

Patrick Suppes, scientific philosopher

Kluwer Academic - Mathematics



Description: -

- Language and logic
- Language and languages -- Philosophy
- Probabilities
- Science -- Philosophy
- Suppes, Patrick, 1922-Patrick Suppes, scientific philosopher

- v. 235
- Synthese library ;Patrick Suppes, scientific philosopher
- Notes: Includes bibliographical references and indexes.
- This edition was published in 1994



Filesize: 8.82 MB

Tags: #Structural #Realism #(Stanford #Encyclopedia #of #Philosophy)

Mathematics

On the Plurality of Worlds, Oxford: Blackwell. So, by induction we have positive reason to expect that our best current theories will be replaced by new theories according to which some of the central theoretical terms of our best current theories do not refer, and hence we should not believe in the approximate truth or the successful reference of the theoretical terms of our best current theories.

Structural Realism (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)

If this will do for these theories then it ought to do for others where we happened to have retained the central theoretical terms, and then we do not need the realist's preferred explanation that such theories are true and successfully refer to unobservable entities. Inference to the Best Explanation second edition.

Structural Realism (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)

How, he wondered, can we then know about and refer to them and their properties? Mathematics is essential in many fields, including , , , and the. Critics of OSR may argue that the claim of metaphysical underdetermination in the case of non-relativistic many particle quantum mechanics is resolved by the shift to quantum field theory. In response, Demopoulos 2008 points out that the Ramsey sentence of a theory with mixed predicates where the latter are not Ramsified will be true provided the original theory is satisfied—hence the claim that the content of the Ramsey sentence is merely the observational content of the original theory plus a cardinality claim is still true when mixed predicates are considered.

Structural Realism (Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy)

. Beginning in the 6th century BC with the , with the began a systematic study of mathematics as a subject in its own right. The problem of individuality now concerns whether fields themselves are individuals, or whether they are the properties of spacetime points.

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