

# A Reason to Know

Olof Leffler

Durham University  
<https://www.olofleffler.com/>

Why do we have reason to learn or remember that  $p$ ? This is a practical question, and it seems to raise a special problem for practical reasons internalism, according to which our reasons vary with our desires. Unexpectedly, however, it turns out that an answer to the question can provide a partial solution to the problem of our having too contingent reasons in general on such views. This is because they are committed to an invariable desire which gives rise to a categorical reason to know our surroundings. I will arrive at that reason by an even more unexpected route. I shall take inspiration from Fichte's argument for thinking that security from unpredictable and powerful forces of nature is constitutive of agency. Fichte's argument fails, but the point that we ought to aim at such knowledge is fundamentally sound, and this gives the ground for the categorical reason.