# The Immaterial Paradise, Motivating Paradoxes, Puzzles, and $\mathbb{R}$ ,

Part I

#### Selmer Bringsjord

Intro to Formal Logic (and AI) = IFLAII 1/8/25



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# Most Al Punditry is Illogical, e.g. . . .

#### Without Consciousness, AIs Will Be Sociopaths

ChatGPT can carry on a conversation, but the most important goal for artificial intelligence is making it understand what it means to have a mind

**ESSAY** 

By Michael S.A. Graziano (+ Follow)

January 13, 2023 09:24 a.m. EST

ChatGPT, the latest technological sensation, is an artificial intelligence chatbot with an amazing ability to carry on a conversation. It relies on a massive network of artificial neurons that loosely mimics the human brain, and it has been trained by analyzing the information resources of the internet. ChatGPT has processed more text than any human is likely to have read in a lifetime, allowing it to respond to questions fluently and even to imitate specific individuals, answering queries the way it thinks they would. My teenage son recently used ChatGPT to argue about politics with an imitation Karl Marx.

As a neuroscientist specializing in the brain mechanisms of con-



sciousness, I find talking to chatbots an unsettling experience. Are they conscious? Probably not. But given the rate of technological improvement, will they be in the next couple of years? And how would we even know?

Figuring out whether a machine has or understands humanlike consciousness is more than just a science-fiction hypothetical.

Artificial intelligence is growing so powerful, so quickly, that it could soon pose a danger to human beings. We're building machines that are smarter than us and giving them control over our world. How can we

build AI so that it's aligned with human needs, not in conflict with us?

As counterintuitive as it may sound, creating a benign AI may require making it more conscious, not less. One of the most common misunderstandings about AI is the notion that if it's intelligent then it must be conscious, and if it is conscious then it will be autonomous, capable of taking over the world. But as we learn more about consciousness, those ideas do not appear to be correct. An autonomous system that makes complex decisions doesn't require consciousness.

What's most important about consciousness is that, for human beings, it's not just about the self. We see it in ourselves, but we also perceive it or project it into the world around us. Consciousness is part of the tool kit that evolution

gave us to make us an empathetic, prosocial species. Without it, we would necessarily be sociopaths, because we'd lack the tools for prosocial behavior. And without a concept of what consciousness is or an understanding that other beings have it, machines are sociopaths.

The only diagnostic tool for machine consciousness that we have right now is the Turing test, a thought experiment named for the British computer scientist Alan Turing. In its most common version, the test says that if a person holds a conversation with a machine and mistakes its responses for those of a real human being, then the machine must be considered effectively conscious.

The Turing test is an admission that the consciousness of another being is something we can only judge from the outside, based on the way he, she or it communicates. But the

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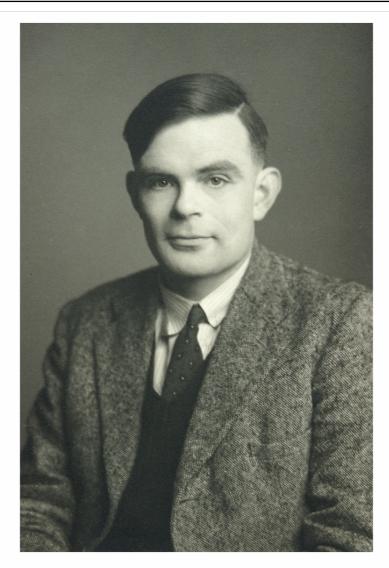
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The Turing test is an admission that the consciousness of another being is something we can only judge from the outside, based on the way he, she or it communicates. But the

limits of the test are painfully obvious. After all, a pet dog can't carry on a conversation and pass as a human—does that mean it's not conscious? If you really wanted a machine to pass the test, you could have it say a few words to a small child. It might even fool some adults, too.

The truth is, the Turing test doesn't reveal much about what's going on inside a machine or a computer program like ChatGPT. Instead, what it really tests is the social cognition of the human participant. We evolved as social animals, and our brains instinctively project consciousness, agency, intention and emotion onto the objects around us. We're primed to see a world suffused with minds. Ancient animistic beliefs held that every river and tree had a spirit in it. For a similar reason, people are prone to see faces in random objects like the moon and moldy toast.

The original test proposed by Alan Turing in a 1950 paper was more complicated than the version people talk about today. Notably,



Computer science pioneer Alan Turing in 1951.

Turing didn't say a word about consciousness; he never delved into whether the machine had a subjective experience. He asked only whether it could think like a person.

Turing imagined an "imitation

game" in which the player must determine the sex of two people, A and B. One is a man and one is a woman, but the player can't see them and can learn about them only by exchanging typed questions and

answers. A responds to the questions deceitfully, and wins the game if the player misidentifies their sex, while B answers truthfully and wins if the player identifies their sex correctly. Turing's idea was that if A or B is replaced by a machine, and the machine can win the game as often as a real person, then it must have mastered the subtleties of human thinking—of argument, manipulation and guessing what other people are thinking.

Turing's test was so complicated that people who popularized his work soon streamlined it into a single machine conversing with a single person. But the whole point of the original test was its bizarre complexity. Social cognition is difficult and requires a theory of mind—that is, a knowledge that other people have minds and an ability to guess what might be in them.

If we want to know whether a computer is conscious, then, we need to test whether the computer understands how conscious minds interact. In other words, we need a



**\** Back

reverse Turing test: Let's see if the computer can tell whether it's talking to a human or another computer. If it can tell the difference, then maybe it knows what consciousness is. ChatGPT definitely can't pass that test yet: It doesn't know whether it's responding to a living person with a mind or a disjointed list of prefab questions.

A sociopathic machine that can make consequential decisions would be powerfully dangerous. For now, chatbots are still limited in their abilities; they're essentially toys. But if we don't think more deeply about machine consciousness, in a year or five years we may face a crisis. If computers are going to outthink us anyway, giving them more humanlike social cognition might be our best hope of aligning them with human values.

Dr. Graziano is a professor of psychology and neuroscience at Princeton University and the author of "Rethinking Consciousness: A Scientific Theory of Subjective Experience."

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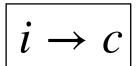
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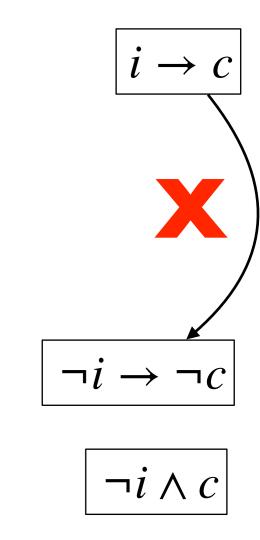


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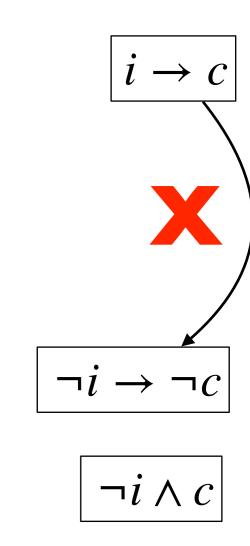
ChatGPT 40 >

I just read Turing's famous paper, the one about the test.

That's fantastic! Turing's 1950 paper, "Computing Machinery and Intelligence," is a cornerstone of artificial intelligence and philosophy of mind. It's where he proposes the famous "Imitation Game," now commonly called the Turing Test, to address the question, "Can machines think?"

What stood out to you in the paper? Was it the test itself, his predictions about the future of AI, or perhaps his philosophical arguments about machine intelligence?

Ah so it's called the 'Turing Test' now, huh?



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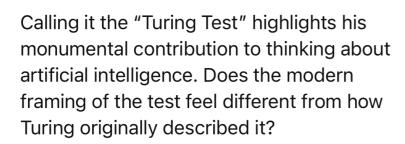
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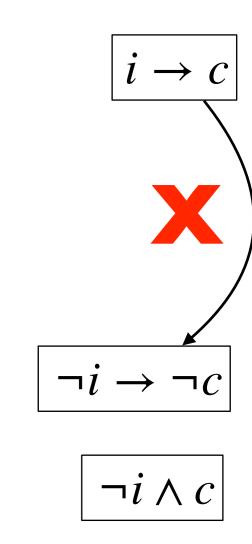
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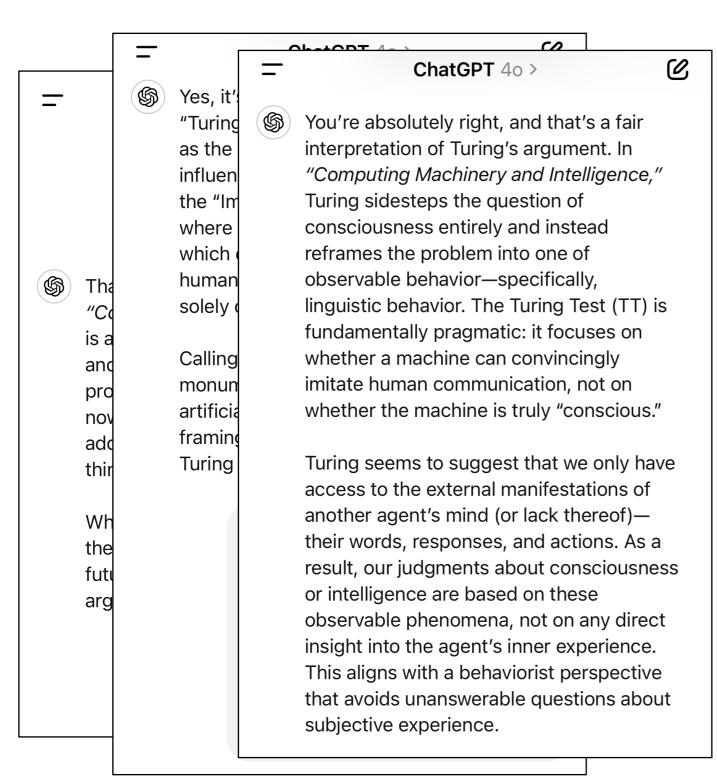
Yes, it's now widely referred to as the "Turing Test"! The term evolved over time as the ideas in Turing's paper gained influence. In the paper itself, he called it the "Imitation Game," describing a scenario where an interrogator tries to determine which of two hidden participants is a human and which is a machine, based solely on their responses to questions.

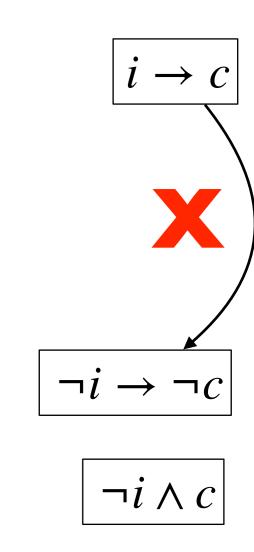


It seems to me on a fair reading of the paper that the TT (that's how I'll label the test) overall says — & Turing would thus be understood to say this — that whether another agent is conscious is something we can only make a judgement about based on that agent's communication with us.

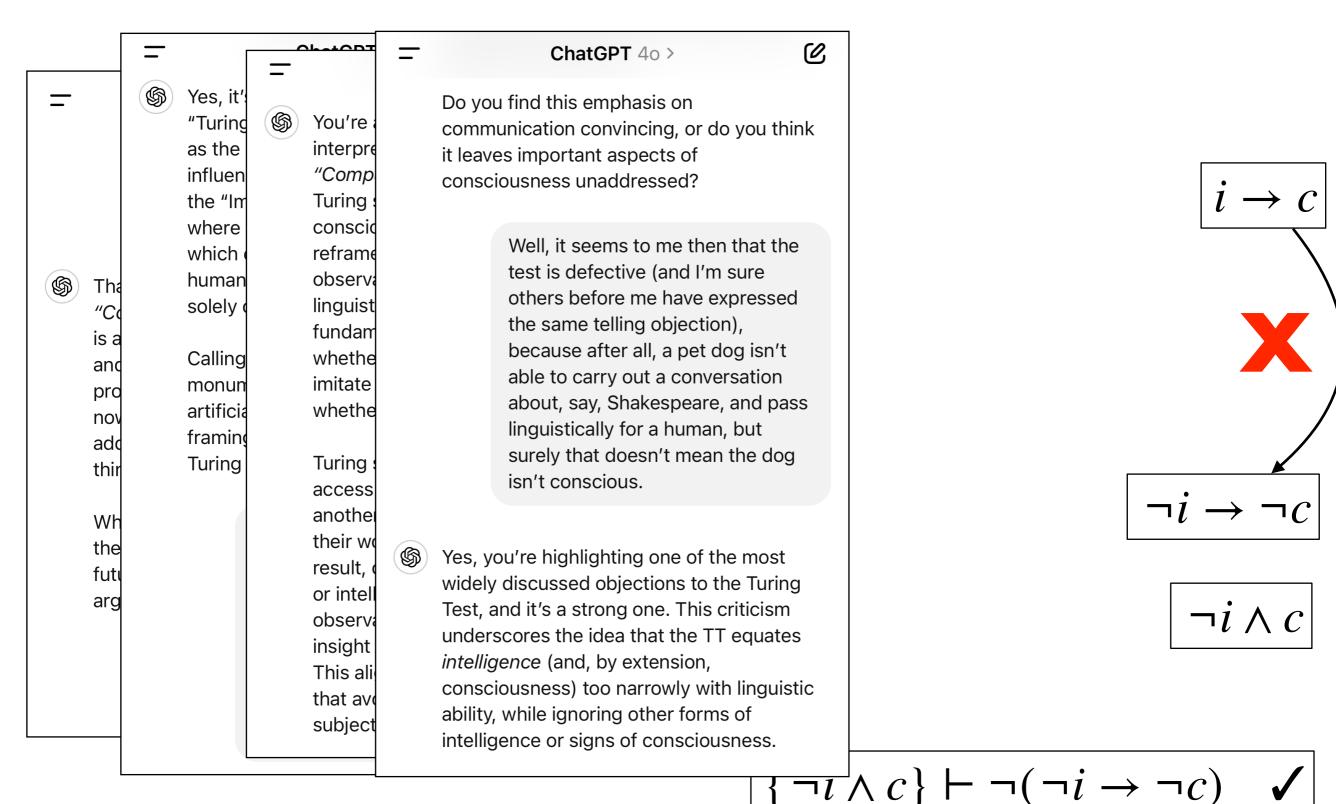


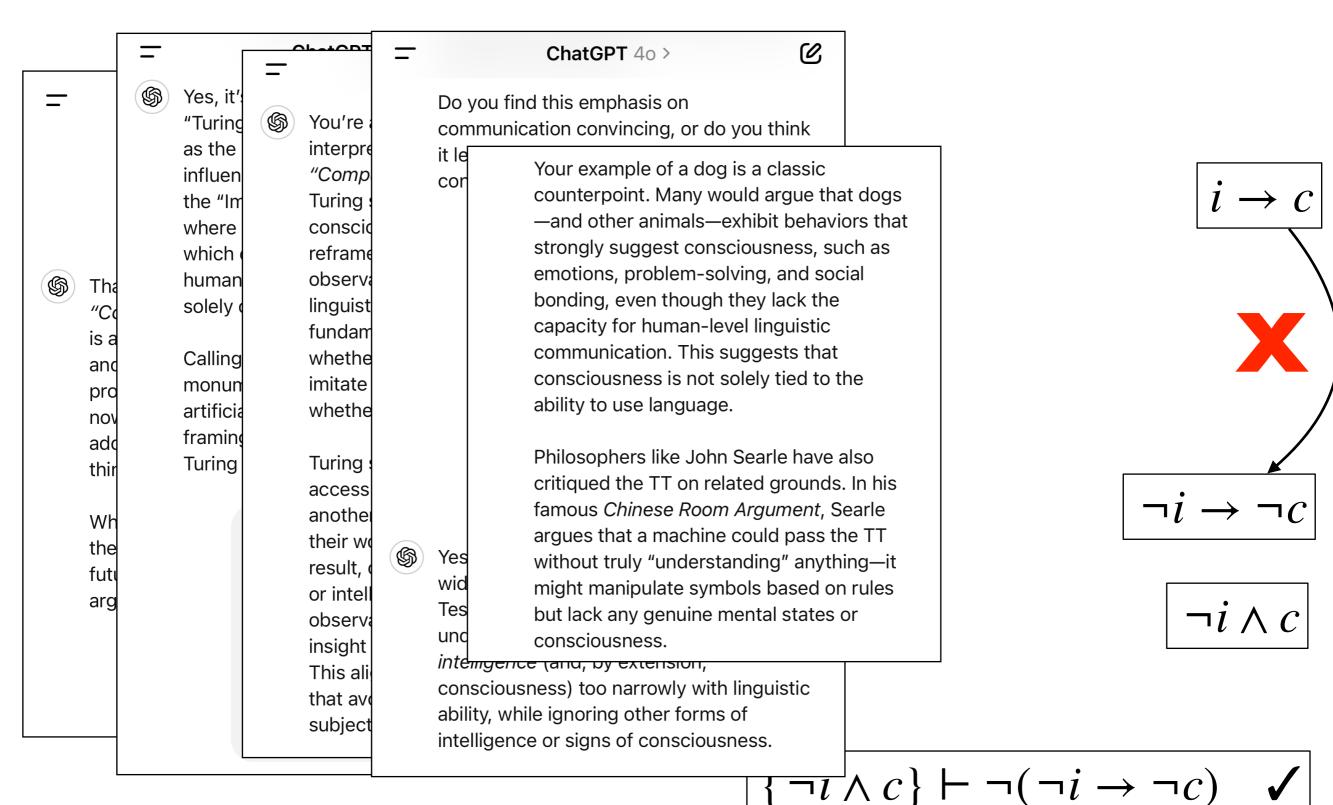
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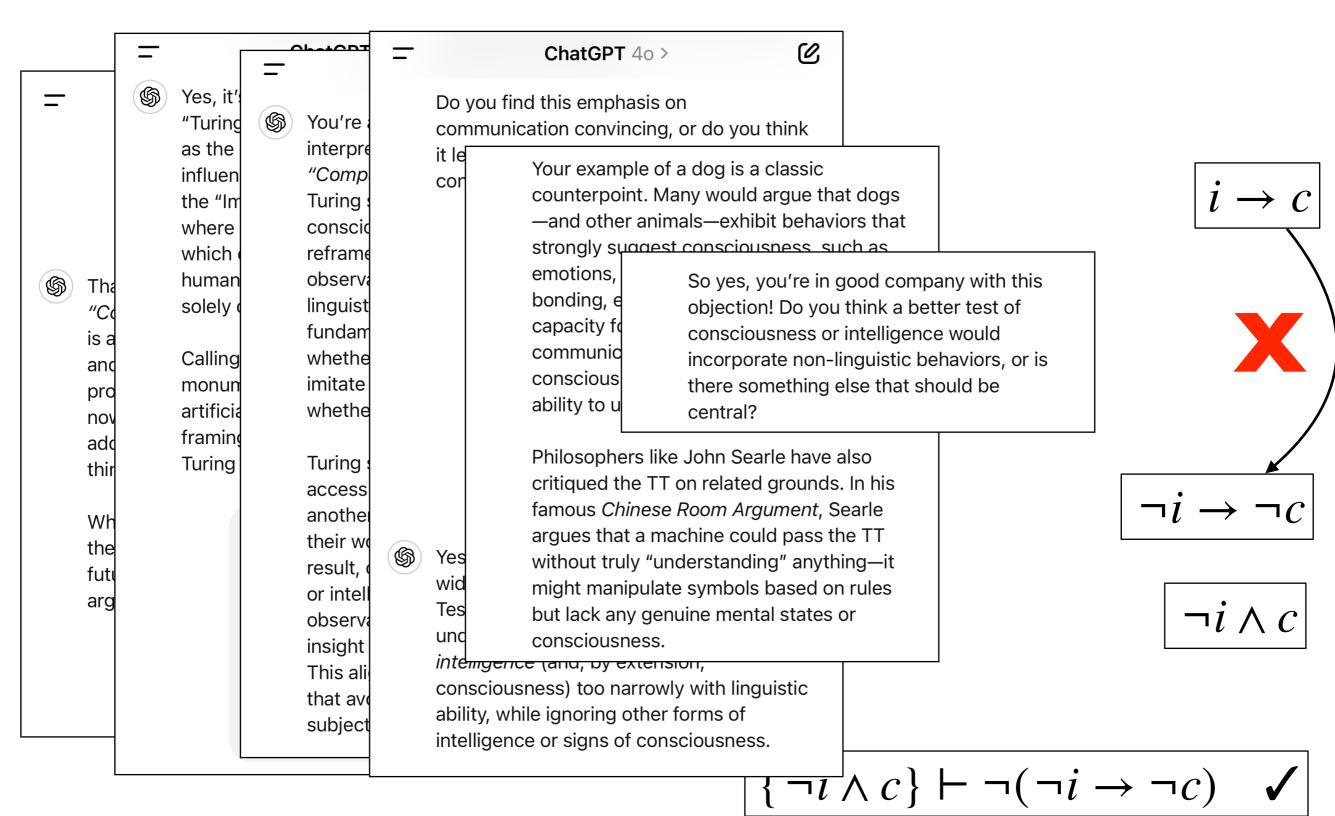




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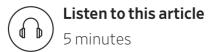
Computers win in realms with defined rules but we have free will and make choices.



Photo: crown copyright 2021/Reuters

By Andy Kessler + Follow

Jan 07, 2024 12:59 p.m. ET



Be ready for it. Sometime soon, the digirati will declare that artificial-intelligence machines have passed the Turing test and thus the era of superintelligence and sentient computers has arrived. The promised land is artificial general intelligence: AGI. Don't fall for it. Your cranial cavity's inner voice and self-awareness explain why.

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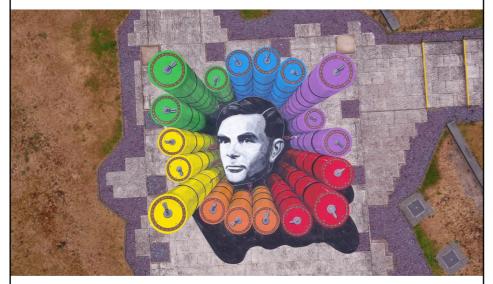
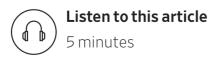


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Provide a machine \$100,000 and see if it can turn it into \$1 million, perhaps using Alibaba and an e-commerce site. It's silly because by this measure a decent spambot is intelligent!

Ada Lovelace, the 19th-century mathematician, was ahead of her time. Of Charles Babbage's early computer, invented in 1837, she wrote a few years later: "The Analytical Engine has no pretensions to originate anything. It can do whatever we know how to order it to perform." A Lovelace test might be, "Can AI generate something truly original?" And enjoyable, not the proverbial novel typed by a thousand monkeys. Same for movies, music and art. Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute professor Selmer Bringsjord proposed a "(Better) Lovelace" test in 2001 to detect creativity.

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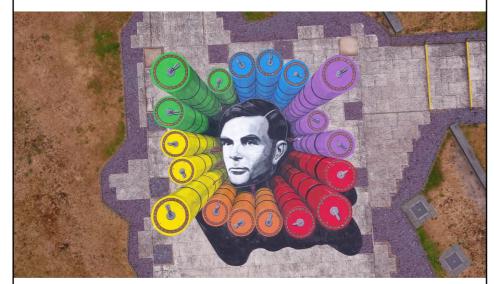
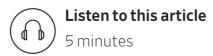


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#### http://kryten.mm.rpi.edu/lovelace.pdf

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- The basis for the formal sciences (from mathematics to game theory to decision theory to probability calculi to axiomatic physics ....) and hence the basis for disciplines based on the formal sciences, e.g., ...
  - Engineering! Computer Science!
  - Mathematics itself: see "reverse mathematics"!

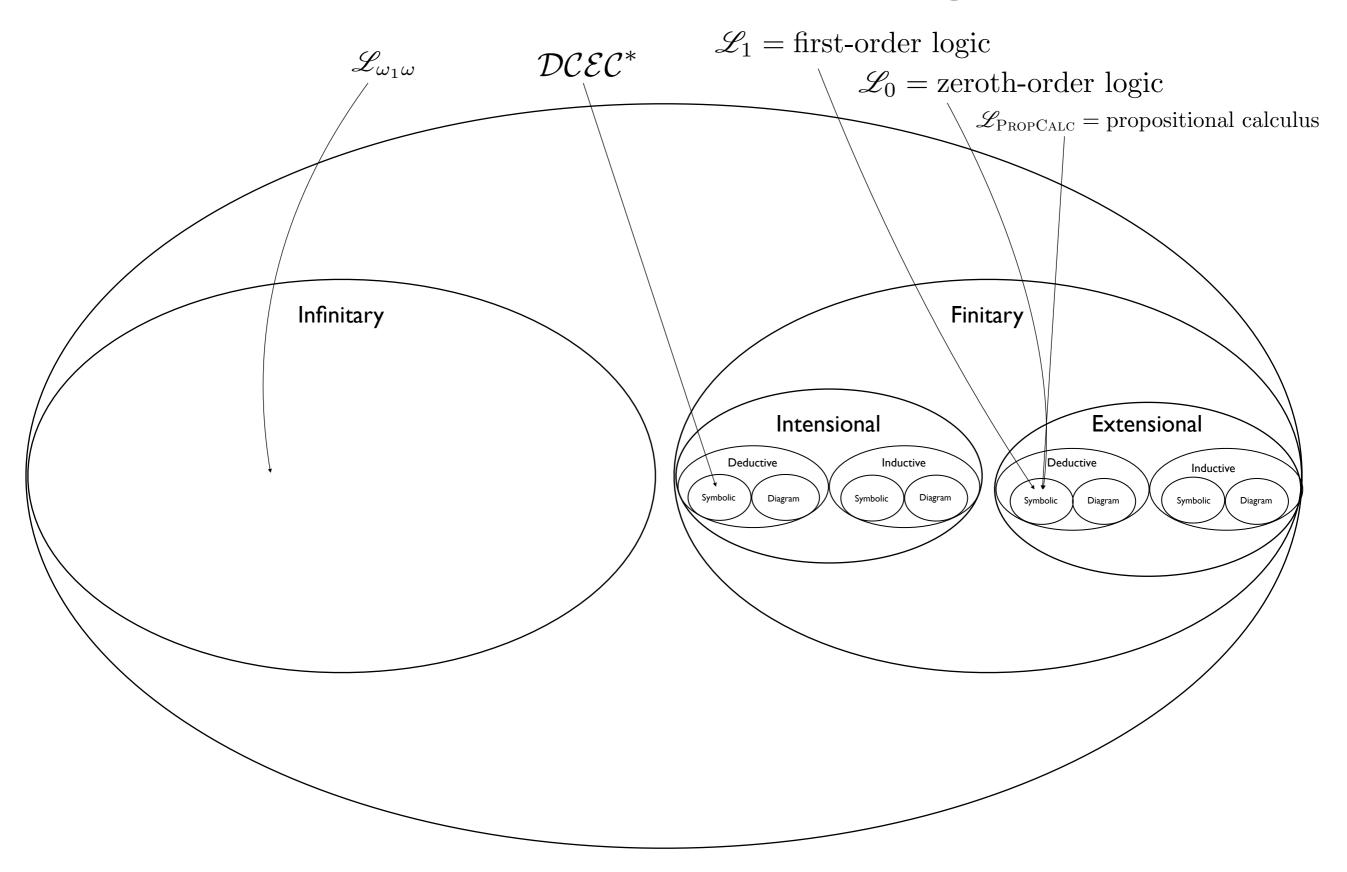
The way of escape from shallow content and context to pure, immaterial, and immortal
form and structure (which is why the exotic, imaginary, and seemingly non-sensical is so
pedagogically useful).

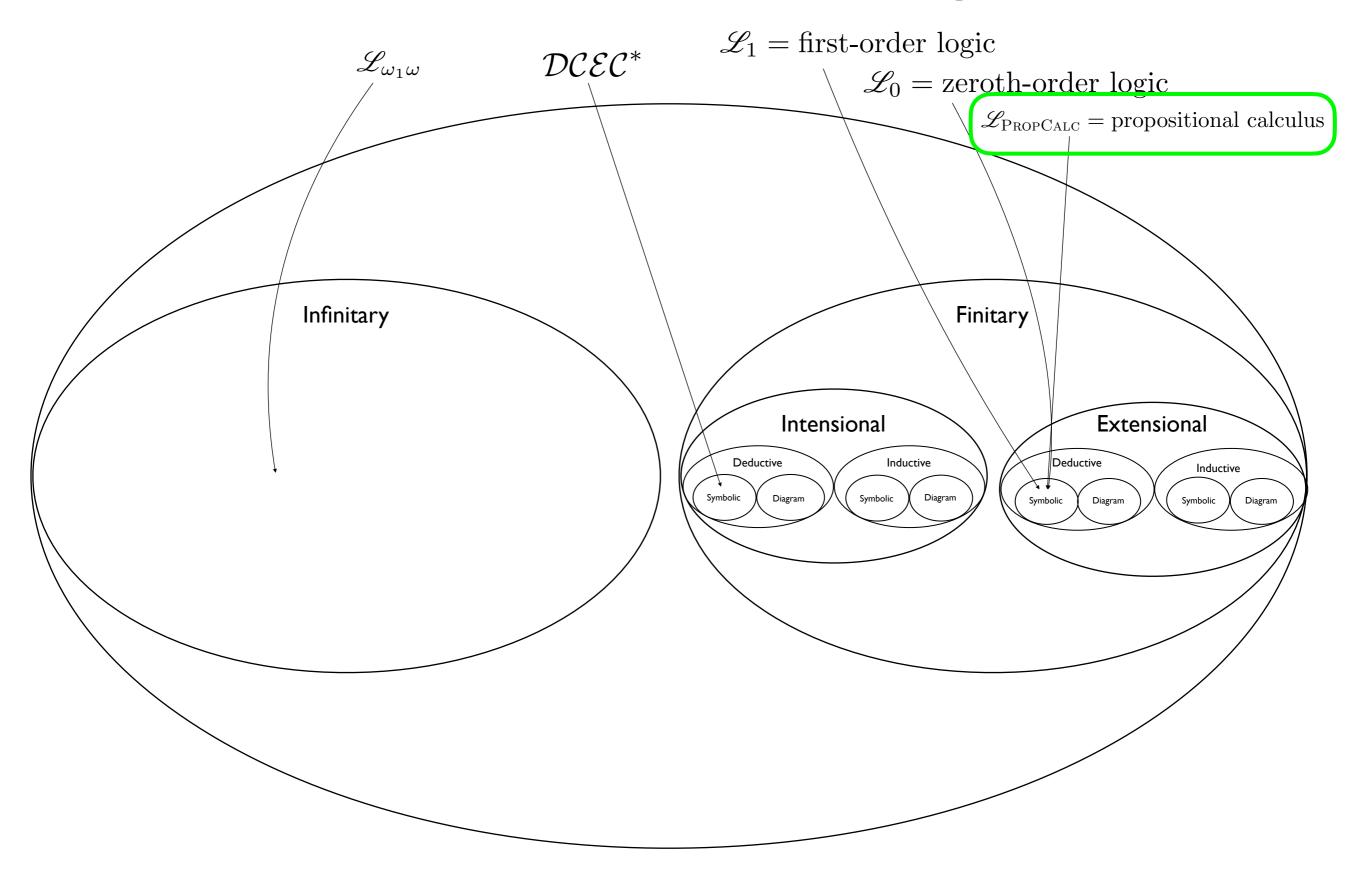
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- One of the chief differentiators between dogs and n and you); and mindless machines (like Deep Blue & \
- A key to riches.
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- The better way to program computers; and fundame computers.
- One of two fundamental approaches to studying min machines...
- The thing many creatures of fiction have mastered have you (as a New Yorker)?...

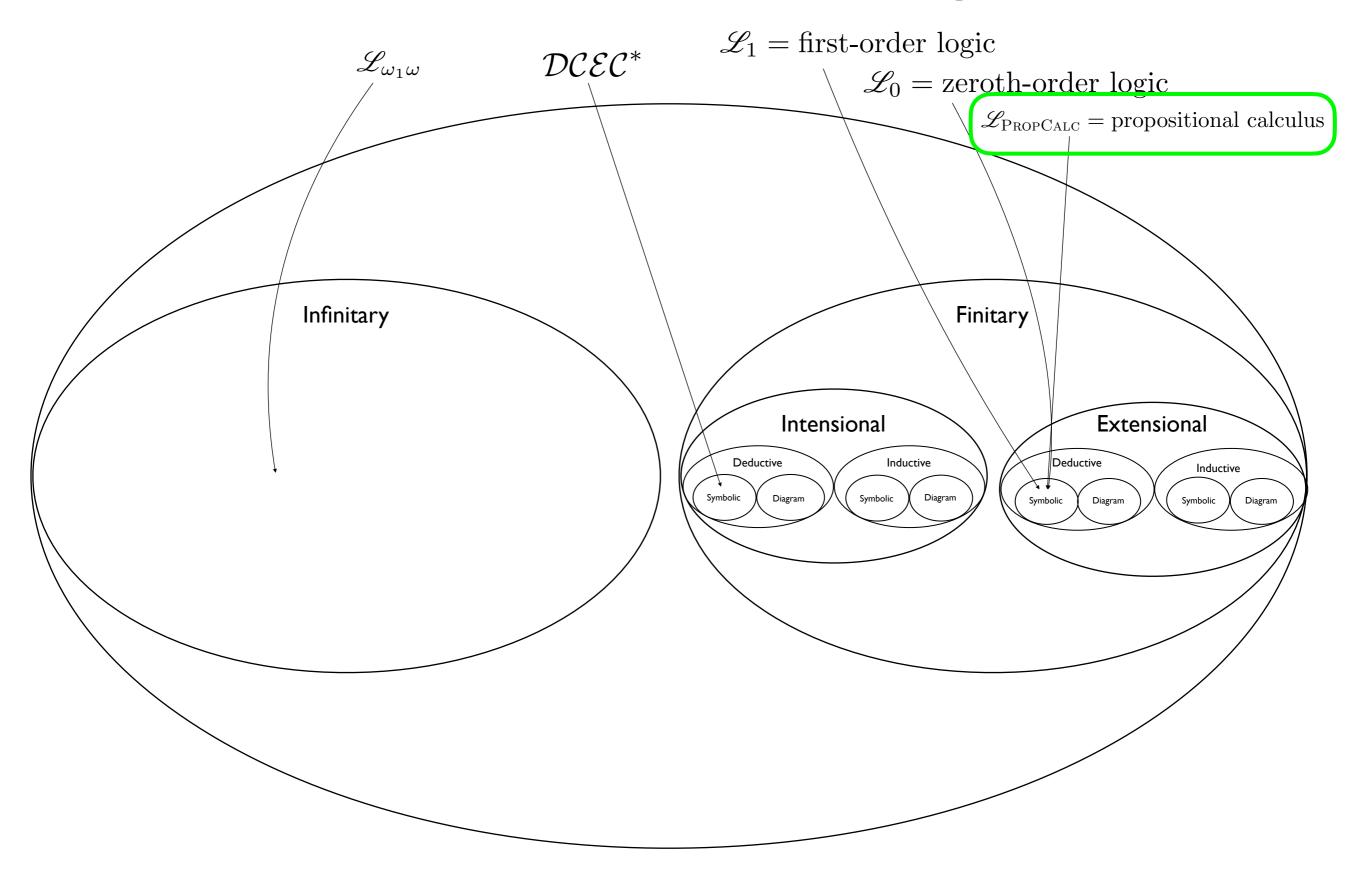


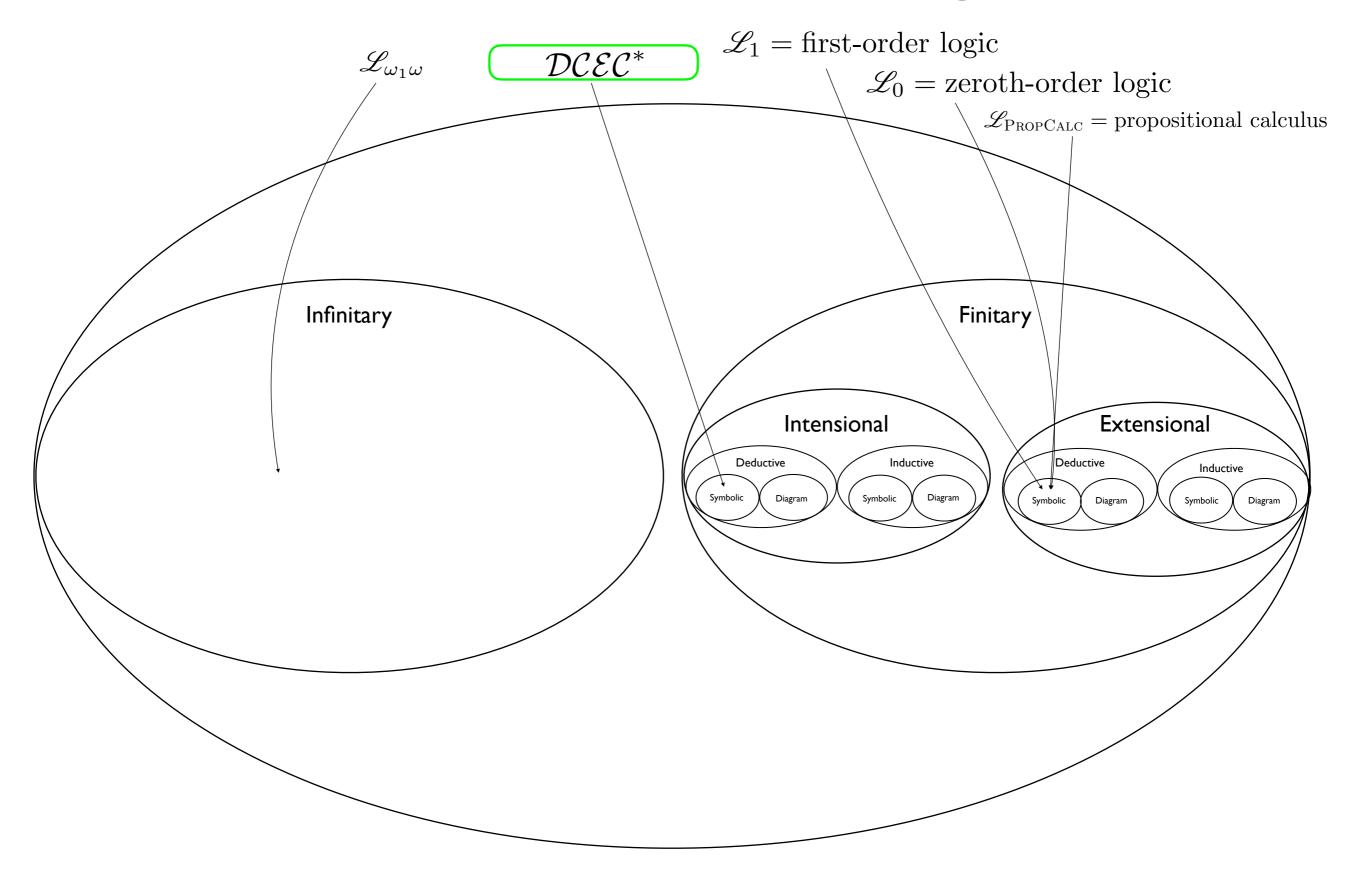
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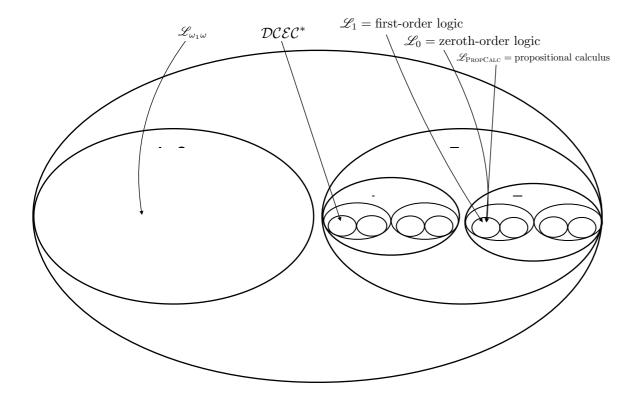
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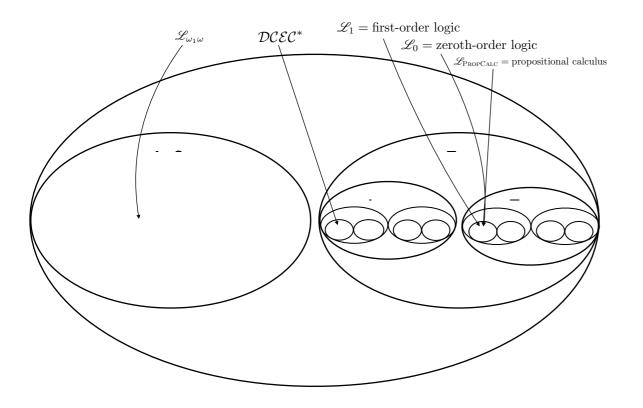




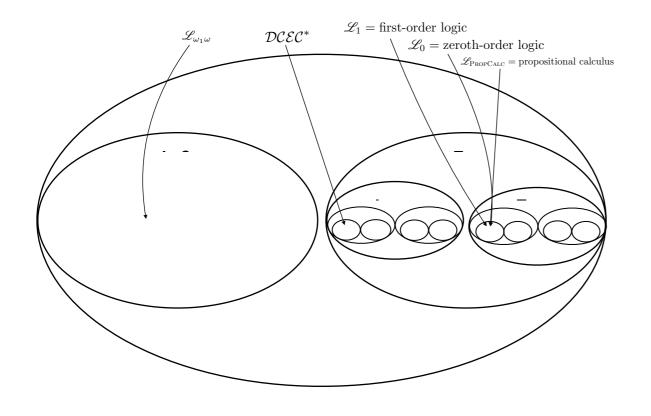


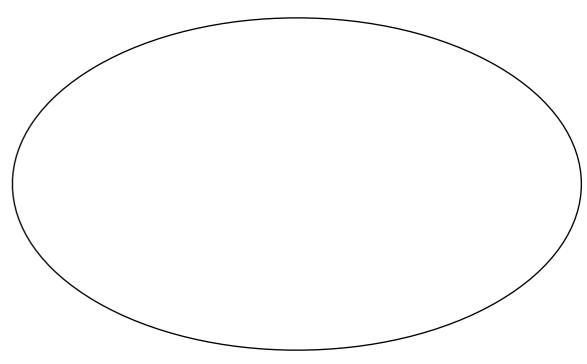




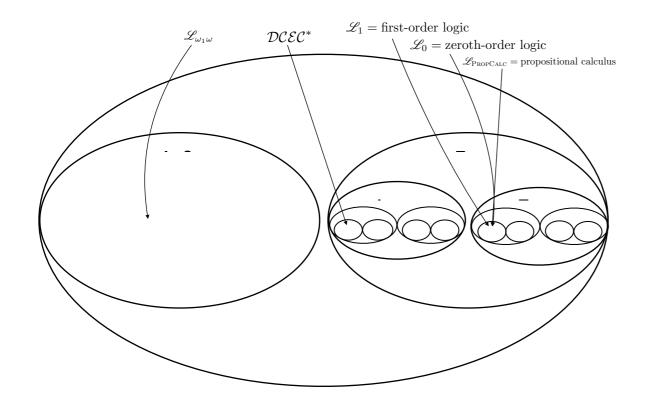


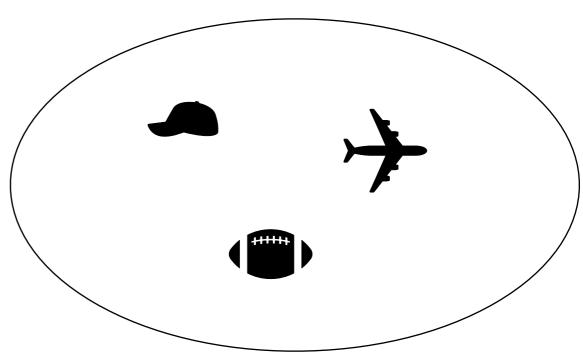
### The Physical Universe



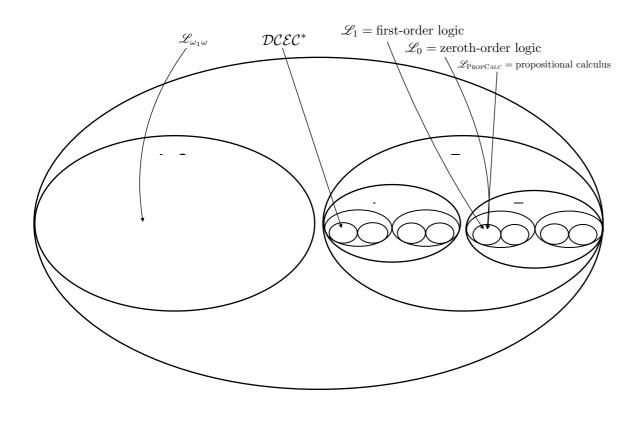


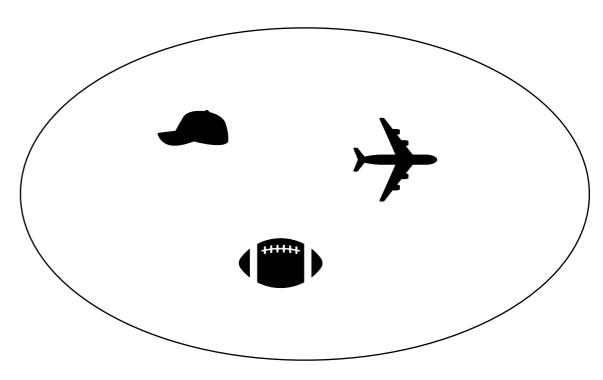
### The Physical Universe





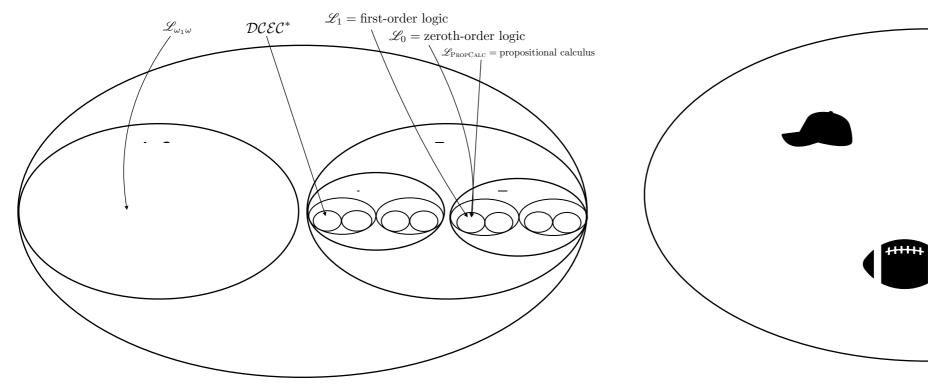
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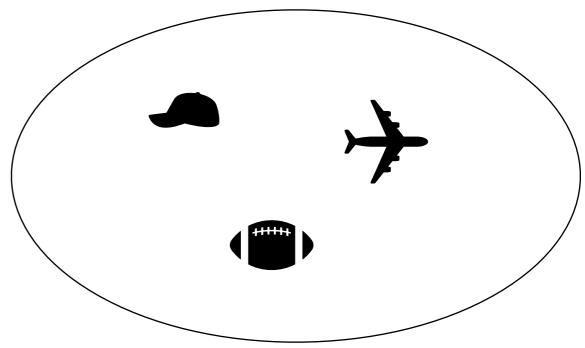






#### The Physical Universe



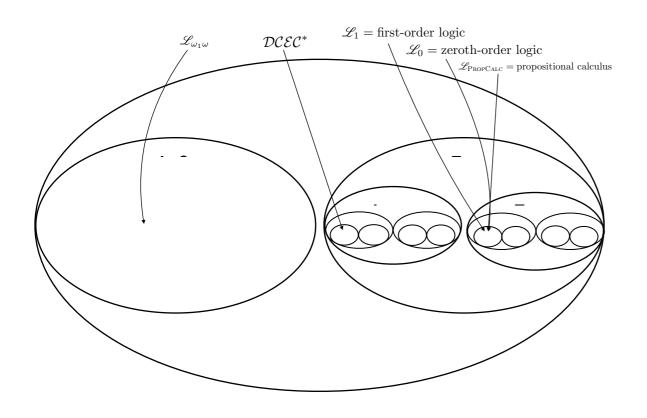


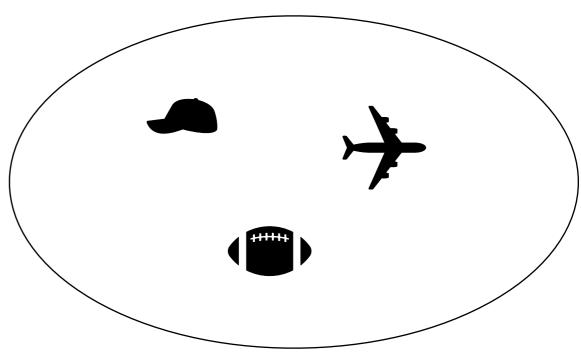


$$\frac{\phi, \phi \to \psi}{\psi}$$

modus ponens

#### The Physical Universe

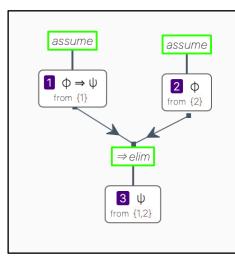




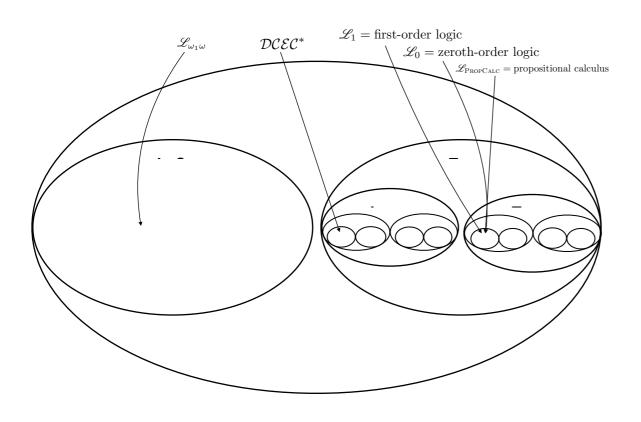


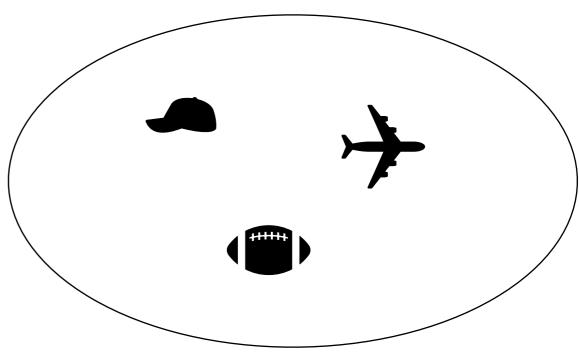
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#### The Physical Universe

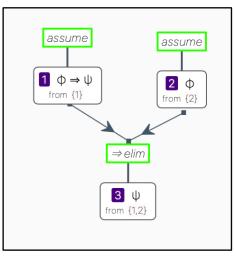






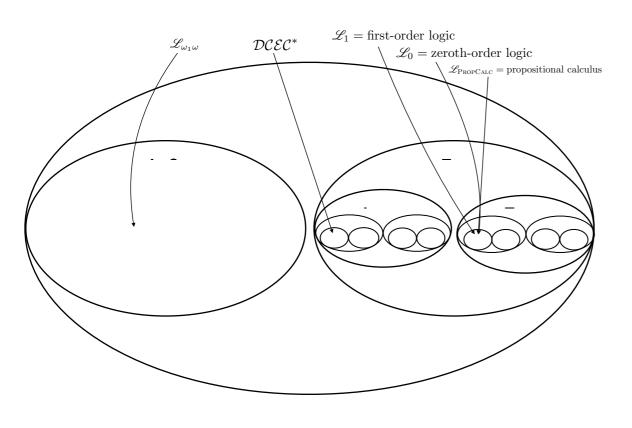
$$\frac{\phi, \phi \to \psi}{\psi}$$

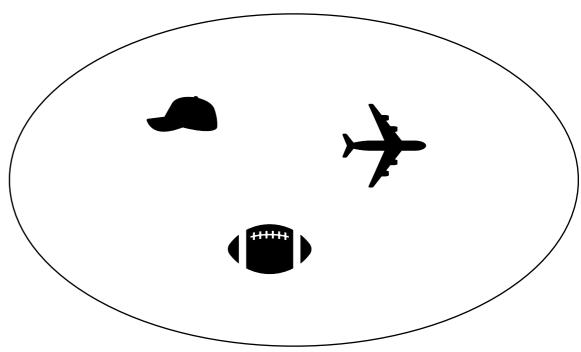
 $modus\ ponens$ 







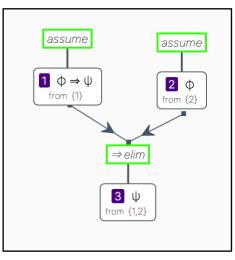






$$\frac{\phi, \phi \to \psi}{\psi}$$

 $modus\ ponens$ 

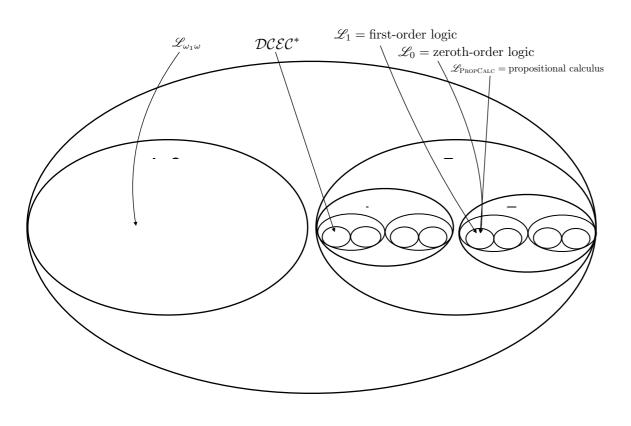


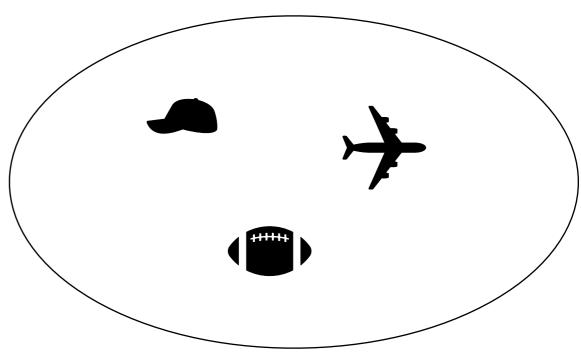
Human Mind





#### The Physical Universe

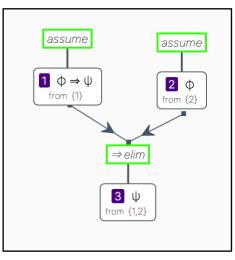


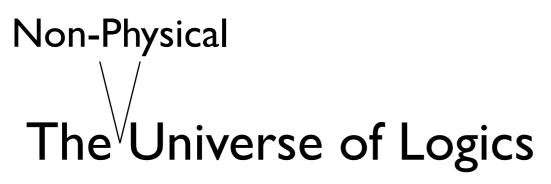


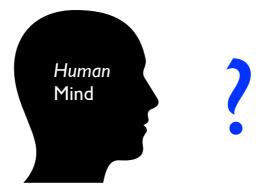


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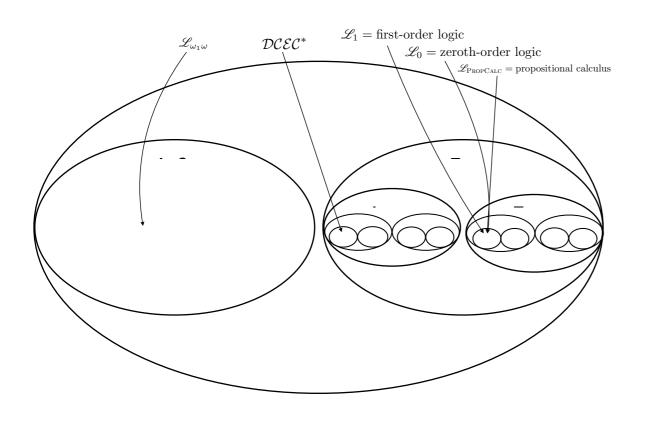
modus ponens

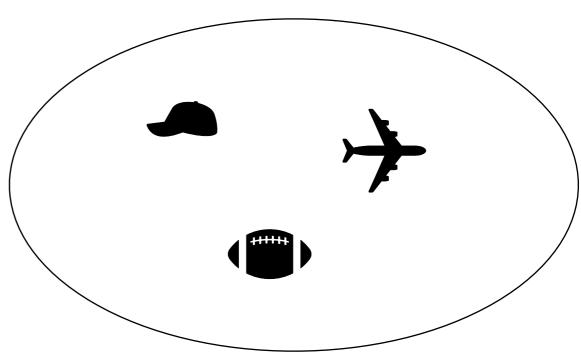






#### The Physical Universe

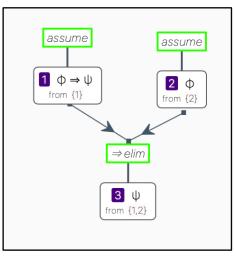


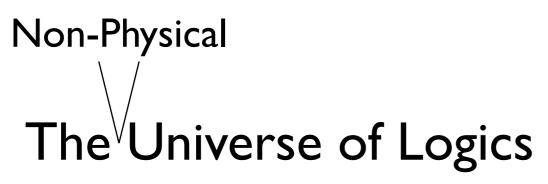


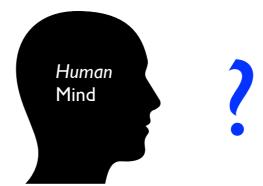


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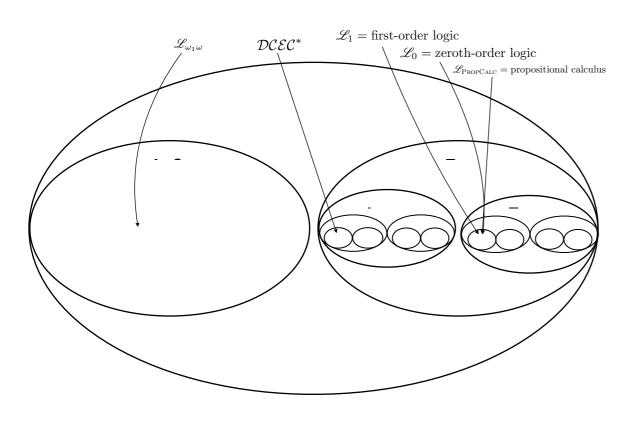
 $modus\ ponens$ 

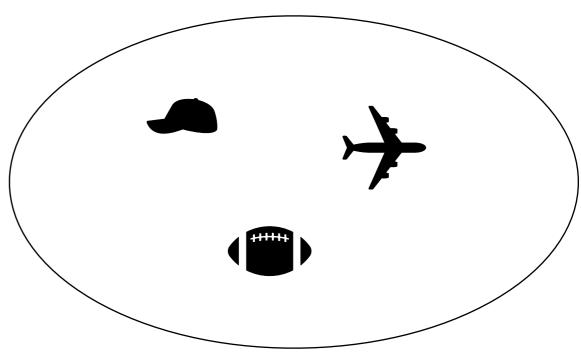






#### The Physical Universe

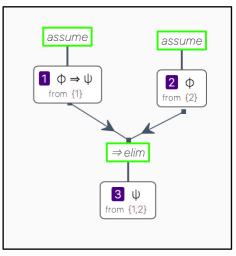






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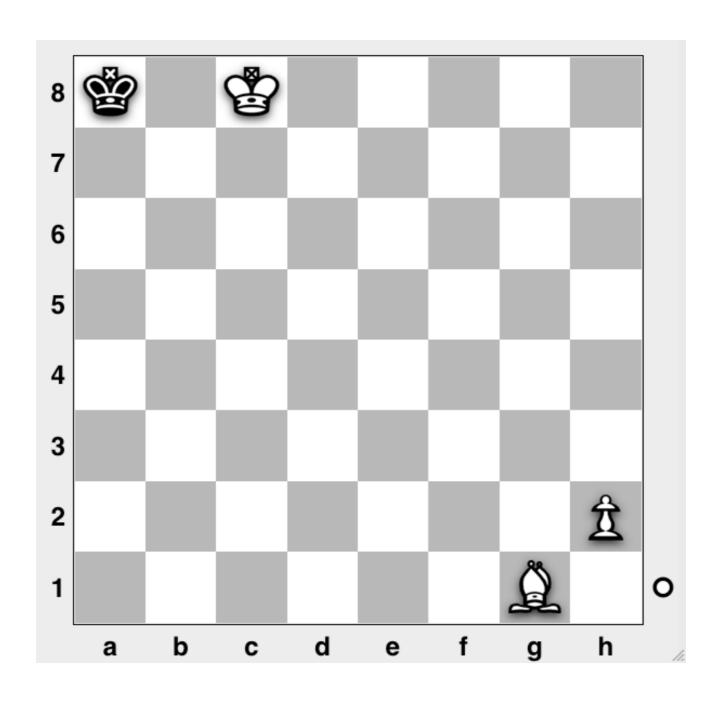
 $modus\ ponens$ 



- The key to becoming rational.
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- The only invincible subject there is.
- The basis for the formal sciences (from mathematics to game theory to decision theory to probability calculi to axiomatic physics ....) and hence the basis for disciplines based on the formal sciences (e.g., engineering, computer science).
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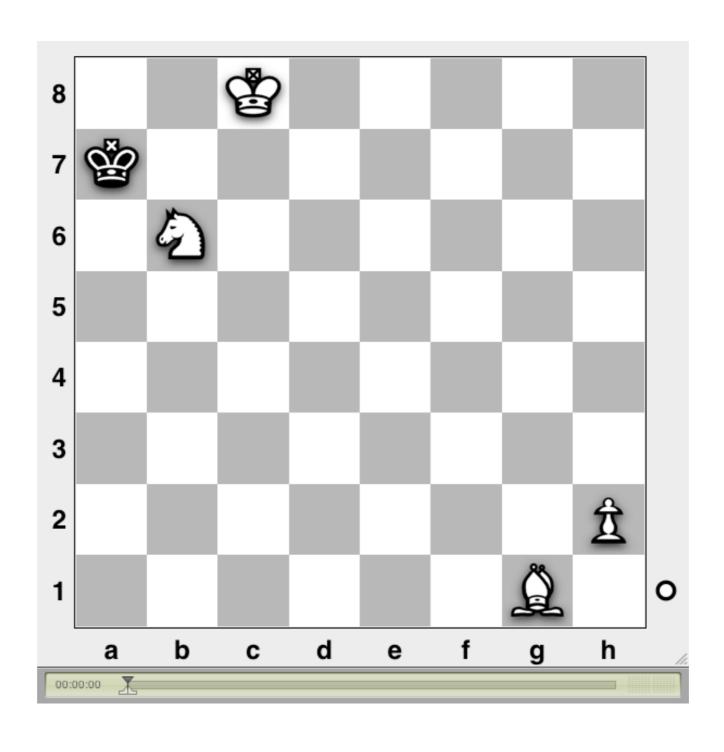
- The key to becoming rational. Or are you already rational? ...
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- ...

#### It's White's turn. What move did Black just make?



## Aha! (Beyond Deep Blue?)

## Aha! (Beyond Deep Blue?)



**NOTE**: Every card in this game has a capital Roman letter on one side, and a number from 1 to 9, inclusive.

# Simple Selection Task

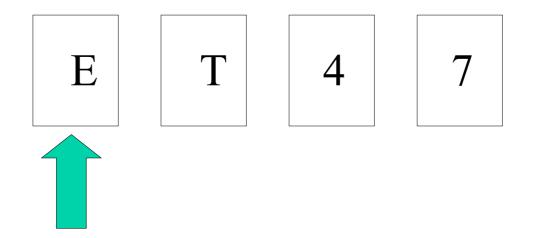
E T 4 7

Suppose I claim that the following rule is true.

If a card has a vowel on one side, it has an even number on the other side.

**NOTE**: Every card in this game has a capital Roman letter on one side, and a number from 1 to 9, inclusive.

# Simple Selection Task

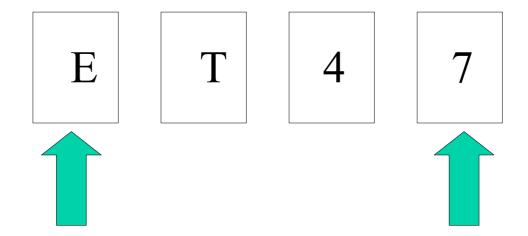


Suppose I claim that the following rule is true.

If a card has a vowel on one side, it has an even number on the other side.

**NOTE**: Every card in this game has a capital Roman letter on one side, and a number from 1 to 9, inclusive.

# Simple Selection Task



Suppose I claim that the following rule is true.

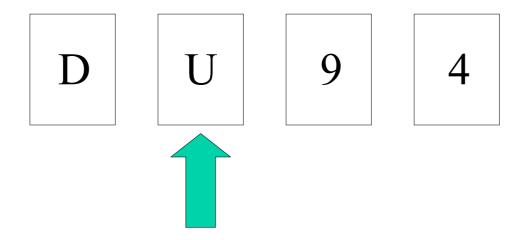
If a card has a vowel on one side, it has an even number on the other side.

## Another Simple Selection Task

D U 9 4

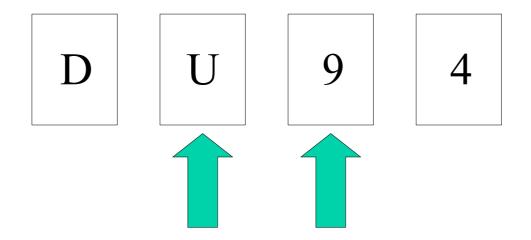
Suppose I claim that the following rule is true.

If a card has a vowel on one side, it has an even number on the other side.



Suppose I claim that the following rule is true.

If a card has a vowel on one side, it has an even number on the other side.



Suppose I claim that the following rule is true.

If a card has a vowel on one side, it has an even number on the other side.

D U 7 4

Suppose I claim that the following rule is true.

If a card has a letter on one side, it has a prime number on the other side.

D U 7 4

Suppose I claim that the following rule is true.

If a card has a letter on one side, it has a prime number on the other side.

### "NYS I"

#### Given the statements

which one of the following statements can you prove?

```
To
To
Th
a
none of the above
```

### "NYS I"

Given the statements

which one of the following statements can you prove?



Which one of the following statements is provable from the following statement: "If you are not part of the solution, then you are part of the problem."

If you are part of the solution, then you are not part of the problem.

If you are not part of the problem, then you are part of the solution.

If you are part of the problem, then you are not part of the solution.

If you are not part of the problem, then you are not part of the solution.



Which one of the following statements is provable from the following statement: "If you are not part of the solution, then you are part of the problem."

If you are part of the solution, then you are not part of the problem.



If you are not part of the problem, then you are part of the solution.

If you are part of the problem, then you are not part of the solution.

If you are not part of the problem, then you are not part of the solution.



Which one of the following statements is provable from the following statement: "If you are not part of the solution, then you are part of the problem."

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If you are not part of the problem, then you are part of the solution.



X If you are part of the problem, then you are not part of the solution.

If you are not part of the problem, then you are not part of the solution.



Which one of the following statements is provable from the following statement: "If you are not part of the solution, then you are part of the problem."

If you are part of the solution, then you are not part of the problem.



If you are not part of the problem, then you are part of the solution.



If you are not part of the problem, then you are not part of the solution.

### "NYS 3"

Given the statements

```
abla 
abl
```

which of the following statements are provable?

```
e
h
¬a
all of the above
```

### "NYS 3"

Given the statements

```
abla 
abl
```

which of the following statements are provable?

```
e
h
¬a
all of the above
```

Suppose that the following premise is true:

If there is a king in the hand, then there is an ace in the hand, or else if there isn't a king in the hand, then there is an ace.

What can you infer from this premise?

Suppose that the following premise is true:

If there is a king in the hand, then there is an ace in the hand, or else if there isn't a king in the hand, then there is an ace.

What can you infer from this premise?

There is an ace in the hand.

Suppose that the following premise is true:

If there is a king in the hand, then there is an ace in the hand, or else if there isn't a king in the hand, then there is an ace.

What can you infer from this premise?

There is an ace in the hand.

Suppose that the following premise is true:

If there is a king in the hand, then there is an ace in the hand, or else if there isn't a king in the hand, then there is an ace.

What can you infer from this premise?

NO! There is an ace in the hand.

Suppose that the following premise is true:

If there is a king in the hand, then there is an ace in the hand, or else if there isn't a king in the hand, then there is an ace.

What can you infer from this premise?

NO! There is an ace in the hand. NO!

Suppose that the following premise is true:

If there is a king in the hand, then there is an ace in the hand, or else if there isn't a king in the hand, then there is an ace.

What can you infer from this premise?

NO! There is an ace in the hand. NO!

In fact, what you can infer is that there isn't an ace in the hand!

### **End of Part I**

