

Understanding Empiricism Robert G Meyers

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Understanding Empiricism Creating a Dialectical Social Science Observation and Theory in Science Twentieth-Century Philosophy of Science: A History (Third Edition) Between History and Method Galileo and the Art of Reasoning Science and the Shaping of Modernity A Marxist Mosaic The Reality of Ethnomethodology Handbook of Political Science Challenging Strategic Planning Assumptions Logical analysis and history of philosophy A Comparison of the 1966 and 1974 California Gubernatorial Transition Modern Civil Procedure The Philosopher's Index Kommunikation, Quickborn Communication & Cognition Beyond Reason Michigan Law Review The Bias of Science Robert G. Meyers I.I. Mitroff Ernest Sylvain Nagel Thomas J. Hickey S. Amsterdamski M.A. Finocchiaro Charles Wolfe Jairus Banaji Hugh Mehan Fred I. Greenstein Richard O. Mason Mark David Mandeles Gonzalo Munévar Brian Martin Understanding Empiricism Creating a Dialectical Social Science Observation and Theory in Science Twentieth-Century Philosophy of Science: A History (Third Edition) Between History and Method Galileo and the Art of Reasoning Science and the Shaping of Modernity A Marxist Mosaic The Reality of Ethnomethodology Handbook of Political Science Challenging Strategic Planning Assumptions Logical analysis and history of philosophy A Comparison of the 1966 and 1974 California Gubernatorial Transition Modern Civil Procedure The Philosopher's Index Kommunikation, Quickborn Communication & Cognition Beyond Reason Michigan Law Review The Bias of Science *Robert G. Meyers I.I. Mitroff Ernest Sylvain Nagel Thomas J. Hickey S. Amsterdamski M.A. Finocchiaro Charles Wolfe Jairus Banaji Hugh Mehan Fred I. Greenstein Richard O. Mason Mark David Mandeles Gonzalo Munévar Brian Martin*

understanding empiricism is an introduction to empiricism and the empiricist tradition in philosophy the book presents empiricism as a philosophical outlook that unites several philosophers and discusses the most important philosophical issues bearing on the subject while maintaining enough distance from say the intricacies of locke berkeley hume scholarship to allow students to gain a clear overview of empiricism without being lost in the details of the exegetical disputes surrounding particular philosophers written for students

the book can serve both as an introduction to current problems in the theory of knowledge as well as a comprehensive survey of the history of empiricist ideas the book begins by distinguishing between the epistemological and psychological causal versions of empiricism showing that it is the former that is of primary interest to philosophers the next three chapters on locke berkeley hume respectively provide an introduction to the main protagonists in the british empiricist tradition from this perspective the book then examines more contemporary material including the ideas of sellars foundations and coherence theories the rejection of the a priori by mill peirce and quine scepticism and finally the status of religious belief within empiricism particular attention is paid to criticisms of empiricism such as leibniz s criticisms of locke on innatism and frege s objections to mill on mathematics the discussions are kept at an introductory level throughout to help students to locate the principles of empiricism in relation to modern philosophy

the depth intensity and long standing nature of the disagreements between differing schools of social thought renders more critical than ever the treatment of dialectical reasoning and its relationship to the social sciences the nature of these disagreements are deeply rooted in fundamentally differing beliefs regarding among many things 1 the nature of man 2 the role of theory versus data in constructing social theories 3 the place and function of values versus facts in inquiry etc it has become more and more apparent that such fundamental differences cannot be resolved by surface appeals to rationality or to consensus such for it is precisely the definitions of appeals are doomed to failure rationality and consensus that are at odds that is different schools not only have different definitions of rationality and consensus but different notions regarding their place and function within a total system of inquiry a dialectical treatment of conflicts is called for because such conflicts demand a method which is capable of recognizing first of all how deep they lie secondly a method is demanded which is capable of appreciating that the various sides of the conflict fundamentally depend on one another for their very existence they depend in other words on one another not in spite of their opposition but precisely because of it

originally published in 1971 the three contributions collected in this volume deal with different aspects of a single theme the logical status of scientific theories in their relation to observation these lectures authored by different thinkers treat this theme in connection with some controversies in the philosophy of science a nonspecialist who reads these lectures should realize that the theme itself is a perennial one with an ancient lineage it has

concerned philosophers from the earliest era of philosophy on down through the centuries a central philosophical issue at stake in the lectures is the question of whether scientific theories are testable in terms of our observations such that we can know whether some theories are true and others false although differing in their emphases all three contributors seek a more plausible and nonskeptical philosophical account of the status of scientific theories in relation to observation

history of twentieth century philosophy of science opens with an introduction to contemporary philosophy of science as of the beginning of the twenty first century and describes the new specialty of computational philosophy of science seven chapters describing the philosophies of several major philosophers of science follow this introductory chapter these major philosophers include ernst mach and pierre duhem rudolf carnap and willard van quine werner heisenberg karl popper thomas kuhn and paul feyerabend norwood russell hanson and paul thagard and herbert simon the book concludes with a large bibliography

in this book i have tried to develop further the ideas expressed in my previous work between experience and metaphysics which was published in the same series in 1975 several years have passed since the original polish edition and then 1 the italian translation of this book appeared the fact that the principal ideas expressed in it have withstood as i see it the brunt of criticism has led me to remain basically with the original text two main changes have however been introduced first i have added an appendix containing the original version of a paper i presented at the wissenschaftskolleg zu berlin in june 1988 and a short postscript to that paper referring to comments made during two discussions at the kolleg let me briefly explain the reason for this addition in recent years the landscape for historical and philosophical interpretation of the evolution of scientific knowledge has altered the strongest of the new contenders for epistemological recognition are social constructivists who analyze in detail how knowledge is produced within specific social settings including the instruments and procedures of particular laboratories and the economic and political realities of particular scientific communities the local character of these studies raises the question of whether they can ever provide generalizable epistemological claims

the work of galileo has long been important not only as a foundation of modern physics but also as a model and perhaps the paradigmatic model of scientific method and therefore as

a leading example of scientific rationality however as we know the matter is not so simple the range of galileo readings is so varied that one may be led to the conclusion that it is a case of chacun a son galileo that here as with the bible or plato or kant or freud or finnegans wake the texts themselves underdetermine just what moral is to be pointed but if there is no canonical reading how can the texts be taken as evidence or example of a canonical view of scientific rationality as in galileo or is it the case instead that we decide a priori what the norms of rationality are and then pick through texts to find those which satisfy these norms specifically how and on what grounds are we to accept or reject scientific theories or scientific reasoning if we are to do this on the basis of historical analysis of how in fact theories came to be accepted or rejected how shall we distinguish is from ought what follows if anything does from such analysis or reconstruction about how theories ought to be accepted or rejected maurice finocchiaro's study of galileo brings an important and original approach to the question of scientific rationality by way of a systematic read

this book collects a variety of short essays on stephen gaukroger's thought by leading scholars both senior and junior stephen gaukroger 1950-2023 was one of the preeminent specialists of early modern science and philosophy particularly their interrelations including under the heading natural philosophy on the international scene since the 1980s starting with his prominent cartesian scholarship and biography and moving towards the formidable 4 volume series on science and the shaping of modernity from emergence of a scientific culture to civilization and the culture of science dealing not just with early modernity but with the enlightenment german romanticism and 20th century society this volume covers the thought of this highly recognized scholar and engages with his works covering early modern philosophy enlightenment and contemporary periods making it a must read for any philosopher and historian of science

historical materialism as marx understood this was always an integrated conception or field of research not one divided into separate disciplines the essays gathered in this volume are a remarkable example of how this works across a wide range of subjects as diverse as agrarian history capitalism hegel's influence on marx and class struggles in india they were written over some fifty years of both activism and academic work embodying banaji's lifelong engagement with marxist theory his recent papers on merchant capitalism can also be found here along with a biographical sketch that sets all of his work in context

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vols for 1969 include a section of abstracts

some philosophers think that paul feyerabend is a clown a great many others think that he is one of the most exciting philosophers of science of this century for me the truth does not lie somewhere in between for i am decidedly of the second opinion an opinion that is becoming general around the world as this century comes to an end and history begins to cast its appraising eye upon the intellectual harvest of our era a good example of this opinion may be found in the admiration for feyerabend s philosophy of science expressed by grover maxwell in his contribution to this volume maxwell recalling his own intellectual transformation says also that it was feyerabend who confirmed my then incipient suspicions that most of the foundations of currently fashionable philosophy and even a great deal of the methodology to which many scientists pay enthusiastic lip service are based on simple mistake assumptions whose absurdity becomes obvious once attention is directed at them and lest the reader thinks as many still do that however sharp feyerabend s attacks upon the philosophical establishment may have been he does not offer a positive philosophy a complain made by c a hooker and some of the other contributors paul churchland argues otherwise

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