What is Metaphysics and Why Does it Matter?

As a first approximation metaphysics is a discipline which deals with absolutely everything which exists. There are many names for his extraordinary totality: the world as a whole, reality, cosmos, nature, the universe. Yet, how could we possibly ever know enough in order to figure out what the fundamental structure of such an extraordinary object or domain of objects is? In my presentation, I will introduce some contemporary philosophical arguments in central fields of theoretical philosophy such as metaphysics, metametaphysics and epistemology. In particular, my aim is to raise questions concerning the limits of both science and metaphysics. In this context, I will also deal with the recently much-discussed question whether the universe is or could be a simulation and how anyone could ever come to believe that it might be.

Lecture Hall 1
Physikalisches Institut · Nussallee 12 · 53115 Bonn
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