

Herrold L. Aronson

A Realist Philosophy of Science

First Edition

Realist Philosophy Of Science

R. Nola



Realist Philosophy Of Science:

Critical Scientific Realism Ilkka Niiniluoto, 1999-12-09 Ilkka Niiniluoto comes to the rescue of scientific realism showing that reports of its death have been greatly exaggerated Philosophical realism holds that the aim of a particular discourse is to make true statements about its subject matter Niiniluoto surveys the different varieties of realism in ontology semantics epistemology theory construction and methodology He then sets out his own original version and defends it against competing theories in the philosophy of science Niiniluoto's critical scientific realism is founded upon the notion of truth as correspondence between language and reality and characterizes scientific progress in terms of increasing truthlikeness This makes it possible not only to take seriously but also to make precise the troublesome idea that scientific theories typically are false but nevertheless close to the truth

A Realist Theory of Science Roy Bhaskar, 1975

Resisting Scientific Realism K. Brad Wray, 2018-11-01 In this book K Brad Wray provides a comprehensive survey of the arguments against scientific realism In addition to presenting logical considerations that undermine the realists inferences to the likely truth or approximate truth of our theories he provides a thorough assessment of the evidence from the history of science He also examines grounds for a defence of anti realism including an anti realist explanation for the success of our current theories an account of why false theories can be empirically successful and an explanation for why we should expect radical changes of theory in the future His arguments are supported and illustrated by cases from the history of science including a sustained study of the Copernican Revolution and a study of the revolution in early twentieth century chemistry when chemists came to classify elements by their atomic number rather than by their atomic weight

Practical Realist Philosophy of Science Jaana Eigi-Watkin, Endla Lõhkivi, Ave Mets, Peeter Mürsepp, 2024-05-07 The Estonian philosopher of science Rein Vihalemm 1938 2015 left two prominent and fruitful philosophical methodological legacies that continue to captivate philosophers of science a methodological distinction of scientific disciplines and the practical realist philosophy of science Edited by Ave Mets Endla Lõhkivi Peeter Mürsepp and Jaana Eigi-Watkin *Practical Realist Philosophy of Science* Reflecting on Rein Vihalemm's Ideas explores some of these fruits that have sprung from philosophy of science and the applications of those approaches through three main ideas back grounds of the practical approach metaphysics of practices and special sciences The first part features authors who juxtapose Vihalemm's approach with those of prominent philosophers on the practical and material basis of cognition providing support and refinement to his framework The second part delves into the metaphysical aspects of science and practices and comprehending them The third part centers around examples of Vihalemm's approach to specific scientific disciplines within chemistry biology and humanities These diverse implications outlined in this book supported by solid ground and compelling argumentation offer an original contribution to this field

A Realist Philosophy of Science Jerrold L. Aronson, 1984

Realism and Anti-Realism in the Philosophy of Science Robert S. Cohen, R. Hilpinen, Ren-Zong Qiu, 2013-03-09 Beijing International Conference 1992

A Realist Philosophy of Science J. Aronson, 1984-02-23 This

book is about the nature of scientific theory The central topic of inquiry concerns how it is that theories are able to supply us with powerful and elegant explanations of puzzling phenomena that often confront the scientist and layman alike It is argued that an answer to this question supplies us with an account of how theories achieve a variety of tasks such as the prediction and organization of data including how they support a very important class of claims known in the literature as counterfactual conditionals The book begins by presenting a critical survey of past classic formulations of the nature of scientific theory which are prominent in philosophy of sciences circles today These include the doctrines of logical positivism Hempel's Deductive Nomological model of explanation Hanson's gestalt approach to understanding and observation Kuhn's sociology of science and others After presenting the reader with a critical examination of the above approaches to the nature of scientific theory the author then presents his own views His approach is essentially an ontological one Ontology is usually characterized as the study of the nature of the most fundamental constituents of the universe The major contention of the book is that theories are essentially depictions of the nature of things and that it is this feature which accounts for their ability to explain predict and organize a vast array of data In the tradition of more recent versions of scientific realism that have occurred in the literature the author attempts to show that the very confirmation of a theory depends on its ability to refer to the fundamental constituents of nature It is argued that science can function only from an ontological point of view In order to show this the student is presented with a model of how theories are confirmed which is then combined with a model of the nature of scientific explanation In so doing the author ends up fostering a view of science which is rather controversial to twentieth century philosophical tradition namely that science is really metaphysics in disguise but a metaphysics which can ultimately be judged by empirical standards Such an approach to science characterizes the modern day scientist as an old fashioned natural philosopher

Images of Science Bas C. Van Fraassen, 1985-10-15 Churchland and Hooker have collected ten papers by prominent philosophers of science which challenge van Fraassen's thesis from a variety of realist perspectives Together with van Fraassen's extensive reply these articles provide a comprehensive picture of the current debate in philosophy of science between realists and anti realists Jeffrey Bub and David MacCallum Foundations of Physics Letters

Practical Realist Philosophy of Science Jaana Eigi-Watkin, Endla Lõhkivi, Ave Mets, Peeter Mürsepp, 2024-05-07 The Estonian philosopher of science Rein Vihalemm 1938-2015 left two prominent and fruitful philosophical methodological legacies that continue to captivate philosophers of science a methodological distinction of scientific disciplines and the practical realist philosophy of science Edited by Ave Mets Endla Lõhkivi Peeter Mürsepp and Jaana Eigi-Watkin Practical Realist Philosophy of Science Reflecting on Rein Vihalemm's Ideas explores some of these fruits that have sprung from philosophy of science and the applications of those approaches through three main ideas backgrounds of the practical approach metaphysics of practices and special sciences The first part features authors who juxtapose Vihalemm's approach with those of prominent philosophers on the practical and material basis of cognition providing support

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Relativism and Realism in Science R. Nola, 2012-12-06

The institutionalization of History and Philosophy of Science as a distinct field of scholarly endeavour began comparatively early though not always under that name in the Australasian region An initial lecturing appointment was made at the University of Melbourne immediately after the Second World War in 1946 and other appointments followed as the subject underwent an expansion during the 1950s and 1960s similar to that which took place in other parts of the world Today there are major Departments at the University of Melbourne the University of New South Wales and the University of Wollongong and smaller groups active in many other parts of Australia and in New Zealand Australasian Studies in History and Philosophy of Science aims to provide a distinctive publication outlet for Australian and New Zealand scholars working in the general area of history philosophy and social studies of science Each volume comprises a group of essays on a connected theme edited by an Australian or a New Zealander with special expertise in that particular area Papers address general issues however rather than local ones parochial topics are avoided Further more though in each volume a majority of the contributors is from Australia or New Zealand contributions from elsewhere are by no means ruled out Quite the reverse in fact they are actively encouraged wherever appropriate to the balance of the volume in question

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