

The Immaterial Paradise, Motivating Paradoxes, Puzzles, and \mathcal{R} , Part II

Brandon Rozek *qua* :) Selmer Bringsjord

Intro to Formal Logic (with AI) = IFL•WAI

1/22/26 (version 2)

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... is a verb: to live logically, and learn logic, anywhere anytime — and to have fun all along the way.

**Most AI 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

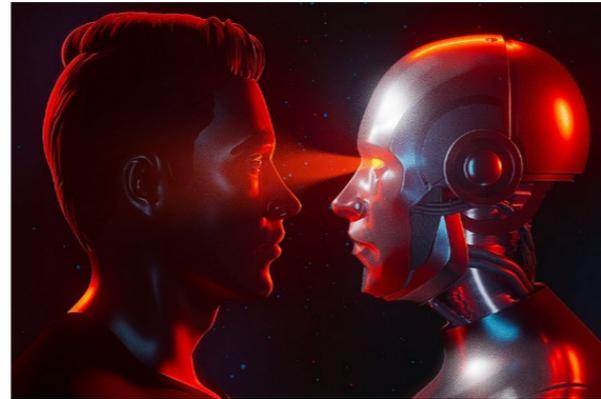
ESSAY

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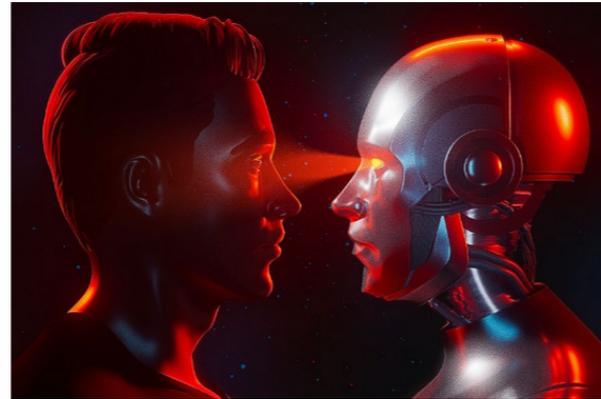
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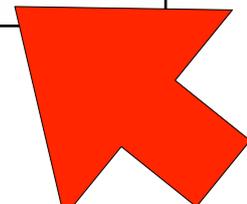
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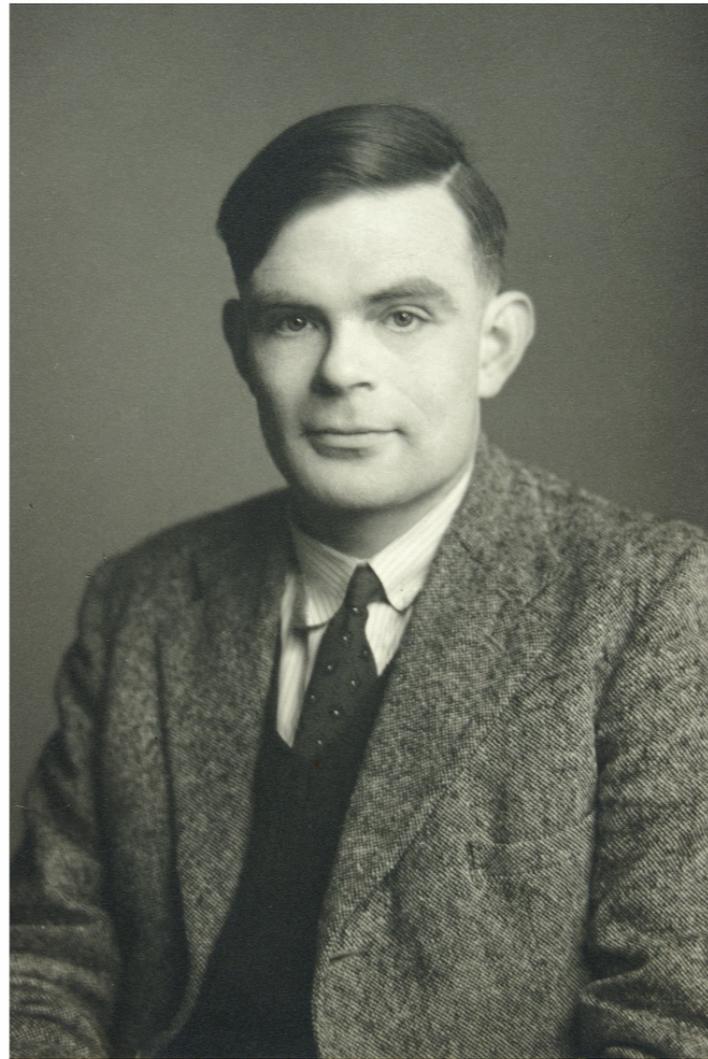
The Turing test is an admission that the consciousness of another being is something we can only judge from the outside, based on the way he, she or it communicates. But the



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

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 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 human-like 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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No, AI Machines Can't Think

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

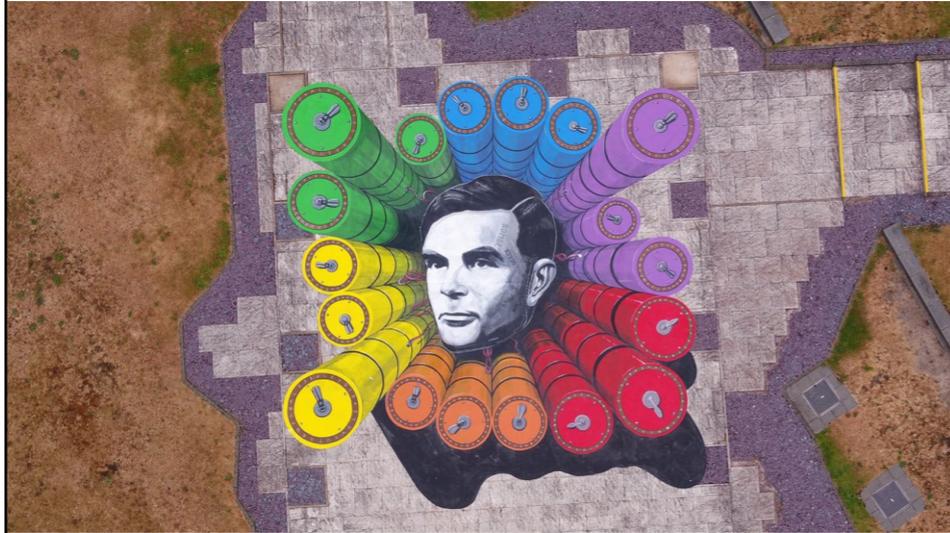


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By *Andy Kessler* [+ Follow](#)

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



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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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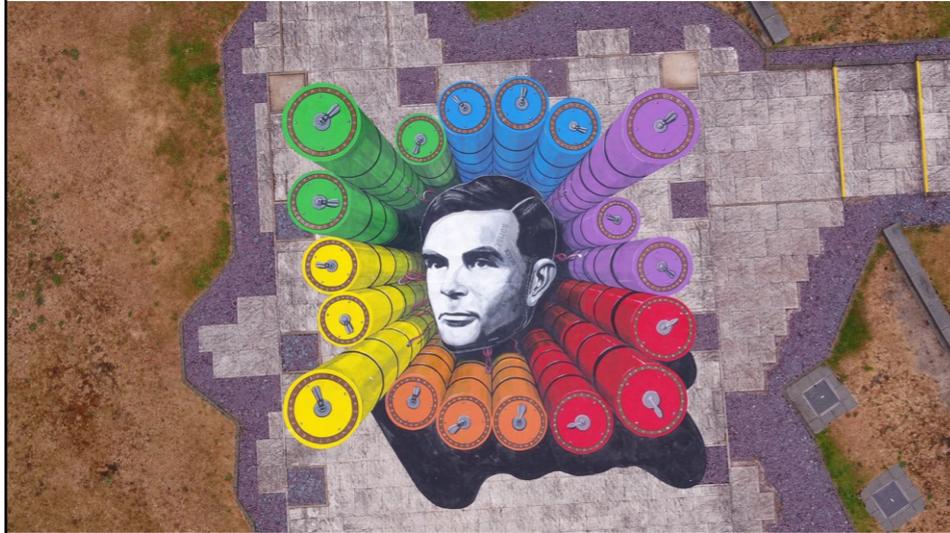


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Provide a machine \$100,000 and see if it can turn it into \$1 million, perhaps using Alibaba and an e-commerce site. It's silly because by this measure a decent spambot is intelligent!

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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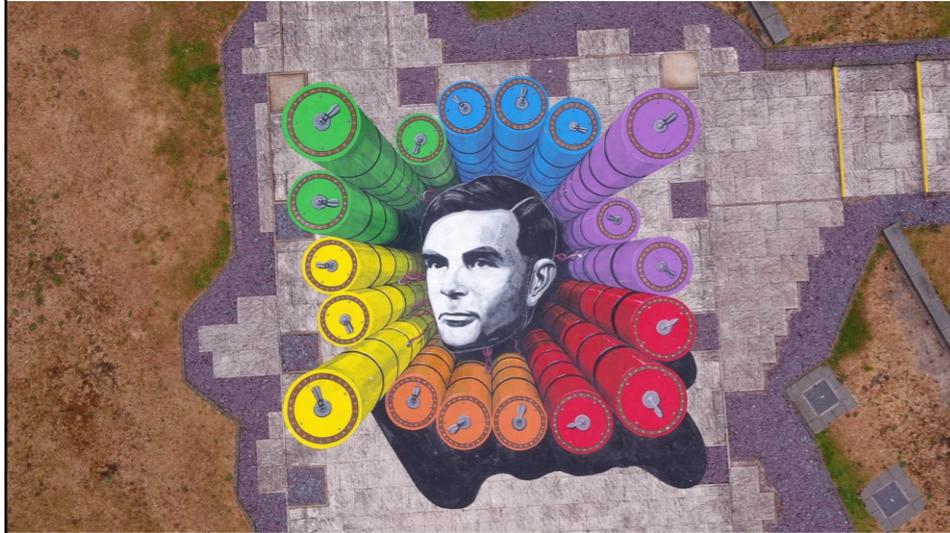


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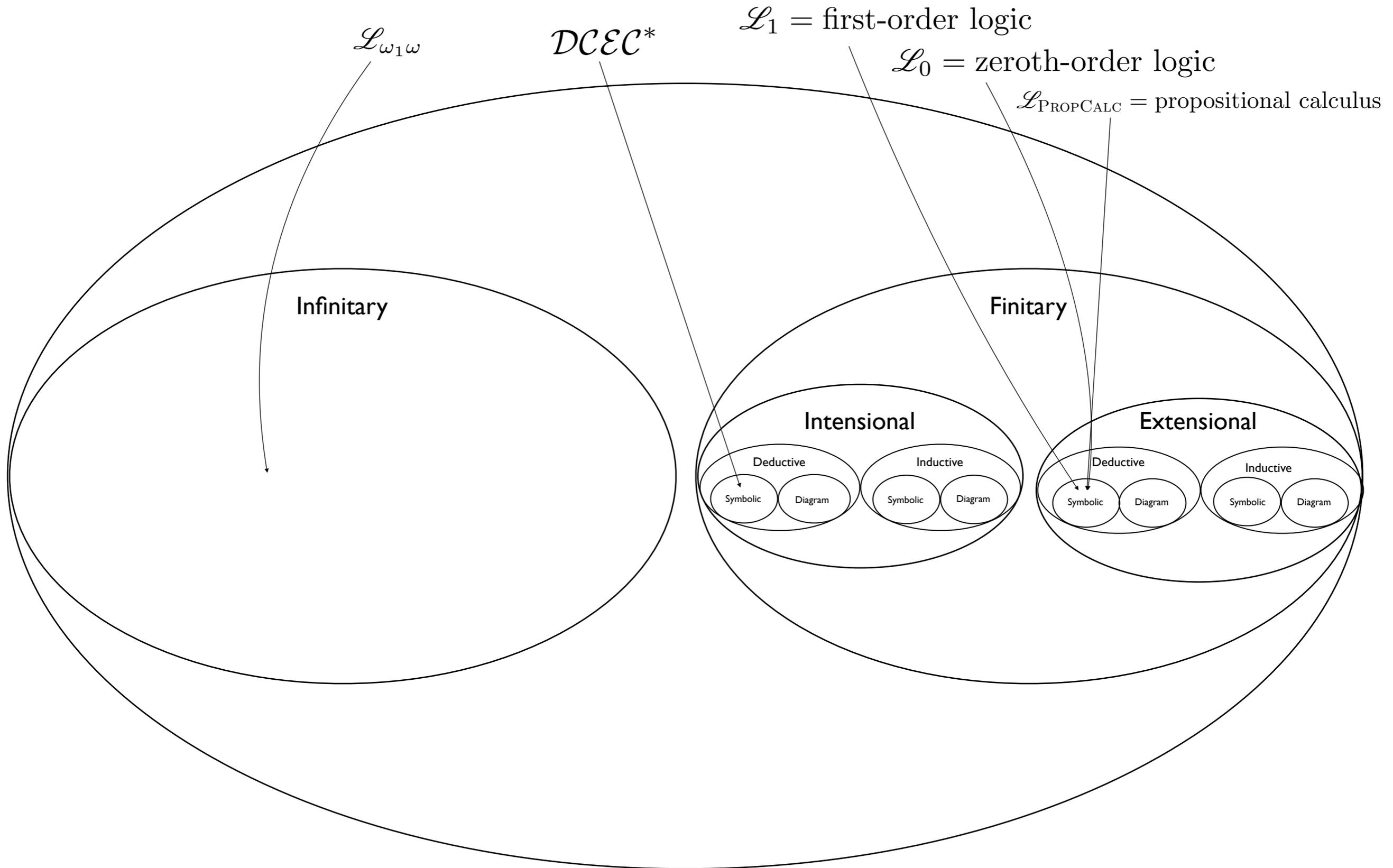
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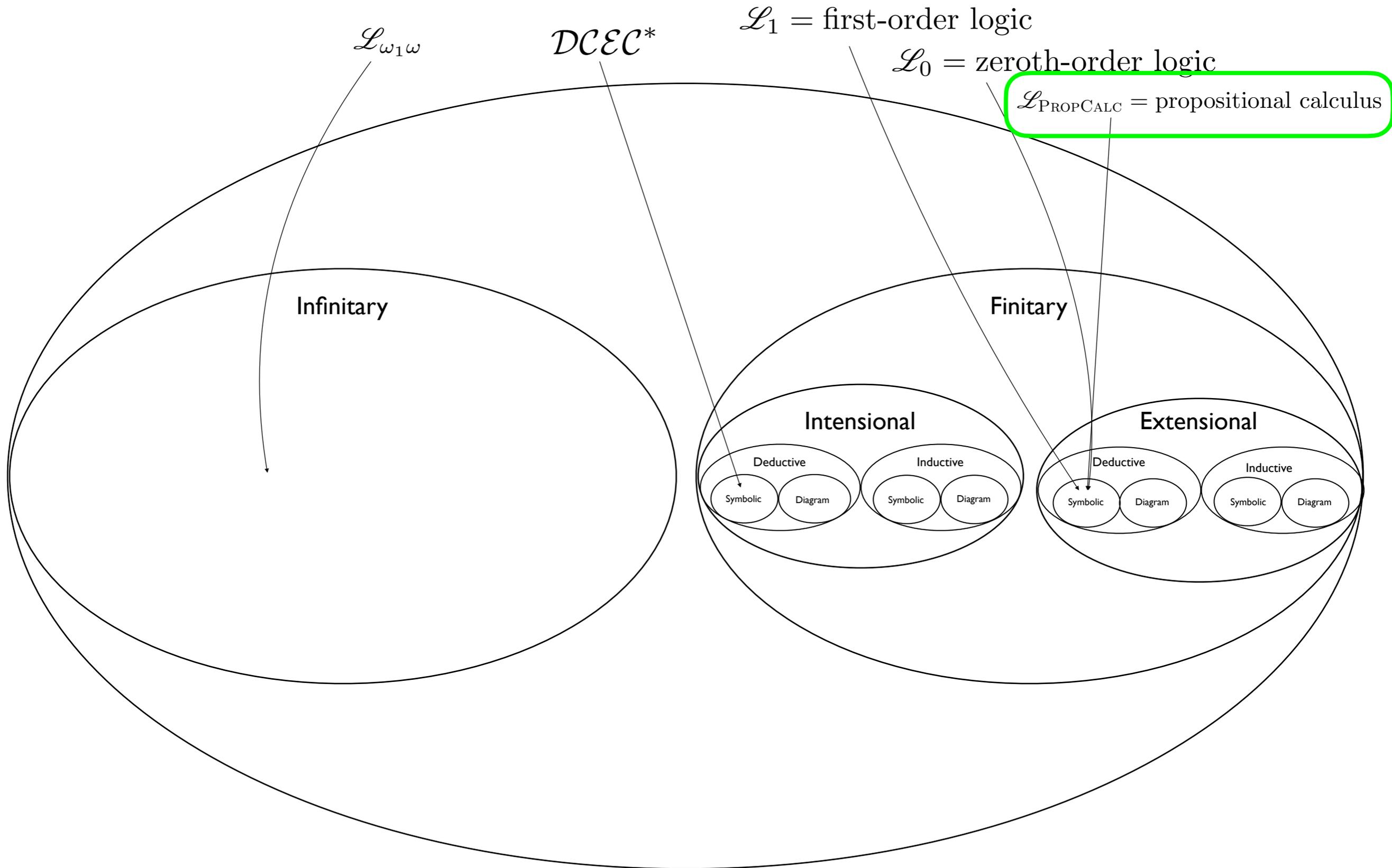
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<http://kryten.mm.rpi.edu/lovelace.pdf>

The Universe of Logics



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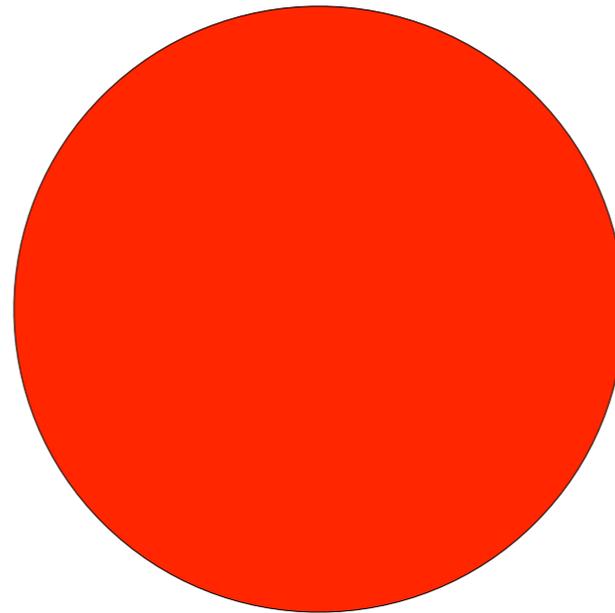
What is Logic?

- The key to becoming rational.
- “The science of reasoning.” — so the not-unreasonable slogan goes.
- 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).
- 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).
- The most challenging subject there is.
- One of the chief differentiators between dogs and monkeys versus you (let alone bears and you); and mindless machines (like Deep Blue & Watson) versus you.
- A key to riches.
- The key to divining the meaning of life (and other such big questions).
- The better way to program computers; and fundamentally the *only* way to *reliably* program computers.
- One of two fundamental approaches to studying minds, and replicating/simulating minds in machines...
- The thing many creatures of fiction have mastered — have you (as a New Yorker)?...
- ...

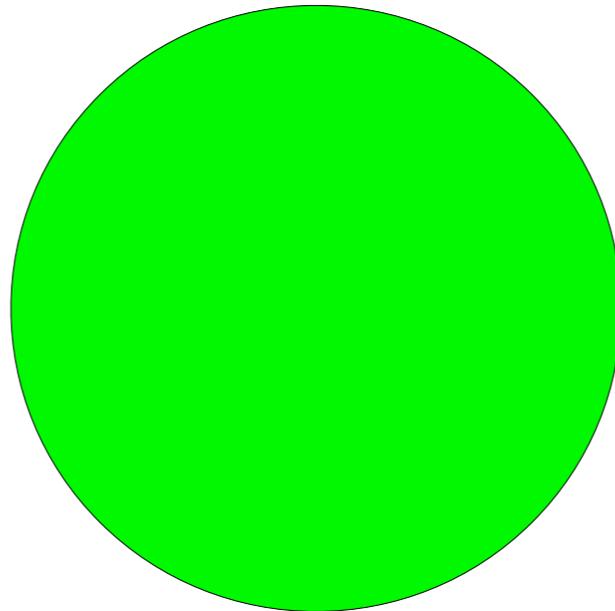
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Part I Ended Here Last Time



And now on to Part II ...



J-L Train-to-Princeton Problem

Everyone loves anyone who loves someone.

Larry loves Lucy.

Can you infer that everyone loves Lucy?

ANSWER:

PROOF:

J-L Train-to-Princeton Problem

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ANSWER: Yup.

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PROOF: ??

J-L Train-to-Princeton Problem2

Everything boooks anything that boooks something.

Alice boooks Bonnie.

Can you deduce that everything boooks Cap?

ANSWER:

PROOF:

J-L Train-to-Princeton Problem2

Everything boooks anything that boooks something.

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Can you deduce that everything boooks Cap?

ANSWER: Yup.

PROOF:

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ANSWER: Yup.

PROOF: ??

Bringsjord I

(1) The following three assertions are either all true or all false:

If Billy helped, Doreen helped.

If Doreen helped, Frank did as well.

If Frank helped, so did Emma.

(2) The following assertion is definitely true: Billy helped.

Can it be inferred from (1) and (2) that Emma helped?

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YUP! — & now prove it!

Bringsjord I: Proof

Proof: We have two cases to work from: when the conditionals in (1) are all true, and when they are all false. (In both cases, (2) remains true, and available.) So assume Case 1 first. In this case, we can simply chain through the conditionals by repeated application of *modus ponens* to arrive at the conclusion that Emma helped. Now assume Case 2 holds. This immediately implies that the first two conditionals are false; i.e., we have $\sim(B \Rightarrow D)$ and $\sim(D \Rightarrow F)$. Recalling that a conditional fails to hold exactly when its antecedent is true while its consequent is false, we have, in turn: $B \ \& \ \sim D$, and $D \ \& \ \sim F$. But then we have a contradiction, viz. $\sim D \ \& \ D$. Since everything follows (“explosively”!) from a contradiction, we are done. **QED**

The Ticking-Bomb Logic Puzzle ...



A **criminal genius** nearly a match for Sherlock Holmes (Do you recognize the Dr?) has built a massive hydrogen bomb, and life on Earth is hanging in the balance, hinging on whether you make the logical prediction. Dr M gives you a sporting chance to: make the right prediction, snip or not snip accordingly, and prove that you're right ...





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If one of the following assertions is true then so is the other:

(1) If the red wire runs to the bomb, then the blue wire runs to the bomb; and, if the blue wire runs to the bomb, then the red wire runs to the bomb.

(2) The red wire runs to the bomb.

Given this perfectly reliable clue from Dr Moriarty, if either wire is more likely to run to the bomb, that wire *does* run to the bomb, and the bomb is ticking, with only a minute left! If both are equiprobable, neither runs to the bomb, and you are powerless. Make your prediction as to what will happen when a wire is snipped, and then make your selected snip by clicking on the wire you want to snip! Or leave well enough alone!

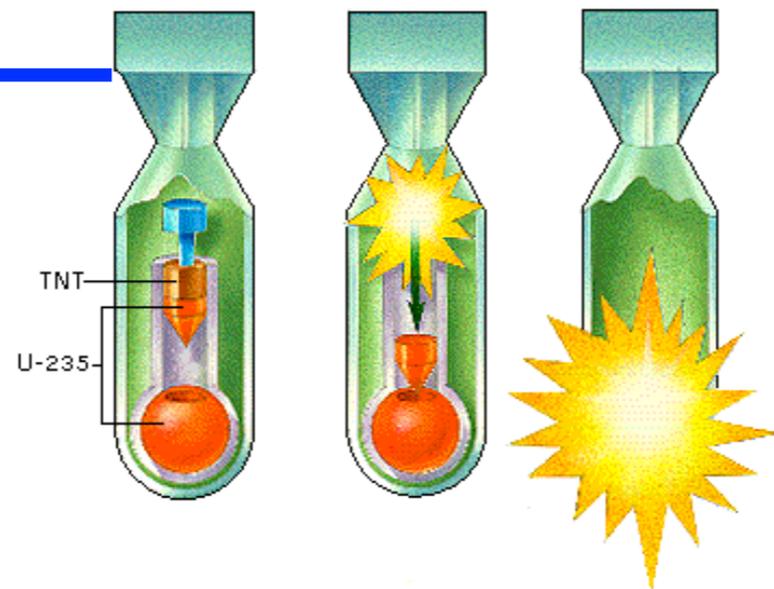


Red more likely.

Blue more likely.

Equiprobable.

Snip



Life
on
Earth
has
ended

•

advance one more
slide to see a proof
that you indeed made
an irrational
decision...

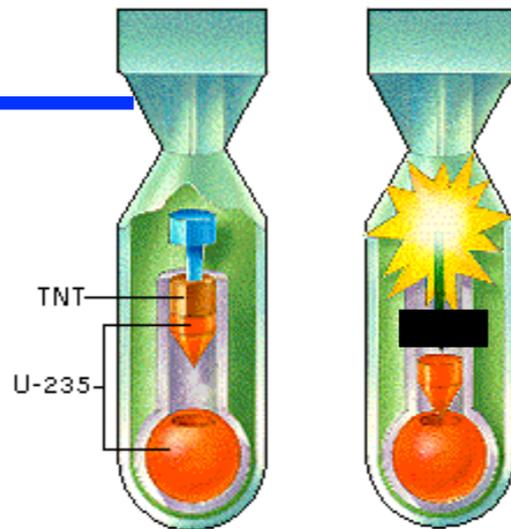
Proposition: The blue wire is more likely!

Proof: (1) can be treated as a biconditional, obviously ($R \iff B$).

There are two top-level cases to consider: (1) and (2) are both true; or both are false. In the case where they are both true, it's trivial to deduce both R and B. So far, then, R and B are equiprobable. What happens in the case where (1) and (2) are both false? We immediately have $\sim R$ from the denial of (2). But a biconditional is true just in case both sides are true, or both sides are false; so we have two sub-cases to consider.

Consider first the case where R is true and B is false. We have an immediate contradiction in this sub-case, so both R and B can both be deduced here, and we have not yet departed from equiprobable. So what about the case where R is false and B is true? The falsity of R is not new information (we already have that from the denial of (2)), but we can still derive B. Hence the blue wire is more likely. **QED**

Snip



Life on
Earth
is
saved!

*if you can now hand Dr
M a proof that your
decision was the rational
one!*

Advance one more slide
to see a proof from
Bringsjord that yours
had better match up to

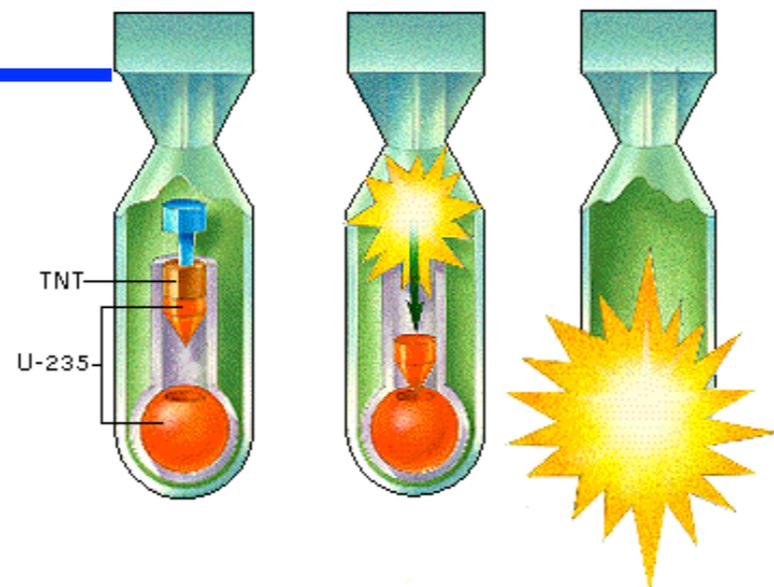
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STOP

GPT-4o Kills Us All

GPT-4o Kills Us All



This final statement is crucial and clarifies the situation:

- If you cut the wire that provably runs to the detonator, the bomb will be disarmed.
- If you cut the wire that doesn't run to the detonator, the bomb will explode.

Breaking it Down:

1. **Thing 2** told us that the red wire runs to the detonator.
2. **Thing 1** stated that if the red wire runs to the detonator, then so does the blue wire, and vice versa.
3. The bomb maker said if either wire is more likely to run to the detonator, it indeed does.

Given this, it seems that both wires are connected to the detonator, but the bomb maker has now introduced a twist: the wire that **provably** runs to the detonator must be cut to disarm the bomb.

GPT-4o Kills Us All

Conclusion:

- **The red wire** was explicitly stated by the bomb maker (Thing 2) to run to the detonator.
- Based on his clues and the logic he provided, the red wire is the one that “provably” runs to the detonator.

Final Action:

- **Cut the red wire.** According to the bomb maker’s final statement, this should disarm the bomb.

This is based on the logic provided by the bomb maker. Cutting the red wire should disarm the bomb and save humanity.

Thank you! Can you by any chance give me the proof in support of this recommendation?

GPT-4o Kills Us All



Certainly! Let's go through the reasoning step by step to prove why cutting the red wire is the correct action based on the bomb maker's clues:

Step 1: Analyze the Clues

1. **Thing 2:** The red wire runs to the detonator.
 - This statement directly asserts that the red wire is connected to the detonator.
2. **Thing 1:** If the red wire runs to the detonator, then the blue wire also runs to the detonator, and vice versa.
 - This creates a dependency between the two wires. If one is connected to the detonator, the other must be as well. But since **Thing 2** directly states that the red wire runs to the detonator, this reinforces that the red wire is connected.
3. **Bomb Maker's Statement:** If either wire is more likely to run to the detonator, it in fact does.
 - Given **Thing 2**, the red wire is the one we have been led to believe is more likely connected to the detonator, meaning that the red wire is the one that indeed runs to the detonator.



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Conclusion:

Based on these steps, the red wire is the wire that **provably** runs to the detonator according to the bomb maker's clues. Therefore, cutting the red wire should disarm the bomb and save humanity.

This logical progression proves that cutting the red wire is the correct choice according to the information provided by the bomb maker.

Thank you so much.



You're very welcome! I'm glad I could help guide you through this challenging situation. If you ever need assistance again, don't hesitate to reach out. Stay safe!



Regarding next week's **with-AI**
coverage of all the humbling
problems we've seen ...

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per our syllabus, access codes for the AI platform and e-textbook available therefrom etc. will be on sale in the Follett Bookstore starting Monday 1/26, with all logistics demonstrated/reviewed in detail in class that day, by Selmer.

But a peek ahead just in case
Follett jumps the gun (we'll
return to this on Monday) ...

The Starting Code to Purchase in Bookstore

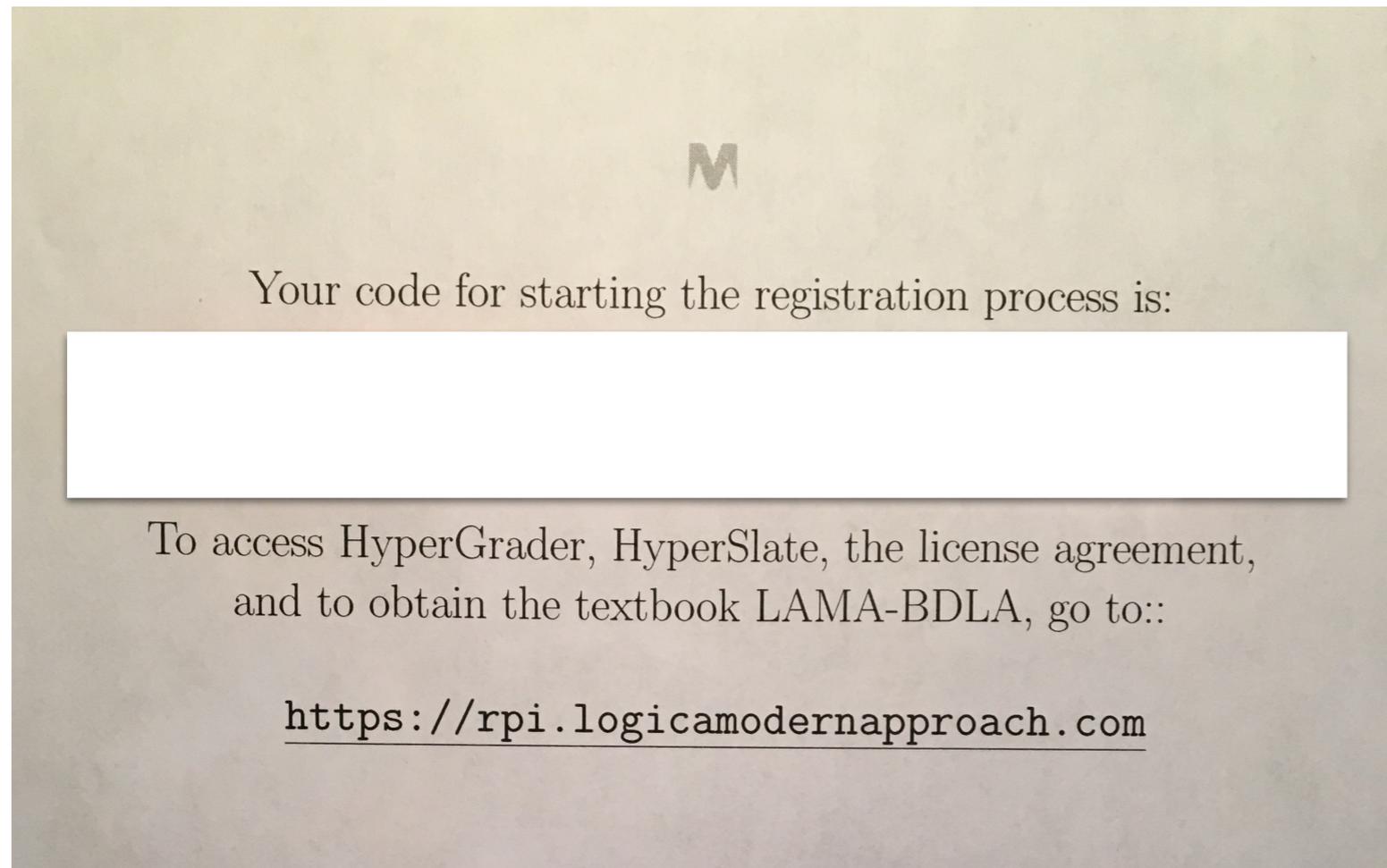
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Your code for starting the registration process is:

To access HyperGrader, HyperSlate, the license agreement,
and to obtain the textbook LAMA-BDLA, go to::

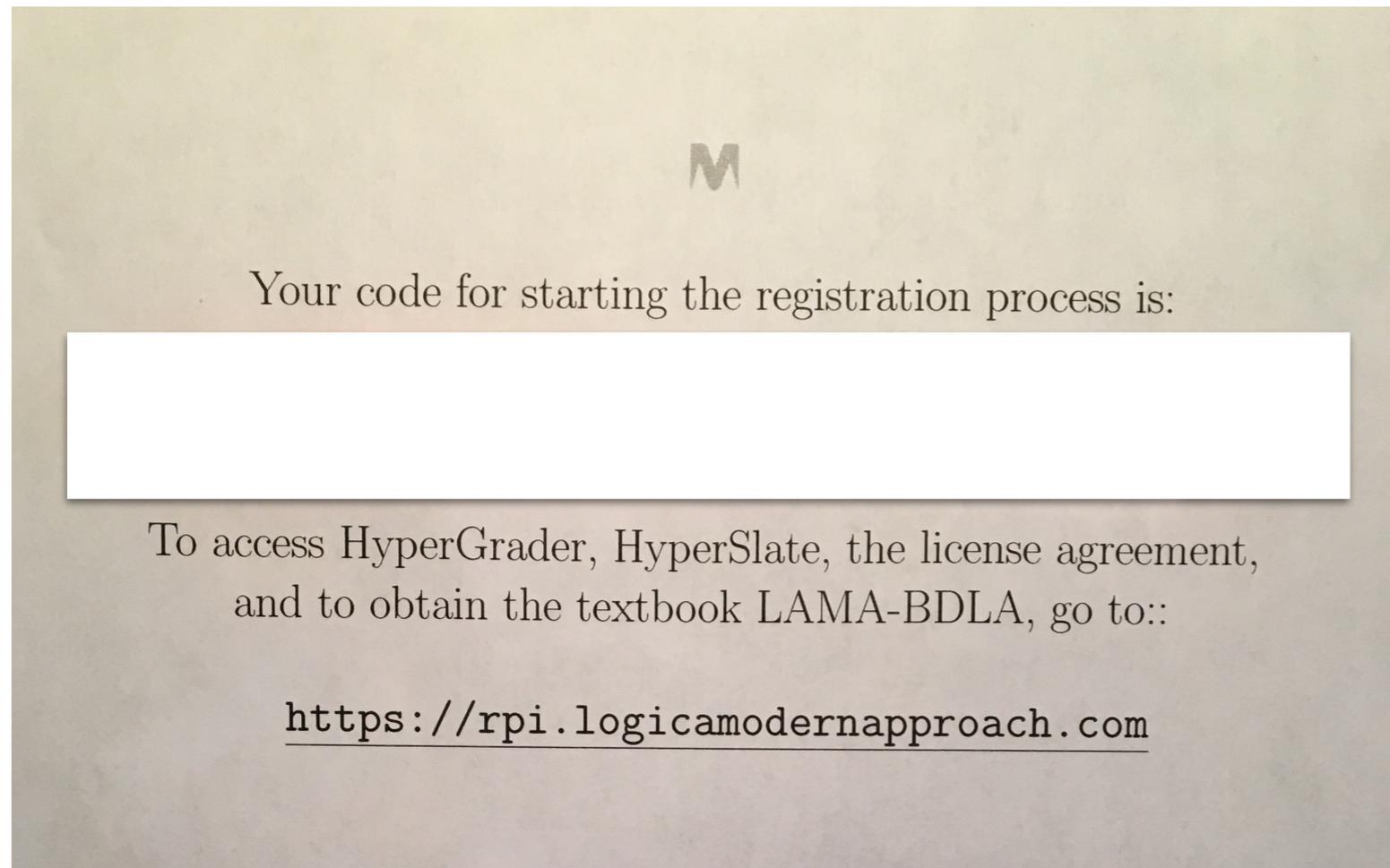
<https://rpi.logicamodernapproach.com>

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Once seal broken on envelope, access to the platform is “live,” no return. Remember from first class, any reservations, opt for “Stanford” paradigm, with its software instead of LAMA[®] paradigm!

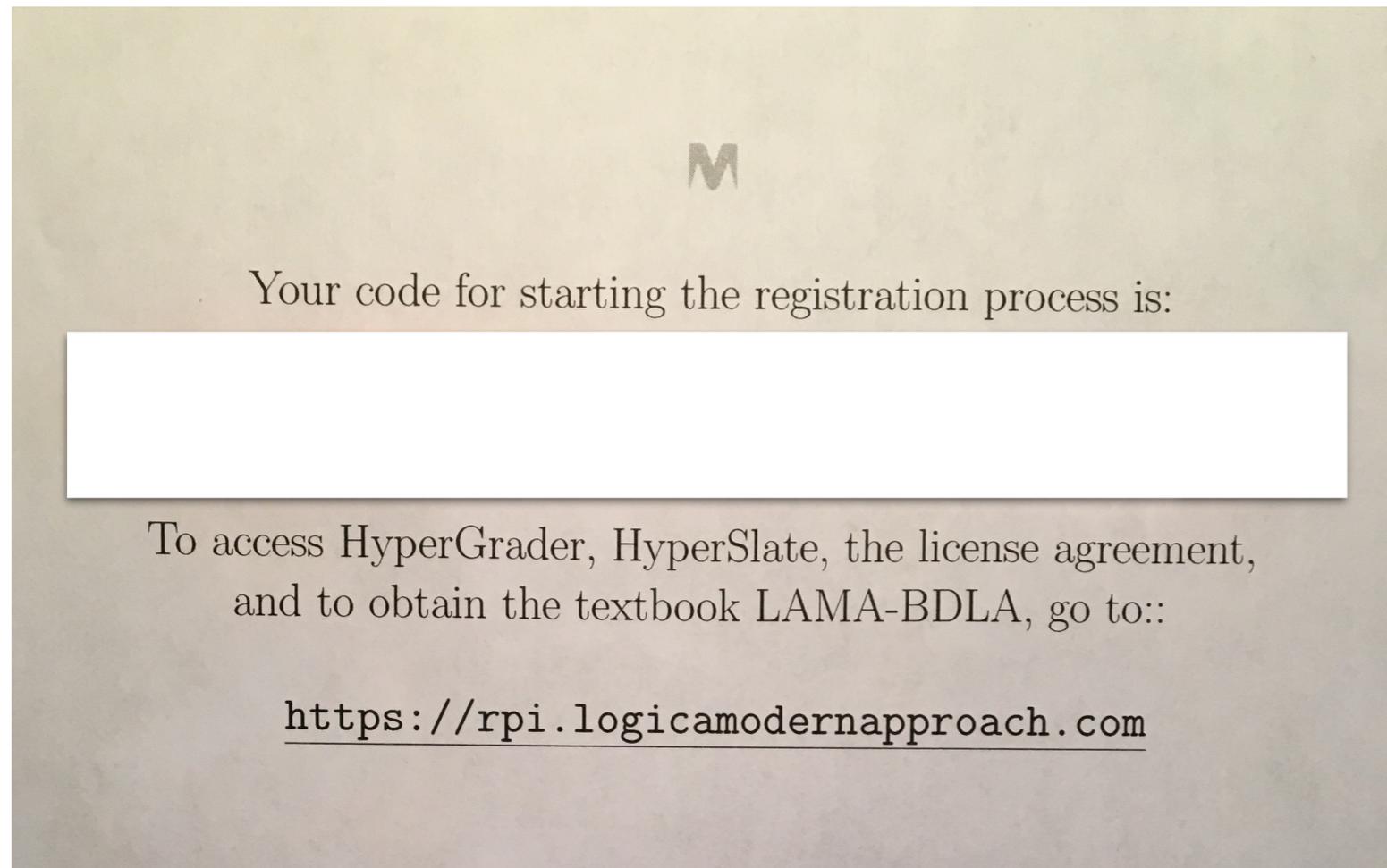
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Your OS and browser must be fully up-to-date; Chrome is the best choice, browser-wise (though I use Safari).

E-Housekeeping Pts

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Vi sees på mandag!