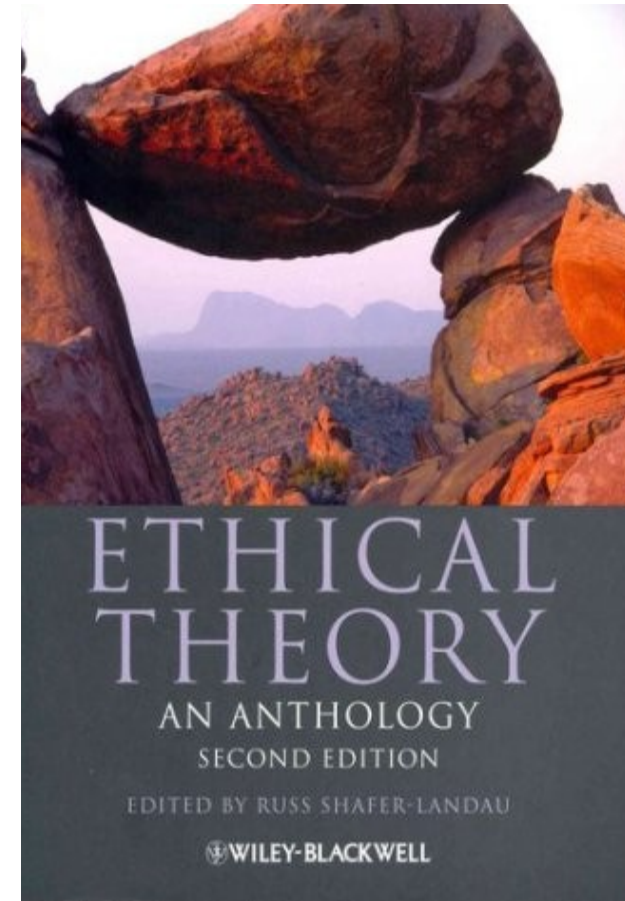
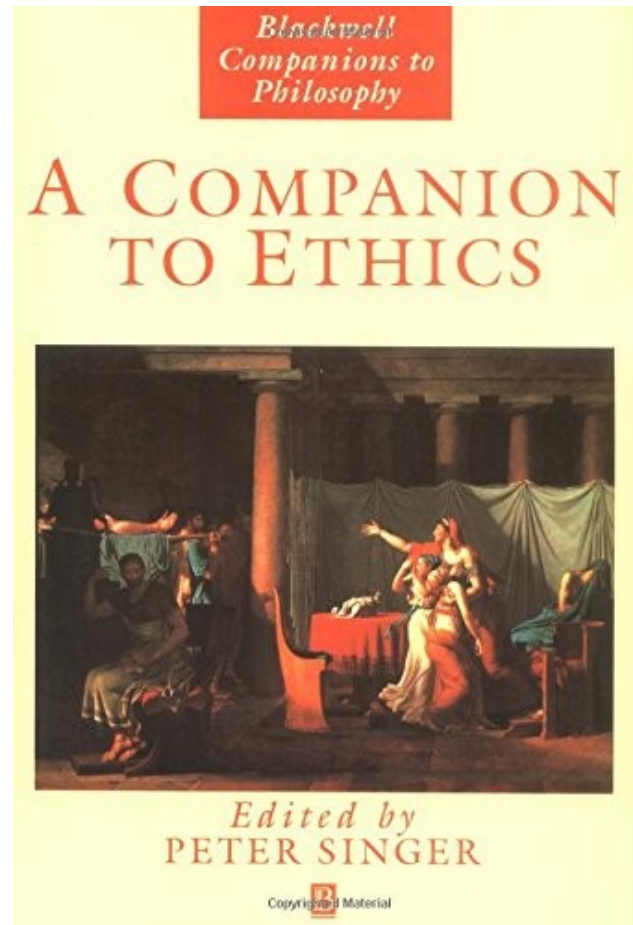
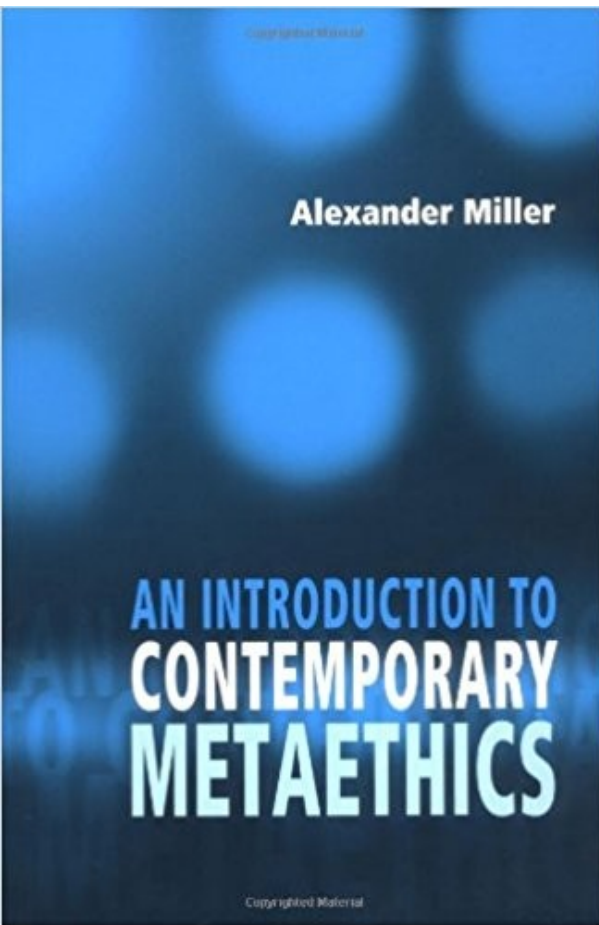


Where does morality come from?



James Fodor, June 2017

Some sources



Some Ideas to Discuss

1. What is morality?
2. Is morality objective and/or universal?
3. How can we know what is moral/right?
4. What reasons do we have for acting morally?
5. How can ethical theory help us to

Meta-Ethics

What do moral sentences *mean*?

What *is* rightness and wrongness?

Are moral claims *propositions* at all?

Does moral value *exist* in the universe?

Ethical Theory

How do we tell if something is good or bad? Is it good if it maximizes happiness? If it maximizes things with intrinsic value? If it comes from good intentions? If it fulfills the purpose of humans? If you could make it a universal law? If it fulfills certain rights and duties?

Applied Ethics

Is abortion moral?

Do corporations have responsibilities?

What obligations do journalists have?

When is lying okay?

How should we allocate scarce resources?

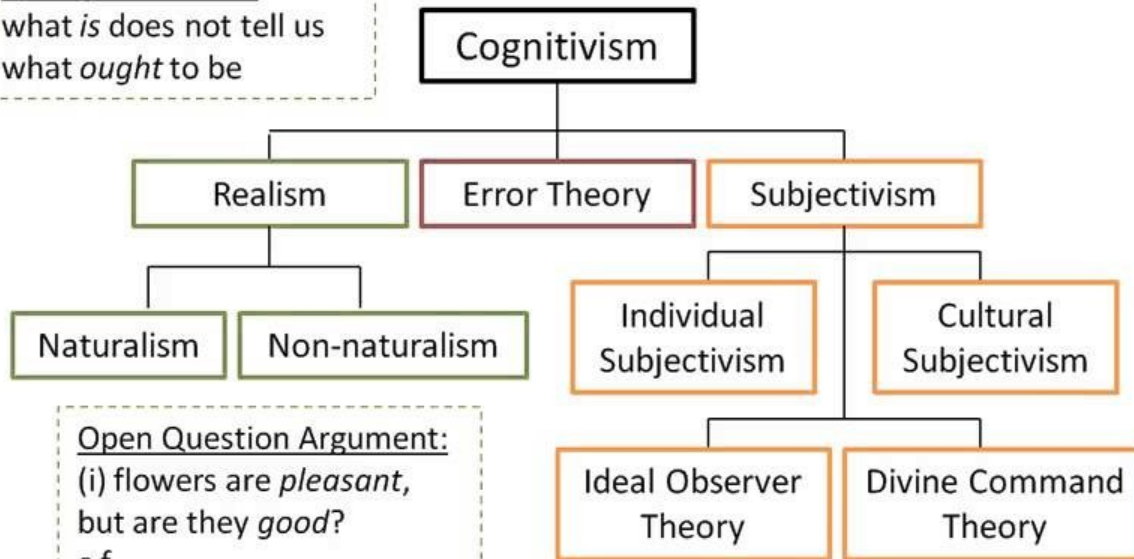
Is filesharing theft?

Attitudes towards morality

- **Objectivism:** facts about what is right or wrong, good or bad, which are true independently of what anyone thinks about those facts
- **Subjectivism:** facts about what is right or wrong are true only with respect to a particular person or society
- **Nihilism or non-cognitivism:** there are no moral facts about what is right

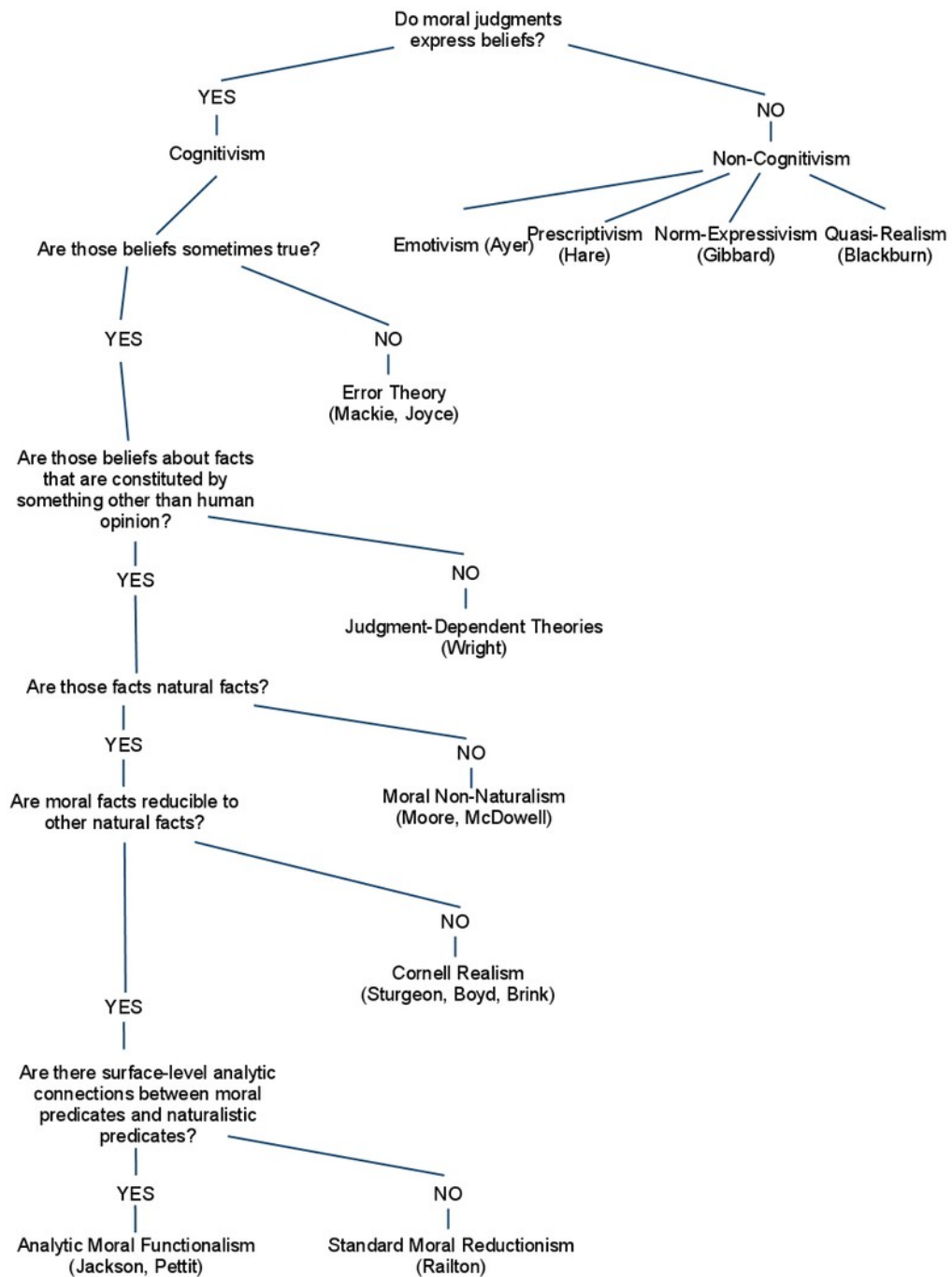
Cognitivism vs. Non-cognitivism

Is/Ought Problem:
what *is* does not tell us
what *ought* to be



Open Question Argument:
(i) flowers are *pleasant*,
but are they *good*?
c.f.
(ii) flowers are *pleasant*,
but are they *pleasant*?

Euthyphro Dilemma:
Is something moral because
God decided so or because
it independently is?



Emotivism

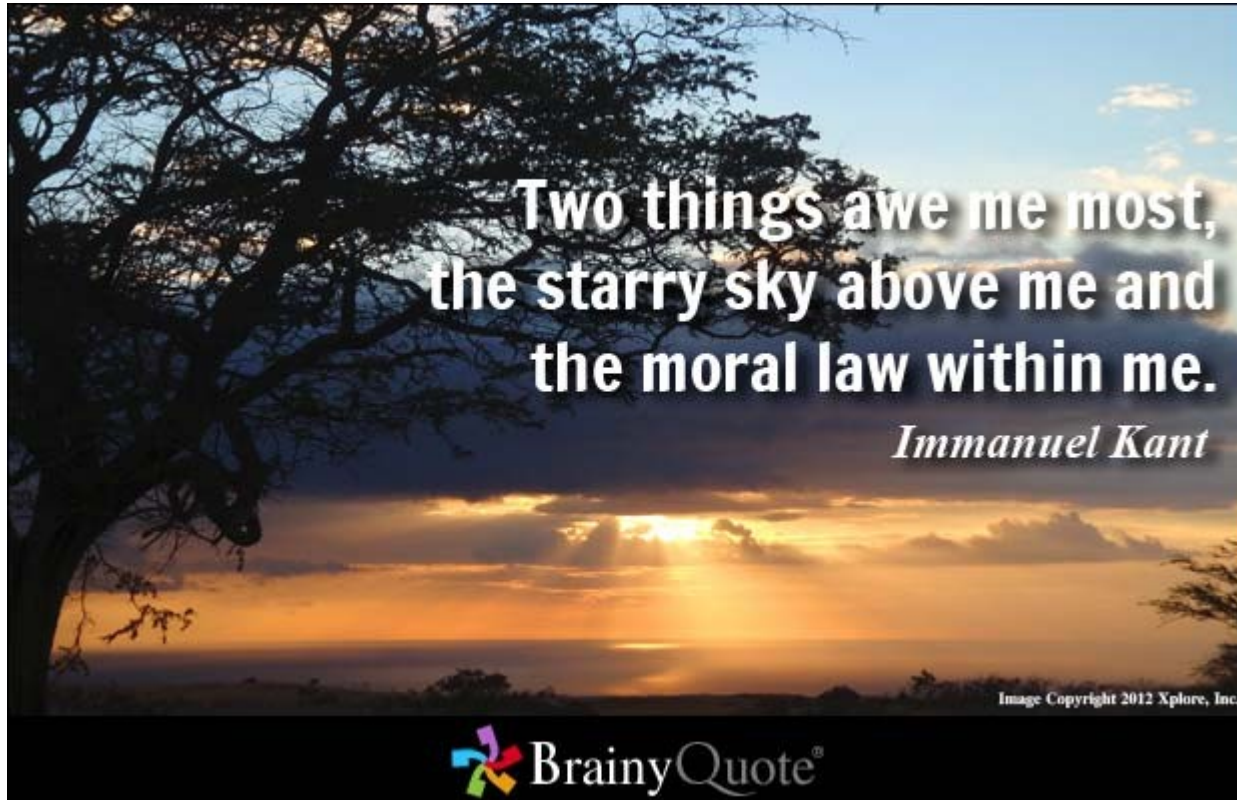


Morality is simply the attitude we adopt towards people whom we personally dislike.

(Oscar Wilde)

izquotes.com

Ethical Intuitionism



Ethical Naturalism



The moral landscape is the framework I use for thinking about questions of morality and human values in universal terms.

— *Sam Harris* —

AZ QUOTES

Divine Command Theory

Moral Argument

FOR THE EXISTENCE OF GOD

If God does not exist, objective moral values and duties do not exist.

Objective moral values and duties do exist.

Therefore, God exists.

Issues from the Literature

- Is morality part of the natural world?
- The problem of moral disagreement
- What things in the world do moral statements refer to? – open question argument
- Are moral judgements intrinsically motivating? – internalism vs externalism

The End



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Heat death of the universe

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

For the album by Off Minor, see [The Heat Death of the Universe](#).

The **heat death of the universe** is a plausible [ultimate fate of the universe](#) in which all processes that increase entropy are sustained. Heat death does not imply any particular process is exploited to perform [work](#). In the language of [physics](#), this is when the universe reaches a state of maximum entropy.

If the topology of the universe is [open or flat](#), or if [dark energy](#) is a positive [cosmological constant](#) and a heat death is expected to occur,^[1] with the universe cooling to approach equilibrium.

The hypothesis of heat death stems from the ideas of [William Thomson, 1st Baron Kelvin](#) (the first two [laws of thermodynamics](#)) and extrapolated it to larger processes on a universal scale.

Contents [\[hide\]](#)

Euthyphro Dilemma

- "Is the pious loved by the gods because it is pious, or is it pious because it is loved by the gods?"
- "Is what is morally good commanded by God because it is morally good, or is it morally good because it is commanded by God?"

Euthyphro Dilemma

“On the theistic view, objective moral values are rooted in God. God’s own holy and perfectly good nature supplies the absolute standard against which all actions and decisions are measured. God’s moral nature is what Plato called the ‘Good.’ He is the locus and source of moral value. He is by nature loving, generous, just, faithful, kind, and so forth”

Euthyphro Dilemma

- “God is by nature good”
- What does this mean? What does it mean to predicate “is good” of God?
- Is ‘good’ understood with reference to some other properties of God? If so which properties, and what makes them good?
- If ‘is good’ means ‘is consistent with God’s nature, then ‘God’s nature is to be good’ means nothing more than ‘God’s nature is to be consistent with his own nature’