

## **An Approach to Theorizing**

- 1) To impose constraints on all “explanation” – i.e., on answers to why- and how-questions – to the point that**
- 2) Observed phenomena restrict the range of candidate answers to such questions to the point that**
- 3) A demand that the factors invoked in any answer to one such question simultaneously yield answers to a wide range of further questions, suffices to single out one answer, at least in broad outline.**

**This is *not* the same as a hypothetico-deductive approach!**

**Descartes is invoking empirical considerations throughout, but he is *not* comparing them with empirical claims deduced from his hypotheses in order to test those hypotheses!**

**A “hypothetico-explanatory” approach?**