Prediction: Week 3

Today's Goal—Cross-Cultural Conversations

Logistics for the Fair

Questions?

FAIR!

Discussions, time-permitting

preview: choosing your "character" for the Path to Newton

Last week
Diviner's Guide Systems

DIVINER'S GUIDE: TABLE OF CONTENTS

- ASTROLOGY
- AZTEC RITUALS
- CASTING LOTS
- COMETS
- EGYPTIAN STATUE
- HARUSPICY
- IFA
- MAYA SPACETIME
- ORACLE BONES
- ORACLE OF DELPHI
- ROMAN AUGURY
- TAROT
- TASSEOGRAPHY

This week
Discussion of cross-cultural concepts

Fate, Free Will, and the Gods

0:12 / 5:54   Speed 1.0x

Accuracy and Verification

2:41 / 6:14   Speed 1.0x

"Is there any concept of verifying prophecies in any of your experience with all of these texts and archaeological records?"

Post Divination Fair

Discuss one or more of the concepts below, and enter replies using the keyword shown before the colon:

HISTORIOGRAPHY: Effects of "Historiography" and/or modern perspectives—how historians' portrayal of events or modern notions—influence how we discuss predictive systems

RELIGION+: Religion, Science, and Philosophy were once all one-in-the same, and there wasn't the kind of specialization there the ancient predictive traditions gone the way of "religion"? Is science a new religion? (Consider weather forecasting vs. oracle bones, haruspicy, etc.)

DETAIL: Has the **level of detail** expected from prediction changed over time, or is it just different for different systems? (Consider a spectrum from only being able to ask "yes/no" (binary) kinds of questions, to one where short answers are possible, to modern systems like weather forecasting, where exquisite detail is produced.)

FREE WILL: How do concepts of **Free Will & Determinism** enter discussions of various systems/approaches? Many "supernatural" systems seem to pre-suppose that **some future is KNOWN**—perhaps by "gods," and that these systems are tapping into unseen worlds where that future is (more) clearly visible.

TRAINING: How much **training and expertise** is required, and how much does it matter to the person seeking a prediction? Consider a haruspex, an Ifa diviner, and a (modern) weather forecaster today. Think about people's longing for future-casts on Facebook, and who they trust...

Welcome to the Divination Fair!

For logistical convenience, we have created this "assignment" to guide your participation in the Fair. You can access it with the QR code above, or at tinyurl.com/div-fair-23 ⤳, or directly on Canvas. If for some reason you are absent from the Fair, contact your TF, and complete this assignment using online information by February 10.

1. Start by filling out the form here, ⤳ just once. That form will establish your codename, and just in case you forget it, you'll get an email confirmation, from Google, right after you fill out the form.
2. Visit at least five presenting students during each of the three sessions of the divination fair. For at least three of the systems you see during each session fill out this quick evaluation/comment form ⤳. (Please make sure to use your codename, not your real name, on the form.)

ACCESS the student "**handouts**" on each system at tinyurl.com/div-fair-handouts ⤳.

Simply turning in nine completed evaluation forms will earn you 20 points for this assignment (full credit). You do not need to do anything more on Canvas to complete this "assignment," as we will have your responses in the spreadsheet created by the Google form.

SCHEDULE — SEE WHITEBOARD for LAST-MINUTE UPDATES

Round 1 (Systems 1-16)

25 minutes

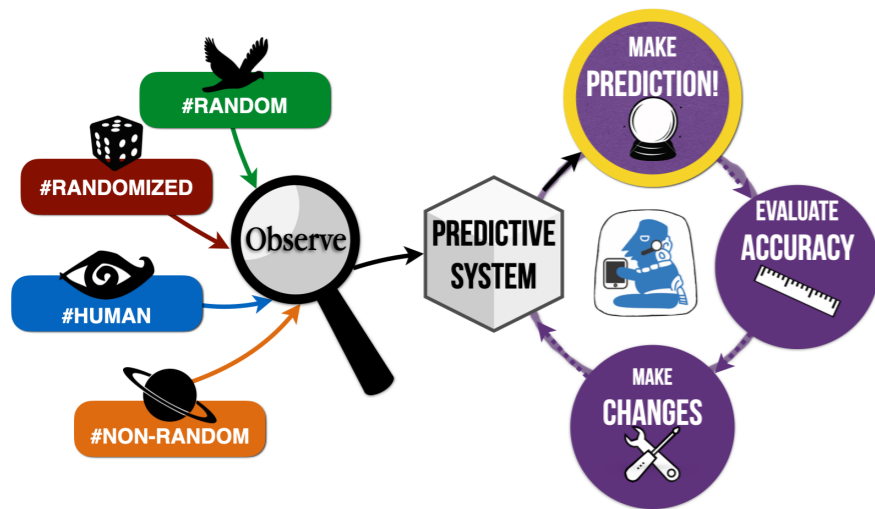**Break (5 minutes)**

Round 2 (Systems 17-32)

25 minutes

Break (5 minutes)

Round 3 (Systems 33-48)

25 minutes

Framework for Predictive Systems

#RANDOM

#HUMAN

#RANDOMIZED

#NON-RANDOM

When & where did this system come from?

Did it change over time?

Is this system still used? If so, by whom?

Do you need much training to use the system?

Would you use this system in your life today?

For important issues?
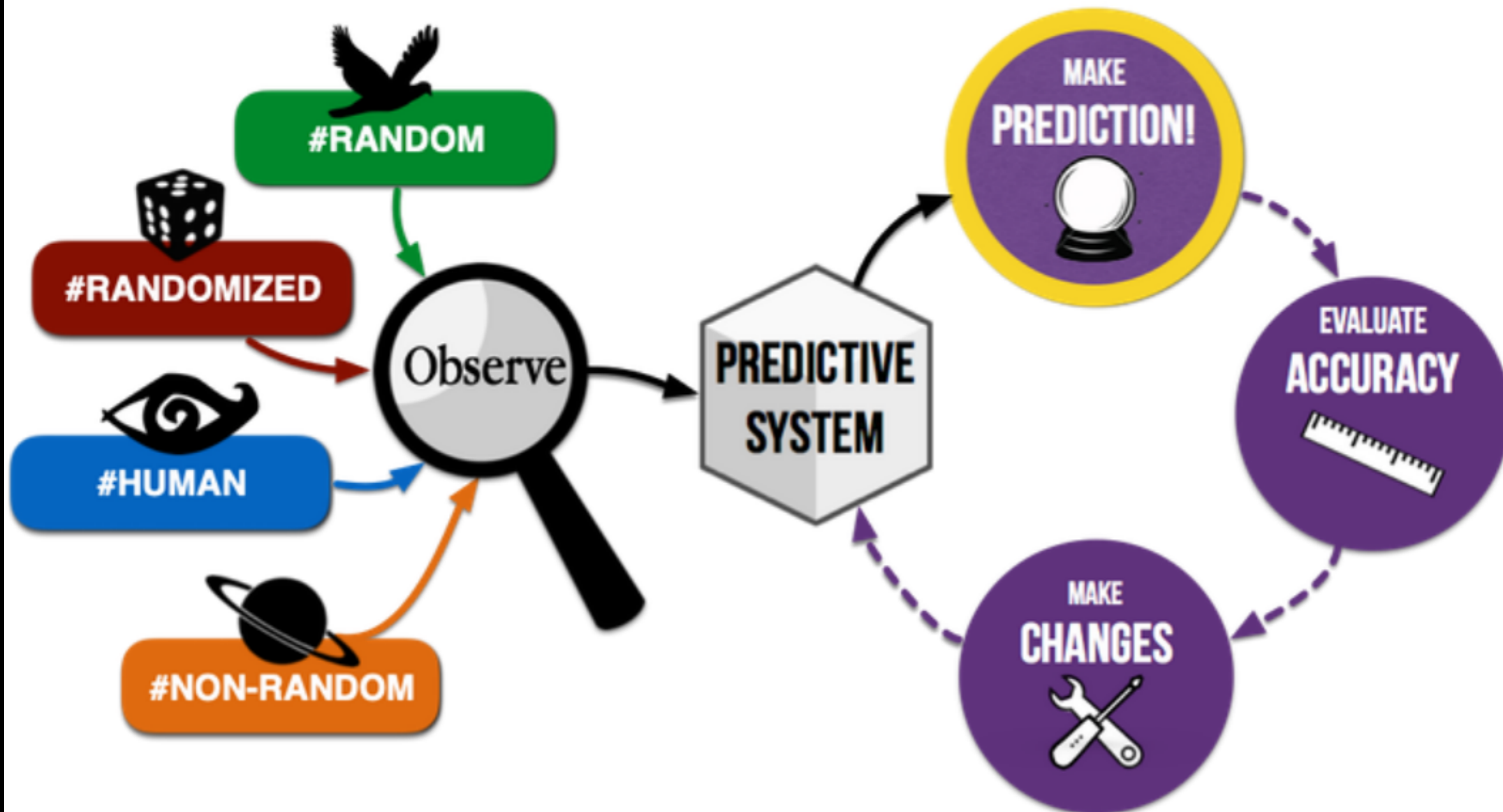
For fun?

How accurate?

Does that matter?

INSTRUCTIONS link
tinyurl.com/div-fair-23

Framework Distribution

A Framework for Predictive Systems

Post Divination Fair

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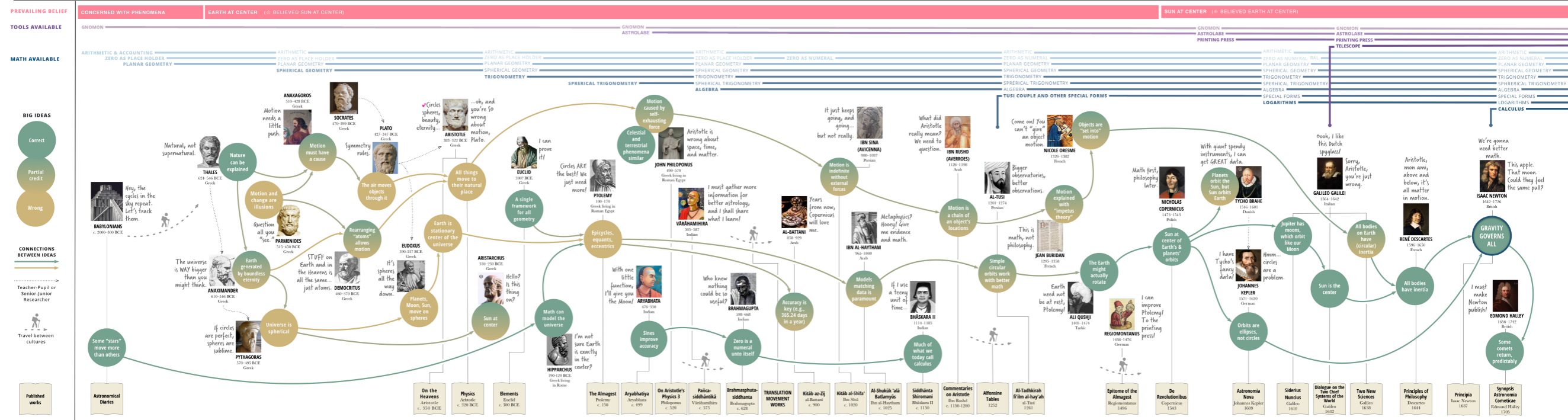
Coming soon to Canvas:
choosing your "character" for the Path to Newton Fair

canvas

The Path to Newton

+bonus entries so everyone can have their own "character"…
Aristotle on biology, Ibn Sina on medicine, Roger Bacon, Einstein

P.S. Next week, there will be archery, and the week after is the Path to Newton Fair.