

SPINOZA'S ETHICS

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SINE NATURA - SELF-CREATED SUBSTANCE
DEUS - GOD NOT DISTINCT FROM HIS CREATION

- 1) material objects in space
- 2) thoughts

action \rightarrow thought \rightarrow thought
body \rightarrow bodies

thoughts
desire
perception

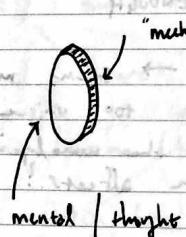
bodies
compound
stone

"there is a scale of complexity in the mental domain of desire and perception matching the scale of complexity among physical objects"

infinite objects?

brain = reflexivity = independence + freedom (art is reflexivity?)

self maintenance v. external influence



"mechanical" / extension

Human impressions:

scientific project
how it works
(physics, prediction, explanation)

humanities project
how the self experiences
(reflections)

survival & happiness \rightarrow understanding emotion is understanding ourselves and our world

"Vivida vis anime" - Lucretius + Epicurus \rightarrow Galileo on the mind

two types of laws:
1) universal - math, physics, psychology / thoughts
2) specific to each space + time \rightarrow politics, medicine

prophet Maimonides "Guide of the Perplexed" (1190 AD)
 \rightarrow Science AND Humanities

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individuals \rightarrow communities (individual value of multiple persons)
stronger individual

smallest level = "corpora simplicissima"

path of the mind is not within (not stoic)

"mind-bodies"

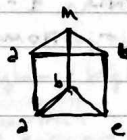
humans are not privileged

levels of complexity
levels of reflexivity

(Chinese boxes of self-mastery thoughts)

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mind \leftrightarrow body
affection \leftrightarrow affect
thought \leftrightarrow extension



Virtue = preservation = \varnothing

LOVE = joy w/ external cause

SARTRE

looking @ each political leader - "they do not know the absurd contingency of things"