# Strange Stuff Part 1

#### Robert I. Price

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

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Prime Number

A natural number greater than 1 that has no positive divisors other than 1 and itself.

For Further Reading

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#### Prime Number

A natural number greater than 1 that has no positive divisors other than 1 and itself.

#### For Further Reading

#### Mathematician

- ▶ 3 is an odd number, 3 is a prime number.
- ▶ 5 is an odd number, 5 is a prime number.
- ▶ 7 is an odd number, 7 is a prime number.
- By induction, all the odd integers are prime.

#### Engineer

- ► 3 is an odd number, 3 is a prime number.
- ► 5 is an odd number, 5 is a prime number.
- ▶ 7 is an odd number, 7 is a prime number.
- ▶ 9 is an odd number, 9 is not a prime number.
- 11 is an odd number, 11 is a prime number.
- 13 is an odd number, 13 is a prime number.
- 15 is an odd number, 15 is not a prime number.
- ▶ 17 is an odd number, 17 is a prime number.
- 19 is an odd number, 19 is a prime number.
- Except for the experimental errors, the data clearly indicates that all the odd integers are prime.

#### Engineer

- ► 3 is an odd number, 3 is a prime number.
- ▶ 5 is an odd number, 5 is a prime number.
- ▶ 7 is an odd number, 7 is a prime number.
- 9 is an odd number, 9 a prime number.
- 11 is an odd number, 11 is a prime number.
- 13 is an odd number, 13 is a prime number.
- 15 is an odd number, 15 a prime number.
- 17 is an odd number, 17 is a prime number.
- 19 is an odd number, 19 is a prime number.

#### the data clearly indicates that all the odd integers are prime.

Particle Physicist

- 3 is an odd number, 3 is prime.
- ▶ 5 is an odd number, 5 is prime.
- 7 is an odd number, 7 is prime.
- > 9 is an odd number, 9 is  $\cdots$  uh,  $\frac{9}{3}$  is prime.
- 11 is an odd number, 11 is prime.
- 13 is an odd number, 13 is prime.
- 15 is an odd number, 15 is ... uh,  $\frac{15}{3}$  is prime

<sup>1</sup>divide by a single prime when needed.

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Particle Physicist

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When Rescaling is Properly applied<sup>1</sup> :

• All the odd integers are prime.

<sup>1</sup>divide by a single prime when needed.

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### Knowledge versus Understanding

Acquire information versus Integrate information

# Knowledge versus Understanding

Acquire information versus Integrate information



# Knowledge versus Understanding

Acquire information versus Integrate information



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1 + 2

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#### 1 + 2 + 3

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#### 1 + 2 + 3 + 4

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#### 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5

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#### 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6

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#### $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + \dots =$

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# $1+2+3+4+5+6+\cdots = -\frac{1}{12}$ (1)

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$$1+2+3+4+5+6+\cdots = -\frac{1}{12}$$
 (1)

This result is not surprising ····

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This result is not surprising ···· Correction,

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$$1+2+3+4+5+6+\cdots = -\frac{1}{12}$$
 (1)

This result is not surprising · · ·

Correction, this result is not **inherently** surprising.

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Sum of an Infinite Number of Numbers

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#### Series Representations of Irrational Numbers

$$\pi = \frac{4}{1} - \frac{4}{3} + \frac{4}{5} - \frac{4}{7} + \frac{4}{9} - \frac{4}{11} + \dots = 4\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2n+1}$$
$$e = \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{24} + \frac{1}{120} + \frac{1}{720} + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!}$$

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 $\infty$  .

# Why isn't Equation(1) inherently surprising ?

 $9 + 90 + 900 + 9,000 + 90,000 + 900,000 + \dots = -1$  (2)

Is Equation(2) a true statement? Asked another way, what is the result if one is added to the left and right sides of the following equation.

$$\cdots 9999999999999999999999999999990 = x \tag{3}$$

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Is Equation(2) a true statement? Asked another way, what is the result if one is added to the left and right sides of the following equation.

$$\cdots 999999999999999999999999999990 = x \tag{3}$$

#### Euler-Riemann zeta function

$$\zeta(z) = 1^{-z} + 2^{-z} + 3^{-z} + 4^{-z} + \cdots$$
$$\zeta(-1) = -\frac{1}{12}$$
$$1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + \cdots = -\frac{1}{12}$$

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# A Demonstration of Equation(2)'s truth.

Start with:

 $9 + 90 + 900 + 9,000 + 90,000 + 900,000 + \cdots = x$  (5)

# A Demonstration of Equation(2)'s truth.

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 $9 + 90 + 900 + 9,000 + 90,000 + 900,000 + \cdots = x$  (5)

Multiply Equation(5) by ten:

 $90 + 900 + 9,000 + 90,000 + 900,000 + 9,000,000 + \dots = 10x$  (6)

# A Demonstration of Equation(2)'s truth.

Start with:

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Multiply Equation(5) by ten:

 $90 + 900 + 9,000 + 90,000 + 900,000 + 9,000,000 + \dots = 10x$  (6)

Observe that Equation(5) is 9 + Equation(6)

$$x = 9 + 10x \implies x = -1 \tag{7}$$

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$$\frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \cdots$$

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$$\frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \cdots$$

$$1 + (-1) + (-1)^2 + (-1)^3 + (-1)^4 + \cdots = S$$

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 $(-1) + (-1)^2 + (-1)^3 + (-1)^4 + \dots = (-1) \times S$ 

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Strange Stuff Part 1

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$$1+(-S)=S$$

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1

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$$1 = 2S \implies \frac{1}{2} = S$$

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$$1 - 1 + 1 - 1 + \cdots = \frac{1}{2}$$

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$$\frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \cdots$$

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$$\frac{1}{1-x} = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \cdots$$

$$1 + 5 + 5^2 + 5^3 + 5^4 + \dots = S$$

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$$1 + 5 + 5^2 + 5^3 + 5^4 + \dots = S$$

 $5 + 5^2 + 5^3 + 5^4 + \dots = 5 \times S$ 

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$$1 + 5 + 25 + 125 + 625 \cdots = -\frac{1}{4}$$

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Knowing {Insert Concept} versus Understanding {Insert Concept}<sup>2</sup>.

<sup>2</sup>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NM-zWTU7X-k and Flat Earth

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Knowing {Insert Concept} versus Understanding {Insert Concept}<sup>2</sup>.

We can never know the value of  $\pi$ .

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We can never know the value of  $\pi$ . No weasel words  $\cdots$  never.

We understand (without knowledge) the infinite digits of  $\pi$ .

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Compare the orbits of (4), (3), (3), and (9) to the orbit of (4).

 $^{2}\mbox{https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NM-zWTU7X-k}$  and Flat Earth

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### The Absurdity of Detecting Gravitational Waves

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iphcyNWFD10

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## A Nice Opportunity

You have \$400 you may bet on the outcome (Heads or Tails) of flipping quarters at my gambling establishment.

The Setup

- I. Each of four quarters are flipped ten times.
- II. You are shown a video revealing the first eight flips for each quarter.
- III. You predict and specify the final two results for each quarter.
- IV. You may bet any amount on each quarter.
- V. The payout is **double or nothing** for each coin.

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#### How do you allocate your \$400?

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### Never Give a Sucker an Even Break

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#### Put your \$400 in a safe place then walk away.

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# $21^{st}\ Century\ {}_{understanding\ requires}\ Quantum\ Mechanics$

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# 21st Century understanding requires Quantum Mechanics



#### Figure 2 : Red Flag Warning

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# 21st Century understanding requires Quantum Mechanics



Figure 2 : Red Flag Warning

#### Looking to the past for "truth" is futile. <u>Ancient Wisdom · · · Isn't</u> ?

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Perception

Over thousands of millennia our progenitors evolved what can be best described as a "classical" perception of their internal as well as their external environment. Envision: Blue Skies, Rainbows, and Unicorns.

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Reality:

Everything emerges from quantum mechanical processes. Envision: Down-to-Earth, Nitty-Gritty, and Unpleasant.

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We do not have direct access to causes. We have to be very clever if we are to truly understand Reality.

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Socrates-Plato-Aristotle

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Socrates-Plato-Aristotle : The Authority for "Philosophers".
### Timidity is a virtue ... until it is Not ?

About 100 years ago we were timid as we tried to understand the storm clouds on the horizon. Several examples  $\cdots$ 

wavicle : an entity having : {properties characteristic of (waves)  $\cup$  (particles)}.

We are supposed to be timid until we must be bold.

I myself have never met an interpretation of quantum mechanics I didn't dislike.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup>THE ITHACA INTERPRETATION OF QUANTUM MECHANICS by N. David Mermin, 17 September 1996

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### Timidity is a virtue ... until it is Not ?

About 100 years ago we were timid as we tried to understand the storm clouds on the horizon. Several examples  $\cdots$ 

wavicle : an entity having : A Big Mistake ! {properties characteristic of (waves)  $\cup$  (particles)}.

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# Too Many Think



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#### When is a Particle not a Particle ?

{Things that are particles.} versus {Not Things that are particles.}



Figure 3 :  $P \cap \neg P = \emptyset$  :  $P \cup \neg P = AII$  Things

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#### When is a Wave not a Wave?

{Things that are waves.} versus {Not Things that are waves.}



Figure 4 :  $W \cap \neg W = \emptyset$  :  $W \cup \neg W = AII$  Things

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# Is thingness a thing?

electron : an entity having :

{properties characteristic of (particles  $\cap \neg$  particles)}  $\cap$ {properties characteristic of (waves  $\cap \neg$  waves)}.

photon : an entity having :

{properties characteristic of (waves  $\cap \neg$  waves)}  $\cap$ {properties characteristic of (particles  $\cap \neg$  particles)}.

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photon : an entity having : {properties characteristic of (waves  $\cap \neg$  waves)}  $\cap$ {properties characteristic of (particles  $\cap \neg$  particles)}.

These "properties" are **Emergent Properties**.

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