432018 PHILOSOPHY OF PHYSICS (Spring 2002)

Instructions for the seminar in Week 9

Reading: For the seminar, as well as the preliminary reading for the lecture, please read the following:

Space, Time and Spacetime by L. Sklar (University of California Press, 1977), Chapter II, Sections D and F.

Please don't take this book out of the library since other people will need to refer to it.

Instructions: In the seminar, I would like to concentrate on how the General Theory of Relativity has lead to yet further revisions in our understanding of our concepts of 'space' and 'time'. I would also be happy to hear your thoughts on Poincaré's argument for the conventionality of geometry.

As such, I would like you to prepare a few questions for the class. In the seminar these questions will be discussed and so you should, if possible, prepare answers to your own questions or questions which other people may raise.