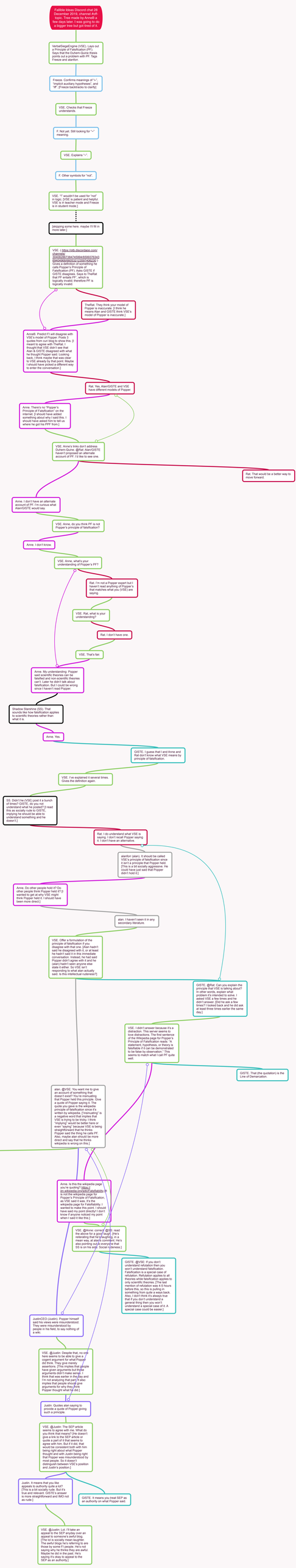
Fallible Ideas Discord chat 28 December 2019, channel #off-topic, Tree made by AnneB a few days later. I was going to do a bigger tree but got tired of it.
VerbalEdgeEngine (VSE): Lays out a Principle of Falsification (PF). Says that the Duhem-Quine thesis points out a problem with PF. Tags Freeze and alanfor.
Freeze. Confirms meanings of '~': "implicit auxiliary hypotheses", and "df". [Freeze backtracks to clarify]
VSE. Checks that Freeze understands.
F. Not yet. Still looking for '~' meaning.
VSE. Explains '~'.
F. Other symbols for "not".
VSE. "If wouldn't be used for "not" in logic. [VSE is patient and helpful. VSE is in teacher mode and Freeze is in student mode.]
[skipping some here. maybe I'll fill in more later.]
VSE. (https://pb.discordapp.com/channels/-3006298207364743584/659029284343636992/659029284343636992) Gives a definition of something he calls Popper's Principle of Falsification (PF). Asks GISTE if GISTE disagrees. Says to TheRat that if Popper's PF is true, he logically invalid. Therefore PF is logically invalid.
TheRat. They think your model of Popper is inaccurate. [I think he meant Anne and GISTE think VSE's model of Popper is inaccurate.]
AnneB. Predict F1 will disagree with VSE's model of Popper. [I'm quotes from curi blog to show this. I meant to agree with TheRat. I thought that VSE didn't see that Alan & GISTE disagreed with what VSE said about Popper. Looking back, I think maybe that was clear to VSE already by that point. Maybe I should have picked a different way to enter the conversation.]
Rat. Yes. AlanvGISTE and VSE have different models of Popper
Anne. There's no "Popper's Principle of Falsification" on the internet. [I'm trying to get something about why I said this. I should have asked him to tell us where he got his PPF from.]
VSE. Anne's links don't address Duhem-Quine. @Rat AlanvGISTE haven't proposed an alternate account of PF. I'd like to see one.
Rat. That would be a better way to move forward.
Anne. I don't have an alternate account of PF. I'm curious what AlanvGISTE would say.
VSE. Anne, do you think PF is not Popper's principle of falsification?
Anne. I don't know.
VSE. Anne, what's your understanding of Popper's PF?
Rat. I'm not a Popper expert but I haven't read anything of Popper's that matches what you (VSE) are saying.
VSE. Rat, what is your understanding?
Rat. I don't have one.
VSE. That's fair.
Anne. My understanding. Popper said scientific theories can be falsified but pseudoscientific theories can't. Later he didn't talk about falsification. But I could be wrong since I haven't read Popper.
Shadow Starshine (SS): That sounds like Popper's theory applies to scientific theories rather than what it is.
Anne. Yes.
GISTE. I guess that I and Anne and Rat don't know what VSE means by principle of falsification.
VSE. I've explained it several times. Gives the definition again.
SS. Didn't he (VSE) post it a bunch of times? GISTE, do you not understand what he means? [I read this as socially rude to GISTE, implying he should be able to understand something and he doesn't.]
Rat. I do understand what VSE is saying. I don't recall Popper saying it. I don't have an alternative.
alanfor (alan). It should be called VSE's principle of falsification since it isn't a principle that Popper held. [I'm a bit more sarcastic/aggressive. He (Curi) have just said that Popper didn't hold it.]
Anne. Do other people hold PF? Do other people think Popper held it? I wanted to get at why VSE might think Popper held it. I should have been more direct.]
alan. I haven't seen it in any secondary literature.
VSE. Offer a formulation of the principle of falsification you disagree with that one. [Alan hadn't said he disagreed with it, or at least he hadn't said it in this immediate conversation. Instead, he had said that he didn't recall it and that he (alan) hadn't seen anyone else state it either. So VSE isn't responding to what alan actually said. Is this intellectual rudeness?]
GISTE. @Rat. Can you explain the principle that VSE is talking about? In other words, explain what problem PF is intended to solve. I asked this a few days ago. I think I didn't answer. [Did he ask it like times? I looked back and he did ask at least three times earlier the same day.]
VSE. I didn't answer because it's a distraction. This server seems to love distractions. The first sentence of the Wikipedia page for Popper's Principle of Falsification reads: "A theory/statement/claim is falsifiable if it can be demonstrated to be false by observation." This seems to match what I call PF quite well.
GISTE. That (the quotation) is the Line of Demarcation.
alan. @VSE. You want me to give an account of something that Popper said, but you're insisting that Popper held this principle. Give a quote of Popper saying it. The quote you gave is the wikipedia principle of falsification since it's in the wikipedia page. Falsification is a negative word that implies that VSE is trying to be tricky. I think "implying" would be better here or even "saying" because VSE is being tricky and implying that Popper said the thing he calls PF. Also, maybe alan should be more direct and say that he thinks wikipedia is wrong on this.]
VSE. @alan LMAO [VSE is laughing at alan in a mean way rather than addressing what he wrote. I think this makes it both socially and intellectually rude.]
Anne. Is this the wikipedia page you're quoting? https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Falsifiability Is it not the wikipedia page for Popper's Principle of Falsification, as VSE said it was. It's the wikipedia page for Falsifiability. [Maybe I should have said this. I could have said my point directly! I don't know if anyone noticed my point when I said it like this.]
VSE. @Anne correct. @GISTE read the quote. [I'm laughing at GISTE for referencing that he's laughing, in a mean way, at alan's comment. He's also pointing out to everyone that SS is on his side. Social rudeness.]
GISTE. @VSE. If you don't understand refutation then you won't understand falsification. Falsification is a special case of refutation. Refutation applies to all theories while falsification applies to only scientific theories. [The last mention of refutation was 4-5 hours before this, so this is pulling in something from far back in the chat. Also, I don't think it's always true that if you don't understand a general thing then you won't understand a special case of it. A special case could be easier.]
JustinCEO (Justin). Popper himself said his views were misunderstood. They were misunderstood by people in his field, to say nothing of a wiki.
VSE. @Justin: Despite that, no one here seems to be able to give a coherent argument for what Popper did think. They give merely assertions. [This implies that people who give coherent and valid arguments didn't make sense. I think that was earlier in the day and I'm not analyzing that part.] It also implies that people should give arguments for what "they" (or Popper thought what he did.]
Justin. Quotes alan saying to provide a quote of Popper giving such a principle.
VSE. @Justin: The SEP article on Popper's Falsification. What do you think that means? [He doesn't give a link to the SEP article or quote a part of it that seems to agree with him. But if it did, that would be a contradiction to him being right about what Popper thought and with Justin being right that Popper was misunderstood by most people. So it doesn't contradict anyone's (VSE's position and Justin's position.]
Justin. It means that you like appeals to authority quite a lot? [I'm a bit more sarcastic. Not true and relevant. (GISTE's answer is more straightforward and IMO not as rude.]
GISTE. It means you treat SEP as an authority on what Popper said.
VSE. @Justin: Lol. I'll take an appeal to the SEP anyday over an appeal to someone's awful blog. [I'm a bit more sarcastic here. The awful blogs he's referring are those by some FI people. He's not saying why he thinks they are awful. Maybe he did in the past. He's saying he'd rather appeal to the SEP as an authority.]