

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements	xi
I. The Rational Image	1
1 <i>The Scientific Image</i>	1
2 <i>Rational Models of Scientific Change</i>	4
3 <i>The Rationalist Hurdles</i>	8
4 <i>The Incommensurability of Theories</i>	9
5 <i>The Goal of the Scientific Enterprise</i>	13
6 <i>Principles of Comparison and the Actual History of Science</i>	15
II Observation, Theory and Truth	19
1 <i>Observing and Theorizing</i>	19
2 <i>The Distinction between Theoretical and Observational Terms</i>	22
3 <i>Realism versus Instrumentalism</i>	28
4 <i>Relativism</i>	34
5 <i>Realism and Ontology</i>	37
6 <i>Realism and Epistemology</i>	39
III Popper - The Irrational Rationalist	44
1 <i>The Popperian Tableau</i>	44
2 <i>Popper on the Aim of Science</i>	46
3 <i>The Method of Science: Deductivism</i>	49
4 <i>Verisimilitude</i>	52
5 <i>Corroboration and the Swamp of Basic Statements</i>	59
6 <i>The Corroboration - Verisimilitude Link</i>	64
7 <i>The Theorem of Truth-Content</i>	65

Contents

8 <i>The Whiff of Inductivism Strategy</i>	67
9 <i>Ad Hoc Hypotheses</i>	70
IV In Search of the Methodologist's Stone	77
1 <i>Lakatos: The Revisionary Popperian</i>	77
2 <i>Taking Apart the Model</i>	82
3 <i>The Model at Work</i>	89
4 <i>The Method for Finding the Method</i>	92
5 <i>The Popperian Dilemma Lives On</i>	97
6 <i>Neo-Hegelian Methodology</i>	99
V T. S. Kuhn: From Revolutionary to Social Democrat	102
1 <i>Kuhn and the Image of Science</i>	102
2 <i>Revolutions</i>	107
3 <i>The Five Ways</i>	112
4 <i>Duck-Rabbits</i>	117
5 <i>Where is Truth?</i>	119
6 <i>Kuhn and the Rationalists</i>	121
VI Feyerabend, the Passionate Liberal	125
1 <i>Against Method</i>	125
2 <i>Counter-productive Method</i>	128
3 <i>Proliferation</i>	131
4 <i>The Failure of the General Strategy</i>	133
5 <i>Counter-induction vis-à-vis Facts</i>	136
6 <i>Incommensurability</i>	142
7 <i>The Ideology of Science</i>	143
VII Theories are Incommensurable?	148
1 <i>Types of Incommensurability</i>	148
2 <i>The Received View</i>	151
3 <i>Strategies for Dealing with RMV</i>	156
4 <i>Reference, Truth and Radical Meaning Variance</i>	158
5 <i>What Should a Nice Theory of Meaning Look Like?</i>	162
6 <i>The Approach of Causal Realism</i>	164
7 <i>The Constituents of Matter</i>	173
8 <i>The Truth Overlooked</i>	174
9 <i>A Possible Complication</i>	176
10 <i>Indeterminacy of Translation and Incommensurability</i>	179

Contents

VIII The Thesis of Verisimilitude	183
1 <i>The Whole Depressing Story</i>	183
2 <i>The Agnostic Strategy</i>	185
3 <i>Laudan's Metrical Problems</i>	192
4 <i>The Transcendental Strategy</i>	195
5 <i>Verisimilitude</i>	198
6 <i>Observational Nesting</i>	206
IX Scientific Method	208
1 <i>The Quest for Method</i>	208
2 <i>The Rupture with Refined Common Sense</i>	210
3 <i>Method in Mathematics</i>	212
4 <i>Probability and Confirmation</i>	215
5 <i>Statistical Testing</i>	220
6 <i>The Evolution of Method</i>	221
7 <i>The Ultimate Test</i>	223
8 <i>The Good-Making Features of Theories</i>	226
9 <i>The Role of Judgment</i>	232
10 <i>Counting the Costs</i>	235
X Strong Programmes	237
1 <i>The Rationalist Programme and the Explanation of Scientific Change</i>	237
2 <i>How to Explain Things the Rational Way</i>	240
3 <i>Minirat Accounts of Scientific Change</i>	243
4 <i>The Strong Programme</i>	247
5 <i>The Explanation of Belief</i>	252
6 <i>The Function of the Maxirat Accounts</i>	257
7 <i>Causation in Edinburgh</i>	262
XI Temperate Rationalism	266
1 <i>The Rational Model</i>	266
2 <i>Temperate Rationalism</i>	267
3 <i>The Temperate Rationalist at Work</i>	270
Notes	274
Bibliography	282
Index	289