

1 paradigm, measure, common measures, incommensurability

(Pa , Me , \bigcap_{Me} , \bigcap_{Me}^{\emptyset})

A reinterpretation of Thomas Kuhn’s ‘On The Structure of Scientific Revolutions’, through the lens of set-theory(-ish) mathematics.

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note: consider all set-theory as pseudo-set-theory; a means for a novice mathematician to express ideas in less time and fewer words than a similarly novice writer might, in prose ².

1.1 a gentle introduction

(Pa , Me) introducing paradigm and measure

Let us consider a paradigm Pa, as a set of measures Me:

$$Pa = \{Me, \dots\}$$

or ³:

$$Pa = \{\dots\}_{Me}$$

...

1.2 totality, commonality

(\cup , \cap) introducing all, and common

If paradigm Pa₁, contains measures Me_{1,2,3}:

$$Pa_1 = \{Me_1, Me_2, Me_3\}$$

And paradigm Pa₂, contains measures Me_{2,3,4}:

$$Pa_2 = \{Me_2, Me_3, Me_4\}$$

...

The *set-of-all* measures \bigcup_{Me} , across Pa₁ and Pa₂, can be found by union \cup :

$$\bigcup_{Me}^{1,2} = Pa_1 \cup Pa_2 = \{Me_1, Me_2, Me_3, Me_4\}$$

...

The *set-of-common* measures \bigcap_{Me} , between Pa₁ and Pa₂, can be found by intersection \cap :

$$\bigcap_{Me}^{1,2} = Pa_1 \cap Pa_2 = \{Me_2, Me_3\}$$

...

note: remember, this is a simplification, and an introduction

...

1.3 cardinality

(n) counting elements

The cardinality of any set, refers to the number of contained elements, expressed $|\{\dots\}| = n$.

So where:

$$A = \{a, b, c\}$$

cardinality is:

$$|A| = 3$$

...

1.4 incommensurability

(\cap^{\emptyset}) introducing incommensurable paradigms ⁴

Consider paradigms Pa₃ and Pa₄, whereby:

$$Pa_3 = \{Me_1, Me_2, Me_3\}$$

$$Pa_4 = \{Me_4, Me_5, Me_6\}$$

...

When paradigms Pa₃ and Pa₄, do not share common measures, then \bigcap_{Me} , is an empty set ({ } or \emptyset):

$$\bigcap_{Me} = Pa_3 \cap Pa_4 = \emptyset$$

$$\bigcap_{Me}^{3,4} = \emptyset$$

...

and paradigms Pa₃ and Pa₄, can be said to be incommensurable \bigcap_{Me}^{\emptyset} :

$$\bigcap_{Me} = Pa_3 \cap Pa_4 = \emptyset : \bigcap_{Me} \rightarrow \bigcap_{Me}^{\emptyset}$$

$$|Pa_3 \cap Pa_4| = |\emptyset| = |\bigcap_{Me}^{\emptyset,3,4}| = 0$$

...

note: while any two paradigms may appear incommensurable as an isolated pair ⁵, *we will later discover that there exists a universally special paradigm, which by analysis or composition, renders all paradigms reconcilable, and as such, commensurable*