

Leibniz



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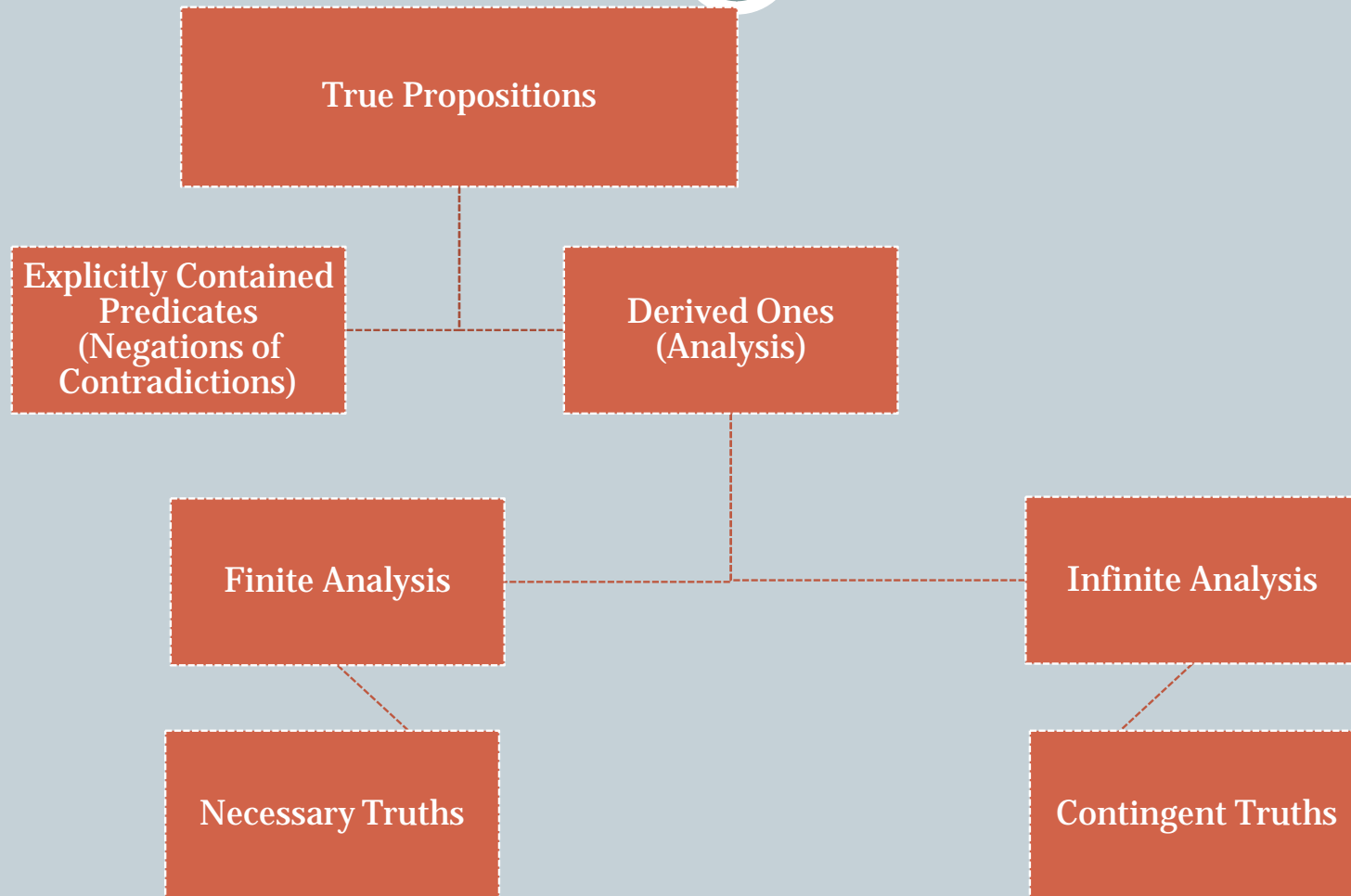
Recap



- ☐ Monads
 - ✦ The simple substances that make up the things around us
 - ✦ Capacity for thought
- *Discourse on Metaphysics* (1686) #8
 - ✦ “To distinguish the actions of God from those of creatures we explain the notion of an individual substance” (D8, AW, 228a)

“Theory of Truth”

predicates are contained in the subject





- **Alexander the Great**

- ✦ Must correspond to some complete concept
- ✦ Individual substances contain ALL aspects of their being, both past, present and future
- ✦ God is the only one who can see this individual notion
- ✦ “When we consider carefully the connection of things, we can say that from all time in Alexander’s soul there are vestiges of everything that has happened to him and marks of everything that will happen to him and even traces of everything that happens in the universe, even though God alone could recognize them all” (D8, AW 228b).

- **Complete-World View of Substance**

Implications of the Complete-World View



- “A substance can begin only by creation and end only by annihilation...
- A substance is not divisible into two...
- One substance cannot be constructed from two...
- The number of substances does not naturally increase and decrease, though they are often transformed” (D9, AW 229a).

Works Cited



- Ariew, Roger and Eric Watkins. *Modern Philosophy: An Anthology of Primary Sources*, 2nd edition. Indianapolis: Hackett Publishing Company, 2009. Print.
- Marcus, Russell. “History of Modern Western Philosophy”. Hamilton College. *Class 9 – February 15 and Class 10 – February 17. Leibniz, Monadology and Discourse on Metaphysics*. Web. 16 Feb 2011.