

Theoretical Frameworks and Empirical Underdetermination

April 10-12, University of Düsseldorf

The aim of the workshop is to explore new and fruitful avenues concerning the empirical limits of scientific knowledge. It brings together some of the world's leading experts in the scientific realism debate to discuss the latest developments in the field. Topics to be discussed include structural realism, underdetermination, empirical equivalence, the pessimistic meta-induction argument, the reference of scientific terms and inference to the best explanation.



The programme will commence with a eulogy to the late Peter Lipton, who was originally scheduled to give a talk at the workshop. David Papineau who had known Peter for over twenty years will give the eulogy.

Plenary Speaker: Michael Friedman

Attendance is open to all. If you plan to attend please contact Ioannis Votsis - votsis@phil-fak.uni-duesseldorf.de

Place: Room 00.46A, Building 23.21, University of Düsseldorf
Workshop organisers: Gerhard Schurz and Ioannis Votsis

Website: <http://www.phil-fak.uni-duesseldorf.de/theoretical-frameworks-and-empirical-underdetermination/>

Schedule

Thursday, April 10

- 09:30 - 09:40 *Peter Lipton Eulogy* by David Papineau
09:40 - 10:50 **David Papineau (King's College London):** *Reduction or Elimination? and Why It Doesn't Matter*
11:00 - 12:10 **Ioannis Votsis (Düsseldorf):** *Structures, Inferences and Referents*
14:00 - 15:10 **James Ladyman (Bristol):** *Structural vs. Standard Realism: The Case of Phlogiston and the De-oxygenated Air*
15:20 - 16:30 **Gerhard Schurz (Düsseldorf):** *When Empirical Success Implies Theoretical Reference*
16:40 - 17:50 **F.A. Muller (Rotterdam & Utrecht):** *Structural Realism and Quantum Mechanics*

Friday, April 11

- 09:30 - 10:40 **Paul-Hoyningen Huene (Hannover):** *Transient Underdetermination and the Miracle Argument*
10:50 - 12:00 **Stathis Psillos (Athens):** *The Role of the Underdetermination Argument in the Scientific Realism Debate*
14:00 - 15:10 **John Worrall (LSE):** *Why the Structural Realist has nothing to Fear from 'Underdetermination'*
15:20 - 16:30 **Martin Carrier (Bielefeld):** *Underdetermination: Epistemological Impact and Methodological Role*
16:40 - 17:50 **Hannes Leitgeb (Bristol):** *Empirical Content and its Presuppositions*

Plenary Talk

- 18:15 - 19:45 **Michael Friedman (Stanford):** *Carnap on Theoretical Terms: Structuralism without Metaphysics*

Saturday, April 12

- 09:30 - 10:40 **Ludwig Fahrbach (Düsseldorf):** *How the Growth of Evidence has Stopped Theory Change*
10:50 - 12:00 **Holger Lyre (Bonn):** *Is Structural Underdetermination Possible?*
12:10 - 13:20 **Steven French (Leeds):** *Metaphysical Underdetermination: Why Worry?*

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