What Are Cartesian Coordinates?

Cartesian coordinates, also known as Cartesian questions or the Cartesian grid, are a useful decision-making tool in NLP for gaining a clearer perspective on the potential outcomes of a particular choice or action. They are a set of four questions that help people consider the consequences of their actions and assess their impact on the environment.

These are the four Cartesian coordinates:

What will happen if I do X?

This question requires you to consider the potential positive outcomes and consequences of taking a specific action or making a specific decision. Consider the direct and indirect consequences of your decision on various aspects of your life and those around you.

What will not happen if I do X?

In contrast to the first question, this one encourages you to consider the potential missed opportunities or negative consequences of taking the given action. Consider what might be sacrificed or left unaddressed as a result of this decision.
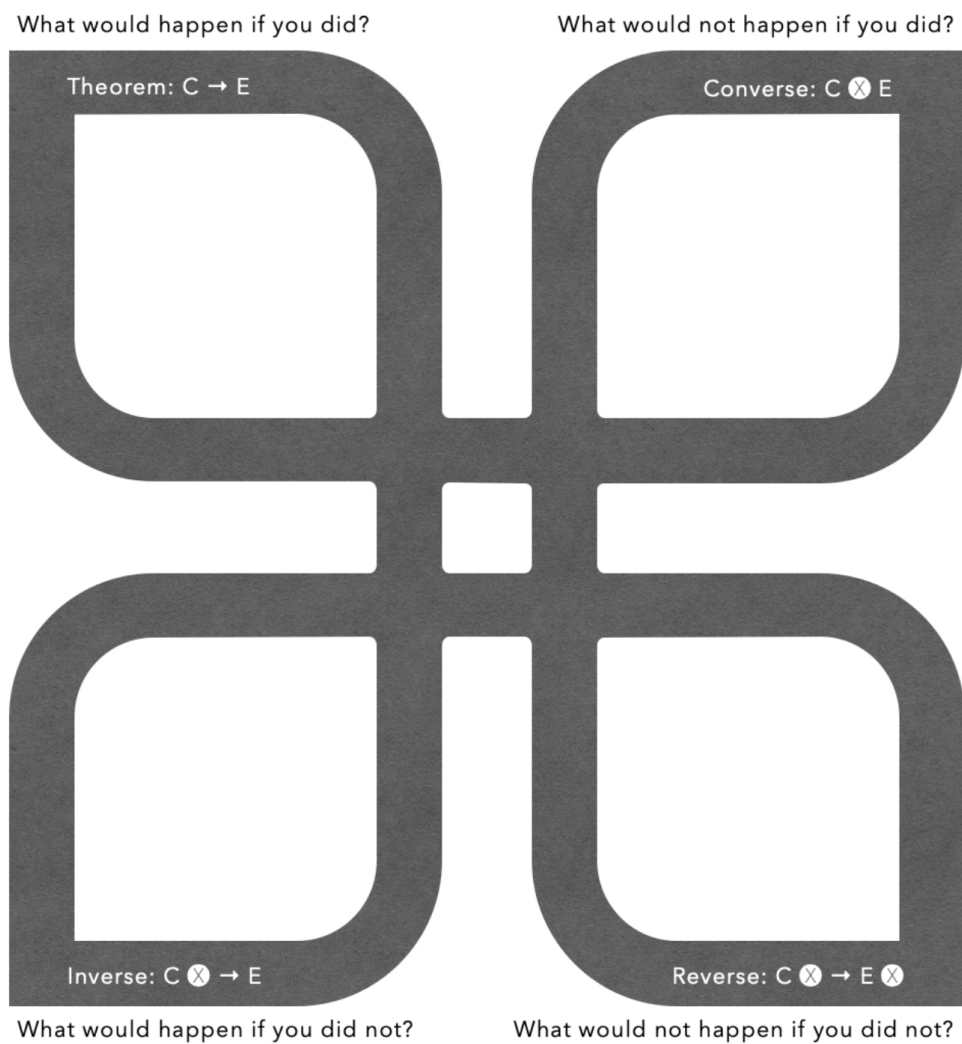
What happens if I do not do X?

You are prompted here to consider the possible outcomes and consequences of not taking the specific action or decision under consideration. Consider the short- and long-term consequences of inaction, as well as how it may affect your life and the lives of others.

What will not happen if I do not do X?

In this final question, you are asked to consider the potential missed opportunities or benefits that may arise if you do not take the given action. Consider what positive outcomes or growth may be lost by not following this path.

People can gain a more comprehensive understanding of the implications of their decisions and how they align with their goals, values, and overall well-being by using Cartesian coordinates. These questions aid in the identification of potential blind spots, risks, and opportunities, allowing for more informed and balanced decision-making. It's a valuable tool to assess the ecology of a decision and ensure that the chosen path is aligned with one's overall aspirations and personal growth.

What would happen if you did?　　　　　　What would not happen if you did?

Theorem: C → E

Converse: C ⊗ E

Inverse: C ⊗ → E

Reverse: C ⊗ → E ⊗

What would happen if you did not?　　　What would not happen if you did not?

* C=cause
* E=Event

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