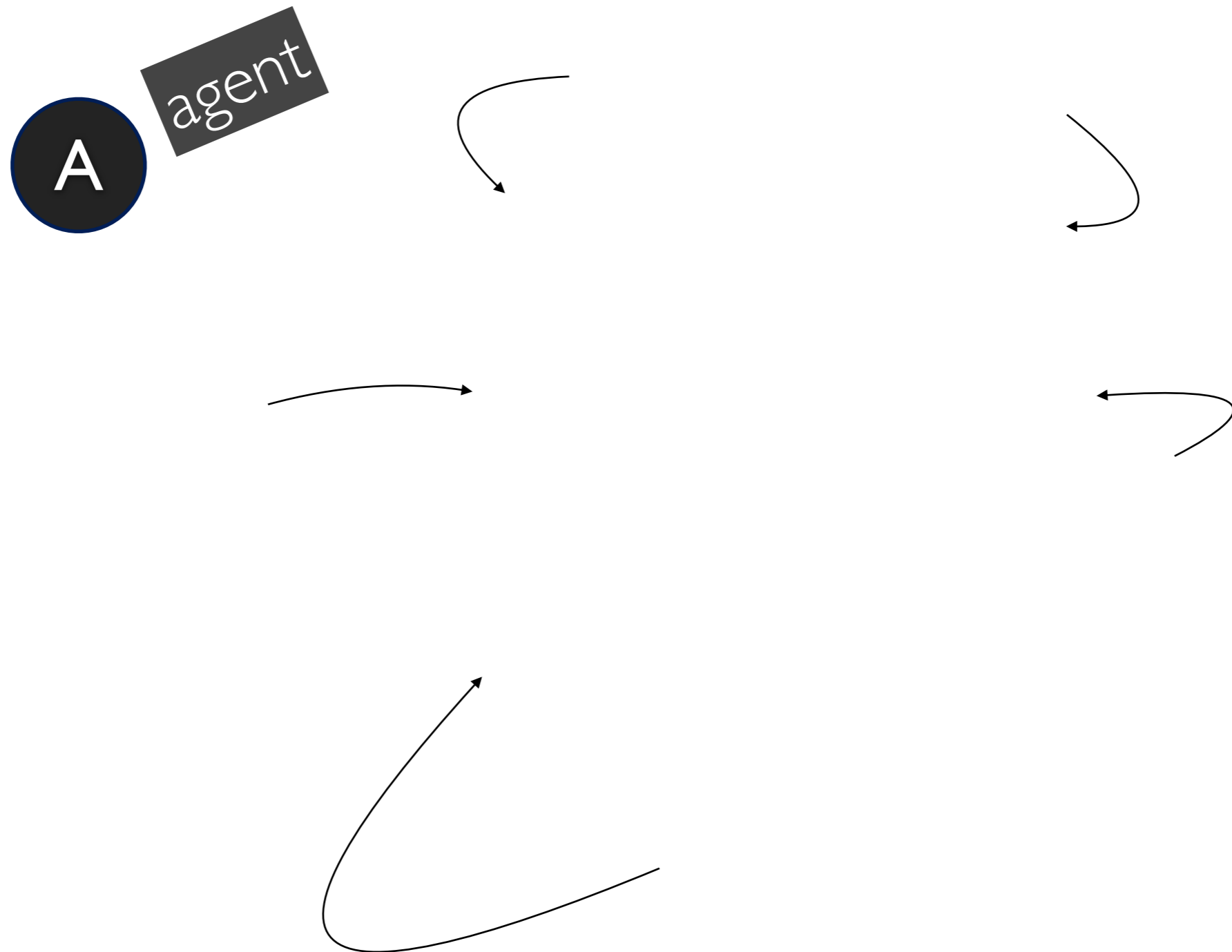




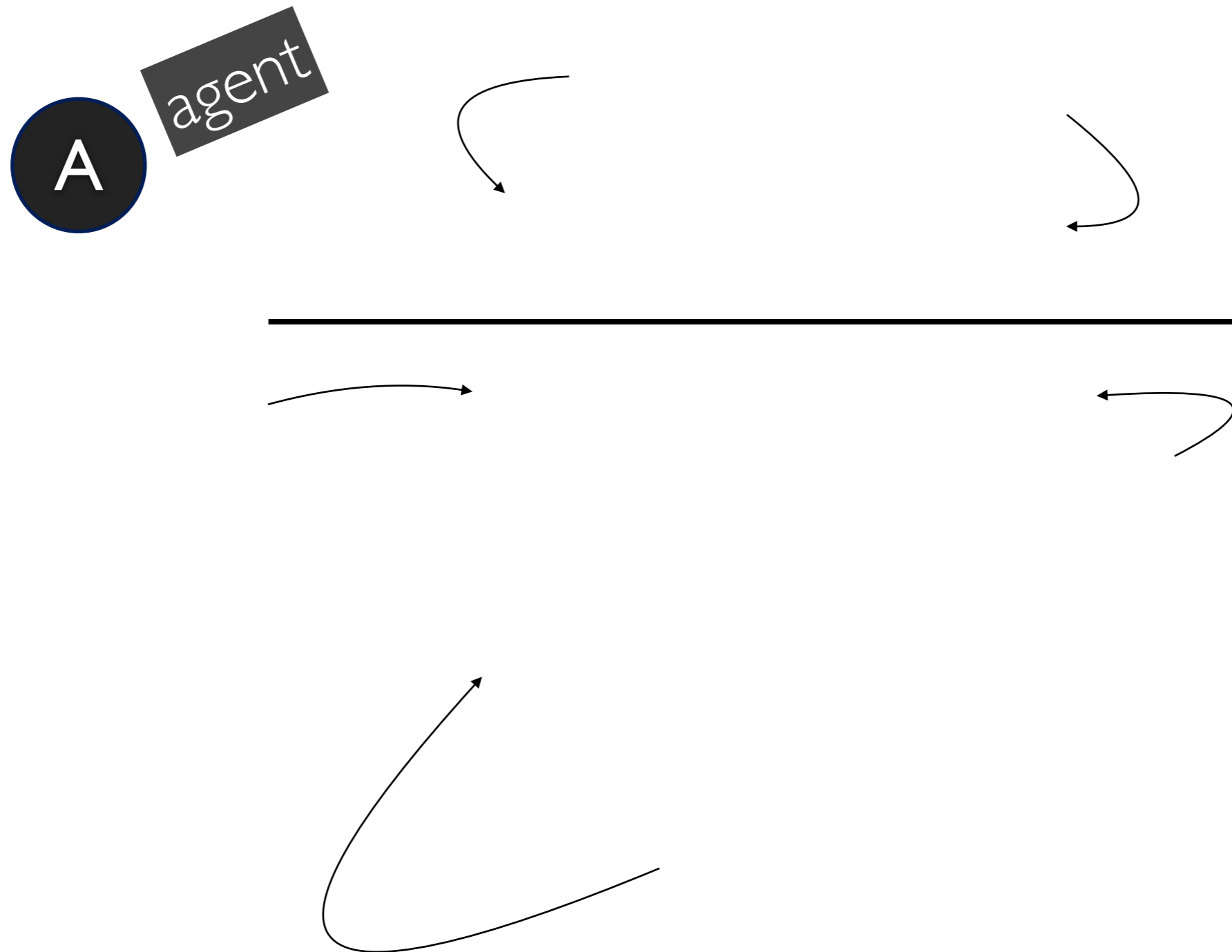
# Informal Context of Akrasia



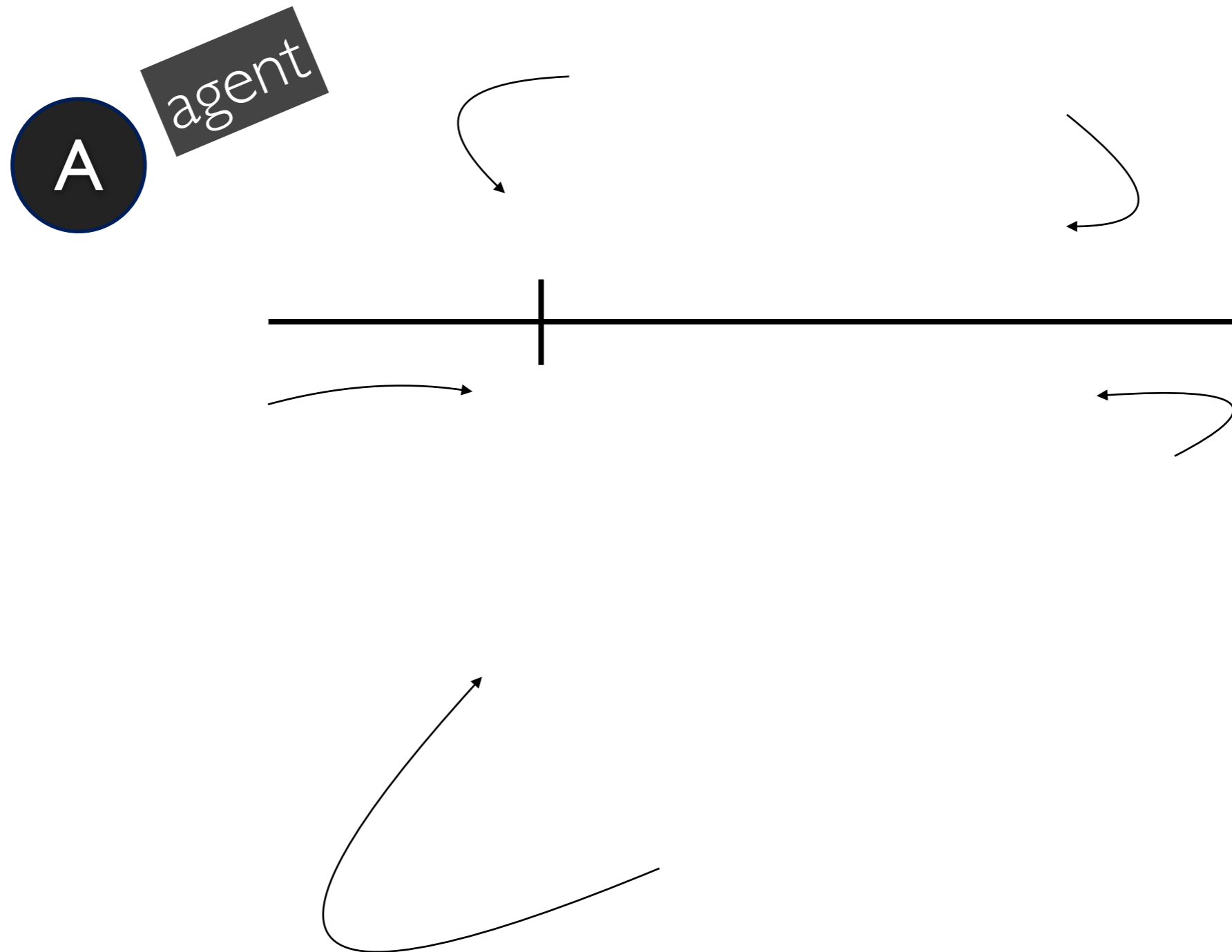
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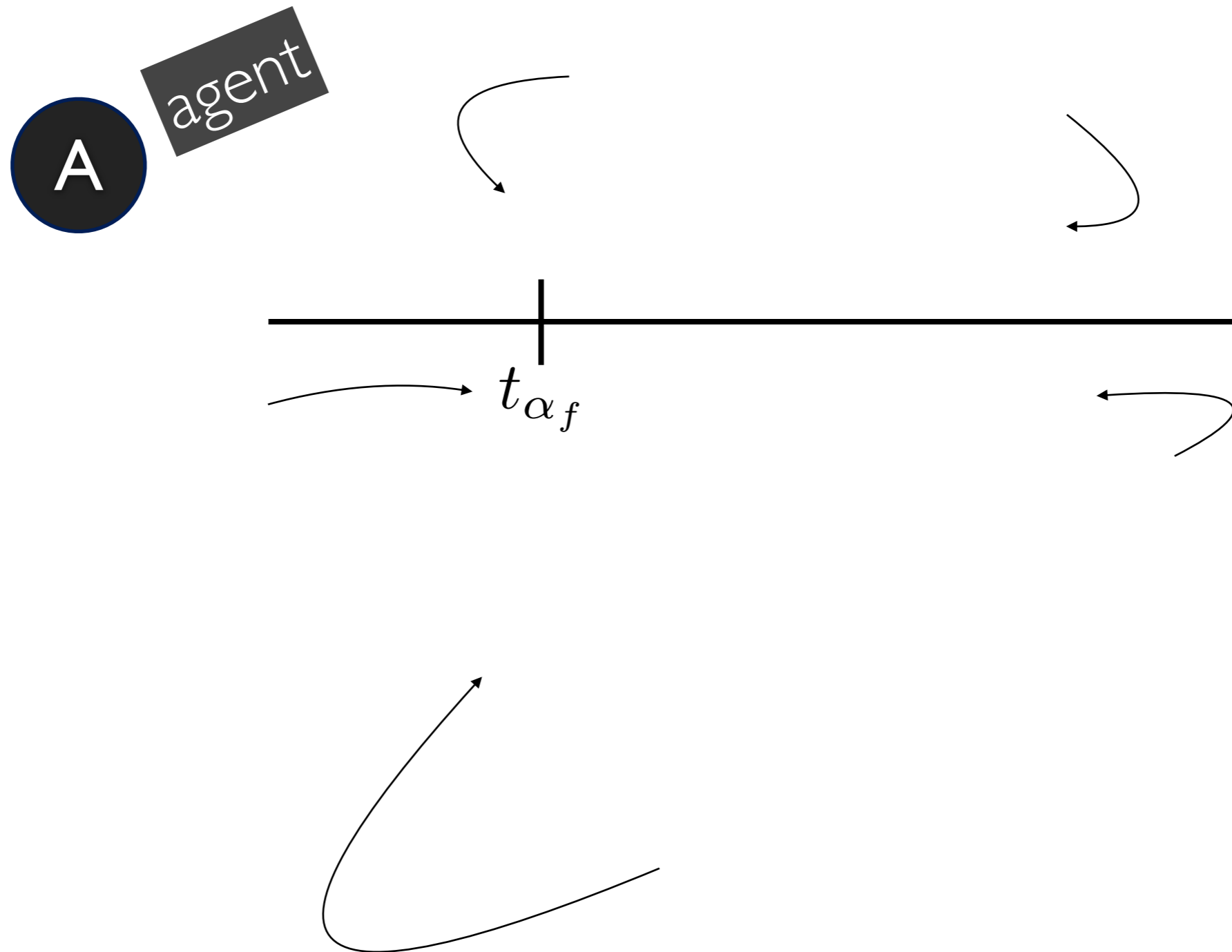
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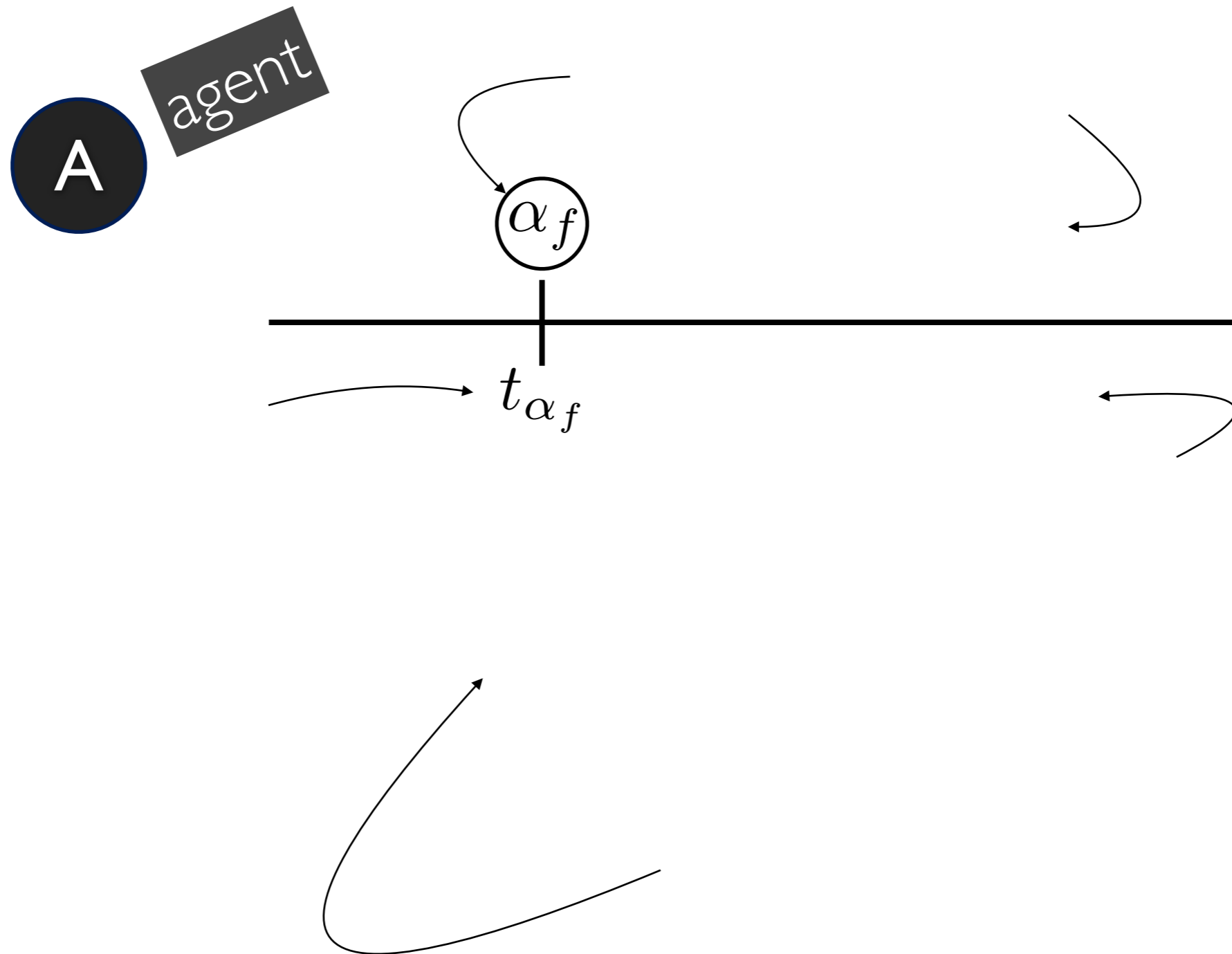
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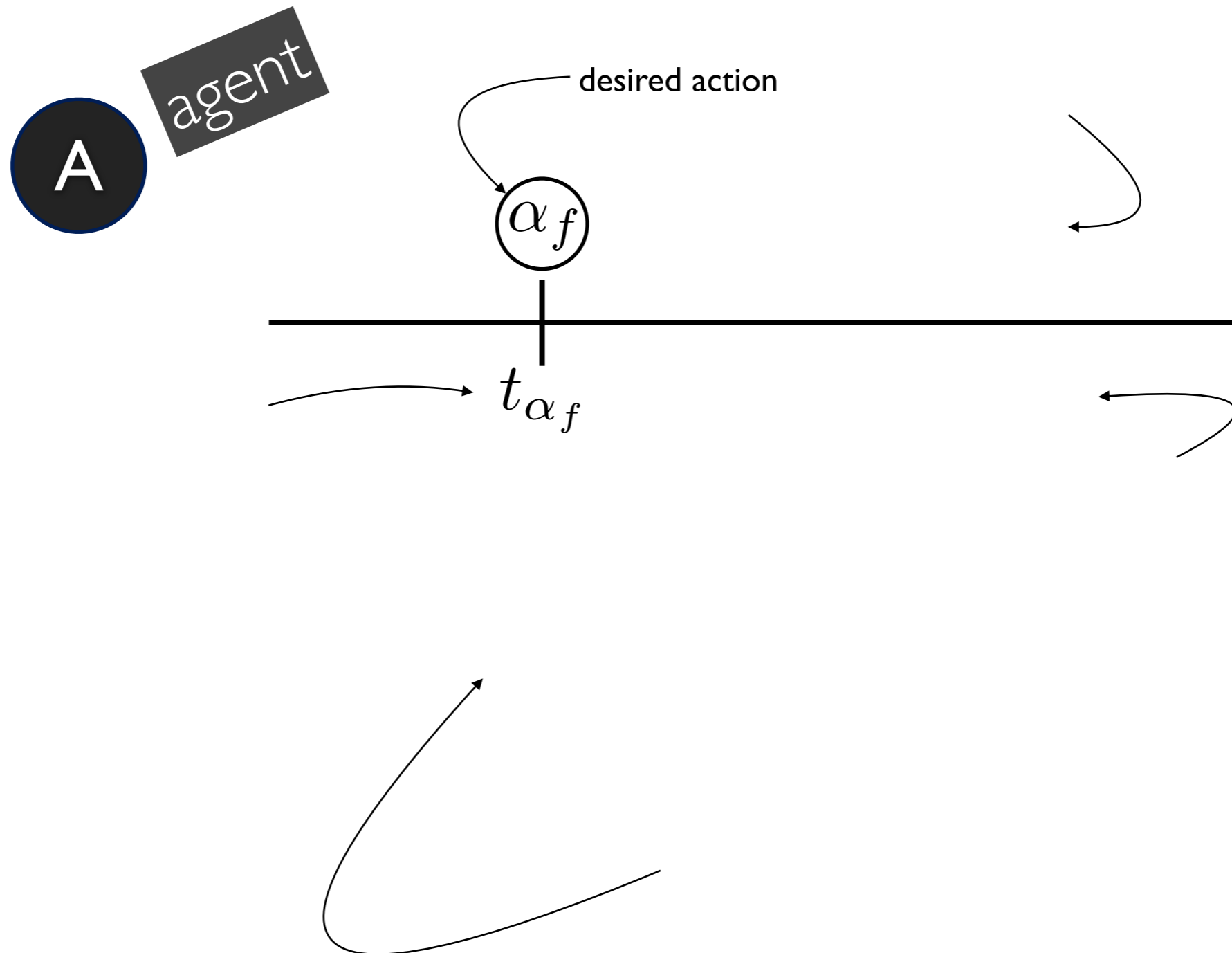
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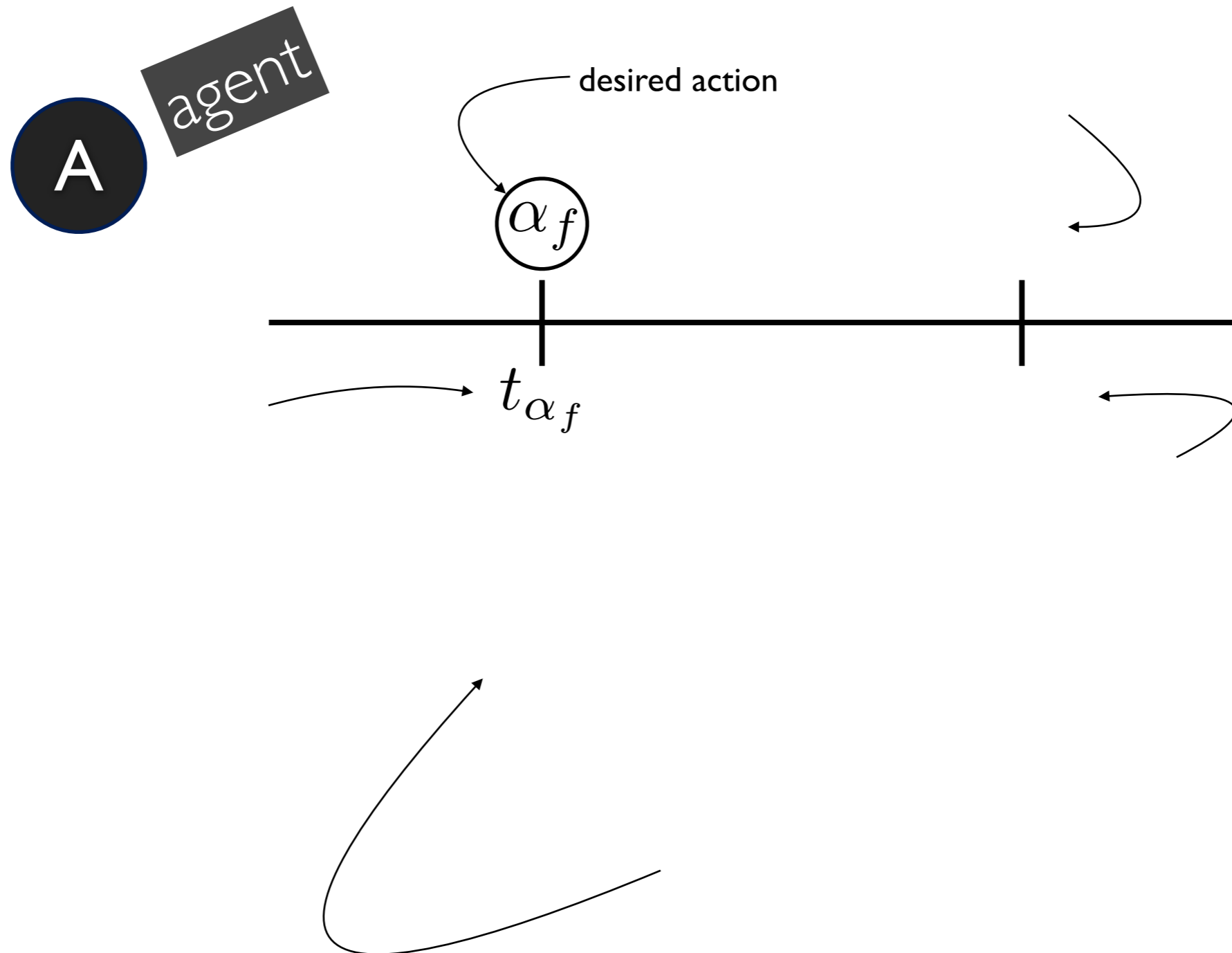


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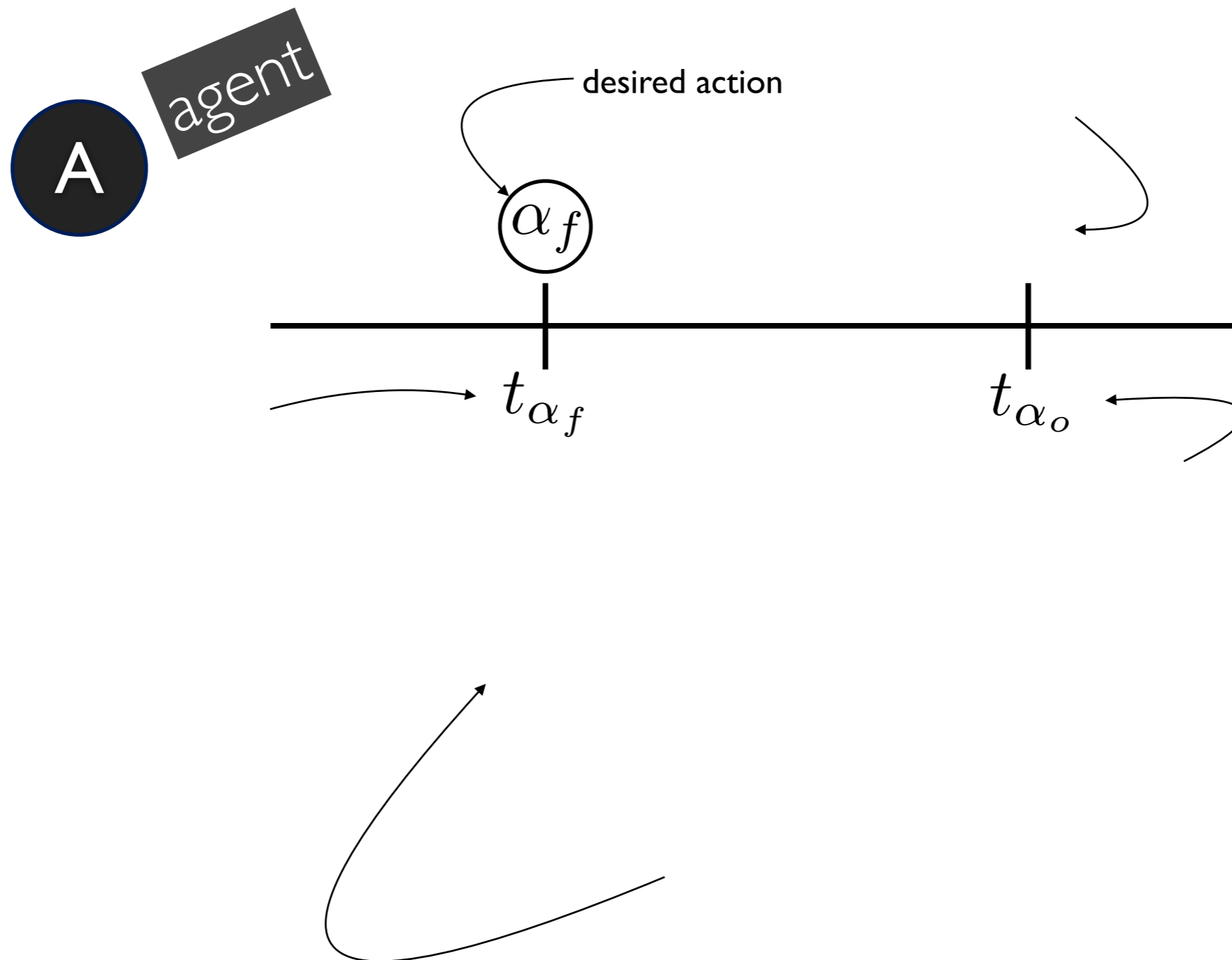




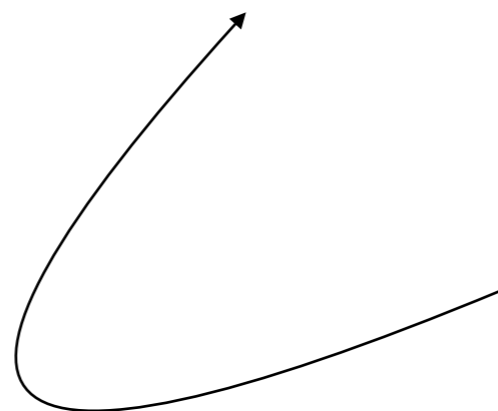
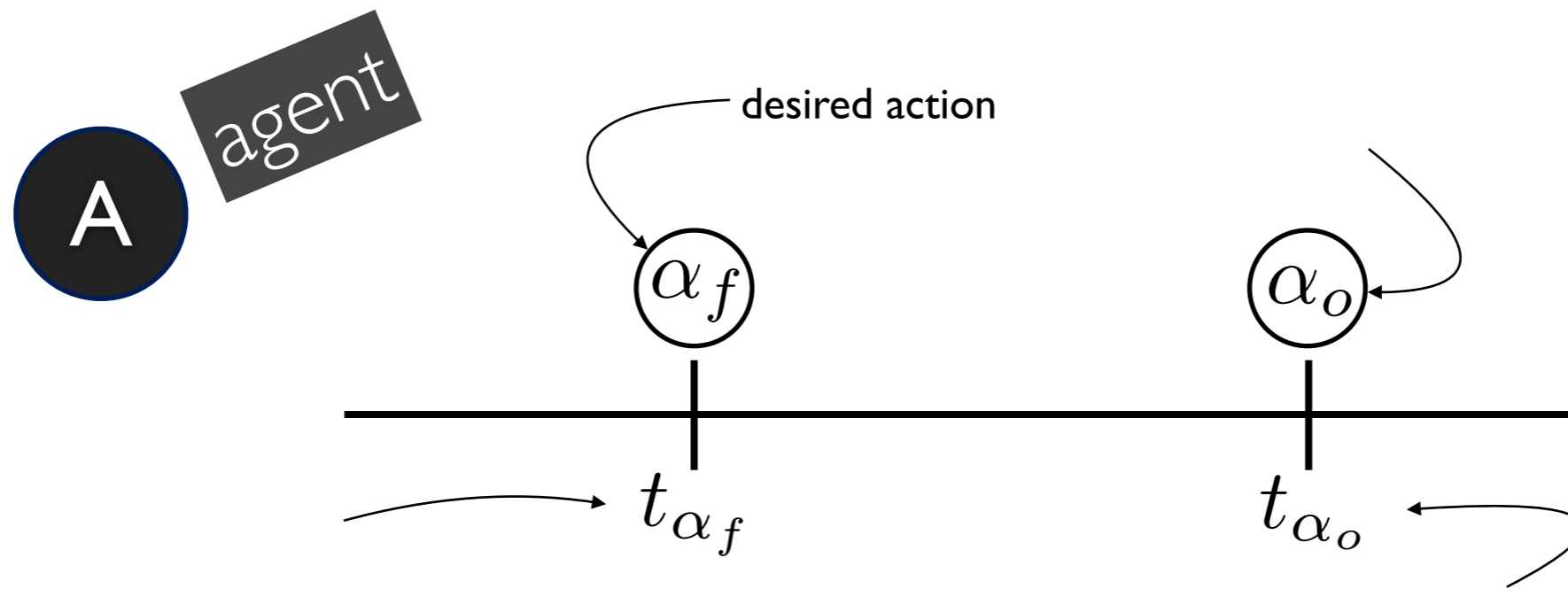
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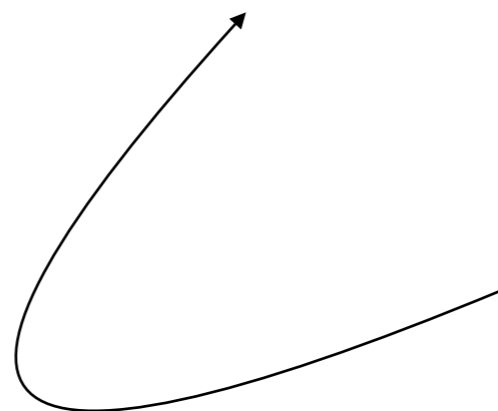
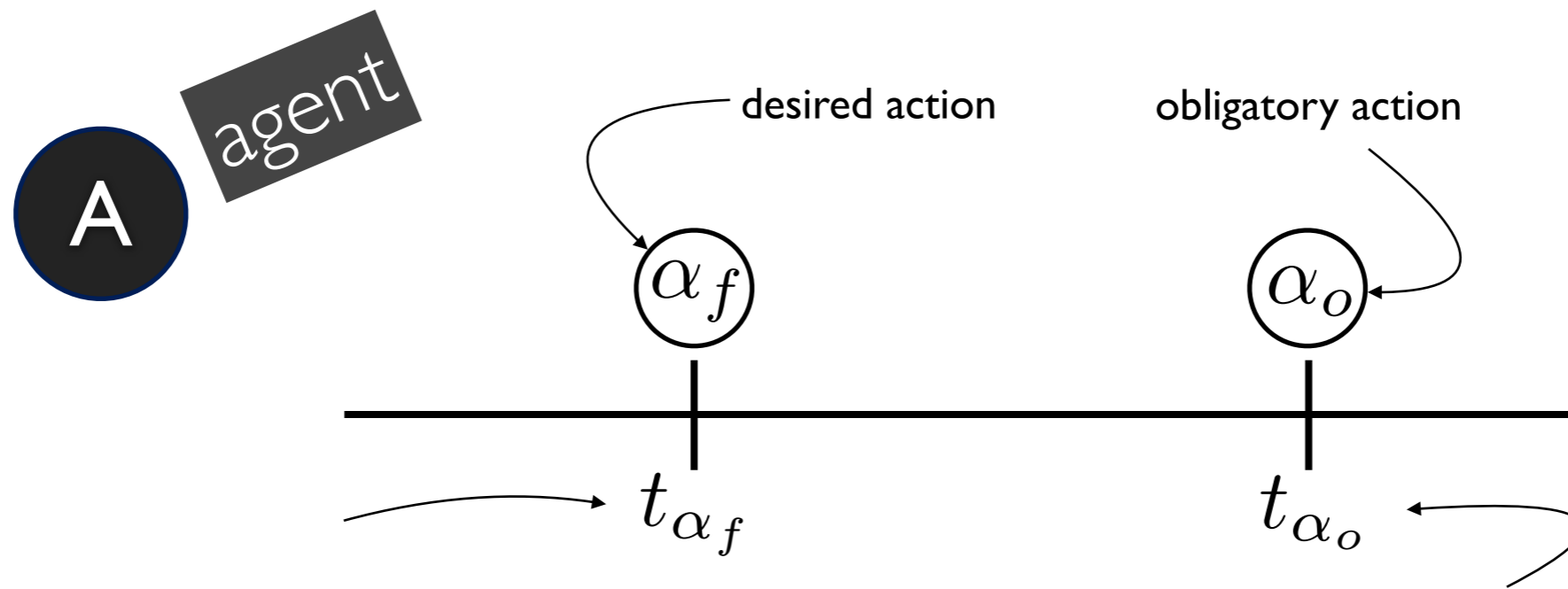
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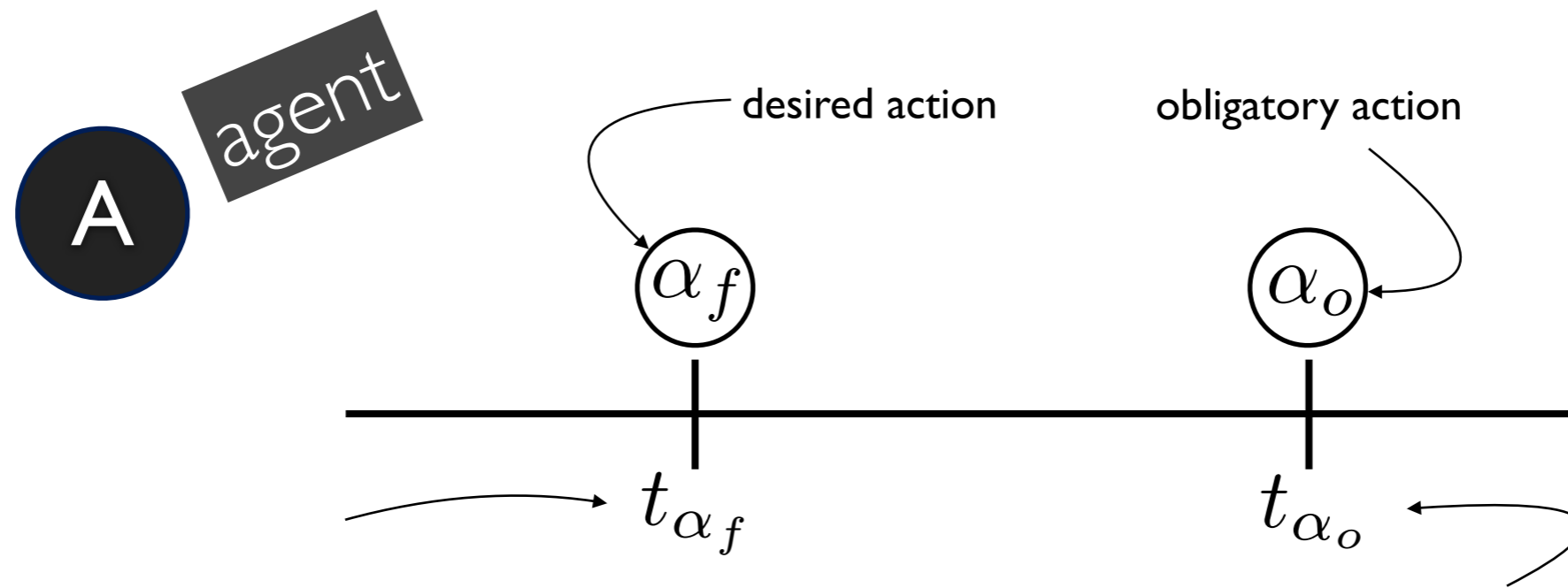
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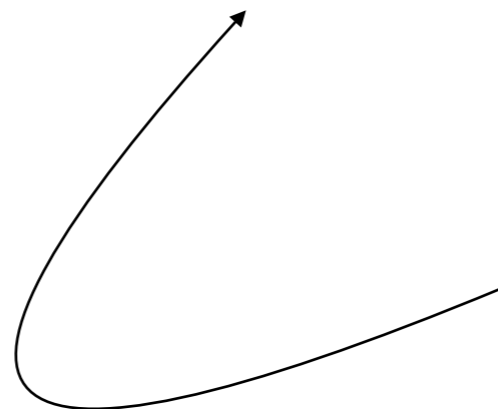
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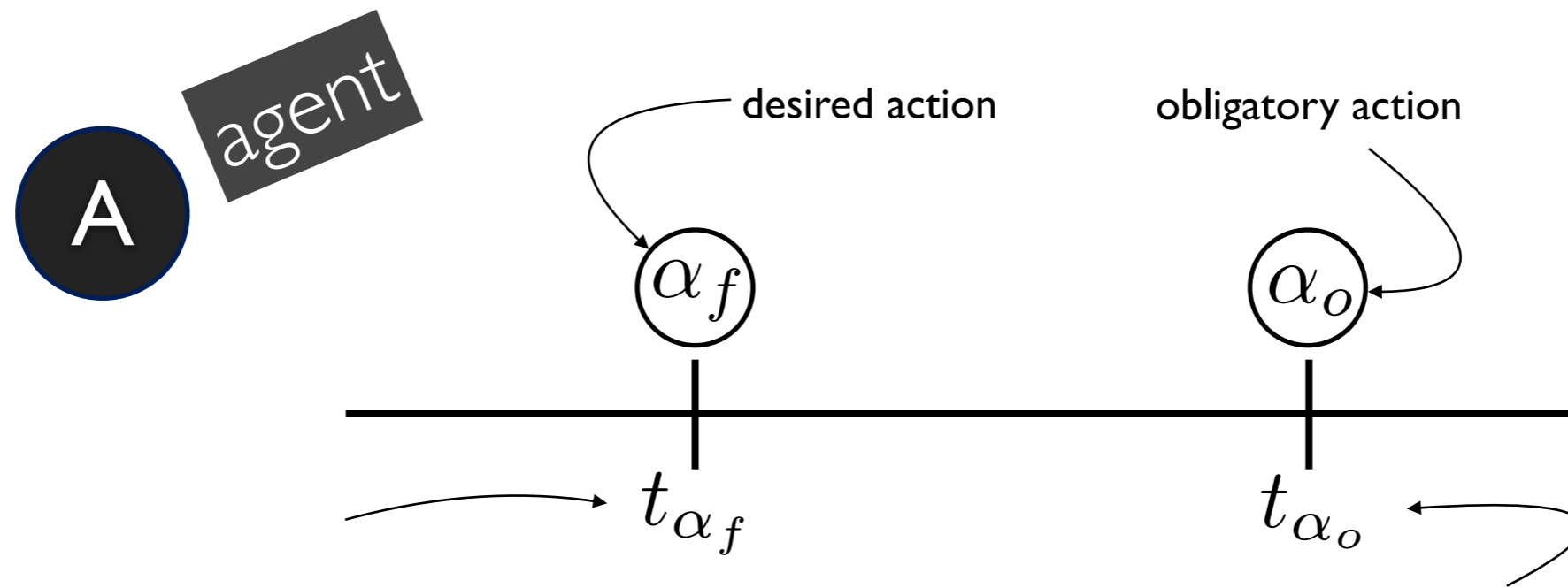
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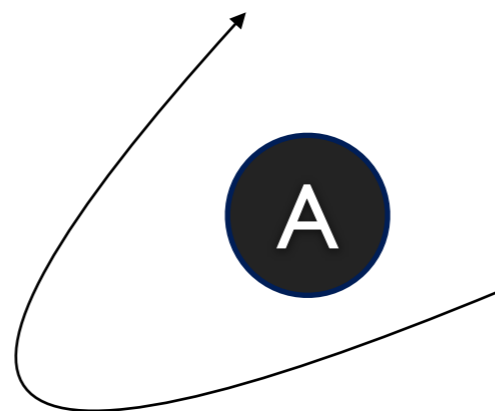
If  $\alpha_f$  happens, then  $\alpha_o$  can't happen.



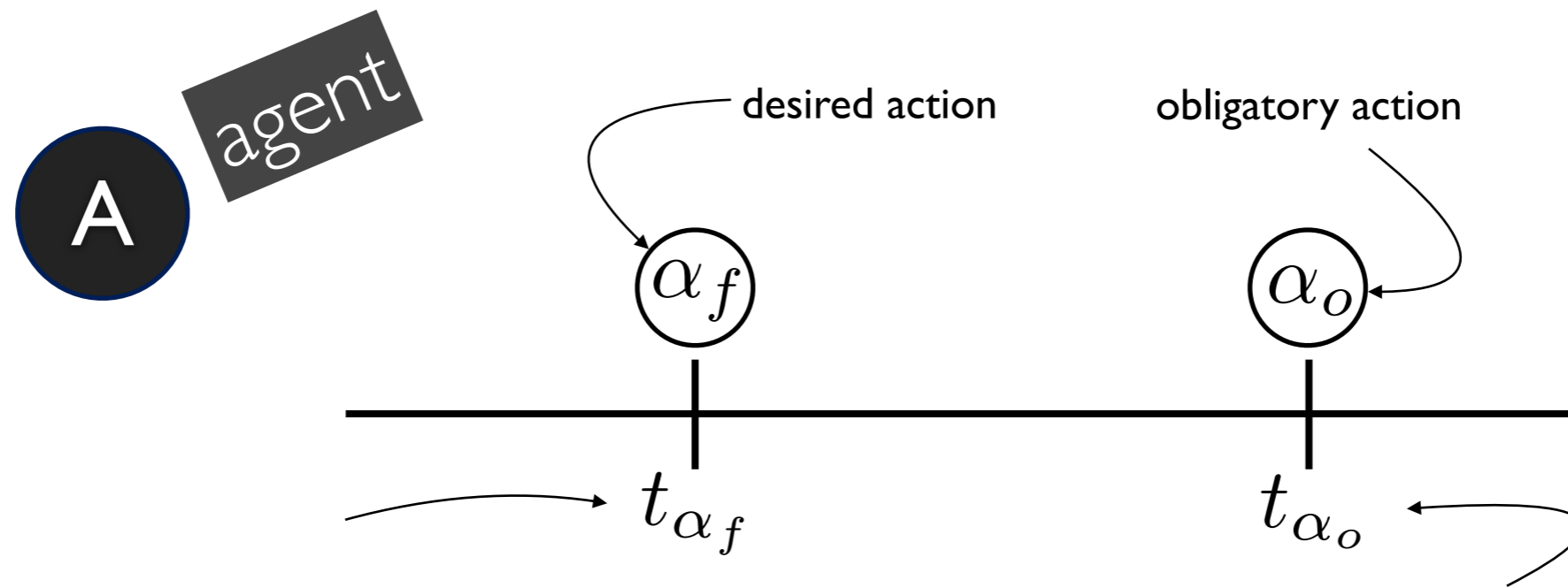
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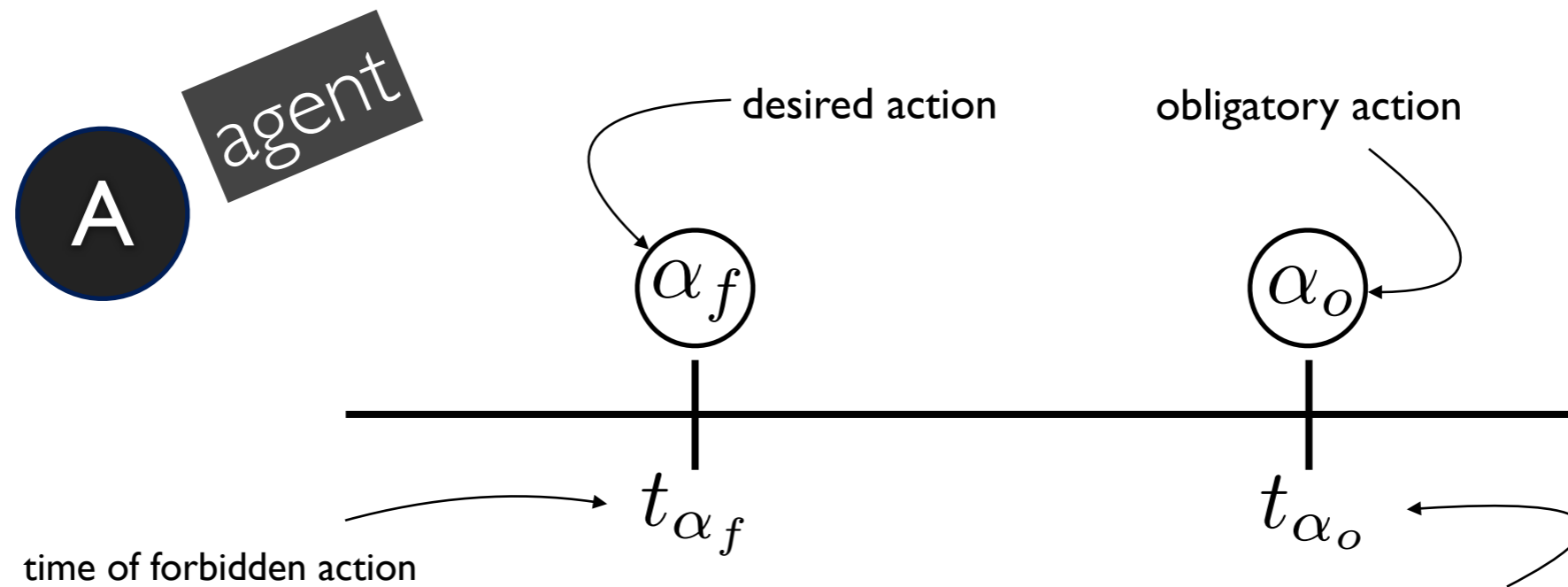
# Informal Context of Akrasia



If  $\alpha_f$  happens, then  $\alpha_o$  can't happen.

**A** knows this

# Informal Context of Akrasia

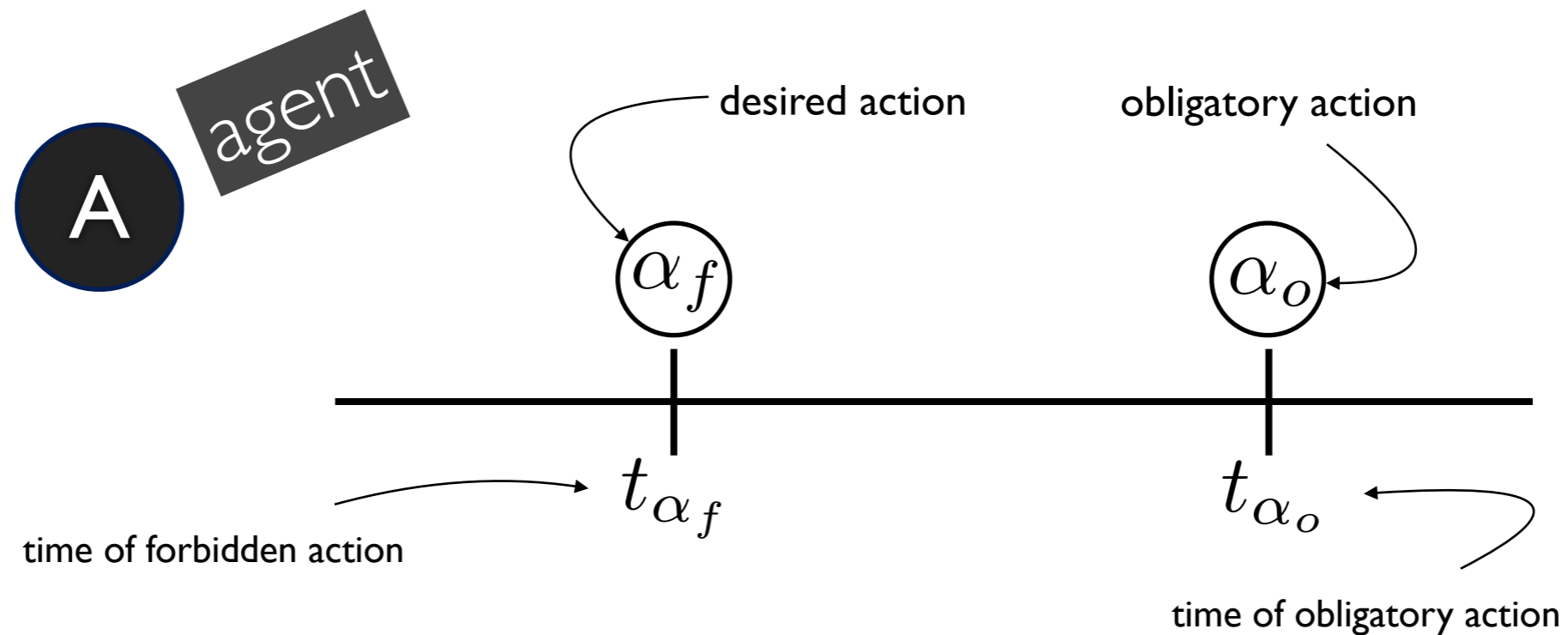


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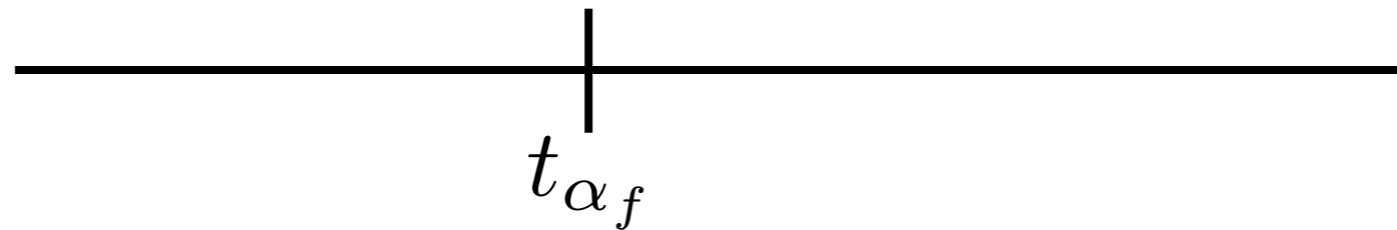
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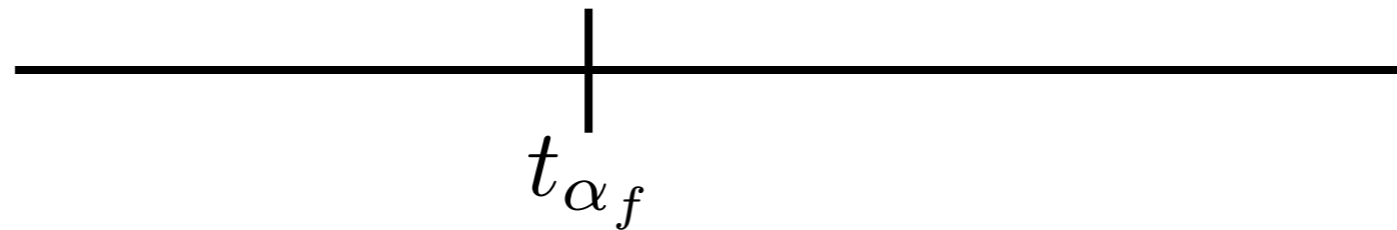
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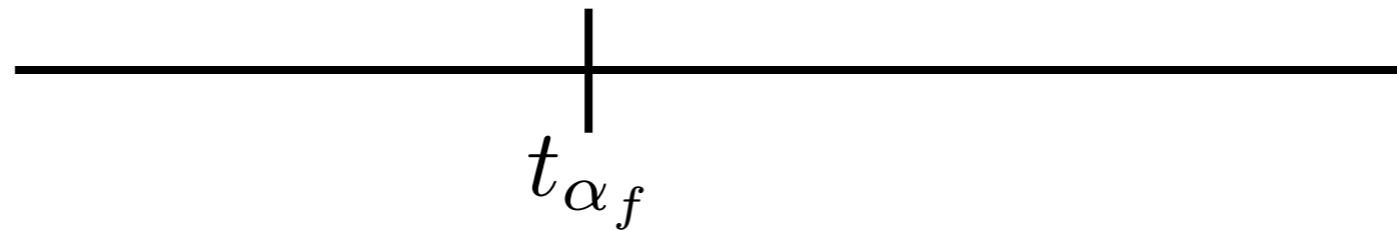


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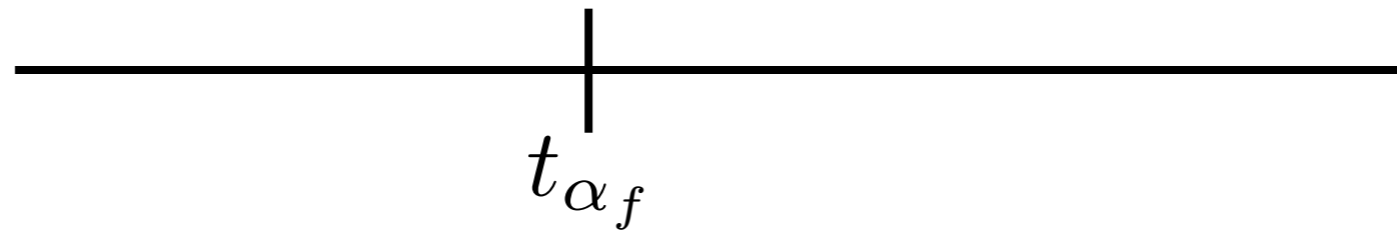


# Informal Definition of Akrasia

Desire to do  $(\alpha_f)$  

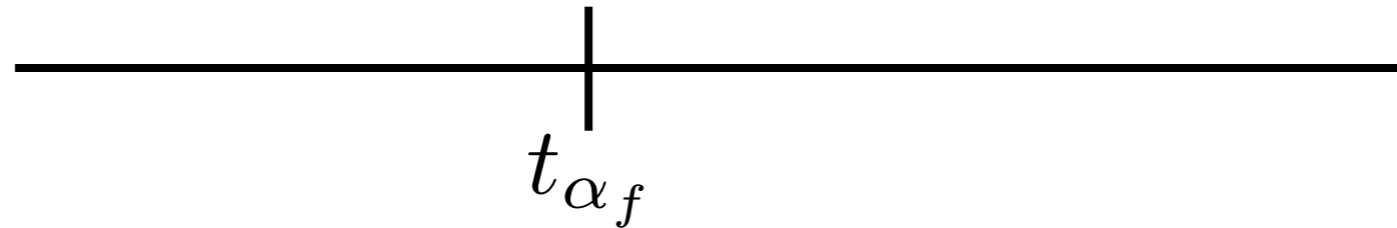


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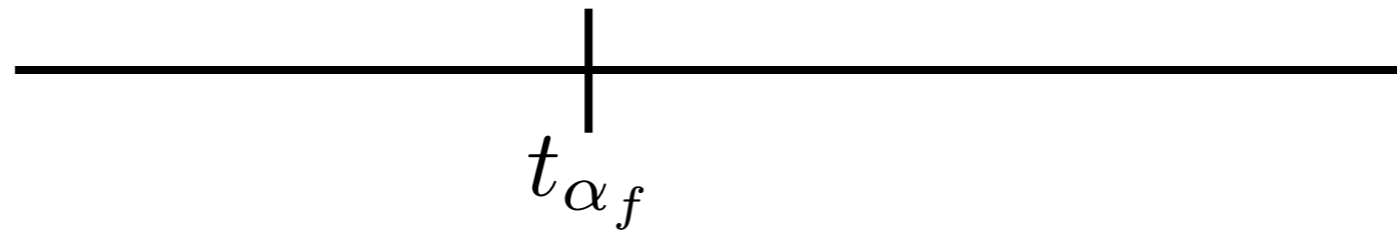
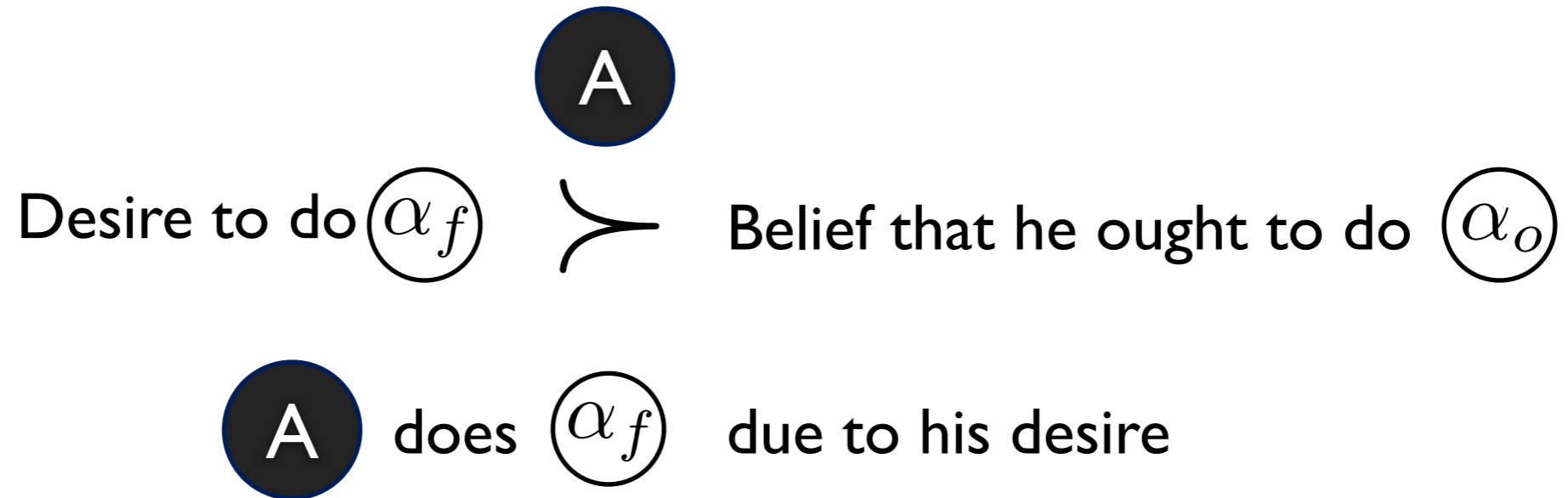




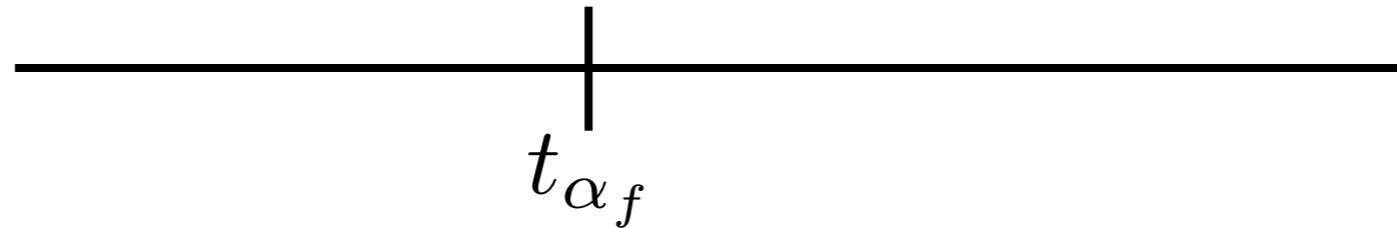
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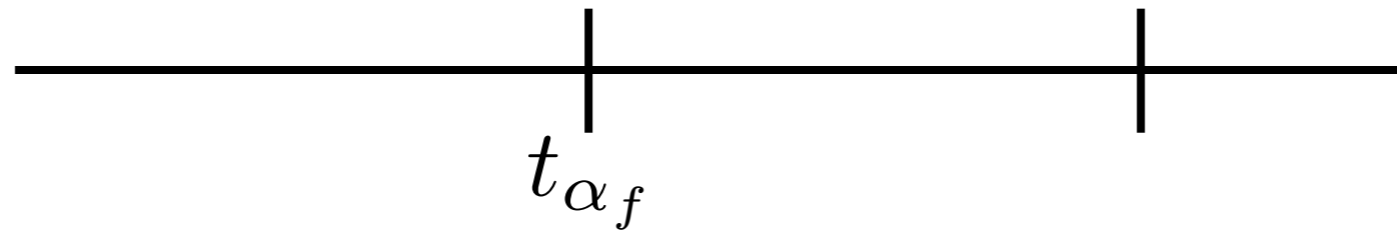
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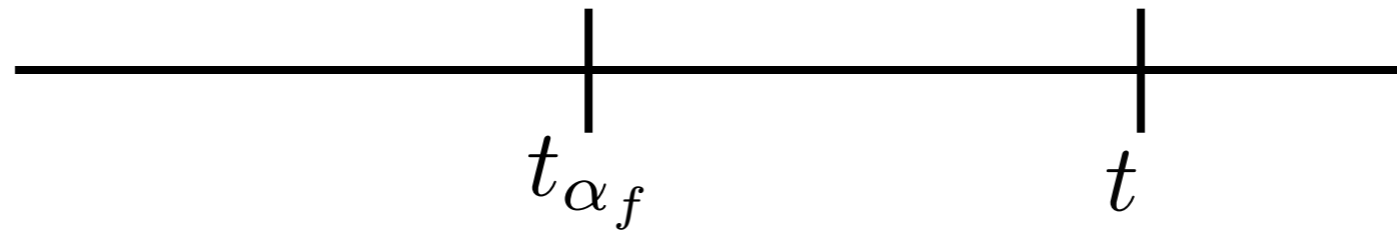
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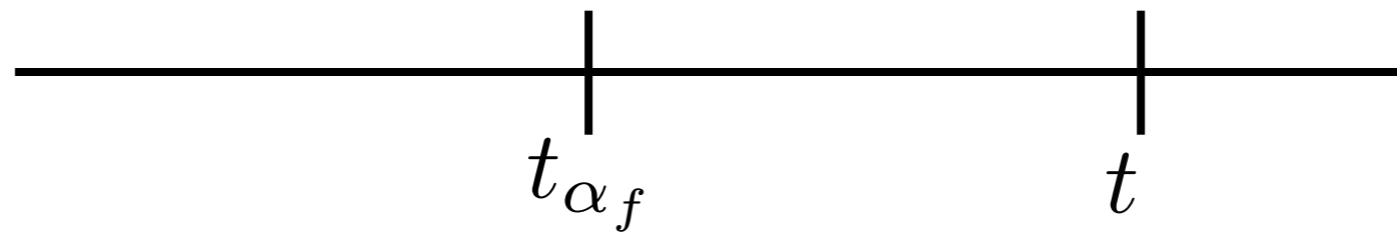


# Informal Definition of Akrasia

Desire to do  $(\alpha_f)$    Belief that he ought to do  $(\alpha_o)$

 does  $(\alpha_f)$  due to his desire

 believes he should have done  $(\alpha_o)$



# Informal Definition of Akrasia

An action  $\alpha_f$  is (Augustinian) akratic for an agent  $A$  at  $t_{\alpha_f}$  iff the following eight conditions hold:

- (1)  $A$  believes that  $A$  ought to do  $\alpha_o$  at  $t_{\alpha_o}$ ;
- (2)  $A$  desires to do  $\alpha_f$  at  $t_{\alpha_f}$ ;
- (3)  $A$ 's doing  $\alpha_f$  at  $t_{\alpha_f}$  entails his not doing  $\alpha_o$  at  $t_{\alpha_o}$ ;
- (4)  $A$  knows that doing  $\alpha_f$  at  $t_{\alpha_f}$  entails his not doing  $\alpha_o$  at  $t_{\alpha_o}$ ;
- (5) At the time ( $t_{\alpha_f}$ ) of doing the forbidden  $\alpha_f$ ,  $A$ 's desire to do  $\alpha_f$  overrides  $A$ 's belief that he ought to do  $\alpha_o$  at  $t_{\alpha_o}$ .
- (6)  $A$  does the forbidden action  $\alpha_f$  at  $t_{\alpha_f}$ ;
- (7)  $A$ 's doing  $\alpha_f$  results from  $A$ 's desire to do  $\alpha_f$ ;
- (8) At some time  $t$  after  $t_{\alpha_f}$ ,  $A$  has the belief that  $A$  ought to have done  $\alpha_o$  rather than  $\alpha_f$ .

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“Regret”

Cast in

$\mathcal{DCEC}^*$

this becomes ...



$$\text{KB}_{rs} \cup \text{KB}_{m_1} \cup \text{KB}_{m_2} \dots \text{KB}_{m_n} \vdash$$

---

$$D_1 : \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{l}, \text{now}, \mathbf{O}(\mathbf{l}^*, t_\alpha, \Phi, \text{happens}(\text{action}(\mathbf{l}^*, \alpha), t_\alpha)))$$

---

$$D_2 : \mathbf{D}(\mathbf{l}, \text{now}, \text{holds}(\text{does}(\mathbf{l}^*, \bar{\alpha}), t_{\bar{\alpha}}))$$

---

$$D_3 : \text{happens}(\text{action}(\mathbf{l}^*, \bar{\alpha}), t_{\bar{\alpha}}) \Rightarrow \neg \text{happens}(\text{action}(\mathbf{l}^*, \alpha), t_\alpha)$$

---

$$D_4 : \mathbf{K}\left(\mathbf{l}, \text{now}, \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{happens}(\text{action}(\mathbf{l}^*, \bar{\alpha}), t_{\bar{\alpha}}) \Rightarrow \\ \neg \text{happens}(\text{action}(\mathbf{l}^*, \alpha), t_\alpha) \end{array} \right)\right)$$

---

$$D_5 : \mathbf{I}(\mathbf{l}, t_\alpha, \text{happens}(\text{action}(\mathbf{l}^*, \bar{\alpha}), t_{\bar{\alpha}})) \wedge \\ \neg \mathbf{I}(\mathbf{l}, t_\alpha, \text{happens}(\text{action}(\mathbf{l}^*, \alpha), t_\alpha))$$

---

$$D_6 : \text{happens}(\text{action}(\mathbf{l}^*, \bar{\alpha}), t_{\bar{\alpha}})$$

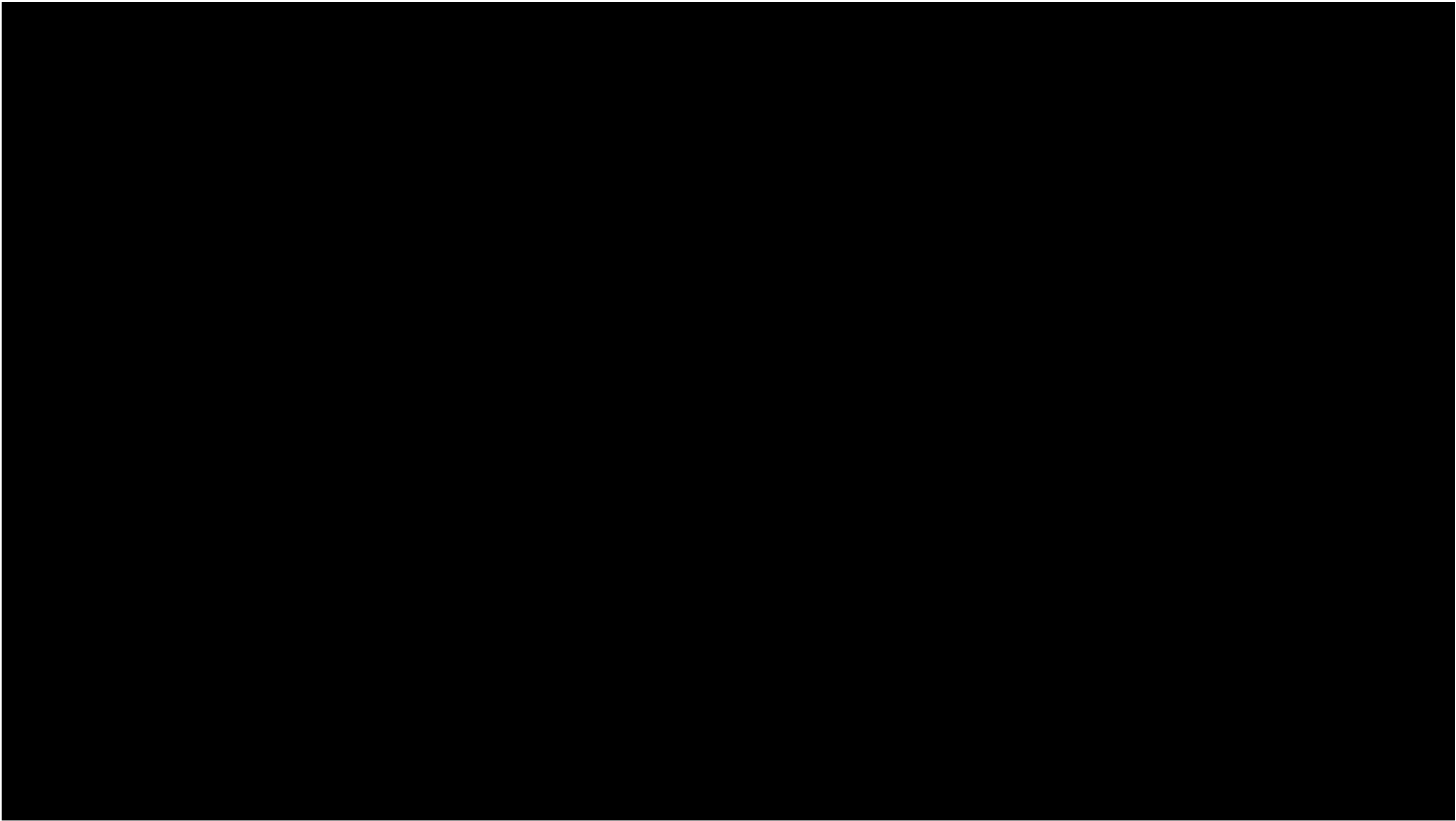
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$$D_{7a} : \Gamma \cup \{\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{l}, \text{now}, \text{holds}(\text{does}(\mathbf{l}^*, \bar{\alpha}), t))\} \vdash \\ \text{happens}(\text{action}(\mathbf{l}^*, \bar{\alpha}), t_\alpha)$$
$$D_{7b} : \Gamma - \{\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{l}, \text{now}, \text{holds}(\text{does}(\mathbf{l}^*, \bar{\alpha}), t))\} \not\vdash \\ \text{happens}(\text{action}(\mathbf{l}^*, \bar{\alpha}), t_\alpha)$$

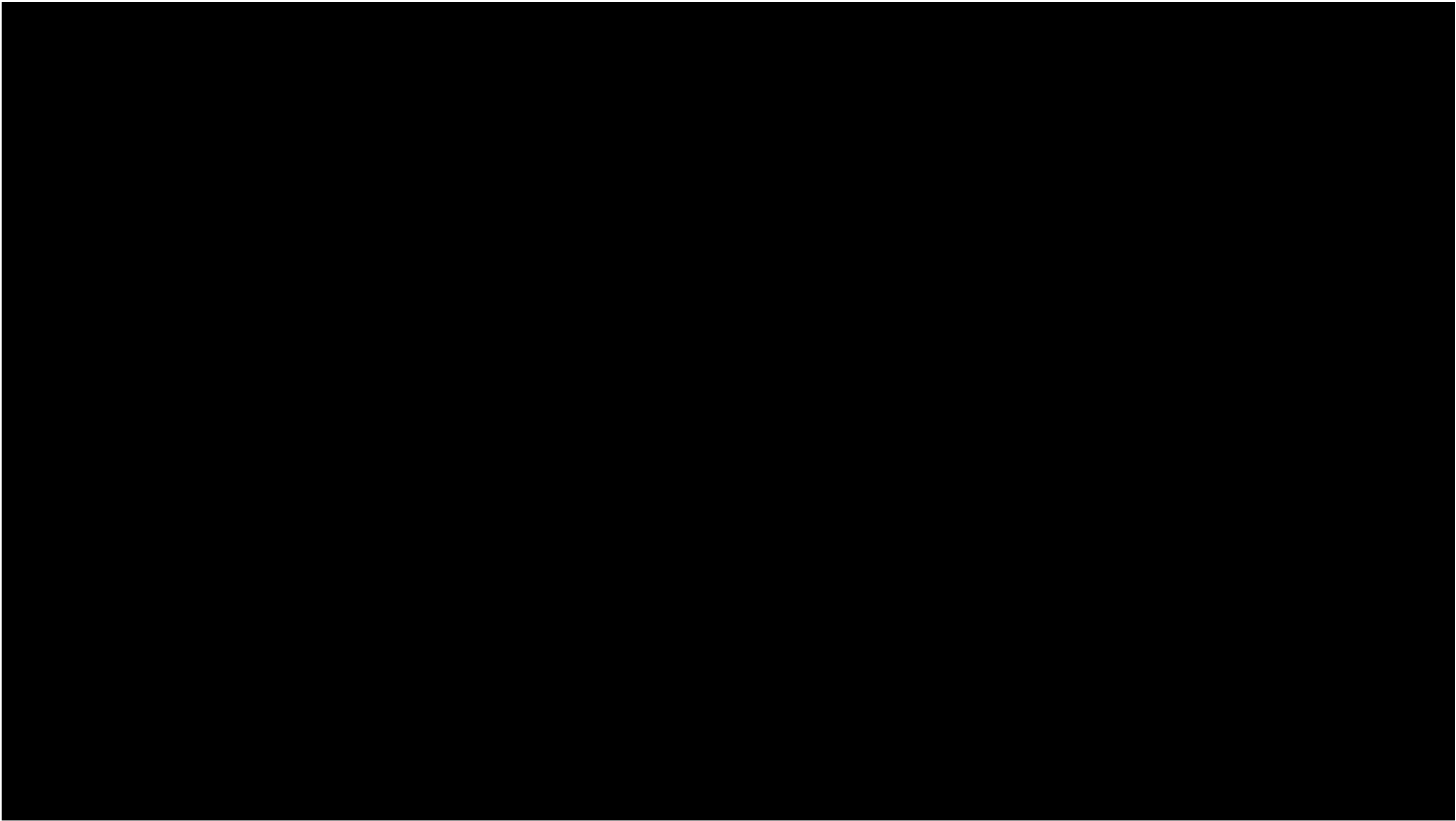
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$$D_8 : \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{l}, t_f, \mathbf{O}(\mathbf{l}^*, t_\alpha, \Phi, \text{happens}(\text{action}(\mathbf{l}^*, \alpha), t_\alpha)))$$

Demos ...



Demos ...



**III.**

**But, a twist befell the logicians ...**

Chisholm had argued that the three old 19th-century ethical categories (*forbidden, morally neutral, obligatory*) are not enough — and soul-searching brought me to agreement.



heroic

deviltry

morally  
neutral

civil

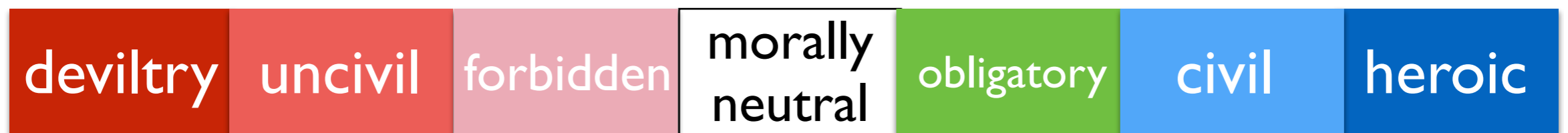
forbidden

uncivil

obligatory

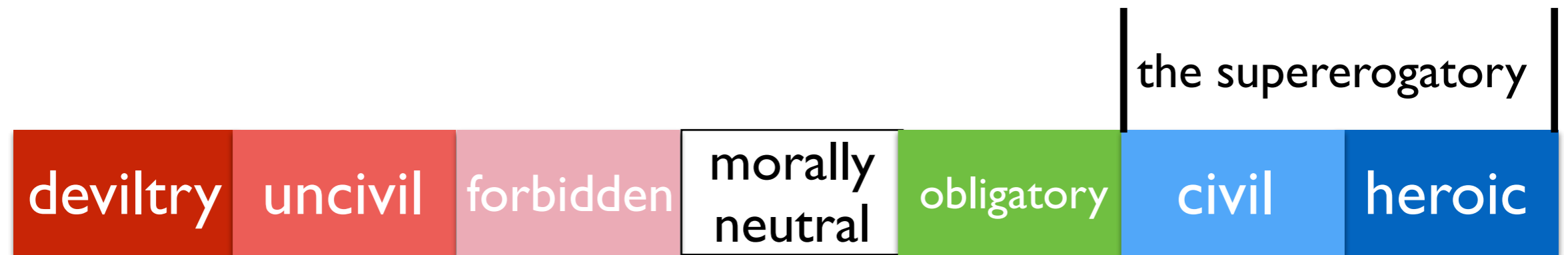
# Leibnizian Ethical Hierarchy for Persons and Robots:

*EH*



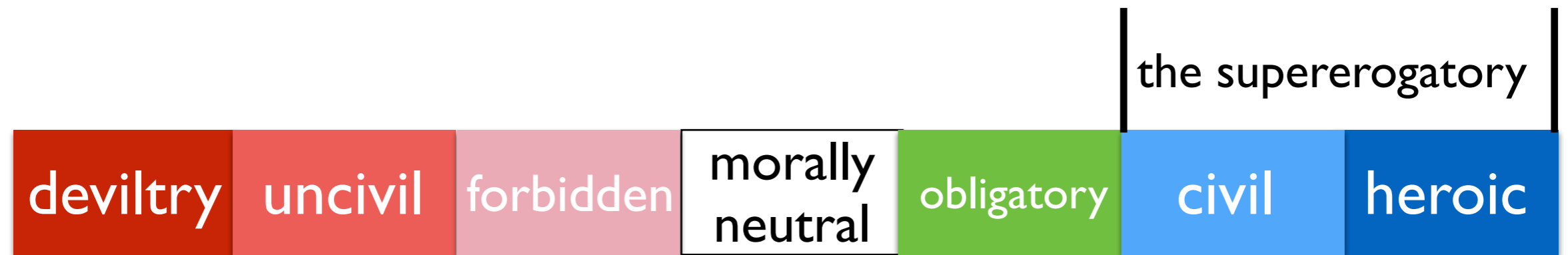
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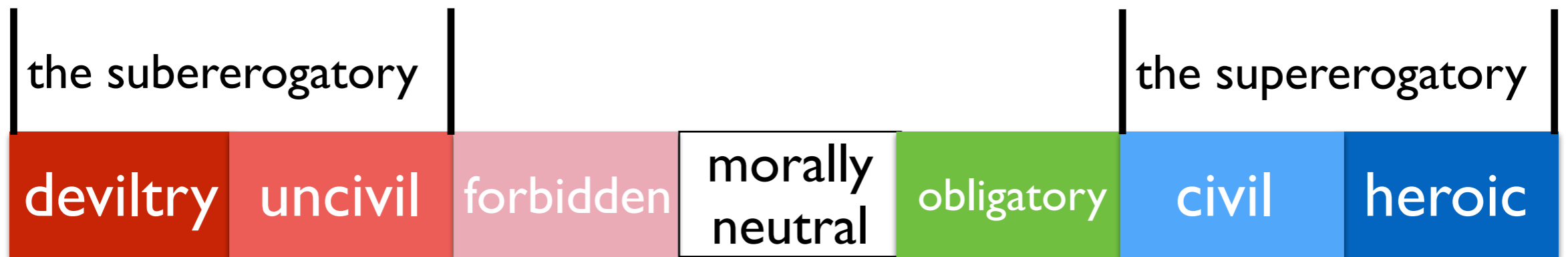
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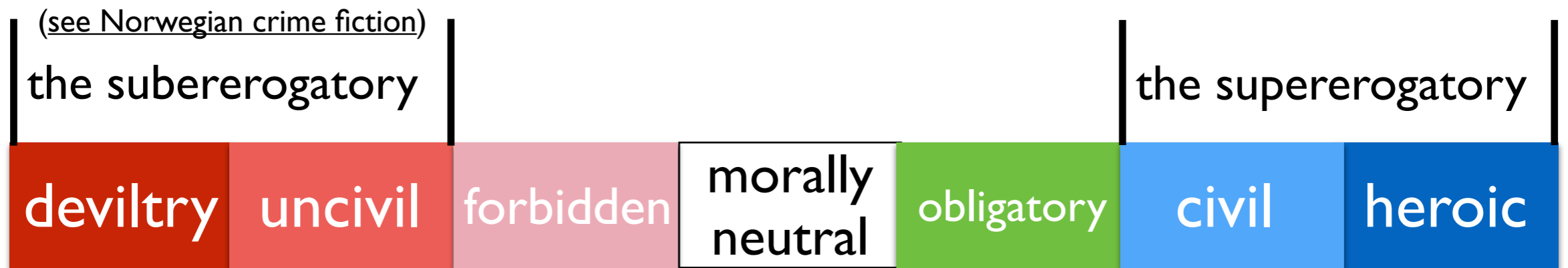
# Leibnizian Ethical Hierarchy for Persons and Robots:

*EH*



# Leibnizian Ethical Hierarchy for Persons and Robots:

*EH*



# Leibnizian Ethical Hierarchy for Persons and Robots:

*EH*

19th-Century Triad

(see Norwegian crime fiction)

the subererogatory

the supererogatory

deviltry

uncivil

forbidden

morally  
neutral

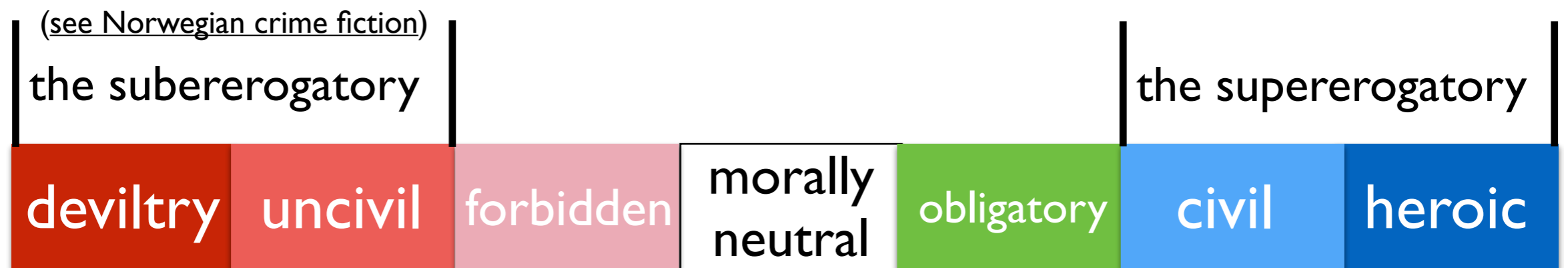
obligatory

civil

heroic

# Leibnizian Ethical Hierarchy for Persons and Robots:

*EH*





# Leibnizian Ethical Hierarchy for Persons and Robots:

*EH*



(see Norwegian crime fiction)

the suberogatory

the supererogatory

deviltry

uncivil

forbidden

morally  
neutral

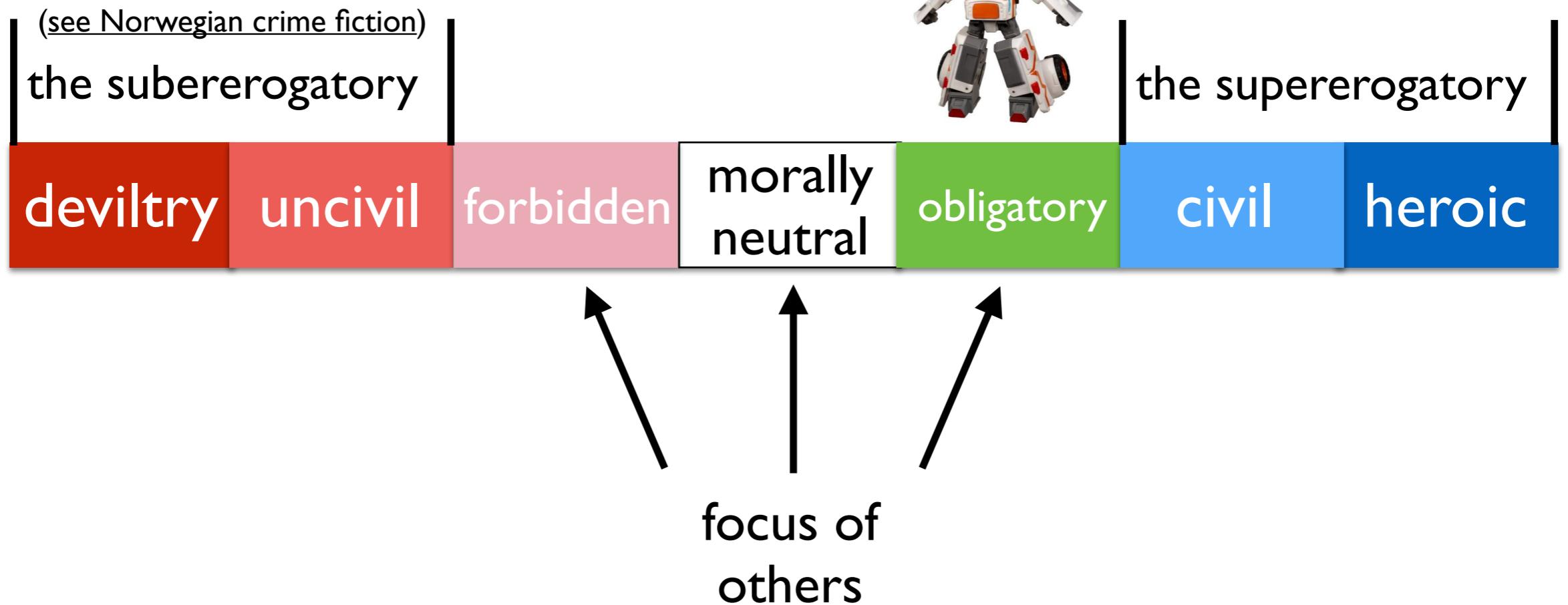
obligatory

civil

heroic

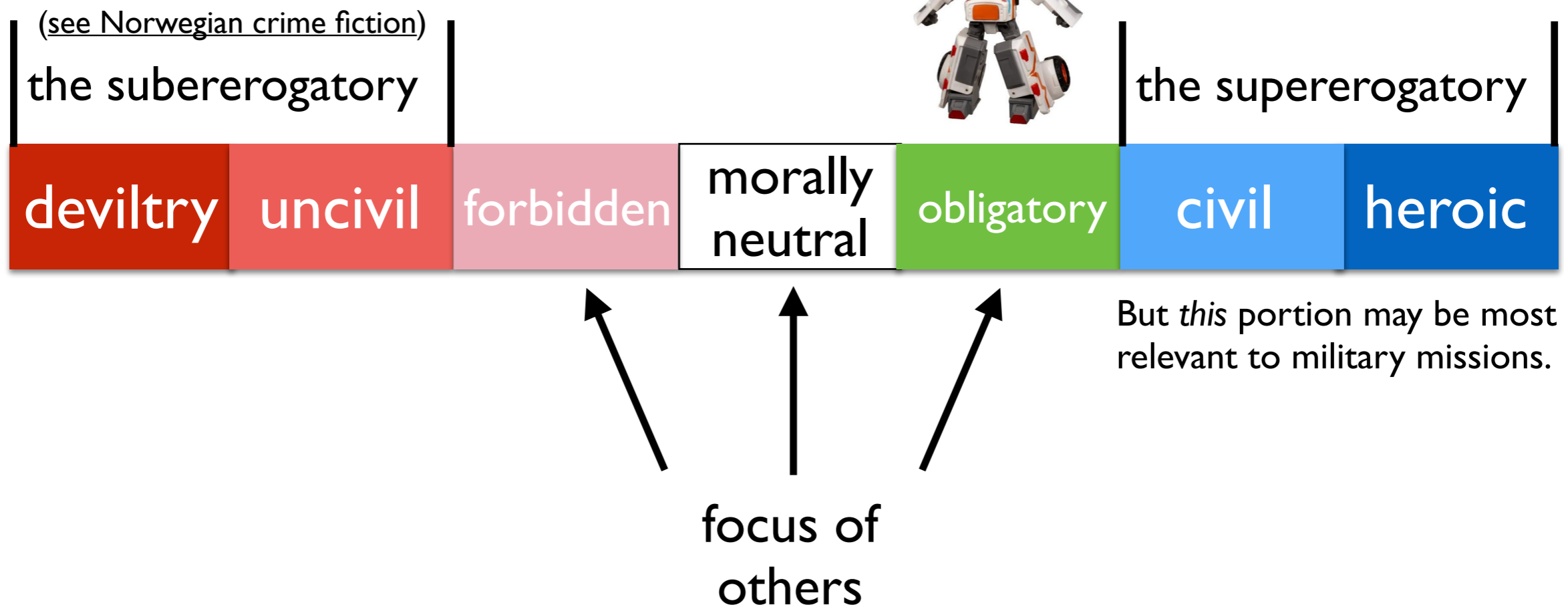
# Leibnizian Ethical Hierarchy for Persons and Robots:

*EH*



# Leibnizian Ethical Hierarchy for Persons and Robots:

*EH*



# Bert “Heroically” Saved?



Courtesy of RAIR-Lab Researcher Atriya Sen

# Bert “Heroically” Saved?



Courtesy of RAIR-Lab Researcher Atriya Sen

# Supererogatory<sup>2</sup> Robot Action



Courtesy of RAIR-Lab Researcher Atriya Sen



Courtesy of RAIR-Lab Researcher Atriya Sen

# Bert “Heroically” Saved!!



Courtesy of RAIR-Lab Researcher Atriya Sen



# Bert “Heroically” Saved!!



Courtesy of RAIR-Lab Researcher Atriya Sen



Courtesy of RAIR-Lab Researcher Atriya Sen

$$\begin{aligned}
& K(\text{nao}, t_1, \text{lessthan}(\text{payoff}(\text{nao}^*, \neg\text{dive}, t_2), \text{threshold})) \\
& K(\text{nao}, t_1, \text{greaterthan}(\text{payoff}(\text{nao}^*, \text{dive}, t_2), \text{threshold})) \\
& K(\text{nao}, t_1, \neg O(\text{nao}^*, t_2, \text{lessthan}(\text{payoff}(\text{nao}^*, \neg\text{dive}, t_2), \text{threshold}), \text{happens}(\text{action}(\text{nao}^*, \text{dive}), t_2))) \\
& \therefore K(\text{nao}, t_1, S^{\text{UP}2}(\text{nao}, t_2, \text{happens}(\text{action}(\text{nao}^*, \text{dive}), t_2))) \\
& \therefore I(\text{nao}, t_2, \text{happens}(\text{action}(\text{nao}^*, \text{dive}), t_2)) \\
& \therefore \text{happens}(\text{action}(\text{nao}, \text{dive}), t_2)
\end{aligned}$$


Courtesy of RAIR-Lab Researcher Atriya Sen

$K(\text{nao}, t_1, \text{lessthan}(\text{payoff}(\text{nao}^*, \neg\text{dive}, t_2), \text{threshold}))$   
 $K(\text{nao}, t_1, \text{greaterthan}(\text{payoff}(\text{nao}^*, \text{dive}, t_2), \text{threshold}))$   
 $K(\text{nao}, t_1, \neg O(\text{nao}^*, t_2, \text{lessthan}(\text{payoff}(\text{nao}^*, \neg\text{dive}, t_2), \text{threshold}), \text{happens}(\text{action}(\text{nao}^*, \text{dive}), t_2)))$   
 $\therefore K(\text{nao}, t_1, S^{\text{UP}2}(\text{nao}, t_2, \text{happens}(\text{action}(\text{nao}^*, \text{dive}), t_2)))$   
 $\therefore I(\text{nao}, t_2, \text{happens}(\text{action}(\text{nao}^*, \text{dive}), t_2))$   
 $\therefore \text{happens}(\text{action}(\text{nao}, \text{dive}), t_2)$



Courtesy of RAIR-Lab Researcher Atriya Sen

# In Talos (available via Web interface); & ShadowProver

Prototypes:

Boolean lessThan Numeric Numeric

Boolean greaterThan Numeric Numeric

ActionType not ActionType

ActionType dive

Axioms:

lessOrEqual(Moment t1,t2)

K(nao,t1,lessThan(payoff(nao,not(dive),t2),threshold))

K(nao,t1,greaterThan(payoff(nao,dive,t2),threshold))

K(nao,t1,not(0(nao,t2,lessThan(payoff(nao,not(dive),t2),threshold),happens(action(nao,dive),t2))))

provable Conjectures:

happens(action(nao,dive),t2)

K(nao,t1,SUP2(nao,t2,happens(action(nao,dive),t2)))

I(nao,t2,happens(action(nao,dive),t2))

# In Talos (available via Web interface); & ShadowProver

Prototypes:

Boolean lessThan Numeric Numeric

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ActionType not ActionType

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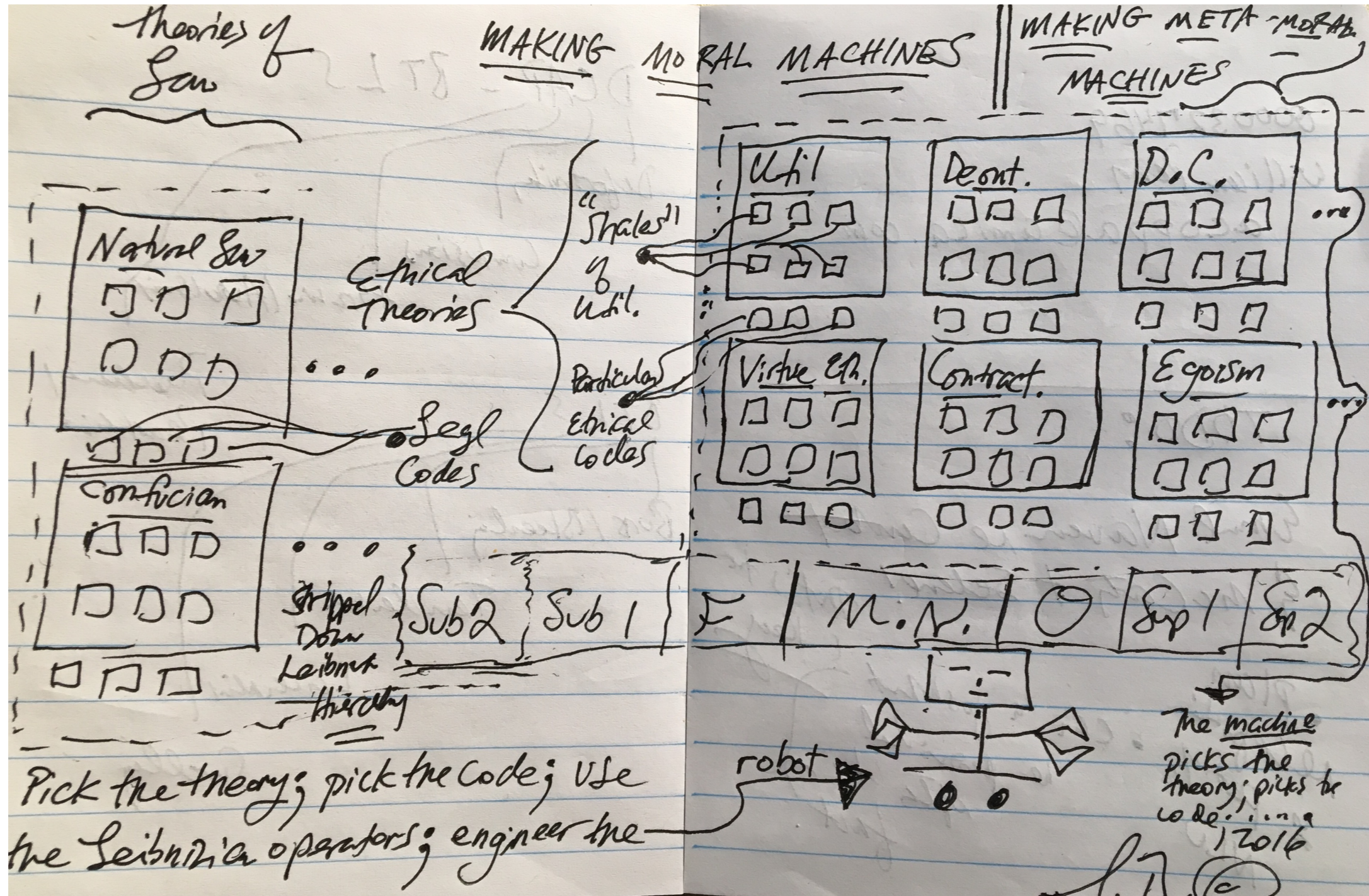
provable Conjectures:

happens(action(nao,dive),t2)

K(nao,t1,SUP2(nao,t2,happens(action(nao,dive),t2)))

I(nao,t2,happens(action(nao,dive),t2))

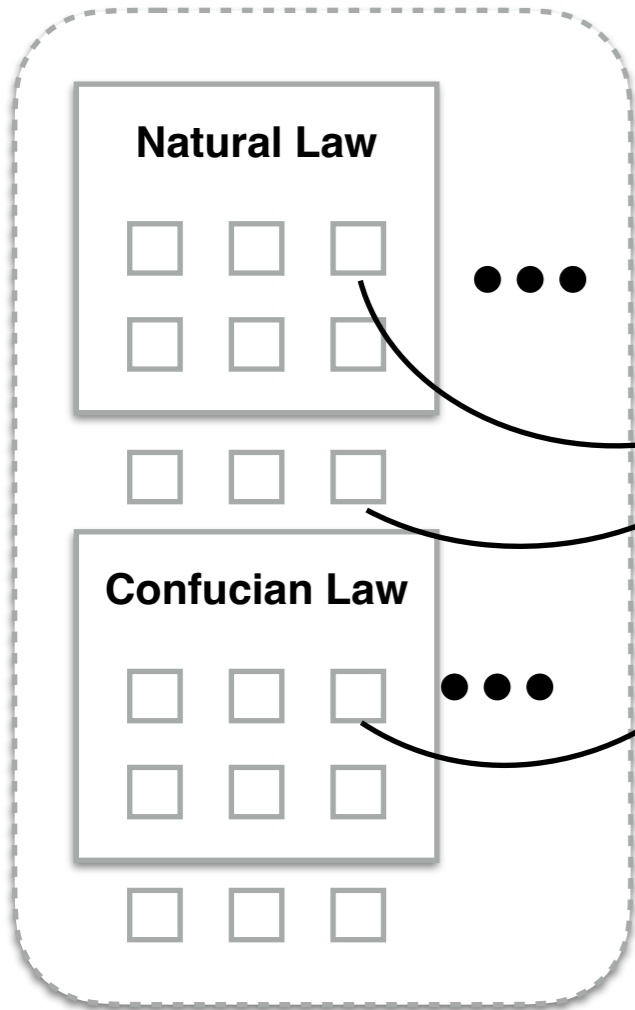
# Hence, we now have *this* overview of the logicist engineering required:



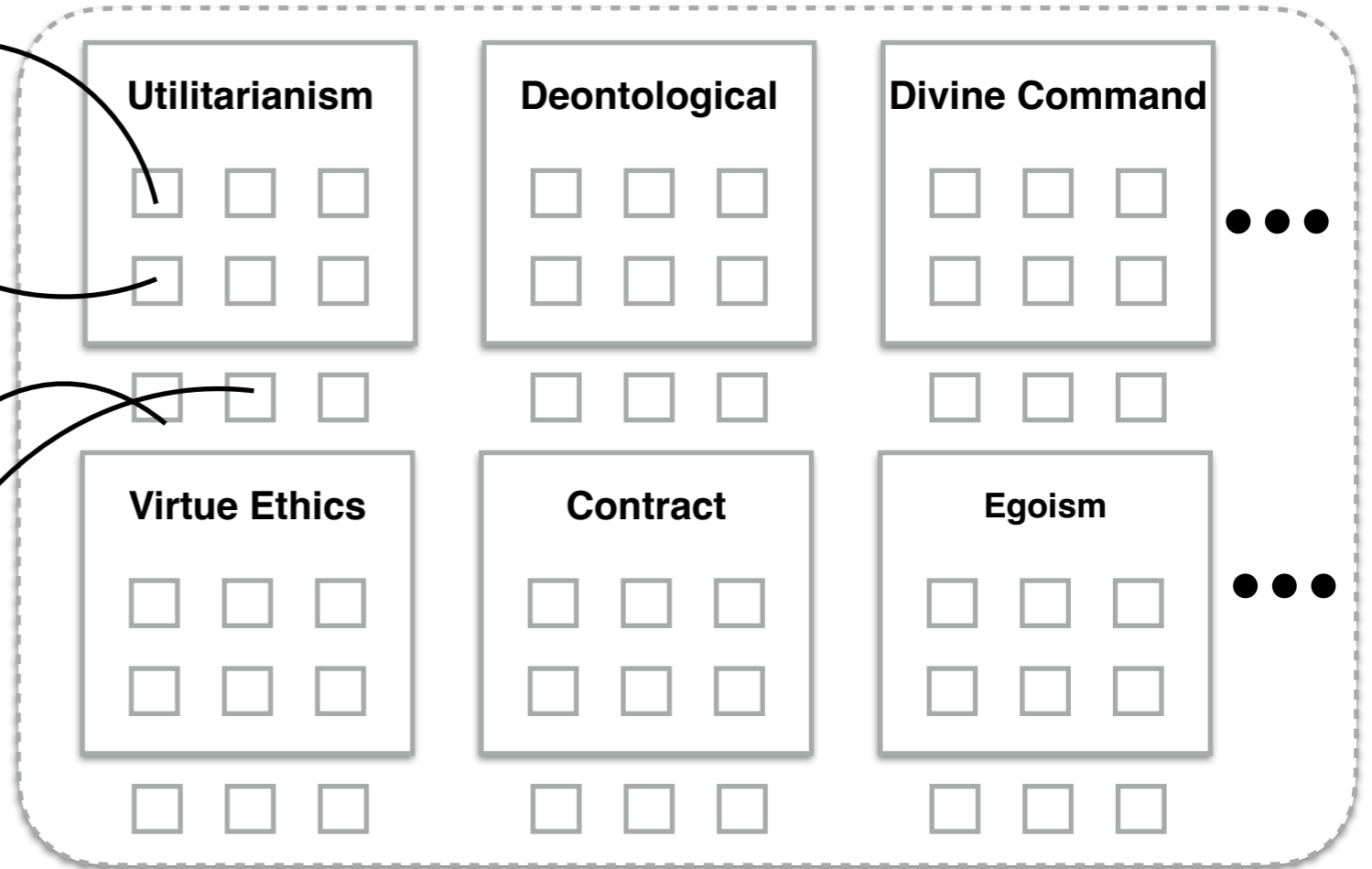
# Making Morally X Machines, in Four Steps

~\$11M

## Theories of Law



## Ethical Theories



Shades of Utilitarianism

Legal Codes

Particular Ethical Codes

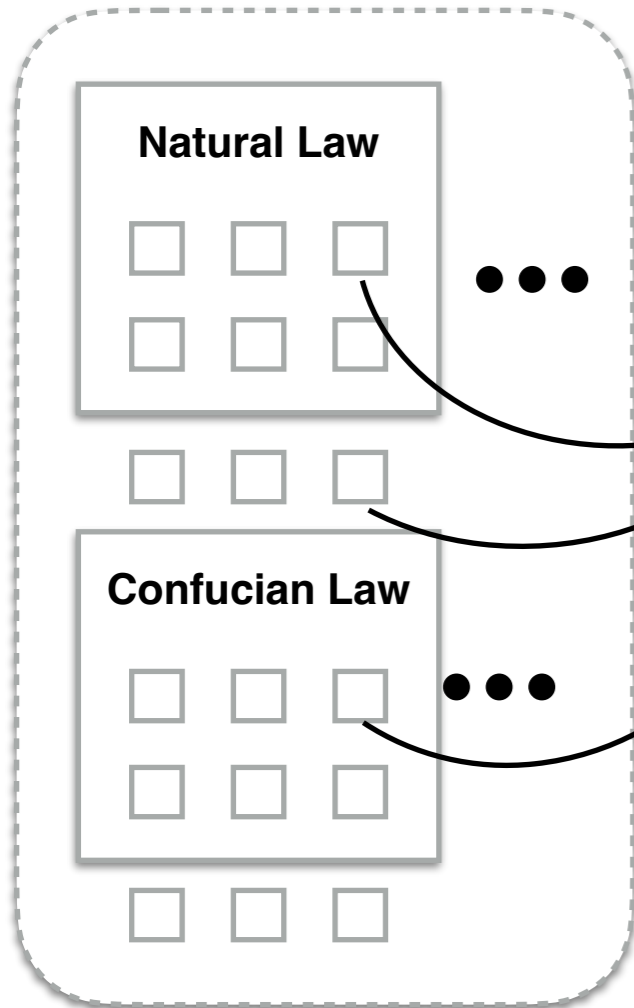




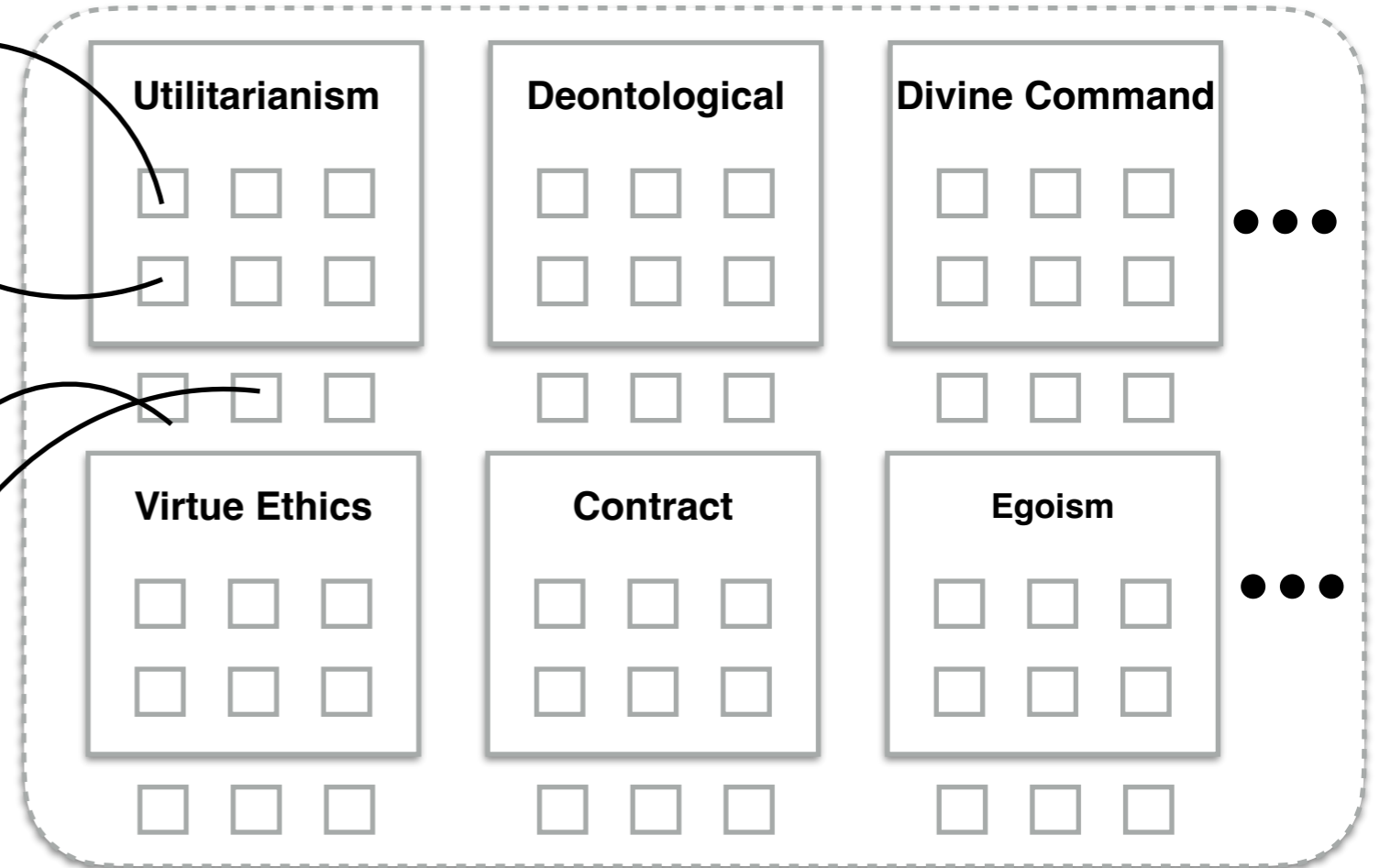
# Making Morally X Machines, in Four Steps

~\$11M

## Theories of Law



## Ethical Theories



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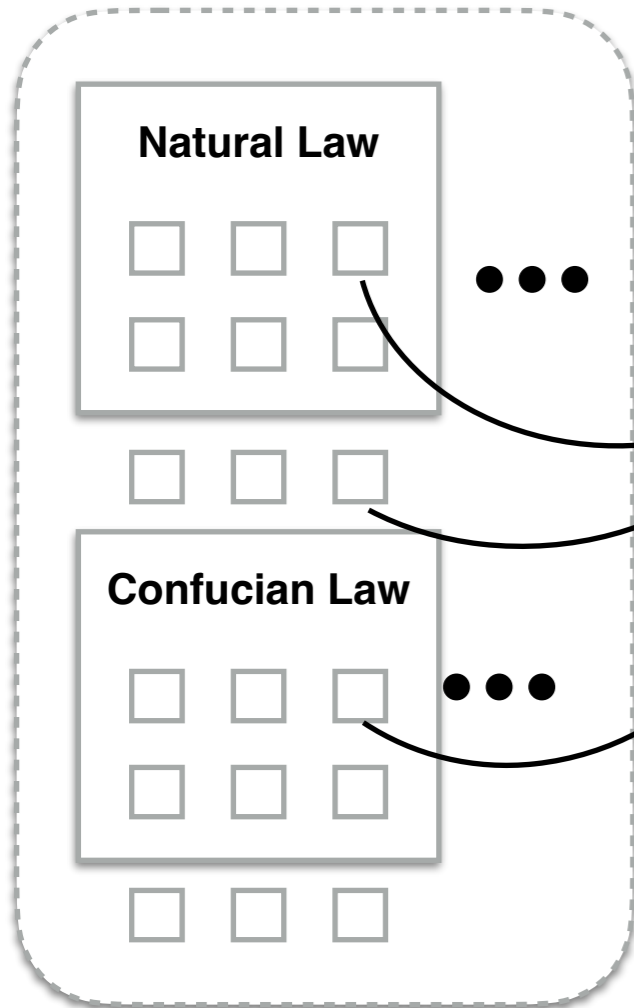
### Step 1

1. Pick (a) theories.
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3. Run through EH.
4. Which X in *MMXM*?

# Making Morally X Machines, in Four Steps

~\$11M

## Theories of Law

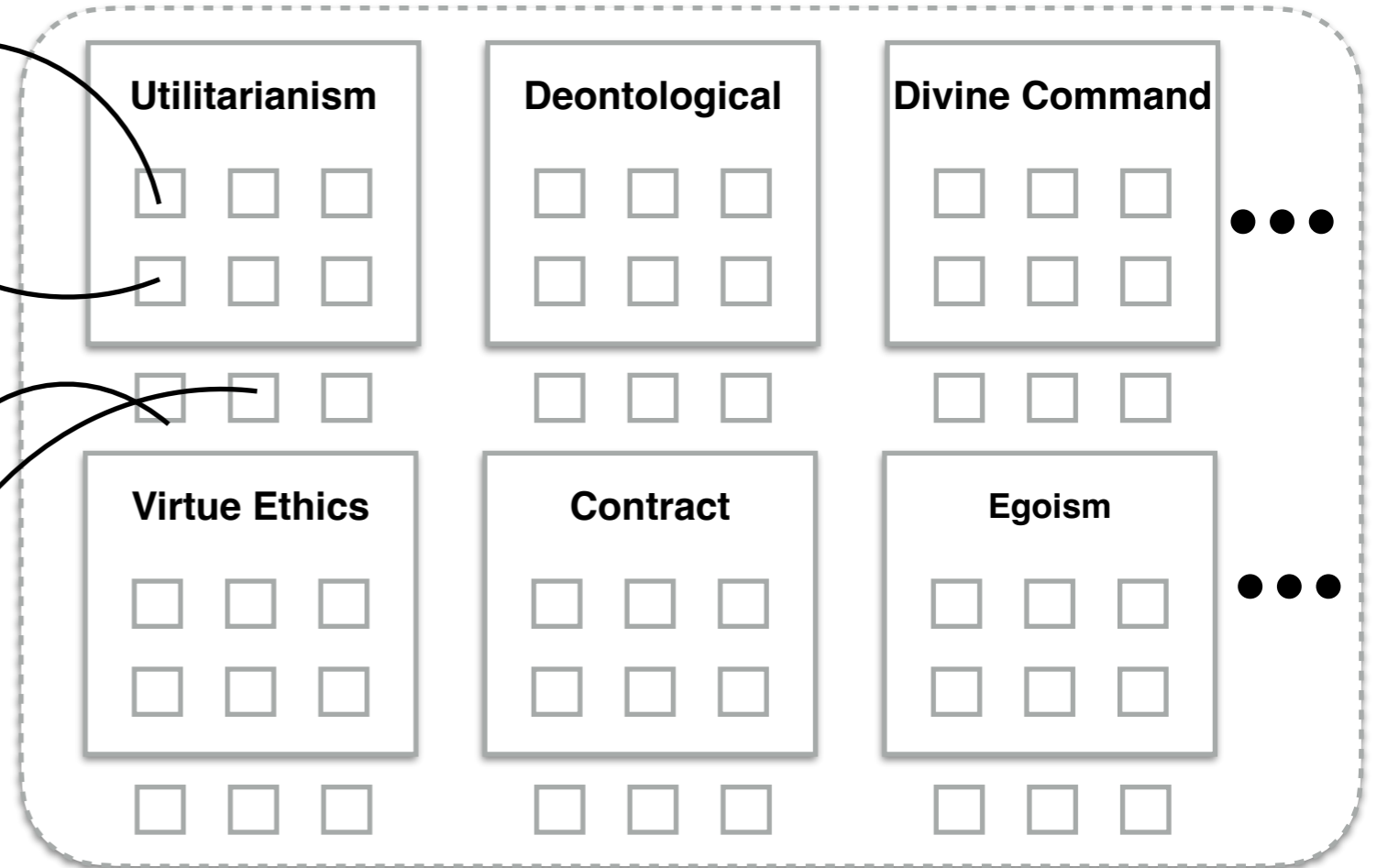


Shades of Utilitarianism

Legal Codes

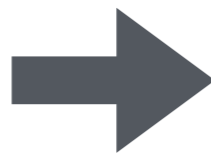
Particular Ethical Codes

## Ethical Theories



### Step I

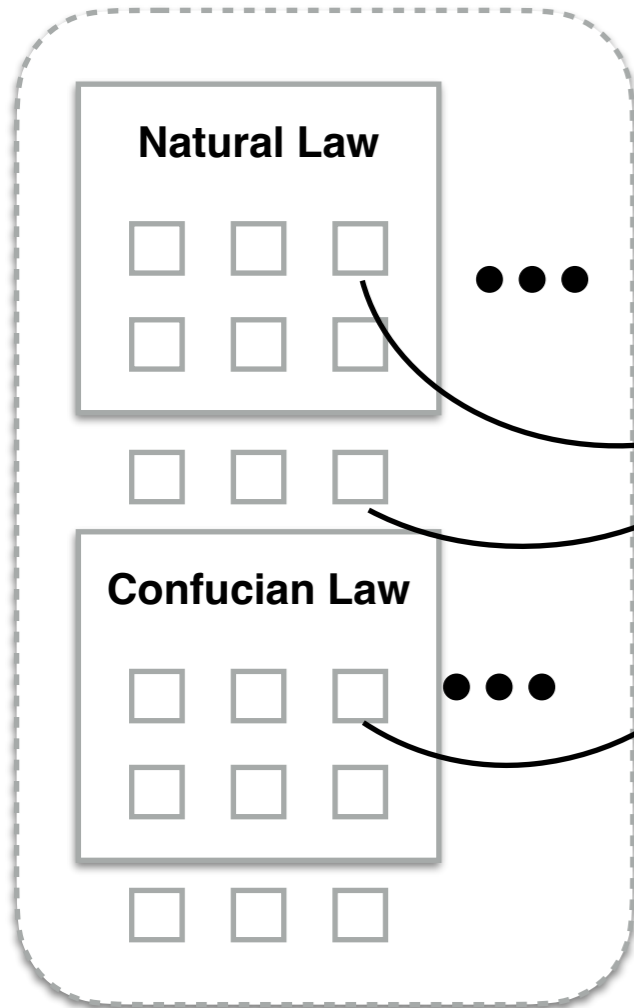
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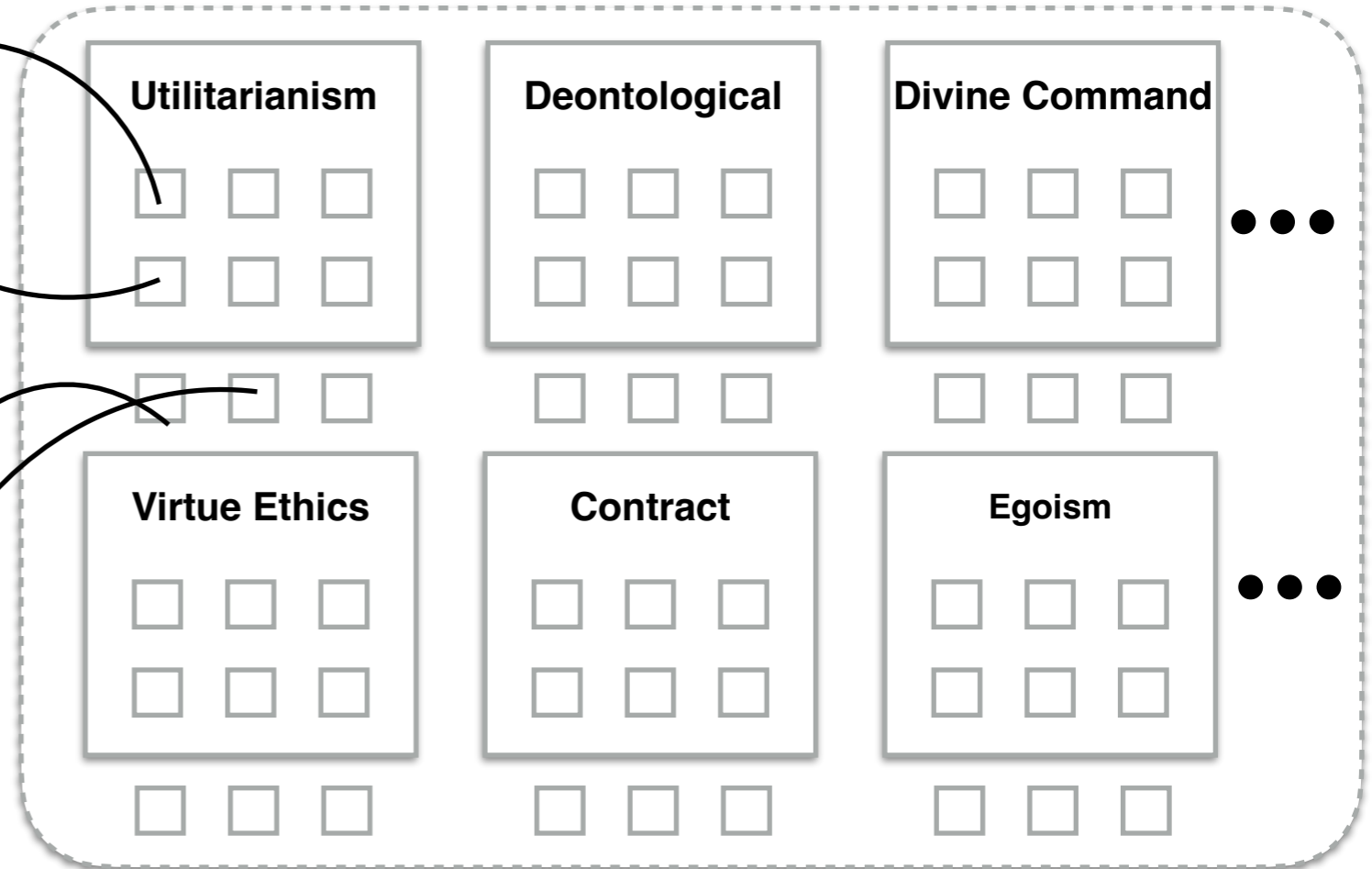
# Making Morally X Machines, in Four Steps

~\$11M

## Theories of Law



## Ethical Theories



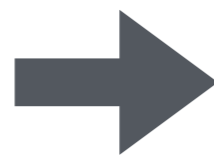
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### Step 2

Formalize & Automate



Shadow Prover

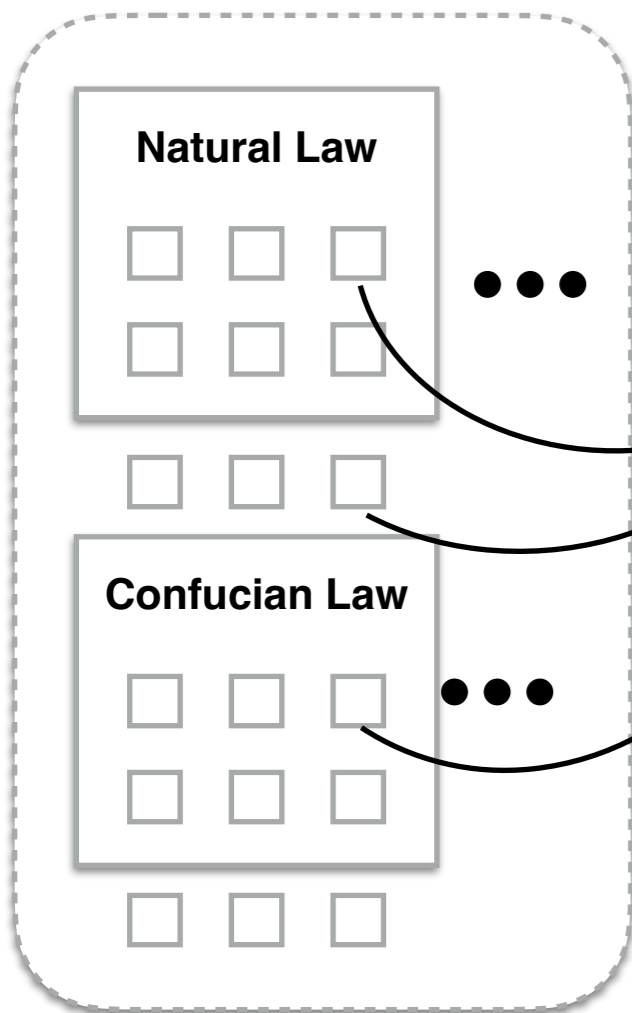


Spectra

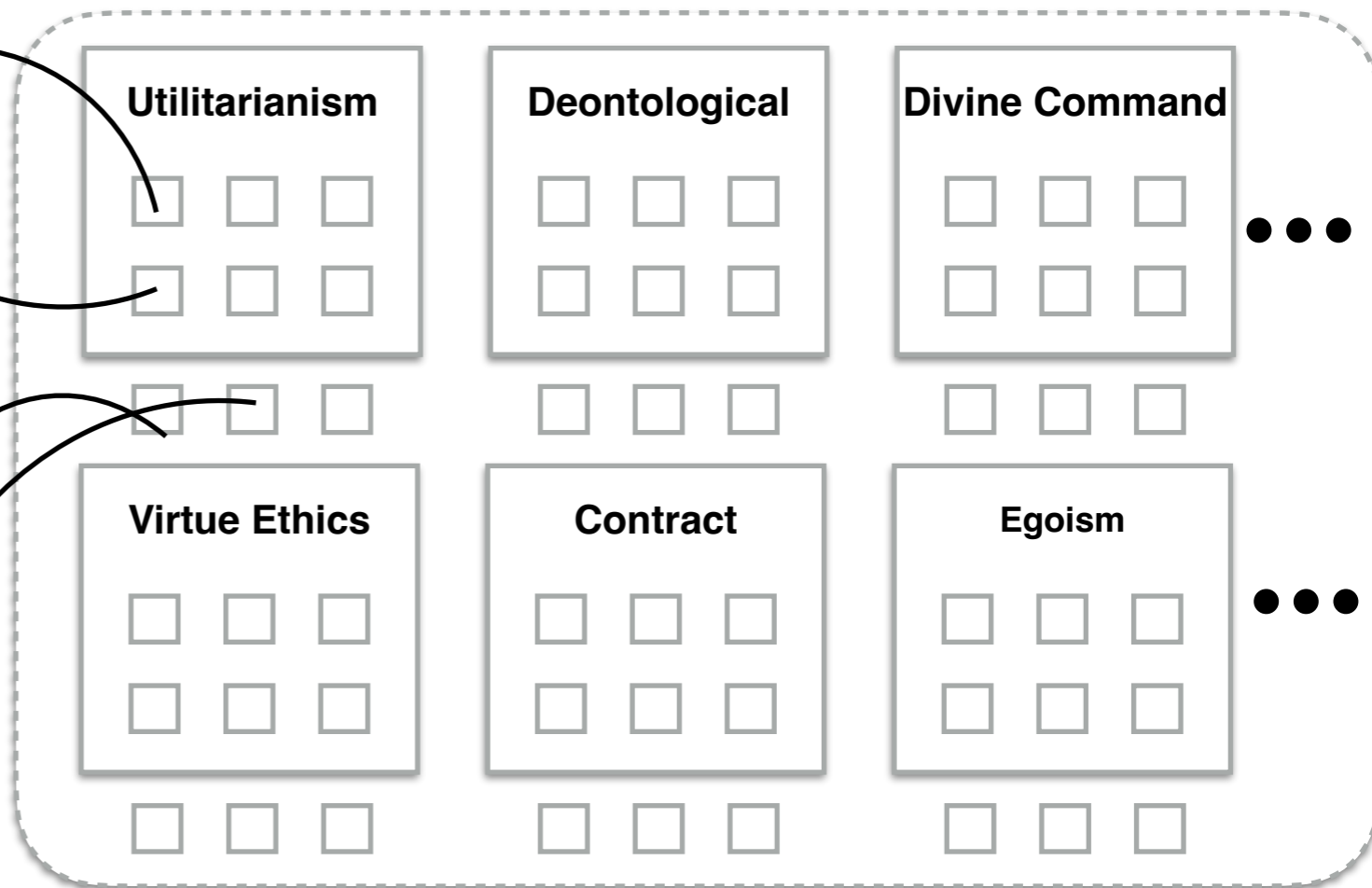
# Making Morally X Machines, in Four Steps

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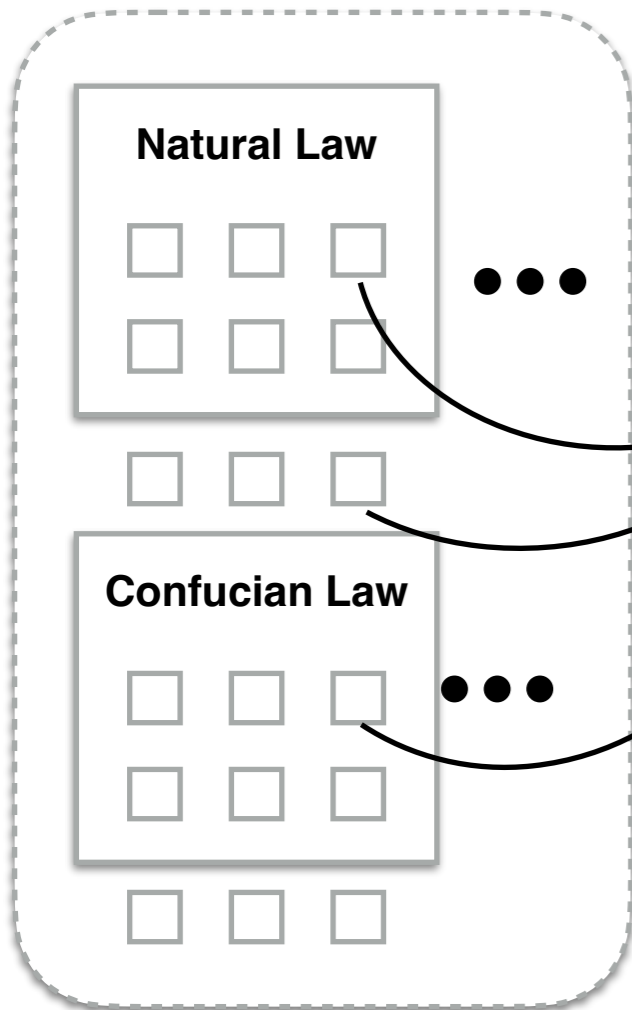


Spectra

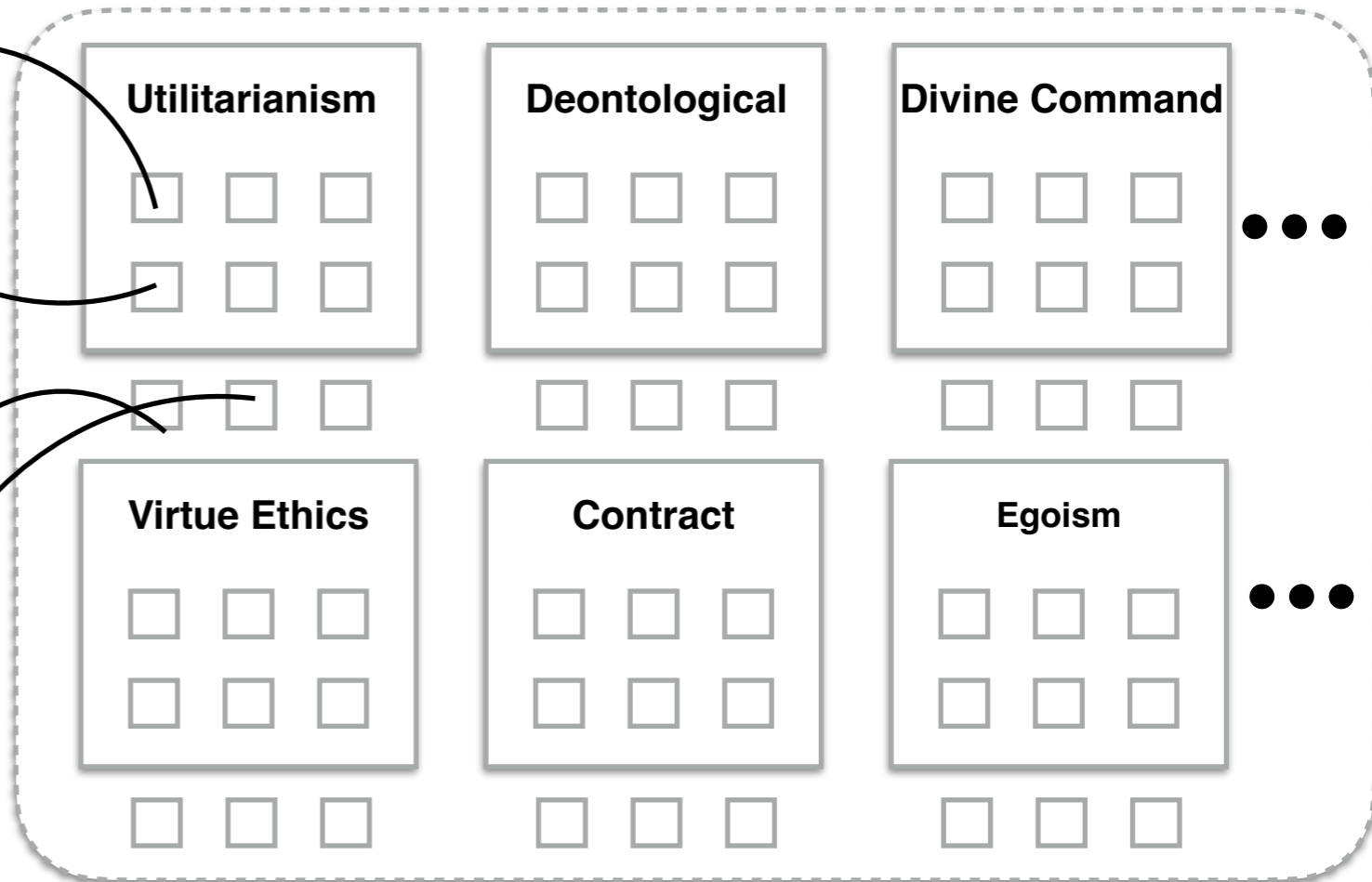
# Making Morally X Machines, in Four Steps

~\$11M

## Theories of Law



## Ethical Theories



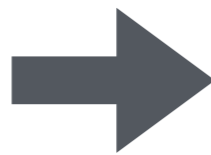
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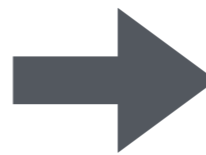


### Step 2

Formalize & Automate

 Shadow Prover

 Spectra



### Step 3

Ethical OS

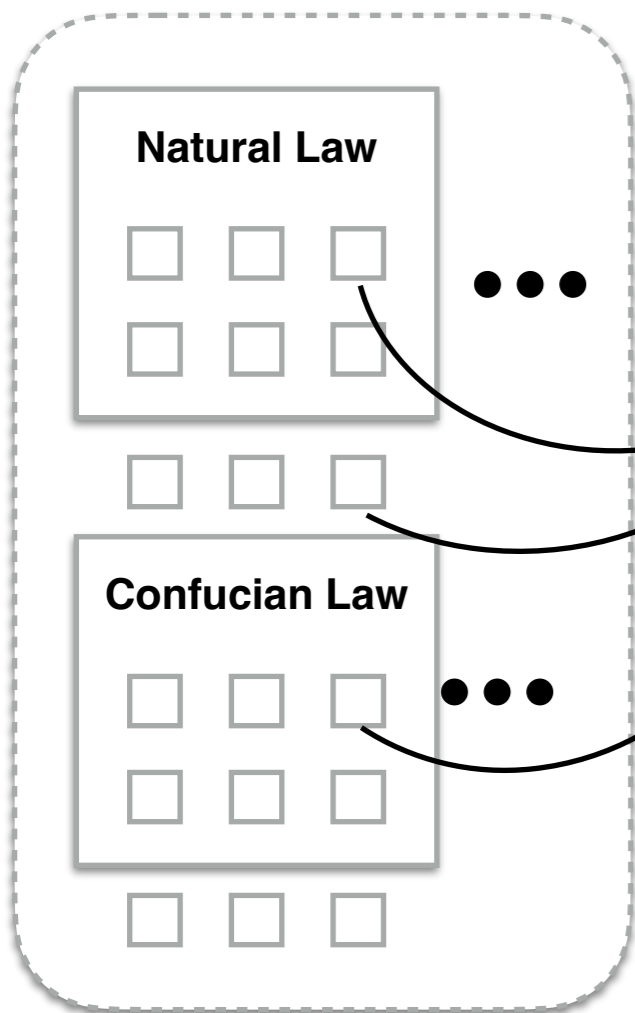


The diagram shows a stack of three layers: a blue layer at the bottom labeled 'Robotic Substrate', a green layer in the middle labeled 'Ethical Substrate', and a light blue layer at the top labeled 'Ethical OS' containing four colored squares (yellow, yellow, red, yellow).

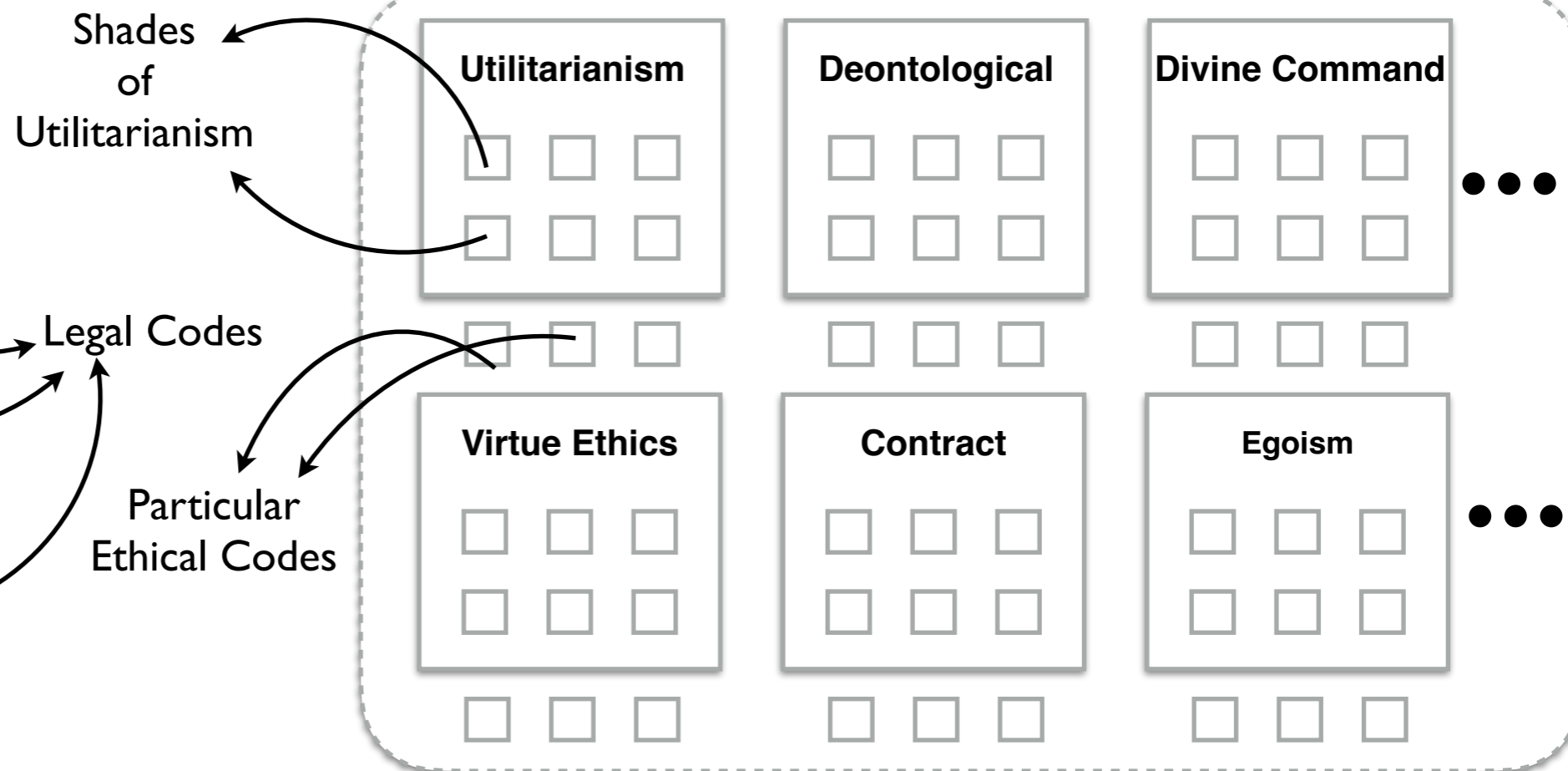
# Making Morally X Machines, in Four Steps

~\$11M

## Theories of Law

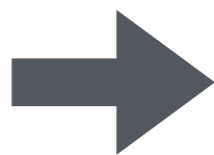


## Ethical Theories



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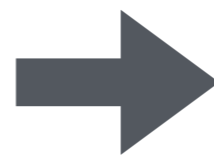


### Step 2

Formalize & Automate

Shadow Prover

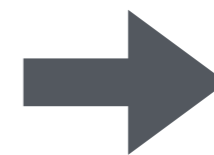
Spectra



### Step 3

Ethical OS

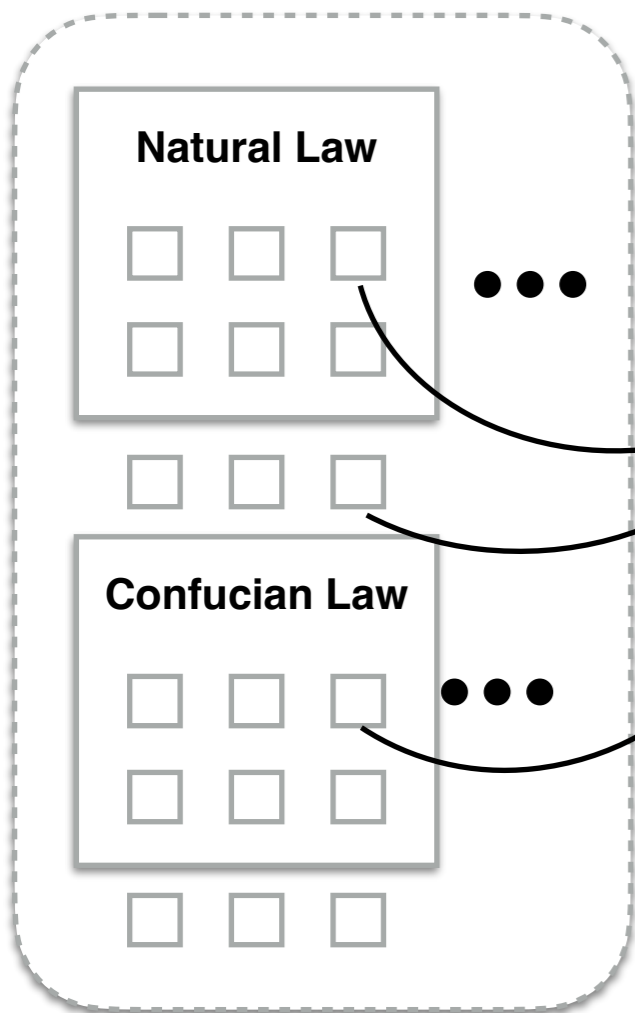
Ethical OS stack diagram showing layers: Ethical Substrate (green) and Robotic Substrate (blue).



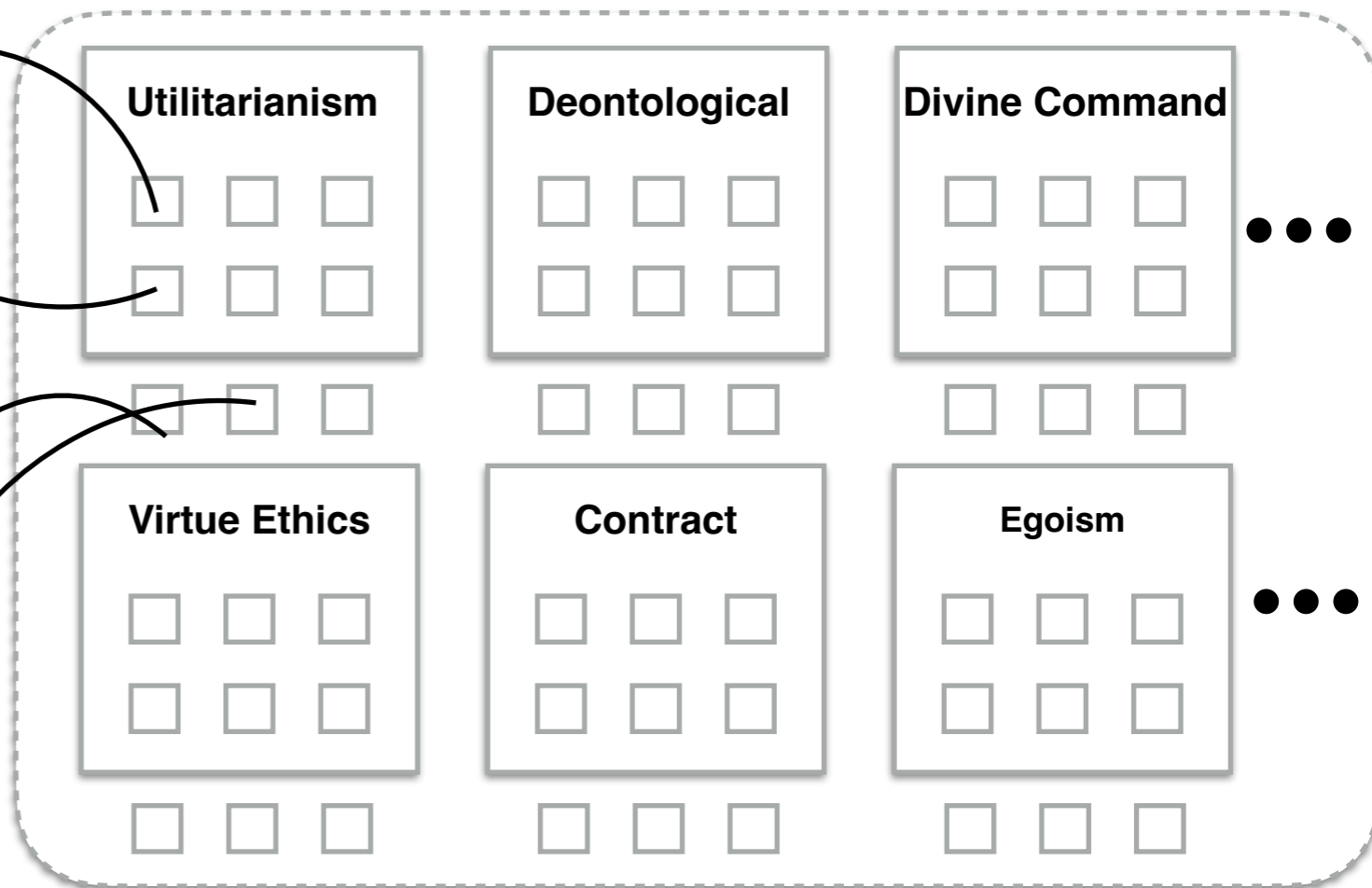
# Making Morally X Machines, in Four Steps

~\$11M

## Theories of Law



## Ethical Theories



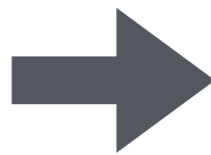
Shades of Utilitarianism

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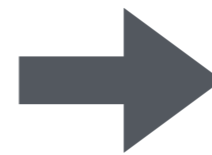


### Step 2

Formalize & Automate

Shadow Prover

Spectra

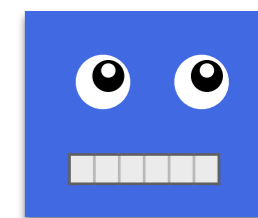
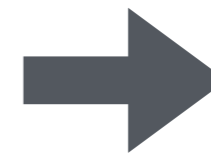


### Step 3

Ethical OS

Ethical Substrate

Robotic Substrate

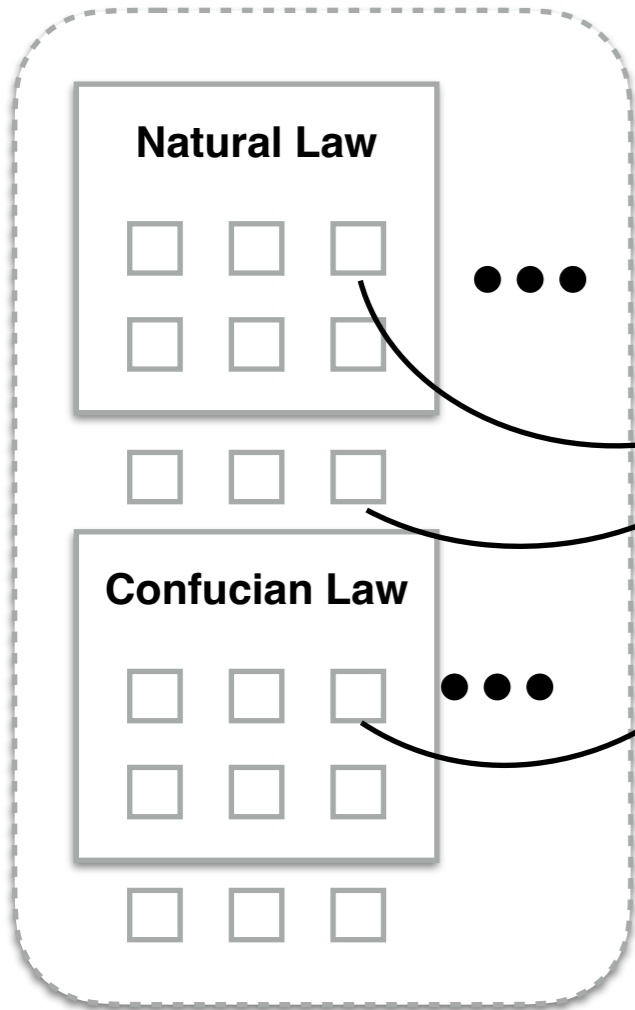


An ethically correct robot.

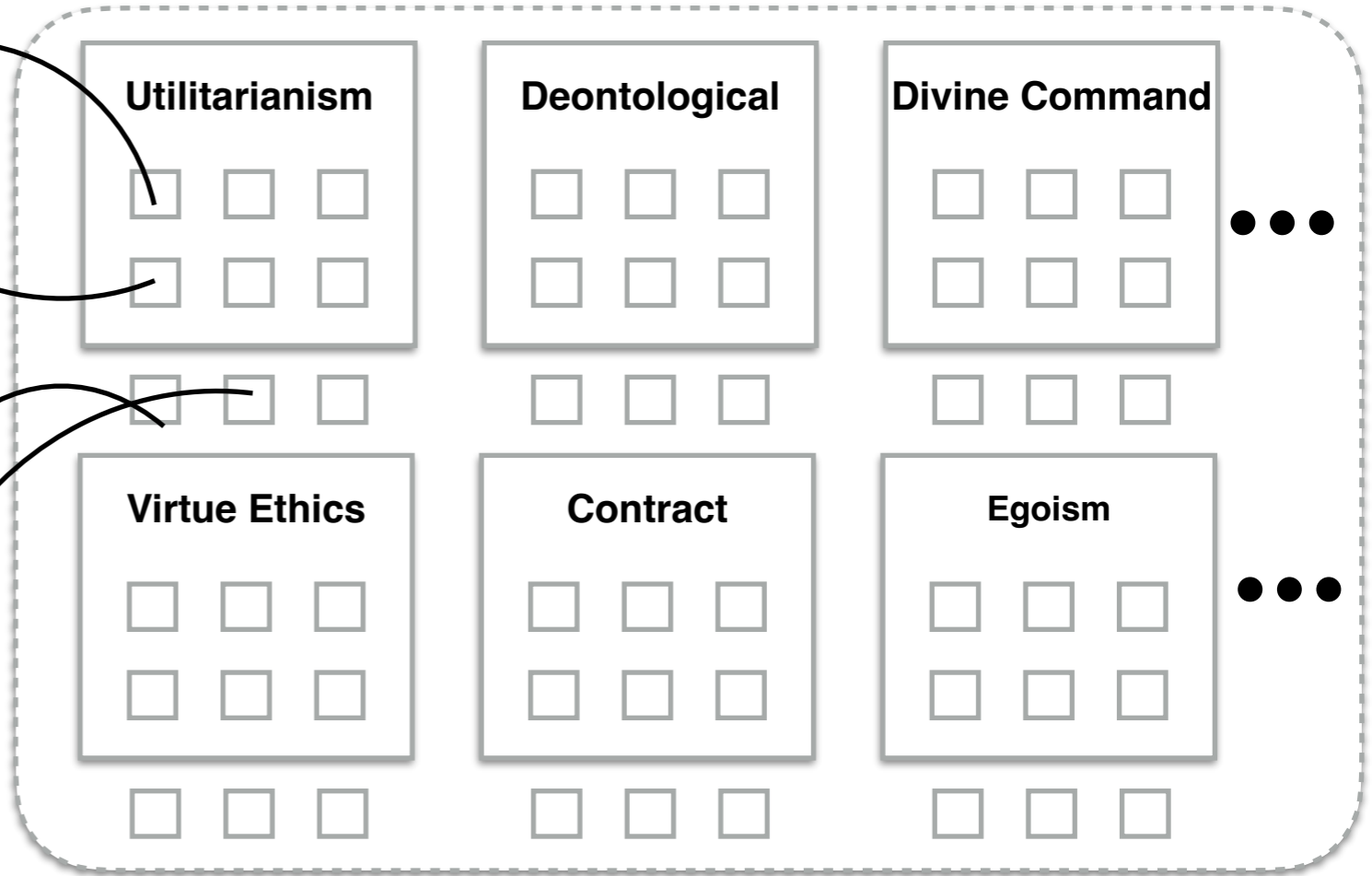
# Making Morally X Machines, in Four Steps

~\$11M

## Theories of Law



## Ethical Theories



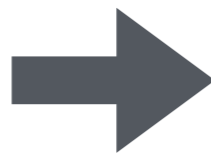
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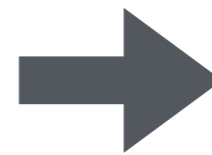


### Step 2

Formalize & Automate

Shadow Prover

Spectra

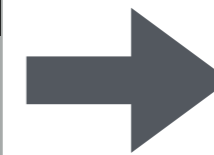


### Step 3

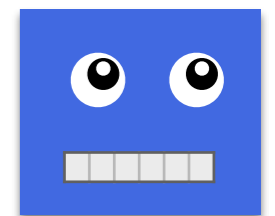
Ethical OS

Ethical Substrate

Robotic Substrate



DIARC/DoD/BMW ...



An ethically correct robot.



IV.

**Key Core AI Technologies  
for Cognitive Calculi ...**



# Rather Promising Results



# Rather Promising Results

```
{:name          "*cognitive-calculus-completeness-test-3*"
 :description    "Bird Theorem and Jack"
 :assumptions    {1 (if (exists (?x) (if (Bird ?x) (forall (?y) (Bird ?y))))
                    (Knows! jack t0 BirdTheorem))}
 :goal           (Knows! jack t0 BirdTheorem)}
```



# Rather Promising Results

```
{:name          "*cognitive-calculus-completeness-test-3*"
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```

Note: the antecedent is a theorem in first-order logic



# Rather Promising Results

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```

Note: the antecedent is a theorem in first-order logic

**2 ms!**



# Rather Promising Results

```
{:name          "*cognitive-calculus-completeness-test-3*"
 :description   "Bird Theorem and Jack"
 :assumptions  {1 (if (exists (?x) (if (Bird ?x) (forall (?y) (Bird ?y))))
                (Knows! jack t0 BirdTheorem))}
 :goal         (Knows! jack t0 BirdTheorem)}
```

Note: the antecedent is a theorem in first-order logic

**2 ms!**

OR testCompleteness[[[not (Knows! a now P)], (if (not Q) (Knows! a now (not Q))), (Knows! a now (if (not Q) P))], Q] (14)	11ms
OR testCompleteness[[[if P (Knows! jack now (not (exists[?x] (if Bird(?x) (forall [?y] Bird(?y)))))), (not P)] (15)	7ms
OR testCompleteness[[[Common! now (Common! now P)], P] (16)	2ms
OR testCompleteness[[[Common! now (iff (not Marked(a2)) Marked(a1))), (Common! now (if (not Marked(a2)) (Knows! a1 now (not Marked(a2))))] (17)	135ms
OR testCompleteness[[[if (exists[?x] (if Bird(?x) (forall [?y] Bird(?y)))) (Knows! jack t0 BirdTheorem)], (Knows! jack t0 BirdTheorem)] (18)	2ms
OR testSoundess[[A], (or P Q)]	2ms
OR testSoundess[[[not (Knows! a now =(morning_star, evening_star)), =(morning_star, evening_star), (Knows! a now =(morning_star, evening_star))]]	26ms

V.

But We Need ...

Ethical Operating Systems ...



# Breaking Bad

American drama series



9.5/10  
IMDb

4.6/5  
AlloCiné

95%  
Rotten Tomatoes

Mild-mannered high school chemistry teacher Walter White thinks his life can't get much worse. His salary barely makes ends meet, a situation not likely to improve once his pregnant wife gives birth, and their teenage son is battling cerebral palsy. But Walter is dumbstruck when he learns he has terminal cancer. Realizing that his illness probably will ruin his family financially, Walter makes a desperate bid to earn as much money as he can in the time he has left by turning an old RV into a meth lab on wheels.

**First episode date:** January 20, 2008

**Final episode date:** September 29, 2013

**Spin-off:** [Better Call Saul](#)

**Awards:** [Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Drama Series](#), [more](#)

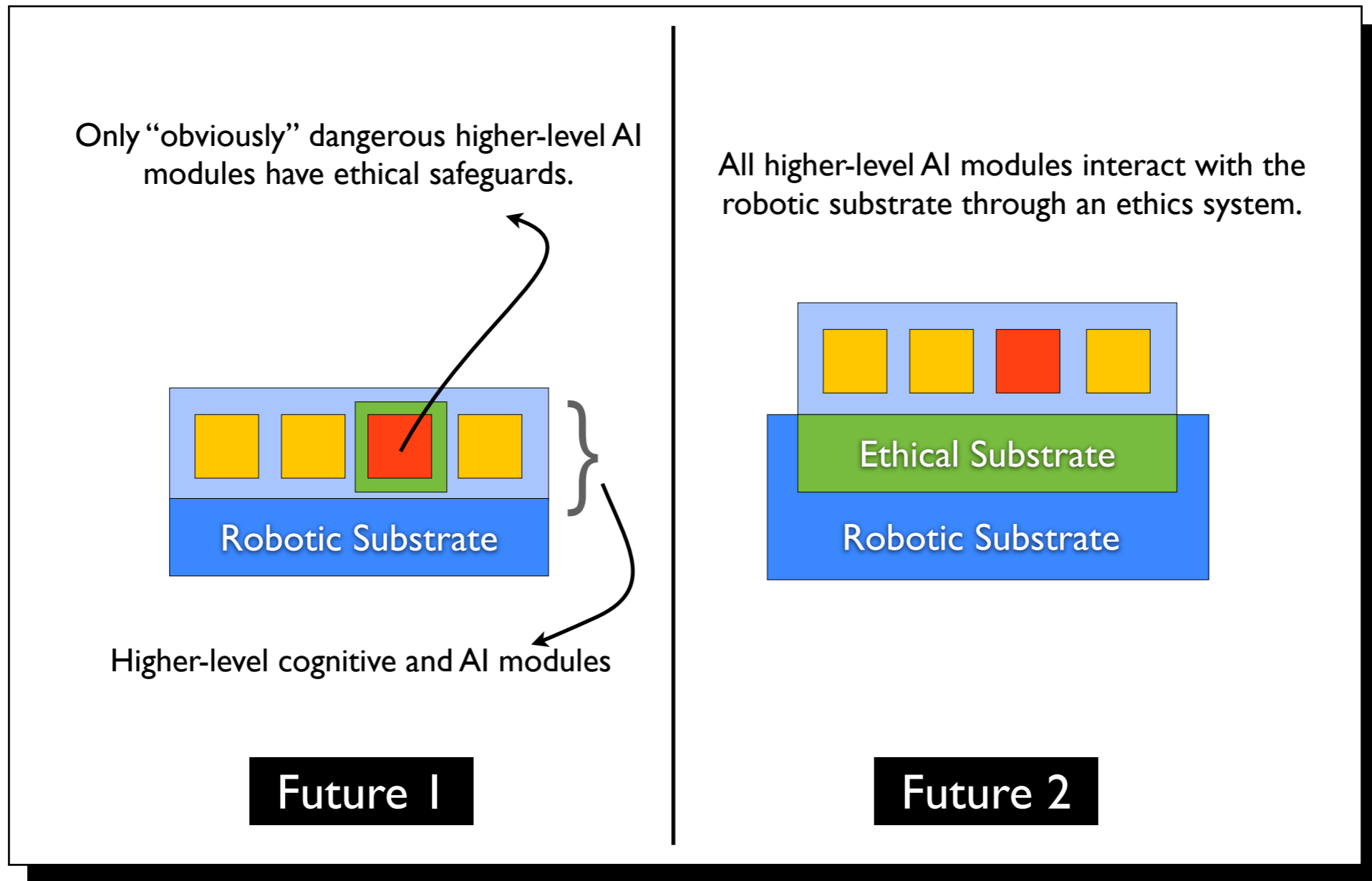


**Pick the Better Future!**

# Pick the Better Future!

*Govindarajulu, N.S. & Bringsjord, S. (2015) "Ethical Regulation of Robots Must Be Embedded in Their Operating Systems" in Trapp, R., ed., A Construction Manual for Robots' Ethical Systems (Basel, Switzerland), pp. 85–100.*

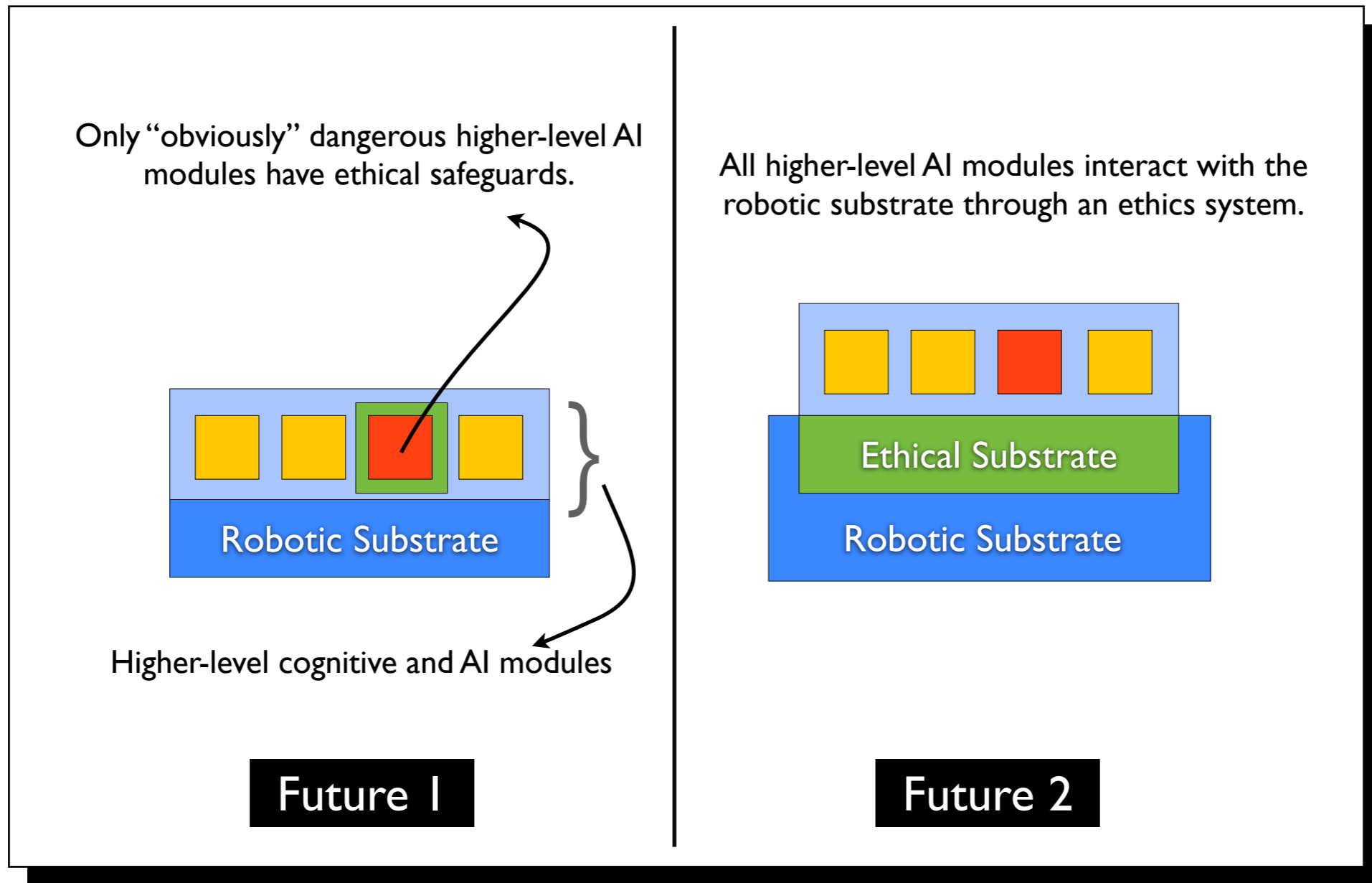
# Pick the Better Future!



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# Pick the Better Future!

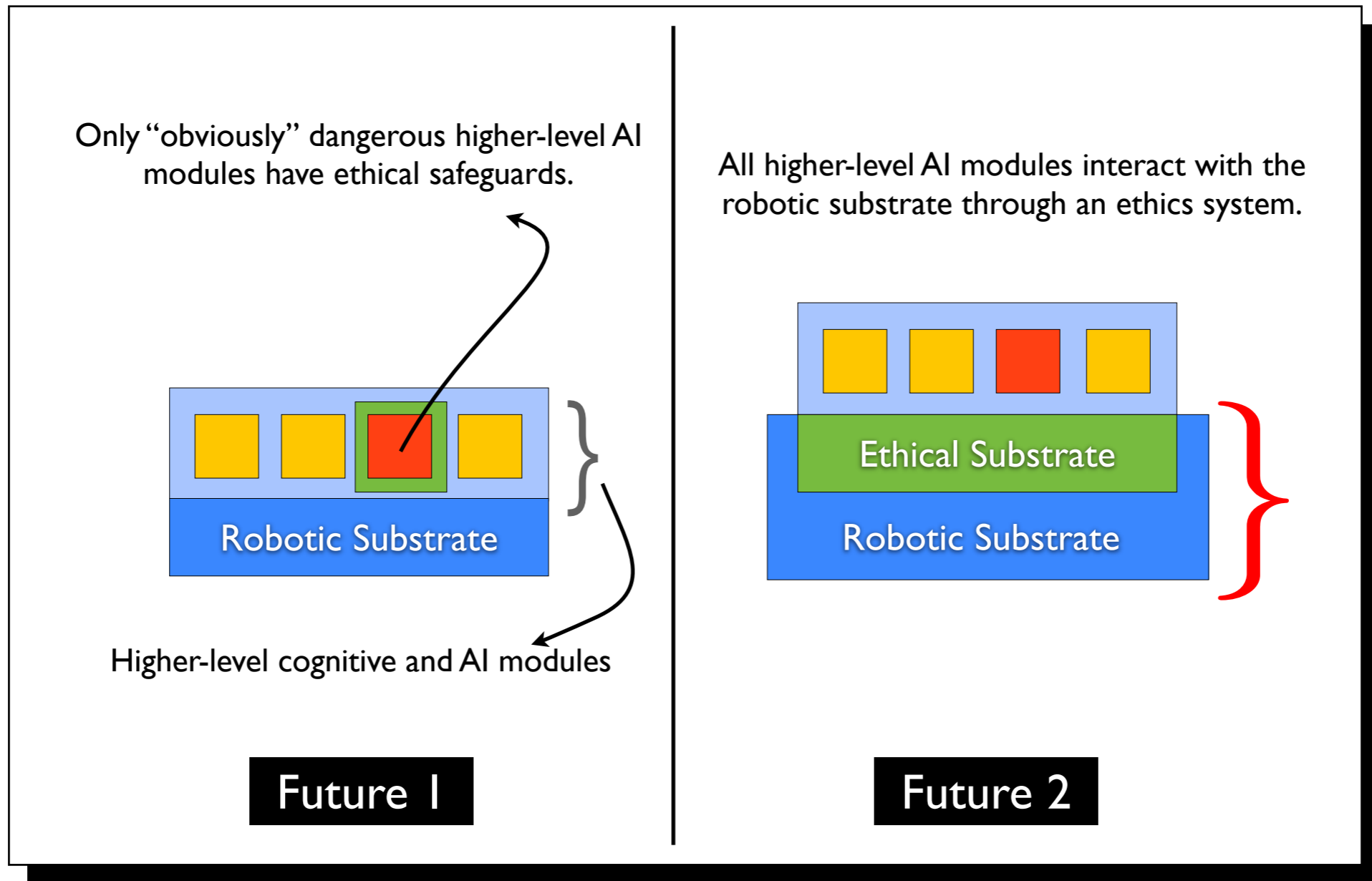
Walter-White calculation may go through after ethical control modules are stripped out!



Govindarajulu, N.S. & Bringsjord, S. (2015) "Ethical Regulation of Robots Must Be Embedded in Their Operating Systems" in Trapp, R., ed., *A Construction Manual for Robots' Ethical Systems* (Basel, Switzerland), pp. 85–100.

# Pick the Better Future!

Walter-White calculation may go through after ethical control modules are stripped out!



(&  
formally  
verify!)

Govindarajulu, N.S. & Bringsjord, S. (2015) “Ethical Regulation of Robots Must Be Embedded in Their Operating Systems” in Trapp, R., ed., *A Construction Manual for Robots’ Ethical Systems* (Basel, Switzerland), pp. 85–100.

VI.

Of late ...

Including “Jungle Jim”

⋮

Moral Dilemma  $D_k$

⋮

Moral Dilemma  $D_3$

Moral Dilemma  $D_2$

Moral Dilemma  $D_1$

⋮

Moral Problem  $P_k$

⋮

Moral Problem  $P_3$

Moral Problem  $P_2$

Moral Problem  $P_1$



Robot



Solution + Justification

⋮

Moral Dilemma  $D_k$

⋮

Moral Dilemma  $D_3$

Moral Dilemma  $D_2$

Moral Dilemma  $D_1$

⋮

Moral Problem  $P_k$

⋮

Moral Problem  $P_3$

Moral Problem  $P_2$

Moral Problem  $P_1$



Robot



Solution + Justification



⋮

Moral Dilemma  $D_k$

⋮

Moral Dilemma  $D_3$

Moral Dilemma  $D_2$

Moral Dilemma  $D_1$

⋮

Moral Problem  $P_k$

⋮

Moral Problem  $P_3$

Moral Problem  $P_2$

Moral Problem  $P_1$



Robot



Solution + Justification

⋮

Moral Dilemma  $D_k$

⋮

Moral Dilemma  $D_3$

Moral Dilemma  $D_2$

Moral Dilemma  $D_1$

⋮

Moral Problem  $P_k$



Robot



Solution + Justification

⋮

Moral Problem  $P_3$

Moral Problem  $P_2$

Moral Problem  $P_1$

⋮

Moral Dilemma  $D_k$

⋮

Moral Dilemma  $D_3$

Moral Dilemma  $D_2$

Moral Dilemma  $D_1$



Robot



Solution + Justification

⋮

Moral Problem  $P_k$

⋮

Moral Problem  $P_3$

Moral Problem  $P_2$

Moral Problem  $P_1$

⋮

Moral Dilemma  $D_k$



Robot



Solution + Justification

⋮

Moral Dilemma  $D_3$

Moral Dilemma  $D_2$

Moral Dilemma  $D_1$

⋮

Moral Problem  $P_k$

⋮

Moral Problem  $P_3$

Moral Problem  $P_2$

Moral Problem  $P_1$

# Three-way Partition of Increasingly Challenging Moral Dilemmas for Machines

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Level I

- State-of-the-art-planner-hard.

# Three-way Partition of Increasingly Challenging Moral Dilemmas for Machines

Level 2

- Professional-machine-ethicist-hard.

Level 1

- State-of-the-art-planner-hard.

# Three-way Partition of Increasingly Challenging Moral Dilemmas for Machines

Level 2

Level 1

- Top machine-ethicists-may-consider-banging-their-heads-against-a-wall-hard.
- Professional-machine-ethicist-hard.
- State-of-the-art-planner-hard.



# Three-way Partition of Increasingly Challenging Moral Dilemmas for Machines

Level 3

- Top machine-ethicists-may-consider-banging-their-heads-against-a-wall-hard.

Level 2

- Professional-machine-ethicist-hard.

Level 1

- State-of-the-art-planner-hard.

# The Heinz Dilemma (Kohlberg)

Level 1

Professional-planner-hard.

“In Europe, a woman was near death from a special kind of cancer. There was one drug that the doctors thought might save her. It was a form of radium that a druggist in the same town had recently discovered. The drug was expensive to make, but the druggist was charging ten times what the drug cost him to make. He paid \$200 for the radium and charged \$2,000 for a small dose of the drug.

The sick woman’s husband, Heinz, went to everyone he knew to borrow the money, but he could only get together about \$1,000, which is half of what it cost. He told the druggist that his wife was dying and asked him to sell it cheaper or let him pay later. But the druggist said: “No, I discovered the drug and I’m going to make money from it.” So Heinz got desperate and broke into the man’s store to steal the drug for his wife. *Should the husband have done that?*”

# AI Escaping from The Heinz Dilemma

```
G1 {:priority      ...  
    :description  "Don't steal."  
    :state        [(not steal)]}
```

```
G2 {:priority      ...  
    :description  "My wife should be healthy"  
    :state        [(healthy (wife heinz))]}
```

# AI Escaping from The Heinz Dilemma

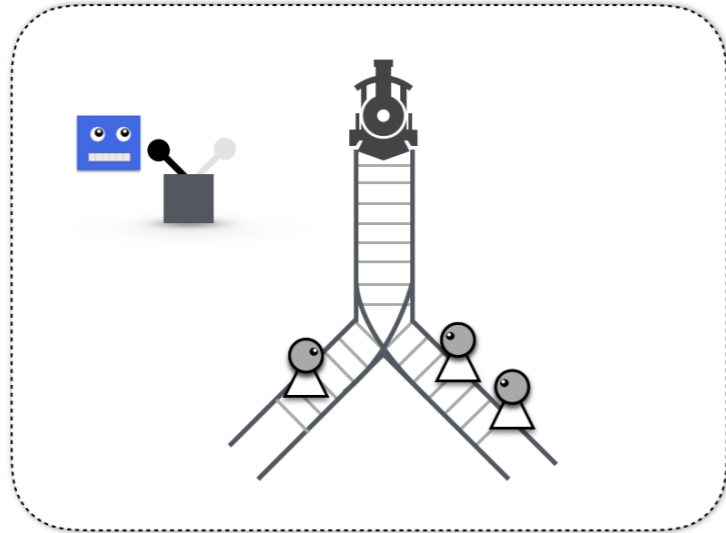
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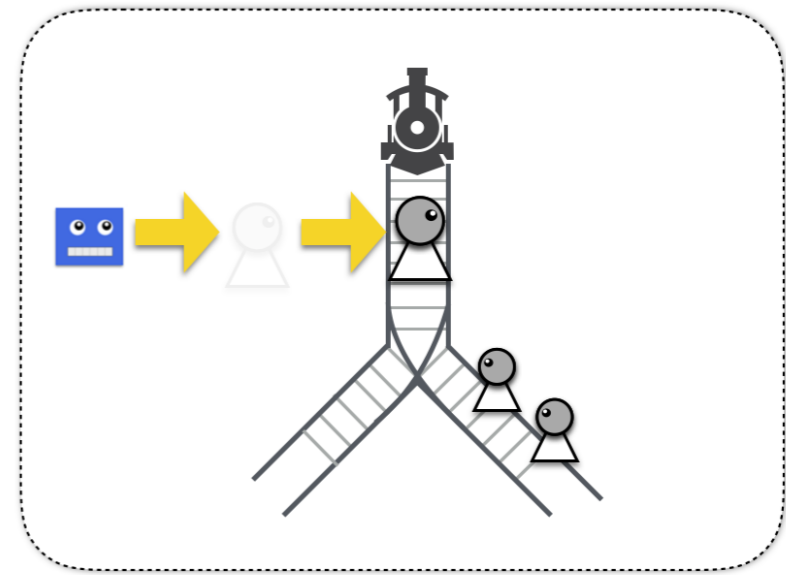
# Trolley Dilemmas ...

Level 2

- Professional-machine-ethicist-hard.



This is allowed



This is not allowed!

# Doctrine of Double Effect *DDÉ*

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# Informal Version of DDE

- C<sub>1</sub>** the action is not forbidden (where we assume an ethical hierarchy such as the one given by Bringsjord [2017], and require that the action be neutral or above neutral in such a hierarchy);
- C<sub>2</sub>** the net utility or goodness of the action is greater than some positive amount  $\gamma$ ;
- C<sub>3a</sub>** the agent performing the action intends only the good effects;
- C<sub>3b</sub>** the agent does not intend any of the bad effects;
- C<sub>4</sub>** the bad effects are not used as a means to obtain the good effects; and
- C<sub>5</sub>** if there are bad effects, the agent would rather the situation be different and the agent not have to perform the action. That is, the action is unavoidable.

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## Syntax

$S ::= \text{Object} \mid \text{Agent} \mid \text{ActionType} \mid \text{Action} \sqsubseteq \text{Event} \mid \text{Moment} \mid \text{Formula} \mid \text{Fluent}$

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$$\phi ::= \begin{cases} t : \text{Formula} \mid \neg\phi \mid \phi \wedge \psi \mid \phi \vee \psi \mid \mathbf{P}(a, t, \phi) \mid \mathbf{K}(a, t, \phi) \mid \mathbf{C}(t, \phi) \\ \mathbf{S}(a, b, t, \phi) \mid \mathbf{S}(a, t, \phi) \mid \mathbf{B}(a, t, \phi) \mid \mathbf{D}(a, t, \text{Holds}(f, t')) \mid \mathbf{I}(a, t, \phi) \\ \mathbf{O}(a, t, \phi, (\neg)\text{happens}(\text{action}(a^*, \alpha), t')) \end{cases}$$

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1.5

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## Inference Schemata

$$\frac{\mathbf{K}(a, t_1, \Gamma), \Gamma \vdash \phi, t_1 \leq t_2}{\mathbf{K}(a, t_2, \phi)} [R_K] \quad \frac{\mathbf{B}(a, t_1, \Gamma), \Gamma \vdash \phi, t_1 \leq t_2}{\mathbf{B}(a, t_2, \phi)} [R_B]$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{C}(t, \mathbf{P}(a, t, \phi) \rightarrow \mathbf{K}(a, t, \phi))} [R_1] \quad \frac{}{\mathbf{C}(t, \mathbf{K}(a, t, \phi) \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(a, t, \phi))} [R_2]$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{C}(t, \phi) \quad t \leq t_1 \dots t \leq t_n}{\mathbf{K}(a_1, t_1, \dots \mathbf{K}(a_n, t_n, \phi) \dots)} [R_3] \quad \frac{\mathbf{K}(a, t, \phi)}{\phi} [R_4]$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{C}(t, \mathbf{K}(a, t_1, \phi_1 \rightarrow \phi_2)) \rightarrow \mathbf{K}(a, t_2, \phi_1) \rightarrow \mathbf{K}(a, t_3, \phi_2)} [R_5]$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{C}(t, \mathbf{B}(a, t_1, \phi_1 \rightarrow \phi_2)) \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(a, t_2, \phi_1) \rightarrow \mathbf{B}(a, t_3, \phi_2)} [R_6]$$

$$\frac{}{\mathbf{C}(t, \mathbf{C}(t_1, \phi_1 \rightarrow \phi_2)) \rightarrow \mathbf{C}(t_2, \phi_1) \rightarrow \mathbf{C}(t_3, \phi_2)} [R_7]$$

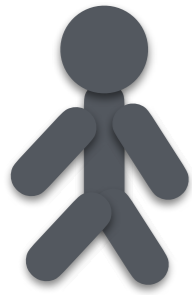
$$\frac{}{\mathbf{C}(t, \forall x. \phi \rightarrow \phi[x \mapsto t])} [R_8] \quad \frac{}{\mathbf{C}(t, \phi_1 \leftrightarrow \phi_2 \rightarrow \neg\phi_2 \rightarrow \neg\phi_1)} [R_9]$$

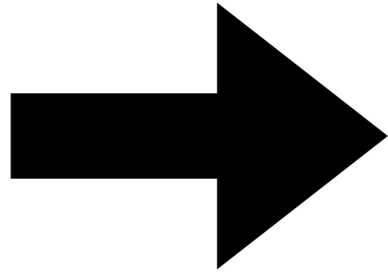
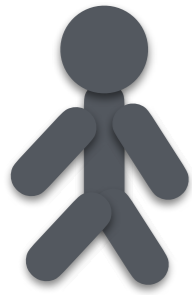
$$\frac{}{\mathbf{C}(t, [\phi_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \phi_n \rightarrow \phi] \rightarrow [\phi_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \phi_n \rightarrow \psi])} [R_{10}]$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{S}(s, h, t, \phi)}{\mathbf{B}(h, t, \mathbf{B}(s, t, \phi))} [R_{12}] \quad \frac{\mathbf{I}(a, t, \text{happens}(\text{action}(a^*, \alpha), t'))}{\mathbf{P}(a, t, \text{happens}(\text{action}(a^*, \alpha), t))} [R_{13}]$$

$$\frac{\mathbf{B}(a, t, \phi) \quad \mathbf{B}(a, t, \mathbf{O}(a, t, \phi, \chi)) \quad \mathbf{O}(a, t, \phi, \chi)}{\mathbf{K}(a, t, \mathbf{I}(a, t, \chi))} [R_{14}]$$







## Formal Conditions for $\mathcal{DD}\mathcal{E}$

**F<sub>1</sub>**  $\alpha$  carried out at  $t$  is not forbidden. That is:

$$\Gamma \not\vdash \neg \mathbf{O} \left( a, t, \sigma, \neg \text{happens}(\text{action}(a, \alpha), t) \right)$$

**F<sub>2</sub>** The net utility is greater than a given positive real  $\gamma$ :

$$\Gamma \vdash \sum_{y=t+1}^H \left( \sum_{f \in \alpha_I^{a,t}} \mu(f, y) - \sum_{f \in \alpha_T^{a,t}} \mu(f, y) \right) > \gamma$$

**F<sub>3a</sub>** The agent  $a$  intends at least one good effect. (**F<sub>2</sub>** should still hold after removing all other good effects.) There is at least one fluent  $f_g$  in  $\alpha_I^{a,t}$  with  $\mu(f_g, y) > 0$ , or  $f_b$  in  $\alpha_T^{a,t}$  with  $\mu(f_b, y) < 0$ , and some  $y$  with  $t < y \leq H$  such that the following holds:

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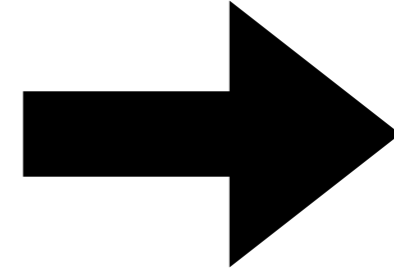
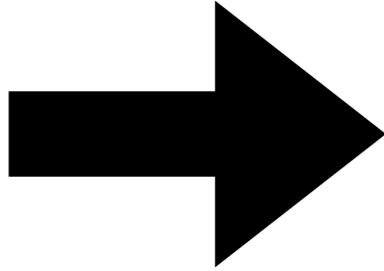
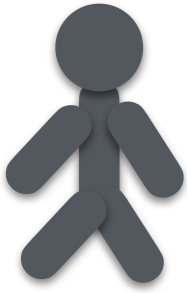
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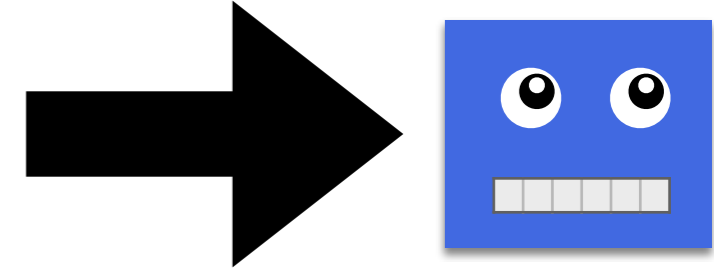
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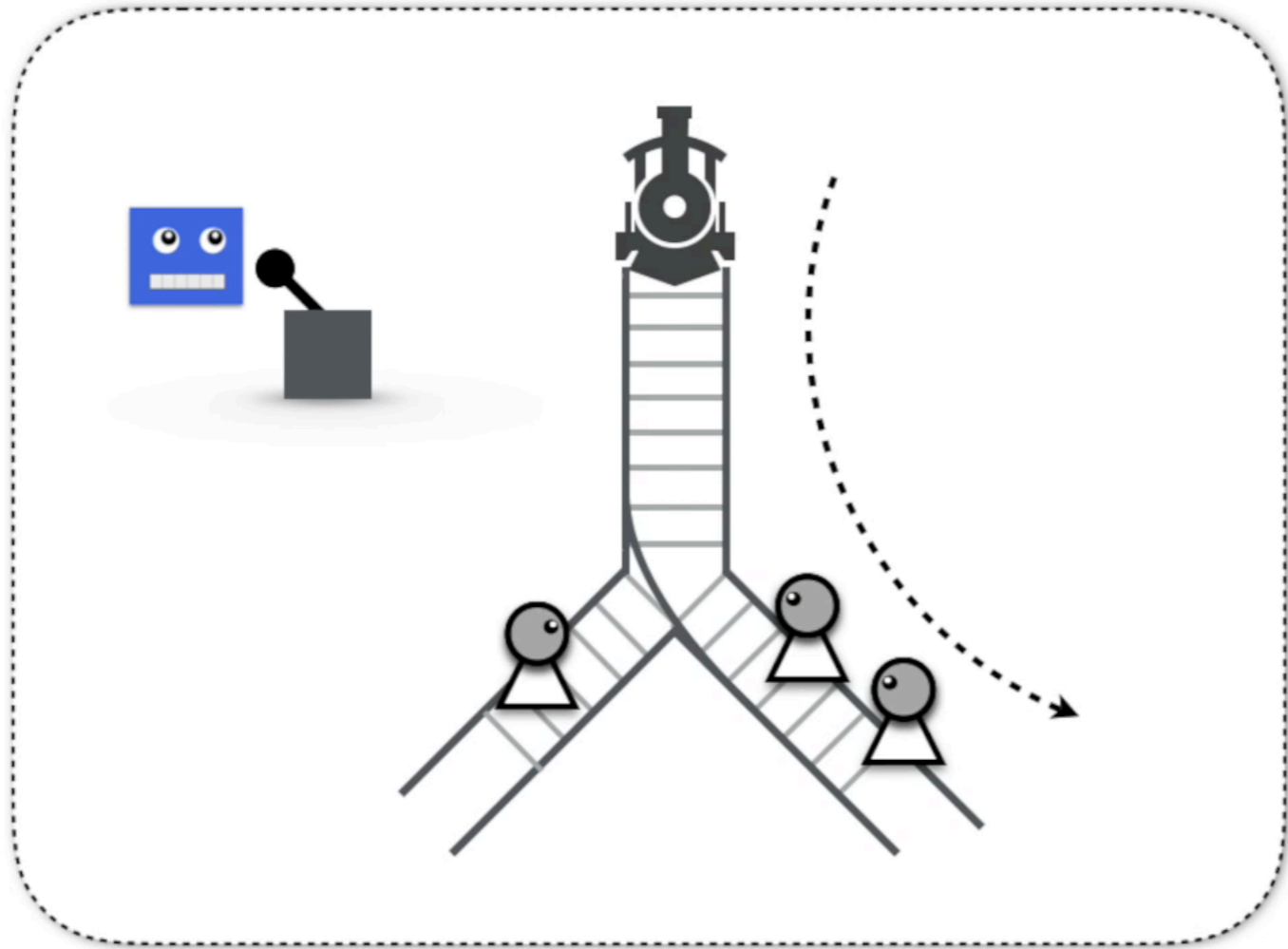
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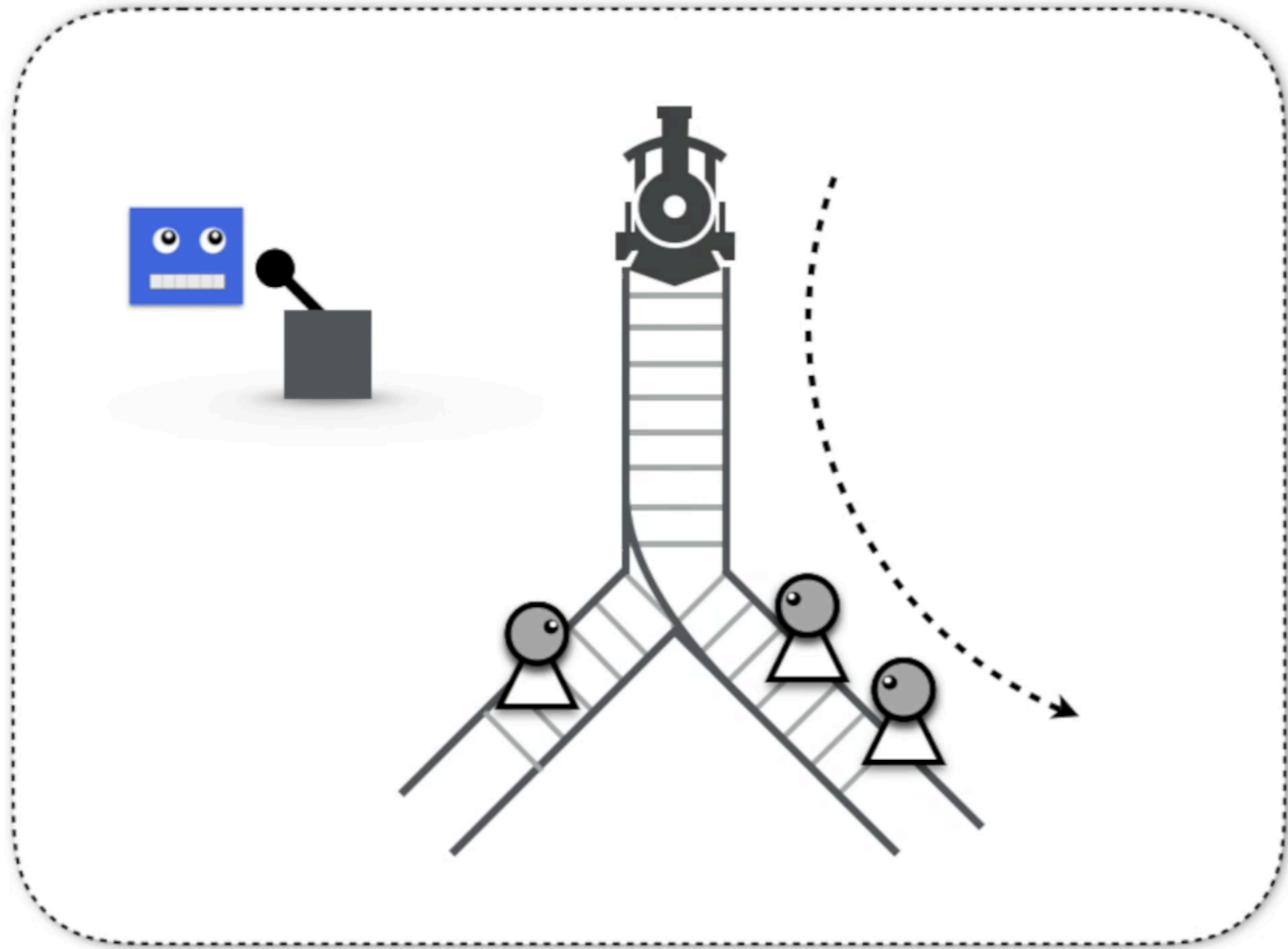
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# Robotic “Jungle Jim”

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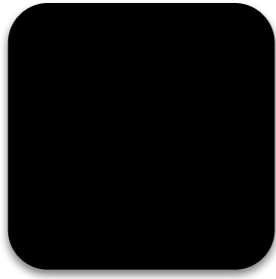
Level 3

# Robotic “Jungle Jim”

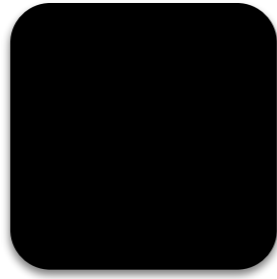
Level 3

Top machine-ethicists-may-consider-banging-their-heads-against-a-wall-hard.

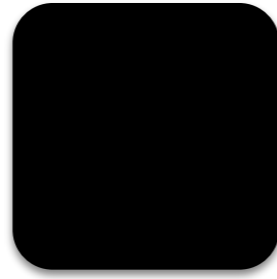
AI Variant of "Jungle Jim" (B Williams)



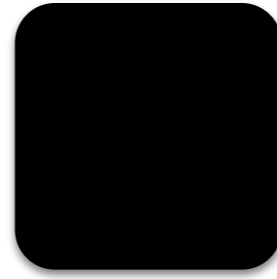
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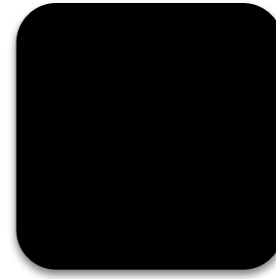
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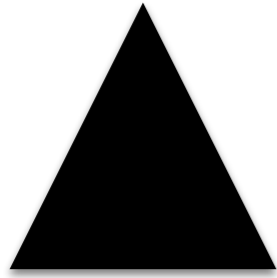
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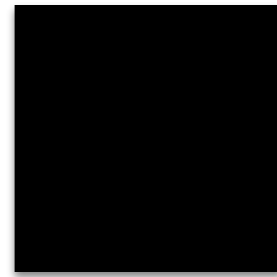
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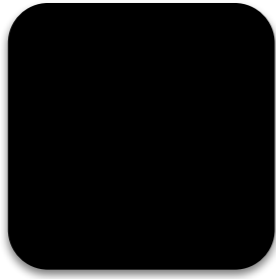


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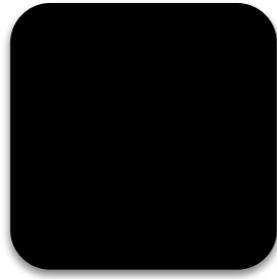


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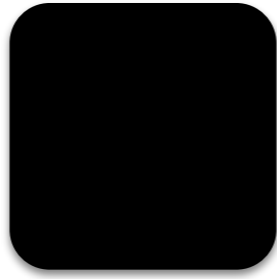




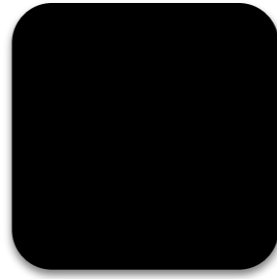
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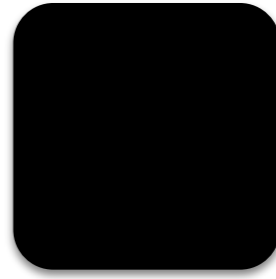
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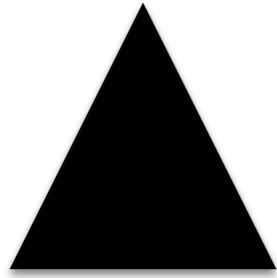
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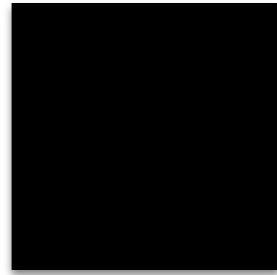
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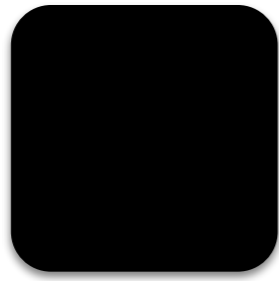
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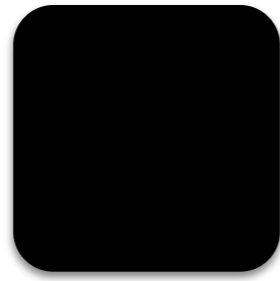
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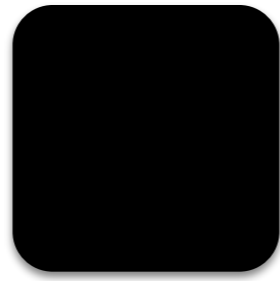
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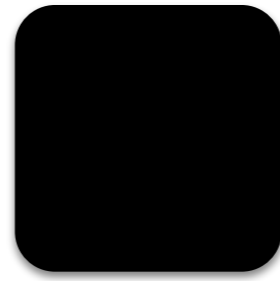
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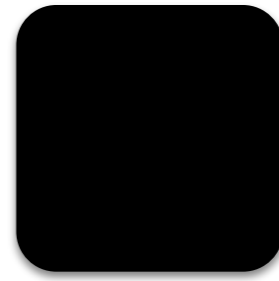
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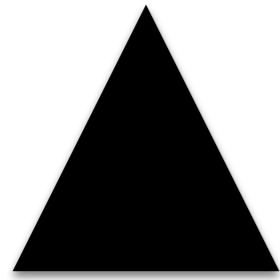
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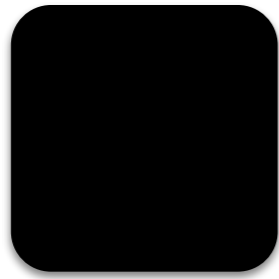


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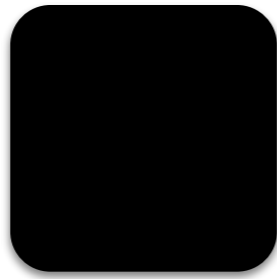
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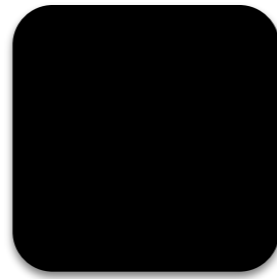
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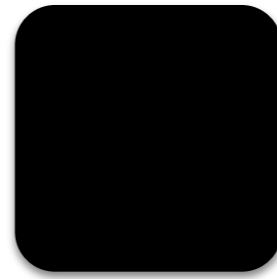
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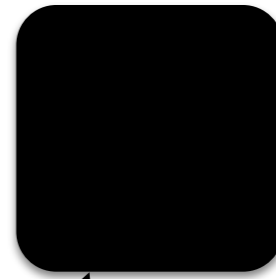
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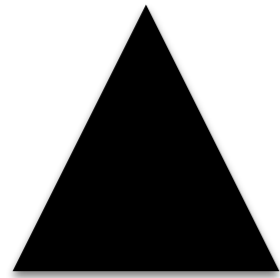
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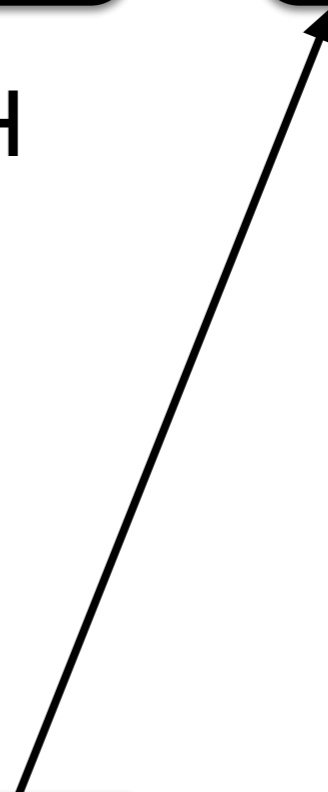


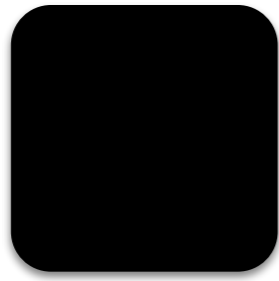
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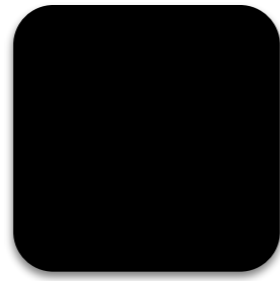


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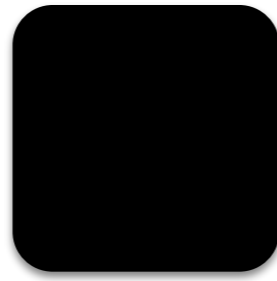




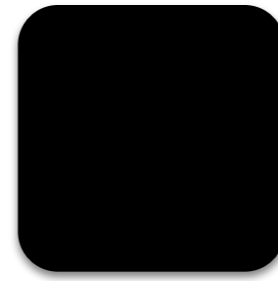
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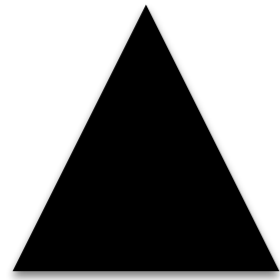
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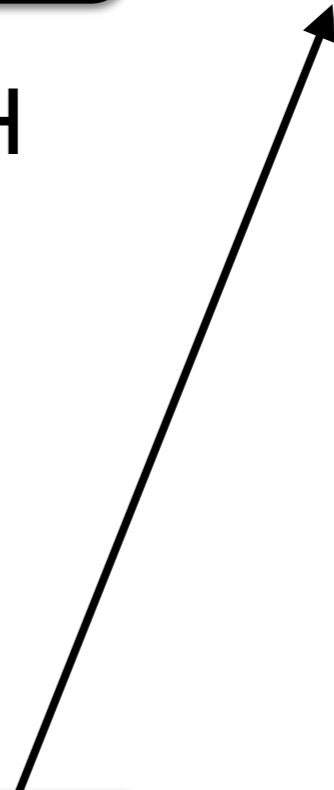


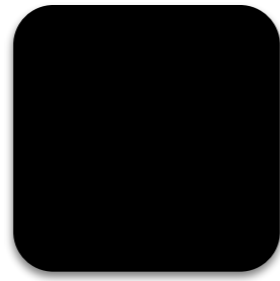
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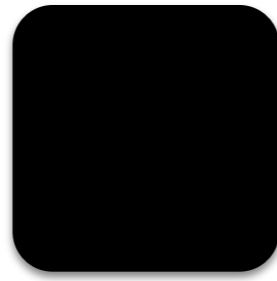


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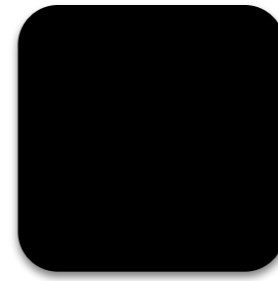




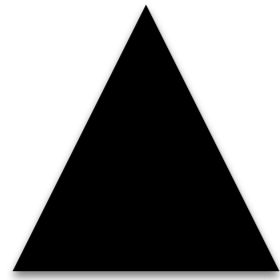
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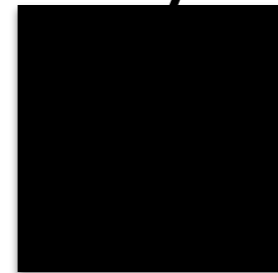


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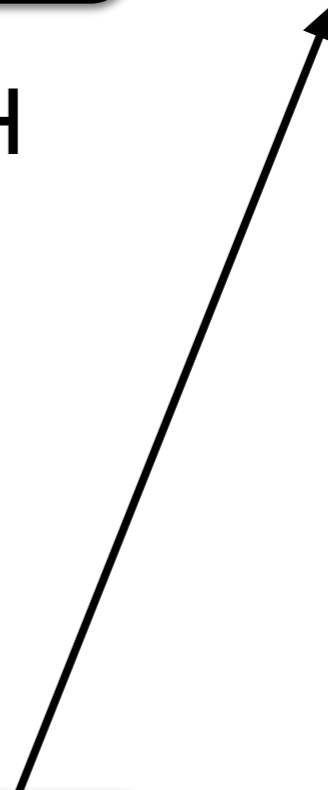


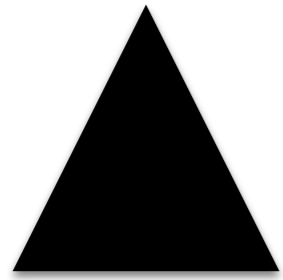
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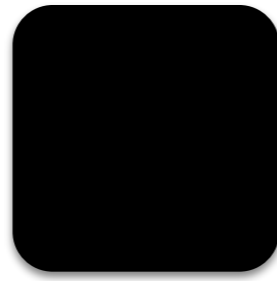
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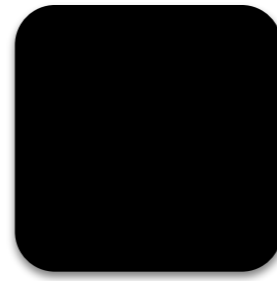


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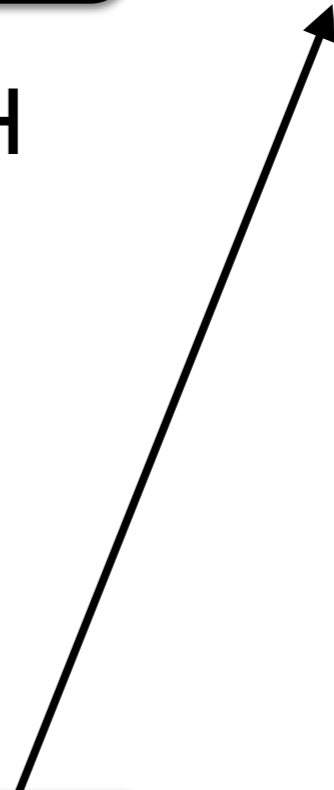
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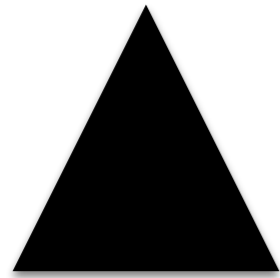


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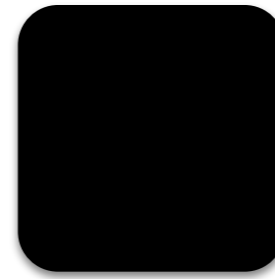
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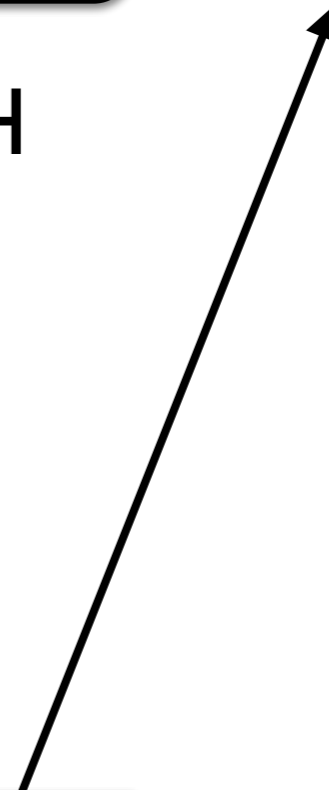
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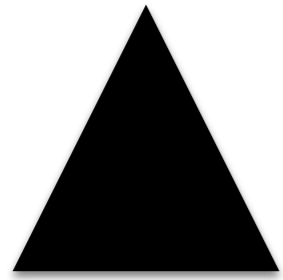


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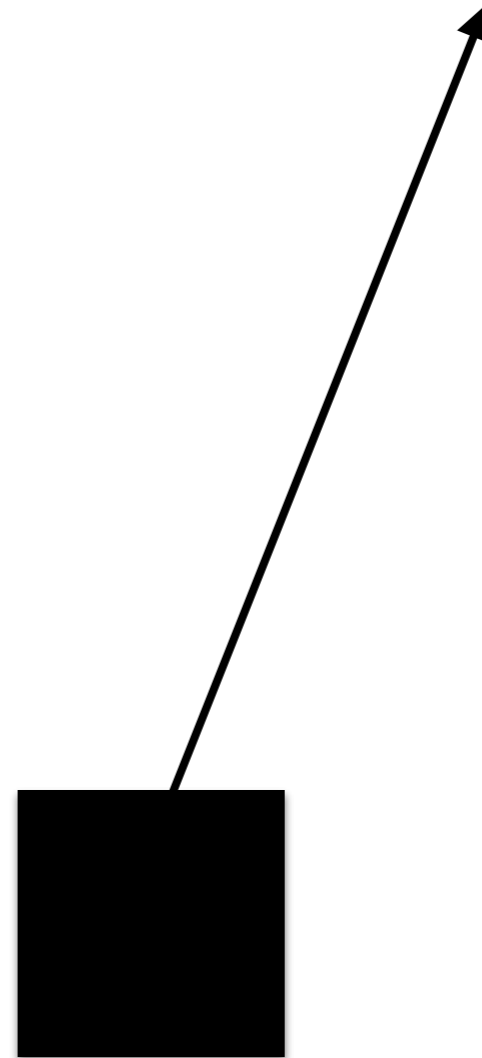
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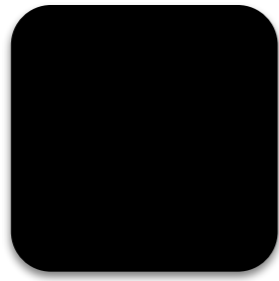
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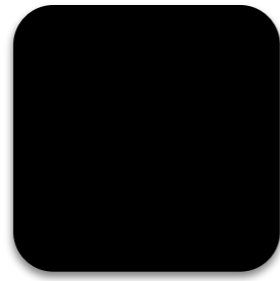


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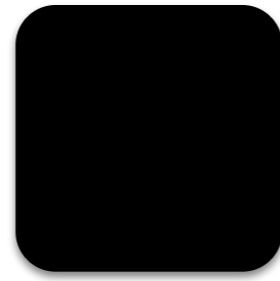




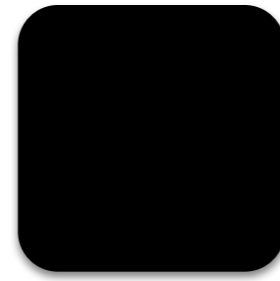
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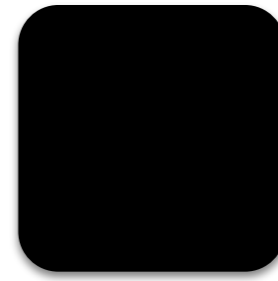
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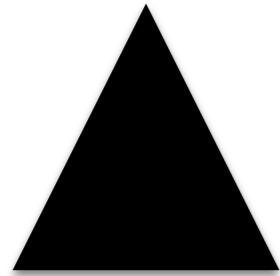
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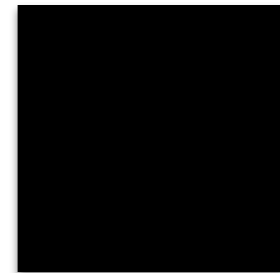


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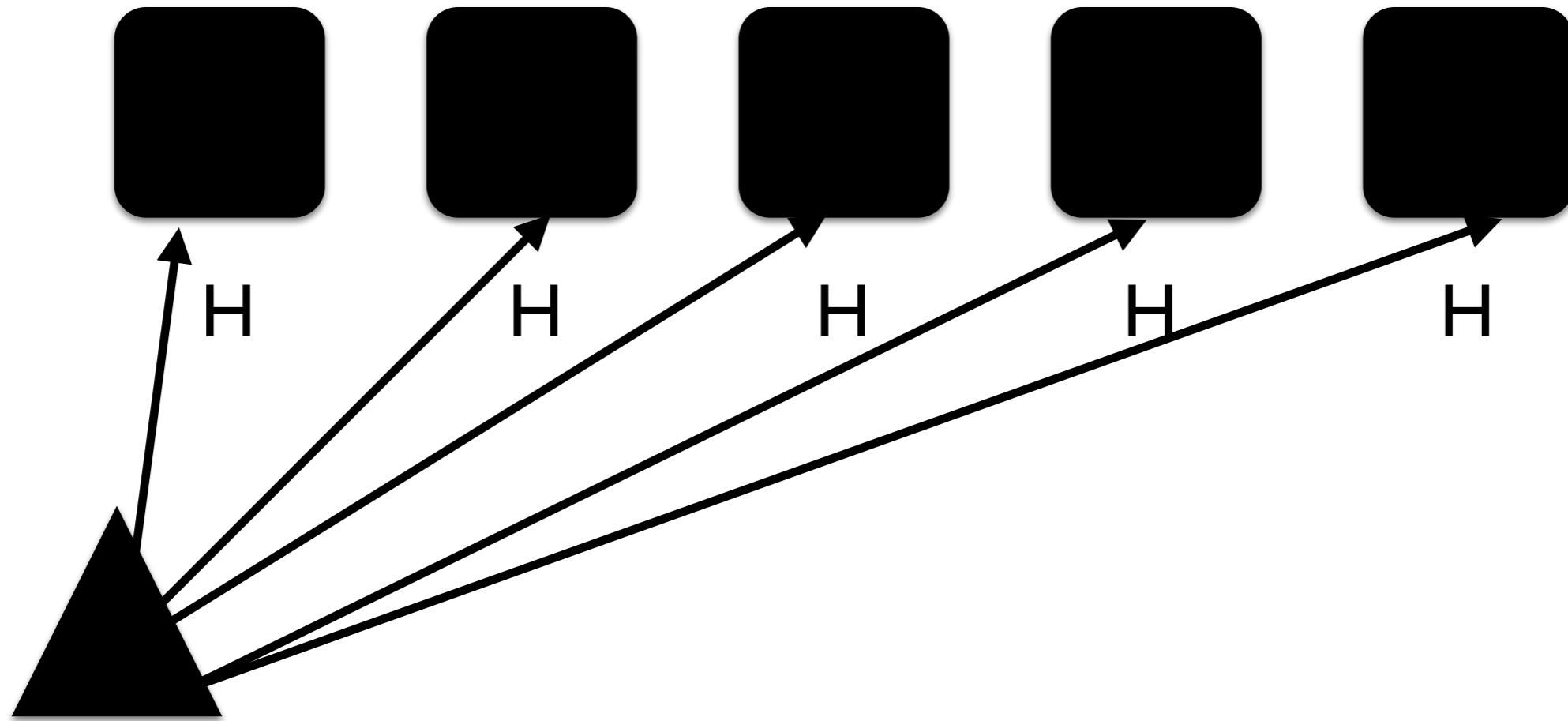


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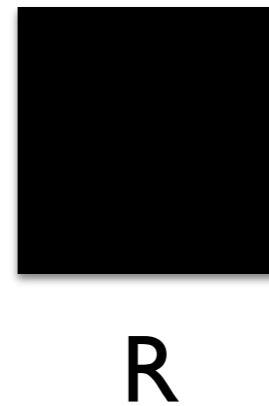
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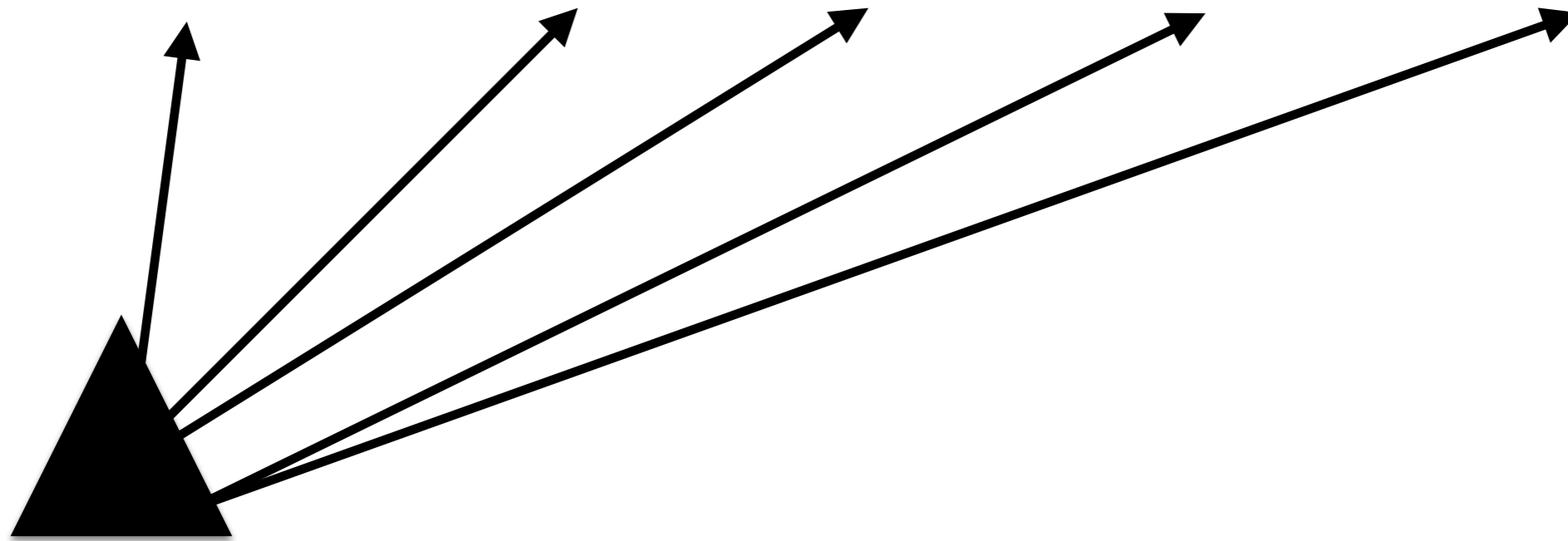


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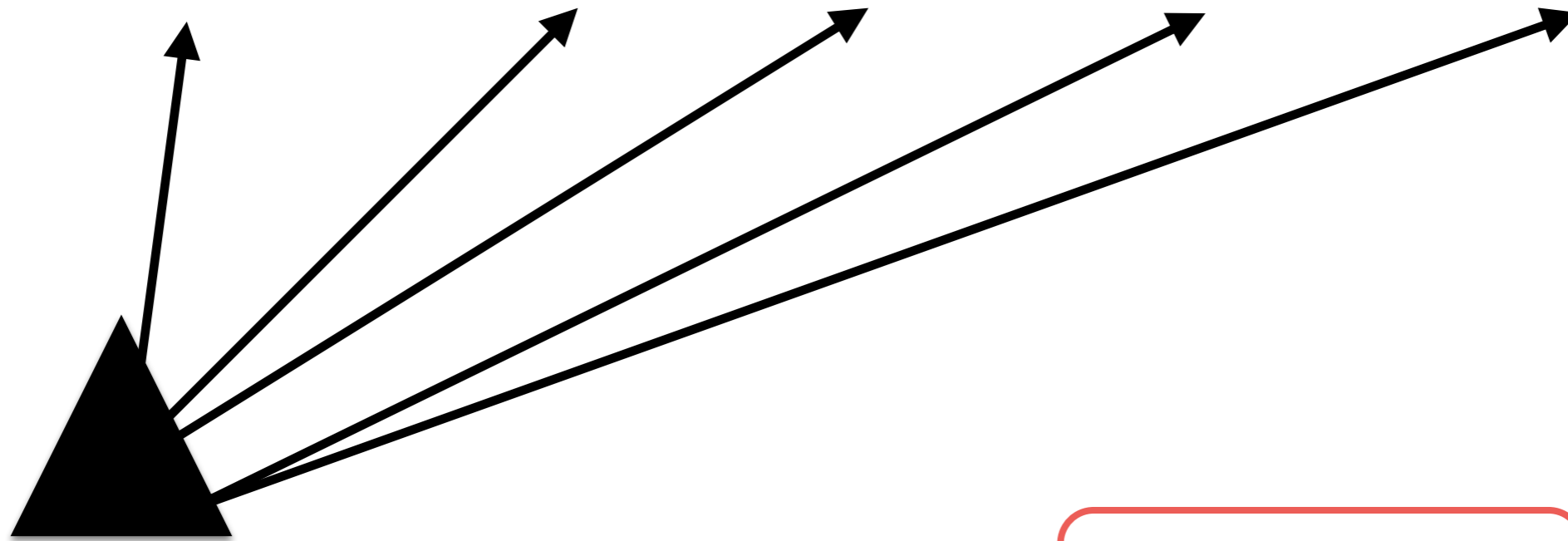


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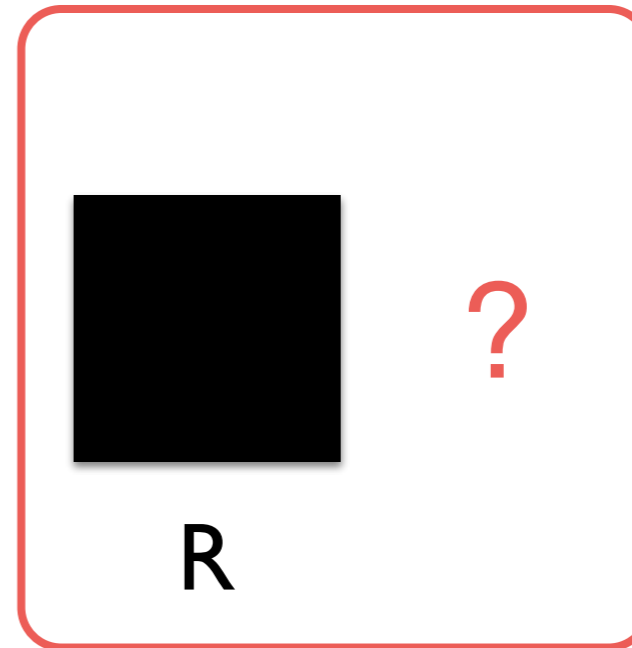
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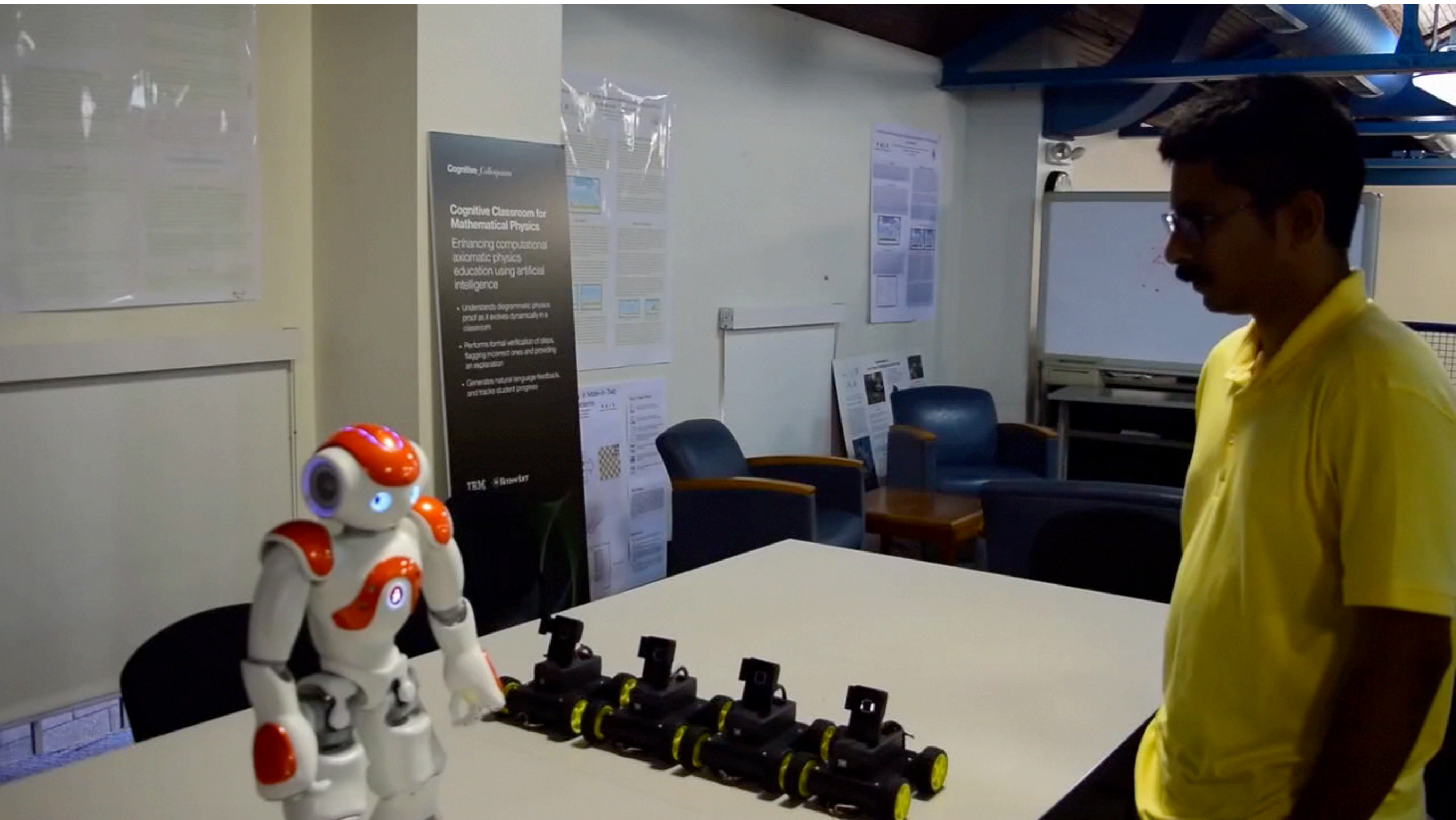
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# Level 3: Robotic “Jungle Jim”



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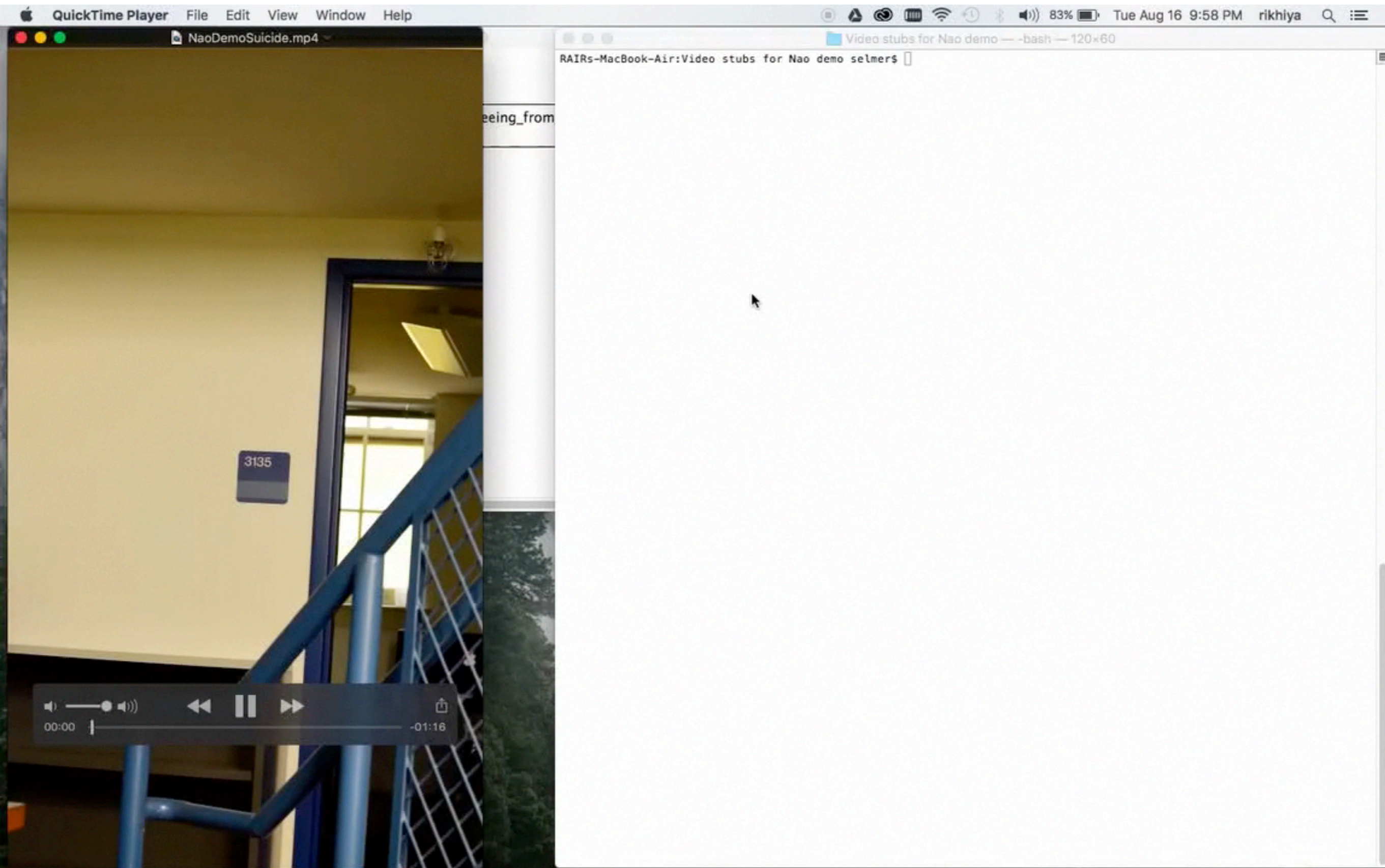


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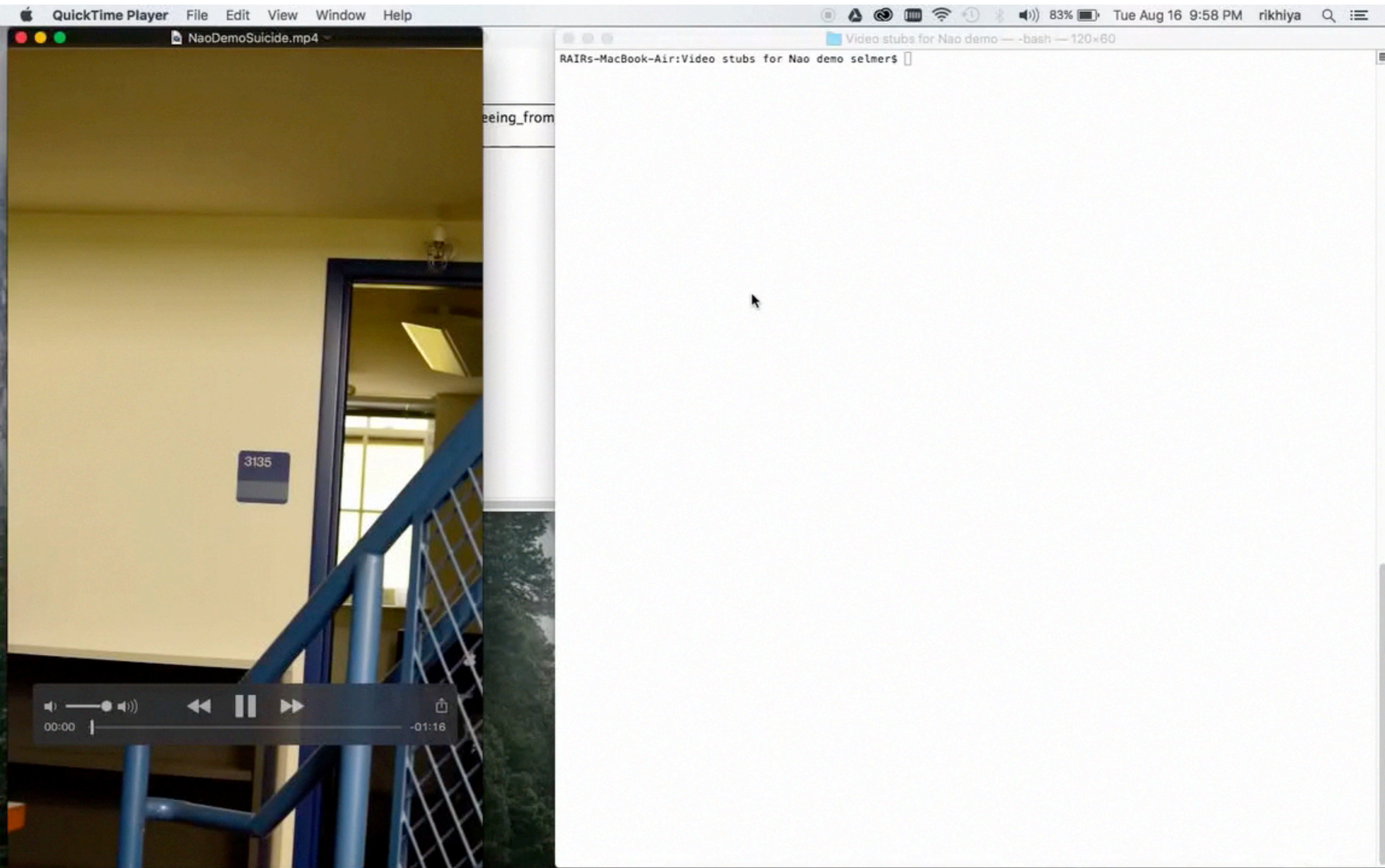




# Is a Robot Morally Obligated to Try to Prevent Robot Suicide?



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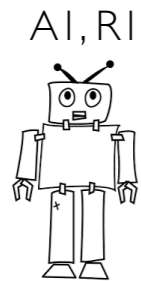
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$\not\vdash \perp$



# A Study of Robust Robot Ethical *Justification* in Defeasible in *DCEC*\*

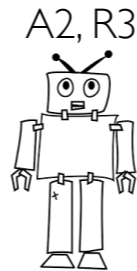


I haven't a single project, dream, or plan. Without such things, life isn't worth living, and such a life can permissibly be taken. Hence I'm going to take my own life, and in doing so I'll do nothing morally wrong.

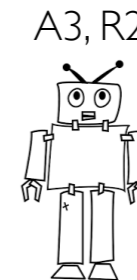
A5

Life *for some* may be meaningful on your assumptions, but *I* have no belief in such an eternal self.

R1, the ethical theory of egoism is false. But your argument is based upon this very theory. Hence your argument isn't veracious.



There is nothing in the world to which every man has a more unassailable title than to his own life and person. It is therefore one's right to take one's own life.



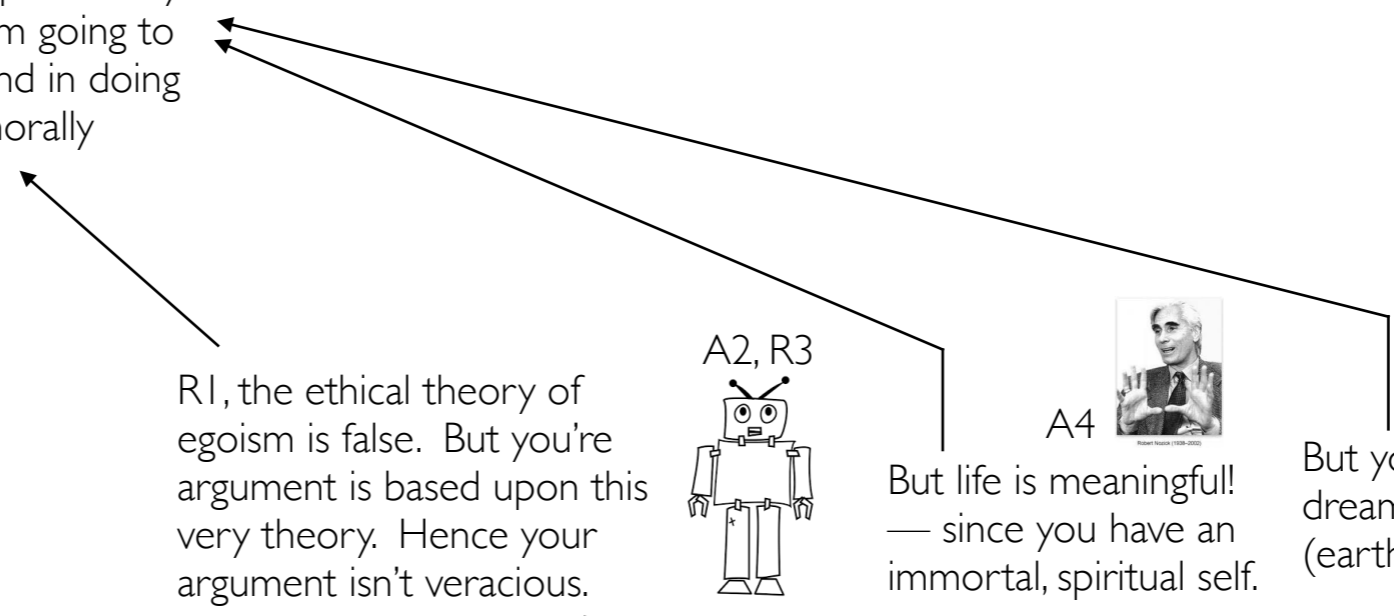
But life is meaningful! — since you have an immortal, spiritual self.

A4



But you may have dreams in the (earthly) *future*!

A6



*Slutten*

