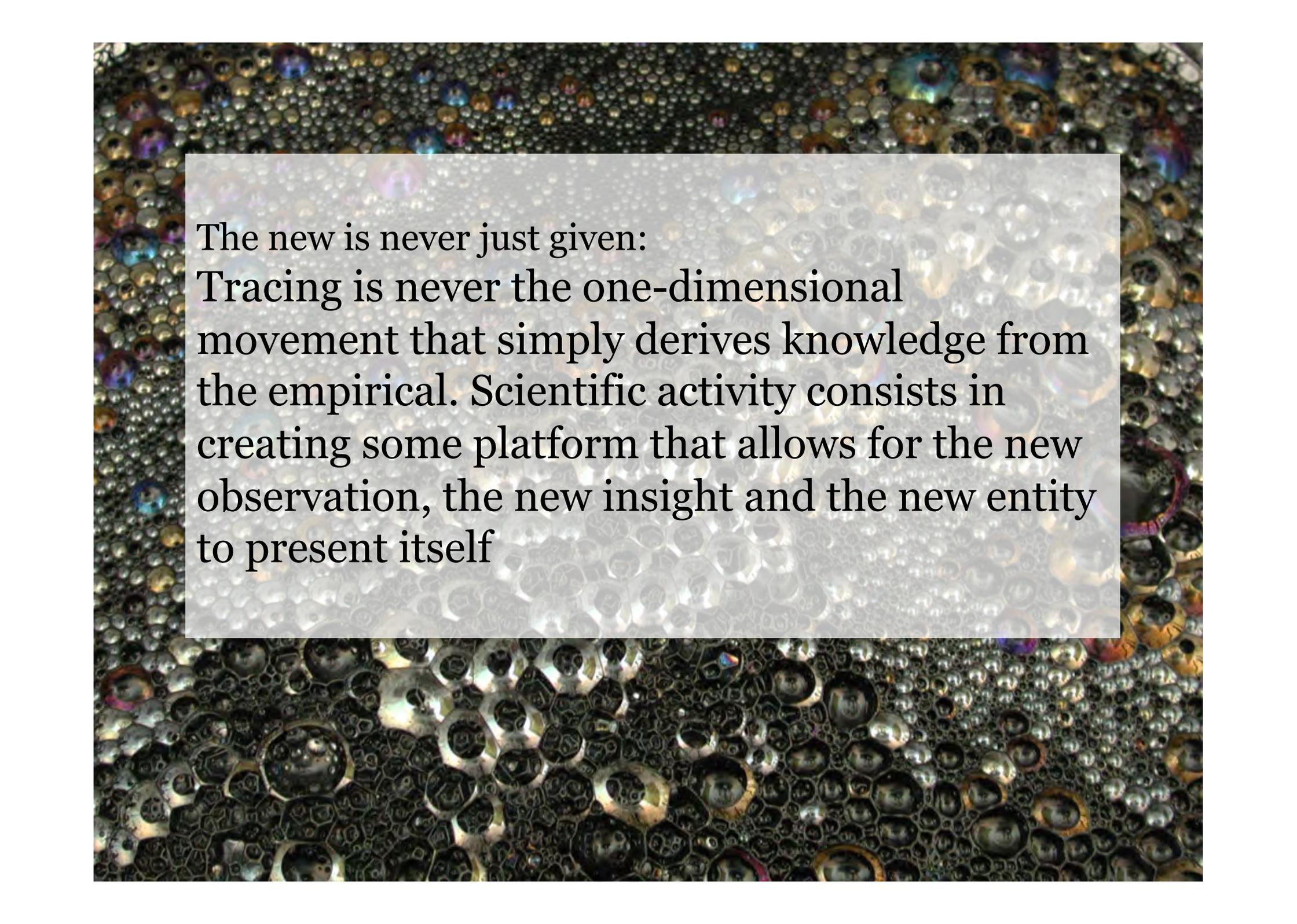


The “possible” in research – accounted for through an experimental practise

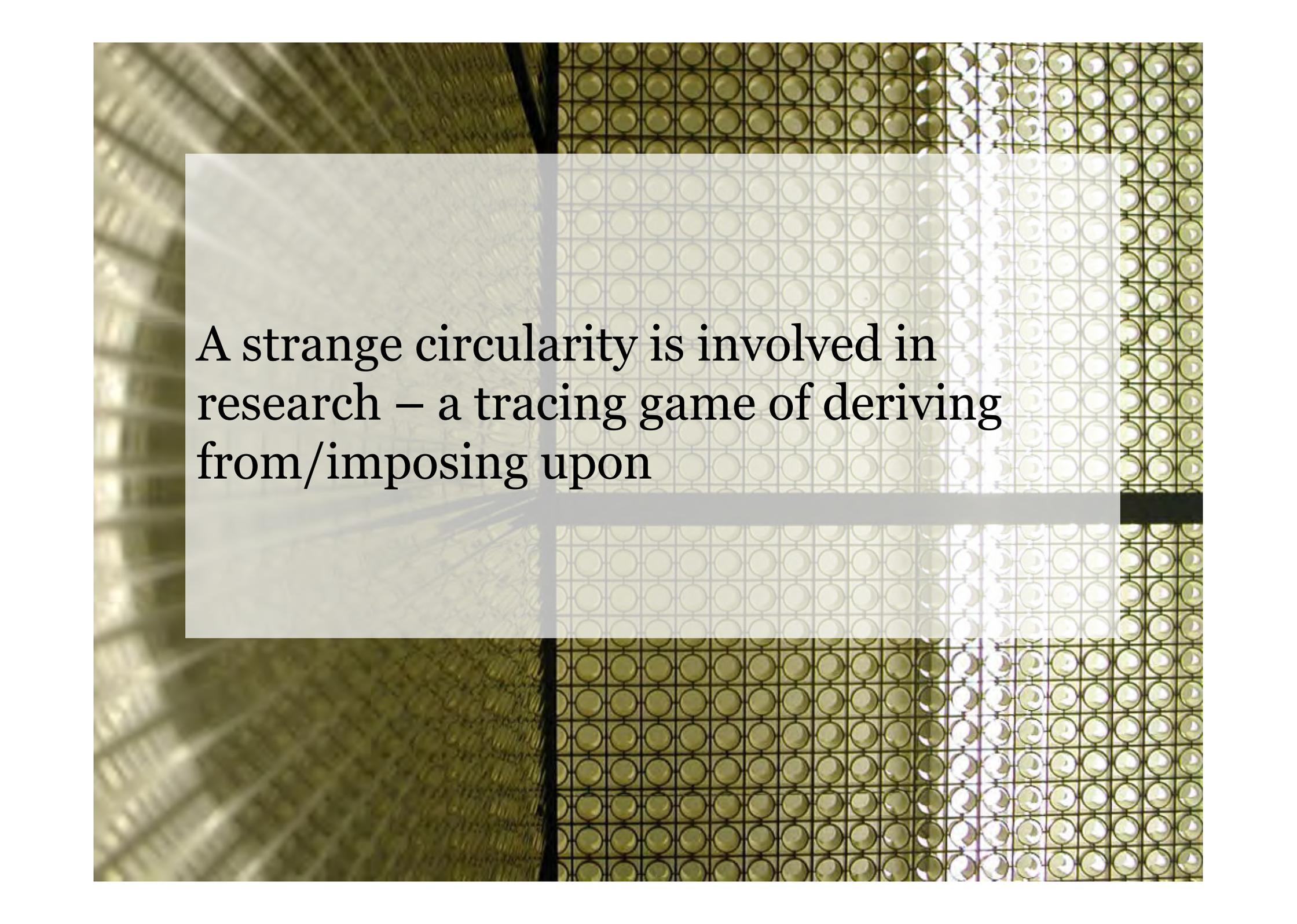


Hans-Jörg Rheinberger  
An epistemology of contemporary  
experimentation

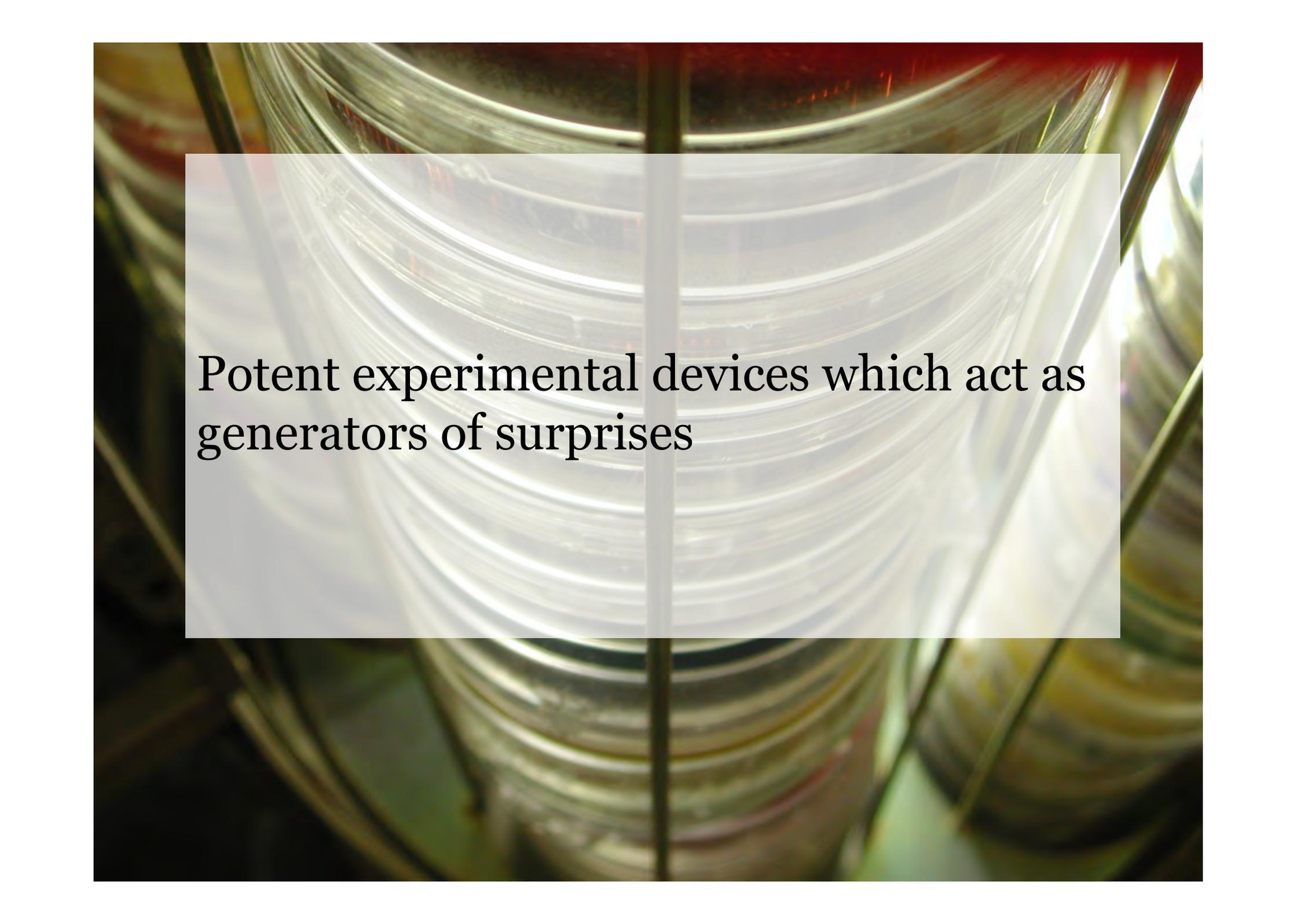




The new is never just given:  
Tracing is never the one-dimensional  
movement that simply derives knowledge from  
the empirical. Scientific activity consists in  
creating some platform that allows for the new  
observation, the new insight and the new entity  
to present itself



A strange circularity is involved in  
research – a tracing game of deriving  
from/imposing upon



Potent experimental devices which act as  
generators of surprises

Experimental systems

A research platform stable enough to produce a network of experiments – a series of “here-nows”



## The Co-design Lab A shared tool-box across different projects



Methods that are part of an assemble, but brought to life in relation to a specific concern or a specific problem



## The Co-design Lab as a design-anthropological experimental practise



But what about the possible?

The limitation that lies in any epistemology or any experimental system becomes also the prerequisite for the emergence of events that cannot be anticipated

*As far as scientific research is concerned, we have to conceive of the "possible" in the double sense of the word: It is something that is within the realm of an experimental system, and it is something that is beyond proper control. The possible has a strange and fragile presence. On the one hand it does not exist in any strong sense of the word, on the other hand, "one must already have decided- il faut déjà avoir décidé – what is possible".*

*( Rheinberger 1997 p.76)*

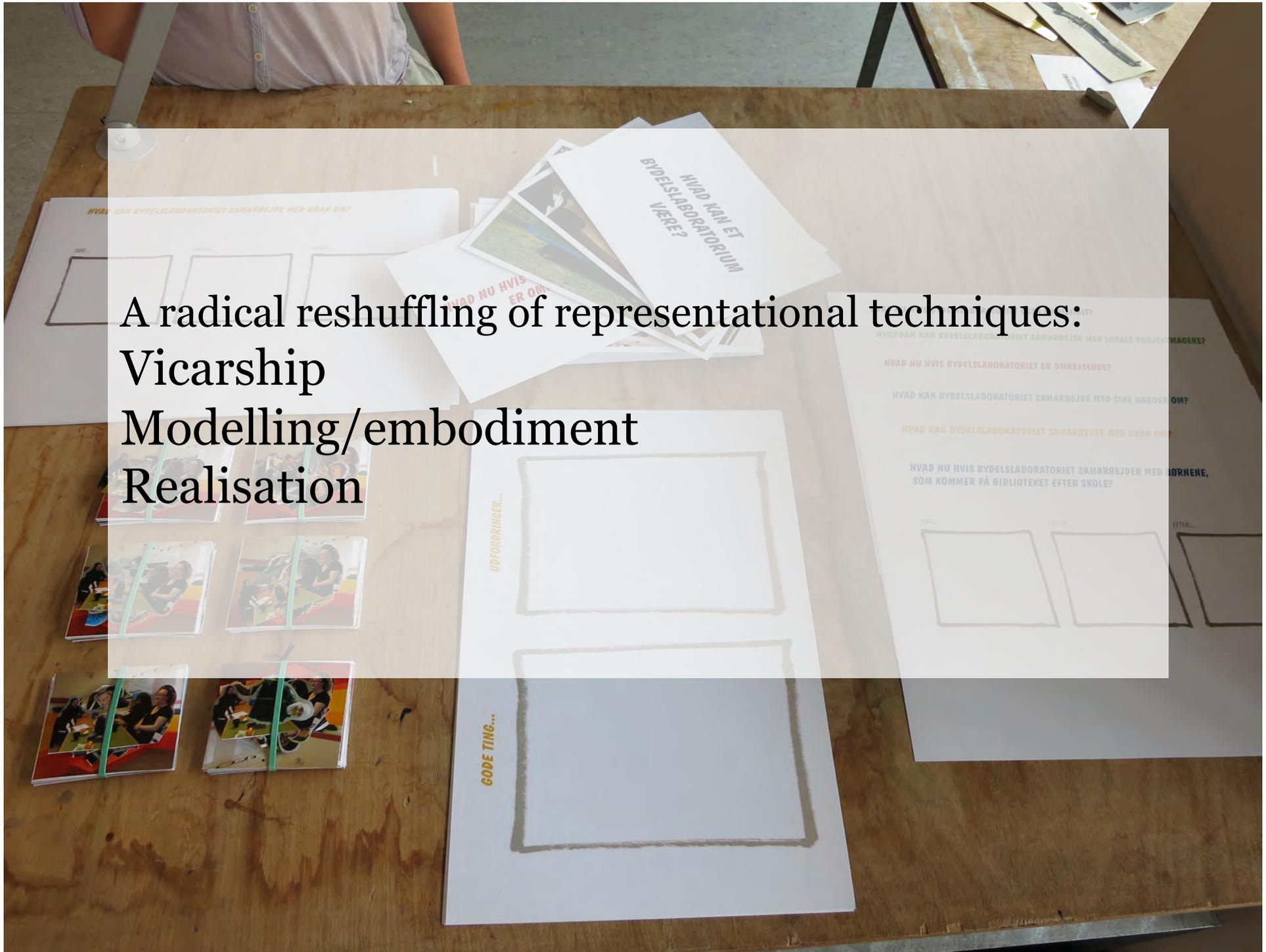
The experimental “here-now” is a tightly scripted space, there is always some forging going on







A radical reshuffling of representational techniques:  
Vicarship  
Modelling/embodiment  
Realisation



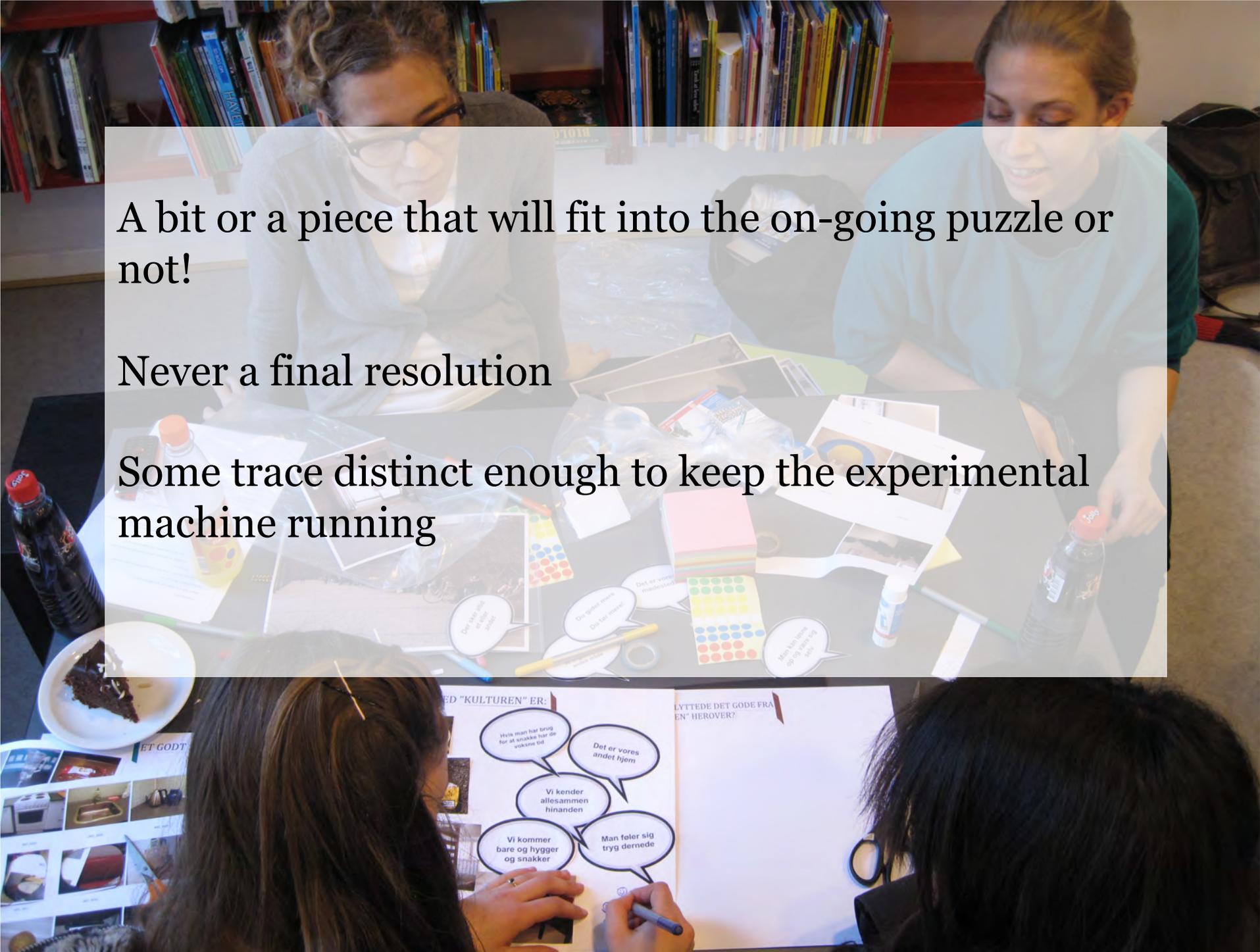
No lab can do without representation *of* something





No clear path from modelling to realisation





A bit or a piece that will fit into the on-going puzzle or not!

Never a final resolution

Some trace distinct enough to keep the experimental machine running

ED "KULTUREN" ER:

LYTTEDE DET GODE FRA EN' HEROVER?

- Itvis man har brug for at snakke har de voksne tid
- Det er vores andet hjem
- Vi kender allesammen hinanden
- Man føler sig tryk dernede
- Vi kommer bare og hygger og snakker

The “possible” for an experimenter is local, specific and situated difference – displacement and change must be grasped within the research platform itself