

# Responsibility for Radical Change in Emission of Greenhouse Gasses

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# 2 TYPES OF CHANGE

## Modification

- Does not address fundamental issues
- Allows to continue thinking within the same frameworks
- Change in discourse
- Paradigm shift
- “Re-arranging the deck chairs on the Titanic”
- Trans-form(ation)

## Radical Change

- Break / rupture “with the very thing that regulates its appearance” (Badiou) <sup>1</sup>
- “Today, after two decades of bluff and lies, the remaining 2° budget demands *revolutionary change to the political and economic hegemony*” (Anderson) <sup>2</sup>

Discourse

Discourse

Discourse

Discourse

Discourse

Paradigm

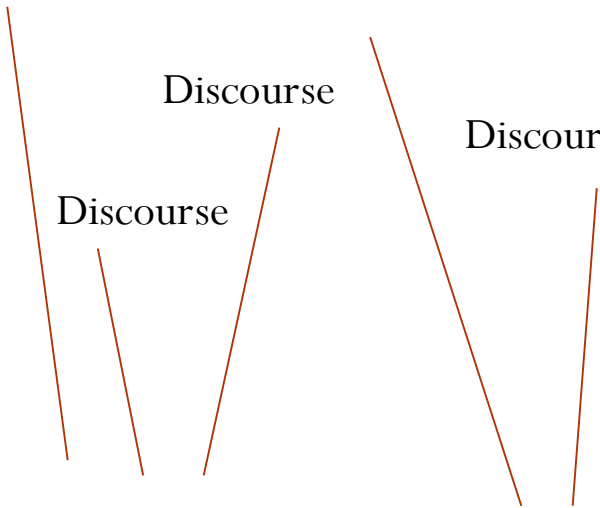
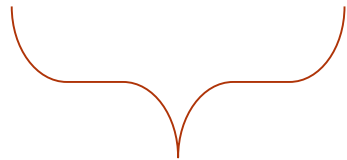
Paradigm

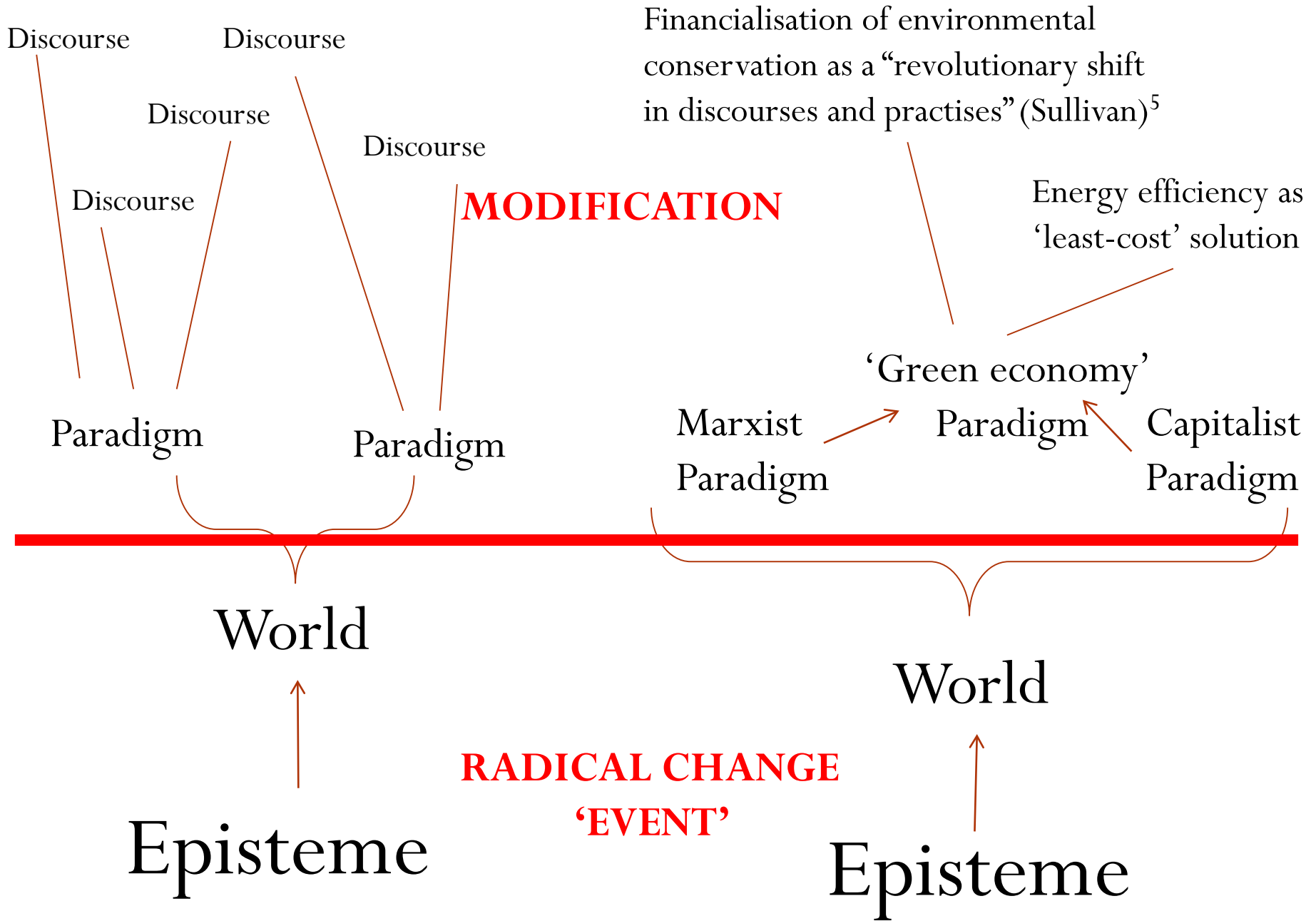
World

Episteme

“A world is the set of its modifications.”  
(Alain Badiou)<sup>3</sup>

Epistemological space, “certain code of knowledge”,  
with “rules of formation” (Michel Foucault)<sup>4</sup>





# Radical Change

- No examples
- Problem of **framing**:
  - Framing the problem = framing the outcome
  - “a new type of thinking is essential if mankind is to survive and move to higher levels.” (Einstein)<sup>6</sup>
  - “An event is thus unique, and unpredictable, that is to say, without horizon.” (Derrida)<sup>7</sup>

No pre-set goals

Need for the impossible

# Responsibility towards Radical Change

- Responsible to achieve radical change:
  - Not external (fear or shame based), but internal
  - Not towards the outcome, but towards the process
  - Not as representative, but as human being

# Decision-making models

- Input:
  - present understandings
  - no pre-set outcome
- Output:
  - Possible radical change
- Examples: deliberative decision-making, bahá'í consultation
  
- Prerequisites of cooperative decision-making model
  - Capable participants (respect towards opinions of others)
  - Collective search for shared understanding of reality
  - No pre-defined goals, no 'winning' or 'losing' sides

# Conclusion

Assumption: radical change is necessary. (No modifications)

Radical epistemic change requires:

- Responsibility towards change (not towards outcome)
- Faithful subject
  - “The product of this fidelity is the new present which welcomes, point by point, the new truth.” (Badiou)<sup>8</sup>



# References

1. Alain Badiou, *Logics of Worlds*, Continuum, 2009, p.365.
2. Kevin Anderson, 2013, as quoted by Naomi Klein, “How Science is Telling Us All to Revolt”, *New Statesman*, 29th October 2013, <http://www.newstatesman.com/2013/10/science-says-revolt>
3. Alain Badiou, *Logics of Worlds*, Continuum, 2009, p.359
4. Michel Foucault, *The Order of Things*, London: Routledge Classics, 2004, p.x.
5. Sian Sullivan, “Banking Nature? The Spectacular Financialisation of Environmental Conservation”, *Antipode* Vol. 45 No. 1, 2013, pp. 198-217.
6. Albert Einstein, "Atomic Education Urged by Einstein", *New York Times* (25 May 1946)
7. Jacques Derrida, with Elisabeth Roudinesco, *De quoi demain . . .* (Paris: Fayard / Galilée, 2001), p.91.
8. Alain Badiou, *Logics of Worlds*, Continuum, 2009, p.53.