Einselection, Equilibrium and Cosmology

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I consider the question of whether an arrow of time is needed for a quantum system to manifest classical behavior. I answer this question using calculations in a particular toy model, and link the results to cosmology, where the arrow of time is connected with deep questions about tuning and initial conditions. This will be an informal presentation which invites strong engagement from the audience, and which does not assume familiarity with the diverse range of physics topics tied together in this work. (Based on arXiv:2105.14017 [hep-th].)

Tuesday, October 25, 2022, 2:30 pm
Cosman Seminar Room
Center for Theoretical Physics
Building 6C, Room 6C-442
Massachusetts Institute of Technology