

THOUGHT
EXPERIMENT
2017

101 Experiments in the Philosophy of Everyday Life

By

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How Are Things?
A Philosophical Experiment

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RECOGNITION v ENCOUNTER

WHAT IS v WHAT IF?

PHYSICS-METAPHYSICS-'PATAPHYSICS

WHAT IS – WHO & WHY – WHAT IF

REALITY – DOUBT - INDETERMINACY

‘PATAPHYSICS – invented in the 1890s by Alfred Jarry.



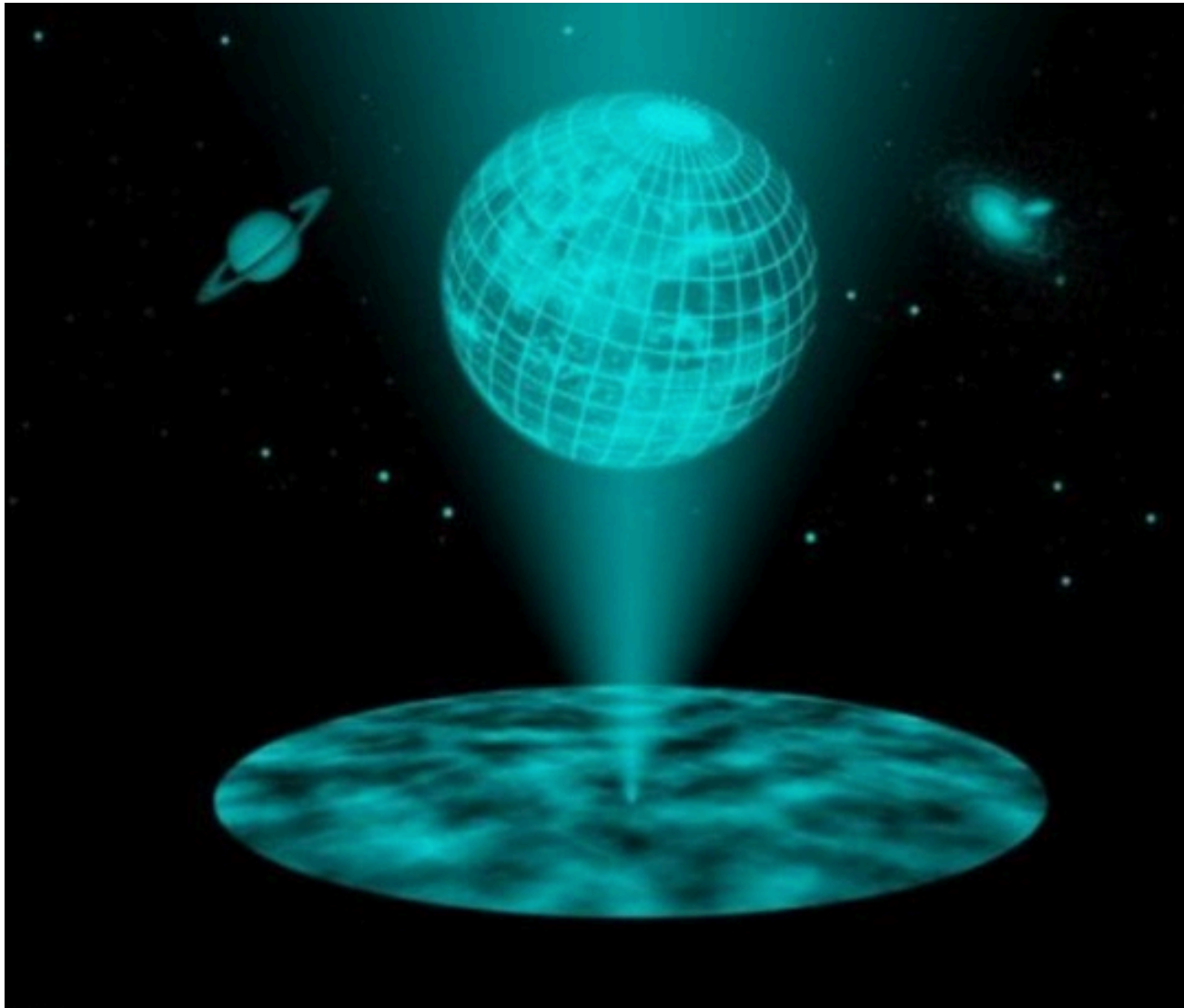
The Science of Imaginary Solutions

‘Pataphysics passes easily from one state of apparent definition to another!

Werner Heisenberg



- The
Uncertainty
Principle



The Holographic Principle

THE SIMULATION HYPOTHESIS

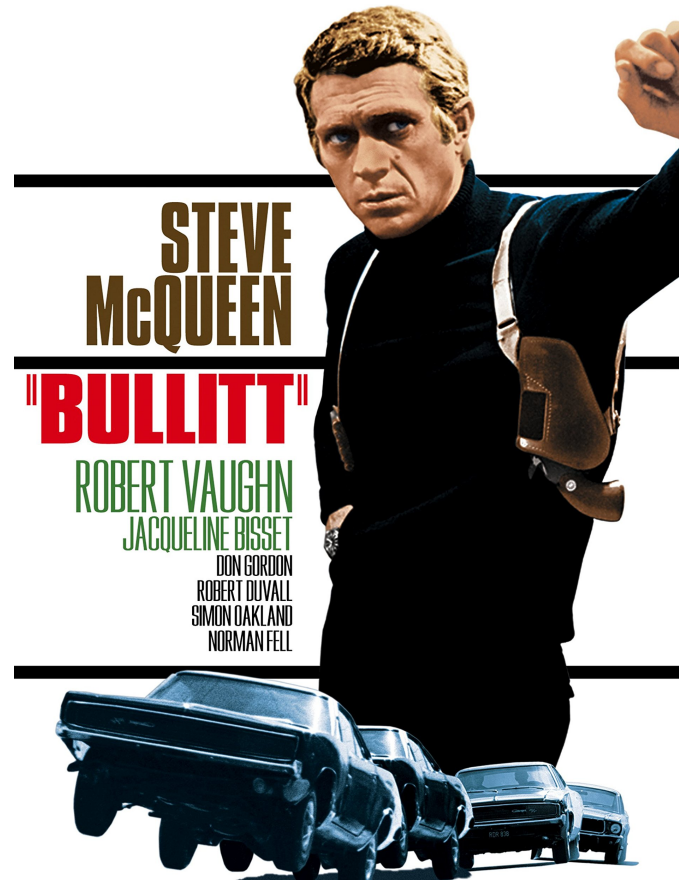
- Are we living in a computer simulation run by our sophisticated posthuman descendants?
- One thing that later 'posthuman' generations might do with their super-powerful computers is run detailed simulations of their forebears or of people like their forebears. Because their computers would be so powerful, they could run a great many such simulations. Suppose that these simulated people are conscious (as they would be if the simulations were sufficiently fine-grained and if a certain quite widely accepted position in the philosophy of mind is correct). Then it could be the case that the vast majority of minds like ours do not belong to the original race but rather to people simulated by the advanced descendants of an original race. (N. Bostrom)



FRANK SINATRA

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rDyb_alTkMQ

BULLITT...



With what fantasy he conferred multiple curvature on space! This is really a fantasy on Reimann's curved space. Because every universe is enclosed in curves, every universe is concentrated in a nucleus, a spore, a dynamited centre. And the centre is powerful because it is an imagined centre.

- Bachelard: The Poetics of Space

Riemannian Geometry

The Riemann curvature tensor is a way to capture a measure of the intrinsic curvature. When you write it down in terms of its components it consists of a multi-dimensional array of sums and products of partial derivatives (some of those partial derivatives can be thought of as akin to capturing the curvature imposed upon someone walking in straight lines on a curved surface).



I assume nothing to be true in any part of space (Whether this be empty as is commonly said, or filled with matter) except forces and the lines in which they are exercised – Michael Faraday.

It is not too fanciful to view the dynamic, turbulent spaces of Turner's paintings that create theatres of light and atmosphere, as being expressive of the thermodynamic and electromagnetic conception of matter being developed at the time, particularly given Turner's personal acquaintance with scientists involved such as Faraday and Mary Somerville.

Turner (1841) provided an image for contemporary speculations and theories regarding electromagnetic forces active in water and ships' machinery with the swirling vortices of his *Snow Storm - Steam-Boat off a Harbour's Mouth*.

The imagination (as a productive cognitive faculty) is, namely, very powerful in creating, as it were, another nature, out of the material which the real one gives it – Emmanuel Kant



Zerography/absolute zero
(273 seconds)
Laura Jenkins 2015



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rbCievANp-0>