

INTUITIVE SKILL

SEBASTIAN
SUNDAY

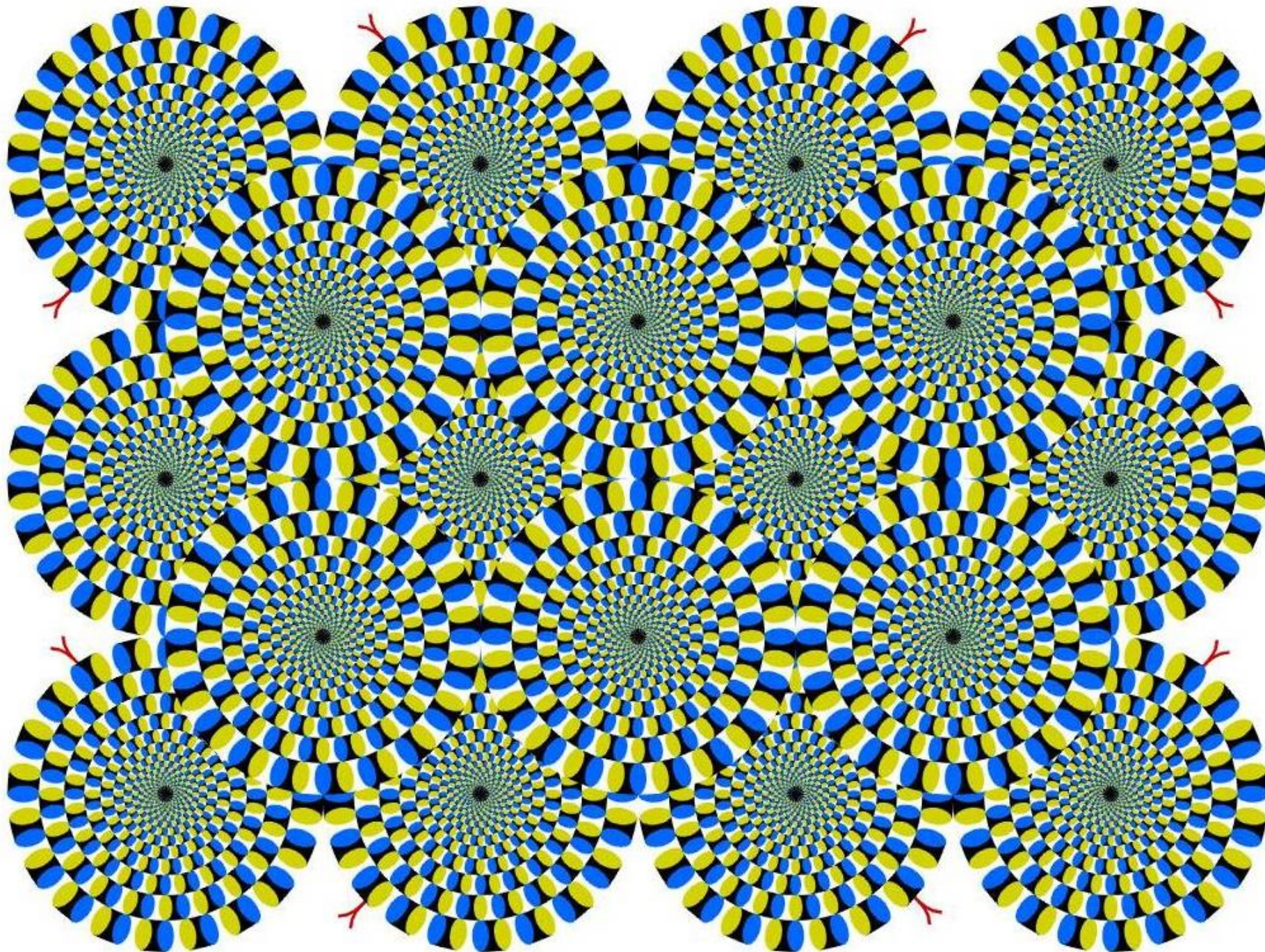
*Philosophy & Curiosity /
Lunch talks*



Why is intuition interesting?

INTRODUCTION

*Philosophy & Curiosity /
Intuitive Skill*



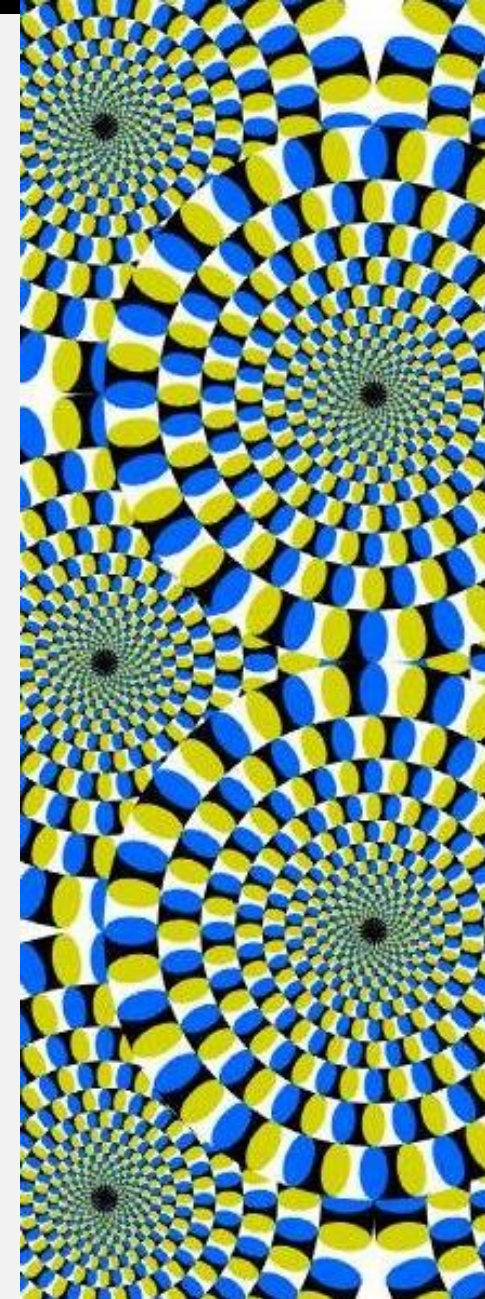
By
Noboyuki
Kayahara

What is intuition?

- Intuitive judgement vs intuitive seeming
- Intuition =_{def.} intuitive seeming

Why is intuition interesting?

- Plausibly, fundamental to human cognition
- Plausibly, enabling some of the best, and worst, in humans



1 What Is Intuitive Skill?

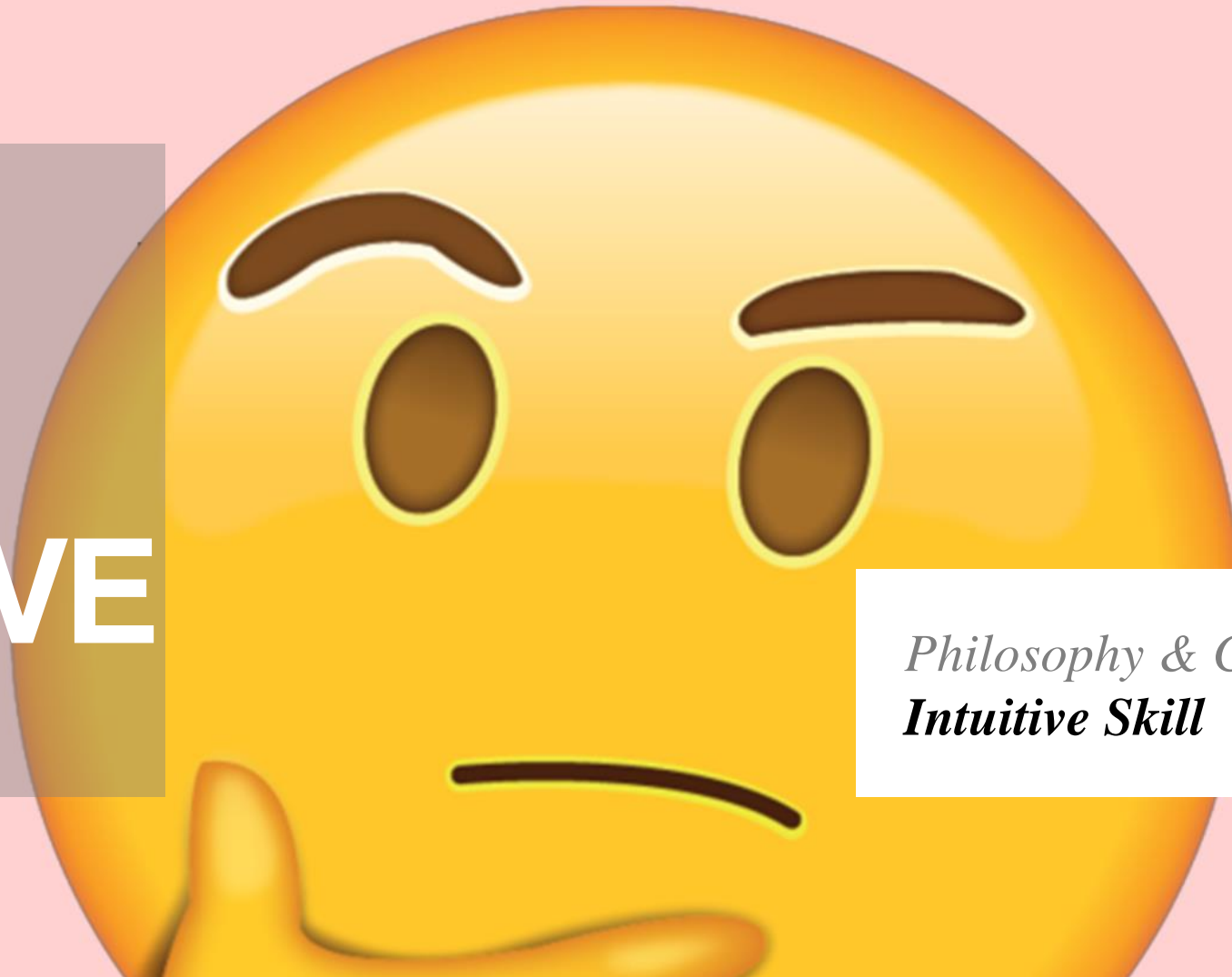
1.1 Philosophy for Life

1.2 Becoming a Great Philosopher

LECTURE CONTENTS

*Philosophy & Curiosity /
Intuitive Skill*

1 WHAT IS INTUITIVE SKILL?



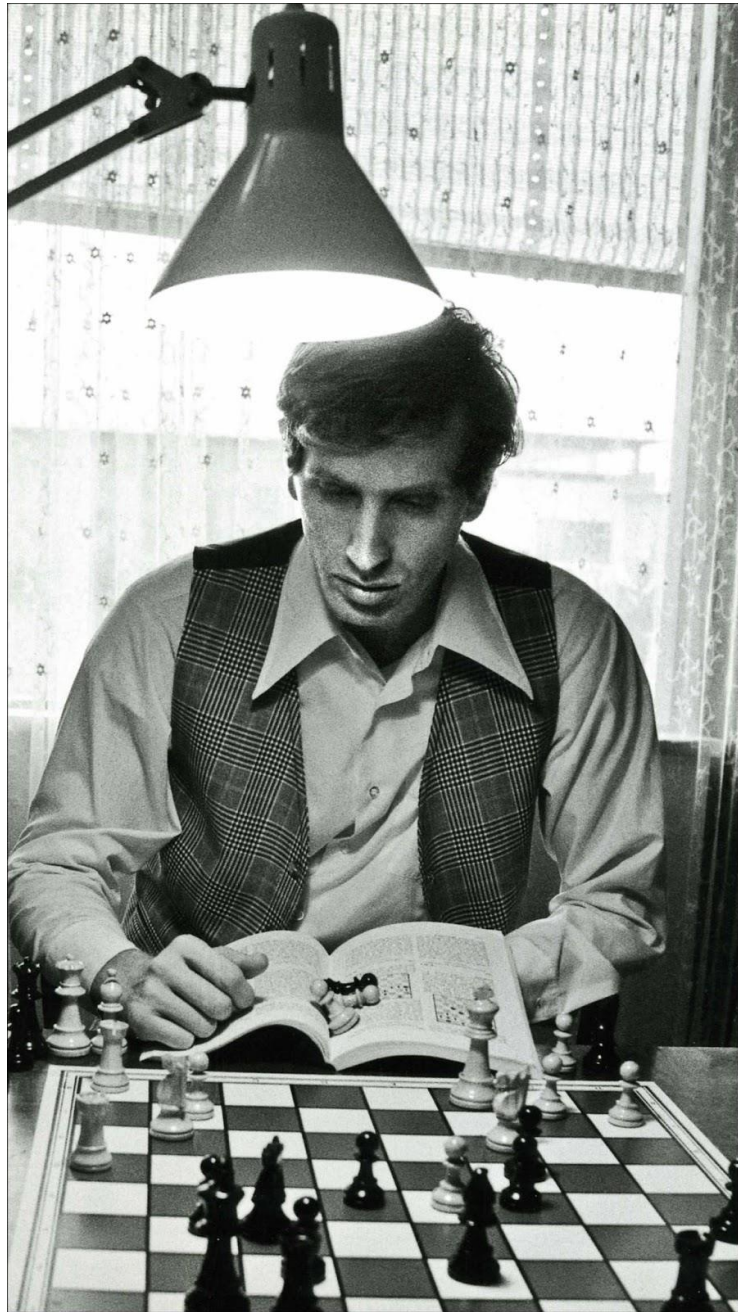
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[Unknown
artist]



www.procreo.jp
(c) Nobuyuki Kayahara 2003



Bobby Fischer (1943 – 2008)

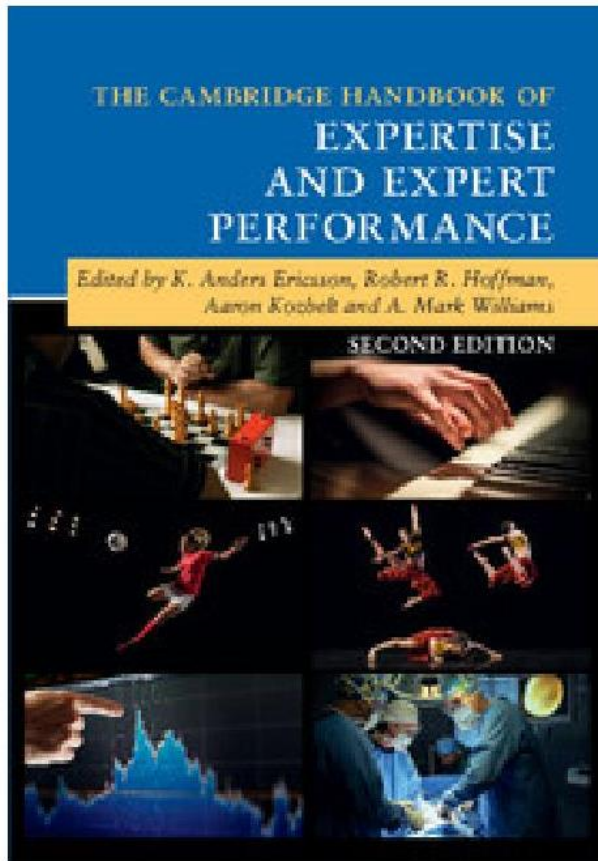
- Grandmaster 1958, World Champion 1972–75
- Invented Fischer Random Chess (Chess960)





Lionel Messi





The Cambridge Handbook of Expertise and Expert Performance

2nd Edition

Part of Cambridge Handbooks in Psychology
([/gb/academic/subjects/psychology/psychology-general-interest/series/cambridge-handbooks-psychology](https://www.cambridge.org/9780521876223))

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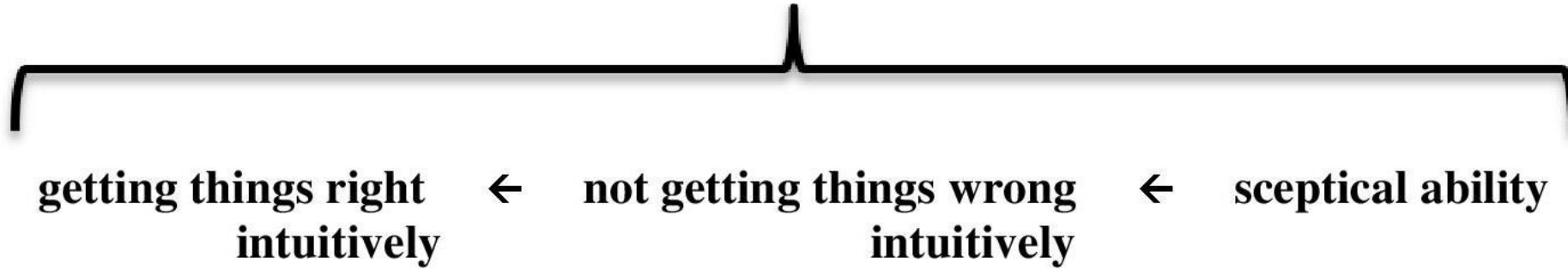
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Three elements of intuitive ability

intuitive ability

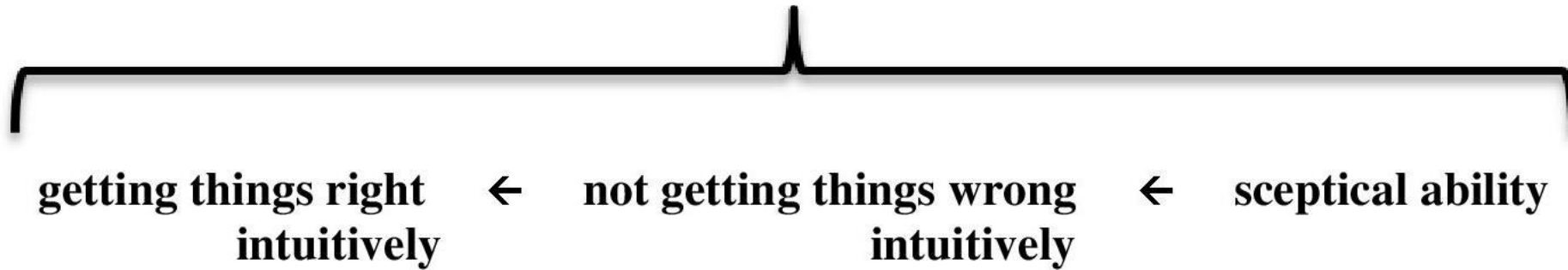


Principle of epistemic priority

- (1) The subject gets everything right intuitively. (If not-1, then 2)
- (2) The subject gets nothing wrong intuitively. (If not-2, then 3)
- (3) The subject makes no incorrect intuitive judgements.



intuitive ability

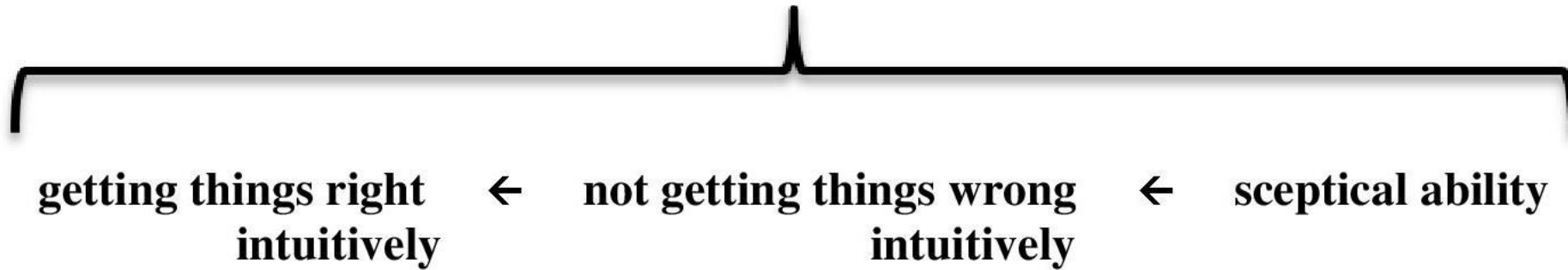


Example

A bat and a ball cost \$1.10 in total. The bat costs one dollar more than the ball. How much does the ball cost?

(Shane Frederick, 'Cognitive reflection and decision making', *Journal of Economic Perspectives* 19/4 (2005), 25–42)

intuitive ability



Definition

A subject has intuitive skill

... if, and only if, ...

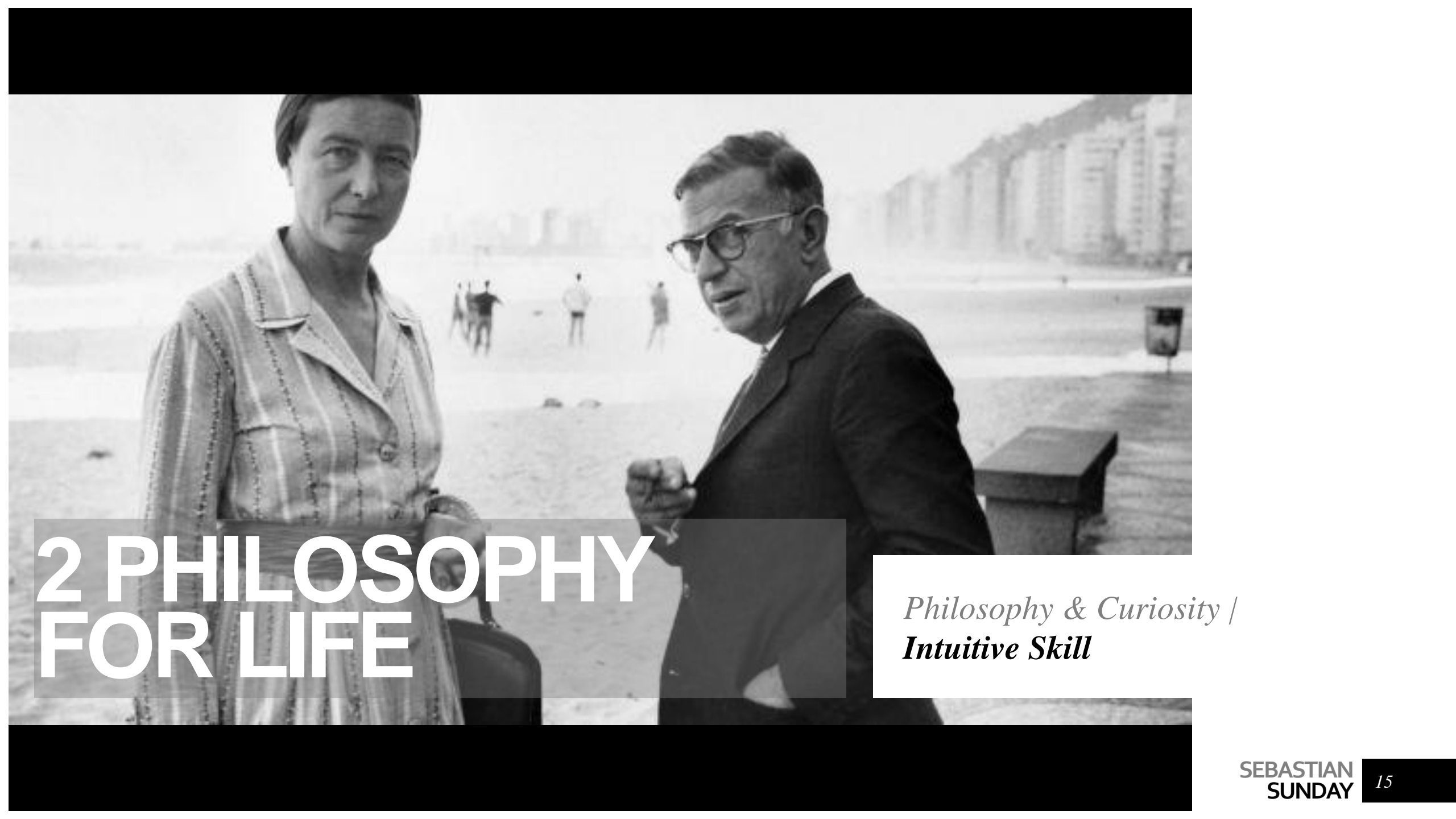
the subject has a sufficiently-high aggregate level of ability at

- either getting things right intuitively
- or not getting things wrong intuitively
- or sceptical ability.

Question: *... if, and only if, ...*
intuitive judgement is reliable?

Answer: No.

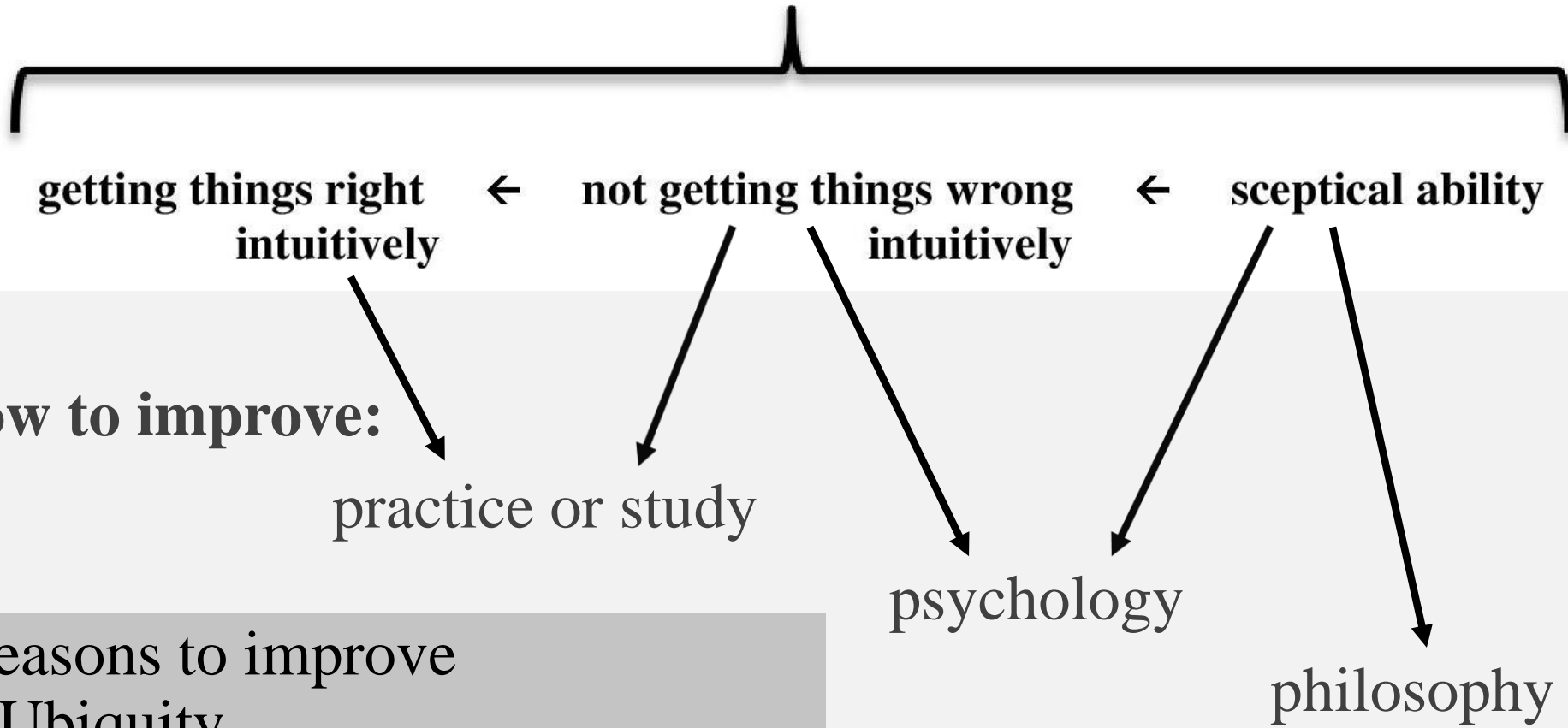




2 PHILOSOPHY FOR LIFE

*Philosophy & Curiosity /
Intuitive Skill*

intuitive ability



How to improve:

practice or study

psychology

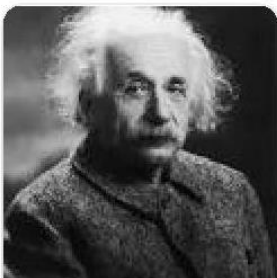
philosophy

Reasons to improve

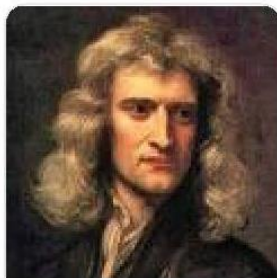
- Ubiquity
- Ignorance
- Innovation
- Excellence

} esp. sceptical ability





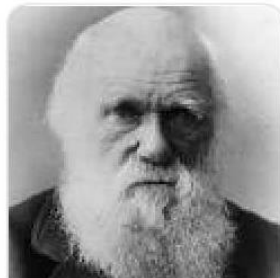
Albert Einstein
1879–1955



Isaac Newton
1643–1727



Galileo Galilei
1564–1642



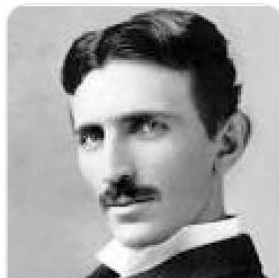
Charles Darwin
1809–1882



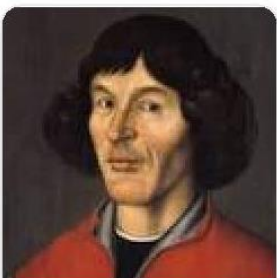
Marie Curie
1867–1934



Stephen Hawking
1942–2018



Nikola Tesla
1856–1943



Nicolaus Copernicus
1473–1543



Leonardo da Vinci
1452–1519



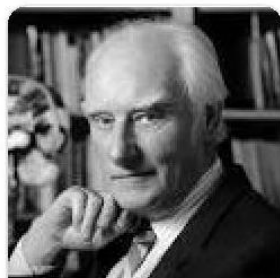
Louis Pasteur
1822–1895



Michael Faraday
1791–1867



Archimedes
288 BC–212 ...



Francis Crick
1916–2004



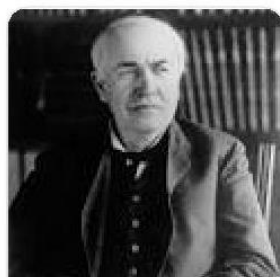
Niels Bohr
1885–1962



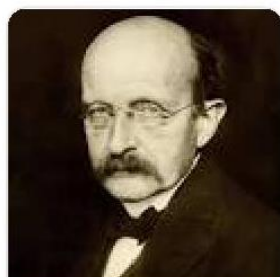
James Watson



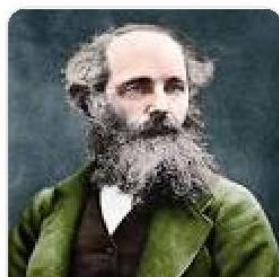
Richard Feynman
1918–1988



Thomas Edison
1847–1931



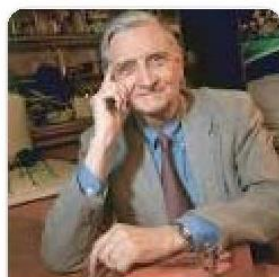
Max Planck
1858–1947



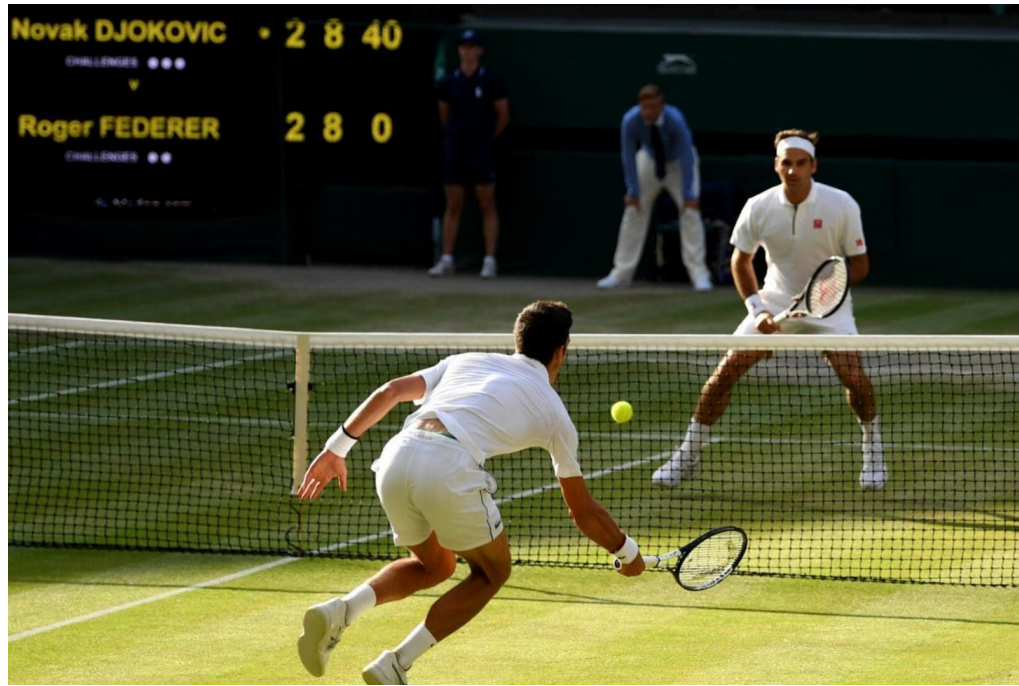
James Clerk Maxwell
1831–1879



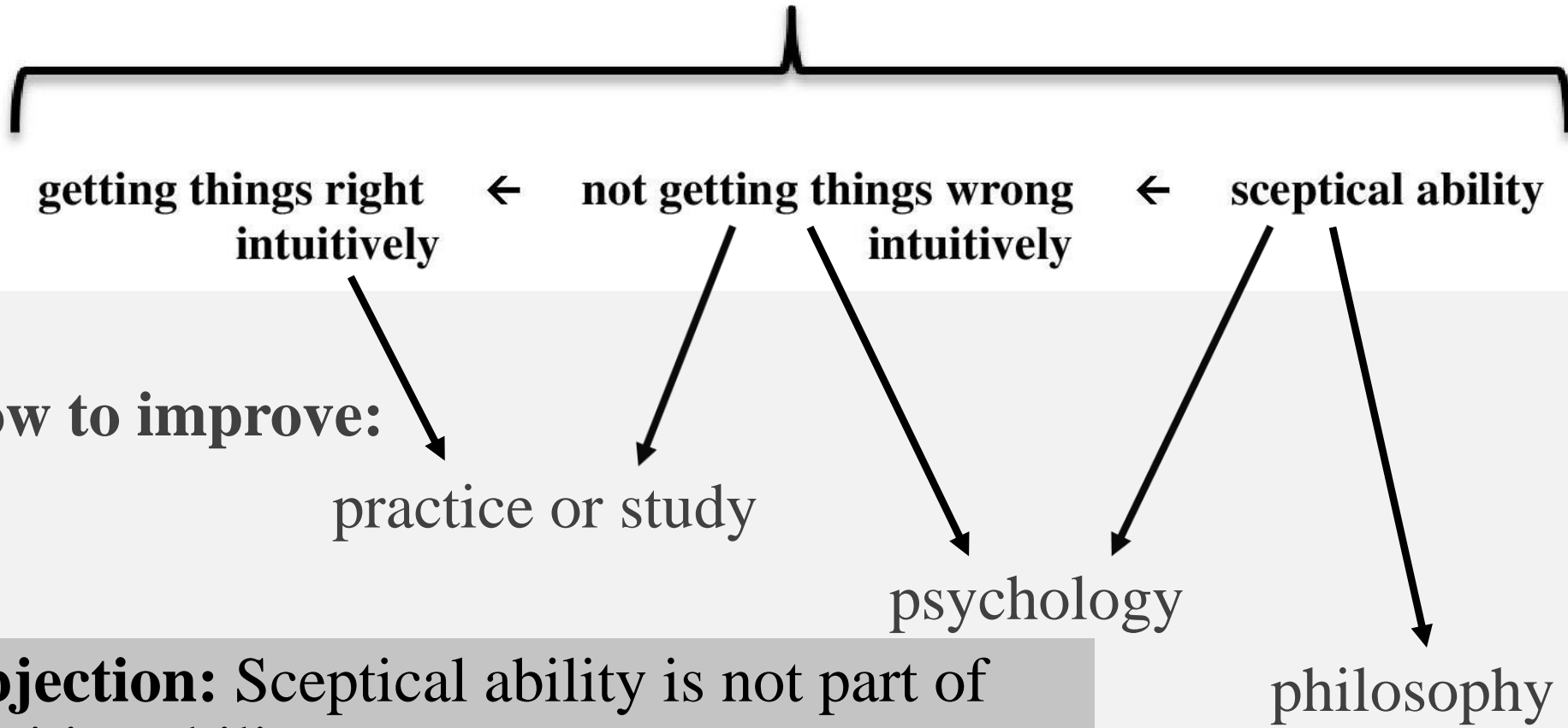
Rosalind Franklin
1920–1958



E. O. Wilson



intuitive ability



How to improve:

practice or study

psychology

philosophy

Objection: Sceptical ability is not part of intuitive ability.

Response: Yes, it is.

- 1) Proper part of intuitive judgement-making
- 2) Ideally, itself intuitive (meta-intuition)



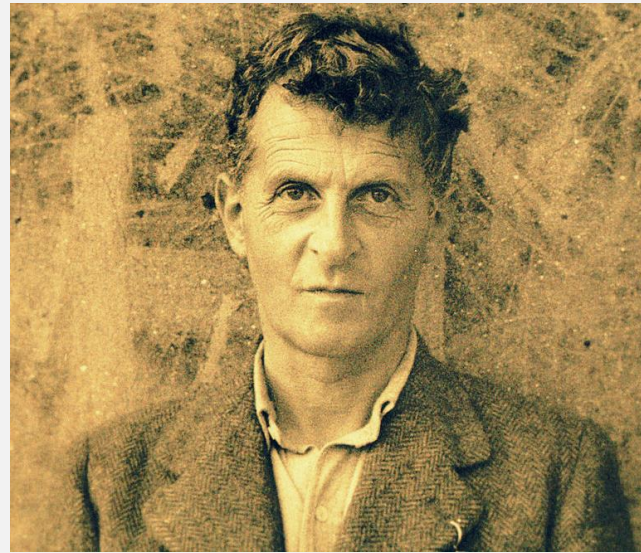


3 BECOMING A GREAT PHILOSOPHER

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People who have never carried out an investigation of a philosophical sort ... are not equipped with the right optical instruments for that sort of investigation or scrutiny. Almost, as someone who is not used to searching in the forest for berries will not find any because his eye has not been sharpened for such things & he does not know where you have to be particularly on the lookout for them. Similarly someone unpractised in philosophy passes by all the spots where difficulties lie hidden under the grass, while someone with practice pauses & senses that there is a difficulty here, even though he does not yet see it.

(Manuscript, translated in *Culture and Value*, 33–4)



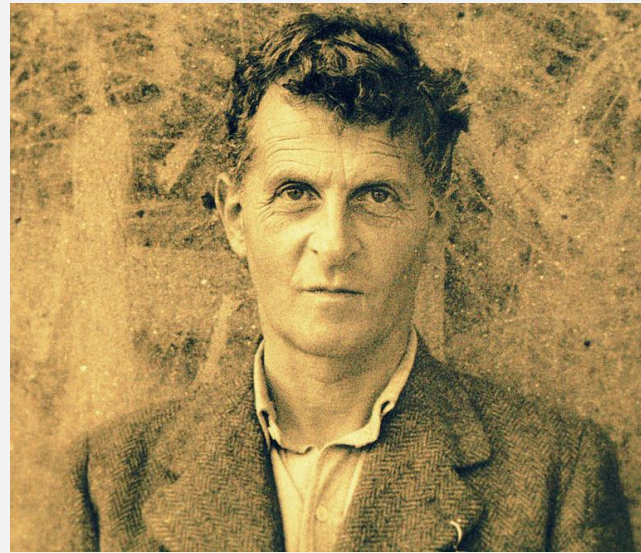
Ludwig Wittgenstein
(1889 – 1951)



And no wonder, if one knows how long even the practised investigator, who realizes there is a difficulty, has to search in order to find it.

If something is well hidden it is hard to find.

(Manuscript, translated in *Culture and Value*, 33–4)



Ludwig Wittgenstein
(1889 – 1951)

Sceptical skill in philosophy

- Difficult to acquire
- Ideally, intuitive (meta-intuition)
- Plausibly, a mark of a great philosopher



Sceptical skill

- An alternative way of becoming a great philosopher?
- (Or a forgotten original?)

- Are there any modern-day Socrates?
- (If not, why not?)



THANK YOU

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