

Distinction between Universals and Particulars

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1. Introduction of “Information World and Physical World”

I would like to argue distinction between universals and particulars using my own concept of physical world and information world.

In my basic idea, the information world consists of “Bits” and the physical world consists of “Atoms”. The physical world is shared by all existence and human-beings but the information world is belonging to just one brain individually. In other words, in the physical world, we can have particular existence and qualities but in the information world we can have just universal qualities.

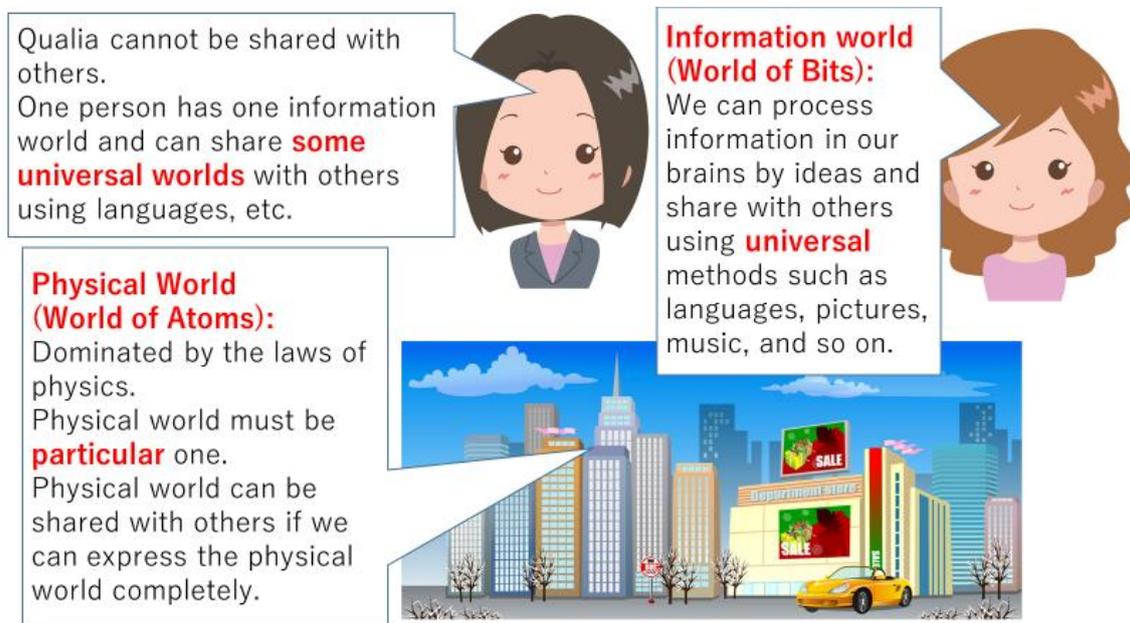
	Information World	Physical World
Essence	Intensity	Extension
Unit	Bits	Atoms
Attribute	Without laws (free)	Dominated by the laws of physics. (determined)
Time	Return to the past	No return to the past
Physicality	Indivisible Indestructible	Divisible destructible
Deterioration	No Deterioration (especially digital data)	Deterioration (entropy increase)
Recognition	Direct recognition	indirect recognition
Share	Qualia in brain cannot be shared with others One brain has one world	Real can be shared with others. Multiple brains can share one world
Expression	Information including language, formula. Processed by 0/1 data	Formula Processed by 0/1 data
Science	Information Science/Brain Science	Physics/Chemistry
Pegasus	Exist	No exist

According to Plato, the physical world is the world of the cave and forms, ‘abstract entities’, are shadows. In my opinion, things in the physical world can be existed as shadows by our observation. Plato supposes forms to be transcendent entities. I think that forms become transcendent entities when someone can know all forms of physical

world completely like God. Forms are in information world and things in physical world cannot exist without information world.

Aristotle says that the forms of things are located in ordinary things. Forms are in the information world, too. But I think that Aristotle may points out “we can have particular things in physical world as particular forms in information world.

According to Quine, I understood that ultimate accumulation of universal forms becomes particular forms. For example, a particular apple can be described as thing of red, round, eatable, sweet, 70% water and so on. In other words, a group of red things, round subgroup of this red group, eatable subgroup of this round group, sweet subgroup of this eatable group, - - - -smaller group, smaller group, - - -, and the particular one finally.



2. Distinction between universals and particulars

In the information world, there are no particulars. However, particulars, 'concrete entities/essences of existence', are not necessary and just forms, 'abstract entities', are necessary. For examples, when two people look completely same and their behavior are completely same, in the information world, they could be considered as the same person even if their genes are different.

In the information world, there are just universals and no particular. And in the physical world, there are just particulars in essence. For examples, when there are trees in physical space, the structures of atoms of trees are never completely same and this means that trees are particulars. On the other hand, in the information world, a tree is

tree, even if trees are never same in the physical world.

In order that particular "tree" is accurately described in the information world, it is necessary to know and describe the placement of all atoms and even quarks of the tree. In other words, someone, who can know all things, can put particular things in the physical into the information world. This means that particulars in the physical world are converted/recognized into universals in the information world.

3. Conclusion

Because our brains have limits, in the information world, we are not able to 'perfectly' recognize or describe things in the physical world. For this reason, forms 'abstract entities' are required to recognize/describe things in the physical world. If there is someone who can recognize all of the physical world, we call this as "God".

God can integrate the information world and the physical world and universals can be "perfect predications" of particulars.