

24.09 Minds and Machines

Fall 11 HASS-D CI

review session

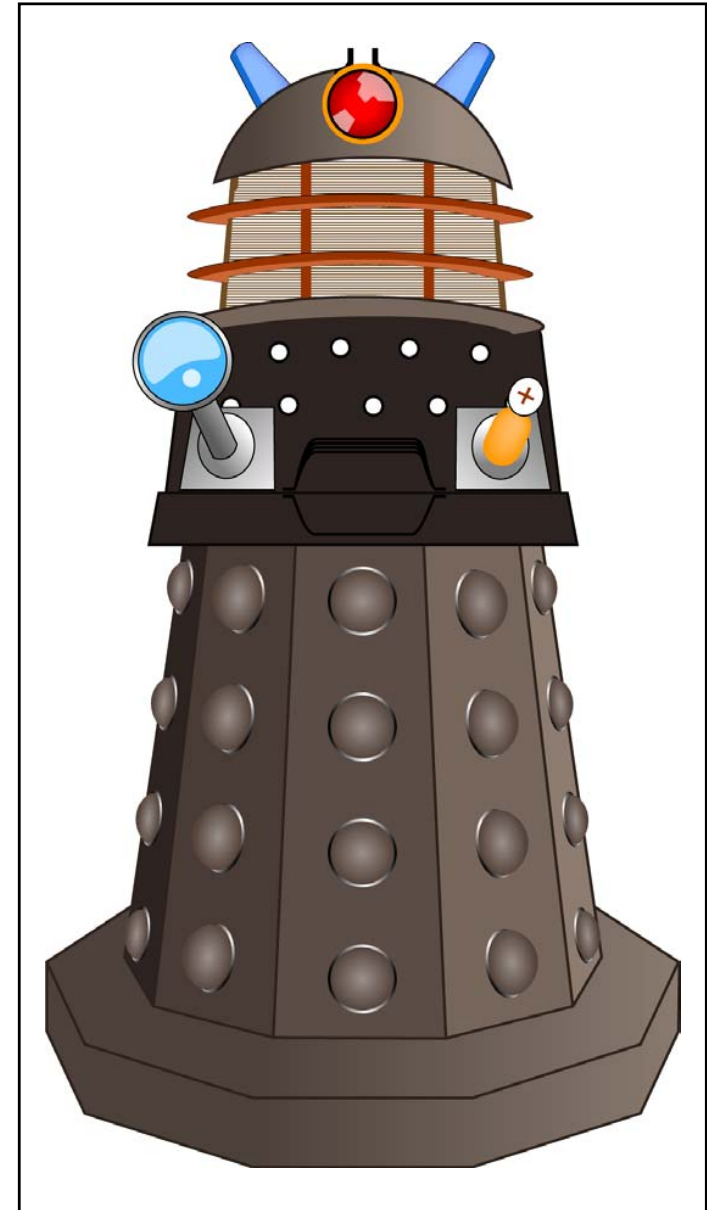


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Argument D again; see Kripke, 329

1. if I can clearly and distinctly conceive a proposition p to be true, then p is possible.
 2. I can clearly and distinctly conceive that the proposition that Alex Byrne is not identical to BODY (where 'BODY' is a name of my body) is true, therefore:
 3. it is possible that Alex Byrne is not BODY (there is a 'possible world' in which Alex Byrne is not BODY), therefore:
- C. I (Alex Byrne) am not BODY

← goes through because 'BODY' and 'Alex Byrne' are rigid

'Rhodium'

and

'The most expensive metal'

both refer to a chemical kind, specifically the element Rh, with atomic number 45

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applying our tests for rigidity

consider a possible world w , in which the element with atomic number 79 is the most expensive metal, and the element with atomic number 45 is abundant and cheap

What is the most expensive metal in w ? Au, the element with atomic number 79

So: 'the most expensive metal' is not rigid

What is Rhodium in w ? Rh, the element with atomic number 45 (same answer for every world)

So: 'Rhodium' is rigid

questions

1. does the identity theorist think that 'pain' and 'c-fibers firing' are synonymous?
2. is 'The number of real-valued solutions to $x^2=2$ is less than the number of 24.09 TAs' necessary?
3. which of the following is rigid?
(a) 'Ullin Place'; (b) 'The philosopher named 'Ullin Place''; (c) 'The ratio of a circle's circumference to its diameter'; (d) 'The least prime greater than the number of Britney Spears' children'
4. does Kripke think that 'Heat is the motion of molecules' is: (a) a priori; (b) contingent?

upcoming sessions

Putnam on twin Earth,
Burge, and Clark and
Chalmers

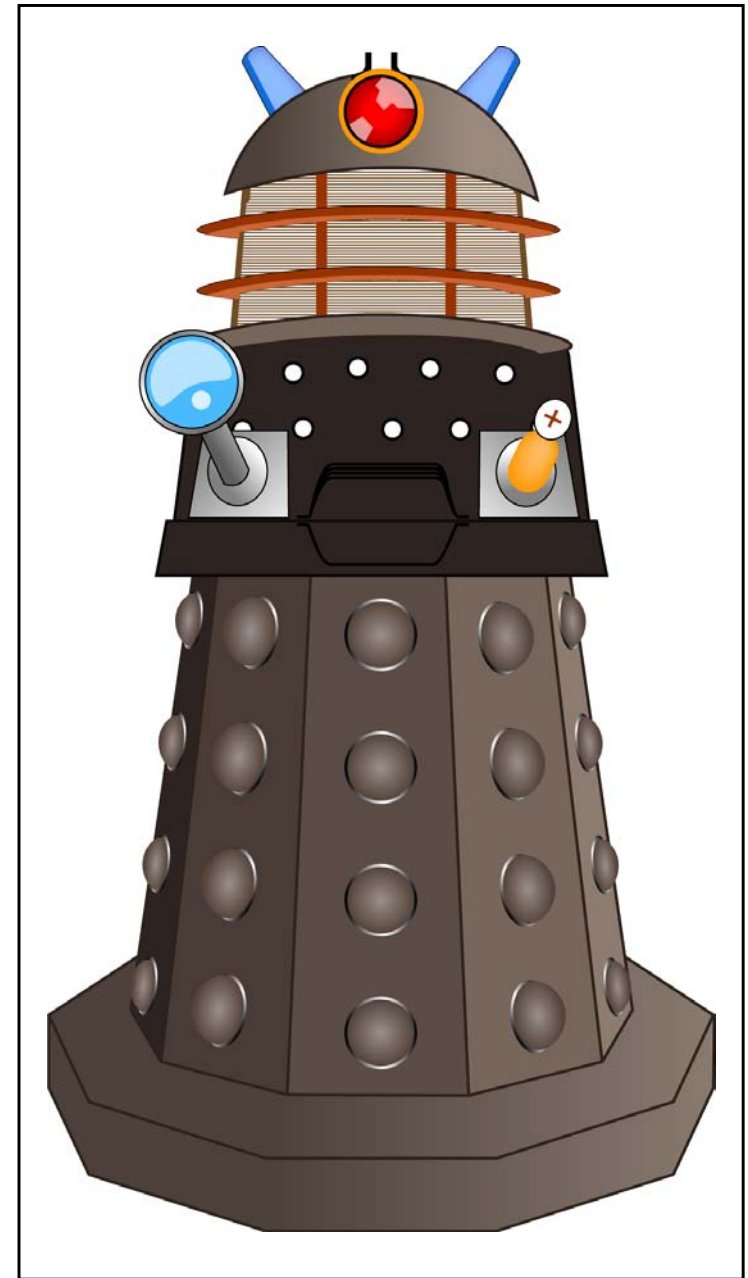


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