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## **Unpredictability**

Unpredictability is the failure of predicting future events out of a given state of affairs with the help of scientific laws, which relate effects to causes. Quantum theory and the theory of complex systems have both undermined the conviction of classical physics, that precise predictability is in principle achievable, by establishing fundamental unpredictability within the basis of scientific description itself. While quantum theory seems to point to a fundamental ontological indeterminism, unpredictability entailed by the theory of complex systems can be reduced to deterministic laws and is routed in the sensitivity of complex systems to minimal deviations of their initial conditions.

*Dirk Evers*