

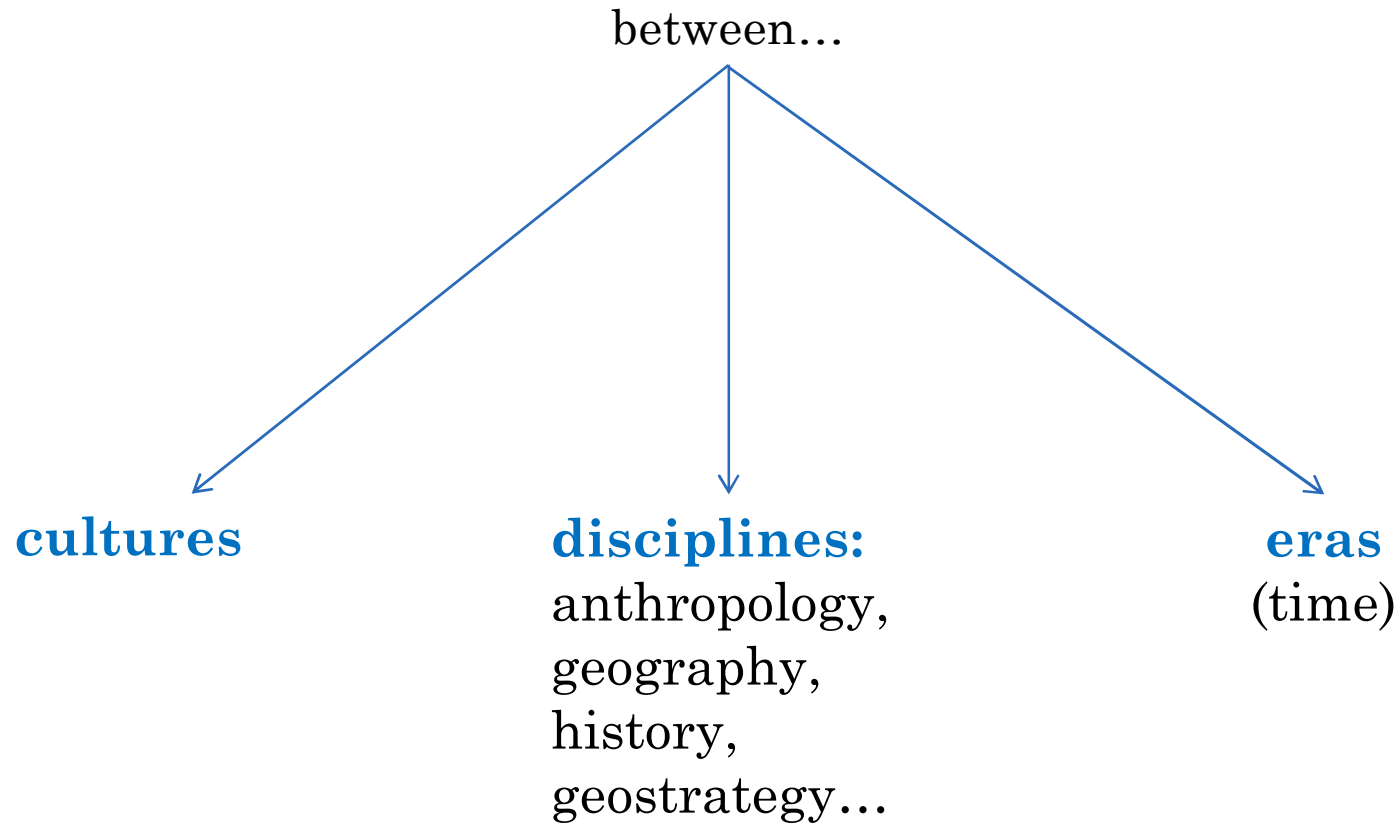


***AIRE, SPACE AND CULTURE(S)***

**REFLECTIONS ABOUT 'TRAVELLING CONCEPTS' IN  
INTERCULTURALITY**

**DAMIEN EHRHARDT  
SLAM, UNIVERSITÉ D'EVRY**

# 'TRAVELLING CONCEPTS' (M. BAL)



## ***AIRE* : WORD MEANINGS**

- a) Floor where grain is beaten
- b) Flat surface of the rock where the eagle make his nest
- c) Delimited grounds reserved for a certain type of activity (*aire de jeu*)
- d) Surface of a planar region, a solid or something else and its measures in square units
- e) *Aire continentale* : vast region of the Earth's crust which remains stable over geological time



## *ESPACE / SPACE: WORD MEANINGS*

- a) Indefinite extent that surrounds and contains all objects, its representation
- b) Math. Set of points (vectors), with a structure; three dimensional geometry (in space, as opposed to the plan)
- c) Volume occupied by something, *ce meuble occupe peu d'espace / this furniture occupies little space*
- d) Environment affected for a particular purpose, *espace publicitaire / advertising space*
- e) Extent in which the stars move.



- f) Imaginary spaces
- g) Space of time
- h) Emptiness of space: Newton's absolute space, the space between two words

## **'TRIPLICITÉ SPATIALE' BY H. LEFEBVRE,**

*La production de l'espace, 1974 :*

- a) Spacial practice of a society,
- b) Representations of space: *espace conçu*
- c) Spaces of representation: *espace vécu*



# IDEAL TYPES OF *AIRE* AND SPACE

## *AIRE*

Two-dimensional  
Definite, delimited  
United  
Stable  
Close and confine

## *ESPACE / SPACE*

Three-dimensionnel or more  
Indefinite, infinite  
Multiple  
Variable  
Open



# CULTURAL CONCEPTS BY H.-J. LÜSEBRINK

1. **Intellectual-aesthetic culture** (*intellektuell-ästhetischer Kulturbegriff*), related to *Bildung* and art. Derives from the traditional canon of great artists and their works. Linked with an elitist conception of culture based on aesthetic, moral and ethical values, opposed to popular or mass culture
2. **Material or instrumental culture** (*materieller or instrumenteller Kulturbegriff*), comes from the etymological sense of *agricultura*.
3. **Cultural anthropology** (*anthropologischer Kulturbegriff*), all the collective representations, patterns of thought, and actions of a society.

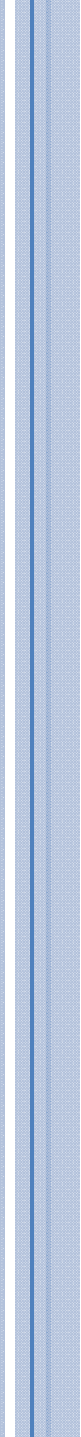
spiritual  
culture

material  
culture



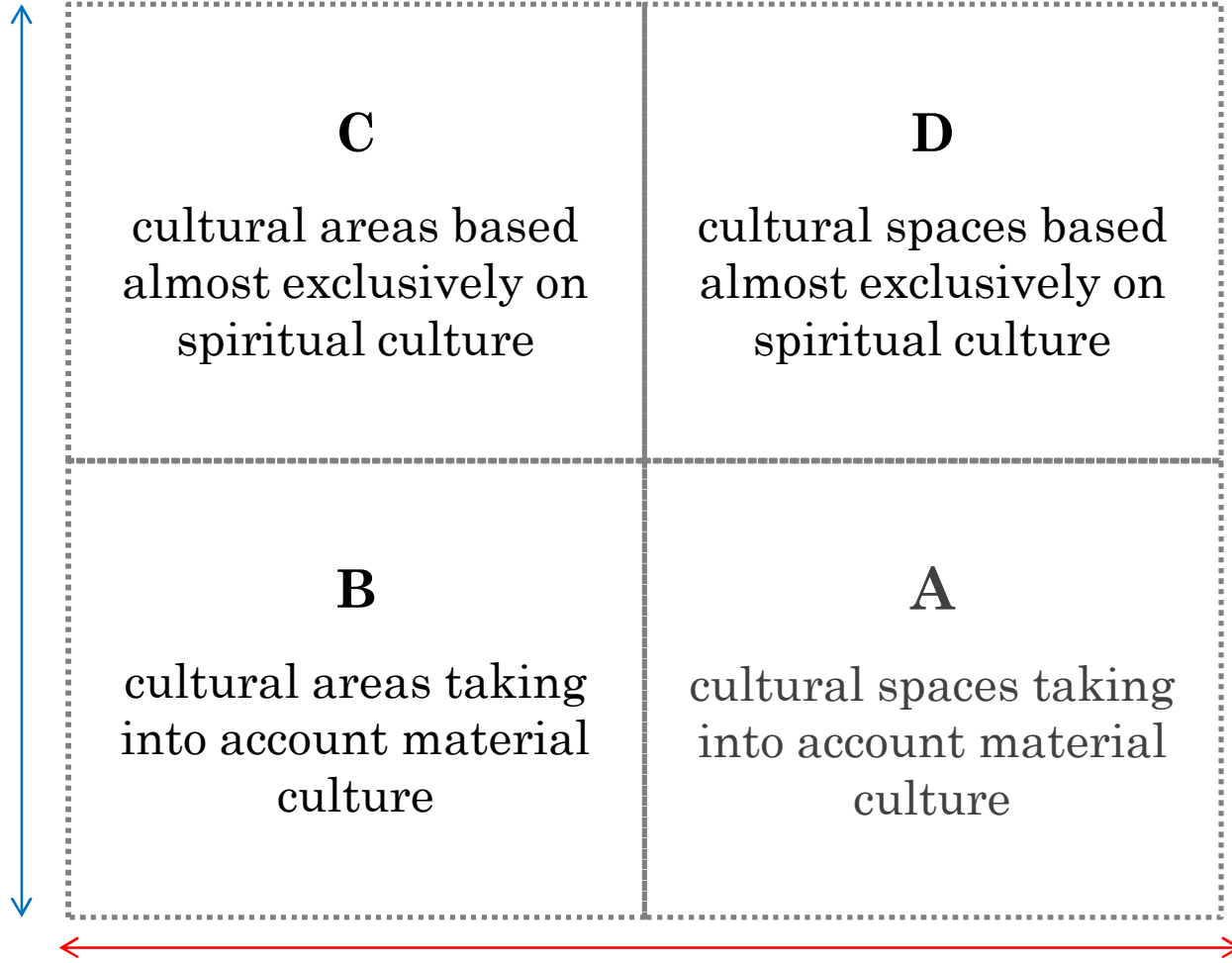
*AIRE*

SPACE





spiritual  
culture



material  
culture

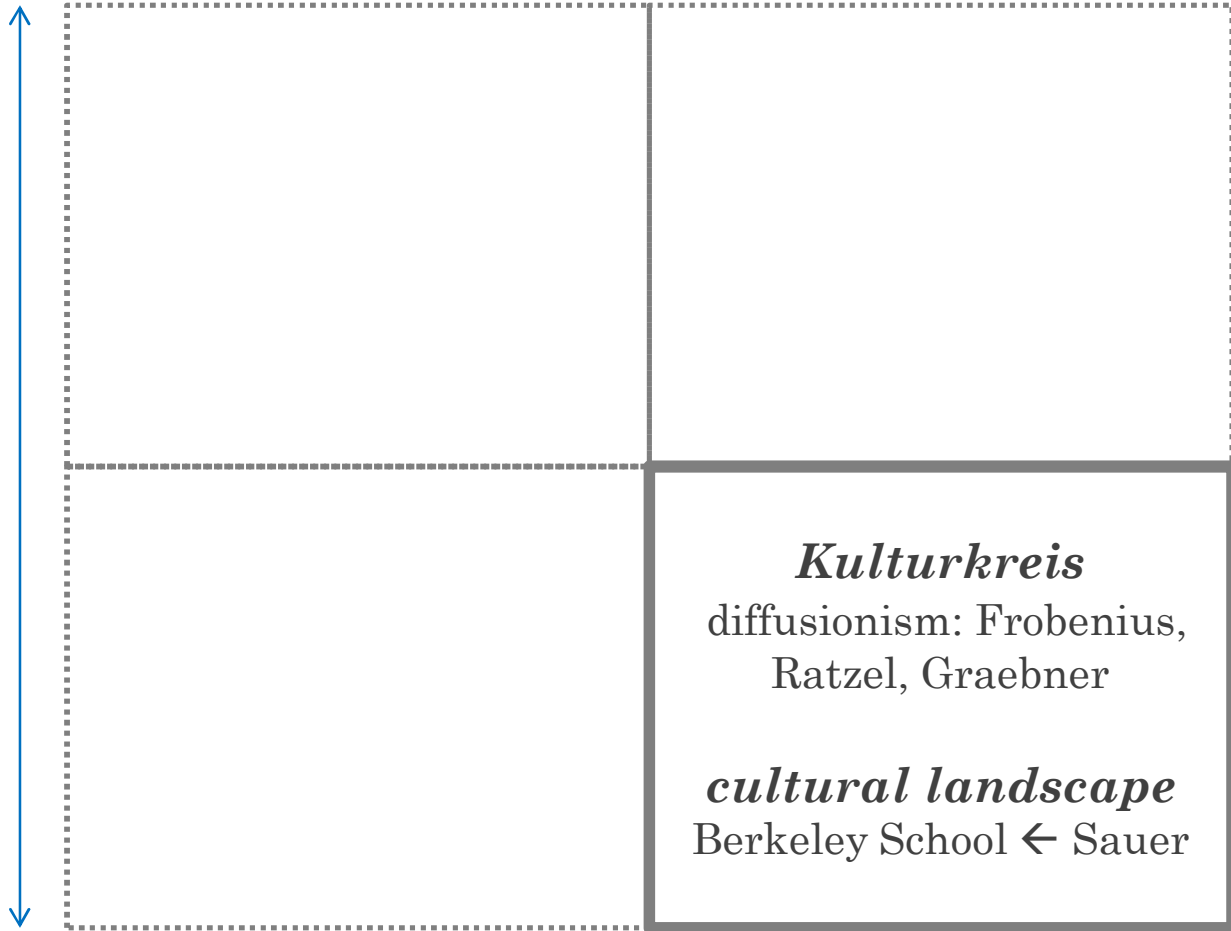
*AIRE*

*SPACE*



spiritual  
culture

material  
culture



*AIRE*

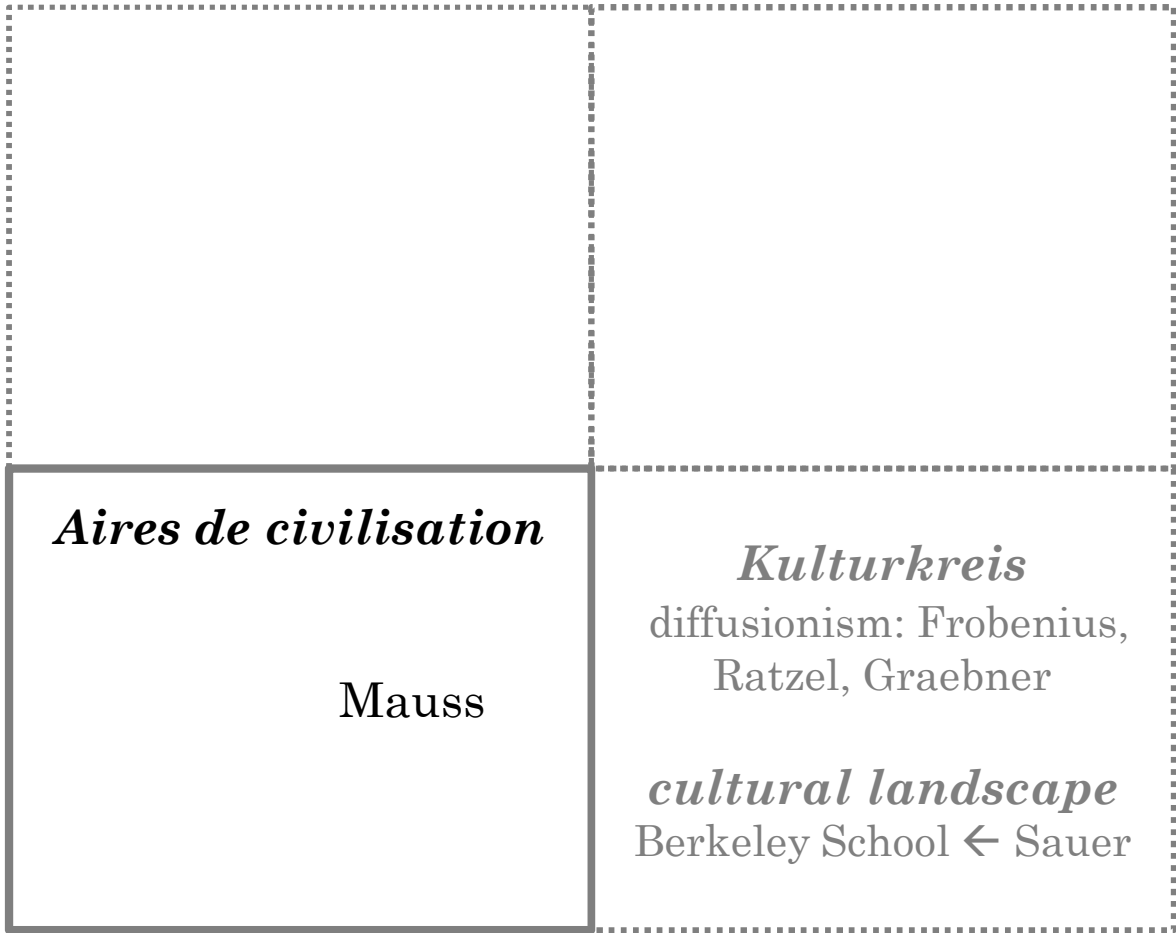
*SPACE*



spiritual  
culture



material  
culture



*AIRE*

*SPACE*



## MARCEL MAUSS

« Les civilisations. Eléments et formes », Paris 1929

“a civilization is both an area and a form”

*toute civilisation a, à la fois, une aire et une forme*



## MARCEL MAUSS

« Les civilisations. Eléments et formes », Paris 1929

“a civilization is both an area and a form”

*toute civilisation a, à la fois, une aire et une forme*

a civilization has “always its breakpoints, its limits, its core and its periphery. The description and definition of these areas are a key work in the history [...].”

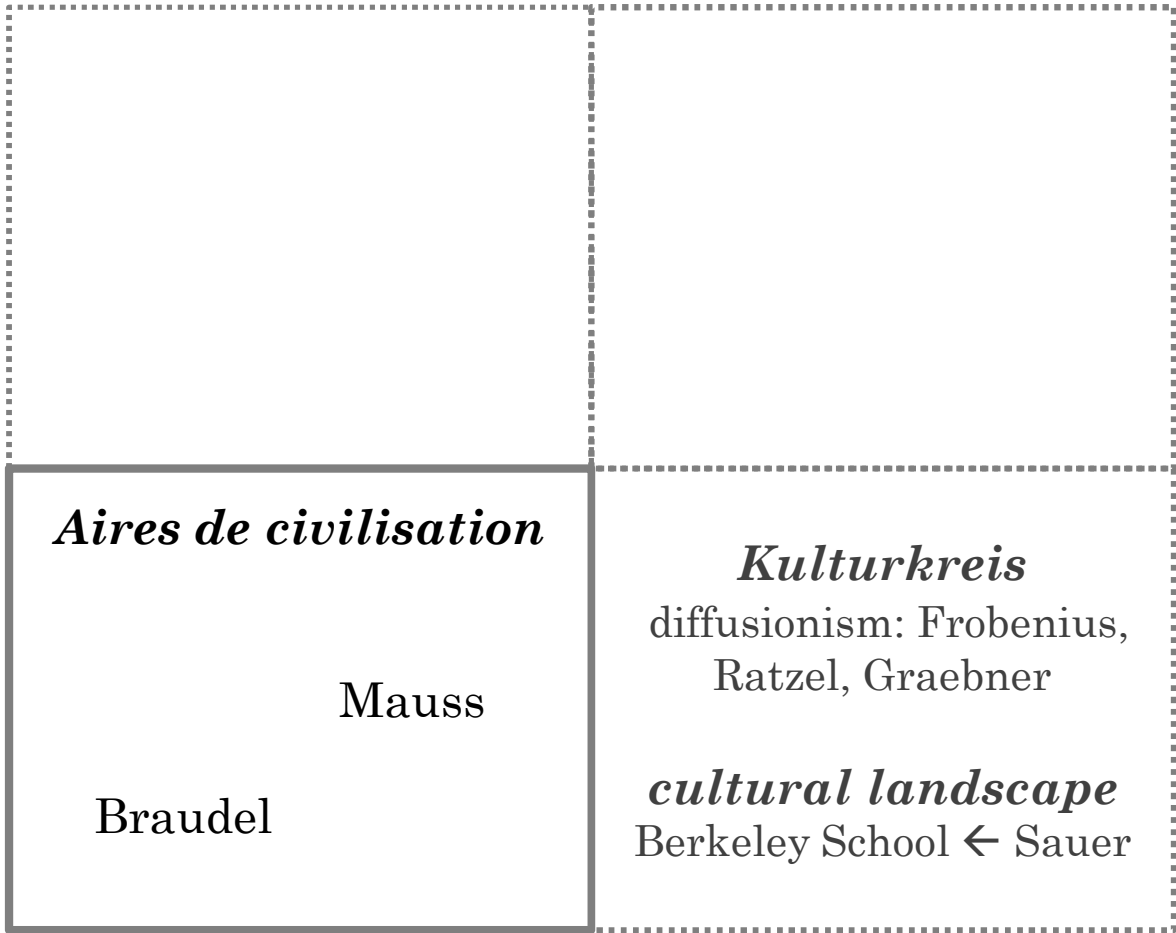
*une civilisation a toujours ses points d'arrêt, ses limites, son noyau et sa périphérie. La description et la définition de ces aires sont un travail capital pour l'histoire [...]*



spiritual  
culture



material  
culture



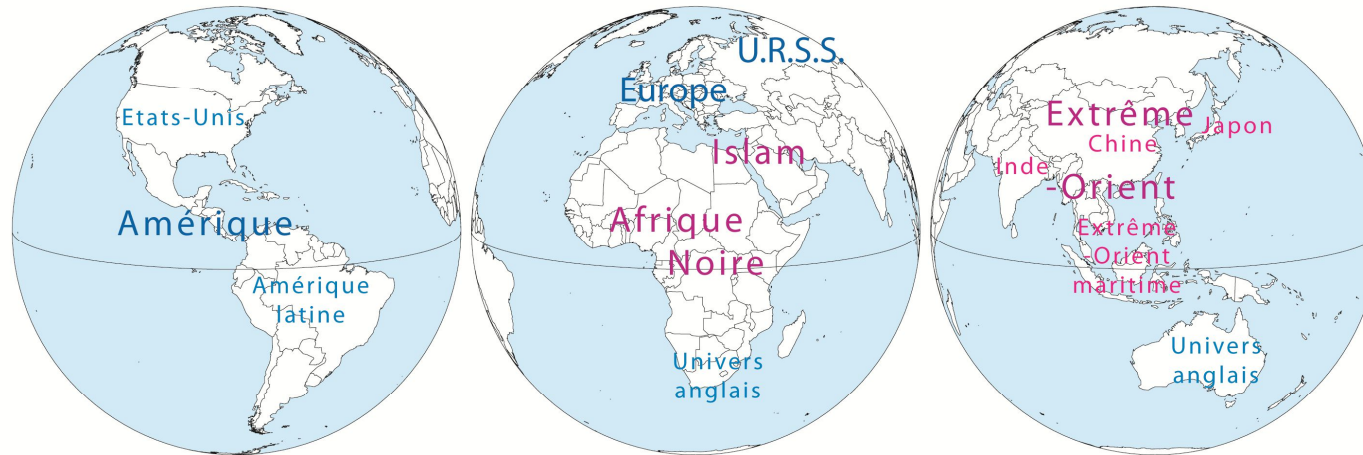
***AIRE***

***SPACE***



# FERNAND BRAUDEL

*Grammaire des civilisations*, [1963]



Les civilisations, selon Braudel (1963)

Amérique  
Amérique latine

) Civilisations européennes

Extrême-Orient  
Chine

) Civilisations non-européennes



spiritual  
culture

***Clash of  
civilizations***  
Huntington

*Aires de civilisation*

Mauss

Braudel

***Kulturkreis***  
diffusionism: Frobenius,  
Ratzel, Graebner  
***cultural landscape***  
Berkeley School ← Sauer

material  
culture



***AIRE***

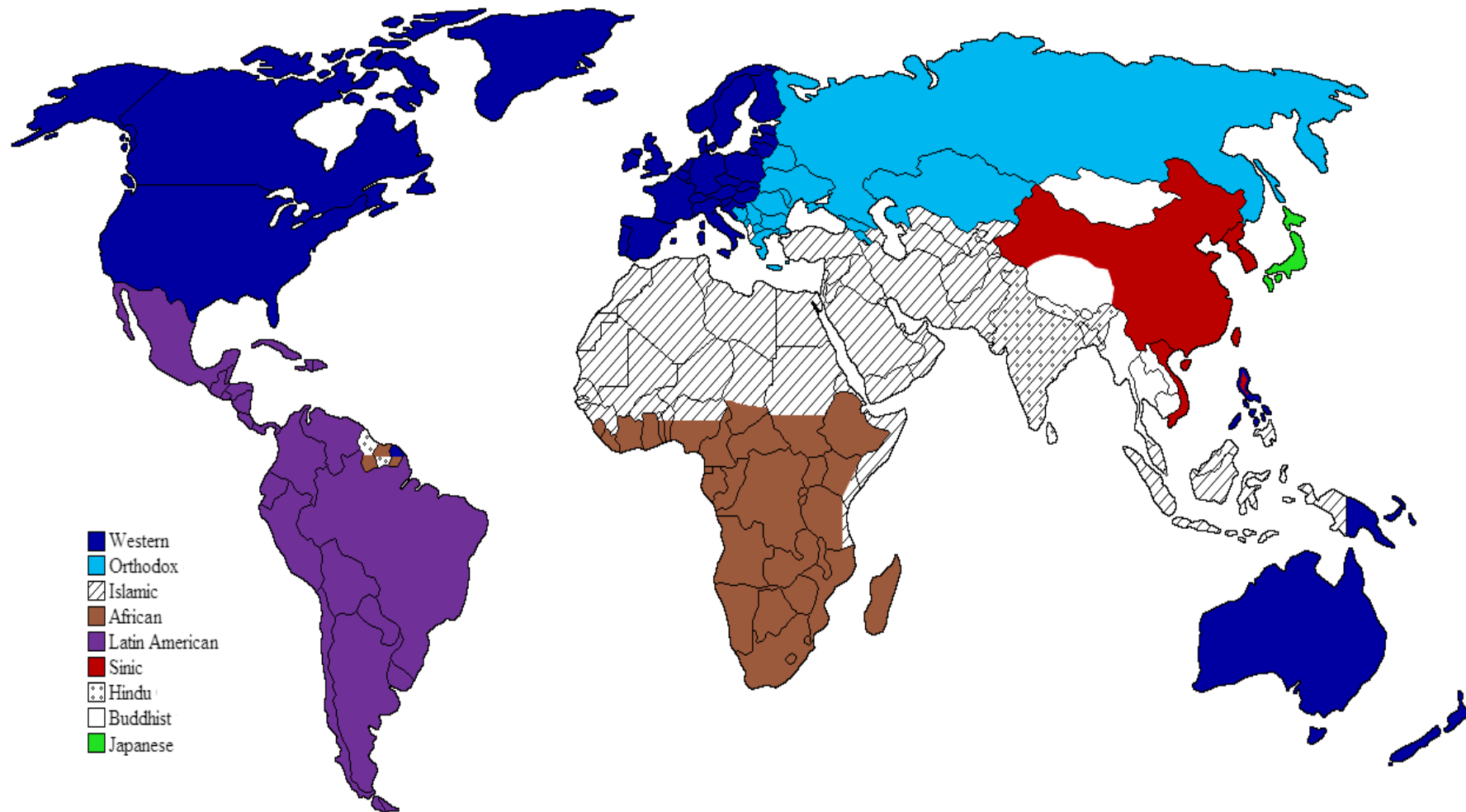
***SPACE***



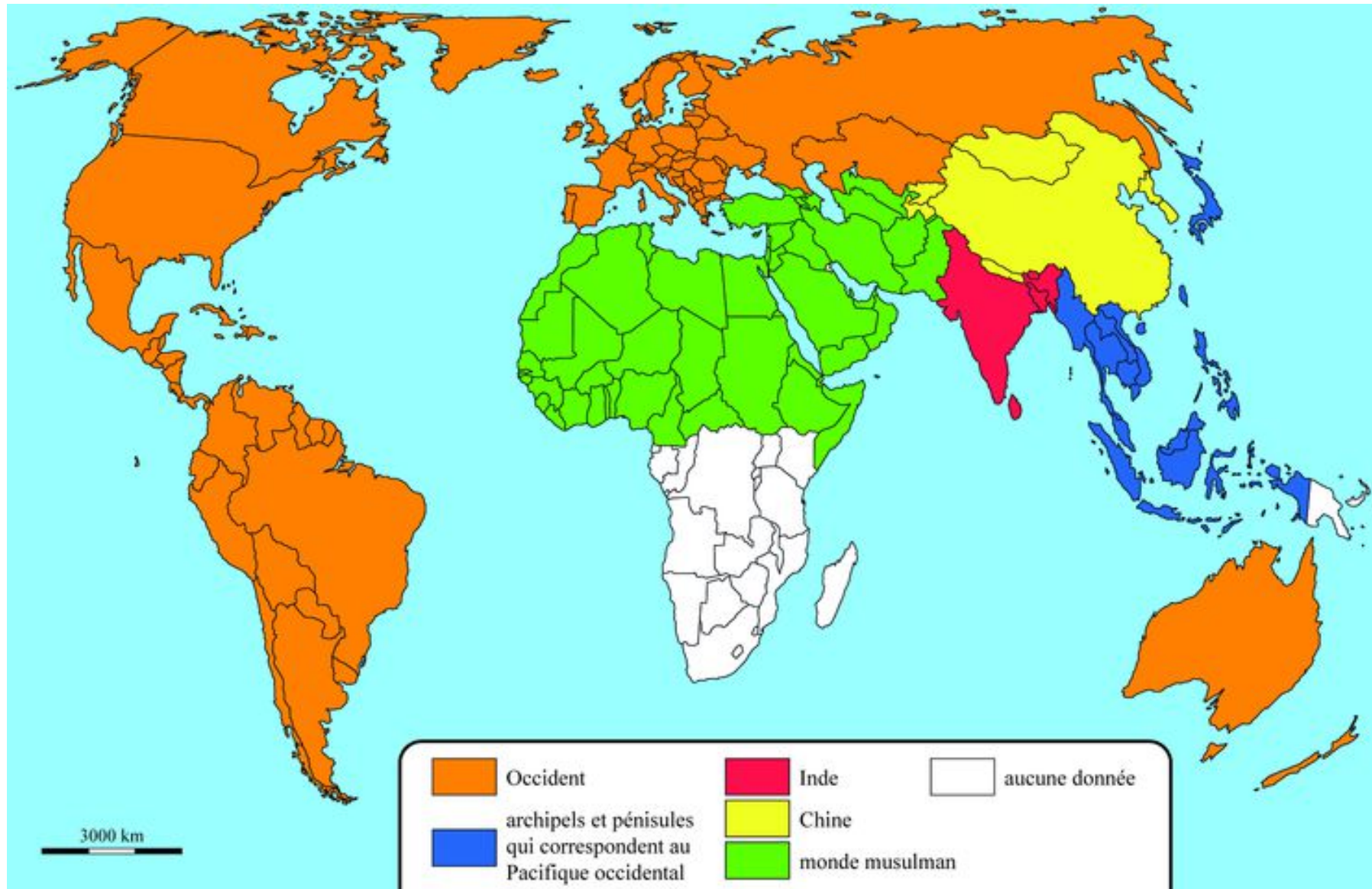


# HUNTINGTON'S CIVILIZATIONS

*The Clash of Civilizations, 1996 (Foreign Affairs 1993)*



# YVES LACOSTE'S FIVE GROUPS



spiritual  
culture

***Clash of civilizations***  
Huntington → Lacoste

*Aires de civilisation*

Mauss

Braudel

***Kulturkreis***

diffusionnism: Frobenius,  
Ratzel, Graebner

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Berkeley School ← Sauer

material  
culture

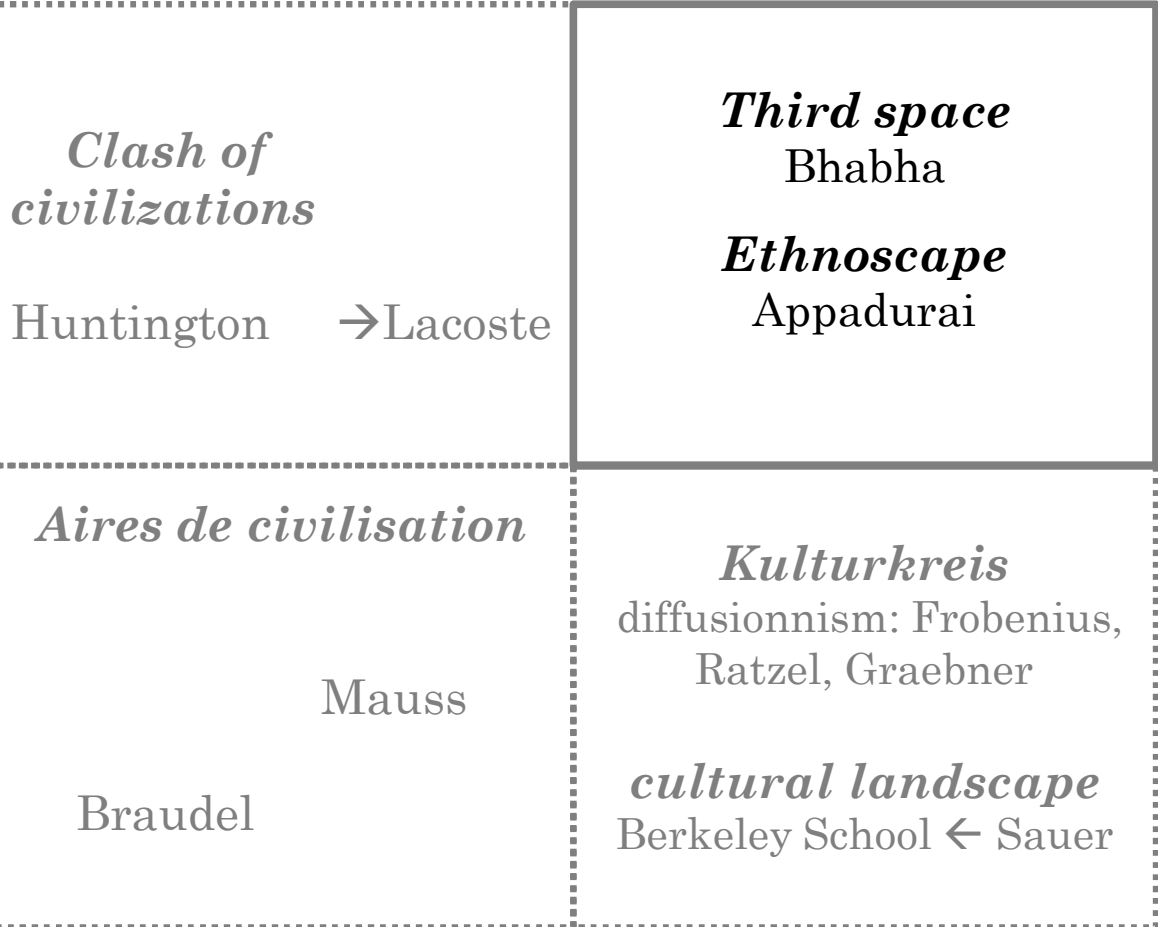


***AIRE***

***SPACE***



spiritual  
culture



material  
culture



*AIRE*

*SPACE*



# ARJUN APPADURAI

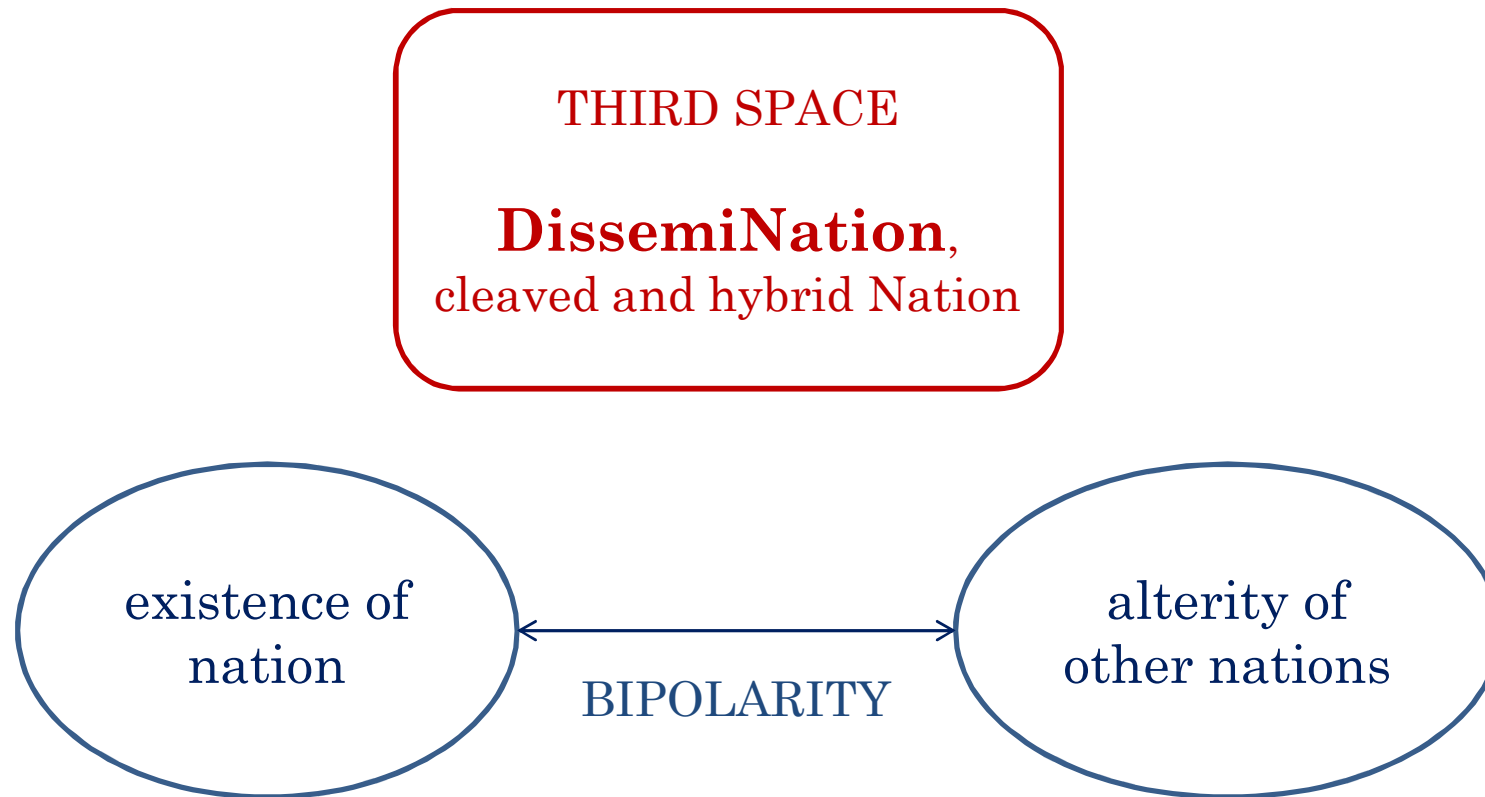
*Modernity At Large*, 1996

“thus left-wing critics of area studies, much influenced by the important work of Edward Said on orientalism, have been joined by free-marketeers and advocates of liberalization, who are impatient with what they deride as the narrowness and history fetish of area-studies experts”.



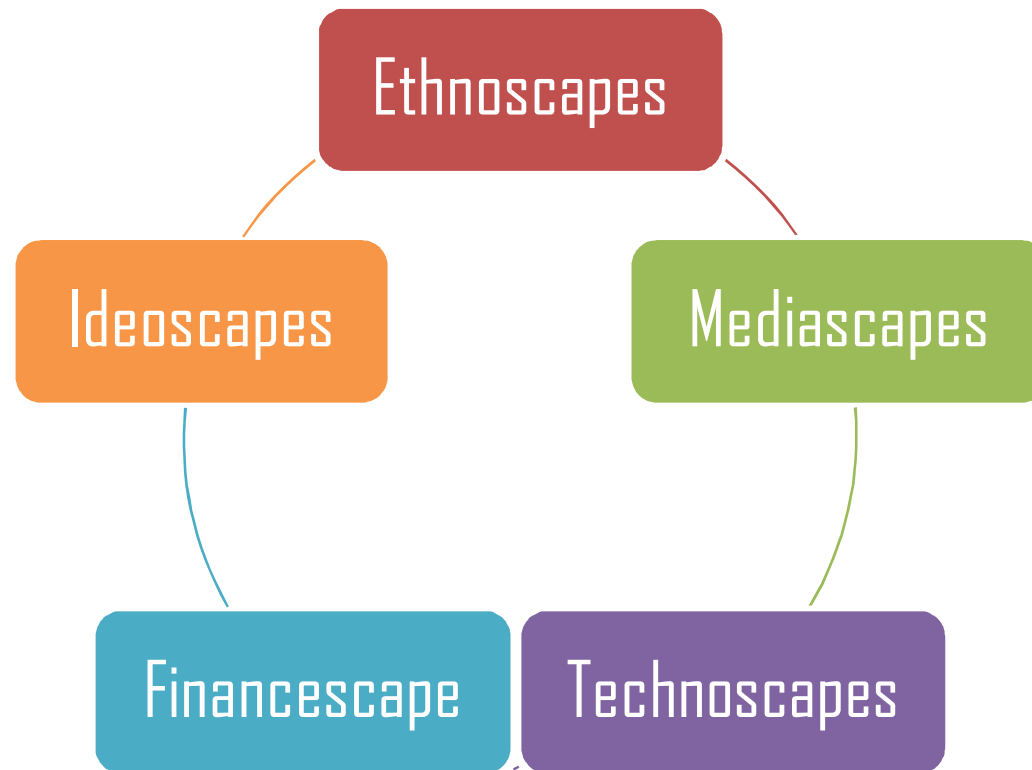
# HOMI K. BHABHA

*The Location of Culture*, 1994



# ARJUN APPADURAI

*Modernity At Large*, 1996



# ARJUN APPADURAI

*Modernity At Large*, 1996

“By *ethnoscape* I mean the landscape of persons who constitute the shifting world in which we live: tourists, immigrants, refugees, exiles, guest workers, and other moving groups and individuals constitute an essential feature of the world and appear to affect the politics of (and between) nations to a hitherto unprecedented degree. This is not to say that there are no relatively stable communities and networks of kinship, friendship, work, and leisure, as well as birth, residence, and other filial forms. But it is to say that the warp of these stabilities is everywhere shot through with the woof of human motion, as more persons and groups deal with the realities of having to move or the fantasies of wanting to move.”





# ARJUN APPADURAI

*Modernity At Large*, 1996

## the area studies tradition:

- “a double-edged sword”



# ARJUN APPADURAI

*Modernity At Large*, 1996

## the area studies tradition:

- “a double-edged sword”
- “a tiny refuge for the serious study of foreign languages, alternatives worldviews, and large-scale perspectives on sociocultural change outside Europe and the USA”



# ARJUN APPADURAI

*Modernity At Large*, 1996

## the area studies tradition:

- “a double-edged sword”
- “a tiny refuge for the serious study of foreign languages, alternatives worldviews, and large-scale perspectives on sociocultural change outside Europe and the USA”
- “one of the few serious counterweights to the tireless tendency to marginalize huge parts of the world in the American academy and in American society more generally



# ARJUN APPADURAI

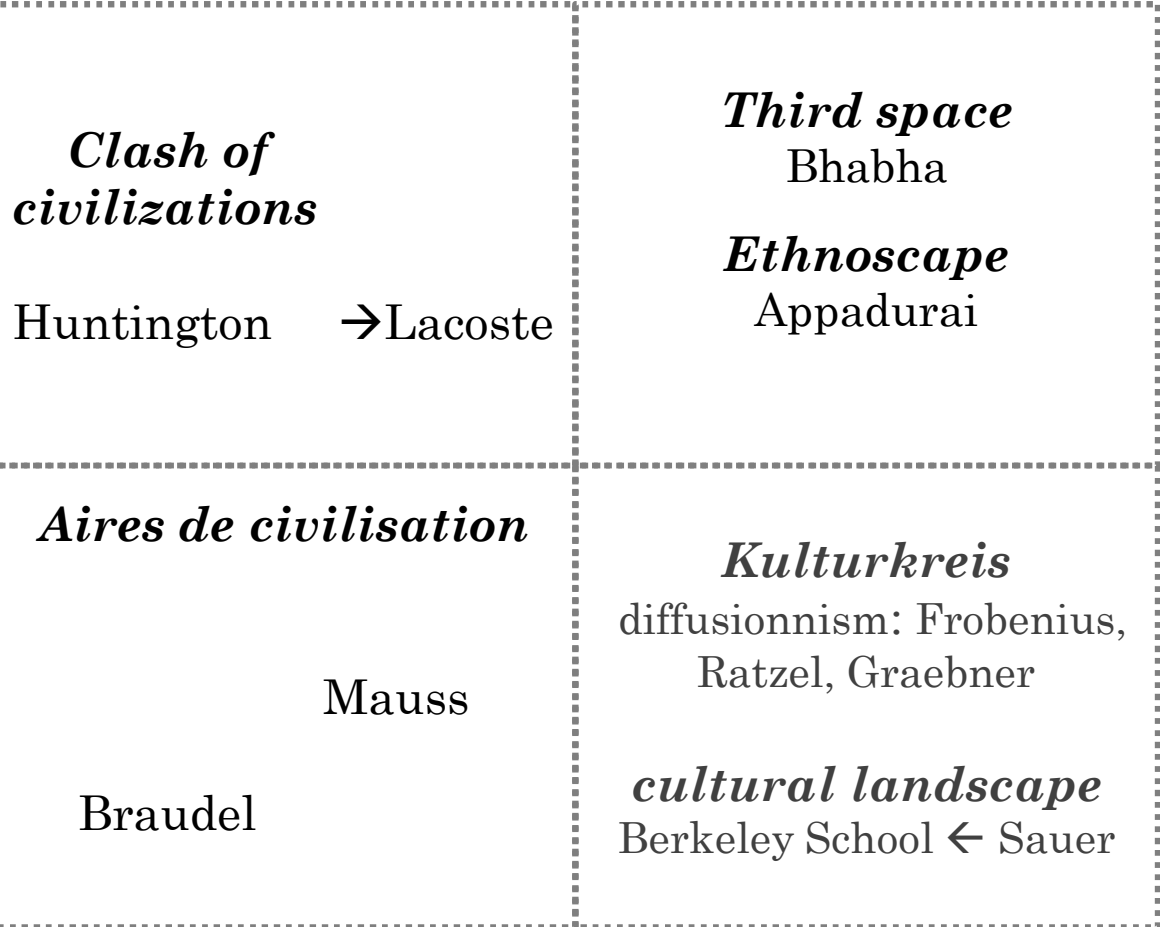
*Modernity At Large*, 1996

## **the area studies tradition:**

- “probably too comfortable with its own maps of the world, too secure in its own expert practices, and too insensitive to transnational processes both today and in the past. [...] What does need to be recognized, if the area-studies tradition is to be revitalized, is that locality itself is a historical product and that the histories through which location emerge are eventually subject to the dynamics of the global.”



spiritual  
culture



*AIRE*

*SPACE*

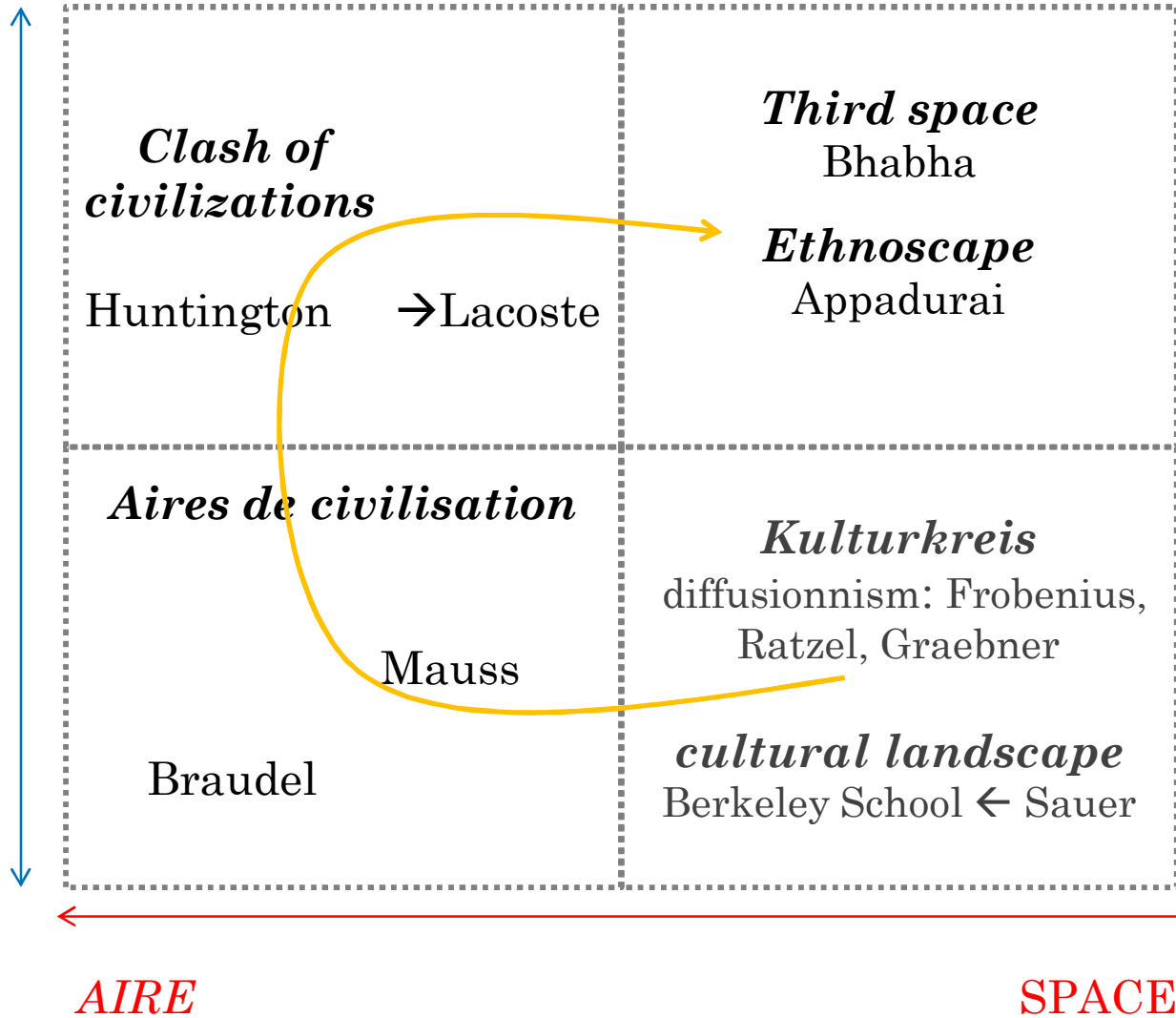


material  
culture

spiritual  
culture



material  
culture



spiritual  
culture



*Clash of civilizations*

Huntington → Lacoste

*Aires de civilisation*

Mauss

Braudel

*Third space*  
Bhabha

*Ethnoscape*  
Appadurai

*Kulturkreis*  
diffusionism: Frobenius,  
Ratzel, Graebner

*cultural landscape*  
Berkeley School ← Sauer

material  
culture



*AIRE*



*SPACE*



spiritual  
culture



*Clash of  
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material  
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*AIRE*

*SPACE*





history

spiritual  
culture

*Clash of  
civilizations*

Huntington → Lacoste

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*AIRE*

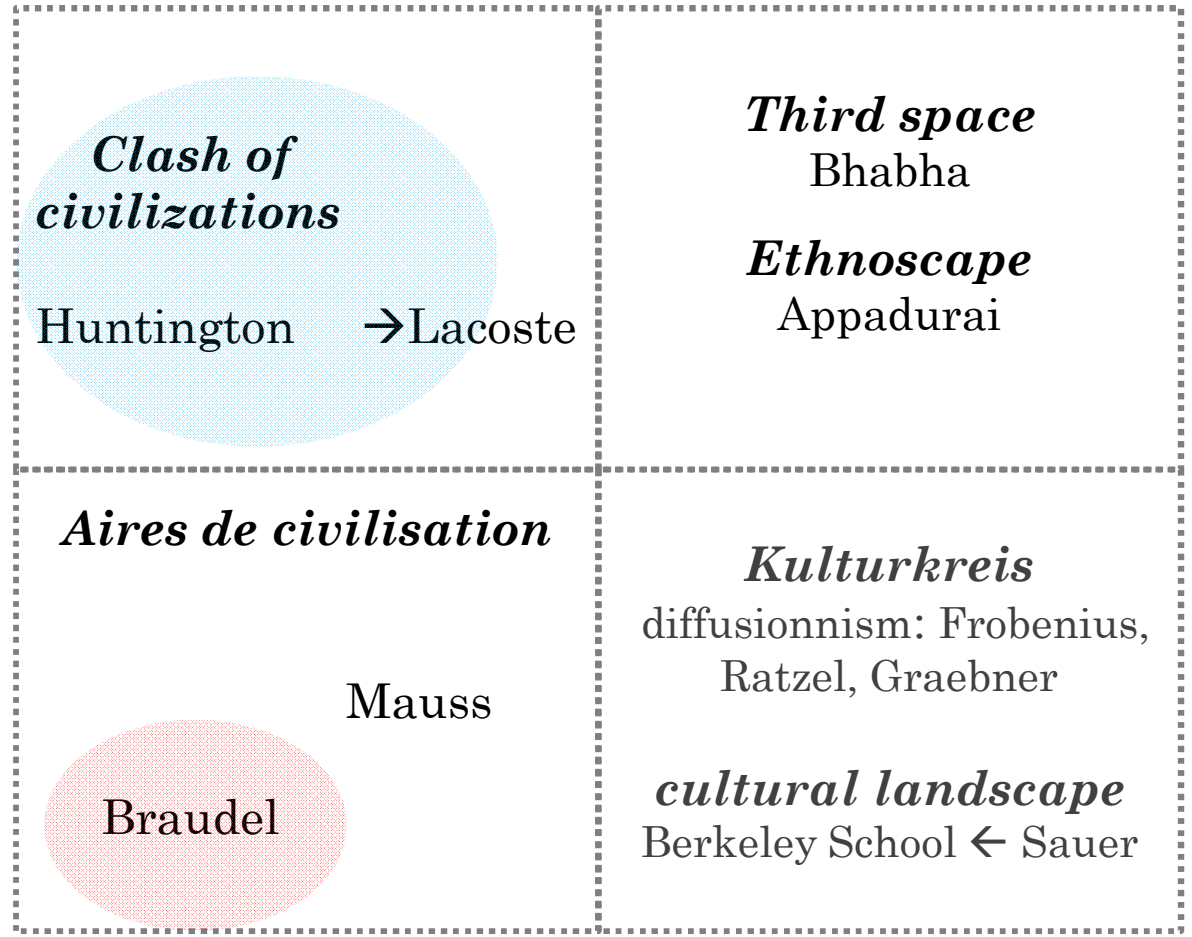
*SPACE*



history

geopolitics, international strategy

↑  
spiritual  
culture



*AIRE*

*SPACE*

↓  
material  
culture



history

geopolitics, international strategy

Kulturwissenschaft

↑  
spiritual  
culture

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*cultural landscape*  
Berkeley School ← Sauer

↓  
material  
culture

←  
*AIRE*

→  
*SPACE*



# SOME PERSPECTIVES...

- Rethink area studies

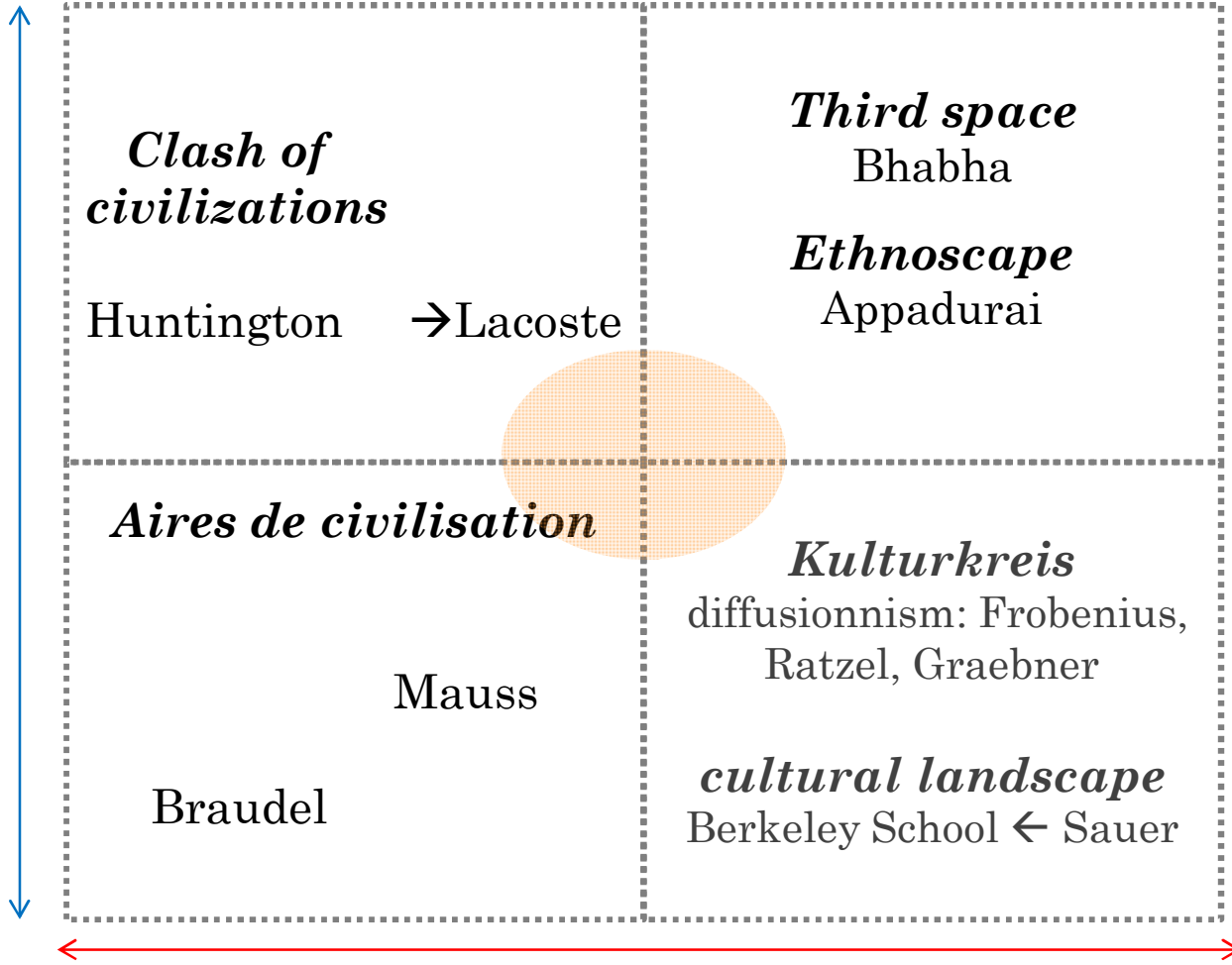


## SOME PERSPECTIVES...

- Rethink area studies
- Beyond area studies. Crossing them with other theories of interculturality (Empire, transfer studies, planetarism...)



spiritual  
culture



*Clash of civilizations*

Huntington → Lacoste

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material  
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*AIRE*

*SPACE*



A world map is centered on a light blue background with a fine grid pattern. The map is rendered in a golden-yellow color. The text "THANK YOU!" is written in a bold, red, sans-serif font, centered over the map.

**THANK YOU!**