

DON'T BE AN IDIOT





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"Though Athens brought forth numerous divine things, yet she never created anything nobler than those sublime Mysteries through which we became gentler and have advanced from a barbarous and rustic life to a more civilised one, so that we not only live more joyfully but also die with a better hope."

— *Cicero*

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Neurochemical and Neurophysiological Effects of Intravenous Administration of *N,N*-Dimethyltryptamine in Rats

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Affiliations

PMID: 387

Abstract

N,N-dimethyltryptamine (DMT) is a serotonergic psychedelic with the treatment of psychiatric disorders. However, the neurochemical and neurophysiological effects of DMT in rat, a preferred animal model for mechanistic studies, are unclear. We demonstrate that intravenous DMT caused a dose-dependent increase in serotonin and dopamine in medial prefrontal and somatosensory cortices, and simultaneously increased gamma functional connectivity. Similar effects have been shown for other serotonergic and atypical psychedelics, suggesting a shared mechanism of drug action. Additionally, we report DMT during normal wakefulness in two spatially and functionally distinct cortical sites - prefrontal, somatosensory - at levels comparable to those of serotonin and dopamine, supporting a physiological role for endogenous DMT.

increased across the gamma bands. In addition, we provide the first measurements of endogenous DMT in these cortical sites at levels comparable to serotonin and dopamine, which together with a previous study in occipital cortex, suggests a physiological role for endogenous DMT. This study represents one of the most comprehensive characterizations of psychedelic drug action in rats and the first to be conducted with DMT.

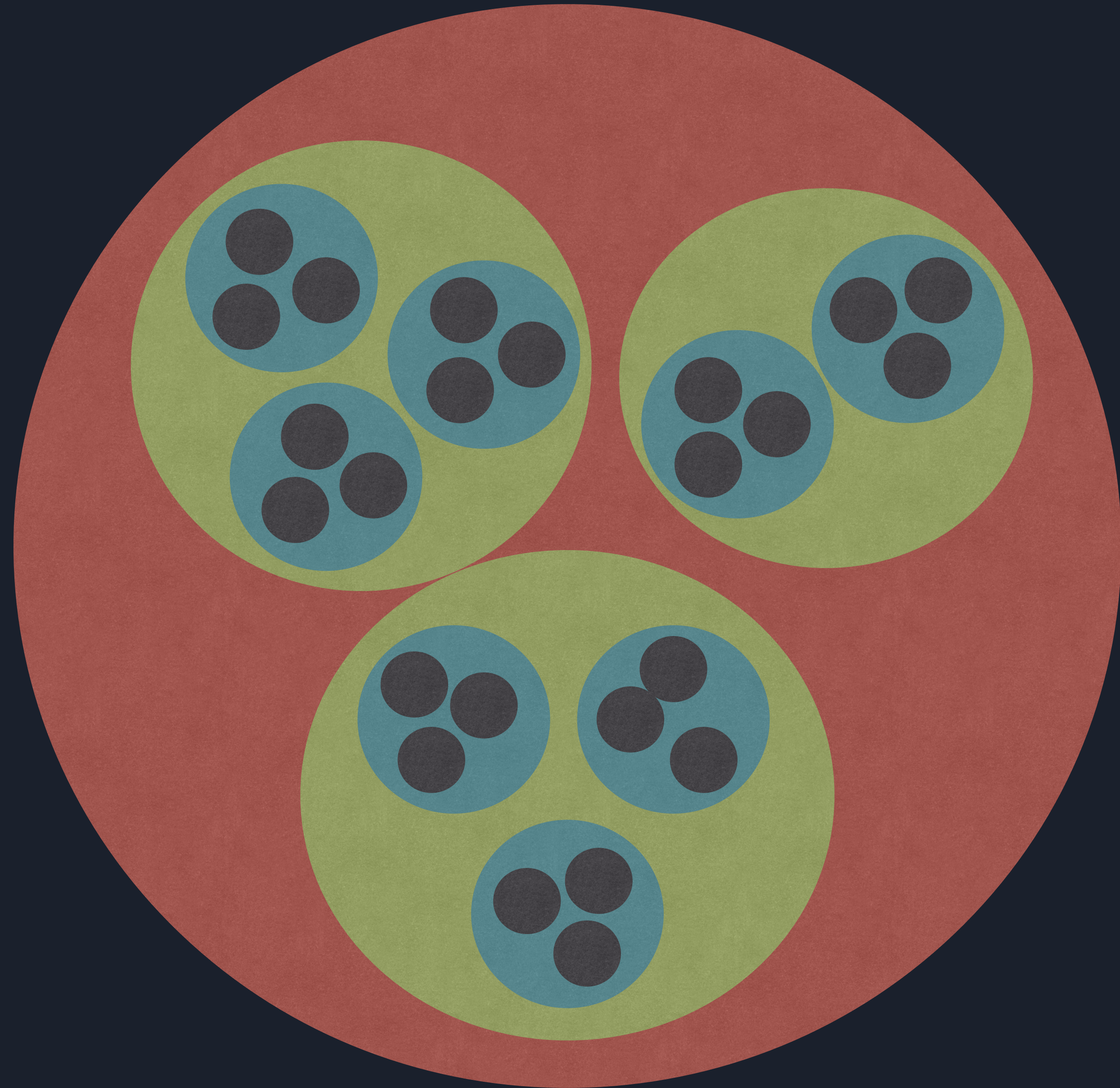
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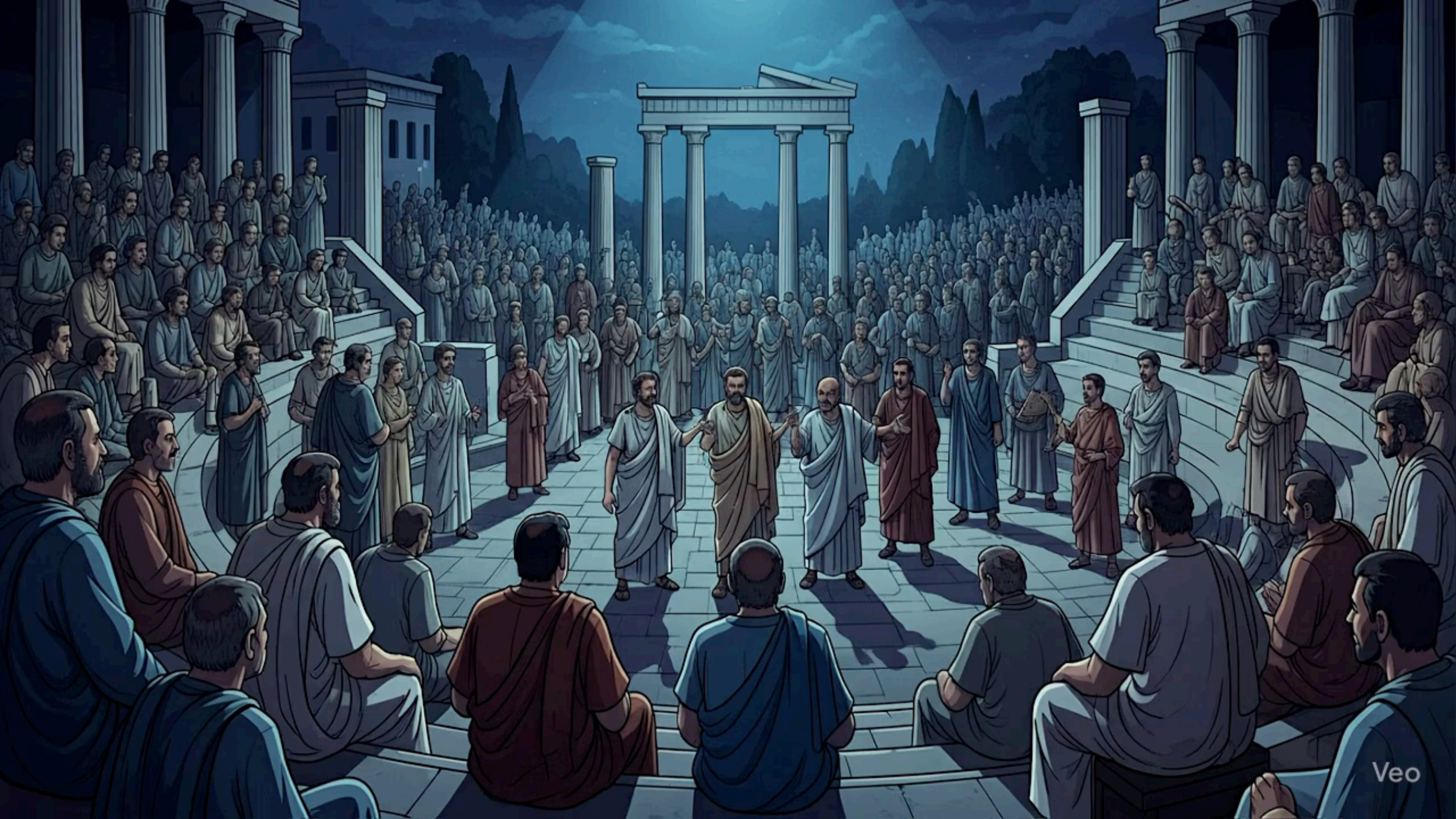
Theories of consciousness are like
toothbrushes - everyone has one and no
one wants to use anyone else's

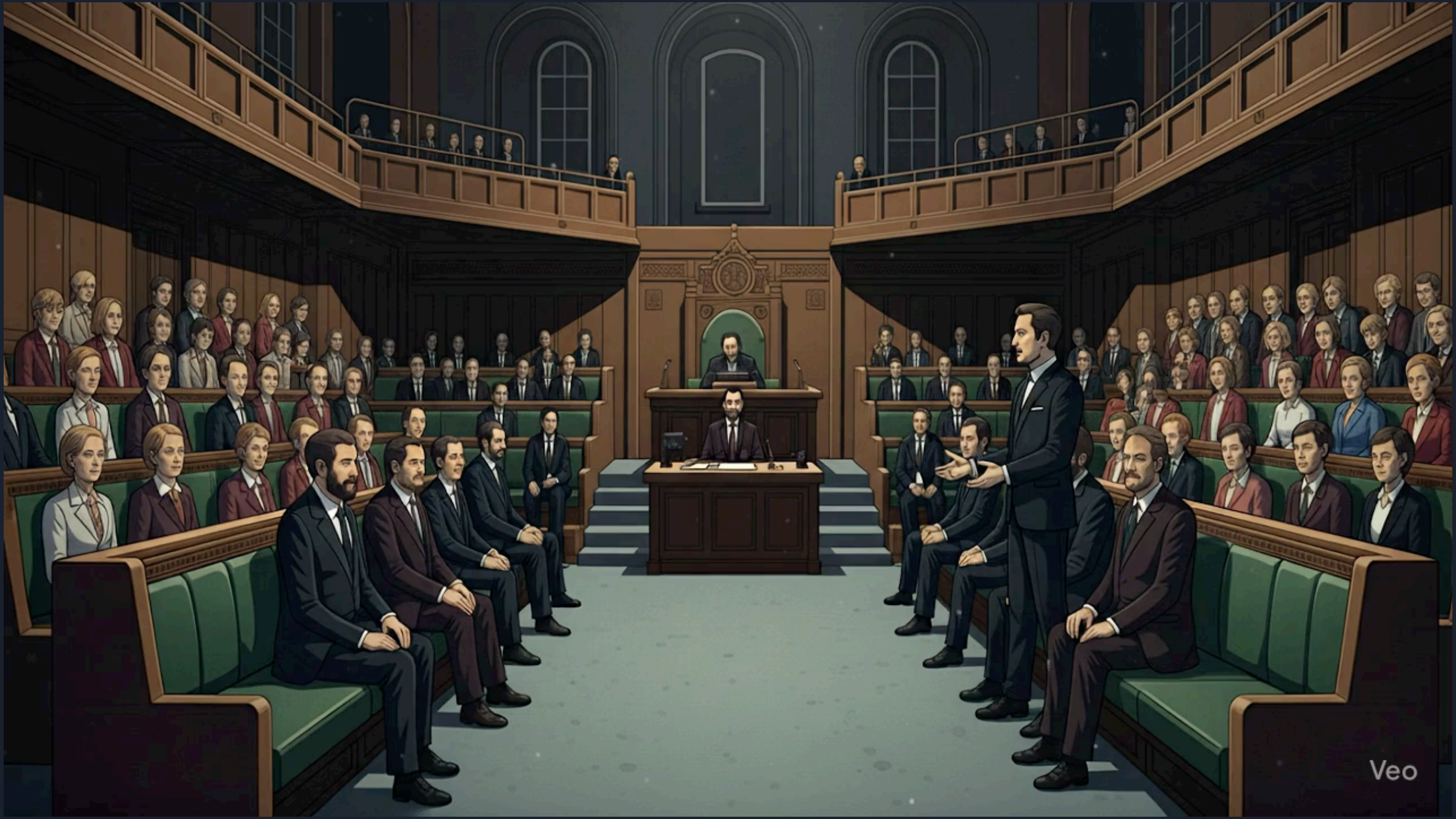
— *Patricia Churchland*

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**Referendum on the United Kingdom's
membership of the European Union**



Vote only once by putting a cross ☒ in the box next to
your choice

Should the United Kingdom remain a member of the
European Union or leave the European Union?

Remain a member of the European Union

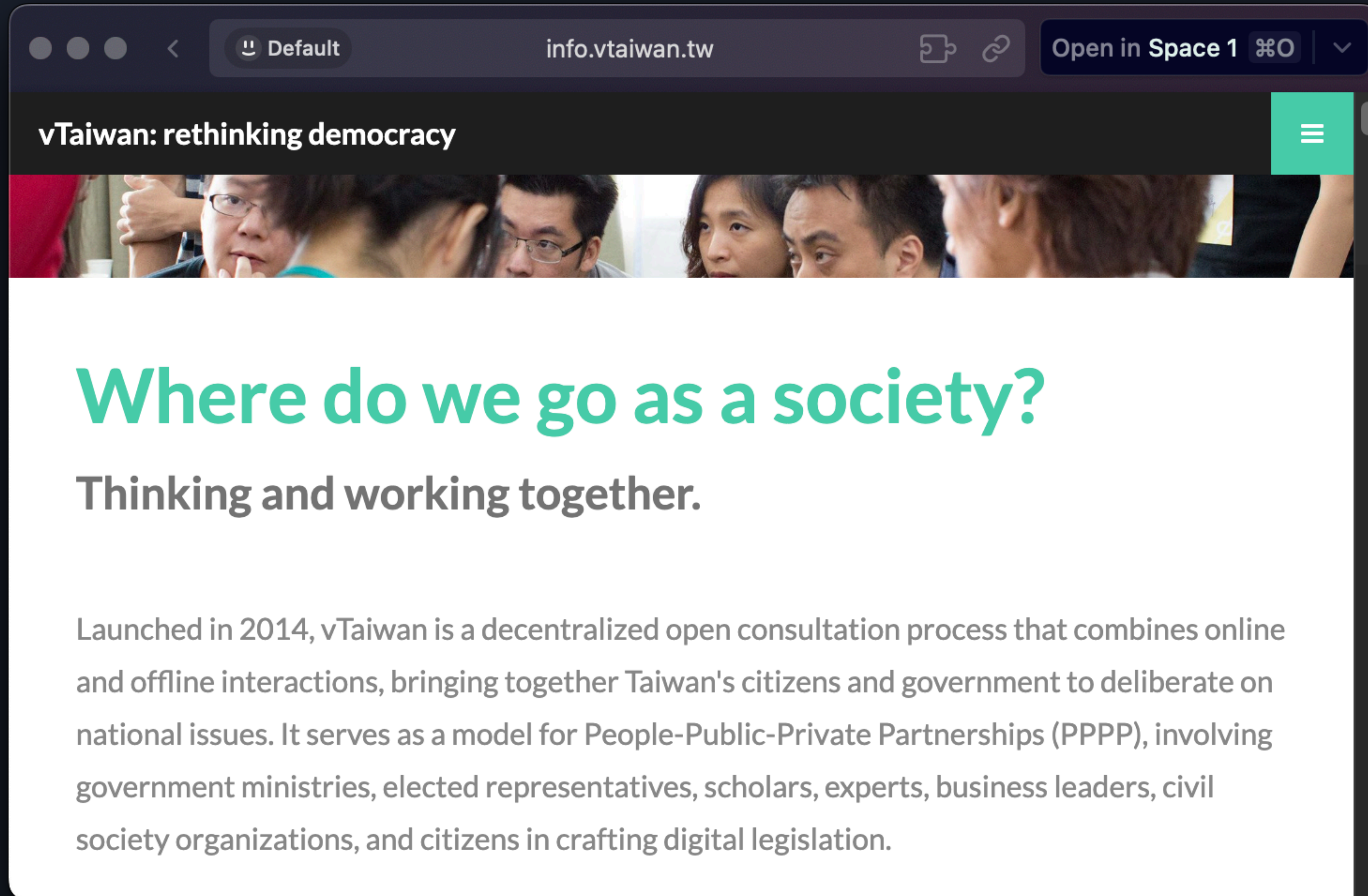
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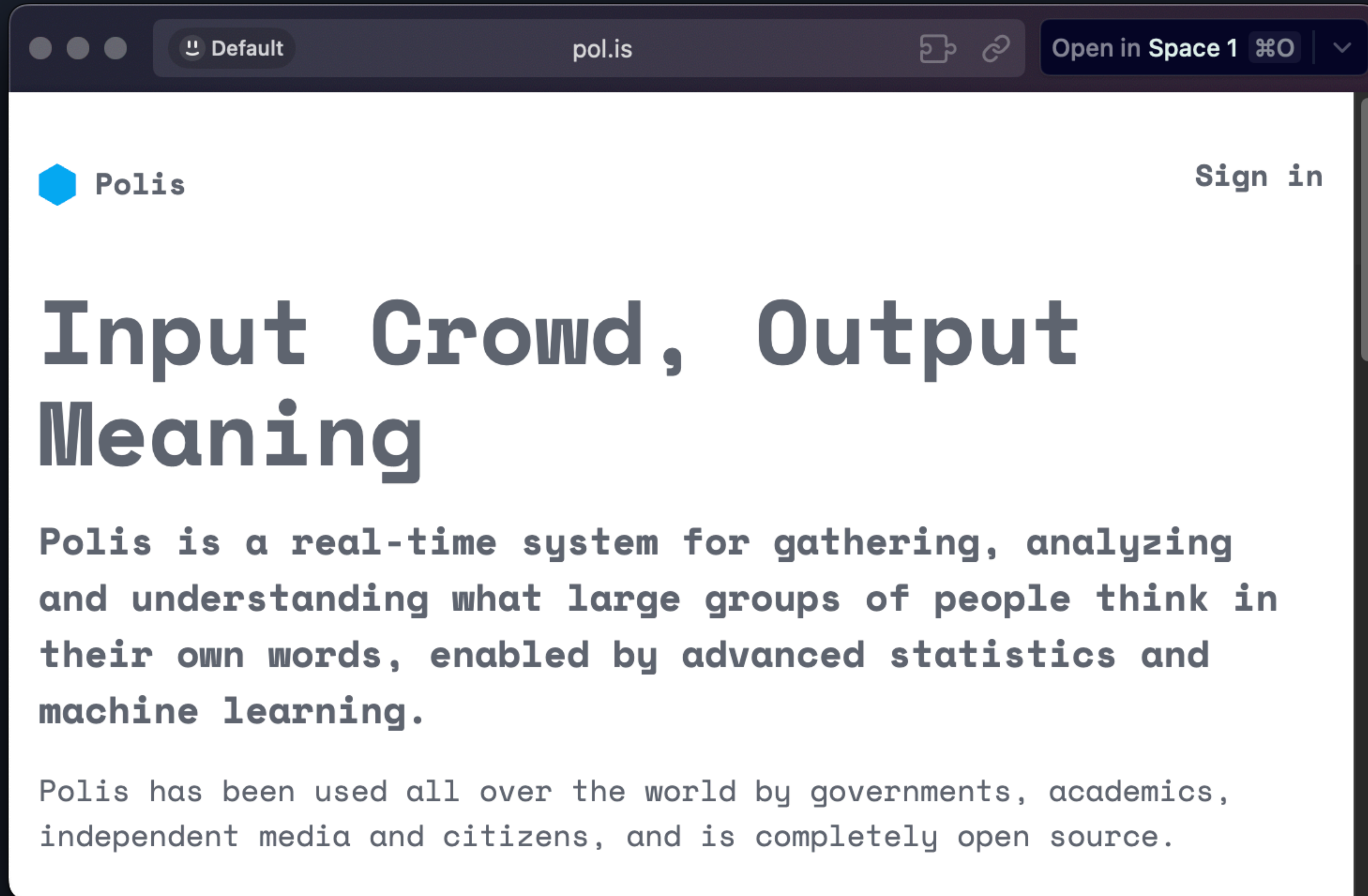
Leave the European Union

☐



DIGITAL DEMOCRACY





✓ Suggestions

1. I think the government should establish a strict regime on transportation groups with vested interests.
2. On the issue of paying tax, the government should put forward a clear policy to adequately convince TNCs.
3. I think UberX should follow the regulations that requires their vehicles to have a certificate, license and code displayed at a visible place in the vehicle.

✓ Suggestions

4. I think transportation is similar to food and medicine in that it should be subject to more **stringent** definitions and checks than for other general service platforms.
5. I think private passenger vehicles should be **registered**. They should be limited to two shifts per day in order to achieve the carpooling effect. An additional passenger protection **insurance** cover should also be purchased.
6. I think it should be permissible for a for-hire driver to join **multiple** fleets and platforms.

Generative Social Choice

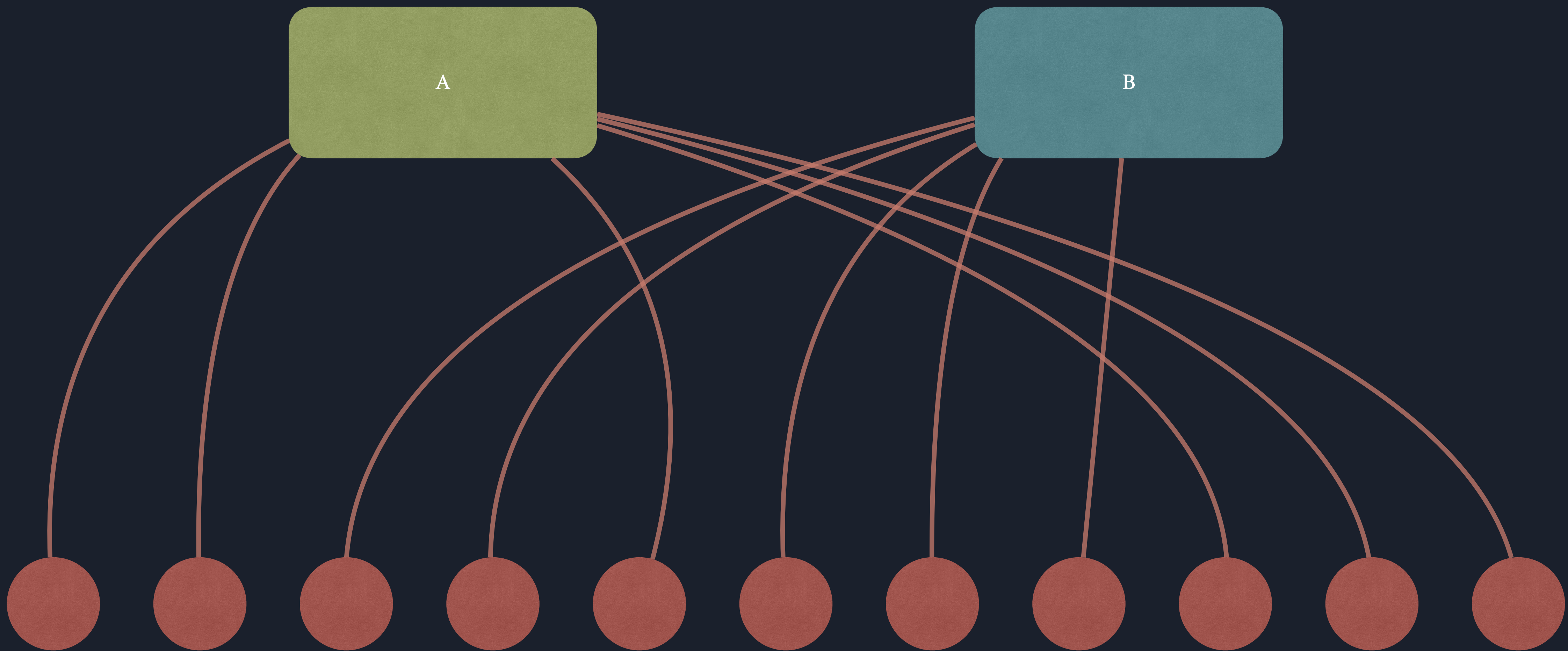
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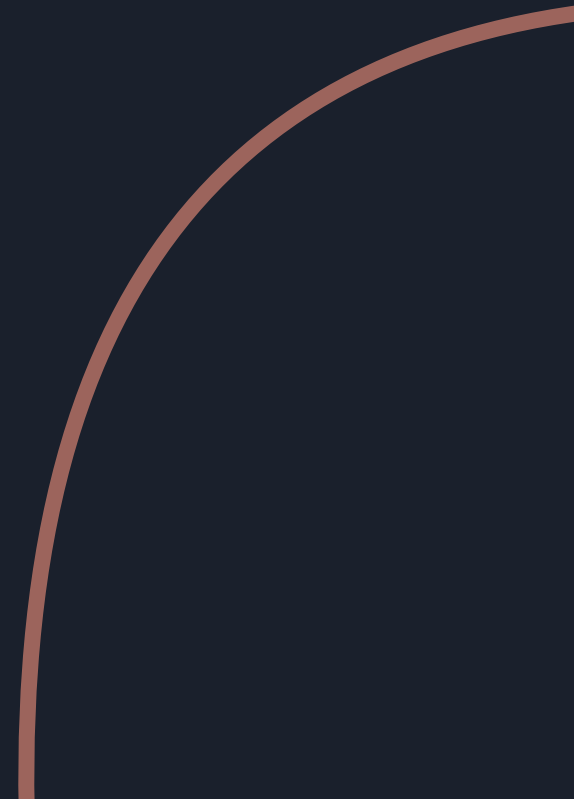
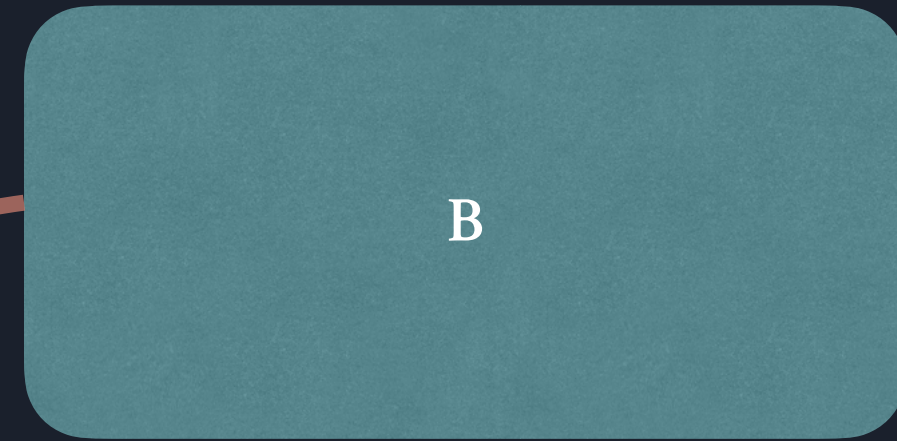
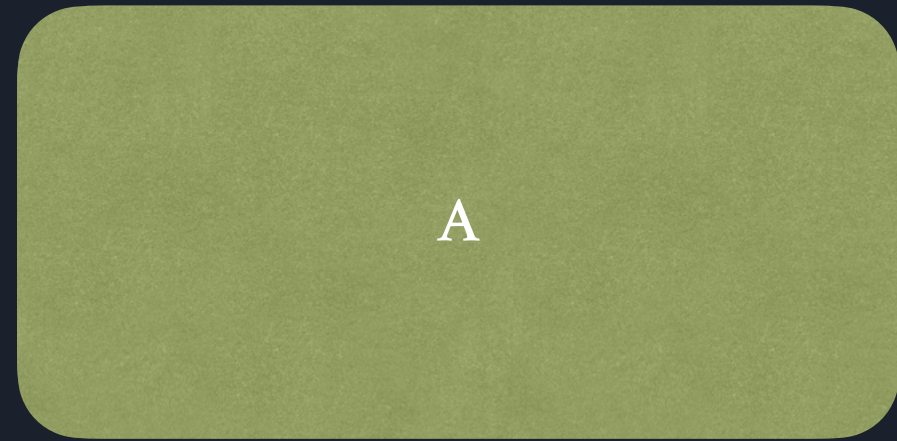
¹Harvard University ²Cornell University

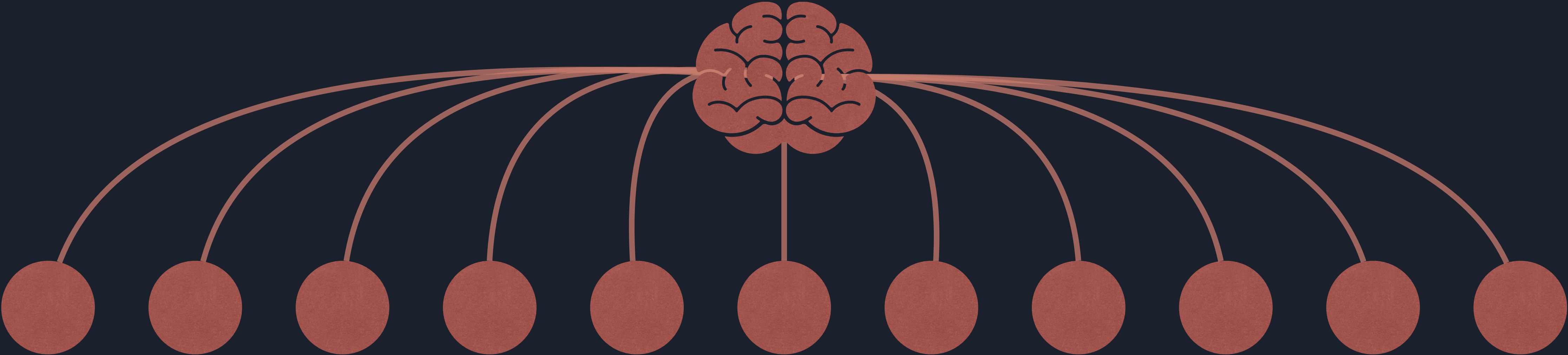
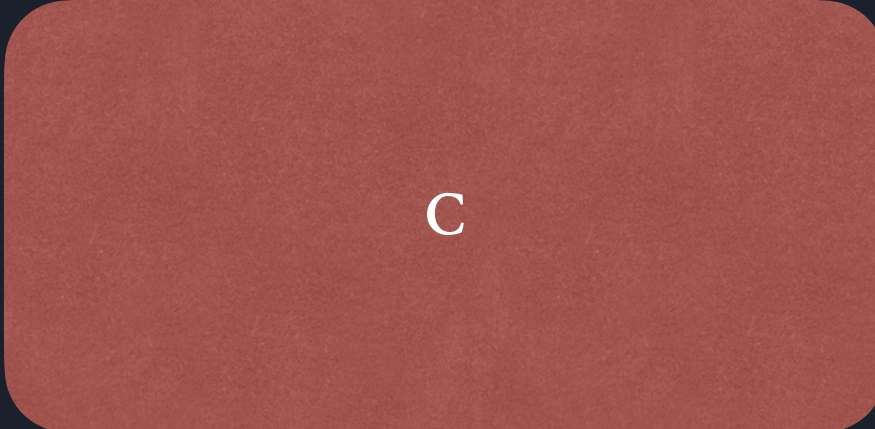
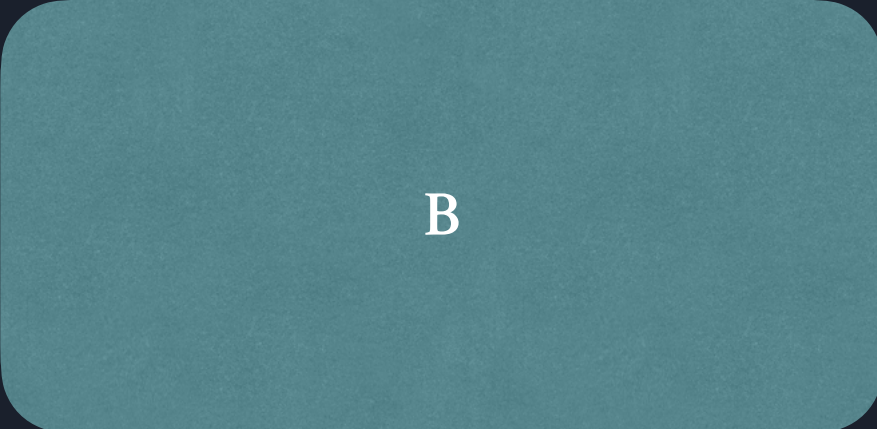
Abstract

The mathematical study of voting, *social choice theory*, has traditionally only been applicable to choices among a few predetermined alternatives, but not to open-ended decisions such as collectively selecting a textual statement. We introduce *generative social choice*, a design methodology for open-ended democratic processes that combines the rigor of social choice theory with the capability of large language models to generate text and extrapolate preferences. Our framework divides the design of AI-augmented democratic processes into two components: first, proving that the process satisfies representation guarantees when given access to oracle queries; second, empirically validating that these queries can be approximately implemented using a large language model. We apply this framework to the problem of summarizing free-form opinions into a proportionally representative slate of opinion statements; specifically, we develop a democratic process with representation guarantees and use this process to portray the opinions of participants in a survey about abortion policy. In a trial with 100 representative US residents, we find that 84 out of 100 participants feel “excellently” or “exceptionally” represented by the slate of five statements we extracted.

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2309.01291>







Questionnaire: What's your main concern about the UK's relationship with the EU?

"Brussels makes rules we didn't vote for"

"Immigration is changing my town too fast"

"The single market helps my business survive"

"I love European collaboration but hate Brussels bureaucracy"

"Nobody asked us before, finally we get a say on something"

"Free movement is brilliant for young people"

"The elites want to remain; that tells me we should leave"

Story: Tell me the story of your relationship with the EU?

"I'm a lorry driver, used to work in manufacturing before the factory closed in 2009. The EU means cheap labor coming in, means Polish lads doing my routes for less money. I'm not racist, they're good workers, but nobody asked if Bradford could handle it. The high street's half empty, the pubs are gone, but you see plenty of new cars in the nice parts of London. My MP came round once before the election, never seen him since. Brussels feels distant, but Westminster feels worse - at least Brussels didn't bail out the banks with my taxes while I took a pay cut. This referendum, it's the first time anyone's asked me anything in years. That probably tells you all you need to know."

Conversation: What matters most to you about the UK's relationship with Europe?

User: I think we should control our own borders, make our own laws.

AI: What would that change for you personally?

User: Well, my town's changed a lot. Lot of Eastern Europeans moved in, shops are different, hear different languages.

AI: How does that affect your daily life?

User: It's... it's not them really. They work hard. It's just it happened so fast and nobody asked. Makes you feel like you don't matter.

AI: Who should have asked?

User: The government I suppose. But they don't care what we think. They bailed out the bankers, gave them bonuses while we had austerity. My daughter's a teacher, her pay's been frozen for years. They listen to the City, not to us.

AI: So if you could change one thing, what would it be?

User: Make them listen. Make them accountable. This vote, leaving the EU, maybe that'll shake things up. Maybe then they'll pay attention.

Preference 1

We remain in the European Union but renegotiate our relationship to address the concerns that surfaced. This means regaining some control over immigration policy - not ending free movement, but giving local councils the ability to manage integration when demographic change happens faster than infrastructure can support

Preference 2

We leave the European Union formally but negotiate a close partnership modeled on Norway's relationship with the EEA. This gives us the sovereignty of being outside the EU while maintaining the economic benefits of single market access for trade and business.

Preference 3

A public inquiry into the 2008 financial crisis with powers to claw back executive bonuses paid before the crash, comprehensive banking sector reforms separating retail from investment banking, and a £50 billion regional investment fund paid for by a financial transactions tax on the City of London

PROBLEMS

AI Bias

AI Manipulation

Propaganda, Populism, Demagoguery

It's not perfect, but it's a lot better than what we have
now



DON'T BE AN IDIOT

SOCIALS - @JAWACHE (ON LI, X, TT, GH)

WEB - ASIM.DEV

BLOG - GOTEOC.SUBSTACK.COM

PODCAST - HOLPOD.COM

WORK - GREENSOFTWARE.FOUNDATION