Nomological net. Nodes=entities, strands= relations between entities. Proper subset “operationally” linked.


Verisimilitude=Similitude to Omniscient Jones’s Theory

Lakatosian defense of core. Basic Formula T . A_T . C_P . A_1 . C_n → (O_1 ⊃ O_2)

Defend core despite falsifiers, if theory already has money in the bank, has a good track record.

Gets credit by risky predictions, “damn strange coincidences”

So (O_1 ⊃ O_2) had low prior, absent theory

Avagadro Number & molecular reality
X-ray diffraction: Which is theory, which auxiliary?

Two mistakes on significance testing
Strong use, think theory strongly supported by refuting H_0
Weak use, think falsified theory must be abandoned pronto.

Lakatos’ “instant rationality”

Auxiliaries example: Personality theory experiment about anxiety, introversion, TAT affiliation

Fisher on “controlling all variables.” Lady tea taster